

Sir.

Decem^r 30th 1776.

When I returned home the other evening and found you had been waiting some time to talk over this dark affair which I must confess has every appearance of rapine and violence. but worthy Sir. when you consider that this was intirely an act of neede and not choice and that perhaps a man concerned had a Gill of salt in his formaly for a fortnite youk in some measure excuse it for my own part I dont believe a man on earth has a greater aversion to mobs or violence then my self and a few months back thought nothing could have drove me into it and I verily believe it to be the case with the whole and as to applying to you for the Salt I confess we ought but were told by many individuals which you had refused to sell to that for seventeen persons to apply after this would have prevented our getting any and that we could no longer do without. and that we passed Mr Hindmans who they say had a greater quantity and went to that place it being desperate I did not know he had a bushel no that any person on the Eastern Shore had such a quantity as you had whowever if the money we left is not satisfactory, we think ourselves bound by every thing to give you your price and will when required and hope when you consider solely on the matter youk not endeavor to drive us to any further acts of rashness and am sorry it fell on you who from my knowledge of your family I shall all ways treat with esteem and respect.

To the Hon^{ble} James Lloyd Chamberlaine } I am Sir your very humble Serv^t.

Brig^d General Talbot County } Jere Colston.

Tho I am considered as a private in the above I declare my self not.

Annapolis Decem^r 30th 1776.

The humble Petition of Henry Ashfield Private in Capt^s Fullers Company the second Maryland Montros's - Humbly Sheweth. That your poor Petitioner hath been afflicted these several months past (with a disorder called the Piles) so that I have been rendered incapable of doing any duty, ever since I was first taken, and after various and different applications to the Doctor, cannot receive any benefit or ease but rather seems to grow worse, and has no likelihood of ever growing better, without some assistance. - Therefore most Honourable Gentlemen pray your Honours will take your poor Petitioner's petition into your most serious Consideration and grant him some remedy towards his relief, otherwise his discharge from said Company and compliance with the former or latter most gracious and Comendable Gentlemen your poor distressed petitioner shall ever be in duty bound to pray. To God bless the Congress and direct the Generals.

To

Henry Ashfield.

The Honourable the Council of Safety now sitting in the City of Annapolis. These by Submission Present.