has repose the utmost Confidence in your Probity, Diligence and Oeconomick in Mercantile affairs, and are convinced, that the various Matters entrusted to your Care and Management, will be so candidly and judiciously conducted, as to promote the Interests of the State, and give entire Satisfaction. We request you will constantly give us precise Information of whatever is transacting on the Political Theatre of Europe, which concerns the united States, and more particularly what relates to Maryland

Matthew Ridley Esq.

In Council, 15th Augt 1781.

Sir,

We have your's of the 11th Instant with your Returns for the Months of June and July; whatever Flour you have that is not of a

No. 735 Quality to comply with Col. Smith's Order must be turned over to the Continental Store keeper or Quarter Master at the Head of Elk. We send you by this Opportunity £100 of the late Emission which is to be passed only as Specie and for Expences incurred in your Department from the 19th of June.

Col. Henry Hollingsworth.

In Council, 15th Augt 1781.

Sir,

It appears to this Board from the Representation of Richard Lowe and others of Baltimore Town that Oliver Buttow has been absent since December 1779. and was probably dead when the Militia Fines were adjudged

736. to be due from him, and for which Executions are issued against the Land and Effects to the great Distress of the Widow, and a poor Family. In two former Instances we requested you to forbear levying some Militia Fines until the People could petition the Assembly, and in the present Instance we request you also to suspend the Execution, and advise the Widow and her Friends to apply to the Assembly at their next Session.

Hs. Jos. Garretson.

In Council, 16th Augt 1781.

Sir

We received your Letter of the 11th and cannot allow any Spirits to be issued to the Guard on their present Duty, as it has not been allowed

737. in any Instance except when from Home and then in very few Instances the Regulars in this City have not had any since they have been raised which is between two and three Months but as Whiskey is to issue to them

Col. Thos. Bradley