

# **Naval Documents of The American Revolution**

**Volume 1**

**AMERICAN THEATRE: Dec. 1, 1774–Sept. 2, 1775  
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**Part 5 of 8**

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AS A WORK OF THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
THIS PUBLICATION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.



Enclosed is an Account of the State & Condition of His Majestys Ships and Vessels under my Command and another shewing the Disposition of them:

I am Sir [&c.]

Will<sup>m</sup> Parry

*Chatham* in St John's Road Antigua the 31, May 1775

[Endorsed] Rd 12 July 1775

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/309.

## 1 June

### JOURNAL OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Exeter] Thursday 1st of June, 1775.

Voted, That two companys, as soon as they can be properly mustered & Equipt be sent to guard the sea coast for the present.

Whereas in the course of the present disputes, it may be necessary to Import on the Risque of the Colony a Quantity of Military Stores,

Resolved, That the Commt of Supplies be and hereby are impowered & directed to import or cause to be Imported from any place whatever such & so many stores aforesd not exceeding the value of three Thousand Pounds L.M. & the same to risque at their discretion, or without making Insurance on the vessels or cargoes which may be so employed, sent out or imported.

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, VII, 495.

### CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY, R.N. TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

*Scarbroh* Piscataqua June 1st 1775

Sir I wrote to You Yesterday by Mr Fraser who I sent round to Boston in the *Spynx* Sloop, all communication between the Ship and Town is still stop't what measures they are pursuing in the Town I cannot inform You, the Guns which I spik'd up which I mentioned to You in my last, they have got up to Town before the *Canceaux* got off the Battery as Lt [Henry] Mowat informs me in his Letter they are preparing them for Service, there is a Hill abreast of Us in the Massachusetts side, which commands the Ship, they are now throwing up an Intrenchment and getting Cannon ready to mount there with an intention to fire on the Ship, there are two or three hundred Men Armed have been at work on it these two or three days past, all the Country are Armed and marching in bodys into the Town, it seems their whole design is if possible to drive the Ship out of the Harbour for further particulars I refer You to Mr [Thomas] Fisher Collector of the Customs at Salem who has been in Town, all the time these disturbances happened, I have taken forty or fifty Tons of Shot from the Fort and put it onboard a Sloop belonging to Capn [Thomas] Colsten for fear they might come in, in the night and steal them as there is no people in the fort, as I was informed they intended it, I hope I shall have Instructions how to act, against those people.

The Houses on both sides the Water are entirely deserted expecting the Ship to be attack'd every hour.

I am, Sir [&c.]

And<sup>w</sup> Barkley

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

STEPHEN HOOPER TO COATES & REYNELL, MERCHANTS OF PHILADELPHIA <sup>1</sup>

Esteem'd Friends Reynell & Coates

Newbury Port June 1st 1775

My last to you, was of the 6th Ultimo, since which I remain without any of your much esteem'd, tho' in hourly Expectation of hearing from you, that Capt [William] Willcomb is arriv'd, I am now sensible that your Markett, must be extream dull for his Cargoe, therefore hope you have stored it for a Price, & sold the Brig, but if this should meet the Brig at Philadelphia, & the Cargoe not sold, I think it would be prudent, to reship her Cargoe for Newfoundland & fill her up with Bread & from thence proceed to the West Indies with a Load of Fish, or to Spain, if that sort of fish [co]uld be obtain'd, there; & should she proceed thither, ord[er the] Master to value himself on Mr. Robt Jenkins at St Johns, & take his Advice in what Manner its best to proceed from thence; & should she return to you, again I must beg you will keep her employ'd & give such Directions to the Master as you may think necessary — <sup>2</sup> The Times here grow worse every Day, & what will be the Event, Time only can discover, we certainly are in a most unhappy Situation, & little prospect of any Relief I have a Brig now at home, with a Cargoe of Molasses which I am now selling here at 20d your Currency, & am about Loading her again for the West Indies for another Load of Molasses, but how she will make out, cannot say when she is ready to Return, if your Port is open she may return thither, but more of [this next] Time, I have only now to say that I am Your Friend

Stephen Hooper

1. Feinstone Collection, DLAR.

2. Hooper's instructions were too late, as Captain Willcomb, in the brig *Industry*, cleared the port of Philadelphia for Falmouth, England, about June 10, 1775. See *Pennsylvania Packet*, June 12, 1775.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED JUNE 1, 1775, FROM THE PROVINCIAL CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE" <sup>1</sup>

When our people were engaged in taking the stock, &c. from Noddle's and Hog-Islands, the king's troops made an attack upon them. On Hog Island, the combat began about 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and continued almost incessantly till midnight. The attack was made with cannon, swivels, and small arms, from an armed schooner, sloop, and eight or ten barges, upon our people, who had small arms only, but were very advantageously posted by Colonel [Israel] Putnam who got to them just in season to station and command them properly. He placed them in a ditch, up to their waists in water, and covered by the bank, to their necks: The Schooner, sloop and boats full of men, came within 12 or 15 rods of them, and gave our people a fine opportunity to place their shot well. About



midnight the fire ceased a little, and our people retreated to the mainland, where they were soon after joined by Capt. [Thomas Waite] Foster with two field pieces, which were planted on the way of Winnesimit ferry. At day light the combat was renewed, – as the schooner passed the ferry way, she was briskly attacked by our people, with the field pieces and small arms, which soon clearing her deck, she drifted on shore, where our people set fire to her, and she blew up, notwithstanding the utmost endeavours of the people in the boats, &c. to tow her off, and save her from destruction – In this they exposed themselves much to our fire, and suffered greatly. When they found the schooner was lost, they with difficulty towed off the sloop, much disabled, and retired to their den; and thus ended the combat, at about 7 o'clock in the morning. In the afternoon, (Sunday) our people got out of the wreck, 12 four pounders, 6 swivels, and every thing else that was valuable, without molestation; they afterwards removed or destroyed from both the Islands, all the stock, &c. viz. about 5 or 600 sheep, 30 horses, about as many cattle, a large quantity of hay, and burned all the barns and houses.

All this was done in sight, and as we may say, under the noses of the whole fleet and army at Boston, without molestation. – The killed of the enemy (viz. Gen. [Thomas] Gage's crew of enemies to the English constitution) they themselves allow to be more than 100, besides wounded; others, who have good opportunity to know, say, their killed and wounded, exceed 300, and I believe they have suffered as much as in their precipitate flight from Lexington, on the memorable 19th of April. Our killed none! wounded, three! Heaven apparently, and most evidently fights for us; covers our heads in the day of battle, and shields our people from the assaults of our common enemies. – What thanks can speak our gratitude.

1. *New York Journal*, June 15, 1775: "The following Extract of a letter, dated the first of June instant, in the Provincial Camp, at Cambridge, from a gentleman of undoubted veracity and intelligence, gives a more authentic, and in many respects a more particular account of the late action . . . than any that has appeared in the public papers."

*New England Chronicle*, THURSDAY, MAY 25, TO THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1775

Cambridge, June 1.

We are informed, that in the [36-gun] *Cerberus* Frigate, Capt. Chads, who arrived at Boston last Thursday from England, came Passengers, Major-Generals [William] Howe, [Henry] Clinton, and [John] Burgoyne.

The Town of Salem, and other Parts of the County of Essex, were alarmed last Tuesday Morning [May 30] by the Appearance, off Salem Harbour, of 2 or 3 armed Vessels, supposed to be on some hostile Design. A large Body of Men immediately assembled: But nothing extraordinary being attempted by the Enemy, the People dispersed, after taking some necessary Measures for their future Safety.

#### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Thursday, June 1, 1775. Afternoon

The Committee appointed to consider the Papers relating to Ticonderoga, &c., reported a Letter to Colonel Arnold; another to the Hon. William Williams, Esquire, Speaker of the Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut; and another to

the Provincial Congress of New Hampshire; which were read and accepted, and are as follows, viz:

Letter to Colonel Benedict Arnold

Sir: The Congress have received yours of the 19th and 23d of May, ult., per Captain [Jonathan] Brown and Captain [Elisha] Phelps, a copy of which has been sent to New Hampshire. They highly approve of, and take great satisfaction in the acquisitions you have made at Ticonderoga, Crown Point, on the Lake, &c. As to the state you are in respecting men, provisions, &c. we have advices from Connecticut and New York, that ample preparation is making, with the greatest dispatch, in those two Colonies, from whence you may depend on being seasonably supplied. They are sorry to meet with repeated requests from you, that some Gentleman be sent to succeed you in command; they assure you, that they place the greatest confidence in your fidelity, knowledge, courage and good conduct, and they desire that you at present dismiss the thoughts of quitting your important command at Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Lake Champlain, &c.; and you are hereby requested to continue your command over the forces raised by this Colony, posted at those several places, at least until the Colony of New York or Connecticut shall take on them the maintaining and commanding the same agreeable to an order of the Continental Congress.

To Colonel Benedict Arnold, Ticonderoga

P.S. We have just received the intelligence by a Letter from Governour [Jonathan] Trumbull, that the General Assembly have ordered a thousand men to march immediately to re-enforce the Army now at Crown Point, Ticonderoga, &c., as also five hundred pounds of powder, &c. The Congress further advise that in case your present necessity requires it, you make use of the one hundred and sixty Pounds you found on board the Sloop, for the service of this Colony, you accounting for the same to this or some other Congress, or House of Representatives of this Colony; and they hereby assure you that this Colony will repay it whenever it shall be ordered by the Continental Congress, and that you also complete the raising the number of four hundred men, in the pay of this Colony, if you judge it necessary.

To the House of Assembly of Connecticut

Gentlemen, We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 27th ultimo. We fully concur in opinion with you, that maintaining a post at Ticonderoga or Crown Point, is of the utmost importance; therefore take particular satisfaction that you have on this subject so early and repeatedly expressed your minds to the Continental Congress. By private intelligence of the 28th ultimo, sent to Captain Joseph Trumbull, we are informed that the Provincial Congress of New York do not understand the resolve of the Continental Congress, concerning said fortresses, to extend so far as to wholly dismantle them, but so far only as to supply any fortification that may be built at the south end of Lake George; which resolve, in this sense of it, they are with dispatch executing. Therefore, in our present distressing situation, we

have postponed sending further assistance to Captain Arnold, especially since New York have not requested it.

To the Hon. William Williams, Speaker of the House of Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut.

To the Provincial Congress of New-Hampshire

Gentlemen, We send you enclosed a copy of a letter from Colonel Arnold, commander of the Troops at Ticonderoga and Crown Point, together with a copy of a letter from the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the Colony of Connecticut, by which you will be acquainted with the present situation of those fortresses, and the measures necessary to be taken for securing and defending so valuable acquisitions. You will doubtless agree with us in sentiment, that it is a matter of the greatest importance that those places remain in our possession, in order to secure our frontiers from the depredations of our enemies, if they should attempt to attack it from that quarter, of which there appears to be great danger.

It was the agreement of this Colony, that four hundred men, and one hundred pounds in money, should be raised for the reduction of the place; and it is our determination to contribute our full proportion toward securing the acquisition. By the letter from the Speaker of the House of Representatives for Connecticut you will find that that Colony have voted to send immediately to their assistance four companies, and five hundred pounds weight of powder, and we suppose that the troops are upon the march there. And we most earnestly request that you would contribute your endeavours likewise for the speedy and effective security of the aforementioned places, which, considering the importance of the affair, and the ready disposition which you have discovered for the defence of the common cause, leaves us no room to doubt of your compliance therewith.

To the Provincial Congress of New Hampshire.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1382, 1383, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Preston*, CAPTAIN JOHN ROBINSON  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775                      Remarks Boston Harbour

Thursday 1      Employd securing our stores. The Rebels set fire to our store houses on Noddles Island

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/720.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

[*Preston*, Boston] June 1 [1775]

The General was now in expectation of the *Nancy* transport with Cloathing and Ordnance Stores, and, as she did not appear, various reports were spread of the Rebels intending to seize her: and the *Senegal*, Capt. [William] Dudingstone arriving from England, the Admiral immediately ordered her to Sea again to

cruise from Cape Ann to Cape Cod for this transport. And the *Cerberus* went into Nantasket Road in the *Mercury's* Room.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 103, 104, MassHS Transcript.

DIARY OF LIEUTENANT JOHN BARKER <sup>1</sup>

[Boston] June 1st. [1775]

The *Cerberus* this morning sailed down to Nantasket Road, to be in readiness to sail in a few days. Some of the idle Fools frequently fire small Arms at the *Glasgow*, and at our Camp; us they never reach, but they sometimes stick a Ball in the Ship, who never returns it tho' she has it in her power to drive 'em to the D --- l.

1. Barker, *Diary*, 53.

J. SPARDING TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

The Memorial of John Sparding, living at Ticonderoga Landing, the north end of Lake George, June 1, 1775 Humbly sheweth:

That your Memorialist has, for upwards of six years past, been at a great expence in providing boats and carriages for the ease and convenience of persons traveling this way with their baggage and effects, over the lake and carrying place, at an easy rate; likewise providing batteaus on Lake Champlain, for the convenience of gentlemen and others traveling to Canada. The unhappy differences now subsisting between the Colonies and the Mother Country, have put a stop to any business your Memorialist was formerly engaged in. Your Memorialist has, ever since the tenth day of May, (the day on which the fort at Ticonderoga was taken,) assisted with his boats, men, &c. in transporting the troops, with their baggage and provisions, over Lake George and the carrying place, upon no other security than a verbal agreement with Colonel [Benedict] Arnold, for twenty shillings currency, per day, for a perryaugre capable of crossing the lake with seventy men, besides a quantity of provision, and a batteau for carrying expresses; and when there was not a sufficient loading for the perryaugre, to have the privilege of conveying such private property as might offer, of which your Memorialist is at present deprived; your Memorialist having likewise carted the greatest part of the baggage and provisions over the carrying place, to whole amount of which, to this day, is near seventeen Pounds. And the gentlemen appointed here have this day intimated to your Memorialist that his teams are not to be any more employed, they having brought teams over the lake for said service; your Memorialist, there, trusting in the known justice and humanity of the gentlemen in New York, who scorn to let any individual suffer, which must inevitably be the case of your Memorialist, unless your goodness prevents it, by confirming the agreement made by Colonel Arnold; your Memorialist therefore humbly hopes, as he had done his utmost endeavour for the good of the common cause, and is disabled at present from providing for his family, you will take the same into consideration. And your Memorialist will ever pray.

J. Sparding

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, II.

BARNABAS DEANE TO SILAS DEANE <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Albany, 1st June, 1775

I returned here last evening from Crownpoint, which place I left on Monday last [May 29] . . . Col [Benedict] Arnold was very busy in fixing the Sloop [*Enterprise*] and Schooner [*Liberty*] in the best manner for guarding the Lake. He has mounted in the Sloop six six-pounders and fourteen swivels, and in the Schooner four four-pounders and eight swivels, and is fixing swivels in two Perriaugers. He destroyed all the water craft at St. Johns that could not be brot off.

1. *Connecticut Historical Society Collections*, II, 246, 247.

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

[New York] Die Jovis, 9 ho., June 1, 1775.

A draught of a letter to the sub-committee of the city and county of Albany, was read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, at New York, June 1st, 1775.

Gentlemen – Agreeable to the minute of the Grand Congress, we (being unable as you know to garrison Ticonderoga, Crown Point, or Fort George,) made application to the eastern Colonies for their assistance. In our letter to Governor [Jonathan] Trumbull, of Connecticut, we desire him to order troops on that service, and inform him that it is our intention that the commanding officer of the troops should be the commander of the forts by them garrisoned. We moreover requested him, to give orders to such officer to use great diligence to prevent any inroads into Canady. This morning we have received his Honor's and the Assembly's answer, of which we send you a copy.

You will find that one thousand men are already on their way to the frontier country; their commanding officer is Colo. [Benjamin] Hinman, wherefore we beg you will inform all persons in that part of the country of his appointment.

We have at present no powder in this city, nor can we possibly tell you when we shall have any. The reason of this uncertainty is, that the British Ministry have taken measures to prevent supplies of powder from coming to America, from any part of Europe. But you will easily see that though such attempts may delay, they cannot prevent us from getting some. Should the Indians again mention their uneasiness on the subject of powder, it will, as we conceive, be proper to mention to them the endeavours of Great Britain to hinder both them and us from obtaining any.

We have received your despatches of the 26th ulto., and already forwarded copies to the Grand Congress.

We are, Gentlemen, [&c.]

To Doctr. Samuel Stringer, Chairman of the Sub-Committee of the City and County of Albany.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said letter to the sub-committee at Albany be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted with all convenient despatch.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cons.*, I, 25.

CAPTAIN GEORGE VANDEPUT, R.N. TO CADWALLADER COLDEN, LIEUT-GOVERNOR  
OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Asia East River June 1st 1775

The Packet arrived last Evening but too late to give me an Opportunity of forwarding your Letters sooner. It was my Intention to have sent the *Kings Fisher* to Boston with the Dispatches that have been brought by the Mail; but having (since I had the Honor of seeing you) received Information that some Vessels are on the Coast, laden with Arms and Ammunition; and as I have it not in my Power to send any other Vessel either to Cruize for them, or prevent their landing their Cargoes; I think it absolutely Necessary to employ Capt. [James] Montague on so material a service. I shall therefore fit out the Schooner that has been sent here by Genl [Thomas] Gage, and arm her in such a Manner as will secure Her from all Insults. She will be ready by the Time that I can have your Answer to this, and will sail immediately after, unless You should have Occasion to detain her any while Longer. By the News the Packet brings we may very shortly expect four Regiments of seventy Men a Company with a General officer at New York, such a respectable Force will I hope change the Face of affairs.

I have the Honor to be with great Respect Sir [&c.]

Geo Vandeput

1. *Colden Papers*, VII, 298, 299.

#### JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia] Thursday, June 1, 1775

The committee appointed to consider ways and means to supply these colonies with ammunition and military stores, brought in their report, which was read, and referred to the committee of the whole.

Upon Motion, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Government of Connecticut, or the general of the forces of that colony, to appoint Commissaries to receive at Albany and forward the supplies of provisions, for the forces on Lake Champlain, from the provincial Convention of New York, and that the sd Convention use their utmost endeavours in facilitating and aiding the transportation thereof, from thence to where the sd Commissaries may direct.

As this Congress has nothing more in view than the defence of these colonies, *Resolved*, That no expedition or incursion ought to be undertaken or made, by any colony, or body of colonists, against or into Canada; and that this Resolve be immediately transmitted to the commander of the forces at Ticonderoga.

*Ordered*, That the above resolve be translated into the french Language and transmitted, with the letter, to the inhabitants of Canada – also,

*Ordered*, That the president transmit a copy of the above to New York, and the other colonies bordering on Canada.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 74, 75.

TRAUGOTT BAGGE'S NARRATIVE OF EVENTS IN NORTH CAROLINA PRIOR TO GOVERNOR JOSIAH MARTIN'S DEPARTURE FROM NEWBERN ON JUNE 1, 1775 <sup>1</sup>

With the beginning of 1775 war began in earnest, and first in the northern Colonies. Great Britain declared certain American ports closed. All the Colo-

nies resented this. In many harbors no British ships were allowed to enter; in others they were permitted to come in and take a load of American products back to England, but were obliged to throw the cargoes from England overboard, and under no pretext were allowed to land them, — for instance in March an English ship reached Charlestown, and its cargo of salt, potatoes and brick was thrown into the water, not by a mob but by the sailors, to make room for the return load of rice. This wanton waste of salt cost the colonists dearly enough, for during the war many were for a long time without salt, and had to substitute hickory ash, which made them first hoarse and then speechless; others paid twelve to fifteen times as much for salt as before the war, and then had to be content with a very bad quality. The situation was somewhat helped by the salt works which were built on the seacoast in all the Colonies, those in North Carolina being not inconsiderable.

In Feb. 1775, our stores<sup>2</sup> secured its last regular shipment of wares from Charlestown, though already then many things were scarce and increasing in price. At about the same time the Assembly called by Governor Josiah Martin met in New Bern,<sup>3</sup> the last to be held under royal authority. They had not been in session long when they entirely broke with the Governor, refused obedience to him and to the King, and resolved that for the rest of their session they would not be an Assembly under the Crown but a Convention to consider and provide for the best interests of North Carolina, in unison with the other Provinces.<sup>4</sup> They remained together three more days, expelled a McNight from the Convention because he spoke in favor of the royal government, recommended that each County should form a Committee to act in place of the Justices and Courts, and appointed a time for their next meeting. Gov. Martin was no longer safe, and narrowly escaped arrest, but he rode openly through the country from Newbern to Wilmington and down the Cape Fear River to Fort Johnston, where several English war ships lay at anchor.<sup>5</sup> He went on board one of them, and from there sent out several proclamations, condemning the Committees, Conventions, and leaders of the land, but they only laughed at him, and concerted together here and there for their further methods of procedure, becoming the more ardent when the news was received that in April the British had met the colonists in New England and blood had been shed.

1. Fries, ed., *Moravians in North Carolina*, II, 846. Bagge arrived in Wachovia, N.C. in 1768. He probably prepared this narrative in 1783 under the title "Sketch Notes on the Events during the Revolutionary War which Bear on Wachovia to the End of 1779." Early in the war, Bagge, deciding that the struggle was of great international significance, collected much material from papers filed with his manuscripts.
2. As "an able Merchant," Bagge took charge of the city store and Wachovia's books and accounts.
3. The North Carolina Assembly met on April 4, 1775.
4. The Assembly, as Bagge relates, did not resolve itself from an Assembly into a Convention. The Convention, composed of "Delegates of the Inhabitants of this Province," on April 5, 1775, elected William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, and Richard Caswell delegates to the Continental Congress, and the Assembly, on April 7, approved of the choice made by the Convention.
5. Governor Martin arrived at Fort Johnston on June 2, 1775.

# IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS,

NEW-YORK, June 2, 1775.

*Friends and Countrymen,*

**T**HE parent of the universe, hath divided this earth amongst the children of men, and drawn out the line of their habitations.—This great God, having ordained that all our joys and sorrows here below, should proceed from the effect of human actions, upon human beings; our situation has drawn together, this great bond of mutual dependence, and enabled us to deal out injuries and kindnesses to each other. We consider you as our friends, and we feel for you, the affection of brothers.

The great question between Britain and her Colonies, is, whether they are subjects, or whether they are slaves.

The rights delivered down to us, from our forefathers, the venerable laws of our country, have subjected our own property, to our own disposal. Nor hath any earthly power, a right to take it away. Mankind ought to be governed by the dictates of justice, and not by the hand of oppression. The peaceable enjoyment of what we yet call our own, and that liberty, which confers on every man, the right of adoring his God in the manner, which he humbly thinks most agreeable to the divine nature; these are the objects of all our labours, and of all our cares.

Ministerial tyranny hath endeavoured, throughout all these Colonies, to rend from us the dearest rights of humanity. And in the defence of those rights, some persons have taken certain forts in this Colony, which are near your frontiers.

We have heard that others have made an attack upon the post of St. John's; an attempt without our council or participation. And altho' we have taken measures for the defence of our own fortresses, yet our only intention, is, to prevent any hostile incursions upon us, by the troops in your province.

Confident that the enemies of our King and his people, will take every opportunity to excite jealousies and discord amongst us, we beseech you not to be imposed on by their artifices, but call to your remembrance, the complicated horrors of a barbarous war, avoid those measures, which must plunge us both into distress, and instead of consenting to become miserable slaves, generously dare to participate with your fellow subjects, in the sweets of that security, which is the glorious lot of freedom.

To the inhabitants of the province of Quebec.	} We are, with sincere affection, Your brethren and friends, P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, Président.
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Le CONGRES de la Colonie de la Nouvelle-York assemblée, le 2 de Juin, 1775.

*Nos très chers Frères & Compatriotes,*

**I**L a plu au créateur de l'univers de partager ce monde entre différentes sociétés, et d'en régler les bornes. Sa Providence divine ayant ordonné qu'ici bas, notre bonheur et nos calamités seraient le résultat de la conduite que nous tiendrions les uns à l'égard des autres, notre voisinage a resserré les liens de cette dépendance universelle; et elle nous a fourni les moyens de rendre les bienfaits, et de repousser les injures. Soyez persuadés que nous vous regardons comme nos amis; et que nous vous aimons comme nos frères.

Dans la dispute qui s'est élevée entre la Grande-Bretagne et ses colonies, il s'agit de décider si nous devons être sujets ou esclaves. Les droits que nous avons hérités de nos ancêtres, et les loix de notre patrie, nous rendent maîtres absolus des biens que nous possédons: Il n'y a personne sur la terre qui puisse nous les enlever légitimement. C'est par l'équité, et non par la violence, que les hommes doivent être gouvernés: La liberté qui nous assure, et le droit de rendre à l'être suprême le culte que nous croyons lui être le plus agréable, et la jouissance paisible de nos biens, est le seul objet de tous nos soins et de tous nos travaux.

La tyrannie du ministre travaille à détruire dans les colonies de la Grande-Bretagne, les droits les plus précieux de l'humanité. Pour revendiquer ces droits, quelques personnes s'y sont emparées des forts situés près de vos frontières.

Nous avons entendu dire qu'on avait eu l'imprudence d'attaquer le poste de St. Jean. Soyez persuadés que ceux qui veulent à la défense de la liberté des colo-

*Appeal from the Provincial Congress of New York for support from the inhabitants of Quebec,  
with an extract from the French rendering of the same.*



## 2 June

MATTHEW THORNTON, PRESIDENT OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO NEW HAMPSHIRE DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Exeter, June 2, 1775 <sup>2</sup>]

. . . Our Circumstances appear daily more & more alarming. The men-of-war stop all provision vessels coming into our Harbour and send them to Boston, & the Captain of the *Scarboro'* has shown his orders to a Committee who waited on him, to stop all provision, salt, molasses, &c. coming to us, since which several Hundred arm'd men in the day time went down to the entrance of our Harbour in open sight of the men-of-War & Bro't from a Point of land there a number of large Cannon & deposited them at Portsmouth for the present where preparations are making for mounting and fitting them for action. A number of men are now making a Battery on Kittery Point and if we had a sufficy of Ammunition shou'd hope to be able to command our Harbour. We would desire you, if any arms or Gun Powder can be procured in the Southern Governments to procure them if possible on such Terms as you can make, with which the Colony will endeavor punctually to comply.

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, VII, 500.

2. The date is established by an enclosed document dated June 2, for which this was, in part, a covering letter.

*New Hampshire Gazette*, FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1775

Portsmouth, June 2.

Last Tuesday [30 May] about 30 or 40 Men from on Board the *Scarborough* Man of War, now in this Harbour, came on Shore at Fort William and Mary, and have tore down great Part of the Breast Work of said Fort, and did other damage.

The Day before this Attempt, the *Scarborough* took two Provision Vessels, loaded with Corn, Pork, Flower, Rye, &c. coming in from Long-Island; which were for the Relief of this Place; as the inhabitants are in great Want of Provisions; and notwithstanding the most prudent Application of the principal Gentlemen of this Town, the Captain refused to release them. O shocking situation.

Upon this Refusal it was apprehended the most violent Outrages and Tumults of the People would immediately follow this Detention of their Provisions, the Consequences of which would be most probably very fatal to his Majesty's Subjects, by bringing into the most imminent Danger, the Lives and Properties of his said subjects, which ought by all Means to be prevented if possible.

Upon this unwarrantable Transaction, the Inhabitants of this and the Neighbouring Towns, were greatly alarmed; and the next Morning between 5 and 600 Men, in arms, went down to the Battery called Jerry's Point, and brought off Eight Cannon, 24 and 32 Pounders, being the whole that were there, weighing 4,800 pounds each, and brought them up to this Town. While they were taking off the above Cannon, the *Canceaux*, with a Tender, set sail with the two Provi-

sion Vessels for Boston. The next day the Town was full of Men from the Country in Arms.

This uncommon Exertion of arbitrary Power immediately alarmed the Inhabitants, and the Committee of Safety having met, a Memorial was, by their Approbation presented to the Governor and Council, who took every prudent Method in their Power to pacify the People, and to obtain a Release of the Captures. His Excellency repaired on board the *Scarborough*, and informed the Captain that the Provisions were the Property of some of the Inhabitants, who had before contracted for the same, but the only Answer he could obtain was "that Admiral Graves and the General had forwarded Orders to take every provision vessel that should be met with, on every Station, and to send them forthwith to Boston for the Supply of the Army and Navy." Captain Barclay, the Commander of the *Scarborough*, informed two of the Committee at Fort William and Mary, that his Orders were such that he must even take all Vessels with Salt or Molasses, they being a Species of Provision, and send them to Boston.

"REMARKS ON BOARD YE *Scarborough* IN PISCATAQUA RIVER"<sup>1</sup>

June 1775 at 3 A M a party of men from the shore fired into our guard  
Friday 2d boat, & wounded one man & several shott struck the boat; Do  
fired 7 shott (with Grape) at the Rebels, empd in makeing of board-  
ing Nettings,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/867.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Canceaux*, HENRY MOWAT, COMMANDING<sup>1</sup>

June 1775 Moored in Piscataqua River  
Friday 2 about 3 A M as the *Scarborough's* Boat and ours were rowing Guard,  
the former was fired on from the western part of Great Island, one  
Man was wounded and several Shot went thro' the Boat - 1/2 past  
the *Scarborough* fired three Guns over Newcastle Town.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4136.

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS<sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Friday, June 2, 1775

*Ordered*, That Mr. [Walter] Spooner, Colonel [Ezra] Richmond, and Colonel [Nathaniel] Dwight, be a Committee to take into consideration the expence Captain [Elisha] Phelps has been at in supplying the Massachusetts Forces at Ticonderoga, and report.

*Ordered*, That Deacon [Nathaniel] Bayley, Honourable Joseph Gerrish, Esq., Josiah Johnson, Esq., Mr. John Hale, Honourable William Sever, Esq., Colonel Joseph Otis, Honourable Jerethmial Bowers, Col. [Edward] Cutt, Captain Stephen Maynard, Colonel [Samuel] Thompson, Mr. Joseph North, and Timothy Edwards, Esq., be a Committee to take into consideration and circumstances of the seaport Towns and Islands in this Colony, which are exposed to the incursions and ravages of the enemy; and in particular to consider the Letter of Mr. Stephen Nye to Colonel [Nathaniel] Freeman, the Petition from the Town of Kittery, the

Resolve of the last Congress in relation to the invasion of the enemy on our sea-coasts,&c., and a Petition from some inhabitants of Deer Island, and sit forthwith, and report as soon as may be.

Afternoon

The Committee appointed to consider the expences Mr. Phelps had been at in supplying the Massachusetts Forces at Ticonderoga, exhibited an account which they looked upon was not supported by any vouchers, and therefore submitted the matter to Congress.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the same be put off to to-morrow morning.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

#### NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

[Preston, Boston] 2d [June, 1775]

The *Lively* came in from Marblehead and anchored between Charles Town and Boston by the Admiral's Order, and her Commander received particular instructions for his Guidance on that Station.<sup>2</sup>

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 104, MassHS Transcript.

2. See orders to Lieutenant Alexander Graeme, June 2, 1775.

#### DIARY OF LIEUTENANT JOHN BARKER <sup>1</sup>

[Boston] 2d. [June, 1775]

The *Lively* and *Nautilus* came up, the *Lively* took the place of the *Somerset*, who went further down there not being water enough. — A Prize was lately taken of a Ship loaded with flour, this will make up for what was lost in the fire.

1. Barker, *Diary*, 54.

#### VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO LIEUTENANT ALEXANDER GRAEME, COMMANDING H.M.S. *Lively* <sup>1</sup>

Orders and regulations to be punctually observed by his Majesty's Ships stationed at Charles Town Ferry. Vizt

The Ferry Boats are to pass between Sunrise and Sunset and at no other time.

An Officer is appointed by the General to regulate the passing of People with their Effects from Boston to Charles Town.

So long as that Officer remains at the Ferry, the Boats are to pass; When he leaves the Place at any time of the day, the Boats to remain on Boston Side until he returns.

At Sunset the Ferry Boats are to be brought alongside the *Lively*, there to remain until Sunrise the time for their Working.

When the publick Service requires any body to pass with Letters or Messages, the Ships Boat is always to do it, but no Man belonging to the Ship is to be allowed to put his foot out of the Boat on Charles Town Side.

A Midshipman always to go in the Boat on that Duty, and the Boat is never to wait upon Charles Town Side upon any Account.

A Boat to row guard as high up as the *Glasgow* and often along the Wharfs of Charles Town every night to observe if anything is stirring there.

No Boat to be upon the River without a pass except those belonging to the King.

A very good Look out is to be constantly Kept to observe the Motions of the Rebels in and near Charles Town and on the Hills allround.

The Admiral to have constantly and expeditiously every proper Information.

At Night the Ships to be Kept fit in all respects for Action with half the Ships Company at least under Arms till Day light; between that time and seven o'Clock to give them all as much rest as possible.

Given under my Hand on board his Majs Ship *Preston* at Boston the 2d June 1775

Sam<sup>l</sup> Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 435-437, MassHS Transcript.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Falcon*, JOHN LINZEE, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775 High land of Plymouth S W.

Fryday 2 at 8 [A M] Weighd and Came to Sail Saluted Vice Admiral [Samuel] Graves with 13 Guns at noon - Came too in Boston Harbour abrest the Town.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/336.

"REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*" <sup>1</sup>

June 1775 Moor'd in Rhode Island Harbour

Friday 2 A M sent 2 seamen in the Ship *Peggy* with Provisions to Boston,<sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.
2. See *Newport Mercury*, May 29, 1775.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR. TO THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen

New London, June 2d 1775

The bearer Mr. Jno Hale apply'd to me for a Quantity of Powder for the use of your Province, but am sorry to inform you, that article is very scarce in this Colony and not to be purchas'd; what I have imported is on Government accts and by letters from N. York that I have lately Received, am very certain its not to be had in that Province, Neither in Rhode Island.

I expect a large Quantity, but from its not arriving, I begin to suspect, that either the Crusers in the Channel or the Negotiation between Great Britain & the States has prevented it. If I should have a larger Quantity arive than should be wanted in this Colony on Government acct I will give you the offer of it, but att the same time I would Recomend to you, that you make no Dependance on having from me.

I am &c.

Nath<sup>l</sup> Shaw, jun<sup>r</sup>

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, VII, 507.

ROBERT AND JOHN MURRAY TO PETER VAN BRUGH LIVINGSTON, PRESIDENT OF  
THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

Sir Herewith you have a memorial to the [Provincial] Congress now Assembled together, with a Copy of the Papers Laid before the Continental Congress. We should take it as a favor if you would lay the whole before the Gentlemen as soon as possible. Your Compliance will much oblige [&c].

Rob<sup>t</sup> & John Murray

New York 2d June 1775.

1. *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts*, N.Y., I, 92.

ROBERT AND JOHN MURRAY TO THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen: The annexed papers are Copies of what we laid before the Honble Continental Congress in consideration of which they came to the following Resolutions

[Inserted is extract from the Journal of the Continental Congress  
for May 27, 1775.]

From the foregoing it appears that to procure Restoration to Public favor, we have no Tribunal but yours to appeal to The annexed papers exhibit a full State of our Case which we humbly Submit to your Consideration, not doubting but that in your Wisdom you will afford us such Relief as will be consistent with Humanity and the public good.

June 2nd 1775

Robert Murray

John Murray

1. *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts*, N.Y., I, 92.

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

[New York] Die Veneris, 9 ho., A.M., June 2nd, 1775.

The Committee appointed to view the ground near King's Bridge, delivered in their Report, and a map or Draft of the place thereto annexed.

*Ordered*, That the said report lay on the table for the perusal and infmation of members.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia] Friday, June 2, 1775

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That no bill of Exchange, draught, or order of any officer in the army or navy, their agents or contractors, be received, or negotiated, or any money supplied to them by any person in America.

That no provisions or necessaries of any kind be furnished or supplied to, or for the use of the British Army or navy, in the colony of Massachusetts bay; and

That no vessel employed in transporting British troops to America, or from one part of North America to another, or warlike stores or provisions for said troops,

be freighted or furnished with provisions or any Necessaries, until further orders from this Congress.

*Ordered*, That the above resolves be immediately published.<sup>2</sup>

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 78.

2. The resolutions were printed in the *Pennsylvania Packet*, June 5, 1775.

THOMAS JOHNSON, JR., A MARYLAND DELEGATE IN THE CONTINENTAL  
CONGRESS, TO SAMUEL PURVIANCE<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Phila 2d June 1775.

I am sorry to tell you the Continent is not now so well furnished with powder as I expected much less – I wish and Intreat you if there's any way of getting powder & Saltpetre into your place – that you lay a Scheme for it before it is quite too late I imagine that powder may be got from the Cape – or any of the foreign Islands or ports notwithstanding the contrary promises of the French and Dutch. Sulphur is wanted in but small proportions and by what I learn enough may be had

1. Misc. Collection, HUL.

*South Carolina Gazette*, TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 1775

[Newbern,] June 2 [1775]

On Monday last [May 29] the lady and family of his Excellency the Governor [Josiah Martin] embarked on board a vessel here for New-York; and the same day his Excellency set out by land for Cape Fear.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PARRY, R.N. TO CAPTAIN EDWARD THORNBROUGH, R.N.<sup>1</sup>

Dear Sir

[H.M.S. *Cruizer*, Cape Fear River, June 2, 1775]<sup>2</sup>

Do be so obliging to let me know if you have any News from the Northward as I boarded a sloop to Day who came from Charles Town before that from Rhode Island he told me Capt. [John] Lindsey was there from the disposition of the People here I am laying off Fort Johnston where the Governor is who has sent his Family to New York

I am Dr Sir. [&c.]

Fran Parry

P.S. If the Frigate or Sloop that bring Ld William [Campbell] is to go to the Northward or England Governor [Josiah] Martin would be obliged to you to order her to call here.

[Addressed]

Captn Thornborough of his Majesty's Ship *Tamar* Charlestown

[Endorsed] A true Copy certified by Wm Hy Drayton, Chairman<sup>3</sup>

1. Misc. Collection, HL.

2. The date is assumed from the fact that Governor Martin came off from Fort Johnston that day, and was on board the *Cruizer*. The *Cruizer* had moved off the fort on May 27, 1775.

3. Enclosed in the South Carolina Committee of Intelligence to the Committee of Wilmington, June 6, 1775.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Cruizer*, FRANCIS PARRY, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Moord off the Fort [Johnston]

Thursday 2nd Sent a boat with an Officer who ret'd with Govr [Josiah] Martin, saluted him on coming on bd & going on shore with 13 guns, shifted our berth nearer the Fort,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/218.

## 3 June

COMMITTEE OF TOWN OF ARUNDEL TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

To the honourable Congress of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England now sitting. — the Committee of the Town of Arundel in said Province sendeth Greeting —

Whereas, a Sloop [the *Polly*], belonging to the Town of Arundel about three Weeks ago, saild out of this Harbour, and disposed of her Cargo at Plymouth, and having reciev'd her Effects, upon her Return, was seize'd and carried into Boston, and there detained by general Gage for sometime, and her Effects taken into his Custody for which he payd near the prime Cost: — After which, a Proposal was made to the Master of said Sloop, by the Officers of the Troops, to inlist into the Government Service, with a Promise of a large Reward for his Service therein:

The Master, being now under Confinment, and knowing no Means of obtaining his Liberty, now tho't this Proposal the only way to make his Escape, and obtain his Liberty, and therefore comply'd with the same, and accordingly receiv'd. Orders to sail immediately for Anapolis, to bring a Quantity of Hay, and other Stores for the Use of the Troops in Boston. A number of the kings Arms with Cartridges, were put on Board, and two Young Men one named Josiah Jones, and the other—Jona Hicks were put on board, one, or both of which; was Super Cargo in the Above Employment, with a Packet of Letters, Orders & other Papers.

The Master then, being prepar'd to go out, sail'd directly for this Port and arrived in this Harbour the second instant, with the Persons Letters &c., as above mentioned; who were immediately carried before the Committee of this Town, and after Examination of both, it was agreed by the Committee, and they have accordingly sent the Persons and Papers under Guard to this honle Provincial Congress now sitting for Examination to be dealt with as they in their United Wisdom shall think just, the Master and Mate of said Sloop we have hereby sent by whom an account of the Whole Affair will be given

Arundel 3d June 1775

Benj<sup>n</sup> DurrellTho<sup>s</sup> Wiswall

John Hovey

James Burnham

Jona<sup>t</sup> Stone

Committee of Town of Arundel

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 138, 116–118.

GOVERNOR JOHN WENTWORTH TO CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY, R.N. <sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

Portsmouth 3d. June 1775.

Sir The Select Men and Freeholders of this Town have this Morning represented to me that the Inhabitants are extremely distress'd by sundry of their Fishermen

being impress'd Onboard his Majesty's Ship *Scarborough* under your Command whereby the sustenance of the People is greatly reduced.

These Gentlemen on behalf of the Town, declare their universal disapprobation of the firing On your Boat, and that the Act is held in great detestation by them – That they are desirous to have the Perpetrators, when discovered brought to condign Punishment; They further declare that no obstruction is meant or in any degree intended towards the free passing and repassing of your Boats, which they consider as safely to be done, and will most earnestly and sincerely exert themselves to secure, confidently relying that there will be no danger therein. They also express an ardent desire that the admission of Provision Vessels into this Port for the necessary Supply of this and the adjacent Towns, now in great want, might enable them to afford the usual Supply of fresh Provisions to his Majesty's Ships in this Harbour.

These things being by them solemnly and seriously resolved, I beg leave to represent to You that a dismissal of the Fisherman aforesaid may have a happy tendency towards a restoration of harmony and be a very powerful Evidence that his Majesty's Servants are ever ready and disposed to lead by Acts of kindness to the re-establishment of Law and Peace among his Subjects, notwithstanding any errors of Individuals might justify the exertion of their power; In this view I hope it may be consistent with your duty to comply with the united desire of this People in the case aforementioned, which I verily believe will have a happy Effect on the Minds of the People in general, and be useful therein to the Public Service.

Sign'd J. Wentworth

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

#### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Saturday, June 3, 1775

The Committee appointed to consider the situation and circumstances of the Islands and Sea Coasts, reported,

1st. That the Petition of Colonel [William] Lithgow be committed to the Committee of Supplies.

2d. A Resolve on the subject of Mr. [Stephen] Nye's Letter, which is as follows:

Whereas the forces under the command of General [Thomas] Gage are frequently plundering and making depredations on the islands and sea-coasts of this Province, particularly on the Island of Naushan, and others adjacent, whereby not only individuals, but the publick are much injured, and our enemies strengthened:

*Resolved, therefore,* That it be recommended to all those persons occupying the islands or sea-coasts aforesaid, which are exposed to be ravaged or plundered, and cannot be defended by the inhabitants, to remove all their Hay, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, &c., so far into the country, or otherwise dispose of them, that they may be out of the way of our implacable enemies; also, that it be recommended to the Committee of Correspondence in each Town and District, or Selectman, (where no such Committee is chosen) to take effectual care that this Resolve be immediately, strictly and fully executed, and that all persons who refuse to comply



herewith be viewed as disposed to furnish our enemies with such unremoved Hay and Stock, and shall therefore be held as inimical to the liberty and rights of this Country.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II 1386, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

JOSHUA DAVIS TO THE COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS  
PROVINCIAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

Honerble Gentelmen I Recd. your Letter of the 1 Instant Am well Sattisfyd with my fattegueing Cruse as I seam to Have your Approbation I Now have the Boats ariving for Kingstown with part of the flower am in much Confution giting stores & Providing for Near 230 Men so ples to Excuse my Errors in Riting have got 61 Boats up with the flower have 26 Left With 300 bb of flower in yarmoth have Bin obligd to Draw 130 Men From the Provential Troopes which I Expect will Have More Wages then our one Men which are Inlisted In the Armeey as I have No abselute orders I think to take a Detachment of our one Armeey & procede Amedatly to yarmoth after the Remaining part of the flower & Boats as thare is so great Numr of Peopel in that plaice our Sculking inemy may Burn the Store or Some other Mischeif altho I have Dun all was in My power to prevent it & at my Return will take the Moast prudent way in my pwer to Convoy Boath flower & Boats to such plaice Or plaices as shall Be thoght Best By my Commanders If that ar wanted before ples to Direct a line to the Commanding officer at plymoth in that way you think proper if thay are Not much Wanted I Think Thare Might Bee a Saving to Move it farther With our one troops toward the Camp as our Enemys are much at Present Intimedated If I have good weathe[r] I hope To git all the Boats & flower to Kingstown & Plymouth By this Day weak. Am Now Much Wanted Cannot Rite Perticular Must Conclude Am My Cuntrey & your Vary Hume Servent

Joshua Davis

Kingstown June 3d 1775

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 193, 315.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY, R.N.<sup>1</sup>

Sir,

Preston Boston 3d June 1775

Mr Frazer delivered me your Letters May 30 and 31st and June 1 with the Copy of an Extract from the Minutes of the Council of New Hampshire. There is an absolute necessity for cutting off all Supplies of Provisions from the Rebels, it is the only way we can distress them at present. The discretionary Power lodged with you of permitting Supplies sufficient for the peaceable Inhabitants of the Town of Portsmouth will I hope convince the refractory People that proceeding in Hostilities with you will not only totally deprive them of Provisions but of every Indulgence and Protection a dutiful and quiet behaviour would certainly ensure to them. I would not have you begin a war upon any Account, but if you are attacked you must defend the Kings Ships and do your utmost to destroy the Enemy, Pirate or Rebel. You will naturally be upon your Guard, and if the Rebels actually bring Cannon against you which cannot be seized or dismounted,

and it becomes no longer safe to remain in the River, you must then leave it and by cruizing in the Neighbourhood endeavour to execute the several Orders you are under until you can receive my further Directions. Send the *Canceaux* to Halifax as soon as you can, and not to Falmouth; and deliver Lieutt [Henry] Mowat the inclosed Letters for the Officers of the Yard, and I think you had better Keep the *Spinckes* [*Sphynx*] with you until Mowat's return to Boston. I am &c.

Sam<sup>l</sup> Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, MassHS Transcript.

*Providence Gazette*, SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1775

Providence, June 3.

A Number of the inhabitants of Plymouth, we learn, went a few Days since to Nantucket in Whaleboats, and took from thence 800 barrels of Flour, the Property of a Merchant at Dartmouth, and which it is supposed was intended to be smuggled into Boston, for supplying the ministerial Army.<sup>1</sup>

1. See Joshua Davis's letter of this date.

#### DIARY OF DR. EZRA STILES <sup>1</sup>

[Newport] June. 3. [1775]

This afternoon a great Commotion happened in this Town, the occasion of which was this. Several Cargoes of Flour had been seized by the Men o' War. Also one Mr. [George] Rome had been employed by the Men o' War to buy up several of the Cargoes. A day or two ago Capt. Wightman of this To[wn] arrived from Philada with Flour,<sup>2</sup> of which he had imprudently sold about 80 Bbs. to Mr. Rome.

The Patience of the p[eo]ple was exhausted. A Body arose and demanded the Flour. Rome at first promised to deliver it up, but Capt. [James] Wallace soon landed about 100 Marines and Sailors armed and stationed them about Romes House & Stores to protect him. Upon which the p[eo]ple beat to Arms, and about 90 Resolute Men appeared under Arms. There was the utmost Danger of Hostilities & a bloody Scene. However all was at length settled – the Flour delivered up and instantly removed and Lodged in the Grainery – the Marines retired on board. – And so the Tumult subsided.

1. Stiles, II, 89, 90, LC.

2. Captain V. Wightman, in the sloop *Betsey*, cleared the port of Philadelphia May 29, 1775, *Pennsylvania Packet*, May 29, 1775.

*Connecticut Gazette*, SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1775

New-London, June 2.

A Gentleman who was in Boston at the Time of the above Engagement,<sup>1</sup> and whose Intelligence may be relied on, informs, that Ten Regulars were buried there last Sunday Evening [May 28], who were killed in the Engagement. 'Tis said they had about 30 killed, in the whole, and a greater Number wounded. – Seven Horses and several Cattle were also killed.

During the Action the Regulars were several Times reinforced: They amounted to about 1000 Men, and the Provincials to 700; the latter were under the command of Gen. [Israel] Putnam. It is supposed our People had a fascine Battery, made with bundles of press'd Hay, by their meeting with so little Damage.

When the Schooner<sup>2</sup> blew up, her Sails fell into the Water, by which Means they were saved by our People, as also her Rigging, &c.

She was the largest Schooner in the King's Service, on the North-American Station.

The Stock on the Island belonged to the Inhabitants of Boston, and our Attempt to take off the same was supposed to be in Consequence of the Owners Desire.

1. The battle on Noddles Island, May 27, 1775.

2. His Majesty's Armed Schooner *Diana*.

#### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK<sup>1</sup>

[New York] Die Saturnii, 9 ho. A.M., June 3d, 1775.

The Congress ordered the stores, men and things (hereafter mentioned) to be provided by Peter T. Curtenius<sup>2</sup> and forwarded to Albany, and that the several articles for that purpose hereinafter mentioned, be provided by the Commissioners at Albany, that the whole may be forwarded to the south end of Lake George, viz:

A List of Men and articles to be procured by Peter T. Curtenius and forwarded to the agents at Albany:

2 mates for two vessels, 2 gunners, 2 carpenters capable of making carriages, 2 gunners' mates, 2 boatswains, 20 seamen. 200 barrels of pork, 10 barrels of pitch, 20 casks of rice, 4 barrels of tar, 500 lb. powder, (if so much can be got,) 1000 lb. of oakum, 100 shovels, 50 spades, 12 crowbars, and 50 pickaxes, to be marked "N. York.", 3 casks nails, one of 12d, 20d and 24d each, 100 camp kettles.

The following articles to be procured at Albany: Spikes, a gin, rope, 6 grindstones, cart boxes, 100 American falling axes, marked "N. York."

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee who viewed the ground at King's Bridge, and places adjacent.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said report (with the Map annexed thereto) be transmitted to the New-York Delegates at Philadelphia, and that Mr. [Gouverneur] Morris and Captain [Richard] Montgomerie be a committee for drafting a letter to the said Delegates on the subject matter of said report.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Correspondence draft an answer to Governor [Jonathan] Trumbull's letter, dated May 29th, 1775.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 27-28.

2. Curtenius had been appointed the day before as commissary to furnish provisions and stores for the garrisons on the Lakes. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I.

*Pennsylvania Ledger*, SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1775

New York, June 1.

The following account is given by a Gentleman of veracity, lately arrived from Boston.

On or about the 20th ultimo, General [Thomas] Gage ordered 200 soldiers armed, to proceed in two boats, with swivels to Grape Island, near Weymouth beach, to take possession of some hay and cattle. The country being alarmed, 3 or 400 provincials collected, and having only one boat, which contained 40 men. They landed on said island, and drove off the regulars, who being much discontented, ran their boats on the flats, where they remained four hours, all which time the provincials continued their fire, the boats then floating, the regulars returned to Boston, with the loss of eight men killed and several wounded, as the provincials were informed by a gentleman that left Boston the next day. The provincials being masters of the island, burnt 100 tons of hay, and drove off all the cattle, which were collected there by an enemy to this country. None of the provincials were killed or wounded.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia] Saturday, June 3, 1775

Upon motion *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed for the purpose of borrowing the sum of six thousand pounds for the use of America; for the repayment of which with interest, the Congress will make full and ample provision, and that the sd com[mittee] apply the sd sum of money to the purchase of gunpowder for the use of the Continental Army.

That the Delegates for Pennsylvania compose sd Committee, with power as well to borrow the money as to apply it to the purpose intended.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 79.

GEORGE WOOLSEY TO GEORGE SALMON, DUBLIN <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Baltimore] 3rd June 1775

Our [Continental] Congress are yet Sitting. and its thought the[y] will sit long, and nothing yet transpired only their Advice to the people of new York, which is in the publick prints,<sup>2</sup> there is a large packet Arrived in Patuxent for them from London, and went through this town Express Last tuesday [May 30], but we know not the Contents, and only Guess at it, Some think it is the Different Accts of Parliment Respecting these provinces. Indeed most think so

I must lave the Management of the Schooner to you & G[eorge] D[arley] but I think She might Come here by the way of Thennrieff with Servants & wine, and save the duty on the wine beside powder would answer if it was well Stowed away.

1. Woolsey and Salmon Letter Book, LC.

2. The advice to the City of New York upon how to act in case of the arrival of troops was in the form of a resolution in Congress, May 15, 1775, and was printed in the *Pennsylvania Packet* on May 22.

ALEXANDER INNES TO LORD DARTMOUTH <sup>1</sup>

My Lord,

Charles Town, June 3, 1775

I did myself the Honor of writing to Your Lordship by the Packet Boat the *Le Despencer* about the middle of last month; <sup>2</sup> and a safe opportunity by a private

hand this day offering, I beg leave to acquaint Your Lordship that the Assembly met last Thursday the 1st instant, passed their Tax Bill, which they had ready prepared, and without sending it to the Council, or using any other ceremony, ordered Certificates to be issued for the amount of it, about 140,000 £ currency. They had just finished this business when the Lieutenant Governor farther adjourned them to the 19th instant, and then returned to the Country, from whence he had come the night before.

By a Vessel from New York that arrived here the 25th of last month, Mr. Bull received a letter from General [Thomas] Gage with an Account of the Action of the 19th of April; it was not published till this afternoon, when it appeared in the News paper I enclose, and Comments upon it in the same Column, so alert, and well informed are our people here.

The Provincial Congress met also on the 1st, and continue sitting: they have shut their doors against all but their own members, to whom they have strongly recommended strict Secrecy, but it is well known that the Objects of their present deliberation is framing a Test and Association; raising a large body of Troops, and throwing off the Mask at once, and taking the Government into their own hands, which in fact they have almost done already.

The Opulent and Sensible wish to avoid such desperate measures till they hear from the Continental Congress and have their Sanction; but they are powerfully opposed by a numerous body of the Low and Ignorant, led by a few desperate Incendarys, who have nothing to lose, and some hot headed Young Men of fortune whom it will be difficult to restrain. The Governor is expected every hour, and although he can *do* very little, yet I hope his presence with the King's ship under his Command may afford some countenance to the King's friends, and will I know embarrass the other party, who have at present a clear field: on this Account I presume His Lordship will detain the *Scorpion*, and never quit his Government till the last extremity.

I have had the strongest inclination for this fortnight past to give General Gage an Account of the State of this Province, but it was a liberty I could not presume to take, though my warm Zeal for the service of my Royal Master strongly promoted me. Two Frigates My Lord in this Harbour would have been (*and still would be*) the means of preventing much mischief, and [would] have been such a check on the Violent party here, that they never could have gone the lengths they have already done: The *Tamer* Sloop lies some miles below the Town, but Captain [Edward] Thornbrough, a very Old, Good Officer, has been confined to his Bed these two months and as the Lieutenant Governor is constantly at his country home waiting with anxious impatience for the Arrival of Lord William Campbell, was it in the Captain's power to be of use no proper requisition can be made him.

As we are in such a State here that it is not proper to write but by very safe hands, I shall take the opportunity of again writing Your Lordship by Captain Barbot, Commissary of Stores in West Florida, who is now here on his way to England, and who may be able to acquaint Your Lordship with many particulars

relative to this place. I have the Honor to be with the most perfect Respect My Lord [&c.]

Alex: Innes

1. Dartmouth Mss., 1270, printed *South Carolina Historical Magazine*, July, 1962, pp. 130, 131.
2. See Innes's letter of May 16, 1775.

LEVINUS CLARKSON TO DAVID VAN HORNE, NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

Hon Sir

Chs Town 3d June 1775

Benjn Huger & his Lady goes by this Oppertunity who I have given a Letter of Recommendation to you He wants an Excellent Pipe of Wine for which he will call on you for – This Young Gentleman has an Estate here of £4000 Stg, And lately become a Banker so that his Income is much better, I have given him a Letter to my Brother David I hope he will take Notice of him, As the family have Shown me great Civility –, Capt Vesey is safe Arrivd & the Wines Landed, She had no Mediterranean pass, I shall make a good Voyage – Our Committee have stopd the Exportation of any Provisions, so that Nothing will be done here, I shall give up my House & sell my Furniture & take Lodgings at Brunswick until matters are: Setteld for it never will do to Stay here without Business, And I see Not the least prospect of having our Disputs Setteld soon Polly is mistaken in the Price of 4200 for Pompey, it was what I ask'd, I am in hopes to Sell Mr Bankers boy wch my Price is £100 Stg & he will answer one of the Companys as a Drummer. We shall imediately Raise 3000 Men – Regimented & paid, What has those Ministerial tools of Your place been about Writing, for Troops, Hang every Raskell, My Life is for the Cause of America in Particular my Native Country & when I act a part for so damd a Sett as the Delancey Family by giving them my Voice in an Ellection again, Never forgive me. I doubt not by their double handed Monuevers wth the Ministry they have deprived me of a very handsome Income – Mr Huger going to the Noward has deprived me of gitting Bills on you from him Mr G. Beekman Consignd me 3 Pipes of Madeira pr Fowler & 3 More to Mr Fenwick Bull As I have now Pipes of my own I delivered the 3 Pipes Addressd to me to Mr Bull, Acquain my Ressons for so doing as I am coming home, Likewis – Inform Mr Gates I have here the Rum & Bread Pr Fowler & Br[ought] by Turner the Latter Parcel without Invoice [or] Letter. The greater part of the Rum I have Sold 12/6 p gal, I am so hurried that I have hardly time to Write to Polly As I have not the least Assistance

I am Dr Sr [&c.]

Lev<sup>s</sup> Clarkson

1. Levinus Clarkson Papers, 1772–93, LC.

4 June (Sunday)

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM FALMOUTH, CASCO-BAY, DATED JUNE 4, 1775.” <sup>1</sup>

Capt. —, (who on his passage to New-York from this place with a load of spars, was lately seized by Admiral Greaves and carried into Boston) returned here last Thursday Evening. He says he was at the wharf at Noodle's-island when the battle began, and has given us a particular account of the same. He says the

sloop near Winnisimmit, that had the first brush, cut or slipped her cables, and came and fastened to his stern: He was shocked to see the blood running out of the scuppers; there was a number of dead and wounded lying on the deck, but the survivors did not care to tell how many. The *Diana* schooner next engaged, and the master of her told Capt. —, that guns never were better served than ours were, that not a shot missed him. I have not time to write you all he says. One man was carried on board for dead, but next morning came too, and had not the least wound about him; others were frightened almost to death, &c. and that there was an amazing difference in the looks and behaviour of the enemy after the battle, from what there was before; before there was nothing but noise and confusion, afterwards all were still and quiet, insomuch that you could hardly perceive that there was any fleet or army there. From the General down to the common soldier, they seemed to be in a great panic, were afraid to go to bed, for fear the yankees should kill them before morning.

1. *Massachusetts Spy*, June 21, 1775.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM WATERTOWN, JUNE 4, 1775" <sup>1</sup>

We have had a smart engagement at Noddle's Island last Saturday week [May 27]; the Lord covered our heads in a wonderful manner in that day of battle. Although the balls flew like hail we never lost a single man, and had only three wounded; we took a large schooner [the *Diana*], killed about one hundred of their men, and took a large quantity of plunder, five hundred sheep, besides horses and horned cattle off the island: We took a boat and several men prisoners. Yesterday we burnt the house and barn that were on the island.

1. *Pennsylvania Packet*, June 12, 1775.

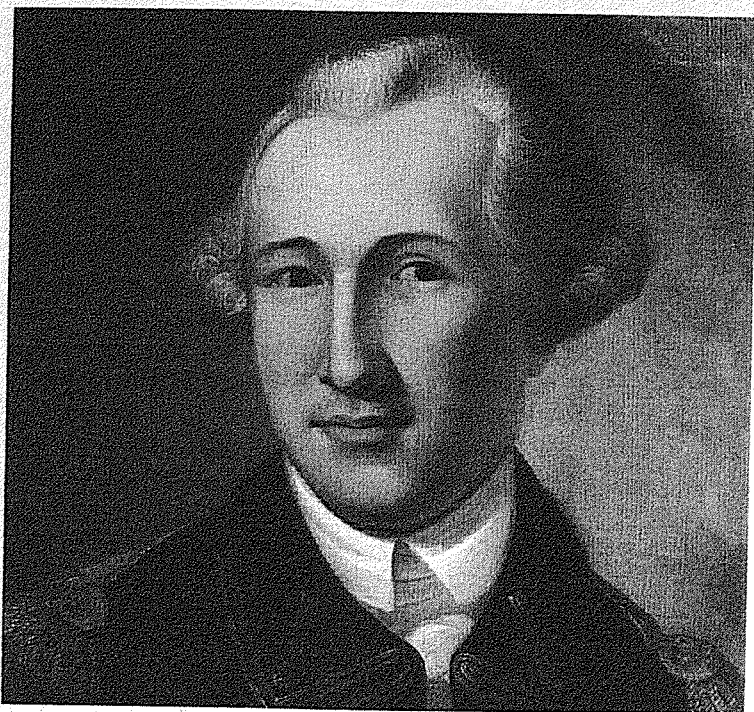
S. L. TO JOSEPH WARREN, PRESIDENT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS  
PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, WATERTOWN <sup>1</sup>

Hond Sir

[June 4, 1775] <sup>2</sup>

It appears to me & others; that there is wanted in this Government some Armd Vessells to ward off the distressing Piraticull blos that without doubt will be struck: by Admll Samll Graves's small Men a war & Tenders; by taking from us our inward bound Provisions; Molasses, & Salt Vessells, &c &c as they have don Will allmost bring on a famin in our Army, & on the Inhabitence; for this goverment allways was illable to support it selfe; with Provisions, &c &c; and now has in it an army to feede Which Will soone be felt; and be distressing to the Inhabitence & I fear Will bring on discontent & Murmorings; Which may be attended with bad consequences; to the disadvantage; of our imbarkt in; ever to be commended Common cause; so hope that by your Wise Counsellis; you will be inabled to gard against every Evell, that might otherwise befall us; if we ware not under the Gardanship of Providence, & your Wise Counsellis.

I here that there is a Ship allmost, or quite ready to Lanch at Danvers; of about three Handred Tuns. that its probable by information, will be a good saler: and other convenyences. by strengthing her with sum hanging Knees, building a round hous, & a top gallant forecastell &C that Would carry upwards of thirty



In Provincial CONGRESS, Watertown, June 12, 1775:

**WHEREAS** the Enemies of America, are multiplying their Cruelties towards the Inhabitants of the New-England Colonies, by seizing Provision Vessels, either the Property of, or intended to supply them; and also by plundering the Stock of Cattle, Sheep, &c. on their Sea Coasts:

**RESOLVED**, That it be, and it hereby is recommended to the Inhabitants of the Towns and Districts in this Colony, that they forthwith exert themselves to prevent the Exportation of Fish, and all other Kinds of Provision, excepting such only as shall be intended to supply the Inhabitants of the Colonies aforesaid: And as in the Opinion of the Select-Men and Committees of Correspondence, and Committees of Safety of the Town where the same shall be stored, may with Prudence be shipped for Conveyance by Water, for the Purpose aforesaid: And it is strongly recommended to the Select-Men, Committees of Correspondence, and Committees of Safety throughout the Colony, that they cause this Resolve to be strictly executed:-

JOSEPH WARREN, President.

Attest.

SAMUEL FREEMAN, Sec'y.

(Top) Joseph Warren. By an unidentified artist, before 1813.



guns; and fight the Major part of her men betwene deck &c; and by inquierys, itt's quite Probable that there may be found prov'd good saling Vessells now hawld up; that Would in part answer one End for our defence, & to bring Provisions from our Southern Governments for our support; and sum of them might be imply'd in bringing Powder and guns; from sum parts of the Spanish & French Kingdoms; and might smugell sum from other Powers; and Salt Peater, from others; Whare We could not git it maid Powder; and Make it here, Which Would be to our advantige to have it manufactird here, so Wishing for the smyles of Heaven in all youre undertakings, in the defence of our favrlable Libertys &c &c. and Remain. – [&c.]

[Endorsed] Letter from S L order'd to lie on the Table

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 193, 277. An identical letter, addressed to the Committee of Safety, and dated "June 1775" is in Mass. Arch., vol. 193, 289.
2. The date is approximated. A committee was appointed to consider armed vessels on June 7, 1775, and while the endorsement shows that the letter was tabled, it may have influenced the June 7 action.

### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Sunday, June 4, 1775

*Resolved*, That Colonel [William] Henshaw be admitted to give an account of his proceedings at Connecticut, where he was sent by the last Congress, on the affair of Ticonderoga.

*Ordered*, That the Papers exhibited by Col. Henshaw be put into the hands of the Committee of Safety and the Committee of this Congress, who are appointed to confer with them to-morrow morning.

The Committee on Colonel [James] Easton's Letter, reported that it was their opinion it would be best to commit it to the Committee who were appointed to confer with the Committee of Safety to morrow morning.

It was accordingly given to the Hon. Mr. [Walter] Spooner.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1388, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

### ELIZABETH BOWDOIN TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen,

Dorchester, June 4, 1775

Mr. [James] Bowdoin has just received the enclosed Depositions, and being in a very weak state, desires me to inform you, that for some time past the Faulkland [*Falcon*] Sloop-of-War, commanded by Captain [John] Linzey, has been cruising about the islands called Elizabeth Islands, near Martha's Vineyard. That the said sloop's boats have divers times landed armed men on the said islands, who has abused the Inhabitants, stove their boats, and by force taken away a considerable part of their property, as may more fully appear by the said Depositions.

