Maryland Journal, 3 July 1787

"*December 6th*, 1786.

"DEAR SIR, I cannot but remind you of the danger into which the United States are plunging themselves. Spain has placed the rock upon which they are like to split. It is very surprising to every rational person, that the legislatures of those states, which have been so applauded for their assertion and defence of their just rights and privileges, should so soon endeavour to subjugate a great part of their dominions even to worse slavery than ever Great-Britain presumed to subjugate any part of hers. Ireland is a free country to what this will be when its navigation is given into the hands of the Spaniards.—There now seems a greater call for the people here to appeal to justice and to arms, for the defence of their just rights, than was ever known in America.—The five western counties of Pennsylvania are sensibly affected.—The French at the Illinois and Post St. Vincent have two thousand militia, and, by forming a new alliance, the numerous tribes of Indians will join us. The State of Franklin are ready to fly to arms—In Kentuckey, Liberty or Death are in every one's mouth!—all is in confusion—and God only knows where it will end.—Except Congress immediately rescind their resolution, and do something to make this country form a better opinion of them, America is ruined! inevitably ruined!

"Blow ye the trumpet—sound it aloud—spare not—for wo is come upon Israel!"

CITE AS: John P. Kaminski et al., eds., *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution*, Vol. XIII: Commentaries on the Constitution, Public and Private [1] (Madison, Wis.: Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 1981), 154.