

Approbation, Congress we have learnt has sent a Quantity of Provisions to Charles Town lately for the Support of the Captive Officers there and we make no Doubt but this State will be allowed the like Privilege for the Relief of their Officers, under this Inspection we have offered Terms to the Inhabitants of this State for the Transportation of Provisions to New York which have been accepted, and in consequence thereof having appointed Mr. Charles Crossall who will be the Honor of delivering this. Our Agent or Commissary to reside in New York if approved by his Excellency Genl Washington until a Commissary is appointed by him. We wish you to give him every Assistance in the conduct of this Business and further Information may be obtained of him.

Delegates in Congress.

In Council, 20<sup>th</sup> May, 1781.

Sir, The Sufferings of our Officers in Captivity have for a long Time claimed our Attention and excited great Mammotions which a Consciousness that we were destitute of the Means of alleviating them has much augmented; it has been and still is impracticable for the State to procure a Quantity of Specie adequate to that Purpose which has determined us to avail ourselves of the Proportions contained in the enclosed Paper, if your Excellency should be of Opinion it may

139. be done consistent with Propriety, and will afford us your Assistance in facilitating a Communication with New York by way of Brig. Your Excellency will perceive that no State will be allowed to dispose of any of the Money arising from the sale of the Articles to be sent before the Debts of the Officers are discharged; this Restriction if adhered to will prevent us from shipping any Produce, because Vopols cannot be obtained unless the Freight is paid in New York and the Censor allowed to invest it in such Goods as are not prohibited to be brought back, and therefore trust your Excellency will endeavour to effect an Alteration of it in such manner as will most likely attain the Objects in View, the Relief of our Officers. If your Excellency has not appointed a Commissary to reside in New York and should now think it proper to consider that Subject, and