

Brigadier General made Prisoner. - I am honored Gent,
 The Honble the Council of Safety }
 of Maryland at Annapolis } Your humble servant,
 Geo. Cooke

Sir,

Talbot County January 1st 1777-

On being informed last Saturday, that seventeen armed men from a neighbouring County, had forcibly taken some salt I had purchased some time ago for the use of a Plantation belonging to an orphan under my care. I collected some persons as soon as possible and pursued them about twenty four miles without being able to overtake them before they had separated, having got the start of us about two hours - we waited on the man who was said to be their leader, whose house we found guarded, tho' he did not appear himself, and the only one of the party who acknowledged the fact, we brought off and now send him under a guard with his confession enclosed and the deposition of the person who lived in the house and had the salt in charge. I also send you Colonel's letter to me for your information, to which I answered that I had nothing further to say in the affair. and that it should be laid before the Council of Safety. The expense I have been at here will be thought reasonable and shall be glad to have an order on our Treasurer. I hope my conduct in this affair will meet with the approbation of the Council being with the greatest respect -

Your very Obed^t. humble Serv^t.

The Honble the President of the Council
 of Safety in Annapolis }

Jas. Lloyd Chamberlaine.

January - 1777 -

To the Honorable the Council of Safety of Maryland. - The Remonstrance and petition of Andrew Glasby late master of the Snow Grog, most humbly representeth, that some time ago, your Remonstrant's vessel, with all her hands and Cargo was made Captive of by George Cook Esq^r. command^r of the Ship Defence of this Province - that amongst others of the Captivated a free negro man, called by the name of Partyfall happened among the number, who was at that time entered on board your Remonstrant's Snow at the rate of seven dollars per month, in the Capacity of a common Sailor. Your Remonstrant and Pet^r humbly representeth unto your Honours that he is given to understand, that when a free negro, doth not enlist, or take up arms in Defence of Great Britain against America in the present unhappy Contest, the Honble Congress have passed a resolve, that he should have and enjoy the same freedoms and privileges with other freemen of the State - Your Remonstrant and Petitioner further sheweth unto your Honours, that such is the custom of the place from whence this Negro came, that the person in whose ship or vessel he enters, is obliged to give bond, with sufficient security under a heavy penalty, for a safe return of said negro: And to prevent Frauds, it is added, that in case such negro should die on his passage, the person giving such security shall be obliged

(to carry)