

Naval Documents of The American Revolution

Volume 1

**AMERICAN THEATRE: Dec. 1, 1774–Sept. 2, 1775
EUROPEAN THEATRE: Dec. 6, 1774–Aug. 9, 1775**

Part 6 of 8

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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 ¹

In Congress Watertown July 1st 1775

The Committee appointed to take the Remonstrance from the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of Sandwich ² 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 ¹

[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

Braintree, beg leave to report, that Captain Edmund Soper, of Braintree, be empowered to take charge of the same, and with the assistance of Captain Seth Turner's and Captain [John] Vinton's Companies (now posted in Braintree) convey and secure them in some safe and convenient place, where they will not be exposed either to the enemy or the weather; and there to remain until the further order of this or some future Congress, or House of Representatives.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1468-1474, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

[Boston] July 1 [1775]

The *Falcon* and *Resolution* Transport arrived with the Guns and Artillery Stores from Fort William and Mary at Piscataqua River. The *Hope* Schooner brought in several vessels laden with Fuel.² The *Senegal* returned from Falmouth with Captain [Thomas] Coulsons Ship lately launched and rigged there, and Captain [William] Duddingston brought an Account that the *Margueritta* armed Schooner, sent Convoy to Mr Ichabod Jones's Vessels to Mechias, was taken by several armed Vessels in that River, after an obstinate Engagement in which Mr [James] Moore her Commander was killed with some of the Crew, and many wounded & all the Survivors, together with Mr Jones and his People carried Prisoners up the Country.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 133, MassHS Transcript.
2. The *Hope's* prizes were the sloop *Sally*, James Jordan, master, from Georgia; and the schooner *Judith*, Isaac Elwin, master, from Sheepscoot. Both carried cargoes of wood. The *Judith* had been cut out of Gloucester harbor. Graves's Conduct, Prize List, 376, MassHS Transcript.

JOURNAL OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF CONNECTICUT ¹

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut in New England in America holden at Hartford by Special order of the Governor of said Colony on Saturday the First Day of July, Annoque Domini 1775

Resolved by this Assembly, That two vessels of a suitable burthen be immediately fitted out and armed with a proper number of cannon, swivel-guns and small arms, and furnished with necessary warlike stores, and well officered and mann'd for the defence of the sea-coasts in this Colony, under the care and direction of his Honor the Governor and Committee of Council appointed to assist him in the recess of the General Assembly, who are hereby authorized and directed to procure, furnish and employ the same accordingly.

1. J. H. Trumbull and C. J. Hoadley, eds., *Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut 1636-1776* (Hartford, 1850-90), XV, 99, 100. Hereafter cited as Trumbull and Hoadley, eds., *Connecticut Records*.

PAY ROLL OF THE CONTINENTAL SLOOP *Enterprise*¹

Pay Roll of the Sloop *Enterprise*, &c. from the 3d day of May to the 1st day of July, 1775

John Prout Sloan,	Captain	Amos Gelucia,	Marine	no 5/7
Timothy Alcost,	Mate	Abner Rowe,	do.	5/8
Abner Bradley,	Sailor	Thomas Fitch, ✓	do.	5/8
Simeon Hayward,	do.	William Draper, ✓	do.	5/8
Matthew McClure,	do.	James Brakenage, ✓	do.	5/8
David Sturgis,	do.	Abijah Beardsley, ✓	do.	5/7
P. Allen,	do.	Uriah Cross, ✓	do.	8/2
William Kincade,	Cook and Sailor	Samuel Allen, ^{Martin}	do.	5/8
Sandy Trube,	Sailor	Ephraim Masters,	do.	no 5/8
Thomas Jenks,	do.	Ichabod Parker,	do.	5/3
Aaron Kinsbury,	do.	Jonas Gelucia,	do.	no Galusha 5/8
Samuel Whitmore,	do.	Ichabod Hawley,	do.	5/3
Elisha Sherman,	do.	John Hart,	do.	5/8
James Watson,	Lieutenant	David Crawfoot,	do.	no
Ephraim Botts,	Sergeant 5/7	John Lochrain,	do.	5/8
Josiah Sanborn,	do. 5/3			

Whole Amount £135 6 2½

Billeting money for one hundred and thirty-three days,
six pence per day 3 6 6

Twenty-seven Blankets, twelve Shillings apiece 16 4 0

£154 16 8½

Received of Colonel [Benedict] Arnold, by the Company 55 3 5¼

Balance due £ 99 13 3¾

1. Mass. Arch., Journal of the House of Representatives, Wednesday, August 23, 1775, extract: "The Committee on Colonel Arnold's Account reported a Resolve for the payment of Captain John Sloan's Pay Roll, amounting to ninety-nine Pounds, thirteen Shillings, and three Pence farthing. Read and accepted." As the *Enterprise* was not taken at St. John's until May 17, 1775, the payroll must have embraced land service under Captain Sloan from May 3, 1775, until the capture of the sloop.

^{May 18}
JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Philadelphia] Saturday, July 1, 1775

During the debate [on Indian affairs] letters were recd by express from Genl [Philip] Schuyler, which requiring an immediate answer, the same were taken into consideration.

Resolved, That Genl Schuyler be directed not to remove Genl [David] Wooster or the troops under his command from N. York, but that he raise as many of the Green Mountain boys under such officers as they shall chuse with such other men in the vicinity of Ticonderoga as will be necessary to carry into execution the resolutions of the Congress of the 27 of June last transmitted to him.

Ordered, this this be transmitted to Gen. Schuyler by the Prest

On motion, *Resolved*, That Lieutt. Patrick Moncrieff have liberty to return to England, on giving his parole of honour, that he will not act against the Americans in the present controversy between Great Britian and these Colonies.²

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 123, 124.

2. Moncrieff was one of the officers with Governor Philip Skene, who arrived June 7, 1775 in the ship *Prosperity*, Captain William McCullouch, from London.

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, TO MAJOR
GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER¹

Sir

Philadelphia July 1st 1775

I duly received your letter of 29th and 30th ult (that referred to by you of 28th not yet come to hand) and immediately laid them before the Congress, in Consequence of which I have their directions to transmit you their resolution – whereby you will observe that Genl [David] Wooster is ordered with the Troops under his command to remain at New York and that you raise as many of the Green Mountain boys and others in the vicinity of Ticonderoga as will be necessary to execute the resolutions of Congress I heretofor transmitted you –

You will please particularly to notice that altho' the Congress have given you peremptory Instructions to take or destroy all the vessels boats &c preparing by Govr [Guy] Carlton on or near the Lake Yet with respect to your proceedings to Montreal and Quebec such circumstances are pointed out by their resolutions which they expect you be fully possessed of previous to your undertaking the prosecution of that expedition

I inclose you the arrangement of the Officers with their pay so far as has been determined by Congress as soon as the whole is settled You shall be made acquainted –

As to the allowance of Provisions that at present must be left to your discretion until you hear further from this Congress or the General on that subject

I am to inform you that besides the quantity of Powder sent from Connecticut to Ticonderoga the Committee of this City by desire of Congress Yesterday sent forward fifty quarter casks of Powder to that place –

Any resolutions of Congress that take place respecting You I shall be careful immediately to transmit you – I am Sir [&c.]

John Hancock President

1. Hancock Letter Book, 1775–1776, Force Transcript, LC.

SOUTH CAROLINA DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS TO THE SOUTH
CAROLINA PROVINCIAL CONGRESS¹

Gentlemen

Philadelphia July 1. 1775

By Directions of the continental Congress, we have sent the Vessell by which this goes, to procure from you a Quantity of Gun-Powder for the Use of the Armies now actually in the Field for the Service of America. The frequent severe Skirmishes in the Neighbourhood of Boston have so exhausted their Magazine, that an immediate Supply is absolutely necessary

We entreat you to purchase all that can be bought in Town; & to dispatch this Vessel with it for this Place as soon as possible; Together with as much as can be spared out of the Public Stock without Danger to your own Safety

Shoud there be any damaged Powder on Hand please send it also, as it may be recovered here

By one of the Resolutions-enclosed to the General Committee you'l see that it is recommended to the Southern Colonies to secure all the Salt Petre that can be got as well from the Stores as from private Persons,² which, as you have no Powder Mills erected or Persons skilful in making Gun Powder, we would advise may be sent to be manufactured here – Shoud you be able to send more than four Thousand Weight of Powder we woud wish the overplus may be sent by some other Opportunity

In order to prevent Suspicion we have sent [blank] Bushells of Indian Corn in this Vessell which may be sold or exchanged for Rice, in which the Casks of Powder may be concealed so, perhaps as to prevent Suspicion should she unhappily be unable to avoid being overtaken by a Cruizer

The utmost Secrecy and Dispatch are absolutely necessary

As large Quantities of Powder will be wanted we strongly recommend that you continue to import all that you can, and think it probable that large Quantity's might be got from the Government of the Havana as we can find no application there from any of these Colonies

We are, Gentlemen, [&c.]

Henry Middleton
Tho Lynch
Chris^t Gadsden

J: Rutledge
E Rutledge

1. Emmet Autograph Collection, NYPL. A copy in the Charles Roberts Autograph Collection, Haverford College Library.
2. Continental Congress Resolve of June 10, 1775.

ROBERT BEVERLY TO SAMUEL ATHANES, LONDON ¹

[Extract]

[Virginia, July 1775] ²

I have not written to you for several Months past, except a short Letter June 4th to direct Insurance on 30 hhds Tobo on board the *Justitia*, Capt Kidd – He went off with only 17 . . . leaving out 14 . . . wh I had given him Orders for, & wh I have now consigned to you by the *Job*, Capt Gibson . . . I have at this Time I verily believe more than 5000 Bushels of Wheat for Sale, & unfortunately for me the Complexion of our Affairs will render it totally useless, nor do I exaggerate, when I assert that the Wheat made this Year, would, if it could be sold, bring this Colony alone half a Million Sterling, a Sum however large, yet may be depended on. I have forseen for several Months past so small a Prospect of an Accomodation between the two Countries that I determined to apply principally to the Cultivation of Tobo for the present Crop, persuaded, that, that alone will wait for a Market, & not be liable to Destruction – How very promising, as indeed do most of the Fruits of the Earth here, wh under the Annihilation of our Trade doubly co[torn]ding; however as the present Measures seem pretty generally approved, an Acquiescence with, & a Submission to them seem absolutely requisite – I

heartily wish they may procure Harmony, but Appearances are, I think, directly the contrary. I have for some Months been so bewilder'd in my political Conjectures, that I know not what to suppose — . . . There prevailed such a general Confusion just before the Arrival of Outram, with respects to the Exports being immediately stopped, that I thought it prudent to get my Tobo on board any Vessel I could meet with. Our publick Affairs are so far from being carried on with Certainty in these Times of Anarchy, that the wisest Heads amongst us know not in what Train Things are to remain for even a Month at a Time, & therefore *Prudence* must be our only *Guide*. . . .

The absolute Certainty there appears of our Trade being discontinued for one year more, at least, will inable the Importers to demand any Price they may think proper for any they may have on Hand by the ensuing Autumn — From yr known Attention to the Article I flatter myself the Sales will be astonishingly high, wh may in some small Degree compensate for a temporary stagnation of it.

[July, 1775] ²

1. Robert Beverly Letter Book, LC.

2. The above letter is undated, but from its position in the letter book, it was written prior to July 6, and from Beverly referring to his previous letter as June 4th rather than the "4th instant", it can be assumed that the date was in early July.

DIXON AND HUNTER'S *Virginia Gazette*, SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1775

Williamsburg, July 1.

We hear from York, that [John Murray] Lord Dunmore, in the *Fowey*, and his Lady and family, on board the *Magdalen*, sailed from that place last Thursday morning [June 29]. It is said the *Magdalen* will proceed to England, and that the *Fowey* is to return to York town with the Governor, after having convoyed the schooner as far as the capes.

LORD WILLIAM CAMPBELL, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO GENERAL
THOMAS GAGE ¹

Sir

Charles Town 1st July 1775

I have the honour to acquaint Your Excellency of my Arrival here in His Majys Ship the *Scorpion* the 17th of last Month. As I have Orders to dispatch that Ship for Boston to join Admiral [Samuel] Graves, I could not neglect so favorable an Opportunity of conveying my Compts & best Wishes to your Excellency, & imagining that Sir James Wright, & Governor [Josiah] Martin would be desirous of embracing so safe an Occasion of transmitting their letters, I wrote to both; Sir James's Answer I expect every hour, & I have desired Mr [John] Tollemache who commands the *Scorpion*, to call at Cape Fear for Governor Martin's Dispatches.

It was with equal Surprise, & concern, I found the People of this Province did not yeild to any of their Northern Brethern in the violence of their measures, & contempt of all Legal Authority. The Provincial Congress had been sitting above a Fortnight before my Arrival, & had come to several Resolutions of a very daring, & dangerous nature. They fabricated an Association absolutely treason-

able, which has been signed by every one in the Province, the Kings officers, & a very few others excepted; tho I am convinced it was much against the inclination of great Numbers, who were obliged to comply, or expose their persons, & properties to all the fury of a desperate, and vindictive Mob. – The Congress has also order'd a Body of Troops consisting of two Regts of foot of 500 men each, & a Regt of Horse of 300, to be immediately raised. One hundred & fifty Thousand pounds Sterling will it is thought, be necessary to carry this wise Scheme into execution, including Subsistence &c for a year: paper money is to be issued by the Authority of the Congress to any Amount, so that the ruin of this late flourishing Province seems at no great distance. A few days before my Arrival they chose a Committee of 17 which is called the Council of Safety, to whom they have delegated the most unlimited powers, & who in fact have taken the whole Government of the Province into their hands. – On the 22d they adjourned, after presenting me one of the most extraordinary Addresses that ever was offer'd to a Kings Governor, & a new Congress is to be chosen in August. – In this state have I found the Province of S. Carolina, & Your Excellency can hardly conceive a more distress'd, & or embarras'd situation than the one I am at present in. The Lieut Governor instead of giving his Assistance on this Emergency, has fairly abandon'd Government, not having once appeared since my Arrival, but remains at his Country House an unconcerned Spectator of the Distractions that at present prevail in his unhappy Country. All these disagreeable circumstances are greatly increased by the difficulty, if not absolute impossibility of carrying on any correspondence by Land with Your Excellency, & the Admiral, to whom alone we can at present look for Protection, or Support, as well as for Authentick Information of what passes to the Northward. In our present forlorn situation it will be of the last consequence to His Majys Service to have a constant, & regular intercourse kept up between Your Excellency & the Southern Provinces, & very full as well as early accounts transmitted to the Governors, of every event of any moment that may happen in the Massachusetts; this can only be done by Sea, I therefore have requested both Sir James Wright, & Governor Martin to join in my application to Admiral Graves, & I flatter myself we shall have your Concurrence. – As we have reason to think the Admiral as well as Your Excellency is by this time strongly reinforced from England, we may hope this part of the Continent will at last be thought of. Two Regts in this Town, & a couple of Frigates in the harbour, would certainly have prevented much mischief both here, & in Georgia: I fear it is now too late for a small body of troops to be of much service could they even be spared, but at all events the Frigates with some small vessels to scour the Coast would be of the [greatest] use; they would check Smuggling, which is now carrie[d on] to a great extent in the most barefaced manner, as I am informed, & at the same time the appearance of a force would give some countenance to the friends of Government, who really look upon themselves as absolutely abandon'd Did the Fate of this part of His Majys Dominions entirely depend upon my employing a Advice Boat, I assure your Excellency I do not beleive I could possibly procure one in Charles Town Harbour, so absolutely are we under the command of Councils, & Committees. –

Lady William joins me in best Compts to Your Excellency & Mrs Gage. I have the Honor to be with the most profound Regard, & Esteem, Sir, [&c.]

William Campbell

N. B. Mr [John] Stuart the Superintendent for the Southern District, having fallen under the displeasure of our present Governors by his attention to Your Excellency's directions with regard to the Indians in their Allegiance, has been obliged to quit Georgia & take refuge in [St.] Augustine. —

I beg to recommend to the Care of your Excellency a Packet for Lord Dartmouth. —

I was just going to Seal up this when I recd a message from Mrs Stuart wife to the Superintendent that a Mr W. Henry Drayton from the Committee & Council of Safety had obliged her to give up some dispatches of a public Nature She had recd since the Departure of her husband to such a height are we arriv'd here, & to crown the whole they have Seized 26 Packets directed on His Majys Service that had come by the Packet Boat just arrived for Lt Govr Ball Sir Jas Wright Govr Martin & Lt Govr Moultrie.

W C

1. Gage Papers, CL.

GOVERNOR PATRICK TONYN TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

[Extract]

No. 19.

My Lord; The 21. June. His Majestys Schooner *Saint John* arrived here, last from Savannah: Mr. Stuart, the Superintendent of Indian affairs, came in her. He was under the necessity, to take refuge here, from some intelligence he had, that mischief was designed him, by the Rebels in Carolina: He narrowly escaped, my Lord, their fury, and would have passed a very bad time, by all accounts, had he fallen into their hands.

The day before, Mr. Shamier, Controler of the Port at Boston, came here, from an Assylum, in a Merchant Vessel, likewise from Charlestown, but last from Savannah.

The reports from Carolina, my Lord, are filled with every excess of outrage, and sedition. Things I fear will grow, from worse to worse, untill the wicked tumultuous spirit, gets a check, by a proper application of force; then, it amounts almost to a certainty, if one may be allowed, to draw features, of similar resemblance, that, from the petulant characteristic of this people, they will sink as low, and be as proportionally abject, as they have been upstart and insolent

I had a letter by the Schooner from Sir James Wright, that, things are taking a wrong turn in Georgia: but, my Lord, I am well informed, there is a strong party in favour of the constitution, with Sr James Wright which makes me hope, they will form an active force sufficient to keep down the factious, and save the province:

Sir James Wright desired a supply of a thousand pounds weight of Gunpowder. As the Ordnance Stores, your Lordship is pleased to mention in your favour of the 1st Feby No. 7. which His Majesty, had been pleased to command, to be sent to this place, were not come, we have only eight hundred weight of Corn powder, after fixing a small number of Mortar Shells, Howitzer Shells, hand-granades, and some round shot for the Cannon: I could not in prudence spare, any powder from this Province in our present situation. I assured Sr James when the stores arrived, if he then required assistance, all that was possible, and fit to be done, for His Majesty's service, he might rely upon from me; that the Merchants here expected a large provision of powder, any quantity of it, I would purchase for him.

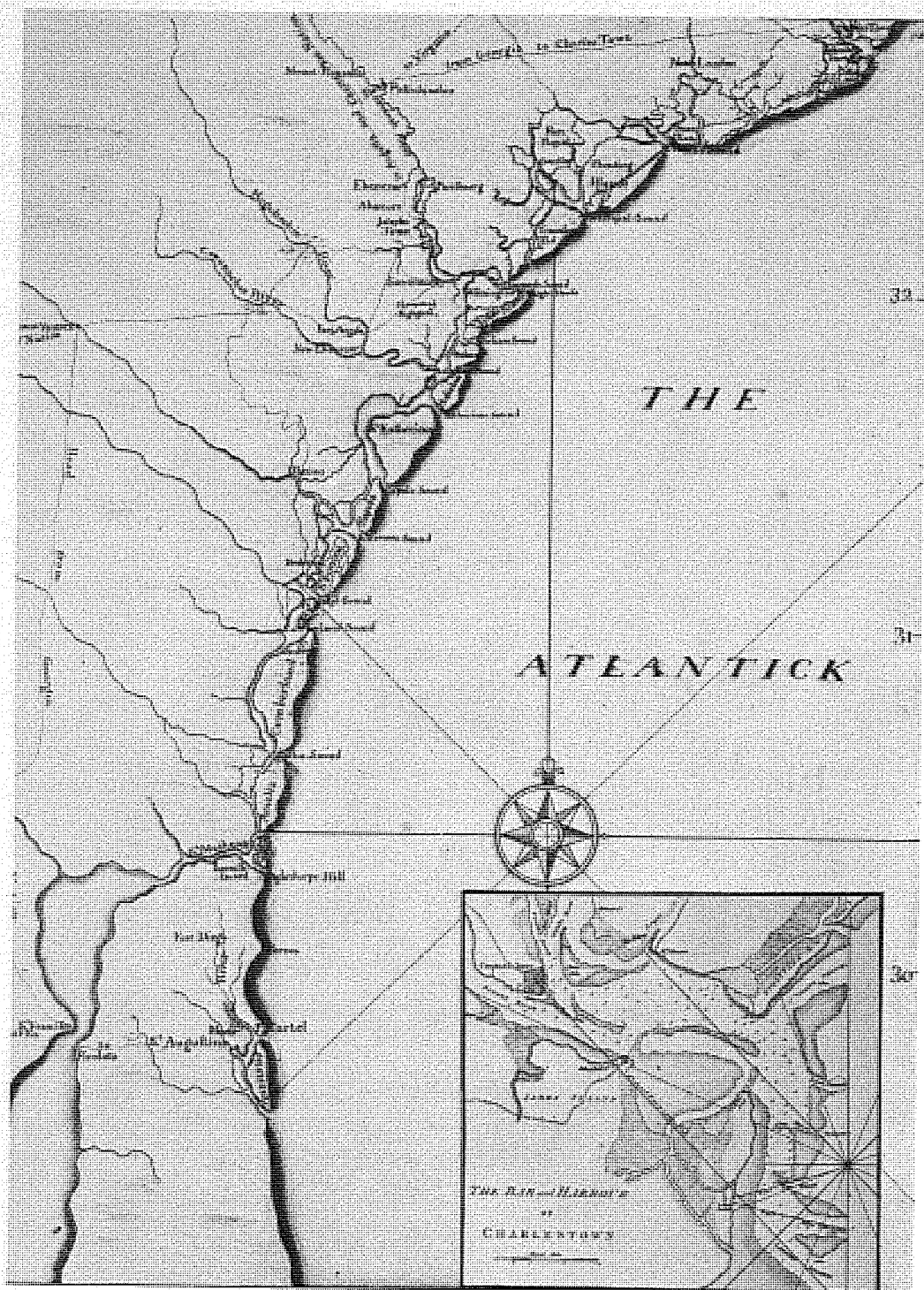
When His Majesty's Schooner, whose station is on the Eastern Coast of this province, and the Island of Providence; left Savannah, Lieutenant William Grant, the Commander, told me, he had seen, "and had spoke to some of them" several Carolinians in arms, who had passed over to Savannah, to support such, as were factious and deluded among the people there. He shew'd me a note he had received from Sir James Wright, desiring to see him before he sailed, or that, he would return soon again to Savannah. I expressed some surprise, that he did not communicate with Sir James, before he come away; he said it was also imagined, the Carolinians were in quest of Mr. Stuart, the Superintendent, who was on board of him, that he apprehend they would attempt to burn the Ship; I told him, such enterprise, was not so easily done, that he would always have time enough, to discover such danger; that I did not know, of what moment it might be, to His Majesty's Service, his seeing Sir James Wright, that I had a dispatch for Sir James which was of a secret nature, and desired he would take it, and deliver it to him with his own hand. I precautioned him, to be observing and circumspect, as he proceeded, to procure all the intelligence, he could, but not to be too soon alarmed. He sailed from hence the 28. June, with my answer about the powder, which I was apprehensive, would be opened, if sent any other way.

I do not now write, my Lord, from certain intelligence, but, common fame has blown it about, that the Carolina people intend to visit this province. I am therefore, preparing to put every thing in the best state of defence. I shall, my Lord, order the Engineers directly, to lay down the roads and paths, between this Place, and Georgia, with the passes through the Swamps, and defilees, as we have no map of the Province, and, the posts fit to be taken, that, I may make their advancing into the Country, as difficult as possible; I shall take proper care of the Fort, and do all that is possible, to make them repent of their excursion, in case it takes place, which indeed I hardly think possible, for, they will surely have enough, for the present, to engage their attentions at Home. . . .

St Augustine 1st July. 75

Pat. Tonyn

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/555, LC Transcript.



Map of the Atlantic coastline from Charleston, South Carolina, to St. Augustine, Florida, 1770, with an inset chart of Charleston Harbor, 1775.

2 July (Sunday)**JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS ¹**

[Watertown] Sabbath Day, July 2, 1775

The Report of the Committee for securing the Lamps of the Light-Houses, was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of removing and securing the Lamps, with the Oil, &c. from the several Light Houses within this Colony, have attended that service, and beg leave to report as follows, viz: That it be recommended to the Committee of Correspondence or Selectmen of the Town of Chelsea, to remove and secure (if practicable) the Lamps and Oil from the Light-House at the entrance of Boston Harbour, with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging; also, that it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of the Town of Gloucester, that the same measures be taken with respect to the Light-Houses on Thatcher's Island, so called; and that the keeper of said Lights, with several Boats, Cattle, &c. be also removed from thence. Furthermore that it be recommended to the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Plymouth, to remove and secure the Lamps, Oil, &c., from the Light-House on the Gurnet, so called, with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging; and that the keepers of the several Light-Houses as above specified, be discharged from the service of this Colony, till the further order of this or some future Congress or House of Representatives.

Ordered, That three copies of the last mentioned Report be sent to the places in said Report mentioned; and that the Committee who drew the Report forward the Copies.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1474, 1475, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy.)

Boston 2d July 1775.

Sir./ The Committee of the Council, who have been upon the business of the Fishery have not as yet been Able to go thro it, And as it is Necessary the boats-should be sent out, I am to beg you will give Orders that such may be suffered to-pass for Immediate use, with their Old passes, as shall have them certified by the Committee, who are Messrs Irvins, Hatch, and Thomas,

I am with Regard, and Esteem Sir, [&c.]

1. Gage Papers, CL.

GUARANTEE OF WAGES TO CAPTAIN ABRAHAM WHIPPLE ¹

We whose names are hereunto Subscribed being Members of the General Assembly & others do Promise that Capt Abraham Whipples Wages Shall be made up to Nine pounds Lawfull Money P Month on Condition that Said Whipple do go in the Vessell fitted by the Colony Called the *Catey* as Witness our Hands this 2d day of July 1775

Nich^o Cooke
Ambrose Page
John Jenckes

John Smith
Dan Tillinghast Committee Safety
John Brown

1. Private collection of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm C. Drake, Middleboro, Mass.

MASTER'S LOG OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Mercury*¹

July 1775 Rem[ark]s &c on Bd His Majts Ship *Mercury*
 Sunday 2d A M fired a 9 poundr the *Savill* Transport from Cork with part 45
 Regt. Anchored here his Majts Sloop *Nautilus*

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1866.

HENRY LAURENS TO JOHN LAURENS¹

[Extract]

[Charleston, S.C.] 2. July. 1775.

the opportunity by which this is to be Sent is offered to me very Suddenly & unexpectedly by Capt [Alexander] Innes² who assures me that my Letters Shall pass unopened – I thank him for his politeness & friendship, but the Kings Decypherer must be very cunning if he is able to pick a plot out of any of my Epistles . . .

Some time ago we dreaded from the vast falls of Rain the total Loss of our Crops of Rice & indeed a few are totally lost, but in general from a favorable change they are now good & if no disaster happens in Earing or Harvest will be as large as usual, the Indian Corn is Still better, Wheat abundant, & Indigo very well, but what of all this, in a port Locked up & the Key in Lord North's pocket – I never Saw Charles Town Harbour So naked as it is just now, only two Topsail Vessels in it except about five days ago when there was but one . . . You apprehend a bloody event to our disputes, there is now room to dread it more than ever, but I do not retreat as danger approaches, I only pray that God will enable me in every trial to do my Duty – all will be well again my Son – the people in England I mean the Ruling people are wrong – they will be convinced of it ere long – our Constitution admits of putting Such Rulers aside & restoring harmony without hurting that Constitution . . .

1. Henry Laurens Letter Book, 1774–75, SCHS. Young Laurens was completing his education in England.
2. Private Secretary to Lord William Campbell.

3 July

Boston Gazette, MONDAY, JULY 3, 1775

Watertown, July 3.

Capt. Tileston arrived at Newbury last Wednesday [June 28], in 21 Days from Newfoundland, and informs us, that a greater Number of Vessels had arrived from Europe for the Fishery than usual, as the Colonies were not permitted to Fish on the Banks there; but finding they could not procure Flour, &c. several Vessels returned home before Capt. Tileston sailed and many more were soon to follow, (their Voyage being broken up) in Order, it's presumed, to settle the *Fare* with my *Lord North*.

NARRATIVE OF BENJAMIN HALLOWELL¹

[Boston, July 3, 1775]

A conversation which pass'd at Boston between Vice Admiral [Samuel] Graves and Mr. [Benjamin] Hallowell a Commissioner of the Customs, on the subject of Mr. Hallowell's application to the Admiral in his department. –

Related by Mr. Hallowell who (for the purpose of getting a supply of Hay) hired Gallop's – Island, which makes part of Nantasket-road, and near where one of the King's Ships is stationed. –

Being desirous that no part of my conduct in getting the hay from said island should be disagreeable to Admiral Graves, I did on the 3d. of July wait on him and acquainted him with what I proposed doing. – on which the Admiral asked me, Who was the proprietor of the island and who I had hired it of? and was inform'd as to those particulars. The Admiral evaded giving me a direct answer as to the mens going, or the hay being brought from said island, but recommended to me cutting hay on Noddle's-island – Grape-island or Thompson's-island.—alleging that he (the Admiral) propos'd to cut the hay on the islands about and near Nantasket-road, and that he had already occupied Lovell's-island, to which I replied, that Noddles island was immediately under the guns of the Flag and other Ships of the King's, and cou'd be protected, and therefore more convenient for the Admiral to cut his hay there, and that an experiment had already been tried to take the hay from Grape-island, but in vain altho' a King's ship & Troops were employed to protect the men on that business – and that the house and barn as well as the hay on Thompson's-island the property of the Rev'd Mr Walter, were burnt – but if he (the Admiral) had an inclination to cut the grass and make the hay on that island, he could send a sufficient guard, which was not in my power to do, and I was sure Mr Walter wou'd be much obliged to the Admiral if he woud direct that the hay on his island shou'd be cut; I also observed to the Admiral the impropriety of leaving my own property, & in getting of which there was no risque and seizing without any color of right on what belong'd to others, the doing of which must also be attended with danger from the Rebels. – Upon which the Admiral told me that he cou'd not give an answer without consulting the General. – I suppos'd it was necessary – and desired to know when I shou'd have an answer, – and was told – on Wednesday next. – I wish it sooner, because my grass wou'd greatly suffer if not immediately cut, and so express'd myself to the Admiral, to which he reply'd,—No – No – It will be the better for standing a little longer – and that the day after tomorrow – will be time enough for an answer.

1. Gage Papers, CL. A copy is in the Clinton Papers, CL.

WALTER SPOONER TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL ¹

May it Please Your Honour.

Springfield 3d July 1775

When the Congress of the Colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, were informed that your Government had sent Colonel [Benjamin] Hinman to lake Champlain, with a Thousand Men to defend the important Posts there; it was with the deepest concern that they saw he was not commander in Chief of those Fortresses & their appendages and immediately dispatched a Committee whereof I have the honour to be Chairman to let the Commander of their Forces know, that it was the Expectation of our Congress that the Commander in Chief of the Conecticut Forces should be over our Officers and privates. The Committee was also ordered respectfully to Signify to your Honour their opinion of the Necessity of holding those Fortresses as also of the Most Expedient method to do it.

Whereupon they proceeded, and at Crown point Let Colonel [Benedict] Arnold know, that it was Expected he Should give up the Command of the Garisons &c to Colonel Hinman, and be under him as his Chief Officer there, but he declined it and declared that he would not be Second to any man, disbanded his Forces and resigned his Commission. A majority of his men engaged anew under Colonel James Easton, who the Committee appointed under the Commander of the Forces of your Government on the Lakes, and to be regulated by your Martial Law and the Committee Left the Garisons and appendages in peace, with much Satisfaction commanded by Colonel Hinman who they are confident is fully equal to the appointment

The Committee also order me to inform your Honour, that it is their opinion, that the abandoning the posts on Lake Champlain would probably prove the utter ruin of the New England governments and that they apprehend Armed Vessels Floating Batteries &c will be the surest means of Commanding the Lakes – the Committee would write your Honour more fully on this Subject, but they are convinced from the Letters you have favoured our Congress with that you are fully possessed of the importance of holding those Fortresses.

Justice compels the Committee to let your Honour know, that on Colonel Arnolds refusing to serve under Colonel Hinman a mutiny arose amongst some of Arnolds men who would not Engage anew in our Service, which seemed to be attended with dangerous Symtoms, but by the Noble Exertions of the Officers of Your Government, with those of Judge [William] Duer of Charlotte County in the Colony of New York, & the ample Support by them rendered to the Committee in the most difficult Situation, it was happily quelled: the particulars of it are too tedious and disagreeable for your Honours attention while you have constantly business of the last importance before you.

but this much the Committee order me to take Leave to say that from the polite, generous, and manly disposition of Colonel Hinman and the Officers in the Conecticut Forces under him, we may gather the Most happy prospects of a Campaign at the Northward, replete with Honour and Interest to the Colonies –

I am in behalf of the Committee your Honrs [&c.]

Walter Spooner

1. Trumbull Papers, Conn SL.

JOHN JENCKES TO ESEK HOPKINS, SURINAM ¹

Sir/

Providence July 3d 1775

If there is any Powder to be Bought at Surrinam, you are Directed to Purchase, on my Acco Three Thousand Guildors worth, & Ship the same on Board Capt Silvanus Jenckes (if you have Effects to that amount of mine in your Hands,) who is Directed to Mr John Brown, to take it on Board at the rate of one Dollar p Hundred freight.

Your Humle Sert

John Jenckes

1. Nicholas Brown Papers, JCBL.

New York Gazette, MONDAY, JULY 3, 1775

New York, July 3.

Since our last, nine Transports with Troops, of the second Embarkation from Cork, have arrived at Sandy Hook, and agreeable to Orders there received, sailed last Friday [June 30] for Boston, under convoy of his Majesty's Ship of War *Nautilus*, Capt. [John] Collins.

The Regiments on board the Transports are the 22d, 40th, 44th, and 45th.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW YORK, JULY 3d, 1775"¹

Another of the Transports is arrived at the Hook, which is nearly all that was expected. The Pilot tells me that there is a general dissatisfaction among the troops, who thought they were to lay here in peace. One of the ships made Long-Island, sent a boat, a Subaltern, two privates and two seamen on shore, to know where they were, but they did not think proper to return to the ship.

1. *Pennsylvania Journal*, July 5, 1775.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT OF THE
CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

Sir,

New York July 3d 1775

Your letter of saturday last with the resolution of Congress of the same day, and copy of the military Arrangement Inclosed was delivered to me at five this Morning.

Permitt me, Sir, to Observe that the resolution seems to be founded on a supposition that the Inhabitants in the Neighborhood of Ti[c]onderoga are a people distinct from those called Green-Mountain Boys, and that they are numerous, whereas the Fact is that most of the Inhabitants in the northeastern part of the County of Albany and In the County of Charlotte, and who reside on what are commonly called the New Hampshire Grants are distinguished by the appellation of Green mountain boys, and altho they are settled in an Extent of Country upwards of one hundred & thirty miles in length, from nearly as far south as Albany to fourty or fifty miles north of Crown point, Yet so lately has that Country began to be settle that It will be difficult (as Colo [Ethan] Allen observes) to raise five hundred men in It, altho there are more Inhabitants but necessarily occupied in procuring Subsistence for their Families – Such of them as assisted in the reduction of Ti[c]onderoga and afterwards Garrisoned It, are Already returned to their Respective habitations – Hence Sir you will perceive that the troops in that Quarter cannot be reinforced at any rate by more than five hundred men to be procured there, and those still to be levied.

From what Information I have been able to procure I Suppose that the force under Colo: [Benjamin] Hinman's command does not exceed thirteen hundred men Including those that occupy Fort George, the landing at the north end of Lake George, and the post at the saw mills, and such as are necessarily employed

in transporting provisions &c from Albany, which will probably reduce them to Eleven hundred and under, and if of those I leave two hundred to Garrison crown point and Ti[c]onderoga, the remainder will then Exceed General [Guy] Charlton's regular troops by about three hundred men only; a force very Inadequate barely to Attempt destroying his floating batteries, boats & vessels without hazarding the loss not only of the command of the lakes but of the Fortresses in our possession on Its Banks. – These Observations I have taken the liberty to make that Congress by being now truly possessed of facts may make a probable guess of the Consequences that will follow an Attempt which I concieve myself not at liberty to desist from making without orders to the Contrary, – I shall leave this to day and order Brigadier [Richard] Montgomery to follow me assoon as possible.

Preparations are making here to fortify the pass in the Highlands I had proposed that part of General [David] Woosters Corps should have gone on that Service. If Congress Intends that any of them shall be employed in that way, they will please to signify It, as they cannot otherwise, since the last order he moved from New York. I am Sir [&c.]

Ph: Schuyler

1. Papers CC, 153: I, 15, NA.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Monday, July 3, 1775

Sundry letters from the Convention of New York, Genl [Philip] Schuyler and a certified copy of a letter from Thos Gage to Govr [Josiah] Martin, were laid before the Congress, and read

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 124.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 3d., 1775

Resolved, That Messrs Robert Morris, Robert White, & Thomas Wharton, Jun., do, with the utmost Expedition, procure any quantity of Powder and Salt-Petre in their power.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 282.

MASTER'S LOG OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Mercury* ¹

July 1775

Rem[ark]s on Bd His Majts. Ship *Mercury*

Monday 3d

A M Came Down and Saild hence his Majts Sloop *Kings Fisher*, Berthed the Ships Comp[an]y – Modt and fair W[eathe]r
P M Saild hence two Sail of Transports for Boston and his Majts Sloop *Nautillus* ²

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1866.
2. Having completed her mission, that of diverting the New York-bound transports to Boston, the *Mercury* sailed on the morning of July 5, 1775, for Virginia.

MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COMMITTEE ¹

At a Meeting of The Committee 3 July 1775

A Letter from Henry Lloyd Agent for the Contractors for Supplying the Troops at Boston, to Doctr. John Stevenson being fallen into the Hands of the Committee was Read and is as follows.

Sir

Boston 17 May 1775

The Stoppage of Provisions from the Southern Governments for the use of his Majesties Troops makes it necessary to endeavor to get a Supply by Concealing from the Publick &c. the destination of Provisions shipped for that purpose. I shall therefore propose for your Consideration the following method of doing it. – Cannot a Vessell be Freightied with Flour for the West Indies, commanded by a Person you can Confide in, who will execute your Orders to him to come into this Port and deliver her Cargo here instead of going to the West Indies. You may take up a Vessell as large as 200 Tons and give her a full Freight. I shoud send you Bills on the Contractors to execute this plan, or advise you to draw on them for the Amount of what you may ship to me in this way, but the Negotiation of such Bills might discover your Plan and defeat it, so that I should be glad you would advise me of some Friend of yours, and when I am made acquainted with his Name, and that Sum you shall draw for, will send to him from hence my Bills on the Contractors for the Amount you advise me of; you will plan likewise to give the Contractors timely Notice, that they may insure their Interest if they think proper, and inform me of the Name of the Vessel and Master you engage, that I may lodge a Permit at the Lighthouse in this Harbour, for Admission to come up to the Town, and discharge her Cargo here – Pray let the Flour you purchase be such as will keep the Summer, and let the Casks be good, well hooped, and the Heads well secured with Lining Hoops – You will be careful to write me by a safe Conveyance, that your Letter may not fall into the Hands of the Provincials.

I am Sir your most hume Servt

Dr. Jno Stevenson

Henry Lloyd

The Committee sent for Dr. Stevenson, and having shewn him the Letter he made the following Declaration –

I believe the within Letter to be Mr. Henry Lloyd's Writing, and I declare, that I have never received any Copy of it, or any other Letter to that Purport, and I further declare, that if the Letter had come to my hands, I would not have executed the Order, nor will I execute any Order of the kind from any Person whatever, contrary to the Resolves of the Continental Congress, or Provincial Convention –

Jno. Stevenson.

On Motion *Resolved*, That Henry Lloyd of Boston has knowingly and willfully violated the Association of the American Congress, by endeavoring to supply the Enemies of this Country with Provisions, and that, agreeable to the Resolu-

tions of the said Congress, it is the Duty of Us and all our Constituents from henceforth not to have any Commercial Intercourse with him, and it is recommended, that an inviolable Regard be paid to this Resolution.

The Committee have receiving information, that the ship *Johnson* from Liverpool with a Cargo of Salt and dry Goods arrived a few days ago in Wye River, and that several other Ships with similar Cargoes may daily be expected from Liverpool in this Bay; It is therefore Unanimously *Resolved*, that if any Pilot, Craftsman, or others, shall be found Assisting in the Conveyance or Introduction of any Goods or Merchandize, contrary to the direction of the Congress, or in receiving on shore, or unloading from any Vessell any Goods, which may have been ordered out of the Port, such Persons shall be deemed Enemies to the Liberties of America, and will be held forth to the Resentment of the Publick: And if any Person privy to such Measures will disclose them, they shall receive the Thanks of the Committee as Real Friends to their country.

The Committee directed the foregoing Resolution to be Published in Hand Bills and that one of Said Hand Bills be delivered to the several Pilots attending this Port.

Messrs. Isaac VanBebber, Isaac Griest, Saml. Davy, Thos. Elliot, George Wooley, Benjamin Levy, David Stewart & Willm. Neil or any two or more of them are appointed a Committee to apply to every Vessel arriving within this Port and to Secure any Gunpowder they may have on board.

1. Balt. Com., LC.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Otter*, MATTHEW SQUIRE, COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Going out of York River [Virginia]

Monday 3 [P M] Sent a Midshipman and two Men on board the *Liberty* Sloop

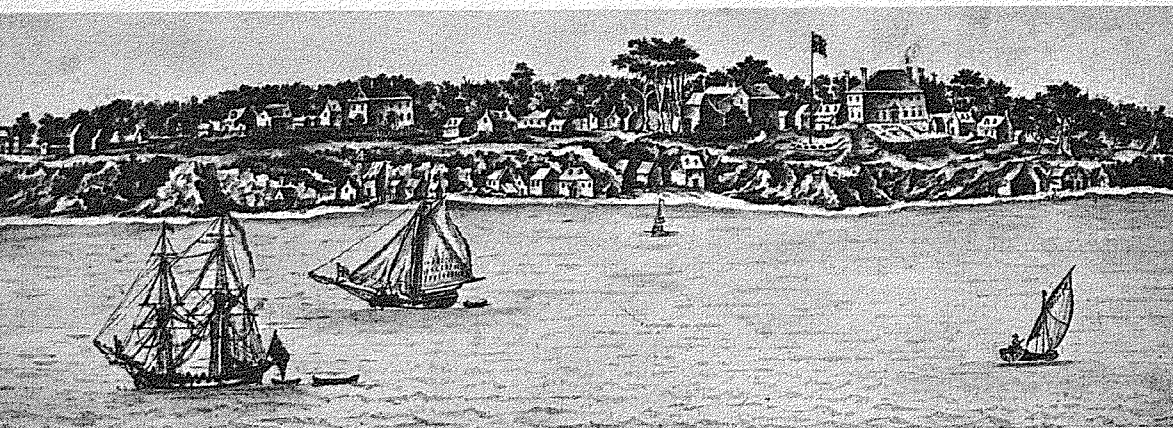
1. PRO, Admiralty 51/663.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SCHOONER *Saint John*, LIEUT. WILLIAM GRANT, COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Anchord outside Cockspur Road within the Barr

Monday 3 At 9 (A M) a Number of boats passing Armed from Carolina to Tybees At 10 Saw a Ship in the offing Supposed to be a Ship called the *Magna Charta* with powder which the Liberty people as they stile themselves intended to Seize Made a Signal for a pilot – At 11 Weighed and came to sail – Stood over the Barr out to Sea – At Noon Light house W b S 4 miles
At 2 (P M) came up and spoke with the above ship Boarded and Rummaged her. found her to be from barbadoes in ballast – Tack'd and Stood in – Got in the boats – At 7 Anchord within the Barr . . .

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.



(Top) Yorktown, Virginia, c. 1754. (Middle) Charleston, South Carolina, 1761.
 (Bottom) Spencer Hall Shipyards, Gray's Inn Creek, Maryland, c. 1760.

4 July

NARRATIVE OF BENJAMIN HALLOWELL ¹

[Boston, July 4, 1775]

I (not seeing the necessity of so long a delay) [in cutting the hay on Gallup's Island] found an opportunity and the next day (being Tuesday) mentioned the affair to the General who had not the least objection to my making the hay and removing it to Boston, I thereupon immediately waited on the Admiral and related what the General had say'd – Yes – Yes – says the Admiral—"I supposd that he wou'd give you leave. – I had no doubt of that. – Pray whose island did you say it was?" I answerd the original proprietor I believ'd was Judge Lynde formerly Chief-Justice of this province – but Mr Walter had the direction of it. – On which the Admiral replied – I suppose this Judge (as you call him) is a Rebel. I assured him he was not, but retired from his Office solely on account of his health & advancd age.

The Admiral then say'd "Pray Sir how many acres does the island contain?" I replied – I cou'd not tell exactly. I had hired it be it more or less. – I then added, That I had told the General, and wou'd now repeat it to him, that if the King's service required it, not only the hay but my horses and the cow that were to be fed on the hay, & myself, were ready and at his service on the shortest notice. To which the Admiral in a high tone replied – "Don't tell me of the King's service, I want the hay for my own use. Do You Know Sir—that I have five horses and three cows and must have hay?" I answered "I was very sorry it was out of my power to oblige the Admiral.—It will be impossible for me to part with any of the produce of that island for I have not the least prospect of getting a stock of hay any where else["] – The Admiral then sayd "Sir Why do not you go to those islands which I have before mentioned to you."—I replied "that I had already assigned sufficient reasons against attempting the plan."—This occasioned the Admiral saying "Sir, I must have some of the hay." I replied—"I am exceeding sorry that it is out of my power to oblige the Admiral, there is not sufficient for my own consumption."—Notwithstanding which the Admiral say'd—"Sir I must have half the hay." On which I told him "it was impossible. – there not being sufficient for my own use." The Admiral then say'd he wou'd make me an offer "That if I woud let him have half the hay he wou'd be at half the expence to cut and make it." This I declin'd telling him "That the expence was no consideration with me."—Then! Sir, says the Admiral "if I can't have half the hay you shall not bring it off the island."—I told him I wou'd cut the grass and make the hay and it wou'd be my misfortune if I cou'd not get it up to town. Well Sir sayd he "You shall not have it except I have half." – I then reply'd "I did not come to make a bargain, neither did I expect any altercation on this business but came there as a gentleman meaning to conform to any orders he might have given on the water." Then the Admiral sayd "Sir Do not I treat you like a gentleman?"—Finding that I cou'd not get the satisfaction I had a right to expect I left the room –

1. Gage Papers, CL.

WILLIAM TRYON, GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK, TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

[Extract]

New York 4th July 1775

I arrived in the Governmt the 25th of last month with apparent satisfaction to the Inhabitants of this city, and received the next morning the Great Seal of the Province and the diminished authority the Lieutenant Governor had to transfer to me.

The General Revolt that has taken place in the Colonies has put his Majestys civil Governors in the most degraded situation, left in the exercise of only such feeble executive Powers as suit the present conveniences of the Country, and thus dependent on the caprice of a moment.

1. O'Callaghan, ed., *Colonial New York*, VII, 589, 590.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 4th, 1775

Resolved, That the Committee go to Red Bank tomorrow, to take a view of the River and Islands, and that the following Gent'n be requested to attend, viz't:

Luke Morris,
Oswell Eve,
John Wharton,
Thomas Penrose,

Major Nicholas,²
Thomas Hanson,
Peter Reeve. —

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 282, 283.

2. Colonel Lewis Nicola.

THOMAS JEFFERSON TO FRANCIS EPPES ¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia, July 4th, 1775

The New Englanders are fitting out light vessels of war, by which it is hoped we shall not only clear the seas and bays here of everything below the size of a ship of war, but that they will visit the coasts of Europe and distress the British trade in every part of the world. The adventurous genius and intrepidity of those people is amazing.²

1. Boyd, ed., *Jefferson Papers*, I, 184, 185.

2. Using almost the same words, Jefferson wrote to George Gilmer, on July 5, 1775. *Ibid.*, I, 185, 186.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Scorpion*, JOHN TOLLEMACHE,
COMMANDING ¹

At Single Anchor off Charles Town Bar
Tuesdy 4 July 1775

at 3 AM Un'moor'd and hove Short on the Bt Bower at 6 Weigh'd and came to Sail 1/2 past 9 came too off Charles Town Bar. in 1/2 less 7 fathm Charles Town Light house W B N 4 or 5 Miles.

Fresh Breeze, and hazey at 7 PM Weigh'd and came to Sail, kept Sounding ²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/872.

2. "This Day the *Scorpion* Man of War sailed for Cape-Fear." *South Carolina Gazette*, July 4, 1775.

WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON TO WILLIAM DRAYTON ¹

(Copy)

My Dear Sir – Your two last Letters, May the 18 & 30th came safe to hand, and I have been waiting with impatience, for a proper opportunity, by which I might answer them –

As for Doran, it was impossible for me to say one word to save him from being declared a Public enemy. Nay, in an official way, I sent notice of it to Georgia, as they had transmitted us a Resolution, that Georgia “shall not be a place of Refuge for any Person whose Public conduct has rendered them obnoxious to the censure of any part of the united Continent.” Doran altho’ ordered to unload; by my special permission departed with his Cargo, in the most solemn manner promising to sell it at the Northward. My permission is held justifiable – but he imposed upon me in a Public character, & acted contrary to express orders. – It gives me much concern that my being personally engaged in the affair, & his conduct, with which I see you was not fully acquainted, deprived me of the Ability of saying one word to make him sensible of the weight of your intercession.

Peace, Peace, is now, not even in Idea. A civil War, in my opinion, is absolutely unavoidable. – We already have an Army & a treasury with a Million of Money: In short a new Government is in effect erected. The Congress is the Legislature – the Council of Safety, the executive power – the General Committee, as Westminster Hall – and the District & Parochial Committees as County Courts. – See the effects of oppression!

The proceedings of the General Congress do not transpire. But, depend upon two pieces of information. – They are proceeding upon a stupendous Subject – and there will be a *Continental Army*. – Affairs are now hurrying to extremity – where they will stop I know not. – We are under some apprehensions of troops coming here. If they arrive – bloodshed will be the consequence. – This Afternoon, I go up to Dorchester to reconnoitre the situation, in order to make a fortified Post there. You know the Situation, – it is almost surrounded by the River.

[William] Knox ² writes thus, May 1st “The Generals and Troops are all sailed, & the most effectual Orders given to *put an end* to the Rebellion.”

Lord Dartmouth writes thus, the Resolution of the Commons, on the 20 of Feb. was carried by a Majority of 274 to 88, “and indeed the great majorities which have appeared in both Houses upon every question, that has been proposed for maintaining the Supremacy of Parliament, is such an evidence of the general sense of the Nation upon that Subject, as must show how little ground there has been for those assurances which have been artfully held out to the Americans of support here in the dangerous conduct they have adopted & convince them that there neither can nor will be any the least relaxation from those measures which that conduct has made indispensably necessary for reducing the Colonies to a state of due obedience to the constitutional Authority of Parliament.”

In another Letter his Lordship says, prescribing in what mode propositions in compliance with the Resolution of the Commons on the 20 of Feb. were to be made from America, "provided it be at the same time unaccompanied with any declarations and unmixed with any claims which will make it impossible for the King consistent with his own Dignity, or for Parliament consistent with their constitutional Rights to receive it."

And, now that I am upon the Subject of Government Dispatches, I inclose to you an *original* letter from Lord Dartmouth to your Governor, in which you are very particularly mentioned –

I also send you Copies of letters to John Stuart,³ who we find has taken shelter in your Town – I think they will make him quake, and they will show that we are serious – The Express is sent on purpose with the originals to Stuart. – I have directed the Express to be sure to receive any commands you may have for this place, and he will call upon [you] for that purpose –

I think in my last letter I mentioned a storm at D.H. it is now as fair Weather as ever –

When I tell you, that being a Member of the Congress, the General Committee the Council of Safety, the Secret Committee – and the Committee of Intelligence, which last acts as a Secretary of State, and that all Reports, Resolutions, Letters & other papers are penned by me in each of these Departments; you may readily conclude that my time is not spent idly. For these six weeks past I have not been able, even for one day, to go out of Town; and I am really almost jaded. For these reasons, for the news of the day, I beg leave to refer you to the prints I inclose, and particularly to our Circular letter – Our former circular, which I think I sent to you, has been reprinted generally in the Northern Colonies.

You remember my original situation with our Governor – was it not singular that upon his first arrival, I should be nominated to pronounce an Address to him, declaring that we had taken up Arms against his Authority? – However, I pronounced and presented the address with all possible respect and Politeness – and his Lordship attentively returned my bows as I proceeded in the business. In a few days after, I paid him my compliments upon his arrival – in two days he returned the visit. – I have not been able, or rather, it has not lain in [my] way till the other day to exchange even a word with Captain [Alexander] Innis.⁴ People in general seem averse to him – His carriage seems haughty, and from some late proceedings – he seems perfectly disposed to be *Viceroy over him*.

I most sincerely conclude myself Dr Sir [&c.]

W^m H^y Drayton

Charles Town July 4. 1775

[Endorsed] A true Copy Pat. Tonyn⁵

1. Gage Papers, CL.

2. Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

3. Indian agent for the Southern Colonies.

4. Lord William Campbell's principal advisor and aide.

5. The endorsement is that of the Royal Governor of East Florida, indicating that the above letter had fallen into enemy hands, instead of the addressee in Savannah.

5 July

GEORGE WASHINGTON IN ACCOUNT WITH THE UNITED STATES ¹

1775 To the Expence of myself & party reconnoitg the Sea Coast East of
 July 5 Boston Harbor [£]18.13.2

1. *Gen. George Washington's Account with the United States from 1775 to 1783*, facsimile (Brooklyn, 1833), 3.

ELBRIDGE GERRY, FOR THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES, TO
 JOSEPH GARDUQUI AND SONS, BILBAO, SPAIN ¹

Gentlemen

Watertown July 5 1775

Our worthy Friend Colo Lee, by Desire of the Committee of Supplies for the Colony, wrote to You before his Decease for a Quantity of Ammunition & some Arms; & in Consequence of Your Letter to him,² We send You the *Rockingham* Capt Johnson with £1000 Sterg in Cash, & six Hundred & fifty pounds Bills of Exche on your House to be invested in good pistol & Cannon powder – half each. –

The War between G Britain & the Colonies is begun, & when it will end no Man can tell; a large Army of Our Forces are now entrenched within one Mile of Boston, two Battles have been already fought in which the ministerial Troops were well repulsed & the other Time were much worsted, & all America is in Arms; so that there is Reason to think the Article will be much in Demand –

The Ministry in Britain have been endeavouring to keep a Supply of powder from the Colonies, well knowing that they cannot enslave them by any other Means; but they must necessarily fail in their project unless all the powers in Europe are engaged in the same infamous plot, which We know cannot be the Case –

The Friendship of foreign Factors in this Matter cannot fail of making them respectable & securing to themselves the Interest of these Colonies; And We shall be glad of your utmost Exertions to dispatch this Vessel, & Information how fully You can supply Us with Military Stores of every kind in future

We suppose that no Ammunition can at present be procured in Spain, but doubtless It may be obtained from France Holland Denmark Sweden or some of the northern Kingdoms either by Land or Sea, in spanish Bottoms, notwithstanding some Objections at present appear to have taken place, against a direct Importation of the same by our own Vessels from some of those Kingdoms –

We place great Confidence in your Endeavours to cause this Interest to be invested as before mentioned & shall not only apply for all the military Stores which You think can be transmitted thro your negotiation, but also chearfully allow such a Compensation for your Services as You shall think reasonable being Gentlemen very respectfully [&c.]

Elbridge Gerry p Ord of the Massachusetts Committee of Supplies

1. *Mass. Arch.*, vol. 194, 57, 58.

2. Gardoqui's letter of February 15, 1775, from Bilbao.

MERCY WARREN TO JOHN ADAMS ¹

[Extract]

Watertown July 5 1775

The sea coasts are kept in constant apprehension of being made miserable by the depredations of the once formidable navy of Britain now degraded to a level with the corsairs of Barbary

At the same time they are pirattically plundering the Isles, and pilfering the borders to feed the swarms of veteran slaves shut up in the town They will not suffer a poor fisherman to Cast his hook in the ocean to bring a little relief to the hungry inhabitants without the pittance of a dollar each to the use of Admiral [Samuel] Greaves.

1. *Warren-Adams Letters*, I, 71, 72. Mercy Warren was the wife of James Warren, of Plymouth, Mass.

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS ¹

[Watertown] Wednesday, July 5, 1775

Ordered, That part of the Resolve relative to the Light Houses, which impowered the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence to remove and secure the Lamps and Oil from the Light-House at the entrance of Boston Harbour, be reconsidered, and that [Mr. Thomas Crane,] Captain [William] Homes, and Deacon [Ebenezer] Washburn, be a Committee to consider at large on some measures for removing and securing the Lamps & Oil aforesaid.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

Sir

Boston July 5th 1775

Since the Information I sent you on Sunday [July 2], in regard to the Endeavours of the Rebels to procure Powder, I have advice that within these few Days they have received 37 half Barrels which was brought from New Haven in Connecticut, where it was imported from St Eustatia; they have made Application to the Continental Congress to Assist them, and have likewise employed Persons at Cascoe Bay, where they hope to import Ammunition; I think it proper to give you this notice that measures may be taken to prevent their Schemes.

I am with great Regard and Esteem-Sir [&c.]

1. Gage Papers, CL.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE ¹

Sir,

Boston 5th July 1775

I am greatly obliged to your Excellency for your Letter of this day's date, communicating to me Intelligence of the Rebels endeavours to procure Powder; I am happy to find they are in want of Ammunition. On this extensive Coast some Supplies will get in, but I hope in no great Quantities.

The *Scarborough* is at Portsmouth, The *Merlin* and *Hope* Schooner Cruize from Marblehead to Piscataqua. The *Senegal* shall cruize from Piscataqua to the Eastward, where I shall also soon send a stout armed Schooner; To the Southward of Cape Cod is the *Rose*, *Swan* and *Glasgow* and for a time the *Nautilus*; – I anxiously hope to hear that some of them are successful in seizing the Rebels Supplies, as their Captains are under the strictest Orders to be vigilant, and I omit no occasion of sending Them every information I can procure for their Guidance. I have the honor to be with great regard and Respect

Sir [&c.]

Sam^l Graves.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN WILLIAM C. BURNABY, R.N.¹

In order to enable you more effectually to carry into Execution my Orders to you dated the 25th and 27th May and 17th of June, for seizing and sending to Boston all Vessels laden with Arms and Ammunition, Provisions, Grain, Flour, Salt, Melasses and Wood: You are hereby required and directed to cruize in his Majesty's Sloop [*Merlin*] under your Command between Cape Ann and Cape Cod, anchoring occasionally at Marblehead or Salem, and putting to Sea again as you shall think best for the Kings Service: And you are also at Liberty to extend your Cruize to the Isle of Shoals or Piscatagua River, but not to anchor at either place, unless constrained there to by bad weather or any unavoidable accident, but to return again and Examine the Bay of Salem and the Harbours therein, in order if possible to prevent every Kind of Supply getting to the Rebels by Sea. And whereas his Majesty's Schooner *Hope* is stationed within the Limits of your Command, for the same purpose of cutting off the Rebels Supplies You are to take Lieutt [George] Dawson under your Command and employ him and the said Schooner in the most effectual manner you can to answer the above purposes, the punctual Execution of these Orders being at this time of very great consequence to the Kings Service. And in respect to pressing from Vessels fishing to supply the Towns of Marblehead and Salem; You are hereby required and directed not to impress any of the said Fishermen so long as your Boats are allowed to land at the sd Towns to purchase and bring away such things as his Majesty's Service may require, but whenever that Intercourse shall be stopped on their parts or they shall act in an hostile manner towards any of the Squadron, You are then to seize not only their People but their Boats and send them to Boston, or otherwise dispose of them as upon your representing the circumstances I shall hereafter direct.

Given &c. 5 July 1775.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 134, 135, MassHS Transcript.

BURNET MILLER, CHAIRMAN OF THE SOUTHAMPTON COMMITTEE OF OBSERVATION, TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK ¹

Gentlemen –

Southampton, July 5, 1775.

The committee of East and Southampton, taking into their serious consideration the remote situation from Head-quarters at New-York, and much exposed to the ravages of our unnatural enemy at this day with regard to our stock in our common field at the point of Montauk; it being remote from the inhabitants, where any number may land, and at pleasure, take away our stock, which is large – (not less than two thousand neat cattle, and three or four thousand sheep) – which, if taken away, would greatly distress us and give them support which we would by no means do.

Now, considering our situation, we request your Hon. House to petition Gen [Philip] Schuyler that a number of troops be stationed at Montauk; and that the company now raising here may be a part, until a matter of more importance shall call them away. We are of the opinion that our inhabitants would do what in them lies, to give assistance in case any attempt should be made to take off the stock; but the distance of the inhabitants is 18 or 20 miles, and as Gardiner's island lies adjacent, and is much exposed, also Shelter Island, Plumb Island and Oysterpond point, we think a number of whale boats would be proper to employ, that assistance may be given from one part to the other. We have a number of boats that are no use in this season that might be got for the design, if the General should think proper to order Troops to this part of the island, which we humbly petition may be done, &c.

I am, Gentlemen [&c.]

By order of the Committee.

Burnet Miller, Chairman. –

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, II, 70.

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, NEW-YORK, JULY 5, 1775 ¹

Resolved, That no vessel now in port, nor any that may hereafter arrive here, belonging to any port in Great Britain or Ireland, or the Islands of Jersey or Guernsey, which sends vessels to the Newfoundland fishery, be permitted to load any Bread or Flour, Beef or Pork, unless the property of those articles, be in some merchant or inhabitant of this colony and not intended for Newfoundland, until it shall be otherwise ordered by this, or the Continental Congress.

A true Copy from the Minutes, John M'Kesson, Secretary

1. *New York Journal*, July 6, 1775.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF ONE HUNDRED OF NEW YORK ¹

At a meeting of the Committee, Wednesday, July 5, 1775

Resolved, That all Masters of Vessels arriving in this Port from Great Britain or Ireland, are hereby requested, as soon as they conveniently can, or within twenty-four hours after their arrival, to make application to the Chairman or

Deputy Chairman of this Committee, or to Mr. John Imlay, Chairman of the Committee of Inspection, and give proper satisfaction that there are not now, nor have been in his Vessel this present Voyage any Goods or Merchandise contrary to the General Association of the Continental Congress. And it is hereby recommended to all owners of Vessels, or those to whom they may be addressed, to inform their Masters of the above Resolve; and that no Master do presume to discharge or suffer anything to be taken out of his Vessel until such satisfaction has been given, and leave obtained from the Chairman or Deputy Chairman aforesaid.

And as attempts may be made to land Goods before the Vessels come into this Harbour, as well as out of those who may be ordered to depart this Port,

Resolved, That if any Pilot, Boatman, or others, shall be found assisting in the conveyance or introduction of Goods or Merchandise, contrary to the Association of the late Congress, or in receiving on shore, or unloading from any Vessel any Goods which may have been ordered out of the Port, such persons shall be deemed enemies to the liberties of America, and will be held forth to the resentment of the publick; and if any persons privy to such measures will disclose them, they shall receive the thanks of the Committee as real friends to their Country.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1574, 1575.

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK ¹

[New York] Die Mercurii, 9 ho., A.M., July 5th, 1775.

John Van Cortlandt, Esqr. informed the Congress that the artillery company of the marine society, agreeable to the recommendation of this Congress, had nominated their officers to serve under Captain Anthony Rutgers, to wit: Christopher Miller, for their captain-Lieutenant, Patrick Dennis First Lieutenant, Anthony Griffiths Second Lieutenant, and William Ritchie, third Lieutenant, and request the approbation of this Congress in the said nomination.

The Congress are of opinion that those gentlemen will be proper officers, and do approve of and confirm the choice of the said company in their officers.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 66.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Wednesday, July 5, 1775

It appearing that Govr Philip Skene and Mr. Lundy have designs inimical to American liberty, thereupon,

On motion, it is recommended to the delegates of the colony of Pennsylvania to have the order of Congress of the 27 June last, respecting the sending Govr Skene to Hartford in Connecticut, immediately carried into execution.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. Lundy be sent under guard along with Govr Skene to Hartford, in Connecticut, there to be confined in the same manner as is ordered with respect to Govr Skene, until further orders from this Congress.

Resolved, That such provision be made for the support of Govr Skene and Mr. Lundy, as Govr Trumbull shall think proper, which the Continent will take care to pay.

Ordered, That the president write to Govr [Jonathan] Trumbull on this subject, and enclose him the above orders and resolves.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 126, 127.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ONE OF THE VIRGINIA DELEGATES TO A GENTLEMAN IN WILLIAMSBURGH, DATED PHILADELPHIA, JULY 5, 1775”¹

The New Englanders are fitting out privateers, with which they expect to be able to scour the seas and bays of every thing below ships-of-war, and may probably go to the European coasts to distress the British trade there.² The enterprising genius and intrepidity of these people are amazing. They are now intent on burning Boston, in order to oust the regulars; and none are more eager for it than those who have escaped out, and who have left their own property in it; so that their rage has got the better of every interested principle.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1573.

2. This unfounded report probably was based upon the fact that a resolution calling for armed vessels had been introduced in the Massachusetts Provincial Congress. It had not been approved.

HOLT'S *Virginia Gazette*, NORFOLK, WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1775

Norfolk, July 5.

On Wednesday last [June 28] the ship *Johnson*, belonging to Mr. Gildart of Liverpool, and loaded by Messrs. Ashtons was spoke with at the Capes, by some persons employed by the light house company; she had come in the Sunday before and went up the bay, but hearing she would not be suffered to land any of her cargo, but might probably meet with a disagreeable reception, she had put about and was then following the *Magdalen* armed schooner out to sea; she appeared very deep in the water, and the Captain of her said there were great commotions in England; much greater than he had known in any time of war.

As there is reason to expect the speedy arrival of the others laden with goods from Great Britain, a careful watch should be kept that they may meet with their deserts.

A brig lately loaded by Gibson, Donaldson and Hamilton, of Suffolk with a large quantity of provisions, was lately seized by some of the tenders, and taken to Boston for the supply of the navy and army. . . .

From Princess Anne we hear, that on the eastern shore of that county, lately drifted there several parts of a wreck, quantities of hay, a drummer's uniform, and some other military habits, that render it probable, that one of the transports has been lost near that shore.

PURDIE'S *Virginia Gazette*, FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1775

Norfolk, July 5.

A brig lately loaded by Gibson, Donaldson and Hamilton, of Suffolk, with a large quantity of provisions, was lately seized by some of the tenders, and taken to Boston for the supply of the navy and army.¹

1. This brig was probably the *John*, Hugh Kennedy, master, loaded with pork, which was sent in by the *Fowey*. The cargo was taken for the use of the Government, and the brig released. Graves's Conduct, Prize List, II, 376, MassHS Transcript.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Scorpion*, JOHN TOLLEMACHE,
COMMANDING ¹

Wednesday 5 July 1775 At Single Anchor of[f] Cape Fear Bar
First and Middle parts Fresh Breezs, and Clouds latter Mode. at 3 PM saw the
Land from N W B N to N E b N $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 PM came too with the Bt Br in
7 fam Water Veer'd away to $\frac{1}{2}$ a Cable. Cape Fear E b N $\frac{1}{2}$ N 5 or 6 Miles
Veer'd to a whole Cable

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/872.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SCHOONER *Saint John*, LIEUT. WILLIAM GRANT,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Anchord in Cockspur Road
Wednesday 5 At 8 (A M) Weighed and came to sail Came on board a pilot
and turnd into Cockspur Road A Number of Armed boats pas-
sing – Anchord with the small bower in Cockspur Road dis-
charged the pilot A pilot boat came from Town in Whom came
Some Gentlemen and their Servants to take refuge on board the
St John from the Violence of the Mob

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

SAMUEL HUNTING TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.¹

Sr

St. Eustatia July 5th 1775

This may inform you that we arrived at Martinico after a Passage of 27 Days
& could not procure any Mollosses there – & then proceeded to Guadalupe & there
could have got Mollosses from the Kings Plantation at 130 Joann[es] pr 1000lb
but the price to high so came down here & are so unluckly as to find the Messrs
Jennings's both gone from home but find it impossible to get any here as it is
1000 pc Eight fine to sell any to any Englishman we shall proceed to the Lee-
ward – I write pr Capt Pendelton pr Stonington & am in great haste

Your Friend &c

Sam^l Hunting

1. Shaw Collection, Packet No. 3, YUL.

6 July

OPINION OF HIS MAJESTY'S COUNCIL IN NOVA SCOTIA ¹

[Extract]

[Halifax, 6th July 1775]

The Governor asked the Opinion of the Council in respect of Persons claim-
ing the right of Inhabitants of this Province in Order to obtain Certificates for their
safety as proprietors of fishing Vessells as it is requir'd by an Act to "restrain the
Trade & Commerce of the Provinces of Massachusetts Bay & New Hampshire &
Colonies of Connecticut &ca: –

And it having been consider'd who might legally be deem'd Inhabitants of
this Province; The Council were of Opinion agreeable to Lord Cokes definition
of an Inhabitant, in his 2d Institute, folio 703 Vizt ²

Every Person that dwelleth in any Shire, Riding, City, or Town corporate, though he hath but a personal Residence, yet is he said in Law to be an Inhabitant or a dweller there, as Servants &c – But this Statute extendeth not to them, but to such as be Freeholders. And this is gather'd by the Words of the fourth branch of this Act that giveth the distress Vizt – And to distrain every such Inhabitant &c in his Lands, Goods & Chattells. And besides it were in a manner infinite & impossible to tax by the next branch of this Act every Inhabitant being no Householder.”