It is humbly apprehended if about one hundred armed men were properly posted on the said islands, they would be a sufficient force to defend the Inhabitants, and protect their stock of cattle and sheep, which is very considerable, and which have hitherto every year furnished divers parts of this Colony with fat sheep and cattle for provisions, and particularly with a large quantity of wool for our home manufacture.

I beg leave to make this representation that you may take such measures as your wisdom shall dictate; and am, most respectfully, in Mr. Bowdoin's behalf, who is part owners of one of said islands, Gentlemen, [&c.]

Elizabeth Bowdoin

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 193.

JOSHUA DAVIS TO THE COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS  
PROVINCIAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

Gentelman I have Jest Recd your order for Some Flower & am Much plesd that I have it in in Kingston to suply But am Sorrey that it is out of My power to give That Assistance in Despaching it to Watertown I should be glad to Having gest Recd Inteligence Half an ouer ago of a Vessel at some part of Bozards Bay 600 Bushls of good Corn 140 bb of flower 80 bb of pork which Capt Sopers Was so good as to Perswaid over from Nantuckt & had got in safe which is a wonder to me The Sound being so full of Tenders I think it My Duty to Secuer that Cargo is som safe-Plaice from the Ravegors of our Sea & Land. Altho I have no spetial orders for that vessel, shall accordingly go as Sune as Possabal for that purpos & hop to meat with Desierd Suceses. I Rote you a few Lines yesterday how far I had proseded & which I Belive you have Not Recd but trust you Will Before this Shall Mak it my endeavor to git the Rest of the flower and Boats as Sune as posabel to Kingston.

If I am Wrong in Securing the Cargo Mentioned. ples to Impute it to my Ignorance or Zeal for the glores Case & Not to My forwardness In taking in hand what I have no Business with & Shall Be alway Redey to Execute your orders so fare as my abilites or Strength Extend I am Genterlmen [&c.]

Joshua David

Plymouth Sunday Evening 10 oclock June 4 1775

P.S. I shall give all the assistance in Convayin the flower that Time Will permit As Delays are Dangorous Shall Not wait for your orders in Securin the Above sd Carg –

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 193, 317, 318.

ROBERT BEVERLY TO SAMUEL ATHANES, LONDON <sup>1</sup>

I have received yr several Letters by the Capts Dobbie & Oakam, but have not Leisure to reply to them so fully as I could wish by the present Opportunity.

You will receive but very little of my Tobo by Oakam having shipped upwards of thirty hhds on board the *Justitia*, Capt Kidd from this River to yr Address – My Motives for acting in this Manner proceeded from the Confusion of the Times, many People having clamoured for an immediate stop of all Exports to G Britain, & the Uncertainty whether you wd have a Ship in or not as you did not mention that Circumstance by Dobbie – Our publick Prints will inform you very fully of the general Confusion, wh prevails on this Side the Atlantick, a Confusion, wh must fill every Lover of Law, Order, & good Government with the most real Concern – I profess myself to be of this Number, & therefore feel very forcibly the Calamities of our present Situation, particularly, as I am of Opinion that it is

in the Power of America, at this Time, to bring this dreadful Dispute to a fortunate & honorable Issue, & that little more is required to effect it, than to consider ourselves as Members of the British Empire – You mistook my Meaning prodigiously in my last Letter if you can suppose I could wish to violate or evade the Act of Navigation, for altho' as some people say, it may not perhaps be *quite constitutional*, when we consider ourselves as Freemen, yet I forsee such Endless & irreconcilable Disputes, arising from an Altercation on that Subject, & consequently a total *Independance* on [*sic* of] the Mother Country, that I could wish never to have it mention'd, or that any Obstacle could be thrown in the Way, wh could retard a reconcilment – In the present situation of Affairs both Countries must feel so much Misery & Uneasiness, that I cannot look upon any Man or Set of Men with the Eye of respect or Esteem, who wd wish to increase our present Distractions – I have ever been of Opinion, that as Freemen, our Properties should be exempt from Parliamentary Taxation, & our Persons fully secured from Punishments, unless inflicted under our own Laws – These material Points being once secured, I shd always suppose it our Duty to contribute to the utmost of our Abilities, in a constitutional way, to the general Support of Empire – These are the Outlines of my political Sentiments, & these are such, as I shd suppose every Lover of his Country will amply approve – I propose to write you very fully by Capt Gibson in Answer to yr several Letters, & in the mean Time desire you will ensure 300 £ stg exclusive of Premium & Policy on 30 hhds Tobo in the *Justitia*, Capt Kidd – What I shall send you in Oakam I do not intend to ensure.

[Virginia] June 4th 1775

1. Robert Beverly Letter Book, LC.

#### PHILIP LEE TO WILLIAM LEE <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Wmsburg Virga June 4th 1775

I shall write you more fully when I return from this Place where I am now Confined on the Assembly wch met on Thursday last [June 1] Inclosed you have the Govrs Speech, Ld Norths Olive Branch as it is Called Vizt the Resolve of the House of Commons is looked upon throughout every Colony whose Assembly has met as an Insult to the Injuriys Offered & will not be Accepted – [torn] are in a state of Confusion owing to the Govrs removing the Powder out of the Magazine in the Night on board of a Sloop of War, and the flame of the People again kindled by his Ldship's Fixing Guns in the Windows and doors of the Magazine Loaded, with Spring Locks to fire on the hoisting a Window or opening of a door in an Attempt of Some of the Citizens to get some of the Arms for the Volunteers of Wmsburg fired, and Wounded several Valuable Gentlemen tho' fortunately, not mortally I fear this Cruel & unhuman Snare of the Govrs on the lives of the Sons of Liberty will raise fresh Commotions in the Country & I much dread it's Consequences he is by no means a Proper man to be set at the Head of this Brave and Spirited People as under his Weak and Wicked Administration We have the Horrors of a Civil War to dread wch [his] Mad Conduct will unavoidably soon Invite.

1. Philip Lee Papers, VHS.

5 June

CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

*Scarborough* at Piscataqua June 5th 1775

Sir, I wrote to You the 1st June by Mr [Thomas] Fisher, in that I acquainted You, I was credibly inform'd that the People intended to erect Batteries in order to drive the Ship out of the Harbour, and that they were throwing up Intrenchments at Kittery on the Massachusetts Side, upon my observing their Motions, I wrote a Letter to Colonel Sparhawk and Mr Chaunsey two of the principal Inhabitants of that place and acquainted them I observed that they were erecting some Works in that part, I supposed for a Battery of Guns in order to annoy the King's Ship, In the King's Name warn'd them to desist in such treasonable proceedings, for they might be assured that the moment a Shot was fired either from Cannon or Musquetry on the Ship or Boats, or one Gun pointed from that Eminence I would instantly batter down the Town of Kittery and destroy all the Vessels and Craft belonging to that part and likewise make Prisoners of every Man I met with; In the Afternoon I received their Answer acquainting me that an Express had arrived in their Town, acquainting them, there were eight Vessels sent from Boston to make an Attack some where, that the People were much alarmed and accordingly assembled on that Hill, in order to watch the motions of the said Vessels; if they should come into the Port; they likewise acquainted me, there was not one single step taken in building or rebuilding any fortification, but that the same remain'd in the State it had been in for upwards of twenty Years; And that they had done every thing in their powers to pacify and calm the People, and that they were beginning to disperse and go home, and they hoped their conduct would be such, That I would not be obliged to Act in the manner I mentioned to them, that they would heartily rejoice, if they could but be any ways instrumental in hindering all kinds of Imprudencies taking place amongst them, but such was the extremity of the times, that it was impossible to restrain all, but at all times would do their utmost, to keep peace and good Orders and that they were retiring with their Families, to some place of quietness, if such a Place could be found; seeing the Inhabitants of Kittery and Newcastle removing from their dwelling Houses with all their effects and the number of Armed Men on both sides and likewise in the Town of Portsmouth, made me imagine they had some intention of putting their threats into Execution in attacking the Ship and it was so universally believed onshore, that *Captain* [John] *Cochran* who commands Fort William and Mary, removed his Family and all his Effects from there; We lay under Arms all night about 3 o'Clock in the Morning as the Guard-boat was rowing guard; about a Mile ahead of Us She was fired upon by about forty Men who lay concealed behind an old House close by the Waterside where she went past, they shot one Man in the Arm and slightly wounded two others, the Officer and people returned their Fire, I immediately fired three or four Guns from the Ship upon those Rebels, but it being dark and they hid behind some Rocks, I believe the Shot did no Execution, I immediately acquainted Governor Wentworth of this event, who in return acquainted me, in the Name of the Town that they were no ways con-

cerned in this base and destructive Act, and that the whole town universally exclaimed and censured such a murderous Act and would do every thing in their power to bring the Perpetrators to Justice (*which they never mean to perform*)). I immediately seized upon all their Fishermen that I met with, which were about nine or ten, upon which a Committee who act at Portsmouth wrote to me and said they were very ready to settle any manner of dispute that might be between me and the Town of Portsmouth; I sent them a Memorandum that I knew of no such People as those that stile themselves *Committee Men*, but if the People of Portsmo: wanted to settle any matters with me, respecting the present interruption of the Communication between me and the Town, it must come thro' Governor Wentworth to me, That I would have wrote to Govr Wentworth, but he informed me, that all Communication between him and the *Scarborough* was cut off.

The next morning the Selectmen of Portsmouth waited on me with a Letter from Governor Wentworth A Copy of which I herewith send You. I acquainted these Men that when I was convinced there was peace and good Order in the Town of Portsmouth and if there was no obstruction in his Maj's Ship being supplied will all Necessaries that She might want nor her Boats molested in passing or repassing to the Town from the Ship, That I would discharge them, and would give His Majesty's peaceable Subjects in the Town of Portsmouth, every Indulgence I could consistent with my duty, they assured me in the Name of the Town that I should be supplied as usual and the intercourse noways interrupted, upon which I discharged the Men, I hope it will meet with your Approbation; I hope we shall have peace and quietness now for a little while, as the People are returning back with their effects.

The Collector and some other People who had taken shelter Onboard of the *Scarborough*, from the Selectmens assurance of peace in the Town, are gone back. I dont believe it will be very long before they will be here again.

Sign'd And<sup>w</sup> Barkley

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

#### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Monday, June 5, 1775

*Ordered*, That the Letter from Governor [Jonathan] Trumbull just received and read, be committed to the Committee of Safety and the Committee appointed to confer with them.

*Resolved*, That the four Prisoners brought to this Congress by Sergeant John Parker, be committed to the custody of the guard which is appointed to guard the public stores in Watertown, till the further order of this Congress; and the Commissary be directed to provide what provision they may stand in need of till to-morrow morning.

*Resolved*, That Friday next, at 3 o'clock, P.M., be assigned for the consideration of the Report of Colonel [Samuel] Thompson, relative to his proceedings at Kennebeck.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

COURT MARTIAL OF CAPTAIN THOMAS BISHOP, R.N.<sup>1</sup>

(Duplicate)

At a Court Martial held Onboard His Majesty's Ship *Somerset* in Boston Harbour this 5th of June 1775.

## Present

Edward Le Cras Esqr Commander of his Majesty's Ship *Somerset* and Senior Captain of the King's Ships at Boston President Captain Broderick Hartwell James Chads John Robinson Tyringham Howe

The Court pursuant to an Order from Vice Admiral Graves Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships in North America, to Captain Le Cras dated the 20th of May, proceeded to enquire into the Conduct of Captain Thomas Bishop and to try him upon a charge exhibited against him by the said Vice Admiral, that on or about the 6th of May last being stationed with His Majesty's Ship the *Lively* then under his Command at Marblehead, Two Schooners arrived there with Money and Effects saved from the wreck of a Spanish Vessel which it was his duty to have acquainted the Admiral with, but which he neglected so to do,

And further the Admiral having sent Lieut. Thomas Graves in His Majesty's Armed Schooner the *Diana* with Orders to bring the Money and Vessels from Marblehead to Boston, desiring Captain Bishop by Letter to assist Lieutenant Graves in carrying these Orders into Execution – But he the said Captain Bishop having taken the Money onboard the *Lively* did not send it to Boston in the *Diana*, but detained it contrary to the Admiral's Orders.

The Court having examined the Witnesses and maturely weighed and considered the Evidence, as well as what the Prisoner offered in his own defence, and all other Circumstances, is of Opinion the Charge is proved in part, but do acquit Captain Bishop of acting intentionally to the prejudice of His Majesty's Service, or with disrespect to the Admiral, and impute it entirely to an Error in Judgment for which he ought to be reprimanded and he is here reprimanded accordingly.

Cha<sup>s</sup> Lyell Deputy Judge Advocate  
A true Copy Cha Lyell

E. Le Cras  
B. Hartwell  
Ja<sup>s</sup> Chads

J Robinson  
Tyr<sup>m</sup> Howe

[Endorsed] Sentence of a Court Martial/ upon Captain Bishop/ Dated 5th June 1775

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

*Newport Mercury*, MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1775

Newport, June 5.

Last Saturday [June 3], George Rome having bought a quantity of flour &c. and put in some Stores on the Point, supposed for the Use of the Enemies of this country, a number of people collected together, & insisted on having the flour given up, which was accomplished before sunset, notwithstanding said Rome had the effrontery to insult the town, by getting a number of marines on shore, from

the men of war in this harbour. The flour being 84 barrels, was lodged in the brick market.

CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

*Rose* Rhode Island June 5th 1775.

Sir On the 3d instt An Insurrection happened here – The People took it in their heads, A Merchant (Mr [George] Rome) had bought some Provisions for the Use of Government – they stopped the Carts, threw about the Flour, flew to Arms with an avowed intent to destroy the Merchant's House and Stores crying out through the Streets now was the time to kill the Tories – Intelligence was given me of this Transaction – I went on Shore saw the Rebels, coming in Shoals, Armed with Musquets, Bayonets, Sticks and Stones &c. Was it possible I could be a Spectator of this? – I got a hundred Men and More ashore well appointed. Stopt them in their Career, told them upon the first Act of Hostility We would rush on and put every Man to the Sword, and at the same time order the Ships to fire the Town in every quarter – This together with the prayers and entreaties of Several of their principal Men (who were alarmed at the Prospect) put a Stop to an Affair wherein the lives of hundreds were concerned.

In the beginning of the Fray, one of the most daring of the Rebels who pressed too close on upon us I seized by the Collar and made Prisoner. Many Gentlemen of the Town begged Me to give him up, And if I did they assured me they would disperse and restore peace to the Town. answered them, I came on shore for No other purpose than to keep the Peace – and preserve from destruction the King's friends – Could I be assured of that I would turn him out instantly – turned out he was. they soon after retired and dispersed – And we embarked on board after being on shore about four Hours. During which time our people behaved with the greatest good Order. Different Reports say there was from three to Seven hundred Men under Arms besides those with Sticks Stones &ca – while on shore we were joined by Lieutt Brenton of the Navy upon half pay here, who I must do the Justice to Say Shewed every disposition of a good Officer, and Subject, and for which he is obliged to abandon his family and farm, and take shelter on board His Majesty's Ship. The people of the Town having Sworn and attempted his destruction. I am &c.

Ja<sup>s</sup> Wallace

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

*Connecticut Courant*, MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1775

Hartford, June 5 [1775].

Extract of a Letter from Portsmouth to the Provincial Congress, Massachusetts, and from them forwarded to the Committees of Correspondence in Connecticut.

Gentlemen, We had two provision Vessels siezed at the Mouth of our Harbour last Night, by the *Scarborough*, and upon Application made to Capt. Barclay for their Release, find he has positive Orders from the Admiral to take Possession of all Vessels laden with Provisions, Salt and Molasses,

and sent them to Boston – and says further, those Orders are circular through the Continent.

By order of the Committee.  
 Portsmouth 29 May, [1775]

B. Wentworth, Chairman

*New York Gazette*, MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1775

New-York, June 5.

Yesterday being the Anniversary of his Majesty's Birth Day, when he entered the 38th Year of his Age, a Royal Salute was fired from the *Asia*, of 64 Guns, in this Harbour, commanded by George Vandeput, Esq; The Crew then gave three Cheers, which was immediately answered by a Number of the Inhabitants who lined the Docks at the Time.

MAJOR ISAAC HAMILTON TO CADWALLADER COLDEN, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
 OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

Sir

[New] York Barracks June 5, 1775

The Loss of our Men by Desertion is so great, and the Apprehension of losing more, I therefore think it necessary for the good of the Service to retreat on Board his Majesty's Ship the *Asia*, and have applyed to Captain [George] Vandeput, who has been pleased to offer all the Services and Protection in his Power, and tomorrow (if you have no Objection) shall embark the five Companys under my Command; As it is not Convenient for Captain Vandeput to receive on Board our Women and Children I am to request your Honor will be pleased to grant me Leave to encamp them on Governors Island, untill such time as the Commander in Chief is informed of our Situation and sends a transport for the Detachment.

I am further to request, Sir you will be pleased to Direct the Barrack Master to lend us a few Blankets and Utensils to accomodate both Officers and others whose Situation will not admit them to go on Board the Man of War immediately.

I have the Honor to be Sir [&c.]

Isaac Hamilton

Major to His Majesty's 18 or Royal Irish Regiment of Foot

1. *Colden Papers*, VII, 299, 300.

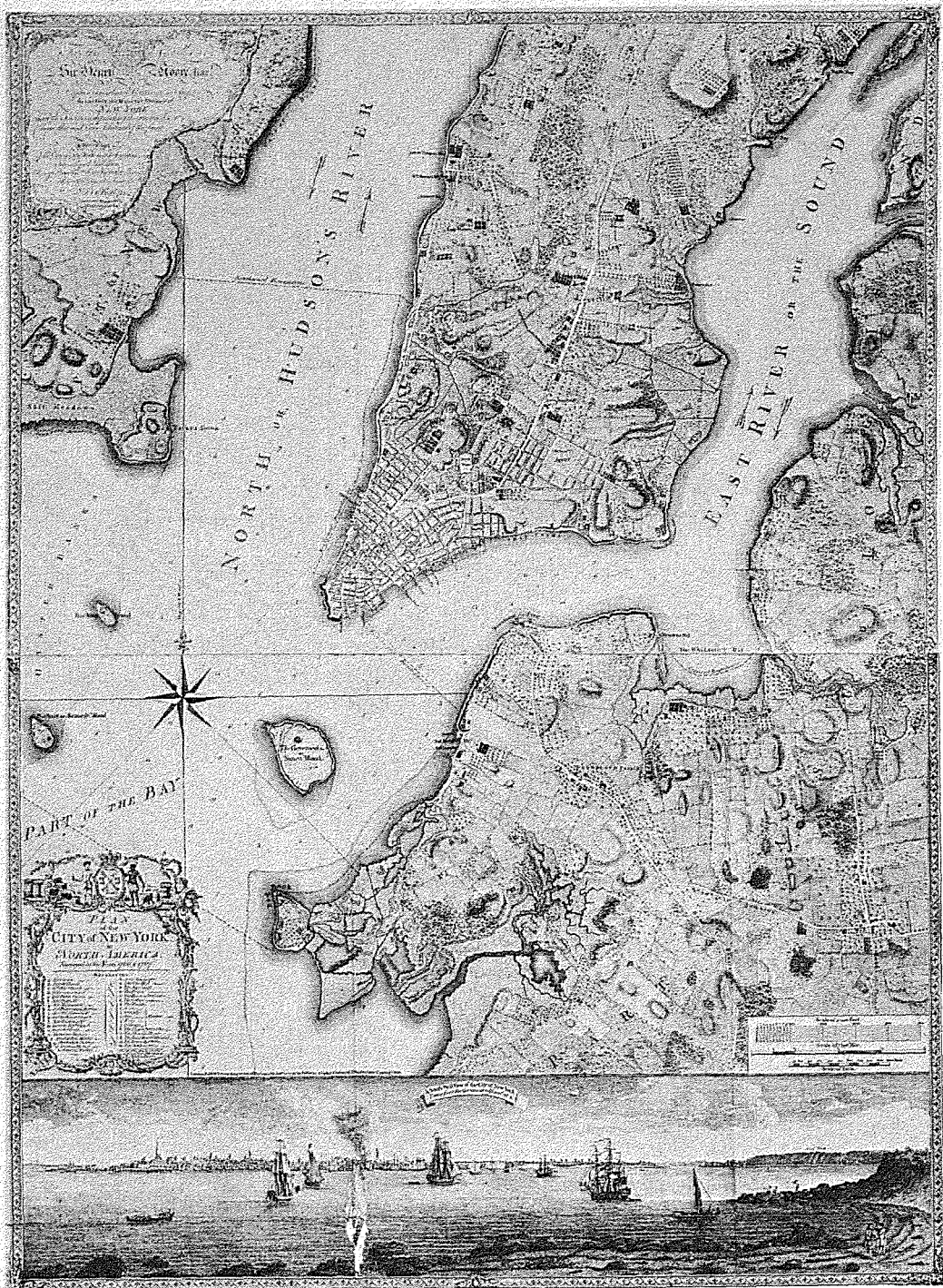
## 6 June

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN SALEM TO ANOTHER IN THIS CITY [PHILADELPHIA], DATED TUESDAY, JUNE 6, [1775]" <sup>1</sup>

It is galling to the surly old Admiral, who, it seems, growls like a cur dog, that our people should burn one of his cutters under his nose, and take All the STOCK off the Islands, and burn the houses, barns, &c. on Noddle's island, in which affair they lost a great many men. Mr. — whose integrity, you know, may be relied upon, was in Boston at the time the dead were landed, and says they were obliged to dig a hole twenty five feet square to bury them in.

1. *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, June 17, 1775.





*Plan of New York and vicinity, 1776.*

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Tuesday, June 6, 1775

*Ordered*, That Colonel [Samuel] Thompson, Major [Eleazer] Brooks, and Col. [Edward] Cutt, be a Committee to inquire into the circumstances of bringing the four Prisoners to this place yesterday.

*Moved*, That the Congress take some order at this time relative to the Prisoners.

The question being put, it passed in the negative.

Afternoon

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to inquire into the circumstances of bringing four Prisoners from Cambridge, be directed to make such provision for them as is necessary, till further orders from this Congress; and that Mr. [James] Robinson be added to the Committee, and that said Committee report what they think would be best to be done with them.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1391-1393, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

JOSHUA DAVIS TO CAPTAIN WALTER HATCH <sup>1</sup>

To Capt Walter Hatch of the Sloop *Nance* owned by Coll Elisha Downs

You are hereby Desired to Deliver sd Sloop in Dartmouth where she now is & Not remove nor brake bulk by Any Means Untill you hear from the Committee of Supplys for this Government & hall the Vessell into the Most Secure place possable Any failure herein Will incur the Displeasure of the Committee of Supplys of the Congress Am Sr [&c]

Plimouth June 6th 1775

Joshua Davis

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 205.

"REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*" <sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Moor'd in Rhode Island Harbour

Tuesdy 6 A M fired a Gun & made Sigl for our Boat. P M Stop't the Schooner *Bonaventure* Jno Waterman from Philadelph with Provisions.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMITTEE OF INTELLIGENCE TO THE COMMITTEE OF WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen

South Carolina Charlestown June 6th. 1775

By order of our Provincial Congress wch is now sitting we inclose you a Copy of a letter from General [Thomas] Gage to the Governor of your Colony.<sup>2</sup> It was transmitted to this Town to be sent from hence to Mr [Josiah] Martin which gave us an Opportunity of Interceptg it We trust you will use it with discretion and not make it public without you shall Deem it absolutely necessary as it may prevent any more from falling into our Hands by causing them to be more cautious

in future, there can be no Doubt of its Authenticity it is sealed with the General's Arms and several Persons who are well acquainted with his Hand writing have attested the signature to be his your Knowledge of this Letter and of the Designs of General Gage and your Governor may enable you to counteract their Machinations, Altho' the General might have no Arms to spare at the Time he wrote this letter which appears by the Date to be before the Defeat & flight of a large detachment of his Army from Concord to Boston you may have since seen from the public Prints that a number of the Inhabitants of Boston were obliged to surrender their Arms (we are told five Thousand stand) before they were suffered to leave that City these he may send to Mr Martin & if he should We hope they will fall into your Hands. We have wrote to New York to stop the Powder if it is not too late if it should have been sent from thence we hope you will secure it -

We think it proper to inform you that we have Received advices that a Mr Colson a Mr Dunn and a Mr Booth are endeavouring to foment disturbances among the back Inhabitants of your Colony - It is with the highest Satisfaction we perused the Patriotic & Elegant Answer of your Assembly to your Governor. We have no Doubt but that they & you will hold a proper Conduct towards a Man who is secretly preparing to plunge a Dagger in your Persons The Assurances we have received from the Committee of Wilmington convince us that your Colony will spurn the insidious Offers of Administration and remain firm in the glorious struggle for the Rights of Humanity. Our Provincial Congress are taking into Consideration matters of the highest Importance for the safety of this Colony, They have already agreed to an Association Copy of which we herewith Enclose you, it has been signed by all the Members of the Congress and the Inhabitants are now subscribing it with Rapidity We this Day came to a Resolution of raising two Regiments of Foot of seven hundred & fifty privates each and a Regiment of Rangers of four Hundred and fifty it is not improbable that we may be under the necessity in order to Dispatch our Levies of applying to you for Permission to raise a part of our force in yr Colony in which we Doubt not of obtaining your Countenance & Assistance. You may be assured of our utmost exertions in Defence of American Liberty and that no consideration can induce us to swerve from the great cause in which we are Engaged—. We have the Honour to be Gentlemen [&c.]

W<sup>m</sup> H<sup>y</sup> Drayton Chairman  
Arthur Middleton  
Charles Cotesworth Pinkney

Roger Smith  
W<sup>m</sup> Tennent

Committee of Intelligence

P.S. Our secret Committee have this Day Intercepted a letter from Capt Francis Parry a certified Copy of which we herewith enclose you <sup>a</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> H<sup>y</sup> Drayton

1. Hayes Mss. (P.C. 117), NCDALH.
2. Gage's letter to Martin of April 12, 1775.
3. Commander of H.M.S. *Cruizer* in Cape Fear River.

## 7 June

COMMITTEE OF PENOBSCOT TO THE MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS,  
CAMBRIDGE <sup>1</sup>

Gentn

Penobscot June 7 1775

We the Subscribers, being appointed a Committee by the Inhabitants settled on Penobscot River; the Inhabitants of Belfast, Majabigwadu, & Benjamins River, to make a Representation to you of the difficulties & Distress the said Inhabitants are under, in Respect to the scarcity of Corn & Ammunition occasioned by the interception of vesseles, which they depended upon for their supplies; also the impediments to exportation from the Seaport Towns from the different Committees from wh the said Articles have been purchased – We accordingly herewith send you the votes of said Inhabitants pass'd by them at a general meeting on Tuesday the 6th day of June instant which we are to pray your consideration of, being encourag'd thereto from the many instances of favors & assistance which the provence have heretofore afforded to this infant settlement; and without some, at this time we have real cause to apprehend that these promising settlements may be broke up. We are further to assure you that the said Inhabitants are ready with their lives & all that they have, to support the cause which their country is engaged in, in defence of their libertys & priviledges; and will hold themselves in readiness for that purpose. The said Committee are also to inform you that it was represented at the said Meeting that the establishment of Fort Pownall is nearly expired: That the Commander of the sd Fort in obedience to the commands of the Govr delivered to his order the Artillery & some Arms belonging to the sd Fort: That he also delivered to our own inhabitants in the different ports of this vicinity upon their application some Arms & Ammunition; reserving only a small quantity of each for the use of the soldiers belonging to said Garrison, which occasions the said Fort at this time to be very bare in those respects. We are also to represent to you that the Town of Belfast is in want of about a dozen stand of Arms which is not practicable to be got here. All which we are enjoined to lay before you, Gentlemen, who represent the provence in this unhappy time; & I to pray you to take the same into your consideration & give them such relief as upon mature deliberation you judge expedient. We are in behalf of the said Inhabitants Gentn. [&c.]

Tho Goldthwaite	Edm <sup>d</sup> Mooers
John Huff	Benj <sup>n</sup> Shute
Jonathan Buck	Oliver Crary

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 193.

JOURNAL OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Exeter] Wens'day June 7th [1775]

The following Resolve was passed the first of June but omitted to be entered then.

Resolved, That the Committee of Portsmouth together with Capt. Ezekiel Worthen be desired to provide a number of Fascines and also to procure propper Carriages for those guns removed from Jerry's Point, and also such other materials,

as they may think necessary for erecting a Battery to hinder the passage of ships up to the Town, and also, that they Endeavour (if it can be done with secrecy & safety) to get what shot may be at the Fort at New Castle, and that all those matters be done with the utmost secrecy the Business will allow of, And then determine upon some suitable place for a Battery where the materials when completed may suddenly be removed to.

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, VII, 506.

#### JOURNAL OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

In Provincial Congress at Exeter June 7th. 1775

Whereas by and in Consequence of a Law of the Colony Considerable Sums of money have been paid by foreign Vessells Entering the Port of Piscataqua, which was by said Law to have been Appropriated for Purchasing Powder for the use of the Colony and whereas a part thereof has been lately paid by the Execution of the Testament of the late Govr Benning Wentworth to Samuel Livermore Esqr. Attorney Generall

And as the State of the Colony now greatly needs Said Money for providing Powder for the Defence thereof According to the original Intentions of the aforesaid Law, Therefore

Resolved that John Hurd & Israel Morey Esqrs & Mr. Abel Webster be a Committee to Call upon and receive the said moneys of the said Samuel Livermore Esqr and in behalf of this Congress to give him a receipt therefore Sufficient to Indemnify him for the Delivery thereof.

Attest R. Thompson Secry

1. John Langdon Papers, HSP.

#### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Wednesday, June 7, 1775

The Committee appointed to consider what is best to be done with the four prisoners brought from Dartmouth via Cambridge, reported. The Report was recommitted.

Afternoon

The Committee appointed to inquire into the circumstances of the four Prisoners reported. The Report was amended and accepted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the circumstances of the four Prisoners brought to this Congress on the 2d of June instant, said to be taken at Dartmouth since the 19th of April last, beg leave to report, that it is the opinion of this Committee, that the said four prisoners, viz: Richard Luckus, Mate of the Ship *Falcon*, John Dunkinson, Surgeon's Mate, Jonathan Lee, and Robert Cady, be sent to Concord, to the care of the Selectmen of said Town, to be by them secured and provided for, agreeable to their rank, at the expense of this Colony, until they receive some further order from this or some other Congress or House of Representatives of this Colony.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Colonel [James] Warren, Mr. [John] Pitts, Mr. [Elbridge] Gerry, the President, Colonel [Nathaniel] Freeman, Mr. [John]

Pickering, Mr. [Josiah] Batchelder, Honourable Mr. [Samuel] Dexter, and Mr. [Benjamin] Greenleaf, be a Committee to consider the expediency of establishing a number of small armed Vessels to cruise on our sea-coasts for the protection of our trade and the annoyance of our enemies; and that the Members be enjoined by order of Congress to observe secrecy in this matter.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1393-1395, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO PHILIP STEPHENS <sup>1</sup>

Sir,

Preston Boston 7 June 1775

The Rebels pursuing their avowed design of cutting off possible Supply to the Army and Navy, and of destroying what they cannot carry away, burnt a great deal of Hay on Hog Island the 27th of last month; a few hours after they landed on Noddles Island not only to burn the Hay thereon bought for the Army, but also to set fire to a Store house, hired when the *Glasgow* was ashore, in which I had deposited two large Cargoes of Lumber, Board and Spars, until an Opportunity offered of sending part of each to Halifax. In the Store house was also many other Articles that the Store Schooner could not conveniently hold. The preservation of all these became of great Consequence, not altogether from their intrinsic Value, but from the almost impossibility of replacing them at this Juncture. On Noddles Island, besides the Hay and Stores just mentioned, were above 600 Sheep, several milch Cows and a Number of Horses; the most part private property. It was absolutely requisite to prevent the destruction of the Stores, and if possible the Hay, Sheep &c: therefore upon observing the Rebels landed on Noddles Island, I ordered the *Diana* to sail immediately between it and the Main, and get up as high as possible to prevent their Escape, and I also directed a party of Marines to be landed for the same purpose: there was no time to be lost, and assistance from the Army could not immediately be had.

The *Diana* entered the River between three and four in the Afternoon at low water, and proceeded to Hog Island with some interruption from the Rebels on all Sides. The Number on Hog and Noddles Islands were computed at 700 men. Parties of each occasionally attacked the *Diana*, but they were all obliged to quit Noddles Island without doing the intended Mischief. This effected, as I had ordered Lieut. [Thomas] Graves not to remain in the River upon the Turn of the Tide, he began to come away: It fell calm; the Boats of the Squadron were ordered to tow the *Diana*: by the close of the Evening the whole Country was alarmed; General [Israel] Putnam had brought I am told full two thousand Men with two Field pieces from Cambridge, with which he lined the Shore and greatly annoyed the *Diana*. The Marines from the Squadron were landed on the Island with two Pounders from the *Cerberus*, and the General sent two pieces of Artillery; but it was impossible, tho' in sight of the Fleet, to give the schooner any other Assistance than by Boats to tow her out; her slow progress by this means unavoidably exposed her to the Enemy; the Calm continued, it grew almost dark, the fire of the Rebels increased, and between 11 and 12 at Night she unfortunately got aground upon the Ferry Ways at Winnisimmet, and the Tide ebbing fast it almost instantly

became impossible to move her, although every means was tried to get her off; about 3 in the Morning she fell over, so that they were obliged to quit her and go into the *Britannia* armed Sloop, who had been sent to their Assistance.

In this Sloop they renewed the fight, which had continued with little intermission from 4 o'Clock; but, as the Schooner was by this time dry, the Rebels set her on fire and entirely destroyed her. In the *Somersets* Boat two Men were killed and two wounded; several were wounded in the Schooner and other Boats.

I transmit the Sentence of a Court Martial held upon the Commander, Officers and Crew of the said Schooner on this occasion. The very honourable Acquittal of the Commander of the *Diana* by the Court, I make no doubt will be satisfactory to their Lordships. Several of the Members saw part of the Action. The Situation of the Combatants afforded me also an opportunity of hearing their Discharges at each other and for some time of seeing the Battle.

The concurrent Testimony of those immediately concerned, of the nearest Spectators, and indeed the general Voice, authorize me to assure their Lordships of the perseverance and good Conduct of Lieut. Graves the Commander of the *Diana* in this Action, which lasted nearly eleven hours. I beg you will also represent to their Lordships, that it being very warm Weather, the far greater part of the Officers and people were in their Shirts, that the necessity for quitting the Schooner was urgent, and that it was morally impossible to save a single Article; with the loss of the Kings Schooner therefore they lost every thing they possessed on Board her.

I submit to their Consideration that as the Schooner was bravely defended to the last moment, against a very superior Enemy, the Officers and Crew should be indemnified for their Losses. It will operate as an Encouragement and be an Example to the whole Fleet to defend his Majesty's Ships and Vessels to the last Extremity, even against great Superiority of Numbers; and ought not to be drawn into precedent, except in extraordinary cases like this and the *Gaspee's* at Rhode Island, The Commander of which received very honorable Marks of their Lordships appreciation of his Conduct, and the Officers and Crew were I am told also severally recompenced.<sup>2</sup> I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 104–107, MassHS Transcript.

2. The British armed schooner *Gaspee* ran ashore on June 9, 1772, while pursuing a suspected smuggler in Narragansett Bay, and was attacked, captured, and burned by a band of armed men, whose identities were never discovered by British authorities.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Lively*, CAPTAIN THOMAS BISHOP,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775                      Moor'd off Charles Town Ferry  
Wendy 7                      Charles Town Church Steeple N N E. the High Church  
   in Charles Town S B E    Becon Hill S W B S.  
   at 6 A M came onboard Captain Bishop & took Command of the  
   Ship    Saluted the Admiral with 13 Guns he having shifted his Flag

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/546.

JOHN BROWN TO MOSES BROWN <sup>1</sup>

Dear Brother

Providence June 7th 1775

I Expected to have Seen you Ere I Determin'd on Suing Capt [James] Wallace, but on findg. that my not prosecuting him was one Argument made Use of against me & indeed all the Brothers that we are Toreys, and that we Were in League &c. with Genl [Thomas] Gage & Consequently with Capt Wallace & others under him, & I having allways Determind to prossecute Either here or in London thought best to do it here without Further Delay & Accordg did Send a Writt in Ten Thousand pounds L Mony Dammage to the Sherriff of new port Yesterday by Capt Power returnable to our December Court, which I hope will be Served this Day what the Event May prove Time will bring Forth; but I thought best to Acquaint You of it by Friend Jno as he Expects You'l be in New port tomorrow I have Desired the Sherriff to take [George] Rome for Bail if Offerd, but if he Should be Committed, I fear he will be the Loser, perhaps it may be Nessessary to Indeever to Get an order from the Court to Remove him from that Jail in Case he Chuses Reether to be Committeed than by your Bail. I am

Your Affectionate Brother with Hartey thanks for your Late unspeakable Brotherly Love and Friendship towards me

Jno Brown

1. Moses Brown Papers, RIHS.

"REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*" <sup>1</sup>

June 1775 Moor'd in Rhode Island Harbour

Wedsdy 7 P M Stopt the Sloop *Friendship* Jno Monro Master from New York with Flour.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.

JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

Die Mercurii, 4 ho. P.M. June 7th, 1775

The Congress than took into consideration the case of Robert and John Murray, which lies before this Congress by a general reference from the Continental Congress, and after some time spent therein, it was ordered to be deferred for further consideration.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 34.CADWALLADER COLDEN, LIEUT. GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK, TO LORD DARTMOUTH <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

New York 7th June 1775

His Majesty's Ship *Asia* came into our Harbour about ten days since. In my letter of March 1st No 13 I informed your Lordship that I had suggested to Admiral [Samuel] Graves the propriety of sending one of the large Ships to this Place. He answered that I might expect the *Asia* here by the 1st of April. I am heartily sorry she was not, for I really think the Countenance of that Ship would have had a good effect by encouraging some and discouraging others . . .

In my letter to Your Lordship No 16 [May 3, 1775] I mentioned the very disagreeable & critical situation of the Few Troops who were quartered in the



Barracks of this Place and that only by the interposition of the more prudent Inhabitants, they were suffered to remain in Peace. No Pains however were spared to debauch the men and induce them to desert. Large Rewards and certain Protection they were assured of; which had such effect that the officers began at last to apprehend they were in danger of looseing the whole. In this situation General [Thomas] Gage wrote to Major [Isaac] Hamilton, by the *Asia*, that he thought it would be a proper measure to put the Troops under his command on Board of that Ship, and desired him to consult with me upon it. As I was very sensible this small number of Troops could not be of any use in the Barracks, and were exposed to those very disagreeable circumstances I have already mentioned, I did not doubt of the propriety of the Measure proposed by Genl Gage a difficulty however arose on account of the women and Children, who were too numerous to be taken on Board with the men, almost the whole that belong to the Regiment being in the Barracks here with this detachment. This occasioned a delay of eight or ten days in which time several soldiers deserted. We at length thought of enchamping the Women and Children on what is called the Governors Island, till they could be otherwise taken care of, and yesterday was fixed for embarking the Troops on Board the *Asia*. The Provincial Congress had notice, that some people proposed to stop the embarkation upon which they published a hand Bill advising the People by no means to molest the Troops, or interrupt them in their design. They likewise appointed a number of their members to join the City Magistrates and assist them in preventing any interruption to the Troops. As soon as the Troops marched from the Barracks, several People began to harangue them, exhorting them to desert, and assuring them of sufficient Protection. Two or three fellows had the hardiness to turn off with their arms, from the Ranks, and were immediately carried away by the People, when the Troops got upon the Deck [Dock] where they were to embark on board of Boats, the Carts following in the rear with the Baggage, were stoppd and in the Face of the Mayor, Aldermen, Congress and Committee men, turn'd about by a few desperate fellows, carried to a Place in Town, where they opened the Baggage, and took out a number of spare arms and all the ammunition belonging to the Detachment. The Troops embarkd without their Baggage

1. O'Callaghan, ed., *Colonial New York*, VII, 581, 582.

#### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

[New York] Die Mercurii 9 ho. A.M., June 7, 1775

Mr. [Gouverneur] Morris, from the Committee for that purpose, reported a draught of a Letter to the New-York Delegates at the Continental Congress, on the subject of erecting a Fortification at King's Bridge. The same was read and approved of, and is in the words following:

Gentlemen: In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 7, 1775

Upon receiving the resolutions of the Congress which relate to the fortifying King's Bridge, &c., we appointed Committees to view those places. Our Committee from King's Bridge made a report the third instant, of which we send you a copy. We have only to add, that by reason of the easiness of

approach, which will arise from the great irregularity of the ground on Manhattan's Island, especially to the northward, no fortification can be so constructed as to be tenable for any length of time; and even if such thing were practicable, yet if the enemy are superiour in the field, then, as they must necessarily command the rivers, such fortification might be reduced by famine, if not otherwise to be taken. It follows, therefore, that if the post is to be fortified, with a view to render it a magazine or place of arms, that no part of the island is properly adapted to that purpose.

Considering it in the light of a post for preserving the communication between the city and the country, upon a supposition that the rivers are occupied by ships-of-war, then if the place marked A were strong and capable of sustaining a regular siege, still a body of forces on the island could as effectually cut off the communication in many other places. On the other hand, if the enemy should possess themselves of the post A, besides that it is commanded by the two heights marked B, particularly Tippet's Hill, yet it would by no means serve to cut off the communication, because it would be easy to cross Harlem River in boats, with a body of forces, in several places, where no vessel-of-war could lay without being exposed to fire from such very high grounds as to be quite out of reach of her artillery; and also because that river is fordable in places which are covered from any fire which can be made from the said post. And not only would the enemy's possession be ineffectual for their purposes, it would also bring on them certain destruction; for that it would be very easy to cut off their retreat to the Town, and, from the great elevation of ground above the river, to prevent any relief which they would receive from vessels-of-war; wherefore, if we have the superiority in the field, they would be with great ease driven from that post, or starved in it.

This place, therefore (the only one which can secure the bridges,) being of little consequence to us, and of still less to them, we are of opinion that it would be very imprudent to fortify it at present, because the expense will be much greater than after we have troops embodied, who can perform much of the labour, and also for a reason mentioned in the report of our Committee.

You will take notice, gentlemen, that we have no ammunition, nor any Engineer — two most necessary implements of war, you will certainly acknowledge; the first we hope for from the endeavours of our merchants, the last you will take some care to procure, if to be had amongst you.

Be assured that we have the greatest willingness to obey the resolutions of the Grand Congress; and if in their wisdom they shall think fit to overrule the reasons which we have offered, doubt not that we shall use our utmost efforts to comply with their requisitions.

We are, gentlemen [&c.]

To the New York Delegates in Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy of this Letter be engrossed, signed by the President, and, together with a copy of the Report therein mentioned, and a copy of a Draught or Plan therein mentioned, be transmitted by the first conveyance.

The Report above mentioned is in the words following, to wit:

We, your Committee appointed to view the ground in the environs of King's Bridge, do most humbly report:

That in obedience to your commands we have examined the heights in that neighbourhood, taking such assistance as the shortness of the notice permitted us to procure, and are of opinion that a post (capable of containing three hundred men) erected on the high ground adjoining Mr. Hyatt's house, marked A in the annexed map, will answer the purpose proposed by the Continental Congress in their requisition, so far as the occupying that bridge can contribute to the keeping up a communication between the country and this city; for we beg leave to observe, that an enemy may land and seize on several posts in this island capable of interrupting, though not totally cutting off that communication held up as a point of so much importance by the Continental Congress. We are farther of opinion that this work should be constructed by troops when embodied and ready to occupy it, your Committee being humbly of opinion it would be the highest imprudence to erect a fortification before we have the means of defending it. By this mode of proceeding the expense will also be very much reduced. We believe that though there be no water immediately on the spot proposed for this post, yet means may be fallen upon to cover those who go to a well sunk in the adjoining low ground, near Mr. Hyatt's house, especially as we conceive this post is not supposed to sustain any regular attack, or of many hours' duration, without relief. We think fascines the cheapest and best materials to face this work, and that an abattis of fallen wood will contribute much to the security of the post. With respect to the particular form and dimensions, your Committee dare not venture (without the assistance of an Engineer) to recommend any particular plan to your consideration, and therefore pray your attention to provide a person of experience in this line of military science. All which is most humbly submitted.

By order of the Committee

James Van Cortlandt, Chairman

The Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a draft of a Report of additional Artificers and Stores to be forwarded to Ticonderoga. The same was read and agreed to, and is in the words and figures following, to wit:

The Committee having considered the requisition on this Colony made by Colonel B[enedict] Arnold, commandant at Ticonderoga, for provisions and stores &c., transmitted to this Congress by the Committee of Albany, and at the same time compared it with the list of supplies already ordered to be sent, do report, that the following additional stores &c., ought to be provided and sent: 10 men of the train of artillery: 12 ship carpenters and caulkers: 2 gunsmiths: 2 blacksmiths: 2 masons: 100 hatchets: 20 broadaxes: 50 spades: 50 hoes: the iron work for 4 gins and blocks; 8 falls for do, of 4½ inch rope: 1 coil 2½

inch rope, 1 coil 2 inch rope: 1 coil 1½ inch rope, 100 fathoms each: 4 pieces ravens duck: 40 pounds sewing twine: 10 dozen of sail and bolt rope needles: 1 dozen palms: 2 seines, 30 fathom long, capt 12 feet, and arms 6 feet deep, of coarse twine, meshes 1½ inch square: 2 dozen of nail hammers: 1 faggot of steel.

As to the oxen, carts, &c., mentioned in the said requisition, your Committee are of opinion that those can be procured in the neighbourhood of that post.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be made and delivered to Peter T. Curtenius, and that he be desired to obtain the said Artificers, Men, and Stores, and forward the same to Albany with all possible despatch.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1278–1280.

JOHN MCKESSON, SECRETARY OF THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONVENTION, TO  
GEORGE CLINTON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

The only news I think of at present is, that the few soldiers who were in Barracks here were Yesterday [June 6] put on Board of the *Asia* man of war. A few men with little opposition stopped the Baggage Carts, made them return to Van Dyck's and kept two Chests of spare arms & three half Barrels of powder; they insisted that tho' they permitted the soldiers to go away armed, it would be criminal to let spare arms and ammunition be carried away – especially as arms were some time ago seized & sent on Board of a Frigate and powder taken out of their whaling sloops coming into the Harbour

John McKesson

[New York] Wednesday morn'g 5 o'clock June 7th, 1775.

1. Hugh Hastings, ed., *The Public Papers of George Clinton* (New York, 1899), I, 196. Hereafter cited as Hastings, ed., *Clinton Papers*.

JOHN ADAMS TO ELBRIDGE GERRY, MARBLEHEAD <sup>1</sup>

Dr Sir

Phyladelphia June [7] <sup>2</sup> 1775

Mr [Christopher] Gadsden <sup>3</sup> of South Carolina whose Fame you must have heard, was in his younger Years, an officer, on board the Navy, and is well acquainted with the Fleet. – He has Several Times taken Pains to convince me that this Fleet is not so formidable to America, as we fear. – He Says, We can easily take their Sloops, schooners and Cutters, on board of whom are all their best Seamen, and with these We can easily take their large Ships, on board of whom are all their impress'd and discontented Men. He thinks, the Men would not fight on board the large ships with their fellow subjects, but would certainly kill their own officers. – He Says it is a different Thing, to fight the French or Spaniards from what it is to fight british Americans – in one Case, if taken Prisoners they must lie in Prison for Years, in the other obtain their Liberty and Happiness –

He thinks it of great Importance that Some Experiment should be made on the Cutters. – He is confident that We may get a Fleet of our own, at a cheap

Rate. – and this would give great Spirit to this Continent, as well as little Spirit to the Ministry.

1. FDRL.

2. The date is approximated. James Warren used the letter in the Massachusetts Provincial Congress sometime between June 12, 1775, when a committee appointed to consider a naval force reported, and June 20, when the matter was ordered “to subside for the present.” Warren wrote Adams on July 11, that he had seen the letter to Gerry containing Gadsden’s opinions, and had borrowed it in his vain effort to support the naval measure. As transit of letters between Philadelphia and Watertown consumed an average of ten days, the letter could not have been written later than June 7 to have been available to Warren. Adams wrote his wife, Abigail, on June 2 and June 6, and to Warren and to Isaac Smith on June 7. The letter to Gerry, hence, was probably written on this later date as well.

3. Christopher Gadsden (1724–1805) was a member of the Continental Congress from South Carolina.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NORTH CAROLINA, JUNE 7 [1775]”<sup>1</sup>

We are much alarmed here with the intentions of Administration, that unless affairs take a turn in our favor very shortly, we shall expect the worst effort of its villainy – that of spiriting up an enemy among ourselves, from whose barbarity, if roused, the most dreadful consequences must follow. Our Governor has sent his family to New-York, and being greatly disgusted with the people of Newbern, has taken up his residence in Fort Johnston at the mouth of Cape Fear River, where he has chosen this as a place of retreat from popular complaints: Our brethren in the colonies may be assured that we never shall be bribed by the benefit of an exclusive trade, to desert the common cause.

1. *Pennsylvania Ledger*, July 15, 1775.

## 8 June

### PETITION OF EDWARD PARRY TO THE MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

To the Hon’ble Provincial Congress of the Massachusetts Bay convened and Assembled at Watertown

The Petition of Edward Parry Agent to the Contractor for Masts, Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner has been detained in his Occupation of shipping a small quantity of Masts and Lumber he was providing for his Majesty’s Dock yard in Nova Scotia on the beginning of May last at George Town in Kennebeck River by Lieut. Colo. Samuel Thompson of Brunswick, and two Bonded Securities required in the penal Sum of £2,000 Lawful money, payable to the Provincial Congress or the Heads of the Province for the time being that may be appointed by the People. The Condition of the Bond prevents me or any Person for or under me from removing certain Masts, Spars, Oak plank &c that are now under my Care in said River, and procured for the Service of his Majesty’s Navy, and that I should be kept here in safe Custody until I may be released by the Hon’ble the Provincial Congress’s orders – the particulars of which are fully explain’d in the said Bond, which I suppose Colo. Thompson has before this deliverd in to your Honors.

Your Petitioner humbly begs leave to represent to your Honors that his being detain'd here so long, at such a great distance from New Hampshire, the Place he has used to reside at, is of great detriment and damage to him, and that he daily suffers considerable loss in his private Concerns – Wherefore he humbly prays your Honors would take his Case into your wise Consideration, and that your Honors would compassionately be pleased to order him to be released and the Bond cancelled, or order such relief as you in your great Wisdom may think proper, and your Petitioner will ever pray &c

George Town Kennebec River June 8th. 1775

Edw<sup>d</sup> Parry

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 137, 34.

*New England Chronicle*, THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1775

Cambridge, June 8.

Last Wednesday se'nnight [May 31] a Number of Provincials, under the Command of Col. [John] Robinson, made an Acquisition of about 500 Sheep and 30 Head of Cattle from Pettick's island.

And on Friday Night last [June 2] the Provincial Troops made another Acquisition of about 800 Sheep and Lambs from off Deer Island, together with a Number of Cattle.—Major [John] Greaton, who commanded this Party, also took a Barge belonging to one of the Men of War, together with 4 or 5 Prisoners.

#### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Thursday, June 8, 1775

An account of the taking a Sloop which sailed from Boston for Annapolis [Royal] for Hay and other stores for the use of the Army at Boston, from the Committee of the Town of Arundel, was read; as also several Letters which were found on board said Sloop: <sup>2</sup> Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Congress be given to said Committee for their care and judicious conduct in this affair.

Afternoon

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to consider the expediency of establishing several small armed Vessels sit forthwith.

*Ordered*, That Major [John] Bliss, Major [Eleazer] Brooks, and Mr. Sayer, be a Committee to consider the Account of Captain [Elisha] Phelps; and to consider what sum is necessary to supply Captain Phelps with for transporting to Ticonderoga the Pork he has purchased for our Forces there, and bringing the Cannon from thence.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1396, 1397, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

2. The sloop *Polly*. See letters dated May 29 and 30, 1775, from William Shirreff, Deputy Quartermaster General of the British army in Boston.

DIARY OF LIEUTENANT JOHN BARKER <sup>1</sup>

[Boston] 8th. [June, 1775]

Three Officers of the 43d Regt. had today a very narrow and lucky escape, being out in a Boat sailing and not able to manage the Boat, the Wind drove 'em over to the Rebels shore who began firing on them; the Officers then had nothing but to swim for it as they found it impossible to keep off with the Boat, so they jumped over board and were swimming for the *Glasgow* Man of War, who as soon as they saw their situation sent a Boat to their assistance which picked 'em up, one was so much spent that he cou'd not have swam much longer. The Villains ashore kept all the time popping at 'em; but luckily did not hit either; they also kept firing at the Man of Wars Boat; the *Glasgow* fired a Cannon at them which made the Rascals run and hide themselves; as soon as the Gentlemen were landed a boat was sent with swivels in her and armed Men, to bring off the boat the Officers had quitted which had not reached the shore but was stuck on the Mud; the Rebels tried to prevent them by firing from their lurking places, but the Tars kept them aloof with the Swivels and brought the Boat off; while they were doing that the *Glasgow* seeing some Men near the House opposite let fly a shot among 'em to keep 'em from going down to the shore to fire at the Boat; they run off and did not shew themselves again.

1. Barker, *Diary*, 56, 57.

*New York Journal*, THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1775

New-York, June 8.

Sunday last [June 4] being the anniversary of his Majesty's birth day, when he entered the 38th year of his age, a royal salute was fired from the *Asia*, of 64 guns, in this harbour, commanded by George Vandeput, Esq; The crew then gave three cheers, which were answered by some of the inhabitants from the docks.<sup>1</sup> – There were, we hear no illuminations in the city on the anniversary of his Majesty's birth, except one house, the lights of which, it is said were, on the request of the spectators, presently withdrawn. Not that the people had the least disaffection to his Majesty's family or person; on the contrary, they approve his title, and are friends to monarchical government – But take every opportunity to shew their abhorrence of the public measures pursued during the greatest part of his reign, the permission of which is imputed to him.

A letter from St. Eustatia, dated the 15th May last, advises that, a vessel was just arrived there from Holland, with intelligence, that a strict prohibition was laid there on the exportation of all ammunition, even to their own islands in their own vessels; and by an order from the States General, no ammunition was to be sold in any of their islands or settlement to any inhabitant of North-America, or shipped on board any vessel bound there, under the penalty of 500 dollars, and the forfeiture of vessel and cargo; nor was any ammunition to be sold to any person, nor shipped on board any vessel, without exacting an oath, that it should

not directly or indirectly be transports to any part of North America [*America can return this favour in kind*]

*On Tuesday [June 6] the regular soldiers station'd in the barracks here about 50, embarked, on board boats belonging to the Asia man of war. The inhabitants took from them their spare arms, about 90, and some ammunition.*<sup>2</sup>

1. The observance of the King's birthday was noted to this point and in almost the same words by the *New York Gazette and the Weekly Mercury* on June 5, 1775. The *Journal's* editorializing from here on indicated clearly the different policies of these two New York papers.
2. Brackets and italics by the printer of the *Journal* in this particular instance.

#### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

[New York] Die Jovis 4 ho. P.M. June 8 1775

Thomas Wickham, having the care of Gardner's island, which is much exposed to having the stock taken off by armed vessels for the use of the King's troops at Boston, or elsewhere, and the said island being in a defenceless state, desires the advice of this board, whether he be permitted to take pay for said stock, in case it is not in his power to prevent their taking the same.

After some time spent in consideration thereof, it was deferred for further consideration.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong., I.*

MAJOR ISAAC HAMILTON TO CADWALLADER COLDEN, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

Sir

New York 8th June 1775

In pursuance of your advise and concurrence the day before yesterday was fixed upon for the embarkation of the five Companies of the Royal Irish Regiment under my Command, and from the resolutions of the Committee and Provencial Congress, that the troops while they behaved peaceably should not be molested either in their barracks or in their embarkation, we had no reason to expect interruption, much less insult; but notwithstanding the presence of the Mayor, Recorder, and other Magistrates, as well as several members of the Congress, who attended us on our march, the carts on which our baggage was loaded, were forcibly carried off by a body of people, the trunks and packages in violation of all faith broke open, their contents Examined, and upwards of 100 stands of arms together with several of the absent officer's fusils, are still detained from us, and this as we are credibly informed, by the advice of some of the Members of the Provencial Congress, and Committee, and which we are the more inclined to believe, from some of them personally assisting in stopping the carts – The interruption of our baggage occasioned us to make a halt in the street, when some of the apparent leaders among the people harranged our Men, and publicly encouraged them to forfeit their allegiance to which they had solemnly sworn, and desert the service they had engaged in – Had we been equally prone to Acts of violence, and which indeed we had sufficient provocation to justify us in, the consequences might have been fatal to many; but upon assurances from the



Magistrates that the Baggage should be restored to us, we chose rather to depend on these assurances than add to the confusion of the City. The private property of the officers has been restored to them, in the mutilated disorderly condition I have just mentioned, as well as the Regimental Cloathing but the arms and accoutrements are still in their possession, and I should deem myself very deficient in my duty, were I tacitly to pass over the high insult and outrage offered to his Majesty's troops, or the detention of his property; I have therefore taken the earliest opportunity of laying these circumstances before your Honor, and soliciting your Advice and assistance on the Occasion.

I have the honor to be Sir [&c.]

Isaac Hamilton, Major, To 18 or Royal Irish Regiment of Foot

1. *Golden Papers*, VII, 300, 301.

#### JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia] Thursday, June 8, 1775

The Congress being informed, that a major [Philip] Skeene, with some other officers,<sup>2</sup> were arrived last evening in a vessel from London, and were, with their papers, now in the custody of the troops of this city and that the said Major Skeene has been lately appointed Governor of the forts at Ticonderoga and Crown Point; that one of the officers a lieutenant has commission in the regular troops, now in the province of Quebec; and moreover, that the sd Skeene from his appointment had declared he had authority to raise a Regiment in America; from all this, apprehending that the said Skeene is a dangerous partizan of Administration, and that his papers may contain intelligence of Ministerial designs against America, very important to be known,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to examine in the presence of the sd Skeene and lieutenant, all the papers in their possession.

That this committee consist of Mr. J[ohn] Adams, Mr. [Silas] Deane, and [Thomas] Mifflin:

That the sd committee be upon honor to conceal whatever of a private nature may come to their knowledge by such examination; and that they communicate, to this Congress, whatever may relate to the present dispute, between Great Britain and America.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 82.

2. Lieutenant Patrick Moncrieffe and a Mr. Lundy.

#### ELIPHALET DYER TO JOSEPH TRUMBULL <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Philadelphia June the 8th 1775

Sir Last evening we had two ships arrived at this place from London . . . Majr [Philip] Skene the Elder came passenger in one of the Ships with a Commission as it is said to be Govr of Ticonderoga Crown Point and with Orders as he said on his passage to raise Ten Thousand Men to Subdue the Rebels &c. but how amazingly was he Chagrined when on the ships arival he was Immediately taken prisoner and his papers and letters taken into Custody and then to hear

that the New England people had taken his fort and Governmt and themselves had placed a Commander there but on second thought he seems to brave it out tolerably well. I think there are one or two more officers with him, believe only Lieuts, all under Guard in this City.

1. Joseph Trumbull Papers, No. 38, ConnSL.

GEORGE WOOLSEY TO JOHN PRINGLE, PHILADELPHIA <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Baltimore the 8 June 1775

We think there will be a risque from the Man of War with those Articles you Mention <sup>2</sup> but if you think you Can Manage that there is no other Danger, only let any Vessell you Send these goods round in run up here, before She Enters at annapolis, and the[y] can Savely be landed, as we have no [naval] Officer here.

1. Woolsey and Salmon Letter Book, LC.

2. Pork, flour and rice, which would be seized if intercepted at the Virginia Capes by H.M.S. *Fowey*.

WOOLSEY AND SALMON TO STEPHEN SKINNER, PERTH AMBOY <sup>1</sup>

[Baltimore] June 8 [1775]

We this Day Recd a few lines from Mr C[lement] Biddle Incloseing yours of the 4th Inst in which you write him of the Accident of our Schooner *Industry*. We Cannot help Blameing Capt [James] Green Very Much in Many Respects, but in nothing so much as in laveing the Vessell in the Situation She was in & Comeing to Philada, – however these Matters you must take no notice off but Endeavour to get him to Sea, as Soon & as Chape as possible and by all mains pay all his bills your self & Advance him no Money whatever only what you pay for the Vessell, as we are Sure he is not in want of any Matter but what you will se[e]. we Could wish that her Mainsail could be mended to Serve her home, unless he Carried it Away in keeping of[f] a Lee Shore, in that Case a new one would be proper & the old one Sold, at the Same time we would wish a proper Survey would be Made on the Vessell &c Also a proper protest of the Capt Mate &c of their proceedings, from the day the[y] Sailed from this untill her putting into your place, Setting forth the Cutting of his Cable in our Bay, his Getting Aground, which was the Cause of his being Leakey, and in what Manner he lost his Mainsail, whether by Carrying to get of[f] a Lee Shore or by the Vessell that Run on Bord of him At Sea, and also that you would have his Accts Surveys, & Protests properly Attested and send home to Mr Geo Darley of Dublin & send us a Copy. & you may Either Value on us or Mr Clement Biddle for the Amt or we will Send you a bill of Ex of 60 Ds if you wd perfer that, & the Ex[change] is agreeable to us. we are thankfull to you for the Care you have Already taken & must beg your further Care in frugallity & Dispatching the Vessell & refer you to Mr Biddle for further Peticulars –

1. Woolsey and Salmon Letter Book, LC.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SCHOONER *Magdalen*, HENRY COLINS,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775                      At Single Anchor Abreast of York Town

Thursday 8th    at 5 A M the Earl of Dunmore and his family came on board,  
                         at 7 weigh'd and came to Sail    at 11 Anchord abreast of York  
                         Town    Saluted his Lordship on his Coming on board and Leav-  
                         ing the Vessel with 13 Guns

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/3894.

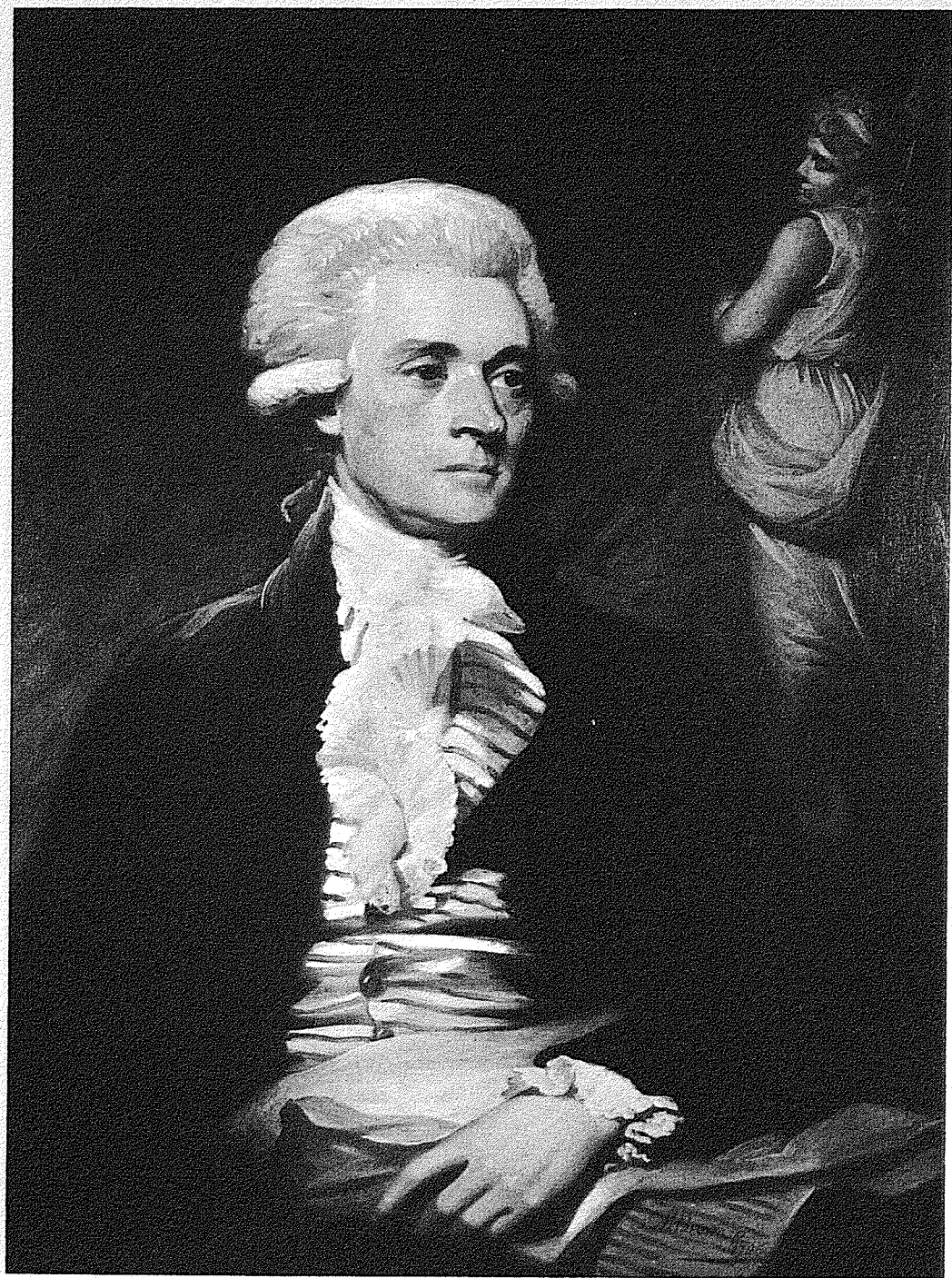
ST. GEORGE TUCKER TO THOMAS JEFFERSON, A DELEGATE TO THE CONTINENTAL  
CONGRESS FROM VIRGINIA <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Williamsburg June 8th: 1775.

