(31)

[Recd, 8, 31]

31

Philadelphia April 24. 1781

Sir. Copied

31 Your Favour of the 21st Instant I have had the Honor to communicate to the United States in Congress assembled. I am directed to inform you that it was by no means their Intention in the Recommendation therein referred to, to hold up your Situation as desperate, much less to preclude the Idea of Reassistance. The Intelligence they had received led them to apprehend that it was in Contemplation with the Enemy to take Post at New-Castle, for the Purpose of a grand Forage on the Peninsula between Delaware & Chesapeake Bays. The Attention due to the general Interest required that immediate & effectual Precautions should be taken to disappoint such an Expedition of its Object. With this View it was recommended to remove from the Reach of the Enemy all Provisions & Forage which would not be necessary for the Consumption of the Inhabitants, a Precaution pointed out by the very Nature of

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND

The Honorable

Matthew Tilghman Esq