

many of them as Barrels and all they can make in the season will be wanted for Lime. Barrels are cheaper with you than Hogs'ds, less freight and much better for Fish than can be made here by these coopers; therefore advise to the sending 200 Bbls by the Sloop. Shall have 200 more here, and if we should catch as many fish as we expect, all above the 400 Barrels might be saved in Hog'ds or in bulk till Barrels could be made or bought for all above the 400. If we should fall short there would be less loss for the outlets for that branch than to have a great number of Barrels lay on hand.

Have had but little Snow this winter, but few days that the ground has been covered; have got to the water side a large quantity of wood and Wharf logs; about 300 Hogshead Lime Stone to the Kiln, and should have had much more of both articles if there had been snow. Our men have been so froze and wounded that we have not had more than three men's constant labour to do this and sled sixty loads of hay, saw boards for casks, look after the cattle and draw firewood. Shall continue drawing or dragging wood and stone as long as the ground is froze and then cut the timber for a Schooner and boat stone for a Lime Kiln which with the wharf will take 400 Tuns. The Wires [weirs] will want great repairs occasioned by the late storms. We cannot compleat all this without three labourers, at least, mentioned in our last, and they stout men, and the fishery besides. We hope to not want much supplies in all next Summer more than is in our memo accompanying this; a little provisions will be the chief additional outlets till the Schooner's Rigging is wanted. The fishermen cannot expect great wages for what they can do here while they are waiting for the fish. April is a very stormy bad month for business. It is supposed the river will be open in a month or five weeks so as to allow us to proceed up the river with the Sch'r by that time if she arrives: it will be a great advantage to go up early on several accounts.

As Hodge is here, and out of employ is very desirous of building the schooner, after the most solemn promises of amendment we have agreed with him to build her for 23/4 currency pr tun, measuring to the Wales [gunwales] and to lay the Deck a foot higher; have about half Iron enough to build her that came out of the Old Sloop, and if we find the Anchor that was lost shall have two suitable anchors. Hodge writes to his friends to agree with a carpenter to assist him that they can recommend for his workmanship and industry. He proposes to have him come without wages on the passage and then to fish together on their own acct's while the season lasts off this river and then proceed to work