

By his Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esquire Governor of Maryland

Liber C B  
No. 23

A Proclamation—

Whereas it is represented by the most unquestionable Authority, that the Army of the United States is greatly distressed for want of Flour and Forage and that they will infallibly disband unless the most speedy and Extraordinary exertions are made by this State to procure those Supplies for their relief And Whereas the General Assembly have enacted a Law entitled “ An Act for the immediate Supply of Flour and other Provisions for the Army ” which requires the utmost efforts of every worthy Citizen of this State, to carry the same into full and speedy Execution. I do therefore most earnestly intreat, conjure require and enjoin all Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs and their Deputies Constables and all other the good Citizens of this State by that Love of their Country, that Patriotic Zeal and Magnanimity which have hitherto distinguished their Conduct, in the present glorious Contest for Life, Liberty and property, to exert themselves to the utmost of this Critical emergency in procuring and furnishing Flour and other Provisions for the immediate relief of the Army in their present Alarming distress and rendering every Assistance to the Commissioners in carrying the said Law into Execution

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Given at Annapolis the Twenty ninth Day of December in the year of our Lord seventeen hundred and seventy nine Tho Sim Lee

By his Excellency's Command T. Johnson Jun'r Secy  
God Save the State

[Council to the Commissioners of the different Counties]

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Gentlemen. The General Assembly reposing the most entire Confidence in your Integrity Patriotic Zeal and Attachment to the common Cause, have appointed you Commissioners for—County to carry into Execution the “ Act for the immediate Supply of Flour and other Provisions for the Army.” The enclosed Copy of his Excellency General Washington's Letter, manifests, in the strongest Terms, the great Distress of the Army, and the urgent Necessity of your most vigorous Exertions to procure and forward a sufficient Supply of Flour and the other Articles enumerated in the Act. Your own Discernment is sufficient to point out the manifold Evils that would result from so calamitous an Event as the Disbanding the Army and will suggest to you that the Happiness of yourselves and Posterity, may depend on your Diligence and Activity in executing the Law, and your Endeavours to dispose the People of your County, not only to acquiesce in, but further the Measures of the General Assembly in attaining so desirable an Object as the immediate Supply of our Army with Flour and other Necessaries. You may rely