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War Office 1. August. 1797.

Sir,

I have it in order from the President of the United States to lay before your Excellency the act herein enclosed, intitled "An Act authorizing a detachment from the militia of the United States," passed the 24. June 1797.

The object of this law being to provide and have in readiness a select and compleatly equipped and organized body of Militia fit for action in all respects, the President in pursuance thereof requests that you will be pleased to take immediate and effectual measures to organize, arm, equip, and hold in readiness to march, at a moments warning, the detachment required to be so organized armed and equipped by the State of Maryland agreeably to the said law, and the Act intitled "An Act more effectually to provide for the national defense by establishing an uniform militia throughout the United States" passed the 8th May 1792

With a view to expedite the completion of the said detachment, the President has judged it expedient to authorize you to accept any independent Corps of Cavalry, Artillery or Infantry as part thereof, provided they shall voluntarily engage as Corps in the service.

As it will be desireable to know the measures which your Excellency may be pleased to adopt on this occasion, and from time to time the actual state of the detachment, it is earnestly requested that the Adjutant General may be instructed to make such returns and communications to this department as may satisfy this object.

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

With great Respect
I have the honor to be
Your Excellency's
Most obedient Servant.
James McHenry

His Excellency
The Governor of Maryland

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