

Naval Documents of The American Revolution

Volume 11

**AMERICAN THEATRE: Jan. 1, 1778–Mar. 31, 1778
EUROPEAN THEATRE: Jan. 1, 1778–Mar. 31, 1778**

Part 3 of 5

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JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *SEAFORD*, CAPTAIN JOHN COLPOYS

February 1778

Saturday 28th.At Sea Latit^{de}: 13..50 N^o: Obs^d: [*off St. Lucia*]At 8 AM Saw a Sail to the S^ow^d. Gave Chace At 12 Left off Chace—At Sea Latit^{de}: 13..50 N^o: Obs^d:

Ditto W^r. [Moderate breez^s: and fair W^r.] At 1 PM Saw a Sail in the NW Gave Chace, At 4 PM Abreast of Fort Royal Martinico, At 5 D^o: the Chace Run a Ground on Martinico ½ Past D^o: the Ship Struck, Armed the boats and took the Chace, Proved the Ship *Hampden*, an American Privateer of 12 Guns;¹ At 6 the Prize got off. Emp^d. getting out the Kedge Anchor & Warps, to get the Ship off. At 10 D^o: got the Ship off, The French Fort kept Continually firing at us, which obliged to leave two Hawasers, which were fast on the Rocks,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/880, part 3.

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*, John Bartlett, commander, mounting 12 guns, crew of 64 men, 120 tons burthen, from Martinique, belonging to Salem, sent into Dominica. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

March

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT
TO CAPTAIN ABRAHAM WHIPPLE

Navy Board Eastern Department [*Boston*] March 1778

To Abraham Whipple esq^r Commander of the Ship *Providence*
at Providence in the State of Rhode Island

Sir

As soon as these Instructions get to hand you are to get to Sea as soon as possible,¹ when there you are to proceed on a voyage to some convenient port in France, and on your Arrival there Apply to the Agent—if any in or near said Port—for such Supplys as you may stand in need of—

You are at the same time to give immediate Notice by Letter to the Honble Benjamin Franklin Arthur Lee & John Adams Esq^r or any of them at Paris of your Arrival—Respecting their Instructions as to your future Destination which Instructions you are Strictly to Obey as far as it shall be in your power if however in the Cours of y^r Voyage a favourable Oppertunity should Offer of doing Service in the States by taking or destroying any of the Enemies Ships you are not to omit taking advantage of it. But may go out of y^r Course to effect so good a purpose In this we trust to y^r Zeal & Discretion, You are to take particular Notice that whilst on the Coast of France or in a French Port you are as much as you Conveniently Can [*to keep*] your Guns Covered and Concealed and to make as little warlike appearances as possible—

On your Arrival in France send one of your Officers with the Letter you are to write to the Commissioners to prevent its falling into improper hands we are [*&c.*]

William Vernon
On behalf Navy Board

L, MiU-C, Abraham Whipple Papers.

1. For more on the dispatch of frigate *Providence*, see William Vernon to James Warren, 18 Mar., 26 Mar., and 28 Mar., and William Story to William Vernon, 20 Mar., below.

JOURNAL OF MARINE CAPTAIN JOHN TREVETT

Now is March 1778 we are Arrived with the Sloop *Providence*¹ att Bedford² the Ship³ we Left att Old Town⁴ Repairing and Getting a New Ruder then we are A going to Bring her to Bedford

...⁵ Cap^t Rathbun and My Self Sett out for Boston to Call on the Board of Warr Setting thare⁶ we Spent part of Tew Days and Returnd to Tarnton Cap^t Rathbun Sett out for his Home and Left Me Att Tarnton to Go to Plimouth with lawyer Paine⁷ of Tarnton to the Triall of the Ship⁸

Journal, RNHi, John Trevett Papers, No. 44–18.

1. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

2. Bedford in Dartmouth, now New Bedford.

3. Jamaica letter of marque ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.

4. Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard.

5. Ellipsis in manuscript.

6. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

7. Robert Treat Paine, a lawyer and resident of Taunton who represented it in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

8. The ship *Mary* was tried on 19 May at Plymouth in the Massachusetts Maritime Court for the Southern District. Capt. John Peck Rathbun was not satisfied with the verdict of the court, which divided the prize between the Congress and the captors rather than to the captors alone, and in June sent Trevett to York, Pa., with an appeal to the Continental Congress.

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *OLIVER CROMWELL*

[*Boston March 1778*]

Ship *Oliver Cromwell's* Acco^{ts}—

Ship *Oliver Cromwell* To Sam^l Eliot J^r.

Dr.

1778

Jan^y

To.

State of Con^t. for sundries viz.

1 doz: Housline	1..16..—	
22 ^{lb} . Worming @ 5/	5..10..—	
1 doz Marline 36/ 1 d ^o . Housline 36/—	3..12..—	
32. gal ^s : N. E. Rum dld at Sundry times in Dec ^r . @ 35/	<u>56..—..—</u>	66..18..—
p ^d . for Sundries viz.		

To.

1—barrel Rozin	6..—..—	
1—d ^o . Pitch	4..—..—	
2. d ^o . Tierces Tar £9..—..— 1 bl. Pitch £4	13..—..—	
1 Tierce Tar	4..10..—	
1 quire paper 4/ ½ peck fine Salt 10/.	..14..—	
10 yd ^s : Russia Duck for Cap ^t : Parker's ^l Cott @ 24/.	12..—..—	
1 quire Paper	.. 4..—	
6 ^{lb} . Sugar.	<u>1.. 1..—</u>	1.. 5..—
11 Sheets Tin at 3/	1..13..—	
1 quire Paper	.. 4..—	
6 ^{lb} . Sugar	1.. 1..—	
7 ^{lb} . d ^o	1.. 4.. 6	
2 quire paper.	.. 8..—	
6 plates	..10..—	
½ ^{lb} . Bohea	<u>1..10..—</u>	2.. 8..—
Paints. 1 cwt.. 0..14	6..15..—	
Crane Irons 2.. 0.. 1 @ £7..10/.	15..—..—	
1 quire Paper	.. 4..—	

MARCH 1778

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ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *OLIVER CROMWELL*—Continued

6 ^{lb} . Deck Nails	at 3/	..18..—		
2 ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails	at 4/	.. 8..—		
6 ^{lb} . Sugar	at 3/6	1.. 1..—		
1 quire Paper		.. 4..—		
6 ^{lb} . Sugar		<u>1.. 1..—</u>	3..12..—	
2 ^{cwt} . 6 ^d . Nails 6/. 3 p ^r . HL Hinges 16/6.		1.. 2.. 6		
1 q ^r paper 4/	7 ^{lb} . Sugar 24/6.	1.. 8.. 6		
13 ^{lb} . Coffee@ 6/. 78/.	14 ^{lb} . Sugar 49/.	6.. 7..—		
1 quire paper		.. 4..—		
10 ^{lb} . Flour to Gunner		..10..—		
1 q ^r paper 4/. 21 ^{lb} . Sugar 73/6. 13 ^{lb} Coffee 78/.		7..15.. 6		
14 ^{lb} . Sugar 49/	3 large Bowls. 18/.	3.. 7..—		
9. small Bowls 45/	1 doz Plates 20/.	3.. 5..—		
1 keg white lead 57 ^{lb}	@ 10/	28..10..—		
1 quire paper 4/	1 p ^r . HL Hinges 5/6	.. 9.. 6	<u>52..19..—</u>	<u>126.. 9.. 6</u>
	sum carried over			£193.. 7.. 6
1778 To Sum bro't over				£193.. 7.. 6
To Cash paid J. F. Osgood for 25 f ^t . knees @ 3/.		3..15..—		
paid M. Bourke for Truck ^a		..18..—		
paid Rosman Lawrance ² Ⓢ Cap ^t . Parker's order		6..—..—		
paid T. W. Foster ³ Ⓢ	d ^o	45..—..—		
paid for 3/4 ^{cwt} . Bread	d ^o	1..10..—		
paid Cap ^t . Parker		3..—..—		
paid d ^o		3.. 9..—		
paid d ^o	54..—..—			
paid d ^o	18..—..—			
paid d ^o	<u>298..—..—</u>	370..10..—		

p ^d . Mr ^r . Frisby ⁴ to buy Crockery for the Cabin	9..—..—
p ^d . Mr ^r . Holman y ^e . Steward. ⁵ to buy Necessaries	9..—..—
p ^d . the Mason's bill	4..10..—
p ^d . Dyer for float	.. 8..—
p ^d . to F. Shaw. for Wharf ^a . while graving	2..—..—
p ^d . for. 2 loads Wood	7.. 4..—
p ^d . the Carvers. bill	20..16..—
p ^d . Rich ^d . Gridley's bill	15.. 8..—
p ^d . Mr ^r . Ede's ⁶ bill	8..—..—
p ^d . Cap ^t . Parker	40..—..—
p ^d . the Steward for Necessaries	2.. 2..—
p ^d . for 1 bl Cyder	4..10..—
p ^d . Cap ^t . Faggin for a Sail	35..—..—
p ^d . for 1 load Wood	4..16..—
p ^d . Mr ^r . Frisby	10.. 4..—
p ^d . the Steward for Necessaries	<u>4.. 4..—</u> 60..16..—
p ^d . Thomas Hudson's bill	.. 6..—
p ^d . William Higgins ⁷	12..—..—
p ^d . Jos. Hunt. for Wood	4..10..—
p ^d . a Frenchman for Blankets	126..12..—
p ^d . William Higgins	12..—..—
p ^d . Chase Roger's ⁸ board	2..—..—
p ^d . William Higgins	12..—..—
p ^d . d ^o	30..—..—
p ^d . James White's bill of Board	10.. 1.. 2
p ^d . John Goddard's bill	3.. 1.. 3
p ^d . William Higgins	12..—..—
p ^d . William Cunningham's bills	29..11.. 3

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *OLIVER CROMWELL*—Continued

p ^d . Ebenezer Chandlers bill	3..—..—	868.. 7..8
carried forward		£1061..15..2
To Sum bro't forward		£1061..15..2

1778

March	To. Cash paid M ^r . Osgood's bill	15..12..—
	p ^d . Curtis Reeds bill	19..17.. 9
	d ^o . d ^o .	<u>19.. 2.. 8</u>
	p ^d . Ebenr. Chandlers d ^o .	39.. 0.. 5
	d ^o . d ^o .	<u>3..—..—</u>
	p ^d . Joseph Webb's d ^o .	<u>4..11.. 8</u>
	p ^d . the Rendezvous bill	7..11.. 8
	John Chapman's ⁹ bill	4..18..—
	Marg ^t . Bagnals bill	42.. 4.. 6
	Rose Stephen's. bill	100.. 5..—
	Marg ^t . M ^c Kinney's bill	11..10..—
	d ^o . d ^o .	4..16..—
	Will ^m . Fanalys d ^o .	6..12..—
	p ^d . Bossenger Foster —2 p ^s . Ticklinburgs	1.. 7..—
	p ^d . the Steward	2.. 8..—
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Harding's order to Lieu ^t . Chapman.	169.. 2.. 6
	p ^d . Domminique Tausin ¹⁰	127..10..—
	p ^d . M ^r . Frisbys. bill	7..—..—
	p ^d . John Badgers. bill	20..14.. 6
	p ^d . Mons ^r . Tallemon	14.. 8..—
	p ^d . Cash for 26 P ^r . Mens Shoes	21..—..—
	d ^o . for a Match Cask	28..16..—
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Parker	<u>3..12..—</u>
		<u>26..—..—</u>
		122.. 8.. 6
		<u>..18..—</u>
		305..15..—

	p ^d d ^o	306..—..—		
		611..15..—		
	p ^d . Butler for Boards	2.. 8..—		
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Day for a fife	.. 8..—		
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Lamb for Taffier ¹¹	<u>78.. 6..—</u>	692..17..—	
	p ^d . Hemmenway for a Boat attending the Ship, and Pilot	3..10..—		
	p ^d . Green for Wood	9..18..—		
	p ^d . Sam ^l . Townsend's bill	9.. 4..—		
	p ^d . to 3 Seamen enter'd in			
	Cap ^t . Parker's book's to them	6..18..—		
	p ^d . for Scales & Weights	3..—..—		
	p ^d . Sarah Owens bill	<u>6.. 6..—</u>	<u>38..16..—</u>	<u>1217..16.. 1</u>
	sum carried over			£2279..11.. 3
1778.	To Sum brought forward			£2279..11.. 3
March	To. Cash paid for 1 groce Corks	..12..—		
	paid Mr Byles ¹²	<u>4.. 8..—</u>		5..—..—
	To. Hunt. & Brown	45..—..—		
	To. Henry Roby	4..17..—		
	To. John Andrews.	7..15..—		
	To. Jon ^a . Balch.	14.. 0.. 6		
	To. Joseph Clark	409..14.. 6		
	To Samuel Harris	£95..12		
	d ^o	<u>17..12..—</u>	113.. 4..—	
	To Thomas Greenough	..16..—		
	To. John Hootons	10.. 8.. 4		
	To. Thomas Green	58.. 5..—		
	To. Abraham Hayward.	1.. 4..—		

MARCH 1778

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *OLIVER CROMWELL*—Continued

To. Winter Calef.	bill	10..—..—	
To. Joseph How.	bill	14..10.. 6	
To. John Matchet's	bill	28..—..—	
To. Samuel Harris.	bill	5.. 7.. 6	
To. William Cordwell.	bill	4.. 6..—	
To. John Owen.	bill	104..11..—	
To. John Butler.	bill	4.. 1..—	
To. Benja ^a Burts	bill	12.. 6..—	
To. Bossenger Foster's	bill	45..—..—	
To. Joseph Webb's.	bill	6.. 8..—	
To. James Burt.	bill	30.. 4.. 6	
To. Thomas Mayo.	bill	398.. 1.. 8	
To. Joseph How's	bill	4.. 3..—	
To. Samuel Barretts.	bill	61.. 3..—	
To. John Andrews	bill	26.. 4.. 6	
To. Job. Prince J ^c	bill	45..—..—	
To. Sam ^l Whitwell	bill	119..14..—	
To. Waters, & Stanbridge	bill	127..12..—	
To Parker, & Bradshaw.	bill	825.. 9.. 9	
To Ellis Grays.	bill	<u>59..10.. 8</u>	2596..17.. 5
carried forward			£4881.. 8.. 8
To Sum <u>bro't</u> forward			£4881.. 8.. 8
To. Brown, & Emmes	1 st bill	20.. 9.. 6	
d ^o	2 ^d	<u>188.. 8..—</u>	208..17.. 6
d ^o		<u>116.. 3..—</u>	325.. 0.. 6
To. William Fanaly	bill	3..—..—	
d ^o	d ^o	<u>4..16..—</u>	7..16..—
To Jon ^a Balch's	d ^o		24..10..—

To Edward Carnes	d ^o	729.. 2.. 7
To. John Ballard	d ^o	1..12..—
To. John Lamb	d ^o ½ hhd. Rum con ^g . 108 gal ^s . @ 42/—	<u>113. 8..—</u>
		6082..17.. 9
To Cash paid Cap ^t . Parker. 12 th . Feb ^r		0.. 0.. 0
To Will ^m . Stone for ballast		3..—..—
To Cash paid Gardner Truck ^a . Pitch &c.		<u>.. 9..—</u>
		£6086.. 6.. 9

Ship *Oliver Cromwell* to Sam^l. Eliot J^r. for Stores viz:

Dr

1778

March

To. State of Conn^t.

15. bls. of Beef out of the *Honor*

22. bls. of Pork d^o. |

3. bls. of Flour d^o. |

36. bls. of Beef from Avis &c

16½ d^o. of d^o. in 11 Tierces d^o.

3. d^o. of Pork d^o. |

38. d^o. of Pork from Hayley

1 Cask of Tobacco 603^{lb}. N^t. |

11 firkins of Butter 685^{lb}. N^t. @ 2/. |

6 scains Housline @ 3/ |

3 bls. of Hams

3 Casks flour N^o.

3. Casks d^o.

3 Casks Beans

12 bags. Bread.

Paid for sundries. viz.

1 Cask Porter Gal^s. at 7/.

1 Cask Oatmeal N^o. 420.

3 Casks Rice 14..1..24 N^t.

..18..—

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ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *OLIVER CROMWELL*—*Continued*

1 keg. Barley	
28 ^{lb} . Sugar 49/ 1 q ^r . paper 4/ 28 ^{lb} . Sugar 49/	5.. 2..—
16 ^{lb} . Coffee. at 6/	4..16..—
1 bl. Vinegar 30 Gal ^s	
1 bl. Sugar 2..2..4 N ^t	
1 large Bowl	..12..—
1 q ^r . Paper	.. 4..—
60 ^{lb} . Coffee (best) at 10/	30..—..—
60 ^{lb} . . . d ^o . d ^o at 10/	30..—..—
100 ^{lb} . d ^o . inferior. at 6/	<u>30..—..—</u>
To. Cash p ^d . Bright. for 1 bl. Vinegar	
To Duncan Ingraham J ^r . —25½ Cheeses 437½ ^{lb} .	
To. John Langdon's ¹³ bill	
To. ¼ quintle Fish.	4..16..—
To. 5. Hhds Bread 16.. 2.. 0	
5. new Hhds @ 30/.	<u>7..10..—</u>
To. J Lamb. for. 28 Gall ^s W. I Rum @ 42/.	<u>58..14..—</u>

D, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 9, pp. 244a–f. This document is incomplete.

1. Capt. Timothy Parker, commanding the Connecticut Navy ship *Oliver Cromwell*.
2. Seaman, *Oliver Cromwell*.
3. Thomas Wait Foster, gunner, *Oliver Cromwell*.
4. Lt. Caleb Frisbie, second lieutenant of *Oliver Cromwell*.
5. Samuel Holman, steward, *Oliver Cromwell*.
6. Edward Edes, baker at Boston.
7. Midshipman, *Oliver Cromwell*.
8. Cooper, *Oliver Cromwell*.
9. Lt. John Chapman, first lieutenant of *Oliver Cromwell*.
10. Dominique Tausin or Tawsin, surgeon of *Oliver Cromwell*.
11. An inferior rum made from distilled sugarcane juice in the West Indies.
12. Josias Byles.
13. John Langdon, tallow chandler at Boston.

March 1 (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *APOLLO*, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

March 1778 Ditto [South Part of Saint Georges Bank] WSW dist. 30
 Sunday 1. [Lgs.]

at 6 AM saw the *Mermaid* and Schooner to Windward,¹ gave chase to the Schooner as did the *Mermaid*, at noon Coming up with the Chace very fast—

Ditto [South Part of Saint Georges Bank] West dist. 25 Lg^s. First part Fresh gales and clear, middle Lightning, Latter Hard gales of Wind and Snow, and a great Sea from the SW at 1 PM the *Mermaid* fired at the Chace, at ½ past we fired a Shot at the Chace, who hoisted Rebel Colours & bro^t [too] a Schooner called the *Rebecca*, from Newbury Port, bound to Hispaniola with Lumber & Fish,² the *Mermaid* sent men on board her & received her people likewise sent 29 Rebel Prisoners on board the *Mermaid*, her Cruise being [exp]ired & She going into Port. at 6 wore Ship and made Sail;

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 8.

1. *Mermaid* began chasing the schooner *Rebecca* on 28 Feb. in the afternoon. UKLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 8.

2. Schooner *Rebecca*, master unknown, from Ipswich to Hispaniola, with lumber and fish, taken on 1 Mar. off St. Georges Bank, sent into Newport. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486. She was libelled on 15 Apr. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York by Capt. James Hawker of H.M.S. *Mermaid* and was condemned on 8 May 1778 as a lawful prize of *Mermaid*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 96–97. Her prize papers give the master's name as Thomas Dodge. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/437/6.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

1778.

March 1. Sunday. discovered that our Mainmast was Sprung in two Places—one beneath the Main Deck, where if the Mast had wholly failed in the late Storm it must have torn up the main Deck and the Ship must have foundered.—This is one among many Instances, in which it has already appeared that our Safety has not depended on ourselves.

A fine Wind, all day and night.—Somewhat Sea Sick.—The Ship was very quiet and Still—no Disturbance—little noise.

I hope for the future We shall carry less Sail, especially of night, and at all times when We are not in Chase.—

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), p. 15.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
 OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT

Gent^l.

Head Quarters Valley Forge 1st March 1778.

I am informed that a number of the continental flat Boats still remain at Bordentown. I wrote to Commodore Hazelwood to have them removed higher up

the River,¹ but why he has not done it I do not know. I am very apprehensive that the Enemy will ~~destroy~~ one day or other make an excursion and destroy our Vessels Boats and Stores at that place. To prevent as much of this as possible I shall esteem it as a favor if you will, upon your return, have all the flat Boats sent up as far as Trenton and if Commodore Hazelwood has not hands enough with him to carry them up the Falls I will write to Coryell and desire him to employ people to do it. These Boats may probably be of the greatest importance to us in the Course of the Campaign; and I therefore beg that your first attention may be paid to them.

As I see no great prospect of the Gallies² being of any use to us while the Enemy have their ships of War at Philad^a. I submit it to you whether it would be not be better to have the Cannon and Stores taken out of them and the Hulks carried up the Creeks and sunk. From repeated misfortunes we have lost the greatest part of our heavy Cannons at our different posts and we ought therefore to be as careful as possible of the remainder. I am informed that the Cannon taken out of the Continental, State and private Vessels yet remain at Bordentown to a very considerable amount. I could therefore wish that means might be fallen upon to remove them from the Water Side, some distance back into the Country from whence they may be brought occasionally. I also think that every kind of public Stores should be removed from thence if possible, for as the Enemy have the Command of the Water they may at any time destroy or carry them off. I make no doubt but the Gentlemen of the State Navy Board will cheerfully co-operate with you in what respects their Department. I have the honor to be Gent^l.

PS If the Commodore carries the Boats no further than Trenton he should give Coryel notice that he may come down for them. It will be worth considering whether the Cannon cannot be carried up the River in the Boats—

Copy, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "Francis Hopkinson/&/Jn^o Wharton Esq^r." Docketed: "1st. March 1778/Francis Hopkinson/&/Jn^o Wharton Esq^r."

1. Delaware River.

2. Pennsylvania Navy galleys.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN CORYELL

Sir

Head Quarters Valley Forge 1st. March 1778

I am very anxious to have all continental flat Boats below Trenton carried up the River as far as Easton or near it, that they may be entirely out of the Enemy's reach—I have desired the Gentlemen of the Navy Board to order Commodore Hazelwood to collect all those and carry them up as far as Trenton and when he has got them there to let you know it. I shall therefore be exceedingly obliged to you if you will collect a proper number of hands who are used to carry Boats thro the Falls and go down for them when you have notice. Or if you do not receive such notice in a few days, the Men may as well go down to Bordentown where the Boats are and bring them up from thence. There are a number of Cannon and some Stores there which I want carried to a place of safety. If you think the Boats can be taken thro the falls with the Cannon in them, it will save much expence and secure them perfectly. You are to apply to Mess^{rs} Hopkinson¹ and Wharton² of the Continental Navy Board at Bordentown for the Cannon, if they can be carried up in the Boats.

I see by a letter of yours to Col^o Lutterloh³ that you want Money for these purposes. You may hire the Men for doing this service upon an assurance of their being paid the moment it is performed. And you will therefore make out the account when you have finished and apply directly to me for the Money when it shall be paid with thanks. I am [&c.]

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "M^r Jn^o Coryall." Docketed: "Jn^o Coryall."

1. Francis Hopkinson.

2. John Wharton.

3. Col. Henry Emanuel Lutterloh, Deputy Quartermaster General, Continental Army.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT TO
GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sir/ From Co^l Nixon's Continental Navy Board March 1st 1778

We are just now favoured with your's respecting the flat Bottom Boats &c. supposed to be at Borden-Town.¹ In answer to which we would inform your Excellency that all the Flat Bottom Boats we know of, being at or near Borden Town, were removed from thence up the River above two Months ago—if we find any there on our Return we shall not fail punctually executing your Desire. With respect to the Gallies, we are so far from having any Command over them, that we do not know how even a Recommendation from us to Commodore Hazlewood would be received, but if your Excellency will be so good as to write a Line on the Subject to the Commodore; or, which we think would be more effectual, to the State Navy Board,² we will take Care to convey it safe. We shall exert ourselves immediately for the Security of the Guns & Stores under our Charge, & use our utmost Influence with Individuals at Borden Town who have Guns or Stores there to remove them immediately. You may depend on our earnest Efforts to remove & secure every thing at that Place in the best manner we can—the procuring waggons for this Purpose will be our principal Difficulty. We have the Honour to be [&c.]

Fra^s. Hopkinson
John Wharton

P: S: We propose proceeding on our Journey Tomorrow morning.—

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at the foot: "His Exc^t Gen^l Washington."

1. See General George Washington to the Continental Navy Board of the Middle Department, 1 Mar., above.

2. See General George Washington to Pennsylvania Navy Board, 2 Mar., below.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY *CORNWALLIS*, LIEUTENANT THOMAS SPRY

March 1778

Abrest of Christeen Creek¹

Sunday 1

First part fresh Breezes and Cloudy with some snow midle
And latter moderate [AM] Sailing up the River and Anchord
Occasionally in Company as above²

Runing thro. the Cheaveux de Frize

First and middle part fair weather Latter Snowy

At 2 P.M. Anchord of[f] the North End of philadelphia
Disembarked the Troops³ Read the Articals of war to the C^o.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1676, pt. 2, fol. 35.

1. Christiana Creek, Del.

2. See Master's Journal of H.M. Galley *Cornwallis*, Lieutenant Thomas Spry, 25 Feb., above.

3. Two light infantry battalions on flat boats which *Cornwallis* had escorted down the Delaware to Salem, N.J.

COLONEL HENRY HOLLINGSWORTH TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Head of Elk [*Md.*] 1 March 1778

Dear Governor

your Fav^r of the 23 with the *plater* Galley¹ and Salt came to Hand, I was absent with the Board of war at the time the weather being so Bad it was impossible to unload the Salt—on my return yesterday I found our Neighborhood had been allarm'd by some advances of the Enemy down the Deleway in boats, but Gen Smallwood informs they were not Landed on our Side the Delaway, yet this Indus'd me to think it most prudent to send the Salt to Charles Town as we have great quantity of publick Stores hear already, and the Road so very bad that tis impossible to remove them should we be Surpris'd, and being ordered by the Board of war to put up a quantity of Herring I thought it best to send it into the Neighbourhood where the fish were to be caught if the Virginia Galley should not be sent of[f]. I would advise that She be sent into the Mouth of Susquehanah where I have a Store provided for the salt and I have a plenty of Salt at Elk for any Immediate Demand—as to the Cattle below I should have sent for them ere now, but yesterday only Recd Cash, with an order from the Board of war to purchase all the provisions that can be Spar'd on the Eastern Shore and from those that will not Sell at a proper price to seise, this I am Loth to undertake at any rate, but more so without your approbation, nor could I attempt it, till I had Cash to ofer them, I take the freedom to Inclose one of the Hon^{bl} Boards Letters to me on that Subject, craving your assistance as I shall send down two Discreat persons to purchas in the penin[s]ula tomorrow Morning, should your Excelency in Council think it nessary to assist my Indeavours with any Credentials to Strengthen me, they may be sent to M^r James Huchingses on Kent Island, where I shall Direct my Brother who I shall send down to call for them (with some Cattle which he has)

—I have found some Inconveniency in my purchas, and fear I shall finde more from Some of the purchasers appointed by the Executive Council of Pensylvania, who rais the price to no real advantage, I meant to give 10/ for good wheat at Elk 7/6 for Corn and oats, £5 for pork and Beef or £18 pr Barell for pork, and 15 for Beef, but those Gentmen have raisd wheat to 12/6 ^{per} Bush. Corn 9/ and if they are prमित it will have no Eand. The Board of War have been pleas'd to appoint me to Supervise the purchas on this Shore, and Harford earnestly soliciting my Hurrying all the provisions and forage out of the peninsula first, but if I am to be Interrupted and Clashed with by purchasers from the other States, would wish to decline, though I have had the Honnour of the Thanks of Gen Washington and the Board of War, for sarvises in my Purches, my intent is to get all the Spare produce from the Eastern Shore first, and at the same time to Lay up part of that in Harford as Magazeans according to the Directions of the Board of war as that in Harford is much clearer of Fley, and will keep much longer sweet of cours fiter for Laying in in the Magazeans, but if while I am at much Hazard and

fateague geting the produce from the Eastern Shore, those Gentmen are prmited to come down and rais the price on me, and drain that country in which I am to Establish Magazeans, to the great Cost of the States, I would rather decline, as my utmost indeavours will fail to give Satisfaction, though attended with the greatest expence, I submitt the whole to your Honnourable Council, and would be happy in reciving your Directions on the premises and am Dear Sir [&c.]

H Hollingsworth
Superinted to purchase

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4585-75. Addressed at the foot: "His Excellency/Thomas Johnson Esq^r" Docketed: "1 March 1778/from Henry Hollingsworth."

1. Maryland Navy armed boat *Plater*, Capt. Richard Murrow, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *GLASGOW*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PASLEY

1778 Ma^r Cape Tiberoon¹ ENE $\frac{1}{2}$ N^o. 5. Leagues.

Sunday 1

At 4 (AM) saw a Sail to Eastward, Fired a Swivell and bro^t her too, proved a French Brig from St^e Louis to Honfleur.—At 7 Saw 3 Sail at Anchor in Irish Bay, stood in for them, found 2 of them to be the Vessels we had engaged in in the Night. The Schooner Mounting 12 Guns and the Sloop 10. both wearing French Colours.²

Donna Maria³ NNE. 3 Leagues.

Moderate Breezes with Rain at times. Employd on sundry necessary Duties.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/399.

1. Tiburon Peninsula, Saint-Domingue.
2. American privateers. See Journal of H.M.S. *Glasgow*, 28 Feb., above.
3. Cap Dame Marie, Saint-Domingue.

March 2

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

Remarks on Monday March the 2^d 1778 on board the *Boston*¹

The first part of this 24 Hours attended with Fresh Brezes & Haizey Weather at 1 PM. found our Main Mast Sprung, down M T G. Yard,² the Carpenters, ~~the~~ ~~Carpenters~~ Employd in Fishing the Main Mast: The middle & latter part. Fresh Brezes & cloudy Weather. nothing else Remarcable this Day.—

My People imployd as usual about Necessary Duty.

Monday March 2^d.

Latt. P Obs: 41..38 N^o.—

Course	Dist	X Latt ^d	Depart	Latt ^d P Obs	X Long ^d	Long ^d in	Meridian Distance
North							
62°; E	156	72. N	137: E	41 ^d =38 ^m N	3 ^d =00 ^m ; E	47 ^d =09 ^m W	1053m; East

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 1 Mar. to noon of 2 Mar., following sea time.
2. Main-topgallant yard.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]
1778.

March 2. Monday. a fine Wind still and a pleasant Morning.—The Colour of the Water which is green, not blue as it has been for many Days past, the Appearance of large Flocks of Gulls, and various other Birds, convinced the knowing ones, to Say that We were not far from the Grand Bank of N. Foundland. The Captain however thinks it 35 Leagues to the N. West of Us.—Our Mast was Yesterday repaired with two large Fishes, as Y [*they*] call em, i.e. large oaken Planks cutt for the Purpose and put on. it Seems now as firm as ever.—The Sailors are very Superstitious. They Say the Ship has been So unfortunate that they really believe there is Some Woman on board.—Women are the unluckiest Creatures in the World at Sea &c.

This Evening the Wind is very fresh, and the Ship Sails at a great Rate.—We are out of the Reach I hope of the Gulph Stream and British Cruizers, two Evils, which I have a great Aversion to.

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), p. 15.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

[*Boston*]

Monday, March 2, 1778.

Jabez Fisher, Esq; brought down a Report of the Committee of both Houses on the Letter from General *Putnam*, viz.

“That they were informed by General *Putnam*,¹ that the United States had Occasion for forty Pieces of Cannon from 18 to 32 Pounders—thirty Cables of about 13 Inches, and thirty Anchors weighing about ten Hundred each, for the obstructing and keeping Possession of North River—and that he now applied to this State to furnish him with as many of the Articles aforesaid as they could well spare.”

Read and thereupon *Ordered*, That Mr. *Wendell*,² Mr. *Gray*³ and Col. *White*⁴ be a Committee to enquire what of the above-mentioned Articles can be procured.

A Journal of the Honorable House of Representatives, [January 7 to March 13, 1778], (Boston, 1777 [1778]), 198.

1. Maj. Gen. Israel Putnam commanded Continental Army forces in the Hudson River Highlands.
2. Oliver Wendell of Boston.
3. Ellis Gray of Boston.
4. Col. Ebenezer White of Rochester, Plymouth County.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[*Newport. Rhode Island*]

2^d March—Strong gale of wind from the W.N.W. after 11 o’Clock last night, which continued most part of this day. Snow during the night, about 3 Inches deep. Very cold day.

Lord Howe has kept up the strictest discipline in the Navy since his arrival here, and business is carried on with the utmost secrecy. The Ships of War receive sealed orders, and instructions to be ready to sail on the first Signal. Their signal is frequently made suddenly, and they go immediately out of the harbour without knowing their destination till they are fairly out of the Port. His Lordship applies

himself with the utmost assiduity to the public business, and is very seldom seen on shore. A Conduct highly praiseworthy in a man who has the chief direction of affairs of such great consequence to the Nation. If he indulged himself after the fatigues of the Campaign, in even the most innocent recreations, it would give room for the malicious spirits at home to say he neglected the public concerns.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 253–54.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD

Headquarters Valley Forge March 2^d. 1778

Gentlemen

As the Gallies can now be of no service in the River, and the enemy have it in their power to get them into their possession, with all their cannon and stores,—I beg your leave strongly to recommend it to the Board, without delay, to evacuate them of their cannon and stores; and—removing these to a place of security, in some interior part of the country—to carry the Gallies up into some of the creeks, and have them sunk.—If there should be any other vessels, belonging to the state in the river, I would mean to comprehend them; and if there should be any stores at Bord[en]town, or other places on the river—these also ought to be removed to a place of safety. We can reap no advantage from keeping the Gallies, cannon and stores in such an exposed situation, and if they should fall into the hands of the enemy, which they would in all probability do, the gallies would be useful to them, and the cannon and stores would be no inconsiderable loss to us. I am Gentlemen [&c.]

G^o: Washington

L, PWacD, Sol Feinstone Collection of the American Revolution, no. 1578. Addressed at foot: "Pensylvania/Navy Board." Bracketed portion is torn.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROEBUCK*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

March 1778

[alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]

Monday 2^d

Fresh gales and Snow at Noon cleared the Decks of Snow
Fresh gales and squally with Frost and Snow [PM] sent the Gun
Boats, Tenders &c to assist the *Vigilant* in covering the embarkation of the Troops at Coopers Ferry after which the *Vigilant* halld to the Wharf and the Gunboats & Tenders return'd¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1964, fol. 89.

1. Tender *Pembroke* and two armed boats (half galleys) had been assisting H.M. armed ship *Vigilant* in covering the embarkation of the 42nd Regiment and the Queen's Rangers.

CONTINENTAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

To the Honble Navy Board at Boston.

Gentlemen

York Town [Pa.] 2 March 1778

The Committee of Congress for foreign Affairs, directing letters from time to time to your care, doubt not of your attention to forward them to our

Commissioners and agents abroad, or to others as they may happen to be directed. you will be pleased to attend to the character of the person who may take charge of Packetts or letters, to any public Officer beyond seas, and to give direction for sinking the papers, when in imminent danger of falling into the hands of the Enemy. You are desired also to take the trouble of sending to the printers in Boston for the Gazettes in course, as you happen to have opportunities of enclosing them to our Commissioners in France either directly or thro' M^r Bingham, our Agent at S^t Pierres, Martinique. By ordering each printer to keep one course of papers, you can never be in want of a number proper for a packet, if you send for them to the Offices alternately, as vessels offer, The printers may make a charge to the Committee of Congress for foreign Affairs or to your board on our account—We are &c.

(Signed) James Lovell
for the Committee

Copy, DNA, PCC, item 79, pp. 173–74 (M247, roll 105).

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN ONSLOW TO THE VISCOUNT HOWE”

Dated—S^t. *Albans* off Willoby's point 2^d. March 1778.

“The Ships we chased, were the *Lyon* of 44 Guns and 250 Men and the *Count de Veaux*^d of 24 Guns and 89 Men. The latter was the Ship that the *Solebay* took, in every respect fitted and prepared for Action. By what I have since learned from the Prisoners, they came from Port L'Orient the 1st of January, determined to force a Trade, and to oppose inferior Force. The Ship I before mentioned that the *Richmond* and *Senegal* chased, was the *Ferdinand* of 44 Guns, 250 Men, with 50 Volunteers from S^t Maloes. They are loaded with Salt, Cordage, Woolens and Supplies for the Rebels. They frankly own, that upwards of 40 Ships from 1000 to 200 Tons, all armed, are now loading and equipping from the Ports of Dunkirk, S^t Maloes, Nantz, Bourdeaux and L'Orient. They are all cleared out for the French West Indies: After they sail, they change the Names of their Ships, keep false Journals and Reckonings.—There are no Papers to be found; indeed they do not scruple saying, that they have destroyed their Letters and papers; and that the Ships now coming, will come by Fours, and Six together, to force past our Frigates and small Ships. That they are mostly intended for the Chesepeake Bay and Charles Town. Being drove from off those Ports, to attempt Boston. The Ships of any Force they wish to dispose of to the Rebels, and to purchase smaller Craft, for to make their Returns in Tobacco. Two Rebel Frigates of 32 Guns sailed from L'Orient the 23^d. December 1777, loaded with Arms, Ammunition and Cloathing.”²

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 200–201. Docketed: “Extract of a Letter from/Captain Onslow to the/Viscount Howe./Dated 2^d. March 1778./N^o. 7/In Lord Howe's/Letter N^o. 55.” This extract is enclosure No. 7 in Vice Admiral Viscount Howe to Philip Stephens, 16 Mar. 1778 (No. 55), below.

1. Ship *Vicomte de Veaux*, Pierre Donat de La Garde, master, owned by the Vicomte de Veaux of Paris, captured by H.M.S. *Solebay* on 23 Feb., and sent to New York City as a prize of *Solebay* and *St. Albans*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. The Vice Admiralty Court of New York declared her a lawful capture on 10 Apr. 1778. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 67.

2. Continental Navy ship *Alfred* (24 guns), Elisha Hinman, commander, and Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh* (32 guns), Thomas Thompson, commander, set sail from L'Orient on 29 Dec. 1777. NDAR 10: 1158.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [*Charleston*] Monday 2^d March 1778.¹

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present— Edward Blake Esq^r First Commissioner

Thomas Corbett Geo Ab^t Hall Edw^d Darrell Esq^{rs}

The following Orders were drawn on the Treasury in favor of—

Nathan Legare for 10 Barrels Beef . . a £40 £400,, —,, —

John Waren for 12 Barrels Pork a £50 600 ———

Captⁿ Philip Sullivan for the *Gen^l Moultrie* 400 ———

ditto . . . ditto for the *Volunteer* 975 ———

Elisha Sawyer Commissary his Acco^t of Disbursements 14234. 6. 8

Paul Pritchard for the *Volunteer* to be paid by J. C.² 16..10 —

William Johnson Sundry Acco^{ts} against the

Brigg *Polly* £794. 13. 6. }

Notre Dame 359. 7.... }

Rattle Snake 49. 11. 3. }

Brigg *Fair American* 280..12. 6. }

Eagle Pilot Boat 73. 4. 9. }

Tryall ditto 17..10..— }

Commissary for Sundrys 101. 10 — 1676. 9 —

Tunis Tebout Ball^{ce}. of his Acco^t for

Beaufort Gally

875. 4. 6

£19177,,10. 2-

Agreed that the *Rattle Snakes* Cargoe of Rice now in Store at Gadsdens wharf be forthwith Advertized and Sold at Public Vendue by the Clerk of this Board—

Adjourned to next Thursday Even^g 6 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 143.

1. Letters and numerals in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.

2. John Colcock, secretary of the South Carolina Privy Council.

BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUSTINE PREVOST TO GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE

[Extract]

Duplicate.

S^t Augustine 2^d. March 1778.

Sir.—

... The Reports of the preparations of the Rebels against this place have subsided lately, I can not think that as long as their Ports are shut up by our Frigates, they can design any attempt against this place. The distressing the Settlements on the river S^t John is not so easily prevented, as small straggling parties could effect it, and cannot be so easily discovered, but the Parties of Indians which now and then go to War against them and pass that way, deter them from the attempt. ...

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect Your Excellency's [&c.]

A Prevost

P:S. I this moment received information that Rebels are Arming their Gallies in order I suppose to prevent our Men of War from taking in water at S^t Mary's river, where they can do it with more expedition than here.—

AP.

L, UkLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, 974; microfilm copy, ViW, British Headquarters Papers, vol. 9., 974. Addressed at foot of first page: "To/His Excellency—/Sir William Howe, &c^a." Docketed: "Duplicate/Brig^e Gen^l. A. Prevost/to/ General S^r W^m Howe/S^r Augustine. 2^d Mar. 78/Rec^d. from S^r W^m Howe 12th May/1778/Enclosing Copies of his letters of the/1st Nov^r & 12 Feb^r with several Enclosures,/the Monthly Returns, & many letters/from Pensacola.—Captain M^cIntosh/has leave to go to N York. Enclosing Capt [Muller]/& Lt. Sutherland's Memorials.—L^t/Barrow, 16th. has leave to go to N York./About the Creek Indians giving/satisfaction to M^r Stuart for the insult/offered to his Agent.—Begging Bat &/Forage Money to be allowed to officers/here. The Rebels are arming their Galleys.—" Seven paragraphs pertaining to routine army matters are omitted.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

[Extract]

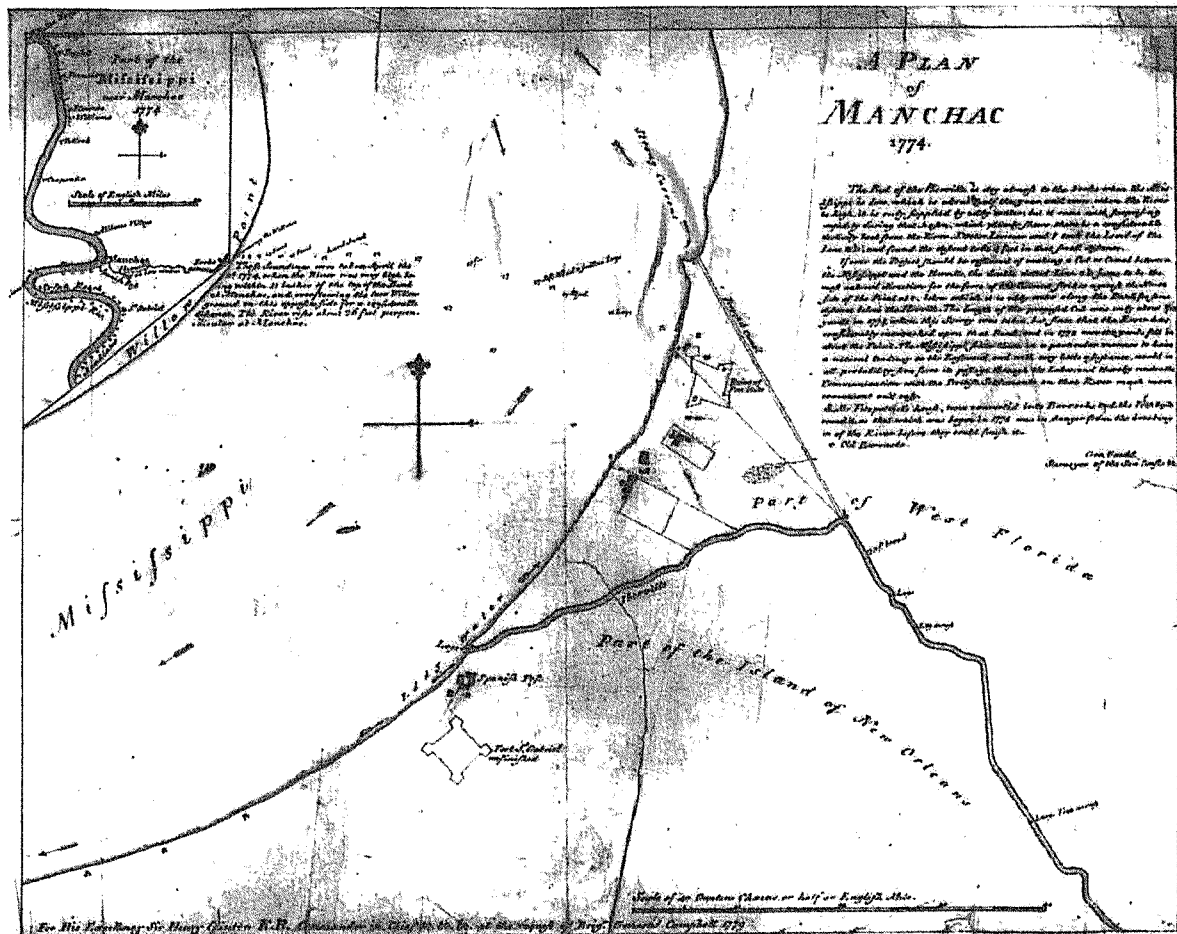
At a Council held in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola on Monday the 2^d. March 1778

The Minutes of the last Council day (11th. February) were read & approved.

His Excellency the Governor Acquainted the Board that he called them together in Consequence of some Accounts that he had just received from the River Mississippi purporting that a Party of the Rebels had come down the said River Seized on a Merchant Ship called the *Rebecca* John Cox Master¹ then laying at the Settlement of Manchack and had also taken Possession of the said Settlement making several of the Inhabitants Prisoners on the Parole—which Intelligence he thought proper to lay before them And as the advice of the Kings Military Servants might be necessary upon this Occassion he had requested William Garnier Esquire Captain of His Majestys Ship *Southampton* Lieutenant Colonel Stiell² Commanding officer of the Troops here and John Fergusson Esq^r Commander of the Sloop of War *Sylph* to assist at the Board who accordingly came into Council—whereupon M^r Thomas Walters Super Cargo of the said Ship *Rebecca* who had brought the Intelligence referred to having been Summoned to attend for that purpose was called before the Board and gave the following Information upon oath

Information upon oath of Thomas Walters late Super cargo
of the Ship *Rebecca* taken at Pensacola before His
Excellency Peter Chester Esquire Captain General and
Governor in Chief of His Majestys Province of West Florida
&C in Council

This Informant saith that on Monday the 23^d of February about Eleven oClock in the forenoon he arrived at Manchack from the River Amit³ & went into Hickeys Tavern Where he was told by said Hickey, by M^r Swanson, the Two M^r Monsantos and M^r Heckshaw that the Ship *Rebecca* Capⁿ. Cox of which Ship this Informant was Super Cargo mounting Sixteen Carriage Guns (four Pounders and Six Swivels—Navigated by 25 Men) but had then only fifteen on Board and laying at the Levee opposite said Town was that morning about seven oClock Seized by a Party of Americans (Supposed to be between fifteen or Twenty in Number) Commanded by one M^rIntyre⁴ That upon this Intelligence and being fully Convinced that the ship was in their hands as he saw a Number of Strange Men Walking the Deck dressed in Hunters Froks He Consulted with M^r Hickey and M^r Swanson what was best to be done in this Emergency who advised him to make



"A plan of Manchac 1774"

his immediate Escape as they were themselves all Prisoners upon Parole That he was in the same Company informed that Each of these Rebels was armed with a Rifle Gun a Cutlass and a Pair of Pistols—also that there were four hundred more Expected down every Minute Among whom was James Willing formerly an Inhabitant of this Province and further that Anthony Hutchins Esquire a Magistrate at the Natchez was brought down by them and put on Board the Ship in Irons That Mess^{rs}. Hiorn,⁵ Blommart⁶ & McIntosh⁷ all of the Natchez District were coming down as Prisoners with the other party And this Informant farther saith that he thought there was no time to be lost He made his Escape over the Garden Fence into the Cane Brake and thence to the River Amit from which place he arrived here last night and farther saith not.

Sworn in the Council Chamber at

Pensacola this 2^d day of March 1778—

before His Excellency in Council

Attest: Rich^d Combault⁸ D. Cler. Concii.

William Burns Master of a Drogger who also arrived last night from the River Amit being then called before the Board gave such Information as fully Corroborated the above.

His Excellency then desired the opinion of the Board what measures were necessary to be adopted for the protection of the Province in Consequence of the Intelligence now before them

The Board after deliberating thereon recommended to His Excellency the Governor that application be made to William Garnier Esquire Captain of His Majestys Ship *Southampton* to order one of the Kings Ships under his Command to proceed to the River Mississippi in order to Intercept the Ship *Rebecca* and the Captain of His Majestys Ship so ordered to receive on Board of him such Loyal Subjects with their properties as may apply for protection and also that Captain Garnier be requested to give such assistance to Lieutenant Burdon of the Armed Sloop *West Florida* in the Lake Pont-Chartrain as may enable him to secure the passes into the Lakes gain Intelligence of the Strength and designs of the Enemy and afford assistance & Protection to the loyal Inhabitants of the Western parts of the Colony Whereupon His Excellency Immediately wrote a Letter to Capⁿ. Garnier making the above requisitions. . . .

The Bord were unanimously of opinion that an assembly should be called—but that the Writts of Election be delayed untill farther Intelligence is received respecting the operations of the Rebels in the Western part of this Province. . . .

D, UKLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 247–48. Two paragraphs dealing with land grants and Indian affairs are not printed here.

1. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master, 250 tons burthen, built in Newfoundland in 1773, owned by G. Montgomery of London. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777–1778.

2. Lt. Col. William Stiell, commanding officer of the British Army in West Florida.

3. Amite River.

4. Lt. Thomas McIntyre, Independent Company in Western Pennsylvania, 30 Dec. 1777.

5. William Hiorn, commissioner at Natchez.

6. John Blommart, magistrate of West Florida.

7. Alexander McIntosh, planter at Natchez.

8. Richard Combault, deputy clerk of the West Florida Council.

REAR ADMIRAL SIR PETER PARKER TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

Bristol Port Royal

Sir Jamaica 2^d March 1778

Vice Admiral Gayton intending to sail to morrow morning, has given me up the Command of His Majesty's Ships on this Station, together with all the Necessary Papers and Instructions.—

The State of the Squadron and the Arrangement of the Ships, their Lordships will be fully informed of by the Vice Admiral—

I shall be enabled by the next opportunity to lay before their Lordships a particular State of the Wharfs and Store Houses, some of which appear to me, to be in immediate want of repair, and will, if speedily undertaken, save much expense to Government. You will receive herewith my Journal from the 1st Nov^r 1776 to the 14th February 1778. I am Sir [&c.]

P: Parker

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed at foot: "Philip Stephens Esq^r." Endorsed: "R, 24 Ap^l."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *SEAFORD*, CAPTAIN JOHN COLPOYS

March 1778 Monday 2 nd .	Roseau Bay Dominica Ditto W ^r [Moderate breez ^s and fair W ^r] At 1 PM the Sloop <i>Harlequin</i> belong ^g to Antigua, bro't in a Prize Brig from Surinam to Boston, At 2 the Brig <i>Liberty</i> , belonging to Dominica, bro't in a Prize Sloop from Georgia to Martinico
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D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/880, part 3.

March 3

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[Extract]

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

1778.

March 3.

Tuesday. our Wind continued brisk and fresh all the last Night, and this Morning our Course is abt. N.E.—Showers in the Night and this Morning.—The Flocks of Gulls, Still pursuing Us.

This Morning, M^r Parison¹ breakfasted with Us.—Our Capt.² in gay Spirits, chattering in French, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Dutch, Greek, and boasting that he could Speak some Words in every Language.—He told Us he had ordered two more Fishes upon the Mainmast to cover the Flaws, above Deck.

The Captain, Lt^s, Master, Mates and Midshipmen, are now making their Calculations, to discover their Longitude, but I conjecture they will be very wild.

The Life I lead is a dull Scène to me.—No Business: No Pleasure; No Study.—our little World is all wet and damp: there is nothing I can eat or drink without nau-

seating.—We have no Spirits for Conversation, nor any Thing to converse about.—We see nothing but Sky, Clouds and Sea, and then Seas, Clouds and Sky. . .

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), p. 16.

1. François Parison, brevet captain of artillery in the Regiment d'Auxonne under Du Coudray, who was returning to France.

2. Capt. Samuel Tucker, Continental Navy.

JOHN LANGDON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

Portsmouth New Hampshire

Sir.—

3^d. March 1778.—

Iv'e wrote several Letters to the Honble. Marine Committee, which I fear have miscarried as Iv'e had no Answer, Iv'e for a long time waited for a Supply of Money to pay off the Several Debts which I had Contracted for the Continent, but have received little or none, the Marine Board at Boston¹ are doing every thing in their Power to Supply me, but hitherto they have not been able to accomplish it, there is now large Sums due to several Tradesmen on the *Ranger*, a large sum due to my Carpenters who have been at work all Winter in the Woods procuring Timber for the 74² have had large number of Teams employed hawling Timber all which is now at the Landings unpaid for all these matters must be immediately discharged, even if I am obliged to Sell my own Estate for the purpose.

It gives me great pain & it is not a little humiliating to me, after Ive pawn'ed my own Credit for Payment not to have it in my power to comply with that punctuality I could wish, Ive long Since paye'd away my Stock of Cash for the Service those Debts which have been Sometimes Standing the money having—Depreciated so amazingly makes the people very uneasy

Knowing the great difficulty the Honble. Congress are at in procuring money for the different Departments Ive' done every thing in my power to put off the payments hoping Some Continental Prize might come in by which I should be furnished but as that has not happened the time is now come that I must make payments at all events, nothing prevents my arranging the Yard with Carpenters & I could go on next Month (building the 74) with Spirit but want of Cash will prevent it unless immediately Supplied I need not mention the many other Demands I have upon me for Supplies of the French Ship³ & for Transporting the Warlike Stores &ca the Committee must be Sensible of it.—It makes me a little unhappy to be thus Streightened for Money to carry on the Building of Ships here as it's a very disadvantageous to the Continent. tho' I believe may Say without Boasting it has been carried on with as much advantage to the Continent as elsewhere—as it's not in the power of the Board of at Boston to Supply me, I must intreat an immediate Supply by some means or other, otherwise the business must totally Stop.—I'm under the necessity of asking an immediate answer to this from the Honble. Committee that I may know how to Conduct myself in the Business of engaging Carpenters & other matters.—I have the honor to be [&c.]

John Langdon
Agent

P.S. Should be glad that the
Navy Board at Boston were
impowered to Settle my Acct^s both for the

Marine & Commercial Committee if it shall be agreeable.—

L, ScHi, Henry Laurens Papers, Letters to Henry Laurens chiefly concerning Official Business, 1778 (SCHS No. 17, roll 9), 13. Addressed at foot of second page: "The Honble./Henry Laurens Esquire." Docketed: "John Langdon/to/Henry Laurens/3^d March 1778."

1. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
2. The 74-gun ship of the line, later named *America*.
3. French ship *Flamand*, M. de Fassy, master.

LIBEL OF THE SHIP *MARY* IN MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME COURT,
SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Mas^{rs}: Bay ——
Southⁿ: District

To the honourable Nathan Cushing Esq^r
Judge of the maritime Court for said
District. _____

Be it remembred that the third day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & seventy Eight John Trivett¹ of Providence in the State of Rhode Island & Providence Plantations—Mariner—cometh into Court and on behalf of John Rathburn² commander of the Armed Sloop of war called the *Providence* duly commissioned & set forth to cruize upon the Enemies of the United States of America and in the service & Employ of and owned by the said States and of the officers marines & mariners on board the same for all whom the said Trivett is agent libels propounds and gives the said Court to understand and be informed that the said commander officers and marines & mariners in said Armed Sloop did on the twenty seventh day of January last past on the high Seas within the Jurisdiction of this Honourable Court attack conquer and take possession of and afterwards on the twentieth day of February last past bring into the Port of Old Town³ so called within the District aforesaid a certain Ship called the *Mary* lately command^d: by Henry Johnson burthened about two hundred & fifty Tons ladened with sundry goods wares and merchandize as p^r: Schedule—and said Trivett avers that said Ship and her appertenances together with her said Cargo were at the time of Capture aforesaid the property of Some of the Subjects of the King of Great Britain (Other than the Inhabitants of Bermuda [New] Providence or Bahama Islands—that said Ship was then bound & employed to carry Supplies to the fleet and Army employed against said States & that the master & Supercargo of her then had such Supplies—That said Ship at the time of her capture aforesaid was a Vessel of war employ^d: by the Subjects of Said King enemies of these States to annoy infest and make depredations upon the Sea Coasts & navigation of America & was set for that purpose and duly commissioned by the Said King for that purpose and to Cruize upon the Subjects of Said States and mounted Sixteen carriage guns & was armed with a large quantity of Swivels musketts pistols blunderbusses Swords & Cutlasses and of Cannon Swivel musquet & Pistol Powder and ball and manned with thirty men—By force of all which & of the laws of this State & the resolves of Congress said Ship her Cargo & appurtenances are become forfeit & are to be distributed to and amongst the said commander officers marines & mariners.—

Wherefore as this is of a maritime nature and within the Jurisdiction of this Honourable Court the said Trivett prays the advice of the Court thereupon & that by a due course of Proceedings said Ship her Cargo & appurtenances may be deemed to be & remain forfeited & to be distributed to and amongst the said Command^e Officers marines & mariners according to Law & the resolves of Congress.

John Trivett} Agent as afores^d.

True Copy attest Bartlett LeBaron Reg^r

D, DNA, Record Group 267, The Revolutionary War Prize Cases: Records of the Court of Appeals in Cases of Capture, 1776–87, Claim No. 67 (M162, roll 8). Docketed: “N^o: 5/Libel/Ship Mary.”

1. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines.
2. Capt. John Peck Rathbun, Continental Navy.
3. Now Edgartown, Martha’s Vineyard.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH GARDNER TO ROBERT STEVENS & CO.

Gentlemen.

Onboard the *Greenwich* 3rd. Mch. 1778

This is to Acquaint you the Third day after the Sloop¹ Left Bedford [*in Dartmouth*] we came a Cross a Ship of Fourteen Guns and Fifty men we Engag’d her and fought her three Glasses but being Cutt and much shattered to pieces was oblig’d to Quit her. we had the misfortune to Loose poor Moses Casey in the Fray & four more Wounded this is Likewise to acquaint you the Eighteen of February we tooke a Schooner Transport from Hallifax bound to Newport Loaded with Codfish & Coal but was blown off the coast and was bound to Antigua we put a Prize Master on board and sent her to Martinico this is Likewise to acquaint you that the third of March we tooke another Schooner from Hallifax bound for Tobago her Cargo Consists of Sixty four Hogsheads & Eight Tierces of Codfish Eighty five Barrells of Pickled Fish & Seventeen hund^d feet of Lumber & Staves we Likewise put a Prize Master onboard of her & sent her to Martinico this is Likewise to Acquaint you we are now Cruising in the Latitude of Barbadoes and shall Cruise back and forth about Six Weeks Longer with the provisor we shoud not take any thing else till then and with the provisor we shoud take another Hallifaxman we shall go with her to Martinico if we should take a Britainer we shall proceed direct for America. This is to Acquaint you that I have Orderd one half the proceeds to be laid out in Produce & the other half to be Shipt home in Cash I am Gentlemen Yours &^c

Joseph Gardner

L, RNHi, George Peabody Wetmore Papers. Addressed: “To/Mess^{rs}/ Robert Stevens & C^o. owners/of the Sloop *Greenwich*—/State of/ Rhode Island.”

1. Rhode Island privateer sloop *Greenwich* was fitted out at Bedford in Dartmouth during Nov. 1777. See NDAR 10: 567.

THE NEW-YORK PACKET, AND THE AMERICAN ADVERTISER,
THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1778

FISH-KILL, March 5.

Extract of a letter, dated March 3.

Last Wednesday night, a party of thirty volunteers, from Col. Meig’s¹ regiment,² in four whale boats, under the command of Major Humphrys,³

Lieutenants Lay⁴ and Burret,⁵ made a descent upon Long-Island, in the neighbourhood of Smith-Town for the purpose of destroying several of the enemy's shipping, particularly a large ship of 20 guns aground near that place: The ship was unfortunately got off the preceding day, but they set fire to, and destroyed a brig of about 200 tons burthen, a large schooner and an armed sloop. All were employed in the enemy's service: They brought off two Captains, and several seamen, together with as many sails, rigging and furniture as the boats could contain; all was affected without loss, and the party returned to the main next morning. The enterprize was well planned and conducted; and such an one, as in Gaine's and Rivington's papers, would have filled a column with immences and infinites, and exhausted Johnson's dictionary of all those terms which express, enterprize, conduct and resolution.

The *Warren*, of 36 guns, commanded by young Captain Hopkins,⁶ a few days ago, got out of Providence river safe, notwithstanding the vigilance of the enemy's ships to prevent her. She got off, tis said, in a snow-storm; ran past the guard-ship⁷ almost unobserved, without damage, took her course through the enemy's fleet, where they could not fire on her, without risque of damaging their own ships: While she was in the midst of the fleet, she gave them a broadside, and made the best of her way, while the ships continued their fire on her, to little purpose, till she was some miles off.

1. Col. Return Jonathan Meigs.

2. 6th Connecticut Continental Regiment.

3. Brigade Maj. David Humphreys.

4. 1st Lt. Asa Lay.

5. 2d Lt. Charles Burritt (or Burret).

6. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, Continental Navy.

7. H.M. frigate *Lark*. See Lieutenant's Journal of H.M.S. *Lark*, 16 Feb., and Mackenzie, *Diary*, 17 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Tuesday, March 3, 1778

Resolved, That a member from Connecticut be added to the Marine Committee:

The member chosen, Mr. Huntington.¹

JCC10: 217.

1. Samuel Huntington.

JEAN-BAPTISTE-LAZARE THÉVENEAU DE FRANCY TO JOHN LANGDON

Copy of my letter of the 21 of february to the H^{ble}. john Langdon.

Sir. york town [*Pa.*] 3^d march 1778.

I am at last arrived here after the most tiresome Voyage; my being Such a long while on my journey has detained rather too much *Le Flammand* into your port;¹ the first thing which I would have Settled, was to determine, if that vessel should be purchased or Sent back; the H^{ble}. the Commercial Committee had received your answer upon the information they did ask from you, therefore it was unani-

mously agreed to Send that Ship to Charles-town South Carolina to take her loading; the gentlemen of the Commercial Committee have wrote to the navy-board in Boston that they give orders to Some of the Continental captain of navy not employed, to go to Portsmouth & Embark upon Le Flammand with Some few men if that captain finds it necessary; he will go as far as charles-town with M^r Fassy & in case he meets with Some Vessels he may be able to take, then he Shall have the Command of the Ship for the time of the fighting only, & the prizes Shall be divided in the following manner, viz 1/8 to the public, 3/8 for the French crew, & 1/8 for the American. in case a Captain Could not be got, the navi board is directed to Send at least a good pilote well acquainted With the Coasts of the Southward to go along with M^r Fassy. i beg of you not to let go that vessel without at least thir pilote. & as the Season is Very much advanced now, I intreat you to order the Captain to make all the haste possible; the vessel must be under Sail a week after the reception of the order.

I directd M^r Fassy to prepare his papers as if he was going from S^t Peter of Miquelon to S^t Domingue; as you have been in that island, I Shall be very much obliged to you if you will give him some proper directions about it, inform him with the names of Some merchants there &c.—

I am Very much pleased with all the members of Congress, & I do not expect to meet with the least difficulty; however I cannot Settle nothing as the different invoices concerning what is arrived of our goods upon the Continent, have not been Sent yet to the Commercial Committee; it Seems to me you had told me that you Sent last year the amount of what you did received by the Mercury & Amphitritte, it was never received; I beg of you to have a copy of it made & to Send it directly along, with the amount of what is come in the packet Mere Bobie & upon le Flammand.

As it is very important that this vessel may Sail the Soonest possible, it was thought more prudent to Send a duplicate of our letters, I have altered Something in this of the first I wrote you the 21th. of last month, because then I had not been yet acquainted that those amounts I Speak you of were never received here.

my plan of going to Settle in Virginia is altered for the present however I shall proceed from here to the Southward Very Soon, but I Shall come back to Settle the whole of my business.

I did not heard yet from the Vessels I expected; what begins to make me very much uneasy.

Will you be So good to Send directly by your Servant the inclosed to M^r Gardner;² in his letter there is one for Captain Fassy.

I beg you will present my most H^{ble}. requests to your lady & M^{rs}. Patty;³ my respectfull Complements to General Whipple.⁴

I have told to the Commercial Committee that I have left Some money with a merchant in Portsmouth to pay the Expences of the Flammand. I have the honour to be [&c.]

De Francy

L, Private Collection, Capt. J. G. M. Stone, Annapolis, Md., 1959. Addressed at the foot: "the H^{ble}. John Langdon Esq^r." Docketed: "Mons. Francy's/Letter Answ^d./3^d March."

1. Ship Flamand arrived at Portsmouth, N.H., on 1 Dec. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 668–69, 961.

2. William Gardner, Deputy Continental Agent for New Hampshire.

3. Martha Langdon, sister of John Langdon and future wife of Lieutenant Thomas Simpson, Continental Navy. Lawrence S. Mayo, *John Langdon of New Hampshire* (Port Washington, N.Y.: Kennikat Press [1970]), 23–24, 146, 147.

4. William Whipple, Brig. Gen., New Hampshire Militia.

ORDER OF CAPTAIN JAMES WILLING

[*Manchac, West Florida*]

Permitt M^r William Dunbar and his Property to Remain unmolested untill further orders he being a fr^d. to America

March 3. 1778

Ja^s. Willing
Captⁿ. in U.S. of
America

Copy, PHI, Simon Gratz Autograph Collection, Case 8, Box 20.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola on Tuesday the 3d March 1778.

The Minutes of Yesterday having been read & approved His Excellency the Governor laid before the Board a Letter which he had this morning received from Captain Garnier of His Majestys Frigate *Southampton* in Answer to His requisition of Yesterday and the same being read was ordered to be entered on the Minutes as follows

Sir

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellencys Letter of Yesterdays date Informing me of a Small Party of the Rebels having Seized the *Rebecca* John Cox Master lying in the River Mississippi and having made themselves Masters of the Town of Manchack In Consequence of Which I have ordered Captain Fergusson of His Majestys Ship *Sylph* to proceed up the River Mississippi and use his utmost endeavours to retake the said Ship and give every assistance in his power to His Majestys loyal Subjects Situated on the Banks of the River and that he may more Effectually comply with your Excellencys Requests I have sent him a Copy of your Letter and am fully persuaded he will exert himself to the Utmost. I have likewise ordered a Petty officer and Six Seamen to the reinforcement of Lieutenant Burdon. I have the Honor to be [&c.]

Southampton

W^m Garnier—

Pensacola March 3^d 1778.

His Excellency also laid before the Board a Letter which he had just received from Lieut: Burdon Commanding His Majestys armed Sloop *West Florida* dated at the pass of Massiac Lake Pontchartrain which being read was ordered to be entered on the Minutes as follows

Sir

I'm sorry its not in my power to give you any farther Accounts of the proceedings of the Rebels then which I hope you have received by M^r Leviston & M^r

Chrystie, That they have taken M^r Walters Ship & have dropt down about a League from the Town, the party by the best accounts is fifty in Number & about four hundred to follow. on Thursday night there was a Number of Guns fired from the ship which I believe the other party is arrived at Manchack I shall take all opportunities to get the best Intelligence. I have sent one Smith upon that account & I expect him tomorrow night or the next Morning who I shall send directly to Pensacola. I have taken 10 Cask of the Kings Powder from on Board of M^r Mitchells Sloop for the good of His Majestys Service for fear it should fall in the hands of the Rebels and give the Master a receipt for it till I shall hear from you or Captain Lloyd:¹ which I hope you will approve of my proceedings & am in hopes Sir by the time this arrives to You that you have sent me some assistance which I do not doubt if the Rebels comes down the Amit² but I Shall give you some good accounts of them my not writing to Cap^t Lloyd by this opportunity I hear he is not at Pensacola I am Sir [&c.]

G. Burdon

James Cheeseborough Master of the Sloop *Hilsborough* who arrived this morning from the River amit was then sent for and being called before the Board gave the following Information upon Oath.

Information upon oath of James Cheeseborough Master of the Sloop *Hilsborough* taken at Pensacola before His Excellency Peter Chester Esquire Captain General and Governor in Chief of His Majestys Province of West Florida in Council

This Informant saith that on Thursday evening last (the 28th. Ultimo) about six oClock he was laying in his Sloop at the lower Indian Village on the River Ibberville when John Tyner who resides at the Forks of the Ibberville came on Board his Sloop with a Letter from M^r Philip Barbour (who had gone Passenger with him from Pensacola and had shipped some goods on Board) and gave this Informant the following Account That the Ship *Rebecca* had dropped down about a league below Manchack but had left M^r Hutchins³ at Manchack who desired this Tyner to put him on Board the Ship saying that as they had taken all his property he would go to the Ship in hopes of recovering it That as they were rowing to the Ship M^r Hutchins told Tyner that he could not hear of any more than fifty Men in the whole of the Rebels—That they had taken Mess^{rs}. Blommart⁴ Hiorn⁵ and M^rIntosh⁶ Prisoners who were coming down with the remainder of the Party among whom was James Willing who was understood to have the Command Tyner further told this Informant That M^r Henry Stuart the Deputy Superintendant⁷ had taken refuge in the Spanish Fort that the Rebels had been to demand him and offered a large Sum of Money for him, and that the officer Commanding at the Fort refused to deliver him up.

Sworn in the Council Chamber at

Pensacola this 3^d day of March 1778.

before His Excellency in Council

Attes^r Rich^d Combault D Cler Conci

Whereupon His Excellency desired the advised of the Board what Steps farther were necessary to be made for the Security of the Province

The Board were of Opinion that application be made to Lieutenant Colonel Stiell⁸ Commanding Officer of the Troops to Detach an Officer and Twenty five Men from the Garrison to Lake PontChartrain to Act in Concert with Lieutenant Burdon on Board of the Armed Sloop *Florida* to defend the Passes of the Lakes in Case the Rebels if in Force should attempt to Penetrate farther into the Colony—

Lieutenant Colonel Stiell was thereupon applied to by His Excellency at the Board who readily acquiesced in the demand

The Board also recommended to His Excellency to apply to Colonel Stuart the Superintendent⁹ for A Detachment of His Corps of Rangers to be sent to the Lakes and afterwards to the River Nitabanie¹⁰ there to protect the Inhabitants or to assist them in bringing off themselves and their property as occasion may require

Colonel Stuart being present in Council Promised to send off Twenty men under the Command of Captain Pearis.¹¹

The Board farther recommended to His Excellency the Governor to take two Small Vessels into the Service of Government for the purpose of Transporting the Troops with their Ammunition and Provisions to the Lake PontChartrain whereupon M^r John Mitchell a Merchant of this Town owner of the Sloop *Hillsborough* and Adam Chrystie Esq^r a Magistrate of Manchack District who arrived here Yesterday in his Sloop the *Florida* were sent for and being applied to at the Board for their respective Vessels Immediately engaged them in the Service upon the Faith of the Council that should either of their Vessels be taken or lost they should be paid for by Government. M^r Chrystie being requested by His Excellency and the Board to proceed himself in his said Sloop *Florida* with Captain Pearis & the Rangers under his Command to the intent that the Service upon which they were sent might be more Effectually performed under the Care of a Magistrate of the District and was so well Acquainted with the Country He readily Consented to go His Excellency therefore by the advice of the Board gave him the following Instructions.

Sir

In Consequence of the Information which I have received of a Party of the Rebels having taken Possession of Manchack I have ordered an Officer with a Detachment of 25 of the Kings Troops on Board the Sloop *Hillsborough* taken into the Service of Government to proceed Immediately to Lieut. Burdon who Commands His Majestys Armed Sloop *West Florida* now lying in Lake Pontchartrain opposite the Pass of Massiac which Troops with their Provisions are to be put on Board M^r Burdons Vessels in order to Act in Concert with him to defend the passes of the Lakes in Case the Rebels if in Force should attempt to penetrate farther into the Colony You will also take on Board your Sloop the *Florida* now taken into the Kings Service Captain Pearis with a Detachment of Colonel Stuarts Rangers and some Seamen to be furnished You by Captain Garnier of the *Southampton* with whom you will proceed to Lieutenant Burdon and after the Troops are disembarked from the *Hillsborough* on Board of M^r Burdon the *Hillsborough* will proceed with You to the River Nitabanie where You & Captain Pearis will act Jointly in order to protect or if the Enemy is in Force & Circumstances require it of which you must be the Judge from the Information you receive upon your arrival at the

Nitabanie Captain Pearis with his detachment will assist in bringing off to Lake Pontchartrain under the Protection of Mr Burdon Such of His Majestys Subjects with their Negroes and other properties as You may find in that part of the Country and you will as soon as in your power after your arrival at the Nitabanie if you have not the most Certain and positive Information of the Strength of the Rebels proceed from the Nitabanie to the Settlements on the River amit or to Manchac if Possible in order to obtain the most Certain and Possitive Information of the Number of the Rebels who have come into the Province of their Strength and designs and after having obtained Certain Information thereof you are to Communicate the same to me as soon as Possible If you find their Numbers Small and think it practicable with Captain Pearis his Rangers and such other Assistance as you can procure in the Country to dispossess them You will Attack them and drive them from Manchack after which You will return here with such Prisoners as you may be able to take If you find that they have abandoned the place in that Case you will also return here endeavouring first to obtain the fullest Information of all the proceedings of the above party since they came into the Province

P^r Chester

Council Chamber

3^d March 1778—

P S You are not to suffer any Person or Persons to embark on Board your Sloop or the *Hillsborough* but such as will put themselves under your Command & obey Your orders—P: Chester.

And then the Board was adjourned—

D, UklPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 249–51.

1. Comdr. Thomas Lloyd, commanding H.M. sloop *Atalanta*.
2. Amite River.
3. Anthony Hutchins, magistrate at Natchez.
4. John Blommart, magistrate of West Florida.
5. William Hiorn, commissioner at Natchez.
6. Alexander McIntosh, planter at Natchez.
7. Henry Stuart was Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Southern District.
8. Lt. Col. William Stiell.
9. Col. John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Southern District.
10. Natalbany River.
11. Capt. John Pearis, West Florida Rangers.

PROCLAMATION OF GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

[*Nueva Orleans, Marzo 3, 1778*]

Dⁿ. Bernardo de Galvez cavallero de la Real distinguida orden de Carlos tercero, Coronel de los realès Exercitos, Intendente, Inspector, y Gobernador General Interino de esta Provincia por Su Magestad, &^a — Como há venido a mi noticia que un Destacamiento de los Inglesses Americano baya por el Rio Mississipy, he pensado en esta circunstancia advertir al Publico que las Intenciones de Su Magestad (que Dios guarde) son de observar una perfecta Neutralidad en las diferencias que estos tienen con la grande Bretaña a fin que ningunos de sus Vasallos se Inquiete, y Altere sus ocupaciones por esta Novedad, Y Para que sepan estos Vecinos estantes y havitantes que les es permitido como lo

permiso en consecuencia de la Neutralidad Declarada conceder Indistinctamente á unos y otros el sagrado derecho De Hospitalidad cada y quando se presenten Necesitados á Reclamarlo: Y para que á todos conste mando que se haga saver a son de Caxa de guerra y q^e se ponga testimonio Del presente en los lugares Publicos acostumbrados de esta Ciudad; Dado en Nueva Orleans á tres de Marzo de mil Sette Cientos Settenta y ocho años; Bernardo de Galvez; Por Mandado de Su Señoria Juan Baptista Garic Es^{no} de Gobierno.—

Certif^{on}.

Dⁿ. Juan Baptista Garic Escribano de Gobierno de la Provincia de la Luisianna como mejor Puedo y Devo certifico y doy fee quel Bando antecedente se publico por Voz de Nicolas Jurdin Pregonero Publico en los Parajes acostumbrados de esta Ciudad al toque de Caxas de guerra con el Acompañam^{to}. de dⁿ. Mauricio hoonor haciendo funciones de Ayudante, Phifanos tambores, y una Compania de Sargentos, y despues fixado en la Plaza y en la puerta del Principal y otros parajes y lugares acostumbrados de esta Ciudad, y para que conste pongo la Presente en la Ciudad de la Nueva Orleans á tres de marzo de Mil Settecientos Settenta y ocho años: Juan Baptista Garic Es^{no}. de Gobierno.

Es conforme a Su original que queda en mi poder y archivo a q^e me Remito y de ordⁿ. Verbal de Su Señoria el Señor Gov^{or}. general, Doy el pres^{te}. escrito en dos foxas con esta de pap^l comun por no estar en practica el Sellado en esta Ciudad de la Nueva orleans á treze de Marzo de mil Settecientos Settenta y ocho años—

En testim. de verdad —

Juan B^a. Garic

Es^{no}. de Gov^o.

[Translation]

[*New Orleans, March 3, 1778*]

Don Bernardo de Gálvez, Knight of the Royal Distinguished Order of Carlos III, Colonel of the Royal Army, Intendant, Inspector, and Acting Governor General of this Province for His Majesty, etc.—As it has come to my attention that a detachment of American Englishmen is proceeding along the Mississippi River, it has occurred to me in this circumstance to notify the public that his Majesty's intentions (may God keep him) are to observe perfect neutrality in the differences that the latter have with Great Britain in order that none of his subjects may become worried and change their occupations because of this new occurrence, and in order that these permanent residents and inhabitants may know that it is permissible for them, as I permit it as a consequence of the declared neutrality, to grant without distinction to one and all the sacred right of hospitality whenever they need to claim it, and in order that it may be clear to all, I am ordering that it be announced to the sound of a military drum and that an official copy of these presents be placed in the customary public places in this city. Given in New Orleans on the 3rd of March of the year one thousand seven hundred seventy-eight. Bernardo de Gálvez. By order of His Lordship, Juan Baptista Garic, Government Clerk.

Certification.

Don Juan Baptista Garic, Government Clerk of the Province of Louisiana, as best I can and should, certify and attest that the foregoing order was published through Nicolas Jurdin, Public Crier, in the customary places in this city to the

sound of military drums, accompanied by Don Mauricio Hoconor, acting as Adjutant, fifes, drums, and a company of sergeants, and afterward in fixed position in the square and at the main gate, and in other customary localities and places in this city, and in order that it may be a matter of record I am posting these presents in the City of New Orleans on the 3rd of March of the year one thousand seven hundred seventy-eight. Juan Baptista Garic, Government Clerk.

It is in agreement with its original, which remains in my possession and file to which was given to me, and by verbal order of His Lordship the Governor General, I am issuing these presents written on two sheets with this one on ordinary paper, because stamping is not practiced in this City of New Orleans, on the 13th of March of the year one thousand seven hundred seventy-eight.

In testimony of the truth.

Juan B^a Garic
Government Clerk

Copy, SpSAG, Santo Domingo, Legajo 2596.

March 4

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston March 4th 1778—

Order'd, That M^r Otis¹ deliver Mess^{rs} Kemble & Thomas 200 yards light Sail Cloth, for Brig^t *Favorite*²—

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver Mess^{rs} Kemble & Thomas [*blank*] yards English Duck, for the Brig^t *Favorite*—

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver Cap^t Turner⁴ for the Brig^t *Dolphin*⁵—

6 Barrels Beef	1 1/2 Bushel Beans—
2 d ^o . Pork—	1 Box Candles—
7 ^{Cwt} Bread—	15 Gall ^s Rum—
1 Bbl Flour—	1/4 ^{Cwt} Sugar—
1 ^{Cwt} „—r..—lb Rice	14 ^{lb} Coffee—
1 Firkin Butter—	6 Bushels Potatoes—
1/2 Cord Wood—	

L.B, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 242–43.

1. Samuel Allyne Otis, merchant at Boston.
2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
3. David Devens.
4. Capt. Israel Turner.
5. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*.

JOHN BRADFORD TO LEONARD JARVIS

Sir,

Boston 4th March 1778

Your Favour of the 23d Ultimo is before Me in Answer to which on turning to your[s] respecting the *Mellish*,¹ I believe I misapprehend you, I wrote to Congress you had fitted her ready to obey their future Orders—Cap^t Wood was previously engag'd therefore the Cap^t you formerly mention'd I hope will remain on Board—an

Act has pass'd our gen'ral Court that Goods & Staves of all Kinds whatever belonging to the public which may be at Bedford [*in Dartmouth*] be immediately moved from thence. The Commissioners of the Navy² acquainted Me with this Matter two Days ago & was rather inclinable that I should send you an Express to inform you of it. On receipt of this I think it will be best to move ev'ry Article belonging to the public from Bedford. the Merchandize may be sent to Boston where it may soon be chang'd for Money which is at present extremely wanted in the naval Department. You will please also to order the Merchandize landed at Bedford out of the Ship *Mary*³ Capt Rathburn's⁴ prize, to send her without delay, That Ship by no means comes within the Description of entitling the Crew to the whole of her, which I believe he is convinc'd off; after the Conversation which pass'd at y^e. navy office between y^e Capt & Commissioners—I've applied to M^r Lowell⁵ to take up the Matter, We have employ'd Sturges Gorham⁶ to get the Remainder of her Cargo over to the Hyannis⁷ provided the Ship has not got there which he supposes She has as he left Orders for that purpose—The generous Disposition of M^r Abraham Livingston⁸ is just as extensive as I judg'd it was. Cap^t Rathburn before the Commiss^{rs}. told Me that L⁹ inform'd him he would have given a third more for the *Mellishes* Cargo, if Mr Jarvis¹⁰ had ask'd it, & that he had paid M^r Jarvis £900 more than he had accounted with the Captors for. I reply'd just in that Manner as I would wish you or any other person on the like Occasion to vindicate an injur'd Character, the Commissioners agreed with Me in Sentiments—how base it was! if the Army were favour'd in the purchase, that he should take that low Way of informing Rathburn with it; however his Drift is very evident to Me, as he is fix'd in the Agency at Charlestown with Clerkson,¹¹ it was with a Design to bring Grist to his Mill¹²—you ask what Wages I gave to Master & Men, I gave the last Master £20 Pr m^o. to Rec^d. £80 L m^o. In France—I gave the men from £8 to £15 three of which I was oblig'd to advance £45 hard money too, in short, the difficulty of getting Vessells to Sea, from this port is almost insuperable, I'm now fitting away a Brig for Charlestown but when I shall man her I know not, its the *Dispatch*¹³ wch I detain'd at the Request of the Board¹⁴ to fit out as a Cruiser nothing new yours &c

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 112–13. Addressed at top: "Leonard Jarvis Esq"

1. British transport ship, captured by Continental Navy ship *Alfred* and Continental Navy sloop *Providence* on 12 Nov. 1776. See NDAR 7: 111, 160, 183, 271.

2. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

3. She was captured by Continental Navy sloop *Providence*, at Nassau, Bahamas, on 27 Jan. See Libel, 3 Mar., above.

4. Capt. John Peck Rathbun, Continental Navy.

5. John Lowell, lawyer at Boston.

6. Sturges Gorham, merchant at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

7. Hyannis, Mass.

8. Continental Agent at Charleston, S.C.

9. Abraham Livingston.

10. Leonard Jarvis, Deputy Continental Agent at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

11. Levinus Clarkson, Continental Agent at Charleston, S.C.

12. Rathbun was first lieutenant of Continental Navy ship *Alfred*, when she captured *Mellish*, and therefore had an interest in her prize money.

13. Continental packet brigantine, Lt. John Brown, Continental Navy, commander.

14. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

CAPTAIN HUGH DALRYMPLE, R.N., TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN BURGOYNE

Juno Cape Cod Harbour—4th. March 1778—

Sir

I take the earliest opportunity by L^t. Carter¹ in the *Haerlem*² Cartel, to inform you of the Arrival of the Transports under my Charge, & that I am appointed by the Viscount Howe, to receive you & your Suite on board the *Juno*, under my Command, for your Conveyance to England, when you shall be at liberty to embark, seperately or together with the Troops, as you will let me know in Return, to be the Intention, And I am to acquaint you that I will move the *Juno*, to Nantasket Road, for facilitating your Embarkation. If you will please to inform me of your having negotiated an Agreement to such Effect, upon faith duly pledged, that no Insult shall be offered in the mean time to any of the Ships of War, or other Ships & Vessels appointed for fulfilling the purpose of the Convention, & Distinguished by Flags of Truce, in Testimony of the Restriction they are under from committing any Acts of Hostility; You are otherwise to take your passage in the *Haerlem*, in order to your being received on board the *Juno*, in Cape Cod Harbour.—

Inclosed is a List of the Transports with their Tonnage,³ that you may be able to settle the proper Arrangement of the Troops destined for Europe; for every thing else I refer you to our Meeting on board the *Juno*, where I have a number of private Letters for you, General Phillips⁴ & Col. Kingston,⁵ & a large Box of Letters for the Army—I am Sir [&c.]

Hugh Dalrymple

L, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 8, fol. 367. Addressed at foot of second page: "Lieu^t General Burgoyne." Docketed: "From Captⁿ/Dalrymple to Gen^l/Burgoyne Inclos^s/a List of Transports/Mar. 4. 1778."

1. Lt. Robert Carter, first lieutenant of H.M.S. *Juno*.

2. H.M. sloop *Haerlem*.

3. MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 8, fol. 368.

4. Maj. Gen. William Phillips.

5. Lt. Col. Robert Kingston, adjutant general of Burgoyne's army.

JOHN DESHON TO CAPTAIN DUDLEY SALTONSTALL

Sir

New London March 4th 1778

The Honob^l Continental navy Board at Boston having Directed me to adopt Such Measures and means as Shall appear most likely and Expedient to get the Ship under your Command¹ out of Connecticut River and bring her in to this port, in our former Conversation on this matter you may Remember it was and Still is my Oppinion the most likely method to Succeed is to lighten the Ship as much as Posable bring her to an Even Keel, and a full tide, when the Coast is Clear take our Chance to run her over the Barr. I am now Going to Providence to Dispatch the Ship *Collumbus*, and Expect to Return in Ten Days, when I Shall give my whole attendance in the ab^v s^d. Business. in the meantime wish you would Engage men for the Cruise fill up the vacanceys of your Petty Officers as will best Suit you, and your Ship in all Posable forwardness, and if necessary hire such men by the Day as you have Okation for. no time must be lost, as this is the Proper time for getting out the Ships, we Can not Expect Very full tides after this month. I have Desired Nath^l. Shaw Esq^r. to Suply the Ship with Every thing you may have Okation for. you may Rely on my Return as soon as Posable I am [&c.]

John Deshon

"Papers of William Vernon and the Navy Board," 212. Addressed at the foot: "To Dudley Saltonstall Esq^r. / Commander of Ship *Trumbull*."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull*.

JOHN DESHON TO LIEUTENANT JOHN KERR

Sir New London March 4th 1778
 You are Ordered to take Command of the Schooner *Mifflin* untill further Orders from the Honob^l Continental Navy Board at Boston, you are to Rec^d. Orders from time to time from Dudley Saltonstal Esq^r Commander of the Continental Ship *Trumbull* Respecting the Ground you are to Cruise over, untill Such time as the Ship *Trumbull* is Got Safe out of the River. you are to Render Every Service in your Power to Captⁿ. Saltonstal in assisting to get this Ship out. you Shall have a Commission as Lieut^t in the Continental Navy forwarded you from Boston as soon as I Return to the Board, Same date as the one taken from you by the Enemy.¹ Call on Nath^l. Shaw Jun^r Esq^r, Our agent for suplys that are Necessary,

Your Humb^l. Servant
 P^r. Order the Board
 John Deshon

you will Observe Strict Discapline useing your Ship's Comp^s and those whom the fortune of warr may throw into your hands with Generousaty and Tenderness. I wish you Success and am in behalf of the board your Humb^l. Serv^t.

J. D.

"Papers of William Vernon and the Navy Board," 213. Addressed at the foot: "To Lieut^t John How/N. London." The recipient is incorrectly identified as Lt. John How in the transcription published by the Rhode Island Historical Society.

1. Kerr lost his commission some time prior to 3 Dec. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 657. He commanded the Continental Navy sloop *Schuyler*, which was captured by H.M. sloop *Falcon* on 10 Dec. 1777. Kerr escaped just before his vessel was taken. *NDAR* 10: 699.

THE BATTLE OF THE KEGS

For the PENNSYLVANIA PACKET.

BRITISH VALOUR DISPLAYED: Or, The BATTLE of the KEGS.

GALLANTS attend, and hear a friend
 Trill forth harmonious ditty;
 Strange things I'll tell, which late befel
 In Philadelphia city.
 'Twas early day, as Poets say,
 Just when the sun was rising;
 A soldier stood on a log of wood
 And saw a sight surprising.
 As in a maze he stood to gaze,
 The truth can't be deny'd, Sir;
 He spy'd a score of kegs, or more,
 Come floating down the tide, Sir.
 A sailor too, in jerkin blue,
 This strange appearance viewing,

First damn'd his eyes in great surprize,
 Then said—"some mischief's brewing:
 "These kegs now hold the rebels bold
 "Pack'd up like pickl'd herring,
 "And they're come down t' attack the town
 "In this new way of ferrying."

The soldier flew, the sailor too,
 And scar'd almost to death, Sir,
 Wore out their shoes to spread the news,
 And ran 'til out of breath, Sir.

Now up and down throughout the town
 Most frantic scenes were acted;
 And some ran here and others there,
 Like men almost distracted.

Some fire cry'd, which some deny'd,
 But said the earth had quaked;
 And girls and boys, with hideous noise,
 Ran thro' the streets half naked.

*Sir William*¹ he, snug as a flea,
 Lay all this time a snoring;
 Nor dreamt of harm, as he lay warm
 In bed with Mrs. *Loring*.²

Now in a fright he starts upright,
 Awak'd by such a clatter;
 First rubs his eyes, then boldly cries,
 "For God's sake, what's the matter?"

At his bed side he then espy'd
*Sir Erskine*³ at command, Sir;
 Upon one foot he had one boot
 And t'other in his hand, Sir.

"Arise, arise," *Sir Erskine* cries,
 "The rebels—more's the pity!
 "Without a boat, are all afloat
 "And rang'd before the city.

"The motley crew in vessels new,
 "With Satan for their guide, Sir,
 "Pack'd up in bags, and wooden kegs,
 "Come driving down the tide, Sir.

"Therefore prepare for bloody war,
 "These kegs must all be routed,
 "Or surely we despis'd shall be,
 "And British valour doubted."

The royal band now ready stand,
 All rang'd in dread array, Sir,

On every slip, in every ship,
 For to begin the fray, Sir.

The cannons roar from shore to shore,
 The small arms make a rattle;
 Since wars began I'm sure no man
 E'er saw so strange a battle.

The *rebel* dales—the *rebel* vales,
 With *rebel* trees surrounded;
 The distant woods, the hills and floods,
 With *rebel* echoes sounded.

The fish below swam to and fro,
 Attack'd from ev'ry quarter;
 Why sure, thought they, the De'il's to pay
 'Mong folks above the water.

The kegs, 'tis said, tho' strongly made
 Of *rebel* staves and hoops, Sir,
 Could not oppose their pow'rful foes,
 The conqu'ring British troops, Sir.

From morn to night these men of might
 Display'd amazing courage;
 And when the sun was fairly down,
 Retir'd to sup their porridge.

One hundred men, with each a pen
 Or more, upon my word, Sir,
 It is most true, would be too few
 Their valour to record, Sir.

Such feats did they perform that day
 Against these wicked kegs, Sir,
 That years to come, *if they get home*,
 They'll make their boasts and brags, Sir.

Published in *The Pennsylvania Packet: or the General Advertiser* (Lancaster), Wednesday, March 4, 1778. This ballad is attributed to writer and satirist Francis Hopkinson, who wrote it in response to a report of the incident in "Extract of a Letter from Philadelphia, Jan. 9, 1778" in *The Pennsylvania Ledger*, 11 Feb. 1778, above. The letter is also attributed to Hopkinson. Moses Coit Tyler, *The Literary History of the American Revolution* (New York: G. P. Putnam, 1897), 148.

1. Gen. Sir William Howe, commander-in-chief of the British Army in Philadelphia.
2. Elizabeth Lloyd Loring, the wife of Joshua Loring, British commissary of prisoners.
3. Brig. Gen. Sir William Erskine, quartermaster general of the British Army at Philadelphia.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN JAMES NICHOLSON

Captain James Nicholson

Sir

[*York, Pa.*] March 4th 1778

Your letters of the 25th & 26th ultimo per Lieutenant Barney¹ are now before us. We are concerned to find your last attempt in getting the frigate *Virginia* to sea had been fruitless; but as your letters inform us such is the fondness your officers and Seamen retain for the Ship that you think they will chearfully make another

treat. This has induced the Committee to resolve that another treat be made as soon as possible and to expedite the same they have this day requested Governor Johnston to continue to you the use of the Tender, as well as to furnish you with, or empower you to procure an able and skillful Pilot.—²

By information from Lieutenant Barney we have reason to apprehend our late Agents will not supply the Ship unless more Money is put into their hands. this we are restrained from doing until the large sums already placed there is accounted for, and least this should throw embarrassments in your way the Committee have this day appointed Stephen Steward Esq^r of West River their Agent for supplying the *Virginia* and have put money into his hands for that purpose,³ we shall rely upon your giving him all the Assistance in y^e power. We assure you that we retain a tender regard for your Character, and hope you will by this succeeding attempt be enabled to wipe off any malicious reflections (if any there be for we know of none) on your character.—

Enclosed you have Lieutenants Plunket⁴ and Barneys Commissions. wishing you success We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, pp. 129–30 (M332, roll 6).

1. Lt. Joshua Barney, first lieutenant of frigate *Virginia*.
2. See following document.
3. See Continental Marine Committee to Stephen Steward, 4 Mar., below.
4. Lt. Thomas Plunkett, Continental Marines.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Thomas Johnston Esq^r
Governor of Maryland
Sir

[*York, Pa.*] March 4th 1778

We have been honoured with your Letter of the 11th ult^o addressed to M^r Lewis A Member of this Committee.¹ The offer you therein make us of furnishing the Brig *Baltimore* with Six Pieces of Cannon four pounders with their Carriages. Rammer Rods, Spunges &c or as many thereof as may be compleat, we accept and will order payment for the same as soon as the value is ascertained agreeable to the mode you propose. We beg leave to request your Excellency to Order those Cannon to be sent up to the point at Baltimore in the manner most convenient.

As we have hitherto been unfortunate in our attempts to get the Frigate *Virginia* to Sea, the Committee have this day resolved that Captain Nicholson be Ordered to make one other attempt.² We are informed it will be necessary that he be furnished with a Tender for giving him intelligence in the Bay also a proper Pilot to carry the ship out as the want of a Pilot rendered his last attempt abortive—for these reasons we must entreat your Excellency to permit Captain Nicholson to a further use of the Tender, he was lately furnished with³ as well as to impower him to procure a good Pilot in such manner as you shall think fit for we are informed he cannot procure one without your sanction. We have the Honor to be [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 130 (M332, roll 6).

1. See Maryland Council to Francis Lewis, 11 Feb., above.
2. See Continental Marine Committee to Captain James Nicholson, immediately above.
3. Maryland Navy schooner *Dolphin*.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO STEPHEN STEWARD

Stephen Steward Esq^r

Sir

[York, Pa.] March 4th. 1778

We have this day determined that Captain Nicholson should make another Attempt for proceeding with the *Virginia* Frigate to sea, and having reasons to believe that the late Agents will demure to the supplying her, unless we put more money into their hands which we are restrained from doing until the account for the large sums already delivered them. From these and other motives the Committee have appointed you their Agent for supplying the said ship with Stores, Provisions &c and to enable you thereto you are to call on M^r Francis Lewis j^r at Baltimore for four thousand Dollars giving him duplicate receipts for the same. From the knowledge we have of your Zeal for the service of your Country we flatter ourselves this business will be executed under your direction with alacrity We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 129 (M332, roll 6).

CHARLES BONDFIELD TO GOVERNOR RICHARD CASWELL

Sir,

Edenton 4th. March 1778.

I have sent up to M^r Henry Montfort for the purchasing Tobacco,¹ to load the Brig *Pennsylvania Farmer*,² the amount of the proceeds of the public Salt in Edenton, except what I have advanced for the vessel. The proceeds of the Salt being very short of what will be sufficient to purchase the Cargo, M^r Montfort and myself have agreed to put on board, and the Assembly having made no provision in the resolve, in that case, I have in order the Vessel may be despatched sent the Bearer William Coltrain express to your Excellency, for an order on both or either of the Treasurers' for such a sum of money as may be wanted for the above purpose, which will be at least, including the Disbursement and outfits on the Vessel £4000. Should it be in your power, I would be glad to have the order by return of the express, as it will not be in my power to advance such a sum as will be wanting, being already in advance. I shall endeavour to have the vessel soon Complete for Sea, altho' she is much out of repair. I am [&c.]

Cha^s Bondfield.

LB, Nc-Ar, Governors Letter Books 1.1, Richard Caswell Letter Book, 1776–1779, p. 432. Addressed at bottom: "Gov Caswell."

1. Henry Montfort was joint commissioner for purchasing with Charles Bondfield at Edenton.

2. North Carolina Navy brigantine *Pennsylvania Farmer*.

ALEXANDER GILLON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

Sir

A few days ago I was favoured with a Letter from your Commercial Board¹ Acquainting me that the Honourable Congress had passd an order for half the Sum to be advanced me on my Contract² but deferred sending the Money till it was known if I continued my engagement with them in Consequence of an Appointment Proposd for me during my absence by his Excellency the President³

and the Honourable the Council of this State 25 days before my Contract with you as Appears by his Excellencys letter to me of the 3^d Nov^r which I received on the road about 300 Miles from York town on my way here permit me to observe to you my conduct thereon which I trust will be favourably thought of by Congress on my Arrival here I waited on his Excellency and thankd him for the Honour intended me of Appointing me to the command of the Navy of this State⁴ but that I was not at my own disposal in Consequence of my Contract with you that this was the only Reason why I did not Accept of his friendly offer as I have held myself ready to Act in that Line when called on so that I was not only bound by Gratitude but led by Inclination to give this State a Preference of my very few abilities if I had been disengaged on which his Excellency proposd writing you but the Letter from the Commercial Board seems to imply a desire on your Part for me to prefer this appointment to your Contract wherefore I have taken the Liberty to Accept of the Command of the Navy of this State provided You approve of it for which purpose I wish to set of[f] for France the 1st May to procure the 3 frigates (for here) where I must tarry some Months during which or any other time I shall be happy to execute any of your Commands but if you prefer my Complying with your contract it will give me pleasure to compleat it. permit me therefore to request you will favour me with an early Answer ere I leave this that if Necessary I may Appoint Attornies here to Ship the purchases I shall make and that on my arrival in Europe I may Apply for and Procure the Credit wanted as I proposd in Case the property from America shoud be Captur'd or that I cannot effect the Insurance on the Exports and imports shoud you Accede to my Appointment here the President concurs with me in Opinion that it will not interfere with my other business if I shoud make your first Annual purchases as the building and fitting out the 3 frigates will detain me 6 Months there and that I must go to Holland to adjust my Old concerns there I will only add that I very much esteem the continuance of your favourable Opinion condescend then to grant it me and to believe that no offer on earth coud have induced me to waver even a Iota from your Contract except the one of being Called forth by the General Voice of the worthy people of this State be assur'd that neither Rank nor Intrest had any sway for if it coud your Contract by far exceded any Income I coud expect here tho they propose providing very bountifully for me and the other Officers I am with all due Respect—Sir [&c.]

A Gillon

Charles town S^o. Carolina 4 March 1778

(Copy)

The Original went p^r M^r Gray As Return'd Express

AG

L, Private Collection, Allen C. Beeman, Riverside, Connecticut, 1976. Addressed below close: "To/The Honourable Henry Laurens Esq^r/President of the Honourable the Continental Congress." Docketed: "Alex^s Gillon Copy/4 March 1778/Rec^d 21 April—."

1. Continental Committee of Commerce.

2. For his contract with the Committee of Commerce, see *NDAR* 10: 550–51, 626–27.

3. John Rutledge, president of South Carolina.

4. Gillon was appointed commodore of the South Carolina Navy on 11 Mar. 1778. Charles Oscar Paullin, *The Navy of the Revolution, Its Administration, its Policy and its Achievements* (Baltimore: Burrows Brothers, 1906; reprint ed., Haskell House Publishers Ltd., 1971), 435.

LIEUTENANT DE VAISSEAU FRANÇOIS-MARIE, CHEVALIER DE KEROULAS DE COHARS
TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

Monseigneur

St. Domingue 4 mars 1778

depuis le compte que jay eu l'honneur de vous rendre a la fin de decembre concernant ma croisiere, et le collouque que jay eu avec une frégate angloise, elles discontinuent de tant aprocher nos cottes et des qu'elles nous aperçoivent elles virent de bord au large. le trois fevrier a neuf heures du soir et de nuit, une gaulette vint a nous a toutes voiles qui nous ayant aproché de tres prés nous hella d'abord en anglois, et ensuite d'un ton fort imperieux, nous demandâ par deux fois en bon françois, qui nous etions. ma reponssse fut de luy sinifier que s'il ne m'envoyoit son canot sur le champ j'allois tirer dessus, ce qu'il exécuta a la letre fort deconcerté de sa meprise; il m'avoit pris pour un marchand et se préparoit sans-doute a le traiter suivant leur usages journalier c'est a dire fort durement; c'ettoit un corsaire de dix pierriers nommé le *vixen* comandé par un offissier de la frégate le *Soubtanton*,¹ il se nome M. Sterlin² il vint luy-meme a bord avec un autre; apréz leurs avoir reproché leurs véhémences je demanday au Capitaine sa Commission qui n'ettoit autre-chose qu'une letre Sous Sing privé du capitaine garnier montant le *Soubtanton*;³ la défectuosité de cette Commission joint a ce qu'il n'etoit qu'a deux lieux de terre, et que la route qu'il faisoit l'en aprochoit encore, tout me déssida à l'arreter, elles ont été souvent avertye de n'en pas aprocher; je la menois au môle St nicolas d'ou il fut dépéché un courier au général,⁴ pour pouvoir Concerner Sur le party à prendre a ce Sujet; le general passant alors au môle m'invite à la mener au port au prince ou l'*inconstante* revenant de la jamaïque pour pareil sujet, luy aporloit une réponse de l'amiral,⁵ la gaulette a été renvoyée pour recevoir dorénavant elle et toutes les autres des commissions en regle; je n'ay pas moins signifié a celle-cy en la renvoyant que si je la trouvoy tres prez des terres françoises qu'elle seroit bonne prise et confisquée. jay traité de mon mieux les trois officiers qui y etoint les ayant eu a diner et a souper prez de trois semaines qu'a duré leurs detentions, ce qui n'a pas dependu de moy.

Chacune des frégates en croisiere dans ces parages ont au moins deux de ces mouches qui désolent nôtre commerce par leurs mauvais traitements, et souvent même leurs brigandages les marchants qui ont été rencontrés a [*illeg.*] mer nous en portent des plaintes journellement. a l'un on luy a pris sa boussole, à l'autre sa carte, et a beaucoup differentes espece de vivres: mais toujours des retards de cinq a six heures, et il est rare qu'ils n'en rencontrent qu'un; voicy Monseigneur, la dernier déposition qui m'a été fait: une espece de petit batiment pour Cabotage, que nous nomons houary, allant d'un port à l'autre, ses papiers bien en regle, est forcé par une tempete de se refugier dans un port de l'isle de Cuba, ou les espagnols le traitèrent parfaitement, et pour la Sureté de sa navigation et pour sa Subsistance, car on luy donna des vivres et tout ce qui luy ettoit d'absolûe nécessité, le tout gratis. le lendemain il fut encore jeté sur la même terre, et [*illeg.*] dans une petite baÿe non habiteé pour attendre un tems favorable. Un instant apréz un corsaire anglois de quatorse canons y mouilla aussi, qui envoya aussi-tot des gens armés à bord du françois lesquels aprez avoir dépouillé batû les gens de l'equipage emporterent presque tous leurs vivres et apréz mainte insultes dechirerent son pavillon françois. le capitaine de ce houary se nome jean farouche né maltais; il n'a pu me donner d'autre enseignement concernant ce corsaire dont le capitaine nomoit

dit-il guillaume. des traits de cette nature sont indignes et malheureusement tres frequents, les plaintes qu'on porte a la jamaïque sont inutiles, on y renie tout, même l'incursion averée, de jean rabel,⁶ je tiens cependant des officiers anglois qui ettoient dans la gaulete que jay areté, que c'ettoit la frégate l'*winchelsea* de trente deux canons Capitaine bateman:⁷ le convois arivé en janvier a la jamaïque n'est presque rien deux frégates et deux corvettes faisoient seules leurs escortes; et elles n'ont en toutes que deux cent hommes de troupes de recrûes.

Jayourny, pour le travail de l'*inconstante*, mes charpentiers tous mes calfats et même de l'équipage ce qu'il en a demandé, nous etant rencontrés M. de Cuverville et moy de l'avis de n'employer les gens du comerce que dans les cas d'absolûe necessité, ce sont la je pence, Monseigneur, vos intentions: il seroit bien avantageux que les frégates qui viennent passer un an dans les colonies fussent carennées de frais en partant de france, pour eviter en outre de plusiers evenements qui en peuvent resulter, celuy d'etre obligé de les faire carenner icy, ou l'on fait payer au roy tres cherement le moindre besoin encore ne trouve-t-on pas toujours ce dont on ne peut se passer: aussi suis-je bien occupé à prevenir et à éviter a sa majesté aucun frais que ne soit forcé, et jusqu'a present jay été assés heureux pour n'avoir aucun evennements facheux que la force du vent et de la mer, m'ont fait craindre plusiers fois; et mon equipage Continue à se bien porter: Nous sommes tous icy dans l'attente du suplement de vivres qui doit nous estre envoyé, jay encore dans la *dédaigneuse* des vivres jusqu'au neuf avril, on m'a sinifié que si sous ce tems-la il n'en arrivoit pas, on seroit obligé d'en acheter; jay representé a M. l'intendant, combien ce double emplois seroit onéreux au roy l'achetant icy tres cher, il est persuadé ainsy que moy qu'il m'en sera arrivé sous ce tems-la:

M. de beaumont à des-armée de la *dédaigneuse* le premier mars, il passe en france pour un mariage avantageux:

M. dargout m'a invité à employer dans mon etat-major M. de St Julien,⁸ Enseigne de v^{au} resté malade apréz le départ de la frégate du roy l'*indiscrete* ou il etoit armé, je n'ay pas crûe devoir m'y refuser, l'ay compris, si vous l'approuvé, comme surnuméraire, ainsy que vous aviez employé M. de beaumont:

je finis, Monseigneur, en vous supliant de vouloir-bien me continuer vos bontés et agreér les sentimens de reconnaissance du plus profond respect avec lesquels je suis Monseigneur [&c.]

Ch^{er} de Keroulas de Cohars
à bord de la frégate du roy la dédaigneuse
en rade du port au prince, partant pour sa
croisiere sur le môle St nicolas, ce 4 mars
1778.

[Translation]

My Lord

St. Domingue 4th March 1778

Since the account which I had the honor to convey to you at the end of December concerning my cruise, and the encounter that I had with an English frigate, they discontinue to approach our coasts as much and when they discover us they change course toward the open sea. On 3 February at nine in the evening and at night, a schooner came to us under full sail, which, having approached very near, hailed us in English, and then in a very imperious tone demanded twice in good French who we were. My response gave her notice that if she did not send her

ship's boat immediately, I would fire upon her, which she executed to the letter being very disconcerted by her mistake; she had taken me for a merchant ship and was prepared without doubt to treat me according to their daily practices, that is to say very harshly; she was a privateer of ten swivel guns called the *Vixen* commanded by an officer of the *Southampton*;¹ he was named Mr. Sterling;² he came on board himself with one other; after reproaching their vehemences, I asked the captain for his commission, which was nothing other than a signed letter taken from Captain Garnier on board the *Southampton*;³ the imperfection of this commission together with his ship being only two leagues from land, and her course which made her approach closer brought me to determine to seize her, they have been often warned not to approach so near; I took her to Môle Saint-Nicolas, whence I sent a courier to the general,⁴ in order to be able to confer on the course of action to take on this matter; the general, then staying at the Môle, invited me to carry her to Port-au-Prince where the *Inconstante*, returning from Jamaica, carried a response to him from the admiral⁵ concerning a similar subject; the schooner was sent back to receive, from henceforth, she and all the others, proper commissions; I nevertheless signified to him, in sending him back, that if I found his ship very near the French coasts that she would then be a lawful prize and condemned. I treated as best I could the three officers who were here, having provided them dinner and supper the nearly three weeks that their detention lasted, over which I had no power.

Each of the frigates cruising in these waters has at least two of these tenders which distress our trade by their bad treatment, and often even their acts of plunder. The merchants who have been boarded at sea complain of it daily. From one, his compass was taken, from another, his chart, and from many, different kinds of victuals: but always delays of five or six hours, and it is rare that they meet no one; here is, My Lord, the last deposition made to me: a type of small coasting vessel, which we call a wherry, going from one port to another, its papers in good order, is forced by a storm to take refuge in a port of the island of Cuba, where the Spanish treated him perfectly, both for the safety of his ship and for his subsistence, for they gave him victuals and everything that was absolutely necessary, and all without charge. The next day, she was again cast onto the same shore, in a small, uninhabited bay, to await more favorable weather. A moment later an English privateer of fourteen guns anchored there also; she immediately sent armed men on board the French vessel, who, after having plundered and beat the crew took away almost all their victuals and after many insults tore up the French flag. The captain of this wherry is named Jean Farouche, Maltese-born. He was not able to give me any other information concerning this privateer, whose captain's name he said was William. Acts of this nature are infamous and unhappily very frequent, the complaints that are carried to Jamaica are useless, there they deny everything, even the confirmed incursion at Jean Rabel [*Bay*].⁶ I learn, however, from some English officers who were in the schooner that I seized, that it was the frigate *Winchelsea* of thirty-two guns, Captain Bateman.⁷ The convoy which arrived in January at Jamaica is almost nothing, two frigates and two corvettes comprising their sole escort; and they have only two hundred soldiers on board.

I furnished, for the work on the *Inconstante*, my carpenters, all my caulkers, and even some crewmen which he requested, we having met M. de Cuverville, and I advised him to employ the people of trade only in cases of absolute necessity; these are, I think, My Lord, your intentions. It would be very advantageous for the

frigates which come to spend a year in the colonies to be freshly careened before sailing from France, in order to avoid further events that could happen to them, among them to be obliged to be careened here, where the least need costs the King dearly, still one does not always find what one cannot do without: also, I am very concerned to prevent and preclude from His Majesty any expense that is not required, and up to the present I have been rather happy not to have had any inopportune events which the force of the wind or sea have several times caused me to fear; and my crew continues well; we are all here in eager expectation of a supplement of victuals which ought to be sent to us; I have still in the *Dédaigneuse* victuals to last until the ninth of April; I have been told that if within that time none has arrived, we shall be obliged to buy some; I have represented to Monsieur the Intendant how onerous this double employment would be; buying it here is very dear; he is persuaded as much as I that some will arrive within that time.

M. de Beaumont left the *Dédaigneuse* the first of March; he is going to France for an advantageous marriage.

M. d'Argout has invited me to employ on my staff M. de St. Julien,⁸ Enseigne de Vaisseau, who remained here ill after the departure of the King's frigate the *Indiscrète* did not believe I should refuse; I have enrolled him, if you approve it, as supernumerary, in the same way that you employed M. de Beaumont.

I conclude, My Lord, in asking you kindly to continue to me your goodness, and accept the sentiments of gratitude and of the profoundest respect with which I am, My Lord [&c.]

Chevalier de Keroulas de Cohars

On board the King's frigate the *Dédaigneuse*
in the road of Port-au-Prince, departing for
a cruise off Môle St. Nicolas, this fourth
day of March 1778.

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fols. 74–75. Notation at top of first page: "M de F[leurieu]"; "Ch^r de Keroullas de Cohars/La *Dédaigneuse*."

1. H.M. frigate *Southampton*.

2. Archibald Sterling, master's mate of frigate *Southampton*.

3. Capt. William Garnier, commanding H.M.S. *Southampton*.

4. Robert, Comte d'Argout de Neritiers, governor general of Saint-Domingue.

5. Vice Adm. Clark Gayton, commanding the Jamaica Station.

6. See NDAR 10: 618, 629, 636–38, 719–21, 741–42; and Vice Admiral Clark Gayton to Philip Stephens, 14 Jan., Governor Comte d'Argout to Governor John Dalling, 16 Jan., Governor John Dalling to Governor Comte d'Argout, 31 Jan., and Vice Admiral Clark Gayton to Governor Comte d'Argout, 2 Feb., above.

7. Capt. Nathaniel Bateman, commanding H.M. frigate *Winchelsea*.

8. Jean-René-César de Saint-Julien-Chambon.

March 5

THE INDEPENDENT CHRONICLE, AND THE UNIVERSAL ADVERTISER (BOSTON),
THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1778

Boston, March 5, 1778.

Arrived at Dartmouth [*Bedford in Dartmouth*], some Time last Week, the Sloop *Providence*,¹ John Rathburn,² Esq; Commander, with a valuable Prize Brigantine,³

mounting 14 Guns, cut out of the Harbour of New-Providence; where he landed with 28 Men, marched up to the Fort, in Sight of 300 Men under Arms, took Possession of it; from thence, went to the Prison, released from their Confinement, about 30 American Prisoners, captured about as many British, tarried in the Town⁴ three Days, then made good his Retreat, without any Loss, after spiking up the Cannon, stripping the Magazines of all the Powder, being about 1600 wt. &c.

1. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

2. Capt. John Peck Rathbun.

3. Ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master, which *Providence* captured on 27 Jan.

4. Nassau, Bahamas.

ADVERTISEMENT OF A LIBEL FILED IN NEW HAVEN MARITIME COURT

[*New Haven*]

A Libel being preferred to the Honorable Elihu Chauncey, Esq; Judge of the Maratime Court for the County of New-Haven, in Favour of Peter Griffing, and his Company of Rangers, commissioned by his Excellency Jonathan Trumbull, Esq; Governor of the State of Connecticut, against the Schooner *Parker*, William Cole, late Master, burthen about 10 Tons, taken from the Subjects of the King of Great-Britain, in a Harbour of Long-Island by said Griffing and his Company in February last, and afterwards brought into the Port of New-Haven, with her Cargo. The Court for the Trial of the Justice of said Capture, will be holden at New-Haven, in New-Haven County, at the State-House, on the first Tuesday of April next; of which this Notice is given to all concerned, by Order of the Judge of said Court.

John Whiting, Register.

March 5, 1778.

Connecticut Journal, 11 Mar. 1778.

THE CONNECTICUT COURANT, AND THE WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER, TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1778

FISH-KILL March 5.

By a gentleman from the Eastward, we are informed that the week before last, Colonel Symes of New Jersey with four men, in a whale boat crossed over from Guilford to Long Island: When understanding a number of vessels were cast a way on the Island, they formed a design to seize some of the goods belonging to one of them, accordingly they five, with fixed bayonets, in the dead of the night surprised the house where the freight of one of the vessels were stored, made the master['s] mate, three sailors, and two tories prisoners and loaded their whale boat with part of the vessels cargo: they took 9 gold and 9 silver bound hatts, 60 pair of English shoes a chest of medicine a box of glass and earthen ware 24 steel plate cross cut saws a barrel of cofee, another of rum 1 doz. silk handkerchiefs 1 doz. buckskin gloves and many other valuable articles, and returned safe to Guilford with their prize.

PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD TO PRESIDENT THOMAS WHARTON, JR.

Sir

Trenton March 5th. 1778

The Board received a letter from General Washington, desiring us to take out the cannon &c^a. from the gallies, and then carry them to a creek and sink them, a copy of which letter your Excellency has enclosed.—¹

The gallies are now fitted and some fallen down as low as Bordentown, and had not a spel of bad weather come on they would have been at Burlington. The people on both sides the river are very uneasy, and fear they shall be plundered if the gallies do not protect them, and as we can compleatly man six or seven of the gallies we think they will protect the river and prevent any of their craft from coming up to plunder the towns and inhabitants along the shores, which they certainly will if the gallies are totally laid by. If they are laid by all the vessels at Bordentown will soon be destroyed as two or three small boats may easily do it. The Generals letter we shewed to Governor Livingston² who advises by no means to sink the gallies. We have sent this of by express to your Excellency praying your advice and order on this matter. How we shall remove the Cannon I cannot tell, as we can find no carriage to carry them. M^r Pancass³ was here some time ago, and said he would send some travelling carriages to us, but we have never heard any thing more from him. If your Excellency would send to Colonel Flower,⁴ and ask him to forward the carriages down, we could then easily remove the cannon I am by order of the Board [&c.]

Signed W^m. Bradford

Copy, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "Copy/ Col^o. W^m. Bradfords letter to Council." Printed in *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st. ser., vol. 6: 332.

1. See General George Washington to Pennsylvania Navy Board, 2 Mar., above.
2. Gov. William Livingston of New Jersey.
3. Capt. David Pancoast, Flower's Artillery Artificer Regiment.
4. Col. Benjamin Flower, Flower's Artillery Artificer Regiment.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Thursday, March 5, 1778

The Committee on the Treasury, to whom [*was referred*] a letter of the 25 February, from the Board of War and Ordnance, relative to the allowance of clerks for the said office, report, "that considering the unavoidable expences of the officers attending Congress, and that capable and confidential persons should be obtained for the purpose, they are of opinion,

"That seventy-five dollars a month be allowed to the clerks in the secretary's office; the same to the first clerks in the offices of the Board of Treasury, of War and Ordnance, and the Marine Board; and that sixty-five dollars a month be allowed to second clerks in the said offices:

"That Belcher P. Smith and John Thaxter, clerks in the secretary's office, receive the pay of seventy-five dollars from the 6th of February last:"

Resolved, That Congress agree to the said report. . . .¹

FOUR O'CLOCK, P.M.

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be instructed and directed, to revise the commission and instructions heretofore ordered to be given to the commanders of privateers and letters of marque and reprisal, and the resolutions

heretofore passed, relative to captures by sea, and report such a form of a commission, and such instructions, as they judge proper and suitable to our present circumstances.

JCC 10: 223, 225.

1. DNA, PCC, item 136, vol. 2, p. 123 (M247, roll 145).

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. SOLEBAY, CAPTAIN THOMAS SYMONDS

March 1778

D^o. [Cape Henry] N 68:26 W^t. 24 L^{gs}.

Thursday 5

at 2 AM gave Chace to a sail to leeward fired a nine pound Shot & b^t too a Schooner from Boston to Virginia took her in tow having Exchanged her Men¹

D^o. N 68:42 W^t. 33 L^{gs}.

Fresh Breezes & C^r at 5 PM wore Ship

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/909.

1. The schooner is not named but was taken into Hampton Roads on 6 Mar. in company with *Senegal*. She is probably schooner *Newport*, John Groce (Gross), master, which was condemned on 10 Apr. 1778 by the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and credited to *Solebay*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 68. *Newport*'s prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/410/11, which describe her as being from Massachusetts bound to Virginia.

NOTICE OF REWARD FOR DESERTERS

Beaufort, March 5.

Notice is hereby given that the commander of the ship *Ferdinand* promises a reward of twenty five dollars to any person or persons who will take up any French sailor or sailors that may run away twelve miles from said ship, and deliver them to the commanding officer at Beaufort, who will likewise pay the necessary expence.

D. Cottineau.¹

North-Carolina Gazette (New Bern), 27 Mar. 1778.

1. Denis-Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen, master of ship *Ferdinand*.

THE SOUTH-CAROLINA AND AMERICAN GENERAL GAZETTE, THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1778

CHARLESTOWN, March 5.

LAST week a brig from Boston for this port was chased ashore a few miles to the northward of Sullivan's Island by a ship and a sloop. Three of the enemy's ships have of late been frequently seen from town.¹

Capt. Steele informs us, that the schooner *Lewis*, Capt. Rowan, from this port for the Mississppi, was carried into New-Providence by the crew on the 17th of last month. One Diamond was then master, and had been the principal ringleader. They gave out, that they had put Capt. Rowan and Capt. Pickles² (who they said was supercargo) ashore at the Matanzas, on the coast of Cuba.

1. H.M.S. *Carysfort*, H.M.S. *Lizard* and H.M.S. *Perseus*.

2. Capt. William Pickles of New Orleans. See *NDAR* 9: 97n-98n; 10: 266-67, 560.

Longitude du Méridien de l'Île de Fer.



