

Circular In Council Annapolis 21st Aug: 1700

Sir
No. 476

Enclosed is an Extract from the Subscription made by the General Assembly and we request you to call on the Gentlemen who have not already complied with their Engagements. The Motives which induced the General Assembly to pass the Law for obtaining a Loan, were so generally known, and the Object in view so essential to the Interest and Reputation of the United States, that very considerable Aid was expected from the Virtue and public Spirit of the Citizens of this State; the same Motives operate more forcibly, if possible at this time. The Army under our illustrious General is increasing rapidly and the grand Object of the Campaign is still the same: immediate and considerable Supplies of Provisions are indispensably necessary, and the Means provided by the General Assembly very inadequate to that Purpose. Although we have the greatest Reason to rely on the Patriotism of our fellow Citizens, we are not, from the Demands lately made on them, so sanguine as to expect very considerable Assistance by Money; yet as there are other Means in the Power of many pointed out by the Law, we most earnestly entreat you to exert yourself on this Occasion, and that you will call on those who are able to contribute by Loan, a small Portion of their Affluence, that they may secure the Peaceful Possession of the Whole to themselves and Posterity, by enabling us to comply with the Requisitions of Congress, the Committee of Operations and the Expectations of His Excellency the Commander in Chief.

We are at a Period of Time which will admit of no Delay, you must therefore inform us speedily of your Success and Expectations to the Collectors of Loans. We are &c

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From the Information which we have received from the Lieutenants of some Counties, we are induced to believe it will be an Ease to the People to allow them to discharge, in Wheat, the 15th Cent due from the Classes which have not found Recruits, at the same time, that it would answer a most valuable Purpose, in obtaining a Supply of Provisions for the Army at this time, extremely wanted. We therefore request you to inform the Persons who compose those Classes which have neglected to find Recruits and for which Recruits cannot be obtained by you, for the 15th Cent that if they will deliver to the Commissary of your County as much Wheat allowing 60 Dollars for every Bushel, as their Dues amount to, their Effects shall be exempted from Distress, and to direct them to procure from the Commissary a Receipt for the Wheat so delivered, which is to be deposited in your Hands and returned by you to the Treasurer of your County in stead of the Money ordered to be collected by Distress.

To the Lieutenants of the several Counties

We are &c