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Sir, Philadelphia Augst 18th 1781

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A favourable occasion offering to obtain from Congress particular passports, for the importation of a quantity of salt into our State, we made an application for that purpose, & the letter you will receive herewith from the President, contains the resolves of Congress thereon, & the passports,

Mr. Mullahon has only sold 12 hdds of Tobacco – the proceeds of which divided between Mr Potts & ourselves have afforded a very scanty relief – The Tobacco on hand being from the Lower warehouses, & bad in quality, will hardly command any price; the charges being paid, very little will be put into our pockets – Unless we can receive assistance some other way, we shall remain under very great dificulties, or shall be obliged to part with the Tobacco on terms, very disadvantageous to the State.

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND

Mr. John Ross informed Mr Mullahon that he wanted abt Six hundred Barrls of flour at Baltimore, & that he would supply us with money, if you could let him have that quantity, or a part of it. If you shoud be of opinion, that it would be to the advantage of the State to pursue that measure, until a reasonable price can be obtained for the Tobacco (Mr Mullahon says 15/ ₩C in cash cannot be obtained for what he has on hand) we shall be glad to receive yr directions to treat with Mr Ross, or any other person who may want flour in Baltimore –