Map of the western part of the United States

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber at
Pensacola on Thursday the 5th day of March 1778—

His Excellency acquainted the Board that he had Convened them in Consequence of farther Intelligence he had received respecting the Transactions of the Rebels on the Mississippi Whereupon John Watkins of the Walnut Hills (about 35 Leagues above the Natchez) who came express with the particulars was called before the Board and gave the following Information upon Oath

Information upon Oath of John Watkins of the Walnut Hills in the Natchez District Yeoman taken at Pensacola before His Excellency Peter Chester Esquire Captain General and Governor in Chief of His Majestys Province of West Florida in Council

This Informant saith that on Wednesday the 18th of February last about 10 oClock at night Two Small Barges came to the landing place belonging to His Plantation Situated on the River Mississippi about 35 Leagues above the Natchez at a place called the Walnut Hills and landed a party consisting of about Forty men Commanded by one Strodder Supposed to be a Lieutenant and one M^cIntyre said to be an Ensign in the Rebel Service. that these men came directly to his House and Seized four Persons named Robert Welsh, John Richmond Marshall Henry Earnest and John Earnest who were all in the employ of Colonel Stuart the Superintendant That the Rebels bound these people with Cords and repeatedly Swore that they would put them all to Death as they were in M^r Stuarts Service in the Indian department and in particular Robert Welsh he being an American Born They then Seized this Informant & Examined him whether he received any Kings pay and upon being answered in the Negative they told him it was the better for him That they informed him the River was full of Boats: That they afterwards compelled him to take the Oath of Neutrality as they Termed it threatning otherwise that he should share the same fate with the other men—That he accordingly did take the oath in the following Words (or as near as this Informant can Recollect) "You do Swear that you will not take up arms against the United States that you will give no bad talks to the Indians and that you will not send any Letters so help you God." Upon his taking which Oath The Ensign M^cIntyre gave him a Certificate in the Words following "I do hereby Certify that John Watkins hath taken the Oath of Neutrality in the dispute between the United States and Great Britain" Tho^s. M^cIntyre That they next sent for an old Chactaw Indian who hunted for this Informant and who was encamped at a Short distance from his said House and upon his coming to them Strodders the Lieutenant gave him the following Talk "We are come down to take Possession of these Lands and we must look upon each other as Children from the same breast for we alike till the earth Tell this to your Nation and also that we desire them by no means to kill a white Brother be he of what Country he may Whether English French Spaniard or american and in particular tell them that if they lift the Hatchet against us Rifle men of America, we never will Bury it," that they soon after went away with their Prisoners having first Plundered this Informant of his Rifle Gun two Smooth bored Fusils & one Pistol, That their whole stay at this Informants place was about Two Hours

And this Informant farther saith that on the next morning (the 19th) about day break a Second Party Consisting of about Sixty Men in one large Batteau mounting Swivils¹ and four Canoes under the Command of James Willing (formerly an Inhabitant of this Province who Ranked as Captain and also another Captain whose name this Informant does not Recollect passed his House laying upon their Oars and drifting with the Current That Willing hailed him asking whether he had any Indians or any People in the Kings Pay at his House and threatened to hang him upon the highest Tree in the Woods if he should be found to Harbour such people That a Canoe then came on Shore with five Men who walked up to his House among whom was one Michael Hoopock a Man well known to this Informant as a Trader in the River Mississippi who had been taken by this party at Aux Arcs with all his property and had joined them in hopes to Recover it at New orleans That this Hoopock told this Informant that the party said they had Embarked at Fort Pitt as did also the first That these Two parties consisted of one hundred Men who gave themselves out as an advanced party of Two thousand men who were to come down the River in May That this advanced party when they arrived at New orleans intended to Try their Prisoners and that he (Hoopock) was in hopes he should be enabled to recover his property there—And farther that they declared that all those Prisoners whom they Should take Employed in the Indian department or who had been deserted from their Service Should be put to Death without reserve And this Informant farther saith That the said Canoe after laying about half an Hour went away And that the next day he set off through the Chactaw nation for this Town and arrived here Yesterday And farther saith not—Sworn in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola this 5th. day of March 1778
before his Excellency in Council
Attes^{ur} Rich^d Combauld D Cler. C:

His Excellency then desired the advice of the Board whether he should apply to Cap^t Garnier of His Majestys Frigate *Southampton* to remain here with his said Ship for the defence and Protection of the Province untill such farther Intelligence can be obtained of the Strength and designs of the Rebels as may render that measure unnecessary—

The Board were unanimously of Opinion that His Excellency should make that Application and the following Letter was then wrote by the Governor—

Sir

In my Letter of the 2^d Instant I acquainted you with the Information which I received from M^r Walters² & William Burns respecting the Party of Rebels who Surprized the Ship *Rebecca* at Manchack and made Several of the Inhabitants at that Place Prisoners on their Parole—Since which I have obtained farther Information of their Numbers and proceedings from a M^r Watkins an Inhabitant of the Province who lives at the Walnut Hills about 35 Leagues above the Natchez & have Inclosed to you His Information this day taken upon Oath before His Majestys Council I also send you an Extract of a Letter from Lord Germain to me dated 25th. January 1776 together with a Copy of His Lordships Letter dated Whitehall 22^d January 1776 to the Lords of the Admiralty also the Extracts of Lord George's Letter to me of the 7th. February and the 2^d July 1777.³

The above mentioned Inclosures will Convince You that it is my Duty from the Information received to apply to you, which I do by the advice of His Majestys Council, to remain here, with the *Southampton* for the defence and Protection of the Province, untill such farther Intelligence can be obtained of the Strength and designs of the Rebels, as may render that measure unnecessary. I have the Honor to be &c.

P. Chester—

To which Letter his Excellency soon after received an answer as follows—
Sir.

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of Your Letter of Yesterdays date, inclosing the deposition of John Watkins together with four Extracts from Letters of Lord George Germain & a request to me to remain here with His Majestys Ship *Southampton* under my Command for the defence and Protection of the Province

After having maturely considered the said Deposition together with those of Mr Walters & W^m. Burns, I cannot find the Number of Rebels to consist of more than one hundred, & those in two different Parties; from the Steps that your Excellency (together with Mr Stuart Superintendant of Indian Affairs) has already taken of Sending one Thousand Indians together with a Party of his Rangers to the Nitabani⁴ reinforcing Lieut: Burdon with an officer and 25 Men from His Majestys 16th Regiment, to Guard the Pass of Manchack and His Majestys Ship *Sylph* commanded by Captain Ferguson up the River Mississippi, I cannot think You have any thing to fear from such a Party of Men—at all Events His Majestys Ship under my Command drawing near Seventeen feet Water, could not act unless the Province was attacked by Sea—if Your Excellency has any Suspicion of that or can point out to me in what the *Southampton* can be of any Service, I will readily Comply with your Request, on the other hand as I know Ships to be much wanted at Jamaica unless you can give me such Information, I must proceed to put my former orders in Execution—I have the Honor to be &c.

Southampton

W^m Garnier—

Pensacola March 7th. 1778⁵

But I would recommend it to you to get a Small Vessel drawing little Water & as the *Florida* Sloop is unfit for Service I will put her men and Guns on Board, and send her up the Lake to the Pass of Manchac—

And then the Board Adjourned—

D, UKLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, 251–54.

1. Probably Continental Army boat *Rattle Trap*.

2. Thomas Walters, supercargo of ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.

3. UKLPR, C.O. 5/592, 129–32; NDAR 3: 524; UKLPR, C.O. 5/593, 61–68, 277–82.

4. Natalbany River.

5. Evidently an error for March 5th.

COLONEL JOHN STUART TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]

Duplicate N 22.

My Lord

Pensacola March 5th 1778

... Some of the Principal great and small Medal Chiefs of the Chactaws have just left me, this Nation is extreemly well attached and much devoted to the Kings

Interest. Whilst they were here M^r Bethune¹ my Commissary received the letter a Copy of which I have the Honour to submit to your Lordship, the Intelligence contained in it I immediately communicated to Governor Chester,² I am sorry to say that it did not prove entirely groundless, for on the 1st. Instant M^r Walters,³ a young Gentlemen concerned in Trade arrived here in five days from Manchac, on the Mississippi by whom we were informed that two Rebel Batteaux under the direction of a M^r Willing⁴ came down the Mississippi so rapidly that they reached the Settlements without being discovered.

The Chactaws as mentioned in M^r Perrys Letter had returned to their Villages and were to be replaced by a fresh Party consisting of about fifty M^{rs} Perry and Welsh⁵ their Conducters remained at their Station at the House of a M^r Watkins⁶ about 30 Leagues above Natchez, a man extremely well affected to Government and upon the Night of the 18th Ultimate they were Unfortunately surprised and made Prisoners together with two others employed along with them. On the 19th in the Morning the Rest of the Party arrived at M^r Watkins's house consisting in the whole of about One hundred men, At Natchez they seized several Persons well affected to Government, from thence they proceeded down the River seizing & Plundering in their way all those whom they understood to be friends to Government, they arrived the 24th Ultimate at Manchac in the Morning, so Rapid was their Descent that they surprised the Village and made the Inhabitants Prisoners before they had any information of their approach. My Deputy M^r Henry Stuart was then there with a few Indians on their way to this Place, the first object of the Rebels was to seize a Ship then Lying at the Bank (Loading for London) with Sixteen Guns and a number of Swivles, which they effected without the least opposition.⁷ Their next Object was to apprehend M^r Stuart of which they happily failed, for he found means of making his Escape, and is said to have taken refuge [*refuge*] in the Spanish Fort where he is protected. But of this I expect a very particular Acc^t from himself by the first opportunity.

The Rebels fell down the River with their Prize to New Orleans, Governor Chester will inform your Lordship of the steps he has taken in consequence of this intelligence; and I have the Honour of submitting to your Lordship the orders which I sent to M^r Charles Stuart my Deputy and M^r Bethune my Commissary in the Chactaw Nation, I do not doubt but every step will be taken by them to recover the Settlements upon the Mississippi.

The Party of Rebels who are come down give out that they are to be followed by a Body of Two Thousand in May next.

Captⁿ Pearis⁸ of the Loyal Refugees with Twenty five Men which is as many of his Company as are at Present fit for Service, is embarked to give what assistance he can to the Settlers upon the Amit,⁹ who have abandoned their Plantations and are retired to the Nitalbani,¹⁰ and upon his arrival there I hope he will be Joined by such a body of Chactaws as will enable him to recover Manshac, for further particulars with respect to this invasion I beg leave to refer your Lordship to Governor Chester. Upon the whole I think it rather to be lamented that the Inhabitants in the Mississippi District have not been formed into A Militia, under the Direction of such Persons as could be confided in. . . .

I beg leave to assure your Lordship that no attention or exertion in my Power shall be wanting totally to Defeat the present invasion of the Rebels upon the Mississippi; and to forward His Majestys interest in every part of my Department.

I have the Honour to be [&c.]

John Stuart

L, UKLPR, C.O. 5/79, 112–15. Eight paragraphs of this letter are not printed here. They relate the activities of Indians in Col. Stuart's district. Addressed at the foot of the first page: "The Right Honorable Lord George/Germain His Majestys Principal Secretary/of State for the American Department. &c^a &c^a." Docketed: "Pensacola 5th March 1778./M^e Stuart./ (N^o. 22.)/R, 6th July/(Dup-Orig^l not reced/(4 Inclosures.)/Ent^d."

1. Farquhar Bethune, Indian Deputy and Commissary.
2. Gov. Peter Chester.
3. Thomas Walters, supercargo of ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.
4. Capt. James Willing, Continental Army.
5. Hardey Perry and Robert Welsh, settlers in the Natchez District.
6. John Watkins, plantation owner at Walnut Hills.
7. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.
8. Capt. John Pearis.
9. Amite River.
10. Natalbany River.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO DON BALTASAR DE VILLIERS

[March 5, 1778]

I have received the communication of the 25th of last month from which I learned of the arrival at that place of Mr. Willing with a party of Americans after having captured the English post of Concordia.¹ I trust in your zeal and prudence in knowing what measures to take to prevent the attacks of the Chickasaw Indians, on account of the aid you gave those Americans.

As soon as I see Francisco Farg Jones and Antonio Generaces, I shall punish them because they misused the passport that you gave them in that they were dealing with the foreigners, thus betraying the confidence you had in them.

God guard Your Lordship many years.

NEW ORLEANS, *March 5, 1778.*

BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

Señor DON BALTASAR DE VILLIERS.

Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1945, Vol. 2, *Spain in the Mississippi Valley, 1765–1794*, edited by Lawrence Kinnaird, Pt. 1, *The Revolutionary Period, 1765–1781* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1949): 256. De Villiers was the Spanish commandant of the Arkansas district.

1. Concord, or Concordia, to be distinguished from the settlement called Concordia on the Spanish side of the Mississippi across from Natchez, was apparently on the English side in Illinois Country, for on 2 Feb., fourteen English settlers wrote Gálvez from the Spanish Arkansas Post petitioning for protection, stating that they "upon their arrival at the English side found the Place called Concord abandoned and understood that Captain Willing left Orders that nobody should remain there." Quoted in Charles R. Smith, *Marines in the Revolution: A History of the Continental Marines in the American Revolution, 1775–1783* (Washington: History and Museums Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, 1975), 184.

ALEXANDER ROSS TO COLONEL JOHN STUART

Copy of a Letter from M^r Alexander Ross to the Honorable John Stuart Esq^r
dated at New Orleans march 5th. 1778.

Dear Sir,

I did myself the honor to write to you some time ago from this Place, to which I beg your Reference—The following Intelligence is of so much Importance that I have thought it my Duty to send it to you by Express, in Conjunction with M^r Campbell, least you have not yet had a true Account of the matter.

The 19th. of February a Party of Americans supposed to be about two hundred arrived at the Natchez under the Command of a M^r Willing. They seized the Inhabitants who being without Protection were obliged to Capitulate; a Copy of the Capitulation will be herewith sent you.¹

The Inhabitants lower down the River have not been so fortunate they have seized and destroyed all of their Properties that they could find, and obliged them to fly for Protection to the Spaniards. Your Brother had a very narrow Escape being obliged to fly in his Shirt to the Spanish Fort at Manchac where he now is very safe; They offered a considerable Reward for him, some say a thousand Dollars, but altho' the Commanding Officer there was only a Corporal he behaved nobly, and told them since he was under Protection of the Spanish Flag he would defend him with his last drop of Blood; the Governor has approved much of his Conduct on this Affair and is determined to promote him.

They have cleared all the English side of the River of its Inhabitants, and nothing to be seen but Destruction & Desolation. By mere Accident I escaped with my few Negroes, but I shall lose every thing else; a Party has been sent after me some Days who will I suppose play the same Game on the Lakes, that they have done on the Mississippi. So that this flourishing Province may be said to be abandoned for want of Protection. Its truly shocking to behold so many worthy People who have been ruined by a Banditti for no other Crime than their Loyalty. They were promised Protection in your Province and they fled to it. But I cannot help saying they have been most shamefully neglected. But I am persuaded you & Colonel Dickson² will exert yourselves on this particular Occasion to prevent these Robbers escaping with Impunity.

One or two hundred Regulars with as many Indians would in my Opinion be very sufficient to give a very good account of them.

They give out, and it is pretty generally believed, that above five thousand will be down in the Spring May, & that they are determined to have Pensacola, so that it will be necessary to have a pretty strong force on the Mississippi and well fortified.

They have taken several Vessels in the Rivers and those that escaped are under the Protection of the Governor here, who I believe feels on this occasion for the unhappy English.

I have got a few Negroes here and wish to have your Advice what to do with them.

I know not what to do I am really in a very unhappy and a disagreeable Situation.

The hurry I am in will I hope apologize for the Inaccuracy of this Scrawl.

In the mean time I beg leave to assure you that I am [&c.]

Signed. Alex^r Ross.

Copy, UkLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, no. 989 (2). Docketed: "Copy/Alexander Ross Esq^r/to/The Superintendent/ New Orleans 5th. March 1778."

1. For the text of the capitulation, see Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 17 Mar., below.

2. Lt. Col. Alexander Dickson commanded a detachment of the 16th Regiment of Foot of the British Army at Mobile.

CAPTAIN SIMEON SAMSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Port St^r Pears Martineco

5th March 1778.—

Sir

This being the first Opportunity I have had of Writing your honor since I saild from Townsend this may serve to Acquaint you of the small success of the Brig^a: *Hazard & Tyrannicide* during our Cruise we have taken three Prizes laded wth. Fish & Lumber &c the Particulars of which you will see by the Inclosed Mem^o: w^{ch}. we sent for this Port but were so unlucky as to have the two first of them Retaken the last is Arrived here and is Disposed of by the Agent M^r Hutchinson¹ who has treated me very kindly and in my Oppinion is much of a Gentleman and deserving of the Commission he has from the state—After we took the last Prize above Mentiond we steard for the Western Islands and then for the Coast of Portugal and Cruised there untill we found the weather so Bad and having nearly lost my Rudder w^{ch}. I with much difficulty saved as the head was split and it other ways much damaged that I was obliged to quit the Station and stear for Madaera where we Cruised some time & meeting with no success put away for the Windward Islands & Cruising there sevrul Weeks with the like success and our Vessells being Verry Foul and our Water & some species of our Provisions nearly Expended I thought Proper to stear for this Port where we Arrived 22^d Feb^y last and have not seen but one British flagg flying during our Cruise w^{ch}. was a Frigate that we fell in with a few days before our Arrival here, w^{ch}. we bore away for and discoverd her to be a Six and thirty gun Frigate w^{ch}. we not thinking proper to Engage sheard from her w^{ch}. she perceiving gave us Chase but we run her out of sight in three or four hours I have since learn'd she was the *Deal Castle*.²—The *Hazard* prooves to be an Excelant Sailor and is a good Sea boat and Works kindly every way. During our Cruise we spoke with and Boarded a number of Vessells w^{ch}. all Prooved to be French Spanish Dutch Portagee and Deans &c all of which we examined strictly

We are now Prepareing to heave down to clean and Expect to be Ready to Sail next Week my Intention is to Recruit wth. Provisions & Water for a three Months Cruise dureing w^{ch}. time I hope to make up for our Bad success hitherto—As I never have lost sight of my Consort the *Tyrannicide* dureing our Cruise we expect to keep Company untill our Return to Boston

I do not think it best to acquaint you where we Intend to Cruise for fear of my Letter being Intercepted—but Remain S^r [&c.]

Simⁿ Samson

[Enclosure]

Mem^o: of the Prizes taken by the Brigantines *Hazard & Tyrannicide* belonging to the State of the Massachusetts Bay
—Viz

13th Dec^r 1777 Took The Brig^a. *Alaxander* James Waddie Master from

Halifax bound for Jamaica . . . ab^t 120 Tons

Cargo³ Viz^t—

140 Hh^{ds}. Fish

22 Tierces ditto

106 Shook Hh^{ds}.

3 Hh^{ds}. Herrings

2,600 Staves

2390 feet Boards

15 bb^r Mackrell

3 Tierces & 2 bb^r Salmon

6 bb^r Herrings

50 bundles Hoops

4 Casks qt: 1 Ton of Oil

22^d Dec^r 1777 The Schooner *Good intent* Will^m: Dashpar Master
from Harbour Grass Newfound Land bound to Dominica . . . ab^t 45
Tons⁴—Cargo Viz^t—

75 Hh^{ds}. Cont^g Six hundred Q^{ds}. Fish

169 Bundles Hoops—18 Shook Rum Puncheons

23 Decem^r 1777 The Brig^a. *Polly* Walter Stevens
Master from S^t Johns Newfoundland for Barbadoes ab^t 180
tons . . . Cargo⁵ Viz^t—

284 Hh^{ds}. Cod Fish 50 bb^r Herring 4,250 feet Boards

20 Casks Oil...24 Bundles Hoops—

6 Bags Cont^g 360^{lb}. Feathers—

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 199 (Revolution Letters, 1778), pp. 28–31a. Addressed at top of first page: “Hon^{ble}: Sam^l: Pkps Savage.” There is a similar letter, misdated 5 Mar. 1777, in M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 57, pp. 300–04.

1. William or Godfrey Hutchinson.

2. See Journal of H.M.S. *Deal Castle*, 18 Feb., above.

3. Brigantine *Alexander*. See NDAR 10: 725.

4. Schooner *Good Intent*. See NDAR 10: 768.

5. Brigantine *Polly*. See NDAR 10: 779.

WILLIAM AND GODFREY HUTCHINSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Sir./

S^t pieres M/Que March 5th: 1778.

The foregoing is Copy of ours to Cap^t Freeborn.¹ We have now to acquaint you the Brigan^s: *Hazard* & *Tyrannicide*² arrived here the 21st instant & that we are giving them the needful Assistance & shall Dispatch them as speedily as possible. they are in want of many Articles & their Supplies we fear will far exceed the proceeds of the prize they have taken.³ After their Departure we will render you regular Acco^s. of our proceedings. In the meantime we remain very respectfully Sir./

W^m & G Hutchinson

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 205 (2d. ser., Revolution Letters, 1775–1783), p. 328a. Addressed below close: “Sam P: Savage Esq.” There is another version of this letter in M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 57, p. 299.

1. Capt. Isaac Freeborn, commanding Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*.

2. Massachusetts Navy brigantines *Hazard* and *Tyrannicide*.

3. Brigantine *Polly*, Walter Stevens, master. See NDAR 10: 779, 779n.

March 6

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 6th 1778

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver Cap^t Bartlett² for Brig *Favorite*,³ one Cord Wood & ten pounds Tallow.—

Order'd, That M^r Joseph Hall deliver Cap^t Bartlett for the Brig *Favorite* all the New-England Rum in his hands & return the quantity.—

Order'd, That Cap^t Fisk⁴ of Salem deliver Cap^t Bartlett for Brig *Favorite*, a Boat from Brig *Massachusetts*.⁵—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers⁶ pay Mary Reed Thirteen Pounds Ten Shillings, for advance Wages to Nath^l Couzens a Seaman on Board Ship *Adams*.⁷—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 244–45.

1. David Devens.
2. Capt. Nicholas Bartlett, Jr.
3. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
4. Capt. John Fisk, former commander of the brigantine *Massachusetts*.
5. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.
6. Thomas Ivers.
7. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO CAPTAIN CHARLES FEILDING, R.N.

Copy,

By the Viscount Howe, Vice Admiral
of the White, and Commander in Chief
of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels
employed and to be employed &c. in
North America.

Whereas His Majesty's Ship under your Command, together with the several Ships of War and Armed Vessels named in the Margin,¹ is intended to be employed for the better Security of the Port of Halifax, and necessary restraint upon the rebellious Inhabitants of the New England Provinces attempting to put to Sea from the different Ports thereof, with intent to distress the Trade or otherwise to injure the property of the Kings well affected Subjects, And also to prevent the Assistance attempted to be furnished by Foreign Powers, in Ships, Arms, Ammunition and other Stores requisite for enabling them to continue their opposition to the re-establishment of His Majesty's Authority in those Colonies. And whereas the chief direction of the said Ships will upon your Arrival at Halifax, devolve on you, in the Absence of a Senior Officer; You will therefore have regard in the conduct of those Services to the following General Instructions.

You will be to appoint the Stations and suitable Employment of the Naval Force under your orders, for the annoyance of the Enemy, which you are by every means to pro[mote] with Effect, to the utmost of your Power. And as upon consulting and advising with the Lieutenant Governor, or other Chief Magistrate for the time being in the Province of Nova Scotia for the Defence thereof (or for co-operating with the Commander in Chief of the Land Forces in what relates to his Department) you shall judge to be most advisable in those respects; But in the Disposition of the Ships for these purposes, the Port of Halifax should not, but

upon the best assured propriety of the measure, be left without one of the two decked Ships, for the occasional protection of the Magazines and Stores.

A particular Attention will be necessary in these Views, to any preparations the Enemy may intend on the Western Shore of the Bay of Fundy, for making incursions on the opposite Coasts of Nova Scotia, Or on the Settlements at Fort Cumberland, and the parts adjacent thereto, And to the more considerable Armaments, the Rebels are reported to have in contemplation at Boston and Portsmouth: In each of which Ports credible Advice has been received, that they are building a Ship of Dimensions equal to a third Rate, That, at Portsmouth, it is supposed will be finished in the ensuing Month of May:² But, the other (in all probability) not until a long time after, if it is meant ever to perfect the Construction thereof.³

The Guns and principal part of the Furniture of the first, are said, to be daily expected to arrive in a French Ship from Europe.

You will be to appoint the Ships with which you may be at any time provided, to such Stations, for intercepting the Ships sent with Supplies to be landed at Boston and the New England Ports as from Intelligence procured, or the Observations of the Captains employed, you deem most likely to be productive of the intended Effect. And regard being had to the number of Ships the Rebels are endeavoring to procure from Europe, It will be expedient, so to regulate your disposition of the Ships stationed on the New England Coasts, that the Frigates so appointed (two at least keeping at all other times together) may be supported by either of the larger Ships, under your Orders, Which it will be requisite to appropriate alternately for the same Service.

Captain Griffith⁴ or the Senior Officer for the time being at this Port, is directed to apprise you, as he has opportunity of the Stations assigned for the Ships under his Orders, with the same Intention. And You are to acquaint him in like manner, with the Arrangements proposed by you, for your mutual accomodation.

The Captains stationed off of the New England Coasts, will be to avail themselves of the Knowledge they may gain respecting the most probable means for intercepting the Ships of the Enemy passing to and from those Coasts. And also regarding the use to be made of such proper places of Anchorage as they may discover on the Coasts of the Northern Provinces, in case it should become necessary to have recourse thereto, on any emergency, or for preventing the disadvantage of being forced from their Stations in the Winter Season: Being to inform me of the Reports made to You from time to time in those respects.

With regard to the Stations to be taken in the Bay of Fundy and other Parts of the Province of Nova Scotia, as well as the Island of St^t John's; the regulations in the concerns of the Victualling, Hospital, and other Civil Duties of the Port of Halifax; In matters either still in progress, or conditional to take place; You are referred to the Instructions which have been given thereon at different times to the Senior Officers commanding there in Succession, for your information and guidance. You are to correspond with Commissioner Arbuthnot⁵ and furnish him with the most seasonable Intelligence, You at any time acquire, regarding the different Branches [of] the King's Service, committed to his direction. And when you shall have occasion to apply for Stores for the Ships under your Orders, in any repairs and refittings necessary thereupon, You are to conform to the requisitions of the

Commissioner regarding the Dispatch and regulation of those Services, appertaining [to] his department, acquainting him moreover with the notice you have received therein; and apprising the Captains of the Ships not before acquainted with this Injunction, that they may likewise have due regard thereto under the same Circumstances.

In case by the Capture of any trading Ships of the Rebels or Ships Armed for War, you sho'd be encumbered with a number of Prisoners not inclined to enter for the King's Service, you are permitted to Exchange them against any British Prisoners, Officer for Officer claiming equal Rank in the Armed Vessels of the Enemy, and Sailor for Sailor of Ability to serve in the Fleet, as on a proffered communication for that purpose, with the disaffected Inhabitants of the Colonies having British Captives in their Possession, you find them disposed on those conditions to release. But if being then at Sea and unable to make such advantageous Exchange, you are likely to be compelled to quit your Station unseasonably on that Account; Or that the Commanders of any of the Ships under your Orders, should ever be in the same Situation, You are respectively permitted to land such Prisoners (not being His Majesty's European Subjects or taken in Arms) in the Provinces most convenient with reference to the general purpose of your appointments, endeavoring however to obtain an Engagement, that an equal Number under the same Circumstances shall be released, when claimed in future: Persons of Descriptions other than as before mentioned made Prisoners by the Rebels are also to be exchanged in like manner, for those in similar characters. But all British Seamen taken in the Service of the Rebels (not having deserted from any of the Ships of War) may be retained involuntarily, to serve in the Fleet. Deserters are to be reserved for Trial at a Court Martial, for such breach of their Duty and Allegiance.

In the Distribution of any able Seamen procured, care is to be taken, that the less qualified Men, belonging to Ships furnished with such able Seamen, are not selected and discharged from such Ships Books to their Supernumerary Lists; For being turned over into other Ships as is frequently practised on similar occasions, to the great prejudice of the general Service.

If therefore when you Muster and Inspect the Qualifications of the Men (which you are at seasonable opportunities to do) you shall find that any Supernumeraries have been so improperly transferred in the Ships under your Orders, You are to direct the replacing of them to the Complements of the Ships respectively: My Intention being in all Instances, when it is necessary to complete the Complements of Ships from such Drafts, to have the Men so assorted amongst the several Ships, that the number of the more or less serviceable Men, may be the more equally divided.

Complaints having been some times made that the Men in Ships arriving from England, are much inferior in Quality to the Rates given with them, when they were first received, The Captains deeming themselves restrained from the Liberty of altering those Rates according to the actual pretensions of the Men; You are on such representations signified to you to examine (in conjunction with the Captains or other Officers whom you shall see fit to call to your assistance on that occasion) into the circumstances thereof. And you are to cause such change to be made in the disproportioned Rates (pursuant to the Intentions and Order of the

Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty thereon) as upon due inquiry touching their respective Abilities, you judge fit.

You are to transmit to me by every suitable conveyance, an account of your proceedings regarding the several Objects of your present Appointment; A Return of Captures made by the Ships under your Orders, and Disposition or Service, on which they have been appointed as in the Forms annexed; Together with the Condition of them, as any change of circumstances happening from time to time thereof may require: Distinguishing on the back of the last, in what manner Supernumeraries belonging to no Ships were procured, with their Qualities and the Names of the Ships to which those being part of the Complements of other Ships belong. And you are further to acquaint me, with any Intelligence you acquire, concerning the Operations and Designs of the Rebels, for strengthening themselves in their illegal resistance, with the measures You deem most effectual to prevent the Success of their Endeavors; And every other Information you have procured, by which the benefit of His Majesty's Service may be promoted in any respect. But if any occurrences in the Division of the Fleet under your Command; The particulars you obtain respecting preparations making by the Rebels, for fitting or putting to Sea with Armed Ships in Number and Force; Or any other Advice regarding their measures and conduct, coming to your knowledge, appear of sufficient Moment to merit the speedy Notice of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty; You are not to neglect any favorable opportunity to communicate the same immediately by Letter to the Secretary, for their Lordships earliest Information. When you shall proceed to Sea in the Ship you Command for the purpose of carrying any part of these Orders into execution, you are to leave with the Senior Officer remaining in the Port of Halifax, for the time being, attested Copies of such parts hereof as may be necessary for his Instruction and Government in the several Instances as before recited, during your Absence.

Given on board His Majesty's Ship the *Eagle* at Rhode Island the 6th. day of March 1778.

Howe

By Command of the Vice Admiral

Josh^h. Davies

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 400–406. Addressed flush left below signature: "To/Captain Charles Feilding/Commander of His Majesty's Ship/the *Diamond*, Or the Senior Officer/for the time being at/Halifax." Docketed: "N^o. 8./Copy of Orders given to Captain/Feilding for his Conduct in the/Command of the Division of/the Fleet stationed at Halifax./Dated 6th. Mar^h. 1778./In Vice Adm^l. L^d. Howe's Letter/Dated 25th. Oct^r. 1778." Enclosure no. 8 in Vice Admiral Viscount Howe's letter to Philip Stephens, 25 Oct. 1778.

1. The ships named in the margin are *Centurion*, *Raisonable*, *Rainbow*, *Ambuscade*, *Blonde*, *Scarborough*, *Vulture*, *Hunter*, *Albany*, *Hope*, and *Cabot*.

2. A 74-gun ship of the line, later named *America* and completed in 1782.

3. An unnamed 74-gun ship of the line, building at Boston, which was never completed.

4. Capt. Walter Griffith, senior officer commanding at Newport.

5. Rear Adm. Marriot Arbuthnot, commissioner of the Royal Navy dockyard at Halifax and lieutenant governor of Nova Scotia.

PAY ROLL OF CONNECTICUT NAVY SLOOP *DOLPHIN*

Sloop *Dolphin* to Robert Niles¹ for Sundry Persons Wages by him Paid "Viz"

1777				Dr.
Robert Niles Master	f ^m Sept ^r 27 th . to March 6 th . 1778	5 mo. 7 Days @ £20		£104..13.. 4
Frederick Calkins Mate	f ^m Oct ^r 12 th . to Feb ^y 25 th . —	4 mo 13 ^D @ £10		44.. 6.. 8
Peter Jeffers Carpt ^r	f ^m Nov ^r 14 th . to Mch 2 ^d . —	3 m 16 ^D — @ £10		35.. 6.. 8
John Leseur	f ^m Oct ^r 3 ^d . to D ^o . 5 th . —	5 mo 2 ^D — @ £9		45..12..—
John Paterson	f ^m No ^v 15 th . to Feb ^y 24 th . —	3 mo 9 ^D — @ £9		29..14..—
Cornelius Savage	f ^m Oct ^r 6 th . to M ^h 6 th . —	5 mo 0 ^D — @ £9		45..—..—
Zefeniah Hatch	f ^m No ^v 14 th . to D ^o . 2 ^d . —	3 mo 16 ^D — @ £9		31..16..—
Abner Bebee	f ^m D ^o . 13 th . to D ^o . 2 ^d . —	3 mo 17 ^D — @ £9		32.. 2..—
Joseph Webb	f ^m D ^o . 26 th . to D ^o . 2 ^d . —	3 mo 4 ^D — @ £4		12..10.. 8
James Treet	f ^m Dec ^r 26 th . to Feb ^y 24 th . —	1 m 28 ^D — @ £6..12		12..15.. 3
Lawdin Higgins	f ^m D ^o . 29 th . to D ^o . 18 th . —	1 m 20 ^D — @ £2..8		4..—
				£397..16.. 7
By one Months Pay in West Indies				<u>101..—..—</u>
				£296..16.. 7

D, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 12, p. 332.

1. Captain, Connecticut Navy.

6 MARCH 1778

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JOHN CORYELL TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Honoured S^r

I Re^{cd}. yours of the 1st instant the third at night & am Determined to serve you according to your Directions If Possable the Badness of the weather has hindered me to proceed on with any more Boats Since my Last but Expect to Start the Remainder in two or three days that I now have at my Ferry & when they are gone I will go after the Rest I am afraid I Cant Bring up any Cannon in the Flat Boats If Ther should be any Durn boats¹ below as I Expect There is I Kno I Can Bring up Cannon in Them and will I have ingaged a number of Brave watermen for the Purpose & I am d^r S^r [&c.]

Jn^o CoryellCoryells Ferry March y^e 6th 1778

PS There was a number of peaceis of Duck Left at My place I had to press Sleds to move them to Reading & I Kept one for the use of My Self & men: If it Cant be Spared it is not Cut I will send it on

J C

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "Coryells Ferry 6th March/1778/from/John Coryell—."

1. *Durham boat*: A flat-bottomed boat, from forty to sixty feet in length, with a beam of eight feet and a draft of twenty inches, originally designed to carry iron ore and freight on the Delaware River. They were fitted with two masts and sails, and were propelled by poles. Alfred Hoyt Bill, *The Campaign of Princeton, 1776–1777* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1948), 28–29.

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE OF IMPORTED GOODS

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Just arrived in Cape Lookout bay, from France, the frigate FERDENAND, mounting 36 guns, with 200 men, Monsieur de Gatinau,¹ one of the king's officers, commander, who has imported the following goods, which will be sold at the town of Beaufort, Carteret-County, on the 12th day of March next, viz.

Nails of all sizes, blankets of all qualities, woollen cloth of all sorts, woollen, thread, and silk stockings, woollen and thread night caps, woollen and cotton cards, sweet oil, window glass, wine glasses, sewing thread and silk, twine, paper, green tea best quality, nankins, mercery ware, medecines of several kinds, linnen, sail cloth, black pepper, loaf sugar, fine and common salt in hogsheads and bags, silk and thread handkerchiefs, hats, Burgundy, Madeira, and Bordeaux wine, Coniac brandy, shoes, rum, leather, rope and cables, shirts and sheets for hospitals, umbrelloes, calicoes, coffee, milinary ware, pins and needles, buttons for uniforms, cordials, harpsichord and violin strings, gold watches, silk gown patterns, cambrick, copperas, hard ware, plumes for ladies and officers, paintings of all colours, gold and silver shoulder straps for officers, &c. &c.

North-Carolina Gazette (New Bern), 6 Mar. 1778.

1. Denis-Nicolas Cotineau de Kerloguen.

CAPTAIN THOMAS JORDAN, R.N., TO GOVERNOR PATRICK TONYN

(Copy).

Galatea off S^t Marys 6 March 78

Captain Fanshawe¹ having thought proper to order the *Galatea* under my Command to remain upon this Coast, to act in consort with the *Hinchinbrook* and

Rebecca, in order to prevent the Rebel force from advancing by the inland navigation towards St Augustine.

On consulting Lieutenant Ellis,² and Mowbray³ I find the *Galatea* cannot be got into St Marys⁴ without the utmost risque, but they inform me Frederica⁵ will afford much more Water, and she if got into that port may be placed so as to prevent the advance of any Force to the Southward, for this reason I think it right to take the *Hinchinbrook*, or both with me for a few days as circumstances may require, as they inform me should the Rebels be passed Frederica before we get there, that they together can scour the inland Navigation down to St Mary's, and the *Galatea* be placed so, that if possible to get them between us.

I shall consult Colonel Brown⁶ upon this head, and collect every information I can relative to them, and request your Excellency will give me as early as possible any intelligence, that may enable me to defeat the designs of these Invaders.

I think if we can stop them at Frederica it will be much better than suffering them to advance so far on as this. I beg leave to assure your Excellency my endeavours shall not be wanting upon this or any other occasion, and I am upon all Your Excellencys &c

(Signed) Tho^s Jordan

Copy, UkLPR, C.O. 5/558, fols. 129–30. Docketed: "East Florida/Copy of a Letter from/Captain Tho^s Jordan/of the *Galatea*/to/His Excellency/Governor Tonyn/N^o. 1." Docketed in another hand: "In Gov^t Tonyn's of Ap^l 28th. 1778/N^o. 54." See Governor Patrick Tonyn to Lord George Germain, 28 Apr. 1778, UkLPR, C.O. 5/558, fols. 127–28.

1. Capt. Robert Fanshawe, R.N.

2. Lt. Alexander Ellis, R.N.

3. Capt. John Mowbray.

4. St. Marys River, Fla.

5. Probably St. Simons Sound, Ga., into which the Frederica River flows from the northward.

6. Lt. Col. Thomas Brown, East Florida Rangers.

OLIVER POLLOCK TO THE CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE

(Copy)

Sirs

New Orleans 6th. March 1778

I had the Honor of receiving Your's by Express sent by Cap^t James Willing the 4th. Inst^t, dated the 21st. Nov^r, covering Copies of a Letter from the Secret Committee of the 12th. June, as also of Your's 24th. October. The whole of which I have perused, and take this Opportunity of returning You my sincere thanks, for the Honor you have done me in placing Your Confidence in me as Your Publick Agent in this Part of the World. And You may depend there is nothing in my power but shall be done to perform my Duty in that Station. I have delivered Your Letters to the G— [Governor], and am now geting them translated properly, but as this Vessell is just going off, I have read them over & Communicated the Contents to him, which he is well pleased with, and still disposed to serve You, therefore rest assured every thing You desire shall be put in Execution immediately. I have now proper hands upon the look out for Goods & Boats, but you have omitted inclosing the List for the former, & for this I must be governed by Cap^t Willing who I expect in a Day or two. I have the pleasure of inclosing You Copy of the Capitulation the chief of the Inhabitants made with him at the Natchez,¹ and since this, Lieu^t M^cIntyre has taken a Ship mounting 16 Guns, at Manchack;² as also several Boats

with Indigo & Peltries & Negroes, which are arrived here, & which I have got the Go-s leave to dispose of—

M^cIntyre has also taken a Brig^t below, loaded with Lumber for Jamaica.³ I cannot now possibly give you an exact Account of The Prizes, as they are not yet unloaded, and some not yet arrived; but I believe upon the whole they are considerable, and be assured I shall make the most of them for Your Interest.

With respect to the Bills you got from Mess^{rs}. Willing Morris & C^o., I have now wrote their R[obert] M[orris], and furnished him with the Acco^{ts}., by which he will find I have reduced the Balance largely by Remittances to France & Cape Francais, but this shall not prevent your being supplied with what You call for, as the G. . . . has promised to assist me with some Cash tho' he has not as yet received any orders for so doing; the Remainder I shall make up out of the Prizes, & my own Stock & Credit shall be immediately employed. I do not know yet whether I can get the Boats dispatched under Spanish Passports, or not. If I cannot get this done, I will have them Manned & Armed as you order, as in all Probability they will be attacked by a Party of White Men & Indians they may send from Pensacola, but we shall be provided to receive them, as I am now engaging a parcel of resolute Batteau Men well attached to the Cause, and shall make all the Expedition possible. Pickles's Brig^t is here,⁴ but I am affraid it will not answer to send anything by Sea, as I expect a Frigate round from Pensacola every moment, which will search all Vessells outward bound, but this I shall determine on, & consult with the Gov— about, and do the best for Your Interest. I am happy to find you have been so successful in this last Campaign, and hope you have obliged Howe to surrender before now, or leave the City of Philadelphia, After this is done I think it will be highly necessary, to establish Forts on the Mississippi, with a proper force to support your Trade up the River, otherwise you cannot expect Boats to go back & foreward unmolested after this Expedition. I observe the Carriage of Your Flour comes high, but notwithstanding this, if once a proper Trade is fixed, & that you are sure of its coming safe, and geting the necessary Returns as you want them, this inconveniency or extraordinary Expence, must be put up with during the present times, as You cannot depend on any Supplies you order by Sea. Flour is now worth 12 Dollars & 200^{lb}., and I can dispose of very large quantities at this price, and the sooner in my opinion you fix Your Correspondance in France (so as to order all the Light Goods you want this Way) the better. Even Liquids, such as Claret, Taffia & Rum, may be sent up on very good Terms. This being the needfull till I get the Batteaus dispatch'd, by which I shall write you fully; Permit me to have the Honor of assuring You Sirs, to be with the greatest Respect & well wishes for your Safety.—Yours &^{ca}.

Copy, DNA, PCC, item 50, pp. 205–7 (M247, roll 64). Addressed at the foot: "The Hon^{bles}./Robert Morris William Smith/and Henry Laurens Esq^{rs}."

1. For the text of the capitulation, see *Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida*, 13 Mār., below.

2. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.

3. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.

4. Brigantine *Norton*, William Pickles, master.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ARIADNE*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PRINGLE

March 1778

Barbados S^o. 8 Leagues—

Friday 6

First & latter parts squally, middle Fresh Breezes.

At 7 AM saw a sail bearing ENE, made the Signal & gave chase.

The *Ceres* in Company—Barbados NW $\frac{1}{2}$ N 25 Leagues

First and middle parts squally with showers of Rain, latter moderate & fair. at 3 PM came up with the Chace, proved to be the *Grenville* Packett from Falmouth who had an Engagement on the 4th Ins^t with a Rebel Brig Privateer of 16 Guns,¹ during which the Mail with Letters shott away.—² The *Ceres* in company.—

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/60.

1. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*, Capt. Samuel Chew, commander.

2. See Governor Thomas Shirley to Lord George Germain, 12 Mar., Governor Valentine Morris to Lord George Germain, 12 Mar., and Governor Edward Hay to Lord George Germain, 27 Mar., below.

March 7

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 7th 1778—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers¹ pay Cap^t Bartlett² his Portage Bill and Account of disbursements for the Brig^t *Favorite*³—

£234..11.. 7—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 245–46.

1. Thomas Ivers.

2. Capt. Nicholas Bartlett, Jr.

3. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL OF WAR TO CAPTAIN NATHANIEL CODDINGTON

In Council of War

Sir,

Providence March 7th. 1778.

You being appointed Master of the Sloop *Diamond* in the Service of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations and now fitted for Sea and ready to Sail, Our Orders to you are to embrace the first favourable Opportunity of Wind and Weather and Proceed to Sea and make the best of your way to such Port or inlet in the State of Maryland as by getting all possible Information you shall find is safest, and least infested by the Enemys Ships of War, and on your arrival at such Port you are to value yourself upon some Merchant of eminence and Reputation and to request that they purchase for you on Account of this State a Lading of Flour or other Provisions; and for the Amount of such Cargo as they may purchase and lade on board said Sloop you are hereby authorized and fully empowered in behalf of this State to draw Bills upon the Honble William Ellery Esqr. a Delegate for this State in Congress in favour of any Person or Persons for the Amount of

such Sums as they may furnish You with for the Purpose aforesaid, agreeable to a Letter of Credit furnished you by this State bearing even Date herewith.

Having finished your Business in Maryland in which you are to make all possible Dispatch you are then to make the best of your Way to such Harbour in Bosworths Bay¹ or Boston as by getting all possible Intelligence you shall find is most safe, and on your arrival at such Port you are immediately to inform this State thereof by Express.

We earnestly reccommend to you to be very frugal in your Expences and Disburstments, make all the Dispatch you can and above all be very vigilant in keeping a good look out against our common Enemy.

And for your Care and trouble in this Behalf we agree to allow you 90 Dollars per Month as Wages and Twenty barrels Privilege. We Wish you a prosperous Voyage and safe and Speedy Return.

Signed by Order & in Behalf of the Council by

Df, R-Ar, Letters from the Governor (1778–1779), vol. 3, p. 13. Addressed at top: "State of Rhode Island &c./Cap^t Nathaniel Coddington." Docketed: "Rough Draft of Letter of Credit and Orders/to Cap^t Coddington of Sloop *Diamond*/March 7th. 1778." The letter of credit is on the reverse of document.

1. Bosworths Bay cannot be identified; perhaps Buzzards Bay is intended.

THE PROVIDENCE GAZETTE; AND COUNTRY JOURNAL, SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1778

PROVIDENCE, March 7.

Last Week arrived at a neighbouring Port¹ the *Providence* Sloop of War, of 12 Guns, in the Service of the United States, John Rathbun, Esq; Commander. About a Month since Capt. Rathbun entered the Harbour of New-Providence, in the Night, where he landed 30 Men, 15 of which scaled the Walls of the Fort,² by means of Rope-Ladders, and got Possession, where they found only one Centinel; the Remainder of the Party possessed themselves of Hog Island, opposite the Town.³ The Inhabitants were informed next Morning, by a Flag, that their Property would be safe, provided no Attempt was made against the Sloop or her Crew. The same Day the Sloop was driven to Sea by a Gale of Wind, and remained out 16 Hours. On her Return Capt. Rathbun took Possession of a large Ship from Jamaica,⁴ bound to New-York, richly laden, mounting 16 Six and Four Pounders, that had put in there to stop a Leak. A Privateer from Jamaica,⁵ mounting 16 Guns, which had sent several Prizes to New-Providence, arrived in the Harbour, but on receiving a few Shot from the Sloop, she immediately weighed, and went round to another Part of the Island, where her Guns were landed, and placed before the Governor's House. Capt. Rathbun afterwards released 30 Americans from Prison, took about the same Number of British, and burnt a Sloop and Schooner that had been carried in there; he also took Possession of three Sloops,⁶ one of them with a valuable Cargo of Indico and Rice, that had been captured by the Privateer above mentioned. After wooding and watering the Sloop and her Prizes, spiking the Guns in the Fort, and taking out a Quantity of military Stores, Capt. Rathbun quitted the Island, having remained there three Days, and arrived safe in Port in Company with the Ship. One of the Sloops is also arrived.

1. Bedford in Dartmouth (now New Bedford), Mass.

2. Fort Nassau.

3. Nassau, Bahamas.

4. Jamaica letter of marque ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.

5. Jamaica privateer sloop *Gayton*, William Chambers, commander.

6. Sloops *Washington* and *Tryal* and an unidentified sloop. *Washington's* cargo consisted of indigo and rice.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO COMMODORE WILLIAM HOTHAM

Roebuck at Philadelphia
the 7th March 1778.

Sir,

I have been favored with your Letter of the 14th ult^o. by Captain Collins¹ of the *Nautilus*, who arrived here with the Dispatches on the 26th. of last Month. He now has my Orders to return to New York, and is charged with Convoing two Ordnance Transports and several other Vessels bound thither.

The accident that has happened to the *Liverpool* is most severely felt here;² it has so much weakened this Squadron, that the remaining Ships are but barely sufficient to preserve an open Communication with the Sea, and execute the necessary Attendance unavoidable to the particular Situation of the Army. It is therefore that I am obliged to request that you will please to send back the *Nautilus* or some Frigate with the Baggage and Hay Ships which Sir William Howe expects are prepared at New York for this place, it not being in my power at present to send a Ship from hence on that Service.

I do not write to the Admiral by this Conveyance, as I expect his Lordship will have left Rhode Island before the Letter would reach that place.

The Delaware which for some days before the Arrival of the *Nautilus* had been quite clear of Ice, has by the last Frost been again so much filled with it, that the Fleet of Army Victuallers and other Ships going down the River, are still detained at the Wharfs on that account. I am with all possible respect

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Letter Book (1778–1779), pp. 21–22. Addressed at foot: “Commodore Hotham.—”

1. Capt. John Collins, R.N.

2. On 11 Feb. frigate *Liverpool* ran aground and bilged on Long Island. See *The New-York Gazette: and the Weekly Mercury*, 16 Feb., above.

ARTICLES OF SURRENDER OF THE BRITISH ARMY SCHOONER *ALERT*

Copy of the Articles of Capitulation agreed upon Between Cap^t Moore of the Schooner *Alert* in His Britanick Majesty's Service & Cap^t John Barry on the Part of the United States

Every Lady in the Ship is to have their Baggage &c Belonging to their own Private Property—

—
The Lady's are to Be Sent to Philadelphia By the first Conveyance

—
The Men to Remain Prisoners of War 'till Exchanged

—
Dilworth the Pilot to Be held as a Prisoner of War

—
On these Conditions I Deliver up the Schooner *Alert*

—
We the Subscribers Do Severly agree to keep the above Articles Sacred

March 7th. 1778

Daniel Moore Master of *Alert*
 Luke Matthewman Lieu^t.—
 Ratified by Cap^t. John Barry

A True Coppy from the Original

Copy, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4.

CHRISTOPHER LOWNDES TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

S^r

Bladensburg [*Md.*] March 7, 1778

I reced your Excellencys favour of y^e. 26 ult^o. by Captⁿ. Coursey,¹ & am much concern'd I have it not in my Power to furnish y^e. cordage want'd for y^e. *Chester* galley, as I have no Hemp, I have taken every then in my Power to get some, but all were ineffectual, y^e. ten Tonns that were offer'd last Fall, I have heard nothing of lately, but will try what I can do to procure it; y^e. season for purchasing Hemp is not farr of[*f*], but y^e. Price I can form no Judgement of, y^e. Cordage & Cables want'd, agreeable to Captⁿ. Coursey's List, will not be much under six Tonns, if your Excellency depends upon me for y^e. above articles, I will use my endeavours to get Hemp, & likewise on y^e. most reasonable Terms, & when a resolution is fix'd, I shall hope for y^e. favour of a Line, for fear any other Engagement shou'd be enter'd into;

In y^e. Book I kept for y^e. purpose of taking y^e. oaths of allegiance, I made a small mistake, it arose from y^e. following cause, in this neighbourhood, there are three men of y^e. name of James Wilson, y^e. name of one of them is in my Book, who stands there as James Wilson son of Hugh, but it ought to be Ja^s. Wilson, son of Joseph, this I wish to have rectify'd accordingly in y^e. Book I sent to Annapolis I am [&c.]

Chris^e Lowndes

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4585-82. Addressed: "To/His Excellency/Tho^s. Johnson Esq^r/at Annapolis." Docketed: "7 March 1778/Christ^o. Lowndes."

1. Capt. Thomas Coursey, commanding Maryland Navy galley *Chester*.

ORDER OF GOVERNOR PATRICK HENRY

[*Williamsburg*]

The commander of the Sloop *Congress*¹ is desired to deliver M^r. Stewart Holt two good Swivel Guns for public use. Let him not be detained & have four Musquets

P. Henry
 Mar 7th. 1778

L, Vi, Executive Papers, 1777-80. Docketed: "1778/March 7th."

1. Virginia Navy trading sloop, Capt. William Skinner, commander.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Saturday the 7th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick Store, deliver to Lieutenant Michael James for the use of the sailors on Board the Brigantine *Northampton*¹ the following arti-

cles viz. one ounce of thread, nine shirts, one Jacket, five yards stript Cottons, five Caps, six and half yards Cloth, two pair shoes, trimings for a coat and Jacket and cloth for a pair Breeches on his paying for the same.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 361.

1. Virginia Navy brigantine *Northampton*, Capt. Francis Bright, commander.

CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL, R.N., TO CAPTAIN THOMAS SYMONDS, R.N.,
COMMANDER MATTHEW SQUIRE, R.N., AND COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY, R.N.

Sirs, *Emerald Lynn Haven Bay, 7th March 1778.*

Having received directions from Captain Onslow,¹ to proceed with His Majesty's Ships, *Solebay*, *Otter* and *Senegal*, between the Tail of the Horse Shoe Shoal, and the Middle Ground; You are to proceed there in Company with His Majesty's Ship under My Command, and to be placed at equal distances, to effectually stop the passage into the Chesepeak Bay, in order to prevent French Ships, which he has information² are hourly expected; and also the *Virginia*³ and *defence*⁴ Frigates, from going to Sea, which he has also information, intends pushing out the first opportunity: —Whenever occasion offers, that it may be necessary to Chace up or out of the Capes, a Frigate and a Sloop is always to remain at the Anchorage.

In case of Tempestuous Weather, you are at liberty to act as you think proper for the Safety of His Majesty's Ships under your Command; and should you unfortunately part your Cable or be obliged to slip, and drove to Sea, you are to return with all possible expedition, and not to Chace small Vessels without, which may prevent your immediate return to your Station, as great inconvenience may arise to His Majesty's Service from your absence.

Not having My Lord Howes Chacing Flag, Whenever the Quarter or bearing Flag is shewn, it is to be understood you are to Chace. I am [&c.]

B. C

LB, UKLNM, Benjamin Caldwell Papers, CAL/110, p. 21. Addressed at the foot: "To/The Captains/Symonds, Squire/& Molloy."

1. Capt. Richard Onslow was the senior officer commanding the Royal Navy squadron in Chesapeake Bay.

2. The intelligence resulted from the capture of French ship *Vicomte de Veaux*, taken by H.M.S. *Solebay* on 23 Feb. See "Extract of a Letter of Captain Onslow to Viscount Howe," 2 Mar., above.

3. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*.

4. Maryland Navy ship *Defence*.

CAPTAIN JOHN COLPOYS, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG

(Copy) *Seaford E: Harbour [Antigua] 7 March 1778*
Sir

"The 22^d of Feb^r we were so unluck'y as to Spring our Fore mast, which Obligated me to proceed for Carlisle Bay, in order to get it secured, on the Night of the 24th just to Windward of the Bay, a large Sloop, ran a cross our Hause, we gave chase to her for some time, but there being little Wind, we were not able to come up with her. I have since learnt, that she is called the *Tyger*,¹ Commanded by one Bassettea French man, and owned, by a Mon^r Prevot, or Prejean,² of Martinique; She has on board 60 Men all French (one Excepted) he is called the English



"Destruction of the Randolph Frigate"

Captain; She has Cruized for some time as an American Privateer, and has been very Successful, we Killed and Wounded some of her people, and set her Sails on Fire, which I am sorry to say, they had adroitness enough to Extinguish very soon.—

In consequence of the Intelligence I received from a Spanish Sloop that left St^c Lucia the 27th: Ult^o: I thought it advisable to proceed (in my way to Dominica) under the Lee of Martinique, on the 28th: being off the Diamond Rock, we got sight of a Ship to the Westward to which we gave Chase, and followed her close in with Martinique, where we both got a Ground a Little to the Southward of the Bay, where the American Privateers are allowed, to carry in, and sell their Prizes, some of her People Jumped over Board and got on Shore, I sent our Boats on board her, she proved to be the *Hampden*, a Rebel Privateer belonging to Salem, Mounting 14 Guns & Sixty Men, & had Ports for 2 Guns more³—’till we Boarded her I supposed her to be the *Rattle Snake* (the Privateer which has done so much mischief in these Seas) which was my inducement for following her so near the Shore; However, not being within reach of the Guns, of any of the French Batteries, and she proving to be a Vessel which had formerly been taken from us, I thought myself very Justifiable in Bringing her off.—

We were upwards of three Hours, before we were able to get the *Seaford* off, (owing to the Wind being in from the Sea) which however we at length effected, without any other loss then that of Starting our Water, as yet we have no great room to suppose, that the Ships bottom has suffered any thing to speak of, though she gave some pretty heavy Thumps.—when we were luck’y enough to get the Ship off, we were (for want of Wind) drove by the Current, some thing to the North^d: directly opposite a Bay from whence a Battery of several Guns played on us for some time, I have the satisfaction to tell you, that their Shot did us little or no damage, it has several times happen’d to us, as we have past along under the Lee of the French Islands, to be fired at from their Batteries; and that, at times when, we have not been in Chase, and when our Conduct, could not be deemed a Breach of any neutrality; and which I am in Hopes, the Attacking of Rebellious Subjects (where ever they may be found) will not be considered as an infringement of”—

I am Sir [&c.]

Signed/ John Colpoys

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot of first page: “Vice Admiral Young.” Docketed: “*Seaford* 7th March 1778/Letter from Captain/John Colpoys Concern:/ing His proceedings and/the taking the *Hampden*/Privateer.—/(N^o. 3.)/In Adm^l Young’s Letter/Dated 7th. April 1778.” Enclosure no. 3 in Vice Admiral James Young to Philip Stephens (No. 2), 7 Apr., which was received on 22 May 1778 and read.

1. Probably American privateer *Tyger*. See NDAR 9: 986; 10: 113.

2. Cotiney de Prejent. See NDAR 7: 368, 370; 8: 177, 355, 429, 943; 9: 402, 422, 460.

3. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*, John Bartlett, commander. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 28 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. YARMOUTH, CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT

March 1778

Lattitude 13°.. 25' N [*near Barbados*]

Sat^r: 7th

Mod^c Breezes the first and middle parts. the latter little wind and fair. at 5 PM wore Ship and Stood to the N^o.ward, at ½ past 5 discovered Six Sail to the SW. soon perceived them to [*be*] on a Wind Standing to the Southward, two Ships, three Briggs and

a Schooner.¹ we wore and bore down on them Steering for the headmost and largest Ship—about 9 PM came with[*in*] hail of her as our Colours were then hoisted, we bid him hoist his Colours on w^{ch}. he hoisted American, and Immediately gave us his Broadside, which we returned. He kept up his firing very smart for about a Quarter of an hour, and then blew up. it was fortunate for us that we was to Windward of her, as it was—the Ship was in a manner covered with part of her's, a large piece of Timber Stuck fast to the Topgall^l sail. then on the Cap the Trucks on the Flagstaffs at the Maintopgall^l mast, and Mizentopmasthead Carried away Sails and Rigging tore all to pieces &c^a. we had 5 Men Killed and 12 wounded. On this Ship blowing up, the rest dispers'd different ways. and were soon out of sight. we gave chace some little time than bro^t to, to bend other Sails.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/1091, fol. 177.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph* (32 guns), South Carolina Navy ship *General Moultrie* (18 guns) and South Carolina Navy brigantines *Notre Dame* (16 guns), *Polly* (16 guns) and *Fair American* (14 guns) with a prize schooner.

March 8 (Sunday)

GEORGE WILLIAMS TO COLONEL TIMOTHY PICKERING

[Extract]

D^r Sir,

at Boston March 8. 1778

... no fleet come for to demand M^r Burgoine¹ but expected Soon.

no Prises Latly Arrived the Brig *Hamden*² of Salem is Lost all her Mast and got into Martinico. our Shipping a great number Taking this winter, and privertering Turn's out Badly. we have three State Brig's out,³ and we have only one prise of thers into Martinico with Fish.

You mension'd Col^o Carlton⁴ has a mine to go into the Sea Service When he was in the Marchant service it was sayed he did not mine his business, so well as he ought to have dun, was unfortened, so nelected, in a Ship of war no Trading. When I Look on the commanders of our Ships of war,⁵ I often think Carlton would due as well or Better then some others—In our navy Oldist Commander is to have I Suppose the Best Ship. I am Told the continent has a number of Spare commanders now wating for a Ship.

It seames to me we are appointing more Officers then we have Ships, and it will be Sayed of our rulers thay are following the Same Stepes of old England, which I am in hopes will not be the case. . . .

Geo Williams

L, MHi, Timothy Pickering Papers, vol. 17, pp. 108–10. Docketed: "G. Williams/Feb^r 8. 1778." Williams was a member of the Massachusetts Board of War. Pickering was a member of the Continental Board of War and had previously served as colonel and adjutant general to Gen. George Washington from 18 Jun. 1777 until 13 Jan. 1778. The portions of the letter not printed pertain to the provisioning and clothing of the Massachusetts regiments of the Continental Army.

1. A fleet of transports ordered to Boston to embark the army of Lt. Gen. John Burgoyne ("Mr Burgoine") and return them to England.

2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*, John Bartlett, commander, mounting 14 carriage guns, a crew of 60 seamen, was commissioned on 29 Nov. 1777 and was owned by Jonathan Ingersoll and others, of Salem. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, pp. 100, 103. As seen in the letter of Captain John Colpoys, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 8 Mar., above, *Hampden* had been captured by H.M.S. *Seaford* on 28 Feb. See *The Connecticut Gazette*; and *the Universal Intelligencer*, 20 Mar., below.

3. Massachusetts Navy brigantines *Hazard*, *Massachusetts* and *Tyrannicide*.

4. Lt. Col. Samuel Carlton of the 12th Massachusetts Continental Regiment who served from 6 Nov. 1776 until 12 Sept. 1778.

5. Massachusetts Navy.

CAPTAIN TOBIAS FURNEAUX, R.N., TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE
AND THE RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL OF WAR

Hon^d Sirs

Smithfield [*R.I.*] ye March 8th 1778

Having been informed that all the prisoners in this state have been sent down, either on Parole or exchanged (except myself) agreeable to proposal from Lord Howe, beg leave to ask why I was refused that favour as I think it is what I have right to expect, not only from my rank in the service, but as a gentleman, and as my civil treatment to all the prisoners that have fallen into my hand[s] has been such, as to suffer to my knowledge not the value of sixpence to be taken from them tho I am sorry to say I have not experienced the like, having several times seen my private property advertised to be sold in the paper within your juri[s]diction, and when I applied for liberty to come to town to make application to you about it was denied that favour, think with yourselves if I have deser[v]d, this treatment. I Am Hon^l Gentlemen [&c.]

Tob^s: Furneaux

L, R-Ar, Letters to the Governor (1778), vol. 12, p. 32. Addressed at foot: "To/the Hon^l Gov^r and Council/Providence."

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO COMMANDER JOHN ORDE, R.N.

By &c. &c.

Whereas a Fleet of Army Victuallers, Transports carrying Invalids and other Ships and Vessels allowed to depart, are now ready to Sail from hence, and wait only for the River to be clear of the Ice. You are hereby directed to take the said Fleet under your Convoy, and to proceed with them the first favorable opportunity down the river untill you join His Majesty's Sloop the *Nautilus*, when You are to put yourself and the Convoy under the Command of Captⁿ. Collins^l who is charged with the care of Conducting the Fleet to the Capes of the Delaware.

You are to give all necessary Assistance to the Convoy in passing the Chevaux de Frize, and all possible protection from the Insults of the Enemy & their Armed Boats which infest the Mouths of some of the Creeks in the River.

Captain Collins being directed to cause the Ships of the Convoy to be searched for Deserters from His Majestys Ships, and also for other Seamen that may have secreted themselves onboard; You are to be assisting to Captain Collins in this examination, and for the better knowing of the Deserters a Midshipman from each Ship here will be sent onboard the *Zebra*, who are, after the Search has been made, to return to their respective Ships the first suitable opportunity.—

Upon your arrival below the Shoals you are to receive the Pilots out of the different Ships, and when Captain Collins shall have proceeded with his Convoy; You are to take your Station off or within the Shoals of the Brown & the Brandywine for the purpose of giving Assistance to Ships coming into the River, and remain on that Service until You shall receive further Orders.

You are to keep half the number of Pilots onboard the *Zebra*, and the remainder are to be sent back in the Pilot Boats to Philadelphia.—

Given &ca. [*on board the Roebuck at Philadelphia*] the 8th. March 1778.

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), pp. 21–22. Addressed at foot: “Captⁿ. J. Orde/—*Zebra*.”

1. Capt. John Collins, R.N.

CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN TO PRESIDENT OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Gentlemen

Port St^e Piere Martineco March 8th. 1778

I have the Pleasure to acquaint you of my Arrival at this place after an unfortunate Cruize of which I shall endeavour to give you an account.—

The 10th. of December we took our Departure from the Eastern Shore and on the 13th. in Latt^d. of 38.37 Fell in with a Brig^t. from Hallifax, James Wadie Commander,¹ on the 22nd. took a Schooner from Harbour Grace Newfoundland Commanded by W^m. Dasper,² & on the 23rd. fell in with a Brig^t. from St^e Johns Newfoundland Walter Stevens Commander all laden with Fish &ca.³ (as you will see by the Copy of their Manifests herein enclos’d) all which we Ordered to the Island of Martineco but only the last mentioned Vessel arrived the others were both retaken—

After our taking those Vessels we steer’d for the Western-Islands and from thence to the Coast of Portugal at which place we fell in with a Brigantine from Lisbon Portuguese property on board of which we put our Prisoners—while we lay here we had very hard blowing Weather. spoke several French & Dutch Vessels who informed us of their being boarded by English Cruizers almost every Day—while laying too the *Hazard*⁴ Split the Head of her Rudder which much disabled her and the next day we fell in with a British Man of War who chased us off the Coast then we stood for Madeira where we Cruized off & on till we thought our Provision so nigh expended that it was proper to go into Port to refit We had not the pleasure to see a single Sail that we could make a Prize of—the Day that we made Barbadoes we discovered a Ship to the Leeward and gave chase to her but she proved to be a Frigate and when we hauled our Wind she came so nigh as to give us a Broadside without doing us any damage excepting one Shott passing through my Fore-sail she chased us about 5 or 6 Hours and then gave over Chase⁵—then we hauld our Wind for Martineco at which place we arrived the 22nd. of February and are now refitting for another Cruize but will not be prudent to say where considering whose hands those may fall into—

my People have been very sickly ever since I left the Western Islands not many short of Twenty has been sick all the Time & now I have on Shore betwixt Thirty & Forty unfit for Duty—

I Hope yet to make up a good Cruize before I return to America I am
Gentlemen [&c.]

Jon^a Haraden—

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 199 (Revolution Letters, 1778), p. 35. Addressed: "To/Sam^l. Phillips Savage Esq^r/Chairman to the Honb^{le}/Board of War/Boston." Docketed: "Cap^t Harreden Lett^r/Martinico March 8th 1778."

1. Brigantine *Alexander*. See NDAR 10: 725.
2. Schooner *Good Intent*. See NDAR 10: 768.
3. Brigantine *Polly*. See NDAR 10: 779.
4. Massachusetts Navy brig *Hazard*, Capt. Simeon Samson, commander, had accompanied Haraden's *Tyrannicide* on this cruise.
5. H.M.S. *Deal Castle*. See Captain Simeon Samson to the President of the Massachusetts Board of War, 5 Mar., above, and Journal of H.M.S. *Deal Castle*, 18 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. YARMOUTH, CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT

March 1778 Is. of Barbadoes WN^oerly 50 L^s Latitude 13°.. 10' N
Sund^y 8th Light airs and fair weath^r for the most part. Employed as before but chiefly in Securing the Mainmast and Maintopmast all the Stays being shot away, or much wounded,—at 4 PM having got things in tolerable order, made Sail always keeping in or near the Latitude of Barbadoes, looking out for the Irish Convoy, at 8 PM Spoke with a snow from Cork which had separated from the Convoy the day after they Sailed, Supposes the Convoy to be ahead of her

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1091, fol. 178.

March 9

JOURNAL OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL

Monday [*Exeter*] March 9th. 1778

Vote for a Committee to consider of some method to prevent so many good Landmen fit for the army from Entering on board Privateers bro't up^l read and Concurred & M^r Gilman² Added—

LB, Nh-Ar, Council Records, Council Book VIII (1778–1784), 15.

1. This motion was introduced in the House of Representatives the same day. Nh-Ar, Journal of the House (1776–1778), 344.
2. Nicholas Gilman.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. APOLLO, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

March 1778 South end of Nantucket Shoal SWbW ½ W dist. 3 [Lg^s.]
Monday 9. at 6 AM had 60 fath. water, fine green sand [set] the Mainsail, and close reef'd Topsails ½ past 8 saw a Sail to the Westward, out reefs, made Sail and gave Chace, at 11 Set Studding Sails

Ditto [South end of Nantucket Shoal] NNW dist. 5 Lg^s.
 Mod^{te}. Gales and Cloudy, ½ past 3 PM fired a Gun and brought
 too the Chace, shortned sail & [came] too, sent a boat on
 board the Chace, the *Sally*,¹ a Sloop belonging to New London,
 from Martinique, with Rum & Salt, put a Mate and Men on
 board her, received her people, close reef'd the Topsails, at
 midnight had 29 fath. water, white and black Sand,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 8.

1. Sloop *Sally*, Hezekiah Freeman, master, owned by Joseph Williams & Co., from Martinique to New London, with rum, salt, &c., sent to Newport as prize of H.M.S. *Apollo*. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 9th 1778

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver Cap^t Nicholas Bartlett for the Brig^t
*Favorite*² . . . 0^{Cwt}.. 2^{qr}..—^{lb} Bread, & 7^{lb} Sugar—

Ord'd, That Cap^t Hopkins³ deliver Cap^t Bartlett, the remains of the 6 Inch
 Cut Hawser for the Brig^t *Favorite*, and return the weight.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 247–48.

1. David Devens.

2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

3. Capt. Caleb Hopkins.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO CAPTAIN NICHOLAS BARTLETT, JR.

Sir

[*Boston*] War Office March 9th 1778

You being Master of the Brig^a: *Favorite*¹ your orders are to proceed to
 Charlestown South Carolina, and apply to Mess^{rs}. John Cripps & Mey Merchants²
 there to whom you are consign'd who will give you a Cargo of Rice & also supply
 you with money to pay all necessary disbursments

As the Letters you have delivered you for those Gentlemen contain the first sett
 of a Bill of Exchange for eight thousand Dollars you will if you should be so unfortu-
 nate as to be taken on your passage to South Carolina either burn them or throw
 them overboard but not untill you find you must be taken. When you have com-
 pleted your load you are to proceed for Nantes in the Kingdom of France & deliver
 your Letters & Cargo to Mess^{rs}. Morris Pliarne Penet & C^o. who will furnish you with a
 proper Cargo homewards & also supply you with money to defray your Charges &
 pay your Men such advance as have been agreed ~~on~~ but you will be as frugal as possi-
 ble. Upon your return you are not confin'd to this Place but may make the first port
 to the eastward of Boston you can from whence you are to give the earliest Notice to
 this Board by express. We wish you a good Voyage & are Y^r assured Friends

By order the Board

Tho^s. Walker Pres^t P T

I acknowledge the above to be a true copy of the Orders I have receiv'd & promise
 to obey the same

P^r — Nicholas Bartlett Jn^r

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), pp. 438–39.
Addressed at top: “Captⁿ. Bartlet.”

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
2. John S. Cripps and Florian Charles Mey.

JOHN DESHON TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

Gentlⁿ

Providence March 9th 1778

Saturday Evening I Got to this Place

yours of the 3^d and 5th Instant are now before me, in ansuer to the former, Respecting the Ship *Warren* I am happy She so well Succeeded in geting out of this river.¹ Every Circumstance Combined in her Favour that She might [*get*] Clear of the Enemy. the night was Exceeding Dark, and there was but little wind untill the Crittical time of Passing the Greatest Danger, when the wind Shifted very Suddenly into the N. W and blowd Exceeding hard so that the Enemy Could not without the Greatest Difficulty Get under Sail and Persue. I was at Warrick neck and up the Most part of the Night when the *Warren* Passed and am Very Sure it was Imposable for Captⁿ Hopkins² to gain the Port of N. London there being So much wind and the Weather so Severe Cold, there where [*were*] on board the *Warren* ab^t 170 men manny of which had not a Second Shift of Cloaths, therefore it will be Very Diffucult as well as Teadius for Cap^{tn} Hopkins to beat this Course at this Severe Season. the Orders Given him by me, you have with you, which Gives him not the least Encouragement to Cruise. Nevertheless Should the Ship Keep out this three weeks I Shall not be in the least uneasy ab^t her, well Knowin the men in no Condission to Beat a Winters Court, we have Succeeded byound Expectation in Geting her out, and I have not the least Doubt but She will in due time Return with honor to the Commander and his Comp^y

The Ship *Trumbull* must be Got out this month if Posable. we Cannot Expect so full Tides after March is out. I have Given the Necessary order to Captain Saltonstal³ for that Purpose, have furnished him with a Number of men, and 4000 Dollers in that he may Prosecute his Business with Dispatch. N. Shaw Esq^r Declined advancing more money having already advanced 20000 £ for Continant and having So many Calls for money on his own acco^t Said it was out in [*of*] his Powr to advance more untill Such time as he is Reembursed. he has Sent Express to Congress for that Purpose. N. Shaw has Quantety of Provisions and other Stores for the *Trumbull* which he Procured last year.

I have ordered Major Huntington⁴ to Enquire into the Situation of Salsbury Furnice assoon as Con[*venient*], and acquaint the board.

I Shall Transmitt him Certifcates to amo^t of your Order of the 5th Instant. I waited on the Treasurer this morning. have for answer he will do the best he Can, but Says I must take Some Certifcates Some Conecticut Some Rhoad Island and Some Curr^t money or he Cannot answer the Draft. I shall attend him untill I have Got payment, and follow your Directions in the Matter.

The *Collumbus* is not quite Ready Neither has She hands to Carry her out. Captⁿ. Hacker⁵ is in the Country. Shall be able to Give you better acco^t of her after I See him. you Shall in my next hear more ab^t her.

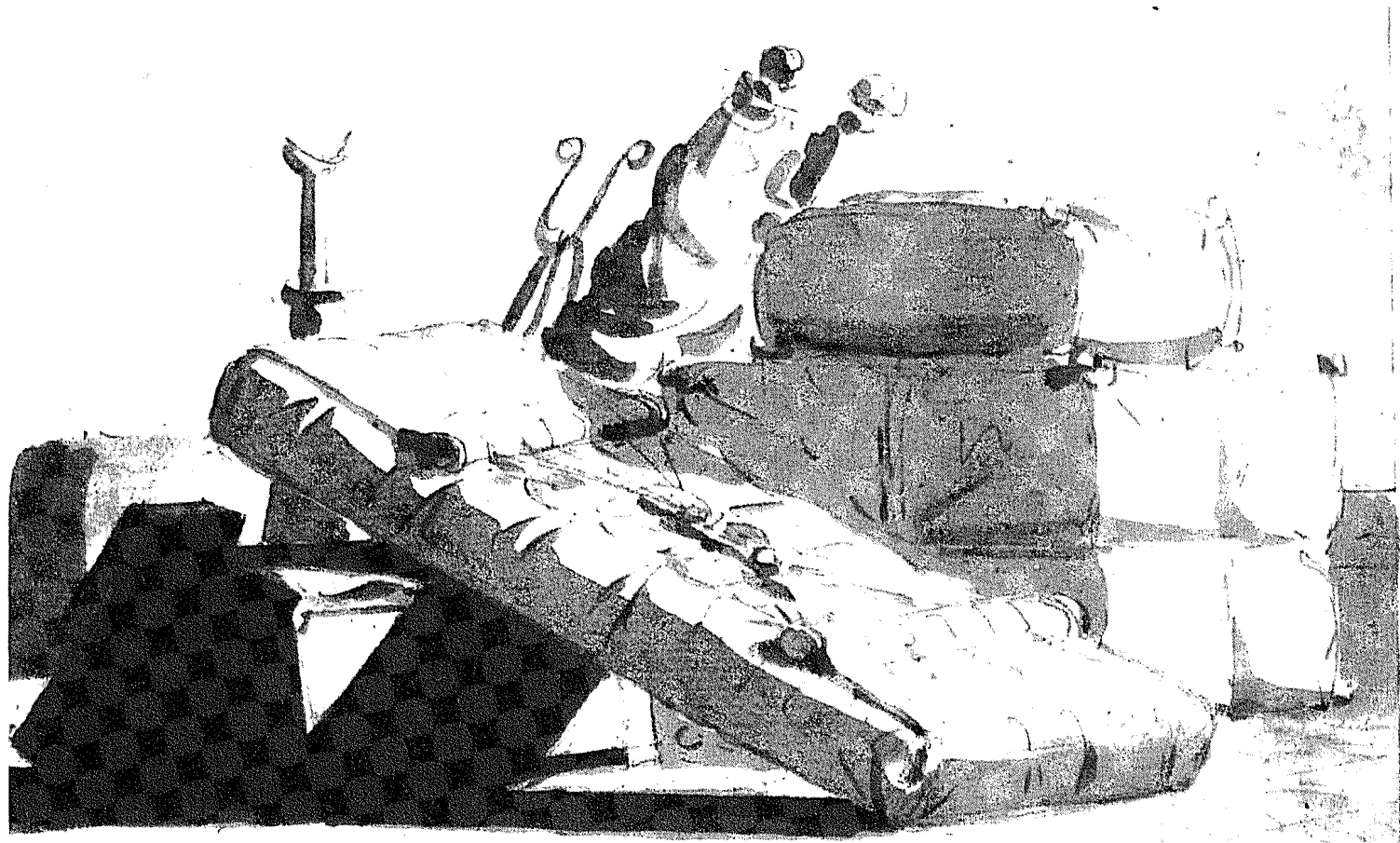
Captⁿ. Whipple⁶ has a fair Prospect of Getting his Ship well mand Very Soon, the terms adopted for that Purpose are as folows,
 Viz^t Each and Every man that will Enter on board S^d. Ship *Providance* for a Cruise Shall Recive adissional advance over and above what is allowed by the Honob^l. Continental Congress fifty Dollers.

this is the only Expediant I Could think of for Speedily maning this Ship, and Should it meet your Approbation I Shall be Very Happy. I am fully Perswaided She Could not be mand on anny better Terms. I have made Particular Enquirey into the Characters of those Gentlemen Captⁿ. Whipple has Recomend^d for his three Lievtendants, and find them fully answer their Recomendation. Captⁿ. Whipple has also Recomend^d Captⁿ. W^m. Joans⁷ for his Captⁿ. of Marines. he is a man well aquanted with the Service having Been in it the most of the War, and has Great Interest in Raising A Comp^y of Marines. his appearance and Character is Such I apprehend as will do Honor to the Service. I being anciously Concern^d for Getting out these Ships assoon as Posable have Promissd M^r. Joans this Captaincy and he is now Enlisting men well Knowing it will have Great Tendancy to man the Ships. if I am too forward in filling up those Vancansys your freindly admonission in the Matter will be Kindly Excepted by me, who I assure you have no Other Interest in those Appointments then what Respects the Publick Good. if you approve you will Pleas to forward Comisⁿ. and warrants for the Several Persons whose Names I here Inclos^d. I hope the *Providance* will be Ready to Sail in 14 Days. if you approve of my filling up the Vacacys of Petty Officers in S^d Ship pleas to Signify it in your next, and with Respect to Vacancys in the Ship *Trumbull* who is Destitute of Some Officers you will Signify y^e Pleasure. the Officrs who are appointed must be Men of Inflewance and Interest or we Shall never be able to man the Ships or do anny thng to Affect. I have not the least Doubt but if we are truly Industorous and not frightened at a little Extra Expence, we Shall Shortly make our Navy more Respectable, but in my humble Oppinion they must be Got out, while the weather Remains Cold and Severe—Y^{rs}. and C^o.

John Deshon

“Papers of William Vernon and the Navy Board,” 214–16. Addressed at the foot: “Honob:/Navy Board/Boston.”

1. Providence River and Narragansett Bay.
2. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins.
3. Capt. Dudley Saltonstall.
4. Maj. Joshua Huntington.
5. Capt. Hoysteed Hacker.
6. Capt. Abraham Whipple.
7. Capt. Wiliam Jones, Continental Marines.



A naval officer's packed gear

"DISPOSITION OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS AND VESSELS EMPLOYED IN NORTH AMERICA
UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE VICE ADMIRAL THE VISCOUNT HOWE."

Eagle
off Rhode Island
March the 9th. 1778

Rate	Ships Names	Guns	Men	Commanders	Appointments		
3	<i>Eagle</i>	64	522	{ V. Adm ^t L ^d Howe Cap ^t Duncan — Curtis — Griffith — Reeve — Gardner — Ford — Reddall — Clayton — Ourry	To proceed to the Delaware	}	Off Newport At and in the Neighbourhood of Rhode Island
3	<i>Nonsuch</i>	—	500		To remain at Rhode Island		
6	<i>Maidstone</i>	28	200		Refitting		
6	<i>Unicorn</i>	20	160				
St.Sh.	<i>Grampus</i>	—	230				
F. Sh.	<i>Strombolo</i>	—	45		Much out of Repair. To proceed to New York		
3	<i>Somerset</i>	64	520		{ Between the North Ferry on the Narraganset Shore and the Island of Conanicut Between Calf Pasture Point on the Narraganset Shore and Pine Hill on Prudence Island Between the North East End of Prudence Island and Arnold's Point Rhode Island To the Northward of Dyres' Island betw ⁿ . Coggeshall's Point Rhode Island and Prudence Island; having returned from cruizing with the <i>Apollo</i> on Acco ^t of the Sickness of her Crew.		
5	<i>Lark</i>	32	220	— Smith			
5	<i>Flora</i>	—	—	— Brisbane			
5	<i>Venus</i>	36	240	— Williams			
Sloop	<i>Kingsfisher</i>	14	125	Lieu ^t Christian			
Galley	<i>Alarm</i>	8	40	— D'Auvergne	In the Sekonnet Passage.		

Detached from Rhode Island since the Return of the 5th January

4	<i>Renown</i>	50	350	Capt ^r Botham (acting)	{ Sailed the 6 th . Feb. to cruize for one Month from the S ^o . Point of Nantucket Shoals to the navigable Soundings on S ^t George's Bank & then to return to Rhode Island
6	<i>Mermaid</i>	28	200	___ Hawker	
5	<i>Juno</i>	32	220	___ Dalrymple	{ Sailed the 7 th . Feb ^r to cruize on the same Station as the <i>Renown</i> for 3 Weeks; To return to Rhode Island
6 A.V.	<i>Cerberus</i> <i>Haerlem</i>	28 —	200 —	___ Symons Lieu ^t Knight	
5	<i>Appllo</i>	32	220	Capt. Pownoll	{ Sailed the 15 th . Feb. for Cape Cod Harbour; ordered to return from thence to Rhode Island
3	<i>Raisonable</i>	64	500	___ Fitzherbert	{ Sailed the 7 th . Feb ^r to cruize for two months from the navigable Soundings on S ^t George's Bank Northw ^d . to Cape Sables & towards Boston & Piscataqua
4	<i>Centurion</i>	50	350	___ Brathwaite	
5	<i>Brune</i>	32	220	___ Ferguson	{ Sailed the 4 th . Feb. to cruize for one Month on the <i>Apollo's</i> Station & then to proceed to Halifax
Sloop A.V.	<i>Dispatch</i> <i>York</i>	16 —	125	___ Mason L ^t Wallbeoff	
5	<i>Diamond</i>	32	220	Capt ^r Feilding	{ Sailed the 6 th . Mar. for Cape Cod Harbour. From thence to see the Transports destined for England to the Eastward of S ^t George's Bank; Then to cruize for 2 Months between Lat ^s . 41°. & 43° & Long ^s . 66°. & 70°. and afterwards to repair to Halifax
					{ Sailed the 28 th . Feb ^r with a Convoy of Forage Transp ^s . to the Delaware. To return to Rhode Island
					{ Sailed the 8 th . Mar. with a second Division of Forage Transports to the Delaware. To return to Rhode Island and afterwards to proceed to Halifax

"DISPOSITION OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS AND VESSELS EMPLOYED IN NORTH AMERICA
UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE VICE ADMIRAL THE VISCOUNT HOWE."—*Continued*

Rate	Ships Names	Guns	Men	Commanders	Appointments	
6	<i>Sphynx</i>	20	160	___ Græme	{ Sailed the 4 th . Feb ^r to convoy an Hosp ^l . Ship through the Sound to New York. To return to Rhode Island Sailed the 8 th . for New York. To be employed there on Port Service. Sailed the 15 th . Jan. with 2 Victuallers to Chesepeak Bay; To remain there under the Orders of the Senior Officer. }	}
5	<i>Amazon</i>	32	220	___ Jacobs		
6	<i>Solebay</i>	28	200	Cap ^t Symonds		
5	<i>Thames</i>	32	220	___ Howe	{ Sailed the 24 th . Feb. [<i>Thames</i>] 22 ^d . d ^o . [<i>Swift</i>] for New York; To be employed betw ⁿ . that Port and the Delaware }	
Sloop	<i>Swift</i>	14	125	___ Keppel		
6	<i>Rose</i>	20	160	___ Reid	Sailed the 7 th . Jan ^r . for her Station at Huntingdon Bay	
AV.	<i>Cabot</i>	—	—	Lieu ^t Dod	{ Arrived from Halifax the 22 ^d . Jan ^r . Sailed for New York the 4 th . Feb: To return to Halifax with a Convoy. Sailed the 24 th . Feb. with Dispatches to Chesepeak Bay; To return to Rhode Island }	
6	<i>Ariel</i>	20	160	___ Becher		
4	<i>Preston</i>	50	367	Comm ^o . Hotham Cap ^t Uppleby	{ Off New York }	At and in the Neighbour
6	<i>Tartar</i>	28	200	___ Ommanney		
Bomb	<i>Carcass</i>	—	—	___ Howorth (acting)		
—	<i>Thunder</i>	—	—	___ Graves		
H ^l Sh.	<i>Jersey</i>	—	—	___ Halsted		
Galley	<i>Dependence</i>	—	—	Lieu ^t . Clarke		
—	<i>Spitfire</i>	—	—	___ Scott		
—	<i>Crane</i>	—	—	—		

At and in the Neighbour

4	<i>Isis</i>	50	350	Cap ^t Raynor	Ordered for Service in the Delaware	hood of New York under the Orders of Com- modore Hotham
6	<i>Fowey</i>	20	160	____ Colins (act ^g)	At Sandy-Hook	
Sloop	<i>Swan</i>	14	125	Lieu ^t Totty	Huntingdon-Bay	
	<i>Raven</i>	—	—	Cap ^t Stanhope		
AV.	<i>Halifax</i>	—	40	Lieu ^t Quarme	New City Island	
Sloop	<i>Falcon</i>	14	125	Cap ^t Harmood		
	<i>Scorpion</i>	—	—	____ Browne	Cruizing in the Sound	
A.V.	<i>Diligent</i>	—	—	L ^t Farnham		
Sloop	<i>Nautilus</i>	14	125	Cap ^t Collins	Sailed from New York for the Delaware with Dispatches	At Halifax and on the Coasts of N. Scotia and New England, under the Orders of the Senior Officer at Halifax; By Return D dated 6th. January 1778.
	<i>Senegal</i>	—	—	____ Molloy	Sailed from New York for Chesepeak Bay.	
5	<i>Rainbow</i>	44	280	S ^c G. Collier	At Halifax	
..	<i>Ambuscade</i>	32	220	Cap ^t Macartney	At Annapolis	
.	<i>Orpheus</i>	—	—	____ Hudson	{ At Halifax refitting. Destined to cruize from the navigable Soundings on S ^c George's Bank to the opposite Coasts of Nova Scotia	
.	<i>Blonde</i>	—	—	____ Milligen		
6	<i>Fox</i>	28	200	____ Fotheringham	{ Sailed from Halifax 10 th . Nov ^r to cruize from the West End of S ^c George's Bank across the Bay of Boston to the Isle of Shoals	
.	<i>Milford</i>	—	—	act ^g		
.	<i>Scarborough</i>	20	160	S ^c W. C. Burnaby	{ In Halifax Harbour refitting.	
				Cap ^t Barkley		
Sloop	<i>Albany</i>	16	125	____ Mowat	{ In Halifax Harbour preparing to careen	
.	<i>Vulture</i>	—	—	____ Feattus		
.	<i>Hunter</i>	—	—	____ Boyle	{ Sailed 15 th . Nov ^r to cruize from the Isle of Sable to Canso and Halifax	
.	<i>Hope</i>	—	—	____ Dawson		
					S ^t John's River.	

"DISPOSITION OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS AND VESSELS EMPLOYED IN NORTH AMERICA
UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE VICE ADMIRAL THE VISCOUNT HOWE."—*Continued*

Rate	Ships Names	Guns	Men	Commanders	Appointments
6	<i>Greyhound</i>	28	200	Cap ^t . Dickson	{ Sailed from Halifax the 19 th . Dec ^r . to cruize from the Navigable Soundings on St ^t . George's Bank to the opposite Coasts of Nova Scotia }
5	<i>Roebuck</i>	44	280	Cap ^t . Hamond	{ In the Delaware }
.	<i>Pearl</i>	32	220	___ Linzee	
6	<i>Camilla</i>	20	160	H ^{ble} . C. Phipps	
A.S.	<i>Vigilant</i>	—	150	Cap ^t . Christian	
—	<i>Delaware</i>	—	160	Lieu ^t . Watt (act ^g)	
Sloop	<i>Zebra</i>	14	125	Cap ^t . Orde	
Galley	<i>Cornwallis</i>	—	40	Lieu ^t . Spry	
A.V.	<i>Viper</i>	10	50	___ Pakenham	
St.Sh.	<i>Adventure</i>	—	40	___ Tonken	
4	<i>Experiment</i>	50	320	S ^c . Ja. Wallace	
					At the Entrance of the Delaware
3	<i>St Albans</i>	64	500	Cap ^t . Onslow	{ Ordered to Rhode Island }
5	<i>Emerald</i>	32	220	___ Caldwell	
.	<i>Phœnix</i>	44	280	___ Parker	
.	<i>Richmond</i>	32	220	___ Gidoin	
Sloop	<i>Otter</i>	14	125	___ Squire	
					At the Entance of Chesepeak Bay
6	<i>Carysfort</i>	28	200	Cap ^t . Fanshawe	{ Stationed on the Southern Coasts from South Carolina to St ^t . Augustine. }
.	<i>Perseus</i>	20	160	H ^{ble} . G K. Elphinstone	
.	<i>Galatea</i>	—	—	Cap ^t . Jordan	
.	<i>Lizard</i>	28	200	___ Mackenzie	
A.V.	<i>Hinchinbrook</i>	—	65	L ^t . Ellis	

6	<i>Daphne</i>	20	160	Cap ^t Chinnery	Supposed to be lately arrived at New York
6	<i>Garland</i>	20	160	Cap ^t Pearson	In the River St ^t Laurence
6	<i>Triton</i>	28	200	____ Lutwidge	
Sloop	<i>Viper</i>	10	110	____ Graves	
Brig	<i>Canceaux</i>	—	55	L ^t Schank	

Howe

D, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 190–91. Docketed: “March the 9th. 1778/Disposition of His Majesty’s/Ships and Vessels employed/in North America.” Docketed in another hand: “N^o. 1/In Lord Howes Lre/N^o. 55.” Enclosure No. 1 in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe’s letter No. 55 to Philip Stephens, 16 Mar. 1778.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

9th March. Cold raw weather. Wind E.

Captain Griffiths¹ of The *Nonsuch* having been appointed Commodore, and to Command on this Station when Lord Howe goes from hence, hoisted his broad pendant yesterday as soon as the *Amazon* went out of the harbour. He could not do it sooner, as Captain Jacobs² of the *Amazon* is a Senior Captain.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 255.

1. Capt. Walter Griffith, R.N.

2. Capt. Maximilian Jacobs, R.N.

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY,
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 1778

NEW-YORK, March 9.

Last week in the snow storm was cast away on the South side of Long-Island, near Judge Jones's, the sloop *Dolphin*,¹ of Milford, in Connecticut, bound to Martinico, with provisions and lumber, a prize to his Majesty's ship *Experiment*, Sir James Wallace, Commander. The people are saved, the vessel and Cargo lost. . . .

A Privateer Sloop of 10 Guns, sailed from New-Haven last Week for New London, there to be joined by some other Privateers, and then they intended to cruise off Sandy Hook. . . .

The Rebel Privateer Brig *Comet*,² Capt. Pyne, of 18 Guns, and 85 Men, was taken the 22d of December last, by the *Daphne* Frigate, St. John Chinnery, Esq; Commander, off the Isle of Pyne,³ and arrived here last Saturday under the command of Lieut. Drury,⁴ who informs us, That since the 22d. of July, the Day the *Daphne* left this Port, Capt. Chinnery took 11 Prizes, among them the Sloop *Lydia* of 14 Guns,⁵ from Guadaloupe for North-Carolina loaded, three from South-Carolina, &c. &c. and when he parted from the *Daphne*, all was well on board. . . .

Saturday also was sent in here by his Majesty's Frigate *Apollo*, Philemon Pownall, Esq; Commander, the Ship *Felicity*,⁶ Capt. Edenton, taken about fourteen Days ago, near St. George's Bank: Almost all her Cargo⁷ was put on board the Schooner *Polly*, at Sea, and sent to Salem. When she was taken, two Ships and a Sloop hove in Sight, when Capt. Pownall immediately gave Chace to the largest, which was supposed to be a Rebel Frigate of 36 Guns,⁸ and the other two Privateers of an inferior Force. The *Felicity* has only on board a few Casks of Wine, and some Cordage.

1. Sloop *Dolphin*, J. Miles, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 11 Feb., above.2. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Comet*, James Pyne, commander. See NDAR 10: 786.

3. Isle of Pines (Isla de Pinos), Cuba.

4. Lt. Thomas Drury.

5. North Carolina privateer sloop *Lydia*, Benjamin Appleton, commander. See NDAR 10: 230, 628n.6. Ship *Felicité*, Bertrand Olivier, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 15 Feb., above.

7. Typographical error for "crew".

8. Continental Navy frigate *Boston*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 19 and 20 Feb., above.

JOHN LAURENS TO HENRY LAURENS

[Valley Forge] Head Quarters, 9th March, 1778.

My Dear Father:

. . . The naval expedition in which some of our brave landmen, you say, have embarked, will, I hope, be crowned with deserved success.¹

... You will be informed of Cap^t Barry's² success with two or three armed boats on the Delaware. Two transports loaded with forage,³ one of them mounting six four pounders attended by a schooner,⁴ mounting eight four pounders and four howitzers, fell into his hands, by his gallantry and address. The schooner had on board a lieutenant of engineers⁵ and company of artificers, some valuable intrenching tools, officers' baggage and wines, delicacies destined for Gen^l Howe's table, etc. Cap^t Barry was obliged to destroy the ships, and set out on a new cruise with the schooner. A large fleet of the enemy's vessels were coming up the river.⁶ Barry maintained an obstinate fight; his men once leaped into the boat and were preparing to desert him; his presence of mind and singular address recovered them. He renewed the combat, but surrounded and overpowered, he was obliged to run his schooner on shore, where he saved the cannon and every thing valuable, and rendered the schooner useless. You may see that I write in great haste, which I am the more sorry for, as it would give me pleasure to dwell upon the praises due to Cap^t Barry. Among other things taken on board the schooner are a number of German letters and papers relative to the foreign regiments in British service, from whence we hope to gain some useful intelligence. Gen^l Knyphausen's⁷ order of the Lion d'or is likewise taken, but will be sent unto him. I am ever your most affectionate

John Laurens.

The Army Correspondence of Colonel John Laurens in the Years 1777-8 Now First Printed from Original Letters Addressed to his Father Henry Laurens President of Congress with a Memoir by Wm. Gilmore Simms (New York, 1867; reprint ed., New York: New York Times and Arno Press, 1969), 134-41.

1. South Carolina Navy expedition which sailed with the Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*, Capt. Nicholas Biddle, to clear the South Carolina coast of British frigates.

2. Capt. John Barry, Continental Navy. See Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 9 Mar., below.

3. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master, mounting six 4-pounders. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M.S. *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., below; and Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N. to Philip Stephens, 26 Mar., and Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

4. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the Army. See, *Ibid.*

5. Lt. Stratton, Royal Engineers.

6. H.M.S. *Experiment*, H.M. frigate *Brune*, H.M. sloop *Dispatch* and H.M. sloop *York* escorting a convoy of eleven transports with forage from Rhode Island.

7. Lt. Gen. Wilhelm, Baron von Knyphausen, Hesse-Cassel Army.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EXPERIMENT*, CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE

March 78
Sunday 9th.
[Monday]

Employ'd working up the River Delaware
AM at 7 Weighed the Convoy in Company. at 10 spoke the *George* Armed Sloop. She Came down the Rebles having fired at her & set fire to a Transport.¹ at Noon abreast of Morris hook.² Punished John Julian for Mutiny in C^o: as above

Employ'd working up the River Delaware
Light Breezes and Hazy. PM saw a schooner and Ship within Reedy Island.³ at 2 the *Brune Dispatch* & *York* Sloop Stood into the East End of the Island. Sent our Lieu^t on b^d: the *George* to go ahead & prevent the schooner from going to the Westw^d: the *Brune* & *Dispatch* fired Some Guns. the Rebles set fire to the Ship & the schooner made Sail out. we fired several Guns at her over the Island, and sevr^l: Shot was fired from the shore at our Shipping. some Gun boats & a galley got over the Jersey

shore.⁴ and the schooner Run aGround on the Penselvania Shore. 7 Miles below New Castle, we fired Several Guns at her & the Rebles set her on fire at 7 anch^d: Close to the Schooner in 3½ fathoms Found the schooner full of Water⁵

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/331, fols. 120–21.

1. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, 180 tons burthen, built on the Thames River in 1752, underwent thorough repairs in 1772 and had new upper works in 1776. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777–1778.

2. Morris Hook on Morris Liston's Land at the mouth of Blackbird Creek, near Appoquinimink River, Del.

3. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the Army, and transport *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master. For more on this action, see Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

4. Capt. John Barry and Lt. Luke Matthewman, commanding two barges from the Continental Navy frigate *Effingham* in company with three armed boats of the Pennsylvania Navy.

5. The next morning *Dispatch's* boat got *Alert* off the shore. UklPR, Adm. 51/331, fol. 121.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *DISPATCH*, COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER MASON

March 1778
[Monday] 9th

Sailing up the River Delaware—[anchored in *The Narrows*]
at 6 AM Weigh'd & came to Sail in Comp^y with y^e *Brune* &c.

Sailing up the River Delaware—
Mod^{te} & thick W^e[PM] The *Brune* orderd us to stand in between Port Pen & Reedy Island & on our approach a Schooner & several Gun Boats went out at y^e Opposite End of y^e Passage¹ they sat fire to a Transport they had taken,² they fir'd several Shot at us from a Battery, which we return'd with several Broadides as we Pass'd, gave Chace to y^e Schooner & Gun Boats; The Gun Boats row'd within the Shoals; got y^e Schooner after firing several Shot at her & she at us. we drove her on shore in the bight of Newcastle & on y^e *Experiments* coming up sent our Boats & got her off, She prov'd to be the *Alert* Arm'd Schooner which had been taken a Day or too before,³ when we chac'd y^e Schooner we left y^e *Brune* Firing on their Battery, at 6 came too wth the stream Anchor in 5½ fⁿ. as did the Convoy.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/253.

1. Capt. John Barry's force of five armed boats, consisting of two barges from the Continental Navy frigate *Effingham*, commanded by Barry and Lt. Luke Matthewman, and three Pennsylvania Navy armed boats.

2. Transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master, 250 tons burthen, mounting six 4-pounders, built at Whitehaven in 1749, underwent thorough repairs in 1771 and further repairs in 1776. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777–1778. For more on this action, see Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 9 Mar., immediately below, and Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

3. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the Army. See Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dear General

Port Penn March 9th: 1778

'Tis with the Greatest Satisfaction Imaginable I inform You of Capturing two Ships¹ & A Schooner² of the Enemy the two Ships were Transports from Rhode Island Loaded with forage One Mounting Six four Pounders with fourteen hands Each the Schooner is in the Engineering Department Mounting Eight Double fortified four Pounders & twelve four Pound howitz Properly fitted in Every

Particular & Manned with thirty three men Among the Prisoners is a Lieutenant³ in the Same Departmen with the Schooner the Lieutenant together with the Captain of the Schooner⁴ Being verry Solicitous for the Liberty of a Fortnight thought Proper By the Advice of Nicholas Vandyke Esq^e a Member of Congress, to allow them their Parole for a fortnight to Go to Philadelphia with Some Officers Lady's that were taken in the Schooner. the Schooner is a most Excellent Vessel for Our Purpose & as there Are a Number of Ships Expected in Under Verry Little Convoy with the farther assistance of about forty men Should Give a Verry Good account of them, as the Enemy are Greatly Necessiated for want of Forage, the Schooner is Unloaded But have not as Yet the Manifest of the Cargo But are a Number of Engineering Tools on Board. Shall Give You a Circumstantial account⁵ of the Whole Cargo as Soon as Possible By the Bearer M^r John Chelton have Sent You a Cheese Together with a Jar of Pickled Oysters which Crave Your Acceptance Should have Remitted the Particulars Together with the Letters & Dispatches for General De heister⁵ Before But a fleet of the Enemys Small Vessels⁶ appearing in Sight Obligated me to Burn One of the Ships⁷ & am afraid the Other⁸ will share the same fate after Discharging her. But am Determined to hold the Schooner at all Events. Inclosed You have the Articles of the Schooners Capitulation⁹ as we Sent a flag on Board her After Boarding the two Ships & am Sir with Due Respect [&c.]

John Barry.

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "On Publick Service/to/His Excell^{cy} General Washington/at/Head Quarters/Near the Valley Forge." Notation: "Favoured By/M^r Chilton." Docketed: "Cap^t Barry/of the Navy/9th March 1778/Ans^d. 12th."

1. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master. For more on this action, see Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M. sloop *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., above; and Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Philip Stephens, 26 Mar., and Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army. See *The New-York Gazette: and the Weekly Mercury*, 23 Mar., below.

3. Lt. Stratton, Royal Engineers.

4. Daniel Moore.

5. Lt. Gen. Leopold Philipp, Baron von Heister, Hesse-Cassel Army.

6. H.M.S. *Experiment* with H.M.S. *Brune*, H.M. sloop *Dispatch* and H.M. sloop *York*, escorting a convoy of eleven transports with forage from Rhode Island.

7. Transport *Kitty*.

8. Transport *Mermaid*.

9. See Articles of Surrender of the Schooner *Alert*, 7 Mar., above.

WILLIAM LUX TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

May it please Your Excellency,

Baltimore 9 March 1778.

The States of America have three Parcells of Goods arrived on the Eastern Shore consisting of Bales of Tents and Cloth, which they want up here as quick as may be to be forwarded to York, And have directed me apply to you for one of the Galleys to go down to Onancock, which is just below Watts Island to bring them up. I therefore make application to you for that purpose, and if you can spare Cap^t David,¹ I will send down a proper Person to see them delivered to him. Your answer by the first Conveyance will oblige Sir [&c.]

Will^m Lux Cont^l. Agent

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4585-81.

1. Capt. John David, commanding Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN BENNETT MATHEWS

Sir.

In Council Annapolis 9th March 1778.

We just now are informed that a Ship a Brig and seven Sloops and Schooners were yesterday beating up the Bay and, in the Evening, were as high as Patuxent; there may be therefore be Occasion here, for your Galley,¹ by the Time you can get down. We have long expected you nor can account for your Delay, and require you to push to this Place instantly on your Receipt of this. No Excuse will be admitted. We are &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "Cap^t Bennett Mathews or the/Command^r Officer of the *Independence* Galley."

1. Maryland Navy galley *Independence*.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN ONSLOW TO THE VISCOUNT HOWE"

dated *S^t Albans* off Willoby's Point March 9th 1778.

"The *Solebay* and *Senegal* rejoined me from their Chase the 7th Instant. Captain Symonds informs me the Ship he chased¹ was a long Frigate-built French Ship, but he did not think prudent to follow her any longer, as a NW Gale came on, lest he should be led off the Coast. The *Solebay*'s Bowsprit was sprung, but will be fished and fit for Service by to-morrow Night.

I have the Satisfaction of saying, that out of four large French Ships who have lately attempted the Ports in this Bay, three have been chased off the Coast and one taken."²

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 220. Docketed (with extracts of 27 Mar. letter): "Extracts of two Letters from/Cap^t Onslow to the Viscount Howe,/dated the 9th and 27th March 1778./In Lord Howe's Letter/N^o 57." This extract is enclosure No. 2 in Vice Admiral Viscount Howe to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 23 Apr. 1778 (No. 57).

1. French ship *Ferdinand*, Denis-Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen, master.

2. The ship that was taken was the ship *Vicomte de Veaux*, Pierre Donat de La Garde, master, owned by the Vicomte de Veaux of Paris, captured by H.M.S. *Solebay* on 23 Feb., and sent as a prize to New York City. The Vice Admiralty Court of New York declared her a lawful capture on 10 Apr. 1778. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 67. See "Extract of a Letter from Captain Onslow to Viscount Howe," 2 Mar., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. GLASGOW, CAPTAIN THOMAS PASLEY

March 1778
Monday 9

The S.W. End of Little Heneago [*Inagua*] WNW ½ W. 2 Leagues.

At 9 (AM) saw two sail to the NW. Made Sail and gave Chase to one of them.

The S^o. End of Mayaguana NBW. 6 Leagues.

Fresh Breezes and Fair, first and latter part, Middle Squally with Rain. At 1 (PM) Fir'd 2 Shott & bro^t too the Chase, sent an Officer to Examine her. Proved a Schooner from S^o. Carolina to the Mole,¹ took possession of the Prize bro^t the Prizoners on board, sent a Petty Officer with People to take her to Jamaica.²

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/399.

1. Môle Saint-Nicolas, Saint-Domingue.

2. Schooner *Nancy*, William Howland, master, from South Carolina to Hispaniola, with rice, indigo, and tobacco. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

LIEUTENANT DE VAISSEAU MARQUIS DE VERDUN DE LA CRENNE
TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

Au Cap Français le 9. mars 1778.

Monseigneur.

Depuis la lettre que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous écrire le 28. du mois de Janvier jusqu'au 2. de ce mois, je n'ai rien rencontré d'intéressant dans ma croisière, quoique j'aie plusieurs fois parcouru la côte depuis la partie orientale de la Tortue jusqu'au Mole Saint Nicolas; mais depuis cet instant jusqu'à présent j'ai toujours été en présence de quelque bâtiment Anglais.

Le 2. de ce mois je rencontrai à environ 3. lieues au Nord-Est du Mole St Nicolas et à la distance de trois quarts de lieues de la côte un petit bateau; qui n'avait pour artillerie que 10. pierriers, que mit pavillon et flamme Anglaise, je lui tirai un coup de canon à poudre pour le faire mettre en panne, et lui dit de mettre son canot à la Mer ce qu'il fit, un midchipman qui vint abord me montra la commission de ce bateau qui est signée Robert Lambert, Capitaine de la frégate le Niger, dont il est la découverte et approuvée par l'Amiral Gayton, datée du 7. février; ce bateau qui a autant 30. hommes d'Équipage Se nomme Lady Parker et Son Commandant Abraham Rose, master de la frégate le Niger! je dis au Midchipman que vu la grande proximité où je le trouvois de nos côtes; j'allois le conduire dans un des Ports de la Colonie, où le Général^l décideroit de son sort, sur quoi il me dit qu'il sortoit du Mole St Nicolas, où il avoit été obligé d'entrer pour réparer le dommage qu'il avoit souffert par le mauvais temps et que le Vent contraire depuis l'Instant de son départ l'avoit empêché de s'éloigner plutôt de la Côte, sur quoi je gardai le second abord avec sa commission, et dis au bateau de me suivre et que j'allois envoyer un Canot au Mole pour vérifier s'il sortoit en effet de ce port; M^r le Comte D'Ailly, qui se trouvoit alors commander au Mole, me manda que le rapport de ce bateau étoit vrai, mais qu'il étoit très Surpris qu'étant parti dans la Nuit il ne fut pas plus éloigné de la Côte à 4. heures du Soir. En Conséquence je dis à l'Anglais, que peu s'en falloit que je ne l'aretasse et que je lui enjoignois de s'éloigner promptement de la Côte ce qu'il a exécuté.

J'ai du reste fait toutes les politesses possibles au midchipman qui a passé la Nuit abord, c'est par lui que j'ai appris que la frégate le Niger de 32. canons, commandée par Robert Lambert devoit venir au Cap au premier jour.

Le 3. mars après avoir parlé à deux bâtiments marchands hollandais venant de Curaçao et allant à Amsterdam, je donnai chasse à un bâtiment qui couroit sabordée à terre près le Cap à foux, ce bâtiment vira debord étant à environ une Lieue de la Terre. j'avais mis pavillon et flamme française que j'avois assurés d'un coup de canon à poudre et ce bâtiment avoit mis pavillon et flamme Anglaise qu'il avoit également assurés d'un coup de canon. j'en tirai un Second pour lui marquer que je desirais lui parler, mais il continua toujours à prendre chasse, vers cinq heures voyant que je le gagnais beaucoup n'étant plus qu'à un demi quart de lieue d'luy. je tirai encor un coup de canon à poudre et alors il diminua de Voiles; et nous mimes chacun un Canot à la Mer, pour s'envoyer départ et d'autre officier. après les politesses ordinaires j'ai dit à l'officier que j'étois fort surpris que sa frégate s'approcha aussi près de la côte que j'avois ordre de l'en empêcher et que je ne souffrirais pas qu'elle visitât qui que ce puisse être sous mon pavillon.

À tout cela l'officier Anglais m'a répondu avec beaucoup de circonspection disant que son Capitaine repondroit lui même à l'officier que j'avois envoyé à son bord.

Cette frégate est le *Glascow* percée de 22. canons et montée de 20. seulement commandée par le Capitaine Pasley.² j'ai reconnu cette frégate pour être la même que celle que j'avois chassée le 26. du mois du Janvier avec un bateau, sans pouvoit la joindre ainsi que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous en rendre compte par ma lettre du 28. Janvier.³ j'en ai parlé a l'officier anglais qui m'a répondu qu'il n'étoit pas alors embarqué sur le *Glascow*; mais le midchipman qui lui servoit d'Interprete m'a dit qu'il s'en souveroit tres bien et que le bateau qui étoit alors avec le *Glascow* étoit le *dreadnought*, mais le Capitaine Anglais a dit a l'officier que j'avois envoyé a son bord, qui lui en a parlé, que ce n'étoit pas sa frégate, mais en même temps il est convenu qu'elle étoit la seule frégate de cette force a la Jamaïque.

Il a repondu avec beaucoup de circonspection a l'officier que j'ai envoyé a son bord, qu'il n'approchoit la côte de près que pour sa rendre plus prontement a sa destination. il a d'ailleurs ajouté, mais a quelle distance pretendez vous dont que les batiments de Guerre anglais ne doivent point approcher de vos côtes; ce a quoi l'officier francais a Eludé de repondre d'une maniere positive.

Il a dit ensuite que s'il n'avoit pas diminué de Voiles plutôt, c'est qu'il avoit des ordres de son amiral qu'il étoit pressé d'Exécuter. enfin apres beaucoup de politesses de part et d'autre les canots sont retournés chaqu'un a leur bord et j'ai suivi le *Glascow*, jusqu'a 9. heures du soir a la distance de 5. a 6. lieües de la côte.

Le 4. a onze heures du matin j'ai joint une petite Goëlette portant pavillon et flamme Anglaise que j'avois appercüe le matin a une lieüe et demie au Nord, Nord-Ouest de l'Entrée du Mole apres avoir assuré mon pavillon a l'ordinaire je lui ai dit de mettre un canot a la mer, voulant m'assurer qui elle étoit, sur quoi elle a fait des difficultés disant que son canot étoit cassé et repondant d'un ton tres rogue a ce que je lui disois, ce qui m'a un peu impatienté et m'a obligé de lui dire que s'il ne le mettoit pas a la Mer et qu'il ne vint pas abord j'allois tirer dessus, et j'ai fait en consequence pointer quelques canons, sur quoi il a mis son canot a la mer et est venu abord, je lui ai marqué mon etonnement de sa conduite et je lui ai demandé pourquoi il s'approchait si près d'en côtes francaises il m'a repondu toujours d'un ton tres rogue que c'étoit pour faire sa route, et que d'ailleurs les batiments de sa Majesté Britannique pouvoient s'approcher aussi pres de la côte qu'ils le jugeoient apropos; ses reponses et son ton m'ont un peu donné de l'humeur et je lui ai dit qu'en ce cas la si je le rencontrais une Seconde fois pres de la côte je lui passerais sur le Corps.

Je lui ai demandé avoir sa commission il m'a dit qu'il étoit officier et que je le voyois a son uniforme! a quoi j'ai repondu qu'un pirate pouvoit prendre un uniforme; il m'a alors montré une Copie Collationnée de sa commission de Lieutenant de Vaisseau qui est de l'Amiral Gayton du 3 mai 1777 mais je lui ai dit que cela n'étoit pas suffisant que je voulois voir s'il avoit un ordre pour commander ce batiment: les officiers du Roi commandant quelques fois des batiments particuliers: apres quelques difficultés il ma dit qu'il alloit l'envoyer chercher ce qu'il a fait. sa commission est de la frégate l'*Eole* capitaine atkins⁴ dont je joint ici une Copie avec la traduction⁵ il ma montré en même temps une Lettre cachetée de l'amiral Parker commandant actuellement a la Jamaïque adressée au Capitaine de L'*Eole*.

Le nom de cette petite Goëlette qui n'a que 4. petites canons de 2. livres et-huit pierriers se nomme l'*eole*, comme la frégate dont elle est la mouche, et le nom de celui qui la commande henry thorp.

L'on peut voir par sa commission dont j'ai joint ici Copie que sa conduite étoit nullement d'accord avec ses ordres en Conséquence je lui ai dit qu'il s'en falloit très peu que je ne le conduisis dans un des Ports de la Colonie et que je l'aurais fait sans la Lettre dont il étoit chargé de la part de l'Amiral. Surquoi il a adouci son ton et a accepté l'offre qui je lui ai faite de se rafraîchir j'ai exigé qu'il s'éloignât promptement de la Côte et il a fait route en Conséquence.

Le même jour à une heure après midi j'appercus un bâtiment qui venoit à bord opposé qui mit pavillon et flamme anglaise, je mis aussitôt pavillon et flamme française que j'assurai à l'ordinaire et je manœuvrai pour approcher cette frégate qui étoit au Vent à moi et qui tenoit le Vent. je la reconnus pour une frégate de 32. mais percée de 38. comme sont toutes les frégates anglaises de ce rang ce qui m'a fait juger que c'étoit le Niger.

La Goëlette L'eole que j'avois parlé le matin à manœuvrer pour la joindre ce dont elle est venue à bout vers 7. heures du soir j'ai fait mon possible pour conserver cette frégate dans la Nuit, mais le 5. au matin elle étoit au moins deux grandes lieues au Vent à moi lorsque j'ai appercu une Goëlette venant du Canal de la Tortue avec un Vent très foible, j'ai cru d'abord que cette goëlette étoit une mouche anglaise l'ayant vue mettre en panne à quelque distance de la frégate Anglaise qui étoit alors à environ 2. à 3. lieues de la pointe de l'Ouest de la Tortue et à même distance de la grande Terre, le Vent s'est un peu élevé et la goëlette a fait route à l'ouest ayant pavillon français, j'ai manœuvré pour lui parler et elle m'a appris que la frégate anglaise avoit envoyé un canot pour la visiter qu'on l'avoit du reste traitée très poliment, et qu'on s'étoit contenté de visiter ses papiers, cette Goëlette qui venoit du Cap sa nomme la Marie patron Guibert. La frégate anglaise avoit sur moi l'avantage de la Marche, mais étant plus heureux dans le choix de mes bordées je me suis trouvé au Vent à elle à 4. heures du soir; j'ai mis pavillon et flamme française et je me suis préparé au Combat de toutes manières; la frégate Anglaise a également mis son pavillon et nous l'avons assuré départ et d'autre d'un Coup de Canon à poudre; j'ai arrivé sur elle pour lui parler et lorsque j'ai été près d'elle j'ai lu le nom du Niger, sur sa poupe: je lui ai demandé s'il n'alloit pas au Cap! il m'a répondu Oui. alors je lui ai dit que le Général n'étoit pas mais au Port-au Prince et je lui ai proposé de mettre son canot à la Mer et que j'en mettrois un de mon côté! il m'a répondu qu'il n'entendoit pas je lui ai répété la même chose en lui disant qu'en mettant chacun un canot à la Mer nous nous entendrions mieux! Il m'a dit que ses canots n'étoient pas en état, surquoi je lui ai dit que j'étois bien surpris qu'il fit des difficultés de mettre un Canot à la Mer étant sur nos côtes, Lorsque j'offrois d'en mettre un de mon côté; mais que je le suivrais de si près que je serais à même de m'opposer qu'il visitât aucun bâtiment sur nos côtes, alors le Niger a mis en panne et a mis un Canot à la mer et j'ai fait la même chose de mon côté; après beaucoup d'honnêtes départ et d'autres; j'ai dit à l'officier Anglais (Et l'officier que j'ai envoyé à bord du Niger a dit au Capitaine) que le Général étoit au Port-au Prince, que son voyage au Cap seroit inutile, s'il vouloit remettre lui-même ses paquets au Général, et que s'il vouloit aller au Port-au Prince, je l'y accompagnerois et lui donnerois s'il le desiroit mon propre Pilote de la Côte, le Capitaine Anglais a toujours répondu que ses ordres étoient d'aller au Cap. et non au Port-au Prince et qu'il étoit très reconnaissant de mes offres obligeantes sur quoi on lui a répondu qu'il l'accompagnerois au Cap.

J'ai ensuite marqué mon étonnement de ce qu'il est visité le matin la Goëlette française surtout ayant une mission pour venir au Cap et que si j'avois été aproximité je ne l'aurois certainement pas souffert. l'officier qui est venu a mon bord m'a dit qu'ils avoient pris cette goëlette pour une de leurs mouches et le Capitaine a dit qu'il l'avoit prise pour une Goëlette Insurgente mais on lui a repondu que quand même elle eut été Insurgente je n'aurois pas souffert qu'elle eut été visitée si j'avois été assez près pour m'y opposer.

Les Canots etant rendus chaqu'un a leur bord la Frégate anglaise a forcé de Voiles et j'ai fait mon possible pour la suivre, mais je lui ai reconnu une Superiorité de Marche tres decidée au plus pres du Vent ce que j'attribuë en grande partie a ce que je ne suis pas maintenant a la difference a laquelle je devrois être n'ayant plus de vivres abord; je serois même déjà en route pour le Port-au Prince pour y prendre des Vivres sans la rencontre de cette frégate; n'en ayant tout au plus qui jusqu'au 15. de ce mois; en sorte que je serai obligé d'en prendre un peu au Cap pour pouvoir me rendre au Port-au Prince avec sureté ayant ci devant écrit a 16^e l'Intendant de vouloir bien me faire faire du biscuit et préparer les autres parties de Vivres dont j'ai besoin n'ayant jusqu'ici reçu aucunes nouvelles des Vivres qui devoient m'être envoyés dans la Colonie quoiqu'ils dussent être arrivés depuis plus de deux mois.

Le 6. au matin j'appercus un batiment faisant route pour joindre la frégate Anglaise qui étoit alors a plus d'une Lieue au Vent a moi. ce batiment apres avoir fait un signal de reconnaissance a mis pavillon et flamme Anglaise et je l'ai peu apres reconnu pour la frégate le *Glascow*, a qui j'avois parlé le 3. de ce mois, elles ont communiqué ensembles et ont navigué de consortte jusqu'a 3. heures du soir que le *Glascow*, s'est séparé en faisant route au Large de la Côte.

La frégate Anglaise me gaignoit beaucoup au Vent pendant le Jour mais le choix des bordées joint a ce que je portois plus de Voiles la Nuit a fait que je me suis trouvé le 7. au matin beaucoup au Vent a elle, j'ai d'ailleurs pris ma revanche vent arriere ayant alors beaucoup d'avantage Sur le *Niger*.

Le 7. au Coucher du Soleil je me trouvais ainsi que la frégate Anglaise a 4. a 5. Lieues de l'Entrée du Cap, j'ai pris le parti s'approcher tres près a la faveur du Clair de Lune pour envoyer un Canot avec un officier tant au Commandant de la *Terpsicore*,⁶ qu'a M^r de Lileencourt⁷ pour qu'ils fussent prévenus a l'avance de l'arrivée de cette frégate et de ce qui s'étoit passé, mais ils étoient prevenus par Monsieur Dargout, que cette frégate devoit venir au Cap, avec ordre de la bien accueillir; la frégate l'*Inconstante* qui avoit été envoyée a la Jamaïque par Monsieur Dargout y ayant été très bien reçuë.

La frégate Anglaise et moi entrames ensemble hier au soir en cette rade et je compte en partir apres demain matin pour éclairer la côte d'ici au Mole, et aller ensuite chercher des Vivres au Port-au Prince et je compte demain donner un grand diner au Capitaine de la frégate anglaise et au capitaine de la frégate Espagnolle et leur faire toutes les honnêtetés qui peuvent dependre de moi.

