187

May It Please your Excellency/

Baltimore Octo. 26th 1779

Inclosed you have An Account of my Progress in the Purchase of Cloathing Since my Last Their has been Such Rapid and Unexpected Alterations in the Price of Every thing that the Country People Seem Very Indeferent About Selling any thing of their Produce or Manufactury. Their is Very Little Linnen Come to Markett at Present that's of the Quallity Suitable for Soldiers Shirting. I have been Obligded to Advance in the Price as High as £6-15 and I Cannot get any Quantity worth while at that So that I am much Disappointed in my Expectations of Getting the Quantity of Country Linnen for 2000 Shirts The Quantity of Shirts I have Now Ready made is 734 and the Remainder (which I Expect will be Delivered in this Week) is about 250 There is a Considerable Part of the Linnen Falls off in the Cutting out the Shirts on Account of Making White Sleeves which will do Very well for Facing Pockets &c: of Regimentals I have Engaged 200 Hats of Aaron Matteson a Hatter to be Delivered by the 12th of November or before and of Philip Hopkins 150 to be Delivered in the Same Time at 24 Dollars pr Hat I have Advanced them 3700 Dollars The Other Hatters in Town have Engaged to Deliver me all the Hats they make in that Time and Deliver them as they make them at the Same Rate which I Suppose will be about 150 So that I Shall have 500 Hats or Upwards by the 12th of Next Month

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

I Shall be Obligded to your Excellency for Advise about the — Purchase of Imported Linnen Their is not any to be had for Less then £6-10 to 7-10 pr Yard that would do. Their is a Considerable Quantity White Light Coloured and Blue Cloths in Town Very Suitable for Soldiers Cloathing. Their is About Ninety Blankets in Town for which they Ask £62-10 Take all or 65 £ for a Single one

I Consulted Mr. Hanson about Exchangeing Powder for Wheat and he was then of Opinion Their Could not have been any