

That the articles hereafter mentioned be delivered to the officers and soldiers of the Maryland line at the following determinate rates, to wit: West-India rum at five shillings per gallon, muscovado sugar at one shilling per pound, coffee at one shilling and six-pence per pound, bohea tea at ten shillings per pound, chocolate at two shillings and six-pence per pound, hard soap at one shilling and three-pence per pound, tobacco at nine-pence per pound.

That the lands which may be granted within this state to officers and soldiers serving in the troops of the state, in consequence of a resolution of congress of September the sixteenth, seventeen hundred and seventy-six, shall be exempted from taxation whilst they continue in the possession of such officers or soldiers, and before any alienation thereof made, and not after.

That the several articles above enumerated shall be delivered to the several officers and soldiers in the Maryland line in the following manner and no other, viz. Every commissioned officer shall be entitled to draw one pint of rum per day, five pounds of muscovado sugar, one quarter pound of tea, one and a half pound of coffee, half pound of chocolate, one pound of soap, and one pound of tobacco, per month, and no more. Every non-commissioned officer and private soldier to draw half a gill of rum per day, which shall be done by an order in writing from the commanding officer of the regiment, and then only in such cases where it is absolutely necessary and cannot be furnished by the continental commillaries; and one pound of tobacco per month.

That the agent or person appointed or to be appointed by this state to deliver the above articles shall, at the end of every month, deliver to the paymaster of each regiment a fair list of the sum or sums due by each officer or soldier for the several articles furnished by him at the prices before stipulated, which sum or sums shall be deducted from the pay of such officer or soldier.

That the governor and council be empowered and requested to give directions to the agent appointed by this state, to procure the articles before enumerated for the officers and soldiers in the Maryland line, and to deliver the same to them in the proportion and manner herein before directed.

Your committee are of opinion, that from the present situation of the troops it may be exceeding inconvenient for them to wait until the articles above enumerated can be procured, therefore we would beg leave to suggest, that the inconvenience may be obviated by giving them in hand a sum of money adequate to the provision. Upon an accurate and minute calculation, which we hereto annex, the articles with which each officer is to be furnished are to stand charged at thirty pounds, this at the difference of twenty-five for one amounts to seven hundred and fifty pounds; and instead of the rum and tobacco to be given each private, we would submit the propriety of giving twenty pounds in money; to the non-commissioned officers thirty pounds each in lieu of the said articles. The adoption of this measure we conceive will not only benefit the officers, by placing in their hands the money with which they may immediately procure (and perhaps more agreeable to their own wishes) those articles, which, if to be provided by the state, they may be some time deprived of, but will steer us clear of extravagant commissions and abuses, too often the cause of complaint in the purchasing departments.

Your committee further beg leave to report, that by the resolution of congress of the 27th of May, 1778, establishing a new arrangement of the army, our quota of troops, when compleat, consists of eight regiments of four hundred and seventy-seven privates, and forty-nine non-commissioned officers, drums and fifes, each, the whole number amounting to four thousand two hundred and eight.

It appears that we have now in the field and ought to have credit for the following numbers, viz.

By a return to the board of war in April last we had then in the field	- - - - -	2537
Matroses since the return, and sent from this state	- - - - -	100
Count Pulaski recruited in this state	- - - - -	100
Major Lee ditto	- - - - -	20
Invalids in colonel Nicholas regiment	- - - - -	44
In colonel Rawlings's regiment belonging to Maryland	- - - - -	100
Recruited and sent to camp by colonel Forrest	- - - - -	300
Colonel Baytor enlisted in Frederick-Town last winter	- - - - -	50
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Which leaves a deficiency of 957.

Your committee are informed, there are about eighty matroses in the city of Annapolis and Baltimore-Town, and submit to the honourable house the expediency of sending them to camp as a part of the quota of this state.

Your committee are further of opinion, that our deficiency cannot be recruited upon the present bounty without an addition of cloaths.

All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

Signed per order, W. H. M'PHERSON, cl. com.