Je ne doute point que vous ne soyez informé du nombre des batiments de Guerre Anglais, qui sont maintenant a la Jamaïque sous les ordres de Sir Peter Parker, contre Amiral du pavillon bleuf, je joindre cependant ici la Liste de ceux qui y sont maintenant a ma Connaissance depuis le depart de l'amiral Gayton avec le Vaisseau l'*antelope*, il peut cependant y en avoir encor quelques autres dont je n'ai pas connaissance; il y a aussy dans le nombre de ces batiments quelqu'uns dont j'ignore le nom des Capitaines, mais je prend toujours la liberté de joindre ici la liste telle que je puis vous l'envoyer.

D après une conversation avec le Capitaine Anglais Robert Lambert, je crois pouvoir assurer qui c'étoit la frégate *Winchelsea*, Capitaine *Bateman*,⁸ qui étoit le Batiment Commandant des deux qui commirent les hostilités a Jean Rabel le 28. novembre dernier,⁹ dont Monsieur le Comte Dargout, vous a rendu Compte.

J ay l'honneur d'être avec le plus profond Respect Monseigneur [&c.]

Verdun de la Crenne

[Translation]

at Cap Francais 9th March 1778

My Lord.

Since the letter which I had the honor of writing you on the 28th January until the 2nd of this month, I met nothing of interest during my cruise, although I several times scoured the coast from the eastern part of the Île de la Tortue to Môle Saint-Nicolas, but from that time to the present I was always in the presence of some English ship.

On the 2nd of this month I met a small vessel at about 3 leagues Northeast of Môle Saint-Nicolas and at a distance of three quarters of a league from the coast, which had a battery of only 10 swivel guns, and flew the English ensign and pennant. I fired a blank cannon shot to make her bring to, and told her to place her ship's boat in the Water, which she did. A midshipman who came on board showed me the vessel's commission, which was signed Robert Lambert, Captain of the frigate *Niger*, for which she was the scout boat, and approved by Admiral Gayton, dated 7 February. This vessel had as many as 30 Crewmen, Her name was the *Lady Parker*, and Her Commander was Abraham Rose, sailing master of the frigate *Niger*. I told the Midshipman that in view of his very close proximity to our coast where I found him, I was going to take him to one of the Ports of the Colony, where the General¹ would decide his fate. Upon which he told me that she had departed from Môle Saint-Nicolas, where she was forced to repair damage that she had suffered from foul weather and that the contrary Wind from the Moment of his departure had prevented her from sailing any farther from this Coast. Upon this I kept the second officer on board with his commission and told the boat to follow me and that I was going to send a Ship's Boat to the Môle to verify if in fact she had left from that port. The Comte D'Ailly, who was then commander at the Môle, sent word that the report of this boat was true, but he was very surprised that, having departed in the Night, she was not any farther from the Coast at 4 o'clock in the Afternoon. Therefore, I said to the Englishman that he had just missed being captured, and that I ordered him to sail away from the Coast at once, which he did.

Nevertheless, I acted as politely as possible to the midshipman who spent the Night on board. I learned from him that the frigate *Niger*, 32 guns, commanded by Robert Lambert, was to come to the Cape the next day.

On the 3rd March, after having spoken with two Dutch merchant ships coming from Curaçao bound to Amsterdam, I gave chase to a ship which was running parallel to the land near Cap-à-Foux. This ship changed tack at approximately one League from Land. I had hoisted the French ensign and pennant and confirmed it with a blank cannon shot, and this ship had raised the English ensign and pennant which she also confirmed by a cannon shot. I fired a second time to indicate that I wished to speak with her, but she continued always to sheer off. At approximately five o'clock, seeing that I was gaining rapidly, being only one eighth of a league from her, I fired one more blank cannon shot, and then she reduced Sail and each of us placed a Ship's Boat in the Water to send an officer to each other. After the usual civilities, I said to the

officer that I was quite surprised to see his frigate approach so near to the coast, that I had an order to put a stop to this and that I would not tolerate his search of any ship under my flag.

The English officer replied with much circumspection, saying that his Captain would answer the officer I had sent to his ship.

This frigate was the *Glasgow*, pierced for 22 guns and mounting only 20, commanded by Captain Pasley.² I recognized this frigate as being the same one I had chased on the 26th of the month of January, together with a boat, without being able to come up with her, as I had the honor of reporting to you in my letter of the 28th January.³ I spoke of it to the English officer, who answered that he had not been then on board the *Glasgow*, but the midshipman serving as his Interpreter said that he remembered it well and that the boat with the *Glasgow* was the *Dreadnought*, but the English Captain said to the officer whom I had sent to his ship, and who spoke of it to him, that it was not his frigate, although he agreed that she was the only frigate of that force at Jamaica.

He answered the officer I had sent to his ship with much caution that he approached near to the coast only to reach his destination more promptly. He also added, but at what distance, then, do you expect English warships to keep off your coasts; to which the French officer evaded giving a positive answer.

He then stated that he had not reduced Sail sooner because he had orders from his admiral, which he felt pressed to Execute. Lastly, after much ceremony the ship's boats returned to their respective ships and I followed the *Glasgow* until 9 o'clock in the evening at a distance of 5 or 6 leagues from the coast.

On the 4th at eleven o'clock in the morning I came up with a small Schooner flying an English ensign and pennant, which I had discovered in the morning a league and a half to the North North-West of the Entrance to the Môle; after having confirmed my ensign in the usual manner I told her to place a ship's boat in the water, wishing to know who she was, upon which she made excuses saying that her ship's boat was shattered, and answering in a very haughty tone to what I was saying, which made me somewhat impatient and obliged me to tell her that, if she did not place it in the Water and come on board, I was going to fire on her, and I then had a few guns trained, at which she placed her ship's boat in the water and came on board; I expressed my astonishment at his conduct and demanded why he approached the French coast so closely; he answered, always in a very haughty tone, that it was to follow his course and further that His Britannic Majesty's ships could approach as near to the coast as they judged proper; his answers and his tone put me in a bit of bad humor, and I told him that in that case, if I were to fall in with him a Second time near the coast, I would have him run through.

I requested to have his commission; he told me he was an officer; that I could see it from his uniform! to which I answered that a pirate could wear a uniform; he then showed me a True Copy of his commission as a Lieutenant, which was issued by Admiral Gayton on 3 May 1777, but I told him that was not enough; that I wished to see whether he had an order to command the ship; the King's officers sometimes command private ships; after some objections he told me that he was going to send for it, which he did. His commission was for the frigate *Æolus*, Captain Atkins,⁴ of which I attach a Copy with the translation.⁵ He also showed me a sealed Letter from Admiral Parker, presently commanding at Jamaica, addressed to the captain of the *Æolus*.

The name of this small Schooner which has only 4 small guns, 2 pounders and eight swivel guns, was *Æolus*, the same as the frigate for which she was the tender, and the name of the commander was Henry Thorp.

One could see from his commission, a Copy of which is attached, that his conduct did not agree at all with his orders. Therefore, I told him that he barely missed being taken into one of the Ports of the Colony, and that I would have done it without the Letter with which he was entrusted by the Admiral. Upon which he softened his tone and accepted the offer that I made to refresh himself. I demanded that he quickly withdraw from the Coast, and he followed such a course accordingly.

On the same day at one in the afternoon I discovered a ship which was coming from the opposite approach, which hoisted the English ensign and pennant; I immediately hoisted the French ensign and pennant, which I confirmed in the usual manner, and I maneuvered to approach this frigate which was to Windward of me and was holding the Wind. I recognised her as a frigate of 32 guns but pierced for 38, as are all the English frigates of this rate, which made me judge her to be the *Niger*.

The Schooner *Æolus*, with which I had spoken in the morning, maneuvered to join her and succeeded at approximately 7 o'clock in the evening. I did my best to keep near this frigate during the night, but at 5 o'clock in the morning she was at least two full leagues to Windward of me, when I discovered a small Schooner coming from the Tortue Channel in a very slight wind. At first I believed that this schooner was an English tender, having seen her bring to at some distance from the English frigate, which was then about 2 or 3 leagues from the western point of the Île de la Tortue and at the same distance from the high land. The wind rose a little and the schooner followed a course to the west flying a French flag. I maneuvered to speak to her, and she told me that the English frigate had sent a ship's boat to search her, which treated her very politely, and that they were satisfied to examine her papers. This Schooner, which came from the Cape, was named the *Marie*, Guibert, master. The English frigate was a faster sailer than mine, but being more fortunate in choosing my tacks, I found myself to Windward of her by 4 o'clock in the evening; I hoisted a French ensign and pennant and I readied myself for Combat in every way. The English frigate likewise hoisted her ensign, and we both confirmed them respectively with a blank Cannon Shot; I bore down on her to speak with her, and when I was close to her, I read the name *Niger* on her stern: I asked her if she was not going to the Cape! She answered, Yes. Then I told her that the General was not there but at Port-au-Prince, and I suggested that she place her ship's boat in the Water and that I would do the same. She answered that she did not understand. I repeated the same to her, saying to her that, if both of us placed a ship's boat in the Water, we would understand each other better! She told me that her ship's boats were not in condition, at which I expressed my surprise that she raised objections to placing a Ship's Boat in the Water being near our coast, when I offered to place one in the water; but that I would follow her close enough that I could also oppose her, if she searched any ship off our coast. Then the *Niger* brought to and placed a Ship's Boat in the water, and I did the same. After much mutual politeness, I said to the English officer (And the officer I sent on board the *Niger* said to her Captain) that the General was at Port-au-Prince, that his voyage to the Cape would be useless; if he wished to hand over his packets to the General himself, and desired to go to Port-au-Prince, I would accompany him and give him my own Coastal Pilot, if he desired it. The English Captain nevertheless answered that his orders were to go to the Cape and not Port-au-Prince, and

that he was most grateful for my courteous offers, at which it was answered to him that I would escort him to the Cape.

I then expressed my astonishment for his search of the French Schooner that morning, especially being on a mission of proceeding to the Cape, and that, if I had been in the vicinity, I certainly would not have permitted it. The officer who came on board my ship told me that they had mistaken the schooner for one of their tenders, and the Captain said that he mistook her for a Rebel Schooner, but he was answered, that even if she had been a Rebel schooner, I would not have allowed her searched, if I had been near enough to oppose it.

When the Ship's Boats had been hoisted on board their respective ships, the English frigate crowded all Sail, and I did all I could to follow her, but I realised she was very decidedly Superior in Speed, especially close hauled to the Wind, which I attributed to my having no more provisions on board, a difference which now does not exist. I would be already en route for Port-au-Prince to take on board Provisions, if I had not met this frigate, having only enough until the 15th of this month at the most. As a result I was obliged to take on board a few provisions at the Cape so that I could return to Port-au-Prince with safety, having written to the Director of the Port on the 16th, requesting a supply of biscuit and to prepare for me the other provisions which I needed, not having received any news of the provisions to be sent to the Colony, although they were to have arrived more than two months ago.

On the morning of the 6th I sighted a ship following a course to join the English frigate, which was then more than a League to Windward of me. This ship, after giving the recognition signal, hoisted the English ensign and pennant, and a short time later I recognized her as the frigate *Glasgow* with whom I had spoken on the 3rd of this month; they communicated together and sailed in company until 3 o'clock in the afternoon, at which time the *Glasgow* parted company following a course Away from the Coast.

The English frigate gained on me, being much to windward, during the Day, but as a result of my choice of tacks along with my spreading more Sail during the Night, I found myself much to Windward of her on the morning of the 7th; I further took my revenge before the wind, having then much the advantage Over the *Niger*.

At Sunset on the 7th I found myself, as was the English frigate, 4 to 5 Leagues from the Entrance to the Cape. I decided to approach quite closely in the Moonlight in order to send a Ship's Boat with an officer, to both the Commander of the *Terpsicore*⁶ and Mr. de Lileencourt,⁷ so that they would be forewarned of the arrival of this frigate and of that which had happened, but they had been advised by Monsieur d'Argout that the frigate was to come to the Cape, with orders to welcome her. The frigate *Inconstante*, which had been sent to Jamaica by Monsieur d'Argout, had been very well received there.

The English frigate and mine entered this road together yesterday evening, and I expect to sail after tomorrow morning to scout the coast from here to the Môle, and then go to pick up Provisions at Port-au-Prince, and I expect tomorrow to give a formal dinner for the Captain of the English frigate and the captain of the Spanish frigate, and to render to them all the courtesies possible on my part.

I have no doubt that you are informed of the number of English Warships which are presently at Jamaica under the orders of Sir Peter Parker, Rear Admiral

of the Blue. I nevertheless attach herewith the List of those now there to my Knowledge since the departure of Admiral Gayton in the Ship of the Line *Antelope*. There may be others, however, of which I have no knowledge; there are also in this number of ships some whose Captains' names I do not know, but I yet take the liberty of attaching here the list, such as I can, to send to you.

According to a conversation with the English Captain Robert Lambert, I believe I am certain that it was the frigate *Winchelsea*, Captain Bateman,⁸ which was the Ship Commanding the two that committed hostilities at Jean Rabel Bay the 28th November last,⁹ of which Monsieur the Comte d'Argout sent you an Account.

I have the honor to be with the most profound Respect My Lord [&c.]

Verdun de la Crenne

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fols. 209–12. Notation at top of first page: "M de F.[*leurieu*]/M. Verdun de la Crenne/*La Renommée*."

1. Robert, Comte d'Argout de Neritiers.
2. Capt. Thomas Pasley, R.N.
3. See Marquis Verdun de La Crenne to Gabriel de Sartine, 30 Jan., above.
4. Capt. Christopher Atkins, R.N.
5. See Captain Christopher Atkins, R.N., to Lieutenant Henry Thorp, R.N., 4 Jan., above.
6. Lieutenant de Vaisseau Jean-Joseph Teyssier Des Farges.
7. Possibly, Jean-Baptiste de Tastes de Lillancourt, an officer at Saint-Domingue in 1754.
8. Capt. Nathaniel Bateman, R.N.
9. See NDAR 10: 618, 629, 636–38, 719–21, 741–42 and Vice Admiral Clark Gayton to Philip Stephens, 14 Jan., above.

CAPITAINE DE VAISSEAU CHARLES PICOT, CHEVALIER DE DAMPIERRE
TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

1^{ere}

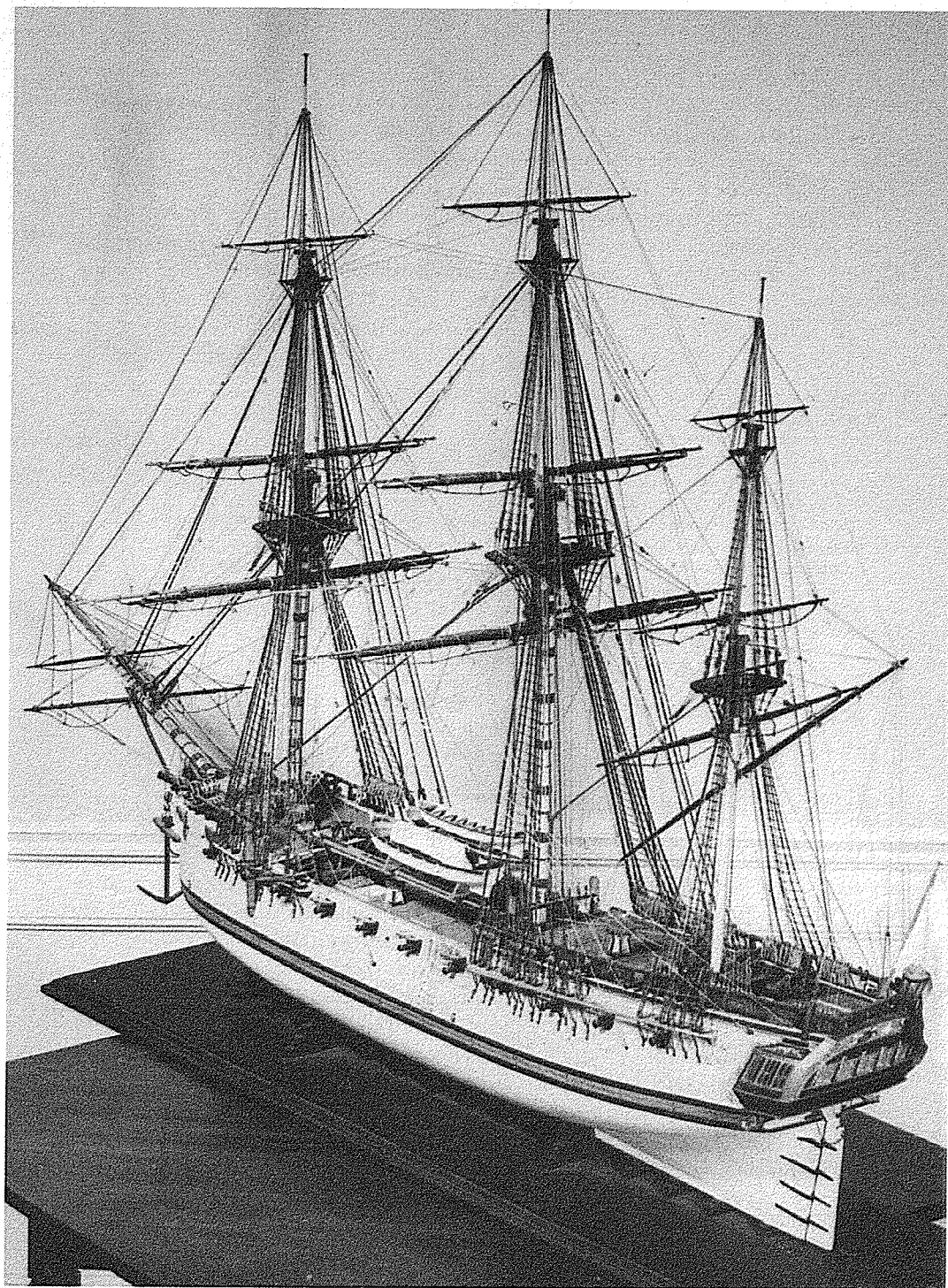
au fort royal martinique le neuf mars 1778

Monseigneur

Le dernier du mois de fevrier une fregatte angloise la *Seaford*¹ Cap^{te}. Boldeness a commit un acte d' hostilité Bien Extraordinaire. elle a prés dans la petite anse layet pres du fonds capot Entre S^t pierre & le fort royal un corsaire americain,² qui S'y Estoit mal Echoué. L' equipage du corsaire S'est jetté a L'eau, & les royalistes En tirant dessus ont Blessé un Soldat françois a Terre. j'ai representé a m^e le general³ qu'il falloit Envoyer une fregate a L'amiral anglois a antigues⁴ pour lui demander Justice. il m'a repondu que cela n'estoit pas necessaire.

Si la fregatte la *Blanché*⁵ qui revenoit de convoier ne s'estoit pas trouvée En calme a Trois lieues Sous le Vent Eut pû rencontrer la fregatte angloise m^e le ch^{lr} de Trecession L'eut puni de Sons insolence; mais il ne pût Sçavoir ce qui Estoit arrivée qu'a onze heures du soir par le retour de L'officier qu'il avoit Envoie a la Batterie pour Sçavoir ce dont il Estoit question; il fût la route qu'on lui dit que L'anglois Tenoit avec Sa prise; mais le calme qu'il y Eut Toutte la nuit L'a mis hors d'etat de rien voir au jour. la fregatte angloise avoit plus de quatre heurs d'avance Sur lui. m^e le ch^{lr} de Trecession qui n'avoit des vivres que Jusque au quatre de ce mois Est venu En faire icy.

les anglois ont icy le *yarmouth* Vau. de Soixante Six canons, le *portland* de cinquante & Seize fregattes ou corvettes. je crois que leurs forces Sont Beaucoup plus considerables que les nostres qui avons Trois isles a garder dont deux Sont Separées par la dominique.



Continental Navy frigate Raleigh

les anglais ont de plus Beaucoup de corsaires qui pillent ainsy que les corsaires americains les Bateaux & mesme les marchands françois. on accorde Beaucoup Trop de protection icy a ces derniers les Americains mesme pour le commerce. Les hollandois ont Enviré des Vaux de guerre dans leurs colonies de ces mers. je Suis avec Le plus profond respect Monseigneur [&c.]

Le ch^{lr} De Dampierre

[Translation]

at Fort Royal Martinique 9th March 1778

My Lord

At the end of the month of February an English frigate the *Seaford*¹ Capt. Boldeness committed a Very Extraordinary act of hostility. She captured an American privateer² in small Layet Cove capsized near the back part between St. Pierre and Fort Royal which had run hard aground. The crew of the privateer jumped into the water, & the Royalists while firing on them wounded a French soldier on the land. I pointed out to the General that a frigate should be sent to the English admiral at Antigua to request justice from him. He answered that it was not necessary.³

If the frigate *Blanche*,⁴ which was returning from convoy duty, had not been becalmed about three leagues to leeward, she could have fallen in with the English frigate and the Chevalier de Trecesson would have punished her for her insolence. But he did not know until he arrived at eleven o'clock in the evening by the return of the officer that he had sent to the Battery to find out what was happening; he followed the course that he was told the English had taken with the prize; but the calm which lasted all night prevented him from seeing until daybreak. The English frigate had more than a four hours headstart on him. The Chevalier de Trecesson, who had only enough provisions until the fourth of this month, came in here to replenish.

The English have here the *Yarmouth*, a ship of sixty-six guns, the *Portland* of fifty & sixteen frigates or corvettes. I believe that their forces are considerably greater than ours, which have three islands to guard, of which two are separated by Dominica.

The English further have many privateers which plunder as the American privateers do French boats and even merchant ships. Too much protection is granted here to these Americans, even for trade. The Dutch have sent warships to their colonies in these seas. I am with the most profound respect Sir [&c.]

The Chevalier De Dampierre

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fol. 33. Notation: "M d. F[leurieu]; M de Dampierre."

1. H.M. frigate *Seaford*, Capt. John Colpoys, commander.

2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 28 Feb. and 1 Mar., above.

3. The governor general did send such a letter. See Governor Marquis de Bouillé to Vice Admiral James Young, 10 Mar., below.

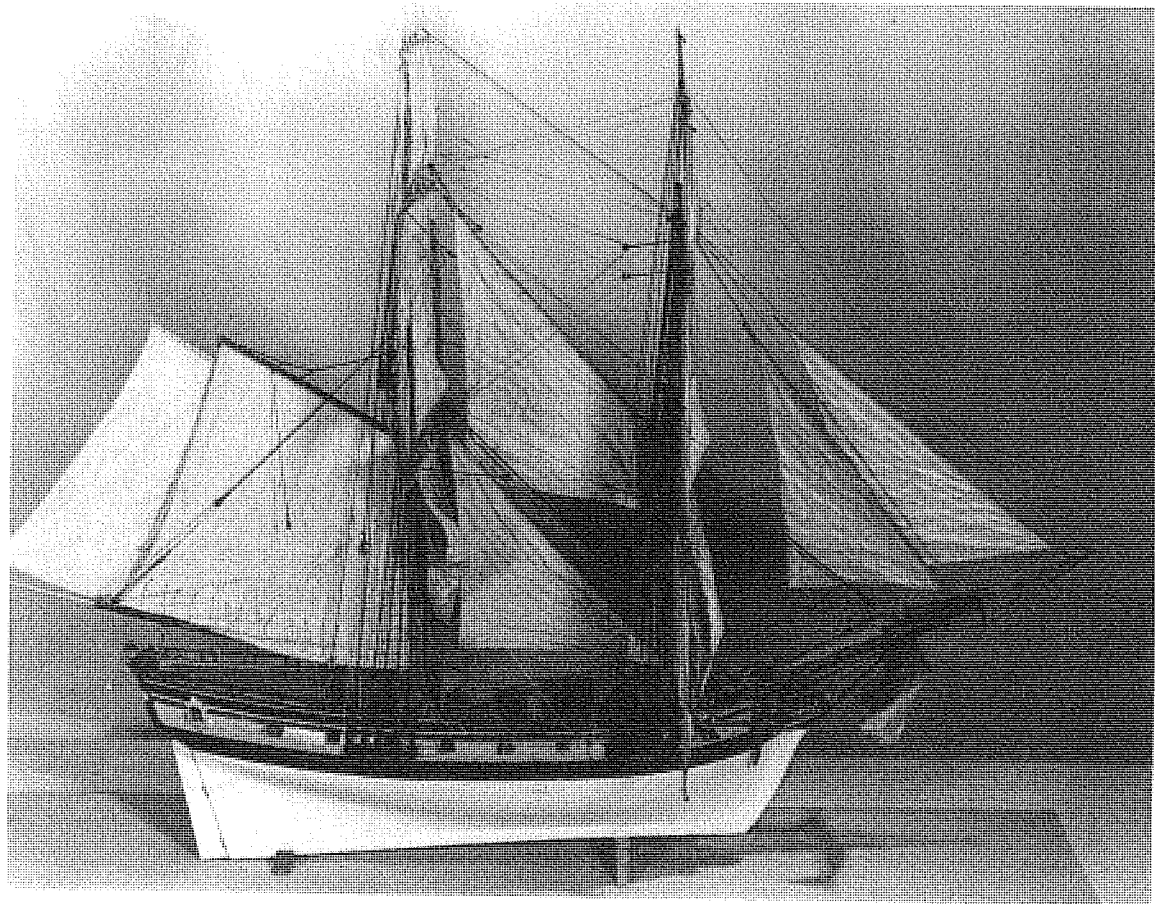
4. French Navy frigate *Blanche* (26 guns), Lieutenant de Vaisseau Chevalier de Trecesson Carne, commander.

LOG OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *TYRANNICIDE*,
CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN

[*St. Pierre, Martinique*]

Remarks on Monday March 9th. 1778

These 24 Hours a Moderate Breeze & pleasant Weather
employed in getting up the Rigging



South Carolina privateer Fair American

Cap^t Sam^{el}. Ingersoll¹ came on Board the Brig^t from S^t Eustacia haveing been Taken by an Island Cruiser and Set at liberty again

D, MSaE, Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide* (November 1777–May 1778).

1. Capt. Samuel Ingersoll, of Salem, a merchant and later a privateer captain. See *NDAR* 7: 3.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ARIADNE*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PRINGLE

March 1778

Barbados SWBW 43 Leagues—

Monday 9.

Moderate and Fair. at 6 am saw two sail in the N.E. made the signal & gave chase. at 11 fired two shot at the Headmost ship who took no notice of them. at ½ past made the signal for the *Ceres* to tack, at noon repeated it. still in chase.

Barbados S° 67 Leagues—

Ditto Weather. at ½ past 12 the *Ceres* came up with the sternmost ship, who Hoisted Rebel Colours & Exchanged a Broadside with her in passing. At 1 came to Action with the before mentioned ship as did the *Ceres*; and at ½ past 1 the Rebel struck, the Headmost ship making off. The prize proved to be the *Alfred* of 20. 9^{prs}. & 181 men commanded by Elisha Hinman,¹ who informed me the other ship was the *Raleigh* of 32 guns.² Employed 'till 3 pm taking the prisoners out, & then made sail after the other ship. at 9 PM lost sight of the Prize.

D, UKLPR, Adm., 51/60, part 2, fol. 58.

1. Continental Navy ship *Alfred*, Elisha Hinman, commander, Congress ship of war, mounting 20 guns, crew of 180 men, 300 tons burthen, sent into Barbados. Young's Prize List, 20 July 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*, Capt. Thomas Thompson, commander, returning to America from France.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*, COMMANDER JAMES R. DACRES

March 1778

Latt^d. 15°..9 N [*north of Barbados*]

Monday 9

at 5 A.M Saw two Sail in the NE Qt^r. D^o gave Chace as Also the *Ariadne* at 12 One of the Ships Hoisted Rebell Colours w^{ch}. we Began to Engage

Latt^d. 17°..34 N

D^o. Weath^r [Light Breezes & Clear Weath^r] at ½ past 1 P.M the Rebel Privateer Struck to his Maj^{ty}s. Colours D^o. Brought too Hoisted out our Boats & took Possession of the Prize w^{ch}. prov'd to be the *Alfred* Belonging to the Rebels¹ Rec^d. on Board 59 Prizoners² at 5 Hoisted the Boats in & Gave Chace to the other Ship³ in C^o. wth. the *Ariadne*

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4141, part 8, fol. 197. The journal was kept by Lt. David Lockwood.

1. Continental Navy ship *Alfred*.

2. See Muster Book of H.M.S. *Ceres*, 9 Mar., below.

3. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ON BOARD THE STATE BRIG *NOTRE DAME*,
DATED LAT. 13 LONG 57. MARCH 9, 1778.”

CHARLESTOWN, (S.C.) April 2.

Last Friday¹ the Prize-master² of a schooner taken by Capt. Biddle³ the 28th of February, arrived here: By him the following advices were received.

Extract of a Letter from on board the State Brig Notre Dame,
*dated Lat. 13 Long 57. March 9, 1778.*⁴

“On the 5th instant we brought too 2 Dutch frigates in lat. 18 long. 55—On the 7th saw a sail bearing E.N.E. gave chase; at 5 P.M. she appeared to be very large;⁵ she bore down upon us; at 7 she fired a gun, & then hailed the *General Moultrie*,⁶ who answered her; I being under the *General Moultrie*’s lee quarter, the *Randolph* on the *General Moultrie*’s weather-bow, the *Polly*⁷ to windward of both, and the *Fair American*⁸ to leeward of me. The enemy passed by the *General Moultrie*, and proceeded towards the *Randolph*. Captain Biddle hove out no signal for drawing up in line of battle, but laid his mizentopsail to the mast, and got ready to engage. The *General Moultrie* being to windward of me, I could not get up to the *Randolph*’s wake, therefore laid my topsail to the mast, to allow the *General Moultrie* to shoot ahead, both of us being then with our starboard tacks on board. By this time the enemy’s ship got so near to the *Randolph* as to hail her, when the later luffed up in the wind, and brought her quarter and quarter deck guns to bear upon her, and discharged them. I immediately gave the enemy a broadside; she shot to windward of the *Randolph* and gave her a broadside; a warm engagement then ensued, and continued for twelve minutes, the *General Moultrie* and myself being within 100 yards of the enemy; At this time the *Randolph* unfortunately blew up; and I tho’t it best to get clear of her.—The enemy immediately after gave chase to the *General Moultrie* and myself: I stood to the Westward, and the *Moultrie* to the southward. The enemy carried a flag at her foretopmast head. The *Randolph* shot away the enemy’s mizentopmast and bowsprit. The second day after the engagement, I spoke the *Polly*, and am now in company with her, all well on board both vessels.”

Another letter from on board the same vessel, of the same date, says, “Neither Anthony [*Polly*] nor we received any hurt in the engagement, although we were near the *Randolph* and the *General Moultrie*, who were in the thickest of the fire. After the *Randolph* blew up, the enemy never stooped to save one man. but left them all to drown, and immediately gave chase to Sullivan [*General Moultrie*] and us; after firing a shot, finding she could not come up with our vessel, she wore and stood after the *General Moultrie*.”

The Prize master says, the enemy’s vessel hailed, “The *Portland*,” she is Admiral Young’s ship, and mounts 50 guns.

Connecticut Journal, 13 May 1778.

1. March 27.

2. Midn. Simeon Fanning.

3. Capt. Nicholas Biddle, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

4. The letter was from Capt. William Hall, commanding South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame*, to Edward Blake, First Commissioner, Board of Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina. See A Letter from Charlestown, South Carolina, dated 29th of March 1778, and President Rawlins Lowndes of South Carolina to President of Congress, 30 Mar., below.

5. H.M.S. *Yarmouth*, Capt. Nicholas Vincent, commander.

6. South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie* (18 guns), Capt. Philip Sullivan, commander.

7. South Carolina privateer brigantine *Polly* (16 guns), Capt. Hezekiah Anthony, commander.

8. South Carolina privateer brigantine *Fair American* (14 guns), Capt. Charles Morgan, commander.

"A LIST OF 181 PRISONERS TAKEN OUT OF THE REBEL SHIP *ALFRED*. VICTUA^D AT 2/3^D ALLOWANCE"

N ^o .	Entry.	Year	Appear- ance.	MENS NAMES.	Qualities	D. D.D. or R.	Time of Discharge	Year	Whither or for what Reason.
1	9. Mch	1778	9 March	Elisha Hinman Peter Richards Peter Douville Cha ^s Bulkey Jn ^o Welch. W ^m Hamilton Nathan Richards Edw ^d Revely Zach ^a Hall Freegift Arnold Jos: Hitchman Peter Burroughs John Lay Pardoin Burnham Jn ^o Lundland Sam ^l Lamb W ^m . Manders Evan Dio Ben Beoch Silas Derby	Capt ⁿ . 1 } 2 } Lieut 3 } Capt Marines Lieut d ^o . d ^o . Master Carp ^r	D	9 March	1778	<i>Ceres</i>
20	9 Mch	1778	9 Mch	Jn ^o Shouls Eleaz ^r Jackson Jos: Delahoy Jn ^o Tennant Ben. Bedford W ^m Mitchell W ^m Fell Jn ^o OBrien Luther Brock					
21									

9 MARCH 1778

"A LIST OF 181 PRISONERS TAKEN OUT OF THE REBEL SHIP *ALFRED*. VICTUA^d AT 2/3^d ALLOWANCE"

No.	Entry.	Year	Appear- ance.	MENS NAMES.	Qualities	D. D.D. or R.	Time of Discharge	Year	Whither or for what Reason.
40	9 Mch		9 Mch	Cha ^s Beers		D	9 March	1778	<i>Ceres</i>
41				Jn ^o Dunlap					
				Jn ^o Marchant					
				Eb ^r Flag					
				Tho ^s . Perrin					
				And ^w . Tiler					
				Peter Chalon					
				Julian Benvoir					
				Dom Faernel					
				Jul ⁿ . Karodine					
				Jn ^o Brady		D	9 March	1778	<i>Ceres</i>
				Jon ^a . Hammett					
				Ja ^s Tindall					
				Tho ^s Manter					
				Corn ^s Norton					
				Peter Daniel					
				Ant ^o Da Sylva					
				Ja ^s Bloudier					
				Ja ^s Percoff					
				Louis Gouillion					
				Ant ^r Dyer					
				Donald Tinker					
				Em ^c Da Sylva					
				Jean Colleax					
				Peter La Coste					
				Henry Toullie					
				Philip Joseph					
				W ^m Swain					
				Fra ^s L'Reau					

60				Pero Sharper					
61	9 Mch	1778	9 Mch.	Louis Kiou					
				Jos: Jackson					
				Shandy Hilman					
				Cesar Baxter	D	9 March	1778	<i>Ceres</i>	
				Pierre Olivier					
				Prince Chace					
				W ^m : Roche					
				Nath ^l Marston					
				Nath ^l Hinman					
				Elias Carr					
				Sam ^l Guile					
				W ^m M ^c Neill	D	16 March	1778	Barbados	
				Edw ^d Brown					
				John Bowles					
				Rob ^t M ^c Farling					
				W ^m Sheldon					
				And ^w . White					
				Geo: M ^c Kenny					
				Cuff Belcher					
				Tlocks Gill					
81	9 Mch	1778	9 Mch	John Prunel	D	16 March	1778	Barbados	
				Edw ^d Parsons					
				Nich ^s Greely					
				Jerm ^h Molie					
				Chr ^r Raney					
				Pierre Godard	D	16 March	1778	Barbados	
				Geo Crump					
				Jn ^o Hall					
				Aug ^e Dugo					
				Jn ^o Kellenbech					
				Anth ^y Gill					
				Cato Denny					
				Rich ^d Bramble					
				Nath ⁿ Spicer					

"A LIST OF 181 PRISONERS TAKEN OUT OF THE REBEL SHIP *ALFRED*. VICTUA^d AT 2/3^d ALLOWANCE"

N ^o .	Entry.	Year	Appear- ance.	MENS NAMES.	Qualities	D. D.D. or R.	Time of Discharge	Year	Whither or for what Reason.
100	9 Mch	1778	9 Mch	Jon ^a Cogswell	Surg ⁿ	D	16 March	1778	Barbados
101				Rich ^d Cockhran					
				Sam ^l Erlom		D	16 March	1778	Barbados
				James Butler					
				Ishmael Powers		D	16 March	1778	Barbados
				Amos Windship					
				Joseph Day		D	16 March	1778	Barbados
				John Martin					
				Joseph Francis					
				Josh ^a Landlaud					
				Prince Doggett					
				Corn ^s . Dunham					
				W ^m Bartlett					
				Joshua Day					
				Benj ^a Millett					
				John Anderson					
				Geo: Richards					
				Rich ^d Morrison					
				Steph ⁿ Minor					
				Ja ^s Davis					
				Thomas Fowler					
				W ^m Tinker					
				Mich ^l Ryan					
				Jon ^a Emerson					
				Silas Doggett					
				Amos Lane					
				Tho ^s Burton					
121				Abner Rogers		D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados
				Jacob Allen					
				Jos: Poppolo					

140					Stephen Pegg	}	D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados
					Josh ^a Mitchell					
141	9 March	78		9 Mch	Asa Kimball	}	D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados
					Sam ^l Nickolls					
					Ja ^s Hogan	}	D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados
					Corn ^s Riley					
					Josh ^a Spear	}	D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados
					Ja ^s Coughlin					
					Rob ^t Lask	}	D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados
					Nich ^s Murphy					
					Sam ^l Moses	}	D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados
					Ja ^s . Castle					
					David Bell	}	D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados
					Jos Dobell					
					John Brinley	}	D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados
					James Miles					
					James Skilling	}	D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados
					Jotham Harris					
					W ^m Day	}	D	16 March	1778	Barbados
					Tho ^s . Jeffries					
					Sam ^l . Rawlins	}	D	16 March	1778	Barbados
					Louis Rabin					
					S ^c Jacque	}	D	16 March	1778	Barbados
					Pierre Marle					
					And ^w . Knett	}	D	16 March	1778	Barbados
					Etien Benard					
					Major Tessieu	}	D	16 March	1778	Barbados
					Fra ^s Guigneville					
					Pierre Movan	}	D	16 March	1778	Barbados
					Jos Aubry					
					Jacque Marc	}	D	16 March	1778	Barbados
					Pierre Garandell					
					And ^w Bronet	}	D	16 March	1778	Barbados
					Pierre Fiquet					
					Jos. Bigolet	}	D	16 March	1778	Barbados
					Fra ^s . Mandeville					

"A LIST OF 181 PRISONERS TAKEN OUT OF THE REBEL SHIP *ALFRED*. VICTUA^d AT 2/³^d ALLOWANCE"

N ^o .	Entry.	Year	Appearance.	MENS NAMES.	Qualities	D. D.D. or R.	Time of Discharge	Year	Whither or for what Reason.
160				Jacque Fromage	}				
161.				Paul Chaloun					
				And ^w Kerney					
				John Conway					
				Claude La Combe					
				Jan Solier					
				Pierre Rene					
				Jan Gourel					
				Aug ^e Daigre					
				Philip Le Clerc					
				Hyacinte Gautier					
				Fra ^s Chequelle		D	16 March	1778	Barbados
				Giles Lanaux					
				Deville Blanche					
				Jan Louis Dumois					
				Louis Caix					
				W ^m . Grimes					
				Jan de France					
				Mich Percoff					
				Jos: Casneuf					
				Eve Dayeux					
181.				Jan Plesson					
									Tho ^s . Pringle F: Spurrier David Morgan John Booke

MUSTER TABLE OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*

[Extract] N ^o	Entry.	Year	Appear- ance	Whence and whether Prest or not.	MENS NAMES.	Qualities	D. D.D. or R.	Time of Discharge	Year	Whither or for what Reason.
[41]	9 Mar	1778	Mar 9	<i>Ariadne</i> taken in the <i>Alfred</i> an American Ship of 20 Guns	Edw ^d . Reevely	Mas	D	16 Mar	1778	Barbados Goal Merch ^t Service
5					Peter Arnold	Mid	D	9 Apr		
					Jos Hitchman Zach Hall Peter Burroughs	Mid Carp ^r	}			
					John Lay Geo Burnham Jos D'lahoy Jn ^o . Lundland	Ab		16 Mar	1778	Barbados Goal
50					Sam ^l . Lamb Jn ^o Tenant		D D	16 15		Fly Barbados Goal D ^o Nova Scotia Volunteers
52	9 Mar	1778	Mar 9	Taken out of the <i>Alfred</i> an American Ship of 20 Guns	W ^m Manders		D	16 Mar	1778	} Barbados Goal
					Evan Dio Ben Beech		D D	16 16		
5					Silas Derby Ben Bedford		D D	16 15		
					Jn ^o Shoals	Ab	D	16		
					W ^m . Mitchell W ^m . Fell Eleaz Jackson	Ab Ab	D D D	15 15 16	1778	Fly Barbados

9 MARCH 1778

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MUSTER TABLE OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*—Continued

[Extract] N ^o	Entry.	Year	Appear- ance	Whence and whether Prest or not.	MENS NAMES.	Qualities	D. D.D. or R.	Time of Discharge	Year	Whither or for what Reason.
5	9 Mar	1778	Mar 9	taken out of the <i>Alfred</i> an American Ship of 20 Guns	Jn ^o . O'Brien	Ab	D	15	1778	Goal <i>Fly</i>
					Luther Breck	Ab	D	16		
					Cha ^s Beers		D	16		Barbados Goal
					Jn ^o . Dunlap		D	16		
					Jn ^o Marchant		D	16		
70					Eben ^r Flag		D	16	1778	
					Tho ^s Perrin		D	16		
					And ^w Tiler		D	16		
					Peter Chalon		D	16		Barbados Goal
					Julian Benvoir		D	16		
5					D, Faernal		D	16		
					Ju ⁿ . Harodrine		D	16		
					Jn ^o Brady		D	16	1778	<i>Fly</i>
					Jn ^o Hammett		D	16		
					Ja ^s Tindal		D	15		
80					Tho ^s Manter		D	16		Barbados Goal
					Corn ^s . Norton		D	16		
					Peter Daniel		D	16	1778	Merch ^t Service
					Ant ^o . D, Silva		D	9 Apr		
					Ja ^s Bloudier		D	16 Mar		Barbados Goal
					Ja ^s Percof		D	16		
					Louis Guillon		D	16		
					Anth ^y Dyer		D	15		Loyal Nova Scotia Volunteers

					Don ^t Tinker	D	16		Barbados Goal
5					Em ^l . D, Silva	D	9 Apr	1778	Merch ^t Service
86	9 Mar	1778	Mar 9	taken out of the <i>Alfred</i> an American Ship of War	Jean Coilleaux	D	16 Mar	1778	} Barbados Goal
					Peter L'Coste	D	16		
					Hy Touillie	D	16		
					Phi Joseph	D	16		} Merch ^t Service
90					W ^m Swain	D	16		
					Fra ^s . L'Reau	D	16		
					Pero Sharper	D	9 Apr	1778	} Barbados Goal
					Louis Kious	D	16 Mar		
					Jos Jackson	D	16		
5					Shandy Hilman	D	9 Apr	1778	Merch ^t Service
					Ceasar Baxter				
					Pierre Olivier	D	16 Mar	1778	Barbados Goal
					Prince Chace	D	9 Apr		Merch ^t Service
					W ^m . Roche	D	16 Mar		Barbados Goal
100					Tho ^s Burton	Ab	D	16	Sup ^r List

D, UKLPR, Adm. 36/7828. Blank columns have been omitted.

March 10

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *APOLLO*, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

March 1778

Ditto [South end of Nantucket Shoal] NNW 5 Lg^s.

Tuesday 10

at 2 [AM] wore and Stood [to] the Southward, 35 fath. white sand, at 8 saw a Sail to the Westward, gave Chace, at 10 fired [2] Guns and brought too the Chace, the *Polly* Schooner¹ from Wignaw, South Carolina bound to Salem, with Rice, Indigo and Deerskins, put a Petty Officer and Men on board her, close reef'd the TS

Rhode Island NbE 22 Leagues

First part fresh breezes, middle and latter Foggy. at 4 PM had 40 fath. water, muddy Sand, Prizes in Company,² at 10 wore Ship, at midnight lost sight of the Prizes, 35 fath. water, green sand,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 8.

1. Schooner *Polly*, Benjamin Cox, master, owned by Henry Williams & Co., from South Carolina to Salem, with rice, indigo & deerskins, sent into Newport. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486. She was libelled on 15 Apr. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and condemned as a lawful prize of the *Apollo* on 8 May. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 96.

2. Sloop *Sally* and schooner *Polby*.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 10th 1778

Order'd, That M^r Ivers¹ pay Nathaniel Jenkins on Account Brig^t *Favorite*² . . . £5.. 8.. 6—

Order'd, That M ^r Ivers pay Cap ^t Israel Turner ³ for Sundry disbursments on Ship <i>Adams</i> , ⁴ Pr ^t Acc ^t	£76..15.—
also, for Ballance of Brig <i>Dolphins</i> ⁵ Acc ^t	224..14..10

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 248–49.

1. Thomas Ivers.

2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

3. Capt. Israel Turner.

4. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.

5. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*, Capt. Israel Turner, commander.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO MORRIS, PLIARNE, PENET & CO.

Gentlemen

War Office Boston March 10th 1778

This please God will be delivered you by Captⁿ. Nicholas Bartlet Master of our Brig^a. *Favorite*¹ by whom you will receive Letters from our mutual Friends Mess^{rs}. John Cripps & Mey Merchants in Charlestown South Carolina² inclosing Invoice & Bill of Lading of a Cargo of Rice which we wish safe to your hands. You will please to dispose of the Cargo to our best advantage and dispatch the Brig^a. directly back. ballast with Salt to which you will add an assortment of such Articles as mention'd below. You will

be kind enough to send us the masters receipt for such moneys as you may furnish him with to pay his Men & other disbursments—We are very respectfully [&c.]

By order the Board
Thomas Walker Pres^t P T

Schedule—

Three point Blanketts
Blue Cloth
White d^o. proportion'd 7/8 Blue 1/16 white 1/16 Red
Red D^o. for Soldiers Cloths
Stout large Shoes & Stockings of a good Quality for Soldiers
Linnen for Shirting for d^o from 30^s to 50^s Sols
Ravens Duck
Ticklenburgh
Cordage of different Sizes from 1 to 4 Inches
100,000 Flints
50 Barrels Powder—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), pp. 162–63.
Addressed at foot: “Mess^{rs}. Morris Pliarne Penet & Comp^r.”

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
2. John S. Cripps and Florian Charles Mey.

MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH TO CAPTAIN HUGH DALRYMPLE, R.N.

Sir Head Quarters Boston Mar^h 10th: 1778

Inclosed are Sundry Letters from Lieu^t Gen^l Burgoyne by which you will learn his present Situation

Altho I wish on every Occasion to extend the Utmost Generosity to the Gentlemen of the Army yet to allow Letters to pass Unopened would be betraying the trust reposed in me, therefore any Idea of granting Such an Indulgence can not be admitted.

If any advantage in the Economy of Expence to the Government of Great Britain may be derived from Landing any Over pluss of Provisions from the Fleet for the Use of the Troops of the Convention, I have not the least Objection to it But wish you would ascertain the matter as Soon as Possible—

I rest assured, that whilst your vessels Enjoy Perfect Security Under the Sanction of their Flags not the least molestation or Inconvenience will happen to any of our vessels or Inhabitants—

I do my Self the Pleasure to Send Down to the flag^l a Turkey Sent here by Gen^l Burgoyne. I am Sir [&c.]

W Heath

L, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 8, fol. 414. Addressed at foot: “Cap^t Dalrymple.” Docketed: “To Cap^t Dalrymble/Mar. 10. 1778/(Copy sent Congress).”

1. H.M. sloop *Haerlem*.

LEONARD JARVIS TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

The Hon^l the Commiss^r of the Navy Board
Gentlemen

Dartmouth [Mass.] Mar 10th. 1778

Your Favour of the 3^d Instant^l was deliverd me by M^r Trivett²—Cap^t Rathburn³ has not yet got here—as soon as he arrives, I shall apply to him to know what may

be wanted for the intended Cruize—& shall apply to your Hon^l Board for those Articles, which cannot be procur'd here

It would have given me real pleasure to have found M^r Agent Trivett—and the Officers of the Sloop willing to send the Goods out of the *Mary*⁴ to Boston—but they have so long look'd upon them as their own that they cannot bring themselves to think of the delivering any part to the Continental Agent.

I am sorry to say that there does not appear to me to be that Disposition to do Justice to the States that I could wish in Officers of the Navy—I was fully of Opinion with your Honourable Board before the Receipt of your Letter—that Congress never meant to give the Captors the whole of what Armed Merchantmen they might take but, as I should have been thought actuated only by selfish Motives, I thought it best not to urge the Matter greatly 'till I was favour'd with your Instructions—since their Arrival, I have not been wanting in my Endeavours to get the Goods lodgd with me to be sent to Boston—but without Effect—all that I can obtain, is, leave to take an Account of them—

The Goods M^r Vesey⁵ tells me are all here—except a few Casks left at Marthas Vinyard to pay those who assisted in unlading &c—The Ship is strip'd & left at Woods Hole—If the Resolution of Congress should be constru'd in favour of the Captors, I shall be glad to hear that this Sloop is to be put out of Commission, being thoroughly persuaded that the Advantage arising to the States from her distressing the Enemy is by no means adequate to the Expence—I expect Cap^t Rathburn will on his Arrival, deliver me his Muster Role for payment—such have been my Advances for Government that I have it not in my power to do it must therefore request the favour of you to enable me to execute your Orders. I have a Quantity of Sugars & some Cotton belonging to the Continent on hand—but such has been the Effect of the talk'd of Regulating Act—that I have not had a purchaser apply for either these two Months. I am [&c.]

Leo: Jarvis

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80. Jarvis was Deputy Continental Agent at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

1. Not found.

2. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines, was prize agent for the officers and crew of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

3. Capt. John Peck Rathbun.

4. Jamaican letter of marque ship *Mary*, taken by *Providence* at Nassau, Bahamas, on 27 Jan. See Libel, 3 Mar., above.

5. Lt. Joseph Vesey, first lieutenant of *Providence*.

COLONEL JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO ROSE & TORRANCE

Gentlemen

Norwich 10th. March 1778

This You'll receive ☞ Capt Parker¹ in the Armed ship *Oliver Cromwell*, belonging to this State who comes to take in the Indigo, I requested you to purchase for and on Account of the State—You'll please to Ship the same by his taking a Sett of four Bills of Lading from Capt Parker therefor, one of which you'll Inclose & send to Mess^{rs} Pliarne Penet & C^o. Merchants in Nantz & forward by Capt Parker, one other you likewise Inclose to them & forward by First good Oportunity, one other You'll forward to me here, & the other You'll hold in Your own Possession—The Freight may be Blank Primage &c as Usual—I shall be glad to hear from you

& receive the Bills of Lading, with your Acc^{ts}. & Account of Prices Current with you, as soon as may be Convenient I hope the *Oliver Cromwell* will meet no Delay with you & dare say she will not by any means in your Power to prevent—I recommend Capt Parker to your favourable Notice, if he should Meet any Damage on his passage, I must also request your Aid & Assistance to him in repairing or Supplying the same &c.—I am [&c.]

Jos: Trumbull—

Copy, Ct, Jonathan Trumbull Papers, vol. 8, p. 101. Addressed at foot: "Mess^{rs} Rose & Torrance." Notation: "Copy—." Rose & Torrance were Alexander Rose, merchant at Charleston, S.C., and John Torrains of Charleston, S.C.

1. Capt. Timothy Parker, Connecticut Navy.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROEBUCK*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

March 1778

[alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]

Tuesd^y 10th.

AM at 9 Sent the *Cornwallis* galley & *Pembroke* to the *Nautilus* in order to go down the River on Information of 3 Vessells being Taken by some Rebel Gun-Boats—¹

[alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]

D^o: W^c: [Fresh Breezes] PM at 2 Haul'd of [f] in the Stream at 4 the *Deleware* & *Camilla* haul'd out in the Stream

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/4311.

1. *Nautilus* was off Billingsport. The three vessels were the transports *Kitty* and *Mermaid* with forage and the armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, of the British Army's Engineers Department. See Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar. below. They had been taken on 7 Mar. off Reedy Island by Capt. John Barry commanding a force of two barges from the Continental frigate *Effingham* and three Pennsylvania Navy armed boats. See Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 9 Mar., above.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN JOHN LINZEE, R.N.

By &c. &c.

Whereas I have thought fit to Station the *Pearl* between Chester and Reedy Island for the purpose of protecting the Navigation of the River; You are hereby directed to proceed thither in the said Ship with all possible dispatch, and Use your best endeavors to take or destroy the Rebel Armed Boats that infest the Mouths of the Creeks in that part of the River; and also to afford Assistance and protection to His Majesty's well effected Subjects going up and down the River, with proper Passes, to Supply the Town of Philadelphia with Provisions.

When any Transports or other Vessels may be coming up the River without Convoy, and not of sufficient Force to protect themselves from the Enemy's Gun-Boats, You are to take them under your protection and escort them within sight of the *Experiment* at Billingsport, Sir James Wallace being directed to take Charge of such Vessels from the *Pearl*, as you are likewise to do from Captⁿ. Phipps¹ of the *Camilla*, who is stationed below You from Reedy Island to the Shoals of the Bay.

And whereas a Body of Troops under Colonel Mawhood² are embarked in Transports, and a number of small Vessels have been sent down the River,

Conducted by Captⁿ Watt³ of the *Delaware*, for the purpose of making Descents on the Enemy's Shore to procure Forage for the Army, You are as much as possible to keep the Enemy's Gun-Boats and Armed Craft from Wilmington and other places from molesting the Fleet, and in case of Application from Captⁿ Watt, you are to be particular in rendering them every Assistance and protection that may be in your power.

You are to endeavour to gain Intelligence of the Motions of the Enemy; and to acquaint me of your proceedings by every favourable opportunity.—

Given &ca. [*on board the Roebuck at Philadelphia*] 10th. March 1778.

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), pp. 22–24. Addressed at foot: "Captⁿ. J. Linzee/—*Pearl*."

1. Capt. Charles Phipps, R.N.
2. Lt. Col. Charles Mawhood, 17th Foot.
3. Comdr. James Watt, R.N.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Tuesday, March 10, 1778

The Committee on the Treasury, brought in a report;¹ Whereupon,

Ordered, . . . That a warrant issue on the commissioner of the loan office for the State of New Jersey, on the application of the Marine Committee, in favour of the navy board in the middle district, for 11,000 dollars; to be charged to the Marine Committee.

JCC 10: 239, 240.

1. DNA, PCC, item 136, vol. 2, p. 145 (M247, roll 145).

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dear Sir,

Wilmington March 9th. 1778—

I received your Favor of the 6th. Inst^t, & in reply to that part relative to the British Prisoners, & their Treatment contained in the Deposition transmitted you, I can truly assert the whole is without the least foundation, except several being frostbit, which Fate many of our Soldiers in common shared with them, from the severity of the Weather, & unavoidably getting their Feet & legs wet in Landing, the Shore being very flatty & muddy; several of our Officers in bringing the Women on Shore got touched, & Cap^t Anderson¹ of the 2^d M^d. Reg^t had the Skin taken of his hands by the Frost, I shou'd have forwarded a state of this Matter, but several of the Officers who superintended the disembarkation & conducting the Prisoners to Town, are now out on Detachment, which prevents its being properly Authenticated, but it shall be sent in two or three Days on their Return.—

Cap^t Barry applied on Saturday Night about 12 Oclock for a Detachment to aid & support him in securing & unlading two Ships² & a Schooner³ which he had taken that afternoon, about Reedy Island, in conjunction with some Armed Boats of this Neighbourhood, one of the Ships mounts 6 and the Schooner 8 carriage Guns, he cou'd not inform what their Loadings were, I advised bringing them up this Creek, but have not heard from him since, but have understood he has hauled

them in the Piers at P^t Penn, & that the upper part of their holds, are stowed with Hay, In much haste remain Your Excellency's [&c]

W Smallwood

Wilmington March 10th 1778

Since I wrote the above an Officer from Cap^t Barry came last Night with a Bag of Ltrs &c. on his way to address them to you who will inform you more particularly of this Affair I hear from him the Ships being loaded with Forage are burnt &c. & we can't hear what has become of the Schooner but it's hoped she has got into Hamburg. Our People were attacked at 2 OClk off P^t Pen by a 20 gun Ship⁴ & an Armed Sloop⁵ which it was supposed were convoying the Remainder of the Forage Fleet—I have received Intelligence that many of the Enemy are out of Philad^a. above their Lines towards German Town but the Intelligence is not to be depended on—I am as above &c—

W S—

N.B. one of the Lt^{rs} gives an Account of 100 Transports being ordered round to Delaware, ab^t the middle of this Month &c

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "Public Service/His Excellency/General Washington/Head Quarters/Valley Forge." Notation: "W Smallwood." Docketed: "Wilmington 9 March/1778/from/Gen^l Smallwood."

1. Capt. Archibald Anderson, 2d Maryland Continental Regiment, who had been promoted to Major, 3d Maryland Continental Regiment, on 10 Jun. 1777.

2. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master, mounting 6 guns. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M. sloop *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., above.

3. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master.

4. H.M. sloop *Dispatch*, 16 guns.

5. H.M. sloop *York*, 12 guns.

CAPTAIN BENNETT MATHEWS TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

His Excellency

Sir

I have received yours¹ Express wherein you mention of a small Fleet being as high up the Bay as Petuxant² I cant tell what their Meneuver may be but you may expect I shall Sail Immediately for Annapolis, & should have been down before now but I could not get my men together. & Indeed I have been so poorly myself this weeks day that I have not been able to go out of the House and farr from being well at present—I Remain [&c.]

Bennett Mathews

Baltimore march 10th 1778

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-92A.

1. Maryland Council to Captain Bennett Mathews, 9 Mar., above.

2. Patuxent River.

"AT A COURT OF ADMIRALTY HELD IN THE CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG,
THE 10TH DAY OF MARCH 1778."

ORDERED, that the clerk of this Court make proclamation in the *Virginia Gazette*, for three weeks succesively, requiring all persons having any right or title to the sloop *Fortune* and cargo,¹ captured by Capt. *Billups*² and his company of mili-

tia of *Gloucester* county, to come into Court and claim the same, otherwise the Court will proceed to decree the money arising from the sales thereof as the law directs.

(*A copy*)

WILLIAM RUSSELL, clerk.

Purdie's *Virginia Gazette* (Williamsburg), 3 Apr. 1778.

1. See Notice of Sale of Prize Sloop *Fortune*, 25 Feb., above.

2. Capt. Richard Billups.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber at
Pensacola on Tuesday the 10th. day of March 1778

The Minutes of the three last days (2^d. 3^d. & 5th. instant) being read and approved His Excellency the Governor acquainted the Board that he had Summoned them at the request of Lieut: Colonel Stiell Commanding officer of His Majestys Troops within this Province who had some papers to lay before the Board

Lieut: Col: Stiell then informed His Excellency and the Board that he had received a Letter from Lieut: Colonel Disckson¹ of the 16th Regiment (at present at Mobile) inclosing a Letter from the Principal Inhabitants of that Town to that officer containing an Application for an Immediate Reinforcement of Troops at this alarming time—and also Covering reasons why the Fort² at Mobile ought to be defended. These Inclosures the Lt. Colonel produced to the Board and the same being read were ordered to be entered on the Minutes of the day and are as follows—

Honbl^e Sir/

At this Alarming time when Certain Accounts have been received of the Rebels having reached Manchack and Committed several depredations on the Mississippi The Inhabitants of this place apprehensive of a Visit from them this Way, Consider themselves fortunate to have an opportunity of addressing themselves to an officer of your Rank who is so well Acquainted with their defenceless Situation, to Solicit You to use your influence with His Majestys Governor and Council, and the Commanding officer of the Province to send an Immediate reinforcement of Troops to this Fort and as they have with the deepest concern heard that this Fort in Case of an Invasion of the Province was intended to be demolished—They have therefore thrown together the Inclosed Reasons for Supporting and putting it in a proper State of defence which in their Humble Opinion merit the most Serious Consideration—We have the Honor to be [&c.]

John McGillivray

Robert Farmar

Peter Swanson

McGrant.

Jn^o Austin

Badon

Jn^o Benjⁿ Downe

W^m Burnett.

Ja^s. McGillivray

Chastang Jeune

W^m Gordon

Tho: Strother.

William Struthers

Walter Hood.

Tho^s Graham—

T^h. Chastang L'ainé

Reasons why the Fort of Mobile ought to be Defended.

That whoever is Master of it has the Command of the Chacktaw and Chickasaw Nations, so as to prevent them assisting His Majesty—

That in Case the Fort is abandoned or taken it will Impress the Indians with an Idea that His Majestys Troops are overcome and may induce them to Join the Rebels as their Ideas Carry them no farther than what they see—

That considering the Great Quantity of Indian Goods in that Town the Possessors of the Fort would have it in their Power to Employ these Indians against whomsoever they Chose

That on the Supposition of the Rebels being possess of the Mississippi and Amit³ was Mobile in their Power also: Pensacola could have no Supply of Provisions for its Inhabitants & Troops but from foreign parts—

That the Fort of Mobile being Possessed by the Rebels would require a Seige at a great expence to reduce it perhaps much greater than the repairing & Garrisoning of it so as to be able to repel them would Cost

That Mobile and its District contains a very considerable movable property which in Case of the Rebels possessing themselves of the Fort would be at the mercy of a Banditti

The Abandoning the Fort would Occasion every Man of Moveable property to send it to other Countries to the entire Ruin of the Trade and agriculture of the Province—

That if Mobile fall Pensacola will Totter having nothing to depend upon but the Troops in it—

That the Fort at Mobile if repaired and Garrisoned is the most defensible place in the Province

A True Copy Examind with the Original now in the Possession of Lieut: Col: Stiell

Rich^d Combault
D Clerk Concii

Pensacola 17th March 1778

His Excellency then desired the opinion of the Board upon the Papers before them

The Board Unanimously advised that every measure that Can possibly be taken should be pursued for the Immediate defence of the Town and Fort of Mobile & they recommend that His Excellency do Consult with Lieut: Colonel Stiell and the Principal Officers in Garrison under his Command, what number of Troops can at this Juncture with propriety be Spared from the necessary Duty of this Fort to reinforce that of Mobile—

His Excellency then Informed the Board That another express having yesterday arrived from the Natchez he thought it necessary that such Intelligence as the man had brought should be heard at this Board Whereupon Joseph Dawes a Settler on the reserved Land near the Natchez being called in gave the following Information upon oath—

Information upon Oath of Joseph Dawes Yeoman living near the Natchez landing, taken at Pensacola before His Excellency Peter Chester Esquire Captain General and Governor in Chief of His Majestys Province of West Florida in Council—

This Informant saith that Early on Friday morning being the 20th of February last Patrick Clemmons (a man who lived at this Informants House) [(J)who had been at the Natchez Landing) about 3 Miles distant, the day before came to his said House, with a Small party of about four or five Men most of them Armed, and all dressed in Hunters Froks and told him that Colonel Willing (as he was called who had been formerly an Inhabitant of the Natchez) was at the Natchez Landing and advised him to go in to him (which Words he understood meant the same as "to Join him) that Clemmons told him, if he refused they had orders to tie him and bring him in That he Promised Clemmons he would come in—upon which Clemmons took him aside from the rest—and told him that he had orders to drive in all the Horses—but as he did not want to hurt him (Dawes) he advised him to hide his Horses in the Cane Brake That this Deponent then asked Clemmons whether he meant to Join them, who told him no, but that he sided with them for the present to secure what little property he had—but that he would Quit them as soon as he could—That this Informant then desired Clemmons and one Robert Dunbar also a Settler at the Natchez who lived with him to go back to the landing and try to find Out their Numbers and what they were come about which they accordingly did and Shortly returned brought him Word that their Numbers appeared to be between four & Six hundred—That Colonel Willing had Sent a party of Men to take a large Batteau which was laying at the White Cliffs about 15 Miles below the Landing and which was laden with Six thousand Bushels of Indian Corn That he had also ordered all the Inhabitants of the Natchez District who were Single men to Join him—and the others who were well Affected to him to remove over to the Spanish side of the River within fifteen days—That they had taken Several Prisoners on their Way down the River (to Wit) John Blommart Esq^r a Magistrate of this Province—at Aux Arcs—M^r Alex^r M^cIntosh & Will^m Eason Planters at the Natchez who were going up the River, Robert Welsh and three others, at Watkin's Landing, and this Informant also saith the he was told Parties had been sent out to take M^r Thompson a Gentleman who lately arrived from Jamaica—And that he saw his Negroes drove in pass't his House and Donald M^cPherson who lived at the next Plantation below this Informants & whom he understands to have been Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions at the Natchez—That William Hiorn Esq^r also a Magistrate was Carried in under a Guard and his Negroes drove in That they had also Seized M^r M^cIntosh's Property—That Jeremiah Roulh a Settler also in the said District who had Joined them called at this Informants House, in his way to take his son in Law Isaac Johnson Esquire, also a Magistrate and shewed him (Dawes) ropes of the kind wherewith he had Tied Donald M^cP[h]erson, and said he had orders to Tie all those and bring them along who refused to go in—That Dunbar and Clemmons farther told this Informant that another party were sent to take Anthony Hutchins Esquire a Magistrate of the Quorum—And this Informant also saith that he saw Several of his Neighbours & other Settlers to the Number of Thirty at least going to Join Colonel Willing That they all seemed very happy upon the Occassion and desired him to go with them which he (fearing the Worst) Promised to do, but that he concealed himself in a Cane Brake and while he lay their M^{rs} Dunbar (the wife of Robert Dunbar) came down for Water—and seeing him told him that she had been informed by Henry Bradley and James Truly both Inhabitants of the District

that Colonel Willing was about to send them off Express to the Chactaw Nation and that they had called at his House for him to go with them That this Informant staid in the Cane Brake untill Saturday morning Early when he made his Escape and passed through the Chactaw Nation And that when he came to the Six Towns he desired the Indians to Seize Bradley and Truly should they come into the Nation and to open all Letters but those directed for Pensacola and Mobille which they Promised to do—That he saw but Two white Men in the whole Nation—The commissarys having gone down as he Understood with a Number of the Chactaws to Visit the Superintendant⁴ at Pensacola—That he sent off an Indian Express to Mobille to alarm the Inhabitants which express however only arrive half a day before him That he got there on Friday last the 6th. Instant late at night and came from thence to this Town where he arrived Yesterday about noon—And this Informant farther saith that he could not learn positively what Willing and his party meant to do at the Natchez—but that it was by some thought he meant to repair the old Fort there⁵ and place some men in it and also that Some time before this party arrived he Spoke with a Batteau Man at the Natchez who said he had then just come from Fort Pitt and that there were between Forty and fifty large Batteaus there, but for what purpose he knew not and that some of these Batteaus had gone adrift with the Fresh and farther this Informant saith not Sworn in the Council Chamber at Pensacola
 this 10th day of March 1778 before His
 Excellency in Council
 Attest^r Rich^d Combauld D Cler Concii

His Excellency also mentioned to the Board that in the present Situation of Affairs he Conceived it to be the duty of every Publick Officer under the Crown in this Town in Particular and the Province in General to exert themselves with the utmost Zeal to Support His Majestys Government and Lawfull Authority—and as he had for sometime observed that numbers of Strangers daily resort to this Town from the Rebellious Colonies or Elsewhere whose Characters for Loyalty and attachment to His Majestys Interest are (if not to be Suspected) at least unknown—they not having thought proper to call upon those in Publick authority to profess and make known their Allegiance to His Majesty and their disapprobation of the present Rebellion Agreeable to an order Published by the Magistrates of this Town on the 24th of June 1776 to that Effect His Excellency therefore Submitted to the Board whether it would not be proper that an order of Council be made and Published Commanding all Strangers whomsoever who now are in this Town and all those who hereafter may arrive in the same during these troublesome times within five days after Publication of this order or their arrival as aforesaid personally to appear before some or one of His Majestys Justices of the Peace or other Publick Officer of Government there to give a good and Satisfactory Account of themselves declaring who they are from whence they came & what their Views and designs may be in coming to this Province and if required take the Oath of Allegiance and the other Oaths required by Law and to Testify their entire disapprobation of the Rebellious measures now carrying on in the Kings Colonies of North America and all Persons who shall or may disregard Evade or disobey this order will be deemed liable to the Penalties and Punishments mentioned in a late

Act of Parliament of Great Britain "Entitled an act to empower His Majesty to Secure and detain Persons Charged with or Suspected of the Crime of High Treason Committed in any of His Majestys Colonies or Plantations in america or on the High Seas or the Crime of Piracy;"⁶ and That the intent of the said order may be the more Effectually carried into Execution that all and every the Inhabitants of this Town and in particular all Innholders Tavern keepers Retailers of Spirituous Liquors House keepers who entertain Lodgers be hereby required and Commanded within Five days from the Publication of the Said Order on their receiving any Strangers into their Houses to report and give Information to the Clerk of this Board of all Strangers who now are or hereafter may be at their said Houses as lodgers or otherwise upon pain of forfeiting their Licences and being prosecuted with the utmost Rigour of the Law

The Board Unanimously concurring with His Excellency in the necessity of such a Measure It was therefore ordered that the Clerk of this Board do by Publick advertisement notify the Inhabitants thereof that they may take one Notice and Govern themselves Accordingly

And then the Board Adjourned—

D, UKLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 254–58.

1. Lt. Col. Alexander Dickson, commanding officer of British troops at Mobile.
2. Fort Charlotte.
3. Amite River.
4. Col. John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District.
5. Fort Panmure.
6. Known as "North's Act," the law authorized holding suspects without benefit of *habeas corpus*.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ARIADNE*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PRINGLE

March 1778

Barbados S° 67 Leagues—

Tuesday 10.

At 6 AM saw several casks Floating by which suppose was thrown overboard by the chace.¹ At 8 am made the signal to speak with the *Ceres*, & finding that the Chace was Lightening & that we did not gain upon her, left off chace she being then 4 Leag^s distant, & Hauled the Wind to the Southward.—

Barbados S° 90 Leagues

Light Airs & fair. At 5 PM saw several Casks floating by, sent the Boat & Examined them, proved to be Empty Beef & Water Casks. which was thrown overboard by the *Raleigh*. The *Ceres* in Company.—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/60, part 2, fol. 59.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*, COMMANDER JAMES R. DACRES

March 1778

[off *Guadeloupe*]

Tuesday 10

at 9 A.M found we did not Come up wth. the Chace¹ Do^o.
Veer'd Ship as Did the *Ariadne* & Stood to the Sthward
Latt^d. 17°.. 34 N

First part Light Winds Midd^{le}. & Latt^{er} fresh Breezes & Cloudy
P.M & A.M Nothing Material Peop^{le}. Employ'd Repairing the
Rigging

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/4141, part 8, fol. 197. The journal was kept by Lt. David Lockwood.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*.

GOVERNOR MARQUIS DE BOUILLÉ TO VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG

(A Copy:)

A la Martinique le 10th. Mars 1778

Monsieur

J'ai L'Honneur d'écrire à votre Excellence pour me plaindre d'une Frégate de sa Majesté Britanique, appelée le *Seaford* qui a insulté grièvement le Pavillon du Roy et manqué au droit des Gends, en attaquant et en prenant sur les cotes de la Martinique un Batiment portant Pavillon blanc qui S'y étoit réfugié, et qui S'y étoit meme Echoué. La Chaloupe de cette Frégate a fait feu sur un troupe de Soldats et D'Habitants sans armes, dont un des premiers a été blessé. Je lui demande la punition du Capitaine commandant cette Fregate, la restitution du Batiment; & si elle me refuse une reparation proportionnée, je regarderai cet acte come un hostilité caracterisée et qu'elle a autorisé.

Je Porterai egalement plainte á votre Excellence contre differens corsaires de sa Nation qui foullent, insultent & arrêtent nos caboteurs. si de pareilles Violences étoient repetées, Je la previens que Nos Frégates ne pourroient se dispenser de couler bas tous de ces Pirates q'elles rencontroient.

J'ai L'honneur d'être [&c.]

Le M^{is}: de Bouille

[Translation]

(A Copy:)

Martinique the 10th March 1778

Sir

I have the Honor of writing to your Excellency in order to protest against one of his Britannic Majesty's Frigates, named the *Seaford*, that seriously insulted the King's Flag and failed to observe the laws of Nations by attacking and seizing on the coast of Martinique, a Vessel flying a white flag which had taken refuge there, and which had even run aground.¹ The Long-boat from the Frigate opened fire on a troop of Soldiers and unarmed Inhabitants, of which one of the former was wounded. I request the punishment of the Captain commanding that Frigate,² the restitution of the Vessel; & if you refuse me a proportionate reparation, I shall consider this act as one of a marked hostility and one which you have authorized.

I shall also bring protest before your Excellency against different privateers of your Nation which oppress, insult, and stop our coasting vessels. if similar acts of Violence were to be repeated, I warn you that Our Frigates will not be able to excuse themselves from sinking all of those Pirates that they might encounter.

I have the honor to be [&c.]

Le M^{is}: de Bouille

Copy, UkLPR, Adm. 1/310. Docketed: "Martinique 10. March 1778/Lre of Complaint from the/Marquis De Bouille, Concerns/an American Privateer being/taken near the Island Martinique/by His Majesty's Ship *Seaford*./ (N^o: 1:)/In Adm^t Young's Letter/Dated 7th. April 1778." Enclosure no. 1 in Vice Adm. James Young to Philip Stephens (No. 2), 7 Apr., which was received on 22 May 1778 and read.

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 28 Feb., Captain John Colpoys, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 7 Mar., and Capitaine de Vaisseau Charles Picot, Chevalier de Dampierre to Gabriel de Sartine, 9 Mar., above.

2. Capt. John Colpoys.

CAPITAINE DE VAISSEAU CHARLES PICOT, CHEVALIER DE DAMPIERRE
TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

Duplicata

au fort royal [*Martinique*] le 10 mars 1778

Monseigneur

J'ai L'honneur de Vous rendre compte que m^{re} de Jassaud¹ En venant prendre a St pierre le Convoy qui y Est m'a Ecrit que le Samedy Sept de ce mois Voiant une B^t qui alloit Se perdre parcequ'il Estoit chassé par une fregatte angloise. a asseuré Son pavillon d'un coup de canon, ce qui a rassuré le B^t. il a Esté Ensuite a la fregatte angloise qui Si est Trouvée la *mouche*² cap^{te}. garner. il lui a parlé avec fermeté & politesse. & L'a conduit au large Toutte La nuit.

le B^t chassé Estoit une prize faite par un corsaire americain & chargé de comestible. les colons qui Estoient furieux de ce qu'il y avoit Eu un corsaire americain pris Sous une Batterie³ chantent aujourd huy la palinodie. ils Sont bien difficile a contenter Je Suis avec le plus profond respect Monseigneur [&c.]

Le ch^{te} De Dampierre

[Translation]

Duplicate

at Fort Royal Martinique 10th March 1778

My Lord

I have the honor of sending you an account that Mr. de Jassaud,¹ while coming to St. Pierre to take the Convoy assembled there, wrote to me that on Saturday the Seventh of this month, Seeing a Ship, which was going to be lost because she was being chased by an English frigate, he confirmed his colors with a cannon shot which reassured the Ship. He Then Made for the English frigate which Proved to be the *Fly*, Captain Garner.² He spoke to him with firmness & politeness & escorted her to sea All through the night.

The Ship being chased was a prize captured by an American privateer & laden with foodstuffs. The colonists, who were furious that an American privateer was taken under a Battery,³ are today recanting. They are quite difficult to satisfy. I am with the most profound respect My Lord [&c.]

the Chevalier De Dampierre

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fol. 35. Notation: "M de F[leurieu]; M de Dampierre."

1. French Navy frigate *Amphitrite* (30 guns), Lieutenant de vaisseau André Charles, Chevalier de Jassaud de Thorame, commander.

2. H.M. sloop *Fly*, Comdr. Edward Garner, commander.

3. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 28 Feb. and 1 Mar., and Capitaine de Vaisseau Chevalier de Dampierre to Gabriel de Sartine, 9 Mar., above.

March 11

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 11th 1778

Order'd, That Thomas Lewis for Sundry Work for Brig^t *Favorite*¹ as p^r Bill be p'd . . . £9.. 0.. 6—

Order'd, That Mr Ivers² receive of Lazarus Goodwin for Cap^t Holmes³ Expences & Time for himself & Men to Plimouth after Schooner *Elizabeth*, & for disappointment . . . £40..16/.

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 249–50.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
2. Thomas Ivers.
3. Probably Capt. Bartlett Holmes.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO CAPTAIN ISRAEL TURNER

Cap^t I. Turner,War-Office, Boston March 11th 1778

You being Master of the Brig *Dolphin*,¹ now ready to sail, Your Orders are to proceed to Bilboa in Spain, & on your arrival there, to deliver your Letters to Mess^{rs} Joseph Gardoqui & Sons, to whom you are consign'd.²—When you have discharg'd your Cargo, get your Vessel ready to load back, & when Loaded—make all the dispatch in your power, for this or any other Eastern Port in this, or in the State of New-Hampshire, & immediately after your Arrival give us Notice by an Express—if you should be so Unfortunate as to be taken on your passage to Bilboa, either burn or thro overboard all your letters. Avoid as much as possible Speaking with any Vessells at Sea and be careful of the Vessells Stores & Provisions.—We wish you a good Voyage & safe Return.

By Order of the Board of War

P.S. You are to take in Salt
sufficient to Ballast your Vessel
but you are by no means to load
your Vessel deep.—

I Acknowledge the foregoing to be a true Copy of the Orders I have receiv'd of the Hon^{le}. Board of War and promise to Obey the same

Israel Turner

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), pp. 439–40.
Addressed at top: "Cap^t I. Turner."

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*.
2. See Massachusetts Board of War to Joseph Gardoqui & Sons, immediately below.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO JOSEPH GARDOQUI & SONS

Gentⁿ.War Office Boston March 11th 1778

We have been honor'd with your sundry favors of the 27 April 30th May 17 July 30th & 31st August 18th Sept^r 8th & 18th October & 15th Nov^r & note in conformity their several Contents. We are sorry to inform you that all our adventures both to

and from your Port have miscarried, but we hope this will meet with better fortune. The Bearer of this Captⁿ. Israel Turner in our Brig^a *Dolphin*¹ is loaded with an assorted Cargo, to your address as P^r Invoice & Bill of Lading, which we now enclose & desire you will sell the same for the most it will yeild & invest the Neet proceeds together with the old Ballance in such Articles as are mention'd underneath in proportion to each of them. We entreat you to give Captⁿ Turner all possible dispatch & as by agreement he is to receive £60 Sterling on his safe arrival in Bilboa & the Crew one months pay, this you will advance to him, besides what moneys may be necessary for his Disbursments We are very respectfully [&c.]

By order
Sam^l P Savage Pres^t

1 Cable	14 Inches	120 Fathom
1 d ^o .	14 d ^o .	120 d ^o .
1 d ^o .	13 d ^o .	120 d ^o .
Shroud Hawser	7 ½ Inches	200 Fathom
if in Two Coils one to be 6 fathoms Longer than the other—		
1 main Stay	10 ½ Inches	14 Fathom
1 spring Stay	8 ½ d ^o .	14 d ^o .
Mizen Stay	7 Inches	10 Fath ^m .
1 Fore d ^o .	10 d ^o .	10 d ^o .
1 spring d ^o .	8 d ^o .	10 d ^o .
2 Coil	5 Inch Ropes	120 d ^o Topmast Shrouds
1 Coil	5 ¼ d ^o .	for Mizon Shrouds 120 fath ^m .
1 d ^o .	6 d ^o d ^o .	160 d ^o back Stays
1 d ^o .	6 d ^o d ^o .	30 d ^o Topmast d ^o .
1 d ^o .	4 ½ d ^o d ^o .	30 d ^o for Spring d ^o .
1 d ^o .	5 ½ d ^o d ^o .	80 d ^o for Topsail Sheets
1 d ^o .	4 ½ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o .
1 d ^o .	4 d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o .
2 d ^o .	3 ¾ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o .
4 d ^o .	3 ½ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o each for Lanyards &c.
4 d ^o .	3 ¼ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o each
6 d ^o .	3 d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
6 d ^o .	2 ¾ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
6 d ^o .	2 ½ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
4 d ^o .	2 ¼ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
carried up—		
Bro ^t up		
8 Coils	2 Inch Ropes	120 Fathom each
8 d ^o .	1 ¾ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
8 d ^o .	1 ½ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
8 d ^o .	12 Thread Ratlin	120 d ^o d ^o .
8 d ^o .	9 d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
5 d ^o .	6 d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
4 d ^o .	6 d ^o Worming	120 d ^o d ^o .
10 ^{cwt} ..0..0	4 d ^o Spun Yarn	
10..0..0	3 d ^o d ^o .	

5..0..0 2 d^o. d^o.
 1 Coil 4 ½ Inch 120 Fathom for Fore & main Sheets
 2 main Tacks 7 Inches at y^e knot 14 Fathom each &
 tapering to the end
 2 Fore Tacks 6½ Inches at y^e. d^o. 14 d^o. d^o. &
 tapering to the end
 1 Coil 5 Inch 120 Fathom for boye Ropes
 Bolt Ropes viz^t
 1 Coil 5 Inch 100 Fathom
 1 d^o. 3½ d^o. 100 d^o.
 1 d^o. 2½ d^o. 60 d^o.
 1 d^o. 2 d^o. 80 d^o.
 200 Fathom head Rope 1¾ Inches
 100 d^o. small d^o. 1½ d^o.

The above articles pray send and others as in the Letter

10,000 Blanketts at ab^t. 25 ^{Rials}

10,000 P^r. Soldiers white Stockings at ab^t. 8 Rials

10,000 P^r. d^o. Stout Shoes at ab^t. 16 d^o.

6,000 d^o. Shirts d^o. 20 d^o.

100 P^s Ravens Duck

50 P^s Russia d^o.

50 P^s. Ticklenburgh

Salt sufficient to Ballast the Vessel but by no means to load deep

If the Sales of this Cargo with the Ballance of our Acco^t now in your hands should be more than sufficient to procure the foregoing Schedule you will then Ship us the Ballance in English Blue Cloths from 8/ to 10/. Three Quarters of them to be of the Lower price or 8/ ⁷/₈ yard.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), pp. 163–66.
 Addressed at foot: "Mess^{rs}. J. Gardoque & Sons—."

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*.

CAPTAIN JOHN LAMB TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Dear Sir

Boston 11th. March 1778

I Drew on You for fifteen hundred Pounds in faivour of M^r Waldren¹ which bill Please to honour as P^r Draft. the Ocation of this was the Guns² that come down for Cap^{tn} Smedly³ are not fit for any thing and this Gentleman whome the Draft is in faivour hath Promis^d. the Guns to me that was taken at Providence by Cap^{tn}. Rathbun⁴ no news I am Your Friend

John Lamb

weather being Extreemly bad have not been Able to Do much Since I come Down the above Bill is Drawn in faivour of the bairer

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 24, no. 1557. Docketed in Shaw's hand: "John Lamb's/Letter/Mar. 11. 1778." Docketed in another hand: "1557."

1. Jonathan Waldron, merchant at Stonington, Conn.

2. The cannon for Connecticut Navy ship *Defence*, which were cast at the Salisbury Furnace, Conn.

3. Capt. Samuel Smedley, Connecticut Navy.

4. The 16 guns captured in the Jamaica letter of marque ship *Mary* by the Continental Navy sloop *Providence*, at New Providence I.

BARNABAS DEANE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

Sir

Wethersfield 11th Mar. 1778

The *Trumbull* Frigate which was built under my Direction in this State is Still Block'd up by the Enemy,¹ The Captain of her² Proposes to make an Attempt to get her out Sometime this Month, I find myself in want of Cash to pay off the Bills which are Still due from the Frigate which will Amount to Twenty Thousand Dollars, which Sum Please to Send me an Order for on the Loan Office in This State by the Bearer Col. Wadsworth³ who Can give Your Honor any Information Respecting the Frigate which you might wish to know—I have the Honor to be [&c.]

Bar^s. Deane

L, CtHi, Barnabas Deane Papers, Box 384. Addressed at top: "Hon^{ble}. Henry Laurens Esq^r" Docketed: "Copy of a Letter to The/Hon^{ble}. Henry Laurens Esq^r/March 11th 1778—."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull*. See Journal of the Connecticut Council of Safety, 25 Feb., and Captain John Cotton to Governor Jonathan Trumbull, 26 Feb., above.

2. Capt. Dudley Saltonstall, Continental Navy.

3. Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROEBUCK*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

March 1778

[anchored off Philadelphia]

Wednesd^y 11th.

[AM] Sent a Midshipman & 7 Men to Assist in fitting the *Philadelphia* Gally—

[anchored off Philadelphia]

Little Wind with Sleet & rain [PM] people Employd on Sundrys, The *Experiment*, *Brune* & Convoy from Rhode Isld arrived at Billingsport, and the Hay [transports] proceeded up to the Town, also the *Nottingham* Transport Laden with Stores for the Army from Cork.¹ In their way up the Men of War destroy'd the Transport that had fallen into the Enemys Hands at Port Pen and retook the Schooner²

D, UklPR, Adm. 52/1964, fols. 90–91.

1. Transport ship *Nottingham*, L. Bowden, master, 28 guns, 600 tons burthen, three decks, built on the Thames River in 1764, owned by Durand & Co., London. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777–1778.

2. On 9 Mar. the transports *Kitty* and *Mermaid* with hay were burned at Port Penn, Del., by Capt. John Barry. The armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, was recaptured the same day by H.M.S. *Experiment* and H.M.S. *Brune* from Barry's armed boats north of Reedy Island. See Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 9 Mar., above, and Captain James Ferguson to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE, R.N.

By &c. &c.

Having thought it necessary for the present to Station the *Experiment* under your Command at Billingsport, for the better preserving the open Communication of the River; You are hereby required and directed to place the Ship near that place, and to afford all possible Assistance and protection to Ships passing the Obstructions layed down by the Enemy between Mud Island and Billingsport.

And whereas the Passage through the lower Chevaux de Frize is at present very narrow and confined; it is most earnestly recommended to You whilst you re-

main on this Service to Use every means in your power to widen the Passage by either removing some of the Chevaux de Frize, or pulling them to pieces as you shall think fit; and any materials, or Assistance that you may require on this important Business, will be most readily granted upon your Application.

The Boats employed on the River in Supplying the Town with Provisions, having regular Passes from the Majistrates of the Police, and limited for a certain time, are to be allowed to pass without hindrance or Molestation, provided they call onboard to shew their permission.

Given &c. [*on board the Roebuck at Philadelphia*] 11th. March 1778.

A. S. Hamond

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), pp. 24–25. Addressed at foot: “S^r James Wallace/—*Experiment*.”

PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

In Council

Sir

Lancaster March 11. 1778.

The enclosed is copy of a letter written by the Navy Board of Pennsylvania,¹ which the Council thought proper to refer with such intelligence respecting the boats &c in Delaware as Captain Huston² shall be able to give to your Excellency. However unwilling the State may be to lose their little force on Delaware, their confidence in your wisdom will induce a ready obedience to your Excellency's Orders in that and every other military department. Perhaps it may be necessary to take effectual measures to prevent the men belonging to the boats from joining the enemy upon their being ordered to sink the gallies &c

Captain Huston will receive orders from you to the Navy Board. I have the Honor to be [&c.]

Tho Wharton jun^r Pres^t

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: “His Excellency Gen. Washington.” Docketed: “Lancaster 11 March/1778/from/Gov^r Wharton.”

1. See Pennsylvania Navy Board to President Thomas Wharton, Jr., 5 Mar., above.

2. Capt. Thomas Houston, Pennsylvania Navy.

PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD

In Council

Gentlemen

Lancaster March 11th. 1778

Your letter of the fifth Instant¹ by Captain Huston² the Council have thought it prudent to refer to his Excellency Gen^l Washington; and have recommended Captain Huston to attend on him with such intelligence as he can give respecting the fleet of our State. However unwillingly we may see this little fleet destroyed or abandoned we must not hesitate to obey the orders which his Excellency may finally give in this case; Otherwise we shall get into confusion which will be fatal to us: And we are confident His Excellency would not order the gallies to be sunk without seeing a real necessity for so doing.

The Council intend writing to M^r Pancoast³ respecting the Carriages but they expect very little from it, and recommend you to depend on your own exertions to have the Guns &c^a removed if the General shall order it.

The very instant I can furnish you with money as well to pay the fleet as for the Commissary⁴ M^r W C Bradford⁵ shall set off with it. I am with respect [&c.]

T. W.⁶

L, PHarP, RG 27, Executive Correspondence (loose) of the Supreme Executive Council. Notation at foot: "by Captain Huston." Docketed: "1778 March 11th. To the/Gentlemen of the Pennsylvania Navy Board."

1. See Pennsylvania Navy Board to President Thomas Wharton, Jr., 5 Mar., above.
2. Capt. Thomas Houston, Pennsylvania Navy.
3. Capt. David Pancoast, Flower's Artillery Artificers Regiment.
4. William Crispin.
5. William C. Bradford, Paymaster, Pennsylvania Navy.
6. President Thomas Wharton, Jr.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY

Captain John Barry

Sir

[*York, Pa.*] March 11th 1778

We have received your letter of the 8th instant¹ and congratulate you on the successful commencement of your expedition and hope it will be attended with Similar advantages to the Public and Glory to the gallant Commander, brave officers & men concerned in it, throughout the whole course. The good Opinion you have of your Prize Schooner² has determined us to purchase her for a Cruizer, you will therefore obtain the consent of the Partys who took her, have her fairly valued, and take her at that evaluation for the public. She is to be called the *Wasp*, and as you have represented her to be properly equipped in every particular for an Armed Vessel, you will see that she is officered & manned as soon as possible, take the command of her yourself or bestow it on some brave Active prudent officer. You will employ her there so long as you shall think prudent, but should you apprehend there will be danger of her falling into the hands of the enemy you will send her out of the Bay into Senepuxent, Chincoteague or any of the Inlets on the Coast, where you will be able to collect a full complement of Men if not well manned before—That done let her take such station off Cape Henlopen as to be able to descry the enemies Vessels coming in & going out of the Capes and to secure a Retreat should she fall in with any Vessels of Superior force. We observe that you have advised General Washington of your success, and expect you have furnished him with Inventories of what was on board your Prizes. Any articles which he may direct to be kept for the use of the Army you will retain having them properly valued and deliver them as he may direct. With regard to the general distribution of the Prize money it is our opinion it should be distributed according to the number of Men & Guns in each Boat concerned in the Capture. As to the distribution among the officers and Men in the Continental Boats (If no previous agreement had been entered into) it must be made agreeable to the Continental Regulations, but if those Regulations Should Appear not to be adapted to the peculiar circumstances of your expedition, we consent that you should enter into such agreement with your officers and Men as shall be most satisfactory to you & them. We approve of your consulting the Honorable Nicholas Vandyke Esq^r when necessary and would have you agreeable to your Instructions, put your Prize goods under his care or any other person you may think proper, and continue to pursue the main object of your expedition with all your usual vigour and activity. The

Prisoners you have taken or shall take you will deliver to the commander of that Department of the main Army which may be most convenient to you. We thank you for the early intelligence of your success—your well known bravery and good conduct gives us Strong hopes of hearing from you often on Similar occasions With the best wishes for your Success We are [&c.]

P: S: Please to transmit to us an Inventory of the effects you have Captured. enclosed is Lieutenant Cokelys³ receipt for 50 Dollars which he will account with you for.

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, pp. 134–35 (M332, roll 6).

1. Not found. However, see Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 9 Mar., above.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, mounting eight 4-pounders, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army.

3. Lt. James Coakley (Cokely, Cokelys), Continental Marines, who had been assigned to Barry's frigate *Effingham*.

"THE SLOOP CONGRESS PAY ROLE 15TH. FEB^R UP TO 11TH MARCH"

[Williamsburg, 11 March 1778]					
<u>Mens Names</u>	<u>Time Entry</u>	<u>discharg^d</u>	<u>months</u>	<u>wages pr month</u>	<u>Am^t Brought Over</u>
					£217..12..0
W ^m Skinnr	th 15 Feb ^r	—	25 days	at £15—	12..10..0
Ab ^r Kieble	do—	—	do—	at 12—	10.. 0..0
Jo ⁿ . Scriver	do—	—	do—	at 7..10	6.. 5..0
Levin Howse	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
Jo ⁿ . Stone	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
Barry Freeman	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
W ^m Nugent	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
George Dawson	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
Sam ^s Brownlow	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
Sab ^t Cole	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
John Luis	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
[T]ho ^s Pemoh	do—	—	do—	at 5—	4.. 3..4
Partrick Armour	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
Robert Cary	do—	—	do—	at 7—	<u>5..16..8</u>
					£308..17.."
				By 3 days allowed Capt ⁿ Skinner—	1..10
					£310.. 7.."
				deduct part of John Vina's Wages disallowed	<u>3..15..4</u>
					306..11..8

D, Vi, Papers of Various Ships, 1776–1782, Papers of *Congress*, 1778.

HENRY LOWES TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

Somerset [County, Md.] Mch. 11. 1778

Have taken the liberty to trouble you on acc^o. of a heavy loss I have lately Mett with, on Sunday night last¹ I had a New Schooner loaded with wheat stolen from my Landing & on Monday I hear they were Seen going down our Sound²—there-

fore Conclude they are gone to the Ships—Since which I am Informed Some Villians who left this place last Summer & Join'd Dunmore³ were Skulking ab^t last week—from the method in Which She was taken, I think if I Coud get ab^d. Shoud meet with Some Redress—Shoud therefore Ever Acknowledge it as a Singular favour youd grant me a flagg or Permission to go down the Bay in search of hir.—The Boat I propose to go in if a flagg can be had is a Small Sch^r John Parker Mast^r have not to add but am [&c.]

Henry Lowes—

The Value of Sch^r & Cargoe is ab^t. £460.0.0—

Since writing the Above I am Credibly Inform'd one Cannon, who Belonged to Cⁿ Walkers Gally⁴ is gone & that there are a great Number of Men Com^d down from Sussex⁵ to get off.

HL

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-100.

1. 8 Mar.

2. Tangier Sound.

3. Virginia Royal Governor John Murray, 4th Earl of Dunmore.

4. Maryland Navy galley *Baltimore*.

5. Sussex County, Del.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Wednesday the 11th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick Store, deliver to Mr David Anderson for the use of the Officers and sailors on Board the ship *Dragon*, thirty pair shoes, ten pair stockings, twenty shirts, and as much Cloth as will make two suits of Cloaths with trimings on his paying for the same.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 362.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO DON JOSÉ DE GÁLVEZ

Nº. 130.

Exmo S^{or}.

Mui S^{or} mio: Aprovecho de esta primera ocasion para participar a V.E. como ha llegado una pequeña partida de Americanos sobre este Rio Misisipi mandada por el Capitan Willing, apoderandose de los puertos Ingleses nombrados Concordia, Arkansas,¹ Natches, y Manchak²

Muchos vecinos y havitantes de estos establecimientos pasaron con sus bienes en nuestros territorios reclamando la proteccion del Soberano q^e les he acordado, pero los q^e no lo executaron por falta de tiempo y no quisieron abrazar el partido de las treze provincias unidas, ò a lo menos hazer juramento de neutralidad, fueron hechos prisioneros de Guerra, y los negros y demas bien^s. que seles encontraron han sido aprendidos y pillados por sus enemigos,

Tambien han apresado una fragata mercante de diez y seis cañones³ que se hallava en el ante dho puerto de Manchak, un Bergantin que estava en las pasas de la embocadura de este rio⁴ pronto a salir, y todas las Canoas q^e encontraron navegandolo.

Por la adjunta copia se enterara V.E. de la Capitulacion hecha por los vecinos y havitantes del Establecim^{to}. de Natches con el enunciado Capⁿ. Willing.⁵

La politica que he tenido con haver acordado a los Realistas la proteccion de S.M. q^e reclamaron segun consta del Bando que incluío,⁶ no solo fuè para que no tuviesen nada que arguir sobre la que tengo concedida a sus contrarios, respecto a que la Ley— deve ser igual en la neutralidad que guardamos, permitiendoles a estos depositar en esta Ciudad las presas hechas contra aquellos.

Con esta dha politica espero sacar grandes ventajas en beneficio del Rey y de esta Provincia, En lo primero por que todos los efectos como añil, pieles &^a que han salvado è introducido en nuestros territorios no saldrán de ellos sin licencia mia y por consiguiente sin pagar los devidos derechos de Extraccion, y En lo segundo por que los negros tanto apresados como los que han sido refugiados en nuestros Dominios, cuíos dueños piensan retirarse a Europa serán vendidos y comprados por estos havitantes ni a la mitad de su valor, respecto a la prontitud con que deven hirse los propietarios, y dudando si el Rey permite que en los puertos de España vendan los insurgentes las presas y sus cargazones, se executara tacitamente la de los dichos negros por los interesados para que jamas pueda constar que Yo huviesse tenido conocimiento de esta maniobra afín de evitar todo argum^{to} y queja de parte de la corte de Londres sobre este particular.

La expedicion Americana llegó en las inmediaciones de esta Ciudad donde esta campada con consentimiento mio, y si antes de su salida ocurriese alguna novedad digna de la atencion de V.E. se la comunicaré oportunamente para su intèligencia y la de S.M.

Todo lo que traslado a la noticia de V.E. para que sirviendose instruir al Rey de este acaecimiento y de mis providencias se digne prevenirme lo que fuere de su r^l agrado.

Nuestro S^{or} que a V.E. los m^s a^s que deseo—Nueva Orleans 11. de Marzo de 1778 Ex^{mo}. S^{or} [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

[Translation]

No. 130.

Most Excellent Sir:

My dear Sir:

I shall take this first opportunity to notify Your Excellency that a small party of Americans commanded by Captain Willing, has arrived on the Mississippi River, seizing the English posts called Concordia, Arkansas,¹ Natchez, and Manchac.²

Many neighbors and inhabitants of these establishments pass through our territories with their goods, demanding protection of the Sovereign who has accorded it to them, but those who did not do it for lack of time and did not want to embrace the party of the thirteen United Colonies, or at least to take an oath of neutrality, were taken as prisoners of War, and their negroes and other personal belongings were taken and seized and pillaged by their enemies.

They have also seized a merchant ship of sixteen guns³ which was obtained at the aforementioned post of Manchac, a Brigantine that was passing through the mouth of this river,⁴ preparing to depart, and all the Canoes they encountered on it.

The attached copy is to notify Your Excellency of the Capitulation made to the said Captain Willing by the neighbors and inhabitants of the Natchez establishment.⁵

The policy I have had of according to the Royalists the protection of His Majesty which they claimed according to the Proclamation, which I am including,⁶ was not only so that they would have nothing to reproach us with as far as what I

have conceded to their adversaries, with respect to which the law should be equal in the neutrality we are maintaining, allowing them to deposit in this City the prizes made against them.

With this said policy I hope to derive considerable advantages for the King and for this Province. In the first place, because all the goods such as indigo, furs, etc., which the parties saved and brought into our territories will not be sold by them without my permission, and consequently they will have to pay us the proper Export duties, and in the second place, because so many negroes were seized as well as those who have taken refuge in our Dominions, whose owners want to return to Europe, will be sold and purchased by these inhabitants at barely half their value, depending on how quickly the owners want to leave, and doubting whether the King will allow the rebels to sell the seized ships and their cargoes in Spanish ports, the sale of the negroes by those concerned must take place quietly so that it cannot be proven that I know of this business, so as to avoid any quarrels or complaints by the Court of London on this matter.

The American expedition came near this City where it is encamped with my consent, and if before their departure anything new happens worthy of Your Excellency's attention I will notify you promptly, for your information and that of His Majesty.

Regarding everything brought to Your Excellency's attention which serves to inform the King of this event and of the measures I have taken, please inform me of His Majesty's pleasure.

May Our Lord keep you many years—New Orleans 11. of March 1778. Most Excellent Sir. [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

L, SpSAG, Santo Domingo, Legajo 2596, fols. 159–61. Addressed at the foot: "Exmo Señor D^o. Joseph de Galvez." Two enclosures: A copy of Don Bernardo de Gálvez's proclamation of neutrality of 3 Mar.; and a copy, in Spanish, of the capitulation of Natchez of 21 Feb.

1. Concord, or Concordia, to be distinguished from the settlement called Concordia on the Spanish side of the Mississippi across from Natchez, was apparently on the English side in Illinois Country, for on 2 Feb., fourteen English settlers wrote Gálvez from the Spanish Arkansas Post petitioning for protection, stating that they "upon their arrival at the English side found the Place called Concord abandoned and understood that Captain Willing left Orders that nobody should remain there." Quoted in Charles R. Smith, *Marines in the Revolution: A History of the Continental Marines in the American Revolution, 1775–1783* (Washington: History and Museums Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, 1975), 184. The British settlement called Arkansas, to be distinguished from the Spanish Arkansas Post near the confluence of the Arkansas and Mississippi Rivers, may have been the place identified as Old Arkansas, about 100 miles north of Arkansas Post, below the River St. Francis, on B. Romans' 1776 map of the southern British colonies. "A General Map of the Southern British Colonies in America . . .," by B. Romans, 1776, reproduced in Kenneth Nabenzahl, *Atlas of the American Revolution* (Chicago: Rand McNally, 1974), 16–17.

2. Notation in left margin: "El Gov^{or}. dela Luisiana, Da g^{ta} del arribo en el rio Misisipi de una pequeña partida de Americanos. Puestos que han tomado, Presas hechas, y proteccion acordada a los q^e la reclamaron, Incluyendo copia de la cap^{on}. hecha p^r los vecinos de Natches, y conluie dando parte de su politica, y ventejas q^e espera sacar con esta"; translation: "The Governor of Louisiana notes the arrival of a small party of Americans on the Mississippi River, the posts they have taken, the prizes they have made, and the protection accorded those who laid claim to it, including a copy of the capitulation drawn up by those who live in the neighborhood of Natchez, and concludes by giving some of his policies and the advantages which can be derived from them."

3. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.

4. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.

5. For the text of the capitulation, see Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 17 Mar., below.

6. Proclamation of Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez, 3 Mar., above.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO DON JOSÉ DE GÁLVEZ

Nº. 131.

Exmo S^{or}

Mui S^{or} mio: En Consequencia del aviso que pasè al Congrésò de las Provincias unidas segun di quenta a V.E. de hallarse depositados en esta Ciudad los generos que por R^l disposi^{on}. se me han dirijido de esos Reinos con destino a su servicio, han despachado los diputados al Capitan Willing con una partida a su Cargo que se ha introducido sobre este rio Misisipi y conducidose por el hasta esta Capital:¹

A su arribo me entregò dos cartas de los citados diputados del Congreso con una Zertificacion del Presidente que los Autoriza (Cuias Copias fielmente traducidas acompaño.)² por las que me participan esta expedicion, previniendome que me deve entender con dⁿ. Olivero Polock su agente en las remesas de dhos generos bien sean por el rio, ò por mar en las Embarcaciones que flete ò compre a este fin.

V.E. vera la solicitud que me hazen de proveer a el Agente del Caudal que huviere menester para sus operaciones a la que no sè aun si deverè asentir, temiendo no Sea del agrado de S.M. este suplem^{to}. aunque me aseguran lo contrario, y quizas me determinarè quando llegue el Caso siendo moderada la Cantid^d. que pidiere y que ella no perjudique a las obligaciones de Esta Provincia, confiado en que auxiliandolos con fuertes partidos de generos no tomara a mal el Rey que en esta consecuencia me huviesse resuelto a librarla, y que su R^l benignidad se dignara aprovar este Conducta enteramente dictada por mi amor y Zelo al servicio de S.M. que deseo azentar para merezer sus R^s sufragios.

Nuestro S^{or} guarde a V.E. los m^s a^s que deseo. Nueva Orleans 11. de Marzo de 1778. [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

[Translation]

No. 131.

Most Excellent Sir

My dear Sir:

In Consequence of the information that I sent to the Congress of the united Colonies, as I informed Your Excellency, of the arrival in this City of the goods that by Royal disposition were directed to me from those Kingdoms destined for its service, the deputies sent Captain Willing with a party under his command, who descended the Mississippi River to this Capital.¹

On his arrival he delivered to me two letters from the said deputies of the Congress with a Certification of the President that gives them Authorization (Copies of which, faithfully translated, are enclosed)² by which they inform me about this expedition, urging me to assist Mr. Oliver Pollock, its well-known agent, in the sending of the said goods by the river, or rather in the Ships that he charters or buys for this purpose.

Your Excellency will see the request they made of me to provide to the Agent of the Property what he needs for his operations, to which I did not know whether I ought to assent, dreading that this act of supplying may not be the pleasure of His Majesty. Nevertheless they assured me to the contrary; this perhaps fixed my determination, setting Bounds to the Quantity requested so that it might not injure the obligations of This Province. My confidence that in aiding them with large amounts of goods I would not offend the King led me to deliver the supplies. May

his Royal goodness deign to approve this Conduct, dictated entirely by my love and Zeal for the service of His Majesty, which I desire to affirm in order to merit his Royal favor.

May Our Lord keep Your Excellency many years, as I desire. New Orleans 11. of March 1778. [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

L, SpSAG, Santo Domingo, Legajo 1236, fols. 166–67. Addressed below close: “Exmo. S^{oe} D^a. Joseph de Galvez.”

1. Marginal notation: “El Govern^{or} de la Luisiana, Dando g^{ia}. de la llegada del Capⁿ. Willing con una partida de Americanos en solicitud de Efectos, incluiendo copias de las cartas de los diputados del Congreso y Zertificacion del presidente, haze presente la pretencion q^e hazen estos de suplir a el Agente del Caudal necesario p^a. sus operaciones.” Translation: “The Governor of Louisiana reports the arrival of Capt. Willing with a party of Americans, asking for goods, enclosing copies of the letters from the deputies of Congress and certification of the president, presenting their pretensions to ask them to supply the agent of the property what is required for their operations.”

2. The enclosed Spanish translations, filed with the letter, are of letters to Don Bernardo de Gálvez from Continental Secret Committee, 12 June 1777, and Committee of Commerce, 24 Oct. and 21 Nov. 1777, and the President of Congress’s certification of the letters, signed by John Hancock and dated 24 Oct. 1777. For the original English of the letters see *Letters of Delegates*, 25: 624–26, 635–38.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ÆOLUS*, CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER ATKINS

March 1778

Body of the Mone [*Mona Passage*] NE. dist. 4 Miles

Wedn^r 11

at 7 AM—Porto Rico NE. 8 or 9 Lgs—at 8 gave Chace to a Sail to the West^d—

D^o. [*Mona Passage*] N 34° E 10 [Miles]

Fresh Gales & fair—Still in Chace—at 2 PM. carried away the fore topmast Stud. Sail Yard.—at ½ past 3. fir’d a Shot & bro^t too the Chace—a French Brig from Cayene to Port au Prince wth an American Cargo on b^d—took Possession of her on Suspicion—¹

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/4107, part 1.

1. Brig *Hazard*, from Newburyport, with fish and lumber. Parker’s Prize List, 21 June 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/241.

LOG OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *TYRANNICIDE*, CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN

[*St. Pierre, Martinique*]

Remarks on Wednesday March 11th. 1778

These 24 Hours Moderate, Clear pleasant Weather

Received on board 2 Tierces Molasses 1 bar^l. Flour and one Cord of Wood.

This Morning a Fleet of American Merchantmen sailed under the Convoy of Two French Frigates

D, MSaE, Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide* (November 1777–May 1778).

H. SYMSON TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY PHILIP STEPHENS

Sir

Grenada 11th. March 1778

I have the honor to enclose herewith a duplicate of my last of the 16th. January, also duplicate list of all Captures which have been condemned and of recaptures tried in the Court of Vice Admiralty of Grenada and the Grenadines since the commencement of the present Rebellion in America to which is aded a recapture not included in the Original List, viz. the *Snow York*, taken by his Majesty's Ship *Pelican*¹—It appeared by the depositions of the American Master & Mate that she was taken by an American Privateer when on a Voyage from Cork bound to N. York, but I could not trace to what Part she belonged, nor the Snow or the Former masters names; I presume their Lordships will cause public notice to be given of it in the London Gazettes.

I have the honor to be Sir [&c.]

H Symson

[Enclosure]

DuplicateGrenada 16th. Jany. 1778—

Sir

In compliance with the directions of the Lords of the Admiralty signified to me in your Letter of the 30th. Sept^r I have the honor to enclose herewith a list of all Captures that have been condemned in the Vice Admiralty Court of this Island, since the breaking out of the Rebellion in North America, specified in the manner directed.¹

I have not as yet received the list of Captures condemned at Tobago, but believe there are none. I shall however be able to transmit a certain account by the next Packet, along with a duplicate of this.—As to those condemned at St. Vincents, the Letter which I lately had ~~the~~ occasion to write you, would explain my situation as Judge of the Court in that Island which may prevent their Lordships from receiving the desired information, unless a Letter has been also addressed to the Judge there, which I find has on some occasions been done.

I have the honor to be Sir [&c.]

H Symson

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/3885. Addressed below close: "To Philip Stephens Esq^r."

1. Lists are printed below.

A LIST OF ALL CAPTURES WHICH HAVE
OF GRENADA SINCE THE COMMENCEMENT

Vessels taken	Captains Names	By what Vessels taken	Captains Names	Under what Commission	When Condemned
Schooner <i>Sally</i>	William Serjeant	Seized by Mathias McNamara Esqr Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Sene Gambia Africa &ca			March 14 th 1777
Schooner <i>Catherine</i> ¹	Lazar Tra baud	Transport Ship <i>True Love</i>	John Reid	Not known	April 11 th . 1777
Ship <i>Oliver Cromwell</i> ²	Herman Courter	Sloop of War <i>Beaver</i>	James Jones		June 18 th . 1777
Sloop <i>Orange</i>	John Leighton	Privateer Sloop <i>Howe</i>	James Dougal	No Commission	July 1 st . 1777
Schooner <i>Rebecca</i>	Putnam Cleves	ditto	ditto	ditto	July 3 rd . 1777
Schooner <i>Driver</i>	Caleb Hogg	Privateer Brig <i>Revenge</i>	Daniel Campbell	ditto	Septem ^r 22 ^d . 1777
Schooner <i>Cleora</i>	Richard Ellingwood	ditto	ditto	ditto	Septem ^r 22 ^d . 1777
Schooner <i>Sally</i>	John Sloane	ditto	ditto	ditto	Septem ^r 22 ^d . 1777
Schooner <i>Union</i>	William White	Privateer Sloop <i>Howe</i>	James Dougal	ditto	October 10.. 1777

A List of Re-Captures which have been Tried in the Vice Admiralty

Vessels retaken	Owners names	by what Vessels retaken	Captains Names	Under what commission
Brigantine <i>Venus</i> ³	Unknown	Privateer Brig <i>Revenge</i>	Daniel Campbell	No Commission
Brigantine <i>Polly</i>	John Clements of Bristol	Sloop of War <i>Grass-hopper</i>	William Truscott	
Sloop <i>Henry</i>	Jeanette & Honoré Philip of Grenada	Government Sloop <i>Bottetourt</i>	James Connor	From Lord Macartney
Snow <i>York</i> ⁴	Unknown	Brig <i>Pelican</i>	Lieut. J: P: Ardesoif	

Grenada

These are to Certify that the foregoing Lists are true Lists of all Captures and the Grenadines, and of the proceedings had therein, taken from the

D, UKLPR, Adm. 1/3885. Enclosed in H. Symson to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 11 Mar. 1778.

1. See *NDAR* 7: 490.
2. See *NDAR* 9: 102, 104, 121, 125, 195, 323, 545.
3. See *NDAR* 9: 562, 600; 10: 197–98, 296, 297n.
4. See *NDAR* 10: 792, 792n.

BEEN CONDEMNED IN THE VICE ADMIRALTY COURT
OF THE PRESENT REBELLION IN NORTH AMERICA

to whom Condemned	On what Grounds Condemned	By whom sold	Amount of Sales to	the whom Nett Proceeds paid	By what Authority paid
The King	for being the Property of the Rebellious Subjects in North America and trading therefrom	the Marshall of the Court	£137...- Currency	Remaining in Court	
ditto	for trading with the Americans	ditto	1565..12..6	Lieu ^t John P. Ardesoif	by Order from His Excellency Lord Macartney
James Jones	for being the Property of some of the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania in Actual Rebellion	delivered to the Captors			
The King	for being the Property of the Rebellious Subjects in North America & trading therefrom	the Marshal of the Court	1383..14..3 ½	the Owners of the Privateer	ditto
ditto	ditto	ditto	636..12..9	ditto	ditto
ditto	ditto	ditto	1207..16..1	ditto	ditto
ditto	ditto	ditto	729..14..11	ditto	ditto
ditto	ditto	ditto	625..5..½	ditto	ditto
ditto	ditto	ditto	1636..5..8	ditto	ditto

Court of Grenada and the Grenadines since the Commencement of the present Rebellion in North America

date of Sentence	Nature of Sentence	Amount of Sales	to whom paid.
Novem ^r 12. 1777	to be sold by the Marshal of the Court & after paying £353..11..1 being one eighth of the appraised Value for the use of the Re-Captors, the remainder to remain in Court for the benefit of the Owners of the said Brig <i>Venus</i>	£2518..4..7.-	Ballance remaining in Court
October 13 th . 1777	to be restored to the Owner on his paying to the said Will ^m . Truscott £299..3.. being one Eighth of the appraised Value		
January 21 st . 1778	to be restored to the Owners on their paying £61..17..6 being one eighth of the of appraised Value for the use of the Re-Captors		
January 21 st . 1778	to be sold by the Marshal of the Court & after paying £93..15.. being one Eighth of the appraised Value for the use of the Re Captors the Remainder to remain in Court for the benefit of the Owners of the said Snow <i>York</i>	£715..	Ballance remaining in Court

which have been Condemned and all Re-Captures which have been tried in the Vice Admiralty Court of Grenada
Registry of the said Court.—

In Faith and Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and affixed the Seal of the said Court this Nineteenth
day of February One thousand seven hundred and Seventy eight, and in the Eighteenth Year of His Majesty's Reign

Will Howard

D^r Reg^r. Cur^t. Vice Adm^r.

March 12

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

War-Office, Boston March 12th 1778

Order'd, That Nicholas Bartletts Bill of Disbursments for Brig^t *Favorite*^d be p'd
... £19..16..10—

Order'd, That Ebenezer Foster's Bill for Sundries for Brig^t *Favorite* be p'd, —
a^s... £19..11.. 3—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers² pay Isaac Bartlett³ Wages due to him as p^r Portage Bill
... £51.. 4.— not p^d at this time⁴—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 250–51.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

2. Thomas Ivers.

3. Capt. Isaac Bartlett commanded the Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic* on a trading voyage to Martinique. He arrived at Fort Royal on 19 Sept. and died there of a fever on 9 Oct. 1777. See NDAR 9: 691; 10: 230–31.

4. This notation is in a different hand.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT
TO CAPTAIN HOYSTEED HACKER

Sir

Providence March 12th 1778

By Athority Committed to me by the Honob^l Continantal Navy Board at Boston,

I hereby Order & direct you to Equip the Ship *Collombus* under your Command with one Suit of Sails and riging Compleat, take on board her a Sufficint quantity of Ballast, fill all her Watter Casks with Watter, which will answer for Ballast, take on board four Carrige Guns & all The Swival Guns and Cohorns belonging to S^d. Ship, also Twenty Small Arms with Sufficiant quantity of Amunition for S^d. Canon Small arms &c.—agrea with Twenty men (Exclusive of your Commission officers) to Carry S^d. Ship to N. London, and Embrace the first fair wind & Sutable time after you are ready, and proceed on your Passage for N. London in State of Conecticut, for which Service you are to pay Each man on the arivel of Said Ship *Collombus* at N. London (fifty Dollars) Or in Case the Winds, or the British Ships of War Should Prevent your Geting Into N. London, you are to pay Each man Respectivly fifty Dollars on your Arivel into anny Safe Port, but you are by all means to Endeavor to get into the port of Boston if Disappointed in Geting into N. London afore Said.—

you are to take Care to have on Board your Ship at Sailing a Sufficiant quantity of Provisions to last your Ships Company Two months, the above S^d. orders & Directions you are to Execute assoon as Posable without delay or loss of time.¹

Whatever necessarys you may have Okation for in fitting your Ship you are to Apply to Daniel Tillinghast Esq^r Continantal Agent (or) on your arivel at N. London aply to Nath^l Shaw Jun^r Esq^c for necessary Suplys

aquaint the Navy Board at Boston assoon as may be your arivel in port from whom you will Receve further Orders

I wish you Success & a Safe Passage and am [&c.]

p^r Order Navy Board
John Deshon

L, MHi, Charles Pelham Greenough Papers. Addressed at the foot: "To/Hosted Hacker Esq^r/Commander of the/Ship *Collombus*/Providence." Endorsed: "Providence 27th March 1778/We think no better Pilot then your self can be/got, therefore we desire you will undertake the/Polotage of the out of this River yourself, for/w^{ch} service compensation will be made./on behalf of the board/W^m Vernon."

1. See William Vernon to James Warren, 18 Mar., below.

LEONARD JARVIS TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

The Hon^l the Commiss^s of the Navy Board
Gentlemen

Dartmouth [*Mass.*] Mar 12th. 1778

Your Favour of the 10th. Inst^t was handed me just now by Cap^t Bass.¹ I shall do all in my Power to procure a Master & hands for the *Loyalty*—but fear that it will be without Effect: as every Master in our Neighbourhood is engaged—I shall write to M^r Bourroughs²—who Cap^t Bass tells me you mentiond as being likely to go—& shall send to Freetown, where I am told there are some People who are acquainted with Sinepuxent—as soon as I have provided a Master—shall advise you of it—that you may forward his Orders—

M^r Trivett,³ as I have already informd your Board will not suffer me to take any further Charge of the Goods than an Account of them—they have shipt a few Hogsheads of molasses by Cap^t Sturgis Gorham & I have procurd a Sloop to take in a load for the Hyannas—which is also to be deliverd Cap^t Gorham & who I have requested to keep them in his Possession 'till he has Orders from your Hon^l Board or myself—I am sorry to see so little Attention paid by the Officers of the Navy to your Orders—& had I not feard that the Consequences of an Attempt to wrest the Goods out of Trivet's hands might have been a greater Detriment at this time to the publick, than letting them remain till the Condemnation, I should have certainly done it, but if your Hon^l Board thinks otherways & will favour me with your Orders—& procure me Authority to call in the Aid of the Militia—I will certainly do it.

The Cargo as usual does not turn out near so great as was reported—the Papers that the Captors may produce to the Court will probably ascertain the Quantity shipt—& then if a Decree is obtaind (as I am confident it will in fav^r of Government) they may be call'd to Account for the whole Cargo—

Herewith I send you a Muster Role of the Sloop *Providance* & a Return from Lieu^t House⁴ of what things are wanted for that Vessel—her Stern & Quarters—he says must be rebuilt—I shall engage Carpenters for the Purpose—but I do assure you Gentlemen, that nothing but a Desire of serving the Publick would induce me to have anything to do with the Sloop—unless there sh^d. be a great Alteration in the Deportment of both Officers in General & the men—there is no Subordination on board—which is a little surprizing considering the number of Officers they have on board—If the Role is to be paid off, must beg the favour of you to furnish me with Cash for the purpose as I have no money on hand & am already largely advance. I am [&c.]

Leo: Jarvis

P. S. M^r House—who has acted as Lieutⁿ on board the *Providence* & was lately on board the *Hampden*, might possibly be prevail'd on to take the *Loyalty*, by your Boards requesting it—

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80.

1. Capt. Henry Bass.
2. Capt. Ezekiel Burroughs, Continental Navy, former commander of Continental Navy brig *Hampden*.
3. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines.
4. Lt. George House, Continental Navy, former first lieutenant of Continental Navy brig *Hampden*.

STURGIS GORHAM TO MARINE CAPTAIN JOHN TREVETT

Bedford [*in Dartmouth*] March 12th: 1778

Received of John Trevett on Board the Sloop *Success* my self Master bound for the Hyanas¹ viz^t Thirty four Cask of Molasses ☿ Invoice three thousand Six hundred and Nine Gallons as Guaged at Bedford which I am to Carry in said Sloop to Hyanas and there Store them (or at Barnstable) and take the best care of them in my Power they being on Acco^t & Risque of all Concerned in the prize Ship *Mary*² lately Captured by the Sloop *Providence*³ Jn^o. P Rathburn Esq^r Commander for which I am to have Six Dollars for the freight of each Cask to Hyanas, and all other Charges for Storege &^c as Customary to be paid on the Delivery of the same I haveing Signed two Receipts of this Tenor & date the one being Accomplished the other to be Void—and I promise to deliver to John Trevett or his order the above Goods whenever called for he paying Charges as above the dangers of the Seas and all unavoidable Casualties Excepted

☿ Sturgis Gorham

DS, RNHi, John Trevett Papers, No. 44–14.

