

Ordnance Dept
Aug. 17. 1813. (3)
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Sir,

In the Absence of the Comdr. Genl. I have the Honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter to him, of yesterday's date, enclosing an Extract of a Letter from Captain Morris, conveying a Statement of the Condition of the Fort at Annapolis; of the Munitions on hand; and a Requisition for Ordnance Stores.

In reply to the first (the State of the Fort) I have to observe that, that Branch of Service comes not properly under the Cognizance of this Department; — and altho' Col. Adair has occasionally directed his Attention to such objects, at the particular Request of the Secy of War (as in the ^{case} lately at Baltimore, & more recently at Greenleaf point) yet, as it has been thought proper to divert his Attention & Services to a more remote quarter, we shall be necessarily precluded the Advantage of his Assistance in this.

Capt. Morris' own good Judgment & Skill will no doubt prove a sufficient Substitute in the ^{case} under Consideration.

In the Statement of the Munitions on hand, there is a considerable disagreement from those received; not long since, from the preceding Officer in Command at that Station.

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