

Naval Documents of The American Revolution

Volume 5

AMERICAN THEATRE: May 9, 1776–July 31, 1776

Part 3 of 8

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VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO PHILIP STEPHENS ¹

English Harbour, Antigua, 1st June 1776 –

Sir

Please to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that pursuant to their Orders to me of the 19th February last I caused publication to be made for Tenders to be delivered from such persons as might have Vessels to dispose of which on due Survey and examination should be deemed fit to be made armed Vessels for the use of His Majesty; and that I have inclosed for their Lordships inspection the reported Condition and Valuation of a Brigantine purchased the 30th May; for which I have directed the Naval Officer at Antigua Yard, to draw Bills on the Navy board for £650 Sterling the appraised Value of said Brigantine.

The 31st May I caused said Brigantine to be Commissioned and called the *Endeavour*, and have appointed Lieutenant Francis Tinsley from the *Seaford* to Command her, and have also appointed Mr George Anson Byron to be Lieutenant of the *Seaford* in his room, which I hope their Lordships will approve. I am Sir [&c.]

Jam^s Young.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/309.

2 June (Sunday)JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Triton*, CAPTAIN SKEFFINGTON LUTWIDGE ¹

June 1776	Moor'd at Port Neuf
Saturday 1st	at 4 A M, sent the Master in the Long Boat to sound from Pt Lawson down to the Ship to know what kind of Channel there was in Case it was necessary for a Frigate to proceed up – Heel'd the Ship to boot Top the Starbd Side at 8 A M, a party of Soldiers marching up. 1st part light Breezes, mid rain, latt, fresh Breezes – at 7 P M, the Mastr returnd in the Long Boat, having found a good Channel & sufficient Water for a large Ship from Port Neuf to Dechambeau & 6 Leags above at Midnight the Schooner returnd with a Letter from the Commodore
Sunday 2d	at 7 A M recd a Letter from him by Express, that no Ship of more than 13 feet shoud pass the Rapids of Richlieu – that the lighter Ships were to take in the Baggage & Stores of the heavier Ones – Sent an express by Lieut Edger to the Commodore –

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/1013.

VICE ADMIRAL MOLYNEUX SHULDHAM TO PHILIP STEPHENS ¹

Duplicate.

Chatham, In Halifax Harbour, June 2d 1776.

Sir, I am to acquaint you that the *Canceaux* arrived here Yesterday and that I have received the following Orders and Letters, with the Several pa-

pers referred to in them, and Also duplicates of other Letters and Orders, which have been received before and Acknowledged.

Orders

April 18th 1776. To send the *Fowey* to Newfoundland and to deliver a Pacquet inclosed to Captain [George] Montagu.

4th – To Purchase a Ship at Boston called the *Britania*, and to Establish her as a Sloop by the Name of the *Albany*, to appoint Lieutenant [Henry] Mowat to Command her, and to put a Lieutenant to Command the *Canceaux*.

12th That the Marines sent from the Ships to the Battalions should be discharged by Pay List.

18th – To take Lieutenant Mowat in the *Canceaux* under my Command –

Letters

18th Enclosing to me Lists of the Several Vessels sent under the different Convoys to America &ca

19th Relative to Cruizers being sent off Bermuda for the Protection of the homeward bound West India Trade.

Respecting the Orders, I must inform you that the Ship *Lady Gage*, which by my Letter of the 20th May, I acquainted you I intended to purchase in lieu of the *Britannia* (which Ship was destroyed at Boston at the Evacuation of that place,) was upon being Surveyed by the proper Officers found insufficient for the Metal sent out in the *Canceaux*; I have therefore purchased another ship every way suitable to their Lordships intentions, and have taken the Necessary measures for Establishing her as Sloop by the Name of the *Albany*, agreeable to their Lordships Commands, and shall cause her to be got ready for Sea as fast as possible.

The *Fowey* is now in the River Delaware under Captain Hammond, but I shall lose no time in ordering her to Newfoundland.

With reference to your Letter of the 18th of April, I am to Inform you that I have been acquainted by Captain [George] Talbot of the *Niger*, (which Ship arrived here Yesterday and brought me the News of the happy Situation of His Majesty's Affairs in Canada) that the *Juno* and *Blonde* with the Transports under their Convoy were as far up the River Saint Lawrence as Cape Chat on the 21st May, and that the Convoy under the *Carysfort* and *Pearl* were then in the Gulph.

Their Lordships may be assured I shall Continue to dispose of the Ships under my Command, that the Rebels may be as far as possible prevented from holding any intercourse with foreign parts, and that the Utmost vigilance has been Used by his Majesty's Cruizers to hinder their obtaining the Supplies, which from the very great extent of Coast I have to Guard, have unluckily fallen into their hands.

I shall at every opportunity make known, according to their Lordships directions, the Reward intended to be given to the Mate and Seamen of the Ship from Philadelphia (which you inform me has been carried into Bristol by them,) ² and I flatter myself the Encouragement these Men have met

with for their Loyalty and attachment to their Country, will induce others to follow their Example.

In answer to your Letter of the 19th April signifying their directions that I should send occasional Cruizers off the Bermuda Islands for the Protection of the West India Trade, you will please to Acquaint their Lordships I shall pay all the Attention in my power to that Service, but they will be pleased to observe that notwithstanding the number of ships that have sailed from England for this Country, I have been joined by no more than the *Milford*, which I cannot remove from Boston Bay, the *Greyhound* is now here, and which I must detain to assist in Convoying the Transports with the Troops and other ships from hence, which are expected to move in a few days, and the *Canceaux* that arrived here but yesterday which I intend to send express to Quebec in a few days with the General's and my Dispatches, I will however as soon as it is possible Comply with their Lordships requisition on that head. I am Sir [&c.]

M: Shuldham

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/484.
2. The *Dickinson*.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Cerberus*, CAPTAIN JOHN SYMONS ¹

[June 1776] Sambro' Light house N32.43E 95 Leagues
 Saturday 1 at 5 A M the hawser Broke about 3 ft from the prizes Bow ²
 brot too & sent the six Inch hawser on board. Bore away
 First pt fresh Gales Middle & Latter Mode at 1 P M saw a
 Sail to the Ewd out all reefs & gave Chace Lost a Log & 3
 Lines at 6 Cast off the Brigg fired two 3 pdrs & brot too the
 Chace a Schooner from Newbury wth Provisions bound to
 Surinam ³ took both Prizes in tow
 Sunday 2 First part fresh Breezes & hazey Middle & latter thick foggy
 Wr at 4 P M saw a Sail to the Etwd cast off the prizes &
 gave Chace fired 10 3pdrs at the Chace brot too the Chace a
 Schooner from St Eustatia for Salem, with Wine, rum
 Linnen.⁴

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/181.
2. The brig *Elizabeth*, taken May 30, 1776.
3. *Hawke*, John Clarkson, master, Newburyport for Surinam with flour, beef, pork and fish, Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, PRO, Admiralty 1/487.
4. *Ibid.*, *William*, John Tucker, master, from St. Eustatius for Salem with wine, rum and linen. *Elizabeth*, *Hawke*, and *William* were condemned as legal prizes at Halifax on June 29. Vice Admiralty Register, vol. 5, 1769-1777, N.S. Arch.

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN ADAMS ¹

[Extract]

Watertown, June 2, 1776

I can't account for the difficulties we have in raising men. Great numbers are indeed gone from us, and the southern governments have agents here inlisting seamen for their particular services, with full wages and large

bounties. I fear therefore you will find it difficult to man your ships. You should attend to it without delay.

1. *Warren-Adams Letters Being Chiefly a Correspondence among John Adams, Samuel Adams, and James Warren . . .* (Boston, 1917-1925), I, 252-54. Hereafter cited as *Warren-Adams Letters*.

JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS ¹

Die Solis, 9 HO. A.M.

[New York] June 2d, 1776.

Colo. [John] Broome reported, that Mr. Glenn and himself had waited on General Putnam with Capt. Varick's letter, on behalf of Genl. Schuyler, requesting two tons of oakum to be sent to Albany immediately, and had delivered the message directed to them by this Congress; that General Putnam informed them that the order should be executed without delay, if so much oakum can be obtained.

1. *New York Provincial Congress*, I, 470.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO JOHN LANGDON ¹

[Extract]

My Dear Sir,

Philadelphia, June 2, 1776

Your favor of the 20th ultio came to hand yesterday. I think I mentioned to you in a former letter that I supposed there would be a considerable alteration in the wages of the officers in the naval service; the principal officers higher and the petty and warrant officers considerably lower; as there is the greatest probability that these alterations will take place, you no doubt will be careful of the encouragement you give those you engage. I told you in my last, that Congress was engaged in a conference with the General on the necessary operations for the present campaign; this business is not yet finished, nor do I think will be this week and Congress have determined to do no other business till that is completed; so soon as that is done naval matters will be attended to. I wish you had talked with some of those gentlemen you proposed for officers; my objection still remains to him you mention for first Lieut; it is merely on account of his unsteadiness that I object to him and that must remain until his nature is changed - however if you are fond of having him appointed, I'll give up my opinion. R Parker I have a very good opinion of and should be very fond of serving him, but am something doubtful whether he would make a good subordinate officer, even if he would accept. I have a high opinion of [Peter] Shores, [John] Wheelwright and Follet as resolute enterprising men. I shall be glad you'll talk with them or such as you think will best answer the purpose; there will be time enough for you to answer this before it will be necessary to fill up the Commissions, as there is no guns yet and I fear they are still to be made; for my part, I have no views whatever in these appointments, but the public good; if there should be any worthy men who would be willing to enter into the service that cannot be provided for in this ship, I will do

my endeavor to get such places for them as will be most agreeable in some other and no doubt some may be provided for in this way – have not yet had an opportunity to send the money but have a prospect of one in a few days A brig in the service of the Continent arrived a few days since with some powder and arms – several French vessels have also arrived here lately with sugar molasses coffee &c. The Agent is not yet appointed –²

Wm Whipple

1. William Whipple Papers, Force Transcripts, LC.
2. Continental agent for New Hampshire.

JOSEPH HEWES TO SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JR. ¹

Sir

Philadelphia, 2d June, 1776

I have received your favours of the 24th and 28th ult[o], with respect to the former, I wish you could collect all the Accounts that are yet unpaid for the two Vessels fitted out by you & Mr [William] Lux, and settle them in such manner that the Marine Committee may have nothing further to do with them than to Order payment – As the men belonging to the *Hornet* and *Wasp* at the time of their arrival here have been discharged at their own request, being at that time very sick, some few of them may have entered again on board of Some of the Vessels for ought I know; however, you are requested by the Marine Committee, not to advance any thing for any of them – I received your last letter to that board who directed me to inform you that Cannon had been contracted for in this colony for all the Frigates, but as there is no certainty of getting them in any reasonable time they wish you to get them for the Frigate you are building, if I can get the dimensions of them to send by this Post you shall have them enclosed, if not I will send them by the next. I suppose it will be more convenient for you to get the Cannon from Mr Hughes's works than from any other place. The Committee intend to have all the Frigates fitted out as fast as possible, and desire your board to furnish every thing for the one under your care – Your precaution in keeping a guard I think a good one I am, with much respect Sir [&c.]

Joseph Hewes

1. Purviance Papers, MdHS.

CHARLES CARROLL, BARRISTER, TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

Gentn

I have as Mr [Matthew] Tilghman Desired in His to Me of Thursday Made Enquiry for Small Vessells, but Cannot find that any are to be Got Here on freight – I fancy if they are to be Procured it will be Down the Bay, the Sooner they are Got the Better, as I fear the flower now Begins to spoil – I was yesterday Down at the fort, they Are Pretty forward, and the Resistance they Can now Make, if the Enemy Should Come up, will not be very Inconsiderable We are not in Much apprehension of the *Otter* or

even Double Her force, but in the Connecticut Dialect of old Roger Sherman "Where is the Powder?["'] I am Gentn [&c.]

Cha^s Carroll

Mount Clare June 2d 1776

1. Red Book, XII, Md. Arch.

DAVID STEWART TO WILLING, MORRIS & Co. ¹

[Extract]

Baltimore June 2d 1776

Yesterday morning an Express arrived from the Council of Safety Virginia, to our Council in Annapolis, Adviseing, that Dunmore with his fleet had Abandoned Norfolk, and at first Appeared bound to Sea, however they Soon put About, and Stood up the Bay, Attended by the *Roebuck* and two or three other Vessels, with A Number of tenders, we have Since heard by a Vessell from Patowmack, that they had attempted to land at Panhatank But were repulsed, and had Since Landed on Gwins Island ² Where there was no force to Oppose them, its impossible to Say where they are intended for, it Seems they have had No reinforcement of men lately, and it Can hardly be Immagined they will Obtain footing any place, either In Virginia or with us. for our part we are tolerably Well prepared for their reception, our Boom across, Near thirty 18, 12, & 9 pounders mounted on our Battery, & our Ship & An Armed Schooner in port. So that I hope we Shall preserve our town and property Against any Attack made thereon – I am respectfully Gentn [&c.]

David Stewart

1. Papers of Robert Morris, Accession 1805, LC.

2. This date the Maryland Council of Safety sent a copy of the Virginia letter and the latest intelligence about Gwynn Island to the Baltimore Committee. William Hand Browne, *et al.*, eds., *Archives of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1883–), XI, 455, 460. Hereafter cited as Browne, ed., *Arch. of Md.*

PETITION OF CAPTAIN JOHN KILTY TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL ¹

[Woodyard, Maryland, June 2, 1776] ²

To the most Honble The Council of
Safety of The Province of Maryland

The Petition of Capt: John Kilty of the said Province

Humbly Sheweth –

That Your Petitioners having considered the Instructions your Honours have given to Mr Stephen Steward for the building of certain Gondola's for the service of this Province and conceiving himself qualified for the Superintendance of the Rigging, Sail Making and compleatly fitting out the said Gondola's, begs leave to offer himself to Superintend the same –

That should your Petitioner be thought a proper Person for this Undertaking, he will (with your Honours Permission) attend Mr Stephen Steward to Philadelphia in order to inspect the Vessels of this Kind that have been fitted out at that place

And your Petitioner will Ever pray &c. –

1. Revolutionary Papers, Box 9, Md. Arch.
2. The date is approximated. The Maryland Council notified the Maryland delegates in Congress, on June 1, 1776, that they were sending Stephen Steward to Philadelphia to study the Pennsylvania gondolas.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

No 6

Gentn We are very much obliged to you for your favour of the 26th our boats for four days past have brought up information from Captn [James] Nicholson of the *Defence* on a cruize down the Bay, that several Men of War were at an anchor off Wind-Point [Windmill Point], above the mouth of Rhapahk, and we are glad that you have given us certain advice what vessels they are. –

If Lord Dunmore expects to meet with more favour in Maryland than he has experienced in Virginia, he will, we trust be greatly disappointed. – on behalf of the Council [&c.]

[Annapolis] 2d June 1776.

1. Council of Safety Letter Book, No. 1, Md. Arch.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN JAMES NICHOLSON ¹

No 7.

sir we received yrs dated this morning off the harbour and are pleased to hear that you was gone past to Baltimore. – we would have you make the best preparation you can to repel any attack, that may be made by our Enemies on either the fortifications or town of Baltimore. we received this morning an express from Virginia informing us that Lord Dunmore had sailed from Norfolk up the bay with his Fleet joined by the *Roebuck*, and we apprehend the ships you saw off the Wind-mill Point, are Part of that fleet. We are [&c.]

[Annapolis] 2d June 1776

1. Council of Safety Letter Book, No. 1, Md. Arch.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN MATTHEW
SQUIRE, R. N. ¹

By Andrew Snape Hamond Esqr &ca. &ca

You are hereby required and directed to proceed to Sea as soon as possible with his Majesty's Sloop under your command, and put into execution such part of those Orders you received from me on the 28th of last Month, as are not already executed, and to lose no opportunity of annoying the enemy by every means in your power –

Given under my hand on board his Majestys Ship the *Roebuck* off Gwins Island Cheseapeak-bay in Virginia the 2 June 1776.

A. S. Hamond

To Captain Squire commander of
his Majesty's Sloop *Otter*

1. Hamond, Orders issued, 1776-1777, UVL.

LORD WILLIAM CAMPBELL TO MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON ¹

Dear Sir –

June 2d 1776

In answer to Your first question I beg leave to assure You, I do Look upon Sullivan's Island to be a Post of the last consequence. –

In answer to the second, I can only say that for near four months the *Tamer* a Sloop of 16 Guns, with the assistance of the *Cherokee* (a Vessel that hardly deserved the name of an Armed one,) prevented the Rebels getting the least footing upon the Island I am therefore sure I should pay a very bad Compliment to the Gentlemen who command the Kings Frigates in this Squadron if I could have the smallest doubt of two Frigates being able to prevent the Rebels getting possession of Sullivan's Island a second time. –

As to Your third question, I do think two Batts with a detachment of Artillery can keep Possession of Charles Town with two frigates in the Harbour, but You will be so good as observe my long absence from my Government puts it out of my power to speak with the certainty I could wish as to that question.²

In Answer to Your fourth and last question The Houses &c in Charles Town belong principally either to friends of Government or people entirely innocent of the present disturbances; many Orphans & Widows have their all vested in Houses in that Town, but many of the principal Rebels have considerable property also. I am Dear Sir [&c.]

William Campbell

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

2. *Ibid.*, Miscellaneous Letter Books, Clinton omitted question No. 3 in the memorandum of his letter to Campbell.

COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER TO MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON ¹

Sir

Bristol of[f] Bulls Bay 2nd June 1776

The Wind is now contrary and the Transports wou'd fall to Leeward, were we to get under Way, therefore as our chief Dependance seems to be on a Coups de Main, and consequently no Time shou'd be Lost, I beg leave to submit the following Proposal to your Consideration.

Whether the Troops under your Command may not be Landed on the North End of Sulivans Island, under Cover of the *Ranger* Sloop, the *St Lawrence* Schooner, and *Friendship* armed Ship; shou'd This be approved, the Frigates and if possible the *Bristol* may go over Charles-Town Bar, in Order to make a Diversion, by taking the small Batteries at the Light-House and Cumins's Point, and to be ready shou'd there be Occasion, to make a joint Attack with His Majesty's Troops, on the Batteries, on Sulivans Island; The *Thunder Bomb* may be placed of[f] Cumin's Point and will probably be of great use.

I have just thrown out this Hint, because shou'd a Measure similar to

This meet with your approbation, a great deal of Time may be Lost, by Anchoring the Transports within Charles-Town-Bar in Five Fathom Hole. I have the Honor to be Dear Sir [&c.]

P: Parker

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON TO COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER ¹

Commodore

Sovereign 2d June 1776

Sir Peter Parker Knt

When we agreed to make our attempt on Sullivan's Island, it seemed to be our intentions first to consider the object and probability of Success on the Spot; as no information had been obtained that could make it adviseable without – in this Attack I ever understood the Navy were to bear a considerable part, but by your late arrangement you have marked out for them little more than reducing any insignificant Batteries that may be found on Light house or Cummins's Point – I have ever been of the same opininon with regard to the Consequence of Sullivans Island, and if it is taken the Fleet must give their great assistance – I cannot think of landing on the North side of that Island as you propose without in the first place being assured their is no Surff, that armed Vessels can approach near enough to cover my landing and retreat, and that such Naval force as can be brought into action may be ready at their Stations to co-operate, without which I am free to own any attempt I should make might justly be called rash and absurd.

This being the case I must beg leave to repeat (submitting it at the same time to you) that the sooner the Frigates can get over the Bar the better, the Transports following as they can – and should you approve of sending two or three Vessels to sound the Channel and examine the shore, from them we shall receive information of consequence. I am &c

H Clinton

PS. Since writing the above I have recollected, and beg leave to submit to you, whether the Vessels sent to reconnoiter the North end of Sullivans Island after performing that Service proceed to examine the Coast of Long Island from whence a passage may be found to Sullivan's Island –

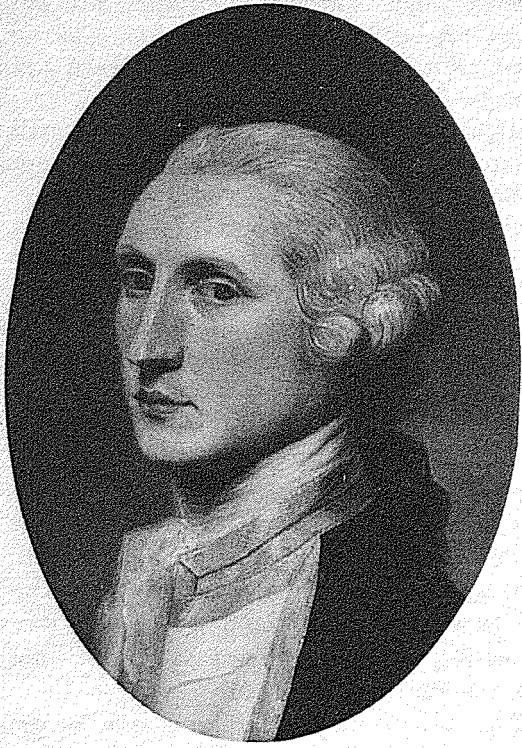
1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, Miscellaneous Letter Books, CL.

COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER TO MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON ¹

Sir

Bristol off[f] Bull's Island 2nd June 1776

In your Answer to my Letter of this Date, You are pleased to Say "In this Attack I ever understood the Navy were to bear a considerable Part, but by your late Arrangement You have marked out for Them, little more than reducing any insignificant Batteries that may be found on Light-House or Cummins's Point; I have ever been of the same Opinion with regard to the Consequence of Sulivans Island, and if it is taken, the Fleet must give Their great assistance I cannot think of landing on the North Side of that Island, as You propose, without in the first Place being assured, there is no Surf,



Lord William Campbell.



John Murray, Earl of Dunmore.

that armed Vessels can approach near enough to cover my Landing and Retreat, and that such Naval Force as can be brought into Action, may be ready at Their Stations to Co-operate; without which I am free to own any attempt I shou'd make might justly be called, Rash and Absurd"

I thought myself Sir sufficiently explicit in my Letter, and if You will be so good, as to consider my Arrangement, You will find that the Ships are to bear a very considerable Part; that it is not confined to reducing any insignificant Batteries, but to be ready shou'd there be Occasion to make a joint Attack with His Majesty's Troops, on the Batteries on Sulivans Island; according to my Ideas, these Words convey the very Wish you express "that such Naval Force as can be brought into action may be ready at Their Stations to Co-operate" however to avoid all possibility of being misunderstood in Future, I do now assure You, that His Majesty's Ships under my Command, shall during the Course of the whole Expedition, give every Assistance in Their Power, and that I hope You will find considerable.

I sent the *Sphinx* and *St Lawrence* Schooner last Night to sound the Channel and Examine the Shore, and this Night I shall send the *Syren* for the same Purpose. The *Ranger* and *Delegate* are gone with Captain Moncrief, Mr Knowles and the best Pilot I have to Sound and make Observations on the North Part of Sulivans Island and Long-Island as far as the Rattle Snake, and I dare say that if They Report the Landing easy You will not have Occasion to Fire a Musquet, or the Ships a Great Gun.

As it may come on to Blow after We are under Sail, and some of the Transports may be drove to the Northward, and not be able to reach Charles-Town-Bar, I submit it to You whether it will not be proper to determine on the next Rendezvous. I must now Sir beg the Fav[or] that shou'd I hereafter express myself in Terms that may appear to You Ambiguous, that You will put the best construction on Them, and believe me to be equally zealous with Yourself for the Success of His Majesty's Arms, and that I shall be Happy to be at all Times serviceable to You; Having the Honor to be Sir [&c.]

P: Parker

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

MASTER'S LOG OF H.M. SLOOP *Hawke* ¹

June [1776]	Carlisle bay Needhame fort SE Pillican Pt NNW St Michaels Steeple NNE off shore 1 Mile
Saturday 1st	at 3 AM saw 2 sail to the Etw gave Chace to them at 4 Shorten'd Sail fired Seven four Pounders & brot too an English Snow for Jamaca at 10 fird a gun & brot too a Schooner Whaler Sent a Mate & 13 men to take Charge of her 1/2 past bore away for Carlisle bay the Prize in Co at Noon Came too in Carlisle Bay with the Bt Br in 17 fam Sandy Bottom Veerd 1/2 Cable First & Latter fresh Gales & Hazy with Rain at times

Middle Modre and Cloudy Boat employed Boarding Ves-
sels Coming into the Bay
Sunday 2d AM Boarded the Brigg *two Brothers* & took Possession of her
as a Prize

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1780.

3 June

JOHN LANGDON TO JOSIAH BARTLETT ¹

My Dear Sr

Portsmo 3d. June 1776

Your esteemed favor of the 19th. Ult is now before me, it gives me pleasure to hear of your safe Arrival, and health, the news from Quebeck is not so Agreeable, but by no means Disperits me, one moment, it ought Rather to Stimulate to noble Actions Just as I began this letter, a Gentleman Arrived from Exeter and Reports, that by letters from Canada, of the Middle of may, it says that our Reinforcements had got up, and Cut off the Advance gaurd of enemy, and had engaged the main body; (who were in persuit of our people) and Defeated them Capt Shackford has Just got home from Halifax but has been four weeks from thence; Say, that no forces were Arrived, the Officers and men were greatly Dispirited, not the least intimation of going any where, abt two thousand saild the Middle of April for Quebeck – Our Tories wandering abt with forlorn hope and down Cast eyes –

I am Just going to Set off for Providence to See after Guns, our Ship is waitg for them, and orders to Ship men – I thank you for your intention off Serveg me in the Agency (and shall in Some measure Depend upon it.)] – But should such Dificulties Arrise as coud not be got over, (which I can no way See) Then I would Recomend Capt Supply Clap for Agent for Navy – and Mr Issek Whipple for Prizes – I see the Dificulty of haveg any more then one Office otherwise, if I should be Appointed Agent and Obliged to Stay here of Course, should be glad to Command this port. while here for which I would ask no pay You no my Ambition, for Millatary, and as I know of no Commission which our Gentlemen would Complement me with; as they Choose rather to Confer honour and profit on those who have endeavor'd, to over Set the Government, rather than those who have ever endeavoured to Support it – however I shall do my duty as far as I know I do not Expect to be honour'd in any way here not Neither do I desire it now, as I would not Except any of their dirty Sops, after every Dog had laped therefore shall depend on you and Brother [William] Whipple for an Active Birth – Should I tarry at home and have a Seat in the house, (I hope to have an Oppertunity on the floor, to tell some folks their Villany – I've been very, easy hitherto, but before I'll be Commanded by a Dam'd Set of Rascals who are put in office, and honest men left out,) I'll have a Rangle for it –

I have Sent a letter to the Speaker Recommendg Major Hacket for the Command of this Battalion, who is in my opinion the best officer in the Colony, I've said Nothing abt myself as I was in doubt abt my staying here, as Agent – I hope Major Hacket's name will, come on, if it does pray give

him the Command of the Battalion as I am sure you'll please all here and three Quarters of the Colony in general – I've mentioned his Name to Colonel Whipple as Capt of Marines, but should he get the Command or Second, it will suit him best – He has Serv'd the Continent in this Ship, very much by doing the work so well, and giveg such Dispatch,² he is Young and Intreped, has Served in the Army last war with great Reputation as an Officer. –

Your letter to your Lady I forwarded by your Negro Boy (this day) who happen'd to be in Town – shall take Particular Care of any Matters, you send to my hands. – You and Brother Whipple will please to Communicate to each other any of my Matters – Beleive me with Great Friendship Your's
Jn^o Langdon

1. John Langdon Papers, Correspondence, 1773–1797, NHHS. A copy also appears in the John Langdon Letter Book, Captain J. G. M. Stone Private Collection, Annapolis.
2. James Hackett, one of the three builders of the frigate *Raleigh*.

JOHN LANGDON TO CAPTAIN ROBERT COCHRAN, CHARLESTON ¹

Sir –

Portsmouth June 3d 1776

Your favour of the 11th Ulto I've recd with the inclos'd demands, on [Thomas] Palmer (who is to sea) and Pitman who I believe is at home, shall endeavour to get the Money and when got shall forward it, I am very happy you are so well fortified, and that the Government is in such Order, and under the direction, of so worthy a chief Magistrate for whom I have the greatest Friendship and Regard; not only for his Reagrd to his Country, and Abilities as a Statesman, but as an Honest Man, the Noblest Work of God – (I mean his Excellency. – John Rutledge Esqr) Excuse haste – Your [&c.]

John Langdon

P S We are in high Spirits here are ready to meet these Enemies to Mankind –

1. John Langdon Letter Book, Captain J. G. M. Stone Private Collection, Annapolis. Captain Robert Cochran had visited New Hampshire in the early part of the year in an effort to enlist men for the South Carolina naval service.

MIDSHIPMAN RICHARD FISHER TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL ¹

To the Honorable Gentlemen of the Council Watertown
Gentlemen

I wrote a Petition to you a fortnight ago which by the Councils breaking up you had not an oppertunty to see; I am necessitated to petition you again for my self and the three men belonging to the *Rose* which were taken last April at Frenchmans bay, ² being confin'd now a Month to Close jail, haveing only straw to lye on with maney disagreeable things a jail is always subject too, which makes our Situation realy very miserable. if the Honble Gentn of the Council will be so kind as to take into consideration and enlarge my Confinment a little and send me to Concord, were I may be in company with some of my own station which are confind there and grant the

three men the liberty of working for their livelyhood it would make our lives something agreeable which now is very unhappy and the obligation be always acknowledgd by yours with the Greatest Submission

Rich^d Fisher
Midn of the *Rose*

June 3d – 1776. Cambridge Goal

[Endorsed] In Council June 4th 1776 Read & order'd that the Prayer of the Petitioner be so far granted as that he be sent to Concord Goal & that he have the liberty of the Goal Yard on his giving his Parole in writing that he will not pass without the limits of the same – And that Jeremh Colman, John Jones & James Neal taken prisoners with sd Fisher & now confined in Cambridge Goal, may be liberated from their confinement if they shall enter on board any of the Continental or Colonial Armed Vessels, otherwise to remain in Prison

John Lowell Dpy Secy P T

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 164, 371, 372.

2. Prize crew of the sloop *Hannah*; see Captain James Wallace's orders of April 2, 1776, and list of men who retook the *Hannah*, April 15, 1776, Volume 4, 624, 828.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL ¹

[Watertown] Monday June 3d 1776

Recommendation from Capt John Fisk of Jonathan Harraden and Joseph Stockman as Suitable Persons for First & Second Leuts to Serve on board the Sloop *Tyrannicide* whereof said Fisk is Captain, Read & Ordered that the said Harraden & Stockman be Commissionated as first & Second Leuts accordingly. –

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 19, 5.

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT ¹

[Watertown] Monday June 3d 1776.

Resolved That the Commissary General be, and he hereby is directed to deliver unto Capt John Wigglesworth Commander of a Vessel fixed out by this Colony to Cruise to observe the Motion of the enemys Ships – the number of seven small Arms and appurtenances for those men that are not able to procure them themselves the said Wigglesworth giving his receipt to be accountable to this Court for the same – And it is further Resolved, That the Honble the Council be and they hereby are desired to give the said Wigglesworth a Commission as Captain of said Vessel to cruise against the Enemy's Ships.

Resolved, That Capt Batchellor of Beverly, Mr Durfey, and Brig: Palmer be a Committee – who are directed with Commissary general of this Colony to purchase, and provide what Cannon are necessary for the Armed Vessels of this Colony with all Expedition.

An Account of Jacob Boardman for fitting out the Schr *Britannia* &c amounting to £14 with his Petition for allowance therefor – being laid before the Court the following – Resolve passed viz: –

Resolved, That the Sum of Eleven pounds be paid out of the Public Treasury to Jacob Boardman or Order to full of his Account.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 35, 11, 12, 13.

Boston Gazette, MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1776.

Watertown, June 3.

The Beginning of last Week arrived in this Colony a Vessel, hav[i]ng on Board Ten Tons of Sulphur, and the Remainder of her Cargo Salt. The former Article will greatly help in manufac[tur]ing the amazing Quantity of 34907 $\frac{1}{4}$ wt. of Salt-Petre, made in this Colony, and brought to the [Commisary] general's Store in this Town during the course of last Week past, exclusive of what has been carried to the Powder Mills at Haver[hill, Stoughton, &c.]

Colony of the Massachusetts bay, Essex, ss

A Libel is filed before me against the ship named the *Hope*, burthen about 280 tons, commanded by Alexander Lumsdale – which vessel is said to have been improved in carrying supplies to the fleet and army employed against the United Colonies, and taken and brought into the County of Suffolk. And the Court erected to try and condemn all vessels that shall be found infesting the sea coast of America and brought into either of the counties of Suffolk, Middlesex, or Essex will be held at Boston, on Friday the twenty first day of June 1776 at the hour of Ten in the Forenoon to try the justice of the said capture. Of which this notice is given, pursuant to the laws of the Colony aforesaid that the owner of said ship, or any persons concerned therein, may appear and shew cause, if any they have, why the said ship with her cargo and appurtenances, should not be condemned.

Timothy Pickering, jun.

Judge of said Court ¹

1. Newspapers are an excellent source of prize libels.

ABIGAIL ADAMS TO JOHN ADAMS ¹

[Extract]

[Braintree] June 3, 1776

I enclose a List of Counsel. The House consists of more than 200 & 50 Members. . . . I hope they will proceed in Buisness with a little more Spirit than Heretofore. They are procuring two row Gallies, but when they will be finished I know not. I thought they were near done, but find to day they are not yet contracted for. – All our Gentry are gone from Nantasket road except the commodore and one or two small craft.

1. Butterfield, ed., *Adams Family Correspondence*, II, 4-5.

Newport Mercury, MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1776

Newport, June 3.

A Few days past Messrs. Hubbard and Read, two millers, who were taken by the *Swan*, Captain [James] Ayscough, as they were coming down the river last winter in a small boat, came to town from the Eastward, having

made their escape from the *Swan* at Liverpool, near Halifax; they say the men of war's people were at three quarters of an allowance.

Capt. Cottreil, who was taken going from this Colony to Philadelphia last winter, lately made his escape from Halifax, and returned home last week; he confirms the account given under the Hartford head, and adds that, just before he got off, a ship arrived from England with advice, that there were great disturbances there on account of the foreign troops, and that those troops were stopped for the present.

JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS ¹

[New York] Die Lunae, 4 ho. P.M.

June 3d, 1776.

Mr. Randall from the committee appointed to take into consideration Colo. Malcolm's draft of the depth of water in the channel, reported as follows, to wit:

Your committee do report that from the best intelligence they have obtained, the obstructing the navigation of Hudson's river, although a difficult and laborious undertaking, is nevertheless in our opinion practicable, wherefore they do report that they conceive it to be an object worthy of the public attention, and proper to be submitted to the consideration of His Excellency Genl. Washington.

By order of the committee,
Thos. Randall,
Chairman,

The House having heard the above report, do approve of the same.

Ordered, That Mr. [Gouverneur] Morris, Mr. Randall and Colo. [John] Broome, be a committee to wait on Genl. Putnam with the said report.

The House being informed that Lord Stirling has signified his willingness to go with such persons as this House shall appoint and give his aid and advice in sounding the channel.

Ordered, That Mr. Randall, Mr. [William] Mercier and Mr. Shaw be requested to attend Lord Stirling on Wednesday next to sound the harbour, and that Mr. Shaw provide three boats for that purpose.

1. *New York Provincial Congress*, I, 472.

MINUTES OF THE GREENWICH, NEW JERSEY, COMMITTEE OF OBSERVATION ¹

In Committee at Greenwich in Cumberland County, in New Jersey:

June 3d Anno 1776 -

personally appear'd before the Committee Mr Joseph Lightburn, owner of the Sloop *Betsy and Ann*, Benjamin Tucker Master from Bermuda; and on examination says that his Sloop now lying at Greenwich, was laden at, & cleared from Turks Island, with 1700 Bushels of Salt & two Puncheons of Rum (as appears Pr. Cockit;) that their design is to exchange the Cargo for Corn &c. by examining the papers of the Master they nearly correspond with

what Mr. Lightburn relates; he further says on examination that the People of Bermuda are in the greatest distress for want of Provisions, that many Hundreds must inevitably die by Hunger if not speedily reliev'd, that he had heard nothing of any Prohibition of Trade between the United Colonies & Bermuda when he left that place. – on Mo[tion] it was orderd that the Secretary immediately wait on the Honble the Continental Congress & request their advice & direction on the Matter.²

A true extract from the Minutes

Attested

Jonathan Elmor Prest

Thomas Ewing Secry

1. Papers CC (Letters of John Hancock, and Miscellaneous Papers), 58, 211, NA.
2. On June 5 Congress resolved to allow the cargo to be exchanged for provisions provided "that he will carry the same to the islands of Bermudas, and will use his utmost endeavours to avoid all English men of war and cutters." Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 417.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO MAJOR GENERAL ISRAEL PUTNAM ¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia, June 3, 1776.

Congress have determin'd on building sundry Gondolas and Fire Rafts, to prevent the Men of War and Enemy's Ships from coming into the New York Bay or Narrows. I must therefore request, that you make Inquiry after Carpenters, and procure all you can, with Materials necessary for building them, that they may go on with all possible Expedition, as soon as the Person arrives from hence, whom I have employ'd to superintend the Work. He will be there in a Day or two. I am &c.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 96, 97.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS
TO WILLIAM BINGHAM ¹

Philada. June 3d 1776 –

Sir We deliver you herewith two Letters from the secret Committee of Congress, one directed to Messr Adrian Le Maitre & Mr Richard Harrison at Martinico, whereby they are directed to pay the Nt Proceeds of a Cargo of Provisions Consign'd them p the Sloop *Fanny* Capt Britton to our Order & We have endorsed on said Letter that the Payment is to be made to you; – the other Letter is directed to Mr Richd Harrison directing him to pay to our Order the Nt Proceeds of another Cargo of Provisions Consign'd him p the Sloop *Peggy* Capt. [Thomas] Patton, which we have also endorsed to you, –

We hope both these Cargoes may arrive safe & thereby afford you the intended Supply of Money – In that Case you must detain what may be sufficient for your personal Expences & apply the Remainder to Payment for the Ten Thousand Stand of Arms you are directed to procure; but should things be so circumstanced that You cannot procure those Arms nor any Part of them, you may then only take up so much of the Money as may be necessary for your personal Expences & direct the Gentn to whom the Cargoes are consign'd to pursue the Orders they received from the secret Com-

mittee & to dispatch the two sloops as quick as they can under Convoy of Capt [William] Hallock in the *Hornet*; - On the Contrary if you take up the whole Money & Send the Muskets by the *Hornet* you may order the two Sloops to be sent away without any Goods or you may Send a Part of the Muskets by each as you shall judge may be best. We are Sir [&c.]

B. Franklin	John Dickinson
Benj ^a Harrison	Rob ^t Morris

1. APS.

SECRET COMMITTEE OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS TO RICHARD HARRISON ¹

Sir Philada June 3d 1776

We have already wrote you of this date by the Sloop *Peggy* Capt Patton and directed how you shou'd apply the Nt pceeds of that Cargo unless you received other Orders from us

And shou'd you receive this letter in time it will be delivered you by a Young Gentleman ² who will be Authorized by another Committee of Congress to receive & dispose of the Nt pceeds of said Cargo, Therefore we hereby authorize & direct you to pay the said Nt pceeds to such person & in such manner as may be ordered by Benjn Harrison, Benjn Franklin, John Jay, Thos Johnston junr John Dickinson & Robert Morris Esquires or any three of them and also to comply with their orders respecting the dispatch of the Sloop but if this letter does not arrive in time you will of Consequence follow the directions we have given. Sir [&c.]

Tho ^s McKean	Rob ^t Morris
Josiah Bartlett	B Franklin
Joseph Hewes	Richard Henry Lee

1. Dreer Collection of Signers, HSP.

2. William Bingham.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE OF THE CONTINENTAL
CONGRESS TO RICHARD HARRISON ¹

Sir Philada June 3d 1776

In Consequence of the annexed letter of order from the Secret Committee of Congress We desire you to Account with Wm Bingham Esquire the bearer hereof for the Amount of the Cargo mentioned therein and either pay him the whole or any part of the Money, or do with it what he may desire, which will oblige Sir [&c.]

B Franklin	Rob ^t Morris
Benj Harrison	John Dickinson

1. Dreer Collection of Signers, HSP.

WILLING, MORRIS & CO. TO WILLIAM BINGHAM ¹

Sir, Philada June 3d 1776

You will find enclosed herein a Copy of our letter to Mr Saml Beall respectg the Adventure in Powder under his management in which we have in-

terested you to the Amount of Five hundred pounds Sterlg & as it is most likely he will come out with his Goods Via Martinico we hope You will have the pleasure of Seeing him there, If he comes out to St Eustatia lodge orders for you to be informed of it & as you will have frequent intelligence from us & the best opportunitys for Shipping Goods We Hope this Adventure may be brought to a happy Conclusion for us all. If you think proper to write to Mr Beall address him under Cover to Messrs Delap at Bourdeaux & if you hear any thing of him do not fail to advise us – As you are likely to remain some-time in the West Indies it may probably fall in Your Way to make Connections with some good Houses that will Ship West India Produce this way & have in return the produce of these Colonies, we shall be ready to transact such bussiness & will Credit you half the Comn on the Sale of their Goods that is on any parçells you procure to our address –

You may probably have it in Your Power to purchase some Linnens or other European Manufactures on a Credit untill we can have time to remit You produce to pay for them, If so we agree to be half Concerned with you in such Adventures and you may Ship back by the *Hornet* some Packages of such Goods to the Amot of £ 1000, or Fifteen hundred pounds this Curry Value Consigning the same to us We will sell them to the best advantage free of Commn you charging no Commn on the purchase nor on the Sale of the returns which we shall ship to you directly in this Country produce, and in this way we will keep up a Constant intercourse with You. If you cannot get goods on Credit We must furnish you with Effects to make such purchases & for this & other purposes Youl keep us constantly informed of What is passing in the Mercantile line Wishing You a pleasant & Successfull Voyage We are Sir [&c.]

Willing Morris & Co

1. Papers of Robert Morris, Accession 1805, LC.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON ¹

[Extract]

My Dear Sir

Philadelphia, June 3, 1776

Yours of the 21st ulto is come to hand. I hope you have had good luck in launching the ship.²

. . . the affair of the Agency lays dormant. Captain [Thomas] Thompson is nominated by the Marine Committee for the command of your ship, but not yet confirmed by Congress . . .

Yesterday one of the Continental vessels that were sent out for necessities arrived here; she brought 7400 lbs of powder, 149 arms being all she could procure the rest of her cargo, canvass &c. &c. She had like to have been taken by the *Liverpool* in this Bay, but two of the small Continental vessels took her and a French schooner under their protection and the *Liverpool* did not think proper to engage them. Several French vessels from the West-Indies have arrived here with molasses, coffee, linen, &c, one of them was taken by a man of war who examined all the cargo and finding no arms or military stores, and not being willing to affront the French, ordered her

forthwith to proceed for France (where she pretended to be bound) having previously taken out the American Master and put him on board the man of war; at night she shifted her course, and came in here.

1. William Whipple Papers, Force Transcripts, LC.

2. The Continental frigate launched at Portsmouth, May 21, 1776.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

In Committee of Safety.

Philad'a, 3d June, 1776.

Resolved, That each Galley in the service of this Province, be supplied with a small convenient Iron hearth, and that this regulation supercede the former orders to procure a Vessel for cooking in.

Resolved, That this Board go into the consideration of the appointment of a Commodore to the Naval Armaments of this Province on Wednesday next, and that the Members be noticed to attend on that day at 9 O'Clock in the Morning.

Resolved, That Mr. John Britton & Mr. Thomas Cuthbert, be desired to prepare the Flatts purchased for Hulks, by fitting them immediately with coarse, ordinary Hay and light Timber, agreeable to particular directions, accompanying this Resolve, and to purchase the necessary anchors and Cables to moor them at their respective stations.

Resolved, That the Men employed in the service of this Province on board the Naval armaments thereof, be Allowed the following Wages to commence the first of this month:

Seamen, three pounds P Month.

Landsmen, Fifty shillings per Month.

Resolved, That two additional arm'd Boats or Gondolas be immediately built.

That Major Sam'l Mifflin, Capt. Nath'l Falconer & Capt. James Craig, jun'r, be requested to superintend the Building of the Boats.

That the said Gentlemen be requested to superintend the Building the two Gondolas ordered for the Bay service.

Resolved, That Mr. John Mitchell Continue Victualling the Officers and Men employed on Board the Naval Armaments and Artillery Company, in the service of this Province, from the 11th inst. to the 11th of Sept'r next, at the same price of his former contract with this Board.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 593, 594.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Liverpool*, CAPTAIN HENRY BELLEW ¹

June 1776 Do [Cape Henlopen] SO 70 Wt 17 miles –
 Monday 3. at 11 AM saw a sail to leaward bore away and made Sail at
 noon still in Chace –
 Fresh Gales and Cloudy with Rain Still in Chace, 1/2 past
 noon fir'd 3 Shot at the Chace, at 2 PM She brot too lay too
 and sent our Boat onbd her found she came from Currasae
 [Curaçao] bound to Philadelphia with Bale Goods, sent an

Officer and 5 men to take charge of her, and took her People onbd of us at 3 hoisted the boat in at Do clse Reefd the Topsls stood to the S E ½ past saw a sail to leaward gave Chace fird two Shot to bring her too, at 4 PM found ourselves in 6 fm and saw Indian R[ive]r bearing Wt 5 miles gave over chace and stood off. at 8 P M fresh Gales and squally.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/548. The prize is not further identified.

MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COMMITTEE ¹

The Committee Met on Monday 3 June 1776

Present – Samuel Purviance Junr Chairman

J. Smith	W. Wilkinson	B. Griffith	J. Gillis
T. Gist	J. Merryman	T. Sollers	J. Sterrett
J. Boyd	J. Calhoun	A. Britain	T. Rutter
J. Griest			

Mr William Holmes, who lives on Todds Island near North Point, proposed to this Committee, that, for Six Pounds, he would give Intelligence up the Bay, and to this Town, when the Enemy were coming up the Bay, for one Year; that he will keep a Boat in constant Readiness for the Purpose, to run up the Bay, and will dispatch the Intelligence for the Town by Mr Roles, who lives near him on the Main, who shall be paid for his Trouble in Riding up to Town by the Committee –

The Committee, on considering Mr Holmes's Proposals, agreed to lay the same before the Council of Safety –

1. Baltimore Committee, LC.

MAJOR MORDECAI GIST TO CAPTAIN WALTER TOLLEY ¹

Dear Sir

Baltimore 3 June 1776

being Informd that there is two Gondolas orderd to be Built Immedeately for the defence of this place, I take the liberty of recommending to your Interest and Influence the bearer Captain James Phillips as a Gentleman qualifyd to take the Command of one of them, he has ever shewn a steady attachment to the present cause, and am very confident his Spirit and resolution would never suffer him to disgrace his Commission. I am in haste [&c.]

M: Gist

Capt. Walter Tolley now in Annapolis

1. Revolutionary Papers, Box 9, Md. Arch.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MILITIA AND INDEPENDENT COMPANY OFFICERS ¹

No 10.

To Brigadiers [James Lloyd] Chamberlaine & [Henry] Hooper, Colos [Thomas] Wright, [John] Weems, [Benjamin] Mackall & [Richard]

Barnes, & Captns [Rezin] Beall & [John Allen] Thomas [respectively]
Sir[s]

The inclosed extract from a letter of Commodore Hamond to Governor Eden (in consequence of an intercourse between his Excellency and the Convention) will inform you, that a Man of War may be daily expected up the Bay. We give you this notice that the Militia need not be alarmed, or unnecessarily drawn out upon duty on sight of these vessels. We make not the least doubt but that you will give the orders necessary for preventing any insult being offered, either on her passage up or down the Bay. –

We have the strongest assurances that the Governor will leave the Province with the most friendly regard for it's inhabitants and will do every thing in his power, that may contribute towards promoting a reconciliation between the Mother Country & her colonies. – We are [&c.]
[Annapolis] 3rd June 1776

1. Council of Safety Letter Book, No. 1, Md. Arch.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU,
H.M.S. *Fowey* ¹

Roebuck off of Gwins Isld in Virginia
3d June 1776.

Memdum

Tomorrow being the Anniversary of His Majesty's Birth Day, a Salute of Twenty one Guns is to be fired from the *Fowey*, and as many from the Tenders as they can fire with convenience, to begin at the discharge of the Second Gun from the *Roebuck*.

A. S. Hamond

1. Hamond, Orders issued, 1776-1777, UVL.

COLONEL WILLIAM MOULTRIE TO JOHN RUTLEDGE ¹

Sullivan's Island, June 3, 1776.

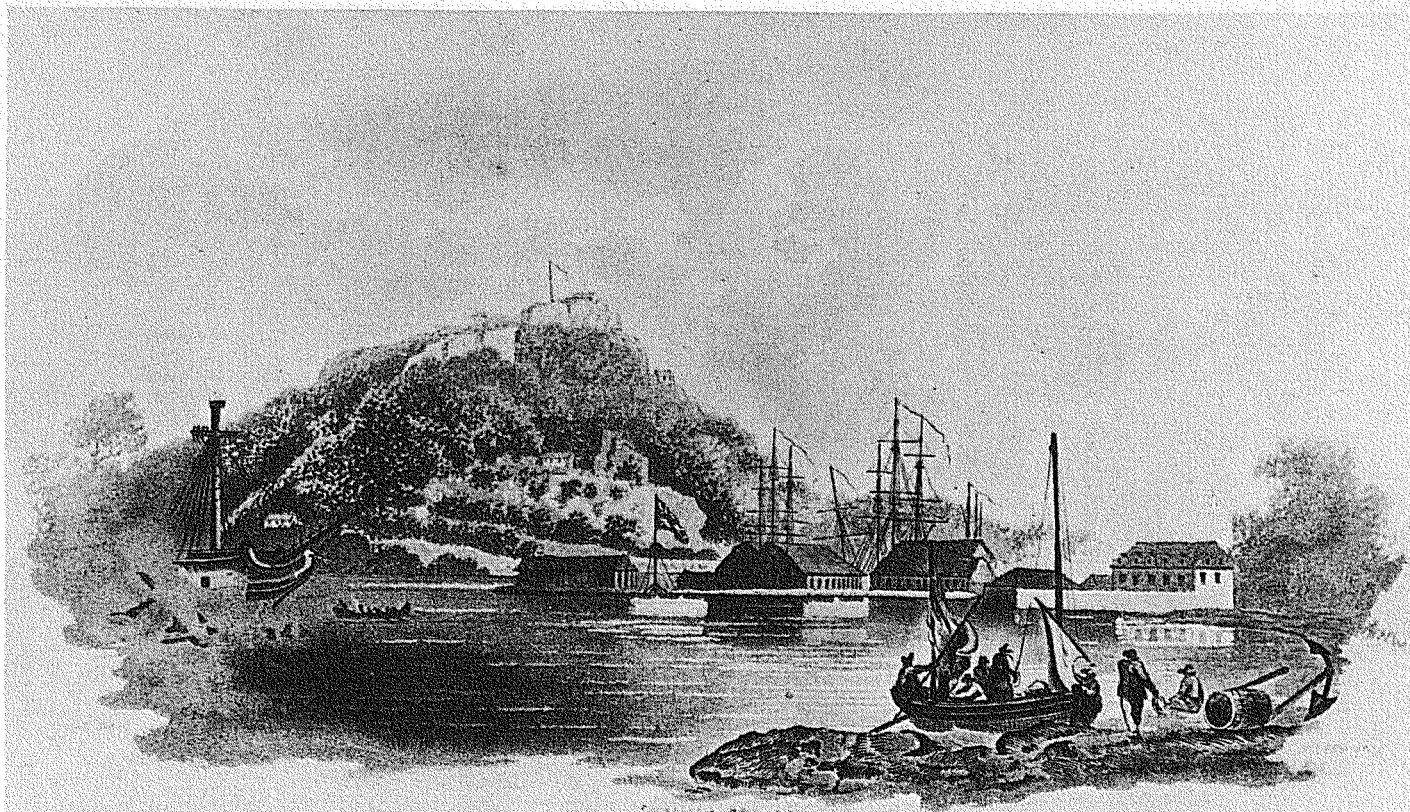
To His Excellency the President.

Sir, We have seen this day, two large ships, a large top-sail schooner, and a tender. The tender has been very busy in sounding from the inlet at our advance-guard, all along to Long-Island: It seems as though they intended their descent somewhere here-about. Our fort is now enclosed: It is the opinion of every one, that we should have more men at this post; but, as I know they cannot be spared from the capital, I must make the best defence I can with what I have got; and doubt not, but that I shall give 4 or 500 men a great deal of trouble before they can dislodge me from this post.

I shall be glad you would order those boats over, which I had fitted up for this post: Capt. [John] Coppithorn has them. I am your Excellency's [&c.]

William Moultrie,
Col. of the second Regiment.

1. *Memoirs of the American Revolution . . . By William Moultrie . . .* (New York, 1802), I, 146-47. Hereafter cited as *Moultrie's Memoirs*.



View of English Harbour, Antigua Bay

New York Packet THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1776

English Harbour, (in Antigua) June 3.

Last week arrived here his Majesty's ship the *Hynd*, Capt. [Henry] Bryne, after having landed 3 companies of the 60th regiment in St. Augustine. Being informed on his return, that in a creek near Sunbury in Georgia, a brigantine lay taking in lumber, near which was a ship on the stocks pierced for twenty guns; Captain Bryne, when he arrived off that place, ordered his tender and boats armed, who set fire to and burned both. This expedition and voyage was performed in the space of six weeks; but its success was dampened by the loss of Lieutenant Nicholas, a very worthy officer, who commanded the tender, but lost company about 30 leagues from land, and is supposed to have foundered.

It is observable that we have a more powerful squadron on this station than we have had since the year 1771. It consists of the *Portland* of 50 guns, carrying Admiral [James] Young's flag, Captain [Thomas] Demeresq; the *Argo* of 28 guns, Captain [William] Garnier; the *Hynd* of 24 guns, Capt. Bryne; the *Seaford* of 24 guns, Capt. [John] Colpoys; the *Pomona* of 18 guns, Captain Bastwood; the *Hawk* of 14 guns, Captain [Robert Palliser] Cooper; the *Endeavour* armed vessel, Captain Tinsley another armed vessel to be purchased, and the *Sandwich* tender, commanded by Captain Douglas. Orders are received from England to raise the ships companies to the highest complement of men.

Admiral Young has received orders from the Admiralty to purchase two armed vessels, to carry ten guns each, and 45 men, one of which is already bought, and the command given to Captain Tinsley. It is supposed some extraordinary expedition is going forward at English Harbour, as the Admiral has given orders to enter 14 more shipwrights.

We are informed that the convoy appointed to escort the West India homeward bound fleet, will carry them as far as the Western Islands only, where some men of war are to meet and carry them to England, and the convoy to return to their station here.

4 June

JOURNAL OF H.M. SCHOONER *Magdalen*, LIEUTENANT JOSEPH NUNN ¹

June 1776 Off Battsicon [St. Lawrence River] ²
 Saturday 1 at 4 AM sent our boats with a flat Bottomed boat (recd from the *John & Christopher* Transpt) at 7 began to Ferry over ³ Genl [John] Burgoyne and 550 Men with their Baggage &c, being a Detachmt from 62. 53. 43 & 24 Regimt at 12 our boats returned,
 Sunday 2 Light Airs with rain,
 AM Passed by on the Passage up the River five Sail of Transports, sent the boats Man'd to Carry General Burgoyne aCross the River.

- Little Wind & fair Wr P M Passed up the River 4 Sail of Transpts
- Monday 3 AM empd passing over Battiscon River with their Baggage &c 450 Men detachmts from the 62. 52. 43. 24 & 9 Regiments
- Tuesday 4 Fresh Breezes with Rain,
AM Transported over Battiscon 300 Men part of the 34. 31. 24 & 21 Regiments⁴ passed up the River 10 Sail of Transports.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4252.

2. The *Magdalen* had sailed from Quebec on May 20, 1776, and had reached Batiscon on May 31, 1776.

3. The Batiscon, a tributary of the St. Lawrence, and first broad stream encountered by the detachments of the British army proceeding overland from Quebec.

4. Transporting troops continued intermittently until June 12, 1776.

MASTER'S LOG OF H.M. ARMED VESSEL *Canceaux*¹

- June 1776 Cape Sambro No 47 E' 28 Leagues
- Saturday 1st at 12 [midnight] the Light House NNE to E 3 miles at 2 chebucto head NW ½ a mile at 6 anchord with the best bour in 10 fm water abrest of the dock yard Halifax found here Vice Adml Shuldham with a Number of Men of war and Transports Saluted the Admiral with 15 Guns
At Noon fresh breezes with drizzling rain.
Fresh winds and Cloudy, first part some rain hauld alongside the heaving down wharf,
- Sunday 2d AM Empd putting ashore 16-6 Pounders and 16 Swivels for the *Albany* Sloop. -²
Fresh gales and Cloudy with rain,
- Monday 3 Latter part fair Empd Var[ious]ly. -
Fresh winds with misty Wr and rain
- Tuesday 4 At 9 AM Lieut Jno Schanks, Came on board and took Command,³ Saluted with 13 Guns, Adml returned Do

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1637 and 52/1638.

2. *Ibid.*, the 16 guns had been stowed in the hold of the *Canceaux* at Portsmouth on April 10, 1776.

3. Henry Mowat left the *Canceaux* to take command of the *Albany*, a prize merchant ship of 230 tons, which Vice Admiral Shuldham had purchased for the king's service. As she had to be altered to carry the guns brought from England, Mowat had "accepted of her in the mean time, but in the full Expectation of never going to Sea in her. . ." *Collections and Proceedings of the Maine Historical Society* (Portland, 1891), 2nd series, II 357-58.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Cerberus*, CAPTAIN JOHN SYMONS¹

- June 1776 Sambro' Light house N2. 36W 46 Leags
- Tuesday 4 Strong Gales with rain P M reef Topsls
at 5 A M the *Hawk* Schooner broke the Hawser that was fast to the *William* & parted from her at 7 Bore down to the Brigg and Schooner at 12 all the prizes in Co²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/181.

2. The *Cerberus* and her prizes arrived at Halifax on June 6, 1776.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM SINCLAIR TO ELBRIDGE GERRY ¹

Marblehead June the 4 1776

Sir I inform you a Cording to Mr Samuel Gerrys Requist Conserving the *Rockinham* – the Reason why She was Seised Was as Mssrs Gardockas ² Informed Me on her Coming to Bilboa – as Soon as She had ben In one Day Every body Knew what Interst She was on a Cordingly Mr Gardocka hasten the Mates as Much as Posible & Got a Spanesh Capt & Crew where as Capt Johnson went in the Vessel also to holand & Mr Gardocka advised him to Git Learge hemp Casks that wold hold three Barrells of powder & put them In & put hemp at Each head & Conseal Everything from the People that possible he Could & proceed to bilboa where on they wold Recive the Cargo as holend Goods & Reship them on bourd a Gain for Som other place In this Sam Vessel after the Spanyards where Discharged – a Cordingly understanding that Capt Johnson Had Not but Receivd his powder on bourd In powder Casks openly to the peopel He fixed out a Schooner that Capt tuck Left Behind last Spring with the English Cruue & Sent her out to Cruse off[f] Aon-tona a Ganst the time the Brig Should aRive there, but on the Same Day the Schooner Sailed from Bilboa the brig aRived at Atana where the Schooner Did Reach In Nine Days but on the brigs aRivel Mr Gardockay Wrote to Capt Johnson to proceed to Sea Directaly for fear of truble & Make No Delay whereon Capt Johnson Said he culd Git Nobody to Go out with him but Mr Gardocka Blaimed him & Said he Culd & the Schooner a Riveing there In Sometime after when a portagee fellow that was on bourd the Brig Informed aGainst her & Said that She had powder onbourd for the Mors [Moors] Where as they Seased her as Spanesh property as haveing a Spanesh Capt & Crew on bourd where on all the people with the Capt was A Bliged to flee for Schore & the Capt was Secreated when I aReived at Bilboa the last time.

And Sir to Inform you Conserving Mr Gardock when the Brig was Seised thay thought to Clame her as there own Or a Vessel Consined to them I am No Serting which but on that Mr Joseph Gardockas Goods where teashed [attached] & himself obliged to Keep clost & till that By Mr Jame Gardocka Belonging to the Counsel Cud make Interest To Get Bond as I understud it – of Mr Gardocka Until they Git from holand to Shew – that She was Not Spanesh property Nor yet Bound to Morocka so Sir while I Lay at Bilboa thay Maid Intrest by Giveing bond To Git her Into there own persession untill a Return from holand but as I understud of them No Gentleman In holand wold be Seen In the afair for fear so thay Dispacshed Capt Johnson for holand to take out a Sertificat himself then thay where In hope thay Shuld be ablead to Do Something

But Sir when I Came away on the 22d of March She was Just Discharged of her Lading & Lay by In Bilboa River Untill Maters Culd Be brought about But Mr Gardockas Complains of a Great Expence they have bin at & Likewise of a Dele of truble So Sir I Inform you of what Mr Gardockas told Me

the which he Diseired Me to tell you if I Should See you So Sir I wold Inform you farther if I Cud Not But at present Remain [&c.]

William Sinclair

[P.S.] Sir Now there is No bisness Going on & there is Severl Continental Vessels Bulding I shoud be Glad to Git on board of one of the frigits if possible & you wold be so Good as to Menchin me as I think No Better Gentelman then you for which I shall be your [&c.]

Willm Sinclair

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 288, 51-54.