1. Hyannis, Mass.
2. Jamaica letter of marque ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.
3. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

SIMON WOLCOTT TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Edgar Town Martha's Vineyard

March 12th: 1778—

Dear Sir/

We are here envelop'd in those eternal Foggs that covers these Regions of Missery in perfect Health Praying for & Dayly expecting a Wind to go to Sea to make our Fortune—Our Ships¹ company consists off about Seventy five hearty Ladds but tis impossible to give you their exact Num^r as they are many of them on Shore—

Can hardly say I am anxious for my Family whilst they remain under your kind Care & Protection—Give my best Love to your Wife & that dear Girl her Sister to whome I should have Wrote was not the conveyance of Letters so uncertain,—We are intirely buried as to News—

The People here are Moon Cusers² & Extortioners having already made themselves masters of all our Cash—I think we shall make our Fortune (if you dont put an end to the War too soon) Tho I see that y^e. Seeds of discord are sewn on Bord which shall do my endeavour to prevent springing up,—Remember me to all Friends and believe me to be Your Affec^t Friend & Hum^l Serv^t

Simon Wolcott³

L, C&Y, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 70, no. 4129. Addressed: "To/Nathaniel Shaw Jun^r Esq^r/Merch^t/New London." Docketed: "4129."

1. Connecticut privateer sloop *American Revenue*, Samuel Champlin, Jr., commander.

2. Mooncurser: 1. A link-boy, or torch carrier, who lights one's way through the streets, especially one who leads his clients into a pack of rogues; 2. ship wrecker.

3. Wolcott was one of the bonders of the privateer *American Revenue*.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY

Sir [Valley Forge] Head Quarters 12th March 1778

I have received your favor of the 9th. inst and congratulate you on the Success which has crowned your Gallantry and Address in the late Attack upon the Enemies Ships¹—altho circumstances have prevented you from reaping the full benefit of your Conquest, yet there is ample consolation in the degree of Glory, which you have acquired—You will be pleased to accept of my thanks for the good things which you were so polite as to send me, with my wishes that your suitable recompense may always attend your Bravery I am Sir &c.

as the Intrenching Tools are of great Value you will be so good as to reserve them, and take particular care of them—

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Captain Barry/of the Navy." Docketed: "Copy to Capt/Barry of the Navy/March 12. 1778."

1. The capture and burning of British transports *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master, and the armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, of the Engineers Department of the British Army.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN NEAR HEAD-QUARTERS, DATED MARCH 12, 1778."

"Captain Barry has distinguished himself exceedingly on the river; he had collected several of the gun-boats which formerly belonged to the gallies, with three of them, having a four-pounder in each, and others only manned with musquetry, he attacked two large ships loaded with forage from Rhode-Island,¹ under convoy of a tender, mounting eight carriage guns,² both of the ships had 4 six-pounders. He attacked them with great spirit, and after a warm engagement of half an hour, the ships surrendered.—He then pursued the schooner, and parading all his boats, sent a flag to demand the surrender, with which the Captain (a Lieutenant in the navy) thought proper to comply,³ though with a tolerable stock of spirit he might have kept off double the number,—he then took all his prizes to Reedy-Island, and the next tide the *Eagle* man of war⁴ and several other ships of force came up,⁵ seeing these three vessels laying at the piers they came too, by this time the prizes were unloaded of every thing valuable, and the men had formed an intrenchment of the bundles of pressed hay; a severe cannonade then commenced, when the little garrison observing preparations to land, they set fire to the vessels, except the schooner, into which Barry, in order to save her, had thrown himself—the enemy perceiving the ships on fire, desisted from landing, and our men kept possession of the shore, having mounted the cannon taken from the ships, with which they engaged the enemy and hulled them repeatedly—Barry was soon overtaken by one vessel, who detained him till some others came up, six were

observed firing upon him at once. Finding it impossible to get up, he ran the schooner ashore and left her, from whence she was towed off in a very mutilated condition. All the cargoe except the hay is preserved—the schooner had four brass howitz, and some curious instruments in the engineers department, with a great number of letters. We have taken about 100 prisoners; 1 Captain⁶ and a company of artificers, 1 Lieutenant of artillery and about 60 sailors, all of whom are safe at Wilmington.—In short, it is as gallant an action as any during the war, and does great honour to the brave officer and his associates who planned and executed it.”

Pennsylvania Gazette (York), 21 Mar. 1778. This letter was published under a Lancaster, March 18, date-line.

1. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M. Sloop *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., above; and Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Philip Stephens, 26 Mar., and Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, mounting eight carriage guns, belonging to the Engineers Department of the Army. See, *Ibid*.

3. Daniel Moore was not a lieutenant in the Royal Navy.

4. Actually H.M.S. *Experiment*.

5. H.M. frigate *Brune* and H.M. sloops *Dispatch* and *York*, escorting the convoy of eleven transports with hay from Rhode Island.

6. Lt. Stratton, Royal Engineers.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN CHARLES PHIPPS, R.N.

By &c. &c.

His Majesty's Ship *Camilla*, being intended to be Stationed between Bombay Hook, and Reedy Island for the defence of the Navigation, and keeping an open Communication with the Town of Philadelphia; You are hereby directed to proceed on the Service abovementioned, and use your best endeavours to take or destroy any of the Rebel Armed Boats you may meet with, and also to give all possible protection to His Majesty's well affected Subjects carrying Supplies of Provisions to the Town.

But the more immediate Object of your present appointment is to cover and protect from Insult a Foraging Party going down the River under the Command of Colonel Mawhood;¹ and Captain Watt of the *Delaware*, who has directions to consult with you from time to time in order to take measures for their Security, according as they may find it necessary to move about, or circumstances may require.

And whereas I have thought proper to Station the *Zebra* about the Shoals of the Brown and the Brandywine, with Pilots onboard for facilitating the arrival of Ships coming up the River, and the *Pearl* from Reedy Island to Chester; You are to endeavor to hold a Correspondence with each of their Captains when opportunities will allow, in order to gain Intelligence of the Enemy's motions, and whenever you find it necessary you are to send to them for Assistance.²

You are to forward the Pilots down to the *Zebra* by every opportunity, and to send me as often as possible an account of your proceedings—

Given &c. [on board the *Roebuck* at Philadelphia]

12th. March 1778.

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), pp. 25–27. Addressed at foot: “Honorable Cha^s Phipps/*Camilla*.—”

1. Lt. Col. Charles Mawhood, 17th Foot.

2. See also, Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Captain John Linzee, R.N., 10 Mar., above.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FRANCIS DOWNMAN, ROYAL ARTILLERY

[*Philadelphia*]

March 12th.—A number of ships and small craft went down the river to-day with the 17th, 27th, and 46th regiments, supposed for forage. Ten or twelve ships from Rhode Island came up town to-day with forage, very opportunely. The rebels have got at Wilmington Creek several galleys and other vessels with which they annoy ours very much. They have just now taken two of the Rhode Island fleet and destroyed them;¹ they have also taken the *Alert*² belonging to Captain Montresor,³ with several officers' wives and much baggage and valuable things on board. It is no honour to our navy or army that this nest of rebel vessels is suffered to do so much mischief. An attack both by land and water would be the means of effectually taking and destroying the whole.

Downman, “Services of Lieut.-Colonel Francis Downman,” 217–18.

1. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., Journal of H.M. Sloop *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., above, and Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army.

3. Capt. John Montresor, Royal Engineers.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Thursday, March 12, 1778

The Marine Committee laid before Congress a copy of a proposed letter to Captain Barry,¹ among other things empowering him to purchase, for the use of the Continent, and to fit out a vessel² which he has lately taken in Delaware Bay:

Resolved, That Congress approve of the purchase being made, and that it be referred to the Marine Committee to give such directions as they judge proper respecting the naming, officering, and manning the said vessel when purchased, and the manner in which she is to be employed.

JCC 10: 246.

1. See Continental Marine Committee to Captain John Barry, 11 Mar., above.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, mounting eight 4-pounders, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army.

DANIEL ROBERDEAU AND JONATHAN B. SMITH TO PRESIDENT THOMAS WHARTON, JR.

March 12th, 1778, York Town. [*Pennsylvania*]

Sir,

The Committee of Council and Assembly,¹ who left us this day intimated the desire of the State to offer to Congress our Gallies and Xebechs, on reflection the Delegates think it of such importance that they request particular instructions on the head, lest they should act contrary to your, and the intention of the State. We shall expect Instructions and are [&c.]

Daniel Roberdeau.

Jon'a. B. Smith.²

Pennsylvania Archives, 1st. ser., 6: 359. Addressed: "His Excellency Thomas Wharton, jun'r, Esq., President of the/ Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Lancaster. 卐Express."

1. A committee of members of the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council and Pennsylvania General Assembly.

2. Roberdeau and Smith were delegates to the Continental Congress from Pennsylvania.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN JAMES NICHOLSON

Sir.

In Council Annapolis 12th. March 1778.

M^r Sleamaker,¹ on his Return, has called on us and gives us such Information of the Number & Situation of the Ships that we imagine there will be no immediate Attempt to run the *Virginia*: indeed we think the Chance of getting through so small, that we wish you not to make a Push, if your Orders give you any Latitude. Our Sentim^{ts}. on the Subject have already been mentioned to some of the Gentⁿ. of the Congress. The *Defence's* Tender² & the *Plater*³ have been constantly employed in the Service of the Congress and are like to be so; We also want the *Dolphin*,⁴ chiefly for the same Purpose & request you'll send her down to us—We are &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "Cap^t James Nicholson."

1. John Sleamaker (Sleamaker, Sleaymaker), a Chesapeake Bay pilot.

2. *Amelia*, Capt. Henry Massey, commander.

3. Maryland Navy armed boat/galley *Plater*, Capt. Richard Murrow, commander.

4. Maryland Navy schooner *Dolphin*, Capt. Daniel Bryan, commander.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Thursday the 12th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that Mr William Frazier deliver to Captain Celey Saunders what Iron, Cordage, and other necessities he may want for the use of the ship building on Mattapony.—¹

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 363.

1. Virginia Navy ship *Tempest*.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

March 1778

Cape Henry SW ½ W 4 or 5 Lg^s.

Thursday 12

Var^d. W^c AM at 5 Weigh^d & came to Sail in C^o. w^h. H.M.S. *Solebay*, *Emerald Senegal*, & *Otter*, at 6 m^d. the *Dunmores* Signal to join D^o. she join^d us at 7 was order^d to Chace to y^e SE, made sail, at 9 y^e *Emerald* Tk^d. & stood up way at 11 Anch^d. w^h. B^c B^r in ½ 3 fath^m. W^c Veerd ⅓ of a Cable *Senegal* & *Otter's* Tender nearer in Shore Cape Henry SW ½ W, 4 or 5 Leagues, sent the 1st Lieut^t with the Boats with Orders to Cap^t Molloy to get of [f] the French Ship we had chaced but if it was found impracticable, he was to destroy her

Cape Henry SW ½ W 4 or 5 Lg^s.

Mod^t & Hazy [PM] saw the above Ship, cut away hir Foremast & Mⁿ. M^t at 2 the Boats Ret^d. having left the above a Compleat

wreck¹ at 4 weigh^d & came to Sail in C^o. whⁿ. the *Senegal* & *Dunmore*, at 5 saw 2 Sail to the South^d. standing in for y^e Cape gave chace *Senegal* in Comp^y at 11 m^d. the P^t Sig^{l2} to a Ship within the Cape which she did not answer,

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/784.

1. French ship *Tonnere*, L. Dessau, master, owned by Mons. Deledebat of Bordeaux, mounting 20 guns, with a crew of 50 seamen, from Cape François to Chesapeake Bay, with bale goods &c., taken off Smith's Island, destroyed, prize credited to *Senegal*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41.

2. I.e., made the Private Signal.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

March 1778

[At Anchor Crumps Hill SbE ½ E]

Thursday 12th.

Light Airs & hazy. AM got under way H M: Ships the *Emerald*, *Richmond*, & *Solbay* with H M: Sloops the *Otter* & *Senegal* at 9 two of the Ships Anch^d. between the Horse Shoe & Middle [Ground], the other two in Chace. One of them Stood without the Capes, the other up the Bay, at ½ past 10 the other two ships got under way, at ½ past 11 the three up the Bay, Anch^d. the fourth, & Chace out of Sight

Ditto [At Anchor Crumps Hill SbE ½ E]

Mod^t. Breezes & fine W^r[PM] Saw a Sail off Cape Henry, the Tender got under way & gave Chace the Sail lying too having French Colours the above Sail anchored ahead of us about ½ Gun Shot, hoisted out the Boats & took possession of her, found her to be the *Jean Andre* a ship of 12 Guns from Bourdeaux bound to the Chesapeake Bay with Cloathing &c^{a.1} Came on b^d from the French Prize 38 Prisoners

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. Ship *Jean André*, Guillaume Coronet, master, owned by Mons. Jauge & Co. of Bordeaux, mounting 12 guns, a crew of 40 seamen, from Bordeaux to Chesapeake Bay, with cordage, canvas, clothing, &c., taken off Willoughby's Point, sent to New York City as a prize of *St. Albans*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. She was libelled by Capt. Richard Onslow on 30 Mar. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and condemned as a lawful prize of *St. Albans* on 27 Apr. 1778. UkLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 81. Her master's name appears as Pierre Couronnet in her prize papers. UkLPR, H.C.A. 32/365/10.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *SENEGAL*, COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY

March 1778

[Cape Henry ESE. 5 Lea^s.]

Thursday 12

Light airs & foggy wea^t At 6 AM weighed in Co with the *Emerald* *Richmond* *Solebay* *Otter* & *Dunmore* brig. At 7. saw a sail to the E^t ward, gave her chace, with the *Richmond*, the chace ran cross the tail of the Middle ground for Smiths Island. At 11. she ran aground about the Middle of Smith Island, then hoisted french colours & fired a shott which we returned with the 4 pounder. At ½ past 11 Anchored in 3 f^m. North end of Smiths Island NNE. S^o. point W ½ N. sent the pinnace with a flag of

Truce to speak her, but was prevented by their firing seven shott at the boat. At Noon the french ships Mast fell by the board, soon after her Foremast, the *Richmond* having sent three boats in case of boarding her, sent them with ours to Assist in saving the people which the[y] effectd & threw her guns over board. She was called the *Tonnere* of 350 tons, 50 Men & 18 Guns from Cape François to the Rebels.¹

Smiths Island N^o. end NNE S^o. end W ½ N
Fresh breezes & clear weat At 1 P.M. weighed & plyed for C Henry with the *Richmond*

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/885.

1. Ship *Tonnere*, L. Dessau, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 12 Mar., above.

THE SOUTH-CAROLINA AND AMERICAN GENERAL GAZETTE,
THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1778

CHARLESTOWN, March 12.

The *Comet* privateer of 16 guns and about 87 men,¹ commanded by James Pyne, Esq; which sailed out of Charlestown the 2d of November last, was taken by the *Daphne*, Capt. Chinnery,² of 20 guns, the 22d of December following, off the west end of Cuba, and carried into Pensacola, from whence Captain Pyne was sent to New-York, and his men distributed on board different vessels.³

Last Monday Mr. Jarvis Williams, with three others which belonged to the *Comet* at the time she was taken, arrived here from St. Augustine,⁴ from which place they made their escape in the night of the 23 ult. and brought off with them a Negroe fellow belonging to Mr. Righton, of Charlestown, cooper.

The *Daphne*, Capt. Chinnery, of 20 guns, and the *Comet*, and 35 men, are cruising off Charlestown bar.

Capt. Brown, in a privateer from this State, was lately taken by an English letter of mart after an obstinate engagement, in which he lost one of his legs, and carried into Jamaica.

1. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Comet*.

2. Capt. St. John Chinnery, R.N.

3. For *Comet's* capture, see NDAR 10: 786, 786n.

4. Jarvis Williams, master's mate, and Paul Ripley, midshipman, were two of the four members of *Comet's* crew that escaped from St. Augustine. See Journal of the South Carolina Navy Board, 26 Mar., below.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. GLASGOW, CAPTAIN THOMAS PASLEY

March 1778
Thurs^y 12

Ditto. [The East End of Mayaguana] NNW. 6. or 7 Leagues
At 9 (AM) Saw a Sail to Westw^d. Gave Chase, At Noon shortened Sail and gave over Chase, Reefed TS

The SE. End of Mayaguana NWBW. 5 Leagues.
Fresh Breezes and Cloudy At 2 (PM) Saw a Sail to Westward,
Gave Chase At 7. Fired 3 Guns & bro^t her too, sent an Officer

to Examine her, Proved a Sloop from Cape Francoise to New London. took possession of the Prize bro^t the Prisoners on board and sent a Petty Officer with people to take Charge of her.¹ and made Sail to the S^ow^d.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/399.

1. Sloop *Lucy*, Richard Reynolds, master, 70 tons burthen, crew of 7 men, belonging to Joseph Smith of New London, from Cape François to New London, with molasses, salt, etc. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. See Louis F. Middlebrook, *Maritime Connecticut During the American Revolution*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: The Essex Institute, 1925), 2: 7.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. YARMOUTH, CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT

March 1778

Thursd^y 12th

Is: Barbadoes W^t S^oerly. Latitude in 13°.. 14' N^o.
at 3 AM saw a Sail to Leeward of us, gave chase, at ½ past 9 shortned Sail and hoisted a Boat out, and bro^t on board 4 Men who were on a piece of a wreck,¹ they informed us they were on board the Ship engaged the 8 Instant when she Blew up, that they had nothing to subsist on from that time, but by Sucking the rain water that fell on a piece of Blanket they had fortunately picked up. The Ship was an American Privateer of 36 Guns and, and 305 Men.² resumed our Chace, w^{ch} steered due West.

Is: Barbadoes West. Latitude in 13°.. 07' N
Fresh gales and fair, we continue our chace, but do not perceive we come up with her. at 10 PM lost sight of her, at 11 made the Island Barbadoes bearing WSW 4 or 5 Leagues. down steering Sails, in 2^d reef the Topsails, and hauled our Wind to the N^oward,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1091, fol. 178.

1. The seamen were Hantz Wortman (or Hans Workman), John Kerry (or Carew), Alexander Robinson and Batholomew Bourdeau. UKLPR, Adm. 36/8072 and Adm. 43/23. See Deposition of Hans Workman, John Carew and Alexander Robinson, 16 Mar., and Muster Table of H.M.S. *Yarmouth*, 31 Mar., below.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

GOVERNOR THOMAS SHIRLEY TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

My Lord,

Dominica 12th March 1778.

Hearing that a safe opportunity offers from S^t Kitts for England I avail myself of It in order to send Your Lordship the several inclosures which contain intelligence that I think my Duty to communicate to Your Lordship by the earliest opportunity.—There is now actually passing by this Island a Fleet of eleven Sail under Convoy of a large French Frigate. They are mostly small Vessels, and are beyond a doubt American Vessels Convoy'd to S^t Eustatia and other parts.—It may not be improper for me to embrace this occasion to acquaint Your Lordship that the *Grenville* Packet with the January, and it is likewise said the February Mails on Board has had a very severe Engagement with a Rebell Privateer of Force¹ and that

both Mails are lost. There seems to be no doubt of the Truth of the matter with respect to the Fate of the January Mail; but it is hoped that the February Mail was not on board the *Grenville*.

I have the Honor to be, My Lord, [&c.]

Tho^s: Shirley

L, UKLPR, C.O. 71/7, fols. 42-43. Docketed: "Dominica 12th March 1778/Governor Shirley/(2 Inclosures.)." Endorsed: "R, 16th May/Ent^d."

1. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*, Capt. Samuel Chew, commander. See "Memorandum of American Privateers in Martinique & the Conduct of the French towards the Americans," 24 Feb., Journal of H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 6 Mar., above, and Governor Valentine Morris to Lord George Germain, 12 Mar., immediately below.

GOVERNOR VALENTINE MORRIS TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]

My Lord.

S^t Vincent 12th Mar. '78.

... with great concern I this moment learn of the January mail being lost by a severe engagement the Paket¹ had with an American privateer of force.² at the same time I beg leave to congratulate your Lordship on the Success of his Majesty's Ships *Ariadne*, *Cerres*. & *Yarmouth* against the several American privateers going to make a descent on Tobago.³ these are part of that force which was destined to have acted also ag^t Dominica or Tortola as mentioned in my letter to the Lords of the Treasury of the 23^d of February. the copy of which your Lordship received with mine of the 18th of same month to your Lordship. and of which I informed Admiral Young and his Majestys Governors M^r Shirley⁴ & M^r Birt.⁵ Tobago was on consultation substituted for Dominica, deemed too well guarded, and from Tobago the force was to have gone to Tortola.

it was one of the vessells mentioned in that list commanded by Captain Tew⁶ which attacked his Majestys Packet. Captain Tew and thirty of his crew were killed and his vessel greatly damaged by the Packet.

I trust by dint of vigilance, and private intelligence to frustrate every attempt meditated against this Island; they however have been various, but chiefly hitherto with intent only to plunder, but as the privateers altho perpetually hovering on our coasts with that intention & their boats Crews even attempting to land, have even by night as well as day found preparations to receive them. they never could succeed but once by landing and carrying of two negroes of a french settler from that tract of wood land sold by the Charibs to Collonel Etherington, and by directions of the Lords of the Treasury to me since confirmed to him; I have reason to think this was effected by previous concert with these negroes all in one hut and who else might I think have escaped into the woods.

... the very unexpected arrival of a dutch squadron of men of War at Statia,⁷ the particulars of which the Admiral & Gov: Birt will doubtless inform your Lordship more particularly than I can altho matter of surprise is to me of equal Satisfaction as I cannot doubt but these come as auxiliaries to his Britanick Majestys Ships here.

I have the honor to remain with due respect and esteem [&c.]

Valentine Morris

L, UKLPR, C.O. 260/5, fols. 161–65. Addressed below close: “R^e Honorable/Lord George Germaine.” Docketed: “S^t Vincent 12th March 1778./Governor Morris/R, 9th July./(7 Inclosures.)/Ent^d.” Portions not printed related to Morris’s disputes with the colonists of St. Vincent.

1. H.M. packet *Grenville*, Capt. Kempthorne.
2. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.
3. H.M.S. *Ariadne* and H.M. sloop *Ceres* captured the Continental Navy ship *Alfred* on 9 Mar., above, and H.M.S. *Yarmouth* engaged and destroyed the Continental Navy frigate *Randolph* on 7 Mar., above.
4. Gov. Thomas Shirley.
5. Gov. William Mathew Burt.
6. Capt. Samuel Chew, Continental Navy.
7. St. Eustatius.

March 13

MAJOR GENERAL EYRE MASSEY TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

My Lord

Halifax March the 13—1778

As a letter of Marque Sails, this day for Bristol, I think it my Duty, not to miss any opportunity to inform your Lordship, all is well here; I have an Express Every fortnight from Major of Brigade Studholme,¹ who commands at the Entrance of S^t Johns River, in his last letter he says, he has now so well secur’d his Post, that has not the least apprehension, should he be attack’d he will keep his Ground, and I daily See how usefull a Post, that will be, for the future Safety of this Province, I beg ten thousand pardons, for again Soliciting your Lordship in Speedy Sending out, Some Small Armd Vessels, at this time, there are three Pirates crusing between Cape Sabel and our Light house,² and all the Goods Sent from Engla[n]d to this place, are instantly bought up to supply the Rebellious Colonies, and that Trade, as much establs’d here, as the fair Trade is in London, and this be assur’d of as fact—from my Lord [&c.]

Eyre Massey

I have not had the least Accounts
from Sir W^m Howe or any of the Southern
Armies since Maj^r Smalls³ Departure from hence—

L, UKLPR, C.O. 217/54, fols. 42–43. Endorsed: “R, 22 April.”

1. Maj. Gilfred Studholme.
2. Cape Sambro Lighthouse.
3. Maj. John Small.

INTELLIGENCE FROM CAPTAIN JOHN MACARTNEY, R.N., AT HALIFAX

[Halifax]

Copy.

Intelligence received from Captain Macartney¹
with his Letter of the 13th March 1778.

— Conway,² Master of a Rebel Privateer Schooner of forty Tons, six Guns (two pounders) And a Number of Swivels with thirty five Men,³ came into Yarmouth near Cape Sable about six Weeks ago, killed one Sheep and pulled the Inside of a House down. A party of Men from the same Schooner about the 8th of February last, marched down to Cape Vaisseau under Arms, in order to take a small Schooner belonging to Benjamin Barnet of Yarmouth, but did not take her, having found her good for little.

—That they have got plenty of Salt at Boston on French and Spanish Bottoms; one French Ship in particular of about four or five hundred Tons very lately arrived there with Salt; that it cost twenty Dollars ~~per~~ Bushel before she arrived.—That last Summer they had 300 Sail of Privateers all over America, and that this Summer they imagined they would have 700 Sail besides small Craft.—That the Island of St^t Peters⁴ was deserted by the French.—That the Rebel Army was the worst of the People.—That the Militia stayed at home to defend their Property. That there are a great Number of French Officers in their Army, and a number of French Seamen in their Privateers & that the small Privateers share every Prize equally, except a double Share for the Commander, and that they never condemn their prizes legally.— That a great Number of Vessels are gone from Boston, Marblehead &c^a to South Carolina for Grain, Pitch and Tar, which are very much wanted.—That they sailed in December last, and were expected to return in March or April: Their passage is through the Vineyard⁵ and close aback of Martha's Vineyard Island.

A small Privateer from Salem about the 20th of February says there are 25 or 27 Vessels of the same kind (carrying one Carriage Proa Gun & a number of Swivels round the Coamings of their Hatchways for fighting in the Hold; they row 18 Oars each and carry about 35 Men, built on purpose for going) ready to sail to line all the Coasts of Nova Scotia and destroy the Trade wherever they can.—That these Vessels are principally manned with Marblehead and Salem Fishermen, who are well acquainted with every small Harbour and Creek on the Coast. These Small Craft lie mostly in Harbours where they can run in one way and out another, in case of being pursued. They likewise report that the Americans had withdrawn their Troops from Machias, early in the Fall of the Year, after the *Rainbow* left it, to the Number of 1500 Men, bidding them defend themselves if they pleased, and that no Troops had been there since; and that it was not a place worth guarding.

—That a Brig of 18 Guns well found and manned and commanded by one Sampson⁶ is at present cruizing between Cape Sable and Halifax, fitted out on purpose to take the *Hope*, Captain Dawson;⁷ And that there are five very small Privatiers already on this Coast.

These small Privateers report that the way they generally get their Prizes in, is, by giving Cape Sable a Birth of 20 Leagues, and then making the best of their Way to Mount desert.⁸

The 'foregoing Intelligence was given to Captain Macartney in Annapolis Bason by the undernamed Inhabitants of Yarmouth near Cape Sable.

John Crowley	}	Justices of the peace
Phineas Durkee		
Jer ^h . Allen		Cap ^t of the Militia.

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 252–53. Docketed: "Intelligence received from/Captain Macartney./Dated 13th. March 1778./N^o. 1/In Lord Howes N^o. 59." Enclosure No. 1 in Vice Admiral Viscount Howe's letter No. 59 to Philip Stephens, 9 May 1778.

1. Capt. John Macartney, commanding H.M.S. *Ambuscade*.

2. Capt. John Conway.

3. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Terrible*, mounting 4 carriage guns and 10 swivels with a crew of 35 seamen, was commissioned on 28 Nov. 1777 and was owned by Thomas Gerry and Samuel Trevett, of Marblehead. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls, vol. 7, p. 225.

4. French island of Saint-Pierre (St. Peters), Saint-Pierre and Miquelon Islands.
5. Vineyard Sound, Mass.
6. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Hazard*, Capt. Simeon Samson, commander.
7. Capt. George Dawson, R.N.
8. Mount Desert Island, Me.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

War-Office, Boston March 13th 1778—

Order'd, That Thomas & Joseph Dakin be paid for Sundry Work for Brig *Dolphin*,¹ as p^r Bill . . . £39.. 3.. 9—

Order'd, That Rich^d Skillin be paid Sundry Work for Brig^t *Dolphin*, as p^r Bill . . . £11..11.—

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins² deliver Cap^t Turner for the Brig^t *Dolphin*, two Cohorns & two Swivels, with proper Apparatus for the Same.—

Voted, That Mess^{rs} Cross & Greenleaf be desir'd imediately to provide suitable Wooden Materials for building a twenty Gun Ship, to carry nine Pounders, & y^t they be allow'd a reasonable consideration for their Trouble—

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l³ deliver Cap^t Turner for the Brig^t *Dolphin* Six Ships Arms, one quarter fresh Beef and ten Bushels Potatoes.—

Order'd, That M^r Thomas Foster deliver Cap^t Turner for two Cohorns twenty five Cartridges 3 or 4^{lb} each, —for two Swivels Forty Cartridges, and one hundred Eighty Musket Cartridges from the Powder deliv^rd him from Sloop *Reprisal*,⁴ if he has it not[,] to deliver Cap^t Turner Powder sufficient to make the above Cartridges, & return the weight—

Agreed, with Cap^t Israel Turner on a Voyage from Boston to Bilboa in the Kingdom of Spain for £20.—.— p^r Month Wages, —to be paid in Bilboa £80.— instead of Primage, &c. five Tons Priviledge, & 3/4^d p^r day while in port in Spain.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 251–53.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*, Capt. Israel Turner, master.
2. Caleb Hopkins.
3. David Devens.
4. Massachusetts State trading sloop *Reprisal*, Capt. Nathaniel Carver, master. See *NDAR* 10: 362, 615.

CAPTAIN HUGH DALRYMPLE, R.N., TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN BURGOYNE

Sir

Juno Cape Cod Harbour 13th Mar^h 1778

I had the honor of receiving your letter of the 9th. In^t and have forwarded your packet to the Viscount Howe by the *Haerlem*, and shall continue in this port observing the strictest neutrality, till I have his Lordships order to remove, but I hope before I can possibly receive an answer from his Lordship, your aid-de-camp¹ will arrive with the agreeable Tydings that I am to have the pleasure of conveying you to England. hearing that you were indisposed I have used every means to make your passage comfortable, but I am sorry I shall have no milk, having neither Cow or milch Goat on board. You will find by the inclosed letter I received from M^r Leonard Deputy Commissary,² who was not arrived when I last had the honor to write you, That there are 1900 Barrels of Flour in three Victuallers in the Fleet

intended for your Troops. There are no provisions on board the Transports but what was intended for the Troops during their passage to England. I have wrote to the Viscount Howe That if the Troops were not to be embarked, I should ask his Lordships permission to put the whole on board one or more of the Transports if one not sufficient, to carry the same to Boston for the use of the Troops of the Convention, a written permission being first procured from General Heath for that purpose. I have received a letter from Gen^l Heath in which is the following paragraff "although I wish on every occasion to extend the utmost generosity to the Gentlemen of the Army yet to allow Letters to pass unopened would be betraying the Trust reposed in me, therefore any Idea of granting such indulgence cannot be admitted." So I shall take care of your private Letters together with those of every person in the Army. I return you many thanks for your present of a Turkey and remain with esteem [&c.]

Hugh Dalrymple

I beg leave to observe that there are only 7030 Tonage of Transports to carry the Troops—

L, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 8, fol. 426. Docketed: "From Cap^t Dalrymple/to Gen^l Burgoyne/Mar. 13. 1778/(Copy sent Congress)." There is a copy of this letter dated 15 Mar. in the William Heath Papers, vol. 9, fol. 10.

1. Ensign Richard R. Wilford.
2. George Leonard.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL CHAMPLIN, JR., TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Sir.

Edgartown March ye. 13th. 1778

I take this oppertunity by Colonal Norton¹ to write you of our proceeding Since we² got here we have not had [a] wind that we Could Get to Sea with [*torn*] we left New London but are all Ready now for the first wind that presents.

we have got now on bord 73 hands which is the whole of our Crew but Expect two or three more if we Should not have a wind to Day but you may Depend that I Shall embrace the first oppertuntty that offers.

I have Drawd on you in favor of Colonal Norton for Sundries as a firkin of butter a Cord of wood & for Shipping of people & poilatiage which I hope you will answer poilateage is 20 Dolars I have paid It out of my own pocket which I wish you will be so Good as to pay to my wife

I Shall send you these Bills after from your most Obed^t Humble Servt

Sam^{ll}. Champlin Jn^r.

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 70, no. 4134. Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Samuel Champlin/Letter/March 14th 1778." Docketed in another hand: "4134." There are four enclosures which are bills Champlin paid from 6 Mar. to 12 Mar. at Edgartown.

1. Col. Jethro Norton.
2. Connecticut privateer sloop *American Revenue*.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL

Sir

New London March 13th. 1778—

I Received a letter from Cap^t Jn^o Lamb and he writes that you Could not let him have the Cannon I wrote you for Untill The Honb^{le}. Council mett^l—my Br^o. now waits on you for that Purpose, and Brings my Acco^{ts}. by which you'l see that I

am a Considerable sum in Advance for the Publick—Monsieur Michel Command^r of the French Ship² from France, comes with him, he would have waited on you before but the wether has been so bad, that their is Scarsly any travelling—I have Mentioned to him, the Great Advantages of sending his Ship out on a Cruce after Landing his Goods, and I believe if your Excellency should advise him he would Send her out—She is Really a fine Ship mount^g 40 Guns and has 220 Men and a Good Sailing Ship—if the State Should want any of Monsieurs Goods, I should think it would be best to git them as Soon as they come on Shore³—I am Sir [&c.]

Nath^l. Shaw Jun^r

L, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 9, p. 336. Addressed: "To/His Excellency Governour Trumbull/att/Lebanon—." Docketed: "13th. March 1778/Nath^l Shaw Jun^r/Esq^r/de Cap^t Michel/French Ship/rec^d. 14th Pr Th^s Shaw."

1. Possibly the cannon sent to Boston for the Connecticut Navy ship *Defence*.

2. Ship *Lyon*, J. Michel, master.

3. On 19 Mar. Trumbull wrote Shaw that Maj. Gen. Horatio Gates, president of the Continental Board of War, requested that the clothing which came in the French ship *Lyon* be forwarded immediately to the army. DLC, Peter Force Transcripts, Nathaniel Shaw Papers, 224: 203.

NEWS FROM NEW LONDON

New-London March 13.

Last Saturday arrived here from Port L'Orient in France the ship *Lyon*, a three Decker of about eleven hundred Tons burthen, commanded by Captain Michael^l having a defensive Commission mounting 40 Guns and has upwards of 200 Men deep laden with European and India Goods to a very large Amount: She left Port L'Orient the 31st of December in Company with another French Ship of 20 Guns² and the Continental Ships *Alfred* and *Raleigh*, but parted company with the two latter 13 Days after they came out of Port: the other Ship kept Capt. Michael Company till about three Weeks ago when both Vessels arrived at the Mouth of James's River, and the former going into the River was taken by a British Man of War,³ upon which Capt. Michael stood to the Eastward. Four Days before his Arrival here he saw a Fleet of 13 Sail with two Men of War under Continental Colours, but supposes they were a British Fleet.

A talk of War with Great-Britain still continued when this Ship left France and the Captain says it was expected would be soon declared.

Connecticut Courant, and the *Weekly Intelligencer* (Hartford), 17 Mar. 1778.

1. Capt. J. Michel.

2. French ship *Vicomte de Vaux*, Pierre Marie Donat de La Garde, master, from L'Orient to Chesapeake Bay, mounting 24 guns. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 241.

3. *Vicomte de Vaux* was captured by H.M.S. *Solebay* on 23 Feb. in Hampton Roads. See Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 23 Feb., above. Howe's Prize List credits the capture of *Vicomte de Vaux* to H.M.S. *Solebay* and H.M.S. *St. Albans* on 24 Feb. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 241.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

Roebuck at Philadelphia
the 13th. March 1778—

My Lord,

I had the honor to receive your Letter of the 22^d. February by the *Brune* yesterday, and to day nine of the Hay Ships have arrived at the Town, what happened to the others your Lordship will be informed of by Captain Ferguson.¹

This Supply arrived at a most seasonable time as the Army had only one Weeks Forage. This scarcity had determined the General to send a Body of Troops to the Jerseys with a number of small Vessels to collect what Hay that Country afforded. The Troops are embarked in Transports under the direction of Colonel Mawhood;² and Captain Watt of the *Delaware* is charged with conducting the Expedition, having the Galley³ and Armed Vessels under his Command; and as the Descent is intended to be in Cohanzey Creek, (which is upon the Station of the *Camilla*,) Captain Phipps is directed to make the security of the Fleet a particular object of his attention.

The *Pearl* is stationed from Reedy Island to Chester, and the *Experiment* is at Billingsport, where Sir James Wallace (who arrived there yesterday) will be employed in opening more of the passage of the lower Chevaux de Frize. The other Ships are at the Town, and placed chiefly with a view to prevent the Enemys Galleys from passing—

The Ice in the River prevented the Ships from moving from the Wharfs untill the 8th. of this Month. For a fortnight before there was so much Snow on the Ground, that little or nothing could be done towards the Building the Galleys or refitting the Ships, so that your Lordship will not find them so forward and compleat as I flattered myself would have been the Case, when I last had the honor of writing to your Lordship by the *York* Sloop. I have the honor &c. &c.

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Letter Book (1778–1779), pp. 22–23. Addressed at foot: "Vice Admiral Lord Viscount Howe. &c."

1. See Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

2. Lt. Col. Charles Mawhood, 17th Foot.

3. H.M. galley *Cornwallis*.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN JOHN COLLINS, R.N.

Roebuck at Philadelphia

Friday 13th. March 1778.

D^r Sir,

I last night received the favor of your Letter of the 10th. acquainting me of the Ships being destroyed that you were sent to retake,¹ and that the Enemys Gun Boats had escaped into Wilmington Creek;² That Service being at an end, I am to desire You will now please to put into execution my Orders of the 7th. Instant by taking charge of the Convoy to the Mouth of the River, and afterwards making the best of your way to New York with such part of it as are bound thither.

In case you should be detained in the River by contrary Winds, I would have as many Pilots as can be spared from the Convoy put onboard the *Zebra*, and Captain Orde dispatched with all possible expedition down to his Station at the Entrance of the River, to facilitate the Arrival of the many Ships that are daily expected to be coming into the River. The Pilots now onboard the *Nautilus* are also to be left onboard the *Zebra*. I am [&c.]

A S Hamond.

P.S. The Commander³ of the *Cornwallis* Galley is to be directed to join the Fleet escorted by the *Camilla*, and put himself under the immediate Command of Captain Watt.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Letter Book (1778–1779), pp. 24–25. Addressed at foot: “Captain Collins/*Nautilus*—”

1. Transports *Kitty* and *Mermaid*.
2. Capt. John Barry and Lt. Luke Matthewman, commanding two barges from the Continental Navy frigate *Effingham* in company with three Pennsylvania Navy armed boats.
3. Lt. Thomas Spry, R.N.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDGIN

March 1778

Cape Henry SW $\frac{1}{2}$ W 4 or 5 Lg^s.

Friday 13

$\frac{1}{2}$ p^t 1 [AM] hoisted our Colours & fired 4 Guns, & she show^d. French Colours & haul^d them down, sent our Boats to Examine her, An^d. wth. B^t B^r in 7 fath^m. Cape Henry WBE 2 miles she proved to be a French ship f^m. S^t Maloes, saild hence for hamton Road the *Senegal* & prize,¹ at 9 weighd & came to Sail as did the *Dunmore*² at noon New P^t Comfort West 9 miles

New P^t Comfort West 9 Miles

Mod^t & hazy, sailing up the Cheseapeak *Dunmore* in Com^y [PM] sent the Barge with the *Dunmore* in Chace of a Schooner at anchor in shore, at 8 Anch^d with the B^t B^r in 7 f^m. Wth Mouth of Occohannock [Creek] EbN 5 or 6 miles at midnight the barge retd with a Schooner laden with Oats Salt &ca., the *Dunmore* took a Shooner, laden with Indian Corn

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/784.

1. French ship *Hector*, P. Parrie, master, owned by Mons. Roualt of St. Malo, from St. Malo to Chesapeake Bay, with salt, bale goods &c., mounting 14 guns, a crew of 45 seamen, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. Although Howe's Prize List credited the capture jointly to *Senegal* and *Richmond*, *Hector* was libelled by Molloy on 1 Apr. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and was condemned as a prize of *Senegal* on 27 Apr. 1778. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 81–82. Her master's name appears as Charles Porée in her prize papers. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/351/9.

2. H.M. armed brig *Dunmore*, Lt. John Wright, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *SENEGAL*, COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY

March 1778

Smiths Island N^o. end NNE S^o. end W $\frac{1}{2}$ N.

Friday 13

At midnight passed the Capes & saw a Vessell at Anchor, plyed for her & at 2 AM. fired six shott at her, the *Richmond* fired two, she then shewed french colours, & hauled them down immediately, sent our boat on board of her, & found her the *L'Hector* from S^t Maloes with Cordage, Salt, &c. for the Rebels¹ Anchored close by her C Henry ESE. 4 M. At 7 AM weighed & stood for Lynnhaven bay the prize following. At 10 anchored by the Commodore² in 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ f^m. water Old p^t Comfort WbS 4 or 5 Lea^s. Cape Henry ESE. 5 Leagues.

Old point Comfort WbS. 4 or 5 Leagues—

Fresh breezes & cloudy wea^r [PM] sent some of the French prisoners on board the S^t *Albans*, the prize being leaky, exam-

ined & found 3 holes bored through her Bows near the waters edge, with Cork in them. Emp^d. securing them & preparing the prize for sea.—

D, UKLPR, Adm., 51/855.

1. See note 1 at Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, immediately above.

2. H.M.S. *St. Albans*, Capt. Richard Onslow, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. SOLEBAY, CAPTAIN THOMAS SYMONDS

March 1778

D^o. [at Anchor off Cape Henry]

Friday 13

at 1 AM heard the Report of 4 guns at 11 saw a sail to E^t ward weighd with the *Otter* & gave chase—

Cape Henry SW 2 or 3 Lgs

Mod: breezes & hazy ½ past 5 PM fired 25 Nine Pound Shot & some Musquetry & b^t too a Schooner from S^t Eustatia bound to Virginia with Bale Goods &c.¹ Exchanged hir men

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/909.

1. Schooner *Portsmouth*, Richard Talbot, master, owned by George Kerr & Co. of Portsmouth, Virginia, a crew of 10 seamen, from St. Eustatius to Chesapeake Bay, with rum, sugar and bale goods, taken off Cape Henry, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. She was condemned on 22 Apr. 1778 by the Vice Admiralty Court of New York as a prize of *Solebay*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 79. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/426/6.

CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

Copy.

Carysfort off Charles Town Bar

My Lord,

13th: March 1778.

The very tedious Time taken to fit the Schooner designed by Governor Tonyn to have gone with Dispatches to the Northward, made it necessary for me to drop my Idea of such Conveyance to your Lordship; And as the *Perseus* is now going off the Station, in lieu of the *Galatea*, I send by her the Papers, which were to have gone in the Schooner; and am further to inform your Lordship of Occurrences since the 13th. of last Month.

In my Letter of that Date I mentioned the *Perseus* being sent from S^t Augustine to join the *Lizard* off Charles Town. She called off S^t Mary's and there completed her Water, and joined the *Lizard* the next Day. Those two Ships cruized in Company off Charles Town 'till the 10th: Instant, when the *Lizard* went to S^t Augustine to land Prisoners and for Water. This Morning I joined the *Perseus*, and after she is gone, I purpose to cruise in the *Carysfort* on the same Station.

I am sorry to inform your Lordship, that about the 12th. of February the *Randolph* Congress Frigate, with many other Vessels escaped from Charles-Town unperceived. The *Lizard* being then the only Ship cruising off that place was led off shore in pursuit of a french Ship, and a very strong N.W. Wind prevented her getting off the Bar again for some Days: in which Interim those Ships pushed out. What their real Destination is I cannot learn.

As Intelligence received leaves some Reason to apprehend that the Rebels still contemplate an Invasion of East Florida, the *Galatea*, *Hinchinbrooke*, and *Rebecca* Armed Sloop are at present employed for the Defence of that Province, and

Captain Jordan has my Direction to detain the *Lizard* also on the same Service, in case he should find Circumstances so require; otherwise to send her, after her Water is complete, to the Rendezvous off Charles Town.

Our Store of Provisions at S^t Augustine being [*nearly*] exhausted, I was under Necessity to apply to Governor Tonyn for a Supply from the Garrison-Stores to comp[lete] the *Carysfort* for three Months. It is scarce probable that any more Provisions can be procured there for the Ships by any Means. Before the *Perseus* parts from me, I will take from her what she can spare.

Captain Elphinstone will be able to represent better than I can by Letter, the very great Inconvenience the King's Ships have found in getting off Supplies from S^t Augustine: and should your Lordship wish to be informed of any Particulars omitted by me, he is well able from his long Experience on this Station to give Satisfaction therein.

I have the Honor to remain Your Lordship's [&c.]

(signed) Rob^t Fanshawe.

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols.222–23. Addressed at foot of first page: "Right Hon^{ble}. Viscount Howe." Docketed: "Copy of a Letter from Captain/Fanshawe to the Viscount Howe/dated 13th March 1778." Docketed in another hand: "In Lord Howe's Letter/N^o. 57." Enclosed in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe to Philip Stephens, Secretary of the Admiralty, No. 57, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 207–10.

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[*Savannah*]

Friday March 13, 1778

WHEREAS great inconveniences have arisen to the Gallies from the large number of persons requisite to form a Board called the Navy Board for the purpose of passing accounts and otherwise providing for the Said Gallies. And Whereas it appears from the representation of the Commodore¹ that such delays have happened in that department owing to the Said Cause, that the Service is greatly distressed, and at this particular juncture the same may be attended with the Most alarming events to the Safety and well being of this State the Men being dissatisfied for want of pay, some of them having deserted and other Circumstances taken place which call for immediate remedy. It is Therefore Ordered under the particular situation of things that in future and until the next house of Assembly shall meet and shall make farther order to the Contrary that any two or more members of the Said Board called the Navy board shall proceed to Act and in all things be competent to the business of the said Board. this order not to prevent any or the whole of the Members of the said Board from attending & acting if they shall so chuse.

The Revolutionary Records of the State of Georgia, 2: 52–54.

1. Commo. Oliver Bowen.

NEWS FROM JAMAICA

MONTEGO-BAY, (Jamaica)

March 13. Tuesday last arrived at Lucea the ship *Friendship*, Capt. Fisher, a letter of marque from Liverpool and Grenada,¹ and carried in a large American sloop privateer, called the *Gen. Gates*, commanded by one Casper Rowx, with a Congress

commission, mounting 14 sixes, 2 fours, 12 swivels, and four cohorns, with 85 men. About ten leagues to windward of the isle of Ash, they fell in with each other, when the privateer fired a shot and hoisted the American stripes, upon which an engagement immediately began with great spirit upon both sides, and lasted near seven glasses. They boarded the *Friendship*, and grappled with a large chain on her starboard quarter, and from her flying jib boom, threw a large stink-pot on her quarter-deck, which was luckily taken up and thrown overboard by some of the *Friendship's* people, without doing the least damage. Almost every man in the bowsprit, in the attempt of boarding was killed, and a great carnage had taken place throughout the privateer. The grapple breaking she fell a-stern, with her jib-stay, fore-stay, and other rigging all cut away; she then plied the great guns and small arms briskly, but at length was obliged to ask for quarter; She belongs to Sunbury in Georgia, and had been out of the cape about ten days; but made no prize. The second broadside from the *Friendship* killed the commander of the privateer, and during the action twenty-five were killed, besides a number dangerously wounded, five or six of whom are since dead, and many others not likely to survive. The *Friendship* mounts 16 four pounders and 6 swivels, with only thirty-five men and boys, of whom only one was killed and seven wounded.

Pennsylvania Ledger: or the Philadelphia Market-Day Advertiser, 6 May 1778.

1. Ship *Friendship*, D. Fisher, master, 220 tons burthen, mounting 12 four-pounders, from Liverpool to Jamaica, owned by J. Roberts, of Liverpool, built in Rhode Island in 1775. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777-1778.

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

(N^o: 1)

Antigua 13th. March 1778

Sir

Please to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the Trade from England to these Islands arrived here Safe the 20th: January last, under Protection of His Majesty's Ships *Niger*, *Hind*, *Aurora*, and *Deal Castle*, and the Sloops *Hound*, *Sylph*, and *Ceres*; by which I have received Duplicates of the Letters &c, their Lordships had transmitted me by His Majesty's Ship *Yarmouth*, and Octo^r: Packet; likewise Orders to take under my Command, the *Aurora*, *Deal Castle*, and *Ceres*; to Station the *Aurora* & *Deal Castle*, at the Islands Grenada, & Tobago; and Employ the *Ceres* as I may think best for His Majesty's Service; all which I have Complied with. As the *Aurora* came here Eight Months foul; had lost Her Mizen Mast, and Sprung Her Main Mast, and Bowsprit; I thought it would be of great use on the Service she was appointed, to heave her down, whilst the other Damages were repairing; this is now Compleated, and She Sailed from hence to her Station the 9th: Instant; The *Deal Castle* has remained there, since her Arrival, in these Seas.

The 13th: January the *Aurora* fell in (to Windward of Barbadoes) with the S^c: *Peter* a Rebel Privateer of 18 Guns & 119 Men;¹ Cruizing there to intercept the Convoy from England; which she took and brought into this Island; His Majesty's Ship *Seaford*, whom I sent off that Island to look out for the Convoy, has taken and carried into Barbadoes, the *General Washington* a Congress Brig^c: carrying 18 Guns & 84 Men;² She was also Cruizing for the same purpose, as were 14, or 15, others all from Martinico; The *Seaford* on Her passage from Barbadoes to this Island fell

in with and took the *Hampden* Rebel Privateer 12 Guns & 64 Men and carried her into Dominico;³ Their Lordships will also perceive by the Prize List transmitted them by this Opportunity that the *Ariadne* took a Schooner of 8 Guns and 30 Men;⁴ and destroyed two Sloops that run on Shore; mostly Mann'd with French Men; Lieutenant Billy Douglas Commanding His Majesty's Armed Brig^e: *Antigua*, has likewise taken (after a Smart Action) and sent into this Island, the Schooner *Nancy*, An American Privateer from Georgia Carrying 12 Guns and 40 Men;⁵ The *Antigua* suffered no loss or Damage, but the Privateer was a good deal Shattered and had 4 Men Killed and 5 Wounded, amongst the latter was the Commander, whose Thigh was broke by a Swivel Shott from the *Antigua*. Notwithstanding these Successes⁶ their Lordships will perceive by the Accompanying papers of Intelligence,⁷ these Seas still swarm with Armed Vessels and privateers, and I am extremely sorry to add, they mostly belong to French Owners; And the French Men of War Stationed here, Convoy the American Vessels part of their way, and clear of these Islands; all going under French Colours; The Masters of the American Vessels it seems make a Collection for a present to the French Captain; this Intelligence I received from a Brig that was taken after the Convoy had parted from them; and the Master informs me His Share in the aforementioned Collection, Amounted to Twenty four Johannes: As our Cruizers have not yet fallen in with any of these Convoys, I am Ignorant how the French would behave on the American Merchant Vessels being searched, which it is probable I shall soon know, for they must not be suffered to carry on such an Open breach of Neutrality; Their Lordships may rest assured, I will not begin Hostilities with them, 'till forced; so at present I shall only Order the Kings Ships under my Command, to follow, 'till the Convoy parts Company; and if they pretend to hinder that; they must take upon themselves the Consequences.

I must likewise desire you will acquaint My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that within these few days past a Dutch Squadron of five Sail, most of them Two Deck Ships, Commanded by The Count Byland⁸ are arrived at Eustatia; and the reason assigned for their coming here: "To Protect their Trade" and are it is said, to be Stationed at their different Settlements in these Seas.—

I have likewise received Information; that on the 8th: Instant, (Ten or Twelve Leagues to the Windward of the Island S^c Martins) The *Portlands* Tender *Resolution* fell in with four Sail of Spanish Two Deck Ships of War; apparently Steering for Porto Rico, or S^c Domingo; for what purpose all these Armaments are intended, I do not know but cannot avoid remarking to their Lordships every Action of the French and Dutch &c; in these Seas, carry very strong appearances of An Approaching Rupture; I have therefore thought it necessary to send His Majesty's Armed Brigantine *Endeavour*, Express to England, on the Occasion; and hope I soon shall receive their Lordships directions how I am to Act in all these Critical Circumstances, or that my Successor may bring with him Instructions on that head.⁹ I have given Notice to the different Islands at what times the Convoys are appointed to Sail for Europe; but have not yet Settled what Kings Ships will come with the first Convoy. Their Lordships must know the Squadron Employed here is very Weak and Insufficient for the Various Services wanted, in the present very precarious Situation and Uncertainty, who are our Friends or Foes. The Trade from Ireland Consisting of Vessels under Convoy of the *Camel* & *Cupid*, are all arrived

Safe (both the Kings Ships accompanying them I find are gone down to Jamaica) Their Lordships will perceive by the Abstract of Orders given to the Kings Ships under my Command (¶ Dispatch Marked No: 3.)¹⁰ that I thought it absolutely Necessary to send as Many of the Cruizers as I could, to look out for and protect the Convoy 'till they were clear of the French Islands; (now the place of General Rendezvous of the American Cruizers, where they receive all possible protection and Information) and I am happy to find they have Succeeded therein.—

I must again repeat my former request, that Their Lordships will be pleased to send some directions, about securing the prisoners taken on board the American Privateers &c; for We cannot keep them prisoners in the Kings Ships, without endangering the laying up the Squadron by Sickness &c; and the Governors of the Islands refuse Imprisoning them on Shore: They therefore get away to the French & Dutch Islands and go on board other American Privateers some of which have been taken several times within these last Six or Eight Months; this Constant Supply of Men to the Rebels Cruizing Vessels must undoubtedly prove very prejudicial to the Kings Service; as well as to the Trade of His Majesty's Loyal & Faithful Subjects, and I hope Administration will instruct me in some mode to remove the mischief.—

I have likewise received Information from Barbados, that the Packet from England with the January Mail on board, is Arrived there, in a Shattered Condition; having been Engaged on Her Passage by an American Cruizer;¹¹ and that during the Action the Commander of the Packet had caused the Mail to be Slung astern of His Vessel to have destroyed it in case of being Overpowered by the Enemy; and by Accident the same has been carried away by a Cannon Shot from the American Privateer;¹² this certainly proves very unlucky at this Critical Period, when I so much need their Lordships Instructions for my proceed[ings.] I hope, and ardently wish I may soon receive the Duplicates of their Lordships Dispatches for me that were on board the aforementioned Packet.

I am Sir [&c.]

Jam^s. Young

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot of first page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r." Docketed: "13 Mar 1778/Antigua/Vice Adm^l Young/(2 Inclosures)." Endorsed: "R, 18 Ap^t/Ans^d. 2^d May."

1. See Journal of H.M.S. *Aurora*, 14 Jan., Captain James Cumming to Philip Stephens, 14 Jan., above, and Young's Prize List, 14 Mar., below.

2. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 18 Jan., above, and Young's Prize List, 14 Mar., below.

3. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 28 Feb., above, and Young's Prize List, 14 Mar., below.

4. American privateer schooner *Johnston*, Charles Stacbehen, alias Thomas Williams, commander. See NDAR 10: 633, 633n, 661.

5. See Young's Prize List, 14 Mar., below.

6. Here Stephens inserted a bracket with the notation "Copy between the [/] for L^d. G. Germain." The brackets enclose the remainder of this paragraph and the next two and a half paragraphs ending with "or that my Successor may bring with him Instructions on that head." The underlined word "still" Stephens marked for deletion.

7. See Governor Thomas Shirley to Vice Admiral James Young, 22 Feb., and Governor Valentine Morris to Vice Admiral James Young, 24 Feb., above.

8. Vice Admiral Count van Bylandt.

9. Here Stephens inserted a bracket with the notation "So far as betwⁿ [/] leaving out the parts underlined to M^r [Beeston] Long—." The brackets enclose the remainder of the paragraph.

10. Enclosure not found.

11. H.M. packet *Grenville*, Capt. Kempthorne, was attacked on 4 Mar. by the Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.

12. Stephens inserted brackets at the beginning of this paragraph and here with the notation "Copy this para: to the Post Off: & to M^r Long for informat: of West Ind: Merch^{ts}." He underlined "likewise" for deletion.

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

(N^o: 2)
Sir

Antigua 13th: March 1778

Please to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that His Majesty's Ships named in the Margin¹ (belonging to Lord Howes Squadron) have been blown off the American Coast and put into this Island (some of them in distress and a Shattered Condition:) as have likewise the Victuallers bound to America named in the inclosed List Marked N^o: 1 and sundry Hired Transports bound to England with decayed Stores &c; as ~~the~~ List Marked N^o: 2,² and I must beg you will represent to their Lordships so many of them coming here in want of Stores, provisions &c: distresses us exceedingly; as we are by no Means provided for their reception; wanting Stores Provisions and Artificers to repair them. The small Squadron under my Command are so much kept at Sea; that the Weather and Climate destroys every thing so very fast it is with great difficulty we can keep them in repair. His Majesty's Ship *Renown* arrived here totally dismantled, and it will prove a very heavy and Long Jobb to refit her; should we be able to purchase the necessary Stores wanted for that purpose, which I very much doubt of, should no Store Ship arrive from England; the Merchants here will make us pay the most Shameful prices for whatever is wanted, and as she will employ the greatest part of the Artificers of the Yard; I shall be obliged to new Bottom the *Pelican* Brigantine by Contract; the Worms having got hold of her so much, she is not safe to go to Sea 'till that is done.—

The Captains of His Majesty's Ships that have come here from America inform me, great Quantities of serviceable Masts Sparrs &c are lying about at the different Ports in America now in Possession of the Kings forces, which would certainly be of very great use at the Kings Yard here, to refit His Majesty's Ships that may arrive at English Harbour, in want of such Stores; I mention this circumstance in hopes their Lordships may be pleased to direct the Commander in Chief in America, to send a plentiful Supply thereof, to the Kings Stores at this Island.³

I must likewise inform their Lordships, we are likely to be very much distressed here for Provisions, The Agents to the Contractors having neither Bread or Butter in Store; nor any other Specie at present, but Meat and of that no great Quantity. The whole Squadron have been at two thirds Allowance of Bread for these two Months past. Indeed I cannot help thinking there is great fault in the Contractors, or their Agents here; I have often directed the latter to send me regular Accounts of what provisions they had in Store but without effect; and I should certainly have been obliged to advertise for supply's on a new Contract; had not the Irish Convoy hove in sight this day; which I hope for the present will bring the needful Supplys of Provisions for the Squadron Employed here; I shall by this opportunity write to the Commissioners of the Victualing on the Subject that they may take proper measures with the Contractors in England to prevent the like Scarcity in future I am Sir [&c.]

Jam^s: Young

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot of first page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r." Docketed: "13 Mar 1778/Antigua/Vice Adm^l Young/(2 Inclosures)." Endorsed: "R, 18 Ap^l/Ans^d. 2^d. May."

1. The ships named in the margin are *Vulture*, *Greyhound*, *Phoenix* and *Renown*.

2. Enclosures not printed.

3. Philip Stephens enclosed this paragraph in brackets.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *YARMOUTH*, CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT

March 1778

Barbadoes West. Latitude 13°.. 07' N

Friday 13th

at 3 AM saw three Sail [*to*] Leeward upon a wind, take them to be our Cruzers. at 3 AM Tacked to the Southw^d: at Day made the Private Signal—found them to be the *Areadne* and *Ceres*,¹ the third a great way ahead, dont know what she was, but they all made Sail,² and we soone lost sight of them—Fresh gales and Squally.

Barbadoes WbN 5 or 6 L^s: Latitude 13°.. 02' N

Fresh gales and hard Squalls, with a great Sea. At 4 PM the Body of Barbadoes bore WSW 6 Leagues—at 6 close reefed the Topsails.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1091, fols. 178–79.

1. H.M.S. *Ariadne*, Capt. Thomas Pringle, commander, and H.M.S. *Ceres*, Comdr. James R. Dacres, commander.

2. Probably Continental Navy ship *Alfred*, Capt. Elisha Hinman, commander, their prize taken on 9 Mar., above.

March 14

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN DESHON

Navy Board Eastern department

Dear Sir

Boston March 14, 1778

I Yesterday received your favour of the 11th. with the Certificates & money you sent,¹ M^r Thaxter² will Inform you that there is a deficiency of Twenty three dollars in the whole money fifteen of them were in one bundle M^r Thaxter has taken the paper which will of itself Shew the Mistake among it is some of this States money and some of Rhode Island but the sums are inconsiderable I shall Inclose the order you write for & three blank Commissions which I Suppose you will not use without Absolute Necessity requires new Appointments The Small pox prevails much in this Town & may Spread M^r Vernon stood it with great Fortitude Several days and at last thought it prudent to decamp I think he Judged right he left us on Thursday Morning with a design to Meet you at Providence which will make any further Observations on your Letter unnecessary as you & he will determine on the Several matters as you think proper I should be willing M^r Huntington³ had some of this Current money. The Bread for Whipple⁴ & other Articles for him are gone forward & hope at Providence before now We have no News. I wish to see you here & am Your friend & hum^{ble} Serv^t

J Warren

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80.

1. Letter not found.

2. Lt. Adam W. Thaxter, Continental Navy.

3. Maj. Joshua Huntington, supervising construction of Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy*.4. Capt. Abraham Whipple, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Providence*.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT TO JOHN LANGDON

Navy Board Eastern department
Boston March 14. 1778

Sir

I Inclose you a paragraph of a Letter received from the Marine Com^{tee}. by which you will see their Intentions with regard to the French Ship *Flamand* under your directions & their orders to us¹ in Consequence of which we have ordered Cap^t Ayres² & two Lieutenants M^r Gross³ & M^r Thaxter⁴ to Engage ten Men & proceed to Portsmouth for the purposes therein mentioned You will please to Supply them with any articles necessary for such a Cruise according to the Rules of the Navy, I suppose the Ship will be at Sea very Soon I have long Considered it a misfortune to be called on to do so large business as you are with such Small Supplys of money & Lamented it was not in our power to furnish you agreeable to your requests & our wishes that Still remains to be our Situation I have however Collected a little money and Send you by Cap^t Ayres Four thousand dollars which you will please to Enter to our Credit and forward us a receipt you will likewise pass to our Credit twelve thousand dollars paid by the Marine Com^{tee}. on your Bill in favour of Stephen Hooper Esq^r in future you are to apply to our Board & I Sincerely wish it may be in our power to answer your demands.—I am [&c.]

J Warren in behalf of the Board

L, Private Collection, Capt. J. G. M. Stone, Annapolis, Md., 1959. Addressed at the foot: "Hon^{ble}. John Langdon Esq^r." Docketed: "March 14th. 1778—/James Warren's/Letter Answ^d."

1. See Continental Marine Committee to Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept., 23 Feb., above.

2. Capt. John Ayres.

3. Lt. Simon Gross, Continental Navy.

4. Lt. Adam W. Thaxter, Continental Navy.

PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sir

[Trenton] State Navy Board March 14 1778.

The Board received your Excellencys letter a few days ago requesting the Galleys might be dismantled & sunk—at the time we received the letter many of the galleys were fitted & ready to fall down to prevent any thing from coming up the River—Immediately on receiving your Excellencys we sent off an express to the President of our State¹ for orders sending a copy of your letter an answer to which we have not yet got—There is now Six Galleys well manned & this morning went from Borden town to carry Gen^l Waynes Brigade to Bristol where the galleys will remain til further orders—There now lays at or near Borden Town a number of Vessels to great amount of privat property & should the Galleys be destroyed they will fall to a very few small armed Boats. The inhabitants along the Shore are distressed at the thought of losing the Galleys on whom they think lays their safety—We laid Your Excellencys Letter before Gov. Livingston whose advice was not to destroy them yet. Many of the heavy cannon we should have sent off before this, but cannot get a carraige that is able to carry them; & should a superior force come up orders are given to sink the galleys which may soon be done. They have called on us for the Troops belonging to the N. Carolina Regiment, but as they were all gone down the River on duty we hope your Excellency will excuse his not bringing them & pray you will give them a little while longer—

By Order of the Board

Wm Bradford

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "[Trenton]/14th March 1778/from/Col Bradford."

1. President Thomas Wharton, Jr.

BRIGADIER GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sir

Borden Town. 14th Mar. 1778

Wishing to prevent the Enemy from Receiving any benefit from the forage in the Vicinity of the River, and anxious to save as much from the Fires as possible (by Obliging the Inhabitants to carry it into the Pines) took me up more time, than I at first expected—but that Business being now perfected—I have put the Detachment on board of the Gallies—to be landed at Bristol, where I expect to meet them by land at twelve oClock—when I shall either carry off or Destroy the Forage within the reach of the Enemy in the Counties of Philad^a and edge of Bucks, and drive off the Horses Cattle &C^a. fit for our Service, in pursuance of your Excellencies Orders thro Colonel Biddle—¹

The Cannon in travelling Carriages mentioned in your Excellencies Letter of the 28th Ultimo, has long since been Carried a Considerable distance above Trentown,—There are a Number of 3—6—& 9 Pounders on Ship Carriages on shore and on board of the Vessells in the Creek—these the Commodore Promises to take by Water to Trentown—as soon as he and The Navy Board receives Answers to letters they have wrote on this Occasion which they hourly expect—

If its thought expedient to dismantle the Gallies there ought not a Single Moment to be lost in sinking the Vessells, at this place, otherwise they will Inevitable fall a prey to the Enemy—they are too Valuable and too Numerous to be lost for want of a little trouble—

I would beg leave to suggest to your Excellency the expediency of Immediately driving off the Cattle in Cumberland County in this state—which by the best accounts, amount to between three and four thousand Head of fine Bullocks that with a few weeks Grass would make good beef—

Colo. Hugg² one of the purchasing Commissaries has wrote to Colonel Blane³ on the Occasion—I wish some attention was paid to his Opinion, I know him to be Industrious and very Competent to the Business had he the proper Powers—The Resources of this State in supplying Provisions for the Army are so great that too much attention cant be paid in Covering it from the Enemy—but I fear that your Excellency has it not in your power to make a Detachment Adequate to the purpose

I shall therefore forbear saying more on the Subject until I have the pleasure of attending you at head Quarters

Interim I am [&c.]

Ant^v Wayne

I have Detached Lieu^t Morton⁴ of the Virginia Troops to Camp with 22 head of Cattle (one of them for your Excellencies particular use being the fattest beast in New Jersey)

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "His Excellency General—/—George Washington/Camp—." Docketed: "March 1778/from/Gen. Wayne." Notations: "Ant^v Wayne"; "The bearer hereof is to pass free/14 March 1778 Ant^v Wayne"; "Cap^t Lee⁵ & part of his Troop would be of

the/most Essential Service will your Excell^y/please to Order him to join my Command/at Bristol—It may snow to Night/A. Wayne.”

1. Lt. Col. Clement Biddle, Commissary-General of Forage, Continental Army.
2. Col. Joseph Hugg, Assistant Commissary-General of Purchases, Continental Army.
3. Col. Ephraim Blaine, Deputy Commissary-General of Purchases, Continental Army.
4. 1st Lt. Hezekiah Morton, 12th Virginia Continental Regiment.
5. Capt. Henry Lee, 1st Continental Dragoons.

BOUNTY JUMPING OF CHARLES McDONNELL

[*Baltimore*]

Charles McDonnell entered as a marine on Board the *Independence*¹ the 17th day February 1778 for the term of two years for which he has rec^d the Bounty & Signed the articles after being some time on Board he deserted and Enlisted with Colon^l Samuel Smith who told me he had given him thirty Dollars after which we got him on Board and put him in Irons the night after he got out of his Irons and made his escape and went to the s^d. Smith's Batalion² again where M^r Jn^o. Stevenson Seen him and Demanded him of Colon^l Smith who refused delivering of him unless he was paid the money he had advanced—

Bennett Mathews

March 14th. 1778—

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-101.

1. Maryland Navy galley *Independence*, Capt. Bennett Mathews, commander.
2. 4th Maryland Continental Regiment.

HENRY LOWES TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

Chatham [*Md.*] Mch. 14. 1778

I wrote you the 12th Instant¹ Since which I find I was wrong in My Conjectures as to the person who Stole my Boat as I have now the greatest Reason to blive it was one Winder Cannon who was a Deserter from Cap^t Walkers Galley.²—I am Convinced if I can obtain a flagg I Shall at least get the Vesell if not the Villian who Robed me I am [&c.]

Henry Lowes—

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-100A. Addressed: “His Excell^c/Thomas Johnson Esq^r/Governor of the State/Maryland—.”

1. Probably Henry Lowes to Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., 11 Mar., above.
2. Maryland Navy galley *Baltimore*, Capt. Thomas Walker, commander.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Saturday the 14th day of March 1778.—

Mr Isaac Mercer received Orders to call on Mr Holt¹ and take in some Brandy and Whiskey for the use of the Chickahominy shipyard, which he is to deliver, and then proceed to low point for a Load of Beef &c which he is to return with to the said yard, and also deliver, and then return for another of the same kind which he is to bring to Mr Holts, and wait on the Board for further Orders.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 363.

1. William Holt.

COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N., TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

on board His Britannic Majesty's Sloop
of War the *Sylph* in the River
Mississippi 14th March 1778

Sir

Having the honor to command one of His Britannic Majesty's Ships in this River, and having information, that your Excellency has received into your Government, a Body of Armed Men, Enemies to my Sovereign, and that you have suffered them, from the Spanish Territory, to commit depredations on this River, by forcibly seizing upon the Vessels, Property, and Persons of British Subjects, in violation of the Treaties of Peace, the Law of Nations, and the Rights of Men. I cannot help looking on such conduct on your part, as a tacit, if not an open declaration of war, against the King, my Master. I have therefore thought it necessary, to send an officer (with a Flag of Truce) to wait upon your Excellency, to know your sentiments on this subject. and at the same time to be informed what reception I may expect, if I approach the Town of New-Orleans. As I am fully determined not to suffer any affront to be offered to the British Flag. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed at bottom of the page: "His Excellency Don Bernardo de Galvez, Gov^r of Louisiana." Docketed: "Captain Fergusson's Letter/to Governor Galvez./14th March 1778/In Sir Peter Parker's Letter/Dated 27 July 1778—."

COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N., TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

On board His Britannic Majestys
Sloop of War the *Sylph*, in the
River Mississippi 14th March 1778

Sir

In my Letter of this day's date I had the honor to acquaint your Excellency with my sentiments, respecting the insults, that have been lately offered to His Britannic Majesty's Subjects in the River Mississippi, by a body of Armed Men, Enemies to the King, my Master, & under your Protection: I therefore conceived, that you had hostile intentions towards my Nation, & thought it proper to send an officer, with a Flag of Truce, to know your disposition; and to inform you, that I was fully determined not to put up with any affront, that might be offered to the British Flag. This caution I have used to preserve that Peace and Concord, which at present subsists between our respective Sovereigns, and to my great surprize, I have not yet received your answer. I am now to complain of an Insult, I received this afternoon, from a person, whom I understand, to be one of His Britannic Majesty's Rebel Subjects, named M^cIntyre,¹ who placed himself opposite to His Majesty's Ship under my command, and made use of several threats and provoking speeches, which I forbore to resent, out of respect to your nation, knowing, that every person under your Government, is answerable to your Laws.

I now find it indispensibly my duty to demand full and ample satisfaction for this insult; which satisfaction ought to be immediate, in order to present the fatal Consequences, that may attend your giving more countenance to a lawless Banditti, then you seem to do to His Britannic Majesty's Servants and liege Subjects. I hope your Excellency will conceive this to be a very serious matter, and

that it is my duty, to give the earliest notice of it to the Court of Great Britain. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed at the foot: "His Excellency Don Bernardo de Galvez Gov^r of Louisiana." Docketed: "Captⁿ Fergusson's Letter to/Governor Galvez/14th March 1778/In S^r Peter Parker's Letter/Dated 27th July 1778—."

1. Lt. Thomas McIntyre, who commanded a batteau in Capt. James Willing's flotilla. For more on this incident, see Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez to Commander John Fergusson, R.N., 15 and 20 Mar., below.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N.

Sir

I have had the honor of receiving by the officer, whom you was pleased to send me, two Letters, the one from yourself and the other from the Governor of Pensacola.¹ I omit for the present to answer the latter, and confine myself to yours of this day's date

I do not know, how you can take my mode of proceeding as a declaration of war, Violation of the Treaties of Peace, Law of Nations and Rights of Men; when at the same time I do not think, that I have taken a single step, which does not indicate a religious observation of the same Rights, which you accuse me of having violated. The Assistance and protection, which I have given to the Subjects of His Britannic Majesty are in too great a Number to be mentioned in this Letter, if you enquire after them of the very people, who received them.

If I have received the Americans upon the Territories, which I command, it was out of regard of the same rights of Men, which you say, I do not observe, and because in the present circumstances, I follow the example of the European Courts, in whose Sea-Ports, the Loyal Englishmen & the Americans are received indiscriminately, without it being looked upon by the Court of Great Britain, as a declaration of war.

You are at liberty to put what construction you please upon my way of proceeding: my ideas are certainly no others, than to remain neutral in the present war, according to the commands of the King, my Master: and should you (persisting in your opinion of my way of acting) pretend to commit the least hostility from Manchac to Balise, towards the Subjects of my Sovereign, or any one under his Protection in this Colony, you will find me as resolute to repress you by force of Arms, as I am willing to preserve the friendship & good understanding of the two Nations, as long as you will contain yourself in the proper limits, and observe the consideration due to a Mediation upon the Territories of his Catholic Majesty.

In hopes of your being equitable enough in consequence of my answer, to acknowledge the justice of my conduct, and my pacific intentions, and that the Peace, which we enjoy, will not be disturbed on your side, I offer you the assistance or provisions, which you may want yourself, as well as for your Ship, which you may safely bring near the Town, and come on shore, whenever it is agreeable to you. &c &c &c—

(Signed) Bernardo de Galvez

New Orleans 14th March 1778

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Docketed: "Gov^r Galvez's Letter to/Captⁿ Fergusson 14th March/1778—/In S^r P^r Parkers Letter/Dated 27 July 1778—."

1. Not found. For more on this letter from Gov. Peter Chester, see William Wilton to Gov. Peter Chester, 8 Mar. in the Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 18 Mar., (first part); Gov. Peter Chester to Comdr. Joseph Nunn, R.N., 18 Mar., in the Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 19 Mar.; and Governor Peter Chester to Lord George Germain, 25 Mar., below.

“A LIST OF VESSELS TAKEN BY THE SQUADRON UNDER COMMAND OF VICE

By what Ship	Time When	From Whence	Name of the Vessel	Name of the Master	Sort of Vessel	N ^o of Tons
Privateers						
<i>Ariadne</i>	29 th Nov ^r 1777	S ^c Lucia	<i>Johnston</i>	Cha ^s Stacbehen alias Tho ^s Williams	Schooner	30
<i>Antigua</i>	28 th Dec ^r "	Georgia	<i>Nancy</i>	Jn ^o Brown	Schooner	80
<i>Aurora</i>	13 th Jan ^r 1778	Martinico	<i>S^c Peter</i>	Sam ^l Chace	Ship	200
<i>Seaford</i>	18 Jan ^r "	Ditto	<i>Gen^l Washington</i>	W ^m Rogers	Brigantine	120
<i>Seaford</i>	28 th Feb ^r "	Ditto	<i>Hampden</i>	Jn ^o Bartlet	Ship	120
Merchant Vessels						
<i>Pelican</i>	23 rd Dec ^r 1777	Portsm ^o New Hampshire	<i>York</i>	Eben ^r Brown	Snow	180
<i>Grasshopper</i>	6 th Jan ^r 1778	N ^o Carolina	<i>Beggars Benison</i>	Jos ^h Titcumbe	Schooner	120
<i>Grasshopper</i>	" Jan ^r "	Virginia	<i>Adventure</i>	W ^m Ricker	Sloop	50
<i>Greyhound</i>	22 ^d Jan ^r "	Piscataqua	<i>Industry</i>	Jo ^s Kennicut	Brig	90
<i>Yarmouth</i>			<i>Fortune</i>	W ^m Frefethem	Brig	200
<i>Yarmouth</i>	22 ^d Jan ^r "	Salem	<i>Alexander</i>	Jo ^s Lane	Brig	130
<i>Ceres</i>	4 th Feb ^r "	Alexandria	<i>Betsy</i>	Tho ^s Timpson	Schooner	20
<i>Ceres</i>	6 th " "	Egg Harbour	<i>Sally</i>	Jn ^o Lacere	Sloop	50
<i>Portland</i>	21 st Feb ^r	America	<i>Swallow</i>	Jos ^h Davidson	Sloop	57
<i>Aurora</i>		N ^o Carolina	<i>Fly</i>	Tim ^r Toby	Sloop	12
<i>Phoenix</i>		Dartmouth	<i>Sally</i>	Purgress	Sloop	32
<i>Seaford</i>		Newfoundland	<i>Free Briton</i>	Jn ^o Drayton	Brigantine	120
<i>Snake</i>	18 th Feb ^r	America	<i>Anthony</i>	Jesse Atwell	Brigantine	112
<i>Favorite</i>	26 th Feb ^r	Martinico	<i>Ranger</i>	Ja ^s Tilleston	Brigantine	110
<i>Experiment</i>	10 th Feb ^r	Newberry	<i>Polly</i>	Jn ^o Saunders	Brigantine	70

Philip Stephens Esq^r

D, UklPR, Adm. 1/310. Docketed: "14th: March 1778/A List of Vessels taken/by the Ships & Vessels/un Young's Letter/Dated 14th: March 1778."

ADMIRAL YOUNG AT BARBADOES & LEWARD ISLANDS 14TH: MARCH 1778"

Men	Guns	To what Country or Place belongs	Lading	Where sent	Particulars relating them and Cause of Seizure
30	8	Martinico	Prov ^a & Warlike Stores	Barbadoes	On a Cruize being a piratical Armed Vessel with an American & French Captain
40	12	Georgia	Prov ^a & Warlike Stores	Eng ^l : Harbour Antigua	On a Cruize
119	18		Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
23	Swivels				
84	18	Boston	Ditto	Barbadoes	Ditto
64	12	Salem	Ditto	Dominico	Ditto
11		Portsm ^o : New Hampshire	Lumber Staves &c.	Grenada	
10		America	Lumber	Antigua	
7		America	Tobacco &c	Ditto	
9			Fish & Tobacco	Ditto	
10		Piscataqua	Lumber &c	Ditto	
7		Salem	Fish & Oyl	Ditto	
7		Alexandria	Tobacco, Flour & Staves	S ^c : Kitts	
17	6	Philadelphia	Flour Shingles Bread & Tobacco	Ditto	
7		America	Horses & Lum ^{br} :	Antigua	
4		N ^o : Carolina	Tobacco Tar & Turpentine	D ^o :	
5		Dartmouth	Fish & Oyl	D ^o :	
8		Barbadoes	Fish	Barbadoes	Taken 8 th : Feb ^r : by the <i>Fair Play</i> an American Privateer Retaken by the <i>Seaford</i>
9		America	Horses	S ^c : Kitts	
8		America	Melasses	S ^c : Kitts	
6		Newberry	Ballast	Antigua	

James Young.

der the Command/of Vice Admiral Young/at Barbadoes and the/Leeward Islands.—/(N^o: 4)/In Adm^t:

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *STORK*, LIEUTENANT FRANCIS L'MONTAIS

March 1778

Mole Pt¹ ENE Dis^{ce}. 3 LeaguesSaturd^r 14

Ditto W^r [Strong Gales and Cloudy] Bore away to get under Cape Nichola at 4 [AM] saw a sail Comming out of the Mole Chaced Ditto, fired 3 Guns and brought her to, She proved a Schooner from the Mole Bound to Boston, took Possession of her, and sent her to Jamaica² (Robert Hudson Seamen fell overboard and was Drown'd

At Noon Cape Nichola ENE the Mole Point NE Dist^{ce}. 4 or 5 Leag^s.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/930, part 7.

1. Cap Saint-Nicolas Môle, Saint-Domingue.

2. Schooner *Rainbow*, David Wyer, master, 90 tons burthen, from Cape Saint-Nicolas Môle to Boston, with molasses. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

March 1778.

Monti Christie¹ E^t C. Francois SWBW dist. 3 or 4 Leag^s.Saturday 14th

AM D^o W^r [Fresh Breezes & Squally]. at 8 Monti Christie S.E. 3 or 4 Leag^s.

The E^termost Key of the seven Brothers SBE 2 or 3 Leag^s. Monti Christie ENE dist 2 or 3 Leag^s.

Fresh Breezes & Cloudy at ½ past 12 [PM] Saw a Sail to the E^tward d^o. Gave Chace at ½ past TK^d. & fired a Gun at & bro^t too the Chace a French Brig from Nantz bound to Cape Francois at 2 Saw a Sail to the W^tward Bore away to the W^tward & Gave Chace out Reefs & Got Top Gall^t Yards across At 3 fired 3. 6^{lb}. Shot at the Chace At ½ past She Bro^t too d^o. a Schooner from Boston bound to C. Francois Shortened Sail Hoisted out the Cutter & Sent her on board—took out the Mate 2 Passengers & 5 Men Sent 4 Men to take Charge of her & carry her to Jamaica at 4 hoisted the Cutter in. C. Francois SWbW 5 Leag^s. Monti Christie EbS 6 or 7 Leag^s. the Prize Bore away for Jamaica²

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. Montecristi [Mounti Christi, Monti Cristi], Spanish Santo Domingo.

2. Schooner *Sukey*, master unknown, from Boston to Cape François, with flour and rice. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *YARMOUTH*, CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT

1778 March

Barbadoes WbN 5 or 6 L^s Latitude 13°.. 02' NSat^r: 14th

at 8 AM wore Ship—Our Lower rigging being very Slack, and the Masts being in great danger. at 8 AM bore away for Barbadoes. at 11 O^t 3 reefs

S^o. end of Barbadoes WbS 4 Leagues Lattitude 13°.. 02' N
 Fresh gales and Cloudy weath^r—at 4 PM came to an Anchor in
 Carlisle Bay, with the small Bower in 15 f^m: Fort Charles bear-
 ing SE 1/2 E. N^o point of the Island in sight WNW, and the
 Church NE. found riding here his Majesty's Ships *Areadne* and
Ceres with the *Alfred* Privateer of 20 Guns,¹ which they had lately
 taken, also his Majesty's Sloop *Fly*, and several sail of Merchant
 Ships.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1091, fol. 179.

1. Continental Navy ship *Alfred*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M. Sloop *Ceres*, 9 Mar., above.

March 15 (Sunday)

CAPTAIN HUGH DALRYMPLE, R.N., TO MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH

Juno. Cape Cod Harbour
 15th March 1778

Sir.

I received your polite letter by the *Haerlem* Cartel; I have taken the liberty of hiring one of your Fishing Boats to carry M^r Peter Robinson Midshipman, and William Holmes a Boy to Attend on him, to Boston, who hath the Charge of this letter to you; And beg you will be so Obliging, as to forward the enclosed to General Burgoyne.

I have it in Orders from the Viscount Howe, to Observe the Strictest Neutrality, while upon this Service, which was the principal reason of the Kings Ships being sent with the Cartel Transports, As they might be liable to commit depredations, were they left to themselves. I am Sir [&c.]

Hugh Dalrymple

L, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 9, fol. 12. Addressed: "To/Maj^r Gen^l Heath/Boston." Docketed: "From Cap^t Dalrymple/Mar. 15. 1778."

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD

Sir

Head Quarters Valley Forge 15th March 1778

I yesterday rec^d a letter from Gov^r Wharton¹ enclosing Copy of one from you to the Council on the Subject of keeping five or six Gallies manned for the protection of the upper part of the River.² The Gov^r has very politely left the Matter to my determination, but I would not wish to interfere in a Business which is out of my line any further than by giving my advice. I cannot help thinking now as I did before that should the Enemy come up the River they will do it with a superior force and certainly carry them. But Cap^t Huston³ thinks with the Assistance of a small work upon land under cover of which they can run in Case of necessity, that they may be protected. I would wish you to consult Gov^r Livingston⁴ and the Gentlemen in the naval line upon this matter and do what to you seems best. But

you will not fail to secure the Guns and Stores of those Gallies that you strip in the safest manner untill means can be fallen upon to carry them away. I am &c

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Col^o Bradford." Docketed: "15th March 1778/to/Col^o Bradford." Col. William Bradford was the chairman of the Pennsylvania Navy Board.

1. President Thomas Wharton, Jr., of Pennsylvania.
2. See Pennsylvania Navy Board to President Thomas Wharton, Jr., 5 Mar., above.
3. Capt. Thomas Houston, Pennsylvania Navy.
4. Gov. William Livingston of New Jersey.

CAPTAIN JAMES NICHOLSON TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Baltimore March 15th 1778—

I Received your Excellency's Letter of the 12th. Ins^t. p^r. M^r. Sleymaker.¹ Since which apprehend you have received the Marine Committees desiring your assistance and the continuance of the use of the Boat *Dolphin*² to the Ship.³ My Ship⁴ is now prepared to go down again and altho' there is but little probability of getting to Sea, unless, their orders are Contradicted by the return of the next post, and I can have the use of the Boat, I shall make another Attempt. M^r. Sleymaker since my first attempt this Winter has refused acting as a pilot. Since which I have used all my endeavors to procure one both in Virginia and this place to no purpose. Their are several in this place, that has said they could Run the Ship to Sea from putuxen⁵ in the Night, such a person I want, as I am confident the Ship at present can not be got out otherways. Agreeable to your orders the *Dolphin* sails this day for Annapolis, and has two of my hands to Assist the Captain⁶ in carrying her round; I forward'd the Committees Letter by the last post, And should be glad to have your Excellencys answer as soon as possible, I am [&c.]

James Nicholson

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4587-26. Addressed: "His Excellency Tho^s. Johnson Esq^r/p^r favor M^r/Stephen Steward Esq^r Annapolis." Docketed: "March 15th. 1778/Cap^t. James Nicholson."

1. John Slemaker (Sleamaker, Sleaymaker), a Chesapeake Bay pilot.
2. Maryland Navy schooner *Dolphin*.
3. See Continental Marine Committee to Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., 4 Mar., above.
4. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*.
5. Patuxent River.
6. Capt. Daniel Bryan, Maryland Navy.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. CARYSFORT, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE

March 1778

Sunday 15th

Charles Town Barr S^o 80° W^t. 8 Leag^s.

at ½ past 6 AM Tk^d to the E^tward—At 7 Saw a Sail to the E^tward D^o gave Chace—at Noon we perceive the Chace to be a Sloop.

D^o Barr S 78° W^t. 10 Leag^s.

Little Wind & Hazy—PM Read the Articles of War & Abstract to the Ships Company—At 5 got the Sweeps Out & fired several Shott at the Chace At 6 the Chace br^t too, she proved to be a French Sloop from Charles Town for Martinico, with Rice¹ D^o took the Prisoners on Board D^o sent a Mate & 4 Men on board the Prize and dispatched her for S^t. Augustine

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/168, 368.

1. French sloop *Reynard*, Dominique Auguste Viand, master, owned by Henri Le Gros, sent to St. Augustine. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 487.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N.

Sir

I did not answer your first Letter the same day, that I received it, because it was wrote in English, and that it was Necessary to get it correctly translated, before it was answered, I hope you will accept of this reason and excuse the delay; and as for the repitition which you make, in your second Letter;¹ of your doubts, concerning my intentions towards your Nation, I think, you might have imagined, that they were peaceable ones, from the English Flag, which you see hoisted in the harbour of this Town, and which undoubtedly enjoys the Spanish Protection. Tho' the complaint, which you make to me of the American Officer, is a just one, it would be still more so, if one had not replied with harsh and offensive words to his simply hailing the Ship, which were the Motives of his insulting answer, for which however I will oblige him to make his excuses as well to me for the threatnings which he made upon the Spanish Territories as to yourself for his impudence, for which purpose, I hope you will send one of your officers, that the American in my presence may make a suitable Reparation as well to you, as to the Flag of His Britannic Majesty.

It is very requisite, that you should know, that it is Justice, which prompts me to take this Step and not the expression, which carries along with it a kind of menace, of your writing immediately to London. I know the respect due to a King's Flag, and I do not want any other motive to pay due honor to the same, but the respect which I profess for it. I am obliged to you for the just consideration you have had for the Territories of my Sovereign in containing yourself, within bounds, and beg, you would hinder any of the individuals of your ship to use the terms of Rebels and Banditti against the American Englishmen, who are now under the Protection of the King, my Master, because, without entering into the reasons of this War, I know, that, during the time which both parties are in this Colony, they ought to forget, that they are enemies, and that it is an immediate consequence, that where actions are prohibited, words should be the same.

I do not think that the Americans have any Idea of surprising your Ship, and in case they should attempt it, they are to know, that I will take your part, and will use all my power to chastize them; notwithstanding that, I send you a Corporal and six Granadiers, who if you choose are to remain along side of the Ship, and watch day and night, for the safety without. You are at liberty to receive the Boat, and to make use of all the assistance & provisions which I have already offered to you. &c &c &c

(Signed) Barnardo de Galvez

New Orleans 15th. March 1778—

Copy, UklPR, Adm. 1/241. Docketed: "Gov^r Galvez's Letter to/Captⁿ Fergusson 15th. March/1778—/In Sir P^r Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778—."

1. See two letters from Commander John Fergusson, R.N., to Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez, 14 Mar., above.

COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N. TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

On board His Britanic Majestys
Sloop of War the *Sylph*, in the
River Mississippi, 15th. March 1778

Sir

I am honored with your Excellency's Letter of yesterday's date, by which you express your surprise, at my conceiving you to be in a state of War against my Sovereign, I think, I have sufficiently explained my reasons in my letter of the 14th. which I was authorized to do, from knowing your Excellency's sentiments, respecting the privileges of the River Mississippi, fully explained in your Correspondence with Captain Lloyd of His Britanick Majestys Sloop of War *Atalanta*, in your Letter of the 12th. May 1777,¹ in which you remind him of the Rights of your Sovereign, and beg, he will recollect the Privileges, which the whole River enjoys, with regard to every Vessel being under your Guns in its utmost extent, and consequently prohibited by the Treaties of Peace, and Law of Nations to commit any Hostility at so short a distance. Notwithstand^s of which, your Excellency has permitted that Liberty which, you deny to the King, my Master, to a Party of His American Rebel Subjects (immediately under your Protection) I therefore naturally concluded, that your intentions were hostile towards Great Britain.

Your Excellency is pleased to say, that you are guided in your present proceedings by the Customs of Europe where the Royalists & Americans are received equally, without the Court of Great Britain taking it for a declaration of War.

I must beg leave to observe to your Excellency, that the present point in dispute, is by no means, parallel, as I look upon the River Mississippi, to be a common Harbour to the Ships of Great Britain and Spain, and that we ought mutually to preserve the Rights of both our Sovereigns. I now think it indispensibly my duty, on the part and in behalf of the King, my Master, to demand and require immediate restitution of the Vessels and property, that have been lately seized upon, in the Mississippi by His Britannic Majestys Rebellious American Subjects in violation of the Privileges of the said River: if there is any part of the property, that does not come under the above description, it may be deposited with your Excellency, till the pleasure of your Court is known. Your Excellency enjoins me to preserve the peace, which now happily subsists between our respective Sovereigns, which I have hitherto most religiously observed, and will continue so to do, as far as is consistent with my duty. I most ardently wish, that you may comply with this my very reasonable request, and by that means put it in my power to salute the Spanish Flag, and to pay my respects to your Excellency; which I cannot possibly do, till this point is settled, and whilst there is a Flag displayed under your Guns, which is not acknowledged by Great Britain, and ought not to be by any Power upon Earth, & particularly by Nations, that are possessed of Colonies who should be cautious of setting a pernicious example in abetting, favoring or assisting by any means, directly or indirectly, such Subjects united in such direct and open Rebellion against their natural Sovereign.

I have just received another Letter from your Excellency,² on the subject of the insult, I received, and expressing your disapprobation of such proceedings, which you say, you will put a stop to for the future, and at the same time, desiring that I would not use the appellation of Rebel, to any person under the Protection

of the Spanish Government, I would have your Excellency assured, that I will not suffer any person, under your Protection, to be insulted, but if ever I have occasion to answer, the People that have shaken off their allegiance to their lawful Sovereign, I can find no word, in my language; so expressive, as that of Rebel. I cannot receive any other concession from the man complained of, but that of his delivering himself up, and imploring the mercy of his Sovereign. I think the affront was as much offered to your Excellency as to me, you may accept of what reparation you think proper; and I do again assure you, that I will punish with the utmost Severity, any person under my command, that shall dare to insult even the meanest Subject under your protection.

I am surprised, that your Excellency sent six Granadiers for my protection, as I apprehend you are possessed of force enough to keep peace in your Province, and I flatter myself, I have sufficient force to defend the Ship, I have the honor to command—I dare say, your intentions were good, as such I take them, and have the honor to be [&c.]

Jn^o Fergusson

P.S I have the honor to thank your Excellency for your very polite offer of services, and am fully sensible of the attention you have had to British Officers & Subjects, on several occasions

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed at foot of last page: "His Excellency Don Bernardo de Galvez Gov^r of Lousiana." Docketed: "Captⁿ Fergusson's Letter/to/Governor Galvez 15th March/In S^t Pet^r Parker's Letter/Dated 27 July 1778."

1. See NDAR 8: 957.

2. See Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez to Commander John Fergusson, R.N., 15 Mar., immediately above.

LIEUTENANT DAVID LOCKWOOD, R.N., TO JOSHUA LOCKWOOD

Barbadoes March 15th: 1778

Dear Brother/

Majestys Ship *Ceres*

This is my Second Lett^r w^{ch}. I've sent since my arrival in the west Indies, where I am Station^d: for three years, I Kept from be^g: Employ^d: in a Cause, w^{ch}. I always thought not Right, to be Engaged in. Even at the Hazard of Looss^g: my Commission, w^{ch}. I dearly Bought not only wth. my Blood, but wth. many years Hard service,¹ and hav^g: Lost my Wife, and met wth. a multiplicity of misfortunes, be^g: left wth. six motherless babes and an aged moth^r: to Support, besides meet^g: wth. Great Losses, I was obliged to Accept of Employ^m^t: am Lieu^t: of the *Ceres*, a fine Sloop of 18: six pounders and runs upon Copper, shall be the Happiest of Beings to hear from you, my Dear Brother P^r: way of Eustatia. Directed to me at Antegua to the Care of M^r: Henderson at English Harbour and I shall be shure to Get it and Let me know how you all Do, for I still hope to see you, I have my Eldest Boy wth. me, who Joins in Duty and in Love to you, and his Cous^{ns}: Accept of my sincere wishes for Y^r: Health and welfare and remember, me kindly to Y^r: wife and my sister Polly, and Y^r: D^r: Babes w^{ch}. I pray God, to Bless wth. Every Comfort, and was it not for that Dam^d: name: of Be^g: Call^d: a Rable, I wou^d: soon be wth. you: for my abillity in the Service, is well known, and will always make me be Respected; serve where I please, and am Happy to say that I am Bless^d: wth. a stronge and Good Constitution; and I will, upon the first affront: Repair to you;² I left my Mother at Bradenham in

March last in Good Health but wth. an Ack^s Heart. I purpose send^s to her by this Convoy. it was the 12th. of March when I left her and have a lett^r from her dated in Jan^r: Last. I am Y^e Affec^t Broth^r

(signed) Dav^d: Lockwood

write to me by all oppertunety

Copy, UklPR, Adm. 1/310. Notation: "Directed on the outside/M^r Joshua Lockwood/Charles Town, S^c: Carolina/with Care/A true Copy/Sam^t Barrington/The Original transmitted to the Admty/6. Oct^r 1778." Enclosed in Rear Adm. Samuel Barrington's letter No. 18 (Duplicate) to Philip Stephens, 6 Oct. 1778.

1. He was appointed a lieutenant on 21 Dec. 1758.

2. The Senior Officer at Halifax intercepted this letter and transmitted it to Vice Adm. Viscount Howe who forwarded it to Rear Adm. Barrington, commanding the Leeward Islands Station. His suspicions of Lockwood's disloyalty aroused by the letter, Barrington ordered Comdr. James R. Dacres to relieve him from duty as lieutenant on H.M. sloop *Ceres* and discharge him from her muster book to her supernumerary list for virtuals until he could be returned to England for examination. UklPR, Adm. 1/310. Rear Adm. Samuel Barrington to Philip Stephens, No. 18 (Duplicate), 6 Oct. 1778. In May 1779 Lockwood accepted appointment as commodore of the South Carolina Navy.

March 16

JOHN BRADFORD TO ROBERT MORRIS

Dear Sir,

Boston 16th March 1778

I had the honour of writing you under the 16th Ultimo. at which time I had in View the Ship *Mermaid*¹ for your Account, since she's been sold at public Auction at £2900, which was far too high, having measured her before Sale, & found her to be but 168 Tons, 17 feet. I was much deceiv'd in her Size she being raisd to Carry her Guns, made her look much larger than she Really was. she must of Necessity be a very dull Sailer, being extreemly full both forward & abaft but She may answer for the Frenchmen who bought her, if he can make one Passage clear. I am on the lookout for a proper Vessel for you. the Difficulty does not lay so much in buying as manning a Vessel, for that is truly a very difficult Task & what Voyage will Support the expence I know not mens Wages indiscriminately good or bad is 50 Doll^{rs} ^{per} month And Officers Just what they please to ask I hope men will be plentier as the Insurance Officers here have come to a resolution not to take any more Risque, wc'h will Induce the Adventurers to lay up their Vessels as they Arrive. I shall keep you duly Advis'd. In the meantime I wish you Tranquilly of mind in your present Retirement, & am [&c.]

J B

NB the worthy M^r Hancock² tells me he Shall sett out for Congress in about 3 Weeks I suppose his stay wont be long, as he will Certainly be chose Governour.—

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 113–14. Addressed at top: "Honble Robert Morris."

1. Ship *Mermaid*, prize of Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.

2. John Hancock.

JOHN BRADFORD TO CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Hon^{ble}. Gentlemen,

Boston 16th March 1778

I beg leave to inform you that M^r Thomas Grant (a late Owner in the Brig *Friendship*¹ wch I mention'd some time since to be recaptur'd & sent to this port) has been here & apply'd to Me for a Settlement of a Moiety of said Brig, he produc'd a Copy of a Charter Party made between the Commercial Committee & himself by which it appears the Brig was valu'd at four thousand Dollars—The Captors would make no Compromise therefore we sold her at public Sale, she sold for £1670 M^r Grant was inclinable to avail himself of the full half of that Sum and would not settle on any other Terms, therefore I declin'd settling at all, I first offer'd him four hundred pounds in part which He refus'd rec[e]iving, but I afterwards found he had a Vessell loaded with Salt here, he took Leave of Me after receiving a Certificate of the Sale of the Brig &^c I am very unhappy that it has not been in my Power to have got the *Dispatch*² to Sea before this Date, But such has been the Weather since the 6 February that we have scarcely had one Day in ten to do any out door Work, she will now sale in a few Days—The honble Committee hinted in their last that I should soon receive Orders from the Board of War, respecting the Sulphur & Nitre imported in the *Dispatch*, they don't yet appear, I could wish to have such Orders as the Season is approaching when I think it will be hazardous to keep them here, I take the Liberty (as some of the Members of y^e Commercial Committee are also Members of the Marine) to mention the Ship *Peggy*,³ last July was a year since she was captur'd by the Schooner's *Hancock*⁴ & *Franklin*,⁵ & was condemn'd at a marine Court, after being condemn'd at a Marine Court, at Hallifax, but an Appeal was made to Congress by the former Owners residing at Philadelphia, & the Determination is still suspended, the Captors are angry, as the Ship is growing worse by laying at the Wharf so long & in another Year would be of little Value, tho' she would now sell for £3000 I suppose at least I should have forwarded the *Trytons*⁶ Accounts er'e this, but they must have been incompleat as the Salmon remain'd unsold, 'till a few Days ago, I have finish'd the Sale—They leave a great Profit. By the next Post I shall forward the Whole—We have now five Capetol Ships,⁷ six Brigs, & a number of Schooners, two of the Ships are belonging to y^e State of Connecticut,⁸ & are mann'd principally from that State two Ships have been fitted for the Sea by the Day at 20/ Pr Day, & after being fitted are obliged to keep Day's Men on Board for Want of Sailors to man them. But the *Dispatch* will sail in a few Days, the post now going which I mis'd the last Week I come now to the above Date—the *Dispatch* goes down this Day, I have put four Carriage Guns & six Swivels on Board with eleven Hands—I have the Pleasure to acquaint you with the Arrival of the *Warren*,⁹ Cap^t. Hopkins¹⁰ speaks highly of her sailing, he took a Ship¹¹ from White Haven with Salt & some dry Goods, he took out of her a parcel [of] Duck & Oznabriggs with some other Articles which he has not yet made a Return of, he also took an Arm'd Snow¹² from the West Indies bound from¹³ Bristol with a few Hhds Sugar, & the Remains of her Cargo were Flax Seed, he left them both off Bermuda, neither of them are yet arriv'd—Since my last have receiv'd Orders from Gen^l Gates respecting the Sulphur & Nitre: my Clerk's Sickness has prevented my sending forward the *Tryton's* Acc^{ts}. I've compleated the Sale of the Salmon to such

Advantage that the hundred Trs¹⁴ sent to France with the first Cost of the *Tryton* is paid for by the Profit arising on said Sale—I hope in my next to give you Acc^t of y^e. Ship & Snow in the mean time am yours &c

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 115–17. The addressee is determined by the content of the letter.

1. Brig *Friendship*, Alex Exceen, master, chartered by the Continental Secret Committee, predecessor of the Commerce Committee. See NDAR 6: 194, 781; 7: 483, 616–17, 861.
2. Continental packet brigantine, Lt. John Brown, Continental Navy, commander.
3. Ship *Peggy*, James Kennedy, master. See NDAR 6: 15, 57, 62, 152, 164, 290, 1020, 1348; 7: 137, 725, 1242.
4. Washington's Fleet schooner *Hancock*, Capt. Samuel Tucker, commander.
5. Washington's Fleet schooner *Franklin*, Capt. John Skimmer, commander.
6. Brig *Triton*, Thomas Brinton, master, captured by Washington's Fleet schooners *Hancock* and *Franklin* in Nov. 1776. See NDAR 7: 104, 105, 137, 139, 141n, 1014, 1058, 1217.
7. Probably, Continental Navy frigates *Warren* and *Boston*, Continental Navy ship *General Gates* and Connecticut Navy ships *Oliver Cromwell* and *Defence*.
8. Connecticut Navy ships *Oliver Cromwell*, Capt. Timothy Parker, commander, and *Defence*, Capt. Samuel Smedley, commander.
9. Continental Navy frigate *Warren*.
10. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, Continental Navy.
11. Ship *Neptune*, J. Smallwood, master, from Whitehaven to Philadelphia, with salt and dry goods, which H.M.S. *Orpheus* recaptured on 26 Mar. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486–87.
12. Unidentified snow, — Smith, master, from St. Eustatius to Bristol or Ireland, with flax seed and fustic, which arrived safe at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.
13. Should read "for."
14. Tierces.

JOHN BRADFORD TO LEVINUS CLARKSON AND ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON

Gentlemen,

Boston 16th March, 1778

This will be handed you by Cap^t John Brown of the brig *Dispatch*¹ which doubtless you'[v]e long since given up as a missing Vessel, several Unavoidable Accidents have taken place since my last to you,² which has prevented the *Dispatch* sailing till now, I wish her safe Arrival with you, when I doubt not She will soon be dispatch'd—All the Commercial Committee, writes Me respecting the lading her at Charlestown is, you will send the *Dispatch* to Charlestown, to the Address of M^{rs} Clerkson & Levingston, who will load her with Rice & Indigo, & send her to Bourdeaux to the Address of William Lee Esq^r American Continental Agent—The Letter accompanying this is of an old Date design'd to go by Cleveland³ before he declin'd going in the Brig I hope you will have a happy meeting with Cap^t Brown & am yours &c

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 120. Addressed at top: "Mess^{rs}. Clerkson & Levingston."⁴

1. Continental packet brigantine, Lt. John Brown, Continental Navy, commander.
2. Not printed. Bradford explained on 10 Feb. the reason for the delayed sailing of the *Dispatch* was that the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept. had requested her transfer to the Continental Navy. DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 110.
3. Capt. Stephen Cleveland.
4. Joint Continental Agents at Charleston, S.C.

JOHN BRADFORD TO CAPTAIN JOHN PECK RATHBUN

Sir.

Boston March 16th 1778

I wrote to Mr Leonard Jarvis¹ last Week advising him with an Act lately pass'd by the general Court, that all Stores or Merchandize belonging to the Public & being at Bedford [*in Dartmouth*] be forthwith remov'd from thence. at the same time desir'd he would send up to this Town, what of the *Mary's*² Cargo might be landed there, supposing from what you told Me, that the *Mary* with the greatest part of her Cargo, had got over to the Hiannes³ but I find by Mr Jarvis's Letter it is all landed at Bedford—he writes Me he is refus'd having any Direction in the Matter. I only ask you if you can suppose such Conduct can stand the Test of Examination before the Marine Board at Congress,⁴ it is possible you may have made the marine Laws so much your Study as to be better instruct'd than the honorable. navy Board or myself, for we are fully of Opinion that all prizes arm'd or unarm'd on their Arrival must be put into the Continental Agent's Hands, there to remain 'till the marine Court shall determine how the distribution should be made—I beg leave to ask, if you have thought of the Consequence of refusing the Continental Agents Effects belonging to the Public, more especially at so critical a Juncture as the present, when such an Acc^t as before mentioned has pass'd, my Duty obliges Me, Sir, to direct you immediately on Rec^t of this to deliver into the Hands of Leonard Jarvis Esq^r the full half of ev'ry part of the *Mary's* Cargo, as I am not at liberty to let any thing of that kind remain at Bedford—if the Vessell & Cargo should finally be condemn'd to y^e Captors no objection against delivering the whole to them will arise on our part. I have furnish'd Mr Jarvis with a Copy of this Letter. shall be glad to receive your answer as soon as maybe, in the interim am yours &c

J B CA⁵

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 115. Addressed at foot: "To Cap^t Rathbourn, in his absence to Cap^t Trevett." Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines, was prize agent for the officers and crew of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

1. Deputy Continental Agent at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

2. Jamaica letter of marque ship *Mary*, taken by the Continental Navy sloop *Providence* at Nassau, Bahamas, on 27 Jan. See Libel, 3 Mar., above.

3. Hyannis, Mass.

4. Continental Marine Committee.

5. Continental Agent for Massachusetts.

JOHN BRADFORD TO LEONARD JARVIS

Dear Sir

Boston 16 March 1778

Your favor ⁷ Post of 2nd Ult^o¹ came to my Hands but about 2 Hour[s] before that of the 10th was del^d me by Capⁿ Bass.² the Advertisement the first Coverd I omitted publishing for Reasons I hinted in my last. The Conduct of the new Agent³ is such, no doubt influenced by Cap^t Rathbourne,⁴ that I dont Wonder at your Indifference at continuing in the Agency. I have reported their Conduct to the Board.⁵ Gen^l Warren⁶ who is the only Commissioner present—(Mr Vernon⁷ being drove away by the Small Pox) is greatly irritated & has wrote fully on the Subject to Mr Deshon⁸ who is at N London—G Warren says that Rathburn as Cap^t ought to know that all Prizes taken by the States Cruizers be they arm'd or unarm'd ought to be put into the Agents Hands & wait the Decision of the marine Court. I wish such Behaviour may not loose Rathburn's Commission & that of the

new Agent, I have apply'd to Lowell⁹ to undertake the Affair, for I expected two thirds of the Cargo would be landed at Heyinanes¹⁰ from Nantuckett,¹¹ the Bearer hereof (G Warren tells Me) he goes to take the Command of the Schooner,¹² I am sorry you are so very bare of Money, & that it's out of my Power to help you, being little benefitted by the last Prize¹³ of Cap^t Chews, having occasion to keep half her Cargo for the Continent. I hope you will be able to get a Master for the other Vessell for Im afraid it's out of my Power yours respectfully

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 114. Addressed at top: "Leonard Jarvis Esqr." Jarvis was the Deputy Continental Agent at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

1. Should read "instant."
2. Capt. Henry Bass.
3. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines, agent for the officers and crew of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
4. Capt. John Peck Rathbun, commanding Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
5. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
6. Maj. Gen. James Warren, Massachusetts Militia, member of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
7. William Vernon, member of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
8. John Deshon, member of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
9. John Lowell, lawyer at Boston.
10. Hyannis, Mass.
11. Actually, prize ship *Mary* was sent into Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, on 20 Feb. for repairs and not Nantucket. See Libel, 3 Mar., above.
12. Prize schooner *Loyalty*.
13. Ship *Mermaid*, prize of Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*, Capt. Samuel Chew, commander.

CAPTAIN EBENEZER WILLIAMS TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE

State of Rhode Island &c.

Providence March 16th 1778.

Sir,

The Subscriber, in Behalf of Andrew and James Caldwell and Blair M^cClenachan of Pensylvania Merchants, requests your Excellency to grant a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal to him as Commander of the Brigantine *Polly* of which the abovenamed Persons are Owners. She is burthened One Hundred and Forty Tons carries Ten Carriage, and Six Swivel Guns, manned with Twenty-five Men, and otherways fitted in a warlike Manner with Muskets, Pistols, Cutlasses, Powder Ball and other military Stores. She hath on board Five Teirces Beef and Pork, Five Tierces Bread &c. Barney Hicks is Lieutenant and Theophilus Topham is [*master*]¹ of said Brigantine. I am Sir [&c.]

Ebenez^r Williams

L, R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Letters of Marque (1776–1780), Petitions and Instructions, p. 67. Addressed at bottom: "His Excellency Nicholas Cooke Esqr."

1. Blank in manuscript.

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY

PHILIP STEPHENS

Number 55.

Eagle Rhode Island

Sir,

March the 16th 1778.

In my Letters N^o: 49 to 53 inclusive, and by a subsequent Dispatch of the 4th of last Month, of which You will receive Duplicates by this Conveyance, I communi-

cated the material Particulars regarding the State of the Fleet and my Proceedings from the Time I left the Delaware last Year, until the Departure of the *Chatham*, in which those Letters were sent to England. I am now to report the later Occurrences, with the Changes made in the Disposition of the Ships since that Period. And proposing to return immediately to the Delaware, I leave these Dispatches to be forwarded in the *Grampus*.

The *Cabot* having been detached from Halifax early in January to convoy some Vessels with Necessaries for the Garrisons at Rhode-Island and New-York,¹ I was advised by Sir George Collier of the Appointments and State of the Ships under his Orders, added in the enclosed General Returns. No Opportunity offering in the meantime for sending Captain Mason² to refit the *Fox*, pursuant to my Instructions for the Detention of that Ship, Sir George Collier ordered Captain Fotheringham³ to proceed with her to England: And contrary to my Intention, having taken the same Resolution with regard to the *Milford*, in consequence of some Damage sustained by parting her Cable in a Gale of Wind, and grounding in Halifax Harbour. The *Dunmore* Store-Ship was then arrived.

By an Accident similar to that of the *Milford*, the *Amazon* was forced so near the Shore in this Port, that it was necessary to cut away all her Masts to save the Ship. And I have the Concern to be informed by Letters from Commodore Hotham⁴ of the total Loss of the *Liverpool* upon Long Island the 11th: of last Month, on Captain Bellew's⁵ passage with Sir William Howe's Dispatches from the Delaware to New-York: But the Ship's Company were safely landed from the Wreck. The Misfortune being recent, no Particulars could be added with respect to the Stores that could be preserved.

I received at the same Time an Account of the Violences committed by some of the Inhabitants of Bermuda, described in the Copy You herewith receive of the Report delivered to the Commodore by the Complainant.⁶

Tho' I suppose the Particulars may be credited, I am unable in my present Circumstances to make any Arrangement which would effectually restrain those criminal Excesses. The *Daphne* was intended to have been stationed at Bermuda, in Conjunction with the *Nautilus*. But I had not heard of Captain Chinnery⁷ from the Time he left New-York last July, until he was met at Sea a few Days since on his Return to that Port.

The *Amazon* was fitted with Jury-Masts to remain for Port-Service at New-York, until she can be more adequately provided for her passage to England, which is become necessary, as well in respect to the large proportion of Stores that would be required for refitting her abroad, as that her Bottom will need Examination; Having struck several Times on the Rocks in the Situation before-mentioned.

The *Cerberus* was substituted in place of the *Amazon* to attend the Transports designed for Boston with the *Juno*.

They sailed for Cape Cod Harbour the 15th. of last Month. But Intelligence being since received of the Resolution the Rebels had taken not to adhere to the terms of the Convention of Saratoga as recited in the enclosed Extract of their public Declarations;⁸ Orders were sent by the *Centurion* for Captain Dalrymple⁹ to return with the *Cerberus* and such of the Transports as would be of Burthen requisite to take and bring back all the Victualling Stores from the other Transports, to

this Port. The rest of the Transports which were too much out of Repair to remain longer in this Country, are to proceed on immediately to England; with the Agent Lieutenant Dickinson,¹⁰ by whom Captain Brathwaite¹¹ was to advise You of the proceedings in those Respects. The *Juno* and *Cerberus*, which are not in Condition for Cruizing Service, will be appropriated for those current Port-Duties at Rhode-Island or New-York To set at Liberty such other of the Frigates as, with Reference to their general State of Repair, may be less unfit to cruize on the New-England Coasts.

The Rebels taking Advantage of a favorable Alteration of the Weather, put to Sea in one of the 32 Gun Frigates named the *Warren*, towards the end of last Month; By attempting the Narragansett Channel, and passing the stationed Ships in the Night.

According to the latest Information obtained from some of the well-affected Inhabitants in the New-England Provinces, the Two-decked Ship building at Portsmouth¹² is not expected to be finished before the Autumn. Some of the Rigging and Half of the Guns have been received from France; supposed by the *Heureux*, which arrived towards the End of the last Year.¹³ The Cables, Canvass for the Sails, and Remainder of the Rigging and Guns, were daily expected from Europe. But no Part of the Ship building at Boston was said to be planked, nor any Appearance of Urgency observed for having her soon completed.¹⁴

The Assortment of Cordage received by the last Store-Ships, proving insufficient for immediate Use in the Fleet; I have directed a Quantity to be taken by Agreement from an unlicensed British Vessel¹⁵ lately brought into this Port. The Particulars are transmitted herewith.¹⁶ But the Property of the Vessel being yet undecided, the Conditions of the purchase have not been finally determined.

By Letters from Captain Onslow,¹⁷ I am informed that between the 14th. and 28th. Ultimo, the French Ships named the *Ferdinand* and *Lyon*, said to mount 44 Guns each, with another Frigate built Ship under the same Colours, intended for the Ports of Virginia, have been chased off from that Part of the American Coast; And the *Comte de Veaux* of 24 Guns intercepted;¹⁸ by the Ships stationed at the Entrance of Chesepeak Bay.¹⁹

The *Lyon*, favored by a Continuance of this foggy Weather, is believed to have since been arrived at New-London.

In consequence of the Intelligence Captain Onslow had collected, to the purport as in the Paper enclosed,²⁰ I have countermanded his Return to join me in the Delaware, until the Middle of the next Month.

A French Officer onboard the *Comte de Veaux*, professing himself to be the Viscomte de Sabron, is sent to England in the *Grampus*, for being further disposed of as the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty shall direct.

The Naval Stores remaining in the *Grampus* being removed into the *Townshend* Ordnance Transport for being conveyed to New-York, the *Grampus* sails for England immediately from this Port. And the *Townshend* will be also dismissed, as soon after as the King's Service will permit.

Captain Griffith²¹ will be left with the Care of the Naval Services on this Station. And as it has been requisite to replace the *Milford* by the *Diamond*, Captain Feilding²² will have the Conduct of the Division of the Fleet assembling at Halifax.

Both these Officers are directed, upon obtaining any Intelligence meriting their Lordships' Notice, to transmit the same to You by the earliest Opportunity.

I am, with great Consideration, [&c.]

Howe

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 186–89. Addressed at foot of first page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r/Secretary of the Admiralty." Docketed by Stephens: "N^o 55/16 March 1778/Rhode Island/Lord Howe/R, 13 May/(7 Inclosures)." Endorsed by Stephens: "15 May/Send Copy to/L^d G. Germain for/His M. Inforⁿ/ & of the Inclosures/except N^o 2 & 3."

1. See Captain Sir George Collier to Thomas Compton, 9 Jan.; Master's Journal of H.M. brig *Cabot*, 12–13 Jan. and 14 Jan.; and Major General Eyre Massey to General Sir William Howe, 2, 10 and 12 Jan., above.

2. Comdr. Christopher Mason, R.N.

3. Capt. Patrick Fotheringham, R.N.

4. Commo. William Hotham, R.N.

5. Capt. Henry Bellew, R.N.

6. Enclosure no. 4. See Bridger Goodrich to Commodore William Hotham, 7 Feb., above.

7. Capt. St. John Chinnery, R.N.

8. Enclosure no. 5; not printed.

9. Capt. Hugh Dalrymple, R.N.

10. Lt. James Dickinson, R.N.

11. Capt. Richard Braithwaite, R.N.

12. The 74-gun ship of the line, later named *America*.

13. See *NDAR* 10: 887, 890–91, 999–1000.

14. Unnamed 74-gun ship of the line.

15. Bark *Lively*.

16. Enclosure no. 6; not printed.

17. Enclosure no. 2. See Captain Richard Onslow, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 9 Mar., above.

18. French ship *Vicomte de Vaux*, Pierre Donat de La Garde, master, with a letter of marque. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/471/10.

19. See Journal of H.M.S. *St. Albans*, 21–22 Feb., 23 Feb.; Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 23 Feb.; and Journal of H.M. sloop *Senegal*, 21–22 Feb., 23 Feb. and 25 Feb., above.

20. Enclosure no. 7. See Captain Richard Onslow, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 2 Mar., above.

21. Capt. Walter Griffith, R.N.

22. Capt. Charles Feilding, R.N.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

16th March. Rain and thick weather all day. Wind E.

The 43rd Regiment having undertaken to supply themselves with the necessary quantity of wood from Commonfence Neck,¹ during the time they continued on duty at the advanced posts, & having employed several Carts yesterday in drawing away what had been cut near Hicks's Orchard, the Rebels fired 6 Cannon shot at them from the Fort above Howlands ferry, but without effect.

Four Rebel Sloops went through Bristol ferry this day into Bristol bay. Two of them were full of men. Our battery² fired 12 Shot at them, but they passed through without any damage. Some of the Shot struck very near them.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 257.

1. See Journal of the Rhode Island Navy Schooner Galley *Spitfire*, 17 Mar.

2. British battery at Bristol Ferry on the island of Rhode Island.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY

At a meeting &c. at Lebanon, Monday, 16 March, 1778.

Consulted and advised on sundry matters with the French Capt. Michel,¹ lately arrived at N. London with a large cargo of goods &c. . . .

Cap. Niles,² present, account of his late voyage. . . .

Hoadly, ed., *Public Records of the State of Connecticut*, 1: 572.

1. French ship *Lyon*, Capt. J. Michel, master, had arrived on 7 Mar. at New London with salt and woollens.

2. Capt. Robert Niles, who had returned from the West Indies in the Connecticut Navy trading sloop *Dolphin* in late February with sulphur. See Journal of the Connecticut Council of Safety, 26 Feb., and Pay Roll of Connecticut Navy Trading Sloop *Dolphin*, 6 Mar., above.

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY,
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1778

NEW-YORK, March 16.

Saturday the Bark *Lydia*,¹ of Liverpool, Captain Evans,² of 46 Men, and 14 Guns, arrived here from Barbados, by whom we learn, That the following Rebel Vessels have been lately taken and carried into that Island, viz. The *St. Peter*,³ of 20 Guns, 107 Men, Capt. Chace,⁴ formerly Capt. Lamb,⁵ and mostly owned at Martinico, by the *Aurora*: The Brig *General Washington*,⁶ Captain Rogers,⁷ of 18 Guns, and 80 Men, by the *Seaford*, Capt. Colpoys; and a Ship, supposed to be a Rebel Frigate of 36 Guns,⁸ taken by the *Ariadne*, and carried into St. Kitts or Antigua.

Saturday arrived here a Bark of 300 Tons Burthen, taken by the *Nottingham* Indiaman,⁹ on her Passage from England to Philadelphia. The Bark sailed from a French Port, in Company with a very large Ship, both laden with Military Stores, to supply Mr. Washington's Army, and bound for some Port in New-England.

1. Bark (or snow) *Lydia*, 200 tons burthen, mounting 12 six-pounder guns, owned by James Chorley of Liverpool, built in Liverpool in 1775. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777-1778.

2. James Evans.

3. American letter of marque *St. Peter*, operating out of Martinique. See Journal of H.M.S. *Aurora*, 14 Jan., and Captain James Cumming, R.N., to Philip Stephens, 14 Jan., above.

4. Samuel Chace.

5. John Lamb.

6. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *General Washington*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 18 Jan., and Governor Edward Hay to Lord George Germain, 4 Feb., above.

