

proceed only from a Preference they give the Enemy, it is necessary that
N. 37. Lattle should be taken to prevent their inimical Designs. Possibly you
may be so illy disposed as to oppose the Execution of the Order, if
and you think it necessary, you are to call on the Lieuten. of the County
for Assistance, who is to afford it, for we are determined, at every Step
to prevent our open from being supplied by our internal Enemies.

To William Winder Jun^r,
Ephraim Stevens &
Levin Woolford - - }

We are Gent^l &c,

Like Letter to John Posley, John Richardson and William Wise of
Worcester County.

In Council Annapolis 8 Jan^y 1778.

Sirs

38. W^o. M^o. Germant just now delivered us your Letter of the 10th of December.
It is a principal Object with us, as well as ^{with} the Legislature of this State, to
render every possible Aid to the Army and, if there was a pressing Necessity
for seizing Salt and Provisions within this State, we have no Doubt but,
on its being disclosed to the Assembly, for which there was a full Opportunity,
due Provision would have been made, but it would, in all likelihood, have
been limited by the Occasion, and modified in such a Manner as to prevent
as far as possible, any Oppression or useless Violence. Besides our not
being yet informed of any Resolution of Congress, under which Col. Blaine
could suppose himself empowered to seize Salt imported into the Inlets
or Stock in Somerset or Worcester County, he seems to have left M^o. M^o. Ger-
mont at ^{full} Liberty, nay, to require him to seize all Salt imported there
and all Lattle, without making the Necessity of the Army or our Inhabi-
tants any Rule and, so far from attending to the great Principle on
which the Seizure of Property can, in any Instance, be justified, that is,
the Payment of the full Price, Certificates only were to be given, no Price
to be mentioned and the fifth Quarter of the Lattle to be sunk which,
according to M^o. M^o. Germonts Explanation, was not to be taken into
the Account at all. We can never approve such Orders or the Execution
of them, and, we flatter ourselves that they were given without your
Privity. We should be glad to be advised from Time to Time, what
Gentlemen are employed in your Department, in this State, and the
Extent of their Powers, that we may know who to assist and how
far Assistance is desired. Unnecessary & wanton Violence, as stated to
us, on Oath, was lately committed by M^o. Huggins, on the Person
and Property of Geiser, of Baltimore Town and ought to be inquired
into. We last Sunday received Letters from Congress from the
Board of War which give us the very disagreeable but just
of the Army being in Danger of suffering for Want of Provisi-