

That James Calhoun Esquire Commissary Gen^l of the Western shore deliver to Mathew Ridley Esq^r £280. . o. . 6 of Common Flour for two hundred and seventy and half Ells of Baye five and a Quarter pounds of thread and seventy one pair of thread Hose purchased of him by this Board and delivered to M^r George Keeparts.

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We hereby certify that the State of Maryland is indebted to Mess^{rs} Ridley and Pringle in the sum of six hundred and eighty eight pounds and four pence specie for Goods sold this Board the nineteenth day of August last and delivered to George Keeparts by our order.

The following Commission was issued to Matthew Ridley Esq^r

The State of Maryland To Matthew Ridley Esquire of Baltimore Town Greeting. Be it known that reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Fidelity good Conduct and Attachment to the Rights Liberties and Independence of America

We have appointed you Agent for this State and do hereby authorize and empower you to obtain from the Courts of France and Spain, or the Individuals of France, Spain or Holland, Loans of Money, Arms, Ammunition and Cloathin^g for the State of Maryland, and to do and perform transact and negotiate all other Business, Matters and Things which we may commit to your care and Management, agreeable to the Instructions now given, or that may be hereafter given you.

Given at Annapolis in Council this twenty eighth Day of March Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and eighty one and in the sixth year of our Independence.

M^r Ridley applied by Letter dated February the 9th 1781 desiring to be appointed Agent for this State in Europe.

Upon Question, carried in the Affirmative, I prayed Leave to enter my Dissent. Because I am not convinced that the Board has sufficient Power by Law to grant such a Commission as is desired; and Because I think it would be more proper to refer the Business to the General Assembly.

Stephen West.

[Council to David Poe, Esqr.]

We shall be much obliged to you to send a further Supply of eight or ten waggon Loads of Flour, what was received this Day will be expended on to-morrow or next Day at furthest

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[Council to Mr. John Chalmers.]

Ibid.

There being an absolute Necessity to furnish the Troops here immediately with a further Quantity of meat Provision you will therefore without Delay continue to procure it under the Authority already given.