

Revival of the Pennsylvania Act, and the Conduct of the President and Privy Council of Delaware, we must have Recourse to your good Offices. We therefore solicit the Favor of you to make the necessary Enquiries and to transmit us the earliest authentic Information for our Government in the Premises

Liber C C  
No. 22

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August 1780.

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Present as on Saturday.

Commission of Letters of Marque and Reprisal issued to James Tate Commander of the Schooner Rambler 70 Tons burthen, navigated by 25 men mounting 10 Carriage Guns, belonging to Daniel Bowley & Samuel Smith of Balt. Town

Ordered that Capt. George Keeports deliver to Mess<sup>rs</sup> Thoroughgood Smith Daniel Bowley, Stephen Steward jun<sup>r</sup> and Samuel Smith, the number of arms, & Quantity of Ammunition necessary for arming and Equiping the men and Vessels now about to be employed in expelling the Enemy from the Chesapeake and Protecting the Trade of Virginia and Maryland, taking their Receipts therefor

That the Collector of the Tax for Somerset County pay to Henry Jackson Esq<sup>r</sup> Commissary for said County, Two thousand Pounds to be Accounted for

That John Bullen deliver to Frederick Green one of the Public Horses to go to Baltimore

[Council to Colo. Robt. T. Hooe, Alexandria]

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Sir The great Injuries sustained by the mercantile Interests of Maryland & Virginia and the, almost, entire Interruption of the Navigation of the Bay, by the Privateers and other Vessels of the Enemy, have induced us, in Conjunction with the Merchants of Baltimore Town, to endeavour to capture or clear the Bay of them. For this Purpose, the state armed Boats two Brigs and some Barges are to be sent down: but as the Enemy's Vessels are numerous and we wish to have such a Force as will certainly answer the intended Purpose, if you or any of the mercantile Gentlemen of your City, have any Vessels that would assist in this Business, they might render not only essential Service to the Trade, but also to the United States, as the Transportation of Provisions from Virginia, is totally stopped and our Army is much in want of them. Our Vessels will go down the Bay some Time next Week. This Business ought not to be made public. The enclosed Letter to Governor Jefferson, on this Subject, we beg you to forward by Express.