That Benjamin Valpy Owner of the Schooner *Sally* became an Inhabitant of this Province two Years ago –

Also that Solomon Babson Owner of the Schooner *Frederick* had become an Inhabitant in may last –

Also that Sans Standley Owner of the Schooner *Prince William* became an Inhabitant in May last – ³

Also, that Joseph Barss Owner of the Schooner *Industry* became an Inhabitant five Years ago –

1. Nova Scotia Papers, DAC, from PRO, Colonial Office, Class 217.
2. Sir Edward Coke, considered the greatest common law giver of all times, and whose four volumes of *Institute* were published in 1628.
3. The *Prince William*, William Standley, master, was taken October 29, 1775, by Washington's armed schooners *Hancock* and *Franklin*.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE SENT TO TICONDEROGA AND CROWN POINT BY THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS ¹

Cambridge, July 6, 1775

The Committee appointed to proceed to the posts of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, &c. beg leave to report, that they proceeded through the new settlements, called the New-Hampshire Grants, and carefully observed the road through the same, and find that there is a good road from Williamstown to the place where the road crosseth the river called Paulet River, which is about fifteen miles from Skenesborough; from thence to the falls of Wood Creek near Major [Philip] Skene's house the road is not feasible and unfit for carriages, but cattle may be drove that way very well.

Your Committee having taken with them the copies of the commission and instruction from the Committee of Safety to Colonel Benedict Arnold, and informed themselves as fully as they were able in what manner he had executed his said commission and instructions, and find that he was with Colonel [Ethan] Allen and others at the time the fort was reduced, but do not find that he had any men under his command at the time of the reduction of those fortresses; but find that he did afterwards possess himself of the sloop on the lake at St. John's. We found the said Arnold claiming the command of said sloop and a schooner, which is said to be the property of Major Skene, and also all the posts and fortresses at the south end of Lake Champlain and Lake George, although Colonel [Benjamin] Hinman was at Ticonderoga with near a thousand men under his command at the several posts.

Your Committee informed the said Arnold of their commission, and, at his request, gave him a copy of their instructions; upon reading of which he seemed greatly disconcerted, and declared he would not be second in command to any person whomsoever; and after some time contemplating upon the matter, resigned his post, and gave your Committee his resignation under his hand, dated the 24th of June, 1775, which is herewith submitted, and at the same time he ordered his men to be disbanded, which, he said, was between two and three hundred. Your Committee not finding any men regularly under said Arnold, by reason of his so disbanding them, appointed Colonel [James] Easton, who was at Ticonderoga, to take the command, under Colonel Hinman, who was the principal commanding officer at those posts of the Connecticut forces, and endeavoured to give the officers and men who had served under said Arnold an opportunity to re-engage, of which numbers enlisted, and several of the officers agreed to hold their command under the new appointment.

Your Committee having taken a critical survey of the garrison and posts of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, found them in a very defenceless state; and consulting with Colonel Hinman, were of opinion, upon the whole, that it is necessary to retain in the service of this Colony, for the present, the number of four hundred men.

As the Committee were informed, from intelligence from Canada, that preparations were making, and endeavours used to bring over the Canadians and savages to be inimical to the Colonies, your Committee having found Captain [James] Noble at the Point, with a number of men who had been under said Arnold, willing to engage in the service, we paid to said Noble one hundred Pounds to be delivered to the men as advance pay and appointed Mr. William Satterlee, a worthy man, to muster them and their arms, and took Captain Noble's and Satterlee's receipt for the same, and their promise to apply it for that purpose, which is herewith submitted.

Your Committee returning to Ticonderoga, and Colonel Easton being there, they paid into his hands the sum of two hundred and eighty Pounds, to be applied for the purpose aforesaid, and took his receipt and promise so to do, and appointed Mr. Jonas Fay, a respectable person, to muster the men and their arms, all except Captain Noble's Company. We also paid into the hands of one Remember Baker, said to be a good officer, who engaged a certain number of men under Colonel Easton, the sum of Twenty Pounds and took his receipt and promise to apply said money as advance pay to said men, which completes the whole of the money delivered to said Committee for the purposes aforesaid.

Your Committee have engaged to Colonel Easton that the remaining part of the advance pay should be immediately sent to him.

Your Committee found that as soon as Colonel Arnold had disbanded his men, some of them became dissatisfied and mutinous, and many of them signified to the Committee that they had been informed that they were to be defrauded out of the pay for past services. The Committee, in order to quiet them, engaged under their hands, in behalf of the Colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, that as soon as the rolls should be made up and properly authenticated, they should be paid

for their past services, and all those who should engage anew should have the same bounty and wages as is promised to those men who serve within said Colony.

Your Committee inquired of Mr. Henry Bleecker of Albany, how the men at those posts were supplied with provisions, who informed that he acted under his brother, who was a Commissioner of Supplies from New-York; that all the men at those stations, of whatsoever Colony, were supplied by him without distinction, and that he should continue so to do until otherwise directed.

Your Committee appointed Timothy Edwards and Samuel Brown, Esquires, a Committee to supply the men under Colonel Easton's command with such necessaries as should not be supplied from New York, and appointed Captain Elisha Phelps to act as Commissary under them, to deal out to the men whatsoever should be supplied by the said Edwards and Brown.

Your Committee being of the opinion that a Major should be appointed under Colonel Easton and one surgeon to the battalion, and having inquired into the disposition of the officers and men who have engaged, have appointed John Brown, Esquire, as Major and Mr. Jonas Fay as Surgeon.

Your Committee when they had received Colonel Arnold's resignation, directed him to return to [Provincial] Congress, and render an account of his proceedings, agreeable to their instructions, a copy of which order is herewith submitted.

Your Committee made an examination of the military stores at those posts, a schedule whereof is herewith delivered, excepting some leaden and iron ball and old chains, which have been dug out of the ruins of Crown Point fort.

Your Committee finding that the men at those stations had not a sufficiency of gunpowder to defend the posts, and upon a careful inquiry could not find any at Albany, have directed said Committee of Supplies to supply them with two hundred weight from some of the town stocks in the County of Berkshire, on the credit of the Colony.

Your Committee are of opinion that the maintaining of those posts is of the utmost importance to the security of the Colony of New-York and the New-England Colonies, which was a sufficient inducement to the Committee to continue in the pay of the Colony the number of men before mentioned. The fortress not being at present tenable, there must be a sufficient number of men to command the lake and prevent the enemy from landing.

Your Committee are of opinion that the best security of those posts in their present state is, by armed vessels of various constructions to be kept constantly cruising on the lake, and small boats with swivel guns to act as scouts, which will effectually prevent the army from sudden surprise.

Your Committee have, agreeable to their instructions, advised the honourable American Congress, the honourable Convention of the Colony of New York, and the Governor of Connecticut, by respectfully signifying to them their opinion of the importance of the maintaining those posts and the measures for effectuating the same. All which is humbly submitted.

Walter Spooner, by order

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS ¹

[Watertown] Thursday, July 6, 1775

Ordered, That Major [Joseph] Hawley, Doctor [John] Taylor, and Col. [Jonathan] Grout, be a Committee to prepare a vote of thanks to the Committee of this Congress this day returned from their embassy at Ticonderoga.

Ordered, That Mr. [Timothy] Langdon, Major [John] Bliss, and Mr. [Abel] Jewett, be a Committee to consider the Report of the Committee this day returned from Ticonderoga, and the Papers accompanying it, and also the Rolls made up by Captain [James] Noble and Captain [Samuel] Herrick.

Afternoon

The Committee appointed to consider the Report of the Committee sent to Ticonderoga, reported. The Report was recommitted, and the last mentioned Committee are directed to lay before the Committee first mentioned, a state of their account, debit and credit.

The Committee appointed to prepare a vote of thanks to the Committee who have been on an embassy to Ticonderoga, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas Walter Spooner, Jedediah Foster and James Sullivan, Esquires, a Committee of this Congress, lately ordered on a commission to the important posts of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, for divers purposes expressed in their instructions, have this day returned, and made their report in writing; and it appearing upon full consideration thereof, that the said Committee have executed the various branches of their instructions with ability, fidelity and dispatch, and that their services have been attended with much fatigue and danger; therefore,

Resolved, That the services of the said Committee do merit the express approbation and thanks of Congress, and they do hereby testify and render the same to them, and each of them.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1489, 1490, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

BRITISH REPORT OF DESTRUCTION OF LIGHTHOUSE ON THATCHER'S ISLAND ¹

[Boston] July 6, 1775

This day two or three Companies ² went from Cape Ann to Thatcher's Island broke the light House glasses and Lamps all to pieces, brought away all the Oyl together with Captain Kirkwood's family, and all he had on the Island and put them on the Main to shift for themselves.

[Endorsed] Destruction of the light House on Thatcher's Island, Commonly Called Cape Ann Lights 6 July 1775.

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

2. Of the Continental Army.

BENJAMIN HALLOWELL TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy)

Boston 6th July 1775.

Sir — I waited on you monday last to desire permission to transport some hay which I was going to make on an island called Gallop's which makes one part of Nantasket road, near where one of the Kings ships is now at anchor, which you

told me cou'd not be granted before you had consulted the General, and you wou'd give me an Answer on wednesday – I had the honor of seeing the General before that time and (finding that he had not the least objection to my taking my property and removing it to Boston) I immediately acquainted you with the answer I had received. As there did not appear to be any objection to my cutting the grass and making the hay I yesterday employed a number of men for the business, and was going to apply for leave for them to pass the King's ships to the island, but Mr Thomas (who is employed by Goverment to cut hay on other islands in the harbor for the King's use) told me he had applied for leave for a number of hay-makers and you had forbid any persons from going on the water to land on the islands, in consequence of which the men employed by him, and those which I engag'd were idle all the day. – I shall be much oblig'd to You if you will be pleased to let me know if any and where the difficulty lays of my sending the men hired by me to cut the grass and make my hay that I may remove it. – Inclosd is a list of the names of those people employed by me – for whose conduct I will be answerable. I am &ca

Benja Hallowell

1. Gage Papers, CL.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, GOVERNOR OF CONNECTICUT, TO MAJOR GENERAL
PHILIP SCHUYLER ¹

[Extract]

Hartford, July 6, 1775

All that we can do is to deliver to Captain [Asa] Douglass forty half barrels [of powder] which he will immediately proceed with agreeable to your order. Our Engineer (Col. [Edward] Mott) at Ticonderoga, has requested that a commander for one of the armed vessels upon Lake George, may be sent up from this Colony – a Captain [Robert] Niles with whom he is acquainted, and who is probably well qualified for the office. But as you can best judge of the nature of this service, and the necessity of sending up this person, you will give me leave to expect your directions upon this project, which I shall very readily conform to.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1594.

CAPTAIN EDWARD MOTT TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL ¹

Honoured Sir:

Albany, July 6, 1775.

I arrived here last night, ten o'clock, from Ticonderoga; am sent express by Colonel [Benjamin] Hinman to acquaint the Committee at this place, and also the Provincial Congress at New York, with the condition of the troops and garrisons at Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and Fort George; expect to set out from hence for New York tomorrow; have not as yet waited on the Committee here, but write these lines by Captain [Aaron] Stevens, who will not tarry, but sets out for home this morning. When I arrived at Ticonderoga, Colonel Hinman had no command there, as Colonel [Benedict] Arnold refused to let him command either of the garrisons, but had given the command of Ticonderoga to Captain [Rufus] Herrick, from whom Colonel Hinman's men were obliged to take their orders, or were not suffered to pass to and from the garrison. The same day a Committee

of three gentlemen from the Massachusetts, viz: Mr. [Walter] Spooner, Colonel [Jedediah] Foster, and Colonel [James] Sullivan, returned to Ticonderoga from Crown Point, and informed us that they had been to Colonel Arnold, with orders from the Congress requiring him to resign the command to Colonel Hinman, and that he, with his regiment, should come under the command of said Hinman; which said Arnold positively refused; on which said Committee discharged Colonel Arnold from their service, and desired the privilege to speak with the people who had engaged under Arnold, but were refused. [They were] further informed that Colonel Arnold and some of his people were gone on board the vessels; that they understood they threatened to go to St. John's and deliver the vessels to the Regulars, and that Arnold had disbanded all his troops but those that were on board said vessels; that they were treated very ill and threatened, and after they came away in a batteau, they were fired upon with swivel-guns and small-arms by Arnold's people; and that Colonel Arnold and his men had got both the vessels and were drawn off into the Lake. On which I desired Colonel Hinman to let me, with Lieutenant [Jeremiah] Halsey and Mr. [William] Duer, (who was judge of the Court for the County of Charlotte, in this Colony,) with some men to row, have a batteau and proceed up the lake, and go on board the vessels. We obtained liberty and Colonel Sullivan consented to go with us. We got on board the vessels about eleven o'clock in the morning, and he confined three of us on board each vessel; men sat over us with fixed bayonets; and so kept us till sometime in the evening, when we were dismissed and suffered to return. We reasoned with the people on board the vessels all the while we were there, and convinced some of them of their error, who declared they had been deceived by Colonel Arnold. After we returned to the fort, called on Colonel Hinman, who ordered Lieutenant Halsey, with twenty-five men, to return again to the vessels and get what people he could on board to join him, and bring one or both vessels to the fort, which was all settled the next day. Colonel Sullivan was much insulted while we were on board the vessels chiefly by Mr. [John] Brown, one of Colonel Arnold's Captains. Captain Stevens, who is waiting while I write these lines, will not wait longer, or you should hear more particulars. I expect you will have a full account from the gentlemen Committee after they have laid it before their Congress. Captain Elijah Babcock can give a full account of these matters; he tells me he shall be at Hartford in a few days. Shall give further accounts from New York.

I am, Sir, at command, [&c.]

Edward Mott

1. *Bulletin*, Fort Ticonderoga Museum, IV, 3, 85.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY¹

[Philadelphia] July 6th, 1775

The Committee, agreeable to the 1st resolve of the 4th inst., went to Red Bank Mud or Fort Island, & viewed them and several parts of the River, and find the Channel from the Fort to the Barr to be 150 fathom or thereabouts. And Report that it is at present impracticable to lay a Boom across that part of the River.

Resolved, That Mess. Robert White & Ow[e]n Biddle be a Committee for the Construction of Boats & Machines for the defence of the River, and it is Recommended to them to employ John Wharton, Joseph Marsh, Emanuel Eyres, Jacob Miller & Thomas David & Joseph Govett.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 283.

LEWIS NICOLA TO PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

Gentlemen Having considered the state of the River Delaware since I had the pleasure of examining part of it with you yesterday, I am sorry to say any effectual defence thereof, so as to protect this city from an Insult by water, appears to me very difficult, tho' not impossible, but fear the expence of doing it to good purpose will be thought too heavy.

Little I apprehend can be expected from land batteries, they may occasion a trifling delay to, but cannot obstruct the passage of vessels of force. Booms and floating batteries unprotected may soon be destroyed. If the force of a large vessel impelled by a favourable wind should not break the former, they might be cut by men in boats while the piers necessary to support a boom sufficient to cross the channel would afford shelter to the men employed on that service from the fire of batteries. From these considerations I am induced to think that the only effectual opposition that can be made to ships of force, is by ships of force. As the vessels to be opposed on our side are not intended to resist the storms and other casualties of the seas their construction may be considerably varied. They may be built so flat as to draw little water, top masts, yards and other appurtenances would be unnecessary, her stores few, this would probably put a vessel of 80 guns in such a state as to draw no more water than one of 50 equipped in the usual manner, besides the expence of half her guns might be reduced to that of so many tuns of pig iron as would ballance the other half, as guns would be required only on one side, her masts might be higher and tops larger than usual, by means of which she could command the tops and decks of enemy.

Two vessels of such force as may be thought necessary, moored across the channel I believe would, with other defences, effectually obstruct a naval force attempting to come up the river. I conceive the most eligible place to station them would be just above the new Fort, because ships lying with their broad sides to them might be raked by a few guns on shore & by floating batteries placed on or behind the bank to the eastward of the channel where they could only be attacked by men in boats, and might be protected by the same means, as a number of armed shallops, boats, &c. might lie behind one of the islands ready to push out when necessary. In this case a boom placed a little below the two vessels would be effectually protected, besides some mortars on shore or on board boats constructed for the purpose might be usefully employed.

It would be requisite to keep an officer and a few men constantly on board these vessels which might be augmented to numbers necessary as follows: Publick notice to be given that on a certain signal the sailors in town should repair on board 'till the crews requisite should be compleated, each sailor to receive -- p day while employed, any hurt to receive smart money, such as are disabled to

receive a pension of --- during life, the first 20 that get on board each vessel to receive a gratuity of -- p man besides his daily allowance.

This, gentlemen, is what at present occurs to me as the most effectual means of protecting the city, which I take the liberty of submitting to your consideration, begging you will excuse any inaccuracies occasioned by the hurry in which I am obliged to write, & that you will permit me to assure you that I am with respect,

Gentlemen [&c.],

July 6th, 1775

Lewis Nicola

1. Hazard *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, vol. IV, 635, 636.

ROBERT BEVERLY TO JOHN BACKHOUSE, LIVERPOOL ¹

Sir

[Virginia] July 6. 1775

You will be pleased to insure 300£ sterling on 32 hhds of my Tobo on board the *Marlborough*, George Dawson, Master exclusive of Premium & Policy &c. I have insured very low for the Times, but as I believe the risque is trifling, I am not willing to spend money unnecessarily in Premiums. I shd suppose Tobo will sell for any Price the Importer may think proper to demand for I am afraid the Prospect of a reconciliation is very remote, so remote, & the Evils impending over us so manifold, that I am become quite melancholy, when I think of publick Affairs, I shall put 8 hhds, I expect, on board Clarke, & will write you fully by Dawson.

1. Robert Beverly Letter Book, LC.

JOSIAH MARTIN, GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

[Extract]

North Carolina, Fort Johnston, July 6th 1775.

My Lord, I have the honor to inform your Lordship that I received your several Dispatches by the *Sandwich* Packet yesterday, through the hands of Captain [John] Tollemache Commander of His Majesty's Ship *Scorpion*, who has touched here on his way from Charles Town to Boston, for the purpose of delivering them and giving me opportunity to communicate with General Gage which I have long wished for in vain, no mode of communication by sea having been yet Established by the Admiral or General, while all intercourse with them by land is entirely cut off, by the vigilance of the Committees appointed all over the Continent, which no Messenger or letter can escape, an omission greatly to be lamented, as it may be attended with the worst consequences to His Majesty's Service . . . I cannot adequately express to your Lordship the indignation I felt on hearing from Captain Tollemache at the time of his delivering your Lordship's Dispatches to me that they had been violated before they came to his hands by the Mob at Charles Town, which was certified upon the covers by Mr Roupell the Deputy Post Master General there, in these words, "Opened by the Committee of Inspection at Charles Town, G. Roupell. . . ."

I have engaged Mr Alex Schaw whom I have now the honor to introduce to your Lordship to charge himself with this Letter, and my Dispatch No 34. This Gentlemen, I can assure your Lordship with the utmost confidence, is qualified by his intelligence, his candour and his accurate observation, during some months

that he has resided in this Colony, to give your Lordship every information that you can desire relative to its present condition and circumstances . . . nothing remained but that I should engage Captn Tollemache to stay 48 hours beyond the time he had appointed for his departure for my Dispatches and Mr. Schaw's necessary preparation, which that officer most politely agreed to at my request to do, since it would in my opinion be for the advancement of His Majesty's Service.²

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 69-71.

2. Schaw's departure is described in the diary kept by his sister Janet, and which is published under the title, *Journal of a Lady of Quality* (New Haven, 1921), 196, 197, thus: "This will be delivered to you by my brother, who has just stole up from the Sound to bid me, farewell. He has not an hour to stay: he goes home with despatches from the Govr I am lost in confusion, this is unexpected indeed - oh Heavens! Farewell

"Thank God, my brother got safe aboard the King's ship and sailed with Capt Talmash [Tollemache] in his frigate that same afternoon for England. It was very fortunate he had the precaution to venture thro' the woods under the guidance of a single Negro, for tho' his coming up from the Sound, as well as his intended expedition were concealed with the utmost care, yet his leaving the frigate just as Capt Talmash arrived had been known and raised such suspicions that the roads were guarded to watch his return and seize him. Of this his friend at the Sound was informed and was in the utmost distress. It would not however have been an easy matter to make him yield, as he had an invincible aversion to the tarpot, and as he carried a pair of pistols in each pocket, he would have tried these in the first instance; but it is much better as it is. I have a letter from him after he got on board Capt Talmash."

7 July

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER [TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES] FROM CAPTAIN [ANDREW] BARKLEY OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Scarborough* AT PISCATAQUA, DATED 7TH OF JULY 1775."¹

In your Order to me of the 17th Decr last among other things You acquainted me that Governor Wentworth had represented to You, that the Province and Customhouse Treasuries were in danger of being seized, upon my Arrival at Portsmouth and frequently since, I acquainted Governor Wentworth and the Collector of the Customs that I was ready to receive Onboard, such Money or Papers, as they might think was in danger of falling into the Hands of Rebels or disaffected People, accordingly the Collector from time to time sent what Monies he had belonging to the Crown Onboard the *Scarborough*, It was said in Town last Week that the Congress now sitting at Exeter had passed Resolves to remove the Province Treasury from Portsmouth, I acquainted Governor Wentworth of such Report, and wonder'd he had not ordered it Onboard the *Scarborough* long before, as I imagined he meant it, as the Treasurer came under the Protection of the *Scarborough* about a Month ago, when there was a tumult in the Town, which Treasurer then told me that he expected they would demand the Money of him every hour; it was for that reason that he came down here for Shelter; Accordingly A Committee from the Congress came to Town last Saturday and demanded the said Money of the Treasurer, which was quietly delivered up to them amounting from sixteen hundred to two thousand Pounds, which they carried out of Town in great Triumph, without the least hindrance or Molestation to the Astonishment of every Person who wished well to Government, and I suppose by this time it is at their head Quarters at Cambridge.

As the Treasury was mentioned in my Orders I thought it my duty to acquaint You of this event, every thing remains here in the same State as it did when I wrote You by the *Falcon*, only, I hear they have removed two of the twenty four Pounders which I mentioned to You in my last, to Cambridge, and have got Carriages made for the others, but they have not as yet mounted them, nor do I believe they intend mounting them in this port.

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

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS ¹

[Watertown], Friday, July 7, 1775

The Committee appointed to consider the Report of the Committee who have been on an embassy to Ticonderoga, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz.

Whereas it appears to this Congress that the sum of four hundred Pounds, received by Walter Spooner, Jedediah Foster, and James Sullivan, Esquires, of the Receiver-General, the 14th of June last, for the use of this Colony, has been expended by them, for the purpose for which it was designed by this Congress; therefore,

Resolved, That the said Walter Spooner, Jedediah Foster, and James Sullivan, Esquires, be, and they hereby are discharged from all demands the Colony at any time had upon them for the same, and that the receipts produced by them be filed in the Treasurer's Office.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to Walter Spooner, Jedediah Foster, and James Sullivan, Esquires, the sum of twenty-six Pounds, three Shillings and nine Pence, for the balance due to them from this Colony for their time and expences to Crown Point, &c.; and the Receiver General is hereby directed to pay the same sum accordingly.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the public Treasury of this Colony, to Mr. Abijah Merrill, the sum of four hundred Pounds, to be by him delivered to Colonel [James] Easton, for advance pay to two hundred men at Crown Point and Ticonderoga, and the said Merrill to take a receipt of said Easton therefor; and the Receiver General is hereby directed to pay the same sum accordingly.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the public Treasury of this Colony, the sum of two hundred and fifty-two Pounds, eleven Shillings, and one Penny half-penny, to Lieutenant William Satterlee, or order, being the balance of the Pay-Roll of Captain [Samuel] Herrick's Company, from the 3d of May to the 25th of June last; and the Receiver General is hereby directed to pay the same sum accordingly. And the said Herrick and Satterlee are hereby discharged from all demands which Colonel [Benedict] Arnold or this Province had for the sum of twenty-three Pounds twelve Shillings, received by said Herrick and Satterlee of said Arnold, for the use of the Company of said Herrick.

Col. [Jonathan] Grout was appointed to accompany Mr. Merrill to the Receiver General to know of him if he can pay him the full four hundred Pounds, agreeable to the above Resolve.

Afternoon

Col. Grout informed the Congress that he had accompanied Mr. Merrill to the Receiver General's Office, and that the Receiver General informed them that there was not money in the Treasury sufficient to pay said Merrill the sum which the Congress have directed the said Receiver General to pay him.

Ordered, That Colonel [Nathaniel] Dwight, Colonel Robinson, and Deacon Williams, be a Committee to prepare a Letter to Colonel Easton, informing him that the state of the Treasury is such that Mr. Merrill cannot at present be supplied with the sum of four hundred Pounds which this Congress has this day directed the Receiver General to pay him.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration a Letter from the Committee of Safety for the Town of Machias (dated June 17, 1775) relative to fitting an armed Sloop to act on the defensive, and to report thereon, do report in manner following, viz:

Resolved, That when and so soon as the Committee of Safety of said Town of Machias shall have fitted and armed a Sloop for their defence and security, and have procured a sufficient number of hands to man, and a proper person to command said Sloop, and shall send the name of such person to this Congress then this Congress will commission such a person to take command of said Sloop, and to act on the defensive for the security and defence of said Town of Machias.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN ADAMS¹

[Extract]

Watertown, July 7, 1775

The powder you sent us arrived yesterday, and was viewed as it passed with a kind of pleasure I suppose you felt in sending it. The want of that article is the only obstacle I have in getting through a project of mine for a fleet. I made the motion early in the Sessions, and though opposed by [John] Pickering, &c., this is the one reason that prevailed.

1. *Warren-Adams Letters*, I, 78.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN JOHN LINZEE,
HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Falcon*¹

You are hereby required and directed to proceed in his Majesty's Sloop under your Command and anchor her between Hull Point and Petticks Island in this Harbour, where you are to remain until further Order, strictly examining every Vessel going out or coming in that none may pass irregularly, and to seize and destroy all Boats or Vessels you shall discover belonging to the Rebels whether armed for fighting or calculated for the Transportation of Troops. And whereas I am informed that the Rebels are bringing Numbers of Whale Boats across the Neck from Dartmouth and Dorchester to Hingham and the Neighbouring Villages; You are here by required and directed to send me every information you can procure concerning their real situation and destination, and to use your utmost En-

deavours to destroy such of them as may appear within your Reach, and you are to hold yourself in readiness to sail at a Day's Notice.

Given under my hand on board his Maj's Ship *Preston* at Boston 7 July 1775

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 451, MassHS Transcript.

BENJAMIN HALLOWELL TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy)

Boston July 7th 1775.

Sir, In my Letter of yesterday ² I acquainted you I had hired a Number of men to cut the grass and make the hay on Gallops island, & asked your permission that they may pass the King's Ships to do that business for me. my property suffering by the grass remaining un-cut. I sent this morning and asked the favor of an answer, the messenger returns and says that there is none to be given. I am &ca

Benjⁿ Hallowell

1. Gage Papers, CL.

2. Hallowell meant two days before, namely July 5, 1775.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

[Boston] 7th [July 1775]

The *Falcon* sailed down the Harbour and anchored between Hull Point and Pettick's Island with Orders to examine every thing that passed, to seize and destroy every Vessel or Boat belonging to the Rebels, and to send the Admiral what information he could procure of the Whale Boats said to be bringing across the Neck from Dartmouth and Dorchester to Hingham and the neighbouring Villages.

The Admiral observing that the sharp construction and great draught of water of the men of wars boats rendered them very unfit for going up the narrow Creeks which abound in the neighbourhood of Boston, where if they took the ground and there was not room for them to turn about, it would be hardly practicable to retreat, and the crew be in danger of becoming prey to the enemy, invented a boat of particular construction. This vessel was 36 feet in length and nearly 12 in width calculated to row with either end foremost, and by having the greatest draught of water amid ship and from thence gradually shallowing towards the extremities, was by means of her curved keel admirably formed for mooring quickly forward or backward without a necessity of winding round, so in all cases to approach or make off from the shore with equal ease and speed as occasion should require; and yet this her make facilitated even her putting about or spinning as it were upon her own center, where there was room. She mounted a four pounder at each end, had eight swivels upon the sides, rowed with 20 oars, carried 75 men armed and accoutred, with a weeks provisions of both kinds compleat, and yet drew but 9 or 10 inches water at most, steered with an oar in a grummett; and would outrow the fleetest of the navy barges. If she run aground from eagerness of pursuit or in the night, the rowers had only to face about upon their present seats or upon the next thwarts, pull in the contrary direction, and she went off in a moment. Each bow was secured by a mantelet of oxhides against

musquetry, & the piece of ordnance there, by moving in a groove, pointed in any direction. This invention, equally formidable and useful for a weeks campaign in shallow Creeks, being found to answer its design, the Admiral caused a neat model to be made and sent to the Admiralty for their satisfaction.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 135, 136, MassHS Transcript.

COLONEL BENJAMIN HINMAN TO MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER ¹

Sir

Ticonderoga July 7th 1775

Yours of 29 June I have recd. by which I have the pleasure of being informed of your appointment to the Command of the Troops in this Quarter Agreeable to your Request I have made as minute a Return of the forces guns ammunition & stores as I am capable of under our present unsettled Circumstances

As to Govr. [Guy] Carleton's motions I can say but little with regard to them it is said that there is at St Johns about 350 Regulars a few Canadians and a small number of Indians at the other posts by what intelligence I can get there is about 250 of the Kings troops or thereabouts, at St Johns they are fortifying and building some water craft by what I can learn, but with what intent we cannot yet determine.

You may be assured of my taking every opportunity of informing the Canadians of our friendly intentions towards them, but they are so very cautious the passes are so guarded that it is almost impossible to get any information to them

I have lately sent a Committee to Skeensborough to enquire into the state of affairs there, find they want to be put under some new Regulations the Place at present is kept by some men who Mr [Benedict] Arnold put there But as I expected you would be up in a short time I have not given any orders respecting the management of things there, but shall wait for your Orders relative thereto

I am &c

Benjamin Hinman

P.S. I wait Sr. with Impatance for your Arivel as I find myself very unable to sterve in this Stormy Cituation Sumtimes wee have no Flower and a constant crye for Rum and want Molases for bear which was engagd to our people the Falliour of those who provide gives grate Uneaseyness to the Men – hope for better Times on your Arivel.

1. Papers CC, 153, NA.

WILLIAM TRYON, GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK, TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

My Lord

New York 7th July 1775

In the delicate state of my health and public situation, & it being very probable I may be either taken Prisoner, as a state Hostage, or obliged to retire on board one of His Majestys Ships of War to avoid the insolence of an inflamed Mob, you will see the expediency of my humble request to His Majesty for discretionary leave to return to England and that it may be sent out to me by the next Packet; was I to remain three four or five months on board the ship on Salt Provisions, in my billious Habit of Body I should afterwards have but little prospect of compleating the voyage, the King may be assured I will make no wanton, hasty, or improper

use of such Grace, and if I find I cannot stay in my Government will resign my Commission as Governor on my arrival in England. But should His Majesty have the least wish to recall me, I shall most cheerfully and obediently submit to His Royal Will Your Lordships good offices in obtaining for me the above request will greatly oblige my Lord Your Lordships [&c.]

W^m Tryon

1. O'Callaghan, ed., *Colonial New York*, VIII, 592.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 7th, 1775

Resolved, That Mr. John Wharton immediately procure materials & make preparations for building a Boat or Calevat, and that he exhibit a model of one to morrow morning, when he will have further instructions for the construction of one.

Resolved, That Mr. Owen Biddle give the thanks of this Board to Mr. Lewis [Nicholas] Nicola, for his plan delivered the Committee this day.²

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 284.

2. See Nicola's letter of July 6, 1775.

JOSEPH HEWES TO THE INDEPENDENT COMPANY OF EDENTON ¹

Gentlemen

Philadelphia 7th July 1775.

Your favour of the 31st of May by Capt Hatch I have received, before it came to hand I had sent by a Schooner bound to Currituck two Drums. two Colours and a Staff for each Colour and I now send to Mr Smith half a dozen Fifes, it is not in my power to get a Cuttean ² in this City nor can I get a gun & Bayonet for myself on any terms, such is the want of Arms here – I have endeavoured to get a drill Sergeant a Drummer and Fifer for your Comd. but cannot get either the demand for those fellows is so great at present that some of them actually receive £6. per week I am very glad to hear that your Company is so ready to turn out in defense of American Liberty I hope you spare no pains to have yourselves properly trained that you may be fitt for action when the service of your Country may call you forth.

I am with great respect [&c.]

1. Copy in Johnston Collection, HL.

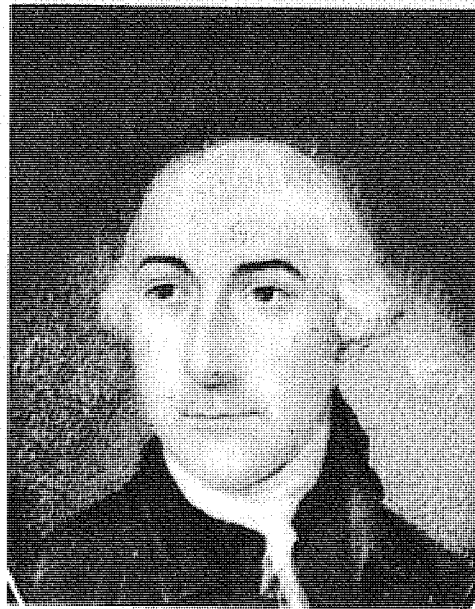
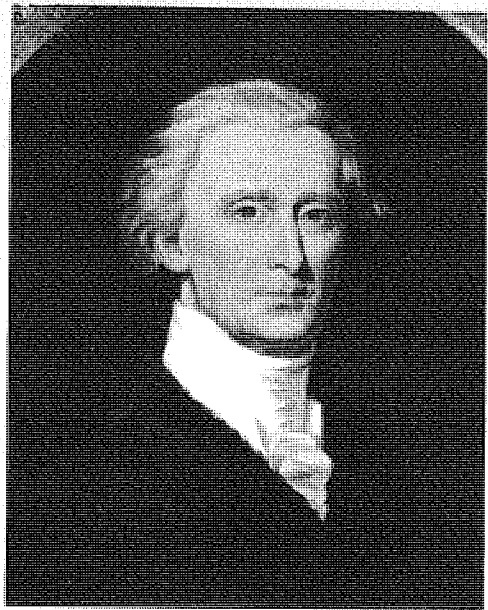
2. Meaning not clear; possibly cutlass.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF OBSERVATION OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND ¹

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for Talbot County, on Friday, the 7th of July, 1775:

James Lloyd Chamberlaine, in the Chair.

Messrs. Thomas Harrison, William Hamilton, Richard Skinner, and Hugh Rice, four of the gentlemen deputed to go on board the Ship *Johnston*, and examine her papers and log book, appear and report: That on notice from Mr.



(Left) Charles Carroll of Carrollton, By Robert Field, 1803. (Middle) Joseph Hewes. By Charles Willson Peale, 1776. (Right) William Henry Drayton. By an unknown engraver, 1783.

James Braddock, agent and Factor for Messrs. James Gildart and John Gawith and Co., of Liverpool, merchants, in the night of the 27th of June last, they did in the morning of the 28th, get on board said Ship *Johnston*, then lying in the Western Bay, waiting the return of her boat sent for the said deputation, and did examine her manifest, cocket and log-book, by which they found that she had on board Salt, fourteen Convicts, two indented Servants, and Dry-Goods, as in the annexed schedule; said by Mr. Braddock to be shipped by Mr. James Gildart, on account of the above-mentioned Gildart and Gawith, and did give orders for her immediate return, permitting her, however, to lay at Hampton Roads, in Virginia, to take in a recruit of bread and water.

They further report, that Mr. Braddock applied to them for leave to land the convicts and servants; to which they replied, that they could see nothing in the proceedings of the [Continental] Congress relative to convicts or servants, and therefore could give no directions with regard to their being landed; but told him, if he chose to do it, it must be at his own risk; on which Mr. Braddock did land the said convicts and servants, when they (the deputation) came on shore, alleging in his justification, that servants had been a few days before landed at Annapolis and Baltimore Town, and were then advertised for sale.

They further say, that they charged Captain Jones, of the said Ship *Johnston*, to return immediately to the Port of Liverpool, without breaking bulk, which he, the said Captain assured them he would do; and when they left him, he stood down the bay. The deputation also say, that Mr. Braddock, in their hearing, told the said Captain he must proceed immediately on his return as aforesaid. One of the deputation further saith he overheard the Captain, in private conversation with Mr. Braddock, remonstrate that he could not land the Salt at Liverpool; to which Mr. Braddock replied, they might do as they would with it, but that he (the Captain) must immediately carry it back to the place from whence it came.

It is the unanimous opinion of this Committee, that the said Messrs. James Gildart and John Gawith, by sending the said Goods to be landed in America, have been guilty of a breach of the first Resolve of the American Association, viz: "That if any Merchant, residing in Great Britain or Ireland, shall, directly or indirectly, ship any Goods, Wares, or Merchandise, for America, in order to break the Non-Importation Agreement, or in any manner contravene the same, on such unworthy conduct being well attested, it ought to be made publick; and on the same being so done, we will not thenceforth have any commercial connexion with such Merchants."

Resolved, therefore, for ourselves and our constituents, That we will from henceforth break off all commercial connection with the said Messrs. James Gildart and John Gawith, and each of them, their and each of their agents, factors and store-keepers.

Resolved also, That agreeable to a determination of the Provincial Convention, in December last, no Gentleman of the Law ought henceforthward to bring or prosecute any suit whatever for the said Messrs. James Gildart and John Gawith, or for either of them, their or either of their agents, factors, managers, or store-keepers, as such.

Ordered, That the proceedings of this meeting be immediately made publick and printed in the *Maryland Gazette*.

Signed per order:

John Bracco, Clerk pro tem.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1104, 1105.

PURDIE'S *Virginia Gazette*, FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1775

Williamsburg, July 7.

Last Sunday [July 2] the *Fowey* man of war returned to her moorings before York town, with Lord DUNMORE and Captain Foy on board having only proceeded as far as the capes with the *Magdalen* schooner, which carried Lady DUNMORE, and the rest of the Governor's family, immediately to England. – And on Tuesday, the *Otter* sloop, Capt. [Matthew] Squires, fell down to the mouth of York river; intending, we hear, to cruise along the coast, and seize all provision vessels.

South Carolina and American General Gazette, FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1775

Charlestown, July 7.

On Tuesday last [July 4] his Majesty's sloop *Scorpion*, commanded by Hon. Capt. [John] Tollemache, sailed for Boston

8 July

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Glasgow*, TYRINGHAM HOWE, COMMANDING ¹

1775 July [Off Cape Cod] Latitude 41.9

Saturday 8 P M brot to two Briggs from Nantucket ² & a Transpt from New York with Troops for Boston Do sent the Acting Lieut. & 4 Men on board one of the Briggs & 2 Midn & 4 Men on board the other

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/398.
2. The brigs were the *Peace & Harmony*, James Wishart, master, and the *Neptune*, John Davis, master, both with cargoes of oil and staves, bound for London. They were sent into Boston and were "Allowed to proceed on their Voyage to London," Graves's Conduct, Prize List, MassHS Transcript.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy)

Boston July 8th 1775

Sir/ The distress of this Town for the want of Provisions (and particularly Fresh for the Sick and Wounded) is such that I must earnestly Apply to you to Suffer vessels to pass, and repass, for that purpose, without Molestation, and to carry such Articles, as I may give permission for, to enable the purchasers to bring such Provisions, as we are in Extreme want of, and without which we can scarcely exist: Mr James Anderson, wants now to send a Vessel to Nova Scotia, and I beg he may be permitted to pass and repass, without hindrance, as long as he is employed in this necessary Business.

I am Sir &ca

1. Gage Papers, CL.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy)

Boston July 8th, 1775 -

Sir/ I have the Honor to Transmit you an Extract of a Letter I have received this Day from Major General [William] Howe, concerning the Gondolas, which I should be Obligated to you to have put in such repair as to make them Serviceable, what you cannot conveniently supply, I shall Order.

I am Sir &ca

1. Gage Papers, CL.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE ¹

Sir.

Boston 8th July 1775.

Whatever Articles Your Excellency shall think necessary to procure Provisions for the Town and particularly fresh for the Sick and Wounded shall be allowed to go out, And all Vessels employed on that Service be suffered to pass without any hinderance except the customary Visitation from the King's Ships; Your Excellency however will be so good from time to time to particularize what You would choose to have exported for the above purposes, to prevent any Abuse of a Measure absolutely necessary for His Majesty's Service. I have the honor to be with great Respect and Esteem, Sir [&c.]

Sam^l Graves

Mr [James] Anderson shall have a pass to Nova Scotia as your Excellency desires

1. Gage Papers, CL.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 8th [1775]

Resolved, That Mr. John Wharton immediately build a Boat or Calevat of 47 to 50 feet keel, thirteen feet broad, & four and a half feet deep.²

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 284.

2. Subsequently interchangeably known as galleys or gondolas.

WILLIAM HOOPER AND JOSEPH HEWES, NORTH CAROLINA DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, TO PETER VANBRUGH LIVINGSTON, PRESIDENT OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK ¹

Sir

Philadelphia, June [July] 8th, 1775

The committee of this City, a few days ago, transmitted to you an original letter from Gov. [Josiah] Martin to Henry White, Esq., from the contents of which it is very obvious that Gov. Martin has formed designs highly inimical to the friends of America. From authentic information we learn that he is to receive a supply of gunpowder from General Gage, via New-York, and that he has sent from North-Carolina a cutter well armed to receive it. She is a small boat, rigged like a schooner, mounts a few swivels, and is commanded by a Mr. Bridges, the lieutenant of the *Tamar*, man of war; the vessel, we believe, was formerly purchased in New-York by a Captain Vollet. We beg your particular care, in case she should arrive in your port, to take the steps you may think prudent to secure her and her

cargo. She is probably to receive the gunpowder from the *Asia*, or some other man of war lying in your harbour.

We are. Sir [&c.]

William Hooper Joseph Hewes

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 73.

DIXON AND HUNTER'S *Virginia Gazette*, SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1775

Williamsburg, July 8.

The *Fowey* man of war returned to York a few days ago, and his Excellency the Governor is still on board.

Two carpenters from the *Fowey* were yesterday taken near the Capitol Landing, where they were cutting timber for the ship. They were brought to town in the evening, by a party of volunteers, and are greatly satisfied in being removed from so disagreeable a situation as theirs was on board the man of war.

GOVERNOR JOSIAH MARTIN TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy)

North Carolina Fort Johnston July 8th. 1775.

Sir, I eagerly embrace this Opportunity which the politeness of Lord William Campbell, & of Captain [John] Tollemache has afforded me to communicate with your Excellency on the Affairs of this Colony.

My Duty to His Majesty's Service requires me to represent to your Excellency, that the *Cruizer* Sloop of War is by no means a sufficient force for this Station at present, This River alone, to which there are two Entrances, in my humble Opinion, might fully employ a 20 Gun Ship besides, and the Coast of this Province, that is near three Hundred Miles in Extent, and full of little Inletts, would require I should apprehend, at least two, if not three more Armed Vessels to watch it, and effectually to prevent the introduction of War like Stores, in which I have great reason to think there have been already considerable Importations, & according to my Information, much larger Supplies are continually expected, that it will be next to impossible to intercept, unless some Cruizers are stationed upon the Coast for that purpose.

His Majesty's Sloop *Cruizer*, under the Command of Captain [Francis] Parry, whose Zeal, and vigilance, omits no occasion to promote and forward His Majesty's Service, to the utmost of his power, is become my best asylum in the present time of Confusion in this Country, as in this Situation I find myself able at once to attend to the business of the Province, and to communicate with His Majesty's Minister and Officers, which in present circumstances of the Colony, I could not do in any place of Security that I could find in the interior Country, which is the only part of this Province not yet poisoned with disaffection, and alienated from the King, and in a state of preparation to act offensively against His Majesty's Government. The smallness of the *Cruizer*, renders me an inconvenient Guest to Captain Parry, I am very sensible: and therefore I the more lament it; while I am bound to acknowledge, his politeness Teaches me to forget every inconvenience of my own, arising from the want of better Accomodations.

I beg your Excellency to be assured however that I do not presume from any Selfish reason, or consideration of my own convenience, to represent the necessity

of a Larger Ship being Stationed here than the *Cruizer*. I can accomodate myself chearfully to any Circumstances, which the necessities of His Majesty's Service may require me to Submit to, but the principle upon which I humbly offer my Sentiments to your Excellency, on the propriety of sending a larger Vessel here, is, that this little Fort which is to the last degree contemptible, is nevertheless a necessary Door of communication with the Country of whose internal Strength I hope to avail His Majesty's Service greatly, whenever my Hands are properly Strengthened, and the safety of this place that is without a Garrison suitable to its Defence and Destitute of Powder, will depend entirely upon the aid it may receive from the King's Ships, and which can neither be expected, or afforded, in any effectual degree, by the *Cruizer*, as I am sure your Excellency will admit.

I beg leave on this occasion humbly to recommend to your Excellency's consideration the expediency of establishing some regular, and constant Channel of intercourse with the Southern Colonies, by which the King's Governors might hold your Excellency, and the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Land Forces apprised from time to time, of all such Circumstances as it might be necessary for His Majesty's Service, to communicate to you, and him, which they cannot longer attempt by Land, since the violence that have been done to the Post Offices, and Mails – and which is not to be effected by water conveyance, as there are not Vessels, or charges allowed for such purposes by Government – and that it will be hardly possible in these times of disaffection, to procure Vessels on any Emergency for such Service. The utility and necessity of such an Establishment as I have proposed to your Excellency, is the more evident to me, from the ill consequence of false Account circulated by the People of New England of the affair at Lexington, anticipating many Weeks General Gage's relation of that matter, to which the first false impressions, that gained over Multitudes of People to side of Rebellion, have not yet yielded in any degree.

(Sign'd) Jo: Martin

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

CAPTAIN JOHN COLLET TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE ¹

Sir

Nth Carolina Fort Johnston 8th July 1775

The forlorn Situation I am in, will I hope apologize for the liberty of taking any of your Excellency's time at this busy juncture and of adding few words to Governor [Josiah] Martin's representation of it – Reduced by desertion to 12 men; with 2 half barrels gun powder, I am left to defend a Fort much too large for that number; and to Keep and Save 14 eighteen Pounders, 16 nine do and 20 swivels. This is the only place to keep up a Communication & correspondence with the Head-Quarters, or any other parts – The loss of Such Sett of artillery, would be attended with too bad Consequences, to leave the least doubt in my mind About its being my duty to risk all to whether the storm forming about me. Had I but fifty good hands, Arms & powder enough, I am Conscious, no number nor forces of them would get the better of me. I heartily wish they may give us time enough to hear from your Excellency; flattering mySelf that your orders will relieve me from a most desperate situation –

If any thing happens before, I'll make the most of a bad game, and I dare Answer that nothing Shall be wanting in my Conduct, which may induce your Excellency to put to the Test my Zeal for His Majesty's Service; and to give me frequent opportunities of deserving and Securing your Excellency's Esteem and further protection – I have the honour to be with the utmost respect Sir [&c.]

John Collet ²

1. Gage Papers, CL.

2. Collet was a young Swiss, appointed upon the King's recommendation, to the command of Fort Johnston in 1767. While so appointed, he was under the jurisdiction of the North Carolina assembly, the fort being a provincial establishment.

SIR JAMES WRIGHT, GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA, TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

[Extract]

Savanah in Georgia the 8th July, 1775

No 52

I wrote Your Lordship in my Letter No. 51 that our Inlet was Guarded by Boats with Many Arm'd Men from Carolina, Since which several have gone down there from Savanah; all waiting the Arrival of a Ship expected from London with Gun Powder, it is said to seize upon the Gun Powder, those from Carolina to take out the Gun Powder out belonging to the Inhabitants of their Province and those from hence to take out the Powder belonging to the Inhabitants of this Province, at least that is what is given out. And Capt. [William] Grant in His Majestys Armed Schooner having call'd in here The Liberty Gentlemen have fitted out a Schooner some say with 8 & some with 10 Carriage Guns Many Swivels & 50 Men. Capt. Grant is sail'd & no Vessel sent here yet by Admiral [Samuel] Graves And when in Council on the 4 Inst. Mr. Baillie, the Commissary (in whose Charge the Guns &c. belonging to His Majesty are) came there & Inform'd me that a Great Many People were taking & Carrying away some of the Guns, Carriages, Shot &c. for the Particulars of which I begg leave to referr to the Inclosed Copys of Affidavits and to the Inclosed Extract of the Minute of Council Relative thereto.

[Endorsed] R 19th August.

1. *Collections of the Georgia Historical Society*, III, 191, 192.

9 July (Sunday)

GENERAL ORDERS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

[Extract]

Head Quarters, Cambridge, July 9, 1775.

The Continental Congress having been pleased to appoint Horatio Gates Esq. Brigadier General, and Adjutant General of the Army; he is to be obeyed as such; and all Orders transmitted through him from the Commander in Chief, whether written or verbal, are to be punctually and immediately obey'd.

The General (or in his absence) The Commanding Officer at Roxbury, to send a Report every day in writing, Sealed up, to the Commander in Chief at Head Quarters, in Cambridge, of all the national Occurrences of the preceding day; mentioning particularly, all Arrivals of Ships and Vessels in the bay; and

what changes and alterations are made, in the Stations of the Men of war, Transport's, and floating batteries, &c.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, III, 318, 319.

LETTER FROM J. HOOPER ¹

Dr Sir

Newbury Port Sunday Eveng 9th July [1775]

I have the Pleasure to inform you, that the *Rockingham* left our Bar at 8 OClock this Eveng with a Brisk Breeze at S West & from the Appearance of the Night, I doubt not she will [be] 16 to 20 Leagues Distance ere the Dawn Appears – I wish her Success – Mugford the Mate left her 2 Nights pass'd without Leave from the Master, which Oppy was prudently embrac'd by shipping another Mate of an extream good Character. – I have persuaded Cole Forde to draw for 200 £ sterling & I have drew for £300 as you will find by the enclos'd Bills, all of which will lessen the Risque of the Adventure out, which Trust will be agreeable to you –

I hope this will meet you in Health & Safety at Watertown, & believe me to be [&c.]

J Hooper

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 194. The addressee is unknown.

BENJAMIN HALLOWELL TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy)

Boston July 9th 1775

Sir The 7th instant I wrote you a second letter requesting the favor of you to give directions to the King's Ships that the eight Men I had named might pass down this harbor for the purpose of Cutting the grass & making the hay (My Property) on Gallop's island – the bearer of each Returned with a Message from you that neither of the letters Required an answer upon reconsidering what had passed at the different times when I waited on you on the business of the hay being water born I now apprehend that my Complying with your demands I might be allowed to bring it to Boston – therefore I do submit to the heavy Contribution you have laid me under, & that you may take one half [of] my property for your leave that I may do what is Requisite to get the other half up here & to facilitate its being done immediately I shall send the people to the island early tomorrow Morning & as I mean to do every thing on my part must beg the favor that you will give the Necessary directions that they are not interrupted. the interest every day is suffering very much. I am &c.

Benj Hallowell

1. Clinton Papers, CL.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE ¹

Sir

Boston July 9. 1775

I have had the Honor of your Excellency's Letter inclosing an Extract from Major General [William] Howe's concerning the Articles and Alterations wanting in the floating Battery Boats –

They were fitted ashore by the Engineer's Carpenters, under the direction of Colonel [Thomas] James, and I imagine it will be more agreeable to your Excellency that these people should finish their Work and make the Alterations required – Men shall be sent to Compleat the Complements of the three Scows – There is no Canister Shot allowed to the fleet – We buy Oars in Boston and at present have very few Spare ones for the Ships boats so that I cannot send any to the floating batteries.

Grape Shot, Guntackles, Hand spikes, Musquets, Cutlasses shall be delivered if your Excellency will be pleased to order an officer having charge of Ordnance Stores to receive and give proper receipts for them to the Gunners of the King's Ships.

No Receipts can yet be obtained for the Stores already Issued from the *Preston* for the Use of the Army – The Captain and Gunner Consequently can not receive their pay, My Order being insufficient for that purpose, without receipts to accompany it; I shall therefore be greatly obliged to your Excellency to give directions that the proper officer may always attend to give receipts for such Stores as shall, upon Your Excellency's application, be occasionally supplied from the fleet, to prevent any delay to the Service, or detriment to the officers having charge of Stores.

Tanned Hides I believe May be got in Boston – there are no More in each Ship than is barely sufficient for the Magazine – however if none can be procured ashore – One of the Ships shall part with hers. I am Sir [&c.]

Sam^l Graves.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

[Boston] 9 [July, 1775]

A Third Scow being required by his Excellency to be stationed on the Flank of Boston Neck, the Admiral ordered the *Somerset*, *Boyne* and *Preston* to supply men for that purpose, & in various other articles contributed all in his power to the daily demands for the army.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 138.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Scorpion*, JOHN TOLLEMACHE, COMMANDING ¹

Sunday 9 July 1775 Cape Fear No 32 W 11 Leags:
at 12 [midnight] hove Short, Weig'd and Came to Sail Pilot still on board.
First part Squally with Rain, Middle and Latter Light Breeze. & fair PM.
Sounded, Jack'd Ship Occasly

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/872.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

In the Council of Safety [Charleston] Sunday, July 9th 1775.

The following Pilots were sent for, and examined, as to the Effect the Removal or taking away the Beacon on Middle Bay Island might have – viz. Mr Spedel, Mr Elsinore & Mr. Waldron.

Resolved, That Encouragement be given to Importers of Arms, Ammunition & coarse Foreign Cloths, by paying them for such Articles in Rice

1. Laurens Collection, SCHS.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SCHOONER *Saint John*, LIEUT. WILLIAM GRANT,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Georgia Barr No 43 Wt 90 Leag

Sunday 9 Fresh breezes and Squally – Hove to fired 2/ 3 pounders and brought to a Ship from St Domingo and a Schooner from Turks Island with Salt – Boarded and Rummaged the said Vessels Suspecting them to have powder on board.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

10 July

DEPOSITION OF THOMAS FLINN, MASTER OF THE *Falmouth Packet* ¹

Halifax SS

The Deposition of Thos Flinn, Master of the Schooner *Falmouth Packet* taken before me George Deschamps Esqr One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Halifax aforesaid this Tenth July in the fifteenth Year of His Majestys Reign Annoque Domini 1775

This Deponent Saith that he sailed from Windsor in this Province in the said Schooner *Falmouth Packet* whereof he is Master, on the second of June last for Machias to Load Boards, and Arrived there the 10th of said June where he found every thing Quiet. That on the Eleventh day of June being Sunday, in the Evening about 10 oClock a number of Armed Men Attacks a Kings Tender schooner Commanded by Capt [James] Moore (who they supposed Intended to Rescue two Sloops belonging to Mr Ichabod Jones which the People of Machias had seized) they first Desired Capt Moore to strike to the sons of Liberty and come on shore; but on his refusing they fired upon him and he Return'd it the Firing was smart for about a Quarter of an Hour when Capt Moore cut his Cables and fell down the River, with the Tide near the Mouth of the River where as the Deponent was Inform'd Capt Moore came along side of a Sloop outward bound and took out the Captain one Toby of Sandwich, and one of his Men together with some Stores, That on Monday Morning Capt Moore Weighd Anchor and went down to the Mouth of the River where he came to an Anchor gaving carried away his Gaff, and there he met with a Sloop from Horton [sic!] Commanded by one Rathbone bound into Machias whose Gaff & Boom Capt Moore took away together with a Mr Robert Avery of Horton,² that the same Mornng about six oClock about Twenty arm'd men Inhabitants of Machias Among whom were Mr Benjn Forster John Scott John/[Long] and Ephraim Chase came on board the Schooner *Falmouth Packet* and Demanded the Vessel of this Deponent which was Refused, when they declared it was in vain to Refuse as they would take her by Force, and Insisted on this Deponent and his People Proceeding with them, but

on his Peremptorily refusing to go or to suffer his People they put both himself and his people on shore, after which they proceeded down the River together with one of Mr. Jones's Sloops with about Thirty men, on board said Sloop and at the Mouth of the River Engaged and took as this Deponent was Inform'd, the said Kings Tender, in the Attack of which Mr Robert Avery and one Man of the Tender were Killed on the spott & Capt Moore and five others were Wounded of which Wounds the Capt and two others are since dead, the Machias People had One Man Killed and four Wounded, Mr Jones's Sloop was Commanded by Jeremiah OBrian an Inhabitant of Machias.

On Tuesday 13th June this Deponents Vessel was return'd to him when he Proceeded to load his Cargo of Boards, and was loaded ready to sail on the 22d when at the Mouth of the River an Armed Boat in which were John Long Willm Tupper, Wm OBrian Jabez West, Joseph Wheaton and One Young and one Bale and another Man who seized his Vessell, and carried her up the River were they detained him untill the fifth day of July Instant, when the Committee of Safety at Machias gave him a Permit to sail and he Proceeded Accordingly to this place the 6th Instant

Some Days before he sailed they fitted out a Sloop of Ichabod Jones's burthen about Ninety Tons, Armed as this Deponent was Inform'd with four or six Cannon four Pounders, and fourteen swivels, and Manned with about forty Men, and this Armed Vessell left the Town were this Deponent lay on the first Instant said by some with design to fetch Provisions from Philadelphia and by others to Cruize for the Cattle Vessells bound from Windsor to Boston, One Jeremiah OBrian was said to be Master of this Vessell.

One Capt Smith of Machias returned from the Congress while this Deponent lay there and brought from Salem a Vessell with a Quantity of Provisions and Ammunition & they Expected more.

The same Day this Deponent left Machias he spoke to Lieut Knight of the *Diligent* Cruizing off the Wolves by Grand Manan, who brought him too, as also a Sloop from Machias Commanded by Capt Williams who was on board Mr Knight This Deponent was twice with the Committee of Safety when Mr James Lyons a Minister late of Picton in this Province was Chairman which Committee was Established after the taking the Tender there were two Brigs and a schooner loading when he left Machias

Tho^s Flinn

Taken & Sworn to the aforementioned 10th July 1775 before me George Deschamps Jus. Pc.

Isaac Dankes Mate of the said schooner *Falmouth Packet* Deposeth that the within Deposition is the same as what he saw & was Informed of, and that it Contains the full substance of what he has to relate Respecting the said Transactions at Machias

Isaac Danks

1. Nova Scotia Papers, DAC.

2. Avery was from Norwich, Conn., bound home from Horton, Nova Scotia.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS ¹

[Extract]

Camp at Cambridge, July 10, 1775

Sir I arrived safely at this place on the 3d instant; – after a Journey attended with a good deal of Fatigue and retarded by necessary attentions to the successive Civilities which accompanied me in my whole route. Upon my arrival I immediately visited the several Posts occupied by our Troops, and as soon as the Weather permitted, reconnoitred those of the Enemy. I found the latter strongly entrenching on Bunkers Hill about a mile from Charlestown, and advanced about half a mile from the place of the last Action, with their Centries advanced about 150 Yards on this side the narrowest part of the neck leading from this place to Charles Town. Their floating Batteries lay in Mystick River, near their Camp, and a twenty Gun Ship below the Ferry place between Boston and Charles Town. They have also a Battery on Copse Hill, on the Boston side, which much annoyed our Troops in the late Attack. Upon Roxbury Neck they are also deeply entrenched and strongly fortified. Their advanced Guard 'till last Saturday, occupied Brown's Houses, about a Mile from Roxbury Meeting House and twenty rods from their Lines: But at that time a party from General Thomas's Camp surprized the Guard, drove them in and burnt the Houses.

The Bulk of their Army commanded by General Howe, lays on Bunker's Hill, and the remainder on Roxbury neck, except the light Horse, and a few Men in the Town of Boston. On our side we have thrown up Intrenchments on Winter and Prospect Hills, the Enemy's Camp in full view, at the distance of little more than a mile. Such intermediate points, as would admit a Landing, I have since my arrival taken care to strengthen down to Sewall's Farms where a strong Intrenchment has been thrown up. At Roxbury General Thomas has thrown up a Strong Work on the Hill, about two hundred Yards above the Meeting House, which with the Brokenness of the Ground and Rocks, have made the Pass very secure. The Troops raised in New Hampshire with a Regiment from Rhode Island occupy Winter Hill. A Part of those from Connecticut under General Putnam are on Prospect Hill. The Troops in this Town are entirely of the Massachusetts: The remainder of the Rhode Island Men, at Sewalls Farm. Two Regiments of Connecticut and nine of the Massachusetts are at Roxbury. The residue of the Army, to the Number of about seven hundred, are posted in several small Towns along the Coasts, to prevent the depredations of the Enemy: Upon the whole I think myself authorized to say, that considering the great extent of Line and the nature of the Ground, we are as well secured, as could be expected in so short a time and under the disadvantages we labour. These consist in a Want of Engineers to construct proper Works and direct the Men; a Want of Tools and sufficient Number of Men to man the Works in case of an Attack. You will observe by the Proceedings of the Council of War, which I have the Honor to enclose, that it is our unanimous Opinion to hold and defend these Works, as long as possible. The Discouragement it would give the Men and its contray Effect on the Ministerial Troops thus to abandon our Incampment in their Face, formed with so much Labour and expence; added to

the certain Destruction of a considerable and valuable extent of Country, and the uncertainty of finding a place in all respects so capable of making a stand are leading reasons for this Determination. At the same time we are very sensible of the Difficulties which attend the Defence of Lines of so great extent, and the Dangers which may ensue from such a Division of the Army. . . .

We labour under great Disadvantages for want of Tents, for tho' they have been help'd by a collection of Sails from the Seaport Towns, the Number is yet far short of our Necessities . . .

Having ordered the Commanding Officer at Roxbury to give me the earliest Intelligence of every Motion of the Enemy, by Land or Water, discoverable from the Heights of his Camp, I this instant, as I was closing my Letter received the enclosed from his Brigade Major. The Design of this Motion I know not; it may be to make a Diversion somewhere along the Coast; it may be for New York, or it may be practised as a Deception on Us. I thought it not improper however to mention the Matter to you: I have done the same to the Commanding Officer at New York, and I shall let it be known by the Committee of Safety here, that the Intelligence may be communicated, as they see best, to the Sea Coast of this Government. I have the Honor, etc.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, III, 320–329.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO RICHARD HENRY LEE ¹

[Extract]

Camp at Cambridge, July 10, 1775

. . . Our lines on Winter and Prospect Hills, and those of the enemy on Bunker's Hill, are in full view of each other, a mile distant, our advance guards much nearer, and the sentries almost near enough to converse; at Roxbury and Boston Neck it is the same. Between these, we are obliged to guard several of the places at which the enemy may land. They have strongly fortified, or will fortify in a few days, their camps and Bunker's Hill; after which, and when their newly landed troops have got a little refreshed, we shall look for a visit, if they mean, as we are told they do, to come out of their lines. Their great command of artillery, and adequate stores of powder, give them advantages, which we have only to lament the want of.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, III, 329.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN THOMAS TO GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

Sir a master of a vesel that Came out of Boston Saturday Night in order to Take Charge of a vesel at Soneington in Coniticut Loaded with Malases to Purseed to New York as he Saith his acquaintances in the Country Inform that he has bin a Suspected Person & I Think it my Duty to forward him to your Exelencye for your Exemiation I am Sir [&c.]

Jn^o Thomas

Roxbury Camp July the 10 D: 1775

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 194.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy)

Boston 10th July 1775 –

Sir/ I yesterday received your Letter, respecting the Floating Battery Boats, and shall be obliged to you, for the Several Articles, you promise to provide them; I have Ordered what may be otherwise necessary, to fit them for Service.

I am to acquaint you that the Commissary will clear the Gunner of the *Preston*, if he will procure him receipts from the Persons he delivered the Stores to; which is always Customary on those occasions, and without which the Commissary will be left in the same dilemma the Gunner Complains of; if those receipts are in future taken there will be no difficulty.

I am with Regard and Esteem. Sir &ca.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

Newport Mercury, MONDAY, JULY 10, 1775

Newport, July 10.

Last Monday [July 3] the two men of war on this station sail'd to convoy two sloops bound to Boston; one of which sloops Capt. [William] Dennis, was loaded with flour, &c. from Philadelphia, the other a whaling sloop, which arrived here a few days before, her oil having been taken out, and we hear a load of rum, sugar and melasses *taken* out of a number of small craft, going up the river, was put in. The men of war accompanied the sloops as far as they thought proper, and returned into this harbour on Tuesday night.

Wednesday morning the *King-fisher* sloop of war, Capt. [James] Montague, was tow'd into this harbour, and immediately after coming to anchor, she was thrown upon a very rank careen, by which 'twas supposed she had met with some misfortune the night before, as she was seen up the sound, and many cannon were heard in the night, and we are assured a certain Doctor in this town, went on board said ship several times from her arrival till Friday, to take care of some wounded men.¹

Friday in the afternoon the *Rose*, *Swan*, and *King-Fisher* went round the north end of Connnicut, that night anchored near Dutch Island, and next morning went without the Light-House; the *King-fisher*, 'tis supposed, is gone to Boston; the other two returned to this harbour in the afternoon.

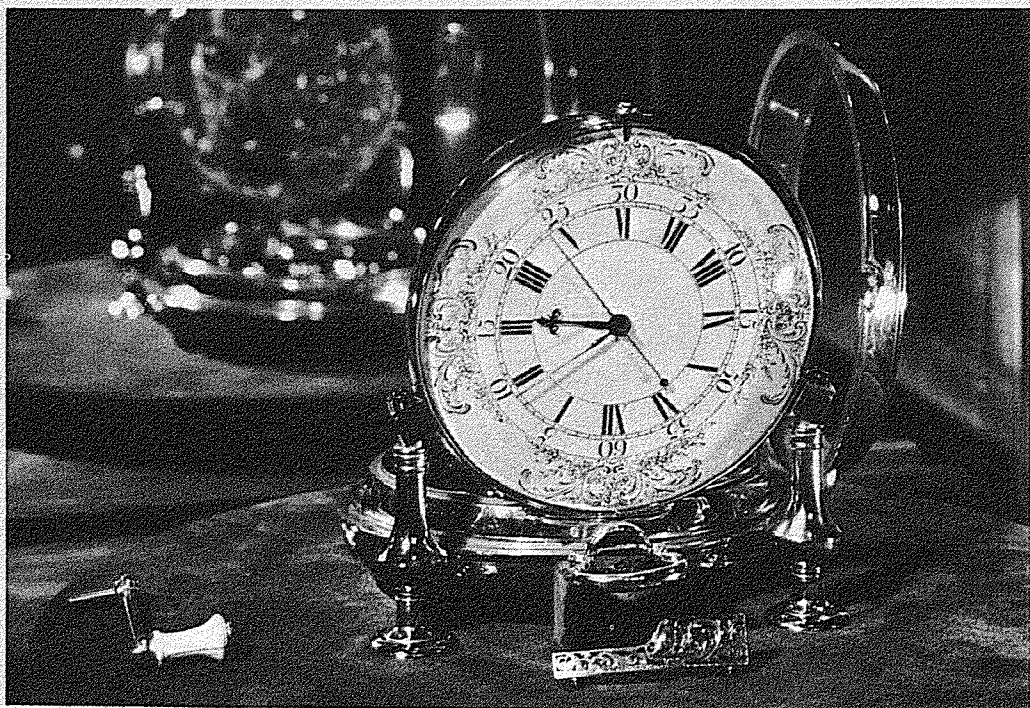
1. The Journal of the *Kingsfisher* records no such incident.

