

them draw into this Country, and when you get a few more Drivers send them
along the Elk Ridge standing, so that you may have the same. You will have
careful Drivers who will not hurry the Cattle, keep an exact Account of the
lost and all Expences & advise me from time to time of your Progress, that I may
as soon as our Treasury is opened, send you Money and may know how far
I can depend on these Cattle as Provision you cannot get too many at private
Prices.

Mr. Ignatius Luycraft.

Sir
Annapolis 25th Aug^r 1777.

I am of Opinion you may be personally serviceable on the Eastern Shore.
I would therefore have you proceed and have an Interview with Col. Richardson
as soon as you can. You can fully explain to him the Circumstances we are
152. in on the Western Shore and the Views we entertain. You may assure the
Gentlemen and People in general that we are persuaded, if our Countrymen
will but turn out, we shall soon get rid of our Enemies, and that every
Nerve will be exerted to support General Washington with a good
Body of Western Shore Militia, some of whom, I expect, are on their
March and many preparing.
Capt. Thomas. I am &c.

Sir
In Council Baltimore Town 28th Aug^r 1777.

We Judge it proper that you strengthen your Guard over the Public
Magazine to twenty eight Men including Officers and to desire you
153. to be very vigilant and attentive. We would also have Mr. Faw finish
the new Magazine with all Expedition, and request that you will get
some good Casks fit to receive Powder in case it should be wanted.
To Maj^r Benj^a Johnson
We are &c.

Gen^l
Baltimore Town 31st Aug^r 1777.

We have but two of the Paw Gallies fitted. The Enemy have spare Men of
War enough to block them up separately; they may eventually, with their
120 Men, be serviceable, if there is an Attack upon this Town, and, as it is
impossible to guard our Shores and Rivers, we hope no Man can blame our
Views to prevent such a Disposition of the little Force we have or would
render the whole of it of no consequence at all, which would certainly be the Case
if we were to send the two Gallies from hence. We are endeavoring to send
forward what of our Militia we can towards the Head of the Bay. A full
Employment of the Enemy there will, in good Measure, take them off our
Backs every where else, but we have not nor can we get Arms we fear
to furnish one third Part of those who are willing to march. The People
in general shew great Spirit and Alacrity. There remains in the Hands of
Mr. W three or four Hundred Stand of Arms, ^{of which} ^{some} ^{of} ^{them} ^{are} ^{of} ^{the} ^{same} ^{Time}
ago to be cleaned; and in the Hands of Mr. Smith ^{about} ¹⁰⁰ Stand of Mr.
Winters make. Col. Richardson has been furnished with 200 Stand