

not worth that money. But I beleve it was the Congrese against the Province I was very canded a Bout the matter I here the intend to aply to you for her I think you had best spare her to them I dont think her the vesell that shee was represented. I have her hald to a warf and hands at work to get her ballase out. I have bought a good deall of Pork for the Defence, and shall have the Brig redy for see as soon as I can if you dont spare her to Congrese. M^r Chase told mee to night that Congrase must have her. I have put her under the care of Capt. Forsith to put in order a very good man.

from your humble Serv^t
Jesse Hollingsworth

[J. Hollingsworth to Council.]

Original.

Baltimore Dec^r 28th 1776.

Sirs.

I wrote by Stephen Steward acquainting you that I had bought the fine Brig, but I think her a dear bargain.

I have got a well recommended Capt. for her, and Capt. Forsith has bin this 2 days under his care if you keep her from Congrase who I understand wants her you may send up 4 thousand Pounds by W^m Crocket who is a safe hand to pay for ship and cargo. 2550 for the Brig and the fitting and Cargo will cost the other part of the 4 thousand Pounds. Pleas write me abot it, M^r Crocket can tell you more of the Capt. than I now of him, hee recommended him to mee.

Excuse hast from your humble Serv^t
Jesse Hollingsworth

[B. Rumsey to Council.]

C. S. C.

Joppa 29th December 1776.

To The Honourable the Councill of Safety of Maryland.

I do hereby certify that I am and have been for a number of years acquainted with Capt. Bennett Mathew, that during a great part of that time he followed the sea and commanded a Ship of which he was as I understood half owner, that I have always heard that he had served a regular apprenticeship to the sea and followed it 'till a few years ago, when he retired to a paternal estate. he has alway's born the character of an expert and able seaman and on shore an honest man and if the Councill of Safety will give him the command of a Gally, I am convinced he will acquit himself with such spirit, skill and honour as not to discredit or bring disgrace on those who appointed him, and that he will do his country all the service in his power.

Benjamin Rumsey.