

In Council 19 Sept 1781

Sir

N^o 239

Your Excellency's Letter Adress of the 15th is this Morn presented to us. We are truly happy to be informed that the Count de Graps is returned to his Station and that our Vessels may pass down the Bay without Hazard. We feel your Excellency's Displeasur from an Apprehension that your Operations may stop or be interrupted for want of Provisions and the more so because we can't instantly furnish you. In consequence of your Requestion, we directed our Commissioners to collect all the Public Flour and deposit it at convenient Places on navigable Water; since which M^r Falkner the Comissary for the Western Shore has informed us that 1105 Barrels are at George Town, and the public Wheat in Washington and Frederick Counties now manufacturing and transporting to that Post, will, we are satisfied, afford from fifteen hundred to two thousand Barrels more. There are at Baltimore Town about four hundred and fifty Barrels and at the Head of Elk three hundred Barrels which last Quantity must be greatly augmented in a short Time unless the French Purchasers who have hard Money to procure what they want, interfere with our Measures and render them inefficacious. If that Event should happen, we shall be constrained to resort to Seizure which will procraftinate our further Supplies and from its Odiousness ought if possible to be avoided. All the Vessels belonging to the State being impressed and now employed in transporting the Troops to the Point of Destination puts it out of our Power to forward the Flour immediately, as soon as they return we shall order them on that Service. The Number of Bees we engaged to furnish, your Excellency may depend on, and we will have them driven to such Places within this State as you may point out. We apprehend those on the Eastern Shore must be sent by Water, however you will be pleased to determine and give Directions. Your Excellency may rely on our making every possible Exertion to supply you with every Thing in this State that you may want, but we wish you would not depend on us entirely for Axes, Hatchets and entrenching Tools. The Credit of our new Money, our only Medium, has been greatly wounded and the Circulation in some Measure stoppt, since the French Contractors have been in the State, who have parted with their Specie with great Liberality, and we expect for some Time to meet with Difficulties in obtaining what is required

His Excellency Genl Washington

In Council 20th Sept 1781

Sir

General Washington writes in the most urgent Manner to hasten to him without a Moments Delay all the Horses that can possibly be procured, as his Army is in a Manner starving for want of Bread and such repeated and pressing Necessity, we earnestly request you to exert yourself and employ others and impress if necessary whatever Waggon Drivers and Drivers you will want to send to George Town all the Horses you can possibly procure, and without a Moments Loss of Time. We rely on your zeal and Industry at this most important juncture.

Col^l Thomas Price &
Col^l Moses Rawlings