

December

Tuesday 31st December 1782Liber C. B.
No. 24
p. 372

Present as on Yesterday.—

Ordered that the western shore Treasurer pay to Nathan Baker nine pounds, one shilling and eight pence specie agreeable to the Act to adjust the Debts due from this State per Account passed.—

December

[Wm Paca, in Council to Le Chevalier De Quémy.]

Liber No. 78
p. 402

It is with great Regret we find ourselves under the Necessity of informing you, that it is out of our Power to afford the Assistance we promised in the proposed Cruize down the Bay, after the Enemy's Barges. The Men belonging to our Barges, were engaged to serve no longer than the first of January; and when we first had the Honor of applying to the Commodore la Villebrune for the Pole Cat to co-operate with our Force, we expected the Cruize would have ended before their Time of Service expired; and afterwards, when we had the Honor of addressing his Excellency the Minister of France upon the Subject, and after the Arrival of the Pole Cat, we had every Reason to hope the Men would reinlist, or at least, that they would remain long enough to perform this Piece of Service; but to our great Mortification, we find ourselves deceived. The Men, dreading the Hardships they would be exposed to in this inclement Season, in open Boats, positively refuse to reinlist, or to go as Volunteers on the Cruize, and we have not the Power of compelling them.

Under these disagreeable Circumstances, we have nothing left but to return our sincere Thanks to the Gentlemen of your Nation, who have so generously afforded every Aid in their Power, for the Protection of our Citizens; and we beg you to be assured, Sir, that the People of this State will retain a grateful Sense of the Readiness and Alacrity with which your armed Vessels flew to their Assistance on their Application for it. We could wish Sir, that it was consistent with his most Christian Majesty's Service, that the Pole Cat or armed Cutter, could be stationed at this Port, to cruize occasionally down the Bay, for the Protection of our Commerce, and could at this Time make a Stroke at the Enemy's Privateers, now in the Chesapeake

Ibid.

[W^m Paca, in Council to The Honble General Assembly]

We have the Honor of laying before you, a Copy of our Letter addressed to the Chevalier De Quémy, by which you will perceive that there is an End to the proposed Cruize down the Bay. The Disappointment, we believe, may be partly attributed to the bad Conduct and Want of Zeal in some of the Officers, but principally, to most of the Barge Men's Enlistments expiring on to Morrow, the first Day of January. As the Bill which is now before the Honble Assembly, for the Defence of the Bay, will, probably, pass into a