

December this City, with hearts full of Gratitude and Affection. As long, Sir,
 Liber C. B. ²⁰ as Mankind shall retain a proper sense of the Blessings of Peace,
 No. 24 Liberty, and Safety, your Character in every Country, and in every
 p. 470 Age, will be honored, admired and revered; but to a Mind elevated
 as yours, the consciousness of having done great and illustrious Deeds,
 from the purest Principles of Patriotism, of having by your Wisdom
 and Magnanimity, arrested the Arm of Tyranny, saved a Dear Coun-
 try and Millions of Fellow Citizens, and Millions yet unborn, from
 Slavery, and all the Horrors and Calamities of Slavery, and placed
 their rights and Liberties on a Permanent Foundation, must yield a
 Satisfaction infinitely superior to all the Pomp and eclat of applaud-
 ing Ages and admiring Worlds.—

Attached to your Excellency by the strongest Obligations; and
 feeling the most lively impressions of your unequalled Worth and
 public usefullness; We beg you to accept of our Warmest Wishes that
 your life may be prolonged to a far Distant period, and that it may
 be as happy in your retirement as it has been Glorious in the field.

With every Sentiment of respect & regard

We have the honor to be

Your Excellency's most obedient

His Excellency

and most humble servants

General Washington.—

W^m Paca—

To which His Excellency returned the following answer
 Sir,

I shall ever cherish a pleasing remembrance of the welcome re-
 ception I have experienced from your Excellency, and the Council,
 on my return to this City, after the happy termination of the War.
 The flattering Sentiments you entertain of my exertions in Defence
 of our Country, and the favorable point of light in which you place
 my Character, too strongly demonstrate your Friendship, not to claim
 the most grateful return from me.—Convinced from Experience of
 the Wisdom and Decision which have signalized the Government of
 p. 471 Maryland, I cannot form a better wish for the future prosperity of
 the State, than that the same Spirit of Justice, and Patriotism, which
 actuated its Councils during a long and Eventful War; may Continue
 to dictate its Measures through a Durable and happy peace.

With the most perfect consideration,

I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your Excellency's most obedient

and most humble servant

Annapolis Decem^r 1783.

G Washington

December

Monday 22^d December 1783.

Liber C. B. ²²

Present The Honorable Gabriel Duvall, John H Stone & James

No. 24

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Brice Esq^{rs}