

M. W. M. Croery
Baltimore

1791-20
Norfolk 4. march 1791.

Sir
I receiv^d your favour from M^r. Elliot of the
17. of last month. I am sorry I cannot oblige
you in sending my machine to your board
as they have requested, as I intend to apply
to Congress for a patent so soon as I can
get a friend who will be able to inform
them of the principle of my works, altho
I made those machines for my amusement,
yet I have hopes of obtain an advantage,
by getting a patent & having the sole right
of making them.

General William, Doct. M. Henry, M^r. Bowler
M^r. Bentalon, M^r. Lindenberger, M^r. Keypot
and several other gentlemen who have seen them,
can give you some little insight as to their
construction and usefulness. I saw when I was
in Baltimore many machines to clean the
harbour all of which were very complicated

Gentlemen

1791-21
The way to build a machine to clean Harbours, without
it cost nothing to your board, is to make a lottery, or
a subscription. the former seems to me the more proper
and I think it will be soon fitted.

My conditions are these

1. I wish to have the direction of it,
2. for my trouble and my privilege for this town, I will
300^l. per annum, and every third, I shall take out
under water during the time of my patent
3. You will furnish me as many men shall be necessary,
except one which I will put to conduct the work under
my inspection and will paid him out of my wage
4. When I shall not want of the mud, you will limit me
a public place to throw it
5. the flat boat belonging to the machine shall not be
employ'd in no other works without my consent, because
I intend to build for my own account several to hire