Annapolis 25th November 1784

Gentlemen,

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I have the Honor to lay before you Copies ~~Copies~~ of several Letters, and of the Proceedings in the Affair of Captain Carberry.

Congress have ever claimed and exercised the Power of arresting and committing for Contempts as necessary for their Protection and Defence, but the Extent of it and the Means to give it Execution have never been ascertained or provided for by the States. The Warrant which Congress issued for the arrest of Captain Carberry charges a great Outrage and Insult on that Honorable Body, and also other Offences which are cognizable only by the judicial Authority of the States: had the Warrant been made returnARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND able before Congress it might have been considered as a Warrant for an Insult and Contempt of that Body, and justified by the constant Usage and practice of Congress in such Cases: but as it was made returnable before the Judges of this State, Congress appears to have considered the Offence in a Different Light and on that Ground with great Deference to that Honble Body the Power they assumed would have been more properly exercised by the judicial Authority of this State — It becomes however my Duty to inform your Honors that a Committee of Congress previously consulted me with Regard to the