

In Council Annapolis 23^d Dec^r 1779

The extreme Severity of the Season and the Wants of our Troops, induce
the request of you, a sufficient Number of Waggons to convey the ~~cloathing~~
already purchased by the State to Mr. Dandall. The Quantity on Hand is
not so considerable as we could wish, but some of the Articles are in great
Demand Request, more especially the Blankets; we therefore solicit your good
Officers in having them sent on without loss of time. There are five Men
now in Baltimore of our Line, Sergeant Neary, and four Privates; these
might serve as a Guard, if you could put them under the command of a
commissioned Officer, and, in case no Officer should be on the Spot, a
prudent Man hired for the Purpose of commanding, the Guard would
answer the Purpose.

James Calhoun Esquire.

We are &c.

In Council Annapolis 23^d Dec^r 1779

Sir. The Proposals in yours of the 23^d Inst^t have been considered and they
do not appear to be such as we can, with Propriety, close with. We have
already had Offers much more advantageous and think, every Gentleman
who may be inclined to treat with us on Account of the Publick should
take into Consideration that without a Connection with us on Account
of the Publick, they cannot have the Benefit of exporting the Article
which yields the greatest Profit in the West Indies.

Col^l Samuel Smith.

We are &c.

Annapolis 26th Dec^r 1779

Sir. I had the Honor to receive your Excellency's Letter of the 10th Inst^t
in the Evening of the 23th. The important Subject of it was instantly com-
municated to the General Assembly of this State which, happily, was then
fitting, and I have the Pleasure to assure your Excellency, the Resolution
of that Honorable Body is, to make the most vigorous Exertions, in
sending forward every Supply the State is capable of furnishing.

The Enclosure is a copy of the Law passed for the Purpose, which, I trust,
is a clear Manifestation of their laudable Intentions, and which,
judging of the Disposition of other States from our own, I flatter myself
affords a well grounded Hope that the Wants of the Army will be speedily
satisfied.

I have the Honor to be with the most
respectful Attachment yr^o Ex^o &c.

His Excellency
General Washington.

In Council Annapolis 27th Dec^r 1779

We have received your Letter of the 21st Inst^t by Express; the Contents were com-
municated to, and your Letters of former Dates on the same Subject, laid before
the General Assembly. We cannot recommend this as a proper Place for the
Troops, destined to the Southward, to embark from, as there are not, at present,
craft sufficient to carry them, nor is this Board clothed with Powers to impress
a Bill, however, is originating, in the Senate; to enable us, on Emergencies, to impress
Carriages and Teams, to expedite the March of Troops &c. through this, into other
States, but what the Date of that Bill may be, is altogether uncertain. We
imagine you are not unacquainted with the disagreeable Situation of our
Army, therefore suggest to you the Advantage of having a Number of Waggons im-
mediately forwarded the Flour which may be furnished in Virtue of a Law
the former Relief for the Supply of Flour and other Provisions for the Army. We
think it is the Propriety of the measure.

Col^l Henry M. Mendenhall.