2. Joseph Gardoqui, merchant of Bilbao.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ¹

In the House of Representatives June the 4th 1776 –

Whereas Doubts have arisen in the minds of our Judges of Admiralty and other Persons whither by the Act for encouraging the fixing out armd Vessels &c the Judge by whom the Condemnation of any prize is made (agreeable to sd Act) be obliged to give his warrant to the sheriff for the sale of sd vessel and Cargo so condemned; it is therefore Resolvd That every vessel & cargo which shall be tried and condemned in any Court of admiralty agreeable to an Act entitled an Act for fixing out Armed Vessels to defend the seacoast of America & for erecting a Court to try and Condemn all vessels that shall be found infesting the same, shall be sold at publick Auction by some Sheriff within the Jurisdiction of the sd Judge, and the sd Judge shall issue his warrent to the sheriff accordingly agreeable to the true intent and meaning of the act aforesd and that any sale or disposition of any prize that shall hereafter be condemned in pursuance of the sd Act other than as aforesd shall be considered illegal & void.–

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 181, 41.

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT ¹

[Watertown] Thursday [*sic* Tuesday] June 4th 1776.

Resolved, That the Gunners in the Service of this Colony on board the Armed Vessels thereof, be allowed and paid Three pounds p Month, and in the distribution of the Prize Money have the same number of shares as are by the Establishment of this Colony allowed to the Carpenter, the former Establishment of this Colony notwithstanding.

Resolved That the Commander of said Vessels be allowed to inlist Men to the last of December next who may not incline to inlist for the time propos'd by the last Establishment. –

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 35, 13, 16.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL BENJAMIN TUPPER TO GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

Sloop *Hester* June the 4th 1776 – 6 oclock PM

Sir the Inclosed is the Original which I have just Recd and thought Proper to Send it by express by land, it is most likely that the Indian Ship and

Sloop mentioned will Sail out under Convoy of sd *Mercury*. I shall Send to the Armd Vessels on the South Side of long Island to look out & do the best [th]ey can – however if it Should please Your Excell[en]cy to Send an express to Admiral Hopkins and [he] Should think proper to Waylay them off Nan-[tu]cket Shoales I trust he might meet with Success [th]ree men more last Night Desarted from the *Lively* man of war Who is Directly from Halifax but the Stupid Souls at Middletown have not yet Sent them up – N B it is not likely Sd Vessels will sail quite So Soon as the Desarters Informd I Shall keep a good look out While I have the Honour to be Your Excellcy [&c.]

Benj. Tupper Lt Colo of
the 21st Regt & Comr at Amboy

1. Washington Papers, LC.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL BENJAMIN TUPPER TO GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

Sir

Sloop *Hester* June 4th 1776

There was two ships arrived within the Hook yesterday – There is now at the hook Eight Sail of square rigged Vessels & five small scraft besides the *Asia* & her small Tender. It is thought (but we cannot certainly determine) that three of the Vessels which lately arrived is the *Roe-buck* the *Mercury*, & the *Liverpool* – Yesterday morning three men made their escape from the piratical fleet by the way of the Hook to Middletown. Immediately upon hearing of it – yesterday I sent an express for the men that I might send them to Head Quarters to be examined but the people had stupidly let them pass toward Philadelphia without asking them scarcely a question. however thus much, the Officer which I sent pick' up that provision was very short on Board the Fleet, & that they were reduced to half allowance (May God increase their wants). Nothing extraordinary has happ'ned, or has been discovered. – I am your Excellencys [&c.]

Benjⁿ Tupper Lt. Col.

1. Washington Papers, LC.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Tuesday, June 4, 1776

A letter of the 31 May from John Macpherson. was laid before Congress and read:

Resolved, That it be referred to Mr. [George] Read and Mr. [Thomas] M'Kean, who are directed to confer with Mr. Macpherson.

Resolved, That the committee of safety of Pensylvania be empowered to negotiate with Captain [Henry] Bellew, on the best terms they can, for an exchange of the prisoners on board the *Liverpool*; Provided always, that this shall not be construed so as to enable them to deliver up Lieutenant Bogar and Lieutenant Ball in the exchange.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, IV, 415, 416.

MEMORANDUM BOOK OF WILLIAM BRADFORD, JR. ¹

[Philadelphia] Tuesday June 4th

. . . I went to the wharff with provision &c for the men, & delivered them into the pilots hands. ² I then hastened to the State house where the Capts of the Row Gallies were to be tried for charging the Committee of Safety with neglect in the affair of the *Roebuck* &c After a good deal of altercation they adjourned the trial to a future day.

1. Colonel William Bradford Papers, HSP.

2. For the *Polly*, Philip Lacey, master.JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

[Annapolis] Tuesday 4th June 1776.

The Council contract with Messrs Samuel Galloway and Stephen Steward for the Building of five Gondolas for the Defence of this Province, and agree to pay Mr Steward's Expences to philadelphia for the Purpose of viewing those constructed there: they also contract with Thomas Smyth Esquire for building two Gondolas upon Terns and Conditions hereafter to be agreed on.

Permit granted to Mr Hodges' Boat to take in and transport live Stock & fresh Provision from Rock-Hall to Annapolis, and to such Man of War as shall come up for Governor Eden for his intended Voyage to England.

Ordered That the Treasurer of the Western Shore pay to Messrs Galloway and Steward five hundred Pounds common Money on Account of the Gondolas by them to be built.

Ordered That the said Treasurer pay to Thomas Smyth Esqr two hundred Pounds common Money on Account of the Gondolas to be built by him.

1. Council of Safety Journal, 29 August 1775 to 20 March 1777, Md. Arch.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION ¹

[Williamsburg] Tuesday, June 4, 1776.

A petition of Joseph Jones, Joshua Campbell, James Ferebee, and William Burgess, merchants and partners, of North Carolina, was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth that in the month of April last they loaded their sloop the *two brothers*, with a suitable cargo for the Island of Martinico in the West Indies, as will appear by the bill of lading; that, on the 14th of the said month, as she lay in Ocracock inlet, in North Carolina, ready to sail, a certain John Goodrich of Virginia, in an armed sloop called the *Lilly*, with force of arms violently seized and took possession of their said vessel and cargo, with her crew, and, having taken out their captain, put on board a prize master and some mariners, and ordered her to sea, under convoy of a certain lieutenant Wright, who commanded another armed vessel; that their vessels, on the 20th of the same month, as will appear by several affidavits, was stranded on the north of Cape Lookout, in Carolina, where she was taken under the care of the committee of the county of Carteret;

that the said vessel and cargo, at a very accurate estimate, were worth 1149 l. 16s.10d. North Carolina currency; that as the loss they have sustained was occasioned by the hostilities of the said Goodrich, they beg leave to lay their case before the Convention, and submit it whether it is not agreeable to justice that satisfaction be made them out of the estate of the said Goodrich.

Ordered, That the said petition, together with the several exhibits, be referred to the Committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they inquire into the allegations thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

1. *Virginia Convention*, 33, 34.

JOHN WELLS' ACCOUNT OF THE BRITISH ATTACK ON CHARLESTON ¹

[Charleston, June 1 to June 4, 1776]

On the 1st of June his Excellency the President ² received Advices of a Fleet of 40 or 50 Sail being at Anchor about six Leagues to the Northward of Sullivans Island. Accounts of the Arrival of Sir Peter Parker's Fleet in N. Carolina, and that it, was destined either for Virginia or this Province, having been received about three Weeks before, put it beyond a Doubt that this was his Fleet. Next morning the Alarm was fired, Expresses having been sent ordering the Country Militia to Town; the Fortifications were all visited by his Excellency and General [John] Armstrong, and Preparations for the most vigorous Defence ordered. In the Evening a Man of War, thought to be a 20 Gun Ship, beat up to Windward and anchored off the Bar; next Day she was joined by a Frigate, and on the day following, June 4, by upwards of 50 Sail of Men of War, Transports, Tenders, &c. We have since learned that the Men of War were the *Bristol* of 50 Guns, on board of which the Commodore had his Flag; the *Solebay*, Capt. [Thomas] Symonds, 28; *Syren* Capt [Tobias] Furneaux, 28; *Active*, Capt. [William] Williams, 28; *Actaeon*, Capt. [Christopher] Atkins, 28; *Sphinx*, Capt. [Anthony] Hunt, 20; *Ranger* Sloop of 8; *Thunder* Bomb of 6 Guns and 2 Mortars, one of them 13 Inches and the other 11; an armed Ship called the *Friendship*, of 18 Guns, with some smaller Vessels. The same day Capt Mowat arrived from North-Carolina, with an Express from General [Charles] Lee, informing that the Fleet had left North-Carolina, and that he would be here as speedily as possible, with several Continental Regiments, to our Assistance.

1. *South-Carolina and American General Gazette*, Friday, May 31, 1776 to Friday, August 2, 1776: "It having been deemed expedient, that the Printing Presses should be removed out of Town during the Alarm, the Publication of this *Gazette* has been necessarily discontinued for the two last Months. As the Transactions in this Province during that Period will probably make it a distinguished one in the American Annals, we doubt not but a succinct Account of them will be very acceptable to our Readers." The printer of the *Gazette* was John Wells, who had succeeded his Loyalist uncle, Robert Wells.
2. John Rutledge.

TRAUOGOTT BAGGE'S NARRATIVE OF EVENTS IN NORTH CAROLINA ¹

[Charleston, June 1 to June 4]

Br. Bagge had gone to Charlestown on business for the store, carrying a

Pass from the Surry County Committee, and was there when the sea and land forces approached the town. On the evening of June 1st the first alarm was given, which threw the town into an unbelievable confusion. On the 2nd it was still more alarming, and the city Militia were called out, and the Militia from the surrounding country came in. On the 3rd the wind was contrary, so life and business went on as though nothing were happening. But on the 4th, as the ships began to appear, the alarm and fright were still greater. For five miles from the town the roads were full of negroes, women and children, riding, driving and on foot, fleeing from the enemy with a few of their possessions. The wagon for the store was loaded, and just ready to start, when an order was issued that no one else might leave the town without a Permit from the commanding officer. With the assistance of a good friend Br. Bagge secured a Pass for himself and his wagon, and another for his teamsters, and by night was ten miles from the city, where he camped.

1. Adelaide L. Fries, ed., *Records of the Moravians in North Carolina* (Raleigh, 1922-1943), III, 1031.

JOURNAL OF H. M. SCHOONER *St. Lawrence*, LIEUTENANT JOHN GRAVES ¹

June 1776 At Single Anchor off Charlestown Light House
 Tuesday 4 at 6 weigh'd and came to sail went pr order of Capt [Anthony] Hunt in the *Sphynx* to cover two boats that was sounding on the barr gave chace to a Rebbel Sloop and Schooner, at 10 Tack'd and stood back over the barr, the Rebbels got in to the Harbour when the[y] saw us Chace them at 11 came to Anchor in 6 fm water Sullivans Island NWN Charlestown light house WBN $\frac{1}{2}$ N Six miles
 at 1 came to Anchor the Commodore with the Fleet

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

5 June

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Triton*, CAPTAIN SKEFFINGTON LUTWIDGE ¹

June 1776 Moor'd at Port Neuf
 Wednesday 5th A M, recd a Lettr from Col. Fraser by Lt Vallancy dated 4th, at Trois Rivieres "that the Rebels had 18 Batteaux in the Reolet River on the So Shore from which they landed Yesterday 7 or 800 Men - Captn Henry was anchor'd 5 Miles above that place - his want of Arm'd Vessels prevents his annoying them and he imagines it possible they may attempt some of the Sternmost Transports between this and your Station - he had sent an Order to the Officers & Masters in the Transpts to keep a regular Watch &c" - I sent a Copy of this Order to all the Ships here - The Commo-

dore's long Boat brought on board 2 Marines from the Hospital at Quebec –
Light Breezes – latter pt rain – the Boats empd as before

I. PRO, Admiralty 51/1013.

VICE ADMIRAL MOLYNEUX SHULDHAM TO COMMISSIONER MARRIOT
ARBUTHNOT ¹

(Copy)
Sir

Chatham in Halifax Harbour the 5th June 1776.

In case the following Measures which I judge to be necessary for His Majesty's Service, should not be carried into execution before my departure from this place, I think it expedient to make you acquainted with them, that the proper Orders for the purposes hereafter mentioned may be given, when the Command in this Port may devolve on you.

1st

Her Orders
are left
with you { I intend the *Savage*, as a Convoy and protection for the Collery to be carried on at Spanish River in the Island of Cape Breton, for the Supply of His Majesty's Troops and the Inhabitants of this place; and her Commander must have Orders conformable to the Scheme of General [William] Howe, a Copy of which you herewith receive.

2d

Captain
[George]
Talbot's
Orders are
left with
you. The *Tamer* is expected with Forage for the Army, which is to be distributed to the several Ships left there to take on board the Light Dragoons, and carry them to join the Army at New York. These Ships (with any others that may chuse to avail themselves of the Convoy) are to Sail under Convoy of the *Niger*, whose Commander must be particularly enjoined to take uncommon pains to to prevent any of the Ships committed to his care being separated from him; the Embarkation of this Regiment and their Sailing, must be as soon as possible after the Arrival of the Forage, & in case there should be more Forage purchased for the King in the Bay of Fundy, than can be brought round to this place by the *Tamer's* Convoy, then the *Tamer* is to take with her so many Vessels as may be sufficient to contain it, proceed to the place or places where it may be, And after it is put on board the Vessels intended to receive it take them under Convoy, adopting every precaution to prevent separation, and proceed to the Hook, at the Entrance of New-York.

3d

Relative to the Ships that may arrive expecting to find the King's Forces at this place; such as need no Convoy must be directed to follow Us, and those of no Force must wait until

an opportunity offers for their being protected on their passage to New-York, which may be expected soon to happen, by the Sailing of the *Niger*.

4th

You will be pleased to take the necessary Measures for getting the *Albany* ready for Sea, as soon as the King's Service in general, dependant on your Office will admit; And whereas I have thought it expedient to impress every fifth Man out of Ships arriving at this Port, you will please to give directions for the same practice being continued, as there is no other resource to fill the Vacancies in His Majesty's Ships occasioned by Deaths, Desertions, and other Accidents. I am [&c.]

M Shuldham

[Endorsed] The Letter, of which the above is a Copy, was deliver'd to Commodore Arbuthnot by me at Halifax, and which he acknowledged the receipt of to me.

Evan Nepean, Secretary.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/484.

LETTER OF AGENCY FOR VICE ADMIRAL MOLYNEUX SHULDHAM ¹

Know all Men by these Presents That I Molyneux Shuldham Esq. Vice Admiral of the Blue & Commander in Chief of his Majestys Ships & Vessels in North America have Constituted & Appointed & in my Stead and place put, & by these Presents do Constitute & Appoint & in my Stead and Place put Alexander Brymer of Halifax in Nova Scotia Gentleman, to be my true Sufficient & lawful Attorney for me and in my name to ask Claim demand and recover by any lawful Ways, or means, all Prize Money, I have or Shares of Prize Money, which by any ways or means is or may become due to me, and to take care of such Prizes or Seizures as concern me & to prosecute the same in the Court or Courts of Vice Admiralty, & generally to do Act and Transact in all things respecting the Premises, as fully amply & Effectually to all intents & purposes as I might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying Allowing and Confirming all & whatsoever my said Agent may lawfully do or cause to be done in and about the premisses with full Power to make or Substitute one or more Attorneys under my said Attorney, & the same again at Pleasure to revoke. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 5th day of June 1776. & in the 16 Year of his Majesty's Reign, at Halifax in Nova Scotia aforesaid. –

Sign'd Seal'd & delivered }
in presence of – }
Evan Nepean Geo. Harris

M. Shuldham

[Endorsed] Received and Registered 15th day of January 1777

1. Register of Letters of Agency, 1776–1781, Vice Admiralty Records, N. S. Arch.

JOHN FRAZER AND JAMES TAYLOR TO THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY ¹

To the Honl the Council & the House of Representatives for the Colony of New Hampshire –

The Petition of John Frazer and James Taylor late Master & Cheif Mate of the Ship *Susannah* Humbly Sheweth —

That your Petitioners sail'd from London on the 9 of December last, bound to Boston & the Moskitto shore, that on the 6 of March following the sd Ship was taken, & themselves made Prisoners, by four of the Continental armed vessels under command of Comr Manly & bro't into the Port of Piscataqua,² that after they were discharged from sd Ship, they were by the agent & several other Gent advised to prefer a Petition to his Excely Genl Washington (under whose direction those armed vessels were,) the Prayer of which his Excely was pleased to grant, & gave your Petitioners leave to Purchase a vessel, that they might proceed wherever their Business called them, that after obtaining this leave from his Excy (which he was also pleased to signify to the agent here) your Petitioners in Comp'y with Capt Richard Emms³ did Publickly purchase a Small Sloop fitted her for sea & provided themselves with stores, intending to proceed directly to the Moskitto shore where one of your Petitioners has much of his Interest laying in which proceedings your Petitioners were countenanced & encouraged by many Gent. of this Colony & when they applyed to the Colony Collector were by him advised to proceed, & assured they should meet with no delay on acco of the necessary Papers – That afterward on application for clearance the Collector informed them he had received orders from the President of the Council & Committee of Safety to Prevent their further proceedings – Your Petitioners afterward made application to the Honl the Committee of Safety of this Colony, for leave to proceed on their intended voyage, & were by them informed that nothing further could be done till your Honours were met in Genl Assembly.

Your Petitioners now Pray your Honrs will take their case into Consideration and be pleased to grant them such allowance for their support during the time they have been, & may be detained in this Colony, & as your Petitioners can with sincerity assure your Honours, they have not the most distant desire to injure the Colonies in any way, they Pray your Honours would please to give them leave to depart from this Colony whenever a convenient oportunity offers for them to get to their Respective places of abode. And your Petitioners shall ever Pray –

John Frazer James Taylor

Portsmouth June 5th 1776

1. Isaac W. Hammond, ed., *The State of New Hampshire: Rolls and Documents Relating to Soldiers in the Rev. War* (Manchester, 1889), IV, 51–52.
2. The cargo of the *Susannah* was coal, cheese and porter.
3. Emms had been master of the ship *George* with a cargo of 1,900 barrels of flour. She had blundered into Portsmouth harbor in October, 1775, and had been seized.

ACCOUNT BOOK OF JONATHAN GLOVER ¹

Capt. William Bartlett [Dr.]

[1776]

June 4.	To Watering Schoor Warren Capt [William] Burk[e]		0. 2. 0
		L Q [lb]	
5.	To 10 bbl. flour Dd [Daniel] Waters Neat 21-1-4	}	25. 10. 10¼
	a 24/		
	To Ebenzr Foster 14/ for Hinges		. 14. . 0
	To Barrack rent 3 Months a		6. 13. . 4

1. Glover's Account Book, Colony Ledger, MarbHS.

PETITION OF STEPHEN HALL AND PELEG CROCKER TO THE MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL COURT ¹

[Watertown] Wednesday June 5th 1776.

A Petition of Stephen Hall, and Peleg Crocker – owners of the Sloop *Nancy* – setting forth – That said Sloop was taken sometime last summer by some of the Militia of the Eastern Regiment in the County of Lincoln, & hath been detained there ever since. That at the Time she sailed from Boston, they had no other means of getting her away than by obtaining a pass from the Admiral for to go to the Eastward for Wood, and by such a pass she sailed, tho' they never intended she should return to Boston without the leave of the Committee of Scituate to which place she was order'd at first to go, but the Wind being light and fearing she might be discovered, and taken by the Kings Ships before they could get there, they proceeded down to the Eastward in order to take in a Load, and proceed directly back to Scituate, for the purpose of obtaining leave as aforesaid, but while at the Eastward the said Sloop was stop'd, and there remains without any other reason (that the Pet[ititione]rs knew of) than her having a pass from the Admiral. – And praying that said Sloop may be restored to them &c ²

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 35, 44.

2. *Ibid.*, 44, on June 13 the "Committee of both Houses" reported "That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and the Sloop *Nancy* be released to the Owners on their paying the Charges that have arisen thereon."ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT ¹

[H. of R.] Watertown Wednesday June 5th 1776.

A Memorial of Samuel Barrett, Perez Morton, Benja Kent, Benja Hitchborn, and Henry Bromfield a Committee chosen by, and appearing in Behalf of the Town of Boston Setting forth –

That whereas the Late General Court, did, on application, made by said Town for certain Hulks to be sunk at convenient Places in the Harbor and whereas the Town, apprehensive of some capital Inconveniencies, from such a Measure (whch did in part occur to

them, at the Time of said Application; but from the then defenceless state of the Town they were constrained to Hazard) did, at a Meeting on the 28th May 1776, enter into a further consideration of the subject, and unanimously Voted 'That the Sinking Hulks in the Harbor, would be very inexpedient at this Time &c &c.' And, setting forth the many disadvantages that wou'd accrue to the Town in particular, and the Colony in General in keeping the Channel open &c – And 'humbly requesting, that for these reasons, the honorable Court would so far reconsider their Vote upon this Subject, as to give orders, that the Sinking the said Hulks may be suspended for the present.'

Read and the House assign'd Tuesday next at ten oClock in the forenoon for consideration of the same – And Order'd, That the sinking of Hulks be suspended in the mean time.

On the Memorial of the Town of Boston

Resolved, That the Hulks which have been prepared by Order of the General Court, to be sunk in the Harbour of Boston, be in Every respect fitted for that purpose,^(A) and that the Sinking said Hulks, as aforesaid be suspended untill further Order of this Court, any Order, or Resolve to the Contrary Notwithstanding.^(B)

In Council Read, & concurred with the following Amendments – viz:

At A insert, [“]and anchored as near as may be, with convenience and safety, to the place where it is proposed they should be sunk.[”]

At B insert, [“]Provided nevertheless, that if the Committee for fortifying the Harbor of Boston shall upon any sudden Alarm or appearance of danger, judge it necessary that the said Hulks should be then sunk immediately, before any order of this Court can be taken thereupon, the said Committee be, and hereby are fully empowered to cause the said hulks to be sunk accordingly.[”]

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 35, 17–18.

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN ADAMS ¹

[Extract]

Watertown, June 5th, 1776

A large Sugar Ship from Jamaica with 300 hhds. sugar, 80 puncheons rum, some Madeira wine, etc., etc., is taken and got into the vineyard in her way to Bedford. It is said that four or five others are taken by two Privateers who took this. What Privateers they are I cant learn.²

Must not something be done to prevent British Property being covered by the West Indians? We shall loose our Labour, and discourage our Seamen. Why should not all English property going to Britain be liable to capture? this matter must be considered.³ We should fight them on equal terms. We have a number of Seamen here supported at your expence. If your Generosity and Civilized Sentiments prevent, won't good policy dictate

recourse to the *Lex talionis*?⁴ They are wanted. you will find the want of them when you man your ships.

1. *Warren-Adams Letters*, I, 245, 255.
2. The ship *Reynolds*, one of three sugar ships from Jamaica, taken by the Pennsylvania privateers *Congress* and *Chance*.
3. The resolution of April 3, 1776 confines captures or seizures to "any inhabitants of Great Britain." It was not until July 24, 1776 that Congress closed this loophole by resolving that captures should include any vessel or vessels "belonging to any subject or subjects of the King of Great Britain, except the inhabitants of the Bermudas and [New] Providence or Bahama Islands."
4. The law of retaliation.

COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., NEW LONDON¹

Sir

Providence June 5th 1776 –

Please to Send me by Captn [Dudley] Saltonstall as good an Account of the Guns and Stores left in your hands as you can get, and likewise should be glad you will send me an Account of your Schooners Cargo, which Captn [Nicholas] Biddle retook² as the Officers blame me for delivering her till she was Tryed – should be glad to Satisfy them that they will receive no Injury by that Step –

I congratulate you on being Appointed by the Congress Agent of the Fleet, and all Prizes sent into your Government, which I have Receiv'd an Account of – Expect you will Act as such whether you have Receiv'd the Order or not, and get the three Prizes Libelled and Condemn'd as soon as possible; and as to your Schooner I make no doubt but you will Satisfy the Officers and People without a Tryal –

I now have the Gentlemen here from the Committee of Safety of Philadelphia,³ but I expect they will not be able to get more Cannon here than they did, or I expected they would at New London – What will be the Event of their not Succeeding, I can't at present tell! I am well Convinced the Sending them away, will be of very ill Consequences to the Continent – And their not going will have no other bad Effect but on me, who had better Suffer than the Community – I am with great Respect [&c.]

Esek Hopkins

1. Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Letters and Papers, NLCHS.
2. The schooner *John and Joseph*, retaken April 12, 1776. She had been Nathaniel Shaw's property before her capture by H.M.S. *Scarborough*.
3. Levi Hollingsworth and Thomas Richardson.

COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN DUDLEY SALTONSTALL¹

Sir

[Providence, June 5]

Please to get an Exact Account of the number and weight of the Cannon, Mortars, Shells, Shott & Stores left at New London, and also get an Account of Mr [Walter] Spooner of all the Provisions & Stores deliver'd out of the several Prizes to the Fleet, and the particular Vessels they were deliver'd to, and also an Account of him of the Schooner's Cargo deliver'd to Mr [Nathaniel] Shaw, and also Mr Shaws Account of what they sold for – and an Account also of the ballance of what Powder Mr Shaw now has in his hands

that was landed out of the Fleet – And also take some Care of the Men belonging to the Fleet, and send such here as are Capable of duty – Yours [&c.]
E H

1. Hopkins Letter Book, RIHS.

JOURNAL OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO BUILD TWO CONTINENTAL
FRIGATES IN RHODE ISLAND ¹

[Providence] Wednesday Evening 5th June 1776

Meeting in being according to adjournment –

Voted. That Sixty Pounds LMy be paid Mr Wm Jennison Lieut of Marines ² in Order to Inlist his Complement of Men on his procuring sufficient Suerties. –

1. Journal R. I. Frigates, RIHS.

2. William Jennison's Journal reads: "In April I went to Providence & offered myself to engage in the Service – A board then sitting to appoint Officers for the *Warren F[r]igate – A[s]* I had been in the Cadet Company under Capt Nightingale, they gave me Instructions & Money to recruit Marines for the *Warren Capt [John Burroughs] Hopkins – May & part of June was Employed in recuiting Men for the Service,"* LC.

BARENT VAN ALEN'S RECEIPT FOR SUPPLIES SHIPPED TO MAJOR
GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER ¹

A Return made, New York June 5th 1776 to His Excellency George Washington Esqr General & Commander in Chief of the Forces of the thirteen United Colonies, of Sundry Articles Shipped for Albany, in good Order, by the Asst Quarter Master General, on board the Sloop *Tryon*, Barent Van Alen Master, & to be delivered to the Honourable Major General Schuyler, or his Order.

Barrels of Pitch	20	
5 p[s] of Duck No 2	203½	Yds
8 hhds of Oakum		c
marked G.S.	Wt 10	29
Weight of Junk	17 . . 1 . . 18	
	Barent Van Alen.	

1. Washington Papers, LC. This return evidently superceded one Van Alen receipted for the preceding day, which covered only the oakum and junk.

CAPTAIN THOMAS CREGIER TO THOMAS RANDALL ¹

On board the Schooner *General Putnam*,
Shrewsbury, June 5, 1776.

Worthy Sir: After my due respects to you and all friends, I think it a point of my duty to acquaint you that I sailed from this the next day after the date of my last to you. I stood to the southward a whole day, with little wind, and about four in the afternoon, it blowing very hard to the south-south-west, making a heavy sea, I was obliged to bear away for this inlet, where I have remained, on account of the wind blowing at east-southeast, which occasioned a very high sea on the bar. At eight A.M. we saw a sail to the



SILAS DEAN.

Member of the Congress

Engraved from the Life by Du Simitiere in Philadelphia.

Published May 10th 1783 by W.^m Richardson N^o 74 Street

southeast, standing in for the Hook; at ten A.M. concluded with the Captain of the whale-boats, being twelve in number, to tow me out; the tide being flood, with little wind, we came to the bar, where we found a high surf. The Captain of the whale-boats concluded their boats could not get out over the bar. As the sail we saw was well in with the land, and at the same time the large tender near the ship, which we then judged to be a ship of war, I then thought it proper to come to anchor, and at the same time I went to view the fleet at Sandy-Hook, where we found the ships of war, viz: the *Phoenix*, *Mercury* and *Lively*, with three other small ships, a brig, one schooner, one sloop, and four tenders. By the time I was coming away the above-mentioned ship came to anchor, which I plainly perceived to be a large frigate of thirty-six guns. This intelligence you may depend on. I am resolved to sail from this the first opportunity. I am [&c.]

Thomas Cregier

I. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, VI, 714, 715. Randall was chairman of the New York Marine Committee.

ROBERT MORRIS, FOR THE COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE,
TO SILAS DEANE ¹

[Extract]

Dear Sir,

Philada June 5th, 1776

I had great satisfaction in receiving your favours of 26th April and 3d May, from B[ermuda,] as I think there was little risque in the rest of your voyage & I flatter myself you have arrived safe previous to this date

This goes by Wm Bingham Esqr a young Gentn who has for some time Acted as Secretary to the Committee of Secret Correspondance. he carrys with him triplicates of your Credentials & instructions, the Duplicates went by another Conveyance, and each of these as well as yourself having an exceeding good Chance to arrive safe I think it needless to send you any more. Mr Bingham now goes out to Martinico in order to procure some Arms from the Governor & with another view that I need not mention as he will write to you. You can send advices under Cover to him but you'l remember he is a Young tho' a worthy Young man. The papers he carrys will give you the Public News, the worst part of which is an appearance of great division amongst ourselves especially in this Province, however I believe the King has put an effectual stop to those disse[n]sions by his Answer to an Address of the Ld Mayor & Aldermen [of] the [22d.] of March, as his Majesty has there totally destroyed all hope of Reconciliation. I confess I never lost hopes of Reconciliation untill I saw this Answer which in my opinion breathes nothing but Death and Destruction, every body see[s] it in the same light and it will bring us all to one way of thinking, so that you may soon expect to hear of New Governments in every Colony and in Conclusion a declaration of Independancy by Congress. I see this step is inevitable and you may depend it will soon take place. Great Britain may thank herself for this Event, for whatever might have been the original designs of some men in promoting the present Contest, I am sure that America in general

never set out with any View or desire of establishing an Independant Empire, They have been driven into it step by step with a Reluctance on their part that has been manifested in all their proceedings, & yet I dare say our Enemies will assert that it was planned from the first movements. The dogs of warr are now fairly let loose upon us. we are not dismayed but expect to give a good Account of the Numerous hosts of foes that are coming to Slaughter us especially, your Hessians, Hanoverians, Waldeckers &c Our climates will most probably handle them pretty severely before they get seasoned, and our Troops are pretty well prepared for their Reception but the Fortunes of war being ever uncertain God only knows what may be the Event.

Our affairs in Canada have been badly managed by your Countryman General [David] Wooster but I hope Genl [John] Thomas & your Friend [Benedict] Arnold will invigorate them, however I dont think we have any occasion to hold that Country, if we maintain the passes on the Lakes it is sufficient for our purpose and the Garrison that defend those passes will always be ready to Rush into Canada if the Enemy quit it, so that a good Force well posted for this purpose may keep Mr [John] Burgoyne with his 10 m Men uselessly employed the whole Year, without any expence of ammunition or loss of Men on our side unless they attack exceedingly to their own disadvantage.

. . . We are better supplyd with Powder than formerly our Mills make it fast and some of the Colonies have had great success in making Salt Petre. Arms we are most in Want of, but our Manufactorys of them improve and increase daily in short it appears to me we shall be able to baffle all attempts of our Enemy if we do but preserve Union amongst ourselves. I do not mean the Union of the Colonies, but union in each Colony. The former is safely fixed on a broad & firm basis, the latter has been greatly threatened. The necessity of assuming new Governments has been pretty evident for some time and the Contest is who shall f[or]m them & who upon such a change shall come in for the Power the divisions woud probably have been very high particularly in this Province, had not His Majesty determined so peremptorily that there can be no Reconciliation but through the door of abject Submission. This seems to bend all Men's minds one way and I have no doubt but Harmony will be restored & our united Efforts excited to defend our Country & its freedom in which God Grant Success to an injured & oppressed People

One of our Cruizers has lately taken a valuable Prize & carried her safe into Boston with 1500 bbls Powder, 1000 stand of Arms & a Variety of other articles on board,² & the two New York Pilot Boats that were fitted out as Privateers from hence³ have taken three large ships bound from Jam[ai]ca to London with 1082 hhds Sugar 260 Puncheons Rum 300 Casks Piemento, 22000 hard dollars, 70 pipes Mad[ai]r Wine & a Number of other Valuable Articles. I fancy many more West India Men will be taken this Summer & probably Great Britain may have Cause to Repent of the prohibitory acts, especially as they have much more property to loose than we have.

Our Money holds its Credit but we must not Issue too much of it. Therefore when we find the circulation begins to Clog we must borrow it in & Fund it, pray what think you of Negotiating with Holland for a loan of Specie & how shall we offer them Security for at present I doubt if any Power in Europe will Trust us but probably after the Next campagne they may think better of our Credit. Commodore Hopkins has [illegible] short of Expectation and his fleet which might have performed most signal service under an active vigilant Man, have been most useless he remains with the *Alfred* at Rhode Island & the rest are gone & going on separate Cruizes after Transports &c

Our Frigates are nearly ready but their Guns are not yet finished we shall be carefull who are trusted to Command them and from these we may expect good Services this Navy must be increased & you must Continue to make it known that Noble encouragement is given to Seamen of all Nations that will enter into the American Service. . . .

1. Silas Deane Papers, ConnHS.
2. The powder brig *Hope*, taken by Washington's schooner *Franklin*.
3. The Pennsylvania privateers *Congress* and *Chance*.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO JOHN LANGDON ¹

Dear Sir,

Philadelphia, June 5, 1776

This goes by express early tomorrow morning – it is determined in [Marine] Committee this evening to urge the appointment of the Captain for your ship tomorrow; there is no doubt but what [Thomas] Thompson will be the man; if you and he will talk with such persons as you think proper for Lieuts and marine officers and let me know who will accept, I will have them commissioned. It's idle to have the Commissions filled up before we know whether they will be accepted or not; you may engage the master and all warrant and petty officers that you think necessary as soon as you please. I know of no objection to the men being shipped only the uncertainty when the guns will be ready. Just received advice that two small privateers belonging to this place have taken three Jamaica men with very valuable cargoes 24000 dollars in specie; the money is arrived at Egg Harbour but the ships are sent to the Eastward. I fear they will fall into the hands of the enemy – now is the time to pick up homeward bound West India men. It's now 12 o'clock; high bed time. Good night.

W Whipple

1. William Whipple Papers, Force Transcripts, LC.

CAPTAIN THOMAS READ TO THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

Gentlemen:

Philad, June 5, 1776.

As the Marine Committee have recommended me to Congress for the Command of one of the Continental Frigates building in this port, I must beg the favour of your Board to Accept my Resignation of the Commission you were pleased to honour me with for the Ship *Montgomery*, belonging to this Province; this Request proceeds from a wish to be in a situation to take

a more active part in the present Dispute between America & Great Britain, and I hope it will be so Considered by the Honourable Board to whom I am under great obligations for their appointment and treatment to me since in their Service, and in granting my Request they will do a further favour to their most obedient, Humble Servant,

Thos. Read.

Directed, To the Committee of Safety, Philadelphia.

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, IV, 769.

“COPY OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, DATED JUNE 5.”¹

This day arrived capt. [Edward] Bingly, from Coracoa, at which place they are in great want of provisions. She has brought dry goods.

The privateers *Congress*, Capt. M'Elroy,² and *Chance*, Capt. Allen,³ who were fitted out here a few weeks ago, are arrived at Egg harbour. They have taken three ships from Jamaica bound to England. They were ordered for New England, being afraid to venture our capes. The ships are the *Lady Juliana*, *Juno*, and *Reynold[s]*, having on board as underneath: The cash the privateers took on board, and it was all safe landed here this morning; ten of the hands immediately entered on board the privateers.

22,420 dollars, 187 lb. of plate, 1052 hogsheads of sugar, 246 bags of pimenta, 396 bags of ginger, 568 hides, 25 tons of Cocoa, 41 ditto of fustic, and 1 cask of turtle shell.

The [*Lady*] *Juliana* had two turtles on board for Lord North, one of which is dead, the other is coming up to town.

1. Dixon and Hunter's *Virginia Gazette*, June 22, 1776.

2. Captain George McArroy, of the *Congress*.

3. Captain John Adams, of the *Chance*.

MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY¹

[Williamsburg] Wednesday, June 5th, 1776.

A warrant to Jno. Robinson for £2.16.6 for waggonage to sailors of the Potomack Department.

Ord[ered]. that Gen. [Andrew] Lewis be requested to give directions to deliver to the orders of Mr. John Calvert two eighteen-pounders out of those at James Town for use of his Galley.²

Same [a warrant] to Argyle Herbert for use Capt. Calvert for £100 upon acc't to pay the Carpenters employed on his Galley.

A letter was written to Col. [Fielding] Lewis, of Gloster, in answer to his of the 3rd Instant, desiring him to forward 4000 lbs. powder, all the Balls, and half the sheet lead to W'msburg, agreeing to take all the Goods of private persons at common selling price; continent powder to remain under Guard 'til Congress give directions; vessel to be retained for public use and employed as a Tender or on a voyage similar to her late one.

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 187, 188.

2. The galley *Norfolk Revenge*.

CONTEMPT OF COURT CITATION AGAINST CAPTAIN FRANCIS PARRY, R.N.,
IN THE CASE OF THE SHIP *America* ¹

[Cape Fear]

And I the said Surrogate do hereby further Certify that although the said Francis Parry hath been acquainted with and well knows the Contents of the said Decree and hath been required to give Such Security as the Law requires in such Cases yet the said Francis Parry hath not given or offered Security to the Satisfaction of the Court or paid any regard to the Sentence or Decree of this Court on the Contrary the said Francis Parry in defiance of the Authority of this Court did forceably take Possession of the said Ship *America* and turned the Marshall of this Court out of her and hath since and still doth keep such unlawful Possession and did Unlawfully Imprison the said Robert Cunningham for several Days refusing to Admit any of his (the said Robert Cunninghams[]) most intimate Friends to Visit him –

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the said Court of Vice Admiralty this fifth day of June One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy Six and in the Seventeenth Year of his Majesty's Reign –

James Elletson Bowen

[Endorsed] I James Sutherland Notary Publick dwelling in London duly admitted and sworn Do hereby Certify and Attest that the foregoing writing is and doth contain a true Copy of certain Authentic Proceedings, appearing to have been held in the Court of Vice Admiralty in the Province of North Carolina, before James Elletson Bowen Esquire Surrogate of the same Court, the said Copy having been by me carefully compared and examined with its original this day produced to me (fair and unobliterated) by Mr James Gammell of Greenock in North Britain Merchant, now in London; – Witness my hand and Notarial Seal this Sixth day of June one thousand seven hundred and Seventy Seven.

i Ja^s Sutherland Not: Pub: ²

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/3680, LC Photocopy.

2. See Volume 4, 622, 1384–85, 1398–99.

COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER TO MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON ¹

Bristol off[f] Charles-Town Bar

5th June 1776

Sir

When I had the Honor of Waiting on You Yesterday, I wanted to come to a Determination relative to the Landing on the North-End of Long-Island, and for that Purpose brought to in a proper Station for such Transports to come to an Anchor as might be judged proper, and 'tho You did seem to have an inclination to Land There, I was far from thinking it a determined Point; as You expressed a Wish that the Fleet shou'd get over Charles-Town-Bar, and then come to a Resolution.

I am now fully informed; and shou'd the Wind prove favourable to Morrow Morning, the Frigates will go over the Bar, and make such Attacks, as may be necessary to Possess Themselves of the Harbour, as far to the

Northward as Cumins's Point, which must be done to clear the Way for the Transports.

The *St Lawrence* is now endeavouring to Beat to Windward, She shall have Orders to join the *Ranger*, and I think with You, that the South End of Long-Island, as near in as possible will be a proper Place for the *Friendship* Armed-Ship – I have the Honor to be Sir [&c.]

P:Parker

P:S: I submit it to You whether You may not think it proper to send an Engineer in One of the Frigates to make Observations. The *Solebay* will be nearest Sulivans Island –

We have but Three Pilots that I can find as Yet, Who will undertake to carry the Frigates over the Bar and They differ so much from Themselves at Times that much Dependance cannot be placed on Them, nor can I get information, how many Ships can Anchor within the Bar, or whether shou'd there be Batteries, the Ships can get near enough to Them. I have laid down Buoys to shew the Channel and Hope when the Frigates can get Over, that we shall receive such Intelligence, that You may safely ground Your future Operations on –

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON TO COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER ¹

On board the *Sovereign*
off Charles Town Bar

Commodore Sir Peter Parker

the 5th June 1776.

When You did me the Honor to call on board the *Sovereign* Yesterday You will be pleased to recollect That I then proposed to You that the *Ranger* & *St Lawrance* Schooner might be sent over the Bar of Spencer's Inlet for the purpose you now mention, and as it is my intention (which I likewise communicated to you Yesterday) to take possession of the North End of Long Island, I could rather wish that those seven Transports of small draft might proceed there if they can be anchored in safety – But my ignorance in Sea matters renders it particularly necessary in this, as it has done upon every former occasion, to submit all proposals which relate to the Movement of the Fleet to Your Consideration.

I have much to lament that my exceeding bad state of health at Sea would make it very inconvenient for me at this time to remove on board the *Bristol*, which Obliges me to decline the Honor of Your polite invitation, and until the Harbour is sounded, and the Transports anchored in safety within it, I do not apprehend that any Plan of Consequence can be adopted, but in the mean time I will give directions that the *Sovereign* may be Anchored as near as the *Bristol* as possible.

The *Delegate* is ready to receive Your Commands relative to the Sounding the Bar – but instead of the Soldiers which are now on board of her (whom I request may be sent on board the *Sovereign*) I could wish that

some Seamen may be sent on board to Navigate her. I have the Honor to be &c.

H: Clinton.

P S. I submit to You, Sir Whether it may not be adviseable to send the *Friendship* or such other Armed Vessel of small draft to lay as near the Southward of Long Island as possible to answer the double purpose of annoying the Rebel Vessels laying in the Creek between Sullivan's & Long Island, & covering the landing of the Troops on the South End of Long Island, if that should be thought Necessary.

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, Miscellaneous Letter Books, CL.

COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER TO MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON ¹

Bristol of[f] Charles-Town Bar 5th June 1776

Sir

I received a Note Yesterday from Mr Knowles acquainting me, that He was in the *Ranger* Sloop of[f] Spence's Inlet and wou'd undertake to carry any Vessel in There not exceeding Eleven Feet Draft. We have Seven Transports that Draw Eleven Feet or Under, and if You have any thoughts of Landing There, which I understand by Captain Moncrief is your intention, the *Ranger* and *St Lawrence* Schooner may go over the Bar and prevent any Works from being Raised to oppose You. I am sorry You wou'd not do me the Honor to make the *Bristol* your Head-Quarters; Plans might then have been formed and carried into Execution with more ease than They can be at Present, and if You will now do me that Honor I will accommodate You in the best manner I am able.

It will be necessary to Sound and Examine this Bar, least the Rebels shou'd have Sunk Vessels to obstruct the Channel, I shall be therefore obliged to You, if You will let the *Delegate* go on this Service. I have the Honor to be Sir [&c.]

P: Parker

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

6 June

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER ¹

[Extract]

Montreal June 6th. 1776

... Our Enemies are daily encreasing & our Friend[s] deserting us; Under these Discouragements & Obstacles with a Powerful Army against Us, well disciplined & Wanting in no one Article to carry on their Operati[ons] it will be a Miracle If we keep the Country; My only Expectation is to secure our Retreat to St Johns or the Isle aux Noix, Where It will doubtless be thoug[ht] Necessary to make a stand, For which Purpose all the Batteaus & Vessels on Your side the Lake that can be spared should be sent Over, Our Gondolas we shall be Obligated to destroy, Others ought

immediately to be taken in Hand to secure the Lake The Enemy I am well informed have brought [over] a Number with them, Framed and done to put up in a short Time; The Want of a little Attention in Time has lost Us this fine Country, I hope for better things on Your side, & that in the Rotation of Fortune, something better will turn up for Us here . . .

1. Washington Papers, LC.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN SULLIVAN TO GEORGE WASHINGTON¹

[Extract]

[Sorel] June 6th 1776.

This Morning two Expresses arrived from three Rivers which were sent to observe the Motions of the Enemy – One of them was a friendly Canadian, who lived at three Rivers & passed among the Fleet – the other, one of our own Officers – They agree that the Number of Vessels are as follows, viz, one Ship & one Brig, & eight Sloops & eight Schooners. They both say that the Troops there amount to no more than three Hundred who are entrenching themselves at three Rivers – I have detached Genl [William] Thompson with about two Thousand of our best Troops to attack them. . . . it was my fixed Determination to gain Post at Dechambeau, which I mean to fortify so as to make it inaccessible. This commands the Channel, secures the Country, destroys the Communication, and affords a safe Retreat if we are obliged to make one . . . The Ships are now above that Place. But if Genl Thompson succeeds at three Rivers, I will soon remove the Ships below Richlieu Falls, and after that, approach towards Quebec as fast as possible: and according to the present appearance of Affairs, may exceed in Number the Hanoverians & c which we are threatned with. . . .

1. John Hancock Papers, LC. Continuation of a letter begun June 5.

MAJOR FRANCIS HUTCHESON TO MAJOR GENERAL FREDERICK HALDIMAND¹

[Extract]

Dear Sir

Halifax June 6, 1776

I wrote you a few days ago a long letter by Captain Fash who went to London in the Ship *Adimant*, I have now the pleasure to acquaint you that the fleet and Army sail this day, our destination is a secret, but its Generally thought to be New York. . . .

The *Niger* frigate on her Passage down the River from Quebec, spoke the fleet within two days of that place, and brought letters from General Borgoyne to General [William] Howe, they must have got there 24th or 25 of May – We have no news from the Southward since my last . . .

I hope to have the pleasure of acquainting you in my next, of our having made a Glorious landing on some part of this Continent, which I fear will not be Effected untill the arrival of Lord [Richard] Howe with the fleet & troops from Europe. which you may depend will make a great Change in the Affairs on this Continent. . . .

1. Haldimand Papers, BM.

DEER ISLAND COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION TO THE MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL COURT ¹

[Deer Island, June 6]

To the Honorable The Council and House of Representatives of the Colony of the Massachusetts at Watertown assembled or Boston the Memorial of the Committee of Inspection for Deer Island in the County of Lincoln humbly sheweth – that whereas as your Memorandum did in the Month of August last Teake in Custody the Sloop *Saley* and the Schooner *Nightingill* the Property of Nathan Jones and Jonathan Rich for being Implored as we apprehended contrary to the Resolves of Congress – and Whereas your Memorandum did in the Month of September Meake Application to This honorable Court for their orders on Said Vessels and Whereas the Seame Was obtained at a Very Excordenary Expence by a Resolve of the honorable house Detaining Said Vessels under the Care of Said Committee until the farther order of this honorable Court and Whereas your Memorandum apprehend that They Can do Nothing more or less With Regard to Said Vessels as also about 90 Quantals of fish wch was the Cargo of the Schooner *Nightingill* and Meade on this Island and as your Memorandum are in Formd there is no Record Meade of Said Resolve having ben Serch for by the Said Jones last Winter with intent to Teake advantage thereby – and Whereas your Memorialists Detained Said Vessels from no other Motive but to Prevent Fread of that Neature which we apprehend Was Consideribly affected thereby in this part of the Colony and as Corst as Was before Mentioned has been Great as also heaving the Concorance of this honorable Court in the Detention of Said Vessels on the Evidance Meade to apeare against them

We your Memorandums humbly Pray your honors Speedy orders on the Said Primeses & your Memorandums as in Duty bound will Every Pray &c

Theophilus Eaton
Elijah Donham
Josia Crockett

[Endorsed] In the House of Representatives June [blank] 1776 Resolved that where as the Committee of Safty and Correspondence of Dear Island did on or About the 30th Day of August Last take Into Custody the Schooner *Nightengale* Supposed the Property of Jonahan Rich that the sd Committee be and they hereby are Directed to Detain and take proper Care of Said Schooner *Nightengale* until the further order of this Court ²

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 181, 82.

2. See also coverage in earlier volumes in this series.

MASTER'S LOG OF H.M.S. *Milford* ¹

June 1776 Cape Ann WSW 4 Leagues Obs 42.50
Thursday 6 wore Ship amd stood to the Westwd
Do Wr at 1 PM Brought too Mn Topsail to the Mast at 2
saw a Strange sail in the S W in chace of us, at 3 the
Chace haul'd in for the Land, made sail & gave Chace 1/2

past fir'd 4 Shot at the Chace at 4 fired 4 Shot more at her, at 5 came alongside the Chace who fir'd several Shot at us on which we came to Action ½ past 5 the Chace wore and bore away, we then wore and came alongside of her again within Pistol Shot, we then continually firing our Great Guns and Musquets for about a Glass longer when she Struck, she proved to be an American armed Brig called the *Yankey Hero* of 17 Carriage Guns and 12 Swivels & 52 Men, sent the 1st Lieut to take possession of her, Recd onbd the Prisoners there was kill'd of the Enemy 4 and 12 Wounded we had one Marine Shot in the Arm, made Sail and stood to the So ward at 9 made Sail for Nantasket Road in Company the Prize,

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1865.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN JOHN WIGGLESWORTH¹

Sir

In Council June 6, 1776

You being appointed Master of the Sloop *Swift* fitted out by this Colony for the gaining Intelligence Respecting the British Fleets and Armys – You are therefore, as soon as your Vessell is Ready, to Sail for some part of the Coast of Nova Scotia, or you may Cruise on the Seas between Cape Ann & Nova Scotia – and Use your utmost Endeavours for the gaining Intelligence as aforesaid, and when you shall gain Certain Accounts of the Embarkations of the Troops at Hallifax, or the movement of any Considerable fleet of the Enemy, and the Couse they have for some time Steared, you are then with all possible dispatch, to give Information to the Council of this Colony and the Committee of Safety of the Town where you may Arrive – that Such measures may be taken, as the defence and Security of this Colony may Require; and you are to use all necessary Precaution to prevent your Vessell from falling into the Hands of the Enemy, whereby the good design of Fixing out your Vessell may be Frustrated. As you have received a Commission, by Force of Arms to Attack, Subdue and take all Ships and Other Vessells belonging to the Inhabitants of Great Britain on the High Seas under Certain Restrictions, you must Punctually follow the Instructions herewith delivered you for your Conduct respecting this Matter²

Moses Gill	Rich ^d Derby Jun ^r	B White
Caleb Cushing	John Whitcomb	Jabez Fisher
D Hopkins	T Cushing	Benj Austin
J Bowdoin	B: Lincoln	Henry Gardner
J Winthrop	S Holton	Dan Davis

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 164, 377.

2. These instructions were passed by the Continental Congress on April 3, 1776, but had been altered to read "Council June 6th 1776, Instructions to Capt. John Wigglesworth Commander of the Sloop *Swift* Fixed out by the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay." Throughout the text "Council" had been substituted for "Congress." Subsequently these same instructions were recalled, and after July 4, 1776, "States" was substituted for "Colonies," *ibid.*, 119.

SHIPPING ARTICLES OF THE CREW OF THE MASSACHUSETTS ARMED
SLOOP *Swift*¹

We the Subscribers do hereby acknowledge that we have voluntarily Entered into the Service of the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay on board the Armd: Sloop *Swift* John Wigglesworth Commander to Serve in the Respective Stations, & for the Sums P Month affixed to our respective names for & during the Term of six Months if so Long required and to furnish ourselves with a Good Gun & during said Term to Obey such Orders as may be Given by the Master or Other Officer on board said Vessel – As Witness our hands at the time of Entry against our Names respectively Set

Also It is agreed & to be understood that if any Prizes are made by the said Sloop Two thirds of the Same shall belong to the Colony & one third to the Crew of the Said Sloop

Names	Time of Entry	Station	Wages P Month	Wages Advanced	Witness
John Wigglesworth	May 15, 1776	Captain	£5..0..0	5: 0: 0	J Warren
Elkanah Bartlett	May 15, 1776	Mate & Pilot	3.12..-	3:12..-	J Warren
Geo. Atwood	May 27, 1776	Mariner	2..8..-	2..8..-	J Warren
his Jeremiah Co[r]nel mark	May 20, 1776	Mariner	2: 8: -	2: 8: -	J Warren Dischd Sept. [illegible]
John Holmes	May 27, 1776	Mariner	2: 8: 0	2: 8: 0	J Warren
Thos Finney	May 27, 1776	Mariner	2: 8: 0	2: 8: 0	J Warren
Elnat Holmes	May 27, 1776	Mariner	2..8..0	2: 8: 0	J Warren
John Howard	May 27, 1776	Mariner	2..8..0	2..8..0	J Warren
Thomas Ward	May 27, 1776	Mariner	2..8..0	2..8..0	J Warren
Saml Jackson for Thos meCan	} May 27, 1776	Mariner	1:16..0	1.16..0	J.Wigglesworth Dischd Sep [illegible]

1. Derby Papers, Shipping Miscellany, EI. The Massachusetts Council had authorized James Warren to outfit the *Swift* at Plymouth as an advice boat.

MAJOR GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD TO GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

Sir

Boston 6 June 1776

Inclosed is the Invoice of the Ordnance Stores which I have forwarded to Norwich to the Care of Capt [Benjamin] Huntington to be forwarded from thence by him to New York, agreeable to general Putnam's request in his letter to me of the twenty fourth of May. All those Articles were taken in the Ship *Hope* lately brought into this Harbor by Captain [James] Mufford. I am Your Excellency's [&c.]

Artemas Ward

[Enclosure]

Boston 3 June 1776

Invoice of Ordnance Stores forwarded to Capt Huntington at Norwich for the Army at New York

viz.

Powder	500 Barrels	
Carbines compleat,	500	
Sand Bags, Bushel	} 5000	
half Bushel		} 5000
Muskett Ball - -	2 Tuns	
Carpenters Tools -	3 Chests	
One Case handsaws containing	42	
One Do hand hammers containing	50	
Ten Casks bills hooks		
Two Do felling axes		
Thirteen Do hatchets		
Two Do broad axes		
Six Do 24d Nails		
One Do 5 Inch Spikes		
Three Do 6 Inch Do		
One Do 7 Inch Do		
Two Do 8½ Inch Do		
Iron shod shovels	341	
Iron Do - -	159	
Spades	1000	
Mantelets	100	

1. Washington Papers, LC.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR DESERTERS FROM WASHINGTON'S SCHOONER *Warren* ¹

[Boston, June 6]

Deserted from Capt. William Burke, commander of the Continental armed schooner *Warren*, the following men, viz. Henry Goard, a Dutchman, about 40 years old, 5 feet 6 inches, light complexioned, and talks broken English. Archibald McAllister, 5 feet 4 inches, light complexion, and about 25 years old. John Chambers, of Marblehead, about 45 years

old, 5 feet 7 inches, round favoured, and pitted with the smallpox. Whoever will take up said deserters, or any of them, and send them to Marblehead, to Colonel Jonathan Glover, Agent, shall receive Three Dollars reward for each, and all necessary charges paid.

Ran away from the Continental armed schooner *Warren*, William Burke, commander, two men, viz. John Lane, a native of Great Britain, about 26 years old, five feet high, had a cast in his eyes, and is of a dark complexion. – Archibald M'Allister, a native of Ireland, about 24 years old, five feet two inches high,² and of a light complexion. – Whoever will take up said men, or either of them, shall receive three dollars reward, and all necessary charges paid by me.

William Burke.

1. *New-England Chronicle*, June 6, 1776.

2. Archibald McAllister seems to have shrunk two inches between the first and the second advertisement.

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE OF THE BRITISH PRIZE BRIGANTINE
*Henry and Esther*¹

[Boston, June 6]

To be sold, on the 20th of June, instant, at Mr. James Prentice's Tavern in Gloucester, the prize brigantine *Henry and Esther*,² with all her appurtenances, some second-hand rigging, two cables, and a few casks of porter belonging to the prize ship –, with sundry other articles.

1. *New-England Chronicle*, June 6, 1776.

2. Taken January 29, 1776, by Captains Samuel Tucker and Daniel Waters in Washington's schooners *Franklin* and *Lee*.

PETITION OF BENJAMIN SMITH TO THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT¹

Colony Massachusetts Bay June 6th 1776	}	To the Honourable the Council & House of Representatives in General Court assembled
---	---	--

Benjamin Smith of Edgartown in the County of Dukes County humbly sheweth, that the last Genl Assembly in their Session in Novr last past, passed an Act Entitled, an Act for encourageing the fixing out of Armed Vessels to defend the Sea Coast of America, and for Erecting a Court to Try and Condemn all Vessels that shall be found infesting the same, wherein amongst other things it was Enacted that all Vessels which should be found infesting the Sea Coast of any part of America, or which should be improved &c & taken & Brought into this Colony should be Condemned with their Cargoes & Appurtenances, after Condemnation & deducting the Charges incident thereto the Remainder for the use & Benefit of such Captors & others concerned therein, and that from the Encouragement therein given to Captors of Vessels belonging to the Enemy, he with divers other persons belonging to a Sea Coast Company stationed on the Island of Martha's Vineyard with some of the Militia & Train Band of the same place on the Seventh day of March last past on board of a Small Sloop Called the *Liberty* procured by the said Benjamin for the Purpose, did pursue, engage, and at the Hazard of their Lives Board, & take, & bring into the Harbour of Edgartown a Certain

Ship Called the *Harriet* of about two hundred & fifty Tons Burthen, Com-
 manded by Wymes Orrok, Laden with Coal, Porter, Potatoes, & Live Hogs,
 for the use of the Fleet and Army employed against the United Colonies, &
 thereupon your Petitioner Libel'd sd Ship & Cargo &c in the Court of Admi-
 ralty erected to Try the same, for the Counties of Plimouth, Bristol, &c, but
 before Condemnation of sd Ship & Cargo, a Resolve was Past by the said
 General Court at their last Session bearing date the Twenty third day of
 April last wherein amongst other things, it was Resolved that the Sea Coast
 Men Stationed in any Part of this Colony shall be Intitled to one third part
 of the Neat proceeds after Charges of Condemnation & other Expences are
 paid of all Vessels & Cargoes that have been or shall here after be taken by
 them & legally Condemned to be divided amongst them in proportion to the
 pay of the Officers & Soldiers employed in such part or Place, & the Remain-
 der shall be to the use of the Colony. Your Petitioner would Humbly sug-
 gest that Laws made for the Purpose of remedying mischiefs, and inflicting
 punishments for Crimes that already have taken place, & in such Cases as no
 Law was provided to restrain & prevent have ever been Complained of, &
 which nothing but the greater necessity can Warrant, your Petitioner hum-
 bly conceives that the first Law gave to the Captors the Property of Vessel,
 Cargo & Appurtenances, & that the faith of Government was plighted to Se-
 cure it to them. your Petitioner made a Capture of sd Ship on the Seventh
 of March aforesd, & afterwards on the Twenty third day of April next fol-
 lowing the aforesd Resolve was passed, whereby two third parts was taken to
 the Colony, your Petitioner humbly conceives that should the Colony be dis-
 posed to take any part by Virtue of sd Resolve that the part pointed out in
 sd Resolve is too much by far, as the Colony as Cases may happen (as even
 [afsd] your Petitioner) was not at any Expence for Vessel Cannon &c in
 making sd Capture, the sd Benjn humbly represents that so far as the Re-
 solve affects the division of the sd Capture made Previous thereto, is in his
 Apprehension unjust, & therefore prays that it may be repealed & annuled,
 or otherwise as you in your Wisdom shall think meet & your Petitioner in
 duty Bound shall ever pray

Benjamin Smith

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 181, 78, 79.

NICHOLAS BROWN & CO. TO PLOMBARD AND LEGRIS & CO. ¹

Providence Colony

Rhode Island June 6, 1776

Gentlemen

We Expect Their will be Shipped to your Address a quantity of Gun Pow-
 der, By Messrs Legres Le June & Co Negots a Nante is being the Remains of
 an Adventure in the *Amiable Maria* Perre Douvill late Master. we are in-
 formed That the Effects weir Order'd to be deliverd Messrs Tardieu & Pen-
 net, by Capt Douvill, if They are not already put into their Hands we
 desire they may not be delivere[d] them but shipped by the Barer Capt
 Lewis Thomas on Board the Sloop [blank] to the Address of Messrs.
 Nicholas Brown & Co Merchant, Providence Colony Rhode Island Capt

DouVill was taken by a little Cruiser, Of Four swivell Guns within one Third of a League of the Land where he might have run his Vessell On Shoar and saved all his Valuable Cargo, with the greatest ease, if the goods should not be come into your possession before Capt Thomas leaves the Cap[e] you will please to retain Them in your Hands till further Order. We are Gentmen [&c.]

Nich^s Brown & C^o

[Endorsed] Copy of a Letter to Messrs Plombard et Legris & Co at the Cape by Capt Thomas – June 1776: Abot Deuviel Affair

1. Nicholas Brown Papers, JCBL.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

Hartford, 6 June, 1776.

Capt. [John] McCleave and [Jehiel] Tinker of the row-galleys *Whiting* and *Crane*, were present &c. to consult about manning them &c.

Voted, That the said three gallies be furnished and manned, with fifty men each, including officers.

Voted, That there be one captain, two lieutenants, one master, one gunner and mate, one steward, two serjeants of marines, two corporals of do., one boatswain, one drummer, one fifer, one cook, one carpenter's mate, one surgeon, or mate £ 4.

1. Hoadly, ed., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 408.

New York Packet, THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1776

New York, June 6.

By a gentleman who arrived here yesterday morning by a flag, from Sandy-Hook, we are informed, that the ships of war now lying there are, the *Phoenix*, the *Mercury*, and the *Lively*; also three transports, and the *Dutchess of Gordon*. The *Asia* continues at her station, about three miles below the Narrows. By the signals yesterday afternoon, there are from five to ten more arrived at the Hook.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Thursday, June 6, 1776

The Marine Committee having recommended sundry gentlemen for captains and subaltern officers for the ships building or built for the continent, the same was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That Thomas Thompson be appointed captain of the frigate built in New Hampshire:

John Hopkins, and Samuel Tomkins, for those building in Rhode Island:

Christopher Miller, for one of those built in New York:

Nicholas Biddle, John Barry, Thomas Read, Charles Alexander, for the four ships building in Philadelphia:

James Nicholson for that building in Maryland.

