

No. 126

hath been relanded under your Advice, that the Exportation of that Iron  
 was contrary to the Act. The Circumstances of the Iron which is on  
 Board those Vessels are not fully enough before us to determine whether  
 it might or might not be exported. Capt. Cooke tells us that chief of  
 Iron belongs to Mr. Hudson who told him that he was about sending it  
 to Virginia and would do so, though he would give him no satisfactory  
 Reason, or rather, no Reason at all for that his Resolution - We take  
 it that two Sorts of People are the Objects of the Law, Persons from  
the neighbouring States who have ingrossed Iron &c. that Iron is not  
 to be removed out of the State, and Inhabitants of this State who  
have ingrossed Iron &c. with Intent to sell the same again at high and  
 exorbitant Prices - The Intent to sell the same again we take to be  
 an essential Circumstance to prohibit their Exportation. It does not  
 seem to be the Design of the Act to prevent all Exportation of Iron  
 but only to prevent its being hoarded up with a View & Design to make  
 an artificial Scarcity to enhance the Price; therefore if Iron is bought  
 up for immediate Exportation, we do not think it an Object of the Act  
 Whether this or any of it was, for such Purpose, we cannot determine  
 if it was, we think the Exportation of it allowable, or if it was  
 purchased for Persons to use in Virginia, it seems clear of the Act.

If the fact should be within the Exemption according to our Construction and our  
 Construction agreeable to your Opinion, on the Act, you'll be pleased to give  
 Orders for the Owners of the Iron to have it again, if not we presume it ought  
 to be proceeded against or forfeited. We are &c.

To Wm. Lux & James Calhoun Esq's }  
 Baltimore.

Annapolis 8th July 1774.

Sir. Mr. W. Herd, on his Return, told me of your Friendly Disposition

126. towards the Design on which the Council and myself had sent him to Virginia  
 and Carolina, by which we are very much obliged - Capt. Webb called on me  
 with your Letter; I should gladly have purchased the Salt on the Public Account  
 to have delivered it out to the People in small Quantities, if Capt. Webb could  
 have thought himself at Liberty to deliver it at 5/1 our Currency, the highest  
 Price that the Council and myself thought, from what we could understand  
 of the Cost & Charges, it is allowable to be retailed at, under our late Act.  
 But the Capt. thinking himself bound, by your Instructions, not to sell under  
 the highest Price going at Baltimore, was disinclined to accept it.  
 I inclose you one of our Papers, which contains our late Act against  
 Ingrossing & Hoarding, thinking it may not be unuseful to you.  
 If the Practices, which began in Philadelphia, were soon corrected  
~~by you~~ in Baltimore and have been since extended farther, we  
 suffered to continue, instead of 20 Dollars, which I have since heard  
 has been extorted in Baltimore, I should not wonder what a