

armed, chiefly with clubs, some with guns, wearing powder horn and ~~shot~~  
Bags, all seemed devilish inclined, as clearly appeared from their conversation  
The first that spoke, was Trapline, who told this Deponents Brother not to pro-  
ceed any further, but go home from collecting of fines, for that he would  
be assuredly killed as he was a man: This Deponents Brother told Trap-  
nell, that there seemed to be an overmatch there then, but said that he  
would apply to the Committee for a file of men to assist in collecting of  
the fines - Trapline begged he would give him notice of the place he was  
to begin at, as he said, he wanted fair play, with him, as he expressed it,  
at the same time jumped up, knocking his heels together, swearing by God,  
that he was Bottom for them, and turned round to his Company, crying,  
"Huzzah Boys" we can get any day 500 men to our assistance. Then  
Trapnell and his companions began to abuse this Deponent, and his  
associates in a very Blackguard manner, Some of the Company said, they were  
a match for us, either with clubs or guns, and further this Deponent saith  
not.

Charles Bofley.

Quomto in Council this 20th day of January 1777, before  
I, Hall.

Dear Sir,

Baltimore February 18th 1777.

I have endeavored for some time past, to settle my clerk Francis  
Muire to a fair settlement of the publick money received by me for the use of  
the ships Defence, he has refused delivering up all the books relative to the Busi-  
ness he transacted and will not come to a settlement. I this day advised with  
Mr Chase who told me to lay it before the Honble Senate and House of Assembly.  
I have by the bearer Mr Robertson sent a memorial down to lay before you I  
hope for your kindness in assisting to have this Muire brought to a fair settle-  
ment and to send such orders as may be in my power to oblige him to justice,  
for all this time theres no knowing how to act, I have lay'd him under an  
arrest, and shall give orders to have him under confinements till I have the ple-  
-asure of hearing from Annapolis. from your great kindnesses I have presumed  
to trouble you, Honored Sir. I am,

The Honble Secy of St Thos Parish, }  
Annapolis }

Your most humble Servant -  
George Cook

To the Honble the House of Assembly of the State of Maryland -

The memorial of George Cook of the Ships Defence: Sheweth  
That your memorialist did employ Francis Muire as his Clk and that the said  
Francis Muire hath refused and still doth refuse delivering up all the books relative  
to the Ships of War Defence, belonging to this State, in such case your memorialist is  
apprehensive he will be greatly injured - Your memorialist humbly prays you  
will order some method which your Honours in your wisdom shall think most proper,  
for bringing the said Muire to a fair settlement of the public money committed to  
my charge. And your memorialist as induty bound will ever pray.

18th February 1777.

George Cook