

August 11th 1779

Genl. Assembly
In consequence of the Request of Congress and under the Impression
of compliance with it was essential to the General Service, the Council and I delivered
of the eighteen Powder barrels belonging to this State on the terms of their being again
returned on their full Value being paid, as mentioned in the Letters received from the
Board of War and laid before you. I flatter myself that the Conduct of the Council &
myself, in this Transaction will not be disapproved and hope you will make the
Decision reserved, that the Cannon furnished may be speedily returned on their full Value
charged to the Continent, as may be most agreeable to you.

Genl. Assembly

In Council Annapolis 13th Aug^t 1779

Sir.
The same Day of our Rec^d of your Letter of the 13th July, requesting that the 5000 Bar^{ls}
of Flour, which by your former Letter you desired might be kept in this State, might then
be forwarded to W^m Smith Esq^r of Baltimore, who would receive them for account of
W^m Holker, Agent for the Marine of France, we wrote to the several Purchasers appointed
by this State, to send as quick as possible what Flour remained in their Hands, to Balto
to be delivered there to W^m Smith, leaving a Power only in the Purchasers of Cecil &
Kent Counties to send, on consulting with Col^o Hollingsworth of the most convenient
enough, with what had gone before to make up the 5000 Bar^{ls} directed to be sent
to Philad^a and the same Day sent a copy of your Letter and Notice of our Orders, to
W^m Smith. We thought the Business was executing entirely agreeable to your Idea
till the Rec^d of your Letter of the 25th July, a copy of the Parts of which, relative to
this Matter you have inclosed; on receiving it we again wrote to the Purchasers
to follow W^m Smith's Orders as to the Disposition of the Flour and advised him we
had done so, but the Day of our Rec^d of W^m Smith's Letter of the 25th July, or the Day
before or after, Col^o Hollingsworth and one of the Purchasers from that Part of the
Country happened here, from whom we learnt that 4000 Bar^{ls} & upwards had
gone forward to Philad^a. It would have given us Pleasure that the Purchase and
Conduct of the 10,000 Bar^{ls} of Flour should have been to entire Satisfaction. The
Gen^l who were appointed have generally and, we believe universally, exerted themselves
but the contrary Orders which we have been obliged to give have occasioned them a
good Deal of Trouble and prevented their following a settled Plan, by which only
Business can be well conducted. We inclose a copy of your Letter of the 11th Inst^o
rec^d the Day before yesterday, to W^m Smith which, we have no Doubt, will excite
his Exertions
We are &c

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Hon^{ble} Gouverneur Morris.

In Council Annapolis 13th Aug^t 1779

Sir.
The foregoing is a copy of a Letter from W^m Morris, rec^d here the Day before
yesterday. From the Information we had, upwards of 4000 of the 10,000 Bar^{ls} of
Flour purchased in this State, were some Time ago, sent to Philad^a. We have
wrote to W^m Morris by this Post, and request you also to write to him, giving him
any Information you can on the Subject.
We are &c

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W^m Smith Esq^r

In Council Annapolis 18th August 1779

Gen^l
We inclose you the Names of many Inhabitants of your County who were exempted from
the Public Assessments imposed preceding the last Fall Session, a list of such as applied about the
same Time as the others and were refused either absolutely or 'till more satisfactory Information and
several Petitions for the like or further Relief, lodged with us since. At the Distance we are, it is very
difficult if not impossible, to determine who ought to be relieved and to what Extent; your Assistance
may greatly aid us and we request the Favor of you, to go through the Applications already made
or that may be signified to you are intended to be made and advise us which ought, in your
Opinion, to be granted or rejected and that you will add such Remarks as you think ought to Influence
one Way or the other. We think it the Intention of the Legislature, and so wish to conduct ourselves, to give the
Relief only in cases where the Damage done is very great or the Person poor so that from the Injury he is in confi-
derable Degree disabled from paying the Taxes, and not to discount Taxes generally to the Value of losses which
have happened in many Ways to most People of this State. Be pleased to add whether the Persons
applying took the Oath or Affirmation of Fidelity and Support to the State in Time, according to
We are &c

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W^m Smith Esq^r