ISAAC SEARS TO SILAS DEANE, CONNECTICUT DELEGATE TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

My Dear Sir, –

New Haven, July 10, 1775.

I am now to inform you that there is a 20 gun ship and two tenders in the Sound. They have begun their work, that is, to intercept the trade of our vessels. Yesterday they run a vessel ashore off Seabrook, which had duck, &c. on board, but [this] was hove overboard before the Barges boarded her. She is now south from this harbor. Capt. Trobrige told me that a man of character and truth told him, that he saw a brigantine off Watch Hill engage one of the sloops of war, and it appeared the brigg got the better till she lost her boom; they then parted and



John Harrison's Marine Timekeeper (or chronometer) No. 4. Front and rear views.

the sloop got into Newport, and could but just keep above water, and was obliged to heave down immediately. I think it shows the necessity of a small squadron to be fitted out immediately. The adjournment of the [New York] Congress has given me an opportunity to be here. I am &c.

Isaac Sears

1. *Connecticut Historical Society Collection*, II, 284.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 10th [1775]

Resolved, That Emanuel Eyres immediately Build a Boat, agreeable to the Model produced by him this day.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 285.

“COPY OF A LETTER TO MR. [PHILIP] STEPHENS, DATED AT PHILADELPHIA
THE 10TH JULY 1775” ¹

[Extract]

How hazardous soever my writing may prove at this time when Copies of Letters of Intelligence for perquisite sake are granted by Office Clerks to the great prejudice of His Majesty's faithful Subjects Residents on this Continent, who become a sacrifice to the resentment & chastisement of a Licentious & Rebellious Mob, yet I cant longer sit still & behold my royal Master his Lords & Parliament branded by every Reptile with the most Opprobrious Epithets; Majesty has fallen so low as to be known by no other Appellation but that of a perjured Tyrant, a Popish Villan, who has broke his Corronation Oath, add to which their wish to have him here, & swear they would shorten his Ambition of Despotism By the head, had this been the Language of thoughtless Mob it may be imputed to gross Ignorance, but proceeding from the lips of those who call themselves the better Sort, must make the feelings of a person who has been a Servant of the Crown unhappy. —

More of their barbarous & savage Jargon I shall not take up your time with, but signify as many of their Schemes & Intentions as are come to my knowledge, with a view that my Lords of the Admiralty may pursue such Measures as may counteract their diabolical Machinations, which breath neither more nor less than the avowed Principle of Republicanism; In this System of Politicks I fear they are abetted by some unfriendly European Power, as they boast that two of the greatest Powers of Europe have offered to supply them with Men & Necessaries of War, this in a great measure am induced to believe from the great quantity of Gun Powder smuggled lately into this Province, this Powder is sent over Land to the Rebels of Connecticut who escort it to their Brethern of Massachusetts Bay; At this time the Congress assembled here have issued Orders for building a number of Floating Batteries, constructed like Rowboats, each to carry One Cannon of 24 pound Shott in their Bows,² these are to lie in mouths of Creeks out of sight of any of His Majts Ships that may come up the River & endeavour the sinking them, some of those Floats are launched this day but continue building many more, as well several Armed Vessells of sufficient force to attack in a Body

any of His Majts 20 Gunships, Sloops of War &c. that may hover about these Coasts

I am often perswaded that if Ships of War had been stationed here & some cruizing off the Capes of Delawar for the last four Months past, the Magazines of this Town & Neighbourhood would not be so full of Warlike Stores, they dread the arrival of Ships of War & are at this juncture in consultation how to form Impediments by sinking Hulks &c in the most passable Channels of this River, the Islands are to have Batteries on them, as well as the Banks and Wharffs in and near this Town; . . .

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/122, LC Transcript.

2. The writer was mistaken in thinking the Continental Congress had ordered the building of the vessels of war he described. That action had been taken by the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety.

MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COMMITTEE ¹

At a Meeting of the Committee 10 July 1775

On Motion, *Resolved* that for the future every Master of a Vessell reporting his Cargo before the Committee, Shall also at the same time declare on Oath the Quantity of Gunpowder he hath onboard, or hath Imported this present Voyage.

1. Balt. Com., LC.

MASTER'S LOG OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Mercury* ¹

Rem[ark]s &c Monday 10 July 1775 [York River, Virginia] 4 A M Little wind and fair at $\frac{1}{4}$ past weighed and Came to Sail at $\frac{1}{2}$ past shortn to let the *Otters* Boat Com on bd Made Sail again past by His Majestys Sloop *Otter* at Anchor, at 8 point Comfort S W B S and the So[uth]ermost part of the Chary Stons E B S $\frac{1}{2}$, S, at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 Set Stearing Sails Modt and fair at Noon York Town W B N New point Comfort N N E old Do S B E Standing up to York Town

Little wind and fair W[eathe]r Sailing up York River at 3 P M Anchored (with the Bt Br and Veard to $\frac{1}{2}$ a Cable) abrest of the Town of York found here His Majts Ship *Fowey* at $\frac{1}{2}$ 3 Anchored here His Majts Sloop *Otter* at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 Veared away and Moord Ship Bt Br to the S E and Smal Br to N W a Cable each way, Fooses point E S E the Flagstaff at York Town S $\frac{1}{2}$ W

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1866.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Scorpion*, JOHN TOLLEMACHE, COMMANDING ¹

Monday 10 July 1775 Cape Fear N W 12 Leags

at 8 AM saw a Sail in the NW Quarter, Wore & gave Chace Fir'd two 6 Pounders Shotted at the Chace. First and Middle parts Mode & Clear, latter Squally with Rain, at 3 PM Haul'd our Wind to the Noward Sounded, & Kd Ship Occasly in Stays Carried away the Mn Topsl Yard Empd getting another up

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/872.

SIR JAMES WRIGHT, GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA, TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

[Extract]

No. 53

Savanah in Georgia the 10th of July 1775

My Lord Since Writing my Last of the 8th Inst. Capt. [Richard] Maitland Arrivd ² the Warlike Schooner fitted out as Mentioned before went to Sea and met with the Ship about 4 Leagues from the Bar Conductd her in & then took out all the Gun Powder on Board Amounting to about Six Tons as the Capt. tells me and which is now in the Hands of the Liberty People here who Forcibly Hold it against the Owners. The Capt. is going to make a Protest against them which if done before the Vessel (by which this is to go) Sails, I shall send Your Lordship a Copy of it for your more Particular Information. I am also to Acquaint Your Lordship that the *Sandwich* Packet Arrivd at Charles Town on the second Inst. When Your Lordship's Letters and those from Mr. Pownall & indeed every Letter directed to me both Public & Private was seized upon & opened in Charles Town & on the Evening of the 8th Inst. I receiv'd them seal'd up again by the Deputy Post Master General in Charles Town and Indors'd thus "Opened by the Committee of Inspection at Charles Town" G. Roupell . . .

Mr. [James] Habersham is gone to Philadelphia for the recovery of his Health and I begin to think a King's Governor has little or no business here.

1. *Collections of the Georgia Historical Society*, III, 194.

2. Ship *Phillipa*, Richard Maitland, master, 270 tons burden.

11 July

COLONEL JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO ELIPHALET DYER, A CONNECTICUT DELEGATE
TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

Honed Sir:

Camp at Cambridge, 11th July 1775.

The General's Express that ought to have left this Four days ago, is not yet gone. I therefore set down to give you some description of our Situation here, & that of the Enemy. The Enemy are situated on Bunker & Breed's Hills, both on the Peninsula, where the late Town of Charlestown stood, & within reach, & under the Cover of the Guns from the Batterys in the Town of Boston & the Ships in the Harbour, & of a Number of Floating Battery's which they have Built, that carry 2 guns in their Bows, 2 in their Sterns, & one on each Side. Our People are Situated from Charles River, about 200 rods below [the] College, where we have a Redoubt, which begins the Line, then about 60 Rods from that, another Redoubt, & lines continued near 100 Rods – then at the Charlestown Road, on the West Side of the Road, at the foot of Prospect Hill, another Redoubt, & strong fortification. Then on Prospect Hill is Putnam's Post, a very strong fortification, then between that & Winter Hill, a Redoubt. – On Winter Hill a strong Citidale & Lines over to Charlestown Road to Mistick, – then in Mr. Temple's Pasture a strong Redoubt that commands to Mistick River. So that we have a compleat Line of Circumvallation, from Charles River to Mistick River, our Main Fortress on Prospect Hill, the Enemy's main Fortress on Bunker's Hill, within Cannon Shot of each other. A Hill between these two Posts a little to the Eastward of Prospect Hill, called Cobble Hill, I expect will

soon cause us a *Squabble* which shall have it, our People or their's; nor do I expect it will be many days before the Contest begins which will probably bring on a general Engagement. If they let us alone four or five days more, we shall be well prepared, & shant care how soon they come – the sooner the better. At Roxbury side, the Enemy have dug across the Neck & let the Water thro', & our People in Town have Intrenched across the outer end of the Neck, & are strongly Fortified there, & on the Hill by the Meeting House – so strong that I believe every man in Boston & at Bunker's & Breed's Hills must fall, before they could force a passage that way into the Country. Genl. [John] Burgoyne sent a Trumpet yesterday, with a letter to Genl. [Charles] Lee, wishing a composition of these unhappy Differences, &c. – & says the Parliament will certainly give up all Right or Pretense of Taxation, if that will do; & wishes a conference. This Letter is sent to Pro[vincial] Congress for their opinion, & further to appoint a Person [whom they] can confide in, to attend the Conference, & hear [what] passes, if they Judge it best to have a Conference. Majr. [Horatio] Gates is arrived & we are geting into order & regularity very fast. Last Night our People at Roxbury fired the remainder of Brown's Buildings on Boston Neck, & have drove the Enemy's Guards Back to their Lines. I am, most respectfully Yours,

Jos: Trumbull

Fessenden arrived Express from Philadelphia last night.

1. *Historical Magazine*, January, 1863, vol. VII, 22, 23.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE, JULY 11, [1775]”¹

The enemy are situated on Bunker and Breed's hill, both on the Peninsula, where the late town of Charlestown stood, both within reach, and under the cover of the guns, from the batteries in the town of Boston, and the ships in the harbour and a number of floating batteries, which they have built, and carry two guns in their bows, two in their sterns, and one on each side.

1. *Pennsylvania Packet*, July 24, 1775.

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN ADAMS¹

[Extract]

Watertown, July 11, 1775

I always forgot to tell you I have seen your letter to [Elbridge] Gerry, expressing Mr. [Christopher] Gadsden's opinion about fixing out armed vessels and setting up for a naval power.² I thought it very happy to have so great an authority confirming my own sentiments, and having proposed in [Provincial] Congress just such a project the beginning of the session, borrowed the letter to support it. But yet I have not been able to effect it. [John] Pickering and his politics, the want of faith and ardor in Gerry, &c., and above all the want of powder has prevented it. The last is an objection, though I think it would be like planting corn. Ten very good going sloops, from 10 to 16 guns, I am persuaded would clear our coasts. What would 40 such be to the Continent. Such a determination might make a good figure on your Journals.

1. *Warren-Adams Letters*, I, 81, 82.

2. See Adams to Gerry, June 7, 1775.

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS ¹

[Watertown] Tuesday, July 11, 1775, Afternoon

Ordered, That Colonel [Benjamin] Lincoln bring in a Resolve determining what is best to be done with the Whale-Boats.

Colonel Lincoln, agreeable to appointment, brought in the following Resolve relative to Whale-Boats, which was accepted.

Whereas, the Congress some time past directed and empowered, in the absence of Captain Joshua Davis, Captain Edmund Soper to take charge of a number of Whale-Boats, then lying in the River at Braintree, purchased by said Davis for the use of the Colony; and as he hath procured and brought there a very considerable number more, which require his care and inspection, and as one person is sufficient to have the care of the whole of them; therefore,

Resolved, That as Capt. Davis is now returned, Capt. Edmund Soper be excused from any care of said Boats, until further orders; that he give information to said Davis where they are lodged; and if he hath delivered any of them to the order of the officers in the Army, to whom they were delivered, in order to his receiving them into his possession, as soon as the publick service will admit of it.

1. Force, comp. *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1505-1507, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

JOSIAH QUINCY TO JOHN ADAMS, A MASSACHUSETTS DELEGATE IN THE
CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Extract]

[Braintree] July 11 1775.

Whilst we jointly mourn, the Loss of a *Warren*, and a *Quincy*,² who have perished in this Storm of Tyranny and oppression, that almost overwhelms our american Ship of State; may that God, in whose Hands our Breath is and whose [care?] are all our Ways, graciously preserve the Lives of our remaining skilfull Pilots; and enable them to steer the shattered Bark in the *Harbor of Peace Liberty and Safety!* – So well constructed a Ship, and so richly laden ought not to become the Prize of *Robbers and Pirates*: – Before that should happen, were all the Crew of my Mind, we would maintain the *Conflict* to the last Man: – However, if General [Charles] Lee's Judgment may be relied upon, the Ship is in no great Danger of being finally lost; for he last year publicly gave it as his Opinion, that if the americans gained the first Victory, it would prove decisive; Whereas, their Enemies might gain several, and be, at last, defeated: – Hitherto they have certainly failed of Success; for, altho' they obliged our Troops to retreat, from the Hill in Charlestown, where they were imprudently directed to begin an Intrenchment; yet, their Valor was invincible, whilst their Ammunition lasted; and they killed, and wounded so many of their Enemies, that a few more such Victories would certainly ruin them – in short my Friend, had we a sufficient supply of Powder and battering Cannon, such is the Spirit and Intrepidity of our Countrymen, we should very soon, and with little or no Hazard, lock up this Harbor and make both Seamen and Soldiers our prisoners at Discretion.

My Head has been teeming with Projects of this kind ever since you left us; and had one of them been timely seconded by the Comtee of Safety, we should (I believe) happily have saved the further Effusion of human Blood. –

You know, my Situation gives me an Oppy. to see, and observe every thing that passes up and down the Harbor: – About a Week or 10 Days after the Battle at Lexington, I was informed that a large Transport was ordered to take, on board from the Castle a 1000 or 1200 bars. of Powder, and 20 or 30 Pieces of brass Cannon 24 & 42 pounders; with which She fell down between the Castle and Spectacle Islnd. and there anchored under the Protection of a 70 gun Ship: A few Days afterwards the Man of war was ordered to Sail for New York, upon which I informed the Comtee. of Safety of the Situation & Circumstances of this Store Ship & her Cargo; that now was the time to secure a sufficient Supply of Powder & heavy Cannon, by seizing the Ship as soon as the *Asia* left her: – They seemed to be sensible of the importance of the Object; but such a complicated Body was too slow in its Motion to improve the lucky Minutes and catch such an *inestimable Prize*: for about a Week after the *Asia* sailed, and the very morning of the Day that the late worthy Dr. Warren, at the Head of a sub Comtee. came to take a View of the Transport, and determine upon the Mode of Surprizing Her, another 70 Gun Ship anchored just by her: – The letting such a favorable Oppo. slip unimproved, verifys a very just tho' trite observation that the military Department ought always to be under one Direction; and I devotedly pray, for my dear Country's sake, we may have no further Proofs of it.

The Inconveniencies, not to say Distresses, in Consequence of a total stop to our Navigation, will, I fear, soon become insupportable, unless an adiquate Remedy can be found: – Permit me (with Freedom) to communicate my Thoughts to you upon the Subject.

I am unable to conceive, any Method so likely to secure our Navigation (Coast wise) as Row Gallies: They are calculated to go in shoal Water, and navigated with many Men, are armed with Swivels, and one large battering Cannon in the Bow of each: By this they can keep off any Vessel of one Tier of Guns: – One such Vessel (I apprehend) might securely convoy 10 or a Dozn. provision Vessels, from Harbor to Harbor, in the summer Season.

As the whole Continent is so firmly united, why might not a Number of Vessels of War be fitted out, & judiciously stationed, so, as to intercept & prevent any Supplies going to our Enemies; and consequently, unless they can make an Impression Inland they must leave the Country or starve.

Floating Batteries is another Mode of annoying our Enemies which (I apprehend) might be successfully carried into Execution: – I have in general a clear Idea of their Construction, and intend, if I can procure a Workman, to form a Model of one, but every Scheme of this Nature depends upon a full supply of Ammunition and heavy Cannon; which I hope the Wisdom of the Continent will soon be able to provide.

Our Enemies (since the Action at Charlestown) are quite silent, save, now and then, a Carcase, or a 24 pounder: Whether, they have recd. some disagreeable News, or their repeated Losses have discouraged them; or they are preparing to give us a direful Blast, is, at present, problematical; however, this is certain, they are diabolically oppressive, & cruel to those they have in their Power: – Poor young Master [James] Lovel, (if not already) will probably soon fall a Victim, to their insatiable Thirst for Blood, on Accot. of the Contents of some Lrs. from

him, which were found in Dr. Warren's Packets, & which, they say, *contain Matters of a treasonable Nature*.

I have only Room to add, my respectfull Regards to good Dr. F[rankli]n, and to your worthy Brethern, the Delegates from this Colony; which please to make acceptable to them, and believe me to be, [&c.]

an Old Friend

1. Adams Family Papers, MassHS.

2. Dr. Joseph Warren, killed on Bunker Hill, and Josiah Quincy, Jr., who had died on ship-board approaching Boston harbor, the week after Lexington.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Senegal*, WILLIAM DUDDINGSTON, COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 [King Road, Boston Harbor]

Tuesday 11 9 A M fired a Gun & md Sigl for weighing at 10 Weighed & came to Sail – *Diana, Eagle, Lion, Brilliant* Transports, *Polly Britania & Sarrah* Sloops under Convoy ² at noon Anchored in King Road in 7 fam water.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/885.

2. All bound to the Bay of Fundy for provisions and wood.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

[Boston] 11th [July 1775]

The *Senegal* and Transports sailed with Orders to proceed to Fox Islands, Annapolis, Lunenbourg, or any other place on the Coast, where, upon consulting with the Agent, Wood could most readily be procured.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 138, MassHS Transcript.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS ¹

[Extract]

The person that commanded the sloop [*Enterprise*] on Lake Champlain has left here.² It is more than probable that I shall not be able to procure at Ticonderoga such a person as I should wish to command her. I entreat you therefore to send me with all possible dispatch a person fit to confer such an important command upon. You will please to transmit me an account of the agreement you may enter into with him.

Albany, July 11th, 1775.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, II, 11.

2. Captain John Prout Sloan; see muster roll, July 1, 1775.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

Sir,

Albany July 11th 1775.

I have the Honour to advise you that I arrived here on Sunday [July 9] at Noon, since which Time I have been closely employed in the Duties of my office.

It is with Pleasure I remark that Intelligence from various Quarters indicates a friendly Disposition in the Indians towards us. No Efforts however are wanting

on the Part of our Enemies to change these Sentiments in the Savages to Resentment & Hostility, an Evil highly incumbent on me to guard against, and of which the Come of this Place have so just a Sense that they pay it the closest Attention; whilst they look up to that respectable Body which represents the Continent of America for the Line of their future Conduct in this delicate & important Matter.

The unhappy Controversy which has subsisted between the officers at Ticonderoga relative to the Command has, I am informed thrown every Thing into vast Confusion. Troops have been dismissed – others refuse to serve, if this or that Man commands – the Sloop is without either Captain or Pilot, both of which are dismissed, or come away.² I shall hurry up there much sooner than the necessary Preparations here would otherwise admit, that I may attempt to introduce some Kind of Order & Discipline among them.

I am this Moment favoured with a Letter from Col. [Benjamin] Hinman and sundry Returns, Copies of which I enclose. You will perceive by the Return No 1 that on the 7th Inst. they had only one Barrel [of] Flour at Ticonderoga, twenty at Crown Point, and twenty at Fort George. By Number 2 & 3 it appears that about four Hundred and seventy seven Barrels of Flour, have been sent up amounting to about ninety five Thousand four Hundred Rations, and that about twenty Thousand remain, seventy five Thousand are expended. From the same Return it appears that about sixty five Thousand Rations of Pork have been also expended, exclusive of thirty five fat Oxen. Hence a very considerable Waste or Embezzlement has taken Place. Permit me here, Sir, to urge the Necessity of of the Appointment I recommended, in my Letter of the 28th June as indispensably Necessary, to carry on the Service with Propriety & economy, and Certainty; to which I must add another, that of Muster Masters & Deputies, without which such a scene of Confusion & Controversy must unavoidably take Place in the Payment of the Troops, as will be beyond the Power of the most able Accountant to certify. These officers are so necessary that I should not have hesitated a Moment to have made the Appointments had I not received your Orders to the contrary.

Give me Leave, Sir, to request a Copy of such Articles of War as the Congress may have adopted. The scandalous Want of Subordination, and the Low Treatment which I am informed some Officers give, & others receive merit exemplary Punishment, as they are injurious to the Army, destructive to the Service, and disgraceful to those in Command. –

Govr [Jonathan] Trumbul has honoured me with a Letter, in which he advises me that no more than forty Half Barrels of Powder can be sent from the Colony of Connecticut. That from Pennsylvania is not yet arrived, and you will perceive there is very little with the Troops. Should Govr [Guy] Carlton know our true Situation with Respect to this Article, it would be very easy for him to use it to our Disadvantage Govr. Trumbul will send me fifteen Thousand Pounds in Money, which is so much wanted here, that the spirited Come of this Place have been under the Necessity of emitting one Thousand Pounds in small Bills

as a circulating Medium to pay Troops and others employed in the Service, which, altho it passes as currently as Bank Bills in the best of Times, I shall order it to be called in, as soon as I am enabled to do it, least it should open a Door to Fraud and Confusion.

As the Transportation of Salted Meat is attended with the very heavy Expence of a sixty five Mile Land Carriage to Fort George; before I left New York I ordered one Hundred Head of fat Cattle to be purchased in Connecticut, and to be drove up to Ticonderoga, where there is a sufficiency of Pasture for them.

I enclose you Sir an Extract of a Paper received from Govr Trumbull relative to the Temper of Coghnewaga Indians marked No 4

The Paper No 5 will shew you how very weak we are with Respect to Vessels for transporting Troops across the Lake, or even with those necessary to keep the Command of the Lake in Case Mr Carlton should provide himself with a naval Force. I hope however soon after my Arrival at Ticonderoga to be in a better Condition for maintaining the Advantage we have acquired.

I hope to be at Ticonderoga on Friday or Saturday from whence I shall do myself the Honour to transmit you a full Account of the State of the Troops, and of every other Matter which may be necessary for your Information. I am Sir [&c.]

Ph Schuyler.

[Endorsed] Read [in Congress]; July 17th 1775.

1. Papers CC, 153, I, 18, NA.
2. The Continental sloop *Enterprise*.

COLONEL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

Gentlemen:

Albany July 11, 1775

General [Philip] Schuyler has desired me to acquaint you of the state and situation of the Army in the Northern Department. Six days since, when I left Crown Point, there were at that post near three hundred men, without employ, having received no orders to fortify; at Ticonderoga about six hundred in the same state; at Fort George, upwards of three hundred men; some few employed in building batteaus, and on scouting parties. Very little provision at any of the places; none made for the sick, which are daily increasing; only five hundred weight of gunpowder at all the places, and no Engineer or Gunner at either. Great want of discipline and regularity among the troops. On the other hand, the enemy at St. John's indefatigable in fortifying, and collecting timber (supposed) for building a vessel. The disposition of the Canadians and Indians, from the latest accounts, very favourable. A promise has, however, been extorted from the latter to defend Governor [Guy] Carleton if attacked, in Montreal; this of course.

By giving up the command, I have been prevented receiving regular intelligence as heretofor; the latest near twenty days since.

I have received no answer to my letter of the 13th June, by Captain [Eleazer] Oswald. Can only add, I am, with the greatest respect, Gentlemen [&c.]

Benedict Arnold

P.S. I had forgot to inform you my Regiment is disbanded.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1646, 1647.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF NEW YORK ¹

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety at the City Hall of the City of New-York, on Tuesday, the 11th day of July, 1775 at 9 o'clock, A.M.

A Letter from Gen. [David] Wooster was read, and is in the words following, viz:

Camp near New York, July 11, 1775

Sir Peter Herring the man who last night assisted in conveying on board the *Asia*, man of war one of the prisoners sent here by the Continental Congress, is now under guard at our camp. I would beg the immediate advice of the Committee of Safety concerning what is best to be done with him his brother is willing and desirous that he should be sent away somewhere, that he may be out of the way of the enraged people; some have proposed that he be sent on board the *Asia*; others think it best to have him sent to Connecticut with Gov. [Philip] Skeene, who will go off as soon as this matter can be determined. I hope, therefore, to be assisted with your advice as speedily as possible, and am, sir [&c.]

David Wooster

To Peter V. B. Livingston, Esq.

Thereupon, an Order to Gen. Wooster was made in the words following, to wit:

Sir Immediately on the receipt of this you are required to send the body of Peter Herring, under safe and secure guard, before the Committee of Safety, at the City Hall of the city of New York, for which this shall be a sufficient warrant. By order of the Committee of Safety.

An answer to General Wooster's letter was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New York, July 11th, 1775.

Sir: We this instant received your favour, and took the same into consideration. We think it highly necessary that Mr. Herring should be brought before us in order to be examined touching his accomplices, for which purpose we have enclosed an order of this Board. We are, Sir, [&c.]

To General David Wooster, at the Camp.

P.S. If there are any witnesses, please to send them also.

Ordered, That a copy of said letter and order be signed by the Chairman, and sent immediately.

A Letter from Abraham Lott, Esq., Agent for His Majesty's ships in this port, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

Gentlemen Having received a demand from John Collins, Esq., Commander of His Majesty's Ship *Nautilus*, now at Sandy-Hook, for 4000 pounds bread, 300 pounds beef, 500 pounds of pork, 12 bushels peas, 200 pounds butter, 200 pounds cheese, [and] 200 gallons rum, You will be pleased to signify your opinion, whether or no I shall supply the provisions, &c., pursuant to the demand. I am authorized to assure the honourable the Committee that the *Nautilus* is not going to Boston, but to the southward.

I am, Gentlemen [&c.]

Abraham Lott ²

To the Honourable the Committee of the New York Provincial Congress.

Ordered, That Abraham Lott, Esq., be at liberty to supply the quantities of provisions and rum above-mentioned to the ship *Nautilus* for the use of the said ship's company.

A letter from William Hooper and Joseph Hewes, Esquires, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

[Here is inserted their letter of July 8, 1775]

An Answer to the Letter of William Hooper and Joseph Hewes, Esquires, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety, New-York, July 11th, 1775.

Gentlemen: We have received your favour of the 8th of the last month,³ which came to our hands last night. Our Congress have adjourned for a fortnight from this day, and appointed us a Committee of Safety to act during the recess. We beg leave to assure you, that we will do every thing in our power relative to the schooner which you have described. We are, with much respect, Gentlemen, [&c.]

To William Hooper and Joseph Hewes, Esqs. of Philadelphia.

Ordered, That a copy be signed by the Chairman and transmitted.

Peter Herring being brought before the committee, Gen. [David] Wooster charged and accused him of being aiding and assisting to one Lundin⁴ yesterday evening in making his escape from the confinement he was under by order of the Continental Congress. Several witnesses were examined as to the charge, in the presence of the said Peter Herring.

Resolved, That it fully appears to this Committee, by the testimony of sundry witnesses, as also by the examination and confession of Peter Herring, of the city of New York, that the said Peter Herring was aiding and assisting to one Lundin, yesterday evening, in making his escape from the confinement he was in, by order of the Continental Congress; and the said Peter Herring assisted him to get on

board the *Asia* man of war, and was the means of getting him on board of the said ship.

Resolved and ordered, therefore, That the said Peter Herring be sent, under such guard as Gen. Wooster shall appoint, to Connecticut, to be there confined in close goal at the Continental charge, until he shall be thence discharged by the Continental Congress.

A Letter from Burnet Miller, Chairman of the Committee of Southampton, was read, and is in the words following, to wit.⁵

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 71-75.
2. As the *Nautilus* anchored in Sandy Hook at 11:30 on the morning of July 9 (PRO, Admiralty 51/629), it is not likely that Captain John Collins's requisition reached Abraham Lott before the evening of July 10; hence his letter to the Committee of Safety probably was written on the morning of the day it was received.
3. The letter was mis-dated, and should have been July 8, 1775. This is evidenced by the comment that Governor Martin's intercepted letter previously had been sent to the New York Provincial Congress by the Philadelphia Committee. That communication was read in Provincial Congress, June 27, 1775.
4. Lundin, or Lundy, was a civilian taken at the same time as Governor Philip Skene. For a further account, see *Journal of the Continental Congress*, July 5, 1775.
5. See Burnet Miller's letter of July 5, 1775.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY¹

[Philadelphia] July 11 [1775]

1st. *Resolved*. That Messrs. Robert White and Owen Biddle, do provide a Sail for one of the Boats now building under their direction.

The Committee appointed for the Building Boats and constructing the Machines for the defence of the River, Report that they have been Viewing a number of Pine Logs, which they think will be proper for the Service.

2nd. *Resolved*, That the said Committee do purchase the above mentioned Logs.

The President² delivered to Messrs. Robert White and Owen Biddle, his order on Captain [Benjamin] Loxley for such Guns and Military Stores as they may have occasion for.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 285.

2. The president of the committee was Dr. Benjamin Franklin.

MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COMMITTEE¹

At a Special Meeting of the Committee at the Court House 11 July 1775

Information having been made to The Committee that the Ship *Totness* was arrived from Liverpoole below Annapolis, having onboard Salt Mr Thomas Place one of the Consignees attended the Committee and declared that he and his Partner Mr Ashburner had reced Letters from Mr Gildart advising them that he intended dispatching the *Totnes[s]* to them in 12 days from the time he wrote, Ballasted with Salt and that they daily expected her to arrive, when he intended laying her Papers before this Committee; And he further said that he had been informed the said Ship was arrived and aground on the Two Sisters but that he

had not much confidence in the report. – Further Information being made that some [of] Mr Gildarts Friends had sent a Boat down to meet the *Totnes[s]*, The Committee thought proper to send for Mr Johnson Gildart, who attended, and declared that he had given a Pilot who was going down with the *Johnson* a Letter to deliver Capt Warring in case he met him, instructing him to proceed immediately to Hallifax and not to attempt coming up here. – Being again informed that the Boat who carried the Letter was returned, the Committee sent two of their Members to enquire for the Skipper and bring him before them, which was accordingly done & [he] immediately attended & declared he had been sent down by Mr Johnson Gildart with Letters to the Ship *Johnson*, and that at the same time he had given the Letter abovementioned for Capt Warring of the *Totnes[s]* in case he should meet her, and that on his return back from the Ship *Johnson* he saw a Ship onground on the Three Sisters which he made for, and found her to be the *Totness* and delivered the Captain his Letters, who replied that he must come or send to Baltimore for further Orders – On this Information Mr Johnson Gildart was sent for, who attended and engaged that the Ship should come to Baltre and wait the determination of The Committee, and accordingly gave Orders in Writing to the Captain for that purpose

1. Balt. Com., LC.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Fowey*, CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 York Town SW Gloucester Point No off shore 1½ Mile
Tuesday 11 at 3 PM Anchored here his Majesty's ship *Mercury* And *Otter* sloop

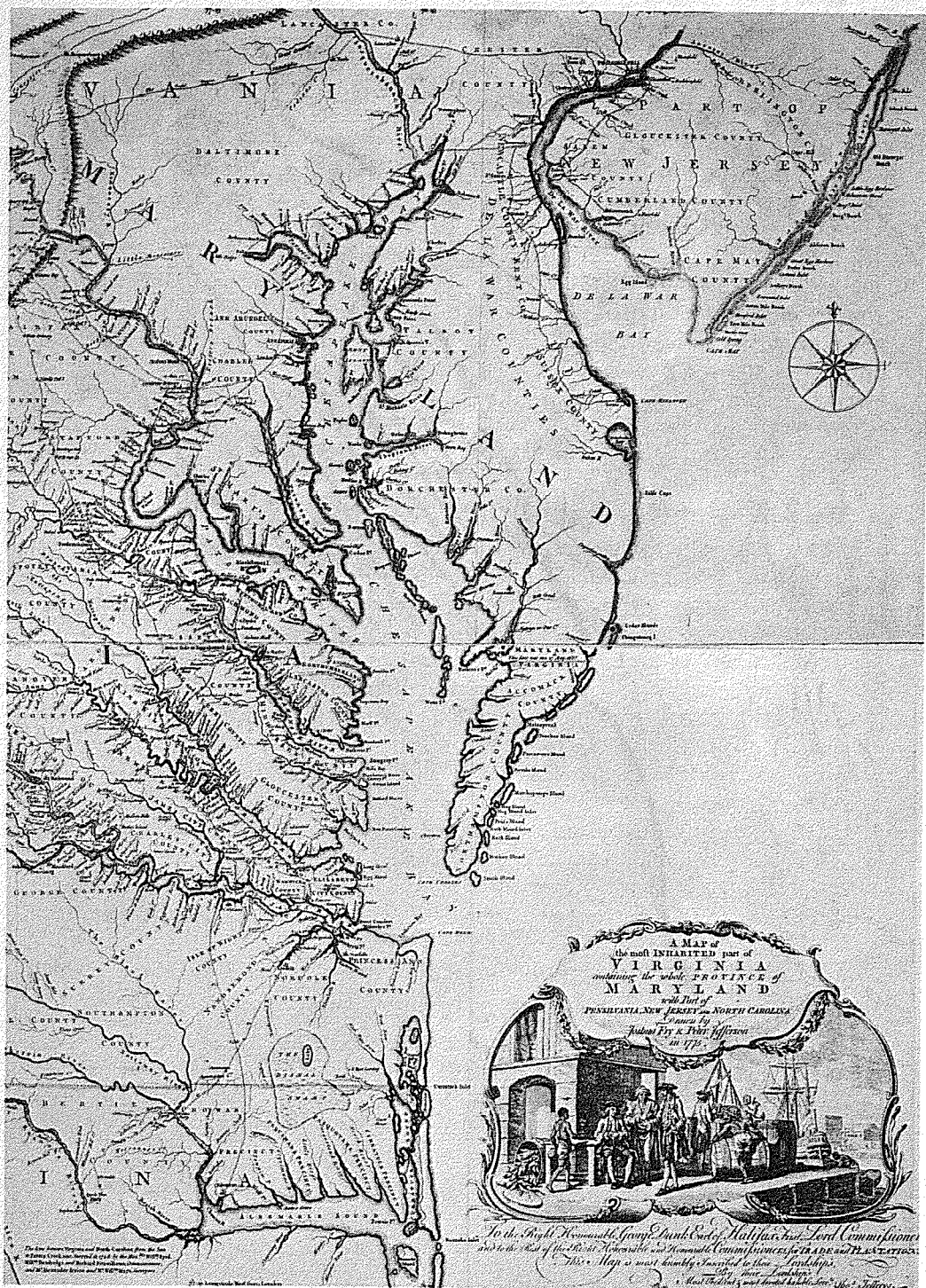
1. PRO, Admiralty 51/375.

"A MIDSHIPMAN ON BOARD THE *Otter* TO A FRIEND IN LONDON" ¹

July 11 [1775] off Cape Charles,

a boy from the *Jersey* came on board, with an account that the Rebel army, which is come down to York, in Virginia, had taken our men, who were on shore, prisoners. Upon this, our Lieutenant ordered me off to enquire into the matter. I walked up [to] their camp, which consisted of a few pales covered with leaves, and found two hundred rebels round our men, whom they had been informed belonged to the *Otter*; and at my arrival vowed, that if they caught any belonging to the *Fowey* man of war, they would never let them go. I enquired into the reason why they detained the men, and was asked to whom they belonged; I answered to the King. The Captain of the Guard then asked me if I belonged to the *Otter* and if any of the men or officers would venture on shore again. I told him, that both officers and men would, if they were ordered, come on shore to any duty. They said they hoped they would behave themselves well, or they would get something they did not like. I replied that if saying they belonged to the King was impertinent, it was the answer they must always expect. Thus you see that the people of York, in Virginia, are worse than at Boston.

1. *London Morning Post and Daily Advertiser*, August 24, 1775.



Section from a larger map, showing the Atlantic coastline from Delaware Bay to Albemarle Sound, 1775.

12 July

MEMOIRS OF MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH ¹

[Roxbury, July 12, 1775]

... in the forenoon, Col. [John] Greateon with 136 men, went on to Long-Island, and burnt the barns; the flames communicated to the house, and all were consumed. An armed schooner and several barges put off after the Americans, and some of the ships of war near the island, cannonaded them. The detachment made their way for the shore, and narrowly escaped being taken. One man on the shore who came to the assistance of the detachment was killed: it was supposed that several of the British were killed and wounded. The same day six transports, appearing to be full of men, arrived in Boston harbour.

1. William Abbatt, ed., *Memoirs of Major-General William Heath By Himself* (New York, 1901), 17. Hereafter cited as Abbatt, ed., *Heath Memoirs*.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAMBRIDGE, JULY 12, 1775".¹

Philadelphia, July 26.

The day before yesterday we went to Chelsea, famous for the battle of Noddle-Island near to it; while we were on Powder-Horn Hill, back of Chelsea, we saw a skirmish between a party of our people (120 in number) who went in whale boats, to an island about 12 miles from Boston, and burnt a large quantity of hay, which was put up into bundles by the Regulars, and intended to be sent to Boston for their horses. A great number of marines, in schooners, men of war's boats, and two ships of war kept up a constant fire on our men, while they remained on the Island; but this did not prevent them from destroying the hay. The schooner and boats endeavoured to cut off their retreat, which brought on a very warm engagement, in which we had one killed and one wounded. . . .

We have just got over land from Cape-Cod a large fleet of whale boats, in a day or two we shall man them in Cambridge and Mystick rivers, and try to keep our enemies boats from insulting us.

1. *New York Gazette*, July 31, 1775.

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS ¹

[Watertown] Wednesday, July 12, 1775

The Committee appointed to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, relative to Mr. Winslow's employing one William Lightly to carry a load of Molasses to New-York, &c., reported the following Letter to Governour [Jonathan] Trumbull, which was accepted, and ordered to be authenticated, and sent forward:

May it please your Honour:

The Brigantine *Nancy*, now in the harbour of Stonington, in Connecticut, being laden with molasses, the property of the late Joshua Winslow, of Boston, a noted and active friend to Administration, which, as we are well informed, is now directed to be conveyed to New York, and from thence, as we conjecture from sundry suspicious circumstances, to be sent to Boston; the master who has undertaken this business being now in custody, having given the information before mentioned; the Congress of the Massachusetts

Bay beg leave to observe to your Honour, whether prudence and good policy do not suggest to detain said ship and cargo, or such part of it as belongs to said Winslow, for the use of the Colonies, rather than to suffer them to fall into the hands of General [Thomas] Gage, where they will be improved to the support of our enemies, and to augment the distress of these Colonies.

We have the honour to be, &c.

To the Honourable Governor Trumbull.

Resolved, That said William Lightly be confined in Concord Jail, and that Mr. Davis be dismissed; and that Mr. [Jerathmiel] Woodbridge bring in a Resolve for this purpose.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1507, 1508, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Senegal*, WILLIAM DUDDINGSTON,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 [King Road, Boston Harbor]

Wednesday 12 at 2 A M came on bd a man who made his escape from the rebels, taken some time since from the *Falcon*, & gave Intelligence of 500 Rebels in 100 Whale Boats taken the Inhabitants & Cattle off Long Isld at 8 sent the Man to the Adml. at 1 P M a Number of men appeared on Long Isld – made towards & set fire to the Hous We kept a Continual fire for ten minutes till they Left the Isld sent the Boat mand & armd to intercept them, at 6 fired a Gun a Sigl to weigh

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/885.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

[Boston] 12th [July 1775]

The Rebels landed on Long Island last night, took off the little stock thereon (together with 19 Haymakers), and they being observed to be upon the Island again about Noon (when the Admiral himself happened to be on Board the *Boyne*), the *Senegal* fired at them and all the Boats of the Squadron with the *Lively's* Tender immediately pursued and drove them into Shoal Water where they escaped; but the Kings Boats came near enough to fire at them several times, and the Admiral was afterwards informed the Rebels had two men Killed and several wounded.

However they had already set fire to the Houses and Barns on the Islands which were unavoidably destroyed. And it was impossible to prevent this without employing constantly Guards of Soldiers on the Islands, and a number of small Vessels armed in the passages adjoining to the Main, which last, if the preservation of what was on the Island had been an Object, our small naval force would not admit of. Indeed, according to this plan, it would have required our whole Force in Detachments to secure all the Islands from Depredation, which their vicinity to the Main left them open to with very little trouble to the Rebels. And these excursions were always conducted with such Secresy and Dispatch that the Flames were generally the first Notice of their Intentions.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 138, 139, MassHS Transcript.

ALEXANDER BRYMER TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN ¹

Dear Sir,

Boston 12th July 1775

Letters from Quebec informing me that there was more shipping there 10th Ult^o than wou'd carry off the Produce of the current Year effectually prevented sending your Ship the *Peggy*; she was to have sailed the Day after I received these Letters & had her Pilot engaged & on Board. – I judged it best to detain her a few days from a certain Persuasion of sending by her Certificates on the Treasury for the Amount of her whole Cargo, but in this am likewise disappointed & was not till Yesterday discovered that the Number of Blls exceeded the Invoices by Eighteen, for which no Invoice can be found & will occasion a thorough overhawl of the whole Cargo, which will take up a great Deal of Time & be attended with much Trouble & on the whole have concluded to dispatch her to you & take the chance of an Opportunity to send the Certificates for the Cargo on the Treasury. –

As the Cargo has been appraised, the Wheat a 5/4d p Bushel, fine flour 18/ pC, spine do 20/ & the Indian Corn at 3/4 I cou'd not possibly obtain Freight; I therefore solicited that the Warrants on the Treasury shou'd be paid into my Hands, which is accordingly to be done & you will of Course have the Power of Payment in your own Hands when you are furnished with them, which I shall take Care not to lose sight of till possessed. – I have had ten Times more Trouble with this Cargo than if it had been consigned to me, for as you sent the ship to my Address I have been the acting Person in the Settlement of the Cargo & have done everything even to casting & settling the Invoices, none of which were summed up. – This I mention because I think I have a Right to charge Commission on the Cargo which wou'd never be settled without some Person's interfering, & no one cou'd with so much Propriety as myself. – This you'll give me your Sentiments on by the first Opportunity. –

You have inclosed an Accot Disbursements on the *Peggy* & of Money supplied Capt. [William] Barron, amount at your Debit £17.8.0 lawful. –

You have likewise inclosed a List of 180 Days Provision supplied People belonging to the *Swan* at different Times by Mr [G.] Gefferina which you'll include in your first Voucher from Mr. Bates: I have cast the Quantity of Provision on the Back as near as is necessary. – Mr Lewis will include in his first Voucher with you the 487 l. fresh Beef he owes me since the Ship was here. – Pray let me have your Accounts as soon as possible. – With due compliments to your good Family I am, Dr Sir [&c.]

Alex^r Brymer ²1. Ship Papers, ship *Peggy*, NHS.

2. Brymer was the Boston agent for the contractor supplying the British navy with provisions.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR. TO THOMAS & ISAAC WHARTON, PHILADELPHIA ¹

Gentlemen

New London July 12th 1775

Yesterday John Mackkibbin in the Sloop *Black Joke* with 10000 Gallons Melasses, 15 Thousand wt of Coffee, 26 Thousand of Sugar Sailed for Phila Capt [Edward] Chappell is on Board as a Pilote and I have given him Orders to take the Sugar and Coffee on Shore without paying the Duty's and if it Can be

Avoided not to pay any for the Melasses for I think its time to lay that Matter Aside for the present – Beg you have your Store in Readiness to Receive it, he Intends to leave the Vessell at Glossister Point & Come up and Advise you of her Arrival – If she Arrives and Can Discharge her Cargoe, take in Another and Clear out before the 20th of July Inst for Hispaniola, I would have you putt on Board Three Hundred Barrels of Super Fine Flower and Some long Staves for Sugar Casks, & Sail for Hispaniola,² if not would have her Come home in Ballast, for I think it will not Answer to Give Bonds to be Obliged to Sell in An English Island – if you can get her a freight Should Rather take it then Return home in Ballast I think it will be best for my Interest to Let the Goods Remain in Store until they will Sell for their Value. Inclosed is a Letter for Capt Mackibbin which please to Deliver shall write you again by the Next Post, And Am &c.

Nath^{el} Shaw Jun^r

1. Shaw Letter Book, YUL.

2. The *Black Joke* arrived in the Delaware prior to July 24, 1775, according to a Custom House entry in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of that date.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR. TO CAPTAIN JOHN MACKIBBIN¹

Sir

New London July 12th 1775

I hope you will Arive Safe, and Land Your Cargoe Agreeable to my Directions without Any Difficulty. I have Desired Messrs [Thomas and Isaac] Whartons to put on Board Three Hundred Barrels of Super Fine Flower and fill up the Sloop with Long Staves, if you Can make Out so as to Clear your Vessel for Hispaniola at the Custom House before the 20th Instant, for After that time I Suppose no Vessel Can Clear out for a Forreign Port² – if you Can't Get Loaded by that Time you must Come home in Ballast unless you Can Get a freight to Some Port in the West Indies or if you Can Sell her for Three Hundred Pounds Phila Currency Sell her, if you Load for the West Indies do you Sail for Hispaniola & do the best you Can in the Sail of your Cargoe and Purchase Gun Powder & Return as Soon as you Can – if that Article is not to be had Purchase Brown Sugar and Coffee – Dont keep this Letter on Board for Fear of Accidents but burn it. – I Imagin after the 20th of this Month you Cannot Clear out for N. London if that should be the Case you may Come Home in Ballast without Clearing out and Get me Two Thousand feet of Good Long Yellow Pine Plank 2½ Inch for the Brigg *Nancy* Deck have not to add but shall write you again by the next Post, if Nothing Extra Happens I am Sr Yours &c

Nath^{el} Shaw Jun^r

1. Shaw Letter Book, YUL.

2. Shaw was confused about the date set in the Continental Association, which was September 10, not July 20, 1775.

Connecticut Journal, WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1775

New Haven, July 12.

Last Sunday afternoon [July 9] a cruizer sloop of war, (said to be the *Lively*) having chaced, and fired several shot at an inward bound vessel, belonging to Connecticut river, she was boarded by two armed boats, from the man of war, (having run aground on Say-Brook Bar) who after a short examination left her. The

report of the guns having alarmed the inhabitants, a number of them assembled on the shore arm'd, and exchanged some random shots with the boats.

The *King-Fisher* sloop-of-war, late from New York, we hear, has been several days cruising in the Sound – Yesterday she came too at Branford.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF NEW YORK ¹

[New York] 5 ho. P.M. Wednesday, July 12th, 1775.

A draft of an answer to the letter of Burnet Miller, chairman of the Committee of East and South-Hampton, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety, For the Colony of New-York July 12, 1775

Gentlemen – We are favoured with your letter dated South-Hampton the 5th instant, signed by Mr. Miller, Chairman of the committee of East and South-Hampton, and are to inform you that we will forward a copy of the same to Major General [Philip] Schuyler, to whose consideration we must refer your request.

We are with much respect, gentlemen [&c.]

To the Committee of East and Southampton

Ordered, That a copy thereof be signed by the Chairman and transmitted.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 76.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Wednesday, July 12, 1775

On motion, *Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to devise ways and means to protect the trade of these Colonies.

The Congress than proceeded to the election of the Committee and the following persons were chosen, viz: Mr. [John] Jay, Mr. [Benjamin] Franklin, Mr. [Christopher] Gadsden, Mr. [Silas] Deane, and Mr. [Richard Henry] Lee.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 177.

Pennsylvania Journal, WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1775

Philadelphia, [July 12].

Capt. Wilson from St. Kitts, on Saturday last [July 8] about 30 leagues to the southward of our Capes, spoke the ship *Mercury*, of 20 guns, which by the course she steared, he immagined was bound to Carolina.

HOLT's Virginia Gazette, WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1775

Norfolk, July 12.

On Monday [July 10] arrived in the road, the *Mercury* man of war, of 24 guns, full of men, but we know not for what purpose.

We just hear now of the arrival of the Boston ¹ man of war in the road, and that the *Magdalen* armed schooner had put back in distress; so that we have now four men of war and an armed schooner for our "protection and defence!"

In consequence of which, it is said, 2000 men are to be raised and stationed at Williamsburg and York.

1. His Majesty's Ship *Mercury*, from Boston.

MASTER'S LOG OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Mercury*¹

1775 July Rem[ark]s on bd His Maj Ship *Mercury*.
 Wednes 12th A M the Cartonters Empd fixing Swivel Stocks in the Longboat.
 at ½ past Noon Saluted Governor Dunmoore with 13 Guns at his
 Coming on bd and withe Same Number at his gowin from the
 Ship

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1866.

LORD DUNMORE TO LORD DARTMOUTH¹

(No 29) The *Fowey* in York river July the 12th 1775

My Lord Since my letter No. 28 dispatched by his Majesty's Schooner the *Magdalen*, the last Resolves of the house of Burgesses have been made publick, and I now transmit them to your Lordship in the Supplement of the publick Printers News paper (mark therein B)² the Same Supplement contains under the Williamsburg head of the 30th. of June, an Account of the proceedings of a meeting of the Inhabitants of that city "convened, by the honorable Peyton Randolph Esq," the Speaker of the house of Burgesses, "to consider of the expediency of Stationing a number of men there for the publick Safety, and to assist the Citizens in their nightly watches to guard against any surprise from their Enemies," by which no others can be meant than the kings Governor, and the kings Forces of a twenty Gun Ship and a Sloop of War, Stationed in this Colony.

In consequence of this Step of Mr. Randolphs a great number of people, horse and Foot, from various parts of the country have flocked to Williamsburg, armed and accoutred, and wearing uniforms, and, the different Companies, their badges of distinction. They have made a Barrack of the Capitol, a large building in which are held the Courts of Justices, and intended for the Council and house of Burgesses with their different offices, and they have taken possession of the Park (a Considerable piece of land adjoining and belonging to the Governors house) for their Cavalry, wantonly Cutting and maiming my Cattle which they found there.

A few days after the arrival of these Gentry a number of them broke, a Second time, into the Palace (the Governors house) and, as the first time, of which I have informed your Lordship, they went no further than taking the Arms which they found in a Hall, this time they broke open every lock of the doors of all the rooms, Cabinets and private places, and carried off a considerable number of arms of different Sorts, a large Collection, and valuable, my own property. This Violence was committed in the face of day; the leaders in it well known, and one of the principal was to Son of Mr [Robert Carter] Nicholas [III]³ the Treasurer, the Same who was lately made a controler of his Majesty's Customs; Mr Nicholas the Father and the Speaker, who now direct the proceedings of this country, were then in Williamsburg, and Consequently could not but be privy to this infamous

robbery; this violation of private property, as well as atrocious outrage against the kings Authority.

The very day after this, I happened, for the only time Since I first embarked on board his Majesty's Ship, to go, in the man of wars Barge, to a Farm (my own Property) about Seven miles from Williamsburg, Situated upon a Creek which runs into York river about twelve miles above the Town of York where the Ship lay.

The Barge was observed from the Town, and it was easily conjectured where I was going; accordingly intelligence was immediately Sent to Williamsburg, and Just after Captain [George] Montague and I had done dinner, that Gentleman having accompanied me, we were informed by my Servants that a body of men in Arms were Seen advancing directly to the House, which we likewise Saw ourselves upon going out, and we had but Just time to get into our boat and to escape; two men, Carpenters of the Ship, whom we had brought with us in order to cut down a mast for a boat, and who were at a little distance from my house, were Seized by these people, upon my own land, and have been made prisoners, and are now confined in Williamsburg under a guard,⁴ a Servant, who got into a Canoe to follow me, a very little time afterwards, was fired at four or five different times.

Two days ago the *Mercury* a twenty Gun Ship arrived here to relieve the *Fowey*, which has been Stationed here Some time. Intelligence was given on the coast by a Pilot boat of her approach; and Mr [Archibald] Cary the Naval officer of the lower district of James river, a considerable office under Government, who is one of the most active and virulent of the Enemies of Government, immediately dispatched Expresses, to allarm the Country, representing that the Ship brought a great number of Soldiers for disembarkation, & the Speaker and Treasurer gladly Seized this pretence for infusing fresh apprehensions of threatening danger; and for enviting more people down from all parts of the colony. A detachment was immediately Sent off from Williamsburg to reinforce the company in York Town, which arrived the Same evening as the man of war; and we have now a Camp of these People behind the Town of York, not half a Cannon-Shot from the Ships; and the men are Continually parading in arms along the Shore Close to us, and at night we hear them challenge every boat or person that approaches them.

Thus my Lord the People of Virginia manifest open Rebellion by every means in their power, and they declare at the Same time that they are his Majesty's Most dutyfull Subjects, "that they will to the utmost of their power, at all times, and at risk of their lives and properties maintain and defend his Government in this Colony, as founded on the established laws and principles of the Constitution," and that as designs have never been formed against my person, but that I may, when ever I please return to my usual Resedence without the least danger; notwithstanding that my own Servants are prevented from passing with provisions which is thus cut off from me & denied to me, my people have been Carried off by the guard; while my house has been a third time rifled, and is now entirely in the possession of these lawless Ruffians.

It is necessary your Lordship Should be made acquainted, that the Fund, out of which the Salary of the Governor, and some other officers, is paid, as it arises from the duty, as your Lordship knows, upon Tobacco exported, and upon the Tonnage of all Vessels trading to the Colony, will fail entirely after the first of September next, when by the association, all exports to great Britain are to cease.⁵ I have for near two years received little or no perquisites of my office, as the collectors cannot be brought to account, but after the first of September, I shall receive neither perquisite nor Salary; I hope therefore your Lordship will acquaint me how I am to Subsist, if it be his Majesty's pleasure that his Governor remain here. It will likewise be necessary that I should be instructed in regard of what disbursements I may be allowed to make for my own accomodation; I am obliged to hire a vessel for my Servants and baggage, and, for the future, I Shall be obliged to make it my own residence, there not being room for me in the Man of War which relieves the *Fowey*: and I cannot but hope that the inconvenience and distress which I must necessarily go thro' in this Situation will be considered as proof of my zeal for his majesty's Service.

A Vessel must likewise be hired for the hundred men which I wrote to your Lordship I had Sent for, as no quarters can be procured for them on Shore. I hope your Lordship will give me directions how these unavoidable expenses are to be defrayed.

Your Lordships letter No 19 has been received and, by the last New York Post, a dispatch was brought to me all open. In the cover, which I hear inclose Just in the Condition as I found it, were two papers which had been taken out of a packet, likewise broke open, containing private letters which came at the Same time, and no letter of your Lordships. In a large bundle of papers which, after they had broke open, they put up in the greatest disorder without any desire to Conceal the attempt, I found a parcel of printed papers, the Speech of General [John] Burgoyne; a letter from your Lordship Signifying his majestys pleasure that the orders of the Commander in chief of the Forces, and, under him, of the Major Generals and Brigadiers, Shall be Supreme in all Cases relating to the operations of the Troops; and letters from Mr. [John] Pownal[1] inclosing the Bill for restraining the Trade of the New England Colonies, that for restraining the Trade of Virginia and other Colonies and Some other Acts of Parliament. I am unable to say whether any papers were taken away or not, but your Lordship from this account will know. I cannot find out where these packets were broke open. the Postmaster of Williamsburg denies its having been done there.

I am [&c.]

Dunmore

P:S: I could not Send the Duplicate of My letter No. 28 my Clerk having been made a Prisoner at Williamsburg where he is now detained – but it shall be transmitted as soon as possible.

D—

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/1353, 451–456, LC Transcript.

2. Alexander Purdie's *Virginia Gazette*, June 30, 1775, Number 22, and Supplement.

3. Captain George Nicholas.

4. See Extract from Dixon and Hunter's *Virginia Gazette*, July 8, 1775.

5. The Governor was mistaken; exports were to cease September 10, not September 1, 1775.

ROBERT BEVERLY TO JOHN BACKHOUSE, LIVERPOOL ¹

[Extract]

[Virginia] July 12th 1775.

I wrote to you 6th Inst by a Ship bound to London, but wh Is not yet sailed desiring Insurance on 32 hhds on board the *Marlborough*. I have put two [hhds of Tobacco] on Board Clarke, & am in Hopes I shall be able to furnish him with 8 more in a few Days. The 22 marked E L K you will find uncommonly neat, & heavier than usual. The critical Situation of American Disputes, & the very small Probability there is of a speedy Accomodation must in a few Months render Tobo a very valuable & scarce Article in G Britain. You will be pretty well able to judge of the Complexion of the Times from our News Papers, altho' it may not be amiss to appri[se] you that both Parties do not relate Transactions, or represent Temper with that Candor, wh ought ever to distinguish the Actions of Men in publick Sphere. I am afraid *all* Parties have not exerted a benevolent Influence to accomodate this Dispute – in every Convulsion of this Kind the Minds of Men will be prejudiced, & some will be apt, perhaps, to chalk out, *in Idea*, Schemes more suitable to their own Wishes, than the Welfare of the Community – Such Persons become dangerous, & are most frequently caught in their own Snare – I hope, as yet, we have none such amongst us, but if this unhappy Dispute shd continue much longer, as I am afraid it will, it is not improbable but some aspiring Genius may be tempted to swerve from the Line of their Duty, & thereby plunge their Fellow Citizens into an Abyss of Misery . . .

1. Robert Beverly Letter Book, LC.

JOURNAL OF THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY FOR THE PROVINCE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ¹

[Charleston] Wednesday, July 12, 1775

Resolved, That the Hon. Mr. [William Henry] Drayton and Mr. [Miles] Brewton be desired immediately to go to Savannah, in Georgia, on special service relative to procuring gun-powder and other necessities.

1. *Collections of the South Carolina Historical Society*, II, 36.**13 July**MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Cambridge] July 13, 1775

His Excellency General Washington having this day ordered to the direction of this Committee ten prisoners, taken some time past at Machias, on board an armed Cutter, the Committee, apprehending from their commission of the 8th instant that they are altogether restricted from acting as a Committee but only in the recess of Congress, except in conformity to certain special Resolves of Congress, have resolved that the said prisoners be sent to [the Massachusetts Provincial] Congress for their orders, and that Dr. [Benjamin] Church be directed to attend Congress with this Resolve.

Whereas, Lieutenant Ely Stiles has represented to this Committee that he has been at considerable expense in conducting the prisoners from Machias to Head-Quarters, and desires to be repaid; but this matter not being within the

powers with which this Committee is vested, they beg leave to recommend the consideration of this case to the honourable Congress.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

New England Chronicle, THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1775

Cambridge, July 13.

On Tuesday Night [July 11] a Party of Men was sent from Roxbury Camp to Long-Island, in Boston Harbour from whence they brought off 15 of the Enemy Prisoners, between 20 and 30 horned Cattle, and about 100 Sheep. The Prisoners were brought to Head-Quarters Yesterday, and soon after sent to Concord.

PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS ¹

[Watertown] Thursday, July 13, 1775

The following Instructions, reported to be given Captain Davis, were considered.

Captain Davis

Sir: You are hereby desired to repair to Stonington, in Connecticut, and take charge of the Brig *Nancy* and cargo, lying in said harbour, upon receiving the consent of his Honour Governour [Jonathan] Trumbull; to take account of said cargo, and make sale of such part or parts thereof, as shall be sufficient to discharge the portage bill, and such other incidental charges as may necessarily arise. You are then directed to secure the remaining part of said cargo in good and sufficient stores, at the place above mentioned, and to make a return of your doings to this Congress or House of Representatives to be convened. Which cargo is to be appropriated to the use of this Colony and to be draughted at the discretion of the Committee of Supplies.

By order of Congress.

After debate, the Report was ordered to be dismissed.

Afternoon

The Committee appointed to consider what is best to be done with the ten Prisoners brought from Machias, reported. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Commanding Officer of the Town of Watertown be desired to appoint some officer with a guard of not more than eight men, to conduct the said Prisoners to the Jail in Worcester to-morrow morning; that Captain [Edward] Crafts be desired to take care of the said Prisoners till that time, and that the officer who may be appointed to conduct said Prisoners to Worcester, be empowered to draw on Captain Brown, the Commissary in this Town, for so much Provisions as may be necessary for their support to Worcester, and Captain Brown is directed to supply them accordingly.

The Report above mentioned was reconsidered, amended, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Resolved, That Thomas Skinner, a seaman, William Nurse, a marine, John Burrows, a seaman, Nicholas Durham, a marine, Peter Larcher, a sailor, Thomas Crispo, Joseph Temple, sailors, William Bishop, a sailor, and John Pardo, a

marine, Prisoners, all taken aboard the armed schooner called the *Margaretta*, commanded by Matthew Moor, near Machias, be all sent under a proper guard, the common Jail in the County of Worcester; and the Jail keeper is hereby directed to receive them therein, and provide for them, and detain them there till the further order of this Congress, or the House of Representatives of this Colony.

Whereas the Hon. Jedediah Preble and the Hon. Enoch Freeman, Esquires, have employed some persons to build a number of Whale Boats for the service of the publick, therefore,

Sesolved, That the Committee of Supplies be, and hereby are directed to deliver to Captain Briant Morton, or order, to be by said Morton delivered to said Preble and Freeman, such a quantity of Nails and Provisions, as they think will be necessary to complete the building said Boats.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1512-1518, from Mass. Arch., vol. 32.

MINUTES OF THE PROVIDENCE COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION ¹

At a Meeting of the Committe of Inspection held in the Court House in Providence the 13th July 1775

Samuel Nightingale Esqr in the Chair

Resolve that the Pass between this Town & the Town of Newport be kept open, and that Mr James Marsh or any other person be allowed to Pass & Repass with their Packet Boats without Molestation, under the Following Restrictions

First, that at the arrival of any Packet or passage Boat at Providence, the commander of sd Packet or Boat Immediately Exhibit a List in writing of all the Letters and Goods they have on Freight, Ascertainig the Sorts & number of packages, and for whom Freightd also the Number of pasengers with their Names, before they unlade any Article, to Jabez Bowen & Arthur Fenner Esqrs Messrs. Paul Allen, David Lawrance, Joseph Bucklen, & Nicholas Powers or Either of them, who are a Committe apointed for that Purpose –

Second that they Shall not take any Article of Provision Kind on board their Boat & Carrey to Newport, or any other Place, without giting a permit from Sum one of the above Committe, for that purpose. –

Resolved that if any person or persons Shall attempt to Carry Freight or Pasengers between this Town & Newport that does not Comply with the above Resolve will be Immediately Stopt –

Resolved that no Uropean goods be admitted to come from Newport to this Town without a Certificate from John Collins Esqr as Chairman of the Committee of Inspection Setting forth their legall Importation agreable to the Resolves of the Continental Congress, and that Every peace & parsell of Goods has bin duly compaired with the original Invoice, Either by him or sum proper person on whome he can put the utmost Confidence

Test Dan' Cahoon Clk pro Temp –

[Endorsed]

I Dessent from the within Vote so far as Respects the Free intercourse of James Marsh so long as he is employed by a Tory

A Fenner Jr

the above is a True copy of the original protest

Test Dan Cahoon Clk Pro; tempore

1. RIHS Mss., vol. 13.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Asia*, CAPTAIN GEORGE VANDEPUT,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Moor'd at New York

Sunday 13 sent the Pinnace a Shore with a Sick Man, She was haul'd up on a Wharf & Stove, then Launched & set on Fire by a Mob of People in the Town.

1. PRO, Admiralty, Class 51/67.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF NEW YORK ¹

[New York] Thursday, 9 ho. A.M. July 13, 1775.

Alderman [David] Matthews and Alderman [George] Brewerton, applied to the committee and delivered a letter from Captain [George] VanDeput of His Majesty's ship *Asia* to Governor [William] Tryon, complaining that one of his boats is brought on shore and the crew detained prisoners; and the committee being informed that the boat's crew are prisoners in Gen. [David] Wooster's camp; and also, that His Majesty's store near Hudson's river was broken open during last night, and divers effects carried away from thence by violence;

Ordered, That Samuel Verplanck, Isaac Low, and Gouverneur Morris, Esqs. be a sub-committee from this committee to wait on Gen. Wooster, in order to make inquiry and to receive information on those subjects, and also to give such directions therein as they shall think proper, that right may be done without delay. Thereupon a draft of a letter to General Wooster was read and approved, and is as follows:

Committee of Safety, for the Colony of New-York, July 13th, 1775.

Sir – Complaint has been made to our board that a boat belonging to His Majesty's Ship *Asia* has been drawn on shore, and the boat's crew detained as prisoners, at your camp; and also, that His Majesty's store house near Hudson's River was, during last night broken open and divers effects carried away from thence by violence. It is alleged that some of the troops under your command, have been concerned in both those acts.

We have, therefore, appointed Samuel Verplanck, Isaac Low, and Gouverneur Morris, Esqs. a committee from our Board, to wait on you, in order to make inquiry and receive information on those subjects; and also, to give such directions therein as they shall think proper, that right might be done without delay.

We are Sir, [&c.] By order of the Committee.
Major-General Wooster.

Ordered, That a copy thereof signed by the Chairman, be delivered to the sub-committee.

Mr. Low, from the committee who waited on Gen. Wooster, reported that General Wooster informed them that the matter of complaint relating to the boat and boat's crew belonging to the ship *Asia*, had arose through some mistake of the master of the Connecticut armed Schooner. That he had ordered the boat to be restored, and sent a party to put her in the water, and that the boat's crew he had discharged as soon as he heard of their being detained.

That as to the effects brought to his camp last night, he had ordered them to be taken care of, and that they are preserved under a guard; that they were brought there by some persons without his knowledge or directions; that one Brasher informed him that Col. [Rudolphus] Ritzema had desired him to receive and protect those effects; and, therefore, he had set a guard over them, and they were ready to be delivered to the owner, or to the order of this committee.

The Recorder and Alderman Brewerton and Matthews were called in, and they informed the committee that the boat belonging to the *Asia* man of war is burnt.

Whereupon the committee made the following order:

Whereas, Information hath been given to this committee by some of the civil magistrates of the city of New York, that an attack was made without provocation, upon a boat belonging to His Majesty's Ship *Asia*, and that boat wantonly destroyed; and also that the house and stores of Mr. Francis Stevens, have been violently broken open and robbed of private property, and military stores taken from thence: AND WHEREAS, the said magistrates have requested the advice of this committee in the premises,

Ordered, That it be recommended to the civil magistrates to examine strictly into the several matters and things above mentioned, and to punish all persons who are guilty of perpetrating the same, as the law directs; and that it be and hereby is, recommended to all the citizens and others to aid and assist the magistrates in the execution of their offices.

Ordered, That the foregoing order be published in handbills, and distributed.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 77-78.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 13 [1775]

Resolved, That the thanks of this Board be given to Mr. Ebenezer Robinson, for his plan for stopping the Channel of the River Delaware.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 286.

DEPOSITION OF CAPTAIN EDWARD WEEKES ¹

Baltimore County ss. 13 July 1775.

Edward Weeks of the Snow *Potowmack* from Dublin and Madeira maketh Oath on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God that he hath not Imported in the

said Vessel during this present Voyage, except necessary Stores for the use of the said Vessel and which are not for Sale, any Goods Wares or Merchandizes whatsoever from Great Britain or Ireland or of the growth or Manufacture of Great Britain or Ireland, or any Goods exported from them or either of them, or any East India Tea, or any Molasses Syrups Paneles Coffe or Pimento of the Growth of the British West India Islands, or Dominica, or any Wines from Madeira or the Western Islands, or Foreign Indigo, or any Slave or Slaves – Save and except one Box of Handkerchiefs which were Shipt onboard at the Port of Waterford by David Sherrard and Consigned to John Pringle of Phila, which said Box & Handks are Consumed and destroyd, to prevent any interruption or objection to his taking onboard a Cargo in this Port, as they were Shipt onboard the said Snow before this deponent took the Command which was only the day before they Saild. – And also save and except 28 Pipes 5 Hhds & 7 quarter Casks of Wine which were Shipt at Madeira for Dublin and is intended to be landed there and not in America.

