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(178)

War & Ordnance office July 22d. 1780

Sir

The Board have been pressingly called upon by the Commander in chief for a larger quantity of Powder than the Magazines of the United States can possibly supply, for the intended operations in Concert with the Fleet & Armies of our Allies. The need not impress, upon your Excellency the necessity of complying with the Generals request & how disagreable would be our Situation, if the operations in which our Allies were invited by Congress to assist us, were either retarded or totally obstructed by a failure on our part. Yet we are under the greatest apprehensions for the success of the intended measures if we are not enabled by the generous & vigorous Exertions of the respective States to afford Supplies of many essential Articles, among which that of Powder is of the highest importance. We have therefore most earnestly to request of your Excellency & the Honble Council that you would lend, out of the Stores belonging to your State, all the Powder you can possibly spare; & we have farther to

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND