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(10)

Philadelphia June 26th. 1781

Sir

Copied

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Upon the completion of the Confederacy by the accession of the State of Maryland the United States in Congress Assembled thought proper to revise the regulations respecting captures and for that purpose on the 27th. of March last passed an ordinance of which I have the honor of enclosing a copy, and conformable thereto on the 7th. of April Ordained and established rules and instructions to be observed by the Captains or Commanders of private armed vessels commissioned by letters of Marque or general reprisals

This having occasioned a change in the commission &c. the board of Admiralty have not been able before this time to furnish this Office with the new forms and hence has arisen the delay in supplying your state — I now embrace the earliest opportunity of forwarding twelve commissions with an equal number of bonds and Instructions — You will be so obliging as to order the bonds when executed to be returned to this Office together with such of the old Commissions as may remain that your state may be credited for them.

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient servant

Cha. Thomson Sec.y.

PS

There are several vessels in Virginia which want commissions. the deranged state of affairs in that commonwealth having induced some of the owners & masters to apply to Congress it is judged proper to refer them to you.

C.T.