Sworn before me James Clarke

Edw^d Weekes

1. Balt. Com., LC.

RECEIPT OF CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU, R.N. FOR MONEYS TO BE SENT TO
BOSTON ¹

Port York River, July 13, 1775.

Rec'd of Jaquelin Ambler, Esq., Collector of his Majesty's Customs for said port, Twelve hundred dollars, weighing one thousand and thirty-nine ounces, four penny weights of silver, to be delivered to the Cashier of his Majestie's Customs for the time being at Boston. In witness whereof I have signed two receipts of this tenor and date, one of which being complied with, the other to be void.

Geo. Montagu

1. Gilmer Collection, VHS.

Pennsylvania Evening Post, TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1775

Gloucestertown [Virginia], July 13, 1775.

It is certain that a boat from the *Fowey* or *Otter* landed several armed men on an island in the lower end of this country, who stole fourteen sheep and a cow. The owner of them alarmed his neighbours; but before they could arm themselves the robbers had made off. However, the people, who are now well furnished with arms, &c. will be ready to give them a warm reception, should they favour them with another visit. – *Quere*, Are not the negro slaves, now on board the *Fowey*, which are under the G[overno]r's protection, in actual rebellion, and punishable as such? Is it not high time to shew Administration how little they have to expect from that part of their bloody plan, by arming our trusty slaves ourselves?

HENRY LAURENS, PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO
CLEMENT LEMPRIERE ¹

Sir The Council of safety are desirous of consulting you upon a subject of great importance in the American Cause & by their order I request you to meet them in the State House to Morrow Morning – the Council will sit from 9 to 11 oClock –

I am with great regard Sir

Thursday Night 13 July 1775

1. *South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, I (Charleston, 1900), 183.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

On Motion

[Charleston] Thursday, July 13, 1775

Resolved, That this Council will provide for the Purchase of a proper Boat for the Use of the Secret Committee, under the Care of Mr Veree.

1. Laurens Collection, SCHS.

14 July

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL
CONGRESS ¹

[Extract]

Camp, Cambridge July 14th 1775

The great Scarcity of fresh Provisions in their Army has led me to take every Precaution to prevent a Supply. For this Purpose, I have ordered all the Cattle & Sheep to be driven from the low Grounds & Farms within their Reach. A Detachment from Genl [John] Thomas's Camp on Wednesday Night [July 12] went over to Long Island and brought from thence 20 Cattle, and a Number of Sheep, with about 15 Labourers, who had been put on by a Mr Ray Thomas to cut the Hay &c By some Accident they Omitted burning the Hay, and returned the next Day at Noon to complete it; which they effected amidst the Firing of the Shipping with the Loss of one Man killed & another wounded.

Last Evening also a Party of the Connecticut Men strolled down on the Marsh at Roxbury, and fired upon a Centry which drew on a heavy Fire from the Enemies Lines, and floating Batteries, but attended with no other Effect than the Loss of one Killed by a Shot from the Enemies Lines. In the mean Time we are on both Sides continuing our Works, but there has been no other Movement than what I have noticed above.

1. Papers CC, 152, I, 27, NA.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

[Boston, July 14, 1775]

By a Letter from Captain [John] Collins, dated the 9 July in Sandy Hook Bay, the Admiral was informed that Captain Collins had met with the last of the Transports (the *Resolution*), that the *Three Sisters* was at Anchor in the Bay, and that he had sent to the Master to get under weigh and join the *Resolution* and

proceed together to Boston, and Captain Collins wrote that he should forthwith compleat his provisions to four Months at New York, and proceed to the River Delaware according to his Orders.

1. Graves's Conduct I, 139, MassHS Transcript.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Kingsfisher*, CAPTAIN JAMES MONTAGU,
COMMANDING ¹

Rhode Isld Light House N N E 5 Ms

July 1775 at 2 P M Weighed & Came to Sail at 6 gave Chace to a Brig fired
Friday 14 A Gun & Spoke 2 Sloops from Rhode Isld at 7 Boarded the Brig
from Martinico wth Molasses sent A Midshipman & 6 Seamen on
Bd her to Carry her round to Boston ²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/506.
2. The brig *Comfort*, John Smith, master, bound for New London. At Boston the cargo was sold and the brig chartered for the use of the British Army. Graves's Conduct, Prize List, MassHS Transcript.

Connecticut Gazette, FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1775

New London, July 14.

Last Lords-Day Afternoon [July 9], a Barge was sent with two Swivels and a number of Small Arms, from the *King fisher* Man of War (which was lying in the Sound off the Mouth of Connecticut River) in Chase of a Schooner belonging to Rocky-Hill, which was bound into the River; – the Schooner grounding on Say Brook Bar, she was boarded by the People from the Barge, who attempted to get her a-float, but finding they could not, left her. – On sight of the Barge, Numbers of arm'd People immediately collected on the Points each Side the river, when a Number of shot were exchanged on both Sides. Our People received no damage – what Damage was done to the People in the Barge we don't learn, but upon receiving our Fire they immediately rowed in great haste further from shore.

COMFORT SAGE TO MAJOR SAMUEL BLACHLEY WEBB ¹

[Extract]

Middletown, 14 July 1775

Last Monday [July 10] the *King Fisher* went up the Sound after a vessel from Sea, and sent her Barge with 16 men on shore at Branford. A number of people collected and cut her off, & took the barge with the people.²

1. Ford, comp. & ed., *Correspondence and Journals of Samuel Blachley Webb*, 3 vols. (New York, 1893), I, 82, 83. Hereafter cited as Ford, comp. & ed., *Webb Papers*.
2. Neither barge nor crew was taken. See *Connecticut Gazette*, July 14, 1775.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF NEW YORK ¹

[New York] Die Veneris, 9 ho., A.M., July 14th, 1775.

Stephen Seaman and Obadiah Seaman attending at the door, were called in, and gave the committee such information, as affords great reason to suspect that George Youngs and his son, and Captain [John] Brush, and one [Cornelius]

Conklin, all of Huntington, are concerned in shipping provisions to supply Gen. Gage's fleet and army. Short notes of their examinations were taken and filed.

Thereupon a draft of a letter to John Sloss Hobart, Esq. was read and approved of, and is in the words following to wit:

Committee of Safety, For the Colony of New-York July 14th, 1775.

Sir — We have received such information as gives us great reason to suspect, that one George Youngs and his son, and one Brush and one Conklin, all of or near Huntington, are concerned in shipping provisions in such manner as that they must inevitably serve to supply Gen. Gage's fleet and army in Boston. We enclose you notes taken from two witnesses on that subject. We need not suggest to you that it is incumbent on those people to show where they have unloaded their former cargoes, and where they are now going; and that they have complied with the association without fraud. We have the highest confidence that your Committee will exert themselves on this occasion.

We are respectfully, sir [&c.] By order

To John Sloss Hobart, Esq.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the Chairman, and together with a copy of the examination of Obadiah and Stephen Seaman, be transmitted by the first conveyance.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 78.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Friday, July 14, 1775

A motion being made by Doctr [Benjamin] Franklin and seconded,
Resolved, that the same be taken into consideration to Morrow morning.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 184.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 14th. [1775]

Resolved, That the Board will go down this morning and view the Ground on which it is proposed to raise a Battery.

Resolved, That Owen Biddle be directed to procure Four Ton of Grape Shot.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 286.

PURDIE'S *Virginia Gazette*, FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1775

Williamsburg, July 14.

Monday last [July 10] arrived at York town, from the northward, his Majesty's ship *Mercury*, of 24 guns, John Macartney, Esq; commander, to relieve the *Fowey* man of war, Capt. [George] Montague; and yesterday she departed for Boston, with *our good friend* Capt. [Edward] Foy, who is appointed by Gen-

eral Gage to the command of the artillery. [*Have a care Captain, of your Minden laurels; 'tis ten to one but they get cropp'd by some of the plaguy Yankies!*] ¹

At the same time fell down the river, the *Otter* sloop of war, Capt. [Matthew] Squires.

We have not been able to learn where Lord Dunmore intends fixing his residence; some say at Portsmouth, but we only mention it as a report.

All his Lordship's domesticks have now fled the palace, and are gone, bag and baggage, to his farm at Porto Bello, about six miles from town.

1. Brackets and italics by the printer.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

In the Council of Safety

[Charleston] Friday, July 14, 1775

Mr [Thomas] Ferguson, Mr. John Huger, and Mr. [William] Williamson, were appointed a committee to confer with Capt. [Clement] Lempriere on a proper plan and estimate for speedily procuring a quantity of gun-powder.

Ordered, That they bring in their report at the meeting of the Council tomorrow morning.

1. *Collections of the South Carolina Historical Society*, II, 3940.

HENRY LAURENS TO JOHN LAURENS, LONDON ¹

[Extract]

[Charleston] 14. July 1775

p. *Mermaid*

Capt [John] Tolemach [Tollemache] of the *Scorpion* Sloop carried off a valuable black Pilot by way of Reprisal & for worse purposes perhaps – for our refusing to return Some of his Seamen who had enlisted in the Regiments of Foot – I was Singular in my opposition to that impolitic measure & expressly foretold the consequence – but I added, that if I was Captain of the Man of War I would carry off the president of the Council of Safety – . . .

By the Alertness of our Secret Committee & their Deputies about 15 or 20 Thousand Weight of Gun powder has been taken from on board the *Magna Charte* at Sea & Secured for Colony Service & a plan is now on our Table for Securing about as much more by a Masterly Stroke which will if we Succeed, please many & make every Body Share ² –

1. Henry Laurens Letter Book, 1774–75, SCHS.

2. The seizure of powder on board a vessel off St. Augustine.

SAMUEL HUNTING TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR. ¹

Sr.

Cape Nicholas Mole July 14th. 1775

After my Respects to you would inform you that we arrived at Martinico the 28th of June when after making Tryall & finding there was Nothing to be done we proceeded to Guadalupe & next to St. Eustatia, at both which Places we met with the same hard Luck – at Guadalupe Capt [William] Packwood said

he could have got a full Supply, but the Price was so very high that he thought it would not do to give it. We arrived in this Place the 10th Inst & can Let you know that Provisions of all kinds are very Plenty here – there is yet forty Bls of Pork that are not sold of the Last Voyage most of which our Cooper has overhauled & pickled & is in very good order – Capt Packwood would have me inform you that he is Obligd to Advance the Money for the Debt he left here as the Provisions are not sold – he would have me further inform you that the Candles are come to a very bad Market, as there is upwards of 3000 Boxes now in this Port & says he is very sorry he had not taken four Bits which he could have had to windward – Flower is now going a 7 pr Eight & very plenty – Mollasses a 20 sols P Galln – Capt Packwood went from this Place Last Night for Lugan [Leogane] & Port au Prince & says he hopes to be back again in 10 Days or a fortnit & says he has great Encouragement that he shall answer his Design before he returns – Capt Fransway touched here in his way to Lugan about 8 or 10 days past I am Sr [&c.]

I write by the Way of
Newport Rhode Island.

Sam^l Hunting

1. Shaw Collection, Packet No. 3, YUL.

15 July

GENERAL ORDERS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

[Extract]

Head Quarters, Cambridge, July 15, 1775

The Commanding Officers of each Regiment to report the names of such Men in their respective Corps, as are most expert in the management of whale-boats.

1. Washington Papers, LC.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO PHILIP STEPHENS, SECRETARY OF THE BRITISH ADMIRALTY ¹

Sir,

[Preston, Boston] 15th [July 1775]

The 12th instant I received by the Pacquet your several Letters dated May 4, in answer to mine of the 4th and 19th March, acquainting me that their Lordships are pleased to recommend to the favorable attention of the Lords of the Treasury the Expence of prosecuting the appeals from the Sentences of the Judge of the Vice Admiralty Court respecting the *Abigail* and *Industry* Schooners; and transmitting for my Information the following Papers, Vizt a Copy of a Letter from Hamburgh relating to a Dutch Hoy at Cuxhaven; an Extract of a Letter from Lisbon concerning a clandestine Trade expected to be carrying on between Portugal and America; Extracts of two Letters from the Hague relating to North American Vessels sailing from Holland without clearing in England; And a Copy of a Letter from Dunkirk, containing an Account of Vessels carrying Tobacco to that Port immediately from America. I beg you will be pleased to acquaint their

Lordships that I shall diligently use all the means in my power to suppress every kind of illicit Trade. I am &c

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 140, 141, MassHS Transcript.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY, H.M.S.
*Scarborough, PISCATAQUA RIVER*¹

Sir

Preston Boston 15 July 1775.

I have received your Letters July 6 acquainting me with the Seizure of the Sloop and Schooner laden with wood, Spars and mercantile fish, and that all your Endeavours to get them prosecuted in the Vice Admiralty Court at Portsmouth have been ineffectual. I observe the Judge makes no objections, well knowing these Causes cannot be brought before him, but the Lawyers speak out and boldly assert that no man can move in behalf of the Laws or attempt to carry them into Execution without risking his life and property. To what purpose then do these Gentlemen remain at Portsmouth, for as all Civil Departments of Government are entirely useless among the People and obnoxious to them, it will be well if the Rebels allow them to partake of the Supplies permitted to pass for their Support: And the Kings Affairs receiving no Advantage from his Servants remaining totally and unavoidably inactive, they had better remove, and not, by continuing among a violent People determined to be in Rebellion, retard the Execution of such Measures as are become absolutely necessary to reduce the Province of New Hampshire to a due Observance of the Laws. I therefore will no longer consent that Supplies of any kind pass to Portsmouth and you will herewith receive an Order to the contrary accordingly.

I inclose the Attorney Generals opinion as you have desired, and will order the *Hope* to convoy the Vessels to Boston as soon as possible.

I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Grave's Conduct, Appendix, 454 MassHS Transcript.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY, H.M.S.
*Scarborough*¹

By Saml Graves Esqr Vice Admiral of the White & Commander in Chief &c.

Notwithstanding the directions contained in my Order of the 25 May to send all Vessels laden with Melasses and Salt to enter at Marblehead previous to their going to Boston, you are hereby required and directed whenever any Vessels are seized by his Maj's Ship under your Command to order that they proceed strait to Boston without touching at any other Port.

And whereas the late rebellious Proceedings of the Town of Portsmouth in obliging his Excellency their Governor to remove for Safety under the Protection of the *Scarborough*, suffering the Province Treasure to be carried away by the Rebels, and preventing Seizures being prosecuted in the Admiralty Court, there

is no reason to hope Order and good Government will for some time be restored in the Sd Town; You are hereby required and directed not to suffer Provisions and Necessaries of any sort to be carried to the Town of Portsmouth or to any part of the adjacent Country, except such as you are satisfied is for the immediate Use of the Governor and the Kings Servants with his Excellency at Castle William and Mary; and to send the whole to Boston.

Given under my Hand on board his Majs Ship *Preston* at Boston the 15 July 1775.

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 455, MassHS Transcript.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY, H.M.S.
*Scarborough*¹

Sir

Preston Boston 15 July 1775.

Those parts of your Letters July 7 and 9 relating to the Province Treasure being delivered to the Rebels must undoubtedly surprise every person. People in open and avowed Rebellion fighting the Kings Forces, will never hesitate a moment to seize money wherever they can lay hands on it. But as Governor [John] Wentworth must have expected such a step to be taken, he was perhaps not empowered alone to remove the Province money, or thought an attempt to secure it for the King would only accelerate its seizure by the Rebels. Whatever Reasons therefore his Excellency might have had for letting the money remain in the Treasury, he alone must answer for its Loss. I am entirely satisfied with your Conduct in this matter. The Rebels are increasing their Numbers daily and carrying on Approaches to the Lines at the Neck; they have collected a Number of Whaleboats; it is said near three hundred. A Party of them visited one of the Islands in this Harbour, took off the Stock, and burnt the Houses. It is I believe generally thought they will make an Attempt upon the Town of Boston.

I am &c.

Sam^l Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 456, 457, MassHS Transcript.

Providence Gazette, SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1775

Providence, July 15.

Tuesday night [July 11] a party of the Americans went in boats to Long-Island, in Boston Bay, and brought off 18 horned cattle, 40 sheep, 5 hogs, a horse, and some valuable goods, the property of our enemies; they likewise brought 17 men, and a negroe, that had been making hay for the regular army. — On Wednesday night the party returned to the island, where they burnt a quantity of hay.

MINUTES OF THE NEW YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY¹

[New York] Die Sabbati, 9 ho. A.M. July 15th, 1775.

General [Philip] Schuyler having by his letter of the eleventh instant requested this Committee to appoint a proper person to command the Sloop [*Enterprise*] on Lake Champlain and send him up with all convenient speed, and

Capt. Patrick Dennis being sent for to confer with on the subject, recommended Capt. James Smith for the above service.

Captain James Smith attended and expressed his great willingness and cheerfulness to undertake that service, and is thought by this Committee to be a very proper person.

Thereupon a draught of a warrant to the said James Smith was made and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York,

Mr. James Smith –

July 15th, 1775

You are hereby appointed captain of an armed vessel in the Continental service. You will receive the pay of a major in the service of the Continental forces, and to take your orders from Major-Gen. Schuyler or other commanding officers of the Continental troops for the time being. The General will designate the vessel you are to command, and you will receive a commission from the Continental Congress.

By order of the committee.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the chairman, to be delivered to the said James Smith.

A draft of a Letter to Gen. Schuyler to be delivered by the said James Smith, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York,
During the Recess of the Provincial Congress.

July 15th, 1775.

Sir – The bearer of this letter is James Smith, a gentleman of excellent character as a sea officer, who willingly undertook the command, refusing a ship he was offered, and left it to us to settle his pay, &c. We agree to a major's pay, and at the same time we submit to you whether he will not be entitled to that rank in the Continental service.

We are, sir, your very humble servants

To Major-Gen. Schuyler.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be signed by the chairman and transmitted by the said James Smith.

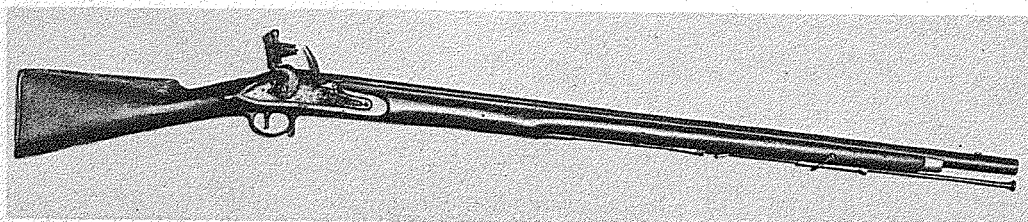
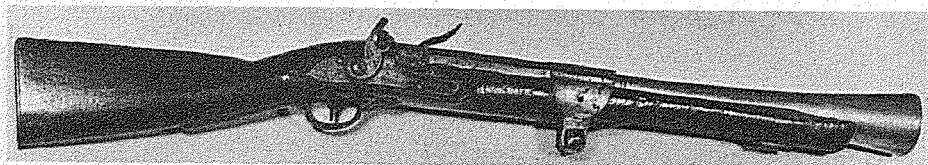
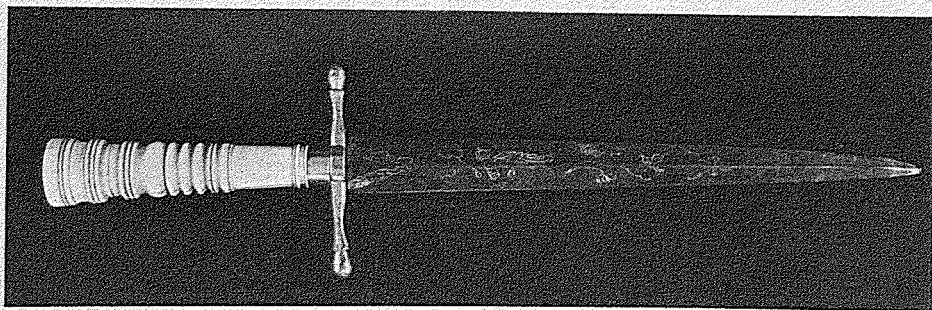
1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 80.

Pennsylvania Evening Post, SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1775

Philadelphia, July 15.

It is said a man of war is arrived in the Delaware, but of what force is uncertain.¹

1. *H.M.S. Nautilus*, Captain John Collins.



(Top to bottom) Naval dirk, double-barreled flintlock pistol, privateer flintlock blunderbuss, British musket; all of the Revolutionary period.

In Congress,

SATURDAY, July 15, 1775.

WHEREAS the Government of Great-Britain hath prohibited the Exportation of ARMS and AMMUNITION to any of the Plantations, and endeavoured to prevent other Nations from supplying us,

RESOLVED, THAT for the better furnishing these Colonies with the necessary Means of defending their Rights, every Vessel importing Gun-Powder, Salt-Petre, Sulphur, provided they bring with the Sulphur four Times as much Salt-Petre, Brass Field-Pieces, or good Muskets fitted with Bayonets, within Nine Months from the Date of this Resolution, shall be permitted to load and export the Produce of these Colonies, to the Value of such Powder and Stores aforesaid, the Non-Exportation Agreement notwithstanding; and it is recommended to the Committees of the several Provinces to inspect the Military Stores so imported, and to estimate a generous Price for the same, according to their goodness, and permit the Importer of such Powder and other Military Stores aforesaid, to export the Value thereof and no more, in Produce of any Kind.

A true Copy from the Minutes.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Saturday, July 15, 1775

Agreeable to the order of yesterday, the motion made by Mr [Benjamin] F[ranklin] was taken into consideration, and after some debate they came to the following Resolution:

Whereas the government of Great Britain hath prohibited the exportation of arms and ammunition to any of the plantations, and endeavored to prevent other nations from supplying us:

Resolved, That for the better furnishing these colonies with the necessary means of defending their rights, every vessel importing Gun powder, Salt petre, Sulphur, provided they bring with the sulphur four times as much salt petre, brass field-pieces, or good muskets fitted with Bayonets, within nine Months from the date of this resolution, shall be permitted to load and export the produce of these colonies, to the value of such powder and stores aforesd the non-exportation agreement notwithstanding; and it is recommended to the committees of the several provinces to inspect the military stores so imported, and to estimate a generous price for the same, according to their goodness, and permit the importer of such powder and other military stores aforesaid, to export the value thereof and no more, in produce of any kind.

Ordered, That a copy of the above be delivered to the delegates of the Colony of Pennsylvania, who are desired to request the committee of this city to forward the same in hand bills to the West Indies and such places as they think proper, taking care that it be not published in the news papers.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 184, 185.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 15th [1775]

Resolved, That the Committee appointed for Building Boats & Machines for the Defence of the River, do immediately employ all the Carpenters & other Workmen that they think necessary for collecting materials for building 12 Boats (including the two already ordered) and as many Machines as may be thought sufficient for the interruption of the Navigation.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 287.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Fowey*, CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775

Saturday 15.

Moored Point Comfort N E Willoughby's E b S Newport

News: W b S in 8 fathoms

at 6 A M his Majesty's sloop *Otter* sailed for Norfolk with his Excellency Lord Dunmore on board at 9 veered away and Moored ship.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/375.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Otter*, MATTHEW SQUIRE, COMMANDING ¹

July 1775

Anchored off Norfolk

Saturday 15 at 5 A M came on board a Pilot from the *Fowey* with Lord Dunmore – weighed and came to sail. at 8 Anchored with the Best Bower off the Town of Norfolk in 4 fathom. Veered away & moored a Cable on the small Bower and $\frac{1}{2}$ a Cable on the Best Bower. found here a Number of Merchant Ships.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/663.

DIXON AND HUNTER'S *Virginia Gazette*, SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1775

Williamsburg, July 15.

His Majesty's ship *Mercury*, Capt. [John] M'Cartney, anchored off York town last tuesday [July 11]. This vessel left New York the 1st instant, and is come to relieve the *Fowey*, which sailed yesterday morning, in company with the *Otter*. The latter, we are told, is gone on a cruise, and is expected to return; but the *Fowey*, after landing the Right Hon. the Earl of Dunmore at Portsmouth (at which place it is supposed his Excellency will reside) proceeds to Boston with Captain Edward Foy on board, of his Majesty's train of artillery. . . .

The *Two Sisters*, Capt. Maxwell, is arrived in James river, from London. The Captain says the city of London is filled with lamentable complaints of the suffering poor; that great warlike preparations were making, and vast numbers of seamen entering into the King's service; and that 40 sail of transports were in the channel when he came out, which was about the 16th of May, all bound to Ireland to take in troops for America.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA ¹

Saturday July 15th 1775

At an occasional meeting of the Committee.

Present: Cornelius Hartnett, Chairman; John Robeson, Wm Wilkinson, John Foster, Wm Campbell, Archd Maclaine, Wm Purviance, Wm Ewins, Timothy Bloodworth, James Blythe, Peter Mallet, Henry Toomer, James Geekie.

Resolved unanimously That a reinforcement of as many men as will voluntarily turn out, be immediately dispatched to join Colonel [Robert] Howe who is now on his way to Fort Johnston and that it be recommended to the Captains of the Independent and Artillery Companies in Wilmington and the officers of the several companies in this county to muster their men and immediately equip those who are willing to go on that service.

The committee than adjourned to the next meeting.

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 93.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

In the Council of Safety

[Charleston] Saturday, July 15, 1775

Mr. [William] Williamson, from the Committee appointed to confer with Capt. [Clement] Lempriere, reported and recommended

That two such pilot-boats should be procured as should meet with the approbation of Capt. Lempriere. That they be manned with eight stout able men each. That £1,000 in hard money be sent to purchase gun-powder, in case a disappointment should happen at P.² That the direction and management of the whole be left to Capt. Lempriere. And that two hundred dollars be offered to the boats crew as a reward if they succeed.

And the said report being read, was agreed to by the Council.

1. *Collections of the South Carolina Historical Society*, II, 43, 44.

2. The island of New Providence in the Bahamas.

16 July (Sunday)

PORTIA (ABIGAIL ADAMS) TO JOHN ADAMS ¹

[Extract]

Braintree July 16 1775

I was struck with General Washington. You had prepared me to entertain a favorable opinion of him, but I thought the one half was not told me. Dignity with ease, and complacency, the Gentleman and Soldier look agreeably blended in him. Modesty marks every line and feature of his face. . . .

There has been a little Expedition this week to Long Island. There has been before several attempts to go on but 3 men of war lay near, and cutters all round the Island that they could not succeed. A number of whale boats lay at German-town; 300 volunteers commanded by one Capt. [Benjamin] Tupper came on Monday evening [July 10] and took the boats, went on and brought off [f] 70 odd Sheep, 15 head of cattle, and 16 prisoners 13 of whom were sent by Simple Sapling to mow the Hay which they had very badly executed. They were all asleep in the house and barn when they were taken. There were 3 women with them. Our Heroes came off [f] in triumph not being observed by their Enemies. This spirited up other[s]. They could not endure the thought that the House and barn should afford them any shelter. They did not destroy them the night before for fear of being discovered. Capt. [Silas] Wild of this Town with about 25 of his company, Capt. Gold [Gould] of Weymouth with as many of his, and some other volunteers to the amount of an 100, obtained leave to go on and destroy the Hay together with the House and barn and in open day in full view of the men of war they set off [f] from the Moon so call'd covered by a number of men who were placed there, went on, set fire to the Buildings and Hay. A number of armed cutters immediately Surrounded the Island, fired upon our Men. They came off [f] with a hot and continued fire upon them, the Bullets flying in every direction and the Men of Wars boats plying them with small arms. Many in this Town who were spectators expected every moment our Men would all be sacrificed, for sometimes they were so near as to be called to and damned by their Enemies

and orderd to surrender yet they all returnd in safty, not one Man even wounded. Upon the Moon we lost one Man from the cannon on board the Man of War. On the Evening of the same day a Man of War came and anchor'd near Great Hill, and two cutters came to Pig Rocks. It occasiond an alarm in this Town and we were up all Night. They remain there yet, but have not ventured to land any men.

1. Butterfield, ed., *Adams Family Correspondence*, I, 245-250.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO PHILIP STEPHENS ¹

[Extract]

Preston Boston 16 July 1775.

Sir, The *Falcon* sailed the 20 of June with a Transport to Piscatagua, and on the 30 returned to Boston with the Cannon and Ordnance Stores according to the inclosed List from Fort William and Mary. I transmit a Copy of Governor Wentworths Letter on this Occasion.

The *Charlotte* Sloop, mentioned in my letter May 13 to be hired as a Pacquet or Advice Boat, sailed the 30th of last Month with Dispatches from the Governor, myself and the other Departments of Government, for the different Ports along the Continent as low as Charles Town in South Carolina, from thence she is to cross to the Bahamas, and return to Boston.

Captain [William] Duddingstone in the *Senegal*, whom I had stationed at Casco Bay, and to whose particular attention I had recommended the Ship *Minerva*, Thomas Coulson, Master, returned with that Vessel the 1st instant to Boston. I have in a former Letter acquainted you that the *Minerva* was built at Falmouth for a Mast Ship, and that a Vessel brought her rigging Sails and other Materials from England; from the time of her being launched, some of his Majesty's Squadron have constantly protected her and the Store Vessel from being destroyed. Disappointed by the Rebels of getting Masts at Piscatagua, Mr Coulson returned to Falmouth to endeavour to procure a Cargo for England. It was absolutely impossible; and such preparations were making to destroy her, that Captain Duddingstone at the Masters earnest Intreaty returned with him again to Boston. Soon after the *Senegal* arrived General [Thomas] Gage applied to me for Convoy to four Transports and three or four Sloops his Excellency was sending to procure fuel for the Army: I ordered the *Senegal* upon this Service, and she sailed immediately for Penobscot Bay with her Convoy the 10th instant.

By Captain Duddingstone I received the disagreeable News that the *Margueritta* hired Schooner had been attacked and taken by the Rebels; I acquainted you in my Letter June 16 with her being sent Convoy with some Vessels appointed to bring firewood for his Majesty's Service at Boston. This Vessel except that she had no Carriage Guns, was well appointed; She had Swivels, Musquets, Pistols, Hand Grenadoes, manned with twenty of the best Men in the *Preston* and commanded by a very good Midshipman. The only Account I have yet seen is contained in the inclosed News Papers, but there is no doubt of its being a true Report.

The 28th Captain [Tyringham] Howe in the *Glasgow* sailed with Orders to cruize three weeks from the back of Nantucket Shoals to the West end of Long Island for the Security of Transports expected with Troops from Ireland, then to

proceed to Rhode Island and put himself under the Command of Captain [James] Wallace of his Majesty's Ship *Rose*.

. . . Captain Wallace has sent round a Sloop with Flour and Sugar, a Seizure of 45 Hogsheads of Rum taken in different Boats, and a small Vessel with Refreshments; he acquaints me that the Assembly at Rhode Island have voted 500 men more for the Rebellion, struck off £10,000 additional money, and ordered Fort Island to be taken possession of. The latter will be prevented if possible. I transmit a Copy of one of Captain Wallace's Letters inclosing an Association of some of the Principal People in Rhode Island. Other Accounts say that seven Sail of Brigs and Sloops are at Providence from 14 to 8 Guns, well manned, and that they have nearly finished two large row Boats for 24 Oars and two prow Guns in each.

. . . In Consequence of my Orders for that purpose Captain [George] Vandeput employs the *Kingsfisher* cruising in the Sound and off the Hook occasionally, with orders to seize and send to Boston all Vessels laden with provisions, Melasses and Salt, Flour, Grain &c. Captain Vandeput acquaints me further that there are many who wish to keep the peace in New York on account of their property, that several of these have got into Committees and the Provincial Congress, thro' whose influence perhaps it is that as yet the Kings Ships have met with no difficulty in getting the provisions required. I transmit an Extract from one of Captain Vandeput's Letters merely to shew what dependence there is upon the professions of these People, and the Deceit and Cunning with which they manage their Affairs.

Captain [John] Macartney of the *Mercury* acquaints me that at the end of thirteen days from the time of his sailing from Boston, he spoke to the *Spy* Transport with part of the 43d Regiment and sent her to Boston, the same day he met the *Lord Hyde* Pacquet and anchored with her at Sandy Hook the 16th and delivered her into the care of Captain James Montagu of the *Kingsfisher*, who conveyed her to Town the next day. Captain Macartney after cruizing a few days returned again to the Hook, and as the Transports arrived assisted them to Water, which they were all in want of, and sent them to Boston.

Captain [John] Collins, in a Letter dated *Nautilus* at Sea June 30, acquaints me that he had convoyed the Schooner with the Spaniards and their money going to Cadiz, together with the Ship *Thomas* bound to London, Fifty Leagues East of Cape Cod, and that he had left them safe on the 18th with a fair Wind to continue their Voyages; that he got on his station the 24th fell in with four Transports, and learning from a Pilot Boat the *Mercury* was at the Hook he went in, and having delivered his Pacquet to Captain Macartney proceeded in search of the Transports not arrived. The *Mercury* sailed soon after the [for] Virginia.

Captain [Francis] Parry of the *Cruizer* at North Carolina acquaints me, by Letter dated June 1st that the people in this Province are very violent, that it had been proposed in a Committee to man a number of Vessels and attack the *Cruizer*, that he doth not expect to get any more provisions there, and that the last Vessels which supplied him, would have been unloaded if she staid till the Morning. I inclose a Copy of a Letter to Captain Parry from the Captain of Fort Johnstone,

who received from the *Cruizer* two Barrels and half of Powder; and Captain Parry intends to remain near the Fort with his Majesty's Sloop.

Governor [Josiah] Martin, in a Letter to me dated North Carolina New bern May 27, 1775, wishes to have a Cutter, drawing not more than 7 or 8 feet Water at most, to be near the place of his Residence, where he represents himself to be with a few friends to Government totally helpless and destitute of Protection.

I inclose Copies of Letters from Lord Dunmore to myself and Captain Geo. Montagu, also an Extract of a Letter from Captain Montagu acquainting me that by desire of Lord Dunmore he had sent the *Magdalen* to England with his Excellencys Dispatches to the Secretary of State. I cannot at this Distance judge of the necessity for such a Measure, but submit to their Lordship's Consideration that no part of the Squadron ought at any time to be sent away without the Commander in Chief's Order, unless the Service is of a very pressing Nature and no Vessel can be hired, in which an Officer might carry Dispatches not safe to be trusted with the Master. The sending his Majesty's Ships or Vessels home from their Stations express with a Governors Dispatches, is more likely to happen during the rebellion in America than at any other time; therefore if the Governors of other Provinces have nearly the same Accounts to transmit, should apply to the Captains on their Stations to proceed immediately to England, and they follow Captain Montagu's Example, the Coast may be left entirely unguarded and every kind of contraband Trade carried on with Impunity, while the Commander in chief is totally unacquainted for some time with the Disposal of his Majesty's Ships under his Command, for whose proceedings he is to be accountable. This is likewise the Season and Crisis when a much greater number of Kings Ships and Vessels than are now on the Station could be employed to very great Advantage for his Majesty's Service. I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 141-147, MassHS Transcript.

WILLIAM REYNOLDS TO GEORGE F. NORTON¹

Dear Norton

[York] Virginia 16th July 1775

I wrote you fully 25th May P the *Bell* Capt Moodie since which I have not the pleasure of a letter from you. I shou'd have wrote you by Capt Esten who sailed a few days since but we were then in some Confusion from a report of the Arrival of some Troops, which proved false, in a few hours after the Express went from this Town we had 120 Men down to assist us if we had found it necessary. for my part I dont apprehend they can spare any from Boston, from the last Accounts they have warm work there for particular News. I must beg leave to refer you to the Gentleman who will deliver this, & to the papers sent you herewith. Capt Esten carried home a passenger whom no American ought to notice, he has behaved in a very unbecomeing manner here & is despied by every Friend to his Country

I have taken the liberty of giving you this hint, that you may not be a stranger to his Character. I shall expect if no other opportunity offers you will write me now & then by the packet. I have not to add except my best wishes for your health & happiness in which I am joined by Mrs Reynolds. I am &c.

1. William Reynolds Letter Book, LC.

"THE PEOPLE" TO JOSIAH MARTIN, GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA ¹

Sir,

Brunswick, July 16th 1775.

As the Establishment of Fort Johnston was intended to protect the Inhabitants of Cape Fear River from all invasions of a foreign Enemy in times of War, and during the Peace has been supported at a very great expence to this Province, and not only to prevent contagious and infectious disorders, but to aid and support the Trade and Navigation thereof, and where as by the conduct of the Captain of the said Fort most of these salutary ends have been entirely defeated, and added to this as by incontestible proof, we can make appear that not only the private property of individuals has been cruelly and illegally invaded and detained by the most atrocious injuries, were by the said Captain intended and in some degree carried into execution contrary to every principle of justice and humanity, and dangerous to the lives and property of the Inhabitants of this Province, we herewith beg leave to lay before your Excellency a state of some of those facts which have come to our knowledge, Viz his wanton detention of Vessels applying for Bills of health, his threats of vengeance against Magistrates whose opinion in the execution of their office he happened to disapprove, his sitting in defiance the High Sheriff of the County in the execution of his office, and treating the King's Writs served on him for just debts (which both as a Subject and a Soldier it was his duty to obey) with the shamefull contempt of wiping his backside with them, His unparalleled Injustice in detaining and Embezzling a large quantity of goods which having been unfortunately wrecked near the Fort, had from every principle of humanity the highest claims to his attention and care for the benefit of the unhappy sufferers, who legally demanded and frequently solicited in their behalf, his base encouragement of Slaves eloped from their Masters, feeding and employing them, and his atrocious and horrid declaration that he would excite them to an Insurrection.

These circumstances Sir, and many others too tedious to enumerate, could not but excite the indignation and resentment of the publick, but grievous as they were we would for a time still have submitted to them in firm reliance, that the first meeting of an Assembly would have relieved us, but upon being informed of Captain [John] Collet's intention of dismantling the Fort, erected and supported at the real expence of this Colony for its Protection and Defence, we collected ourselves together in order to prevent it, but finding upon enquiry that he had already dismantled it nothing more is left us than to recover the Cannon thrown over the walls and left in a situation which must entirely ruin them, to a place where attention and care shall preserve them for His Majesty when His service shall require them, because with that we conceive the safety of this Province is intimately connected, with this intention we shall proceed to Fort Johnston and that our conduct may not be misunderstood by your Excellency we have thought proper to give you this information and persuade ourselves we shall not meet obstruction from any person or persons whatsoever in the execution of a design so essential to His Majesty's Service and the Publick utility.

N.B. A Fresh instance of his violence in Captain Collet has now come to our knowledge, a glaring invasion of private property in unwarrantably seizing a

Quantity of Corn, the more inexcusable as provisions have never been withheld from him when ever he would pay for them, which provisions so seized we beg your Excellency would order him to restore to the proper owner, as also any Slave or Slaves the property of other persons which he now harbours and detains.

We are your Excellency's Most obedient Humble Servants

THE PEOPLE

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 102, 103.

GOVERNOR JOSIAH MARTIN TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

[Extract]

Cruizer Sloop of War in Cape Fear River

No Carolina, July 16th 1775

Since my former Letters to your Lordship the continual reports of the People designing to make themselves Masters of Fort Johnston, & Captain [John] Collet's just and well grounded Representations that he would not pretend to hold the place, with only three or four men that he could depend upon, against a multitude said to be collecting to attack it, determined me to dismount the Artillery that is considerable in value, and to lay it under cover of the *Cruizer's* Guns. I have also my Lord withdrawn the little remainder of the Garrison, with the shot, and movable Stores, and shipped them on Board the vessel lately arrived from Boston, to take a lading of Naval Stores here, pursuant to a Charter party, but the person to whom she is addressed having refused to load her, because she had been employed as a Transport in the King's Service to carry artillery to Boston, the Master as a matter of favour to me, has received the remnant of the Garrison of Fort Johnston, and some of its Stores on Board, while he lays here to accomplish the Days of his Charter Party engagement, after which if no change of circumstances happens in the mean time, I shall think it necessary to engage the Vessel in the King's Service, for the purpose above mentioned, in which I hope your Lordship will hold me justified.²

Fort Johnston My Lord, is a most contemptible thing, fit neither for the place of Arms, or an Asylum for the friends of Government, on account of the weakness and smallness of it, so that the keeping of it is of little consequence, and the Kings Artillery which is all that is good about it, will be as well secured under cover of the *Cruizer's* Guns, at less charge, as upon the Walls of that little wretched place; if I could furnish it with a sufficient Garrison, which I could now only collect out of the Highlanders upon whom, by drawing forth a number of them for such a service, I should immediately turn the resentment of the whole Country, before they are provided with the means of defence, and by that step perhaps frustrate my best and fairest expectations, formed upon the strength and good dispositions of that people in this Colony. A further cogent reason with me for disarming Fort Johnston was, that its Artillery, which is heavy might in the hands of the Mob, be turned against the King's Ship and so annoy her as to oblige her to quit her present station which is most convenient in all respects.

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 96-98.

2. The transport *Sally*; see Journal of the *Cruizer*, July 20, 1775.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Cruizer*, FRANCIS PARRY, COMMANDING ¹

July 75

Moor'd off the Fort [Johnston in Cape Fear River]

Saturday 16th Modt & fair people employ'd geting off the stores from the fort ²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/218.

2. The journal for the next day reported similar employment.

17 July

"REMARKS ON BOARD YE *Scarborough* IN PISCATAQUA RIVER" ¹

July 1775

Monday 17th

at 8 A M a party of men with an Officer appear'd under arms, on Kittery Hill, opposite the Ship; sent the Lieut to demand the Reason of their gathering together & to Inform their Leaders if they did not disperse they would be fired at by the Ship or any other armed men we shou'd see in that Province. The Captn of the Rebell guard told the Lieut they were order'd by the Congress to post armed men all along the sea Coast to prevent the Cattle being taken off and in the Night time to make all boats that were passing within Musquett shott to come on shore on pain of being fired at by the same guard shou'd they refuse, and that he (Captn Shapley) whou'd do his utmost to put the orders of the Congress into execution.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/867.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN JOHN LINZEE, HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Falcon* ¹

You are hereby required and directed to put to Sea as soon as possible in his Majesty's Sloop [*Falcon*] under your Command and cruize between Cape Cod and Cape Anne in order to carry into Execution the late Acts for restraining the Trade of the Colonies And to seize and send to Boston all Vessels with Arms Ammunition, Provisions, Flour, Grain, Salt, Melasses, Wood, &c. &c. And you are also hereby required and directed to look into the Harbour within the Bay of Boston, and to anchor therein and sail again at such uncertain times as you think are most likely to deceive and intercept the Trade of the Rebels.

And whereas there are many reports of armed Vessels being fitted out to annoy the Trade of his Majestys loyal Subjects: In case of your meeting any such Rebel Pyrates either in Harbour or at Sea, you are hereby required and directed to use every means in your power to take or destroy them.

You are to anchor once in ten days in Nantasket road for further Orders.

Given under my hand on Board his Majesty's ship *Preston* at Boston the 17 July 1775.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 147, 148, MassHS Transcript.

Newport Mercury, MONDAY, JULY 17, 1775

Newport, July 17.

Last Saturday [July 15] the *King-fisher* sloop of war arrived here, from a cruise up the sound, having driven one or two vessels ashore, and sent one brig to Boston.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, GOVERNOR OF CONNECTICUT, TO MAJOR GENERAL
PHILIP SCHUYLER ¹

[Extract]

Lebanon July 17th 1775.

I have recd from Col. [Benjamin] Hinman & others very favourable Accounts of the Disposition of the Canadians towards the General Cause, and their Desire that our Army may penetrate into their Province &c Suppose you are fully acquainted with their Intelligence. I shall therefore only trouble you with some Information I have recd from Capt. John Bigelow a Gentleman of Harford who was lately sent by our Assembly into Canada as an Escort to some Ladies taken at Skeensborough who we tho't proper to return to their Friends in that Province. He is returned and informs that there are about 350 Kings Troops at St Johns, 100 at Montreal, and 40 at Chamblee. Those at St John's keep a good Look out, have picketted an Acre or two of Ground, in which they have some Field Pices not yet mounted. He understood there were a Number of Batteaus, and two floating Batteries building just below St Johns. The officers boasted to him the Number of Canadians & Indians they were able to raise – but he says, tis certain they are not sure of one Man. . . . was informed that the Canadians almost to a Man are praying for our People to come into their Country – or they must be obliged for their own Safety to join the King's Troops. He did not see more than 6 or 7 Indians at St Johns

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

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR. TO CAPTAIN JOHN MACKIBBIN ¹

Sir

New London July 17 1775

I wrote you the 12th Instant, to which I Refer you Since that I am inform'd that there is a Large Quantity of Powder Arived at the Cape ² And I would have you in Case you Can Clear out go Directly for the Cape and when you Arrive there you may Very Easily know wether you Can have Liberty to Trade there or not And if you Can Purchase Powder to the Amount of Your Cargoe, and if You Cannot trade there you Can agree for the Powder to be brought Down to the Mole if there is no powder Purchase Melasses Sugar & Coffee and Make all the Dispatch in your Power, so wish you a Good Voyage and Safe Return to Your Frind & Owner

Nath^l Shaw Jun^r

1. Shaw Letter Book, YUL.

2. Cape Francois, Hispaniola.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR. TO THOMAS & ISAAC WHARTON, PHILADELPHIA
MERCHANTS¹

Gentlemen

New London July 17th 1775

I wrote you the 12th Instant that Capt John Mackibbin in the Sloop *Black Joke* with a Cargo of Sugar Melasses and Coffee had Sail'd for Phila hope by the time this Comes to Hand he may be Arived. Have Nothing more to add Only hope You'll be Able to get the Sloop Out or at least Clear'd out before the times Expires for Clearing Out to a Forreign Port if it Cannot be Done,² if You Can Conveniently Send me Two Hundred half Joanesis by [Edward] Chappell I Should be Glad I Am Gentlemen [&c.]

Nath^l Shaw Jun^r

1. Shaw Letter Book, YUL.

2. Apparently the Whartons found no suitable cargo for the West Indies, for the *Black Joke* was dispatched back to New London, and sailed from there for Jamaica in September with a cargo of horses, oats and onions. She was intercepted by H.M.S. *Rose*, and sent into Boston where vessel and cargo were condemned and sold.

New York Gazette, MONDAY, JULY 17, 1775

New York, July 17.

Capt. William Stewart, of the Ship *Mary*, from Bristol, on his Passage . . . July 3d, in Lat. 39,3, Long. 68,43, spoke Capt. [Henry] Collins, in the Schooner *Magdalen*, with Lady Dunmore and Family on board from Virginia, bound Home.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Philadelphia] Monday, July 17, 1775

A letter from General [Philip] Schuyler, with sundry papers were laid before the Congress, and read, and the same being taken in consideration,

Resolved, That the president write to Genl [David] Wooster directing him to send in the most expeditious manner one thousand of the Connecticut forces under his command to Albany, there to remain encamped, until they shall receive orders from General Schuyler as to their future proceedings.

Resolved, That a commissary of stores and provisions be appointed for the New York department, during the present campaign.

By un[animous] vote Walter Livingston was chosen.

That a deputy quarter master general be appointed for the said department.

Mr. Donald Campbell unanimously elected.

Ordered, That Mr Campbell, have the rank of Colonel in the army.

That a deputy muster master be appointed for sd department.

Mr. Gunning Bedford elected.

Resolved, That the Convention of New York be desired to recommend to Genl Schuyler, a proper person for a deputy adjutant general or a Brigade Major, for the army in the New York department.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 186.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 17th [1775]

1st. *Resolved*, That Capt'n Henry Dougherty be appointed to the Command of one of the Boats now building, and that Cap't. John Rice be appointed to the Command of one other of the Boats now Building.

The Committee appointed by the 2nd Resolve of the 15th inst. Report, that they went to the Jerseys and Conversed, with many of the Inhabitants, who seem willing to give every Assistance in their power, that they will immediately furnish some Loggs for building the Machines for the Obstruction of the Navigation, And that they propose to man one or two of the Boats for the Defence of the River, And that some of the Gent'n will in a few days attend this Board.

Cap't. Tench Francis and Cap't. Lieut. [Richard] Bache, made application to this Board for 30 or 40 Rifle Barrel Guns, for a Number of Men in their Company who have not Rifles, neither can they afford to purchase them.

2nd. *Resolved* That Mr. Robert Morris be requested to apply to Capt. Tench Francis, and Capt. Lt. Bache, to assist him in providing Eighty good Rifles for the use of the Boats now Building, a part of which are to be put into the hands of such Men as Capt. Francis for this County, and Colo. [Anthony] Wayne, of Chester County, may engage to go as Minute Men on Board the Boats when Required.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 287, 288.

MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COMMITTEE ¹

At a Meeting of the Committee 17 July 1775.

Mr Thomas Place appeared before the Committee and produced an Invoice of a Cargo consisting of Salt and Earthen Ware shipt by James Gildart onboard the *Totness* Capt Warring amounting to £220.18.4½ Stg On Motion ordered that the Proceedings in the Maryland Gazette of the 13 July respecting the ship *Johnson* and declaring James Gildart of Liverpoole an Enemy to the Liberties of America be republisht in the two Baltimore News Papers, And a Question arising how far breaking off all Commercial Intercourse with James Gildart should effect any Connections with Johnson Gildart or Ashburner & Place, or whether they ought not to be included therein as Partners with him, After some debates thereon it was agreed to be referd to a further Meeting

1. *Balt. Com.*, LC.

LORD DUNMORE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy)

Onboard His Majesty's Sloop the *Otter*
in Virginia 17th July 1775.

Sir As I have received every Assistance from Captain [George] Montagu which it was possible to expect from Zeal and Assiduity, it is particularly unfortunate to his Majesty's Service that that Gentleman should be succeeded in the Command

of his Majesty's Ships here by Captain [John] Macartney who seems to be actuated altogether by Principles totally different, and to have principally at heart the making Friends among his Majesty's greatest Enemies in this Country. Hitherto instead of aiding me, he has very much prejudiced all the Measures which I have thought requisite to adopt for restoring his Majesty's lost Authority in this Government; and his Conduct has been of such a Nature that I forsee it will be impossible for me ever, with propriety to apply to him for any Assistance if I should require it of him; And as I think him utterly unfit for such a Command, I hope therefore You will by the most speedy means relieve him or send a different Person for the Command. I must refer You to Captain Montagu for particulars.

Sign'd Dunmore

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

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Fowey*, CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Moored Point Comfort N E Willoughby's E b S Newport
Monday 17. News: W b S in 8 fathoms
 at ½ past Noon loosed sails to dry, and got out part of Lord Dun-
 more's baggage on board the Tender with his servants to go to
 Norfolk

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/375.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Otter*, MATTHEW SQUIRE, COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Elizabeth River [Virginia]
Monday 17 at 9 A M Unmoord & hove short on the Best Bower. at 11
 weighed. at Noon Towing up the South River. Variable Weather.
 at 1 P M anchord with the Best Bower in 4 fathom Water off
 Sprowls Wharf to protect the *William* Merchant Ship taken into
 Government service by Lord Dunmore.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/663.

DEPOSITION OF SAMUEL COOPER, MASTER OF THE SHIP *Unity* ¹

Samuel Cooper Master of the Ship *Unity* belonging to Plymouth in the Kingdom of Great Britain being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, Deposeth and Saith,

That on or about the 17th day of July last he this Deponent together with Captain [Edward] Cheeseman Master of the Brigantine *Success* coming in this Deponent's boat from Wilmington to the Flatts in Cape Fear River it being the same day on which a certain Colonel [John] Ashe sailed for Brunswick in Roger's Sloop, which had been pressed for the purpose of carrying him and a number of armed men. They overtook the said Sloop and a certain Mr Robinson ² as this Deponent hath heard and being informed then on board the said sloop, hailed this Deponent's boat and informed them that Colonel Ashe desired they would come alongside and drink some Toddy which they complied with. That while

this Deponent and his Company were on board the said sloop the persons appearing to be officers and part of the armed men then on board her in general avowed that their Expedition was with intent to take His Majesty's Fort Johnston and the said Robinson in the hearing of Col. Ashe and the other officers requested this Deponent's people in the Boat (being four in number) to hold themselves in readiness to assist in the glorious Enterprize or words to that effect and asked if they would go with them, his people replied they had fought for the King on board a Man of War and when they chose to fight it should be there again. This Deponent saith, that while they were drinking some Toddy, the said Robinson said he would give them a Toast and accordingly said Damnation to all Tories and that Tory the Governor, meaning the Governor of Fort Johnston, Captain [John] Collet, and if you want fresh provisions we will send you his Quarters (meaning the Governors) up to the Flatts. This Deponent further saith that about midnight of the 17th aforesaid a certain Captain Smith brought a letter on board this Deponent's Ship and having procured a light this Deponent read the contents and found the substance thereof to be, that Colonel Ashe requested the Masters and Commanders of the Ships at the Flatts to assist him with what Boats, Men and Swivil Guns they could spare, in the glorious cause of liberty, which letter was signed John Ashe. And this Deponent further saith that on the 16th of the said month of July, this Deponent gave leave to his Mate Boatswain and Carpenter to go to Brunswick to see an old shipmate on board one of the Vessels then lately arrived from England, saith he was informed that on their return they were ordered by a person on board a small schooner full of armed men to bring too which they neglecting they were fired upon by some of the armed people and not bringing too were again fired at, they then thought it more safe to go alongside the Schooner, and severely reprehended them for so cowardly an act as firing on an unarmed Boat, the fellows excused themselves by saying they had no intention to hurt them but only to frighten them as they knew they were Englishmen and would be frightened at a flash in the pan, they then forced this Deponent's People to land the armed Men with their Boat

(Signed) Sam^l Cooper

1. Saunders comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 130, 131. The deposition is undated, but was taken some time in August. It was included with Governor Martin's letter of August 28, 1775, to Lord Dartmouth. It is given here under date of July 17, 1775, as it relates to occurrences of that and the preceding day.
2. Probably John Robeson, a member of the Committee of Safety of Wilmington, North Carolina.

DEPOSITION OF WILLIAM TODD, MASTER OF THE SHIP *Duke of York* ¹

William Todd Commander of the Ship *Duke of York* of and belonging to Whitehaven in the Kingdom of Great Britain and being duly Sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith:

That on the 9th of July being on his way to Wilmington to advise Mr Cruden of his arrival in Cape Fear River, he called at Brunswick and was there asked to dinner by Mr Dry, Collector of His Majesty's Customs at that Port. That he accepted his invitation accordingly, and after dinner he heard with

astonishment the said Mr Dry toast several times "success to the American Arms," adding that he wished ardently from his soul they might conquer. That he this Deponent drank his glass twice, without repeating any Toast, but being asked the third round whether he had any objection to the Toast he drank it fearing his opposition might prove injurious to the owners of his Ship. That on the 17th of the last month (July) this Deponent being in bed on board his Ship lying at the Flatts was waked by one of his People about midnight and told there was a man come on board who wanted to see him. That this Deponent immediately got up and went on Deck where he was presented by a person (of the name of Smith as he has been informed) with a letter which he told him was from Col. [John] Ashe, which this Deponent read and found it addressed to all Captains and Masters of Ships lying at the flatts purporting that they were requested to send all their men, boats and several guns to assist in their glorious design of burning the Transport² with fire rafts which they had prepared for that purpose, adding that he hoped the Master of Ships would not be wanting in giving the utmost assistance upon the occasion, that those who went upon the Expedition should be well rewarded. This Deponent declared that the above mentioned was signed John Ashe, which having read three times over and asked leave to keep it or to take a copy of it which was refused, he returned it to the messenger who brought it desiring him to make the Deponents complements to Col. Ashe and to let him know that he could not conveniently spare his men, boats or swivil guns; that if his men chose to go upon the intended service he could not control them, but it was out of his power and he could not command them to go, and that if Colonel Ashe meant to employ force to take his boats he had not strength to withstand his superior force, upon which answer the Messenger retired from this Deponent's ship. And further this Deponent saith not.

(Signed) William Todd.

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 131, 132. This deposition, like that of Samuel Cooper, is undated. It was taken at the same time as Cooper's, and enclosed by Governor Martin in his letter of August 28, 1775, to Lord Dartmouth. Martin refers to Todd by name, in telling of the deposition.
2. The transport *Sally*; see *Journal of the Cruizer*, July 20, 1775.

DEPOSITION OF EDWARD CHEESEMAN, MASTER OF THE BRIGANTINE *Success*¹

Edward Cheeseman, Commander of the Brigantine *Success* off and belonging to the Port of Pool in Great Britain, being duly sworn . . . on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith,

That on the 16th day of July last, he the Deponent together with Captain [Samuel] Cooper of the Ship *Unity* and Mr. Bowan, were going from Wilmington to the Flatts and overtook Col. [John] Ashe, who had embarked before them at Wilmington with a party of armed men on board Roger's boat which was pressed for that purpose; that on coming up to the said Sloop they were hailed by a person on board her and invited to go alongside to drink some Toddy with Col. Ashe; that the Deponent and his companions aforementioned went on board

the said Sloop and while they were there they heard the purpose of their Expedition declared to be to take or to destroy Fort Johnston and His Majesty's Sloop *Cruizer*; that a certain person on board of the name of Robinson as this Deponent thinks, in the hearing of Col Ashe and his officers, desired the seamen in Captain Cooper's Boat to hold themselves in readiness to assist them in the glorious enterprize which they refused &c. The Deponent further declares that the same person after asking him and Captain Cooper whether they wanted any fresh beef, and being answered in the affirmative, said they would send them the quarters of the Governor to the shipping at the flatts for fresh provisions. And further this Deponent saith not.

(Signed) Edward Cheeseman

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 132, 133. This deposition was taken September 1, 1775, and enclosed in Governor Martin's letter of September 12, 1775, to Lord Dartmouth. Cheeseman's date of the same episode described by Captain Cooper is one day earlier, but is used here as of July 17, 1775.

DEPOSITION OF JOHN MARTIN, MASTER OF THE SHIP *Liberty*¹

John Martin Commander of the Ship *Liberty*, Property of and belonging to the Port of Belfast in the Kingdom of Ireland, being duly sworn . . . on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith,

That he the Deponent a day or two before the destruction of Fort Johnston by the People headed by John Ashe heard them gasconading and boasting of their intended expedition to destroy Fort Johnston, His Majesty's Sloop *Cruizer* and the Transport on board which Captain [John] Collet and the Garrison of Fort Johnston was embarked,² which last seemed to be the principal object of their rage. That on Monday morning the 17th day of July last about 2 o'clock a certain person named Smith came on board the Deponents Ship lying at the Flatts and asked for the Master. That the Deponent being informed thereof by his Mate, rose from his bed and directing a light to be struck desired the Messenger to walk down into the Cabin, where he delivered a letter to the Deponent signed John Ashe Col. and directed to all Masters of Ships then lying at the Flatts the substance of which was that Col. Ashe required them to send all the boats and men they could spare immediately to assist in the glorious enterprise they had in hand. That Smith the bearer of the letter told the Deponent they were preparing Fire Rafts and wanted the Ships boats and hands to tow them down the river. That the Deponent after perusing the Letter several times told Smith the messenger that he had business enough for his Boats and Men that he could not answer for the Disposition of his People but believed they would not willingly engage in the projected Expedition in which opinion he was afterwards confirmed by the unanimous Declaration of his Crew.

Signed John Martin

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 133. This deposition was taken September 4, 1775 and enclosed in Governor Martin's letter of September 12, to Lord Dartmouth. It is used here under date of July 17, 1775, the day of the occurrence described in it.
2. The transport *Sally*; see Journal of the *Cruizer*, July 20, 1775.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

In the Council of Safety. [Charleston] Monday 17th July, 1775.

Mr President acquainted the Council that he had dispatched the following Letters to Beaufort, per the Sloop *Endeavour*, J. Adinger Master, whom he agreed with to perform that service for Thirty Pounds Currency, viz:

Danl. DeSaussure Esqr

16th July 1775.

Sir You are requested by the Council of Safety to deliver the inclosed Letter to Mr. Tunes Tibout immediately upon Receipt of it, and with as little stir as possible to the public Eye.

The Vessel in which it is forwarded is the Sloop *Endeavour*, Capt. Joshua Vinel,² who will say he is bound to Georgia & East Florida and Mr Tibout will beg a Passage in her.

The Service which requires such a Management is of Importance, and you are desired to speak of it in the general Manner in which it is communicated as little as possible.

I am Sir [&c.]

Tunes Tibout

In the Council of Safety

Charles Town, 16th July, 1775.

Sir, I have [instructions] from the Council of Safety to request you to repair to Charles Town immediately and to be prepared for an Excursion by Water chiefly, in which you will probably be engaged three or four Weeks. Capt. [Clement] Lempriere will have the general Superintendence of this Enterprize, and he is particularly desirous of wanting the [company] and [pleasure] of your Assistance.

This Letter will be delivered to you by Mr DeSaussure who will report that the Vessel in which it will be carried is bound to Georgia or East Florida – you will beg a passage in her and proceed without delay to Charles Town. It will be best to land in the Evening remote from public Observation, suppose at Col [Christopher] Gadsden's Wharf and come directly to my house, where you will meet a hearty Welcome. [?] you will perceive it is intended to keep this Matter a Secret. I have the Honor to be [&c.].

1. Laurens Collection, SCHS.

2. Why the name of Joshua Vinel is inserted as master instead of J. Adinger, is mystifying, particularly as DeSaussure, on July 18, in acknowledging receipt of the letter, states that it came by the hand of Mr. Adinger.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM PACKWOOD TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.¹

My dear frind –

Cape Nicolas Mole July the 17 1775

These will in form you of my arovall hear the 9 Instant after lucking at Martiniqua Guadloop St Eustatius & could Not obtain one pound of molasses² under 6 Livers pr lb I could had the kings store oppend at bearster [Basse Terre] Guadloop & had wat quantey I would perviding I would a given 130 Jons³ pr thousand – thay take the advanteadg of our Necessety Mr Jenings wass at Portrico Wen I arovd at Statia, & on that acompt I could not gat my money Changd which I am afeard the consequence Will be grate varey lettell molasses to be had at Statia and a fine of 1000 gdrs & 3 mounths Imprisenment

if aney dutch Merchat . . . in Statia should dispose of one pound to aney New England men pupleshtd at the Hage the 22d March 1775 – the said fine or act is in full fours through out all the dutch & dienish West Indys

Martiniqua entierly dreend of molasses. the last wass Sold at 5½ Livers pr lb Cap fransway⁴ – Stoars and Kings Magerzens is trouley dreend on acompt of the greater caul for it. the last wass Sold at the Cap at 4 Livers pr lb and Verey ould I take passeadg to morrow for Port au Prince & gave grate Incureadgment of Suckcess thear & at pettey gavoner [Petit Goave], the South Side of this Island and I make no maner a dout but I will purchous my goods at 30 pr Cent les than aney that saled a bout the time I did, & be you a shoard that there is not a man in this world that will in deavour for prudant dispatch then I will – the ned, Sir, for candels at present not grate, 3 Livers pr lb and no wanted hear it is sposed thear is not les than 5000-bars of Sparmsety [Spermaceti] candels in the mole unSold Capt Foulser [Folger] from Nantucket arovd hear yesterday with 1700 boxes – every coind of perveshions in grate planty hear grate part of the *Macarones* pork of the last Voyage un Sold yeat — I have Sold Staves at 200 Livers pr thousand & had thay bin good could got 250 Lis which is all I have sold of the *Macarones* cargo – as yeat I under stand Capt Jonathan Leeds in the Schooner *defiance* Anchd in hear with a short passeadg from America with a cargo of horses bound to Lugan [Leogane] which is in good demand there or hear Molasses is Varey plantey hear at 20 Johns by this time you have reced the *Black Joke* as I under stand She has bin Saled about 4 weeks I am Varey much dispointd that Capt [John] McKibbin had not left letters if he did they have not bin delivd I am apt to think he did I have onley Receivd ourselves word for wat qnty of pervisions is left in their hands unsold – which I hope thay will prove honnest men – I have decierd my mate to Write to you, in my abstance, at all safe opertunetys as you can not Exspect to have many from me – be pleased to take care of my dear wife & children in my abstance my best Respects to your spouse fearther mother Tim &c. – and am Sir [&c.]

William Packwood

1. Shaw Collection, Packet No. 3, YUL.

2. Gunpowder. Molasses used to deceive any British vessel which might overhaul the *Macaroni*.

3. Johannes.

4. Cape Francois, Haiti.

18 July

COMMITTEE OF DEER ISLAND TO THE MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS¹

Gentlemen We the Committee of Deer Iseland – Would inform you that July the 16th We were Alarmed by A Report that A Number of men of War Were Arived In Penopscut bay – we Amediately Sent out a Whale Boat to know the Certainty of What we had heard – but the first Boat; Returned and only Informed that they were Kings Ships – In the evening We sent of[f] a nother – Which Returned this morning with Inteligence; that their was one man of War, which mounted 20 guns – 4 Transport ships 3 or 4 Sloops which they could discover. These were Loading with Wood, on long Island alias Dylows Island – Which the People had been so Wicked on that Island to get out for them. – Alarmed at this the Inhabitants met and A Number Voluntarily agreed to go and defend it – Wee

wrote Letters to the Committees of the Neighbouring towns – sent of[f] dispatches with them – And doubt not but that they will be ready to go with our men tomorrow & to defeat the attempt of our Cruel and unnatural Enemies to furnish themselves with Necessaries to Protract their Barbarous War – We expect also that they will before they leave us – take away our sheep cattle &c these they say (we are Informed) they will Pay for; – and we doubt not but they will now (as some of their servants have here to fore done) give a most extravagant Price for the same; but we hope Gentlemen that our Posterity shall not find that their fore fathers; When greatly distressed by want of Provisions of all most every kind; and Amunition also – that they were such sons of Esau; as to sell their birth rights for a mess of Pottage – we are very sensible they were not Purchasd so easy – but we are Put under the disagreeable Necessity of informing; that our defences cannot continue Long if we have not help, Provisions amunition; and men will be Absolutely necessary our Greatest expectations are to keep the enemy In Play till our bearers Return – We have Relying on you; but our lives in our hands – and should not help Come We must expect to be destroyed – but of your Redyness we doubt not to grant all that lies in your Power As We are embarqued all in one Common caus – we mean not to be awed by their frowns: and are Resolved never to be soothed by their flatteries – they Promise us Protection and Provisions if we will but furnish them all our lumber and other Necessaries which we usd to spare to People In the westward–. As we live at so great a distance we cannot see every order of Congress: We therefore would be glad Gentlemen of your written advise: And orders In what Method it is best for us to Conduct In this day of Darkness And distress–. We have In this and the Neighbouring towns Chose Delegates to Meet At Frenchmans Bey; the 19th of this month –. they are to Chuse for us one member, who is to act as An Agent for all these Parts at the Honourable Provincial Congress–. We should have imployed him; but Reflecting on that Proverb – While the grass Grows the Cattle Starve – We Waited not; but have sent of[f] this Dispatch as soon as We could–. We should also have waited for a advice & orders from you Gentlemen before we should have Recommendd any thing to have been done – But had we lain Still – the Ships would have been Loaded – and our Common enemy have been supplyd – We also are put under the melancholy Necessity – of Informing that We have just Receivd information that on some of the Islands they are indeavouring to sell Bacon and fresh meat–. but with Pleasure We tell this is not the General spirit – Patriotick virtue we hope is not yet at so low an ebb with us–. as to prefer self to the Publick – this Precious Jewel of love to our country, we trust delights to dwell – as well in the humble Cottage as In the most splendid Palace – for Further Particulars We Recommend you to Bearer the Revd. Joseph Patrick A yong Gentle who has appeared Ingaged In the Publick Cause In Both Publick and Private.

and to Capt Eaton who also is we trust A man that may [be] Rely'd on

Francis Haskell Robert Nason

Nathan Dow Josiah Crocket

Committee

Deer Island July the 18 1775

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN GEORGE VANDEPUT, H.M.S. *Asia*
AT NEW YORK ¹

Sir

Preston Boston 18 July 1775.

I acknowledge the Receipt of your Letters June 25 and July 9, containing a pretty full Account of your transactions and proceedings with his Majesty's Ships under your Command, and communicating many particulars very necessary for my Knowledge. It has given me great satisfaction that the Kings Ships have assisted the Transports from England to water at the Hook, and have conveyed them to Boston, where they are all safe arrived except one, which I hope will be in Tomorrow. By whatever means we get Provisions it is extremely favorable at this time, as the Supply expected from England is not arrived, and it is absolutely impossible to spare one Ounce from hence.

