

In Council Annapolis 4th May 1779.

The Assembly, finding it out of their Power to Man their Gallies, ordered
several of them to be sold; amongst them, there is one Brig-rigged, which
was returned one of the best, and another, which is not rigged, said to
be fully equal, if not superior to either of the other. The Officers, most
of them old Sailors, on board those now at the Capes, were strangely preju-
diced against them, but now give them the Preference to any other Kind of
Vessels for the Service they are on, they speak of them as good Sailors and
much better Sea-Boats than they expected. We had rather those we
think best adapted for defending the Bay, should belong to Virginia
than private People and believing it would rather lessen your Expens-
es as well as add to the common Security, would gladly sell them
to you, if you think the Purchase desirable, and will send any Person
to treat on the Subject. You may be assured that we shall accomo-
date, as far as we can & on reasonable Terms. Be pleased Sir, to
favor us with an Answer. We have the Honor to be
Your
Governor Henry.

In Council Annapolis 4th May 1779

Sir. The General Opinion entertained here that the Gallies have been very
useful and the Expectation that a great many Vessels designed for this
Bay will, in a little Time, be on the Coast; The Merchants are exceeding
anxious to prolong your Cruise a Month or two: they have applied to us
with great Earnestness to concur in the necessary Measures to effect it
which we have done, as far as we can. By Maj^r Smith & Mess^{rs}
Young & Johnston, who go down at the Request of the Merchants in Balt^e
we have sent Provisions sufficient, we expect, to answer the Purpose.
We very much wish that your People may cheerfully agree to stay
longer and we are confident that you and your Officers, to promote
a Service of such consequence to the Public & many Individuals, will
exert your best Endeavours to get them into a good Humour. If the
Matroses from Annapolis who had the Governour's Promise to return
in two Months, do not agree to stay longer, the Promise shall be
kept, and we will send down others to relieve them, immediately on
being advised of it. We have not seen the Plater, we want her up &
wish you to send her. We are Sir

Commodore Grasson.

In Council Annapolis 7th May 1779

Genl. The Assembly have left us a discretionary Power to sell Part of our
Powder. We think the State might spare 15 or 20 Thousand Weight; it lies at
Frederick Town. Not knowing how the Continent is supplied and having
Reason to believe your Stock is not abundant; we have not yet disposed
of any nor shall we of a considerable Quantity, til we hear from you, which
we expect to do by the next Post. If there is any Want of it for the Use of
our Army, the sooner it is purchased & delivered the more agreeable to us.
We shall be obliged to you for an Answer by the next Post to that Part of
our letter of the 20th of April, which respects the Emissions called in; we
wish to get those Bills out of our Treasury, as soon as we can
We are Sir

Delegates Congress