

this Town and I believe would be pretty punctual.

I wrote the Council a few days ago that no salt had reached me for curing the Beef and Pork they had given me orders to purchase - I could have purchased by this time ~~the~~ the 100 bbls of beef and as many of Pork had the salt been ready, but for want thereof could not pretend to buy a single beef and most of it is now sold - There is a good deal of very fine Pork to sell which the farmers hold very high up to 45/100^{cts} and some people I am told have offered that price little or none has yet been sold and I apprehend it may be bought at 40/100^{cts}. If you propose to limit me in price or quantity please to write me particularly by the bearer of this letter. The salt ought to be here now as most people will sell their pork in the course of two weeks and when the salt arrives I shall do the best I can. The people of the neighbourhood of this Town both in this County and Queen Annes are greatly distressed for the want of salt, the Council would relieve their distresses much if they could send some for their use at the time they send that intended for the Province use, and I would engage to distribute the salt and remit the Council the money for it.

The Boe Gally that is building at my yard is nearly ready to launch the Cables and Anchors are wanting, to secure her when in the water, the Spars are wanting to enable the Carpenter to make the Carriager and the big Iron for ballast - The Council will please to direct me what name to call her.

Mr. Thomas Coursey, who stands on the list of applications would accept of the command of her, I am told he is very Capable and was all last war engaged in the sea service and had the command of a privateer; or he would accept of the Command of one of the Province Merchant Vessels - Mr. Coursey is well known to several gentlemen of your Board - The Council will please excuse the liberty I have taken in mentioning Mr. Coursey and am with much respect.

The Honorable the Council of
Safety of Maryland
Annapolis

Yours Obedt Servt.

Thos Smyth

By an Order, held at the upper Cross Roads November the 30th 1776.
Benjamin Annes Capt. Joshua Annes 1st Lieutenant, 2 Men-
ham Williams. Joseph Hitchcock Esquire

Yeager present

Charles Baker,

Moses Johnson,

Joseph Jones.

Sir, The above gentlemen being chosen by the Company should take the liberty of recommending them to be as fitt to fill them.