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Philadelphia, June 4<sup>th</sup> 1781.

As we are usually informed that several Merchants in Philadelphia have a large Quantity of Staves in their Possession and that they may be had for Plum or Tobacco; should this be the Case we beg Leave to solicit your Attention to this Business and request you will contract for as many as can be obtained, which we will engage to pay for in either of those Articles. If you will be pleased to forward them immediately to the Head of Elk, from which Place we can easily have them conveyed, where they may be required. We wish to have at least one Thousand Staves.

Delegates in Congress

Sir,

In Council, 4<sup>th</sup> June, 1781.

By a Resolution of the General Assembly of Yesterday, we are requested to draw no further Orders on the Treasurers of either Shore, and that no Orders already drawn be paid by either of the Treasurers until they take further Order therein. We therefore direct you not to pay any Orders whatever until you hear further from us.

509. Circular to the Western and Eastern Treasurers.

Sir,

In Council, 5<sup>th</sup> June, 1781.

We think a large Body of Troops drawn to a point in this State might in all Probability prevent the Enemy from invading it and would be a very important and acceptable Success to the Marquis De La Fayette, if the Enemy should be so successful in Virginia as to encourage them to penetrate our State; under these Impressions we have ordered the Militia Horse and select Militia from most of the Counties of this Shore and nine hundred and fifty of the Militia at large to George Town on Patowmack, and request you will give immediate Orders to the Troop of Horse raised in your County to repair without Delay to that Place subject to our further Orders.

510.

Circular to the Lieut<sup>s</sup> of Kent  
Frederick and Baltimore Counties.