

proportion, and the accounts finally adjusted so as to do equity to all the States. Red Book
No. 8

By the separate act of the 11th inst. you will observe the Quantity at present requested from the State of Maryland is five thousand barrels of flour & five thousand barrels of indian corn, in addition to the fifteen thousand barrels of flour heretofore required It is the desire of Congress that each State should use all possible economy & dispatch in procuring the Articles requested of them.

So soon as Congress are inform'd that the several States can & will furnish the provisions necessary for the Army the many persons heretofore employed in the purchasing Commissaries department for that purpose may be dismiss'd

I have the honour to be with the highest respect your Exc^{ts} most ob^t Serv^t

[W. Smith, Baltimore, to the Honble. Daniel Carroll]

Sir Your favor of the 12th Ins^t I this moment received therefore could not give you an answer on Tuesday as requested. But will with pleasure give you every information in my power on the Subject of your Letter. December
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From the latest accounts I have rec^d from Cape Francais, (which I believe is the best market for flour in the West Indies) flour sold there at four half Jos p barrell. The barrells for that market are generally calculated for one hundred & three quarters each. What the price is at Martinicos I cant exactly say but suppose it may be nearly the same as at the Capes, or perhaps something under Flour at S^t Eustatia is much lower, our vessells at that place purchase that article to carry to the cape which afford a good profit. Insurance from hence to the West Indies at 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 40 p Cent according to the force & sailing of the vessell insured. The last vessell done at this office was at 62 $\frac{1}{2}$. From sixty to Sixty five. I believe any good vessell may be done to at & from. The Philadelphia provisions I am informed have been generally higher since the commencement of the present war, than at this place

The freights I have paid for acco^t of his most christian Majesty, have been from forty to fifty Livres p bl^e to the W. Indies. What proportion of the Cargo might be taken in Lieu thereof I cant say but I presume freight will rise as every thing else does. The expence of fitting out, victualing & maning vessells, are at this time beyond conception. I have a small Brig now in port, which I have offerd to M^r Holker, and expect his answer by next post. Should he not take her and you want such a one immediately you may have her on such terms as can be afforded. I also dayly expect a Boat from Cape Francois which carries 60 hh^{ds} or about 400 b^{les} Should she arrive safe. I will take a freight for her if the terms offerd are adequate to the Risque