

of the 25,000£ in such articles as we could get, was there a possibility of raising money of bills. but there is not the least chance of procuring a penny that ^{way}. Every man who has money here knows too well the advantage of sending it home in goods —

This being the case our sole dependence must be on remittances from you, which we doubt not of your disposition to forward as quickly as possible — so soon as our old stores are rubbed out we can with more confidence and facility ship a little further for you — tho it would be greatly to your advantage to get before hand.

Linens are in great abundance. Powder we are quite overstocked with and some small arms may be bought. But we know of no Brass Cannon or Howitzers, and mortars are yet rare.

We have just received a parcel of Goods from Bordeaux from Mr McCreary among which are some mortars. — We would willingly forward them to you by Capt. Pattison, but he being lumbered and bound on a cruise, cannot take them. They shall go by the next opportunity that we like —

The Elizabetha Capt Langier got safe into Chat Town and sold your Powder there with the Cargo, and has since arrived here with a fine parcel of Rice and Indigo — It has been determined by the opinion of some merchants that we should take an interest in the Expedition in proportion to the amount of the Powder, and we are in hopes of getting 14 or 1500£ for you if a ship arrives that was purchased and loaded with rice in part of the returns. At any rate we expect to save the Capital, and will please to make a blank charge of it against us until the voyage is settled — Tobacco is rising fast in St. Louis, where several ships are loading with it for Holland, and begins to sell well here. But Flour and corn are very low, and will keep down till towards the Spring. Such a cargo as Capt. Conway brought us last will generally answer best, especially if the Quantity of the Tobacco was to be more large, black and thin — We hope soon to be advised of the arrival of Martin and Conway, and are very sincerely,

Sirs,

The Honble,

The Council of Safety of
the State of Maryland

Your most Obedt. Servants,

Van Bibber & Harrison.

St. Pierre, Martinique Nov 24th 1776. Received of Van Bibber and Harrison twenty two pounds, Eighteen Shillings and three pence, this Currency for the use of the Schooner Dolphin, belonging to the State of Maryland — This being one of Three Receipts for the Same — William Pattison —