

December 31st 1776

Sir, We received two Letters from you the one by J. Stewart the other by Mr. Crockett - tis well that you purchased the Brig two kinds of her Cordage to the State of Maryland as also two kinds of all the money she prizes sold for and so you may inform the Marshal, therefore we have sent only 2,000 pounds for her loading and outfit - We do not expect Congress will want her as they have wrote only for a small armed Schooner which we have let them have. Get the Brig ready as soon as possible and let her be loaded with best flour, some Bread, and thirty or forty Hds of Tobacco if to be got on any thing like reasonable terms: your militia we hear are marching but we think you ought to be excused as you are much engaged in the Service of the State, should you go you will leave our business we expect in good hands.

Mr. Jesse Hollingsworth.

We are, Sir,
with respect, &c.December 31st 1776

Sir, Upon looking over the returns made to our Board by our Commissioners we find that they have filled up all the majorities and left to us some grounds for questions & enquires neither of which Stations Mr. Hopkins chooses to fill up, and indeed by the resolution of the Convention our hands in the line of Promotion have been tied up to the regulars and to the Flying Camps. Battalions, when we desired Mr. Hopkins to come down we do not think that the Commissioners had proceeded in siding up the Commissions to the extent they have done otherwise we should then have been explicit and thereby prevented him from taking this joint armament. The accounts you mention will be paid so soon as they are passed by the board of Accounts.

To William Luis Esquire &

We are Sir
Your most ob. S. S.January 1st 1777

Sir, We received your favour of the 28th December but know not how to give any certain answer. Congress having made no written requisitions to us relative to the militia nor have they in any manner explained to us the destination of those Troops. The militia are to move forward at the requisition of Continental Congress; and no question if you apply to them or to your Brigadier but they will inform you of every thing necessary or proper to be known - we are sorry to find the militia so very lackward, perhaps the news of the Victory lately obtained (a narrative of which you will find inclosed in the form of a hand-bill) may send as a spur to the common class of people, the officers are more ready to march as you inform that the soldiers,

Col. Murdock

We are Sir
with respect yours &c.