country abounds; & the large supplies of cloathing, which have of late been imported by private persons, afford not only the opportunity, but the means under divine providence, of establishing our liberties by a few exertions, this bright prospect should be clouded over, & this great & glorious event endangered, by the languor of too many, & by the arts & avarice of designing individuals, who like the British Nabobs of the East, are corrupting the manners of a whole nation, & building vast fortunes, on the destruction of the liberties of the Western World.

It is to be hoped however, that the wise & spirited laws of the different States, aided by the influence & exertions of the real patriots, will apply effectual remedies to these alarming evils. that the old & hardened offenders will be punished; that those, in whose bosoms the sparks of public virtue are not yet extinguished, will be reclaimed; the languid roused from their present apathy; & that all classes of men will unite with their former spirit & virtue against an enemy, whose progress is marked with every vestige of barbarity, & whose determined object is, to establish a tyranny of the most dangerous & debasing nature over the inhabitants of a vast continent.

Congress flatter themselves, that the resolutions herewith transmitted will tend to accomplish some of these valuable purposes; they therefore esteem it their duty to recommend them to the serious consideration of your Honorable House, & hope they will be carried into execution, as expeditiously & secretly, as possible.

By order of Congress

Henry Laurens,
President

The Honorable
The Speaker of the General Assembly
of Maryland