

they can possibly march. We think it necessary to acquaint C. S. C. you that there are very few guns in this county, and we believe not above 40 well fitted. A limited time we think ought to be fixed for the Militia to remain with General Washington, without which we are fearful the men will be backward, we should be glad to be informed where the Militia are to get Camp Kettles, tents, &c. It is impossible for us at this time to fix on the particular officers, that will be necessary to give commissions to, some of the commissions of field officers are vacant, and the appointment of other officers to fill them up will occasion many vacancies, we would request if consistent with your power you would send us some blank commissions with orders to fill them up with such men as we think most worthy.

We are Gent.

Your most Humble Serv^{ts}

(per order) Jno. D. Thompson ch. P. tem.

The Honble Council of Safety at
Annapolis

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1777.

C. S. J.

Council met. Present as on yesterday. M^r Nicholson Attended.

Subpena issued for Jacob Adams of Somerset County to attend Council of Safety immediately upon Business of Importance.

In Council of Safety 5th Feb^{ry} 1777.

M^r McHard you are to repair to Queen Anns County and apply to Priscilla Browne or Robert Browne, Alexander Lawson, and James Hutchings of the same County, for all the Beef and Pork in the Possession of either of the said Persons above the Quantity of two Thousand Pounds of the former and five Thousand Pounds of the latter, and offer for the said Beef seven Pounds ten shillings per Barrel and for the latter Eight Pounds p^r Barrel each Barrel containing at the least two hundred and twenty Pounds or to pay the original Cost of said Beef and Pork together with the Expence of curing and a reasonable commission for their Trouble, and if the said Priscilla or Robert Browne, Alexander Lawson and James Hutchings or any of them shall refuse to dispose of the said Beef & Pork on either of those Terms that then you seize the same for the use of this State and if Assistance should be necessary you are to apply to the Committee of Observation for the said County therefor and the said Committee are hereby requested to give you all the Assistance in their Power by calling in the Militia of the County or such Part thereof as they may judge necessary, Congress being determined that Ingrossing shall not be permitted within any of the United States.