

feeble unless we get the Articles above mention'd, The field peices are much wanting with a sufficient quantity of Iron Shott & Muskett powder, having none of this latter Article, we have about fourteen barrells of cannon Powder formerly brought from Talbot County about 250 indifferent arms, 140 Cartouch boxes and some canteens, I have had the old gun barrells examined & am informed by proper judges of the makes that forty of them are very good, which I could get immediately stocked if I could be supplied with good Gun locks & mounting, nothing shall be wanting on our part & I make not the least Doubt of receiving from y^r Ex^{cy} every necessary assistance. It has been but a few days since our Classes have been out & we have already fifteen good recruits & we have the greatest expectations of geting our number & shall gladly receive any orders which you may think necessary to give

P. S. Cap^t Tilden who will deliver you this letter, has been kind enough to undertake this expedition

[Le Chev D'Anmours, Consul General of France for the five Southern States, Balto., to Gov. Lee.]

March 31
Brown Book
No. 8
Letter 46

I had the honour of writing to your Excellency the 19th of November last on account of the taxes which this State demanded from his most Christian Majesty's Subjects settled in it, with his approbation and under the protection of his flag. I expected that the honourable house of Assembly then sitting would have paid a proper regard to what I had the honour of observing to your Excellency upon that Subject it is with real pain, Sir, that I find the determination of the Assembly has destroy'd that hope, and it affects me the more as the Consequences must be of Course disagreeable to both Nations. Give me leave Sir to resume that Subject and set it in its proper light.

The Americans settled in France Enjoy the most unlimited Liberty with respect both to their persons & properties. Not one of them is Subject to any personal or pecuniary Duty, their ships & trade find there the most unbounded protection their Sailors not only are not pressed for the royal Navy (a Step which the unity of the Interests of France & America might Justify) but even they Can not desert without being immediately apprehended at the Expençe of the Prince & delivered to theirs Claymers, their Flag is respected there in as high a degree as any of those with which France has been in alliance for many ages, has she met with the same advantages here? I will say that she had a Right to Expect it, and that right was grounded upon the Broad basis of retaliation, the laws of friendship and the principles of an alliance founded upon disinterestedness in both sides yet, Sir, the State tax Commissioners & Collectors every day threaten his Majesty's Subjects if they do not pay to force them to do it by the most violent means. I am obliged by my duty to forbid them to do it; and if the Commissioners proceed on & execute their menaces;