I must apologize to you for the Liberty I take in addressing you as a Member of the General Congress, but the Importance of the Occasion I hope will excuse it. I shall therefore without further prelude proceed to the Occasion of this Letter.

The Island of Bermuda, by it's detached Situation, by the Number of it's Inhabitants, by its inconsiderable produce, and by the small progress made there in Manufactures, must be reduced to the most dreadful Calamities by the present Contest between Great Britain and the Colonies, should both parties demand a Compliance with their respective Measures. Utterly destitute of the Means of obtaining Provisions for their Support, except from the Continent; and altogether unable to procure Cloathing from any other Source than Great Britain, since the Island affords neither Materials, nor Manufacturers, it is altogether impossible for them to exist without the Assistance of both. Their Commerce with Great Britain, I apprehend does not amount to more than £20,000, Stg. per An: if so much. Their Remittances, having no produce of their own, are made either in Cash, Bills of Exchange, or Logwood and Mahogany which they procure at the Bay of Honduras; so that no Revenue arises to Great Britain from any Exports from thence. Their Commerce, therefore, is so trifling as to be utterly incapable of affecting the Trade of Great Britain in any Respect. Again, from America they are supplied with provisions, for their shipping, and, indeed, for the support of the whole Island for at least ten Months in the Year. These are procured, either in Exchange for Cash, or Salt, or else purchased by the hire of their Vessels, which have been Carriers for America and the West Indies from the first Settlement of the Island. The Inhabitants are a people, who, from their immediate Connection and frequent Intercourse with the Continent, have contracted an affection for this Country. They consider the Americans as Brethren, and their Souls are animated with the same generous Ardor for Liberty that prevails on the Continent; they are most Zealous Friends to the Cause of America, and would readily join with it, in any Measures to secure those inestimable privileges now contending for; in short, they consider the Cause as their own, and with pleasure behold every step that has been taken in support of it. Their Conduct, on a former occasion, by refusing to admit the Stamps in 1765, and obliging the Stamp Master to resign his office, I



*Thomas Jefferson. By Mather Brown, 1786.*

think must be considered as a proof of what I have here advanced. But so incapable are they of *acting* in Conjunction with America, on this Occasion, however ardently they might wish to do so, that a single Ship of War might cut off all Communication whatsoever with the Continent, and reduce the Island to the most horrid state of Distress, if once obnoxious to Great Britain. It is from this apprehension that they have not declared their most cordial Concurrence in the Measures of the Congress, and adopted them for their own Government; since such a step might involve above 12,000. people in the most irretrievable Distress. Such are the Motives which have restrained their Conduct hitherto. By Letters from some of the principal Gentlemen of the Island I think myself authorised to make this Declaration of their Sentiments, and, further, to add, that if the Congress will agree to supply them with provisions, they will with Cheerfulness accede to any Restrictions they may think proper to impose. They will enter into the most solemn Engagements that no Commodities shall be reshipped from thence to any other place which the Congress may think proper to have no Commerce with. They will enter into an association against all sumptuary Articles, if it is demanded of them, and will agree to import nothing from Great Britain except the *absolute* Necessaries of Life. They will further engage to supply the Colonies with Salt from Turk's Island, Tortuga's, &c. in Exchange for those commodities they shall receive from them. And, finally, will readily adopt any Measures which may be judged necessary for the Benefit of America, and will strenuously oppose whatsoever may make against it's Interest. If, therefore, the Congress will agree to supply them with provisions, I think I may venture to engage, that an Association, agreeable to what I have above stated, if required, will be entered into by the first of September, the Day when all Commerce with the rest of the British Dominions is to cease.<sup>2</sup>

Perhaps, Sir, such a Measure may be attended with mutual advantages to Bermuda and the Colonies. Of this I cannot pretend to determine, but beg leave to submit the following Queries to your Consideration.

Do any of the Acts of Trade and Navigation prohibit the reshipping and Exportation of any of the produce of the Colonies from those British American Islands into which they were imported, to those parts of Europe, or other foreign Markets to which they might be exported immediately from the Colonies?

If there is no such prohibition contained in any former Acts of parliament, does the restraining Bill, by Construction, amount to such prohibition?

May not those Commodities which are permitted to be exported to the Mediterranean, and other parts of Europe, except Great Britain and Ireland, by the Congress, be exported by the way of Bermuda, notwithstanding the restraining Bill, if, upon their entering into proper Engagements, the Congress should think proper to continue their Exports to that Island.

Would not such a Continuation of the Grain Trade be attended with the most happy and salutary Effects, and be the Means of enabling America to make a more lasting Resistance to parliamentary Measures?

I have ventured [to] throw together these few Hints, with a design of offering them to your Consideration as I understand you intend to join the American Congress soon. And if any thing I have here said should be the Means of pre-

vailing on you to offer your Interest with that august Body, in behalf of my wretched Country, I shall esteem it a peculiar Happiness of my Life to have taken this opportunity of subscribing myself, with the most unfeigned Esteem, Sir, [&c.]  
St. George Tucker

1. Julian P. Boyd, ed., *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson* (Princeton, 1952), I, 167–169. Hereafter cited as Boyd, ed., *Jefferson Papers*.
2. Tucker was wrong in his date. The Continental Association specified September 10, 1775, not September 1, as the last day for exporting goods to Great Britain, Ireland, or the British West India Islands.

HENRY LAURENS TO JOHN LAURENS, LONDON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Charleston] 8th June 1775

p Capt Lessley

You will be anxious to know our proceedings in Provincial Congress I shall inform you as fully as time will permit.

The Congress has sat daily from the first day of this Month; so diligent have we been that have I thought my Self fortunate by an adjournment for two or three Hours after Sitting about five in one Spot Some times I have not been relieved in Seven & an half <sup>2</sup> – I wish I could add an Account of good fruits from so much Industry. . . .

We have ordered the Pilots not to board or bring in any Man of War or Transport Ship, What is to become of Lord Wm C[ampbell] & his Suite?

I argued our conduct would be ungrateful, inhuman & answer no other end but that of Shewing our ill temper – but the order was confirmed; His Lordship will certainly find a way into this Harbour without the aid of our pilots –

Qn? whether the Militia Should receive him agreeable to an order from the Lieutt Governor, at his Landing?—much altercation ensued without conclusion on the point – but if we agree to a Report now before us in which tis recommended that all the Militia Officers Should resign their Commissions, His Excellency will not have the Honour of Seing our Traind Bands as a first object. –

A Report that we Should immediately purchase & fit out as a Ship of War the *Marie Wilhelmina* to mount about 50 Guns in order to keep out any of His Majesties Ships of War (& as Some whispers went to Seize & take the *Tamar* now in port) & for the better defence of this Harbour & Town was considered the 5th when the debates were apparantly exhausted & the Qn? called for – two or three Members rose & requested to know the opinion of the Chairman – I declined Such interposition – nevertheless a violent advocate rose & dropped such expressions as produced a confused clamour & dialouge Some what Like the inclosed account of it <sup>3</sup> – when that Noise had Subsided in order to gratify the Members who had desired to know my Sentiments as well as to Speak them on so important a point & Shew that I would not be intimidated I did Speak nearly in the words following the dialogue – the Question was put & passed in the Negative by so great a Majority as all the difference between 11 Yeas & about 180 Nays – in consequence of that disappointment a long train of Armed Schooners, Fortifications, & the intended Blockade of the Channels into the Harbour, all the effects of Fear & Zeal in a deleriam, was postponed & Laid aside, –

We had Some days ago prohibited the exportation of Corn & yesterday forbid the further Shipping of Rice – all that remains in the Province is to be purchased & Stored for the public Service in different quarters of the Country upon a Supposition that no more than 3 or 4 Thousand Barrels are on hand but I am assured there are nearer Ten thousand – another Scheme of groundless Fears in Some & Interested views in others –

1. Henry Laurens Letter Book, 1774–75, SCHS.
2. Laurens had been elected president of the Provincial Congress.
3. Not enclosed.

## 9 June

### PROCLAMATION OF SIR GUY CARLETON, GOVERNOR OF CANADA <sup>1</sup>

By His Excellency Guy Carleton, Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Province of Quebec, and the territories depending thereon in America, Vice Admiral of the same, and Major General of his Majesties forces, commanding the Northern district &c &c –

Whereas a Rebellion prevails in many of His Majestys colonies in America, and particularly in some of the neighbouring ones; and whereas many of the said Rebels have, with an armed force, made invasions of late into this province, attacking and carrying away from thence a party of His Majesty's troops, together with a parcel of stores, and a vessel belonging to his Majesty, and are at present actually invading this province with arms in a Traitorous and hostile Manner, to the great terror of his Majesty's subjects, and in open defiance of his laws and government; falsely and maliciously giving out by themselves and their abettors, that the motives for their so doing are, to prevent the inhabitants of this province from being taxed and oppressed by government, together with divers other false and seditious reports, tending to inflame the minds of the people, and alienate them from his Majesty; to the end, therefore, that so treasonable an invasion may be soon defeated, that all such traitors, with their said abettors may be speedily brought to justice, and the public peace and tranquility of this province again restored, which the ordinary course of the civil law is at present unable to effect, I have thought fit to issue this Proclamation, hereby declaring that until the afore-said good purposes can be attained, I shall, in virtue of the powers and authority in me vested by his Majesty, execute Martial law and cause the same to be executed throughout this province, and to that end I shall order the Militia within the same to be forthwith raised; but as a sufficient number of Commissions to the several Officers thereof cannot be immediately made out, I shall in the mean time direct all those having any Militia Commissions from the Honorable Thomas Gage, the Honble James Murray, Ralph Barton, and Frederick Haldimand Esqr heretofore his Majesty's governors in this province; or either of them, to obey the same, and execute the powers therein mentioned, until they shall receive orders from me to the contrary: and I do accordingly in his Majesty's name require and Command all his subjects in this province, and others whom it may concern, on pain of disobedience, to be aiding and assisting to the said commissioned Officers, and others who are or may be commissioned by me, in the execution of their said Commissions for his Majesty's Service.

Given under my hand and seal of arms at Montreal, this 9th day of June, 1775, in the 15th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, and so forth—

Guy Carleton

By His Excellencys Command H. T. Cramahe—

1. Mackenzie Papers, CL.

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Friday, June 9, 1775

*Ordered*, That Captain [Isaac] Stone of Oakham, Deacon [John] Hovey, Colonel [James] Prescott, Colonel [Michael] Farley, and Colonel [Jonathan] Grout, be a Committee to consider what is proper to be done with the Prisoners brought to this place from Arundel

Afternoon

*Ordered*, That the Guard, who has in custody the Prisoners from Arundel be relieved by a Guard from the Town of Watertown.

*Ordered*, That the Papers exhibited to this Congress by Captain [Elisha] Phelps be returned to him by Major [John] Bliss.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

DEPOSITION OF SAMUEL SMITH, MASTER OF SLOOP *Polly* <sup>1</sup>

I the Subscriber Being of Lawful age Do Testify That Being in a Coasting Sloop [the *Polly*] Belonging to Arundel and on my Return from Plimouth was taken By a Cutter Belonging to Admiral Graves Squadron in Boston & carried in to that Port & their Detaind Several Days & Being Solliscited by Admiral Graves' Secretary to Enter into His majestys Service and knowing no other way wherein I Could Possibly make my Escape I Enterd into Sd Service to Go to Winsor in Nova Scotia for Hay & other things, and Haveing one Josiah Jones Put on Bord as factor. and Being Ready to Sail I Desird of the Capt of our Convoy Leave to Sail But He told me I must not Sail til to morrow att ten o: Clock as their was a Number other vessels in the same Employ & Should all Sail together I then Desird Leave [of] Mr Jones to Hall off into the Road & obtaind Leav it Being Dark & I Got Consent of our factor mr Jones to Sail I therefor Embracd the oppertunity & Emmediatly Sailed for Arundel where I arrivd in about twenty four Ours and Deliverd up mr Jones & one Jonat Hicks Who was Intraducd on Board my Sloop By mr Jones But for what Purpos I cannot tell. and further Saith that Mr Jones Desird Me to oil and Clean the fire arms that was Put on Board to Defend our Selves as He Said the Rebels might attak us on our Passage

Watertown June 9th 1775

Samuel Smith

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 138, 115.



In CONGRESS, May 17, 1775.

**R**ESOLVED, That all Exportations to Quebec, Nova-Scotia, the Island of St. John's, Newfoundland, Georgia, except the Parish of St. John's, and to East and West Florida, immediately cease; and that no Provisions of any Kind or other Necessaries be furnished to the British Fisheries on the American Coasts, until it be otherwise determined by the Congress.

May 29.

*Resolved*, That no Provisions or Necessaries of any Kind be exported to the Island of Nantucket, except from the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*; the Convention of which Colony is desired to take Measures for effectually providing the said Island, upon their Application to purchase the same, with as much Provision as shall be necessary for its internal Use, and no more.

The Congress deeming it of great Importance to North-America, that the British Fishery should not be furnished with Provisions from this Continent through Nantucket, earnestly recommend a vigilant Execution of this Resolve to all Committees.

A true Copy from the Minutes,

CHARLES THOMPSON, Sec'y.

In Provincial CONGRESS, Watertown, June 9, 1775.

**T**HE foregoing Resolves of the Continental Congress being read, and considered—*Resolved*, That the same be forthwith Printed in Hand-Bills, (together with this Resolve) and dispersed in the several Sea-Port Towns in this Colony, that due Obedience may be paid the same—Further *Resolved*, That the Inhabitants of the Island of Nantucket, have liberty to purchase such Provisions as are necessary for the internal Use of the said Island, in any of the New-England Governments; *Provided nevertheless*, That no Provisions or necessaries of any Kind be exported to the said Island of Nantucket, without a Permit in Writing from the Committee of Safety of this Colony, or such Person or Persons as they shall appoint to give such Permit, expressing the Quantity so to be transported be first had and obtained; and that the same be exported from such Port only (in this Colony) as shall be express'd in the same Permit.

JOSEPH WARREN, President.

*Attest.*

SAMUEL FREEMAN, Sec'y.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

[Preston Boston] 9th [June, 1775]

The *Nautilus* sailed with seven Marines for completing the *Mercury* off New York, whose Captain was ordered upon his Arrival in Virginia to send either the *Otter* or *Magdalen* into the Delaware

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 107, 108, MassHS Transcript.

COLONEL ETHAN ALLEN TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

Honorable Gentlemen,

Crown Point, June 9, 1775

I am informed by Colonel [James] Easton that you are well satisfied with the economy and enterprising spirit of a number of the Sons of Liberty, who, animated with the glorious example of the brave action at Concord, were inspired to make those acquisitions to the United Colonies of which your Honours have received intelligence, viz: the sovereignty of Lake Champlain, and the fortresses thereon, with an armed sloop and all the boats on the lake, and also took into possession a schooner, which was the property of Major [Philip] Skene, and furnished it out for war. These armed vessels are at present abundantly sufficient to command the lake. The making these acquisitions has greatly attached the Canadians, and more especially the Indians, to our interest. They have no personal prejudice or controversy with the United Colonies, but act upon political principles, and consequently are inclined to fall in with the strongest side. At present ours has the appearance of it, as there are at present but about seven hundred regular Troops in all the different Posts in Canada. Add to this the consideration of the imperious and haughty conduct of the Troops which has much alienated the affections of both the Canadians and Indians from them. Probably there may soon be more Troops from England sent there, but at present you may rely on it that Canada is in a weak, and almost helpless condition. Two or three thousand men, conducted by intrepid commanders would at this juncture make a conquest of the Ministerial party in Canada, with such additional numbers as may be supposed to vie with the re-inforcements that may be sent from England. Such a plan would make a diversion in favour of the Massachusetts Bay, who have been too much burdened with the calamity that should be more general, as all partake of the salutary effects of their merit and valour in the defence of the liberties of America. There would, furthermore, be this unspeakable advantage in directing the war into Canada, that it would unite and confirm the Canadians and Indians in our interest; and as England can spare but a certain number of her Troops, therefore the more she needs to defend her interest in Canada, which at present is languid and weak, the less she can send to Boston, or any other part of the Continent. By gaining the sovereignty of Canada, would intercept the design of the Quebec Bill, and greatly discourage the Ministry who dote on the efficacy of it.

I would to God America would exert herself in proportion to the indignity offered her by a tyrannical Ministry. She might mount on eagle's wings to glory. Fame is now hovering over her head. A vast Continent must either sink to bondage, ignominy and exquisite horror, or rise triumphant above the shackles of tyranny to immortal fame.

I hope, Gentlemen, you will use your influence in forwarding men, provisions and every article for the Army that may be thought necessary. Blankets and provisions are scarce. I might have added the article of powder. It ought to be observed that the Colonies must first help their friends in Canada, and then it will be in their power to help them again.

I subscribe myself your Honours [&c.]

Ethan Allen

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 193.

# JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

[New York] Die Veneris, 9 ho. A.M. June 9th, 1775.

Mr. [Isaac] Sears informed this Congress that the following small quantities of gunpowder, formerly delivered out of the magazines in this city for sale, yet remain unsold, to wit: One hundred weight in the care of Messrs. Woodward & Kipp; one hundred weight in the care of Jeremiah Platt; about twenty pounds in the care of Messrs. Berrian and Fish, 100 lb. of damaged powder in the care of Comfort Sands, and 50 lb. do. in the care of Thomas Hazard.

*Ordered*, That these several gentlemen who have the care of the said Powder, be respectively directed to keep the whole now in their custody until the farther order of this Congress.

*Ordered*, That all the damaged Powder now in this City, and also the damaged Powder at Ticonderoga and Crown Point, be sent to the Powder Mill near Hudson's River, in Rhynebeck Precinct, to be remanufactured.

1. N.Y. Prov. Cong., I, 36.

# JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Otter*, MATTHEW SQUIRE, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775                      Moored in York River [Virginia]

Friday 9                      at 4 A M kept the Lead going from 9 to 7 fathom water . . . Weighed at 11 & kept running up to York.    at ½ past 1 P M came too with the Best Bower off York Town    found riding here his Majesty's Ship *Fowey* & *Magdalen* Schooner, at Veerd away and moored wt Cable each way

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/663.

# JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Fowey*, CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775                      York S S W Gloucester Point No off shore ½ Mile

Friday 9                      Moderate breezes at 1 P M anchored here his Majesty's sloop *Otter*.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/375.

# PURDIE'S *Virginia Gazette*, FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1775

Williamsburg June 9.

EARLY yesterday morning the Right Hon. the EARL of DUNMORE, with his LADY and FAMILY, Capt. EDWARD FOY, and some of his Lordship's

domesticks, left this city and are gone on board the *Fowey* man of war, lying at York town. His Lordship's reasons for this precipitate retreat are contained in the following message, which he left behind him, and was the same day communicated to the Hon. the House of Burgesses; reasons altogether founded upon the grossest misrepresentations his Lordship has received, this city and neighbourhood, nay the whole country, we may safely affirm, being in as orderly a state (unless training to arms be deemed a contrary behaviour, well known, however, to be a very necessary qualification, when danger threatens) as ever they have been, since the first settlement of the colony.

The *Otter* sloop of war, Capt. Morris [*sic*, Squire], is arrived in Hampton road, from Boston; we hear, to relieve his Majesty's ship *Fowey*.

## 10 June

### JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Saturday June 10th 1775

The Committee appointed to consider what is proper to be done with the Prisoners brought from Arundel, reported as follows, viz.

The Committee appointed to examine the persons and papers sent this Congress by the Committee of the Town of Arundel have attended that service and after due perusal of said Papers Josiah Jones & Jonathan Hicks therein referred to were brought before them and said Jones in his defence says he had no concern with the sloop *Polly* otherways than as a passenger in her to Nova Scotia. – notwithstanding which it appears clearly to this Committee, by sd Papers as also by the evidence of Capt [Samuel] Smith Master herewith transmitted, that sd Jones went on board sd Sloop as supercargo in the service of Gen. [Thomas] Gage to bring hay & other articles to Boston to supply our enemies. – We find by sd Jones's account of himself that he went to Boston soon after the memorable Lexington Battle of the 19 of April last in company with John Ruggles of Hardwick who was ordered by a Committee of the said Town of Hardwick and that said Jones was knowing to the proceedings of sd Committee against sd Ruggles before they set out together from Weston to take refuge in Boston, that they left the common road & went in the woods & difficult places to pass the Town of Roxbury. – This Committee upon the whole have not the least reason to doubt of sd Jones's being a Notorious enemy to his Country & of his having been employed in the actual imployment of our enemies against the Just liberties of the people therefore beg leave to report the following Order. –

In Provincial Congress 10 June 1775

Ordered that Josiah Jones taken from the sloop *Polly* be sent with a sufficient guard to the Town of Concord in the County of Midsx and committed to the common Goal there to remain until the further Order of Congress or house of Representatives of this Colony.

Said Jonathan Hicks in his defence says that since the public disputes respecting the liberties of the Country he has not liked the part that has been acted,

in many respects, on either side therefore could not see his way clear to join with any –

Upon examination the Committee find by evidence that at Gardnerstown, while he lived there, he expressed himself highly against the Committee of correspondence &c calling them rebels & using other opprobrious language against the people who appeared for liberty and endeavoured to hinder their unity That also while he the said Hicks lived at Plymouth he was esteemed by the good people there inimical to the liberties of his Country by his general conduct and that at certain times he appeared very high and once drew his sword or spear upon certain persons.

Said Hicks upon the whole owns his general conduct has been such as the people for liberty call a Tory, but still he says he is against the oppressive Acts. sd Hicks confesses that the evening after the Battle of Lexington aforesaid he left Plymouth & took shelter with the troops at Marshfield not thinking himself safe in the Country, that he went with them to Boston & there remained untill he went on board the Sloop *Polly* with Jones & says he designed for Hallifax there to tarry if he could find business in order to be out of the noise. –

Capt Smith Master, of sd Sloop can give no Account of Hick's business on board, all he can say is, he in general appeared inimical calling the liberty People rebels &c – The Committee therefore beg leave to report the following order

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 10, 1775

Ordered that Jonathan Hicks taken from the sloop *Polly* be sent with a sufficient Guard to the Town of Concord in the County of Middlesex & committed to the common Goal there to remain untill the further orders of Congress or house of Representatives of this Colony. –

Ordered, that the Hon. Mr. Sever, Colonel Otis, and Mr. Davis, be added to the Committee who were appointed to consider the expediency of establishing a number of Armed Vessels for the protection of the sea-coasts.

Resolved – That the further Consideration of the Report relative to the establishment of Armed Vessels be put off to 3 oClock in the afternoon, and that the Committee of Safety and Committee of Supplies be notified of this Resolve –

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

“REMARKS &CA. ONBOARD THE *Somerset*”<sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Moored in Boston Harbour

Saturday 10 A M fired one 18 Pr and one 9 Pr shotted, at the Rebels, on Noddle Island, who attempted to set fire to some Stores there; . . .

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/906.

BENJAMIN GREENLEAF TO DR. JOSEPH WARREN<sup>1</sup>

Sir –

Boston June 10th: 1775

A Schooner belonging to the Ewings, sails this Night, for Salem and fm thence, to New-Providence in Order, to fetch Fruit & Turtle for the army. She

is Commanded by one Mr. Hammer, But in order to deceive the Publick, one Mr Thomson of Medford a reffuge in town, has the Name of Chartering the Vessel; Thomson himself has Confessed it, to a friend, and that friend informd me, — Now, Sir, if you send to Salem you can frustrate their design —

From one that is happy in defeating such designs and your Very Humble Sert

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 193, 343.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM BARRON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN<sup>1</sup>

Sir,

Boston, June the 10, 1775

This is to inform you of my saife arivel hear on the 6 and find by Mr. [Alexander] Brimer<sup>2</sup> that the ship will be dischargd hear, which the Genarle sais he will give all the dispatch he can. But I have not discharged one Barrel yet and I dont know the time set for that are in great confusion hear. Mr. Brimyer tells me that there will be no fair of a freight at Quebeck which I shall endeavor to get the high's freight to. it is impossible Sir for me to inform you any thing consarning the setivation of this unhappy place, for every thing is kep so silent and the town so well garde with soldiers, that they will not let you go any way except just in the middel of the town. Mr. Brimyer promises to get me all the Despatch that is in power. I have nothing mor at present Sir, but shall right again in a few days by Capt. Webster, and I hop by that time I shall be better able to inform you abough matters, and remain, &c.

William Barron

1. NHS.

2. Alexander Brymer, agent of Robert Grant of London, contractor for victualling the British fleet in American waters.

*Providence Gazette*, SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1775

Providence, June 10.

Sunday last [June 4] the schooner *Pelican*, Capt. Tucker, arrived at Marblehead from London in Ballast, and brought Dispatches for General [Thomas] Gage and Admiral [Samuel] Greaves which were immediately secured by the Committee of that place and sent to the Provincial Congress at Watertown — The contents of them have not yet transpired.

"REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*"<sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Moor'd in Rhode Island Harbour

Saturdy 10 P M. Stopt the Sloop *Molly* Jno Leuther Master from Virginia with Corn and Flour

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.

COLONEL ETHAN ALLEN AND OTHERS TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS,  
PHILADELPHIA<sup>1</sup>

Crown Point, June 10, 1775

Colonel Ethan Allen; Major Samuel Elmore, of the Connecticut Farms; Colonel James Easton, of Pittsfield; Captain Seth Warner; Captain Hezekiah Bald-

ing, Captain Ebenezer Marvin, Captain Remember Baker, Captain George White; Captain James Noble, commandant at this place; Captain Amos Chapple; Captain Wait Hopkins; Captain Joseph McCracken; Captain John Grand; Captain Barnabus Barnum; Captain James Wills; Lieutenant Ira Allen; Lieutenant Oliver Parmerly; Isaac Hitchcock, Commissary; Stephen Bay, clerk to Major Elmore.

Honoured Sirs: We, whose names are prefixed above, do in Council approve of and nominate Colonel Ethan Allen, Captain Seth Warner, and Captain Remember Baker, to meet you in Congress, to consult and have your advice upon this move, which we have understood that you have approved;<sup>2</sup> we are now in possession of Ticonderoga and Crown Point. And this day, at five o'clock, our armed sloop and schooners arrived here and furnished us with intelligence, that about three hundred of the Regular forces were at St. John's, fortifying and intrenching upon the Grants near this place. We think it might be practicable, in case of emergency, to raise about five hundred men, in case (as they are poor) of encouragement. Colonel Allen has behaved, in this affair, very singularly remarkable for his courage, and must, in duty, recommend him to you and the whole Continent.

A number of gentlemen, among whom were Major Elmore of Connecticut, and Colonel Easton, of Pittsfield, contributed, as a present, to a number of Indians of the Caughnawagas and Captain Ninham, of Stockbridge, largely out of their own pockets, who ask no fee nor reward; it was given upon their assurance of friendship. The majority of us have seen the marks of his abuse that he had received at St. John's from the Regulars; they assure us (and we believe that the Indians will meddle in no way) that they understand this affair to be a family dispute

Samuel Elmore, President

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 957, 958.

2. See Journal of the Continental Congress, June 23, 1775.

#### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK<sup>1</sup>

[New York] Die Saturnii, 9 ho., June 10th, 1775.

The Mayor of the City of New-York, attending at the door, was called in, and informed the Congress that application had been made to him respecting some arms lately taken out of the baggage carts of the troops, lately embarking from this city; – and he delivered a letter from his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to him on that subject, which was read – and thereupon, Mr. [Gouverneur] Morris moved (and was seconded by Mr. [Isaac] Low) in the words following, to wit:

I move that the arms and military accoutrements taken from His Majesty's troops on Tuesday last [June 6] be restored; and for that purpose that a resolve of the Congress be made as follows:

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Congress that every inhabitant of this Colony who is possessed of any of the said arms and accoutrements, should im-

mediately deliver them to the Mayor of New-York; and that a committee be appointed to see that this resolve be complied with.

And debates arising on the said motion, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative . . .

*Ordered*, That Mr. Isaac Roosevelt, Mr. John DeLancey, and Mr. John Marston, be a committee to see this resolution complied with.

*Ordered*, That a copy of this resolve be delivered to the Mayor of the city of New York.

Colonel [James] Clinton and Mr. [Christopher] Tappen who were a committee to examine the banks of Hudson's river through the Highlands, and report the most proper place for erecting one or more fortifications, and an estimate of the expense of erecting the same, delivered in their report, with a map or plan of the said river through the Highlands, which report was read.

*Ordered*, That the said report lay for the perusal and farther consideration of the members of this Congress, and that a copy of the said report, and of the said map or plan of Hudson's River, together with a letter on that subject, to accompany the same, be forwarded to the Delegates from this Colony at the Continental Congress; and that Colo. Clinton and Mr. Tappen be a committee to prepare and report a draft of such letter.

This Congress having this morning received intimations that provisions were lading on board of a vessel, whereof one Coffin is master, for the use of the army and navy at Boston, a draft of a letter to the Delegates from this Colony at the Continental Congress, on the subject, being prepared, was read and approved of. . . .

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and sent by the first conveyance.<sup>2</sup>

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the case of Robert and John Murray and the memorial of Robert and John Murray, on the subject of their breach of the association of the late Continental Congress, and the several papers annexed to it, whereby they pray to be restored to their former commercial privileges, being read, on a Reference thereof to us by the Continental Congress and it appearing that they, the said Robert and John Murray, have published a printed handbill expressing their Contrition for their said offence and their resolution for the future strictly to adhere to the said association and to the further orders of the Continental Congress, the Provincial Congress of this Colony, and the general committee of Association for the city and county, with a saving for the said Robert (who is one of the people called Quakers) as to his religious principles; and they have voluntarily paid the expense that accrued for boat hire and otherwise, in the attendance of the committee of observation for the purpose of preventing any goods from being landed from on board the Ship *Beulah*; and they having also by letter under their hands, requested the committee of Elizabeth Town in New Jersey to keep in their custody, at the costs and risque of them, the said ship contrary to the said association until two vessels shall arrive from London with Goods into this Colony, after a general importation from Great Britain to the Colonies shall take place.



*Resolved*, therefore That the said Robert and John Murray shall be and they are hereby fully restored to their commercial privileges and declared to be entitled to the forgiveness of the public.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 37, 38.

2. See Peter VanBrugh Livingston's letter of this date.

PETER VANBRUGH LIVINGSTON, PRESIDENT OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK, TO THE NEW YORK DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen, In Provincial Congress N. York June 10th 1775

A Certain Captain Coffin being suspected of taking on board his Vessel Provisions for the Army and Navy at Boston, tho' consigned to persons in Rhode Island, We have thought proper to delay his Voyage until we have the Sentiments of the General Congress on the Subject, Our reason of Suspicion is this, that it hath been intimated to us that Messrs Lopez and Roam <sup>2</sup> to whom great part of the Cargo is consigned are commissioned to supply those Articles to the Army and Navy, which is done as is alledg'd by suffering Vessells, which Contain Provisions to lie in the Harbour unladen, untill seiz'd by a Ship of War according to Agreement for that purpose –

We should have made enquiry and Order in the premisses, but that One of our Sister Colonies being Concern'd it might tend to create divisions amongst us at a time when unanimity is so necessary to the public Safety.<sup>3</sup> We are Gent. [&c.]

P. vB. Livingston, Presid<sup>t</sup>

1. President's Letter Book, III, LC.

2. Aaron Lopez and George Rome, the latter an avowed Tory.

3. For action upon this letter, see Journal of the Continental Congress, June 14 and 15, 1775.

CHARLES MURRAY TO HUGH GAINÉ <sup>1</sup>

Mr. Gaine.

New York, 10th June, 1775

As there have been some gross Misrepresentations respecting the Stores that were taken out of my Vessel, I think it necessary before my Departure, to set that Matter before the Public in a right Point of View.<sup>2</sup> Upon my arrival here I had some Swivel Guns and Powder on board, which Capt [James] Montague, Commander of his Majesty's Ship the *King's Fisher*, thought proper to take from me, at the same Time giving me Assurance, that upon my being ready to sail they should be punctually restored to me again. I have now the Satisfaction to assure the Public, that agreeable to Promise they have been faithfully returned to me, and I am happy in the Opportunity of doing this public Justice to Capt. Montague's Character, which might have received some Injury from the Manner in which this Matter has been misrepresented. He behaved to me in every Respect like a Gentleman. I am &c.

Charles Murray

1. *New York Gazette*, June 12, 1775.

2. See the *New York Journal*, May 18, 1775.

SAMUEL ADAMS TO JAMES WARREN <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Philadelphia, June 10, 1775

Every Step is taking here for the procuring of Gunpowder from abroad and setting up the Manufacture of it in America and I believe they will be successful.

Mr. [Thomas] Mifflin assures me that large Quantities are expected in a few Weeks in this place and 200 Barrels every hour.

1. *Warren-Adams Letters, Being Chiefly a Correspondence Among John Adams, Samuel Adams, and James Warren, 1743-1814* (Boston, 1917-25) I, 55. Hereafter cited as *Warren-Adams Letters*.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia] Saturday, June 10, 1775

The committee for examining governor [Philip] Skene's letters, &c. having communicated to Congress what they found relative to the dispute between Great Britain and these Colonies;

*Resolved*, That Govr Skene, lieutenant [Patrick] Moncrieffe, and Mr. Lundy be released from their present confinement, and suffered to go at large any where within eight miles of this city, between Delaware and Schuylkill, on their parole of honor, not to pass those limits, and that they will hold no correspondence with any person whatsoever, on any political subject.

That Mr. [Christopher] Gadsden be added to the committee for examining gov'r Skene's papers, and that said committee have it in charge to execute the above resolve. they enlarge them upon their parole agreeable to the above resolve.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 86.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, DATED SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1775" <sup>1</sup>

On board Captain McCulloch,<sup>2</sup> from London, came passenger Major [Philip] Skene, Governor of Crown Point, with four other officers belonging to the regiments at Boston; they are now under a strong guard of our militia; which was occasioned by their conduct; for a few days before the Captain made the land, he spoke with a vessel, who informed them of the late battle at Boston; upon which Major Skene and the other officers endeavoured to take the command of the vessel, in order to proceed immediately to Boston, but were overpowered by the Captain and crew. The Captain put them into confinement; and having represented them to the Committee as mutineers, they will be tried for it shortly.

1. *Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, July 22, 1775.

2. Captain William McCullough of the ship *Prosperity*.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Otter*, MATTHEW SQUIRE, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

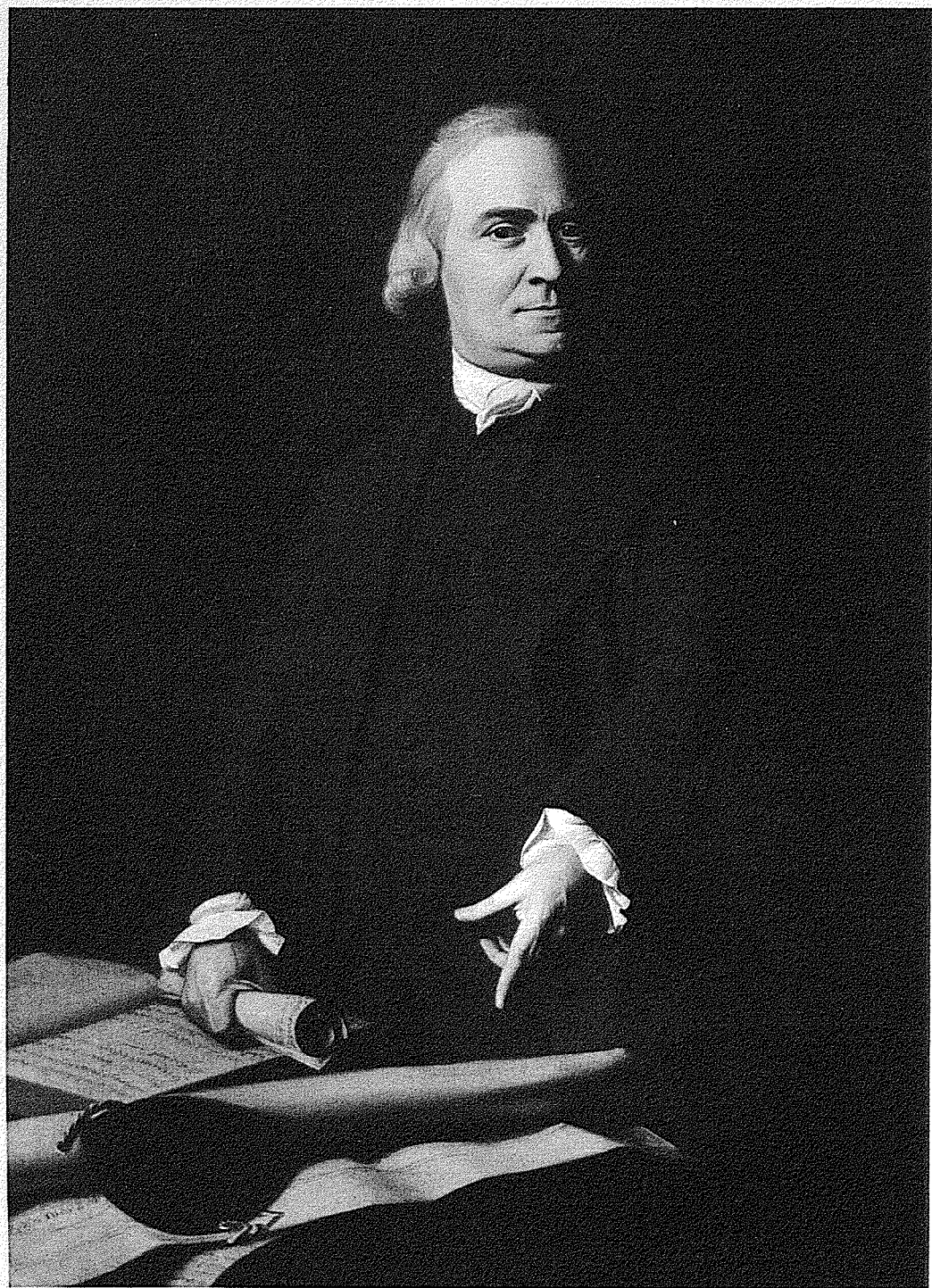
June 1775

Moored in York River [Virginia]

Saturday 10 at 11 A M his Excellency the Earl of Dunmore came on board.

Saluted him with 15 Guns the same on his leaving her.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/663.



*Samuel Adams. By John S. Copley, 1772.*

LORD DUNMORE TO THE VIRGINIA ASSEMBLY <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses,

In answer to your joint address, presented by your deputies yesterday, I acquaint you, that it appears to me the commotions among the people, and their menaces and threats (an enumeration of which I forbear, out of tenderness) have been of such public notoriety, that you must suppose many of his Majesty's subjects in this colony, whether they meditated or not, have at least manifested, such an inveteracy as justifies my suspicion that they would not hesitate to commit a crime, which, horrid and atrocious as it is, I had just ground to apprehend. And when the disposition which the House of Burgesses have shewn towards me, the returns they have made to the respect and civility which I have been forward to offer to them, the countenance they have given to the violent and disorderly proceedings of the people, his Majesty's magazine having been forced and rifled in the presence of some of the members of the House of Burgesses, and, by the information of the committee the House appointed to inspect the magazine, no other endeavours have been used than to prevail on the people to return the arms taken out, but not to commit the persons in whose possession they were found, in order that they might be brought to the punishment due to so heinous an offence, no less against the peace and good order of the country than the dignity and authority of the King; when a body of men assembled in the city of Williamsburg, not only to the knowledge, but with the approbation of every body, for the avowed purpose of attacking a party of the King's forces, which, without the least foundation, it was reported were marching to my protection, and which, if true, ought to have been approved and aided, not opposed and insulted, by all good and loyal subjects; when especially the House of Burgesses, or a committee of the House (which is the same) has ventured upon a step fraught with the most alarming consequences, in ordering and appointing guards, without even consulting me, to mount in the city of Williamsburg, as is pretended, to protect the magazine, but which may well be doubted, as there then remained nothing therein which required being guarded; but if otherwise, this step nevertheless shows a design to usurp the executive power, which, if it be persisted in, subverts the constitution: I say, when these circumstances are duly considered, I may submit it to your own judgment whether I could reasonably expect any good effect from communicating the ground of my uneasiness to you.

But as you are pleased, Gentlemen, now to assure me, that you will cheerfully concur in any measure that may be proposed proper for the security of myself and family, I leave to your own consideration whether that can be effected any otherwise than by reinstating me in the full powers of my office, as his Majesty's representative, by opening the courts of justice, and restoring the energy of the laws, which is all the security requisite for all parties; by disarming all independent companies, or other bodies of men raised and acting in defiance of lawful authority, and by obliging those who have taken any of his Majesty's publick store of arms to deliver them up immediately; and, what is not less essential than any thing, by your own example, and every means, in your power, abolishing that spirit of persecution, which, to the disgrace of humanity, now reigns, and pursues with

menaces and acts of oppression, all persons who differ from the multitude in political opinion, or are attached from principles and duty to the service of their King and government; by which means the deluded people never hearing but the disfigured side of a story, their minds are continually kept in that ferment which subjects them for ever to be imposed upon, and leads to the commission of any desperate act, and endangers the general safety. For the more speedy accomplishment of these ends, and the great object and necessary business of the sessions, I shall have no objection to your adjourning to the town of York, where I will meet you, and remain with you till your business be finished.

With respect to your entreaty that I should return to the palace, as the most likely means of quieting the minds of the people, I must represent to you, that, unless there be among you a sincere and active desire to seize this opportunity, now offered to you by Parliament, of establishing the freedom of your country upon a fixed and known foundation, and of uniting yourselves with your fellow subjects of Great Britain in one common bond of interest, and mutual assistance, my return to Williamsburg would be as fruitless to the people, as, possibly, it might be dangerous to myself. But if your proceedings manifest that happy disposition, which is to be desired ardently by every good friend to this as well as the mother country, I assure you, in the warmth of my heart, that I will return, with the greatest joy, and shall consider it as the most fortunate event of my life if you give me an opportunity to be an instrument of promoting your happiness, and a mediator between you and the supreme authority, to obtain for you every explanation of your doubts, and the fullest conviction of the sincerity of their desire to confirm to you the undisturbed enjoyment of your rights and liberty; and I shall be well pleased, by bringing my family back again, that you should have such a pledge of my attachment to this country, and of my wishes to cultivate a close and lasting intimacy with the inhabitants.

June 10, 1775.

DUNMORE.

1. Dixon and Hunter's *Virginia Gazette*, June 17, 1775, with the letter headed by the editorial comment: "The Governour's answer to the joint address of the Hon. the Council and the House of Burgesses, in consequence of the message which his Excellency left behind him, upon his retreat on board the *Fowey* man of war."

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO CAPTAIN HENRY BRYNE, HIS MAJESTY'S  
SLOOP *Pomona*<sup>1</sup>

By James Young Esqr Vice Admiral of the Red &c.

Vice Admiral [William] Parry, having delivered me an Anonymous Letter he had just received from St Croix dated the 10th May 1775, (a Copy of which is annexed) acquainting him that a Combination is between that Place and the British Colonies of America, and that He (the writer) was informed they had shipped from that Place to Norfolk in Virginia 42 Barrels of Gun Powder and several pieces of Cannon, and had ready for shipping 36 Barrels of Gun Powder more and eight pieces of Cannon, in consequence of which information

You are hereby required and directed forthwith to Complete the Provisions Wood and Water of his Majesty's Sloop *Pomona* under your Command to Eight Weeks, and then immediately proceed with her and Cruise off the Island St

Croix, and there intercept and Seize such British or Foreign Ships as you may meet with and have sufficient Reason to believe they are employed in carrying on the above very pernicious illicit Trade; and bring the same to me to this Harbour to be proceeded against in the Court of Vice Admiralty as transgressing the Laws of Trade and Navigation, and for your further Government herein you are strictly required and directed to take particular care that his Majesty's intention with respect to the Examining and seizing Foreign Ships and Vessels under such circumstances as are described in Lord Rochford's Letters to the Lord Commissioners of the Admiralty Dated the 26 January and the 20 February last, and are particularly set forth in my General Order marked No 5 to you Dated the 9th Instant <sup>2</sup> be punctually complied with:

You are to remain on this Service till the 20th July and are then to return to this Harbour for further Orders: you are by every opportunity to transmit me an Account of the State and Condition of his Majesty's Sloop under your Command, together with such intelligence as you may receive; which you may judge proper for my knowledge: and in case you should gain any intelligence that you think I ought to be made immediately acquainted with, you are then to make the best of your way with such intelligence to this Harbour; or whatever Island you shall hear of my being at, and at the expiration of your Cruise, you are to deliver me a Journal of your proceedings. For which this shall be your Order.

Given under my Hand on board the *Portland*, in English Harbour Antigua the 10th June 1775

Jam<sup>s</sup> Young.

By Command of the Admiral Geo: Lawford

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/309.

2. Lord Rochford's letters, based upon reports of illicit trade between St. Eustatia and the British Colonies in America, directed that foreign ships suspected of carrying arms or ammunition should be examined only within two or three miles of land and not on the high seas.

#### VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO PHILIP STEPHENS <sup>1</sup>

Sir *Portland* at English Harbour Island of Antigua 10th June 1775

Please to acquaint my Lords Commissrs, [of] the Admiralty that I arrived at this place in His Maj[ts Shi]p *Portland* (with the *Pomona* Sloop in Company) the [1st in]stant, and have taken Command of his Majesty's Ships [&] Vessels in these Seas: And shall forthwith put in execution their Lordships Orders and Instructions to me, [da]ted the 15th April last; likewise such unexecuted and [St]anding Orders as have been delivered to me by Vice Admiral [William] Parry; who Sails for England in the *Chatham* [to]morrow; with the *Favorite* Sloop under His Command.

The inclosed is Copy of an Anonymous Letter, de[li]vered me by Vice Admiral Parry, which He informs [me] he had just received; <sup>2</sup> and I have transmitted it herewith for their Lordships information: and I [req]uest you will further acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that I shall immedi[ate]ly Order Captain [Henry] Brine of the *Pomona* Sloop [to] proceed & Cruize off the Island St Croix to look for said Vessels; and Act therein, agreeable to His Majesty's Intentions on that head; Signified by Lord Rochfords Letter of the 20th

February last, and [co]mmunicated to me in their Lordships Orders of the 15th April last.

I have likewise inclosed herewith the St[ate] and Condition of His Majesty's Ships & Vessels under my Command. I am Sir [&c.] Jam<sup>s</sup> Young

[Endorsed] 15 July Send Ent. & copy of the enclosed Lr to the Earl of Rochford for H.M. inform.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/309.

2. See letter of G.C. to Parry, St. Croix, May 10th 1775.

## 11 June (Sunday)

"PILOT NATHANIEL GODFREY'S REPORT OF ACTION BETWEEN THE SCHOONER *Margueritta* AND THE REBELS AT MACHIAS"<sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

June 11th [1775]

Laying in Mechias River, about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a Mile below the Falls, to protect two Sloops belonging to Mr. [Ichabod] Jones Mercht. one laying at the Falls, the other  $\frac{1}{2}$  a Mile below us, Mr. [James] Moore and the other Officer being ashore at the Meeting House, hearing a Bustle looked out of the Window & saw a Number of People Armed making towards the House, they immediately jumped out, & made their escape in a Boat sent from the Schooner, before their pursuers (who were very numerous) came up with them. A Party immediately went to the Sloop which lay'd at the Falls & plundered her, then assembled to the Number of One hundred within hail of the Schooner, & demanded her to strike to the Sons of Liberty; Mr. Moore enquired what they wanted, was answered Mr. Jones, whom they said was onboard the Schooner. At  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 8 o'Clock in the Evening Mr. Moore thought proper to weigh Anchor and drop down towards the Sloop which lay'd below him; which they discovering made themselves Masters of her, & ran her ashore. Mr. Moore then anchored within Fifteen Yards, with an Intent to retake her, & get her off; he was hailed on Shore by the Rebels, once more desiring him to strike to the Sons of Liberty, threatening him with Death if he resisted, upon Mr. Moore's replying he was not ready yet, they fired a Volley of small Arms, which was returned from the Schooner with Swivels and Small Arms. The Firing continued about an hour and a half, Mr. Moore then cut the Cable, drop't down Half a Mile lower, & anchored near a Sloop laden with Boards. In the Night they endeavoured to Board us with a Number of Boats & Canoes, but were beat off by a brisk fire from the Swivels & obliged to quit their Boats, four of which in the Morning were left upon the Flats full of holes; we had but one Man Wounded. We hauled the Sloop alongside, took in some Planks, & made a Barricadoe fore & Aft to defend ourselves from the Small Arms. The Captain of the Sloop being well acquainted with the River, carried us down at Daybreak, during the Passage we were continually fired at from the Shore, having a smart Breeze, in jibing, carried away our Booms and Gaff: we saw a Sloop at Anchor about a League off, Mr. Moore came to an Anchor, sent his Boat aboard her, & brought her alongside, took her Boom and Gaff & fixed them in the Schooner, A Sloop & Schooner appeared, we immediately weighed Anchor & stood out for the Sea, they coming up with us very fast, we began to fire our Stern Swivels, & small

Arms as soon as within reach. When within hail, they again desired us to strike to the Sons of Liberty, promising to treat us well, but if we made any resistance they [would] put us to Death, Mr. Moore seeing there was no possibility of getting clear, luffed the Vessel too and gave them a Broadside with Swivels & Small Arms in the best manner he was able, and likewise threw some Hand Grenadoes into them; they immediately laid us Onboard, the Sloop on the Starboard Quarter, the Schooner on the Larboard Bow. At that Instant Mr. Moore received two Balls, one in his right Breast, the other in his Belly the other Officer was slightly wounded in the Side, one Marine killed, two more Wounded, & two Seamen. The Rebels took Possession of the Schooner, & carried her up to Mechais, in great triumph, with their Colours flying. they carried Mr. Moore down into his Cabbin, & asked him why he did not strike when they hailed him, he look'd up and told them "he preferred Death before yielding to such a sett of Villains" – The Rebels had two Killed and four Wounded, one of which expired soon after, Mr. Moore was carried to Mr. Jones's house, where he expired the day following in the afternoon, the 18th the Rebels marched those Men belonging to the Schooner (who were not Wounded) to the Congress. Mr. Moore telling them before his death, that I was a pressed Man, I obtained my Liberty, & went Passenger in a Brig to Halifax, for which I paid four Dollars.

(Signed) Nath<sup>l</sup> Godfrey

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

#### GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

Boston 11th June 1775

Sir, Having Ordered the *Pallas* transport to go to New York, and the Agent Informing me that she cannot proceed for want of Men, I am to beg you would Order Men from your Ships to Man her, & I shall likewise be Obligated to you to give Orders to the Ships under your Command not to inlist or impress the Seamen belonging to the transports, as his Majesty's Service is much retarded for the want of them, and cannot be properly carried on, and as they are the only means left me to Supply his Majesty's Troops under my Command with every Necessary of Life.

I am Sir, [&c.]

1. Gage Papers, CL.

#### VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE<sup>1</sup>

Sir

Boston June 11, 1775

I have the Honor of your Excellency's Letter relating to the Transports Men. The Fact is that from Ill usage they will not stay in the Transports tho' the Wages is 12/6 More than the Kings Pay p Month And if they are not allowed to Enter on board the Men of War, so many Men as are determined to leave the Transports will be lost to the Service – We never impress the Transports people but in Cases of very bad behavior and at the Masters Request nor Inlist them till they have first declared they will not serve in the Transport, but the Masters deserve Severe reprehension for obliging them to quit their Vessels



Your Excellency shall always have as Many Seamen as are wanting – and I take this opportunity to repeat that every assistance in my power shall be given upon your Excellencys application to Me for the good of His Majs Service

I am Sir [&c.]

Sam<sup>l</sup> Graves.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Boston 11th June 1775

I have this day determined that Captain [John] Collins of his Majesty's Sloop *Nautilus* after Meeting the *Mercury* off New York shall proceed to the Delaware, there to be stationed. Captain Collins shall take any of your Excellency's Dispatches that are ready as I wish him to sail as soon as possible. I have the honor to be with great regard Sir [&c.]

Sam<sup>l</sup> Graves.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN JOHN COLLINS, H.M.S. *Nautilus* <sup>1</sup>

• Instead of repairing to Boston as you are directed by my Order of the 7th instant. You are hereby required and directed as soon as the business of the Transports is finished to repair to the River Delaware in his Majs Sloop under your Command, where you are to station yourself in the best manner possible to put in Execution the several Orders you have received relative to Fair Trade, Smuggling, the Importation of Arms and Ammunition, and also to put in Execution the late Acts of Parliament you have received for restraining the Commerce of this Country.

And as a Rebellion is at this time subsisting in several of the Provinces on the Continent of America, you are to be upon your Guard against any Surprise, to strictly examine all Vessels you meet that none may be upon the Seas illegally, and to give every Assistance in your Power to his Majs liege Subjects for the Preservation of their Lives and Properties against all Persons whatever. You are to remain stationed in the Delaware until further Orders.

Given under my hand on board his Majs Ship *Preston* at Boston the 11 June 1775.

Sam<sup>l</sup> Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 440, MassHS Transcript.

"AN ABSTRACT OF GENERAL ORDERS GIVEN TO THE RESPECTIVE CAPTAINS OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS AND VESSELS UNDER MY [VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG] COMMAND THE 11TH. OF JUNE 1775. PURSUANT TO THEIR LORDSHIPS INSTRUCTIONS AND ORDERS TO ME DATED THE 15TH. APRIL 1775 –" <sup>1</sup>

General No 1

You are hereby required and directed Timely to Demand from the Contractors of Victualling his Majesty's Ships and Vessels( or their Agents) in these parts, all such Provisions as you may want; and are to receive the same from the said Contractors or their Agents accordingly. & to be especially careful not to

take on board at any one time more Provisions than shall be necessary for the Service whereon you may be employed, and in Case you should be Ordered to England you are on no Account, to take in more provisions than will compleat what you may have on board, to three Months of all Species, at whole Allowance; upon penalty of making good what Damage his Majesty may sustain thereby.

You are hereby directed and required, not to spare any of his Majestys Stores, to any Merchant Ship or Vessel whatsoever, unless it shall evidently appear, that the ship or Vessel is in the utmost distress for the want thereof, and that she cannot possibly be otherwise Supplied; and that his Majesty's Ship under your Command can spare the same without inconvenience; and in such Case you are not to take Bond for Delivery of like Species, but are to take care that the Party does either pay for the same on the spot, or else give sufficient Security that it shall be punctually paid to the Treasurer of the Navy in England: And you are by the first opportunity to transmit to the Navy board an Account of what Stores you have spared, to whom, and the particular reasons that induced you to do the same; together with one part of the Security taken by you for the Payment; and you are likewise to deliver to me a like Account for my information therein.

And Whereas Cleanliness so very essential to the health of the Companies of his Majesty's Ships employed in the West Indies ought to be particularly regarded, you are required and directed to give strict Orders to your several Officers, that whenever the Weather will permit they see his Majesty's ship washed and Cleaned between Decks, the Hammacoes sent up to be aired; and that the Men do constantly keep themselves clean, which may in a great Measure, be the means of preserving their health and lives.

You are further required and directed on your different Cruizes and as often as you may be at any of the Ceded Islands, &c. to cause accurate Surveys and Charts to be made of the said Coasts with exact Plans of the Harbours of such of them as have not already been Surveyed by Order of the Admirals [Joseph] Tyrrel, [Thomas] Pye, [Thomas] Mann, or [William] Parry, Noting the Soundings, Currents, Tides &c. conformable to the printed Instructions you have received on that head, and you are to send the said Charts and Plans when finished to me, in order to their being transmitted to the Admiralty by the first safe conveyance that offers.

Whenever his Majesty's Ship under your Command happens to be at English Harbour, you are to assist the Naval Officer there with as many Men as you can spare, for repairing the Careening Wharf, Storehouses &c. and converting such old and decayed stores as are convertible, to any use for his Majesty's Service abroad.

#### General (No 2)

In pursuance of Sundry representations from the Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy, to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty their Lordships Orders to me, in consequence thereof:

You are to take notice that none of his Majesty's Ships under my Command, will be allowed to be Cleaned and refitted more than once a year, and such works will only be done to them which appear to be absolutely necessary; And no Bills will be allowed for any Works done between one cleaning and refitting and another

unless some unavoidable Accident makes the same absolutely necessary; that nothing will be admitted as such, but springing a Leak or carrying away a Mast or Masts.

And the said Commissioners having likewise represented that the Expence of Cordage and Stores of all Sorts appears to them to be so very great that they cannot help entertaining an Opinion that the carelessness in the use and management of them and that Riggers often Condemned when it might last much longer. You are therefore hereby strictly required and directed to be very careful in the management of the Cordage and Stores of all Sorts, belonging to the Ship under your Command, and to use the utmost good Husbandry in the Expenditure of them.

And you are on no Account to bear a Pilot on the books of the ship you Command, except when you are under Orders to proceed to Sea; and the Service you are Ordered on makes the same absolutely necessary.

General (No. 3)

Mr. Secretary Conway (One of his Majesty's late principal Secretaries of State) having transmitted to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, in his Letter dated the 18th. of November 1765 Communicated the Minute of the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury relative to the Importation of Bullion into his Majesty's Colonies in Foreign Bottoms &c. You are hereby required and directed in pursuance of his Majesty's pleasure, Signified by Mr. Secretary Conway, in his aforesaid Letter, to omit nothing in your power to establish the regulations contained in the said Minute; (a Copy whereof is enclosed) which are found to be so essentially advantageous to the Trade of the Colonies as well as the Kingdom of Great Britain.

General (No. 5)

Intelligence having been received that a very illicit Trade has of late been carried on from St. Eustatia and other Dutch Settlements to his Majesty's Colonies in America: You are hereby required and directed in pursuance of the Kings pleasure Signified to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty by the Earl of Rockford, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, in his Letter of the 26th. January 1775, to be particularly attentive to the above object, and you are hereby Ordered (when Cruizing with the ship you Command on such Station as shall be allotted you) to intercept and Seize any British or Foreign Ships which may be found carrying on an illicit Trade, and which may have on board prohibited Goods, Merchandize, or Warlike Stores, destined to his Majesty's Colonies in America, taking care to behave with necessary moderation and prudence in the execution of this Service.

But his Lordship having by His Majesty's Command further acquainted the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, in his Letter of the 20th February last; that it is only intended that such Foreign Ships should be examined and Seized as may be found hovering about his Majesty's Colonies in America; or within two Leagues from the Land belonging thereto; but that no Foreign Ships shall be examined and Seized on the High Seas at more than two Leagues distance from the Land, unless the Commander of his Majesty's Ships shall have some particular well



JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Monday, June 12, 1775

*Resolved*, That two persons be appointed to repair to the Fortress of Ticonderoga, to examine into the state of the Fortress, and of affairs there, and to act in such a manner as they shall be directed by this Congress, and that four o'clock in the afternoon be assigned for the choice of such persons by ballot; and that the Hon. Major [Joseph] Hawley, Hon. Colonel [James] Warren, and Mr. [James] Sullivan, be a Committee to prepare instructions for such Delegates.

The Committee who were appointed to consider the expediency of establishing a number of armed Vessels, reported. The consideration of the Report was put off to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

## Afternoon

*Ordered*, That Mr. [James] Sullivan, Hon. Colonel [James] Warren, and Colonel [Joseph] Gerrish, be a Committee to consider what is best to be done with respect to a Vessel said to be going from Salem to New-Providence for Fruit and Turtle for the Army at Boston, and report.

The Committee appointed to consider what is best to be done relative to a Vessel going from Salem to New-Providence, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows:

Whereas this Congress has been informed that a Schooner belonging to the Irvings in Boston, is fitted out under colour of being chartered by one Thompson, who has lately fled from Medford to Boston, but is really destined to Salem, and from thence to New-Providence, to get Fruit, Turtle, and Provisions of other kinds, for the sustenance and feasting of those Troops who are, as pirates and robbers committing daily hostilities and depredations on the good people of this Colony and all America:

*It is therefore Resolved*, That Captain Samuel McCobb, a Member of this Congress, be immediately despatched to Salem and Marblehead, to secure said Thompson, and prevent said Vessel from going said voyage, and cause the said Thompson to be brought to this Congress. And the Committees of Correspondence, Safety, and Inspection, are directed to give the said Capt. McCobb all needed assistance therein.

*Ordered*, That Mr. [James] Sullivan, Captain [Josiah] Stone, and Major [John] Bliss, be a Committee to count and sort the votes for three gentlemen <sup>2</sup> [to go to Ticonderoga.]

The Committee having attended that service, reported, that the Hon. Mr. [Walter] Spooner, Hon. Colonel [Jedediah] Foster, and Mr. [James] Sullivan were chosen.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1402, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

2. The resolution in the morning called for two members to be selected to go to Ticonderoga, and that figure was possibly an error of the recording secretary.

By his Excellency the Honourable  
**T H O M A S G A G E, Esq;**  
Governor in Chief, in and over his Majesty's Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, and Vice-  
Admiral of the same.

## A P R O C L A M A T I O N.

**W**H E R E A S the insatuated multitudes, who have long suffered themselves to be conducted by certain well known incendiaries and traitors, in a fatal progression of crimes, against the constitutional authority of the State, have at length proceeded to avowed rebellion; and the good effects which were expected to arise from the patience and lenity of the King's government, have been often frustrated, and are now rendered hopeless, by the influence of the same evil counsels; it only remains for those who are entrusted with supreme rule as well for the punishment of the guilty, as the protection of the well affected, to prove they do not bear the sword in vain.

The infringements which have been committed upon the most sacred rights of the crown and people of Great-Britain, are too many to enumerate on one side and are all too atrocious to be palliated on the other. All unprejudiced people who have been witnesses of the late transactions, in this and the neighbouring provinces, will find upon a transient review, marks, of premeditation and conspiracy that would justify the fullness of chastisement: And even those who are least acquainted with facts, cannot fail to receive a just impression of their enormity, in proportion as they discover the arts and assiduity by which they have been falsified or concealed. The authors of the present unnatural revolt never daring to trust their cause or their actions, to the judgment of an impartial public, or even to the dispassionate reflection of their fellowers, have uniformly placed their chief confidence in the suppression of truth: And while indefatigable and shameful pains have been taken to obstruct every appeal to the real interest of the people of America; the grossest forgeries, calumnies and absurdities that ever insulted human understanding, have been imposed upon their credulity. The press, that distinguished appendage of public liberty, and when fairly and impartially employed its best support, has been invariably prostituted to the most contrary purposes: the animated language of ancient and virtuous times calculated to vindicate and promote the just rights, and interest of mankind, have been applied to countenance the most abandoned violation of those sacred blessings; and not only from the flagitious prints, but from the popular harangues of the times, men have been taught to depend upon activity in treason, for the security of their persons, and properties; till to complete the horrid profanation of terms, and of ideas, the name of God, has been introduced in the pulpits to excite and justify devastation and massacre.

The minds of men having been thus gradually prepared for the worst extremities, a number of armed persons, to the amount of many thousands assembled on the 19th of April last, and from behind walls, and lurking holes, attacked a detachment of the King's troops who not expecting so consummate an act of Phrensy, unprepared for vengeance, and willing to decline it, made use of their arms only in their own defence. Since that period the rebels, deriving confidence from impunity, have added insult to outrage; have repeatedly fired upon the King's ships and subjects, with cannon and small arms, have possessed the roads, and other communications by which the town of Boston was supplied with provisions; and with a preposterous parade of military arrangement, they affect to hold the army besieged; while part of their body make daily and indiscriminate invasions upon private property, and with a wantonness of cruelty ever incident to lawless tumult, carry depredation and distress wherever they turn their steps. The actions of the 19th of April are of such notoriety, as must baffle all attempts to con-

tradict them, and the flames of buildings and other property from the Islands, and adjacent country, for some weeks past, spread a melancholy confirmation of the subsequent assertions.

In this exigency of complicated calamities, I avail myself of the last effort within the bounds of my duty, to spare the effusion of blood; to offer, and I do hereby in his Majesty's name, offer and promise, his most gracious pardon to all persons who shall forthwith lay down their arms and return to the duties of peaceable subjects, excepting only from the benefit of such pardon, *Samuel Adams* and *John Hancock*, whose offences are of too flagitious a nature to admit of any other consideration than that of condign punishment.

And to the end that no person within the limits of this proffered mercy, may plead ignorance of the consequences of refusing it, I by these presents proclaim not only the persons above-named and excepted, but also all their adherents, associates, and abettors, meaning to comprehend in those terms, all and every person, and persons of what class, denomination or description soever, who have appeared in arms against the King's government, and shall not lay down the same as above-mentioned; and likewise all such as shall so take arms after the date hereof, or who shall in any-wise protect or conceal such offenders, or assist them with money, provision, cattle arms, ammunition, carriage, or any other necessary for subsistence or offence; Or shall hold secret correspondence with them by letter, message, signal, or otherwise, to be rebels and traitors, and as such to be treated.

