

# **Naval Documents of The American Revolution**

**Volume 5**

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

**Part 5 of 8**

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*Portland.* – And on Thursday arrived in the harbour of St. John's a topsail schooner, loaded with flour, taken by his Majesty's ship *Roebuck*.

1. *London Chronicle*, August 20 to August 22, 1776.

#### INVOICE OF GUNPOWDER SHIPMENT FROM ST. EUSTATIUS <sup>1</sup>

Shipped by the grace of God, in good order and well conditioned, by Jas. Smith, in and upon the good schooner pilot boat called the *Lovely Lass*, whereof is master, under God, for this present voyage and now riding at anchor in the roads of St. Eustatia and by God's grace bound for Philadelphia or some port in North America, to say, ten half barrels, containing five hundred weight of gunpowder, on the proper account and risk of the shipper, and consigned to Mr. Joseph Donaldson, merchant, Philadelphia, or to such committee or council of safety as may be appointed at any other port she arrives at, being marked and numbered as in the margin, and to be delivered in the like good order, and well conditioned, at the aforesaid port of Philadelphia, &c. (the danger of the seas only excepted) unto Joseph Donaldson, or such committee or council of safety or to their assigns, he or they paying freight for the said goods settled already with primage and average accustomed. In witness whereof, the master or purser of the said schooner hath affirmed to 3 bills of lading, all of this tenor and date; the one of which three bills being accomplished, the other two to stand void. And so God send the good schooner to her desired port in safety – Amen.

Dated at St. Eustatia, June 29, 1776.

John Taylor.

1. *New York Provincial Congress*, II, 238.

#### 30 June (Sunday)

##### COMMODORE MARRIOT ARBUTHNOT TO VICE ADMIRAL RICHARD HOWE <sup>1</sup>

(Copy)

Halifax the 30th June, 1776

My Lord The Eleven Sail of Transports having kept pace with the *Renown* in equipping themselves to proceed to their destination; I have ordered Capt'n Banks to take them under his Convoy and directed the *Hope* Captain Dawson to assist in performing that Service, as at this Season the Fogs are intollerable.

The *Milford*, Captain [John] Burr arrived here yesterday to Victual and Water, which I have compleated to four Months, and ordered her Commander to Sea immediately: as at present not one Ship of War is on this Coast, and many small privateers are hovering near Boston, and I am very apprehensive will soon find their Way to our Neighbourhood: so soon as they learn the State of the Coast.

Permit me my Lord most earnestly to represent to your Lordship the necessity of a Ship to be stationed at this, because it is a place where all the Rebellious Subjects are confined, but no place is to be found for that purpose, the few Prisoners which General Howe brought Hither he was obliged to ask for the Province Goal, a small miserable Place, and since his

Departure 7 out of 12 have broke their Confinement & escaped to Windsor where they have been secured; be assured Sir, it is with the utmost reluctance, I trouble you with Prisoners, or about them, but I have not a Centinel to place over them, or to do any other the smallest Service in the Defence of the Yard: I have not even a Boats Crew: the want of which I had well nigh been prevented from paying my respects to your Lordship.

The Hospital my Lord is another Distress that I am deficient in Language to express my feelings about.

Provisions are at this place, and the Circumstances of the Place such, that no part of the Orders of the Commissrs of Sick & Hurt have been able to have been complied with: they have conceived that the Inhabitants of the Place would have received them and that the Surgeon would have lodged and boarded them for fifteen pence a day: no person is to be found that will recieve those people, neither can a proper place be procured to make an Hospital of, without hiring an old house, and put in repair at the Kings Expence perhaps about 150 Pounds, not that at present do I know of such a one: but if some Care is not taken before the Winter, very disagreeable will be the Lot of those poor People who may be put sick on shore: The Commissrs of the Sick presuming that Boston would be the place where the greatest part of those Men would remain sent the Surgeon to that place & thought little of this the Contrary is the fact for when the Fleet sailed from hence last, Mr Dickson of the Hospital Ship, put all his miserable Objects on shore to us to be taken care of and if a place could have been found, we should not have had fewer than [*sic* than] One hundred since here I have been; this I have represented to Admiral Shuldhham & now beg your Lordships Excuse for this long detail.

Yesterday in the afternoon arrived the *Malaga* Transport with one Company of Hessians, which I immediately caused to be watered, to embrace the opportunity of sailing with this Convoy.

I am sorry to acquaint your Lordship of the unfavourable Situation we are likely to be in, if visited in the Interior parts of the Province, as you will perceive by the inclosed Deposition[\*] with three others to the same effect and confirmed by Lieutenant Flood, and Mr Franckland [Michael Francklin], both whom returned from Cumberland, the latter was the Lieut Governor, a very sensible Man, who I sent to that place to give me Information, & also to call in the Military to his assistance in disarming the Suspicious, & confining the Notorious; very active he has been, and brings me unfavourable Accounts of the Disposition of the people, however he has inrolled near 100 who have taken the Oath of Obedience.

I am not under any apprehension except the laying Waste the Province, with those St Johns Indians who however I think so soon as they know for Certain the fate of the Rebels in Canada, will not be induced to Act: notwithstanding I am informed great Pains have been taken to bring them over

May I pray that your Lordship will order the Captains stationed in the



Bay of Fundy to correspond with me upon occurrences proper to be communicated.

I cannot at present recollect any other Circumstance to trouble you with, except annexing the State of the Kings Ships at this place and to acquaint you that the Hay Ships are every moment expected, when the *Niger* shall not lose a moment in joining your Lordship.

The *Tamer* has been on Shore and is otherwise in so bad a Condition that I am apprehensive she must be Careen'd before she can leave this place.

Permit me to ask your Lordship that if it is your wish in future, that such Ships that may arrive here with accidents, and have not had an opportunity of receiving your Lordships Order on that head, may be careen'd should I think there is an absolute necessity: and repair them as the Circumstances of their Defects may require: the particulars of which, your Lordship will always receive from &c.

M<sup>t</sup> Arbuthnot

[\*] Which Deposition contains an Affidavit of there being 1500 Rebels being within three days march of Cumberland which is since proved not to be true.

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 5/125, 28c.

MASTER'S LOG OF H.M. ARMED VESSEL *Canceaux* <sup>1</sup>

Remarks &c - Sunday 30th June, 1776. -

- 8 [A.M.] Goose Island S W. The west end of Cowdre WSW. about 2 miles, at noon the west point of Goose Island SbS. The White Rock NWbN. 1 Mile The Church on the S E Shore SEbE about 2 Miles
- 1 [P.M.] Strong breezes and Cloudy, hauld down Steering Sails Handd T.Gt Sails, in 2 reefs Topsails Sailing to the Westd on the South side of Crane Island a short mile You will have 3 or 4 fm till you bring the house to bear, NW, then you depen to 6 or 7 fm At 4 Madame WNW, East end of the Island of Orleans NNW, dist from shore 2 Miles, Bellschaise W S W. Half past 5 Saluted Commodore Douglass with 13 Guns, Do returnd 11, at 6 came too with the Small Bower [blank] fms [blank] bottom and moord up and down the River, found at Quebec H. Ms Ships *Isis*, *Juno* and *Lizard*.<sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1638.

2. The *Canceaux* was completing a convoy voyage which had begun at Halifax June 11, 1776. Under convoy had been a brig and five schooners. Of interest were the following incidents of the voyage: On June 15, in Canso Gut, Lieutenant Schanks had sent the cutter ashore "a Pressing," the only result being the loss overboard of "a Cutlash and Scabard." The frigate *Pearl*, on a cruise and the frigate *Surprise* were spoken June 24 and June 26, respectively, off Barnaby Island in the mouth of the St. Lawrence River. On June 28 a petty officer, with some hands, was sent ashore wooding off the mouth of the Saguenay river, and four men deserted. Two of them were brought on board the next day, having been captured by "the Indians," *ibid*.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SLOOP *Tyrannicide*, CAPTAIN JOHN FISK <sup>1</sup>

Remks on Friday 28th of June 1776 [Salem harbor]

People imployed gitting Sundres on board  
fair weather

Remks on Satterday 29th of June 1776

All hands employd in gitting stores on board

Remks on Sunday 30th of June 1776

At 9 in the morning came to sail stood out in the bay at 3 in the After noon bore away for Cape Ann harbour in company with 6 private[ers] At 6 came to Ankor in Cape Ann harbour

1. John Fisk Journal, AAS.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

New York, June 30, 1776.

I have the honor of transmitting you an extract of a letter received last Night from General Ward. If the Scheme the Privateers had in view, and the measures he had planned, had been carried into Execution, the Highland Corps will be tolerably well disposed of, but I fear the fortunate event has not taken place. In General Ward's Letter was inclosed one from Lieut. Col. Campbell <sup>2</sup> who was made Prisoner, with the Highland Troops: I have transmitted you a Copy. This will give you a full and exact Account of the Number of Prisoners that were on board the four Transports, and will prove beyond a possibility of doubt, that the evacuation of Boston by the British Troops, was a matter neither known or expected when he received his Orders. Indeed so many facts had concurred before to settle the matter, that no additional proofs were necessary.

When I had the Honor of addressing you Yesterday, I had only been Informed of the arrival of Forty five of the Fleet in the Morning; since that I have received Authentic Intelligence from sundry persons, among them from General [Nathanael] Greene, that one hundred and ten sail came in before Night, that were counted, and that more were seen about dusk in the offing. I have no doubt, but the whole that sailed from Hallifax, are now at the Hook.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 201, 202-03.

2. See Campbell's letter of June 19, 1776.

CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH TO ROBERT VAN RENSSELAER <sup>1</sup>

Sir:

New-York, June 30, 1776.

I mentioned to you yesterday evening that, as I heard there were to be some British officers, who are now prisoners in this or the neighbouring Governments, to be sent to Canada, in exchange for some officers of the Continental Army, who are now prisoners there, I would be extremely obliged to you if you will be so kind as to mention to the Congress that the officers of the Forty-Second or Royal Highland Regiment, who are prisoners in this Government and Rhode-Island Government, would be much obliged to the

Congress if they could be amongst the number of officers that may be exchanged. Lieutenant Robert Franklin and I are the two officers of that regiment that are prisoners in this Government,<sup>2</sup> and Lieutenant Harry Monroe and Ensign John Campbell are the two officers that were carried prisoners of that regiment into Rhode-Island, by Captain Biddle, of the brigantine armed vessel *Andrew Doria*. I hope you will be good enough to excuse this; and if you will be kind enough to let me know the result or answer of the Congress, I will be much obliged to you. I am, with great respect, sir, [&c.]

John Smith

Capt. 42d or Royal Highland Regiment.

To Robert Van Rensselaer, Esq., or any of the gentlemen appointed by Congress for the disposition of Continental prisoners.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, VI, 1150-51.

2. Smith and Franklin were on board the recaptured ship *Crawford*.

# JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Chatham*, CAPTAIN JOHN RAYNOR <sup>1</sup>

June 1776 [Anchored at Sandy Hook]

Sunday 30 at 8 AM Made the signal to Unmoor & hove into  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a Cable -

at 1 PM the *Phoenix* weighd & made sail up towards the Narrows at 2 Made the signal for the *Phoenix* to come to an anchor. Carried out the Stream Anchor to Steady the ship

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/192.

## DIARY OF DR. THOMAS MOFFAT <sup>1</sup>

[On board H.M. Sloop *Swan*]

June 26th light breeze SE course W by North saw to Lar[board] two ships standing for the Fleet also two Brigantines steering close to the Wind. Noon Latitude 39 56 N Longitude 73.2. Sandy Hook distant 19 Leagues; Thermometer 75. The *Swans* tender returns before sunset from the *Cerberus* Frigate and *Merlin* Sloop of War with a whaling Brig from Brazil with one who had Joind the fleet. The *Cerberus* reports Block Island W by North distant 22 Leagues.

June 27th the Morning calm, A M wind NE course WSW Latitude 39.55 N Longitude by Ship reckoning 73.15. W Sandy Hook island 16 Leagues: by the *Cerberus* account 43 Leagues. From the Mast Head two sail descryd steering after the fleet. P M the *Cerberus* made sail to the Eastward and *Senegal* to the Northward. Thermometer 72 - near midnight the *Senegal* joind the Fleet.

June 28th Wind N E course [blank] Latitude 39.53 Longitude 74.3 West. Thermometer 72 Sandy Hook distant by Ship account 12 Leagues by the *Cerberus* 34 leagues as observd from Block Island P M Captn [Henry] Bellew of the *Liverpool* Frigate came aboard the *Swan* reported that she left the Land yesterday distant 12 Leagues G[eneral Wil-

liam] Howe in the *Greyhound* Frigate arrived at Sandy Hook on Tuesday the 25th that a few transports separated from the Halifax fleet were also arrived – that two transports with Highlanders were taken by the Rebels<sup>2</sup> that G[eneral Henry] Clinton or Sr Peter Parker in the *Bristol*, with Six Frigates had got over the bar before Charlestown that the Rebel army with Washinton were in the neighbourhood and in [New] York city that west India commodities Salt Linnen and many other articles were scarce and very dear.

June 29th Wind SW saw the Land steerd WNW The *Centurion* Joind the fleet P M 3 o'clock came to anchor off Staten Island.<sup>3</sup>

June 30th Six o'clock morning an officer from the Admiral brought orders to weigh and come under the *Chathams* stern, after some preparations to move the Fleet it was postpond Thermometer 78

1. Thomas Moffat's Diary, LC.

2. The *Crawford* and *Oxford* transports, taken by the *Andrew Doria*.

3. Moffat was in error. The anchorage was at Sandy Hook.

#### FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE TO WILLIAM LEE<sup>1</sup>

[Extract] :

Philadelphia June 30th 1776 –

Dear Brother Our affairs in Canada are at length brot to a conclusion, and we have now to contend with all the bad consequences, which have been apprehended from the Enemy's being in possession of that Country. . . . Our Army, being 7000 brot off all their artillery, stores, baggage & provisions; having destroyd all the forts, & bridges behind them. they are now at Crown point, where they propose to make a stand against Burgoine's Army, assisted by Canadians & Indians; by keeping the mastery of Lake Champlain, if possible, which is much to be doubted, as he has bro't with him a great number of vessells ready framed. At New York Genl Washington has not 19000 men, & 50 of Howe's fleet are now at the hook, none of the militia is yet come in, & Genl Washington is apprehensive they will not, till it is too late. and there is reason to fear they will never join the army at Crown point for fear of the small pox, or if they do, that they [will] be rendered useless by it. add to all this, that it is certain great numbers in the province of N York will join the Enemy. a horrid plot was lately discoverd in the City, to deliver up our Army to the Enemy by spiking the Cannon, & blowing up the Magazine, & some say to assassinate the Genl – We have not yet the particular[s] but many are in goal; they had debauched two of the Genl's guards, one of whome is executed. There you have a full view of the situation of our affairs; from which I dare say you will agree with me, that we are in a most perilous state, from which nothing, but some extraordinary event, can extricate us. – We have advice, that the crew of one of the ships that sailed from this port last winter, loaded by the Congress, confined the Capt & carried her into Bristol and discovered the signals by which all the other ships were to distinguish their friends from their Enemies upon their arrival on this Coast.<sup>2</sup> – I have nothing to ballance this dismal Acct, but that we have taken about 700 of Frazer's high-

landers; & that depending on the goodness of our Cause, we have not lost our spirit. —

1. Francis Lightfoot Lee folder, VHS.
2. The snow *Dickinson*.

“ACCOUNT PRISONERS ON BOARD CAPT. BELLOW’S [HENRY BELLEW]  
*Liverpool MAN-OF-WAR, JUNE, 1776.*”<sup>1</sup>

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

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 2nd series, I, 421.

WILLIAM ADAMS TO MATTHEW TILGHMAN<sup>1</sup>

Windsor, June 30, 1776.

I wrote two letters to the honourable Convention, acquainting them that I had received a bad fall from a horse, which had bruised and sprained my shoulder so much that I have not been able to ride these three weeks, and still continue so painful that I can scarce rest of nights, and if I were able I do not think it would be prudent to leave home at this time of immediate danger, when all the country is in such confusion, and expects to be plundered by a large number of tenders now in our Sound, piloted and conducted, as we believe, by our own people, who are gone to them in great numbers, and from whom worse treatment is expected than from the tender-men — as one Wallace, in Dam Quarter,<sup>2</sup> has revenged himself on Mr. William Roberts, by plundering him, and then carrying him off on board the tenders, tied hand and foot, as I hear from authority; and this morning I hear they are landing on Nanticoke Point, and that they have burnt Mr. Samuel McChestor’s house.

I hope, under these circumstances, the honourable Convention will excuse me I am, sir, [&c.]

William Adams.

To the Hon President of the Convention of Maryland.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, VI, 1140.
2. Dames Quarter, Somerset County, Maryland.

NARRATIVE OF CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND<sup>1</sup>

[H. M. S. *Roebuck*, June 1 to June 30]

1st June. The *Otter* came up to escort a Brig, laden with Provisions from Antigua for the use of the Army, and Sailed back to her Station the next day.

Govr Eden of Maryland sent his secretary with a letter to me, to inform me that he could stay no longer at Annapolis with any degree of safety to himself, and desired me to send one of the Kings Ships to recieve him onboard, which I sent him word I should do, when either of them could be spared.

- 8th A schooner arrived from North-Carolina, which brought an Acct that Sir Peter Parker & Genl Clinton had left Cape Fear the 31st of last month, and were sailed to the southd (as was supposed) to attack Charles Town; and a Passenger onboard informd me that he had left St Augustine abt a fortnight ago and that the People were in the greatest distress imaginable for want of Provisions. I therefore immediately dispatched My Tender with a Supply of Flour & Beef, and every thing that could be collected in the Fleet for the relief of the Garrison; by which opportunity I wrote to Sr Peter & the General to acquaint them of our Situation and in the Strongest terms recommendd the Island & Harbour to their attention as a Post proper to be kept for recruiting the Army & Fleet station'd to the So wd
- 10th

During all this time the Troops & Marines were constantly employed, as well as the People capable of working in the Fleet, in fortifying the Island. a Fort was erected at each end, and a line thrown up a Cross the Narrows point, forming it into a kind of redoubt. Frequent firings were held on both Sides but without any mischief on our parts. The Enemy did not Escape quite so well: but we were never able to get any certain account of their loss.

The Negro Troops, which had been inoculated before they left Norfolk, got thro' the disorder with great success, but the Fever which had been so fatal to them there, followed them also to the Island; so that notwithstanding the Corps was recruited with Six or eight fresh Men every day, yet the mortality among them was so great, that they did not now amount to above 150 effective Men. The detachment of the 14th Regt also became very weak, and the few Men of the New raised Corps were all down with the small Pox: so that we were still under the necessity of keeping the Marines on Shore to do the Common duty. This appeared to be the more necessary, as several deserters wch came in from the Enemy all agreed that they meant to attack us as soon as their Cannon were mounted, and that they worked day & night to finish a Battery they were erecting opposite to our Forts; all then that could be done, in this situation, untill the Island was put in a better state of defence was to harass the Enemy with the Tenders; which I kept constantly moving about, and making descents upon different parts of the Coast; in order to supply the Island with Stock, which they did to great advantage, & took several of the Enemys Vessels.

