

52.
Call out the Stock immediately and place the Money in the Hands of some
Capital Banker in Amsterdam or Paris, subject to their Draughts, in case
Bills should be drawn on them. If the Trustees decline acting, we desire
you would send the Trustees appointed by your Excellency, a copy of the
Act, with similar Directions to those above. As the Proceedings of the
General Assembly of this State, relative to British Property, may reach
your Excellency as soon as this Letter, we think it necessary that
you should be precisely informed on this Subject, to prevent Misrepre-
sentation and to obviate any Difficulties that may occur in the Transaction
of this Business. The House of Delegates, during their last Session,
proposed a Bill for the Seizure and Confiscation of all British Pro-
perty, to the Use of the State, except Debts due from the Inhabitants
of this State to the Subjects of the King of Great Britain: this Bill
was rejected by the Senate, not because ^{they were} against the Exception; but because ^{they} deemed a Seizure and Confiscation
of British Property at this Time, improper; so that British Property here
continues in the State it ever was. We have only to ~~add~~ solicit so much
of your Time and Attention to this Matter, as will be necessary to preserve
the Property of this State

We are &c.

His Excellency Benjamin Franklin.

Maryland

Sir. Annapolis In Council 4th Jan^y 1780.

43.
We have it in Command from the General Assembly of Maryland to transmit
to you a Copy of the Act for calling out of Circulation certain Bills of Credit
emitted by Act of Assembly; you will perceive, on Perusal of the Act, that
a Power is delegated to you, in case His Excellency Benjamin Franklin ~~shall~~
should die or decline to accept of the Trust reposed in him, to appoint one
of the five Gentlemen nominated in the Act, Trustee for the Purpose of
carrying the same into Execution. In case either of those Events should happen
we request your Excellency to transmit a Copy of the Act to Mess^{rs}. Dupell,
Grove and Stanbury, Trustees appointed by the old Government and desire
their immediate Answer whether they will transact the Business, sell
out the Stock, accept and pay the Bills drawn ~~and~~ in Pursuance of the
Act. If they will execute the Trust, we would have them directed to sell
out the Stock immediately and place the Money in the Hands of some
Capital Banker in Amsterdam or Paris, subject to their Draughts, in case
Bills should be drawn on them. If the Trustees decline acting, we desire you would
send the Trustees appointed by your Excellency, a Copy of the Act with similar
Directions to those above. As the Proceedings of the General Assembly of this
State, relative to British Property, may reach your Excellency as soon
as this Letter, we think it necessary that you should be precisely informed
on this Subject to prevent Misrepresentation and to obviate any Diffi-
culties that may occur ~~in~~ the Transaction of this Business.
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for the Seizure and Confiscation of all British Property, to the Use
of the State, except Debts due from the Inhabitants of this State
to the Subjects of the King of Great Britain: this Bill was rejected by
the Senate, not because they were against the Exception, but because
they deemed a Seizure and Confiscation of British Property, at this Time
improper; so that British Property here, continues in the State it ever was.
We have only to request so much of your Excellency's Attention to this Business
that the Design of the Act may not be frustrated for want of a proper
We are &c.