7. William Rogers.

8. Continental Navy ship *Alfred*, Capt. Elisha Hinman, commander, pierced for 20 guns but mounted up to 28 guns at various times. See Journal of H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 9 Mar., and Lieutenant's Log of H.M. Sloop *Ceres*, 9 Mar., above.

9. Ship *Nottingham*, L. Bowden, master, 600 tons burthen, mounting 28 guns, owned by Durand & Co., London, built in 1764. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777-1778.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Monday, March 16, 1778

One, of the 1st, from B. Harrison,¹ and one, of the 27 February, from G. Wythe, Esq^r² were read:

Ordered, That the former be referred to the Committee of Treasury, the latter to the Marine Committee

One, of the 26 February, from J. Tazewell,³ desiring to resign his office as continental agent in the State of Virginia, was read. Whereupon,

Resolved, That his resignation be accepted, and that John Carter, Esq. be appointed in his stead.

JCC 10: 259.

1. Benjamin Harrison, former Virginia delegate to the Continental Congress.
2. George Wythe, of Williamsburg, former Virginia delegate to the Continental Congress.
3. John Tazewell who had been appointed Continental Agent on 23 Apr. 1776. See *NDAR* 4: 1216.

WILLIAM ELLERY TO WILLIAM VERNON

Dear Sir,

York Town [*Pa.*] M^h. 16th. 1778.

On the 11th. instant I received yours of the 5th. and M^r. Jn^o. Adams's of the 6th. of February. Two paragraphs of the latter I will transcribe; because I know it must give you pleasure. "Dear Sir, I had yesterday the pleasure of recieving your letter of the 22^d. of January, and beg leave to assure you I shall pay all proper attention to its contents, by rendering to the Gentleman you recommend every Service in my power.

"I had been before introduced to that young gentleman by his father;¹ for whom I have concieved a great deal of esteem, and from what I have seen and heard of the son I think him ingenious and promising; but as I shall have an ample opportunity to become more acquainted with him, I shall be better able hereafter to speak of him from my own knowledge, and you may depend upon it, that nothing shall be wanting on my part, towards recommending him in proportion to his merits." I most heartily congratulate with you on your Son's being under the patronage of so worthy a gentleman, and hope he will be a blessing and an honour to his father and his country. He early treads the great stage of the world, may his steps be directed by unerring wisdom, and boundless goodness!

I read that part of your letter, respecting the 74 at Portsmouth,² and a Paragraph of one I rec^d., about the same time and upon the same Subject, from M^r. Whipple,³ to the marine committee, and it was agreed to stop the building of her for the present. These huge ships are too costly and unwieldy; and it will require as many men to man one of them, as to man three or four frigates; besides we cannot with all the naval force we can collect be able to cope with the british navy. Our great aim should be to destroy the trade of Britain; for which purpose Frigates are infinitely better calculated than such large Ships. M^r. Whipple proposes to the marine comm[itt]ee to put the timber prepared for the 74 into a frigate to mount 30 18-pounders on one deck, and this proposal I believe would be complied with if our finances were not at present very low and the demands of the great departments of war very high. I wish we may be able to finish, man, and get to sea, in the course of the next summer, the frigates that are now in hand; but I very much doubt it. It gave the marine comm[itt]ee great Satisfaction to find that the *Warren* had got out. We have since heard that She had arrived at Boston, which we hope will prove true. I hope you will get out the *Providence* and *Columbus*. The *Virginia* hath made two fruitless attempts to pass out Chesapeak. She is order'd to make another. There are four or five Men of war in that bay; but I cannot think it so difficult to pass by them, as it is to pass those in our Bay. Our last accounts from Charlestown S^o. Carolina were, that Cap^t. Biddle⁴ with three State armed Vessels were determined to go over the Bar, and attack several British Vessels of about an equal force with them. I cannot forbear being anxious for the Event.

The marine Committee lately ordered Cap^t. Barry of the *Effingham* to take the four Boats, belonging to the Frigates which are sunk in the Delaware,⁵ and pro-

ceed on a Cruise upon that River. On the 7th. instant Two of them, the other two had not then got below the city, joined by five boats, half manned, attacked (near Bombay-hook) and took two of the Enemy's transport ships,⁶ one mounting six four pounders, the other two swivels; and also a Schooner⁷ with eight 4-pounders, twelve 4-pound howitzers and 32 men, properly equipped for an armed vessel. They first boarded the Ships, and, learning from them the Strength of the Schooner, Cap^t. Barry prudently sent a flag to the Schooner, ordering the Cap^t. of her to submit, and promising that he and his officers, on compliance, should be allowed their private baggage; whereupon they thought proper to strike. As the ships were loaded, the Schooner, being a suitable Vessel for a Cruiser, he is orderd to purchase and employ on the Delaware so long as he thinks it may be safe. She had in [*her*] a variety of useful and valuable Articles. This gallant Action reflects great Honour on Cap^t. Barry, his officers and the Crews of those Boats. The other two boats have since got down, and in their way took a small sloop, with fresh Provisions, bound to the City. I expect every day to hear of their further Success. These boats will annoy and injure the enemy more, in my opinion, than both the Seventy fours would, if they were built, equipped and manned,—at least upon the Delaware.

With regard to the Fish M^r Whipple writes "I have never been able to procure any fish that I think worth sending to you or your friends, they ask 20 dollars pr Quintal for such as I would not by any means make use of. I do not suppose it possible to get any of the first Quality at present, when I can you may depend I shall not be unmindful of your order."

I thank you for the Stick of Sealing-wax. I had been obliged some times to secure my Letters with Wax taken from Letters I had received.

Please to write to me frequently, and send me all the news you can collect. The two armies are in status quo. Nothing material hath lately turned up. You will have heard, before this reaches you, that the intended Irruption into Canada is laid aside. We are obstructing and fortifying Hudson's River, collecting men and provisions &c &c for the next campaign. The last will be the most difficult to accomplish. To have subdued both the British Armies in one Campaign was not more than I expected the last; but it would have left us nothing to do the ensuing Campaign.

With the Aid of Heaven we will crush the Serpent's head next Summer, and force our Enemies to be at peace with Us! I have room only to add that I am Yrs

W^m. Ellery.

"Papers of William Vernon and the Navy Board," 221–24.

1. William Vernon's son, William Vernon, Jr., accompanied John Adams on board *Boston* during her voyage to France.

2. Continental Navy ship of the line *America*.

3. William Whipple, former New Hampshire delegate to the Continental Congress.

4. Capt. Nicholas Biddle, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

5. Continental Navy frigates *Washington* and *Effingham*.

6. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master.

7. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dear Sir

Wilmington March 16th 1778

There were three Ladies Captured by Barry¹ but he informs no one of the Name of Mitchell they were sent off from New Castle Yesterday with some others having by a Flag obtained permission to send them up by Water in one of our Vessells

We have had the Mouth of the Christiana for some Days blocked up by the *Nautilus* & some Gallies which has obliged Barrys little Fleet to lye snug here—this Morning 50 Sail of Transports have fallen down suposed to have Invalids on board the *Nautilus* &c weighed Anchor & is standing down with them—there are a Number of ships above said to be coming down with a Number of Flat bottomed Boats with Troops—There destination is conjectured against this Place Newcastle and the Country below I cannot depend on the Intelligence but have detached a Party with Captain Barry to remove a Quantity of Hay lying on the River below New Castle & to destroy such as can't be moved shou'd they attempt a Descent that way—In my last I mentioned the two ships being burnt² & they run poor Barry so hard that he was obliged to quit the Armed Schooner³ which he had captured but not till the last Extrimity having secured all that was on & in her except her Guns which were thrown over board before he left her—

Some small Armed Vessells Trad⁶ of Marcus hook the other Day a Party of 30 Foot & Six Horse under Cap^t Anderson⁴ was ordered to watch their Motions they landed upwards of 30 Men well Armed and advanced on our Party who immediately engaged and routed them killing 4 dead & wound⁶ several others as they were getting of in their Boats—one of the Slain was very well dressed & had a half Joe⁵ & 12 or 15 Guineas & it was supposed a Gold Watch &c but the Soldiers had riffled him of all but the above s^d. Gold before Anderson got up—he was said to be very active and spirited in commanding his men before he got knockd down—we now begin to feel the Want of Provisions much—as I before apprehended the Country is intirely drained what little we get is extremely poor salt Provision our Men never see I almost dread the Consequence our Commissaries must be stimulated to exert themselves or this Garrison will suffer much—hitherto I have done all in my Power to procure supplies & have succeeded beyond my wishes but the adjacent Country being so much exhausted we must now depend on the Purchasing Commissaries who without your positive Injunctions will let the Troops suffer. I have the honor to be [&c.]

W Smallwood

The Returns shall be forwarded to the Adj^t Gen. Tomorrow &c

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "Public Service/His Excellency/General Washington/Head Quarters/Valley Forge." Notations: "By L^t Dragoon—"; "W. Smallwood." Docketed: "Gen^l Smallwood./March 16th 1778."

1. Capt. John Barry, Continental Navy.

2. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master.

3. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army.

4. Capt. Richard Anderson, 7th Maryland Continental Regiment.

5. A half Johannes or "half Joe" was a Portuguese gold coin equivalent to eight Continental dollars in Apr. 1776. By Apr. 1778 the "half Joe" was worth approximately eighteen Continental dollars.

CAPTAIN HENRY LEE TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sirs.

Enclosed are some let^{rs}. received this morning p^r dragoon from Wilmington.

By intelligence from Philad^a. we learn that a large fleet sailed from thence on Friday last; they had with them a number of flat-bottomed boats. My intelligencer did not know the design of their expedition. Conjectures in the city were various. Some insinuated that Wilmington was the object; others, that they were gone on a grand forage to the lower county and the eastern shore of Maryland. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Hen^y Lee.¹

March 16th. 78.

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4.

1. Captain, 1st Continental Dragoons.

CONTINENTAL BOARD OF WAR TO SAMUEL AND ROBERT PURVIANCE

Gentlemen

War Office [York, Pa.] March 16th. 1778

The Board have been duly favored with yours of the 14th. inst. They are happy to find you have put the important Business of procuring Tents for our Army in as good a Train as Circumstances will admitt. From our loss of Philad^a. the Workmen who came out are dispersed to Places in which Trade is open, & therefore none can be expected from this State; & every Sail Maker the QMG. [*Quarter Master General*] could possibly procure being at Work on Tents. You will please to keep as much Tent Cloth as you can have made up by the first of May, & send the Rest on to be made up under the Direction of the Quarter Master General. I am [&c.]

Richard Peters

By order of the Board

If you could by any Means contrive to get the whole made up at Baltimore it would be doing much Service; as the Workmen are every where exceedingly scarce. As the Enemy will endeavor to push out early, the Tents should be, by all Means, ready the first of May. We shall be much distressed for Want of Tents, as so many were lost last Year, from the lateness of the Campaign; therefore do exert yourselves to have them made, but do not detain the Cloth on a great Uncertainty.

If the *Virginia*¹ cannot get out, but should return, cannot some of her Hands be procured to make Tents?

Mr. Butler,² in the Service of the QMG, makes up 50 Tents a Week, with but a few Hands; therefore, I should think that Sailors &c might be procured, to make at least 30 ~~Ⓕ~~ week, at Baltimore.

On Deliberation, the Board desire you will send on half the Tent Cloth you have; & you may receive from M^r Lux,³ an adequate Supply for your Workmen, out of a Quantity daily expected to arrive from the Eastern Shore.

R^d Peters

By order

L, MdHi, Samuel and Robert Purviance Papers. Addressed: "On public Service/Mess^{rs}. Samuel & Robert Purviance/Baltimore/(War Office)." Docketed: "N^o 89/War office York Town/16th March 1778—/Rich^d Peters." Peters was secretary of the Continental Board of War.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*.

2. Possibly public armorer Thomas Butler.

3. William Lux, Continental Agent for Maryland.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [Charleston] Monday 16th March 1778—

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commissioner—

Geo Abbot Hall, Josiah Smith, Tho^s Corbett,

Edward Darrell, John Edwards . . .

} Esq^{rs}—

In the Privy Council

March 13th 1778—

The Board advised his Excellency that a Cartel be proposed to the Governor of St^e Augustine and that the Commissioners of the Navy Board do prepare and fit out the *Rattlesnake* for a Voyage there with provisions Sufficient for the prisoners of Warr intended to be sent in her, of whose Number his Excellency will inform the Board

By his Excellency the President¹

(Signed) Ordered Accordingly John Colcock Sec^o P.C.²

Ordered that the Schooner *Rattle Snake* be immediately unloaded and fitted Out as a *Cartel*, to proceed to St^e. Augustine with prisoners of war—

Navy Board March 16th 1778

To Elisha Sawyer Commissary

Sir/

The Commissioners of the Navy request that you [*will*] with all possible Dispatch furnish the Necessary Stores and provisions for Fifty Men for One Month for the Schooner *Rattlesnake*

Edward Blake first Commissioner

Adjourned to next Thursday Evening 6 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 144.

1. John Rutledge.

2. Words and letters in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.

CAPTAIN THOMAS PASLEY, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON

Sir

Glasgow at Sea 16th March 1778

I beg leave to acquaint You, that between the hours of ten and eleven at Night on Saturday February 28th I fell in with two Sloops and a Schooner, off Cape Teberoon,¹ The Darkness of the Night, prevented my discovering them till within less then Musquett Shott—I therefore (being very little Wind[]) hoisted out the Cutter and sent her Man'd & Armed hoping to get possession, without noise or firing, for, from previous information the day before from a french Sloop, I knew them to be Americans. When the Boat came near she hailed, ordered them to keep off, and without further ceremony, immediately fired a number of Musquetts and all their Guns they could bring to bear right into her, by which three of her Oars were shot away, & a Man dangerously wounded.—Seeing them fire at the Boat, I hailed, told them I was an English Man of War that if they did not immediately desist, I would pour a broadside into them.—Their answer was Laconic.—Three Shott right into the Sloop; the *Glasgows* return being in quantity what they did not possibly expect, only induced them to leave off firing and consult their

safety by flight.—however as we fired between twenty & Thirty Guns, loaded with Round & Grape, besides many Vollies of small Arms, I flatter myself that they were made heartily to repent their timenty Their Oars which they plied with all their might) the lightness of the Wind being almost Calm,) and the extreme darkness of the Night, were all circumstances so favourable to small Vessels, that they affected their escape into Tiberon Bay

The Master in the Pinnacle who had been at Sun Sett dispatched on service now joyned the Cutter, who I had Reman'd, and sent to take Possession of the Deserted Sloop judging from the Privateers ceasing firing that she was silenced, agreed in consart to board her, By some accident the Pinnacle alone board[ed] her on her Quarter, they found them in such disorder and confusion that if their Pistols had gone off, presented within a Yard of those that opposed them, they assuredly with their handfull of Men, must have carried her, but they every one missing Fire owing to the shamefull bad Flints the Ships of Warr, are supplied with, left the Crew at the Mercy of the Privateers, With Bayonets fix'd on long Poles for Pikes, they wounded three of the Pinnaces Men dangerously, four of those extraordinary Weapons the boats Crew seized out of their hands and brought off in the Boat, the daring courage off the Boats Crew, merits every praise, And as I cannot say too much in favour of M^r Cooke the Master's Steady conduct, resolution, and bravery on this Occasion, I hope you will pardon the liberty I take in recommending him to Your future attention

The Prize Sloop, I immediately dispatch'd for Jamaica, stood off and on all night, and early next Morning hauled into the Bay where I saw both Vessels using their utmost efforts warping into Shoal Water, in the Cod of it.—The Schooner mounts Twelve Carriage Guns the Sloop Ten both seemed full of Men—Their Crews were mostly French, that language being the only one spoke when boarded, and they had in one Night transfered the Rebel Americans property, if Colours could effect it, for to my no small surprize they had both French Flags flying, the Sloop even in my sight, shifted hers for a Pendant, judging it more respectable—The small French Battery of Three Guns, that they lay under, was Man'd, & both Vessels as we stood in placed their Broadships to bear, all trifling impediments to the *Glasgow* had their been no other—I leave you Sir to judge the conduct of the French on this occasion—And I have the Honor to be with great respect, Sir [&c.]

Tho^s Pasly

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240, fols. 516–17. Addressed below close: "To/Clark Gayton Esq^r/Vice Admiral of the/White &c. &c." Docketed: "Cap^t Parsleys letter/In V A Gayton's Letter/Dated 20 April 1778." Endorsed in Gayton's hand: "a Coppy/Clark Gayton."

1. Cap Tiburon, Saint-Domingue.

DEPOSITION OF ALEXANDER ROBINSON, HANS WORKMAN AND JOHN CAREW

Barbados

By the Honorable Hillary Rowe Esquire
Chief Judge of his Majesty's Court of
Common Pleas held for the Precinct of
St. James et: And Also one of his
Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the
Body of this Island, and of the Quorum.

These are to Certify all it may Concern, That on the Day of the Date hereof Personally Came before Me, Alexander Robinson, Hans Workman and John Carew Marriners,¹ late Seamen on Board the Privateer Ship called the *Randolph*,² whereof [blank] Beedle was Captain and Commander,³ Who being duly Sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, Do severally and respectively Say and Declare That the said Privateer Ship the *Randolph* was Fitted out by the Inhabitants of Charles Town, South Carolina, on a Cruize against his Britannick Majesty's Ships and Vessels; And these Examinants further Say, That on Saturday Evening the Seventh day of this Instant March and year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Eight, the said Ship *Randolph* was Attacked by a certain Ship or Vessel which afterwards Proved to be his Majesty's Ship of War called the *Yarmouth*, whereof Nicholas Vincent Esquire is Commander; And that after a Quarter of an Hours Firing, or thereabouts, the said Ship *Randolph* was Blown up, by the Firing from the said Ship *Yarmouth*; And that at the Time the said Ship *Randolph* was Blown up, as aforesaid, there were Actually on Board the said Ship Three Hundred and five Men, including Officers and Seamen.—

In Faith and Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal this Sixteenth Day of March in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Eight.—

(Signed) Hillary Rowe.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 43/23 (Accountant General, Miscellanea, Head Money Vouchers). Addressed below close: "To/The Right Honorable The Lords/Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy."

1. These seamen were borne on H.M.S. *Yarmouth*'s Supernumerary List as American prisoners from 12 Mar. until discharged on 8 Apr. to her Muster Table, having joined the *Yarmouth* as able seamen. Hans Workman appears as Hantz Wortman and John Carew as John Kerry on *Yarmouth*'s Muster Table. UKLPR, Adm. 36/8072, Muster Table of H.M.S. *Yarmouth*.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

3. Capt. Nicholas Biddle.

March 17

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT TO GEORGE WHIPPY

Navy Board Eastern Department
Boston March 17 1778

Sir

You are hereby desired & Impowered to proceed Immediately to Bedford¹ Apply to Mr Jarvis & if he has not engaged a Master for the Scooner *Loyalty*,² take the Command of her, Engage a Mate and Crew, make all the dispatch in your power to Equip her for the Sea, and proceed ~~immediately~~ directly to the Inlet of Sinepuxant on the Sea Coast of Maryland, about Fifty Miles to the Southward of the Capes of Delaware, on your Arrival there Apply to William Smith Esq^r who is Agent for the Continent, & who will immediatly deliver you a Load of Flour & Iron, which you are to receive on board & proceed with directly to the first Safe port you can get into in this State, preferring Boston or Some port to the Eastward, as Bedford is threatned with an Attack from the Enemy, You will give us the Earliest Notice of your Arrival, & wait our further Orders, Unless you have Undoubted Intelligence the Coast is Clear, & you can with Safety proceed to Boston, where we wish to have the Cargoe, We wish you a Successfull Voyage—

I am in behalf of the Board [&c.]

J Warren—

Cap^t George Whippy

The within Orders you are to comply with as if directed to you—I wish you a good Voyage & am—Your humble Serv^t

Leo: Jarvis. Agent³

L, DN, Manuscript Collection.

1. Bedford in Dartmouth (now New Bedford), Mass.

2. Schooner *Loyalty*, Henry Atkins, master, was a prize of the Continental Navy sloop *Providence*. See NDAR 9: 753, 753n, 854, 854n, 862, 862n.

3. This order is on the verso of the document. Leonard Jarvis was Deputy Continental Agent for Massachusetts.

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN DESHON

Navy Board Eastern Department

Boston March 17, 1778

Dear Sir

Yours of the 9th. and 10th Instant¹ are received at the Board as I presume M^r Vernon will be with you by the time this reaches you, it will be unnecessary for me to make any particular Observations on the Contents, as you two being together can determine on your Several proposals & doings, I shall therefore only Say that I think them Judicious and by no means deserving of Censure, the Success in getting out the *Warren* is very pleasing, & is a presage of good Success in our attempts with regard to the others, I hope we shall make a figure with the navy here notwithstanding the obstacles arising from the Scanty State of our Finances, I am very much in Opinion with you about the *Trumball*, She must be got out this Month without fail no time hereafter promises so fair for Success and we had better try the Experiment however disagreeable it may be, I wish we could have Certain Accounts of the Safety of the *Warren*, I am Anxious about the Cannon for the New Ship here.² there seems to be a dilatoriness about getting her ready for Launching which has made me Uneasy I accordingly went to M^r Cushing³ last Evening & told him this matter must be Attended to & dispatched, he Complains of the want of money I desired him to call this morning & let me know how much may possibly do, I am expecting him & propose to furnish him with some—

You can hardly conceive what a run there is upon us for payment of Bills &c the office is Constantly full, how they discovered the money you sent I know not whenever you order and a proper opportunity offers the Certificates shall be sent Col^o. Tillinghast—⁴

Cap^t Burroughs⁵ is now here & has under Consideration a proposal I made him & his Lieu^t⁶ to go the Trip in the *Loyalty*. he has again mentioned a Brig^t at Warren to be sold, owned by Col^o Childs, & would be very Suitable for his Stores had you not better see her and see whether she and her price and manner of payment Suit—

I left M^{rs}. Warren Sick and my private affairs as well as my own health require a Journey to Plymouth as soon as I can dispatch the business immediatly Important, I shall be gone about a Week I hope soon for the pleasure of your Attendance

here M^r Vernon I suppose will take your place We have no News of Importance—I am [&c.]

J Warren—

P.S. Cap^t Burroughs has Agreed to go in the *Loyalty* if a master is not Already provided I know not whether I shall be able to get other Vessells I have no prospect at present—

If M^r Vernon is disposed to be Innoculated he may be by returning here before the 25th. of this Month.

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80. Addressed: "On public Service/Hon^{ble}. John Deshon Esq^r/Providence/In his Absence Hon^{ble}. Will^m Vernon Esq^t."

1. Not found.
2. Continental Navy frigate, later named *Alliance*.
3. Thomas Cushing, superintendent of building the frigate *Alliance*, at Salisbury, Mass.
4. Col. Daniel Tillinghast, Continental Agent for Rhode Island.
5. Capt. Ezekiel Burroughs, Continental Navy.
6. Lt. George House, Continental Navy.

PETITION OF PHILIP MOORE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL

State of Massachusetts Bay—

To the Honorable Council of said State

The Petition of Phillip Moore of Boston

Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner with others have fitted out the Ship Called the *General Mifflin* burthen about three hundred and fifty tons mounting Twenty, Six pounders and navigated by One hundred and Fifty Men, has on board as Provisions Two hundred barrels of Beef and Pork and Ten Tons of Bread, with Twenty barrels of Powder and four Tons of Shott

Officers on board are

Daniel McNeill	as Commander
Edmund Roberts	1 st Lieut:
John Dennis	2 ^d Lieut:
W ^m Lasbey	Master
Rob ^t . McNeill	Captain Marines—

Said Ship is intended to Cruize against the Enemies of these United States—

Your Petitioner therefore humbly requests that your Honors would grant a Commission to said Daniel McNeill as Commander of said Ship for the Purposes above mentioned

And as in duty bound shall Ever pray—

Ph: Moore

Boston March 17th. 1778

In Council March 18th. 1778 Read & Ordered—That a Commission be issued out to Dan^l. McNeil as Commander of the Ship above mentioned—he complying with the Resolves of Congress

Jn^o. Avery D^y Sec^y—

SIMON WOLCOTT TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Oldtown Martha's Vineyard

March 17th: 1778

Dear Sir

The bearer Cap^t Church arivd here yesterday from St^e ustatia in comp^y of a Schooner belonging to Jos: Russell¹ from Hispaniola they bring nothing that is verray material as to News—only that y^e Courts of France Spain & Portugal had acknowledg'd our Independance—you will give what Credit to the Acc^o you please—They have letters from W^m Packwood² who has arivd at Curracoa—

We³ are still impatiently wating a Wind to get to Sea we have now a prospect of going tomorrow as the fogg has just blown off—We have Seventy five or Eighty good People on Board & could get many more if we chose—

Some of our People are about to chuse M^r Mumford⁴ their Agent whether they will or not cant say the Cheiff officers being against it—Have never ben able to get any certain intelligence from the Main since we arivd here hope everything goes on agreeably with you—Excuse me to Lucy for not writing her & give her my best Love Accept same for the rest of Family—That you may be the happy possessor of the same good Health that at this present I Enjoy is y^e Prayr & Wish of Your Affec^t Friend & hum^l Serv^t

Simon Wolcott⁵—

P.S: The extreme uncertainty of [Co]nveyances is y^e Reason of not writing I having nothing Material to say & You being her [illeg.]

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 70, no. 4128. Docketed in Shaw's hand: "[Simon] Wolcott/Letter/March 17th: 1778." Docketed in another hand: "4128."

1. Joseph Russell, merchant at New Bedford, Mass.

2. Capt. William Packwood of New London, master of the ship *Betsey*, was chartered by the Connecticut Council of Safety in July 1777 to sail to Curaçao for salt. He returned on 8 Aug. 1777 with 3,000 bushels of salt. Louis F. Middlebrook, *Maritime Connecticut During the American Revolution, 1775–1783*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: The Essex Institute, 1925), 2: 9, 266.

3. Connecticut privateer sloop *American Revenue*, Samuel Champlin, Jr., commander.

4. Thomas Mumford, merchant at Groton.

5. Wolcott was one of the bonders of the privateer *American Revenue*.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *KINGSFISHER*, LIEUTENANT HUGH C. CHRISTIAN

March 78

Tuesday 17

At Single Anchor in Seaconnett Passage Rhode Island,
Fresh Breezes with Rain Loosed Sails Discovered a Rebell
Schooner¹ under sail off Goulds Island² She fired two or
three Guns Emp^d Watering

At Single Anchor in Seaconnett Passage Rhode Island,
Fresh Winds and Clear, Sighted the Anchor And veered a
whole Cable Observed a Sloop At Anchor, Above fogland
point, Observed y^e Appearc^e [of] the Vessell over Seaconnett
at 12 veered to a whole Cable,

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/507.

1. Rhode Island Navy schooner galley *Spitfire*.

2. Gould I. in the Sakonnet Passage.

JOURNAL OF THE RHODE ISLAND NAVY SCHOONER GALLEY *SPITFIRE*,
CAPTAIN JOSEPH CRANDALL

March 1778

Remarks at Tiverton. at The Ferry¹

Teusday 17th.

First part unpleasant Weather, with Rain wind at E. AM Small Breese, at SW, Came to sail at the Gutt.² stood up the Reaver;³ toward Common Fence point, whare, we saw, a Number of The British troops, [on] the heights, on Common Fence,⁴ Gave, them 2 Eighteen pound, Shott, 2 Six ditto, one Three & Two Swivells ditto, without Receiving any Compliment from them, so hove about & Ran into the Wharlf at the Ferry, Latter part, fine weather.

D, UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/455/1. Title: "A Journal, began, on Board, the Galley *Spitfire*, belonging to the State, of Rhode Island, & Commanded, by, Cap^t Jos, Crandall," (Feb.-May 1778).

1. Howland's Ferry.

2. Nannaquaket Gut.

3. Pocasset River.

4. Men from the 43d Foot gathering wood on Common Fence Point. See Diary of Captain Frederick Mackenzie, 16 Mar., above, and 18 Mar., below.

MUSTER ROLL OF RHODE ISLAND NAVY GALLEY *SPITFIRE*An Account of the time of People^s. Entry & C

Time of Entry	Mens Names	Stations	Wages P ^r month		Times of Departure
			£	S	
1777 May. 12 th	Joseph Crandall	Captain	14..	8	
May 12 th	Shifffield Attwood ¹	first Lie ^t	7..	4	
May: 12 th	Paul Cartwright	S nd . Lieu ^t	7..	4	
May: 12 th	William Warren	Master	7..	4	Nov ^m : 11 th . Run ²
May: 12 th	Benj ^a : Cranston Jun ^r	Qt ^r : Master	7..	4	
May: 20 th	Benj ^a : Cranston	Masters mate	4..	10	
May: 12 th	Ebenezer Bosworth	Gunner	3..	18	Nov ^m : 11 th Run
May: 28 th	John Harding	Carpenter	3..	18	
May: 29 th	Sampson Sims	Steward	3..	00	Nov ^m : 11 th Run
May: 15 th	John Biulot	M ^d : Shipman	3..	12	
May: 12 th	William Crandall	M ^d : Shipman	3..	12	
May: 12 th	Joseph Ormsbe	Gunners mate	2..	14	
May: 28 th	Jonathan Harding	Carpenters Boy	1..	16	unfit ^t for Duty Discharge 13 Nov ^r
June: 8 th	William Ormsbe	Seaman	2..	08	February 3 Run Took 12 th May
June 8 th	Norfolk Moore	Cooke	2..	11	Nov ^m : 20 th Run
June 8 th	Pompey Oherre	Cooke mate	2..	08	Nov ^m : 20 th Run
June: 19 th	Rufus Whitaker	Carpenters mate	2..	14	
June 19 th	Edward Cole	Seaman	2..	08	
June 27 th	John Meelish	Boatswain	3..	18	Jan ^y : 27 th
		made Masters Mate			
June 27 th	William Clarke	Boatswains mate	2..	14	Nov ^m : 11 th Run
June 26 th	William Johnson	Coxswain	2..	14	
July: 18 th	Preserved Sisson	Master at Arms	2..	14	Nov ^m : 11 th Run

June: 24 th	William Smith	Seaman	2..08
June 27 th	Thomas Austin	D ^o :	2..08
June 28 th	Malcum Graham	D ^o from Dec ^{em} 28	3..18
June: 28 th	Thomas Barker	D ^o :	2..08
Sep ^t : 24 th	Joseph Stoddard	Armerer	2..14
Nov ^m : 15 th	John Ross	Seaman	2..08
Nov ^m : 16	Zebedee Brown	D ^o :	2..08
Novem ^r 20 th	Pierce Spear	Steward	3..00
Jan ^r y 4 th 1778	John Herrod	Seaman	2..08
January 12	Norton Thurston	Q ^t : Master	7.. 4
January 18 th	David Gifford	Master	7.. 4
January 18	Gideon Gifford	Seaman	2.. 8
	his		
January 18	Tobias X Smith	Seaman	2.. 8
	mark		
March 17	Joseph Willcocks		

June 24th Run
 Nov^m: 11th Run
 Dec^m: 28: 1777
 Malcum Graham ma^{de}
 Gunne^r
 June 30th Run

 Nov^m: 20th Run

 Advanc^d One months
 pay Sick

D, UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/455/1. Document is in the First Lieutenant's Journal, p. 19.

1. Lt. Sheffield Attwood.
2. See *NDAR* 10: 498.

LIBEL FILED IN CONNECTICUT MARITIME COURT FOR NEW HAVEN COUNTY

[*New Haven*]

A Libel being preferred to the hon. *Elihu Chauncy*, Esq; Judge of the Maritime Court, for the County of New Haven, against the sloop *Dove* and her Cargo, taken by Thomas Sellew, and his Company, in the armed Sloop *Lucy*,¹ on the 15th Day of December last, in Cold Spring Harbour, of Long Island. The Court for the Trial of the Justice of said Capture, will be held at New Haven in New-Haven County, at the State House, on the first Tuesday of April next, at two of the clock Afternoon, of which this Notice is given to all concerned.

By Order of the Judge of said Court.

JOHN WHITING, Register.

March 17th. 1778.

Connecticut Journal (New Haven), 18 Mar. 1778.

1. Connecticut privateer sloop *Lucy*, Thomas Sellew, commander, mounting 4 guns, a crew of 20 seamen, owned by Joseph Buckley, of Wethersfield, was commissioned on 2 Dec. 1777. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 9, p. 97.

CAPTAIN ISALAH ROBINSON TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Copy

Sir,

New-Prison Philad^a. 17th. March 1778.

I came down here on Saturday last, in a Flag of Truce, with a Quantity of Provisions for our Prisoners here, they have thought proper to Detain me, and have lodged me here, I can assign no other reason for such Treatment, unless a pretext that no Officer of my Rank could with propriety come on such an Occasion, indeed they seem to Cavil at my Names being inserted as *Master of the Shallop*,¹ owing to a Mistake or Inadvertency in the person that wrote for Permission to send such Provisions in. M^{rs}. Robinson whose Mother and Relations live in Town, came down with me, to have, if permitted, an Opportunity of seeing them, I told the Officer who met me, who we were, and he without Scruple put her ashore, which it seems was improper, an Officer was sent after her, with whom she immediately and Unhesitatingly return'd. This is a Candid Representation of the Matter, and shall esteem Your Excellency's taking such Measures as you may judge expedient for my enlargement—I have the Honor to be [&c.]

(Sign'd) Isaiah Robinson²

P.S. Cap^t. Galt³ of the State Navy who came with me to assist in working the Shallop, is in the same Predicament, tho' he made up but the Number of Men Permitted—

A fair Copy from the Original

Sign'd Tho^s. Wallis

Fred^k. Sumfield

Copy, UKLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, No. 1022 (3–4). There is a second copy. *Ibid.*, vol. 9, No. 1022 (1–2).

1. Shallop *Polly*.

2. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy.

3. Capt. Nathaniel Galt, Pennsylvania Navy.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *CAMILLA*, CAPTAIN CHARLES PHIPPS

March 1778
Tuesday, 17.

Deep Water Point NEbE. 1 Mile
at 2 AM the flat boats employ'd landing the Troops at the
Entrance of Selam Creek on the Jersey Shore under the
Command of Captain Phipps.¹ at 11 Sailed the *Brune Dispatch*
Sloop and several Transports.
Newcastle N^o. 7 or 8 miles Ready Island S ½ W 2 Miles
D^o. Wea^r [PM] [Fresh Gales and Cloudy]

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/157, fol. 98.

1. H.M.S. *Camilla*, H.M. galley *Cornwallis* and some flat boats were on a foraging expedition up Salem Creek.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[Extract]

The Council met

Lancaster, Tuesday, March 17, 1778.

. . . Ordered, That the Commissaries for the Navy Department, who have heretofore been employed, be allowed three ⅔ Centum on the amount of their Purchases, in full for their Services in buying and issuing Provisions & Liquors.

LB, PHarH, RG 27, Minute Books of the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council, vol. 6, 231.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dear Sir,

Wilmington March 17th. 1778—

For this two Days past the Enemys Fleet have been passing by here, to Amount of 150 Sail, of which there were 70 or 80 Sloops & Schooners, some few flat-Bottom and a number of Ships Boats on Deck & in Tow besides—their destination not known, it's said there are Troops on board, but it is not reduced to a Certainty, if any, they were kept below, as there was no great appearance on Deck—The Communication with Philadelphia for some Days past, since this Fleet has been equipping, & falling down, has been much checked, & the Intelligence very doubtful—its probable if any Troops have embarked, they meditate a Trip up Chesapeake, to visit Annapolis Baltimore & the adjacent Counties on the head of the Bay, or perhaps may extend their Views up Patowmack—I shou'd have wrote you Yesterday, but wanted to discover their destination—they came too off this Place, & lay some Time I believe on acc^t of the Fog & Tide, but fell down below Reedy Island yesterday afternoon and anchored, I ha[ve] waited all this Morning for the Return of som[e] men I sent to dog them to discover whether [torn] stood out for the Capes—but as they have n[o]t returned, & I have this Opportunity, have been induced to forward this Intellegence, and remain with sincere Regard [&c.]

W Smallwood

excuse Papers being scarce

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "Public Service/His Excellency/General Washington/Head Quarters/Valley Forge." Notation: "W Smallwood." Docketed: "From/Gen^l Smallwood/Wilmington 17th March/1778." Bracketed portions are caused by a hole in the middle of the letter.

STEPHEN STEWARD TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

you ware kind Enuf to tell me you would lend two long Guns and two Swivels Ples to give orders to have them Deliverd to Captain Martain¹ I shall be much oblige to you If you will be kind Enuf to Send up afew Shot Such as Captain Martain Chuses M^r Henrey Howard Promises me he Will Cast any Quanitey of shot and any sise So I hope We Can Repay them verey soon I am [&c.]

Stephen Steward

[*West River, Md.*]

March the 17 1778

6—2 pounders on b^d. the *Johnson*²

6 Swivels on b^d. the *plater*.³

MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4588-10. Addressed: "His/Exellency Tho^s. Johnson Esq^r." Docketed: "17 March 1778/Stephan Steward/ab^t. Carr^a Guns—." The last two lines are in Johnson's hand.

1. Probably Capt. John Martin.

2. Maryland Navy galley *Johnson*, building at West River.

3. Maryland Navy armed boat/galley *Plater*, Capt. Richard Murrow, commander.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Tuesday the 17th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick store deliver to Captain Richard Taylor for the use of the men on Board the ship *Tartar* the following articles viz sixty nine white shirts, or linen to make them one hundred and eighty eight yards of Checks, thirty five pair of shoes eighty five and half yards of coarse and fine Cloth, thirty eight pair of stockings, twenty Caps, six hats, thirty set of Buckles twenty seven Knives, and twenty two Handkerchiefs on his paying for the same.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 364.

CAPTAIN THOMAS JORDAN, R.N., TO GOVERNOR PATRICK TONYN

(Copy)

Galatea Frederica Sound [*Ga.*]

17th. March 1778

I wrote the 6th. off S^t. Marys¹ to inform your Excellency Captain Fanshawe² had ordered the *Galatea* to remain upon this Coast in order to prevent an Armed Force said to be advancing by the inland Navigation to the Southward.

That she might be of effectual Service from the intelligence I could collect, Frederica appeared to be the place where she might best Act to Annoy them, accordingly the 13th Instant we got in over the Bar, and anchored in Frederica Sound³ where I learnt their two Galleys had been to steal Cattle, about a week since, but from what the Inhabitants say, they only remained twenty four hours, and then returned to the Northward.—A Lieutenant from one of them deserted with two Negroes, and he got on board the *Rebecca* at S^t. Marys, but the Negroes left him, Mowbray⁴ brought him to me at this place, the information he gives is, that they are weakly Maned, and in bad Condition[.]

I have sent Lieutenant Ellis⁵ up to the Town, and the *Rebecca* accompanied to secure the North end of the Island, and the Fort which commands the River and Town,⁶ the *Galatea* laying about Seven Miles from it, Yesterday I went up to view it, part of the Walls have been pulled down by the Rebels, when they took the Mortars &c away, but it might be easily put into that state of defence to be maintained with a very small force, and two Eighteen or Twenty four pounders in it, I am clear would prevent all the strength they can send from passing by the inland Navigation to the Southward.

I have since thought it proper to send Lieutenant Ellis on as far as Sapelo, to see if any thing can be done with their Gallies, and to assist Colonel Brown,⁷ if he meets with any impediment on his return, and give me leave to congratulate your Excellency on his late success in reducing Fort Barrington—I found his Surgeon with a few wounded at Frederica—

The little Schooner I propose to dispatch tomorrow, as the best Conveyance for them, and this information, but must request your Excellency will send her back to me, as we shall find her of the utmost use here.

I have the Honor to be &c

(Signed) Tho^s. Jordan

NB. I have sent my Sick which are numerous to M^r. Martin's House at Jekyl Island and Providence could not have conducted them to a more favourable place.

Copy, UklPR, C.O. 5/558, fols. 131–32. Docketed: "East Florida/Copy of a Letter from/Capt^m. Thomas Jordan/of the *Galatea*/to/His Excellency/Governor Tonym/N^o. 2." Docketed in another hand: "In Gov^r. Tonyns of Ap^l. 28th. 1778/N^o. 54/2." See Governor Patrick Tonym to Lord George Germain, 28 Apr. 1778, UklPR, C.O. 5/558, fols. 127–28.

1. St. Marys River, Fla.

2. Capt. Robert Fanshawe, R.N.

3. Actually St. Simons Sound.

4. Capt. John Mowbray.

5. Lt. Alexander Ellis, R.N., commanding H.M. brig *Hinchinbrook*.

6. Fort Frederica on northern tip of St. Simons I.

7. Lt. Col. Thomas Brown, East Florida Rangers.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola on Tuesday the 17th. day of March 1778.

Read the Minutes of the last Council day (the 10th. Instant) which were approved

His Excellency laid before the Board a Letter which he had received from W^m. Hiorn—Rich^d Ellis and Joseph Thompson Esq^{rs}. three of the Principal Inhabitants of the Natchez District dated the 23^d Februrary 1778 inclosing a Copy of the Terms of accomodation Settled between the Delegates of the People & their Associates and M^r James Willing who Commanded the Party of Rebels which came into that part of this Province and the same being Read were ordered to be entered on the Minutes and are as follows

Natchez 23^d Febr^y 1778

May it Please your Excellency

We are Extremely unhappy to inform you that on Friday the 20th. Instant Cap^t. James Willing in the Service of the Thirteen United States of America did almost

at one and the same time Surprize and take Prisoners the Principal Inhabitants of this Country; who in order to prevent themselves being carried Prisoners to New orleans together with their Slaves &c were obliged to call a meeting and assent to the Conditions which are here Tra[n]smitted to Your Excellency.

The deplorable Situation of this District is such that we have every thing to fear from the Cruelty of the Indians our neighbours and therefore pray Your Excellency will use your utmost endeavours to prevent a people so unfortunate from falling a Sacrifice to the Merciless Cruelty of Barbarians.

Wishing you Health and every Blessing that this life can afford we are

Your Excellency &c &c &c

W^m Hiorn

Richard Ellis

Joseph Thompson

Natchez District
to Wit

Whereas on Thursday evening the 19th. Instant Captain James Willing in the Service of the United States of America arrived with a detachment of Men under his command at the Natchez Landing and the next morning Early sent out Sundry Parties who almost at one and the same time made the Inhabitants Prisoners of War on their Parole and having hoisted the Colours of the said United States and taken Possession of the Country in their name, The Inhabitants in this distressed and unprotected State fearing a Confiscation of their property thought it necessary to wait on the said Captain Willing to propose Terms of Accomodation which he readily agreeing thereto the said Inhabitants unanimously Delegated the four following Gentlemen to Treat for them and make the best Terms they Possibly Could

William Hiorn Esq^r

Samuel Wells Planter

Charles Percy Esq^r

&

Major Luke Collins

And as we the Delegates have obtained leave from the People to call in any Persons to our assistance, we may think proper we have desired the following Gentlemen

Isaac Johnson Esq^r

Richard Ellis Esq^r

&

Joseph Thompson Planter—

We the Delegates of the People and our Associates do propose the following Terms to Captain James Willing

First—That we will not take up Arms against the united States of America or aid Abet or in any wise give assistance to the Enemies of the said States

Agreed—

Secondly That our Persons Slaves and other Properties of what kind so ever shall remain safe and unmolested during our neutrality

Agreed

Thirdly That a list of the names of the Slaves of the Inhabitants shall on Honor be given in

Agreed

Fourthly That Captain Willing shall engage to send a Flag of Truce to the Chactaw Nation to give out a Talk with a Belt to prevent the Indians falling on this defenceless District—

Agreed.

Fifthly—That Captain Willing having in his Custody as a Prisoner one Robert Welsh in whose Possession was found an order from Farquhar Bethune Esquire Commissary for the Chacktaw Nation to obstruct Harrass distress and oppose any Party of Americans coming down the River and it appearing to the Inhabitants of this District that the life of the said Robert Welsh was in Danger they Petitioned the said Captain Willing on his behalf who Immediately set him at Liberty; and shall engage to send him with the flag into the Chactaw Nation he having great Interest with them to incline them to Peace

Agreed.

Sixthly—That the Delegates and their Associates shall have leave to send a Copy of these Articles to Governor Chester at Pensacola accompanied with a Letter requesting His Excellency will take such Steps as shall prevent the Indians falling upon the Inhabitants

Agreed.

Seventhly—That the Delegates and their associates do in and on the behalf of the People take the following Oath: That they will not take up Arms or otherwise Act to the prejudice of the United States of America nor will by any means Comfort or abet furnish with Arms or Ammunition the Enemies of said States neither will they Furnish the Savages with Warlike Stores against the said States nor in Word or deed (except in the foregoing Article) treat with their Enemies but observe a Strict neutrality

Agreed—

Eighthly That the Delegates shall appoint one of their Body to accompany the said Captain Willing to New orleans

Agreed

Natchez District West Florida

Signed this Twenty first day of February

one thousand seven hundred and Seventy eight

Agreed to in the fullest extent
in Behalf of the United States of America
(All Publick Officers of the Crown of
Great Britain who have property
in this District Excepted) those who
have held Commissions & have
Signed the Oath of Neutrality come
within the above Articles

Ja^s Willing
Captain in the Service of
the United States—

Delegates—

W ^m Hiorn	L S
Sam: Wells—	L S
Char ^s Percy—	L S
Luke Collins—	L S

Associates—

Isaac Johnson	L S
Richard Ellis	L S
Joseph Thompson—	L S

NB The Property of all British Subjects
who are non Residents in this District
also Excepted they being Enemies of the
said States

James Willing

M^r Alexander M^cIntosh A Merchant at the Natchez well known for his Loyalty and Attachment to His Majestys Person and Government (who brought the above mentioned Letter) attending by desire of the Board was then called in and gave the following Information upon Oath.

Information upon Oath of Alexander M^cIntosh of the Natchez District Merchant taken at Pensacola before His Excellency Peter Chester Esquire Captain General and Governor in Chief of His Majestys Province of West Florida &C &C &C Council.

This Informant saith That on the Nineteenth day of February now last past he was in a Batteau on his Way up the River Mississippi to Aux Arcs together with William Eason and William Williams when being a little above Coles Creek, about eight or nine Leagues higher up the River than the Natchez landing between the Hours of Eight and Nine in the Evening as they were at supper in their Batteau they were met by a Party of about Eighteen Men in a large Batteau Commanded by one M^cIntyre a Pensylvanian and a Lieutenant in the Rebel Service¹ among whom was Thomas Newman (formerly a Trader at the Natchez). That this Newman hailed them asking who they were which Will^m Eason told him This Newman then Swore that he had been Robbed at Aux Arcs by the Arkansa Indians—that with great difficulty he had saved his own and his peoples lives from the said Indians and then prayed this Informant and his party (for Gods Sake) if they had any thing to Drink to give him some—to which Eason answered that he had—Newman then desired Eason to light up his Fire that he might see to get ashore—which was accordingly done That fourteen or fifteen of the said Party then jumped out of the Boat all at once Each Armed with a Rifle Gun and Tomahawk That M^cIntyre called to this Informant by name—where are you? to which this Informant replied You have the advantage of me I dont know you—That as he was on the Gang Board Stepping on Shore, M^cIntyre with his Party came up and told him he was a Prisoner of War to the United States of America Adding “Ill take care of you that damned Scoundrel James Willing is come once more to pay you a Visit,” (alluding to this Informants former Expressions about Willing) That M^cIntyre then brought this Informant and his People to the Fire & demanded of him if he had any Letters or any other Company—to which he Answered he had no Letters, but was in Company with Williams and Eason on his Way to Aux Arcs about his Private Business—The same Question was then put to Williams and Eason who answered that they had some Letters M^cIntyre thereupon sent them on Board their Batteau with a Party of his own men to bring all the Letters they had and deliver them up to him upon receipt of which they opened and looked at them and then put them in his Pocket after which he Sent this Informant Williams and Eason on Board the Rebel Boat and a party of his own Men on Board their Batteau to take Charge of her—That as they were going down the River an-

other large Canoe full of Men Commanded by one Robert George (a Virginian Born and a Lieutenant in the Rebel Service)² Joined them. That the same night this Informant and the others were Carried down to the Natchez landing where they arrived about midnight—and were kept Prisoners on Board That one of their Canoes was Stationed a little above & the other a little below & the Batteau at the Natchez landing with Strict orders to keep a Sufficient Guard at the Batteau That the Two Lieutenants Landed with the remainder of their Party and Secured every Inhabitant at the landing with all their Slaves, after which a Party was sent out for the two Harrisons (Richard and Reuben,) who lived about one Mile Distant with whom Richard Harrison returned (having a Small sworn [*sword*] on) and Joined the Rebels (as this Informant believes from having seen him afterwards wear a Rebel Cocade) That at Break of day M^r Willing arrived in a Batteau called the *Rattle* or *Rattle Trap* during which time this Informant had been brought ashore and lodged a Prisoner in Richard Bacons House at the landing aforesaid. That upon Willings arrival different Parties were sent off to bring in the Neighbouring Inhabitants who were soon afterwards all brought in That Willing ordered a Party out to kill this Informants Cattle for Provisions under which pretence Several head of his Cattle were wantonly Shot down and left laying where they fell That the Party who were sent to Rifle this Informants house robbed him of all his Provisions being upwards of 5000 lb Weight—drove in 22 Head of his Hogs and killed them at the landing—That he was detained a Close Prisoner untill Saturday the 21st of February in the afternoon when he was Released on his Parole. When Just as he arrived at his House a Party of fifteen Men who had been sent after him came up with and brought him Back to Willing who detained him untill the next day (Sunday) in the afternoon when he was again Released And this Informant also saith that he heard M^r Willing declare that 2000 Men under the Command of A General Morgan³ would be down the River in the Spring to take Possession of this Country. That Robert George told him their Party consisted of about Twenty five Men at first who came from Fort Pitt on the 12th January which Party was increased to about one hundred men Chiefly picked up on the Ohio and the upper part of the Mississippi—That they had plundered M^r Hutchins⁴ of the 18 Slaves and all his other property—also Joseph Dawes of a Negroe Wench and had taken 4 Negroes 4 Horses & all the Hogs belonging to Henry Stuart Esq^c That M^r Willings Sent out to Kill one Beagleys Cattle and that he (willing) told him A M^r Elliot a Lieutenant⁵ had been sent down with Six Men in a Canoe and had gone three days a head of M^cIntyre with dispatches from the Congress to the Governor of Louisiana⁶ and Oliver Pollock⁷ a British Merchant residing at New orleans who has declared himself their Agent acquainting them with their Arrival &C. And added that the said Spanish Governor M^r Pollock and himself were appointed by the Congress to Condemn at New orleans the property he might Seize upon on his Way down the River and to Sell it for the benefit of the United States And this Informant farther saith that one Rabicaud a British Subject who lived at Aux Posts on the River Ouabache, (under the Command of Lieut. Governor abbot⁸) told him that he had a Batteau laden with Deer Skins Beaver &C to the amount of Ten or Twelve thousand Dollars which he was bringing down the River Mississippi and having heard that the Rebels were before him he went up the River Aux Arcs and applied to M^r Devellé⁹ the Spanish

Commandant there for a pass to New orleans which pass he was refused—That while he was in the Fort of Aux Arcs he saw one Pountney¹⁰ a Trader there—which Pountney soon after he was gone got together a parcell of Hunters and came after him to the River Mississippi Seized his Batteau as British Property & carried her back to Aux Arcs to Mr Devellee who Immediately sent her off under a Guard of a Corporal & Six Men to Mr Willing at the Natchez (which Information was Corroborated by that of a Joseph and Thomas Holmes of the Natchez who had been employed by Said Pountney in Seizing the said Batteau) and that this Informant saw the said Batteau and Cargoe delivered up at the Natchez landing to Mr Willing by the Said Spanish Corporal as British Property Seized for the use of the Americans That Mr Blommart¹¹ While Trading on the English side at Aux Arcs was seized with all the property he had and brought down to the Natchez—and when Willing went away he left Blommart there on his parole for Two or three days to Settle his affairs, & then to come down to New orleans with Mr Hiorn, the Commissioner¹²—That Mr Hiorn told this Informant that Willing had Two Commissions one as Captain in the Rebel Army and the other as Captain of a Rebel Privateer—That he (this Informant) understood that Mr Willing had been joined at the Natchez by the Two Harrisons William Reid a Blacksmith and Francis Dolony a practitioner in Physick That Willing said he should in going down the River begin at Mr Castle's¹³ Plantation at British Point Coupeé and take all the Slaves and property belonging to the English Plantations down to Manchack That the said Willing set off from the White Cliffs at the Natchez on Tuesday the 24th day of February having left behind him as he was told Some ammuniton in a Small Store belonging to Mr William Williams under the Care of one Thomas Coomstock a man who had Joined them up the River. And this Informant saith that he left the Natchez on Sunday the first instant—came thro' the Chacktaw Nation & arrived in this Town on Monday the 16th. Instant and farther saith not—Sworn in the Council Chamber at Pensacola on Tuesday the 17th. March 1778 before His Excellency in Council Attes^t Rich^d. Combauld D Cler: Concii.

Mr McIntosh farther acquainted His Excellency that he had been deputed by the Inhabitants of the Natchez to apply to him for one hundred Troops to be Immediately Stationed there in which Case the Inhabitants Promised to break their engagement of Neutrality and to Join with the Troops in their own defence That they would willingly assist with the Small Force they had in repairing the old Fort¹⁴ or Buildings Barracks for the said Troops and that he (Mr McIntosh) would pledge himself for the true performance thereof and would help to Support them with Provisions.

His Excellency then desired the Opinion of the Board thereupon but it being late the Board deferred giving their Advice immediately and were adjourned untill tomorrow morning Ten of Clock.

D, UKLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 259–64.

1. Lt. Thomas McIntyre, lieutenant of an Independent Company, Western Pennsylvania, Continental Army.

2. Lt. Robert George, Clark's Illinois Regiment, Virginia Militia.

3. Col. George Morgan.
4. Anthony Hutchins, magistrate at Natchez.
5. Lt. James Elliot, 1st lieutenant of an Independent Pennsylvania Company, Continental Army.
6. Don Bernardo de Gálvez.
7. Pollock was Continental Commercial Agent at New Orleans.
8. Edward Abbott, British lieutenant governor of the Vincennes district.
9. Don Baltasar de Villiers, Spanish commandant of the Arkansas district.
10. William Pountney.
11. John Blommart, magistrate at Natchez.
12. William Hiorn.
13. George Castle, planter at Point Coupée, West Florida.
14. Fort Panmure.

CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG

(Copy)
Sir

Barbadoes 17th March 1778

I take the Opportunity of the January Packets Sailing from hence tomorrow Morning, directly for S^c Johns, Antigua; of acquainting you of my having on the 7th Instant at ½ past 5 PM, discovered Six Sail in the S:W. Quarter, on a Wind; Standing to the N^oward:—Two of them Ships,¹ Three Brigs² and a Schooner. We were then 50 Leagues due East of this Island; We immediately bore down upon them, and about 9, got close on the Weather Quarter of the largest and headmost Ship, They had no Colours hoisted and as Ours were then up, I hailed her to hoist hers, or I would fire into her, on which she hoisted American, and immediately gave us her broad Side, which We returned, and in about a quarter of an hour she blew up. It was fortunate for us, that We were to Windward of her.—as it was, our Ship was in a manner covered with parts of her, a great piece of a Top Timber Six feet long fell on our poop,—another large piece of Timber Stuck in our foretop-gallant Sail (then upon the Cap) An American Ensign rolled up, blown in upon the forecastle, not so much as Singed &c; Immediately on her blowing up, the other four dispersed different ways—We Chaced a little while, two that Stood to the Southward, and afterwards another that bore away right before the Wind, but they were soon out of sight—Our Sails being tore all to pieces in a most surprizing manner; We had five Men killed, and twelve wounded, But what I am now going to mention is something very remarkable, The Thursday following being then in Chace of a Ship Steering West; We discovered a piece of a wreck with four Men on it waving, We hauled up to it, got a boat out, and brought them on board; they prov'd to be four Men who had been in the Ship when she blew up,—and who had nothing to subsist on from that time, but by sucking the rain Water that fell on a piece of Blanket, which they luckily had picked up. They informed us the Ship blown up was called the *Randolph* of 36 guns and 305 Men; The other ship was the *General Mutray* of 20 guns; and the other three Armed Brigs; and Sailed from Charles Town S^c Carolina about a month before. I resumed the Chace but she was too far ahead to get up with her, however I continued it in Order to drive her at least off the Station, 'till eleven that Night, when We made this Island; having lost sight of her, I hall'd my Wind, and intended to have got up again to Windward as far as I could; but it coming on to blow very Strong with a great Sea; and our main-mast being in great danger by the Slackness of Our Stays, having been obliged to

get up a Messenger in room of the Mainstay, which was intirely ruined, I bore away on Saturday last for this place. The *Ariadne* and *Ceres* had come in the day before, and brought in with them a very Stout Privateer called the *Alfred* of 20 Guns and 180, Men.³ I found here also the *Fly*, It has blown strong ever since I have been in, but the Weather now seems broke, and the two former will Sail to Morrow Noon in Order to get up to Windward, and to look out for the English Convoy; which sailed from England the 11th: Ult^o: under Convoy of the *Active*, *Boreas*, and two Sloops; about Ten Sail that seperated from them in the Chops of the Channel have been arrived some days,—so that I think they may be soon expected; and I purpose remaining here ‘till that time, The *Fly* I shall keep here ‘till the arrival of the February Packet, in Order to bring your Letters.” I remain with great respect Sir [&c.]

(Signed) Nich^s: Vincent

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot of first page: “Vice Admiral James Young &c &c &c.” Docketed: “Barbadoes 17th: March/1778 Copy of a Letter/from Captain Nich^s:/Vincent of His/Majesty’s Ship/*Yarmouth*.—” Endorsed: “In Adm^t: Young’s Letter/ Dated 23 March 1778—.” Enclosure no. 1 in Vice Admiral James Young to Philip Stephens, 23 Mar., which was received on 22 May and read. There is another copy of this letter in Adm. 1/309.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph* (32 guns) and South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie* (20 guns).
2. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame* (16 guns) and South Carolina privateer brigantines *Polly* (14 guns) and *Fair American* (16 guns).
3. Continental Navy ship *Alfred* (20 guns).

March 18

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RAINBOW*, CAPTAIN SIR GEORGE COLLIER

March 1778.

Moored in Halifax Harbor

Wednesday 18

First p^t: fresh Breez^s: wth. Rain latter p^t: fresh Gales & clear wth.
hard frost Empl^d. [prep]aring the Ship for Sea Came in 2
Schooners Prizes to the *Arbuthnot* Tender.¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/762.

1. Schooner *Bellona*, Moses Fetcombe, master, from Guadeloupe to Newburyport, with rum, coffee and molasses, taken near Cape Sable on 12 Mar., sent into Halifax. Howe’s Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 484. According to Vice Admiralty Court records, she was captured on 7 Mar. between Cape Sable and St. George’s Bank by the *Rainbow*’s tender, the schooner *Arbuthnot*, Lt. Edward Dalton, commander. *Bellona* was libelled on 18 Mar. in the Vice Admiralty Court of Nova Scotia and condemned as a lawful prize on 7 Apr. 1778. CaNSHP, vol. 496, Vice Admiralty Court Register, vol. 6 (1777–1782), 117.

The second prize was the schooner *Polly*, John Dyer, master, from Falmouth, Me., to the West Indies, with lumber, taken on 17 Mar. near St. George’s Bank, sent into Halifax. Howe’s Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 484. According to Vice Admiralty Court records, she was captured on 13 Mar. off Falmouth in Casco Bay. *Polly* was libelled on 26 Mar. in the Vice Admiralty Court of Nova Scotia and condemned as a lawful prize on 21 Apr. 1778. CaNSHP, vol. 496, Vice Admiralty Court Register, vol. 6 (1777–1782), 118.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 18th: 1778

Order’d, That M^r Ivers¹ pay Cap^t Carey² on Acc^t disbursments for Sloop *Republick*³ . . . £34..16.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 256–57.

1. Thomas Ivers.
2. Capt. John Carey.
3. Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic*.

ISAAC SEARS TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Dear Sir

Boston March 18th. 1778

I recived your favour of the 8th. Instant the articles ~~of~~ Capⁿ. Allen list¹ as much of them as I Cou'd Git was Sent of[f] about ten days agoe, I hope by the time you have recived them in good order—I had the account of the Brigge *Gen^l Washington*,² being taken before you advised me—Am Glad to hear that so Valueble a Cargo has arived in your port, & that Docter Franklin was in good health 31th Decem^r last I am Sir [&c.]

Isaac Sears

PS

Since writing the above have recivd yours of the 22^d, I Shall this day look for the Instrments if to be had Send them, I Shou'd sent the Cross & Chain Shot, the teems that Carred the other articles would not take them Capⁿ Bredon³ is now out of town, as Soon as he Comes in will Send them, I Shall git the Coullers of Capⁿ. lamb⁴ & Send them

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 26, no. 1644. Addressed: "To/Nath^l Shaw Esq^r/at/New London." Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Isaac Sears/Letter/Mar 18 1778." Docketed in another hand: "1644."

1. Articles for Connecticut privateer ship *General Putnam*, Thomas Allon, commander, fitting out at New London.
2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *General Washington*, William Rogers, commander.
3. Andrew Breedin.
4. Capt. John Lamb, commander of Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Favourite*.

WILLIAM VERNON TO JAMES WARREN

Sirs

Providence 18th. March 1778.

This afternoon Cap^t. Deshon¹ sets out for New London, on the necessary business of geting the *Trumble* out of Connecticut River. The *Columbus* has fell down the River. Cap^t. Hacker² hath promised us he will be ready to Improve the very first opportunity of Wind & Weather that presents after to morrow. he is supplied with every thing requisite to carry his Ship³ to New London or the first port of Safety that he can get into. we have thought it best to put on board about Six Weeks Stores least he shou'd be obliged to put off the Coast.⁴

Cap^t. Whipple⁵ Enters Men very fast he expects to have upwards of one hund^d. Men by the last of this Week. The plan that hath been adopted is, that the Ship⁶ proceed from hence on a Cruise, for the reasons already given by M^r. Deshon. indeed it appears to me that she cou'd not have been Mann'd upon the same terms that the *Warren* was. You will please to say If it be your opinion that she proceed directly to France: or That its consistant with our Instructions to Order her on a Cruise where we think it most likly to annoy our Enemies and take Prizes. If she is ordered to France you will transmit the Copy of the Orders rec^d. from the H^{ble} Marine board; and such other dispatches as you think may be with Safty sent thro' the dangerous Fire of a Line of the Enemys Ships. we don't judge it prudent to in-

trust papers of great consequence by this Ship. you will please to Send a Copy of the Signals to be observed in the Continental Navy,⁷ and what other papers & dispatches you may think Proper. I am [&c.]

P.S. pray let me know from Time to time all the News that's stirring w^{ch}. will multiply the Obligation of Y^r. &c

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80. Addressed at the foot: "To/James Warren Esq^r/Boston."

1. John Deshon.
2. Capt. Hoysteed Hacker, Continental Navy.
3. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*.
4. See Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department to Captain Hoysteed Hacker, 12 Mar., above.
5. Capt. Abraham Whipple, Continental Navy.
6. Continental Navy frigate *Providence*.
7. See "Signals to be observed by Commanders in the Continental Navy," 14 Jan., above.

GABRIEL JOHONNOT TO THE RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL OF WAR

Gentⁿ:

Agreeable to your directions I have settled the Account for the Exchange of Prisoners of Warr, For the State of Rhode Island, and have received of the British Commissary the ballance due taking care to Enlarge all such as belonged to this State—As their Idea of Rank widely differs from ours, I have been Obligated to take in Exchange for the Warrant and Petty Officers of the *Syrene* Frigate who were on their Parole, such Persons as (After Much Altercation) were nearest of rank to them—

Lord Viscount Howe, highly disapproves the Practice of sending Persons in on their Parole to Obtain Particular Persons in Exchange for them and if not after the Expiration of a certain period to return, and desires it may be discontinued—His Lordship, sensible of the Inconveniences and hardship, which the Prisoners Labor under, wishes they may be Exchanged as Early as Possible—and as he has not the Means of releiving them with proper Necessaries, readily Agrees to this or any Other State sending in Proper Supplies of Fresh Provisions & other Things for their more Comfortable support—And a Proper Person with them to distribute it—I am With the Highest Respect Gentⁿ: [&c.]

Gabriel Johonnot

Providence 18th. March 1778

L, R-Ar, Letters to the Governor (1778), vol. 12, p. 42. Addressed at foot: "Hon^{ble}: Council of Warr/for State of Rhode Island."

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Extract]

[Newport. Rhode Island]

18th March. Frost last night, and Strong wind at N.W. Wind W. during the day, and pleasant weather.

... The Rebels have fired a good many shot these last two days at the parties of the 43rd Regiment employed in cutting wood on Commonfence neck.¹ They also brought their Galley near, and fired at them,² but without any effect.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 257–58.

1. See Journal of the Rhode Island Schooner Galley *Spitfire*, 17 Mar. and 20 Mar.
2. Rhode Island Navy galley *Spitfire*.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *KINGSFISHER*, LIEUTENANT HUGH C. CHRISTIAN

March 78 At Single Anchor in Seaconnett Passage Rhode Island
 Wednesday 18 ½ past [7] AM Saw a Sloop on Shore at Seaconnett Beach,¹
 Sent y^e Boats Man'd and Armed hove into ½ a Cable, Emp^d
 Watering
 At Single Anchor in Seaconnett Passage Rhode Island
 Ditto Winds [Fresh Winds] and heazey [PM] the Sloop
 proved to be a Rebell Vessell the Boats not being Able to get
 her off, dismantled And set fire to her Emp^d Wooding

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/507.

1. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Kingsfisher*, 17 Mar., above.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEAMEN FOR THE CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER
 SHIP *GENERAL PUTNAM*

*The private Ship of War PUTNAM, mounting twenty Carriage Guns,
 (nine Pounds) will be ready for Sea by the middle of*

April:

Any Gentlemen Volunteers who may chuse to enter on Board the said Ship
 for a six Months Cruize, shall be put on daily Pay from the Time of their coming
 on Board, 'till the Ship is ready to Sail.

THOMAS ALLON, Captain.

New-London, 18th March, 1778.

Connecticut Gazette; and the Universal Intelligencer, 20 Mar. 1778.

LIBEL FILED IN VICE ADMIRALTY COURT OF NEW YORK
 AGAINST THE CONNECTICUT NAVY GALLEY *CRANE*

Province of New York
 Court of Vice Admiralty

To the Worshipfull Robert Bayard Esquire Judge of
 the Court of Vice Admiralty for the Province of
 New York—

John Tabor Kempe Esquire his Majesty's Advocate General for the Province of
 New York at and by the relation of Cornthwaite Ommaney Esquire Captain and
 Commander of his Majesty's Ship of War the *Tartar* on behalf of himself, Hyde
 Parker Junior Esquire Captain and Commander of his Majesty's Ship of War the
Phoenix, Andrew Snape Hamond Esquire Captain and Commander of his Majesty's
 Ship of War the *Roebuck*, and the other Officers and Crews of the said Ships of War,
 and all others interested therein comes here into this Court of Vice Admiralty this
 Eighteenth day of March in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and
 Seventy eight—And by the relation aforesaid give the Court here to understand and
 be informed that on or about the tenth day of October in the Year of our Lord One
 thousand seven hundred and seventy six in Hudson's River in the Province of New

York hereinafter mentioned on the high Seas and within the Jurisdiction of this honorable Court they the said Cornthwaite Ommaney, Hyde Parker, and Andrew Snape Hamond with his Majesty's said Ships then under their respective Commands did pursuant to the Statute in such Case lately made and provided seize and take a certain Gally or Vessel called the *Crane*¹ of the burthen of about Forty Tons armed with Cannon the Master's Name whereof is unknown² (the Crew having deserted and left her) together with her Apparel and Furniture and have brought the same into this Port of New York in order to have the same legally adjudged—For that the said Galley or Vessel and the Apparel and Furniture thereof and every thing else on board the said Vessel seized and taken as aforesaid at the time of the said Capture and Seizure belongs to some Person or Persons Inhabitants of the Colonies of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three lower Counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia or of some or one of the said Colonies. Whereby and by force of the Statute in such Case lately made and provided the said Galley or Vessel with all her Apparel and Furniture is become forfeited to his Majesty as if the same were the Vessel and Effects of open Enemies—And by reason of the Premises and by Virtue of the said Statute in such Case lately made and provided the sole Interest and Property of and in the said Galley or Vessel with her Apparel and Furniture and every thing else on board the said Vessel liable to Forfeiture as aforesaid (the same being first adjudged lawful Prize pursuant to the Statute aforesaid) is granted to and vested in his Majesty's Flag Officers commanding in his Fleet in North America, the said Cornthwaite Ommaney, Hyde Parker, Andrew Snape Hamond, and in the other commissioned Officers of his Majestys said Ships of War, and the Seamen, Marines, and Soldiers on board the same to be divided among them in such Proportions and after such manner as his Majesty hath been pleased to direct by his royal Proclamation in pursuance of the said Statute in such Case lately made and provided. Wherefore the said Advocate General at and by the relation aforesaid humbly prays that by the Decree and Sentence of this honorable Court the said Galley or Vessel the *Crane* her Apparel and Furniture and every thing else on board the same liable to Forfeiture may be adjudged and condemned as lawful Prize pursuant to the said Statute in such Case lately made and provided to be divided as aforesaid among the Captors and all others lawfully interested therein by reason of the Premises—

J. T. Kempe
Advocate General

DS, UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/300/11. Docketed: "New York Court of Vice Admiralty./Libel./The Advocate General/on the relation of/Cornthwaite Ommaney Esq^r/V^s/Galley *Crane*./filed the 18 March 1778." A similar libel was filed on 18 Mar. against the Continental Army galley *Independence*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/360/11.

1. Connecticut Navy galley *Crane*. See NDAR 6: 1181, 1183, 1317–18, 1510.

2. Jehiel Tinker.

NEWS FROM NEW YORK CITY

NEW-YORK, March 18.

On Saturday [*last*] the *Harriet* Packet, Capt. Spargo,¹ brought in here the *Sea-Nymph*, of Philadelphia, Woodhouse,² Master, from Mastrandt, in Sweden, laden

with gunpowder, sulphur, salt, &c. which he took on his passage from Falmouth. The *Sea-Nymph's* cargo was smuggled from Jutland, where two schooners from Biddeford, were taking on board similar commodities. Woodhouse, previous to his departure, was sent for by the governor, who ordered him, at his peril, not to receive any military stores on board his vessel; but the Agent of the Congress, at that place invited him to a party of pleasure, and kept him four days, during which, the prohibited goods were shipped. She sailed from thence, January 13th and was taken the 1st inst. . . .

Tuesday last arrived the ship *Viscount De Vaux*,³ Pierre Marie Donnat,⁴ master from Port l'Orient, in France, laden with woollens and other goods, calculated to alleviate the distress of Mr. Washington's army. She is a vessel of 600 tons burden, mounts 24 carriage guns, and was taken on the 23d ult. off the Capes of Virginia, while cleared and ready to engage, by the brave and vigilant Capt. Symonds,⁵ of his Majesty's ship *Solebay*. The loss of this cargo will be severely felt by the rebels.

Same day was sent in here by his Majesty's ship *St. Albans*, a large Sweedish ship,⁶ of size similar to the prize above-mentioned. She was bound from Cadiz for Virginia, with a cargo of military stores and salt. It is said that she has upwards of 20 pieces of brass cannon in her hold. She was loaded along side of the large Dutch vessel⁷ that was taken sometime ago by the intrepid Sir James Wallace, in the *Experiment*.

Also arrived the ship *Lydia*,⁸ laden with tobacco, taken in Chesapeak Bay, by the *Solebay* and *Richmond* men of war.

At the same time the schooner *Newport*,⁹ J. Gross, master, from Boston, bound to Virginia, was sent into this port by Capt. Symonds of the *Solebay*.

The Letter of Marque brig *Loyal Subject* of Glasgow, commanded by Capt. Andrew Syme, who has been only ten days out from this port on a cruize, brought in with her, on Monday last, the following prizes, taken off Cape Hatteras, viz.—

Schooner *Bedford*, Thomas Maxfield, from New-England, in ballast; schooner *Joseph*, Abraham Tappan, from New-England, in ballast; schooner *Rachael*, Purnell Johnston, from Bermuda, with salt; brig *Sally*, Samuel Tucker, from ditto, with ditto; sloop *Henry*, Capt. Moody,¹⁰ from Hispaniola, laden with dry goods. Letters were found in these vessels, addressed to the hon. Joseph Hughes¹¹ and John Lawrie, Esqrs. of Carolina, ordering that a cargo of Tobacco should be immediately put on board of them, consigned to Guardsque and sons,¹² at Bilboa, in Spain, for which place they were to proceed.

Rivington's *The Royal Gazette* (New York), 21 Mar. 1778.

1. H.M. packet *Harriot*, Sampson Spargo, commander.

2. Brig *Molly* [formerly *Sea Nymph*], Thomas Woodhouse, master. See NDAR 10: 907–9, 909n, 967, 1010, 1033, 1033n.

3. French ship *Vicomte de Vaux*, a merchantman with a letter of marque.

4. Pierre Marie Donat de La Garde. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/471/10.

5. Capt. Thomas Symonds, R.N.

6. Swedish ship *Louisa Ulrica* [*Louisa Udrique*], Peter Arvidson, master, which was taken by H.M.S. *Senegal* on 18 Mar. (or 21 Mar.) in Lynnhaven Bay, Va. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. See Journal of H.M.S. *Senegal*, 21 and 22 Mar., and Captain Richard Onslow to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

7. Dutch ship *Vrouw Margarita*, Geele Joches Ruyter, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 14 Jan., above.

8. Maryland State trading ship *Lydia*, Ignatius Fenwick, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 9 Feb., and Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 9 Feb., above.

9. Schooner *Newport*, John Groce, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 5 Mar., above.

10. James Moody. UkLPR, H.C.A. 32/352/5.
11. Joseph Hewes of Edenton, N.C.
12. Joseph Cardoqui & Sons.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

[*Valley Forge*] Head Quarters 18th March 1778.

Sir,

I have the honor of transmitting you the inclosed letter from General Smallwood,¹ giving intelligence of the Enemys motions in the Delaware, and his conjectures respecting their object—the account he has heard of troops being on board the Vessels is confirmed by the relations of deserters and others, who agree that a considerable number of men have been embarked and add that they took seventeen days provision with them—from this circumstance it is scarcely to be imagined that they are ordered on a Sea Voyage—The proportion of small Vessels in the Fleet makes it probable that they have in view to collect forage or attempt the destruction of the Salt-works, and both these ideas are favoured by accounts from the City.

As soon as their intentions are certainly known, they shall be communicated; in the mean time, I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect [&c.]

G^c: Washington

L, DNA, PCC, item 152, vol. 5, pp. 405–7 (M247, roll 168). Addressed: “The honorable/Henry Laurens Esquire/President of Congress/York.” Docketed: “Gen. Washington of/18 March 1778/recd 23^d.” Notation: “Letter from gene-/ral Washington—/18 March 1778—/inclosing one from gene-/ral Smallwood—.” The cover of the letter is signed “G^c: Washington.”

1. Brigadier General William Smallwood to General George Washington, 17 Mar., above.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD

Sir

H^d Q^{rs} V F. March 18 1778

I am favor'd with yours of the 15th.¹ which you will find fully answer'd by a letter which I wrote you upon the 14th. Inst.² by Cap^t Huston.³ As the N^o. Carolina Troops, now serving on Board the Gallies are exceedingly wanted with their Reg^{ts} I must insist that they be sent to Camp immediately on their return from below under the care of some officer of Foot, and one of the officers of Light Horse to prevent their stragling. I am &c

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: “Col^o. W^m. Bradford.” Bradford was colonel of the Philadelphia Associators, as well as chairman of the Pennsylvania Navy Board.

1. Actually 14 Mar. See Pennsylvania Navy Board to General George Washington, 14 Mar., above.
2. Actually 15 Mar. See General George Washington to Pennsylvania Navy Board, 15 Mar., above.
3. Capt. Thomas Houston, Pennsylvania Navy.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO COLONEL BENJAMIN FLOWER

Sir

[*Valley Forge*] Head Quarters 18th: March 1778

As Seven of the Gallies at Bordentown are to be stripped and Sunk, not having men Sufficient to work them, I desire you will send down travelling Carriages to remove the fine heavy Cannon belonging to them. If you have not carriages ready for the whole, send down as many as you have, with orders to remove part of

them at first some distance from the Water and then return for the remainder—I depend upon you doing this immediately upon rec^d of my letter, as the Cannon are liable to be taken away or destroyed should the Enemy come up the River, and we have none of Equal weights to replace them. I am Sir [&c.]

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Col^o. Benj Flower/or His deputy/Allen Town." Docketed: "[18] Mar. 1778/Col^o. B. Flowers/or His Deputy/at/Allen Town." He commanded Flower's Artillery Artificer Regiment.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO ROBERT LIGHTBODY

By &c. &c.

The Master of the *George* Armed Sloop being Suspended by Order of His Excellency S^r William Howe, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America; You are hereby authorised and required to take upon You the Charge of Commander of the said Armed Sloop *George*, the Officers and Ships Company being hereby directed to obey your Orders. And when You shall have received the Generals Dispatches onboard You are to proceed with the said Sloop, using all possible expedition, to New York; where you are to put yourself under the Command of Commodore Hotham, and follow his Orders for your further proceedings.—

Given &c. [*on board the Roebuck at Philadelphia*] 18th March 1778

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), p. 28. Addressed at foot: "To/M^r Rob^t Lightbody/hereby appointed to Command/the Armed Sloop *George*."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PEARL*, CAPTAIN JOHN LINZEE

March 1778

[*at anchor off Wilmington*]

Wednesday 18.

At 6 AM Weigh'd & Sail'd, at 10 Anch^d with the S. Bower in 4½ f^m: muddy bottom Reedy point bearing.[*blank*] Got the Cables up between Decks & the Orlop Found riding here His Majesty's Ship *Camilla* & a Number of Foraging Vessels. At Noon the *Camilla* Weigh'd with a number of the Vessels under her cover going to Salem.¹

Reedy Point [*west*]

The first and middle part light breezes & fair, the latter fresh breezes & cloudy PM Fir'd a Gun at a Number of Rebels on the Pennsylvania shore who Fir'd upon our Boat as reconnoitring the Shore.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/675, fol. 39.

1. H.M.S. *Camilla*, H.M. galley *Cornwallis* and a number of flat boats under the command of Capt. Charles Phipps on a foraging expedition up Salem Creek.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *CAMILLA*, CAPTAIN CHARLES PHIPPS

March 1778

Newcastle N^o 7 or 8 Miles Ready Island S ½ W 2 Miles.

Wednesd^y 18.

at 9 AM Anchored here His Majesty's Ship the *Pearl*. at 10 made the Signal for the Fleet to Weigh, Weighed and Came to Sail

nearer the Jersey Shore, Anchored with the Best B^r in 4 fathom Water. sent an Officer and 13 Men onboard the *Cornwallis* Galley at 11 most of the Fleet went up Selam Creek. in Order to take onboard Hay & Forage &ca.

ditto

Light Breezes and Cloudy Wea^r

PM received onboard 11 Rebel Prisoners taken by our Troops at Selam at 7. the Officer & 13 Men returned with the *Cornwallis* Galley. and brought with them a Rebel Gunboat¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/157, fol. 98.

1. Probably the Pennsylvania Navy armed boat *Fame* (No. 71), mounting one 3-pounder, taken in Red Lyon Creek just above Reedy Point. See Master's Journal of H.M. Galley *Cornwallis*, 18 Mar., and *The Pennsylvania Ledger: or the Philadelphia Market-Day Advertiser*, 25 Mar. 1778, below.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY *CORNWALLIS*, LIEUTENANT THOMAS SPRY

March 1778 At Anchor off Reedy point
 Wednesday 18 at 9 A:M. Anchord here his majestys ship *Pearl* ½ p^t 11 weighd
 and came to sail up the river
 Working up the River
 First part Fresh Breezes middle and Latter moderate at 2
 P:M. Anchord off a Cannel in New Castle Bite in ¼ 2 fathom
 water and Landed Our people with the Additional marines
 from the *Camilla* and Marched to the head of Red Lyon Creek
 and took a Gun boat and Bro^t her off^l at 5 weighd and came
 to sail at 7 Anchord Close to the *Camilla* off Reedy point

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1676, part 2, fol. 37.

1. Probably the Pennsylvania Navy armed boat *Fame*, No. 71. See Journal of H.M.S. *Camilla*, 18 Mar., above, and *The Pennsylvania Ledger: or the Philadelphia Market-Day Advertiser*, 25 Mar. 1778, below.

LUTHER MARTIN TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

It is with real Pain, I Inform your Excellency that the disaffected Inhabitants of this County,¹ joind as I have Reason to believe by many of the Inhabitants of Sussex² who have fled from their homes to avoid falling into the hands of some of our Troops who are Stationed there, have arrived to so daring Height of Insolence and Villainy that there appears but very little Security for the Lives or property of any person who from political or other Reasons are obnoxious to them.

Several Boats loaded with Tobacco, Wheat Flower &c have been taken away from Pocomoke, Jones Creek, Wicomico, and that very recently; Bodies of armed Men have within these few nights past been seen passing and repassing in the County. Persons in the law or part of it particularly one John Sterling, a Deserter, are openly and avowedly enlisting Men and Sending them aboard the Ships. But their Conduct last Night is yet more alarming—A party amou[*nting*] to Sixteen in Number commanded by Sterling made an attack upon the House of M^r David Wilson of Monocan³ a Cap^t of the Militia whose Zeal and Activity had distin-

guished him—they shot through the Door and badly wound'd him, tho' it is hoped not mortally, in the Shoulder, and took away his Arms—W^m Winder Son Esq^r a M^r Venables and one or two more were in their beds in the House at the time—Sterling told them they were his Prisoners and ordered them to get ready to go with him and in the mean time placed Guards at the Doors and out Houses but M^r Venables jumping out of an upper Window was fortunate enough to escape unperceived, which when they discovered, apprehensive that the Neighbourhood would be alarmed they decamped hastily leaving their Prisoners behind—This happened about three in the Morning

Near about the same time another Smaller party headed by Isaac Costin, as 'tis said, went to Cap^t John Williams about Eight miles lower with the same intent but M^r Williams and a Gentleman who was with him having got notice in time was prepared to receive them upon which they departed. Whether any others have met with the Same Treatment I have not yet heard

The Militia Officers are calling Some of the Militia out upon the Occasion but I am apprehensive it will be but of little lasting Utility—Should the disaffected be too weak to resist they will make their Escape by water, there being no armed Boats to prevent them, and as soon as they shall learn the Militia are disbanded they will return back to cause fresh Disturbance and those of the Militia who Shall have Shown themselves most active against them will probably be the first objects of their Violence

I would Submit it to your Excellency whether it would not be much more likely to secure the Peace of this place if a Company of a hundred Men or thereabouts, one half of which to be horse, under proper Officers were to be embodied and taken into constant pay and Stationed in this County—The expence of which in all Probability would not be much more considerable than what will attend the frequent calling the Militia into actual Duty, while the real Service of Such Company constantly embodied, and consequently a constant Check upon the disaffected would be infinitely greater, ~~while~~ at the Same time I presume their Superior Strictness of Discipline would be in some degree a Security against those outrages of which there has been to much Reason to complain in Cases where the Militia have in actual duty and which Serve rather to exasperate than intimidate—if beside Such a Company, a Galley or armed Boat of Some kind was to be Stationed in Annamessex^t where I am told She might be very Safe as to the Ships, in order to cutt of the Communication between the Disaffected and the Shipping we Should soon I flatter myself, be in peace and Safety, and the Principal offenders be brought to Justice, of which at present there is so little prospect that the Sheriff does not dare go to Annamessex to Summon Witnesses against the Criminals who await their Trial at the Special Court, and So[me] of the most material Witnesses live in that Neighbourhood which I fear will prevent a Possibility of proceeding against them at the Adjournment without manifest Injustice to the State

Should it be judged expedient to embody a Company to be Stationed here I would beg leave to inform your Excellency that M^r William Jones a Nephew of Samuel Wilson Esq^r and of the Gentleman last Night wounded, a young Gentleman who has served this last Campaign with Credit in the office of first Lieutenant in one of the Sixteen Regiments and has or expects to leave the Army in Consequence of the Reduction of those Regiments would with pleasure act in

the Service of the State in the office of first Lieutenant of Horse if any Should be raised or, if no Horse, in the foot. He is a youth of a good family and independant Fortune, possesd of Zeal for the Cause of the Country and endowed with Resolution Sufficient to execute his Duty I remain [&c.]

Luther Martin

Princess Anne, [*Md.*] March y^e 18th 1778

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Portfolio), S 992, 5429-60Z. Addressed at the foot: "His Excellency Thomas Johnson Esq^r"

1. Somerset County, Md.
2. Sussex County, Del.
3. Manokin, Md.
4. Big Annemessex River, Md.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Wednesday the 18th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that Mr Archibald Ritchie, deliver to Captain Eliezer Callender what shot he has in his possession belonging to the Navy, for the use of the Ship *Dragon*.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain Eliezer Callender for two hundred Pounds upon account for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the use of the ship *Dragon*.—, Issued by advice of the Governour,

Captain Eliezer Callender received Orders to put the ship *Dragon* under his command in the best order he can, and proceed with her to York, and acquaint the Board thereof.—By advice of the Governour.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 365.

THOMAS SMITH TO CAPTAIN JAMES HOBBS

Captⁿ. James Hobbs

Sir

Williamsburg 18th. March 1778—

With the Schooner *Hornett* now under your Command you will proceed immediately up to Fraizers Ferry where you'll have such necessary Steps taken with her, as will put her in a Situation for the Reception of her Cargo, which I hope may be done in a very short Time. After this done, you must proceed down with her and come into Queens Creek, where the Vessel is to take in her Load, the Tobacco intended for her is lying at the Capitol Landing. As Cap^t Healy¹ tells me the Schooner will want Nothing done, but to heave down and clean, I hope you will exert yourself to have her ready to load in a few Days. I recommend this matter to you in a perticular Manner as it is the first Essay you have made as a Commander in the State Service, and your Industry and good Conduct on this Occasion will in all probability lay a foundation for your Future interests I am [&c.]

Thomas Smith AS [*Agent of the State*]

LB, Vi, Thomas Smith Letter Book, vol. 1.

1. Capt. Samuel Healey was the former commander of *Hornet*.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber at
Pensacola on Wednesday the 18th day of March 1778—

His Excellency laid before the Board the following Letters from New orleans &C which had been just received by Express Containing farther Intelligence respecting the proceedings of the Rebels in the Mississippi and the same being read were all ordered to be entered on the Minutes as follows

Letter from M^r William Wilton to His Excellency Governor Chester dated N Orleans 8th March 1778—

Sir/

I embrace this opportunity by a Canoe to the Hon^{ble}. John Stuart Esq^r with Letters to inform you that I arrived here Yesterday in the afternoon where I found every thing in the greatest Confusion many Planters Totally ruined by the Rebels taken their Negroes &C they have sent down the River and is in this Town about Sixty and many others on Board the Ship¹ with property taken at Manchack &C. as well as from many other Plantations, whose Negroes there are in this Town I cannot learn only some belonging to M^r Comyn² Pousett³ &C Your Negroes and M^r Livingstons⁴ are said all to be taken by Elliot⁵ which have Joined Willings⁶ Party at Manchac, they are now a Searching all the Plantations for Negroes &C They have a large property on Board the Ship which is on ground about three Miles below Manchac which they propose as soon as they can get her off to bring to this Town and Sell the Negroes &C the whole Number is about Two hundred Men & Boys the greatest Banditti that was ever seen and them divided into three Parties about Thirty or Forty on Board the Ship & about fifty in this Town the remains on Board the Brig⁷ they have taken about nine Leagues below the Town of New orleans and at the Spanish side of the River They are now bringing her up to this Town She belongs to John Campbell laden with Lumber and Bound to the West Indies. These Rebels may with a Small party soon be dispersed and taken as they are the greatest part of them Joined Willing since his coming in this River.

I waited on the Governor⁸ yesterday but did not deliver your Letter or let him know I was any ways concerned in the Ship as you directed The Governor asked me many Questions whether you had heard any thing of it at Pensacola I told him I believed you had but only believed they were a Small Robber Party but of little Consequence and that I believed You relied if they attempted to take any thing from Manchack as it was under your Guns you would give Protection; to that he answered he could not interfere with as it was out of his Dominions it is thought here he will Suffer all the property taken to be sold here at Publick Vendue, there have been Numbers of Negroes taken from his side of the River. Pollock⁹ has declared himself Agent for the Congress—As M^r Campbell has sent down to M^r Stuart very full accounts of the whole Transactions with the Capitulation of the Inhabitants of the Natchez with Willing I refer you to these accounts which you may relie on to be facts I shall inform Captain Ferguson¹⁰ of the Situation of the Rebels on this River and that depend with great Secresy—and Should I have any thing further relating to the Province shall not fail of Acquainting Your Excellency with it by the first Conveyance I am [&c.]

W^m Wilton

Copy of an anonymous Letter¹¹ to M^r John Campbell Merchant at N orleans dated Point Coupeé 1st March 1778.

Dear Campbell

You have no doubt heard of the decent of the Americans and that they have carried every thing before them with fire and Sword by what I can learn. M^r Willing left Philadelphia with 27 Men & that he hath been reinforced on the Rivers to the Number of a hundred or thereabouts—The Natchez declared for the United States almost to a Man. Harry Stuarts House has been plundered and he himself narrowly Escaped, being at Manchack. The Vessel at Manchack was taken by Surprise¹²—Negroes and every thing Else, belonging to Comyns have been taken. But Bowker¹³ is Spared—The half of Castle's¹⁴ Negroes are Seized as the property of Smith. The houses of Walker and Alexander¹⁵ are burned to the Ground and as many of their Negroes as could be Caught are in their Possession. They are now gone down towards Batton Rouge—We understand from the French People that their Intention is to plunder and destroy all the way down to Manchack those whom they do not Consider as their Friends They have Got a Black list containing the names of Persons who are to be destroyed. I have learned the names of many, Alexander, Dunbar,¹⁶ Rob Ross, Taylor,¹⁷ Poussett, Williams¹⁸ and in Short all Royalists & Scotchmen—They ought to be now at Poussetts and his House will Probably be burned his Negroes have been removed to a Place of Safety—After leaving Manchack the Amit [*Amite River*] and Lakes are their next objects and they Come to Orleans by the Bayou of S^t John's where they expect to sell their Booty after which they return up the River—This is the Plan they have given out tho' it may not be their real Intentions—I have fortunately fallen in with M^r Alexander here who had he been caught was to have been cut into a hundred Pieces—so they declared at the Fort here—We want your advice what is best to be done in the present Emergencies perhaps you can procure Permissions for us from the Governor to Settle with our Negroes here for a Season. I believe we shall save the greatest part of them—We have received much Friendship and Hospitality from the people here—M^r Willings Party is considered by every Body here as a Band of Robbers & Plunderers. Their Chief Aim is to Seize Negroes and other property without Inquiring your Principals—whether for or against them Three Companies of men upon the River would have prevented all this & I do not see what is to prevent their being Subdued even Yet. Alex^r Ross will be Fleed alive if they Catch him and I'm told that Dunbars Principal Crime is having harboured him in his House at Baton Rouge & a Supposition, that they were Connected together in the Plantation

To M^r John Campbell }
N Orleans— }

To John Stuart Esq^r

D^r Sir—

You must long before this heard of the Party of Americans that is come down the River we were here uncertain of their Numbers untill Two days ago. their friends gave out that there was at least 2000 Men; as those Stories may be carried to you Morgan¹⁹ Jointly with me have Employed the Bearer to whom we promised

30 Dollars. The Party is Commanded by a M^r Willing and a Lieut: M^cIntyre²⁰ They left Fort Pit the beginning of January last being then only 35 Men but recruited as they came down and before they got to Natchez was above 100—the People there Capitulated—a Copy you have Inclosed²¹—and many Joined them—and some they pressed finding themselves growing Strong—they did not Treat the Inhabitants below with the same lenity for they took all the Negroes and Property of those who they knew to be Friends to Government & have now in this Town at least 150 or Two hundred Negroes Governor Chesters among the Number—Eighteen men took the Ship at Manchack²² and then went to your Brothers but he luckily made his Escape to the Spanish Fort where he is now in Safety tho' they offered 500 Dollars too for his Head to the Corporal which he Refused. The small Party was Magnified in a Written Account sent by a M^r Livingston to a M^r Jones from 18. to 180 Rifle men which he said he saw himself at M^r Carpenters.²³ this tho' under M^r Livingstons hand we know to be False. M^cIntyre is now here & has been down at the Rivers Mouth where he took a Brig of Mine²⁴—Captain Willing is bringing down the Ship; their whole numbers does not exceed 200 Men & on the least resistance most of those will disperse nor do they by their own Accounts expect any Reinforcement sooner than May—if then if the *Atalanta*²⁵ will come into the River She will save the Vessel yet—The Spanish Governor to do him Justice has given a Friendly Protection to all those that came to the Spanish Territories I am [&c.]

Don^d. Campbell—

Copy of M^r W^m. Wiltons Letter to the Hon^{ble}.

David Hodge Esq^r dated N Orleans 8th. March 1778—

D^r Sir—

I embrace this opportunity of informing you that I arrived here last night where I found every thing in the greatest Confusion. almost all the Planters Robbed of their Negroes,

there is about 60 in Town and it is imagined will be put up to Publick Sale Many more is on Board the Ship²⁶ which is aground about a League below Manchack Willing and about 30 Men is Trying to get her off. their party would be easily taken they have taken a Brig²⁷ belonging to M^r John Campbell about Nine Leagues below the Town and at the Spanish Shore—all the Governors and M^r Livingstons Negroes are said to be taken by Elliot who have joined the Rebels. in Short every thing here is in the Greatest Confusion, all the Property it is said to be on Board the Ship taken from Manchack except some Indigo Swanson²⁸ and others have taken to the Spanish Fort. The whole Number of Rebels is about Two hundred men and must have joined them since their arrival in this River they are now Divided into three Parties about 30 or 40 on Board the Ship some at New orleans and the remainder on Board Campbells Brig below the Town to bring the Brig to New Orleans. Pollock have declared himself Agent for the Congress

I waited on the Governor Yesterday but did not deliver the Governors Letter as the Ship was not come down. it is thought if they do not get her off that they will set her on Fire. I did not acquaint the Governor what I came for here or that I had the least concern in the Vessel The Governor Ask'd me many Questions whether they had heard of the Americans being in the Mississippi. I told him we had that a Small Robbing Party had taken a Ship at Manchack, but the Governor

paid but little regard to it I believed that if it was true that his Fort at Manchack would protect the property there being within the reach of his Guns He gave for answer that he had nothing to do with it every one here thinks he will Suffer all the property to be sold. As M^r Campbell is Just going to send off a Boat with Letters to M^r Stuart with the Capitulation of the Inhabitants of the Natchez I refer you to these Letters which you may rely on for Truth I am &C.

W^m Wilton

P S I shall send down a Canoe to Cap^t Fergusson at the Balise informing him of all Particulars here if I can get a Man I can trust; I expect the mate of the Ship here, if he arrives Shall send him.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Burdon of His Majestys Armed Sloop the *West Florida* to His Excellency Governor Chester dated in the Lake Pontchartrain 3^d March 1778—

Sir.

I have just received an Account that the Rebels are coming through the lakes by the Person I had wrote to you I had sent up to enquire & I hope he will arrive safe with Letters from People that are true. You may depend upon him, I hope to have the *Florida* Sloop in the Lakes by tomorrow or next day. They have an intention to attack me but I hope I shall give them play till I shall hear from you or Capⁿ Lloyd for I shall not come out of the Lakes till I am obliged to fly I am &C

Ge^o Burdon

P S. I shall put the people to allowance but I hope by the *Florida* I shall receive Provisions²⁹

Letter from M^r Philip Moore to His Excellency Governor Chester dated Batton Rouge 24th February 1778—

Sir

Notwithstanding I have not the honor of your Excellencys acquaintance Yet my Zeal for His Majestys Service prompts me to inform you of the following Intelligence. Yesterday a negroe of M^r Watts returned here from Manchack and brought up Accounts, that the Rebels were there, that they had taken Possession of the Ship *Rebecca* Cox, that he saw Several men on Board her & in Town with Rifle Guns and Blanket Coats, that they had been hunting for M^r Henry Stuart who had fortunately Fled to the Spanish Fort with all the Negroes of Manchack that they (the Rebels) came the night before the last the Negroe was not acquainted with their Numbers, but Imagined they were about Twenty five, & that they intended to take the Ship down the next day when they were to be joined by the rest of their Party. This fellow has been Cross Examined and Persists in the same Accounts— Soon after the above a White man that lives on M^r Henry Stuarts Plantation at Point Coupeé arrived from thence with accounts that a Party of about three or four hundred men had destroyed every thing about the Plantation. besides Capⁿ Cox Ship there are Several other Vessels in the River, if the Rebels have force Sufficient they will undoubtedly take them but it is to be wished that they will be Stopped by some of His Majestys Ships before they get far out of this River I have a Vessel here which I am Trading with Provisions for Governor Tonnyn, which I ex-

pect every moment will fall into the hands of the Enemy as there is no Force assembled here to oppose them.

Your Excellency will be pleased to Excuse the Inaccuracy of this Letter as I have been upon the Watch all night I have the Honor to be [&c.]

Philip Moore—

Thomas Gibson the man who brought all the said Letters (except the one (N^o 5) from Lieut: Burdon which came by Henry Smith through the lakes) being then called before the Board Gave the following Information upon Oath

West Florida Information upon Oath of
Thomas Gibson Mariner belonging to the Brig
Neptune John Knowles Master now laying in the
River Mississippi taken at Pensacola before His
Excellency Peter Chester Esquire Captain
General and Governor in Chief of His Majestys
Province of West Florida &Ca. in Council

This Informant saith That Wednesday the fourth day of this Month he being on Board the Brig *Neptune* John Knowles Master then laying about Eleven Leagues below New Orleans laden with Lumber and outward Bound to Jamaica a Party of the Rebels in Number about Forty Commanded by M^cIntyre & Harrison³⁰ (two of their officers boarded the said Brig *Neptune* and Seized her that on Seizing her they took the Master (John Knowles, three Passengers, to Wit, M^r John Priest Capⁿ Benjamin Hodgson & M^{rs}. Hamilton this Informant and the rest of the People out of her & put them on Board their Batteau and carried them up to New orleans—where the Passengers were set ashore—and the Brigs Seamen ordered with their Chests &C to M^r Pollocks the Rebel Agent where their said Chests were Examined—That the Rebels wanted to detain the Seamen offering them great Encouragement if they would enter in their Service and go on Board the Ship which they had taken but their Seamen all refused and put themselves under the Spanish Governors Protection That this Informant understood while he was at New orleans that the Governor had assigned the Rebels Quarters in a large Old House on the other side the River opposite to the Town That he Saw Several Negroes at Orleans which the Rebbels had Seized on the English Settlements on the River and he understood there were near Two hundred Negroes in all. That those he said were going in droves along the Streets (and as he was told) to M^r Pollocks House there to be Vendued for which it was said he had the Governors Permission That he also heard the Spaniards had bought Several of the said Negroes very Cheap That he left New orleans on Sunday the Eight Instant in a Small Canoe & came to the Bay of Mobile & thence in an open Boat to this place, where he arrived late last night And this Informant farther saith That as they were Rowing up to New Orleans from the Brig at the time she was taken the Rebels in the Batteau told him that they Intended to go to Mobile and thence (if Strong enough in Numbers) to proceed to Pensacola—And farther Saith not

Sworn in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola on Wednesday the
18th. day of March 1778 before
His Excellency in Council

Attest^r Rich^d Combauld D Cler Concii

The advice of the Board being then desired upon the Papers before them

The Board unanimously recommended to His Excellency that Joseph Nunn and Thomas Lloyd Esquires Commander of His Majestys Sloops of War *Hound* and *Atalanta* now lying in this Harbour be requested to Assist at the Board and that the said Several Papers be laid before them These Gentlemen being accordingly sent for came into Council and the Several Letters abovementioned together with the Information being read to them The Board advise the Governor to request of Captain Nunn that he do proceed Immediately to the River Mississippi and Join the *Sylph* in Protecting this Province from the farther Incursions of the Rebels and that either the *Hound* or the *Sylph* be requested to go as high up the River as Manchack in order to dislodge any of the Rebels who may remain there & to intercept such of them as may attempt to Escape up that River And that Captain Lloyd be requested to remain here with the *Atalanta* for the defence and Protection of the Province untill such further Intelligence can be obtained of the Strength and designs of the Enemy as may Render that measure unnecessary

Whereupon His Excellency wrote the following Letters to the said Gentlemen³¹

Sir/

The proceedings of a party of the Rebels under the Command of a M^r James Willing Joined by a large Body of Banditti who have plundered the Inhabitants of the Province on the River Mississippi and carried their Negroes and Other property to New Orleans to be disposed of there as Communicated to You this day in Council Renders it necessary that some reinforcement Should be Immediately sent to His Majestys Sloop of War *Sylph* Captain Fergusson now lying in the said River—And the Inclosed Extracts of a Letter from Lord George Germain to me dated the 25th. January 1776. together with the Copy of his Lordships Letter to the Lords of the Admiralty dated Whitehall 22^d January 1776 as likewise the Inclosed Extracts of Lord George Germain's Letters to me of the 7th February & 2^d July 1777. authorizeing me to make the Application in Cases of like Emergency³²—It becomes my Duty to apply to you which I now do by the advice of His Majestys Council to proceed Immediately to the River Mississippi and Join the *Sylph* in Protecting this Province from the farther Incursions of the Rebels. It has been further recommended to me by the Council to request that either yourself or Captain Fergusson would proceed with one of His Majestys Ships as high up the Mississippi as Manchack in order to dislodge any of the Rebels who may remain there and to Intercept such of them as may attempt to Escape up that River and the other to be Stationed in such part of the said River as you may think most advantageous to His Majestys Service—

I have not the least Doubt that your Great Zeal for His Majestys Interest will induce you to Cooperate in any measure that can tend to the preservation and Security of West Florida and am upon this Occasion to thank you for Your Chearfull Compliance with such propositions as have been already made to you this day in Council I have the Honor to be [&c.]

Council Chamber Pensacola }
18th March 1778 }

P^r. Chester

It was also recommended to His Excellency that the Commanding Officer of the Troops be requested to send one hundred men if to be Spared from the necessary Duty of this Garrison to reinforce those already in the lakes—to Cooperate with the party of Rangers & Indians sent to the Nitabanie³³ and upon receiving certain Intelligence that the Rebels are not in Force to proceed to take Possession of the Settlement of Manchack and also to keep up a Correspondence with His Majestys Ships in the River Mississippi and Lieut: Burdon of the *West Florida* in the Lakes.

Lieutenant Colonel Stiell³⁴ being then requested to attend at the Board His Excellency made the above requisition at the same time desiring his Opinion thereupon to which the Lieut: Colonel replied that in his Opinion not One man could at this time be spared from the defence of this Garrison on account of the extensive line he had to defend and if they could be spared the Fort at Mobile ought to be the first reinforced—That his orders on leaving England were Expressly to defend Pensacola but should His Excellency think proper to give him any orders on the Subject he should conceive it his Duty to obey them. Upon which representation of Lieut: Colonel Stiell and the Captains of the Garrison having Unanimously given it as their opinion to His Excellency a few days ago that no Troops could be Spared from the Strength of this Garrison The Governor did not think proper to give Lieutenant Colonel Stiell any Positive orders for that purpose at present.

The Board farther advised that application be made to Colonel Stuart the Superintendant to send a Party of such Rangers as could be spared and a Body of Indians under the Command of a Captain to the Natchez and that Colonel Stuart be offered a Guard or Centries at his House for his Protection from the Troops in Garrison in Lieu of the Rangers he may send off

And then the Board adjourned to Six oClock this evening.

D, UKLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 264–72.

1. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.
2. Thomas Comyn or Valeris Stephen Comyn, planters at Baton Rouge/Point Coupée.
3. Francis Poussette, planter at Baton Rouge/Point Coupée.
4. Philip Livingston, Jr., planter at Manchac.
5. Lt. James Elliot, Continental Army.
6. Capt. James Willing, Continental Army.
7. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.
8. Don Bernardo de Gálvez.
9. Oliver Pollock, Continental Commercial Agent at New Orleans.
10. Comdr. John Fergusson, R.N., commanding H.M. sloop *Sylph*.
11. The writer was William Dunbar. See the docketing on the copy of the letter in UKLPR, PRO 30/55, Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, no. 968.
12. Ship *Rebecca*.
13. Thomas Bowker, planter at Natchez.
14. George Castle, planter at Natchez.
15. Henry Alexander, settler at Natchez.
16. William Dunbar, planter at Natchez.
17. Edward Taylor, settler at Natchez.
18. William Williams, settler at Natchez.
19. Patrick Morgan. "Mr Ross," in the copy in *ibid.*, no. 997 (2).
20. Lt. Thomas McIntyre, Continental Army.
21. For the text of the capitulation, see Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 17 Mar., above.
22. Ship *Rebecca*.
23. Caleb or Richard Carpenter, planters at Natchez.

24. Brigantine *Neptune*.
25. H.M. sloop *Atalanta*, Comdr. Thomas Lloyd, commander.
26. Ship *Rebecca*.
27. Brigantine *Neptune*.
28. William Swanson.
29. "P.S. I have put the people at 2/3^d allowance but I hope by the *Florida* I shall receive Provisions" in the copy in UKLPR, C.O. 5/129, 40-41.
30. Richard Harrison, settler at Manchac.
31. Only the first letter (to Comdr. Joseph Nunn) is printed here. The wording of the second letter (to Comdr. Thomas Lloyd) is essentially the same, except for ordering him to remain at Pensacola with the *Atalanta*.
32. See Gov. Peter Chester to Capt. William Garnier, R.N., in Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 5 Mar., above.
33. Natalbany River.
34. Lt. Col. William Stiell, commanding British troops at Pensacola.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola on Wednesday the 18th. day of March 1778—
at 6 oClock P.M.

His Excellency mentioned to the Board that as Colonel Stuart Superintendant¹ (who is a Member of this Board) is so much Indisposed as to be unable to give attendance and assist with his advice at the Council He thought it very proper that a Deputation of four Members should be sent to him, to acquaint him with what had been done at this Board, in the Forenoon and to request his advice and opinion upon the Steps necessary to be pursued on the present occasion to the intent he may be enabled to Cooperate by Adopting such measures in his department as may Tend most to the Security and protection of the Province and in dispersing the Rebels—Accordingly Lieut: Governor Durnford² Mr Livingston³ L^t. Col: Dickson⁴ & Captain Johnstone⁵ being nominated for this Service waited on Colonel Stuart and after sometime returned with Extracts of the orders Colonel Stuart had already given to the different officers in his Department which are as follows.

Mr Stuart the Superintendants Instructions and Letters to his different officers as follows

Wrote Mr Charles Stuart the 2^d March 1778—To Assist Mr Bethune⁶ who is now dispatched to March with as many white People as he can Collect together with the Chactaw Six Towns and Chickasaw Indians also to assist him with Provisions and to advise Mr John McIntosh of the same

Mr Bethunes Instructions as follows—To employ the Six Town Indians and the Chickasaw Hayes with all the Traders he can Collect & Mr Charles Stuart either to lead them or employ a Trusty Person so to do.

18th March 1778. Wrote Mr Bethune to Post himself with what Traders white People and Indians he can Collect on the Banks of the Mississippi./—

And a General assurance from that Gentleman that he would chearfully comply with any proposition that might be made for the good of the Service

His Excellency then mentioned to the Board that Colonel Stuart and some other Gentlemen had acquainted him that John Mc Gillivray Esq^r of Mobile had expressed a desire to be employed at this time and to exert his Influence in raising a Number of Men to Act against the Rebels who have penetrated into the Western

parts of the Colony Whereupon the Board unanimously advised His Excellency that Mr John McGillivray Should be thanked for his Zeal & laudable Exertions upon this Occassion and also that he be appointed Lieutenant Colonel Commandant of a Provincial Corps to be forthwith raised by him & employed for the defence and Protection of this Province as His Majestys Service may require to consist of five Captains (whereof the Lt. Colonel to be one) five Lieutenants five Ensigns Ten Sergeants and 250 Rank & File that Mr Alexander McIntosh of the Natchez be appointed First Captain of the said Corps—that the pay of the said Officers be the Same as that of Officers of the like Rank in the Regular Troops—and the mens the same as Colonel Stuarts Rangers; that their Provisions be the same allowance as the Troops have That Arms & Ammunition be furnished to the said Corps—and that Exclusive of their Pay the said Corps of Provincials Shall be entitled to Gratuitous Grants of the like Quantities of Land in the Province (upon the termination of the Rebellion) as the Provincial Troops serving under General Howe⁷ are to have And that they shall continue Embodied during the present Invasion, or if they can be engaged longer for such time as the Kings Service may require—and the better to enable Lt: Col: McGillivray to Compleat his Corps The Board Recommend that a Number of Blank Commissions be sent to be filled up by him with the names of such persons as officers whom he may think can be depended upon and have influence to raise the men—and that whatever Contingencies may be requisite for the said Corps to be defrayed. It was farther recommended that His Excellency do write to Lt Colonel McGillivray on the Subject and that their Corps be ordered to the Natchez with what Number of Indians Mr McGillivray can Collect to assist and Protect the Inhabitants of that District and those of the Western parts of this Colony and to Cut off the retreat of the Rebels upon the Channel of the Mississippi.

The Board also advised His Excellency to make applications to Colonel Stuart for the use of His Sloop She being a Vessel of an Easy Draught of Water & well Calculated for this Service to be sent to reinforce Lieut: Burdon⁸ of *West Florida* in the Lakes And that the Commanding officer of the Navy be applied to (in Case Col: Stuart Comply with this Requisition) to order Lieut: Osborn⁹ and the Seamen of the Armed Sloop *Florida* (lately Condemned as unfit for Service) to go on Board the said Sloop and that another Vessel be hired by Government to carry round Mr Stuarts Indian presents to Mobile—in Lieu of his said Sloop—if Agreed to be lent whereupon Lieut: Governor Durnford offered to wait on Colonel Stuart to make the above Requisition.

His Excellency the Governor was then pleased to mention to the Board that he thought it absolutely necessary at this time when the Province is actually Invaded by a Party of the Rebels that the Inhabitants of this Town & of Mobile do Evince their Loyalty & Firm Attachment to His Majesty & Government and do give the Strongest Proofs of the dependence that can be put on them in Case the Rebels should penetrate farther into the Colony The Board unanimously concurring with His Excellency upon the Expediency of the Measure It was therefore ordered that the Clerk of the Council do by Publick Advertisement Notify & require all and every the Inhabitants of this Town of Pensacola personally to appear before Two or more of His Majestys Justices of the Peace for this District at the Court House within the Fort on Monday the 23^d. Instant at Eleven oClock in the

Forenoon there to take the oath of Allegiance to His Majesty His Heirs & Successors and also to give in a Muster Roll of themselves and Families & what arms & ammunition they are respectively Possessed of and that all defaulters will be deemed disaffected to His Majestys Person & Government—

That the Clerk of this Board do request M^r Martin the Clerk of the Peace to notify the Magistrates of this District thereof and that they are desired to attend at the Court House for that purpose and that he (the Clerk of the Peace) do make a return of all such Persons who have paid due obedience to this order to the Clerk of the Council to be laid before this Board. It was farther directed that a Similar advertisement be published at Mobille & that the Clerk of the Council do write to the Magistrates of that District requesting them to appoint a Short day and some Convenient place for the like purpose and do make a return thereof to him to be also laid before the Board, and then the Board adjourned to tomorrow morning Ten oClock

D, UKLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 272–75.

1. Col. John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs.
2. Lt. Gov. Elias Durnford.
3. Philip Livingston, Jr., Deputy Secretary of the West Florida Council and secretary to Gov. Peter Chester.
4. Lt. Col. Alexander Dickson, 16th Foot.
5. Capt. William Johnstone, ordnance officer, British Army.
6. Farquhar Bethune, Indian Deputy, Southern District, and Commissary for the Choctaw Nation.
7. Gen. Sir William Howe.
8. Lt. George Burdon (2), R.N.
9. Lt. John Osborn (1), R.N.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N.

Sir

In your letter of the 15th instant¹ you demand an immediate restitution of all the Vessels taken in the Mississippi by the American Englishmen, in consequence of the privilege of this River, which I explained in my Correspondence with Captain Lloyd;² but according to Justice or reason, I can give up only those, which, after a long examination, shall be deemed to be in that case; and this examination I was making long before you came to make your demand, and several Subjects of His Britannic Majesty have already recovered their liberty, and the Property, which was taken from them, in consequence of the Spanish Protection, but there are others, to whom the said protection cannot be of any use, tho' they have been taken in this River. You will be surprised that notwithstanding the declaration, which I made to Captⁿ Lloyd, that the whole River enjoyed the protection of Spain, I now permit, that Captures be made in it, but the present circumstances require a more extensive explanation, than those at that time.

The Man of war the *Atalanta* left this Town, on purpose to meet the Ship of War, the *Columbus*, which was said to be within the Balise (and to the Captⁿ of which, I wrote the same words and the same prohibition.)³ It is well known, that my intention was to prevent any engagement between this Town & y^e Belise; which was the only part, in which they could meet, and in which both sides of the river belong to my Sovereign, so that, tho' my Letter mentions the whole river, it was only taking part of the whole, as it frequently happens in conversation. If I had this

reason only on my side, this grammatical defence would be of little value, but to give you the most solid one, give me leave to propose the following questions to you. Does England resign all her rights of the river Mississippi to Spain.

You will answer, certainly not. Can two Sovereigns be in possession of one thing at the same time, and both exert their Sovereignty over the same. Certainly not.

How then is it possible to maintain that from Manchac and upwards the whole breadth of the River belongs to both the Sovereigns, who own it's banks. The Navigation is free to both, but that, and the property are two different things and each Sovereign has his respectively; If the Maritime Powers, by a Mutual agreement, have reserved to themselves as a property, belonging to their Dominions, a portion of the sea, which is within reach of their Cannon, this portion is taken from an Extensive and free Ocean, which knows no Master, and of course, in the River Mississippi from the Belise to Manchac, it is not so, because both sides of the River belong to the same Sovereign. But from Manchac upwards, the immediate Possession of the River, ought to be ascertained from the Middle of the River, from whence to each side, the River belongs to respective owners of the Banks. I have no occasion to give you this explanation, when the last Treaty of Peace⁴ in the sixth Article says.

"To remove for ever all Subjects of dispute with regard to the Limits of the Territories of both Nations. It is agreed, that for the future the Confines of His Britannic Majestys and those of His most Christian Majesty (which now are those of His most Catholic Majesty) shall be fixed irrevocably by a line drawn along the Middle of the River Mississippi from it's source to the River Iberville, and from thence by a line drawn along the Middle of this River, and the Lakes Maurepas and Ponchartrain to the Sea."

I think this is very clear, and that now you will know, that my expression to Captⁿ. Lloyd, of the whole River, could not have any other meaning, but that, which I have explained in the beginning of this Letter, and only meant that part, in which the two Ships could meet one another; because, on the contrary, Spain would be able to prohibit all British Settlements in this River; and suppose, that the expressions of the Treaty of Peace were not so clear, that my reasons were not so weighty, as I know them to be, and that this river actually enjoyed the Immunity from the neighbourhood of the Spanish Territories; with what right can you demand the Spanish protection for the Vessels taken upon the English side, when even on ours, and where we have an incontestable right, this same Immunity, which you represent, has been violated so frequently by the Men of War of His Britannic Majesty.

I have now an Envoy at Pensacola to remind the Governor of the said place, of the outrages committed by the English detachments, up the River upon the Spanish Hunters and Canoes, which came down from the Illinois, firing upon them, and taking the Miserable fruit of their labour. Two years ago an English Man of War took American prizes in this River, and in the Middle of our possessions, with little respect for the same;⁵ and lately a Kings Sloop had the impudence to attack, fire upon & violently stop a Packet of his most Catholic Majesty, which was in this River, and hoisted the Royal Flag, which might have indicated, to whom she belonged;⁶ after such facts, upon what right can you fix your demand.

Notwithstanding those reasons, and forgetting for some time the just resentment for the wrongs done to my Nation, (and from which I will not desist, untill I have obtained a complete satisfaction) It is an impartial justice, which has guided me in taking notice of the Captures made in part of the River, belonging to my Sovereign, on purpose to return them to their first owners; and those, which do not come under that denomination, must follow the fate of war, you remain at liberty to retake them out of the dominions under my command; and in consequence of this Principle, I will fix, thereto, that you have nothing to demand from me, or I to return to you: this being fixed, concludes the object of your pretensions, you may on this head, salute the Town, if you choose (to which I will answer, as I ought to do) and come on shore, where I will have the honor of receiving you. I hope, you will now be sensible, that I have no other reason for admitting the American Colours in this Port, than those, which the rest of the Sea-ports both in Europe and America have, tho' you tell me, that the case is by no means parallel, I think it is and a sound judgement does not depend upon ourselves.

In the course of the day, you shall receive an answer to the other part of your Letter, which being of a different nature, require a separate answer—&c &c &c—
(Signed) Bernardo de Galvez

New Orleans

18th. March 1778

Copy, UklPR, Adm. 1/241. Docketed: "Gov^t. Galvez's Letter to/Captⁿ. Fergusson 18th. March/1778—/In Sir Pet^r. Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778—."

1. Above.

2. Comdr. Thomas Lloyd, commanding H.M. sloop *Atalanta*.

3. See NDAR 8: 957.

4. Treaty of Paris, 10 Feb. 1763.

5. During a cruise to the Mississippi River and vicinity in the summer of 1776, H.M. sloop *Diligence*, Thomas Davey, commander, captured eight vessels. NDAR 5: 1223 and 6: 1168.

6. A British privateer sloop fired on, and stopped, the Spanish packet *Príncipe de Asturias* in the Mississippi on 28 Aug. 1777. NDAR 9: 929–30.

CAPTAIN JAMES WILLING TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

Sir

[*New Orleans, 18 March 1778*]¹

I have had the honor of receiving your Excellency's Letter of the 16th with respect to my making restitution of certain Prizes made by me upon the River Missisipi, to which I must take the Liberty to answer. That the Prize N^o. 1. is a Negro belonging to a British Subject and came on Board a Vessel now the Property of the American States, but as the Master of that Negro was previously under your Excellency's Protection I agree to restore him upon a full reliance that you will procure a like restitution in Case any of the Persons or Property of or belonging to the said American States now or hereafter under your Excellency's protection, shall be inveighled or received on Board any British Vessel now in this River.—That the prize N^o. 2 is a Brigantine² seized upon the River Mississippi on her Voyage to Jamaica and belonging to Subjects of Great Britain Enemy's to the American States; she was seized consonant to the Authority and particular Instructions of my Masters the Hon^{ble}. Congress; and by way of just reprisal for the Seizure of a Number of American Vessels made in this River near two Years ago by a Cap Davy commanding a British Sloop of War named the *Dilligence*³ who even

seized one Brigantine at this Levy and whether this last Capture was made by the Consent of the then Governor of this Province or the Court of Spain, I think it not my Business to require; But apprehend I have an undoubted Right to seize and take the Persons as Prisoners and Property as legal Prize of or belonging to Subjects of Great Britain which I shall find in the River Mississippi or elsewhere not under your Excellency's Immediate Protection, and the Prize in question cannot I apprehend come under that denomination when she was seven Leagues distant from this City on her Voyage to a British Port and carrying British Property.—That the Prize N^o. 3 was seized at the Town of Manchac in his Brittannic Majesty's Dominions by Lieu^t. McIntyre an Officer under my Command, but left in Possession of the late Owner upon Express Condition that he should not remove his Person or any of his Effects from that Place till farther Orders which this Mr Shakespear⁴ faithfully promised, but in direct Violation of his Engagements, he fraudulently and surreptitiously stole away in the Nighttime with the Prize so legally made as will appear by the Affidavits herewith I therefore thought myself well Authorized to retake my Property upon the River, more especially as he was in his flight to Pensacola on Board some British Ship of War, for had he intended to demand an Azylum in this Government and protection for his Property he certainly would have landed these Effects so fraudulently taken away at Spanish Manchac as well as he has done his other Property—The prizes N^o. 4 are delivered up to Messe^{rs} Possett and Marshall⁵ as they were taken on Shore in his Catholick Majesty's Dominions—The Prize N^o. 5. I apprehend to be perfectly legal and justly made being the Property of Persons trading to and from Post S^t Vincents in the British Dominion and supplying the Enemy's of the said American States with Munitions of War and other Merchandize.—They had neither Passports or Protection from any Spanish Officer but must have certainly appeared at Post S^t Vincents in the light of British Traders, and even supposing these Traders to be Subjects of a neutral Power, the Property in question is still equally liable to Confiscation to the said States, for it is notoriously known that during the present Contest between great Britain and the American States, the British Ships never fail to seize, and their Admiralty Courts to condemn as legal Prizes all such Vessels as are found going to or coming from any Port belonging to the American States at War with Great Britain; It is equally the invariable practice of all Nations with respect to the Vessels of Neutral States found to be supplying the Enemy's of either of the Belligerent Powers with Warlike Stores, Arms, Provisions &c and that the Persons in Question have thus acted will evidently appear to your Excellency by Affidavit herewith and farther Testimony may be had if thought necessary by your Excellency—I have the honor to be [&c.]