I have received Letters from Captains [John] Macartney and [John] Collins, whom I hope by this time are at their respective Stations. The *Magdalen* is gone to England.

You must continue the *Kingsfisher* in the Sound, when she can be spared from other necessary Services. I have related to the Admiralty your Story of the [Provincial] Congress restoring, and the Connecticutians stealing again the Kings Stores at Turtle Bay.

The Volunteers for the Fleet are arrived, so are the five Men, part of the intended Highland Regiment and are enlisted in the Army. I am quite satisfied with your Conduct in moving the *Asia* to a Birth better adapted for the Security of the New Carriages, in sending the publick Dispatches by the Transport, and in detaining the Schooner, &c.

In regard to your wish for more positive Orders I am equally desirous of being authorized to give them. The restraining Acts forbid all Coasting Trade. All Persons illegally in Arms upon the Water are deemed Pirates, and every Aid or Assistance given or intended to be given to the Rebels is liable to be destroyed or seized and confiscated. So far I think the Laws are literally in our Favour. The necessities of the Army and Fleet authorize the detention of such Articles as they stand in need of; at present these are Provisions of all Kinds, Flour, Grain, Melasses, Oats, Hay, Straw. The Country Eastward of Boston is destitute of every Kind of Food, except Fish; If we are fortunate in cutting off Supplies, its Inhabitants must soon be in extreme Distress. You are already sufficiently authorized to seize and detain as aforementioned; On all other Occasions you must be governed by Circumstances, rememb'ring that at present nothing but the clearest necessity to prevent the loss of, or injury to, his Majesty's Ships or People entrusted to your Care, or to any others under your immediate Protection, will justify you acting offensively towards those you are among, but I hope soon to hear that Great Britain has determined upon the Measures to be followed, and that I shall receive Instructions accordingly.

I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 457-459, MassHS Transcript.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy)

Boston July 18th: 1775 –

Sir, I am to acquaint you that I shall this Evening dispatch a Transport to New York, to take on board there such Men as may be inclined to come to this place, to serve His Majesty, I have Advice of a Ship lately arrived there from Scotland with a Number of Men, who would have been glad, to have an Opportunity to have been out of the way of being Obligated to take Arms on the Rebel side, two other Ships from Scotland are still expected, and as many good Men may be got out of them, I should be obliged to you to write to Captain [George] Vandeput to do his utmost in assisting the Officers sent, to procure as many of them as possible, and to send them round in the Transport ordered for that purpose, and to prevent their Landing to Join the Rebels

I am with Regard and Esteem Sir, &ca

1. Gage Papers, CL.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE ¹

Sir

Boston 18 July 1775

I shall with great pleasure give Captain [George] Vandeput the directions Your Excellency desires, and I am very sure he will not suffer one emigrant to land after he has received Orders to the Contrary

I am Sir [&c.]

Sam^l Graves

1. Gage Papers, CL.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO CAPTAIN DUNCAN CAMPBELL AND
LIEUTENANT SYMES ¹

You are hereby directed to embark on board the *Rebecca and Frances* transport, George Hastings, master, and proceed as fast as possible to New-York, where you are to receive on board your ship such men as may be inclined to serve his Majesty, and you are particularly to attend to the arrival of ships expected from Scotland, and to procure as many men out of them as you possibly can, and you are to do your endeavour not to suffer any of these emigrants to join the rebels on shore; and to give every encouragement to all the Scotch and other nations that will join you. Captain [George] Vandeput, of his Majesty's ship *Asia*, will give you all the assistance in his power, and with whom you will confer when there may be occasion; you will continue at New York as long as the service you are upon may require, when you are to return to this place with all expedition, bringing as many volunteers with you as you can procure.

Given under my hand at headquarters at Boston, this eighteenth day of July one thousand seven hundred and seventy five.

Thos Gage

By His Excellency's command Samuel Kemble

1. Almon, ed., *Remembrancer*, II, 123, 124.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN GEORGE VANDEPUT, H.M.S. *Asia*
AT NEW YORK ¹

Sir

Boston July 18. 1775

As every stratagem must be used to procure provisions at this Juncture, the Contractor for the Navy at Boston has ordered his Correspondent Mr Wm McAdams at New York to charter a Vessel from 80 to 100 Tons, and to put on Board her Bread, Beef, Peas, Oatmeal, and Rice. These Provisions are to be consigned to John Grant Esqr Spanish Town Jamaica, and the Vessel of course will be cleared for that place. No person in New York can possibly know but she really is intended for Jamaica, not even Mr McAdams himself, who is ordered to write an Account of his Proceedings on this Business, And to draw upon London for the Amount. When this Vessel so laden goes down the River you must seize her, and putting a sufficient Strength on board send her to Boston; but I desire this may not be done till she is at the Hook, that the knowledge of this transaction may not get to New York and prevent our future Success, for which Reason all the People and the Master must be sent hither. If the *Kingfisher* could sail at the same time with the provision Vessel, and alter her destination at Sea, it would be better and blank Letters directed to Jamaica might be put on board her early from your Ship, so that no Suspicion would arise of your detaining her upon any supposed Exigency of Service. I am &c

Sam Graves.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 150, MassHS Transcript.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO LIEUTENANT JOHN GRAVES, HIS MAJESTY'S
SCHOONER *St. Lawrence* ¹

Whereas his majesty's armed Schooner *Margueritta* was on the 11th of last month attacked and taken by rebels in a sloop & schooner from Mechias, after an obstinate engagement in which the commander of the said schooner *Margueritta* & one Marine were Killed and four wounded, and the rest being made Prisoners were carried by the Rebels into the Country; and whereas I have undoubted Information that these pirate Vessels and several others are now cruising about Mechias in the Bay of Fundy, and to the Southward as far as Sheepscut River, with intent to take and destroy all Vessels and People employed in bringing Supplies to the Kings Army and Fleet at Boston, You are hereby required and directed to take Lieut [George] Dawson in his Majesty's Schooner *Hope* under your Command, and proceed together in search of these Pyrates or any others you can [get] Intelligence of, whom you are to do your utmost to take, sink, burn or destroy by all means in your power, wherever you find them, and all persons who shall be actually aiding and assisting them. You are to take the two Transports named in the Margin under your Convoy and see them safe into Annapolis Royal, and then proceed to Windsor where there are six or more Vessels laden with Cattle, Sheep and other Provisions for the use of the Kings Forces at Boston, which Vessels cannot sail without Convoy: You are either to bring these Vessels away directly, or acquaint their Masters when you will return and convoy them to

Boston. Having determined this as you shall see best for the Kings Service you are jointly to proceed in quest of the Pyrates that infest the Coast as aforementioned, giving all possible assistance to known friends, and encouraging and protecting all persons who are willing or inclined to bring Supplies or Fuel to Boston, and seizing every Vessel you find offending against the restraining Acts or otherwise acting contrary to Law. And whereas I am informed the Enemy depend chiefly for Success upon Boarding, and to that end carry an extraordinary number of hands; you are to be very careful that you are not surprized. You are to inform yourself when the Brigs will be ready to Sail, and bring them with you to Boston, where you are to come in company with the *Hope* or not as the Service will admit.

Given under my Hand on board his Majs Ship *Preston* at Boston the 18 July 1775

Sam Graves

[In margin:] 3 *Sisters Ocean*

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 459-461, MassHS Transcript.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO PHILIP STEPHENS ¹

[Extract]

Preston Boston 18 July 1775

I have already informed you that in pursuance of the Lordships Orders to me to establish four armed Schooners I have established two by the names of *St. Laurence* and *Halifax*: The former of these is returned from Halifax Yard compleatly fitted and is a very fine Vessel. I have since purchased a Sloop of 96 Tons, whom I have ordered Lieut. Alexander Ellis of the *Boyne* to command, she is gone to Halifax to be fitted as a Schooner, and is established like the rest and named *Hinchinbrook*.

The Hull of a very good Vessel being nearly finished on the Stocks in this Town intended for John Hancock, I have entered into an agreement with the Builder to compleat her in all respects, except Cables, Anchors Sails and Rigging, for his Majesty, and to launch her the first of next Month. I have ordered her to be rigged as a Brig, to be commanded by Lieut. Thomas Graves (late of the *Diana*), and to be named *Bolton*. While the Carpenters are employed on the Hull, the *Bolton's* People, with assistance from the Men of War, are fitting her Rigging. Sails are making by our own People in the Sail Loft, and I hope to have her fit for Service by the latter end of next month.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 148, 149, MassHS Transcript.

NICHOLAS COOKE, DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF RHODE ISLAND, TO SAMUEL WARD
AND STEPHEN HOPKINS ¹

[Extract]

Providence July the 18, 1775

... we have three men of War and one packet that are constantly aRobing and plundering allmost all the Vessels that comes in Especially those that belong to providence none Escape that they can get in their power and they have So Strong a party in their favour in the town of Newport that nothing can be said or done

in the coloney but they have immediate intelligence of it our [Governor Joseph] Wanton appears Very open in opposition to the american measures and has Cpt [James] Wallace often at his house to dine &c; there is severall of the true friends to the cuntry amoveing out of Newport I Expect the toreyes will have the Rule there Soon.

1. "Nicholas Cooke Correspondence", *AAS Proceedings*, New Series, XXXVI, 256.

DR. JONATHAN MALLETT TO WILLIAM ALLMON ¹

Sir,

Ship *Asia*, New York, July 18, 1775.

Relying on your discretion and prudence, I have to request your assistance in an affair that I imagine will require some dexterity to manage properly. I want to have a few articles out of the medicine store put on board Captain [George] Vandeput's Ship, to be sent here, if you think it can be done so as not to be observed. You must consult with Bowden about it, who has the care of them; and I hope will meet with no difficulty in putting into the man-of-war boat at Blundell's house, at noon day, to avoid suspicion, a box of lint, the two boxes pulv. Peruvian, one do. Sal Glaub. The pot of camphire, and what opium there is packed in another small box. If you can't easily send all these articles, the box of lint, which is most wanted, may be easily carried under the arm; as also the camphire and opium. Scrape off the marks, and after it is on board, direct it for me at this place. Be cautious how you open the front part of the store. I believe you will find the key at Mrs. Reid's; as Mrs. Mallett tells me she left all the keys with her; you will leave them there again when you have got out the above articles. I hope Bowden will take all the care he can both of the medicines and bedding store, and give me immediate notice if any one offers to meddle with them; and tell them for me, that I will take care he shall be satisfied for his trouble. If the key should not be there, I must get you to write to Mrs. Mallett, or to go up, if necessary, to know where it is put. I left them all in a drawer of my desk, and I dare say you will find them at Mrs. Reid's, as I know that of the bedding store is there. I should be glad of a bale or two of old sheets, but am afraid it will be difficult to get them. Don't risk any thing, but first let me know if it is practicable to get them, and several other articles I want, out of the medicine store on some future occasion. Captain Kingston, who brings you this, has directions to find you or Bowden, and give you all the assistance he can, and will take care of whatever you give into his charge. There are some lancets, needles, scalpels, and pocket instruments, in one of my drawers also; if they could be got at, I should be glad they were sent here; but I fear Mrs. Mallett has the keys in the country. Mr. Bruce will write to you on this subject, to enjoin your transacting this business with all imaginable precaution; and be assured you will, in return, meet with every thing to serve you in the power of your assured friend,

J. Mallett

To Mr. William Allmon, at Dr. Bruce's, New-York, per favour of Captain Kingston

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1684, 1685.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF NEW YORK ¹

[New York] Die Martis, 9 ho. A.M. July 18th. 1775

The Mayor of the city of New-York attending in the next room, informed some of the members, that the magistrates had applied to a carpenter to build a boat for the ship *Asia*, to replace that lately burnt belonging to the said ship *Asia*; that the Carpenter desires an order or protection from this Board for that purpose, to convince any of his fellow-citizens (who might inquire), that he is doing that work with the approbation of the committee.

Thereupon an order was made in the words following, to wit:

This Committee do hereby signify their approbation of the conduct of the civil magistrates, in ordering the building of a boat to replace that lately burnt in this city, belonging to his Majesty's ship *Asia*; and require the carpenter which they have or shall employ for that purpose, to perform the same.

Ordered, That two copies of this order be engrossed and signed by one of the secretaries, and delivered to Mr. Mayor.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 81.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Tuesday, July 18, 1775

The Congress resumed the report of the Committee for putting the Militia into a proper state of defence and after debating the same by paragraphs came to the following resolutions: . . .

That it be recommended to each Colony to appoint a committee of safety, to superintend and direct all matters necessary for the security and defence of their respective colonies, in the recess of their assemblies and conventions.

That each colony, at their own expence, make such provision by armed vessels or otherwise, as their respective assemblies, conventions, or committees of safety shall judge expedient and suitable to their circumstances and situation for the protection of their harbours and navigation on their sea coasts, against all unlawful invasions, attacks, and depredations, from cutters and ships of war.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 187, 189.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 18 [1775]

Resolved, That Colo. [Daniel] Roberdeau be requested to wait on the Physicians of the Hospital, and desire they would inform this Board what Medicines and Necessarys there may be occasion for, for the 600 Men that are to be employed on Board the Boats.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 288.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Fowey*, CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Moored Point Comfort N E Willoughby's E b S Newport
Tuesday 18. News: W b S in 8 fathoms -
at 3 P M Anchored here his Majesty's ship *Mercury*, and sent to

Norfolk in a schooner the remainder of Lord Dunmore's baggage with the Ordnance and do stores that were left by the *Magdalen* for his Lordships use

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/375.

MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COMMITTEE ¹

At a Special Meeting of the Committee on Tuesday 18 July 1775

An Application was made by Mr John Fox from Virginia to supply a Parcell of Gunpowder for the use of the Inhabitants at York whom he represented to be in great distress, as expecting an attack from 5 Men of War then drawn up in line of Battle before the Town, And he produced a Letter from Robt Carter Nicholas Esqr to him desiring him to engage as far as £1000 Stg & £1000 Virg. Curr. for Gunpowder & Arms, But the small Quantity in our Magazine being very insufficient to supply our own immediate wants, the Committee were of Opinion they had it not in their Power to comply.

1. Balt. Com., LC.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Cruizer*, FRANCIS PARRY, COMMANDING ¹

July 1775

Moored off the Fort [Johnston]

Monday 18 Modt & Cloudy, had an account of people coming to destroy the Fort, under arms all night, ½ pt 2 the houses in the Fort were [se]t on fire, could not see any people, at 7 A M saw some stragglers never more than 2 or 3 together they came about the Fort. at 3 [P M] all the Barns, stables, cottages &c took fire & were entirely destroyed by the Rebels, who then disappeared entirely.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/218.

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL COUNCIL OF NORTH CAROLINA ¹

At a meeting of the Council on board His Majesty's Sloop *Cruizer* in Cape Fear River on Tuesday the 18th July 1775

Present

His Excellency the Governor The Honble James Hasell Lewis DeRosset and John Sampson Esquires

The Governor informed the Board that in consequence of the just Representations of Captain [John] Collet Governor of Fort Johnston, that the Garrison of that place was reduced to no more than three or four men that he could depend upon, and that he had received advice of a considerable body of the People of the Country being collecting in order to attack the place, he had thought it advisable for the preservation of His Majesty's Artillery to dismount the Guns in the Fort and to lay them under the protection of the guns of His Majesty's Ship of War and to withdraw the little remnant of the Garrison the shot and small Stores and to place them in security on Board a Vessel lying under the protection of the Kings Ship.²

The Council approved of the steps His Excellency had taken for the preservation of His Majesty's Artillery.

Francis Parry Esqre Commander of His Majesty's Sloop *Cruizer* representing to the Governor in Council that seamen were continually offering to enter on board the King's Ship under his Command, whom he could not take as he had his complemt of Men, and who would enlist under the Standard of Rebellion for the sake of the bounty money given, and might and probably would be employed against the King's Ship if as was reported, the People meditated an Attack upon her.

The Governor and Council taking into consideration the representation of Captain Parry were unanimously of opinion that if he found it consistant with his Majesty's Service it would be advisable to retain the men who offered themselves on Board His Majesty's Ship under His Command until they could be otherwise provided for.

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 106, 107.

2. The transport *Sally*.

JOSIAH MARTIN, GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO "THE PEOPLE"¹

To the People who send a letter to Governor Martin bearing date the 16th instant by Nathan Adams, a Pilot.

[Extract]

Cruizer Sloop of War

9 o'clock at night, July 18th 1775

I have received this minute a Letter signed "The People," representing many unwarantable proceedings of Capt [John] Collet, which it would have been always my Duty to enquire into, and to prevent as far as lay in my power, if I had been made acquainted with them timely. In all cases where his indiscretions have come to my knowledge, I have interposed my advice and authority, and I persuade myself not without effect, as well appears by his delivering up the Wines he has detained in his possession. There are other allegations against him in the letter I have received of most heinous nature of which I never heard a word before, of his unjustifiable seizure of the Corn, I have been informed and highly disapproved, and remonstrated against it, and shall use my utmost authority to make him restore it.

The dismounting of the King's Artillery, in Fort Johnston, has been done by my Authority, and by Virtue of the Powers vested in me by His Majesty from conviction that it was expedient for the King's Service, and it will be my Duty as you may be assured it will be my care to prevent any injury happening to them where they are laid for the present. I must therefore hope and desire that you will not under the mistaken belief of Captain Collet having dismounted the Cannon in Fort Johnston of himself proceed in your present design of removing them, as you will thereby do violence against Lawfull Authority which it will be inconsistent with my Duty to permit, and which cannot fail to draw upon you His Majesty's highest displeasure. For these reasons I do most earnestly advise, exhort and intreat you to desist from your purpose. As

Your sincere friend and well wisher

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 104.

Sir

Beaufort 18th July 1775

about Nine o'clock this morning your favours of 16th & 17th Instant were delivered to me by Mr. Adinger, and should have complied with the Council of Safety's order in delivering the Letter directed to Mr. Lebon, but he set out yesterday morning for Charles Town with Capt. Dwyer and others to ~~carry~~^{convey} down about 5000^{lb} Gun powder taken out of Mainland ship, so that he will be with you earlier than if he were here now. I took the liberty of opening the letter directed to him, thinking that probably there was some order to be executed, if the vessel you mention came here & which perhaps I could have complied with, but I find that is not the case. I return the letter hoping it will not be taken amiss of you. You may depend I shall keep this matter as it is intrusted to me. — many Gentlemen were present at the delivery of the Letter & asked what was the subject, to which I replied it was a private one & that put an end to their Enquiry — we have sent you off this morning 5000^{lb} Gun powder which came here yesterday under care of Mr. DeBarry, from Savannah. He is to deliver it, a Guard is sent with it from hence. I wish the first & this parcel safe to Ch. Town, where I make no doubt it will meet with a hearty Reception — I am with Respect

Sir

Your Oble. servant
D. DeSaussure

DANIEL DESAUSSURE TO HENRY LAURENS, PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

[Extract]

Beaufort 18th July 1775.

Sir about Nine oClock this morning your favour of 16th & 17th Instant were deleivered to me by Mr. Adinger, and shoud have Complied with the Council of Safetys order in deleivering the Letter directed to Mr. [Tunes] Tebout, but he set out yesterday morning for Charles Town with Capt. [John] Joyner and others to convey down about 5000 lb Gunn powder taken out of [Richard] Maitlands ship, so that he will be with you earlier than if he were here now . . . we have sent you off this morning 5000 lb Gunn powder which came here yesterday under care of Lieutt Doharty, from Savannah, he is to deleiver it, a Guard is sent with it from hence. I wish the first & this parcell safe to Chs Town, where I make no doubt it will meet with a hearty Reception –

1. Laurens Collection, No. 29, Letters of the Council of Safety, SCHS.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

[Extract] In the Council of Safety [Charleston] Tuesday, July 18th, 1775.

Mr. [William Henry] Drayton and Mr [Miles] Brewton, Members of this Council, dispatched on a special Service to Georgia, being returned Mr Drayton reported: "That in Consequence of their Directions, Mr Brewton and himself proceeded to Savannah near which Place they arrived last Friday [July 14] Evening, when they sent a Letter to Mr [Archibald] Bullock, Mr Young, & Mr [Joseph] Habersham, in Savannah, acquainting them with their Arrival. That the next day they were invited to the Provincial Congress, which had continued sitting from the 4th Instant, and were received in the most respectful Manner: That they then opened the Nature of their Deputation, and made Application on the part of this Colony to purchase as large a Portion of the Gun-powder that has been taken out of Capt. [Richard] Maitland, and been detained in Georgia by Order of their Congress, as might be more than sufficient for the Use of that Colony. That in Consequence of this Application a Committee had been appointed, who reported that of 12,700 lb of Gun-powder then in the Colony only 3,000 lb ought to be delivered for the Use of Carolina. That against this Report Mr Brewton and himself remonstrated in such Terms as tended to show that Carolina had a Right to expect a larger Portion, and that in granting such, Georgia so far from doing a Favour to Carolina would only discharge the Duty she owed to America and herself; in fine, that the Congress set aside the Report, and delivered to Mr Brewton and himself, on the Part of the Colony, by way of Loan, 5000 lb of Gun-powder, which they had shipped on board a Proper Vessel under Orders to proceed to Charles-Town within Land."

Mr Tunes Tabout reported, that Capt. [John] Joiner was arrived at Wappoo, with upwards of 5000 lbs of Gun-powder from Georgia; and that he there waited for the Directions from this Council.

Ordered, That a guard of 12 or 15 Men be immediately sent to Wappo; and that Capt. Joiner be desired to wait there till he shall receive further orders.

Resolved, That Capt. Joiner's Cargo be brought to Charles-Town; that it be landed on Mr Gibbes' Wharf – and that it be there received by Lieut. Heyward

with a Detachment of the Artillery Company, and deposited in the old Magazine.

Ordered, That Mr President to write to Capt. Joiner, to come to Gibbes's Wharf accordingly.

Resolved, That 4000 lbs of said Cargo, be immediately shipt for Philadelphia.

1. Laurens Collection, Journal of the Council of Safety, June 16–July 27, 1775, SCHS.

PROCEEDINGS & SENTENCE AGAINST CHARLES WEBB ST. PAUL'S PARISH
[SOUTH CAROLINA] JULY 1775¹

St Pauls Parish the 18th July 1775 –

Personally appeared before Andrew Leitch Esquire one of His majesties Justice of the Peace for Charlestown District & The Committee for St Pauls Parish, Allen Miles, Robert Miles & Melcher Garner being Present –

Agreeable to a summons by us to Cause Charles Webb to Clear himself of some Malicious Expressions said against His Honour the Lieutenant Governour & the Committee's of the said Province – Messrs John Jackson, William & James Rugge & Jno Humphreys being Witnesses to what they Heard the said Charles Webb Say in Public Company – The affidavits of the Said Gentlemen are as follows –

That on monday the 8th May Last, Jno. Jackson in Company with the afore-said witnesses, went from the quarter house to Charlestown to the house of Valuntine Lynn, their in the Eveninng of the same day Charles Webb ask'd the Deponent to Walk with him to Francis Bremars, according he went with the said Charles & found Mr. Bremer at Mr Ramages Tavern, when on that very Day the news was brought that Hostilities had commenc'd against Boston, & the Bostonians were Success, full, & there was Mrs. Ramage & Mr Bremer Present when Charles Webb Declared he woud go to England take a Commission & come Against the Americans –

Mr. William Rugge on Oath saith That on the Precedeing 8th Day May, he heard the said Charles Declare he would Stand by what he said at Mr Ramages Tavern, then the Deponent asked him what he said; he Answer'd That he wou'd go home & get a Commission & Come Out & fight against the Americans – Shortly after That, at Mr Edwards Tavern on the Bay, the Deponent with Jno Jackson heard the said Charles Call the Lieutenant Governor² a Damn Fool for not Hoisting the King's Standard –

Mr James Rugge on Oath saith That some time in April last that the said Charles Inform'd the Deponant, that his Father-in-Law Thomas Harcombe was then Just return'd from Charlestown, during the time he was Their, one Mrs. Pendergrass Dun'd his Father (meaning Mr. Harcombe) for an Accot Due Mr. Long Publicly in the Street, & had Threaten'd him that she woud apply to The Committee, Provided he woud not settle the Account with her, the said Charles Replyed, a Pretty Joke indeed, to apply to such a Sett of Mechanical, Ignorant Rascals, & that they consisted of Butchers, Taylers & Coblers & Hop'd that his Father wou'd not obey aney Summons from Them, wch If it was his Own Case he wou'd not – sometime after, the Deponant came from Charlestown & the said Charles ask'd him whether the Delegates were Sail'd for the No. Ward.³ in Answer, he told him he Believ'd they were; he then reply'd, that he wish'd the men

of War woud meet with 'em & take them Pris'oners & carry them to England, Their to be Treated as Rebels, for he thought them more so than Ever the Scotch were, & he was not Supriz'd at the Scotch being such Loyal Subjects, for a Burnt Child wou'd Dread the Fire & how Pretty the Foolish Rascals of Property wou'd Look when their Lands & Negroes comes to be forfeited to the King that he cou'd take the whole Province, if he had a Regement of the Kings Soldiers, for he well knew that the Americans wou'd not fight. The Deponant Farther heard the Said Webb say that he Blam'd the Leieutnant Governor for his being so Inactive & that the People wou'd not been so Rebelious had it not been for his Foolish Proceedings, that he wonder'd he Did not Put up the King's Standard, that he mout be able to know who was Friends to the Government or who Not——

Mr. Jno. Humphreys on Oath, saith that In may last Their was some Gentlemen at Mr. Thomas Harcombe's Talking about the Affairs of the Country, & after those Gentlemen went away he heard Mr. Webb say he thought it was a Pit'y their was not a gallows in Charlestown to hang all the Americans in a String, & as for the Committee They were a Lousey Sett. Blackgards, such as Butchers, & Taylers – & Further Saithe Not –

Sworn the 18th July 1775 before me

And^w Leitch
John Jackson

W^m Rugge
James Rugge

St Pauls Parish the 18 July 1775

Whereas Charles Webb being brought before the Committee for saying many disrespectfull words againsts the Lieutenant Governor (of this Province) & the Committee in general. – it has appeared to us, by several Affidavits that the said Charles Stands Guilty of the Accusation – Wee Therefore Look on him as an Enemy to This Province & America in General And an Object of the Resentment of the Public –

by Order of the Committee

Melcher Garner Chairman

1. *South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, I, 62–65.

2. Lieutenant Governor William Bull.

3. The Delegates to the Continental Congress, meeting in Philadelphia.

GOVERNOR SIR JAMES WRIGHT TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

[Extract]

No. 54

Savannah in Georgia the 18th of July, 1775.

On the 13 instant at night two Gentlemen came here from Charles Town sent as I was informed by the Council of Safety there and they have Prevail'd on the [Provincial] Congress to let them have 5000 weight of the Gun Powder and which they carried away with them, and I am Informed that Some of the Liberty People here, Assisted in Putting on board the Vessell they came in a brass field Peice and Carriage belonging to His Majesty, this I did not hear of till Afterwards, but if I had I could not have Prevented it.

1. *Collections of the Georgia Historical Society*, III, 196–199, from PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5.

JOHN STUART, SUPERINTENDENT FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS IN THE SOUTHERN DEPARTMENT, TO SOUTH CAROLINA COMMITTEE OF INTELLIGENCE ¹

[Extract]

St. Augustine, July 18, 1775

Your letter of the 29th renders it necessary for me to tell you, that some time before I left Charlestown I had received information of a design to seize my person; and in order to give colour to such a step, a report was industriously propagated of my having sent to call down the Indians. Immediately after my removal from Charlestown to my plantation on Lady's Island, it was reported, that in consequence of my orders, thirty-four families on the frontiers had been murdered by the Cherokees. When I was at Georgia, I had information that Captain [John] Joyner and Mr. [John] Barnwell, two members of the Provincial Congress, had returned to Beaufort; where, by most defamatory reports and insinuations, they endeavoured to blacken my character, and render me obnoxious to the people; giving out that my having called down the Indians was proven before the Congress; that great quantities of arms and ammunition were shipped for me to arm the Negroes and Indians, and that it was now discovered that I had sold Fort London, and was the instrument of getting the garrison massacred; and Captain Joyner showed at the public muster-field, in St. Helena, printed bills, containing the above, and other false accusations.

From thence they went to Savannah, and in the night had a meeting with the Committee, of which Sir James Wright gave me notice early next morning, and advised me to take steps for the security of my person. I accordingly prevailed upon Captain [William] Grant, of the *St. John*, armed schooner, to land me at St. Augustine, where the business of my department called me. But before I embarked, I saw some of the members of the Committee, and read to them some part of my correspondence with my Deputies, which they communicated to you. They candidly told me that the people were much enraged; and they could not answer for the safety of my person. I then thought it high time to provide for my safety; and went on board the *St. John*, armed schooner, at Cockspur.

I have since been informed, that two boats were sent down the river in pursuit of me; and from the schooner I saw several armed canoes, said to be commanded by Captain Joyner and Mr. Barnwell, who, before they left Beaufort, gave out they were to receive and conduct me back to Charlestown. The armed schooner, however, proceeded the next day for this place, where I landed in a very weak condition; and this, gentlemen, you are pleased to call a precipitate departure, though I shall ever consider it as a most fortunate escape.

I am, Gentlemen, [&c.]

John Stuart

To William Henry Drayton, James Parsons, John Lewis Gervais, Arthur Middleton, William Tennent and Thomas Heyward, Jun., Esquires

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1681, 1682.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SCHOONER *Saint John*, LIEUT. WILLIAM GRANT,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775

Anchord in New Providence Harbour

Tuesday 18 Arrived here a Ship from Liverpool and a Schooner from Rhode Island – In whom Came dispatches from the Admiral on His Majesty's Service.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

19 July

PETITION OF BENJAMIN FOSTER AND JEREMIAH OBRIAN TO THE MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL COURT ¹

To the Honorable Council & House of Representatives of the Colony of the
Massachusetts Bay assembled at Watertown the 19th Day of July A D 1775.

The Petition of Benjn Foster & Jeremiah Obrian in behalf of the Inhabitants
of Machias

Humbly Sheweth. that whereas your Petitioners have been at Great Expence in fixing a Privateer for the Defence of the Place, and its Situation is Such that it may be easily Blocked up by a Small Vessel and Stop all Communication, we intreat with Submission that there may be Commissions for the officers and some men Stationed on Board of her to be Ready on any emergency To Take the Troops on Board, that are stationed there and when thought Proper by our Committee otherways we Humbly Conceive that if said Privateer should engage an armed Vessell and be Taken, (which we are Determined by Divine assistance never to be) we Shall be Deemed & treated as Pirates we would also inform your Honours that there is an estate belonging to Ichabod Jones formerly of Boston in the Hands of Stephen Jones of Machias. your Petitioners humbly beg that your Honours would Take it into Consideration and order said estate to be Taken care off by the Committee of Safety at Machias or some Proper Person that your Honours shall Point out and that the income of Said estate may defray Some of the Charges that have arrisen by Reason of sd Jones being an enemy to his Country; we would inform your Honours that in taking the first Tender, one of the men that was Killed has Left a poor Helpless widow & Six Small Children intirely Destitute of the Necessarys of Life; and a number of wounded men who have Lost their whole Summer by being wounded and will Stand in great need of some Relief if your Honours after Consideration would be Pleased to give Directions so that the Profits of said Jones' Estate may be applyd for the benefit of those that have mett with these misfortunes and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray

Benjⁿ Foster
Jeremiah Obrian

[Endorsed] in Council Augt 18, 1775

Read and sent down

Sam^l Adams Secry

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 206, 280.

PETITION OF JEREMIAH OBRIAN AND BENJAMIN FOSTER TO THE MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL COURT ¹

To the Honorable Council & House of Representatives Assembled at Watertown,
the 19th of July A D 1775

The Petition of the Subscribers in Behalf of the Inhabitants of Machias in the
County of Lincoln and Province of Massachusetts Bay –

Humbly Sheweth, that your Petitioners in the Present unhappy Times, have
been at Great Expence in guarding the Coast at Machias, by Which means the
inhabitants have Done but Very Little else for two months Past, which Leaves us
in a Very Distressed situation: unable to Defend our selves, or the Common Cause
for Which our Country in general is Contending, however We beg leave to hold
our selves Ready and Willing to Exert our Selves Still further, by Virtue of Such
incouragement, as your Honours Shall think proper, we therefore pray your
Honours would please to allow us the previlidge of Raising a Company of men
amongst our selves on the Expence of the Province, by Which means we humbly
Conceave we should be Enabld to gaurd our own Port by Continuing the young
men in the place, which at Present is wholly out of imploy, and Contribute in
some measure to the Necessity of the poor Inhabitants [&] the Company So Raised,
to be under Such Restriction & Regulation as your Honours Shall think fit. we
would also beg Leave to Represent to your Honours, that we have not a Sufficiency
of Powder & Ball to make any Considerable Defence in Case of an Invation, we
humbly Pray your Honours would Supply us, with two Hundred weight of Powder
& Balls in Proportion.

Your Honours are Doubtless Sensible of the great Cost & Charge your Peti-
tioners must necessarily be at, in the Conveyance of a number of Prisoners from
Machias to Watertown Near three Hundred & fifty miles Distant the Particular
accmpts of Which we Beg Leave to Lay before your honorable Committee we
there force Pray Your Honours, [would Please to Grant such a sum] of money to
be Paid unto your Petitioners as will enable us to Defray all Such Charges as
Shall be found Right & Just and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever
Pray

Jeremiah Obrian
Benjⁿ Foster

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 206, 225.

EDWARD EMERSON TO THE MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS ¹

To the Honorable & Council and House of Representatives of the Colony of the
Massachusetts Bay, in General Court Assembled July 19, 1775.

Humbly sheweth your Petitioner, that he with the eastern Regiment in the
County of Lincoln, on hearing that a Man of War with sundry other Vessels were
come to the eastern Shore of said County, in order to supply the Regulars with
Wood and Provisions, went down in order to prevent their Design, and had the
good Fortune to take five Vessels in that Employ, which have since been disposed
of by your Honors; one of which Vessels your honors have thot fit to put into my
Care, a Schooner of about 70 Tons, well found and might easily be fitted &
rendered very suitable to defend the Sea Coast. your Petitioner would further

inform your Honors, that said Regiment, before they destroyed Fort Pownal, took into their Possession a Quantity of Cannon, Ball & Langrage, the Property of this Colony, which is now on board said Schooner. Your Petitioner therefore prays your Honors, that as the eastern Shore of this Colony is most exposed to the Damage of the Enemy, he may be allowed to fitt said Schooner for a Privateer, make use of said Ball & Langrage taken from Fort Pownall, enlist Thirty Men to serve on board said Vessel, and use & improve said Vessel for the Defence of the Sea Coasts in the eastern Part of this Colony, and your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

your Petitioner further humbly prays he may [be] allowed 100lb Powder to be used on board said Vessel for the Purpose aforesaid

Edw^d Emerson

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 180, 103.

Massachusetts Spy, WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 1775

Worcester, July 19

Last Saturday [July 15] nine prisoners, belonging to the Admiral's ship, lying in Boston harbour, who were taken at Machias, were brought to this town and committed to jail.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTYS SLOOP *Falcon*, JOHN LINZEE, COMMANDING ¹

July 1775

Plymouth Light House So 2 Leagues

Wednesy 19 At 6 AM saw 20 Whale Boats under the Soern Shore with about 7 Men in each at 10 took two whale Boats Belongg to Marshfield . . . at 7 P M Came too in Cape Codd Harbr Sent aboat on Shore to get Intiligence

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/336.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE THREAT TO DESTROY THE TOWN OF NEWPORT ¹

By a Gentleman from Newport, Rhode-Island, who was there at the time the town was threatened with total ruin by the three pirates of war stationed in said harbour, we are favoured with the following particulars:

On Monday night, the 17th of July [1775], two men belonging to the *Swan*, Capt. [James] Ayscough, being on shore, saw fit to attempt an escape from their old and detested habitation, their design (by the bye) was communicated to no individual of the town. The next day, viz. the 18th, A.M. two or three of the ferry boats which pass between Newport and Connanicut were fired upon and brought too, an event so singular that two respectable members of the Committee waited upon Capt. Ayscough to know the reason, he told them that two of his men the night before were sent on shore upon some errand, and had not returned, added, that he was confident the inhabitants knew where they were, and that they were detained by them *purposely*, the two gentlemen declared themselves ignorant of the matter, and believed the whole town to be, however, to pacify Capt. Ayscough, they assured him that they would summon the Committee together, enquire into the affair, &c. withall, desiring Capt. Ayscough to write a letter to the Committee, stating his *grievance*; this he did, and they promised to wait on him

with an answer in the afternoon: As the Captain's letter was rather in the threatening stile, the Committee could not help enquiring what he meant thereby, and assured him in their reply, that they were not to be intimidated, and did not think themselves by any means, accountable for the desertion of any of his men. Captain Ayscough read the letter with considerable composure, folded it up, and then gave it to [James] Wallace, Captain of the *Rose* (Ayscough at this time being on board Wallace's ship) Captain Wallace immediately flew into a most terrible passion, threw the letter down in a violent fit of rage, damn'd the Committee, the Congress, &c. swore at Ayscough for writing to such a damn'd parcel of rebels and declared that if he knew the two gentlemen who were then present to be of the Committee, they should never go a-shore again; they endeavoured to pacify him but in vain, he swore repeatedly that if there was a God in Heaven, the town should be destroyed before morning, that he was a King's officer, and would not be insulted, &c. Hereupon the two gentlemen left the ship. A signal gun was instantly discharged, and the three pirates in the harbour and their tender immediately weighed anchor and came close in with the town, their tomkins were out, the marines on board beat up to arms, and all the hostile preparations imaginable going forward against a defenceless seaport, consisting (exclusive of the men) of not less than 6000 women and children. About half past nine in the evening a cannon was discharged from the *Rose*, when many really thought the firing on the town was begun, several women fainted away, others went into fits, and a few absolutely miscarried by the fright, in short, there was the greatest apparent distress! (The cannon which was fired was loaded with powder only.) Between the hours of ten and eleven, the same night, a packet from Providence arrived with seven or eight passengers, she was stopt and a place appointed for her near the *Swan*, the passengers were seized, made to tell all their names, and confined as prisoners, repeatedly stiled rebels, with the most horrid oaths annexed, a guard with drawn swords kept over them during the night, the late infamous proclamation of a truce breaking [Thomas] Gage, was hung close by them, which they were fearful they would be compelled to sign or else abide the consequence therein denounced. It is worthy of observation, that during the period the three Captains were together on board the *Rose*, playing cards, drinking, carousing, &c. About one or two o'clock next morning, viz. Wednesday, one of the *Swan's* men returned, and in order, it is supposed to save himself from a flogging, as it was necessary for him to give some account of himself, he invented the following lye and swore to it upon the Holy Evangelists, namely, "That the Rhode-Island rebels had taken him and his companion and wanted that they should enlist among them to fight against the King, but that they refused, and because they did that the rebels gagged them and then carried them to Providence gaol, but that he broke away and travelled thirty miles to get on board again, with much of the same stuff." The Captains of the pirates either believed this gross and inconsistent falsehood, or fain would make the inhabitants think so; accordingly it was taken down in writing, sent on shore and satisfaction demanded, or the town should certainly be laid in ashes that very day. Another cannon was now discharged, four ferry-boats and two wood sloops seized, quantities of tar and other inflammatory and combustibile matter put into the same,

in order to set on fire and send into the wharves, as a more expeditious way of destroying the town than by cannon only; the cannon at the same time were to be fired on every part of the town; the Court-house, Dr. Stiles's Meeting-house, and the Printing-office were first of all to feel the effects of this horrid plot. The most terrible parade was kept up by these *low* ministerial tools till near two o'clock P.M. when two persons of undoubted veracity (farmers, within two or three miles of the town) went on board the *Swan*: One of these gentlemen assured the Captains of the three ships, that he saw the stragglers, for whose desertion such terrible confusion had ensued, in his corn field on Tuesday morning, and described them; the other gentleman declared that he saw them on Tuesday afternoon where he was making hay, and likewise described them, for they told these gentlemen how they had made their escape from the *Swan*, and were determined not to go back again. After fully proving that they knew the men, by pointing out the one who had returned, notwithstanding four others were first produced in order to deceive them, they, viz. the two gentlemen, came on shore; when, all at once, the boats and prisoners were dismissed, the ships weighed anchor and stood up the river.

1. *Pennsylvania Packet*, August 7, 1775.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Wednesday, July 19, 1775

[*Resolved*] That the President be desired to write to the powder committee or committees of safety in this city and New York (where it is said a supply of powder is lately arrived) to forward to the Camp as much good gunpowder as they can spare.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 191.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 19 [1775]

Captain Robert White Reported that he sent a person to the Jerseys to know what number of Logs the Inhabitants would supply the Board with,² who brought with him a List of the following Gentlemen, who Generously gave the number of Logs mention'd opposite their names, vizt:

Benjamin Whitall,	55	Joseph Ward,	10
John Wood,	20	Joshua Hopper,	15
Nathan Kimsey,	10	Isaac Hopper,	10
Richard Johns,	50 or more	Levi Hopper,	15
David Paul,	20	James Wood,	10
Joseph Low,	30	Joseph Tatom,	1
James Brown,	10	Charles West,	40
	<hr/> 195		<hr/> 101
			195
			<hr/> 296 Logs

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 289.

2. For construction of chevaux de frise to be sunk in the river.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 19. [1775]

Resolved, That the Boat to be launched by Mr. John Wharton, be called the *Experiment*.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 289.

"COPY OF A LETTER TO MR [PHILIP] STEPHENS DATED AT PHILADELPHIA THE 19TH OF JULY 1775—" ¹

[Extract]

This day saw one of the floating Batteries intended for destroying such of His Majesty's Ships as may come into the River Delawar, in length they are 40 feet Keel, flatt bottomed & are to row twenty Oars double banked, to carry a Cannon of 24 pds. Shott in the Stern Sheets, these are to lye at the mouth of Creeks, many other devices the Congress and Committees have under consideration such as maning Vessels in the night & under pretence of begging protection to board & put the Officers & Crew to death . . . Several new Machines are made for sinking in the navigable parts of the River, they are pointed with Iron, which points shew three feet under water, these and many other contrivances are going forward

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/122, 22c, LC Transcript.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Tamer*, EDWARD THORNBROUGH,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775

In Rebellion Road So Carolina

[Wednesday] 19 A M came on board the Mail belonging to Falmouth for our Protection, they fearing the Provincials would Seize it.²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/968.

2. The mail was placed on board the *Sandwich Packet*, when she sailed for Falmouth on August 7, 1775, PRO, Admiralty 51/968.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LORD WM CAMPBELL TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH DATED CHARLES TOWN 19TH JULY, 1775—" ¹

(Copy)

On the 8th Instant we had Accounts of another Engagement near Boston: I enclose the printed Paper published here, to give your Lordship an Idea of the kind of Intelligence that is circulated with unremitting Industry round this Part of the Continent: Nineteen out of Twenty firmly believe it; and I cannot express the Mischief it does. If General Gage from what I have already wrote does not see the Necessity of favouring us with some Account of his proceedings, and the Admiral the propriety of having a respectable Naval Force on this Coast, it will give me real Concern, as I every day find of what detriment it is to His Majesty's Service, to be so completely abandoned as we are. Every hour I have the Mortification of hearing of Vessels from the Dutch and French Settlements arriving, and smuggling their Cargoes in the neighbouring Creeks; and three Schooners that were loaded with Rice a few days before my Arrival, and sent to Hispaniola for the professed purpose of bringing back Military Stores, are every moment expected.

Image unavailable.
See the printed volume.

The intollerable Tyranny and Oppression used by the Committees in enforcing their Mandates, has already given Offence to the moderate of their own Party; and has stirred up such a Spirit in the back Parts of this Country, which is very populous, that I hope it will be attended with the best Effects . . .

The Committee and Council of Safety sit Night and Day. I am told they are debating about seizing the Kings Officers, and those few who have not signed the Association, and boldly changing the Government at once. I have just received an anonymous Letter assuring me they have determined to destroy the Light House, and cut down the land Mark Trees, that direct the Pilots in passing the Bar of this Harbour. But that will answer little End in preventing Men of War, as they can sound and lay Buoys along the Channel; and besides Mr. [John] Tollemache carried off in the *Scorpion* to Boston, a black Fellow who is by far the best Pilot in this Harbour, and has Marks of his own by which he will carry in any Vessel in spite of what they can do. Your Lordship will easily conceive the Distress of my present Situation, and how very uncertain my personl safety is, but as I know my Presence embarrasses them, I am determined at all Events to remain to the last Extremity, and see what they dare do. To publish Proclamations against their Proceedings, would be only giving them an opportunity of pouring fresh Insults on Government; but could I only keep my Ground, till General Gage enables me to publish an Account of a Severe Correction given to the Massachusetts People, and till the Admiral recollects the Situation we must be in to the Southward, and sends us some little Force, I am still in Hopes our Heroes here might come to their Senses.

[Endorsed] Boston 6th. Jan'y 1776

a true Copy
Robert Mackenzie Secretary

1. Clinton Papers, CL.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

In Council of Safety [Charleston] Wednesday 19th July, 1775

Mr. [Thomas] Heyward [Jr.] reported, That Capt. [John] Joiner had this Morning delivered to him,

122 Quarter Casks	} of Gunpowder containing 5212 lb.
127 $\frac{1}{8}$ Casks	
6 Kegs Lead.	

Powder Taken out of [Richard] Maitland ²

Ordered, That Mr Joseph Verrie do proceed immediately, in a Canow, with a [sufficient] Guard, in order to meet Lieut. James Dogherty in a Brigantine coming from Savannah having fifty Hundred Weight of Gun powder on board.

That he order Lieutenant Dogherty or the commanding officer to take the Recruits under his Care and upon the Return of the Boat to Charles Town to hire a pro[per] Canow immediately for that Purpose, [which may] be most practicable and convenient.

That every Precaution be used in order to prevent Loss or Damage to the Gunpowder by Fire or otherwise.

That the Boat now having the Gunpowder on board proceed without Delay to Tucker's Creek, Tucker's Island in North Edisto River, under the Guard which Mr Verrie takes with him.

At Tucker's Island the Powder is to be immediately put on board the Scooner *Polly*, Joseph Gamball Master, That Bills of Lading be taken for the same, to be inclosed with the Letter directed to the South Carolina Delegates at Philadelphia, which Letter is to be delivered to Capt. Gamball – And Mr Verrie with the Guard and Assistants immediately do return to Charles Town, and report to the Council of Safety.

Ordered, That Lieut. Dogherty now having Charges of a Boat bound from Savannah to Charles Town, laden with Gunpowder and other Goods for the Service of the Colony of So. Carolina, or the commanding Officer of the said Boat to land the Recruits on board at some convenient Place and deliver up the Boat without delay with her Lading to Mr. Joseph Verree.

Ordered, That the President do write a Letter to the Delegates at Philadelphia, to accompany the Gunpowder to be sent to them; And the following was accordingly written.

Chas Town So. Carolina
In the Council of Safety 19th July 1775

Gentlemen The Comme. of Secrecy having communicated to us, your letter to them, by the Philada. Pilot Boat, touching a Supply of Gunpowder: We have with all possible Secrecy laden on board the Pilot Boat one hundred half Barrels containing 5000 lb of Gunpowder, which we hope you will receive agreeable to your wishes.

By order of the Council of Safety

H. L. Presidt

Mr. Jos Verree who has the Special Charge of Shipping the Powder will take his Master's Receipt or Bill of Lading and inclose it.

The Delegates from the Colony of South Carolina in Congress at Phila.

1. Laurens Collection, SCHS.

2. Master of the ship *Phillippa*, which Georgians had despoiled of a cargo of powder.

20 July

REV. JOHN MURRAY TO JAMES OTIS, PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY ¹

Sir,

Boothbay July 20th 1775

I took the liberty, by last Post, of acquainting the late Honble. Congriss, of some things that appeared indispensable to the keeping possession of the greatest part of the County of Lincoln

Since that time, an express from the Committee of Campden bro't me the disagreeable news, that the extreme indigence of the inhabitants of that settlement had induced many of them for sake of obtaining provisions to trade off their lumber to the Emissaries of Genl [Thomas] Gage; & that the Committee was not able to remove this evil; praying advice; I opened the modes prescribed for relief in such a case; & recommended them to some neighbouring Towns:

Application was made a few days after. by the Comee of a town near me for some directions for their proceedings with a certain trader from Nantuckett to whom another Committee had given a permit to load for that Island; the sight of the 1st *Resolve* (which was all I then had) greatly surprized them: Major Andrew Reed of this town immediately mustered a party, went to Edgcombbs, seized the vessel, & brought it into this harbour where the Committee ordered her to be unloaded – took bonds of the Capt that he would return to Nantuckett empty – & so dismissed her; this conduct of theirs has been much censured – inas-much as the Committee in Kennebec River allowed five sloops, from the same Island, in the same week, to load & go off unmolested – they therefore pray the judgment & further orders of your Honble Court:

On this Occasion I beg leave to remark that, when any Comees are found faulty – they commonly plead that they had never seen nor known of the Resolves in point: to remove this excuse I would humbly Query whether it would not be necessary to publish every order &c that requires their execution, *in hand bills*; & take order for having them, with speed & certainty conveyed to these distant parts? & 2. whether it would not be proper to continue the post-ridings at least as far as St. Georges, or direct each town speedily to convey the bills to the next on some proper penalty?

This afternoon the Minister & five of the inhabitants of Deer Island arrived at my house, express with the alarming news that a Man of War of twenty guns four large transports & three sloops have landed a number of Marines on Long island near Fort Pownal where they now are encamped, for the protection of the vessels &c while they are to bring in a load of wood (of which 'tis said Capt Pendleton had 1000 cord ready for them, on his landing-place) also a quantity of fresh meat, for which they offer a pistareen pr pound – envoys are sent thro' the Country with written demands of provisions promising good pay for all they receive & threatning to take by force what they can't obtain by wile: after they have finished this business, 'tis expected they will se[nd] to nestle at Fort Pownal: where the people in general imagine they are permitted by Col. [Thomas] Goldthwait- Major [Nathan] Jones of Goldsborough and thirty of the inhabitants at Majabigwaduse; who, since the battle at Charlestown, have avowed a resolution of supplying the enemy: what pity is it that fortress is yet standing! warning, early enough, was given to Congress about it.

The enemy it seems bring their wives-childrin, & all the necessaries for quarters, along with them: The people in these parts are in great anxiety & distress; but all in motion; tho' almost quite destitute of powder-money-provisions & every thing the Express desires some help both in men & all the articles above: I immediately dispatched Messengers to the Colonels of the two Regiments of Militia in this County, and believe they will march large detachments of both, tomorrow: but we shall now begin to feel the mischiefs that must accrue to the Country from the draughting our best men & best arms to the Camp – the Sorry remains are in ill condition to meet an enemy – and what with 150 men to defend this extensive shore. I think the Country must be evacuated, unless more companies be stationed on the Sea Coast. & unless the wisdom of the Honble. [Congress] devise

some means of supplying the inhabitants, as well as the Companies to be stationed in this County both with ammunition & the necessaries of life.

The extreme hurry of my Situation, I hope will be my apology for the Confusion of this letter; as I hardly know what is said, & what left unsaid and have time neither to revise nor correct – I tho't it best to send the Express forward to wait on the Honble Court; as I could better acquaint you of the particulars of our alarming situation than a letter would admit – if it is not made the source of some early exertion of Government, I fear the people will be discouraged, & before the temptation now laid in their way – & if so, that the enemy will obtain lodgment from which it will be no easy matter to expell them. I have the honour [&c.]

John Murray

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 180, 93, 94.

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN ADAMS ¹

[Extract]

Watertown July 20, 1775

The attempt on long Island, the taking off all the stock & afterwards returning to Burn the Buildings (which you will have in the Papers) was certainly a Bold, Intrepid Manœuvre & as such astonished our Enemies. the Barges full of Armed Men were afraid to Attack our Whaleboats. at a proper distance & the Armed Vessels, either agitated with Fear or destitute of Judgment did it without Execution. . . . I am Just Told that our Boats have this day been to the Light-House & Burnt it in spite of the Fireing from a Man of War & a number of Boats. I hear it was Executed by 300 Rhode Islanders. I dont learn that they suffered any loss . . . it is said they are more afraid of our Whale Boats than we are of their Men of War. A few armed Vessels I am abundantly convinced would produce great Consequences . . . Capt [John] Darby who we sent with the acct of the Battle of the 19th of April returned two days ago He was there 8 days & came away before [Thomas] Gages Packet arrived. He says Trade & the stocks were amazingly affected in that short time. Ld. Dartmouth sent three times for him. he refused to go, & when he threatened him he decamped got on Board and came without either Entering or clearing. I shall Enclose you a Letter Brot by him from Sherrieff [William] Lee & one of the latest papers. by the Letter I fancy Genl Gage is to Expect no other reinforcement this fall. . . .

1. Adams Family Papers, MassHS.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS ¹

[Extract]

Camp at Cambridge, July 20, 1775

In these 8 days past there have been no Movements in either Camp of any consequence: On our side we have continued the Works without any Intermis-sion, and they are now so far advanced as to leave us little to apprehend on that Score. On the side of the Enemy, they have also been very industrious in finishing their Lines both on Bunker's Hill and Roxbury Neck. In this interval also their Transports have arrived from New York and they have been employed in landing and Stationing their Men. . . .

I have not been able from any Intelligence I have received, to form any certain Judgment of the future Operations of the Enemy. Some Times I have suspected an Intention of detaching part of their Army to some part of the Coast, as they have been building a number of Flat Bottomed Boats capable of holding 200 Men each. But from their Works and the Language held at Boston there is reason to think they expect an attack from us and are principally engaged in preparing against it. I have ordered all the Whale Boats for many miles along the Coast to be collected and some of them are employed every Night to watch the motion of the Enemy by water, in order to guard as much as possible against any surprize.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, III, 346–352.

BENJAMIN HALLOWELL TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy)

Boston July 20th. 1775.

Sir In the last letter which I wrote you respecting my property on Gallop's island, I acquainted you that I should send the Men which I had Named to cut the grass & make the hay there – they accordingly did go down the harbor for that purpose & I am sorry to say, Notwithstanding I found myself obliged to comply with terms in a Manner extorted from me by you the Men were stopped by the Commanding officer of his Majesty's Ship *Boyne* in Consequence, as it is said, of your Possitive orders.

Are we not sufficiently oppressed by the enemies without, but must suffer by those who are sent for our protection? – as an officer of the crown therefore I demand by what right you thus Continue to deprive me of my Property?

I am etc.

Benj Hallowell

1. Clinton Papers, CL.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Lively*, CAPTAIN THOMAS BISHOP,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775

Moored in Nantasket Road

Thursday 20 at 8 A M discovered a Number of Whale Boats Crossing from Nantasket to the Light House, they Landed & set fire to the House we made a Signal for Assistance – came onboard 5 Boats from the *Preston Boyne & Somerset* got a Spring upon the Cable Empd getting 2 Guns from the *Hope* into the *Sophia* Tender – Came onboard the Admirals Longbt & *Somersets* Launch at 1/2 past 3 P M the Boats put off from the Ship with Lieut Gibbons at 7 Do the Boats return'd.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/546.

CAPTAIN THOMAS BISHOP, R.N., TO CAPTAIN BRODERICK HARTWELL, R.N. ¹

(Copy)

Lively Nantasket Road 9. O'Clock P M 20th July 1775.

Dear Sir I am just favor'd with your Letter of this Evening which acquaints me, with the Admiral's Directions, to send my Master to make Remarks what the Rebels are doing on Point Alderton, and if throwing up Works, or erecting a

Battery there to annoy Ships passing in and out the Light House Channel, all which You will please to acquaint the Admiral shall be done tomorrow if possible – I this Morning sent a Midshipman, to desire You would send to acquaint the Admiral that the Rebels had set fire to the Light House, and that a large Party of them was collected at Nantasket, which hope the Admiral has been made acquainted therewith, as the Light is quite rendered useless, and I believe I may with truth say that there are no Works as yet thrown up at Point Alderton or near it, my Ship's Company have been under Arms all day and had it not been calm all the first part of the day, think we should have destroyed a few of the Whale Boats, the Rebels this Morning took two Schooner Boats, one of which with the assistance of Oxen they drew over the Neck, and would have done so by the other, had we not prevented it, which obliged them to set her on fire, or we should have retaken her. I have sent the Admiral Word of this by one of his Midshipmen, which hope he will take care to inform him thereof, but if You send a Boat up in the Morning, beg You'll let him know it, as I had not time to write, it being late and the Boats were obliged to go for the Sheep on Lovel's Island. I am, [&c.]

Tho^s Bishop.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

STATEMENT OF SIMEON TURNER, MASTER OF THE SLOOP *Race Horse* ¹

Simeon Turner Master of the Sloop *Race Horse* in the wood and Lumber trade, saild from Salem in April last for Kennebeck River; soon after his arrival he heard of the attack made on the Kings Troops at Lexington which threw the people into great Consternation, soon after it was reported that the Kings Ships for the future would Impress all Seamen wherever they were met with. on this report All his men left him which detain'd him at Kennebeck more than two months. at last he procured two that were not seamen to assist him to Navigate his Vessel, he saild from Kennebeck River the 11th Instant, and arriv'd off Salem Harbour the 15th where a Man of Wars boat came on board and order'd him to go to Boston under the care of Captn [George] Dawson ² with another Vessel. they arriv'd off the Graves two Leagues below the Light House the same evening. about 8 OClock Captn Dawson fir'd a swivel Gun & repeated it twice, but as he had no signal given him, he did not know the meaning; upon his firing the third Gun his boat came onboard, and told him the First Gun was for a signal to come too and the others was for him to obey the signal, on which he came too under Captn Dawsons Stern for that Evening, the next morning after they had pass'd the Light House Captain Dawson put a man on bor'd him the morning following he waited on Admiral [Samuel] Graves to know his pleasure; assoon as he began to speak the Admiral said God Dam you you was going to supply the Rebels at Salem with wood, he told him he did not choose to have any thing to do with Rebels, but chose rather to come to Boston than any where else if he could be permitted, but that he knew he was liable to be seiz'd if he came before he had a pass from the preventing Officer at Marblehead, that now he was at Boston if he could be suffer'd to dispose of his wood & return to Kennebeck river, to acquaint the Inhabitants that they may come to Boston without stoping at

Marblehead and be free from an Impress he was very sure that many Vessels would Immediately come & supply the Army and Navy as well as the Inhabitants with Wood and Lumber. the Admiral Answer'd him, God Dam you I will make a prize of you—³

Simeon Turner

Boston July 20th 1775

1. Gage Papers, CL.
2. Lieutenant George Dawson of H.M. Schooner *Hope*.
3. The *Race Horse* was condemned as a prize of the *Merlin* and *Hope*, according to Graves's Conduct, Prize List, MassHS Transcript.

"TO ALL SEAFARING PEOPLE"¹

This is to give notice, that the light house on Thatcher's island (commonly called Cape Ann Lights) and the light house at the entrance of Boston harbour, are burnt and destroyed by the rebels.

And further notice is given, that all seafaring people be careful that they are not deceived by false lights, which the rebels threaten to hang out, in order to decoy vessels into destruction.

By command of the Admiral

G. Gefferina

Preston, at Boston, July 20, 1775

1. Almon, ed., *Remembrancer*, 242.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTYS SLOOP *Nautilus*, JOHN COLLINS, COMMANDING¹

[in Delaware Bay]

July 1775 A M at 2 saw the Lighthouse on Cape Henlopen, W B S, at 5
Thursday 20 a Pilot came on board. — Fresh Breezes and Cloudy Wr—P M
at ½ past 4 Anchored in Delaware Bay with the Small Bower in
7 Fathoms and veered to ½ a Cable, Egg Island N N E, 3
Leagues;²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/629.
2. Arrival of the *Nautilus* was not noted in Philadelphia until July 25, when she was reported in the river off Chester, *Pennsylvania Evening Post*.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Philadelphia] Thursday, July 20, 1775

An Express arriving with dispatches from Genl [Philip] Schuyler, the same were read.

A letter was likewise received from the Convention of Georgia, and read, setting forth, that that Colony had acceded to the general Association, and appointed delegates to attend this Congress.

Adjourned till one o'Clock, P.M.

P.M. met according to adjournment.

The dispatches from General Schuyler being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That Genl P. Schuyler be empowered to dispose of and employ all the troops in the New York department in such manner as he may think best

for the protection and defence of these colonies, the tribes of Indians in friendship and amity with us, and most effectually to promote the general Interest, still pursuing, if in his power, the former orders from this Congress, and subject to the future orders of the commander in chief.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 192–194.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, JULY 20 [1775]”¹

This Morning came up to town James Habersham, Esq; Lieut. Governor of Georgia. – He came in a Vessel bound to the northward, and got into a Pilot Boat at our Capes. – He is come for his Health. By him there are Letters which inform, that the People of Georgia are become quite hearty in the common cause, and have chosen five Delegates, which are expected in a few Days. – Capt. [Richard] Maitland, from London, arrived there, and had on board Thirteen Thousand Weight of Powder; the Inhabitants boarded her, and took all the Powder into their Possession.

1. *Connecticut Gazette*, July 28, 1775.

Maryland Gazette, THURSDAY, JULY 20, 1775

Annapolis July 20.

The ship *Totness*, captain Harding, belonging to Mr. Gildard of Liverpool, having on board a cargo of salt and dry goods, in coming up the Bay ran aground near the three islands at the mouth of West river; upon this the committee immediately met, and after consideration, determined she should proceed on to Baltimore, her intended port, but before she could get off, highly resenting so daring an infringement of the continental association, a number of people met, went on board, and set her on fire.

CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU, R.N., TO CAPTAIN MATTHEW SQUIRE, R.N.¹

Sir

Fowey, Hampton road, July 20, 1775.

Joseph Harris, the bearer of this letter, has applied to me for protection, as the people of Hampton, and some other places, have threatened his destruction, as they have found him to have given intelligence concerning a smuggling schooner which was seized in Cherrystone creek. – As the *Fowey* will soon leave the province, I think him too useful to his majesty’s service to take away, he being well acquainted with many creeks on the Eastern Shore, at York, James river, and Nansemond, and many others, and of course a very useful person, especially in tenders, as he is not acquainted with the duties of a seaman, but accustomed to pilot, as he had a boat for that use, which is now detained by violence in Hampton harbour. He has always appeared very sober and prudent, is a freeman, and I could wish strongly to recommend him to such indulgence as his endeavours may merit. Agreeable to my lord Dunmore’s application, I have sent up the *Arundel*, and mr. Atkinson her officer, and will send mr. Ruth in the

Liberty. I have taken such stores, and hawser, out of the *Arundel*, as belonged to the crown, when with me employed on his majesty's service, and have fitted her with her real private property.

I am, dear sir, [&c.]

George Montague

1. Purdie's *Virginia Gazette*, September 15, 1775. The letter was found on board a sloop tender, cast ashore in Back River, Virginia, September 2, 1775.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Cruizer*, FRANCIS PARRY, COMMANDING ¹

July 1775

Moord off the Fort [Johnston]

Wedy 20th

Modr & Cloudy sent a party & brot some trucks from the Woods That the Rebbels had remov'd, put them on bd the *sally* transport when she weighd, & sail'd for Boston with the Garrison & Stores of Fort Johnston, except the Guns & Carriages:

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/218.

JOSIAH MARTIN, GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

Cruizer Sloop of War in Cape Fear River, No. Carolina, July 20th, 1775.

My Lord,

I have embrassed the moment only that the immediate departure of a Vessel affords me to acquaint your Lordship that I received about 9 o'clock at night on the 18th inst. a letter signed "The People," by the hands of a Pilot who confessed he received it from Mr John Ashe, a copy of which letter and of my answer thereto I have the honor herewith to lay before your Lordship. At between 2 and 3 o'clock the next morning an officer of the *Cruizer* came down to the Cabin where I was to inform Captain [Francis] Parry that Captain [John] Collet's house in Fort Johnston was on fire. The necessary preparations were immediately made for the Security of His Majesty's Ship and covering the Artillery on shore in case the People should attempt to possess themselves of it, during which no creature was to be seen and all the buildings in the Fort, which being of wood burnt like tinders, were entirely consumed. Early in the morning of yesterday a body of Men with three stands of colours were seen in motion on a point of land about 2 miles above the Ship, which soon afterwards entered the Woods and disappeared, until between 7 and 8 o'clock when we discovered a large party at some distance, and some lesser parties about the Fort which a few of the People soon afterwards entered and with a degree of wanton malice not to be described set fire to everything that had escaped the flames the preceding night, which indeed was nothing but a Centry Box, and some of the Parapets of wood work that Captain Collet had newly raised upon the defences of the place. These proceedings however to the last degree violent, extravagant and provoking, I did not think My Lord of consequence sufficient to justify me in commencing hostilities against the People so long as they forebore to touch the King's Artil-

lery, as I had no men to land I could do it with so little effect, and as all the material damage that the Fort could sustain had been effected in the night by persons yet undiscovered. Some of the Trucks of the Gun carriages, which owing to Captain Collet's oversight, were not embarked as I directed with the shot and other small Stores, the rabble removed four or five hundred yards from where they lay and left them. These I hope to recover today and get them on Board Ship.

After sauntering about the Fort and its neighborhood till between 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon, this rabble which amounted as nearly as I can learn to about 300 men, with a savage and barbarian wantonness, disgracefull to humanity, set fire to a large barn, stable and coach house, and a new small dwelling house together with several outhouses that Captain Collet had built for his own convenience on the King's Land belonging to the Fort, without the works, and immediately after completing this desolation retired by the route they came.

The pretence for these shamefull and extravagant outrages is animosity to Captain Collet, whose zeal for the King's Service, and natural vehemence and impetuosity of temper, I fear have transported him to some great indiscretions, but I am confident to no violences that can justify such barbarian vengeance.

Mr John Ashe and Mr Cornelius Harnett were ringleaders of this savage and audacious Mob, concerning which my present information enables me to add nothing further.

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 108, 109.

21 July

CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY, R.N., TO JOHN WENTWORTH, GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE ¹

Captain Barkley will suffer the open boats of the Town of Portsmouth & the Country to go a Fishing for fresh fish only first having a permit from him, for that purpose, provided the Town of Portsmouth will let His Majesty's Ship under his Command be supplied with Fresh Beef as usual; at the common market price & our boats to pass & repass without molestation
Scarborough July 21st 1775.

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, XVIII, 672.

JOHN WENTWORTH, GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO THEODORE ATKINSON,
SECRETARY OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ¹

Sir, Fort William and Mary July 21st 1775

Captain Barkley (at noon) gave me the inclosed paper, which I hope may effect a continuance of the boat fishery. You are sensible that I have not any powers to alter or direct in this matter, the execution of the Restraining Act, being committed to the Navy & Cusom house. I am &c.

J Wentworth

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, XVIII, 672.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL
CONGRESS ¹

[Extract] Cambridge Camp, 5 o'Clock p.m., July 21, 1775

Sir Since closing the Letters which accompany this I have received an Account of the Destruction of the Light House, a Copy of which I have the Honor to inclose ² and of again assuring you that I am [&c.]

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, III, 353, 354.

2. Brigadier General William Heath to George Washington, July 21, 1775, Washington Papers, LC.

New England Chronicle, FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1775

Cambridge, July 21 [1775].

Capt. John Darby, who sailed from Salem for London a few days after the Battle of Lexington, returned last Tuesday [July 18], and the same day came to Head-Quarters in this place. Very little Intelligence has yet transpired we only learn, that the News of the Commencement of the American War has threw the people in England, especially the city of London, into great Consternation, and occasioned a considerable Fall in the Stocks. That the Ministry (knowing nothing of the Battle till they saw it published in the London papers) advertised in the Gazette, that they had received no Account of any action, and *pretended* to believe that there had been none: that the Parliament was prorogued two Days before Capt. Darby arrived, but it was said would be immediately called together again: that, when he left London, which was about the 1st of June, no account of Hostilities had been received by the Ministry from General Gage, notwithstanding the Vessel he despatched sailed four Days before Capt. Darby.

MEMOIRS OF MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH ¹

[Roxbury] 21st [July, 1775]

Major [Joseph] Vose returned from Nantasket. The detachment under his command brought off 1000 bushels of barley, all the hay, &c. – went to Light-House Island; took away the lamps, oil, some gun-powder, the boats, &c. and burnt the wooden parts of the light-house. An armed schooner and several boats with men, engaged the detachment; of the Americans two were wounded.

