

my present. I am ready and willing when ever my Country's cause demands it, to march with my Rifle in the ranks whenever I am commanded. I am actuated solely by the reasons above assigned, nor could any thing but a breach of confidence with my friends prevent my acceptance of the appointment with which I have been Honoured. I am Gentlemen.

Your Obedt Servt. Samuel Barrett.
To the Council of Safety of Maryland.

Woodyard Monday 12th Feb^y 1776

M^r. Gabriel Duvall Sir.

I received your letter of the 6th by order of the Council of Safety respecting my powder and gun locks. As to the first a certificate & receipt with the other Papers were lodged some days past by my son with the Treasurer. who, as I wanted the money, was so civil as to pay it to my son. if any formality further is necessary. I must pray the favours of the Honorable Council of Safety & grant it. the Powder & lead upon producing my receipt and then order will be instantly delivered. mean time it is under the care & eye of the Committee. the quantity 575^{lb} powder, 1600^{lb} of lead & shot. As to gun locks. I was desired when I was at Annapolis to keep what I had & what Cuttce Knives also. I sent up an account of both. viz. 92 gun locks. price from 7/6 to 16/6. y^e average. 13/3. which I believe you'll find among the secret Committee papers. the qualities are various some plain, some S. bridle. some double. but all pretty good as those prices can afford. We have some locks hereabouts that cost 18/6 sty. at London and I have seen some at 37/6 sty. those I have will I believe do pretty well. I could have sold them to better advantage to the Virginia Agents but as I supposed some time or other our people would prepare for defence and my Smiths repairing fire arms & wanting locks I kept them. I am very indifferent about selling them but if the Honorable Council of Safety desire it to have them they are at their service. I believe I may have 100. I bought most of them in the south Branch of Virginia. As to cuttces. I have 231. as you'll see by the account. My brimstone cost me more then the Public offers. —

not a moment in communicating the letter directed to J. B. S. & W. J. W. and setting engines to work. and I believe we shall succeed but we want money to exchange of this more hereafter. My best respects attend the Honorable Council and Cam. Sir. Your very obl^d servant. Stephen West.

To M^r. Gabriel Duvall clk of the Council of Safety.

Upper Marlbro Feb^y 12th 1776.

Gentlemen. We received yours of the second Instant with the appointment, and have immediately set about the business. We find it may be necessary to have cash in hand to give exchange for specie as we shall get small sums in many hands and people will prefer having their money at the time they give up their gold & silver. this mode would save us much trouble and we presume that it would forward the business. If you was to send us down fifteen hundred pounds common money immediately by some safe hand and each of us would be answerable for five hundred pounds. We wish it may be in our power to collect a much

(larger)