[illegible] may interfere with any proper Arrangements, without [illegible]
No 1190 for a conſiderable Time paſt, been in the Practice of making Advances to our
Officers, and it is ſtill continued, which might not be the Caſe were we acquainted
with the Syſtem adopted by Congreſs, or under their Authority.
Honble Robert Morris Esqr

In Council 12th July 1782
Sir
Among other Meaſures adopted by our Aſsembly, at their laſt Sitting, to
raiſe Money for the United States, they laid a Tax of five Shillings Specie in the
hundred Pound, to be collected by the firſt of Auguſt next, but afterwards, upon
an Application from General Greene, they directed that twenty Dragoon Horſes
ſhould be purchaſed out of the Monies ariſing from this Tax, or with Certificates
to be received in Payment of the ſame. We do not flatter ourſelves that this Tax
will be very productive. It is a Truth that our People are poſseſsed of but very
little Specie, and even that Little is chiefly confined to Baltimore Town, and the
few upper Counties which are ſo ſituated as to have Intercourſe with Baltimore or
Philadelphia. The lower and moſt conſiderable Part of the State, has neither
Specie nor the Means of getting it, for there is no Demand for any Thing the
People make, thoſe in the upper Counties having it abundantly in their Power
to furniſh every Article ~~in their Power~~ required for Exportation by the Merchants
of Baltimore, which is the only Town in the State, where foreign Commerce
is carried on. We have been thus particular, as well for the Purpoſe of giving
1191. you, what we deem, neceſsary Information, as to enable you to judge, from a
View of all Circumſtances, of the Propriety of the following Propoſition. The Notes
advanced to the Officers of the Maryland Line for two and three Months Pay
have no Credit in the State at preſent, from an Opinion which prevails that the
States will not have it in their Power to enable you to redeem them. We think
if they were received in Payment of the Specie Tax, the Officers could diſpoſe of
them without Loſs, and the Tax would be more productive in Proportion to
the Increaſe of the Means of paying it. We therefore propoſe, if it meets with
your Concurrence, to direct the Collectors to receive, as Specie, not only the Notes
already iſsued, but all that may be iſsued to the Officers of the Maryland Line.
We are informed that Penſylvania and ſome other States, have made Advances
of two Months Pay to their Soldiers, and our Officers impute to this Diſcrimination,
the general Diſcontents of our Privates, among whom, ſuch Jealouſies and
Uneaſineſses prevail, that it has been with the utmoſt Dificulty that their ill
Humour has been reſtrained from breaking out into the moſt dangerous
Mutiny. Under theſe Circumſtances we cannot help anxiouſly wiſhing that
our Soldiers might be put in the ſame Situation with others, either by you
or the State.
Honble Robert Morris Esqr

In Council 12th July 1782
Sir.
We have the Honor to encloſe an Act paſsed at the laſt Sitting of
1192 the General Aſsembly, authorizing the United States in Congreſs aſsembled
to impoſe and levy a Duty of 5 per Cent on imported foreign Goods, and Prizes
and prize Goods, which we hope will be ſatisfactory.
His Excy The Preſident of Congreſs

In Council 12th July 1782
Sir
Not knowing whether the Chain of Expreſses from Baltimore to Philadelphia
is ſtill kept up, we have encloſed ſome public Letters to your Care. If the
1193 Expreſses are kept up, be pleaſed to deliver them to the Quartermaster and
if not, we requeſt you will be ſo obliging as to forward them by the firſt ſafe Hand
to Philadelphia.
Colo Samuel Smith