1. Abbatt, ed., *Heath Memoirs*, 18.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE ¹

Sir

Boston July 21, 1775

Although it has been frequently reported to Me that there is No appearance of any Work begun by the Rebels on Point Alderton, Upon the receipt of Your Excellency's Letter yesterday inclosing [Captain John] Montessor's Note I directed Captain [Broderick] Hartwell to write to Captain [Thomas] Bishop to examine the Point very narrowly – I have the honor to inclose a Copy of Captain Bishops Answer and will Communicate his Report as soon as I receive it. Mus-

quets only were fired yesterday at our Boats, it is very probable they would have fired Cannon if any had been on the Point.

I shall be obliged to your Excellency for a perusal of the Declaration of the Twelve united Colonies, and of another very late publication of theirs (the Title I have forgot) which I am informed are only in Your Excellency's possession – I am Sir [&c.]

Sam^l Graves

1. Gage Papers, CL.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Lively*, CAPTAIN THOMAS BISHOP,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Moored in Nantasket Road

Friday 21 came on board One of the Admirals Boats with Carpenters to repair the Light House

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/546.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF HUNTINGTON, NEW YORK ¹

Committee Chamber, Huntington, July 21, 1775

Mr. [John Sloss] Hobart laid before the Committee a Letter from the Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York in the recess of the Provincial Congress, dated New York, July 14, 1775, directed to him, containing information that George Youngs and his son, John Brush, and one [Cornelius] Conkling, were concerned in Provisions in such manner as they must inevitably serve to supply General [Thomas] Gage's Fleet and Army at Boston; and inclosing notes taken from two witnesses on that subject, which were read. Messrs. Youngs, Brush and Conkling being present, acknowledged that they had sent two Sloops loaded with Provisions to the eastward, but it was in consequence of an agreement with the inhabitants of Portsmouth, in New-Hampshire; that upon their arrival in the harbour of Portsmouth, they were taken by two English men-of-war; and though Governor [John] Wentworth and the Committee of the Town claimed the Provision as theirs by contract, they were sent, very much against their inclination, to Boston, where they were obliged to sell their Provisions under great disadvantages, and at a great loss; since which they have discontinued their trade to the eastward, nor have they at present any thoughts of resuming it.² In confirmation of all which, they produced Timothy Titus, who was mate of one of the sloops, who deposed as follows, viz:

Timothy Titus deposes: that he was mate of the Sloop *Elizabeth*, whereof Cornelius Conkling was master, for the two voyages she lately made to Portsmouth, in New-Hampshire; that about the latter end of April last, being at Portsmouth aforesaid, when John Conkling, in a sloop loaded by John Brush of Huntington, was there, he was knowing to a contract made by the said Cornelius Conkling and John Conkling, with the Inhabitants of Portsmouth, to deliver two cargoes of Provisions there, with all convenient speed, provided they could clear out from New-York; that on the 18th of May following, said two sloops sailed from the east end of Long-Island, and on the 21st they arrived within a few hours of each other in Portsmouth harbour, where they were taken by the *Canceaux* and *Scar-*

borough men-of-war; and notwithstanding the application of Governour Wentworth and the Committee of Portsmouth, they were sent to Boston under convoy of the *Sphynx* sloop-of-war, where they were obliged to sell their cargoes at the price the agents were pleased to give; after which they were permitted to come away. And this deponent further saith, he has never heard any persons concerned in the aforesaid voyage propose to send their sloops upon another voyage to the eastward.

Timothy Titus

Sworn the 21st July, 1775 Before me, John Sloss Hobart, Justice of the Peace.

The Committee taking the premises into consideration, came to the following Resolution, viz:

Resolved unanimously, That the said Youngs and his son, Brush and Conkling in this matter have not contravened the Association, nor in any wise disobeyed the recommendations of the Continental or Provincial Congresses.

Whereas, it appears that great uneasiness prevails in the minds of many people upon this subject, arising from a laudable zeal to prevent any Provisions being sent to the instruments of tyranny and oppression at Boston,

Ordered, That the parties concerned be allowed a copy of the Minutes for publication.

Thomas Wickes, Chairman

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, II, 1699, 1700.

2. See Portsmouth Committee's letter of May 29, 1775, to the Newbury Committee of Correspondence.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF NEW YORK ¹

[New York] Die Veneris, 9 ho., A.M., July 21st, 1775.

A draft of a letter to the committee at Brunswick, in New Jersey, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit.

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New York, During the recess of the Provincial Congress, New York, July 21st, 1775.

Gentlemen: We have had intelligence that boats have sundry times loaded flour at or about your city, and have run down to the west bank, and there met boats to take it from them for the use of the men of war and the army at Boston.

As this is contrary to the resolution of the Continental Congress, it is a matter that requires your strictest inspection to prevent such traders from pursuing a business inimical to the cause of liberty in the United Colonies. We have been informed that Mr. Merrill, opposite to or near Brunswick, can give you farther information on this subject.

We are respectfully, gentlemen, [&c.]

Per order of the Committee.

To the Committee at New-Brunswick

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 85.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 21 [1775]

Resolved, That this Committee furnish the Inhabitants of Gloucester County with Two Team[s] to assist them in bringing logs down to the different Landing places for the use of this Committee, and that Mr. Samuel Morris be desired to procure and send them over immediately.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 289.

DAVID STEWART TO THE COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY ¹

Gentlemen.

Baltimore July 21. 1775

In the month of December last you were kind enough to permit my landing a quantity of mdze from on board the Snow *Potomac* which mdze still remains in store under your direction, and I would beg leave to remark that I do not deem it safe in its present situation, as it is exposed to the mercy of any King's cruiser that may be ordered this way – Yesterday's post brought me a letter from one of the proprietor's requesting I would with your permission remove a part of it to the head of Elk, there to be stored till the times were more favorable for the disposal thereof – I request your indulgence in this matter, under such restrictions as you may deem reasonable and also, that you will be pleased to allow me to distribute [the] remainder in such parts of the town as you may deem most eligible for its safety; the sooner you take this matter into consideration the better, for every day increases the danger its subject to –

I am very respectfully Gentn [&c.]

David Stewart

1. U.S. Naval Papers, MdHS. Edited version in Robert Purviance, *A Narrative of Events, which Occurred in Baltimore Town During the Revolutionary War* (Baltimore, 1849), 180, 181. Hereafter cited as Purviance, *Baltimore Town Narrative*.

MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COMMITTEE ¹

At a Special Meeting of the Committee 21 July 1775

Mr David Stewart applied for Liberty to remove part of the Tea lodged with the Committee in December last from onboard the Snow *Potowmack* alledging as a Reason therefor that it was not Safe from Cruizers, which was granted And the two Gentn of the Committee who have it now in Possession are directed to deliver it, taking an Accot of the Packages with a Receipt for the same. And Mr Stewart stands accountable for delivering a Certificate from the Committee of such district as it may be lodged with for Security.

A Letter from Mr. Geo. Dent Chairman of the Comittee at Potowmack relative to the due Importation of some Parcels of Goods sent there by Mr. Johnson Gildart was directed to be ansd by the Chairman.²

1. *Balt. Com.*, LC.

2. See letter of Samuel Purviance of July 22, 1775.



Sold by J. WILLIAMS, No. 39, *Fleet-Street*,
Price Six-pence,

The SCOTCH BUTCHERY

A WELL EXECUTED PRINT.

BOSTON 1775.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. B—E, | } Superintendants over the Butchery, from
the Two great Slaughter Houses. |
| 2. M———D, | |
| 3. Col. FR—R, | } Deputies to the above. |
| 4. W—D———, S. G. | |
| 5. <i>Scotch Butchers</i> with <i>Plaid Caps</i> and <i>Jackets</i> . | |
| 6. <i>English Soldiers</i> struck with <i>Horror</i> , and dropping
their Arms. | |
| 7. The <i>English Fleet</i> with <i>Scotch Commanders</i> . | |
| 8. <i>Boston</i> . | |

THOMAS MADDUX, JR. TO SAMUEL CHASE, PHILADELPHIA ¹

[Extract]

[Anne Arundel County, Maryland] July 21, 1775

I suppose you have not yet heard of a late Instance of the independent Spirit and Resolution, which has always characterized the People of this County, or at least but an imperfect Account –

On the Beginning of last Week, a ship belonging to Mr Gildred of Liverpool, was grounded near West River; – upon Examination it was found she contained upwards of 4000 Bushels of Salt and considerable Quantity of Cheese & dry goods; – The Committee, as you will find by the Enclosed, determined she should go [to] Baltimore; but the ever to be revered and glorious People, in whom virtue can always [torn]

to their Liberties, by an immediate Conflagration. Accordingly a neighbouring Company headed by their Capt., and a number of others went on board and set fire to both Ship & Cargo, which in a few Hours were consumed. Every thing, I am informed, was destroyed, except some Cheese belonging to the Commander, he having about 50 in number, 20 of which they permitted to savg. The Ship had not long been burning, before the *magnanimous Baltimoreans* arrived with a professed Design to execute the glorious Deed, in which they had been anticipated. They brought the owner's Son with them from Baltimore, that he might share a Stewarts Fate.²

I have been told the Capt. declares that he remonstrated to the owners in England, and predicted the fatal Event, but was answered by Him, that 10,000 men were destined for America, and would settle the Difference before her Arrival. – The poor Fellow was mistaken. – This has been the Conduct of the Marylanders, who I hope will adorn the Annals of Fame.

1. Adams Family Papers, MassHS. See also *Maryland Gazette*, July 20, 1775.

2. The reference is to the Annapolis Tea Party, October 1774.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Fowey*, CAPTAIN GEORGE MONTAGU,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775

Cape Henry S W 2 Miles

Friday 21. at 4 A M Weighed and made sail at 10 discharged the Pilot.

Light Airs and fair

at 4 P M came to with the best bower in 5½ fm

at ½ past 6 weighed and made sail

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/375.

PURDIE'S *Virginia Gazette*, FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1775

Williamsburg, July 21.

York river is now clear of men of war, and the *Mercury* and *Otter* are gone to Norfolk, on board of which last ship is Lord Dunmore. His Lordship has taken possession, we hear, of a stout vessel lately arrived from the West-Indies,

belonging or consigned to Mr. John Brown, of Norfolk, which he intends fitting up (with cannon &c.) for his reception.

COMMITTEE OF NORFOLK TO PEYTON RANDOLPH, PRESIDENT OF THE VIRGINIA
CONVENTION ¹

Sir,

Norfolk July 21, 1775

By order of the Committee for this Borough, I am directed to inform the Convention of the arrival of troops this day in this harbor in the sloop lately belonging to Mr. Bowdain. They are said to be from St Augustine, and are about sixty in number, under the command of one Captain and two Lieutenants: the Ensign, it is said, is coming by land. From good authority we learn, that another vessel with more troops may be hourly expected. At present we are under no apprehensions from them, but we find exceeding bad effects have arisen among the blacks from the neighbourhood of the men of war, which we have great reason to believe will be very much encreased by the arrival of these troops.

The Committee think it their duty to give the Honourable the Convention the earliest information of this occurrence, that such measures may be taken as shall be judged most expedient. I have the honor to be, sir, by order of the Committee [&c.]

William Davies Secy

1. Virginia Misc., LC.

SAMUEL JOHNSTON TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF WILMINGTON, NORTH
CAROLINA ¹

[Extract]

[Edenton] 21st July 1775

A vessel from New York to this place brought over two officers who left at the Bar to go to New Bern, they are both Highlanders, one named McDonnel the other McCloud.² They pretend they are on a visit to some of their countrymen on your river but I think there is reason to suspect their errand of a base nature. The Committee of this town have wrote to New Bern to have them secured. Should they escape there I hope you will keep a good lookout for them. I doubt not the prudence of the Gentlemen with you will have suggested the necessity of securing the Highlanders and that proper measures have been adopted for that purpose.

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 116, 117.

2. Brigadier General Donald MacDonald and Major Alexander MacLeod, the leaders of the Highlanders and Regulator force subsequently totally defeated at Moore's Creek Bridge, February 27, 1776.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA ¹

Friday, July 21st, 1775

Whereas, it appeared upon incontestible evidence, that John Collett, commander of Fort Johnston, was preparing the said fort for the reception of a promised reinforcement, which was to be employed in reducing the good people of this province, to a slavish submission to the will of a wicked and tyrannic Minister; and for this diabolical purpose, had collected several abandoned

profligates, whose crimes had rendered them unworthy of civil society; and that the said commander, had wantonly detained vessels applying for Bills of Health, thereby defeating the salutary purposes for which the Fort had been established and continued – had threatened vengeance against magistrates, whose official opinion he chose to disapprove – had set at defiance the high sheriff of the county, in the execution of his office, and treated the King's writs, when served on him for just debts (which both as a soldier and a subject, it was his duty to obey) with the shameful contempt of wiping his back with them – had with the most unparalleled injustice, detained and embezzled a large quantity of goods, which having been wrecked near the Fort, had the highest claim to his attention and care, for the benefit of the sufferers; in whose behalf, many and repeated applications had been legally made, in vain, to the said commander – had contrary to every principle of honor and honesty, most unwarrantably seized, by force, a quantity of corn, the private property of an individual; an act of robbery the more inexcusable, as provisions were never withheld from him, whenever he would pay for them – had basely encouraged slaves from their masters, paid and employed them, and declared openly, that he would excite them to an insurrection: It also appeared that the said John Collett, had further declared, that, as soon as the expected reinforcements should arrive, the King's standard would be erected, and that, to it should be invited all those (as well slaves as others) who were base enough to take up arms against their country.

The Committee of New Hanover and Wilmington, having taken these things into consideration, judged it might be of the most pernicious consequences to the people at large, if the said John Collett should be suffered to remain in the Fort, as he might thereby have opportunity of carrying his iniquitous schemes into execution. This opinion having been communicated to the officers, and the committees of some neighboring counties, a great many volunteers were immediately collected; a party of whom reached Brunswick, when accounts were received, that the said commander had carried off all the small arms, ammunition, and part of the Artillery, (the property of the Province) together with his furniture, on board a Transport, hired for that purpose, there to remain until the reinforcement should arrive, and then again take possession of the Fort: the original design being thus frustrated, but the different detachments having met at Brunswick, about 500 men marched to the Fort, and burnt and destroyed all the Houses, &c., in and about the same; demolished as far as they could, the back part of the Fortification, and effectually dislodged that atrocious Freebooter.

Resolved, therefore, that the thanks of the Committee be given to the officers and soldiers who, with such ready alacrity gave their attendance to effect a matter of so much real importance to the public.

1. Saunders, comp., *Records of North Carolina*, X, 112–115.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Cruizer*, FRANCIS PARRY, COMMANDING ¹

July 75

Moor'd off the Fort [Johnston, in Cape Fear River]

Thursday 21st Fresh Gales & Cloudy, burnt the Carriages in the Fort, arrivd
a tender from Adml [Samuel] Graves

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/218.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

In the Council of Safety

[Charleston] Friday afternoon, July 21, 1775

Capt. [Clement] Lempriere, Capt. [John] Hatter, Capt. Tiefts and Mr. [Tunes] Tebout, attended.

Ordered, That they draw a plan and estimate for the secret service they are to be employed upon, and that they give in the same tomorrow.

1. *Collections of the South Carolina Historical Society*, II, 53, 54.

GOVERNOR PATRICK TONYN TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

[Extract]

No 22.

My Lord, A Sloop arrived on Sunday morning, with Dispatches from the Earl of Dunmore, and General Gage, to send forthwith a detachment of Sixty Men to the Earl of Dunmore at Williamsburg in Virginia.

The Troops were in a few hours, ready to imbark, but the Commander of the Sloop, represented that the Vessel wanted some Carpenters work to be done, before she could receive the Troops, which are now finished, His Majestys Troops are now going on Board. They will sail directly. I have sent your Lordship by them very important dispatches.

The Ordnance Stores are not yet arrived, I am, my Lord in some apprehensions about them. The *Phillipa* Cap. Maitland, bound here, and afterwards to Georgia, has been taken off the Bar at Georgia, by one of the Rebels Cruisers, and Carried to Savannah, the powder she had for the Merchants of this Place, six Guns which the Rebels have secured.

I am told, Carolina and Georgia have fitted out some Cruisers, one of ten Guns.

I wish the Ordnance stores and Gunpowder may arrive safe, I am quite impatient about them. . . .

St Augustine 21. July. 75

Pat Tonyn

No 23.

My Lord; Doran, who is mentioned in Mr William Henry Draton's [Drayton] letter, Gave this moment this intelligence.

That he saw delivered at Charlestown in Carolina, a number of Sugar Hogsheads, that actually came from Jamaica, that, the Hogsheads were filled all with Gunpowder, that he actually saw the Hogshead open, and the Gunpowder, and could have bought as much of it as he pleased, if he had imagined Gunpowder was wanting here; that it has been constantly run from Jamaica to Charlestown, in that way, and from many other of the West India Islands.

We shall be in great distress for powder, if our Ordnance stores do not come safe to this port.

I have the honour to be with the greatest Respect [&c.]

St Augustine 21. July. 75

Pat. Tonyn

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/555, LC Transcript.

22 July

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Scorpion*, JOHN TOLLEMACHE,
COMMANDING¹

St Georges Shoals No 20 W 14 Leags Saturday 22 July 1775

[AM] Sounded 110 fams no Ground, saw a Sail to the Wtward Light
Airs and Clear, at 3 PM saw a Sail in the NW Quarter ½ past 6 hove to &
spoke His Majesty's Ship *Glasgow* from Boston on a Cruize, at 8 made Sail,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/872.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Lively*, CAPTAIN THOMAS BISHOP,
COMMANDING¹

July 1775

Moored in Nantasket Road

Saturday 22 at 11 A M a Transport made the Signal of Distress being on
Shore going out Sent the Boats to her Assistance [P M] Came
onboard the Admirals & *Boynes* Longboats with Marines to
Guard the Light House with Lieut Coalhurst –

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/546.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES¹

[Boston] 22 [July 1775]

Upon the Admirals consulting with General [Thomas] Gage on the best
Method to secure the People who were to be employed in repairing the Lighthouse,
it was agreed that a party of Marines should go from the Fleet to protect the
Artificers, which Party should be relieved in three days by a Detachment from
the Army. The Admiral accordingly ordered an Officer of Marines and thirty
Men from the *Preston* and *Boyne* upon this Service, the *Prestons* long Boat armed
attended the Party, and the Admiral wrote to Captain [Thomas] Bishop to con-
cert signals with them in case of an attack & to give them all the assistance in his
power & to let his tender cruize for the discovery of any approach of rebels.

With this Party the Engineers were of opinion the Light House might well be
defended, until Succours arrived, against 1000 men, and the Admiral expected
to have the Building soon repaired and a Light shewn as before.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 152, MassHS Transcript.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES¹

(Copy)

Boston July 22d 1775.

Sir I Yesterday received three Petitions from Simeon Turner, Master of the
Sloop *Race Horse*, Isaac Elwell of the Schooner *Judeth*, and James Jordon, of the
Sloop *Sally*: all which Complain of being detained, whereby they are disenabled;
to bring in those Supplies we are in such extreme want of the two latter say their
Cargoes are taken from them, without any Account given of them, and that they
have otherwise greatly suffered; such treatment will Occasion great distress to

His Majesty's Subjects here, and bring upon us evils, which of all things we should guard against

I am to beg the favor of you to enquire into those Complaints, as at this Time every encouragement should be given to those who assist us, and they should not have the least cause of Complaint, but be protected on every Occasion, and suffered to pass and repass without Molestation, that they may not discourage others from bringing the necessaries of Life to us, and which has now become a very serious matter.

I am with Regard, Sir &ca.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN THOMAS BISHOP, H.M.S. *Lively*,
NANTASKET ROAD ¹

Sir,

Preston Boston 22 July 1775

I have sent an Officer with a Party of Marines to the Light House with three days Provisions. The *Preston's* Long Boat is to remain with them. You will give them all the Assistance in your Power and direct what Signal they shall make in case of an Attack or other danger, in Order that you may send them the speediest help. If your Tender could cruise in the Lighthouse Channel to Night and Tomorrow, she would more readily discover the Rebels Approach than by any other means.

I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 461, 462, MassHS Transcript.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA STILES ¹

[Newport] July 22. [1775]

The Men o' War have been very insolent & abusive the Week past, Stopping the Ferry Boats & repeatedly and almost Daily threatening to fire the Town. May God protect us from their Madness. A Specimen of the Sweets of the New de-Signed Governmt

1. Stiles, III, 46, LC.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Saturday, July 22, 1775

Took into consideration the report of the Committee to devise ways and means to protect the trade of these colonies, and after some debate, the same was postponed to be taken up at some future day.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 202.

JAMES EARLE TO THOMAS RINGGOLD ¹

[Extract]

Corsica 22d. July 1775 –

Dear Sir I find by Micky's Letters that his Fears and Apprehensions for Events that he judges will probably soon overwhelm us are very great – It is true that his Suggestions of Things are nothing more than what might generally be subscribed

to: But since Providence has ordered the Ministry to be so over sighted as Not to attack the weakest Colonies first that are fill'd with internal Enemies, whose Assistance woud have greatly facilitated the Execution of their hellish Schemes I can't help hoping that providence will continue its kindness in suffering the Necessities of Thousands the love of Justice of Many & the true old brittish Spirit of numbers warmly attached to the just & free principles of the Constitution to rouse timely enough to afford us Relief –

Is it not to be [hop]ed too that England's natural Enemies will embrace so great an Oppty to stab some of her Vitals & force her to withdraw her Fleets & Armies from our Destruction?

However as we can't tell what is to happen, it behoves us mightily to guard agt. the worse that can, I hope that the Wisdom of our Convention will amply & quickly as can be provide Arms & Ammunition (if to be had) for this defenceless Colony, and have them so distributed as to become of the greatest Use to us –

1. US Naval Papers, MdHS.

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JR., CHAIRMAN OF THE BALTIMORE COMMITTEE, TO THE
COMMITTEE OF CHARLES COUNTY ¹

Gentlemen

Baltimore July 22d 1775

Your letter of the 17th was laid before our Committee yesterday; by their desire I am to inform you that the Certificates for the Goods Sent by Mr Johnson Gildart to Mr Winter are founded on Sufficient Assurances of their being legally imported. The Certificates granted for goods carried from this to other places, have been generally Signd by me as Chairman. Sometimes by the Clerk of the Committee. I happend to be lately in the Country when the aforementioned Certificates were Signd by two very respectable Members of our Committee. I think your objections to them are well founded, and that the admission of Certificates Signd by only one or two Members of the Committee unless such as are usually known to do Such Business might give Room for impositions. I Return you the same Certificates Signd by Several other Members of the Committee, Shou'd you in future receive certificates Sign'd by myself only whilst I continue Chairman you may regard them as Sufficient. The convening a Number of our Committee on every occasion that requires Certificates for goods Sold here wou'd be an endless Trouble. –

It has always been understood here that Mr. Johnson Gildart was and is Attorney in Fact for his Father James Gildart but how far he is otherwise connected with him as a Factor Agent or Partner is unknown to me or Such of the Committee as discuss'd the Subject yesterday, he was unable to attend the committee being Sick, but sent us a declaration by his Clerk that his Father was not concerned in the Purchase of Tobacco which Mr Winter was ordered to make: It is probable the purchaser can give you more Satisfaction on that head, if you can obtain a sight of his orders I am with great Respect [&].

S. Purviance Jun^r Chairman of the Committee

Directed to Geo: Dent Esqr Charles County

1. Balt. Com., LC.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Cruizer*, FRANCIS PARRY, COMMANDING ¹

July 75 Moor'd off the Fort [Johnston, in Cape Fear River]
Friday 22nd Fresh Gales & Cloudy; spik'd the Guns, arriv'd a ship from
Glasgow:

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/218.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

In the Council of Safety. [Charleston] Saturday, July 22d, 1775

Mr Joseph Verree attended – was called in and reported that agreeable to the Orders received by him from the Council he attended on board the Scooner *Polly* [Joseph Gamball] Master, at Edisto, and received a hundred and one half Barrels of Gunpowder, containing 5025 lbs taken out of a Scooner from Georgia, under the care of Lieut. Dogherty. – That he had taken the Captains Receipt which he produced, for the same, to be delivered to our Delegates in the Continental Congress. And that the said Vessel sailed over Edisto Bar therewith, for Philadelphia, yesterday Morning early.

Saturday Afternoon

Capt. [Clement] Lempriere, who (with others) was appointed to draw a Plan and Estimate for executing a certain secret Service, gave in the same, and therein recommended

That employing two of the best sailing Pilot Boats be supplied for the Service, and also of two Canows – That the said Boats be victualled and provided with Provisions and other Necessaries for Six Weeks – That they be manned with 20 Men, and twenty Stand of Arms with Accoutrements complete be provided for them. – And he was of Opinion, that it would require £1000 to fit out with Provisions.

Which Plan & Estimate being agreed to by the Council

Resolved, That the Sum of £1000 be put into Capt. Lempriere's Hands accordingly.

1. Laurens Collection, SCHS.

23 July (Sunday)

TRISTRAM DALTON TO ELBRIDGE GERRY ¹

Sir

Newburyport July – 23d 1775

Capt [Michael] Corbet waits on you for your final Orders respecting his Voyage – The Brig will be compleat for Sea by Wednesday, if the Fish comes from Marblehead which I hear is on the Road – The Cargoe will exceed One hundred & twenty hogsheads Fish, besides Boards, Shingles & ca & ca

I think this Plan is so good that a large Capital should be employed – If you can any Way send by Capt Corbet two hundred half Joannes or more, or equivalent in hard Money, it must help the Voyage – He says you supplied him fifty Pounds for advances here, of which and of any other Supplies you may make Toward Cargoe please to advise P his Return –

As you are possessed of the Plan of the whole Voyage, I trust you'll give Corbet his full Orders – We have Intelligence by John Lee, Who arrived here this week from Hispaniola, that there was some Powder to be sold when He left the Mole – But as our Views are further a Field, than in the W Indies, and his going to Leward, if his Business fails to Windward, would be an entire Disappointment, provided He failed there also, I leave it with you, whither such a Risque should be run – more especially, when We have Reason to hope, the Prosecution of the Scheme in all its Parts, might lay a Foundation for some eminent Services in future – tho' even this Expectation ought not to deter taking wherever He can purchase it the Supply of an Article, so immediately necessary – As soon as the Brig is dispatched I will collect all her Bills, and wait on you with them – Nothing but this Business would have so long prevented me from seeing the Camps, and waiting on Mr [Jonathan] Mifflin & [Joseph] Read [Reed], to whom I was introduced at Philadelphia.

I have given Receipts for the Fish arrived from Gloucester, and Beverly, which was delivered here to me free of Charge – I suppose They will wait on you for Payment – As 60 hhds came packed I know not the Quality of the Fish – The Committees Who have my Receipts will, no doubt, make you proper Bills – as to Quality & Price, of which I am also unacquainted—
I remain with Respects Sir [&c.]

Tristram Dalton

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 194, 100–102.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Preston*, CAPTAIN JOHN ROBINSON,
COMMANDING¹

July 1775

Remarks Boston Harbour

Sunday 23d Sent the Longboat with an Officer a Serjeant a Corporal and
14 Private Marines to the Light House.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/720.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE¹

Sir

Boston July 23. 1775.

I had the Honor to receive your Letter of yesterday acquainting Me that petitions had been preferred to your Excellency by Simeon Turner, Isaac Elwell and James Jordan, Masters of Coasting Vessels complaining of being detained and thereby disenabled to bring Us those Supplies we are in Extreme want of; that the two latter say their Cargoes are taken from them without any Account rendered, and that they have otherwise greatly suffered. If our Supplies are to come by the way of Cape Ann Harbour, the complaint of Elwell and Jordan is most certainly just; for one was cut out of the Harbour where he was at Anchor, the other taken upon the point of going in; Turner's Vessel was with difficulty prevented from getting into Salem. – I hope, therefore, it appears plain to your Excellency that these Cargoes of Wood were not intended to come to Boston, but were for the Use of [the] Rebels; And that to grant their Masters the Indulgence your Excellency desires would operate directly to our prejudice by encouraging

Men, inclined from principle, to Supply our Enemies. Their Vessels and Cargoes therefore are, in my opinion, very justly ordered to be libelled and prosecuted to Condemnation.²

It gives Me Much uneasiness that your Excellency Considers the Seizure and detention of these Vessels to be improper, And I shall be extremely Concerned if, thereby, any intended supplies are prevented from Coming to Us; All such as are inclined to Supply Us pass without the least Molestation, Witness several that have lately Come in, and departed again – My orders are expressly to this Effect, but at the same time to seize whatever is evidently going into other Ports, which I think is agreeable to your Excellency's request.

I most earnestly desire to assure you that anxiously solicitous to co-operate with your Excellency, and to carry on the Kings Service in my department in the Most satisfactory Manner, I am perticularly unhappy when untoward circumstances occasion My endeavours to have a contrary effect. It would give me the highest satisfaction by any Means in My power not only to relieve the present distresses, but to Contribute in guarding against threatned Evils; And I will readily and thankfully receive any information for these or any other purposes of Government that your Excellency can occasionally give Me; being equally inclined to give every encouragement to those who are willing to assist Us, and to punish every one, who at this time shall dare to Supply the Rebels. I have the honor to be with great respect and regard Sir [&c.]

Sam^l Graves.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

2. The sloop *Sally*, James Jordan master, from Georgia with wood, and the schooner *Judith*, Isaac Elwin master, from Sheepscoot with wood, were cut out of Cape Ann Harbor by H.M.S. *Hope*. According to Graves's Conduct, Prize List, MassHS Transcript, the wood was used among the ships of the squadron and the vessels were detained. The sloop *Race Horse*, Simeon Turner master, from Kennebeck for Marblehead, was taken by the *Merlin* and *Hope*, was libeled against, condemned, and sold.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES¹

[Boston] 23d [July 1775]

A Letter was brought to the Admiral from General [Thomas] Gage with, and he also received Intelligence that a pirate Sloop from Mechias had been seen in the Bason of Minas in the bay of Fundy, but he informed Governor Legge that two armed Schooners were gone in quest of her, that the *Senegal* was likewise in that bay that he could constantly keep some of the Kings vessels on the western Coast of Nova Scotia for the security of the traders to & from those parts to Boston & Halifax.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 152, MassHS Transcript.

COMMITTEE OF RHODE ISLAND ASSEMBLY TO CAPTAIN ABRAHAM WHIPPLE¹

Sr

Providence July 23d. 1775

We having received certain advice by Timothy Brown directly from Newport, that all the men of war sailed from Newport this Morning, and left the packet in possession of Mr [Aaron] Lopeze's schooner lately taken from Jamaica, This is therefore to desire you to sail as early tomorrow morning as you can, and go down

the bay till you are certain whether the ships are in Newport or not.² If they are not we advise your going out on the west side of Conannicut, go round the Light house and run into Newport harbor and go directly alongside of Hackers Packet now in the hands of our Enemies and bring her directly to Providence. You'll order Capt [John] Grimes either to be beating down to Newport as you run in or to go out before you or any other way as you may think will be best to accomplish the taking said packet.

The Commission is inclosed Mr [Samuel] Ward could not alter it so well as to make a new one which he will do tomorrow, and shall be sent to Mr Rhodes Arnold with Capt. Grimes.

We are [&c.]

Nicholas Cooke
John Smith
Dan^l Tillinghast

P.S. If the Ships should be in tomorrow, perhaps they may soon go out again & leave the Packet in possession of said schooner. therefore we hope you'll keep so good a lookout that you'll have possession of said Packet very soon.

1. Whipple Papers, RIHS.

2. The *Rose*, *Swan*, and *Kingsfisher* sailed from Newport Harbor on July 23, 1775, proceeding along the coast to the westward and anchored in New London harbor on the evening of July 26. They sailed from there on the morning of July 28, and reached Newport shortly after midnight on July 29, 1775. Journal of His Majesty's Ship *Rose*, James Wallace, Commanding, PRO, Admiralty 51/804.

JOHN ADAMS TO JAMES WARREN¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia, July 23d, 1775

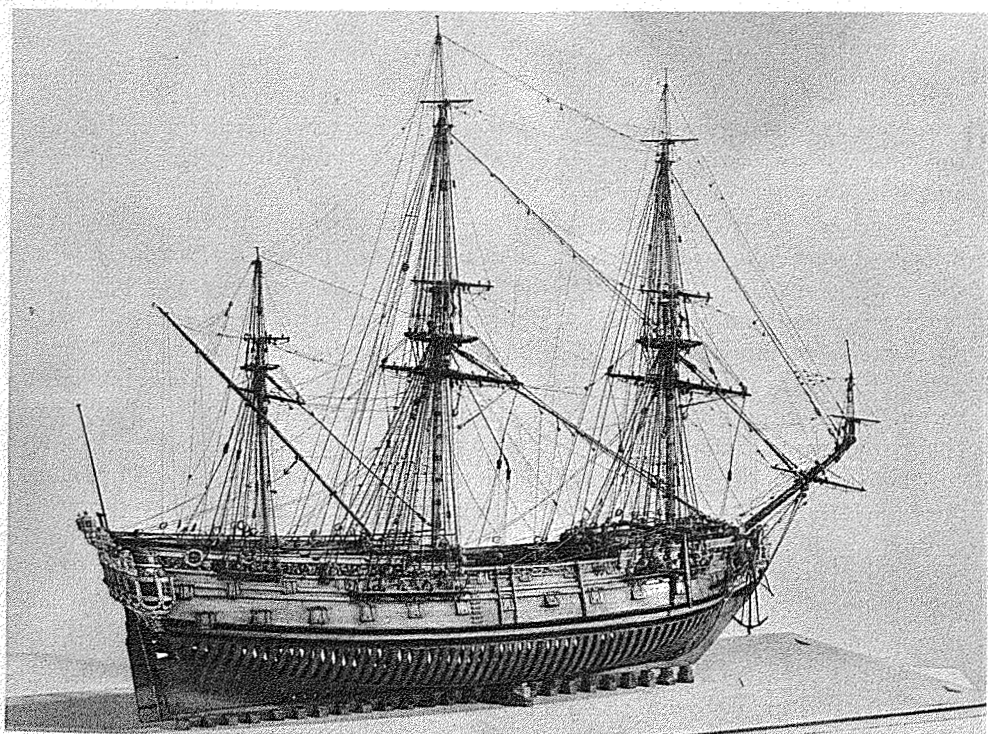
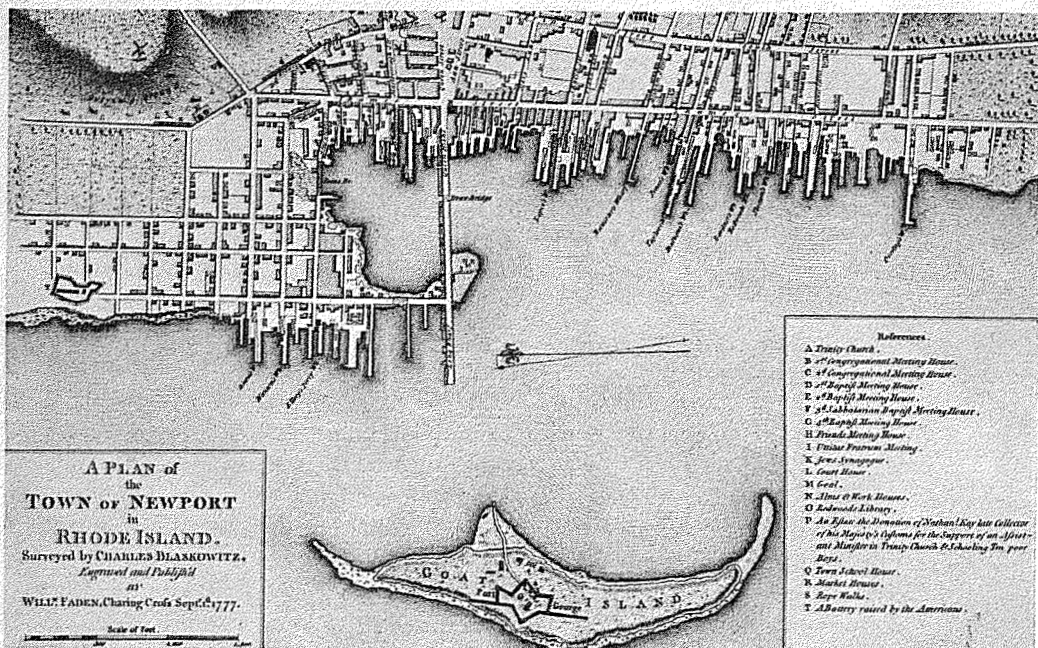
We have passed a Resolution that each Colony make such Provision as it think proper and can afford, for defending their Trade in Harbours, Rivers, and on the Sea Coast, against Cutters and Tenders. We have had in Contemplation a Resolution to invite all Nations to bring their Commodities to market here and like Fools have lost it for the present. This is a great Idea. What shall we do? Shall we invite all Nations to come with their Luxuries, as well as Conveniences and Necessaries? or shall We think of confining our Trade with them to our own Bottoms, which alone can lay a Foundation for great Wealth and naval Power? Pray think of it.

1. *Warren-Adams Letters*, I, 87, 88.

24 July

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE, JULY 24 [1775]"¹

On Thursday last [July 20] the universal Fast Day,² a party of our troops in whale boats landed on Nantasket Point before day, and set fire to the Light House; at day light the men of war discovered and fired upon them. I was at Little Cambridge when the guns awakened me. — I ascended an eminence at a distance, and saw the flames of the Light-House ascending up to Heaven like grateful incense, and the ships wasting their powder. Our men proceeded from thence to Point Shirley, in order to drive off some young colts, which were there; a party of



(Top) Section from a plan of Newport, Rhode Island, 1777. (Bottom) British ship-of-the-line (third rate), c. 1750.

regulars attacked them, but were repulsed, and drive into their boats without the loss of a man on our side either killed or wounded; what loss the regulars have sustained, I have not yet heard. The party set fire to all the fishing houses and hay that were on the place, and brought off four Tory fishermen, who are now prisoners at the General's, together with one Whiting.

1. *Pennsylvania Journal*, August 9, 1775.
2. The Continental Congress on June 12 recommended July 20, as "a day of public humiliation, fasting and prayer."

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ¹

[Watertown] Monday, July 24, 1775

A Petition from the Committee of St. George's was read.

Ordered, That Mr. Watson, Mr. Greenleaf, Mr. Rice, Colonel Grout, and Colonel Sawyer, be a Committee to consider a request made by Mr. Dummer Sewall, that he might be released from his Bond to the late Provincial Congress, as surety to Edward Parry, Esq.

Afternoon

The Petition from St. George's was committed to Colonel Thompson, Captain Parker, and Mr. Woodbridge.

1. Mass. Arch.

RICHARD CRANCH TO JOHN ADAMS ¹

[Extract]

Braintree July 24th 1775.

Dear Bror Sister Adams ² informs me that you complain that your Friends this way neglect writing to you. I believe a share of the Blame belongs to me, and shall now endeavour to make some amends.

We have lately had several little Expeditions from this quarter against the Enemy, a particular acct of which, as near as I can collect it from those who were present, I shall give you. — On the 11th Inst in the evening, about 400 Men (partly from the Camp at Roxbury, and partly of the Guards on our Shore) went off from Germantown in 47 Whale Boats, in order to sweep Long Island then surrounded with Men of War. Landed on the Island at 10 o Clock at Night, parted into two grand Divisions and march'd to the House. Majr Tuppham [Benjamin Tupper] commanded, and Capt Shaw who lately liv'd on Deer Island, conducted him to the House. Shaw burst in a Window and enter'd & Tuppham after him; the Men in the mean time being properly Station'd. They expected to have catch'd some Tories there, but found none of any Note. Our People came on so secretly that they were not known to be on the Island untill they enter'd the House; they demanded of the Man who was in the House "what People were on the Island?" and were answer'd that a number were in the Barn who had been sent from Boston to cut the Hay & make it. Upon which our People enter'd the Barn and seiz'd them all Prisoners before they knew they were in danger. Among the Prisoners in the House was a Lady perhaps une Fille de joie, who pretended to be on the point of Marriage with a Capt of one of the

Transports. 15 Prisoners, abt 30 Cattle, a Horse, and abt 100 Sheep, were brot off that Night undiscover'd. Next morning about 10 Whale Boats went on again in broad Day, from Dorchester to Burn the Barns & Hay on the Island (suppos'd to be abt 70 Ton) these Boats were discover'd immediately by the Men of War which surrounded the Island, and Barges & Cutters were sent to cut them off. Our People, however, burnt the House & Barns and got off without a Man being Kill'd or wounded in the Boats or on the Island tho' a most heavy fire was Kept up from the Men of War from above & below the Island whose Shot both ways swep't across the Island where our Men were, and tho' our Boats were pursue'd by the Barges & Tenders continually firing on them so near that they were sure of taking a number of our Boats as they tho't, yet we escap'd. Capt [Jacob] Gould of Weymouth, who was most expos'd, was told by the Officer of the Man of War to "yield for he was his Prisoner," Gould answer'd "not yet" and discharg'd his Musquet full at him, and encouraging his Men to pull up, he escap'd with the Skin of his Teeth. When some of our foremost Men were landed at the Head of the Moon, they fir'd briskly on the Enemy's Barges, and kept them off so as to secure the landing of the hindermost which were so hotly pursued. In this engagement one of our Men (Mr Clarke of Stoughton) was Kill'd.

Another Expedition has been from hence to Nantaskett & the Light House. Not many Days ago a small Man of War drew up close to the Houses at Nantaskett within the Gutt, and afterwards paraded it by coming up as far as Pig Rocks by Hoffs Neck and then lying off Hingham Cove [blurred], and then returning to Nantaskett again. These movements made our People conclude that the Man of War was sent to secure to [Thomas] Gage's Army, the Grain then ready to cutt on the lands at Nantaskett; especially as the Barge had seiz'd Mr Milton of Nantaskett & his Cart and Oxen and carried him & his Oxen to the Admiral, where the Oxen were kept but the Man after much examination releas'd. Under this perswasion, last Tuesday Night [July 18] our men from Germantown and the neighbouring shore to the amount of abt 400, Guards, Mowers & pass'd over to Hingham in Boats, and from thence by land to Nantaskett, having engag'd a number of Carts to come over the long Beach. They with great expedition mow'd and sent off the Grain to the amount of 70 Cart Load, and having done that, on Thursday morning a Company commanded by Majr [Joseph] Vose of Milton, went over to the Light House, took down and bro't off the Lamps, brot off 1 Barrell of Gun Powder, severall Tierces of Oil, a quantity of old Cordage, Severall Boats &c and then Burnt the Light House, (but not the Dwelling House) then returning to Nantaskett they found that the Burning of the L:House had alarm'd the Men of War, and that their Barges & Cutters were sent down to attack our People, which they accordingly did, 7 of their Barges being lash'd together for that Purpose. A Hot Fire ensu'd for near an Hour but none of our Men were Kill'd and only two wounded; Our People try'd to draw them on Shore by seeming to run from them, but to no purpose, the men-of-War's-men seem'd evidently afraid to come near them; and at last put off so as to be out of the reach of our Musquetts. When Mr Milton was carried on board

the Admiral, he examin'd him very strictly about the Whale Boats that lately appear'd in the Harbour, what their Number was? where they were kept? whether he could Pilot his People to them &c? To all which he made such answers as gave the great Man no Satisfaction, especially when he told him that he understood that our People kept the Whale Boats drawn up into the Woods.

I fear you will be tir'd with the length of this Scrawl unless reliev'd by believing it to be design'd for your amusement, by your most affectionate Bror—

R[ichard] C[ranch]

1. Adams Family Papers, MassHS.

2. Abigail Adams's sister was the wife of Richard Cranch.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

[Extract]

Boston July 24th 1775

Separate

Very great Pains have been taken to starve the Troops and the Friends of Government in Boston, for no Article Necessary for the Support of Life is Suffered to be Sent there from any of the Provinces from New-Hampshire to South Carolina, and in most of the Sea-Ports Persons are appointed to examine everything that is embarked and where it is going. They endeavor to prevent also the Fishermen from Supplying the Town with Fish, by means of Whale-Boats that they have Seized at Nantucket, and have lately in those Boats destroyed the Light House off Cape-Ann and at the Entrance of this Harbour, to deceive Ships bound in here.

The King's Ships have Sent in a few Vessels laden with Flour and other Articles which affords some Relief to the Troops, tho' we hoped for more ample Supplies thro' their Means, as the Inhabitants begin to feel some Distress.

It was found upon a further Enquiry about the State of Fort William and Mary, in New-Hampshire that the light Pieces and Ammunition was what the People chiefly had carried away from the Fort, and that most part of the heavy Artillery had been left. Upon this Advice a large Transport under the Protection of a Ship of War was sent to Secure the Ordnance remaining in said Fort, and I enclose your Lordship a List thereof; which was brought away, and part of it is sent home in an Artillery Transport.

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

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

[Extract]

Boston 24th July 1775.

Private.

We are obliged to use all Means to procure fresh Provisions, and to fit out our Transports & put Troops on Board to bring live Stock to us from where it is to be had. The Rebels have fitted out some Privateers to intercept our Supplies, and we are informed of one of two cruizing in the Bay of Fundy to take any thing coming here from that part of Nova Scotia.

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

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO PHILIP STEPHENS ¹

[Extract]

Preston Boston 24 July 1775

Sir As it may appear extraordinary that the Rebels should demand and quietly obtain the money in the Treasury of Portsmouth, belonging to the Province of New Hampshire, I think it necessary to inclose an Extract of a Letter from Captain [Andrew] Barkley on the Subject, that their Lordships may be satisfied the money might have been deposited on board the *Scarborough* if Governor [John] Wentworth had thought it proper, and that his Excellency had been often applied to for that purpose.

Since my Letter July 16 the Pilot of the *Margueritta* armed Schooner returned to Boston: I inclose his Account of the Transaction, together with an Affidavit of another Person received from Governor Legge at Halifax. As it is confidently reported that Rebel armed Vessels, from Mechias and other places, are cruizing to intercept the Supplies of Cattle and Provisions we endeavour to draw from the Bay of Fundy; I have ordered the *St. Lawrence* and *Hope* Schooners on that coast, with Orders to sink, burn and destroy these Pyrates or any aiding or assisting, wherever they can be found. The Schooners take under their Convoy two Transport Brigs for Annapolis Royal, and they or the *Senegal* are to return with the Transports, and several others now waiting at Windsor for Convoy.

I inclose a Copy of Intelligence that the Lighthouse on Thatchers Island, generally known by the name of Cape Anne Lights, are destroyed. And on the 20th some Rebels in Whale Boats went from Nantasket in a Calm and set fire to Boston Lighthouse which is at present rendered useless.

The Rebels have collected near three hundred Whale Boats in the different Creeks round this Harbour, and begin to make little Expeditions to the Islands. A few days ago one hundred and five Boats, full of men, landed on Long Island and carried off all the Stock. One of their party was a Seaman belonging to the *Falcon*, taken in Buzzards Bay, as related in my Letter June 16. This Man was placed Centinel, but concealed himself till the Rebels had left the Island, and then swam to a Canoe lying off, and by that means got on board the *Boyne*. His Report confirms what we before heard of the number of Whale Boats. From their Lightness and drawing little Water, they can not only outrow our Boats, but by getting into Shoal Water, and in Calms, they must constantly escape. It is not possible to guard every Island in this Harbour from such pyratel attempts without more armed Vessels and Men than can be had. Various are the Conjectures about the Design of the Rebels in bringing so great a number of Whale boats here, Robbing the Islands and burning the Houses and Hay thereon most certainly distresses the Garrison by depriving them of fresh Meat, Vegetables, Milk, Fruit and many other Advantages; but it is generally believed they were principally intended to land a Body of Men in the Night at the most defenceless parts of the Town, when a general attack should be made on the Lines, hoping, with the assistance of disaffected people in the Town, to occasion great confusion and terror and finally defeat his Majesty's Troops.

Others are of opinion that in a calm Night they mean to surprize one of the Frigates of the Squadron and carry her by suddenly pouring in great Numbers of People. And this leads me to mention that the very low Complements of his Majestys Ships at present make the Duty extremely hard in this Harbour. We are obliged to keep a number of Men and Officers in flat bottomed floating Battery Boats, placed in Shoal Water, to flank Boston and Charles Town Necks; To man an armed Transport and a Sloop; and occasionally to lend men to the Transports ordered on Service, instead of theirs who desert. In the Squadron, the Frigates, Sloops and Schooners are seldom without lent Men on board. These Draughts are from the three large Ships, who by that means are sometimes unavoidably left in a weak and almost defenceless Condition. I beg leave likewise to observe that the 20 Gun Ships and Sloops with their present low Complement of Men are Objects of the Rebels attention, who in their large Schooners and Sloops fancy they shall succeed by boarding when the Kings Ship is at anchor.

I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 153-156, MassHS Transcript.

Newport Mercury, MONDAY, JULY 24, 1775

Newport, July 24.

From last Tuesday [July 18] about 2 o'clock, till near the same hour on the next day, this town was threatened to be fired upon from the three ships of war in this harbour, viz. the *Rose*, Captain [James] Wallace, the *Swan*, Capt. [James] Ayscough, and [the] *King fisher*, Capt. [James] Montagu, and also a tender: - for which purpose these ships were brought close in with the North-west part of the town, on Tuesday towards night; their tampkins [sic! tampons] were immediately taken out, and all the apparent preparations made for cannonading this town, which greatly terrified the women and children, especially those women who were with child. In the evening lanthorns and men were placed at the guns, and the most hostile appearance kept up, which twas possible for them to exhibit, and many women and children were running about, wringing their hands and crying in the greatest distress: - About half past 9, a cannon was discharged from the *Rose*, when the women really thought the firing on the town was begun, many of whom fainted away, and went into fits, and a number, we are told, absolutely miscarried by the fright. - However this gun was loaded with powder only, and the men of war gave out to a number of persons, whom they had stopped coming down the river, that they should not beat the town down till next morning, when they would certainly do it. - In the morning the like terrific scene was opened by firing another cannon, and seizing on four ferry-boats, a passage boat, with a number of passengers, and two wood sloops; the *Swan* moved down to the south part of the town, where she anchored with her guns pointing diagonally across the wharfs, so as to rake from thence up to the Parade and Court-house; here again all the tampkins were out, quantities of tar and other inflammatory and combustibile matter were put into the ferry-

boats, in order, as was said to set on fire, and send into the town to burn it, as a more expeditious way of destroying the town, than by cannon only.

At the same time that these boats were to be sent into the town, a number of men were to be landed at the south-end, to set fire to that part. Thus the most warlike and hostile parade was kept up to the highest degree, till near two o'clock on Wednesday; when, all at once, the boats were discharged, the ships weighed anchor and stood up the river. — The same evening the *Rose* got ashore on the north part of this island; but by taking out her guns, &c. she was got off, and the next day they all came down again to their old station.

We know not of even the shadow of a just reason for the above inhuman conduct; if the Captains of said ships have any reason to offer we should be very glad to publish them to the world: The story about two of the *Swan's* people being seized by a mob in town, gagged, carried to Bristol gaol, &c. had it not been absolutely disproved, would have been a most wretched pretext for firing on a defenceless town, in which there were not less than six thousand women and children. —

N.B. It must have been well known to the commanders of those ships, that there was not a single cannon in this town mounted for its defence.

The above three ships and tender are this morning going out, supposed on a cruize.¹

1. The journal of James Wallace, of the *Rose*, is silent upon the subject of this threatened bombardment. There is no mention of it, other than that the ship was abreast of the town. The journals of the *Swan* and *Kingsfisher* are a bit more illuminating. The former, for July 19, 1775, reads: "A M at 6 Sent the Long Boat and Pinnace to weigh the Stream Anchor ½ past got it on Board at 7 Sent a warp out to the Fort wharfe & hove up the small Br & Dropt further to the So ward at 9 Dropt the small Br & moord ship with the Stream Cable with Spring on & abreast of the Town People employed Clearing the Ship for Battering the Town [P M] got the Guns over and secured them."

The *Kingsfisher's* journal reads: "Anchored with Bt Br abreast Town . . . wth *Rose* and *Swan* all hands at Qrs Carried out the Kedge Anchor to Stedy the Ship hauled our Broadside A Breast the Town."

MINUTES OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

[Lebanon] Monday 24 July 1775

The affair of the two armed vessels (being a principal occasion of this meeting) was taken up and largely discoursed. Letters received from a number of gentlemen from N. Haven, Middletown, Wethersfield &c relating to it read, &c. Capt. [John] Deshon, Mr. [Nathaniel] Shaw and Capt Giles Hall were present on that account and discoursed with &c., and they retired; and on further consideration &c, this Council are of opinion and do resolve, that Wm. Williams and Nathel Wales, Esqrs together with Capt. Deshon and Capt. Hall be a committee to [visit] Norwich, New London, and by the sea coasts to New Haven, and to Middletown, Hartford, &c. to enquire after and find out proper and suitable vessels for the purpose, the terms on which they may be had, the proper manning of them, the terms on which officers and men may be had &c, and give proper directions for preparing carriages for the cannon at N. Haven which may be

wanted, and what may be proper and necessary &c & thereof make report to this Council on Wednesday the 2d of August next, to which time this Council is to be adjourned.

1. Trumbell and Hoadley, eds., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 108, 109.

Connecticut Courant, MONDAY, JULY 24, 1775

Hartford, July 24.

By the Post from Cambridge, who left that Place after the Papers were printed, we are informed, that a Party of our Men had marched privately down to the Light House (about nine Miles from Boston) which was guarded by a small party of the Enemy, when a skirmish ensued, in which some Lives were lost on both Sides, but the Enemy soon gave Way. Our Party took several Prisoners, two or three Barrels of Powder, a few Barrels of Oyl, set Fire to the Light-House, and then returned.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 24, [1775]

Resolved, That the Boat to be launched by Emanuel Eyres, at Kensington, be called the *Bull Dog*.

Mr. Robert Smith (Carpenter) appear'd at this Board with a model of a machine for obstructing the Navigation of the River Delaware and explained the Construction of it, which was approved of; at the same time he made an offer of his service in attending and overlooking the Workmen in building the same Gratis, for which this Board thanked him and accepted the offer of his services.

Resolved, That Capt. Charles Alexander be appointed to the Command of the Boat called the *Bull Dog*.

Resolved, That this Board meet at Kensington tomorrow Morning, at 11 O'clock to attend the launch of the Boat Built by Emanuel Eyres, and that they go from thence in said Boat to Gloucester, and there hold a Board.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 290, 291.

JOHN ADAMS TO JAMES WARREN ¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia, July 24th, 1775

We ought to have had in our Hands a month ago the whole Legislative, executive and judicial of the whole Continent, and have completely modeled a Constitution; to have raised a naval Power, and opened all our Ports wide; to have arrested every Friend to Government on the Continent and held them as Hostages for the poor victims in Boston, and then opened the Door as wide as possible for Peace and Reconciliation. After this they might have petitioned, and negotiated, and addressed etc. if they would. Is all this extravagant? Is it wild? Is it not the soundest policy?

One Piece of News, Seven thousand Weight of Powder arrived here last Night. We shall send some along as soon as we can, but you must be patient and frugal.

1. *Warren-Adams Letters*, 88, 89.

MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COMMITTEE ¹

At a Meeting of The Committee on Monday the 24th July 1775,

The Committee resumed the Consideration of the Motion relative to Ashburner & Place & Johnson Gildart but thought it best to refer it further to Monday the 31st. and then adjourned to the Afternoon.

The Committee met according to adjournment

Capt Warring of the Ship *Totness* appeared and desired Liberty to land five Convicts Imported in the said Ship and Consigned Ashburner & Place but the Committee declined to give any Opinion on the matter as the Proceedings against James Gildart who is the Owner are already Publisht

1. Balt. Com., LC.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION ¹

[Richmond] In Convention July 24. 1775

Resolved, That no Flour, wheat or other Grain, or provisions of any kind be exported from this Colony to any part of the World from and after the fifth day of August next, until the Convention or Assembly, or the honourable the Continental Congress shall order otherwise; That no quantities of the said Articles, more than are necessary for the use of the Inhabitants be brought to, collected or stored in the Towns or other places, upon or near the navigable waters; that the respective County Committees be directed to take care that this Resolve be effectually carried into Execution; and that all contracts made for the sale & delivery of any such articles for Exportation between this time and the tenth day of September next be considered as null and void.

Payton Randolph Presidt

1. William H. Browne, ed., *Archives of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1892), XI, 41. Hereafter cited as Browne, ed., *Arch. of Md.* See Randolph to Maryland Convention, July 27, 1775.

SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CLEMENT LEMPRIERE ¹

In the Council of Safety, Charles Town, July 24th 1775

The Council of Safety, elected and chosen by the Provincial Congress, begun to be holden on the first Day of June last, by these Presents testify, That Clement Lempriere, Esquire, has been, and is hereby appointed and commissioned to command in the Sloop *Commerce* belonging to New York, and over all and every Person and Persons, engaged to embark on board the said Sloop, under the Authority of the said Council of Safety. And the said Clement Lempriere is hereby ordered to proceed to such places, and to take such measures, as he shall think most proper, to procure Gunpowder for the Public of

this Colony which when he shall have procured he is ordered to convey to this Colony, with all possible Dispatch.

It is also hereby declared, That if any Commander or Officer, under the King's authority shall in any Degree ill-treat the said Clement Lempriere or any of his Company; the King's Officers now in our Power, shall be treated with equal Severity. Of which, all Persons are required to take due notice.

Given under the authority and by Order of the Council of Safety,

Henry Laurens, President

[Endorsed]

Ordered, That the foregoing commissions be engrossed, sealed, dated, and signed, by the President, and by him delivered sealed up, to Capt. Lempriere, with Orders not to be opened, until he shall be arrived in Sight of the Island of New Providence.

1. Drayton, ed., *American Revolution*, I, 334.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

In the Council of Safety [Charleston]

Monday 24th July 1775

Resolved, That Twenty Pieces of Cannon be immediately mounted so as to be moved wherever it shall be thought proper, and that proper Carriages be prepared for them.

Resolved, That Mr President, Mr [Thomas] Heyward, and Col. [Charles] Pinckney, be a Comee. to conduct this Business.

Resolved, That Capt. [Clement] Lempriere be directed to return to this Colony from the Service he is to be employed in.

P.M.

Ordered that the Secret Committee do provide a sufficient Quantity of all the necessary Tools and Implements for Fortification.

1. Laurens Collection, SCHS.

JOURNAL KEPT ON BOARD THE SOUTH CAROLINA SLOOP *Commerce* BY CAPTAIN JOHN HATTER, SAILING MASTER ¹

1775 [Charleston Harbor]

July 24 Our voyage towards New Orleans [sic!] commenced.

1. Drayton, *American Revolution* I, 335-337. The exact title of the document is "Captain Hatter's Report to the Council of Safety, of the occurrences which took place on board of the sloop *Commerce*, Clement Lempriere, Esquire, Commander, in taking the powder from Captain Lofthouse, off Augustine Bar; and of the return voyage to Charlestown with the powder." It is hereafter cited as "Hatter's Report," Drayton, *American Revolution*, I.

25 July

"SCH. *Quero*. EXPRESS TO ENGLAND – TO FORESTALL GEN. GAGE'S DESPATCH
ABOUT THE LEXINGTON FIGHT – (SUCCESSFUL)"¹

The Colony of the Massachusetts bay to John Derby

1775

	Dr		
Aprill To Sundry Stores for my Passage to England	5	0	0
28			
May To Expences at the Island White & Southampton	3	5	0
To my Expences & Post Chaise hire from Southampton to London 80 miles a 9d p. mile	4	15	0
My Expences in London	7	17	0
Post Chaise hire from London to Falmouth in the west of England by the way of Portsmouth 294 miles at 9d p. mile.			
Except the two First Stages from London which is 1/p: mile	11	8	0
To my Expences from London to Falmouth	2	5	0
To paid the Sarcher & waiters at Falmouth	1	0	0
Sum Sea Coles for Fireing	1	4	0
To Light money. Pierage, & Clearance at Castle &c	3	12	0
3 bbls Bread a 19/& Carriage	2	17	8
56 lbs Beef a 3d, 12 lbs Candles a 9d	1	3	0
Small Bear, Greens &c for the People	1	15	0
To Boat hire to Fill our warter at Falmouth		4	0
To my Private Expences at Falmouth	2	0	0
To Sundry Necessary Stores for my Passage home to New England	8	15	0
To my time in Executing the Voige from hence to London & Back			

Starling £57 0 8

Salem 25 July 1775

Errors Excepted John Derby

Please to pay the within to Mr Elias Hasket Derby & You'l Oblige Your Very
Humble Sarvant

John Derby

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 206, 96, 97.

RICHARD DERBY'S ACCOUNT FOR HIRE OF SCHOONER *Quero*¹

The Province of Massachusetts Bay to Richard Derby, Jr. Dr.

For the Hire, Victualling, Port Charges, Portledge Bill &c. for the Schooner *Quero*, voyage from Salem, in New-England, to Great Britain, and back to Salem aforesaid, in the Service of this Colony, with Depositions relative to Battle of Lexington, viz:

1775				
April 25	To 3 barrels Bread, weighing 2 cwt, 3 qrs, at 5s. 4d. per barrel	£3	9	8
	To 1 bushel Beans, 6s; 1½ bushel Peas, at 4s. per bushel	0	12	0
	To 1 barrel Flour, 18s; 25 pounds Candles, at 9s. per pound		1	16 9
	To Charges of Clearing at the several Offices	3	0	0
	To 20 tons Ballast, at 2s.8d. per ton; 175 feet Plank, at 8d. per foot	3	7	4
	To 2 cords Wood, at 13s.4d. per cord; Pail Smith, Tuttle and Plafrey, for labour, 15s.	2	1	8
July 19	To the amount of Men's Wages, as per Portledge Bill	56	17	11½
	To Hire of the Vessel from 25th April to 19th July following, 2 months, 24 days, for 62 tons at 6s. per ton per month			
	To Premium of Insurance on £300, out and home, 6 per cent.	18	0	0
	To Entry at the Custom-House: Collector's 15s.6d.; Do. Naval Office, 6s.9d.; Do. Comptroller's Office, 4s.6d.; Do. Impost Office, 5s. sterling is	2	2	4
		£143	9	2½
1775		Contra.		
July 19	By 3 Barrels Beef, at 40s. per barrel:			
	2 barrels Pork, at 54s. per barrel:			
	2 barrels Bread, weighting 1 cwt.			
	3 qrs. 26 lbs. at 25s.1d. per barrel (returned in the Schooner)	£13	8	2
Aug. 27	By Cash received of W. Gray, £10 sterling is	13	6	8
			27	4 19
Errors excepted		£116	4	4½

Salem, 25th July 1775

R. Derby, Jun.

1. Mass. Arch.

COLONEL JOSEPH REED TO BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID WOOSTER¹

Sir I am directed by his Excellency General Washington to inform you that Yesterday Afternoon 3 Men of War with a number of Transports sailed from Boston – They steer'd E.S.E. after they got out, but we cannot yet learn their Destination, or whether they have taken off any part of their Troops of the Enemy As their Designs are so much unknown to us, & it is possible they may move to N: York the General thought proper to apprise you of it, that you may be prepar'd for

such an Event; This he would have done with his own Hand but he has been much indispos'd for Some days past – I have the Honor to be Sir [&c.]

J R Sy

Camp at Cambridge July 25 1775 –

1. Washington Papers, LC.

COMMITTEE REPORT TO MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ¹

In the House of Representatives Watertown July 25 1775

Your Committee apointed to take into Consideration the Motion of Major Dumer Sewall: for being Discharged from the Bond he is under on account of Edward Parry Esqr Relative to his Conduct Respecting a quantity of Masts &c

Beg Leave to Report that Said Sewell is Willing to Remain Still Bound so far as Respects the Safe keeping of Said Masts &c: but Desires to be Discharged from the Residue of Said Bond which your Committe are of opinion may be granted –

and your Committe are further of opinion that it will be Unnecessary for Colo Thompson to Remove said Masts to any other Place all which is humbly submitted

Abra^m Watson Jun Pr. orders

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 137, 38.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ¹

[Watertown] Tuesday, July 25, 1775 Afternoon

Ordered, That Mr. Sewall, Mr. Jones, Col. Thompson, Mr. Bancroft, and Colonel Woodbridge, be a Committee to consider a Letter from the Committee of Deer-Island relative to the arrival of a Man-of-War of twenty guns, and several other Ships, at Penobscot; and also a Letter from the Revernd Mr. [John] Murray, on the same subject, and report.

The Committee on the letter from St. George's reported. The Report, together with the Letter, was recommended to the Committee just now appointed to consider the Letter from Deer Island.

Ordered, That this Committee sit forthwith.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, III, 281, from Mass. Arch.

PORTIA (ABIGAIL ADAMS) TO JOHN ADAMS ¹

[Extract]

Braintree July 25 1775

Since I wrote you last the Companys stationed upon the coasts both in this Town Weymouth and Hingham were orderd to Nantasket to reap and bring of[f] the Grain which they accomplished, all except a field or two which was not ripe, and having whale boats they undertook to go to the light House and set fire to it, which they effected in open day and in fair sight of several men of war. Upon their return came down upon them Eight Barges, one cutter one Schooner, all in Battle array, and poud whole broad sides upon them, but our Men all reached the shore and not one life lost, two only slightly wounded in their legs. They marched up a Hill and drew into order in hopes the marines would land, but they

chose rather to return without a land engagement, tho tis Thought they will burn the Tówn down as soon as our forces leave it. I had this account from Capt. [John] Vinton who with his company were there. These little Skirmishes seem trifling, but they serve to innure our Men and harden them to Danger.

1. Butterfield, ed., *Adams Family Correspondence*, I, 261.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Glasgow*, TYRINGHAM HOWE, COMMANDING ¹

1775 July [In Massachusetts Bay]

Tuesday 25 Strong Gales & Cloudy at 9 A M spoke the *Hannah* from Londonderry for Philadelphia with Passengers ² at 11 brot too a Ship from Philadelphia for Lisbon laden with flour ³ Do sent the Lieut & 6 men on board her to take her to Bost[on.]

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/398.

2. The ship *Hannah*, J. Ramage, Master, which landed its passengers at Newcastle in mid-August 1775, *Pennsylvania Journal*, August 23, 1775.

3. The ship *Charming Peggy*, T. Dowman, Master, which had cleared Philadelphia early in July, *Pennsylvania Packet*, July 3, 1775. At Boston the ship was passed out after the cargo had been bought for the British army, Graves's Conduct, Prize List, MassHS Transcript.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

Sir./

Boston July 25th: 1775.

I think it proper to give you the Information contained in the Inclosed Extracts from Nova Scotia, that you may take such measures as you shall think Necessary

I am with the greatest Regard, and Esteem, Sir, [&c.]

1. Gage Papers, CL.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE ¹

Sir,

Boston 25th July 1775.

I received the information your Excellency was pleased to send me this Morning – Most of the particulars have been already communicated to me by different Persons.

The Commanders of the two Armed Schooners who convoy the Brigs to Annapolis [Royal] have Orders to destroy all Pirates they can meet with, and are particularly informed of the One your Excellency has mentioned. The *Senegal* is in Penobscot Bay with the Wood Transports, the *Merlin* from Marblehead to Piscataqua, the *Falcon* from Cape Ann to Cape Cod; I hope some of these will get hold of the Pirate, if not, their being on the Coast will give Security to Vessels Navigating

The *Senegal* or the Schooners will call at Windsor for the Vessels waiting there for Convoy. I have the Honor to be, with great regard Sir [&c.]

Sam^l Graves.

1. Gage Papers, CL.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER OF THE FLEET"¹

Boston, July 25, 1775

The blockade of Boston, having occasioned a great scarcity of every thing, tenders were fitted and dispatched from every ship; and Mr. James Moore was appointed to command that vessel which went from the flag-ship. Sometime in May he sailed for Machias, about 80 leagues from hence eastward, to recover some guns which were lost in a wrecked schooner: at the same time he had two sloops under his convoy to load with wood for the use of the fleet and the garrison. In performing this business he was severely attacked by the Provincial troops from the shore, which he beat off with some loss on both sides; however they armed two sloops and when the tender attempted to go off they pursued her, and began a second engagement with more vigour than before; in this conflict Mr. Moore was wounded in three places, and was carried off the deck, desiring the people to maintain the fight gallantly to the last: but the want of his presence to animate them, greatly altered the circumstance, and the survivors submitted to the foe. The brave young man was killed with three of his men and three wounded tho' he laid till the succeeding day before he expired. While he lived his activity, sobriety, sensibility, honour and courage, made him respected and admired; he died on the point of preferment, a loss to his country and the naval service; and he is now universally lamented by the Admiral and the fleet, and by his shipmates in particular; for few young men had such merit to boast of, and fewer leave this world with so exemplary a character.

