

for the Assessment of Property within this State, passed last ^{Month} ~~Month~~ ¹⁷⁹³ ~~1792~~ as such Person may elect to pay, in Lieu of the 20 Pounds of Tobacco proposed by that Act on every Hundred Pounds Worth of Property.

For your Direction in the Management of this Business entrusted to you we have sent you a Copy of those Clauses of the Act, which relate to your Department. It is absolutely necessary that an ~~Order~~ extra Supply of Provisions of the Bread Kind should be procured for the Continental Army with the utmost Expedition and, for that Purpose, we direct you to buy up, in your County, all the Wheat, Wheat Flour, Bread in Barrels, Bacon, Salted Pork, and Beef in Barrels, that can be obtained, and contract for the same in Paper Money, Tobacco, or Certificates, the Certificates to bear an Interest of 6% and to be discounted in the Payment of the public Assessment. To incline the Possessors of those Necessaries to dispose of them on reasonable Terms with greater Promptitude, it will be proper for you to inform them that, unless a sufficient Supply is purchased by a short Day, the Governor and Council are invested with Authority to order a Seizure, in the Manner heretofore made. Acquaint us by every Opportunity of your Success in purchasing, and we will send you such Sums of Money and Tobacco as may be necessary. If you can make your Contracts for Certificates, we prefer that Mode, 'till the present Assessments are collected and brought in. You have Copies of the Acts to procure an Extra Supply of ^{Wheat}, and to procure a Supply of Salt Meat &c. We have selected one Letter from General Washington and two from the Committee of Cooperation, from many we have ^{lately} received on the same Subjects; the enclosed Extracts from which, so strongly and pointedly ^{point out} the urgent and pressing Necessity of making the most vigorous Exertions to procure those Supplies, that we deem it unnecessary to superadd any Arguments to the Reasons and Motives contained therein, to stimulate you to do your utmost. We have already waded through a Sea of Difficulties but our Distresses were never so alarming, as at present, the want of manly Fortitude, Perseverance and Indefatigable Industry, are essentially necessary to retrieve our Affairs and free us from those ^{Calamities} which ^{Supine} Supinities and a criminal Indifference will involve us in, we therefore exhort you, in the most earnest Manner, by that Patriotic Sense of Liberty, and tender Regard for Posterity, which so eminently distinguished the Conduct of the virtuous Sons of America, in the ^{early} ^{beginning} of this ^{Revolution} ^{War}, not to cease your most unremitting Endeavours ^{to} ^{bring} ^{into} ^{Execution} ^{the} ^{important} ^{Purposes} of those Acts, 'till the ^{same} ^{are} ^{amply} ^{procured} ^{with} ^{every} ^{Necessary}.

To the Commissaries for Purchasing the Public Supplies