

No 36
In Council, 8th Feb. 1781

159. Sir, We received yours of the 3rd Ult but we were at that Time so much engaged that we could not answer it. From what we have been able to collect such Pistols compleat would sell for five Pounds Gold, we think from the Condition they are in, the State ought not to demand more than three Pounds Gold, which we hope will not be thought unreasonable.
Colonel Baker Johnson?

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160. Sir, Brigadier Hamilton of the Convention Troops in his letter of the 30th January past, informs that on his arrival at Frederick he made a Demand of Board and Stails to put the Barrocks in tolerable Order for the British Troops to be in; that had those Articles been provided and Tools he would by means of his workmen have perfected the Barrocks. Information has been received that Plank Boards and necessaries may be had near Frederick Town, as we desired this Business to be done we wonder why it has not been. This Board is of Opinion that the present is a good Opportunity of completing the Barrocks, while the British are there and those under the Direction of their Brigadier. Wherefore it is determined that you with the best Dispatch procure the necessary Tools and materials and assist ^{in setting} those people at work. We doubt not your Frugality and good Management and for Payment you shall either have Money transmitted to you or orders on the Collector of your County, or if it may be of Service, Tobacco, no Time should be lost. The Brigadier also of the irregular and scanty Supply of Fuel, we hope without Foundation, and he writes that the Troops have received no Meat for five Days past. We observe you write of a person from Fairlyle offering seventy Bullocks to be paid in Flour at Baltimore Town. The Distance between Frederick and Baltimore from Fairlyle should certainly make some Difference as the Price of the Beef as well as the Difference between small and large Quantity. However we think it best that you get the Beef upon the lowest Terms possible to be paid in Flour at Baltimore Town at the current Price for Flour there and you shall upon your advising us of having made the Contract be furnished with orders for the Flour to make your Payment.

George Muddock Esq.