Govr Eden being under great apprehensions that the Committee of safety at Annapolis might change their mind, and not permit him to leave the Province, unless the Ship went up immediately for him, again applied to me & I dispatched the *Fowey* upon that service, and by Calms & contrary winds she did not join us again at Gwins Island untill the 30th June, when she returned with the Governor, and several Gentlemn desirous of getting a passage to England. During the time of her absence I had several People come on board from the Eastern shore of Maryland, to inform me that since the declaration of the Colonies for Independance, a great majority of the People there, and in the lower Counties of the Delaware, had come to the resolution to take up Arms in favr of Governmt. I thought it material to encourage this loyal Spirit of the People, but at the same time saw the necessity of their being quiet, untill they should be certain of their Numbers, and that every Man should be well supplied with ammunition. For this purpose I dispatched Captain [George] Montagu to the Tangier Sound to deal out ammunition to some particular Persons appointed to receive it.<sup>2</sup>

24th The *Lively* arrived from Halifax & New York with a Victualer under her convoy, and brought me dispatches from the Admiral, and then proceeded directly for South Carolina.

My Pilot boat returned from the Delaware which brought me a letter from Capt [Charles] Hudson of the *Orpheus*, acquainting me that he had sent the *Liverpool* to New York for Provisions, and that he would remain with the *Kings Fisher* at the Mouth of the Delaware untill I came to releave him; which I determined to do at all events as soon as the *Fowey* returned from the Eastern Shore.

1. Hamond, No. 5, UVL.

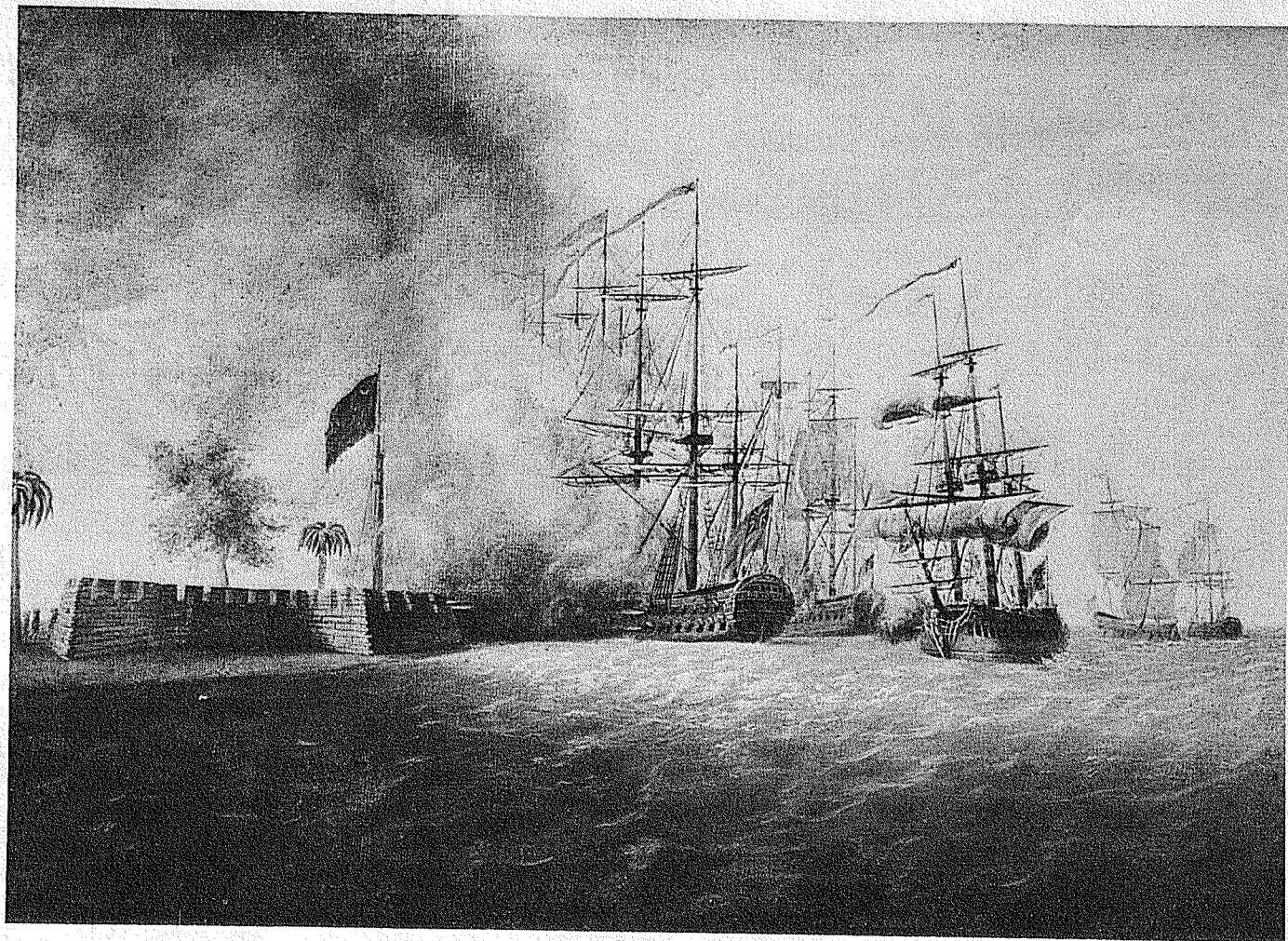
2. Hammond's recollections are at fault. The Declaration of Independence was not enacted before the *Fowey* returned with Governor Eden on June 30, 1776.

#### RICHARD HUTSON TO THOMAS HUTSON <sup>1</sup>

Dear Brother

Montpelier, June 30th 1776

I take the earliest opportunity of communicating the glorious News. The British Fleet & Army have both been shamefully repulsed. On Friday night last the ever memorable Twenty eighth of June between 10 and 11 o'clock the Signal having been given by the Admiral, seven Men of War & Two Bomb ketches weighed anchor, & got under way. One of the Men of War ran aground before she came up. the rest anchored off of the Fort on Sullivan's Island. The Admiral's ship of Fifty Guns, one of Forty four Guns & two of Twenty eight lay abreast about five hundred yards as Col [William] Moultrie thinks, from the Fort. the other 2 Men of War a little farther, & Two bomb ketches about three quarters of a mile. About a quarter after 11 the Admiral gave the signal for the attack, when one of the other Vessels



*"Sir Peter Parker's Attack Against Fort Moultrie, June 28, 1776."*



fired a gun at the Fort, which was immediately returned; upon this the Admiral poured in a Broadside and to it they went.

They kept up an incessant heavy Fire till Nine o'clock in the evening. I arrived at Fort Johnston about an hour after the Engagement had begun, where I had a full View. A more awfully pleasing sight I never beheld. I could wish you had seen it. The Land Forces on Long Island in the meantime, strained every Nerve to effect a Landing on the Back: but the Eighteen Pounder with Grape shot spread Havock, Devastation and Death, and always made them retire faster than they advanced. The Gallant [Charles] Lee was in the Fort during the hottest of the Engagement, walking the platform with the [greatest] coolness and self possession issuing the necessary orders. He has seen in his time, he says, many Bombardments and Cannonadings, but none comparable to this in one day. He is extravagant in his encomiums on the men. No veterans, he says, could have behaved better. The second Regiment have immortalized themselves. They had the whole Management of the Fort. Ten brave Fellows fell. One Sergeant, Two Corporals, and seven Privates. Two and Twenty men were wounded seven of whom have fractured Limbs. The Sergeant above mentioned McDougal by name rival Epaminondas in fame; when breathing his last, "My brave Lads, he cries, I am just expiring, but for Heaven's Sake let not sweet Liberty expire with me." There were but two Officers wounded, and they slightly - Lieut. Henry Gray received a Swivel Ball in his breast, but the force was so far expended that the wound was very superficial. Lieut. Thomas Hall received a blow on his Cheek from a Piece of a Hand spike, wh[ic]h was shattered by a Ball - There was not a single Man killed on our side at the back, and but one wounded. It is imagined that the Enemy left a great Number there. Col [William] Thompson commanded that Post. The Men of War are greatly dismantled, especially the Admiral's Ship wh[ic]h has lost her Mizzen Mast, and is otherwise much damaged. Col Moultrie's paid particular attention to her. We do not know what number of men they have lost. Five have been taken up on the Beach and buried and a number of skulls have been found.

They sheered off the next morning like Earless Dogs, and fell down near where they lay before, having first set fire to the one aground, in which affair they betrayed evident marks of the greatest Trepidation and Confusion, for they left all of the Guns loaded, and when they went off, by the Fire's coming to them, one side of the ship being towards the Fleet several of the shot fell very near the Shipping. They left a vast quantity of Powder on board which occasion an enormous Explosion. Our men in the Fort were entirely out of Powder once for the space of an hour, when they received a Supply from Town. Had the Enemy known this how easily might they have landed and taken Possession. We expended Five Thousand Weight of Powder and it is thought, that they expended forty times as much say Two Hundred Thousand Weight. We have lost no Balls for Col Moultrie says that he has picked up more of theirs than he fired away. You would be surprised to see how little Impression they have made on our Fort. One of

their first shots cut away our Flag staff and our merlons are stuck full of Balls, but otherwise the Fort is just in statu quo. The officers and men at Fort Johnston were wishing for sufficient Handspikes and strength to move the Fort a little nearer. They fired three shots by way of Trial, but could not reach them. They express great anxiety lest they should go off, without giving them an opportunity of reaping any Laurels. If they make any further attempt here, I am of opinion it will be to pass the Forts and give the Town a Cannonade, but I am rather inclined to think that they will favor you with a visit to Beaufort. I am yrs &c

Richd Hutson.

[Thomas Hutson, Esquire at Cedar Grove, Prince William County]

1. Charles Woodward Hutson Papers, UNCL typescript.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Experiment*, CAPTAIN ALEXANDER SCOTT <sup>1</sup>

June 1776 At Anchor 5 fathm hole near Charlestown  
 Saturday 30 A M at 8 weigh'd & drop'd farther down wth the Tide, at 10 came too wth the Sheet Anchor in 61½ fms veer'd to ½ a Cable, Carprs stopping the Shot holes between Wind & Water Fresh Gales & fair P M people empld knotting & splicing the standing rigg, Carprs &ca as before, Laid out the stream Anchor to steady the ship 8 down TopGt Yds at 10 Weigh'd the Br Anchor & shifted our birth.

A Scott <sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/331.

2. Captain Scott having lost his left hand, relinquished command of the *Experiment* this date.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SCHOONER *St. John*, LIEUTENANT WILLIAM GRANT <sup>1</sup>

[June 1776] Anchor'd in St Mary's River  
 Thursday 27. First & Middle pt light Airs & Clear, Latter Sultry with Thunder Lightning and heavy rain at 6 hove up our Anchor & put service on them a strong Tide running from the rivers - People variously Empd & under Arms.  
 Friday 28. Light Airs with Calms The Pilot boat in, saw nothing but heard the Rebels were reinforcing St Jully's Fort - recd some fresh Beef from Cumberland Island, sent the Boat up the River with Provisions to the Sick Men and Troops at 11 the Cutter returned  
 Saturday 29 Do Weather, saw a Brigg off the Bar, sent the Boat Manned & armed to speak her, the boat returned found her to be from St Augustine to procure a load of Lumber, People under Arms as before,  
 Sunday 30. Gunners empd Cleaning Arms, Carprs as before greased down the Lower Masts  
 Light Breezes & Clear Weather the first part Midle & Latter fresh Breezes and Squally with rain, the brigg at Anchor off the Barr, People under Arms.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

## 1 July

GOVERNOR SIR GUY CARLETON TO CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL, R.N.<sup>1</sup>

Sir

Chambly 1st of July 1776

I inclose a list of certain materials, which are required for Transporting the armed Vessels from Chambly to St Johns, by land, if you can furnish the whole or a part, I must beg you will send them to Chambly by the most expeditious means; but if you should be unable to assist us therein, please to send the list together with the enclosed letter<sup>2</sup> to the Commodore in all expedition, or if you supply us with a part, still send on the letter and list marking on the letter such things as you shall have supplied, that we may have the rest from the Commodore I am Sir &c

1. Guy Carleton Letter Book, BM.

2. *Ibid.*, Carleton to Captain Charles Douglas, R.N., July 1.GOVERNOR SIR GUY CARLETON TO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR HECTOR CRAMAHÉ<sup>1</sup>

Sir

Chambly the 1st of July 1776.

I have already written to you, and pressed you on the subject of procuring us boats; I must desire to be informed, as soon as possible, how you are likely to succeed, and if you meet retardment, or think you shall not get us any, that you will send us all the workmen you can collect from every where around you. I am &c

1. Guy Carleton Letter Book, BM.

PROCEEDINGS IN ADMIRALTY COURT AGAINST AN UNKNOWN AMERICAN  
SLOOP AND CARGO<sup>1</sup>

|                |   |  |
|----------------|---|--|
| Nova Scotia    | } | Thomas Bishop Esqr Commander of his Majestys Ship of |
| Court of Vice- |   | War <i>Lively</i> VS                                 |
| Admiralty      |   | A Certain Sloop unknown and Cargo                    |

10th. June 1776 Libel fil'd and entred Order made thereon as on file

Thomas Porter Captain of the mainmast of the *lively* being duly sworn Deposeth that some time in May last<sup>2</sup> they took a Sloop off of Cape Ann the people on board her quitted her before they took her that they found no Papers on board or any Person whatever that they brought her into this Port of Halifax and further saith not –

his

12th June 1776

Thomas X Porter  
mark

Sworne before me

Cha<sup>s</sup> Morris junr Regr –

[Endorsed] July 1st 1776 Court opened by making Proclamation as usual Decree Pronounc'd as on file whereby the above unknown

sloop and Cargo was Condemn'd as lawfull Prize to the Captors thereof

Court adjourn'd without Day –

1. Vice Admiralty Register, vol. 5, 1769–1777, N.S. Arch.

2. The sloop was taken on April 28, 1776; not in May. See journal of the *Lively* for that date.

JOHN LANGDON TO WILLIAM WHIPPLE <sup>1</sup>

Dear Sir –

Portsmouth 1st July 1776

Your favo'r of the 17th ulto is now before me the Money is come to hand, but had not to[tal][e]d it, suppose it right. I've just receiv'd a Letter from Providence by which I find the furnace will not have done till about the first of August for themselves, and then are ready for me and Mr [Thomas] Cushing provided I have it [in] my power to contract for them, which I've desired in several of my former Letters, pray send one Word, whither I may Contract at Providence or not. – I think it absolutely Necessary to have the Hands shipped, as they are now to be had, and when the Guns come, shall be ready, otherwise shall not get out this Season, if we wait till the Guns arrive, and then have the Men to get, and Provision, this matter is most strangely Neglected, the Ship laying here with every Rope Completely rove, all finished and Men of all denominations ready to Enter, but cannot; its very unfortunate; a number of Seamen have been waiting for three Months, and now suppose will go to Providence, as they have got the Furnace, they can say who shall have the first Ship to Sea tho' ours might have very well been out on a Cruize by this; which would have been one Month before any on the Continent, – I think it would be best when the Officers are appointed to have Orders to have Forty or Fifty Seamen & some Marines for Guard –

I am ready to send the Names of most of the warrant Officers, but as I should be glad to consult with the Commission Officers, who are the most proper Persons, should think there could be no inconvenience in sending Blank Warrants; the Commissions for the Commission Officers will be some time before shall get them, and then to send up the Names of Warrant Officers & get them filled up; will bring it to ab[ou]t September – We must have immediately a number of Men and different Officers to take Care of these Men – Pray always bare in mind the Guns, Powder, Provision & Men. –

I Observe what you mention about Agent, I have determined to resign my Seat in Congress, and I do hereby resign in Consequence of being appointed Agent, indeed if I was not appointed Agent beleive should not come, our Colony no doubt will send another at your or Brother [Josiah] Bartletts return of you shall think it Necessary, therefore shall thank you to have the matter settled, immediately and bring it with you, as you may very well take a ride down and go back again soon, I've wrote you by all means to bring my Carriage home with you and my Trunk white Hat and Sword blade left in my Chamber. –

Pray should I be appointed let my Orders or Commissions be Explicit

whither I am to transact all Prizes taken by Continental Vessells, and every matter particular – if another must be sent in my room I suppose the Court will choose one, the next time they meet suppose in August. – If it will be of any Service and it can be done without the least Trouble, I can leave my Business with somebody for Six Weeks or two Months, and core up, so as to spell you, & then come down with the appointment of Agent, but this only by the by, for if the least risque or Trouble in it, say nothing about it. —

I hope you'll immediately with Brother Bartlett, get this settled,<sup>2</sup> and that you'll take my Carriage and things, and come off immediately and you can take care of matters here for me whilst I come up if that matter can be brought about, it will do, for few Weeks, how ever have it settled some how, either to come up for few Weeks, to releive you and then to take my appointment as Agent or point Blank, to resign intirely I have mention'd this to several of our Court already, that should I be appointed agent my Seat in the House would be of Course vacated, I shall in form mention it to the House at their next Meeting. —

Pray make my best Respects to Mr [John] Hancock and beg him to mention, in the Letter to Mr Cushing or Captain [John] Bradford; Joseph Russell as Vendue Master for the Continental Business, as he well knows him to be [a] very suitable person, my Respects to his Lady likewise if you please. —

My kind respects to Mr Thos & Isaac Wharton to Madam Wharton, and also to the young Ladies – Mrs Hannah & Mrs Polly also to my Old Friend Mr [John] Alsop, and ask him why he dont get married, he'll be as old as I am, by and by then no young Quaker will have him, I wish to see you as soon as may be Your Friend [&c.]

John Langdon

N B – pray send or bring me the Phamphlet called the fall of British Tyranny a play –

1. John Langdon Letter Book, Captain J. G. M. Stone Private Collection, Annapolis.

2. *Ibid.*, Langdon wrote a similar letter to Josiah Bartlett this date.

#### JOHN LANGDON TO JOHN BROWN <sup>1</sup>

Sir –

Portsmouth 1st: July 1776

Your favo'r p post I've receiv'd and shall take Care, as soon as your Sloop arrives from Mount Desert, to give Captain Jacobs every assistance in my power, more especially as you intend fitting her out for a privateer, shall take care to give the Letter to Captain Jacobs which you inclos'd for him. – my services this way none would be more ready to serve then Your [&c.]