That the names of the thirteen ships be, the *Congress*, *Randolph*, *Hancock*, *Washington*, *Trumbull*, *Raleigh*, *Effingham*, *Montgomery*, *Warren*, *Boston*, *Virginia*, *Providence*, and *Delaware*.

Resolved, That Israel Turner be first lieutenant; Joseph Doble, second lieutenant; Mark Dennet, third lieutenant, of Captain Manly's ship.

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be empowered to affix the names to each particular ship, and determine the vessel which each captain is to take command of:

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be empowered and directed to consider the propriety of building two more ships of war, and their size, and report to Congress.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be instructed forthwith to fit out two fast sailing vessels and load them with provisions to be sent immediately to supply the inhabitants of the islands of Bermudas, and that the committee of Secret Correspondence be directed to take such measures as they may think proper by those vessels, to discover the state of those islands and the disposition of their inhabitants; and that the Marine Committee be instructed to take such measures as they may think proper for purchasing, manning, arming and fitting at the said islands two sloops of war for the service of the United Colonies.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 420 422-23.

ROBERT MORRIS TO SILAS DEANE ¹

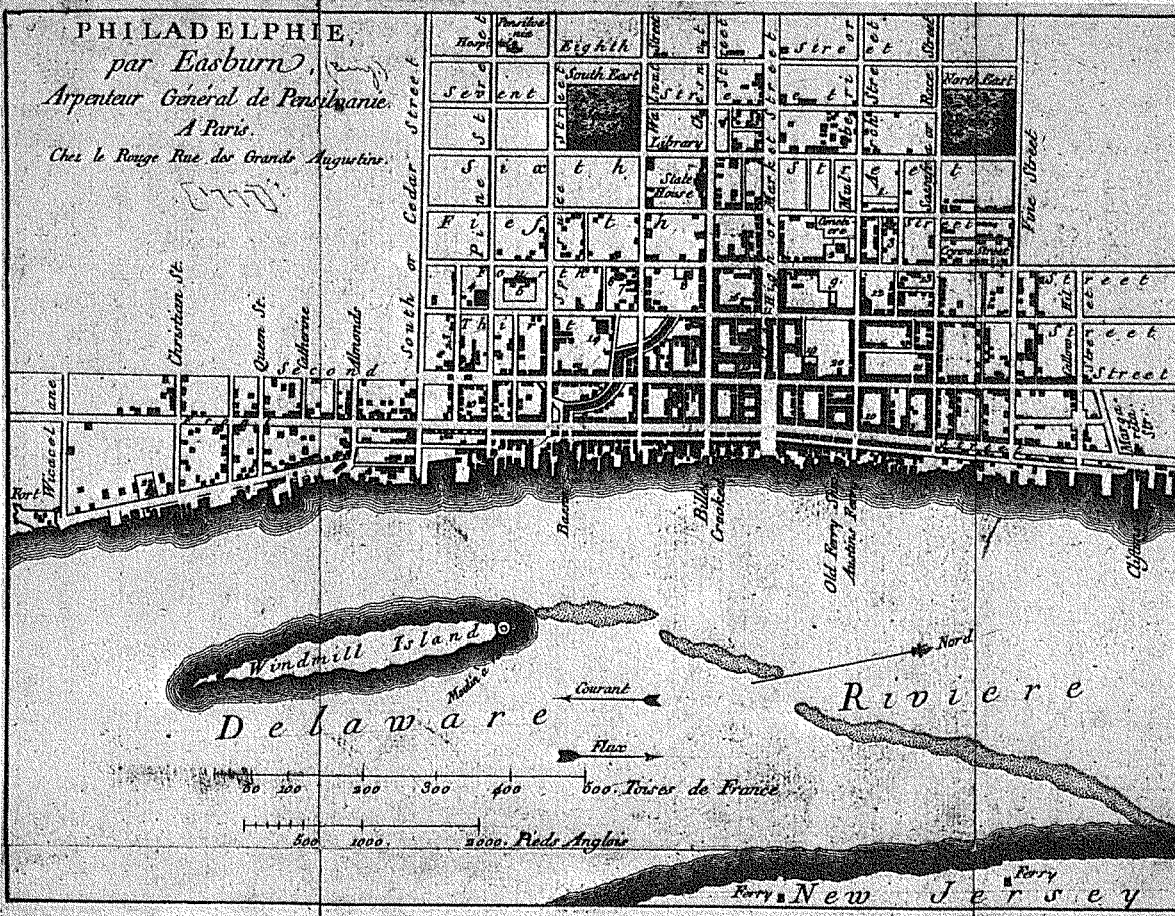
Dear Sir

Philada June 6th 1776

I have already wrote you a Political letter & intend this as Commercial: Since you left us the Men of Warr have given us an oppertunity of trying the use of our Galleys or Gondola's, the *Roebuck* of 44 Guns & *Liverpool* of 28 Guns came up the River opposite to Wilmington Creek for fresh Water, our little fleet checked them there but not knowing their own strength or not having sufficient Confidence in it, they kept at too great a distance the first day, but the second they begun to know themselves a little better and attacked them again very smartly they drove the *Roebuck* on sho[re] & with good management might have taken her, however they greatly damaged that Ship & obliged both her & the *Liverpool* to push back again to the Capes & from thence to Sea, leaving behind them a Transport Brigt which our People took from them, all this you'l think, has little to do with Commerce but thats a mistake, for in Consequence of this Action all the Fleet of Merchantmen have got safe out to Sea, several Vessells have got safe in and we have some trade Received & Consequently a better prospect of making remittances to you than at the time you Sailed. Our Cruisers are also got out and I expect will be very serviceable. we continue increasing their Numbers & shall Constantly go on making additions to our Navy but we Want our Seamen home again. The Congress has Voted a Bounty of Eight Dollars to be paid to the Owners of every Vessell, for each Seaman they bring in over & above the proper Number that Navigates the Vessell which you'l make known all over Europe if you can & Seamens Wages in the Merchant

PHILADELPHIE,
par Easburn,
Arpenteur Général de Pensylvanie.
A Paris.
Chez le Rouge Rue des Grands Augustins.

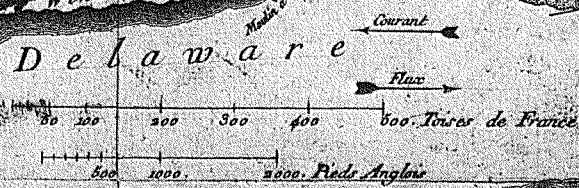
1777



Remons

1. *Université des Presbyteriens.*
2. *Académie Collège.*
3. *Luthériens Allemands.*
4. *S^t Pierre.*
5. *Hôtel Dieu.*
6. *Catholiques.*
7. *Hôpital.....*
8. *Écoles.....*
9. *Cimetière.....*
10. 10. *Templas.....*
11. *École.*
12. *Presbyteriens.*
13. *Coloniens Allemands.*
14. *S^t Paul.*
15. *Premiers Presbyteriens.*
16. *Maison de Force.*
17. *Palais et Marche.*
18. *Congrès.*
19. *Christ.*
20. *Anabaptistes.*
21. *Moraves.*
22. *Eglise Suedoise.*
23. *Lombard Street.*

des Quakers.



Ferry New Jersey

Service here is now at 16 Dolers p Month. The *Polly* Capt M'Fadden [William McFadden] has been long detained & the Rascall of a Capt left her and persuaded the Seamen to do the same. She is now Commanded by Capt Philip Lacey and I hope is got out to Sea before this date,

the Contractors for Ind[ia]n Goods will Continue making Remittances in the best manner they can and I will by a future Conveyance furnish you a full state of what has been done but at present I really have not time. The Scarcity of Goods all over this Continent affords a fine opportunity to private Adventurers, but the difficulty at present is how to Contrive Remittances, during the Summer. You know it is far more difficult than it will be during Winter, I therefore propose that you shou'd engage Messrs [Samuel and J.H.] Delap or some other good House of Reputation & Capital, to ship any quantity of Woolens & Linens, Pins, Needl[es] &c. [as] are suited for the Consumption of this Country that you can possibly prevail on them to send either on your & our Account in [Seconds,] or on your, their & our Acct in Thirds. let the Goods be shipped immediately in French Ships as French property to Martinico & Consigned to the Friend or Correspondant of those that ship them with orders to Reship the same from Martinico for our address here; let the shipper there apply to Mr Bingham or Mr Richd Harrison of Martinico as they will always know of the best Conveyances and I will take care there shall be such very frequently the ensuing Fall, probably in Armed Ships of Warr, sufficient to defend themselves. You may depend the Goods if once introduced here will sell for immense proffits and at the same time be most usefull to America. The persons who engage in this business must put Confidance in us for they must trust us but you can enter into any obligations they may think necessary that we will most faithfully Remit & with the utmost expedition our share of the Cost & your & their share of the Nt proceeds. The Goods will Command instant pay & we will not detain it one moment. I think also that you might get the whole Risque Insured either in France or Holland, from France to Martinico You need only Insure against the Common dangers of the Sea, from Martinico here. All Risques of Sea & Capture or Seizure is not worth more than 8 to 10 PCt but the Trade will afford you to give 50 PCt if needfull or more, and I wou'd wish the whole Adventure to be Insured in this way. If you find it needfull send for my Brother Tom² & let him join you in the Securetys to [those] that ship the Goods and if you cannot prevail with any one House to go Sufficient lengths engage several of them prevailing on each to go as farr as possible for if you ship the Value of several hundred thousand pounds Sterlg the Goods will all sell well, however if you can send us in this way £ 20 to £ 50,000 Stg it will yield Fortunes to us all, and you may depend on my utmost exertions to get the Goods safe in, to Sell them well and to make speedy Remittances, this affair deserves your utmost exertions to accomplish it & under that Recommendation I leave it with you being Dr sir [&c.]

Rob^t Morris

1. Silas Deane Papers, ConnHS.

2. Thomas Morris, a half brother of the writer, then residing in London.

LIBEL OF CAPTAIN GEORGE McARoy AGAINST THE BRITISH SCHOONER *Thistle* ¹

Port of Philadelphia in the Province of Pennsylvania sst	}	On the sixth Day of June in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy six
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Before the honorable George Ross Esquire Judge of the Court of Admiralty lately instituted in the province of Pennsylvania by the general Assembly thereof pursuant to the Recommendation of the honorable Continental Congress Came Joseph Reed Esquire Proctor for the Libellant and exhibited to the said Judge the Bill of George McAroy Commander of the private Sloop of War called the *Congress* who as well &c: against the Vessel or Schooner called the *Thistle* with her Tackle Apparel Furniture and Cargo and Prayed that the same might be read and filed and it is read in the Words following to wit

To the honble George Ross Esquire Judge of the Court erected by the hone the House of Representatives of the Province of Pennsylvania to take Cognizance of and try the Justice of Captures of Vessels made pursuant to the Resolves of the Hone The Continental Congress and brought into the Port of Philadelphia

The Bill of George McAroy Commander of the private Sloop of War called the *Congress* duly commissioned under the hone Continental Congress who as well for himself as the Officers Mariners Seamen and all others belonging to & concerned in the sd Sloop in this behalf prosecuting in all humble manner sheweth That the said Sloop was equippd victualled fitted out and armed at the Expence of Sundry persons Inhabitants of these United Colonies and the said George McAroy being duly commissioned authorized and appointed with his Officers Mariners and Seamen on board the said Sloop sailing on the high Seas between the first Day of April and the Day of exhibiting this Bill in this present Year within the Jurisdiction of this Court did discover pursue apprehend and as lawful Prize take the Vessel or Schooner called the *Thistle* commanded by Charles Roberts Burthen about seventy Ton together with her Tackle Apparel Furniture and Cargo belonging to an Inhabitant or Inhabitants of Great Britain And the said George McAroy doth farther charge that the said Vessel was employed in carrying Supplies to the Ministerial Army of Great Britain and taken upon the high Seas near the Shores of these Colonies Wherefore the said George McAroy prays this hone Court that the said Vessel or Schooner with her Tackle Apparel Furniture and Cargo may be adjudged and condemned as forfeited to the Use of the Captors thereof and those concerned in the said Sloop *Congress* according to the Resolutions of the Hone the Continental Congress and the Votes and Resolves of the Hone House of Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of Pennsylvania in such Case and for such purposes lately made and provided –

Philad: June 6. 1776 (signed) Jo^s Reed Pror for Libelt ²

1. Records of the Admiralty Court of Pennsylvania, April 13–December 3, 1776, LC Photocopy.
 2. *Ibid.*, the Court of Admiralty condemned *Thistle* as a legal prize on July 1. Charles Roberts, master, appealed the condemnation and the decree was reversed on September 17, 1776, Revolutionary War Prize Cases, No. 1, Court of Appeal 1776–1781, NA.

VOTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY ¹

[Philadelphia] June 6, 1776

The Committee appointed to examine the Works already made for the Defence of this Colony, and enquire what other Fortifications are necessary, and the proper Places for erecting the same, and for requesting the General Officers and Engineers of the Continental Army to afford them their Advice and Assistance therein, made a Report in Writing, which was read by Order, and follows in these Words, viz.

We the Committee appointed to attend the General Officers of the Continental Army, and other Gentlemen of Skill, on a Survey of the Shores of the River Delaware, in order to erect some farther Fortifications for the Safety and Defence of this Colony, beg Leave to report:

That, pursuant to your Order, we attended the said Gentlemen, who surveyed the Shores accurately as far as BillingsPort, about eleven Miles down the River, and who all concurred in Opinion, that it was not advisable to lay out the public Money on Works nearer the City than Fort-Island, but that it would be proper to compleat the Works there, on the Plan now fixed; and upon a View of the Shore at BillingsPort on the Jersey Side, they agreed in Opinion, that it was a strong and favourable Post to erect a Redoubt, with proper Faces; the Ground being well adapted by Nature, and the whole Channel within a commanding Distance.

They further recommend to your Committee the fixing a Boom or some other Obstruction in the Passage; as, with a leading Gale and a strong Tide, a Vessel may soon pass any Fortification, however strong, unless prevented by a casual Shot.

Your Committee are sorry to add, that the Wind and Tide being very strong against them, they were unable to prosecute the Survey lower down the River, or to get to Chester; from whence they proposed to have come up by land, and viewed the Ground between Chester and this City. – A Measure which they think highly necessary and recommend to be adopted with all convenient Expedition.

Thomas Potts,	David Rittenhouse,
George Gray,	Joseph Reed,
George Ross,	George Clymer

The House adjourned to Three O'Clock in the Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to enquire into the Conduct of the Committee of Safety, &c. presented their Report in Writing to the House.

Upon Motion,

Ordered, That the Committee appointed by this House to enquire into the Conduct of the Committee of Safety, do enquire into the Conduct of the Commanders of the Gallies, in the Service of this Colony, during the late Engagements of the Gallies, with the *Roebuck* and *Liverpool* Men of War, on the Eighth and Ninth Days of the last Month; and that John Haney, James Gibbons, John Jacobs, Thomas Smith and John Proctor be added to the said Committee.

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 8th series, VIII, 7537–38.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR DESERTER FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA GALLEY *Congress*¹

Four Dollars Reward

Deserted from the Provincial armed galley *Congress*, David Denton, about twenty years of age, five feet five inches high, wears his own loose black hair, swarthy complexion, inlisted by the subscriber at Cohanzie bridge, and thought to be born in New-Jersey. Had on, when he went away, a brown long skirted jacket, a pair of brown cloth trousers, and round greasy hat. Whoever apprehends and delivers said deserter on board any of the Provincial galleys in the river Delaware, or the workhouse or jail in Philadelphia, shall have the above reward.

John Hamilton, Captain.

1. *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, June 6, 1776.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Kingsfisher*, CAPTAIN ALEXANDER GRAEME¹

June 1776 do [Cape Henlopen] Light House W 5 a 6 Miles
 Thursday 6 ½ past 2 A M saw a Sail a head gave Chase to her 3 came
 up with her & found her to be a French Sloop from Cape
 Francois loaden with Coffee & Molasses hove too got the Boat
 Out searched her sent a Midn and Six hands on Board
 her 6 Saw the Land About Cape May got the Boat In made
 Sail the Sloop in Co 10 Took the Sloop in Tow set Steer-
 ing Sails read the Articles of War & Act of Parliament
 4 P M came too in H[o]re Hill Road with the B B in 5
 fm veered to ⅓ the Light house SE off Shore 2 Ms saw a
 great Number of Armed Rebels on Shore 7 Arrived here the
Liverpool Frigate

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/506.

GEORGE WOOLSEY TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

[Extract]

Gentlemen

Baltimore the 6th June 1776

. . . I request you will Inform me if you think the Brig *Rogers* will proceed with her Cargo, by what I learn from the Man that had her since She was built She goes as well as allmost any Vessell you Can get. . .

1. Red Book, XII, Md. Arch.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

[Annapolis] Thursday 6th June 1776.

Ordered That the Treasurer of the Western Shore pay to Cumberland Dugan of Baltimore Town One hundred and fifty Pounds common Money for Demurrage and Detention of Schooner 92.

Ordered That the Schooner 92 be unloaded as soon as can be done with Convenience under the Care and Direction of Mr Cumberland Dugan; and further ordered that the same be lodged in his Warehouse, and that he cause

such of the Flour as may be in Danger of being spoiled, to be baked into Bread for the Use of the public.

1. Council of Safety Journal, 29 August 1775 to 20 March 1777, Md. Arch.

DR. U. SCOTT TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER ¹

Sir

Having some Business of much Consequence to my private Concerns to transact in England, which requires my Attendance there, I propose, with the Approbation of the Council of Safety, undertaking a Voyage thither by the first convenient Opportunity that Offers, intending to return again to my Family in Maryland as speedily as my Affairs will permit, and shall think myself much obliged to the Council of Safety if, on this Application, they will grant me a Passport that may be of Service in preventing me from being obstructed in Accomplishing this Design – I am Sir with great Respect [&c.]

U Scott

Annapolis June 6th 1776

[Endorsed] Dr: U: Scott Entd

1. Red Book, XIII, Md. Arch.

JOHN DALTON TO RICHARD HENRY LEE ¹

[Extract]

Alexandria June 6, 1776

The Sloop *American Congress*, & her tender, has been down the River more than fourteen days – the Sloop *Liberty* falls down today, I am afraid we shall not be able to get Cannon from below for the Gallies, we were in hopes of being Supplied from some of those at Hampton. – but as the *Roebuck* & Fleet are now Stationed at Gwins Island we must Apply to Mr Hughes whose guns are now said to turn out well, and as your board was so kind to say You would use your intercession in procuring them when necessary we must now request your Application to the Committee of Safety in Maryland for Two eighteen pounders to be sent to George Town for the Two Gallies. I believe he does not make above that Size – We are told it is necessary to make Application to that Board as Mr Hughes had Contracts with them for such a quantity, wch is not yet complied with I think we can be ready for them in fourteen days, tho we have not got the Sail Cloth as yet from Mr Leux tho' momentarily expected – we have another favour to ask – we are distressed for want of blankets. will you be pleased to engage some One in Philadelphia to procure & forward them as soon as possible, this is giving you trouble but am in hopes you will excuse it.

I am just informed of an Agreeable peice of News, and am in hopes it will prove true – a Capt Markham inwards from Martonique Came up the bay without meeting anything to disturb him, fell in with the *Roebuck* off Rappahannock who he imagines took him for one of his tenders – as she hoisted lanthorns to her mizen the Schooner paid the Usual Complements with her Sails and [torn] Stole off into Rappahannock – she is said to have Eighteen [tons of] powder, a qty of Arms & Sulpher –

The fives & Pendants for the Vessels are not yet come [to hand] thro' some Mistake – shall hope for an Answer as soon [as possible] that I may form a rule of Conduct, & believe me to be [&c.]

John Dalton

300 blankets will be wanting if they can be procured

1. Lee Family Papers, UVL.

MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Williamsburg] Thursday, June 6th, 1776.

Mr. Chas. Calvert is appointed to superintend the building of the two row Gallies ordered by convention to be employed in Ocrocock for the protection of the Trade of this colony and North Carolina; he is to engage a master builder to act as director of the Yard and as many workmen as he may judge necessary for prosecuting the work with Expedition, and having the vessels finished as soon as possible; he is to procure all necessaries for building – Iron, Cordage, Rigging, and provide for the workmen upon the best terms he can, keeping an exact account of all his disbursements, which, with the workmen's wages and a reasonable allowance for his trouble, will be repaid by the public. It is left to Mr. Calvert to fix the yard at such place as he may judge best on Blackwater or Nottoway, recommending it to him to keep in view the conveniency of transporting cordage and Iron to it which shall be brought down James River.

A warrant to Capt. Robt. Tompkins for £150 upon acc[oun]t to pay the carpenters employed on his Galley in Gloucester and other expenses.

Ord[ered]. that Capt. Robt. Tompkins be permitted to take two eighteen-pounders now lying at York Town for use of his Galley.

Ord., that the Commissary of Stores deliver Capt. Tompkins 20 lbs. Twine for use of his Galley ²

1. *Virginia State Papers*, 189.

2. The galley *Henry*.

MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON TO COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER ¹

On board the *Sovereign*

June 6th 1776. –

I am to acknowledge the receipt of Your Letter of the 5th Inst: and am glad to find that we now seem to be agreed upon every measure that is necessary to be taken previous to the Fleet's getting into safety within the Bar, where, I am clearly of Opinion, they will not be Molested from part of the Shore between Cummins's Point and the Light House, – and I have always understood that between those two Points there is Ample Room for the whole Fleet; should I however be mistaken in this Opinion, Seven of the Light Transports may be sent to Spencer's Inlet as soon as the *Ranger* & *St Lawrence* shall have secured that Anchorage for them; and such of the Victuallers &c, as will not be wanted might be sent to Stono Creek where I understand they may Anchor in safety. – By this arrangement, Sir, it appears to

me, that You will not have above Thirty Ships to Anchor between the Bar & Cummins's Point. At all Events I hope the Frigates will get to their Stations as soon as possible. When they are once there, The light Transports at their Station, the remainder Anchored in safety within the Bar, and the *Friendship* near enough to the South end of Long Island to cover a landing, our Operations, I think, will become very simple, secure, and I hope successful I am &c.

H: Clinton.

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, Miscellaneous Letter Books, CL.

MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON TO COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER ¹

Commodore Sir Peter Parker. —

Sovereign 6th. June 1776

I approve much of Your proposal that an Engineer shou'd go in the *Solebay*, and for that purpose send Mr Moncrief.

I think it necessary that a Proclamation shou'd precede Hostilities, I think it the more so as it will give us an opportunity of squinting at Sullivan's Island, I should therefore propose that as soon as the leading Frigate gets to her station off Cummins's point that a Boat be sent on Shore with a Flag of Truce; an intelligent Officer will be able to discover much; he will point first towards the Angle of the left Bastion, & then finding it difficult to approach the Shore, row up towards the right Bastion, by which he will have discovered Whether they have an Abbatis, & what the state of the Work is. Mr Moncrief will attend on board the *Bristol* to receive such Commands as You may have for him. I am &c.

H. Clinton.

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, Miscellaneous Letter Books, CL.

“BY MAJOR GENERAL CLINTON, COMMANDER OF HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES
IN THE SOUTHERN PROVINCES OF N AMERICA, &c. &c.” ¹

A Proclamation

Whereas a most unprovoked and wicked Rebellion hath for some Time past prevailed and doth now exist, within his Majesty's Province of South-Carolina; and the Inhabitants thereof, forgetting their Allegiance to their Sovereign, and denying the Authority of the Laws and Statutes of the Realm, have, in a Succession of Crimes, proceeded to the total Subversion of all legal Authority; usurping the Powers of Government, and erecting a Tyranny in the Hands of Congresses and Committees of various Denominations, utterly unknown and repugnant to the Spirit of the British Constitution; and divers People, in avowed Defiance to all legal Authority, are now actually in Arms, waging an unnatural War against the King. And whereas all the Attempts to reclaim the infatuated and misguided Multitude to a Sense of their Error have hitherto unhappily proved Ineffectual, I have it in Command to proceed forthwith against all such Men or Bodies of Men in Arms, and against all such Congresses and Committees thus unlawfully established, as against open Enemies to the State. But, considering it as a

Duty inseparable from the Principles of Humanity, first of all to forewarn the deluded People of the Miseries ever attendant upon Civil War, I do most earnestly intreat and exhort them, as they tender their own Happiness and that of their Posterity, to return to their Duty to our common Sovereign, and to the Blessings of a free Government, as established by Law, hereby offering, in his Majesty's Name, free Pardon to all such as shall lay down their Arms and submit to the Laws: And I do hereby require, that the Provincial Congress and all Committees of Safety and other unlawful Associations, be dissolved, and the Judges allowed to hold their Courts, according to the Laws and Constitution of this Province: of which all Persons are required to take Notice, as they will answer the contrary at their Peril.

Given on board the *Sovereign* Transport, off Charlestown, this Sixth Day of June, 1776, and in the Sixteenth Year of His Majesty's Reign.
H. Clinton, M. Gen.

By Command of Gen. Clinton
Richard Reeve, Sec.

1. *South-Carolina and American General Gazette*, May 31 to August 2, 1776.

GOVERNOR SIR BASIL KEITH TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN ¹

[Extract]

(No 4)

Jamaica 6th June 1776

I have given such orders for the embarkation of the Fiftieth Regiment, agreeable to his Majesty's pleasure signified to me by your Lordship, that no time will be lost in getting them brought in from the different Quarters, and then sending them to the Army in North America and I shall be ready to obey His Majesty's Commands in the Case of an Attack by the Rebels on West Florida as far as the safety of Jamaica will permit.

It is my Duty to represent to your Lordship, the general Consternation and Allarm spread through this Island on the removal of this Regiment and its being left with one Weak Battalion consisting only of 360 Rank and File; the Assurances that another and stronger Battalion will soon replace it here, by no Means quiets their Fears and apprehensions . . .

It is said that more French Troops are expected in Hispaniola, but I do not find that more are actually arrived than I had the Honour to inform you of before the best accounts make the Regular Troops, Infantry Artillery &c about six thousand.

The last intelligence I had regarding the Havana, is that every thing there wore a peaceable appearance, & that several of our Merchant Ships, put in there through distress had been kindly received by the Governor, and every Assistance given them.

It is with great satisfaction I inform you of the safe arrival of the Ship with the Powder His Majesty was most Graciously pleased to spare us out of the Royal Magazines.

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 137/71, Part III, LC Photocopy.

7 June

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM THOMPSON TO BRIGADIER GENERAL
JOHN SULLIVAN ¹

Dear Genl

Nicholette June 7th 1776

I Arrived here at one OClock this Morning and as the Men were much Fatigued, their Arms wet, & the Night So far Advanced, it Render'd it impossible to get to three Rivers before Light, & must have pass'd in Sight of the Enemies Vessels, ten in Number, that have got about five Miles above three Rivers –

I have Ordered the Whole Detachment to be in Readiness to Embarque at nine oClock this Evening & Shall pass the River St Laurence about three Miles above the Shipping, and after Leaving a Guard of Two Hundred & fifty with the Boats, proceed by Land to the three Rivers, & if Possible begin the Attack at Day-light –

No Certain Accounts of the Number of the Enemy – the Intelligence is from five to fifteen hundred – If I Should find that they are Numerous, & that they are Strongly Intrenched, I Shall not risque an Battle, as a Defeat at this time wd greatly distress us –

I have not found a proper place near this to fortify, the Banks being overflowed at the Mouth of the River, nor would I Venture to keep Troops below the Vessels, as they Surely have it in their power to prevent our Boats from passing, & it is out of our Power to Keep up a Communication by Land, I therefore believe we must make the best of the Banks at or a near the Sorrell, or Fortify the Islands –

I have order'd Capt [Ebenezer] Stevens to Stop above the Lake with the Artillery till further Orders, as the Loss of the few He has with him wd be very fatal to us, you will hear from me Tomorrow. I am Dear General [&c.]
Copy – W^m Thompson ²

1. Washington Papers, LC.

2. Thompson launched his attack as planned. General Sullivan wrote to Washington on June 8: "I am almost Certain that Victory has declared in our favour." However, he held the letter and continued it on June 12, having learned that the assault was "Unfortunately repulsed" and that Thompson had "unluckily fallen into the hands of our Enemies," Washington Papers, LC.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL ¹

[Watertown] Friday June 7th 1776

Richard Derby Esqr reported a Letter to General Ward which was read and Accepted & Ordered to be Signed by the Secry in the Name and by order of the Council & Imeadly forwarded which is as follows —

Sir

The Board have this moment receivd Information of a very Valuable Prize being sent into Glocester by one of the Fleet under the Command of Admiral Hopkins ² and as tis very likely Intelligence may be carried to the Comodore at Nantaskett by another Ship who was in Company with her yesterday ³ and the harbour of

Glocester in our Opinion not being in such State of Defence as to protect the Prize Shou'd the Enemies Men of War attempt to take her out, We have therefore taken the earliest opportunity to Inform your Honor of this Matter that you may give such Orders respecting her as you may think proper to secure her from falling into the hands of the enemy. 'tis said the prize is from Jamaica with abt five hund[r]ed hhds Sugar and One Thousand Dollars in Cash &c. in the Name & by Order of the Council –

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 19, 11, 13, 14.
2. The prize was the ship *Lady Juliana*, Christopher Stephenson, master. She was not taken by one of Hopkins' fleet, but by the Pennsylvania privateer sloops *Congress* and *Chance*.
3. Captain Francis Banks, who carried a commodore's pennant in the ship *Renown* in Nantasket road.

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT ¹

[Watertown] Friday June 7th 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary General be, & he is hereby directed to deliver Sixteen Bolts of Russia Duck to the Honble Richd Derby Esqr or Order to be by him applied for the use of the Armed Brigantine now Building at Salisbury for the Service of this Colony –

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 35, 28.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

Friday, 7 June, 1776, at Hartford, in the Morning.

Considered the wages and allowances of the officers and men for the row-gallies &c.

And voted, That the pay of a captain of said galleys shall be £7 per kalendar month, and that they be allowed a premium of 1½ per cent for paying their crews. Cap. £ 7 0 0

The pay of the lieutenants to be £5 per month, both	10 0 0
And the second Lieutenant to be lieutenant of marines.	
The master to be £5 per month	5
The gunner,	4 10
Gunner's mate,	3 4
The boatswain's wages,	3 0 0
The clerk,	3 12 0
Steward,	3 0 0
Cook,	2 14 0
Carpenter's mate, with necessary tools,	3 4
2 Serjeants, at £2 8	4 16
2 Corporals, at £2 4	4 8
1 Surgeon,	4 0 0
Able Seamen, at 48s.	2 8 0
Marines, at 40s.	2 0 0
Total	£ 128 16

Voted, That the officers and marines shall receive one months advance wages on their inlistment.

And Voted, That the sum of £129 12 be advanced and drawn for to the captains of said galleys, to enable them to pay said advance wages.

Said three orders drawn and delivered to them respectively, at Hartford.

Voted and established the form of an inlistment.

Voted, That the Governor be desired to give proper commissions to the officers, in form of the land service nearly, *mutatis mutandis*.

Voted, That Cap. [Theodore] Stanton proceed without delay on board his galley and carry such stores as Cap. [Ephraim] Bill shall ship and deliver to said captain at Saybrook for the use of the ship building at Hayden's yard &c., and return as soon as may be, to inlist men and fit his galley &c.

Voted, That an order be drawn for Mr. Nat. Shaw for £200, to [be] accounted for by him in his account with the Colony. *Order given*, delivered to Mr. W. Ledyard at H[artford].

N.B. Mr. Shaw's order above Mr. L. says is on Cap. [Seth] Harding's account.

And voted an order of two hundred pounds be drawn in favor of Cap. Epm Bill, to be accounted for by him, as he was overseer of building the Colony ship at Saybrook. *Order given*, delivered Col. [Benjamin] Huntington.

1. Hoadly, ed., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 408-09.

Connecticut Gazette, FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1776

New-London, June 7.

A few Days since, a Ship from Jamaica, bound to England, was taken by a Privateer off George's Bank, and carried into Old-Town in the Vineyard. She had on board a valuable Cargo, part of which is 200 Hogsheads of Sugar. —¹ The same Privateer was in Chase of another Ship at the Time this Prize parted with her.

Since our last two Vessels have arrived here from the West-Indies; and within a few Days past four Sail of French Vessels have arrived at Newport, Rhode-Island, from the West-Indies.

We learn from the West-Indies, That the French Court have taken off the Prohibition on the Exportation of Gun Powder from France, and that large Quantities of that Commodity is almost daily arriving in the West-Indies; so that it is now become an Article of great Plenty there.

We hear that the Colony Ship at Say-Brook, is to be launched next Thursday.²

1. The *Reynolds*, taken by the Pennsylvania privateers *Congress* and *Chance*. The prize master who carried the Jamaicaman into the Vineyard was Thomas Truxtun.

2. The Connecticut ship *Oliver Cromwell*.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO HERMANUS SCHUYLER¹

Sir

Heads Qrs Fort George June 7th 1776

You are without Delay to proceed to Skenesborough by the Way of Ty-

conderoga, on your arrival there you will take Charge of the Carpenters, Ax-men, Teamsters & Blacksmiths at that place and do every Thing in your power to forward the Building of the Gundaloes and to procure plank and whatever may be necessary – the Saw Mill must be immediately repaired. – a Mr Granger who resides in that Neighbourhood understands the work well; him you must procure and add as many of the other Carpenters now there, as can work at it, that it may be finished the soonest possible.

You will employ the Oxen in drawing the Timber necessary to construct the Vessel with and try to procure as many Oak Logs before the Mill is finished as you possibly can; the larger and longer they are the better.

Take a List of all the people employed under your Direction, distinguishing the Carpenters from the Ax-men, and those from the Teamsters, and discharge such as may be unfit for Service either by Disease Drunkenness or Laziness, and keep an exact Checque Book, and call over the Names of every person at Sunrise before they got to Work.

You must provide a Master Sawyer for the Mill & the sawing must go on by Night as well as by Day and that the Sawyers may not play Tricks count the Logs on the Log-Way at Sunset, and again at Sunrise in the Morning and then you will be able to know if the Sawyers have done their Duty.

You should now and then visit them in the Night. Let the greatest Care be taken to guard against accidents by Fire, and charge the Sawyers that if any Thing gives Way in the Night not to go to Bed or lay down to sleep, as many Mills have been burnt for Want of this precaution – Keep always two Barrels full of Water in the Mill with a Bucket in each.

Frequently examine the Stores, and see what you are likely to want and write for it in Time. I expect to be frequently informed how the Work goes on: how many Logs you have their Dimensions and when you expect the Mill will begin to saw.

You can write either by the Way of Ticonderoga or Wood Creek, as you will have frequent oppertunities both ways. I am Sir [&c.]

Ph: Schuyler

1. Schuyler Papers, vol. 2, Letters & Orders, 18 April, 1776–29 June, 1777, NYPL. Hermanus Schuyler was Assistant Commissary General.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK ¹

[Extract]

New York June the 7. 1776

Sir I do myself the honor to Inform Congress that I arrived here yesterday afternoon about One OClock, and found all, in peace & quiet. I had not time to view the works carrying on & those ordered to be begun when I went away, but have reason to beleive from the report of such of the General & other Officers I had the pleasure to see, that they have been prosecuted & forwarded with all possible diligence and dispatch . . .

Before I left Philadelphia, I employed a person to superintend the building of the Gondoloes which Congress had resolved on for this place,² he is arrived and all things seems to be in aproper channell for facilitating

the work, but when they are done, we shall be in much want of Guns, having never received any of those taken by Commodore Hopkins. Be pleased to mention me to Congress with the utmost respect and I am [&c.]

1. Papers CC (Letters from George Washington), 152, II, 5, NA.

2. Benjamin Eyres, of the Philadelphia shipbuilding firm of Manuel, Gehu and Benjamin Eyres. *Ibid.* (Memorials addressed to Congress), 41, III, 1, 5-11.

JONATHAN TREMAIN TO BARNABAS DEANE ¹

Sir/

New York June 7th. 1776

I recd yours of 3d Inst And According to your Order have Calld On Capt Dennis Concerning the 16 Inch Cable & find he has Not Engag'd it but desird I woud which I must Acquaint you is at Present out of my power, as is also the Two Tons I wrote you about, for since yours of the 27th May the price of Common Cordage is rose to £ 4..10..0 & by your Not Conclud- ing to take it till your last I did not Engage it

But what rigging I have made I shall send you by the Gentleman you Desird to Call on me who sails in a day or Two for which & what I shall send here- after you Need Not Trouble yourself about the money till I have Com- pleted the Whole. But the Money for the Häuser,² I shall take it as a favour if youl remitt by the first Opportuny & You'l much Oblige [&c.]

Jonaⁿ Tremain

Mr. Barnabas Deane at Weathersfeild in Conecticut

1. Barnabas Deane Papers, ConnHS.

2. For the Continental frigate *Trumbull*, building under Deane's direction.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Friday, June 7, 1776

The committee to whom was referred the letter from Eseck Hopkins, commodore of the continental fleet, dated Providence, May 22d, brought in their report, which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to; Where- upon,

Resolved, That Mr. Charles Walker, of New Providence, ought to be paid the value of the sloop *Endeavour*, together with four tons of lignum vi- tae, and one hundred cedar posts, taken by the said commodore, for the use of the colonies, and the damages the said Walker has sustained by the taking and detention of said vessel,² lignum vitae and posts; the said Walker giving a full acquittance for the said vessel, goods and damages.

Resolved, That the governor ~~and Council~~ of the colony of Connecticut be requested to appoint judicious and indifferent persons to appraise the vessel and goods aforesaid, at the time when they were taken into the service of the colonies, and to estimate the full damages sustained by the said Mr. Walker, and report it to this Congress forthwith, that the said Walker may be indemnified by this Congress.

Resolved, That the said Walker have his election to receive his vessel

again, and the hire of her, and his damages, or the value of her to be ascertained as aforesaid.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 424, 425.

2. "I have taken all the Stores onboard the Fleet, and a large Sloop that I found there which I have promis'd the Owner to Send back and pay him hire," Hopkins to Congress, April 8, 1776, Hopkins Letter Book, RIHS.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

In Committee of Safety,

[Philadelphia] 7th June, 1776

Capt. Thomas Read's Letter of 5th June was this day read, wherein he desires to resign his Command of the Ship *Montgomery*, having been recommended to the Command of a Continental Frigate.²

Resolved, That this Board agree to his Resignation.

The two following resolves of Congress are ordered to be enter'd on the Minutes of this Board:

In Congress, May 29th, 1776

Resolved, That Midshipman [John] Draper be offered in Exchange for Captain William Budden.

June 4th, 1776

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania be empowered to negotiate, with Captain [Henry] Bellew, on the best terms they can, for an exchange of the Prisoners on Board the *Liverpool*, provided always, that this shall not be construed so as to enable them to deliver up Lieut Bogard [sic] & Lieutenant Ball in the Exchange.

Extracts from the Minutes

Sign'd Ch's Thomson, Sec'y.

In Consequence of the above Resolve of Congress of 29th May, a Letter was wrote to Doct'r [Charles] Bensell of Germantown, desiring that Mr. Draper may be suffered to come to this City with Capt. Budden, in order to his being exchanged.

Captain William Brown being appointed by this Board to go on Board the *Liverpool* Man-of-War, the following instructions were sign'd by the Chairman and deliver'd him.

You are to proceed with Mr. William Budden & Mr. John Draper, on Board the *Liverpool* Ship-of-War, and deliver Mr. Draper in exchange for Mr. Budden and his son, and treat with Capt. Bellew for a further Exchange of Prisoners, observing that this Committee are not impowered to offer either Lt. Ball or Lieut. Boger to be exchanged. It cannot be expected that the seamen taken Prisoners, belonging to the King's Ships, can be render'd back in Exchange upon equal terms for Mariners who are taken in Merchant Ships, or Coasting Vessels, much less for Passengers or other Inhabitants that may be made Captive, who ought to be set on shore, as is the Custom of War; you are therefore carefully to at-

tend to these distinctons, and procure such proposals from Capt. Bellew as this Committee can accept of, and which may serve as a Basis for future Exchanges.

The Commanding Officer of the Fleet has this day orders to suffer the Marine Comp'y on Board the Provincial Ship to be entirely under the Command of their own Officers.³

Pursuant to a Resolve of Congress of the fourth day of June, inst., empowering this Committee to negotiate with Capt. Bellew for an Exchange of Prisoners on Board the *Liverpool*, Capt. Wm. Brown is authorized and appointed to take Mr. John Draper, Midshipman of the *Liverpool*, on board the said Ship, in exchange for Mr. William Budden and his son, and to treat with Capt. Bellew for the exchange of such other Prisoners as are on Board the said Ship.⁴

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 595, 596.
2. Subsequently to be named the *Washington*.
3. In Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, IV, 770, is an undated letter to Samuel Davison, commander of the ship *Montgomery*, who assumed command on June 15, in which it was stated that the Marines being under their own officers, no ship's officer had any power to chastise them.
4. An "Account [of] Prisoners on Board Capt. Bellew's *Liverpool* Man-of-War," dated merely "June 1776," *ibid.*, 2nd series, I, 421. It lists the following:

Francis Knox, Master.	Dav'd King, Mariner.
Jno. Will'm Dean.	Cha's Johnson,
Hugh King, Master.	Jas. Colwell, Gent'n, a Pass'r.
Jno. Verding,	Henry Geddice, do. do.
Jos. Darby,	Wm. Adamson, Master.
Sam'l Dodds,	Alex'r M'Donald, Mariner.
Eman'l Dodds,	Christ'r Sozman, do.
R'd Rollison,	Jno. Manning, do.

CAPTAIN THOMAS READ TO THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

Gentlemen

Ship *Montgomery* June 7th 1776

we have Belonging to the Ship, Hamilton Hazelton an Armourer Since the 25th March and was ordered a Chest of Tools by Capt [Robert] White for that Purpose. on Enquiring his pay from Mr [John Maxwell] Nesbit there is no such Person mentioned, he is a Very usefull and Industrious man on Board, If you think proper to Continue him, to fix his pay, or order the payment for what time he has been on Board. and Shou'd be glad to Know how the officers are to be paid for their Board before the Ship Left the Wharf that I may settle with them for it from your [&c.]

Thos^s Read

1. Simon Gratz Autograph Collection, HSP.

HENRY FISHER TO THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

Gentlemen,

Lewistown, June the 7, 1776

Last evening came into our Road two men of war, one the *Liverpool*, the other the *King Fisher*, with a small Sloop and a Pilot Boat which I take to be William Rosses, at the time they were coming in there was a Snow

in our Road bound out, Richard James, master,² which made Sail, and Run a shore under the cover of our Fort, the *King Fisher* sent her boat towards her, but upon seeing a number of troops Assemble on the Beach, the boat put back again, Charles Laurence is got down with his Barge, and is now along side of the snow so that I am in hopes that we shall save the cargo. I shall have a watchful eye over the Pyrates, and when Ever they appear to be makeing up the Bay, shall send off[f] the alarm by water. There is a Ship Brig and sloop under Cape May, which I take to be Part of our Fleet.³ You may Rest Assur'd that I shall strive to Give you the Earliest Accts of any New matter that may turn up. I am, Gentlemen [&c.]

Henry Fisher.

My Express set off[f] at 8 o'clock this morning.

H. Fisher

[Endorsements]

Came 25 Mts after 10 o'clock, & went off[f] 39 Mts after 10 o'clock

Thos. Evans

Dover, 7 June, arrived at 2 o'clock, P.M. and wt 10 mts after 2,4 minits Before 6 set out 8 minits.

Wilmington, June the 9th, Recd Express at 20 minuets after ten, and Dispatched 35 minuets after 10. Pr. Thos. Kean

Delivered at Chester at 50 minits after 12. T.K.

Directed, To the Committee of Safety, Philadelphia.

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, IV, 769-70.

2. *Ibid.*, 2nd series, I, 502. *Snow Champion*.

3. The Continental ship *Reprisal*, brig *Lexington* and sloop *Hornet*.

CUMBERLAND DUGAN TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

Gentlem

Baltimore 7th June 1776

on my arrival here I told Mr Woolsey of our going to unload the 92, & that the Honourable Council of Safety wanted to see him on the same occasion respecting the Brig he loaded, when he said he woud be damned if he woud go near you without writen orders, and that you shoud not take a barrrell out of the Brig, before he knew on what terms, &c &c, this is a matter that dont concern me, nor should I mention it, had not, you desired me to advise Mr [William] Lux & Woolsey of your orders respecting what was done with our Schooner, and as from my Verball ordrs you cant see Mr Woolsey, thought best to advise you his answer to me that you might write him; as the Cargo lays, Still in her, and as to Mr Lux I heare he went down to you last evening. - I am busy geting the Warehouse lofts ready for the whole of your produce in these three Vessells; where you may depend on all possible care being taken of opening doors & windows every day, and picking out what of the flour seems most warm for the immediate bakeing, the 92 is all ready to begin to discharge, but is now a drissling rain that are afraid to open the Hatches, but tomorrow shall be at her discharge or as soon as it holds up fair and shall then begin on bakeing the flour up with

two ovens, but if you are in a hurry for the Bread shall get to work with the other, which three ovens can turn out a great quantity of Bread in a day, of which you'l please to advise me, and shoud be glad to hear from you as often as convenient for my government, and shall endeavour in every instruction you Honour me with, to give you intire Satisfaction both as to my Care & Charges which hope will merritt your aprobation. beg you'l send me a Manifest of the 92s Cargo that I may know Whither it turns out right that is how many bls Superfine flour.

how many common fine do

how many bls Bread, & how many kegs &c the Superfine

I purpose bakeing in what we Call small fine keg Bread, & the common fine in Pilott bread Size, which I think most proper for exportation &c, and shall bake it so; unless I receive your orders to the Contrary, I should not trouble you for the manifest of the Schooners Cargo was Mr [Hugh] Young in this place, which hope You'l excuse & am Gentn. [&c.]

Cumberland Dugan

1. Red Book, XII, Md. Arch.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

[Annapolis] Friday 7 June 1776.

Ordered That the Treasurer of the Western Shore pay to Capt James Nicholson of the Ship *Defence* seven hundred and fourteen Pounds common money on Account of the Forces under his Command.

Ordered That the said Treasurer pay to Mr Robert Purviance One thousand Pounds common Money on Account of the Schooner *Resolution*.

Ordered That the said Treasurer pay to Mr Robert Purviance (for the Use of Mr George Woolsey) thirty nine Pounds and seven Pence, being the Ballance due Mr Woolsey for the Cargo of the Brig *Rogers*.

1. Council of Safety Journal, 29 August 1775 to 20 March 1777, Md. Arch.

MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Williamsburg] Friday, June 7th, 1776.

[A warrant] to Wm. Spellmen for 20s. for bringing some seamen up James River.

The Comm'ee of Gloster are desired to take such measures as to them shall seem proper respecting the vessel in which Mr. Cann was taken and the other vessels taken there.

Ordered, that Caleb Herbert be retained as a master builder of a shipyard upon Rappahannock, and Reuben Herbert for such yard on York River, and each of them are desired as soon as possible to engage a proper number of workmen for building two Rowe Gallies, to be employed in each of the said Rivers for the purpose of transporting Troops across them, according to resolution of convention.

Ordered, that the three deserters from the *Roebuck*, lately brought to this place and confined by a former order, be now discharged, as there re-

mains no danger of their communicating the small-pox or any other malignant disease to the inhabitants of this colony.

A warrant to Col. Bassett for £21..4..8. for 3 Beaves to Capt [Thomas] Lilly for Brig *Liberty*.

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 190, 191.

BENJAMIN HARRISON, JR. TO WILLING, MORRIS N CO.¹

[Extract]

Williamsburg 7 June 1776

Friday Evening

. . . [William] Tokely has been to hampton since my last to get hands but without success, tho' he has seen among the Soldiers there six of his Deserters, & the General has Promised me an Order tomorrow for his having them, I propose after Wards that he shall go to Suffolk to try what he can do there, he will have Time enough before his Convoy is ready, We have hopes of his Owner from Carolina being here in a Day or two with some hands, a Gentn from there having told him as much,² . . .

1. Papers of Robert Morris, Accession 1805, LC.

2. William Tokely was master of the brig *Fanny* loading on account of the Secret Committee of the Continental Congress, and destined for Nantes.

PURDIE'S *Virginia Gazette*, FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1776

Williamsburg, June 7.

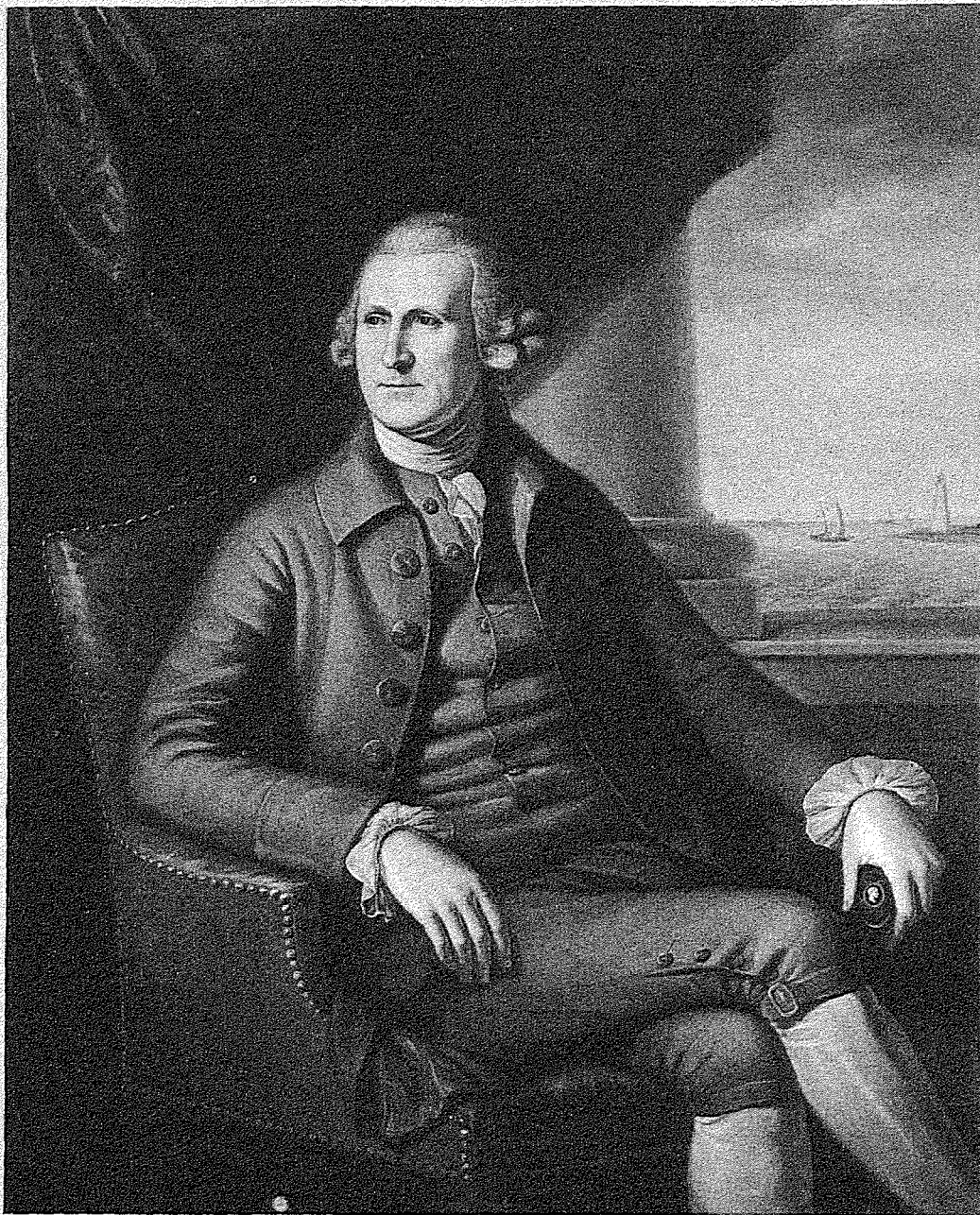
Advice is just received from the Eastern Shore, that mr. Bartlett Goodrich, in an armed vessel mounting four carriage and six swivel guns, from the West Indies, is taken in Cherrystone creek, by a party of riflemen, and, with his cargo of sail duck, fruit, sugar, &c. properly secured.

RICHARD HUTSON TO THOMAS HUTSON ¹

Dear Brother/

Montpelier June 7th. 1776

This acknowledges the receipt of yours of yesterday's Date by Tommy. He arrived here about two o'clock, but I shall not think it proper to set him over, before the Evening, as they press every Negro that they meet in the Streets by Day Light in order to work upon an Additional Battery which they are erecting on Gadsden's Wharf. The Grand Armada is I believe at length all assembled - On Saturday Night last, our President received Intelligence that a Fleet of between Thirty & Forty sail had anchored off Bull's Island. On Sunday morning an Alarm was fired, & we have been kept on hard Duty ever since. On Monday they began to make their appearance off one Bar. On Tuesday the whole of the above Number appeared More or less & have been coming up every day since, and their Number now amounts to Fifty Two. Four of them got over the Bar this morning, the Tide's turning prevented more from coming over. If the Wind should be fair it is imagined they will all get in Tomorrow & if so, we expect that the Fort on Sullivan's Island will be attacked on Sunday. We are preparing to make the most vigorous Resistance in Our Power. The Detachments from the Country Militia are coming in very fast. Gen: [Charles] Lee is hourly ex-



Thomas Willing.

pected with Seven Hundred continental Troops. We very Providentially received a supply of Ten Thousand Weight of Gunpowder the week before last, by a Sloop wh had been sent to St. Eustatia for that Purpose. We have every thing in fine order & our men are in high spirits. So that I hope with the Aid of Divine Providence we shall be able to give a good acct of Them. I have not been able to procure either the Linen or the Hat for you. Robert pretends that he has been disappointed in some materials that he expected to receive when he promised to make a Hat for you. There is a greater Demand for men than for Rice just now in Charles Town – I received a letter from you by the Post about three Weeks ago wh was the first by that Conveyance since you left Montpelier. You therein mentioned a prior one wh never came to hand. There is no Oznaburgs to be had – Mrs. Ramsay died on Wednesday last of a Nervous Fever after a few Day's illness I am yours &c

Rich^d Hutson.

To Thomas Hutson Esq at Cedar Grove. Prince Williams.

1. Charles Woodward Hutson Papers, UNCL.

COLONEL WILLIAM MOULTRIE TO JOHN RUTLEDGE ¹

Sir,

Sullivan's Island, 7th June, 1776

A flag was just now sent from the men-of-war, but before they came to the shore, by some unlucky accident they were fired upon by some of our sentries, contrary to orders: I am sorry it should have happened, but now, no help for it. I suppose it only a piece of ceremony they intended . . . I expect they will begin very shortly; several of the fleet have gone northward, perhaps to land some troops: I doubt not your Excellency will provide accordingly. Your most [&c.]

William Moultrie
Col. of the second Regiment

To the President

1. *Moultrie's Memoirs*, I, 147–48.

JOHN RUTLEDGE TO COLONEL WILLIAM MOULTRIE ¹

[Charleston] June 7, 1776

half past 6 o'clock, P.M.

Sir,

I am very sorry, that a flag has been fired upon, by one of your sentries; . . . pray send off a flag immediately, by a discreet officer, with a proper letter to the commanding officer of the British fleet, acquainting him, that this act was committed by mistake, and contrary to orders, and that a messenger shall be properly received, and that I have given this direction, the moment I was apprized of the fact: But, take care, to prevent a repetition of such conduct in the sentries; at the same time, do not suffer any, under the appearance of a flag, to make discoveries of what the enemy ought not to know. Yours in haste

J. Rutledge

1. *Moultrie's Memoirs*, I, 148.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Active*, CAPTAIN WILLIAM WILLIAMS ¹

- June 1776 At Single Anch off Charlestown Barr
- Tuesday 4 at 6 AM Sent Our Pinace & the *Sphinx's* Barge to Sound the Barr at 10 Do returned the *Sphinx* joined us Wore then at Anchor abt 1½ Miles from the Shoalest pt of the Bar – Fresh & Hazey at ½ pt the Commodore & fleet Anchd abt 3 of [sic or] 4 Miles with[ou]t us fresh gales & a great Sea at 2 Struck Top Gt Masts 5 got them in.
- Wednesy 5 at 6 AM Saw the Sea break quite a Cross the Bar in the shoalest place at High Water 19 feet Our boats Continued Sounding till 10, at AM 4 Vessels in Sight at 9 up Top Gt Masts Empd Occasionally [M]odte & fair first pt with a Swell & Choping Ground Sea at 4 PM the Comodore [m]ade the Sigl for all Captns to hold a Council of War the Result of Wch [w]as, That all the 5 frigates Vizt. *Active Sphinx Solebay Actaeon* and *Syren* Should go Over the Bar & if Practicable to Silence the Batteries betwn the Light House & Cumings's point the *Active* & *Sphinx* [to] attack the Light House Battery & the Others to Attack those on Cumings's [Poin]t
- Thursdy 6 [AM] got up 80 Piggs of Iron Ball[as]t to put forward to put the Ship On an even Keel Fresh & fair with Much Sea at 1 pm loos'd Sails at 2 Do furld them Latter Modte with light Airs ½ pt 3 Sent the 3 Pilots to Sound the Barr & Place Buoys at ½ pt 6 they ret'd
- Friday 7th at ½ pt 11 Do Got Safe Over the Barr at Noon Anchd in 5 fm Hole, Anchd at the Same time the *Sphynx*, *Solebay Actaeon* & *Syren*, & Several Transports. Modte & fair Made a Sigl for all Captns & Sent for all Masters and Pilots to Consult if it be practicable to get the *Bristol* in over the Bar when it was unanimously agreed that if She can be Lightned to 17½ feet she may wth Safety be brot in Accordingly, Sent 15 Men from each of the Frigates to assist in Lightening her.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/5.

A BRITISH JOURNAL OF THE EXPEDITION TO CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA ¹

[1776]

- 1st June On the first of June saw land, and at ten in the Morning came to an Anchor off Bulls Bay. a schooner was dispatched to take the soundings
- 2d The Fleet at anchor off Bulls Bay
- 3d The *Sphinx* weighed and stood for 5 fathom hole. .
- 4th The Fleet weighed at 6 this morning and at 12 came to an anchor off the Bar in sight of the Town & Harbor of Chas Town.

5th Contrary Winds the Fleet at anchor
 6th The Fleet remain at anchor
 7th The Fleet weighed at 9 and the Frigates and great part of the Transports came to anchor in 5 fathom hole. This day seven sail of Transports under Convoy of the *Ranger* and *Friendship* armed Vessel were ordered to proceed to Spences Inlet.

The *Prince of Piedmont* Victualler ran aground in going over the Bar.

The Commodore with the 2 Indiaman and a few more of the largest Transports remain without the Bar

A Flag of truce with the Generals Proclamation attempts to land on Sullivans Island, but is fired upon from the shore, and obliged to return.

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

8 June

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Martin*, CAPTAIN HENRY HARVEY¹

June 1776 At Anchor off Point Batti –
 Saturday 8 at 6 AM: Fir'd several Shot at some Rebel Troops, passing along the Edge of the woods: & hauled the Ship close to the Shore: at 7 an Attack began between them and the King's Troops near Three Rivers, when the Rebels soon gave way, and went off in Confusion: at 8 Weigh'd with the Arm'd Schooner & stood up the River, fir'd many shot at the Rebels as they appeared at the Edge of the woods: At 11 it falling Calm Anchd a little above Point Batti – the Kings Troops were pursuing the Rebels: –

Moderate Winds and fair Weather: 1 PM Weigh'd; sent the Boats to attend the Army. fir'd several Shot at some Rebel Boats. at 7 Anchd off the Point of the Lake on the North Shore; and Received on Board several Prisoners sent by the Army: – at 11 the Boats Return'd having taken a Boat with some Provisions.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/581.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN HALIFAX, TO HIS FRIEND IN EDINBURGH, JUNE 8.”¹

We have this instant received orders, that the fleet with the troops get under weigh tomorrow at day-break. The rendezvous, in case of separation, is to be at Sandy Hook, about 30 miles below New York, so you may guess where we are going. One transport of Lord John Murray's regiment is arrived, and the rest of the Highlanders from the Clyde is near at hand. We have been unlucky in the loss of our ordnance ships: One was taken the other day by the rebels, with no less than 1500 whole barrels of powder, 2000 stand of arms, and 2000 clothing. A brave Lieutenant [Josiah] Harris

and several seamen were killed in attempting to cut her out of King Road, a little below Boston.²

1. *London Chronicle*, July 16 to July 18, 1776.

2. The powder ship *Hope*.

VICE ADMIRAL MOLYNEUX SHULDHAM TO PHILIP STEPHENS¹

Sir

Chatham in Halifax Harbour 8. June 1776

By a Letter from Captain [Francis] Banks of the *Renown* of the 24th past, he informs me that a few days before, he had sent his Boats with those of the *Experiment* Manned and Armed to destroy a small Rebel Privateer which had run ashore in one of the Channels leading to Boston; That in this attempt his First Lieutenant Mr [Josiah] Harris was killed, and Seven more Men of the party were either killed or Drowned by the Barge upsetting at the instant she had got alongside the Vessel, upon which the other Boats were obliged to retire, and by the account of a Deserter who arrived at Nantasket, the Captain and several of the Men belonging to the Privateer were killed in this Action,² but I am sorry to inform you that we find she had a few days before taken the *Hope* Ordnance Vessel mentioned in my former Letter. I cannot upon this occasion omit repeating my earnest request, that Stores of such great importance, and upon which so much depends, may be sent out in Ships of some considerable Force, and under the Command of a King's Officer: For as the generality of the Masters of Merchant Ships and persons of little property or consideration are easily to be Bribed, their Treachery may be productive of the most fatal consequences, which there is great reason to suspect was the cause of this valuable Ship the (*Hope*) being taken.

