

In Council 7th Sept. 1779

Sir

Inclosed you the License to yourself agreeable to your Letter of Yesterday. We are
590. that a License is necessary by the Act to every Person who is entrusted to lay out
Publick Money in the Army or Navy or in any of the Departments and should have
the License to the Genl. you mention if we had their Appointments before we
which you'll see is necessary by the Act. You'll be pleas'd to send us Copies of your
Appointments of your Assistants by the Post or any Body who is coming down and
the Licenses shall be sent you without giving the Trouble of a special Journey. Very
often Expresses passing through Annapolis are very importunate either to have
their Despatches forwarded and themselves left at Liberty to return, or for fresh Horses
with which to proceed, from whence we are apprehensive of a good Deal of Trouble on
the Discontinuance of the Office here and besides the Officers who are frequently oblig'd
to wait on us, will have a considerable Increase of Expence, if the issuing of Licenses is stopp'd.

We are &c.

James Calhoun Esq.

In Council Annapolis 8th Sept. 1779

Sir

Inclosed you have a Copy of a Letter received last Night from the Board of War & we
presume you have seen on the same Subject. We wish you to send some Person in whom you
can confide, to receive the Powder in Frederick, where only, we have any considerable
Quantity, letting him call on Col. Bruce with the inclosed, in his Way thither. We have
wrote to the Board of War that we purpose to deliver you 30 thousand Weight. If Lasks can
possibly be procur'd to shift a Part of the Powder into, we think it will be advisible to
procure them, as many of the Lasks are probably much injured by frequent Removals in a hurry.
590. We do not know which way you'll find it, whether by Land ~~to Lancaster~~ or to Balt. and
from thence by Water up the Bay, the first, we think would be best, if carriage can be
procured and probably it might from Frederick, as far as Lancaster.

We are &c.

James Calhoun Esq.

In Council Annapolis 8th Sept. 1779

Genl.

We last Night rec'd your Favor of the 3^d Inst., we shall immediately write to Mr. Calhoun
desiring him to appoint some Person to examine and receive the Powder which we can
spare at Frederick; the Quantities we have any where else, are inconsiderable. We shall deliver
to him there, thirty thousand Weight. A large Proportion of what we have is Cannon Powder
though, from its having been sent in a Hurry at divers Times from different Places, we
have no exact Account of the different Kinds, and we are apprehensive that from this
cause a good many of the Lasks may not be sufficient to remove it in. It tolerable care
has been taken of it, which may have been done with great Ease from the Conveniences
591. where it is kept, we expect it is generally good. At the Time of the Rec^d of your Letter of the
15th June, the Genl. was in Frederick, we expected that in consequence of ~~that~~ our Letter to our
Delegates of the 10th, Measures were then executing for the Rec^d of the Powder and have constantly
expected that some Person would have been commissi^oned to receive it. We are not empower'd
to lead but sell it and we could have dispos'd of it at a very high Price, but have refus'd
to part from any since our Conversation with Mr. Plater about the 17th Day of June.

We are &c.

Board of War.

P.S. we inclose you Copies of the Letters wrote crued in this Subject

In Council Annapolis 8th Sept. 1779

Sir

This, we expect, will be deliver'd to you by some Person appointed by Mr. Calhoun as Dep^t
of the Master Genl. to receive from our Magazine in Frederick 30,000 lb. of Powder for the Use of
and to be forward'd by him to Philad^a for the Army. We inclose you a Copy of Col. Beatty's Return
of the Powder in the Magazine for your Assistance and request the Favor of you, to Superintend
the Delivery & to take & transmit us a Receipt on the Invoice. We imagine by much the
greatest Part of our Stock is Cannon Powder & would have you deliver 25,000 of that Kind
592. if, on Examination, our Stock is compos'd of a still greater Proportion of Cannon Powder
we wish you to deliver a greater Proportion of it. We do not know whether strong Lasks
have been got to shift the Powder into, so far as you can, you'll be pleas'd to accommodate them
with Lasks which can bear the Carriage. Great Part of the Powder was imported from the
Dominions of France, we wish it all to be reweigh'd, you'll attend to the French Weight
exceeding ours about 10 per Cent.

We are &c.

Henry M'Kean Esq.