John Langdon

1. John Langdon Letter Book, Captain J. G. M. Stone Private Collection, Annapolis.

#### JOHN LANGDON TO NICHOLAS BROWN <sup>1</sup>

Sir –

Portsmo 1st: July 1776

Your favo'r of the 19th ulto is now before me, by which I see you'll

have done casting of Cannon; for the use of your Ships in about 4 or 5 Weeks, I've wrote to Philadelphia for Orders, to contract with you, for Guns, as I am convinced you can give them to me, as soon as they can to the Southward, I shall depend on having the next Cannon to your's. I am amazed at the [Marine] Committee, that they did not contract with you early, if they had, my Ship might have been at Sea.

We are compleatly rigged & finished; wait intirely for Guns, could also have ship't all our Hands; the last three Weeks, but the want of Guns prevented our putting Hands in pay, shall inform you as soon as have Orders. —With great respect, I am [&c.]

John Langdon

1. John Langdon Letter Book, Captain J. G. M. Stone Private Collection, Annapolis.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR CLAIMANTS TO INSPECT CARGO OF PRIZE  
BRIG *Elizabeth*<sup>1</sup>

Notice is hereby given, that the Brigantine *Elizabeth* and Cargo, (Peter Ramsey late master, bound from Boston to Halifax) retaken and brought into this port by Commodore Manly and others, in the service of the united colonies, are to commence invoicing at Portsmouth, the 24th day of this instant July (in preparation for sale, agreeable to a resolve of the honorable Continental Congress) and to continue till the whole is completed.

All persons legal claimants to any part of said brigantine and cargo, are desired to attend on said day, that their interest may be selected. Those persons interested, and neglecting to attend duly will be depriv'd the benefit of claiming, as all goods that may not be legally claim'd, will be invoiced for the use of the continent and captors, & sold accordingly.

Joshua Wentworth, Agent.

Portsmouth, New Hampshire, July 1, 1776

N.B. There were four negroes taken with said brig, viz: A negro man named Adam, John Rowe, Esq owner. A negro man named Scip, Harrison Gray Esq: owner. A negro woman named Belinder, Benjamin Austin Esq: owner. A negro woman named Brada, a widow Kitpath, owner.

1. *The Freeman's Journal*, July 6, 1776.

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT<sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Monday July 1st 1776.

Resolved, that there be a Company of Ship Carpenters, immediately agreed with, to enter into the Continental Service, & ordered to Albany, there to be under the direction of Genl Schuyler, or other commanding Officer. That they provide themselves with suitable tools, at their own Expence, & that necessary waggons be provided to transport their Tools, & Baggage to Albany, and that three pounds p Man be advanced in part of his Wages, to enable him to equip himself, & March to Albany, And that those Carpenters who have no tools, be provided therewith, deducting the cost

thereof from the Wages of such deficient Carpenter – That a Master workman be appointed to command this Company, whose Wages & allowance, together with those of the Company, be conformable to a memorandum of an agreement transmitted by Genl Schuyler the 25th Inst

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 35, 118, 121.

JOHN BRADFORD TO JOHN HANCOCK <sup>1</sup>

Dear Sir

Boston 1st July 1776

Duty obliges me to Acquaint you with the Situation I found our Little navy in, on my entering into that Department, you Remember sir, I hinted in a former Ltr that it wanted great Regulations. I found the Captains all at variance Each taxing the other with being a thief and a Robber, and all open mouth'd again Ayers [John Ayres] for being a Coward, the Unhappy disputes among those Captains has been the means of loosing two transports owing to a dispute between the Capts [Daniel] Waters and [William] Burke, who were Vulgar enough to quarrel on the Sabbath morning in hearing of their Boats Crews on a Wharfe at Marblehead, and wou'd have got to Blows, had not people prevented it. two Sail Appearing Burke went out and gave Chase, came up with them and Engaged them for a very considerable time, whilst Waters Look'd on and was only an Idle Spectator, for want of his Assistance the ships are lost to us, and Waters has sundry times Solemnly declared he wont sail in Company with Burk, tho not in my hearing.<sup>2</sup>

The Sailors are uneasy, they Complain they've been Choud'd out of their prize money by the Agent Colo [Jonathan] Glover. by being told that their shares wou'd be but trifling and have bot them for a fourth part of their real value; Those Complaints have been handed my by Mr [Jeremiah] Powell Mr [Henry] Bromfield and others of our fellow Citizens. you'l please to observe sir I was not known to those people, for when I Recd. my orders to Act they were aboard, I emediately on Receiving your orders to call on the Agents for a Settlement Obeyed yr directions, and shew to Colo Glover That Paragraph of your Letter, Yet when those prizes were brot. in he came to Boston and us'd all the Rhetoric he was master of to endeavour to perswade me that my Appointment was to Superintend over the whole, but that they were still to Act as before, I reply'd that I shou'd be guilty of the greatest unpoliteness and ingratitude to my Constituents and in short shou'd disgrace my self to Suffer Colo Glover to incommode him self, so much as to leave his home to do my Business whilst I was only a Spectator; he Reluctantly gave up the point and went home may I hope for so much Indulgence from you sir as to say at what Period I commenc'd Agent; it was After my Appointment the powder ship was taken, so were the two prizes wch were Carried into Lyn with provision & wine <sup>3</sup>

I beg leave to ask if a captain shou'd be wanted for either of the Scho[one]rs wou'd not the Service be impeded, as General Ward says he has no power to commission, its true he gave Capn [John] Skimmer a Breveat, But he wou'd be much better pleas'd with a proper Commission

The Fleet wch has been so long parading before our harbour is (I be-

lieve) gone off. I sent a message to the General Wednesday mornng to enquire if he had inform'd Commodore Hopk[ins] of the Fleet being in our Bay, he answer'd in the Negative, on wch I emediately dispatch'd an Express, but I find he was gone to Philada the Governor Called the Commee of Safety together, and Confer'd with the Person who had the Command of the ships But he refused mooving without the Consent of Capt Bidle [Nicholas Biddle], who was out on a Cruise, General Ward wrote too by the Express I sent –

I see not the least probability of coming at any money from Mess Glover & Bartlet for the Reasons offered in my last. that they know not the amount of the Ordnance Brigs Cargo nor the value of the English Goods taken by order of the General, they say, these suppose, they shant have more money than wil pay the people.

As it must be known to the Enemy that the Fleet and Army are gone hence, I beg leave to offer a hint for your Consideration, would it not be improving the Schooners to Advantage to send two or three of them a months Cruise to the Southward in pursuit of Jamaica ships, long experi[ence] has taught me to know the track of those vessells in their homeward bound voyage, and I am Convinced that in a month Cruising they may take as many as they could man with double their Compliment of men, therefore, it wou'd be expedient to carry a Greater number for that purpose – this is the proper season to meet them but it will soon be past –

I am Sorry to Acquaint you Sir, that the Fleet have carried their trophies off with them, for Fryday last [June 28] they sent a boat ashore to the Light house Island and carried off the pendant & Jack that was fix'd to two staffs erected for that purpose, our people saw them from the forts, but thought it best not to fire on them,<sup>4</sup> At last one of the Coal vessells is arriv'd here, And the other put out from Newbury Saturday last, but the wind has not favour'd her, and she is not yet got in. I will have her loaded in twelve hours after she arrives, the Reason of this long detention was, the fleet being before the harbour. I am fearful you will think I am too prolix, I therefore take my leave by earnestly wishing for a Continuance of your health being with the Strongest Attachment [&c.]

Jn Bradford

1. Walter Fuller Don Collection, SI.

2. An engagement between two transports and an armed schooner on June 8, 1776, was recorded in the journal of H.M. Sloop *Hope* for that day, and described by Captain Aeneas M'Intosh of a company of the 71st Highland regiment on board one of the transports, *Public Advertiser*, London, August 20, 1776.

3. Bradford refers to the powder ship *Hope* taken May 12, and the brigs *Jane* and *William* captured May 7, 1776. He was appointed Continental agent for Massachusetts April 23, 1776.

4. See journal of the *Flora*, June 25, 1776, "sent the Cutter ashore to Boston Light house."

#### CAPTAIN SETH HARDING TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL<sup>1</sup>

Hond Sir

Boston 1 July 1776—

I now enclose for your Honors perusal, an Inventory of as much of the Cargoes of the Ships *Lord How*, *George* and Brigantine *Annabella* as have



come to hand,<sup>2</sup> neither of the Vessells are yet unloaded, their are some Coals & a few other articles in Each – The prize Brigantine *Annabella* remains on the rocks – we hope we shall be able to gett her off, in the spring Tides

I expected to have receiv'd your Honors orders about returning to New London, as I believe the prospect of taking any more prizes is over – There has been ten sail, Men of War and Transports Cruising in the Bay for some days – we suppose them to be the last of the Highland Fleet – They disappeared on Fryday noon, having we suppose receiv'd intelligence of the evacuation of Boston.—Having nothing new for your Honors detention –I remain your [&c.]

Seth Harding

1. Trumbull Papers, V, 104a, ConnSL.

2. See inventories for the *Lord Howe*, *George*, and *Annabella* under July 29.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BOSTON, JULY 1.”<sup>1</sup>

Last Saturday Commodore Bank's first Lieut. killed in the engagement with Capt. Mugford, was found by a fifer on Deer-island. – had in his pocket, five guineas and four dollars, a gold watch, and by his side a silver hilted sword.

1. *Pennsylvania Ledger*, July 27, 1776.

*Newport Mercury*, MONDAY, JULY 1, 1776

Newport, July 1.

Mr. Samuel Buffum arrived in town last Thursday, in 4 weeks from Liverpool, 15 leagues from Halifax, and informs, that they had certain intelligence the day before he came off, that all the troops at Halifax were then embarked, to the amount of 10,000, but where bound was not known; that they had been embarked and disembarked several times before; that there were 10 sail of men of war in the harbour of Halifax; that the number of store ships which had arrived from England, and the many American vessels carried in there, had made provisions pretty plentyful; that the small pox had been very rife among the troops, but was much abated; that the people of Nova Scotia in general are very much in favour of the Colonies, but can do nothing.

Mr. Buffum further says, that he sailed from Isaac-Cape to Liverpool with Captain Elkanah Andrews, of Dighton, with a cargo of rum, &c. &c. and that Capt. Andrews went there with intent to get a new register for his vessel, and to trade out of that place, where he landed about 40 hogsheads of freight for one John Thomas, a noted Tory, who ran away from Plymouth last fall; and that Capt. Andrews finding his vessel would be liable to seizure, put out of Liverpool again as soon as the could, and came this way.

Last Friday went up Narraganset Bay, the brig ——— Capt. [Samuel] Chace, from Curacoa, with 7 tons of powder, some arms, 10 cannon, &c. on account of the United Colonies.<sup>1</sup>

Captain Joseph Mount came to town yesterday from the Eastward, and says his vessel, himself being on board, was cut out of Egg-Harbour last

March by a tender belonging to the *Phoenix*; <sup>2</sup> that he was carried to Halifax, which place he left the 28th of May; that while he was there Capt. Martindale, and all his officers were brought in from England, <sup>3</sup> having received the pardon of King George, but as soon as landed they were apprehended by a party of soldiers and committed to close jail, in which Capt. Mount himself was 2 days with Capt. Martindale, who was in good spirits, and told Capt. Mount that he expected to be set at liberty soon.

1. See *Providence Gazette*, June 29, 1776.

2. The sloop *Wanton*, cut out of Cranberry Inlet, March 22, 1776; Shuldhams's Prize List, May 23, 1776.

3. Captain of Washington's brig *Washington*, taken in December 1775. See previous volumes this series.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR. TO WILLIAM SEVER, KINGSTON <sup>1</sup>

Sir

New London July 1 1776

the bearer Capt [Daniel] Adams shew me a paper from you empowering him to purchase a number of Gunns to arme one of your Provence Brigs. <sup>2</sup> – I had just now purchased fifteen Four & Six pounders a pr Swivels Shott &c. as pr Invoice which he will deliver you Amounting to £907.9.2 which I intended for a Privateer – but Capt Adams has prevailed on me to let you have them, and that you might not be disapointed I have taken the Guns out of my Vessel discharged my people &c. and have agree'd to wait for the Money untill he can go & Inform you & return here with it – and shall rest satisfied that he will comply with his promise – Indeed no other person should have them. I am Sir [&c.]

To William Sever Esqr or in his Absence  
to Messr Watson & Spooner a Plymouth

1. Shaw Letter Book, YUL.

2. The guns were wanted for the Massachusetts colony brigantine *Rising Empire*.

JOHN COTTON TO BARNABAS DEANE <sup>1</sup>

Sir/

Middletown July 1st 1776 –

I Received yrs of the 28th June and a Greeable to yr Desire have Sent the Boat To Hartford after the Sparrs they will Take in what you have to Send down. I would have you Send Me Down 20 or thirty wt of Tallow for the Ri[gg]ing] and Some White Lead if you have any the Oacam I will See about and if I Can Gett 4 of 5 hhds Wt I have Nothing perticular Only the Ship Goes on Briskly – Desire the Blockmaker to Send Me the Blocks that I Wrote for [&c.]

John Cotton –

To Mr Barnabas Deane Mercht, in Wethersfi[e]ld

1. Barnabas Deane Papers, ConnHS.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO GEORGE WASHINGTON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Albany July 1st 1776

If any Cutlasses, Stink pots and Hand Grenades can be got I beg they may also be sent for the Use of our armed Vessels . . .

1. Washington Papers, LC.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO MAJOR GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

New York, July 1, 1776.

Sir: I received your Favours of the 20th. and 23rd. Ulto. and am happy to hear of the further Success of our armed Vessels in the Capture of the Transport with the Highland Grenadiers.<sup>2</sup> If they have been fortunate enough to take the 11 Ships mentioned in your last, I suppose we are in Possession of a large Share of the Highlanders ordered against us.

A Fleet has arrived at the Hook, which we suppose to be General Howe's, having received authentic Intelligence of his sailing from Hallifax on the 9th Ulto., with 132 Sail. One Hundred and ten came in on Saturday, more were in the Offing and a few had got in two or three Days before. We expect he will make an Attack, as soon as possible, and I am making every Preparation to receive him.

As we are extremely deficient in Arms here, and in great Distress for Want of them; I shall be glad if you will send all of those taken from the Highlanders, which you conceive can be possibly spared. Let them be sent immediately to Norwich, to the Persons there who were entrusted with the others, with Directions to forward them without Delay by Water, if there shall be no Risk; if there is, by Land.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 209, 210.

2. The ship *Lord Howe*, with the Grenadier Company of the 71st Highland Regiment.

JOURNAL OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL SAMUEL BLACHLEY WEBB<sup>1</sup>

[New York]

July 1st – By express from Long Island, we are informed that the whole fleet weighed Anchor and came from Sandy Hook, over under the Long Island shore, and Anchored abt half a mile from the shore – which leads us to think they mean a descent upon the Island this Night . . . We have also received Intelligence that our Cruisers on the back of Long Island, have taken and carried in one of the enemy's fleet laden with Intrenching Tools.

1. Ford, ed., *Webb Papers*, I, 151, 152.

*New-York Gazette*, MONDAY, JULY 1, 1776

New-York, July 1.

The Number of Transports now at Sandy-Hook, we hear amounts to 113 Sail, and we have not the least Reason to doubt, that General Howe is in this Fleet. From the number of Troops now here, and those on their Way, from different Parts of the Country, it is computed our Army will soon amount to 25,000 Men.

A Boat from the Fleet was reconnoitring in our Harbor last Saturday Night, but a Shot from one of our Batteries soon made her tack about.

Last Thursday Week the Privateers *Montgomery* and *Schuyler*, of this Port, retook and carried safe into a Port to the Eastward, two Whaling Brigs from Brazils, belonging to Nantucket, a Schooner belonging to Cape-Ann,



J. Smith delin.

sculpsit J. W. Hill sculp.

The HON<sup>BLE</sup>. S<sup>R</sup>. W<sup>M</sup>. HOWE,  
*Knight of the Bath, & Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in America.*

*London: Published as the Act directs, 10 Nov. 1781, by John Harris, Rat-Cave-Place.*

with Sugar and Molasses, and a Sloop from Rhode-Island with Lumber and Flour.

On board one of the Whalers, (Capt. Bunker) came Passenger, William Hallock, of the Whaling Brig *Elliot*, of this Port, who on the 19th of May, was taken and carried into Antigua, having on board 250 Barrels of Oyl, and gives us the following Account, viz. That Capt. Helms, with 400 Barrels was carried into Antigua also; and Capt. Jenkins, into Dominic[a], with 150 Barrels; that Capt. Jagger with 400 Barrels, had got into Guadeloupe; and Captain Darling, with four hundred barrels more, had arrived at St. Lucee; that Capt. Pinkman with 200 Barrels was left on the Brazil Coast, and he supposed all the other Whalers were well.

One of the above-mentioned Vessels was taken by the *Greyhound* Frigate, Captain Dickerson [Archibald Dickson], from Halifax for New-York, having General Howe on board. The Ship sailed from Halifax the 9th of June, in Company with a Fleet of 130 Sail.

We hear that four more Transports with Troops, besides those already mentioned, have been lately taken, and carried into some of our Ports to the Eastward.

#### JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Chatham*, CAPTAIN JOHN RAYNOR <sup>1</sup>

July [1776]

[Anchored at Sandy Hook]

Monday 1

AM Light Winds & very foggy –

at 3 PM the fog clear'd away. at 4 made the signal Weighd made sail in Company with the fleet at ½ past 5 past HM Ship *Asia* in the Narrows at 7 Came too in Gravesend Bay with the fleet & Moor'd with the Stream Anchor at 9 PM Came on a thick fog with thunder & Lightning

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/192.

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

[Philadelphia] Monday, July 1, 1776

*Resolved*, That this Congress will resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the resolution respecting independency:

*Resolved*, That the Declaration be referred to said committee.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole. After some time, the president resumed the chair. Mr. [Benjamin] Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matters referred to them, and have agreed to the resolution, which they ordered him to report, and desired him to move for leave to sit again.

The resolution agreed to by committee of the whole being read, the determination thereof was postponed, at the request of a colony, till to morrow.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to Morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the declaration respecting independence.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 503, 504–06.

LIST OF OFFICERS RECOMMENDED TO CONGRESS BY MARINE COMMITTEE <sup>1</sup>

## In Marine Committee

[Philadelphia] 1st July 1776 -

## Officers recommended to Congress

For the *Warren*

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| Robert Adamson | first lieutenant |
| James Sellers  | second do.       |
| Richard Marvin | third do.        |
| John Granis    | Capt. of Marines |

For the *Providence*

|               |                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| William Baron | first lieutenant                  |
| Benjamin Page | third do.                         |
| Silas Devall  | Captain of Marines                |
| Wm. Jennison  | 1st lieut of Marines <sup>2</sup> |

For the *New hampshire* [*sic Raleigh*]

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Thomas Thompson      | Captain              |
| Peter Shores         | first lieutenant     |
| Jno Wheelwright      | second lieutenant    |
| Josiah Shackford     | third do.            |
| George Jerry Osborne | Captain of Marines   |
| Stephen Meads        | first lieutenant do. |
| Nathaniel Thwing     | second do. -         |

extract from Minutes

T Matlack secy.