The *Bowman* Transport, one of the *Flora's* Convoy³ arrived here last night by which Ship I have information, that a few days after their departure from the River Clyde, they met with a Gale of Wind which occasioned a separation of the Fleet. On approaching this Coast the *Bowman* at different times, fell in with several others of their Convoy, which parted Company at the time she did, until Seven of them were collected together, and upon St George's Bank they spoke the *Merlin* Sloop, by which Ship they were informed of the Evacuation of Boston, and had directions to proceed to this place and there are now four of them off the Harbour. I have adopted proper measures for these Ships being intercepted as they come upon this Coast, that instead of going to Boston they may be conducted to the place where the Army may be. I am Sir [&c.]

M: Shuldham

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/484.

2. On the American side, only Captain James Mugford was killed.

3. Transports conveying the 42nd and 71st Highland regiments.

VICE ADMIRAL MOLYNEUX SHULDHAM TO PHILIP STEPHENS¹

Chatham in Halifax Harbour June 8th 1776

Sir,

I herewith Inclose you a Copy of a letter I received from General [Wil-

liam] Howe ² representing that, as the Transport Department which was already very extensive would during the Course of the ensuing Campaign be greatly increased, it was his Opinion it would be for his Majesty's Service that an Officer of Superior Rank to a Lieutenant should have the direction of the Other Agents; and Applying at the same time that Lieutenant [John] Bourmaster may be appointed a Master and Commander for that purpose.

In order therefore to Contribute every thing in my Power to the Success of the Operations of the Campaign I gave Lieutenant Bourmaster an Order to Command the *Albany* for a few days to give him Rank, and hope their Lordships will be pleased to Confirm him a Master and Commander in Consequence of the Generals request and my opinion of the propriety of the Measure. I am Sir [&c.]

M: Shuldham

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/484.

2. See Howe to Shuldham, May 25, 1776.

The Freeman's Journal, SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1776

Portsmouth, June 8, 1776

The day before yesterday between 3 and 4 o'clock in the Afternoon, a Brig and a Schooner were seen in an engagement off the Isle of Shoals; who they were is not known; the Engagement held till it was dark, when the Brig had got the better, but not taken the Schooner. We could not learn any further particulars.

JONATHAN GLOVER TO MAJOR GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD ¹

Honouard Sir

Marblehead June 8 1776

I have the plasure to Informe your Excellency that your Schrs. *Lee & Warrin* have this Moment, Arrived with the Ship *Ann* from Glasco with Ninety five, of the kings troops on Board, She Mounted Six Carrage Guns But the Master and troops, Made No oposion against your Vessells they took her Last Night off Cape Cod ² I. have Sent you By the Barer all the papers, the troops on Board I understand are Commanded By a Capt & two Lieutenants ³ I am Dear sir your Excellency [&c.]

Jonathan Glover

N B I. have Borrowed of our Town 112 [lb.] powder & 64 four pound Shot which Shall Be Much oblige to your Excellency youl order to be Returned By the Barer yours to Command J Glover
[Endorsed] he had an order on the Commissary [for] the powder & such Ball as he Chose

1. Ward Papers, MassHS.

2. The ship *Ann*, John Denniston, master, carrying Captain Hamilton Maxwell's company of the 71st Highland regiment, and taken by three of Washington's armed schooners. The third one, the *Lynch*, had headed for Plymouth with the balance of the soldiers.

3. Within two hours Glover again wrote General Ward: "a Capt [Hamilton] Maxwell and five Lieutenants are Now Come on Shore with about Sixty of the Troops the Remainder Being put on Board Capt [John] A[y]res who we understand Bore away Last Night for plymouth." Green Papers, MassHS.

MASTER'S LOG OF H.M.S. *Milford* ¹

June 1776 Boston Lighthouse WSW 3 Miles
 Saturday 8 at 8 AM saw 3 Sail in the N E Quartr gave Chace at 10 the Prize bore away for Nantasket Road ² ½ past 11 the Vessels got into Marble Head Harbour shortn'd Sail & bore away for Nantasket Road.
 Little Wind and clear
 at 1 PM Came too with the Best Bower in Nantasket Road in 5 fathm Veer'd to ⅓ of a Cable at 2 sent 35 of the Prisoners onboard the *Renown*, carried out the Kedge Anchor to Steady the Ship, Sailmakers came from the *Renown* to repair the Sails.

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1865.

2. The Massachusetts privateer brig *Yankee Hero*.

COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS TO HIS BROTHER, STEPHEN HOPKINS,
 PHILADEPHIA ¹

Dear Brother

Providence, June 8, 1776

I receiv'd your kind Letter of the 31st May & observe the Contents and as for the Southern Colonies being Uneasy it is no more than from the Circumstances of things I before apprehended – but it was not nor is in my power to prevent it – but if they think I am partial in favour of the Northern Colonies they are greatly mistaken.

When I went to the Southward I intended to go from New Providence to Georgia had I not receiv'd intelligence 3 or 4 days before I sailed that a Frigate of 28 Guns had arrived there, which made the Force in my Opinion too Strong for us – at Virginia they were likewise too strong. In Delaware and New York it would not do to attempt. Rhode Island I was sensible was Stronger than we, but the Force there was nearer equal than any where else, which was the reason of my attempting there which answered no other end than the British Naval Force quitting the Government –

When I attempted the Fleet at Rhode Island had all the Commanders behaved as well as I expected they would, I should have had it in my power long before this to have relieved most of the Southern Governments from their present difficulties – but as the Case was it was lucky we did not fall in with their whole Strength at first – I was not deceived in the Strength of the Enemy but greatly in our own Resolution, and perhaps I was wrong in not giving my Sentiments fully at first, the Reason of which was I was, in hopes then of some further Action & that we might Retrieved the Character of the Fleet – but the inattention to business of most of the Officers, and an expectation of getting higher Stations in the new Ships has I think been some hindrance to getting the Fleet ready to Sail so soon as otherwise it Might – I had no apprehension of the Cannon being wanted more any where else, which was the Reason of my delivering them to Governor's Cook[e] and Trumbull.

The very great Sickness which then was and still is amongst the Seamen of the Fleet Render'd it impossible to undertake any Enterprize for the Relief of any Colony, although in ever so much Distress – All that I have been able to do was to Send the two Brigs on a Cruise which I acquainted them with –

I did not know it was Necessary to send a Copy of my Orders to the Marine Committee, but shall now do it immediately.

I conceived it was by the Regulations the business of the several Captains to transmit Muster Rolls of the Men under their Command both Names & Condition Monthly, but since I find they have not done it, shall see that they do it as soon as possible.

There has been by my direction two Court Martials, a Copy of their Proceedings as far as they transmitted to me I sent to the President – I am very Sensible that every Officer has his Friends, and that has had so much Weight with me as not to order a Court Martial although ever so necessary but when the Complaint came in writing and that from the principal Officers of the Fleet. I wish to God and for the good of my Country that no Officer in the Fleet depended on any Friend, but their own Merit.

As for the division of the Plunder it gives me no Concern, and I take Notice that those who are most Clamorous about the Matter least deserve it.

As for the Officers of the Fleet I believe my Son will not take the Command of any Vessel without he might Cruise single, and I have no other Friend to recommend; but I wish with all my heart it was in my power to recommend such as would fight when it was absolutely necessary –

I am greatly Obligated to you for the kind wish of my Prudence, Judgment and Bravery – the Honesty you might [have] left out – On the whole I am very Sensible there are many men more able to serve the common Cause than I am at these Years, in the difficult department I am placed in, and if it is in the Committees power to get one of them willing to Serve in my Stead, he shall have all the assistance in my power to give – and I will still continue to Serve my Country in such a way as I think will be most for her Advantage. The several difficulties that attend the Navy are too many to mention & perhaps imprudent to Name, it is too much for my Capacity to Surmount; and if you be so kind as to use your Interest to get a good Man in my Room, although you have done me many favours, it is not in your power to do me more or greater Service at present.

The *Columbus* is near ready to Sail, where I shall Order her to Cruise have not yet determind. The *Fly* goes down to Newport to morrow to take the Cannon ordered from there to Philadelphia – The *Columbus* will take near all the well People save Officers belonging to the Fleet –

If I can, shall get the *Providence* on a Cruise soon. She now is commanded by Lieutenant [John Paul] Jones of the *Alfred* as he was the oldest Lieutenant. Lieutenant [Hoysteed] Hacker of the *Cabot* has had the Command of the *Fly* ever since we took her into the Service, and I think has be-

haved so well as he deserves to be appointed Captain of her – I am Your friend & Brother,

E.H.

P.S. If you please you may make Publick, all or such part of the above Letter, or not, as your Judgement Shall Suggest

1. Hopkins Letter Book, RIHS.

“A LIST OF THE SEAMEN AND LANDSMEN THAT CAME OUT OF THE CAPES OF DELIWARE IN THE *Fly* – REMAINS ONBOARD NOW – 8TH JUNE 1776”¹

[Entered]		Quality	
Novemr 20 ²			
January 20th	Hoysteed Hacker	Captain	
January 30th	John Fanning	Li[e]utenant	
January 3d	Robert Robinson	Master	
Decbr 23	william weaver	Steward & Cooper	
Feby 13th	John Downey	Bowsuin	
Decembr 28	Thos Barjes	Seaman	
Decembr 28	Joseph Janways	Seaman	
Janurary 1.	Joseph Sheremon	X Landsman	Discharged in New London
Jany 6	John Young	X Mid Ship man	Run the 12 April
Jany 1st	william Pierce	Seaman	
Jany 1st	John york	Seaman	
Jany 11.	Joseph Breed	X Lands man	Sick in New London
Jany 1st.	Christopher Crandole	X Lands man	Diead in the Ospitle
Jany. 11th	John Cook	X Lands man	in the <i>andrew Doria</i>
Jany. 2d	Daniel Scranton	X Lands man	Run 30 April
Jany 17.	Quatro Chadwick	Seaman	
Jany. 17	John Clark	Cook	
Jany. 8th	weden Carpenter	Landsman	
Jany 2d	Steven Fowler	X Landsman	Run the 11 April
Jany 1st	Parker Hall	X Lands man	Run the 13 Do
Jany. 6	Samuel Tyler	X Lands man	Sick in New London
Jany 1st	Peleg Johnson	Seaman	
Jany 1st	Ruben Duye	Lands man	
Jany. 1st	Macheson Chase	X Lands man	Died on board the Comodore
[Feb. 11]	william Mcwhorton	Lands man	
Feby 8	Lawrence ash	X Seaman	sick at Providence
Jany. 1.	John Chadwick	Boy	
30 april	Jno Sonie Hacker	Boy	

[Entered]		Quality	
March 16	Laven Dashield	Mate	
May 23d	Philip Justus	Seaman	
	Priseners		
	James Hats		
	James Powel		
	Michiel Forney		
	william Brown		
	Frank Casey		in Prison
	Dragon & Sorinam		entered the <i>andrew</i>
	wanton	Negroes	<i>Doria</i>

1. Hopkins Papers, RIHS.
2. Hacker had entered the brig *Cabot* on November 20, and was transferred to the *Fly* January 20. John Fanning had entered the ship *Alfred*, November 25, 1775, and was transferred to the *Fly* January 30, 1776.

OWNERS OF THE RHODE ISLAND PRIVATEER SLOOP *Snowbird* TO
GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE ¹

Sir

Providence June the 8th 1776

We the Subscribers all of Providence in the Colony of Rhode Island Merchants request your Honor to grant a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal to Lewis Thomas Commander of the Sloop *Snowbird* of which we are Owners, She is burthened about Fifty-six Tons carries Four Swivel Guns, manned with Six Men and fitted with a suitable Quantity of Military Stores &c. Lewis Thomas is Captain and David Lawrence is Lieutenant & Mate of said Sloop. We are with great Respect Sir [&c.]

Nich^s Brown R^d Salter
W^m Wall Welcome Arnold

1. Maritime Papers, Letters of Marque, R. I. Arch.

Providence Gazette, SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1776.

Providence, June 8.

Capt. [Peleg] Potter, from Cape Francois, informs, that Advice was received there from France before he sailed, that his Most Christian Majesty had, in peremptory Terms, signified to the Court of Great Britain his Disapprobation of sending foreign Troops to America.

Capt. [James] Westcot, from Martinico, advises, that the French have at that Island between 5 and 6000 Troops; that great Lenity is shewn to American Vessels trading there, and that a French Frigate constantly cruizes off the Island, to protect them from the ministerial Pirates.

Capt. Westcot has brought with him a Person well skilled in the manufacturing of Gunpowder, having served an Apprenticeship to the Business.

Wednesday last several Carts, loaded with Carbines, intrenching Tools, &c. being Part of the Cargo of the valuable Prize taken by the late Capt. Mugford, passed through here for New-York. ¹

We hear that a Ship of 300 Tons, bound from Jamaica for London, hav-

ing on board 500 Hogsheads of Sugar, a Quantity of Rum, and Madeira Wine, was lately taken by two Philadelphia Privateers, and carried into Bedford. ²

A large Schooner from Jamaica, laden with Rum and Sugar, was carried into Dartmouth a few Days since. ³

1. From the powder ship *Hope*, taken May 17, 1776.
2. The ship *Reynolds*, taken by the Pennsylvania privateer sloops *Congress* and *Chance*. The prize master was Thomas Truxtun, of whom a memorial printed in 1809, states: "At this period, the two first private ships of war fitted out in the colonies, called the *Congress* and *Chance*, were equipping for sea, and he entered on board the former as lieutenant. They sailed in company, early in the winter [*sic* April 15] of 1776, [the *Congress* was granted a pilot by the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety, to go down the Cape May Channel] and proceeded off the Havannah, where they captured several valuable Jamaica ships, bound home through the gulf of Florida; of one of which he took the command, and brought her safe into Bedford, Massachusetts." *The Port Folio* (Philadelphia, 1809), I, new series, 32.
3. The schooner *Peggy*, 90 tons burden, Samuel Gilstone, master, *New-England Chronicle*, June 20, 1776.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Orpheus*, CAPTAIN CHARLES HUDSON ¹

June 1776 Sandy Hook NNW $\frac{1}{4}$ W 8 Leagues
 Saturday 8 AM Chaced a Sloop fired 2:6 prs to bring her too on which she ran on Shore, sent the boats man'd & Arm'd to bring her off finding it impossible wth so much Su[r]f on Shore Destroy'd & Left her ² at 11 the Boats came on Board made Sail

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4297.
2. A sloop from the West Indies, driven on shore and burned, Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Saturday, June 8, 1776

On petition of John Bayard, Joseph Deane and William Erskine, being presented to Congress, and read,

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to sell the petitioners 550 lb. of powder, and 400 lb. of swivel and grape shot, for the use of their privateer *Hancock*, ² and also 750 lb. of powder before applied for.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 427.
2. See June 15, 1776, for Continental bond for *Hancock*.

ELBRIDGE GERRY TO SAMUEL GERRY ¹

[Extract] Philadelphia June 8, 1776

I read your Favour of May the 18th with the inclosed Letters & am sorry to find that the Enemy had disposed of your Vessel; but the Fortune of War is uncertain & we must be contented therewith, — I think it a happy affair that Capt. [James] Mugford took the powder vessel altho you Loss of so brave a Man is to be lamented. — I am glad to find you are fortifying Marblehead, pray give by Compliments to Father Colo. [John] Glover and inform him that I wrote to Colo [Azor] Orne desiring that twenty good pieces

cannon might be obtained of the General Court and repaired for your Fortifications, which I think will be adviseable for him to press as the Toun may be defended against Man & Ketches & Ships of War . . . I have just heard that Capt. [Richard] James in your Father Glovers Brig was chased by the Man of War & ran on shore – his Cargo will be Saved but the Vessel lost – I hope he is insured – this happened at the Mouth of the Run [*sic* River].²

1. *Rare American Historical Autographs, The Collection of Frederick S. Peck*, (Philadelphia, 1947), No. 12.
2. *Snow Champion*; see Henry Fisher's letter of June 7, 1776.

Pennsylvania Evening Post, SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1776

Philadelphia, June 8.

Two privateers belonging to this port¹ have taken three very valuable ships bound from Jamaica to London, laden with rum, sugar, molasses, &c. having also a large quantity of dollars and plate on board.²

We hear that on board of the above ships, there were several very fine sea turtles, intended as a present to Lord North; one of which with his Lordship's name nicely cut in the shell, was yesterday presented by the Captain to the worthy President of the American Congress.

1. The Pennsylvania privateer sloops *Congress* and *Chance*.
2. The ships *Lady Juliana*, *Reynolds* and *Juno*.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM HALLOCK TO THE MARINE COMMITTEE OF THE
CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

Gentlemen

Cape May 8th June 1776

I Just received your orders for a Cruise & should Comply with it but the Sloop making so much watter that I think she is not safe; her Stern is in a Shattered Condition & Judge she will not be fitt for Service till that is taken out, she makes 9 or 10 Inches every hour & daily increases; ² I wrote you this morning by Capn Sion in a Sloop from Statia, I am Gentlemen [&c.]

Will^m Hallock

1. Papers CC (Letters addressed to Congress), 78, XI, 57, NA.
2. The Continental sloop *Hornet*.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Kingsfisher*, CAPTAIN ALEXANDER GRAEME¹

June 1776 Cape May W ½ N 5 a 6 Leagues
Saturday 8 Little winds & fair 3 P M Cast off the [French] Sloop and gave Chase to a Brig to WdWd TKd 10 saw the Chase ½ past 11 spoke the Chase hoisted the Boat out Boarded her from Cape Nichola bound to Philadelphia sent a Midshn and Six hands on Board her To Proceed after the Ship

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/506.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BALTIMORE, JUNE 8."¹

Capt. William Barry, who was master of a ship belonging to your port, and who has been a prisoner with Lord Dunmore for some time past, has

made his escape from on board the *Roebuck*, since Lord Dunmore came up to Gwin's Island. He told me he was on board the *Roebuck* during her engagement with the gondolas off Wilmington, in which he and many other prisoners were obliged to fight against their friends, and is of opinion she might have easily been destroyed or taken, whilst she was aground in the river, had the gondolas been supplied with ammunition. He says, she was very much damaged in her rigging and spars; had only one man killed and 5 or 6 wounded. Peter Noble, one of Col. [Ethan] Allen, soldiers, who was sent with him prisoner to England, came here along with Capt. Barry; he told me, that Colonel Allen, with 31 others of his men came out in the fleet to Cape Fear, commanded by Sir Peter Parker; that they were very barbarously used by Capt. Simmonds [Symonds], of the *Solebay*, who robbed them of their stores and cloaths, which the gentlemen of Cork had generously provided for them, and distributed them amongst his own men. This brave young soldier, about two weeks after the arrival of the fleet at Cape Fear, swam ashore in the night in his shirt, in which trim he was obliged to travel for 48 hours, before he met any of the inhabitants, or got any refreshment.

1. *Pennsylvania Journal*, June 12, 1776.

WOOLSEY & SALMON TO JOHN PRINGLE¹

[Extract]

[Baltimore] 8 June

John Pringle – Your favr of 4th now before us & Contents noted, our G[eorge] W[oolsey] is now ordered to Annapolis a Second time about the Brig,² we suppose to Unload here, but we shall not agree to that Untill we hear further from You. Unless the[y] Pay us the freight and for any time Longer she has been in their hands, than she Could have made her Passage to the West Indies however as we Expect to hear from You fully on Thursday its Possible we may not do Nothing Untill then, . . . No Doubt we will have warm work this Summer & we make no doubt, but we shall Loose some friends in the Contest, however all is for the Best, & we are Contented if matters goes well –

1. Woolsey & Salmon Letter Book, LC.

2. The brig *Rogers*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE MARYLAND DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Extract]

[Annapolis June 8]

. . . the Governor is not yet gone; we expect he will leave the province in a few days, what Interruption the Virginians will or can give him in his passage down the Bay time will discover. . . .

Should the Congress think proper to request us to March our Militia in the manner T.S. hath intimated, we must be under the disagreeable Necessity of calling the Convention, tis not with us to say they shall march out of the province; and no doubt the Militia themselves will be backward in so doing till all danger of Invasion here be at an end for the Season – 3400 Militia would take all the Arms we have that are serviceable, and then what

condition would our own province be in; we should become an easy prey to the Men of War and Tenders that will Swarm in the Bay dureing the Summer, and perhaps the ministerial Troops may be tempted by our Weakness to do what they would not otherwise have attempted. this we say upon supposition that we must furnish them wih Arms &c! – We shall hear more fully however hereafter. –

The Intelligence with regard to 7,000 Men [call]ing and declareing for Independence is without foundation we take it to be news from some Incendiary: – Mr. Purveyance got off with a severe Reprimand . . .

1. Red Book, IV, Md. Arch.

MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Williamsburg] Saturday, June 8th, 1776.

Same [a warrant] to Wm. Aylett, Esq'r, for £23.16.6 for Bread and Flour furnished Capt. [Edward] Travis and his Galley. ²

Ord[ered]. the Keeper of the Magazine deliver Lt. [James] Quarles 100 lbs. lead for his Marines.

Wm. Saunders is app[ointe]d master of the *Adventure* pilot boat, to be employed as a cruizer in the Rappahannock.

A warrant to Wm. Pitt for £5.14 for bunting furnished Capt. Travis; also £38.10.0 for 13 guns furnished do. for his Galley.

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 192.

2. The galley *Manley*.

DIXON AND HUNTER'S *Virginia Gazette*, SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1776

Williamsburg, June 8.

Yesterday afternoon an express came in from General Lee, with advice that the fleet is gone from Cape Fear; that it was the prevailing opinion they were bound to South Carolina, though General Lee thinks it most likely they are coming round to this colony.

It is an undoubted fact that all the Tories who were in Lord Dunmore's service have left him, there not being above half the fleet now at Gwyn's island; where they are gone to is uncertain. This, it is imagined, was occasioned by a fever which has raged with great fury amongst them for some time past, and from the funeral processions that have been seen there, very probably has proved fatal to some persons of distinction.

The piratical vessel commanded by Bartlet Goodrich is taken and himself and ten others made prisoners. She mounts four carriage guns, and had on board a quantity of West India produce, some gunpowder, small arms, and a number of other very useful articles.

JOURNAL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

[Wilmington] Saturday June 8th 1776.

General [James] Moore laid before the Council a Letter from Francis Parry, Captain of the *Cruizer* Ship of War and another from Mr Francis Clayton proposing an exchange of a prisoner.

The Council are of Opinion That General Moore may send down Mr Stephen in Exchange for Mr Clayton agreeable to the proposal made by Mr Clayton through Mr Parry.

1. Secretary of State Papers (Provincial Conventions and Congresses/Councils 1774–1776), NCDAH.

COLONEL WILLIAM MOULTRIE TO COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER ¹

Sullivan's Island, June 8, 1776.

To the commanding officer of his Britannic majesty's fleet,
now lying in five fathem-hole, South-Carolina.

Sir,

I send this flag by Capt. [Francis] Huger, to assure you that the firing on a flag coming from your ship yesterday, was the effect of error in the sentinel. A guard placed on the shore in order to receive your messenger, attempted to convince him of the mistake, by displaying a white cloth at the end of a musket. I acquainted the president and commander in chief of this accident, whose orders I received immediately to inform you that a messenger, if you think proper to send one, shall be properly received.

I have the honor to be [&c.]

William Moultrie,
Col. of the second regiment.

[Endorsed] A second flag was sent, with a proclamation of pardon to all that would return to their allegiance.

1. *Moultrie's Memoirs*, I, 149.

MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES LEE TO COLONEL WILLIAM MOULTRIE ¹

[Extract] [Charleston] Thursday Morning [*sic*] 6 o'clock.

Sir,

[June 8]

I am extremely obliged to you for your activity and alertness: I beg you will order Long-Island to be reconnoitred well, and perhaps you will see a probability of attacking them with advantage from the main: . . . but this must be left to your own prudence. I have ordered the two rascally carpenters who deserted, to be searched for; if they can be found, I shall send them bound to you: I do not myself, much like the scheme of retreating by boats, it cannot, I think be done without confusion; but I think you ought to have two means of retreat; for which reason, I must beg that you will be expeditious in finishing the bridge: And all the boats I can procure shall be likewise sent to you . . . if possible I will visit you to day. I am, dear sir, yours,

Charles Lee.

1. *Moultrie's Memoirs*, I, 149–50.

MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES LEE TO COLONEL WILLIAM MOULTRIE ¹

[Extract] Charlestown, 8 o'clock, June 8th.

Sir, As we have received information that a body of the enemy have

landed, and are lodging themselves on Long-Island, and as the nature of the country is represented to me as favorable to riflemen, I must request that you immediately detach [William] Thomson's and [Thomas] Sumpter's regiments; Cpts. Alston's, Mayham's and Coutirier's companies to that Island, with orders to attack, and if possible, dislodge this corps of the enemy; . . . but you must above all, take care, that their retreat across the breach from Long-Island to Sullivan's Island, is secured to them in case of necessity. For which purpose, you are desired to move down to the point, commanding the breach, two field-pieces; . . . the sooner it is done the better: . . . you are therefore to exert yourself in such a manner that the attack may be made at break of day. I am, sir, yours,

Charles Lee.
Major General.

1. *Moultrie's Memoirs*, I, 150-51.

A BRITISH JOURNAL OF THE EXPEDITION TO CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA ¹

[June] 8th The *Prince of Piedmont* Victualler bilged, and Boats were employed in saving the Cargo.

This morning a flag of truce came off accompanied by a Mr. [Francis] Huger an officer in the Rebel forces to apologize for firing upon our flag yesterday; The Generals Proclamation being read & delivered to him he promised to deliver it to the officer commanding at Sullivans Island

This day the General embarked in a Schooner for Spences Inlet proposing to reconnoitre the Island of Long Island with the adjacent shores.

8th June The *Bristol* employed in taking out her Guns & Stores to enable her to get over the Bar.

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

9 June (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Martin*, CAPTAIN HENRY HARVEY ¹

June 1776 At Anchor off the River de Loup –
Sunday 9 at 3 AM: weigh'd and stood up the River,
at 3 Sent the Boats in Chace, at 10 they Return'd having taken a Bateau with some Powder: Anchd off the River de Loup in 2½ fm: – found that a great Number of the Rebel Boats had left it a few Hours before: –
Moderate Weather: at 1 PM weigh'd at 6 Anchd off the Point of the Lake

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/581.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Triton*, CAPTAIN SKEFFINGTON LUTWIDGE ¹

June 1776 Point Lawson NE 4 Miles
Saturday 8th At 6 AM, recd an order from the Commodore by Express, to

lighten the Ship either before or after passing the Rapids, & proceed to Trois Rivieres – Empd the *Lord Howe's* & *Kent's* Boats – got out 4 Cables, 1 Anchor, spare Sails, a quantity of Booms, Boatsns & Carpenter's Stores with empty Casks which I sent on bd the *Lord Howe* – went to Dechambeau and ordered all the Marines on board – sent an Express to Trois Rivieres for a Pilot – a Number of Transpts came up and 6 of them sail'd up and pass'd the Rapids –

Fresh Breezes & variable – P M, return'd from Dechambeau – saw two Gentlemen going express to Quebec who said the Rebels had pass'd over during the last Night and they believed had attack'd our Army at Trois Rivieres at 7 in the morning. –

Sunday 9th at 3 A M unmoor'd & at 10 weigh'd and made Sail up the River with the *Blonde* and a Number of Transports
First part Mod – Mid. rain & Thunder – latr fresh Breezes and fair at 4 P M, a Boat came on bd from the *Magdalen* Schooner with a Letter from Lieut Cummings Agent, that the Rebels had pass'd the River & that there had been an Action at Trois Rivieres; that the British Troops were to disembark immediately if the Wind was contrary – at ½ past 5 P M, the Ship touch'd upon a Rock, Aft, in sailing along above Champlain but receivd no damage Anchor'd the small Br in 7 fm off Point Begou, abt 4 Leagues below Trois Rivieres – at 8 a Schooner came on bd. with a Pilot – got a Schooner alongside & put into her a part of the iron Ballast. ²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/1013.

2. The *Triton's* sole contribution to the engagement at Three Rivers was to send marines to guard "the Prisoners taken in the Attack," and to receive on board the captured Colonel William Irvine, of the Sixth Pennsylvania battalion, *ibid.*, June 14, 15, 1776.

MAJOR GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD TO GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

Sir –

Boston 9 June 1776

Yours of the twenty eighth of May, I received last evening, and shall give immediate attention to all your Directions. I sent forward the first of last week under the care of Genl [Israel] Putnam's Son to be forwarded to New York, five hundred Barrels of powder, five hundred Carbines, and all the other articles which were wrote for. The remaining three hundred Carbines to compleat the eight hundred I shall forward as soon as possible. All the remainder of the ordnance stores taken in the *Hope*, were deposited and secured in the manner you recommend, as soon as possible after their arrival.

Yesterday a Ship from Scotland was taken and brought into Marblehead by the Continental armed Schooners *Warren* and *Lee*. – she had on board a Company of Highlanders consisting of near an hundred privates, one Cap-



A Real American Rifle Man

tain three Subalterns and two Volunteers. They inform that thirty two sail of Transports came out with them under convoy of a Frigate of thirty two Guns with three thousand Highlanders on board all bound to Boston. They brought no papers nor letters of any consequence and can give no intelligence of importance. The Transport is said to be a very good Ship, of one hundred and thirty tuns burthen, had on board four carriage Guns the arms and baggage belonging to the Company, some tents and cloathing, and provisions. The Captain's name is Maxwell who commands the Company, and is Brother to the Dutchess of Gordon.²

As my Health declines more and more daily I must request to be relieved as soon as possible I am Your Excellency's [&c.]

Artemas Ward

1. Washington Papers, LC.

2. Captain Hamilton Maxwell, commanding the light infantry company of the first battalion of the 71st Highlanders, on board the transport ship *Anne*, 223 tons, John Denniston, master.

MASTER'S LOG OF H.M. SLOOP *Hope*¹

June 1776 Remarks &c off Boston Light House
Sundy 9th at 9 AM Weigh'd and Came to Sail at 10 Saw three Sail to the
N E fired 2 Guns as a Signl, for a frend at Noon Boston
Light house W B N 10 or 11 Miles
Fresh Breezes and Hazy with Rain at times at ½ past 3 PM
Came up with the above Vessels found them to be two Ships
from Glasgow with Hilanders in Chaced a Rebel Schooner in
to Cape Ann that was indeavouring to Decoy the above Ships in
to Cape Ann, fired 8 four Pdrs Shoted at the Rebel Schooner,
at 4 PM Boston Light house S W 7 or 8 Leags

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1794.

COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN ABRAHAM WHIPPLE¹

Sir

Please to deliver Mr [John Peck] Rathburns apprentice Boy to Capt. [John Paul] Jones on his giving you another hand in his Room –

Esek Hopkins

[Newport] Sunday Morning June 9th 1776

To Abram Whipple Esqr Commr of the *Columbus*

1. Captain Abraham Whipple Papers, CL.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER¹

[Extract]

New York, June 9, 1776.

I have spoken to the Qr. Master, about a proper Person to superintend the Building of Gondolas [for Lake Champlain] but he knows of none. There is a Man who came to direct the Building of some here; and

if any of the Carpenters shall be deemed qualified after seeing the Model, I will send you one.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 115, 117.

JOHN ADAMS TO JUDGE NATHAN CUSHING ¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia June 9, 1776

. . . Dunmore is fled to an Island. – our little Fleet has had a shocking sickness, which has disabled so many Men, that the Commodore has sent on a Cruise two of his ships only. –

The Difficulty of defending So extended a Sea Coast is prodigious but the Spirit of the People is very willing, and they exert themselves nobly in most Places. – The British Men of War, are distressed for Provisions and even for Water, amost every where. They have no Comfort in any Part of America.

1. Adams Papers, MassHS.

JOHN ADAMS TO JAMES WARREN ¹

[Extract]

[Philadelphia] June 9. 1776

I write this in Haste, only to inclose to you, a little Treatise upon Fire Ships – it may be Sending Coals to New Castle – But it appears to me of such Importance that I thought my self bound to presume and send it, least this Art should not be understood among you. – This Art carries Terror and Dismay, along with it, and the very Rumour of Preparations in this Kind, may do you more Service than many Battallions.

I am not easy about Boston, and have taken all the Pains, in my Power with G. Washington, to engage him to send G. [Gates] and M. [Mifflin] there, but he is so sanguine and confident that no attempt will be made there, that I am some times afraid his security will occasion one.

[Enclosure]

To prepare a Fireship

From the Bulk Head at the Forecastle to a Bulk head to be raised behind the main Chains, on each side, and across the ship at the Bulk head, fix close to the ship sides a double Row of Troughs, quite round at about two feet and an Half distance, which mortiss into the others, the Cross Troughs lead to the sides of the ship, to the Barrells and Chambers, to blow open the Ports; and the side Troughs serve to communicate the Fire all along the ship and cross Troughs.

The Timbers of which the Troughs are to be made should be about five Inches square, the Depths of the Troughs half their Thickness, and supported by cross Pieces at every two or three Yards, nailed to the Timbers of the ship and to the Wood Work which incloses the fore and Main Mast and takes in an Oblong in the Middle of the Deck extending to the outside of both the Masts and in Breadth is near one half of the Deck and is what makes the Carpente[r] Room for his stores. The Decks and Troughs must be well paved with melted Rosin.

on each Side of the Ship cutt out Six small port holes of fifteen by Eighteen Inches; the Ports to open downwards and to be closely caulked up. against each Port, fix an iron Chamber, which at the Time of firing the Ship will blow open the Ports and let out the Fire.

At the main and fore Chains at each side, fix a wooden funnell, over a fire Barrell to come through a Scuttle in the Deck up to the shrouds, to give Fire to them, and between cutt two scuttles, on each side of the ship to let out the Fire. The Funnells and Scuttles must be stopped with Pluggs, and have Sail Cloth and Canvas nailed over them to prevent any Accident happening that way by fire to the Combustibles, below.

The Port Holes, funnells, and Scuttles, not only serve to give the Fire a free Passage to the outside, and upper Parts of the Ship and rigging, but also for the inward Air, otherwise confined to expand itself, and push through those Holes at the Time of the Combustibles, being on Fire, and thereby prevent the Blowing up of the Decks, which otherwise must of Course happen, from such a sudden and instant Rarefaction of the Air.

In the Bulk head behind, on each side, cut a hole, large enough to receive a Trough of the same size, as the others; from which to each Side of the Ship, lies a leading Trough, one End coming through a Sally Port, cut through the Ships Side: and the other fixing into a communicating Trough that lies along the Bulk-Head, from one side of the Ship to the other, and being laid with quick Match only, at the Time of firing either of the leading Troughs, communicates the Fire in an instant to the contrary Side of the Ship and both sides will burn together. The communicating Troughs fixed to the Bulk head, and the leading Troughs on the same side as the others.

To prepare the Stores. Quick Match.

is made with three Cotton Strands drawn into length and put into a Kettle, just covered with white wine Vinegar, and then a Quantity of Salt Petre and mealed Powder, is put in it, and boiled till well mixed. Some put only Salt Petre into the Water. after that it is taken out hot, and laid into a Trough where some mealed Powder, moistened with Spirits of Wine is thoroughly wrought int[o] the Cotton, by rolling it backwards and forwards with the Hands. This done, they are taken out Seperately, and drawn through mealed Powder, then hung upon a Line till dry.

Fire Barrells.

The Form of the Barrells should be cylindric, because, that make answers better for filling them with Reeds, and for stowing them on Board, between the Troughs; their inside Diameters should be about twenty one, and their Lengths thirty three Inches. The Bottom Parts should be first filled with short double dipped Reeds Set on End, and the Remainder with Fire Barrell Composition, well mixed and melted, then poured over them. There should be five Holes of three fourths of an Inch Diameter, and three Inches dep made with a of that size in the Top of the Composition, while it is warm; one in the Center, the other four at equal Distances, round the Sides of the Barrell. When the Composition is cold and hard, the Barrell is primed by well driving these Holes full of fuze Composition, to within an

Inch of the Top; then fixing in each hole, a Strand of Quick Match twice doubled, and in the Center Hole, two strands the whole Length; all which must be well set or drove in with mealed Powder; then lay the quick Match within the Barrell, and cover the Top with dip'd Curtain, fastened on with a Hoop, to slip over the Head, and nailed on.

The Barrells should be made very strong, not only to support the Weight of the Composition, before firing, in removing, and carrying them about, but to keep them together at the Time, they are burning: for if the staves are too slight and thin, and should burn too soon, so as to give Way, the remaining Composition would be apt to seperate, and tumble upon the deck, which would destroy the designed Effect of the Barrell, which is to carry the Fire aloft

Iron Chambers.

Should be Ten Inches long and in Diameter, and breeched against a Piece of wood fixed across the Port Holes, and let into another lying a little higher; when loaded, they are almost filled with corned Powder, with a wooden Tompion well drove into their Muzzles; should be primed with a small Piece of quick Match t[h]rust through their Vents into the Powder, with a Part of it hanging out; when the Ship is fired they blow open the Ports; which either fall downwards or are carried away, and so give Vent for the Fire out of the sides of the Ship. —

Curtains

Should be made of about Three fourths Wide and one Yard in Length; they are to be dipped by two Men with a Fork each, of one Prong to hold and dip the Curtain into a Furnace of well melted Composition, after which extend the Curtain to its full Breadth and whip it through two sticks of five and an half feet long and one and an half Inch square, held close together in order to take off the superfluous Composition. then sprinkle saw dust on both sides to prevent its sticking.

Reeds.

to be made in small Bundles of about twelve Inches Circumference, cutt even at both Ends, and tied with two Bands each: the longest sort is four Feet, the shortest two and an half, which are the only lengths that are used. one Part is single-dipped, that is only at one End, the rest are double-dipped, that is, at both Ends. in dipping they must be put about Seven or Eight Inches deep into a Copper or Kettle of melted Composition; sprinkle them over a tanned Hide with pulverised sulphur, at some distance from the Copper.

Bavins.

are to be made of Birch, Heath, or other sort of Brush Wood, that is both quickly fired and tough, in length two and an half or three feet. the Brush Ends laid all one Way; and the other Ends tied with two Bands each. They are to be dipped and Sprinkled with Sulphur the same as Reeds, only that the Brush Ends alone are dipped, and should be a little closed together, with the Hand as soon as done, before they are sprinkled to keep them more close

in order to give a stronger Fire, and to keep the Branches from Breaking off in shifting and handling them.

The Stores are to be disposed on Board, when laid for firing after the following manner. –

The Fire Barrells should be placed under the Funnells and Scuttles, one to each; and fixed between the cross Troughs leading to the sides of the ship, lashed to them and well cleeted to the deck. Those at the Funnells give Fire to the main and fore Shrouds; the rest rise over the Deck through the Scuttles, The Pluggs must be taken out of the Funnells and Scuttles before the ship is fired, and the Curtains covering the fire Barrells, cutt open and rolled back. the quick match spread and the Tops of the Barrells well salted with priming Composition. The Curtains are to be nailed to the Beams of the upper Deck, hanging over the Troughs, Bavins, and Reeds. – of the priming Composition a Part is laid along the Troughs, the rest after laying of the Reeds and Bavins is regularly strewed over all. The short Reeds double dipped, with some of the single dipped are laid along both the sides and cross Troughs, and communicate the Fire both to the Barrells and Chambers. The rest of the single dipped Reeds and Bavins are set about the Fire Barrells, and to the sides of the ship; and some flung upon the Deck.

The quick Match is laid two or three strands thick upon the Reeds in the Troughs, and about the Fire Barrells and Chambers, to communicate a general Fire, at once. The Reeds in the Troughs with the quick match are lashed on to prevent their falling out by the rolling of the ship.

The leading Troughs are both laid with four or five strands of quick Match; as is likewise the communicating Trough, that by Firing either of the leading Troughs, the communicating Trough may carry the Fire to the other side of the ship; which there runs along the Troughs by the quick Match on both sides, and give Fire to the whole in an instant.

The Composition made use of for Curtains, Reeds and Bavins, are all the same, viz. Pitch 14. Sulphur 7. Rosin 7. Tallow 2. Tar 1. – for Want of Tar take 3 Pounds of Tallow. –

Fire Barrell Composition. for one Barrell. Corned Powder 120 lb. Pitch 60 lb – Tallow 10 lb. – divide the Composition into Fire Pots: The Pitch and Tallow must be first thoroughly melted. Tallow well the outside of the Pot to take off the Heat and then put in the Powder by small Quantities, stirring it, well about.

Priming Composition for one Barrel. Corned Powder 100 lb. – Petre 50. – Sulphur 40. – Rosin 6. Oil Pints 3. – take 20 lb of Powder, which mix well with the Petre, Sulphur and Rosin, work them well together, breaking it well in Working, then put the rest of the Powder in by degrees and work it all together: spread it in a trough, and through a [fine] Sieve, run 3 Pints of Oil all over it; then work it well together and run it through a Cane Sieve.

Quantity of Composition for a Fire Ship of 150 Tons.

Salt Petre – Sulphur – corned Powder – Pitch – Rosin – Tallow

For 8 Barrells		960	480	80		
For 3 half Barrells of	175 –	140.	350.	21.		
Priming Com- position						
For Curtains, Bavins and Reeds for the Ship and Sul- phur for Salt- ing them		200.		350	175.	50.
total	175.--	<u>340</u>	<u>1310</u>	<u>830</u>	<u>196</u>	<u>130.</u>

total Weight of the Composition allowing for the Reeds for the Barrells being a fifth of the whole of the last Article, that is 160 lb. will make the whole [3]177 Pounds or 2 Ct. 1.13.–

Smaller or larger Ships take proportional Charges. –

1. Adams Papers, MassHS.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Kingsfisher*, CAPTAIN ALEXANDER GRAEME ¹

June 1776 Cape May W $\frac{1}{2}$ N 5 a 6 Leagues
 Sunday 9 2 A M all Sails set 6 lay too For the Brig took her in Tow made
 Sail 9 Brot too hoisted out a Boat & went on board the Brig
 6 P M saw the Rebel Brig at Anchor to the Wt wd ² 7 she got
 under Sail & Stood to the Wt wd 9 TKd 12 Light house
 W $\frac{1}{2}$ S

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/506.
2. The Continental brig *Lexington*, Captain John Barry.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN ST. MARY’S COUNTY,
 MARYLAND, DATED THE NINTH ULT [JUNE]” ¹

Our neighbour Dunmore has removed up to Gwyn’s island, and has there intrenched himself. Four days ago he sent a party of marines and sailors on shore to get wood, to the amount of fifty, who to a man deserted, with their arms and tools. Three of them would have inlisted with us, but we, being full, could not take them. They say he intends to make a push at us in harvest. I apprehend his crop will hardly be worth gathering.

1. *Pennsylvania Gazette*, July 3, 1776.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO GOVERNOR PATRICK TONYN ¹

Roebuck at Gwins Island in
 Virginia the 9th June 1776.

Sir

Having been informed by a vessel that arrived here yesterday, that his

Majesty's Troops in Garrison at St Augustine, as well as the inhabitants, are in Great want of Provisions; I have therefore lost no time in dispatching my Tender, commanded by Mr [Richard] Whitworth, with a Small Supply of Bread and Flour to you, and every thing besides that could be spared from the numerous Fleet we have here.² I hope it will arrive in time to be of use; but if you should have been supplied from any other quarter, I shall beg of you to return the Beef back to us. The other Articles we are tolerably well off in.

I take this opportunity to acquaint your Excellency, that Lord Dunmore and my self, with the Forces under our command, together with a numerous Fleet of Vessels, containing some of the late Inhabitants of Norfolk, evacuated that place the latter end of last Month, and have taken possession of this Island, which forms an excellent Harbour at the Mouth of Piankank river in Cheseapeak bay and being central to all the Rivers, is a very proper rendezvous for His Majesty's Fleet.

We are much in want of small Cannon, from Nine pounders to three Pounders, and have not a Single Howitzer or Cohorn. If there should be any at St Augustine that can be spared, we shall be much obliged to you for them. I say nothing to you about Troops, more than to lament our having so very few here at this Juncture. Had we the remaining part of the 14th Regiment, I think it would not be in the power of the enemy to dispossess us: but circumstanced as we are, our situation is by no means secure; however, we have always the resource of our Ships to retire to, and can move when we find it necessary without much difficulty. I have the honor to be Sir [&c.]

A S Hamond

PS. I must beg of you to dispatch my Sloop back to me as soon as possible.

1. Hamond, Letters and Orders, 1775-1778, UVL.

2. *Ibid.*, Mr. Whitworth was also ordered to call at Charleston "to deliver the enclosed dispatches to Sir Peter Parker, and General Clinton."

RICHARD LEE TO LANDON CARTER ¹

[Extract]

Wmsburgh June 9 1776

. . . on the 29th & 31 of May Clinton & his Fleet &c left Cape Fear which Consisted of about 3000 Men, it is supposed Charles Town is the place of their destination. . .

Genl [Charles] Lee is gone [to] Charles Town . . . Callenders Cargo that went up yr River was 15000 lb of Powder 370 Stand of Arms 2000 lb of Musket Ball & 3000 lb of Sheet & Bar Lead a qty of Duck Oznabrigs Checks &c she is fitted out for a Privateer.

1. Philip Lee Folder, VHS.

RICHARD HUTSON TO ISAAC HAYNE ¹

[Extract]

Montpelier June 9th. 1776

Dr Sir

Your Part of the Country no doubt teems with myriads of dreadful Re-

ports concerning our present Situation. The grand Armada is I believe, at length completed. It consists of Fifty two Sail, of wh but Seven or Eight are Men of War, one of them a Fifty gun Ship, the others from 20 to 30 Guns. The Remainder of the Fleet consists of Transports, Store ships & Prizes, amongst the latter our Coasting Schooners make a considerable figure. On Friday & yesterday Seven of their Vessels got over the Bar. Two of them ran aground on the Breakers. On Friday afternoon A Flag of Truce was on its way to Town, when it was fired on from Sullivan's Island by an ignorant Sentry upon which it returned. Yesterday Capt [Francis] Huger was sent on board the Fleet to apologize for it, & in the afternoon it went up to Town. The Purport is to demand Fort Johnston upon pain of having the Town burnt. I have not heard the President's Answer, but presume that the fort will be tendered to them at the mouth of the Cannon. We are preparing for the most Vigorous Resistance in our Power. The Detachments from the Country Militia are coming in every day. Gen: Lee arrived yesterday with several hundred Continental Troops. We very Providentially received a supply of Ten Thousand Weight of Gun Powder about a Fortnight ago by a Sloop wh had been sent to St Eustatia, for that purpose. We have everything in fine order & our men are in high Spirits. So that I have very sanguine hopes, and I think upon rational Grounds that we shall be able with the Assistance of Heaven to give a good account of them. . . I am yours &

Rich^d Hutson.

To Isaac Hayne Esq at Hayne Hall

1. Charles Woodward Hutson Papers, UNCL Typescript.

A BRITISH JOURNAL OF THE EXPEDITION TO CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA ¹

[June] 9th The remaining large Transports with the *Thunder* Bomb got over the Bar into 5 fathm hole, the *Bristol* preparing to follow –

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

10 June

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO BRIGADIER GENERAL
JOHN SULLIVAN ¹

[Extract]

Chambly, June 10, 1776.

Dear General: I went to St. Johns yesterday, where I found everything in the greatest confusion – not one stroke done to fortify the camp – the Engineer a perfect sot – at that and this near three thousand sick. I have given orders that the sick draw only half rations in future. I have ordered Colonel [Edward] Antill to St. Johns, and an abattis and lines to be immediately begun, to enclose the two old forts and an encampment, sufficient to hold six thousand man. I am fully of opinion not one minute ought to be lost in securing our retreat, and saving our heavy cannon, baggage, and

provisions. The enemy will never attack you at Sorel. Their force is doubtless much superior to ours, and we have no advice of any reinforcements. Shall we sacrifice the few men we have by endeavouring to keep possession of a small part of the country which can be of little or no service to us? The junction of the Canadians with the Colonies – an object which brought us into this country – is now at an end. Let us quit them, and secure our own country before it is too late. There will be more honour in making a safe retreat than hazarding a battle against such superiority, which will doubtless be attended with the loss of men, artillery, &c., and the only pass to our country. These arguments are not urged by fear for my personal safety: I am content to be the last man who quits this country, and fall, so that my country rise. But let us not fall all together.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, VI, 796.

JOURNAL OF BARTHOLOMEW JAMES¹

[May 30 to June 10]

I was sent on board her [the sloop *Ranger*] as prize-master, with orders to carry her to Halifax; and on the 30th, taking with me the captain's coxswain and two men, together with the master and a boy belonging to the sloop, I parted for the *Orpheus*, being about two hundred leagues from Halifax.

The weather blew hard till the 4th of June, on the morning of which day I was chased by a rebel privateer brig till five in the evening, when, finding she was coming up very fast with me and must inevitably speak me, I hauled up the ports, of which she had fourteen fresh painted, though not one gun; and conceiving our formidable appearance might serve to intimidate the enemy with the addition of some stratagem, I hove immediately about and crowded all the sail I could toward him, when he in his turn ran off as fast as possible. This sudden manoeuvre, the meaning of which he had clearly mistaken, amused him till it was dark, when I altered the course from any he had seen me steer, and in this manner got clear of a very troublesome friend. The 6th I had a fine breeze, and the 7th made the land about four or five leagues to the westward of Halifax harbour, soon after which it fell a stark calm, when in the course of an hour I caught, with two lines only, one hundred and twenty-four fine large cod. The wind springing up with a thick fog, I unfortunately passed the entrance of the harbour three leagues before I discovered it, and on the 8th in the morning it blew a heavy gale of wind directly off shore to the northward. I stood to the eastward all night under a trysail and storm jib, and in the morning, the weather being more moderate, stood to the westward under close-reefed mainsail and double-reefed foresail, and at sunset was at the mouth of the harbour. But night coming on with the usual bad weather, and having forty fathoms of water, I was obliged again to run to sea.

The 10th I was again in with Chebucto Head, and having struck soundings on a reef of rocks, in 8 fathom, I immediately let go the anchor, as the people as well as myself had taken no rest for forty-eight hours. Though from such a situation I had a right to expect the loss of both cable and an-

chor, yet I was fortunate enough to save them, and got under way at break of day in the morning, with a seeming prospect of getting soon into the harbour. But just as I was the length of Major's beach, and about to speak a Falmouth packet then coming down the river, she missed stays, which obliged me (being very near some dangerous rocks) to be quick in wearins; in consequence of which the boom came over, with the whole main sheet eased off, and carried it away in six different parts, which obliged me again to run from the narrow channel, and also lost me the satisfaction of speaking the packet; at one o'clock I got as high as George's Island, where, meeting with the accident of splitting my mainsail, I brought to, and leaving the care of the prize to the captain's coxswain, waited upon my Lord Shuldham, who gave me directions to come on board the *Chatham*, who in two hours carried me again to sea in a flag ship with four shirts and one old uniform.

1. Laughton, ed., *James' Journal*, 25-27.

DIARY OF DR. THOMAS MOFFAT ¹

May 31st saw several shallops off New Liverpool and 10 at night saw the Light house off Cape Sambro and before sunrise of June 1st anchord in Halifax ²

[June] 4th Thermometer at 6 in the morning 42.

6th a pacquett from Engd

7th a transport with part of the 42d Regt

June 9th after waiting on General [William] Howe went aboard Captn [James] Ayscough.³

10th Seven in the morning Admiral Shuldham made signal for unmorring: at eleven for sailing before sunsett collected the Fleet. Thermom: 46

1. Thomas Moffat's Diary, LC.

2. Moffat had sailed from England in H.M.S. *Canceaux*.

3. Ayscough commanded H.M. Sloop *Swan*.

MAJOR CHARLES STUART TO HIS FATHER, THE EARL OF BUTE ¹

[Extract]

Halifax, June 10, 1776

We are going to sail in half an hour which prevents me from saying a thousand things. I shou'd imagine the commencement of this campaign will be bloody active as our G[enera]l is spurred on by a jealous notion that Carleton will gain the laurels. One ship of the 42nd Highlanders are arrived. We hope to meet the rest in the offing, with Lord Howe; if we are not so fortunate our operations will be delay'd for this campaign or we must act with half the Army. The scheme appears rash as waiting cou'd make but a few days difference.

We leave here Genl Lesley [Alexander Leslie] with five thousand men, a very foolish man, but fortunately the People of the Province have not strength enough to raise against the measures of Government or I fear the management of bad Governors & a licentious Council have caused them to

be disaffected. Either New York or Rhode Island will be the scene of action, from the field of battle I hope I shall next write you.

1. *New Records of the American Revolution. The Letters, Manuscripts and Documents sent by Lieut-Gen. Sir Charles Stuart, to his Father, the Earl of Bute, 1775-79 and Letters of General Howe, General Clinton, and other Officers to Sir Charles Stuart during the Revolution, 1779-81.* Privately printed, n.d. 8, 9. Hereafter cited as *Letters of Charles Stuart*.

DIARY OF BENJAMIN MARSTON ¹

1776

June 10 Sailed from Halifax in the Schooner *Earl Percy* Nath. Atkins master for Dominica – The fleet & Army Under Admiral Shuldham & Genl Howe sailed the same day for New York –

1. Marston Diary, UNBL. Writing to John Adams from Watertown, December 3, 1775, James Warren said: "Howe I believe has received such intelligence and assurances from one Benja. Marston who has fled from Marblehead to Boston. This fellow is a cousin of mine. Had ever any man so many rascally cousins as I have." *Warren-Adams Letters*, I, 188. Marston was the son of Benjamin Marston and Elizabeth Winslow. He also prided himself as a poet. Interspersed in his diary are several of his poetic efforts, two of them having been composed while in Halifax prior to the first entry in his diary. One of these, to his sister Lucia Watson was "Wrote from Windsor Nova Scotia May 1776 –" the other, "To Eliza" was penned "From Halifax June 1776." See illustration opposite.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Chatham*, CAPTAIN JOHN RAYNOR ¹

June [17]76 Moor'd at Halifax
 Monday 10 at 9 AM Made the Signal & Unmoor'd at 11 Made the Signal & Weigh'd . . .
 at 4 PM Made Sail in Company the *Centurion*, *Rose*, *Swan*, *Greyhound*, *Senegal* & *Tryal* Schooner with 120 Sail of Transports, Victuallers &ca. in going out was Saluted from the Town with 17 Guns at 7 Made Sail, at 8 Cape Samboro, WBN 4 or 5 Miles,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/192.

NATHANIEL TRACY TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL ¹

To the honble the Councill of the Colony of the Massachusetts bay –
 humbly Shews

Nathaniel Tracy of Newburyport in the County of Essex Merchant, lately one of the Owners of the *Yankee Hero* Privateer that on the seventh Day of May instant ² the said Privateer was unfortunately engaged with a Ship of Force belonging to the Enemy & after an Engagement of more than two Hour's Length she was taken & carried into Boston Harbour your Petitioner has Reason to believe that the Honble Major General Ward if your Honours shall see fit to recommend the Measure to him would send a Flag to the Commodore of the Enemy's Fleet & propose an Exchange of Prisoners taken by some of the Vessells of this Colony for the brave Men who were taken in said Privateer, an Interposition of this Kind your Petitioner humbly conceives would not only relieve a Number of our Friends who deserve

well of the Community & have repeatedly exerted themselves in its Defence but be an Encouragement to others more freely to engage in the same Service when they may be assured that in Case of their Misfortunes they will not be neglected, and as in Duty bound will pray –

[Watertown] June 10th 1776

Nat Tracy

[Endorsed] In Council June 10th 1776 Read and committed to Benja Lincoln & Saml Holton Esqr John Lowell Dpty Secy P T

[Second endorsement] In Council June 10th 1776. It having been Represented to this Board that the Brig *Yankee Hero* lately belonging to Nath Tracy Esqr & others has been taken by the enemy & carried in to Boston Harbour by which a number of our friends (who deserve well of the Community & have repeatedly exerted themselves in its defence) are made prisoners. It is Therefore recommended to his Honor Genl Ward to propose to the commander of the enemys fleet now in Said Harbour an exchange of the Same Number of prisoners now in our hands, for the men taken in Said *Yankee Hero* – In the Name & by ordr. of the Council
signed Caleb Cushing Presidt

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 164, 389–90a.

2. The *Yankee Hero* was taken by H.M.S. *Milford* on Thursday afternoon, June 6, 1776, not May

7. See journal of the *Milford*.

Boston Gazette, MONDAY, JUNE 10, 1776

Watertown, June 10.

On Monday, the 3d instant one of the Continental frigates of 24 Guns, built at Newbury Port, under the direction of the Hon. Thomas Cushing, Esq; was launched in the view of a great number of Spectators, she is highly approved of by all who are judges as a very fine Ship, she is built with the very best of Timber, and the workmanship is compleat.¹

Tuesday last arrived safe at Newbury Port, a sloop from Tortola, and a Schooner from Barbadoes, as Prizes taken by Captain [Jeremiah] O'Brian, in one of [the] Colony Cruizers,² who was left in chase of a Ship when the above Prizes parted with him.

Thursday last was sent into Cape Ann, a large Jamaica Man, with 500 hogsheads of Sugar, besides other valuable Goods, and a large Sum in Specie. She was taken by one of the Continental Cruizers who put the Captain, his Lady, and all the hands, (which did not voluntarily enter on board the Cruizer) ashore at New-Providence. The Prize-Master of the Ship on his Passage from the West Indies met with a Scotch vessel of Force with 90 Soldiers, bound for Boston, on board of which he Breakfasted, and told the Scotch Captain he was destined from Jamaica for London, but as he thought Sugars would bear a better Price at Boston, he had thoughts of trying that Market first. The Scotchman being a stranger to this coast, desired the Prize Master to Pilot him in, which he agreed to and cond[uc]ted him almost into Cape Ann, when he observing two of our Privateers appearing in sight, discovered the Trap, and being considerably to the Windward, made the best of his way off.³

Friday last Capt. Daniel Waters, in company with a Marblehead privateer, took a large ship from Scotland having on board 94 Highlanders, between 30 & 40 sailors for the Ministerial Fleet, and 40 Pieces of Cannon 4 and 6 Poun[ders], besides six mounted on Deck &c. The Marblehead Privateer took 60 of the Soldiers on board, and carried them to Plymouth; Capt. Waters, with the Prize and the Remainder, arrived safe at Marblehead on Saturday.— 'Tis said this is the Ship mentioned in the preceding Paragraph.⁴

We hear another Ship, with Troops, which sailed from Glasgow in Company with the above, is lost, and every Soul perished.

Friday last the *Lively* Frigate came up with the *Yankey Hero*, Capt. [James] Tracy, of Newbury Port, when an obstinate engagement commenced, which continued near two hours and an half, when the *Yankee Hero* was obliged to strike to the Frigate, which was vastly superior in Force.⁵

We have not yet heard whether any of either side were killed.

1. Subsequently to be named the *Boston*.
2. The sloop was the *Two Friends*, 95 tons, Peter Rose, master; the schooner was the *Polly*.
3. This was the ship *Lady Juliana*, taken by the Pennsylvania privateer sloops *Congress* and *Chance*. The Captain and his lady, along with others, were landed at Havana, not New Providence.
4. The prize, the transport ship *Anne*, was taken by three of Washington's schooners, the *Lee*, Daniel Waters; the *Warren*, William Burke, and the *Lynch*, John Ayres.
5. Taken by the *Milford*, not the *Lively*.

THOMAS CUSHING TO ROBERT TREAT PAINE ¹

[Extract]

Boston June 10 1776

Dear Sir I have received your Favor of the 7th May and am Sincerely Glad to hear that as the plot thickens you ripen more & more to Unanimity in the most decisive Measures, more especialy as this is the crisis, the very Crisis, when we ought to exert every Nerve and spare no expence or Trouble in the defence of our Country and its precious rights. If we behave well this year and Heaven succeeds us I beleive Great Britain will not Continue the Controversy any longer . . . Large Quantities of Salt Petre are dayly coming in, we have two powder Mills at Work & good Powder Makers — I hope the Cannon for the ships will soon be finished & sent along, The 24 Gun Frigate was Launched a week ago, she is universally allowed to be as fine a ship as ever was built in America — I perceive Capt [John] Bradford is appointed Agent to take Care of any prizes that may be taken by the Continental Ships of War, but I am informed that the Congress or the Marine Committee design to appoint an Agent for the Continental Navy, whose special Bussiness it will be to Supply the Ships with provisions, stores of all kinds, Masts, yards, Rigger Cables &c &c as they may stand in need of it, this is quite a different department from the other & the Accounts ought to be kept distinct. One of these Bussinesses is quite enough for one Man, if there Should be such an Appointment should be glad of your Interest & Influence among the Members of Congress or of the Committe that I

might be appointed; My son in Law Mr Avery & my own son are out of Employ & could assist me in this Bussiness, It is what I am Acquainted with & should like

I have lately seen Mr Langdon & he is desirous of being Appointed for their Colony, he thinks that after we have had the Trouble & fatigue of Building & fixing out these Ships it will be very hard & unkind to give the Agency to other Persons I must beg your Interest in his favor, he says he does not design to Continue a Member of Congress and therefore there will be no [im]propriety in his holding this office –

Two Philadelphia Privateers have taken Two Ships from Jamaica to London, one is arrived at the Vineyard with 300 hhds of sugar & the other in to Capan with 300 hhds suger 60 Puncheons of Rum & Twenty Thousand Dollars & other Articles ² Two of the Continental Privateers have also Carried into Marblehead a store Ship from Glascow with 95 highlanders on board and 34 seamen with their baggage – they came out with 31 sail more with 3500 Troops on board bound for Boston — The Captain of these Highlanders is Brother to the Dutches of Gordon — ³ pray write me frequently I am your sincere friend [&c.]

