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Assembly. One would imagine that, with Regard to America, there can be now no Obstacles in the Way of Peace; but we must take Care not to be lulled by Appearances, which may be treacherous, and only calculated to deceive. We are enquiring for an Officer, for Commissary of Prisoners within the Description the Secretary at War requests; as soon as we meet with such a one, we will write both him and you on the Subject. The Severity of the Season rendered it impossible for our Barges to co-operate with the French armed Vessels; the Men's Times of Enlistment also, expired the first of this Month, and, by the Bill for the Defence of the Bay, which is now on its Passage with the Assembly, an entire new System is to be adopted. The Weather, from its Severity, has forced, it is said, the Enemy's Barges out of the Bay; but by the last Information, there are two British Privateers almost as high up as Patowmack; we expect every Hour to hear of an Action between them and the French armed Vessels.

Friday 3<sup>d</sup> January 1783.

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Present His Excellency the Governor, Benjamin Stoddert, Gabriel Duvall, Jeremiah T. Chase & Ja<sup>s</sup> Brice, Esq<sup>rs</sup>

Ordered that the Commissary of Provisions deliver to Daniel of St Thomas Jenifer Esq<sup>r</sup> twelve hundred and sixty six and one half Bushels of Wheat at Baltimore Town or the Head of Elk on Account of his Salary.—

That the western shore Treasurer pay to Michael Leatherman six pounds, six shillings and eight pence specie agreeable to the "Act to adjust the Debts due from this State" per Account passed.—

This Board upon Consideration of the Case of Thomas Hynson Wright, do release him from that part of his Bond, to the State of Maryland dated 21 April 1781, which restricted him from departing the County of Queen Anns without the Leave of the Governor and Council for the time being

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[W Paca in Council to Honble Daniel Carroll Esq<sup>r</sup>]

We are just now favored with your's of the 31<sup>st</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1782. The Packett from M<sup>r</sup> Marbais, covered Letters from M<sup>r</sup> Ridley in France, addressed to the Executive of this State, on Business of a public Nature, which he was commissioned to transact. We have wrote to the Secretary at War, and have recommended Maj<sup>r</sup> John Davidson of the Second Maryland Regiment to be Intendant of Prisoners for the Post at Baltimore Town. Our other Letter will be a Reply to the other Subjects in your last.