1. Papers CC, Miscellany, NA.

2. These final recommendations of the Marine Committee differ somewhat from those of the Rhode Island Committee for building the two frigates, which appointed commissioned officers without the sanction of the Continental Congress. According to the committee's record book, the appointments were:

| Ship <i>Warren</i>     |                     |               |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| John Grannis           | Capt. of Marines    | June 14, 1776 |
| George Stillman        | 1st Lieut. Marines  | June 14, 1776 |
| Barnabus Lothrop       | 2d Lieut. Marines   | June 14, 1776 |
| James Sellers          | 2d Lieut.           | June 20, 1776 |
| Ship <i>Providence</i> |                     |               |
| Capt William Barron    | Master              | May 22, 1776  |
| Silas Devol            | Capt. of Marines    | June 20, 1776 |
| William Barron         | 1st Lieut.          | June 20, 1776 |
| Benjamin Page          | 3d Lieut.           | June 20, 1776 |
| Seth Chapin            | 2d Lieut. Marines   | June 24, 1776 |
| Avery Parker           | 1st Lieut. Marines  | July 6, 1776  |
|                        | (if he enl. 33 men) |               |
| John Channing          | 2d Lieut.           | July 8, 1776  |

In addition, two of the men listed in the Marine Committee recommendations were appointed, but unassigned to either ship; James Sellers, as a third lieutenant, "wth his Inlisting 12 good Seamen" May 31, and William Jennison, a 1st Lieutenant of Marines "on his Inlisting Twenty five good Men" May 29, 1776. Journal R. I. Frigates, RIHS.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Philadelphia, July 1, 1776

I am truly sorry that guns &c for the ships cannot be got as soon as wanting; but so it happens – the Committee appointed for that purpose have not been able to procure them yet – as to naval affairs I must refer you to brother Whipple who continues on the Marine Committee alias Board of Admiralty and who wil while here inform you from time to time what is to be done in your department as Agent for New Hampshire. . .

1. William Whipple Papers, Force Transcripts, LC.

DIARY OF CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL <sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia] July 1st 1776 –

. . . past 10 went to Coffe house thence to Court house the tryal of Ship *Juno* & [a schooner *Thistle*] <sup>2</sup> which I am informed were both condemned, the Sd Jury insisted that the Kings arms in Court room should be took down the Same I am enformed was done . . .

1. Diary of Christopher Marshall, HSP.

2. *Thistle* was condemned with *Juno* this date.MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

## In Committee of Safety.

Philad'a, 1st July, 1776.

By order of the Board, Robert Towers, Commissary, was directed to deliver Capt. Nath'l Falconer, for account of Congress, 12 Cutlases & 28 lb Musket Ball.

By order of the Board, Robert Towers was directed to deliver Mr. [Joseph] Moulder 4 pieces of Russia Sheeting, for awnings for the Shallop for accomodating the Fire Raft Men.

By order of the Board, an order was drawn on Jno. Nixon, Esq'r and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Mr. John Williams, for £100, towards the payment of a Gondola he is building.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 621, 622.

“AMOUNT OF MEN IN ACTUAL PAY, OFFICERS INCLUDED, IN THE  
SERVICE OF THE PROVINCE OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO THE FIRST  
JULY, 1776.” <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

As P the Muster Rolls, vizt,

|                              | [Commander]      | [Number of Men] |
|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| The Navy, viz.,              |                  |                 |
| The Ship <i>Montgomery</i> , | Samuel Davison,  | 109             |
| Floating Battery,            | John Henesy,     | 111             |
| Congress,                    | John Hambleton,  | 43              |
| Franklin,                    | Nathan Boyce,    | 48              |
| Effingham,                   | Hugh Montgomery, | 25              |

|                        |                      |         |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------|
| <i>Dickenson,</i>      | John Rice,           | 33      |
| <i>Chatham,</i>        | James Montgomery,    | 34      |
| <i>Hancock,</i>        | Thomas Moore,        | 38      |
| <i>Warren,</i>         | Thomas Houstin,      | 18      |
| <i>Burke,</i>          | James Blain [Blair], | 21      |
| <i>Cambden,</i>        | Richard Eyres,       | 35      |
| <i>Bull Dog,</i>       | Alexr Henderson,     | 43      |
| <i>Washington,</i>     | Henery Dougherty,    | 45      |
| <i>Experiment,</i>     | Lt. Benj. Thompson,  | 26      |
| <i>Ranger,</i>         | Lt. Robt. Hume,      | 28      |
|                        |                      | ——— 657 |
| <i>Sloop Etna,</i>     | Wm. Gamble,          | 4       |
| <i>Sloop Sally,</i>    | Martin Wirt,         | 7       |
| <i>Sallamander,</i>    | Charles Lawrence,    | 13      |
| <i>Schooner Lydia,</i> | James Simpson,       | 5       |
| <i>Porcupine,</i>      | Robt. Tatnell,       | 12      |
| <i>Brimstone,</i>      | Wm. Watkin,          | 10      |
| <i>Sloop Hetty,</i>    | Henery Hoover,       | 3       |
| <i>Eagle,</i>          | Jacob Hance,         | 10      |
| <i>Sloop Terror,</i>   | Robt Hardie,         | 11      |
| <i>Vulture,</i>        | Wm. Greenaway,       | 11      |
|                        |                      | ——— 86  |
|                        | [Total] ———          | 743     |

Lod'k. Sprogel, M.M.

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, IV, 780-781. From the *Congress* to the *Ranger*, the vessels were thirteen galleys, or gondolas. In the second group, the *Sallamander*, *Porcupine*, *Brimstone*, *Eagle*, and *Vulture* were armed boats, or barges; the *Aetna*, a fire sloop.

#### JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Annapolis] Monday 1st July 1776

Ordered That the Treasurer of the Western Shore pay to Capt'n James Nicholson five hundred and fourteen Pounds, for one month's pay of the ship's Crew on board the *Defence*. —

Ordered That said Treasurer pay to Messrs Lux & Bowly three hundred and ninety three pounds, twelve shillings for Demurrage and Detention of Brig *Fortune*.

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

#### JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND CONVENTION <sup>1</sup>

[Annapolis] Monday, July 1, 1776.

On reading and considering the memorial of the Council of Safety relative to fortifying the harbour of the city of Annapolis, and it appearing that cannon could not be procured, and that even if it could, the sum appropriated is not sufficient to erect such fortifications and place such obstruc-



tions in the river as was expected by the Convention, Resolved, That a sum not exceeding ten thousand pounds common money, exclusive of the cost of cannon, powder, gallies, and the like, be appropriated to the defence of the city of Annapolis; and that the same, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be laid out and expended for that purpose, under the direction and orders of the Council of Safety, in lieu of the said sum heretofore appropriated in the session of December.

1. *Maryland Convention, 13.*

MINUTES OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY COMMITTEE OF OBSERVATION <sup>1</sup>

Court House in Leonard Town July 1st 1776.

In Committee.

Present, Coll Abraham Barnes in the chair.

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Majr James Eden   | Colo Jno H Read        |
| Majr Samuel Abell | Maj Ignatius Fenwick   |
| Capt John Smith   | Mr Wilfred Neale       |
| Capt Edward Abell | Mr William Taylor      |
| Capt Gerard Bond  | Mr Henry Tubman        |
| Capt Vernon Hebb. | Mr Nicholas L. Sewall. |

On reading a letter from Danl Wolstenholme Esq Collect[or] of his Majesty's Customs on North Potowmack, setting forth that by advice of his physicians, he intended to leave this province and return to Great Britain, his native country, on account of his infirm State of health, for which purpose he had obtained a warrant, from the Right Honorable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Board of Treasury in London. Yet the peculiar Circumstances of the times, joined to his own inability to prosecute the intended voyage had unfortunately prevented him from embracing the opp[or]tunity, within the time limited by the aforesaid warrant. By which means he is utterly disenabled by peculiar circumstances from making a second application to their Lordships for a renewal of it, and hoping under such a predicament to be able to justify his conduct in his proposed departure finds himself under the necessity of making immediate application to this committee for the grant of such a passport as may enable him to leave the province with safety to himself and that security to his property, which he hath ever hitherto enjoyed so soon as he can with convenience to the present situation of his affairs, procure a passage for that purpose.

Thereupon Resolved unanimously, that the said Daniel Wolstenholme Esq have leave to depart this province (with his effects unmolested) to Great Britain at any time hereafter as shall by him be judged most convenient for his health and private concerns, and that the Chairman make out a passp[or]t, to be delivered to the said Danl Wolstenholme Esquire agreeable to this Resolve.

(Copy)

Test. Timothy Bowes, Clerk.

1. Correspondence of Council of Safety, Md. Arch.

"NARRATIVE BY THOMAS BENNET OF COLONEL DANIELSON'S MASSACHUSETTS REGIMENT – DANIEL HAWKINS OF BOSTON, ROBERT SCOTT, & EDMUND ALLSTON OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, AND JAMES SCOTT OF VIRGINIA, DESERTERS FROM THE FLEET, WHICH ATTACKED, AND WERE BEATEN OFF BY, THE FORT AT SULLIVANTS ISLAND ON FRIDAY THE 28TH JUNE 1776." <sup>1</sup>

[Endorsed] taken the 1st. July 1776

They are all Americans and had been taken by the Enemy at Sea, Bennet Hawkins & Scott in the Sloop *Sally*, Hamilton [*sic* James Scott] and Allston in the Brig *Friendship*

The *Bristol* of 50 Guns commanded by Sir Peter Parker, greatly damaged in her Hull, large Knees & Timbers shot thro' and smashed – if the Water had not been very smooth it would have been impossible to have kept her from sinking – all the Carpenters in the Fleet had been called to her Assistance –

Mizzen Mast shot away

Main Mast badly wounded by three several Shott – Foremast by two –

Rigging Sails & Yards much damaged

The Captain of the Commodore lost his left Arm above the Elbow – he was sent yesterday (30th June) to England in a Brig – the Commodore's Breeches torn off – his Backside laid bare, his Thigh and Knee wounded – he walks only when supported by two Men

44 Men killed & 30 wounded, among whom were many Midshipmen, & petty officers, 20 of the wounded dead since the Action – talked in the Fleet, that the two large Ships would go over the Bar again, and proceed to English Harbour in Antigua to be repaired –

The *Bristol* when lightened as much as possible draws 18 Feet 7 of Water –

*Experiment* of 50 Guns on two Decks all 12 Pounders a slighter built Vessel, than the *Bristol*, exceedingly damaged in her Hull, several Ports beat in one – her Mizen Mast hurt – but uncertain of Particulars –

Killed 57 of whom the Capt was one – wounded 30, several since dead – draws when lighted 17 Feet Water – the general opinion that neither of these large Ships will go safely over the Bar again –

*Solebay* – 28 Guns 2 Men killed 4 wounded –

*Active* – 28 – Lieut killed 4 wounded –

*Acteon* 28 – *Sphynx* 20 – *Syren* 28 all got aground – the first in coming up – the two latter in running away – the *Sphynx* cut away her Bowsprit – the *Syren* got off – *Acteon* (by the assistance of a friendly English Seaman) remained fast – burnt & blown up by her own People –

While she was on fire, Mr Millegen one of our Marine officers, & a Party of Men boarded her, brought off her Colours – the Ship's Bell, and as many Sails & Stores as their Boats could contain –

The *Thunder* Bomb lay at a considerable Distance throwing Shells at

the Fort, & by overcharging had shattered the Beds and damaged the Ship so much as to render it necessary for her to go into Dock before she can act again.

The *Friendship*, a hired armed Vessel of 26 Guns of various Sizes, covered the Bomb, as did the *Syren*, who also fired very briskly at the Fort Re-cochet Shots –

The whole Fleet badly manned & sickly – particularly the *Syren's* Crew and 2/3d short Allowance of Provisions & Water – they have had no fresh Meat since their Arrival (1st of June)

Lord Wm Campbell had been very anxious for the Attack, & proposed to take all the Forts with only the *Syren* & *Solebay* –

Lord Cornwallis has the Cheif Command of the Land Forces – he and General Clinton are both ashore with the Troops at Long Island – his Lordship some Time ago had urged Sir Peter Parker to attack on the Sea Side, otherwise he would march up, attack and take the Fort and complain of Sir Peter's Tardiness – the Commodore replied, Lord Cornwallis might march his Troops when he pleased – but the Fleet required fair Wind; the first that happened, he would proceed against the Fort – the Genl at that Time beleived we had no Troops out of Garrison, but he was soon better informed – being since repulsed & drove back with Loss – he remained quiet and left the Commodore to enjoy the Glory of being defeated alone [This must have been a mistake, from Lord Cornwallis's having the command when the fleet left Cork, in Ireland]<sup>2</sup>

The Negro Pilot Sampson who is exceedingly caressed, was on Board the Commodore, & put down with the Doctor out of Harm's Way –

When the Fleet sailed from Ireland, the Number of Troops was about 4000, but 11 Transports had been seperated from the Rest, & not since heard of –

The former Deserters from on Board the *Ranger* Sloop who had seen all the Land Forces, said the Amount was from 1300 to 2000 at most –

Between 9 & 10 O'Clock the Night of the Action, the Commodore & the other Ships began to steal away – they made no piping, nor waited to heave up their Anchors, but slipped their Cables. –

The Commodore has only 1 anchor & Cable left.

About 2 O'Clock on Friday (when the Fort was waiting for a Supply of Powder) some of the Men of War's Men mistaking the unavoidable Silence for a Surrender, cryed out, the Yankees have done fighting – others replied, by God we are glad of it, for we never had such a Drubbing in our Lives – we had been told the Yankees would not stand two Fires but we never saw better Fellows – all the Common Men in the Fleet spoke loudly in Praise of the Garrison – brave fine Fellows –

The Seamen in general are desirous of getting on Shore to join the Americans –

One Mr Neil, a Deserter from Col. [Christopher] Gadsden's Regiment

had informed the Commodore, that before he left Fort Johnson, he had spiked up all the Cannon, & that the Fort might be easily taken. –

A Report in the Fleet that no Quarters would be given to the Americans, & that £5000 had been offered for Genl Lee.

True Copy

John Hancock

1. Washington Papers, LC.

2. The bracketed sentence was introduced by the original copyist.

#### MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Williamsburg] Monday, 1st July, 1776.

Ord[ered], that the General <sup>2</sup> be requested to deliver to the order of Colo. George Mason the 2 pieces of cannon, 18-pounders, now before Gwinn's Island, as soon as the same can be spared from thence, and to engage a proper person to convey them to Mrs. Webb's landing, on Piscataway creek, for the use of the Rowe Galleys on Potowmack River.

Mr. James Hubbard having returned an Inventory of the Cargo on board the *Oxford* Prize – It is ordered, that he proceed to sell the s'd Goods as soon as appraised, at public auction, for ready money (except the Blankets and Tent and all of waistcoats and Barrel of powder), rendering an acc't of sales and paying the money into the Treasury subject to future order.

Mr. Hubard re[turn]d to the Comm'ee the 54 Guineas found on board the *Oxford* prize, w'ch are or'd to be sent to the Treasury to be exchanged for continental currency.

A warrant to Arch'd Cary, Esq'r, for £400 upon acc't for the building Rowe Galley, and for use Chester[fiel]d County, £57.10.0 for powder furnished the public.

Colo. Cary is desired to deliver 300 lbs. of the powder purchased of Chester'd county to Capt. [George] Muter for his Rowe Galley.<sup>3</sup>

A warrant to Jos. Jones, Esq'r, for use Col. Fielding Lewis for £1,800 upon acc't, to enable him to pay the private adventurers their share of the goods lately imported in Rappa. and taken into the public store. £1,000 upon acc't, for the expenses of the Navy in Rappa.; also £500 upon acc't, for use Comm[issio]n's Gun Factory.

Colo. Fielding Lewis is directed to average the wages of the officers and seamen belonging to the vessels that sailed from Rappa. on the public acc't, as well as on the acc't of the private adventurers.

A warrant to Capt. Thos. Nelson for use David Thompson, for £15.6.1, for sundry rigging and other necessities furnished Capt. Robt. Tompkins rowe Galley.<sup>4</sup>

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 229, 230, 231.

2. Brigadier General Andrew Lewis.

3. The galley *Hero*.

4. The galley *Henry*.

MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES LEE TO COLONEL WILLIAM MOULTRIE <sup>1</sup>

Dear Colonel,

Charlestown, July the 1st, 1776.

[Isaac] Huger's regiment have offered themselves to work at your fort. I believe a corps of blacks would have answered better, but the president and vice-president think otherwise. You must desire the baron, to throw up the redoubt I ordered near on the beach, to prevent their landing. The carpenter's I hope will soon finish the gate. I have applied for six horses, and hope I shall procure them for you. Five deserters are just arrived here from the ships-of-war. Inclosed I send you a list of the murders your garrison will now have to answer for, but I hope it will sit light on their consciences. I am, Dear Colonel, yours.

Charles Lee

P.S. I must request that your garrison may be kept more vigilant than ever, and that Col. Thompson and his corps do not relax; for it is almost proverbial in war, that we are never in so great danger as when success makes us confident. . . . Let the bridge be finished as soon as possible.

1. *Moultrie's Memoirs*, I, 171-72.

COLONEL CHRISTOPHER GADSDEN TO COLONEL WILLIAM MOULTRIE <sup>1</sup>

Dear Sir,

Fort Johnson, 1st July, 1776.

I most heartily congratulate the colony on the drubbing you gave those fellows the other day, and only wish you had had powder enough, that it might have been complete. Inclosed I send you a copy of a letter I sent Gen. Lee this morning, containing the information I received from five honest fellows, Americans, that got away last night.

If they come up again they are determined to come as close to the forts as possible, in order I suppose to command us more easily from their tops, two of these men were on board the *Commodore* in the action, they say, your first fire killed a man in the tops, upon which the *Commodore* ordered them all out of the tops, when whence, they assured us there was not a gun fired. The *Sphinx* lost her bowsprit by running foul of the *Acteon*, and they were obliged either to cut away their bowsprit or the *Acteon's* mainmast. These men all belonged to the *Acteon*, and two of them were drafted on board the *Commodore* just before the action. I fired three cannon at the *Syren*, merely to please several of my officers which fell far short as I expected. We admired your behaviour, but could do no more. My compliments to all your corps. We drink their healths every day . . . If you will send this account to Gen. [John] Armstrong I shall be obliged to you. Yours, sincerely,

Christopher Gadsden.

P.S. As soon as the action began, the *Commodore* ordered to be put into a place of safety, negro Sampson, a black pilot.

C.G.