Thomas Cushing

1. Robert Treat Paine Papers, MassHS.

2. The *Reynolds* at the Vineyard, and the *Lady Juliana* at Cape Ann.

3. The transport *Anne*, with Captain Hamilton Maxwell commanding the Highlanders.

DAVID COBB TO ROBERT TREAT PAINE ¹

[Extract]

Boston June 10th 1776

My dear Sir The succession of Occurrences are so rapid in our Hemisphere; that it is difficult to relate what happen'd but six days since: I shall, however endeavour to give you what I can at present recollect, and for the future you may expect a weekly Journal, provided the aendemical disease of my habit don't prevent it – This day week was bro't into Dartmo a Jamaica Sugar Ship containing 303 hhds of Sugar, 90 Punchions of Rum, Cotton &c; last Thursday another was bro't into Cape Ann with 150 hhds of Sugar, 100 Punchions of Rum & 20,000 Dollars in Cash – those Ships were taken sent out from Philadelphia, one command'd by [John] Adams.² Quere, whether the distinction between British West India property can be determ'd. – I wish I was a Judge of Admiralty for their sakes, or rather, I wish their was no distinction at all. – pray hasten that glorious day when we shall no longer continue one of the Circulating Orbs of the System, but like some predecessor, the Sun, be fix'd in the Center, shine with unborrow'd Lustre and kindly defuse the Rays of our Influence upon the Worlds around us. – You have the unanimous consent of every Town in this Colony for Independency . . . I receiv'd your Letter last night & am supriz'd you don't know J. Russell Auctioneer, an old acquaintance of yours; – I suppose he wants nothing more than the Priviledge of Venduing the Continental Captures &c – Their was great complaint last week at Beverly for want of a proper Vendue Master, where one Bond was employ'd by the Agents for that pur-

pose, in the Sale of a Cargo of one of the Continental prizes; a Number of Gentn went from this Town as purchasers, who came home very much disgust'd from the Method of his conducting the Sale, so that I leave it with you whether a Man of Mr Russell's known Qualifications as an Auctioneer, separate from your Inclinations to serve him, it wou'd not be more for the Intrest of the Continent to give him a Commission for a Joint Agent or a Continental Auctioneer to sell under their Direction, and allow him such a Commssion for doing the business as shall be tho't adequate to his services.

1. Robert Treat Paine Papers, MassHS.
2. The *Reynolds* and the *Lady Juliana*.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ESEK HOPKINS, ESQ; ADMIRAL OF THE
CONTINENTAL FLEET, DATED NEWPORT, JUNE 10, 1776"¹

The *Andrew Doria* has sent in here a sloop from Tortola, bound to Halifax, with twenty-two hogsheads of rum, twenty barrels of sugar, twenty-six tierces of molasses, and 950 bushels of salt.² The *Cabot* also sent in a ship two days ago, from Jamaica, bound and belongs to Liverpool in England, with one hundred and fifteen puncheons, and twenty-two hogsheads of rum; eighty-four hogsheads, twenty tierces, and eighteen barrels of sugar; twenty tierces of coffee; sixty bags and two casks of pimento; two hundred bags and ten casks of ginger; one hundred and eighty two bags of cotton; and forty-eight raw hides.³

1. *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, June 18, 1776.
2. The sloop *Two Friends*, Abraham Copeland, master.
3. The ship *True Blue*, James Stable, master. In the Hopkins Papers, RIHS, is "A True Manifest of the Ships Cargo, Call'd the *True Blue*, Taken by the *Cabbit* Capt [Elisha] Hinman on the 28th May Last, in Lattd 33. Longd. 6. & brought into this Harbour by Capt [David] Phipps, the 8th June 1776." It tabulates the contents of the cargo as given above.

COLONEL CORNELIUS WYNKOOP TO MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER¹

[Extract]

Ticonderoga 10th June 1776

The Row Galley arrived here Yesterday, the Captain of Which brought Me a Letter from the Commodore, Who writes Me that the Commanding Officer at St Johns ordered the Row Galley off to Ticonderoga Contrary to the Genl. Orders & has ordered the Capt to take in Salt belonging to One Mrs Tucker who is landed at Crown Point as the Capt tells Me, there is 150 Bushels of Salt Which I have Ordered & is Now in Store & shall wait your Honors Order what must be done with it. – The Commodores Letter is dated the 7th instant, he Writes Me that our Army is gone down to Point Deschamba[ult] where they mean to make a stand. –

1. Washington Papers, LC.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL¹

[Extract]

New York, June 10, 1776.

... I must beg leave to add, that, from intelligence I have just received, and a Variety of Circumstances combining to Confirm it, Genl. [William]

Howe, with the Fleet from Halifax, or some other Armament, is hourly expected at the Hook, with designs, doubtless, to make an Impression here, and possess themselves of this Colony, of the last Importance to us, in the present controversy.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 123, 124.

JOHN GRIFFITHS TO ROBERT TREAT PAINE ¹

Honble Sir

New York June 10th 1776

I receiv'd yours of the 8th in Reply have to acquaint you that the Casting the Cannon & Shott is begun on, & will be ready to be delivered the Ships the 1st of Sepr or sooner if needed.² In the mean time request an Order to the Commandant of Fort Montgomery being within five Miles of the Furnace that when called on he may attend & bring Powder to prove the Gunns, & that the Quantity be therein fixed as sufficient for Proof. Also to know if on more Ball are to cast than 1200 – being 24 times 50 of 12 pds & 1000 being 20 times 50 of 9pds and 400 being 8 times 50 of 4 pds Mr [Francis] Lewis having formerly ordered 30 Ton of 12lb Shott 20 Ton of 9lb Do &c – Am with great Veneration Honble Sir [&c.]

John Griffiths

1. Robert Treat Paine Papers, MassHS.

2. The Continental frigates building at Poughkeepsie.

New-York Gazette, MONDAY, JUNE 10, 1776.

New York, June 10.

Two Whale Boats full of Men in passing over from Cunney-Island for Amboy, last Saturday Noon, were fired at three Times from the *Asia* Man of War, but without Effect.

The *Mercury* Man of War, and an armed Sloop, sailed for Halifax, from Sandy Hook, last Friday, having 5 Vessels under Convoy.

There now remains at the Hook 7 Ships, and some small Vessels.

Thursday Afternoon his Excellency General Washington arrived in Town from Philadelphia.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON ¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia, June 10, 1776

Dear Sir Yours of the 27th ulto is come to hand and am glad to hear you have had so good luck in building and launching the ship; I hope she will prove as good a ship as any of her bigness in the British Navy; – Captain [Thomas] Thompson is appointed to the command of her, the other officers are not yet appointed; I hope the Captain will set about raising the men, and that she will be fitted for sea as soon as possible.

I think with you that the brave Capt [James] Mugford and the men on board the privaers at Boston fought gallantly and did honour to the Country.

. . . The *Liverpool* man of war lays at the Capes of Deleware and has

taken 2 or 3 vessels lately – one with dry goods. I want much to have our ships fitted to drive her off, or take her.

1. William Whipple Papers, Force Transcripts, LC.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO JOHN LANGDON ¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia, June 10, 1776

My Dear Sir Your favor of the 27th May came duly to hand; I heartily condole with you the loss of the brave [James] Mugford, however we must submit to the divine will and rest assured that whatever is ordered by Providence is right. I have the pleasure to tell you, that Capt [Thomas] Thompson's appointment is confirmed by Congress; his commission will be sent him very soon; as he is appointed, he may with propriety, join you in conferring with proper persons for Lieutenants and Marine officers, which I hope you will do and let me know who will accept those commissions. I have sometime ago given you my opinion of those you have mentioned; you may engage the master and other officers when ever you think it necessary; as I have before told you, it is very uncertain when you'll have the guns unless you can get them at Providence. I shall send you the blank Warrants so soon as I can get them but I imagine the old forms will undergo a revisal. Congress never were so much engaged as at this time; business presses on them exceedingly. We do not rise some times till 6 or 7 o'clock – there is so many irons in the fire I fear some of them will burn I congratulate you on the success you have had in building and launching the *Rawleigh* – I proposed her being called the *New Hampshire*, but could not obtain my wish; however I think this name will do very well. The name of every martyr to liberty ought to be perpetuated and then this name is in some measure a compliment to Virginia who you know is entitled to compliments from New England. I have done every thing in my power to forward the business of this ship, but I need not tell you how heavily business goes on here.

The matter of Agency, I have not had an opportunity to urge with a prospect of success; it therefore remains as it did, but hope it won't be long before there will be a fair opportunity; I shall still persist in my first proposal.² The uncertainty of guns is the only reason we have not orders to ship men but as the Committee meet this evening I will endeavor once more to know their minds on this subject. . .

1. William Whipple Papers, Force Transcripts, LC.

2. Naval agents for all the colonies from Massachusetts to North Carolina had been appointed on April 23, 1776. Members of Congress had refused to confirm John Langdon for New Hampshire because he was still a member of Congress.

MARINE COMMITTEE OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS TO CAPTAIN
LAMBERT WICKES ¹

Sir

Philada, June 10th 1776

We have received your letter of the 6th & approve your Proceedings as therein reported & as you seem very desirous to make a Cruise, we have this

day agreed to give up the Direction of the ship *Reprisal* to a Committee of Congress, stiled the Committee of secret Correspondence; – The members are Benj Harrison, Benj Franklin, John Jay, John Dickinson, Thos Johnston & Robert Morris Esqs any three of them are a querum This Committee are directed to despatch one of our cruizers to the West Indies & we understand they have already given the needfull Orders to Capt Wm Hallock of the sloop *Hornet*, from whom we have just received Advice that said Sloop is leaky & unfit to proceed on that Voyage – for this Reason your Ship is assigned for that Service & you are hereby directed to receive from Capt Hallock the Letters & Orders of said Committee; Consider them as directed to Yourself & obey them in every particular – We hope this voyage will afford you an opportunity of rendering essential Service to your Country & that you will bring us back a Parcel of fine Seamen & a Number of good prizes.

A supply of stores will be sent you by the *Wasp* and we are sir [&c.]

John Hancock	Joseph Hewes
Rich Henry Lee	George Read
Step Hopkins	Wm Whipple
Jona Sergeant	

1. Papers CC (Other Reports of Committees of Congress), 37, 7, NA.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS
TO WILLIAM BINGHAM ¹

Sir:

Philada, June 10th 1776

We are sorry for your Disappointment of the Sloop *Hornet*, but in Consequence thereof, We have procured an Order to despatch the Ship *Reprisal* Capt Lambert Wickes & herewith we send you the Letters & Orders for Capt Wickes & Capt Hallock, which they will comply with & you will consequently take your Passage for Martinico on board the *Reprisal* Capt Wickes & hoping for a speedy & safe Passage & for a successfull Issue to the Business you are charged with, we remain Sir [&c.]

Signed – Benj Harrison
John Dickinson
Rob^t Morris

1. Papers CC (Other Reports of Committees of Congress), 37, 7, NA.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

In Committee of Safety

Philad'a 10th June, 1776.

Resolved, That the Master of the Shallop for quartering the Men belonging to the Fire Rafts, be allowed five pounds per Month.

That the Steward to said Boat be allowed 10 doll'rs p M[a]n.

By Order of the Board, Robert Morris, Esq'r, was applied to for four tons of Gun Powder to fill up 60 Cartridges for the Boats, and if Congress

required, this Board will return the like Quantity from the Cartridges now in the Boat.

Captain [William] Richards having furnish'd a list of such necessaries as may be wanted by the Boats in time of Engagement,

Resolved, that the List be completed, and that he be directed to procure as soon as possible, every article contain'd in said List.

By order of the Board, an order was drawn on Jno. Nixon, Esq'r, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Mr. John Cobourn, for three hundred pounds, which is directed to be charged to his account for sinking Chevaux de Frize.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 597, 598.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO ROBERT MORRIS ¹

Sir, [Philadelphia, June 10, 1776]

I am directed by the Committee to apply to you for four Tons Powder to fill 60 rounds Catridges for the Boats, according to the rules we shall settle as to weight, & if you think necessary we will return the like Quantity from Catridges now in the Boats immediately. Col. [John] Nixon will explain particularly the Reasons.

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, IV, 768.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COLONEL STEPHEN MOYLAN ¹

Sir, [Philadelphia, June 10, 1776] ²

Your Letter was considered at the Committee of Safety, and a proper Person spoke to to superintend the Water Chevaux de Frise at New York. It will be known to day whether he will undertake it, if not, some other person will be immediately sent to you. In the mean Time you may provide the logs and engage Workmen, as very few, perhaps not more than two or three, can possibly be spared from the Works here. In this Businiss House Carpenters who may be found among the Troops may be employ'd as well as Ship Carpenters.

Some suitable Person will be sent you to rig the Gallies and sink the Chevaux de Frise. It takes about 25 or 30 Logs from 40 to 65 feet in length, from 12 to 26 inches thick in the Butts for each of the Chevaux de Freize sunk in our River.

M.

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, IV, 774.

2. The date is approximated. There is no mention of any action upon Moylan's letter in the minutes of the Committee of Safety, but it is safe to assume the letter was written a few days prior to Washington's statement, in his letter of June 13, that, in conjunction with the New York Provincial Congress he had "determined to sink Chevaux de Frizes one of which is already begun."

COMMITTEE OF FIRE RAFTS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF
SAFETY TO THE COMMITTEE OF ACCOUNTS ¹

Pay to Captain John Hazlewood or Order One hundred pounds for fitting out Fire Rafts and charge it to his account –

[Philadelphia] 10th June 1776

Owen Biddle Geo Clymer Jams Biddle

To John Nixon Esqr and
others the Committee of Accts

1. FDRL.

ADVERTISEMENT OF LIBEL AGAINST THE BRITISH SHIP *Juno* ¹

Port of Philadelphia, in the province of Pennsylvania ss.

To all whom it may concern.

Notice is hereby given, that a Court of Admiralty for taking cognizance of, and trying the Justice of captures of vessels made in pursuance of the resolves of the Honourable the Continental Congress, and brought into this port of Philadelphia, will be held at the Court-house, in the city of Philadelphia, on Friday, the 28th day of June inst. at ten o'clock in the forenoon of the same day; then and there to try the truth of the facts alledged in the bill of George M'Aroy, Commander of the private sloop of war called the *Congress* (who as well, &c.) against the Ship called the *Juno*, burthen about 200 tons (with her guns, tackle, apparel, furniture, and the cargoe on board) lately commanded by Samuel Marson. To the end and intent, that the owner or owners thereof, or any person or persons concerned therein, may appear and shew cause, if any they have, why the same should not be condemned according to the prayer of the said bill.² By order of the Judge, [Philadelphia] June 10, 1776. Andrew Robeson, Register

1. *Pennsylvania Gazette*, June 19, 1776.

2. *Juno* was condemned as a prize on July 1. Record of condemnation proceedings includes crew list, invoices, and letters taken on board the *Juno*. Records of the Admiralty Court of Pennsylvania, April 13–December 3, 1776, LC Photocopy.

HENRY FISHER TO THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

Gentlemen.

Lewistown June the 10 1776

When I wrote to you last by Express I mentioned that Capt [Charles] Laurence had Arived here and that he was a longside of a snow that was Oblig'd to Run ashore. I have Made Bold to Detain him here to Cover the landing of her Cargo he has Been of Rail Service and now he is going to Convoy her Up to your place with the Assistance of the *Eagle* from this Place –

the *Liverpool* Remains in the Road the *King Fisher* is gone out to sea – As to the Restriction you have laid upon me not to man the arm'd Boat with Pilots I must beg leave to Acquaint you that our Pilots Bare a Different Carricter to what yours Doe and as the Boat is to be Stationed at

our Creeks mouth I Cannot see there will be the least Danger in leting Six Pilots goe in her and the Remainder Lands men as the Pilots are Acquainted With the great Gun and they always Can see there Danger Before they Can be Surprised. – I think I Can venter to Say the Pilots here has and are willing to do Every thing for the safety of your trade that lays in there Power – I hope Gentlemen that you will ReConsider the Matter and send me a line in the meantime I shall act with the utmost Caution, and do Ivery thing for your Intrest that lays in my Power –

Colonel [John] Dagworthy and Colonel [John] Jones think that one of Your Arm'd Boats would be of Service to be stationd in Indian River as that Inlet is at this time Very good having 10 or 12 feet water in it – Perhaps Some of your Vessells may be Chased in there in that Case such a Boat lying there could be of Best Service. You Must think Gentlemen that We have no Vicus in this Matter but your Intrest as we have no trade of our own. if you were to order Capt Laurence to be stationd here as he is willing I think he would be of Rail service – I have given Capt Laurence a Receipt for what Stores I have Recd from him You will be so Kind as to Acquaint Messrs Mifflin & Barrell that there is some c[h]arges that I have been at for Victualing and Maning these Boats Extrardinary upon there Acct Which I Expect must be Paid out of the Cargo. Likewise Desire them to authorize Some Person to Act for them as there is a Rail Cause for it

1. Papers CC (Maryland and Delaware State Papers, 1775–89), 70, 577–78, NA.


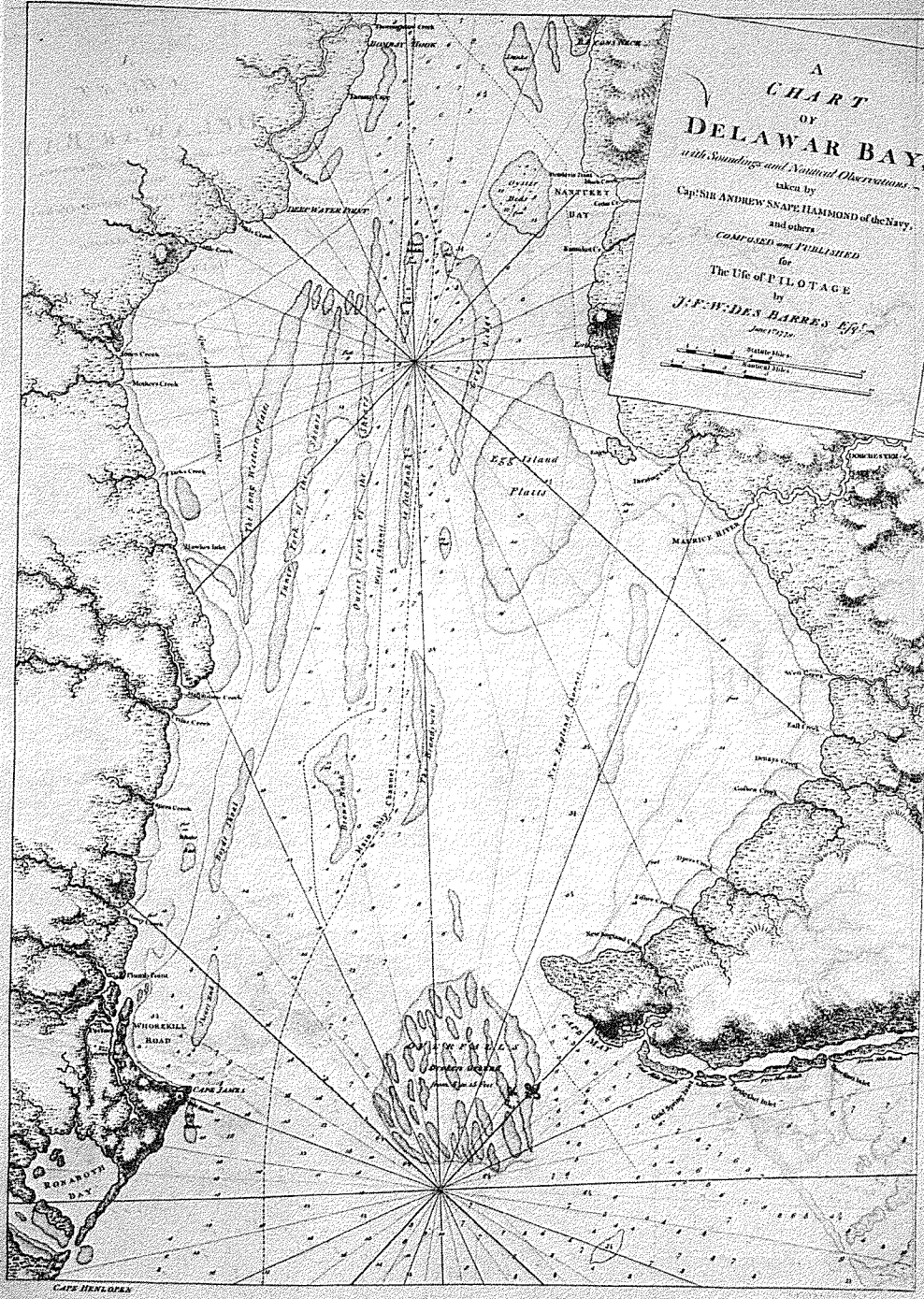
CAPTAIN HENRY BELLEW, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL MOLYNEUX SHULDHAM ¹

Sir /.

Liverpool, Hoar Hill road, 10th June 1776.

Captain Graeme of the *Kingsfisher* having joined me at this place the 7 inst and taken a Brig from Cape Francois laden with Melasses bound to this Port, I have Approved of his sending her to Halifax, more from thinking it Necessary you should be acquainted Sir with the Situation of His Majesty's Ships here, than the Value of the Seizure, which is by no Means equal to the losing five Men for an uncertain time. I arrived here the 2d May from Virginia in Consequence of an Order from Captain Hamond on the 6th we went up the Delaware to Water as far as a few Miles above New Castle, where we was Attacked two different days, by fourteen Row Gallies carrying each One large Cannon, either an Eighteen, Twenty four, or Thirty two pounder, the River being very Wide and the Channel very Narrow they took care to keep at that distance which made our fire very Uncertain, at no time So near as a Mile, in general much more, we fired away an immense quantity of Powder and Ball, to no Other purpose than killing about thirteen Men, and disabling three of their Gallies, the *Roebuck* had One Man killed, one Shot through my Bowsprit and both our Sails and rigging much torn, Captain Hamond left this place the 16th May to go to Virginia, since which time I have heard nothing from him, his Orders to Me were to join him in Hampton road when in want of Provisions or Water; although I

A
CHART
 OF
DELAWARE BAY,
with Soundings and Nautical Observations
 taken by
 CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMMOND of the Navy,
 and others
 COMPILED and PUBLISHED
 for
 The Use of PILOTAGE
 by
J. F. W. DESS BARRETT Esq.
 June 1772

have a good quantity of the latter On board, yet, owing to the putrified State of it, which I fear Causes the Unhappy Sickness among my people I shall be under the Necessity of repairing Soon to Some place to procure What is better. I propose to try the probability of getting it at New York, rather than at Virginia, for this reason, Captain Graeme who run thither on missing Me here, being then Cruizing off, neither Saw or Could learn any thing of any Ship Whatever; I cannot Account for the removal of so large A Number of Vessels as were at Norfolk, only their being gone up Some Fresh Water Rivers. —

You will pardon me Sir, for observing that tho' not less than Five or Six Ships is equal to a total interception of the Trade of this river, yet the Necessary Articles of their Support Such as Salt, Rum, Melasses and All kinds of Cloathing is advanced in its Price at least three hundred P Cent, some Articles Much More.

I have only taken a small Vessel laden with Linnen, and Twelve thousand Dollars out of a Spanish Snow which I sent to Norfolk and by the Mark on it, I have all reason to believe, to be the property of Willen and Morris at Philadelphia two most Notorious Rebels. There has been some time past laying in Cape Mary [*sic* Cape May] road a large Ship Privateer of Eighteen Eighteen pounders, a Brig of Sixteen Sixes and Fours, and a Sloop of Ten Six pounders;² they have given Me but One Opportunity of Seeing them as Sea when they drew me upon the Over falls, but having a Good Pilot, I escaped touching the Ground, and they got into the road again, where is not more than fifteen feet Water.

I am informed by very good Authority they will have in less than a month four Ships of thirty Guns each, at Philadelphia, fit for Sea. —

I believe Captain Hamond informed you of my very great misfortune in having been taken by the Rebel Privateer, now in my Sight, my Tender, with a Lieutenant & Twenty Nine Men. —

If Sir I should not meet with any Supplies of Provisions and Water Soon, or this Rage of Sickness among my people Continues under these Circumstances, I hope you will think me blameless in repairing to Halifax, tho' both my Main and Fore Masts are bad, nothing but the loss of One of them Can make me leave this Station. I am well informed that these three lower Counties are ripe for Arms, had they the least Support, Several have been off to me for protection in Case of Need, and declare the Tyranny of their present rulers to be insupportable —

Inclosed is the State and Condition of His Majesty's Ship under my Command and of His Majesty's Sloop *Kingsfisher*. I have the Honor to be Sir [&c.]

Hen^y Bellew.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/484.

2. The trio of vessels under Cape May were the Continental ship *Reprisal*, brig *Lexington*, and sloop *Hornet*.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER ¹

Roebuck at Gwins Island in Virginia

Dear Sir

the 10th June 1776.

It was not untill yesterday that I received any certain account of your arrival in America, in which I beg leave to congratulate you.

The circumstances of the Fleet and Army to the Northward has been such, that it has not been in Admiral Shuldham's power, to send me a force Sufficient to authorize me, to make any attempt on Philadelphia; I therefore no sooner heard of your intended expedition against Charles Town, than I immediately quitted the River Delaware, to the *Liverpool* (which I have left cruising off there) with an intention of joining you with the *Roebuck*; but calling into Virginia in my way, I found Lord Dunmore and his Fleet in so much danger from the Enemy, who were bringing down cannon to all the points of the River, and were preparing fire-rafts to destroy the Ships, that I found myself under the necessity of attempting to move them before the enemy began their attack. This I assure you was no easy task, as they consisted of near 100 sail of Vessels, many of them with valuable Cargoes, and the most part without Seamen, which I was obliged to Supply out of the Kings Ships, However we made Shift to get here without the loss of a Single Vessel, except those we destroyed for want of materials to Navigate them with.

We have taken possession of this Island which is about three or four Miles in length and one in breadth, Seperated from the Main $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile, except on one place (which is that where Lord Dunmore has his Camp) that is not above the reach of Musquet Shot, However this part is defended by the Guns from the Ships. The Island lyes at the Mouth of Pianketank River, forms a safe and commodious Harbour for any number of Ships, and as it is central to all the Rivers; I think it is the best rendezvous of any in Virginia for the fleet; The Island is certainly much too large for us to defend in our present weak situation, if the enemy should make any Serious attack upon us, but if we had a body of 200 Troops more, I do not think it would be in the power of the Rebels to dispossess us, and I confess now that we are here, I am very desirous of keeping it; As I dont know a better place in Virginia for the head Quarters of a fleet and an army.

You will certainly conceive, sir, from what I have related to you that I have not only had my hands full by this movement, but that I am unlikely to get clear of this incumbrance for some time, as I have been obliged to Land my Marines and assist in the necessary Fortifications for the defence of the Island; Notwithstanding if the Pilot Boat I sent to the *Liverpool* a fortnight ago had been lucky enough to have found her and, brought her hither, I flatter myself you should have seen me before this time: I have Sent to her again and if she should drop in while I think I can be of any use to you, It will afford me infinite satisfaction to have an opportunity of joining you; Attended, however, with some distress at leaving the River Delaware again open to the enemy.

I have the *Fowey* with me here, the *Otter* is cruizing at the Capes, and I apprehend the *Glasgow* is gone to Halifax to refit, as she has never joined me, but was on her way to do it, when she fell in with, and thrashed the Rebel Fleet off Block Island.

Governor Eden of Maryland has got leave of the Committee of Safety to quit Annapolis, and has written to me, to desire I will send a man of War to receive him on board and bring him down to the Fleet, which I Intend doing as Soon as I can spare one from the Service they are now imediately employed on.

I have nothing by way of News to Send you, I conclude that you must have heard that the Rebels have been well drubed by General Carolton at Quebec, and that they have raised the Seige – We are told by the News Papers, Ten thousand Men are arrived in Transports at New York, but nothing particular about them.

Just before I left the Delaware I run up to re-connoiter the River and to fill fresh water, the *Liverpool* was with me – The Row Gallies thought proper to pay me a visit, about a dozen miles below the pass they have fortified, where the River is so very narrow, and so rapid, that they had every advantage that situation could give them: However they fired away Seven Tons of Powder at us, without doing us the least mischief, except the loss of one Man in the *Roebuck*; I endeavoured to draw them into a Wider part of the River, but they knew their advantage and declined the challenge: Report Says they recd much damage, but those are Secrets they most religiously hide from the Publick.

A Schooner came in yesterday and brought me an account that, the Garrison of Saint Augustine were Starving for want of Provisions; I have therefore put on board of my Tender a small Supply for them, least they should not have received any from another quarter.

If you can send us any small Guns, Cohorns or Howitzers, they will be of the utmost use to us.

I pray, most devoutly, for Success to attend his Majesty's Forces in the hands of my friend [Henry] Clinton and yourself, and most anxiously hoping that I may Soon hear you have reduced the Pride of (what the Americans call the Carolinians) the Rice Birds. I have the honor to be Sir [&c.]

A. S. Hamond

To Commodore Sir Peter Parker
commander in chief, &ca &ca on bd his Ms Ship the *Bristol* So Carolina
1. Hamond, Letters and Orders, 1775–1778, UVL.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN HENRY BELLEW, R.N.¹

Roebuck at Gwins Island in
Virginia the 10th June 1776 –

My Dear Sir

I am not a little uneasy at not hearing from you; and yet as you have no vessel with you, I don't well know how I should; nor has it been in my power to send any thing to you; so continually have we been employed.

Mr Goold the Purser of the *Liverpool* had sailed in search of you, before the Spanish Snow arrived; and after cruizing, as he tells me, for three or four days off Cape Henlopen and Cape May, he returned here, without being able to find you; and was in some little distress as he had split his Sails, and expended his fresh water.

I have done every thing with the Spaniard you desired, but have not been able to find any thing more in her than was acknowledged by the Captain to you; and as to the right of Seizure, I have not the least doubt, as she appears to me to be entirely within the letter of the last act of Parliament: therefore I think the best thing you can do is, to get her to a place where there is a Court of Admiralty as soon as you can.²

The removal of the Fleet to this place, has for the present so entangled us with more business, that I don't see the least prospect of sending a Ship to relieve, or assist you; And notwithstanding my reluctance at leaving the River Delaware again open: Yet, in your situation (if it is not better than when I last heard from you) I think it altogether as improper that you should remain any longer there; It is therefore my desire that you proceed with the Ship under your command to this place as Soon as possible, in order to recruit your Ships company.

By a Schooner which arrived here the 8th instant, we are informed that Sir Peter Parker and General Clinton, are gone, with the Forces under their command, to beseige Charles Town South Carolina.

I hope Soon to have the pleasure of seeing you, 'til when adieu I always am My Dr Sir [&c.]

A. S. Hamond

Henry Bellew Esqr commander of
his Majs Ship *Liverpool* Delaware Bay

1. Hamond, Letters and Orders, 1775-1778, UVL.

2. *St. Barbara*. See Appendix B.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO EDWARD JAMES ¹

By Andrew Snape Hamond Esquire &ca &ca

You are hereby required and directed to proceed forthwith with the *Roebucks* Tender under your command to the Mouth of the River Delaware, where you will find his Majestys Ship *Liverpool* cruizing at some small distance from the Capes, and having met with her, you are to deliver the enclosed dispatches to Captain Bellew and waite his Orders for your further proceedings.

In case after cruizing for two or three Days you should not meet with the *Liverpool*; you are then to proceed on, to New York, and deliver the enclosed letter to Captain Parker of his Majestys Ship *Phoenix*, and after having so done to return to Virginia and join me at this place.

Given under my hand on board his Majestys Ship the *Roebuck* at Gwins Island in Virginia the 10th June 1776.

A S Hamond

N B. The Private Signal between the *Liverpool* & any Vessel sent to her, is a Jack at the Masthead of each –

To Mr Edward James commander of
the *Roebuck's* Tender the *Ranger*

1. Hamond, Orders issued, 1776–1777, UVL.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO LIEUTENANT JOHN WRIGHT ¹

By Andrew Snape Hamond Esqr &ca &ca

Whereas I have received information that there are Several Row Gallies building by the Rebels up Rappahannack River, and that there is a Brig taking in a Cargoe at or near Hobs's Hole.

You are therefore hereby required and directed to take with the *Fincastle* Tender under your command, the *Lady Susan* Tender commanded by Mr [Bridger] Goodrich, and proceed up the said River, and do your utmost to take or destroy the Gallies or any other Vessels, or boats you may meet with belonging to the Rebels, and otherwise to annoy the enemy by every means in your power.

After having ran as far up the River as you find can be done with safety or is necessary for the performance of this Service, you are to make the best of your way down again and join me at this place.

Given under my hand on board his Majesty's Ship
the *Roebuck* at Gwins Island the 10th June 1776.

A S Hamond

To Lieut John Wright commander of
the *Otters* Tender the *Fincastle*

1. Hamond, Orders issued, 1776–1777, UVL.

MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Williamsburg] Monday, June 10th, 1776.

A warrant to Benjamin Watkins, Jr., for use of Robert Donald for £1.0.8 for Ferriages to certain Troops of the Navy at Warwick.

Same to Smith Bleakey for £8.13.4, for making oars for the *Hero* Galley.

A warrant to James Marshall for use Hon. Jno Tayloe, Esq'r, for £705.8.3, for sundry cannon Ball, plank, and Pigg Iron furnished for the Navy in Portsmouth.

Same to same for £30.6.8 for a quantity of shot for the Navy in Rappahannock River.

The Comm'ee of Elizabeth City, are desired to agree w'th proper persons to convey the several vessels now in Hampton River, to some safe place up Appomattox river, to be deliv'd into the care of Dinwiddie Comm'ee, and by them safely kept 'til the further order of this board, and the Comm'ee of Eliza. City are further requested to send up by the said vessel, 4 of the 18 pounders at Hampton, to be landed at Burwell's Ferry, and if any of them burst in proof, they send the pieces by the said vessels to Appomattox.

Ordered, that the Commanding officer at Hampton be requested to prove all the cannon at that place and report to this board.

Ordered, that a warrant issue to George Reid for seventeen pounds five shillings for arms furnished Captain [Edward] Travis, and Thirty-one pounds ten shillings for arms furnished Captain [William] Mitchell.²

Ordered, that a warrant issue to Mr. Edward Champion Travis for nineteen pounds ten shillings for a Top Sail, main Sail, and Jibb sold to Captain Travis.

Ordered, that a warrant issue to William Reynolds for Two hundred and Fifty-three pounds one shilling and nine pence half penny for sundry disbursements in fitting out the brig *Liberty*.

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 194-96.

2. Travis was captain of the *Manley* galley, and Mitchell captain of a company of Marines.

COLONEL WILLIAM MOULTRIE TO MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES LEE ¹

Sullivan's Island, 7 o'clock, June 10th, 1776.

Sir. I just now received your orders for detaching [William] Thompson and [Thomas] Sumpter's regiments, Allston, Mayham, and Coutirier's companies. By the date of your letter it seems as if you intended this business to have been done this morning, but your letter came too late to hand for that purpose. I shall send the detachment to our advance guard, there to remain with their boats for crossing them, hid till night, then shall embark them for Long-Island, where they may be reconnoitring till daylight. I shall be obliged to your excellency to send us some person to finish our gate. I am, sir, [&c.]

William Moultrie,
Col. 2d. regiment.

1. *Moultrie's Memoirs*, I, 152-53.

MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES LEE TO COLONEL WILLIAM MOULTRIE ¹

Sir,

[Charleston] June the 10th, 1776.

You will receive a number of flats, ropes, and planks for the construction of bridges for your retreat. . . You are to give a receipt and be answerable for them. I am, sir, yours,

Charles Lee, Major General.

P.S. I find my last night's letter was not sent; I beg you would send a few expert scouts to discover what the enemy have done, or are doing; If it can be done with the least probable advantage, put my last nights orders in execution to night.

1. *Moultrie's Memoirs*, I, 152.

MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES LEE TO COLONEL WILLIAM MOULTRIE ¹

[Charleston] June the 10th, 1776, 8 o'clock.

Sir, As the Commodore's ship has passed the bar, and as it is absolutely necessary for your, and the common safety, that the bridge of retreat should

be finished this night; I would have you by all means to lay aside all thoughts of the expedition against Long-Island; unless you receive assurances from your scouts, that you may strike an important stroke. Yours,

Charles Lee,
Major-General.

1. *Moultrie's Memoirs*, I, 153-54.

A BRITISH JOURNAL OF THE EXPEDITION TO CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA ¹

[June] 10th The *Bristol* weighed anchor between 11 & 12, touched upon the Bar, but got safe into 5 fathm hole, and was received with 3 Cheers by the whole Fleet.

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SCHOONER *St. John*, LIEUTENANT WILLIAM GRANT ¹

1776

Anchor'd in St Marie's River

Saturday 1. Employ'd making & filling bags of Mess to put over the Quarters to keep out small shot - All hands to Quarters

First pt Do Wear Middle & Latter light Airs & Clear, Recd information that Capt Graham with his party had an Engagement with the Rebels & that the Capt lost one private Soldier, The Rebels fled to the Bushes & up Trees Sent the Boat manned & armed with a Midshipman to Capt Graham to know if he wanted any Assistance,

Sundy 2. fired 2 swivels to bring to a boat coming from Wright's Landing

Fresh Breezes and Cloudy, loosed sails to dry, the Cutter return'd from Captn Graham, and confirmed the account of the above Engagement - Saw a Snow off the entrance of the River, Manned & armed the Boat with an Officer & sent her out to speak with her she boarded & rummaged him & found her to be from Bristol wt Provisions for St Augustine - Rec'd from Mills some wood for Oars, kept the People under Arms all night,

Mondy 3 Clean'd the Schooner and scrubbed round Do weather - Sent the Cutter up the River to Mr Wrights Plantation with an Officer for fresh Beef 1 P. M: fired 21 Guns to celebrate His Majesty's birth day at 10 the Cutter returned.

Tuesday 4. A M Loosed sails to dry Anchor'd here a Schooner from St Augustine, Clark Master fired 2 half pounders to bring her to sent a boat to row Guard a cross the passes into the River First part fresh breezes & Clear weather, Latter hard Gales Squally, fired two half poundrs 1 Shot, and brought to a Canoe, sent the Boat on board her, found her to belong to One Wm Taylor with his Effects, drove off from his Plantation by the Rebels. Employd One Mr Mansell a Carpenter to make Swivel Stocks & a new Anchor Stock

- Wednesday 5. at 7 A:M: parted our Bt Br Cable, the small Bowr brought her up – Sent the Boat to row Guard
- Thursday 6 Fresh Gales & Cloudy weather – Steaded the Schooner with the Stream Anchor Sent the Boat to creep for the Bt Bower Anchor, got hold & purchased it and moor'd the Schooner, fired to bring to a small Schooner & two Boats 4 half Pounders 2 of them shotted Carpenters employd making Oars The people under Arms
- Friday 7 Fresh Gales & Squally weather with Rain – hove up the Bt Bower Anchor & small Do found them to be very rotten & not fit to hold the Schooner – Do moored with the best Bower each way No Point of Amelia ESE $\frac{1}{2}$ E & the So Point of Cumberland Island NbyE $\frac{1}{2}$ E between the four Passes into the River St Mary's – fired 2 half Pds I shotted to bring to a Schooner coming down the North River – Lost a Jack over board People under Arms
- Saturday 8 Modt & Cloudy weather – filled our Ground Tier, fired 2 half Pds shotted to bring to a sailing boat coming down the River – Recd on board 2 barrels Rice for the Schooners Co – Arrived here from the Township the Pilot Boat with a Letter from Capt Graham & one from the Governor – Carps employ'd making & fixing new Swivel stocks fired 1 half Pounder p Signal for our Boat to come on board – The People under Arms –
- Sunday 9 First part fresh Breezes and Clear Weather Middle & Latter light Airs & Var: fired 2 three Pounders, 1 Shotted to bring to a Snow crossing the River, Employ'd as before, The People under Arms all Night expecting the Georgians every Hour.
- Monday 10 First and middle parts Light Breezes and Clear Weather, Latter fresh Gales and Squally with rain fired & brot to a Canoe rowing a Cross an Inlet, Carpenters employ'd making Oars & Swivel Stocks The People under Arms all Night.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Argo*, CAPTAIN WILLIAM GARNIER ¹

- June 1776 Moored in English Harbour Antigua.
- Monday 10 the Admirals Secretary, Came on board and paid Prize Money to the Ships Company, for the Sloops *Dolphin*, *Union* & *Charmg Polly*, from America, belonging to the Rebels. – ²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/19.

2. The schooner *Dolphin*, a whaler from New York taken March 1, 1776; brig *Union*, Alexander Boyd, master from South Carolina, taken December 18, 1775, and the sloop *Charming Polly*, Thomas Truxtun, master, from New York, taken January 2, 1776.

11 June

CAPTAIN HENRY HARVEY, R.N., TO CAPTAIN CHARLES DOUGLAS, R.N.¹

Sir

As I wrote in great hast, at Three Rivers yesterday in order to save the Express which was setting out, I had not time to give you any Particulars of the action at Three Rivers on the 8th instant, between the King's Troops and a Party of Rebel forces. I have great pleasure in congratulating you on the success of that day, which I hope will be attended, with very happy consequences. A little before three oClock in the morning, of the 8th I received intelligence by a Canadian Canoe, that a great number of Batteaus, had cross'd the river from Nicolet, and landed a great Body of the rebels, at the Point of the lake, & were on their march towards Three rivers, I immediately sent a Boat to reconnoitre, who return'd very soon having been fir'd on by a Rebel party, about two Miles from the Ship, The Alarm being given, the 29th & 47th Regiments, landed as soon as possible from the division of Transports lying with me, off Point Batti, & I haul'd the *Marten* close to the shore to protect them; about 5 OClock, a large body of the rebels appear'd opposite to the Ship, at the edge of the woods, marching towards the Town; I immediately fir'd on them which oblig'd them, to take shelter in the Woods, til they had passed our line of Fire; about six oClock they attack'd the advance guard, of our Troops and appear'd to do it, with much resolution, but on receiving the fire from a line of infantry, posted to advantage, they gave way with the loss of some kill'd and wounded; they then appear'd to be forming again, but very soon went off, in hast & confusion. As soon as they gave way I weigh'd with the arm'd Schooner, and kept firing amongst them occasionally, as they appear'd at the edge of the wood; very little wind & Calms prevented any advancing upwards, otherways I shou'd have cut off, the retreat of their Batteaus; & have taken the greatest part of them, an acquisition, that wou'd have been of great consequence, as the Army are so much in want of Boats. The killed wounded and Prisoners, I must refer you to the Generals account; I find our Loss is very inconsiderable. I wrote you in my Last, that I had taken two of their Batteaus, with Powder and provisions, I have since recovered two more, left by the rebels at Nicolet.

I am now at Anchor, with the first division of Troops, in the entrance of the Lake, & shall proceed upwards; as soon as the wind is favorable, Capt'n [Thomas] Pringle will follow with a second division & Lieutt [William] Cumming with the third, so that in the narrow Channels, we may not be liable to embarras each other –

As I am very often obliged to have prisoners and others, sent on board by the Army, I must beg the favour that you would transmit me an Order to bear Supernumeraries, whenever the service may require it.



Roger Curtis.

I beg you will present my Compliments to Captn Dalrymple, & other Gentlemen at Quebec. I have the Honor to be &ca

signed Henry Harvey

Marten Entrance of Lake St Peter

June 11th 1776

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 5/125, 15e.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Senegal*, CAPTAIN ROGER CURTIS ¹

June 1776

Moored in Halifax Harbr

Monday 10th at 8 A M the Adml made the Sigl for all Officers to repair on board their respective Ship. ½ past Do md Sigl to unmoored, at 10 unmoored, Sail'd hence the Pacquet Captain Bond, for England -

Fresh Gales & Cloudy. at 1 P M the Leeward part of the Transports getting under way at 2 got under way at 5 brot too with the Main TS to the Mast to wait for the Adml and part of the Convoy. Sambro Light house WSW distance 2 Leags at 9 saw the Adml in shore

Tuesday 11th at 1 A M spoke the *Centurion* inf[orme]d them the Adml was out & steering SW. run down & spoke several of the Transports a stern to make sail at 5 TKd. & run to some Vessels a Stern to make them make more sail at 6 TKd. Sambro Light house NbW 3 or 4 Leags - at 7 out all Reefs & up TG Yards, set T. Gt Sails at 9 20 Sail in Compy made Sail to Speak the Admiral.

Fresh Breezes and Hazy. at 2 spoke the Adml at 3 running down to our Station, at 6 the Adml fir'd 2 Guns and made Signal for the Convoy to come under his Stern repeated the signal - at 7 shortned Sail to get into our Station.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/885. On June 1 Captain Curtis had succeeded William Duddingston as commander of the *Senegal*.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Rose*, CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE ¹

June 1776

Moor'd in Halifax Harbour

Mondy 10th AM at 7 the Adml made Sigl to Unmoor Do Unmoor'd and hove into ½ a Cable at 11 the Adml made the Sigl to Weigh. Fresh breezes and Cloudy

Tuesday 11th AM at 5 the Adml saild out of the Harbour with the Fleet. at 7 Weigh'd and came to sail Steering out of the Harbour at 11 Cape Sambro light NWN 5 Miles at 2 PM Join'd Adml Shuldham in the *Chatham* with the *Centurion Greyhound Swan* and *Sinegal* and 11 Sail of Transports.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/805.

JOSHUA WENTWORTH TO NATHANAEL GREENE, JR.¹

Sir

Portsmouth June 11. 1776

I recd your fav. of 31st Ult. p post The determination for Sale of Crean Brushes Prize,² is not yet known from the Continental Congress, to whom the Claimants have Petition'd, for their resolve on the Captor, when that is mature, I shall Publish in the diff't papers, but do not think, (if sold at Auction) it will Commence these two months to come.

The Steel begins to go off in small parcells, for tryal, shou'd it prove acceptable, I dare say it will soon go off. — the Sales to this date is 641¼ lb at 1s/6d—being very truely Sir [&c.]

Josh. Wentworth

1. Miscellaneous Manuscripts, CL.

2. The reference is to the cargo of the brig *Elizabeth*, carried into Portsmouth on April 3. She carried a cargo of goods largely looted from Boston by Crean Brush, Tory agent.

WILLIAM BARTLETT TO GEORGE WASHINGTON¹

Sir,

Beverly 11th June 1776

I would beg leave to Inform your Excellency of my Proceedings with Respect to the Vessels taken and Brought in here by Captne Manly, after Condemnation they were agreeable to your Instructions Advertiz'd in the publick papers 3 weeks, I then Proceeded to the Sale, I Recieved Instructions from Your Excellency through the Hone Major Genl Ward to purchase the Ship *Jenny* & Brigne *Hannah* for the United Colonies provided they sold very much under their Real Value the *Jenny* Selling for 1950 £ thought it quite enough for her Therefore did not Purchase her, the Brigne *Hannah* I purchased for £ 520 have Since Deliver'd her to Capt [John] Bradford by order of Genl Ward, the Ship *Concord* sold for 930 £ the Bringe *Nancy* 430 £ Sloop *Betsey* for 175 £ and the Sloop *polly* 130 £ I have also sold all the Goods I think at a Very Good price. —

If your Excellency thinks proper to order that the Goods Deli[vere]d Collo [Thomas] Miffin as well as the Ordinance Stores should be Valued and Transmitted me, that the sales may be Closd would be of Infinite Service to the poor Captures as well as an Encouragement to them to go again into the Service for I dont concieve their can be a Division untill I can git the amount of the whole —

I would further beg Your Excellencys Instructions Concern'g paying the Captures, there where Several Servants in the Service a[t] Taking these prizes the masters of which Apply's for their share of the prize Money, knowing the rules of the army Respecting that Matter have Refus'd paying them untill I Recieve your Excellency's Orders also wither any of the people who are yet left with us Belonging to any of the Above Vessells should Recieve any Wages —

This day Capt Bradford apply'd & Inform'd me that he was Appointed Agent for this Colony with power to depute whom he thought proper under him therefore desird me not to act Any more in the Station which Your Excellency was pleas'd to appoint me in

Your Excellly Orders with Respect to this or any Other affairs will be
 Gratefully Accepted and Punctually Obeyed By your Excellly [&c.]
 William Bartlett

N B my best Complements to Colln Moylan

1. Washington Papers, LC.

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT ¹

Watertown Tuesday June 11th 1776

A Petition of James Cole – setting forth – That he was on board the Sloop *Unity* Jeremiah Obrien Commander as a Volunteer, – & was at the attacking, and taking the schooner *Margaret* a Tender belonging to the Ministerial Fleet. – and was unfortunately wounded in the Leg with a hand grando &c. – and praying for Relief –

Resolved, That the Sum of Ten pounds be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony to James Cole the above Petitioner to compensate him for the Misfortune he sustain'd as mention'd in the above Petition.

A Petition of Edward Barbour of Truro – setting forth That Major Basset did remove four of the Cannon taken in the Vessel lately stranded near Truro – to Elizabeth Islands there to be used for the Defence of said Islands agreeable to the Resolve of Court of 6th May. – and said Vessel &c having been legally condemn'd and being one of the Captors – prays that the Court wou'd Order the Captors payment for said Cannon, & Carriages. –

Resolved, That Thos Cook Esq be appointed by this Court to apprise the four Cannon, & Carriages Order'd to be removed from Truro to the Elizabeth Islands, and to make returns to this Court as soon as may be – and that the Petitioners have liberty to appoint one person, on his part (if he thinks proper) to Join with the above Thos Cook Esqr in apprizing said Cannon, and Carriages, and in case of disagreement in judgment they to chose a third Person.

1. Mass. Arch. vol. 35, 17, 36, 37, 39.

BARACHIAH BASSETT TO THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT ¹

Tarpolan Cove June 11th 1776

To the Honle the Council and the Honl House of Representatives of the Massachusetts Bay

In pursuance to a Resolve of the Court, have Removed the Four pieces of Cannon from Trurro to the Eliz[abet]h Islands. I Am Bound in Duty to let you know there is no Use for them without Ball, Ladles &c. which Renders them fitt for use – Whereas, if they were Supply'd with those Materials, they would be of uncommon advantage toward protecting the posts they are Design'd for, – should your Honrs Consider the Situation & Advantage of the posts, I doubt not but you would allow said Materials as also Intrenching Tools which must be used for the protection of said posts – Permit me also to Acquaint your Honrs that it is not in my power to afford the pro-

tection which is Necessary to the Islands Westward of Tarpolan Cove Island, & the Vessels that are Continually passing without I have at least Ten Whale Boats – Therefore pray that some Measure may be taken for the provision of the Foregoing – Gentlemen your most Devoted [&c.]

Barachiah Bassett

[Endorsed] In Council June 18th 1776

Read & committed to Walter Spooner & Thos Cushing Esqrs with such as the Hona House shall join – sent down for Concurrence – John Lowell Dpy Secy P T

In the House of Representatives June 19, 1776

Read & concurred and Coll Low Mr [Eleazer] Brooks & Coll [John] Bliss are joined

Tim^o Danielson Spr P Tem.

In Council June 21st 1776 Ordered that Joseph Cushing Esqr be of the above Comte in the room of Thos Cushing Esqr Absent

John Lowell Dpy Secy P T –

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 209, 315-16.

CAPTAIN ABRAHAM WHIPPLE TO COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS ¹

Ship *Columbus*. [Providence] June 11th 1776

Sr As the Hurry of buisness Prevented My Senden to You for the Book You Promist To Lend me I Should Be Much Oblige to You If You Would Send It to Coln Tillinghast So that He Can send it to Me to Newport as I Shall Sail for Newport Tomorrow, & In Complying With My Request You will Oblige [&c.]

A Whipple

N:B: I mean the Book That Gives an Accot of the Naval force of Great Britain

1. Miscellaneous Manuscripts, CL.

COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS TO LIEUTENANT JOHN PAUL JONES ¹

Sir

On Receipt of this you are to get what things is absolutely Necessary Onboard Immediately, & what hands is ready, and come directly down here –

Capt [Philip] Brown will come down with you for a Pilot here is a small Sloop now off the harbour of four Carriage 12 Swivel Guns and about 30 hands – if you have not hands enough I shall put as many Onboard here as is Sufficient I am [&c.]

Esek Hopkins

New Port June 11, 1776

To Jno P. Jones Esqr Commr of the Sloop *Providence*

1. Papers CC (Letters of John Hancock, and Miscellaneous Papers), 58, 151, NA.

JOURNAL OF JAMES JOSIAH, PRIZEMASTER OF THE TRANSPORT SHIP
*Crawford*¹

June [1776] Latitude In 39..22 Longitude In 71..00
Tuesday 11 At 4 A M saw five Sail to the N West of us Bore down to the Brig, & Spoke her she advis'd me to stand to the south'd & Westward the other Ship to the Westward at 8 Do finding [that] they did not come up with us hauld our Wind to the W S W at 11 Do bore Down to the Brig the ships hauld there Wind to the Westward and the Brig to the Eastward, the *Oxford* stood in to the Westward & lost sight of her.²

1. *Andrew Doria* Journal, PRO, Admiralty 1/484. For *Andrew Doria* journal see Volume 4, Appendix C.
2. This is the last entry in James Josiah's journal. *Crawford* was captured June 12, 1776 by H.M.S. *Cerberus*.

JOURNAL OF LIEUTENANT JOHN TREVETT¹

[On board the transport ship *Oxford*
[May 29 to June 11, 1776]

we kept company with each other 17 days [*sic* 14 days], when we got near Nantucket, we fell in with Lord Howes Fleet² in the fog, we steered different courses, and before we got out of sight of Capt. [Nicholas] Biddle the prisoners rose on the ship and took her from us, and they put one Canada (formerly Mate of the Ship,) in Command. I could not blame them, for I would do the same.

1. Trevett's Journal, NHS.
2. This was H.M.S. *Mercury* and her convoy, not Lord Howe's fleet.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Mercury*, CAPTAIN JAMES MONTAGU¹

June 1776 Sandy Hook No 77W Distce 79 Leagues
Tuesday 11 at 4 A M Close Reeft the Topsails at 5 Saw 2 Sloops and a Brig in the SE Qr, out all Reefs and made Sail, at Noon found we could not come up with the said Vessels, gave over Chaceing.
Moderate and fair Convoy in Compy²
Saw 2 Sail in the S E Qr at 6 in 2d Reefs of the Topsails, made the Signal for the Convoy to come under our Stern at 9 sway'd the lower Yards up, gave Chace and Cleared the Ship for Action, Loaded the Guns with round and double headed Shot, Burnt two false Fires and made the Signal to the Chace, supposing her to be a Transport, Fir'd a Gun to bring her too, out all Reefs and made Sail, at 9 Fired Guns at her after which She soon was out of sight, at 10 gave over the Chace, Fir'd 2 Guns for the Convoy to Ware.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/600.
2. *Ibid.*, the *Mercury* had sailed from Sandy Hook on June 6, bound for Halifax and convoying three prizes taken by H.M.S. *Phoenix*.

MEMORIAL OF JOHN HYLTON TO THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS ¹

New York, June 11, 1776.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Colony of New-York, in the City of New-York, now convened.

The Memorial of John Hylton, Master of the Ship called the *Betsy and Polly*, now lying in the Harbour of said City, humbly sheweth:

That your Memorialist, on the 31st day of May last, obtained from Mr. Robert Ray (who officiates as an officer for that purpose) a permit to take on board the said ship a lading of beef, pork, flour, &c., and also four hundred and fifty shakers hogshheads; and, in pursuance of said permission, the said ship is now completely freighted therewith, except about two hundred barrels of bread and flour to be taken on board.

That the greatest part of the said beef and pork has been purchased at a very exorbitant price, and now lies at the bottom of the said ship, and in a few hours the said ship would have been ready to depart this Province had not your Memorialist been informed that a resolve of this honourable House, so late as this very day, prohibited the same, to the very great injury, loss, and disappointment of your Memorialist and his owners, who fairly and openly shipped the said provisions, with permission of an officer acting under the immediate authority of this honourable House.

Your Memorialist, therefore, in tender consideration of the premises, humbly prays he may be permitted to complete his cargo, and depart this Port, and such further relief as shall seem just and reasonable.

And your Memorialist shall every pray.

John Hylton. ²

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, VI, 1396, from a document destroyed in the New York State Library fire, Albany.
2. On June 12 the Provincial Congress ordered that consideration of this petition be postponed "until the expiration of the prohibition contained in the resolution of yesterday, for preventing the exportation of beef and pork, &c. or until the determination of the Continental Congress, if they should make a prior determination thereon." *New York Provincial Congress*, I, 491.

MARYLAND DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS TO THE
MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

[Extract]

Gentlemen We have received your Letter by Mr. [Stephen] Steward Also that by the Post of the 7th of this Month. We have conferred with Mr. Steward, assisted him in Changing his provincial Money for Continental and procured a recommendation from Mr [Robert] Morris to those who have been concerned in fitting out the Gallies here to give him all the Information in their power respecting them - We shall make Application for the Arms lent the Congress but We do not see any probability of obtaining them, those having been made or having arriv[ed] but what are immediately disposed of among the Continental Troops. It seems to be taken for granted that our Province will not be attacked, and upon this Supposition

We presume it will be thought unnecessary to strengthen Us even by returning the Warlike Stores which we lent them . . .

Phila June 11th 1776 Tuesday

1. Red Book, IV, Md. Arch.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COLONEL STEPHEN MOYLAN ¹

Sir,

[Philadelphia, June 11, 1776] ²

This Board have paid every attention to your request for sending a proper person for constructing Navy de Frize [at New York], but have not in their power to send you the number of Workmen desired. The bearer Mr. Arthur Donaldson, is a person of Good character and has perfect skill & knowledge in constructing those kind of Machines. It will require Particular attention to furnish him with the best workmen you can procure, and we have not the least doubt he will give perfect satisfaction in the business. We have made no particular agreemt with Mr. Donaldson, or the Workmen he taken with him, but have assured him they will be fully & Generously paid & furnished With what money he may want. The Board will send you a suitable Person to rig the armed Boats, but as we are in constant apprehension of an attack it cannot be Lieut. [James] Allen or any other Officer of the Fleet.

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, IV, 774.

2. The date is approximated. See footnote 2 under letter to Moylan, June 10, 1776.

CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE BRIGANTINE *Betsey* ¹

[Extract]

Port of Philadelphia }
 in the Province of }
 Pennsylvania ss }
 On the twenty fifth Day of May in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy six Before the honorable George Ross Esquire Judge of the Court of Admiralty lately instituted in the Province of Pennsylvania by the General Assembly thereof pursuant to the Recommendation of the honorable the Continental Congress Came George Campbell Esquire Proctor for the Libellant and exhibited to the said Judge the Bill of Charles Alexander Commander of the armed Schooner called the *Wasp* who as well for himself as for the Officers Marines and Seamen belonging to the said Schooner and all others concerned as for the thirteen united Colonies of North America in this behalf prosecuteth against the Brigantine or Schooner called the *Betsey* with her Tackle Apparel and Furniture and prayed that the same might be read and filed and it is read in the Words following that is to say -

To the honorable George Ross Esquire Judge of the Court erected by the honorable the House of Representatives of the Province of Pennsylvania to take Cognizance of and try the Justice of Captures of Vessels made in pursuance of the Resolves of the honorable the Continental Congress and brought into the Port of Philadelphia. The Bill of Charles Alexander Commander of the armed Schooner called the *Wasp* in the Service of the thirteen United Colonies of North America fitted out for the Defence of Amer-

ican Liberty and for repelling every hostile Invasion thereof who as well for himself as for the Officers Marines and Seamen belonging to the said Schooner and others concerned as for the United Colonies aforesaid in this behalf prosecuteth in all humble Manner sheweth that the said Schooner was equipped victualled armed and fitted out at the Continental Charge and the said Charles Alexander duly commissioned authorized and licensed by the Delegates of the united Colonies aforesaid in Congress Assembled to command the said Schooner and set her forth as a Vessel of War in the Service aforesaid and being so commissioned authorized and licensed he the said Charles Alexander with his Officers Marines and Seamen on board the said Schooner sailing on the high Seas between the first Day of May in the present Year and the Day of exhibiting this Bill within the Jurisdiction of this Court did discover pursue apprehend and as lawful Prize take the Brigantine or Schooner called the *Betsey* commanded by Thomas Slater Burthen about ninety Tons Together with her Tackle Apparel and Furniture the Property of his Majesty George the third King of Great Britain &c and before and at the Time of the Capture thereof employed in the present cruel and unjust War against these united Colonies Wherefore the said Charles Alexander prays this honorable Court that the said Brigantine or Schooner with her Tackle Apparel Furniture and Cargo may be adjudged and condemned as lawful Prize and forfeited to the Use of the Captors thereof and the united Colonies . . . Inventory of the Goods Chattels and Effects found on board the Schooner *Betsey* . . . 60 Galls Rum. 10 Water Casks –

And thereupon his honor the Judge on the prayer of the said George Campbell Esqr did issue his Warrant commanding the Marshall of this Court that he should summon twelve honest and lawful Men of the County of Philadelphia so that they should be and appear before the said Judge on the Eleventh Day of June next at the Court House in the City of Philadelphia at a Court then and there to be held upon their respective Oath or solemn Affirmation to try the Truth of the Facts alledged in the aforesaid Bill And did order the Registrar of the said Court to give publick Notice of the Time place and Cause of holding the said Court . . .²

And thereupon cometh the Marshall of the said Court namely Matthew Clarkson Esquire and maketh return to the Warrant aforesaid in Manner following to wit – I do hereby certify that by Virtue of the within Writ to me directed I have summoned the Jury in the Pannel . . . The Jurors in the Panel to the aforesaid Warrant annexed named were severally called when Frederick Kuhl James Budden James Millegan Cornelius Schweres George Bartram William Barrell John Mease William Ball Philip Moore Anthony Morris the Younger and Thomas Pryor being the first twelve appearing were severally and respectively sworn and affirmed to try the Truth of the Facts alledged in the said Bill and give a true Verdict according to their Evidence . . .

