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In Council Annapolis 10th Decem^r 1770.

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Your Letter of the 10th of Nov^r and the Resolutions of Congress of the 10th inclosed were laid before the General Assembly immediately on the Receipt of them. The Legislative Appropriation of our Gallies to the Bay Service made it indispensibly necessary that the Assembly should be consulted on the proposed Change, their Resolutions on the Subject, we are directed to lay before Congress and have inclosed for that Purpose. We have thought it necessary to inclose too an account of the present state of the two Gallies ordered on the Expedition; they are the nearest manned of any that we have. From the little success of our Exertions hitherto, we cannot flatter Congress with an Expectation of our being able soon to procure the deficient Number; the great Wages and Privileges given by private People taking up all the active and enterprising and therefore if Congress have in Pay a sufficient Number who could be conveniently turned over to this Service, we think it would much expedite the Business. Give us Leave Sir through you to request of Congress, such Sum of Money as they may think necessary for the Cloathing and Bounty offered by the Resolutions and that they will be pleased to give the necessary Orders for victualling these Gallies.

We have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect

Sir &c

President of Congress.

In Council Annapolis 10th Dec^r 1770.

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We, by this Post inclose to Congress the Resolutions of the ~~General~~ Assembly with Respect to our Gallies going on the Expedition to the Southward; the Independence and Baltimore are destined for that Service and we are directed to Man them, including the Men already belonging to them. We have constantly endeavoured to get our Gallies manned but with so little Success that when ever we send two of them down the Bay, we have been obliged to strip the others and to send a Number of our Matroses; nor do we expect the additional Encouragement offered will have the desired Effect; wherefore we have desired the Congress if they can, to send down the deficient Number of Men. If the Expedition is still an Object, we shall do all we can to procure the Men and push the Business forward: but we cannot but express our Apprehension that these Defects are not safe for the Voyage at this Season and we are sure that Measures ought to be well concerted for a regular Supply of Provisions if they reach their Destination, for they will not carry Provisions for more than ~~two~~ Months, if so long, for their proper Complement, which ought to be ~~at least~~ for each 100 Men, at the least. We hope to be advised immediately