

In Council 16th May 1778.

Sir
You are to load the Molly with the Tobacco we send you, and that she may take as much as can be put into her, break some of the Sticks and stow in between the whole Dogheads. After you are loaded and properly cleared, you are to proceed to St Piers in Martinico and there deliver your Cargo to Mr Richard Harrison, to whom you are to be consigned, and whose further Orders you are to observe. We shall write him on the Subject. If you should be forced into any other Island or Port by Accident or the Enemy, you are to stay there and write to Mr Harrison, advising him of it and inclosing him a Copy of this Instruction, he will, on Receipt of it, give Orders, which you will follow. You will advise us by every Opportunity, of your Situation and Proceedings. We are &c

Capt Daniel Deffen.

In Council Annapolis 15th May 1778.

Sir
By this Day's Post we received yours of the 14th. We shall consider and advise you of the Persons we may think will assist you in your Office with Integrity and Industry. We have derived no Assistance from the Recommendation of Congress of the 25th of April, to the Government of Pennsylvania, to furnish Sailors for manning the Maryland and Virginia Gallies: a due Attention to it would much forward the Transportation of the Provisions purchased. A good Deal of Meat, especially Bacon, has been brought up in this State, we wish it to be removed as soon as may be, for immediate Use, and shall do all we can to accomplish it, for, besides its being wanted, it will not keep in collected Quantities, unless there's more than common Attention to it.

Ephraim Blaine Esq^r }
Dy. Gen^l of Purchases } We are &c

In Council Annapolis 15th May 1778.

Gent
We received your Favor of the 12th by the Post to Day. We were just about giving Orders to a Galley going nearly opposite to Matamoras, to bring us one Half the staves invoiced agreeable to your Order of the 5th. We believe it will be a safe Conveyance and could have wished agreeable to the other Purchasers, that the whole might have come hither together or that they should have been brought by Land no farther than Cambridge and there they might have been easily divided and from thence they might have been readily sent to Baltimore or the Head of the Bay. What is for the Continent might have been readily made into Shirts & Overalls at Baltimore. The increased Expence and what is more considerable, the great Delay from sending the Goods to Lancaster and afterwards bringing them back induce us still to endeavour to get our Proportion up by Water. We shall have two