Copy, DNA, PCC, item 50, pp. 145–47 (M247, roll 64). Notation below close: "Ex^d."

1. The date is approximate. The letter was written between 16 Mar., the date Gálvez last wrote Willing, and 24 Mar., the date Willing next wrote Gálvez.

2. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.

3. During a cruise to the Mississippi R. and vicinity in the summer of 1776, H.M. sloop *Diligence*, Comdr. Thomas Davey, captured eight vessels. NDAR 5: 1223 and 6: 1168.

4. Stephen Shakespear, settler at Manchac.

5. Francis Poussette and William Marshall, planters at Baton Rouge.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

March 1778

Mounti Christi¹ SWbS Dist. 9 or 10 Leag^s.Wednesday 18th:

AM D^o. W^r. [Fresh Breezes & fair] at ½ past 5 Saw a Sail to the S^oward bore up & Gave Chace at ½ past 7 fired 3. 6^{lb}. Shot at the Chace D^o. Shortened Sail & Hove too with her head to the N^oward Hoisted out the Barge & Cutter & sent them Mann'd & Armed after the Chace which we perceived had run on shore & hands quited her At ½ past 9 Sent the Long Boat to the Assistance of the others Monti Christi SBW 2 or 3 Miles At 12 the Sloop Joined Company found that she had Run ashore & all Hands quitted her & by her Papers that was left behind that she was a Rebel Sloop (the *Dove*) from Newberry bound to Cape Francois Loaded with lumber Salt Fish & Spermacita Candles. Sent a Petty Officer with 4 Hands To take Charge of her.²

Monti Christi SSW 5 Miles.

Mod^c. & fair W^r. At 3 [PM] the Prize bore away for Jamaica At 6 Mounti Christi SEbS 4 or 5 Leag^s. dist.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. Montecristi [Mounti Christi, Monti Cristie], Spanish Santo Domingo.

2. Sloop *Dove*, master unknown, with lumber and fish. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

CAPTAIN THOMAS PRINGLE, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG

(Copy)

Ariadne, Carlisle Bay the 18th March 1778—

Sir

I have the honour to acquaint you that early in the Morning of the 9th: Instant I saw two Sail to the Eastward, whom I chased, having His Majesty's Sloop *Ceres* in company.¹ The two Strangers at first shewed a disposition to attack us, but in consequence of the Kings ships having brought the sternmost to close Action about noon the other made off.—The Ship in Action after having given to and received from the *Ariadne* and *Ceres*, some broad sides struck and proved to be the Rebel Ship *Alfred* of twenty nine pounders and one hundred and Eighty Men.—Her consort the *Raleigh* of thirty two guns who with the utmost dispatch we made Sail after and chased from that time untill ten O'Clock the next day, but finding that we did not come up with her and that she was throwing every thing overboard to lighten we left off Chace and hauld our Wind to the Southward to regain the Station exceedingly chagrined to find that even a Copper bottom could not out sail a Ship tho' reduced by lightening to the quality of a skimming dish.

These two Rebel Cruizers had been at Port L'Orient in France to fitt out: and came here to Cruize for the English and Irish convoys having taken the Coast of Guinea in their way.—They had taken no Vessels since their leaving France, but had we not been fortunate enough to fall in with them, their Strength and situation in this country must have been of very fatal consequences to Trade.

My haste to go in search of the English fleet who are momentarily expected deprives me at present of an opportunity of being more full, and must therefore beg your excuse (till I have the honour of paying my respects to you) for any further particulars which you wish to know.

I am Sir [&c.]

(Signed) Thomas Pringle

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed below close: "Vice Admiral Young/Commander in Chief &c &c." Docketed: "18. March 1778—Copy of a Letter/from Captain Thomas Pringle/of His Majesty's Ship *Ariadne*/at Carlisle Bay Barbadoes.—" Endorsed: "In Adm^t Young's Letter/Dated 23^d. March 1778." Enclosure no. 2 in Vice Adm. James Young to Philip Stephens, 23 Mar., which was received on 22 May and read.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh* and ship *Alfred*.

March 19

LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN BURGoyNE TO MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH

Sir

Cambridge March 19 1778

M^r Wilford my aid de Camp is just now returned.¹ I have the honour to transmit to you Copies of all the Resolves of the Congress that I have received.²

As the Congress have been so obliging to leave me a latitude for the place of Embarkation I propose to go by Rhode Island, & shall request your passports to set out with my family in about three days.³ In the mean time Sir I should be obliged to you if you would permit the officer commanding the flag of truce⁴ to come on shore for a few hours. By conversation with him upon the provisions in the transport[s] the means of landing it should it be thought proper, & the expediency of sparing it from the ships a great deal of time might be saved & conveniencies to our materiel arising might ensue. I mean the officer to be under parole not to convey any unopened letters.

I have reason to believe there is a military Chest on board the *Juno* for the use of these troops. I request to know whether you will permit it to be landed & delivered to M: Gen^t Phillips,⁵ parole being given that there are no letters nor other papers therein contained.

I shall be obliged to you for an answer to this as soon as may be, & should wish also to have an interview with you at Cambridge or Boston as you may think proper. I am Sir [&c.]

J: Burgoyne

L, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 9, fol. 37. Addressed at foot of third page: "M: G: Heath." Docketed: "From Gen^t Burgoyne/relative to his having/permission to go home/ and desiring an/Officer to come up from/the Fleet &c &c/Mar 19 1778."

1. Ensign Richard R. Wilford had just returned from Philadelphia. *JCC* 10: 207, 209, 218.

2. On 3 Mar. the Continental Congress resolved that Burgoyne, because of ill health, be allowed to embark for England "from Rhode Island, or any more expeditious route." Heath was ordered to take Burgoyne's parole and that of his suite, Lt. Col. Robert Kingston, Ensign Richard R. Wilford and Dr. Vincent Wood. *JCC* 10: 218.

3. Burgoyne set out overland from Cambridge on 5 Apr. and arrived at Newport, on 7 Apr. Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 265.

4. Midn. Peter Robinson, R.N.

5. Maj. Gen. William Phillips.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BEDFORD, DATED MARCH 19.”

“This Day we arrived in the Privateer *Revenge*,¹ Isaac Freeborn, Commander, 25 Days from St. Pieres, Martineco, being chased most of the Way. On the 3d Instant we fell in with the Pirate Ship *Apollo*,² having under her Convoy a Sloop and Schooner; at Eleven, A. M. we took the sloop called the *Sally*,³ with a Cargo of Wine, Rum, Salt, Limes, &c. at Twelve, ditto, the Ship gave us Chase, and continued the Chase till Seven next Morning, when we arrived in the Harbour of Bedford,⁴ with the Prize Sloop; the Ship being then in sight astern, but dare venture no farther. The Captain of the Sloop informs of her taking the the Brigantine *True Blue*,⁵ not long since, two other small Privateers,⁶ three Merchantmen, burnt, plundered and sunk several others; she has been in company with the *Unicorn*⁷ and *Mermaid*⁸ on our Coast this three Months; being greatly damaged by the Severity of the Weather, they are now gone into Port. The Officers belonging to the *General Washington*,⁹ came Home, from imprisonment, in the above *Revenge*.”

Boston-Gazette, and Country Journal, 23 Mar. 1778.

1. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*.

2. H.M.S. *Apollo*.

3. On 9 Mar. *Apollo* captured sloop *Sally*, Hezekiah Freeman, master, from Martinique to New London, with rum and salt. The Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo* does not record any chase as she was escorting the prize into Newport, where she arrived on 15 Mar. UkLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fols. 8–9.

4. Bedford in Dartmouth, now New Bedford, Mass.

5. Massachusetts privateer schooner *True Blue*, Laurence Furlong, commander, taken by H.M.S. *Apollo* and H.M.S. *Venus* off St. George's Bank. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 27 Jan., above.

6. H.M.S. *Unicorn* captured New Hampshire privateer brigantine *McClary*, John Gregory, commander, on 6 Feb., and later on 19 Feb. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Reprisal*, James Brown, commander. See Journal of H.M.S. *Unicorn*, 6 Feb. and 19 Feb., above.

7. H.M.S. *Unicorn*.

8. H.M.S. *Mermaid*.

9. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *General Washington*, William Rogers, commander, was captured by H.M.S. *Seaford* on 18 Jan. and sent into Carlisle Bay, Barbados. UkLPR, Adm. 51/880.

DANIEL TILLINGHAST TO JOSHUA HUNTINGTON

M^r Joshua Huntington
Sir

[Providence] March 19. 1778

I have sent by Elias Woodward 558 four pound round shott, for M^r Nath^l Shaw Jun on his private acco^t also by M^r David Carver—441 of Ditto for Acco^t of M^r Shaw—and 37 of twelve pound Grape made up for the Ship *Trumbull*¹ w^{ch}. is to be forwarded to M^r Shaw you'll please to pay the Carting agreeable to the recp^t inclos'd & charge the same to M^r Shaw. Woodward will produce his recp^t for his Load—your forwarding the same by All Expedition will infinitely Oblige Sir [&c.]

Dan^l Tillinghast

L, PHi, Frigate *Confederacy* Papers. Addressed: “To/Maj^r Joshua Huntington/Mercht In/Norwich.” Docketed: “Dan^l Tillinghast/Letter M^{ch}. 19 1778/&/Elias Woodward/Recept^t.” Tillinghast was Continental Agent for Rhode Island.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull*.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOR WILLIAM LIVINGSTON

Dear Sir

Head Quarters Valley Forge 19th. March 1778

I yesterday rec^d information from General Smallwood at Wilmington that a number of Vessels, mostly Sloops and Schooners, had gone down the Bay with Troops on Board, their destination uncertain. Several deserters this day inform me that the number of Men embarked are four Reg^t of British which are at most 1000. We have had it reported from different quarters that an expedition was in agitation to destroy the Salt Works upon the Coast, and as the force of the Vessels mentioned by Gen^l Smallwood is calculated to run into the Inlets, I am apprehensive that may be their plans. Or perhaps it may be to collect Forage and Cattle in Salem, Cumberland and Cape May Counties. I have thought it my duty to give you the information, that you may order the Militia contiguous to the Sea Coast, and those upon the Delaware to be in readiness and to give the Countenance and Support I have ordered Col^o. Shreves Regiment¹ to march immediately to Jersey. I hope the Militia will resort to Col^o. Shreve² with the same alacrity that they did to General Wayne, if they do, I am convinced that a larger Body than what are embarked may be repulsed. I have the Honor to be &c

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "19th. March 1778/to/Gov^r. Livingston."

1. 2d New Jersey Continental Regiment.

2. Col. Israel Shreve, Continental Army.

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sir,

Philadelphia 19th. March 1778

In Consequence of an Order from M^r Tho^s. Bradford (One of your Commissaries)¹ to M^r Emanuel Eyre² of Trenton to Ship 50 Barrels of Pork for the Use of the Prisoners in Philadelphia, and two Tons of Hay for their Cattle, M^r Eyre on the 6th. Instant wrote to M^r Ferguson³ requesting him to apply to me for a Passport for the Shallop *Polly*, Isaiah Robinson Master,⁴ manned with 3 Hands, to proceed hither with the abovementioned Articles. I accordingly authorized M^r Ferguson to transmit a Passport to M^r Eyre for the purpose desired—On the 14th. the Shallop coming down was brought to by one of His Majesty's Ships; and upon Examination it was found that M^r Isaiah Robinson, who had been represented as Master of the Shallop, was in Fact the Captain of the *Andrew Doria* Frigate, and that Nathaniel Galt Captain of the *Argus* armed Gun Boat,⁵ was one of the Hands with which she was manned.

As Captains Robinson & Galt appeared in assumed Characters I ordered them agreeably to the established Rules of War to be confined. I am with due respect, Sir, [&c.]

W Howe

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "General Washington/&ca. &ca." Docketed: "From/Gen^l Howe 19 March 1778/ans^d 22." The beginning of the letter, up to the word "Barrels", is missing from the recipient's copy and has been taken from the retained copy in UKLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, no. 1028.

1. Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners, Continental Army.

2. Emanuel (or Manuel) Eyre was a member of the Pennsylvania Navy Board.

3. Hugh Ferguson, British Commissary of Prisoners at Philadelphia.

4. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy.

5. Pennsylvania Navy armed boat *Argus*.

JOHN MACPHERSON TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

Gentlemen.

York Town [*Pa.*] March 19th 1778—

May it please the Honorable Congress to be informed, that your humble servant wishes to leave this place tomorrow morning and proceed to some part of France as Speedily as possible;—Where I shall build a Vessel on a new construction, that will carry two, thirty two pounders, and eight 9 Inch Howitzers, with One Hund^d & Fifty Men.—With this Vessel I intend to Cruize for British East India Ships; and do not doubt but I shall be of much Service to the United States of America. Wherefore I beg your Honors will be pleased to grant me a Credit upon France for the Sum of One Thousand pounds Sterling; for which I will give the Honorable Congress a Mortgage upon my Estate, for the principal & Interest.—Or if it is more agreeable to the Honorable Congress, I will pay a Considerable part of that Sum in Continental Loan Office Bills, & Lottery Tickets.—I have, my own property, Twenty one of the latter. I hope your Honors will approve my Scheme, & Grant me this Assistance.—I am [&c.]

John Macpherson—¹

L, DNA, PCC, item 78, vol. 15, pp. 321–24 (M247, roll 99). Addressed: “To/The Honorable/The Congress of The/United States of America.” Docketed: “Capt M^cPherson/19 March 1778/Presented & pp^d.”

1. Apparently this offer was never accepted. For more information on Macpherson and another of his schemes, see *NDAR* 2:138.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. PEARL, CAPTAIN JOHN LINZEE

March 1778

Reedy Point [*west*]

Thursday 19

AM Set up the fore top & topmast Rigging
d^o.

The first part fresh Gales, the Middle & latter light Airs & fair.
PM Having information of two Arm'd Boats lying in Musquet Creek, Sent the Barge, Long boat & Cutter to Cut them out, while doing it the Rebels came down & fir'd on them which they return'd Fir'd two Guns from the Ship at the Rebels¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/675, fol. 39.

1. See *Pennsylvania Ledger: or the Philadelphia Market-Day Advertiser*, 25 Mar. 1778, below. These were probably two of the Pennsylvania Navy armed (guard) boats that had been sent overland to Salem Creek in January and February.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY CORNWALLIS, LIEUTENANT THOMAS SPRY

March 1778

Anchord Close to the *Camilla* off Reedy point

Thursday 19

at 11 A:M. weighd and came to sail for Sealam Creek and run a
Ground on the flatts Carried out the Kedg[e] anchor—

A Ground on Sealam Creek flatts

Moderate and fair weather at 1 P:M. the Vessel floated hove
up And came to sail at 2 Anchord in the Creek at 4 fired a 4
pounder at some Rebels¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1676, part 2, fol. 37.

1. On the following morning *Cornwallis* “fired 2 - 24 P^{rs}. at some people Assembled in the woods.” *Ibid*.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL

[Annapolis] Thursday 19th. March 1778

Capt Conway,¹ You are to deliver the Sloop *Molly*² with her Appurtenances to Cap^t Daniel Deshon who goes Master of her, taking his Receipt on her Inventory the negro man you Left on board you are to send up in the Boat in which you go down—

D, MdAA, Governor and Council (Proceedings) 1777–1779, SM 123-22, M 3156-3.

1. Capt. Robert Conway, Maryland Navy.

2. Maryland State trading sloop.

THE SOUTH-CAROLINA AND AMERICAN GENERAL GAZETTE,

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1778

CHARLESTOWN, March 19.

The sloop *Active*, formerly belonging to this port, and carried into Liverpool last Summer by her crew,¹ has been cruizing for some weeks past on this coast. She has taken several prizes, the masters and crews of some of which have been sent ashore; they give a very favourable report of the kind treatment they received from Capt. Powell, who commands the privateer.²

1. See NDAR 8: 869–70; 9: 371–72.

2. Sloop *Active*, J. Powell, commander, 100 tons burthen, mounting two 6-pounders and ten 4-pounders, built in Bermuda in 1773, owned by N. Ashton of Liverpool. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777–1778.

GOVERNOR GEORGE JAMES BRUERE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

N^o 22

Bermuda March the 19th: 1778

My Lord

On the 14th Instant, I had the honor to receive, Your Lordships Circular letters, of October the 3^d. and November the 5th.

And having Received my Lord Viscount Howe, and S^r Williams joint letter last Year. not to Grant licence, for either Rum or Molasses, I have not given any licence Since, for those Articles.

Neither did any more than three or four small Vessels, go from this port in the Whole, with very small quantities, before I received my Lord Howes Dispatch, and not any, hath been cleared out since.

And I shall continue to pay perfect obedience to those Commands.

I rejoice, in the happy Event, of Her Majestys Safe Delivery of a Princess.

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect Your Lordships [&c.]

George Ja^s Bruere

My Lord

I conceive that large Quantities of Salt, Cleared out, from Turks Islands, and carried directly from thence to the Rebels. And some Salt brought from Turks Islands here, and then by Stealth, carried off again,¹ hath been of much more Detriment to His Majestys Service, than any small Quantities of Rum or Molasses, could be Detrimental to the Kings Service, or the Contractors.

there is neither Rum or Molasses, made in these Islands. and therefore what Molasses hath been sent from hence; was prize goods.—

L, UKLPR, C.O. 37/37, fol. 7. Docketed: "Bermuda 19th. March 1778./Governor Bruere./(No. 22.)/R, 23^d. April./Ent^d."

1. See Bridger Goodrich to Commodore William Hotham, 7 Feb., above.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola on Thursday the 19th. day of March 1778—

His Excellency laid before the Board a Letter which he had received from Joseph Nunn Esq^e Commander of His Majestys Sloop of War *Hound* in Answer to the Governors Letter of Yesterday and the same being read was ordered to be entered on the Minutes in the Words following

Hound Sloop Pensacola March
19th 1778—

Sir

At Eleven oClock last night I was honored with a Letter from your Excellency¹ inclosing a Copy of a Letter from Lord George Germain to the Lords of the Admiralty together with three Extracts from Lord George Germains Letters,² informing me that a Party of Rebels under a M^r James Willing Joined by a large Body of Banditti who have plundered the Inhabitants of the Province on the Mississippi and carried their Negroes and other property to New orleans to be disposed of requesting me to proceed up the Mississippi with His Majestys Sloop under my Command in order to protect the Province from further Incursions of the Rebels, and that one of His Majestys Ships may be sent to Manchack to protect that post and to Intercept such of the Rebels as may attempt to Escape up the River.

In answer to which I am to acquaint your Excellency that I shall most readily Comply with your request by using my utmost Efforts for the protection of the Province and am in return to request that your Excellency will be pleased to furnish me with such Extracts of the Treaties between Spain and this Colony as may be necessary for my Guidance and also Copies of all such Letters &c which have Passed since this Invasion as may be necessary for my Information And that an Experianced Pilot for the Mississippi may be Immediately sent on Board. I have the Honor to be &c.

(signed) Jos Nunn

His Excellency also laid before the Board a Letter from the Honorable Colonel Stuart the Superintendant answering the Governors Requisition to him for his Sloop and the same was read & ordered to be entered as follows—

Sir

Lieutenant Governor Durnford³ has acquainted me with Your Excellencys wish that my Sloop could be Spared to Cooperate with Lieutenant Burdon⁴ in the Lakes—under the Command of Lieut: Osborne⁵—I have the Honor to assure your Excellency that I shall upon this and every other Occassion most Chearfully comply with what you & the Honorable Council may Judge right for His Majestys Service. at the same time I have Immediate Occassion for a Vessel for the Service

of my Department which I expect will be provided for me I have the Honor to be
&C

Jn^o Stuart.

Pensacola 18th March 1778.

Whereupon the Board Recommended to His Excellency the Governor that he do write a Letter to Captain Nunn of the *Hound* Sloop of War answering his Letter now upon the Table and making a requisition that Lieutenant Osborne of the Armed Sloop *Florida* (now Condemned) be sent with his Seamen in Colonel Stuarts Sloop to the Lakes to Cooperate with Lieut: Burdon agreeable to the Minute of Yesterday His Excellency accordingly wrote the following Letter to Captain Nunn

Sir/

The Honorable Colonel Stuart having Offered his Sloop to be employed in the Service of Government in the Western parts of the Province I have therefore to request of you to order the officers and Men of His Majestys Armed Sloop *Florida* now Condemned & unfit for Service to be put on board Coll. Stuarts Sloop and sent into the Lake PontChartrain to Cooperate with Lieutenant Burdon in defending the passes of the Lakes and gaining Intelligence of the Strength & designs of the Enemy

I have had the Honor of receiving Your Letter of this days date and thank you for your ready Compliance with my request to proceed to the Mississippi and have ordered the same Pilot on Board of you who Piloted the *Atalanta* into the Mississippi last fall.

The 7th Article of the Treaty of Paris together with the Copy of a Letter from the Governor of Louisiana to Captain Lloyd⁶ & a late Letter written by me to the Spanish Governor demanding restitution of the Ship *Rebecca* Seized by the Rebels⁷ are Papers I Furnished Captain Ferguson⁸ Copies of which & of such other Correspondence or paper as you are Pleased to point out & I can procure shall be Immediately forwarded to you, as also a Copy of the Marine Treaties if You want them. I have the Honor to be &C

To which His Excellency soon received an answer which was ordered to be entered on the Minutes of the day Immediately Subsequent to the Governors Letter—and is as follows

Sir/

In answer to the Letter you was pleased to Honor me with Yesterday, I am to acquaint you that the officer Commanding the Sloop *Florida* is Charged with the Vessel and all her Stores, consequently cannot be ordered from her untill some of the Kings Ships going to Jamaica shall receive the Stores and give him receipts for them agreeable to the directions of the Commander in Chief

The rest of the Company of the *Florida* are only five Men fit for service, two of which are Americans the other part of her Complement were before my arrival part lent to Lieut: Burdon, part discharged to the *Atalanta* to Strengthen her Company which is now far short of Complement.

If you think it necessary to send Col: Stuarts Sloop to Lake Pontchartrain; and that the few men belonging to the *Florida* can be of any use I will order them to be lent.

For my own part if I may take the Liberty of giving my opinion I think the force Lieut: Burdon has is more than Sufficient to repel any Force he may have to oppose him.

Your Excellency was pleased last night to Signify to me, that you thought the *Florida* might be Converted to the use of a Floating Magazine; I have since enquired Particularly into the State of the Vessel and find she is entirely Rotten and very leaky of Course unfit for the purpose abovementioned I have the Honor to be &C

Joss. Nunn

Hound Pensacola }
28th March 1778—⁹ }

Henry Smith who came Yesterday with the express from Lieut: Burdon being looked upon as a man who could be trusted and very fit to be employed as a Scout upon the lakes—in the River Amit¹⁰ and up to Orleans to discover the designs of the Rebels and gain Intelligence—was called into Council and his Excellency demanding of him the Terms upon which he would undertake the Service required. Smith assured his Excellency that he expected no other reward than what such Services as he Should perform might be thought Worthy of—and it being mentioned that one Bellisle a Frenchman of whom said Smith had hired a large Boat for the late Service he had come upon, would be willing to sell him said Boat for the use of Government, and also to go with Smith in her upon the proposed Expedition of gaining Intelligence His Excellency was pleased by the advice of the Board to offer the said Belisle (by a Letter which was wrote to him) Two hundred Dollars for his said Boat and for himself one Dollars per day so long as he should continue in the Service of Government with Henry Smith

His Excellency then wrote the following Letter to Lieut: Burdon in the lakes with which Smith was ordered Immediately to set off.

Council Chamber Pensacola 19th March 1778

Sir—

I received your Letter of the 3^d March Ins^t by M^r Smith¹¹ I hear the greater part of the Rebel Banditti were at New Orleans on the 8th. Instant with the Plunder they took on the Mississippi.

Their Report there is an Army of Rebels to follow them down the Mississippi—The *Florida* Sloop is so Rotten that she is Condemned but I shall endeavour to get another Vessel with the Officers and Seamen of the *Florida* and send her to your Assistance—I have purchased the Boat Smith returns in and engaged him with one Belisle, to be under your orders for the purpose of obtaining & forwarding Intelligence I therefore hope you will keep him Constantly employed over at Orleans or up the River Nitabanie¹² or amit. To this place I expect you will Instantly dispatch him upon receiving any Information of Consequence I am &C.

P.S. You will be pleased to Victual these Two Men during the time they are employed on this Service which will be Settled with you hereafter

Agreeable to the Minute of Yesterday that a Letter should be wrote by His Excellency the Governor to John McGillivray Esq^r of Mobile a draught thereof having been prepared was now read & the same being approved was ordered to be entered on the Minutes in hoc Verba

Sir

Colonel Stuart having acquainted me that you had expressed a desire of being employed at this time & exerting your Influence in raising a Number of Men to Act against the Rebels who have penetrated into the Western parts of the Colony. I accordingly Communicated the same to His Majestys Council who have unanimously joined with me in Opinion that you should be thanked for your Zeal and Laudable Exertions upon this Occassion and that you should be appointed Lieutenant Colonel Commandant of a Provincial Corps to be raised by you and such other officers as may be appointed to Act under you to be employed for the purpose of driving the Rebels out of the Colony with the Assistance of such Indians as can be raised in the Indian Nations

It is intended that the officers & Men of this Corps shall receive the same pay & Provisions as the officers and Men of Col: Stuarts Rangers—That they shall also have the like Quantity of Lands granted them in the Colony upon the determination of the Rebellion as the Provincial Troops serving under General Howe are to have and that they shall continue Embodied during the present Invasion or if they can be Engaged longer for such time as the Kings Service may require it—and the better to enable You to Compleat this Corps, a Number of Blank Commissions will be sent to be filled up by you with the Names of such Persons as officers who you think can be depended upon and have Influence to raise men—Arms & ammunition will be furnished at Mobile for such Number of Men as you are of opinion can be raised and whatever Contingencies are requisite shall be defrayed by the Crown—and all such other Expences as you shall Judge necessary for the Kings Service.

M^r Alexander McIntosh of the Natchez District who is on his way thither is recommended to me to be appointed first Captain in your Corps & is charged with this Letter; after Consulting with you he will proceed to the Natchez and endeavour to engage good men in that District for the Corps taking your directions for that purpose and receiving such Orders as you shall give him—I shall wait with Impatience for your answer to this Letter, and desire that you will Transmit the same by Express in the most Expeditious manner The Commissions shall be sent by return of the Express with the names inserted of the Persons you nominate as officers I hope you will Immediately begin to act as no time is to be lost. I have the Honor to be with great Regard. &c &c &c.

Council Chamber }
19th. March 1778— }

M^r Alexander Cameron a Commissary for the Cherokee Nation and a Captain in Colonel Stuarts Corps of Rangers sent in his name and desired to be heard before His Excellency in Council and being admitted mentioned to His Excellency & the Board that as he had been Informed by Colonel Stuart the Superintend^t that it was the request of this Board to send him with the Party of Rangers under his

Command to the River Mississippi—he thought it his Duty to acquaint His Excellency that not having any officers under him and only Thirty five Men in the whole of whom but Twenty were at Present in Town the remaining fifteen being ordered upon different Services he could not think of going upon this Service but that if he had men enough he would readily go upon any Expedition that could tend to promote the Kings Service and it being Mentioned to M^r Cameron that a Body of Indians had been promised by Colonel Stuart to Join him on the Expedition He thought proper to Inform His Excellency that no dependence could be put upon any Body of Indians notwithstanding the repeated assurances they might themselves give of their Attachment to His Majestys Interest and farther said that he would not go with a Serjeants Command—and then M^r Cameron withdrew) whereupon His Excellency was pleased by the advice of the Board to order that a Copy of this Minute be Immediately Transmitted to Colonel Stuart the Superintendant & that M^r Bruce¹³ and L^t Colonel Dickson¹⁴ (Two Members of this Board) be requested to Deliver the same to Colonel Stuart.

It being then made known to His Excellency the Governor that a Petty officer belonging to His Majestys Sloop of War *Atalanta* attended without He was ordered to be called in and delivered a Letter from Captain Lloyd in answer to His Excellencys Letter of Yesterday¹⁵ and the same being read was ordered to be entered in hoc Verba

Sir—

In answer to your Excellencys of the last evening inclosing Extracts of Letters from Lord George Germain¹⁶ & C I am to inform You that I have orders from Vice Admiral Gayton to sail for England with the Convoy on the 25th. Instant. Consequently the *Atalanta* must remain till then at this Place. If at that time it shall appear to your Excellency that the State of the Province renders her stay necessary, you will be pleased to inform me and I shall take my Resolution accordingly. I have the Honor to be—Sir Your Excellencys &c &c &c—

T Lloyd.

Atalanta Pensacola }
Harbor 19th. March 1778 }

M^r Bruce and Lieut Col: Dickson the Two Members who were sent to Colonel Stuart as above mentioned returning acquainted His Excellency that they had in obedience to his directions delivered the Copy of this days Minute respecting M^r Cameron to Colonel Stuart who had requested them to Inform his Excellency that he would Immediately send for M^r Cameron and after hearing him upon the Subject Transmit a Written answer to His Excellency

His Excellency then desired the Opinion of the Board whether as we had received Reports that the Rebels were coming down the River Mississippi in a large Body most probably with a design to attack Mobile or this place it would not be proper that the Ships and Vessels (which are mostly well armed at Present within any of the Ports or Harbours of this Province & particularly in those of Pensacola and Mobile should be prevented from leaving the same untill such farther Intelligence could be received as might render that measure unnecessary? The Board were unanimously of Opinion that such a Step was highly proper at this

time and therefore Recommended that an Embargo be laid upon all the Shipping within this Province untill farther orders And that His Excellency do Issue his Proclamation accordingly

And then the Board Adjourned

D, UkLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 275–80.

1. In Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 18 Mar., (first part), above.

2. See Gov. Peter Chester to Capt. William Garnier, R.N., in Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 5 Mar., above.

3. Lt. Gov. Elias Durnford.

4. Lt. George Burdon (2), R.N.

5. Lt. John Osborn (1), R.N.

6. Probably one of several letters written by Gov. Gálvez to Comdr. Thomas Lloyd, R.N., commanding H.M. sloop *Atalanta*, in the spring of 1777 concerning the freedom of navigation of the Mississippi River. See *NDAR* 8: 446–47, 895, 948–50, 957.

7. Not found. See William Wilton to Gov. Peter Chester, 8 Mar., in Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 18 Mar., (first part), above.

8. Comdr. John Fergusson, R.N., commanding H.M. sloop *Sylph*.

9. Clearly a misdating by the clerk for 18 Mar.

10. Amite River.

11. In Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 18 Mar., (first part), above.

12. Natalbany River.

13. James Bruce.

14. Lt. Col. Alexander Dickson.

15. See Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 18 Mar., (first part), note 30, above.

16. See Gov. Peter Chester to Capt. William Garnier, R.N., in Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 5 Mar., above.

COMMANDER JOSEPH NUNN, R.N., TO REAR ADMIRAL SIR PETER PARKER, R.N.

(Copy)

Sir, *Hound Sloop Pensacola March 19th: 1778—*

In pursuance of your Order of the 19th: last Month I arrived here with His Majesty's Sloop under my Command the 13th: Ins^t the *Southampton* and *Atalanta* were lying in this Bay, the *Sylph* was some days before sent to the Mississippi, on the request of the Governor Chester, who had received intelligence, that one Willing with a Party of Rebels had come down to the River, taken a Ship,¹ plundered and made prisoners of many of the inhabitants; and obliged them to Swear Allegiance to the Congress; After my Arrival the Governor was informed that Willings Party consisted of only twenty five Men, from whom it was thought little could be apprehended, when the *Sylph* should get up the River—Yesterday morning the *Southampton* sailed and I was ready to Sail, when the Governor received expresses informing him that Willing was joined by a numerous banditti who had plundered the Inhabitants on the Banks of the Mississippi, and carried their Negroes and other property to be sold at New Orleans, taken a Brig,² and that a rebel General Morgan³ was expected down the River with Two thousand Men intending to make themselves Masters of this Province Late last night I received a Letter from the Governor, of which the enclosed is a Copy; as soon as I can get a pilot I shall proceed for the Mississippi in order to join Captain Ferguson, who I hope is by this time far advanced up the River. When you have perused the enclosed papers I flatter myself you will approve of my staying here to give all the assistance I can for the protection of this Colony—I have the honor to be [&c.]

Jo^s: Nunn

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed at the foot: "Sir Peter Parker/Vear Adm^l of the Blue &c^a. &c^a." Docketed: "In Adm^l S^r P. Parker's Letter/Dated 19th April 1778." It appears the letters "ear" were written over the letters "ice". Sir Peter Parker was promoted to Rear Adm. of the Red on 29 Jan. 1778 but was not promoted to Vice Adm. of the Blue until 29 Mar. 1779. There is another copy of this letter in Adm. 1/241 which was enclosed in Rear Adm. Sir Peter Parker to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 25 Apr. 1778.

1. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.

2. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.

3. Col. George Morgan, Continental Army, Deputy Commissioner General of Purchases, Western District.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

March 1778

Mounti Christi SEbS 4 or 5 Leag^s dist.

Thursday 19th:

AM Light Winds & Cloudy At 2 Saw a Sail to the S^oward fired a 6^b. Shot at and bro^l her too a Brig from Casco bay^l D^o. Hove too Hoisted the Cutter out & Sent her on board & took out the Captⁿ. & 6 Men² Left the Mate & 2 Men Sent a Petty Officer & 6 Men to take Charge of her At 4 Hoisted the Cutter in & made Sail to the S^oward the Prize made Sail for Jamaica

Mounti Christi SW ½ W dist. 9 or 10 Leag^s.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. Brig *St. Joseph*, — Dubar, of Port-au-Prince, master and owner, mounting 2 guns, crew of 10 men, 120 tons burthen, from Casco Bay to Môle Saint-Nicolas, with lumber and staves. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

2. On 20 Feb. the *Niger* brought to "a French sloop bound to C: Francois Hoisted the Cutter out & Sent the Captⁿ. of the Brigg & one of his Men on board of her (both Frenchmen)." UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PORTLAND*, CAPTAIN THOMAS DUMARESQU

March 1778

At the Pitch Kettle Moorings in English Harbour Antigua

Thursday 19th

AM^d. Got off y^e Foretop and Cap, got up Sheers to get out y^e Foremast. M^r William Peacock our first Lieutenant appointed to y^e Command of the *Comet*, Captain Swiney¹ being appointed to y^e *Cygnat* in y^e Room of Captain Stratford² Deceased. M^r Billy Douglas L^t and Commander of the *Antigua* was appointed our first Lieutenant. Fired the Morning and Evening Guns.

At the Pitch Kettle Moorings in English Harbour Antigua Fresh Breezes and some Showers of Rain. y^e Intervals clear. PM^d. Got out our Foremast. Sailmakers repairing the Sails on Shore. on Board overhauling y^e Bobstays. and Fore & Foretopmast Rigging.

D, UKLPR, Adm., 51/711, part 4.

1. Comdr. William Swiney (1).

2. Comdr. Robert Stratford.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *GRASSHOPPER*, COMMANDER ROBERT BOYLE NICHOLAS

March 1778

Ship in Ditto [Roseau Road]

Thursday 19

Strong Gales and Clear, at 8 AM, Slipt and gave Chase to an American Privateer Schooner, Standing to the So^d, fired 20 Six & 30-four, pound Grape and Round Shot to bring the Chase to, She got under the Protection of Martin[i]co Forts,¹

Ship at Sea

At 4 P:M: gave over Chase and Stood to the Nor^d, fresh Gales and Squally at 11 ditto Spoke His Majestys Ship the *Arora* [*Aurora*].

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/396, part 6, fol. 10.

1. See Journal of French Navy Frigate *Etourdie*, 19–20 Mar., immediately below.

JOURNAL OF FRENCH NAVY FRIGATE *ETOURDIE*,
LIEUTENANT DE VAISSEAU MARQUIS DE MONTBAS

du jeudy 19^{eme} [mars] a 3 heures apres midy jusqu'au vendredy 20^{eme}.

5^{eme} mouilliage a st pierre [*Martinique*]

a trois heures apres midy un anglo americain a été attaqué étant a une lieüe de la pointe du precheur par une fregate angloise.¹ ayant été averté à cette meme heure qu'on tiroit des coups de canon, j'ay filé la cable par le bout, et largue les amares. après un quart d'heure de travail l'*etourdie* étoit sous voile. le batiment attaqué étoit deja ammene l'orsqu'il m'a reconnu, mais aussitot qu'il a été assuré de notre protection il a hissé son pavillon et tiré sur le royaliste des pierriers qui étoient ses seuls armes. j'ay dirigé ma route de facon a pouvoir me mettre entre les deux batiments. le fort du precheur avoit deja tiré plusieurs coups de canon qui étoient trop éloigné pour rassurer l'insurgent. lorsque j'ay été reconnu par la fregate angloise, elle a pris chasse, et l'insurgent a fait route pour la fond capot. je l'ay chassé sans pouvoir la joindre jüsques par le travers de la grande ance de la dominique. il etoit alors nuit; c'est ce qui m'a déterminé a retourner prendre mon poste a St pierre ou jay mouillie le vendredy 20^{eme} a sept heures du matin²

[Translation]

from Tuesday 19th March at 3 PM until Wednesday 20th March
the fifth anchoring at St. Pierre, Martinique

at 3 P.M. an American vessel was attacked by an English frigate,¹ being one league from Pointe de Prêcheur. Having been alerted at the same time that cannon shots had been fired, I slipped my cable at the end, and let go the hawsers. After a quarter hour of labor the *Etourdie* was under sail. The ship, which was attacked, had already struck when she recognised me, but, as soon as she was assured of our protection, she hoisted her flag and fired at the English frigate with swivel guns, being her only armament. I shaped my course in a manner to be able to place myself between the two ships. The fort at Prêcheur had already fired several cannon shots which were too distant to reassure the rebel ship. When I was recognised by the English frigate, she sheered off, and the rebel ship made her course for the mouth of Capot River. I chased her without being able to come up

with her until abeam of Grand Bay, Dominica. It was then night, which made me determine to return to my station at St. Pierre where I anchored on the 20th at 7 o'clock in the morning.²

D, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 147, fol. 302.

1. Probably H.M. sloop *Grasshopper*. See Journal of H.M. sloop *Grasshopper*, 19 Mar., above.

2. The next day *Etourdie* chased the English frigate from near Capot River to Carbet, losing sight of her in a calm, and ultimately returned to her moorings at St. Pierre.

March 20

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RAINBOW*, CAPTAIN SIR GEORGE COLLIER

March 1778.

Moored in Halifax Harbor

Friday 20

Light Breez^s & fair W^c

AM came in the *True blue* Tender & bro^t in a Rebel Snow bound from Spain to New England¹—empl^d as before—Shipwrights on b^d.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/762.

1. Snow *Neptune*, Edward Swansey, master, owned by Lee & Johns, from Bilbao, Spain, to Salem, with salt, iron & fruit, taken on 18 Mar. off the coast of Nova Scotia, sent into Halifax. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 484. According to Vice Admiralty Court records, she had sailed from South Carolina in June 1777 for Bilbao with a cargo of rice. After the rice was sold, *Neptune* took on board a cargo of fruit, which she carried to Bayonne, France. At Bayonne she took on board a cargo of salt, iron and fruit and was bound for Newburyport when captured by the *Rainbow's* tender, schooner *True Blue* (10 guns). Her master's name was Nathaniel Swaisey of Marblehead; the owners resided in Newburyport except for one who lived in Boston. *Neptune* was libelled on 1 Apr. in the Vice Admiralty Court of Nova Scotia and condemned on 21 Apr. 1778 as a lawful prize of *Rainbow*. CaNSHP, vol. 496, Vice Admiralty Court Register, vol. 6 (1777–1782), 119.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN BURGoyNE TO CAPTAIN HUGH DALRYMPLE, R.N.

(Copy)

Sir

Cambridge Mar. 20 1778

My aid-de-Camp¹ returned yesterday with the leave of Congress for myself and my family to return to England. I propose to have the pleasure of kissing your hands on board the *Juno* as soon as the necessary business here can be dispatched.

The Congress having though[t] proper to adhere to the Resolve of 8th Jan^y respecting the suspension of the Convention & consequently it must be some Months before the matter can be decided. I think it would be greatly for the economy of Government to land all the provisions destined for the Troops from on board the Transports under your Command. Gen^l Heath will send you herewith an engagement of protection for the said transports to come into Nantasket road² and I request you to make no delay in forwarding that measure.

General Heath will also engage for the safe conveyance of the Military Chest, which I understand is on board you; and I request you to forward it by a Lieutenant and in a safe Vessel, which Gen^l Heath will furnish—

If you were inclined to bring the *Juno* higher up there will be no difficulty in procuring a parole for her protection, but if it is equal to you I have no manner of

objection to going on board while you are in Cape Cod Harbour, and upon the whole rather prefer it as I think it may save time.³ I am Sir [&c.]

J. Burgoyne

PS

The Vessel sent by Gen^l Heath will proceed no further than Nantasket Road. You will therefore send the Chest of Cash on board one of the Transports

Copy, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 3, fols. 334–35. Addressed at foot of third page: “Cap^t Dalrymble.” Docketed: “From Gen^l Burgoyne/to Cap^t Dalrymble/to send the provisions/& M^y Chest—/Mar. 20 1778.”

1. Ensign Richard R. Wilford.

2. On 20 Mar. Gen. Heath assured Dalrymple that “the Transports will receive every wished for protection, and particular attention paid to the security of the Military Chest.” MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 9, fol. 48.

3. Burgoyne apparently changed his mind and never visited H.M.S. *Juno*. On 22 Mar. he sent Dalrymple a copy of the above letter because the vessel carrying the original was driven out to sea in a gale. MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 9, fol. 55. H.M.S. *Juno* and H.M.S. *Cerberus* escorted the empty transports back to Newport on 29 Mar. Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 261.

WILLIAM STORY TO WILLIAM VERNON

Sir

Boston March 20 1778

This Morning Your favour of the 18th Curr^t was received at the Office M^r Warren sat out for home Yesterday about twelve a Clock noon, expecting M^r Deshon would have been here by this time who gave directions to Open Letters directed to the Board. Upon which I opened yours & M^r Deshons & find by yours that M^r Deshon is gone to Connecticut, So that expect to be alone till the week after next for which I am very sorry as so many people are Continually coming about business which I have no Authority to Transact.

I find by looking over the Letters from the Hon^{ble}. Marine Com^{tee} a paragraph in that of the 26th. Oct^r last^l in the words following viz^t: “Cap^t McNeill² has Already Instructions where his Ship is to proceed viz^t to France a form of like Instructions is herewith Inclosed to be by you given to the Ships at Providence.” So that apprehend^g you will think it Adviceable to give Cap^t Whipple³ orders to go on a Cruise Inclose Copy of said Instructions & the Signals.⁴

The Order M^r Deshon mentions to be left behind I find was therefore now send it.

There is a report in Town and said to be Confirmed by the way of S^c Eustatia that the Courts of France Spain and Holland have declared these States Free & Independent States and that M^r Franklyn is admitted at the Court of France as their Ambassador. I wish it may be true. I have the honour to be [&c.]

Will^m Story

P.S. It is said that the King of Prussia has fitted out three Ships & has Sent to England to Inform them that they were bound to these States & if they molested them he would Send an Army to Hanover.

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80. Addressed at the foot: “Hon^{ble}. Will^m Vernon Esq^r.” Story was clerk of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

1. See NDAR 10:309–10.

2. Capt. Hector McNeill, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Boston*.

3. Capt. Abraham Whipple, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Providence*.

4. See Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department to Captain Abraham Whipple, Mar., at the beginning of the March entries, above.

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE

[Boston, 20 March 1778]

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Ship Defence's Acco^{ts}:

Dr

Ship Defence to Sam^l Eliot Jr.
1777

Aug ^t	To Brig Defence—for Sundries.	viz.—		
	To Cash p ^d the Steward to buy Greens, Potatoes &c		2.. 8.—	
	d ^o p ^d for 23 gal ^s . Molasses. @ 18/		20..14.—	
	d ^o p ^d John Wasson's expences to Hartford		<u>5.. 4.—</u>	28.. 6.—
	d ^o p ^d Horse Hire to let Gov ^r Trumbull know of her Arrival			6.—..—
Sep ^r	To d ^o p ^d for 1197 ^{lb} . Beef at 10 ^d .		49..17.. 6	
	d ^o p ^d Hannah Cadels bill ag ^t Dimock		<u>1..16.—</u>	51..13.. 6
Oct. 2.	To John Deshon for 2 barrels of Herrings			5.—..—
16.	To 224 ^{lb} . Deck Nails . . @ 3/		33..12.—	
	2 bls. of Rum . 65 Gal ^s . . @ 40/—		<u>130.—..—</u>	163..12.—
Nov ^r 3 ^d	To 112 ^{lb} : Deck Nails. at 3/. 3 ^{lb} : Sheath ^g . d ^o @ 3/—		17.. 5.—	
	Cash paid for Rum 15 Gal ^s . . . @ 40/		30.—..—	
	112 ^{lb} . Deck Nails @ 3/.		16..16.—	
	1 Tierce Pitch £4.— 1 bl. Turpentine £4..10/—		8..10.—	
	Charge on d ^o from Dartmouth		<u>..12.—</u>	73.. 3.—
	To Sloop Catherine for several Coils of Rigging	}	84.—..—	
	w ^g : 6 ^{cwt} .—..— at least. at £14			
	To Cash p ^d M ^r Hitchborn for building a barge, & repairing the old one by Smedleys ¹ ord	}	<u>95..17.—</u>	179..17.—
	To Cash p ^d M ^r Byles. for Truckage			
	d ^o p ^d Alex Mackay for Cork		7.. 6.. 8	
			<u>60.—..—</u>	67.. 6.. 8
	To 112 ^{lb} : Deck Nails			16..16.—
	To Cash p ^d . Carting Cork		1..16.—	
	12 ^{lb} . Sheathing Nails		1..16.—	

AMERICAN THEATER

	7½ hund. 10 ^d . Nails	2.. 5.—	<u>4.. 1.—</u>	5..17.—
	To 112 ^{lb} : Deck Nails £16..16/. — ½ m: 10 ^d : Nails 30/—			18.. 6.—
	To the <i>Defence</i> for the Mainmast made into a Bowsprit			—..—..—
	To 42 ^{lb} . Deck Nails, & 10 ^{lb} . Sheathing Nails . @ 3/			7..16.—
Dec.	To Cash paid Sigourney for 18 gal ^s . W. I Rum			36.—..—
	To. 1 barrel Rozin		6.—..—	
	56 ^{lb} . Deck Nails		8.. 8.—	
	1 gal. N. E Rum		2.—..—	
	8 ^{lb} : 24 ^d . Nails @ 4/		1..12.—	
	½ ^{cwt} . 20 ^d . Nails		4.—	
	1 bl. Turpentine		4..10.—	
	2.. 0.. 4 ^{lb} . Lead ... @ 1/6		17.. 2.—	
	21 ^{lb} . Worming		<u>5.. 5.—</u>	<u>45.. 1.—</u>
	sum carried over			£704..14.. 2
1777.	To Sum brot over			£704..14.. 2
Dec ^r 13.	To Cash p ^d : Selliman to buy Rum for Riggers		1..16.—	
	p ^d for Slush ²		5..14.—	
	3 gal ^s . Spirit ... at 50/—		<u>7..10.—</u>	15.—..—
19.	To 3½ hund ^d . 6 ^d : Nails			1.. 1.—
	To. 10 ^d : 24 ^d : Nails		2.—..—	
	44 ^{lb} . Worming @ 5/		<u>11.—..—</u>	13.—..—
	To Cash p ^d : Joseph Selliman		30.—..—	
	d ^o . p ^d . Antony Gnospelius ³		<u>3.—..—</u>	33.—..—
22.	To. 1 bl Pitch		4.—..—	
	1 d ^o Turpentine		4..10.—	
	56 ^{lb} . Deck Nails ... @ 3/		8.. 8.—	
	4 ^{lb} . 24 ^d : Nails ... @ 4/		16.—	
	To <i>Oliver Crom^t</i> for 70½ ^{lb} . Sheet lead		<u>—..—..—</u>	17..14.—

20 MARCH 1778

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE—Continued

726

AMERICAN THEATER

To. 14 ^{cwt.} .. 2.. 0. Junk—mem ^o . this Junk was the Brig's		}		
Cable strain'd, & broke in 4 pieces in getting up the				
Brig. & work'd into small Rigging & Spun yarn				
		carried forward		£784.. 9.. 2
Ship Defence—To Samuel Eliot J ^r				
Dr				
£ .. s. d				
£784.. 9.. 2				
1777	To amount sundries bro't forward			
Dec 25.	To Cash paid Alex ^r Lord. Rigger		1..16..—	
29	d ^o . p ^d . Antony Gnospelius Board—2 Weeks—		3..12..—	
	d ^o . p ^d . E. Cox for 2 days work on board—		1..16..—	
	p ^d . for Bolts. to M ^r Welch		4..12.. 6	
1778				
Jan ^y 3	p ^d . the Riggers——viz.			
	John: M: Topp	for 23 days @ 21/	24.. 3..—	
	John Stevens	23 days	24.. 3..—	
	Rob ^t Way.	7½ days 20/.	7..10..—	
	Alex ^r Lord	7 days	7..—..—	
	Moses Piper	6 days	6..—..—	68..16..—
	Robert Way. 27 th : Dec ^r .	6 days	6..—..—	
	Alex ^r Lord. d ^o .	6 days	6..—..—	12..—..—
	paid sundry Laborers viz.			
	Daniel Phips	6 days 18/	5.. 8..—	
	Mich ^l Cary	6 d ^o .	5.. 8..—	
	Samuel Morgan	6 d ^o .	5.. 8..—	
	James Cary	4½ d ^o .	4.. 1..—	20.. 5..—
	paid Antonys ³ Board.	1 week	1..16 —	112..17.. 6

		paid Sturgis Gorham for freight of			
		Sundries from Dartmouth	}	5.. 4.—	
6 th		paid Sturgis Gorham for 3 bolts Duck		135..—..—	
		paid sundry Laborers — viz.			
		James Cary 3 days @ 18/		2..14.—	
		Mich ^l Cary 3 days @ 18/		2..14.—	
		Sam ^l Morgan 3 days .. 18/		<u>2..14.—</u>	8.. 2.—
		paid D: G. Phips for 6 days on Rigging		5.. 8.—	
		Alex Lord . . 6 days on d ^o .		<u>6..—..—</u>	<u>11.. 8.—</u>
					<u>161..10.—</u>
			carried over		£1058..16.. 8
1778	To Sum		bro't over		£1058..16.. 8
Jan ^y 9.	To Cash p ^d :	Antony's board 1 Week		1..16.—	
		paid the Riggers to buy Coal		18.—	
		paid Cap ^t Thatcher for 2½ bolts Duck at £45		112..10.—	
		paid John Lary. th Cap ^t Smedleys verb ^l ord		..12.—	
		paid Antony . . on Acco ^t d ^o		2.. 2.—	
15 th :	p ^d :	for Potatoes, Cabbages &c.		2.. 2.—	
	p ^d .	M ^r Selliman for Wood		<u>4..16.—</u>	6..18.—
	p ^d .	M ^r Wasson ⁴ to pay Wages		8.. 8.—	
	p ^d .	Sam ^l Colesworth. 6 days Labor		5.. 8.—	
16.	p ^d :	Charles Annis, & M ^r Pierce's			
		Board to Eleanor Reed 2 W ^{ks} :	}	9..12.—	
	p ^d .	M ^r Wasson for 2 Men		1.. 4.—	
	p ^d .	Lord the Rigger		<u>4..16.—</u>	29.. 8.—
20 th .	p ^d :	M ^r Wasson to pay Wages		24..16.—	
	p ^d .	Antony's board		1..16.—	
17 th .	p ^d .	Moses Piper Rigger		12..—..—	
	p ^d .	John Ballard for boards th bill		36.. 6.. 5	
	p ^d .	Cap ^t Smedley for J. Pease ⁵		63..18.—	
24.	p ^d .	J. M. Topp (Rigger.		16..16.—	

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE—Continued

	J. Stevens. d ^o	16..16.—		
	Moses Piper. d ^o	4.—.—		
	Alex Lord. d ^o	<u>6.—.—</u>	43..12.—	182.. 8.. 5
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Smedley for the Men			180..15..10
	p ^d . M ^r . Vernon ⁶ for 500 f ^t clear Boards			7..10.—
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Smedleys. order to Elwood ⁷			14..14.—
	p ^d d ^o to Rob ^t . Wasson			27.—.—
	p ^d . the Gunner to purchase Spirits of Turpentine			—..12.—
	p ^d . for Greens, Potatoes &c			1.. 4.—
	p ^d . D. G. Phips. Rigger in full			5.. 8.—
	p ^d . the Steward ⁸ for Greens &c			1.. 4.—
	p ^d . M ^r . Curtis for 1 Water Hhd		<u>3.—.—</u>	<u>578.. 0.. 3</u>
		sum carried forward		£1636..16..11
1778	To. sum bro't forward			£1636..16..11
Jan ^y	To. Cash. paid D ^h . Halseys bill for Burns, & Gould's board			1..15.—
Feb ^y 3.	To. d ^o . p ^d . M ^r . Dyer			8.—
	d ^o . p ^d . the Steward for Potatoes, Greens &c			1..16.—
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Jeacocks ⁹ for 4 gal ^s . Linseed Oil	3..12.—		
	1 draft Book	<u>3.—.—</u>		6..12.—
	p ^d . David Reed for 6 Cords of Wood			32.. 8.—
9 th .	p ^d . the Steward			2.. 8.—
	p ^d . Patrick Quin's bill Truckage			20.. 4.—
	p ^d . Rich ^d . Floyd for 6 Water Casks @ 66/			23.. 2.—
	p ^d . Edward Culver. Ⓢ Capt ^s . order		<u>18.—.—</u>	104..18.—
	p ^d . J. M. Topp (Rigger) in full			8.. 8.—
	p ^d . G. M ^c Kinneys bill for boarding Nursing & attend ^g . Jn ^o . Parrett while sick	5.. 8.—		
	d ^o . d ^o . d ^o . Jabez Hubbles. d ^o	<u>5.. 8.—</u>		10..16.—

	p ^d . for Wood 97½ Dol ^{rs} .	29.. 5.—	
	p ^d . Selliman for Sail Needles	3.. 6.—	
	p ^d . the Steward	1..16.—	
	p ^d . Mr. Wasson for Men's Wages	9.—.—	
	d ^o . d ^o .	45.—.—	
25.	p ^d . Mons ^r . Tollemon for Duck	83.. 5.—	
	p ^d . Mr. Silsbey's board	13.. 5.—	
	p ^d . Mr. Rob ^t . Watson's expences to Hartford	<u>14.—.—</u>	218.. 1.—
	p ^d . Sundry Men's Board to M ^{rs} . Campbell	47..14.—	
	p ^d . Jon ^a . Holbrook for 21 Mens Passage	18..18.—	
	p ^d . Joseph Peases bill	36.. 2.. 8	
	p ^d . Simeon Spencers bill	58..13..10	
	p ^d . Coggeshall Rathburn's . bill	9..13..10	10 ^d over
	p ^d . J. Wasson for Sundries	17..12.—	
	p ^d . William Greenleaf	<u>.. 9.—</u>	189.. 3.. 4
	p ^d . Gorham's bill	1..10.—	
	p ^d . d ^o .	15.—.—	
	p ^d . Miss Linns. bill	6.—.—	
	p ^d . Will ^m . Turners. bill	12.—.—	Sea Stores
	p ^d . John Goddards bill	2..10.. 3	
	p ^d . Will ^m . Cunningham's . . . bill	4..10.—	
	p ^d . D. G. Phips bill	9.—.—	
	p ^d . Simeon Skillins bill	57.. 4.—	
	p ^d . Thomas Newcomb. bill	<u>36.—.—</u>	<u>143..14.. 3</u>
	sum carried over—		£2294.. 8.. 6
1778	To. Sum bro't over		£2294.. 8.. 6
Feb ^r . 25	To Cash paid D ^r . Greenleaf	2.. 7.—	
	p ^d . Rebecca Campbell	1..16.—	
	p ^d . Mr. Wasson for Mens Wages	47..14.—	
27	d ^o . d ^o .	60.. 8.—	

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE—*Continued*

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AMERICAN THEATER

28.	d ^o .	d ^o .	90..—..—	198.. 2.—	
	p ^d . Mr Wilkins for a bl Beer		2.. 8.—		
	p ^d . Mr Annis y ^c . Steward		6..—..—	8.. 8.—	210..13.—
	p ^d . Jn ^o . & Benj ^a . Coolidge			5.. 8.—	
	p ^d . Joseph Webb			9..15.—	
	p ^d . Thomas Wilkins . in Oct ^r			1..17.. 6	
	p ^d . John Hawley			1..19.—	
	p ^d . Samuel Whitwells			15.—..—	
	p ^d . Antony Gnospelius			6.—..—	
	p ^d . Thomas Lewis			3..12.—	
	p ^d . John Jones			1..16.—	
	p ^d . Rebecca Campbell			1..16.—	
	p ^d . Mr Antony Gnospelius . for Brooms			..10.. 6	
	p ^d . Smedley's order to Angel ¹⁰			52.. 4.—	99..18.—
Mar: 9 th .	p ^d . for a barrel of Beer			2.. 8.—	
16.	p ^d . Oliver Brewster			10.. 8.—	
	p ^d . Isaac Jarvis			15.—	
	p ^d . Thomas Elwood			2.. 8.—	
	p ^d . Richard Floyd			4..16.—	
	p ^d . M ^{rs} . Campbell			4.. 5.—	
	p ^d . William Greenleaf			4..14.—	
	p ^d . Isaac Greenwood			1.. 4.—	
	p ^d . William Greenleaf J ^r			2.—..—	
	p ^d . D: G. Phips			18.—	
	p ^d . Thomas Popkins			2.. 5.—	36.. 1.—
	p ^d . D. G. Phips			1..10.—	
	p ^d . Antony			1..16.—	
	p ^d . Martha M ^c Kinney			2..18.—	

		p ^d . Nath ^l . Warner	3..18..—	
		p ^d . John Chapman ¹¹ £49.. 4/. & £5..14/	54..18..—	
		p ^d . Joseph Webb	4.. 5.. 6	
		p ^d . James Coffin	4..10..—	
		p ^d . John Badger	28..16..—	
		p ^d . M. Linn	9..—..—	
		p ^d . John Cook	1.. 3.. 4	
		p ^d . Philip Ridgway	<u>..12..—</u>	<u>112..16..10</u>
		sum carried forward		£2753..17.. 4
1778.	To Sum. bro't forward			£2753..17.. 4
March.	To Cash. paid the Steward to buy Corn		11.. 8..—	
	p ^d . Mons ^r . Tallemont for 8½ gal ^s . Brandy		20.. 8..—	
	p ^d . M ^r . Barlow to buy necessaries		2.. 2..—	
	p ^d . the Cooper		2.. 8..—	
	p ^d . Anthony Gnospelius to purchase Baize &c		10..10..—	
	p ^d . Smedley to pay Mons ^r . Deblon		7..16..—	
	p ^d . James Burt's Bill		2.. 8..—	
	p ^d . Sam ^l . Carter for Horse Hire to Hartford	}	<u>22..—..—</u>	79..—..—
	for M ^r . John. & Rob ^t . Wasson as Expresses			
4 th .	p ^d . M ^r . Wasson. to pay Men		130..—..—	
7.	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o		130..16..—	
	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o		71.. 8..—	
9 th .	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o		120..—..—	
11 th .	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o		50..—..—	
16.	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o		26..—..—	
17.	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o		81..—..—	
18	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o		<u>18..15..—</u>	627..19..—
20 th .	p ^d . Butler for Boards		3..11.. 6	
	p ^d . Robert Wasson to buy Crockery for the Cabin viz. 1 Turenne	}	3..—..—	
	4 Platters			

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE—Continued

732

AMERICAN THEATER

	p ^d Mr Beebe ¹² for Sail Needles	1.. 4.—	
	p ^d William Greenleaf	<u>4.. 3.—</u>	11..18.. 6
	p ^d for sundries— viz.		
	11 ^{lb} . Deck Nails@ 3/	1..13.—	
	2 p ^r . HL Hinges@ 5/6	..11.—	
	2 p ^r . — d ^o . small.@ 5/	..10.—	
	6½ ^{lb} . woulding Nails@ 6/	1..19.—	
	2 ^{lb} . d ^o . d ^o	12.—	
	5 ^{lb} . Deck Nails@ 3/	..15.—	
	3 ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails@ 4/	..12.—	
	2 ^{lb} . Deck Nails@ 3/	.. 6.—	
	11 ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails@ 4/	2.. 4.—	
	2 ^{lb} . 4 ^d . Nails@ 4/	.. 8.—	
	1½ ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails@ 4/	.. 6.—	
	11 ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails@ 4/	2.. 4.—	
	4 Staples, & 2 Pump bolts w ^g . 2 ^{lb}	<u>8.—</u>	<u>12.. 8.—</u>
	sum carried over		£3485.. 2..10
1778	Sum bro't Over		£3485.. 2..10
March.	14 ^{lb} . Deck Nails@ 3/	2.. 2.—	
	6 ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails@ 4/	1.. 4.—	
	5½ ^{lb} . scup: Nails@ 5/	1.. 7.. 6	
	6 ^{lb} . 6 ^d . Nails@ 4/	1.. 4.—	
	4 ^{lb} . woulds Nails@ 6/	1.. 4.—	
	13 ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails@ 4/	2..12.—	
	10 ^{lb} . for locks, & keys@ 4/	2..—.—	
	1 Hhd Coal	2..10.—	
	1 quire paper	.. 4.—	
	4 ^{lb} . Deck Nails@ 3/	..12.—	

	9 quires paper@ 4/	1..16..—	
	6 Iron bound Hhds.@ £4	24..—..—	
	4 Sheets Tin from my House	<u>..12..—</u>	41.. 7.. 6
	To Caleb Champney. Glazier for his bills	22.. 4.. 6	
	To Josias Byles. Truckman for d ^o	0.. 0.. 0	
	To Isaac Smith. for a [blank] & Poop lanthorn	51..15..—	
	To. Knox: for his Bill	6..—..—	
	To Hunt, & Brown for their Bills	436.. 8..—	
	To John Andrews for his Bills	66.. 4.. 2	
	To Joseph Clark. for d ^o	1461.. 1.. 1	
	To John Hooton. for d ^o	12.. 4..10	
	To Winter Calef. for d ^o	74.. 8..—	
	To Jon ^a . Balch. for d ^o	127.. 5.. 4	
	To James Seward. for d ^o	62..13..—	
	To Joseph How. for d ^o	31..16.. 8	
	To Francis Shaw. for d ^o	130..16.. 6	
	To James Burt. for d ^o	4..18..—	
	To. Tho ^s . Green. for d ^o	39..12..—	
	To. Sam ^l . Harris. for d ^o	310.. 2.. 6	
	To. Tho ^s . Green. for d ^o	43.. 8..—	
	To Thomas Greenough for d ^o	2..11..—	
	To Abraham Hayward for d ^o	<u>18..—..—</u>	
	sum carried forward	£6427..18..11	
1778.	Sum brought Forward	£6427..18..11	
March.	To. Bossenger Foster for his bill	61..10..—	
	To William Cordwell. for d ^o	42.. 9..—	
	To Edward Gyles. for d ^o	1..16..—	
	To Samuel Harris for d ^o	..14..—	
	To John Matchet. for d ^o	15.. 6..—	
	To. John Brown for d ^o	3..—..—	

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE—Continued

734

AMERICAN THEATER

	To. John Owen. for d ^o	147.. 4.—	
	To Joseph How. for d ^o	2.. 1..10	
	To. Bossenger Foster . . for d ^o	45.—..—	
	To John Andrews. for d ^o	46.. 4.. 6	
	To Waters, & Gyles for their Bill	157.. 2.—	
	To Thomas Mayo for his Bill	423.. 4.—	
	To. E Winter Calef. . . . for d ^o	4..12.. 6	
	To. Breeden for. . d ^o . suppose	100.—..—	
	To Thomas Green. for Shakings 5 ^{cwt} @ 18/	4..10..—	
	To. William Stone. for ballast	9.—..—	
	To. State of Con ^t for 2.. 2..14 Cordage out of Sloop <i>Catherine</i>		
	d ^o . for 2 doz. Housline, & Marline	3..12..—	}
	7 scains d ^o	1.. 1..—	
	6. d ^o . d ^o	18.—	
	2.. 0..14 Spunyarn		
	39 Gal ^s N: E Rum dld at sundry times in Dec ^r . . @ 35/	68.. 5.—	
	To. Cash paid Cap ^t Lamb ¹³ for ½ of 2 hhds Taffier ¹⁴ 87 Gal ^s . . @ 36/	78.. 6.—	
	paid for 2 q ^{ts} Oil	..15.—	
	paid for Cyder	4..10..—	
	paid for Boats attending Ship while below	3..10..—	
	paid. for a house Bell with a Spring	1.. 5.—	
	paid for a hand Vice. for Armourer	..18.—	
	paid Antony Gnospelius for Sundries	..12.—	
	paid Byles . . for Truckage	.. 9.—	
		<u>90.. 5.—</u>	
		carried Over	
		£7581..17.. 9	
1778.	To Sum bro't over	£7581..17.. 9	
March.	To Job. Prince J ^{rs} . bill for Wine	45.—..—	
	To Sam ^l . Whitwells bill	82.. 2..—	

To Parker, & Bradshaw. for ½ of their acco ^t	825.. 9.. 9
To Sam ^l Barrett's bill	214.. 5.. 6
To Henry Roby's. . bill	.. 6..—
To Brown, & Emme's bill	1266..13.. 4
To Simeon Spencer's bill	..19..11
To E Winter Calef's bill	10..—..—
To. Edward Carne's bill	1165.. 9.. 3
To. Ellis Gray's bill	154..18..—
To. Brown, & Emmes bill	183..13.. 6
To Jon ^a . Balch's bill	18.. 3..—
To. P. D. Sergeants ¹⁵ bill	96..10.. 1
To John Ballard's bill . 700 ft Boards	5..12..—
To Will ^m . Shattucks bill	110..—..—
To. J. Lambs bill. . . ½ hhd Rum 108 gal ^s at 42/	113.. 8..—
To. Caleb. Champney's first bill	42..16.. 9
To Joseph Trumbull Esq ^r for 2 Cables 7½ inch. . meas ^r 92 fathom 109 d ^o . to be laid into one w ^g .	
To James Swards. after bill	<u>4..19..—</u>
	£11922.. 3..10
	D ^r

1778 Ship *Defence*. to Samuel Eliot J^r—
for sundries. for Stores. . . . viz.
[March] To. Brig *Defence* for sundries sav'd from last Cruize
17 bls. Pork
2 bls. & 4 Tierces Beef
1 bl. Peas. . & 1 b^l. Gruts¹⁶
a bag. Rice. . & a bag of Coffee.
½ bl. split. Peas.
½ Casks Tongues

0.. 0.. 0

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE—Continued

½ bl. Barley
 1 box, & p^t of a box Candles
 case empty Bottles.
 ½ bl. Herrings

To, State of Connecticut	
45. bls. of Beef. from Avis &c	
9. d ^o in 6. Tierces— d ^o	
1 d ^o Pork	
7. bls. Pork. out of the <i>Honor</i>	
1. Tierce d ^o d ^o	
9 bls. Beef d ^o	
3. bls. Flour d ^o	
38. bls. Pork . from Hayley	
12. firkins Butter 735 ^{lb} : N ^t at 2/	
1 Hhd Tobacco— . . . 624 ^{lb} : N ^t at	
3 bls. Hams	
4 Tierces Flour N ^o 34	
N ^o 27	
N ^o 28	
& Casks. N ^o 24	
1 Cask Peas. 12½ bushels	
3 Casks Flour	
& Casks	
2 Casks Beans	
& Casks.	
14 bags Bread	
To, Sum bro't over	

1778
 March.

£

To. Sam ^l . Eliot Jr. . 9 hhds Bread.		
cont ^g —29 ^{cwt} ..2..0. at		
9 new hhds. . at 30/		
To Edward Edes for ^{cwt} . qr. lb. Bread		
To. Board of War for.d ^o .		
To. 3 Casks Rice 14 ^{cwt} ..3..18. N ^t at		
14 ^{lb} : Sugar 49/. 14 ^{lb} : Sugar 49/	4..18.—	
28 ^{lb} . d ^o . £4..18/. 28 ^{lb} . d ^o . £4..18/	9..16.—	
33 ^{lb} . Coffee . . at 6/	9..18.—	
1 Cask Oatmeal. N ^o . 340	" "	
120 ^{lb} : Coffee @ 10/. . & a bag 12/	60..12.—	
1 q ^r paper 4/. . 1 d ^o . 4/. . 1 keg Barley	" "	
28 ^{lb} . Sugar	4..18.—	
1 bl. d ^o . 2 ^{cwt} ..2..2 N ^t at	" "	
28 ^{lb} . d ^o .	4..18.—	
38 ^{lb} . Coffee . . at 6/	10.. 8.—	
6 plates 10/. . 3 large Basons 18/	1.. 8.—	
3 small Basons 15/. . 9 ^{lb} : 24 ^d . Nails 36/	2..11.—	
6 ^{lb} . woulding Nails	<u>1..16.—</u>	5..15.—
1½ doz plates 30/. . 6 Basons 36/		3.. 6.—
1 large Bowl		..12.—
3 Tierces Tar £9..		
1 q ^r paper 4/	9.. 4.—	
1 2 hour glass . . . 1 patent hour glass		
1 patent ½ minute d ^o . . 1 d ^o . ¼ min: d ^o .		
6 ^{lb} . Sugar 21/. — 2 ^{lb} . Alspice		
1½ ^{cwt} . Scupper Nails 12/.		
35 ^{lb} . Sugar £6.. 2.. 6	6..14.. 6	
1 bl. Sugar . . . 2 ^{cwt} ..2..20 N ^t at		
1 Tierce Tar	4..10.—	

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *DEFENCE*—*Continued*

1—2 hour Glass.	3 ^{lb} : Tobacco 27/			
1 Cask Porter	gal ^s . @ 7/			
8 ^{lb} . best Fish 10/.	9 ^{lb} . d ^o . 11/		1.. 1..—	
¾ quintle d ^o .			<u>4..16..—</u>	5..17..—
1 barrel Cyder			4..10..—	
12 Wine Glasses 4 bottles Mad ^{a.17}				
To. Duncan Ingraham J ^r				
25½ Cheeses 437½ ^{lb} .			" "	
To. John Langdon's ¹⁸ .. bill			" "	
To. John Lamb. 71¾ gal ^s . Rum @ 42/				<u>150..13.. 6</u>
carried forward.				

D, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 9, pp. 246a–l. This document is incomplete.

1. Capt. Samuel Smedley, commanding Connecticut Navy ship *Defence*.
2. Refuse fat from the ship's galley collected for greasing down masts, for applying to parceling when mixed with tar before serving a rope and for lubricating sheaves.
3. Anthony Gnospelius, marine on ship *Defence*.
4. John Wasson, clerk of ship *Defence*.
5. Midshipman Joseph Pease of ship *Defence*.
6. William Vernon, member, Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department.
7. Thomas Elwood, serjeant of marines of ship *Defence*.
8. Charles Annis, steward of ship *Defence*.
9. Jesse Jeacocks of New London, 1st mate of ship *Defence*.
10. James Angel of New London, 1st lieutenant of ship *Defence*.
11. John Chapman, 1st lieutenant of Connecticut Navy ship *Oliver Cromwell*.
12. Edward Beebe, of Stratford, Conn., master of ship *Defence*.
13. Capt. John Lamb, of Boston.
14. Tafia, an inferior rum made from distilled sugarcane juice in the West Indies.
15. Paul Dudley Sargent, merchant at Boston.
16. Possibly a mistake for "groats".
17. Madeira wine.
18. John Langdon, tallow chandler at Boston.

DANIEL TILLINGHAST TO JOSHUA HUNTINGTON

Coll Joshua Huntington

Providence March 20. 1778

Sir

I have here inclos'd you a Recp^t for 15 Shaken hh^{ds}. &c &c w^{ch}: Cask was Left here by the *Warren*, and are now order'd by the Navy board¹ to Norwich for the Ship Building under your care² the hoops are N^o. for the hh^{ds}. here sent, w^{ch}. you please to Notice Accordingly & Charge the Expen^t to said ship I am Sir [&c.]

Dan^l Tillinghast

L, PHi, Frigate *Confederacy* Papers. Addressed: "Major Joshua Huntington/Norwich." Docketed: "Dan^l Tillinghasts/Letter Mc^h. 20th 1778."

1. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
2. Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy*.

JOURNAL OF THE RHODE ISLAND NAVY SCHOONER GALLEY *SPITFIRE*,
CAPTAIN JOSEPH CRANDALL

March 1778

Remarks at Tiverton. [*at Howland's Ferry, R.I.*]Fryday 20th

Fine Pleasant weather wind, @ SW AM. Came to sail saw, a Number of British Mercenaries,¹ on the Heights near Common Fence Point, gave them, Six Swivel Shot, Stood up the Reaver.² went, Round Common Fence, gave them, 2 Eighteen pound Shott 2 Three ditto, & 1 Six pound Ditto, which cause them to disperse Retn^d, One Shott from their Fort at The Ferry;³ but did no Damage. Landed, with a Small Party E Side, of the point, but Saw, none of Enemy

D, UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/455/1. Title: "A Journal, began, on Board, the Galley *Spitfire*, belonging to the State, of Rhode Island, & Commanded, by, Cap^t Jos, Crandall," (Feb.-May 1778).

1. Men from the 43d Foot collecting wood on Common Fence Point. See Diary of Captain Frederick Mackenzie, 16 Mar., and 18 Mar., both above.

2. Pocasset River.

3. Howland's Ferry.

THE CONNECTICUT GAZETTE; AND THE UNIVERSAL INTELLIGENCER

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1778

NEW-LONDON, March 20.

Capt. Williams who arrived here last Week from the West Indies, has given us a further Account of Vessels belonging to New-England, which are arrived in the West Indies, viz.

Brig *Swift*, Young; schooner *Polly*, Ailger; sloop *Betsey*, Kilby; schooner *Chance*, Smith; schooner *Neptune*, Meserve; Brig *Charming Sally*, Hammond; Brig *London*, Backliff; schooner *Prudence*, Boardman; schooner *Jane*, White; schooner —, Nichols; schooner *Nancey*, Cooper; schooner *Endeavour*, Elwell; sloop *Chance*, Cooper; sloop —, Doxey; schooner —, Pembleton.

Privateers in the West-Indies, belonging to the Northward.

Sloop *Revenge*, Freeborn;¹ Brig *Hamden*, Bartlet;² sloop *Revenge*, Sampson; Brig *General-Sullivan*, Darlin;³ ship *Cumberland*, Collins;⁴ schooner *Lincoln*, Margeson;⁵ sloop *Ramble*,⁶ —; sloop *Fly*,⁷ Stanton.

The Privateer Brig *Fairfield*, Capt. Hovey,⁸ is arrived at Bedford [*in Dartmouth*], from a Cruise.

About 30 Sail of the Enemy's Shipping are lying in Gardiner's Bay, having some Men of War with them.

1. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*, Isaac Freeborn, commander, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 60 seamen, was commissioned on 30 Apr. 1777 and owned by John Dean and Mungo Mackay, of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 7, p. 50.

2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*, John Bartlett, commander, mounting 14 carriage guns, a crew of 60 seamen, was commissioned on 29 Nov. 1777 and owned by Jonathan Ingersoll, of Salem and George Cabot, of Beverly. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, pp. 100, 103.

3. New Hampshire privateer brigantine *General Sullivan*, Thomas Dalling, commander, mounting 14 carriage guns, a crew of 100 seamen, was commissioned on 13 Sep. 1777 and owned by Eliphalet Ladd and others, of Exeter, N.H. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 6, p. 43 (M247, roll 203).

4. Massachusetts privateer ship *Cumberland*, James Collins, commander, mounting 20 carriage guns, a crew of 180 men, was commissioned on 12 and 13 Sept. 1777 and owned by Paul Dudley Sargent, Nathaniel Crafts and Job Prince, of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 5, pp. 112, 115.

5. Massachusetts privateer schooner *General Lincoln*, John Margeson, commander, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 50 seamen, was commissioned on 22 Dec. 1777 and owned by Philip Moore, of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 5, pp. 323, 326.

6. American privateer sloop *Rambler*, Nathaniel Monro, commander. See NDAR 10: 481, 481n, 810.

7. American privateer sloop *Fly* was fitted out at Martinique in the spring of 1777 and originally was commanded by Thomas Palmer. See NDAR 9: 93, 108, 180, 195, 223-24.

8. Rhode Island privateer sloop *Fairfield*, James Hovey, commander, was commissioned on 28 Oct. 1777 and owned by Amos Hubbard and others. William Paine Sheffield, *Rhode Island Privateers* (Newport, R.I.: John P. Sanborn, Printer, 1883), p. 60.

ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NEW JERSEY

[Extract]

[Trenton] Friday, March 20, 1778

...The Navy Board of the State of *Pennsylvania*, having applied to his Excellency the Governor to give Orders for procuring a Number of Carriages and Teams, to be used in removing the Guns and Stores belonging to some of the Gallies under the Care of the said Board, to a Place of Safety; which Application his Excellency has been pleased to lay before the House, and also to request that they will interpose and direct such Measures to be taken as the Exigency of the Case may require.

Resolved,

That the President and Council of Safety be empowered for the Space of twenty Days, to give Orders for impressing such and so many Carriages, Teams and Drivers as may be necessary for the Purpose, to be continued in Service for a Term not exceeding six Days at any one Time; provided that the said Navy Board engage to pay the Owners of the said Carriages and Teams so impressed like Wages as they are allowed when in the Service of the Continent.

Ordered,

That Mr. *Schenck* and Mr. *Westcot* do wait on the Council, and desire their Concurrence in the said Resolution.

Mr. *Schenck* reported, that Mr. *Westcot* and himself obeyed the Order of the House.

Votes and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of New-Jersey. At a Session begun at Trenton on the 28th Day of October 1777, and continued by Adjournments until the 8th of October 1778 (Trenton, 1779), 86.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO MAJOR GENERAL HORATIO GATES,
PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL BOARD OF WAR

[Extract]

Sir Head Quarters Valley Forge 20th: March 1778

... I am getting the heavy Cannon that were saved out of the Shipping upon Delaware mounted upon travelling Carriages, they are very fine Iron 18 and 24 pounders and I suppose will amount to about twelve. If we should take a post below the City, they, with the heavy Brass Artillery and the Mortars will be of the greatest use to us, but the Cannon will be too heavy to move any great distance. I have the honor [&c.] . . .

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Major Gen^l Gates." Docketed: "20th March 1778/to/Maj^r Gen^l Gates/Presid^t Board War." The omitted portions of the letter concern the increase of advanced pickets to discover the recent movements of the British Army, British attempts to procure horses, and the establishment of two main Continental arsenals for artillery and military stores at Carlisle, Pa., and Springfield, Mass.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Friday, March 20, 1778

Congress took into consideration the report of the Marine Committee;¹ Whereupon,

Resolved, That officers of the continental navy not in actual service, be allowed their pay, but not their rations, nor the subsistence money allowed by the resolution of the 25 July, 1777:²

That such officers of the navy as are or may be taken by the enemy, be allowed the pay while in the enemy's possession or under parole, and rations during their captivity, deducting therefrom such supplies, as they may, in that time, have received from the enemy.

JCC 10: 272.

1. DNA, PCC, Report of the Marine Committee (M332, roll 6, fol. 30); see Journal of the Continental Congress, 8 Jan., above.

2. See NDAR 9: 337–38.

CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

D^e General

Wilmington March 20th: 1778

Inclosed You have an Invoice of the Goods taken from On Board the Schooner *Alert*¹ & Ships *Mermaid* & *Kitty*² the Intrenching Tools You mentioned are Stolen by the Inhabitants together with about one fourth Part of the Cargo taken out of the Vessels I Should Be much Obligated to Your Excellency to Appoint Some Person at Middletown or Order them there to purchase what things You may Judge necessary for the Army as I wish they may have the Preference, the Capturers In general Expect the Articles to be sold at Publick sale in about ten days from this Date. I likewise Send You a Rough Draft of New York Island which Probably may be of Service to You.

The Enemy have forty Sail of Vessels up Salem Creek & about thirty more On the Delaware abreast of the Creek. they have from the Best information I Can collect about fifteen hundred Men Landed & am Satisfied their Intent[ions] is for Stock & forage Shall By the Earliest Opportunity Transmit to Your Excellency Every movement of the Enemy I Possibly Can Collect. Subscribe myself Your Excellencys [&c.]

John Barry

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "To His Excell^{cy} Gen^l: Washington."

1. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., and Captain's Journal of H.M.S. *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., above.

2. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master. See Ibid.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dear Sir,

Wilmington March 20th. 1778

The Enemys Fleet still remain down below Reedy Island, except such Transports as conveyed off the Invalids &c—various accounts of the Numbers, from 1,200 to 2,000, some are said to have marched down by Land, others to have landed from the Fleet near Salem, they have plundered, and were the other Day carrying off Forage, the Jersey Militia took & sent over here nine of their Seamen, they landed a small Party on Wednesday, and took out a Private Boat from Hamborough—They give out their Intentions are to destroy our Salt Works at Egg Harbour, to collect all the Forage adjacent to the River on both Sides, and to destroy this Place & Marcus hook in their Way up—I have ordered the removal of all the Hay that possibly can be carried from the River course, and have a Party below for that purpose and to burn such as cannot be moved, shou'd they attempt a Descent on this Side the Delaware—Cap^t: Rumford is just setting out,¹ which prevents my adding more, than that I have the honor to remain [&c.]

W. Smallwood

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "General Washington."

1. Capt. Jonathan Rumford, Delaware Battalion of the Flying Camp.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO ROBERTSON STEVENS

Sir.

In Council [*Annapolis*] 20th. March 1778.

We send Capt. Matthews¹ to Cambridge for all the Public Goods which are lodged there; you'll therefore please to deliver them to the Captain and dispatch him as fast as possible—We are Sir &c^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "M^r: Robertson Stevens." Stevens (or Stephens) was sheriff of Dorchester County.

1. Capt. Bennett Mathews, commanding Maryland Navy galley *Independence*.

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO CAPTAIN BENNETT MATHEWS

[*Annapolis*] In Council 20 March 1778.

Ordered that the Treasurer of the Western Shore pay to Bennett Mathews One hundred Pounds for the use of the Galley *Independance* on Account—

Th Johnson

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-132/33.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Friday the 20th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt, deliver to Mr John Smallwood three tons of Iron for the use of the Chickahominy Shipyard.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick store, deliver to Captain Thomas Lilly three thousand ten penny nails, two thousand eight penny ditto, one thousand six penny ditto, fifty pound of two shilling ditto, and fifteen pound twine for the Use of the ship *Gloucester*—¹

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 366.

1. Virginia Navy ship *Gloucester*, Capt. Thomas Lilly, commander.

“AT A COURT OF ADMIRALTY HELD IN THE CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG,
THE 20TH DAY OF MARCH 1778.”

ANY person claiming any share or interest in sundry articles of rigging, &c. taken on the high seas by *James Barron* and his crew, said to belong to the *Richmond*, a *British* vessel of war, are desired to come into Court and claim the same, as is directed by law, otherwise the Court will proceed to condemnation of the effects, and decree the money arising from the sales thereof according to law.

By order of the Court.

WILLIAM RUSSELL, clerk.

Purdie's *Virginia Gazette* (Williamsburg), 3 Apr. 1778.

CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW, R.N., TO COLONEL CHARLES HARRISON

Sir *S^t Albans*. Hampton Road. march y^e 20th. 1778.

Upwards of Thirty Negroes have just escaped from a boat [*at*] Portsmouth on Board His Maj^{ty}s Ship *S^t Albans*. If I could be assured upon your Honor, that the Negroes would not be punish beaten or mistreated, I should be induced to return them and that sort of treatment, towards those miserable wretchs would induce me not to detain any of them by which means Individuals would regain a considerable part of their property. A contrary Conduct will oblige me to assist those people towards geting clear of the State of Virginia. I shall be gald [i.e., *glad*] of your Answer, by the return of the Flag. I am [&c.]

R^d. Onslow

L, PWacD, Sol Feinstone Collection of the American Revolution, no. 1042. Addressed at the foot: “Colonel Harrison.”

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

March 78 Moored in Hampton Road Virginia
Friday 20th. Light airs and Clear W^r AM Came off thirty five Negroes¹
 unbent the Sails began Tarring the Standing Rigging &
 Blacking the Yards sent a Flag of Truce to Portsmouth.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. See Captain Richard Onslow, R.N., to Colonel Charles Harrison, immediately above.

THURMER HOGGARD TO CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE

S^cVirginia Princess Anne, March y^e 20th 1778

I presume you have Long ere now been inform'd that I engaged With Mess^{rs}. Maxwell & Loyall,¹ to Cant a frame for one of the Frigates to be built at Gosport,² for one thousand Pounds, and as I am a considerable sufferor by Said undertakeing, take the liberty to enclose An Acc^t of the Timber at the prices they realy cost me, after rating my workmen & at the most reasonable Wages, and entreat the favour of you to lay it before the Honble Congress, in hopes they will give Directions to Mess^{rs}. Maxwell & Loyall to pay me the Bal^l. The Bearer M^r Stodder³ will do me the faver to give you any further information that may be required & I am [&c.]

Thurmer Hoggard

P.S. As Capt Tho^s Tolbut [*Talbot*] Agread for the other frame and is Since Dead and left me Ex^{ct} hope that frame may be Consider'd in the Same manner⁴ And Oblige y^{rs}

T.H.

L., DNA, PCC, item 78, vol. 11 pp. 293–96 (M247, reel 96). Addressed: “The Chairman of the Marine Cummittee of Congress/at/york Town/Pensylvania/ ~~th~~ faver of M^r Stodder.” Docketed: “Letter from Thurmer Hoggard/Virginia Princess Ann—/March 20. 1778/recvd 6 April.—/referred to the marine Com^c/who are directed to report.”

1. James Maxwell and Paul Loyall, Joint Commissioners for Building Two Continental Frigates at Gosport, Va.

2. On 20 Nov. 1776 the Continental Congress authorized the construction of two frigates in Virginia. *NDAR* 7: 223; 10: 631–32.

3. David Stodder (or Stoddart), Joint Commissioner with Paul Loyall of the Continental Ship Yard at Gosport.

4. *NDAR* 10: 1193–94, 1194–95.

GOVERNOR PATRICK TONYN TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]

N^o. 52.

My Lord;

The province has remained in perfect tranquility I have the honour to inform your Lordship, notwithstanding the reports of the rebels preparations to invade this province with a considerable force, which gradually subsides: a party of them advanced towards Saint Mary River, and returned without effectuating any thing.

Upon every occasion I, my Lord, communicate my intelligence to Brigadier General Prevost, and no parties of observation from the Rangers¹ penetrate into Georgia without his previous approbation: I am, my Lord, solicitous of cooperating with him in harmony for the benefit of the King's service, but the Brigadier General declines attacking the province of Georgia with His Majesty's Troops, without positive orders from General Sir William Howe.

Captain Fanshawe² has, my Lord, chearfully given every assistance and has ordered Captain Jordan³ of the *Galatea* to protect the province. Lieutenant Ellis⁴ of the *Hinchinbrook* and Captain Mowbray⁵ of the *Rebecca* will secure the inland passage, at my desire the *Galatea* is gone into Frederica,⁶ while the others are to enter the inlets north of the Gallies Station and to pass up towards the *Galatea*, by which

means I expect to destroy the Gallies, and I hope, my Lord they will secure the inland passage and frustrate the designs of the rebels.⁷

I ordered Lieutenant Colonel Brown,⁸ my Lord, of the Rangers to penetrate as a Corps of observation the province of Georgia. He with a party of Rangers and a few Indians with very little loss has taken by assault Fort Barrington with twenty three prisoners, destroyed the Cannon, and, my Lord, burned this Fort. . . .

His Majesty's Frigates, my Lord, and the Privateers have been very successful in taking prizes, which are chiefly french Merchantmen. near four hundred french Men prisoners have been brought here. I provided Vessels to convey them to the french West India Islands, three are gone, and a fourth is preparing to depart. Monsieur De Bretignie⁹ and his Corps of Officers are still prisoners in the Statehouse, I shall send them to England to receive your Lordships commands by the first safe opportunity.

I have the honour to enclose to your Lordship a copy of a letter found in a Dutch prize taken by a letter of Marque, Captain Bachope,¹⁰ it will shew to your Lordship the rebel correspondence in England &^{ca}.

I have the honour to be with the greatest respect My Lord [&c.]

Pat. Tonym
St Augustine 20th March
1778

L, UKLPR, C.O. 5/558, fols. 113–14. Addressed below close: "Right Honourable/Lord George Germain." Docketed: "St Augustine March 20 1778/Gov^r Tonym/(N^o 52)/R, June 6th/(Inclosures 2)/Ent^d."

1. East Florida Rangers.

2. Capt. Robert Fanshawe, commanding H.M.S. *Carysfort*.

3. Capt. Thomas Jordan, R.N.

4. Lt. Alexander Ellis, R.N.

5. Capt. John Mowbray, commanding the East Florida province armed sloop *Rebecca*.

6. Probably St. Simons Sound into which the Frederica River flows from the northwards.

7. See Captain Thomas Jordan, R.N., to Governor Patrick Tonym, 17 Mar., above.

8. Lt. Col. Thomas Brown.

9. Charles-François Sévelinges, "Marquis" de Brétigny (Brétigny). See Governor Patrick Tonym to Lord George Germain, 26 Jan., above.

10. Peter Le Poole (Peter La Pole) to Samuel Downing, 17 Nov. 1777, UKLPR, C.O. 5/558, fols. 117–18. Contrary to Tonym's report, the capture of the Dutch brig *Batavear* was credited to H.M.S. *Carysfort* and H.M.S. *Lizard*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Carysfort*, 1 Feb., above, and Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 238–39.

COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N., TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

On board His Britannic
Majesty's Sloop of War the *Sylph* on
the River Mississippi 20th March 1778

Sir

I have received by the hands of an officer your letter of the 18th. Instant, in return to mine of the 15th. and am sorry to say, that your answer is little satisfactory in so much that you have granted only part of my demand, in consenting to give up part of the British Property, and you have given no answer to my proposal of the other part of the property, being deposited with your Excellency, till the pleasure of your Court is known. It was not necessary for your Excellency, to point out to me the Article of the Treaty of Peace respecting the limits of this Country, as I was before fully instructed on that head.

You have also been pleased to alter your Sentiments with regard to the Privileges of the River Mississippi, expressed in your Correspondence with Captⁿ Lloyd; perhaps you may be right, but that is a point, I will not take upon me to determine. I will only beg leave to remind you of what you observed to the above Gent[leman] on the same Subject in your Letter of the 26th. April 1777,¹ you say that we ought mutually to preserve respect for the Territories of both King's—Had your Excellency observed that rule, you would not have permitted the British Ship called the *Rebecca*, to have been taken within Musquit shot of Fort St^t Gabriel, belonging to his Catholic Majesty, and under your command. I will again repeat to your Excellency, what I have before advanced, that you have admitted into your Government a Body of Armed Men, Enemies to the King my Master, & suffered them from thence to make War against his Subjects, & seize their property in the Mississippi, which you allow only to be free to Great Britain & Spain.

Now I will ask your Excellency, how it is possible for me to discriminate between the Subjects of Spain, & the Enemies of Great Britain, as they are so intermixed between, and enjoy the same protection under your Government. You have been pleased to say, that the Treaties of Peace, and the privileges of your Government have been often violated by British Men of War; if so, your Excellency certainly knew where to seek for redress; and you cannot think me responsible for the faults of others, or that I will give up a just claim on such assertions, no, I will firmly adhere to my demand and if you think it a point of too much importance to be settled between you & me, it must be determined by our respective Courts. I will again urge that whatever part [of] the British Property, now in question, you think yourself not at liberty to restore, may remain deposited with your Excellency, till the pleasure of your Court is known.

I cannot help feeling for the great distress of my fellow Subjects, now in your Province, and I am exceedingly alarmed for the consequences, that may attend the measures, that you have adopted, & seem now to pursue against them, measures that I am apprehensive will eventually draw upon your Country the Calamities of War. I have the satisfaction to say that since my Arrival in this River I have most scrupulously kept inviolate the Treaties of Peace, now subsisting between our Nations if you have done so, it remains hereafter to be determined, & most certainly your Excellency will be answerable for the consequences.

In my last letter to your Excellency, I mentioned my ultimate resolution respecting a salute & visit.

I must now advance a few words, in answer to what you say, is customary in the Ports of Europe where Loyalists and British American Rebel Subjects are equally received; I agree with you, that such revolted Subjects have been received in several parts of Europe, but I averr, that they have never been permitted to land in Arms, in The Territories of any Prince or Potentate in Europe, and from thence to commit hostilities against the Liege Subjects of His Britannic Majesty either in the Harbours of such Prince & Potentates, or within Gun-Shot of their Coasts. I will farther Acknowledge, that British Ships and Vessels have been taken at sea by American Privateers and carried into different Ports of Europe, where they have been introduced as American property, and sold by private sale, but when timely information was given to the British Ministers, they have been constantly claimed, and upon their Owners proving their property have been delivered up to them,

and I have no reason to doubt, that the Same Justice will be done in America when timely application is made in the name of His Britannic Majesty.

I am now to conclude having advanced every argument, that a sense of my duty, humanity and love to Justice can suggest to me, and I hope that your Excellency is actuated by the same sentiments, and that you will admit the Justice of my claim: To which your definitive answer is requested. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Jn^o. Fergusson

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed below the close: "His Excellency Don Barnardo de Galvez/Gov^r Louisiana." Docketed: "Copy of Captⁿ. Fergussons/Letter to Gov^r Galvez/20th. March 1778/In S^r Peter Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778—."

1. See NDAR 8: 446–47.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N.

Sir

The two last points of your letter,¹ to which I promised in mine a separate answer,² were your complaints against the American Officer, and my intention in sending you six Granadiers.

As the first of these points, you will give me leave (tho' we both know the case) to mention it in writing, that it may be an undeniable fact; because if our Courts read the expressions of insult and others relative to this affair, they would really think, that I would not have given you, & to your Flag a competent satisfaction. The fact (as I have been informed) was this: the Americans plac'd themselves opposite to your Ship and hailed, from whence came you, and was answered, that no answers were given to Rebels or Banditti, to which words several others of the same kind were added, and to which the Americans replied; since we are such, we will come this night and pay you a Visit with two hundred Men—

In which of these expressions, is there an affront offered to you or your Flag. If the officer has behaved improperly, it is to me, in threatening from a place, from whence it is not permitted, and for which he has given me ample satisfaction before the officers of my Court, as well as he would have done to you, if you had chose to accept of it: so that without further reflections I do not find any reason to deliver you the said officer, as you demand it; these threats proceeded from imprudence and levity, you may call them an insult, but not an affront—This insult (and it was nothing else) consisted in words, and in words, ought to have consisted the satisfaction. If it had been in facts, his person would have been your satisfaction: this is Justice, and any other pretensions are needless.

In regard to the six Granadiers & a Corporal, which with my Boat & the Royal Flag were to stay along side of your Ship. I must be very little acquainted with war (tho' it is my profession) had I thought, that seven Men could be capable of defending your Ship, which I took upon to be well armed. If my ideas had been to reinforce her, I would not have sent so small a Number; a reinforcement is useless, if its object is not to assure victory at the end of a battle.

What I mean is, on the contrary to prevent the beginning of an engagement. This being supposed, and the Americans alledging, that those vessels have been taken in this River, and that they have the right of reprisals in the same River. To prevent any rash attempt I sent neither the Boat, nor the Grenadiers, but a Flag of

a King which is respected by the Americans. Moreover as soon as you complain to me of an insult and demand satisfaction from me, I think myself responsible, as soon as you lay the effects to my charge, it is incumbent upon me to prevent them for the future, and how if it is so, can you be surprised, that I take the only step, which secures you from insults & complaints, and me from responsibility and satisfactions. In short you thought my intentions were good, & you was in the right, because I am not capable of entertaining bad ones against any body—&c

(signed) Bernardo de Galvez

New Orleans

March 20th. 1778

Copy, UkLPR, Adm. 1/241. Docketed: "Gov^r Galvez's Letter to/Captⁿ Fergusson March 20/1778/In Sir Pet^r Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778."

1. See Commander John Fergusson, R.N., to Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez, 14 Mar., second letter, above.

2. See Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez to Commander John Fergusson, R.N., 14 and 15 Mar., above.

DONALD CAMPBELL TO COLONEL JOHN STUART

Copy

Dear Sir

I wrote you by express twelve days ago, the return of which express I impatiently wait for: the Situation of matters are very little altered since, only M^r Christie¹ has surprised the Party at Manchac, has taken, Killed or Wounded 16 out of 25 that was there, but they having soon a reinforcement he prudently retired and they have proceeded up the River to plunder whatever was left unplundered before, and carrie away some Negroes that had not got over to the Spanish side, What could Induce your Governor to send so few men had 200 been sent afirst all would be over, and it would be only the first loss but now from the Quantity of Plunder many has and more will be induced to Join them, they are now about 200 and had M^r Christie but 50 Men and a few Indians he would have prevented their going past Manchac, nothing but certain ruin attend every Person in this River and they have distroyed all the provisions on the Amitt² and now talk of doing the same to every place along the lakes and Mobile Bay, and then about Pensacola. Your Brother³ is safe here, he arrived last night nothing Material has been done by the Man of War,⁴ some of the Council ought to be sent, I am afraid he is too warm, and all the Property which is very considerable is now on the Spanish Side and its but doing Don Galves the Justice due to him to say he has given protection to every person who desired it, and should Captⁿ Fergusson quarrel with him every person here is ruined without redemption, wishing you health & happiness I am [&c.]

Signed.—Don^d Campbell

New Orleans

March 20th 1778.

I request my letters may not be seen so as to send Copys back for some letters which Col^l Hutchins⁵ wrote your Governor last year Copys were sent to Congress and he is now in Custody and all his Negroes taken from him for that reason, of this Mr Willing made no secrete.

L, UKLPR, C.O. 5/79, 99-100. Addressed at the foot of the first page: "The Honorable John Stuart Esq^r" Docketed: "New Orleans 20th. March 1778/Copy of a letter from/M^c Donald Campbell to the/Superintendent/In M^c Stuart's (N^o 23)/of 13th. April 1778./(8)."

1. Adam Chrystie, a magistrate of the Manchac District.
2. Amite River.
3. Henry Stuart.
4. H.M. sloop *Sylph*, Comdr. John Fergusson, commanding.
5. Lt. Col. Anthony Hutchins of West Florida.

March 21

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 21st 1778—

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins¹ receive of Cap^t John M^cNear, two Cannon 3 pounders, with their Appurtenances from Prize Brig^t *Favorite*.²—

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins deliver Cap^t John M^cNear for M^r Timothy Parsons 20 Fathom 3 1/2 Inch Ropes to secure Masts at Pownalborough.—

Voted, That John Brown Esq^r be desir'd to write Timothy Parsons respecting further securing Masts at Pownalborough—

Order'd, That John M^cNear for freight of Sundries from Tim^o Parsons at Pownalborough, belonging to Brig^t *Favorite* be paid . . . £4..16.— (Prize Acco^t)

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins deliver D^r John Warren from Brig^t *Favorite*, for the Continental Hospital Eighty Eight Yards old Linnen.— (ch^d. in May 17.)—

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins deliver D^r Gardner³ for the State Hospital, from Brig^t *Favorite*, 44^y^{ds}. old Linnen valu'd @ £9

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 260-61.

1. Caleb Hopkins.

2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*. She was formerly the British Army transport *Favorite*, John Bell, master, captured by the Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts* on 22 Apr. 1777. See NDAR 8: 787, 787-88, 788n; 9: 186. Brigantine *Favorite* served Massachusetts subsequently as a prison ship, Roger Bartlet, commander, in Boston harbor and as a cartel vessel to Halifax, Lt. John Brown, commander. See NDAR 9: 981-82; 10: 67, 236, 451, 748, 748n, 778, 793, 837, 838n.

3. Dr. Joseph Gardner.

RIVINGTON'S *THE ROYAL GAZETTE* (NEW YORK),

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1778

New-York, March 21.

It is determined by government that a Royal Dock-Yard shall be established at New-York, in order to which we are informed, the Right Hon. the Lords of the Admiralty, have appointed Edward Le Cras, Esq; a native of the island of Jersey, and two and twenty years Captain in the Royal Navy, to be Commissioner.

It has been also resolved, that Letters of Marque and Reprisal shall be issued at New-York to cruizers against the enemy's shipping, and it is reported that General Tryon will give public notice when his Excellency shall think proper for the owners of them to apply for their commissions. . . .

"This week arrived a fine French frigate built Ship of 600 tons burthen, mounting 24 guns,¹ mann'd with 100 Frenchmen) Laden with sundry goods from

Old France, taken by his Majesty's ship *SOLEBAY*, off the Capes of Virginia; which ship has brought under her convoy the following prizes lately taken by his Majesty's ships on the Cheasepeak station, viz. a large ship laden with Tobacco,² taken by his Majesty's ship[s] *SOLEBAY* & *RICHMOND*; a French ship,³ taken by his Majesty's ships *St. ALBANS* and *OTTER*; a schooner from Boston,⁴ with 116 Bushels salt taken by the *SOLEBAY*; and a large ship (which was coming in under Danish colours)⁵ taken by his Majesty's ships *RICHMOND*, *SOLEBAY* and *SENEGAL*, in sight of the *St. ALBANS* riding in Hampton road.

On the first inst. (March) a large Frigate like ship (supposed to be French) with bright sides,⁶ coming into the Capes was chased the whole day by the *SOLEBAY*, and would have been taken, but a dark night too soon coming on facilitated her escape, as did a French ship of 40 guns richly laden,⁷ consort to the *SOLEBAY*'s prize,⁸ from the *St. ALBANS* and *SOLEBAY*, (on the 23d past.) More ships are daily expected at the Cheasepeak, from Old France, cleared out for St. Domingo, but have all false names, and false clearances for America (26 are bound to Virginia, with an intention to carry home tobacco,) but we hope there will be a good account given of them, and that we shall have the pleasure of seeing most of them arrive safe at New-York, for the benefit of the captors."

... On Thursday was sent into this port, by his Majesty's sloop *Galatea*, a French ship, *Rosiere D'Artois*, of 220 tons,⁹ loaded at Nantz; had proceeded to Hispaniola, where she took in some molasses and taffia, to revive the spirits of the drooping.

Invoices of her cargo at Nantz amount to a considerable sum. . . .

The schooner *Esther*, late Joseph Mount master, a famous patriot for Liberty, and one of the first who inlisted seamen for the Congress in this place, was taken by the armed sloop *Hammond*, Captain Bridgen Goodrich,¹⁰ loaded with 65 hogsheads of tobacco, from South Quay, in Virginia, for Martinico, in lat. 34 : 10, North, long. 70 West from London. Captain Goodrich had taken two empty New-England vessels, a Monsieur from Hispaniola with salt and *bijoutrie*, which were sent to Bermuda for condemnation.—Since the 1st of December he hath taken nine prizes.

1. French ship *Vicomte de Vaux*, Pierre Marie Donat de la Garde, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 23 Feb., above.

2. Maryland State trading ship *Lydia*, Ignatius Fenwick, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 9 Feb., and Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 9 Feb., above.

3. French ship *Fortune*, Joseph Mass (or Masse), master. See Journal of H.M.S. *St. Albans*, 30 Jan., above.

4. Schooner *Newport*, John Groce, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 5 Mar., above.

5. French ship *Hector*, Charles Porée, master, from St. Malo to Chesapeake Bay, with salt and cordage. See Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 12 and 13 Mar., and Journal of H.M.S. *Senegal*, 13 Mar., above.

6. French ship *Ferdinand*, a long frigate-built ship, mounting 44 guns and manned by 250 seamen. H.M.S. *Solebay* and H.M.S. *Senegal* chased her until 7 Mar. when they returned to Chesapeake Bay. See Captain Richard Onslow, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 9 Mar., above.

7. French ship *Lyon*, mounting 44 guns and manned by 250 seamen, was in company with the ship *Vicomte de Vaux* and was chased out of Chesapeake Bay on 24 Feb. by H.M.S. *St. Albans*. See Captain Richard Onslow, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 2 Mar., above.

8. French ship *Vicomte de Vaux*.

9. French ship *La Rosière D'Artois* (*The Rose Queen of Artois*), D'Archambaut, master, from Port-au-Prince to Charleston, with sugar, wine and dry goods. Her name is misspelled as *La Rigiere d'Artois* on Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40. See Journal of H.M.S. *Galatea*, 2 Feb., above.

10. Bridger Goodrich.

ORDER OF THE NEW JERSEY PRIVY COUNCIL

[Extract]

[Trenton]

A Message from the Council by Mr. *Keasby*.*Council-Chamber, March 21, 1778.**Ordered,*

THAT Mr. *Keasby* wait on the House of Assembly, and inform them that the Council concur in the Resolution contained in their Message of Yesterday, by Mr. *Schenck* and Mr. *Westcot*, relative to the impressing of Carriages and Teams for removing the Guns and Stores belonging to some of the Gallies, to a Place of Safety.

Mr. *Cook* reported, that Mr. *Mac Murtrie* and himself obeyed the Order of the House.

Votes and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of New-Jersey. At a Session begun at Trenton on the 28th Day of October 1777, and continued by Adjournments until the 8th of October 1778 (Trenton, 1779), 88.

THE PENNSYLVANIA LEDGER: OR THE PHILADELPHIA MARKET-DAY ADVERTISER,
SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1778

PHILADELPHIA.

About four or five weeks since, sixteen young fellows left this city in a shallop and a flat, to go down to Muskmelon creek,¹ in order to purchase provisions; on the passage down, just below Reedy-Island, the shallop with eight of them on board, and armed with two four pounders and three swivels, was attacked and fired upon by a galley, with twenty-five armed men on board;—after receiving two or three fires, by which time they had got pretty near each other, the shallop returned the fire from her two four-pounders and swivels all at once, which cut away the gally's main-mast, and obliged her to run into Duck creek: The shallop then proceeded down, and joined the flat at Muskmelon,—where, while they were busy purchasing provisions and loading their vessel, a schooner, a sloop, and a number of armed boats, came down to take them; and being too powerful for them to encounter, they quitted their vessels, and having got ashore, eleven of them travelled across the country to the head of Nanticoke,² where, having purchased a pettitauger for a half joe, ten of them went on board, with two muskets, and proceeded down to Tangier sound; after cruising six days, they boarded a schooner bound from Baltimore to Damn quarter,³—but finding she was going to purchase stock for some of the British men of war, four of them again took to their pettitauger, determined to make good their losses with the first rebel vessel they should meet;—they had now only one musket and two cartridges with them; two days after they fell in with a schooner, having three hundred bushels of wheat and three men on board, bound to Baltimore. This vessel also they boarded and took possession of, giving the men their choice, either to be put on board the first British frigate they should meet, or to take the pettitauger, and go ashore;—they accepting the latter, our adventurers proceeded in the schooner down Chesapeak to Cape Charles, where they expected to find some men of war; but, being disappointed, put to sea, with only three gallons of water, a peck of Indian meal, two gammons and a piece of pork: Two days after, they were chased into Cape

Henlopen, by a rebel privateer, which, luckily for them, grounded for about half an hour, in which time they got clear of her, and the privateer, after she got off, put to sea: they proceeded up the Bay, and arrived here Saturday last.

1. Mispillion River (Muspilion Creek), Del.
2. Nanticoke River, Md.
3. Damned Quarter (now Dames Quarter), Md.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL SAMUEL SMITH

Sir.

In Council Annapolis 21st March 1778.

We think it adviseable to make the Purchase of the Leather Breeches with the Deduction of 30s. a Pair as you mention. We inclose you an Order on M^r Dallam for the 20 Blankets & 20 Pair of Shoes and Stockings, the rest to be sent to Baltimore as indeed we long ago ordered, as to the Whole which might be collected in Harford.¹ We shall not be able we are apprehensive, to comply with your Request by Cap^t Landsdale,² before we get the Goods from Cambridge which were purchased below & sent thither, we have amongst them, ready made Shirts, Shoes & Stockings and some Blankets; Part of the Cloth we shall send to Baltimore. A Galley³ is gone for the Goods and we hope to be soon relieved from our Difficulties, as to every thing but Blankets—We are Sir &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, SM 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "Col^o. Samuel Smith." Smith was lieutenant colonel of the 4th Maryland Continental Regiment.

1. Harford County.
2. Capt. Thomas Lansdale.
3. Maryland Navy galley *Independence*, Capt. Bennett Mathews, commander. See Maryland Council to Robertson Stevens, 20 Mar., above.

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO CAPTAIN RICHARD MURROW

In Council Annapolis 21st March 1778.

Ordered that the Western Shore Treasurer pay to Richard Murrow ten Pounds on Account for the Use of the State Boat The *Plater*¹

Th Johnson

D, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-132/36.

1. Maryland Navy armed boat/galley *Plater*, Capt. Richard Murrow, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

March 78

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia.

Saturday 21st.

Mod^t Breezes & pleasant W^r AM Came alongside Six Negroes Employed Tarring the Rigging and Quarter Deck Nettings.

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia.

Fresh Breezes and Clear [PM] Saw five Ships at Anchor, two Just off Cape Henry and three further up the Bay,¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. The journal entry for 22 Mar. reads: "AM received a Flag of Truce from Portsmouth returned Several Negroes." Capt. Onslow wrote Col. Charles Harrison requesting a flag of truce to discuss the return of several negroes who had come on board *St. Albans*. See Captain Richard Onslow, R.N., to Colonel Charles Harrison, 20 Mar., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *SENEGAL*, COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY

March 1778 C Henry SSE $\frac{1}{2}$ E 4 Lea^s Willoughbys point WbS $\frac{1}{2}$ S.
 Saturday 21 5 Lea^s

At 11 AM. saw a ship to the SE. of us, standing for the bay she fired a gun & made a Signal for a Pilot; we made the private signal & shewed French Colours, the other ships hoisted Rebell colours, prepared to weigh or cut & give chase.—

Ditto—

First & middle part fresh gales latter moderate P.M. hove to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cable but could not purchase our Anchor At 1 P.M cut & stood for the ship at Anchor in Lynnhaven bay with swedish colours,¹ at 2 fired a gun at her when she struck her colours, Anchored by her in 7 f^m. with the sm^l b^c C Henry ESE $\frac{1}{2}$ S. 2 or 3 Lea^s.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/885.

1. Swedish ship *Louisa Ulrica*, Peter Arvidson, master. See note to Journal of H.M. Sloop *Senegal*, 22 Mar., below.

INTELLIGENCE EXTRACTED FROM THE JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ANTELOPE*,
 CAPTAIN CHARLES HOLMES EVERITT

Antelope in the Latitude of 27:08 N^o: March 21st 1778

Spoke the *Comet* Packet from Pensacola & S^t: Augustine for Jamaica who sailed eleven days ago, the Master of her informed me that His Maj^s: Ships, *Perseus*, *Carrysfort*, *Lizard*, & *Galatier*¹ had all been at S^t: Augustine and brought into that Port, nine French Ships, they had taken out of eleven sail, that had sailed from Bourdoux, bound to South Carolina, no news of the movements of the American Rebels,

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240, fol. 515. Docketed: "Intelligence/In V.A. Gayton's Letter/Dated 20 April 1778." Enclosed in Vice Adm. Clark Gayton to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 20 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240.

1. H.M.S. *Galatea*.

GOVERNOR PETER CHESTER TO BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUSTINE PREVOST

Sir.—

Pensacola 21st March 1778

Colonel Stuart the Superintendent,¹ has this moment acquainted me, that within a few hours he shall dispatch an express to S^t: Augustine.

I therefore take the earliest opportunity of acquainting you, that in the Month of January last, one James Willing of Philadelphia,² Robert George,³ and Thomas M^c:Intyre,⁴ the first a Captain the other two Lieutentants in the Rebel Army, left Fort pitt with about 35 Men, and on their way down the Ohio and Mississippi, were joined by a Banditti, making in the whole about 100.

This body after having passed two parties of White men, and Indians undiscovered (which Colonel Stuart had posted in different parts of the Banks of the Mississippi, to prevent the Rebels penetrating by that Rout into the Colony) arrived at the Natchez on the 20th. of last Month at Night, and nearly at the same

time, by sending different detachments into the Country, surprized all the Magistrates and people of influence in that settlement who after some days conference entered into an engagement of Neutrality with the Rebels; they then proceeded down the river taking with them the Negroes and property of a M^r Hutchins and himself a Prisoner he being particularly obnoxious to them.

An advanced party on the 23^d. Ult^{mo}: in the morning surprized a Ship called the *Rebecca* at Manchack mounted with sixteen carriage Guns, four pounders besides Swivels,⁵ and made the Inhabitants of that Settlement prisoners on their Parole: The Main body soon after joined by three or four People of the Natchez settlement, and a number of French and Spanish Batteau Men and other Banditti; laid waste all the Settlements from Point Coupe to Manchack, burning several houses and seizing upon all the Negroes and property of the Inhabitants, a very few excepted with this booty a part of them have proceeded to New Orleans, where it is said their plunder is to be disposed of at publick Auction, by one Oliver Pollock who has declared himself an Agent for the Congress, They also seized a Brig called the *Neptune* loaded for Jamaica about 11 leagues below New Orleans,⁶ and by the last accounts had increased their numbers to between three & four hundred.

Upon this Information, I sent Captain Ferguson⁷ of His Majesty's Sloop of War *Sylph* to the Mississppi, in order to intercept any of the Vessels they may have taken in attempting to get to Sea, and to demand Restitution from the Governor of Louisiana of all British property, brought by the Rebels into his Colony, and I have remonstrated against his giving them any protection or furnishing them with supplies

I have also requested Captⁿ. Nunn⁸ of the *Hound* Sloop of War lately arrived here to join the *Sylph*, in the Mississippi, and desired that one of the Sloops may proceed to Manchack, to prevent their Return up the River and Obstruct the passage of a body of Rebels, who it is reported consist of 2000 (others say 3000) men and were to follow this party from Fort Pitt, under the command of Colonel George Morgan in that Service,⁹ and are expected to arrive here in May.

The Inhabitants of the Natchez have sent to me, desiring the assistance of 100 Men from this Garrison, and promising with this support to break their Neutrality and join the Troops against the Rebels, but I found upon consulting Lieu^t. Colonel Stiell¹⁰ and other Officers of the Garrison, that such a Detachment could not be spared from hence, without endangering the safety of this place, should the Rebels come against it in any force: I have had the like application from the Inhabitants of Mobile to reinforce that Post, the loss of which would greatly distress us here and cut off our supply of Fresh Provisions, however it is not thought prudent to detach a Man from our present Strength; altho' I have the measure much at heart, and if Willing should be prevented, by the King's Ships in the Mississippi, from getting to Sea, and return to take Post at the Natchez; He will continue with his Banditti to keep possession of that country, unless the Chactaw Indians and what white men can be procured in their Nation, march against him.

Colonel Stuart has sent one his Commissaries upon this Service, and expects the Indians are all in motion, however we find after the great expence which it has cost Government in supporting these Savages, that they cannot be depended upon; one of his Commissaries M^r. Alexander Cammeron having declared to me in

Council, that he did not think the Indians were to be depended upon, or could be brought to act, unless they had troops sent with them.

I am endeavouring if we can find Men to raise a Provincial Corps under the Command of John M^cGillevey Esquire, who has greater influence about Mobile, and with the Traders in the Indian Country, than any other Person in the Province: I however still doubt, whether he will be able to collect more than 100 Men, and that they will not agree to be embodied longer than for the Expedition to the Natchez; so that should this Party of the Rebels be drove out of the Colony and no Men kept up at the Natchez in future, to support the Inhabitants, they will not only abandon the Settlement but all the Inhabitants on the banks of the Mississippi and in the Western parts of the Province, will in my opinion also, remove, least a second plundering party should come against them, and which one hundred troops would have prevented.

There is great ground to believe the Rebels are meditating an attack upon us with considerable force, as I have intelligence from M^r Rocheblave¹¹ Commandant of the Illinois Country, also by a Deserter who arrived in the Province in February last, that there were a great number of large Batteau's lying in the Ohio at Fort Pitt, intended for some Expedition which must be against this Colony. I have therefore to request that you will send us what number of troops you can spare, at least to return the three Companies of the Sixteenth Regiment, who will not only enable Lieutenant Colonel Stiell, to make a Vigorous defence here, but afford to send such a Detachment to Mobile as will secure that Post, from falling into the hands of the Enemy.—

I have so short notice of the present opportunity that it will not be in my power to write to Governor Tonym, I therefore beg you will communicate the Contents of this letter to his Excellency. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Copy, UKLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, no. 1030. Addressed at the foot: "Brigadier General Prevost." Docketed: "Copy/From his [E~~x~~] Gov^r Chester/to/Brig Gen^l Prevost."

1. Col. John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Southern District.
2. Capt. James Willing, Continental Army.
3. Lt. Robert George, Clark's Illinois Regiment, Continental Army.
4. Lt. Thomas McIntyre, Independent Company in Western Pennsylvania, Continental Army.
5. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.
6. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.
7. Comdr. John Fergusson, R.N.
8. Comdr. Joseph Nunn, R.N.
9. Col. George Morgan, Continental Army, Deputy Commissioner General of Purchases.
10. Lt. Col. William Stiell, commanding British army at Pensacola.
11. Philippe François Rastel, Sieur de Rocheblave, British commandant of Fort Gage, at Kaskaskia.

COMMANDER JOSEPH NUNN, R.N., TO REAR ADMIRAL SIR PETER PARKER

Hound Sloop Pensacola
March 21st 1778.

Sir

I have been waiting here for the Governor's Dispatches¹ to the Governor of New-Orleans,² since I did myself the honour to write you the inclosed Letter of the 19th Instant,³ I have just now received them and shall proceed to Sea to-morrow Morning.

Enclosed I send the State & condition of his Majesty's Sloop under my Command, as well as those of the *Atalanta* & *Florida*, who is unfit for Service; and

Ship, *Mifflin*⁵ Captain M^cNeal⁶ Twenty, six and nine pounders, very long, a little Hog'd a Midships, Figure Head.

Ship *Hancock*⁷ (formerly the Jamaica Packet) Eighteen 6 Pounders, a Man Head, British built, black Sides long Royal Masts.

Ship, *Minerva*⁸ Captain Grimes, Twenty 9 Pounders (Guns formerly the *Syren's*)⁹ Bright sides, carries her Guns very high, a Woman's Head, very upright Stern, long Royal Masts.

Four new Brigs from fourteen to Sixteen Guns each with Figure heads.

Sloop *Providence*,¹⁰ Twelve Guns at Bedford

Sloop *Revenge*,¹¹ Twelve Guns at Bedford.

A Mate and Midshipman of the *Apollo* Prisoners at Bedford, taken by the *Revenge* Privateer,¹² about the 20th of March in a Prize Sloop¹³ of the *Apollo's*

Several Merchantmen at Bedford bound to South Carolina and from thence to Bordeaux.

Not more than 2000 Troops from Point Judith to Providence.

General Putnam was at Boston about the middle of March, collecting Anchors and Cables to make a Boom for the North River across The Narrows, near Fort Montgomery.

The Rebel Troops that were intended for Canada are now at Albany and many discharged their time being out.

There are two large Continental Stores, in which are Cables (for their Continental Ships) Cordage Sail Duck in great quantities and other valuable Stores, transported from Boston to Mystick and Hingham between Plymouth and Boston, the occasion of this removal was for fear of an attack on Boston.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 226–27. Docketed: "Intelligence/respecting Armed Ships at/Boston the 23^d March 1778./In Lord Howe's Letter/N^o 57." Enclosure No. 5 in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe's letter No. 57 to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 23 Apr. 1778.

1. Connecticut Navy ship *Defence*.

2. Capt. Samuel Smedley, Connecticut Navy.

3. Connecticut Navy ship *Oliver Cromwell*.

4. Capt. Timothy Parker, Connecticut Navy.

5. Massachusetts privateer ship *General Mifflin*.

6. Capt. Daniel McNeill.

7. Massachusetts privateer ship *Hancock*, Thomas Snoden, commander, owned by Mungo Mackay and Samuel White, merchants of Boston, was commissioned on 3 Apr. 1778. M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 139, p. 161. She had formerly been H.M. packet ship *Weymouth*, Charles Flynn, commander, employed as a packet between Jamaica and London. See NDAR 10: 33–34, 34–35, 45, 340.