**AND WHEREAS**, during the continuance of the present unnatural rebellion, justice cannot be administered by the common law of the land, the course whereof has, for a long time past, been violently impeded, and wholly interrupted; from whence results a necessity for using and exercising the law martial; I have therefore thought fit, by the authority vested in me by the royal charter, to this province to publish, and I do hereby publish, proclaim and order the use and exercise of the law martial, within and throughout this province for so long time as the present unhappy occasion shall necessarily require; whereof all persons are hereby required to take notice, and govern themselves, as well to maintain order and regularity among the peaceable inhabitants of the province, as to resist, encounter and subdue the rebels and traitors above-described by such as shall be called upon for those purposes.

To these inevitable, but I trust salutary measures, it is a far more pleasing part of my duty, to add the assurances of protection and support, to all who in so trying a crisis, shall manifest their allegiance to the King and affection to the parent state. So that such persons as may have been intimidated to quit their habitations in the course of this alarm, may return to their respective callings and professions; and stand distinct and separate from the particides of the constitution, till God in his mercy shall restore to his creatures, in this distracted land, that system of happiness from which they have been seduced, the religion of peace, and liberty founded upon law.

*GIVEN* at Boston, this twelfth day of June, in the fifteenth year of the reign of his Majesty **GEORGE the third.** by the grace of **GOD**, of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, **KING**, defender of the faith, &c. Annoque Domini, 1775.

By his Excellency's command, **THO'S GAGE.**  
**THO'S FLUCKER**, Sec'y.

*GOD Save the KING.*

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO LORD DARTMOUTH <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]  
(No. 32)

Boston June 12th 1775

My Lord, . . . Your Lordship was informed that the Forts in Rhode-Island and New-Hampshire had been Seized by the People and the Cannon removed up the Country, and the Pieces Separated and concealed in such Manner that no clear Account was to be obtained of them. Those Forts and Castle William excepted, there is None of Consequence from Casco-Bay to New-York. Fort Pownall on Penobscot had a few indifferent Guns, which were removed some Weeks ago by a detachment of the 64th Regiment assisted by an armed Schooner; and I can't learn that there is any thing at New London, unless an unserviceable old Gun or perhaps two.

Admiral [Samuel] Graves has sent a Ship to cruize for the four Regiments destined to New-York where it's Judged they could be of little use in the present Situation of that Province, and to order them to join the Troops here, where the Rebels have collected their Main Force.

Such of the Transports as can be spared will be discharged; We are obliged now to depend upon them totally for our Subsistence; and have used them for Magazines as well as transporting Troops. The Sudden Refusal of all the Colonies to Supply the Troops with Necessaries of any kind, has put us to Shifts to increase our Stock of Provisions. The Admiral has detained Ships with Flour and sent them in here and we have sent Transports to Quebec for Flour and so much Flesh-Meat as can be procured, but as little Pork or Beef is to be had in that Province, and as it is a Chance if the King's Ships meet with much at Sea; we have fallen upon various Means to procure Pork; and I hope in Some we may Succeed, so as to Supply the Troops, till Sufficient Quantities can be Sent from Europe . . .

I am obliged to use extraordinary Means also to procure Fuel; Contracts are made with traders in this Place to bring Coals from Newcastle, and I have applied to Governor [Francis] Legge concerning the Proposal of supplying the Troops with Coal from Louisbourg, and have at the same time tryed all Methods to get Wood from the Eastern parts of this Province, from whence the Town and all this part of the country, have usually got their Fire-Wood. If Transports and other Ships sent from England took in Coals for Ballast it would help considerably. Forrage is another Article we are now deprived of, we send our Transports to the Bay of Fundy and other parts of Nova-Scotia for Hay, and to the Province of Quebec for Oats, but hope in a little Time to supply ourselves with Hay with more ease.

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/92.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO LORD DARTMOUTH <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Boston, June 12th 1775

. . . It will be Necessary also [to carry on a War] to augment the Squadron with a Number of Frigates, for we hear they are fitting out Vessels of Force, in Various Places, much Superior to the Armed Sloops and Schooners;

and I will add the great Service that may be made of the flatbotomed Boats, used last War in landing Troops, big enough to hold Sixty Men including the Rowers; of which we are at this Moment in very great Need.

The Rebels have been burning Houses and driving Sheep off an Island that has an easy Communication with the Main, which drew on a Skirmish with some Marines who drove them away, but an armed Schooner that had been Sent between the Island and the Main Land, became exposed to a heavy Fire of Small Arms and two Pieces of Cannon, and unfortunately got on Shore at high Water: She was protected for a time by two Small Guns from the Ships, and two Field Pieces, but there was no Possibility of Saving her; for as the Tide fell she was left quite dry, and burned. Two Men were killed, and a few Wounded.

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/92.

#### JOURNAL OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF RHODE ISLAND <sup>1</sup>

East Greenwich, June [12] 1775

It is voted and resolved that his Honor the Deputy Governor be, and he is hereby requested to write to James Wallace, Esq., commander of His Majesty's ship *Rose*, now in the harbor of Newport, and demand of him the reason of his conduct towards the inhabitants of this colony in stopping and detaining their vessels; and also to demand of him the packets which he detains.

It is voted and resolved that the committee of safety be, and they are hereby, directed to charter two suitable vessels, for the use of the colony, and fit out the same in the best manner, to protect the trade of this colony.

That the said vessels be at the risk of the colony, and be appraised, before they are chartered, by Messrs. Joseph Anthony, Rufus Hopkins and Cromell Child, or any two of them; who are also to agree for the hire of the said vessels.

That the largest of the said vessels be manned with eighty men, exclusive of officers; and be equipped with ten guns, four-pounders; fourteen swivel guns, a sufficient number of small arms, and all necessary warlike stores.

That the small vessel be manned with a number not exceeding thirty men.

That the whole be included in the number of fifteen hundred men, ordered to be raised in this colony, and be kept in pay until the 1st day of December next, unless discharged before, by order of the General Assembly.

That they receive the same bounty and pay as the land forces, excepting that the first and second lieutenants, and master, receive the same pay as the first lieutenant of the land forces [£5 . . 8 . . 0]; and the under petty officers the same as the sergeants of the army [£2 . . 8 . . 0].

And that the lieutenant general, brigadier general and committee of safety, or the major part of them, have the power of directing and ordering said vessels; and, in case it shall appear to them that the officers and men of the said vessels can be more serviceable on shore, than at sea, to order them on shore, to defend the sea-ports of this colony.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the following officers be, and are hereby, appointed to command the said vessels, to wit: of the largest vessel, —



Abraham Whipple, commander, with the rank and power of commodore of both vessels.

John Grimes, first lieutenant

Benjamin Seabury, second lieutenant

William Bradford, of Providence, master.

Ebenezer Flagg, quartermaster, at the wages of £4, lawful money, per month.

Of the smallest vessel, Christopher Whipple, commander.

William Rhodes, lieutenant.

1. Bartlett, ed., *Records of Rhode Island*, VII, 337, 338, 346, 347.

JOHN BROWN TO AMBROSE PAGE AND NICHOLAS COOKE, DEPUTY GOVERNOR  
OF RHODE ISLAND <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen

Providence June 12th 1775

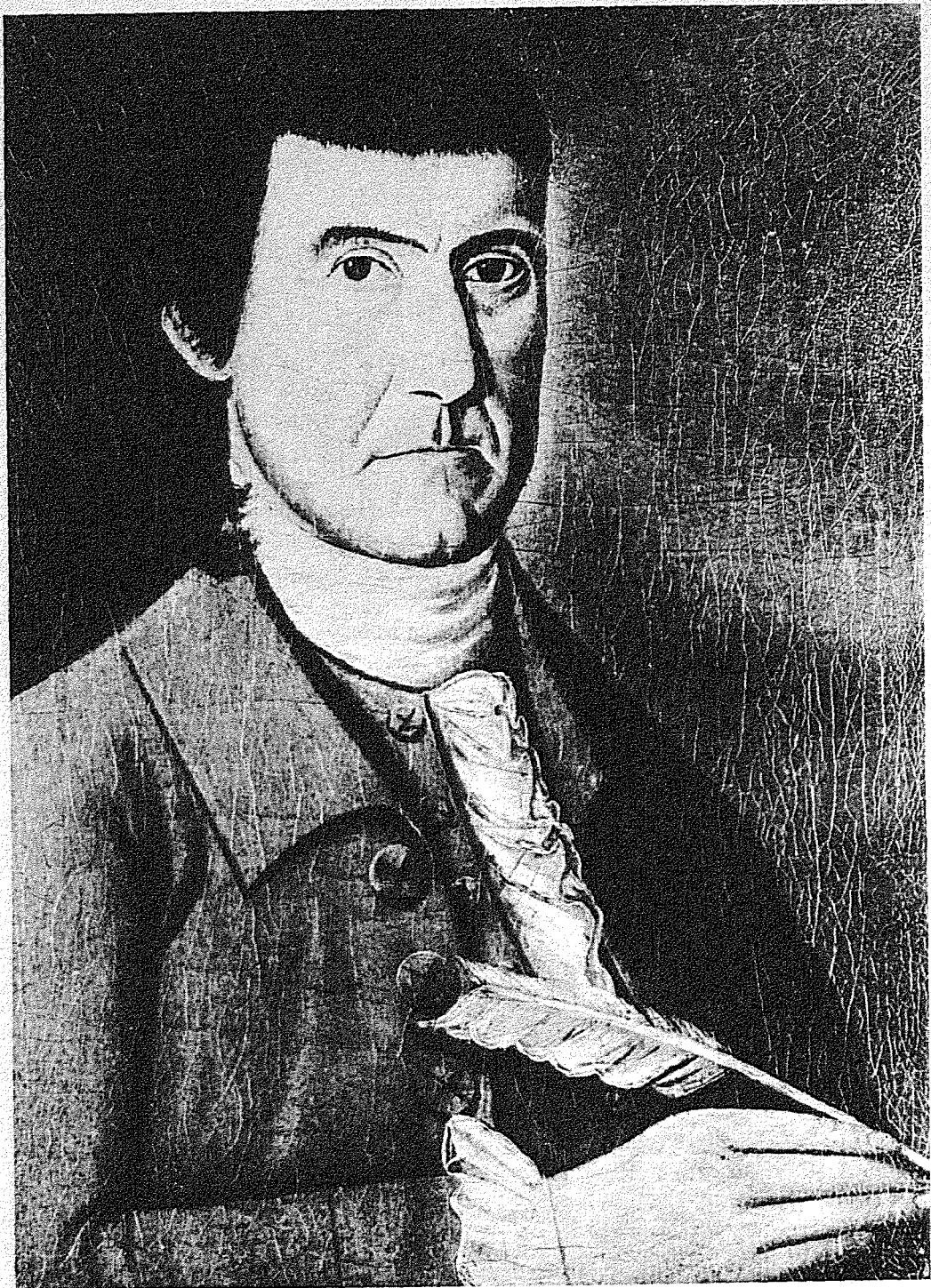
Applycation havg this Day bin Made to persons here to Risque Mr Hackers Boat, he being gone to the Camp, his Son was in Doubt wiether he Could Concent for her to go for fear his father mought Loose her as well as the one now in the hands of the men of warr, and as both the Boats now held by the men of warr are said to be Detained on Account of their haveing bin Employd in the Colonys Service in bringing up the Guns Flour &c. it is Requested that You use your Interest in the Assembly that Sum Effectual Method be Immediately Tacon in Order that the Said Boats be forthwith Deliverd up or Tacon, Sum principle people proposes that if Capt [James] Wallace will not Deliver them up the Sherriff of the County of Newport be Orderd by the Assembly to take him and Committ him to Jail till said Packetts are Delivered, Others thinks that if the Sloop *Catey* [*Katy*] goes out as my Property that it will make me so much more Obnoxious then Any Other person to Capt Wallace &c that my Vessills and Cargoes will be all tacon as they Came in, and I now having 10 Sail out, that its unreasonable that the publick Should Desire me to Sacrifise all my privit Interest for the Bennifitt of the Common Cause, Its therefore proposd that the Colony purchass Sum proper Vessill to be used in Garding the Coast, procureing powder or aney Other use they please, I Expect the *Catey* under the Command of Capt [Abraham] Whipple will go Down with Hackers Boat tomorrow to meet Collo [William] Vernon with his men so as to be Reddy to go out tomorrow nite. I mention this that the General Assembly may if they think it worthy of Notice take the Same in to Consideration and Give Such Directions in this Matter as they in their Wisdom may think proper

I am Gentlemen [&c.]

John Brown

P S. if the Colony will purchase the *Catey* I will agree to Leave it to aney three persons acquainted with navigation to Fix her Value

as I Faired so badly by Means of Undertaking to purchass the Flour for the Government, I Chuse you should keep my name Conceald from the House. Perhaps the Assembly may agree to hire and Resque both Vessills that goes to Retailk the packetts and to be at the Expense of fixing them weither they purchass or



*Nicholas Cooke. By an unknown artist, date unknown.*

not which Countenance is Absolutely Necessary for the Incoragement of those who may go that doeth not allredy belong to the Armeý –

1. Misc. Mss., RIHS.

*Newport Mercury*, MONDAY, JUNE 12, 1775

Newport, June 12.

Last Tuesday [June 6] a schooner from Philadelphia, loaded with provisions, bound to Nantucket, was brought in here by one of the men of war's tenders. We hear the provisions, in this vessel, belong to near 70 poor men at Nantucket, and the chief their families had to depend on for a considerable time to come.

Last Saturday [June 10] Capt. Cahoone, of this place, arrived here from Virginia, in a sloop loaded with Indian corn, &c. the vessel and cargo were taken into custody by the men of war in this harbour.

the above vessels, 'tis supposed, will be sent to Boston.

*New York Gazette*, MONDAY, JUNE 12, 1775

New York, June 12.

Wednesday Morning [June 7] died Patrick Strachan, Esq; Senior Lieutenant of his Majesty's Ship *Asia*.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM WILLIAMSBURG 12 JUNE [1775]"<sup>1</sup>

By a Gentln who Arrived here Yesterday from N. Carolina, we learn that Governor [Josiah] Martin had gone to Fort Johnston at Cape Fare & had sent his Lady & Family to Long Island amongst her Friends. Our Governor Lord Dunmore has Carried most of his Valuable furniture with him on board the *Fuoy* [Fowey] Man of War The remainder with his Stocks of Catle & horses, Slaves &c are to be sold here, it is said he told the Gentlemen who waited on him on board the *Fuoy* on ffryday last [June 9] he Expected the Stroke was Struck to the N. Ward before this, And the people here Unanimously believe that it was in Consequence of Dispatches received on Munday last by the *Otter* Sloop who is come round from Boston that the Governor has taken this Extraordinary Step.

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/154, 76b. It is endorsed, "By the *Richmond* Captn Patterson Arrived in Clyde the 15th of July"

### 13 June

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS<sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Tuesday, June 13, 1775

A Letter from Governour [Jonathan] Trumbull was read, inclosing a Letter from Colonel [Benedict] Arnold, and three Resolves of the Continental Congress; all which were committed to the Committee who were appointed to prepare instructions to the Committees that are to repair to Ticonderoga.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the Report relative to the establishment of armed Vessels, be put off to three o'clock in the afternoon, and

that the Committee of Safety, and Committee of Supplies, be notified of this Resolve.

#### Afternoon

The Report of the Committee on the expediency of establishing a number of armed Vessels was considered, and, after a very long debate, the further consideration of it was referred to Friday next, at eleven o'clock, A.M.

The Committee who were appointed to prepare instructions to the gentlemen chosen by this Congress to repair to Ticonderoga, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz.

To Walter Spooner, Jedediah Foster, and James Sullivan, Esquires.

You are directed to proceed, as soon as may be, to the posts of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, by the road through the new settlements called the New Hampshire Grants; that you carefully observe the quality of the said road, and judge of the feasibility of transporting provisions by the said road to the waters of Lake Champlain; that you take with you copies of the commission and instructions of the Committee of Safety to Colonel Benedict Arnold, and inform yourselves as fully as you shall be able, in what manner the said Colonel Arnold has executed his said commission and instructions.

That you make and give to the said Arnold, and any men whom he shall, by virtue of the said commission and instructions, retain in the service of this Colony, such orders as to you shall seem meet, provided always that you do not authorize the said Arnold to engage and retain in the pay of this Colony, as soldiers, a greater number than that specified in his said commission and instructions, and provided that the said Arnold, and the men whom he has retained, are free, and willing to remain at one or both of the said posts, under the command of such chief officer as is or shall be appointed by the Government of Connecticut; and in case you shall order such number of men to be continued at or near the said posts, in the pay of this Colony, as you shall judge it necessary there should be, that you appoint a Committee of one or more persons, in the pay of this Colony, to provide supplies for such men, and a Commissary to deal out such supplies to them; which Committee and Commissary you are to appoint in writing under your hands.

And you are to determine and order respecting the said Arnold's continuing in the commission and pay of this Colony, as to you shall appear most for the general service and safety, after having made yourselves fully acquainted with the spirit, capacity and conduct of the said Arnold.

And in case you shall judge it proper to discharge the said Arnold, that you direct him to return to this Colony, and render his account of the disposition of the money, ammunition, and other things, which he received at his setting out upon his expedition, and also of the charges he has incurred, and debts which he has contracted in behalf of this Colony, by virtue of the commission and instructions aforesaid.

And in case you shall find any men at the said posts properly retained and engaged there in the service of this Colony, that you cause them and their

arms to be mustered, and that to such as shall pass muster, you pay, out of the moneys which you shall receive from our Receiver-General for that purpose, this same advance pay as is, by order of Congress, paid to such men as are retained and mustered to serve within this Colony; and in case you shall not find any men at the said posts, properly engaged and retained in the service of the Colony, or that the number which you shall find so retained shall be much short of the number which said Arnold was empowered to enlist, that then you, if you shall judge that the effectual security of said posts shall require it, and if you shall also find a proper person in those parts fit and suitable for the command of four hundred men, or such less number, as together with such men as you shall find ordered and posted there by any other Colony or Colonies, and shall also find that soldiers can be raised in those parts so seasonably, as that thereby the effectual maintenance of the said posts may be served or promoted; you are to appoint meet persons to be officers and commanders for such a number of men as you shall order to be enlisted, and give the necessary orders for raising, enlisting, and maintaining them, for such term as you shall judge necessary for defence of said posts, and also appoint some sufficient and faithful man as Muster-Master and Paymaster of such men, and leave sufficient moneys in his hands for that purpose, taking proper receipts and his security that the money so left shall be applied to that use.

And you are to take a careful survey of the ordnance stores and ordnance at those posts, together with all other articles necessary for the maintenance thereof, and report the state thereof to this Congress.

And if you shall find it necessary to purchase powder for the men who shall be retained there on the part of this Colony, that you procure the same, and so much as you shall judge needful, in the best and most expeditious way you can, on the credit of this Colony.

And in general, you are fully empowered to do every thing in behalf of this Colony for the effectual securing and maintaining those posts, which you shall judge necessary equal to the importance of the same.

You are further directed, when you shall have transacted what you are, by the foregoing instructions, authorized to do and transact at the posts aforesaid, by the very first opportunity to advise the General American Congress thereof, as also of your opinion of the necessity and importance of maintaining the said posts for the general defence of these Colonies; and when you shall have made yourselves fully acquainted with the state and condition of the said posts, and dispositions and establishments which you shall find are made for maintaining of them, if you shall judge that any further provisions are necessary for securing and maintaining them, you are directed, fully and respectfully, to signify your thoughts thereon to the General Congress. You are also directed to advise the General Convention of the Colony of New York, and the Governour of the Colony of Connecticut, respectively, of what you shall order and transact by virtue of the said instructions.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1405-1408, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE <sup>1</sup>

Boston June 13. 1775.

I have the Honor to acquaint Your Excellency that I have appointed next Sunday the 18th inst for the sailing of the *Cerberus* to England unless Your Excellency wishes her to stay here Longer. I am Sir, [&c.]

Sam<sup>l</sup> Graves.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Boston June 13th: 1775.

I thank you for your letter Acquainting me of your having Appointed the 18th: Inst. for the *Cerberus*. to sail for England, my personal dispatches are to be put on board the Ship bound for Bristol, which will sail to Morrow, I shall be obliged to you to Order her Convoyd off the Coast, at least as far as Georges Bank; when the *Cerberus* sails I shall have other Dispatches. I am Sir [&c,]

1. Gage Papers, CL.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CAPTAIN ABRAHAM WHIPPLE OF THE ARMED SLOOP *Katy* <sup>1</sup>

By the Honorable Nicholas Cooke Esq Deputy Governor, and Lieutenant General, of and over the English Colony of Rhode Island, and Providence Plantations, in New England, in America.

Instructions and Orders to be observed by Captain Abraham Whipple, Commander of the Sloop *Katy*, and Commodore of the armed Vessels employed by the Government for the Protection of the Trade of this Colony, in Pursuance of the Commission herewith given him

That it shall be lawful for the Said Abraham Whipple, and he is hereby required and enjoined in His Majesty's Name George the third King of Great Britain and So forth, for which his Commission and these Special Orders Shall be a full Warrant and Discharge to him, and all others on Board his Said Vessel and the or [other] Vessels fitted out and employed as aforesaid under his Command, to encounter expulse expel and resist by Force of Arms, as well by Land as Sea, and also to kill, Slay and Destroy, by all fitting Ways Enterprizes and Means, whatsoever, all and every such Person and Persons, as Shall attempt or enterprize the Destruction, Invasion Detriment or Annoyance of the Inhabitants of this Colony or Plantations: And to take and Surprize by all Ways and Means all and every Such Person and Persons, with their Ships Vessels, Armour, Ammunition, or other Goods, as Shall in hostile Manner invade or attempt the Hurt of this Plantation or the defeating thereof, or of the Inhabitants, or of any other Colony's lawfully joined and united with this Colony for mutual Defence and Safety against a common Enemy, in order to preserve the Interest of His Majesty and his Subjects in these Parts.

2. That all Ships and Vessels carrying Soldiers, Arms, Powder, Ammunition, Horses, Provisions, Cloathing, or any thing else for the Use [of] the Armies of Enemies of the united American Colonies Shall be Seized as Prizes.

3. That the Said Abraham Whipple Shall bring or Send into this Colony or Such other Ports or Places as the Exigency of affairs Shall make convenient and Suitable all Such Ships Vessels Goods and Men as he may Seize and take, with all Such Papers Writings and Documents as he may find on Board, to the End that Such Proceedings may be had thereupon as Law and the Necessity of the Case, may Require. And that Such Ship Vessel and Goods, Shall be kept and preserved, without Spoil or Diminution and the Bulk thereof not broken until legal Decision be given for the Forfeiture and Distribution thereof.

4. That no Person taken in any Ship or Vessel, tho known to be of the Enemy's Party Shall be killed in Cold Blood, wounded, hurt, or inhumanly treated, contrary to the just Permission of War, upon Pain of Severe Punishment. And that no female Prisoner Shall be in any manner abused under great and high Penalties.

5. That the Said Abraham Whipple Shall not do or Attempt anyThing against the Commerce or Trade of the United Colonies, or those who have commerce and Friendship with them, unless it be directed against their common Safety, and Such as is declared contraband by the Continental Congress.

6. That the said Abraham Whipple his Officers and Company, Shall endeavour to the utmost of their Power to give Aid and Succour to all Such Ships and Vessels as they may find trading for the Benefit and Advantage of these united Colonies, and labour to free them from every Distress.

7. That the Said Abraham Whipple Shall on bringing or Sending in any Prize immediately give or Cause to be given Notice to the Chief Authority of any Place where Such Prize Shall be brought in, every particular relating thereto, to the End that Justice may be done to all parties concerned.

8. That the Said Abraham Whipple Shall keep a Correspondence from Time to Time, and at all Conveniences, with the Commander in Chief of this Colony or the General Assembly, of all Prizes which he Shall take, and of every Thing Material which may occur; and observe Such further Orders as Shall be given him by the Assembly or his Superior Officers

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Col. afsd by and with the Consent and Approbation of the Committee of Safety the Day of [13 June]<sup>2</sup> in the 15th Year of His Majesty's Reign A D 1775

By His Honor's Command

1. "Revolutionary Correspondence of Governor Nicholas Cooke," *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society*, New Series, XXXVI, 252-254. Hereafter cited as "Nicholas Cooke Correspondence," *AAS Proceedings*.

2. The date is approximated. The Assembly commissioned Whipple on June 12. He was cruising on June 15, 1775.

#### COLONEL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen,

Crown Point June 13th 1775

As commanding Officer here, I think it my duty to acquaint you, that having lately sent one Mr Hoit, an Indian Interpreter to Montreal, & Caughnawaga, to consult with some Gentlemen of my Acquaintance in the former Place, and with the Indians in the latter, to know their Intentions in the present dispute - he has

returned with the agreeable Intelligence that the Indians are determined not to assist the Kings Troops against us, & have made a Law, that if any one of their Tribe shall take up Arms for that purpose, he shall immediately be put to death. This is confirm'd by five of their chief Men, who are now here with their Wives & Children, and press very hard for our Army to march into Canada, being much disgusted with the Regulars. Three Stockbridge Indians, whom I lately sent to them with a Belt of Wampum & Speech, confirm the above. My Friend in Montreal, a Merchant & Gentleman of Probity, writes that I may depend on the Truth of the above, and that great numbers of the Canadians have expected a visit from us for some time, & are very impatient of our Delay, as they are determined to join us, whenever we appear in the Country with a proper Force to support them – This I am confirm'd in by many of the Canadians, having just returned from a short Excursion to the Isle aux Noix (Nuit Island) where a number of them offered to Join us. Govr [Guy] Carlton, by every artifice, has been able to raise only about 20 Canadians, and those of the Noblesse who are in Expectation of places of profit or Honor. He is now at Montreal, and has threat'nd the English Merchants, if they will not defend it in case of an Attack, he will set fire to the City & retreat to Quebec. There are now in Canada of the 7th & 26th Regiments only 550 effective men, who are quartered in the following Manner – At St. Johns & Chamblee 300, at Montreal 40, at Lachine 12, at Trois Riveres 40, at Quebec 120, and some small parties at Out-Posts. From the foregoing matters of Facts which you may rely are undoubted, & from my personal Knowledge of the Country, and Disposition of the Canadians I beg leave to observe, that if the Honorable Congress should think proper to take Possession of Montreal & Quebec, I am positive 2000 Men might very easily effect it, for which purpose I beg leave to recommend the following plan of Operation. – The Men to embark at Crown-Point and proceed in the Sloop, Schooner, Batteaus &c. to within two miles of St Johns, 1700. Men to land there, a Grand Division of a 1000. to proceed directly to Montreal via Lapreira, the other division of 700. to cut off the Communication between St Johns, Chamblee, & Montreal, and the remainder to remain on board the Shipping to secure our Retreat, who will be able to make a Diversion in favour of the Main body untill they can possess themselves of Montreal, whose Gates on our arrival at the place will be opened by our friends there, in consequence of a plan for that purpose already entered into by them – Of Course, Chamblee & St Johns must fall into our hands as well as Quebec, unless a number of Troops should arrive there before our plan can be carried into Execution, the Utility of which the Honourable Congress will be the best Judges. but must beg leave to observe, it appears to me that the Reduction of those places will discourage the Enemies of American Liberty, & in a great Measure frustrate their cruel & unjust plan of Operation, & be a means of restoring that solid peace & Harmony between Great-Britain and her Colonies, so essential to the well being of both, at least it will in my humble Opinion, be more advantageous & attended with less expence to reduce Quebec & keep Possession, where Provisions of every kind are plenty & a strong Fortress built to our hands than rebuilding Ticonderoga, as it will entirely deprive Great-Britain, of the lucrative Branch the Fur Trade, and be an inexhaustible Granary, in case we are



reduced to want, as there are annually shipped from Quebec five hundred thousand Bushels of Wheat. I hope the Exigency of the Times, & my Zeal in the Service of my Country will apologize for the Liberty of giving my Sentiments so freely on a subject which the Honourable Congress are doubtless the best Judges of, but which they in hurry may not have paid that attention to, the Matter requires. I beg leave to add that if no person appears who will undertake to carry the plan into execution (if thought advisable) I will undertake and with the Smiles of Heaven answer for the Success of it, provided I am supplied with men &c. to carry it into Execution without loss of time. I must beg leave to refer you to the Bearer, Capt [Eleazer] Oswald, for particulars who is charg'd with an imperfect memorandum of such Articles as will be wanted – I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect [&c.]

Benedict Arnold

P.S. The American Colonies in general are equally in Danger from Canada, whether it remain in the hands of the English under the present Form of its Government, or should be restored to the French, which many suspect is intended by the Ministry in England. But should, Canada be placed under a Free Government agreeable to the English Constitution, like the other Colonies, we should forever after be secure from any danger that way, as it would ever remain an English Colony, even tho' by the Treachery of the British Ministry it shou'd be given up to France, so that this measure, tho' at first view it might seem like going beyond our own province to invade the Rights of Great Britain, yet a due Regard to our own defence, as well as the advantage of the Inhabitants of that Country, makes it necessary.

B. A.

1. President's Letter Book, III, LC. For the results of Arnold's letter, see Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 108–110 (June 27, 1775).

# JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

[New York] Die Martis, 9 ho, A.M., June 13th, 1775

Colo. [James] Clinton and Mr. [Christopher] Tappen, a committee for that purpose, reported a draft of a letter to the New-York Delegates, which was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New York, June 13th, 1775.

Gentlemen: In consequence of one of your Resolves, we appointed a Committee to view the Post in the Highlands, whose report, with a map thereto annexed, you have inclosed, which is all as yet we have been able to do respecting that matter. As soon as the proper measures on that head are concluded we will transmit them to you.

We are, Gentlemen [&c.]

To the New-York Delegates in the Continental Congress

The Report mentioned in the above letter, is in the words following, to wit:

Your committee in obedience to your order of the 10th ultimo,<sup>2</sup> do most humbly report, that taking to their assistance Capt, Samuel Bayard and Cap-

tain Erasmus Williams, they proceeded to the Highlands, and made a survey of the ground adjoining to Hudson River, for the purposes mentioned in the said order, and do report it as their opinion, that a post (capable of containing three hundred men) erected on the east bank of Hudson's river, marked A, and another on the west side of the said river, to contain 200 men, marked B in the annexed map, will answer the purpose proposed and directed by the Continental Congress. As it is not only the narrowest part of the said river, but best situated on account of the high hills contiguous it, as well on the west as east side of the river, which cover those parts, so that without a strong easterly wind, or the tide no vessel can pass it; and the tide in said part of the river is generally so reverse, that a vessel is usually thrown on one side of the river or the other, by means whereof such vessels lay fair and exposed to the places your committee have fixed on. Your committee are further of opinion, that the cheapest and best materials to face these works, would be stone and lime, as there are plenty of stone on the same, and adjoining to it, and lime can be had from a little distance up the river.

Your committee beg leave to observe, that they are informed that by means of four or five booms chained together on one side of the river ready to be drawn across, the passage can be closed up to prevent any vessel passing or repassing. Your committee are further of opinion, that if the last measure should be adopted, it would be requisite and highly prudent to place one or two cannon at the mouth of the Highlands, under the care and inspection of a faithful man, to alarm the troops to be embodied at the places proposed, in time of danger. Your committee are also further informed, and are of opinion that there is on the east side of the said river, near the place fixed on in the said annexed map, marked A, a good and convenient place to build a magazine for the lodgment of gunpowder and other stores. We believe that though there is no fresh water on the spot proposed for the east post, yet a good spring is near it, so that it can be conveyed thereto with a very small expense. We think it would be also necessary to build a number of small boats for maintaining a communication between the two posts.

Your committee are unable to make a true estimate of the expense that will attend the erecting the said fortifications, but from the best computation they are able to make, it will at least amount to £1500.

All of which is most humbly submitted by your committee

James Clinton  
Christr Tappen

*Ordered*, That the foregoing letter to the New-York Delegates be engrossed, signed by the President, and (together, with a copy of the above report) transmitted by the first opportunity.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 40-41.

2. This date obviously is in error. The Provincial Congress did not assemble until May 22; and the Continental Congress resolutions of May 25, to fortify the Highlands, were not received by the New York Provincial Congress until May 29. Clinton and Tappen were appointed on May 30, so the date of "10th ultimo" is probably a copyist's error, and should have been "30th ultimo."

MASTER'S LOG OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Mercury* <sup>1</sup>

Rem[ark]s &c Tuesday 13 June 1775

P M Modt and fair Hoisted out Cutter and sent her on Bd the *Spy* Transport 30 Days from Cork with part of the 44 Regt. on Bd <sup>2</sup> Spoek the *Lord Hide* packett 34 Days from Falmouth got the bo[a]t in and Made Sail the packet in Compy

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1866.

2. The *Mercury* had sailed from Boston on June 2, 1775 under orders to cruise off Sandy Hook to intercept all transports with troops bound for New York, and divert them to Boston. See Graves to Stephens, June 16, 1775.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BALTIMORE, DATED JUNE 13 [1775]" <sup>1</sup>

A gentleman who last night came to me from Williamsburg, which he left on Friday, [June 9], brings account of Lord Dunmore having the day before gone on board a man of war at York, with his Lady and family. The Assembly sent him a deputation to invite him to return, and offered him protection, but he refused, and pretends to be afraid of being assassinated.

1. *Pennsylvania Packet*, June 19, 1775.

CORNELIUS HARNETT, CHAIRMAN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, TO THE NEW BERN COMMITTEE <sup>1</sup>

Gentn We have just received Intelligence that one of the Officers of the Man of War <sup>2</sup> is gone Express to the Northward in a small Schooner and six men It is supposed she is sent for Arms and for Warlike Stores either to Genl. [Thomas] Gage or to New York

I am for the Committee Gentn Yours &c

Corn<sup>s</sup> Harnett

If this Schooner should arrive at New Bern it may not be amiss to secure your Cannon &c

Wilmington June 13. 1775.,

1. Johnston Collection, HL.

2. His Majesty's sloop *Cruizer*.

CORNELIUS HARNETT TO THE NEW BERN COMMITTEE <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Govr [Josiah] Martin arrived at Fort Johnston incogo & it is supposed intends that as the Place of his Residence where he will No Doubt Collect Arms & Ammunition perhaps to put into the Hands of our Domesticks and the Wretched deluded People to the Westward should they be weak enough to accept them Nothing shall be wanting on our parts to Disconcert such Diabolical Schemes . . . This Committee, . . . had entered into a Resolution to prevent the Exportation of Provisions for the use of the Army Navy and Fishery which we are convinced you have also adopted

Wilmington June 13, 1775.

1. Johnston Collection, HL.

14 June

JAMES LYONS, CHAIRMAN OF THE MACHIAS COMMITTEE, TO THE  
MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen; We, the faithful & distressed inhabitants of Machias, beg leave, once more, in the most respectful manner, to approach your presence, & spread before you a just and full representation of our very critical situation.

On the 2d instant Capt Ichabod Jones arrived in this River with two sloops, accompanied with one of the Kings Tenders: <sup>2</sup> On the 3d instant, a paper was handed about for the people to sign, as a prerequisite to their obtaining any provisions, of which we were in great want. The contents of this paper, required the signers to indulge Capt Jones in carrying Lumber to Boston, & to protect him and his property, at all events: But, unhappily, for him, if not for us, it soon expired after producing effects directly contrary in their nature to those intended. The next effort, in order to carry those favorite points, was to call a meeting, which was accordingly done. On the 6th the people generally assembled at the place appointed, and seemed so averse to the measures proposed, that Capt. Jones privately went down to the Tender & caused her to move up so near the Town that her Guns would reach the Houses, & put springs upon her Cables, – The people, however, not knowing what was done, and considering themselves nearly as prisoners of war, in the hands of the common enemy, (which is our only plea for suffering Capt Jones to carry any Lumber to Boston, since your Honors conceived it improper) passed a Vote, that Capt Jones might proceed in his Business as usual without molestation, that they would purchase the provisions he brought into the place and pay him according to Contract.

After obtaining this Vote, Capt. Jones immediately ordered his Vessells to the Wharf & distributed his provisions among those only, who voted in favour of his carrying Lumber to Boston. This gave such offence to the aggrieved party, that they determined to take Capt Jones, if possible, & put a final stop to his supplying the Kings troops with any thing: Accordingly, they secretly invited the people of Mispecka & Pleasant River to join them; accordingly a number of them came & having joined our people, in the woods near the settlement; on the 11th They all agreed to take Capt Jones & Stephen Jones Esqr, in the place of Worship, which they attempted, but Capt Jones made his escape into the woods, and does not yet appear. Stephen Jones Esqr only was taken, & remains, as yet, under guard. The Capt <sup>3</sup> & Lieutenant of the Tender, were also in the Meeting House, & fled to their Vessell, hoisted their flag, & sent a Message on shore to this effect: "That he had express orders to protect Capt Jones; that he was determined to do his duty whilst he had life; & that, if the people presumed to stop Capt Jones's vessels, he would burn the Town." Upon this, a party of our men went directly to stripping the sloop that lay at the wharf, and another party went off to take possession of the other sloop which lay below & brought her up nigh a Wharf, and anchored her in the stream. The tender did not fire, but weighed her anchors as privately as possible, and in the dusk of the evening fell down & came to, within Musket shott of the sloop, which obliged our people

to slip their Cable, & run the sloop aground. In the mean time, a considerable number of our people went down in boats and canoes, lined the shore directly opposite to the Tender, and having demanded her to surrender to America, received for answer, "fire and be damn'd": they immediately fired in upon her, which she returned, and a smart engagement ensued. The Tender, at last, slipped her Cable and fell down to a small sloop, commanded by Capt. — Toby, and lashed herself to her for the remainder of the night. In the morning of the 12th, They took Capt Toby out of his vessell, for a pilot, & made all the sail they could to get off, as the wind & tide favoured; but having carried away her main boom, and meeting with a sloop from the Bay of Fundy, they came to, robbed the sloop of her boom & gaff, took almost all her provision, together with Mr Robert Avery of Norwich, in Connecticut, and proceeded on her voyage. Our people, seeing her go off in the morning, determined to follow her. About forty men, armed with guns, swords, axes & pick forks, went in Capt Jones's sloop, under the command of Capt Jeremiah O'Brian: about Twenty, armed in the same manner, & under the command of Capt Benjamin Foster, went in a small Schooner. During the Chase, our people built them breast works of pine boards, and any thing they could find in the Vessels, that would screen them from the enemy's fire. The Tender, upon the first appearance of our people, cut her boats from the stern, & made all the sail she could — but being a very dull sailor, they soon came up with her, and a most obstinate engagement ensued, both sides being determined to conquer or die: but the Tender was obliged to yield, her Captain was wounded in the breast with two balls, of which wounds he died next morning: poor Mr Avery was killed, and one of the marines, and five wounded. Only one of our men was killed, and six were wounded, one of which is since dead of his wounds.

The Battle was fought at the entrance of our harbour, & lasted for over the space of one hour. We have in our possession, four double fortified three pounders, & fourteen swivels, and a number of small arms, which we took with the Tender, besides a very small quantity of ammunition &c. Thus we have given your honors, as particular an account of this affair as possible. We now apply to you for advice, and for a supply of Ammunition & provisions (the latter of which we have petitioned your honours for already) which if we could be fully supply'd with we doubt not but with the blessing of Heaven we should be prepared to defend our selves. — We propose to convey the prisoners to Pownalborough Goal, as soon as possible, there to await your orders. — We are, with deference, your Honors-most Obedient Humble Servants —

By order of the Committee.

Ja<sup>s</sup> Lyon Chairman  
George Stillman Clerk

Machias June 14th 1775

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 193, 360–362.
2. His Majesty's schooner *Margaretta*.
3. Midshipman James Moore, commanding the tender.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Senegal*, WILLIAM DUDDINGSTON,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Moored in Falmo Harbr Casco Bay

Wednesday 14 Strong gales & fair, P M hove short the Bt & let go the Sl Bower,  
at 4, 3 or 4 hundred men under arms abreast of the Ship – Parole  
York

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/885.

ANDREW MARSTERS TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES <sup>1</sup>

Gentn.

Manchester, June the 14, 1775

I am concernd in a small Vessell, which has begun to load with the best sort of Isle Sable fish, not supposing that that sort would be wanted, but have recd. Advise today that no sort of fish is allowed to be shipt off, and as I have no inclination to be in any ways inimical to the general cause iff you think that such sort of fish will be wanted, I am willing to give itt up, but as I have begun to load the Vessell, not knowing itt would be wanted, & have been att some Considerable charges in shiping & filing the Vessell, should think itt but reasonable I should have a proper allowance for such charge – the fish shipt & ready to be shipt under my care is about seven hundred Qls.

I should be glad to be favor'd with a line As I may govern myself Accordingly  
I am &c.

And<sup>w</sup> Marsters

P S Please to direct the letter to be left with Mr. Isaac Smith att Salem.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 193, 364.

CONTRACT BETWEEN THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES AND JACOB  
BOARDMAN AND OTHERS OF NEWBURYPORT <sup>1</sup>

This Charter Party of Affreightment Indented made & fully agreed upon this fourteenth Day of June Anno Domini One Thousand Seven hundred & seventy five-Between Jacob Boardman Merchant, John Harbert Blockmaker and Joseph Stanwood Mariner all of Newbury Port in the County of Essex and Province of the Massachusetts Bay, Owners of the good Schooner, nam'd the *Britaniae* of the Portlage or Burthen of Eighty Eight Tons, now laying in the Harbour of said Newbury Port whereof Abel Coffin is at present Master on the one Part; and Elbridge Gerry, Moses Gill, Benjamin Lincoln, John Pitt and David Cheever Esqrs as a Committee of Supplies for the Colony of Massachusetts Bay, on the other Part, Witnesseth, That the said Jacob, John & Joseph for the Consideration hereinafter mentioned, have granted & letten to Freight – unto the said; Gerry, Gill, Lincoln, Pitt, and Chever, as a Committee aforesaid; all the whole Hull or Body of the said Schooner *Britaniae*, together with all and singular her Masts, Yards, Booms, Bowsprite, Rigging, Sails, Cables, Anchors, Boat Stores & Appurtenances whatsoever to her belonging and They the said Gerry Gill, Lincoln, Pitt, and Chever, as a Committee aforesaid, have in like Manner, hired & taken the

same Schooner of the said Jacob, John, & Joseph for a Voyage or Voyages with the said Schooner to be made from said Newbury-Port, to all or any of the West-India Islands, and directly back to any Part of New England, & to the said Newbury Port, the Place of the said Schooner's right & intended Discharge, and the said Jacob, John, & Joseph for themselves, their Heirs, Executors, & Administrs do covenant grant & agree to and with the said Gerry, Gill, Lincoln, Pitt, and Chever, as Committee aforesaid, by these Presents in Manner following that is to say, that the said Schooner now is, and during the Voyage & Voyages aforesaid, shall be staunch & strong, well & sufficiently Tackel'd, Appareled furnished and prepared with all Things necessary for such a Vessell in the said Voyage or Voyages, and also that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Gerry, Gill, Lincoln, Pitt and Chever as Committee aforesaid their Successors in Office, & their Factors or Assigns as well at the said Newbury Port, as at any other Port, or place whatsoever when the said Schooner hath a Right to go to or touch at during the aforesd Voyage by Virtue of this Charter Party to lade & put on board her, of all such lawful Goods Wares and Merchandize as She can conveniently stow & carry – And in Consideration whereof the said Gerry, Gill, Lincoln, Pitt and Chever as Committee aforesd for themselves & their Successors in Office, do by these Presents Covenant and agree to and with the said Jacob John & Joseph their Executrs Administrs Assigns in manner following that is to say that the said Gerry, Gill, Lincoln Pitt, and Chever as Committee aforesaid or their Successors in Office shall and will sufficiently victuall & man & pay all Port Charges during the aforesaid Voyage or Voyages, and that the Master of the said Schooner shall not alter nor deviate in the Voyage before mentioned nor use any unlawful or contraband Trade, nor do any Act or Thing whatsoever whereby the said Vessell shall be liable or subject to any Seizure, Detention or Confiscation, during the Voyage aforesd and also that in Case the said Vessel shall happen to be seized & condemned for using any contraband or unlawful Trade, or lost at Sea, or any otherwise, during the Prosecution of the Voyage aforesd that then the said Gerry, Gill, Lincoln, Pitt and Chever as aforesaid or their Successors in Office shall & will well & truly pay unto the said Jacob, John & Joseph the Sum of Four Hundred Pounds in full for the Value and worth of the said Schooner, and also the Freight Money that shall be then due, after the Rate mention'd untill the Time of Condemnation of the said Vessell – and further that the said Jerry, Gill, Lincoln, Pitt, and Chever as Committee aforesaid or their Successors in Office shall & will well & truly pay or cause to be paid unto the said Jacob John & Joseph for the full Freight and Hire of the said Schooner *Britaniae* after the Rate of Twenty three Pounds nine shillings and four Pence, for each and every Callendar Month and so in proportion for a Part of a Month as the said Schooner shall be in the said Service from the Time of her entering into Pay which commences on the fourteenth Day of June Instant to the Time of her Discharge at Newbury Port aforesaid. And to the true & faithful Performances of all & singular the Conventions, Articles & Agreements aforewritten whereof the Parties for their respective Parts & in their Capacities aforesaid bind & oblige themselves their Heirs Executrs & Adminsstrs Or Successors in Office unto the other of them their Executors

Administrs & Assigns or Successors in Office in the Penal Sum of Eight hundred Pounds firmly by these Presents: In Witness whereof the Parties aforesaid hath here unto interchangeably set their Hands & Seals, the Day & Year first aforewritten.

David Cheever	Benj Lincoln
Elbridge Gerry	John Pitts
Moses Gill	

Signed Sealed & delivered in Presence of us    Lowd Kollock    WmHunt

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 292, 565.

# JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] June 14, 1775

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed, to pay the sum of four hundred Pounds to the Committee who have been appointed by this Congress to repair to Ticonderoga; to be by said Committee appropriated as advance pay to the men enlisted under Col. Benedict Arnold, said Committee to be accountable therefor.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed to advance the sum of twenty Pounds to the Committee who have been appointed by this Congress to go to Ticonderoga, in cash, or bills of credit, at the option of said Committee, for their expences, they to be accountable therefor.

*Ordered*, That Captain [Isaac] Stone, Colonel [James] Warren, Colonel [Jonathan] Grout, Mr. [Joseph] North, and Colonel [Joseph] Otis, be a Committee to consider the Report of Colonel [Samuel] Thompson, and the Petition of Mr. [Edward] Parry, and report.

*Ordered*, That the Committee who were chosen to repair to Ticonderoga, be directed to revise <sup>2</sup> the papers that respect the Fortress there, and take such as they think they shall want, and that this Congress will not have occasion for.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1408, 1409, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

2. Probably "review," and a copyist's error.

DEPUTY GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE TO CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE, R.N.<sup>1</sup>

Sir

East Greenwich, June 14th, 1775

Long have the good people of this colony been oppressed by your conduct, in interrupting their lawful trade, and preventing the importation of the provisions necessary for their subsistence.

The acts of the British Parliament, already filled with restrictions of trade, oppressive in the highest degree, seem by you, to be thought too lenient.

Not controlled by those you affect to call your masters, you have detained the persons and taken away the properties of His Majesty's American subjects, without any warrant from the acts of trade; by which, you have greatly impeded the intercourse between this and the other colonies as well as between the different parts of this colony. The inhabitants expecting the interposition of the lawful authority of the colony, have borne these outrages with a patience almost criminal.



So long as you remain in the colony, and demean yourself as becomes your office, you may depend upon the protection of the laws, and every assistance for promoting the public service, in my power. And you may also be assured that the whole power of this colony will be exerted to secure the persons and properties of the inhabitants against every lawless invader.

I am, sir, your most humble servant

**Nicholas Cooke**

1. Bartlett, ed., *Records of Rhode Island*, VII, 338.

"REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*"<sup>1</sup>

June 1775 Moor'd in Rhode Island Harbour  
Wedsdy 14 A M Stopt the Sloop *Drummond*, Saml Sowle Master from Tobago  
with Rum and Sugar

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.

JOHN MCKESSON, SECRETARY OF THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, TO  
GEORGE CLINTON, DELEGATE TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

[Extract] New York Exchange Room June 14, 1775

A Connecticut sloop full of armed men have last Sunday Evening or rather Monday morning [June 12] carried all the salt Peter & stores from Turtle Bay. The Boats from the ships of war which pursued next day came within a mile of her; but the drum beat to arms her Crew got ready & the Boats then chose to return.

1. Hastings, ed., *Clinton Papers*, I, 203, 204.

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

[New York] Die Mercurii, 9 ho., A.M. June 14th, 1775.

Messrs. Christopher Miller and Patrick Dennis, attending at the door, were called in when they informed this Congress that they were requested by a number of the members of the Marine Society of this city,<sup>2</sup> to inform this Congress that they were about to form themselves into an artillery company, and they had nominated Mr. Anthony Rutgers, of this city, for their captain and pray the approbation of this Congress in the said nomination.

The Congress having taken the same into consideration, do unanimously approve of the nomination of Mr. Anthony Rutgers, to be captain of the said Company, and recommend to the said society to nominate for the approbation of this Congress, such persons for their officers as may be confided in.

Mr. [John] Foster (seconded by Colo. [James] Clinton) moved in the words following, to wit:

I move that a message be immediately dispatched to Major Genl [David] Wooster, commanding a body of troops in the southern part of Connecticut, requesting him forthwith to march the said Troops to the distance of five miles of this city.

Agreeable to the tenth rule of this Congress,<sup>3</sup> at the request of the Deputies of three counties, to wit, the Counties of Albany, Richmond and Charlotte,

*Ordered*, That this matter be deferred till to-morrow morning.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 41-43.

2. A benevolent society, composed of sea captains or former sea captains, to provide for widows and children of deceased members, or to care for indigent members.

3. The tenth rule, adopted at the opening session of the Congress, on May 22, 1775, provided, "That no question shall be determined on the day that it is agitated, if three Counties shall request that it be deferred to the next day," *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I.

PETER VANBRUGH LIVINGSTON, PRESIDENT OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK, TO THE NEW YORK DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen

In Provincial Congress at N. York June 14th 1775 -

Capt Thompson arrived here in a Ship from Cork last Evening, and as we understood, he had reported that several Regiments had sailed from thence to Boston and four other Regiments embark'd and embarking for New-York; the Congress desired him to attend their Board this morning to examine him upon the Subject. Upon his Attendance we took Notes of the Substance of the Intelligence he gave, and enclose a Copy thereof to you, in Order that it may be laid before the Continental Congress.

We also intend to forward the Intelligence to the Governor of Connecticut, that he may forward the same to the Camp at Cambridge

We are Gentlemen [&c.]

By Order & in behalf of the Sd Congress

P. vB. Livingston Presid<sup>t</sup>

[Enclosure]

Capt Thompson arrived at New-York Tuesday 13th June 1775. Left Cove in Ireland 6th May last, and informs that Six Regiments had sailed in 24 Transports for Boston, one Regt of Horse included, which sailed 30th April Three Regiments were embarked & the fourth embarking, to sail for New-York first fair Wind, that Regiment all full, 770 Men each filled by Drafts from the Regiments at remain, their places filled by new Recruits, the General report was, that those four Regts were coming to New-York, and that some Cpts & other Officers belonging to the Troops told Capt Thompson in person, that they were coming to New-York, One Regiment arrived at Cork (from Kilkenny) the day Capt Thompson sailed, which was the last Regiment to embark for New-York. saw 12 large Transports destined for New-York, he heard 16. One General Officer to come to New-York - The Troops coming to New-York are to support peoples property and Assist against Mobs, the report in Ireland was, that those Troops had been wrote for by persons here - The Troops in general disliked the

Service, some Officers had sold out, no Ships of War coming with the Transports, A Report in Ireland that Nine new Regiments were to be raised: – Heard that 30,000. Russians were ready at a minutes warning – That the people in Ireland in general are well affected to the Americans, and are averse to the Americans being Taxed by the Parliament of Great Britain –

Capt McIlvaine sailed (before Capt Thompson) for Philadelphia, has the Number of the Regts coming to America.

1. President's Letter Book, III, 415–417, LC.

ISAAC SEARS TO MAJOR GENERAL DAVID WOOSTER <sup>1</sup>

Dear Sir:

New York, June 14, 1775

The Troops from Cork, destined for this City, may be hourly expected. I have the pleasure to inform you that this day in [Provincial] Congress it was moved that yourself and Troops be requested to encamp within five miles of this City. The motion was put off until tomorrow, at the intercession of the members for three Counties, and you may be assured it will be carried by a great majority. I am, dear Sir, [&c.]

Isaac Sears

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1002. Wooster's rank at that time was in the Connecticut forces. He became a Brigadier General in the Continental Army on June 22, 1775.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia] Wednesday, June 14, 1775

A letter from the convention of New York, dated 10 June, 1775, respecting a vessel which is stopt there, on suspicion of having provisions on board for the army and navy at Boston, was read and referred to the delegates of Massachusetts bay, Connecticut, and New York.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 90.

15 June

MINUTES OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Capt Henry Elkins: In Committee of Safety [Portsmouth] June 15th 1775

Sr You are hereby directed to man two whale Boats out of your Company, & keep them constantly cruising off & on the Coast, & direct them to acquaint all Vessels bound to Piscataqua, having Provisions, Salt, or Molasses on board, that the Man of War there has orders to Seize them; and advise them to get into York, Newbury-Port, Hampton, or Rye, as they may judge expedient.

by order of the Committee.

The Committee gave the Receiver General orders to deliver to Capt Henry Elkins, Twenty pounds of Gun powder, taking his receipt for the same, to be accounted for.

1. *New Hampshire Historical Society Collections*, VII, 5.

JOHN WENTWORTH, GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO GENERAL  
THOMAS GAGE <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Fort William and Mary, June 15, 1775

The spirit of outrage runs so high that on Tuesday last [June 13] my house was beset by great bodies of armed men who proceeded to such length of violence as to bring a cannon directly before my house, and point it at my door, threatening fire and destruction unless Mr. Fenton (a member of the Assembly sitting) who happened to call upon me, and against whom they had taken up such resentment as occasioned him some days to retire on board a man-of-war in the Harbour out of their way, should instantly deliver himself up to them; and notwithstanding every effort to procure effectual resistance to disperse the multitude, Mr. Fenton was obliged to surrender himself, and they have carried him to Exeter about fifteen miles from Portsmouth where he is, as I am informed, kept in confinement.

Seeing every idea of the respect due to his Majesty's Commission so far lost in the frantic rage and fury of the people as to find them to proceed to such daring violence against the Person of his Representative, I found myself under the necessity of immediately withdrawing to Fort William and Mary, both to prevent as much as may be a Repetition of the like insults and to provide for my own security.

I think it exceedingly for the King's service to remain as long as possible at the Fort, where I now am with my Family in a small incommodious house without any other prospect of safety, if the prevailing madness of the people should follow me hither, than the hope of retreating on board his Majesty's ship *Scarborough*, if it should be in my power. This fort, although containing upwards of sixty pieces Cannon, is without men or ammunition.

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, VII, 381.

GOVERNOR JOHN WENTWORTH TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

Fort William and Mary in New Hampshire June the 15th 1775

Sir I cannot pass over this Opportunity without acquainting You that Tumult and Outrage hath been at length carried to such Excess at Portsmouth, as to make it necessary for me to retire to Fort William and Mary, which is entirely in a defenceless State, without Accomodation, and altogether insecure, in case the prevailing Madness of the People should follow me hither, so that although the King's Service requires my remaining at the Fort as long as possible, yet I have no Prospect of Safety but in the hope of retreating On board the *Scarborough*.

Although Captain Barkley shews the utmost readiness to do every Service and really affords all the Assistance in his power, Yet I think it my duty to mention to You that it would be not only very useful, but that it is exceedingly necessary for his Majesty's Service if the State of the Fleet under your Command would admit of it, to have another Man of War stationed in this Harbour.

Captain Barkley communicated to me your desire of having the small Cannon in this Fort, being only nine four Pounders, and agreeably thereto I ordered them

to be put Onboard the *Canceaux* for Halifax, to be restored again to the Fort if his Majesty shall be pleased to require it.

Sign'd J. Wentworth

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

"TO THE SOLDIERS AND SEAMEN SERVING IN THE BRITISH FLEET AND ARMY IN AMERICA"<sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen:

Salem, June 15, 1775

Your situation is very unhappy, being dishonoured by the most infamous service, and under the command of the most vile and miserable wretches that ever disgraced the name of Briton. General [Thomas] Gage, to his eternal infamy, has commenced a thief, robber, murderer, and common butcher of his fellow-men; he has violated the most solemn compacts, and become an apostate to every thing that is honourable or virtuous . . . Admiral [Samuel] Graves has added to the crimes of a common pirate, that of forcing Americans, whom he hath impressed, to act against their own countrymen. Turks and Indians would scorn such rascally conduct, and surely every British soldier and seamen must detest such an odious scoundrel. Gentlemen, the Americans will entertain a respect for you, consider you as their brethren, and wish to live in harmony with you, and to make you free citizens of America. May you soon be freed from the service of tyrants, become the glorious defenders of freedom, and join the victorious Americans.

Sydney

1. This letter or broadside, seeking to proselyte among the British forces in Boston, is printed in Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1004, from an unidentified source.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

Sir./

Boston June 15th 1775.

Mr [Benjamin] Hallowell informed me this Morning that the Rebels have Vessels out watching for the Trade bound to Marblehead and Salem, and to give them notice to put into Newbury Port in Order to avoid your Ships, which I think its proper you should be Acquainted with, and its Asured from other information that Vessels laden with Salt have got in there.

The Vessels laden with Flour which your Cruisers have sent in here have been of very great use to the Service, but we still are in great want of Pork, or Beef; which I am informed there is a great probability of Obtaining provided Cruisers are placed About the Coast between Block-Island, and New Haven, in the Sound, as great Quantitys of Pork is usually shipped at this Season from Connecticut to the West-Indies and the Eastern parts of this Government and that of New Hampshire,

I am, with great regard and Esteem Sir &ca.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

Sir,

Boston June 15th 1775

Two Vessels having been Armed for his Majesty's Service, I am to beg of you to Order Officers to take the Command of them and Men sufficient to Man them.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

"REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*" <sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Moor'd in Rhode Island Harbour

Thursdy 15 A M Sent the Master one Petty Officer and 11 Men Arm'd in the Sloop *Diana*, to Reconitre the different passages up the river

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.

CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE, R.N. TO DEPUTY GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE <sup>1</sup>

Sir,

His Majesty's Ship *Rose* Rhode Island, June 15, 1775

I have received your letter of the 14th inst.; although I am unacquainted with you, or what station you act in; suppose you write in behalf of some body of people; therefore, previous to my giving an answer, I must desire to know *whether* or *not*, you, or the people on whose behalf you write, are not in open rebellion to your lawful sovereign, and the acts of the British legislature!

I am, sir your most humble and most obedient servant.

Jas. Wallace

1. Bartlett, ed., *Records of Rhode Island*, VII, 338.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA STILES <sup>1</sup>

[Newport] June. 15. [1775]

An armed Packet of the Men o' War with 15 Men this afternoon went toward the No. End of Conanicut Isl[an]d to look for a Providence Vessel returning from N. York with Provision. An armed Sloop of our p[eo]ple with 50 Men and Carriage Guns and a dozen Swivels met her. An Engagement ensued about an hour before sunset the Firing tho' for near an Hour was at a Distance and without Execution. There soon came up another small armed Vessel of our people with 50 Men. Upon this the Packet run ashore at Conanicut and the Men o' Wars' men fled. The last small Vessel soon got her off and carried her off in Triumph, the 3 Vessels all sailing off Northward together. The firing was heard at Newport and a great Concourse of p[eo]ple met and gathered on the Wharves. The 2 Men o' War, (which lye near to shore) discovered great Perturbation. About Sunset they sent off another armed Vessel loaded with Marines, which proceeded so far as to find their Mate carried off and then returned without attempting any thing further.

1. Stiles, II, 98, 99, LC.

MAJOR GENERAL DAVID WOOSTER TO JONATHAN TRUMBULL, GOVERNOR OF  
CONNECTICUT <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Greenwich, June 15, 1775

Sir: I take this opportunity to acquaint your Honour of the situation of the troops under my immediate command. One Company of my Regiment, you are sensible, is ordered to Ticonderoga; five more are stationed betwixt New-Haven and this Town, and four are in this place. Colonel [David] Waterbury's Regiment are all in this Town and Stamford. The safety of the Country may possibly require my marching to New-York before I can have your orders. I would, therefore, beg of your Honour to direct me to march my Troops to New-York upon application made to me for that purpose by their Provincial Congress. Your Honour will perhaps think it expedient, when you read a letter which I have just received from Mr. [Isaac] Sears . . . <sup>2</sup>

I would also acquaint your Honour that all the military stores which were at Turtle Bay have fallen into our hands, consisting of too many articles to be enumerated in a letter, among which there are about five hundred good horse harnesses, a very considerable number of thirteen and ten-inch carcasses, cohorns, and stinkpots, all well charged; a very great plenty of grape-shot; cannon ball, from twenty-four pounders down to three, &c., &c.; a part of which articles I shall keep with me, but the greater part I shall send to New-Haven.

Your Honour cannot be unacquainted that provisions, stores, &c., can be forwarded along the Sound by water with much greater dispatch and vastly less cost to the Colony than by land; however, at present it is difficult, on account of the tenders and cutters which are perpetually about. We have at New Haven a number of cannon; I have with me all other kinds of military stores, except powder, requisite for a guardcosta; Mr. [Peter] Colt, of New-Haven, has a fine vessel very proper for the business. We have in the Army a very sufficient number of men well acquainted with the seas, and good resolute fellows, and it is my opinion, that the additional cost to the Colony will be nothing more than the hire of the vessel and the powder; that about a hundred of the men under my command cannot be employed in any way so much to the advantage of the Country. I am Sir [&c.]

David Wooster

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1001, 1002.

2. See Sears' letter of June 14, 1775.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Asia*, CAPTAIN GEORGE VANDEPUT,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Moor'd in the No River off the Battery

Thursday 15 A M bent Sails came on Board the Pilot, Reced fresh Beef & Beer  
P M at 3 Unmoor'd & hove short on the Bt Br at 5 came to Sail  
[at] ½ past came too in 7 Fathms with the Bt Br & veer'd to ½  
a Cable, card out the Kedge Anchor with 2 Hawsers to Steady the  
Ship

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/67.

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

[New-York] Die Jovis, 9 ho. A.M., June 15th, 1775.

The Congress resumed the consideration of Mr. [John] Foster's motion of yesterday; and thereupon,

*Ordered*, That a message be immediately dispatched to Major-General [David] Wooster, now commanding a body of troops in the southern part of Connecticut, requesting him forthwith to march the said Troops with their tents and other necessities to the distance of five miles from this city, to be subject to the orders and direction of the Continental or this Congress, while the said troops shall continue in this Colony. And

*Resolved*, That we will assist the commissaries of the said forces in procuring such necessities for their accomodation as shall be procured within this Colony.

A draft of a Letter to Gen. Wooster on that subject being read and approved of, is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June, 1775

Sir: You will see by the enclosed order, that this Congress think it expedient to request you to march to this Colony with the troops under your command. If you are not at liberty to comply with the terms of this order until you consult the Governor and Company of Connecticut on this subject, we beg you would immediately dispatch this requisition to them, and transmit to us their determination as soon as possible.

As we have at present but few tents, we beg you would order such as you have to be sent to the place intended for their encampment, and make such other dispositions for the support of your troops as are in your power.

We are, Sir [&c.]

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the President, and together with a certified copy of the said order, transmitted by the first conveyance.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 44.

*New York Journal*, THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1775

New York, June 15.

Last Monday morning [June 12] a quantity of military stores were taken from what are called the King's stores, at Turtle Bay, and carried clear off.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia] Thursday, June 15, 1775

The committee, to whom the letter from the convention of New York was referred, brought in their report, which being read,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this congress be given to the convention of New York, for their vigilance in the case of Capt. Coffin's vessel, and that it be recommended to them that the vessel be unloaded, and the cargo safely stored, until all just suspicions, concerning the destination of it, shall be removed.

*Ordered*, That this be transmitted, by the Prest, in a letter to the chairman of the convention of New York.



Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole to take into consideration the ways and means of raising money and the state of America; after some time spent therein the president resumed the chair, and Mr. [Samuel] Ward reported, that the committee had come to certain resolutions, which they desired him to report, but not having yet come to a conclusion ordered him to move for leave to sit again.

The report of the committee being read and debated,

*Resolved*, That a General be appointed to command all the continental forces raised, or to be raised, for the defence of American liberty.

That five hundred dollars per month, be allowed for his pay and expences.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of a general by ballot, when George Washington, Esq. was unanimously elected.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 90, 91.

## 16 June

CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

*Scarborough* Piscataqua 16th. June 1775

Sir Since mine of the 13th. Instant I beg leave to acquaint You that Colonel Fenton who has been these three Weeks Onboard of the *Scarborough* for Protection, went to Town as being a Member of their Assembly which was to have met that day, the populous hearing of his coming to Town assembled in a large body to seize him, he took shelter in the Governor's House, which they immediately surrounded, and got two pieces of Cannon planted against the Door and declared that if he was not delivered up in five Minutes they would set fire to the House, he then surrendered himself to them, and they have carried him into the Country, my Boat happen'd to go to Town, a little while after the tumult was over, the Governor thought proper to retire from the Town in her, he and his family are now at the Castle, and I believe they intend to remain there; You may depend I shall give him every aid and protection in my power.

