

220. *Love of Gain* will prompt them to buy up the Wheat and Flour to sell to
public Purchasers; whereby the present Prices (far from being moderate)
will be greatly augmented. Our earnest Desire to give every Assistance, to
render the military Operations in the West Indies effectual and successful.
for the Opinion of Congress and Ministers of France, determined us to give
the Permission and hazard the Inconvenience already suggested. We
cannot refrain from intimating to Congress, that, if this State should
fail in supplying their Quota of Flour for the Continental Army and
the French Marine, such Failure cannot, justly, be ascribed to Inefficiency
in our Laws, or Want of Exertion in this Board, but to Inability,
arising from our gratifying the numerous Demands, unexpectedly
made, on this State.

We are &c

President of Congress.

In Council Annapolis 27th July 1780

322. Sir. By the late Acts of Assembly to procure Troops, your Case is not considered
and, though there may be a Hardship in your being compelled to
contribute your Quota to procure a Substitute, yet we cannot see
how it is to be avoided, as you are neither expressly nor impliedly
exempted by the Laws.

We are &c

Capt. Peter Clarke.

In Council Annapolis 27th July 1780

323. Gent. We have enclosed you a Copy of a Letter from the Baron DeKalle,
addressed to this Board. He represents the Maryland Division to be in
great Distress for Want of Provisions, the Security of which will pre-
vent them from approaching nearer the Enemy's Lines, unless proper
Measures are taken to supply them. We esteem it necessary that this
Representation should be laid before Congress, in order that some Mode
may be pointed out to furnish them immediately, which is impracti-
cable, by this State, the Distance being so great, and, if it could be done,
the Expence would be enormous. It certainly, would not be inconveni-
ent to the States of North Carolina & Virginia to provide for their Sub-
sistence. We have, upon all Occasions, exerted ourselves to take Care
of the Troops of other States, marching through this. As we are not
invested with competent Authority to carry into Effect his Proposals
of raising forming a Body of Light Horse for the Service in the