(141)

York Town 10 June 1778

Sir

141 Authentic Intelligence received by Congress from many quarters leave it no longer doubtful, in what manner the enemy mean to conduct their plan of conciliation.

Under delusive appearances of pacific Acts and Peace-making Commissioners already their military Reinforcements begin to arrive, and already they have commenced the campaign in many places with Acts of cruelty and devastation.

Indian eruptions and burning houses in the moment of dispersing propositions for Peace, evince the insidious designs of the Enemy and demonstrate the necessity of wisdom in Council; of strength and vigour in the field. — The former may be employed to distress the Enemy greatly, by witholding from them the provisions of America, and the latter by quickly collecting powerful Armies to take advantage of their present weakness.

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MARYLAND.

In duty therefore to their Constituents, Congress earnestly call upon you, Sir, and your State to adopt the most effectual and vigorous measures for speedily reinforcing the Continental Army with your quota of troops. The present moment unimproved may be productive of most pernicious consequences, and the public safety demands strong and united efforts. Experience hath shewn that the Marine force of our Enemies enable them to secure, for the support of their Armies, almost the whole of our exported provisions, and therefore Congress impressed with the necessity of preventing the supplies derived to our foes from this source, and desirous of supplying the Armies of the United States, have, upon mature delibe-