Phila 2d Feby 1776.

Gent. Last night we received your letters by Maynard, covering the Resolutions of Congress relative to the plates & paper for the first Currency as the furnishing devices, is a business to which We are entire strangers, We have advised with Doct. B. Franklin & shall with his assistance set the engravers to work in a few days, as the Convention have ordered both plates & paper here, We submit to you, whether it would not be expedient to have the printing also done by Hall & Sellers, of this we are certain, the business would be done with much greater expedition but in this, shall be governed by your directions. With respect to Cannon, so far as we can form any opinion from the short time to make the enquiry, none can be had here or from any of the Eastern Governments, they are very scarce thro' the whole continent. a committee of congress of which Mr Rogers is a member, have been appointed to make enquiry into the quantity of Cannon on hand & what will be wanted & where & on what terms they can be had, no report is yet made, but a letter, from Mr Chase to Mr. Paca mentioning that Hughes in Fredk had contracted with convention to supply our province at £32.10, being communicated to congress, the members of the Committee were immediately very desirous to see Mr Hughes & to know whether he would make the like contract, for supplying the demands of congress; this will convince you that a supply cannot be had from hence & that you must rely on your resources, by casting them in the province - Mr. Paca purchased from Mr. Morris 12 Guns of 6 pounds Ball for £600. by order of Mr. Johnson, they would have been sent down, had not the Ice stopped the navigation.

We are with respect Gent. Yr. humn. servants.

R. Alexander. Wm. Paca.

P.S. Agreeable to your request, a passport was granted Maynard, who proceeded immediately to New York. Mr. Purviance inclosed us affidavits of two skippers who had been taken by L. Dunmore, mentg that a pilot boat with a Clergyman from Maryd. had arrived at Norfolk, who gave information of the outfit of Store & the provision vessels, if you have heard of this business, be pleased to advise us, We are desirous of knowing the truth, a difficult task at present.

To the Honble The Council of Safety of Maryland.

Charles Town. Feby 2d 1776.

Dear Sir. Capt. Nathaniel Ramsay informs me, that he can procure about 140 yds. of country made cloth, at about 8/ Cury per yard, and linen country made, from 2/4 to 2/8 fit & proper for hunting shirts, enough for his Company, - The Cash will be necessary. I once more take the liberty to remind you of the gun locks in the hands of Mr. S. West. I shall be glad to render the province or you any services in the city of Philadelphia. I am Sir

with regard your obed. Servt.

Saml. Chase.

To the Honble Dan of St. Thomas Jenifer Esqr.

(Gentleman)