

Sir

We are very glad to see by yours of the 10th Inst. that your gun Barrels goes on to your Satisfaction. — We are very desirous of having the large ones, full Inch in the Bore; those sent down were very bare Inch, well finished and sent forward to Genl Washington as soon as possible, he is desirous of having them and we think, if they are well executed, they will be very useful. The first 20 or 25 may be sent forward and the rest of the 50, as they are done, recommend them to the Care of your Brother, or some Body at Philadelphia who will push them along. We have not heard, for some Time past, from Mr Winters; we would, nevertheless, have you drive at the Barrels as we have a good many Locks and expect more soon; if you can get any (number of your Barrels stocked and finished well, without interfering with your making the Barrels, we will send you up some Locks, if not, send us down 100, 150 or 200 Barrels, and we believe we can get them stocked here. If you can contract for Stocking and mounting, let us know the Price.

Col: Henry Hollingsworth.

We are &c

Sir

In Council Annapolis 15th May 1777.

We regret with you the Loss of any Time in erecting Barracks at the Head of Elk, we once thought of going on the spot ourselves and with the Assistance of the Gentlemen of the Neighbourhood, fixing on the Place and Manner of conducting the Business, but we have now little Expectation of being able to do any Thing in it personally, as we find our closest Attention is not enough for what lies in our Department. We shall therefore esteem it a particular Favor, if you, with two or three other Gentlemen of the Neighbourhood, will view a convenient Place enquire the Price it may be had for and recommend a Person, if you know of any such who may be depended upon to lay out the Public Money and oversee the Work; if we can meet with such a Person, it will be much to our Satisfaction and the Public Interest. — Any Advice or Remarks from you, will be very thankfully acknowledged by

Mr Jos: Gilpin.

Sir &c

Sir

In Council Annapolis 15th May 1777.

Mr Andrew Porter of Capt. Laddens Company in your Battalion, has sent us his Refusal to act. Col: Rumsey, Col: Hollingsworth and Mr Jos: Gilpin have strongly recommended Mr Ab: Broome of Cecil County, to fill his Place of first Lieut. Mr Broome was out with the Cecil Battalion this Winter, and Col: Hollingsworth mentions his having behaved with approved Spirit in two or three Skirmishes. Mr Broome says several young Fellows promise to go with him. We think it not improbable that Mr Broomes being made a first Lieut. would give Uneasiness to the other Officers, and we are desirous of appointing none without consulting you as we mentioned to you before, we therefore thought proper to mention Mr Broomes Appointment to you, that this Business may be conducted as you see fit and we think it, the most for the Public Service, and have promised to advise Mr Broome, as soon as the Appointments are made, whether he is to act or not.

Col: Richardson

We are &c