

of which may be 12 inches in length, 1/4 of an Inch clear on the bore 1/2 inch diameter at the breech, and 1/8 of an Inch at the Muzzle (C) with Steel rammers and Bayonets 20 Inches in length, including the stocks. The price of the Musquet with its Bayonet may be about four pounds. The Cartage of Boxes of 40 Charges of Lead, the sling for the Musquet, the Scabbard and Belt for the Bayonet will altogether cost about 20/

So that by this mode 200 musquets may be furnished monthly. Besides we are informed there are several Gunsmiths in the Eastern Shore and in other places. And we apprehend that from the great encouragement artificers in this business will receive, their number will soon be greatly increased, and therefore the quantity of Arms necessary may be furnished in a much shorter time than the above calculation supposes, and we offer it as our opinion, that a proportion of Rifles may be also had, if it should be found necessary. Should that be the case we recommend them to be three feet four inches in length, and one half inch the Bore which we suppose may be had, well fixed, at about £5. each, and we apprehend that Swords and Tomahawks may also be manufactured in the Province.

If this mode meets with your approbation, we recommend, that each Gun be proved before it shall be received, and when proved, that the word *Accepted* and be stamped on the Barrel. We further offer our opinion that the Persons to be appointed to contract, shall from time to time advise the

of the number of Guns by them received, to the end that some further Provision may be made, in case this mode shall not be found to answer the purpose of procuring Arms with expedition. All this we humbly submit to the consideration of the Honble Convention.

J. Beatty

James Murray

Stephen West

J. P. Chase

W. Buchanan

Will Perkins Junr

John Hanford Junr

(A^o 13.)

Association of the Freemen of Maryland.

July 25, 1775.

The long premeditated, and now avowed design of the British Government, to raise a revenue from the property of the Colonists without their consent, on the gift, grant and disposition of the Commons of Great Britain; the arbitrary and vindictive Statutes passed under colour of punishing a riot, to subvert by Military force, and by famine, the Massachusetts Bay; the unlimited power assumed by Parliament to alter the Charter of that Province, and the Constitution of all the Colonies, thereby destroying the essential securities of the lives, liberties and properties of the Colonists; the commencement of hostilities by the Ministerial forces, and the cruel prosecution of the War against the people of the Massachusetts Bay, followed by General Gages Proclamation, declaring almost the whole of the Inhabitants of the United Colonies, by name or description, rebels and traitors, are sufficient causes to arm a Free People in defence of their liberty, and to justify resistance, no longer dictated by prudence merely, but by necessity, and leave no alternative but base submission or manly Opposition to inevitable