The Deposition of Thomas Slater . . . To the first Interrogatory deposeth and saith that he doth know the Schooner *Betsey* above mentioned and did sail in her as Master or Commander of her. That on the

fifteenth Day of February last she was taken by a Tender Sloop belonging to his Majesty's Ship of War called the *King Fisher* and commanded by one [blank] Jones and carried into the Port of Norfolk in Virginia That after getting into the said Port he was ordered on board his Majesty's Ship of War called the *Roebuck* the Captain whereof told him this Deponent that he must impress all the Men belonging to the said Schooner and inquired of him this Deponent what he would have done with the said Schooner as she must not be permitted to go out to Sea That this Deponent desired the said Schooner might be carried a little further up the River of Norfolk in which the said Schooner then lay and moored which was done accordingly After which the Seamen belonging to the said Schooner were taken out of her and the said Deponent together with his Schooner left by the Man of War's Men That on the twenty third Day of March last the *Roebuck* Sailed for the Capes of Delaware leaving the said Schooner moored at Anchor as aforesd with this Deponent on board her untill the second or third Day of May last when a certain Congleton Master Mate of the *Roebuck* with four Seamen and two Negroes came on board the said Schooner that the said Congleton told this Deponent on coming on board that he was come to take charge of his this Deponent's Vessel That this Deponent thereupon asked if he was come to make a Seizure of her to which the said Congleton replied that he did not know but believed not That when they got to Sea he the said Congleton would inform this Deponent what the said Schooner was taken for and immediately put out to Sea with this Deponent on board and against the Will of this Deponent That after the said Schooner had got to Sea the said Congleton told this Deponent that the *Roebuck* had got aground in Delaware Bay and that the said Schooner was intended to take out her Guns and other things in order to lighten the *Roebuck* and get her off That the said Schooner on her Arrival at Delaware Bay (the *Roebuck* having got off and riding at Anchor) was ordered to come too under the Stern of the *Roebuck* which the next Morning weighed Anchor and sailed with the said Schooner up the Delaware Bay & River as high as the Mouth of Christiana Creek That the said Schooner at the Time of her Capture belonged to Robert Slater of Baltimore Town in the Province of Maryland That the last place she sailed from was the Island of Grenada in the English West Indies and was bound for Baltimore aforesaid in the Course of which Voyage she was taken off Cape Henry by the Sloop Tender as aforesaid That the said Schooner was then returning home after a trading Voyage and was not equip'd for War That in the Course of the said Voyage being at the Port of Cork in Ireland he this Deponent in order to prevent a Seizure of the said Schooner by any of his Majesty's Ships of War in the West Indies or on the Coast of America did procure a Register for the said Schooner in the Name of a certain Patrick Comerford of Cork aforesaid . . . That the said Schooner on Wednesday the eighth Day of May last lying off Christiana Creek in Delaware River in Company with and possession of the *Roebuck* and *Liverpool* Men of War was boarded and retaken by an armed Schooner called the *Wasp* . . . That the said Schooner

was not (to the Deponent's Knowledge) condemned in any Court of Admiralty belonging to his Majesty King George the third . . . That the said Robert Slater of Baltimore was the Owner of the said Schooner *Betsey* . . . That about two hours before the said Recaption the aforesaid Congleton thentofore acting as Master or Commander of the said Schooner *Betsey* left her together with all the Seamen belonging to the Men of War and went on board the *Roebuck* leaving no Orders or Instructions to stay by go from or assist the said Men of War That this Deponent upon the Men of War's Men leaving the said Schooner sailed with her down the River from the said Men of War about two Miles where she was boarded and taken by the *Wasp* Schooner as aforesaid That the said Schooner at the Time of her Recapture aforesaid was not laden with any Goods Wares or Merchandizes (excepting some Water Casks) That there were on board her at the Time of the said Recaption two Negroes who had come on board her with the said Congleton at Norfolk as aforesaid but that he this Deponent knoweth not to whom they belong . . .

And the aforesaid Thomas Slater being present here in Court was (by order of the Judge) duly sworn to make true Answers to all such Questions as should be asked him touching the Matter now before the Court And thereupon the Advocate for the Libellant produced to the Court a written Book purporting to be the Logg Book . . . on board the said Schooner *Betsey* . . . Remarks on Fryday February 24th . . . at Meredien got the *King Fisher's* Boat and People and run the Vessel up a little higher and moored. . . . Saturday February 25th 1776 . . . I went on board the Commodore's Ship at 12 returned on board unbent the Mainsail and unreeved some of the fore running Rigging put it down the Hold at Night put some more Service on the Cables—Remarks on Thursday March 8. 1776 . . . came several Vessels supposed to be prizes . . . Remarks on Thursday March 22d 1776 . . . went up to Portsmouth returned immediately on board Lord Dumore and several other Gentlemen came on board and examined the Vessel for a Tender—Remarks on Thursday April 12 1776 . . . got along Side the Wharf and discharged our Ballast at Night hauled off . . . Remarks on Fryday April 13 1776 . . . finished getting the Ballast out of the Vessel and cleared out the Limbers [Timbers] . . . Remarks on Wednesday April 18. 1776 . . . got a Flat alongside . . . Remarks on Thursday April 19. 1776 . . . sat up the Main Shrouds Got the Sailmakers to Work mending the Sails—Remarks on Fryday April 24 1776 . . . got the Vessel alongside Capt: Chizam's Wharf and hove down caulked her Bottom and payed it with Turpentine Lampblack and Oil at Night hauled off to single Anchor—Remarks on Wednesday April 25 1776 . . . hauled alongside the Wharf and cleaned the other side of the Vessels Bottom and payed it . . . Remarks on Thursday May 2d 1776 . . . got under Way and beat down the River as low as Willoughby's Point and anchored in Company with a Brig and Sloop of 10 Guns—Remarks on Sunday May 5 1776 . . . at Noon Saw a Sail to the Northward supposed to be the *Liverpoole* at 4 saw the *Roebuck* laying at Anchor 3 or 4 Miles to the N.E. of Cape Henlopen at

Night came to anchor astern of the *Roebuck* the *Liverpool* astern of Us At 8 A M got under Way in Company with the *Roebuck* & *Liverpool* & steering up the Bay . . . Remarks on Monday May 6. 1776 . . . at 6 came to anchor in the Mouth of Delaware River at 8 A M got under Way . . . Went on Shore on the Easternmost Shore and brought off some fresh Beef returned on board and got under Way and got up the River 10 Miles from Reedy Island . . . Remarks on Tuesday May 7. 1776 . . . got a breast of Christeen Creek let go Anchor 2 prizes in sight . . .

[Exhibit Register]—Port Cork Patrick Comerford of Cork Mercht that the Ship *Betsey* of Cork whereof Thomas Slater is at present Master being a square sterned Schooner of about forty Tons was built at Hyde County in the province of North Carolina in the Year one thousand seven hundred and seventy four as appears by a former Register . . . this Deponent is at present sole Owner . . . this twenty first Day of August 1775 – P: Comerford . . .

I Patrick Comerford of the City of Cork in the Kingdom of Irelld Mercht do hereby give up all right in and Title to the Schooner *Betsey* unto Mr Thomas Slater Mariner now Master of the same he having paid me a sufficient Consideration for the said Vessel which I declare to be his property Witness my Hand Cork 21st Day of August 1775 Seventy five – P: Comerford . . .

And now James Budden one of the Jurors aforesaid being duly sworn in open Court did depose and saith that he was present and did see the engagement between the Men of War and Gallies aforesd that he saw the said Schooner *Betsey* directly opposite the Mouth of Christiana Creek's Mouth when Captain Alexander was rowing the *Wasp* Schooner down the Creek that the said Schooner was out of reach of the firing from the Men of War and, thinks, might have got into the said Creek that when Captain Alexander got out of the Creek the *Betsey* hauld her Wind and madeaway from him that the *Wasp* followed and fired at and took her took out the Prisoners sent the said Schooner down the River and then beat up and got the *Wasp* again into the sd Creek That he heard Captain Slater declare when he landed that if he had had Guns and Men he would not have been taken that he looked upon himself as a prisoner and would give them no Intelligence

And thereupon Thomas Pryor another of the said Jury (being one of the people conscientiously scrupulous of taking on Oath) on his solemn Affirmation in open Court did declare and affirm that he saw the Engagement above mentioned and saw the *Betsey* and a Pilot Boat standing down the River when the *Wasp* got out Cristiana Creek aforesaid that the Pilot Boat and *Wasp* kept their Wind but that the *Betsey* hauled her Wind that the *Wasp* followed fired at and took the *Betsey* That at the Time the *Wasp* took her she might easily have fetched the Creek's Mouth and have got in more easily than down the River That the whole Conduct of the said Slater showed a determination by every Method in his Power to avoid the Americans – And now the said Thomas Slater . . . depose and saith that the

purpose for which he went on board the Commodore at Norfolk Feby 25. was to get back his Mate who was impressed That not Lord Dumore but a Boatman told him that his Lordship came to examine the said Vessel for a Tender That he hath sail'd out of Christiana Creek and knew the Water to be deep enough for his Vessel but could not have got up the Creek during the Engagement on Account of the Wind that the Pilot Boat abovementioned being an armed Vessel might have followed and brought him back That he bore away from the *Wasp* on Account of the firing from the Ships of War That he did intend to have left the Ships and was steering down the River for that Purpose when taken by the *Wasp* That as to the Expression mentioned by Mr Budden "that he would not have been taken had he had Guns and Men" and a Commission he said the same Words when taken by the *King Fisher's* Tender as aforesaid.

And now the Jurors aforesaid having heard all the said Exhibits and Proofs upon their Oaths and Affirmations aforesaid respectively do say That they find the Facts set forth in the Bill aforesaid are true except as to the property of the said Vessel that as to that fact they find the property of the said Schooner to have been in some American [port] and that she was employed with the Consent of the Master and Owner in the Service of his Britanic Majesty . . .

And thereupon his Honor the Judge did pronounce and publish his definitive Sentence and Decree in the Words following to wit – It appearing to me by the Verdict of the Jury impaneled sworn and affirmed in this Cause upon the Evidence produced to them That the Schooner *Betsey* with her Tackle Apparel Furniture and Cargo . . . be condemned as Prize And I do order the Marshall of this Court to sell the same at publick Vendue and after deducting the Costs and Charges of this Tryal and Condemnation out of the Monies arising from the said Sale to pay the Residue thereof to the said Charles Alexander his Agent or Attorney the one third part thereof for the Use of himself his Officers and Crew . . . two third parts thereof for the Use of the said thirteen united Colonies And I do order the said Marshall to pay the whole Costs and Charges of this Tryal and Condemnation into the Hands of Michael Hillegas Esquire Treasurer of this Province according to the Resolves of the honorable the Continental Congress and of the honorable House of Representatives of this Province – Geo: Ross, June 11. 1776

1. Records of the Admiralty Court of Pennsylvania, April 13 – December 3, 1776, LC Photocopy.
2. Notice printed in *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, May 25, and *Pennsylvania Packet*, May 27.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 11." ¹

The owners of two small six gun privateers have got by the capture of the three Jamaica-men (British property) 5000 l. each, and the common sailors 500 l. each.² A few days will make West India property equally liable

1. Purdie's *Virginia Gazette*, June 21, 1776.

2. Privateers *Congress* and *Chance* which took the *Lady Juliana*, *Reynolds* and *Juno*.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR DESERTERS FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA GALLEY *Warren* ¹

Deserted on the 23d of May last, from on board the Provincial armed galley *Warren*, Captain Houston, four men, viz. Jonathan Richards, a landsman, John Craig, a seaman, each about five feet five inches high; James Furman, about five feet nine inches high, and William Smith, both landmen. Whoever takes up and secures any of them, so that they may be brought to the said boat, shall have Four Dollars for each.

June 11 [1776].

Thomas Houston.

1. *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, June 11, 1776.

DEPOSITION OF WILLIAM BARRY ¹

[Newcastle] June 11, 1776

Newcastle County on Delaware, ss.

The deposition of Mr. William Barry, mariner, aged about 27 years, taken before me the subscriber, one of the Justices in and for Newcastle county aforesaid, who deposes and saith, That on or about the thirteenth day of March last, he left Cape Henlopen as mate on board the ship *Grace*, belonging to Philadelphia, and then bound for York river in Virginia, Captain Erwin commander. That on or about the seventeenth of said month, about twelve o'clock at noon, they espied a sloop towards the land, bearing for them, having a jack in her shrouds, which the Captain supposed to be some American vessel with powder, inward bound, in distress, yet they still kept on their course. When the sloop came nigh, she hailed them, and ordered them to lower their topsails and come on board their vessel; but they made all the sail they could in hopes to get off. The sloop then fired several shot at them, as they apprehended, with an intent to kill them; upon which the Captain of the ship hauled down the sails, and went on board them. That this deponent then up with the sails again to try to get off, but they fired so he got wounded in his leg, and was forced to come to. And as they had no boat belonging to the sloop, there came a number of men back in their boat which the Captain had taken, and took them all prisoners on board the sloop, which was called the *Lord Howe*, commanded by a certain [John] Ord[e], a Second Lieutenant belonging to the *Roebuck* man of war, whose tender the sloop was.

They took the ship, and called her their prize. The crew were all (except the Captain) put in irons, though this deponent's leg was very sore; after which they were all carried and put on board the said *Roebuck* man of war of forty-two guns, commanded by Captain Hammond, who was then lying in Hampton road, and who strongly urged them to enter freely, which this deponent would not do, nor the Captain and some of the men, though others of our men did rather than be kept in irons and ill used. However, after some time, they were taken out of irons and made to do ship's duty, which all prisoners must do, with many insults and very bad usage. About three days after he went on board said *Roebuck*, she came to cape Henlopen aforesaid, and, cruising out and in there, took several vessels said to belong to the

rebels in America, which they said was, by their orders, to be lawful prizes, though when their sailors asked when they would get their shares, they were abused by the officers, and told they must go to England first.

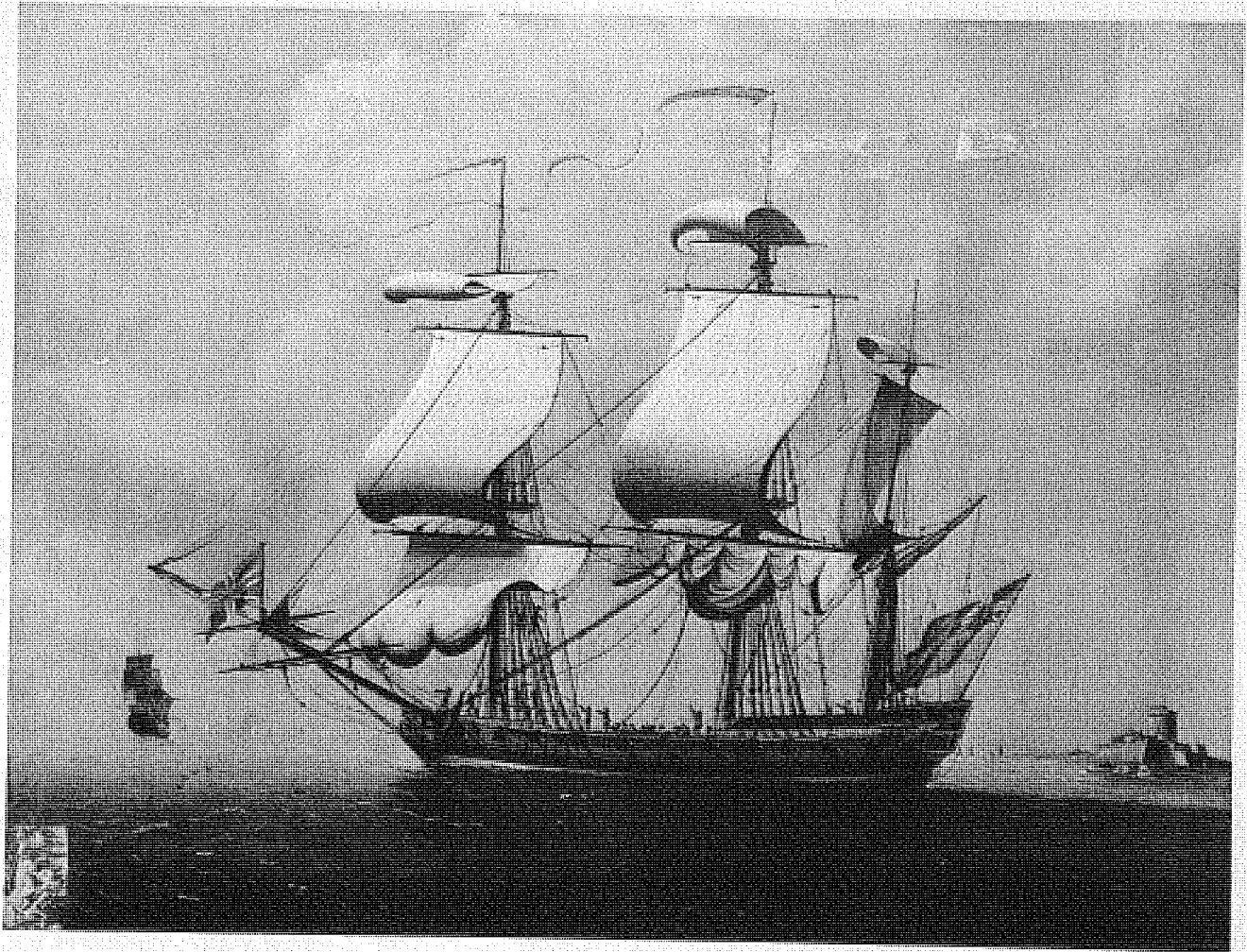
About three weeks after they came to cape Henlopen, there came three men one night, in a small boat from Lewistown shore, on board said vessel, and staid on board till about ten o'clock at night. The next night: when they came along-side, they reached up a small bag, which one of the men belonging to the ship told the deponent were letters, &c. Said three men were kindly received and entertained by the Captain and officers, but no prisoners permitted to speak to them. Said three men informed the people on board that they had, or that there were cattle, stock, &c, for them at Indian river, which the tenders endeavoured to get, but were prevented by [John] Barry's brig, as they called her,² and a small schooner, but he was not in the tenders. When the three men went off in their boat, they rowed as far as the back of the light-house, as he could see, and were convoyed by one of the men of war's tenders. One of the people that came on board, as aforesaid, had a mark like a half-moon on, he thinks, his left cheek, and looked like a cut, a well coloured man; and had on, he thinks, a brown coat, and buckskin or other leather breeches, which man he would know again. Another of said men was pale looking, and wore blue clothes, he thinks, but is not certain.

About the first week in May the *Roebuck*, and *Liverpool* frigate, tenders, &c. came up Delaware river apiece, and sent some boats on the Jersey shore to try to get fresh provisions, of which there was great want on board, viz. of flesh, fowls, &c. and where they brought on board several cattle, which were very poor, but were greedily eat – after which they proposed to go up the river for fresh water (of which they were in great want) and then afterwards, as he understood from the lower officers, they designed to go to Philadelphia and take it, if they could get past the chevaux de frise, but if they could not pass them, then to return and lay at Chester awhile – As they came up the river, they fired several shots at vessels that were before them, and opposite Newcastle they fired two or three shot out of the bow guns at a small sail boat; that knowing the cruel disposition and threats of the men of war, he was in great pain for some acquaintances he had in Newcastle, but with the spy-glass perceived the doors and windows shut, and no smoke in the chimnies, and seeing many carts carrying off goods was in hopes they had fled.

On or about the eighth of said month (May) the row-gallies attacked the men of war, which the officers looked on with disdain, as apprehending they could do little damage to them; however the *Roebuck* had a deal of her rigging damaged, and some shot in her sides, and as she was endeavouring to get nigh the row-gallies, to sink and destroy them, she got into shallow water, so that she could not steer, and ran on the ground, on the Jersey shore, above or near Christiana creek's mouth. At night they expected the fire-ships and gallies down upon them, and as she lay and took such a heel they could not bring her guns to bear, and could not make any resistance in the

Roebuck, but with small arms, there were therefore an anchor and two stream cables carried out to endeavour to get her off, and three boats were kept all night rowing round her, and often going nigh the gallies to watch their motions, as they were expected every minutes to come down on them; and as far as he could learn if they came and hulled them, they had orders to fly on board the *Liverpool* frigate, to save their lives, for which purpose boats were ready, and then the *Liverpool* was to retreat – But about four o'clock in the morning they got the ship off, after which about forty men were employed in filling and stowing away fresh water of which they were scarce, though they had stove man[y] of their water casks, and also did not expect the gallies would attack them again, as they thought they were much damaged; but as they attacked the men of war the second day with more courage and conduct, the *Roebuck* received many shots betwixt wind and water, some went quite through, some in her quarter, and was much raked fore and aft, but the carpenters soon covered the most of the holes with what some called a plaster, which prevented her from receiving in the water, otherwise would have soon filled. During the engagement one man was killed by a shot, which took his arm almost off. Six were much hurt and burned by an eighteen cartridge of powder taking fire, among whom was an acting Lieutenant, and several were hurt by splinters; but night coming on, and it being difficult to sight her guns in the night, and the gallies could not be seen, it was judged best to retreat, during which they ceased firing for awhile, and every man got a dram given him at his quarters, with directions for every man that was called by his name, to be ready to go ashore at Newcastle, under cover of the cannon, to plunder the town, and afterwards to burn and destroy it that night, but they were prevented by the row-gallies following to close. During the engagement the Captain ordered several of the guns to be loaded with round and grape shot, which were fired at the rebels (as the Captain and officers called them) who stood on the shore and banks. After the vessels had passed Newcastle they came to, in the bite below the town, that night to repair the rigging, &c. and next day the vessels went down to Reedy-Island, where Captain Hammond hailed the *Liverpool*, and ordered her to go in betwixt the island and the main, and destroy the town of Port-Penn (we heard drums beating ashore) accordingly he went, and soon after returned, and informed there was not depth of water to get nigh enough, and was afraid his vessel would get aground. Next day the vessels went to the capes, and came to anchor; the carpenters as yet still repairing the vessels, having taken, as he supposes, forty of the row-gallies balls out of the *Roebuck*, and some can not be come at.

On the eighteenth of May aforesaid, both vessels weighed from Whore-kill road. The *Liverpool* stood to the northward, and, as far as he could learn, was to go or send to Halifax, for more ships and men to attack Philadelphia. The *Roebuck* (in which he was) went to Norfolk, and joined Dunmore's fleet there, after which they burnt and sunk six sail of sloops and schooners, being scarce of hands to man them, &c. And on the twenty-fourth of May the fleet went to Gwin's island, being eighty-two sail,



Frigate taking in sail.

most of which were prizes; and on the twenty-sixth landed on the island one hundred men of the fourteenth regiment, one hundred marines, one hundred and fifty inhabitants of Norfolk (by them called volunteers) and fifty seamen, and three hundred Negroes, which were all that could be spared from the vessels; and as he could learn they were to land the inhabitants taken on board at Norfolk, on the island, to refresh themselves and to get fresh stock of cattle, &c. being very scarce of such in the fleet, as some said they had not tasted any fresh meat for seven weeks. On that night there came three Negro men from the shore in a canoe, who were shaken hands with, and kindly received and entertained by the second Lieutenant and other officers. The Lieutenant went into the cabin and informed the Captain. he afterwards asked them if there would come more of their people on board, that if they did they would be well used. The Negroes said there would, he then asked them if there were any shirtmen or forces lying nigh. They told him there were none nigher than six miles. He then asked them if there were any cattle nigh the shore on the main, They said there was plenty; he then asked him if they thought there was any danger in landing to get them, they said there was no danger. He then asked them if they could get some fowls that night for the officers, as they were badly off for some on board, they said they could get fowls and sheep. He then told them they should be well paid; and, besides, should be free when this disturbance was over, which he expected would be very soon, and then each of them should have a plantation of the Rebels land. After which one of the Negroes went and brought some fowls and geese, which this deponent heard making a noise coming up the side of the ship; and also brought his wife and two children, and another Negro man, of which he had told the Lieutenant before. And all prisoners taken by them are forced to do King's duty, and are not reckoned prisoners of war, but Rebels, and very ill used, as he told the Captain "A man had better curse father and mother, and be killed at once, than live such a life." This deponent still designed to make his escape, or die in the attempt; he accordingly slipt thro' one of the gun ports into the canoe which the Negroes had brought, cut the painter, and let her fall a stern; and about break of day got ashore on the main, after which he met a man who told him that the people in the country would take him up before he could get to the camp, and send him on board again, and that he had better return, but he would rather have taken his chance to die first. He arrived at the camp, and was kindly received by Colo. Churchill, and informed him of their design to land on the main for cattle, &c. and told him all that he knew, who sent immediately forty men and horses, and drove all the stock ten miles back in the country, and saved them from being carried off. After which he heard they had landed on the main, but being disappointed had burned some houses along shore, and further saith not.

William Barry

Sworn before me Samuel Patterson, June 11, 1776.

1. *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, June 20, 1776.

HENRY FISHER TO THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

Gentlemen

Lewistown June the 11

I intended to have sent the former ² by my Express Horse but the Torys haveing Cut off[f] that Communication I am Obliged to Send this by the Whale Boats as far as New Castle, and from thence by Land – I have further to Add that Last Evening the *King Fisher* Return'd in to our Road with a prize Brig Capt Walker of Wilmanton but luckey for us before the Pirate Boarded her our Brave Capt Barry had Been on Board of her and taken out Some Powder & Arms – in sight of the *King Fisher* – this day about noon Came into our Road and Anchord a Nother Frigate but Who she is I can Not Learn – Mr [William] Brown who Came Down in the flagg gave Me the Above acct of Capt Walkers Brig – As we have three ships here now we have our troubles and Must Request that you will Be on your gaurd as it will Not Lay in my Power to Give you the Particulars By the land Express But when the ships Move upwards I shall send of[f] the Alarm By the Arm'd Barge you May depend –

Gentlemen you will be so Kind as to inform the Congress of the proceedings of the Torys at the head of our County as I think there will be oca-tion for some Troops from Up Wards to Quiet them as they are Branching out in A Surprising Manner ³ And Believe me that I shall Do Everything in My Power to give you the Earliest Accts of the Proceedings of the Pirates in the Mean time I Remain [&c.]

Henry Fisher

[Endorsed] To – Any Committee that this Letter may fall in the hands of are Requested to furnish the Bearer hereof with a horse – upo[n] Sight. –

H. Fisher

1. Papers CC (Maryland and Delaware State Papers, 1775–89), 70, 578, NA.

2. His letter of the previous day.

3. *Ibid.*, 575, David Hall, president of the Lewes Council, made a similar appeal to the president of the Continental Congress this date.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR DESERTERS FROM THE MARYLAND SHIP *Defence* ¹

Eight Pounds Reward.

Baltimore, June 11, 1776.

Deserted the 9th Inst. from Ship *Defence*, the following men, viz. George Thompson, an Irishman, 36 years of age, about 5 feet 3 inches high, has a scar on his upper lip, short black curled hair, and dark complexion. John Drushill, an Irishman, about 29 years of age, fair complexion, light gray eyes, and something pock marked. Henry Gilley, an Englishman, 32 years of age, 5 feet 5 inches high, brown complexion, has a scar on his chin, bald pate, and pock marked. Thomas Gilley, an Englishman, 29 years of age, 5 feet 5 inches and half high, brown complexion. and pock marked. They took with them a small yawl, about fourteen feet keel, white bottom, four oars painted red. Whoever takes up the said Deserters,

and delivers them on board the *Defence*, shall receive the above reward, or in proportion for either, and 40 shillings for the boat.

N.B. It is supposed they are gone down the Bay.

1. *Maryland Journal*, July 10, 1776.

JOHN SMITH & SONS TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

Balt 11th June 1776

The Hon the Council of Safety of Maryland

Capt Tibbit brought in for our Accot 9 Half Bbls Gunpowder which was delivered into your Magazine & which we intended the Province Should have had at the usual Price, but as we with Some others in this Town have fitted out a Privateer we Shall have Occasion for our Powder & will be much oblig'd if you'll Send an Order to the Commissary of Stores to deliver it to us immediately. We expect the *Enterprize* will Sail in a week at farthest.² We are Gent [&c.]

Jn^o Smith & Sons

NB. Capt Ramsay will trouble himself with the Order –

1. Red Book, XII, Md. Arch.

2. The Maryland privateer schooner *Enterprize*, Captain James Campbell. The bond was executed in Pennsylvania on June 14, 1776, Mease & Caldwell of Philadelphia being the bonders for \$10,000, Papers CC (Ships' Bonds Required for Letters of Marque and Reprisal), 196, IV, 77, NA.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION ¹

[Williamsburg] Tuesday, June 11, 1776.

Mr. [Patrick] Henry, from the Committee of Privileges and Elections, reported that the Committee had, according to order, proceeded to the examination of John Goodrich, who was apprehended on suspicion of his being in[i]mical to the rights and liberties of America; and that it appeared, from the confession of the said John Goodrich, ² that he went on board the *Otter* sloop of war at Norfolk to pilot her up to Baltimore, in order to destroy some vessels which were building there.

It also appeared, from the deposition of James Buchanan, that the deponent being on board his vessel, the schooner *Polly*, then on ground on the Swatch, saw a vessel which he took to be a pilot boat, but was afterwards informed by one of the pilots that it was captain Goodrich's boat, and that they were prisoners, for she was a king's tender; that when captain Goodrich came up, he ordered the deponent to deliver up his papers, which he did to the said Goodrich, who told him his schooner was a lawful prize, and that his master, captain Wright, was below, and would be in that night, on board whom the said Buchanan must go; that on the same night the schooner was boarded by an armed boat belonging to the said captain Wright, who put a prize master and some hands on board the said schooner, and plundered her of all her live stock, and took a gun and couteau from the deponent; that a sloop, supposed to belong to one Lottstrange, ran up the sound that night, which sloop the said Goodrich saw, and the men on board were desirous of

taking, which the said Goodrich opposed, on account of her being an empty vessel, and harrassed by the committees, as the pilots told him the said sloop was not allowed to load, on account of violation the association; that capt. Wright, the next day, blamed him much for not making a prize of her, supposing there was cash on board; that when the schooner was on ground on the Swatch, Goodrich desired captain Wright to discharge the deponent and his schooner, as she was old, and could not be got off without much delay, and her cargo was of little value to them, which Wright positively refused, and swore he should proceed round to Norfolk; that the said Goodrich afterwards hailed a vessel belonging to Captain Adderly, and ordered him to bring his papers on board, which the said Adderly did, and delivered them to the said Goodrich, who told him he should deliver them to captain Wright, who would determine the matter in the morning; and that the said captain Wright carried the said Adderly over the bar with him the Tuesday following. That it farther appeared, from the deposition of James Anderson, that the deponent, with captain Harney, and three other boats, boarded captain Goodrich, who was in the *Lilly* tender; that as the said Harney was boarding the said Goodrich he the said Harney flashed his gun at him; and that he heard the said Harney tell the said Goodrich he should not have flashed his gun at him if he had not ordered his crew to fire on the boats; and that the said Goodrich did not deny his having given such orders; that, after he had been on board a small time, he heard the said Goodrich say he was a prisoner, and that he had been so harassed on both sides that he did not value his life; and that it farther appeared, from the confession of the said Goodrich, that he was sent by Lord Dunmore as a pilot to captain Wright to bring him into Ocracock to get provisions; and that the orders given by Lord Dunmore were to seize all vessels loaded with provisions; and carry them to his fleet; and that he, the said Goodrich, had three boats in the service of Lord Dunmore. And that they had come to the following resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to.

Resolved, That the said John Goodrich is guilty of bearing arms against this colony, and is also guilty of aiding and assisting the enemy, by giving them intelligence, contrary to and in contempt of an Ordinance of the last Convention for establishing a mode of punishment for the enemies of America in this colony, whereby the said John Goodrich hath incurred the pains and penalties in and by the said Ordinance declared and inflicted.

Ordered, That the Committee of Safety do take such order respecting the estate of the said John Goodrich as is directed by the Ordinance prescribing a mode of punishment for the enemies of America in this colony; that the debt due from the said Goodrich to the country be in the first place discharged, and that they make a reasonable provision for the support and maintenance of the wife and young children of the said John Goodrich out of his estate; that he be conveyed, under a strong guard, to Charlottesville, in the county of Albermarle, there to be confined till the farther order of the Convention, or executive power; but that this resolution respecting his

removal be not carried into execution until the health of the said John Goodrich will permit it to be done without endangering his life; and that in the mean time he be permitted the use of a room in the dwelling-house of the keeper of the public jail under a guard.

1. *Virginia Convention*, 40.

2. John Goodrich's confession was printed in the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* (Richmond, 1909); XVII, 171, 172, and reads:

John Goodrich confessed that he was sent by Lord Dunmore as a pilot to Capt. Wright to bring him into Ocrecock to get provisions—provisions being scarce aboard—that he was with Ruth and Stevens as Pilots on Board the *Otter* man of War to carry her to Baltimore—that he signed the Test and association—that he has rum, sugar and Dry Goods on board and with Lord Dunmore's Fleet. Lord Dunmore Discharged him from an act which his Counsel deemed worthy of death and that he did not chuse to disoblige Lord Dunmore—that he hath three Boats in the Service of Lord Dunmore—that he hath one negroe on board when taken that the orders given by Lord Dunmore was to seize all vessels loaded with provisions and carry them to his Fleet—that there was on board Capt. Scott 152 bbls. of Gun Powder and 65 Stand of arms, that there was some Powder on board the Phila vessel sent by the Congress which vessels were taken by Capt. Wright that there is at present 132 Sail of vessel in Lord Dunmore's Fleet—that General Clinton is at Cape Fear . . .

Ed'm. Pendleton, Clk. to Com. on privileges.

MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Williamsburg] Tuesday, 11th June, 1776.

Ordered, that a warrant issue to Captain James Cocke for two hundred and fifty pounds on account, to furnish necessaries for the outfit of his Cruiser,² and to pay the wages of the workmen.

Ordered, that Mr. Richard Taylor do deliver to Captain James Cocke out of provisions at Petersburg, such as he may want for the use of his Cruiser.

Resolved, that George Mason, Esquire, be authorized to draw on the Commissary of Provisions here for rations to such seamen as may come to this city engaged for the Potowmack River Department.

It appearing to the Board that Thomas Gibbons, Second Lieutenant of Marines under Captain [William] Mitchell, cannot recruit his quota of men, and, being willing to resign,

Resolved, That Gabriel Madison be appointed to that office in the room of the said Thomas Gibbons.

Ordered, that the Commissary of Stores do deliver to Captain Mitchell six potts, three quires of Cartridge Paper, twenty-five pounds of Powder, one hundred pounds of lead, fifty-six cartouch boxes, and a few pair of bullet moulds for the use of marines.

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 196-99.

2. The brig *Raleigh*.

A BRITISH JOURNAL OF THE EXPEDITION TO CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA ¹

[June] 11th The following 5 Transports received orders to take the remainder of the Troops on board and to proceed to Spences Inlet vizt The *Nancy*, *Pallissor*, *Myrtle*, *Earl of Derby*, &

Saville – but the wind coming round to the N E with rains and heavy squalls prevented them from sailing, and in the evening the Troops returned to their respective Transports.

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers. CL.

12 June

DIARY OF SIMEON PERKINS ¹

[Liverpool] Wednesday, June 12th

Three men come to town from Port Hebere. They say that one of them is a midshipman, and that he was put on board as prize master of a schooner, one Pratt, from New London, bound to this place, taken by one of the King's ships. That they put into Port Hebere for the reason the schooner leaked very bad. That they all went on shore for wood and water, when Pratt, the late master, took the boat and went on board, and there stayed till a schooner came in and took out some of his loading, corn and rye, and put 2 hands on board, hove up and went away together to the westward. A brig is in the harbour. It is said she is anchored near Moose harbour.

1. Innis, ed., *Perkins' Diary*, 123.

JAMES WARREN TO ELBRIDGE GERRY ¹

[Extract]

Watertown, June 12, 1776

The prize you mention is indeed a great affair; ² the several prizes since are very important, but the loss of the *Yankee Hero* is a damper. What must be done with the West-India prizes? ³ They must be made legal; British property must not escape under the cover of West-India property, which if real will be converted into British as soon as it arrives. I fear the manning of your fleet will go heavily. Why may not the sailors we have taken be obliged to do duty there, as they make ours do on board their's?

1. James T. Austin, *The Life of Elbridge Gerry* (Boston, 1828), I, 183, 184.

2. The powder ship *Hope*.

3. The Jamaicamen *Lady Juliana* and *Reynolds*, carried into Marblehead and Dartmouth, respectively.

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT ¹

[Watertown] Wednesday June 12th 1776.

A Petition of Benja Smith of Edgartown – representing. That in Novr last, an Act was pass'd entitled “An Act for Encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels, &c. That from the encouragement therein given to the Captors of Vessels belonging to the Enemy, he with divers other persons belonging to a Sea Coast Company station'd on Martha's Vineyard, with some of the Militia, & Train Band of the same place on the 7th of March last – on board the Sloop *Liberty* – did pursue, engage Board, & take, & bring into the Harbour of Edgartown, the Ship *Harriot* Weymss Orrock Master laden wth Coal &c, for the use of the Fleet, & Army employed against the United

Colonies. That he (the Petitioner,) Libel'd said Ship, & Cargo &c, but before condemnation of said Ship & Cargo, a Resolve was pass'd by the General Court the 23d of April last – wherein it was Resolved, “that the Sea Coast Men station'd in any Part of this Colony shall be Intituled to one third part of the Nt proceeds after Charges of Condemnation, & other Expences are paid of all Vessels, & Cargoes that have been, or shall hereafter be taken by them, & legally condemn'd to be divided amongst them in proportion to the pay of the Officers and Soldiers employed in such part or Place, & the Remainder shall be to the use of the Colony.” That the first Law gave the Captors the Property of Vessel Cargo &c. & that the faith of Govern't was plighted to secure it to them – That he made a Capture of said Ship on the 7th of March & on the 23d of April foll[owin]g the aforesd Resolve was past whereby two thirds was taken to the Colony – That he conceives that should the Colony be disposed to take any part by Virtue of said Resolve, that the part pointed out in said Resolve is too much by far, as the Colony was not at any expence for Vessel, Cannon &c, and therefore prays that said Resolve may be repealed, & annull'd, or otherwise &c

Whereas it appears that certain Persons were concerned in taking, & bringing into this Colony the Ship mention'd in said Petition, a number of whom were of a Sea Coast Company in the Pay of the Colony, and it further appearing that the Vessel which attacked, & took the said Ship was procured by and was at the Risque of the Petitioner

It is Resolved, That after the Charges of Trial, & Condemnation are deducted from the gross Produce of the said Ship, her Cargo and Appurtunances, and the Share of the other Captors have been assigned them – the Colony shall receive One third part, and the said Sea Coast Men two third Parts of the Residue. –

Resolved, That the Commissary General be, and he hereby is directed to deliver to the Honble Richard Derby Junr Esqr One of the Committee for fixing out Armed Vessels fitted out by this Colony, Two pieces of Cannon six pounders made use of by Colo Crafts in Boston, And the said Richard Derby Esqr be also furnished by the said Commissary with eight more six or four pounders out of the Cannon now at Boston with One, or both Trunnions on for the use of the Sloop *Tyrannicide*

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 35, 40–41, 42.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BOSTON, DATED JUNE 12.”¹

On Monday evening came in seven more of the transports with Highlanders. – There were 32 in all. – What we took left Liverpool the 28th of April; so that the Ministry had not received the news of Howe's having been drove away time enough to countermand the troops, and thought he was yet at Boston. – The Commodore, Capt. Banks, says no men could fight better than ours on board the *Yankey Hero*

1. *Constitutional Gazette*, June 22, 1776.

MASTER'S LOG OF H.M. SLOOP *Hope*¹

June 1776 Remark's &c off Boston Light house
 Wednesday 12th At 4 AM Weigh'd and Came to Sail, at 8 Man'd & armd
 the Longboat, Cut a Schooner out from under the
 Land Do Schooner Loaded with Oisters took hir in
 tow at 11 AM Set St[u]dding sails & Chaced three
 Sloops fired 4 four Pdrs Shoted at Do Vessels at Noon
 Boston Light house SSW 4 Leagues
 Light Airs and Fair Chaced by four Sail of Rebel Schoo-
 ners Pick't up a boat from Boston with three Men in hir
 that made there Escape from the Rebels, at 5 P M the
 Rebels Schooners left off Chace finding they Could Gain
 No Ground on us at 1/2 past 7 P M Anchored in Nantas-
 ket Road

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1794.

CHARLES CHURCH TO NICHOLAS BROWN¹

Bedford in Dartmo[uth]

Sir

12 June 1776

On my arrival Mr Tallman the person who I was to have the Rice, was gone to Boston so that I was obligd to wait his coming home being no more in the place. he is Since got home, & tells me he has dispos'd of the whole he had, & cannot at present buy you any of that Article –

a Man you desir'd me to get you for your Brig is not to be had, a continental Brig fixing here picks them all up – am really sorry it does not lay in my power to Serve you. – I am [&c.]

Charles Church

I expect to be at providence in abt 7 days if you should have any Freight for this place shall thank you for it –

1. Nicholas Brown Papers, JCBL.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Cerberus*, CAPTAIN JOHN SYMONS¹

[June 1776] So End Nantuckett Shoal N 58 6W 33 Leagues
 Tuesday 11 at 7 A M out 2 reefs & sett Top Gallt Sl
 Light Breezes at 2 P M Unbent the M Topsl & bent
 another at 6 saw a Sail to the Westwd gave Chace at 8
 lost sight of the Chace at 10 saw two Lights in the
 NNE Clear'd Ship 1/2 past saw 3 Ships sett Top Gall
 sls wore ship
 Wednesday 12 at 3 A M in Top Gallt sls at 7 saw a Sl to S W gave
 Chace fired a 3 pdr at the Chace.
 Modr & fair the Chace in Sight fired 9 9 pdrs at the
 Chace at 7 P M Brot too and spoke the Chace the Ship
Crawford from Glasgow with Troops taken by the

Rebells² in 1 reef Topsls took the Master & 5 Men out of the above.³

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/181.
2. Taken by the Continental brig *Andrew Doria*, May 29, 1776.
3. Lieutenant James Josiah, Midshipman Evan Bevan and four hands, "Supernumeraries Born for Victuals," Muster Table, *Cerberus*, PRO, Admiralty 36/7731. The seamen were Malitia Nye, Francis Gould, William Blake, Russell and Edward Kirk.

JOURNAL OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO BUILD TWO CONTINENTAL FRIGATES IN RHODE ISLAND¹

[Providence] Wednesday Evening June 12. 1776

Meeting in being according to adjournment

Voted. That Eighty Pounds LMy be paid Mr Manly out of the Treasury to pay for Cordage &c -

Voted. That six pounds be paid Mr Richd Marvin out of the Treasury for one Months Wages

1. Journal R. I. Frigates, RIHS.

CAPTAIN THEOPHILUS STANTON TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL¹

Sir I, am of opinion that mr amos Stanton may Do as well for a Lt of marines as any Person which Can be had he being Expert & active with a fire Lock & Like wise a prime Sailor & as he is at Present on board & appears to give good Satisfaction on all hands I would beg Leave to Nominate him for that Service on board the *Shark* galley - & would also nominate mr wm wilbur for the Birth of a master as he Hath been on board & had the principle Care of the Rigging &c for Some time past. & has behaved So as to Recive the applause of people in General att Norwich &c I have at this time about Thirty five men including officers inlisted the greater part of which are on board am now Loaded with Capt [Ephraim] Bills Riging & Shall proceed to Seabrook as Soon as posible I am of opinion we Shall be full mand in one week after we Return from Saybrook beg your honors Directions with Respect to our Stores &c whether I must procure them myself or apply To Some other Person for them I am with the greatest Respect your honors [&c.]

New London 12th of June 1776

Theo. Stanton

1. Trumbull Papers, ConnSL.

LIBELS AGAINST THREE PRIZES TAKEN BY THE CONTINENTAL FLEET¹

Colony of Connecticut,

New-London County

Libels are filed before me, against the armed Brigantine *Bolton*, mounting 14 Guns with 40 Men, Edward Sneid, Commander; the armed Schooner *Hawk*, mounting 6 Guns with 20 Men, John Wallace, Commander; and a small Sloop, late a Tender to the Ship *Glasgow*, with three Men on Board. Which Vessels are said to have been armed and set forth to infest the Sea-Coast of the United Colonies of North-America, and taken by the Continental Fleet and brought into the County of New-London: - And

the Court erected to try and condemn all Vessels found infesting the Sea coast of America, and brought into this county, will be held at the Court-House in New-London aforesaid, on the 5th day of July next, at 9 o'Clock in the Forenoon, to try the Justice of said Captures, of which this notice is given pursuant to the Laws of this Colony, that the Owners of said Vessels, or any Person concerned therein, may appear and shew Cause, if any they have, why the said Vessels with their Guns, Stores, Tackle and Furniture, should not be condemned.

Richard Law, Judge of said Court.

New-London, June 12, 1776.

1. *Connecticut Gazette*, June 14, 1776.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

Albany June 12th 1776

4 O'Clock P: M:

Dear Sir

The Letter which I had the Honor to write You Yesterday, I delivered to General Wooster who sailed this Day. –

I have within this half Hour received a Letter from General Arnold of Which the inclosed is a Copy I fear the next will announce the Evacuation of Canada by our Troops, probably with Loss, as I fear that not a sufficient Attention has been paid to a Recommendation of Mine, to bring all the Batteaus that could possibly be spared from Sorel to St Johns.

I shall immediately dispatch an Express to Fort George to send Batteaus to St Johns but after all the Number will be very small for Want of Men to navigate them, I suppose one hundred and twenty [at] least are at Lake George. –

I am not under the least Apprehension That the Enemy will be able to cross Lake Champlain, provided that our Army is able to retreat into that Lake, that Ammunition is speedily sent up, And a further Supply of Pork forwarded Without Delay to this place. –

Your Excellency will perceive that Genl. Arnold informs me That the Enemy have the Frames &c for Gondolas on Board, We should therefore build a Number of these Vessels with all possible Dispatch, One is now on the Stocks but We want People that understand the Construction of them, I have some Time ago begged Congress to send one Express, let me intreat that some more capable Persons may be sent up & twenty Shipwrights with them. –

As I fear the Saw mills will Not be able to saw a sufficient Number of Plank, I wish to have a Dozen of Whip Saws & Files sent up with all possible Dispatch. –

I shall order all the Batteaus that do not go to St Johns out of Lake George to Tyconderoga that they may be ready at That Place to be sent to Skenesborough to convey the Militia should they be sent up. –

I am with every respectful Sentiment [&c.]

Ph: Schuyler

1. *Washington Papers*, LC.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

Dear Sir

Albany June 12th 1776

I had Just closed my Letter No 1. When I received the Inclosed from General Sullivan which was Left open for my perusal I am extreamly Happy that it contains such Favorable Accounts and do myself the pleasure to Congratulate your Excellency – I am still in Hopes if reinforcements are soon sent we shall hold Canada, Especially as the Canadians are so friendly – I am however humbly of Opinion That we still ought to Build the Gundalos, and Make every preparation to prevent the Enemys Crossing the Lake and penetrating into the Colonies Which I think will Certainly be our own Fault if they do

God Bless you my Dr Genl and Beli[e]ve me [&c.]

Ph: Schuyler

1. Washington Papers, LC.

JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS ¹

[New York] Wednesday morning, June 12, 1776.

Mr. [William] Mercier attended, with a manifest of the cargoes of several vessels now landing in this Port. ²

1. *New York Provincial Congress*, I, 491.

2. These manifests were printed in Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, VI, 1397, from documents later destroyed in the New York State Library fire at Albany. They are as follows: Manifest of the cargo of Sloop *Resolution*, John Hathaway Master, for Providence, viz: 40 bbls.Oil; 10 bbls. of Beef; 57 bbls.Flour; 3 bbls.pickled Codfish; 9 kegs butter Biscuit; 39 bush. Wheat; 85 lbs.Butter.

City of New-York:

John Hathaway, Master of Sloop *Resolution*, being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that the above manifest is a just and true account of all the cargo he hath or will take on board said vessel from this city in this his intended voyage to Providence. And further saith not.

John Hathaway.

Sworn this 11th June, 1776, before me:

Andrew Gautier, Justice.

Manifest of cargo on board Ship *Betsy and Polly*, viz: 179 bbls. Beef; 219 bbls. Pork; 200 Shakes; 136 tierces, 49 bbls, and 12 hhds. Bread; 19 bbls. and tierces Hams; 405 bbls. Flour; 120 kegs of Bread; 28 boxes sperm Candles; 150 Boards.

John Hylton.

The above sworn to before me this 11th day of June, 1776:

Francis Filkin, Alderman.

Constitutional Gazette, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1776

New-York, June 12.

On Monday arrived here a Sloop from Port au Prince, loaded with sugar, molasses and coffee.

Mr. Adam Holms, who left New-Port last Saturday morning says, "That a ministerial pirate had taken a schooner near Block Island and carried her off; and likewise chased two sloops, who ran ashore, but have since got off."

One of the Philadelphia prize ships is arrived at Marthew's Vineyard. Her cargo consists of 302 hogsheads of sugar, some rum, &c.

247 the United American States D ^r		
1796 Sep. 13	To a Chest of Medicines for Gov ^r of Francis Reg ^t —	263 25. 8. 2
	To a Chest of Medicines for Gov ^r of Dikes Reg ^t —	25. 8. 2
		<u>288 16. 4</u>
Nov. 24	To Medicines for Gov ^r of Francis Reg ^t from Sep. 18 to Nov. 24	2 14. 5. 7
	To Medicines for Gov ^r of Dikes Reg ^t from Sep. 30 to Nov. 4	13. 16. 3
		<u>201 15. 10</u>
1795 Jan. 23	To a Chest of Medicines for the Continental Frigate Boston	278 19. 1. 4
April 1	To a Chest of Medicines for the Continental Frigate Hancock	286 15. 14. 11
May 13	To Sundry Medicines for the Continental Frigate Boston	4 11. —
		<u>288 7. 3</u>
28	To a Chest of Medicines for the Continental Frigate Providence	135. 0. 8
	To Sundry Medicines for the Continental Frigate Columbus	79. 12. 6
		<u>214 13. 2</u>

Account of medicines supplied to the Continental Frigates by the Greenleaf
Apothecary Shop, Boston.

Captain Clapp, who is just come to town, gives an account, that a sloop belonging to New-Brunswick, from Curacoa, was drove on shore by one of the ministerial pirates a little to the southward of Shrewsbury. The crew got on shore, and by the assistance of the country people drove the pirates off. Her cargo consists of dry goods, and about 300 bushels of salt, which is since safely landed.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Wednesday, June 12, 1776

Colonel Roberdeau, in behalf of the owners of the privateers which have taken some prizes, on board of which is a quantity of dollars to the amount of 22,000 having tendered to Congress the moiety belonging to them, in exchange for continental dollars [bills of credit.] ²

Resolved, That their offer be accepted, and that application be made to the agent for the men, for the moiety belonging to them, and that continental money be given them in lieu thereof.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to Colonel Magaw, for the use of his batallion, the 191 arms sent up by Captain Berry [John Barry].

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 432, 433.

2. Money found on board the Jamaicaen *Lady Juliana*, *Reynolds* and *Juno*, taken by the Philadelphia privateer sloops *Congress* and *Chance*.

JOHN HANCOCK TO THOMAS CUSHING ¹

Dear Sir, —

Philadelphia, June 12th, 1776

By the inclosed List, comprehending the Names of the Captains with their respective Vessels and the Number of Guns they mount, you will see we are taking every Step in our Power towards finishing the Business. I hope the Appointments will be agreeable. We have [done] every Thing we could to give Satisfaction.

<i>Colonies</i>	<i>Names of Ships</i>	<i>Captains</i>	<i>Guns</i>
New Hampshire	<i>Raleigh</i>	Thos. Thompson	32
Massachusetts	<i>Hancock</i>	Wm. [sic] Manley	32
Massachusetts	<i>Boston</i>	Isaac Cazneau	24
Rhode Island	<i>Warren</i>	John Hopkins	32
Rhode Island	<i>Providence</i>	Saml. Tomkins	28
Connecticut	<i>Trumbull</i>		28
New York	<i>Congress</i>	Chris. Miller	28
Do.	<i>Montgomery</i>		24
Pennsylvania	<i>Washington</i>	Thos. Read	32
Do.	<i>Randolph</i>	Nichs. Biddle	32
Do.	<i>Effingham</i>	John Barry	28
Do.	<i>Delaware</i>	Chas. Alexander	24
Maryland	<i>Virginia</i>	Jas. Nicholson	28

1. *Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society* (Boston, 1827), LX, 110, 111.

JOHN ADAMS TO DAVID SEWALL ¹

Philadelphia June 12. 1776.

Dear Sir In the *Boston Gazette* of the 3d Instant, I have the Pleasure to see your Name among the Councillers, where I have wished to see it, for some Time. – That refined Ingenuity and pertenuous Industry, which distinguished my Class mate at Colledge, and my Brother at the Bar, I am sure will be of good Service to the Province, at the Council Board, especially at this Time, when the public stands So much in Need of the services of her best Men.

Your Mathematical and Philosophical Genius, will be agreably entertained with Speculation for the Defence of Plans, and the Fortifications of the Harbours and Seaport Towns.

Let me Suggest to your Consideration two objects of Inquiry, the one is Row Gallies and the other is Fire ships. – Row Gallies and Floating Batteries, are Engines very formidable to Men of War, because they are So low and Small that it is almost impossible for a Man of War to bring her Guns to bear upon them So as to do Execution, and the great Weight of Mettal, which is carried by the heavy Cannon, on boaf[r]d such Gallies and Batteries, tear the Ships to Pieces. – and the shot is very sure.

Fire Ships and Rafts, are the thing of Terrors to Men of War, when so protected by Row Gallies and floating Batteries, that they cannot grapple them and anchor them by Means of their Boats, and Barges. I have inclosed to your excellent Speaker, a little Treatise upon the Art of making the Compositions and constructing the Vessells ². – There seems to be something infernal in this Art. – But our quondam Friend Jonathan used to quote from Mat. Prior, “when it is to combat Evil, Tis lawfull to employ the Devil” – There is no greater Evil on Earth or under it than the War that is made upon Us. – And We have a Right, and it is our Duty to defend our selves by such Means as We have.

There are such Preparations of Vesseaux de Frie[es], Fire Ships, Fire Rafts, floating Batteries and Row Gallies in Delaware River, that they would Spread Destruction through any British Fleet, that should attempt to come up here. – I wish that Similar Preparations were made in every Seaport in the Mass. Bay.

After you have done every Thing that is necessary for the Defence of the Colony, and her Sisters, I presume you will turn your Thoughts to the Establishment of a permanent Constitution of civil Government. – The Board is So unwieldy a Body to conduct the Executive Part of Government, productive of So much Delay, and unnecessary Trouble, that you will no doubt, choose a Governor. Will you give him a Negative upon your Laws, or only make him *Primus inter Pares*, at the Board? – I Suppose the high, free Spirit of our People will demand the latter. – But, I must conclude, my Letter, by requesting the Favour of your Correspondence, and assuring you that I am with great Esteem [&c.]

1. Adams Papers, MassHS.

2. Enclosed in June 9 letter to James Warren.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

In the Committee of Safety

[Philadelphia] 12th June, 1776.

By order of the Board, Robert Towers, Commissary, was directed to deliver Capt. James Craig, or his order 2 Cwt. of Grape & 2 Cwt. of Swivel Shot, which he is to repay in Shot or Cash.

It being inconvenient to Major [Samuel] Mifflin & Capt. [Nathaniel] Falconer & Capt. [James] Craig to attend the Building of two Gondolas, directed to be built the 3rd inst. therefore,

Resolved, That Mr. [Thomas] Wharton & Mr. [Samuel] Howell, & Mr. O[wen] Biddle attend the building of said Boats.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 599, 660.

Pennsylvania Gazette, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1776

Philadelphia, June 12.

To be Sold at public Vendue

On Monday, the 17th instant, at 12 o'clock, at Messieurs Willing and Morris's wharff, the Brigantine *Betsey*, with all her Tackle, Furniture, &c. taken by the Schooner *Wasp*, Charles Alexander, Esq; Commander, and condemned in a Court of Admiralty, at Philadelphia, the 11th of June.

Inventory to be seen at the Marshall's Office, and on board the said Brig.

Deserted from the *Chatham* armed Boat, James Montgomery, Esq; Commander, James Brown, about 5 Feet, 5 or 6 Inches high stout built, round shouldered, sandy Hair, about 21 Years of Age, has a Scar on his Face, can beat the Drum, and is supposed to be gone to Maryland. Whoever takes up the said Brown, and brings him to the Boat, or Commander, or secures him, so that he may be had again, shall have Four Dollars Reward, and reasonable Charges, paid by

James Montgomery

MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Williamsburg] Wednesday, 12th June, 1776.

Ordered, that a warrant issue to Mr. John Herbert for fifty pounds on account to defray his expenses in directing and managing the building two Row Gallies.

Ordered, that a warrant issue to Captain Christopher Calvert for two hundred pounds on account to expedite the building two Roe Gallies in North Carolina.

Ordered, that a warrant issue to Nathaniel Littleton Savage, Esquire, for two hundred and seventy-five pounds, to be paid to the committee for the county of Northampton on account for fitting out two Cruisers and for advanced pay to Seamen and marines.

Thoroughgood Smith, Esquire, appeared before this Board and contracted to furnish the Marine Department on the Eastern Shore with provisions at seven pence half penny per ration.

Resolved, that Thoroughgood Smith, Esquire, be appointed Paymaster to the Seamen and marines on the Eastern Shore, and that he be allowed after the rate of twenty-five pounds per annum for his trouble therein and all reasonable expenses in travelling to and returning from this Board on necessary business of his office.

Ordered, that a warrant issue to Captain [Isaac] Younghusband for one hundred and ninety-two pounds six shillings and ten pence half penny, the ballance of his account for sundry disbursements for the vessells fitting out under his direction.

Ordered, that a warrant issue to Captain Younghusband for the use of George Hope for four pounds five shillings for Junk, and ninety-one pounds two shillings and sixpence for sundry necessaries furnished the *Hero* Galley.

Ordered, that a warrant issue to John Young for the use of Captain [Edward] Travis for one hundred and sixty-nine pounds eighteen shillings and six pence for the pay of his Seamen. ²

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 200-02.

2. Commander of the galley *Manley*.

BRIGADIER GENERAL ANDREW LEWIS TO MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES LEE ¹

[Extract]

Dear General

Williamsburg June the 12th 1776

I received your Favour dated Wilmington the first of June, which was the first Notice I had of Clintons sailing from Cape Fare [Fear]. As he has not yet appeared on our Coast I have all the Reason imaginable to believe he has steered his Course for Charles Town or more Southernly – I had before the Receipt of your Letter wrote you twice (the first dated May the 27th, the last June the 3d.) informing you of the Enemys abandoning their Post at Portsmouth, and the whole Fleet sailing to Gwins Island &c. to which Information I can only add, that they are still in Possession of that Island. I have ordered several Peices of Cannon at Gloucester Town to be mounted, which the workmen are about, in Order to have them mounted opposite to the Enemy, and if possible to prevent some small armed Vessels geting out which lie between the main Land and the Island . . . We have all the Inclination you could wish to get on the Island if we can by any probable Means make the Attempt, this must altogether depend on Circumstances . . . A small Vessel having got up safe to Fredericksburg (an account of which you must have seen before this Time in the Papers) has landed five Tuns of Powder for Continental Use. Should I find that the Seat of War for this Season is to be rather in Carolina than here, I shall order what you think proper of the five Tuns to be hastened to you, at all Events shall order two Tuns immediately . . . None of the row-Gallies yet fited out but some of them soon will. Capt. [Thomas] Lilly's Preparations have been much more tedious than I expected, he says he will be able to make some Attempt next week. We have got some more Armorers, and hope to have soon an Addition to the Number – Our Men took a small Sloop endeavoring to get out of the Narrows between the Island and our breast Work. She having run a

Ground, a few Men in two small Canoes boarded her, five Men who were all her Crew endeavored to escape by swimming three of which were shot from the Shoar and sunk. Two Hogsheads of Brandy $\frac{1}{2}$ Ditto of Rum some Tools and Ropes with some Provisions were taken out for the Use of our Troops there, who were in Need of the Brandy and Rum as the Water is very bad – Deserters say that Lord Dunmore is in dayly expectation of two Regiments. A Great Mortality among the Enemy, some of both white and black are discovered floating every Day. . . .

1. Harry Ackerman Autograph Collection, Hollywood, Calif.

A BRITISH JOURNAL OF THE EXPEDITION TO CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA ¹

[June] 12th a heavy gale of Wind occasioned apprehension for the safety of the Fleet; signals of distress were seen in the Afternoon from the *Lady William* Schooner with Lord William Campbell on board, and a Sloop with Rum & Stores for the Army was drove on shore near the Light house; towards evening the storm abated. The *Harcourt* Indiaman & *Friendship* armed Vessel sent to Sea during the Gale.

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

MEMORIAL OF JOHN ELLIS TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BRITISH TREASURY ¹

To the Right Honorable the Lords Commissioners
of His Majesty's Treasury.

The Memorial of John Ellis Agent to His Excellency Peter Chester Esqr. Governor of His Majestys Province of West Florida.

Humbly Sheweth

That your Memorialist having received a power of Attorney from His Excellency Peter Chester Esqr. Governor of His Majestys Province of West Florida, to receive the sum of three hundred and fifteen pounds allowed by your Lordships yearly for the support and maintenance of a schooner for the use of the said Province; the said sum commencing this Year the 1st of January 1776 and Ending the 1st, of January 1777.

Your Memorialist humbly prays for your Lordships directions to issue the same to him.

