

mand of Lord Dunmore, introduce the King's forces or raise an army to join them, I do now solemnly declare that I never intended so to be understood, and if called upon would at any time make affidavit of it. But as I before said, I scarce know the particulars of my oath before the Committee, as being a close prisoner and under much fear and apprehension, yet be assured, I was not so scared or surprized as to have sworn what I understand you have heard of.

M^r W^m Barkley Townsend.

Your obed^t Hble Serv^t
Josiah Robins

Original.

[Pliarne Penet and Co. to Council.]

The Respectable members of the Secret Committee of the Province of Maryland. Nantes

Gentlemen: Although we have not the pleasure of your acquaintance we nevertheless shall take the liberty to assure you of our respects, and make our offers of service to you in Europe, and for your assurance of what we have the honor of offering, will refer you to the Hon^{ble} Continental Congress & Secret Committee of Philadelphia, to whom our names are well known and with whom we passed a contract in February last for the furnishing of ammunition and other necessary articles in your present situation, and further you may inform yourselves of Governor Cooke at Providence and Messrs. Nich^s & John Brown of the same place, for which last we have dispatched two vessels since the establishment of our house in this place.

We hope after your informations concerning us, be it from the Congress or the Generals of the Army and in particular from Doctor Franklin that you will be satisfied, in order to put confidence enough in us to consign all vessels you send for this port to our house, and we flatter ourselves to find the best sale possible for your merchandize: and send in returns what goods you will think proper to order, if they are to be had in France.

We are able to furnish you at demand with cannon & gunpowder, salt petre, sulfre, lead, Iron & brass cannons of all sizes, muskets, such as we have sent the Congress, being of the last mode for the Infantry of France, proved, well finished and perfectioned with double bride locks.

We have muskets at all proof from 12 to 22 livers p^r pice with bayonets, steel ramrods and boxes suitable for ball of 14 to 16 to the lb; all the muskets are uniform, of the same size and same model; we have also handsome and good gun locks, which are well finished and conditioned.

We have the honnour of observing that there is only our