

Savaret offers to contract for the following articles, being made at their own manufactory, to be delivered in France, free of commission, which contract he is ready to carry completely into execution with all possible dispatch, and will continue to supply a certain quantity yearly, for eight years, at the price and agreeable to the model and conditions to be agreed on; the following are the prices at which he says he is to furnish congress and the state of Virginia:

	liv.	sous.	d.	at	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	1	3	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
A new musket, bayonet and scabbard complete	26	10							
Carbines	29	0					1	5	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
A pair of horse pistols of a new construction	32	10					1	8	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Sabres for dragoons	12	0					0	10	6

But as the company is under engagements with congress to establish a manufactory in America, and Mr. Savaret is in treaty with the state of Virginia for the like purpose, which must be done at a very considerable expence, he is induced to make an offer to supply the state of Maryland with such arms as they may have occasion for on lower terms, provided they will take arms from them after the peace on the same terms as congress are to have them, as they will then be supplied from their manufactory in America, which must be established at a great expence, and the state will then save freight and insurance. The terms proposed during the war for arms delivered at Nantes of the same quality and proof as those for the king, are

	liv.	sous.	d.	at	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	1	1	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
A new musket, bayonet and scabbard complete	24	10							
Carbines	27	0					1	3	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
A pair of pistols on a new construction	30	10					1	6	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
Sabres	10	0					0	8	9

Which your committee think reasonable.

Mr. Savaret will engage to purchase cloathing and such other necessaries as may be wanting for the troops on the best terms, which he apprehends will be more advantageous to the state than to contract for the same, allowing him a commission of 5 per cent. That in order to enable the company to carry the said contract into execution, the state shall send to France the value of one half of the articles wanted in produce, which shall be sold at 5 per cent. commission. That the state shall engage to make remittance in produce for the balance to the company in France, within six months after shipping the articles, to be sold at 5 per cent. commission; and that if the company is directed to pay insurance and freight, they shall render an account thereof, and be entitled to charge 10 per cent. interest on such advance, and on the balance of their account till they are reimbursed.

Your committee are of opinion, that the commission of 5 per cent. on the sale and purchase of other articles not of their own manufacture is too high, as they are informed the usual commission is not more than 2 or 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. and the interest of 10 per cent. on any balance that might arise is also higher than usual.

That in order to carry the proposed contract into execution, it will be necessary to send produce to France for one moiety of the amount, before any of the articles proposed to be furnished can be shipped, and provision must be made in like manner to remit the other moiety within six months after, in order to effect which a large sum of money will inevitably be necessary, to enable the governor and council, or such other persons as may be thought proper to conduct this business, to purchase or charter vessels and furnish tobacco for their loading; but whether the state of your finances will permit the entering into any contract at present, your committee do not presume to determine, and therefore submit the whole to the consideration of the honourable house.

By order,

A. GOLDRER, cl. com.

Which was read.

The report on the letters of Mr. Beatty and Mr. Dallam was read the second time, and the resolutions therein contained agreed to and sent to the senate by Mr. Gaunt and Mr. Driver.

The bill, entitled, An act to lay out and clear a road from the Head of Elk towards Christiana bridge, was read the second time, and the question put, That the said bill do pass? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Job appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A T I V E.					
Messrs. Mackall,	J. Hall,	Harrison,	Ward,	Dennis,	Alexander,
Lethrbury,	H. Ridgely,	Birkhead,	Job,	Keene,	Sprigg,
Worthington,	Fitzhugh,	J. Henry,	Ringgold,	M'Mechen,	Bayly.
N E G A T I V E.					
Messrs. Reed,	Williamson,	J. Stevenson,	Quynn,	Gaunt,	Taylor,
Jordan,	Smith,	C. Ridgely,	Chafe,	M'Comas,	Driver,
W. Stevenson,	Freeland,	Magruder,	Beatty,	Norris,	Burgefs.
Maccubbin,	Deye,				

So it was determined in the negative.

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