

to settle this Purchase. We have already given Orders to procure & forward
 the Plans to be furnished by this State, for the Use of your Marine; but
 if from their, and other extraordinary Demands on us, we should fail to
 supply the whole, we think such a Part of this Quantity as will make
 up the Deficiency, ought to be appropriated to that Purpose, but we
 wish your Excellency to understand, we do not mean to keep back any
 of the Plans, if we can possibly furnish it. We are &c

Chevalier de la Luzerne

Conseil Amapolis 20th July 1780

Gent^{rs}

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The General Assembly, on the 12th June last, took into Consideration the
 Trade of this State and entered into the following Resolution ^{vid. resol.}
 which was transmitted to Congress, and by them, referred to the Board of
 Admiralty: The Result of whose Deliberation thereon, has not yet been
 communicated to us, nor do we know that the Requisition of the
 Assembly will be complied with. Our Coast has lately been much
 infested with the Privateers and Cruisers of the Enemy, our Trade and
 Navigation obstructed and many of our Vessels captured, to the great
 Detriment of the Public, Ruin of some, and Distress of many of our
 Merchants, and we can assure you, unless two, or one, at least, of the
 Continental Brigades are so stationed as to afford Protection to the Trade
 of Virginia and this State, that there is little or no Probability of our
 providing Cloathing and other Necessaries for our Quota of the Army.
 As this State has, on every Occasion, exerted themselves in an extraordi-
 nary Degree, in support of the Common Cause, and have, and do contribute
 their Proportion of the Expence of the Continental Navy, and have not,
 hitherto, derived any Advantage from it, we can but think it reasonable
 that our Request should be gratified. We have just received a Letter
 from the commercial Gentlemen of the Town of Baltimore, repre-
 senting, that the Successes of small armed Vessels, have invited a very
 formidable Enemy into our Bay, and that not less than twenty of
 their most valuable Vessels, outward bound are now block'd up in
 Patuxent River, and have been for some time past and that, every Day
 they receive Accounts of their Vessels being taken or destroyed. This
 Representation of the Distresses and Embarrassments of the Trade and
 Navigation of the States of Virginia and Maryland, not only merits
 the immediate Notice of Congress, but, we think, cannot fail to
 induce them to order such a Number of Brigades to be stationed