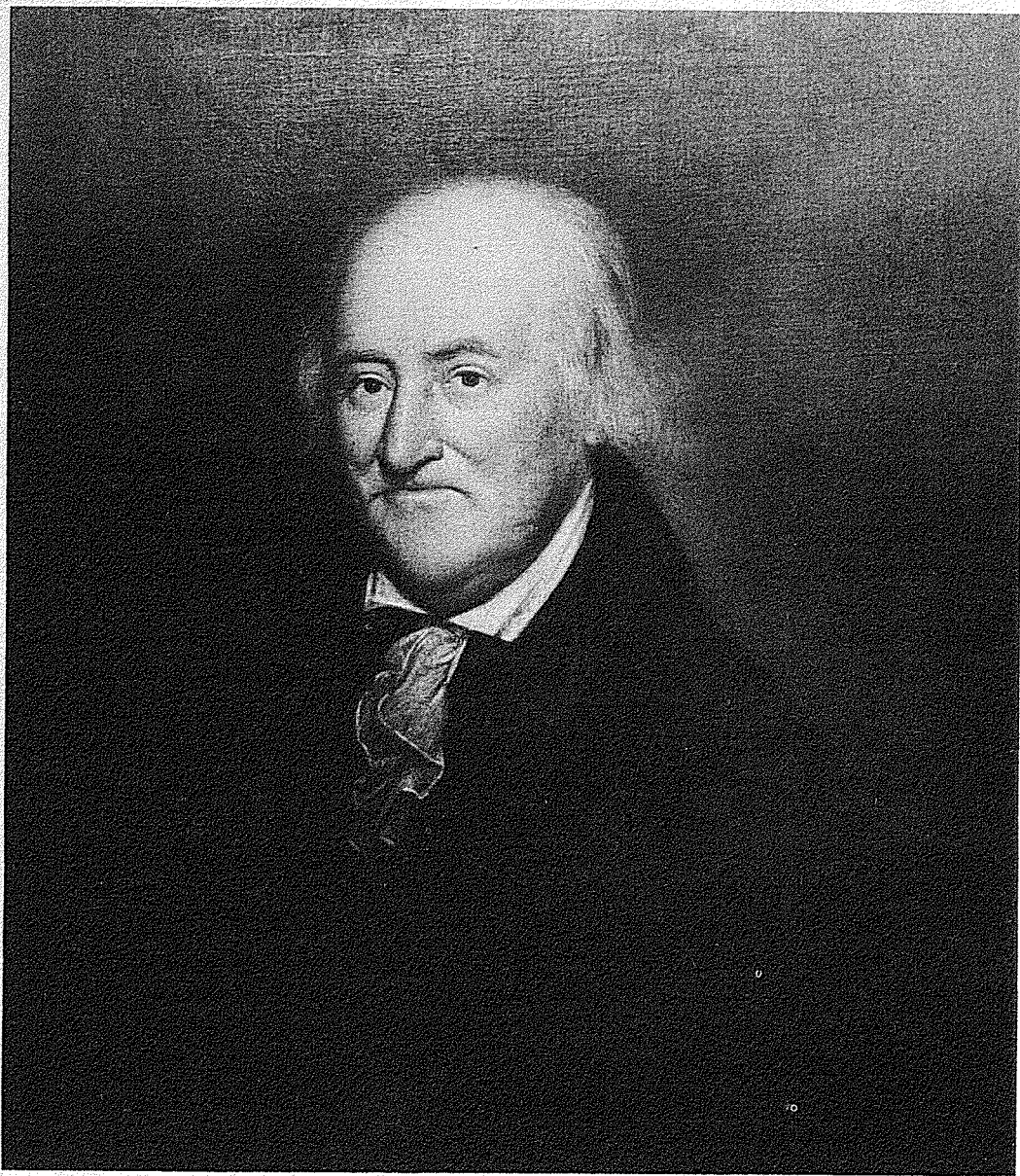
1. *Moultrie's Memoirs*, 170-71.

MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES LEE TO GEORGE WASHINGTON <sup>1</sup>

My Dr General

Charlestown July the 1st 1776

I have the happiness to congratulate You on a very signal success (if I may not call it a victory) which We have gain'd over the Mercenary Instruments of the British Tyrant – I shall not trouble you with a detail of their manouvres or delays – but defer it to another time when I have more leisure to write and you to attend – let it suffice that having lost an opportunity (such as I hope will never again present itself) of taking the Town which on my arrival was utterly defenceless, the Commodore thought proper on Fryday last with his whole Squadron consisting of two fifty's six Frigates and a Bomb (the rates of which You will see in the inclosd list) <sup>2</sup> to attack our Fort on Sullivan's Island – They drop'd their anchors about eleven in the forenoon at the distance of three or four hundred yards before the Front Battery – I was Myself at this time in a Boat endeavoring to make the Island, but the wind and tide being violently against us drove us on the Main – They immediately commenc'd the most furious fire that I ever heard or saw – I confess I was in pain from the little confidence I repos'd in our Troops – the Officers being all Boys; and the Men raw recruits – what augmented my anxiety was that We had no bridge finish'd of retreat or communication and the Creek or Cove which seperated it from the Continent is near a Mile wide – I had receiv'd likewise intelligence that their land troops intended at the same time to land and assault – I never in My life felt Myself so uneasy – and what added to my uneasiness was that I knew our stock of ammunition was miserably low – I had once thoughts of ordering the Commanding Officer to spike his Guns and when his ammunition was spent to retreat with as little loss as possible – however I thought proper previous to send to Town for a fresh supply, if it cou'd possibly be procured and order'd my Aid de Camp Mr [Francis Otway] Byrd who is (a lad of magnanimous Courage) to pass over in a small Canoe and report the state of the spirit of the garrison – if it had been low I shou'd have abandon'd all thoughts of defence – his report was flattering – I then determin'd to maintain the Post at all risks – and pass'd the Creek or Cove in a small boat in order to animate the Garrison in propria persona – but I found They had no occasion for such encouragement They were pleas'd with my visit and assur'd me They never woud abandon the Post but with their lives – the cool courage They displayd astonishd and enrapturd me – for I do assure You, My Dr General, I never experienc'd a hotter fire – twelve full hours it was continued without intermissio[n] The noble Fellows who were mortally wounded conjur'd their Brethren never to abandon the Standard of liberty – Those who lost their limbs deserted not their Posts – upon the whole They acted like Romans in the third Century – however our works were so good and solid that We lost but few – only ten kill'd on the Spot – and twenty two wounded – seven of whom lost their legs or arms – the loss of the Enemy, as you will perceive by the inclos'd list was very great – as I send a detail to the Congress I shall not trouble you with a duplicate – but before I finish, You must suffer me to recommend to your es-



*Christopher Gadsden.*

teem Friendship and Patronage my two young Aid de Camps Byrd and [Jacob] Morris whose good sense integrity activity and val[ou]r promise to their Country a Most fruitfull crop of essential services – Mr [Daniel] Jenifer of Maryland a Gentleman of fortune and not of the age when the blood of Men flows heroically, has shewn not less spirit than these Youngsters – I may venture to recommend in these high terms because the tryal was severe –

Colonel Mou[lt]rie who commanded the Garrison deserves the highest honours – the manifest intention of the Enemy was to land at the same time the Ships began to fire, their wh[illegible] regulars on the East end of the Island – twice They attem[pted] it and twice were repuls'd by a Colonel [William] Thompson of the S-Carolina Rangers in conjunction with a body of N- Carolina Regulars – upon the whole, the S- and N- Carolina Troops and Virginian Rifle Battalion We have here, are admirable Soldiers – The Enemy is now return'd to their old Station on this side the Bar what their intention is I cannot divine – One of the five Deserters who came over to us this day is the most intell[i]gent Fellow I ever m[et] with – the accounts of their particular loss and situa[tion] are his, and, I think, They may be depended upon – for God's sake, My Dr General, urge the Congress to furnish me with a thousand Cavalry – with a thousand Cavalry I cou'd insure the safety of these Southern Provinces; and without Cavalry I can answer for nothing – I proposd a scheme in Virginia for raising a body without almost any expence, the scheme was relish'd by the Gentlemen of Virginia, but I am told that the project was censur'd by some Members of the Congress, on the principle that a Military Servant shoud not take the liberty to propose any thing – this opinion I sincerely subscribe to when our distance from the Sovereign is so small and the danger so remote as to admit of proposing deliberating resolving and approving but when a General is at a vast distance and the Enemy at close to him I humbly conceive that it is his duty to propose and adopt any thing without other authority than the public safety – from want of this species of Troops We had infallibly lost this Capital, but the dilitoriness and stupidity of the Enemy saved us – I this instant learn that the Commodore is fixing buoys on the bar which indicates an intention of quitting the place – it is probable that they will bend their course to Hampton or Cheasepeke Bay –

I am extremely happy, Dr General, that you are at Philadelphia for their Councils sometimes lack a little military el[e]ctricity –

I have orderd the Adjutant General to send you a return – I mean only a return of the strength of this place – I suppose it will be imperfect for it is an Herculean labour to a S- Carolina Officer to make any detail – God bless, You, My Dr General and crown you with success – as I am most entirely and affectionately Yours

Charles Lee <sup>3</sup>

I am made quite happy by the resolution of Congress to keep Canada had it been relinquish'd – all wou'd have been lost –

1. Washington Papers, LC.

2. See *Narrative of Thomas Bennet et al.*, July 1, 1776.

3. *Ibid.*, Lee wrote a similar letter to John Hancock on July 2.



VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO CAPTAIN HENRY BRYNE, H.M.S. *Hind* <sup>1</sup>

(A Copy)

Whereas the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have directed me to appoint Convoys to the homeward bound trade from these Islands, You are hereby required and directed to Compleat the Victualing &c. of His Majesty's Ship *Hind* under your Command to three Months; and proceed to Basseterre at the Island of St Christopher's, and make known to all Merchant Vessels as are bound to Great Britain or Ireland, that you are appointed to Convoy them, and direct the Masters of said Vessels to put themselves under your Command, and obey such Orders and directions as they may receive from you, and to take the utmost care they do not loose Company with His Majesty's Ship *Hind* under your Command; You are to Sail from St Christopher's the 7th July with all such Merchant Vessels as are then ready, and on no Account to remain longer there; you are to proceed with said Convoy on their way to Europe one hundred Leagues clear of the Island of Anguilla and are then to open the Secret Orders you will receive herewith, for your farther proceedings, and are Strictly to comply therewith for which this shall be your Order.

Given under my Hand at English  
Harbour Antigua, the 1st July 1776.

Jam<sup>s</sup> Young

[Enclosure]

#### Secret Order

Whereas I have directed you by my Order of this date, to take Charge of the homeward bound trade from these Islands, and Convoy them from St Christopher's on their way to Europe 100 Leagues clear of the Island of Anguilla, and thence have recourse to these Secret Orders for your farther proceedings.

You are hereby farther required and directed to proceed with said Convoy as far to the Northward as the Latitude of 27° No and then leave them to proceed of their Voyage; transmitting a List of all Vessels which come under your Convoy to the Secretary of the Admiralty, and deliver me a Copy of the same when you return, after performing the above Service, You are to proceed forthwith to English Harbour Antigua, Speaking all Vessels you may fall in with on your passage, and taking as Prizes all American Vessels, agreeable to former Orders, for which this shall be your Order:

Given under my Hand at English  
Harbour Antigua the 1st July 1776.

Jam<sup>s</sup> Young.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/309.

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

Sir.

English Harbour Antigua, the 1st July 1776.

I am now to desire you will be pleased to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the 18th June I received the inclosed Letter

marked No 1, from the Master Shipwright of His Majesty's Yard here; Complainings of the great defects discovered by him in Searching his Majesty's Ship *Argo*, on which I immediately Ordered a careful and Exact Survey to be taken on the defects complained of on board said Ship; and now inclose for their Lordships information, the Report thereof marked No. 2.

I am of Opinion the Repairs necessary to be done to the *Argo*, to make her fit for Service or to be hove down, would not only be a very great Expence to Government; but also employ all the Artificers of the Yard for a great length of time, and prevent the other Ships of the Squadron being hove down or receiving such other necessary repairs as they may want, I have therefore determined to send His Majesty's Ship *Argo* to England with the next Convoy which will sail from hence, on or before the 1st day of August next, and I flatter myself their Lordships will approve of my doing so, and likewise on duly Considering the representations I made them in my dispatch of the 7th April last, they will also be pleased to send out Speedily a Considerable Reinforcement of Ships to this Station. The expectation of American Cruizers coming into these Seas is now general. I have therefore Ordered Captain Bryne of His Majesty's Ship *Hind* to Convoy the Trade that Sails from hence the 7th Instant Considerably farther than their Lordships directed me by Letter of the 20th February last, Copy of Captain Brynes Orders are also inclosed and marked No 3—

The other Papers marked No. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. are Copies of a General Order, I found it necessary to give to the King's Ships under my Command, a List of Prizes taken since the 1st June last, List of the Appointment and Removal of Officers in the Squadron between the 1st April and 30th June 1776. The State and Condition and Disposition of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels under my Command, which you will likewise be pleased to Communicate to their Lordships. I am Sir [&c.]

Jam<sup>s</sup> Young

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/309.

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

Sir. English Harbour Antigua, the 1st July 1776.

I entreat you will be pleased to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that on the 22d June last died here, The Honble Robert Christian Esqre Judge of the Court of Admiralty for the Island of Antigua, and that I take leave to recommend to their Lordships favour The Honble Edward Byam Esqre of this Island, to Succeed the late Mr Christian as Judge of the Court of Admiralty. I can with great justice and propriety assure their Lordships that Mr Byam is every way qualified for the Employment was Surrogate to Mr Christian during his Sickness, and has since obtained the temporary Appointment from the Commander in Chief of these Islands for the time being: He is also a Member of the Kings Council, Treasurer of the Island, and a Gentleman very much Esteemed by the Inhabitants. I am Sir [&c.]

Jam<sup>s</sup> Young

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/309.

"DISPOSITION OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS AND VESSELS UNDER THE COMMAND  
OF VICE ADMIRAL YOUNG AT BARBADOES AND THE LEEWARD ISLANDS, &c.  
THE 1ST JULY 1776." <sup>1</sup>

| Ships            | Commanders.          | Where Stationed &c.   |
|------------------|----------------------|---|
| <i>Portland.</i> | Vice Adml Young      | On a Cruize, Orders as of last Account.   |
|                  | Capt. T. Dumaresq }  |   |
| <i>Argo.</i>     | Wm Garnier           | Refitting at English Harbour, to sail for England with the August Convoy.                             |
| <i>Seaford.</i>  | John Colpoys         | On a Cruize Orders as p last Account  |
| <i>Hind.</i>     | Henry Bryne.         | Order'd to Sail from St Christopher's with the Convoy for Great Britain & Ireland, the 7th Instant.   |
| <i>Hawke.</i>    | Robt P. Cooper.      | Cruizing off the Island Barbadoes.  |
| <i>Pomona.</i>   | Thos Eastwood.       | Cruizing among the Leeward Charribee Islands, St Eustatia, St Croix, and the adjacent Virgin Islands. |
| <i>Endeavour</i> | Lieut. Fras Tinsley. | Fitting for Sea.  |

Jam<sup>s</sup> Young.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/309.

2 July

*New-England Chronicle*, FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1776

Halifax, July 2.

Thursday morning last arrived here from her station in Boston Bay, the *Milford* Frigate, Capt. [John] Burr.

Yesterday evening arrived here his Majesty's Frigate *Brune*, in 8 weeks from Portsmouth, and two transports, having on board a number of the Foot Guards and some Foreign troops.

JOSHUA WENTWORTH TO GEORGE WASHINGTON <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Portsmouth July 2d 1776

I was Honour'd with your Favor of 15th Ulto p post, Inclosing resolves of the Honble Continental Congress wch fully answers the purpose of my request to Stephen Moylan Esq, and shall persue, a Mode consistent toe the resolves – and as they point the line of duty shall Omit troubleing your Excellency any further I should not have been so pressing to Mr Moylan had I been posses'd of the Continental resolves, Previous to your Excellencys favoring me with them –

I am inform'd the Gentlemen that Petition'd the Congress have not receiv'd any determination; nor do I suppose the former resolves will be Counteracted to avail Prejudicial to the Captors. – <sup>2</sup>

The Agents of your Excellencys appointment to the Wester'd of this Port, I here are confirm'd by the Continental Congress, I presume to Solicit your Excellencys recommendation, for my confirmation If you stil

think me worthy of that trust – I am the more enduced to trouble Your Excellency, as I was first Honour'd with your Commission,<sup>3</sup> & vainly attempt to assure you Sir that my Study shall be to Merritt the Confidence of the Continent being with Respect [&c.]

Josh Wentworth

1. Washington Papers, LC.
2. Four Continental schooners, which had captured the brig *Elizabeth*, carrying Tories and pilfered goods from Boston for Halifax, and carried into Portsmouth in early April.
3. Congress, on June 25, had approved the appointment of John Langdon as Continental agent for New Hampshire. He superseded Wentworth who had been in that capacity under Washington's appointment since the fall of 1775.

*American Gazette*, TUESDAY, JULY 2, 1776

Salem, July 2.

We hear that Captain [Joseph] White in a Privateer Schooner<sup>1</sup> belonging to this Place has taken and sent into Beverly a large Sloop with One Hundred and Fifty Puncheons of Rum, said to be [bound from An]tigua to Ireland, which he took in his Passage for the West-Indies.<sup>2</sup> This is the second Prize he has taken and sent home.<sup>3</sup> When the above Sloop left him, he was in Chace of Two other Vessels.

1. The Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*, of 12 guns, 16 swivels and 85 men, Mass. Arch., vol. 6, 339.
2. The sloop *Betsey*, bound from Antigua for Ireland, *New-England Chronicle*, July 4, 1776.
3. *Ibid.*, June 20, 1776, White's first prize was the brig *Fanny*, Richard Blythe, master, with 130 hogsheds of rum, from Antigua, libeled against June 20, 1776.

PETITION OF BARTHOLOMEW PUTNAM TO THE MASSACHUSETTS  
GENERAL COURT<sup>1</sup>

To the Honble the Council & House of Representatives of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay, the petition of Bartholomew Putnam of Salem Humbly sheweth –

That he & his partners, at a very considerable expence have been fitting for the sea the sloop named the *Rover* of about seventy tons burthen, armed with six carriage guns, eight swivels & two cohorns, besides small arms & other hand weapons, & to be manned with sixty men, to cruize against the enemies of the United Colonies; that she will be completely equipped & ready to sail in ten days, provided she can be furnished with a sufficient quantity of powder; that your petitioner & his partners find it impossible (contrary to their expectation) to purchase this essential article of private persons – 'tis not to be had – and hence are obliged to apply to your Honours, & pray the commissary may be permitted to sell them three hundred weight, which with the small quantities they hope to procure elsewhere will enable the vessel to proceed on her cruize without delay. And should she be successful – your petitioner begs leave to suggest, that the emolument will not be merely personal & private – every instance of success will be doubly beneficial to the Colonies, by diminishing the wealth & strength of our enemies, and in the same proportion adding to our own. But without the supply of powder abovementioned, the vessel must stop – and not only the probably advantages that might accrue to the owners & the public from suc-

cessful cruizes, but the great expence incurred in fixing her thus far, must be lost: Your petitioner therefore most earnestly prays your Honours to grant his request.

