

Annapolis Dec^r 15th 1813

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Sir - I had the honor to write you on the 9th
Instant, since then I have received your letter of
the 8th directing me to confer with Mr Beatty, respec-
ting the building of 6 or 8 barges of the 2^d class, at
"St Mary's", on the Eastern shore, from a former letter
of yours I rather suppose you meant St Michael's,
and have this day wrote to Mr Perry Spencer, the
only Builder of note on the Eastern shore on that
subject, my letter went by Mr Spencer's Son, who
is a Delegate in the Assembly of Maryland, and he
thinks his father will undertake the Contract.

I am fully of your opinion, that every possible
exertion must be made during the winter to
meet the Enemy with Vigor in the spring, and
that I do I have turned my views to the best
means of procuring men, and beg leave to ask
your permission to employ Captain Solomon Francis