

February 8  
Red Book  
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Letter 48

States have passed the necessary Laws, the Monies arising from the Duties are to be applied to their Benefit, exclusive of the remaining States, unless such States shall pass similar Laws the first Session after the Events of the War will admit of the assembling their Legislatures, and Congress have not the least Doubt of their Compliance as soon as Circumstances shall put it in their power.

The Necessity of the Duties & Imposts being raised under one general & uniform Direction is an Idea that will readily suggest itself.

I am specially directed to urge the Necessity of immediately calling the Assembly, if not already convened, for the Purpose of vesting Congress with the Powers mentioned in the enclosed resolutions

Although it may be improbable any Person not particularly acquainted with the daily Business in Congress should have an adequate Conception of the Difficulties & Embarrassments that arise for want of some permanent Fund to support the national Credit & cement more effectually the common Interest of the United States; yet, I doubt not, the Wisdom, Knowledge & Penetration of the respective Legislatures will view those Embarrassments as very great.

It ought to be remembered that Loans are not to be obtained without some permanent Fund established, at least to discharge the annual Interest punctually, That, in the present Situation of our Finances, the Army must be in a great Measure immediately supported by the States separately, in a precarious Manner & perhaps very unequally: and a Train of Embarrassment too obvious to need Enumeration, must ensue, which have already been felt in a Degree & must greatly increase

I have only to add that it will be of Importance to transmit to Congress the Acts that may be passed in Consequence of the enclosed resolves as soon as possible.

[Sam. Smith, Balt., to Gov. Lee.]

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Letter 22

I had the Honor to receive yours  $\eta$  Express at Cedar Point, By Constant attention I sav'd above 800 B<sup>bs</sup> of the Cato's Cargo altho: at least  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the Brig was blown away level with the Keel, nearly the whole of the flour is now here & on its way up, perhaps the Vessells employ'd by your Excell<sup>y</sup> may stop at Anapolis, should they; your Excell<sup>y</sup> will please order them up here that Care may be taken of the flour, perhaps by repacking it may be made fit to repay M<sup>r</sup> W. Smith with, I shall be glad to have your Excell<sup>ys</sup> Directions with respect to it. The sum sent me was Inadequate to the Expence attending the preservation of the flour you'll please transmit me Three thousand pounds  $\eta$  first opp<sup>ty</sup> sixty one B<sup>bs</sup> of flour has arriv'd here & will be landed to morrow Morning. The Villainy of the Inhabitants ought not to go unpunish'd, In one Days ride I found near 40 B<sup>bs</sup> that they had plunder'd & stolen, 50 B<sup>b</sup><sup>les</sup> from the schooners