

In Council Annapolis 3^d Dec. 1779

110

N. 15.

By a Letter just received from Col^o Blaine dated the 1st Inst. we are informed you are about to deliver over to Mr. Smith, the French Agent, all the Flour you have on Hand. This is a Step we did not expect, nor can we consent to it by any Means, whilst our Army, as we have great Reason to believe, is in Danger of suffering by the Want of Bread Provision, and the French Agent has secured at least the Quantity he was permitted to purchase. You will without Loss of Time, be pleased to deliver your Flour into the Hands of Mr. Giles, the present Continental Agent, who has Orders to forward it with the utmost Speed.

Richard Dallam Esq^r

We are &c

In Council Annapolis 3^d Dec. 1779

10.

We were honored with your Excellency's Letter of the 17th ult^o. The polite Assurance that you received Pleasure when you understood the Commander of His most Christian Majesty's Squadron had made Choice of this Station because you could rely on us for Succour, communicated the highest Satisfaction. Such is our Inclination to render every Assistance in our Power to the Troops of our illustrious Ally, that nothing was necessary to prompt us to an Exertion for their Relief, but a Communication of their Wants and Sufferings. Our Duty seconded by our Attachment to Friends who have bravely fought and bled in the Cause of Liberty, lead us to consider their Distresses as our Own, and make our Exertions to provide the Sick and wounded with suitable Lodgings and proper Sustainance, the most pleasing Task. Victualling the Squadron is certainly an important Object and demands our utmost Endeavours to enable Mons^r. DeGrasse or any other French Commander, to procure full and speedy Supplies for the Use of the Fleet. The Congratulation of your Excellency, is flattering. Convinced that America is interested in the judicious Appointments of your King, it gives us infinite Pleasure in felicitating you and United America on your Excellency's Appointment, which alone can console us for the Loss of your worthy Predecessor, whose Goodness of Heart impelled him on every Occasion to exert his extraordinary Abilities in promoting such Measures as tended, not only to render the present happy Connection between France and America permanent, but to secure the Happiness and Independence of the latter.

His Excellency
The Chevalier De la Luzerne
Minister Plenipotentiary to His
Most Christian Majesty

We have the Honor to be &c