Barth<sup>o</sup> Putnam

[Endorsed] In the House of Representatives July 2 1776

Resolved that the Commissary General of this Colony be and he is hereby directed to sell and deliver to Capt Bartho Putnam three hundred pounds weight of Gun Powder out of the Colony Stores & that he receive of said Putnam five Shillings a pound for the same.

Sent up for Concurrence

Tim<sup>o</sup> Danielson Spr p Tem

In Council July 4th 1776

Read & Concurr'd

Jn<sup>o</sup> Avery Dpy Secy

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 210, 6, 7.

# ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Tuesday July 2d 1776.

Resolved, That Capt Batchelor [Josiah Batchelder] be directed to discharge the Schr called the *Charlestown* Cutter & her Crew, from the Service of this Colony, & deliver the said Schr to her lawful Owner, & pay him the hire that may be due to him for her Service. also to settle the Portlidge Bill, & pay the Master & people that belong to Said Schooner the Wages that are due to them, and to Receive, & take Care of all the Public Stores now on board said Schooner that belong to this Colony, and lay his Accots before this Court for allowance, & payment of the same.

Resolved, that Capt Batchelor be directed to hire, & fit out a small Vessel, & employ a Master, & a suitable Number of Men, to Man her for the purpose of Cruizing, obtaining, & giving Intelligence of the enemy's fleets &c and when said Vessel is fit for the Sea, the said Batchelor is directed to send the Master, to the Council, or Committee of Council to receive such Orders, & Instructions as will be necessary

It is further Resolved, that the Receiver General be, and he is hereby directed to pay out of the Public Treasury the sum of fifty pounds to said Batchelor to enable him to carry this Resolve into execution he to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Whereas there are two Row-Gallies now building, in this Colony, which are nearly ready for the Sea, but no Establishment having been made for them, & a Recess of this Court is likely soon to take place – therefore – Resolved, That the Establishment for the Row Gallies, shall be the same with that for other Vessels of War belonging to this Colony; and that the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of Boston be a Com[m]ittee during the next recess of this Court, to recommend to the Hon: Council, suitable Persons to command said Gallies, which Persons shall be Commissionated by the Honble Council.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 35, 131, 132, 133–34.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY<sup>1</sup>

Lebanon, Tuesday 2d July, 1776.

Capt. Jona. Lester's account for building the row-galley *Shark*, amounting to £861 16 6½ in whole, having been inspected and examined by a sub-committee at Hartford, is now allowed. He had received by orders from this Board £100 and £300, and £4 of B.H. [Benjamin Huntington] Esq. The balance being £455 5 11½ is ordered now to be drawn for. *And order given, delivered said Lester.*

*Voted*, That an order be drawn on the Pay-Table in favor of Cap. Jona. Lester for the sum of £50, as so much advance pay for him and a company of 25 carpenters, now raising under him, at the request of Gen Schuyler, to be employed at or about Crown Point, in building batteries &c. &c. To be refunded by said general in behalf of the Congress. *Order given.*

*Voted*, That the owners of the privateer sloop *Broome* be authorized to receive of Mr. Nathl Shaw junr a quantity of powder, not exceeding five hundred pounds, for the use of said privateer, to be principally in cannon powder; and said Shaw to receive the pay at the delivery for the use of the Colony, at the rate of five shillings and four pence per pound. *Order given, delivered Capt. Elipt Thorp.*

1. Hoadly, ed., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 459, 460.

MASTER'S LOG OF H.M. BRIG *Halifax*<sup>1</sup>

Remarks on Tuesday July 2d 1776 Sandy Hook 133 Lgs Dist

- 8 [A. M.] Saw a Sail to the Wt Wd Standing to the Soward
- 9 gave Chace found her to be a Schooner
- 11 Fired 4 p[ounde]r Shotted at the Chace
- 12 Fired Several Shott at the Chace & Brt too
- 1 [P.M.] Fird a 4 pr and Made the Chace bear down under our Stern Brt too Hoisted out the Boat and Sent her on Board found her to be the Schooner *Rose Noble* 5 days from Nantuckett Bound to Barbad[o]es laden wt Lumbr and fish took the people
- 2 out sent a Miden and 3 Men on Bd Hoisted in the Boat
- 3 wore and brt too on the Other Tack
- 7 Made Sail *Venus* and Prize in Company –<sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1775.

2. The *Venus* was a transport under convoy; the prize not identified on any prize list.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Cerberus*, Captain JOHN SYMONS<sup>1</sup>

July 1776 Block Island N25. 42 W. 14 Leagues

Tuesday 2 at 5 A M saw a Sail to the No ward gave Chace at 6 spoke the Chace the Ship *Betsey and Polly* from New York wth Provisions bound to Sandy Hook<sup>2</sup> sent her under Convoy of the *Merlin*.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/181.

2. Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, reads: "*Betsy and Polly*, ——— Hilton, master, ——— Hilton owner," from New York for Sandy Hook with "Provisions for Govr Tryon," PRO, Admiralty 1/487. Apparently this vessel was so far off her course that she aroused Captain Symons' suspicion.

#### BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN SULLIVAN TO GEORGE WASHINGTON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Crown Point July 2d 1776

... I am now fortifying this place & will Endeavour to have it as Strong as possible & fix as many Galleys to Command the Lake as I can — I have Sent for Some person Acquainted with those Constructed at Philadelphia that we may have Some of that [kind] Built if it is agreeable to your Excellency; I have wrote General Schuyler for his advice, which hope Soon to Receive — in the Interim I shall be procuring as much timber & boards as possible — I hear that a Number of Militia are ordered here. I dont think them necessary at present but should they be Sent I wish it might be Such as have had the Small pox as there is no avoiding it in our Camp. as the Air is pure at this place & the Army can have fresh provisions & good water I hope they will Soon Recruit — if they Should Sure I am that we Shall have Enough to fortify & hold this place & at the Same time Command the Lake, A Lieut which I Sent to Reconnoitre at St Johns & Chamblee has Returned and Says that he Counted about a hundred & fifty tents at St Johns twenty five at St Rays & fiteen at Chamblee That the Regulars are very Busy in fortifying at St Johns he saw no Boats Except a Canoe & one Batteau at Chamblee he Dispatched two of his men from St Johns to give me Intelligence who have not Since been heard of I fear the Indians have Entrappd them — <sup>2</sup>

1. Washington Papers, LC.

2. Sullivan wrote a similar letter to John Hancock on this date, Papers CC (Letters from General Officers), 160, 15, NA.

#### MEMOIRS OF MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH <sup>1</sup>

[New York]

July 2d. — Between 10 and 11 o'clock A.M. four British men-of-war, and several tenders, came through the Narrows, and anchored near the watering-place on Staten-Island. In the afternoon, they cannonaded towards the island. A little before sun-setting, about 40 sail of transports came up to the ships of war. The Americans lay on their arms during the night.

1. Abbatt, ed., *Heath Memoirs*, 41.

#### JOURNAL OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL SAMUEL BLACHLEY WEBB <sup>1</sup>

N. Yk July 2d [1776] —

Att 9 oClock this morning the whole Army was under Arms at their several Alarm Posts, occasioned by five large Men of War coursing up thro: the narrows — We supposed them coursing on to attack our Forts — never did I see Men more chearfull; they seem to wish the enemies approach — they came up to the watering place, about five miles above the narrows, and came

too – their tenders took three or four of our small Craft plying between this and the Jersey Shore – Att 6 oClock P.M. about 50 of the fleet followed and anchored with the others –

1. Ford, ed., *Webb Papers*, I, 151, 152.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Chatham*, CAPTAIN JOHN RAYNOR <sup>1</sup>

July 1776                      Came too at Gravesend Bay  
Tuesday 2    AM Clear Wr Made the Signal for Weighing at 11 the Wind shifted More round to the Norward. Obligated the Fleet to come to an Anchor –  
Fresh Breezes & Clear Wr    PM Sent six flat bottom Boats away Mann'd & Arm'd to land the Troops on Staten Island.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/192.

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

[Philadelphia] Tuesday, July 2, 1776

The Congress resumed the consideration of the resolution agreed to by and reported from the committee of the whole; and the same being read, was agreed to as follows:

*Resolved*, That these United Colonies are, and, of right, ought to be, Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connexion between them, and the state of Great Britain, is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair. Mr. [Benjamin] Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the declaration to them referred; but, not having had time to go through the same, desired leave to sit again:

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the declaration on independence.

The Congress being informed, that, in obedience to their order, Captain Whipple and Captain Saltonstall were come to Philadelphia; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be directed to enquire into the complaints exhibited against them, and report to Congress.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 506–07.

NOTES ON CAPTAIN HECTOR McNEILL'S TESTIMONY BEFORE THE  
CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING THE CANADIAN CAMPAIGN <sup>1</sup>

Capt. Hector McNeal. July 2 [1776].

Lived last year in Quebec. He came out of it on 24th. Nov. on Carleton's proclamation for all to go out who would not take arms. He staid at point au Tremble (6. leagues from headquarters) till 6th. May. When he



came out of Quebec, the army had been before it but had retired to be recruited, Montgomery being expected. The army then in a dreadful situation for want of clothes, shoes &c. Had this blockade been kept up the place must soon have fallen. He might have prevented the enemy from getting a single cord of wood carried in. They would also soon have wanted provisions. But on the retreat from before, great stores of Wood and provisions were carried in. Arnold arrived at Point levi the 9th. Novemb. crossed a week after. The men Arnold had were sufficient to have kept up the blockade had they had ammunition and clothes. After the 2d approach to Quebeck the army was well supplied with provisions till about beginning of April. When clothes came (with Genl. Montgomery) they were tolerably clad, tho' not well, and especially not for that country. When Montgomery came, he brought but a very small supply of ammunition: so that he was unable to use his cannon till he sent for a supply of powder from St. John's. He brought but about 5. barrels of powder at first and no cartridge paper. Montgomery had intended to attack the upper town with the wind and snow in his back. But he changed his mind and attacked the lower town with the wind in his face. The army was dissatisfied with being kept after the time of their enlistment was out, and were in some measure constrained by Montgom. Some of the men, 3. companies particularly were against storming. He thinks the short enlistments have been of infinite prejudice, and occasioned great confusions. That no service can succeed while that is the case. When matters went in the least ill, the soldiers were very difficult to govern. As soon as Montgomery was killed, the troops being dispirited and dissatisfied went away in droves. He thinks Wooster's going was lucky, as he kept the men there, which he thinks Arnold could not have done: that the New York troops particularly were dissatisfied with Arnold because he wrote some letter which appeared in the newspapers, reflecting on them. The fact was true that they did retreat, but it was by order of Colo. [Donald] Campbell who commanded them on the death of Montgomery. It appears that the guard who fired on him immediately abandoned their post (for which the capt. of the guard was afterwards broke). If Campbell had gone on he would have taken the lower town and formed a junction with Arnold's party. The firing of that guard had ceased before Campbell retreated. After that defeat their distresses grew, very cold, few men and hard duty. The snow 5. f. deep. The small pox was sent out of Quebeck by Carleton, inoculating the poor people at government expence for the purpose of giving it to our army. It had just begun to appear in the army before Montgom's death, after which it spread fast. Orders were given against inoculation, but they would inoculate. Of those who took it in the natural way 1. in 4. died. Of those who inoculated themselves and had no assistance of Doctors 1. in 20.

When Genl. Wooster arrived which was Apr. 1st. there were something upwards 2700. men in all of whom 800 were sick. Of these there were 1653. whose times were out the 15th. of April. Provisions were then

scarce and Genl. Wooster told them he would not give them provisions if they went away. They threatened to plunder the inhabitants, upon which he refused to let them go at all. There was a mutiny by 15 which was quelled by Colo. [James] Clinton. From 1st. Jan. to 1st. March never had more than 700 and sometimes not more than 500. fit to do duty and 26. miles of line to occupy. Does not think it appeared adviseable to retreat from Quebec sooner because a reinforcement was expected. But a fleet of 13. vessels appearing in the river, there being but 6. days provisions left a council of war determined to retreat. A sudden change of the wind brought up 3. of the ships sooner than was expected which occasioned a more precipitate retreat. He thinks it was a blunder, since a retreat had been concluded on, that the men were not called from their several posts. Genl. [John] Thomas arrived the 2d of May. The retreat was the 6th. Genl. Wooster left it the morning of the retreat. The blame of provisions not going to Quebec he supposes lay on this side the lakes. He never saw any embezzlement of provisions. At the time of the retreat he does not think there was a barrel of pork between lake George and Quebec for the army. Provisions were dealt out by a Commissary and with great care and regularity. He had never seen any thing in Genl. Wooster but the greatest care. Things were carried on more harmoniously under him than would have been under Arnold after the discontent against him. If the troops had had provisions they might have stopped at Dechambeau, and maintained themselves till reinforcements would have reached them. But he thinks those troops would not have staid there whose time was out the 15th. April. He thinks 1000. men might have been kept there, which would have done. 12. days before the retreat Genl. Wooster had sent an engineer with 36. men and 4. carpenters and 2 blacksmiths to fortify Dechambeau. Genl. Thomas staid there with 500 men, after the retreat, till want of provisions forced him to leave it. The deponent then came out of the country. He met no provisions going down till he came to point au fer, the 18th. May. 5 battea loads. flour was sent by some of our friends to Dechambaud before the army left it. He found them building one galley at Chambly. They were building a house for their blacksmith to work in. There were about 1. doz. carpenters there. The Schooner on lake Champlain wanted a foresail, and running rigging and was not armed. But he met 2. waggonloads of cordage near Albany going up. Besides the Schooner, there is a sloop taken in the spring, and a row galley taken at St. John's. The row gallies had no sails. They were carried down in the winter to Point au tremble to cover powder.<sup>2</sup> The sloop wanted rigging but her sails would do. She had no guns aboard.

Another material want before Quebec was medicines. Another the Indian traders going from Montreal and carrying goods &c. to the Indians. One Goddard, Richd. Walker and one Larimy went with 2000. half Joes to the Indians to invite them come down. This was known a month before the Commissioners went out there, and some person on suspi-



— DAVID WOOSTER, Esq. —  
*Commander in Chief of the Provincial Army against QUEBEC.*  
London, Published as the Act directs 26 March 1778 by T. H. B.

cion of being concerned with them had absconded from Montreal before the Commissioners went there. 32. slays with merchandize had also gone up to them. Genl. Wooster had 7. of them brought back.

1. Boyd, ed., *Jefferson Papers*, I, 434-36. The committee appointed June 24, 1776 "to inquire into the causes of the miscarriage in Canada," had been authorized "to send for such Persons and Papers as may tend to throw Light upon the Subject," Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 474.
2. Probably "convoy," "convey" or "carry" rather than "cover."

MARINE COMMITTEE OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS TO CAPTAIN  
JOHN BARRY <sup>1</sup>

Capt John Barry

Philada July 2nd 1776

Sir As we find our coast is now lined with Men of War of too great force for you to cope With, We think it can be of little use for you to remain cooped up at Cape May, and as the frigate you are to command is not yet launched, her guns & anchors not yet ready,<sup>2</sup> We think it a piece of justice due to your Merit to allow you to Make a cruize in the *Lexington* for one or two Months, in hopes that fortune may favour your industry and reward it with some good prizes – We send you a printed copy of the resolves of Congress respecting prizes, by which you Will learn what to take and what to let pass, a list of the Agents you have already, and to them your prizes must be addressed – We think North Carolina is likely to remain unmolested by the Men of Warr, and, if so, your prizes may probably get safe in there – Cape May or Egg-Harbour may also be safe places, however you must use your own discretion in this respect

If you gain any intelligence during this cruize that you think may be useful, convey it to us as soon as possible – Capt [Isaiah] Robinson of the Sloop *Sachem* has also liberty to make a cruize and probably it may be advantageous that you go in concert –

Wishing you success & honor We are sir [&c.]

[Endorsed] Copy from the Original

July 13. 1776

(Signed by the Marine Committee)

Ty Matlack Secy Mar: Com: Copy J Hancock

1. Dreer Autograph Collection, Signers, vol. 3, HSP.

2. The frigate *Effingham*, building in Kensington, on the Delaware River, north of Philadelphia.

THOMAS SLATER TO THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Philad'a, New Goal, July 2nd, 1776.

To the Hon'll Committee of Safety:

Gentlemen: – I am sorry to Trouble so often, but for fear of Misscarried, for I never Receiv'd anny answer from your Hon'rs. If agreeable, My Request is that I should Bee glad to receive the Money that is allow'd for me, as Mr. [Sachervel] Wood sends provisions for too days at once, and the Bread is Mouldy sometimes & the Meat Teanted before Eaten. The weather so Warm and Cooking all in one room where there is nine persons Confin'd, which, for my part, I must Confess, without Enlargement I cannot say what will be the consequents, for I have not been well this ten days past. And,

may it please your Hon'rs to gie me Inlargement or Mooved into some other rooms, as There is four & five in them, and hoping it would be of Means of Enjoying my health more better, and as I wrote to your Hon'rs, I never received anny Bed or Bed close from Capt. [Charles] Alexander, nor yet but few cloathes, and having not money to purchase, It goes verrey hard in Lying on a rug. May it please your Hon'rs to permit me to go out Goale on the same conditions that Sanders, one of the Souldiers, did. I should be verrey Glad, and as for absconding or assisting anny one of his Majeste's forces, I will not, you may Depend, upon oath, as I expect I shall not bee Exchanged, if any such Exchange should be, for I never was on there Books to my knowledge, nor asked to enter into there service, which, I must confess, that if the time was to bee recalled I would endeavor to get into Chrestan Creek, let the Consequents be what it would, but I Expect, if Cought, to have had no Mercy, as having had some of the men-of-war Goods on Bord. Gentlemen, I hope you'l Excuse my Long Petition. From [&c.]

Thos. Slater.<sup>2</sup>

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 2nd series, I, 608.

2. Master of the brig *Betsey*, taken by Charles Alexander, in the Continental schooner *Wasp*, May 8, 1776, in the mouth of Christiana creek.

JOSEPH HEWES TO SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JR.<sup>1</sup>

Dear Sir

Philadelphia 2d July 1776

When I wrote to you last I believe I mentioned to you only two lieutenants for the Ship.<sup>2</sup> It was a mistake. Three are allowed to each of the Frigates, so that, when Capt Nicholson sends up a recommendation for Sea Officers he should put down three lieutenants – Part of Genl Howe's army is arrived at Sandy Hook – We must expect warm work in that quarter in a few days I am with respect, Sir [&c.]

