

Annapolis in Maryland

Council

June 6. 1793

Sir,

I have been duly honoured with your letters of the 23^d and 25th ulto pointing out the means which the President of the United States thinks expedient to be employed for preventing or repelling military aggressions by any of the European powers engaged in war, within parts of the United States too remote for the immediate interposition of the federal Executive—

The President may be assured that I shall make every practicable effort to assist his views but a circumstance probably not adverted to by his Excellency, I mean the want of a provision by law for regulating or organizing the Militia of this State, may in practice constitute a very great difficulty—

It is true that supposing a Militia to exist, I am by our Constitution vested with the command of it, under a restriction however, of not commanding in person longer than may be approved of by my Council—

(The)