

Merchants of Baltimore, in Consequence of which, we expect to be able, in a very few Days, to send down the Pole Cat, a French Brig of 14 Guns, 3 Sloops or Schooners of 8 or 10 Guns each, and 3 Barges; a Force which will be sufficient to clear the Bay of the Wretches from whom you are under such just Apprehensions. But it is possible we may be disappointed; at any Rate, you ought not to rely too confidently upon this Assistance, but attempt every Thing which Prudence will permit, for your own Security. We enclose an Order on Talbot for such Ammunition as you may want. The Field Pieces which were there, were brought over here, and applied for the Use of the Barges. There are two Iron Pieces at Wye Island, but without Carriages sufficient to transport them. The Ammunition formerly promised to be sent, we have not been able to forward, from Want of Craft. We send you 1000 Flints. You will make a Return of the Time the Militia are in Service, and we will lay them before the Assembly at their first Sitting, and represent in strong Terms, the Justice of making immediate Payment.

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[W Paca in Council To the Lieut^{ts} of Queen Ann's, Talbot & Dorset Counties] Ibid.

We are fitting out and manning the Barges, to co-operate with three armed Vessels we have solicited the Merchants of Baltimore to furnish us, and expect they will be in Readiness to proceed down the Bay in a few Days. The only Thing that can possibly impede their Sailing, will be the Want of a sufficient Number of Men for the Barges, and there being twenty three in your County, who belonged to Spedden's and Frazier's Barges, and who are stil in the Pay of the State; we most earnestly request you would have them collected immediately, and sent over: their Names are mentioned in the enclosed List.

[W Paca in Council to Maj^r John Davidson.] Ibid.

We request you to be so obliging, to sign the Provision Returns of those Soldiers who you may think entitled to draw Provisions, who are in this City, or may be passing through, until there is some Continental Officer to take Charge of them.

Friday 21st February 1783.

Present His Excellency the Governor,
Benjamin Stoddert, Gabriel Duvall, Jere. T. Chase & James Brice
Esq^{ts}

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[W^m Paca in Council to His Excellency General Washington] From the Letters which lately passed between your Excellency and General Carleton, and from the Speech of the British King to his

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