I beg leave to observe to You, that it will be impossible for me to put in Execution effectually the Duty of this Port without some more force, as there is one or two inlets into this Harbour where Vessels may get to Town without my Knowledge and there is likewise a Harbour called Old York, about four Miles to the Eastward, where Vessels of 150 Tons may go in and send their Cargoes to the Town. It will be impossible to put into Execution the several powers in the Restraining Bills except there is some Vessel to cruize off and to come in here occasionally: Governor Wentworth acquaints me he will write to You upon that Subject.

I am still informed they are making Carriages at Portsmouth in order to mount Guns and when compleated they are to mount them somewhere, but in what part it is not yet known.

I am at present upon pretty good terms with the People of the Town, how long it may remain is very uncertain.

I send this by Mr Turner Master of the *Scarborough* in the *Spinckes* Sloop; I have sent by him Demands for Warrant Officers Stores which You will be pleased to approve of.

Any thing that you may want to know of this Harbour and the Neighbouring Ones he can inform You.

Sign'd And<sup>w</sup> Barkley

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

#### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Friday, June 16, 1775

The Order of the Day moved for, for further considering the Report of the Committee respecting the expediency of fitting out some armed Vessels.

*Voted*, That there be a further assignment thereof, viz: to three o'clock, P.M.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1414, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

#### GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

Copy./

Boston June 16th 1775.

Sir./ Being informed by Captain [John] Lindsey [Linzee], that the two sloops lately fitted for his Majesty's Service, are in want of Ammunition, I should be glad you would order to be delivered to the Office Commanding them 50 rounds of Powder and shot, for three Pounders, with Spunges &ca. each Sloop carrying 6 Guns. —

I am with Regard & Esteem, Sir, [&c.]

1. Gage Papers, CL.

#### VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO PHILIP STEPHENS <sup>1</sup>

*Preston* Boston 16 June 1775

. . . The Rebels landed again the 29th upon Noddles Island, drove off the Sheep and Cattle and entirely destroyed all the Dwellings and Outhouses, Barns, Stables and Hay on the Island; We have saved great part of the Kings Stores, but some are unavoidably lost. Among the Houses destroyed by the Rebels are those mentioned in my Letter January 8 to be hired for the use of the *Glasgow*, when she was repaired; finding they would be very useful for holding Tar, Pitch, Junk, Lumber and many other Articles the Store Schooner could not conveniently keep with the other Stores necessary for the Squadron, I continued to rent them until they were destroyed as above mentioned.

The *Falcon* came to Boston the 2d instant . . . Captain [John] Linzee has lost his Gunner, Surgeon's Mate, a Midshipman, eight Seamen and three Marines, whom he sent in a Sloop to seize a Smugler in Buzzards Bay; returning with the Smugler they were attacked by a Vessel from Dartmouth, taken and carried in there, and I am informed sent Prisoners up the Country, many of them wounded.

The *Charming Nancy* Transport with Cloaths and Stores for the Army arrived the fourth instant with the *Nautilus*, who had been cruising for her ever since her arrival from England.

By a Letter from Captain [George] Montagu dated the 6th of May, I am informed that Lord Dunmore, expecting to be attacked every moment, had requested assistance, that Captain Montagu had sent a Lieutenant with a party of Seamen, an Officer of Marines with his Party, and some of the *Magdalens* people, to the palace at Williamsburgh; Captain Montagu at the same time wrote to the president who resides at York to acquaint him that if any of the Kings People were attacked going to assist the Governor he would fire on the Town.

The Insurgents I find made no Attack, but contented themselves with taking possession of the Receiver of the Quit Rents House and insisting on his giving them Bills to the amount of the Powder secured on Board the Ships.

The *Asia* arrived at the Hook the 25th May and the next day moored before New York. Captain [George] Vandeput acquaints me that he has ordered the *Kingsfisher* to lie at the Hook and to cruise occasionally for the Pacquets and the Troops expected to arrive there. That Lieutenant Governor [Cadwalader] Colden is retired to Long Island, the legal authority of Government entirely suspended, and that the direction of the City is in the hands of Committees, who at present allow the *Asia* to be supplied with every thing wanted; but as there is no depending upon the continuation of such an Indulgence, I have directed Captain Vandeput to compleat his provisions at all opportunities, and to order Captain James Montagu to do the same.

The *Senegal* sailed the 6th instant for Falmouth in Casco Bay. I have directed Captain [William] Duddingstone in addition to his general Orders respecting illicit Trade and the unlawful importation of Arms and Ammunition, to seize and send to Boston all Vessels laden with Provisions, Flour, Grain, Molasses and Salt, as well to distress the Rebels as to supply the Army who are in want of some Articles of Provision.

. . . I have since directed him [Captain John Collins of the *Nautilus*] to proceed off the Hook with Orders for Captain [John] Macartney in the *Mercury* to leave the Service he was employed on to be performed by Captain Collins and relieve the *Fowey* at Virginia as soon as possible; And I have also directed Captain Collins, after the Transports are arrived and he has delivered the General's Letter, to proceed to the Delaware, there to remain until further Orders. The *Nautilus* accordingly sailed from hence this day. I have ordered the *Fowey* to Boston with new raised men for the Squadron, from whence she shall go to Halifax to heave down.

By the *Magdalen* being detained for the protection of Lord Dunmore, the Delaware has been left open to the Importation of prohibited Goods. The critical situation of the Governor of Virginia, and his earnest intreaty for assistance, compelled me to send a Sloop as I could not spare a large Ship. In New Hampshire Government and the Province of Main[e], the people also verging on Rebellion and ripe for every Mischief, it became absolutely necessary to send a Sloop of War to Casco Bay, to defend his Majesty's Officers and peaceable Subjects

in the Town of Falmouth, to seize all Supplies of Provisions, Arms and Ammunition, and in general to give Security to Vessels passing with fresh provisions and Fuel for the Army and Navy and Inhabitants of Boston; I beg you will assure their Lordships that as I am actuated by the strongest desire to do what I think best for his Majesty's Service, It will give me unspeakable Satisfaction if the above reasons justify me with their Lordships for sending Sloops to Virginia, the Delaware, and Casco Bay, and leaving Savannah a little longer unsupplied . . . I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Grave's Conduct, I, 113-116, MassHS Transcript.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE,  
H.M.S. *Rose*, RHODE ISLAND <sup>1</sup>

Sir,

*Preston* Boston 16th June 1775

The Army is in great Want of Beef and Pork, which I am informed there is a probability of obtaining about the Coast between Block Island and Newhaven in the Sound, as great Quantities of Pork are usually shipped at this Season from Connecticut to the West Indies and the Eastern parts of this Province and that of New Hampshire. It is therefore my Directions that you do endeavour by all Means possible to put in Execution the Order you have received to seize and send to Boston all Vessels with Provisions, Salt, Melasses, &c.

I am &c.

Sam<sup>l</sup> Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 441, 442, MassHS Transcript.

MOSES BROWN TO JOHN BROWN <sup>1</sup>

Brother John

Providence the 16th of 6th Mo. 1775 -

I recd thy Letter of the 7th at portsmouth the 8th. Inst with Much Concern on thy Acct apprehendg the Measure of Sueing at this time would increas instead of Lessening thy Difficulties for the same Disposition that could Suspect thy purchasing flour on purpose to carry to Boston could evade the force of Such a Suit and even turn it against thee and thy friend at Newport that so kindly assisted in thy relief would take it Unkind at this time when they lay so Expos'd & Under Wallises Resentment which he doubtless would Manifest to them, the Custom House officers hitherto friendly to this work Would be influanc'd not only against thee but the Merchants in Providence, and thereby instead of Satisfying them, when they felt the Consequences would throw the Whole upon thee, thy Vessels wherever found will be particularly Mark'd, & detain'd to thy great Loss, on going to Newport and hearing a Vessel thou was Concern'd was Stopt. I Sent for Nicholas Power & gave him my Sentiments and Advised that if he tho't with me that he Spoke with the Sherriff & Stopt the Writt till further Orders from thee but that I had no Authority & therefore of my Self would not Undertake it, what was done I know not, but if it is not Stopt its very Clearly My opinion it had better be for it can not be of the Least Service that I can See but Must Bring Distress if not Ruin on thee, as Thy Own friend, may be so far inducd to be thy Enemies at Newport & by Unguarded Expressions at Least Subject thee to the

Strictest scrutiny which even Innocence itself can at this Confusd state of things Just carry itself through the Torrent of Censure So prevalent against Considerate Modest Men that dont Run with the Tides, this I Know by My self who am Much Censured with Hate in the Country but were I to go to Work to Reconcile & please these people I must do things worse then any thing Chargd on me or thee to the Loss of a Quiet & peaceful Mind which I am thankful at times I am favourd with from Consciousness of having as great a regard for My Countrys Rights Liberty & Happiness as the Most Sanguine Wigg – and that I am Clear of having Enterd into any Engagement but such as if pursued by all would be Likely to Effect the Happiness of both Countries and of this Sentiment those who act fuly with me – When I consider thy Engagements at parting with the Admiral thy Letter to [James] Wallace & thy Interest in a Settlement of the Difference with him I am induced to believe thou art Lead a Side from that Standard of Resignation to thy alotment which I was pleas'd to find thee in a degree Possess'd of at Boston a State of Mind Much safer than which is Drove & Hurried with the spirit of the Unhappy Times

When I came home from Newport and heard of a Vessel or Two being Armd & fitted & gone Out to Cruise for Vessels &c I feard whither thou Might not be Still led further a Side from thy Duty by the Same Delusive Spirit and have Sinse heard that thou hast been so far Concern'd therein as greatly to Affect Me as well as thy Self which is the more Imediate Ocation of this Letter As I have not claimd any Merrit to Myself thro My Journey to Boston, I will yet avoid it as far as Possible and only lay the Case before thee for Determination weither or know My Character as a person profesing Religion will not suffer and insted of that Sincerity & Honnesty thou knows I was tho't to have in Boston I shal not be thot to be a Deciver & Hippocrite if thy Conduct Turns out so Contrary to What thou Engaged and I was a Voucher & Surety for? this Hurt to me as a Man only I could bear, but my religious profession & faithful Brethren which are nearer than any thing in my Life to Me are by me in this View Reproachd also and which at this time when We as a people can not Stand between the Violence of Two parties but by Our Sincerity and faithfulness to the Leadings of that Divine Principal of Truth which we profess to follow is truely a distressing Consideration to Me who am [undecipherable] that the Writt hath already so far Shut up the way of My Serving the Injured Innocent that I could not do any thing for our Numerous friends at Nantucket in the Case of Watermans Detention tho several times Appldy to, for I considered the Officers Must Suppose My at least consenting if not aiding in ye Writt

Add to these Considerations, the Scituation my Estate as well as Person & Character Stand in, Equally Expos'd with thine at a Time when I am Retird from Business and Made Content With what I have, Must it not bring an Additional Trial & an Increasd Mortification to have that Subject to the Pleasure & Will of an other by my Own Agreement Signd by My Own hand before Witnesses for the Redemption of him whose Conduct afterward Subjects me to such Tryal & Loss However afflicting this Dispute to Me I desire to be preserved in Resignation & to Act a Consistant part as far as in Me Lies and be as patient as I can under the Event, it is in vain for Any to think Such Negotiation & Agreements

are Void in Law & therefore the parties May do as they please, If all Confidence is Once Lost by Solemn Engagements being Violated how will future Innocence suffer if there can be no Ransom Comply'd with,

Where an Error by any Inducement takes Place there is no ways I know of to Remedy it but to Leave of[f] Continuing in the Spirit or Disposition that Led to it, I have therefore now only to ask it of thee from the foregoing Considerations and from Every grateful Motive that thou Mannefest in all thy Future Conduct a Conformity to thy Solemn Agreement which will Stand thee in Stead before All Men if thou Conducts – Carefully & peaceably. I have for Sometime back tho't it would be More agreeable to Me to go before the Committee of Correspondence in the Town & lay before them every Transaction Respecting the getting thy Liberty from the Admirals Ship and unless Matters are restord as far as may be that Violates or is Lead to Violate Our Engagement I must in Justice to My Self family & friends Make Known the Part Acted for thy Relief, which on thy Acct I at first feard would be to thy Disadvantage and am not yet clear weather it may not become my duty to lay before the Admiral my intire Disapprobation of Such Conduct for the Clearing My Self but I hope there may be no necessity for this I fear having taken hold on My Mind at Seeing thee of Writing the address to the Assembly that those would be led through a desire of Popular Approbation (a Share I am not Unacquainted with) to Do something that would lay us under Difficulties to guard & prevent which, I gave them a Copy of what we both signd Mentioning at the same time we were bound in Honour to the Observance of it and for thy Conduct after & till I went from home I had no concern on that Acct I have taken this Method of Writing in preference of an Interview Knowing it is Seldom Sollid Opportunities can be had from thy Hurry in Business & that thou Might Set down & Cooley Way the Steps that has been pursued and Make a stop for believe it as Necessary for thee at this Time of Tryal & Difficulty as it was for the Children of Israel they came to the read Sea which Also Lays befor Thee, they Were Order'd to Stand Still & See the Salvation of God, they obeyed and the floods were Divided before them & then they past to Safety tho' no doubt fearfully on, May this be our Case Dear Brother and thou [ ] Arive at the Banks of Deliverance from not only Outward but Inward Troubles which the tinder in heart knows their travels remarkably Tipifye. Tis the Desire of thy friend & Brother—

1. Moses Brown Papers, RIHS.

#### JOURNAL OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF RHODE ISLAND<sup>1</sup>

East Greenwich, June [16] 1775

It is voted and resolved, that the letter written by His Honor the Deputy Governor to James Wallace, Esq., commander of His Majesty's Ship *Rose*, and Capt. Wallace's answer, be published in the next *Newport Mercury*, and *Providence Gazette*.<sup>2</sup>

1. Bartlett, ed., *Records of Rhode Island*, VII, 353.

2. The letters were published in the *Providence Gazette*, June 17, 1775, and in the *Newport Mercury*, June 19.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA STILES <sup>1</sup>

[Newport] June. 16. [1775]

Most of the Men o' Wars' Men have got back on board Ship again. Five of them left the rest and last night stole a boat and crossed to Narraganset – came down to the ferry – said they were fishermen com[ing] over to Newpt. – set out to cross the ferry, but after sailg some Distance seized the ferryman, took helm and came round the So. End of Conanicut to the Men o' War; The rest wandered in the fields near shore – today the Men of War sent an armed Tender which went and pick't them up and bro't 'em home. This night all the Cannon were removed back from the Wharves into To[wn] by the Inhabitants.

1. Stiles, II, 100, LC.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*, CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

## Moor'd in Rhode Island Harbour

June 1775 A M Recvd 8 Puncheons of Beer. Sent the Master 1 Petty Officer  
Friday 16th and 11 Men arm'd in the Sloop *Dianna*; Tender to the Ship, to reconitre the different Passages up the river towards Providence. First part fresh Breezes and Cloudy. Middle and latter light Airs. P M About 6 Clock as our Tender was standing off and on between Gold Island, and the North Point of Connannicot Island; they saw a sloop standing down the river; Our Tender Hove too, to speak her she Hail'd the Tender and told them to bring to directly or he would sink them directly; – Fir'd a shot, which the Tender return'd and kept a smart Fire on both sides for near half an hour when another Sloop Joining, and bringing our Tender between two Fires that they had no Opertunity of getting off; she made two or three Tacks to get off: By Accident the Swivel Catrages blowing up, and the musquet catridges near Expended; thought most prudent to run the Tender on shore to save the men, which was accomplish'd near the No Point of Connanicott Island only a Petty Officer and one man wounded by the Powder blowing up. Tho a Constant Fire on them at their Landing, Night Coming on, they being closely pursu'd, seperated and got safe on board the Ship by noon next Day.

Gunners Stores Lost in the Sloop Viz Bright musquets 11. Marines Do. 7 Cutlasses with Scabbards 17, Bayonets with Scabbards 9. Marine Do. 7 Ships Pistols 12, Cartouch Boxes with belts and straps 12. Swivels 4, aprons of Lead 4, Swivel Worms and Ladles 1 each, Pikes 8, Cases of Wood 2, Musqt Catridg box 1, Powder Horn 3, Priming Irons 6, Powder in Swivel Catridges 50. Pounds Catridge, 9 pounders 2 Do. ½ pounders. 40 round Shot Do 40 Grape 40. Musquet Shot 15 Pound. Pistol Shot 9 Pound. –

Boatswains stores Rope 2 Inch 30 fm. 12 Inch 50 fm. Blocks of 12 Inch double 2, Single of 8 Inch 3. Thimbles 12. Marline Spikes 2. 1 Foremast Steering Sail, and a mizn T Gt.Sail. 1 Hatchet. 2 Logglines, and 15 hammocks. Carpenters Stores Viz. 1 driver yard, 1 fore T.Mast Steering sail yard; 1 Tarpoline. Pursers stores Viz. 1 Puncheon and 1, Barrell.

pr. Sav<sup>ge</sup> Gardner. Master

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/7743.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Swan*, JAMES AYSCOUGH, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775 Moor'd in Rd Island Harbour

Friday 16th The *Rose* and Tender weighed and reconitrd The Different Passages up the River, at 6 heard the report of Several Guns up the river which Proved to be some Armed Vessels Do they Took the Tender but all the Men Escaped

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/960.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia] Friday, June 16, 1775

A Letter from the Convention of New York recd by express, was laid before the Congress and read, which being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the provincial convention of New York, be desired immediately to apply to Governor [Jonathan] Trumbull to order the Connecticut troops, now stationed at Greenwich, Stamford, and parts adjacent, to march towards New York, and that part of them occupy such posts upon that Island as the sd provincial Convention shall judge best adapted to prevent the communication between the town and country from being cut off, the remainder of the troops to be employed in securing the navigation of Hudson's River by erecting Batteries at such places as the sd Convention shall judge most proper to answer that purpose.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 95.

MASTER'S LOG OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Mercury* <sup>1</sup>

Rem[ark]s &c Friday 16 June 1775

PM Light Airs and fair W[eathe]r at ½ past 2 the packet parted Compy and went under Convoy of the *Kings Fisher*, Employd Turning in to Sandy Hook Do Light house West 2 Miles

½ past 7 Anchored at Sand Hook with Best B[owe]r in 5 fm water & Veard to ½ of a Cable Sand Hook Light house E ¾ N the E[as]termost Bloff of Staten Isld N ¼ W and point Comfort W[es]t, Spoke the *Rebecca* & *Frances* Transport from Cork with part of the 40 Regiment.

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1866.



LORD DUNMORE TO CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU, H.M.S. *Fowey*<sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

*Fowey* June 16th 1775

Sir The present distressful situation of His Majesty's Government in this Colony making it necessary that I should transmit the most speedy Account of the same to the King, I am obliged to request that you will order His Majesty's Schooner the *Magdalen* to proceed to England upon this urgent Occasion.<sup>2</sup> I am, Sir [&c.]  
Dunmore

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

2. The "urgent Occasion" was to send Lady Dunmore and his family to England, the transmitting of a speedy account being but a subterfuge.

DIARY OF THE SALEM MORAVIAN CONGREGATION OF NORTH CAROLINA<sup>1</sup>

June 16. [1775] Col. Armstrong<sup>2</sup> came from Cross Creek, and told us all sorts of things about the present unrest in the Colonies, the *confusion* constantly increases, Gov. Josiah Martin is said to have gone to Fort Johnston, in Wilmington they wanted to close the harbor but could secure no gun-powder.

1. Fries, ed., *Moravians in North Carolina*, II, 875.

2. Col. Martin Armstrong, of the Surry County Militia.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SCHOONER *Saint John*, LIEUT. WILLIAM GRANT,  
COMMANDING<sup>1</sup>

June 1775 Anchored in Cockspur Road

Friday 16 Fresh Gales and hazey Wr – P M received Information of a Number of armed people in boats Coming over from the Carolina shore, with an intention to Land on Tybees Island in the Province of Georgia, but on what purpost its not known – Loaded and shotted the Guns with round and Grape Shot – Keep the people under Arms all Night –

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

17 June

[EXTRACT] MACHIAS COMMITTEE TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen, Since the express left this, by whom we transmitted an account of the taking of the *Margeritta*, one of the Kings Tenders, we have discovered, upon examining the Papers, that both Capt. Jones' vessels Sloops, of about 70 Tuns each, were, in the Kings service. And as the people are now obliged to provide for their own safety, in the best manner possible, the Committee of Safety have resolved, with the utmost, expedition, to arm one of sd Sloops, & to act [only] on the defensive.

We are deeply sensible of our own weakness & danger; & with [bec]oming deference, we once more apply to your Honors for advice & support, if we are judged worthy of your Notice.

We are Gentlemen very respectfully &c.

Machias June 17, 1775

Jas Lyon Ch. M.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 193, 368.

AMERICA in FLAMES.



From the County Mag. Dec. 1775

Staff Light  
house in D.

With Gale and Breeze N. - PM. Received Information of a Number of armed people in boats coming over from the Carolina's side, with intention to Land on Oyster Island in the Province of Georgia, did so with purpose at not known. I ordered and ordered the guns with round and grape shot - Keep the people under arms all night - At 11/12 large boat manned and armed landed on the aforesaid place, from thence they moved off down to Oyster Island.

62.

At 11/12 came on board and took refuge the Hon. John Stuart Representative for British Affairs His Life being threatened, and it was not safe for him to remain any longer in Georgia - At 1/2 past 5 stopped a boatman and lived from Savannah with some of the principal people of the Province going down to join the Carolinians. Ordered the boat to be manned and armed, to intercept them, and made them return - At 4.15 light and came to sail from down Entrance of Oyster Light house - At 9.30 AM received a Number of men armed lying and walking a mongst the bushes coming out in small parties armed with Guns and Bayonets from Oyster Island as with Guns returned - At 10.15 light on the

(Bottom) HMS St. John log entries, June 17-18, 1775.

JOHN WENTWORTH, GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE TO THEODORE ATKINSON,  
SECRETARY OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL<sup>1</sup>

Dear Sir—

Castle William and Mary, 17th June, 1775.

Captain [Andrew] Barkley has this morning seizd the Sloop *King Fisher*, Jona Eaton master, laden with thirteen hogsheds & three tierces of Molasses, bound from Newbury to Piscataqua for breach of Acts of trade. This Sloop run into Little Harbour and unladed Eight cask into a Gondula without entering or reporting at the Custom house. Capt Barkley sends information to the Custom house & directions to have Vessel & Cargo forthwith libell'd in the Court of Vice Admiralty, This is not therefore any Stopage upon his general orders relative to Provision vessels &c. but wou'd have taken place any time heretofore, I therefore hope it will be consider'd & occasion no disturbance in town.

We shall rejoice exceedingly to see you in this our pleasant retirement where we breath a good air & have some safety from unreasonable Attacks.

Mrs W & our son are pretty well & we unite in best Respects to you. I am &c.

J. Wentworth

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, VII, 382; and XVIII, 665.

CAPTAIN ELIJAH HYDE'S ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL<sup>1</sup>

On friday night June 17th 1775 Fifteen hundred of the provincials went to Bunker's Hill in order to intrench there and continued intrenching till saturday 10 OClock, when two thousand of the Regulars embarked from Boston, landed in Charlestown, plundered the town of all its valuable effects & then set fire to it in ten different places at once, then divided their Army, one part of them marched up in the front of the provincial intrenchment & began to attack the provincials, at long shot, The other part marched round the Town of Charlestown under cover of the smoke occasioned by the fire of the Town, in order to flank the provincials. The provincial Sentries discovered The Regulars marching up on their left wing; upon notice given by the Sentr[ies] to the Connecticut forces Capn Nolton [Thomas Knowlton] of Ashford with four hundred of sd forces immediately repaired to, and pulled up a post and Rail fence, carried the posts and rails to another fence & put them together for a Breast work, Capn Nolton gave orders to his men not to fire untill the Enemy were got within fifteen Rods and then, not till the word was given, It was observed that the first fire from Capn Nolton's men, did great execution, & put the Enemy into disorder, the action continued about two hours when the Regulars gave way upon their right wing and were pursued by the Connecticut forces, until General [Seth] Pomeroy ordered those who had been in action two hours to fall back & their places to be supplied by fresh Troops, which Orders being mistaken for a direction to retreat, The Provincials upon the Right wing, began a retreat, which was communicated to the left wing the pri[nci]ple place of action, where Captns Nolton [John] Chester [James] Clarke and [Israel] Putnam [Jr.] with their Companies had drove the Enemy fifteen or twenty Rods back & being warmly engaged in the pursuit and on the point of pushing their Bayonets, were, not without difficulty, perswaded to retire, But the right wing having by mistaking the Orders

already retreated, the left wing, to avoid being encircled, were obliged also together with the main body to retreat with precipitation across the causeway to Winter's Hill, in which retreat they were exposed to the Enemy's fire from their Shipping and floating Batteries, where the provincials sustained the greater part of their loss. The Enemy pursued the provincials to Winter's H[ill], their own Troops being reinforced by General [Israel] Putnam, renewed the [Battl]e with spirit, repulsed the Enemy with great Slaughter, & pursued them till they got under cover of their Cannon from the Shipping, when the Regulars retired to Bunker's Hill, & the provincials to Winter's Hill, where after entrenching and erecting Batteries, on monday our Troops began a brisk fire upon the Regulars on Bunkers Hill and u[pon] their Ships & floating Batteries – when the express came away

The number killed of the provincial troops betwixt forty and Seventy wounded a hundred and forty – of the Connecticut forces Sixteen were killed, no Officer from Connecticut either killed or wounded except Lieut [Thomas] Grosvenor who was wounded in the hand – a Col. or Lieut Col. from New Hampshire was killed – It is said that Doctr [Joseph] Warren is undoubtedly among the slain –

The Provincials lost 3 Iron Six pounders, some intrenching tools and a few Knapsacks –

The number of Regulars who first attacked the provincials was two thousand, the number of provincials fifteen hundred, The Regulars were afterwards reinforced with a thousand men – It is uncertain how great a number of the Enemy were killed or wounded, But Spectators who saw the whole action judged that there could not be less than four or five hundred killed; Mr Gardner who got out of Boston sunday Evening says that there were five hundred wounded men brought into that place the morning before he came out –

This Account was taken from Capn. Elijah Hide of Lebanon who was a Spectator on winter's Hill during the whole action

1. U.S. Revolution Collection, LC, enclosed in William Williams to the Connecticut Delegates in the Continental Congress, June 20, 1775, *ibid*.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Lively*, CAPTAIN THOMAS BISHOP,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Moord off Charles Town

Saturdy 17

Modt and fair Weather at 4 A M discover'd the Rebels throwing up a Redoubt on a Hill at the Back of Charles Town <sup>2</sup> Began to fire upon them as did the Battery of [*sic*, on] Copp's Hill at 8 Unmoor'd & run down a Breast of Winesimmet Ferry & Moor'd at 11 the Troops landed at Charles Town – a Continual firing kept between both Armys at 2 P M Charles Town was set on fire. Boats empd fetching Wounded Men from Charles Town. Our Arm'd [*sic*! Army] storm'd the Redoubt. the Rebels retreated

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/546.

2. According to all contemporary accounts, the *Lively* was the first vessel to discover the entrenchments being thrown up on Breed's Hill.

"REMARKS &CA ONBOARD THE *Somerset*"<sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Moored in Boston Harbour

Saturday 17

A. M. His Majesty's Ship *Lively* began to fire on some Rebels, who were erecting a Battery on the Hill above Charlestown; at 9, the New Battery at the No end of Boston began to fire. at 10, the *Falcon* did the same; the *Lively* [war]ped lower down & began firing; the Rebels fired several shot.

P. M. sent 11 Men onboard the *Falcon*, & 30 onboard the *Symmetry* Transport; the transport next up the Harbor. Boats of the Squadron, and all the Transports Boats employed taking in the Troops; at 2, the Troops, under the cover of the *Lively* and *Falcon*, landed at Charlestown without Opposition; at 3 the field pieces began to fire before a warm Engagement began; at ½ past 5 the firing slackened; The Troops burnt Charlestown; our Boats employed carrying wounded Men over to Boston; sent 6 Punks of Water for the Use of the Troops

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/906.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Preston*, CAPTAIN JOHN ROBINSON,  
COMMANDING<sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Remarks Boston Harbour

Saturday 17

at 4 [A M] we observed that the Rebels were Intrenching upon a Hill that Commanded Boston – The *Lively* and *Glasgow* kept firing upon their Battery and were soon seconded by Shot and Shells from Boston which Lasted till noon, at which time we made the Signal for all Boats Mann'd & Armed.

P M at 1 The Boats of the Fleet and Transports repaired to the different wharves to embark the Troops and Ferry them over, which was done to the West side of Mystake River; The *Lively*, *Glasgow*, *Falcon*, with the *Symmetry* Transport and an Arm'd Sloop kept a Constant fire upon the Rebels, to prevent their annoying the Troops on Landing. At 3 The Troops, after having formed upon The Beech, advanced to the Rebels Intrenchments from which they dislodged them with the Loss of 150 Men. Our Boats Employed in Carrying the Wounded over to Boston, and bringing fresh Troops.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/720.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Glasgow*, TYRINGHAM HOWE, COMMANDING<sup>1</sup>

1775 June

Moor'd in Boston Harbour

Saturday 17

Fresh Breezes & Clear . . . at 4 A M the *Lively* fired several Guns at a Breast Work the Rebels were erecting ½ past veer'd away the Bt Br & hove short on the Sm Br & Carried out the Stream Anchor to bring the Ship to bear on Charles Town Neck Anchored here the *Symetry* Transport & *Spitfire* Sloop, A M fired several Guns at the Rebels that were marching into Charles Town People at Quarters as before – P M sent the Yawl mann'd & arm'd to assist



# Battle of Bunker Hill.

IT was on the seventeenth by break of day,  
The Yankees did surprize us,  
With their strong works they had thrown up  
To burn the town and drive us.  
But soon we had an order came,  
An order to defeat them,  
Like rebels stout, they stood it out,  
And thought we ne'er could beat them.  
About the hour of twelve that day,  
An order came for marching,  
With three good flints and sixty rounds,  
Each man hop'd to discharge them,  
We marched down to the long wharf,  
Where boats were ready waiting,  
With expedition we embark'd,  
Our ships kept cannonading,  
And when our boats all filled were,  
With officers and soldiers,  
With as good troops as England had  
To oppose, who dare controise us.  
And when our boats all filled were,  
And when our boats all filled were,  
We row'd in line of battle,  
Where showers of ball like hail did fly,  
Our cannon loud did rattle.  
There was Cop's hill battery near Charlestown  
Our twenty-fours they played,  
And the three frigates in the stream,  
That very well behaved.  
The Glasgow frigate clear'd the shore,  
All at the time of landing,  
With her grape shot and cannon balls,  
No Yankees e'er could stand them.  
And when we landed on the shore,  
We draw'd up altogether,  
The Yankees they'd all man'd their works,  
And thought we'd ne'er come thither,  
But soon they did perceive brave Howe,  
Brave Howe, our bold commander,  
With grenadiers, and infantry,  
We made them to surrender.  
Brave William Howe on our right wing  
Cry'd, boys fight on like thunder;  
You soon will see the rebels flee,  
With great amaze and wonder.  
Now some lay bleeding on the ground,  
And some fell fast a runnin'.  
O'er hills and dales and mountains high,

Printed and Sold at No. 25, High Street, PROVIDENCE, where are kept constantly for Sale 200 other kinds of the most excellent Songs and Ballads, by the Hundred, Dozen or Single—great allowance made to Shopkeepers, Pedlars, &c. who buy to sell again—a large assortment of entertaining Books on various subjects, calculated to edify and amuse all classes and characters a long winter evening—a great collection of Picture Books for Children, and a very general assortment of SCHOOL BOOKS and STATIONARY

Crying zounds! brave Howe's a coming.  
Brave Howe is so considerate,  
As to guard against all dangers—  
He allow'd each half a gill this day—  
To rum we ate no strangers!  
They began to play on our left wing.  
Where Pigot he commanded,  
But we return'd it back again,  
With courage most undaunted.  
To our grape shot and musket balls,  
To which they were but strangers,  
They thought to come with sword in hand,  
But soon they found their danger.  
And when the works were got into,  
And put them to the flight, sir,  
They pepper'd us poor British elves,  
And show'd us they could fight sir.  
And when their works we got into,  
With some hard knocks and danger,  
Their works we found both firm and strong,  
Too strong for British Rangers.  
But as for our Artillery,  
They all gave way and run,  
For while their ammunition held,  
They gave us Yankee lun  
But our commander he got broke,  
For his misconduct sure, sir,  
The shot he sent for twelve pound guns,  
Were made for twenty-fours, sir.  
There's some in Boston pleas'd to say,  
As we the field were taking,  
While they their lay were making,  
For such stout whigs I never saw,  
To hang them all I'd rather,  
By making hay with musket balls,  
Lord Howe cursedly did bother!  
Bad luck to him by land and sea,  
For he's despis'd by many,  
The name of Bunker Hill he dreads,  
Where he was flog'd most plainly.  
And now my song is at an end,  
And to conclude my ditty,  
'Tis only Britons ignorant  
As for our KING and WM. HOWE,  
And Gen GAGE, if they're taken,  
The Yankees will hang their heads up high  
On that fine hill call'd Bacon.

Landing the Troops Fir'd several Guns to annoy the Rebels whilst the Troops were landing at Charlestown 4 Saw Charlestown on fire at 5 saw the Troops take possession of Bunkers Hill Supply'd the *Symetry* Transport with Ammunition 8 P M hove in on the Bt Br & Veer'd as before People at Quarters as before

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/398.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Falcon*, JOHN LINZEE, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775 At Single Anchor in Boston Harbour  
 Saturday 17 A M Recd 20 Men from the *Sommersett*. Weigh'd and Shifted to the Entrance of Charlestown River and by Springs on our Cable got our Broad side to Bear on the Rebels and began to fire with Round Grape & Small Arms. Continued to fire on the Rebels till 4 P M at which Time Charles Town took fire Our Boats Empd Carrying Wounded men over to Boston

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/336.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Cerberus*, JAMES CHADS, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775 Moor'd in Nantasket Road  
 Saturday 17 at Noon the Signal was Made for all Boats of the Squadron to Attend the landing of the Troops under General [William] Howe on Charlestown Neck . . . at ½ past 1 P M General Howe landed wt 3000 Men on Charlestown Neck at 2 they began to Attack the Rebles Intrenchments ½ past the Adl by Genl Howe's request sett Charlestown on Fire at 4 the Firing still continued very Warm both from our Ships & Troops ashore

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/181.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE <sup>1</sup>

Sir.

Boston 17th June 1775

I thank your Excellency for the information that the Rebels have Vessels watching for the Trade bound to Marblehead and Salem to direct them to avoid our Cruizers by putting into Newbury Port – I have given the necessary Orders to frustrate that design, and for intercepting the Connecticut Vessels.

We can only equip One of the Sloops fitted for the King's Service, for tho' the other has Guns & Carriages, Yet she wants Beds, Coins and indeed every thing else – Lieutenant Thomas Graves commands the Sloop that is armed and she is as well armed and manned as can be from the *Preston* having ordered her to be supplied with every thing they desire – Your Excellency may be assured that it is absolutely impossible for Us to provide the other with the Articles wanted to make her useful.

We shall keep a good look out and give every assistance in our power. I have the honor to be with great regard & Esteem

Sir [&c.]

Sam<sup>1</sup> Graves.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

[Preston, Boston] 17th [June, 1775]

Early in the morning the *Lively* gave the first Notice of the Rebels fortifying Bunkers Hill, by firing on them as they were at work; And it was thereupon resolved by the General to attack them forthwith. General [William] Howe and the Admiral went together on board the *Somerset*, intending if possible to have had that Ship warped in to cover the Landing, but there was not sufficient depth of Water: The larger Ships therefore could give no other assistance, than that of lending Boats, Men, Ammunition and other Stores to the small, which was done. Two Officers and thirty six Seamen were sent from the *Somerset* to the *Symmetry* armed Transport and twenty Seamen to the *Falcon*, to reinforce those Vessels. The *Preston* manned the *Spitfire* Sloop of Six 3-pounders, and provided her with Ammunition, and the Boats of the Squadron attended, and were employed wherever they could be of Use. As this Affair was sudden and unexpected there was no time for constructing floating Batteries, or Rafts of real Service, as any such would have been a work of some days.

The *Glasgow* and *Symmetry* kept a constant Fire on Charles Town Neck, and two Scows with a 12 pounder in each end, manned from the Ships of War under the direction of Colonel [Thomas] James, went as near to the Mill house as possible; at first to prevent fresh Forces coming over during the Fight, and afterwards the routed from getting off: But the ebbing Tide would not admit either the Scows or small Vessels to approach within the Distance desired. The *Lively*, *Falcon*, and *Spitfire* abreast of and below Charles Town covered however the Landing and continued firing so long as they could annoy the Enemy without injuring our own Troops.

The Shot from the *Lively* and Battery on Copse Hill in the Morning must have done great execution in the morning for 40 men were found buried upon Bunkers Hill, and it was these must have been killed & put under ground then, as it was impossible that the Rebels could afterwards, during the heat & hurry of the Attack have had time to bury any of their dead.

The Admiral not only offered and gave every assistance in his power, but went ashore in person to be near General Howe, for the sake of seeing whether any further aid could be given, and of ordering it immediately; & whilst he was there the General observing the mischief his left Wing sustained by the fire from Charles Town, the Admiral asked him if he wished to have the place burned, and being answered *Yes*, he immediately sent to the Ships to fire red hot Balls (which had been prepared with that in View), and also to Copse Hill Battery to desire they would throw Carcasses, into the Town; and thereby it was instantly set on fire in many places, and the Enemy quickly forced from that station. In consequence of intelligence this day the Admiral acquainted the Commanders of the cruising Vessels that the Rebels had fishing Boats, out watching for their homeward bound Trade to direct them to avoid our Cruizers by going for Newbury Port. And the Commanders of the Kings Ships were enjoined to be vigilant in frequently examining the Coast as far as Piscataqua, and to impress as many Seamen as possible and not to spare even their Fishermen.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 117, 118, MassHS Transcript.



*Providence Gazette*, SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1775

Providence, June 17.

[Here are inserted: Lieutenant Governor Nicholas Cooke to Captain James Wallace, R.N., June 14, 1775 and Captain James Wallace, R.N. to Lieutenant Governor Nicholas Cooke, June 15, 1775]

On Thursday last [June 15], soon after the above insolent Answer was returned to the Deputy-Governor, as one of the Packets mentioned in His Honor's Letter, which had been piratically seized and detained by Capt. Wallace, was cruizing as a Tender in the Narragansett Bay, in Quest of Plunder, as usual, she spoke with an armed Sloop, fitted out by the Colony for the Protection of its Trade, whose Commander not answering in a Tone sufficiently submissive, was fired upon by the Tender; the Compliment was returned with such Effect as to put the Pirates into some Confusion, and they endeavoured to make off, but were prevented by an armed Packet Boat, in the Service of the Colony, that had by this Time come up; the Pirates finding they could not escape, ran the Vessel ashore on Connanicut, and went off with much Precipitation. The Firing on both Sides continued some Minutes though none of our People were hurt, and but one of the Pirates wounded. On board the Packet retaken were found 8 Swivels, 17 Stands of Arms, a Number of Pistols, Cutlasses, Cartouch-Boxes, &c.

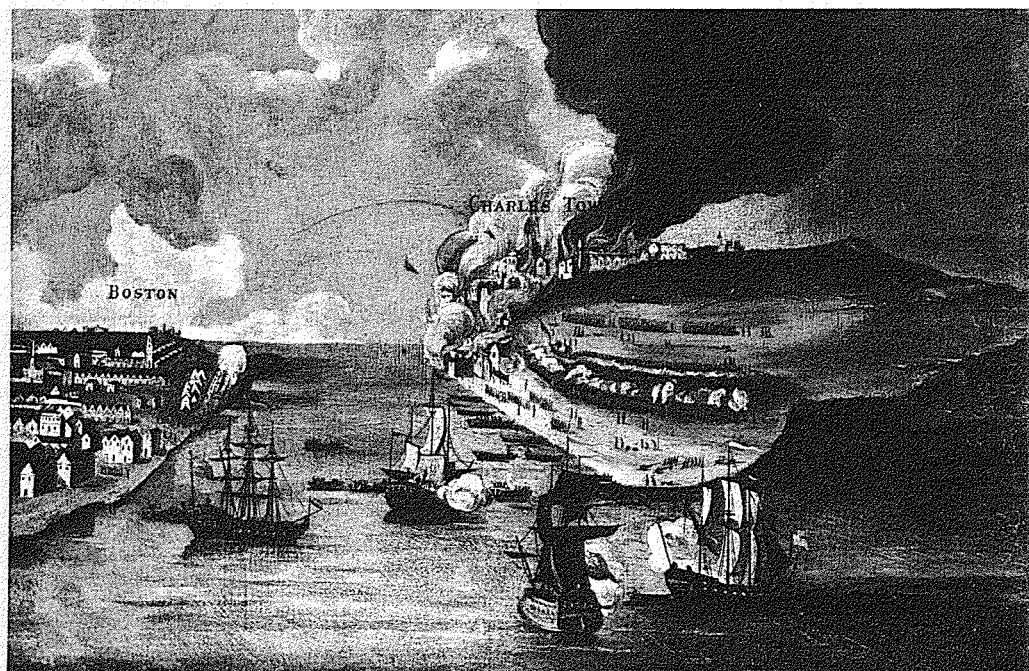
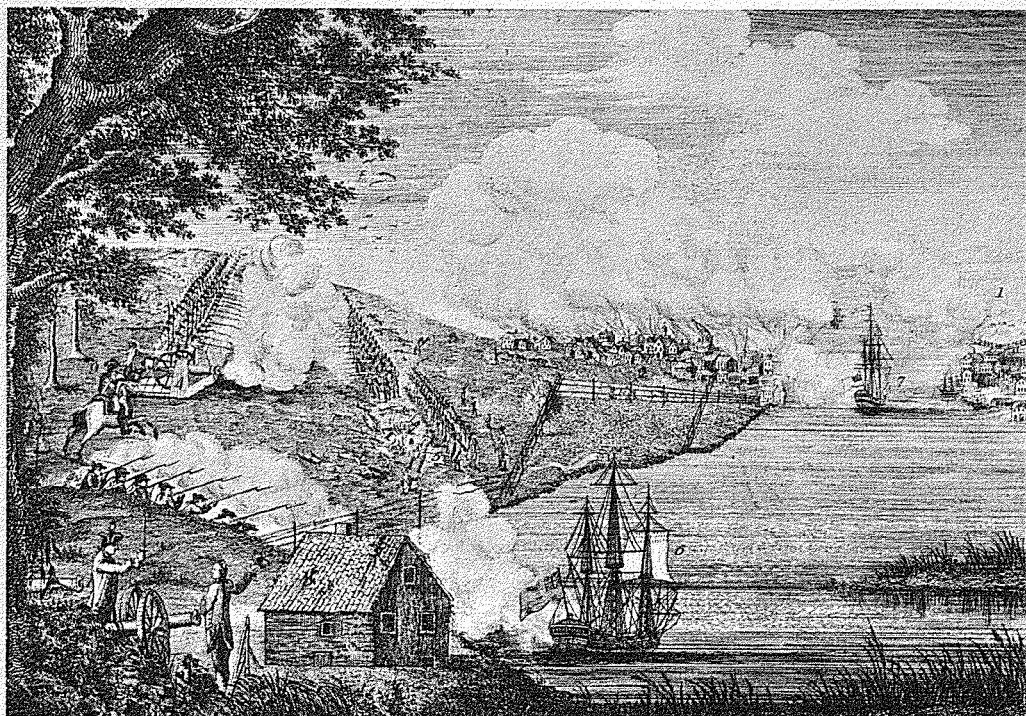
DIARY OF DR. EZRA STILES <sup>1</sup>

[Newport] June. 17. [1775]

Last Tuesday [June 13] Mr. [Joseph] Wanton, the Governor Elect went up to Greenwich and offered himself to the Assembly there to be sworn into Office — which they by Vote refused — and so he returned next day in Infamy. By order of Assembly D.[eputy] Gov. [Nicholas] Cook[e] sent a Letter yesterday to Capt [James] Wallace of the *Rose Man o' War* demandg by what Auth[orit]y he interrupted the Trade, demandg the Surrenderg of all the Vessels and Provisions he had seized, and declaring in Case of Refusal that the whole Force of the Colony should be employed against him. We have no Men o' War, but half a dozen Privateers full of Desperadoes might prove troublesome to a 20 Gun ship. Wallace treated the Letter with Insolence, and Contempt. He had six provision Vessels about him seized, besides 2 which affected to be under his protection as belonging to Tories. Wallace and [James] Ayscough in their 2 Men o' War <sup>2</sup> and all their Tenders this Day came to sail and went to the So End of Conanicott then to the No End and so look't round. In their Absence five of the seized Provision Vessels were brought safe to the Wharves, by a Number of p[eo]ple who went off to them. Indeed it was evident Wallace intended they sh[oul]d escape, for he took his own men out of the Captures, leaving only two Marines on board one of them— . . . Our p[eo]ple offered to bring off her also. but the Capt. refused — as the Quakers of Nantucket are favored by Parliament—

1. Stiles, II, 100, 101, LC.

2. H.M.S. *Rose* and *Swan*.



(Top) The engagement at Charlestown, 1775. (Bottom) The attack on Bunker's Hill and the burning of Charlestown, 1775. By an unknown artist, c. 1800.

"REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*"<sup>1</sup>

June 1775                      At Single Anchor In Rhode Island Harbour  
 Saturday 17    8 A M Unmoord and hove Short    fired a Gun and made Sigl to  
                          weigh    Do Weigh'd and came to Sail, in Co the *Swan & Charlotte*  
                          Tr [Tender]  
                          3 P M turning back for Rhode Isld    Run on board of a Schooner  
                          and Carried away the driver Yard    At 6 Anchd 3 fm soft bottom

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.

MAJOR GENERAL DAVID WOOSTER, TO PETER VANBRUGH LIVINGSTON,  
 PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

Sir –    Greenwich, June 17th, 1775

Your favour of the 15th instant in behalf of the Provincial Congress, with the enclosed order, I received yesterday morning, and immediately dispatched the requisition to the Governor, who, together with the council of war, are empowered by our Assembly to order the destination of the troops. I shall hold myself in readiness to march whenever I receive the Governor's orders.

I am, Sir [&c.]

David Wooster

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 47.

PETER VANBRUGH LIVINGSTON TO MAJOR GENERAL DAVID WOOSTER AT  
 GREENWICH<sup>1</sup>

Sr –    Provincial Congress New York 17th June 75

Being well inform'd that four Regiments containing near three Thousand effective Men were sailed, in Transports for this City, we took the Liberty to request the Assistance of those brave Sons of Freedom who are under your Command. We are this Instant farther informed that the *Mercury*, Ship of War, was cruising upon our Coast, & is now at Sandy Hook, to order those Transports to Boston immediately & did on Tuesday last [June 13], thirty Leagues to the South East of the Hook deliver her Orders to the old *Sp[r]y*, Man of War, now a Transport with Part of the Forty fourth Regiment on Board, which immediately alter'd her Course From hence we conclude that a very capital Stroke is meditated against our Brethren of the Massachusetts' Bay – you best can determine Sir whether it is proper on this Occasion for the Forces under your Command to march Westward; but we are led to believe that it is of more important Consequence to secure the several Passes with which Nature hath bounteously fortified the eastern Country, that if some unexpected Chance of War should prove fatal to us in the first Contest, the Enemy may by such Means receive a Check in his Career of Vengeance We beg you to transmit this Intelligence to the provincial Camp with the utmost Dispatch We are Sr [&c.]

Peter B. Livingston President

(By Order of the Provl Congress)

1. "Nicholas Cooke Correspondence," *AAS Proceedings*, New Series, XXXVI, 245, 246. Copy of this letter is in President's Letter Book, III, LC.

JOHN McKESSON, SECRETARY OF THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, TO  
GEORGE CLINTON, DELEGATE TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Extract] [New York] Saturday past 2 o'clock P.M. June 17 1775

Since the Dispatches from our Congress were closed & delivered to the Bearer hereof, Capt. Dobbs who now acts as one of our City pilots is come up from Sandy Hook with a vessel & gave me the following Information, to wit:

That a Transport, a very large ship, and full of soldiers, is at the Hook, that she waits for a wind to proceed to Boston & Expected to sail from the Hook this afternoon; that she is part of the second fleet of Transports from Ireland, and left Cork five weeks yesterday, destined for New York, but is now proceeding to Boston in pursuance of orders delivered by the *Mercury* man of war at the Hook. That this vessel has on Board a person who is sent out as agent for the said Troops and a Stewart or Deputy Agent. That this ship is a prime sailer & parted with the other ships who sailed in company four weeks ago. Capt. Dobbs says he does not know the name of the vessel, but that it is not the old *Spry* mentioned in the Dispatches from our Congress. Capt. Dobbs says that the Chief mate of this ship & the Deputy Agent informed him that the first fleet of Transports from Ireland (destined for Boston) sailed nine or ten days before this ship, that the light horse were in the fleet; that the fleet which had been destined for New York, of which this ship was a part, had about 26 or 2700 men on Board, besides officers, as he understood.

1. Hastings, ed., *Clinton Papers*, I, 204, 205.

#### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

[New York] Die Saturnii, 9 ho., A.M., June 17th, 1775.

Captain Jeffrey, the captain of the packet, being requested to attend this Congress, and attending at the door, was called in, and, in substance informed the Congress, that on Tuesday last [June 13], about thirty leagues to the south-east of Sandy Hook, he saw the *Spry* man of war, now a transport, with part of the forty-Fourth Regiment on board. That he was informed by some of the officers of the troops on board the *Spry*, that the *Mercury* man of war, had ordered the *Spry* transport to Boston, and was cruising thereabouts to order all the transports with troops which were destined to New-York, to proceed to Boston That he had also had the like information from some of the officers of the *Mercury* . . .

Thereupon, a draught of a letter to Major General [David] Wooster was read and approved of . . . <sup>2</sup>

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted by Jacob Shafer as a messenger for that purpose.

A draught of a Letter to the Delegates from this Colony at the Continental Congress was also read and approved.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and that a copy of the resolve and order of this Congress of the 15th inst. for introducing the Connecticut forces, under the command of General Wooster; a copy of the letter to General Wooster from this Congress of the same date; and the before written Letter to General Wooster of this day, be enclosed to the said delegates,

and that the same be forwarded by the messenger from the Massachusetts Bay, now on his way to Philadelphia.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 45, 46.
2. See letter to Wooster of this date.

PETER VANBRUGH LIVINGSTON, PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, TO THE NEW YORK DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen In Provincial Congress New-York June 17th 1775

We are this day informed by Mr Jeffrey, Capt of the *Lord Hide* Packet Boat, that the *Mercury* Ship of War was cruising off our Coast, & is now at Sandy Hook to order the Transports from Ireland with Troops destined to this City to proceed immediately for Boston; and did on Tuesday last [June 13] about thirty Leagues to the South East of Sandy-Hook deliver those Orders to the Old *Spry* Man of War (now a transport with part of the 44th Regt on board) who immediately altered her Course. – Capt Jefferey told us he had this Information both from the Officers of the Troops on board of the *Spry* & from some of the Officers of the *Mercury* Man of War. –

From this Information we are induced to conclude that some Capital Stroke is medi[t]ated against our Brethren of the Massachusetts Bay. – We therefore Gent think it our Duty to dispatch this Information to you that it may be known to the Continental Congress. – We are Gentlemen

P. vB Livingston Presidt

P.S. We enclose you Copies of two Letters we have dispatch'd to Genl [David] Wooster

1. President's Letter Book, III, LC.

GEORGE WOOLSEY TO GEORGE SALMON, DUBLIN <sup>1</sup>

[Baltimore] 17th June 1775

I wrote you the 3rd Inst by Cathrew <sup>2</sup> since then have Recd yours of the 5th & 10th April but have not time to Answer them fully as the Vessell that carries this is Getting under way but Shall write you by Leakeys Ship Soon, that T. Ewing is Loading for Cork. I must request your turning out Capt [James] Green of the Schooner on his Arrivall at Dublin as he has behaved like a Rascall and the first loss is Allways the best. he put into Amboy as he Says in Distress and went from thence to Philada for his wife, which perhaps he may have taken with him One Sn Skinner Esqr at Amboy done the business of the Vessell and will no doubt give you all Necessary accts that you may know how to settle with him, he had from me here 6.15.0 and you are not to Allow him any Charge only his bare Wages. I will write you more fully Soon About him. I have got no Vessell for Drogheda or Newry. Wheat could not be Got under 6/4 by any Quantity & few wagons Comes in flour 14/ I shall draw on G[eorge] D[arley] for 100 £ Sterl in a few days favr of Robt Lisle Esqr –  
Capt [James] Tippet p London <sup>3</sup>

1. Woolsey and Salmon Letter Book, LC.
2. Alexander Cathrew, master, brig *Dutchess of Leinster*, cleared June 5.
3. Brig *Rachel*, James Tibbet, master, cleared June 19, for London.

LORD DUNMORE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

*Fowey* in York River, 17th of June 1775

Sir, I have received the Letter with which you have favoured me by Capt [Matthew] Squires, and I thank you as well for that as the assistance which by the *Otter* Sloop You have sent to His Majesty's Government in this Colony.

After having seen the greatest part of the Colony in Arms, and suffered continual insults accompanied by threats of the utmost violence against my Person, upon so slight a pretence as my having removed Gun Powder afforded them; and finding that the meeting of the Assembly, which I have called together for the purpose of taking into Consideration the Plan of reconciliation held out by the Parliament, has served only to increase the Tumults in and the disorders of the Country, I have thought it most Conducive to the good of His Majesty's Service to fix my residence onboard the *Fowey*.

I have found by experience that I could rely on no protection but such as was furnished me, by the Zeal of Captain [George] Montagu, from His Majesty's Ships under his Command; and as the marching the few Men he could be able to spare me, through a covered Country the distance of several Miles, exposes them to very great risk from the Superior number of the People who have made no hesitation at declaring their intention of attacking them, I thought it most prudent to avoid such unequal contests, and for the preventing of the shedding of Blood I have resolved to quit the Place where the Governors usually reside, which is at the distance of some Miles from any Place where the Men of War can approach, and consequently lies at the mercy of the People, and to retire to the only safe retreat at present in the Colony for any Officer of the Crown; and my Intention is to remain in this Situation until I receive Instructions from His Majesty, for the procuring of which, and for the conveying of the most speedy Intelligence of these transactions to His Majesty, I have applied to Captain Montagu to dispatch Mr [Henry] Collins with the *Magdalen* to England; in conformity to which she is to sail immediately

If the Circumstances of the Service at Boston, and His Majesty's orders to you permit, I am still in hopes that you will augment the Sea Force in this part of America as much as will be possible, as the keeping of these considerable Countries lying upon the great Rivers which empty into the Bay of Chesapeake in awe cannot but contribute much to the Success of the General Plan for enforcing the Authority of Government in the Colonies.

It were to be wished that small Vessels could be kept constantly passing from Station to Station along the Coast for the purpose of regular and uninterrupted intelligence between all the ports where any of His Majesty's Servants are employed; who by these means may mutually aid each other. The land Conveyance is no longer to be depended upon. I am Sir, [&c.]

Dunmore

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

Sir

*Fowey* at York 17th June 1775

In consequence of a Demand from the Contractor for supplying the Army at Boston on his Agents here (Messrs Gibson Donaldson & Co) with a Quantity of Pork, And they finding it dangerous to Answer the same made Application to His Excellency the Earl of Dunmore to fall on a Method of having it safely and secretly procured; And that in consideration of the rebellious State of the Country, And having a Consultation with his Lordship have fallen on a Plan of seizing a Brigantine loaded with Pork and cleared out for Antigua, and send Mr. Crawley in Charge with her to Boston – The Master of her having proper Instructions on that head, And hope You will approve my Conduct herein, As the Committee have positively threatned and forbid the Contractor at Norfolk to supply any of his Majesty's Ships with more Provisions than what the said Ships can consume within themselves, as by that means they prevent any being carried to the Fleet.

I take this Opportunity of acquainting You with the arrival of his Majesty's Sloop *Otter* the 10th Instant, as also the *Arundle* Schooner, And am honoured with your Order of 21st. of May and Letter of the same and 22d – Also the Dispatches; Captains [Edward] Thornborough and [Francis] Parry's I have not as yet had an Opportunity of sending, but shall embrace One that will soon offer, for His Excellency the Earl of Dunmore has thought proper to apply to me to send two Vessels that had formerly been seized and condemned in the Court of Admiralty, A Sloop by Lieutenant [Henry] Colins And the *Sally* Schooner by me (and of which my former Letters informed You) to St Augustine to bring Troops, And that in their way there, they shall deliver the dispatches.

Agreeable to the part of your Letter of the 21st of May I had ordered Lieutenant Colins to prepare for his Station, But thought it prudent to heave the Schooner down here under the Protection of his Majesty's Ships, And which she is doing alongside the *Otter*.

I beg leave to acquaint You that on the 7th Instant the Governor was obliged with his Family to leave Williamsburgh and come Onboard the *Fowey* for Safety; as has some other of the Inhabitants; And that his Lordship has thought it proper to give the most speedy Accounts of the same to the King, and has applied to me to dispatch the *Magdalen* on that Service, which I shall do and inclosed transmit You a Copy of his Lordship's Letter.

From the hostile Appearance of the Country I cannot think it prudent to leave the Station until I have You[r] further Order, or relieved by another Ship, which I hope will be soon as the Ship and Boats are in great want of Repairs, and Stores of most kind – Your Order of the 21st of May requires my proceeding directly to Halifax, when I leave this Province, but as your prior Order directs my raising 100 Men and represented the fleet being in want of

Biscuit, shall think it prudent to put into Boston to deliver the Men and Bread as You may please to direct.

Sign'd George Montagu

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485. LC Transcript.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Tamer*, EDWARD THORNBROUGH,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775 In Rebellion Road So Carolina  
[Saturday] 17 at 7 A M came on board a Pilot, clear'd hause unmoored Ship & warp'd further down the harbour at 11 Moored a Cable each way in 6½ fm water Sullivans Isld Et Light house So Fort Johnson S W 1½ Mile the Best Bower to the Et wd . . . /Modr Breezes & Clear at 8 P M came in his Majesty's Sloop *Scorpion* with Governor Lord William Campbell,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/968.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SCHOONER *Saint John*, LIEUT. WILLIAM GRANT,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775 [Anchored] off Tybees Light House Inlet  
Satrday 17 At 11 / 10 learge boat mann'd and Arm'd landed on the aforesaid place [Tybee Island], from thence they Moved off down to Tybee's point  
Came on board and took refuge the Honble John Stuart Superintendant for Indian Affairs his life being Threatned, and it was not safe for him to remain any longer in Georgia – At ½ past 5 stopped a boat mannd and Armed from Savannah With some of the principal people of the Committe going down to Join the Carolinans. Ordered the boat to be mannd and Armed, to intercept them; and Made them return

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO CAPTAIN FRANCIS GRANT GORDON, H.M.S.  
*Argo* <sup>1</sup>

You are hereby required and directed forthwith to recve the Provisions on board his Majesty's Ship under your Comma[nd for] three Months of all Species, and are then to Sail to the Island [of] Dominica, there to complete your Wood and Water, and having [so] done; you are immediately to proceed to the Island of Barba[does] and apply to William Senhouse Esqr Surveyor General of hi[s Majts] Customs at Barbadoes and the Leeward Islands &c. to grant the usual Deputations for your self and two other Officers belong[ing] to the Ship you Command, to enable you more readily to execute [the] different Services expected to be performed by his Majesty's Ships and Ves[sels] in these Seas, as expressed in the general Orders you have received [from] me, Dated the 9th Instant

You are afterwards to proceed to the Island of Tobago, Gre[nada] and St Vincent; Where, you are in pursuance of the Kings pleas[ure] Signified by one of



his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, to make enquiry into the State of Trade &c. and to see that no encroachments are made in any part of them, and you are on your return to this harbour to make report to me, of the results of such enquiries, and Observations [in] order to my Transmitting them to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to be laid before his Majesty: this enquiry you are constantly to repeat at all the different Islands within my Comm[and] whenever you shall be sent to any of them, and so long as you shall continue on this Station.

You are likewise from time to time to correspond and Con[sult] with the Governors of the several Islands within the extent of [your] different Cruises, in what manner the Ship you Command may be employed in guarding the said Islands, and protecting their Trade, and are to govern yourself according as shall be agreed upon at [such] consultations, as far as you shall be able, without running the Ship into any very apparent danger, taking care she is consta[ntly] employed in the most effectual manner for the preservation of [the] said Islands, their Trade &c. and you are not to neglect the s[ame] upon any consideration whatever: And Whereas the due performance of these Services will require that the Kings Ships u[nder] my Command should be kept at Sea as much as possible, and the [lives] of the Men belonging to them, depends in great measure upon [them] not being suffered to idle away their time in Port, where they fall [into] drinking and other Debauchery; you are therefore required and direct[ed] never to go unnecessarily into Port, with the Ship you Command or to rem[ain] there longer, than the wants, and necessities, or any public Service you [went] in upon, shall unavoidably require.

You are to remain in the aforesaid Service till the 30th Ju[ly] and are then to return to English Harbour, for further Orders durin[g your] Cruise you are by every opportunity to transmit me an account [of] the State and Condition of his Majesty's Ship under your Command together with such intelligence as you may receive, and judge proper for my knowledge, and in case you should gain any Intelligence that you think I ought to be made immediately acquainted with, you are then to make the best of your way with such intelligence to this Harbour, or whatever other Island you shall hear of my being at. For which this shall be your Order:

Given under my Hand on board the *Portland* in English Harbour Antigua the 17th June 1775

Jam<sup>s</sup> Young.

By Command of the Admiral Geo: Lawford.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/309.

### 18 June (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Merlin*, CAPTAIN WILLIAM C. BURNABY,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775                      Moored in Marblehead Harbor

Sunday 18    Fired 4 Guns & 4 Swivels at some Rebels who fired at the Ship

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/604.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

[Preston, Boston] 18 [June 1775]

Most of the Artificers in Boston this morning refused to work on a Brig building for the Crown. Whereupon the Admiral. having the Governors permission, immediately sent four Press Gangs, under the Command of Captain [John] Linzee to secure all the Shipwrights, Caulkers and Seamen they could lay hold of and send them on board the flag Ship which was accordingly done: between two and three hundred men were thus impressed, among whom, were found many sailors, who were taken for the Ships, and the Artificers, after some days confinement, consented to work and were released.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 118-119, MassHS Transcript.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, GOVERNOR OF CONNECTICUT, TO JOHN HANCOCK,  
PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Lebanon 18th June 1775

In my Letter of the 7th instant, you are informed of my having your favour of the 27th of June, and of the proceedings of our Assembly on its contents, and on the earnest request of the Massachusetts Congress to augment our Troops in the public Service. – In our hurry it was omitted, that near the ending of the session, It was Resolved That two Vessels of a suitable Burden be immediately fitted out, Armed and furnished, with Officers, Men, and necessary Warlike Stores, for Defence of the Sea Coasts in this Colony, under the care and direction of The Governor and Committee of Council –

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, facing pp. 1685, 1686.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PARRY, R.N., TO CAPTAIN EDWARD THORNBROUGH, R.N.<sup>1</sup>

No. 4. [Cruizer, off Fort Johnston, North Carolina June 18, 1775] <sup>2</sup>

Dear Sir, Do be so obliging to let me know if you have any News from the Northward as I boarded a sloop toDay which came from Charles Town before that from Rhode Island he told me Capt [John] Lindsey [Linzee] was there from the disposition of the People here I am laying off Fort Johnston where the Governor is he has just sent his Family to New York. I am Dr Sir [&c.]

Fran Parry

P.S. If the Frigate or Sloop that bring Ld William [Campbell] is to go to the Northward or England Governor [Josiah] Martin would be obliged to you to order her to call here

To Captain Thornborough of his Majesty's ship *Tamer* Charlestown

1. Copy in Johnston Collection, HL. It is attested by William Henry Drayton, Chairman of the South Carolina Committee of Safety.
2. The date is approximated. Governor Campbell arrived at Charleston June 16, 1775, and the sloop from there must have left that port prior to his advent.

HENRY LAURENS TO JOHN LAURENS, LONDON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Charleston] 18. June. 1775.

p *Rabbit*, Capt. Fraser

the Militia were turned out in order to receive Lord Wm Campbell who arrived yesterday Evening having been detained off the Bar [due] to the loss of one Tide until the restraint upon Pilots was taken off, which we could not effect without Some opposition & even a Question – his Lordship was received by the Grenadier Company at his Landing escorted by them in front of the common Militia, the Artillery & Light Infantry Companies & I am Sure he must have Seen Such improvement in these new Troops as would, if the Times were other wise, have filled him with Surprize & pleasure – you would be astonished if you were to See the advances we have made in military exercises – His Lordship was not honoured by a long train of attendants – two of the Council, two or three Judges, the Secretary & Some Officers of the *Scorpion* with barely one or two more made up his Retinue –

1. Henry Laurens Letter Book, 1774–75, SCHS.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SCHOONER *Saint John*, LIEUT. WILLIAM GRANT, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775 [Anchored] off Tybees Light House in Cockspur Road  
 Sunday 18 At 4 Weighed and came to sail run down & Anchord of[f] Tybees light house – At 9 AM discovered a Number of Men Armed lying and Walking amongst the bushes coming out in small parties. – Arrived here *Governor Tonym* Sloop from St Augustine Saluted us with 5 Guns Returnd 3 – Liberty flag flying on the Light house . . . Received a pilot Weighed and came to sail a musket was fired aCross us out of the bushes opposite the Schooner No Doubt but with An intention to Kill somebody on board – The liberty flag was hoisted on Tybees Island on the Top of the Light house – At 5 fired 1 Gun Shotted and brought to a Ship from Jamaica – Made sail – A Great Swell – dischargd the pilot – . . .

