

as also to assure You that with the greatest punctuality I will always acquaint You with any important Occurrence that may happen in this Part of His Majesty's Dominions. I will always endeavour to shew my Duty to His Majesty by complying most readily with whatever Instructions You may at any time be pleased to send me & You will I hope do me the Justice to believe that it shall be my constant Study to approve myself
 Yr^o Humble Servant

Copy of a Lett^r to y^r L^{ds} of Trade that was writ^t 8th Feby not sent till now.
 Pat^r Hon^{ble}

In Obedience to y^r L^{ds} Commands signified to me in a Lett^r dated the 19th of Sept^r which I take Pleas^r to acquaint Your L^{ds} that there are in y^e belonging to this Province 19 Carriage Guns all Iron but very good 4 of them are 6 pounders & 15 four pounders the last not mounted. In the magazine is 16 weight of 6th Shot & 24 half Bands of Powder: of Musquet Ball & Bar Lead we have a considerable Quantity & there were last Spring about 500 Stand of small Arms belonging to the Publick most of which are in the hands of the Men that have been raised for the Protection of the Frontiers & some were lost at the Action of the Monongahela. The Militia of this Colony are near 16500, One third of whom at least are entirely destitute of Arms & many of the Guns that are the Property of the best are very bad & scarcely fit for use. For want of a proper Militia Law which the Assembly has been frequently in vain solicited to make the people are undisciplined as well as badly armed & cannot be compelled to serve in Defence of the Country. The white Inhabitants in Maryland are 107963, the Black 46225. I apprehend about 26000 of the former are able to bear Arms, but all Civil Officers & persons of particular Trades or Callings being exempted by Law, convicted Servants incapacitated & Roman Catholics excluded