yesterday authentic information was received by Congress, that Red Book the Count was going directly to the West Indies, after an unsuc- No. 24 cessful Attempt to capture the British army in Georgia. The powder & lead therefore of which we requested the loan will not now be wanted; and should they have been ordered on, we request they may be stopped & returned into your magazines: Indeed from your Excellency's letter of the 22<sup>d</sup> ulto it seems there was but little prospect of your being able to supply the ammunition requested.

We are extremely sorry that the trouble we gave your Excellency in ordering out a militia guard proved fruitless: but till very lately it was not in our power to send off the prisoners, from the want of an escort; and just at the time when one was ready a letter from Colo Rawlings informed us that the militia guard at fort Frederick being very disorderly (probably from having nothing to do) he had discharged them. Nevertheless, as it will be very inconvenient to supply so great a number of prisoners in this place with wood and provisions & from the continual accessions by captures at Sea very difficult to secure them, we are still of opinion that at least four hundred should be sent to fort Frederick. We accordingly wrote to Col<sup>o</sup> Rawlings, desiring him to take the necessary measures for procuring another guard, either by inlistment for a year, or from the militia, giving us timely notice when he judges they may be ready, that we may send on the prisoners in Season. We beg leave once more to ask your Excellency's interposition to furnish the guard now requested.

We have the honour to be with the greatest respect Your Excellency's most obed<sup>t</sup> Servants By order of the board

## [Henry Schnebely, Hagerstown, to the Council]

November

Yours of the 17th Oct came to hand the 30th at which time I had 11 purchased the Waggons horses & ca as appears by my Acct rendered you by Mr Williams, I have borrowed 23 yds Linen from Colo Shryock for mak<sup>g</sup> a few Bags Necessary for the Waggons but as he has none but what was purchased under the Direction of Mr Calhoon for the Cont<sup>1</sup> use he will not deliver any to your order which Intimates a Distinction between State & Continental, I have delivered to Colo Rawlings one Waggon, five horses & Harness, all the flower I have obtained will not amount to more than four Loads part of which Lays at Mills which cannot grind for want of water. I have Consulted Col. Rawlings who thinks it improper to send any of the tax flour, the approaching Season makes it necessary to provide Stabling more hay, Straw, grain & Many other Articles for the horses I have on hand which requires more Attention to that business than I am able to give therefore must request you will direct me where to deliver them as I have been obliged for Convene of Pasturage & hay to keep them a Considerable distance from my own