

by engaging immediately all Gun Smiths, and others concerned in carrying on that business. We therefore beg leave to recommend, that proper persons be appointed in each County to contract the Gun Smiths in their several Districts, and that a sum of Public money be lodged in their hands, to be advanced at their discretion to the Contractors (on Security) to enable them with greater expedition to fulfil their engagements. C. J.²

There are three Gun Smith Shops in Baltimore Town, one in George Town, four in Fredericktown, one near Frederick Town, two in Hagers Town, one in Jerusalem Town, in the whole amounting to twelve. We are informed that each of these Shops can in one month, complete twenty substantial musquets (the dimensions of which may be 42 inches in length, $\frac{3}{4}$ of an Inch clear in the bore $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter at the breech, and $\frac{7}{8}$ of an Inch at the Muzzle) with Steel rammers and Bayonets 20 Inches in length including the Stock. The price of the Musquet with its Bayonet may be about four pounds, the Cartridge Box of 23 charges & Sling, the Sling for the Musquet, the Scabbard and belt for the Bayonet will altogether cost about 20/

So that by this mode 240 musquets may be furnished monthly. Besides we are informed there are several Gun Smiths on the Eastern Shore and in other places. And we apprehend that from the great encouragement Artificers in this business will receive, their number will soon be greatly increased, and therefore the quantity of Arms we want may be furnished in a much shorter time than the above calculation supposes. And we offer it as our opinion that a proportion of Rifles may be also had, if it should be found necessary. Should that be the case we recommend them to be three feet four Inches in length, and one half inch the Bore which we suppose may be had, well fixed, at about £5. each, and we apprehend that Swords and Tomahawks may also be manufactures in this Province.

If this mode meets with your Approbation, we recommend, that each Gun be proved before it shall be received, and when proved, that the word Maryland be stamped on the Barrel. We further offer our opinion that the Persons to be appointed to contract, shall from time to time advise the, of the number of Guns by them received, to the end that some further Provision may be made in case this mode shall not be found to answer the purpose of procuring Arms with expedition. All this we humbly submit to the consideration of the Hon^{ble} Convention.

C. Beatty	James Murray
Stephen West	J ^r To ^y Chase
W ^m Buchanan	Will Deakins Jun ^r
John Hanson J ^r	