8. Massachusetts privateer ship *Minerva*, John Grimes, commander, owned by John Cushing and Samuel White, merchants of Boston, was commissioned on 3 Apr. 1778. M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 139, p. 162.

9. H.M. frigate *Syren*. See NDAR 10: 498, 652.

10. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

11. Probably the Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*, Ezekiel Burroughs, commander, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 50 seamen, owned by Mungo Mackay and William Shattuck, merchants of Boston, which was commissioned on 26 May 1778. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 7, p. 55; Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 168, p. 338.

12. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*, Isaac Freeborn, commander. See "Extract of a Letter from Bedford," 19 Mar., above.

13. Sloop *Sally*, Hezekiah Freeman, master. See *ibid*.

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN LANGDON

Sir

Plym^o. Mach 23^d. 1778

I am now at this place where your favour of the 18th Instant by Cap^t. Ayres did not reach me till this Evening. I am Sorry to find the *Flamand* & her Crew in the Situation She is.¹ it would certainly be Improper if not Impracticable to proceed any further on the plan proposed by the Marine Committee.² & Have therefore determined on a Suspension of the orders given us. you will therefore not delay the Ship on that account. I sincerely wish you Clear of her. as I easily Conceive they give you much Trouble. I am in great haste [&c.]

Ja^s. Warren

L., Private Collection, Capt. J. G. M. Stone, Annapolis, Md., 1959. Addressed at the foot: "Honb^e. John Langdon Esq^r" Docketed: "James Warren's/Letter Plymouth/March 23^d 1778—"

1. When the ship left France, the crew of the *Flamand* were deceived by their captain regarding the ship's destination, believing they were bound for the West Indies instead of North America. They mutinied during the voyage and were suppressed with difficulty. Apparently, the captain and crew behaved badly while in Portsmouth, N.H., giving John Langdon a great deal of trouble. They refused to follow Congress's instructions to sail to Charleston, S.C. Continental Commerce Committee to John Langdon, 7 May 1778, Private Collection, Capt. J. G. M. Stone, Annapolis, Md., 1959.

2. See Continental Marine Committee to Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department, 23 Feb., above.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

23rd March. Fine clear day. Slight frost in the morning, but a very mild afternoon. Wind N.

Lord Howe, in The *Eagle* of 64 Guns, sailed out of the harbour at 12 this day for The Delaware. It is supposed he will call off Sandy hook, in order to have an interview with Commodore Hotham who commands at New York. There was no salute on his going out. His Lordship has been here since the 2^d January last.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 259.

JOHN DESHON TO WILLIAM VERNON

Dear Sir

New London March 23^d 1778

I find that Governor Trumbull and his Council have ordered Cap^tⁿ. John Cotton to get the Ship *Trumbull* out of Conecticut River. I know not by what Athority they Gave Such an order, however if the Ship is Got out Shall be Glad, you Shall know more ab^t this matter in my Next.—

Here is about thirty or forty Tons of Cordage and a quantity of Duck, Boath Suitable for the Ship at Norwich¹ Imported in the french Ship lately arived,² Suppose the Duck will be Sold at £36.. Cordage at £12.. I have Desired M^r Nath^l. Shaw Jun^r to Receive boath those articals for the use of the Continent, & to Get them at the most Reasonable Rate

one Ton of Oakham has been Shipt from this for North River & I am Very Sure flax may be had much Cheaper there then Oakham, and is much Better for the use thay want it for—I shall be Glad of a line from you and a little Good News, I Remain [&c.]

John Deshon

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80. Addressed at the foot: "W^m Vernon Esq^r/Providence."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy*.

2. Probably the French ship *Lyon*, Capt. J. Michel, which arrived at New London on 7 Mar.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *RAVEN*, COMMANDER JOHN STANHOPE

March 1778

Laying in Huntingdon Bay [*Long Island*]

Monday 23

(AM) sailed the above Sloop¹ got up lower yards and Top Gall^t Masts the Longboat wooding Loosed Sails at Merⁿ handed D^o:

Laying in Huntingdon Bay

These 24 Hours light breezes and fair at 3 (PM) got the Tender along Side put onboard Two four Pdr^s with Armenition accordingly and Two Petty Officers 15 Seamen a Serjant Corprol and 8 Private Marines D^o: sailed the Tender in Company with y^c Galley² to joine the *Halifax*³ &c^a. Likewise a Boat Manned and Armed from the *Falcon*⁴

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/771.

1. H.M. sloop *Swan*, Comdr. James Ayscough, commander.

2. H.M. galley *Dependence*, Lt. James Clark, commander.

3. H.M. brig *Halifax*, Lt. William Quarme, commander.

4. H.M. sloop *Falcon*, Comdr. Harry Harmood, commander.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY *DEPENDENCE*, LIEUTENANT JAMES CLARK

March 1778

Entrance, Cow Neck Bay E ½ S 2½ miles—off Loyd's beech

Mond^y 23^d:

½ Cable Dist—[*Long Island*]

AM. weighed & rowed out of Loyds Neck harbor. anchored with the Best bower in 4 f^m. W^r: veered to ⅓ of a Cable—Exercised Great Guns & small arms

Loyd's Head¹ NNW 1½ Miles

Calm the first P^l with fair W^r: middle & latter light airs & variable At 5 AM. [PM] weighed & rowed out of the Bay,² anchored off the Beech in 4 f^m. W^r: at 9 P.M. anchored here H: M: Brigg *Halifax* & 2 tenders,³ at ½ past 10 P.M. weighed & made S^l. received on board 26. marines.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1694, fol. 86.

1. Lloyd Point, Long Island.

2. Huntington Bay, Long Island.

3. One tender was from H.M. sloop *Raven* and the other was from H.M. sloop *Falcon*. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Raven*, 23 Mar., above.

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY, MONDAY, MARCH 23, 1778

NEW-YORK, March 23.

On Thursday evening and yesterday several vessels arrived here from Philadelphia, they are a part of the fleet of thirty sail of vessels, which left the river Delaware last Monday se'nnight, they bring the following accounts: The schooner *Alert*, Capt. Daniel Moore, had been taken off Reedy-Island by some rebel gallies; the passengers and principal property were immediately landed at Wilmington;

the vessel was in three hours fitted out and presently took and destroyed by fire, two vessels from Rhode-Island, laden with hay.¹ Soon afterwards, Sir James Wallace in his Majesty's ship *Experiment*, hove in sight, pursued, and re-took the *Alert*, but the rebels had prepared combustibles in the cabin to set her on fire, which from the briskness of the *Experiment's* people, was prevented. There were on board the *Alert*, Mrs. Willington, Mrs. Sproule, and her family, Lieut. Stratton, of the Royal Corps of Engineers, and a number of artificers in that department. We are informed that most kinds of provisions were plentiful, that all the foraging parties of the Royal army had proved very successful, they not having lost more than 12 men killed and wounded, during their several excursions. . . .

The brig *Polly*,² Capt. M'Davitt, from Bristol for this port, after beating on the coast several weeks in the winter, stood away for the West-Indies, and was taken by a rebel privateer and carried into one of the French islands.

The Sloop *Active* Letter of Marque,³ Captain Powell, sailed from this Port the 20th of December, since which he has taken three brigs, two schooners, and one sloop; five of them he sent into Antigua, and carried one into St. Augustine, where he cleaned, took in a number of hands, and was gone on a cruize again.

1. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M.S. *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., above; and Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Philip Stephens, 26 Mar., and Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

2. Brig *Polly*, B. M'Davitt, master, 200 tons burthen, built at New York City in 1772, owned by Pennington of Bristol. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777-1778.

3. Sloop *Active*, J. Powell, commander, 100 tons burthen, mounting ten 4-pounders and two 6-pounders, built in Bermuda in 1773, owned by N. Ashton, from Liverpool bound to New York. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777-1778.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EXPERIMENT*, CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE

March 1778 Moored off Billings Port in the River Delaware
Monday 23 Fine W^r [AM] Sent a party of Marines and an Officer onshore to do duty at Billingsport. hulled ship & Boot topped with White Lead & Tallow. Sent our Boats Armed up the Creek.¹ to bring out some small Craft belonging to the Rebels—²

Moored off Billings Port in the River Delaware
D^o: W^r: PM finding Several Men belonging to a Brig onshore plundering the Inhabitants. we took them onb^d: and Confined them,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/331, fol. 122.

1. Mantua Creek, N.J.

2. On 24 Mar. the Journal records that "our Boats brought too small Boats down the Creek and Anchored them alongside us." Ibid. These possibly were Pennsylvania Navy armed boats (half galleys) that had operated as privateers in the lower Delaware during the winter.

LIEUTENANT ROBERT COLLINGS TO PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD

Newingland Town 16 Miles up Cohansey creek [N.J.]
Gentlemen March y^e 23^d 1778.

I wrote to you By the Man that brought the Powder, informing you of Colonel Eyre¹ & myself² going to Join the Militia, with two field Pieces. we afterwards con-

cluded Colonel Eyre to Join the Militia and me to go a Cruize, with the Boats, down the Bay. I went with four Boats Row'd past three Tenders that Lay of[/] the Creek, when I got as Low as Ben Davis's Point, made two Sail coming up—we gave Chase a Schooner & Sloop, they Both Stood down the Bay. wind being N.W^t light and flood tide they Anchor'd. three Sail more hove insight, we Still Pursued the Chase, about 3 oclock in the afternoon we got in gun Shot. we went so close as to Hale them they gave us three cheers and a Gun. we Return'd three Cheers and attacked them Close, drove them from their Quarters Severall times. they Evacuated the Sloop and went onboard the Schooner. to their assistance, in the Action two armd Schooners Row'd up to us or we Shou'd have carried the Schooner and Sloop I then gave Chase to the Other Sail that was in sight by herself wind Springing up Southerly She beat down and I Row'd to Windward after her, we got so Nigh her as to Confuse them much they Bore away west, to give up the Sloop, to us, but unfortunately two Frigates hove insight coming up with a fresh Breeze from the Souther'd, and the whole five Sail Beat down the Bay to get Protection.

tho they had a Fair wind the Frigates came to Anchor and got the Vessails all Round them for fear our cutting some of them off, they are very fear'd of our Boats, one Tender won't trust to three or four Boats.

they seem Determind to Block us up if Possible. the Tenders Keep three or four in Company. we was alarm'd of the Enemy coming down here three Tender came into the Creeks mouth I had no Retreat. as their army was coming over Land, I hid the Boat in a Gut & Sunk her. I am now geting her up again.

I have Brought the Prizes up here with their Stores, the two Sloops we'd took.—

I wrote to You for Grape Shot their is none in Either of the Boats.

if I had had the Eighteen pounder I Shoud of Carried the whole five Sail. I am Gentlemen [&c.]

Rob^t. Collings

P.S. I am going to haul my Boat over to Buck creek,³ which is three Miles from here, and Empty's itself Below Ben Davis's Point

RC

L, PHi, William Bradford Collection, vol. 2. Addressed: "To/the Honourable the Navy Board/for the State Pennsylvainia/at/Trenton/ ⚔ Colonel/Eyre."

1. Col. Jehu Eyre.

2. Formerly first lieutenant of Pennsylvania Navy ship *Montgomery*.

3. Black Creek, N.J.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO ISAAC VAN BIBBER

Sir.

In Council [*Annapolis*] 23^d. March 1778.

We have an Expectation of having considerably more than £7000. offered for the *Defence*.¹ We know it was the Idea of many of the Gentlemen of the Assembly that she ought to sell for at least £10000. and if she does not bring full that Sum, we think it would be better to freight her for Part of her Cargoe, or to hold her in Partnership. We should have chose one of the Latter, but we are not at Liberty now the Assembly is sitting: we expect they will give Directions about her.—We are &c^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, SM 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "M^r Isaac VanBibber."

1. Maryland Navy ship *Defence*.

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

Sir

Antigua 23rd: March 1778.—

Since my last dispatches to their Lordships Dated the 14th: Ins^c: (forwarded Express by His Majesty's Brigantine *Endeavour*) I have received the pleasing Intelligence of the *Yarmouth's* and *Ariadne's* Success against the American Rebels Privateers;¹ which the Inclosed Copies of Letters received, from their Captains will more fully explain,² the five Sail that attacked the *Yarmouth*, were directly from Carolina; intended to make depredations on Tobago, and the Islands to Leeward; whilst many others were Cruizing to intercept the Convoys from Ireland, and England; the former Convoy are arrived (as I informed their Lordships in my Letters by the *Endeavour*) and the latter I flatter myself are safe; as some that parted from the Convoy are already got into Barbados, I am therefore in daily expectation of the others arrival here, which will certainly prove a very seasonable relief to us.—

I must farther acquaint their Lordships that Since my last Dispatches acquainting them five Sail of Dutch Men of War were arrived at S^c: Eustatia;³ three others with a Store Ship,⁴ are likewise arrived at that Island and it is reported Six more are Expected, their destination is dubious; and I have some apprehens[i]ons is intended for America; as I am informed by the *Grenville* Packet just arrived here from England; that whilst they lay at Madeira, four Sail of Dutch Ships of War were at said Island; and had several American Passengers on board them; of this He informs me, The English Consul sent an Express to England, by way of Lisbon; I hope He did so; and that the same is arrived safe;—

What I can do to prevent their going to America, must depend on being able to get the Ships now here under my Command ready for Sea;—The *Renown* is so very much disabled, and so few Artificers in the Yard it may take up more time then I could wish to get her ready; The *Portland*, *Seaford*, and *Phoenix*; all came in with Sprung Fore Masts; however the three latter, will be ready for Sea in less than a Week, I shall use the utmost dispatch to get the *Renown* in a State of Service, and do not doubt if a Store Ship comes with the Convoy, now expected; I shall be able to get her ready in time; provided the other Dutch Ships of War do not arrive very soon; I am of Opinion it is absolutely necessary and for the good of His Majesty's Service; I should know their Intentions.—

The *Renown* and *Phoenix* belong to Lord Howes Squadron, but as Accident has brought them here at this very Critical time; I shall take upon me to detain them 'till I see the result of this new and unexpected Armament, or that I obtain Reinforcements and Instructions from their Lordships Concerning it. there is likewise an Opportunity by an Armed Brigantine belonging to Lord Howes Squadron; Commanded by Lieut^c: Whitworth,⁵ who was blown off the Coast and is now ready to return; I shall therefore send her Express to His Lordship with the aforementioned intelligence, and my Surmises thereon; so many of the Kings Ships under my Command, are now Employed in Collecting the Convoy from the different Islands, for Europe that it prevents my having so strong a force at hand, as appears necessary; I expect the *Yarmouth* here in a few days, and hope 'tho she has been out a long Cruise & had (as hath all the Cruizers) uncommon bad Weather, for this part of the World; she may not want much refitting; I shall immediately endeavour to

get all possible Intelligence of the States real Intentions,⁶ and will be ready to proceed to Sea, at an hours Notice; should the same be found necessary; for which purpose I intend going to Old Road S^c Christophers which is in Sight of S^c Eustatia; I am Sir [&c.]

Jam^s: Young

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot of first page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r." Endorsed: "Rec^d. 22 May & Read."

1. H.M.S. *Ariadne's* capture of the Continental Navy ship *Alfred* on 7 Mar. and H.M.S. *Yarmouth's* destruction of the Continental Navy frigate *Randolph* on 9 Mar.

2. See Captain Nicholas Vincent, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 17 Mar., and Captain Thomas Pringle, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 18 Mar., above.

3. The Dutch squadron, commanded by Vice Adm. Count van Bylandt, included the ship of the line *Princess Royal Frederica* (56 guns), frigate *Thetis* (26 guns) and frigate *Sophia Wilhelmina* (24 guns). UKLPR, Adm. 1/310, "An Account of a Dutch Squadron Lately Arrived at S^c Eustatia.—31st March 1778."

4. The ships of the line *Princess Louisa* (54 guns) and *Maria Louisa* (54 guns), frigate *Jason* (36 guns) and storeship *Brunswick* (40 guns). UKLPR, Adm. 1/310, "An Account of a Dutch Squadron Lately Arrived at S^c Eustatia.— 31st March 1778."

5. H.M. armed brigantine *Stanley*, Lt. Richard Whitworth, commander.

6. States General of the United Provinces of the Netherlands.

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

Extract of a Letter from the Vice Admiral
Young to the Viscount Howe, dated, Antigua
23^d: March 1778.

"My Lord,

"By the *Stanley* armed Brigantine under the Command of Lieutenant Whitworth, I take the Opportunity to acquaint your Lordship, that His Majesty's Ships *Phoenix* and *Renown*, belonging to your Squadron, are come into this Island in Distress; the former wanting Water, Provisions and Firing, with her Rigging torn to pieces; and since her Arrival has also found her Fore-mast much sprung. These Wants are supplied here as well as the Deficiency of every Article she needed would allow. Luckily a Convoy from Ireland arrived and brought some Provisions of the Meat-kind, but nothing else; and I am in daily Expectation of another Convoy arriving from England with all other Species. The *Renown* came totally dismantled, and in so bad a Condition, besides being two Years and an half foul, that she will be a long Time before she can join your Lordship again: indeed should no Store-Ship arrive soon, I shall not be able to complete her.

"I must likewise inform your Lordship, a Dutch Squadron of Eight Ships of War (mostly of two Decks) with a Store-Ship,¹ are just arrived at S^c Eustatia, and 'tis said six others are expected. Their Destination at present I cannot learn; but have great Reason to think they are intended for America, as the January Packet, just arrived here from England informs me four Sail of them were at Madeira at the time the Packet was; and that a Number of American Passengers (appearing to be Gentlemen) were onboard them. The English Consul there sent an Express to England to inform the King's Ministers of this Armament, and I have done the like since their Arrival at Eustatia. They are commanded by Count Byland.² I have now sent the *Seaford*, Captain John Colpoys, to try if we can procure any farther Intelligence of them. And as the *Stanley* Brigantine must touch at S^c Kitts for

Water, she will be directed to wait there for the *Seaford's* Return; when Captain Colpoys will transmit your Lordship any further Information he may procure. The Squadron under my Command is so detached for Protection of the different Islands, that I have it not in my power at present (was I certain of their Destination) to prevent their proceeding. I shall therefore detain the *Phoenix*, till some Re-inforcement may arrive from Europe: for surely it must be known in England, that such a force is come into these [Seas] and they will certainly send after them. If they do, or I can procure farther Information, that may be necessary for You to know; I will immediately dispatch the *Phoenix* therewith to your Lordship. Could it be possible to get the *Renown* ready for Sea before the Dutch Squadron leaves St^e Eustatia, by collecting some of the small Frigates and Sloops under my Command, something may be tried. I hear Admiral Barrington in the *Prince of Wales* is appointed to relieve me; if on this Occasion he should be hurried out, He may perhaps also arrive in Time."

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 224–25. Docketed: "Extract of a Letter from the Vice/Admiral Young to the Viscount/Howe, dated 23^d. March 1778; with/a Copy of a Letter and paper of/Intelligence from Captain Colpoys." Endorsed: "In Lord Howe's Letter/N^o. 57." Enclosure no. 4 in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe to Philip Stephens, 23 Apr. 1778.

1. See Vice Admiral James Young to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 23 Mar., above, for the names of the ships in the Dutch squadron.

2. Vice Adm. Count van Bylandt.

March 24

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL

[Boston] Tuesday March 24th. 1778

Whereas this Board have been informed that the Ship *Warren*¹ has on board one hundred barrels of Powder & being contrary to a Law of this State & in danger of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, Therefore Ordered that John Hopkins Esq^r² Commander of said Ship & he hereby is directed to haul off from General Hancocks Wharf into the Stream 'till said Powder shall be taken out & transported to the place where this Council shall direct—

Ordered that the Commissary General be and he hereby is directed to receive One hundred barrels Powder, belonging to the Ship *Warren* John Hopkins Esq^r Commander in the Powder Magazine in Watertown 'till said Hopkins shall want the same—

D, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 22 (Council Records, Jan.–Oct. 1778), p. 131.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Warren*.

2. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, Continental Navy.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO JOHN BRADFORD

Sir

New London Mar 24 1778

I Rec^d. a letter from the Honb^l Board of Warr directing me to send all the Warlike Stores in my hands to Springfield, I suppose they imagined that the Stores

¶ Capt Lamb¹ were del^d here as I have no others & suppose if you were to send those Stores to Springfield you yould [*would*] Comply with those Orders

—Perhaps you have Rec^d Similar Directions, be so kind as to let me know by return of the Post &c—

LB, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, Letter Book (January 1775–July 1782). Addressed at head: “To John Bradford Esq^e/Cont^l Agent—.”

1. Military stores brought from Martinique to Boston by Capt. John Lamb in the brigantine *Irish Gimblet*. See NDAR 10: 620, 677, 812, 829, 830.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *RAVEN*, COMMANDER JOHN STANHOPE

March 1778

Laying in Huntingdon Bay [*Long Island*]

Tuesday 24

at 6 (AM) heard several Guns to the NW people Employed lashing the Booms the Sailmaker repairing the Awnings

Laying in Huntingdon Bay

First part Mod^{te}: Breezes Mid: and Latter Light airs (P.M.) at 1 came alongside y^e Tender she parted Company with y^e *Halifax*¹ & Galley² off Oyster Bay after setting fire to a Rebel Galley at Greenwich where the Marines landed and received a heavy fire of Musquetry from the Rebels which obliged them to retreat took y^e Two four Pdr^s: onboard likewise the remains of the Armenition with y^e Petty Officers and people

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/771.

1. H.M. brig *Halifax*, Lt. William Quarme, commander.

2. H.M. galley *Dependence*, Lt. James Clark, commander.

PAY ROLL OF THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SCHOONER *SPY*

D ^r		Schooner Spy to Zebadiah Smith for Sund ^y wages by him paid		(Viz)	
[March] 24					
Zebadiah Smith	Cap ^t	f ^m . Oct ^r 16. 1777 to March 24 th 1778	5 mo 8 d.	at 180/	£ 47.. 8.—
Asahel Smith	Leu ^t	Nov ^r 3. ditto to Feb ^y 27 ditto	3 mo 24 —	120/	£ 22..16.—
Benj ⁿ . Mortimore	Master	Oct ^r 20 ditto to ditto 20 ditto	4 mo 0 —	120	£ 24.—..—
James Elderkin	Gunner	Ditto	4 mo 0 —	90/	£ 18.—..—
Jonathan Sachel	Boatswain	ditto to Nov ^r 20	1 mo 0 —	90/	£ 4..10.—
Hen ^y Boardman	Boatswain's mate	Nov ^r 22 1777 to Feb ^y 22 1778	4 mo 2 —	54/	£ 10..19.. 6
John Johnson	Cook	Oct ^r 31 1777 to Feb ^y 22d 1778	3 mo 23 days	72/	£ 13..11.. 2½
Thom ^s Wood	Seaman	Nov ^r 3 ditto to ditto	3 mo 19 days	48/	£ 8..14.. 4
Minor Elderkin	Seaman	ditto	ditto	48/	£ 8..14.. 4
Roger Avery	ditto	Nov ^r 12 to Feb ^y 22 1778	3 mo 10 —	48/	£ 8.—..—
John Parsons	Boy	Nov ^r 21 ditto 27 ditto	3 mo 6 —	40/	£ 6.. 8.—
W ^m . Swan	Seaman	Nov ^r 18 ditto 27	3 mo 9 —	48/	£ 7..18.. 5
Nath ^l . Swan	ditto	Nov ^r 24 ditto 24	3 mo 0 —	48/	£ 7.. 4.—
Jn ^o . Williams	ditto	ditto 12 ditto 22 ^d	3 mo 10 d.	48/	£ 8.—..—
John Masters	ditto	ditto 12 ditto 28	3 mo 16 d	48/	£ 8.. 9.. 8
Will ^m . Allen	Marine	ditto 30 ditto 20	2 mo 20 d	48/	£ 5.. 6.. 8
Sam ^l R Smith	Clerk	Dec ^r 20 ditto 22	2 mo 2 d.	90/	£ 9.. 6.—
Comis ^s . on ditto at 5 P ^r C ^t					£219.. 6.. 1½
Errors Excep ^d P ^r					£10..19.. 4
Zebadiah Smith					£230.. 5..10½

DS, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 12, p. 338. Docketed: "N^o. 1/Schooner *Spy*s Bill/of Wages."

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY *DEPENDENCE*, LIEUTENANT JAMES CLARK

March 1778

Loyd's Head¹ NNW 1½ Miles—Tuesday 24th:

at 6. AM. landed 43. marines from the different vessells, & 20. Refugees, in Stanford harbor,² burned a Rebell Galley, fired 4: 24 Pounders round & Grape, & 4: 4 P^{rs}: with D^o: to Scour the woods, before the troops landed, at 8 AM. the troops Embarked, D^o: weighed & made Sail, at noon anchored with the best bower off Loyd's beech in 12 f^{ms}. W^r: veered to ½ Cable
Loyd's head SE ¼ S. D. 3 miles.

D, UklPR, Adm. 52/1694, fol. 86.

1. Lloyd Point, Long Island.

2. Stamford Harbor, Conn.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT
TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Continental Navy Board

Sir/

Borden Town 24th. March 1778

I wrote to you about a week ago¹ respecting the arbitrary Conduct of Genl Howe in confining Cap^t: Robinson² & Cap^t: Galt³ who went in to the City under the Sanction of a regular Flag—altho' I have no Doubt but your Excellency will do whatever is proper in the Affair, yet, as I have not had the Satisfaction of hearing any thing further, I am not a little anxious about it. We have certain Intelligence that those Gentlemen are now confined in the common Gaol.

I have been very industrious in removing the Stores &c—from this Place⁴—they are all deposited some few Miles back in the Country, except the Cannon—these I expect to send up the River next Week as I am told M^r: Coryell⁵ is to be here in order to take up all the flat Bottom Boats, with him shall the Cannon go—all such at least as I have any Command or Influence over—

We have here about 30 Tierces of Rice & as many Hogsheads of Cod-fish with some Cases of sweet Oil. If you think they will be of Use in the army I beg your Excellency's Requisition for them & they shall be immediately forwarded

As we have now no Fleet to supply here these articles, I think, had better be put to Camp than carted about the Jerseys where they will run the Risque of either falling into the Hands of the Enemy, or of being stolen or spoiled—Should your excellency order them to Camp it will be very necessary to write to Genl Lacey⁶ to furnish a sufficient Guard to conduct them—I will let him know the Time & Place of Rendevous—

General Lee⁷ passed thro' Crosswicks⁸ this Day on his way to Phila^d It is said he is going to be exchanged but for whom or in what maner I know not—I have the Honour to be [&c.]

Fra^s Hopkinson

P.S. As it is not intended the above mentioned Provisions should become a perquisite to any Commissary, the Continental Navy Board ought to have Credit for them & proper Receipts given.—

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at the foot: "His Exc^y Genl. Washington."

1. Not found.

2. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy.

3. Capt. Nathaniel Galt, Pennsylvania Navy.

4. This action was in response to Washington's request. See General George Washington to Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department, 1 Mar., above.

5. John Coryell.

6. Brig. Gen. John Lacey, Pennsylvania Militia.

7. Maj. Gen. Charles Lee, Continental Army.

8. Crosswicks, N.J.

ISAAC VAN BIBBER TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Please y^r Excellency

Sir,

Balt. 24th. M^{ch}. 1778

It has bee[n] Said here that the Ship *defence*¹ is not yet Sold,—if So and you Determine to Sell her, I would offer for her, (under the Inventory She was offer^d to Sale at,) the Sum of £7,000 ~~for her~~, or at that Rate for one half or $\frac{3}{4}$ of her if the State Chose to hold any part of her, I Could I Beleive put her to Sea with as much Convenience as Can be Exspect^d, as I have a Cap^t. & Crew Just Arrived with orders for Such a Vessel, Your answer Will oblige S^r y^r Most ob^t. Ser^t.

Isaac Vⁿ. Bibber

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4585-77. Addressed: "His/Excellency/Tho^s Johnson Esq^r" Docketed: "24 Mar 1778/Isaac Vanbibber."

1. Maryland Navy ship *Defence*.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[Williamsburg] Tuesday the 24th day of March 1778.

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick Store, deliver to Captain William Saunders twelve Bolts of Canvas N^o. 1. three ditto of N^o. 4. thirty pound of twine, two dozen sail Needles for the *Manley* Galley.—

Ordered that Lieutenant John Thomas, deliver to Captain Richard Taylor ten of the sailors belonging to the *Protector* Galley, for the use and service of the Ship *Tartar*.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 368.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. ST. ALBANS, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

March 1778

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia

Tuesday 24th.

AM the Tender Schooner¹ Came down with two Prizes²

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia

Mod^t & Clear w^c [PM] dispatched the Tender and Sent her away

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. H.M. schooner *Dasher*.

2. Sloop *Holt*, master unknown, owned in Williamsburg, a crew of 4 seamen, from Williamsburg to Elk River, Md., with pork in barrels, cargo taken out; and schooner *Hawke*, master unknown, owned in Baltimore, a crew of 3 seamen, from Baltimore to Williamsburg, with iron, cargo taken out. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240-41. According to the prize list, these prizes were made on 21 Mar. *St. Albans's* Journal notes schooner *Hawke* was broken up for firewood on 5 Apr. and sloop *Holt* for firewood on 6 Apr. UklPR, Adm. 51/828.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO DON JOSÉ DE GÁLVEZ

N^o. 136.

Exmo S^{or}.

Mui S^{or} mio: Haviendo llegado a esta Capital el Capitan Willing¹ comisionado para recibir aqui los efectos q^e se me han remitido de esos Reinos con destino a las

Colonias Inglesas,² Segun avisé a V.E. en oficio de 11 de este mes³ incluyendo copias de las Cartas de los diputados del Congreso, y Zertificacion del presidente que las Autoriza, Devo participar a V.E. que ya salieron de esta Ciudad parte de dhos efectos sin que nada huviesse traslucido en el Pueblo, y luego que se verifique la total entrega, de todos, daré quenta a V.E. de ella, y de las disposiciones q^c. he tomado a fin que no se tuviesse el mas leve conocimiento de estas operaciones. Lo que comunico a V.E. p^a. su inteligencia.

Nuestro S^{or}. guarde a V.E. los m^s. a^s. que deseo, Nueva Orleans 24 de Marzo de 1778 [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

[Translation]

N^o. 136.

Most Excellent Sir

My dear Sir:

Captain Willing¹ arrived in this capital, commissioned to receive here the goods that have been sent to me from those kingdoms, bound for the English colonies,² as I advised Your Excellency in a letter dated the 11th of this month,³ including copies of the letters from the deputies of the Congress and certification of the president who authorizes them: I must notify Your Excellency that part of the said goods have already left this city without anything having transpired among the people, and as soon as the entire delivery is confirmed, I shall report that fact to Your Excellency and the arrangements that I have made in order that there may not be the slightest knowledge of these operations. All of which I am communicating to Your Excellency for your information.

May Our Lord keep Your Excellency many years, which is my desire. New Orleans, 24th of March 1778. [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

L, SpSAG, Santo Domingo, Legajo 2596, fol. 198. Addressed below the close: "Exmo S^{or}. D^{na}. Joseph de Galvez."

1. Capt. James Willing, Continental Army.

2. Marginal notation: "El Gov^{or}. de la Luisiana, da q^{ta}. de haverse entregado la maior parte de los Efectos q^c. se le han remitido al Capⁿ. Willing, y ofrece dar la q^{do}. se haia ejecutado con los restantes, y del metodo q^c. ha usado para ello." Translation: The Governor of Louisiana reports that most of the property that has been sent to him has been delivered to Captain Willing, and offers to report it when it has been accomplished with the rest of the property, and the method that he has employed to do so.

3. Above.

CAPTAIN JAMES WILLING TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

Sir

I am exceedingly sorry to find myself under a necessity of troubling Your Excellency with a Reply to the Letter of the 19th. Instant with which You have honoured me.¹ My duty impells me to it I therefore hope You will be pleased to reconsider the Cases of the several Claimants of the Prizes N^o. 2, 3 & 5.

N^o. 2 is a Vessell belonging to British Subjects,² on her Voyage to the West Indies laden with Articles absolutely necessary for the Enemies of the States I have the Honor to serve. She was seized, and made Prize without the least Alarm or Insult given to any of his Catholick Majesty's Subjects She was on float in the River Mississippi the Navigation whereof is equally free to British as Spanish Subjects and the American Independant States claim by the Laws of Nations a right to pursue take and seize the Persons and property of all British Subjects wherever they can possess themselves of either (not in the particular protection or ports of any Nation

Neutral in the present War[)]. The Vessell in question was not in Spanish port or protection. The Court of Vice Admiralty of Pensacola adjudged in the Case of American Vessells taken in the River Mississippi That the Capture so made came under the Denomination as that of Prizes made on the high Seas. By the same Rule I claim as a Lawfull Prize the Vessell and Cargo in question. If notwithstanding Your Excellency is not of opinion that this Prize is Legaly made, I hope You will suffer the Vessell and Cargo to be sold, and the Proceeds to be sequestred in Your Treasury untill a future determination by the Court of Spain and Congress.

The Boats or prize N^o. 3. tho' lastly taken below English Manchack was in fact in the actual possession of Lieutenant McIntyre³ an Officer under my Command at Manchack in the British Territories Stolen off in the Night by M^r Shakespear⁴ contrary to his Faith pledged, and I cannot help thinking that I have a right even to demand the Boat and Goods that were on board her as a property belonging to and stolen from me, supposing even the late Owner had actually applyed for and received the protection of a Neutral power. But this last was by no means the case The Boat was on float tho' fastened to a Log of Wood near the Shore on the River Mississippi the Possessor having neither demanded nor obtained your protection at that time. These matters considered (of which further proof may be made) I hope the Boat & Cargo will be adjudged lawfull prize

With respect to the Boats or prize N^o. 5 I have in a former letter to Your Excellency given a true State of their Capture. I chased them upon the River Mississippi about five Leagues above Spanish Aux Arcs, One of the Boats was Boarded and Taken upon the River, The Other chased & Boarded The Instant She touched the land on the Spanish Side of the Mississippi. Both were brought to the English Side But upon Application made I permitted them to deliver at the Spanish Aux Arcs a quantity of Flour for the use of his Catholic Majesty's Troops, As I observed before they traded to a British post, supplied the Enemies of the States of America, had on board the Goods received in return thereof, and had neither Passport, Permission nor protection as I presume to hope from any Officer of the Court of Spain for such Illicit Trade, I therefore must take the Liberty to esteem the Seizure of both these Boats as consonant to the Universal Custom of all Civilized Nations, and that they will be adjudged as Lawfull Prize accordingly

I have the Honor to be with Respect, Sir [&c.]

New Orleans 24th March 1778

Ja^s: Willing Captn
in the Service of the Indep^t
United States of America

L, SpSAG, Papeles de Cuba, Legajo 2370.

1. See Captain James Willing to Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez, 18 Mar., above.
2. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.
3. Lt. Thomas McIntyre, Continental Army.
4. Stephen Shakespear, settler at Manchac.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO DON ANTONIO BUCARELI Y URSUA

Ex^{mo}. Señor.

Mui Señor mio; En Continuacion de las novedades q^e participé a V.E. en el Correo pasado le dire; como noticioso el Governador de Panzacola de la toma de los Puestos Ingleses por los Americanos mandó un destacamento de 90. hombres a el Manchak, los que entraron en él a el Amanecer del día 19. del presente y encontrando la poca

Guarnicion que en el havia durmiendo, atacaron la Casa donde estaban, y despues de dos, o tres descargas de fusileria se apoderaron de ella haviendo muerto dos hombres, una Muger, y herido ocho o diez, tomando prisioneros de Guerra hasta el numero de 14. hombres q^c encontraron, y quedando por consiguiente Dueños del Citado Puesto.

Haviendo Savidó los Americanos que se hallaban en las inmediaciones de esta Capital el Suceso, incontinenti Armaron sus lanchas, y se pusieron en Mancha para el referido puesto con el intento de Vengarse, y desalojan a sus Enemigos, a donde llegaron y segun tengo noticia han buuelto a posecionarse de dho territorio segunda vez sin oposicion, pues con el Aviso q^c tuvieron los Realistas de su Salida, y q^c era mayor numero que el de ellos, abandonaron el puesto.

No contentos los Americanos con la retoma de Manchak, sino queriendo vengarse en sus Enemigos, me escribe uno de los Comandantes de Nuestros Puestos, que seguian en su busca, y que segun los informes que le dieron algunos Cazadores havian oido 33. tiros en el monte, sin Saver su Causa, ni el efecto q^c producieron.

Asi el mencionado Puesto de Manchak, como todos los demas de la partida Inglesa que estan Cituados en las orillas de este Rio Misisipi han quedado enteramente desiertos, por haverse pasado todos sus habitantes a nuestras tierras pidiendo la proteccion Española, huyendo no solo de los Americanos, sino tambien de los destrozos q^c los Indios Chactas hazen en sus habitaciones y bienes, quemandoles las Casas y quitandoles todo lo que en ellas Encuentran, dejando las personas solo con las Camisas, y diciendoles que se vayan de Sus tierras que no quieren mas Ingleses en sus territorios, y para ponerse a Cubierto de no ser Atacados de improvisto, segun me avisa el Comandante de la Punta Cortada, han apostado tres destacamentos desde la Orilla del Rio hasta lo interior del monte con la idea de tener noticia de quanto ocurra.

Es de admirar en la Ocasion presente la buena feo, armonia, y Respetto q^c dhos Indios Guardan a nuestros territorios, pues no han ejecuato el menor daño en ellos, y para darme a Conocer la amistad q^c quieren Conservar Con los Españoles, embiaron dos Gefes diputados Suyos a el Referido Puesto de la Punta Cortada, los q^c despues de unas harengas bastante largas dieron la mano a su Comandante, asegurandole del Respetto que Guardarian a los Dominios del Rey, y que Su Corazon, y el de toda la nacion havia buuelto acia nosotros, abandonando a los Ingleses. Yo atribuyo este modo de proceder a el buen trato con que he Recivido algunas partidas de ellos, que en varias Ocasiones han venido a visitarme.

El 14. del Corriente se presento en el Rio a distancia de media legua de esta Ciudad una Fregata de Guerra Inglesa,¹ cuyo Comandante² me ha hecho la peticion de que le entregue todas las presas que los Americanos han hecho en el Rio, y que las q^c han tomado en los territorios Ingleses quedasen depositadas en mi poder hasta la Resolucion de la Corte, a cuya infundada pretension le he Respondido que no obstante los muchos Insultos q^c los Ingleses han hecho en este Rio en medio de las poseciones de nuestro Monarcha, visitando, y Registrando las embarcac^s. Españolas, y q^c ellos mismos havian apresado nueve embarcaciones American^s. amarradas en nuestras Orillas, havia sido una justicia imparcial, y el Conservar el Respetto devido a las poseciones del Rey lo que me havia movido a tomar Conocim^{to}. de todas las presas q^c pudiesen estar hechas en parage donde Gozasen de la proteccion Española, para devolverlas a sus Respectivos Dueños, pero todas aquellas que hayan sido hechas en las Orillas Inglesas, o en sus tierras, seguirian la Suerte de la Guerra, quedandole la facultad de Recobrarlas donde pudiese siempre que no fuera en los Dominios de mi

mando, ni en parage donde puedan Gozar de la proteccion Española, con cuya Respuesta definitiva parece q^e por aora ha cesado en sus Contestaciones y demandas.

Es quanto Ocurre por aora que participar a V.E. a quien le aseguro el deseo que tengo de empliar mis contas facultades en su Servicio.

Nuestro S^{or}. Guarde a V.E. m^s. a^s. Nueva Orleans y Marzo 24. de 1778./ Ex^{mo}. S^{or}. [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

[Translation]

Most Excellent Sir.

My dear sir;

In continuation of the news that I sent to Your Excellency in the last post I tell you that the Governor of Pensacola, likewise notified of the taking of the English Posts by the Americans, sent a detachment of 90 men to Manchac; they entered it at dawn on the 19th day of the present month and encountered the small Garrison sleeping there, attacked the House where they were, and after two or three discharges of musketry took possession of it, having killed two men, one woman, and wounding eight or ten, taking prisoners of war some 14 men they encountered, and becoming in consequence owners of the said Post.

Having learned of the event, the Americans who were in the vicinity of this Capital immediately fitted out their barges and set out for Manchac, the referred to place, to avenge themselves and to dislodge their Enemies; they arrived there and according to my information have gained possession of the said territory a second time without opposition, inasmuch as with the Notice that the Royalists had of their Departure, and that there were more of them than themselves, they abandoned the place.

The Americans were not content with the retaking of Manchac without avenging themselves on their Enemies. One of the Commandants of Our Posts wrote me that they followed in pursuit, and that according to the information that some Hunters gave him, the Hunters heard 33 shots in the woods, without knowing the Cause, nor the effects they produced.

Thus, the aforementioned Post of Manchac, like the rest of the English Posts that are Situated on the banks of this River Mississippi, have remained entirely deserted, by having had all their inhabitants pass into our lands asking for Spanish protection, fleeing not only from the Americans, but also from the destruction that the Choctaw Indians do to their dwellings and goods, burning their Houses and stealing from them Everything that they find, leaving the people only with their Shirts, and telling them that they should leave their lands, that they do not want any more English in their territories; and in order to take shelter from unexpected Attack, according to the advice I receive from the Commandant at Cortada Point, they have posted three detachments from the Bank of the River to the interior of the forest, with the idea of taking notice of whatever may occur.

It is a cause to marvel on the present Occasion the good faith, harmony, and respect that the said Indians Keep towards our territories, as they have not done the least injury to them; and in order to make known to me the friendship that they want to Conserve with the Spanish, they sent two of their Chiefs, to the referred to Post of Cortada Point, who after some rather long orations, shook hands with the Commandant, assuring him of the Respect that they Maintained toward the Dominions of the King, and that Their Affection, and that of all the nation was again made ours, abandoning the English. I at-

tribute this method of proceeding to the good treatment with which I have Received some of their parties, who on several occasions have come to visit me.

On the 14th of the Current Month, there appeared in the River at a distance of half a league from this City an English Frigate of War,¹ whose Commander² petitioned me to deliver to him all the prizes that the Americans have made in the River, and that those that they have taken in the English territories remain deposited in my power until the Resolution of the Court; to which groundless pretension I Responded to him that—notwithstanding the many Insults that the English have made in this River in the midst of the possessions of our Monarch, visiting and Searching the Spanish vessels, and that they have likewise captured nine American vessels, fitted out on our Shores—there has been impartial justice; and to Conserve the Respect owed to the possessions of the King, who has moved me to take Cognizance of all the prizes that come to be made in areas that enjoy Spanish protection, in order to return them to their Respective Owners, but all of those that have been taken on the English Shores, or in their lands, would follow the Fortune of War, continuing the right of Recovering those where one can, provided always that there be no violence in the Dominions that I command, nor in areas that enjoy Spanish protection, with definitive Respect to which it appears that for now he has ceased in his Replies and demands.

It is as much as has Occurred for now that I communicate to Your Excellency, whom I assure of my desire of employing my full powers in his Service.

May Our Lord Keep Your Excellency many years. New Orleans the 24th of March 1778. [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

L, SpSAG, Indiferente General, Legajo 1632 B. Addressed below the close: "Ex^{mo}. S^{or}. B^o. F. D^o. Ant^o. Bucareli, y Urzua." Notation at top: "Nueva Orleans y Marzo 24 de 78." Bucareli was viceroy of New Spain.

1. H.M. sloop *Sylph*.

2. Comdr. John Fergusson, R.N.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ARIADNE*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PRINGLE

March 1778

Barbados S ½ W 16 Leagues—

Tuesday 24.

First & middle parts Moderate & fair, latter d^o & Hazy. at 8 AM sprung the Main top Gallant Yard. at Noon saw a sail in the SW made the Signal & gave chace. *Ceres* in Company.

Barbados WNW 16 Leagues—

Moderate and Hazy. at 7 PM. Lost sight of the Chace. at ½ past 7 passed by a Light which the Chace had thrown overboard. at 8 the *Ceres* fired a Gun; hauled our Wind & Joined her, who had brought too the Chace. she proved to be the Brig *Fair Trader* John Adamson Master, belonging to and bound to Boston from Surinam. sent on board 2 Midshipman & 8 seamen.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/60, part 2, fol. 60.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*, COMMANDER JAMES R. DACRES

March 1778

[Sth. End of Barbadoes Bore W by N Dist^{ce}. 10 or 11 Leag^s.]

Tuesday 24

at 12 A.M Saw a Sail in the SW Qt^r. D^o. out all Reefs & Gave Chace as Did the *Ariadne*—

Latt^d: 12°.. 48 N

D^o. Weath^r [Light Breezes & Cloudy] Still in Chace as Also the *Ariadne*, at 8 P.M. Fired a Shott to Bring the Chace too Prov'd to be a Brigg from Suranham Bound to Boston,¹ D^o. sent an Officer & 2 Men on Board of her, & Rec^d. on Board the Prisoners,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4141, part 8, fol. 199. The journal was kept by Lt. David Lockwood.

1. Brig *Fair Trader*, John Adamson, master. Journal of H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 24 Mar., immediately above.

March 25

PETER LANDER TO CAPTAIN NATHAN BROWN

Captⁿ. Nathⁿ. Brown

Salem March 25 1778

The Brig^t *Montgomery*¹ of which you are the Commander, is now ready for a Cruize upon the Enemies of the United States of N. America, among whom are Included all the Subjects of the King of Grate Briton, Except the Inhabetants of the Bermuda and Bahama Islands.—

Our orders are that you Procead Immedeatly to Sea Stearing your Course from Cape Ann over S^t. Gorges Bank—and from thence to Grand Bank Crossing it in the Latt^d. of 44^d N. Latt^d. and from that to the Eastward as far as the Longt^d. of 40 West. and thair to Cruize from the Latt^d. of 44 N. to the Latt^d of 48 untill you have bin oute two months and then you my [*may*] Cruize more to the Southward or any outhier way as you may think most for the benefit of you and the owners. if you Should take any Vessels with Light good[s] think it best for you to take as much oute onbord your Brig^t as possible. Would Advise you to Bring home as many Prisoners as you Can With Safety—we wish you a Good Cruize &^{ca}

Peter Lander
for him Self and
the outhier Owners

Order each Prize upon thair getting as far up as the Islands, to Clew up and Sheet home thair fore Top gallant Sail three times as a Signell—with the Coulers at the fore Toupmast head

N.

L, MSaE, Miscellaneous Shipping and Commercial Papers, Box 1. Docketed: "Instruction to/Captⁱ Nathl Brown/of Pr Brig *Montgomery*."

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Montgomery*, Nathan Brown, commander, was commissioned on 5 Feb. 1778 and was owned by George Williams and Joshua Ward, Jr., of Salem. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, 292, 295. *Montgomery* is described in the petition for her commission as of about 160 tons burthen, mounting 16 carriage guns and 6 swivel guns, and navigated by a crew of 100 seamen. M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 168 (Council Papers, 1777–1778), 172.

JOHN BRADFORD TO CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE

Hon'ble Gentlemen

Boston 25th March 1778

The Commissioners¹ being out of Town, I beg leave to acquaint you with the Arrival of the *Warren* Frigate into this Port. The Cap^t gives his Ship a great

Character for Sailing he has taken a Ship² & a Snow³ on his Cruize, the former from white haven for [New] York, out of which he has took a [*quantity of*] Duck & Oznabriggs, with Sundry other Articles, but not having a Return I Cant Enumerate the Particulars. the Snow was from the West Indies for Bristol with flax Seed & a few hogshheads Sugar, is a fine Arm'd Vessell. he left them off Bermuda, & neither Vessell Arrived. Cap^t Hopkins⁴ tells me if he had been properly mann'd, he could have taken Six other Prizes. I am afraid it will take a very Considerable Time to mann that Ship, as Men are not to be had at any tirms unless her appearance may be an inducement to the Tarrs to Quit the Privateers to go on board her. Cap^t Skimmer⁵ is now tak^g in his Water, and will in ten days be Ready for Sea, if he can procure his men. he has been much impeded by bad Weather in fitting I should have sent forward the Schooners⁶ Acc^{ts}. but my Clerk has been Sick shall give my attention to it, and forward it as soon as possible I have the honour to be Y^{rs}. &c. &c—

J. B.

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 118–19. The addressee is determined by the contents of the letter.

1. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

2. Ship *Neptune*, J. Smallwood, master, from Whitehaven to New York or Philadelphia, with salt and dry goods, which H.M.S. *Orpheus* recaptured on 26 Mar. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486–87.

3. Unidentified snow, — Smith, master, from St. Eustatius to Bristol or Ireland, with flax seed and fustic, which arrived safe at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

4. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, Continental Navy.

5. Capt. John Skimmer, commanding Continental Navy brigantine *General Gates*.

6. Schooner *Loyalty*, prize of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

JOHN BRADFORD TO LEONARD JARVIS

Boston 25th March 1778

This hour a Letter is handed Me from M^r Trivett,¹ by the Bearer the Midshipman² of the *Providence*, I told him the Letter requir'd no Answer, as he wrote Me he should send a Copy of Mine to him to Congress, I desird he let M^r Trivett know that I also should send forward a Copy of his On talking over Matters as he seem'd desirous of having my Opinion, he discours'd very modestly & calmly on the Occasion, & fully in Sentiment with Me, in what I advanc'd—As to the propriety of delivering the Cargo³ into your Hands, & as they would have so deliverd if you had not refus'd giving a Receipt for the Articles receiv'd, as things were circumstanc'd—I think, with Safety you might have given such a Receipt, as you would have held them only in Trust, He says they will now deliver them if you will give your Receipt, being so far from the Scene of the Action, & not having a fair Representation of Things from that Party, I am at a Loss how to advise, only I could wish for Harmony, as it gives the Enemy pleasure to see us quarell—The *Warren* is arriv'd, She took a Ship⁴ from White-Haven & took out of her from 5 to 6,000 [*pieces of duck and osnaburg*], she took also a Snow⁵ from y^e W. Indies for Bristol with Flax Seed they dont yet appear yours &c

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 118. Addressed at top: "Leonard Jarvis Esq^r."

1. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines.
2. Probably Midn. James Adamson.
3. The cargo of ship *Mary*, prize of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
4. Ship *Neptune*, J. Smallwood, master, from Whitehaven to Philadelphia, with salt and dry goods, which H.M.S. *Orpheus* recaptured on 26 Mar. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486–87.
5. Unidentified snow, — Smith, master, from St. Eustatius to Bristol or Ireland, with flax seed and fustic, which arrived safe at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL GABRIEL JOHONNOT TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL

May it Please Your Honors

Agreeable to Instructions received from the Hon^{ble}. Council, I proceeded to Newport in Order to Enquire into the cause of the detention of a Number of Prisoners, due to the State of Massachusetts Bay, and Negotiate on that Business. on my Arrival there, I Applied to Lord Viscount Howe, Admiral and Commander of the British Fleet in America, relative to the Matter in Charge—Shewed him my Credentials, with the General Account of Prisoners Stated. His Lordship having carefully Examined the same, Observed that the Prisoners sent from Hallifax on board the *Royal Bounty* Cartel who rose and took the ship from the Master¹ and carried her into a Port in this State[,] must be deducted from the ballance. I Object^{ed} to it and Observed to his Lordship they were considered as having Liberated themselves, and Agreeable to the Custom Among European Powers could not be looked upon as Prisoners. He replied that she sailed from Hallifax as a Flagg, without any Armed Force on board and was designed for Boston as soon as She had touched at Newport to deliver the Prisoners and Obtain a receipt from the Commissary for them; That she could not be consider'd in any other View. Elucidating his Observation by asking Whether a Prison ship then at Newport bound to Bristol to deliver a Number of Prisoners, who should rise and take the ship from the Master and carry her to Providence could be considered as Liberating themselves; that he viewed the present Instance of the *Royal Bounty* Altogether similar. I answered his Lordship by Observing that the Armed Briggantine *Cabot* was a more Effectual Force than a few soldiers could Possibly be on board the ship, and rendered them almost useless; That the Briggantine *Cabot* was considered in that light, Appearing from Sir Geo. Colliers Instructions to the Master of the *Royal Bounty* which I shewed and from the Conduct of the Captain of the *Cabot* when the first Attempt to carry the ship off was made, Threatning if repeated he would soon clear the decks. That she could not be considered as a Flagg as his Lordship had given Positive Orders no Exchange should take place anywhere but at Newport, which was the reason Assigned by Sir Geo. Collier for not putting on board the Cartel Briggantine *Favorite* from this State then at Hallifax as many Prisoners as she could take and for sending them to Newport; That his Lordship's Elucidation was in my opinion far from being similar, in the one Instance the Intention and design was clear, in the other Cloaked to guard Against what really took place I was answered that the reason the Prisoners was not put on board the Cartel from Boston then at Hallifax was because she was insufficient for so large a Number and a Letter from Sir Geo. Collier Commanding Officer at Hallifax produced as a Corroborating proof, but it was likewise Observed by his

Lordship he did not Altogether Approve Sir Geo's Conduct but thought he might have put on board as Many as she could Convenient[ly] carry. That the *Cabot* was designed only as a Vessell to preserve Order in the Convoy. However he should not Enter into dispute about it. He had 'Thro his Commissary wrote to know whether the Ship and Prisoners were to be Allowed him or not,² the Answer would be determinate with him, if Against him it might Operate Against the plan he had in Agitation, and make him more cautious in future in Exchanging.

His Lordship discovered a strong disinclination to deliver any Prisoners untill the case of the *Royal Bounty* was decided, but strongly pressing him to it by Observing the length of time he had the ballance of Prisoners in his hands, the suffering state the Prisoners were in and the charge and Expende of sending Flaggs, he Agreed to my taking what might be due Allowing for those on board the *Royal Bounty* untill he received an Answer to his Letter.

Their Idea of Rank widely differing from ours, Obliged me to Take in Exchange for those officers in the Naval Line who went in on Parole for certain Persons Named in the Instrument to be sent out in Exchange, such Persons as were thought to be nearest of Rank to them, Neither Party being to be found and no knowledge of them to be had. Lord Howe Altogether disapproves the practice of sending Persons in on Parole to obtain perticular persons Named in Exchange or return & Desires it may be discontinued, would wish in All Applications of that Nature that Proposals may be forwarded and if Approved the Person or Persons will be sent out Immediately but that strict Attention must be paid to Rank Agreeable to Gen^l Washington's Proposal which was concurred in by his Lordship.

Captains of Lettres of Marque His Lordship Observ'd is by no Means of Equal rank with Captains of Armed Vessells fixed for Cruizing, no distinction being made between public and Private Property, the design being the Principal Object; Therefore a Lettre of Marque being designed for trade and defence cannot be deemed on a footing with a Privateer or Armed Vessell and Captains of the former will not be taken in Exchange for Captains of the Latter.

Upon my Remonstrating on the Treatment of the American Prisoners his Lordship readily Acknowledged that their Situation and Fare was truly hard, Unhappy and Miserable, that they were in want of convenience and comfort nor had he it in his power to releive them—That they were cruelly treated in being served with bad provisions or defrauded of their Allowance as had been represented His Lordship declared to be highly Exaggerated if not Altogether groundless—with respect to bad provision he Observed that not any were made use of in his Majesty's Navy without passing a Survey by Men on Oath and when Condemned as unfit for use were by an Act of Parliament order'd to be thrown into the sea on penalty of the Officers Forfeiting his Commission and paying a heavy fine. To shew how strictly they adhered to it and the little Probability of truth in the representation of the American Prisoners, His Lordship related the following Circumstance—That some time since a large Quantity of Provisions was Condemned at N York. The Inhabitants being People high in Government Interest, at that time prodigiously Straitned for Provisions, unanimously Petitioned him that they might be Allowed it. He was he said highly sensible of an[d] felt for their distressd Situation, would have been happy to have Afforded them relief, more Particularly in granting the Prayer of their Petition; but was Obliged to

Commit the whole of it to the seas. His Lordship Added that it was equally Improbable that the American Prisoners were cut short of their Allowance, that he frequently sent the Captain of his ship to see to the distribution of it—was sorry the states so readily gave into Reports of a Treatment which self Preservation (Adverting to bodies being left Unburied &ca.) The Law of Humanity (which he would not Allow they were diverted off) and every feeling that the Human Mind in Civilized countries were Subject to, so loudly disclaimed and rendered Improbable.

His Lordship, declared he wish'd that some Method might be Adopted whereby they might be early Enlarged, at least that the Prisoners might be supplied with fresh Provisions and every thing else that would make their situation Comfortable, That Flags should be Admitted as Often as was Convenient or Necessary for that Purpose provided a proper Person was sent to distribute the supplies, That the Prisoners might not say they had not or were defrauded of what was sent them, and that the Prison Ships should be open to the Visitation and Inspection of our own Surgeons or Physicians.

With respect to the Exchange of Capt^a: John Manley late Commander of the *Hancock* Frigate, would Observe, that on Application to Governor Cook of the State of Rhode Island, Agreeable to my Instructions, to Obtain the Capt^a: of the *Syren* to be given in Exchange for him, the Governor informed me he had Offer'd him for Col^o: Ethan Allen, which could not be Alter'd, As I was by the Advice of the Council of said State requested to wait untill the Flag that sailed the Morning After my Arrival at Providence returned which it was supposed would be in two or three days, but by bad weather was detained twelve days. The Offer for Col^o: Ethan Allen was rejected by Lord Howe as out of his line of department. I again Applied for Liberty to propose Captain Furneaux but was denied. Therefore requested of Lord Howe that Captain Manley might be Enlarged on his Parole, untill Captain Furneaux could be obtained to be given in Exchange for him his Lordship consented and Gave the Commissary at Newport orders for that purpose and for setting at Liberty Captain Daniel Waters³ Exchanged for Capt^a: William Judd⁴ and Captain Samuel Green⁵ Exchanged for Captain Rob^t: Workman—Captain Clouston⁶ was Exchanged for the Master of the *Syren*⁷ and M^r: Joseph Foster for the Purser of said ship.⁸ The reason Assigned by Lord Howe for not sending out captain Bourke,⁹ Captain Clouston, Lieu^t: Adams and M^r: Foster, for Capt^a: Jones,¹⁰ Capt^a: Room,¹¹ Captⁿ: Coats and M^r: Emmons was that they were not of Equal rank.

Left with General Pigot a Copy of the Paroles of the British Officers with a List of the Names of those American Officers, who were to be sent in Exchange which Copy & List the General Engaged to forward to the Commanding Officer at N York that the American Officers might be sent or the British Officers Obligated to return, Agreeable to their Paroles. The Original's with a List of the Prisoners brought in the Flag as well as a List of those Prisoners set ashore at Bristol by Lord Howe. All which is humbly submitted by [&c.]

Gabriel Johonnot

Boston 25th. March 1778

L, M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 8 (Various—Charter Parties—Relating to Prisoners), p. 130. Addressed at foot of last page: "To The Hon^{ble}: Council of the State/of Massachusetts Bay." Docketed: "Col: Johonnots/Report Negotiating/Exch^a Prisoners at Newport/March. 1778."

1. Thomas Compton.

2. See Charles Waller to Massachusetts Commissary of Prisoners, 28 Feb., above.
3. Capt. Daniel Waters, Continental Navy, was captured as an acting lieutenant on Continental Navy frigate *Hancock*. See NDAR 9: 181, 273, 284, 326.
4. Judd was formerly captain of H.M.S. *Antelope*. See NDAR 10: 11, 108, 138, 180, 182, 182n, 340, 496, 532, 567, 594.
5. Green was captured commanding Massachusetts State trading vessel *Phiarne*. See NDAR 10: 400, 400n, 459, 459n.
6. Capt. John Clouston, Massachusetts Navy, was captured commanding Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Freedom*. See NDAR 10: 459, 459n, 816, 816n.
7. William Edwards. See NDAR 10: 643, 644, 644n, 838n.
8. Richard Backhouse. See NDAR 10: 537, 538n, 566, 567, 567n, 644, 644n.
9. Capt. William Burke was captured commanding Washington's Fleet schooner *Warren* on 26 Aug. 1776. See NDAR 6: 303-4, 304n, 638; 7: 95, 101, 347, 1078. At the end of Feb. 1778 he escaped from prison, presumably at New York, and on 30 Apr. petitioned the Continental Congress for back pay in Washington's Fleet and an officer's commission in the Continental Navy. DNA, PCC, item 41, vol. 1, pp. 162-63 (M247, roll 48).
10. Capt. Richard Jones, master of ship *Johnson*. See NDAR 9: 862, 867; 10: 15.
11. Capt. William Room, master of ship *Maesgwyn*. See NDAR 10: 354, 686.

WILLIAM VERNON TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

Gentleⁿ.

Providence 25th. March 1778

This moment several, of the Ship *Warrens* Men came to Town from Boston, who inform me they Arrived There last Monday; and in passing the Enemys Ships in this River¹ on the 16th.² they sustained some damage, their Mizen yard shot away, Main Yard wounded, several Shot passed through their Hull, one Man only sleightly wounded; The Wind blowing & continueing fresh at N W. the Crew badly Clothed, and Weather extreem Cold were under the Necessity of standing to the Southward in warmer Weather under easie sail far as the Latt. 24..0. where they fell in with the Ship *Neptune* Cap^t Smallwood from Whitehaven bound to Phil^a. Loaded with Salt and dry Goods. . .and Soon after with the Snow — Cap^t Smith from St. Eustatia bound to Ireland with Flax Seed and Fustick both of w^{ch} Prizes they ordered to the first Port of Safty either in the State of New Hampshire or Massas.— and shou'd be happy to hear of their Arrival Cap^t Hopkins took out of the *Neptune* 120 bales of duck & some other Articles.

John Deshon Esq^r left this Place this day Week for Connecticut River determined to push out the *Trumbal* the next Tides, and if possible to get her into New London. she must be intirly stript of her Yards & Top Mast, & all her Stores even to a Swep't Hole that if possible to bring her to 9 or 10 feet Water with the Assistance of her Courses with Two Sloops she may get to N London in a few hours being only Twenty Miles distance. ~~Nothing can prevent it except a Gale of Wind Easterly, or the Enemys Ships laying off by [illeg.] Cove.~~ I Cannot doubt of his Success if the sound is clear of the Enemys Ships.

The *Columbus* has fell down the River³ five Mile below this Town waitg only a favourable Wind and Thick Weather to proceed to New London. we have Landed all her Stores, except 4 Swival Guns to keep off a Boat w^{ch}. brings the Ship to a light set of Ballast and must facilitate her Sailing, besides if she falls into the Enemies hands they will gain only an Old Ship—and Twenty five Men w^{ch}. we think sufficient to run the Ship to N London—

The *Providence* hath all her Stores on board for a Cruise. have inlisted about 100 Men in 10 days. Cap^t Whipple⁴ expects to have his Complement of hands in 8 or Ten days tho' I am very doubtful of his being able to Ship more then 150 in that

Time altho the encouragement we give the Men, on this pressing occation is 90 doll^s to able Sea men and 50 to Ordinary & Lands Men, to be deducted out of future Prize Money. we wish to have your approbation of this Measure, and also of our methods respecting the *Columbus*, *Trumbal* & *Warren*. we know nothing can justify our departing from the Rules prescribed by Congress, but the absolute necessity of geting those Ships out from their long & expensive confinement. our motives & exertions are intirely governed by rules of oeconomy [*and*] of good of the service. I am [&c.]

P.S. this moment hear the *Neptune* is Safe Arrived at Boston.⁵

Df, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80.

1. H.M.S. *Lark* and H.M.S. *Somerset* in the Narragansett or West Passage of Narragansett Bay.

2. 16 Feb. See Journal of H.M.S. *Lark*, 16 Feb., Memoir of Elias Ware, 16 Feb., and Diary of Captain Frederick Mackenzie, 17 Feb., above.

3. Providence River and Bay.

4. Capt. Abraham Whipple, Continental Navy.

5. H.M.S. *Orpheus* recaptured *Neptune* on 26 Mar. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486-87.

CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH, R.N., TO CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL, R.N.

(Copy)

By Captain Walter Griffith
Commander of a Division of
His Majesty's Ships and
Vessels at Rhode Island.

You are hereby directed to proceed to Sea in His Majesty's Ship under your Command, and having seen the Forage Ships and Navy Victuallers with His Majesty's Ship the *Isis*, safe into the River Delaware which Ship is to Convoy them up the said River, agreeable to the Orders given Captain Raynor¹ for the purpose: You are then to proceed and Cruise in Company with His Majesty's Ship *Maidstone* between the Lattitude of 38°: 30" and 40°: 30" N^o and 66°. 00" and 70°. 00["] West Longitude for the Term of Six Weeks, but you are nevertheless, at Liberty to extend the Limits & Term of your appointed stay at Sea according to Circumstances, & the Intelligence, you may receive, for furthering His Majesty's Service, for preventing any Trade or Intercourse with the Rebellious Colonests & intercepting the Arm'd Vessels fitted by them, for the Annoyance of the Trade of the King's faithfull Subjects.

It being intended that Two Frigates should at all Times keep together, in Order to Act in greater Force, when not supported by any Two Deck Ship as it is expected that some Ships of Value & Force may soon arrive in the Rebellious Ports, Probably under French Colours, and if any Two should be under Orders to Cruise together, and should by Accident part Company; The Senior Captain is to give a Rendezvous for the purpose of Joining again, and if during the Time other Cruisers should fall in Company it is recommended to the Senior Captain to have as much regard to that Circumstance as his Orders will admit of.

If you should during your Cruise, meet with a Pacquet from England, or any other Ship, in which Major Cuyler,² first Aid de Camp to Sir William Howe is Embarked: You are to receive the Major and the Dispatches with which he is Charged, onboard your Ship (or as the Senior Captain then in Company shall direct) if so desired, as well as the Publick Dispatches addressed to the Admiral, or

General in other instances, and Convey the same for being forwarded up the Delaware, with the greatest expedition to the Admiral; giving Convoy to the Pacquet, as far as your different destinations will admit and at the Expiration of your Cruise, you are to return to this Port for further Orders: And for your General Conduct, when employed in Cruising or otherwise, whether at present or in future, on this or any other Station: You are also, to have regard to the knowledge you may obtain, respecting the several places of Anchorage on the Coasts of the Northern Provinces, in Case it should become necessary to have recourse thereto, on any Emergency, or for preventing the disadvantage of our Ships being forced from their Stations, in the Winter Season: And the further knowledge you may gain of the most probable means of intercepting the Enemys Ships passing to, and from, the New-England Ports, or any other Ports; And if you have a suitable Opportunity, of doing so (Previous to your own arrival in Port) you are to Communicate such information, both to Commodore Hotham,³ at New-York; The Commanding Officer at Halifax, and to me, for Our Guidance in any future Services; And for your further information, if you should fall in with any of the Cruisers, belonging to the Halifax Division, which may have a Letter directed to me on the Kings Service, you are to Open it, in Order to avail yourself of the intelligence it may contain, for the benefit of His Majesty's Service, and in like manner you may Open any Letters from me to him.

And if you should, at any time, on your Cruise, have a Suitable Opportunity of Writing to the Admiral, by any of His Majesty's Ships, going to the General Rendezvous, you are to avail yourself of it, and transmit to His Lordship your proceedings to that Time, with every intelligence you may have obtain'd (and your Opinion of the Authenticity of it) relative to the designs and operations of the Enemy by Sea and Land, with an Account of the Captures &c^a you may have made in the Form annexed, and the State and Condition of the Ship under your Command: The intent being that His Lordship may have the Earliest Intelligence possible; if it can be made known to him, sooner by yours, than thro' my Hands.

I herewith enclose to you such Intelligence as may be Necessary for your information, which you are at all Times to keep as Secret as possible: And if you should find it necessary for His Majesty's Service to Communicate the same to any other Captain, you are to deliver with it, the same Injunction.

Given onboard His Majesty's Ship
Nonsuch off Newport on Rhode Island
this 25th day of March 1778.
(Sign'd) Wat: Griffith

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/1838, part 9, no. 17. Addressed flush left below signature: "To/Capt: P. Pownal/Commander of His Majesty's/Ship the *Apollo*." Docketed: "N^o: 4." Enclosure no. 4 in Captain Walter Griffith to Philip Stephens, 9 Apr. 1778.

1. Capt. John Raynor, R.N.
2. Lt. Col. Cornelius Cuyler.
3. Commo. William Hotham.

JOHN DESHON TO JOSHUA HUNTINGTON

Dear Sir

New London March 25th 1778.

I know not what to say to you about the Matter you Mention, to give 18/ per Day will be a Violation of the Law of the State, at Same time I shall be Very Sorry to

have a Detainion on acco't of the Blacksmiths work of the Ship.¹ if it can be done I Shall be Glad to have your old Smith Kept a little while longer, as we shall soon see whether the new regulations will take place. I am willing to leave the whole to your Prudence and Discretion and shall be fully Satisfyed with your Proceedings in the Matter. I am much Disappointed with Respect to the Ship *Trumbull*, the Navy Board have Invested me with full power to get her out of the River,² and when I Return'd I Expected have found the Ship prepared according to my Directions when I left this place, but I find my Self Superceeded by order of his Excelency the Govenor and Council of Safty, who have appointed Capt'n John Cotton to Execute that Business, and made him Sole Director of the whole Matter. if you will Enquire of any of the Members of the Council of Safty whether the Honob'e Congress has Invested them with any New Powers since the appointment of our Board, and write me as soon as may be you will much oblige me. I have much at hart the getting the *Trumbull* out of the River, and I am Very Sure I could bring the Ship to Draw a foot less watter then She now does (*if what I here is true*) the prospect of a tide this night to get the Ship out is very Great, and I Sincerely wish She may Get out Safe if She Drew a foot less watter I should think the Risque Triffling.

I have nothing more to say then the Ship you are building³ must go on at all Events. I am [&c.]

John Deshon.

Connecticut Historical Society *Collections* 20: 83–84.

1. Huntington also had problems with carpenters' pay. See *NDAR* 10: 55, 56, 136, 137.

2. Connecticut River.

3. Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy*.

CAPTAIN SETH HARDING TO HOWLAND & COIT

Gentlemen

New London March 25th. 1778

I have Agreed with M^r Nathaniel Shaw Jun^r for my Sixteenth Concern in the Brigg^t *Trumbull* now Building att Norwich Landing and would have you Acco^u With him for the 1/32 part of the Duck & Cordage which Cap^t Billings¹ bro^t home which was 1/32 part of the Avails of the Sloop *Trumbull*² and also for One hundred and Twenty pounds in Cash paid you the 10th. of Febuary last³ as ~~þ~~ Rec^t. and You'l Oblige [&c.]

Seth Harding

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 56, no. 3581. Addressed at foot: "To Mess^{rs} Howland⁴ & Coit⁵ Agents/for Brigg: *Trumbull*." Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Cap^t Hardings/Order/on Howland & Coit." Docketed in another hand: "3581."

1. Capt. Henry Billings, commanding the Connecticut privateer sloop *Trumbull*.

2. Sloop *Trumbull* was sold by Capt. Henry Billings to Patrick Moore at Martinique and renamed *Ranger*. See Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., to Patrick Moore, 26 Feb., above.

3. See Receipt of Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., to Captain Seth Harding, 25 Mar., immediately below.

4. Joseph Howland.

5. Thomas Coit.

RECEIPT OF NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO CAPTAIN SETH HARDING

New London March 25th. 1778—

Received of Cap^t Seth Harding Mess^{rs} Howland¹ & Coits² Rec^t. for One hundred & Twenty pounds in his favour also an order for 1/32 part of the Duck

& Cordage Imported by Cap^t Billings³ late Mast^r of the Sloop *Trumbull*,⁴ which I Promise to Acco^{tt} with S^d. Harding for in One Month from this date att the Same Rate as the Said duck and Cordage is Charg'd by the other Owners—

Nath^l Shaw Jun^r

DS, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 56, no. 3584. Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Nath^l Shaw Jun^r/Rec^d." Signed by Seth Harding. Docketed in another hand: "3584."

1. Joseph Howland.
2. Thomas Coit.
3. Capt. Henry Billings, formerly third lieutenant of Connecticut Navy ship *Defence*.
4. Connecticut privateer sloop *Trumbull*.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT TO ROBERT MORRIS

Dear Sir/

Borden Town 25th. Mar: 1778

I have ordered the ship *Lion* and the Packet¹ to be taken out of the Creek² & run as high up the River as they can go & there anchored in the Stream. Should the Enemy make an Attempt this Way by Land & not by water or should the Gallies be able to keep off their small Boats the Vessels will be safer in the Stream than so near Shore—there are many other Reasons that induced me to take this Measure—& I hope you will approve of it;—Capt. McGinnis just now applied to me respecting the Sloop & Schooner under his Charge—He concurred with me in opinion, & will dispose of his Vessels in the same Manner.

Capt. Robinson³ of the *A: Doria*, went in about 10 Days ago with a Flag to carry Supplies to our People Prisoners in the City—The Flag was perfectly regular Leave having been first obtained for it's going in, & yet Genl. Howe has ordered him & Capt. Galt of the State Fleet,⁴ who accompanied him, to be seised under pretence of their being Spies, & has thrown them into the common Gaol—I have wrote to Genl. Washington but know not what has been done.—M^{rs}. Robinson is in great Distress⁵

General Lee⁶ passed thro' Crosswicks yesterday in his way to Philadelphia—

Brother Wharton⁷ has been gone some Time to Salem to see his Wife—What is become of him I know not—I hope he is safe—but the Enemy have been & now are at Salem & in it's Neighbourhood.

We are told D^e Franklin is dead of his wounds—I sincerely hope it is not so—

M^{rs}. Hopkinson joins me in affectionate Regards to M^{rs}. Morris & M^{rs}. Bach, my Compt^s. to all Friends at Manheim—I am dear Sir [&c.]

Fra^s. Hopkinson

L, NHpR, Correspondence Regarding Naval-Maritime Matters, 1775–1783, no. 70.

1. Continental packet brig *Mercury*, Capt. John Ashmead. See NDAR 9: 165.
2. Crosswicks Creek, N.J.
3. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, formerly commanding Continental Navy brigantine *Andrew Doria*.
4. Capt. Nathaniel Galt, formerly commanding Pennsylvania Navy armed boat *Argus*.
5. See Continental Navy Board of the Middle Department to General George Washington, 24 Mar., above.
6. Maj. Gen. Charles Lee, Continental Army.
7. John Wharton, member, Continental Navy Board of Middle Department, at Bordentown.

THE PENNSYLVANIA LEDGER: OR THE PHILADELPHIA MARKET-DAY ADVERTISER,
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1778

PHILADELPHIA.

On Wednesday last, a rebel gun boat, with one three pounder, called the *Fame*, No. 71,¹ was taken by the *Pearl*² and *Camilla*'s³ boats out of a creek a little above Reedy Point.

Last Thursday the *Pearl*'s boats took two rebel boats out of a canal at Reedy Point; one a large long boat, fitted for a four pounder and one swivel; the other a yawl, fitted for five swivels, but neither men nor arms in them.

Last week a rebel schooner was taken in Duck creek, and brought up to this city.⁴ The number of the crew, now prisoners, are about twenty, amongst whom are two pilots, Henry Tudor, and James Bruce. It is said she was taken by a party of the crew belonging to the *Diamond*.⁵

1. Probably the Pennsylvania Navy armed boat *Fame*, Capt. Thomas Hazelwood. There is a notation on her muster roll for this period under her gunner, Andrew Vance, "went down the river with Captain [Joseph] Wade, on a cruize," January 1778. *Pennsylvania Archives*, 2d. ser., I: 202-3. She evidently was recaptured when the British evacuated Philadelphia as five men were assigned to her in July and August 1778. John W. Jackson, *The Pennsylvania Navy, 1775-1781* (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1974), 341.

2. H.M.S. *Pearl*, Capt. John Linzee, commander.

3. H.M.S. *Camilla*, Capt. Charles Phipps, commander.

4. See *The Pennsylvania Ledger: or the Philadelphia Market-Day Advertiser*, 21 Mar., above.

5. H.M.S. *Diamond*, Capt. Charles Feilding, commander.

"AN ACCOUNT OF THE NUMBER OF DESERTED SOLDIERS, GALLEYMEN &^c.
FROM THE REBEL ARMY AND FLEET,
WHO HAVE COME INTO PHILADELPHIA AND TAKEN THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE,
WITH A PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF THE PLACES IN WHICH THEY WERE BORN.—"

Philadelphia March 25th. 1778.—

Total Soldiers to this day		1134.
Of which were born in England	206.	
in Scotland	56	
in Ireland	492	
in Germany	88	
in America	283	
in Canada	4	
in France	<u>5</u>	<u>1134.</u>
Total Galley-men & ^c . to this day		354.
Of which were born in England	69	
in Scotland	22	
in Ireland	157	
in Germany	16	
in America	75	
in France	<u>15</u>	<u>354.</u>

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Wednesday, March 25, 1778

The Committee on the Treasury brought in a report;
Whereupon,

Ordered, That a warrant issue on the treasurer in favour of the Marine Committee for 3,000 dollars, for the purpose of defraying their contingent expences; for which they are to be accountable.

JCC 10: 283.

GOVERNOR PETER CHESTER TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

Duplicate
(N^o 49)

My Lord,

Pensacola, 25th March 1778—

I am sorry to inform Your Lordship, that a Party of the Rebels have lately penetrated into the Colony by the Channel of the Mississippi, and laid waste almost the whole western part of the Province: The best intelligence that I have been able to procure of their proceedings, is as follows.

One James Willing late of Philadelphia, a Captain, (Robert George & Thomas McIntyre Lieutenants) in the Rebel Army with about 35 Men, draughted from the Rebel Troops, left fort Pitt, in the month of January last and on their passage down the Rivers Ohio & Mississippi, were joined by a Body of Banditti, amounting in the whole to about One hundred Men; an Advanced party of forty, first made their appearance in the Province, on the 18th of February last, about ten at night, at a place called the Walnut Hills, 35 Leagues above the Natches the residence of One John Watkins, where they Surprized the said Watkins, & four men, who had been placed there by Colonel Stuart, in order to gain intelligence—these men had for Some time before a party of Indians with them, as a guard for the protection of the River, who, could not be prevailed upon to Stay longer, and were returned in to their nation—On the 19th in the morning M^r Willing with the remainder of their body passed the Walnut Hills and on the same night, the whole reached the Natches, detached Small parties in to the Country, & Surprized all the magistrates & People of Influence in the Settlement, without giving the least Alarm, or affording them an opportunity to defend themselves—After 1, or 2 Days Conference, the Inhabitants by their Deputies, entered into an Engagement of Neutrality with M^r Willing, in order to prevent their Slaves & properties from being plundered, a Copy whereof is inclosed for your Lordship's information—

During this Negotiation, an advanced party, under M^cIntyre proceeded down the River Mississippi, carrying off with them, the Slaves & other property of Anthony Hutchins Esq^{re}, a Magistrate in that District, & himself a Prisoner, he being particularly obnoxious to M^r Willing—The waters of the Mississippi at this season of the year rise very fast, So that they passed down with great rapidity, & were not discovered by the Inhabitants settled on the Banks of the River—untill they reached Our lowest Settlement, Manchack, where early in the morning of the 23rd they Surprized a Ship called the *Rebecca*, late of London, John Cox, master mounted with Sixteen Carriage Guns, four pounders besides Swivels, and made the Inhabitants of that Settlement, Prisoners on their parole—

The main body, joined by three, or four People of the Natches Settlement, a Number of French & Spanish Batteau Men—Hunters, & other Banditti, Soon after followed down the River, and laid waste to most of these Settlements from Point Coupè to Manchack, burning Several Houses, and Seizing upon all the Slaves, & other property of the Inhabitants—

With this Booty, a part of them have proceeded to New Orleans, where the most Considerable body now are; (amounting it is said at present, to between three & four hundred)—The Slaves & property, they intend selling to the Spaniards, at publick Auction, under the direction of one Oliver Pollock a British Merchant, residing at New Orleans; who has declared himself An Agent for the Congress—

One of their parties also Seized a Brig, called the *Neptune*, loaded with Lumber, and bound for Jamaica, about Eleven Leagues below the Town of Orleans, & of course will endeavour to take every British Vessel in the River Mississippi—

The first measure, I adopted after the receipt of this information, was to request Captⁿ. Ferguson¹ of His Majesty's Sloop of war *Sylph* to proceed to the Mississippi in order to intercept any of the British Vessels which the Rebels may have taken in that River, and attempt to carry out to Sea, to demand restitution from the Governor of Louisiana, of all British property brought by the Rebels into his Colony, & remonstrate against his giving them protection or furnishing them with Supplies—I also detached an Officer and twenty five men, from this Garrison, to the assistance of Lieutenant Burdon² of the armed Sloop *West Florida* in the Lake Pontchartrain, who is weakly manned, to Enable him to secure the Passes into the Lakes, and gain intelligence, in case the Rebels Should be in force, & attempt to penetrate farther into the Colony—Colonel Stuart,³ the Superintendant has Sent off twenty men of his Newraised Corps, to the River Nitalbanie,⁴ accompanied by Mr^r Chrystie⁵ a magistrate of that District, who will Endeavour to obtain the best intelligence of what number of the Rebels are posted on the River Amit,⁶ & at Manchack, and if practicable, to attack & dispossess them—

The Inhabitants of the Natches, have sent an Express to me, desiring the assistance of one Hundred Troops for whom they will Engage to build a Block House, Temporary Barracks and to furnish them with fresh Provisions, promising with this Support, to break their Neutrality, & join the Troops against the Rebels; but I found upon consulting Lieutenant Colonel Stiell,⁷ & other Officers of this Garrison, that Such a detachment could not be spared from hence—The Inhabitants of Mobile have also applied to me, to reinforce that Post, the loss of which would greatly distress us here, and cut off our Supply of Fresh Provisions, but it is not thought prudent to detach a man from Our present Strength as such a measure would Endanger the Safety of this place, Should the Rebels come against it in any great force—

Captⁿ Nunn⁸ of His Majesty's Sloop of war *Hound*, lately arrived here from Jamaica, has also, upon my requisition, gone to assist Captⁿ Ferguson in the Mississippi and one, or other of these Sloops will proceed up the River, as high as Manchack to dispossess the Rebels that may be left there, & prevent any of them from returning up the River—

I do not think it improbable when M^r Willing finds that the King's Ships will prevent his Sending any of the British Vessels, taken in the Mississippi, to Sea; that He may return & take post with his Banditti at the Natches, live upon the Inhabitants as free Booters & keep possession of that Country, unless driven out by the Savages; Colonel Stuart has therefore, dispatched one of His commissaries in order to raise the Indians, & white men in their Nation, for this Service, and he assures me, we may rely upon the Savages, who will take an active part, & makes no doubt that they are all in motion—however He has more confidence in them than I have myself; and the Event has shewn that a Small party of the Rebels have either undiscovered, or unmolested passed three different Posts Established by Col^l Stuart, on the Banks of the Mississippi with White men & Indians, for the purpose of preventing the Rebels from penetrating into the Colony by that Channel—

It really affords me much Concern to find, after the great expence, which it has cost Government by Presents, Provisions &c^a to attach these Savages, that they cannot when called forth, be depended upon, this was declared to me, by M^r Alexander Cameron an Indian Commissary, who being called upon by Me in Council to go with a body of Indians, & what white men he could get, asserted that no dependence could be placed upon any body of Indians—notwithstanding their repeated assurances of Attachment to the King's Interest; and that they could not be brought to act unless led on by Troops—

I am endeavouring to raise a Provincial Corps in the Colony under the Command of John M^cGillivray Esq^{re} who has voluntarily offered himself for the purpose and has greater influence about Mobile & with the Traders in the Indian Country than any other Person in the Province; and to encourage Men to enlist. I have offered the Same Pay with Colonel Stuart's Rangers, & to grant them the like Quantity of Lands in the Colony, upon the termination of the Rebellion, as the Provincial Troops are promised serving under Sir W^m Howe; Notwithstanding these Encouragements, I am still fearful, from our few Inhabitants, that M^r M^cGillivray will not be able to collect more than One hundred Men & that Even these will not consent to be Embodied for any Longer time than the Expedition to the Natches: So that should the Rebels be driven out of the Colony, & no Men Stationed at the Natches to Support the Inhabitants, I am of opinion that they will abandon that Settlement, and those below, and on the Banks of Mississippi, & western parts of the Colony will also remove, unless some farther protection can be given to them, than what they are to receive from the Indians on whom they place no Confidence and the most Valuable part of the Province, will be in a great measure depopulated, untill the Rebellion is Crushed.

I think there is much ground to apprehend that the Rebels intend to make an attack upon West Florida with a Considerable force, as I have intelligence from M^r Rocheblave Commandant of the Militia,⁹ in the Country of the Illinois that there were a Number of large Batteaus last fall lying in the River Ohio at Fort Pitt, intended for Some Expedition; this information has been corroborated by a Deserter from the Rebel Troops at Fort Pitt, who arrived in the Colony in February last, & it is generally supposed these Batteaus were intended to make an attack upon this Province—

M^r Willing & his Party all declare that an army from Fort Pitt, consisting of from two to three thousand Men under the command of one George Morgan a

Colonel in the Rebel Service, were to follow them, and are Expected to arrive in the Mississippi by the Month of May next—

Upon this Occasion I think it my duty to be watchful, & to use my utmost Endeavours for the Protection of the Colony. the Number of the Troops at this place, will not admit of making any Detachments & the Indians are not to be depended upon—I have therefore agreeable to my former instructions¹⁰ renewed my application both to Major General Dalling Governor of Jamaica,¹¹ & the Admiral upon that Station,¹² for Such assistance of Troops, & Ships to be sent here, as can be spared from the necessary duty of that Island, and service of the Station—I have also requested of the Admiral to order a Sloop of War to be stationed constantly in the Mississippi, near Manchack, during the present Rebellion, which measure will not only be a great protection to that part of the Province, & to the British Vessels in that River; but also a means of preventing the Rebels from penetrating thro' the River Ibberville,¹³ into the Lakes Maurepas & Pont Chartrain; The Admiral is farther requested to send another Vessel of an Easy draught of water to support Lieut^t Burdon of the *West Florida* in the lakes, his Sloop being very ill calculated for the Service to which she is appointed—¹⁴

I have likewise made an application to Brigadier General Prevost at St^t Augustin, for what assistance he can spare but I am apprehensive I shall receive no Support Either from him or the Governor of Jamaica. I have the honor to be [&c.]

P^t Chester

P.S. The Extracts of the Minutes of the Council respecting the Rebels, with our proceedings thereupon, shall be transmitted by the next opportunity—

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 5/594. Addressed at the foot of the last page: "Right Hon^{ble} Lord George Germain."

1. Comdr. John Fergusson, R.N.

2. Lt. George Burdon (2), R.N.

3. Col. John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

4. Natalbany River.

5. Adam Chrystie.

6. Amite River.

7. Lt. Col. William Stiell.

8. Comdr. Joseph Nunn, R.N.

9. Philippe François Rastel, Sieur de Rocheblave, British commandant of Fort Gage, Kaskaskia, Illinois Country.

10. Gov. Chester is referring to instructions given by Lord George Germain to have *West Florida* reinforced by ships and soldiers from Jamaica. See *NDAR* 3: 482 and 532.

11. Gov. Peter Chester to Gov. John Dalling, 25 Mar. 1778, UKLPR, C.O. 137/73, 147–48.

12. Gov. Peter Chester to Rear Adm. Sir Peter Parker, 25 Mar. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

13. Now Bayou Manchac.

14. Gov. Chester also made a similar request to Vice Adm. James Young, commander of the Leeward Islands Station. Gov. Peter Chester to Vice Adm. James Young, 25 Mar. 1778, UKLPR, C.O. 5/129, 25–28.

March 26

JAMES WARREN TO MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH

Sir

Plym^o: March 26th: 1778

I think it proper you should be Informed that the Enemy at Cape Cod Harbour are driving a very Curious Stroke¹ we have Intelligence here which I

suppose is Authentic that many of our Vessels from the Southern States, & the West Indies are daily taken & Carried in there. whether this is done by those that come under the pretension of a Flag or by others, I am not able to say, nor do I think it very material, while they remain there under that Situation. surely it should not be made A rendezvous for Cruising Ships, & our Vessels by our Confidence in their professions, be Betrayed into Captivity. English Honour must be a subject of Burlesque, in future, Punic or Gallic Faith so long the subject of ridicule in Ancient & Modern History must drop into Oblivion, & give place to the more ridiculous Idea of English Honour & Virtue The Question may be how we can help ourselves. it may be A Question difficult to Answer, but if you have Gen^l Burgoyne still in your power, I Beg leave to Suggest it as my opinion that the Laws of God of Nature & Nations, as well as sound policy, would Justify his being detained till every Vessel taken is discharged with her Cargo.² The Subject Appears to me Important. you will therefore Excuse this Trouble, from your Friend and very Humb^l Serv^t

J Warren

L, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 7, fol. 77. Addressed: "Hon^{ble}/ Major General Heath/Boston/ Cap^t Hammatt." Docketed: "From Gen^l Warren/respect^s Vessels being/taken by the Vessels/in Cape Harbour/Mar. 26. 1778." Warren was major general of the Massachusetts Militia, speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and a member of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

1. A fleet of British transports, escorted by H.M.S. *Juno* and H.M.S. *Orpheus*, sent to convey the British "Convention" Army back to England which were anchored in Cape Cod Harbor.

2. Lt. Gen. John Burgoyne sailed for England on 5 Apr.

THE INDEPENDENT CHRONICLE, AND THE UNIVERSAL ADVERTISER (BOSTON)

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1778

BOSTON. [26 March]

Last Monday Afternoon¹ arrived here, the Continental Frigate WARREN, of 32 Guns, under the Command of John Hopkins, Esq.; which a few Weeks ago got out from Providence, in the Course of which she took two Prizes; one a Ship,² taken in Sight of Bermuda, from Whitehaven bound to Philadelphia, laden with Salt and Dry Goods; the other, a Snow³ from St. Eustatia, her lading unknown, both of which Prizes are hourly expected in Port.—

1. March 23.

2. Ship *Neptune*, J. Smallwood, master, which H.M.S. *Orpheus* recaptured on 26 Mar. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486–87.

3. Unidentified snow, — Smith, master, from St. Eustatius to Bristol or Ireland, with flax seed and fustic, which arrived safe at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

WILLIAM VERNON TO JAMES WARREN

Dear Sir

Providence 26th. March 1778

I congratulate you on the Arrival of the *Warren* at Boston, where I hear one of her Prizes the Ship *Neptune* is safe—have seen several of the *Warrens* crew, who make heavy complaints of their not being Supp[li]ed with Money to bear their expences on the Road; it will be injurious to Manning the Ship *Providence*, who hath now Entered about 120 men Cap^t Whipple¹ informs me he shall be ready to pro-

ceed to Sea in 8 or Ten days If you have any despatches that you may think Safe to Send tho' this dangerous passage please to Transmit them—The *Columbus* has fell down five Miles below y^e Town and will proceed to New London first suitable Time—

Cap^t Hyde of the Marines belong^s to the *Warren* acquaints me he hath been Supply'd with 100 Doll^s by Cor^t Davis at Boston request that he may be repaid, for w^{ch} Sum he will be accountable in the pay^t of his Men.

Cap^t Deshon² writes me he hath ingaged the refusal of a quantity of Duck & Cord^a imported in the French Ship at N. London,³ have noted to him that we shall not want the Duck as their is a q^t in the *Warrens* prize the Cord^a I suppose may be wanted being at £12 ¾ ct. I am [&c.]

Df, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80.

1. Capt. Abraham Whipple, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Providence*.

2. John Deshon, member of Continental Navy Board of Eastern Dept.

3. Probably the French ship *Lyon*, Capt. J. Michel, which arrived at New London on 7 Mar.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *KINGSFISHER*, LIEUTENANT HUGH C. CHRISTIAN

Mar 78	At Single Anchor in Seaconnett Passage Rhode Island,
Thur ^{dy} 26	Ditto Weather [Fresh Winds And Clear first part Remd ^r heazey] At 9 AM Sighted the Anchor, and veered to ½ a Cable Observed the Rebell Galley ¹ to be still at Anchor, off Gould Island, ²

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/507.

1. Rhode Island Navy schooner galley *Spitfire*.

2. Gould I. in the northern part of the Sakonnet Passage.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GREENWICH, MARCH 26."

Last Tuesday Morning about 200 of the Enemy landed (under Cover of a Row Galley¹ and two armed Sloops²) on Greenwich Point, with a Design of destroying a Quantity of Flour that lay on the Beach above the Point, and burning a Row Galley that was fitting in the Harbour. A party of fifteen Men from Colonel Meig's³ Regiment,⁴ under the command of Lieutenants Lay⁵ and Shaylor,⁶ reinforced by a few of the Inhabitants, attacked them, prevented their destroying the Flour, retook a Number of Cattle and Sheep, extinguish'd the Fire they had set on the Galley and compelled them to embark in the greatest Confusion, without the Loss of a Man either killed or wounded, on our side.

Connecticut Gazette; and the Universal Intelligencer, 10 Apr. 1778. Greenwich is now Old Greenwich, Conn.

1. H.M. galley *Dependence*. See Master's Journal of H.M. Galley *Dependence*, 23 and 24 Mar., above.

2. H.M. brig *Halifax* and tender of H.M. sloop *Raven*. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Raven*, 23 and 24 Mar., above.

3. Col. Return Jonathan Meigs.

4. 6th Connecticut Continental Regiment.

5. 1st Lt. Asa Lay.

6. 2d Lt. Joseph Shaylor.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

Roebuck at Philadelphia
the 26th March 1778—

Sir,

Lord Howe not being yet arrived from Rhode Island, and the General having desired the *Sandwich* Pacquet may be dispatched to England; I do myself the honor of writing to you by that Conveyance, to inform my Lords, the Commissioners of the Admiralty, what has passed here since my last Letter by the *Despencer* Pacquet.

From the end of December to the 8th. Instant the Navigation of the River Delaware has been interrupted by the Ice, but open at certain times for many days together. During one of these Intervals the Enemy attempted to pass a number of Gun Boats by the Town, with a view to annoy Vessels that might come into the River before the Ships of War could take their Stations; but two of the Crews deserting, and bringing their Boats with them, the others were Conveyed over land a distance of forty Miles, where they were joined by others from the Rebel Post at Wilmington; and two Transports (the *Katy* & *Mermaid*)¹ laden with Hay from Rhode Island fell into their Hands, together with an Armed Schooner in the Engineers Department from New York.² However the Rebels had not much Advantage from their Capture, as they were soon pursued, and obliged to set fire to the Ships, (which were consumed,) and the Schooner was retaken.

These Ships were part of a Fleet of eleven Sail sent from Rhode Island with Hay, under the Convoy of the *Brune*, and had separated at Sea. The *Brune* with the Remainder, and the *Nottingham* Transport from Cork,³ arrived in the River the 7th. Ins^t as did the *Diamond* with seven more Hay Ships about a Week after.

The Ships of War now form a Chain down the River; they have already taken and destroyed most of the Enemys Armed Boats that infested the Mouths of the Creeks; and Buoys are laid to mark the Obstructions, and Shoals; so that the Navigation to Philadelphia is rendered as practicable as it can be, untill more of the Chevaux de Frizes are either removed, or destroyed, which is about to be undertaken.

Several Detachments of the Army have been Crossed over to the Jerseys occasionally, whenever the Enemy have shewn themselves in that Country; who have always fled on the approach of the Kings Troops.—And a new Corps of Jersey Voluntiers having taken Post at Billingsport a few days ago, have already been joined by numbers of the Country People.

The Town has been well Supplied with Provisions during the whole Winter, and the Army has been remarkably healthy; but the Seaman in the Ships of War have not been quite so fortunate, as will appear by the return I have the honor to enclose.—

All the Transports and Flat Boats are repaired and in good Condition, and two Row-Gallies, each to carry an 18 Pd^t, which I have caused to be built here, by Order of the Admiral will be launched in a few days.—I am with all possible regard [&c.]

A.S. Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Letter Book (1778–1779), pp. 27–29. Addressed at foot: "Philip Stephens Esq^{re}."

1. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master.

3. Transport ship *Nottingham*, L. Bowden, master.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY

Captain John Barry

Sir

[York, Pa.] March 26th 1778

We have received your Letter of the 20th instant¹ covering an Inventory of the goods lately Captured, and are sorry that your Prize Schooner² had unfortunately be retaken; and that the Militia instead of affording you assistance had pilfered so much of the goods you had saved. We think with you that the Bay will be the best place for your meeting with success & hope you will use your utmost diligence in getting your small Squadron speedily down there.

With regard to the Prize goods you have Captured one half in our opinion belongs to the Continent. If it had fully appeared that the Schooner *Alert* was a Vessel of war and belonged to the Crown of great Britain, or was duely commisionated a privateer by his britannick Majesty and you had held she would have been solely the property of the Captors. We enclose here in A Resolve of Congress of the 30th of October 1776.³

As to the bounty offered by Congress for burning the Ships of war and Transports of the enemy it was confined entirely to the fire Ships fitted at Philadelphia last fall.⁴

We have advanced your officer M^r Clarkson⁵ Eight hundred Dollars for which sum we have enclosed his receipt and you are to be accountable for the same. We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 135 (M332, roll 6).

1. See Captain John Barry to George Washington, 20 Mar., above.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army.

3. See *NDAR* 6: 1464.

4. See *NDAR* 9: 719, 777.

5. Midn. Matthew Clarkson, Continental Navy.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [Charleston] Thursday 26th March 1778—

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commissioner—

Edward Darrell, Josiah Smith Esq^{rs}—

Orders were drawn on the Treasury in fav^r of

Dan^l O'Neill for the use of the Rope walk £2000 — —

Paul Ripley wages due him as Midshipman on board the Brigg <i>Comet</i> from the 16 th Oct ^r 1777 to 14 March 1778 ¹ 4 Months & 27 Days a £28. ⌘ Month	}	137.. 4 —
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Jarvis Williams wages due him as Masters Mate on board the Brigg <i>Comet</i> from 27 th Sept ^r 1777—to the 14 March 1778— 5 M ^{os} . & 16 days a £30 ⌘ M ^o	}	166 —
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Mackie & Cameron Coupering Bread & Water Casks 174 [15]

Carried over £247 [19]

[Brou]ght up	2447. 19 —
Ralph ² Atmer Caulking Public Boats	27 — —
Jacob Boomer Sundry Acco ^{ts} . Viz for the	
Brig ^t . <i>Notre Dame</i> —Beef supplyd £308..15.	
“ <i>Fair American</i>d ^o	372.. 5 —
Ship <i>Gen^l Moultrie</i>d ^o	983.. 5 —
Brigg <i>Polly</i>d ^o	313 — —
<i>Eagle</i> Pilot Boatd ^o	36.. 5 —
Schooner <i>Rattle Snake</i> ...d ^o	20..10 —
Ship yardd ^o	<u>333..11. 3.</u>
	<u>2467..11.. 3</u>
	£4872..10.. 3

Adjourned to next Monday Evening 6 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 145.

1. Paul Ripley and Jarvis Williams were two of four members of the crew of South Carolina Navy brigantine *Comet* who escaped from St. Augustine on 23 Feb. See *South-Carolina and American General Gazette*, 12 Mar., above.

2. Letters in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 1, 1776–March 1, 1779.

COMMANDER THOMAS LLOYD, R.N., TO REAR ADMIRAL SIR PETER PARKER

(Copy)

Sir,

Atalanta Pensacola Harbor 26th of Mch 1778

I beg leave to inform You that I wrote Admiral Gayton by His Majesty's Ship *Southampton*, acquainting him that the Convoy would not be ready to Sail on the 15 Ins^t agreeable to his Order and that Manchack in the Province of West Florida was invaded by a party of Rebels

I was sent for in Council and it was the Governor and Councils Opinion that the *Atalanta* should remain here till further certain accounts should arrive of the force and intention of the Rebels and that the *Hound* should proceed up the Mississippi to Manchack and since that time the Merchants and Masters of Ships have made application to me by Petition bearing date the 23^d. Ins^t to remain with His Majesty's Ship under my Command till the 15th: April next, that the late arrivals of their Ships & Vessels renders it impossible to sail before that time I have complied with their Request but have Ordered the Masters of the Vessels who intend taking the benefit of the Convoy to deliver me in writing the time their Ships will be ready, by which means flatter myself I shall be able to sail early in April. They are putting the Garrison into a better State of defence and erecting new Batteries an Officer and fifty Men belonging to the *Atalanta* are employed cutting Pickets, and I have taken the Old *Florida* Sloop which was condemned to tow them over, I shall give the Province every assistance in my Power while His Majesty's Ship remains here, and before my departure am hopeful the *Sylph* will be arrived from the Mississippi

I have this moment received two Letters from the Merchants in Orleans requesting that I should remain 'till the 10th: April next, that their property to be sent from that place in the Ship *Live Oak*¹ will amount to upwards of Forty thousand Pounds Sterling the State and Condition of His Majesty's Ship under my Command is enclosed in Cap^m. Nunns Letter to You I am [&c.]

T: Lloyd

P:S: Captⁿ: Nunn sailed for the Mississippi the 22^d: Ins^t: an Embargo was laid on the Shipping the 20th:—Since writing the above an express has arrived from Orleans to M^r: Stephenson the Contractor who brings an Account that the *Sylph* arrived there the 18th. or 19th: that the Governor of Orleans allows the Rebels to keep the Colours flying before his door and assists them in selling His Maj^e: Subjects property—You will be better informed by Captain Nunn and Captain Ferguson by the first opportunity if any thing should transpire necessary for your information, I shall acquaint You by every opportunity while I remain here.

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Endorsed: "In Adm^l: Sir P^r: Parkers Letter/Dated 19th: April 1778."

1. Ship *Live Oak*, — Nicholson, master, 180 tons burthen, mounting fourteen 4-pounders, built in Georgia in 1766 and lengthened and rebuilt in 1777, owned by James Mather of London. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777–1778.

March 27

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 27th 1778—

Order'd, That Gibbins Sharp for Work for Brig^t *Favorite*,¹ Br^s *Dolphin*,² & Ship *Adams*³ — as p^r his several Bills — be

p'd . . . £132.. 9.. 4—

£52.10.6⁴

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins⁵ receive of Stephen Samson j^c a Moses Boat belonging to the Brig^t *Tyrannicide*⁶ with 1 Coil three inch Rigging, & a small Grappling in it—

Order'd, That Stephen Samson for securing a Moses Boat stole f^m Brig^t *Tyrannicide*, 1 Coil Cordage, & 1 Grappling, & for Charges in transporting the same, & delivering them to Cap^t Hopkins — be paid — £3..12..—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 267.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*.
3. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.
4. Inserted in a different hand.
5. Caleb Hopkins.
6. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Tyrannicide*.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSARY OF PRISONERS TO CHARLES WALLER

S^r:Boston March 27th 1778

I have to acknowledge the Rec^t: of your Letter of the 28th. Ult^o. to Rob^t: Pierpont Esq^t late Commissary of Prisoners for this departm^t:—And would Inform you, that the Ship called the *Royall Bounty* sent by S^r: George Colyer from Hallifax, for Newport with a Number of Prisoners belonging to this State, under the Guard of an Arm'd Vessell Called the *Cabot* Cap^t: Dod,¹ was brought into this Harbor; the Prisoners on board having Liberated themselves. And would observe Had these Prisoners been sent Imediately to Boston in the *Royall Bounty* as a Cartel, no attempt of that nature would have taken place, or been Justified and notwithstand-

ing you say "Newport was the place destined for their Exchange," yet when this State had sent a Cartel Immediately to Hallifax,² and was there ready to receive these very prisoners, that they should be sent under an Armed Force to another port, destroys the very Idea of a Flag & that regard which ought always to be paid to a Cartel—

I would therefore, as Commissary of Prisoners in this department, acquaint you that the said Ship *Royall Bounty* has been Tryed at a Maritime Court & Adjudged forfeited to the Captors & that this State does not look upon themselves answerable either for the Vessell or for those persons who Liberated themselves—

I am further to acquaint you, that Cap^t Tho^s Compton late Commander of the *Royall Bounty*, and Cap^t John Steward with Francis Cooper his Mate shall be Immediately sent to Newport, the former for Cap^t W^m. Boatman of Salem & the two Latter for Cap^t Tho^s. Valentine & Rich^d Carlen ~~his Mate~~, of Boston, now Prisoners at New York, if you will please to Signifie the same to me that the Excha^c shall take Place I am S^r

J H^s Com^y of Prisn^{rs}

Df, M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 8 (Various—Charter Parties—Relating to Prisoners), p. 150. Addressed at top of first page: "To M^r Charles Waller Commissary of Prisoners at Newport."

1. Lt. Edmund Dod, R.N.

2. Cartel brigantine *Favorite*, Lt. John Brown, Continental Navy, commander.

3. Joseph Henderson.

LIEUTENANT'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *MAIDSTONE*, CAPTAIN ALAN GARDNER

March 1778

Brentons point SbE and Newport Church E^t—

Friday 27th.

AM the *Isis* & *Alarm* Sloop sailed with a Convoy, at 8 made the Sig^t for Masters of Merch^t Men

Brentons point SbE and Newport Church E^t—

First part fresh breezes & Cloudy, Middle & latter light Airs
PM at ½ past 9 the Alarm was made by the Ships¹ at the Advanced Posts, cut our Cable & Run out of the Harbour (P^r Order) as did the *Sphinx*. standing off the Lighthouse² at 11. observed a Sail coming down the Naraganset passage, but soon lost sight of her,³ the *Sphinx* went off point Judith;

D, UKLNM, ADM/L/M/27.

1. H.M. frigate *Lark* and tender.

2. Beaver Tail (or Rhode Island) Lighthouse on Conanicut Island.

3. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*, Capt. Hoysteed Hacker, commander, breaking out to sea through the Narragansett or West Passage. See William Vernon to Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department, 25 Mar., above, and William Vernon to James Warren, 26 Mar., above, and 28 Mar., below.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NONSUCH*, CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH

March 1778

at Rhode Island

Friday 27th:

AM made the *Maidstone's* Sigⁿ: for a Lieu^t Sail'd hence the *Isis* with a Convoy

at Rhode Island

First part Mod^e & cloudy latter little wind & hazey PM at 1 made the *Apollo* Sig^{nl} for a Lieu^t ¼ past 10 heard 2 Guns to the Northrd ½ past the *Maidstone* & *Sphynx* sail'd hence p^r Order—fir'd a Gun to Answer the Above Guns which we Suppos'd was an Allarm—from ½ past 10 to ½ past 11 heard many Guns & saw the Flashes which we Suppos'd were from the *Somerset* in the Nariganset passage¹—clear'd Ship—at Midnight Beat the retreat—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1880, fol. 17.

1. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*, attempting to break out to sea through the Narragansett or West Passage.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEAMEN FOR THE CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER
BRIGANTINE *NANCY*

GENTLEMEN Volunteers, who are desirous of serving their Country and at the same Time of making their Fortunes:—An Opportunity is now presented them on Board the Privateer Brig *NANCY*,¹ MICHAEL MELALLY² Commander, mounting sixteen carriage Guns, being a prime Sailor, well fitted for a four Months Cruize, and will sail in about three Weeks. The Commander may be seen on Board, or at the House of Mr. Ichabod Powers jun. in New-London.

New London, March 27, 1778.

Connecticut Gazette; and the Universal Intelligencer, 27 Mar. 1778.

1. Connecticut privateer brigantine *Nancy* was commissioned on 23 Apr. 1778, manned by a crew of 100 seamen and owned by Nathaniel Shaw, Jr. She was bonded by Michael Melally, Nathaniel Shaw, Jr. and Thomas Allon, all of New London. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 10, p. 107 (M247, roll 203).

2. Melally served as first lieutenant of Connecticut Navy ship *Oliver Cromwell* from August 1776 to March 1777.

RECEIPT FOR PRIZE MONEY BY CAPTAIN ELISHA WARNER

New London March 27th. 1778¹

Received of Nath^l Shaw Jun^e Six pounds Eleven Shillings L Money, it being Prize Money as a Lieuten^t on Board y^e *Andrew Doria*² Nicholas Biddle Esq^e Command^r for the Capture of y^e Prize Ship *Nath^l & Elizabeth*³

✂ Elisha Warner

£6..10..0

DS, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 68, no. 25.

1. The "8" appears to have been written over a "7".

2. Warner was second lieutenant of Continental Navy brigantine *Andrew Doria*.

3. The ship *Nathaniel & Elizabeth*, William Hoare, master, was captured by *Andrew Doria* on 11 July 1776 and condemned in New London Maritime Court on 22 Aug. See NDAR 5: 1180, 1229, 1229n, 1270–71, 1272n, 1304; 6: 1100.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN JAMES FERGUSON
TO THE VISCOUNT HOWE, DATED, *BRUNE* AT SEA
THE 27TH: MARCH 1778."

"I had two very hard Gales of Wind—that my Convoy were scattered and parted Company—that Seven of them joined me before I got off the Mouth of the

Delaware—and that the 6th: Instant when I anchored within Henlopen Light House, joined the whole of them except the *Kitty* and *Mermaid*, which by the Account I received from Sir James Wallace of the *Experiment*, that they with a Schooner¹ passed him as he lay at Anchor on their way up the River that Day, without taking Notice of him, notwithstanding the Orders I gave them sealed up, which they were to peruse and follow when they lost Company; A Copy of which I send You enclosed.—From the 6th: to the 8th: thick, foggy Weather. when about ten Miles below Bombay Hook spoke the *George*, an Armed Sloop from New York for Philadelphia with Dispatches from Commodore Hotham for His Excellency General Sir William Howe. The Intelligence I received from the *George*, was, that he saw the two Transports taken that Day off Reedy Island by Gallies and Gun-Boats belonging to the Rebels. The 9th: at Noon discovered a Sloop, a Schooner and four small Vessels at Anchor within Reedy Island. As the *Experiment* with a large Ship from Cork with Provisions Camp-Equipage and Recruits for the Army² were in Company, gave the Convoy in Charge of Sir James Wallace with Orders to push . . . with all the sail he could to get up to the North Entrance of the Passage that leads between Reedy Island and the Pennsylvania Shore, whilst the *Brune*, *Dispatch* Sloop and *York* Armed Sloop entered the South Entrance, with Intent to take or destroy the Enemy Vessels. On our Approach the Schooner and Armed Vessels got under Sail, and the Ship was set on Fire. The *Dispatch* and *York* continued the Chase thro' the North Entrance of the Channel, and the *Experiment* and *George* Armed Sloop with all the Sail they could after them by the upper End of Reedy Island. The Gallies or Gun-Boats got off; but the Schooner was run onshore and taken by the *Experiment's* and *Dispatch's* Boats. She proved to be the *Alert* Armed Schooner belonging to M^r Montresor³ from New York with Baggage and Carpenters for the Army. The Ships [that] the Rebels had taken proved to be the *Kitty* and *Mermaid* Transports of my Convoy. The former had been attacked by some Tenders of Captain Hamond[']s after she was in possession of the Rebels and burnt. The latter, the *Mermaid*, was hauled to the End of a Wharf at Port Penn, her Sails unbent, and her Gu[ns] on a Battery ashore close by her. The *Brune*, about a Cable's length from Ship and Battery, poured in a few Broad-sides, and as she could not pass upwards [for] want of Water, tacked and stood out the Way I entered after seeing the *Mermaid* so effectually on Fire that it was out the power of the Rebels to extinguish it. I received no other Damage from the Rebels than some Shrouds and running Rigging cut by the Shot from their Battery. I joined the Convoy that Night at Anchor below New Castle."

Copy.

By Captain James Ferguson, Commander
of His Majesty's Ship *Brune*.

In Case of Separation, the Rendezvous is the Delaware. But as I have every Reason to imagine that the Rebels will have Armed Vessels in the River to intercept the Supplies for the Army; when You come off Cape Henlopen, You are not to sail up the River, without being joined by some of His Majesty's Ships; And You are to acquaint them what You have got for the Army at Philadelphia, and follow the Orders they give You. I shall leave the *York* Sloop by the Cape to look out for You.

Given onboard the said Ship in Rhode Island
Harbour 25th: February 1778.

(signed) Ja^s. Ferguson.

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 236–37. Enclosure No. 9 in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe's letter No. 57 to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 23 April 1778. Docketed: "Extract of a Letter from Captain/James Ferguson to the Viscount/Howe/Dated 27th March 1778." Notation in another hand: "In Lord Howe's Letter/No 57—."

1. British Army armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master.
2. Transport ship *Nottingham*, L. Bowden, master, 28 guns.
3. Capt. John Montresor, Corps of Engineers.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[Extract]

The Council met

Lancaster, Friday, March 27, 1778.

...An Order was drawn on the Treasurer, in favor of Shriver, Summers & Lasky, for the Sum of Eight hundred & fourteen Pounds, five Shillings & one Penny, for Provisions furnished to the Fleet & charge the same to Will^m. Crispin, Commissary of the Fleet.

D, PHarH, RG 27, Minute Books of the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council, vol. 6, 238.

JONATHAN HUDSON TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

Baltimore March 27th. 1778

This will be Handed to you by Captⁿ. Read of the Continental Brig^t. *Baltimore*,¹ who waits on you, to know, If you Can Supply him with Suitable Guns for the Brig^t he disaproves of those you Sent up, & w^d. Rather have the four Pounders & all of one Size, If you Can favour him with the Number he wants It will be forwarding the dispatch of the Brig^t; there is allso an Anchor Laying at the Point w^{ch}. no Person that we can find Claims, & I Suppose to be One that the State has paid for at the time the Vessels were Sunk at Whetstone Point,² If you Can Spare this Anchor Captⁿ Read will Allso take it, I am [&c.]

Jonⁿ. Hudson

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-123.

1. *Baltimore* was a Continental packet brigantine, commanded by Capt. Thomas Read, Continental Navy.

2. The vessels were sunk in response to the appearance of H.M. sloop *Otter*, Comdr. Matthew Squire, commander, in March 1776. *NDAR* 4: 355.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Friday the 27th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt, deliver to Captain Robert Tompkins, one coil of Inch and half rope, two ditto of two and half inch, one ditto of three and half inch, one hundred and fifty pounds of tow, one Coil of twelve thread Ratling, two Bars of Iron, two Barrels of Tar and one of Pitch, three gallons of Lintseed Oil, ten Barrels of Pork, five ditto of Beef, fifteen ditto of Bread, four ditto of flour and twelve skeins of Marline for the Use of the *Henry* Galley.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick Store, deliver to Captain Robert Tompkins one Bolt of thin duck or forty yards of Oznabrigs, one thousand six penny and

eight penny nails, one pounds of Lamp black four paint Brushes two half hour glasses, eight pound of twine half dozen sail Needles one quart sweet Oil, two tierces of Tafia and one lead Line for the use of the *Henry Galley*.—

Ordered that Thomas Ripley a ship carpenter be allowed eight shillings p^r day both wet and dry, sunday excepted, from the time he enters at the Chickahominy shipyard, till Christmas next, who obliges himself to continue there until the expiration of the said time.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt, deliver to Captain William Saunders, ten Barrels of Bread eight ditto of Beef and Pork, three hundred pounds of Bacon, one barrel of tar, and four hundred pounds of square bar iron, for the use of the *Manley Galley*.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 370–71.

CAPTAIN CELEY SAUNDERS TO MIDSHIPMAN BENJAMIN STROTHER AND OTHERS

[Williamsburg, March 27, 1778]

I HEREBY give notice to *Benjamin Strother*, *William Brown*, *John Pearce*, *William Roberts*,¹ and *Joseph Brinham*, of *Westmoreland*, and *Reuben Tripth* and *Thomas Mathison* of *Loudoun* county, that they must be at *Fraser's* ferry, on *Mattapony*, as soon as possible, in order to go on board the ship *Delegates*.²

C. SAUNDERS, Capt.³

Purdie's *Virginia Gazette* (Williamsburg), Mar. 27, 1778.

1. Benjamin Strother, William Brown, and John Pierce were midshipmen in the Virginia Navy. William Roberts also served in the Virginia Navy. All five would serve in Virginia Navy ship *Tempest*. Robert Armistead Stewart, *The History of Virginia's Navy of the Revolution* (Richmond, Va., 1934), 57, 157, 242.

2. An early name for Virginia Navy ship *Tempest*, building at Frazer's Ferry Shipyard on the Mattaponi River. *Ibid.*, 57.

3. Capt. Celey Saunders, Virginia Navy.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN ONSLOW TO THE VISCOUNT HOWE"

dated S^t Albans Hampton Road 27th. March 1778.

I have ordered the *Ariel* to take under Convoy to Sandy Hook, the *Senegal's* prize, the *Louisa Udrique*, A Swedes Ship from Cadiz for Williamsburgh loaded with Cannon: viz Forty eight Six-pounders, and Eighty-nine twelve-pounders.¹ I thought her a Ship of too much consequence to trust without Convoy. The Squadron under my Orders have continued successful, having taken and destroyed the Ships and Vessels as ¶ List, since I transmitted your Lordship the last Account.

"On the 12th: Instant the *Senegal* chased and drove onshore and demolished off Smith's Island, near Cape Charles, the *Tonnere*, a French merchant Ship from Bordeaux and Cape François, of twenty guns and fifty men. The *Senegal* anchored in two Fathoms and a Half Water. Captain Molloy sent his Lieutenant in the Pinnace with a Flag of Truce, to desire the Ship would surrender, or he should warp the *Senegal* closer in. As soon as the Boat approached, they fired seven Guns loaded with Grape Shot at her, which fortunately did not take Effect. Soon after-

wards the *Tonnere's* Mast went by the Board, and she bulged; when Captain Molloy took possession of her and saved the greater part of her Crew. The French Captain says he was sick in Bed, and that the Guns were fired by an American pilot, who got onshore in the Boat.²

"I hope by this Time your Lordship has received the packet containing the Rebel Governor of Virginia's Letters to the Governors of the Havannah and New Orleans;³ As they were sent from hence the 8th. of March by the prize Ship *Comte de Vaux*, to New York.

"I am much concerned to inform your Lordship, that the Scurvy begins to appear very strongly amongst the Crew of the *S^t Albans*, having of late lost several Men by it. I shall not be able to remain here after the Middle of April, but shall proceed to New-York to recruit my People. The Surgeon is of Opinion, that until that Time, we shall be as well here, as going into a colder Climate. I got a Meal of fresh Beef for my people Yesterday, and I am promised more. The Law of the State makes it dangerous for the Adventurers who supply us: It is seven Year's Banishment to the Mines for any Person detected in supplying us with any Sort of Provisions."

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 220–21. Docketed (with extracts of 9 Mar. letter): "Extracts of two Letters from/Cap^t Onslow to the Viscount Howe,/dated the 9th: and 27th: March 1778./In Lord Howe's Letter/N^o 57." This extract is enclosure No. 2 in Vice Admiral Viscount Howe to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 23 Apr. 1778 (No. 57).

1. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Senegal*, 21 and 22 Mar., both above.

2. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Senegal*, 12 Mar., and Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 12 Mar., above.

3. Governor Patrick Henry to Governor of Cuba, 18 Oct. 1777, and Governor Patrick Henry to Governor of New Orleans, 18 Oct. 1777, in *Official Letters of the Governors of the State of Virginia*, vol. 1, *The Letters of Patrick Henry*, edited by H. R. McIlwaine (Richmond, Va.: Virginia State Library, 1926), 195–96.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *CARYSFORT*, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE

March 1778.

Charles Town Lighthouse NW 14 Miles

Friday 27th

At 3 AM Tk^d Ship At 6 Saw 7 Vessels come down from Rebellion Road & Anch^d in 5 fa^m. Hole D^o out all Reefs—At 8 the Lighthouse W ¼ N—At 11 Hove too Main tops^l to y^e Mast.

Cha^s Town Barr NW ½ W 3 Leagues.

Light Breezes & Hazey Wea^r—At 5 PM Saw thro' the Fog 6 Sail outside the Bar Standing to y^e E^tward. D^o gave Chace—At 6 the[y] hauld the Wind & Stood for the Bar^l At ½ past 6 lost sight of them—At 11 Tk^d Ship

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/168, part 8, fol. 370.

1. According to Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, on 28 Mar. *Carysfort* chased an unidentified brig "on Shore on Charles Town Bar & there wrecked." Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 487.

BRITISH MERCHANTS AT NEW ORLEANS TO COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N.

Sir

New Orleans 27th. March 1778—

We had the honor to receive your Letter of the 23^d. instant, addressed to His Majesty's Loyal Subjects residing in Louisiana: in their names, we beg leave to return you thanks for your offers of protection. We are sensible, that on this un-

happy occasion, nothing has been left undone on your part, which the honor of your King and Country required, or that might tend to our relief and advantage; yet so critically are we situated, that we find it impossible to take advantage of the protection you generously hold out. Many reason's induce us to decline a removal to Pensacola, The trading part will find it impracticable to wind up their affairs in a short time, and the Slaves of the Planters are Numerous, and scattered about in the Country; and we must take the liberty to add, that the inhospitable barren sands of Pensacola, present us with a prospect, little better than starving with our Families, and should we presume to Judge of the future from the past, we have no right to flatter ouselves with relief from that quarter; our applications to Government there, whether Individuals, or in a Body, have ever been treated with Neglect.

