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Baltimore. July 17. 1777

Sir

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Inclosed you have a List of Articles wanted for Capt Matthews which cannot be got here - If they are to come from Annapolis please to forward them, or give me your further Instructions - As yet I have not troubled you about any thing I could get myself - I have 24 of the Musketts. so that there will be 16 deficient for him. Capt Walkers wants have not yet begun - and the Necessarys for equipping Armed Vessels are exceedingly scarce -

I shall set off with my Wife next Week to the Virginia Springs, and shall leave Orders with my Young Men to give every assistance in their Power to procure such Articles as may be wanted in my absence - The Ship Defence & the Galleys will cause a large Bill I have already advanced for them near 1000 since I was at Annapolis -

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND. 87

I rec'd your orders to furnish the Fort Comp'y, with Bread that has been baked for this State; of which I sent 500 w't to the Fort, but after they got it, a large majority of them refused to eat Biscuit - affirming they would eat nothing but the best Bread while they were here where it is plenty; The Bread was therefore sent back. Major Smith did every thing in his Power to satisfy them but without Effect. Our Sick Soldiers are indeed a throw-blesom, bad set of Men. But for Peace Sake they have had Loaf Bread since - I have been speaking to Mr Pegan about baking it for them. He says he will undertake to do it on these Terms. - Viz: If you provide the Flour, he will find the Salt, yeast &c but if he will find the Flour &c & deliver the Bread at 3d ℔ lb. any Morning. which would in my Opinion, be far preferable as it would save much Trouble in Our Kitchen ways -