John Ellis

[Pensacola] June the 12th. 1776

1. PRO, Treasury 1/522, UFL Photocopy.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Pallas*, CAPTAIN WILLIAM CORNWALLIS ¹

June 1776

In Carlisle Bay (Barbadoes)

Wednesday 12th AM up Topgallt yards, Scrub'd between Wind and Water.

P M Reced Bread and Rum, $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 Anchored here his Majesty's Sloop *Atalanta* with a Brig Prize; fired two Guns as Signals for the boat, past 5 in 1st reefs, weigh'd

and made sail, a Snow and Sloop from the Coast Guinea sailing at the same time, 1/2 past 6 Bridge Town East 5 or 6 miles.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/667.

13 June

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER¹

[Extract]

St John's June 13th: 1776

Near one half of our Army are sick, mostly with the small pox If the Enemy have a Force of six or eight and some say ten thousand Men, we shall not be able to oppose them, sick divided, ragged undisciplined, & unofficered as we are – If we are not soon reinforced I tremble for the Event – a Loss of our heavy Cannon which is all ordered to Sorrel must ensue, if not our Army, as our Retreat is far from being secured – Not one Stroke has been struck to secure our encampment here – I have ordered Men out to Morrow Morning to inclose our Encampment and the two old Forts with an Abette [*sic abatis*] and Breastwork – Doctr [Samuel] Stringer is in a disagreeable Situation, three thousand Men are sick here and at Chamble and no Room or Conveniency for them – I should advise his going to the Isle aux Noix was there any Conveniency for the Sick or Boards to make any – I have wrote General Sullivan on the Occasion – I have ordered the Frames of the Vessels here taken in pieces and sent to Crown point – The Timbers are all numbered and easily put together again.

If any more Men are ordered for this Country, let me entreat you to hurry them on and all the Water Craft. I am Dr Genl [&c.]

B. Arnold

1. Washington Papers, LC.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Blonde*, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL¹

June 1776

At Single Anchor off the Town of Trois Rivieres

Thursday 13

AM made the Signal for all Masters of Transports, Anchored here His Majesty's Ship *Triton*, some armed Schooners & all the Transports Sailed up the river, sent a 5 1/2 Inch Hawser on board a Vessel going up the Lakes.

PM rec'd from on board the *St Helena* Transport, Mr [William] Thompson the rebel general & his Aid de Camp, General [Simon] Frazier marched with 2000 Troops for Montreal, the rest of the Troops with the Generals Burgoyne, Carleton, [William] Phillips going up the River in Transports.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/118.

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER¹

[Extract]

Chambly, June 13th 1776, 10 o'Clock P.M.

. . . I make no Doubt the Enemy will pass Sorrel and as soon as in pos-

session of Montreal march immediately for St. John's and endeavor to cut off our Retreat In which Case if we save our Army the Cannon and heavy Baggage must fall into the Hands of the Enemy

All the craft on your Side of the Lake in my opinion ought immediately be sent to St John's and a Number of Gundaloes built as soon as possible to guard the Lake – You may expect soon to hear of our evacuating Canada, or being prisoners – I go to Montreal in the Morning, where I shall remain until I have Orders to quit it or am attacked, when it will be too Late.

1. Washington Papers, LC.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL EDWARD ANTILL TO BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN SULLIVAN ¹

[Extract]

Chamblie June 13th 1776

The Loss of Dechambault, I am clear has Lost us the Province, a prude[nt] Retreat, I presume, under our present Situation, is [our] only Plan if they should get possession of our Boats, I am apprehensive I think they may be at Crown Point before us – This, General, is a bold Observation excuse my Freedom; I have lived ten Years in the Country of the Operations, have seen their Maneuvres – depend upon it they [dont] retard their Operations for Nothing. they are meditating a Plan they will soon attempt to put in Execution. Secure our Water Carriage on Lake Champlain and we Turn the Tables upon them, and I Think, we Can meet them there upon Advantageous Terms – . . .

1. Papers CC (Letters addressed to Congress), 78, I, 5, NA.

VICE ADMIRAL RICHARD LORD HOWE TO CAPTAIN CHARLES DOUGLAS, R.N. ¹

[Copy]

Eagle off of Cape Race,
June the 13th 1776.

Sir, You will herewith receive the Orders it has been necessary for me to transmit to the different Commanders of the Ships of War stationed in the River St: Laurence, in consequence of my Appointment to the Command in chief of the Ships and Vessels of His Majesty's Fleet employed and to be employed in North America. And I am to desire You will cause the same to be delivered as You have Opportunity to the several Captains according to the List sent herewith.

You will observe that the Captains are directed to continue in the Execution of such Instructions as they have received from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty or the Senior Officer for the time being in the River St. Laurence.

Being unacquainted with the Nature and Progress of the Operations of the Army under General Carleton, and consequently unable to judge what number and Classes of Ships will be wanting to furnish the Assistance from the Squadron that the General may need for that Occasion; I have further to desire that You will prepare for being transmitted to me by the earliest Opportunity, a State of the Naval Force that will best correspond with the

General's Intentions (the first Consideration in this Respect) communicated to You in Consequence of these Directions: that I may be enabled to make a suitable Arrangement of those Ships that can be spared from the Operations carrying on in the River Saint Laurence, to provide according to the Tenor of my Instructions, for the various Services that will arise on the Western Coasts of this extensive Continent.

It may be expedient to reserve, in Addition to the Number of Ships and Vessels that the dependent Operations in the River St: Laurence may immediately engage, One (or more) to carry the General's Dispatches to Europe; and for the Conveyance of any Information he may have Occasion to send to General Howe.

For the first Object, when no particular Expedition is necessary, those Ships which have the most Occasion for large Repairs (if still in Condition for the Voyage) should be preferably chosen: sending them with no greater Proportion of Provisions and Stores than what may be sufficient for three Months. The *Lizard*, I apprehend is most likely to answer this Description. At the same time I am desirous in the Appointment of that Ship, to consult the Wishes of Captain [John] Hamilton, whose meritorious Services for the Defence of Quebec the last Autumn, intitle him to every Attention.

The Ships so destined are to be ordered to Plymouth, or the Port the Captains can first most conveniently gain in England. And having forwarded the General's Dispatches upon their Arrival, and acquainted the Secretary of the Admiralty therewith; They are to wait there until they receive their Lordships Orders for their further Proceedings.

In respect to the second Head of Information, it may be sufficiently taken Care of by the Appointment of some of the smaller Frigates or armed Vessels, to proceed occasionally with the General's American Dispatches to Halifax. From thence there will probably be many Opportunities to forward those Dispatches, by some of the Ships of War, that are likely to have frequent Communication with that Port.

The Services having reference to the General's Operations with the Army being suitably provided for, Attention is to be had to the Protection of the Sendency Fisheries established in those Parts of the Coasts of Quebec and Nova Scotia which lye on the Western Side of the Gulph of St Laurence: and particularly in the Bays of Chaleur and Gaspee and the Settlements on the Island of St Johns.

Directions have been uniformly given on those points, to the different Commanders in Chief upon the North American Coast. But as I doubt how far the Vice Admiral Shuldham may have been able to provide for those Services amidst the many others he has had in Charge, and that I may be sooner informed of the State of those Fisheries, and of the Settlements on the Island of St. Johns; As well as of the Nature & Duration of the Protection which has been recently applied for, and they may respectively need in the different Seasons of the Year: I must request that the Captains of some of the Ships which can be first spared from the Services carrying on in the River St Laurence (no more pressing Duties interfering to prevent it) may

be directed to visit those Stations in their Way to join me, as hereafter mentioned; And instructed to inquire of, and collect from, the Inhabitants or other intelligent Persons they may there meet with, the several Particulars that are necessary for enabling them to furnish me with the fullest and most correct Report in the Instances above stated, that Circumstances will admit.

The Captains of the Ships ordered for this Occasion, or which are at any other time dispatched in Quest of me, are first to call at Halifax; there to complete what they may be deficient in Stores or Provisions supplied for the Use of the Ships remaining at Quebec; And upon their Application to the Commissioner at that Port, they will receive the proper Instructions that will have been left in his Charge for their future Proceedings.

If your Continuance in the River St Laurence is not requisite for conducting the Naval Services upon the Plan settled with General Carleton's Approbation, it is my Intention that You should repair to join me with all convenient Dispatch; At Halifax, or where You may learn upon your Arrival, or on your Passage thither, that I have proceeded from that Port, You will then leave an attested Copy of so much of this Letter as regards the Conduct of the Ships continuing in the River St Laurence, with the Senior Officer remaining in the Command thereof, for his Guidance in the Matters referred to; And bring with You an Account of the State and Condition of those Ships, and the Qualifications of the Men in each correctly stated, so far as You have Opportunity to procure them immediately, according to the Forms sent herewith. And You are in that Case to direct some one of the other Ships of War, not necessary to remain in the River St. Laurence, to proceed to the Bays of Chaleur and Gaspée, and the Port Joie in the Island of St Johns for the purposes aforementioned.

But if General Carleton, or the Commander in chief of the Land Forces for the time being (by whose Recommendation You are to govern yourself regarding the Appointments of the Ships in the River St. Laurence) is desirous of your longer Stay there, for assisting in his intended Operations with the Army, or for the Security of the Town of Quebec; You will then please to dispatch the *Carysfort* in preference, or such other Frigate as can be first released from those Services, with the several Particulars You shall have prepared respecting the State & Disposition of the Ships as before recited, for my Information therein: And You will postpone the Inquiries with relation to the Fisheries and Settlements on the West Coast of the Gulph of St. Laurence and Island of St. Johns, to some more suitable Opportunity. I am Sir, [&c.]

Howe.

Captain Douglas of His Majesty's Ship the *Isis*,
or the Commanding Officer for the time being
of His Majesty's Ships stationed at Quebec and
in the River Saint Laurence. ²

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

2. Ambrose Serle in his journal records:

Wednesday, 12th. . . . In the Afternoon we came up with the *Tarter*, Capt. Ommaney, [Cornthwaite Ommaney], with 4 Ships under his Convoy, bound to

Quebec. After the Salute, the Captain came on board, and informed us, that he had met with nothing but Fogs, Wind & Rain for 3 Weeks past. The Admiral [Howe] directed him to bring his Ship to till morning, intending to send Dispatches by him to Genl. Carleton, and to the Commanders of the Ships in the River St Laurence. Thursday, 13th. June. Lord H[owe]. dispatched his Letters this Morning, and the Ships proceeded. While we lay to, our People attempted to catch some Cod-fish, but without Success, though our Soundings were 60 Fathom. The Lat. 45°. 24'. The Weather still very cold and disagreeable.

Edward H. Tatum, Jr., ed., *The American Journal of Ambrose Serle* (San Marino, 1940), 14-15. Hereafter cited as Tatum, ed., *Serle's Journal*.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL ¹

[Watertown] Thursday June 13th 1776

Petition of Elias Hasket Derby of Salem owner of the Schooner *Sturdy Beggar* Humbly Sheweth – That your Petitioner has at his own expence fitted out an armed Schooner Call'd the *Sturdy Beggar* burthen about Ninety Tons Mounted with Six Carriage Guns three Pounders, & Navigated by Twenty-five Men, with Provisions for four months designed for the purpose of Making reprisals on the Enemies of the United Colonies of North America Agreeable to the Laws & regulations of this Count[r]y – And which Vessel is now ready for Sailing. Your Petitioner therefore prays, that Peter Lander of Salem may be Commissionated Capt of the sd Schooner, & your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray. –

Elias Haskett Derby
Peter Lander

Read & Ordered that the prayer of the Above Petition be granted & that a Commision be filled for the sd Peter Lander, on Bonds being given agreeable to the Resolves of Congress. – Bonds being given Agreeable to the above order, a Continental Commission was issued to Peter Lander, as Commander of the *Sturdy Beggar*, dated this day & delivered with the Instructions of Congress.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 19, 22.

THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN JOHN FISK ¹

Watertown June 13. 1776

By the Major part of the Councill.

The sloop *Tyrannicide* under your Command, being in part Equipt in warlike manner, & also being so far Maned as to Enable you to go out on a Cruise, you therefore have Liberty to Cruise near the Coast of this Colony & from Harbour to Harbour in the same Colony & Newha[m]pshire, using all Necessary Precaution to Prevent your Vessell from falling into the hands of the Enemy, and w[h]ere as you have received a Comission, by force of arms to Attack subdue & take, all ships and other Vessells belonging to the Inhabitants of Great Brittain on the high seas under certain Restrictions you must Punctually follow the Instructions herewith Delivered you for your Conduct respecting this matter.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 164, 392.

PELATIAH WEBSTER TO JOHN ADAMS¹

Mr. John Adams

Boston 13 June. 1776

Sir. I Take this oppo Just to advise You that if your Congress will Appoint Capt. Job Prince (the Father) to the Command of one of the Continental frigates, he will Accept his Great Abilities as A Seaman & Long Experience both in Mercantile & War Vessels Make no sort of Recomendation Necessary to you Who have Long known him as a foremost Man in the Character of an Able Seaman & his Great Influence & Authority Among the sailors will Make his Service peculiarly necessary At this Time, & he is Much Approved by Every Gentleman with whom I have Conversed — Last Night Dawson in Browsers Brig was Chased into this harbor by our Privateers² — 11 Enemies Vessels are at Nantasket Mostly Transports Lately Arrived — The Bostonians Will Occupy the heights of Allerton point, Long Island & Petticks Island this Night & design to Clear the harbor soon of Enemy Ships. Forts at Dorchester point, Noddles Island (Camp Hill) Point Shirley the Castle & Charlesto[w]n point are in Great Forwardness, I am Sir [&c.]

Pelatiah Webster

1. Adams Papers, MassHS.

2. The brig *Sea Nymph*, from Philadelphia, which had been taken in October, and commissioned by Admiral Graves on December 14, 1775 as the *Hope*, George Dawson, commanding. See Master's Log of H.M. Sloop *Hope*, June 12, 1776.

Continental Journal, THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1776

Boston, June 13

Tuesday last arrived safe at Newbury-Port, a Sloop from Tortola and a Schooner from Barbadoes, as Prizes, taken by Captain [Jeremiah] O Brian, in one of this Colony Cruizers, who was left in chase of a Ship when the above Prizes parted with him.¹

Thursday last was sent into Cape-Ann, a large Jamaica Man, with 500-hogshead of Sugar, besides other valuable Goods, and a large sum of Specie. She was taken by one of the Continental Cruizers, who put the Captain, his Lady, and all the hands (which did not voluntarily enter on board the Cruizer) ashore at New-Providence. The Prize Master of the Ship on his Passage from the West Indies met with a Scotch Vessel of Force with 90 Soldiers, bound for Boston, on board of which he Breakfasted, and told the Scotch Captain he was destined from Jamaica for London, but as he thought Sugars would bear a better Price at Boston, he had thoughts of trying that Market first. The Scotchman being a stranger to this Coast desired the Prize Master to Pilot him in, which he agreed to and conducted him almost into Cape-Ann, when he observing two of our Privateers appearing in sight, discovered the trap, and being considerable to the Windward, made the best of his way off.²

Friday last the *Milford* Frigate of 28 guns, came up with the *Yankee Hero* Privateer, Capt. [James] Tracy, of Newbury-Port, off Cape-Ann, and an obstinate engagement ensu'd, which continu'd near two Hours, when the *Yankee Hero* was oblig'd to strike to the Frigate, being vastly superior in

Force. And on Thursday last Mr. Samuel White and Mr. Martin Brimmer obtained leave of General [Artemas] Ward for a Flag to go on board Capt. [Francis] Banks, and if possible to make an exchange of prisoners of the *Yankey Hero*. They were very politely received by Capt. Banks, and had his assurance that he would do all in his power to effect an exchange; that he would send to Halifax to his commanding officer immediately, and as soon as he had his answer would send up a Flag to Town. Capt. Tracy received a wound in his thigh, but no ways dangerous; Mr. Mains the Lieutenant was badly wounded, one Rowe of Cape-Ann, lost his arm, four kill'd in the engagement, one died of his wounds removing from the *Hero*, and 14 wounded. – Capt. Tracy informed them that Capt. Banks treated him and his crew with the greatest civility; that they were in want of no one thing; that the Surgeon had taken the greatest care of the wounded. Capt. Banks had heard of the character he had on shore for his ill-treatment to his prisoners, which he said was absolutely false, and appealed to all his officers and to his prisoners who assured them that they were well treated.

The same Day Capt. Daniel Waters, in company with a Marblehead privateer, took a large ship from Scotland, having on board 94 Highlanders and between 30 and 40 sailors for the Ministerial fleet, the ship had 4 6-pounders mounted, but made no resistance; her cargo consisted of provision & cloathing. Capt. Waters with the prize arrived safe at Marblehead last Saturday; and on Sunday they were bro't to Town under a strong guard from Col. [John] Glover's regiment, and lodged in the provost prison. We hear the officers are sent to Concord, and the soldi[ers] are to go to Worcester. ³

1. The schooner was the *Polly*; the sloop was the *Two Friends*.

2. This deception was carried out by the prize master of the ship *Lady Juliana*.

3. The transport *Anne* was taken by Washington's schooners *Lee*, *Warren* and *Lynch*. There was no privateer involved.

New-England Chronicle, THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1776

Boston, Thursday, June 13.

To be Sold, by Joshua Ward, Agent for the Owners of the Privateer Schooner *Dolphin*, and her Company, at Public Auction, to be held at Salem, in the County of Essex, the 26th Instant, to be continued from Day to Day until the whole is Sold, to the highest Bidder, the following Vessels, as also a small Quantity of Iron, &c.

Sloop *Dispatch*, burthen about 45 Tons. Sloop *Success*, burthen about 70 Tons. Schooner *Friendship* burthen about 60 Tons. ¹

To be Sold by Auction, at the House of Mr. Benjamin Burdick, in Marblehead, on Thursday the 4th Day of July next, The Brigantine *Jane*, with her Boat and Appurtenances, now lying in Lynn; also her Cargo, consisting of Beef, Pork, Butter, Bread, Tongues, Bacon, Barley, Flour, Hard Soap and Candles. ²

1. The *Dolphin* schooner, Richard Masury, commander, was commissioned December 15, 1775. Of the three prizes listed, only one has been identified – the sloop *Success*, John Hitch, master, libeled against February 26, 1776.

2. The brig *Jane*, James Fulton, master, taken by Washington's schooner *Hancock*, Samuel Tucker, commander.

JOSIAH QUINCY TO JOHN ADAMS ¹

[Extract]

Braintree June 13th 1776

It is now almost three Months since, by the Smiles of Providence upon our Army, that General Howe, with the rest of our unnatural and perfidious Enemies, were forced, with Ignominy to abandon the Capital of this Colony; on which memorable Event I sincerely congratulate you: – But, to my Astonishment, Anger, and just Resentment, a single fifty-gun Ship has ever since kept Possession of Nantasket Road; and by her Tenders taken more Prizes, than at a moderate Computation, would have fortified and rendered impregnable every Island in this Harbor: Besides, had the remaining naval Force been excluded, after the Army sail'd, a Trap would have been found, in which Prizes wou'd probably been taken to the amount in Value to us of near or quite half a Million Sterg – For when a Ship with a leading Gale of Wind at East is off the Lighthouse, with a flood Tide, and Night coming on, she must enter the Harbor, or be beat to Pieces upon the Rocks on one Side or the other. Sentiments similar to these, were published almost two months ago, but to no Purpose.

To increase our Hazards, and add to our Mortification, the 10th Instant, 7 Transports filled with highland Troops arrived in Nantasket Road: –

This Event has “waked the Watchmen of the publick Weal” for, whilst I am writing I hear, there are Parties with Cannon, Mortars, and Entrenching Tools going this Night, to fortifie the Moon, great Hill at Hough's Neck, Petticks Isld Long Isld, and Nantasket:– The Commodore, about 11 o'clock, brought his Broad Side to bear upon Nantasket and fired about 20 of his lower Tier Guns at which Place I suppose they are now at work.

1. Adams Papers, MassHS. Letter continued June 14.

COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS TO LIEUTENANT JOHN PAUL JONES ¹

Sir

You are with the *Providence* under your Command to go to Sea with the Sloop, and follow the above directions ²

You may send any Vessel in to Port for Tryal that you may think are Acting detrimental to the Interest of the American States – ³

You are first to Convoy the *Fly* as far Westward as Fishers Island, and any Vessels that may be at Stonington, back by Point Judah, or in Sight of this Harbour –

Newport June 13th 1776 –

Esek Hopkins C in Chief

To John Paul Jones Esqr

Commander of the *Providence* ³

1. Papers CC (Letters of John Hancock, and Miscellaneous Papers), 58, 155, NA.
2. To proceed to Newburyport, and convoy to Philadelphia a vessel or vessels with 120 chaldrons of coal. See Marine Committee to Hopkins, May 31, 1776, John Hancock Papers, LC.
3. Jones wrote to the President of Congress, Dec. 7, 1779:

The Commodore employed me afterwards for some time to escort vessels from Rhode Island into the Sound &c while the *Cerberus* and other Vessels Cruised round Block Island. – at last I received orders to Proceed to Boston, to take under Convoy some Vessels laden with Coal for Philadelphia – I performed that Service about the time when Lord Howe arrived at Sandy Hook.

John Paul Jones Papers, LC.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR. TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL ¹

Sir –

New London, June 13, 1776

I have a Sloop that is outward Bound and have putt on Board Eight Carriage Guns and Men Sufficient to Fight them, ² the barer Stephen Tinker is to Command.

its Probable we may fall in with sum homeward Bound Ships, and that we might make the most of what Should come in our way, I should be Glad to have a Commission that we may be Intitled to have secure, what Prizes we may bring in – the Vessel is now Ready to Sail, and if any Bonds are Requir'd will Execute them, ³ I am Sir [&c.]

Nath^l Shaw Jun^r

1. Trumbull Papers, 70a, ConnSL.

2. The sloop *American Revenue*.

3. A bond for \$5,000 was executed on June 15. Papers CC (Ships' Bonds Required for Letters of Marque and Reprisal), 196, I, 58, NA.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR. TO COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS ¹

New London June 13 1776

To Admiral Hopkins. att Providence –

Sir I Received yours of the 5 Ins. and agreeable to your request I now Inclose you an Invoice of the Artillery & Stores left in N L also an Accot of what has been sent to N York You have also an Invoice of the Cargo & Ventures that was on board the Prize Schooner *John & Joseph* and as to the Value of the Goods will Submitt it to yourself or any other Person you may Choose for I am determin'd that you shall not have any blame for delivering the Vessell to me, I am Content to alow the highest price that Goods were Sold at in this Town at that time which I think no Reasonable man can object to, the Vessell I will have apprized –

I observe what you say relative to my being appointed agent for the Congress, am surpriz'd that they have not sent me any Instructions, as I have not heard any thing of that matter from them. I give you Joy on the Success *Cabot* [has had] – hope you will have many more prizes before the Summer is out. The Gent from Phila ² set out Yesterday to see his Honor the Govr with the Resolve of Congress for fourteen of the Largest Cannon, I suppose they will have no objection in ordering them Delivered – Inclos'd is an Accot of what I have advanced to the People belonging to the fleet since I wrote you last Amo to £16.1.2 LMy which I suppose you will want that it may be Charged their Accot The prize Vessells that you bro't into this Port are Libel'd, the Peticulars Refer you to the bearer Capt Saltonstall. the Bermudian Sloop ³ I suppose yo'l give sum directions about, their is many Persons who want to Purchase her if they could have a price sett. I am Sir [&c.]

N.S.

P.S. Inclos'd is an Accot Relative to the powder you del[ivere]d me & a ballance due you of fifty four pounds & their is one barrel Damaged powder on hand.

1. Shaw Letter Book, YUL.

2. Levi Hollingsworth and Thomas Richardson.

3. The sloop *Endeavour*, property of Charles Walker of New Providence, which Hopkins had engaged at New Providence to carry some of the cannon taken from that island.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK

[Extract]

Head Quarters [New York], June 13, 1776.

I have employed Persons in Building the Gondolas and Rafts, which the Congress thought necessary for the defence of this Place, and in conjunction with the [New York] Provincial Congress, have determined to sink Cheveaux de Frizes one of which is already begun. I am, etc.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 127, 129.

New York Packet, THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1776

New York, June 13.

Mr. Adam Holms, who left New-Port last Saturday morning says, "That a ministerial pirate had taken a schooner near Block Island and carried her off; and likewise chased two sloops, who ran ashore, but has since got off."

Last Saturday arrived at Long-Island, a sloop from Cape Francois, laden with sugar, coffee, wines, hollands, cambricks and duck – all safe landed.

We are informed, that the sloop *James*, Capt. Puller, was taken and carried into Halifax, by the Minsterial fleet from Antigua.

By a letter from Philadelphia dated the 11th inst. we are informed that a vessel from St. Eustatia is arrived there, also a French vessel from Martinico.

The *Mercury* man of war, and an armed sloop, sailed for Halifax, from Sandy-Hook, last Friday, having five vessels under convoy.

On Monday arrived here a sloop from Port au Prince, loaded with sugar, molasses and coffee.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Thursday, June 13, 1776

A letter from Mr. [Thomas] M'Kean [McKean] dated 2 o'Clock this morning, and a letter from the committee of Lewistown, of the 11th, was laid before Congress, and read:

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to forward one ton of gun powder, and a proportionable quantity of lead, if to be got, to the committee of safety of the counties on Delaware, for the use of the militia in that government:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the assembly of Pennsylvania, immediately to order a batallion of the provincial rifflemen to march to the assistance of the militia in Delaware government:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the assembly, or committee of safety of Delaware government, to cause all the disaffected, in their colony, to be disarmed, and the arms to be disposed of agreeable to a former resolution of Congress:

Resolved, That the commanding officer of the ruffle batallion of associators in this city, be requested to order a company of said batallion to escort the powder sent to Delaware government, until they shall reach the provin-

cial batallion of rifflemen, ordered to march to the assistance of the militia of Delaware government.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to stop the exportation of any salted provisions, which they may have ordered to be made at New York.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver 100 lb. of powder to the order of the committee appointed to contract for making cannon.

Congress then proceeded to the election of the committee to form a Board of war and ordnance, and the ballots being taken, the following members were chosen:

Mr. J[ohn] Adams, Mr. [Roger] Sherman, Mr. [Benjamin] Harrison, Mr. [James] Wilson, and Mr. E[dward] Rutledge:

Richard Peters, Esq. was elected secretary of said board.

The Marine Committee having reported, that complaints are made against Commodore Hopkins, Captain Saltonstal, and Captain Whipple, for breach of orders, and other mal-practices:

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be directed to inform Commodore Hopkins, Captain Saltonstal, and Captain Whipple, of the complaints lodged against them, and order them immediately to repair to Philadelphia, to answer for their conduct.

Resolved, That in case the enemy's men of war attempt to come up the river [Delaware,] that the Secret Committee be empowered and directed to deliver such a quantity of powder as to them shall seem necessary, to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 436-39.

JOHN HANCOCK TO MESSRS MOORE AND CRAIG ¹

Gentlemen,

Philada June 13th 1776.

I am directed by Congress to inform you, that the offer which the owners made of the hard Money taken on Board their Prizes is accepted – and that you will please to apply to the Men for the Moiety belonging to them. The public Service calls for the Money as soon as it can be had.

Should the Men consent to let Congress have their Share, I will immediately give Draughts on the Treasury for the Amount.

It is the Request of Col. Roberdeau that the money remain at Capt. Craig's until further Orders.

I beg Leave to thank you, and the Rest of the Owners for the Example of Public Spirit, which you have, in the most unsolicited Manner shewn upon this Occasion. I have the honour to be Gentlemen [&c.]

J H. Prest

1. John Hancock Papers, LC.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

In Committee of Safety.

Philad'a, 13th June, 1776.

Robert Morris, Esq'r, Vice President of this Board, gave directions to

Robert Towers, Commissary, to deliver 26 Muskets & Bayonets to Capt. Robert Hardie, for the use of the Guard Boats sent down with Fire Rafts; also, an order to Capt. Granway [William Greenway] to deliver 4 of the Muskets in his Boat, to compleat the Compliment of six to each boat.

Resolved, That the said order of the Vice President be Confirmed by this Board.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 600, 601.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO HENRY FISHER ¹

[In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia]

[June 13, 1776] ²

Sir, Your Letter of yesterday's date reached the Committee in about 21 hours, and is laid before Congress this morning for their consideration of the several matters you have recommended for the security of the Trade.

The Committee have conferred with Capts [William] Richards and [Nathaniel] Falconer about the Difficulty you have found in complying with the order not to employ Pilots in the Alarm Boat in the Bay, and as they know the Sentiments of the Committee upon that Subject, you are requested to regulate your conduct therein by the Directions they shall give you. ³

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, IV, 743.

2. While the letter is undated; its contents and the actions of Congress on June 13, provide the necessary date, although the letter from Henry Fisher was dated June 11, 1776.

3. These gentlemen, along with Captain Thomas Read, had been impowered by the Committee of Safety, on March 9, 1776, to fix signals for giving the alarm at Cape Henlopen, and establishing alarm posts along the Delaware.

THOMAS MCKEAN TO JOHN HANCOCK ¹

Sir, Newcastle June 13th half past 2 A M. 1776.

The Assembly here have information this moment by express that there are a thousand Tories under arms in Sussex county in this Government – that they assembled near Cedar creek about eighteen miles on this side Lewes, and that their intention was to proceed there and join the British forces from on board some men of war now in the Whore-kill Road, who were to land this night in order to cut off three Companies of the Continental troops at that place – that it is apprehended they have been supplied with arms & ammunition by the Men of War, and perhaps may entrench. The Militia from Kent marched yesterday, at least half a dozen Companies, and the rest were to follow as soon as they could be ready – The detachment of Colol. [John] Haslet's Battalion at Wilmington are ordered down; the like [orders] will be given to the Militia of this county. I should be glad if a tonn of powder & some lead could be sent down by land immediately, as it is uncertain to what a heighth this mad affair may be carried

The Militia & Regulars are very ill provided with arms, but we expect soon to give a good Account of these misguided people. – I am, Sir, [&c.]

Tho M'Kean

1. Papers CC (Letters addressed to Congress), 78, XV, 57, NA.

THOMAS MCKEAN TO JOHN HANCOCK ¹

Sir,

Newcastle June 13th: 7 a'clock P.M. 1776.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Insurgents in Sussex county have dispersed after a conference had by some of their Leaders with some of the Council of Safety of this Government – They deny all intercourse with the Men of War or disaffection to the American Cause, but the real cause of their assembling in such large numbers & in so hostile a manner is as yet unknown to the Assembly, altho' they have had an Express mentioning what is above. The true Whigs of Sussex, & about a thousand of the Militia of Kent, together with two Companies of the Militia of Newcastle county had marched with great expedition, also the detachment of the Delaware Battalion at Wilmington reached this Town in their way down; they are all returned to their respective Quarters, and this strange affair is submitted to the civil jurisdiction. The House has appointed a Committee to proceed to Lewes, & to endeavor to quiet the imprudent people by reason, if practicable, and if not in that way then by force of arms.

It is conceived proper to communicate the above to you as speedily as possible, tho' I am sorry I can tell you no more particulars. I write in haste, and am with great regard, Sir [&c.]

Tho^s M'Kean

1. Papers CC (Letters addressed to Congress), 78, XV, 59, NA.

MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Williamsburg] Thursday, 13th June, 1776.

Ordered, that a warrant issue to Richard Bland, Esquire, for six pounds for a Telescope sold to Captain James Cocke. ²

Ordered, that a warrant issue to John Holloway for the use of John Briggs for thirty-nine pounds seven shillings and seven pence farthing, for a main sail and jibb sold to Captain [Isaac] Younghusband.

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 203.2. Captain of the brig *Raleigh*.JOURNAL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

[Neuse River, Dobbs County] Thursday June 13th 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissioners of the Armed Brig the *Pensylvania Farmer* at New Bern, deliver out of the public Stores in their Possession, to John Wright Stanley Twenty peices of Canvas, taking his Obligation with Security to deliver into their Hands at a reasonable price good Dutch Ozna-brigs sufficient to pay the value of the said Canvas.

1. Secretary of State Papers (Provincial Conventions and Congresses/Councils 1774–1776), NCDAAH.

MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES LEE TO COLONEL WILLIAM MOULTRIE ¹

Sir,

Charlestown, June the 13th, 1776.

As I am extremely solicitous for the honor and safety of you and the troops under your command, and as I am myself persuaded that your danger

or safety depends entirely on the strength or weakness of the corps stationed on the other side of the creek; I must request that when the necessary works proposed are finished, you will detach, at least, another hundred men to strengthen this corps. I wish you would send me an exact state of your ammunition, that you may be supplied accordingly. His excellency the president, complains that several boats have been lost at your station: as so much depends on these boats, I must desire that you will put them under a sufficient guard: Oblige the officer commanding the guard, to give a receipt for their number, and be accountable for them. I am sir [&c.]

Charles Lee.

1. *Moultrie's Memoirs*, I, 155-56.

MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON TO COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER ¹

Commodore

On board the *Sovereign* Transport

Sir Peter Parker Knt

the 13 June 1776

As 'tis possible that bad weather may prevent our personal communication I beg leave to propose for your consideration that the following Signals may be settled between us on the occasion of the intended attack of Sullivan's Island.

I would first make it my request that on the morning you mean to make your attack (every circumstance of Wind Weather & tide favoring) – you will be so good to fix upon some very private Signal to us through the *Friendship* which shall be returned to you by that Vessel.

Unless I should meet with some unexpected circumstance upon the Spot to induce me to alter my present Plan, I think it most probable that the Troops under my Command may attempt to possess themselves of the North end of Sullivan's Island, and that they will proceed from thence to the attack of the Rebel Works – The first part (The taking possession of the North end of Sullivan's Island) may possibly happen before you weigh to move to your Station, the other (the attack of the Rebel Works) probably will not – Should circumstances however occur that may make this measure advisable, or perhaps necessary – Red Colors upon a long Staff will be waved from the Hummock on Sullivan's Island.

If the attack succeeds an Union flag will appear on the Battery, but if it should fail, or reasons should appear for declining the attack after the Signal of the Red Colors has been made, we shall withdraw those Colors & Shew yellow Colors in their Stead which if you approve may be considered as Signal for the Fleet to begin their operations – and the Troops will make every diversion possible by throwing Shells &c – But as it must appear to you that the Troops will be very much exposed in this Situation to the fire of the Ships during your Attack – I submit to you the making such Arrangements as you shall see proper. I have the Honor to be &ca

H Clinton

1. Extracts from Major General Henry Clinton's Report of his Correspondence with Sir Peter Parker, Germain Papers, Secret Dispatch Books, CL. Another draft is in Sir Henry Clinton Papers, Miscellaneous Letter Books, CL.

BRITISH SIGNALS FOR THE ATTACK UPON THE FORT ON SULLIVAN'S ISLAND¹General Clintons Signals
to the Commodore

That the Army begins the attack upon Sullivans Island } Red Colors on a long Staff waved from the Hummocks on Sullivans Island

Should it fail, or should it be thought adviseable to decline the Attack after the first Signal is made } The Red Colors will be with drawn and Yellow Colors shewn, which will be considered by the Commodore as a signal for the Fleet to begin their operations

Signals to the *Friendship*

That the Commodore shall go upon the Attack. . . . } Yellow Colors hoisted on the wrecked Schooner on Long Island

That The Genl wishes it to be deferred till the morning following. } Yellow Colors on the Hummocks nearer to the South end of Long Island

The General will station Mr [Richard] Reeve on an eminence

If he discovers the ennemy retiring in numbers. } A Red Camp Color waved

If advancing or coming over the Causeway from Haddrel's Point in numbers } A Yellow Camp Color waved

Commodores Signals

The morning he intends to make the attack on the fortifications on Sullivan's Island which will be on the First of the Flood } √ Blue Flag at the Ma[i]n top gallant mast head

Which is to be signified to Genl Clinton from the *Friendship* by an Union Flag at the Fore top gallant mast head } ✓ *Friendship* Union foretop gallant mast head

Should it suit the General that the Commodore should go upon the attack } The *Friendship* shall loose her Main Top Gallant Sail

Should he wish to have it deferred till the morning following... } The *Friendship* will hoist her Ensign at the Main Top Gallant Mast head.

NB

In either case Guns are to be fired till the Commodore answers by hoisting the Standard at the Main Top gallant Mast head

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER TO MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON ¹

The morning I intend to make the attack on the Fortifications on Sullivan's Island, which will be on the first of the Flood, I will hoist a Blue Flag at the Main Top Gallant Mast Head, which is to be signified to General Clinton from the *Friendship*, by an Union Flag at the Foretop Gallant Mast Head – And should it suit the General that I should go upon the Attack, the *Friendship* shall loose her Main Top Gallant Sail; But should he wish to have it deferred 'till the morning following, then the *Friendship* shall hoist her Ensign at the Main Top Gallant mast Head – In either case Guns are to be fired 'till I answer by hoisting the Standard at the Main Top Gallant mast Head. –

Bristol five fathom Hole 13 June 1776.

P: Parker

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

A BRITISH JOURNAL OF THE EXPEDITION TO CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA ¹

[June] 13th Boats sent to save the Cargo of the stranded Sloop – and the General landed through a heavy surf to reconnoitre from the Light house.

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON TO PHILIP STEPHENS ¹

Sir

Boreas Jamaica June 13th 1776

In my Letter of the 30th of last March I acquainted you of my having Seiz'd one William Platt as being concern'd in taking the Ammunition and Warlike Stores Belonging to Government out of the Ship *Philippa* at Georgia and that as I had apprehended him in the Body of the Island I imagin'd he came under the Jurisdiction of the Governor –

I beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that after I had got the Identity of his Person properly Sworn to by the Master of the Ship and Three or Four of the People I enclosed the Affidavits to the Governor and acquainted him that as he was taken within his Jurisdiction I desir'd to know how I was to dispose of him in order to his being Punish'd according to Law for the Crime he had Committed and that as the *Antelope* was going to the Wharf to Careen requested that he and the Evidences might be properly Secured until his Tryal came on

His Excellency acquainted me that as my Letter comprehended questions of Law; he had taken the advice of His Majesty's Attorney General, who was of Opinion; that as the fact was committed in a Colony in open Rebellion; the offence was only Triable in England and that he supposed the Man to be in greater Security onboard a Kings Ship than any where else; therefore his Excellency thought himself precluded from any Interference in the Affair and return'd the Depositions, which Letter with the Attorney Generals opinion I inclose for their Lordships information. – Immediately on the Receipt of the Governors Letter, I again wrote him that the *Antelope* was going to the Wharf, that I had no Ship to secure the Pirate in, & re-

General Clintons Signals

In the Commodore

That the Comd^r being against the attack
upon Sullivan's Island Red lights on a long Staff used from
his Quarters on Sullivan's Island

Should it fail, or should it be
thought advisable to decline the
attack after the first signal is made The first signal will be with Drums
and Helms (low steam), which will
be considered by the Commodore as a
signal for the Fleet to begin their operations.

Signals to the Friendship

That the Commodore shall, on seeing Yellow lights hoisted on the wrecked
the Attack. & Helms on any Island

That the Fleet wishes it to be defeated. Yellow lights on the Commodore's
All the morning following. nearer to the wind end of any Island

The General with Station 1111
Anchors on an eminence

When the Commodore wishes to retire a Red lamp with 1111
in number

When the Commodore wishes to come over the
an anchor from Sullivan's Island a Yellow lamp with 1111
in number

Commodore's Signals

The morning is intended to make the attack & the Signal at the main Signal mast
 on the fortifications on Sullivan's Island must be
 which will be on the front of the Hood

which is to be repeated to the Hood from the Signal mast on the main
 Signal at the fore top Gallies
 mast head

It is ordered that the General that the
 Commodore should go upon the Hood

Friendship Union first top gallies
 mast head

The Friendship shall have the
 main top Gallies mast

should be with the Hood it is ordered
 following.

The Friendship with first top
 Gallies at the main top Gallies
 mast head.

In either case there are to be fired like the Commodore
 answers by hoisting the Standard at the main Signal mast
 mast head

Signals of the British Army and Navy commanders before Charleston, S.C.

quested that he and the Evidences might be Secured in Kingston Jail until she Haul'd off again when I would receive them into my Custody this request was likewise refused me! inclosed is his Letter with the Attorney Generals opinion on the Subject

On the 1st of May I was Served with a Writ of Habeas Corpus from the Chief Justice of the Island desiring his appearance before him which I comply'd with, and he was accordingly sent, however he was remanded back again – Attested Copies of the Writs with the proceedings thereon I inclose for their Lordships Information

I have had him in Irons: ever since March & propose sending him to England in the *Pallas* with Three of the Evidences (which I've detain'd for that purpose) in order for him to take his Tryal. She is not yet arriv'd, & if she does not, I think it will be most prudent to send him in one of the small Armed Vessels under my Command, which I hope their Lordships will approve and shall transmit them the several Affidavits.

In the former part of my Letter of the 30th March I communicated to their Lordships an Account of the Rebels having visited the Bahama Islands & carried away the Governor with several of His Majestys Warlike Stores, and that I should inform the Commanding Officer at Boston therewith as soon as possible.

I beg leave to acquaint them that on the 5th of April I received an Express from Captain Barkley of His Majestys Ship *Scarborough* Station'd at Georgia giving me an Account of this affair; and that His Majestys Schooner *St. John* & a small Sloop had escaped from [New] Providence to St Augustine with the Kings Powder which prevented it from falling into the Hands of the Rebels, and informing me that the Rebel Squadron had got into Charles Town South Carolina which Letter, with Captain Barkleys information I enclose. As Captain Barkley inform'd me he was preparing to Sail for Boston I thought the Intelligence of this Squadron must get there much sooner than any that I could send

Captain Barkley recommended the Man; whom he sent Express to me as deserving of every Encouragement, as in the first place he was Master of the Sloop that escaped from Providence to St Augustine with the Kings Powder; and that he was Instrumental in Seizing a Number of Ships; laden with Rice, belonging to the Rebels. I therefore order'd the Naval Storekeeper to Supply him with a few Stores, and to repair the Damage his Vessel had sustain'd, as an Encouragement to him for his Services to Government and by this opportunity have transmitted the Navy Board a Copy of my order for that purpose, all which I hope their Lordships will approve.

On the 23rd of April I received an Application from the Agent to the Royal Assiento Company at the Havannah requesting that a Sloop which had arriv'd with Bullion to purchase Slaves, might be supplied with a Mast out of His Majestys Stores; she having Sprung her own, in such a Manner that it was not repairable. And as their Lordships had been pleased to direct me to give every possible encouragement to the Importers of Bullion in foreign Bottoms I ordered the Naval Storekeeper to comply with his request

and take a Conditional Bill for such Value to be paid for the same as the Commissioners of the Navy should put thereon which I've made them acquainted With & hope it will meet with their Lordships approbation.

I further beg leave to inform their Lordships of the arrival of His Majestys Ship *Boreas*, Captain Thompson on 23rd of last Month with Three Transports under her Convoy to carry the 50th Regiment to North America. As the Companies were Detach'd in different parts of the Island they are not yet Embark'd, I have sent the *Squirrel* to the North Side of the Island for a Company that is Station'd there and expect her return every Day and as that is the only one remaining to bring in I presume it cannot be long before they will Embark.

I propose sending the *Boreas* to Convoy them to North America and after she has perform'd that Service shall order Captain Thompson to return & Join me with all possible dispatch

By the *Boreas*; I received your two Letters of the 15th February acknowledging the Receipt of mine up to the 24th of December last, and that their Lordships approve of my proceedings. I likewise received my two Commissions, & their Lordships orders for purchasing Four Vessels, one of them to draw about Six feet Water abaft and to be Employed in the Lakes on the Mississippi, and their directions for sending Convoys with Homeward bound Sugar Ships at the Periods mention'd in your Letter; all of which I shall pay due attention to.

I beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that I have already purchased two of those Vessels, and the *Lady Keith* Schooner (whose Name I have alter'd to the *Porcupine*, one of the Names sent by them) makes the Third so that I want only one more which I shall purchase as soon as I can meet with a proper Vessel.

One of the Vessels is a fine Sloop of about 90 Tons and capable of Mounting Ten Carriage guns; which I have call'd the *Racehorse*, and put my nephew, Mr Charles Everitt (who came out Second Lieutenant of the *Boreas*) into her, and appointed a Son of Sir Charles Knowles's in his Room.

The other Vessel which I have purchased is a Sloop of about 60 Tons and drawing Six feet Water abaft which I have call'd the *West Florida* (to make a Distinction between her & the *Florida* Surveying Sloop, which I hope their Lordships will approve) and shall fit her as fast as possible & send her to the Mississippi agreeable to their Lordships directions. I have given Mr George Burdon of His Majestys Ship *Antelope* a Commission for her, as I have likewise to my Nephew Mr Francis L'Montais for the *Porcupine* (for merly the *Lady Keith*) who has met with great Success; having taken Three Prizes one of them a Schooner bound to Philadelphia wth 20 Tons of Gun Powder, 1,000 Stand of Arms, with a quantity of Flints & Musquet Balls, which would have been a very great Acquisition to the Rebels had it got to any part of America.

I further beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that I have constantly kept one of the Sloops under my Command Station'd at Pensacola for the

Protection of West Florida; and that as I had no Vessel to relieve the *Diligence* I have sent down by the last Pacquet Stores for her to Careen to prevent that Province being left Defenceless which I hope their Lordships will approve.

As the Ships on the American Station have all their War Complements must beg; you'll let me know whether 'tis their Lordships pleasure I should compleat those under my Command to that Number and likewise in regard to the *Florida* Surveying Sloop whether I shall put her on the same Establishment as the other Arm'd Vessels as it much Weakens the few Ships I have her being Mann'd out of them The 4th instant I received Letters from the Principal Inhabitants of the Mosquito Shore & Bay of Hond[u]ras (which I inclose) representing that two Spanish Vessels had Seized a Vessel the property of two of the Inhabitants as soon as the *Atalanta* arrives from Affrica I shall send her to enquire into this Matter and propose after she has perform'd that Service to order her to Pensacola to relieve the *Diligence*

I further beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that the Wharf and Victualling Stores, and likewise the Mast Houses at Greenwich are greatly out of Repair; that I shall order an Estimate of the Expence to be made, and shall transmit them; and the different Boards, an Account thereof.

I have the pleasure to acquaint their Lordships that since my last the Ships under my Command have sent in the following Vessels, being American Property, viz The *Squirrel* a Ship Two Briggs, & a Schooner, the *Maidstone* Two Sloops loaden with Lumber & the *Porcupine* the Vessels mentioned in the former part of my Letter

With regard to the Disposition of His Majestys Ships & Vessels under my Command I beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that the *Antelope* has Careen'd being the Second time since she has been on this Station; and am sorry to inform them it has much Weaken'd her. the *Maidstone* is alongside the Careening Wharf But as she came in, in a very shatter'd Condition it will be some time before she is ready for Sea as She Sprung her Main Mast & Bowspreet & most of her Yards which have been obliged to have been new. But to facilitate the same and to fit the Arm'd Vessels for Service as soon as possible I have given the Naval Officers directions to Hire Artificers at Day Pay 'till the Works are in forwardness which I hope their Lordships will approve. I wish the *Pallas* may arrive in time to take the July Convoy as she will be able to see them quite home. Inclosed is a List of Officers made & the State & Condition of the Ships and Vessels under my Command for their Lordships Information. I am Sir with Respect [&c.]

Clark Gayton

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/240.

14 June

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Blonde*, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL ¹

June 1776

At Single Anchor off the Town of Trois Rivieres

Friday 14

AM 9 Transports with Stores, Provisions &ca arrived here from

Quebec, hove up the Anchor and got nigher in Shore, moored with the Stream Anchor just above the Town
 Fresh gales and Cloudy, Commodore [Charles] Douglas arrived here in an Armed Schooner from Quebec, got down Yards and Topmasts, got up the Spare Topmt people overhauling the rigging & Blocks. Lieutt [James Richard] Dacres ordered to Superintend the Boats, Vessels, &c going on the Lakes with the army.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/118.

JOHN LANGDON TO JOSIAH BARTLETT ¹

[Extract]

Portsmouth June 14th 1776

Dear Sir – Your favour of the 3d Instant is now on the table, I am very much Oblig'd by your being so particular, as I've much pleasure in Communicating part of your Letter to my and your friends – I dont wonder all the attention of Congress, is taken up in such important matters as must be now before them; am very glad [Thomas] Thompson is nominated, for the Command of our Ship; but the Guns, what shall we do for them; my Spirits are little down upon that Head, as I find on going to Providence, that our Ship is the first by at least three Weeks or a Month of any on the Continent, tho' theres are what you may call built, so as to Launch, yet they neither have Rudder, Ports, Channells done, besides many other matters, nor the Masts sorry to say it, Masts only are not half Completed, our Ship all Painted Carvd, work Completed, Masts & Yards Completed all in, and all the standing Rigging over head and Rattles down, all our Boats done, our Sails soon Completed, except Light Sails, for which must have light Canvas, of which can get none, if the Guns had been on the Spot, and Orders to Enter Men, and Provide Provisions, the 1st day of June the Ship should have been ready to sail in all the Month, but when she'll go now, I know not, pray forward the Guns, and Orders for Hands, and to provide for provisions &c as soon as may be. – Am Exceeding glad that such ample provisions is making for our defence, by raising such bodies of Men for the different departments, am clearly of Opinion with you, that should we ride out the Storm of this Season, our Ship will go safe to Land (You know our Ship is a good one) and our worse then infernal Enemies be disappointed in their diabolical designs.– The arrival of Powder, and the French Vessells is good News; in short your kind favo'r is full of favourable and useful Intelligence . . .

. . . This moment news that our People have attacked the Ships at Boston, and drove them out of the Harbour twenty Sail, including Transports, push forward my good Friend we have nothing to fear, under the smiles of Providence. . . .

P S Put Brother Whipple in mind of Doctor Jno Jackson for Surgeon of the Ship, inclos'd is List of Officers who I have spoke too for the Ship agreeable to his Letter –

To The Honble Josiah Bartlett Esqr Member of Congress Philadelphia

1. John Langdon Letter Book, Captain J. G. M. Stone Private Collection, Annapolis.

JOSIAH QUINCY TO JOHN ADAMS¹

[Braintree] 14th [June]

About 5 o'Clock this Morning the revd Mr G—n who lodged with us last Night in Expectation that something of Importance was going forward rode with me to Squantum, where were about 300 Volunt[e]rs collected from Boston, Dorchester, Milton & Stoughton; but to the Shame of our Rulers without a Director or Directions!

However, with our Glass we could see, a large Number of Men collectd upon the east Head of Long Isd and about 6 O'Clock, an 18 pounder was discharged upon the Ships in the Road, when the Transports and Tenders immediately came to sail: After about half a Dozen Shot were discharged, from the first Cannon, a second, of the same Bore was got ready, and a warm cannonading of the Comdre ensued, when he clap'd a Spring upon his Cable, brought his broadSide to bear, and return'd the Fire, with seeming Resolution: But, very soon discovering a Shell from an 18 Inch Mortar, burst in the Air about 2/3ds of the Way to his Ship, he slip'd, or cut his Cables and came to sail:

It being almost calm, it was more than an hour before he got out of the Reach of our Guns; and its said, was hull'd more than once, as were several of the Transports and Cruisers. This confirmed the Truth of Govr Johnstone's observation, that "a single Gun in a retired Situation, or on an Eminence, or a single howitzer, will dislodge a first rate Man of War, and burn her to add to the Disgrace."

The preceeding Night was so calm, that the Vessels carrying Cannon to Pet-ticks Isld, & Nantasket, could not get to either of those Places till it was too late to do Execution: However, the Comdre was saluted with a few Shot from Nantasket, to let him know we should be better prepared for him if he should chuse to return.

after we got home, between 11 & 12 O'Clock, we perceived the light House was on fire, and after burning about an Hour, the Tower was blown up, and reduced to a Heap of Rubbish: — By this Time, the Weather being hazey, our Enemies were got out of Sight, and soon afterwards, 6 Sail of our Privati-ers triumphantly entered the Harbor, & went up to Town.

1. Adams Papers, MassHS. Continuation of June 13 letter.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Renown*, CAPTAIN FRANCIS BANKS¹

June 1776

Point Alderton W $\frac{1}{2}$ S, Distce 4 Miles.

Friday 14

At Daybreak in the Morning, perceived the Rebels had thrown up two very strong Batteries, on Long Island; immediately sent my Boat, onboard the Transports to Order them under Weigh, at the same time sent the Gun Boat & Cutter to bring the Sick off from Georges Island; but in the hurry was obligd to leave behind 16 Ton of Water Cask & 416 Iron hoops. At 5 AM the Rebels began to Fire upon me from the Batteries on Long Island; and likewise hove several Shells — Fir'd 50 Shot at the

Rebels – At 7 Unmoor'd & hove Short on the Bt Bower, at 8 they still Firing at me & the *Hope*, the Transports being Safe out of the Road. At 1/2 past 8 Weighed & came to Sail with a light Air, for the Light House Channel. The *Hope* in the Road Covering the Sick, Embarking from Georges Island. In passing the Town of Nantasket fired Several Shot into it; At 9 Came too with the Bt Br in 5 fm Water off the Light House, sent my Boats & brought off the Lieutenant Stewart & his party of Marines, as also Lieut Curry with my own Party; having effectually destroy'd the Light House, by blowing it up; two Barrels of Powder being sent from the Ship for that purpose. At 10 the Rebels opened a Battery on Nantasket head & began to fire upon me & the Transports; perceiving some of them on the Hill, fired Twenty 24 Prs & Twenty 12 Prs at them. At 11 Weighed & Came to Sail in Compy with His Maj's Arm'd Brig *Hope*, 8 Sail of Transports, the *Yanky Hero* Prize, & 2 small Schooner Prizes; being little Wind sent all the Boats ahead to tow – The Rebels keeping an incessant Fire on me – At Noon being out of reach of their Shot, hove too & made the Signal for all Masters of Mercht Men. Alderton Point bearing W 1/2 S Distce about 4 Miles.

First & Middle parts light Airs & hazey, latter Calm & Foggy Wear. P M at 1 brought too & spoke His Maj's Ship *Milford* with 3 Transports, at 4 Pt Alderton Wb S 1/2 S 4 Leags at 5 brought too, hoisted the boats in & Stow'd the Anchor; fired 4 Guns & made the Signal for the Convoy to come under my Stern; Sent onboard the *Yanky Hero* Prize my 2nd Lieut, a Midn & 6 Men, Likewise Lieut Stewart & his Party of Marines, at 8 made Sail in Compy with the *Milford*, *Hope* & 14 Sail of Vessells. Thatchers Island NBE Dt 7 Leagues. Fired a Gun every Hour as Signal for the Convoy to Continue the same Sail.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/776.

MASTER'S LOG OF H.M. SLOOP *Hope*¹

June 1776	Remarks &c in Nantasket Road
Friday 14th	Modt and Fair at 4 AM Saw the Rebels Fortifying Long Island at 5 the Rebels fired a Number of Shot and Shells at us which Occasioned the Man of War and Transports to Weigh and Come to Sail at 10 AM Anchored off the Light house at 11 the Rebels opened a Battrey on Nantasket Head and Fired a Number of Shot at the Shipping our Capt went on Shore and Set the Light house on fire there being Powder in it Soon after Blo'd up, the Commodor made the Signl for Masters of Transports

Modt and Fair Weighd and Came to Sail as Did the Fleet,
Saw four Sail to the Offing at ½ Past 2 Joind the above
Ships Proved to be his Majesty's Ship *Milford* and three
Transports

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1794.

MASTER'S LOG OF H.M.S. *Milford* ¹

June 1776 Cape Ann N W B N 7 or 8 Leagues. Obs 42.29n
 Wednesday 12 at 9 saw two Sail to the Et ward bore away and gave Chace
 Fresh Breezs and Cloudy latter little wind and Hazey at 1
 Fir'd 2 Shot at the Chace ½ past Spoke the Chace Two
 Transports from Greenock in S[c]otl[an]d with Troops
 onbd at 2 in 2d Reef T. Sails
 Thursday 13 Cape Cod SSW½ W 5 Leagues Obs 42.26
 ½ past 10 heard the report of 17 or 18 Guns from the
 Wward Sailmr Empd repairing Foresail, Transports in
 Company.
 Light Airs at 3 saw a Sail to the No ward gave Chace, at
 5 Shorten'd Sail & brought too sent an Officer onboard the
 Chace proved to be a Transport from Greenock who had an
 Engagemnt with an American Privateer and got 3 or 4 of
 her Soldiers wounded Sent the Surgeon onbd ² at 7 the Sur-
 geon returned made Sail
 Friday 14 from 5 AM to 10 heard a report of a Number of Guns to W
 wd imagin'd the Rebels had open'd some Batterys against
 the *Renown*, Clear'd Ship for Action, ½ past 10 saw the
 Commodore & Transports at an Anchor at the Light House,
 saw 5 Sail of Privateers to the No ward, at 11 saw
 a great smoke and Explosion and the Lighthouse disappear-
 ing, the *Renown* & Transports got under sail.
 Fresh Breezs and Cloudy Middle and latter Little Wind
 and Foggy at 2 PM join'd the Commodore with all the
 Transports and Prizes under his Convoy

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1865.

2. The transport was the *Mermaid*, bearing Peter Campbell's company of the 71st
 Highlanders. The master, a seaman and three soldiers were wounded. "Extract of a let-
 ter from Captain Yoward of the *Mermaid* Transport, June 24, 1776," Almon, ed., *Remem-
 brancer*, III, Part II, 230-31.

JOURNAL OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO BUILD TWO CONTINENTAL
 FRIGATES IN RHODE ISLAND ¹

[Providence] Fryday Evening June 14th 1776

Meeting in being according to adjournment

Voted That the Ship Joiners be allowed five shillings LMy pDay from
 this Date. —

Voted That Mr Paul Hathaway be appointed 3d Mate of One of the Ships provided he enlist 6 Seamen the men to be got in 10 days. –

Voted That John Grannis be Capt George Stillman first Lieut and Barnabus Lothrop second Lieut of Marines on board the Ship *Warren*.

1. Journal R.I. Frigates, RIHS.

COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS TO LIEUTENANT HOYSTEED HACKER ¹

Sir

Newport June 14th 1776

You are to proceed to New York and there deliver the Cannon agreeable to Messrs Hollingworth & Richardson's Orders. – ² If you can get any Men you are to take as Many as you can Enlist – You are to apply to Mr Jacobus Vantzantz for Pig Iron for Ballast or any other Necessarys you want

You may call at New London as you come back and take two Guns with a Sufficient Quantity of Shot & Cartridges out of the Bomb Brig and give Mr [Nathaniel] Shaw [Jr.] a Receipt for what you take & return to me as soon as possible –

E.H.

To Hoysteed Hacker Esqr Commander of the *Fly*

1. Hopkins Letter Book, RIHS.

2. In the Hopkins Papers, is a tabulation entitled "Weight of Cannon &c Ship'd from Newport to Philada pr Sloop *Fly*—June 11th 1776." It gives the total weight of six cannon to be "292.1..23" and "24 Trucks—20 0.12," RIHS.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'S ACCOUNT AGAINST THE CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE ¹

1776	The Merine Committee at Philadelphia	Dr.
June 14	To 6 Twenty four pound Cannon } Weight 308..0..6 @ 60/ }	924.. 3.. 2
	To 24 Carriage Wheels 19..3..9 20/	19..16..10

1. Shaw Papers, Ledger 39, YUL.

GENERAL ORDERS OF THE CONTINENTAL ARMY ¹

Head Quarters, New York, June 14, 1776.

All the Carpenters, Ship-Carpenters and Joiners, in the first, second and fourth Brigades, with a proportion of officers, to parade to morrow morning at Six oClock, before the Deputy Quarter-Master General's Office, near the Liberty-pole in the Common; and there take their orders from the Quarter-Master-General.

One Capt. and fifty good ax-men, with four days provision to parade at the same time and place; and to take their orders also from the Q.M. General.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 134, 135.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Friday, June 14, 1776

Whereas, it has been represented to this Congress, that great quantities of salted beef and pork have been purchased for exportation, which, if not restrained, may render the supplies of the army difficult and uncertain:

Resolved, therefore, That no salted beef or pork, except as much as may be necessary for the use of the crew, be exported from any of the United Colonies, in any vessel, under any pretence whatever, until the farther order of this Congress.

A memorial from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania was presented to Congress, and read; setting forth, that a committee of the assembly, accompanied by the general officers lately in town, and a skilful engineer, have viewed the river Delaware, and the fortifications and defences erected at the expence of the colony of Pennsylvania to oppose and prevent the passage of the enemy's ships; and that they have judged it necessary, for farther security, that a redoubt should be erected at Billingsport, on the New Jersey side, and that a boom should be there thrown across, or some other obstructions fixed in the channel; and praying, as the place for the redoubt is out of their government, and their colony has expended a very large sum for the defence of the river, that the Congress would direct these works to be done at the continental expence; Whereupon,

Resolved, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be empowered, at the continental expence, to erect the redoubt, and to fix the boom, or other obstructions, at the places aforesaid:

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 440, 441, 443.

JOHN HANCOCK TO COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS ¹

Sir,

Philada June 14th 1776.

Notwithstanding the repeated Efforts and Solicitations of the Marine Board to put the Continental Ships upon a respectable Footing, and to have them employed in the Service for which they were originally designed, they are constrained to say, that their Efforts & Solicitations have been frustrated & neglected in a manner unaccountable to them; and in Support of their own Reputation they have been under the Necessity of representing the State of their Navy to Congress, and have informed them, that there has been a great Neglect in the Execution of their Orders; and that many and daily Complaints are exhibited to them agt some of the Officers of the Ships, and that great Numbers of Officers & Men have left the ships in Consequence of ill Usage, and have applied to the Marine Board for Redress. These, with many other Circumstances have induced the Congress to direct you to repair to this City. And in consequence of their Authority to me, I hereby direct you immediately on Receipt of this, to repair to the City

Engraved for Murray's History of the American War.



J. Gardner

COMMODORE HOPKINS.

