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Baltimore April the 17th 1781

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Sir

I have the Honor to inform Your Excellency that the Detachement Under My Command have passed this Day through Baltimore and will encamp on the other side of Elk Ridge Ferry where they will Remain to Morrow By which time I may Be Honored with an Answer from Your Excellency

Intelligence from the Enemy, and letter from General Greene oblige me to enter as soon as possible into the State of Virginia — the fatigue of the troops, the absolute want of shoes, and the desire of passing the many Rivers as possible behind us to prevent desertion are the Reasons which, tho with Reluctance, have forced me to impress a large number of Waggons to carry the troops as far as Potomack — the distance being But short, and the time of their service not exceeding two days, I hope Your Excellency Make a free use of the Provision Given By Your Excellency and Council to impress every thing which would be Necessary to forward the Movements of this Detachement

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.