

In Council Annapolis 23^d Dec^r 1779

28. Sir. The extreme Severity of the Season and the Wants of our Troops, induce us to request of you, a sufficient Number of Waggons to convey the ~~Goods~~ ^{Goods} already purchased by the State, to Mr. Randall. 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 Offices 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 25th Dec^r 1779

30. 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 Public~~ ^{on Account of the Public} should take into Consideration that without a Connection with us an Account of the Public, they cannot have the Benefit of exporting the Article which yields the greatest Profit in the West Indies.

Col^o Samuel Smith. We are &c,

Annapolis 26th Dec^r 1779

31. Sir. I had the Honor to receive your Excellency's Letter of the 10th Inst^t in the Evening of the 25th. The important Subject of it was instantly communicated to the General Assembly of this State which, happily, was then sitting, 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

32. Sir. We have received your Letter of the 25th Inst^t by Express; the Contents were communicated 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 improve a Bill, however, is originating, in the Senate; to enable us, on Emergencies, Defeat 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 ~~engaged~~ ^{engaged} to forward the Flour which may be furnished in Virtue of a Law ~~of the 10th of Dec^r 1779~~ ^{of the 10th of Dec^r 1779} for the Supply of Flour and other Provisions for the Army. ~~It is~~ ^{It is} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Propriety~~ ^{Propriety} of the Measure, and

Col^o Henry Hallifax