New-Castle 6th Augt. 1781

(67)

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MARYLAND.

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Sir,

In my last dispatch to your Excellency I inclosed you a report from Commodore Barron of the recent movement of the enemy, of which Baltimore was supposed to be the object. But instead of proceeding up the Bay the fleet stood into York river. The troops have been landed, and are fortifying on the Gloucester side. York town is made a place of arms. Lord Cornwallis is present, and has with him his whole force, except the garrison of Portsmouth.

From my intelligence it appears, that a principal part of this fleet, was originally intended for New-York;

but