1. *Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, September 28, 1775.

"EXTRACT OF A GENUINE LETTER FROM BOSTON, DATED JULY 25, 1775"¹

No action has happened since the 17th of June; a few shots have been exchanged by scouting parties; one morning they beat in our advanced guard and burned the guard-house; and on the 19th instant they set fire to the light-house and one of our men of war lying but a mile from it; as it was calm we could not get at them, their whale-boats, in which they made their escape, out-rowing any of our boats, and a small island lying between them and the ship, prevented her firing on them. They took from the light-house a six pounder and a swivel.

1. *Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, September 11, 1775.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTYS SLOOP *Falcon*, JOHN LINZEE, COMMANDING¹

July 1775

Cape Codd S E 3 Leagues

Tuesday 25 At 1 A M Joind Compy with 11 Sail of Transports from Boston at noon parted Compy . . . [P M] fird 3 Six pounders Shotted and Brought too a Schooner at 9 P M Sent the Schooner to Boston²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/336.

2. The schooner *Industry*, John Fisk, master, from St. Christophers for Salem, with rum and sugar. Fisk was allowed to sell his cargo in Boston, and "to depart with the vessel", Graves's Conduct, Prize List, MassHS Transcript.

NICHOLAS COOKE, DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF RHODE ISLAND, TO SAMUEL WARD
AND STEPHEN HOPKINS ¹

[Extract]

Providence July 25th 1775

Capt. [James] Wallace in One of his mad Fits last Week drew up all Three of the Men of War before the Town of Newport and swore with the most bitter Imprecations that he would burn it. He fired several Guns over the Town which put the People, the Tories as well as the Whigs, into the most terrible Consternation. I heard that Two Women have since lost their Lives in Consequence of the Fright.

1. RIHS, Mss. Collection, XVI, 137.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Tuesday, July 25, 1775

The Congress being informed that a quantity of the Continental gun powder amounting to about six tons and half, was arrived in this city.

Ordered, That the delegates of this colony take measures to have it sent under a safe convey with all possible despatch to Genl Washington at the Camp before Boston.

That the delegates be empowered to order a detachment of the riflemen raised for the continental army, consisting of at least two Officers and thirty men to meet the powder waggons at Trenton and from thence to escort the same to the camp.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 204.

Pennsylvania Evening Post, TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1775

Philadelphia, July 25

The *Nautilus* man of war is in the river off Chester; and, it is said, another is expected.

SCHEME FOR IMPORTING GOODS FROM CAPE FRANCOIS TO BE CONSIDERED BY
THE CONVENTION [OF MARYLAND] ¹

As it will be absolutely necessary to have frequent Intelligence from Europe and to Import manufactures from thence, should the present unhappy contest continue longer between Great Britain and America; The following Scheme is submitted to consideration. – That an Agent or Factor for the United Colonies should be established at Cape Francois in Hispaniola; – In order to supply North America with dry Goods, Powder &c He should Import them there in French bottoms from Nantes, Havre de Grace and Dunkirk; – That a Number of small Vessels known for prime Sailors carrying about four or five hundred Barrels of flour should be employed to ply from North America to the aforesaid Cape with flour chiefly Superfine, Rice and other valuable commodities to be there delivered to the said Agent, who in return would send by them to North America the Goods he should have imported from Europe & any commodities of the growth of Hispaniola that should be from time to time required. – From the said Cape the Agent may have a trade in french bottoms with the Neutral ports in the West Indies by which means a market for flour and other American commodities may

be extended to larger quantities then necessary for Hispaniola and proper remittances particularly in Rum & Spirit from those Neutral ports made at the Cape, from whence it should be sent to North America. – This Extensive trade would enable the Agent to make more remittances for payment of the Goods Imported from France – The deficiency may be made up by Venturing in proper times Vessels from North America with Tobacco wheat and flour to France, Spain – Portugal and Italy, as the proceeds of their Cargoes (over what should be necessary to procure them a loading of Salt and other goods thought proper to Venture to Import from thence on their return to North America,) may be remitted to the Agent's Correspondants in France. – Should it be thought proper to employ North American Vessels from the Cape to France, or to the Neutral ports, the same may be done with Safety by using proper means to Effectuate it. – There are Weekly and almost daily arrivals and departures from & to France at the Cape, by which the Agent may receive & forward Intelligences to and from Europe and North America – Cape Francois is the Port in the West Indies the nearest and best Situated for a short Navigation from and to North America. – Should the small Vessels Employed to ply from North America to and from the Cape, be required to be armed so as to give them a chance to defend themselves from Tenders, It may be done at the Cape cheaper then in North America. – This mode of Conveyance by the Way of the Cape is preferable to that Immediately from Europe, because it would be inconvenient for Small Vessels to go so long a Voyage, which it is well known they can with convenience and some degree of safety do to and from the Cape; beside by this means they would be less liable to a discovery by the Court of Great Britain. – There could be no risks on the goods Imported from France to the Cape, as a small premium of Insurances would cover all, and from the Cape to North America, should few of the Small Vessels employed be lost it would on the whole be inconsiderable. – Should a reconciliation take place between Great Britain and America, the goods Imported by the Agent from France or the Neutral Ports to the Cape would always be safe there, and in case they should not then be admitted in North America, the Agent may procure a market for them to some advantage & remit the proceeds thereof to France, from whence the ballance due to the Concerned may always be had. – A Person of Confidence may be established either at Nantes or Havre de Grace as an Agent or Factor for sake of conveying safer Intelligences, with which the Agent at the Cape Should chiefly correspond with and get the goods exported chiefly by him from France to the Cape, By their means Intelligence may be procured from and sent to the Friends of America in Europe, as soon if not sooner than any other way that may be thought of. – Should the United Colonies decline carrying this Scheme into execution, May it not be done by the Convention of a Province or Provinces? or by a Number of Merchants Interested each for his respective Share or Shares, of the Sums they should think proper to Venture in it, and thereby from such sufficient Capital Sum to Effectuate it to their advantages & the general good of the United Colonies? –

1. Executive Papers Md. Arch. This undated document was probably prepared for presentation to the Maryland Convention, which met from July 26 to August 2, 1775. An approximate date would be July 25, 1775.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

In the Council of Safety [Charleston]

Tuesday, 25 July 1775

Resolved, That the following Orders and Commission be given to Capt. Lempriere.

South Carolina In the Council of Safety

Chas Town July 25th, 1775

To Clement Lempriere, Esqr

The Council of Safety elected and chosen by the Provincial Congress begun to be holden on the 1st Day of June last, By these Presents testify That Clement Lempriere, Esqr has been and he is hereby appointed and commissioned to command in the Sloop *Commerce* belonging to New-York, and over all and every Person and Persons engaged to embark on board the said Sloop on the intended Voyage under the orders of said the Council of Safety. And the said Clement Lempriere is hereby ordered to proceed forthwith, with the utmost Dispatch to the Island of New-Providence, on that Island to seize and from that Island to embark on board the said Sloop all such Quantity of Gunpowder as he shall find and be able to take on and from said Island, and then forthwith to return to this Colony and put into Tucker's Creek, Tucker's Island, North Edisto, and from thence to give Notice to the said Council of Safety of his Arrival with all possible Dispatch. And if the said Clement Lempriere shall not be able to seize any considerable Quantity of Gunpowder in the Island of New-Providence aforesaid, he shall then proceed to such Places and take such Measures, to procure Gunpowder, as he shall think most proper and then to proceed to Tucker's Creek aforesaid, and thence give due Notice as aforesaid. And for so doing this is your Warrant.

By Order of the Council of Safety.

[Here is repeated the order of the previous day]

Ordered, That the foregoing Commissions be engrossed, sealed, dated and signed by the President, and by him to be delivered up, to Capt. Lempriere, with Orders not to be opened until he shall be arrived in Sight of the Island of New-Providence.

All of which was thereby duly executed.

1. Laurens Collection, SCHS.

JOURNAL KEPT ON BOARD THE SOUTH CAROLINA SLOOP *Commerce* BY CAPTAIN JOHN HATTER, SAILING MASTER ¹

1775

[Charleston Harbor]

July 25. Took on board our stores of provisions, &c.

1. "Hatter's Report," Drayton, *American Revolution*, I.

26 July

FRANCIS LEGGE, GOVERNOR OF NOVA SCOTIA, TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE ¹

(Copy)

Halifax July 26th. 1775.

Sir, I have informed your Excellency of the fitting out a Vessel from Machias to cruise for the Vessels employed in carrying Cattle, Hay & other supplies for his Majesty's Fleets and Army by Depositions taken before his Majesty's Council, it appears they have Designs upon this Province, that the Provincial Congress have empowered Persons residing there to act against his Majesty, That they have been making inquiry about the Strength of the Fort of Annapolis, & at St Johns River, & I beg leave to inform you that the Inhabitants of both places & their Environs are such as have removed from New England, & that little or no Dependence can be had on the Militia there; that these Fortresses are without any Cannon for Defence & without Troops & much is to [be] fear'd if they shou'd Attempt any Descent there that no Troops can be spard from hence as your Excellency will see by the Return being now obliged to order thirty of the Militia on Guard every night for the protection of the Magazines here, & to patrol to the Navy Yard.

I also hear that a large Vessel of 130 Tons is fitting out at Pemiquid for the same purpose, & it is to be feared that the Navigation from the Bay of Fundy will be interrupted.

I am therefore of Opinion that it will become extreme Necessary to Station at least a Sloop of War with one or two Armed Schooners for the Protection of the Provision Vessels, and coast of that part of the Province, to cruise between Grand Passage & Passamaquoddy, by which means their intentions may be Defeated, and their Vessels taken.

The Magistrates at Annapolis have applied for some Cannon to mount on the Fort & Ammunition for the Inhabitants which I have Consented to send them by the first safe Conveyance, and as Captain [Henry] Mowatt was Bound to Boston I applied both to him & Captain [Edward] Meadows, but was informed by them that on Account of Captain Mowatts particular Orders from the Admiral my request could not be complied with.

It would be I apprehend for his Majesty's Service when Necessity requires it that Conditional Orders were given, that in such Cases the Armed Vessels might Assist in case of unforeseen Accidents, & which may happen & require a sudden remedy before it be possible to send advice to you The Militia here will cheerfully Continue to do duty were the private men allow'd for their Duty, I apprehend that 12d per man for Privates & non Commission Officers for the Day on which they do duty only would be a sufficient inducement for their Continuance in Duty till they can be otherwise relieved for otherwise they cannot be obliged by the Laws here to perform in that Service.

I have received your Excellency's favour of the 14th Instant & shall take care that the new Recruits be carefully Trained, and as soon as they are fitted to do duty take care they mount with the other Troops.

I am sorry to find some of his Majesty's old Servants joined with the Rebels, which I could never have conceived to have happened. I am with great Respect [&c.]

Francis Legge.

1. Nova Scotia Papers, DAC. A copy in the Gage Papers, CL, is dated July 28, 1775.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO NICHOLAS COOKE, DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF RHODE ISLAND ¹

[Extract]

Camp at Cambridge, July 26, 1775.

Sir: Yesterday I had an Account that three Men of War and Nine Transports had Sail'd out of Boston and in Evening I received a Note the Copy whereof is inclosed. The great Distress they are in at Boston for fresh Provisions makes it extreamly probable they may make some depridations along the Coasts; I have therefore thought it Proper to give you the earliest Notice, that the owners of those Islands and the Inhabitants along the Coasts, may take the necessary Precautions for the Security of their Property.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, III, 366.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ¹

[Watertown] Wednesday, July 26, 1775

The Committee on the Petition from Deer-Island reported that an Address be sent to the honourable Board on the subject thereof.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That Colonel Bowers, Captain Partridge, and Dr. Baylis, be a Committee to prepare an Address accordingly.

Afternoon

The Committee appointed to prepare an Address to the honourable Board, relative to the circumstances of the eastern part of the Colony, reported the following, which was accepted:

To the Honourable the Council of the Colony of the Massachusetts-Bay
May it please your Honours,

The papers accompanying this request will inform you of the critical situation of the inhabitants of the eastern parts of this Province. We request your Honours to take this matter under your consideration, and take such orders thereon as the exigency of their circumstances may require; and this House will concur in those measures which may be judged necessary for their defence.

Ordered, That Colonel Bowers, Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Jewet, Mr. Greenleaf, and Dr. Baylis, be a Committee to carry the above Address to the honourable Board, together with the Petition from Deer-Island, the Petition from St. George's, and the Letter from Mr. [John] Murray.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, III, 282-284, from Mass. Arch.

Massachusetts Spy, WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 1775.

Worcester, July 26.

Last Thursday se'nnight [July 13] an armed barge belonging to the *Asia* man of war, in the harbour of New-York, came under the stern of the Connecticut armed sloop lying at a wharf, with an intention as was thought to seize the Captain, but he having intimation thereof, levelled a swivel upon the barge, and declared he would sink her unless the crew Immediately surrendered; which they were forced to do, and were sent prisoners to Gen. [David] Wooster's camp, and the barge hauled up on the wharf; orders afterwards arrived from the General for the barge to be returned, she was broke to pieces in the launching, and when in the water in possession of one or two of the people belonging to her was set on fire by some person unknown and consumed.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO FRANCIS LEGGE ¹

Sir,

Preston Boston 26 July 1775 -

I thank your Excellency for transmitting the Master of the Brigs Affidavit concerning the rebellious Proceeding of the People at Mechias. They have taken one of his Majesty's hired armed Vessels of small Force. I am persuaded it will be the last, and that the Pirate will soon reap the Reward of his Perfidy. Two armed Schooners are gone in quest of him. The *Senegal* is also in the Bay, and some of the King's Vessels shall constantly be on the Coast for the Security of the Traders from and to Nova Scotia, the Bay of Fundy &c.

I am &c

Sam Graves

His Excellency Governor Legge at Halifax

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 464, MassHS Transcript.

NATHAN IRISH TO THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

Gentlemen, As the Defence of this City and suburbs from an attack by Water is at present the Concern of its Inhabitants, I beg you will excuse one of them for offering with the greatest Deference to your better Judgment, a Model for a Boat or Gundalo.

This Model is nearly proportioned to a boat of 45 feet Keil, 11 feet Beam & 3 feet 6 inches deep in the Clear from Ceiling to the top of her Gunnels, and towards her stern to have erected a Parapet or Breastwork to be made Cannon proof, (if it should not prove too heavy) with a porthole in it for an 18 or 24 pounder, and on the Top of the Breastwork to have 2 Wall pieces fixt and 2 Swivels on the Bow for keeping off Boats, &c, and to have as many oars as may be found convenient, & to row either end foremost as may be required. A Boat of this kind I presume whould be kept as near right ahead or right astern of an Enemy as possible, and to keep her stern to the Enemy. If there should be any Batterys on the Banks of the River when the Enemy is nearly opposite to such Battery would be a Convenient time for these boats to attack them because a Ship

could not bring her Broadside to bear on the Boats without being in danger of being Raked fore and aft from the Battery. I do not mean to reflect on the Construction of the Boats already built, nor the manner in which 'tis proposed to fight them, But if they are to fight only from behind Islands as I have heard some people say, I fear the Enemy will get abreast of them before they can get many Shot at her, and they will be too much exposed to the Enemy's Broadside, which may prove fatal to the men and boat. A Boat thus fortified (if it should be found practicable) may not only keep in the Channel as long as she can fight, but may venture nearer an Enemy than those where the Men are so much exposed. The Breastworks in the Model is proportioned to about 4 feet thick, 19 feet long, and 4 feet above the Gunnels. I would propose the logs to be of Cedar or some other light wood and the Middle part to be filled with Cotton, Wool, Cork, or something light, I do not mean to prescribe the Dimentions of the Boat nor any thing about her, but only with submission, to offer a Sketch of one for your Consideration; that if it meet with your approbation it may be improved upon by better Judges than me. And if you disapprove of it, I hope you will ascribe my boldness to the anxiety I have for my Country, and please to Return the Model to,

Your very Humble Servant,

Nat. Irish

July 26, 1775

1. Hazard *et al.* eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, vol. IX, 638.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 26 [1775]

Emanuel Eyres, the Builder of the Boat called the *Bull Dog*, not being able to launch her yesterday, she was this day launched and the Members of the Committee of Safety there present embarked on board said Boat and went to Gloucester, but found it inconvenient to hold a Board there.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 291.

Pennsylvania Journal, WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 1775

Philadelphia, July 26.

Monday last [July 24] arrived here the brig *Polly*, Capt. [William] Greenaway, with a load of salt from Liverpool, with which she is to return in a few days.

On Sunday last arrived at Newcastle his Majesty's ship *Nautilus*, where we are told she is to lay for "the protection of our trade," in the courtly style; but, in plain English, to pick our pockets, and try to enslave us.

LAMBERT CADWALADER AND JOHN WILCOCKS TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

The Committee of the City & Liberties of Philada having last Night recd an Application from a Gentleman in this City to supply the Man of War now in the River Delaware ² with a Quantity of fresh Beef have appointed us a sub-Committee to wait on the honble Congress to take their Opinion concerning the

same in Order that a general Rule of Conduct may be found for the several Committees whose jurisdictions border on the River & Bay of Delaware to whom similar Applications may be made ³

Philada 26 July 1775

Lamb^t Cadwalader
John Wilcocks

1. U.S. Revolution Collection, L.C.

2. H.M.S. *Nautilus*.

3. The Journals of Congress are silent as to this application.

“ASSOCIATION OF THE FREEMEN OF MARYLAND” ¹

July 26, 1775.

The long premeditated, and now, avowed design of the British government, to raise a revenue from the property of the colonists without their consent, on the gift, grant, and disposition of the commons of Great Britain; the arbitrary, and vindictive statutes passed under colour of punishing a riot, to subdue by military force, and by famine, the Massachusetts Bay; the unlimited power assumed by parliament to alter the charter of that province, and the constitution of all the colonies, thereby destroying the essential securities of the lives, liberties, and properties of the colonists; the commencement of hostilities by the ministerial forces, and the cruel prosecution of the war against the people of the Massachusetts Bay, followed by General [Thomas] Gage's proclamation, declaring almost the whole of the inhabitants of the united colonies, by name or description, rebels and traitors, are sufficient causes to arm a free people in defence of their liberty, and to justify resistance, no longer dictated by prudence merely, but by necessity, and leave no alternative but base submission or manly opposition to uncontrollable tyranny. The Congress chose the latter, and for the express purpose of securing and defending the united colonies, and preserving them in safety, against all attempts to carry the abovementioned acts into execution by force of arms, Resolved, that the said colonies be immediately put into a state of defence, and now supports, at the joint expence, an army to restrain the further violence, and repel the future attacks of a disappointed and exasperated enemy,

We therefore, inhabitants of the province of Maryland, firmly persuaded that it is necessary and justifiable to repel force by force, do approve of the opposition by arms to the British troops, employed to enforce obedience to the late acts and statutes of the British parliament, for raising a revenue in America, and altering and changing the charter and constitution of the Massachusetts Bay, and for destroying the essential securities for the lives, liberties, and properties of the subjects in the united colonies. And We do unite and associate, as one band, and firmly and solemnly engage and pledge ourselves to each other, and to America, that we will, to the utmost of our power, promote and support the present opposition, carrying on, as well by arms, as by the continental association restraining our commerce.

And as in these times of public danger, and until a reconciliation with Great-Britain on constitutional principles is effected (an event, we most ardently wish may soon take place) the energy of government, may be greatly impaired, so that even zeal unrestrained, may be productive of anarchy and confusion; WE do in like manner unite, associate, and solemnly engage, in maintenance of good order, and the public peace, to support the civil power in the due execution of the laws, so far as may be consistent with the present plan of opposition; and to defend with our utmost power all persons from every species of outrage to themselves or their property, and to prevent any punishment, from being inflicted on any offenders, other than such, as shall be adjudged by the civil magistrate, the continental congress, our convention, council of safety, or committees of observation.

1. Broadside, Hollyday Papers, MdHS. An original draft, with a slightly different preamble, and some other textual alterations, is in the Red Book, vol. III, Md. Arch.

MILITIA OFFICERS AT WILLIAMSBURG TO THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION ¹

WILLIAMSBURG, July 26, 1775.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Convention:

We, the officers of the several Vounteer Companies here assembled, beg leave to inform you that this day, on mature deliberation, it was resolved in Council immediately to secure all the publick monies in the hands of the Receiver-General, Naval Officers, and other Collectors for his Majesty. Mr. Rob't Prentis, in consequence of our requisition, hath rendered an Acc't on Oath, by w'ch there appears to be in his hands £317,14,2½, as Clerk to the Receiver-General, and has engaged on Oath that he will neither directly or indirectly pay away any part thereof, or any sum that he may hereafter Collect, without your directions. And that you may be fully informed of our proceedings, we have thought proper to enclose you a Copy of his affidavit, together with Copies of the Instructions to the officers of the Several Detachments, who are ordered to wait on the Receiver-General, Naval Officers, and other Collectors, to secure the Monies of the Crown in their hands, till we c'd receive an Answer from you relative thereto. This step would not have been taken, without first obtaining y'r concurrence, could we have thought the circumstances of the case did not require an immediate procedure, but when we acquaint you that this day we rec'd intelligence that J. Earnshaw, one of his Majestie's Collectors, has lately sent a very considerable sum of the publick money on board the *Fowey*; that, from the best information, we think it more than probable the other crown officers will soon follow his example, and believe any period of delay would be dangerous, and tend to defeat our purposes; for these reasons we hope to meet with your approbation, and do assure you we shall readily submit to y'r Determination of this and every other matter when you shall interfere.

We are, very respectfully, Gentl'n [&c.]

N.B. – Since writing the above, we are informed that a vessel belonging to a Man of War has lately carried off from the Naval Officer at Hampton all the money in that office, amounting to upwards of £900, which is sent to Boston.

1. Gilmer Collection, VHS.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PARRY, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES¹

Sir

Cruizer Cape Fear 26 July 1775

I received by Mr Logie two Acts of Parliament restraining American Commerce, an Order of Council prohibiting the Exportation of Arms and Ammunition, General [Thomas] Gage's Proclamation, and an Account of the Action on the 17th June, which Governor [Josiah] Martin was very anxious for, as the People of South Carolina have a very different Account published and sent thro' Provinces, which has had a very bad effect on many of the People in the back Country; I don't learn that there is a least Prospect of a better disposition in the Province; they threaten me with an Attack, and have seduced most of the men from the Merchant ships now here to enlist on shore, giving a Bounty of near five Pounds sterling. If I am attacked my chief dependence is on Swivels and small arms, my Deck being so weak in some parts as I doubt whether it bear much firing even with the three Pounders, our heaviest Metal. I have sent a Seaman who I have borne for some days as a Supernumerary.

The Governor and Council have desired me (at a Council held on board the *Cruizer*) to raise and victual any of his Majesty's Subjects who may come to me for protection; many have waited till Opportunities to leave the Port. I hope you will approve of it, and be pleased to give me an Order for so doing.

I am &c

Francis Parry

Defects of Sails and Rigging

The standing Rigging fore and aft unserviceable. All the sails much worn and decay'd and unfit for their proper Uses, except one fore topsail and one fore-topmast stay sail.

Cables Short – Best Bower of 10½ inches	one
Small Bower of 10½ inches	one
St[r]eam Cables of 6 ins.	one
Hawser of 4½	one

Pinnacle and Cutter old and unfit for Service, and Boatswains Stores of all sorts wanted.

Defects of the *Cruizers* Hull: The footlines bad and two or three of the Beams. The Starboard Cathead sprung, some of the Deck very much worn. The Sloop very leaky under the Naval Woods, Rudder Irons very much worn, sides and Decks leaky, and Bottom very foul

F. P.

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 462, 463, MassHS Transcript.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

In the Council of Safety

[Charleston] Wednesday, July 26, 1775

The Council issued an order on the Treasury for the payment of one thousand pounds currency to Col. Henry Laurens, to reimburse so much advanced by him to Capt. Lempriere, for a special service.

1. *Collections of the South Carolina, Historical Society*, II, 63.

JOURNAL KEPT ON BOARD THE SOUTH CAROLINA SLOOP *Commerce*, BY CAPTAIN
JOHN HATTER, SAILING MASTER ¹

1775 [South Edisto River]

July 26. Sailed over the bar, with the wind at N.E. and rain; at 6 P.M. anchored at South Edisto.

1. "Hatter's Report," Drayton, *American Revolution*, I.

27 July

New England Chronicle, THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1775

Cambridge, July 27.

Last Wednesday se'nnight [July 12] embarked from Dorchester-Neck, Col. [John] Greateon, with 96 Men in ten Whale-Boats, for Long Island, in order to remove from thence some Stock and Hay. On his Way he was fired upon by the Men of War lying near said Island, but notwithstanding the very heavy fire from the Ships, he proceeded; when not finding any Stock on the Island, he fired the Barns, in which was a Quantity of Hay, he not being able to remove it; as he perceiv'd several Barges, Cutters, and an arm'd Schooner coming upon him, having executed his Designs, so far as to deprive our Enemy of the Advantage they might receive from the Hay, &c. which he destroyed, he retreated; and when on board, he found himself again beset by the Savage Enemy, who perhaps would have taken some of the hindermost Boats, had it not been for the good Conduct of the Commander, and a Party from Squantum, posted on the shore, who by a warm fire drove off the Enemy; they killed one of our Men on the shore, and it is asserted by one in a Boat that there were two of the Enemy killed. The House caught fire from the Barns and was consumed.

Since our last Major [Joseph] Vose and Major [Jotham] Loring have returned from Nantasket, & brought off about 1000 Bushels of Barley, which they cut. — After they had secured the Barley and Straw, they went and burnt the Light-House, took three Boats with four Men belonging to Boston, which were a Fishing brought off three Casks of Oil, and about 50 lb. Powder from the Light-House; they then burnt the Barn and Hay the Brewsters. Notwithstanding an almost incessant Fire from the Men of War and Tenders, we had only two Men slightly wounded.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON ¹

Camp at Cambridge, about 5 miles from Boston,

Dear Brother:

July 27, 1775.

On the 2nd Inst. I arrived at this place, after passing through a great deal of delightful Country, covered with grass, (although the Season has been dry) in a very different manner to what our Lands in Virginia are.

I found a mixed multitude of People here, under very little discipline, order, or Government. I found the enemy in possession of a place called Bunker's Hill, on Charles Town Neck, strongly Intrenched, and Fortifying themselves; I found

part of our Army on two Hills, (called Winter and Prospect Hills) about a Mile and a quarter from the enemy on Bunker's Hill, in a very insecure state; I found another part of the Army at this Village; and a third part at Roxbury, guarding the Entrance in and out of Boston. My whole time, since I came here, has been Employed in throwing up Lines of Defence at these three several places; to secure, in the first Instance, our own Troops from any attempts of the Enemy; and, in the next, to cut off all Communication between their troops and the Country: For to do this, and to prevent them from penetrating into the Country with Fire and Sword, and to harass them if they do, is all that is expected of me; and if effected, must totally overthrow the designs of Administration, as the whole Force of Great Britain in the Town and Harbour of Boston can answer no other end, than to sink her under the disgrace and weight of the expense. Their Force, including Marines, Tories, &c., are computed, from the best accounts I can get, at about 12,000 Men; ours, including Sick absent, &c., at about 16,000; but then we have a Cemi Circle of Eight or Nine Miles, to guard to every part of which we are obliged to be equally attentive; whilst they, situated as it were in the Center of the Cemicircle, can bend their whole Force (having the entire command of the Water), against any one part of it with equal facility; This renders our Situation not very agreeable, though necessary; however, by incessant labour (Sundays not excepted), we are in a much better posture of defence than when I first came. The Inclosed, though rough, will give you some small Idea of the Situation of Boston, and Bay on this side; as also of the Post they have Taken in Charles Town Neck, Bunker's Hill, and our Posts.

By very authentick Intelligence lately received out of Boston (from a Person who saw the returns), the number of Regulars (including I presume the Marines) the morning of the Action on Bunker's Hill amounted to 7533 Men; their killed and wounded on that occasion amounted to 1043, whereof 92 were Officers. Our loss was 138 killed, 36 Missing, and 276 Wounded.

The Enemy are sickly, and scare of Fresh provisions, Beef, which is chiefly got by slaughtering their Milch Cows in Boston, sells from one shilling to 18d Sterling per lb.; and that it may not get cheaper, or more plenty, I have drove all the Stock within a considerable distance of this place, back into the Country, out of the Way of the Men of war's Boats; In short, I have, and shall continue to do, every thing in my power to distress them. The Transports are all arrived and their whole Reinforcement is Landed, so that I can see no reason why they should not if they ever attempt it, come boldly out and put the matter to Issue at once if they think themselves not strong enough to do this. they surely will carry their Arms (having Ships of War and Transports ready) to some other part of the Continent, or relinquish the dispute; the last of which the Ministry, unless compelled will never agree to do. Our Works, and those of the Enemy are so near and quite open between that we see every thing that each other is doing. I recollect nothing more worth mentioning. I shall therefore conclude with my best wishes, and love to my Sister and Family, and Compliments to any enquiring Friends, your most affectionate brother.

1. Fitzpatrick ed., *Writings of Washington*, III, 371-373.

Dear Brother

Camp at Cambridge about 5 Miles
from Boston, July 27th 1775.

On the 2nd Inst I arrived at this place

and the Country; For to do this & to prevent the
from penetrating into the Country with Fire and
sword & to harry them if they do, is all that
is expected of me, and, expected, in a totally
overthrew the designs of the Ministry, etc., as the
who a Force of Great Britain in the Town and
Harbours of Boston can answer neither end
than to send her under the disgrace and weight
of the aspersion — Their Force, including Marine
Forces &c, are computed from the best Intelligence
yet at Mr. Mose's Men, our own Intelligence, at
about 16000; but then we have a Line of
Eight or nine Miles to guard, & every part of it
we are obliged to be equally situated, which they
situated as it were in the Centre of the Peninsula
can bend their whole Force (having the entire
command of the water) against any one part
of it with equal facility, this renders our sit-
uation very agreeable, though very painful,
however, by incessant labour (which is a great

afforded) we are in a much better posture of secur-
ity than when I first came. — The Inclosed though
rough and give you some small Idea of the Situation
of Boston & Bay on this side as also of the Port
they have taken in Charles Town Neck, Bunker
Hill, and our Posts. —

enquiring Friends.

Y^r Most affect^d Brother.

G. Washington

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

Sir

Camp at Cambridge, July 27, 1775

Nothing material has occurred in either camp since I had the honour of addressing you on the twenty-first instant by express. But on Tuesday [July 25] three men of war and nine transports sailed out of Boston Harbour, and stood a course about east-south east.

One Groves, who came out of Boston the same evening, informed the officer at one of the outposts, that the Transports had on board six hundred Men, and were bound to Block Island, Fisher's Island and Long Island, to plunder them and bring off what cattle they may find. The fellow returned again into Boston, under such suspicious circumstances, that it has led me to doubt the truth of his intelligence. A deserter, who came in afterwards, informs me that it was given out in their camp that they were either gone for Indians or fresh provisions, and that each Transport had but twenty Men on board. Upon this intelligence I immediately wrote to Governor [Nicholas] Cooke, of Rhode Island, and to General [David] Wooster, that they might use proper precautions for removing the cattle off those islands and the coasts and to prevent any surprise. As we are confirmed by every account in the scarcity of fresh provisions in the enemy's camp, and particularly by this deserter, who says they have had none since the Battle of Lexington, it is very probable this voyage may be only intended for a supply; but it may possibly be otherwise. I thought it best to transmit the intelligence to the honourable Congress, that they may forward it to the Southward, or take such other steps as they may judge proper.

Since writing the above three men (deserters) have come out, which make four in twenty-four hours. Their accounts correspond with those of the first who came out, and which I have related above.

I have the honour to be, Sir, [&c.]

G^o Washington

1. Papers CC, 152, I, 39, NA.

BRIGADIER GENERAL HORATIO GATES TO ROBERT MORRIS ¹

[Extract]

Head Quarters [Cambridge] July 27, 1775

You ask me for News, we have no News, and that I think is good News for America. We go on strengthening our Lines & Redoubts, and shall very soon be in so Strong a Camp, that I think rashness itself will not dare to attack us. Desertion begins to take place from Bunker's Hill. I should not wonder at its increasing to a degree alarming to The Ministerial Generals. Bad Salt Pork and Dry Pease is all these Soldiers have had to eat since the beginning of May, and the Water in, and near that Hill, is pernicious to Health, in consequence of Bad Food and Bad water, Fluxes & Scurvy, rage amongst the Troops & Carry off Numbers. We on our side are in good Health & Spirits, and not a Doubting, or Disponding Countenance to be seen, in Boston the Contrary is said to be Visible, about Twenty Transports & a Man of War, are sailed from Boston, with about 400 Men on board, to Plunder Provisions. It is imagin'd they are gone towards Long

& Rhode Islands. If the Inhabitants are Watchful, they may cutt off this Party. I should be glad to know what effect the Lexington Fight had upon the people of England. I don't mean immediately after hearing it, but when Time and cool Reflections upon the Consequences had taken place . . .

1. *Catalogue of Autograph Letters and Documents* (Philadelphia, 1926), 32.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE, R.N.¹

Sir

Preston Boston 27 July 1775

I have received your letters July 3d and 30th of last Month, One of the latter covering a Copy of an Association in favour of Government which I hope is sincere, and not intended to deceive for their immediate preservation. The Tories are landed, and the *Phoenix*, having landed her Cargo of Flour and Sugar carries back your people. I have sent the *Glasgow* to reinforce you, and hope with the Assistance of that Ship, which is very well manned, you will not let the Rebels seize a post of so much consequence to his Majesty's Service.

We are in hourly expectation of Letters from England in answer to our Account of April 19. In the mean time we must be contented with cutting off the Rebel's Supplies by all means in our power as usual.

Everything at present is quiet on both sides – The Rebels have destroyed Boston Light house and those on Thatchers Island at Cape Ann, of which you will give Notice to all coming this way. – Letters I have received lately from New York contain Accounts similar to yours concerning the Rebel Generals. Washington passed the River in Sight of Captain [George] Vandeput. It cannot surely be long before we shall be at a Certainty with respect to the Measures to be pursued with the Americans! In the mean time have an Eye upon their pyritical Fleet, destroy every one of them you can meet with, and preserve your post by all means. Upwards of three hundred Whale Boats are collected about this Harbour: The Rebels have actually plundered Long Island, and 'tis thought will soon attempt something greater. The Person who owns seven Hogsheads of the Rum seized in Naraganset Bay appears to be an object worthy of relief, and I am glad to find by Mr [G.] Gefferina you have hinted as much. We are greatly distressed for Beef both Salt and fresh; [James] Montagu in the Sound can only take Melasses: It is unlucky we cannot get hold of either their ammunition or Provisions I shall send something to you immediately upon my hearing from England. I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 156–158, MassHS Transcript.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Scorpion*, JOHN TOLLEMACHE,
COMMANDING ¹

Thursdy 27 July 1775

First & Middle parts Light Breezs and Hazey with Rain, latter mode and fair Sounded 55 fam hard Ground at 4 P M saw the Land from WNW to NWBN ½ past 11 Came to with the Bt. Bower in 23 fam. fir'd a Gun & made a Signal for a Pilot at 12[midnight] Repeated the Signal,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/872.

BENJAMIN HALLOWELL TO GENERAL THOMAS GAGE ¹

Sir, I am extremely sorry for the absolute necessity I am under of exhibiting to you a complaint against Admiral [Samuel] Graves.

His unjustly obstructing me in getting my property even after my submission to the heavy contribution he most arbitrarily has laid me under is the unhappy cause of this Address to your Excellency. He still without any Color of right obstinately persists in preventing me the use of lawful means to cut and make my grass on Gallop's island into hay & bringing the same to town for my own consumption.

The particulars of what hath passed between the Admiral and me from the first application to this time in that business, I beg leave to inclose for your Excellency's perusal, which will fully open to you the whole of the treatment I have received from that Gentleman.²

Both as a Subject and Servant of the Crown I must beg Your Excellency's interposition that so I may obtain common justice which I[s] now denied me by Admiral Graves

I am Sir, [&c.]

Benj Hallowell

Boston 27, July 1775.

1. Clinton Papers, CL.

2. Enclosures were his narrative covering his conversations with Admiral Graves on 3 and 4 July, and his subsequent letters of July 5, 7, 9 and 20, 1775.

COMMISSIONERS OF HIS MAJESTY'S CUSTOMS TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy)

Sir At a Consultation held at the Generals by your desire in May last, upon the Subject of the Boston Port Act, it appeared to be the opinion of the Attorney General that Vessels might be admitted into this Harbor under certain circumstances & be Stationed at certain places under your immediate direction but not upon any account to be permitted to unload any part of their Cargoes – We are to request you will inform us if any and what Vessels have arrived in this Harbor since that time, and whether they have been ordered by you to any particular station & have remained in the state in which they arrived. –

signd Hen Hulton W^m Burch Benj^a Hallowell

Custom house Boston 27th July. 1775. –

1. Gage Papers, CL.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

Sir, Tyonderoga July 27th. 1775

Since my last of yesterday, Capt. [Jeremiah] Halsey, who has commanded the Sloop² since she was left by her former Commander, arrived at this Post. He reports that the Schooner *Liberty* is returned from her Cruize towards the North End of Lake Camplain – that about Isle la Mott she fell in with two Canoes, containing three Frenchmen and as many Indians – that the[y] in-

formed the Capt: that Gov [Guy] Carlton had in vain attempted to prevail upon the Savages to act agt us – that the Canadians would be neuter, perhaps act in our Favour, that a pickett Fort, surrounded with a Ditch, is erected at St Johns – that Preparations were making for mounting Cannon – that the regular Troops at that Place consisted of about four Hundred & fifty Men – that two Men from Crown Point, who were carrying an Indian Boy on his Return from Mr [Eleazer] Wheelock's School into Canada, had been made Prisoners & detained, and that a scouting Party of regular Troops had been almost as far South as Mr Gillelands (about 35 Miles from hence).

Capt [Remember] Baker who left Crown Point with the Party to carry the Indian Boy, but separated from him, fell in with some Indians at Missique. Their Information confirms the above. His is enclosed.

In this Situation of Affairs, no Manoeuvre appears to me more necessary than an immediate Movement to St Johns, which will determine what we are to expect from the Canadians; and thus known, any future military operations in their Quarter may be regulated by it. But how to get there – all the Craft I am possessed of (and I have already bought or engaged all the Pittiaugers belonging to the Inhabitants here) will not carry at the utmost more than five Hundred & fifty Men, nor are any of the stores mentioned in a former Letter of mine as yet arrived here. It is probable from the Letter which I yesterday transmitted to you, that they have not yet left New-York; and without them I cannot proceed, even if I had Boats; for as my whole Stock of Powder will be less than 3 Tons, when that from Philada arrives, I must necessarily not fire a gun without certain Execution, and therefore want the entrenching Tools, which are Part of the Articles, to make the Approaches up to their very Ditch; and that cannot be done with the few Tools I have here. Altho you will perceive by the enclosed Return that my Stock of Provisions is very scant, yet I shall not be detained on that Acct as it may follow me.

I shall make all the Dispatch I possibly can, and move the Moment I am in a Condition for it. It appears to me highly necessary that more Powder shd be sent up; for even If I should be fortunate enough to succeed against St Johns with the little I have, it cannot be expected that much would be left. But if I should be under the disagreeable Necessity of retreating, the Want of it might be followed with the Loss of this Fortress and Command of the Lake. I am Sir [&c.]

Ph. Schuyler

[Endorsed] Read in Congress Sept 14th 1775

1. Papers CC, 153, I, 71, NA.
2. Continental Sloop *Enterprise*.

New York Journal, THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1775

New York, July 27.

Yesterday an express passed thro' this city on his way to the Congress at Philadelphia – we hear part of the advices he carried were, that Capt. [John] Darby, sent with provincial dispatches from Salem after the battle of Lexington, was returned there again from England, where he stayed 6 days. General

[Thomas] Gage's dispatch vessel had not arrived when he left England. – That a few days ago a party of provincials had burnt the Boston light house, having first secured the oyl found in it, taken up a number of stakes, placed to direct passing vessels, carried off a large flock of cattle and destroyed a considerable quantity of hay.

Extract of a Letter from Cambridge.

Capt. Darby arrived in England in 27 days from Salem. The accounts he carried of the battle, were published, Lord North was thunder struck at the sight – Lord Dartmouth sent for Capt. Darby, with impatience to see him, but he was advised not to put himself in their power. The people were much surprised at the account, the merchants distressed on account of their property . . . Capt. Darby's vessel plied on and off for him and never went into any harbour, nor was it known in what part of England he landed. Gen. Gages dispatch vessel sailed for England 4 days before Capt. Darby.

RIVINGTON'S *New York Gazetteer*, THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1775

New York, July 27.

On Tuesday last [July 25] arrived at Sandy Hook his Majesty's ship *Fowey*, Capt. George Montague.

JOHN DENNIS, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF OBSERVATION OF NEW BRUNSWICK, TO HENRY WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF NEW YORK ¹

Gentlemen,

City of New-Brunswick, July 27th 1775.

Your favour of the 21st instant came safe to hand, the contents of which was duly observed. Application was immediately made to Mr. Merrill, who says, about three weeks past a person coming from Egg Harbour, when within the hook, he saw a boat standing down our bay that he thought was loaded with flour, which boat he believes went alongside the man-of-war; this is all he ever heard or knows of the matter. Every other inquiry in our power has been made, but can make no further discovery. All intelligences or discoveries of every action inimical to American liberty, and every matter of instruction for our better preservation and protection, will ever be paid a due regard to, and cheerfully received by the committee of this city.

Assure yourselves, gentlemen, that this Committee has, and ever will be ready to render to their country every service in their power, and will continue to give a strict attention to, and duly observe all resolutions formed by the Continental Congress.

We are with esteem, Gentlemen, [&c.]

John Dennis, Chairman

1. *N.Y. Prov., Cong.*, II, 68.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Thursday, July 27, 1775

On motion, *Resolved*, That the sum of twenty five thousand dollars be paid by the continental treasurers to Reese Meredith, George Clymer, Samuel Meredith and Samuel Mifflin, Merchts of the city of Philada and that the like sum of twenty five thousand dollars be paid by the sd Treasurers to Philip Livingston, John Alsop and Francis Lewis, Merchts of New York, to be by them applied to the purpose of importing gunpowder for the continental armies, and that they be allowed out of the same five pr Cent: for their trouble and expences therein, that they keep all their proceedings as much as possible a secret from every other person but the Congress and the general of the continental forces for the time being; that they keep up a correspondence with the sd general, and make such dispositions of the powder they may import as he shall order.

[Endorsed] This most secret, not to be published

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 210, 211.

CAESAR RODNEY, A DELAWARE DELEGATE IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, TO
THOMAS RODNEY ¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia July 27th 1775

By a Veshel arrived about an hour ago, from Bristol, We have a London paper informing us of the Arrival of the Veshel that Went Express from the people of Boston to London Giving them an Accot of the Battle of Lexington – upon the Spreading of this News there, the Ministry (it seems) published in the papers that they had Recd no accounts from America by this many people were lead to discredit the accounts brought by the Massachusetts Express – However Arthur Lee (now an Alderman) publishes imediately in the papers that all those who doubted the truth of the News – Might Repair to the Mantion House, Where the Depositions taken relative to the Lexington Affair were deposited for their perusal and Satisfaction; When the Ship left Bristol the News was generally Credited, However She left there too Soon to know much of the Effect it had on that Side the Water – We Shall know more of this Matter before long, till When I am Convinced the Congress Will not Rise – Whether they may then or not I Cannot now pretend to Say – However I Do know that they are heartily Tired – and so am I Your [&c.]

Caesar Rodney

1. Rodney Papers, HSD.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 27 [1775]

Mr. Nathaniel Irish presented a Boat or Gondola for the inspection of this Committee.

Resolved, That Mr. Thomas Wharton return him the thanks of the Board, much commending his ingenuity and attention to the Public Safety.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 291.

JOHN ADAMS TO JAMES WARREN ¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia, July 27, 1775

There is another Quantity of Powder arrived in New Jersey, about 5000 Weight from So. Carolina. and it is said that another Boat has arrived in this River with about Six or Seven Tons. It will be ordered to the Generals Washington and Schuyler.

We have voted fifty Thousand Dollars for Powder to be got immediately – if possible.

1. *Warren-Adams Letters*, I, 93.

DIARY OF CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL ¹

[Philadelphia] 27 [July, 1775]. This day, was launched, up town, a [galley] as another of [the] same construction, was launched last week, down town, each of them to row with — oars, to carry — cannon, — men, and small arms.

1. William Duane, ed., *Extracts from the Diary of Christopher Marshall Kept in Philadelphia and Lancaster, During the American Revolution 1774–1781* (Albany, 1877), 33. Hereafter cited as Duane, ed., *Marshall's Diary*.

PEYTON RANDOLPH, PRESIDENT OF THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION, TO THE
MARYLAND CONVENTION ¹

Gent.

Richmond in Virga July 27, 1775

The Convention of Delegates for this Colony now sitting, have almost unanimously, come to the inclosed Resolution for stopping of the Exportation of all kinds of Provision after the 5th day of next month.²

At a Time when the most secret acts are practising to furnish our enemies with the means of protracting the unhappy Dispute with the Mother Country, the necessity of adopting this measure appeared so evident that this Colony have chearfully sacraficed a very considerable part of its property by agreeing to this Resolution.

I am directed to transmit the Resolution to you as early as possible, & have no doubt but you will as chearfully come to a similar one.

I am with great Respect [&c.]

Peyton Randolph
President of the Convention.

1. Browne, ed., *Arch. of Md.*, XI, 40.

2. See Resolution of July 24, 1775.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Tamer*, EDWARD THORNBROUGH
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775

In Rebellion Road So Carolina

[Thursday] 27 [A M] saw a Packet of[f] the Bar Little wind & hazey
P M sent the Lieut over the Bar on Board the Packet to receive
the Falmouth Male at 5 returned the Lieut with the Male in
Order to secure the Government Letters ²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/968.

2. *Ibid.* The *Eagle* packet, which sailed for Falmouth on August 22, 1775.

HENRY LAURENS, PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY, TO
CAPTAIN CLEMENT LEMPRIERE ¹

Dear Sir –

Charles Town 27th July 1775 – past midnight

Notwithstanding the inclosed Letter, or I Should Say the Letter in which this is inclosed, is Signed by order of the Council of Safety – I do not like it – it was written late in the Evening when Gentlemen seemed desirous of retiring to their Beds & disinclined to reconsider or even fully consider – I therefore, now they are all probably on their pillows, take the liberty of recommending & desiring, you will, in the first Instance, if you meet the Brig offer to purchase the Gun powder at Six or even Seven pounds Sterling P Ct & Muskets & Ball, if any, at prices in proportion & for the amount you may draw on me as President of the Council of Safety & depend upon it such draughts to the amount of Fifteen Hundred pounds Sterling if needful shall be paid, if the Council will not justify this act – I must for their & my own Sake so far this request of mine cannot work any contradiction to the Councils orders which must be obeyed if there is a necessity for it, in Case the Captain of the Brig. will not sell – if he will then certainly we shall be all much better pleased by a purchase than we shall be to obtain the articles by force & violence – I wish you success in all your enterprizes & beg you to add my Compliments & good wishes to the Gentlemen your Companions & I remain with great regard &c –

1. *South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, I, 66, 67.

JOURNAL KEPT ON BOARD THE SOUTH CAROLINA SLOOP *Commerce* BY CAPTAIN
JOHN HATTER, SAILING MASTER ¹

1775 Port Royal Creek

July 27 Fresh gales, with thunder squalls; and a great deal of lightning; weighed and sailed up Port Royal Creek, where we anchored.

1. "Hatter's Report," Drayton, *American Revolution*, I.

28 July

DAY & SCOTT TO WILLIAM SHIRREFF ¹

Copy/

Halifax July 28th 1775.

Sir It is extremely Mortifying that three Vessells have been ready to Sail for five Weeks, with Hay, and refreshments for the Army; and dare not go out least they might be taken, particularly as the Army are sickly and much in want of fresh Provisions, good Sir please to direct what we are to do, the Pirate has been seen in the Bay several times and their intentions are to destroy the provision Vessells,

We have repeatedly Applied to Captain [Edward] Meadows for a Convoy, which he cannot grant; twice we had Ordered the Vessells, to Sail, but as we could not Afford the loss ourselves, we have countermanded those Orders, and now wait your directions, we have made Engagements for About 1800 Tons of Hay, at various prices.

We are Sir &ca

(Signed) Day & Scott

1. Gage Papers, CL., enclosed in Gage to Graves, August 9, 1775. Shirreff was Deputy Quartermaster General of the British Army, Boston.

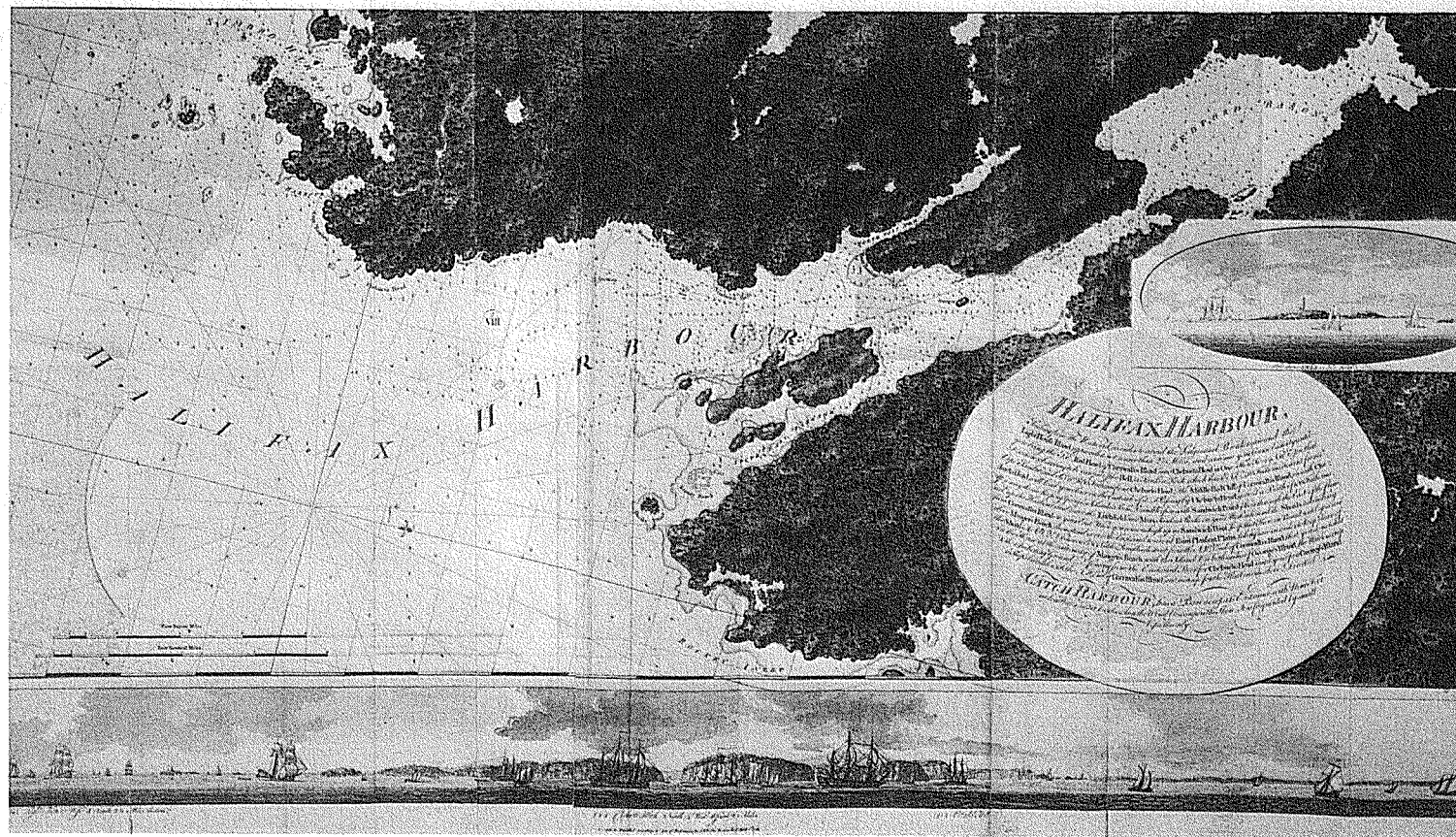
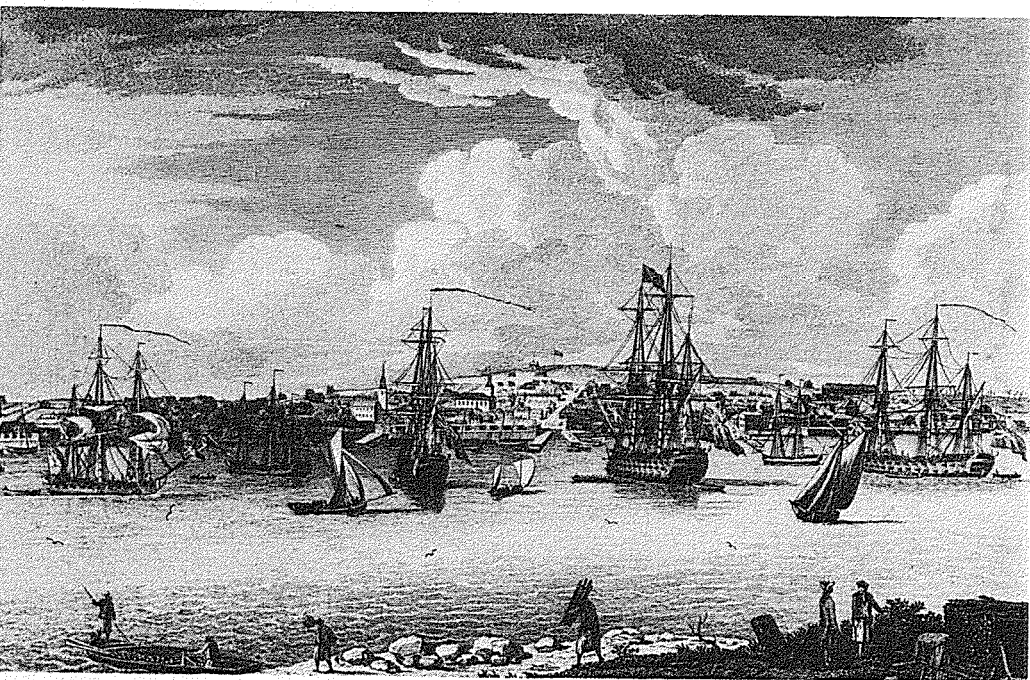
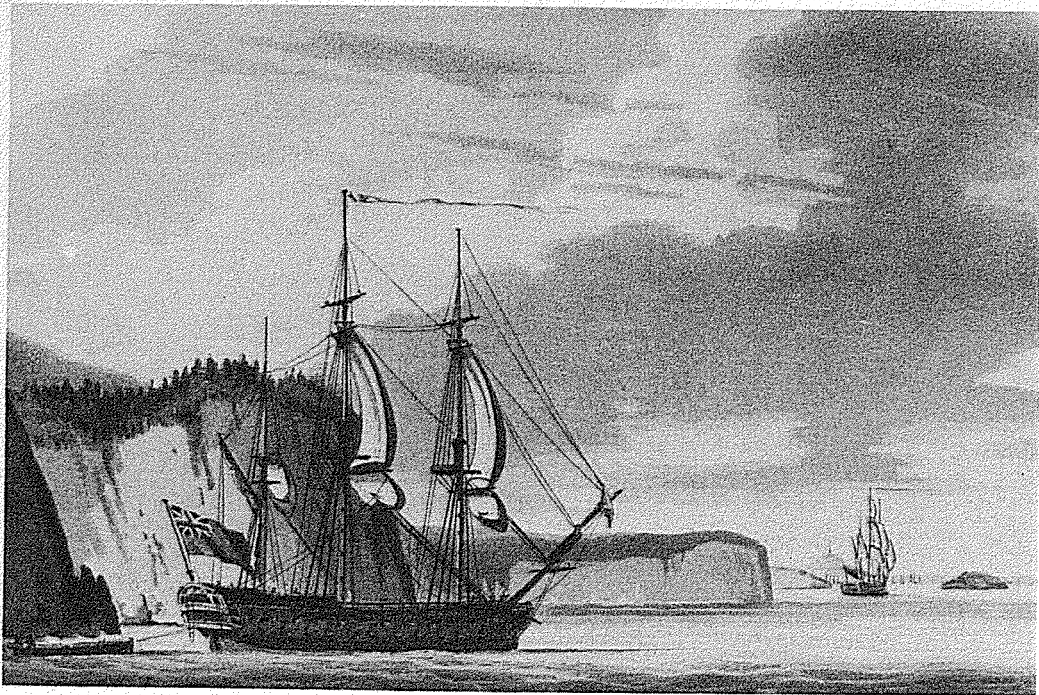


Chart of Halifax Harbor, Nova Scotia, and approaches, 1781.



(Top) Entrance to Halifax Harbor, 1803. (Bottom) Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1764.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ¹

[Watertown] Friday, July 28, 1775

A Petition of Eli Stiles, praying an allowance for his time and expense in bringing Prisoners from Machias, was read, and committed to the Standing Committee appointed to examine Accounts, &c.

Afternoon

The Secretary brought down from the honourable Board the following Message, signed by fifteen of the Council, which he read to the House, viz.

Council Chamber, July 28, 1775

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

We have taken into consideration the critical situation of the inhabitants of the eastern parts of this Colony, and think it expedient that some measures be speedily taken to prevent the enemies of the Country from plundering the said inhabitants of their cattle and sheep, &c., or in any wise of getting a supply there of these or any other articles; wherefore we recommend it to you, to make such an addition to the forces already raised and stationed in the County of Lincoln as you shall judge needful for that purpose, and to make suitable provision for their necessary supplies.

Ordered, That Dr. Church, Col. Bowers, Mr. Batchelder, Major Fuller, and Mr. Rawson, be a Committee to consider a Petition of Mrs. Apphia Jones, praying this Court to give directions for the appearance at this Court of her husband, confined a prisoner at Machias; ² or otherwise afford him such relief as this Court shall judge proper.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, III, 286, 288, from Mass. Arch.

2. Ichabod Jones.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

(Copy)

Boston July 28th 1775.

Sir/ I have the honor to transmit you Copys of two letters I have received from the Agents of the Transports. As times are become more critical than ever; and by Information both to you and myself, the Rebels have a Number of boats, with which they can mean us no good, I am to beg of you to make such a desposition of the Transports as may put them beyond danger from the Enemy and under the protection of his Majesty's Ships, I am likewise to beg you to consider the situation of the *Symmetry* and to take such measures as to make her servicable, and as soon as you are enabled to place some Ship of War in her Station that may do the duty effectually; when she may be removed,

I am with great Regard, Sir, &ca

1. Gage Papers, CL.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO PHILIP STEPHENS ¹

Sir,

Preston Boston July 28 1775.

By Letters lately from Halifax I find a terrible Fire had like to have happened in his Majesty's Yard at that place. It broke out in the Paint Cabin in the Boat house about 1/2 past 10 in the Night of the 8th instant. By timely assistance it was extinguished in less than half an hour; though not without alarming the Town. This is the second time within a twelve month.

The very next Morning after the Action at Lexington on the 19 of April I dispatched Orders to Captain [Edward] Medows of his Majesty's Ship *Tartar* (whom I had intended for the Gulph and River St Lawrence) to stay at Halifax for the protection of the Kings Yard and Stores That Ship has accordingly remained there, and every Intelligence from thence proves the necessity, not only for a well manned Ship, but a much greater Force for Security of that Magazine. I am informed that the Ordnance Store House wherein there is upwards of four thousand Stands of Arms, is situated entirely out of the reach of assistance from the Ships; and as a great many People from this Province (notoriously disaffected) have removed themselves to Halifax and other parts of Nova Scotia, there is reason to fear the worst actions from such an Influx of Rebels, where they can do much Mischief. However I hope the Vigilance of Captain Medows and the Officers of the *Tartar*, and those of the Yard, will baffle every secret attempt to destroy or injure it.

I expect the *Canceaux* Armed Ship and *Halifax* Schooner from thence every day, and I have also directed Lieutenant [John] Knight in the *Diligent* Schooner to leave the business of sounding for the present and come to Boston, having more pressing Service for him than what he is now employed on.

In this Harbour there is only the *Somerset*, *Boyne*, *Preston*, and *Lively*.

In consequence of an application from General [Thomas] Gage (a Copy of which is inclosed) I shall place either the *Falcon* or *Merlin*, when they arrive, in the *Symmetry's* Station; though if I had one it ought to be a stout Frigate.

Never were Ships more wanted than at present for various Services; In particular to seize every thing intended for the support of the Rebels or that may arrive and fall into their hands, and to remain and form a proper force in different parts of the Harbour.

The great number of Whale Boats collected here requires all possible Vigilance on our parts to prevent a Surprize, and necessarily occasions a great deal of Boat duty.

The want of fresh Provisions and the hot Weather begin to be felt in the Squadron, and Fluxes incapacitate numbers from doing their Duty, but as yet this Disorder is not fatal. I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 158-160, MassHS Transcript.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES¹

[Boston] 28 [July 1775]

By the Brig *John* bound to Virginia, the Admiral wrote to the Earl of Dunmore, Governor of that Colony to assure his Lordship that it would give him great satisfaction to be able to send him such a naval force as would effectually command the navigation not only of the great rivers but of the whole coast, but at present the King's Squadron in America was barely sufficient for the Northern Provinces and really would not admit of being lessened except on the most urgent occasions; that if government should think fit to enforce the laws, and compel the Americans to do what was right for themselves, his Majesty's fleet in these Seas must be considerably augmented, and he should then avail himself of his Lordship's hint respecting the great rivers, which empty themselves into the Bay of Chesepeak, by sending there what force could be spared, and that he should be happy at all times to receive any information from his Lordship for the good of the King's service, and was extremely concerned the weak state of the Squadron would not at present admit of his sending any more Ships to the Southward. The Admiral informed his Lordship that Captain [John] Macartney was sent to relieve Capt. [George] Montagu, heartily to cooperate in every measure for the Kings service and give every assistance in his power; and that, altho' there was little reason for such an expectation, the Admiral sincerely hoped the people under his Excellency's government might yet accept the terms his Majesty most graciously held out to them, before it was too late, return to their duty and thereby avert the miseries impending if they persisted in their present senseless and rebellious proceedings. The Admiral added that he presumed his Lordship was no stranger to the transactions of the rebels in this and the neighbouring provinces; that on our parts we were anxiously expecting arrivals, and the ultimate determination of Great Britain with respect to her colonies, now avowedly in arms and contending for absolute independence and empire.

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 160, 161, MassHS Transcript. The letter to Dunmore is in Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 464-466, MassHS Transcript, and contains nothing more than in the foregoing narrative.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Scorpion*, JOHN TOLLEMACHE,
COMMANDING¹

July 1775 latter [part] mode. and fair . . . at 6 A M hove in to $\frac{1}{3}$ of a Cable
Friday 28 Fir'd a Gun for a Pilot at 8 Weigh'd & came to Sail at 10 Came
 onbd a Pilot. P M Empd working into Nantasket Bay in Com-
 pany with His Maj. Ships *Merlin* & *Falcon*, at 8 Came to in Boston
 Harbour with the Bt Bower in 5 fam water, Veer'd to $\frac{1}{2}$ a Cable
 found riding here His Majs Ships the *Preston* Vice Adml [Samuel]
 Graves and *Sommerset* with a large Fleet of Transports.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/872.

Connecticut Gazette, THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1775

New London, July 28.

Yesterday some People were sent from the Men of War in this Harbour, who spiked up three Cannon which for some Years have lain on the western Point of the Harbour.

Thomas Allen's Marine List

On Tuesday 27th, 7 P.M. Arrived in this Harbour His Majesty's Ships of War the

Rose, commanded by

[James] Wallace,

Swan,

James Ayscough,

King Fisher,

[James] Montagu,

With a small Sloop, Tender.

27th. Meridian – The above now lay at Anchor in this Harbour.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, GOVERNOR OF CONNECTICUT, TO CHRISTOPHER
LEFFINGWELL, NORWICH ¹

Sir –

Lebanon 28th July 1775 –

I received your Letter of Yesterday respecting the Alarm occasioned by the Arrival of three Men of War at New London – In Answer to your Quere – must say – I think it prudent to keep up good Guards – with Injunctions to keep the strictest Look out – any Mischief to happen to the Flour – or *Molass[es]* at the *Land'g* – must be very unhappy – it is very probable *their* Design is partly to intercept any further Supplies of Flour by Water – 'tis probable I shall be in Norwich Tomorrow – when possibly some further Circumstances may more fully disclose their Views & Intentions – At Norwich, I shall be able to consult Part of my Council upon any Emergency – you'll please to communicate this Letter to Colo Jed: Huntington & who will be able to give the Necessary *Orders* for this Occasion, at least for present –

I am Sir [&c.]

Jonth Trumbull

1. Trumbull Papers, YUL.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Friday, July 28, 1775

The Congress being informed that a quantity of Gunpowder belonging to the Continent is arrived in some part of New Jersey,

Ordered, That the delegates of New Jersey do take care that the said powder be safely conveyed to Dobbs Ferry on the North River.

On motion made, *Ordered*, That the Colony of Virginia be supplied with one ton of gun powder from the next quantity arriving here, and that from the same supply Pennsylvania be repaid the powder heretofore borrowed by the Congress, if the same shall not be wanted by Genl Washington.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 212.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 28 [1775]

Agreeable to the 1st Resolve of the 18th July, Colo. [Daniel] Roberdeau deliver'd to this Board two Lists of Medicines from the Physicians of the Hospital.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 292.

WILLIAM REYNOLDS TO CAPTAIN GEORGE GOOSLEY, ANTIGUA ¹

Dr Sir

Virginia York July 28th 1775

I last meeting presented your order to Marree but was not fortunate enough to receive a shilling which was a very great disappointment to me as I am really distress'd for money to remit Mr Norton on our Exchange was settled at 15 P Ct. your order on Marree is £60.5 – & the freight of the 3 hhds Rum which I paid makes your debt to me £62.10 Curry which at the Exchange amounts to £54.7 – sterg before you can order payment here, every oppyt of writing to London will be at an end, therefore I shou'd be much obliged to you if you wou'd remitt a bill for that sum to Mr Norton & Sons. The Convention now sitting have determined to stop all Exports of Provision & Grain after the 5th day of next Month the reason of this sudden stoppage is owing to some of our Scotch Enemys who under the Cloak of clearing for the West Indies have supply'd [Thomas] Gage with provision. Our troubles increase here daily, I wish you much happiness in your married state & shall be glad to hear from you, by the return of Mr Archer. I begin to be a little uneasy about Lilly I have never heard from him since he left York which is near 10 weeks he was to go to your Island. I am [&c.]

1. William Reynolds Letter Book, LC.

PURDIE'S *Virginia Gazette*, FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1775

Williamsburg, July 28.

In consequence of information, that a sum of money, to the amount of 900 £ and upwards, had been carried off from the custom-house at Hampton, by some man of war's people, a party of the volunteers now in this city went and secured what publick money was in the receiver and auditor-general's offices, amounting to about 300 £ also about 1000 £ from the naval-office of the upper district of James river, and 300 £ 14 s. post-office money.

Detachments are likewise sent out to secure all monies in the hands of publick officers throughout the colony, for fear of its falling into the hands of our enemies.

Lord Dunmore's head-quarters are at present in the neighbourhood of Portsmouth, from whence he frequently makes friendly excursions over to Norfolk; and has now, we hear, got over all his [ill-grounded] ¹ fears of being assassinated. But his Lordship and capt. [John] Macartney, of the king's ship *Mercury*, are upon very indifferent terms, we are informed, and have lately had some smart altercation.

