

In Council November 1, 1802

Sir,

In compliance with a Resolution of the House of Delegates this day communicated
We do ourselves the honor to transmit a Journal of our Proceedings for the present
Year.

The honorable the Speaker of the
House of Delegates

We are with entire Confidence & Respect

Your Obedient Servants
John F. Mercer

In Council November 6, 1802

Gentlemen

We have the honor respectfully to communicate a detailed account of our Proceedings
in virtue of various Acts and Resolutions of the last General Assembly of Maryland.

In pursuance of the Resolution authorizing the appointment of three Commissioners
on the part of this State, to meet such Commissioners as might be named by the
Commonwealth of Virginia, to settle and adjust by mutual compact the Western
and Southern Boundaries of this State, and the dividing Line and Boundaries
of the respective States, we appointed Gabriel Duvall, John M. Powell and
Roger Nelson, Esquires, Commissioners, and took the earliest opportunity of appearing
the Executive of Virginia of our proceedings under the said Resolution.

This subject was submitted to the consideration of the General Assembly of
Virginia and the enclosed Resolution, accompanying a letter from the Governor
of that Commonwealth, will show the result of the deliberations of that Body and
the impression under which they have acted.

As the Resolution of Virginia confined their Commissioners to the adjustment
of the Western Boundary only of this State, and the fixing of that Boundary appeared
to us to depend on the previous ascertainment of the Southern Line: we deemed their
authority too limited to effectuate the contemplated object of the General Assembly of
Maryland and of course considered a meeting of the Commissioners altogether useless. In
reply to that part of the communication from the Executive of Virginia, which stated
that it was not known to the Legislature of that Commonwealth, that any doubt
existed relative to the Southern Boundary of this State: we enclosed copies of several
letters that had passed between Governor Stone and Governor Pinckney on this
subject, and also a copy of one addressed by William Pasch, Esquire, to the General
Assembly at November Session seventeen hundred and ninety five. This our
communication used, as we did not deem it proper for insertion into the
discussion of a question, which had been referred by the Assembly to a Board
of Commissioners. We send enclosed the Resolution of the Legislature of Virginia
together with the correspondence of this Executive with that of Virginia on this
subject which is marked (P).