

D. Sir.

Baltimore Sep^r 24th - 1800 -

I have spent all this Day in
rumoring about this place - trying to engage
Coopers - to make the Barrels in Annapolis. we shall
want - and to purchase Staves & Salt -

I have not been able to engage as many Coopers
as will be necessary - but have engaged two
Men - well recommended by a very respectable
Cooper - who have agreed to go to Annapolis
on Monday Week - and to begin the Job - with
an expectation of procuring more Hands to assist
them - I am to give them 5/ p^r Barrel - they to
accommodate themselves - the Barrels to be made
in workman like manner - and to pay them once
a Week if demanded - but they are to work at
the business until 600 Barrels are made
if required ~~by us~~ ^{by us} - they are to be found a
suitable place to work in - with a fine place
in it - If you should not be able to prepare
a Shed in your yard - in time - I hope you will
be able to get a House convenient - they will
want some pieces of broad Scanthing to make some
benches. and blocks &c - As there is not a
moment to lose - I trust you will be ready to
receive them at the time mentioned - The Staves
I have not procured as yet - none has arrived there
two Days past & the lumber yards hold them too
high - they asked me \$30 p^r thousand - the price out
of the Vessels last up, was from \$15 to \$10 p^r thousand
I have 3 Friends keeping a look out. to purchase a
few thousand - which if got - M^r Wm. M. Maynard
at my request, will either send on to you or advise
you on the subject - Staves are much in demand