

185
have you do it, all the the fullest Informations can be obtained
c. N^o 536 otherwise we would have them taken into Custody immediately
and sent down we wish you would see Capt. Bendorff and
talk with him.

Circular, Lieut^s (Frederick, and Washington Counties.

In Council, 9th June, 1781.

537. Sir, You will discover in perusing the enclosed Act that
we are empowered and requested to order the Commissaries of those
Counties most easily approachable by the Enemy what Stock may
be in Danger of falling into their Hands if such Purchase cannot
be effected to order a Seizure; and several Parts of your County
being in our ~~to~~ Opinion much exposed to the Enemy, we hereby
authorize and direct you to purchase ^{one hundred} Beef Cattle in those Parts
of your County which are most exposed to the Ravages of the Enemy,
and in case the Owners of the Stock will not consent to sell them,
we direct you to seize them and pursue the particular Directions
of the Act when a Seizure is made. If the Number of the
Stock in exposed Places should exceed what we have
directed you to purchase or seize you will apply to the
Lieut. to oblige the Owners to drive them out of the Reach
of the Enemy. You will have the Cattle purchased and seized
drove by a safe Route to George Town in Montgomery
County and there delivered to Mr. Thomas Beall Assistant
Commissary to Mr. Richardson

Circular Commissaries of St. Mary's &
Prince Georges and Charles Counties &
June 16th 1781.

In Council, 9th June, 1781.

Sir, By Information received from the Lieutenant of Charles
County of a Number of Rebels standing up the River Patowmack
which in all Probability of the Enemy from James River
to cooperate with the Army under Lord Cornwallis, it
has become necessary that a Number of the Militia be
immediately collected and stationed at the most advantaged
Parts for Defence you are therefore requested to order out