Printed for T. Robson, Newcastle upon Tyne.

of Philadelphia, and on your Arrival here to give notice to me, as President of the Marine Board. The Command of the Ships will of course devolve, in your Absence upon the eldest Officer, to whom you will give the Command with this Direction however, that he take no steps with Respect to the Ships till further Orders. And I further inform you, that by this opportunity I write to Captains Saltonstal & Whipple immediately to repair to this City.

As your Conduct in many Instances requires Explanation, you will of course be questioned with respect to your whole proceedings since you left this City. I give you this Notice that you may come prepared to answer for your general Conduct.

You will bring with you all the Instructions you have hitherto received from the Naval or Marine Board, all Letters & Papers relative to the Fleet, and your Proceedings, Journals, State of all the Ships, those in and out of Port, State of the Stores of every Kind, Provisions, List of the effective and non-effective Men, and in Short, every thing relative to the Ships under your Command.

As your Presence is immediately necessary here, I again repeat that on Receipt of this, and as soon as you can prepare, you proceed by land to this City, there to wait the further Orders of Congress. I am Sir [&c.]

J H. Pre[siden]t

1. Papers CC (Letter Books of the President of Congress), 12a, IV, 175-77, NA.

JOHN HANCOCK TO CAPTAINS DUDLEY SALTONSTALL AND ABRAHAM WHIPPLE ¹

Sir,

Philada June 14th 1776.

The present inactive State of the Navy of the United Colonies, the many Complaints exhibited to the marine Board ag[ain]st some of the Officers of the Ships, and the daily Applications of both Officers & Men who have left the fleet in Consequence of very severe Usage, have constrained the Marine Board to make a Representation of our Naval Concerns, to the Congress, which require a speedy Reform. And in order that the true & just Reasons of this very great Uneasiness & Inactivity may be fully investigated, it is necessary that the Officers agt whom Complaints have been lodged should be fully heard.

I have it in Command therefore from Congress to direct you immediately upon receipt of this, to repair to the City of Philada by Land, and on your arrival here to give Notice to me as President of the Marine Board. The command of the Ship will naturally devolve upon the next Officer. And you are to bring with you an exact State of the Ship under your Command, the List of the Men remaining, what Numbers of effective and non-effective, the State of the Stores of every Kind belonging to the Ship, and every Thing relative to your Ship.

As you will be called upon in general to answer for your conduct since you left this City, I give you this Notice that you may come prepared for that Purpose. I am to repeat to you that Congress expect your immediate Compliance with this order, & am Sir [&c.]

J H. Pres[iden]t

To Captain Dudley Saltonstall of the Ship *Alfred*
To Cap. Abraham Whipple of the ship *Columbus*

1. Papers CC (Letter Books of the President of Congress), 12a, IV, 177-78, NA.

JOHN HANCOCK TO GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia June 14th 1776

The establishing a War Office is a new and great Event in the History of America, and will doubtless be attended with essential Advantages when properly conducted & inspected. I hope the Committee will be ready, in a few Days to enter upon the Execution of their Duty. You will see the Outlines of this Office in the enclosed Resolves. Some further Regulations, it is more than probable, will be necessary in the Course of Time. The Congress have only laid a Foundation at present – It still remains, in a great Measure, to erect a System of Rule and Laws, that will enable us to carry on our military operations, with more Knowledge, Certainty and Dispatch. . . .

The shameful Inactivity of our Fleet for some Time past; the frequent Neglect or Disobedience of Orders in Commodore Hopkins, the numberless Complaints exhibited to the Marine Committee agt him, and also against Captains Saltonstal and Whipple, have induced the Congress, in Consequence of a Representation from the Marine Committee, to order them to repair immediately to this City to answer for their Conduct. I have accordingly wrote them to set out on the Receipt of my Letters, and to repair here by Land as fast as possible. I hope soon to have our Ships on a more respectable Footing. No Effort of mine shall be wanting to accomplish so desirable an Event.

I have sent the Resolves to the Convention of New York, which relate to them. The Prohibition on salted Beef and Pork, I have given Orders to be printed in all the Papers to the Eastward . . .

1. Washington Papers, LC.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO JOHN LANGDON ¹

[Extract]

Dear Sir,

Philadelphia June 14th, 1776

This accompanies the 10,000 dollars for the naval service mentioned in a former letter; I have put it in a box with some other money directed to Col [Meshech] Weare and wish it safe to hand – am sorry it was not in my power to send it sooner but hope the service will not suffer.

1. William Whipple Papers, Force Transcripts, LC.

PAYMASTER JAMES READ'S ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE NAVAL COMMITTEE OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

Dr The Honorable the Naval Committee -- in Accot. with James Read (Pay Masr)		Cr
1776		1776
To Ballance of an Accot delivered 24 Jany. Last	20.11.3	Feb 3 By Cash Reced from Silas Dean
To Cash pd Sundry Officers & Seamen belonging to		Esqr - 576 Dollars
Ship <i>Alfred</i> as P List	100.13.9	March 26 " ditto Reced from Joseph
" do pd do do belonging to		Hews Esqr. 200 - ditto
Ship <i>Columbus</i> P do	43.16.3	April 12 " ditto Reced from ditto
" do pd do do belonging to		360 - ditto
Brig <i>Cabot</i> P do	41.12.6	
" do pd do do belonging to		Copy 14th June 1776 original Delivered to Jos Hew[e]s
Brig <i>A Doria</i> P do	74.5.-	Esqr
" do pd do do belonging to		[Endorsed] Ballance £11.1.3 Reced 6th August 1776
Sloop <i>Providence</i>	56.2.5	

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, Miscellaneous Manuscripts, CL.

VOTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY ¹

[Philadelphia] Friday June 14, 1776

The report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the conduct of the Committee of Safety, &c. being again read was approved of, and is as follows, viz.

Your Committee beg leave to report, that they have examined into the conduct of the Committee of Safety, respecting the whole of their Proceedings, and particularly the supplies of powder and ammunition sent on board the gallies, before and at the time of their engagements with the *Roebuck* and *Liverpool* men of war; and having heard their allegations and proofs, are of opinion, that it appears, from incontestable evidence, that, before the first engagement, the gallies were supplied with thirty-three rounds of powder each, at the proportion of one third weight of powder to the ball; that, during the said first engagement, they received in cartridges and two kegs of loose powder, the quantity of eight rounds more beyond their first stock, and there was then ready to be delivered, and as supposed delivered to them, immediately after the first engagement, while the *Roebuck* lay a ground, the quantity of eleven rounds each, besides three hundred weight sent from Wilmington, and what remained unexpended in the engagement. That on the day of the second engagement, each galley had sixty-seven rounds of powder, including the supplies sent th[e]m, in addition to what remained on hand, after the first day's engagement. Your Committee are farther of opinion, that, during both the engagements, the gallies were sufficiently supplied with all other kinds of necessary Ammunition; that their not having taken the *Roebuck*, was not owing to any deficiency in the above articles, and that the conduct of the Committee of Safety, on that occasion, evidenced the greatest Zeal and attention to the public service. ²

Thomas Potts,
Jonathan Roberts,
William Rodman,
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Foulke,
Benjamin Chapman,
David Twining,
Thomas Jenks, Jun.
Isaac Pearson,
Charles Humphreys

Joseph Pennock,
Bartram Galbreath,
James Ewing,
Samuel Edie,
James Rankin,
Jonathan Hoge,
John Leshner,
James Allen
Jacob arndt,
James Potter.

1. *Pennsylvania Packet*, June 24, 1776.

2. The commander of the row galleys had appealed to the Assembly on June 5 for a hearing but had not received it. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 8th series, VIII, 7536. The commander made another request, this time backed by the Patriotic Society of the City of Philadelphia, to the Pennsylvania Conference of Committees on June 21. Their petition, and that of the Patriotic Society were ordered "to lie on the table for the perusal of the Members." *Ibid.*, 2nd series, III, 642.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Kingsfisher*, CAPTAIN ALEXANDER GRAEME ¹

June 1776 Cape May W b S 4 a 5 Leagues
 Friday 14 2 A M Do set T G Sails 8 the *Orpheus* & *Liverpool* in sight 11 Came too with the B B in 5 fm veered to 1/3 got the Boats out and sent 'em in Shore after a Schooner Manned and Armed brought her out found on Board some flour & Indian Corn sent a Midsn and 3 hands on board at Noon up Anchor made Sail
 [P.M.] the *Orpheus* & *Liverpool* in sight took the Prize in Tow carried away the Driver Boom at 5 P M saw the 2 Ships in Chase of three Strange Vessels & saw the Above Vessels to the So wd

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/506.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH ¹

No 23.

Sir, We have received your letters with regard to the vessels sunk at Whetstone point, and altho' you declined acting in your first letter, we are pleased to find you have since accepted of the trust reposed in you by the Council of Safety, and we find by your last letter, that you have in part executed the same, by raising several of the vessels. — you are des[i]rous of having some further instructions about repairing and valuing the vessels after they are raised. — we must beg leave to refer you to the proceedings of the last Convention page (13) — where you will see what we are directed to do, and also we refer to our former instructions, by which you are requested, after raising the vessels to cause them to be rigged and put in same State they were in, before they were sunk as near as may be — and then you, or any two of you are to cause them severally to be reappraised on oath by persons you may appoint — to which we shall add nothing further at present, only request you to advise with Captain Nicholson in all your proceedings, and to take care your men appointed be free from any partiality or just objection; and that they make regular Returns of appraisement to us; we doubt not you will do, what is right, and then the owners cannot Complain, or if they do, their unjust allegations will be little attended to, we believe, by the Convention, who are shortly to meet. We are [&c.]
 [Annapolis] 14th June 1776.

1. Council of Safety Letter Book, No. 1, Md. Arch.

MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Williamsburg] Friday, 14th June, 1776.

Ordered, that a warrant issue to James Hill for the use of William Glover for four pounds five shillings for a Gun sold to Lieutenant [James] Quarles of Captain John Catesby Cocke's Company of Marines.

Ordered, that the commissary of stores do deliver to the order of George Mason, Esquire, so many blankets or Ruggs as he may apply for, for the use of such seamen and marines as shall rendezvous at this place belonging to Potowmack River.

Ordered, that a warrant issue to John Philipson for seven pounds for two Draughts of a Roe Galley and for his expenses in attending this Board upon public business.

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 204, 205.

PURDIE'S *Virginia Gazette*, FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 1776

Williamsburg, June 14.

Two masters of vessels came to town this week, who were lately taken by the ministerial cruisers, and made their escape. They report, that lord Dunmore's whole army is now reduced to 40 regular soldiers, and 200 of the Black Fusileers, 175 of which last corps died on their passage from Norfolk to Gwyn's island; and that Andrew Sprowle, esq; of Gosport, three days after his landing, departed this life, great part of which he spent in Virginia, much to his emolument, having amassed, by trade, a very capital fortune.

A few days ago one of the enemy's vessels ran aground on the Gloucester shore, within musket shot of our people, upon which the crew, five in number, jumped overboard. Two got safe to Gwyn's island, one was shot, and the other two were drowned.

JOURNAL OF H. M. SLOOP *Otter*, CAPTAIN MATTHEW SQUIRE ¹

June [1776]	At an Anchor between Willoughby's Spit & the Horse Shoe
Tuesday 11	At 5 P M weighed & run into Hampton Road. In passing the Old Fort a Party of the Rebels fired on the <i>Augusta</i> Tender. Do fired 2, 6 pounders to disperse them At 6 Anchored in Hampton Road with the Best Bower
Wednesday 12	At 9 A M sent an Officer to Hampton with a Flag of Truce. At ½ past 11 he returned. Mode & cloudy. at 3 P M fired 2 Shot at a Boat passing to Sewells Point.
Thursday 13	At 7 A M weighed & came to sail. At 10 joined company our Tender the <i>Fincastle</i> , & anchored in 6½ fam with the B Bower Cape Henry bearing EbS½S. Sent an Officer onshore to Hampton with a Flag of Truce. Light airs & fair inclinable to Calm. At 3 P M Weighed & came to Sail. At 4 the Flagg of Truce returned. At 7 do being calm anchored in 9 fam back River point bearing N ½ E.

Friday 14 At 4 A M weighed & came to sail. At 10 do anchored with the B Bower off Egg Island; the Island bearing WbNo 2 Mile. At noon weighed & came to Sail with the *Augusta* Tender.

Little wind & fair. at 8 P M anchored in Pinkitank Road with the Best Bower in 4 fam the N W end of Gwins Island SW 3 miles. Found here H M S *Roebuck*. Received from her 153 lb fresh Beef. The *Fowey*, *Dunmore*, & Fleet laying up in the Harbour.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/663.

JOURNAL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

[Neuse River] Friday June 14th 1776

Resolved That Colo Joseph Leech, James Davis, Esquire, and Mr David Baron, be appointed to value the Cannon on Oath, imported into New Bern by Capt Elms, and send a return of said valuation to this Council that satisfaction may be made to the owner.

Resolved That the Commissioners of the Armed Brig *Pensylvania Farmer* at New Bern do take for the use of the said Brigg eight of the most suitable Cannon imported by Captain Elmes after the same shall have been appraised agreeable to a resolution of this Board

1. Secretary of State Papers (Provincial Conventions and Congresses/Councils 1774-1776), NCDAH.

A BRITISH JOURNAL OF THE EXPEDITION TO CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA ¹

[June] 14th The General & Lord Cornwallis embarked in a Schooner for Spences Inlet, on a reconnoitring Party.

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

MASTER'S BOND OF THE GEORGIA SCHOONER *George* ¹

Province of Georgia	}	Know all Men by these Presents that We Eubanks Ratoon - Master & Commander of the Schooner <i>George</i> now lying in the Port of Sunbury outward bound: And Quintin Pooler & Samuel Miller both of the Province aforesaid Merchants are held & firmly bound & obliged unto his Excellency Archibald Bullock Esquire, President & Commander in Chief of the said Province, in the penal Sum of one thousand Pounds lawful Money of the said Province, to be paid to the said Archibald Bullock Esquire, or his Successor President & Commander in Chief of the said Province for the time being, for which Payment well & truly to be made We bind ourselves our Heirs Executors & Administrators, & every of them jointly & severally firmly by these presents; sealed with our Seals & dated the fourteenth day of June one thousand seven hundred & seventy six.
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Whereas the above bound Eubanks Ratoon – is now outward bound on a Voyage with his said Schooner agreeable to the Licence granted in and by the Resolves of the General Congress, Now therefore, the Condition of the above written Obligation is such, that if the said Eubanks Ratoon, or such other Person as shall succeed him in the command of the said Schooner do and shall in all things well truly & faithfully in his present Voyage observe fulfill and keep all and singular the Resolves & Regulations of the said General Congress and also of the several Congresses of this Province concerning Trade, and likewise all such parts of the Association as still remain of Force, And also do and shall within Eighteen Months after the Departure of the said Schooner from this Province produce to his Excellency Archibald Bullock Esqr, or to his Successor President for the time being, or to some other Officer Properly appointed for the purpose a Certificate under the Hand & Seals of three or more reputable Merchants residing at the Port or Place, where his present Cargo shall be delivered that the same was there unladed; then the above written obligation to be void, otherwise to be & remain in full force & Virtue.

Sealed & delivered }
in Presence of }

Jo[seph] Bryan Jno. Walton

Quintin Pooler
Samuel Miller

1. Charles Roberts Autograph Collection, 722, Box 11, HCL.

GOVERNOR GEORGE JAMES BRUERE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN ¹

[Extract]

Duplicate

No 3

Bermuda 14 of June 1776

the *Nautilus* Sloop of War Capt [John] Collins Commander, arrived at Bermuda the 9th of this month, which will be a great Support, and Countenance; to the few friends of Government here, and I hope will prevent, a Visit from any of the American privateers, or armed vessels, which it is said hath already been at the Bahama Islands and Carried off the Governor, and the Stores &c. I hope the *Nautilus* Sloop of War, will remain some time here, as I have not a single Soldier to protect the place, or to Support the Custom House Officers, in the execution of their Duty, to enforce the Acts, which hath several times been Reported, for these two or three Years past.

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 37/36.

GOVERNOR SIR BASIL KEITH TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN ¹

[Extract]

(No 6.)

Jamaica 14th June 1776

My Lord I have the Honor to inclose to your Lordship, Copies of several Letters and Affidavits which I have received within these few days, from the Superintendent the Council and Magistrates upon the Mosquito Shore, and from Mr. [Alexander] Blair part owner with Doctor [Charles] Irving of the Sloop *Morning Star*, and her Cargo. ²

The Satisfaction the first of these Letters gave me, could only be [exceeded] by the Concern and Surprize I felt on the receipt of the last, which came but three days after them, informing me of these open Acts of Violence, and Piracy committed as is Supposed, by the Spaniards, in time of a profound Peace, on the Persons and properties of His Majesty's Subjects lying at Anchor in a British Settlement.

Whenever I can ascertain to what place these Spanish Vessels belong, that have been guilty of these depredations, I will make a proper Complaint to the Governor of that District and demand instant redress.

For my own part I have a strong suspicion, and I will submit to your Lordship, whether there is not some ground for it, that these were Rebel Vessels who boarded, and carried away the *Morning Star*: The Affidavits do by no means prove they were Spaniards, none of these Deponents were on board of them, and they hailed both in Spanish and English; and as to the Colours that can determine nothing for, or against a suspicion; strengthen'd by the improbability that the Spaniards would at once by so flagrant an Act of Hostility Violate the last Treaties of Peace.

On the receipt of these papers &c. I directly sent Copies of them to Admiral Gayton, and applied to him, to send such protection to the Shore, as he thought their Situation required, and His Majesty's other Services would permit him to spare. In Answer he informs me that the Annual Ship he sends to the Shore and Bay of Honduras agreeable to his Instructions would have been there before now, but that he had received orders from the Admiralty to send the only two Ships he had, except the *Antelope*, to cruize after the North Americans, but that so soon as the *Atalanta* Sloop of War arrives, which he expects daily from Africa, he will send her down to visit those places.

With regard to the Officers of the Settlement upon the Mosquito Shore, I must inform your Lordship that the Plan I adopted, with the Assistance of His Majesty's Council, for restoring order among the settlers there, Vested all the Powers, and Authorities in Mr. [John] Fergusson, to carry it into execution, being clearly of opinion, that Mr [Robert] Hodgson would be superseded by the King's Orders for his immediate return to England, at the Moment Mr. Fergusson should deliver them into His Hands.

Many of the most respectable Merchants in this Island having applied to me by their Letter of the 12th Instant, representing that the time appointed for the sailing of the *Thynne* Packet which was to be as the 16th Instant being so immediately after the sailing of the *Hillsborough* on the 8th and that of the *Waymouth* on the 15th Instant and so long before the sailing of the July Fleet it rendered as they conceived to every intent and purpose the sailing of the *Thynne* of no use to the public, and that as the next packet in rotation is not expected to arrive here, and sail before the July Convoy, they humbly submitted to me whether it would not be proper to detain the *Thynne* until the 15th of July which they considered as a proper time previous to the departure of the Fleet for advising thereof; and that therefore such her detention would be of Public Utility.

I laid this petition before his Majesty's Council together with the Copy of a Letter from the Post Master General to Lord Dartmouth on the 4th December 1772 and his Lordship's Letter in consequence thereof to Sir William Trelawny upon the subject of the detention of the packets, and they were unanimously of opinion with me to grant the Petition in part by ordering the *Thynne* to be detained till the first of July as we conceived the Merchants might by that time be nearly informed as to the Insurance and advice upon the Fleet that is to sail the latter end of that Month and as we also think the next packet in rotation will in all probability be in Jamaica within the first eight days of July – In consideration of all these circumstances I have ordered the said Packet to be detained till the first of July. I Have the Honour to be My Lord [&c.]

Basil Keith

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 137/71, Part III, LC Photocopy.
2. See Volume 4, 1400-02, 1411-12.

VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON TO PHILIP STEPHENS¹

Sir

Boreas Jamaica June 14th 1776

I beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that His Majestys Ship *Antelope* Sail'd Yesterday with the First Convoy and that it was my Intentions to have Strengthen'd it with the *Squirrel* had it not been for the repeated Solicitations from the Governor to bring in by Sea the several Companies of that Regiment which were Detatch'd in different parts of the Island To His first Application I answer'd that I thought it would be the most eligible way for the Company at St Anns to March to Old Harbour, And for the Convoy & Transports: to take in the Troops at Port Royal, & in their way down to Leward to call in at Old Harbour for the Detatch'd Companies, which could be done in the least time and without taking off one of my Squadron from other Services

In answer to which his Excellency inform'd me that he had communicated my Letter to Captain Ogilvy (Commanding Officer of the 50th Regiment) who assur'd him, that having many Arrangements to make and orders to give before they Sail'd, the Service must suffer very much if they were not brought all together before they Embark'd.

His Excellency therefore repeated his Application to me to bring in the Detatch'd Companies (which Letters; with one from Captain Ogilvie to the Governor I inclose for their Lordships information).²

In consequence thereof I order'd one of the Transports to bring the two Companies from Old Harbour who is return'd, and the *Squirrel* to the North Side of the Island to fetch the other and expect her in every Day. I am with Respect Sir [&c.]

Clark Gayton

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/240.
2. *Ibid.*, Governor Keith's letters to Gayton, May 26 and May 28.

ABRAHAM VAN BEBBER AND RICHARD HARRISON TO THE VIRGINIA
COMMITTEE OF SAFETY¹

Gentlemen

St Eustatia June 14th 1776 –

We take the Liberty of addressing a few Lines to your honourable Body to inform you, that in order to render our Services more extensively useful to our Country & Friends, we have this day entered into a Copartnership, which we propose to carry on under the firm of Van Bibber & Harrison – The former will reside here, the latter at St Pierre, Martinique. – Should you find Occasion, therefore, for any Assistance at either of those places, we should esteem ourselves honoured by your Commands, and beg leave to assure you, that none will execute them with more pleasure, Zeal & Fidelity.

The Islands at this time, will, between them, afford all you want; and on tolerable good Terms. The more important Articles, we have reason to believe, will be yet in greater abundance.

Produce of all kind sell high. But Tobacco is the most profitable Article at present.

Goods are generally cheapest here, But Martinique (or it's Neighbour, St Lucia,) is by far the safest place to send your Vessells to.

Should this Information prove of any Advantage to you, it will produce no less Satisfaction to us, who have the Honour of being very respectfully,
Your Honor's & the Public's [&c.]

Abm. VanBibber
R^d Harrison

I. VSL.

MANIFEST OF GOODS SHIPPED FOR MARYLAND ON BOARD THE
BRIGANTINE *Friendship*¹

Shipp'd by the Grace of God, in good order, and well condition'd, by *Abraham Van Bebber* in and upon the good Brigantine call'd the *Friendship* whereof is master, under God, for this present voyage *John Martin* and now riding at anchor in *St Eustatius Rhode* and by God's Grace bound for [blank] to say *Seven Chests & One Bale of Merchandize, the Property of Capt Robert Forsyth & his Owners of the Town of Baltimore, Maryland, and on their Risque* being marked and numbered as in the margin, and to be delivered in the like good order, and well conditioned, at the aforesaid Port of [blank] (the danger of the Seas only excepted) unto *the said Robt Forsyth & owners, or some trusty persons for them*, he or they paying freight for the said goods *Ten P Ct on the Value thereof*, with primage and average accustomed. In witness whereof the Master or Purser of the said *Bright* hath affirmed to *three* bills of lading, all of this tenor and date; the one of which *three* bills being accomplished, the other *two* to stand void. And so God send the good *Bright* to her desired Port in safety. Amen. Dated in *St Eustatius this 14th day of June 1776* –

John Martin

[In margin] R F. No 1 at 8

1. Executive Papers, Box 6, Md. Arch. Printed form with handwritten entries in italics.

15 June

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT BY CREW OF THE SHIP *Peggy*¹

This Agreement Witnesseth and doth Certify, that we the underwritten doth hire and agree with James Kennedy (master of the Ship *Peggy* of Great Britain) and Owners, well and truly to serve as Seamen on board said Ship during the whole term of her now intended voyage from the port of Halifax to New York (or where the Royal Army may be) from thence to the West Indies, there to Load for London. –

And we do hereby agree to obey the lawful commands of our Officers on board said Ship, and not to absent ourselves from our Duty on any pretence whatsoever, Or take the Boat or Boats from said Ship without Liberty asked and obtained from the Superiour Officer then on board, and Not to embezzle break open or broach, any of said Ships Cargo or Stores. All this we agree to (under the penalty of forfeiting what may be due at the time) and like wise do agree to fulfill and stand to this and every perticular as in printed Articles; for and in consideration of the wages as specified opposite each name, to be paid in the aforesaid port of London and in thirty hours after mooring of said Ship *Peggy* in River Thames as witness our hands. –

Place & Time of Entry	Names	Quality	Witness to signing	Advance	Wages pr Month
1776 Halifax June 11th 15th	Robert Coulter	Boatswain	Patrick Reid		3. 15. . . Stg.
	Daniel Alexander	Seaman	do		3–
	his				
	Solomon X Sanders	do	do		2. 15–
	mark				
	Edmund Eden	do	do		2. 15–
	his				
	Rodger X Carrol	do	do		3–
	mark				
	John Sullivan				3–
his					
John X Williams				3–	
mark					
John Jennings	do			3.–	
Willm Hynds	do			3.–	
John Whilles	Carpenter			1. 10 5. . 5–	

1. Revolutionary War Prize Cases, Court of Appeals, 1776–1787, NA.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL¹

[Watertown] Saturday June 15th 1776

A Letter from Michael Farley Vizt –

Es[s]ex ss Pursuant to an Order of the Major part of the Council to me directed to make return of all the Prisoners now Confined in the Several

Goals in said County, by whom they were Confined, for what and their present Circumstances have herewith Inclosed a return Accordingly

Ipswich June 12th 1776 – Michael Farley Sheriff –

A Return from Sheriff Farley of the Prisoners in the Goals in Essex Vizt –

Names –	By whom Commitd –	For What –
Thomas Livermore Sergt		
John Fowles	By Order of the Council	Soldiers taken at Dorchester
John Crawford		
George Clark		
John Ramsey		
James Chambers		
Jabez Elliot	pr Order of Council	Taken at Long Island
Matthew Cornish	By Colonel Foster	Sailors taken at Cape Ann –
Saml Bird		
John Doyle		
Andrew Burnett	By Order of Council	Taken by Privateer <i>Hannah</i> –
Robt Brown		
Joshua Blackett		
John Scott		
Jona Stickney – Safem Goal –	By Order of Council	For not being a friend to his Country
John Collass	By Order of Council	Taken at Machias
Peter Lar[drie]		
Joseph Temple		

Order to the Sheriff of the County of Essex or the Keeper of the Several Goals in Sd County – Greeting

You are hereby directed to release from Confinement such of the Seamen who are Prisoners of War, & Confined in the Several Goals in the County of Essex who are Willing & Actually do before their release enter to Serve on board any of the Armed Vessells now fitting out by this Colony – Given under our Hands at

the Council Chamber in Watertown the 15 day
of June 1776 Signed by 15 of the Council

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 19, 26–28.

MAJOR GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL ¹

Gentlemen

Boston 15 June 1776.

As the Enemy are driven out of this Harbour I would submit to your Consideration, whether it might not be proper to station a large Ship in Nantasket with a broad Pendant as a Decoy to the Enemy's Vessels who may fall in not knowing the Men of War are gone. The Transport Ship lately brought into this Port I think might answer for this purpose, if the General Assembly should think proper to adopt such a measure, giving security for the Ship to the Agent for the Continent. ²

Mr [Thomas] Cushing desired my opinion with respect to the Cannon which we have in and near this Town, whether any of them could be spared for the defence of other seaport Towns, in answer to which I informed him that I did not apprehend we could with safety to this Town and Harbor spare any of the Cannon now in our possession, as it is of vast importance to the whole Colony, and to all the United Colonies to have this place well secured, and a safe retreat for Ships. I am Gentlemen [&c.]

Artemus Ward.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 195, 44-44a.

2. General Ward told Washington of his decoy plan in a letter of June 16. Washington Papers, LC.

COLONEL ASA WHITCOMB TO MAJOR GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD ¹

To General Ward –

Boston June 15th 1776

Sr I Recd your Orders with great pleasure to go to Long-Island with Five Hundred Men, & Two Days Provision, with proper implements to throw up Works to annoy the Enemies Ships near that Island. And it is with equal pleasure, That I am able in this my Return, to acquaint your Honour with our Success. Through the Divine Goodness, we have prosecuted your Plan in such a Manner, That our Enemies were obliged to leave the Harbour with their Men of War & Transports, with a large Number of Ministerial Troops, & tho' in a manner honorary to the Continental Troops, yet in a manner shameful to them, their Strength and Numbers being vastly Superior to ours, and as an Evidence of their Cowardice, & final remove, they destroyed the Light House, which was in their hands. And what is more extraordinary than any thing is, That the whole was effected with out a man Killed or wounded. So that the Port of Boston is now open which has been shut two Years to a Day.

Asa Whetcomb Coll ²

1. Charles Martyn, *The Life of Artemas Ward* (New York, 1921), 226.

2. Colonel 6th Continental Infantry.

MISS POLLY PALMER TO JOHN ADAMS ¹

Sir

Germantown June 15th 1776 Saturday

You will wonder at recieving a Letter from one who is very far from being Sufficiently qualified to write to a Member of the Grand Congress but I am under parental injunctions to do it, which every good Child ought to obey. – The Affair of fortifying the Harbour of Boston has long been in Agitation and tho' repeatedly urged by the Honourable Members of the Congress, and almost universally by the People of the Sea Coasts hereabouts, and by many others yet it has been delay'd by the Court from what Motives they best know who hinder'd its being done. Papa ² was one of those in its favour, and exerted himself as much as possible to get it done, the Council were for it but the House were afraid of Expences &c. There is now a New House of which he is a Member. – This House consented after some difficulties to let it be done immediatly. I think this was last Saturday, and as the

greatest Secrecy was necessary in Order to prevent our Enemies having knowledge of our proceedings, (as there [was] too much reason to think they daily reciev'd News of all our proceedings) the Time appointed for taking possession of the Heights was not known even to the House till the Day for its execution which was Thursday. 700 of the Continental Troops were Order'd to Long Island and Moon Island, 700 of Colony Troops and Militia to Nantasket, and 700 ditto to Pettucks Island and Spears Hill. – The Cannon, Military Stores, &c. were to be at their destinations at 9 OClock that Night, but as many of them, came by Water in Lighters which were becalmed, and some Missing their Way they did not bring the Cannon time enough to take possession of Pettucks or Nantasket that Night, which was a great Mortification to the Commanders at those places. – At this time there were about 10 or 12 of the Enemies Vessels lying near Georges Island some of considerable Force, and the Commodore a Sixty Gun Ship had moved nearer to Pettucks, and as they had within the Week reciev'd recruits of Soldiers to the Amount of at least 700, it was fear'd they wou'd take possession of that Hill or Nantasket that Night, which our People cou'd not prevent for want of Cannon, their feelings may be better immagin'd than express'd – they were dreadful. – The Night was dark and so still that our People cou'd hear the Sound of the Voices on Board the Ships in their common conversation. – Papa was to command at Pettucks and Spears Hill, and went over to the former with his Aid de Camps and 180 Men about 10 oClock and Staid till two waiting for Recruits and Cannon to no purpose. Had the Enemy known of their being there they say they cou'd have taken or kill'd them all but providence order'd it otherwise. At two they returnd to Spears Hill. – In the Mean Time the Fort at Long Island was carrying on briskly so that before Seven in the Morning, they began to fire upon the Ships. – Upon the first firing the little Vessels hoisted Sail, but the Commodore and larger Ones stood it for about an Hour or more, 'tho without returning the fire as it was to no purpose I suppose, the Advantage being so much greater on the high land than on the water. Before 9 oClock the Commodore tho't proper to set sail with all his Ships and Small Craft, after having stood a continued fire from Long Island all that time, [. . .] as it was calm they Sail'd but Slowly and bro't to by the Light house, which they dismantled and blew up, taking all their Soldiers from that place with the Cannon. This was about one oClock Yesterday. Soon after they continued their Course outwards, tho not without some disagreeable Salutes from Nantasket which was then furnish'd with Cannon, and fired about 30 Balls at them as they pass'd, some of which it is tho't struck the Commodore and other Vessels. – About 5 or 6 OClock they were all out of Sight. – Some of the Ships fir'd a few Guns as they past Nantaskett, but without doing any Damage. – There is little probability that any Lives were lost during the whole of this Affair. Our Harbour is now entirely clear of the Enemy, and it was entertaining to see the Privateers and little Lighters parading it in the very places so long Usurp'd by the British Navy. – The Day was clos'd by the discharging of Cannon and Small Arms, in Token of Joy for thir deliver-

ance, by our People in Boston, and the Forts. As this News will be agreeable to you tho' told in a very imperfect and faulty Manner, I the rather hope for your generous Allowances in the behalf of the writer, whose Abilities are far from being equal to the Subject. I shou'd not have presum'd so far, had Mrs. Adams been at Home, but she set out for Plimouth, Thursday Morning, and so cou'd not have the Opportunity of writing so particularly as if she had been in Town at the Time of this Evacuation. – Papa is so taken up in Planing and executing the Plans of the Forts, in the Harbour especially Nantasket where he is now in person that he can't get a Moments Time to write, or even to Answer a Question, so that I can't tell certainly who the commanders were at the several places, and am at a Loss for other particulars. – My letter is too long already and I will not add to it by a Multitude of excuses. Your pardon for inaccuracies, Blots &c. I depend on and I believe you to possess too much good Nature, to expose the faults of an illiterate Girl.

I am Sir, Your most humble Servant,

Polly Palmer

Since I wrote the above, Papa has given me some Minutes, which I shall copy off just as they are –

500 Colonial Troops at Nantasket Hill

200 Militia from Lovels Regt. at Point Alderton

All these commanded by Colo. Lovel.

500 Continental and Colonial Troops at Pettucks Island

200 Militia from Bass's Regt. to Hoffs Neck

All these commanded by Palmer.

500 Continental Troops at Long Island

200 Militia from Gills Regt. at the Moon

All these Commanded by Wadsworth as I think –³ with Cannon &c. to each place.

1. Butterfield, ed., *Adams Family Correspondence*, II, 9–11.

2. Joseph Palmer.

3. The commander was not Wadsworth, but Colonel Asa Whitcomb of the 6th Continental Infantry; see his letter of this date.

JOSIAH QUINCY TO JOHN ADAMS¹

[Braintree] 15th [June 1776]

Had Wisdom been at Helm, and some heavy Cannon placed upon Petticks Isd, and Nantasket, before the Entrenchments were opened upon the east Head of Long Isd, the Enemy would have remained undisturbed till this Morning, when a fresh easterly Wind and a flood Tide would not suffer them to go out; consequently, without running the least Hazard on our Side they must have took their Choice of a watery Grave, or becoming Prisoners at Discretion; for they had no means of escape, nor Power of defending themselves with any Chance of Success.

1. Adams Papers, MassHS. Continuation of June 13 letter.

LIBEL OF LIEUTENANT ELISHA HINMAN AGAINST THE BRITISH SHIP
*True Blue*¹

Colony of Rhode Island

Providence, ss.

At a Court erected to try and condemn all Vessels, that shall be found infesting the Sea Coasts of America, and all Vessels belonging to any of the Inhabitants of Great-Britain, [and] brought into said Colony, to be holden at Providence, in the County of Providence, in said Colony, on the 4th Day of July, A.D. 1776, at the Hour of Ten in the Forenoon, will be tried the Justice of the Capture of the Ship called the *True Blue*, of the Burthen of about 200 Tons, late commanded by James Stable, laden with Rum, Sugar, Coffee, Cotton, Pimenta, &c. taken upon the high Seas, and brought into the Port of Providence aforesaid, and said to belong to some of the Inhabitants of Great-Britain, and to have been employed for the Purpose of supplying the British Fleets and Armies now acting against the United American Colonies; and therefore the said Ship, her Appurtenances, Cargo and Guns, are libelled in the Court aforesaid, and will be tried at the Time and Place above appointed. This public Notice is given, pursuant to the Law of said Colony, that the Owner or Owners of the said Ship and her Cargo, or any Person or Persons concerned therein, may appear at said Court and shew Cause, if any they have, why the said Ship, her Appurtenances, Cargo, and Guns, should not be condemned.

John Foster, Judge of said Court

1. *Providence Gazette*, June 15, 1776. The newspaper also noted that the *True Blue*, captured by Hinman in the Continental brig *Cabot*, was "pierced for 14 guns, but mounted only 6 when taken."

JOURNAL OF H. M. S. *Cerberus*, CAPTAIN JOHN SYMONS¹.

[June 1776] High Land of Montock N W 3 or 4 Leagues
Saturday 15 At 4 A M saw 4 Sail gave Chace at 7 saw a Boat with the People put off from the Chace sent petty officer and 4 Men on board her a Sloop Laden with Lumber² Tkd & gave Chace at 11 spoke two Sloops taken by the *Phoenix* Tender at 4 P M took our people out of the Sloop & sett her on fire.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/181.

2. Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, identifies the sloop as "*Catharine* The People took the Boat and left her," PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

MEMORIAL OF THE NORWICH COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION TO THE
CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY¹

To the Honorable General Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut now Convened at Hartford in Said Colony

The Memorial of the Committee of Inspection for the Town of Norwich Humbly Sheweth –

That Robert Niles Master of the Armed Sloop *Spy* fitted out and Now in the Service of this Colony on or about the tenth Day of July last past took;

and held in his Custody the Brigantine *Nancy* Thomas Davis Master from the West Indies Loaded with Molasses and other Valuable effects, which Vessel and Cargo was the property of the late Joshua Winslow an Adresser to Govr [Thomas] Hutchinson & greatly Inimical to America (lately Deceased) now the property of his Lady who is a Daughter of Commodore [Joshua] Loring who also is a Most Inveterate Enemy which Vessel and Cargo was Destin'd for the Ministerial Army then in Boston. Your Honors Memorialists at the Desire of His Honor the Governor took Sd Vessel under their Care and directions –

Your Memorialists would represent that Sd Vessel is greatly Impaired, and Sd Cargo is greatly Damaged & Wasted and must still Continue to Waste and Damage. Your Memorialists would Beg leave to represent that its not in the power of this Committee to dispose of Sd Vessel and Cargo without the permission & Advice of your Honors; nor would they Voluntarily Deliver Sd Vessel and Cargo to the above mentioned Owner, unless the Safety of your Memorialists Demands it –

Your Memorialists humbly Conceive that as Sd Vessel was taken by Capt Niles while in the Governments Service your Honors have the Exclusive right of Determining how and in what Manner Sd Vessel with her Cargo Ought to be disposed of, and not your Honors Memorialists who took Sd Vessel as aff[ore]s[ai]d –

Your Memorialists would pray your Honors to take the State of Sd Vessel and Cargo into your Consideration direct and Order that some One or more of your Memorialists should dispose of Sd Vessel and Cargo, and render an Account of the Avails of Sd Cargo &c: Or that your Honors would direct that Vessel & Cargo be tryed by a Court suitable to determine the Same; Or that your Honors would give permission that Sd Vessel and Cargo may again be returnd to the Master and Owner; Or In some way give needfull Relief to your Memorialists. And your Memorialists as in Duty Bound shall ever pray² Dated at Norwich the 15th June A D 1776 In behalf of the Committe

Dudley Woodbridge Clk

1. Conn. Arch., 1st Series, IV, 330a–30b, ConnSL.

2. *Ibid.*, 331a, the upper House resolved to give the memorialists authority to sell the *Nancy* and her cargo, and make return to the Assembly, but the lower House negated the resolution. The difference between the two Houses was resolved. See Committee Report to Connecticut Assembly [Hartford, June 18, 1776].

APPLICATION FOR PRIVATEERING COMMISSION FOR THE CONNECTICUT
SLOOP *American Revenue*¹

This may Certify whom it doth or may concern that having applied for a Commission or Letter of Marque & Reprisal for the Privateer Sloop called the *American Revenue* of the Burthen of Sixty five Tons or thereabouts mounted with Eight four pounders four swivels Six musketts Twelve Cutlasses and three pair of Pistolls fifteen hundred Weight of round and Chain Shott one hundred Weight of Swivel Shott twenty Weight of musket & pistoll Shott, with Twenty Rounds of Powder for all the fire Arms Ten Barrels

of Beef & Pork & ten Casks of Bread &c her Crew consists of Twenty Five Men under the Command of Stephen Tinker Captain James Lanifear Lieutenant William Powers Master the Said Privateer is fitted and set forth by the Subscriber at New London in the Colony of Connecticut who is Sole Owner thereof –

New London June 15th 1776
Nath^l Shaw Junr

1. Jonathan Trumbull Papers, ConnHS.

JOHN COTTON TO BARNABAS DEANE ¹

Mr Deane

Middletown June 15th 1776

Sir/ I acquaint you that I recd by John Wright 50 Bills Tarr Very Small and About Two thirds full, forty Bundles of Iron Hoops 17 Coils of Small Tarred Riging 11 D[o] White Rope 357 Codlines 20 Coils of Deap Sea Lines 35 Bundles of haulters [with] Wormline Marline and houseline, Since the above I have by Mr Wm Bull one Shrou[d] With Spun yarn and Sundrys Stores a Quantity, with a Suite of Collours all [which] I have putt into Store, as this is post Day I would have you Write Your friend [torn] Nott to Send any More Lines as there is Enough to Rigg the Ship ware they Sutable Sizes.² I wish you would hurry the Stays and the Other Shroud as I am Afraid The Sailors that Depends on Working att the Riging will be Impatient and Goe off as Sume of them are All Readey, I wish Callender Would Send for as Many Lines as he Wants and att the Same time Send Me Down Some of his Large twine for Whiping Nothing Material from the Ship I have Nott seen yr Brother Since Last Friday – yr Very [&c.]

John Cotton

1. Barnabas Deane Papers, ConnHS.
2. The Continental frigate *Trumbull*.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOSHUA WENTWORTH ¹

New York, June 15, 1776.

Sir: I received yours of the 1st. Inst. and am to inform you, your Letters of the 15th. and 22nd. of April, advising of the Capture of the Brig *Elizabeth* by Commodore Manley, were put into the Hands of Mr. Moylan to answer; but by some Means or other were not; nor can they be found. It will be, therefore, necessary to acquaint me again with the Contents, if you esteem my Answer to them material.

I have, agreeable to your Request, transmitted you Copies of such Resolves of Congress respecting your Department as are in my Hands. They will point out the Line of Conduct to be observed in general Cases, which I apprehend must be pursued. But if there is any Thing particular in the Capture you mention, which is not provided for, it will be proper that it should be forwarded me, in Order to my referring it to Congress for their Opinion.

It is likely the Memorial you mention, if presented, has already occasioned them to determine upon the Matter. If they have not, and I find necessary, I shall transmit them such a Representation of the Circumstances of this Capture as you may send me, not intending myself to point out any Rule of Decision not authorized by Congress. I am, &c.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 139-40.

JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS ¹

[New York] Die Sabatti, A.M.

June 15th, 1776.

A sailor (Philip Smith,) who made his escape from the *Phoenix*, being examined, says, that the troops were to set out from Halifax for New-York the 2nd of this month; that on board the ships at the Hook, it was much wondered where they stayed. This account they received by a store ship from Halifax.

1. *New York Provincial Congress*, I, 495.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Saturday, June 15, 1776

The Marine Committee having recommended
Mr. Hector M'Neal to command the frigate *Boston*, and
Mr. John Brown a lieutenant of the same.

Thomas Grennel to the command of the frigate *Montgomery*,

Resolved, That the gentlemen recommended be approved, and that commissions be granted to them accordingly.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 444.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

In Committee of Safety

[Philadelphia] June 15th, 1776.

Robert Towers, Commissary, was directed to deliver Capt. Hazelwood, six seven or eight inch Shells, for the use of the Fire Brig't.

Resolved, That Capt. Hazelwood be desired to send down the Fire Brig't, to be stationed near Fort Island, and that He apply to the Commanding Officer of the Fleet for a proper Guard, to be constantly kept on Board her.

Resolved, That the two Chevaux de Frize prepared for stopping the Channel, be immediately ballasted and moored in proper stations, that is one of them just above the lowest Buoy, and the other at the middle Buoy, and that Capt. Hazelwood and Capt. [John] Cobourne apply for necessary assistance to the Commanding Officer of the Fleet, so as to stop the passage effectually upon any emergency, and on orders for that purpose from this

Board & that Capt. Hazelwood proceed down to the Cheveaux de Frize and assist Capt. Cobourn in fixing them in their stations without any delay.

Resolved unanimously, That Samuel Davidson, Esq'r, the Commander of the Floating Battery, be appointed Commodore of the Naval Armaments of this Province, and that he be directed to attend this Board on Monday next, at 11 O'Clock.

Resolved, That a Number of Chevaux de Frize be sunk as soon as possible across the Channel of the River at Billingsport, to be placed sixty feet distance from Centre to Centre of each of them, and of such a height that there will be not more than six feet Water over them at low tide.

That Mr. Robert Smith be fully empowered to purchase Material and employ a sufficient number of Hands to carry the above Resolve into immediate execution.

Resolved, That Capt. [Robert] Whyte & Mr. Sam'l Morris be requested to give every assistance and advice in their power to forward the execution of the said Resolve.

Resolved, That the Commissary make up sixty rounds of Cartridges, with powder for each of the Gallies, The Floating Battery and the Ship *Montgomery*; those for the 32 pounder are to be filled with the following quantity of Powder, viz't: 40 Rounds with $11\frac{1}{4}$ pounds, 10 ditto with $11\frac{3}{4}$ pounds, and 10 ditto with $12\frac{1}{2}$ pounds. Those for the 24 pounders are to be filled as follows: 40 Rounds with $8\frac{1}{4}$ pounds, & 10 Rounds with $8\frac{3}{4}$ pounds, 10 Rounds with $9\frac{1}{2}$ pounds. Those for the 18 pounders are to be filled as follows: 40 Rounds with $6\frac{1}{4}$ pounds of Powder, 10 Rounds with $6\frac{3}{4}$ pounds, and 10 Rounds with $7\frac{1}{2}$ pounds ditto; and that the Comissary is hereby required to observe the same proportions as a rule in making up Cartridges in future, not to be deviated from on any account, without special orders from this Board.

Adjourned to 5O'Clock in the afternoon

A Letter was wrote to Gen'l Washington this evening, inclosing the Resolve of Congress respecting the fortifying Billingsport, requesting he would send an Engineer to view the Ground and furnish plans for carrying the same into execution.²

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 602-04.

2. Committee to Washington, Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, IV, 775.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN SAMUEL DAVISON¹

In Committee of Safety,

Sir,

[Philadelphia] 15th June, 1776.

The Committee of Safety having directed Mr. Cobourne with the advice of Capt. Hazelwood to moor the floating Chevaux de Frize in their proper places and as they may want the assistance of some of the men belonging to your Fleet, we desire you, Should on application being made for that purpose, to furnish such a Number as the above Gentlemen may ask for. and as the Fire Brig is ordered down to her station, you will keep a

constant Guard on Board her. Please to have regard to the security of the Floating Chevaux de Frize, and take care that they are pump'd out when necessary.

By Order of the Committee,
Signed, Geo. Clymer.

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, IV, 775.

CONTINENTAL BOND FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA PRIVATEER BRIG *Hancock* ¹

1776. *Hancock*, Brigantine. Tonnage: 115 Cannon: 4 6-Pounders,
June 15. 8 4-Pounders Firelocks: 30 Men: 80
Captain: Wingate Newman. 2d Master: Wm. Burton
1st. Mate: Eb. Hutting, 2d Mate: Benj. Wood
Captain Marines, 1st Lieut Wm. Shippen.
Security in dollars: [Continental bond] \$10,000
Owners: Jno. Bayard, Jas. Deane & Co., Philadelphia.

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 2nd series, I, 502. An abstract from the bond. The bond also states that there were 90 barrels of provision, 1000 lbs. of powder and half a ton of ball on board. The *Hancock*, the same day, was granted a pass down the river and bay, guaranteeing that no pilot would be taken aboard.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Kingsfisher*, CAPTAIN ALEXANDER GRAEME ¹

June 1776 At Anchor in Horekill road
Saturday 15 8 A M Fresh breezes & Cloudy came to in H[o]re Kill Road
in 8 fm veered to $\frac{1}{3}$ the Light house So 2 Miles hauled the
Schooner along side, hoisted in 21 Barls flour some Indian
Corn and Tobacco – broke her up for Fire wood Cast her off
& Burnt her 11 A M weighed & came to Sail. . . . 5 Sail in
Sight
4 P M Joined Co with the *Orpheus Liverpool* & 2 Transports
from Antigua foggy stood Off $\frac{1}{2}$ past Cleared up bore
away for Henloopen Light House 6 came too in H[o]rekill
Road with the B B in 6 Fm the Light house SSE 3 M[ile]s Do
in Co

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/506.

WOOLSEY & SALMON TO JOHN PRINGLE ¹

[Extract] [Baltimore] 15 June [1776]
we Request You will find us two tons more of Rod Iron, . . . & four
good swivells, for a Little Private Tear we are fitting out here,² would be a
Trifle Concerned if You wd we think we Could get You in, if Possible
send the Swivels Immediately as they are much wanted . . .

our G.W. has been at Annapolis about Unloading the Brig,³ but has
done Nothing, our Council offers (but we think You should have Your
freight at Least would You be satisfied with it, it will be £410 – []) You
must Consider if she is Unloaded by Yr Consent the Risque of the Vessell
falls on You, at Present she is as their Risque if she Proceeds we think she

will be ordered for Corroco – martinico or Statia, we think if she sails You had better Engage with Your Council for her Return, as our Council will not Venture any thing back in her, also send us Letters for each of those Places for Your friends, (it is Necessary) . . . be sure give us Your sentiments about the Brig our Council Will Order her out if Possible,⁴ therefore do not fail in sending matters fixed for her Return, also Your sentiments what You would have us do if Unloaded send us Back their Proposals, they are Rather Troublesome therefore must Keep Square with them,

1. Woolsey & Salmon Letter Book, LC.

2. The Maryland privateer schooner *Harlequin*, William Woolsey, master, commissioned July 6, 1776, Papers CC (Ships' Bonds Required for Letters of Marque and Reprisal), 196, VII, 14.

3. The brig *Rogers*.

4. In the Executive Papers, Box 2, Md. Arch., is an undated document which seems to relate to the negotiations regarding the brig. It reads: "The Council of Safety propose to allow Capt Woolsey (in case the Brig *Rogers* be unloaded) his Real expences according to Acct he shall hereafter render, and further to make an allowance for the Vessells lyeing; that must be left to ourselves or to Arbiters who may be indifferent – we are desirous also to know what state the Cargo is in, and if likely to spoil request we may know it, that the Vessel may be unloaded and the flour baked into bread. – We Wish also to know the Opinion of Capt [James] Campbell and Capt [James] Nicholson whether tis probable the Brig *Rogers* might hereafter be convoyed down the Bay so as to Escape the Men of War and tenders. – when Mr [William] Lux is at leisure we wish to see him or hear from him by Letter about the Brig *Fortune*. –"

GEORGE COOK TO COLONEL GEORGE PLATER¹

DR SR

Smith's Creek June 15th 1776

I have Sent you by this Opportunity the Draught of Smith's Creek. I hope it will please, as I have Laid down as Correct as I posble Could, it took me much longer then I Expected, I was three days & a halfe in taken the Angles and Distance of places w[it]h the Soundings in the Chanell and on the Barr's and two day's in plating the three & halfe day's was Oblig'd to Hire two Hand's to Attend me, I am att this time much hurried by a report of part of Dunmores fleet intending up the Bay, Expected to land att point lookout, the News is brought by the tender of the Congress; they had it from disarters from the fleet of Dunmores Excuse Hast. I am [&c.]

George Cook

1. Red Book, XXV, Md. Arch.

BENJAMIN HARRISON, JR. TO WILLING, MORRIS & CO.¹

[Extract]

Williamsburg 15th June 1776

. . . Yesterday, Mr Smith & my self made three unsuccessfull Attempts to get the *Fanny* Maned out of the Colonial & Continental Services here, & to day he goes to try to get hands otherways, You will do well to procure an Order of Congress upon the Commanding officer here for me to be suffer'd to Man the Brig out of the lines wherever I can find men in them that are fit & Willing to go to sea. this will provid[e] against Mr Smiths being further disappointed. . .

1. Papers of Robert Morris, Accession 1805, LC.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION ¹

[Williamsburg] Saturday, June 15, 1776.

A memorial of Wilson Miles Cary was presented to the Convention, and read; setting forth, that he received a letter from Lord Dunmore, then Governor of this colony,² dated Ship *William*, off Norfolk, the 14th of October last, requiring him, as naval officer of the lower district of James River, to repair to Norfolk or Portsmouth, and promising him protection; that, on his stating an objection to the said requisition, on account of captain [Matthew] Squire's ungentle and rancorous behaviour, his lordship sent another letter, dated ten days after the former, renewing the requisition, and promising protection either to the memorialist or his deputy colonel Selden, if it should be more agreeable to send him; that, though his own opinion was rather against complying with his lordship's commands, yet on the advice of such of his friends as the time limited gave him an opportunity of consulting, and among them some of the officers of the army, and members of the county committee, he did send his deputy aforesaid, with the books of entry and clearance, and for that purpose hired a boat and two slaves of Mr. John Jones, who, suspicious of the event, insisted on an indemnification from him, which he readily agreed to, under faith in the assurances contained in the aforesaid letters; notwithstanding which, as soon as colonel Seldon had arrived at Norfolk, the said boat and hands were perfidiously seized and detained by his lordship, and have never since been returned; and praying that out of such effects of the said Lord Dunmore as are within this colony he may be allowed to receive an indemnity, in such manner as the Convention shall judge reasonable.

Ordered, That the said memorial, together with the exhibits, be referred to the Committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they inquire into the allegations thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

Also a petition of Lucretia Pritchett, executrix, and William Churchill, executor of Joseph Pritchett deceased, setting forth, that in a late attack on a piratical tender in Rappahannock river, Minny, a negro man slave belonging to the estate of the said Joseph Pritchett, voluntarily entered himself on board a vessel commanded by Mr. Hugh Walker, and being used to the water, and a good pilot, bravely and successfully exerted himself against the enemy, until he was unfortunately killed, whereby the estate of the said Joseph Pritchett was deprived of a valuable slave; and praying that the Convention will take the matter into consideration, and, as the said slave was lost by means of a meritorious act, in defence of the country, that she may be allowed the value thereof.

Ordered, That the said several petitions be referred to the Committee of Public Claims; that they inquire into the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the Convention.

1. *Virginia Convention*, 49.

2. See Volume 2, 457.

MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Williamsburg] Saturday June 15th, 1776.

Permits granted Charles Bailey and Samuel Watts to Trade on board their pilot boat, the *Molly*, loaded with Tobacco and Flour, in any of the Foreign Islands.

Same [warrant] to Capt. Richard Taylor for £50 upon acct, for pay of seamen on board his cruiser in Rappahannock.²

Same to Capt. Alex'r Dick, for £198.1.1½ for one month's pay of his comp'y of marines to 16th Inst., Inclusive.

Col. James Barbour agreed to supply the marines employed on Rappahannock, while on shore, with prov[ision]s, at 7½d. p'r ration.

Pursuant to order of Convention, a duplicate of the former letter written to Mr. [Richard] Harrison, of Martinico, enclosing other copies of the Resolutions of Congress, &c., addressed to Mr. James Dalton, merchant in St. Pierre, Martinico, was sent by the *Molly*, pilot boat: Messrs. Bailey and Watts.

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 206-07.

2. Commander of the schooner *Liberty*.

DIXON AND HUNTER'S *Virginia Gazette*, SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1776

Williamsburg, June 15.

We learn from Gloucester, that Lord Dunmore has erected hospitals upon Gwyn's island; that his old friend Andrew Sprowle is dead, and that they are inoculating the blacks for the smallpox. His Lordship, before the departure of the fleet from Norfolk harbour, had two of those wretches inoculated and sent ashore, in order to spread the infection, but it was happily prevented.

The men of war have made prize of a Spanish brig that was bound to Philadelphia, reported to have on board 12,800 dollars. Some deserters from the *Fowey*, it is said, give this account; likewise, that they are very weak upon the island as to number, fearful of being attacked, and chiefly depend upon the fleet for their protection.

Mr. Robinson, late of York town, who has been a prisoner on board the fleet for some time past, but escaped from Gwyn's island, confirms the above accounts with respect to Andrew Sprowle's death, and the capture of the Spanish brig, which was from the Havannah, taken off the capes of Delaware, and sent in by the *Liverpool*; but that Captain Bellew had retained the dollars. This Gentlemen further says, that there are not above 200 blacks now alive, 75 at least having died within six days after they left Norfolk, and that the number of whites on shore is very inconsiderable.

One day this week a small vessel belonging to the enemy, with five hands on board, ran aground on the Gloucester shore, within musket shot, and was taken. The crew jumped overboard, two swam to Gwyn's island, one was shot, and the other two drowned.

A BRITISH JOURNAL OF THE EXPEDITION TO CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA ¹

June 15th The 5 Transports with the Troops sailed from 5 fathom hole and anchored off the Coast on the side of Long Island.

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

RICHARD HARRISON TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

[Extract]

Gentlemen

St Eustatia June 15. 1776. –

My last was of the 18 ulto by Capt Calender inclosing Duplicates of the papers sent by the *John* Capt Speake, who sailed the 14th with 6000 lb Powder & 22 bbls Sulphur on your accot which I hope is now safely landed with you.

By that Opportunity I informed you of my having 6000 more left, 4000 of which I took down with me to this place, expecting a readier Conveyance for it than from my own – On my Arrival I found none but the Brig *Friendship*, which Mr [Abraham] Van Bebber had partly engaged on Freight for Virginia – In her I determined to ship also, but finding that I should be obliged to advance Money for fitting her out, and every other extra Expence, besides insuring her, I concluded it would be more to your Interest to purchase her & receive 10 prCt on the Goods I could procure on Freight, especially as I could make the payment so convenient to you. – Accordingly I have agreed with Capt [John] Martin for her at £900. Maryland Curry, have taken his Bill of Sale & given him my two drafts of this date for £450. each on you at ten days Sight, which you'll please to honour & pass to my Debit, and at the same time Credit me with the Vessell –² This purchase I flatter myself cannot but be agreeable to you. She is a fine new Vessell, sails fast, and will be well fitted for another Voyage, a Cruize, or for sale as you may judge proper. The freight you'll have to receive will amount to half the Cost, & should you be so unfortunate as to lose her the damage will be no more than if I had chartered and insured her. –

I have shipped for you by this Vessell 14100 lbs Powder & 23 Bales Hollands Duck (which is as much & rather more than the remainder of my money would purchase) amounting to £2674.7.4 your Curry which you'll please to note in my Account, Invoice & Bill Lading therefor being inclosed:

With this a Letter will be delivered you signed by Mr V B & myself, by which you'll find we entered into a Copartnership – The Motives of it are therein sufficiently explained,³ also what we have done in Consequence – I shall not therefore dwell longer upon it in this place.

I intended by Capt Martin to have furnished my Accot Currt with you, but the unexpected and agreeable Intelligence of Capt [Thomas] Conways Arrival at St Pierre will not permit me to stay & collect an Acct of the Brigs Disbursements. – He got in the 10th I leave this to Night & hope to see him in three days. Everything is ready & I shall dispatch him immediately with a valuable Cargoe. I am &Ca

THE ISLAND OF S'EUSTATIUS commonly S'EUSTAZIA

French Toises
One English Mile



By Monsieur le Marquis de Bouille,
THIS PLAN
Engraved from the Original in the Office
of the Survey and made Public by His Majesty
is respectfully presented
By William Fisher



THE ROAD

W. Fisher
1751
London

N B. Should Messrs Jenefer & Hooe apply to you for any Money on my Ac-
cot I should be obliged by yr furnishing them with as far as 500 £ –

1. Red Book, XII, Md. Arch.
2. Bill of sale is in Red Book, IV, Md. Arch.
3. This letter has not been located, but probably is similar to that of Van Bebber and Harrison of June 14, 1776 to the Virginia Committee of Safety.

16 June (Sunday)

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN
SULLIVAN, CHAMBLY ¹

Dear Sir: LaPrairie, June 16, 1776 – 11 o'clock A. M.

I received your letter from Sorel of the 14th instant, at three o'clock, previous to which I had destroyed all the knees, &c. In the morning, I sent Captain [James] Wilkinson express to you; at three o'clock he met the enemy at Varenne, and narrowly escaped being taken; at five he arrived at Montreal; at seven P. M. I embarked the whole garrison in eleven batteaus, and got safe over. The rain made it seven o'clock before carts could be procured at Longueil and La Prairie to carry the sick and baggage. The whole are safe here, with some rum, molasses, wine, &c., seized at Montreal. The salt could not be got over. We have destroyed all the batteaus, and will break down al[l] the bridges in our rear. I expect to be at St. Johns at five o'clock this evening. We have thirty carts, which I will send to Chambly as soon as they are discharged of their loading. Four or five of the enemy's vessels are as high as Vercheres or Varenne. Our people saw their troops at the latter place, and a Frenchman from Montreal says they mounted guard there last. The number of the enemy is very considerable. No particular account has been received of their movements. I am, very respectfully, dear sir, [&c.]

B. Arnold.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, VI, 930.

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN
SULLIVAN ¹

St. Johns, June 16, 1776.

Dear Sir: I have this minute received a letter from General Schuyler, advising me that the batteaus which I wrote for might be sent over the Lake and detained, for the purpose of bringing a number of the Militia who are ordered into this country. I suppose he has written you fully on the matter. We have about nine hundred barrels of pork and eighty barrels of flour here. The sloop and schooner are arrived at the Isle Motte, with a considerable quantity. The schooner is loaded with drygoods, shot, shells, &c. I believe it will be best to send her away directly. Nothing is done yet to fortify our camp. I think it requires immediate attention. I intended