1. Brackets by the printer.

JOURNAL KEPT ON BOARD THE SOUTH CAROLINA SLOOP *Commerce* BY CAPTAIN
JOHN HATTER, SAILING MASTER ¹

1775 [Port Royal harbor]

July 28 It continued to blow hard with rain. We got through Port Royal Creek, and came to at the town; and landed our stores, in order to clean.

1. "Hatter's Report," Drayton, *American Revolution*, I.

29 July

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ¹

[Watertown] Saturday, July 29, 1775

Ordered, That a Message be sent to the honourable Board desiring the Board to send down the Petition from Deer-Island, the Petition from St. George's, and the Letter from the Rev. Mr. [John] Murray, relative to the distressing situation of the Eastern parts of the Colony.

Samuel Holten, Esq. brought them down accordingly.

Ordered, That Dr. Church, Colonel Orne, and Captain Batchelder, be a Committee to consider the Account of Richard Derby, Esq.

Ordered, That Captain John Derby's Account be committed to the Committee last mentioned.

The Committee on the Petition from Machias reported that the same lie on the table until an application be made from the Committee at Machias.

Afternoon

The Committee appointed to consider a Message from the honourable Board reported. Read and accepted.

Resolved, That Dr. Church, Mr. Woodbridge, and Mr. Sewall with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General Washington and inform him of the distressed situation of the inhabitants of the Eastern parts of this Colony, and know of him if he can, consistent with his instructions and the general service, order a detachment there, to prevent the enemy from ravaging the country, and plundering the inhabitants of their cattle, sheep, wood, &c., to supply themselves.

In Council, July 29, 1775: Read and concurred, and James Otis and William Sever, Esqrs. are joined.

The Committee attended the service, and reported, verbally, that his Excellency General Washington gave them for answer, that it was the expectation of the [Continental] Congress that each Colony should defend their own sea coast at their own proper expence.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, III, 289-292, from Mass. Arch.

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES TO PHILIP STEPHENS, SECRETARY OF THE
BRITISH ADMIRALTY ¹

Sir

Preston Boston 29 July 1775

His Majesty's Ship *Scorpion* commanded by Lieut. [John] Tollemache arrived last Night from Charles Town. In his way hither Mr Tollemache by

desire of Lord William Campbell touched at Cape Fear for Governor Martin's Dispatches.

I transmit Copies of [letters] I have received from the Governors of South and North Carolina to shew their Lordships how pressing they are for an additional number of ships and small Vessels to be stationed within their Governments. I inclose the Copy of a Letter from Sir James Wright Governor of Georgia. It gives me much satisfaction that as his Majesty's Service would not admit of my sending a Sloop to Savannah according to their Lordships Orders, the Kings Affairs in the Colony of Georgia have not suffered thereby.²

I shall be inexpressibly happy to have the Honor of their Lordship's particular Commands respecting the Rebellion on this Continent, and shall exert my utmost Endeavours to carry them into Execution in the best manner for his Majesty's Service, and to their Lordship's satisfaction.

In regard to the Application of his Majesty's Governors along the Continent, for Ships and Vessels of War, their Lordships I trust are fully apprized that it is entirely out of my power to comply with any part of their Requests, until Reinforcements arrive from England, and I am instructed concerning the measures Great Britain intends to pursue in consequence of the Revolt of her Colonies on this Continent.

Captains [Edward] Thornbrough and [Francis] Parry repeat their Representations, the former of the very bad condition the *Tamer* is in; and the latter that the *Cruizer* is in want of all kinds of Stores. I am satisfied they ought to be relieved, but at present I prefer their remaining a little longer, even as they are, rather than to leave the Coast totally without a Ship of War, assuring myself I shall very soon be enabled to send others in their Room.

The Store Ship from England was not arrived at Halifax the 13th instant.

The *Falcon* anchored at Nantasket last Night from a Cruize, and this morning I have ordered Captain [John] Linzee to convoy the *Russia Merchant* Transport (bound to England) twenty Leagues to the Eastward of Cape Cod. Lieut. Col. James of Artillery goes Passenger in this Transport and is charged with my Dispatches. I am &c.

Sam Graves

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 161-163, MassHS Transcript.

2. The letter, purporting to come from Sir James Wright, was the counterfeit one prepared by the South Carolina Committee of Safety, and dated June 27, 1775.

GENERAL THOMAS GAGE TO FRANCIS LEGGE, GOVERNOR OF NOVA SCOTIA¹

Sir

Boston 29th July 1775

I have received your letter of the 26th June, and observe the proper care you have taken to keep the Province under your Command of use to Government; I should Imagine if you could embody your Militia and have leave from home to pay them while upon Duty, the Province would be entirely secured. Several Officers will be sent to recruit to Newfoundland, who are ordered to send their Men to Halifax to be joined by those raised in your Province which I hope will amount to some considerable reinforcement to you.

The Admiral will soon send a ship to Quebec and I should be very glad at the same time to send in her 20 or 30 Ship Carpenters and as many Seamen.

It is not in my power to get them here, therefore I beg the favor of you, to procure them for me and to agree with them on the best terms you can, sending a careful person with them, with their Names and agreement to General [Guy] Carleton, and tell him it is by my desire you do it, the Ship will call in her way to Quebec for them —

The News from Quebec, we have heard and I hope the Admiral will Correct the Insolence of those Pirates —

I am with great Regard and Esteem Sr [&c.]

Thos Gage

1. Nova Scotia Papers, DAC.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Scorpion*, JOHN TOLLEMACHE,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Moor'd in Boston Harbr Castle William SE $\frac{1}{2}$ S Long
Saturdy 29 Wharfe WNW
latter part mode & fair. at 5 A M Saluted Adml [Samuel] Graves
with 13 Guns, Moor'd Ship with the Stream Anchor to the
Soward . . . at 10 Punish'd Jas. Ryan for Drunkeness First part
Fresh Gales and Clear

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/872.

NICHOLAS COOKE, DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF RHODE ISLAND, TO CAPTAINS JOHN
PAIN AND JOHN SANDS ¹

Gentlemen

Providence, July 29, 1775

We have authentick Intelligence that 2 Men of War and 11 Transports sailed from Boston the Beginning of this Week; and we have the highest Reason to think that they are intended to take Cattle Sheep &c from the several Islands and very probably from yours in Order to supply the Enemy in Boston where they already suffer greatly for Want of fresh Provisions. As it is of great Consequence to prevent their being supplied I recommend to you to procure the Town to be called together immediately to consult upon the proper Measures for Defence. I have sent you by this Opportunity 2 Quarter Casks of Powder together with some Lead and Flints to enable you to defend your own Property. And in Case you think an Aid of Men necessary let me know it forthwith & you may rely upon every Thing in my Power to afford you Assistance.

By Letters from Philadelphia we are assured that General [Guy] Carleton's Endeavours to prevail upon the French and Indians to take up Arms against us have proved ineffectual; as also have the Attempts made by the Tools of the Ministry to stir up the Indians upon the Frontiers of all the Colonies. I have the Pleasure also to inform you that the Colony of Georgia hath at length heartily joined the united Colonies & have chosen 5 Delegates to sit in General Congress who are expected daily at Philadelphia. The Inhabitants of Georgia have siezed 13,000 lb of Powder imported in Capt. [Richard] Maitland from England and supposed to be designed to supply the Indians

I am [&c.]

1. "Nicholas Cooke Correspondence," *AAS Proceedings*, New Series, XXXVI, 259, 260.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Swan*, JAMES AYSCOUGH, COMMANDING ¹

July 1775

New London Light House N W Distce 1 mile

Satdy 29th Saw a Brigg to the S E Comr. made the Signal to Chace Do made Sail set Steering Sails came up with the Chace fired a Gun Shotted and Brought her too found her to be from Hispaniola Bound to Rhode Island Put a Petty Officer on Board with two Men to see her Inn. In Company with His Majestys Ship *Rose* and *King Fisher*.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/960.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 29 [1775]

The Gentlemen of this Committee who went to View the River with some of the Committee of Gloucester County, Report:

That the Committee of said County were entirely satisfied with the propriety of fixing the frames opposite the upper end of Hog Island, in preference to Billingsport.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 294.

JOHN ADAMS TO JOSIAH QUINCY ¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia, July 29, 1775

We jointly lament the loss of a Quincy and a Warren, two characters as great in proportion to their age, as any I have known in America . . . ²

I have a great opinion of your knowledge and judgement from long experience, concerning the channels and islands in Boston harbour; but I confess your opinion that the harbour might be blocked up, and seamen and soldiers made prisoners at discretion, was too bold and enterprising for me, who am not very apt to startle at a daring proposal; but I believe I may safely promise you powder enough, in a little time, for any purpose whatever . . .

I hope, Sir, we shall never see a total stagnation of commerce for any length of time. Necessity will force open our ports; trade, if I mistake not, will be more free than usual. Your friend, Dr. [Benjamin] Franklin, to whom I read your letter, and who desires his kind compliments to you, has been employed in directing the construction of row-gallies for this City. The Committee of Safety for this Province have ordered twenty of them to be built; ³ some of them are finished. I have seen one of them; it has twelve oars on each side. They rowed up the river the first time, four miles in an hour against a tide which ran down four miles an hour. The Congress have recommended to the Colonies to make provision for the defence of their navigation, in their harbours, rivers, and on their sea coasts.⁴ Of a floating battery I have no idea – am glad you are contriving one.

1. John Adams, *The Works of John Adams*, IX, 360, 361. Hereafter cited as Adams, *John Adams*.

2. See Quincy's letter to Adams of July 11, 1775.

3. The Committee of Safety ordered twelve galleys; not twenty. Thirteen were finally built.

4. Resolution of Tuesday, July 18, 1775.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, DATED 29TH JULY, 1775"¹

I have a Letter from London, dated May 31, (by the Ship *Rebecca*, Capt. [John] Hazelwood, who sailed the first June) says, "You will find by the Papers, that we have received an Account from Salem, of the Defeat of Col. [Francis] Smith, and the precipitate Retreat of Lord [Hugh] Percy. — This Intelligence, so contrary to the Expectation of Government, who had daily announced the Americans Cowards, has panic struck Administration, and their Tory dependents, and has established the *Spirits* of the Sons of America, in this Metropolis, and the Friends to Freedom, in the most exalted Manner. It is impossible to describe the Shame and Vexation which are visible in the Countenances of North and his tyrannical Abettors; they are constrained to acknowledge the Regulars were the Aggressors, and equally forced to admit the Intrepidity of the Americans: But what alarms them most, they expect every Hour to hear General [Thomas] Gage's Army is cut off, or meanly sheltering themselves in the Castle, or on board the Men of War. In the mean Time Stocks here have a Shock, and the People denounce Vengeance against [Lords John Stuart] Bute, [William Murray] Mansfield, [Frederick] North, [John Montagu] Sandwich, and their ignominious Adherents; I impatiently wait the next Intelligence."

1. *New York Gazette*, August 7, 1775.

"COPY OF A LETTER TO MR. [PHILIP] STEPHENS, SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY,
DATED AT PHILADELPHIA THE 29TH OF JULY 1775"¹

[Extract]

. . . they continue building Row Boats some of them I have seen whose dimensions are 64 feet in length & 14 beam, they have order'd 52, of which there are several now afloat with one 24 pounder in the Stern Sheets, Swivels on the Sides & Musquets for the Rowers; when a competent number is compleated they intend making an Attack on His Majts sloop *Nautilus* which arrived in this River last week, of this Intention I apprised Capt [George] Vandeput of the *Asia* by Letter of this date, & one Doctr Drommond of the Customs found means to give Capt [John] Collins timely Intelligence . . . Some 14 Tons of Gunpowder have been landed in this River, & this morning I have seen it sent away in six Waggon (escorted by two Companies of Light Infantry) to the Rebel Army before Boston.

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/122, 14b, LC Transcript.

GEORGE GILMER TO THOMAS JEFFERSON, A VIRGINIA DELEGATE IN THE
CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Extract]

[Waller's Grove, Virginia July 29, 1775]

It appears astonishing to me that some armed Vessel has not attempted to bring in powder &c. It certainly is practicable and wants proper encouragement only to put it in execution in order some of those Privateers to all the islands, to Holland, Spain give them positive instructions to bring powder, a high premium must ensue . . . I began to think we should have a campaign without action, but proposed laying hands on all his Majestie's money immediately, which proposal was readily agreed to, in which the officers waited on the proper officers —

in some Cases swore the officer most solemnly not to disburse what might be on hand, on pain of Confiscation of their whole Estate and being treated as a Traitor to the Cause. Unhappily that this, tho' all along necessary, should have been spared till almost all the money was shipped to Boston by order of the Board there; 1200 Dollars went from Jaquelin Ambler this month; large sums from other Collectors in bills &c. We collected £900 from L. Burwell; have sent detachments to wait on Corbin, &c., with positive orders for him to deliver up all his Majistie's Cash or bind his whole estate as security for his not disbursing, remitting or otherwise using one Copper, and on refusing to comply he is ordered to appear in our encampment, We have sent an Express to the Convention to sanctify our proceedings.

1. Gilmer Collection, VHS. The date approximated through other documents.

"COPY OF A LETTER FROM ROBERT SHEDDON TO JOHN GOODRICH DATED PORTSMOUTH [VIRGINIA] SUNDAY 8 O'CLOCK [29 JULY, 1775]"¹

Sir Johnie came up yesterday, and Set off about 2 O'Clock this Morning for Nansemond — ^a T. Hs. Boat could not find the way in, and got safe up here — Johnie hired a Vessel, which would Sail this day — Morris would be in time to prevent any other Vessel, returning except the *long Splice* with Salt from Turks Island, which is much wanted — Johnie has placed Several Boats for to look out ² — I have not heard from Nansemond Since Billie ³ went up, but no doubt the business is done — J. Webb set off[f] to Secure the papers &c and to push the Sloop out — The ^b F. must now be at Sea 10 or 11 Days — Bartlates Letters is not yet come to hand ⁴ — The Sloop Sailed this day fortnight and has a considerable Value in Course Linens a Board which Billie seemed resolute to have Secured, I beg't him to get ^c W. Cr to undertake it and not be seen himself in ^d S—— as it might be a Means of discovering what Course to Stear — receive your Shirt &c by Jupiter who goes to Conduct Greenock and Luckie — I wish you may be so luckie as to get a Sight of the F—— to Secure her and the letters a Shore to dessapoint the many Malicious Enemy's you have, who have made themselves bussie for your destruction — Every thing remains quite here at present, take care of yourself which is the only uneasiness we have now.—

I am Sir [&c.]

Robert Sheddon

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| a. Thos Harbarts Boat | c. Willis Cooper |
| b. The <i>Fanny</i> coming from St Eustatia | d. Suffolk |

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/1353, 699–701, LC Transcript.

2. Probably John Goodrich, Jr.

3. William Goodrich.

4. Bartlett Goodrich.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Otter*, MATTHEW SQUIRE, COMMANDING¹

Saturday 29 Elizabeth River [Virginia]

July 1775 A M sent the Mate & 11 Men on board the *Arundel* Schooner to go on particular service under the direction of his Excellency Lord Dunmore

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/663.

DIXON AND HUNTER'S *Virginia Gazette*, JULY 29, 1775

Williamsburg, July 29.

Information having been received, that a man of war's people carried off a sum of money from the custom-house at Hampton, amounting to upwards of 900 £. a party of volunteers in this city went and secured the following sums of public money, viz. 350 £. in the Receiver and Auditor General's offices; 314 £. 14 s. post office money and about 1000 £. in the naval-office of the upper district of James river.

DANIEL DESAUSSURE TO HENRY LAURENS, PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

Sir

Beaufort 29th July 1775

I Received your favour P the Express Adinger and in Compliance with your order, I delivered the Letter to Capt [Clement] Lampriere (who arrived here yesterday) he is busied in getting the Vessel Ready, which prevents his writing, but he has Requested me to acquaint you that he will Comply with the order you sent him – and hopes to get away tomorrow: – I shall dispatch the Letter for Savannah today, and Inclose it to Joseph Clay & Joseph Habersham Esqrs in case one should be absent, the other may deliver it without Loss of time I beg leave to assure you that I shall be particularly pleased whenever the Council of Safety shall lay their Commands on me for the Countrys Service & shall endeavour to execute them the best in my power.

I am much obliged to you for the Information of the arrivals from Urope. I am with Esteem Sir [&c.]

D. DeSaussure

1. *South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, I, 67, 68.

LORD WILLIAM CAMPBELL, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO
GENERAL THOMAS GAGE ¹

[Extract]

Charles Town 29th July 1775

Sir – I did myself the honor of writing to Your Excellency by Capt [John] Tollemache, when I mention'd the very deplorable State in which I found this Province. Since the departure of the *Scorpion* they have proceeded to fresh Acts of Violence, & all legal Government is now at an end. Georgia has also been persuaded to join the other Provinces, owing in a great measure to the power, & influence of the people here, & the defenceless state in which it is left; so that it is a matter of doubt to me, whither Sir Jas Wright, Governor [Josiah] Martin, or myself, is in the worst situation, as our Provinces are in the same state, & we seem equally abandon'd by the whole world. We have recd Acts for restraining Trade, but as we cannot enforce them they are just so much waste paper. – The only Sloop of War ² we have here I must be under a necessity of sending out with the Packet for England, to see her safely clear of the Coast, as there are two Armed Vessels one of them fitted out in this Harbour now waiting to seize the Mail with my Dispatches to Government.

I very sincerely congratulate Your Excellency on the Success of His Majys Troops on Bunkers Hill which I am just informed of by Mr Logie, I wish your Excellency had enabled me to publish a particular Account of that affair, as the

infamous falsehoods which are circulated with great industry over this part of the Continent does more mischief than I can express. Lady William joins me in best wishes to Your Excellency & Mrs Gage. I have the Honor to be with much regard, Sir, [&c.]

William Campbell

N.B. Many of the Inhabitants of the back part of this Country are well inclined to Government, & would I am convinced step out on the present Occasion, had they encouragement & support; but I have the mortification of seeing myself unable even to protect my own family from insult. . . .

1. Gage Papers, CL.

2. H.M. Sloop *Tamer*, Captain Edward Thornbrough.

CAPTAIN EDWARD THORNBROUGH, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES ¹

Sir *Tamer*, Rebellion Road [South Carolina] 29 July 1775

I received yours of May 21st sent me by Captain [George] Montagu and your Orders and Acts of Parliament by Mr Logie, and am sorry to acquaint you that this place is now in an actual State of Rebellion; they are forming three Regiments and have made one Million pounds of Paper money to pay them with, and have compelled all the Inhabitants to sign an Association; the Friends to the King have been obliged to sign it by their threatening them with Tar and Feathers, and then oblige them to leave the Province. The Committee have the last Week summoned all the King's Officers not excepting the Governors private Secretary to appear before them, which they have done, but the result is not yet transpired but it is supposed they will be ordered to leave the Province in such a Number of Days as they shall direct. The *Sandwich* Packet arrived from England the 2d. inst and as soon as the Mail was delivered at the Post Office, the Committee came and seized all Government Letters for the different Governors of the Southern Provinces, Kept them till the next day and after reading them sent them back; two days after they intercepted the Georgia Mail. On the 27 instant the *Eagle* Packet arrived but I sent my Boat to the Bar and secured the Mail, when the Governor and Post master came on board the *Tamer* at 12 o'Clock at Night to open it to secure the Government Dispatches. I have the Mail intended for England on board and by the Governors desire am going to Sea with the *Sandwich* Packet to see her ten leagues from the Coast and then deliver it to her, and return into Port as soon as possible again. I inclosed you the State and Condition of his Majesty's Sloop under my Command by Captain [John] Tollemache giving you an Account of her Defects, her Sheathing is dropping off forward and as the Worms bite so much am fearful that her Plank will be soon eat thro' as my Anchor Stocks are all eat to a honey Comb, and a foot of the Ends dropped off although it is not a month since summoned last. The 12th Inst the *Penscola* Paquet run aboard me and carried away the fore yard but have purchased another unknown to the Committee which I am to give Bills on the Navy Board for. As to my Sails I have but one suit that can be depended on, most other Stores I am short of, as when I came from Halifax they would not supply me, the builder saying I must be

sent home to be repaired. I here inclose the State and Condition of his Majesty's Sloop under my Command and am Sir &c.

Edw^d Thornborough

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 466-468, MassHS Transcript.

JOURNAL KEPT ON BOARD THE SOUTH CAROLINA SLOOP *Commerce* BY CAPTAIN
JOHN HATTER, SAILING MASTER ¹

1775 [Port Royal harbor]

July 29 We hauled on shore, and cleaned; and in the evening hauled her off again.

1. "Hatter's Report," Drayton, *American Revolution*, I.

30 July (Sunday)

COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE AND INSPECTION OF BRISTOL TO THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT ¹

Bristol July 30th 1775

To your Hounours the Counsel and house of Representatives for the provance of the Masschutes Bay in New ingland

Gentlemen. We of the Committee of the Town of Bristol in the County of Lincoln have taken into Care the Sloop *Sally* belonging to Mrss Isaac and John Winslows of Boston Comanded by Andrew Johnston the afore said sloop is Now halled up and secured by us at a place Called Meduncook those Winslows according to our Nearest inspection is found to be an Enemys to the Rights of Amarice therefore we beg your Hounours instructions how we shall Prosceed - So Remain [&c.]

William Martin William m^cClain
Committee of Correspondence Inspection

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 180, 116.

J. P-KE TO CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE, H.M.S. *Rose*, NEWPORT ¹

Sir, Though I have not the misfortune of personally knowing you, yet I am perfectly acquainted with your character, which is obnoxious to common fame. Were you actuated in your present proceedings from principles misinformed, it would be the duty of every discerning man to point out your error, and rectify your mistake - but when frequent remonstrances are of no effect and repeated acts of violence mark with infamy your conduct, I am induced to think you are actuated by no principle but the love of rapine. Your late insolent reply to Governor [Nicholas] Cooke's letter proves at once your ignorance, pride and contempt of all laws; and convinces every man, that you are a person capable of the worst of purposes, and ready for any dirty service, that your despotic masters, the British ministry, are pleased to impose on you. At the same time, while you are bestowing the epithets of *rebel* and *traitor* upon the good people of these colonies, you are acting the hardy pirate under *royal colours*. Can any thing be more inconsistent for a monarch, who reigns only for the happiness of his people, to send out his hireling servants to rob and pillage the substance of the most deserving of his subjects; whose only crime (if I may use the term) is an enthusiastic regard to the common rights of mankind in general, and the original British constitution in particular! But I fear I condescend too much, to reason with you, Sir, who

have no ideas of your own, and at best are but a living machine in the hand of power, notwithstanding your many acts of villany – In some small degree, I think you are pardonable, when we consider that your understanding naturally confined, is blinded by avarice and a love of self, which destroys every other consideration, and render you incapable of judging between right and wrong. The rule of your conduct is implicitly to obey the commands of your masters, be they ever so arbitrary and unjust. Follow, therefore, the bent of your own inclinations, and enrich yourself by the plunder of those, to whose independent souls you must appear an object truly contemptible. Your reign will soon have a period, an infamous period; your floating prisons will no longer be an asylum to screen you from the vengeance of an injured, insulted people, whose armies now encircle your miserable handful of hireling troops within the town of Boston, and will in process of time cleanse our seas of those pilfering nests of royal pirates, that now infest our shores and disturb our tranquillity. Remember the fate of the *Gaspee* schooner, and tremble for your safety; for those same people who devoted her to destruction, at the hazard of their lives, will again, when urged by repeated oppressions and aggravated insults, drag you like a felon from your armed den, devoted to the most exemplary punishment, though not adequate to your crimes. I would remonstrate with you like a friend on the infamy of your proceedings and endeavour to reclaim you to honesty (if you ever was possessed of it) by government. – But I believe you to be a wretch incapable of reason, in whose callous breast one sentiment of honour or humanity never entered.

I would willingly entertain a better opinion of those two gentlemen who are employed in the same infamous service. Captain [James] Ayscough appears to be a man of moderation, from which I would infer, that he may be a person endowed with some good qualities, if not corrupted by your bad examples. But as they are companions of yours, there is little room left to doubt their approbation of your conduct. Candour itself cannot screen them from the imputation of your guilt; and, like the honest countryman, they may be hanged for associating with thieves. It would be a folly next to infatuation to attempt to argue the point, upon the English constitution, or the natural rights derived from that constitution, &c. guaranteed to us by charters indefeasible, or to prostitute the divine powers of the soul to the investigation of your niggard understanding. Besides, I would not even now condescend to notice you, if it was not for the same reason that we punish an assassin *to prevent his future indeterminate attacks*. Not to detain you, Sir, I would recommend a speedy reformation to you, to restore the effects you have stolen from the inhabitants of Newport and Providence, and to reimburse the Colonies for all the robberies and depredations you have feloniously committed upon them, together with your smock faced colleague, who I hear has heartily coincided with your measures; I say, I would recommend those steps to you, not from a conviction of justice, for I believe your conscience is already seared against reflexion – but, from the same motive that actuates a common thief, I mean the fear of punishment, which will undoubtedly overtake you in the end, though perhaps not so soon, as every honest American wishes, or your deserts require.

J. P—KE, Volunteer in the American Army

Camp at Cambridge, July 30, 1775.

1. *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, Supplement, August 24, 1775.

NARRATIVE OF MIDSHIPMAN CHRISTOPHER HELE, R.N.¹

The Midshipman's Account. 30 July 1775

On the 30 July Lieutt Colthurst and myself having remained up till day light and the Marines the whole time under Arms, and Centinels placed at different parts of the Island, thought we might with safety rest a few hours, but to our great surprize about half past Gun firing in the Morning was by the Sergeant alarmed saying "the Whale Boats are coming" Lieutt. Colthurst and myself having laid down in our Cloaths repaired with the greatest Expedition to the Guard Room and ordered the Marines immediately to the Place where we imagined the Rebels intended to Land, who we found within Pistol Shot of the Rocks to the Number of 33 boats each Boat containing about 13 men. The Marines were drawn up, tho' not without great Confusion, perceiving many of them in liquor and totally unfit for Service; Notwithstanding I will venture to affirm every precaution was used to prevent it by frequently examining them and cautioning the Carpenters against bringing Liquor on pain of their being sent Prisoners to Boston, tho' I am of opinion it could be conveyed to them by no other means. Several of the Marines were perceived to be in Liquor in the Night and two Centinels relieved and confined for that fault. The Marines without Orders fired a number of Musquets at the Boats, then laying on their Oars; Lieutt Colthurst then advised with me what was most proper to be done observing there was a much greater force than was possible for us to defeat, I replied as the Whale Boats were laying on their Oars and appearing to consult how they should act; by continuing the fire they might probably retreat, which Words I had scarcely uttered when the Rebels cheered divided and proceeded to land on different parts of the Island. Lieutt Colthurst was then of opinion that by retreating to the House we might defend ourselves till assistance came from the Ships but recalled his Proposals giving for reason that as the House was defended within only the Rebels would set it on fire which if I may presume to give [my opinion] was highly probable, as the Rebels after getting within a few Yards of it would have received no hurt from our fire it being impossible to bring any Musquets to bear on them, and there being many Openings in the lower part of the House which they might with great Ease have set fire to. He therefore judged it expedient for us all to retreat on board a Schooner than laying in the Mole afloat; which finding him resolved on doing and many of the Rebels being landed[,] with his Approbation I told him I would repair to the long Boat which lay at a small distance from the Mole and use my Endeavours to cover the Marines in the Embarking; which he consented to I proceeded to the Wharf jumped overboard and waded to a Canoe by which means gained the long Boat, got under weigh and used my Endeavours to cover their Retreat. The Schooner in easting grounded which being observed by the Rebels, who having set the Houses on fire, immediately boarded and took them all Prisoners. As I could be of no further Assistance I judged it necessary for the safety of the Men and Boat, the Whale Boats then pursuing me, to retreat towards the *Lively*, which I could not effect without difficulty being obliged to turn against Tide. I cannot pretend to say what Number of Men were Killed or wounded, nor did I see any fall except Mr. Coulthurst on the Wharf getting his men on board the Schooner. Neither can

I pretend to say what part of the Pilot and Carpenters took as Mr Coulthurst gave Orders to the Centinel at the House that if we should be attacked not to suffer any of them to come out, nor did I see any of them out except one who escaped with me in the Long boat. Centinels to the Number of seven were placed every Night and all the rest of the Men accouter'd in the Guard Room.

Christopher Hele

1. Graves's Conduct, Appendix, 468-470, MassHS Transcript.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Scorpion*, JOHN TOLLEMACHE,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Moored in Boston Harbr; Castle William SE $\frac{1}{2}$ S Long
Sunday 30 Wharfe WNW
middle Mode & latter [part] fresh breezes & fair sent on shore the
Empty Water Casks Recd. Water Watering, at 8 sent a Boat with a
party of Men, Man'd & Arm'd on a Secret Expedition.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/872.

"REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*" ¹

July 1775 [In Narragansett Bay]
Sunday 30 10 A M weighed and came to Sail at 2 P M Steering up Naraganset
passage, saw 3 Rebel Privateers Sloops set Steering Sails and gave
Chace at 4 run on Shore on the middle bank, the No end of patience
carried out the Stream Anchor and Cable at 5 hove the ship in
heaving off parted the stream Cable about 40 fm from the Anchor,
at 8 came to, in 6 fm Muddy bottom Hogg Island S E B E.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.

JOURNAL KEPT ON BOARD THE CONTINENTAL SCHOONER *Liberty* ¹

Crown Point Sunday July the 30th Anno 1775 weighed Anchor & proceeded down the Lake Champlain at 4.P.M. saw a Boat under Sail, brought her to by the fire of a Gun, which proved to be Esqr Gillilands Boat; on Board of the Boat I found a Man that came from St Johns with a Pass to pass & repass up and down the lake from Major [Charles] Preston Commander in Chief at St Johns & by Mr. Gillilands Information found there was another Man on shore that had a Pass from General [Guy] Carleton & by an Express was sent to St Johns as a Cooper in his Majesty's Service. By examining them asunder I found their Stories to disagree so much that I sent them to Your Honor to examine. John Shatford says there is but 8 or ten Guns at St Johns; the other says seventy or Eighty, the former says they are haul'd by his own Door. Esqr Gilliland desired me to take particular Care of the latter viz. John Duguid as he said he was not sure but he was a Tory, I kept him on Board all Night, at 7.A.M. I sent them to Crown Point under Guard of three Men, Immediately weighed Anchor & proceeded to wards the Isle of Mott

1. Papers CC, 153, I, NA.

"COPY OF A LETTER TO MR [PHILIP] STEPHENS, SECRETARY OF THE
ADMIRALTY DATED AT PHILADELPHIA JULY 30, 1775"¹

[Extract]

. . . this Morning a Party of Light Infantry went to a place called Darby within 8 Miles of this Town & about 10 oClock brought 5 Tons of Gunpowder which was landed down the River out of a Pilot Boat that came from Eustacia, twenty more are there taking in Powder it now has become a brisk Trade the Congress give great encouragement to any that will run the risque . . . I fear I shall not be able to send any Intelligence in future as all the Ports of America is to be shut by order of Congress & Trade stop'd at or upon the first of Septemr next, yet they have invited the French, Dutch & Danes, inhabiting the West Indies, to send the Produce of their Islands in their own Bottoms, & they should have the produce of this Country in Barter, at same time desire they may have Convoys from their respective Nations, this is looked on as a Noble Scheme to engage England in a War. — What I have wrote & my Intention is to shew their Lordships that a Sloop of War is not sufficient to prevent the Smuggling of Warlike Stores into this River, it is very long & has many Creeks where those Pilot Boats go into & discharge their Cargoes of Gunpowder, if their Lordships pleased to order two or three Cruizers off the Capes of Virginia Delawar & to the Soward of Long Island, I make no doubt but many of these small Vessels may be taken. — A Schooner came in here a few days ago which brought Powder stowed under Molasses, when she came up she hoisted French Jack, Ensign & Pendant, I have lived here these five years past & never saw so many French Men in the time as are here now . . . Two 40 Gun Ships to come up to this Town would oblige them to supply Provisions for the use of the Army & Navy at Boston.

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 5/122, 14b, LC Transcript.

JOURNAL KEPT ON BOARD THE SOUTH CAROLINA SLOOP *Commerce*
BY CAPTAIN JOHN HATTER, SAILING MASTER¹

1775 [Port Royal harbor]

July 30 Took on board our stores, and got ready to sail; fell down the river a little.

1. "Hatter's Report," Drayton, *American Revolution*, I.

31 July

FRANCIS LEGGE, GOVERNOR OF NOVA SCOTIA, TO LORD DARTMOUTH¹

[Extract]

Halifax July 31st 1775.

My Lord, In my letter No 41 of the 27 June last, I acquainted your Lordship, That the people at Mechias, a place about twenty Miles West of this Province, had taken Arms and Attack'd, and Seizd one of the Armd Schooners, inclosed you have a deposition of a person, who was present, and gives an Account of their fitting out a Sloop to cruise for the Vessels bound from this Province, with a supply of Caule and Hay for the Troops at Boston.² by a person belonging to this Province, who has been since there, I am informd, That the provincial congress of the Massachusetts have empowered the People of Mechias, and others

in the Neighbourd, whose Numbers are about seven or eight hundred to Act against His Majestys Troops, and a Vessel in Consequence thereof has Sailed, he further informs me they were making inquiry about the Strength of the Forts at Annapolis and St Johns River, from whence I conjecturd they were meditating a design against this Province; I must beg leave to lay before your Lordship, the State of that part of the Province, to whom the Mechias people are near borderers, Our Inhabitants of Passamaquody and St Johns River, are wholly from New England, as are the greatest part of the Inhabitants of Annapolis River, and those of the Townships of Cornwallis, Horton, Falmouth, and Newport, some of which are not Forty Miles from this Town. That by reason of their connections with the people of New England little or no dependance can be plac'd on the Militia there, to make any Resistance against them, That many in this Town are disaffected, and whom likewise I can have no great dependance That should such an Attempt be made I shoud dread the Consequence, to convince your Lordship how alarming our Situation, is it was no sooner known that a Quantity of Hay was purchas'd, for the Horse in Boston than a Stack of eight or Ten Tons which happend to be in an open Field, was maliciously set on Fire and destroy'd, That, since that, the Buildings in the Navy Yard have been set on Fire, but timely discoverd and extinguish'd; and from the place it happen'd at, where no fire is ever carried, and near the magazine of Powder, it is certain, without all doubt a malicious design to destroy that Yard, the Perpetrators have not yet been discover'd.

The Exigencies at present have requird almost all the Kings Troops from hence, there remains here only thirty six Effective Men, as p the Return inclos'd; I have order'd these to do duty near the magazine for its protection, and at the Ordnance Store, not leaving myself a Centry, I have also order'd about thirty of the Militia to do duty at Night, and Patrole all the Streets. I have issued my Proclamations empowering the Magistrates throughout the Province, to preserve Peace and good order, to take Care that all persons coming into this Province, shoud be carefully examin'd, and cause them to take the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and to Apprehend any person who shall be otherwise than Loyally Affected, or shall endeavour to Stir up, or make any disturbance.

I beg leave further to observe to your Lordship, That the Colonies are to a Man prepossess'd with great prejudice against this Province, they will not permit a Vessel to Sail from the Continent with any Kind of Provisions for our Relief, which will Straiten us beyond the hopes of redress, unless we can get a Supply from Quebec, it is only Bread [and] Corn that will be wanting The Country and Seas will produce other Food sufficient. . . .

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

Fran^s Legge

1. Nova Scotia Papers, DAC.

2. See Deposition of Thomas Flinn, July 10, 1775.

SAMUEL BAYLEY AND MOSES BROWN TO CAPTAIN MICHAEL CORBITT ¹

Sir

Newbury Port July 31, 1775

You being Master of Our Brig *Unity* and all Things necessary for Sea being on Board Our Orders are that you proceed with the first fair Wind from hence to

Sea, and make the most prudent Dispatch to some English Island in the West Indies and at such Port or Ports in any of them as you judge best sell your Cargoe on Board after which equip your Vessel for the Force Trade and taking your Cash and any other Things you judge may answer best proceed to Porto Rico or some other Spanish Place & there invest the neat Proceeds of your whole in such Articles as answer at the Curacoa Market or in Holland, to either of which Places you are to go and there dispose of your Cargoe you may have thus procured. If at Curacoa you are to take your Cash and go to some English Island and clear out in Ballast for home as no Produce can be bro't agreeable to [Continental] Association – If you go to Holland and there sell your Wood and other Things you get at Porto Rico you are to endeavour a Freight to England or otherwise proceed to London, in Ballast – Where your Vessell is to be absolutely sold unless Matters are accomodated – You are to apply to Messrs. Champion, Dickason & Co. on your Arrival for Advice, & proceed accordingly. – But should there be no Prospect of improving your Money in the forced Trade, which is our Design in the Voyage, you are to endeavour to secure a Freight to any Port of Europe, remitting your Cash to the abovesaid House in London for our Account as well as your Freight Money, reserving enough to buy you a Load of Salt with which go to N F Land and there sell the Vessell, making the best of your Way home, & paying your People off – But if you can do neither of these Things you are to remit your Money as aforesaid & proceed home in Ballast Your Signals when you return to be Blue Burgee under your Jack at F T Q M Head & Ensign under your Pendant at M T Q. Mast head – Keep us advised pr. all Opportunities – Avoid speaking any Vessels as you may loose some of your Hands. For your Encouragement We agree to allow you Three Pounds six shillings & 8d p Month – The Privilege of Eight Hogsheads out Freight free – Three pr Cent on the Sales of your Cargoe & 3 pr Cent on any Remittance except Cash – Also customary Priviledges & Commissions on the Forced Trade or Freight.

Samuel Bayley

Moses Brown

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 208, 271. These orders, as was subsequently disclosed, were sham ones.

JOHN CALEF TO THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL ASSEMBLY¹

To the Honourable General Assembly for the Colony of Massachusetts Bay now sitting at Watertown July 1775

The Memorial of John Calef, of Ipswich in sd Colony Shews

That your Memorialist hath built a Ship which he designs for the West Indies, and may be ready to Sail in a few days; But the troubles in which this country is involved are such as forbid your Memorialist sending away the Ship without permission from this Court, Your Memorialist begs leave to inform your Honors the said Ship now lyes at Danvers exposed to the Season & lyable to many Casualtys where she now is likewise that he is at great expence in supporting the Officers of the Ship in wages and Provisions.

Therefore your Memorialist humbly Pray this Honble Court will grant him leave to send said Ship to Penobscott to lade with Lumber, & proceed from thence to West Indies

Your Memorialist will bind himself with Sufficient Surety that said Ship shall return from the West Indies to this Colony so soon as she can have her outstanding Cargo Sold, & relade with Commodity for this Market, (the Danger of the Seas excepted) or that she shall return within proper time limited by this Court

And as in Duty bound shall pray

John Calef

[Endorsed] Mr Wheeler

Deacn Plympton Esqr Johnson

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 180. Not entered in the House Journal.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Merlin*, CAPTAIN WILLIAM C. BURNABY,
COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Cape Ann S S E 7 Leags

Monday 31 Fresh Breezes & Fair – Fired 10 Guns 10 swivels, and some small Arms at a Schooner which we took ²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/604.

2. The schooner *Woodbridge*, John Williamson, master, with flour, bread, bran and corn, from Philadelphia for Newburyport. She was condemned and sold in Boston early in August, 1775. Graves's Conduct, Prize List, MassHS Transcript.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT ¹

Sir:

Camp at Cambridge, July 31, 1775.

I have considered the Application made me yesterday from the General Court, with all the attention due to the Situation of the People, in whose behalf it is made, and the Respect due to such a Recommendation. Upon referring to my Instructions and Consulting with those Members of Congress who are Present, as well as the General Officers, they all agree that it would not be consistent with my Duty to detach any Part of the Army now here on any Particular Provincial Service. It has been debated in Congress and Settled, that the Militia, or other Internal Strength of each Province, is to be applied for Defence against those Small and Particular Depredations which were to be expected, and to which they were Supposed to be competent. This will appear the more Proper, when it is considered that every Town and, indeed, every Part of our Sea Coast, which is exposed to these Depredations, would have an equal claim upon this Army; It is the Misfortune of our Situation which exposes us to these Ravages, against which, in my Judgement, no such Temporary Relief would possibly secure us. The great advantage the Enemy has, of Transporting Troops, by being Master of the Sea, will enable them to harrass us by Diversions of this kinds; and should we be tempted to pursue them upon every Alarm; The Army must either be so weaken'd as to expose it to Destruction, or a great part of the Coast be still left unprotected. Nor, indeed, does it appear to me, that such a pursuit would be attended with the least Effect; The first Notice of such an Incursion would be its actual Execution; and long before any Troops could reach the Scene of Action, the Enemy would have an Opportunity to accomplish their purpose and retire. It would give me great pleasure to have it in my power, to extend Protection and Safety to every Individual; but the wisdom of the General Court will antici-

pate me in the necessity of conducting our Operations on a General and impartial Scale, so as to exclude any first cause of Complaint and Jealousy.

I beg, Sir, you will do me the Honor to Communicate these Sentiments to the General Court, and to apologize for my involuntary Delay. As we were alm'd this Morning by the Enemy, and my Time taken up with giving the necessary Directions.

I shall be happy in every Opportunity of shewing my very great Respect and Regard for the General Court of Massachusetts Bay, and am, Sir,

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, III, 379–381.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ¹

Watertown, July 31, 1775

Jabez Fisher, Esq. brought down from the Board a Letter from his Excellency General Washington, purporting that it is not for the general interest of the Colonies that there should be a detachment from the Army sent to the Eastward.

Ordered, That a Message be sent to the honourable Board for the Petition from Deer-Island, and the Papers accompanying it.

Colonel Foster came down, and informed the House that the papers relative to Deer-Island were not before the Board.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, III, 295, from Mass. Arch.

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN ADAMS ¹

[Extract]

Watertown, July 31 1775

The hint you give of inviting all nations to trade with us is indeed a grand idea, and I can easily conceive how bitterly you regret the loss of it. Such a step would have been worthy of such a body. It would have been in the true stile of a Sully, and have produced mighty consequences. I can easily conceive also the narrow principles that operated against and finally destroyed them. The two questions you ask, to what articles the trade should extend, and what bottoms it should be carried on upon, require a nice determination. Perhaps it would not answer our immediate purposes so well by being confined to our own bottoms, but if it be not, and we should finally be detached from Britain, we might have some difficulty in making an alteration so advantageous to ourselves in gaining great wealth and naval power. I hope to hear you viva voce on this subject . . .

The most capital action was at the light house. You will recollect that we burnt it some time ago. They had for some time been very industrious in rebuilding it, and had it in such forwardness as actually to shew a light on Saturday night [July 29]. About twenty-five whale boats and two hundred men, commanded by Major [Benjamin] Tupper, set off last night, and arrived about daylight, attacked the guard and workmen, and one small tender soon carried it, after killing two or three, and wounding four or five more. They took all the rest, burnt and destroyed the light house, took thirty six prisoners, and all their arms. Among the prisoners are four Marshfield Tories, and three or four others. The

rest are marines and soldiers. One of the Whites of Marshfield is wounded, it is said mortally.

1. *Warren-Adams Letters*, I, 95–99.

MEMOIRS OF MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH ¹

[Roxbury] 31st [July, 1775]

Major [Benjamin] Tupper, with 300 Americans, went to Light-House Island, attacked a British guard of 33 marines, killed a subaltern officer and several soldiers, took 23 prisoners, several refugees, and burnt all the buildings on the island, with the loss of one American soldier.

1. Abbatt, ed., *Heath Memoirs*.

PORTIA (ABIGAIL ADAMS) TO JOHN ADAMS ¹

[Extract]

Braintree july 31 – 1775 ²

I have had a very ill Night. Just recoverd from the rash, I went out yesterday to attend the funeral of a poor fellow who the Night before fell in Battle as they were returning from the Light house. (I catchd some cold.) A Sabbeth Evening [July 30] there was a warm fire from Prospect Hill and Bunkers Hill, begun first by the Riffel men taking of[f] their Gaurds. 2 Men upon our side were kill'd, 5 of their guards were killd, 2 taken. I believe my account will be very confused, but I will relate it as well as I am able. A Sab-beth Evening a number of Men in Whale Boats went of[f] from Squantom and Dorchester to the light house, where the General Gage had again fixd up a Lamp, and sent 12 carpenters to repair it. Our people went on amidst a hot fire from 30 Marines who were placed there as a guard to the tory carpenters, burnt the dwelling house, took the Torys and 28 Marines, kill'd the Leiunt. and one Man, brought of[f] all the oil and stores which were sent, without the looss of a man till they were upon their return when they were so closely persued that they were obliged to run one whale boat ashore and leave her to them. The rest arrived safe except the unhappy youth whose funeral I yesterday attended, who received a Ball thro the temples as he was rowing the boat. He belong'd to Road Island. His name was Griffin. He with 4 wounded Marines was brought by Capt. Turner to Germantown and buried from their with the Honours of War. Mr. Wibird ³ upon the occasion made the best oration (he never prays you know) I ever heard from him. The poor wounded fellow[s] (who are all wounded in their arms) desired they might attend. They did and he very pathetacally addressd them; with which they appeard affected. I spoke with them. I told them it was very unhappy that they should be obliged to fight their best Friends. They said they were sorry – they hoped in God an end would be speedily put to the unhappy contest. When they came, they came in the way of their Duty to releave Admiral Montague – with no thoughts of fighting – but their situa-tion was such as obliged them to obey orders, but they wish'd with all their souls they that sent them here had been in the heat of the Battle, express'd gratitude

at the kindness they received, said in that they had been deceived, for they were told if they were taken alive, they should be Sacrificed by us. Dr. Tufts Dress'd their wounds.

1. Butterfield, ed., *Adams Family Correspondence*, I, 270, 271.

2. Mrs. Adams began this letter on July 31 and continued on August 2. Extract is from portion written on latter date.

3. Reverend Anthony Wibird, Congregational minister at Braintree.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Lively*, CAPTAIN THOMAS BISHOP,
COMMANDING¹

July 1775 Moored in Nantasket Road

Monday 31 at 4 A M saw the Rebels Land at the Light House made the Signal for Assistance – Mann'd & Arm'd Our Boats came down the Boats from the Men of War & an Arm'd Sloop Drove the Rebels on Shore & took two of their Whale Boats [P M] Sailed the Sloop & Boats for Boston, came down and Anchd off the Light House His Majs Sloop *Scorpion*.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/546.

LIEUTENANT JOHN TOLLEMACHE, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES¹

Sir, *Scorpion* [off Boston Lighthouse] July 31, 1775

Conforming to your Orders I am anchored as near the Lighthouse as the Pilot thought safe; but I think it is what I owe the People under my command and also my Duty for the good of his Majesty's Service, to inform you the particular Situation of the Ship. I understand it is next to certain I am to be attacked by Boats; Sir, I must mention I think the *Scorpion* is almost the only Vessel in his Majesty's Service that an Enemy with only small Arms could effect any Execution; but she is without Waist, and her Decks consequently without Cover; The men are entirely exposed to the Enemy's fire, and this, Sir, is not the only difficulty I have in defending her; from the Negligence of the Builder of the Dock Yard she came from, there is neither Eye bolt or Ring bolt in the Decks to run the Guns in; and arriving at Boston, not expecting such Service, I have not yet had time to make Netting against being boarded, and this Night shall be without it. However I must conclude with assuring you I am making the Ship as defensible as possible in my power. I am &c.

John Tollemache

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 164, 165, MassHS Transcript.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Scorpion*, JOHN TOLLEMACHE,
COMMANDING¹

July 1775 at 7 A M Weigh'd the Stearn Anchor at 9 Weighed & came to
Monday 31 Sail, hove to made Sail Occasly Mode Breezs & fair ½ past 1
P M came to with the Bt Br in 5 fam off the LightHouse, Veer'd to
½ a Cable, at 4 Veer'd away & Moor'd a Cable each way with

Springs on them, our Boat return'd with the Officer and Men at 9 fir'd 4 Shot at the Rebels on Shore at the Lighthouse, sent a Boat Man'd and Arm'd to watch their motions. People under Arms all night Moor'd off the Lighthouse Point Alderton SSE $\frac{1}{2}$ E Lighthouse NNE $\frac{1}{2}$ E

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/872.

NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES¹

[Boston] July 31 [1775]. The Dwelling house adjoining to the Lighthouse being burnt, it became necessary to guard against the Rebels totally destroying the Lighthouse, by placing a Man of War in the Channel until the Building was made defensible; The *Scorpion* of 14 Guns just arrived was therefore ordered on this Service

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 164, MassHS Transcript.

"COPY OF A LETTER FROM VICE ADMIRAL [SAMUEL] GRAVES TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CUSTOMS DATED *Preston*, BOSTON JULY 31, 1775"¹

Gentlemen In Answer to your Letter July 27th I am to acquaint you that several Vessels have arrived in this Harbour since May last, and that I have given such Directions Concerning them as the Egegencies of the times, required, and I thought best for his Majestys Service.

I am Gentlemen &ca &ca.

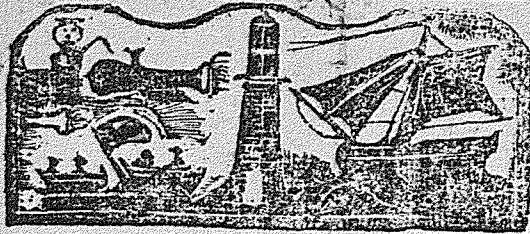
Sam^l Graves –

1. Gage Papers, CL.

ROBERT HALLOWELL, COMPTROLLER FOR THE PORT OF BOSTON, TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CUSTOMS¹

(Copy)

Hon'ble Sirs I beg leave to acquaint the Honorable Board that on Saturday Evening [July 29], I discoverd at the long Wharf in this Town a small Sloop unloading Brandy, Wines Soap, Cordials, and other articles of Merchandize, on making inquiry found her to be a French Vessel, and the person, who appeared to have the direction informed me, that he was sent into this Port by one of His Majesty's Ships, and that he had permission from Admiral [Samuel] Graves, to unlade & sell the Cargo, I immediately told him that I was an Officer of the Kings Revenue, and he must not presume to sell or deliver any of the Goods, nor unlade any more for that I should immediately place the Kings Officers on board his Vessel, and take those already unloaded into Custody – I accordingly placed three Tidesmen Vizt Hammond Green, Owen Richards & John Pettitt, and gave them charge of the Vessel & the goods in the Store, with directions to be attentive that nothing was removed from either place, – at 11 o Clock Hammond Green came & acquainted me that His Excellency Genl [Thomas] Gage had sent positive Orders for them all to disperse, and leave that Vessel and Store, which order was complied with – under these Circumstances, I think it my duty to acquaint



POETICAL

ROMANCE upon the Fight at the BOSTON

LIGHTHOUSE

Which happened, between a Party of rascals, belonging to the UNITED COLONIES, Commanded by
Major TUPPER, and a Number of Regulars.

First Having wrote some Poems on the Military operations in America this Year, I was requested, among
rest, to write one on the taking and demolishing the Lighthouse; if by this meant the good Hand of Providence
for my attempt. So I set a Third, B. R.

But a Vain Venture ending at A.D.D.I.C.I.
Whose end as a sad tale troubles of the Day,
To wit, yeasts how and spread their tent wide,
You keep your ground, and do not fear their pride.

For many of you say this year are thin
Yet all estimated change you retain
While Liberty your generous hearts admire
You fight to quench oppressors raging fire.

Americans attend and pray now view
The enemy aim that hath appear'd for you,
What agrees doth give the victory
And sea with east tread down their ensue.

Amid the loss you this year sustain,
Yet see God's blessing every you gain,
For which if you give GOD his proper praise,
Your Loss above oppressors pow'r may raise.

The Boston Light-House that did help our foe,
By God's assistance used with o'erthrow,
By means of which in danger they must be,
Should other Ships of War come against thee.

But when thy foe this Business would repair
That they may pass the Channel without fear,
They see with sore repulse to their surprise,
Their works were all destroy'd before their eyes.

Americans behold with joyful eyes,
The lofty Light-House now in ruin lies,
It gives no light to bloody tyrants here,
And tho' they fight this thing not move thy fear.

This narrative I will in brief relate,
And show to all the TORRIES shameful fate,
Who were defeated in their wicked plot,
Fetters in Chains it's hop'd will be their Lot.

Upon the Thirtieth of last June,
Major TUPPER and his men with speed did run,
And drawing near the Light-House, where they found
On Monday the who saw would keep their ground.

Where TUPPER and his men had landed there
Their enemies to fight them did prepare,
But all in vain they could not them withstand,
But fell as victims to our valiant hand.

Three TORRIES there, they killed on the spot,
And five MAKERS were wounded by our shot,
Vengeance for a cruel tyrant KING,
Our Land in SLAVERY they vain would bring.

A Lieutenant of the MARINES there dy'd,
Two private soldiers fell down at his side,
Who wallow'd in his bloody crimson gore,
And dyed fighting for tyrannical power.

All those who were not kill'd and wounded there,
Were taken captive by our men we hear,
The numbers chosen to set the captives free,
They kill'd but one we hear, and wounded three.

Their sad example well may others dread,
Who heard the fate of them that were that dead,
And warning take lest they at last should share,
The fate of those who foul oppressors were.

Among the Prisoners that they brought here,
Seven TORRIES, then, there was appear'd,
With guilt & shame they through our Towns were led,
Each whinge told all men their fear and dread.

By guards they were convey'd to Worcester town,
Where Sons of Liberty did on them crown,
They can't exert a common citizen's lot,
Since they their country's wealth and blood have fought.

Their PRISONERS, now cannot be bought or sold,
But must be kept in their chains of gold,
Where to fill'd their almost treacherous,
Without respect from Friends to LIBERTY.

Some of the REGULARS that taken were
With cheerful countenances did appear,
While TORRIES bore a murderer's fate,
They feared Death deferr'd, and fled disgrace.

One Captain White of Marlfield we hear say,
A noted foe of North-America,
Among the rest was then a Prisoner made,
Whole fess may make such as himself afraid.

A noted wretch from New-York we hear,
A master Carpentier that worked there,
Was forc'd to lay his An and Hammer by,
And like a murderer bound in chains must lie.

More nature must reel to see their tears,
Filled with shame and rackt with pained fears,
See tender hearts concerning them agree
That their deserts for future warnings be.

Should future ages hear how they did fall,
And their ambitious deeds to memory call,
It only serves to wrap such traitors in the mud,
Before oppression rolls her swelling flood.

Before this narrative I had not said,
Had I not hop'd 'twould answer some good end
Should it cause us to fear a tyrant path,
It might secure us from impending wrath.

Give GOD the glory of what thou dost gain
And heavy guinea's leader will remain,
VYVO like a traitor shall tread your Marshal's bands,
And give thy tyrant foes into thy hands.

If thou on GOD dost truly rest thy faith,
Thou need not dread thy foes oppressing laws,
Give GOD the glory that he work do claim,
And thou shalt enemies that put to shame.

So shall be thy oppressors hide their head,
To roll the innocent shall be afraid,
While thou who lose true Virtue and Liberty,
With blood shall be crown'd and feared high.

CHILMARK: Printed and sold by Nathaniel C.
Dexter for Single M.

and Vended by the L. L. L.

the Hon'ble Board, how far I proceeded in an affair of so much importance to the Kings Service. – I am &c

(sign'd) Rob: Hallowell Comptr for the Port of Boston

Boston 31st July. 1775

1. Gage Papers, CL.

LOOSE SHEETS IN THE NARRATIVE OF VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVES¹

[Boston, July 31, 1775]

The . . . expedition of Captain [John] Robinson² was formed in consequence of intelligence given that the Rebels had between two & three hundred whale boats in a Wood on the Banks of German Town River. He had all the Marines of the Squadron and the following Boats Vizt 3 from the *Somerset*, 3 from the *Boyne*, 3 from the *Preston* and the *Scorpions* Pinnace. The whole well armed and provided with every thing necessary to set fire to the Whale Boats, rendezvoused on board the *Spitfire* arm'd Sloop at 10 at Night, and from thence proceeded down the Harbour, it proved a very dark Night. Our Cannon at Boston Lines and Charles Town Camp were fired and many Shells thrown into Roxborough, in order to deceive the Rebels into an expectation a little before Day Light, and thereby to draw both their Attention and Troops from the place where Capain Robinson was to land and destroy the Whale Boats. The Channel of the River was intricate, but the Boats had two Pilots among them, and the firing from Boston and Roxborough increased with the Darkness. The Pilots however, whether from being Brothers and Americans, or from ruminating on their fate should they be taken, or from any other cause, were observed to be much alarmed, and upon approaching the Shore could give no clear directions. Every method to inspire them with Courage was in vain tried. Rewards or Threatenings were alike ineffectual; they continued in a manner petrified; And as the expedition depended on their Skill, Integrity and Spirit, it was from necessity laid aside on account of this sudden alteration in them, none other of the crew being found sufficiently acquainted with the River, or the Country, to conduct the Armaments, or that knew exactly the Spot where the Boats were concealed. And although it would have required little time to burn the whole, yet it was thought unadvisable to risque so many men and boats in a River totally unknown to all, as a Discovery must have been fatal therefore just at Daybreak Captain Robinson, finding nothing could be done, determined to return. However this determination was scarcely taken, when he was alarmed with a firing at the Lighthouse, and he instantly rowed towards it with his whole Force, being then within a mile or two; so that it is difficult to account for the rebels success against Lieut Coulthurst's party in any other manner than the Admiral hath done. [It] seems the Rebels had that morning attacked the Lighthouse Guard and carried off the entire Party Prisoners; the Marine Officer who was killed, and two wounded Marines, excepted . . . if there had been the good conduct and Resolution exerted which might have been expected from [so] strong a Party [unfinished].

1. Graves's Conduct, I, 178–181, MassHS Transcript.

2. Robinson was captain of the Admiral's ship, *Preston*.

"REMARKS &C ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Rose*"¹

July 1775 At single Anchor in Rhode Island Harbour
 Monday 31 at 8 [A M] sent a Sloop with a petty Officer and 6 Men to weigh
 the stream Anchor, at 10 weigh'd and came to sail.
 4 P M Anchd in Rhode Isld Harbour at 7 return'd the Sloop
 with our Petty Officer & Men but was oblig'd to leave our Stream
 Anchor and Cable being Chac'd by the rebel Privateers.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/804.

Newport Mercury, MONDAY, JULY 31, 1775

Newport, July 31.

Last Thursday [July 27] a large schooner came into this harbour, supposed from Boston, inquired for the men of war, and finding they were gone out, she immediately tacked and stood out again, in pursuit of them.

Last Saturday, the ships *Rose*, *Swan* and *Kingfisher*, with the above schooner, returned into this harbour, and brought in 2 brigs, and 3 sloops from the West Indies. They have released one brig.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS¹

[Extract]

Ticonderoga, July 31, 1775

I have a boat on stocks, sixty feet in length, which I hope to finish by this day week, I suppose she will carry between two and three hundred men; another of the same size, is to be put up to-day, so that I hope soon to have vessels enough to move on. If any more powder can be got, I hope it will be sent, as not half a ton will be left, if so much, when the troops are completed to a pound a man.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, II, 43.

JOURNAL KEPT ON BOARD THE CONTINENTAL SCHOONER *Liberty*¹

[Lake Champlain]

July the 31th [1775] sailed down the Lake some Distance meeting with heavy Squalls to the Northward, returned & came to an Anchor under Schuyler's Island for Safety –

1. Papers CC, 153, I, NA.

FRANCIS STEPHENS TO GENERAL [THOMAS] GAGE¹

[Extract]

Office of Ordnance, New York, 31 July, 1775

Thursday the 13th, about eight o'clock in the evening, Francis Staple, the person who has the care of Turtle Bay, came to town and informed me of the following particulars, vizt. That about three o'clock this afternoon, the same sloop which carried off the stores from thence on the night of the 12th ultimo, came again to that place, and was met by a party of the Connecticut troops, supposed to be about fifty men, who put on board the said sloop (as near as he could well guess) about 500 24 lb round shot, 50 ten inch, and the like number of cohorn shells. They likewise broke open the store house, took

out the major part of what remained there, such as old sand bags, empty boxes, &c. and then went off.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, II, 157, 158.

JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK ¹

[New York] Die Lunae, 10 ho., A.M., July 31st, 1775

Copy of a Letter, appearing to have been written from Joseph Read, Esq. secretary to Gen. Washington, was read, giving advice of the sailing of three men of war, &c. from Boston.

A draft of a letter to the committee of correspondence for East Hampton and Southold, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New York, 31st July, 1775.

Gentlemen – By the enclosed copy of a letter from Gen. Washington to Gen. [David] Wooster, we think not unlikely the designs of these ships may be to take provisions from different parts; as Montauk, and other parts of the east end of Long Island are much exposed, we judged it proper to give this intelligence that you might take such methods for securing the stock there, as you shall judge necessary. [John] Hulbert and [Daniel] Griffing's companies can be employed for that purpose till otherwise ordered.

I am &c.

To the Committee of Correspondence for East-Hampton and Southold.

Ordered, That a copy be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

1. *N.Y. Prov. Cong.*, I, 93–95.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ¹

[Philadelphia] Monday, July 31, 1775

Agreeable to the order of the day the Congress took into consideration the state of trade after the 10th of Septr and after some debate, the same was postponed to a future day.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That when the Congress adjourns for recess, it be adjourned to meet at Philadelphia.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, II, 235.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY ¹

[Philadelphia] July 31st. [1775]

Mr. William Bigland waited on the Board with a Draught of a Rowing Wheel which he proposed to have fixed to the Provincial Row-Boats.

Colo. [Daniel] Roberdeau is desired to return him the thanks of this board for his Communication.

Mr. Hulings sent a Model of a boat, which was approved of, and Capt. [Robert] White is desired to return the thanks of this Board to Mr. Hulings for the same.

1. *Pa. Col. Rec.*, X, 295, 296.

MINUTES OF THE BALTIMORE COMMITTEE ¹

At a Meeting of the Committee 31 July 1775

The Question relating to Messrs Ashburner & Place & Mr Johnson Gildart was postponed.

1. Balt. Com., LC. See Balto. Com. Minutes July 17, 1775.

WOOLSEY AND SALMON TO THOMAS McCABE, DUBLIN ¹

[Extract]

[Baltimore] 31st July 1775

business is Nearly at an End, as there will be nothing done after the 10th Sept. Save a little Smuggling and we make no doubt if you and your friends would try a Small good going Vessel, to be here in December that she might get Safe. if the Master was Cliver & well Acquainted here the Cargo would do best from Russia to Consist of Russia Sheetings Powder &c &c of which our G[eorge] S[almon] Can Inform you fully.

1. Woolsey and Salmon Letter Book, LC.

WILLIAM REYNOLDS TO JOHN NORTON & SONS ¹

Gentlemen

Virginia July 31st 1775

I wrote you 16th past by a Mr Gibbs who went passenger with Capt Miller to which I beg leave to refer I have not recd any letter from you since. The purport of this is to desire you to Insure 7 hhds Tobo in the *London* at £12 a hhd. The Convention now sitting have determined to Imbody between 3 & 4 thousand Men who are to be quarter'd between Williamsbg & York to divert the Troops on their first Landing as we have been informed we may expect 3 or 4 Regiments. The proceedings to the Norwd you will no doubt hear sooner than any Information from hence can reach you. I am [&c.]

1. William Reynolds Letter Book, LC.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Otter*, MATTHEW SQUIRE, COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Elizabeth River [Virginia]

Monday 31 A M arrived here the *Betsey* Sloop with part of the 14th Regiment of light Infantry from St Augustine.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/663.

JOURNAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *Cruizer*, FRANCIS PARRY, COMMANDING ¹

July 1775 Moor'd off the Fort [Johnston]

Sunday 31st seiz'd the Snow *Fisher & Friendship*, Wm Forester Master, having on bd 3 pipes of Gin from Bremen ²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/218.

2. According to his journal, Parry libeled the snow on August 4 and it was condemned in the Admiralty Court at Brunswick, on Aug. 9, 1775.

JOURNAL KEPT ON BOARD THE SOUTH CAROLINA SLOOP *Commerce* BY CAPTAIN
JOHN HATTER, SAILING MASTER ¹

1775 [Port Royal Sound]

July 31 Sailed from Port Royal, with the wind at South; and turned down to Jenkins' landing.

1. "Hatter's Report," Drayton, *American Revolution*, I.

GEORGE JAMES BRUERE, GOVERNOR OF BERMUDA, TO LORD DARTMOUTH ¹

No 18

Bermuda 31st of July 1775

My Lord A few days agoe, Your Lordships Dispatches reached my Hand, Via South Carolina.

In Answer to Your Lordships letter No 8, to the propositions in former letters, which Your Lordship is graciously pleased to Say You will Attend to, at a proper time. Your Lordship may now be of opinion, that the Situation we are now in, will Require it, more than in profound Peace. first in respect to the Care of any Stores that may be here. As there may be but few friends to Government here.

Secondly Since the bill was passed, to prevent the exportation of Corn, Rice, flour, and all Sorts of Grain that might at that time be in these Islands, or hereafter might Arrive, to detain any Vessel even bound to the West Indies. with any such Cargo. Several Vessels have been Stopped, and their Vessels and cargo detained, Notwithstanding We have Stopped more flour and Rice particularly than we are able to purchase and Consume, while it be good.

I have Called the Assembly by Proclamation twice, Upon the Several Petitions of the Masters of Vessels, and the owners of the flour and Rice. And Your Lordship may find that it was pointed out in their own Bill, to Call the Assembly, Yet Notwithstanding they have as Yet neglected to meet.

And there is a large quantity of flour and Rice that remains unsold, that hath been Shipped and Consigned to Ports, in the West Indies And the vessels have touched at Bermuda, to see their friends, or for Water or some other Cause.

I have received a Petition addressed to the Legislative Body from Sr George Colebroke Sr James Cockbourn and others from Dominica but the General Assembly have neglected to meet as yet to hear it read. The[y] have Chosen *Delegates here* Who have Petitioned the Congress at Philadelphia to Supply them with Indian Corn. And they wait for the return of their answer, before I suppose they *will meet*.

I could Supply General [Thomas] Gage and [William] Howe &c &c and my two Sons, that are with the Army; with fresh Stock (or provisions) of Different Sorts which it is Said they much want. But I cannot Confide in any Person here at present they Say they may have their Vessel burnt. I could send either four oxen, some Sheep Pigs and Poultry of Different Sorts &c. The Sick and wounded might be taken care of here, as the best and mildest Climate and Situated near enough for a Repository for Stores.

I will enclose this letter to my private agent or to one of my Children at School in England, that the Address may not be seen here. The letters and the last dispatches were opened by the Committee of Inspection, at South Carolina.

few People to be trusted, or any Dependence on what they write, in their News papers concerning the Army or themselves.

And the best way to Send Your Lordships dispatches will be to Barbados or Antigua, as opportunity May offer.

I have the Honor to be My Lord [&c.]

George Jas Bruere

1. PRO, Colonial Office, Class 37/36, 808.

1 Aug.

GENERAL ORDERS ISSUED BY GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

[Extract]

Head Quarters, Cambridge, August 1, 1775.

Parole Gibraltar

Countersign Fairfield

The General thanks Major [Benjamin] Tupper, and the Officers and Soldiers under his Command, for their gallant and soldierlike behaviour in possessing themselves of the enemy's post at the Light House, and for the Number of Prisoners they took there, and doubts not, but the Continental Army, will be as famous for their mercy as for their valour.

Two Sub[altern]s. two serjeants, one Drum, and thirty Rank and File, to parade at Head Quarters at Noon; to escort the prisoners to Worcester. The Commanding Officer will receive his orders from the Adjutant General.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, III, 381.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ¹

[Watertown] Tuesday, August 1, 1775

Ordered, That the Message from the honourable Board, relative to the distressed situation of the Eastern parts of the Colony, be recommitted, and that Mr. Greenleaf, Colonel Thompson, and Dr. Baylis be added to the Committee in [the] room of Colonel Freeman, Major Brooks, and Captain White.

Afternoon

The Committee appointed to consider the Accounts of Mr. John Derby, and Mr. Richard Derby, Jun. reported. Read and accepted.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to Mr. John Derby, or his order, the sum of fifty-seven Pounds and eight Pence Sterling, agreeable to his Account.

Resolved, That there be paid to Richard Derby, Jun., Esq. or to his order, out of the publick Treasury of this Colony the sum of one hundred and sixteen Pounds, four Shillings, and four Pence half-penny, in full of his Account [Endorsed] In Council, August 1, 1775: Read and concurred.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, III, 296-298, from Mass. Arch.