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

LIEUTENANT WILLIAM GRANT, R.N., TO PHILIP STEPHENS, SECRETARY OF THE BRITISH ADMIRALTY <sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

*Saint John* Schooner Georgia 18th June 1775

Sir All communication with Admiral [Samuel] Graves being either out of, or rendered uncertain and precarious by the disorder and confusion which for some time past has reigned throughout this Continent, I am to request the favour, that you will be pleased to lay before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the

inclosed Copy of my last Letter to the Admiral, that their Lordships may form some idea of the disposition of the people in America. I have the honor [&c.]

William Grant

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/121, LC Transcript.

LIEUTENANT WILLIAM GRANT, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

*Saint John* Georgia 18th June 1775

Sir His Majesty's Schooner under my Command arrived here the 2d. Instant in order to prosecute the person suspected to have been concerned in the murder of David Martin in a Riot in February last a Seaman late belonging to His Majesty's Schooner under my Command; but the situation of the times are such as I am afraid prevents Justice from taking place this Colony being like all others through America in Anarchy and Confusion The Country People threatens to shut up this Port, if they don't its apprehended Carolinans will for them, it being generally reported and believed she means to march in upon Georgia, not only with that intention but also to make the Crown Officers as well as their own which they daily expect Prisoners of [or] hostages, and some people have been ordered to leave the province in seven days notice by the friends of Liberty as they call themselves The Eve of His Majesty's Birth Day some notorious people spiked up the Cannon and threw them over the battery down the cleft, as they had a few days before that robbed the Magazine of its Powder: In short it is with the utmost difficulty the publick Officers can now do their duty: Sir James Wright who is desirous of my remaining there some time until he sees how things are likely to turn out; called his Militia Officers together in order to know if they will stand by him in case Carolina should make him prisoner which he has private intelligence they mean to do, but how far he can depend upon them time only can shew. I beg leave to observe that provisions are not to be purchased here for Money, but my own particular interest I have luckily been able to procure a small supply for the *Saint John* and *Savage* Sloop, which I apprehend cannot be got in [New] Providence I am now collecting Materials for sheathing the Schooner as, also some other necessary stores she is in great need of. I flatter myself you will approve of my proceedings in these turbulent times when its impossible to adhere pointedly to the usual forms of service. Since the above the Honble John Stewart [Stuart] Superintendent of Indian Affairs, having had information of an intention in the Carolina Committee to seize his person, thought proper, to remove from Charles Town, to Savannah in Georgia where he imagined he would find safety, but two Members of the Provincial Congress then sitting at Charles Town were sent from thence, to inflame the minds of the people in Georgia, and to induce them, to secure him, pretending that he had used his influence to induce the Indians in his district (particularly the Cherokees and the Catawbass,) to fall upon the back inhabitants of the province and make a diversion to facilitate the landing of Troops said to be expected; these Emissaries succeeded so well, as to render it absolutely necessary for him to leave Savannah to avoid falling into the hands of a furious Mob, which he luckily effected in time enough by some Minutes, and requested of me, to carry him to St. Augustine, to which, with the approbation of Sir James Wright I consented: When Mr

Stewart took refuge on board the *St. John* for his safety, a Number of Canoes full of armed Men from South Carolina were lying at Pybees [Tybee] Island, the entrance of Savannah River, with what intention I know not, Soon afterwards a boat from Savannah with some of the principal people and leaders of the disaffected party attempted to pass by me, in order to join the Carolinians but I conceived it, to be for the good of His Majesty's Service, and my duty to prevent their meeting, and I accordingly obliged them to return, and immediately afterwards the Carolians in their Canoes went home. The next Morning a number of armed Men appeared on the beach and upon my making sail fired a Musket and hoisted the American Liberty Flag on Tybees Light House; I think proper to give you this information, by which it will appear that Anarchy and a total subversion of Government has taken place in Georgia as well as, in the other provinces as I think it my duty I shall continue to co-operate and comply with any requisitions made by the Governor and Council for the good of the Province, providing the same do not contradict, or clash with such Orders as I may have received from you, or my other superior Officers. I have the honor to be &c

William Grant

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/121, LC Transcript.

## 19 June

CAPTAIN EDWARD MEDOWS, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

Sir,

*Tartar* Halifax June 19, 1775

I received your Letter of the 3d June the 14th of this month relative to the Guns for the Schooners, and the Dispatch of the Service, which I shall have great satisfaction in forwarding as much as I possibly can. I think it my duty to acquaint you, Sir, that his Majesty's Ship under my Command is rendered in a very weak state of defence by sending a Detachment of twenty men to do duty in the Yard, as we have only twenty eight remaining in a Watch, which I must (and hope you will) think is being too weak at such a time as this. I have applied to the commanding Officer of the Troops to know if he could spare men to do duty in the Yard, but he has informed me that they are so very weak that it is absolutely out of his power to give any assistance, so that I cannot help looking upon the Garrison here to be in a very weak state, and hoping that you will think more force necessary at so critical a time and where there is so great an Object to attend to as the Navy Yard must be at present. I have lent the *Halifax* some men to fit her rigging, and shall be happy to give every assistance in my power towards forwarding the Service at so material a time. I much fear, Sir, the Rebels have too many friends here, so that I suppose they will be made acquainted with the strength of the Garrison here which I should be afraid at present might give them great Encouragement to hope for Success, provided it continues in the weak State it is at present both by Sea and Land, which Consideration made me think it my duty at this time to point out the weak State of the Ship at present; but for the number of men we have, Sir, I have the Satisfaction to think we should do as much as could be expected from us with great Chearfulness and good Will. We have lost one of our Masters Mates, Sir, and the Master himself is in a very declining way, so that we are weak at present with regard to Officers as well as

Men. I have inclosed the State and Condition of his Majestys Ship under my Command, and am Sir &c.

Edw<sup>d</sup> Medows

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 129, 130, MassHS Transcript.

# JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown], Monday, June 19, 1775

*Resolved*, That nine o'clock to-morrow morning be assigned for the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the establishing armed Vessels.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN WILLIAM C. BURNABY,  
H.M.S. *Merlin* AT MARBLEHEAD <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Preston Boston 19 June 1775

I have received your Letters June 17. Your Boatswains and Carpenter's demands are approved, and the *Hopes* Tender carries the Stores round: The Gunners Stores demanded are not to be had, I am informed that in general they wish to have the appearance of being compelled to authorize their bringing Wood to Boston, I have therefore inserted Wood Vessels among those you are to send round, but you may assure all such that they will be paid a Market Price, and be allowed to return again without any Interruption from Pressing or otherwise.

I am very glad you have got all the Bread from Salem which was demanded for the *Merlin* and I desire you will get as much more as you can without Risque. I am &c.

Sam<sup>l</sup> Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 443, MassHS Transcript.

# DIARY OF LIEUTENANT JOHN BARKER <sup>1</sup>

[Boston] 19th. [June, 1775]

Yesterday three Gondolas (large flat boats, sides raised and musquet proof) came up Mistick River or Bay, the Water on our right, where they still remain; they cover that flank and now and then take a shot at the fellows who come down among the ruins to fire at our Men at Work; had these boats been with us on Saturday at the time of the Attack they cou'd have been of great use, as they wou'd have taken a part of the Rebels intrenchment in flank and in their retreat wou'd have cut off numbers; instead of that they were on the other side and of no manner of use.

1. Barker, *Diary*, 61-62.

# DIARY OF PETER EDES <sup>1</sup>

[Boston] June 19, 1775. About eight o'clock in the morning, being in Edes & Gill's office,<sup>2</sup> three men belonging to the ships of war appeared round the office and having been previously informed of their pressing every person into the service who happened to fall in their way, I ran out of a back door which conducted into the lane that led to my father's house, thither I repaired; but the bloodhounds were immediately informed of my retreat and speedily followed me, and the

dwelling almost instantly surrounded by sailors and three officers. I soon was made a prisoner, and had the misfortune to find myself in the hands of the most unfeeling and worthless set of men, – one of whom upon first discovering me cried out, “I have found the damned rebel.” The fellow had a cutlass drawn in his hand, and pulled me to the officers, one of whom was Capt. Lindsay; <sup>3</sup> he asked me where Mr. [Benjamin] Edes was, I answered he was out of town; he replied, that I was a damned liar, and that I had better tell him; he repeated the question, I answered as before; he asked me if I was Mr. Edes the printer’s son, I told him I was; upon which he ordered me with him; observing that he was commanded so to do, I said it was very well, and followed him. After we had got to New Boston, he asked me what my father had been writing to me, I replied nothing; then what I had been writing him – nothing; he said, “I was right in saying so, but that he would be damned if he would believe me.” We afterwards proceeded towards the Admirals,<sup>4</sup> and passing by my father’s house, Lindsey discovered Mr. Starr with a firelock; upon which he ordered me to stop, for there was a trooper with a firelock. He was soon brought where I was, and both placed in the centre of a circle formed of six sailors, who were as hardened and inhuman as Turks, and were commanded to go on. Being a little animated I said, Capt. Lindsey, I should be much obliged to you, if you would carry me to the General’s,<sup>5</sup> and see whether he will release me, or what he will do with me. He said he was not to go where I pleased, but that I should go where he pleased to carry me, “and damn you, if you ask me another question, I’ll knock you down, by God.” He then sent us to the Admiral’s, with an officer and a few sailors; when we were before the Admiral, he asked me my name: I replied Edes; he said I looked like a dirty villain, and ordered his officer to carry us to the provost, with orders to hang us immediately; but looking round he saw a sailor with a firelock, upon which he asked the officer if it was found with us; being informed it was, he ordered his officer to carry us to General Gage, and he would know what to do with us. When we came before his excellency, Harry Rooke, one of his aid-de-camps, asked me how many more firelocks I had in the house, I replied, five or six more for aught I knew, for I was ignorant of that one being there; he told me that I would wish I had given it up; another officer called a serjeant of the horse, and ordered him to draw his cutlass and carry us back to the Admiral’s, but observed to him, if we offered to run, (made a sign by drawing his hand across his throat;) we set off, but soon an officer overtook us, and gave us orders to stop. The serjeant ordered us to lay on the ground, and in about a quarter of an hour another officer came and acquainted us that we must go to the General’s again, which we did, and tarried there about half an hour, after which they called a corporal, gave him a billet, and ordered a file of men to take us to the provost; and to fall into the hands of a more worthless, infamous fellow, I don’t wish my enemies.

1. *A Diary of Peter Edes, The Oldest Printer in the United States, written during his confinement in Boston by the British one hundred and seven days in the year 1775, immediately after the Battle of Bunker Hill. Written by himself.* [Bangor, Samuel S. Smith, Printer, 1837], 8. Hereafter cited as *Edes Diary*.
2. Benjamin Edes and John Gill, publishers of *Boston Gazette and Country Journal*. Edes had escaped from Boston to Watertown in the Spring of 1775, where *Gazette* was continued.

3. Captain John Linzee, of H.M.S. *Falcon*.
4. Vice Admiral Samuel Graves.
5. General Thomas Gage.

"REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*"<sup>1</sup>

June 1775                      Flag Staff at the Fort [George] S b W  
 Monday 19 A M Stopt the Brigg *Royal Charlotte* Jno Nowls Master from  
 Jamaica with rum and Sugar Do the Brigg *Polly* Jno Tryer Mastr  
 from Philadelphia with Flour & Bread Sent a Mate & 2 Men in  
 the *Polly* to Carrey her to Boston

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN TO CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE, R.N.<sup>1</sup>

On His Majesty's Service

Newport, June 19th, 1775

Sir, Agreeable to information lodged with you in writing of 6th Inst. that I expected from Philadelphia in the Brig. *Charlotte*, John Fryers Master, three hundred cask of Bread, thirty Barr's Pork and some Flour, for the use of the Contract which I agreed with Mr. George Gibbs to import for that purpose, and accordingly last week advanced him fifty pounds lawfull money in part payment for the same, Mr. Gibbs now informs me those articles are come agreeable to his Contract, but that you have determin'd to send the greater part round to Boston.

It therefore becomes my duty to inform you in behalf of the contractors, if I am deprived of receiving this Bread (being the only resource I have left) it will greatly distress the Contract and wholly put it out of my power to comply with the future Demands of any of His Majesty's Ships on this Station in the article of Bread.

I therefore rest upon the protection of Captain Wallace in behalf of the Contractors, and could wish it was expedient with His Majesty's Service, that the whole of the Bread might be retained here for the use it was imported for. I am &c.

Chris. Champlin

[Endorsed] Copy letter James Wallace Esq. Commander of His Majesty's Ships of Warr, at Newport.

1. Ford, ed., *Commerce of Rhode Island*, II, 24.

CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

*Rose*, Rhode Island 19th June 1775

Sir, Since my last, of the 5th Instt I had information of this Colony's fitting out Arm'd Vessels from Providence to attack the King's Ships – Report says a Brig of 18 Carriage Guns, 200 Men, a Sloop of 14 – 80 Men and four or five other smaller, besides two fitting out at New London, and two at Dartmouth – In consequence of this, I sent the two packets out different ways to reconnoitre; Unluckily One of them fell in with two of their Sloops, and after an Action of half an Hour was run onshore, the particulars of which is inclosed, given me by the Officer who commanded Onboard – At this time I had four or five Vessels loaded



with Provisions upon the point of Sailing to Boston, the Owners agreeing with me for their Proceedings – After settling this matter and hearing the Pirates were at Anchor about four Leagues from Us – I got under Weigh as secret as possible, expecting to fall upon them by Surprise – However they got Intelligence and moved higher up towards Providence in shallow Water, where it was not proper for us to pursue them – On our return to Newport we found a great number of the Towns People had taken advantage of our absence, Arm'd a number of Boats and Vessels – taken the Victuallers, carried them to Town, dismantled & unloaded them, and this done in the space of two or three hours. this procedure, together with their behaviour on hearing of an Action in the Massachusetts Bay – sending every assistance of Men, Provisions & ca to the Rebel Camp, their Public Acts of Assembly all demonstrate they are as much in Rebellion, as [Israel] Putnam and his Camp – One of the Brigs sent loaded with Rum and Sugar, belongs to a [William] Vernon, as great a Rebel as any in the Country who was upon his March to the Camp when he heard of the Detention of his Vessel.

Sign'd Ja<sup>s</sup> Wallace

Inclosed are Copies of Letters that pass'd between me and a Man who calls himself Lieutt. Governor

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

MR. SAVAGE GARDNER'S REPORT TO CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE, R.N.<sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

Particulars of an Action between the *Diana* Packet a Tender belonging to His Majesty's Ship *Rose*, and two Armed Sloops belonging to the Rebels.

The 15th June 1775 about 9 O'clock A M. being ordered by Captain Wallace to proceed with the *Diana* Sloop, a Tender to His Majesty's Ship *Rose*, up the River towards Providence with a Petty Officer, eleven Men and Myself, armed with Small Arms and four Swivels to reconnoitre the different Passages, having Intelligence of Armed Vessels being fitted out by the Rebels at Providence.

The 16th. P.M. about half past 5, as I was standing off between the North end of Connecticut [sic! Conanicut] Island and Gold Island between two and three Leagues from the Ship, a Sloop coming before the Wind, I lay'd too to speak her – a little after six being within hail, She hail'd Us and told Us to bring too or she would sink Us immediately and directly fired a shot which we returned with our Small Arms and Swivels and kept a smart fire on both Sides for near half an hour, till by accident the Powder Chest with the remainder of the Swivel Cartridges blew up – In this Sloop we saw six Carriage Guns mounted and a great number of Men Onboard<sup>2</sup> – The Ammunition for the Small Arms being near expended and another Armed Vessel with Carriage Guns belonging to the Rebels joining and bringing Us between two fires, so that there was no possibility of saving the Vessel – I thought it prudent to run her ashore which I accordingly accomplished near the North end of Connecticut and got onshore with the People and part of the Small Arms – They immediately landed a number of Men from the Vessels in whale Boats who closely pursued and fired at Us – being so closely

pursued and night coming on thought it necessary to separate and conceal Our-selves till a proper Opportunity offered of joining the Ship which was accomplished the next day without the loss of one Man. Mr Stevenson the Petty Officer and one Men being the only People that were hurt occasioned by the Powder Chest blowing up – During the course of the Engagement the People behaved with the greatest Spirit.

Sign'd Savage Gardner Master

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

2. "On the 15th of June, 1775, while Sir James Wallace with the British Ship of War, & a Number of Tenders lay in Narragansett Bay – I was appointed by the Legislature of the Colony of Rhode Island to the Command of a Sloop of 12 Guns, & a Tender of Six, in Order to Clear the bay of the Enemy's Tenders, & open a Communication to the Sea for the Numerous Vessells which had long been blocked up in our Harbours & Rivers, By my Exertions on the first day of my Command I had the Good fortune to take one of the British Tenders & Cleared the Bay of the Remainder whereby the principal part of our homeward bound Vessells arived Saif without opposition, & they day became memorable for the first Shot that was fired on Water in defiance of the British Flag, which I Ventured to do at no small Hazzard from a sence of my Countrys wrongs, & at a time when no other Man in the Colony would undertake the Hazardous business lest he should be destined to the threatned Cord." Abraham Whipple's petition to Congress, January 24, 1796, Solomon Sibley, Manuscripts, Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library. This source is hereafter referred to as Whipple's petition. Whipple's claim to having fired the first shot on water in defiance to the British flag is incorrect. The *Margaretta* had been taken four days before off Machias.

*Newport Mercury*, MONDAY, JUNE 19, 1775

Newport, June 19.

Last Thursday [June 15] one of the Providence packets, which had been arbitrarily seized by, and detained as a tender to, the men of war in this harbour, was sent up the Bay, 'tis supposed, to take a vessel which 'twas reported had gone up the back side of Connanicut; but unluckily she met with two arm'd vessels which fired upon her so warmly that she was obliged to turn tailto, but not being able to get off, the people stuck her ashore on the north end of Connanicut, and left her; she was immediately got off, and carried away, most probably to be delivered to her *proper* owner. This happened just before sunset.

Last Friday evening when the men of war in our harbour were shifting their watches, a number of musket-balls were fired into the town, one of which entered a closet window of a house on Gravelly-point, just to the northward of the Long wharf, went through the closet-door, and made a considerable dent in a door in the opposite corner of the room adjoining the closet; by which one or two persons narrowly escaped being killed or wounded.

Last Saturday, it being reported that 2 American vessels of force, were lying in Narragansett Bay, Capt. [James] Wallace of the ship *Rose*, Capt. [James] Ayscough, of the *Swan*, and a Tender, came to sail, and first beat out within about 2 miles of the Light house, when they bore away, and ran up the river as far as Connanicut point, and took a peep down Narragansett Bay; but not discovering any vessels, they returned to their station in this harbour; while they were on this short, and unsuccessful cruise, a number of people boarded and carried off, 5 vessels, which men of war had taken, and left riding in the road.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEWPORT, DATED MONDAY, JUNE 19, 1775”<sup>1</sup>

On Thursday last [June 15], as one of the packets which had been piratically seized and detained by Captain [James] Wallace, was cruising as a tender, in the Naraganset-Bay, in quest of plunder, as usual, she spoke with an armed sloop, fitted out by the colony for the protection of its trade, whose commander not answering in a tone sufficiently submissive, was fired upon by the tender; the compliment was returned with such effect as to put the Pirates into some confusion, and they endeavoured to make off, but were prevented by an armed packet boat, in the service of the colony, that had by this time come up; the pirates finding they could not escape, ran the vessel ashore on Connanicut, and went off with much precipitation. The firing on both sides continued some minutes, though none of our people was hurt, and but one of the pirates wounded. On board the packet retaken were found eight swivels, seventeen stands of arms, a number of pistols, cutlasses, cartouch-boxes, &c.

1. *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, Philadelphia, July 1, 1775.

*New York Gazette*, MONDAY, JUNE 19, 1775

New York, June 19 [1775].

Friday last [June 16] the *Mercury* Frigate, Captain [John] M'Carthy [Macartney], arrived at Sandy-Hook, in 14 Days from Boston: He was dispatched from thence by General Gage to order whatever Troops might arrive here from England or Ireland for Boston; and last Wednesday he luckily fell in with a Transport from Cork with Part, of the 44 Regiment bound into this Place; but she soon stood to the Eastward, and Captain M'Carthy now waits at the Hook to give the like Orders to the Rest of the Fleet that may arrive there.

JAMES MADISON TO WILLIAM BRADFORD<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Virginia] June 19th, 1775

My Dear Friend . . . A rumour is on the wing that the provincials have stormed Boston & with the Loss of 7,000 have cutt off or taken [Thomas] Gage and all his men. It is but little credited. Indeed the fact is extremely improbable: but the times are so remarkable for strange events; that improbability is almost become an argument for their truth.

. . . Our Burgesses from the County are not yet returned from Willmsbg. where they hold their Assembly. So I cannot give you any particulars of their proceedings. The news papers will do that I expect: I understand Lord Dunmore by deserting his Palace & taking Sanctuary on board the Ship of War, under the pretence of the fear of an Attack on his person, has surprized & incensed them much, As they thought it incredible he should be actuated on that occasion by the Motives he alledges. It is judged more likely to have proceeded from some intelligence or Instructions he has received from his friends or superiors to the North. It is said the Governor of N Caroliana has treated his Assembly nearly in the same manner. Some will have it that Lord Dunmore removed from Wmsbg. & pretended danger that he might with more force & consistency misrepresent us to the ministry. His unparralled malice

to the people of this Colony since the detection of his false & wicked letters, sent home at the time he was professing an ardent friendship for us must lead us to suppose he will do us all the Injury in his power. But we defy his power as much as we detest his Villany.

1. Hutchinson and Rachal, eds., *Madison Papers*, I, 152, 153.

## 20 June

### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Tuesday, June 20, 1775

The Report of the Committee on the expediency of establishing armed Vessels, was considered. The Report is as follows, viz.

*Resolved*, That a number of armed Vessels, not less than six, to mount from eight to fourteen carriage guns, and a proportionable number of swivels, &c. &c. be with all possible despatch provided, fixed, and properly manned, to cruise as the Committee of Safety, or any other person or persons who shall be appointed by this Congress for that purpose, shall from time to time order and direct, for the protection of our trade and sea-coasts against the depredations and piracies of our enemies, and for their annoyance, capture, or destruction.

After debate, the matter was ordered to subside for the present.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1426, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

### VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Boston 20 June 1775.

All his Majesty's Ships and Vessels under my Command are in great want of Boats; Some are deficient in number; the whole, from the extraordinary Service continually required of Boats, are much out of repair – I find there are many in Town very fit for the King's Service; I beg your Excellency will be pleased to allow Me to order them to be put into the Charge of the Naval Storekeeper to be supplied by him to the Kings Ships as I shall direct, and to be paid for whenever any claimant legally impowered shall appear to demand it. I have the Honor to be with great regard and Esteem Sir [&c.]

Sam<sup>l</sup> Graves

1. Gage Papers, CL.

### GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

Copy

Boston 20th June 1775. –

Sir/ I have received yours in Regard to your being in great want of Boats, for the Ships and Vessels under your Command, I have no Objection to your proposal, and all those that can be found fit for your Service shall be Ordered into the Charge of the Naval Storekeeper, he becoming liable to pay for them whenever any Just Claimant shall appear.

I am with great Regard & Esteem Sir, &ca

P.S. You will be so good as send a proper person to receive the boats, and to take charge of them. –

1. Gage Papers, CL.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO CAPTAIN GEORGE VANDEPUT, H.M.S. *Asia*<sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

Boston 20th June 1775

Sir Having ordered the 4 last Regiments that Embarked from Ireland, to this place, and least any of the Transports should escape a Ship Cruising to order them here, I inclose you a Copy of their Orders, which I beg you to show to the Officer Commanding any of the transports that may put into New York, that they may immediately put to Sea again and proceed to Boston –

Messrs Watts, and McEvers of New York,<sup>2</sup> having Money in hand for the use of Government, and from a late Resolve of the Continental Congress, are intimidated from sending it to Boston; I am to beg the favour of you to receive it, and send it to the Paymaster General here as Opportunitys Offer; for which you have Inclosed letters to those Gentlemen, and which you will be so good as to deliver with your own hand, as they contain orders to pay you what Money they have –

I am with great Regard [&c.]

1. Gage Papers, CL.

2. Agents to the Contractors for supplying money for His Majesty's forces in North America. For the resolution referred to see Journal of the Continental Congress, June 2, 1775.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

Sir

Boston 20th. June 1775

All the New York Vessels are pushing out as fast as possible, with every kind of Provisions; it might be of great use to us should your Cruisers search them, and where they found them laden, with Pork, Beef or any kind of Flesh Provisions, to send them here for the use of his Majesty's Troops.

I should likewise be glad you would Order your Officer that goes to New York, to speek to any of the Transports he may see bound there, and to order them to proceed immediately here, but not on any account to mention it at New York –

I am with great Regard &c

1. Gage Papers, CL.

DEPUTY GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE OF RHODE ISLAND TO SAMUEL WARD<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Providence June 20. 1775

The Men of War in Newport take every Thing they can get. An armed Sloop and Packet belonging to this Town went down the Bay and retook, after a small Engagement in Sight of the Ships of War, Thomas Lindsey's Packet, who had been turned into a Cruiser.

1. RIHS Mss. Collection, XVI, 137.

JABEZ BOWEN TO BENJAMIN MARSHALL AND BROTHERS,  
PHILADELPHIA MERCHANTS<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Providence June 20, 1775

Our Government have order Two Cruizers to be equiped and sent out to protect our Trade. They have retaken Lindsays packett in sight of the Men

of War which Wallis<sup>2</sup> had fitted as a Tender. The Men of War have taken Mr. Gibbs Brigg loaded with Flour. They have put all the Flour on Board of the Men of War. for Fear that the Brigg should be Retaken and unloaded as several Vessels from the West Indies was a few Days ago. The Sloop has not yet Arrived that has my Goods on Board she stands a great Chance to fall into their Hands . . .

Jabez Bowen

1. Peck Mss., III, 41, RIHS.

2. Captain James Wallace, R.N., commanding H.M.S. *Rose*.

PHILIP WANTON TO MOSES BROWN<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Newport 20th 6 mo 1775.

Respectd Friend I received Thine of the 19th Instant with the Letters inclosed, shall take particular care to forward them by the first convenient opportunity . . . [John] Waterman sailed Yesterday for Nantucket, has been dismissed several Days, The two Men of War and packet sailed at the same time, it is reported that they intend to convoy him, uncertain whether they are bound to Boston or intend back directly. Samuel Starbuck is expected hear if Waterman should be arrived shall acquaint thee by the first opportunity . . . thy Friend

Philip Wanton.

1. Moses Browns Papers, RIHS.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS TO THE CONNECTICUT DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

Dear Gent.

Leb[ano]n — 20 June 1775. 9 oClock at night

The Governors Letter You will receive by the Express, had introduced the Action commenced at Charlestown on Saty Morn'g last, & stopd to wait further Intelligences having then (a few hours since) a very broken Acct of the Matter, he will himself add I suppose what further is just come by Cap Elij. Hyde of this Town, the sum of his Information as I recollect it, is, viz about 1500, of the Massachusetts & Connecticut Troops by Order possesd Them selves of Bunkers Hill Fryday night, & had made great Progress, in intrenchments, by the Light of next morn'g but not prepared to use what small Cannon they had, soon as they were discovered the Ships within reach, & a number of floating Batterys mounted with Cannon, which had been prepared began a heavy Fire upon them, but did not greatly annoy Them at first, about Two thousand regular Troops also immediately crosed over to Charlestown, & set the Town in Flames in various parts (which all but a few scattered Houses is consumed) & approached to Attack the Hill, The Provincials sent of[f] for reinforcements & in the mean Time bravely repulsed the Enemy Recruits arrived before they had got very near, & kept their Fire tho perpetually fired upon, till the Enemy got within abt 15 rods & then gave it a full loose brodside as They conceive very great Destruction upon them mowing down whole ranks of them 12 deep, till They began to retreat apace, & the left of our Troops leapd their breastwork of a rail fence & pursued them fast abt 20 rods, when perceiving their own right gave way, (which tis found was occasioned by Genl [Seth] Pumroys [Pomeroy], ordering them, who were then in Front & had been on Fatigue all night faint & hungry,

to give back, intending only to make room for recruits just come up, but in the Confusion it was misunderstood & they all retreated on that wing) our Troops perceiving their right to be giving back, & at the same Time a large Detachment of the Regulars who had unperceived, made a large circular march to the westward partly across Greens Hill above Them forcing into their Post & Intrenchment which they had almost deserted, it was apparently prudent & necessary all to retreat which they did, without precipitation carrying off all their wounded men, & possessed themselves of Greens Hill next above Bunkers, which they are now holding & fortifying & have done much to strengthen, leaving the latter in possession of the Enemy which They are also fortifying, & firing of the Cannon continued by turns, when Mr Hyde left the Camp yesterday Morn'g 10, o'Clo, some of our Soldiers Packs & Baggage fell into the Enemys hands, the Tools perhaps all & two or 3 field peices all they had with Them, as near as co'd be come at We had lost in all between 40 & 70 killd & 140 wounded, They have lost tis not doubted many more, but We know not the Number a man escaped from Boston says he saw them land 500 wounded Men, among our wounded is Colo [Thomas] Gardner dangerously in the groin & Hip, Lt Tho. Grosvenor of Pomfret, badly in the left hand, the author of my News knows not any Officer beside wounded & does not mention any killed.

The ardor of Dear Dr Warren could not be restrained by the intreaty of his Brethern of the Congress &c & He is, alas! among the slain. may eternal Happiness be his eternal Portion. Genl [Israel] Putnams Regimts were all in the Action save Cap [Ebenezer] Moseley & [Samuel] Cowper who were absent on some other Duty. Our Troops are in exceeding high Spirits & their Resolution increases, they long to speak with them again & when the reinforcement was called for it was difficult to keep any back. it was reported & believed some hours, that Cap [John] Chester & Cap [Israel] Putnam [Jr.] were killed but is a mistake as to both I receive it that Genl Putnam commanded our Troops perhaps not in chief & tis said is wounded but believe tis not so. cannot learn who commanded the Regulars, nor who is killd among them.

The same night another Detachment of our Forces began to entrench on Dorchester Hill & a pretense of attack & resistance was made by the Regulars but nothing more done but firing & throwing Carcases into Roxbury which did some Mischief to the Houses, but burnt none, & killd one Middletown Soldier. They have, tis said, ceased their Works by Genl [John] Thomass Order, but keep it guarded. What the next Effort will be we know not, but hope to be prepar'd to resist it, one thing hinted at in his Honors Letter is wanted much. Your most worthy Body, will not cease Your utmost in the Cause, which We are far from despairing of, have sketched this imperfect narative in great [blurred] & composed my self for that only. Your Wisdom & Time will be all imployed for the whole, for those in a nearer situation &c who must feel more sensibly than perhaps tis possible for remote Colonies.

We have & wish no quarrel with the King, but only the despotic Power of Parliament.

woud not another pathetic Address to the People of Great Britain, be of some Avail, & also to the People of Ireland.

We have great Reason to bless the Name of our God for so great a degree of success & advantage as we have had in the last as well as former Conflicts & to be deeply humbled for our Sins. We rejoice that you have supported a Day of Fasting &c.

I am Dr Gent. Your & our Country's Friend &c

W<sup>m</sup> Williams

Hon E Dyer Esqr &c

[P.S.] have heard Col [John] Hancock is impatient to get into the Army, I rather think his Duty calls him to abide where he is at present.

[Addressed] To The Honble Eliphalet Dyer Roger Sherman & Silas Deane Esqrs

P Express

1. U.S. Revolution Collection, LC.

# JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

[New York] Die Martis, 9 ho., A.M. June 20th, 1775.

A Letter from Major General [David] Wooster, dated the 17th inst., was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

[See Wooster's letter of that date.]

The Mayor of the city informed the President that without the aid of this Congress, Captain [George] Vandeput, of the Ship *Asia*, cannot get any small necessities for himself or his ship; and that Capt. Vandeput requests such aid of the Congress as may give him relief in the premises.

*Ordered*, That Abraham Lott, Esquire, be at liberty to supply Capt. Vandeput and the Ship *Asia*, with such small necessities as may be wanted from time to time.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 46-48.

## CAESAR RODNEY TO THOMAS RODNEY <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Philada, June the 20th 1775

I am much pleased to hear you have Sold the Sloop and as time have but a verry Gloomy appearance I wish both the other Veshells were Sold, provided they were *well sold* – however you neglected to let me know what You are to get for the Sloop . . . I heard this after noon by Express from Rhode Island that a part of the Troops Expected at Boston from Ireland are arrived and Landed at Boston, and That the Remainder are looked for Every day as they Sailed together, I mean the first mentioned four Regiments with the Horse. Some of the Horse are also Come and landed; the above news I Believe is true and believe after they have had a few days to recruit from their Voige we may Expect warm work, and warm it will be I dare say, for we Just had an Express from our provintial Camp Whoe informs of a Truth that we have there Eighteen Thousand men ready to Receive the Regulars, and indeed wishing they may



Come out – provided they intend to persist in their oppression; I wish our new Generals were at the Camp.<sup>2</sup>

1. Rodney Papers, HSD.

2. Referring to George Washington and Charles Lee, who were soon to leave Philadelphia for Cambridge.

WOOLSEY AND SALMON TO STEPHEN SKINNER, AMBOY<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Baltimore] 20th June 1775

Annexed you have Coppy of what we wrote you the 8th Inst under Cover by Privet hand to Mr C[lement] Biddle. yesterday we recd your favr of the 9th Inst and note the Contents. we are Surprised you had not recd ours And that we had not an Answer from you Ere this, but much more that yours of the 29th of May is never Come to hand. the bill Shall meet due honour & are thankfull to you for the trouble you have taken in this Matter & when in our power Shall return it. We find the protest Capt [James] Green has Made by no Mains Sufficient therefore request you forwarding Every perticular paper properly Attested to Mr Geo: Darley Mercht Dublin Immediately, to Enable him to Recover the Insurance, indeed we are More Disatisfyed with Green than we last wrote you, for to Add to our loss he has taken a Man more from your place than he had ocaion for, however at the Distance we ware we Could not Remedy our Selvs.

1. Woolsey and Salmon Letter Book, LC.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF OBSERVATION OF ACCOMAC COUNTY, VIRGINIA<sup>1</sup>

At a meeting of the Committee held in Accomack County on Tuesday, the 20th of June, 1775.

James Henry, Esq., Chairman

Whereas the trade carried on in small vessels in any of the rivers or creeks in this County, or goods imported by any of the merchants or traders here from any port or place in America may be productive of very evil consequences, if not under proper regulations: For remedy whereof,

*Resolved unanimously*, That every Master or Owner of a Vessel having any goods on board for sale, or any Merchant or Trader residing here having imported any goods, wares, or merchandise, from any part of America, shall not sell any goods or merchandise, or part with the same in exchange for any commodity whatever, unless they produce a certificate from the Committee of the County from whence they were brought to this Committee, that the same were imported into America agreeable to the terms of the Association of the General Congress.

Ordered, That this resolution be published in the *Virginia Gazette*.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1031.

*South Carolina Gazette*, TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 1775

Charles-Town, June 20.

On Saturday Evening last [June 17], his Excellency the Right Hon. Lord William Campbell, Governor in Chief, &c. of this Province, with his Lady and

Family, arrived here in the *Scorpion* Man of War from England: His Lordship was saluted on his Arrival by the *Tamar* Man of War, by Fort Johnson, and the several Forts in Town; and about One o'Clock the next Day, his Lordship landed at Champneys's Wharf, where he was received by several Gentlemen; and also by the Grenadier Company under Arms; the Regiment of Militia were likewise under Arms: From the Wharf his Lordship walked in Procession, preceded by the Grenadier Company, to the State-House, where his Commission was read and published in the Council-Chamber, in the Presence of some of the Members of his Majesty's Council, &c. from whence he returned in the same Order to the Exchange, where it was again read; after which his Lordship and the whole Company repaired to the State-House, where a genteel Entertainment was provided on the Occasion.

GOVERNOR SIR JAMES WRIGHT TO LORD DARTMOUTH <sup>1</sup>

No 51

Sav. in Georgia 20 June 1775.

My Lord, The Liberty people have now got another pretence for raising men, they assert that Mr. [John] Stuart the Superintendant has been endeavouring to raise the Cherokee Indians to come down against them, this they alledge that they have got undoubted proof of, and all he can say will not convince them to the Contrary, his Friends in Charles Town gave him a hint, and he left that and came here but they sent some of their party here who have so inflam'd & enrag'd our People, that he did not think himself safe, and His Majesty's armed Schooner *St. John* having put in from [New] Providence, he went on board her & I suppose by this time is saild for St. Augustine. And several Boats full of men from the Carolina side, have been down at our Inlet some days, the Accounts differ as to No. some call them 50 others 80 all well & completely arm'd. Some alledge their intention was to seize on Mr. Stuart which very probably was part of their errand, But I believe they have another point in view and that is 3 Vessells being expected here from London and a considerable quantity of Gun Powder being on board for the Indian Trade, they intend to seize on that & carry it to Carolina and this is certainly in their power to do and its not possible to prevent it, if attempted and one of these Vessells arrived here on Saturday the 18th inst. & the Capt. one Ash informs me that several Boats lay off a little way from him & that one with 3 or 4 men came on board and one of them inquir'd whether he had any Gun Powder on board and on showing his Cockets and their finding he had none they behaved very civilly and went away, but made great inquiry after another ship one Maitland who has a large quantity of Gun Powder on board and it is said they intend to watch our Inlet till the others come and to take out all the Gun Powder And if that is the case I am much afraid it will embarass us with the Indians for they have for some time being very impatient for their usual supplies and in order to pacify them I have told them that the difference we had with them last year prevented the Merchants from sending for goods, that none was wrote for till after our disputes were settled in Octr last and that it takes a great while for ships to carry letters and orders from hence to England and that then the goods would be to make (I told them this to gain time) and afterwards be sent here and that sometimes ships had very long passages and we would not depend on a supply till late in the summer and with this they were tolerably well satisfied, but if they are

now disappointed they will conclude we have some design against them and I can't tell what may be the consequence for they are a very jealous suspicious people and as they have been told by the Chickesaw Indians that the White people are going to join the Chactaws against them it may confirm that report and thus Your Lordship sees the state we are in in every respect and no King's Sloop or Cruizer heard of yet. By the inclosed Paper Your Lordship will see the extraordinary Resolves by the People of Charlotte Town Mecklenburg County and I should not be surprized if the same should be done every where else. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Ja. Wright

1. *Collections of the Georgia Historical Society*, (Savannah, 1873) III, 189.

## 21 June

MAJOR JOHN TUPPER, ROYAL MARINES, TO JOHN MONTAGU, LORD SANDWICH <sup>1</sup>

My Lord The 17th. Inst. part of the Troops at Boston to the Number of about two thousand being Order'd to attack a Redoubt and the very Strong holds which the Rebels had in this place, the First Battalion of Marines being Included, Major [John] Pitcairn took the Command and Order'd me from the 2d. Battalion to Serve under him on this Occasion. I have now the honor to inform your Lordship that the Officers and Men of the Marine Corps shewed on this Occasion the greatest Intrepidity and Valour, for notwithstanding the incessant fire from the Rebels, they Surmounted every difficulty that is usual in this inclos'd Country, and were some of the first that got into the Redoubt tho they were oppos'd by a great body of Men and a heavy fire from the place, the taking of which decided the Affair in our favor, as they were Oblig'd to retreat, but My Lord the honor the Corps acquired in that Day was very much damp'd by the loss of Many brave Officers who then fell – in particular that of Major Pitcairn, who was wounded a few Minutes before the Attack was made on the Redoubt and he died about two or three hours after, his loss is greatly regreted by the whole Corps who held him in very great Estimation. Inclos'd is a Return of the Kill'd and Wounded of our Battalion.

I take the Liberty to recommend to your Lordship favor Lieut. Jesse Adair who went with us as a Volunteer; as belong'd to the 2d Battalion, he was as I am inform'd the first who got upon the Redoubt and Shew'd the Example to others to follow him. he is the Eldest Lieutenant here. Lieut & Adjutant Waller distinguished himself also in a particular Manner; I must also recommend to your Lordship favor Mr. Thomas Simms and Mr. Samuel Davys Bowman both Volunteers the latter was Wounded.

Major Short is at present Confin'd with a flux, the Command of both Battalions is now under my Orders untill his Recovery. I have not included the private Men kill'd in the Grenadiers & Light Infantry Companys not having been able to obtain a Return as yet, they doing duty with those of the Regiments.

I have the honor to be My Lord [&c.]

Jn<sup>o</sup> Tupper

Charles Town Hill Camp near [Boston] 21st June 1775

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/486.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Boston 21st of June 1775

I had the Honor of your Excellency's Letter of Yesterday. The Cruizers have Orders to send in every Vessel that has any sort of Provisions On board, however I have wrote to Captain [George] Vandeput this Morning and have given him such directions, that if any Vessels are moving with Beef or Pork we shall certainly get hold of them.

Your Excellency's desire respecting the Transports shall be punctually complied with. I have the Honor to be with great regard Sir [&c.]

Sam<sup>l</sup> Graves.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

[Preston, Boston] 21st [June 1775]

The *Falcon* Sloop . . . sailed in Company with the *Resolution* Transport for Piscataqua with Orders to put all the Cannon and Artillery Stores in the Forts there on board and return to Boston.

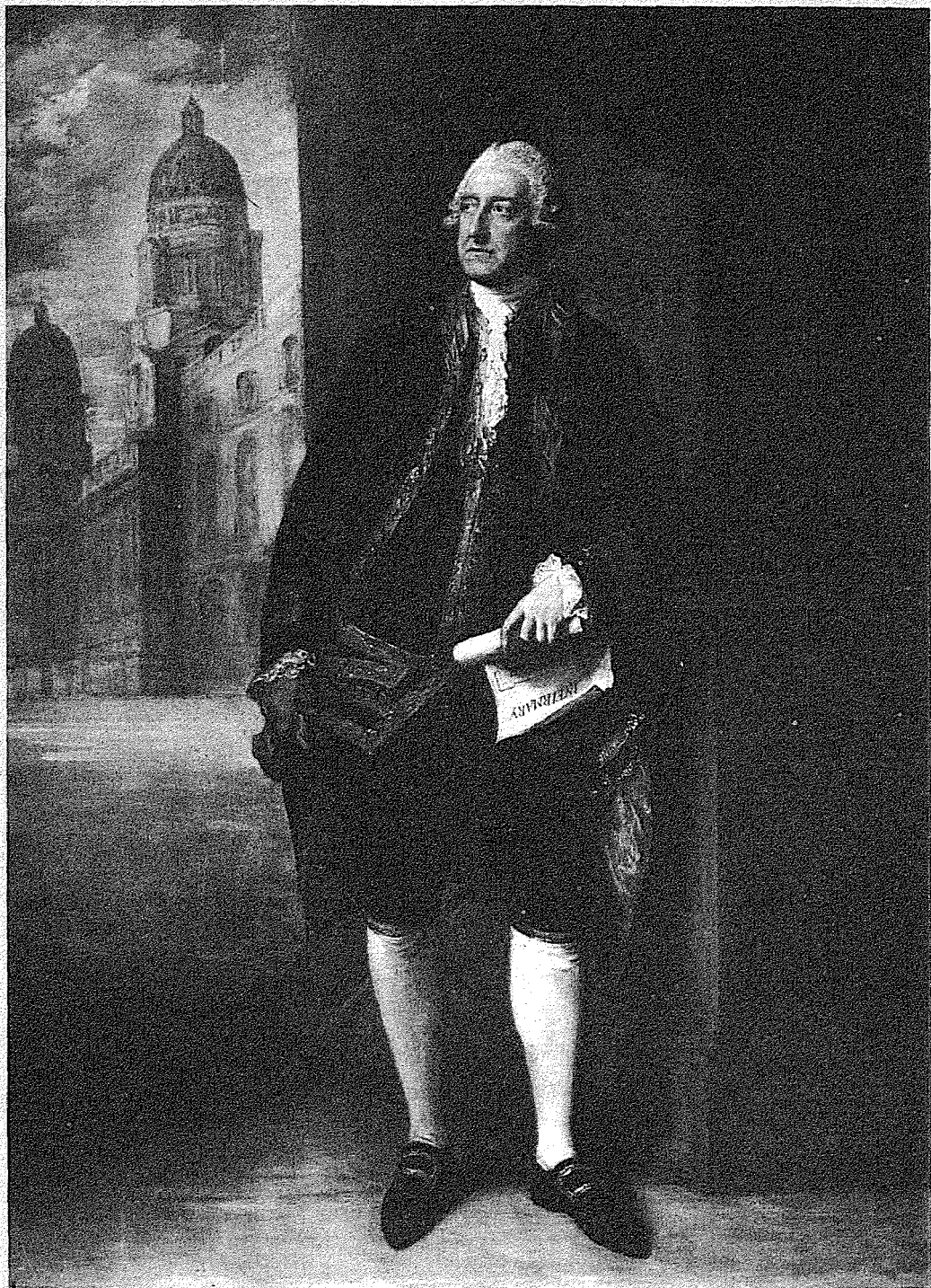
1. Graves's Conduct, I, 120, MassHS Transcript.

JOHN BROWN TO MOSES BROWN <sup>1</sup>

Dr Brother

Providence June 21st, 1775

Your kind favour of the 16th Inst is before me, I am Really Sorry that my taking out a writt against Capt. [James] Wallace should be so disagreeable to Your Centiments. if I am not Much Mistaken I said in Your presents more than once that I was Determined to take the Law of him Either here or in England, and should have done it Sooner had I have Determined which would Likely have proved the most to my Interest, but the more I thought of it the More Convinced I was that he ought to be Servd here, and that his being Obloiged to give Bale in so large a Sum of Money would take of[f] So much of his Haughtey Beheaver when he Considerd that the more he Opressed the Colony or its Inhabitants, the Larger the Sum would be Recoverd against him and if it should have this Effect (which I think Very Likely it would) in Lue of the Disadvantage which you Seem to fear nought in Consequence theirof Arise to my and my Friends Interest it would so far bring him to his thoughts as to allter his Tirannicol Measures, Espetially when he Considerd that what ever was Recoverd would be wholly out of his own Estate & what he should take without Law or Right, would not be of advantage to him, as his Estate at Home, (tho he Could not be Tacen here) would be Subject for the payment theirof with Dammagis, I have not the Lest doubt but that the Admiral <sup>2</sup> Expected I should have made a demand of Wallace, for his unpresented Conduct towards me, or he would not have Desired me in so particuler a Manner as he Did on our partg to meet Capt. Wallace, in the most Friendly Manner & that we Should Settle the Matter in the best Manner possable which I had Determined to do my part towards but after hearing of his Reputed threats and knowg that aney other procedure with him but Such as the Law would warrent



*John Montagu, Fourth Earl of Sandwich. By Thomas Gainsborough, 1783.*

would be in Vain, Theirfore took out the Writt as advised you, and am Really Sorry that it Could not have bin Served being Convinced in My Own Mind that it would have had the Same Affect on him as Servg others of his Stamp haith here tofore had & when he was once Shewn that he was not Impregnable he would have Conducted him Self in Quite a Different Manner from what he has –

Did he not threaten Fire & Devastation to the Town of Newport if they offerd to Lift their hands in favr. of the Rebbils, as he Calls them, but in Lue of this have not their bin a Number of Men Inlisted their for the Army among which he well knew was a Number of his Men who had Left his Ship, why had he not fired on the Town till he had them Returnd to him, did not the People Rise & take away a Quantity of Flour which had bin purchased for him & what was the Consequence why in Lue of making him [mad] was it Struck him with Such Fear and Consternation that he in Lue of ordering the Ships to Fire was, I am told as Complasant to the Sherrif when he made him Self known on the Ocation at Romes<sup>3</sup> and Redely Agreed that the Flour Should be Returnd and that his Mareens should Immediately Return onboard in Order to Quiat the Town, as to our Ingaugement to the Admiral I hartely wish You was Clear of it, but as to my Self its but of Little Consequence as I am Contious that I have not Gone Counter theirot the Incorageing the packetts to be Retacen I did & still think I had a Just Right to do so, as it was only by the arbitrary hand of Wallace they were kep, Mr Lloyd has Wrote me 2 or 3 Letter wherein he Said that the Admiral was supprised that the packetts was not Deliverd up, I could not Expect to Act Such a part with Wallace after hearing from Saml Starbuck & others of the threats from him & his Officers concerng me, as would by Aney Means Influence him to suffer my Vessills to pass unmolested when he was stoping Every other persons property without Distinction, Therefore I was in hopes by haveing Vessills Cruising off that my Vessills as well as others might be made Acquainted with the State of the Times & by that Means not Run Directly into the Hands of our Imnameys

You See by Genl. [Thomas] Gauges proclimation that he makes no Distinction of persons Acceptg Two Gentlemen, and that all others is to be Deemed Equally Guilty who Doeth not forth with Drop the American Cause Either by bareing Arms or in Any Manner what ever Contributing towards the Assistance or Supplying the provintiale Troops, by this Can it be Expected that any whose Religus principles Doeth not Shield them, Can Conduct in Such a manner as Not to be Sencurable by the Troops from home, in Case of their Success, for my part I am so Clear in opinion that the Measures now taking to Force America are Rong that its out of my power to Restrain my Self from wishing Success to the Countrey in which I was Born, and alltho the Measures persuing are not agreeable to My Advice to our Assembly Soone after I Came hoome, which I am now more than then if possible Convinced would have bin Infinitely better than to have fought it out, I Can not Rest a Quiet Spectator without Feeling for my own & Neighbours Interest & am Really of the Opinion that our Navigation Will not be in so Great Danger if we Indevour to prevent the Crusing of the packetts to take them & keep Vessills of our own out to

advise them how to Steere Clear as it otherwise would be, but as to the General Assembly having orderd Two Vessills to be Imployd in that Service, I hope I shall give you no further uneseyness on this head Tho I supose you'l agree that it would be Right in Me to Git advice if possible to my Vessills as they Come in to keep out of the hands of the men of warr, but this will be Very Difficult as Long as they have Armed Vessills Cruissing for them and Indeed I cant Expect persons to be off Lukg. Out for our Vessills as they Come in, with out being able to Defend them Selves if Attacked by the Packett armed by the Men of warr, I am Very Sorry the writ Should have prevented Your doing our Mutual Friend Jno Waterman all the Service in Your power, but weither aney thing You Could have Said to so Savage a person as Wallace would have bin of Advantage to Waterman I Cant Say, but by his brutel beheaver with the Friends onbord Capt Durfeys Sloop in Detaining them So long onbord, Your Applycation would have bin Fruteless, Thus much I can tell You that Capt Waterman Sent me his particuler thanks by Cozen Jams Brown on Acct of the packets being Retacon, She being the Same that tuke him & brot him in to the Man of Warr. I am of the opinion that Wallace will Let Waterman Leave the Fleet as he passes by Nantuckett & this on acct of the Advertisement in the paper of the Continental Congress advising no provitions to be Supplyd to the Island of Nantuckett only from the Massachusetts, Suppose you have heard of Wallace Ayscough & the Tenders all going out of Newport the day before Yesterday with Several prizes. I am shure I never ought to forgit Your Friendship & Goodness in what you did for my Redemption and am So much Obloiged & Indebted to You therefor, that perhaps I may never have it in my power to Discharge the Least part of said Debt, & I assure You it Gives me pain that You Should Suppose that Either your Carrector or Fortin may in the Least Suffer on my Acct

as to Ransomes in warr Times I am apt to think they are of a Different Nature by Law from an obligation given in my Scituation when onbord the Man of Warr, but Let this be as it May if our Estates are all to be forfeited in Case of Conquest it matters not so much, but this I do not Expect will Ever Happen neither that Yours or aney part thereof will be Ever Demanded on Acct of Said Obligations

as to your Laying before the Town or Committee the Terms on which I was Dismised or writg, the Admiral aney thing on said Head, I Do not See to be Nessessary but if you think other wise I will Cheerfully Submitt to your better Judgment & be perfectly Satisfied with Your Conduct theirin, as to my bareing Arms my Self I do not expect to do it only in my own Defence or if this Town Should be Attacked I shall in Either of these Case's most Certinly Defend the Same to the utmost of my power

I am much Obloiged for Your Advice in Every particuler & Shall take it kind at all times when You or aney of Your Friends are in Town that You'l make as Free of My House as tho at Your own,

I am your Affectionate Brother -

John Brown

P.S. I should have bin Glad of an oppertunity to have Consulted You about the writt before I tuk it out but your being for Sum time together about that time from home prevented

[Endorsed] Brother John/ 21st 6th mo 1775

1. Moses Brown Papers, RIHS.
2. Vice Admiral Samuel Graves at Boston.
3. George Rome, Tory resident of Newport.

"REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*"<sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Moor'd in Rhode Island Harbour

Wednesday 21 at 1 P M made Sigl for all Cruizers . . . at 2 Anchd the *Swan & Charlotte* Tr [Tender] with . . . 2 Small Sloops & a Schooner with 47 Punchns Rum which they Seiz'd,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.

SAMUEL STRINGER, CHAIRMAN OF THE ALBANY COMMITTEE, TO THE  
CONTINENTAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

Albany Comee Chamber June 21st 1775

Gent. Mr Dirick Swart a member of this Board, who is just returned from Crown-Point, brings the following intelligence; that one Mr Hay who lives about 40 miles up Lake Champlain came down to Crown-Point, who told Colo [Benedict] Arnold and others that he had been to Montreal for some flour, that Governor [Guy] Carleton had him Seized, and Confined for several days; that by the interposition of the English Merchants of that place he received Liberty to return Home, & that the Merchants who procured him the pass from the Lieutenant Governor desired him to go down to Crown-point and Ticonderoga with all Speed, and to Communicate to the Commander of those Fortresses that the French Caughnewagie Indians had taken up the Hatchet, but that they refused to go out upon any Scouts untill nine of their men who were then out returned; and that Governor Carleton was giving them presents daily.

We are very sorry to inform you that from a number of Corroborating Circumstances, we have but too much Reason to believe the above Information to be true, and more Especially as the Troops which Amounts to about Six hundred men, Suffer no persons coming up the Lake to pass St John's if they can avoid it, where they are building Floating Batteries and Boats; Mr Swart also acquaints us, that Mr Hay said, that Governor Carleton had asked the English Merchants to take up Arms against the *Yankees* to make use of his own phrasiology, that the Merchants refused, upon which he told them that he would set the Town on fire; which the Merchants said he was welcome to do, and added they could carry as much fire as himself. Mr Hay also desired Mr Swart if he should happen to meet Mr Price, he should request him not to proceed, as the English Merchts in Canada, conceived it unsafe for him.

The forces above are in no proper State of Defence, principally owing to the scarcity of Powder, of which Article we have not yet been able to send up more, with the Supply we have received from New-York, than three hundred and fifty pounds; wch quantity is altogether insufficient to answer the purpose intended,



and of little Service in Case of an Attack – We can further inform you this City is not half supplied; nor have the frontier Inhabitants either powder or Arms; for which Applications have been made, and daily are making to us; and as we have no prospect of any further supply from New-York, we beg to be assisted if possible from Lower Governments with all the Dispatch possible.

We should also desire that the Command at the Forts, might be settled Colo [Benjamin] Hinman we understood would have taken the Command, but by his appointment, from Governor [Jonathan] Trumbul, his Orders are only to Reinforce the Garrisons and Command his Regiment; upon which Colo Arnold refused to resign; We therefore Conceive it highly necessary that a Matter of such Importance should be sett'led with all Speed. The above we are also informed by Mr Swart, who was present and heard each read the others Instructions we thought it our indispensable Duty to acquaint you of these matters, and therefore send them you P. Express.

We are Gent. [&c.] By Order of the Committee

Sam<sup>l</sup> Stringer. Chairman

1. President's Letter Book, III, 422–425, LC. The original is in Papers CC, 67, I, 9, NA. See Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 107–110 (June 26 and 27, 1775) for action on the foregoing.

# MEMOIRS OF WILLIAM SMITH, MEMBER OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

[New York] Wedn 21 June 1775

Last week the Inhabitants had Intelligence that the *Mercury* Man of War was off the Hook with Orders to direct all Transports coming here with Troops from Ireland to proceed to Boston & that she had fallen in with several & communicated General [Thomas] Gage's Orders for this Purpose, which gave much Satisfaction to the Town, become thin of Inhabitants upon Apprehension of Hostilities on their Arrival especially as the Congress of this Province had required General [David] Worster [Wooster] to march here from the Eastern Confine of this Province where he had been ready with 2500 of the Connect Levies.

1. Sabine, ed., *Memoirs of William Smith*, 228c.

## WALTER LIVINGSTON TO ROBERT LIVINGSTON, JR., <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Having intelligence that administration in[ten]ded to send 2000 men to this City and expecting [they] would arrive soon, our Congress sent to General Woocester <sup>2</sup> and desired him to march with the troops under his command, within five miles of this place subject to the command of our board. The day after we sent, the packet arrived, we sent for the Capt. who informed us, that he had spoken with the *Spy* man of War now a transport 30 leagues from the hook with three hundred men on board, who had informed him, that the *Mercury* frigate had ordered hi[m to Bos]ton That he (the Capt of the packet) afterw[ards] came up with the *Mercury* who gave him the same informa[tion] and that General [Thomas] Gage had ordered him to remain off the hook [a]waiting the arrival of the remaining transports whom he had ordered to send to Boston without delay.

Coll. Washington a good Soldier and a Man of sence (as fame reports him) is appointed Capt General & Commander in Chief of the American forces – <sup>3</sup>

New York June 21, 1775

1. FDRL.
2. Colonel David Wooster.
3. Elected June 15, 1775, by the Continental Congress.

## 22 June

### DIARY OF SIMEON PERKINS OF LIVERPOOL, NOVA SCOTIA <sup>1</sup>

Thursday, June 22d [1775], – Capt. Jabez Cobb arrives from Machias and reports a disturbance. The inhabitants took one of the King's ships,<sup>2</sup> killed the captain, and one Robert Avery, of Norwich, being forced to stand the deck, on board of her, was killed by a ball in the head.

1. Harold A. Innis, ed., *The Diary of Simeon Perkins, 1766–1780* (Toronto, 1948), p. 95. Hereafter referred to as Innis, ed., *Perkins' Diary*.
2. H.M.S. *Margaretta*.

### "REMARKS ON BOARD YE *Scarborough* IN PISCATAQUA RIVER" <sup>1</sup>

June 1775      A M came on board his Excellency Govr [John] Wentworth,  
Thursy 22d      saluted him with 17 Guns, 4 P M saw 2 Ships in the offing firing  
                         of Guns Do answered with 3 Guns & sent the boat out, at 8 came  
                         in His Majts Sloop *Falcon* & a Transport,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/867.

### BENJAMIN GREENLEAF TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen –

Newburyport June 22d 1775. -

We understand that you have desired our Select Men to send the Town stock of Powder to Cambridge, saving only one pound for each Man – You, perhaps are not aware that we have lately delivered four half Barls to the Order of the [Provincial] Congress & six more, to that, of the Comtee of Supplies; part of which, we were encouragd to hope shod. soon have been replaced – We have likewise furnished our Men who have joined the Army, and three large Parties, who were Volunteers on the several Alarms that have been made, with Cartridges sufficient for their Purpose; a considerable part whereof were never return'd: by these Means, our Stock is so much reduc'd as to occasion us great Uneasiness; inasmuch as it must prevent our executing some Plans, We had meditated for the public good: besides, many of our Inhabitants are apprehensive of Danger from Cutters & other armed Vessells; the Admiral having, as it is said, given out some Threats – We have been at considerable Expence in preparing some light Cannon for Action, and We are now about erecting a small Battery or Breast-Work with 3 or 4 heavier Cannon which can be procurd, to defend ourselves against any Attacks by Water: But all that we have yet done & are about to do, will be to no purpose unless we can have a few Barrells of Powder ready at hand We are therefore very loth to part with the

little we have, unless the public Cause makes it absolutely necessary; in which case we shall readily give up the last Ounce, the Destruction of this Town being a trivial Matter, in our Estimation, when compar'd with a final Defeat of the Army – however as it can at any Time be conveyd to Cambridge in 8 or 9 hours from the Time of our having Notice, We hope it may be agreeable to let it remain here for the present, that so we may have the priviledge of using it in our own Defence, if there shod be Occasion, before it is wanted in the Army – By Order of the Committee of the Town I am Gentn [&c.]

B. Greenleaf

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 193, 390.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO PHILIP STEPHENS<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Preston Boston 22 June 1775

. . . In consequence of our being deprived of all Communication by Land, fresh Beef for the Squadron cannot be procured. Once we have had a Supply from Nova Scotia, but, almost this whole Country being our Enemies from Principle, it is with the greatest difficulty any Refreshments can be got; the few who from inclination or the Prospect of gain, are willing to supply us being very severely handled when discovered. Captain [John] Linzee in the *Falcon*, while he was at Tarpawlin Cove, procured about One hundred and eighty Sheep and hired a Brig to bring them hither, but being five days on their passage, with a very small quantity of Hay, fifteen of them died, and we have lost several since they were landed on Lovells Island in this Harbour.

On the 17th I received several Letters from Capt. [Andrew] Barkley dated from the 5th to the 16th of June, Copies of two only and of one referred to are inclosed; the whole Correspondence between him, Governor [John] Wentworth and myself prove that all legal authority in New Hampshire is entirely at an End, and that their Necessities and the impoverished state of the Country alone prevent their taking a more active part in the Rebellion. They will I am sure attempt to drive away or destroy the *Scarborough*, and I think, after planting Guns against their Governor's house and obliging him to retreat, firing at the Men of Wars boats and preparing to destroy the Kings Ship, little can be said in their favour. It is impossible but a few Individuals must suffer in a general punishment, but the necessity of sending all the provisions we can to Boston is plain; It deprives Rebels of the means to keep together, and supplies the King's Army, which in the present state of this Country must supersede all other Considerations . . .

Early in the morning of the 17th instant the *Lively* discovered several thousands of Rebels on the Hills over Charles Town who had thrown up an Intrenchment the preceding Night. Captain [Thomas] Bishop instantly fired among them and upon his Alarm they were attacked from Copse Hill Battery on Boston side. Preparations were also immediately made to dislodge them. The Troops accordingly landed in the Afternoon under cover of his Majesty's Ships *Lively*, *Glasgow* and *Falcon*, a Transport, a Sloop, and some Scows fitted by the General, but manned and supplied with ammunition from the Squadron. They attacked the Rebels and after a very obstinate defence carried their Intrenchments with great Slaughter. The King's Troops are now encamped on the

heights of Charles Town, and the Rebels are digging Intrenchments and erecting Works at some distance, apparently with a View to dispute every foot of Ground . . .

In obedience to their Lordships Commands I send the *Cerberus* to England with the Governor and my publick Dispatches, for which, on account of the late transactions, she has waited beyond the time first intended for her sailing . . . I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 121-125, MassHS Transcript.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE AT PLYMOUTH TO THE COMMITTEE OF THIS TOWN [PROVIDENCE], DATED THE 22D INSTANT [JUNE, 1775]"<sup>1</sup>

We have a Letter come to Town from Saco, giving an account of two vessels, with Provisions from [Thomas] Gage, under the Protection of a Tender, having arrived at that Place, in order to exchange said Provisions for Lumber; the Committee of that Town considered of the Propriety of suffering them to trade, and from Necessity were obliged to admit them; after this they discovered great Partiality in Regard to the Persons with whom they contracted, which at once created such Uneasiness as to determine the People to seize the two Vessels, and fire the Cutter, which however they failed in; she hove up her Anchors, and proceeded down the River, some Distance from the Town, where she again anchored; but was soon so warmly attacked from the shore, as to be obliged to slip her Cables and push down: In her Way she boarded a small coasting Sloop, Capt. Tobey, from Sandwich, and obliged him to undertake the Pilotage of the Vessel out of the River; but before getting out, they boarded a Schooner, Capt. [Robert] Avery, from Norwich, and took him also on board; in the mean Time the People of Saco fitted out two armed Vessels, which pursued the Enemy, and soon after getting clear of the Land they discovered and made for each other; the Tender did not suppose them to be armed till they approached each other, when the Master threatened to discharge a brace of Balls through Capt. Tobey, unless he would swear to take up his gun in Defence of the Vessel; who replied, that as he engaged only as a Pilot, he should refuse; the Master then excused him, and threatened Avery in like Manner, and he was obliged to comply. The first Volley from our armed Vessels killed poor Avery, and the infernal Captain, which put the People into such Consternation that they descended into the Hold, cabin, &c. and were boarded and carried into Saco; the Number of Men taken on board the Tender is not mentioned; she had four three Pounders, 12 Swivels, forty or fifty Muskets, as many Cutlasses, and a Number of Pistols.