Drove from our Plantations by a handful of Banditti which the concurrence of a small military force might have enabled us to overcome without difficulty; the Alternative least fatal to our interests appears to be that of remaining on the Spanish Territories, untill an opportunity presents itself of disposing of our Effects to some advantage or untill Government by affording us sufficient protection shall enable us to return to our Habitations.

Eighty, or a hundred soldiers properly Stationed upon the River, prior to the descent of the Rebels, would have preserved this valuable Colony to Britain: a small military force with a Ship of war in the River, would be sufficient even now to restore peace to those Loyal Subjects, who wish to return, and prove their attachment to the gracious Sovereign.

These truths, we take the liberty of requesting you to lay before Government, and to add, that tho' we have been reduced to the disagreeable necessity of adopting a plan so different from our wishes, none of us have entertained a thought of changing our Natural Allegiance, our love to our King shall ever remain inviolate, and our attachment and loyalty shall only end with our days

The protection you have been pleased to proffer, we consider as essentially necessary for those Vessels now preparing to leave the River, which will be ready in a very few days—

Should *Government* correspond so far with our earnest desires, as to order a Ship of War for our protection in the River; permit us to express a wish, that you, Sir may be appointed to the station; from the spirited conduct, and good sense you have displayed since your arrival here, we have reason to flatter ourselves with the most favorable consequences We have the honor to be [&c.]

(signed)

James Mather	alex ^r . Ross	W ^m . Dunbar
David Ross	W ^m . Gardin	J. Campbell
Will. Swanson	John Davies	Rich ^d . Bradley
Don ^d . Campbell	Philip Moore	George Ross
David Williams	W ^m . Mc Intosh	

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Endorsed: "In Sir Pet^r Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778." Docketed: "The Merchants of New-Orleans/Letter to Captⁿ. Fergusson 27th. March/1778."

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO GOVERNOR MARQUIS DE BOUILLÉ

(Copy)

Antigua 27th. March 1778.—

Sir

The Letter of the 10th. Instant, which your Excellency has honoured me with, only came to hand this day, complaining of His Britannic Majesty's, Frigate the *Seaford*, having insulted the Flag of his Most Christian Majesty, "by attacking and taking on the Coast of Martinico: a Vessel bearing a White Flag, that had taken refuge there, and had ran on shore;" I must beg leave to inform your Excellency, that whoever gave you that Account in the manner you mention, hath grossly deceived you in most part of it, for she was an American Privateer;¹ therefore could have no right to French Colours, which if she did shew I think the Insult you complain of, was from her, in degrading the Flag so much, as under it to claim protection, being a Pirate; for your Excellency must look on all Subjects in rebellion against their Lawful Sovereign in that light, and cannot countenance them; that she ran on shore is certain, as did the *Seaford* also, but they both got off again, when she took her, and as to there part of the representation of your Excellency, of the Frigates Boats firing on the People on shore, it is erroneus; for so far from it, she never fired to hinder, many from escaping which she could have done, and notwithstanding being often fired at from the shore, she never returned one Gun. Your Excellency requiring of me to punish the Captain of the Frigate and restore the Pirate, I flatter myself is only matter of form; for I don't doubt but from your own good sense and candour, with the knowledge you must have of Military Service; you would rather commend the behaviour and zeal of an Officer for the honour of his King, than punish him for exerting it; therefore not in the least doubting but your Excellencys Ideas on the Subject coincide with mine it is a very good reason for me to refuse your request in that particular, not that by doing so I would have your Excellency imagine I mean to protect those who shamelessly insult the Rights of other Nations.

All I can say of the bad behaviour of our Privateers in searching your Droguer is, that these sort of Gentry of all Nations are very apt to make bad use of the Priviledge granted them, there is however redress against them by attacking² the Securities, their Owners are obliged to find on having Commissions granted them; they are not under my direction in the Least, but are under the different Governours who give them their Commissions, and who alone have it in their Power to punish them, according to their deserts: I am with the greatest esteem and regard.—Your Excellencys [&c.]

Signed/ James Young

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed below close: "To/His Excellency/The Marquis De Bouilly/His Most Christian Majesty's/Governor, General &c. &c. &c./Martinique." Docketed: "Antigua 27th. March 1778/Letter to The Marquis/De Bouilly, Governor/of Martinique.—/(No: 2:)/In Adm^l. Young's Letter/Dated 7th. April 1778." Enclosure no. 2 in Vice Adm. James Young to Philip Stephens (No. 2), 7 Apr., which was received on 22 May 1778 and read.

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 28 Feb., and Captain John Colpoys, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 7 Mar., above.

2. Should read "attaching."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PORTLAND*, CAPTAIN THOMAS DUMARESQ

March 1778.
Friday 27th

At the Pitch Kettle Moorings in English Harbour Antigua AM^d. Got down the Sheers. got over the Fore Top and Cap and rigg'd the Topmast. Came in the *Sandwich* Brigg. having met wth. an American Schooner Privateer which engag'd her some time. but she Beat her off. having some running rigging shot away, and some holes in her Sails. and Expended 6 two Pound round Shot. 18 two Pound grape. D^o. 24 Cartridges.

At the Pitch Kettle Moorings in English Harbour Antigua D^o. Weather [Moderate Breezes and Clear Weather], rigg'd the fore Top Gall^{ty} Mast. William Hall Seaman Received 12 lashes for Absence without leave. 1 PM^d. Came in His Majesty's Sloop *Snake* from a Cruize. Sail'd Our Tender the *Tartar* On a Cruize. Caulkers employ'd caulking y^e Water Ways.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/711, part 4.

EXTRACT FROM THE JOURNAL OF FRENCH NAVY FRIGATE *TOURTERELLE*,
CAPITAINE DE VAISSEAU FRANÇOIS, CHEVALIER DE LA LAURENCIE

[*Martinique*] Le 27. D'après des avis, qu'il y avait deux frégates Anglaises qui croisaient au vent de la Martinique et y avaient visité deux Bâtimens français venant d'Europe, j'ai appareillé, souvoyé pour monter le canal de S^{te}. Lucie.¹

[Translation]

[*Martinique*] March 27. Having received information that there were two English frigates that were cruising to the windward of Martinique and that had searched there two French ships coming from Europe, I got under way, intending to sail up to the St. Lucia Channel.¹

Copy, FrPNA, Marine, B⁴ 140, fol. 88. "Extrait du Journal de la campagne La *Tourterelle*."

1. Marginal notation: "Appareillage"; "Getting under way."

GOVERNOR EDWARD HAY TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

N^o. 22.

Barbados. 27. March. 1778.

My Lord

The Three Victuallers, who went from hence to Tobago, having found a Loading there for England, will not sail from thence until the first week in April. This gives me an opportunity of informing Your Lordship of some occurrences which have happened since my last.

The *Grenville* Packet, Capt. Kempthorne, who was bringing the January Mail, arrived here the 7th. Ins^c. She had a few days before fallen in with an American Privateer, called The *Resistance*, Capt. Chew,¹ who came up with her, & a smart engagement ensued, until the American, (after the loss of their Captain

& Thirty Men killed, as we have since been informed) sheered off. Kempthorne & the Master, & Seven men of the Packet are wounded, & one man Killed. During the Engagement, The Mail, which had been slung out of the Cabin Window, to be ready to be sunk, in case the Packet had been taken, was carried off by a chance Shot from the Enemy. The Packet having therefore no Letters, it became unnecessary for her to take the tour of all the Islands. She is gone from hence to Antigua, & Jamaica, & from this last place will proceed to England.

On Fryday the 13th. His Majesty's Ships The *Ariadne*, & *Ceres* brought in the *Alfred*, an American privateer of 20 guns & 180 Men.² This Ship was in Company with another called The *Raleigh*, Thompson, of 32 Guns & 280 Men,³ but who never engaged and sheered off as soon as the *Alfred* was taken. These Two Ships came from Old France.

On Saturday the 14th. His Majesty's Ship, The *Yarmouth* of 74 Guns, commanded by Capt. Vincent, who on the 7th. chased & came up with Five American Pyrates & a prize Schooner.⁴ The Americans were The *Randolph*, Biddle, of 36 Guns, & 305 Men;⁵ The *General Moutraye* of 20 Guns & 130 Men;⁶ & Three Brigantines called the *Notre Dame de* — of 18. Guns, The *Polly* of 16 Guns, & The *Fair American*, of 16 Guns.⁷ All from South Carolina. The *Yarmouth* came up with them about Nine o'Clock at night; The *Randolph* mistaking the force of the *Yarmouth*, began to fire & killed a few of the *Yarmouths* Men; but the first broadside from the *Yarmouth* sunk the *Randolph*, which as she was sinking, blew up. Capt. Vincent, five days after, took up five of the Men, who had saved themselves upon part of the Wreck. By these Men we came to discover, what these ships were. As soon as the *Randolph* sunk, the other Four Ships dispersed different ways, & soon disappeared. On Sunday the 8th. Inst^t. arrived the Fleet from Cork under Convoy of the *Cupid* & *Camel*; consisting of 63. Sail for the different Islands, & last Wednesday the 25th. The Fleet from London under convoy of the *Active* & three other Ships of War, consisting of upwards of 40 Sail arrived in this Bay: Among these are the *Princess Royal*, & the *Mary & Anne*, Two Ships with Provisions for this Island, which compleat the whole number taken up by Government. We are in daily expectation of the Packet with the February Mail.

I have the honour to be with great respect, My Lord, [&c.]

Edw^d. Hay.

L, UKLPR, C.O. 28/57, fols. 16–17. Addressed below close: "The Right Honourable/Lord George Germain/&c^a. &c^a. &c^a—." Docketed: "Barbados 27th. March 1778./Hon^{ble}. Gov^r. Hay/(N^o. 22.)/R, 22^d May./Ent^d."

1. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*, Capt. Samuel Chew, commander. The engagement took place on 4 Mar. See Journal of H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 6 Mar., above.

2. Continental Navy ship *Alfred*. See Captain Thomas Pringle, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 18 Mar., above.

3. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*.

4. See Captain Nicholas Vincent, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 17 Mar., above.

5. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

6. South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie*.

7. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame* and privateer brigantines *Polly* and *Fair American*.

March 28

PETER THACHER TO ELBRIDGE GERRY

My dear Sir

Malden [*Mass.*] March 28 1778

You remember the journey which I took to Philadelphia to procure the release of Capⁿ Burk,¹ it was unsuccessfull, but he has now made his escape & delivers you this.

I know not that I am influenced by any partial, selfish consideration when I warmly recommend him to your notice & assistance in the application which he is now making to congress;² you have, if I mistake not, some knowledge of his character, but had you none before, methinks his long & tedious captivity, his perseverance in his attachment to the united states & his strenuous resistance of the offers, the great offers, which were made him by the enemy, would plead for him more loudly than any thing else, methinks it would insure him success in his application. If I am not misinformed there are two frigates here which are not commissioned,³ where will you find a better man to command one of them than Capⁿ Burk? he was among the first who were commissioned in the naval service, so that there can be no objection on that score.

I never solicit favors for myself; I can & do solicit them for my friends when I think them worthy, did I not do so, I would scorn such a solicitation; I therefore must earnestly request your influence & assistance in procuring one of these ships for Capⁿ Burk, which will lay me under a very great obligation.

Excuse my freedom in writing & believe me to be [&c.]

Peter Thacher

L, NHpR, Correspondence Regarding Naval-Maritime Matters, 1775–1783, no. 71. Addressed: “Hon^{ble} Elbridge Gerry Esq^r/York Town/Pensilvania.” Docketed: “Malden Letter/M^r Thatcher/March 28 1778.” Reverend Peter Thacher (Thatcher) was a Congregational minister at Malden, Mass. Elbridge Gerry was a delegate from Massachusetts to the Continental Congress.

1. William Burke was appointed captain of Washington’s Fleet schooner *Warren* on 1 Feb. 1776. NDAR 3: 553, 1077.

2. On 30 Apr. 1778 Burke petitioned the Continental Congress for back pay from the date he was appointed to Washington’s Fleet schooner *Warren* until the present, which was granted. Congress then appointed him a captain in the Continental Navy to rank from 1 May. JCC 10: 412.

3. At this time there were two Continental Navy ships under construction in Massachusetts, the frigate *Alliance* (36 guns) at Salisbury and a ship of the line (74 guns) at Boston.

WILLIAM VERNON TO JAMES WARREN

Dear Sir.

Providence 28th. March 1778.

This Morn^g by Leiut. Thaxter,¹ I rec^d. M^r. Story² favors of 24th. and 26th. the last of w^{ch}. Inclosed this States Loan Office certificates amounting to Doll^s. 4,600. I hope this will find you at Boston where I am perswaded your presence is much wanted in despatching the *Warren*, I cou’d wish circumstances wou’d admit of my being with you.

Last Even^g the *Columbus* left this River, passed Warwick Neck about Ten o’-clock, the uper Ship Weighed and stood after her. She was at her Station in the Morning, we cannot determine what has been the fate of the *Columbus*, however

she must either be at Newp^t or New London ere this, when known you'll hear from me.³

The *Providence* hath near all her Stores on board, Cap^t Whipple⁴ said last Even^g he had 130 Men and is determined to push out first Wind after Eight days. Inclosed you have Jn^o Deshons Esq^{rs} last lett^e to me,⁵ by w^{ch} you will perceive the Gov^r & Council of the State of Connecticut hath Imploy'd Cap^t John Cotton to get the *Trumbull* out of the River⁶ to New London. undoubtedly they have authority for the measures they are taking, and hope they will succeed in the undertaking. I can't think it adviseable to Cap^t Deshon in interposeing in the matter, they must be answerable for their conduct.

This Moment report is made that their is not one Blanket belonging to the *Providence*, nor one to be had in this Town. we must have at least 140 from Boston soon as Possible, I hope Sr. it will be in your power to send them, they may be soon made out of the Welch Cottons that came in Capt. Chews⁷ prize.⁸ I have not Time to inlarge least shou'd lose this conveyance. I am [&c.]

Copy, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80. Addressed at the foot: "Hb^l John [James] Warren Esq^r"

1. Lt. Adam W. Thaxter, Continental Navy.

2. William Story, clerk of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

3. British marines boarded and burned Continental Navy ship *Columbus* during an engagement while the ship was stranded in the Narragansett or West Passage. See Captain Alan Gardner, R.N., to Captain Walter Griffith, R.N., 28 Mar., below.

4. Capt. Abraham Whipple, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Providence*.

5. See John Deshon to William Vernon, 23 Mar., above.

6. Connecticut River.

7. Capt. Samuel Chew, commanding Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.

8. Ship *Mermaid*, James Cockran, master.

LIEUTENANT'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *MAIDSTONE*, CAPTAIN ALAN GARDNER

March 1778

[off Point Judith, R.I.]

Saturday 28th.

at day light saw a Ship on shore, on the Naraganset side about 5 mile from point Judith, observd them Unbend Her Sails & get them on shore, She appeard (by the Description we had of her) to be the *Columbus* of 30 Guns,¹ at 9 it being Calm, Came too with the Stream Anchor, the *Sphinx* also Anchord; bent the B^t B^r Cable to the Spare Anchor

At Anchor with the Stream Point Judith W ½ N & the Lighthouse² NbE 7 or 8 miles

First & middle mod^t & Cloudy latter fresh Gales, PM at ½ past Noon Weighd as did the *Sphinx* & run down towards the Enemy's Ship, in order to burn her, at 2 she began to fire on us, as they did from the Shore with Field pieces; Stood off & on & fired occasionally, waiting for the *Spitfire* Galley & some Boats that were coming to us from Rhoad Island, at 5 she Joind us, d^o our first Lieu^t.³ & two Midⁿ. were sent in the Pinnace to burn the Ship, & the *Sphinx* & Galley were orderd to Cover her, at the same time we stood in as near as possible, & kept a constant fire on the Shore for the same purpose, at 6 our Boat got on board her & set her on fire, & re-

turn'd to the Ship having five Men badly wounded; Stood off from the Shore with the *Sphinx*, Galley, & Boats & made sail for Rhoad Island, at 8 Anch^d. in the Harbour with the sm^l B^r in 11 fm^s. & Veerd to ½ a Cable, the *Sphinx* & Galley likewise came in,

D, UKLNMM, ADM/L/M/27.

1. Continental Navy ship *Columbus* (24 guns).
2. Beaver Tail (or Rhode Island) Lighthouse on Conanicut Island.
3. Lt. James Vashon, R.N.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *SPHYNX*, CAPTAIN ALEXANDER GRAEME

March 1778

At Single Anchor in Rhode Island Harbour—

Friday 27

Fresh Breezes & Cloudy W^r [PM] at ½ p^r 10 the Com^{dore} made the Sig^l to Slip, hearing y^e Advancd Ship^l firing Guns. d^o Slipt & made Sail in C^o the *Maidstone*, and run off the Narraganset Passage & bro't too,

Saturday 28

D^o. [At Single Anchor in Rhode Island Harbour—]

at 2 AM: saw a Ship² coming out of the Passage. Wore & made Sail. D^o. lost sight of her, she having hauld in Shore as we supposed, or run aground. D^o. wore again in 8 fathoms & bro't too.—at 5 saw the Ship a shore in a bay on the Narraganset Shore, westrd. the Whale Rock. at 9 Anchord hav^g a strong Tide against us. at Noon Weig'd.

Point Judith N ½ E Distance 3 Miles

Moderate Breezes and Cloudy W^r [PM] run^g along shore (for the Ship a Shore). at 4 Several guns were fired at the *Maidstone* from the Ship & the Hill just above her. The *Maidstone* fired Guns to Scour the Hill. & hauld off. We received Several guns from the Shore, & Fired at them, TK^d: Occasionally standing off & on & firing as we could bring the Guns to bear. at ½ past 5 a Number of Boats & the *Spitfire* Galley came from Rhode Island Harb^r. D^o. Stood in Shore to Scour the Hill & Cover the Galley & boats. at 6 the Boats set the Ship a Fire, a Continual fire of Great Guns & Musquetry was kept up from the Shore at the Galley & boats. at 7 made Sail for Rhode Island Harbour. at 8 Anchord in D^o. with the B^l B^r in 15 fathoms and Veerd ½ a Cable, got the end of the S^l B^r Cable that we Slipt on board and weigh'd the Anchor.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/922.

1. H.M. frigate *Lark*.
2. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*, Capt. Hoysteed Hacker, commander, breaking out to sea through the Narragansett or West Passage. See William Vernon to Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department, 25 Mar., above, and William Vernon to James Warren, 26 and 28 Mar., above.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NONSUCH*, CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH

March 1778 at Rhode Island
 Saturday 28th: AM sent the Boats to Assist the *Lord Townsend* Ordinance Ship
 at Rhode Island
 First part Mod^e & cloudy latter fresh Gales & cloudy ½ past
 Noon made Sig^{nl}: for Boats Mann'd and Arm'd D^o: the *Spitfire*
 Galley & Boats went to Assist the *Maidstone* & *Sphynx* to destroy
 a Rebel Frigate¹ who was aground in the Nariganset Passage
 oposite the Light House² at 1 the *Mermaid* Slipt & Sail'd down
 ½ past the *Maidstone* begun to fire & from thence till 6 the
Maidstone & *Sphynx* stood Off & on firing on the Shore & Rebel
 Ship ¼ past 6 the *Maidstones* Boat, Cover'd by the Galley &
 other Boats sett the Rebel Ship onfire & burnt Her at 8 the
 Frigates Galley & boats return'd

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1880, fols. 17–18.

1. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*, attempting to break out to sea through the Narragansett or West Passage. See note 2, immediately above.

2. Beaver Tail (or Rhode Island) Lighthouse on Conanicut Point.

CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

(Copy)

My Lord/

Nonsuch Rhode-Island

28th: March 1778.

Last Night about Ten oclock the Signal was made by one of our Ships on the out Posts, that “the Enemy’s Vessels attempted to pass,” I immediately sent Orders for the *Maidstone* & *Sphynx* to Slip their Cables & push to Sea, which each Ship did with remarkable expedition.

Soon after a Brisk fire, from the *Somerset*, pointed the Narraganset Channel to be the passage Meditated to escape by; Captain Pownall¹ sending an Officer to inform me, the *Apollo* was ready for going out, I gave him Orders to do so, if there was any firing to the Sea-ward, & This (under an Idea) that more in Number, than Force, was intended to escape, & that another Frigate might be necessary to Chace on a different Quarter.

The *Maidstone* & *Sphynx* arrived at the Entrance of the Narraganset before the Enemy got that Length, the improbability of escaping was now too great, to risque a Second Cannonade, & the Ship² run on Shore short off Point Judeth.

The Inhabitants (in Number and Force) were assembled and employed in getting on Shore the Stores &c^a: and some (of such) they effected, the Morning was nearly Calm which prevented our Ships getting in Shore.

Major General Pigot³ having received intelligence that a Ship of Force was on Shore on the Continent side, near Connonicut Light-House,⁴ was pleased to send me that information & a ready Offer of any assistance from the Troops for the purpose of destroying her,—

Upon this information I Order'd a Party of Marines to Augment the Force of the *Spitfire* Gally, made the Signal for Boats Mann'd & Arm'd; & directed Captain Clayton⁵ (of the *Strombolo* Fire-Ship) to proceed with his Division, sent Orders to Captain Gardner⁶ of the *Maidstone* to Support & Conduct that Service, the *Mermaid*

was likewise Order'd on this Employment as she lay (at this Anchorage) in a Situation the most convenient for getting under Sail.

In the afternoon a commanding Breeze gave the Ships, Gally & Boats a favourable Opportunity of getting to the nearest distance Possible, for their respective Bulks. The High Land immediately above & close to where the Ship lay, was covered with Arm'd Men, and some Artillery, & in the Face of that opposition, joined to a Fire from the Ship (having some lower Deckers in use) with united Zeal and Abilities, all advanced, in due Order and Support to each other.

Captain Gardner employed his first Lieutenant (Vashon)⁷ to execute the Ultimate Service of putting Fire to the Ship, which he did in such a manner as to obtain the united applause of all, present, and the *Columbus* is now in Flames.

I have the Honor to be [&c.]

(Sign'd) Wat: Griffith

P.S. By dusk the Ships, Gally, and Boats, returned to this Anchorage, the loss considerable.—

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/1838, part 9, no. 15. Addressed flush left below signature: "To/The Viscount Howe/&c^a: &c^a: &c^a:" Docketed: "N^o. 2." Enclosure no. 2 in Captain Walter Griffith to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 9 Apr. 1778.

1. Capt. Philemon Pownoll, R.N.
2. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*.
3. Maj. Gen. Robert Pigot.
4. Beaver Tail (or Rhode Island) Lighthouse on Conanicut Island.
5. Comdr. Samuel W. Clayton, R.N.
6. Capt. Alan Gardner, R.N.
7. Lt. James Vashon, R.N.

CAPTAIN ALAN GARDNER, R.N., TO CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH, R.N.

(Copy)

Sir/.

Maidstone at Rhode Island

March 28th: 1778.

On the Alarm being given at 10 oClock at Night, by the advanced Ships in Providence River, of the approach of the Enemy, I Slip'd my Cable agreeable to your Orders, and put to Sea in Company with Captain Græme¹ of His Majesty's Ship *Sphynx*, and having got off the Entrance of Narraganset Passage we discovered a Ship of the Enemy's at Half past Eleven, and kept Sight of her till after One oClock this Morning, when the Rebel Ship b[e]ing close under the Land, we suddenly lost Sight of her, the *Maidstone* being at this time in 10 f^m: Water and but little Wind, I imagined the Enemy had come to an Anchor near the Shore, we therefore stood off, & on; till daylight, and I sent Captain Græme off Point Judeth to look out upon that Quarter.

At day break we discovered the Rebel Frigate² on Shore to Windward of us, about Seven Miles from Point Judeth, being little Wind and an Ebb tide, I was obliged to Anchor until Noon, when I got under Weigh, with an intent to get close in Shore with the Ships if practicable and to destroy the Rebel Frigate who appeared to Mount about 36 Guns, some of which she carried on her lower Deck, during the time we lay at Anchor, the Rebels appeared in great Numbers on the Shore, and we observed them to bring down four field Pieces & to be busily employed in getting the Stores out of the Ship.

The *Spitfire* Gally and the Boats of the Squadron under the direction of Captain Clayton³ sent by your Orders to our assistance, having joined us and every thing prepared, for burning the Frigate, I sent my first Lieutenant M^r James Vashon on this Service, under cover of the *Maidstone*, *Sphynx*, & *Spitfire* Gally, with Orders to Board, & set her on Fire, and I have the pleasure to inform you, that he executed this Service, in a very Gallant manner, and much to his Credit, and I must beg leave to recommend him in a particular manner to your Notice, as a brave & deserving Officer, the Spirited behavior of the Petty-Officers (Mess^{rs}: Sotheby & Smith) and Boats-Crew under his Command (five of whom I am sorry to acquaint you are badly wounded) reflect much Honor to them, and I should do them great injustice were I not to mention their bravery and good Conduct on this Occasion.

The Rebel Frigate proves to be the *Columbus*. / I am Sir, [&c.]

(Sign'd) A. Gardner.

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/1838, part 9, no. 16. Addressed flush left below signature: "To/Commodore Griffith." Docketed: "N^o: 3." Enclosure no. 3 in Captain Walter Griffith to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 9 Apr. 1778.

1. Capt. Alexander Graeme, R.N.

2. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*, which mounted from 20 to 28 carriage guns at various times.

3. Comdr. Samuel W. Clayton, R.N.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

28th March—Pleasant Weather. Wind N.E. all last night, but S.E. the latter part of this day.

The wood party consisting of 100 men, under the Command of Major Martini of the Hessian troops, embarked on board the fleet going to Shelter Island for wood for the Garrison.

About half after 10 oClock last night, the *Lark* Frigate Stationed off Greenwich,¹ perceived a vessel coming down, and made the Signal; on which The Commodore² ordered The *Maidstone* & *Sphynx*, which were lying in the harbour, to slip their Cables and put to Sea; soon after which the Rebel vessel came past the *Somerset* lying in the Naraganset passage, who gave her many shot, and by the time she had got to the mouth of the passage, the two Frigates were ready for her, and gave her so warm a reception that she was obliged to run on shore within point Judith. As the wind died away towards morning they could not get near enough to destroy her, which afforded the Rebels an opportunity of getting out part of her stores, and bringing down some guns to protect her. As the *Somerset* sent no report to the Commodore, and nothing could be seen from the ships in the harbour except our two frigates at anchor in the Offing, the Commodore knew nothing of the situation of the Rebel vessel until Gen^l Pigot sent him information of what was seen from the heights; upon which the *Spitfire* Galley was towed out of the harbour by the boats of the fleet, and every necessary preparation made for destroying her. As the wind came in from the S.E. in the afternoon the Frigates worked up and made a disposition for burning her, which was effected about 7 in the Evening, with great gallantry by the boats under the Command of Lieu^t Vashon³ of The *Maidstone*, notwithstanding a severe fire of Cannon & Musquetry from the Rebels.

She proved to be the *Columbus*, a Continental Frigate, pierced for 36 Guns,⁴ Six of which were on a lower deck. She was on her way to New London where she was to have taken in most of her Guns & men. The Rebels saved all the powder she had on board, part of her sails, and some other stores; but the ship was entirely destroyed. Seven Seamen were wounded in boarding her.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 260–61.

1. East Greenwich.

2. Capt. Walter Griffith, acting commodore at Newport.

3. Lt. James Vashon, R.N.

4. *Columbus* was pierced for 18 guns on her gun deck and mounted between 20 and 28 carriage guns at various times.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *KINGSFISHER*, LIEUTENANT HUGH C. CHRISTIAN

Mar 78

At Single Anchor in the Seaconnett Passage Rhode Island,

Saturday 28

At 6 AM Observed a Rebel Brigg¹ at Anchor off Goulds Island² at 9 Observed her to be a ground off the point of Wantons Cove³ two Guns were fir'd from Howland's ferry,⁴ And several from the Rebell Works,

At Single Anchor in the Seaconnett Passage Rhode Island, Mod^t and Cloudy first part Remd^r Strong Gales and Squalley Sighted the Anchor and veered to ½ a Cable,

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/507.

1. An unnamed brig from Swansea, Mass., David Bowers, master. UklPR, H.C.A. 32/455/1, "A Journal, began, on Board, the Galley *Spitfire*, belonging to the State of Rhode Island, & Commanded, by Cap^t Jos. Crandall." See Lieutenant Hugh C. Christian to Captain Walter Griffith, 29 Mar., below.

2. Gould Island at the northern part of the Sakonnet Passage.

3. Now Nannaquaket Pond.

4. British battery at Howland's Ferry.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROSE*, CAPTAIN JAMES REID

March 1778

In Gardiners Island Sound

Saturday 28

AM at 5 Weighed & it coming Calm came too again

In Gardiners Island Sound

Light Breezes & Cloudy ½ past 3 PM Weigh'd & Run through Plumb Gutt ½ past 4 saw a Ship at the Entrance of Seabrook Bar, Bore away and found her to be a Rebel Frigate inside of the Bar,¹ at 10 in 1st R[ee]^f T S^{ls}.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/805.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull*, which was awaiting assistance at Saybrook to get her over the bar at the mouth of the Connecticut River.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO FRANCIS HOPKINSON

Sir

Head Quarters Valley Forge 28th. March 1778

I have been fav^d. with yours of the 16th: and 24th: instants the first inclosing sundry papers relating to the Case of Cap^t Robinson¹ and Galt² who have been de-

tained after going into Philad: under the sanction of a Flag. I have made a demand of Cap^t Robinson as he was previously named and a passport regularly obtained for him. I have also endeavoured to procure the release of Cap^t Galt who I must needs say has been guilty of a very imprudent action in attempting to pass himself as a private seaman or Boatman, which strictly speaking brings him under the imputation of a Spie, but I am in hopes that the matter may be got over. Gen^l Howe has not yet answered my letter upon the subject.

I am obliged to you for the trouble you have taken in removing the Stores and more so for the Offer of the Rice, Oil and Fish, the two first of which will be particularly useful at this time to the Hospital. The Rice and Oil will be removed immediately, as orders are given to procure Waggon^s for the purpose. The Comm^{rs} of purchases at Bordentown or Trenton will give proper Receipts for them, by which you may charge them to the Continent. I am, Sir, [&c.]

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Francis Hopkinson Esq^r" Docketed: "28th March 1778/to/Francis Hopkinson Esq^r."

1. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy. For more details on this incident, see Captain Isaiah Robinson to General George Washington, 17 Mar., General Sir William Howe to General George Washington, 19 Mar., and General George Washington to General Sir William Howe, 22 Mar., above.

2. Capt. Nathaniel Galt, Pennsylvania Navy.

ELIAS BOUDINOT TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE

Sir

Camp Valley Forge March 28th 1778

Having lately agreed to the Exchange of Captain Manley¹ for Cap^t Furneaux² late of the *Syren* frigate, I must beg the favour of your giving Orders for his being immediately sent into New Port, which I have engaged shall be done without delay.—

He must previously pay off all arrears due for Board &c Have the Honor to be [&c.]

Elias Boudinot

Com: Gen^l of Prisoners

L, R-Ar, Letters to the Governor (1778), vol. 12, p. 50. Addressed at foot: "His Exc^t Nicholas Cook Esq^r."

1. Capt. John Manley, Continental Navy.

2. Capt. Tobias Furneaux, R.N.

PENNSYLVANIA PRIVATEER BOND FOR SLIDING GUNTER *PERSEVERENCE*

KNOW all Men by these Presents, that WE, John Macpherson, Joseph Donaldson and Francis Wade all of the State of Pennsylvania are held and firmly bound to The Honorable Henry Laurens Esq^r President of Congress of the united States of America, in Trust for the said United States of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia*, in North-America, in the Penalty of Ten Thousand Dollars—to be paid to the said Honorable Henry Laurens—or to his certain Attorney, Executors, Administrators or Assigns: To which Payment well and truly to be made and done, We do bind Ourselves, our Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by

these Presents. Sealed with our Seals, and dated the twenty eighth Day of March in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seventy eight—

THE Condition of this Obligation is such, That if the above bounden John Macpherson who is Commander of the Sliding Gunter¹ called the Perseverence belonging to the State of Pennsylvania— mounting Two Carriage Guns, and navigated by One hundred & fifty Men, and who hath applied for a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal, to arm, equip, and set forth to Sea, the said Sliding Gunter as a Private Ship of War, and to make Captures of Vessels and Cargoes belonging to the Crown and Subjects of Great-Britain, shall not exceed or transgress the Powers and Authorities which shall be contained in the said Commission, but shall in all Things observe and conduct himself, and govern his Crew, by and according to the same; and shall make Reparation for all Damages sustained by any Misconduct or unwarrantable Proceedings of himself or the Officers or Crew of the said Sliding Gunter—Then this Obligation shall be void, or else remain in Force.

Sealed and Delivered

in the Presence of

Geo Hopes

Jn^o Biers

John Macpherson

Jos Donaldson

Fran^s Wade

D, DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 11, p. 79. Docketed: "Jn^o. McPherson's &c/Bond for Sliding/Gunter, or *Perseverence*/dated 28th. March 1778/belong^g to Pennsylvania." Printed form, with manuscript entries. Here, underscoring indicates the manuscript portions.

1. *Sliding gunter*, or *gunter-rigged vessel*: a vessel "in which a triangular-shaped sail is hoisted by sliding a topmast upward along a short lowermast, peak or head of sail being made fast to upper end of topmast and its tack, or lower forward corner to lowermast." W. A. McEwen and A. H. Lewis, *Encyclopedia of Nautical Knowledge* (Cambridge, Md.: Cornell Maritime Press, 1953), s.v. "gunter."

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dear Sir,

Wilmington March 28th. 1778—

I have inclosed you Depositions &c, relative to the Treatment of the British Prisoners Captured in the Brig *Symetry* during their Stay here—shou'd have transmitted them before, but have waited in expectation of obtaining Col^o. Gunbys,¹ Capt^{ns}. Godmans,² & Learmouths³ Depositions, which woud have been very material, as they were privy to the whole transactions from the Time of the Brigs Capture, but they have not yet Returned.—

The Enemy about four Days ago had a Fleet of near 50 Sail standing up the River, which I fancy was from New York. and yesterday their Foraging Fleet went up, without touching on this Side the Delaware, except three or four small Parties about Fort Penn,⁴ who have been constantly drove off by a Party of 100 of our Men, who have been guarding & aiding the removal of the Forage on that Shore—which is at length happily effected—A Gentleman out of Philadelphia on Friday last, informed me he saw Gen^l Lee⁵ in the Coffee House there, but can give no Account whether he came by Land, or with the Fleet—I have the Honor to be

[&c.]

W. Smallwood

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Gen^l. Washington." Docketed: "Wilmington 28th/March 1778/from/Gen^l Smallwood."

1. Col. John Gunby, 7th Maryland Continental Regiment.

2. Capt. Samuel Godman, 4th Maryland Continental Regiment.
3. Capt. John Learmouth, Delaware Regiment.
4. Port Penn, Del.
5. Maj. Gen. Charles Lee.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Saturday the 28th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick Magazine, deliver to Lieutenant John Thomas one hundred Pounds of Powder and three quires of Paper for Cartridges, for the use of the *Protector* Galley.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 371.

AN ACT OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE CONCERNING THE DIVISION OF PRIZE MONEY

No. 1091

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE COMMODORE OF THIS STATE A SHARE IN ALL PRIZES TAKEN BY VESSELS OF WAR FITTED OUT BY AND AT THE EXPENSE OF THIS STATE, AND SAILING UNDER HIS ORDERS; AND TO ALTER AN ACT ENTITLED "*An Act to empower the Court of Admiralty of this State to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of the Ships and other Vessels of the inhabitants and subjects of Great Britain, to establish the trial by jury in the said court in cases of capture, and for other purposes therein mentioned.*"

Preamble.

WHEREAS, by an Act of this State, passed the thirteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, entitled, "An Act to empower the court of admiralty of this State to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of the ships and other vessels of the inhabitants and subjects of Great Britain, to establish the trial by jury in the said court in cases of capture, and for the other purposes therein mentioned," it is among other things enacted, that vessels of war belonging to the King of Great Britain, or privateers fitted out for the purpose of cruising against the subjects of the United States of America, and not for trade, with their guns, tackle, furniture, apparel, and all merchandize found on board, taken by any vessel of war fitted out by and at the expense of the State, shall, after payment of the fees of condemnation, be wholly divided and shared to and amongst the officers, seamen and mariners, or persons acting as such, on board of or belonging to such vessels of war, in the manner by the said Act directed; and whereas, by the appointment of a commodore to command the navy of this State, it is become absolutely necessary to alter the manner of dividing the above mentioned captures, where the same shall be taken by any vessel of war fitted out by and at the expense of this State, and sailing under the commodore's orders;

Division of prizes. I. *Be it enacted* by his Excellency Rawlins Lowndes, Esq., President and Commander-in-chief in and over the State of South Carolina, by the honorable the Legislative Council and General Assembly of the said State, and by the authority of the same, That all vessels of war belonging to the King of Great Britain, or privateers fitted out for the purpose of cruising against the subjects of the United States of America, and not for trade, with their guns, tackle, furniture, apparel and all other merchandize found on board, taken by any vessel of war fitted out by and at the expense of this State, and sailing under the orders of the commodore thereof, shall, after payment of the fees of condemnation, be wholly divided and shared to and amongst the commodore, officers, seamen and marines on board of or belonging to such vessels of war, in the following manner (that is to say) two sixteenths to the commodore, three sixteenths to the captain or captains, two sixteenths to the lieutenants, officers of marines and master, two sixteenths to the warrant officers and pilot, two sixteenths to the petty officers, and five sixteenths to the seamen, mariners or other persons acting as such; any thing in the said Act or any other law contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

II. *And be it further enacted* by the authority aforesaid, That the commodore of this State shall be entitled to one full sixteenth of all ships and vessels, except vessels of war, with their tackle, apparel and furniture, goods, wares and merchandize, belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of Great Britain or any subject or subjects of the King of Great Britain (except the inhabitants of Bermuda and Providence or Bahama Islands) which shall be hereafter taken by any vessel of war fitted out by and at the expense of this State, and sailing under the orders of the commodore thereof, which said sixteenth shall be paid out of the half of such captures to which this State is or shall be entitled.

HUGH RUTLEDGE, *Speaker of the Legislative Council.*

THOMAS BEE, *Speaker of the General Assembly.*

In the Council Chamber, the 28th day of March, 1778.

Assented to: RAWLINS LOWNDES.

Thomas Cooper and David J. McCord, eds., *The Statutes at Large of South Carolina* (Columbia, S.C.: A. S. Johnson, 1836-41), 4: 440-41.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. CARYSFORT, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE

March 1778.	Cha ^s Town Barr NW ½ W 3 Leagues.
Saturday 28 th	At 7 AM made Sail
	D ^o . Barr NW 8 Leagues.
	First & Latter part Mod ^{ic} & Clear Middle Strong Gales & Clear—At 2 PM Saw a Sail to the ESE D ^o made Sail & gave Chace D ^o Saw 2 more Sail in the same Q ^r at 5. fired 4 Shott

at the Chace D^o She br^t too, D^o Shortn'd Sail D^o found her to be a Ship from Charles Town for Cadiz¹ D^o got the Prisoners on Board & sent a Petty Officer & some hands on board to take charge of the Prize—At 9 the Prize parted Company.—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/168, part 8, fol. 370.

1. Spanish ship *Nuestra Señora del Carmel*, Francisco Bruna, master, owned by Francisco Bruna & Co., laden with rice &c., sent to New York. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 487.

COLONEL JOHN STUART TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN MCGILLIVRAY

Sir

Pensacola 28th. March 1778.

As you are appointed Lieu^t Col^o. Commandant of a regiment to be raised for the defence of this Province by His Excellency Governor Chester, you will of course act in your military capacity under the Governors orders and instructions. At the same time as the assistance of the Chactaw & Chickasaw Indians appears to be absolutely necessary for the effectual service of His Majesty in the protection and defence of the settlements at the Natchez and elsewhere upon the Mississippi, against the incursions and ravages of the Rebels. And as by your great knowledge of said Indians and particular acquaintance with their Chiefs you are every way qualified for managing and conducting them,—I therefore think it necessary for the good of His Majestys Service, to invest you with power and authority, and I do hereby Authorise you to Collect as many of the Chactaws and Chickasaw Indians as you can with the assistance of my Deputies and Commissarys in said Nations, and to lead and employ said Indians in annoying His Majestys Enemies, and assisting and protecting His faithful subjects, For which purpose you are hereby fully deputed and invested with my full power and Authority.

The protection and defence of the Inhabitants of the Natchez District appears to me to be the first object of attention but in this you will be directed by such instructions as you shall receive from His Excellency the Governor, and by your own judgment upon learning the situation of the Enemy and the posture of affairs.

For the better carrying on the Service jointly with M^r Bethune who has before now set out for the Natchez District in consequence of orders from me, I furnish you with a Copy of my instructions to him. And I now send him further Orders to Co-operate with you and give you every Aid and assistance in his power, and that you may require of him

As His Excellency the Governor points Out to you the mode of defraying the expences which shall arise in your military Department, so I must request of you to appoint some person to keep separate and distinct Accounts of the expences which shall arise by furnishing provisions for the Indians which may accompany you, and other Contingencies in the Indian Department, and upon sending me your Accounts, your bill for the same shall be duly Honoured.

Upon the whole I have the greatest confidence in your own good sense and judgment to which I must principally refer you,—I have only to add that I think Cap^t Colbert¹ ought to be immediately sent to the Chickasaw Nation to collect and lead as many of said Indians as he can, under the direction and with the assistance of John M^cIntosh Esq^r my Commissary in said Nation, to whom I write upon the Occasion, and that he will have your instructions how said Indians are to be employed.

In case the enemy should be in force to attempt penetrating through the Chactaw Nation I hope they will meet with a spirited resistance from said Indians, who with the Chickasaws in my opinion can frustrate such an attempt.

I am to inform you according to your desire that the Officers of the Corps already raised by me have British pay, and the private Men 40s Serling per Month, Serjants £3—~~4~~ Month Corporals 50s with rations.

Orders are herewith sent to Charles Stuart Esq^r to furnish you with such proportion of presents as you may judge necessary, and if the quantity of Amunition now sent be insufficient, I will thankfully replace whatever the Gentlemen in trade will lend upon this Occasion.

I have no further to add at present but to request of you to give me punctual and early intelligence of every material Occurrence by expresses hired for that purpose, so wishing you all success I remain [&c.]

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 5/79, fols. 85–86. Addressed at foot of the first page: "Lieu^t Col^o. John M^cGillivray." Docketed: "Pensacola 28th. March 1778./Copy of a letter from the/Superintendant to/Lieu^t Col^o. M^cGillivray/In M^c Stuart's (N^o. 23)/of 13th. April 1778./(1.)."

1. Capt. James Colbert, Indian Deputy, Southern District.

P. MORGAN AND ROBERT ROSS TO COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N.

Sir

New Orleans 28th. March 1778

It is with great concern and regret that particular circumstances attending our situation here have prevented us from having the honor to wait on you in person to acknowledge the obligations we owe you for your offers of protection to our properties and persons, and for that generous and spirited conduct, by which you have attempted to redress the Grievences of His Majty's. Loyal Subjects in the Country.

On former occasions the desire of being useful in cases, where we conceiv'd the interest of our country to be concerned, exposed us to the jealousy of the Spanish Government, and had well nigh proved fatal to our property, and that of our Friends in England in our hands. Indeed the danger was most eminent, for Copies of our Letters on a Public affair had, by some means, been procured at Pensacola and brought hither. Even now we find ourselves particularly pointed at, and the suspicions of the Public and of the Government on all occasions fall upon us. In such a situation we are obliged to act with the greatest circumspection, as the only means of finally securing the large property we have owing to us in the Country; those reason, we hope, will appear to you, a sufficient excuse for a conduct, which might otherwise be deemed a want of that respect, which we owe you. Permit us, Sir, thus to express our sentiments of regard, and that pleasure which every loyal Subject attached to the honor of his Country must feel from a view of your conduct, since your arrival in this River.

The Ship *Live Oak*, which is laden with our Peltries and Indigo for London, will be ready to sail on Tuesday next, we request the favor, that you will (till then) defer your departure and take her under your Convoy to Pensacola—We have the honor to be [&c.]

(Signed) P. Morgan
Robert Ross

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed below the close: "To/Captain Fergusson." Docketed: "Mess^{rs}. Morgan & Ross, Merch^{ts}./at New-Orleans, Letter to/Captain Fergusson 28 March/1778—/In Sir Pet^r Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778—."

BRITISH MERCHANTS ON THE MISSISSIPPI TO GOVERNOR PETER CHESTER

[*New Orleans, 28 March 1778*]

Sir

Unfortunate as we have been in falling a Prey to a small Party of Rebels, for want of Protection, which was repeatedly Solicited, We beg leave thro' you, to Assure our Gracious Sovereign, of our unshaken Allegiance and Warmest Attachment to his Person and Crown. We have been driven from our Plantations and despoiled of a great part of our property, and must have lost our all, had not His Excellency Don Galvez, Governor of this Province, with much kindness and humanity, in the Name of his Catholic Majesty, afforded Protection to our Persons and the remaining part of Our Effects.—A Copy of our address of thanks, & of the Governor's answer we have the honor to inclose You.

Two Months since, we numbered within the district of Manchac about 200 Inhabitants, many of whom were possessed of considerable property.—At Present the whole district is Abandoned, and the Inhabitants, very few excepted, have taken Shelter in the Province of Lousiana.—Nothing but protection was wanting, to make the Country bordering on the Mississippi a Valuable and flourishing part of His Majty's Dominions.—Perhaps it is not yet too late.—Encouraged as we were by His Majty's Royal Proclamation to settle this Province under Your Command; and particularly of late invited to seek an Asylum from the Violences committed in the Northern Colonies, we conceive we have a Right to look to you for Protection, & we beg to know if it will be afforded us, that we may Return and Cultivate our Lands.—We would not Presume to Point out the Mode to You, Sir; but as we Suppose about 200 Regular Troops and a Vessel of War with some armed Boats properly Stationed and a Militia Established among ourselves would Answer the Purpose.

We beg your Answer by the Return of this Express that we may take some Measures before the planting Season be past, to secure a Subsistance.—We have the honor to be [&c.]

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Docketed: "Copy of a Letter from the/ Merchants. British/Settlement on Mississippi/to Governor Chester/In Sir P^r Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

March 1778. Mount Christi SW ½ W Point Isabella SE dist. 4 or 5
Saturday 28th: Leag^s.

At 5 [AM] Saw a Sail in the Offing bearing N^o. D^o. Sailed hence the *Badgers* Tender in Chace. At 12 the Barge ret^d with the *Washington* Sloop from North Carolina Bound to Cape Francois Loaden'd with Tobacco Staves Bees Wax &^c. Brought the Captⁿ. 4 Hands & a Boy out of her. the above Prize Engaged the Barge before she Struck.¹

Light Winds & fair W^r. [PM] Employed taking the Sloops Cargo out & stowing it away on b^d. of us

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. Sloop *Washington*, master unknown, from South Carolina to Cape François, with tobacco and staves. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

MARCH 29 (SUNDAY)

DISBURSEMENTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *HAZARD*Disbursements of the Brigantine *Hazard* Simeon Samson Esq^r. Commander Viz^t.—

1778		S. ¹ D ²	# ³	
Feb ^y 24	To Cash paid for 27 ^{lb} . Sugar	@17.. 6	£23..12.. 6	
26	1 Hh ^{ds} . Rum 107 Gallons	@3 ^h ..10 & hh ^d . 50 [#]	424..10.. 0	
28	To 5 ^{lb} . Nails		5.. 0.. 0	
March 5 th .	To 1 barrel Tallow 250 ^{lb} N ^t .	@20 Sols	250..—..—	
	37 ^{lb} Coffee	@16 d ^o .	29..12..—	
	59 ^{lb} Sugar	@17 ^s .. 6 ^D	<u>51..12.. 6</u>	
				784.. 7..—
			#	
	To Cash paid for 2 barrels Flour		£220..—..—	
	Ditto paid for Sundries for the Armourer		42..—..—	
	Ditto paid for a Side Leather		36..—..—	
		Sols d		
	Ditto paid for 80 ^{lb} Sugar	@17.. 6	<u>70..—..—</u>	
				368..—..—
	To Cash paid the Pilot		£33..—..—	
	Ditto paid 2 Hydes		33..—..—	
	Ditto paid Soldiers guarding Sailors		31..10..—	
12 th	To 3 Keggs Vinager	@20 [#]	60..—..—	
	154 feet Boards	@5 Sols	38..10..—	
	344 feet Boards	@ d ^o .	86..—..—	
	21 Bush ^{ls} . Potatoes	@16 [#] ..10	<u>346..10..—</u>	
				628..10..—
17 th	To 10 barrels Flour	@110 [#]	£1100..—..—	
	4 Boxes Candles 258 ½ N ^t .	@22 ^s ./6 ^D .	290..16.. 3	
	6 barrels Pork	@132 [#]	<u>792..—..—</u>	

				2182..16.. 3
18	To 2 barrels Rice	@82#..10 ^s	£165..—..—	
	To 5 Hh ^{ds} . Rum 463 Gallons	@3.. 5	1504..15..—	
	5 Hh ^d for ditto	@54#	270..—..—	
	8 Firkins Butter	@95#	760..—..—	
	3 Hh ^{ds} . Rum q ^t . 326 Gallons	@3#..10	1291..—..—	
	3 Hh ^{ds} . for ditto	@50#	<u>000..—..—</u>	
				3,990..15..—
19 th	To 3 Tierces Pork	@198#	594..—..—	
	To Cash paid for 259 ^{lb} Coffee	@15 Sols	194.. 5..—	
	13 Twine	@3#	39..—..—	
20 th	To 8000 ^{lb} Bread	@75#	6000..—..—	
	25 feet 2½ Inch Plank	@50 Sols	62..10..—	
	To 2 Spars	@16# 10 Sols	33..—..—	
	1 Hand Trumpit		8.. 5..—	
	2 Shovles		<u>12..—..—</u>	
				<u>6943..—..—</u>
		Carried forward—		14897.. 8.. 3
		Amount Brought forward		14897.. 8.. 3
1778			# S. D	
March	To Cash paid for 24 Brooms		£4..10..—	
	Ditto for 24 ditto		6..—..—	
	Ditto for 57½ lb Sugar	@17 ^s .. 6 ^p	50.. 6..—	
	Ditto for French Colours		90..—..—	
	Ditto for Carpenters Tools		<u>43.. 1..—</u>	
				193..17..—
	To Cash paid for a Spy Glass		£363..—..—	
	Ditto for mending Windows		30..15..—	

29 MARCH 1778

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DISBURSEMENTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *HAZARD*—ContinuedDisbursements of the Brigantine *Hazard* Simeon Samson Esq^r Commander Viz^t—

1778

	S. D	#	
	Ditto for 13 ^{lb} Twine	@2 ^s .. 5	29.. 5.—
	Ditto for 3 Padlocks	@7 ^s .. 6 ^D	22..10.—
	Ditto for 1 Tierce Vinager		150.—..—
	Ditto for mending Trumpit & handpump		10..10.—
	Ditto for 2 barrels for Sugar		4.. 3.—
	Ditto paid for pump Leather		47.. 5.—
	Ditto paid for a Spar for a Tiller		22..15.—
	Ditto for 2 Brushes thrums & Brooms		<u>21.—..—</u>
			701.. 3.—
	To Cash paid for the Hire of the Hulk		£440.—..—
	To 32 ^{lb} Sugar	@17 ^s .. 6 ^D	28.—..—
	To 1 Tierce Mollasses 76 Gallons	@30 Sols	114.—..—
	1 Tierce for ditto		24..15.—
	To Cash paid for 654 ^{lb} N ^t Sugar	@46/	300..16.—
23	To 2 Keggs Varnish	@	20.—..—
	1½ Ells Greene Cloth	@30 [#]	45.—..—
	6 P ^s . Duck	@108	648.—..—
24 th	To 2 Blunderbusses	@	<u>264.—..—</u>
			188.. 4..11
	20 Shackles	@	165.—..—
	18 barrels Pork	@132 [#]	2376.—..—
25	To 2 barrels Pease	@50 [#]	100.—..—
	To the Amount of Blacksmiths Bill		624.—..—
	To 1419 ^{lb} Rigging	@70 [#]	993.. 6.—

	To an old Main Sail		<u>110..—..—</u>	4368.. 6..—
	To Cash paid for 2 barrels for Sugar		00..—..—	
	To 23 barrels Beef	@100 [#]	2300..—..—	
	8 half barrels Pork	@66 [#]	528..—..—	
	50 ^{lb} Lyn Fish		50..—..—	
	To M ^r La Font Ship Chandlers Bill		321.. 7.. 6	
	To Cash paid for Wire thread & Whetstone		7..10..—	
	To Boutin Fil & Comp ^a Ship Chandler Bill		745..—..—	
				<u>3951..17.. 6</u>
	Carried forward			£25.997.. 2.. 9
	Amount Bro ^t over			£25.997.. 2.. 9
1778				
March	To Cash paid for Brooms		£ 3..—..—	
	To 930 ^{lb} Junk	@50	465..—..—	
	To Amount of Sam ^l . Brentons Bill		1102..10..—	
	To M ^r Froment Apothacarys Bill		684..—..—	
	To 36 Bushils Coal		40..—..—	
	To 12 Sheets tin .. 12 [#] ... 2 ^{lb} Pistol Balls 2 [#]		14..—..—	
	To Cash paid the Linguster		66..—..—	
	To ditto paid at the Admaralty Office		40.. 5..—	
	To Cash paid Hospital Bill		265..10..—	
	To the Amo ^{nt} of Cap ^t Samsons Acc ^t		861.. 3..—	
	To 3 Lancets		22..10..—	
	To 1 Case of Wine for the Use of the Surgeon		66..—..—	
	To Cash Advanced the Surgeon Sam ^l Guild		396..—..—	
	To the Amount of Rations paid Cap ^t Samson for the Officers of the Brig ^a : <i>Hazard</i> to 14 March 1778		3982..—..—	

DISBURSEMENTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *HAZARD*—*Continued*Disbursements of the Brigantine *Hazard* Simeon Samson Esq^r Commander Viz^t—

1778

S. D

#

To 20^{lb} White Led . . 20[#] . . . 1 Jar Oil 15[#]35..—..—

8042..18.. 0

34,040.. 0.. 9

1702..—..—

35,742.. 0.. 9

Commissⁿ: @ 5 ³/₄ CentSt^r Pierre M/Que March 28th: 1778

Errors Excepted

W^m. & G Hutchinson

DS, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 157 (Maritime Miscellaneous, 1777–1782), 120–22. Docketed: "Copy of M^r Godfrey/Hutchinson Disburst^s/for the Brig^a
Hazard/at St^r Pierre M/Que/28 March 1778/Livers 35,742.. 0.. 9."
 # S. D

1. Symbol for *sols*.2. Symbol for *deniers*.3. Symbol for *livres tournois*.ACCOUNTS OF MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *HAZARD*The Brigantine *Hazard* to Simeon Samson

1778

D^rFeb^y 28th To Cash paid for 57^{lb} Fresh Beef @ 1/3

£3..11.. 3

March 1 To Ditto paid for Potatoes & Yams

£0..7.. 1½

To ditto paid for 2 Hh^{ds}. Water1.. 6

.. 8.. 7½

3^d To Cash paid for 2½ Cords Wood @ 36/

4..10..—

5 To Cash paid for Water

3..—..—

7th To ditto paid for a Tureen 3 Tumblers & half Doz^a. Plates

0..10.. 6½

8 To ditto paid for 2 Doz^a. Brooms

£0.. 4.. 6

	To ditto paid for 26 ^{lb} Fresh Pork @1/3	<u>1..12.. 6</u>	1..17..—
11	To ditto paid for Charcoal	£0.. 2.. 3	
	To ditto paid for Potatoes from 1 to 11 March 1778	<u>2.. 8.. 4½</u>	2..10.. 7½
	To Cash paid Masson Repairing the Gally		..16.. 6.
	To ditto paid for Potatoes	£0..12..—	
	To ditto for Tumblers & Muggs	<u>..10.. 6</u>	1.. 2.. 6
	To ditto paid for ½ Doz ^a Napkins paid for Potatoes	£0..15..— <u>.. 8..</u>	1.. 3..—
23 ^d	To Cash paid for the Hire of a Store to mend the Sails		5.. 8..—
24 th	To Cash paid for 1 Doz ^a Plates 6/ Punch Bowl 3/		.. 9..—
	To Cash paid for 1/Doz ^a Glasses ..7/6.. 1 Soop Spoon 4/6		..12..—
	To d ^o . p ^d . for 1 Doz ^a Spoons 7/.. 97½ ^{lb} Fresh Beef @1/6	£7.. 6.. 3	7..13.. 3
	To Cash paid for 500 Yams @16/6		4.. 2.. 6.
	To Cash paid for 134 ^{lb} Pork @9 ^d		5.. 0.. 6
	To a Table Cloth		<u>.. 6..—</u>
			<u>£43.. 1.. 2½</u>
			#. ¹ S. ² D. ³
	Equal to.		861.. 3.. 0

St Pierre M/Que March 28th. 1778

Received the Above of Mess^{rs}. W^m. & Godfrey Hutchinson

Simⁿ Samson

D, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 157 (Maritime Miscellaneous, 1777–1782), 123.

1. Symbol for *livres tournois*.

2. Symbol for *sols*.

3. Symbol for *deniers*.

LIEUTENANT HUGH C. CHRISTIAN, R.N., TO CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH, R.N.

(Copy)
Sir/

Kingsfisher in the Seakonnet
Passage 29th: March 1778.

The Rebel Brig of which you did me the Honor to advise me,¹ made an attempt last Night, to push past, but by some accident grounded on the Reef, which you will observe marked near Wantons Cove;² I went up this Morning with hopes that there was some possibility of annoying her with the Gally;³ which I meant to have done by taking shelter under the NW point of Golds-Island,⁴ but upon consulting more particularly with the Pilot, I found reason to fear that the depth of Water on that Flat would not prove sufficient, and finding the Brig so well protected by their Batteries, I conceived it prudent not to make any movement, she is extremely well fitted with Sails, a Stout Brig, but does not wear the Appearance of a Vessel of much Force, altho' I am informed that she Mounts 14—4. Pounders, and has 85 Men.

They were employed Lightening the Vessel Yesterday, and I perceive have got her off the last Tide: She will in all probability make another attempt, when the Wind is favourable;⁵ and I hope I shall then have an Opportunity to convey you a more satisfactory account of Her; I have the Honor to be with respect.
Sir/ [&c.]

(Sign'd) Hugh C. Christian

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/1838, part 9, no. 20. Addressed flush left below signature: "To Commodore Griffith/&c^a. &c^a/Rhode-Island." Docketed: "N^o. 7." Enclosure no. 7 in Captain Walter Griffith to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 9 Apr. 1778.

1. An unnamed brig from Swansea, Mass., David Bowers, master. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/455/1, "A Journal, began, on Board, the Galley *Spitfire*, belonging to the State of Rhode Island, & Commanded, by Cap^t. Jos. Crandall."

2. Now Nannaquaket Pond.

3. H.M. galley *Alarm*.

4. Gould I. at the northern part of the Sakonnet Passage.

5. *Kingsfisher's* Journal notes on 30 Mar.: "at 8 AM Observed the Rebel Brigg had got off and Moved into Wantons Cove." UKLPR, Adm. 51/507. The brig remained in the Sakonnet Passage between Gould Island and Wanton's Cove, awaiting a chance to evade the *Kingsfisher*, until she disappeared on 6 Apr. Ibid.

A LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA, DATED 29TH MARCH 1778

PHILADELPHIA, July 25.

The melancholy fate of the late worthy Captain BIDDLE¹ of the *Randolph* Frigate, being as yet but little known, we give the following account of this unfortunate event, received in a letter from Charlestown in South Carolina, dated the 29th of March last.

"Captain Blake² of this place yesterday received a letter from Captain Hall³ of the *Notre Dame*, one of the vessels in the fleet commanded by Captain Biddle, informing him that on the evening of the 8th of March,⁴ to the windward of Barbados, the fleet fell in with an English ship of 50 or 64 guns;⁵ that about 8 o'clock the next morning the *Randolph* engaged, and handled her so roughly for 12 or 15 minutes, that the British ship must shortly have struck, having lost her bowsprit and top-masts, and being otherwise greatly shattered while the *Randolph*

had suffered very little; but in this moment of glory, as the *Randolph* was wearing to get on her quarter, she unfortunately blew up, and the whole crew perished.

“One Fenning⁶ of this place, who arrived prize master of a sloop taken by the *Randolph*, and which was converted [converted] into a tender for her, brought the letter, and confirms the account.

“Never was a man here more sincerely esteemed or lamented than Captain Biddle. His conduct both as an officer and a gentleman had procured general respect. He died in the midst of glory, fighting for his country against a very superior force, with all the gallantry of the bravest officer, and with every prospect of success.”

Pennsylvania Packet, 25 July 1778.

1. Capt. Nicholas Biddle, of Philadelphia.

2. Capt. Edward Blake, First Commissioner, Board of Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina.

3. Capt. William Hall, South Carolina Navy. Capt. Fenning, prize master of a schooner taken by the *Randolph*, brought the original letter to Charleston on 27 Mar. *The Connecticut Journal*, 13 May 1778, printed an extract of Hall's letter, dated 9 Mar., above. Also see President Rawlins Lowndes of South Carolina to President of Congress, 30 Mar., below.

4. The version printed in *The Connecticut Journal*, 13 May 1778, gives the date as 7 Mar.

5. H.M.S. *Yarmouth*.

6. Midn. Simeon Fanning.

COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N., TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

on board His Britannic Majestys Sloop of War
the *Sylph*, in the River Mississippi

Sir

29th March 1778—

Tho' I have not succeeded in the application's I have already made to your Excellency, in favor of His Britannic Majesty's Loyal Subjects, now in your province, I cannot help mentioning a circumstance, that has come to my knowledge and is of a very serious nature. I am well informed, that several British Seamen have lately been made Prisoners in the Town of New-Orleans, carried off in chains, & put on board the ship *Rebecca* (now under the protection of the Spanish Government) where they are still confined, and in the greatest distress.

I cannot conceive, that such enormities have been committed with your Excellency's sanction, as they are totally repugnant to the desire you profess of maintaining the Peace, that subsists between our Nations, and of observing a strict neutrality in the present contest between Great Britain & her Colonies. I am now to request, that your Excellency would cause an enquirey to be made into this affair, and you would exercise your authority in ordering that all the British Subjects, who have been made Prisoners on the Spanish Territory, to be immediately set at liberty, and that ample satisfaction be given for what they have suffered. I have taken the freedom, to enclose for your Excellency's perusal, two Articles of the Treaty concluded between England and Spain, at Cambray, 5th August 1529, which I conceive to have been ratified in all subsequent Treaties. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed below the close: "His Excellency Don Barnardo de Galvez Gov^r of Louisiana." Docketed: "Capt^r Fergusson's Letter/to Governor Galvez/29th March 1778/In S^r Peter Parker's Letter/Dated 27th July 1778."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

March 1778

Sunday 29th:

[Anchored in Cabo Isabela Bay, Santo Domingo]

AM D^o. W^r [Light Winds & fair] Employed getting on b^d. the Rem^r. of the Sloops Cargo. D^o. Sent on b^d. of her 4 Puncheons of Water Rum & Provision for a Petty officer & 13 Men for one Month, Arms & Amunition &^c. For a Tender¹ at 10. our 1st. Lieu^t.² took Command of her & went on board 1 Man more

[Anchored in Cabo Isabela Bay, Santo Domingo]

D^o. W^r [PM] at 3 Saw a Sail to N^oward Sent the Tender in Chace

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. Sloop *Washington*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Niger*, Captain Robert Lambert, 28 Mar., above.

2. Lt. John Pakenham, R.N.

LOG OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *TYRANNICIDE*

CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN

[*St. Pierre, Martinique*]Remarks for Sunday March 29th. 1778—

These 24 Hours begins with a Fresh Breeze and pleasant Weather—

at 7 AM weighed Anchor and Came to Sail at 9 AM the Cap^t came on Board at 12 Went on Shore again in Cap^t Sampsons Barge our Vessell laying on & off the Harbour in Company with the Ship *Cumberland* Cap^t Collins¹ the Brig^t *Hazard* Cap^t S Sampson² and the Brig^t *Fairplay* Cap^t — Soames—³

D, MSaE, Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide* (November 1777–May 1778).1. Massachusetts privateer ship *Cumberland*, Capt. James Collins, commander.2. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Hazard*, Capt. Simeon Samson, commander.

3. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Fair Play*, Capt. Isaac Somes, commander, of Gloucester, mounting 12 guns with a crew of 60 seamen, was commissioned on 17 July 1777 and was owned by Tristram Dalton, of Newburyport. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 4, p. 113.

March 30

THE BOSTON-GAZETTE, AND COUNTRY JOURNAL, MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1778

BOSTON, March 30.

... The Privateer Boat *Lively*,¹ mounting 6 Swivels, arrived safe in Port, from a Cruize, last Tuesday, and has taken two Prizes, a Brig and a Schooner, both of which are also arrived. The Invoice of the Brig's Cargo in Shoes, Hose and Cloathing, amounts to £.13,000 Sterling. . . .

Thursday last arrived safe in Port, the Prize Ship — Capt. — , of 10 Guns and 20 Men. She was bound from New York for the West Indies, for a Cargo of Rum for Howe's Troops at New York; but taken by the Privateer Sloop *Independence*² of this Port, Capt. Peter Pollard, after an obstinate Engagement of

five Glasses. The Captain of the Ship is badly wounded in two Places; and the brave Captain Pollard had Five of his Hands wounded, though not dangerous. . . .

1. Possibly Massachusetts privateer schooner *Lively*, Thomas Simmons, commander, mounting 2 carriage guns and 14 swivel guns, a crew of 30 men, owned by Samuel Page and Walter Price Bartlett, of Salem, which was commissioned on 22 Dec. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, pp. 193, 195.

2. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Independence*, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 55 men, owned by Isaac Sears and Paschal Nelson Smith, of Boston, was commissioned on 31 Dec. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, pp. 131, 134.

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY,

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1778

NEW-YORK, March 30.

. . . About a month since the rebel privateer *Rattle-Snake*, of 22 brass 6 pounders,¹ lay at anchor in Statia Road,² where one of his Majesty's sloops of war of 14 guns arrived accidentally,³ and finding the rebel ship there, sent a message to the Governor to know whether he meant to protect her; and if he did not, to order her directly to sea. The Dutch Governor acquainted the English Captain, that the *Rattle-Snake* came there in distress, but that she should depart in 48 hours: In the interim 8 sail of vessels appeared in the offing, when the English sloop of war stood out and took five of them, the other three escaping, when the *Rattle-Snake* took the favourable opportunity, and made her escape. . . .

The Rebels are now building 4 Gun Boats at Poughkeepsie, of 36 Feet Keel and 14 Feet Beam, to carry an 18 Pounder in their Bow, and for the Protection of the North River.—The Fort at West Point⁴ 6 Miles above Fort Montgomery, and on heights [*illegible*], and a large Chain and Booms, are providing for Hudson's River. . . .

One of the Frigates lately burnt at Fort Montgomery, the *Congress*,⁵ was 116 Feet Keel and 35 Feet Beam, and was pierced for 36 Guns; the other named the *Montgomery*,⁶ was 106 Feet Keel, and 32 and 1/2 Feet Beam, and was pierced for 32 Guns.

Since our last the following Prizes have been sent into this Port, viz.

The Ship *Hector*,⁷ from St. Maloes, for Virginia, with Salt and Dry Goods, taken the 11th of March, by the *Senegal*, Capt. Molloy.⁸

Ship *Jean, Andre*,⁹ from Bourdeaux, for Virginia, taken the 13th of the same Month, by his Majesty's Ship the *St. Albans*, Richard Onslow, Esq; Commander, laden with Salt, Cordage, and Dry Goods.

Snow *Le Noir*,¹⁰ from Bourdeaux, for Carolina, with Dry Goods, Brandy and Wine, by the *Carrysfort*, Richard Fanshaw,¹¹ Esq; Commander. And

The Schooner *Portsmouth*,¹² from Statia, for Virginia, with Rum and Dry Goods, taken the 13th of March, by the *Solebay*, Thomas Simmons, Esq; Commander.

Besides the above prizes, a large ship of 20 guns is run ashore and burnt in the Chesepeak by his Majesty's ships of war on that station.¹³

1. Pennsylvania privateer ship *Rattlesnake*, David McCulloch, commander. See NDAR 10: 373, 462, 463, 732, 733n, 737, 738n, 748, 810.

2. St. Eustatius roadstead.

3. See Lieutenant's Journal of H.M. Sloop *Ceres*, 31 Jan., and 2 Feb., above.
4. Fort Clinton.
5. Continental Navy frigate *Congress* (28 guns).
6. Continental Navy frigate *Montgomery* (24 guns).
7. French ship *Hector*, P. Parrie, master. Her prize papers give the master's name as Charles Porée. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/351/9. See Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 12 and 13 Mar., and Journal of H.M. Sloop *Senegal*, 13 Mar., above.
8. Comdr. Anthony James Pye Molloy, R.N.
9. French ship *Jean André*, Guillaume Coronet, master. Her prize papers give the master's name as Pierre Couronnet. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/365/10. See Journal of H.M.S. *St. Albans*, 12 Mar., above.
10. French snow *Lanoir*, Louis Drouet, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Carysfort*, 2 Feb., above.
11. Capt. Robert Fanshawe, R.N.
12. Schooner *Portsmouth*, Richard Talbot, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 13 Mar., above.
13. French ship *Tonnere*, L. Dessau, master, mounting 20 guns from Cape François to Chesapeake Bay. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Senegal*, 12 Mar., and Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 12 Mar., above.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Monday the 30th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick store, deliver to Robert Hall ten quires of Cannon cartridge and five of musket paper, and two hundred and fifty pump Tacks for the use of the *Henry Galley*.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public magazine, deliver to Robert Hall two hundred gun flints seven pound of Lead, and one iron pot for the use of the *Henry Galley*.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick store, deliver to Captain William Saunders, one two hour glass, five hundred spike nails, five hundred double tens, half dozen gimblets and ten quire of cannon cartridge paper for the use of the *Manley Galley*.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt, deliver to Captain William Saunders ensign and pendant halyards, ten skeins of marline, one seven inch cable, one coil of spun-yarn three barrels of flour, three gallons of Lintseed oil, and one hundred gallons of rum for the use of the *Manley Galley*.—

Ordered that Mr James Southall, deliver to Captain William Saunders fifteen pounds of match Rope for the use of the *Manley Galley*.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick Magazine, deliver to Captain William Saunders one hundred pound of powder for the use of the *Manley Galley*.—

Ordered that Mr Jn^o. Rollinson, deliver to Mr Isaac Mercer two hundred eighteen pound Ball, and six hundred six pound ditto, for the use of the ship *Caswell*.—¹

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 372.

1. Virginia Navy galley *Caswell*.

PRESIDENT RAWLINS LOWNDES OF SOUTH CAROLINA TO
PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

[Extract]

Dr Sir

As this Man has been so kind of his own accord to call upon me to know if I had any letter for York, being to set off early to morrow morning express from Mr Livingston—I take the liberty to Inclose you a printed Copy of our Constitution,² this instant come from the Press

The Melancholy news of the loss of the *Randolph* has reached us by the prize Master of a small Schooner from New York which was captured by poor Biddle³ he was witness to the dreadful scene when the *Randolph* Blew up in the Engagement, which a Letter from Capt Wm Hall in a Brig in the service of our State⁴ and under the Command of the *Randolph* thus describes “Lat 17°.. 54' N “Long 55° 18 W 8th. March⁵ made a Sail to Windward bearing E.N.E. 9 Leagues, gave Chace at 5 she proved to be very large,⁶ she bore down to us and at 7 pm. fired a Gun to bring us to and then haled the *Moultrie*⁷ who answered them, I being under the *Moultrie*’s lee quarter the *Randolph* upon the *Moulttries* Weather Bow, the *Polley*⁸ to Windward of the two, and the *Fair American*⁹ to Leeward of me—the Enemy shot by the *Moultrie* and continued towards the *Randolph*, the *Randolph* hove out no Signal for hauling in a Line of Battle, but laid her Mizen Top Sail to the Mast and got in readiness for engagem^t—the *General Moultrie* being to Windward of me I could not get to Windward to get up in the *Randolphs* wake, with that I laid my Main top sail to the mast for the *General Moultrie* to shoot ahead, we being then with our Starboard tack on board, by this time the Enemy got so near the *Randolph* as to hail her,¹⁰ and that the *Randolph* luffed up in the Wind and brought her Quarter & Quarter deck Guns to bear upon the Enemy and discharged them—with that I immediately gave the Enemy a broad side, the Enemy took the advantage of the *Randolph* & Shot up to windward of her and gave her a broadside and so continued for 12 minutes the *General Moultrie* & myself being within 100 Yards of the Enemy began to engage when I exchanged the broadsides at her; by this time the *Randolph* Blew up, and I thought it was best for me to make the best of my way clear of her, as soon as the *Randolph* blew up she immediately gave chace to the *General Moultrie* and myself so I stood away to the Westward, & the *General Moultrie* to the Southward to get clear of her—I found before she engaged that she had a flag hoisted at her fore topmast head & a high poop which I take to be a 40 or 50 Gun Ship—the *Randolph* disabled the Enemy much she shot away the Mizen top mast and Boltsprit—I could not Sir help giving you the particulars of this really distressing and Affecting affair as the Letter lies on my desk before me from whence I have extracted the article—50 of the best Men in the first Regiment were on board of her¹¹ and Several very promising Youths of this Country who have thus immaturely fallen in their Countrys Service the four Vessels in Company with the *Randolph* above alluded to, were those fitted out by this Country and put under the sole direction of Biddle for the Express purpose of clearing our Coast, which has been for several Months annoyed by one, two and sometimes 3 Vessels—her taking so large a circuit was incompatible in my opinion with his destination, and the Views of Governm^t and has left us now without any Recourse from the Evil, which we every day feel the effects of. . .

About three days ago a Flag of Truce was despatched to St Augustine with 45 prisoners of War, to exchange as many of our unfortunate people as we can procure for them

I wish some means could be devised to obtain the enlargement of Pickering¹² and his Men who suffer rigorously at New York—I saw a Letter lately from one of his Officers complaining in very affecting terms of their treatment

You will Excuse this hasty indegested Epistle by Candle light which I meant only to cover you the Constitution

I am with Respect Sir [&c.]

Raw^s. Lowndes

30 March 1778

Chas Town

LB, Schi, Henry Laurens Papers, Copy Book, 1777–1785, pp. 167–68 (SCHS No. 16, roll 9).

1. Abraham Livingston, Continental Agent for South Carolina.

2. On 6 Mar. 1778 the South Carolina Legislative Council and General Assembly adopted a new constitution, which, among other provisions, disestablished the Church of England, created a publicly elected senate in place of the legislative council, and removed the president's veto power. Believing his retaining the presidency incompatible with having sworn to uphold the "temporary" Constitution of 26 Mar. 1776, John Rutledge had resigned the previous day. After Arthur Middleton declined the position, the legislature chose Rawlins Lowndes president. Edward McCrady, *The History of South Carolina in the Revolution, 1775–1780* (New York: Macmillan, 1901; reprint ed. New York: Russell & Russell, 1969), 235–41.

3. The prize schooner, Midn. Simeon Fanning, prize master, was taken on 28 Feb. by Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*, and arrived at Charleston on 27 Mar. *Connecticut Journal*, 13 May 1778.

4. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame* (16 guns).

5. A version of Capt. William Hall's letter, dated 9 Mar., was printed by *The Connecticut Journal*, 13 May 1778, and gives the date of the engagement as 7 Mar. See "Extract of a Letter from on board the State Brig *Notre Dame*, dated Lat. 13 Long. 57. March 9, 1778," above.

6. H.M.S. *Yarmouth* (64 guns), Capt. Nicholas Vincent, commander.

7. South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie* (18 guns), Capt. Philip Sullivan, commander.

8. South Carolina privateer brigantine *Polly* (16 guns), Capt. Hezekiah Anthony, commander.

9. South Carolina privateer brigantine *Fair American* (14 guns), Capt. Charles Morgan, commander.

10. According to a crewman of the *Notre Dame*, H.M.S. *Yarmouth* hailed the *Randolph* as "The *Portland*." *Connecticut Journal*, 13 May 1778.

11. Capt. Joseph Ioor and his company from the 1st South Carolina Continental Regiment who were serving as marines on the *Randolph*. McCrady, op. cit., 1: 235.

12. Capt. Thomas Pickering, who commanded South Carolina Navy brigantine *Defence*, which was captured by H.M.S. *Roebuck* on 2 Apr. 1777. See NDAR 8: 256, 257, 330–31, 366–67, 1056.

LOG OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *TYRANNICIDE*,

CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN

[*St. Pierre, Martinique*]

Remarks on Monday March 30th. 1778—

These 24 Hours begins with a Moderate Breeze & pleasant Weather the Brig^t continuing to lay off & on at 6 PM the *Cumberland & Fairplay*¹ made Sail and left us Latter Part a Fresh Breeze of Wind Spoke with Cap^t Hallet² in the Brig^t *America*³ ~~from~~ belonging to Boston from a Cruize and not taken any Thing

D, MSaE, Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide* (November 1777–May 1778).

1. Massachusetts privateers. See Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide*, 29 Mar., above.

2. Capt. John Allen Hallet, of Boston.

3. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *America*, mounting 16 guns with a crew of 80 seamen, was commissioned on 24 Dec. 1777 and was owned by Thomas Harris and David Devens, of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 5, pp. 14, 15.

GOVERNOR MARQUIS DE BOUILLÉ TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

N^o. 163.à la martinique le 30. mars 1778.Dup^a.

Monseigneur

J'ai l'honneur de vous instruire que le 20. de ce mois une frégate angloise poursuivit un Bâtiment ameriquain sur la côte de la martinique; au nord de st. Pierre. ce Bâtiment vint se réfugier sous les Batteries situées dans cette partie qui tirèrent un grand nombre de coups de canon sur la frégate angloise qui ne S'éloignat que quand quelques boulets eurent porté à son bord et qu'elle vit la frégate l'*Etourdie* commandée par M. de Montbas,¹ qui, au bruit du canon, avoit appareillé de st. Pierre et qui la chassa jusques sur les côtes de la Dominique.²

ce bâtiment américain, chargé de denrée de la nouvelle angleterre, est entré à st. Pierre.

un Bâtiment nantois nommé la *Jeune hébé*, expédié de ce port pour Nantes, a été arrêté hors des débouquemens jusqu'où il avoit été convoyé par une frégate³ commandée par M. de Jassaud,⁴ par un corsaire anglois et conduit à antique[.] l'Equipage a été mise aux fers, la cargaison dans laquelle Il se trouve quelques boucauts de Tabac, débarquée, et la procédure intentée contre le navire que le anglois prétendent être une prise faite sur les américains et achetée à nantes. J'ai écrit au Gouverneur⁵ une lettre tr[es] forte à ce sujet, où Je le menace d'arrêter les Batiments anglois, ainsi que les particuliers de cette nation qui sont ici.

depuis quinze Jours les anglois ont enlevés sur nos côtes et même dans nos anses, huit ou dix bâtimens américains et fouillent tous les françois et caboteurs. les frégates françoises ne croisent pas assez, et l'ordre établi par les Instructions ne pas exactement suivi: Je l'ai représenté à M. de Dampierre⁶ mais c'est tout ce que Je peux faire. Je Suis avec respect Monseigneur [&c.]

Boüillé

[Translation]

N^o. 163.

at Martinique the 30th March 1778.

Duplicate.

My Lord

I have the honor to inform you that on the 20th of this month an English frigate pursued an American Ship to the coast of Martinique, to the north of St. Pierre. This Ship came to take refuge under the Batteries situated at that place which fired a large number of cannon shots at the English frigate, which only withdrew after several cannon balls struck on board, and when she saw the frigate the *Etourdie*, commanded by M. de Montbas,¹ who, upon the sound of cannon shots, had got under way from St. Pierre and chased her to the coasts of Dominica.²

this American ship, loaded with provisions from New England, has come into St. Pierre.

a Ship from Nantes named the *Jeune Hébé*, cleared from this port for Nantes, has been stopped outside of St. Pierre Channel, to which she had been convoyed by a frigate³ commmanded by M. de Jassaud,⁴ by an English privateer and taken to Antigua. The Crew had been put in irons, the cargo in which was found some casks of tobacco has been landed, and proceedings have been brought against the ship, which the English pretend to be a prize, taken by the Americans, and pur-

chased at Nantes. I have written to the Governor⁵ a very strong letter on this subject, in which I threatened to detain English Ships, as well as individuals of that nation who are here.

for fifteen Days the English have seized and carried off from our coasts and even our small bays, eight or ten American ships and have ransacked all French ships and coasting vessels. The French frigates do not cruize enough, and the order established by the Instructions is not followed precisely. I have pointed this out to M. de Dampierre⁶ but that is all that I can do. I am with respect, My Lord [&c.]

Boüillé

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fol. 232. Notation: "mettre à M. de fleurieu"; "R le 21 aout du B^{am}. du M. de la frenay"; "*Jeune Hébé*".

1. Lieutenant de Vaisseau Gabriel-François-Xavier Barthon, Marquis de Montbas.
2. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Grasshopper*, 19 Mar., and Journal of French Navy Frigate *Etourdie*, 19–20 Mar., above.
3. French Navy frigate *Amphitrite* (30 guns), stationed at Saint-Domingue.
4. Lieutenant de vaisseau André-Charles, Chevalier de Jassaud de Thorame.
5. William Mathew Burt, governor of the British Leeward Islands.
6. Capitaine de vaisseau Charles Picot, Chevalier de Dampierre, commanding the naval squadron at Martinique.

EXTRACT FROM THE JOURNAL OF FRENCH NAVY FRIGATE *TOURTERELLE*,
CAPITAINE DE VAISSEAU FRANÇOIS, CHEVALIER DE LA LAURENCIE

[*Canal de Ste. Lucie*] Le 30. Vû un Bâtiment de l'avant à nous qui avait apparence d'être bâtiment de guerre, ordonné le branle bas et couru à la rencontre. C'était la Frégate la *Blanche* qui m'a annoncé, que le Vaisseau le *Prothée* croisait avec elle—l'avant apperçu j'ai été prendre les ordres de M. le Ch^{ev}. Dampierre qui ma prescrit d'aller prendre un Convoi à S^t Pierre, J'ai fait route aussitôt pour me rendre au mouillage.

[Translation]

[*St. Lucia Channel*] March 30. Having seen a ship before us that had the appearance of a ship of war, I ordered the decks cleared for action and sailed to meet it. It was the frigate *Blanche*, which informed me that the ship of the line *Protée* cruised with her; I learned that I had been given orders by the Chevalier de Dampierre which instructed me to go pick up a convoy at St. Pierre; I sailed immediately for the anchorage.

Copy, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fol. 88. "Extrait du Journal de la campagne La *Tourterelle*."

March 31

RETURN OF CARPENTERS AND LABORERS WHO WORKED
ON THE SHIP OF THE LINE *AMERICA*

A Return of Carpenters & Labourers Work Building
the Continentall Ship of Seventy four Guns
at the Hon^{ble}. John Langdon's Island
from Oct^r 4th. 1777 untill March 31st. 1778

Joseph Ham	139	@9/	£62..11.. 0
W ^m Hackett	25½	@9/	11.. 9.. 6
W ^m Badger	22½	@6/6	7..06.. 3
Jacob Persons	22½	6/6	7..06.. 3
Walter Shute	21½	6/6	6..19.. 9
Joseph Dearen	114	6/6	37.. 1.. 0
Jonath ⁿ Nelson	00	—	0.. 0.. 0
Gabriel Hale	151	6/	45.. 6.. 0
John Bond	111½	5/6	30..13.. 3
Joshua Jones	150	6/6	48..15.. 0
James Jones	127	6/6	41.. 5.. 6
Josiah Beal	0	—	<u>0.. 0.. 0</u>

298..13.. 6

Roger Rackley	16½	6/6	5.. 7.. 3
Tho ^s . Preist	45	5/	11.. 5.. 0
W ^m Waldron	0	—	0.. 0.. 0
Joseph Shaw	74	7/	25..18.. 0
Joseph Shaw	95	5/	23..15.. 0
Tho ^s . Flawd	148½	5	37.. 2.. 6
Thomas Sherburne	24	4/	4..16.. 0
John Frost	32	4/	6.. 8.. 0
John Spinney J ^r	3	3/6	0..10.. 6
Cesar Gerritt	20	4/	4.. 0.. 0

Paid Joseph Dearen for Board
for 16 Sundays

0..16.. 0

To my Supertending from May 10th.

untill March 31st. 1778

261.. 0.. 0

290 days @ 18/—

To 41 Weeks Board @48/

98.. 8.. 0

479.. 6.. 3

298..13.. 6

£777..19.. 9

D, PHi, John Langdon Papers. John Langdon was the Continental Agent at Portsmouth, N.H., and was therefore responsible for superintending the construction of the 74-gun ship of the line building there.

JOHN BRADFORD TO ROBERT MORRIS

Dear Sir,

Boston 31st March 1778

I beg leave to acquaint you that Cap^t Lewis a few Days since applied for one thousand pounds which compleats the Sum you mention I may advance, that poor Gentleman has been confin'd all Winter with a Dissentry, & I am fearful he is not out of Danger yet. I inclose you his first Bill for that Sum, which I've debited your Acc^t with. We are in this Town in a most melancholly Situation, a number of large Ships, Briggs & other smaller Vessells fitting out as Cruizers & scarcely a man to be found to go on Board either. The town a second time made an inoculating Hospital, the illiberal Spirit of the Farmers is beyond Belief, loosing even first principles they extort from us from two to three Shillings P^r pound for mutton & Veal and other Articles in proportion, the Labourer we are obliged to compassionate & give him 20/ P^r Day, the Tradesmen Stock bears a Proportion, & they charge accordingly, in short such is the Situation of things here, that Procrastination, which I always thought would save us, I now begin to fear will loose our Cause—We are not without favourable Events—The *Warren* Frigate got safe out of Port & after a short Cruise return'd here, with the Plunder of one or two prizes she took, which afforded Supplies of a Number of Articles much Wanted, neither of her Prizes¹ are yet got in; that fine Frigate is now laying at the Wharf with not a Soul on Board, excepting a few Prisoners taken out off the Prizes, & a very few Officers—When the Frenchmen here are glutted with Ships we may expect to buy them at par; but they stick at no Price, and truly while they sell their Goods at such an exorbitant advance they may afford to give double the Value of a Vessell, one of that Class of Men the other Day gave £6100 for the Ship *Lady Gage*² formerly employ'd between London & [New] York, however such is the Parsimony of our Farmers that those french Adventurers now find it difficult to vend their Goods, & will soon be obliged to be more cautious of gaming too high, I am not unmindful of your orders to purchase a Vessell, & hope I shall accomplish it to your Satisfaction Cap^t Hopkins³ tells me the *Snow* he took sails fast, and we are hourly expecting her. I've at last got away the *Dispatch*⁴ after being long detain'd by contrary Winds I hope soon to write you again yours &c

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 120–21. Addressed at top: "Hon^{ble} Rob^t Morris Esq^r."

1. *Warren's* prizes were the ship *Neptune*, J. Smallwood, master, from Whitehaven to Philadelphia, with salt and dry goods, which H.M.S. *Orpheus* recaptured on Mar. 26 (Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486–87), and an unidentified snow, — Smith, master, from St. Eustatius to Bristol or Ireland, with flax seed and fustic, which arrived safe at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

2. Ship *Lady Gage*, Joseph Royal Loring, master, with wine, port and brandy, taken by Massachusetts privateer ship *Cumberland*, James Collins, commander, in early Jan. and sent into Falmouth, Me. See libel in *The Boston-Gazette, and Country Journal*, 19 Jan., above.

3. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, Continental Navy.

4. Continental packet brigantine, Lt. John Brown, Continental Navy, commander.

JAMES ADAMSON TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE

Sir.

Providence March 31st. 1778.

The Subscriber¹ in behalf of M^r Jonathan Waldron of Taunton in the State of Massachusetts Bay Merchant requests your Excellency to grant a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal to him as Commander of the Schooner *Congress*, of

which the said Jonathan together with M^r George House² are Owners. She is burthened about Fifteen Tons carries Eight Swivel Guns, manned with Twenty Men, and fitted with a suitable Quantity of Muskets Blunderbusses Cutlasses Pistols, Blunderbusses, Powder Ball and other Military Stores. She hath on board Two bbls Beef and Pork Three barrels Bread and one barrel of Flour. John Scranton³ is First Lieutenant and Alexander Adamson is Master of said Schooner. I am with great Respect [&c.]

James Adamson

L, R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Letters of Marque (1776–1780), Petitions and Instructions, p. 68. Addressed at bottom: “His Excellency Nicholas Cooke Esqr.” The commission with instructions precedes the petition.

1. Midshipman in Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
2. Acting third lieutenant of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
3. Midshipman in Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

JOHN DESHON TO JOSHUA HUNTINGTON

Dear Sir

New London March 31st 1778.

I Rec'd your Favour yesterday and Note the Contents I have had great dependence on having the Guns from Salisbury furnis. I now wish we had the Mold back again, you will pleas to order it back as Soon as posable. I send you a quantity of Cordige Suitable for the Frigate you are now Caring on:¹ it is time to look out for men to fix her Riging this Cordige falling in, will be a Very Great Saving to the publick as Carting is Costly and Difficult to be got. the men that fixed Mr. Shaws Ships Rigging² will be Suitable me[n] to fix ours.

I wish you would take particular acco't of the Cordige as you Rec'e it into Store. if any more Riging Comes to your hand Store it. the *Trumbull* lay at Seabrook yesterday last Evening was a Very high tide hope She is over the barr. the Ship *Callombus* run a ground by which means She is lost Excepting her Cables anchors small arms Running Riging Sails etc., hull and Standing Riging Burnt.

I should have gone to Seabrook Monday but was much not well, besides Capt'n Cotton³ does not want me, I am told. I am your Friend and Humble Servant

John Deshon

Connecticut Historical Society *Collections* 20: 84–85.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy*.
2. Refers to the riggers of Nathaniel Shaw, Jr.'s, privateer ship *General Putnam*, fitting out at New London.
3. Capt. John Cotton, supervisor of getting Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull* over Saybrook Bar.

BRIGADIER GENERAL EDWARD HAND TO COLONEL GEORGE MORGAN

Sir

Fort Pitt 31st March 1778.

The Hon^{ble}. Commissioners appointed by Congress to repair to this place for various purposes have recommended the building Six Boats to carry one four Pounder each, & otherwise calculated for War, to secure the navigation of the Ohio River from Port to Port. as you have had the Direction of the Boats already built here I beg you may take the necessary Steps towards the Speedy building of

these Armed Boats—The Demensions & Construction I must leave to your self who are a better Judge than I can possibly be. I am [&c.]

Edward Hand
(Copy)

Copy, ScHi, Henry Laurens Papers, Letters to Henry Laurens chiefly concerning official business, 1778, 17 (SCHS No. 17). Docketed: "Edward Hand to/George Morgan/31st. March 1778."

COLONEL GEORGE MORGAN TO COLONEL WILLIAM BUCHANAN

Sir,

[*Fort Pitt*] March 31st. 1778—

Since writing the foregoing¹ I have received an unexpected Requisition from General Hand a Copy of which I inclose to you. I therefore take the liberty to request you will do me the favour to contract with & send to this place four Boat or Ship Carpenters & the articles mention'd below as early as possible.

Tomorrow I shall give directions respecting the Crooked Timber & Plank—And as we have every necessary Tool here the Carpenters need wait for nothing, nor to bring more with them than their Cloaths & Blankets. I hope you will excuse my troubling you on this business & that you will be so good as to advance the necessary money until I come down.

M^r [*blank*] Stewart (Father to Major Stewart taken on Staten Island)² proposed to me the building of arm'd Boats on the Ohio & I believe would undertake the six Boats now order'd that he might acquire a more perfect knowledge of the Country & for a better Judgment of his proposed private undertaking.

As he has a number of his own Workmen I think it would be well to send an Express to him on this business, requesting his attendance at York if he inclines to undertake the business.

A considerable number of other Boats will be wanted as I formerly wrote to you but I have received no orders respecting them. I am with respect &c.—

[*P.S.*] For your information I inclose to you the Contract of the Carpenters who built the last thirty Boats. I could wish the article of Rum to be left out if possible in the new Contract but I would not let this delay the Business—The Workmen & Materials may be directed in case of my absence to M^r Joseph Skelton.

The Materials wanted will be

Rudder Irons & Pintles

Six Pump Spears & Boxes,

Six large Ring Bolts

12 Iron Potts for Cabouses—

1 large d^o to boil Pitch in & two Ladles—

Two thousand weight of Deck Nails & Spikes assorted—

Canvas & Blocks necessary: for Sails—

Cordage for d^o—& for Cables.—

12 Barrels of Pitch—

2 d^o Turpentine—

600 lb Oakum

Sail Twine

Sail Needles

500 lb largest Rod Iron—

6 Rheams of Paper—	}	for the Commissary's Department
2 doz: Ink Powder—		
4 hundred Quills—		
1 lb Sealing Wax—		
1 lb Wafers—		
2 good Penknives—		

at Beaver Creek I doubt not Congress are fully inform'd of by General Hand to whose Letters I beg leave to refer & remain with the greatest respect &c—

Sir,

Since writing the foregoing I have received an unexpected Requisition from General Hand, a Copy of which I inclose³

I am taking the necessary measures to comply with the General's order—to enable me to do this Business I must beg the favour of Congress to send to me by the Bearer James McClelland who goes Express for the Commissioners four thousand Dollars. I am with great Respect &c.

LB, PPI, George Morgan Letter Book, vol. 3, pp. 32–35. Addressed at top: "To Colonel William Buchanan/Commissary General of Purchases." Buchanan resigned his command on 23 Mar. and was succeeded by Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth on 9 Apr. 1778.

1. Col. George Morgan to Col. William Buchanan, 31 Mar., *ibid.* This letter is not printed.
2. Maj. John Stewart, taken prisoner on Staten Island, 22 Aug. 1777. He was later awarded a medal by Congress for leading an assault on Stony Point.
3. Immediately above.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT
TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Continental Navy Board
Borden Town 31 Mar: 1778—

Sir/

M. Morton¹ having engaged a Brigade of Waggon to convey some Indian meal to Camp and not having Employ for all the Waggon we take the Opportunity of forwarding 13 Hogsheads of Salt Fish, being part of the Supplies we mentioned to your Excellency in our last,² intended for the Use of the Army. The Remainder consisting of Rice, Oil, Beef, Pork, Salt Vinegar &c &c should be forwarded as soon as this Brigade returns or another can be procured.

We wish to know to whom we shall address these Supplies, in Order that proper Receipts may be obtained for our Vindication We have the Honour to be [&c.]

Fras Hopkinson
John Wharton

P: S: It would give us great Satisfaction to hear there was any Probability of Cap^t Robinsons³ Release, so unjustly imprisoned at Philad^a

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4.

1. Probably George Morton, assistant commissary of issues at Bordentown. DNA, PCC, item 192, p. 457 (M247, roll 199).

2. See Continental Navy Board of the Middle Department to General George Washington, 24 Mar., above.

3. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[Extract]

The Council met

Lancaster, Tuesday, March 31, 1778.

... And the following Orders were drawn on the Treasurer. Viz. ... In favor of Will^m. C. Bradford, for the Sum of Two thousand Pounds, for paying the Fleet, for which he is to account. ...

D, PHarH, RG 27, Minute Books of the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council, vol. 6, 240.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Tuesday, March 31, 1778

A letter of 26 February, from D. Cottineau,¹ captain of the ship *Ferdinand*, at Cape Lookout, North Carolina, with an invoice of her cargo, was read:

Resolved, That the Committee of Commerce be authorized, after a conference with the Board of War and the Marine Committee, to purchase such articles of the cargo as they shall deem expedient for the public service.

Ordered, That the letter be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. Duer, Mr. Chase, and Mr. F L Lee.

The Committee of Commerce, to whom was referred the letter from Mr. Gillon,² brought in a report; Whereupon,

Resolved, That, as Mr. Gillon hath accepted of an appointment to command the navy of the State of South Carolina, and Congress have empowered their commissioner at Paris to appoint agents to transact the commercial affairs of these states, it is inexpedient to proceed upon his contract.³

JCC 10: 297–98.

1. See Denis Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen to General George Washington, 26 Feb., above.

2. See NDAR 10: 550–51. For the contract offered by Congress, see NDAR 10: 626–27.

3. Commo. Alexander Gillon anticipated the conflict between his contractual obligations and his naval duties. For his views, see Alexander Gillon to President of Congress, 4 Mar., above.

NARRATIVE OF LIEUTENANT LUKE MATTHEWMAN

[Extract]

[Delaware River, 1 January to 31 March 1778]

... On my arrival at Bordentown, I was made Commissary for the seamen of the late fleet, and with Captain Robinson,¹ had the conducting of the famous battle of the Kegs, after which Captain Barry and myself, in two barges, passed Philadelphia through the ice, where we captured a British schooner of eight guns,² and two ships,³ one of six guns, after a running fight of three hours. Those vessels we were obliged to destroy, being shortly after pursued by two frigates.⁴ In those barges we cruised until the middle of April, preventing any communication from the country with the enemy by water, and was greatly accessary in the preservation of General Wayne and his party, with near one thousand head of cattle, which he had collected in the Jersies near Salem. The enemy having intelligence of Gen. Wayne, landed near 1500 men in the Jersies; in consequence of which, Gen. Wayne consulted Captain J. Barry and myself, being then at Salem. It was judged

necessary to fire all the forage on the Jersey side of the river, which would naturally draw the enemy that way, whilst he (General Wayne) by heading the creeks, might march around to the back of them. This plan was put in immediate execution, and effected to our wish; the enemy making their appearance, as we had nearly finished our work.⁵ Gen. Wayne having saved all his stock, returned, collected the Militia, and galled their retreat.⁶ After laying up the barges, we went to Senepuxent on business. . . .

"Narrative of Lieut. Luke Matthewman of the Revolutionary Navy From the *New York Packet*, 1787." *The Magazine of American History, with Notes and Queries* (New York and Chicago: A. S. Barnes & Company, 1878), 2, part 1, 178.

1. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy.
2. British Army armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master.
3. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master, mounting six 4-pounders.
4. H.M.S. *Experiment* (50 guns) and H.M. frigate *Brune*.
5. See Brigadier General Anthony Wayne to Captain John Barry, 23 Feb., Brigadier General Anthony Wayne to General George Washington, 25 Feb., and Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 26 Feb., above.
6. See Brigadier General Anthony Wayne to General George Washington, 26 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL

[Annapolis] Tuesday 31st. March 1778.

George Piercy of Saint Marys County, George Turnbull of Baltimore County Richard Goodwin, John Reynolds, Thomas Robinson son of Ch^s. of Ann Arundel County John Cox, James Boyle, John Crapper, Thomas Howard, John Chevear of the *Baltimore* Galley and John Hanson of the *Independence* Galley took the Oath of Fidelity and Support to this State according to the late Act & Certificates given. . . .

It appearing to this Board from the Evidence of John Cox, John Crapper and others given on Oath that John Green lately of the *Baltimore* Galley did at several Times and on Several Occasions on board the said Galley Damn the Congress and the Governor and Council that he declared he had rather drink the Kings Health in Water than the Health of the Congress in Punch and that he huzza'd for King George—This Board adjudge that it may be dangerous to this State to suffer him the said John Green to go at large wherefore it is Ordered that he give Bond with good Security payable to this State in the Penalty of two hundred & fifty Pounds Current Money Conditioned for his behaving himself as a good true and faithful Subject of this State but for want of such Security he is committed to the Custody of the Sheriff of Ann Arundel County there to remain til duly discharged there from Bond was afterwards given and the said John Green is thereupon Discharged—

D, MdAA, Governor and Council (Proceedings) 1777–1779, SM 123-22, M 3156-3.

"VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND"

[Annapolis] Tuesday, March 31, 1778.

Ordered, That capt. John David appear before this house to-morrow morning, to give information respecting the capture of the ship *Lydia*.¹ Ordered, That the sergeant at arms serve capt. David with a copy of the above order.

Votes and Proceedings of the House of Delegates of the State of Maryland, March Session, 1778 [Annapolis, 1778], p. 83.

1. *Lydia* was captured on 9 Feb. 1778 by H.M.S. *Richmond* and H.M.S. *Solebay*. For accounts of her capture see *Journal of H.M.S. Richmond*, 9 Feb.; *Journal of H.M.S. Solebay*, 9 Feb.; Colonel Richard Barnes to Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., 10 Feb.; and Colonel Vernon Hebb to Colonel Richard Barnes, 10 Feb., above.

CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL, R.N., TO CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW, R.N.

Emerald off the Tail of Horse Shoe 31st March 1778.

My Dear Sir.

I have great pleasure to inform you, of our having taking the *Virginia* this Morning;¹ she left Annapolis yestherday, and got upon the middle Ground in the Night, and knocked Her Rudder of[f], which is lost; the Captain² went on Shore in the Barge; She has from 140 to 170 Men on board, makes much water, but expect to be able, to get Her into Lynn Haven Bay, and keep her afloat. The *Solebay* slipt in the Night, and hope She is gone after a Ten Gun Brig,³ that came down with her;—The *Otter* could not ride, and was obliged to Slip on Sunday Evening.

The *Richmond* has joined me this morning, and our Friend Gidoin, brings an account, that he saw a large Ship Yestherday Evening, close in with the Land, and working into York River; thinks from Her size, that it is not unlikely to be the Ship, that we heard of, had 500 Hogsheads of Tobacco on board; that as soon as it was dark, he directed the *Dunmoor* to work close in Shore, so as to watch her motions, but did not see any thing of her this morning, therefore concludes that She got into York River, or out; the officers of the *Virginia*, denies its being their Ship, or knowing any thing of any other; I wish the *Senegal* to join me as soon as possible, and if you approve of it, She with the *Richmond*, may go up the Bay and look after her.

Captain Gidoin has brought 99 men for General Howe, and there are 300 more ready, when a Ship goes for them.⁴ I am [&c.]

B. C.

LB, UKLNM, Benjamin Caldwell Papers, CAL/110, p. 18. Addressed at the foot: "To/Captⁿ. Onslow/S^r Albans."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*. See *Journal of H.M.S. Emerald*, 31 Mar., immediately below.

2. Capt. James Nicholson, Continental Navy.

3. Unidentified brig.

4. Caldwell is referring to Loyalist recruits.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EMERALD*, CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL

March 1778

Tuesday 31st

[Cape Henry SSE. Cape Charles ENE. Willoby's Point WSW]
at ½ past One AM saw the *Solebay* slip, and supposed to be in Chace of a Vessel runing out, at 5 AM saw a Sail at Anchor with her Sails loose to the Eastward of us, clear'd Ship for Action; at 8 AM upon the Floods Making, weigh'd and stood towards her; she hoisted Rebel Colours, at 9 AM fired a Six pounder at her, upon which She struck her Colours, sent a Boat onboard her; which found her to be the Rebel Frigate *Virginia* of 30 Guns,

and 159 Men; who had knocked her Rudder of[*f*] upon the Middle Ground,¹ at 10 AM the *Richmond* Joined us, at Noon employed bringing the Prisoners onboard.

[Cape Henry SSE. Cape Charles ENE. Willoby's Point WSW] Moderate and Cloudy Weather, [*PM*] employed bringing the prisoners on board; punished Bartholomew Kelly with 12 Lashes, for quarreling and fighting; weigh'd and made Sail with the Prize.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/311.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Capt. James Nicholson, commander, owned by the Continental Congress, mounting 30 guns, a crew of 170 men, from Baltimore, on a cruise, taken in Chesapeake Bay. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. *Virginia* was sent to New York City, was libelled on 6 May in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York, and was condemned as a lawful prize of *Emerald* on 29 May 1778. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 91, 127–29. Because *St. Albans*, *Richmond*, *Senegal*, and *Ariel* were in sight at the time of the capture, her prize shares were divided with those ships. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 129. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/475/14.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

March 1778
Tuesday 31

Cape Charles East

AM one of the Ships below m^d pte Sig^l which we ans^d. & weigh^d. as did the *Dunmore*, & came to Sail, perceived a Ship near the *Emerald* with Rebel Colours, which proved to be the *Virginia*, rebel Frigate.² at ½ p^t 11 An^d. w^h. B^t. B^r.³ in 5 f^m. Cape Henry SSE 6 or 8 miles—

Cape Henry SSE 6 or 8 Miles

Mod^t. W^r. [*PM*] Boats Emp^d. bringing prisoners from the *Virginia* Departed this Life, W^m Stubbs Carpenter,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/784.

1. I.e., made private Signal.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Capt. James Nicholson, commander. See note to Journal of H.M.S. *Emerald*, immediately above.

3. I.e., anchored with best bower.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *SENEGAL*, COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY

March 1778
Tuesday 31

At anchor in Hampton road, [*Old*] Point Comfort NNE. 3 Miles.—

At 10 AM the *Emerald* Anchored in Lynnhaven bay with the *Virginia* Frigate from Baltimore who struck on the Middle ground & lost her Rudder.¹ Released the Boatswain upon promise of future Amendment

At anchor in Hampton road, [*Old*] Point Comfort NNE. 3 Miles.—

Light winds & clear wea^r P.M. emp^d. on Sundrys.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/885.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Capt. James Nicholson, commander. See note to Journal of H.M.S. *Emerald* for 31 Mar., above.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM MOULTRIE ON THE FITTING OUT OF THE
RANDOLPH'S SQUADRON AND HER LOSS

[*Charleston, January to March 1778*]

In conversation with the president,¹ respecting the naval armament; he assured me, that there were a number of vessels expected in, every day, with military stores, and other articles which we were very much in want of; that unless the men-of-war were driven from our coast, they could not possibly get in; and also, by our vessel[s] taking a short cruize, they might pick up a prize or two of some English ships out-ward bound to the West-Indies, loaded with such stores as we wanted.

These reasons induced me to alter my opinion from the council of war.²

Our little fleet consisted of the *Randolph* frigate, of 36 guns, Capt. Biddle;³ the ship *General Moultrie*, 18 guns, Capt. Sullivan;⁴ the *Notre-Dame* brig, Capt. Hall,⁵ 16 guns; the *Polly* brig, Capt. Anthony,⁶ 16 guns; and the *Fair American*, Capt. Morgan,⁷ of 14 guns: The troops were put on board, on 27th of January, and in a few days the fleet sailed: They were gone about 10 weeks, when they fell in with the *Yarmouth*, a British 64 gun ship, which the *Randolph* immediately engaged, and in a short time after the action began, she blew up, and every soul on board perished, except 2 or 3 who were picked up on some of the wreck, by the *Yarmouth's* crew.⁸

The first regiment lost a fine company of fifty men, that were put on board as marines:⁹ The remainder of our fleet made the best of their way home;* and thus ended the expedition from which the president and privy council expected so much.

When the captains of the British men-of-war *Carrisford*, &c. were informed of our preparations to attack them they quitted our coast, while they continued on it, some apprehensions were entertained of their going to Beaufort to take off our cannon and stores; upon which a company of Col. Robert's artillery,¹⁰ were ordered to take post in the battery at that place.

*Some of them on their return home, picked up a few prizes.

William Moultrie, *Memoirs of the American Revolution*, 2 vols. (New York: David Longworth, 1802; reprint ed. New York: Arno Press, 1968), 1: 198–99.

1. John Rutledge.

2. Moultrie, who had originally opposed sending troops of the South Carolina line on board the squadron as marines, changed his mind on 23 Dec. See *NDAR* 10: 741, 788, 803.

3. Capt. Nicholas Biddle.

4. Capt. Philip Sullivan.

5. Capt. William Hall.

6. Capt. Hezekiah Anthony.

7. Capt. Charles Morgan.

8. For other accounts of this engagement, see "Extract of a Letter from on board the State Brig *Notre Dame*, dated Lat. 13 Long. 57. March 9, 1778," A Letter from Charlestown, South Carolina, dated 29th March 1778, and President Rawlins Lowndes of South Carolina to President of Congress, 30 Mar., above.

9. Capt. Joseph Ioor and his company from the 1st South Carolina Continental Regiment.

10. Col. Owen Roberts, commanding the 4th South Carolina Continental Regiment (Artillery).

BILL OF LADING OF BATEAU *LA PROVIDENCE*

Shipped in good Order and well conditioned by Oliver Pollock in and upon the good Bateau called the *La Providence et La Fortune* whereof is Master for this

present Voyage Eugene Pourrée and now riding at Anchor in the River Mississippi and bound for Illinois To say

Ten Trunks Merchandise, Twenty One Cases Ten Barrels Wine Ten Ancre Brandy & One Hundred & Thirty Nine Bales

Being marked and numbered as in the Margin,¹ and are to be delivered in the like good Order and well conditioned, at the aforesaid Port of Illinois (the Danger of the Seas only excepted) unto Robert George or to his Assigns, Freight for the said Goods, being paid with Primage and Average accustomed. *In Witness whereof* the Master or Purser of the said Bateaus hath affirmed to three Bills of Lading, all of this Tenor and Date, the one of which being accomplished, the other Two stand void. Dated in ~~Philadelphia~~ New Orleans 31st March 1778—²

NB. 1 Bale omitted in filling up Bill of Lading is 140 Bales if found.

D, DNA, PCC, item 50, p. 224 (M247, roll 64). Document is a printed form with blanks filled in with writing. In this transcription underlined portions appear as handwritten in the original. An illegible notation of about five words, possibly in French, appears at the end, following the date.

1. In the margin: "10 Trunks/21 Cases/10 Barrels/10 Ancres/139 Bales/as p^t Invoices."

2. A complete invoice of the goods shipped in the bateau, dated 1 Apr., is in *ibid.*, pp. 149–57.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

March 1778.
Tuesday 31st:

High Land of Porto Platt¹ SEbE Isabella Point SWbW
off shore 2 or 3 Miles.

AM D^o. W^r. [Light Winds & fair] at 7 Saw a small sail Close in shore standing to the W^tward the Tender² on the W^r. Beam well in with the Land at 8 Porto Platt SW 3 or 4 Leag^s. At ½ past 11 Saw 2 Sail to the W^tward Made Sail & Gave Chace.

Old Cape Francois ESE 9 or 10 Leag^s. off shore 2 or 3 Leag^s.

Light Breezes & fair W^r. [PM] At Sun set Saw a Sail bearing EbN TK^d. Ship & Gave Chace Cape Leroach EbS dist. 7 or 8 Leag^s. at 9 imagined that the Chace was not far from us³
Bore away to the W^tward

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. Puerto Plata, Santo Domingo.

2. H.M.S. *Niger*'s tender, sloop *Washington*.

3. Schooner *Angelina*, master unknown, from South Carolina to Cape François, with tobacco, rice and indigo, taken by *Niger* on 1 Apr. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *BADGER*, LIEUTENANT MICHAEL J. EVERITT

March 1778
Tuesday 31st:

Cape Francois SSW 5 or 6 Leagues & Mounte Christe SEbE
6 or 7 Leag^s:

[at ½] past 5 AM Saw 4 Sail in y^c. NE Quart^r. Gave Chace. Saw two [in] y^c. NW,¹ [at] 7 Fir'd 10: 4 Pound^r. & Bro^c her too. she proved to be a Brig from Cape Francois. Bound to Boston, sent an Officer and Boat and Took Possession of y^c. Brig *Dartmouth*;² Gave Chace to a Sail in y^c. SW Quart^r. Saw two Sail in y^c. NE Quart^r. Prize in Company:—

Mounte Christ SSE 5 or 6 Leagues.—

P.M: Mod^r Weath^r Saw 2 Sail in y^c NE & 1 in y^c NW Gave
Chace the Prize in Company, [at] 6 Fir'd 2: 4 Pound^r & Bro^t
y^c Chace too, she proved to be a Schooner from Turks Island
Bound to Cape Francois. Mounte Christ SSW 2 or 3 Leag^s
Shorten'd Sail. Light Winds and Cloudy Weath^r

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/78, part 2.

1. H.M.S. *Niger* and tender, sloop *Washington*, chasing the schooners *Angelina* and *Adventure*, which were taken on 1 Apr., and H.M.S. *Southampton's* tender, chasing the sloop *John & Milsey*, which was taken on 1 Apr. See Journal of H.M.S. *Niger*, 31 Mar., above, and 1 Apr. UkLPR, Adm. 51/637; and Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/241.

2. Brig *Dartmouth*, William Haydon, master, 90 tons burthen, crew of 9 men, owned by Joseph Russell & Co., New Bedford, Mass., from Cape François to Boston, with rum and coffee. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/241.

CAPTAIN JOHN COLPOYS, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG

(Copy)

Seaford S^c Johns [*Antigua*] March 31st: 1778.

Sir

In pursuance of your Orders dated the 23^d: Instant, I have been at the Island of S^c Eustatia; and herewith transmit you the best Acco^t: I was able to collect of the Dutch Squadron lately arrived in these Seas;¹ under the Command of the Commodore Comte De Bylan.—² before I proceeded to S^c Eustatia, I was induced to Anchor at Old Road S^c Christophers, seeing three of the above Squadron lying there, since which finding that, the Intelligence I collected there, has been corroborated by what I learnt at S^c Eustatia, I flatter myself that you'll find the Acco^t: I now transmit you, to be pretty correct.—

The people of S^c Eustatia in general pretend to be, or really are ignorant, of the reason why so large a Squadron should be out here in time of Peace; The diff^r: Officers of the Ships seemed to be equally so—but from the diff^r: conversations I had with the Comte De Bylan, I think I may venture to say—that the cause of his coming here is, to protect the Dutch Trade in General; which in future is to be convoyed home; he expressed himself in very warm terms, against the conduct of our Privateers, and did not seem very well pleased, with that of our Men of War; He said many irregularities had been committed before his Arrival at S^c Eustatia, as well as some since; and that by the Peace, made with the Emperror of Morocco, the Dutch would in future be better able, to protect the dignity of their Flag.—

The Comte de Bylan was sent out so suddenly, that he was not allowed to wait for his own Ship, tho' she Sailed five days after, this matter, many lay much stress on—but the cause of which was—that the States³ were apprehensive if they detained him any Longer for his own Ship—that it was very possible the whole Squadron would have been Froze up for the Winter in Zealand. Previous to his Sailing, an Express had been sent to Lisbon for three of his Squadron, to Join him at S^c Eustatia tho' they had been out more than Eighteen Months, and some of 'em had then, and still have Sprung Masts,—nor do I find that they will be able to replace 'em out here, the Comte de Bylan wished to know, whether you could give him any Assistance in that way—& which I answered in the negative.—His Squadron are very Short of Officers and poorly Maned,—each of 'em is said to have Ten Months Provisions on board, and its currently reported that the Comte

de Bylan expects towards June a further reinforcement of one 74. & a 64.— but this I have much reason to doubt.—

The Comte de Bylan seemed to me to be disposed to favour the American Cause, I was willing to try his Pulse on that head, therefore waited on him to request the enlargement of four English Men, that were detained in Irons, on board an American Armed Brig then lying in the Road.—his first Answer was, “that as we and the Americans were at War, he did not wish to meddle in our Quarrel”—I then took the Liberty of reminding him that, if he allowed Statia to be a Free Port—I could not help thinking it a little extraordinary, that he should allow any body to be detained a Prisoner there and that such conduct must frequently subject the Dutch Flag to the inconveniencys which he had complained of to me in a former conversation, and for my own part, if my request was not complied with I must consider his refusal, as a mark of this approbation of the Americans conduct.—after some hesitation, “he told me his Captain should go on board the Vessel & enquire into the matter;” which he did, & the men were accordingly released, I did not receive any of ‘em on board here, as they were unfit for His Majesty’s Service.—

I shall immediately apply for our Provisions, and hold the Ship in constant readiness for your further orders.—

The Bread at S^c Christophers of which I took but little, owing to its badness I shall (if I can better myself) return to the Contractors.—I am Sir [&c.]

(Signed) John Colpoys.

Lieutenant Whitworth⁴ sailed from S^c Christophers the 29th: and has with him a counterpart of the Intelligence I send you, by Lieut: Byron.—⁵

Copy, UkLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot of first page: “Vice Admiral Young.” Docketed: “N^o. 1: 31st: March 1778./Seaford S^c Johns road Antigua/Copy of a Lre from Capt^m: J Colpoys/with Intelligence of a Dutch/Squadron lately arrived at/S^c Eustatia—/In Adm^l Young’s Letter/Dated 7th. April 1778.—” Enclosure no. 1 in Vice Adm. James Young to Philip Stephens (No. 1), 7 Apr., which was received on 22 May and read.

1. Enclosure not printed.
2. Vice Adm. Count van Bylandt.
3. States General of the United Provinces of the Netherlands.
4. Lt. Richard Whitworth, commanding H.M. armed brigantine *Stanley*.
5. Lt. George A. Byron [1].

MUSTER TABLE OF H.M.S. *YARMOUTH*

[Extract]

Muster-Table of His Majesty’s Ship the *Yarmouth* between the First day of Feb^y 1778 and the 31 day of March following.

N ^o	Year	Appear -ance.	Whence and whether Prest or not.	MENS NAMES.
18	78	12 Mar ^h :	Taken off the Wreck ¹	Hantz Wortman John Kerry Alex ^r Robinson Barth ^w Bourdeau R ^d . Cochran
		14	<i>Fly</i> <i>Alfred</i>	

N: Vincent. Captain
R^d: Brown Purser

James Corey Master
John Gadderer Boatswⁿ:

D, UKLPR, Adm. 36/8072. Columns left blank are omitted. On 9 Apr. Hantz Wortman, John Kerry and Alexander Robinson were transferred to H.M.S. *Yarmouth's* supernumerary list as American prisoners with the qualities of able seamen. Ibid.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

LOG OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *TYRANNICIDE*,
CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN

[*St. Pierre, Martinique*]

Remarks on Teusday March 31st 1778—

These 24 Hours begins with a Fresh Breeze & pleasant Weather at 6 PM the Capt went on Board the *Hazard*¹ at 10 PM the Cap^t came on Board Cap^t Gray in the Brig^t *Polly*² in company with us at 10 AM Cap^t Warren³ in the Brig^t *Lyon*⁴ came out of the Harbour to us—Latter part a Small Breeze

D, MSaE, Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide* (November 1777–May 1778).

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Hazard*, Capt. Simeon Samson, commander.

2. For more on brigantine *Polly*, see William and Godfrey Hutchinson to the President of the Massachusetts Board of War, immediately below.

3. Capt. Benjamin Warren.

4. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Lion*, mounting 16 guns with a crew of 100 seamen, was commissioned on 28 Nov. 1777 and was owned by Jonathan Peele, Jr., John Fisk, and others, of Salem. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, pp. 197, 198.

WILLIAM AND GODFREY HUTCHINSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

(Dupl^a.)

Sir./

St. Pierre's M/Que 31st March 1778.

Original ☞ Cap^t Barnard.—

The foregoing is Copy of ours ☞ The Continental Brig: *Resistance*.—We have the pleasure to acquaint you The *Hazard* & *Tyrannicide*¹ sailed yesterday in Company with The Brig *Lion* of Salem mounting 16 Guns;² Cap^t Sampson has undoubtedly mentioned to you that the *Hazard* answers every Purpose she was intended for & may justly be Called the finest vessel of her Burthen ever built.—We now inclose you Acc^t Sales of The Prize Brig *Polly's* Cargo, Acc^t Disbursements for the *Hazard* & *Tyrannicide*, Cap^{ts}. Sampson & Haraden's rec^s. for what paid them on Acc^t of Rations due to them till the 14th. inst: likewise rec^{ts} for £1000 #³ to each of them which they Demanded by virtue of y^r. Letter of 17th. Nov^r. Empowering them to Draw for £100 Sterling, this Affair of rations was entirely new to us & we were at a loss how to Conduct ourselves in it, hav^g. never been favoured wth. y^r. Orders on that head, w^{ch}. we hope we shall Shortly receive, as likewise y^r. instructions on every other Occasion.—Inclosed also is y^r. Acc^t. Curr^t. Ball^a. due us 33,431.14.4 Livres #, which we hope on Examination you will find right; The Hospital Bill for The *Tyrannicide* is not included as there are now many sick remaining (as ☞ Inclosed List.) We imagine the Am^t will be four or five thousand Livres.—We refer you to the foregoing Letter concerning the Disadvantage we labour under, in advancing

our money & we shall be particularly obliged to you, if you wo^d. Converse wth: our father on this Subject, who will Acquaint you with all particulars.—

We are most respectfully, Sir./[&c.]

W^m & G Hutchinson

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 205 (2d. ser., Revolution Letters, 1775–1783), 322–23. Addressed below close: “Samuel P: Savage Esq./President of The Honorable Board/of War.—Boston—.”

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantines *Hazard* and *Tyrannicide*.
2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Lion*, Benjamin Warren, commander.
3. The symbol for the *livre tournois*.