

[Bracco to Council.]

C. S. C.

Gentlemen:

I am extremely sorry that I am obliged once more to trouble you, but hope you will excuse it, as it is done thro' necessity. I have exhausted both money and credit to support the men under my command here: and assure you that unless you furnish me very shortly with a sum of money for their subsistence, I shall be obliged to suffer the men to disperse and let each man look out for himself. I expect that in ten days from this we shall be able to do duty as the small pox is very favorable. I am

July 16th 1776.

Gentlemen, Your most obd^t
Hble. Servant
Bennett Bracco

[Dallam to Jenifer.]

Original.

Harford County July 16th 1776.

Sir.

In answer to yours of the 10th Inst. which I received yesterday I inform you I have twenty two muskets finished compleat and fifteen more ready for Stocking six of which will be finished this week.

Harvest & sickness of two of my best hands and the bursting of twelve or thirteen of my barrels in my absence has disappointed my expectation. Twelve of the Guns finished have been proved with two ounces of powder and one ball, the remainder with one ounce of powder and ball, but if this proof will not satisfy I will apply to the genⁿ you mention to prove them, tho' it will be attended with expence & trouble in taking them out of the stocks & fitting them in again.

What other barrels I make I shall apply to M^r James Harris to see proved before stock'd as he lives handy to us & take his certificate. I will deliver at my factory or Harford town to your order what arms I have or can have made in time, according to agreement, but will not deliver them at Baltimore town at my own risque & expense. As Colo. Hall is in this neighbourhood, will not a delivery of the arms to him answer.

I believe I could get slings for the muskets & scabbards for the bayonets made here, if you'd let me know the price given for them.

I am Sir, Your very humble Servant
Richard Dallam

To the Hon Dan of St. Tho^s Jenifer
Presd^t Council of Safety.

P. S. I have not the least doubt but my Arms will please and be found as good as any made in Maryland.