1. *Providence Gazette*, June 24, 1775.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN JOHN BROWN AND THE COMMITTEE IN BEHALF OF RHODE ISLAND<sup>1</sup>

Providence June 22th 1775

An Agreement between John Brown on one part and the Committee in behalf of the Coloney for hireing & Fixing an Armed Vessill On the other part Viz

the said John [Brown] agrees to Lett to the Said Committee the Sloop *Catey* from the 12 Inst to the Latter part of December next at Ninety Dollers P Mo the Said Committee in behalf of the Colony to Resque the said Sloop at Four Hundred pounds LMony to be pd to said John on Demand after the Loss of Said Sloop, with Intt from this Day but in Case the Sloop should be Returnd to the said John She is to be in as Good order as she Now is, Common Ware & Tare, Excepted or if the General Assembly at their next Setting shall Chuse to purchess Said Sloop at Four Hundred pounds with Intt from this Day they have Liberty So to do or to Continue her on hire as above, what ever Expence the Said John has put to Said Sloop Since begun to Fix her for the Coloneys Use Viz since the 12 Inst Excepting only for Cordage, the Said Committee is to pay the Said Jno for

1. RIHS, Mss., vol. 6.

"REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*"<sup>1</sup>

June 1775 Moor'd in Rhode Island Harbour  
Thursdy 22 P M Stopt the Sloop *Victory* Jno Kelly Msr from Whaling belongg to Jno Brown of Providence.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.

MASTER'S LOG OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Mercury*<sup>1</sup>

Rem[ark]s &c Thursday 22d June 1775

A M Light Breezes and fair Sandy Hook NNW 5 or 6 Miles 11 A M Broght too with the Main Topsail to the Mast Spoak the *Pallas* Transport from Boston to [New] York.

3 PM wore ship and Broght too Spoak a Ship 9 Week from Belfast

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1866.

DANIEL DESAUSSURE TO HENRY LAURENS, PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY<sup>1</sup>

Sir Beaufort 22d. June 1775

Capt [Clement] Lempriere Spared me a barrel of Pork & a Barrel ship Bread, for the use of the Militia when Cal'd here to Guard the powder, but the former not being used, was omitted to be put on board the Scooner that carried the powder, have therefore put it on board a Scooner of Mr Josiah Smith's & Requested of him to Receive it for you - I am with Esteem [&c.] D: DeSaussure

1. Laurens Collection, SCHS.

23 June

"REMARKS ON BOARD YE *Scarborough* IN PISCATAQUA RIVER"<sup>1</sup>

June 1775 A M sent an Officer and Sixty men On shore to get the Guns from  
Friday 23d the Fort, & to send them on board the above Transport.<sup>2</sup>

[P M] Emp[loy]d in getting the Guns on board the Transport.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/867.

2. *Ibid.* The transport, escorted by the *Falcon*, sailed for Boston on June 29.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO JOHN WENTWORTH, GOVERNOR OF  
NEW HAMPSHIRE <sup>1</sup>

Sir

*Preston Boston 23 June 1775*

It gives me great Concern to learn by your Excellency's Letter of the 15th the necessity you have been under to retire from Portsmouth to Castle William and Mary. The People are guilty of such frequent and violent Excesses of Behaviour it is in my opinion highly dangerous for your Excellency to trust yourself any longer among them. Nothing appears plainer than the People of New Hampshire are determined implicitly to obey the General Congress, and, as far as the Condition of their Country will allow them, to follow the Steps of this Province, which is exerting its utmost Strength to destroy all the Kings Forces, and totally to abolish his Majesty's Authority within the Government.

I thank your Excellency for the four Pounders, these Guns and all others that can be got off are certainly much better in the hands of Government than in those of the Rebels.

From the necessity of cutting off Provisions from the Rebels and of supplying the Kings Troops in Boston, your Excellency and his Majesty's Officers and good Subjects will I fear unavoidably suffer some Inconveniencies, but Captain [Andrew] Barkley will continue his good Offices.

I really Sir had not Ships enough to spare another at Piscataqua. The *Scarborough* I hope will prove equal to all the Purposes of Government in that River at present, but I will add a Schooner as soon as possible. I am &c.

Saml Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 444, MassHS Transcript.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY, H.M.S.  
*Scarborough, PISCATAQUA RIVER* <sup>1</sup>

Sir,

*Preston Boston 23d June 1775*

I have received your Letters June 5, 10, 13 and three dated the 16 instant, with Copies of your Correspondence with Governor [John] Wentworth. Upon considering the whole I can draw no other Conclusion than that the New Hampshire People are as perfectly disposed for Rebellion as those of Massachusetts Bay, and that they will endeavour by force or stratagem to drive you away or destroy you. The few good thinking People in Portsmouth no doubt naturally disavow such Outrages and base behaviour, and would gladly restore and support Order and legal Authority, but what are their feeble Efforts opposed to a whole Province under the worst influence?

Governor Wentworth has requested another Ship to be stationed in Piscataqua River; I know it would be of Service for the reason you have given, but I have not a Ship that I can appropriate to that Service, not even a Schooner at present, and I have accordingly acquainted his Excellency that I hope the *Scarborough* will be equal to every purpose of Government in that River, being satisfied you will do all that lies in your Power for his Majesty's Service, and to protect and accomodate Governor Wentworth.

The Letter inclosed is for Mrs Fenton, I suppose wife of Col Fenton, whom you mention to be in custody of the Rebels. I have acquainted her that you have my Leave to let the *Spinkes* bring her and her Family to Boston, which I desire you will do, if the Lady has not taken a passage in the Transport already.

I can make no Alteration in my Orders for seizing and sending to Boston all Kinds of Provisions. On the contrary there is every reason for their being executed with the greatest Exactness; The King's Troops must be supplied. The Rebels must be distressed by all means in our Power: And altho' I do not mean to withdraw your discretionary Power of allowing what Provision is really for the use of peaceable and good Subjects, yet surely the Town of Portsmouth hath very little pretension to Indulgence, except for obliging their Governor to move for his Safety to a dismantled Fort and unprovided with necessary Accomodations.

His Majesty's Servants and good Subjects should be discriminated from the Rebels and have what favor can be shewn them, but, in my opinion, they ought no longer to risque themselves in the Power of the People, without the least Security from Lawless and deliberate Acts of Cruelty and Oppression.

Such of the Stores demanded as could be got are sent round. By the next Opportunity send me the State and Condition of his Majesty's Ship under your Command.

I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 445-447, MassHS Transcript.

#### MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE TO COLONEL BENEDICT ARNOLD<sup>1</sup>

Sir:

Crown point June 23, 1775

You having signified to the Committee who are Appointed and Directed by the Provincial Congress of the Massachusetts Bay, to inquire into the state of the fortresses of Crown point Ticonderoga, &c. and the appendages thereof, Your Resolution to resign all Your Command of the said Fortresses and the vessels and stores thereunto belonging, for Reasons under Your hand Expressed –

This is to inform you that it is the expectation of the Provincial Congress aforesaid, that the Chief officer of the Connecticut forces at thse stations will Command the same for the Present: and the Committee accordingly Expect that you will Conform Yourself to the Directions of said Congress in that behalf, and Deliver the same to such Chief Officer of the Connecticut forces or his order for which this shall be your Authority. The Committee Expects that you will, as soon as may be, lay an account of your disbursements before the Provincial Congress agreeable to our Instructions a copy whereof is lodged with you –

By order of the Committee

Walter Spooner, *Chairman*

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 193, 397.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia] Friday, June 23, 1775

A letter from the officers of Crown Point, dated June 10, 1775 was laid before the Congress.

Information being given that Col. [Ethan] Allen and Capt'n Seth Warner who brought the letter were at the door, and had some things of importance to communicate.

*Ordered*, That they be called in. After they withdrew, the Congress took the letter and information into consideration.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Officer commanding in the New York department, to procure, as soon as possible, a list of the men employed in taking and garrisoning Crown Point and Ticonderoga, and keeping possession of the lakes, and also of their disbursements, in order that they may be paid.

*Resolved*, That their pay be the same as that of the officers and privates in the American Army; the highest of the officers not to exceed that of a captain, and that the pay commence the third day of last May, and continue until they are discharged.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention of New York, that they, consulting with General [Philip] Schuyler, employ in the army to be raised for the defence of America, those called Green Mountain Boys, under such officers as the sd Green mountain Boys shall chuse.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 104, 105.

CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU, R.N., TO PHILIP STEPHENS, SECRETARY OF THE  
BRITISH ADMIRALTY<sup>1</sup>

Sir

Fowey York River in Virginia 23d June 1775.

I beg that you will be pleased to lay before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that on the 7th instant his Excellency the Earl of Dunmore was obliged from the Rebellious state of this Colony, to come on board his Majestys ship under my command for safety: And on the 16th his Lordship made application to me to order his Majesty's schooner *Magdalen* to England with dispatches from his Lordship to the King, in consequence of which I have given Lieutenant [Henry] Colins directions, to use his utmost diligence to clean and fit out the *Magdalen* for that purpose: And hope their Lordships will approve thereof.

Herewith inclosed I transmit you a Copy of his Excellency's letter, And am, Sir [&c.]

Geo: Montagu

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/2119, 10, 2, LC Transcript.

CERTIFICATE OF ENTRY AT CURRITUCK OF SLOOP *Elizabeth*<sup>1</sup>Port of *Currituck*

These are to certify all whom it may concern

That *Joshua Smith* Master or Commander of the *Sloop Elizabeth* Burthen *Fifteen* Tons, or thereabouts, Mounted with — Guns, Navigated with *Five* Men, *Plantation* Built, Registered at *Newport* Bound for *East Jersey* having on Board



*Non Enumerated goods as Pr. Cosket.*

Hath Entered and Cleared at His Majesty's Custom-House in *Currituck North Carolina* according to Law.

Given under our Hands and Seals of Office this *23d* Day of *June* in the *Fifteenth* Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Third, King of Great-Britain, &c Annoque Domini, 1775.

1. MNHP Collection. A printed form with manuscript entries shown here in italics.

## 24 June

*New England Chronicle*, SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1775

Watertown, June 24.

A Letter from Machias was this Day laid before the Provincial Congress, containing Advices that in Consequence of an application to that Place from Ichabod and Stephen Jones of Boston and Casco-Bay, for Lumber to supply the Navy and Army, the last mentioned Person was arrested by the Inhabitants, and put under Guard, while the other had made his Escape into the Woods: — That the Captain of a Tender sent to protect two Sloops which the Traitors aforesaid intended to have loaded, put Springs to her Cables and threatened to burn the Town unless the Prisoners were released: — That an Engagement between the People on Shore and the Crew on board the Tender took Place, and the latter was obliged to put to sea. The inhabitants immediately manned the Sloops, and arming themselves with Fire Arms, Swords, Axes and Spears, came up with the tender, & engaged her a second Time: — That an obstinate Resistance was made, and that the Tender was obliged to yield: — The Captain of the Tender was mortally wounded, and died the next Morning; five of the Crew were wounded, one Marine killed; two of our Men were killed, and five wounded.

Mr. Robert Avery of Norwich, in Connecticut, who was on board the Tender, a Prisoner, was unhappily killed.<sup>1</sup>

1. This is a terse condensation of the letter of James Lyons of June 14, 1775.

## JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Saturday, June 24, 1775

A Letter from George Stellman <sup>2</sup> to Colonel [Joseph] Otis was read, and committed to Mr. Goodwin, Mr. [Timothy] Langdon, and Doctor Whiting.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

2. A letter from Machias, dated June 14, 1775, signed by Stellman as clerk of the committee.

MAJOR JOHN TUPPER, ROYAL MARINES, TO JOHN MONTAGU, LORD SANDWICH <sup>1</sup>

My Lord I did myself the honor to write to your Lordship the 21st Inst. acquainting you with the Success of his Majesty's Troops over, and what Share the first Battalion of Marines [had] in the Victory, tho' with the loss of many brave and worthy Officers; a Return of which I then Inclosed, since which those that were then Inserted Missing have been found to be Wounded, I have therefore made another Return which I now have the honor to send to your Lordship. Most of the Wounded are in a fair way of Recovery. I also inform'd your Lord-

ship that Major Short was then Ill, his disorder the Flux increasing since carried him off Yesterday Evening, by his Death I Find myself Commander of the Marines here, As the Corps was divided by Major [John] Pitcairn in to two Battalions, I have appointed Captn Souter to the Command of the 2d Battalion, Captn Chudleigh who is the Senior Captain having been Wounded the 17th; tho' he had obtain'd leave the Day before the Action to return to England for his Health, he chus'd to come out and Command his Company. I have also appointed Lieutenants to the Care of Companies.

The Death of Majors Pitcairn & Short brings me to be the Second Major in the Corps. I flatter my Self that my present Services, in which I have receiv'd in a Public Manner the thanks of the Commander in Chief, will untittle me to your Lordship's Favor in honouring me to the first Lieutenant Collonel's Commission that is Vacant in it.

I have the honor to be My Lord [&c.]

Jn<sup>o</sup> Tupper

Charles Town Heighths Camp near Boston 24th June 1775

[Enclosure]

Return of the Officers, Non Commissioned Officers and private Killed and Wounded in the Marines at the Attack of the Redoubts and Intrenchments on the Heights of Charlestown 17 June 1775

Total of the 8 Battn. Compys.

	Killed	Wounded
Majors	1	
Captains	1	1
Lieutenants	1	1
Serjeants	2	1
Corporals	1	
Private	11	38

Return of the Grenadiers and Light Infantry

Captains	1	2
Lieutenants	2	2
Serjeants		1
Corporals		2
Private	10	39

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/486.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Senegal*,  
WILLIAM DUDDINGSTON, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775

At Single Anchor in House Isle Road [Falmouth]

Saturday 24

A M sent a Midshipman & 6 Men to assist the *Minerva*, at 10 fired a Gun a Signal for Sailing, weighed & came to sail, at Noon got a Ground-Fresh Breezes & rain with thick foggs at 5 P M hove off & came to with the Bt Br at 11 Willm Casey & Joseph

Sweney Seamen & Geo. Taylor Marine went away with the Long boat from a longside – Sent the Pinnace mannd & arm'd in Pursuit of her ½ past 11 She return'd but could not see the boat

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/885.

*Providence Gazette*, SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1775

Providence, June 24.

Saturday last [June 17] his Majesty's ship *Rose*, Capt. [James] Wallace, and the *Swan* Sloop Capt [James] Ayscough, with a Tender, came up the River as far as Connanicut Point; but not meeting with any prey, they returned to their station at Newport; while on this cruize, five Vessels, which they had piratically taken, and left in the Harbour of Newport, were boarded by a Number of People, and carried off – The Men of War have since taken several Vessels in the River.

NICHOLAS COOKE, DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF RHODE ISLAND, TO JONATHAN TRUMBULL, GOVERNOR OF CONNECTICUT<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Providence June 24th 1775

I received a Letter last Evening from the Committee at Plymouth informing me That Two Vessels from Genl [Thomas] Gage under Convoy of an armed Cutter<sup>2</sup> arrived at Saco with Provisions in Order to exchange for Lumber; The Com through Necessity agreed to the Exchange, but a Misunderstanding arising the Inhabitants seized the two Vessels<sup>3</sup> and fired upon the Cutter, who was obliged to drop down the River. In her Way she boarded a small coasting Sloop and took the Captain of her (Toby)<sup>4</sup> for a Pilot; before they got out of the River they boarded a Schooner Capt. Avery<sup>5</sup> from Norwich whom they also took on board. In the mean Time the Inhabitants fitted out Two armed Vessels and pursued the Cutter Soon after getting clear of the Land they discovered and stood for each other. The Capt. of the Cutter threatened Toby with a Pistol at his Breast that he would send a Brace of Balls through him unless he would swear to take up his Gun in Defence of the Vessel; but he nobly refused. Poor Avery threatened in the like Manner was intimidated into a Compliance. The First Volley from our People killed Avery & the Captain<sup>6</sup> of the Cutter; upon which the Men ran into the Hold & Cabbin, and the Schooner was carried into Saco. The Number of Men she had is not mentioned. There were found on board 4 Three Pounders, 12 Swivels, 40 or 50 Muskets, as many Cutlasses and a Number of Pistols.

By a Vessel which arrived here Yesterday and left New-York on Wednesday [June 21] We have Accounts that some Transports with about 500 Troops had arrived at the Hook but found Orders there from General Gage to proceed to Boston which they immediately did without going up to the City.

1. "Nicholas Cooke Correspondence," *AAS Proceedings*, New Series, XXXVI, 246–248.

2. H.M. Cutter *Margaretta*.

3. The *Unity* and the *Polly*.

4. Samuel Tobey.

5. Robert Avery.

6. Midshipman James Moore.

COLONEL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen:

Crown Point, June 24, 1775.

Your instructions of the 14th instant from the Provincial Congress of the Massachusetts-Bay, in regard to my conduct here, being now before me, I will answer in course.

In the first place, I observe you are appointed to examine my conduct, and in what manner I have executed my commission. I look on this instruction at this juncture as unprecedented, and a very plain intimation that the Congress are dubious of my rectitude or abilities, which is a sufficient inducement for me to decline serving them longer.

Secondly, the Congress have authorized you to judge of my spirit, capacity, and conduct, and determine whether I shall continue in commission, and if so, that I shall be under the command of a person appointed by the Colony of Connecticut. In answer to the first part, it appears to me very extraordinary that the Congress should first appoint an officer, and afterwards, when he had executed his commission, to appoint a Committee to examine if he was fit for his post. I think the examination should have been prior to the commission, and that after executing that commission they should order a younger officer of the same rank to take the command of the fortresses, vessels, &c., conquered, plainly indicates the loss of their confidence, and is a most disgraceful reflection on him and the body of troops he commands, which is a sufficient inducement to resign, not to mention the very great hardship on the private men, who, having served well near two months, are now to be mustered, and if, by sickness or hard labour, they are reduced and not fit for service, and of course do not pass muster, they are to lose their former time and service, and reduced to the distress of begging their bread until they can get home to their friends.

The last objection I have to make is, that I have so far lost the confidence of the [Provincial] Congress, that they have declined sending me money, as was promised by Captain [Jonathan] Brown, to discharge the small and unavoidable debts I have contracted for necessities for the use of the Army, for which my own credit is at stake, and I am reduced to the necessity of leaving the place with dishonour, or waiting until I can send home and discharge those debts out of my private purse. The latter of which I am determined to do, though I have already advanced one hundred Pounds, lawful money, out of my private purse. All which reasons I believe will be thought a sufficient inducement for me to decline holding my commission longer.

I am, Gentlemen, [&amp;c.]

Benedict Arnold

Messrs. [Walter] Spooner, [Jedediah] Foster, and [James] Sullivan, present

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1598, 1599.GEORGE WOOLSEY TO GEORGE DARLEY, DUBLIN VIA LIVERPOOL <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Baltimore] 24th June 1775

[Alexander] Kennedy got out of the Capes the 2nd Inst & I hope Ere this is well on his passage,<sup>2</sup> but the Villin <sup>3</sup> I got for the Schooner put into Amboy, and

there run the Vessell to 77.0.8 York Money Expence, tho he is well recommended to me he is a Damnd Drunkerd & a Villen, therefore request your turning him out on his Arrivall with you, but do not pay him till you get Some papers from me to Settle his Accts the Villin to Complate the Misfortune has not protested properly as he Cut his Cable, & he only Says he parted, and he has taken one Sailor more on pay than she Ever had, which Wages he must pay him self, if he has so much, but as I said before do not Settle with him untill you hear from me Again which will be in three Days. . . . the Schooner Saild the 10th Inst from Amboy for your place so I hope Ere this She is well on her passage – a few good Spinners and W[e]avers will answer out in her, but if you do not sell her be sure push her out as fast as possible, to Enable me to Get her from this the 10th Septr if Possible as our ports will be Stopped then, our Crop of Wheat will be very fine & one fourth Learger than any Crop we ever had on this Continent if the Weather keeps good. few Ships here now but tobacco Ships. there are two Brigs for Liverpool one of them Carries this a Ship for London, [John] Bruce Master <sup>4</sup> Leakeys Ship for Cork <sup>5</sup> a Brig for Some part of England & a Ship Brison for London all wheat & flour Loaded which is the whole that is here. I here that thers 3 Vessells Coming up, but do not yet know where from.

1. Woolsey and Salmon Letter Book, LC.
2. *The Baltimore Packet*.
3. Captain James Green.
4. Ship *Active*, which cleared June 29 for London.
5. Ship *John*, Charles Poang, master, cleared July 17, 1775, for Cork.

#### MASTER'S LOG OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Mercury*<sup>1</sup>

Rem[ark]s &c Saturday 24th June 1775

A M Tackd Ship Cleard up Saw the Land The High Land of Never Sunk W B N Dist 3 Leags

P M Fresh Breezes and Cloudy W[eathe]r at 1 P M bore away at ½ past 2 Anchored with the Best B[owe]r in 5½ f[atho]m at Sandy Hook and Veard ¼ of a Cable the Light house E B S point Comfort W½S found here his Majts Ship *Kings Fisher*, Anchored here the *Argo* Transport with part of the 44 Regiment

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1866.

DIXON AND HUNTER'S *Virginia Gazette*, SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1775

Williamsburg, June 24.

Last Thursday [June 22] a joint address of the Hon. the Council and House of Burgesses was transmitted to the Governor, on board the *Fowey* . . . It is said his Excellency intends to take up his residence at Portsmouth, and that Lady Dunmore, and the rest of his Lordship's family, will sail tomorrow for England.

HENRY LAURENS TO JOHN LAURENS, LONDON<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Charleston, June] 24th [1775]

P *Rabbit* Capt Fraser

. . . I have paid my one Visit to Lord William [Campbell] the little conversation we had was political, His Lordship was Sorry to find "this Country in

Such confusion." "I hope we are not in confusion My Lord, we are acting out of the common line tis true – necessity obliges us to do so – I trust we are doing our Duty according to circumstances – we are greatly distressed & are struggling for deliverance" – "I am Sorry it is so I do not know what to Say to it I wish the Americans would be more moderate" – "My Lord I can not justify the Americans in all their measures – Some of their measures I condemn but I consider them as improper modes of resentment – Errors will appear soon on the Side of the injured party in all great quarrels; I perceive Some in the conduct of the people in America, it cannot be otherwise, but this I will be bold to Say My Lord, that aggression does not lie on their Side & that they are heartily disposed now to a reconciliation; every Man of common Sense wishes it" – "This I can assure you Mr L[aurens] I have authority to Say, that Lord North & Lord Dartmouth too, wishes it as heartily as any Man, I have authority for Saying so" – "It would be happy for us My Lord & for the whole British Realm if their Lordships would give us Some proofs of their being in earnest" – here a Gentleman interposed & I bid good Morrow to the Governor—— . . .

1. Henry Laurens Letter Book, 1774–75, SCHS.

## 25 June (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Senegal*, WILLIAM DUDDINGSTON,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775                      At Single Anchor House Isle Road [Falmouth]  
Sunday 25    at 7 AM found the Longboat her sails oars masts rigging &c and  
Some Arms & Ammunition taken away at 11 weighed & came to  
Sail in Convoy *Minerva* Confined John Stuart for being an accom-  
plice with the 3 deserters <sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/885.

2. *Ibid.*, Stuart subsequently was acquitted at a court martial in Boston.

## JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Sabbath Day, June 25, 1775 Afternoon

A Letter from the Committee of Machias, dated June 14, 1775, was read (respecting the capture of a King's Cutter,) and committed to the Committee which was yesterday appointed to consider a Letter on the same subject to Colonel Otis.<sup>2</sup>

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1446, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

2. *Ibid.*, June 24, 1775. "A Letter from George Stellman to Colonel Otis was read, and committed to Mr. Goodwin, Mr. Langdon, and Doctor Whiting." Stellman was the clerk of the Machias Committee.

## "REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*" <sup>1</sup>

June 1775                      Moor'd in Rhode Island Harbour  
Sunday 25    A M Stopt the Sloop *Phoenix* Wm Dennis Master from Philadelphia  
with Flour, Rum & sugar <sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.
2. Of all the vessels stopped or seized and sent around to Boston, the *Phoenix* is the first to appear in Graves's Conduct, Prize List, MassHS Transcript. Her cargo was taken for the army in Boston, and the vessel liberated.

"VERITAS" TO JOHN HOLT, PRINTER OF THE *New York Journal*<sup>1</sup>

Mr. HOLT,

The following erroneous account of the reduction of Ticonderoga, was published in Mr. Thomas's Oracle of Liberty the 24th May last, and as the writer of the account which follows it, had no opportunity of seeing it, till very lately, he being up at the forts, ever since they were taken, he could not contradict it sooner. I beg therefore you'll republish it in your next Journal, together with the account that follows it, which may be depended on.

I am, your's, &c.

[Here is reprinted the account which appeared originally in the *New England Chronicle*, at Cambridge, May 18, 1775]

As the above account of the reduction of Ticonderoga, which from its complexion, I suppose originated from that very *modest* gentleman, Col. [James] Easton himself, is so replete with falshood, and is so great an imposition on the public, that I think it my duty, in order to undeceive the public, and to do justice to modest merit, to give you a candid detail of the whole matter, for the truth of which I appeal to every officer and private who were present, which is as follows:

Some gentlemen arrived in the New-Hampshire grants from Connecticut, with a design of seizing on the fortress of Ticonderoga, were there joined by a number of men, among whom were Col. [Ethan] Allen and Easton, the former, with the assistance of Captain [Seth] Warner, collected about 150 men, with whom they marched to Castletown, 20 miles from Ticonderoga, where they left Col. Easton, and proceeded 10 miles towards Shoreham, the next day Col. [Benedict] Arnold, arrived at Castleton, from Cambridge, having concerted in similar plan, and being commissioned by the Massachusetts Congress to raise a regiment, he proceeded on to the party under the command of Colonel Allen, ——— when Col. Arnold made known his commission, &c ——— it was voted by the officers present, that he should take a joint command with Col. Allen (Col. Easton not presuming to take any command) ——— When the party had marched to Shoreham, two miles on the Lake below Ticonderoga, where they waited for batteaus to cross the Lake, until midnight, and none arriving, Col. Arnold, with much difficulty, persuaded about 40 men to embark with him in a batteau accidentally taken there, and landed half a mile from the fort, and immediately sent back the batteau, which by reason of a violent storm of wind and rain did not return until break of day with a small boat, and near 50 men in both, ——— It was then proposed by some gentlemen to wait open day, and the arrival of the remainder of the men which amounted at that time to near 100; this Col. Arnold strenuously opposed, and urged to storm the fort immediately, declaring he would enter it alone, if no man had courage to follow him ——— this had the desired effect, he with Col. Allen

headed the party and proceeded directly to the fort ——— when they came within about 10 yards of the gate, the centry discovered them and made a precipitate retreat, he was pursued closely by Col. Arnold, who was the first person that entered the fort, and Col. Allen about 5 yards behind him ——— this I was an eye witness of being only a few yards distant. ——— Col. Arnold immediately order'd the men to secure the doors of the barracks, and went himself with Col. Allen to the commanding officer, Captain De la Place, and desired him to deliver up his arms, and he might expect to be treated like a gentleman, which he immediately complied with, as did the whole garrison.

I do not recollect seeing Col. Easton until 9 o'clock, and was told he was the last man that entered the fort, and that, not till the soldiers and their arms were secured, he having concealed himself in an old barrack near the redoubt, under the pretence of wiping and drying his gun, which he said had got wet in crossing the Lake. Since which I have often heard Col. Easton, in a base and cowardly manner abuse Col. Arnold behind his back, though always very complaisant before his face ——— Col. Arnold was soon made acquainted with the liberty he had taken with his character, and upon his refusing to give proper satisfaction, I had the pleasure of seeing him heartily kicked by Colonel Arnold, to the great satisfaction of a number of gentlemen present, although he (Easton) was armed with a cutlass, and a pair of loaded pistols in his pocket.

I am, your humble servant,

VERITAS.

Ticonderoga June 25, 1775

N. B. This doughty hero, Easton, has since been appointed to the command of a regiment in the Massachusetts service.

1. *New York Journal*, August 3, 1775. (Also reprinted in the *Bulletin* of the Fort Ticonderoga Museum, IV, 3.)

#### COMMITTEE FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS TO THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

Ticonderoga; June 25, 1775

Gentlemen Notwithstanding the many Calamities the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay now struggles under, the Congress there are resolutely determined to leave nothing within their power undone, which may have a probable Tendency] to preserve the rights and property of the American Colonies. In persuance of this resolution they on the 14th Day of June appointed a Committee, whereof I have the honour to be Chairman to proceed to Tyconderoga and Crown Point, to inquire into the importance of holding those posts, and among other things respectfully to signify to you their thoughts on the Subject, — The Committee have made such inquiries as they were directed to prosecute, and have ordered me to take leave to inform you that it is their opinion, should the Fortreses on Lake Champlain Fall into the hands of our Enemies the Colony of New York with the New England Colonies must be in the utmost ins[ecur]ity, for the Enemy might Land [men] at the southern End of a part of the waters of Lake Champlain called South Bay from whence, as Fort Edward is rased to the foundation, there is nothing to check them, or prevent their Spreading Fire and devastation down to Albany, and over all the Frontier Towns-Eastward, in New York and



The Committee has Established on the Lakes, in the pay of the Massachusetts Colony four hundred Effective men with proper officers which are all that the distressed State of the Colony at present admit of: which Regiment from the peculiar embarrassment which that Colony is now Labouring under must look for present Supplies of Provisions to the Colony of New York.

1. Mass. Arch. vol. 194.

June 1775 At Single Anchor in Sandy Hook  
 Sunday 25 A M Arrived here Govr [William] Tryon At 11 he Came on Bd  
 Saluted with 11 Guns on His Coming on Bd & his Return  
 At 1 P M Weighed & Came to Sail Empd working up for Town At  
 10 Anchored off Red Hook

MASTER'S LOG OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Mercury*<sup>1</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1866.

Since I had the Honor of writing to You on the 5th Instant, the Provincial Congress highly disapproving of the Robbery at Turtle Bay,<sup>2</sup> issued an Order that the Stores should be all return'd, which was accordingly done, except

some few things which the Storekeeper says were not brought back, on the 12th at about three in the Morning, the Storekeeper came Onboard and informed me that a large Sloop had been, since the Evening before at Turtle Bay taking off the Stores, It was then about an Hour's Flood and the *Kingsfisher* lying near us I directed Captn [James] Montagu to sail immediately and to seize the Vessel if he should be able to come up with her, unluckily our information came too late; She had left Turtle Bay at the first of the Flood, and there being but little Wind when the *Kingsfisher* got there, She could not follow her thro' Hell Gate and Escaped, this Sloop it seems was sent from Stamford in Connecticut, so the People of the Town pretend not to have been at all accessory to this Affair.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.
2. See *New York Journal*, June 15, 1775.

#### JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL COUNCIL OF NORTH CAROLINA <sup>1</sup>

At a Council held at Fort Johnston in North Carolina the 25th June 1775.

The Governor further acquainted this Board, that Captain [John A.] Collet Governor of Fort Johnston had represented to him that the said Fort was in no state of defence, that the Establishment of the Garrison consisting of 25 men only, is reduced by desertion to less than half that number, and that it is also destitute of powder, & in no condition to afford a sure protection to the valuable Artillery belonging to His Majesty in the said place in case of an attempt upon it, and desired the sentiments of the Council, on the expediency of his taking any measure for putting the Fort in a state of defence, by furnishing it with Ammunition, and raising men to strengthen the Garrison, observing at the same time that there are no funds allotted in this Country for such exigencies, nor any other resource that he knew, but to make application if the Council should advise such charge to be incurred, for money to defray the same to General [Thomas] Gage, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in America, or to the Lords Commissrs of his Majesty's Treasury.

It is the unanimous opinion of the Council, that His Excellency apply to General Gage or to the Lords of the Treasury for Money to defray the expences of repairing the Fort, and raising and maintaining a Garrison for its defence, the same being necessary for the protection and security of the Commerce of this River.

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, NC, X, 38-40.

#### LORD DUNMORE TO LORD DARTMOUTH <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

(No 28)

*Fowey* in York River 25th June 1775

My Lord My last letters Numbers 26 and 27 contain Accounts of the principal occurrences in the Commotions raised on the pretence of my having removed the Gun Powder.

After the attempt made upon the Receiver General nothing material was undertaken, except by abusive publications in the News papers to raise, to the utmost pitch of extravagance, the prejudices and intemperance of the approach-

ing Assembly, which, in effect, began without any Symptoms of a disposition to disapprove of the violences committed or even to discourage their further progress . . . It happened likewise a day or two after the meeting of the Assembly that two Men were wounded, in attempting in the Night to rob the Magazine of Arms, by the discharge of a Musket loaded with large Shot, which had been placed by the keeper in a window in such a manner that any person, forcing thro' it, would fire the Gun against himself; The Crime in this Affair was entirely overlooked, but the punishment inflicted, by the hands of the Criminals on themselves irritated very much; and the Cry among the People was for Vengeance.

Among the first proceedings of the Assembly was the appointing a Committee to examine into the State of the Magazine; and the day after the two men were wounded, about Noon a Number of Persons from the Town and Country forced into it, and, in presence of Several of the Burgesses, took out the remainder of about 400 Stand of Arms, part of which had been before, at different times, Carried off by the People that found means of Secretly getting in thro' the windows; and a Considerable quantity of different Stores were likewise taken away. The above mentioned Committee then made a great merit of having, as they informed me, interposed and endeavoured, though without effect, to prevail on the People to return the Arms, but without applying for my orders or Consent, they Seized this pretence for appointing a Military Guard to Mount upon the Magazine, who have been Continued ever Since by the Same, on no better Authority; and the Command of Militia, as well as the Custody of Magazines and publick Stores of Arms and Ammunition is thus entirely wrested out of the hands of the Governor.

A feigned report was Spread that a party of Men were again Marching from His Majesty's Ship to my assistance; which occasioned an affected allarm and gave pretence for their Armed Men to assemble, who have not hesitated to declare their intention of attacking the Kings Forces, if they landed, from the Ship.

These disorders promising little Success in the great business which had been the principal object of calling the Assembly; and as their cause was ascribed to the removal of the Powder, in hopes of appeasing the minds of the Members and inducing them to proceed in their deliberations I offered, by the Message herewith inclosed, to return the Powder, as soon as I should See the Magazine made Sufficiently Secure for its preservation; but the same heated and irassible temper continued Nevertheless; My house was kept in continual allarm, and threatned every night with an assault. Surrounded therefore as I was with Armed Men, in the very place of my Residence, and in the Neighbourhood who were raised in defiance of my Authority, and pay no obedience to it, but assemble and Act as their will directs, nor are they to be controled even by the Power which they are intended to Support; and Situated so far from any place where men of War can approach, the Nearest being five Miles, I could not think it Safe to continue any longer in that City, but Judged it would be best, in all respects, for Carrying on His Majesty's Service to remove to the Ship of War which is Stationed here, where I have for the present fixed my Residence, and where most probably I shall be obliged to remain untill I receive his Majesty's Instructions . . .

The Assembly are still Sitting, and my intention is not to give them any interruption; a point arises, which is not easy to adjust, in regard of giving my assent

to the laws passed this Session. The House of Burgesses have insinuated a fear of going on board Ship, least a design be formed at Carrying them to England which is what is Spread abroad as another means of inflaming; and under the appearance of this apprehension the Speaker has two Sentinels from the Guard at his door. I have received some verbal Messages to desire me to return for the purpose of passing the Bills, or to receive the House at York, or assent by Commission, I have however Signified that I expect to be attended by the House on board His Majesty's Ship which is equally a protection for them as for me . . .

The Country in every part of it manifest no other disposition than for resisting the Authority of Government. Bodies of men are every where Set on foot, arming and discipling with great diligence, and appearing in uniforms. His Majesty's English Subjects, indentured Servants, are Compelled to take Arms and Submit themselves to all orders they shall receive; Some of these have escaped to the Ship of War, the only protection they can meet with now the laws have no operation. Some pieces of iron ordnance left at Hampton in James River from a Man of War in the Course of last War, have been Secretly carried off and concealed, and others from places, that formerly had been batteries upon the Rivers, have been in like manner removed. These particulars Joined to the open violences of which your Lordship has had the most Authentick testimonies transmitted, the Addresses of the Burgesses in Answer to the plan of Accommodation, it was hoped they would adopt, and the actual Situation to which I am reduced have made me Judge it requisite to communicate [the] intelligence of them to your Lordship by the Safest and most Speedy Means, I have accordingly by application to Captain [George] Montagu obtained the *Magdalen* Armed Schooner Commanded by Lieutenant Henry Collins to be dispatched on this Service; This Gentleman has been employed upon the Coast of America these Six years, and a great deal in this particular Colony, and he is thoroughly qualified by his abilities as well as experience to give your Lordship much usefull information. . . .

I think it proper to Suggest to your Lordship, that it may be found Necessary to establish a regular Communication along the Coast for the purpose of Conveying intelligence from one Government to another as the Post by Land will become most probably very precarious.

In consequence of my application to General [Thomas] Gage and Admiral [Samuel] Graves, the *Otter* Sloop of War has been Sent here, and orders for Sixty Men from St Augustine and for the Company now in the Island of [New] Providence of His Majesty's 14th regiment to be brought to this Colony.

Though I can expect no great assistance from so Small a body of men against a very numerous People in Arms who have declared they will Suffer no Troops to Land, yet I am preparing Vessels to Send for them Nevertheless and I intend to keep them on board Ship, or in places on Shore difficult to be attacked and under the protection of the Men of War, always ready to reim-bark; and by being in that manner prepared to move expeditiously to any part of the Colony, as the great Rivers here admit, I shall be able, if not to quell Insurrections, to keep the Country in some Awe of Government . . .

Ever since I have removed from Williamsburg every art has been tried to induce me to put myself again in their Power, in order to which the fears which I have expressed, they say were without foundation; however finding they could not accomplish their ends their patience exhausted and last night the 24th of June, a considerable body of men violently forced into the Governors house, bursting open a Window by which one part entered who then forced the principal door by which the rest entered, and they carried off all the Arms they could find to the number of between two and three hundred Stand, which had been always kept in the Hall of this house, and considerable Number of Muskets and other Arms my own Property; what other depredation has been Committed I am not yet able to learn.

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/1353, 319-335, LC Transcript.

## 26 June

### DEPOSITION OF JABEZ COBB REGARDING THE LOSS OF THE SCHOONER *Margaretta*<sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

The information and Deposition of Jabez Cobb Master of Brigantine taken on Oath the 26th of June 1775 [at Halifax].

This Information saith that on Sunday 11th Inst June he was in Mechias Harbour on shore, and there did see about thirty Men in Arms and many more went to the Meeting House there to take up Ichabod Jones and Captain [James] Moore of the King's Armed Schooner named *Margaret*, also Mr Stilinsfleet of said Schooner, who being alarmed that they were pursued by Armed Men, jumped out of the Window and escaped; Capt'n Moore and Mr Stillinsfleet went Onboard their Vessel and Mr. Jones went into the Woods and escaped, on which several People seized a Sloop belonging to said Jones and strip'd the Vessel of her Sails and Rigging and took them away – the Arm'd People then went on a piece of Marsh ground near the said Armed Schooner and demanded of Captain Moore to deliver up the Vessel, Capt Moore replied he would defend his Vessel as long as he lived and would fire on the Town and beat it down unless they desisted and delivered up Jones's Vessel – that about six O'Clock the same Evening this informant did see three Boats full of Armed Men come down the River and boarded Jones's other Sloop that lay at Anchor at about four Miles distance from where he then was, they then brought this Vessel up the River about One Mile and run her onshore, – that about eight O'Clock the same Evening the King's Schooner was under way coming down the River, when about One hundred Armed Men went to attack her, and about half an hour after the Schooner being at Anchor near the Shore, said Armed Men ordered the Schooner to strike to the Sons of Liberty or else they would destroy them all, and immediately fired into the Schooner, on which the People returned the fire with Swivel Guns and small Arms which lasted about 2½ hours on both Sides, and then the Schooner cut her Cable and went down the River – And the next Morning the Armed People took two Vessels and pursued the

King's Schooner, boarded her, and killed Captain Moore and two other Men, also wounded others belonging to her, and further saith not.

Halifax SS Sworn before Us Cha. Morris, Assist Judge of Supreme Court  
Thomas Bridge Jc Pe

Jabez Cobb

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

#### MINUTES OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY<sup>1</sup>

[Portsmouth] June 26, 1775

directed Capt [Henry] Elkins to order his Boatmen to put in to the Shoals & bring to Hampton any Cannon Shot they may find there, if the People at the Shoals will allow it to be done.

1. *New Hampshire Historical Society Collections*, VII, 9.

#### WILLIAM TUDOR TO JOHN ADAMS<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Cambridge] 26th June 1775

Dear Sir You will doubtless before the Rect of this have heard of the bloody Engagement at Charlestown. For a particular Acct of it I must refer You to a Letter I last Week wrote our Friend [Stephen] Collins. The ministerial Troops gain'd the Hill but were victorious Losers. A few more such Victories & they are undone. I cannot think our Retreat an unfortunate one. Such is the Situation of that Hill that we could not have kept it, expos'd to the mighty fire which our Men must have recd from the Ships & Batteries that Command the whole Eminence. 800 Provincials bore the Assault of 2000 Regulars & twice repuls'd them, but the Heroes were not supported, & could only retire. Our Men were not us'd to Cannon Balls, & they came so thick from the Ships, floating Batteries &c &c that they were discouraged advancing. They have since been more us'd to them & dare encounter them.

The American Army are in great Spirits, & eager to recover their late Defeat. I wish we had more Discipline But Genl Washington we hear is coming, & we expect much from his Conduct & Experience. The Colony Forces have thrown up very extensive Lines to secure Cambridge & there are four different Entrenchments in Roxbury. The Regular Troops cannot again fight under the like Advantages they did at Charlestown. They have dearly paid for one Mile's Advancement, & before they get another I much doubt if they will have Solds enough left to maintain it . . .

The loss of Dr [Joseph] Warren is irreparable, his Death is generally and greatly lamented. But

Dulce et Decorum est pro Patria mori

1. Adams Family Papers, MassHS.

#### JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Monday, June 26, 1775

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to consider the Petition of Mr. Edward Parry, and the Report of Colonel [Samuel] Thompson relative to his conduct at Kennebeck, be directed to consider his, the said Thompson's conduct

at Falmouth, with respect to Captain [Henry] Mowatt and Captain Coulson, and his laying Mr. Bernard under bonds.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter from Machias reported; The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Congress be, and are hereby given to Captain Jeremiah Obrian and Captain Benjamin Foster, and the other brave men under their command, for their courage and good conduct in taking one of the Tenders belonging to our enemies, and two Sloops belonging to Ichabod Jones, and for preventing the Ministerial Troops being supplied with Lumber; and that the said Tender, Sloops, their appurtenances and cargoes, remain in the hands of the said Captains Obrian and Foster and the men under their command, for them to use and improve as they shall think most for their and the publick's advantage, until the further order of this or some future Congress, or House of Representatives. And that the Committee of Safety for the Western Parish of Pownalborough be ordered to convey the prisoners taken by the said Obrian and Foster, from Pownalborough Jail to the Committee of Safety or Correspondence for the Town of Brunswick . . . to convey them to some Committee in the County of York, and so to be conveyed from County to County till they arrive at this Congress.

#### Afternoon

The Comtee appointed to Consider the petition of Edward Parry (Agent to the Contractor for Masts &c) taking said petition with several other papers accompanying the same into Consideration Beg leave to report by way of resolve (viz.)

Resolved That Coll [Samuel] Thom[p]son be directed to repair to George Town and get assistance and remove said Masts and other Timber to a place of Safty The Cost not Exceeding forty pounds and as it appears said Edward Parry is not Friendly to this Country that Coll Tomson send him as soon as may be to this Congress and that the Bond Given by Dummer Sewal and Jordan Parker be void when sd masts are secured.<sup>2</sup>

The Committee appointed to consider the conduct of Colonel [Samuel] Thompson, at Falmouth, with respect to Captain [Henry] Mowatt, reported. The Report was ordered to subside; it was as follows:

The Committee appointed to consider the conduct of Colonel Thompson, at Falmouth, with respect to Captain Mowatt, &c. and his laying Mr. Barnard under bond, are of opinion that said Thompson's conduct was friendly to his Country and the cause of liberty, and that said Barnard's conduct appears to have been inimical to both. All which we humbly submit to this Congress.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1446-1448, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

2. Mass. Arch., vol. 137, 36. The Journal entry, in *ibid.*, vol. 32, states that the report on Edward Parry was not entered in the Journal.

#### VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO PHILIP STEPHENS<sup>1</sup>

Sir

Preston Boston June 26, 1775

I have this Moment received a dispatch from Captain [James] Wallace of His Majesty's Ship *Rose* at Rhode Island A Copy of which I have just time enough to put on board the *Cerberus*.<sup>2</sup>

I think the Report of the Brig, Sloop, and other Vessels is likely to be true, from the Attack already made upon the *Rose's* Tender. I am [&c.]

Sam<sup>l</sup> Graves

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.
2. Captain James Wallace's letter of June 19, 1775.

*Newport Mercury*, MONDAY, JUNE 26, 1775

Newport, June 26.

Yesterday Capt. William Dennis arrived here, in a sloop, from Philadelphia, loaded with flour, &c. Vessel and cargo taken under the *protection* of the men of war.<sup>1</sup>

The men of war in our harbour have, since our last, seized on 6 or 7 vessels in a fair trade, loaded with rum, sugar, molasses, and provisions; all which, 'tis supposed, will be applied to the support of the enemies to American liberty.

1. William Dennis, in the sloop *Phoenix*, cleared Philadelphia about June 15 for Rhode Island. Captain James Wallace of the *Rose* sent her around to Boston, where the cargo was "sold to the Inhabitants" and the vessel "passed out." *Pennsylvania Packet*, June 12 and 19, 1775; Graves's Conduct, Prize List, II, 376, MassHS Transcript.

#### MASTER'S LOG OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Mercury*<sup>1</sup>

June 1775                      Rem[ark]s &c on Bd His Majts Ship *Mercury*  
 Monday 26th    A M Sent the Longboat to Assist the *Argo* Transport Employ'd  
    Hogging the Ship  
    Fresh Breezes and fair W[eathe]r  
    P M Employd Hogging the Ships Bottom the watring the *Argo*  
    Transport Spoke the *Henry & Easter* [*sic, Esther*] *Good Intent*  
    *Royal George* *William and Mary* and *Hope* Transports with  
    Troops on bd from Cork orderd them to proceed to Boston but  
    wanting water Anchored here.

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1866.

#### MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE CITY AND LIBERTIES OF PHILADELPHIA<sup>1</sup>

In Committee, June 26, 1775

A Quantity of salt, and a box of wine glasses, having been imported in the ship *Albion*, Thomas Crippen, master, from Liverpool, it was resolved, that the said ship and cargo ought to be returned forthwith, and that the Captain have notice thereof immediately.

*Ordered*, That the district Committee see the above resolution complied with.

On motion, Resolved, That Mr. Joseph Whittall, one of the owners of the ship *Albion*, does not appear to have had any knowledge of, or concern in shipping the salt &c. in said vessel.

Resolved, That Mr. Henry Cour, merchant, of Liverpool, in Great Britain, half owner of the ship *Albion*, has knowingly violated the Association of the American Congress, by shipping the Salt to America; and that it is the duty of this Committee to advertise him accordingly.



Resolved, That Nicholas Ashton, Esq; of, or near Liverpool, in the county of Lancaster, in Great Britain, owner of the above mentioned salt, has wilfully violated the Association of the American Congress, by shipping the said salt to America; and that it is the duty of this Committee to advertise his conduct herein.

*Resolved unanimously*, That agreeable to the resolutions of the Grand American Congress, it is the duty of us, and of all our constituents, the inhabitants of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, *from henceforth not to have any commercial intercourse whatever* with the said Henry Cour and Nicholas Ashton; And it is recommended that an inviolable regard be paid to this resolution.

Extract from the Minutes

Jonathan B. Smith, Secretary

1. *Pennsylvania Packet*, July 3, 1775.

#### JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

In the Council of Safety [Charleston] Monday, June 26, 1775

Col. [William] Moultrie & Lt Col. [Isaac] Huger having applied to the Council for Advice in Regard to the Inlistments of Men, who are said to have deserted from the Sea Service; Capt. [John] Tollemache <sup>2</sup> having intimated, that if he lost any he must distress the Trade.

They were advised to give an Answer, if applied to, to this Effect.

We did not know that we had inlisted any of your Men, but if any of them have inlisted, we dare not Give them up.

1. Laurens Collection, SCHS.

2. Captain of His Majesty's Sloop *Scorpion*.

#### 27 June

#### JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Cerberus*, JAMES CHADS, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775 Cape Cod S 70 W 35 Leagues

Tuesday 27 at 4 A M Weighed [in Nantasket Road] & Came to Sail in Co wt the Brig for Glasgow at 6 sett Studing sls at 12 the Brig in Company at 3 passd by 2 sls Standg to Wesd at 4 P M Cape Cod S b W 4 Lgs at 6 spoke a Schooner from Granada to Casket [sic! [Casco] Bay at 8 In Reef Topsls Left Brig a Stern out of sight

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/181.

#### VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN TYRINGHAM HOWE, H.M.S. *Glasgow* <sup>1</sup>

Whereas I have Intelligence that 18 Carriage Guns and 200 Men, a Sloop of 14 Guns, and four or five other Vessels are fitted out at Providence to attack the King's Ships, and that from New London and Dartmouth Vessels are also fitted out with the same Design, and whereas fifteen Transports with Troops are daily expected to arrive from England, who not expecting Rebels or Pirates on the Coast, may be unprepared and thereby fall into their hands; You are therefore hereby required and directed forthwith to proceed to Sea in his Majesty's Ships under your Command and cruize from the Back of Nantucket Shoals to

the West End of Long Island and look for the said Transports, And when by speaking to the *Nautilus* who is cruizing off the Hook, or by any other certain Intelligence you can learn that they are all arrived, you are to repair to Rhode Island and put yourself under the Command of Captain [James] Wallace of his Majesty's Ship *Rose*, and follow his Orders for your further proceedings. In case of your meeting with any of the Transports you are to order them to repair immediately to Boston, apprise them of their danger from the Rebels and conveying them fairly into the Bay of Boston return in quest of the Remainder until the whole are arrived, when you are to proceed as above directed. You are also to seize and send to Boston all Vessels you may meet with having provision of any kind, Melasses or Salt on board.

Should you by any Accident neither meet the *Nautilus* nor any of the Transports, you are not to cruize longer than three Weeks, from the time you get round the Shoals, but at the expiration of that time proceed to Rhode Island.

Given under my hand on board his Majesty's Ship *Preston* at Boston the 27 June 1775

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 126, 127, MassHS Transcript.

NICHOLAS COOKE, DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF RHODE ISLAND, TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen

Providence June 27, 1775

I gave you a hint in my Letter of yesterday of our fitting out two armed Vessels for the protection of our trade, it looks very probable to me that if there were a few Vessels properly armed and mannd along the Coast in different parts it would be a great means of proteckting our own trade and allso of picking up many of the provision Vessels that they the Men of War take this way and send round to Boston many of those Vessels are sent Round with but five or six hands in each and With nothing more than a Small arm a piece to defend them and further as the Enemy think we have no force that dare put out of our harbors some of their Store Ships come Without Convoys and there is a possabillity that we might pick up one of them if we had a Vessel or two to Cruize in their way these things are droped Gentlemen for yr Consideration from Yr most [&c.]

Nich<sup>s</sup> Cooke

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 194, 8.

MASTER'S LOG OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Mercury* <sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Rem[ark]s &c on bd His Mjts. Ship *Mercury*

Tuesdy. 27th A M Send the Longboat to Assist watering the Transports  
Emp[loye]d Hogging the Ships Bottom up Top Gallt. Yards  
Anchored here His Mjts. Sloop *Nautilus* from Boston  
Fresh Breezes and Cloudy W[eathe]r  
P M Reced on bd 7 Marines from His Majts. Sloop *Nautilus* <sup>2</sup>  
Anchord here the *Pallas* transport from New York having on bd

part of the Royal Irish bound to Boston Anchored here the  
*Jean* Transport from Cork with part of the 44 Regiment got  
 Down Top Gallt Yards

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1866.

2. In addition to the seven marines, the *Nautilus* brought orders to Captain John Macartney of the *Mercury* to proceed to Virginia and relieve the *Fowey* stationed there. See Graves to Stephens, July 16, 1775.

# JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia] Tuesday, June 27, 1775

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That Govr [Philip] Skene be sent under a guard to Weathersfield, or Middletown, in the County of Hartford, in Connecticut, there to be confined on his parole, not to go out of the bounds prescribed to him by Govr [Jonathan] Trumbull.

*Ordered*, That the Delegates for Pennsylvia take measures to have the above resolve carried into execution.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letter from Albany,<sup>2</sup> and after some debate the Congress came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That Major General P[hilip] Schuyler be directed to repair as soon as conveniently he can to the posts of Ticonderoga and Crown point, to examine into the state thereof, and of the troops now stationed there, and how they are supplied with provisions and necessary stores – into the state also of the sloop and other navigation on the lakes – also to obtain the best intelligence he can of the disposition of the Canadians and Indians of Canada. That he confer with Col. [Benjamin] Hinman and Col. [Benedict] Arnold, on the subject of Col: Arnold's letter to this Congress, and report as soon as possible, the state of the whole as near as it can be ascertained, to this Congress. And that he give orders for the necessary preparation of boats and stores for securing to the United Colonies the command of those waters adjacent to Crown point and Ticonderoga.

*Resolved*, That as Governor [Guy] Carl[e]ton is making preparations to invade these colonies and is instigating the Indian Nations to take up the Hatchet against them, Major Genl Schuyler do exert his utmost power to destroy or take all vessels, boats or floating batteries, preparing by sd Govr or by his order, on or near the waters of the lakes.

*Resolved*, That if General Schuyler finds it practicable, and that it will not be disagreeable to the Canadians, he do immediately take possession of St Johns, Montreal, and any other parts of the country, and pursue any other measures in Canada, which may have a tendency to promote the peace and security of these Colonies.

*Resolved*, that if General Schuyler shall have occasion for a larger quantity of ready money and ammunition for carrying on such an expedition, than he can in convenient time procure from the provincial Congress of the Colony of New York, that he do in such case apply to the Governor of Connecticut for such supplies as may be necessary, and can be furnished by that Colony; and

that Governor Trumbull be desired to furnish such supplies, and that this Congress will make provision for reimbursing the same.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 108–110.

2. *Ibid.*, June 26, 1775, reads: "A letter from the Committee of Albany recd by express was laid before the Congress and read."

LORD DUNMORE TO LORD DARTMOUTH <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

27th of June 1775

P.S. [to letter of June 25]

A constant guard is kept in Williamsburg relieved every day from the adjacent Counties, and that place is become a Garrison, the pretence of which is the Security of the Person of their Speaker who because he has been Chairman of the [Continental] Congress, it is reported, in order to inflame, that Government is anxious to Seize him <sup>2</sup> Guards likewise Continually mount at the Town of York opposite to which the Men of War lie, and thro'out the whole Country the greatest attention is paid to these Military preparations and an universal appearance of War is put on.

I just now learn that the People have laid hold of the keeper of the Magazine, who had been appointed by me, and that they have thrown him into Prison

I am &c.

Dunmore

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/1353, 344 LC Transcript.

2. Peyton Randolph was elected president of the Continental Congress, May 10, 1775, and vacated the chair May 23, to attend the session of the Virginia Assembly which Dunmore had called.

ORIGINAL LETTER OF GOVERNOR JAMES WRIGHT TO ADMIRAL [SAMUEL] GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

Sir,

Savannah in Georgia, the 27th of June 1775.

Some time ago I had the honour to receive a letter from the Earl of Dartmouth, dated the 1st of February last, wherein he wrote me that an order was gone from the Admiralty to you, Sir, to send me one of your cruisers, but none is yet arrived – nor have I heard any thing of it since. And I am now to acquaint you, that four or five boats, from the South-Carolina side, of our inlet, have been here for ten or twelve days past, full of armed men – it is said near one hundred. We expect a vessel from London every day, with a considerable quantity of gun-powder on board and report says, that these people mean to take it out, and carry it away; and it is not in my power to prevent it. And thus you see, Sir, that our port may, and in short is, blocked up by our neighbours, and that they have it in their power to plunder any thing, that arrives here, and do just what they please. I hope, therefore, that you will be kind enough to give such immediate assistance, as may be in your power, to prevent such insults, and attempts, as I have mentioned.

Pardon me, Sir, for saying that an armed schooner will be of little use; or any thing less, than a sloop of war of some force, and which, from Lord Dartmouth's letter, I have been long expecting, and impatiently looking out for.

I doubt not but the situation we are in will strike you in such a light, that you will see the propriety of immediate assistance.

Another matter seems to be also necessary for his Majesty's service; viz. frequent accounts from yourself, and General Gage, with respect to the state of affairs, your way – as I find it has the greatest influence on the conduct and proceedings of the people here, And I have no way by which this can be done, unless you are pleased to send it by some of his Majesty's vessels under your command.

I have the honour to be, with perfect esteem, Sir, your most ob. and most humble serv[ant].

James Wright

[Endorsement by John Drayton] The above Letter was withdrawn from the envelope, and the following was substituted in its place by the Secret Committee [of Charleston, South Carolina].

1. Drayton, *American Revolution*, I, 348, 349.

COPY OF THE LETTER FROM GOVERNOR JAMES WRIGHT TO ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES AS SUBSTITUTED BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Sir,

Savannah in Georgia, the 27th June, 1775.

Some time ago I had the honour to receive a letter from the Earl of Dartmouth, dated the 1st February last, wherein he wrote to me, that an order was gone from the Admiralty to you, Sir, to send me one of your cruisers. It gives me the highest pleasure to acquaint you, that I now have not any occasion for any vessel of war, and I am clearly of opinion that his Majesty's service will be better promoted by the absence than the presence of vessels of war in this port. On this subject of military forces, being at present sent to this part of the Continent, I have written fully to the General, and I beg leave to refer you, Sir, to that letter, which is of equal date with this.

As I am persuaded it will be for the benefit of the service, that the Southern Governors should have early information of important transactions in your part of the Continent, I doubt not but that if you, Sir, shall be of the same opinion, you will send such by some advice boat. And if such vessel proceeds to Charlestown, my packet may there be sent on shore, and it will reach me, by a secure land conveyance by Express from the Post-Office.

Perhaps Captain [John] Tollemache may give you, Sir, some little alarm about two or three canoes from South-Carolina in this river; waiting, as report says, to take some gun powder from on board a vessel daily expected to arrive here. But, I acquaint you, Sir, that they are sent upon a smuggling party of goods into their own Colony, by private directions of their Committee. They mean to procure some gun-powder, and I shall not be displeased if under the appearance of some violence they purchase such an article—as, it is intended to make good the contract made by Mr. Stuart and myself, with the Indians, both Creeks and Cherokees; the latter of whom will be more convenient for the Carolinians, than the people of Georgia to supply. I have the honour to be, with perfect esteem, Sir, your most humb and most obt servt.

James Wright

[Endorsed by John Drayton] A facsimile signature of James Wright, was affixed to this letter, by the Secret Committee. The two original letters of Sir James Wright, [one to Gage] as well as the copies of the substitute letters, are in the possession of writer of these Memoirs.

1. Drayton, *American Revolution*, I, 349, 350.

SIR JAMES WRIGHT, GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA, TO LORD WILLIAM CAMPBELL,  
GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA <sup>1</sup>

Lord –

Sav. in Georg. the 27. June, 1775

Late last night I had the honor to receive yr Ldship's Ltr of the 23 Inst & very sincerely congratulate yr Lordship's safe arrival at C.T. where I wish you great Satisfactn & Felicity At the same [time in the] disord'd State of pub. Affrs & without any *protection* or *support* I am much afraid it is not to be expected, and as things strike me, I see no probability of any sober quietude unless the prudence & modern of the Contintl Congress should lay a foundation for it – and I find this province is at last likely to be drawn in –

Certainly my Ld a speedy communication & Intelligence from the Genl & Adml may be of great use, & tend much to promote his Maj's Service. And I see no kind of Difficulty in this as there are many armed Schooners which are really of little use, but as advice boats, and I now enclose yr Ldship Letters to those Gentlemen on that Subject.

With respect to the other matters it will be very agreeable to me to assist in keeping up a safe & frequent intercourse, but I have no Fund, not one Shilling of pub. money at my command, but even if it were otherwise, the doubt with me is, *what mode of safety* can be fallen upon, for if the common post is *not safe*, & there is or should be a determination to seize on the Lrs, I fear a special messenger will not be *much safer* than the common post, for he will soon be known, & then as liable to be robbed as the other. And I cannot say but I am apprehensive for my Lrs. of April & May which I presume will come together by the May packet & may be daily expected.

If yr Ldship thinks of any other safe method you will be pleased to let me know, & how often to go, & what the expense may be? And I beg leave to assure your Ld Ship that it will give me the greatest Satisfaction to cultivate a Correspondence.

I have the honor to be with perfect Esteem my Lord

Your Lordships [&c.]

J. Wright

10 o'clock a.m.

1. *South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, XXVII, 115, 116.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SCHOONER *Saint John*, LIEUT. WILLIAM GRANT,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Anchored in St Augustine Harbor

Tuesday 27

At 4 A M fired a gun and Made a Signal for a pilot having Received Despatches from Governor [Patrick] Tonyn With his letter

On His Majestys Service desiring I would proceed with His Majestys Schooner under my Command to Georgia with all expedition, and deliver the Aforesaid despatches to Sir James Wright Governor of Georgia – At 10 Weighed and came to sail – and Anchord below the banks handy for going over the Barr next Morning

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

## 28 June

### INVENTORY OF ORDNANCE AND STORES BROUGHT FROM FORT WILLIAM AND MARY<sup>1</sup>

Inventory of Ordnance and Sundry Military Stores Ship't from Fort William & Mary Onboard the *Resolution* Transport, for Boston, Vizt.

Ordnance	32	Pounders,	Eighteen	No
	24	Do	Twenty	three
	18	Do	Four	
	9	Do	Eight	
	6	Do	Four	

Round Shot different Sizes, quantity, four Thousand One hundred and eighty –  
Weight about

Tons	C.	Qrs.	lbs.
50.	0.	0.	0.

Thirty one Boxes of Grape Shot.

Twenty five Ladles of different Sizes.

Twelve Warmers, Ten Crows, About one Ton old Carriage Iron, Sixteen Carriages.

Two hundred and thirty six Iron Wheels on Trucks.

Four tackle Blocks. Iron

John Cochrane

Fort William and Mary June 28th 1775. (A Copy)

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

### JOHN THAXTER TO JOHN ADAMS<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Braintree June 28th. 1775

Dear Sir One of the many brave and gallant Actions that have graced our Arms, I take the Liberty of writing you an Account of. The most important Transactions, since your Absence, you are undoubtedly already informed of; but as this, I am about to relate, is just come to hand, I embrace the Opportunity of sending you an Account of it by the Express.

Not long before the Date of this, General Gage dispatched two Sloops with Provision to Machias, under the Convoy of a Tender – this Provision was to be exchanged for Lumber & other Articles. Stephen and Ichabod Jones the Contractors had made Application to the Town to supply the Army and Navy with Lumber – one of the Traitors was taken Prisoner, the other fled to the [. . . in] Imitation of the Colonel perhaps. The Contractors being made Prisoners, the

Captain of the Tender threatned instant Demolition to the Town, if there was not an immediate Resignation of them and Springs were put to the Cables for that End. The Inhabitants, neither intimidated by the Abuses they had previously recieved from the Sloops Crews, nor the brutum Fulmen of the Captain, retained the Prisoners – upon which a few Martial Civilities passed between both Parties – but finding our Fire too hot, they put to Sea. The Machias People, determin'd on a Capture of the Tender, boarded the Sloops, armed them with Implements of War and Husbandry, and sailed after her, and soon came up with her, when an Engagement ensued, in which our Men, as usual, proved victorious. The Tender had twelve Swivels it is said. The Captain and three Men, besides many wounded, fell on their Part, also Robert Avery of Norwich a Prisoner was unfortunately killed; two or three, with several wounded, fell on our Part. What Men remained on board the Tender were taken Prisoners. This was the tragical End of their intended Exchange.

A few Days agoe arrived at Nantucket, after seven Weeks Passage, a Vessel from England. One of the Passengers, Viz. Mr William Palfray brought Letters from some of our Enemies in England for our Refugees – he carried them to Watertown and they were read in Congress. There was one from that infamous Parricide H[utchinson], to his Son, wherein he says, “he hopes the Contest will soon be settled, that he may come and spend the Remainder of his Days at Milton.” This Letter is secret and confidential, it is to be supposed.

Mr. Blowers and Bliss write to Leonard, Taylor, the Amorys and others. They lash us with Infatuation, Delusion and Cowardice. They prophecy no Resistance at all [ . . . ] an ineffectual one, as will be crushed with the greatest Facility. Their P[ro]phecy will not? become History. In the same Vessel came one Camel [Campbell?] an Ensign of [ . . . regi]ment – who, upon a Narrative of the Battles, utterly refused to go to Boston – he was told, he might be exchanged for one of our Men a Prisoner in Town. No he would not – he says he did not come to fight. At present he is at Watertown, complimented with a guard. Mr. Duncan Ingraham another Passenger says, they are very peacable in England now; but gives as his Opinion, when the News of the Lexington Battle reaches there, it will throw the Nation into the greatest Convulsions imaginable.

1. Butterfield, ed., *Adams Family Correspondence*, I, 233, 234.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN WILLIAM C. BURNABY, H.M.S.  
*Merlin* AT MARBLEHEAD <sup>1</sup>

Sir,

Preston Boston 28 June 1775

I have received your Letters June 22, 23 & 24. The Vessels with Wood, Salt and Melasses are arrived.<sup>2</sup> The Tender carries your People round again. I send you also my Order for Lecky to act as Lieutt, and some Proclamations to distribute. Lieutenant [George] Dawson is not directed to quit Salem Station, but, leaving either the *Hope* or Tender there, to run now and then in the other Schooner along the Coast as far as Piscataqua; but, as I find that Manchester, Salem, and Cape Ann Harbours are the Places from whence the Rebels can



receive Supplies with most facility, I have directed him to make those the chief Object of his attention for some time to come.

I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 447, MassHS Transcript.
2. Four vessels had been seized by the *Merlin*, *Hope*, and *Lively* and sent in as above related, namely: the sloop *Race Horse*, from Kennebec, with wood and bark, the brig *Betsey* and schooner *Two Brothers*, from Nova Scotia, with salt, and the schooner *Molly*, with molasses. Graves's Conduct, II, Prize List, 376, 377, MassHS Transcript.

# JOURNAL OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF RHODE ISLAND <sup>1</sup>

Providence, the 28th day of June 1775

It is voted and resolved, that the gunner and all the soldiers at Fort George, be immediately discharged.

That Mr. Tomas Freebody have the care of the buildings on Goat Island, and let them out; that he haul up the fort-boat, take particular care of her, and preserve her for the use of the colony; that he procure the cannon to be brought over from the fort to Newport; and that he advertise the guns which were stolen from the fort.

It is voted and resolved, that Capt. John Grimes be, and he is hereby, appointed commander of the small sloop, chartered by the colony, in the room of Capt. Christopher Whipple, who refused.

That all other vacancies in either of the sloops, chartered by the colony, be filled up by the committee of safety; and that the officers be commissioned by the secretary of this colony.

1. Bartlett, ed., *Records of Rhode Island*, VII, 357, 361, 362.

## BRIGADIER GENERAL NATHANAEL GREENE TO NICHOLAS COOKE <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Rhode Island Camp Jamaica Plains June 28 1775

A Ship Arrivd last night with Troops – it has been observed to Day that A Ship or two are missing out of the Harbour, it is Suspected that they are coming to Rhode Island – But I dont apprehend any Attention ought to be paid to the Suggestion – I heard a letter read Dated the Sixth of May from Holland, in which it is Said the Dutch are affronted with the English and have ordered the English Frigates away from the Texel – The French refuses to prohibit the exportation of Ammunition to America in any other way than that of laying a Small fine – The Spannish Monarch refuses to lay any restraint upon the Merchants – If these accounts are true which no doubt they are we may expect Soon to have a great plenty of Powder. – May God prosper so desirable event.

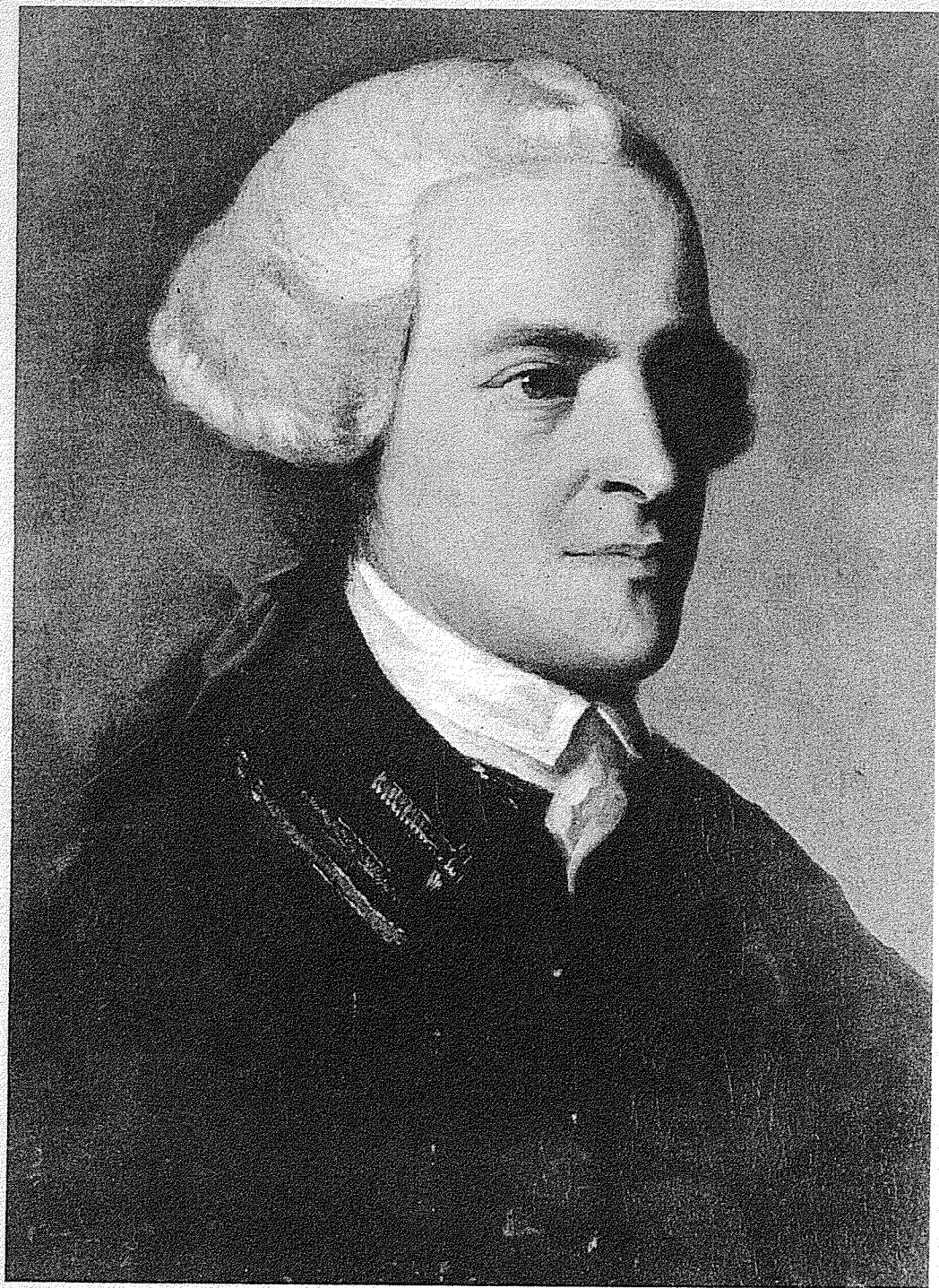
1. "Nicholas Cooke Correspondence," *AAS Proceedings*, New Series, XXXVI, 251.

## MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO COLONEL BENJAMIN HINMAN AT TICONDEROGA <sup>1</sup>

Sir,

New York June 28th 1775.

The Honble Continental Congress having been pleased to appoint me to a Major General's Command in the American Army, and having directed to take



*John Hancock. By Samuel F. B. Morse, 1816, after the 1765 original by John S. Copley.*

Charge of that Part of it, which is, or may be employed in the Province of New York, I do myself the Pleasure to advise you thereof

You will please with all Expedition to make me a Return of the Troops under your Command, and their Condition, specifying from which Colony they are, what Number of them are at Crown Point, what at Ticonderoga, the Landing on Lake George, and the South end of said Lake, or at any other Post you may have occupied. And that the Service may not suffer for Want of any Thing necessary with you, I beg of you to make me a very minute Return of the Provisions, Cannon, Ammunition, Artillery Stores, intrenching and Pioneer's Tools, at every of the above mentioned Places, also of the Number of Vessels on Lake George, what Kind they are, and their Burden, the same of those on Lake Champlain.

As it is of the highest Importance that good Intelligence of Genl [Guy] Carleton's Motions should be had, let me entreat you to spare no Pains to procure the best Accounts of what he is about, of the Disposition of the Canadians and Savages towards Us, what Posts are occupied agt Us, If fortified and how, the Number of Men with which they are garrisoned, whether of Canadians or regular Troops; and from Time to Time transmit me any Intelligence you may procure. Take every opportunity of giving the Canadians & Indians the strongest Assurances of our friendly Sentiments towards them; and if they should unfortunately entertained any that are unfavourable from Mr [Ethan] Allen's Excursion into their Country, try to eradicate them by Assurances that what he did, was without any Orders; and altho I am convinced he meant to serve the Cause of America by what he did, yet it may be well if the Canadians have taken Umbrage at it, to inform them that his Conduct in that Instance was disapproved of.

In military Contests it behoves every Commander to be extremely diligent, careful, & circumspect, to watch every Movement of his Opponents. This I have Confidence you will not by any Means neglect, any more than that of putting yourself in the best Posture of Defence; and as it is necessary to prepare agt possible Accidents, I would have you take Measures to secure a Retreat to the South End of Lake George, or South Bay, if at any Time you should be forced to so disagreeable Step. I am Sir [&c.]

Ph. Schuyler

1. President's Letter Book, III, LC.

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, TO MAJOR  
GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Philadelphia June 28th 1775

By direction of this Congress I transmit you several resolutions which passed Yesterday – the Importance of which you will readily see and the necessity of your immediate Attention to the execution of them – The Alteration of the Sentiments of the Congress since your departure, relative to making an impression into Canada was occasioned by a letter they received from the Committee of Albany, a copy of which you have enclosed –

I have by order of Congress wrote to Governor [Jonathan] Trumbull upon the subject of Money & Ammunition, the Congress have directed you to make

Application to him for which letter is forwarded by Express & you will please to give him as early notice as possible of what supplies of both you may have occasion for.

I have not time to add but to desire you will acknowledge the receipt of the resolutions – I am Sir [&c.]

John Hancock

[P.S.] You will observe as much secrecy as the Nature of the Service will admit

1. Hancock Letter Book, 1775–76, Force Transcript, LC.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Fowey*, CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Cape Henry S E 3 or 4 leags

Wednesday 28. At 6 A M weighed and came to sail in Company with his Majesty's schooner the *Magdalen*, And opened a Barrele of Pork contents 112 pieces Moderate and Clear at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past Noon his Majesty's schooner *Magdalen* went for England at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past came to Anchor in Lynn Haven Bay with the best Bower in 7 fathom and veerd to  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a Cable

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/375.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTYS SCHOONER *Magdalen*, HENRY COLINS,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Cape Henry E S E 2 Leags

Wednesday 28th A M Fresh Breezes at 6 came to Sail in Co the *Fowey* at 8 the Egg Islands So at Noon parted Co with the *Fowey* Light Breezes and fair Weatr set small Sails <sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/3894.

2. The *Magdalen* was carrying Governor Dunmore's wife and children to England.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Otter*, MATTHEW SQUIRE, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Moored in York River [Virginia]

Wednesday 28 at 5 A M they sailed hence <sup>2</sup> Sent the Master, a Midshipman and six Men on board the *Betsey* Sloop.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/663.

2. His Majesty's Ship *Fowey* and Schooner *Magdalen*.

THOMAS JONES TO JOSEPH HEWES, A NORTH CAROLINA DELEGATE IN THE  
CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Govr [Josiah] Martin went in incog a few weeks agoe to Fort Johnston and there he still remains The writ of Election mention the meeting of the Assembly to be on the 12th July no doubt to have laid before them [Frederick Lord] North's olive Branch you know the Spirit of this province so well as to believe it will be treated with every mark of Contempt. I am asham'd of my Countrymen in England to think they suffer such a villain to exist How-

ever I have this consolation that we have many very able & noble Characters in both Houses of parliament who are true friends to the Constitution as also many Excellent writers who are forever busy in exposing the present Tory Ministers and their infamous designs by Millen's Brig in Eight Weeks from London we are informed that Nine Tenths of the people at home are in our favour and nothing but American affairs are talk'd of this vessell left Deal the first day of May and arrived here a few days past The common Cry is they are ruined unless they have the American Trade upon the same footing it was at the Close of the last War we have London papers down to the 27th April but what think you when the agreeable News reaches St James's of the Kings Troops being continually drubb'd, the loss of Crown point, & the union which now universally prevails throughout the confederated Provinces the Quakers taking up arms – and the loss of the *Scarborough* and a sloop of war – depend upon it North and the advisers behind the Curtain must wish London alone will be too hot for them – I hope before the return of Mr Bondfield the Congress will have advises from England relative to the first attack made by the Kings Troops on the Provincials . . . my respectfull Compliments to My very worthy friend Mr [William] Hooper and tell him the Committee of this Town & County sent on his packet sent by Mrs Underhill and directed to his Brother by Express immediately after it came here as also Mr [Richard] Caswell's to whom also please to make my Compliments. I have nothing more to add but that I am with true Esteem [&c.]

[Edenton] 28th June 1775. -

Tho: Jones.

1. Hayes Mss., NCDAH.

## 29 June

### JOSIAH BARTLETT TO THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Kingstown, June 29th, 1775

We are anxious to know the Result of your Deliberations in order to know how to conduct the affairs of the Colony, which at this time are in great confusion, the people not suffering any affairs to proceed in the usual form and to others being adopted. The Ships of War already stop and seize all vessels laden with Provisions, Salt, or Molasses, which very much distress the Eastern Parts. They have destroyed Fort Wm and Mary, and have this week taken the Guns and carried them to Boston, except 8, that were brought from Jerry's Point some time ago. The General Court met the 4th of May – did no business – were adjourned to the 12th Instant when the Governor<sup>2</sup> laid before us Lord North's famous plan of accomodation, on which nothing was or will be acted, without Direction from the American Congress. The Assembly now is adjourned to the 11th of July.

Previous to the adjournment Col. John Fenton (who you may remember was chosen as a member for Plymouth, by the King's writ, without the consent of the Assembly), made his appearance in the House, tho' he had for some-time before kept on Board the Man of War in the Harbour. The House took into consideration his election, and vacated his Seat. The people of the

town, greatly exasperated at his conduct, obliged him to Surrender, tho' he had taken shelter in the Governor's house; and he has since been kept under Guard. The Governor and his Lady went off that evening to Capt. [John] Cochran's, at the fort under the Protection of the Man-of-War . . . We are greatly concerned about ammunition, as we have scarce any except what was taken out of the fort last winter, some of which we were forced to send to our Western frontiers, and some to the Army before Boston. We hope some plan is laid for bringing it in to the Southern Colonies, for New England is so guarded that there is but little hope of getting it in here.

Josiah Bartlett

1. *Historical Magazine*, October 1860, 298.

2. Governor John Wentworth.

JOHN WENTWORTH, GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

(Copy) Fort William and Mary in New Hampshire, June 29th 1775

Sir I have had the Honour to receive your Letter of the 23d instant, and am much obliged to You for your kind Expressions of Concern at my Situation, the People of New Hampshire are unhappily adopting the Measures recommended by the General Congress, and it is to be feared it will be some time before they come to be right again I do not indeed expect it until the Public Tranquility be restored in the Massachusetts Government.

His Majesty's Sloop *Falcon* with the *Resolution* Transport are arrived, which Captain [Andrew] Barkley acquainted me in a Letter of the 27th were ordered here by You, to carry the Guns and Military Stores belonging to this Fort, to Boston, for Security in case the King's Ships should have Occasion to move from this Place, and they have been put Onboard the Transport for that purpose. Captain Barkley in A Letter he wrote to me the 9th instant proposed the Shipping of those Guns and Stores Onboard a Ship then in this Harbour, to which I gave him for Answer, that I did not at that juncture think it advisable to dismantle the Fort entirely, in the manner he proposed.

Many Reasons indeed weighed with me against such a Step. His Majesty's Commission does not impower me to dismantle a Fort without the Advice of the Council, and in the naked State this place is in, without any Protection, it could not be expected the Council would advise to dismantle the Fort, as it must inevitably expose their Lives and Properties to the utmost danger; — It is moreover notorious that the minds of the unhappy deluded Country People, are more unsettled by the Propagation of false Rumors among them, than by any other means, and a movement of this nature cannot fail of being turned to that use by those Leaders who make it their Study and Aim to mislead the Multitude. I therefore applied for your affording me more Aid, and I cannot help expressing my Concern, that the Guns and Stores could not be properly secured in the Fort, so that there might be no Occasion to remove them, as I am persuaded it would be more conducive to His Majesty's Interest that they should be kept in safety here, unless there should be a necessity for them elsewhere.

However, as it is not convenient to station another Ship here, and in such an Exigency, as the Removal of the *Scarborough*, it appears very expedient that those

Guns and Stores should be out of the Way as the Country People would otherwise take Possession of them.

An Inventory has been taken of every Particular and is herewith inclosed (a Duplicate whereof has also been delivered to Captain Barkley)<sup>2</sup> which I must beg leave to rely on being restored to the Fort, unless his Majesty shall be pleased to Command any other disposition of them.

Sign'd J. Wentworth.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

2. For the inventory, see June 28, 1775.

#### GOVERNOR JOHN WENTWORTH TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Fort William and Mary, June 29, 1775

Admiral [Samuel] Graves has sent a transport under convoy of the *Falcon* sloop of war, and entirely dismantled this ungarrisoned Castle of all the ordinance, stores, &c.

Besides the inconvenience of being crowded into this miserable house, confined for room and neither wind or water tight, I am inevitably obliged to incur some extra expence for my safety and existence even here. Being of necessity compelled to make some small repairs to render it habitable, and to employ six men as watches to prevent my being surprised and made prisoner. These, with my three servants and Mr. Benning Wentworth, and Captain [John] Cochran are divided into three guards of four hours each; by which means I have some security of getting on board the *Scarborough*. The six men are at the expence of Twelve dollars per month each, including their dieting, allowance of Rum, &c.; under which expence no trusty man can possibly be had for so unpopular a service in this time of general opposition to Government. The repairs will not exceed fifty guineas.

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, VII, 381, 382.

#### NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

[Preston, Boston] 29 [June 1775]

By the *Charlotte* advice boat the Admiral sent the following Letter to Captain [Francis] Parry of his Majesty's Sloop *Cruizer* at North Carolina, and wrote nearly to the same purport to the Captains of the *Nautilus* in the Delaware, *Tamer* at So Carolina, *Magdalen* Schooner and *Mercury* at Virginia, and the *St John* at the Bahamas.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 127, 128, MassHS Transcript.

#### VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN FRANCIS PARRY, H.M.S. *Cruizer* IN NORTH CAROLINA WATERS<sup>1</sup>

Sir,

Preston Boston 29 June 1775

Herewith you will receive two Acts of Parliament restraining American commerce, with the Kings Order in Council prohibiting the importation of Arms and Ammunition into America; Copies of a Proclamation by the Governor of this Province publishing and ordering the use of the Law Martial, with some Ac-

counts of an Action between the Kings Forces and the Rebels on the 17th instant. It is I believe unnecessary after this to mention that the whole Country is in Rebellion, and that those of this Province are using their utmost endeavours to destroy or remove the Kings forces in Boston. I send Mr Logie to bring me all the Intelligence you can procure of the proceedings in the Colony of North Carolina, and also every information of your own Situation, the Condition of his Majesty's Sloop under your Command with respect to Men, Stores and provisions and any other particulars necessary for my knowledge. I desire you will give him all possible Dispatch in order that he may return to me again with the utmost Expedition. I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 128, MassHS Transcript.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN EDWARD MEDOWS, R.N.<sup>1</sup>

Sir,

Preston Boston 29 June 1775

I have before me your Letter of the 19th instant. It is really out of my Power to enlarge the *Tartars* Complement, and equally so at present to send you another Ship, tho' I am well aware of the necessity of carefully providing for the Security of Halifax Yard. From the active State of Rebellion in which [this] and the neighboring Provinces are, I have so many urgent Occasions for Ships and Sloops that if the present number on the Station was doubled, here is full employment for the whole. My entrusting a place of such great importance to your care at this Juncture is certainly the best proof I can give of my reliance on your Vigilance and Zeal for his Majesty's Service, and I have not the least doubt but from your Example your Officers and Men will acquit themselves like brave and good Subjects upon the most trying occasions; therefore, till a greater force is sent out, you must do the best you can for the preservation and Defence of the Yard – It has given me Satisfaction to find by the Commanders of the Schooners how much Assistance you have given them. I am &c

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 130, 131, MassHS Transcript.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE, H.M.S. *Rose*,  
RHODE ISLAND<sup>1</sup>

Sir

Preston Boston June 29. 1775.

I have received your Letters June 5 and 19, the former giving an Account of an Insurrection at Rhode Island, happily quelled by your spirited and determined Behaviour, the latter inclosing Copies of a Letter to you from Nicholas Cooke Esqr of your Answer, and of the Particulars of an Action between the *Diana* Packet (Tender to the *Rose*) and two armed Sloops belonging to the Rebels. The Accounts of the Insurrection and Battle are of so much importance that I have transmitted copies of the whole to the Admiralty by the *Cer-*



*berus*, who sailed the 27th early in the Morning. The Vessels with Rum Sugar and Provisions are arrived,<sup>2</sup> and your People are returned in the *Charlotte* Sloop.

I am &c

Sam<sup>1</sup> Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 448, MassHS Transcript.
2. The prizes sent to Boston were the sloop *Phoenix*, William Dennis, from Philadelphia for Rhode Island, with flour, and the sloop *Victory*, with forty-seven hogsheads of rum, seized in Narragansett Bay. *Ibid.*, Prize List, II, 376, MassHS Transcript.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO RICHARD WILLIAMS, NAVAL OFFICER AT  
HALIFAX <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Preston Boston 29 June 1775

I have received your Letter June 19, and am very glad to find from the Accounts of the Officers of the Yard that the Schooners are in such Readiness as they are very much wanted. I have already spoken fully on the Subject of the Dispute between you and Capt. Medows, which being entirely at an end, I hope to hear of no more Differences, for I am perfectly satisfied that in your respective Departments his Majestys Service cannot be better carried on.

Money with great difficulty is now procured at 15½ p Cent discount. I will at once charge what Stores I order to be purchased for Halifax Yard to my contingent Account, to save further Trouble and the Expence of Freightage.

I enclose you a Copy of a Resolution of the Continental Congress, I have sent it likewise to the Admiralty, and acquainted them with the Loss Government hath, and will sustain by Exchange, and that it will be absolutely necessary to send out Money for the Service of the Squadron. You will do right I think to state this Matter to the Navy Board.<sup>2</sup>

As the Rebels throughout the whole Continent will distress Government by all means in their Power, I have secured all the Naval Stores I could get for the Yard and Squadron; As you have a pretty good Stock of Tar, I will stop purchasing any more, but Mr. [G.] Gefferina<sup>3</sup> shall get what Pitch and Turpentine he can.

He will send you by my Order a Quantity of Tar, Pitch, Brimstone, Turpentine and Oars. The Tar I thought it best to buy as there is no likelihood of getting any more without great Difficulty and much Expence. I am &c.

Sam<sup>1</sup> Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 448-450, MassHS Transcript.
2. Resolution of June 2, 1775, refusing to accept draughts or supply provisions to King's officers.
3. Secretary to Vice Admiral Graves.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen,

New York, June 29h 1775

I did myself the Honor to write you yesterday since which I have received some Intelligence, which I think it my Duty to lay before you.

A Gentleman, a Member of the Provincial Congress here is this Afternoon arrived from Albany. He advises that a few of the Onida Indians are lately arrived at that Place in a Disposition very friendly to our Cause – that they have declared a Desire that the Indians should be called together at Albany, or in the Neighbourhood – that great Attention was paid them by the Albany Committee. – As so good an Opportunity to conciliate their Affections will I trust be readily embraced by your Honours, I have ventured to advise the Albany Committee to dismiss them with Presents, and Assurances that they will be speedily requested to meet persons appointed for the Purpose of holding a Conference with them, either at Albany, or any other convenient Place.

The Troops on Board the Transports at Sandy Hook from the best Intelligence I am able to procure, are destined for Boston. They have been detained to take in Water, and I am well assured that they are to sail tomorrow.

Permit me, Honoured Sirs, to request that I may be favoured with a Copy of the Arrangement of the General & Staff Officers in your Army – of the Pay allowed them, and every other officer & Soldier, and receive your Orders what Allowance of Provisions each Man is to have per Day, that all Troops under my Command may be equally provided for, to prevent Uneasiness.

Inclose a Copy of my Letter to Col. [Benjamin] Hinman commanding at Ticonderoga.

I am honoured Sirs respectfully &c

Ph. Schuyler

[Endorsed] Read [in Congress] July 1<sup>st</sup> 1775

1. Papers CC, 153: I/5, NA.

#### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

[New York] Die Jovis, 5 ho., June 29<sup>th</sup>, 1775.

A memorandum from Abraham Lott, Esquire, of the articles by him supplied to His Majesty's ship, between the twenty-third day of April and the sixteenth day of May last, was read and filed.

Mr. Lott also sent in a memorandum or list of provisions now wanted for His Majesty's Ship the *King's Fisher*, to wit: 2000 lb. of bread, two barrels of beef, two barrels of pork, one barrel of flour, and four barrels of butter.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lott be at liberty to supply the above quantities of provisions to the said ship *King's Fisher*.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 61.

Rivington's *New-York Gazetteer*, THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 1775

New-York, June 29.

Since our last, eight transports with troops, of the second embarkation from Cork, have arrived at Sandy-Hook, and agreeably to orders there received, will sail this day for Boston, under convoy of his Majesty's ship *Mercury*, Captain [John] M'Cartney.

The ship *Julianna* Capt. Montgomery, arrived at Sandy-Hook last Saturday night [June 24], from London in which vessel his excellency our Governor [William Tryon] came passenger. He landed at 8 o'clock on Sunday evening, and

was conducted to the house of the Hon. Hugh Wallace, Esq; by an immense number of the principal People of this city.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE CITY AND LIBERTIES OF  
PHILADELPHIA <sup>1</sup>

In Committee June 29 1775

Ordered, That notice be given in the public papers to all masters of vessels which may arrive in this port, that the Committee of Inspection will meet every day at 12 o'clock, at the Coffee-house, to receive a report of their respective cargoes. And it is expected that no Captain will fail to attend the Committee the first noon after his arrival: And, that owners of vessels and consignees will direct their Captains accordingly.

Ordered, That the following report of the District Committee, No. 2; concerning the ship *Christopher*, Capt. [E.] Edwards, from Gibraltar, be made public, viz.

"We the District Committee, No. 2, appointed to attend the discharging a cargo of salt, from on board the ship *Christopher*, do report to the General Committee, that we have attended said duty with care; and that we are fully satisfied that no British goods were imported in said ship, nor the Association of the Congress in any wise violated." <sup>2</sup>

Extract from the Minutes.

J. B. Smith, Secretary

1. *Pennsylvania Packet*, Monday, July 3, 1775.

2. The ship *Christopher*, E. Edwards, master, was reported inward at the Philadelphia Custom House, June 19, 1775, *ibid.*, June 19, 1775.

CHARLES CARROLL OF CARROLLTON TO CHARLES CARROLL, JR. <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

June 29th 1775

I wish [Charles] Lee had not been appointed a Generall, I do not like this Contradicting odd Temper It is Certainly our Interest to protract the War, never to Engage but with manifest advantage & I therefore wish with Ph Johnson that the New England Army at a greater distance from Boston. The Powder from Cape Francois out of the Kings Magazines is a pleasing Article, I wish it was Publick in London. Why did [John] Hall Quit the Congress? Da: Carroll Writes me that the News in the printed Paper I sent You is false, that a Gentn who came to Baltimore last Monday [June 26] from Philadelphia says so. I send you Glosers Phamphlet & Dunlaps Maryland Gazette that you may read Dor Free's Letter . . . What Powder Have you in the Store? without Powder cannot goe on with the Race. . . .

1. Carroll Papers, MdHS.

GEORGE WOOLSEY TO GEORGE DARLEY, DUBLIN <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Baltimore] 29th June 1775

By Capt Camble Via Cork

I wrote you the 24th Inst by Liverpool since then am not favoured with any of yours. [Alexander] Kenedy Got out of the Capes the 2nd of this month

so I hope Ere this he has almost Made his passage. you will plase take notice that we have drawn on you for 100 £ Sterl favr of Robt Lisle Esqr and on perusall of the Inclosed acct Courent you will find you are in our Debt 312.2.3. Cury of Course you must think we ware under the necessity of Drawing. You have lists of all outstanding Debts due to you in the Countrey, Amtg to 414.1.8. and I do not think there is one bad one, but Carneys 10£ in which I think you are fortunate – You have also Inclosed bill of Loading for 30 barrells flour belonging to a Young Man that was going in the Schooner, but on the bad behaviour of the Capt he Quit her,<sup>2</sup> & Consignd the flour to you and its probabell the Young Man will be as soon with you as this letter as he is going in the Same Ship, I was Obliged to Advance him 40/ Sterg & take his order on you and now Inclose it to you and have Charged you with it – You must know that the Villin I got for Master of the Schooner put into Amboy, about the last of May, and remaind there to the 10th Inst I now Inclose you his protest which is by no Manes Sufficent and you Must get him to mend it before you turn him out (as you must put him out) you will find that he has only Mentiond his parting his Cable, which is Wrong as he Cut it, and the Vessell was Aground which he has taken no Notice off. Now to Recover the Value of thé Anchor & Cable, he Should have Mentiond the Circumstanced of the Vessell being a Ground, and that he lost the Cable for the preservation of her & Cargo, and you Must Endeavour to get him to Mend it with you. You have Inclosed Stephen Skinners Acct Against the Vessell at Amboy. by which you will find the Carpenters bill to be only 32/ out of the Very Extravagant Expence Green has run the Vessell to there, on which Acct he Could not have been in Much Distress Else his Carpenters bill must have been learger. you have on the back of the Acct my notes, which I beg you May Strictly follow Against him, from the Carpanters Charge you will not only Se[e] the Absurdity of his putting in but the Still Greater Absurdity of his Staying there so long, and Runing the Vessell to Such Expences, however you will Easy Acct for that, when you know that he left his Vessell & went to Philada (70 Miles) for his Wife & Carried her down to Amboy with him, and tho he was well recommended to me – yet his Behaviour has been so bad since he left this, that I must Insist on your putting him out on your Side. Even if the Vessell Looses Something by it, as the first Loss will all ways be the least I have Desired Mr Skinner to Send you all the perticuler Accts that you may be able to Recover if you are Insured. I am fearfull I shall be obliged to Draw on you for 50 £ to pay her out fit but you may be assured I would not do it if I could Avoid it I refer you to G S for further perticulers . . . Green has not mentiond in his protest how he Came by the loss of Sails so as to run to that Extravagant Expence to the Sail Maker, nor any thing About Carrying a way Capt Mulfords Boom – and if a Man will neglect what is his duty he must pay all the Loss . . .

1. Woolsey and Salmon Letter Book, LC.

2. The schooner *Industry*, James Green, master.

WOOLSEY AND SALMON TO WILLIAM WILLCOCKS & Co., CORK <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Baltimore] 29 June [1775]

we send you by this opportunity Sundrey Newspapers, which will give you a More Extensive Vew of Affairs than we could write we wish Matters had not gone Such Lengthes as we fear the breach will be long off Haleing. however We believe Government still thought the people here would not fight, but be Assured they are much Mistaken, and if government will Continue to Send out troops, we think there will be a Very Bloody war on this Continent, but we Sincerely wish for pace and we think its the wish of all reasonable people if to be got on Good terms, at the same time allmost Every person will Sacrafize all or have it on Good terms – Vessells have been very Scarce this Spring Indeed not to be got we have now three orders for Ireland not Executed on that Acct – our present Crop of Wheat all ready for Cutting Some have begun, and if the weather proves favourable, Every person thinks we will have  $\frac{1}{4}$  more to Export than we Ever had, & the Grain promises to be very fine however you Shall hear from us after it is Safe –

at present thers not the least prospect of Getting any of it Shipped, as England has Stopped our Shipping after the 21st July to Any place but England &c and our Congress has Stopped our Shipping to these Very places after the 10th Sepr boath which Resolvs will be Strictly Adhered to of Course all Exports will be Stopped . . .

1. Woolsey and Salmon Letter Book, LC.

GEORGE WOOLSEY TO GEORGE SALMON, DUBLIN <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Baltimore 29th June 1775]

I note the last of your letter as to Polliticks I never like it for fear of my letters Miscarrying. however in hopes that this will go Safe, I will give you some Account now; & perhaps you have heard the most of it Ere this Reaches you. the first Battle at Lexington, in which the Engs troops Made a precipate retrate & Lost 150 Men killed & Wounded. the Contry people lost 40. odd Killed. the Second battle on Hog Isleand Just by Boston, the Country People drove off a Learge Quantity of Stock burned a tender & killed upwards of 100 Soldiers & Sailors however the Governer says there was but 21 killed. the Country had none Killed & but three Wounded. thre is a Report of a third Engagement Agreeable to the paper I now Inclose you, but its believed that thers no foundation for it, from Many Circumstances.

The Congress has Set long time Very privet and its not known when the[y] will brake up. the[y] have Agreed to pay an Army of 15 thousand Men, and have for that purpose orderd two Million of Dollars, to be Made, and the Different provinces are to Sink their proportions. the[y] have also ordered a Regement of Men to be raised in this Province, Virgina & Pensylvania to Carry Riffles &



*Governor Robert Eden. By Florence MacKubin, c. 1910, after the lost original.*

to Contain 800. these Men you may be Assured are to pick the Officers of the Regulars off, and in my opinion the Officers have Much to fear from them, as the[y] Can hit a Man with Certanty from 150 to 200 Yards. Besides the[y] Generally fight from Cover, and the[y] often times Cover them Selvs from sight with the the Most trifling Article the[y] meet with. the Congress has also Appointed Coln [George] Washington of Virginia to be Chieff in Command of all the Country troops on the Continent he is a Cool Sensible Man, and Great Matters is promised from his Experience & Beahaviour, the last Gaining him the Love & Esteem of Every person that knows him, and his Experience Made him be Chose for this Great Undertaking, in Short the Matters's become so Generall that all the provinces are Joined, and so Serious that thers no telling where it will End. and Lord Chatham has proved to the World that he knows more than the whole Minystre put together, if there designs are good, but its Generally believed here that the Scotch party wants to Bring about a Revolution in England. Every day Widens the Difference between England & us, as you may be Assured Every Scirmish will Make the Country people Warmer & more Experienced. so you must think it will be the harder to Settle Matters – there is three Camps at or Near Boston of Country Soldiers, and the people have been so Desireous of Serveing there Country that the[y] have about 15000 Men in those Camps, and all under Strict Desiplinge and officers, and no doubt the[y] will be Every day better Soldiers and the[y] Can so Easey Recruit that the[y] will all ways be a Match for the Soldiers and in the End must be Victorious Indeed so much is the Country people back Interested that the[y] are all most Wrangling to try to get Inlisted in the Regement of Riflemen which I think promises badly for the Schemes of Government I did not think I could have Said so much About these Matters – . . . I Expect Every day to here of a blödy Engagement at boston. . . .

1. Woolsey and Salmon Letter Book, LC.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SCHOONER *Saint John*, LIEUTENANT WILLIAM GRANT, COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775 Anchored of[f] Tybees Light house

Thursday 29 Light airs and hazey Wr At 2 PM Tybee Light house N-N W 3 or 4 leagues Saw a sail proved to be a Sloop. Got down the Stud sails and halld up for her – At 4 fired 4 Three pounders and brought her to, boarded and Rummaged her being from New Providence – Rec'd on board a pilot – Bore away for the Barr – At ½ past 5 Anchord off the light house Saw a large Tent on the Beach Near the Light house and a Number of Men on said beach and the like in boats on the Water, and the liberty flag flying on the Top of Tybees light house – Sent a letter in the above Sloop to Sr James Wright – Loaded the Guns with round and Grape shot – Mounted 2 Guns on the stern handy if they should Attempt to board us which they threatned Keep the Schooners Company under Arms all Night . . .

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

## 30 June

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Cambridge] June 30, 1775

Whereas, a considerable number of Whale-Boats have been procured for the service of this Colony, and many of them are said to be now in the Towns of Braintree and Weymouth, and unless proper care be taken of said Boats they will probably sustain great damage; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the honourable Congress that such order be taken respecting said Boats as their wisdom may direct.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1362, from Mass. Arch., vol. 140.

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Friday, June 30, 1775

*Ordered*, That Colonel [Peter] Coffin, Mr. [Isaac] Lothrop, Captain [Joseph] Nye, Captain [Daniel] Bragdon, and Colonel [David] Mitchell, be a Committee to inquire into the state of the two Light-Houses at Cape Ann, and the Light-House at the entrance of Boston Harbour, and also that at Plymouth, and consider whether it is expedient to continue the lights therein.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

[Preston, Boston] June 30th [1775]

The General making application to the Admiral for two Scows, or large open flat bottomed Boats, to be armed and manned and to be stationed at Charles Town Neck as Out Posts to the Army; he ordered the *Somerset* and *Boyne* to send in Turn, a Lieut 2 Midsn and 35 Seamen to the Scows – and 36 Seamen on board the *Symmetry* armed Transport, appointed to assist in guarding the mouth of Charles River.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 133, MassHS Transcript.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO CAPTAIN GEORGE VANDEPUT, R.N. <sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

Boston June 30th 1775.

Sir Reports have reached us that Major [Philip] Skene, had Arrived at Philadelphia from England, tho bound to Quebec, that he had Military Stores on board his Ship, and a large Sum of Money, that the Congress had taken him, Money and Stores &ca. into their possession,<sup>2</sup> should this be true I am to beg the favor of you to inform Lord Dartmouth of it Immediately, and let him know it is by my desire you do it,

I am Sir, &ca.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

2. See Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 82 (June 8, 1775).

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

Boston 30th: June 1775. –

Sir./ A Committee of the Council have Just been with me, to Inform me they are going on the business of the Fishery, And that it may be properly effected,



desire a List of the Persons to whom you have given Passes may be sent them as soon as possible; I am therefore to beg you to send me a List of the Names of such Fisherman, as Now Act under your passes, as soon as it can be made out,

I am, Sir: [&c.]

1. Gage Papers, CL.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Boston 30 June 1775

Inclosed is a List of all the General fishing Passes I have granted. I am Sir [&c.]

Sam<sup>l</sup> Graves.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

DISPOSITION OF THE [BRITISH] FLEET ON THE 30TH OF JUNE 1775.<sup>1</sup>

Names	Guns	Commanders	Complement	Station
		Vice Admiral Graves		
<i>Preston</i>	50	Capt John Robinson	300	} Off the Town In Kingroad In Charles River At Nantasket Gone to Penobscot to dismantle a fort there
<i>Somerset</i>	64	Le Cras	500	
<i>Boyne</i>	70	Hartwell	500	
<i>Glasgow</i>	20	Howe	130	
				} In Boston Harbour
<i>Lively</i>	20	Bishop	130	
<i>Falcon</i>	14	Linzee	100	
<i>Rose</i>	20	Wallace	130	} At Rhode Island.
<i>Swan</i>	16	Ayscough	100	
<i>Asia</i>	64	Vandeput	500	} At New York.
<i>Kingsfisher</i>	16	Jas. Montagu	100	
<i>Mercury</i>	20	Macartney	130	On her passage to Virginia to relieve the <i>Fowey</i>
<i>Nautilus</i>	16	Collins	100	Cruising off the Hook. ordered to river Delaware.
<i>Fowey</i>	20	Geo. Montagu	130	} At Virginia
<i>Otter</i>	16	Squire	100	
<i>Magdalen</i>	6	Lieutt Collins	30	Do ordered into the Delaware
<i>Cruizer</i>	8	Capt. Parry	60	At North Carolina.
<i>Tamer</i>	16	Thornborough	100	At South Carolina.
<i>Savage</i>	8	Bromedge	60	} East Florida & Bahama Islands
<i>St John</i>	6	Lt Grant	30	
<i>Merlin</i>	16	Capt. Burnaby	100	At Marblehead.
<i>Hope</i>	6	Lt Dawson	30	At Salem.
<i>Scarborough</i>	20	Capt. Barkley	130	In Piscataqua River.
<i>Senegal</i>	14	Dudingstone	100	At Falmouth in Casco Bay.
<i>Tartar</i>	28	Medows	160	At Halifax for its protection
<i>Canceaux A.S.</i>	6	Mowat	45	Do to heave down.
<i>St. Laurence Schr</i>	6	John Graves	30	Do fitting out.
<i>Halifax Schr</i>	6	De la Touche	30	Do Do.
<i>Diligent Schr</i>	6	Knight	30	At Windsor in the Bay of Fundy
<i>Gaspee Brig</i>	6	Hunter	30	between Casco & Chaleur Bay

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 132, MassHS Transcript.

CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

Rose, Rhode Island 30th June 1775.

Sir The Pirate Sloops mentioned in my last of the 19th Inst still keeps up about Providence, they propogate Reports, that they have thirty Whale Boats and seven Sloops ready to come upon Us, When a convenient Opportunity offers, however this Town appears to be divided. Many are jealous of the Providence People, and I am promised an Association acknowledging their Allegiance and binding themselves to support the King's Government, whither they are serious, time will discover ('twas first agitated at a Turtle Feast) if it happens it will make Dissensions among them, and very little additional Force would secure this Port to the King; whereas if the Dregs of the Rebel Army come down among Us, it will be much more difficult. Accounts from the Southward says Governor [William] Tryon is arrived at [New] York. The Continental Congress have appointed four Rebel Generals, Colo Washington of Virginia Captain General – General [Artemus] Ward at Boston 2d General. Mad [Charles] Lee 3d and Major [Horatio] Gates 4th – Washington is now at [New] York on his way for Boston. a Party is set off from Connecticut to take Prisoner Sr John Johnson – while I am writing a Copy of the Association is sent, am told 'twill be augmented to more than three hundred all principal Men, the design of it they assure me is to assist His Majs Government without Equivocation. Hope it will be so, those who formerly signed are to be depended upon

Sign'd James Wallace

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.

ACCOUNT OF CANNON IN RHODE ISLAND<sup>1</sup>[June 30, 1775]<sup>2</sup>

Account of the Coloneys Cannon. and what Numb[er]

- |                         |                                 |                         |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 6. Twenty four pounders | Lent the Continental A[rmy]     |                         |
| 6. Eighteen pounders.   | Lent Ditto                      |                         |
| 8. Eighteen pounders.   | mounted at Providence           |                         |
| 2. Nine pounders        | mounted. at Ditto               |                         |
| 6. four pounders.       | on board the Sloop <i>Catey</i> |                         |
| 2. Eighteen pounders.   | mounted at Pawtuxit             |                         |
| 1. four pounders.       | mounted at Ditto                |                         |
| 3. four pounders        |                                 | } as Yet Unappropriated |
| 2 Six pounders          |                                 |                         |
| 2. Eighteen pounders    |                                 |                         |

1. RIHS Mss. Collection.

2. An arbitrary date.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT OF THE  
CONTINENTAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

Sir,

New York June 30th 1775.

I do myself the Honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 28th Inst which I received late last Night – enclosing the Resolutions of Con-

gress of the preceding Day, and a Copy of a Letter from the Committee at Albany bearing Date 20th. June 1775.

In Obedience to the Resolutions of Congress, I shall without Delay repair to Ticonderoga. It will however be necessary previous to my Departure from hence that I should take Order to have the Variety of Articles necessary to carry into Execution the Views of the Congress sent after me with all Expedition. This will probably detain me until Monday.

The Success of the intended Operation will evidently depend so much on Dispatch, that I am sorry I do not think myself at Liberty to move the Troops now here to Albany without the immediate Consent of Congress. At this Place I do not apprehend they can be wanted. At Albany they would greatly facilitate and expedite the Service, as well as save Expençe by their Assistance in the Transportation of Stores and Provisions, and by their Aid in building Boats, Carriages &c And as they must ultimately go on this Service, the Forces at Ticonderoga being vastly inadequate to the Enterprize, I wish for the Sense of the Congress with all possible Dispatch, and therefore I send this by Express.

On a Service of this Kind in which Success will be attended with such a Variety of important and salutary Consequences, I beg Leave to suggest that every Measure ought to be pursued that has a probable Tendency to it, and therefore I hint that on a Service in which we shall in all Probability, be encountered by Indians, a Body of Rifle Men would be of vast Utility. Perhaps I might be favoured with Part, at least, of those now levying in Pennsylvania.

I shall immediately dispatch a trusty Person, Mr Walter Livingston to Govr [Jonathan] Trumbull for the two important Articles of Money & Ammunition, neither of which can at any Rate be procured here. The former is so much wanted here that I am under apprehensions that the Service in general may suffer, unless the Provincial Congress of this Place can have a supply speedily.

The Appointments I recommended in mine of the 28th are now become so pressingly necessary, that I beg Leave again to recommend them to the Attention of Congress.

I am Sir with the greatest Respect, yours &c

Ph. Schuyler

1. Papers CC, 153: I, 5, NA. See Journal of Congress for July 1, 1775, for action upon this letter.

#### MASTER'S LOG OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Mercury*<sup>1</sup>

June 1775

Rem[ark]s &c. on bd His Majts. Ship *Mercury*

Friday 30th A M Arived here two Sail of Transports Do Sailed hence with Eight More Transports Under Conv[o]y of his Majts Sloop *Nautilus* at 9 weighe[d] and Stood in for the watring place at 10 Anchored in 3 fm water and Veard away  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a Cable the Light house NEBN poin[t] Comfort WNW, Sent the Longboat with Empty Casks and Men to fill them PM the Longboat Empd watring Spoke a Snow 9 week from Galsgow has in 47 pass [engers] on bd

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1866.

JOURNAL OF THE PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY<sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia] Friday, June 30, 1775

*Resolved*, That John Dickinson, George Gray, Henry Wyncoop, Anthony Wayne, Benjamin Bartholomew, George Ross, Michael Swoope, John Montgomery, Edward Biddle, William Edmonds, Bernard Daugherty, Samuel Hunter, William Thompson, Thomas Willing, Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Roberdeau, John Cadwalader, Andrew Allen, Owen Biddle, Francis Johnston, Richard Reily, Samuel Morris, Jun., Robert Morris, Thomas Wharton, Jun., and Robert White, Gentlemen, be a Committee of Safety for calling forth such and so many of the Associators into actual service when Necessity requires, as the said Committee shall judge proper, for Paying and Supplying them with Necessaries while in actual Service, for providing for the Defence of this Province against Invasion and Insurrection, and for encouraging and promoting the Manufacture of Saltpetre; which said Committee are hereby authorized and empowered to draw orders on the Treasurer hereinafter appointed for the several Purposes above mentioned.

*Resolved*, That any Seven or more, of the said Committee shall be a Board for transacting the Business aforesaid, or any Part thereof.

1. Hazard *et al.*, *Pennsylvania Archives*, 8th series, vol. VIII, 7247.

PURDIE'S *Virginia Gazette*, FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 1775

Williamsburg, June 30.

Early yesterday morning sailed from York town his Majesty's ship *Fowey*, and the *Magdalen* schooner; which last, we are informed, proceeds to England immediately, with Lady Dunmore, and the rest of the Governour's family, attended by his Lordship's chaplain, the Reverend Mr. Gwatkin. The *Fowey*, we hear, carries Lord Dunmore, and Capt. Edward Foy, to Boston, on a visit to General [Thomas] Gage, &c. &c.<sup>1</sup>

1. Alexander Purdie learned quickly that Dunmore was not going to Boston.

JOSIAH MARTIN, GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO LORD DARTMOUTH<sup>1</sup>

My Lord,

North Carolina Fort Johnston 30th June 1775.

Since I had the honor of representing to your Lordship the State of this Country in my Dispatch No 33 various circumstances have occurred of which I think it my duty to give your Lordship the best account my information enables me to lay before you.

On Tuesday the 23d of May a day when a set of People, calling themselves a Committee met at Newbern a motley mob, without any previous notice of their purpose, appeared coming towards my House. I did not see them until they were near my door, and supposing they were the committee of whose meeting I had heard, I directed my Secretary, if they announced themselves by that name to signify my resolution not to see them, he came to me however with a message from this body, importing that they were the Inhabitants of the Town of New Bern who were come to wait upon me, and requested to be admitted to speak to me, I directed them to be shown into an Apartment below stairs, and immediately went down to them. Mr Abner Nash, an Attorney, and the oracle

of the Committee appointed in that Town, whom I have before had occasion to mention to your Lordship, as a principal promoter of sedition here, came forward out of the crowd, and presenting himself before me said he had been chosen by the Inhabitants of Newbern then present to signify their purpose in waiting upon me, that it was in consequence of a general alarm, the People of the place had taken that morning at my dismounting some pieces of old cannon which lay behind my house, and which had occasionally been made use of on rejoicing days; that this circumstance had caused alarm, because the Governor of Virginia had lately deprived the People of that Colony of their Ammunition, and that the Inhabitants therefore requested, and hoped I would order the Guns to be remounted, and restored to the same order they had been in until that morning. Unprepared as I was My Lord, for such a visit, and filled with indignation at the absurdity and impertinence of the cause of it, assigned by Mr Nash, and satisfied also that it was a mere pretext for insulting me, I replied that the visit of the inhabitants of Newberne, and the motives of it I thought very extraordinary. That the Guns which I had dismounted belonged to the King, and that I was duly answerable to His Majesty for any disposition I made of them, but being at the same time inclined to quiet the minds of the Inhabitants of Newbern and to give them every reasonable satisfaction, I then declared to them that I had dismounted the Guns, and laid them on the ground because the carriages were entirely rotten and unserviceable and incapable of bearing the discharge of them on the King's birthday that was at hand, and for the celebration of which I was making the usual preparation of those Guns. Mr Nash said he was persuaded the Answer I had condescended to give would be very satisfactory to the Inhabitants of New Bern, and bowing retired with his mob. I must confess to your Lordship the reason I assigned for dismounting those guns, was really but one of my motives, and that I had another which I did not think fit to communicate upon that occasion. I had received for some weeks before repeated advices of a design concerting in the Committee of that Town, to seize those guns by force, and my principal object in throwing them off the carriages at the time I did it (although it was really necessary and intended for the other avowed purpose) was to make the removal of them more difficult in case of such an attempt, and to procure thereby more time to defend them, or at least to parley about them. A day or two after this studied insult a certain old soldier arrived at New Bern from New York, who having been instructed with the Execution of a Commission of importance in this Country, came to me and told me, after communicating his own business, and being assured of my best assistance, that he had learnt on Board the *Kings Fisher* Sloop of War at New York, that she had Arms and Ammunition on Board, intended to be sent to me by the first opportunity that offered, in consequence of an application I had made for such aids to General Gage, and that Lieutenant Governor [Cadwallader] Colden at New York who had received Dispatches from the General to me, which were supposed to refer to those Stores, and committed them to the Post, was under the greatest anxiety for their safety, having discovered that the Committees had proceeded in some places to the extravagance

of violating Letters sent by that channel. Upon interrogating his intelligence about the manner in which it was designed to convey the Arms and Ammunition to me, which he mentioned, I found him altogether uncertain, whether they were to be sent by a Man of War, or a Merchant's Vessel, and that he encouraged apprehensions of the latter by observing it might happen from the mistaken opinion the People held in the Northern Provinces of the universal Loyalty and good disposition of the Inhabitants of this Colony. Thus My Lord I had to expect on the one hand, that my correspondence with General Gage, would be at once betrayed, and to fear at the same time that the expected Stores might come in a Merchant's Vessel to New Bern, where I had not a man to protect them, and that they must of consequence fall into the hands of the mob, which was continually watching every movement about my house, and by which possible accident all my good purposes would be defeated. On the other hand I was to apprehend either of those cases, would furnish reason for insult to me, and my family at least, and might probably become a pretext for seizing my person and detaining me, according to the design avowed in all the Colonies, continually of making themselves eventually Masters of the King's Servants, among them, and the more probable too, as a most infamous report had lately been propagated among the People, that I had formed a design of Arming the Negroes, and proclaiming freedom to all such as should resort to the King's Standard. It was therefore immediately necessary to take some measures to prevent if possible the Military Stores falling into the hands of the Mob, and to obviate any ill consequences that might arise from the promulgation of my correspondence with General Gage. Accordingly I determined after revolving the matter a moment in my mind, to relieve myself from all embarrassments that the sufferings of my family might expose me to, by sending them instantly to New York, which would at the same time furnish me with a certain unsuspected opportunity of writing to prevent any hazard of the Arms and Ammunition if they were not already sent away; place Mrs Martin and my children in safety, and leave me at liberty to pursue such measures as occasion might call for. This purpose I executed immediately, writing to General Gage of my situation, and I set out almost at the same time for this place, where one of His Majesty's Sloops of War is stationed, intending as well as the security of my person in all events that I could not yet expose with any possible advantage to His Majesty's Service, as to employ the most effectual means with the assistance of Capt. [Francis] Parry Commander of the *Cruizer* Sloop of War, to secure the Arms and Ammunition if they should be sent away before my advices, dispatched with my family, should reach New York, and lest my further precaution of posting my Secretary at Acracock Inlet, the first entrance to the Port of New Bern, to bring any Vessel that should arrive there with those stores round to the Man of War in this river should prove ineffectual. Accordingly on my arrival here on the 2d instant, I communicated to Capt. Parry the circumstances I have here related to your Lordship, suggesting my wishes at the same time, that he could spare from his Ship a sufficient force to waylay at Ocracock the Vessel I had reason to expect with

Military Stores, in order to compel her in case of necessity to bring them round here to be lodged in safety on board His Majesty's Ship under his Command. Captain Parry to whom my Lord, I owe it in justice to say that he embraces with the utmost alacrity every occasion to promote the King's Service, instantly seeing the importance of the object of my concern, assured me of his most willing and effectual assistance and accordingly without any loss of time, detached an officer and a party of men well armed in a little schooner to secure that point.<sup>2</sup> Since my first intelligence I have heard nothing to be depended on relative to the Arms and Ammunition, but I am in hopes, from comparison of dates, that the letters from General Gage, which caused Mr Colden and myself so much anxiety, were what I have since received a few, that contained nothing more than an Account of the Affair of the 20th of April between a Detachment of the King's Troops and the People of the neighborhood of Boston which reached me in little less time than two months after the event, and too late to operate against the infamous and false reports of that transaction which were circulated to this Distance from Boston in the space of 12 or 13 days, and had already like all first impressions taken deep root in the minds of the vulgar here universally and wrought a great change in the face of things, confirming the seditious in their evil purposes, and bringing over vast numbers of the fickle, wavering and unsteady multitude to their party. This was an effect to be apprehended, and it will be the same unquestionably in all future occurrences, unless a regular communication is established, by which the Accounts transmitted by the King's General and Admiral of their operations may anticipate the gross and abominable forgeries of the New England People, and I have accordingly represented the expediency of it to General Gage.

. . . I hold my former opinion, that if my hands were strengthened with the aids I have required of General Gage, I could not only maintain the sovereignty of this Province to His Majesty, with the power I could collect immediately among the Emigrants from the Highlands of Scotland, who were settled here, and immoveably attached to His Majesty and His Government, that I am assured by the best authority I may compute at 3000 effective men, but should be able to draw together under that protection, out of the interior Counties of this Province, where the People are in General well affected, much attached to me, at least two thirds of the fighting men in the whole Country; which may be computed according to my best information to exceed Thirty Thousand and with which I could effectually restore order here and in South Carolina, and hold Virginia in such awe as to prevent that Province sending any succour to the Northward, added to which such a head made here against rebellion, would draw over to it such multitudes of well affected Subjects of His Majesty from other Colonies who only want countenance to induce them to take an open part in favour of Government as would put it in my power to reduce to order and obedience every Colony to the Southward of Pennsylvania . . .

As I fear the busy scene in which General Gage is at this time employed, may not afford him leisure to attend minutely to objects at this distance, I should

ardently wish, that the importance of my proposition above mentioned, may be taken into consideration by your Lordship, and submitted to the King, and in the case of its meeting with His Majesty's Royal Approbation, that the supplies of arms and ammunition I have requested of General Gage should be sent in a fourfold proportion to me from England immediately. Ten Thousand Stand of Arms at least with proper Accoutrements may be disposed in hands that would make a good use of them, and I should wish them to be accompanied with six light brass field pieces, Six Pounders with all their attail, and good store of Ammunition, some pairs of Colours, Drums, &c. and such a supply of money as might be necessary for the support of such a force.

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 41-46.

2. On Thursday, June 9, Captain Parry entered in his journal, "sent the Lieutt. & 7 men on bd a Schooner calld the *Royl hunter*," PRO, Admiralty 51/218.

LORD WILLIAM CAMPBELL, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO VICE ADMIRAL  
SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

Charles Town June 30th 1775

Sir I have the Honour to acquaint You that I arrived here the 17th Instant, in His Majesty's Ship *Scorpion*, and according to the Orders I received from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, I have directed Mr [John] Tollemache to proceed to Boston and join You.

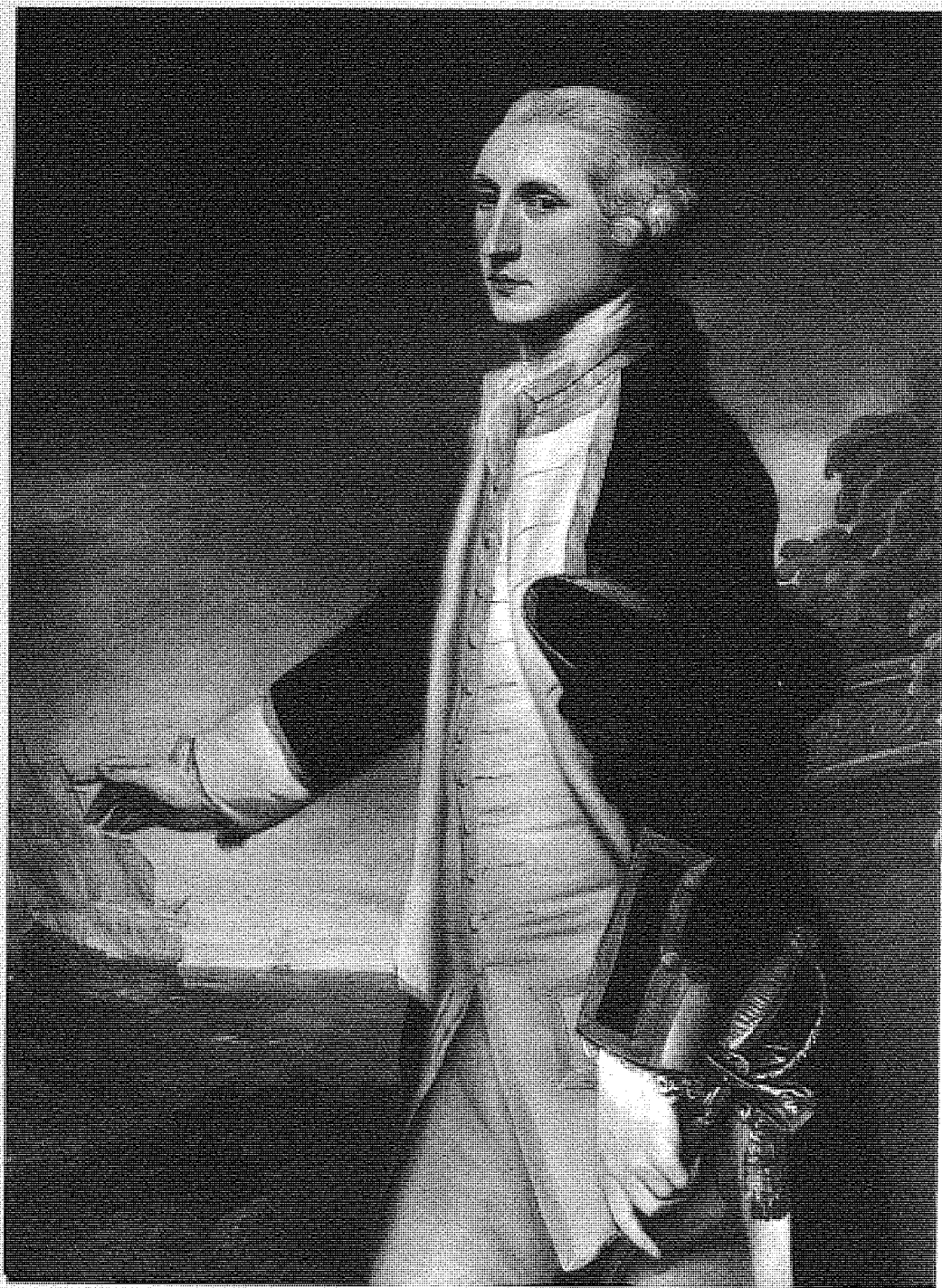
I have wrote to General [Thomas] Gage of what great utility it would be to His Majesty's Service if a regular and frequent Correspondence was kept up between Boston and the Southern Governments of this Continent, and how much We stood in need of a couple of Frigates, and some small Vessels on this Station; it would be a great check to Smuggling which is now carried on in the most barefaced manner, both with the Dutch and French, and would give some little countenance to the Friends of Government in this Province who cannot help looking upon themselves as totally deserted. I also informed General Gage that if the Fate of this part of His Majs Dominions depended upon my procuring an Advice Boat in this Harbour, that I firmly believed I could not effect it, to so low a pass is the Authority of Government reduced in this Province Sir James Wright and Governor [Josiah] Martin will I hope join their instances to mine on this occasion, as I believe our Situation is exactly similar, and if a small Armed Vessel could be spared to be entirely under the direction of this Government to keep open the communication with Georgia and N. Carolina, it could not fail of being attended with the best consequences. I am well convinced, Sir, your known Zeal for his Majesty's Service will induce You to give us every Assistance in your power in the present critical Situation of Affairs.

Sign'd William Campbell

N.B. Governor Martin having strongly requested that the *Scorpion* might call at Cape Fear in her Passage to Boston, I have desired Mr Tollemache to stop there (but for as short a time as possible) and receive Governor Martin's Dispatches.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/485, LC Transcript.





*Governor Lord William Campbell. By Francis Cotes, date unknown.*

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SCHOONER *Saint John*, LIEUT. WILLIAM GRANT,  
COMMANDING <sup>1</sup>

June 1775                      Anchord off Tybee Light house  
Friday 30    sent the Master and boat to see if a conveyance could be had to forward  
a Letter to Sr Js Wright Recd at St Augustine    Several boats passing  
and re-passing  
at 2 PM the master and the boat return'd unmolested    Fired away  
to bring to 8 three pounders loaded with grape and Round Shot at a  
Carolina pilot boat Whom would not bring to – Fired a way to bring  
to a Schooner from Carolina – Boarded and Rummaged her She  
only with passengers for Georgia Boarded and Rummaged a  
Schooner from St Vincent    Sent the Cutter with an Officer to  
Town with a letter to the Governor –

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

GEORGE BASCOME TO GEORGE CLINTON, DELEGATE TO THE CONTINENTAL  
CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Notwithstanding several Years have elapsed since I have been favored with a Line from you, yet learning that you are at Philadelphia in the distinguished Character of a member of the Continental Congress, on whose Wisdom all America relies for Redress of the manifold Grievances it labors under; and for Deliverance from the multiplied oppressions cruelly heaped on it by the Folly and Bigotry of a corrupt ministry; I cannot help doing myself the Honor of renewing an acquaintance, which, during my Stay at New York, was peculiarly dear to me; and the Remembrance of which is too deeply impressed on my mind to be effaced by the ocean that rolls between us or by any Length of Time. Future ages will view with admiration & applause the unparalleled Wisdom and virtue of the noble Americans while they peruse the faithful Page of the present Aera.

Many Circumstances concur in rendering us, in Bermuda, passive Spectators on this critical occasion. Our Lands afford us Provisions scarcely sufficient for two months' subsistence in a year and our Island is so difficult of access, but in a few places that it would be in the power of a few Cruizers to starve us were they disposed to do it tho' the Ports of the Continent were open and free. Our Consequence, beside in the American system of Politics is too inconsiderable to promise any accession of weight to your measures were we publicly to interfere. We really wish well to your Cause; and this is all Prudence will permit us to say.

We are greatly alarmed, and not without sufficient Reason, at the dismal Prospect which daily opens to our view. Famine stares us in the Face; and our Condition must be truly miserable if the Ports on the Continent are shut

and no Permission given us to import Provisions for our Consumption. To obtain this our Inhabitants have chosen Deputies to apply to the Congress in their Behalf, and our address goes by this vessel under Cover to Benjamin Franklin and John Dickinson, Esquires. Our Eyes are fixed on you for Relief, and on your Deliberations will depend the Fate of near fourteen thousand Souls. That Humanity and universal Philanthropy which breathe through the whole of your Proceedings induces us to hope that our application will meet a favorable Reception. I must entreat the favor of you to patronize it. You will by this means confer an eternal obligation on our little Island and immortalize your own memory.

Bermuda, June 30th, 1775

1. Hastings, ed., *Clinton Papers*, I, 207, 208.

## 1 July

### COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

In Congress Watertown July 1st 1775

The Committee appointed to take the Remonstrance from the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of Sandwich <sup>2</sup> into consideration have considered the same and report as follows viz

That the people of the Town of Dartmouth mentioned in the remonstrance who withheld said Vessels from the said [Johnston] Wing & [Jesse] Barlow be notified to appear the 2d Tuesday of the next meeting of the house of representatives in Watertown to give their reasons why they withhold the same and that Wing & Barlow be notified to attend at the same time & place which is humbly submitted

Ezra Richmond pr order

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 180, 29.

2. See Nathaniel Freeman's letter of May 27, 1775.

### JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Saturday, July 1, 1775

*Ordered*, That Mr. [Isaac] Lothrop, Mr. Dickenson and Mr. [Stephen] Nye be a Committee to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, respecting Whale-boats.

The Committee appointed to consider the Resolve of the Committee of Safety relative to Whale-boats, reported. The Report was recommitted.

Afternoon

The Committee appointed to consider of means for securing sundry Whale-Boats procured for the use of this Colony, and now lying at Weymouth and