Joseph Hewes

1. Purviance Papers, 262, MdHS.

2. The frigate *Virginia*, building at Baltimore.

#### MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY<sup>1</sup>

In Committee of Safety,

[Philadelphia] July 2nd, 1776.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Address to the Public, Reported an Essay, which, being Read, amended, and approved, was ordered to be inserted upon the Minutes, and to be publish'd in the News Papers of this City,<sup>2</sup> and is as follows:

To the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania:

This Committee, too much occupied in the various & multiplied business of the department in which they are placed, have seldom troubled the public with addresses' and indeed little occasion has been afforded for them, especially in Justification of their own Conduct, while general acquiescence in their Authority prevailed, and entire confidence in their integrity and abilities remained, but they are not so blinded by Self Love, or so lost in

their own importance, as not to perceive lately that both Confidence and Authority are considerably shaken and impaired; not resting on a foundation altogether popular, their existence has been beheld with Jealousy, & by an opposition formed on mistaken or unworthy principles, their Conduct in almost every branch of the public service has been traduced & Vilified. In the Honest discharge of duty they have been obliged to stand the unmerited reproaches of many individuals, as well as of some public bodies. After accumulated mortifications, why they still continue to keep their seats, ought to be accounted for, lest they justly be supposed insensible to the feelings of Men of Honour, but it is necessary first to state the transaction which has principally given rise to this Address.

About the beginning of last month the Committee appointed Captain Sam'l Davison Commodore, and Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Armament, equipped for the defence of the River Delaware. The Motives to this appointment, at a Board of thirteen Members, when there was not one dissenting voice, were such as these:

1st. That during his Continuance in the Service as Captain of one of the Armed Boats, he was Conspicuous among the officers for care and attention to his duty, and, while he maintained a strict discipline, he had the address to conciliate the regard & affections of his Crew, and always kept his Boat well manned.

2nd. That having, on the Return of Capt. Davison from a short Voyage, in which he was spared from the service of their Province to go into that of the Congress, and while perfect harmony yet existed between this Board and all its Officers, & on a deliberate estimate of the comparative merits of each, given him, though a Younger Officer, the more important Command of the Floating Battery, in which the same superior good Conduct was observable, the Committee acted but consistently with themselves in elevating him to a still higher Rank.

3rd. A Clamour having been formerly excited against a superior Officer, because, as was said, he had not been of the Fleet, & some of the Officers have since declared they would Yield Ready obedience to any Commodore, if taken from their own Establishment, even though he should be the youngest among them, the present appointment, as it prevented the necessity of going out of the Fleet, was considered rather as Conciliatory than as administering cause of uneasiness and discontent; they were well aware of the obvious Military Maxim, to which they had Run Counter, of Advancing Men according to Seniority, but this Maxim, though perhaps proper in old establishments, where a long course of service in the lower classes are supposed to confer the necessary Qualifications for the higher, may and ought occasionally to be dispensed with in the formation of new ones, where there can be but a slender pretext for Qualifications; from this cause merit is to be sought out

and prefer'd wherever to be found, though ambition should be disappointed, or delicacy offended. In many Instances have the Congress departed from this fundamental maxim, and their Country has been benefited by it. The Resistance of the Officers of the Armed Boats to this appointment, and their Indecent remonstrances are well known – they were countenanced and supported by Men whose decision on Publick questions influence in some degree the public Opinion. Mutiny was justified and abetted, and disobedience triumphed over Authority. The Committee thought it their duty to adhere to the appointment they had made, the Conference of Committees interposed by the following resolution, agreed to immediately before their dissolution.

'That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of this province, to confine the Command of Commodore Davison to the Ship-of-war and] floating Battery belonging to the Province, and to Issue no [orders] to the Captains or other officers of the Row Gallies, Fireships or Fire Rafts, through the said Commodore, until the Convention meets, and that it be recommended to the Captain other Officers of the Row Gallies, &c., to pay all due obedience to the Committee of Safety, until that time, and until a New appointment shall take place.'

The Board, astonished and surprised, would have remonstrated against it, not without Hope that on a fair and impartial state of the Question, those who, from the nature of their appointment, could have nothing in View but the publick hapiness, and who could not have been insensible of the benefit of good order and discipline, would have recalled this hasty determination, which may be so fatal to both, but the dissolution would not allow the necessary time.

The Committee doubt not the purity of the intention which produced this Resolution, and by which their power in so important a Branch is so greatly mutilated, if not altogether destroyed; They well know the regard due to the Representatives of the People, & are disposed to submit to the recommendation, tho' wounded and dishonoured by it, But they would have it understood that the Continuance of many of their Board under such Circumstances is of necessity, as no Body of Men can at present be appointed to supply their places, and as they perhaps may, fettered in their Authority as they are, still render some small services to their Country; they however think it incumbent on them to declare that many bad Consequences may probably proceed from a divided Command. Military Authority is not of a nature to be participated, and when attempted, the greatest mischiefs commonly flow from it. Should this unfortunately prove so in our case, the Committee are not responsible; they have performed their Duty, and look forward with pleasure to the short period of a few weeks,

which is to deprive them of the seats they have held, of late so much to the dissatisfaction of some Men, and uneasiness to themselves.

Upon application of John Maxwell Nesbitt, Esq'r, a Commission was granted to John Hunn, Commander of the Schooner *Security*, of 30 tons Burthen, 8 Carriage Guns, & 11 Men.

Upon application of James Craig & Wm. Erskine & Co., Owners of the sloop *Chance*, James Robertson, M'r., burthen 30 tons, 6 Carriage Guns and 34 Men, a Commission was granted to him, the said Capt. James Robertson

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 623-27.

2. Printed in the *Pennsylvania Packet*, July 8, 1776.

ADVERTISEMENT IN THE *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, TUESDAY,  
JULY 2, 1776

To be Sold. The brigantine *Two Friends*. She is a prime sailor, but three years old, and carries nine hundred and fifty or a thousand barrels of flour.

The schooner *Mary-Ann*. She is a prime sailor, but four years old, and carries four hundred and fifty barrels of flour.

The schooner is loaded and ready to go, and will be sold with her cargo, or alone. She has an inventory suitable and complete. The brig may be fitted for sea with a very small expence, and the schooner requires none. Both vessels are very good, but any gentleman inclining to purchase may have them viewed by proper persons. Inquire for Mr. John Parry, on board the brig, at Vine-street wharf.

CAPTAIN LAMBERT WICKES TO SAMUEL WICKES <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Copy]

Cape May Rhode July 2nd 1776

Dear Brother - This will inform you of my Proceedings since I left Philadelphia which Place we left the 1st May but was detained at the Fort Island 20 Days by the Comeing up of the *Roebuck* & *Liverpool* Ships Warr as soon as they came down we followed them & went out on a short Cruize of 10 Days then returned hear again dureing this Time Nothing very materral happened more than convoying several Vessails off & bringing some more safe in one of which was a large Ship from Jamaca taken by the Sloop *Congress* a Privattear belonging to Philad, the Prizes Cargo was very valueable as it concisted of Sugar & Rum <sup>2</sup> we have bin blocked up hear ever since our Return by a Fleet of british Ships Warr & nothing more had happened since our Return untill Friday the 28th June when we ware informed by the Gaurd at Cape May that there was a Brigg about 4 or 5 Leagues to the East ward of Cape May standing in a long Shore. We recd this Information at Dusk & thought it best to let the Captns Barry of the Brigg *Livingston* [*sic Lexington*] & [John] Bauldwin of the Schooner *Wasp* to go out to thier Assistance it being light Winds & the Chance difficult we could not get out with the Ship. I ordered our Barg to go & assist in geting



the Brig & Schoner out & was strongly solicited by our Brother Richd, to let him go to command the Barge which I refused several Times but at las was prevailed on to let him go. they streched out and came too an Anchor about 3 or 4 Miles to East ward of Cape May all Night as it was so dark they could not see the Brig in the Morning they saw the Brigg 3 Leagues Dist to the Et Ward 32 Men Awarr & 2 Tenders in Chace the Brigg & Schoner finding it impossible to be of any Service streched into the Rhode when our Brother Richd pushed off[f] into thier Assistance & borden her in Defiance of the Man Awarr who was so near as to fire often at them on getting on Bord thought it most prudent to cut her Cable & runn her a Shore in order to save her Cargo if possible as it concisted of Powder Arms Rum Sugar & dry Goods they got her a Shore, where they soon were joined by Captn Barry in his Boat, By this Time the *Kingfisher* had got in so near as to heave her Shott far over them and keep up very heavy Fire on them Not with standg this they got to work and landed the Goods as fast as possible, on their seeing this they maned four Boats in order to bord the Brigg if possible these Boats were soon beat off[f] & sent back from whence they came when they returned thier Fire with redoubled Fury from the *Kingfisher* who had then anchored about 3 or 4 Hundred yards from the Brigg after firing for near half an Hour they maned 5 Boats & sent them to make a second Attack as our People still continued landing the Cargo as fast as possible from the Time the 5 Boats left the Ship they keep up so constant a Fire from the Ship that they obliged our Men to leave the Brigg & take to the Beach where they fought the five Barges for about half an Hour during which Time they killed several of their Men which they saw fall over bord besides others wounded they got Possession of the Brigg at last who blew up in about five Minutes after they borden her and also blue up one of their Boats and a great Number of their Men on this Accident happening the other 4 Boats made off as fast as possible in a shattered Condition weakly maned the Loss sustained on our Side was the Life of our dear Brother who was shott through the Arm and Body by a Cannon Shott 4 or 5 Minutes before the Action ended. we have this Consolation that he fought like a brave Man & was fore most in every Transaction of that Day this is confessed by Captn Barry whome was present all the Time he is much regreted by all the Officers in our Fleet & particularly Captn Barry who says a braver Man never existed than he was, in him I have lost a dear Brother & a good Officer which I know not where or how to replace there was one Man belonging to the Brigg wounded whom I think will dye this was all the Loss on our Side, we gage that they Lost from 40 to 50 Men at least & one of thier long Boats, the Train that blew the Brigg up was laid by our People before they left the Vessel but we are not certain whether they or us set it on fire. We saved 265 half Barrels of Powder 50 Muskets 2 three Pounders three Swivels & about £1000 wort[h] dry Goods out of her in about 4 Hours the Action lasted from 8 A.M til M.D<sup>3</sup> youl recv from Allen Moore Esqre one Bal Sugar & one Bagg Coffe I arrivd just at the Close of the Action Time enough to see him expire a noble Contest in the Arms of Victrtory, he

was buried very decently the 30th June in the Meeting House Yard at Cape May when the Clergymen preached a very decent Sermon youl disclose this Secret with as much Caution as possible to our Sisters Please give my Love to Nancy the Children & our Sisters & my Compliments to all our Relations from your affectionate Brothr

Lamb<sup>t</sup> Wickes

P.S. I am now going a Cruize to the Westindies – the Coffee comes by Duck Creek –

L. W.

1. Scharf Collection, Ms. 1999, MdHS.

2. The Jamaica ship *Juno*.

3. Luke Mathewman, first lieutenant of the *Lexington*, gives a brief account of the action: Early in March, 1776, I entered into the service of my country as Lieutenant of the Brig *Lexington*, Captain Barry, the services on board which vessel met the approbation both of the commanding officer and the public, particularly in saving 270 barrels of powder from a vessel run ashore near Cape-May, under the fire of two frigates; afterwards blowing her up with about 30 of the British, who had boarded her.

*The Magazine of American History*, II, 175–76

#### WOOLSEY & SALMON TO JOHN PRINGLE <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Baltimore] 2 July

we are Sorrey for our Losses in Canady, but we hope in the end, it will make us Better Soldliers, Indeed we must Expect a Little Drubbing, at first for want of Experience but if we can do torraybill this Campain, we think the Next we will flog them, –

our Goveners gone from the Province but behaved so Verry Bad on going off[f], such as Bracking the Truce by taking Peoples Servants, that we have no Expectation of his going home on the Contrary we think he will take an Active part against the Province. of Course Your Letters would not get a Passage soon to England, if they had gone with him The Brig is Certainly to be discharged & You will be allowed 406 £ so that You may Plan some other Voyage, for her as soon as theres any Prospect of getting a Vessel out at there Present theres none, <sup>2</sup>

1. Woolsey & Salmon Letter Book, LC.

2. Pringle's brig *Rogers*.

#### GEORGE WELLS TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER <sup>1</sup>

Sir/

Baltimore July the 2d 1776.

According to desire I beg leave to acquaint you, that I am providing Materials for going on with the Rowe Gallies, & am satisfied to build them on the same terms with Mr Stephen Stewart. I would have done myself the pleasure of waiting on you now, but that Material business carries me to Philadelphia, but at my return, will do myself that honour, Please to let me know per return of Bearer, the necessary dimensions &c And am [&c.]

George Wells

1. Correspondence of Council of Safety, Md. Arch.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND CONVENTION <sup>1</sup>

[Annapolis] Tuesday, July 2, 1776.

James Dickinson, William Thomas, John Stevens. and Nicholas Martin, according to an order of the 28th of June, appeared before the Convention, and upon inquiry into their conduct, it appearing that only 12 sheep, 3 lambs, and 7 shoats were carried on board the *Fowey*, as a present to governor Eden, before they had any knowledge of the truce having been broken; it is therefore the opinion of this Convention, that the said gentlemen were not in any degree criminal in going on board the *Fowey* with such live stock, and that they be discharged.

1. *Maryland Convention*, 15.

THOMAS ENNALLS TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Gentn

Cambridge July 2d 1776.

On Saturday the 25th Ulto. I received information by Express from Col Wm Travers (of the Corps of the lower part of this County) that there were five Tenders then in Hoopers Straights; that they had landed on Hopkins's Island & had taken upwards of sixty head of Cattle from that place, together with two young men and every thing else that was valuable on the Island; that they had committed considerable depredation on the Somerset Shore, and thrown that County into the utmost confusion, and he expected they would commit further ravages in this County. In consequence of this information I ordered Col John Ennalls & Major Robert Harrison to go down to that neighbourhood (it being forty miles from this place) to get further information respecting the circumstances and to take such steps as should appear to them to be necessary on the occasion. They immediately went down and I am informed by them that on their arrival there, they found affairs circumstanced as above related. The Tenders had gone down the Bay wth their plunder a few hours before they arrived, but the Militia of that Corpse were still upon duty, many of them being much fatigued and anxious to go home; they were all discharged except about forty, who were left to keep a look out. In the evening of that day there appeared in Nanticoke Sound, one large Ship and seven other Vessels supposed to be tenders. This gave the Inhabitants great uneasiness and anxiety, they therefore ordered such part of the Militia as cou'd readily be collected to assemble to prevent the Enemy from committing further damage. I am further informed by them that they found many of the people in that part of the County very lukewarm in the opposition, difficult to be got together, and when collected in such bad discipline they are not (in their opinion) to be relied on, paying but little regard to the instructions of their Officers. Things being in this situation, I have thought it advisable to order part of the Militia under my command to march down to their assistance, & I flatter myself we shall be able to prevent their landing in that quarter, but should the enemy continue there a few days, and keep the Militia on duty numbers of the Inhabitants must unavoidably lose a considerable part of their crops, their Wheat being now ready to cut.

Capt Woolford is at this time with his Company on the Borders of Nanticoke near the mouth of that River, to guard that neighbourhood, where his assistance is much wanted.

I must further beg leave to inform you that our Militia are badly fitted with Arms. I am clearly of opinion, that not one half of them have effective Guns, neither have we a Sufficient quantity of Powder & lead (particularly the latter) should we have occasion to make use of those articles –

I have this moment received an Express from Hoopers Straights by which I am informed that the Ship of War is now in the Mouth of Nanticoke, two of the Tenders in Hungar River & one in Fishing Bay close to the shore, that the people are in great confusion, and much harassed by them. I have not the least doubt but they are in the like, or a worse situation in Somerset County. I think it my duty to give you this information as early as possible, and doubt not you will give such assistance as the exigency of our affairs require. I have the honor to be Gentn [&c.]

Tho<sup>s</sup> Ennalls.

1. Correspondence of Council of Safety, Md. Arch.

#### JOURNAL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Wilmington] Tuesday July 2d 1776.

Resolved That Christopher Neale Esquire Judge of the Court of Admiralty at Port New Bern do immediately proceed on the Trial of the Brigantine *William* seized as British property and now lying at the said Port agreeable to the Resolves of the Congress.

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

#### JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Bristol*, CAPTAIN JOHN MORRIS <sup>1</sup>

[July 1776] In Five fathom Hole off Charles Town

Tuesday 2nd A M Employed unrigging the Mainmast, & getting out the Stump of the Mizen Mast, this Day Superseded by Request, on Account of my Wounds received & bad State of Health <sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/137.

2. Captain Morris lost an arm in the engagement.

#### JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Solebay*, CAPTAIN THOMAS SYMONDS <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 At Anchor off Cummins Point

Tuesday 2 P M hove up the Anchor & run up towards the Battery fired a 9 Pd Shot at a Boat near the *Actains* wreck.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/909.

#### JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Nautilus*, CAPTAIN JOHN COLLINS <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 Moord off Saint Georges Town Bermuda

Monday 1. AM Exercised great guns and small Arms, Cleard Hause Fresh breezes and Clear Wr PM Sent our Boat out in the offing to Speak some Vessels.

Tuesday 2. AM the Boat Retd with a Schooner from So Carolina, a Prize,<sup>2</sup>  
 Punish'd Nathani[e] Hoskins Seaman for Insolence & Drunken-  
 eness  
 Mod. and fair Wr PM Sent a Petty Officer & 4 Men onbd the  
 Schooner

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/629.

2. Not listed in Howe's prize lists.

VICE ADMIRAL CLARK Gayton to PHILIP STEPHENS <sup>1</sup>

*Squirrel*, Jamaica

Sir

July 2nd 1776

Herewith you'll receive Duplicates of what I wrote by the last Pacquet, and I beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that His Majestys Ship *Pallas*, the Honble Captain [William] Cornwallis arriv'd here the 21st of last Month, that he left the *Atalanta* at Barbadoes, and expect her arrival every Day.

I beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that the *Squirrel* did not arrive with the Company of the 50th Regiment that I inform'd them I had sent her for 'till the 27th of last Month being detain'd by exceeding hard Gales of Wind, & Lee Currents. I immediately order'd the Embarkation of those Troops, & they would have Sail'd the next Morning for North America, agreeable to their Lordships directions, had I not received a letter from the Governor & Council desiring the Detention of the 50th Regiment for a few Days, as they had just received an Account of an Intended Insurrection of the Negroes of the Parish of Hanover, which I comply'd with, and Inclosed I transmit their Letter, for their Lordships information I this day received another Letter from them; informing me; that from the Papers & Information laid before them, there did not appear, any longer a Necessity; for the further detaining that Regiment. I have therefore given Captain [Charles] Thompson, of His Majestys Ship *Boreas*; orders to proceed with the Three Transports to New York, & if Major General Howe; should not be arriv'd to gain the best information he is able of his Destination, and proceed with the Transports (as we have Accounts of the Troops leaving Boston, the Middle of last March, otherwise I should have directed him to have gone there; agreeable to their Lordships orders) and after he has seen them in Safety, at New York, or wherever Major General Howe may be, to return and Join me with all possible dispatch. I have likewise order'd the respective Masters of the Transports to apply to Vice Admiral Shulldham, or the Commanding Officer of His Majestys Ships for such further directions as he shall think fit to give for their return to Great Britain with the Commissiond & Non Commissiond Officers, and Invalids, which I hope will meet with their Lordships approval.<sup>2</sup>

I likewise orderd Captain Thompson to take under his Convoy; all such Merchant Ships & Vessels as were bound to England or North America, and see them in Safety as far as layd in his way.

I beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that I judged it more for his Majestys Service & the Safety of the Trade for the *Pallas* to take the July

Convoy than for her to have gone with the Transports to North America, as she would be able to see them clear home, & more especially as I have received an Account of the Rebels having taken Three of our Homeward bound Trade, this Account came by a Letter from the Agents to the Royal Assiento Company at the Havannah to Mr Foord (one of the principal Merchants here) who communicated it to me, & Inclosed is a Copy of their Letter for their Lordships information <sup>3</sup>

I likewise beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that when I received the express from Captain Barkley, the 5th of last April informing me of the Intention of the Rebels of Intercepting our Homeward bound Trade, I sent for Mr Foord and desir'd he would communicate it to the rest of the Merchants, and at the same time gave it as my opinion that it was extreem hazardous trusting their Ships without a Convoy, especially those with Bullion, which however they paid no Attention to, I am exceeding sorry the Trade has suffer'd through their Misconduct, & hope the *Antelope* will fall in with those Privateers.

I have the pleasure to inclose their Lordships a Letter I received from Lieutenant Cobb, of the *Florida* Surveying Sloop, from Pensacola, informing me of the Rebels, being totally Routed out of Canada. <sup>4</sup> I further beg leave to acquaint their Lordships, that I have order'd William Platt (which I've before acquainted them; of my having apprehended for an Act of Piracy) with the three Evidences, onboard the *Pallas*, & have given Captain Cornwallis directions to dispose of them as my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty shall direct: by her I shall transmit them the several Affidavits.

With regard to the Disposition of His Majestys Ships & Vessels under my Command, I beg leave to acquaint their Lordships, that the *Maidstone* has Careen'd and that I shall fit her for Service as fast as possible The *Squirrel* in her last Cruize for the Troops, has Sprung her Fore Mast in such a Manner, that she must have a new one before she can proceed to Sea. The *Racehorse* Sloop which I have lately purchased is gone to the North Side of the Island, for a Company of the 60th Regiment, in consequence of an Application from the Governor <sup>5</sup> – the *West Florida* is fitting for the Mississippi, the *Porcupine* Schooner, I shall order to be Careen'd as soon as the *Maidstone* Hauls off, and employ them in the best manner possible for His Majestys Service, as I shall a Brig which I have order'd to be purchased, she is a very fine Vessel of about 130 Tons burthen, and capable of bearing a Master & Commander; with proper Officers, & Eighty Men. I submit it to their Lordships consideration putting the *Racehorse* & her; on that Establishment as they are both fine Vessels, and am, with great respect, Sir [&c.]

Clark Gayton

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/240.

2. The *Boreas* sailed July 3, with her convoy of three transports for New York, PRO, Admiralty 51/125.

3. See Guerri and Riesch to Gayton, May 19, 1776.

4. See Charles Cobb to Gayton, May 21, 1776.

5. See Basil Keith to Gayton, June 27, 1776.

## 3 July

GOVERNOR SIR GUY CARLETON TO CAPTAIN CHARLES DOUGLAS, R.N.<sup>1</sup>

Commodore Douglas

Chambly the 3d July 1776

Sir I wrote to you some time past to beg you would send me all the Artificers which could be found, for the purpose of boat building; and not having had the favour of an answer, my impatience, in this so essential point, obliges me again to urge, that you would have the goodness to order up to us, all those Artificers that are called of the navy, and said to be intended for Hallifax, and if there should be others still remaining, of those that are denominated Quarter master General's Artificers, I must likewise beg your assistance towards hurrying them up to us in the most expeditious manner.

When the ships arrive which contain provisions and the materials ready to form the armed boats or Vessels, I beg the provisions and materials may be forwarded preferable to any other things, and without waiting to go with the Troops, should any arrive at the same time. I am Sir &c.<sup>2</sup>

1. Guy Carleton Letter Book, BM.

2. *Ibid.*, Carleton sent a copy of this letter to Lieutenant Governor Cramahé urging him to "assist all in your power in the matter to which it relates."

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Viper*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

July 1776

Mount Desert W $\frac{1}{2}$ S 12 or 13 Leags

Wednesday 3d At 5 A M Wore Ship at 6 out 2nd reefs at 7 Our 1st reefs at 8 Saw the Land Mount Desert W N W Distce 8 or 9 Leags Read the Articles of war & Abstract of the late Act of Parliament to the Ships Company at 11 Seizd the *May flower* Schooner<sup>2</sup> at 1 P M Saw a Schooner in Shore hoisted a boat out to speak her at 3 Fired 2 Guns as a Sigl for the boat to return in 1st reef Topsls at 4 Tackd Ship at 12 Tackd

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/1039.

2. *May Flower*, S. Crosman, master and owner, from Piscataqua, on a fishing voyage, Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

JOHN BROWN TO WILLIAM GREENLEAF<sup>1</sup>

Sir

Boston 3 July 1776.

You will deliver Mr Joseph Webb as much Copper from Martin Gogs Shop, as may be necessary for making a Copper Boiler for the use of the Colony Brig *Independence* Yours[&c.]

John Browne

Mr Schf: Greenleaf

1. Record Group 45, Subject File AC, Box 9, NA.

LIBEL AGAINST THE BRIGANTINE *Rover*<sup>1</sup>

Providence ss

To the Honorable John Foster Esq Judge of the Court of Justice appointed for the Tryal of Prize Causes through-

out the Colony of Rhode Island & Providence Plantations  
&c

Daniel Bucklin of Providence in the County of Providence Mariner Commander of the private Sloop of War called the *Montgomery* mounted with Ten Carriage Guns and Fifty Men commissioned by the Hon Nichs Cooke Esq to Cruise against the Enemies of the united Colonies comes into this Hon Court and gives your Honor to understand and be informed that on the Twelfth Day of June A D 1776, being on a Cruise on the high Seas he together with his Crew on Board said Sloop captured and took the Brigantine *Rover*<sup>2</sup> with her appurtenances, commanded by John Hunter navigated with Seven Men together with her Cargo consisting of One Hundred and Thirty five Hhds and Thirty Tierces of Rum and Six Thousand Staves. which said Brigantine with her Cargoe was bound from the Island of Antigua to the port of Dublin in Ireland; but the Informant gives your Honor further to understand that said Brigantine and said Six Thousand of Staves were condemned at a Court of Vice Admiralty in Antigua as American property and was afterwards loaden with the aforesaid Cargoe for supplying the Enemies of the united Colonies. and which said Brigantine with her Cargoe &c – the Informant hath sent into the port of Providence within your Honrs Jurisdiction. Wherefore he humbly prays that your Honr would take the Premises into Consideration and order such process and Innovations as the Law in such Cases requires or otherwise proceed in the premises in such Manner as to Right & Justice shall appertain

John Colins Proctor for said  
Bucklin & Compy

[Endorsed] Bill – Daniel Bucklin vs Brig: *Rover*

Received July 3: 1776

1. Admiralty Papers, vol. 9, R. I. Arch.

2. *Ibid.*, included among the papers found on board the *Rover* were the proclamation condemning the *Betsey*, Thomas Wood, master, taken by H.M.S. *Argo*, dated April 3, 1776, and the new register of the vessel as the *Rover*, of seventy tons burden, owned jointly by the master, John Hunter, and John Taylor, a merchant of Antigua. *Rover* was condemned as a legal prize on July 22, 1776.

OWNERS OF THE RHODE ISLAND PRIVATEER SLOOP *General Greene*  
TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE<sup>1</sup>

Sir,

East Greenwich July 3d 1776

We the Subscribers all of East Greenwich and Warwick – in the Colony of Rhode Island Merchants request your Honor to grant a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal to John Garzia Commander of the Sloop *General Greene* of which we are Owners, she is burthened about Thirty Tons, carries Four Carriage Guns Three Pounders and Twelve Swivel Guns, manned with Thirty Men; and fitted with a suitable Quantity of Muskets Blunderbusses, Cutlasses, Pistols, Powder, Ball and other Military Stores. She hath on board seventeen Barrels of Beef and Pork Twenty four hd. weight of Bread with some Flour Rice Beans Pottatoes Ephaim Wee-



don is First Lieutenant, Francis Bradfield Master and Philip Pearce Second Lieutenant. We are with great Respect Sir [&c.]

Silas Casey

Wm Arnold

Nicholas P Tillinghast

Jacob Greene for self  
and Griffin Greene

Richard Mathewson

John Reynolds<sup>2</sup>

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

2. *Ibid.*, owners' bond, \$5,000, was executed this date, and the Congressional Instructions were acknowledged by John Garzia, along "with my Commission."

# JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY<sup>1</sup>

[Lebanon] Wednesday, 3d July, 1776.

Letters of Marque &c. prepared for Capt. [Eliphalet] Thorp, present, part owner of the privateer *Broome*.

Col. Saml Mott laid in his account for reconnoitring the harbours of N. London and Stonington &c. and the fortifications, places for fortifying, in surveying and planning, in attending the works &c.,

|                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| 105 days of 3½ months at £ 12 | £42 0 |
|-------------------------------|-------|

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| 14 weeks board and horse keeping, at 15s. | 10 10 |
|---|-------|

Deducting £ 4 16 0 by him for charges after he was in another commission, remainder, being £48 14 0, and order given. *Delivered said Mott 4th inst.*

1. Hoadly, ed., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 462-64.

## BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN SULLIVAN TO MAJOR JOAB HOISINGTON<sup>1</sup>

Dr Sir –

Crown Point, July 3d 1776.

I this moment recd yr favor of the 28th ult., am much obliged by yr kind offer of assistance, but have the pleasure to inform you that at present our army, weak and reduced by sickness as it is, will be fully sufficient to oppose any force wch may be sent against us at present; I am well convinced that the Enemy have neither Boats to transport any army nor armed vessels upon the Lake to defend themselves against us; for wch reason I Suppose they will be very careful about making any attempt upon us at present; perhaps some future day we may find ourselves under the necessity of embracing your generous offer; – in the mean time beg you & those friendly Americans to hold yourselves in readiness either to defend yourselves, or repair to this place as occasion may require. Dr Sir, I am, &c

Jn<sup>o</sup> Sullivan.

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, VIII, 189.

## "EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED CROWN-POINT, JULY 3, 1776."<sup>1</sup>

Just as I closed my last letter to you we heard the enemy's cannon, and expected an attack at the Sorel; we prepared ourselves to receive them, but they did not approach that day. We had certain information that between five and ten thousand had arrived in Canada; that the greater part were within a few leagues of us; and that the Indians and Canadians, with

some Regulars from near the Cedars, were preparing with a large body to take possession of a narrow part of the Lake, on this side of St. Johns, and cut off our supplies of provisions and stores, while another part gets up the river St. Lawrence, and takes possession of Chambly. We had not above three thousand troops in Canada that were fit for duty, and a number equal to them were sick with the small-pox and other disorders, who, consuming the same quantity of provisions as the healthy, were a burden to us. We had many places to hold. The enemy's shipping were masters of the St. Lawrence, and riding triumphant wherever they pleased. Above Deschambault there is no place that can be so fortified as to prevent vessels from passing. At several places between Chambly and the mouth of the Sorel the river St. Lawrence runs within a league, the mouth of which last river if the enemy once possessed, (which would have been done on the north side without coming near our batteries,) our retreat would be effectually cut off; and in case they should make any attempt that way, we had no prospect of a reinforcement to enable us to keep possession of Canada. In short, as we saw it was impossible, whilst the enemy commanded the waters of the St. Lawrence, it was agreed in Council that this place, being of the greatest consequence, ought to be fortified and secured, and we should immediately leave Canada and come here.

The enemy considering us intimidated, and apprehending we would not fight, sent several Indians and Canadians to line the waters and observe our motions. Colonel [Anthony] Wayne and [Thomas] Hartley having information that some persons were seen at the place where Captain Adams was killed, took a party over in the evening; when they saw a man on the top of the house looking at them, upon which they pushed forward through a swamp, found fresh tracks, saw Indian wigwams and fires; they pursued them for some distance, and took a fine horse and saddle, which some regular officer had been riding, but night prevented their overtaking the enemy. It was proposed that a party of one thousand men should go from the Isle-aux-Noix, by land, to the Isle-la-Motte, whilst the rest went in batteaus. Colonel Hartley was of the party, with two hundred and fifty Riflemen out of his Regiment. They scoured the country, traversed disagreeable swamps, and destroyed the house, mills, &c., of the traitor McDonald before mentioned, who had fled the morning before they got to his house. Near the house, finding fresh tracks and fires, they renewed their pursuit, but could not overtake the enemy.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, VI, 1252-53. The writer was an officer of the 6th Pennsylvania battalion.

#### ROBERT BOYD, JR. TO GEORGE CLINTON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

New Windsor 3d July 1776.

Yesterday I was informed that all the Carpenters have Quit work on the Frigates at Poughkeepsie, the report is on acc't of their wages being lower'd;<sup>2</sup> if this report be true no doubt the Honorable Congress have solid Reasons for it which at present I cannot devise, but think now's the time

that the greatest Harmony should subsist, and that labour undone may be of much worse consequence than giving a little Extra wages. In times of Public commotion there will allways be a shifting of Property that's very visible, But (as I have often mentioned to you) I cannot see the diffarence is very great as to the Public welfare, who are in Possession of it, nay I think its much better shifted out of the hands of Numbers (who now Possess large Quantities of it) even to ship Carpenters; than that they should much longer enjoy it.

1. Hugh Hastings, ed., *The Public Papers of George Clinton, First Governor of New York* (New York and Albany 1899), I, 245.
2. According to the narrative of Abraham Leggett, the reason does not seem to be because of wages. He wrote: "in '75 the Troubles with England commenced, and nothing to be done, and I had an opportunity to get in public service. I agreed to go on to Pokipsey and do work on the two frigates that was to be built there by order of the Continal Congress then sitting in Philadelphia. On the first of Febru'ry 1776 several that was Engadgd and walk'd to Pokipsey eighty-three miles - there I was Engadg'd Till the first July. I then with several others formed ourselves in a company under the command of Barnardus Swartout all Volunteers - the times began to appear very Interesting - the British Fleet and large army was at Staten Island." Charles J. Bushnell, ed., "The Narrative of Major Abraham Leggett," *The Magazine of History*, XXVI, Extra No. 101 (New York, 1924), 45.

#### GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

New York, July 3, 1776.

Sir: Since I had the honor of addressing you and on the same day several Ships more arrived within the Hook; making the number that came in them, 110, and there remains no doubt of the whole of the Fleet from Hallifax being now here. Yesterday Evening 50 of them came into the Bay and Anchored on the Staten Island side. Their views I cannot precisely determine, but am extremely apprehensive, as a part of them only came, that they mean to surround the Island and secure the whole stock upon it. I had consulted with a committee of the Provincial Congress on the Subject, and a person was appointed to superintend the business and to drive the Stock off. I also wrote to Brigadier General [Nathaniel] He[a]rd and directed him to the Measure, lest it might be neglected, but am fearful it has not been effected.

Our reinforcements of Militia are but small yet: Their amount I cannot ascertain, having not been able to procure a return. However, I trust, if the Enemy make an Attack, they will meet with a repulse, as I have the pleasure to inform you, that an agreeable Spirit and willingness for Action, seems to Animate and prevade the whole of our Troops.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 214-15.

#### MEMOIRS OF MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH <sup>1</sup>

[New York]

[July] 3d. - The British troops landed on Staten-Island. A part of the stock had been taken off. The inhabitants, who were about 350 men, were supposed to be generally opposed to the revolution.

1. Abbatt, ed., *Heath Memoirs*, 41.

DIARY OF ENSIGN CALEB CLAP <sup>1</sup>

[New York]

July 3rd, about Ten O Clock A M three large Menofwar came up through the Narrows with two Tenders, they came to an Anchor, Against Stratton [Staten] Island, about 12 o Clock –

After those Ships appeared this side the Narrows A Signal was Hoisted, two Guns fired from the North Battery, and the whole Army was immediately under Arms, ready to Receive them About 5 O Clock P, M. the Ships was under Way and moved up Slowly fired several Shots on the People on Stratton Island –

General [Israel] Putnam with a Detachment of 5 or 6 Hundred Men is gone on to Long Island in order to prevent the enemys Landing this sudden alarm put the Citizens in the greatest confusion they are moving out of Town as fast as Possible

I conclude almost all the sloops and Craft that Lay about the Town are gone up the Rivers (North and south)

About 6 o Clock two Ships come through the Narrows, up to the other Ships –

About half Past Sevin O, Clock About 43 Sail come through the Narrows and joined the rest of the Fleet

July 3rd, after the Ships hove in sight, our People on Stratton Island drove off[f] about 400 Head of Cattle; soon after that the enemy Landed, and is Reported that took about 30 of our Men –

July 3rd, at Night it is Reported that some Tory Shot one of our Sentries, supposed with white Powder, he was Shot through the ancle

July 3rd, at Night it is Reported that there was an Officer (Supposed to be a Captain) took Prisoner by our People, besides the other Regulars –

July 3rd, at Night A Schooner went Up by Stratton, our People went up with two 12 pounders and fired so that they Left the Sloop but had not a boat of her

1. *The Historical Magazine*, 3rd series, III, 136-37.

CAPTAIN EPHRAIM MANNING TO GEORGE WASHINGTON <sup>1</sup>[July 3, 1776] <sup>2</sup>

To his Excellency Genl Washington

May it please your Excellency –

Last Night about 12 oClock I recd your Excellencies Orders to give my Assistance in taking the Stock off[f] Staten Island – beg leave to inform your Excellency, that by the Advice of all my Officers, I left the Island Yesterday about 3 oClock P.M. the Inhabitants being unfriendly & the Enemy so near & my Party so small, had I staid any longer we must have fallen into their Hands, as they were surrounding the Island with their Shipping, & not long after we crossd the Ferry there came up two Armd Vessels, which I did (with the Assistance of an Officer of the Train & one three Pounder) my Endeavour to drive back & in some measure Effectd –

I am now About 5 Mile up in the Jersey side, (my Men being very much fatigued) where I wait your Excellency's Commands. As their is a large Number landed & continually landing, beg leave to hint to your Excellency, whither a larger Party than I have at present under my command, will not be necessary –

I am, with the greatest Respect your Excellencies [&c.]

Wednesday 8 oClock A. M.

Ephraim Man[ning]

1. Washington Papers, LC.

2. Date approximated by The Library of Congress.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Phoenix*, CAPTAIN HYDE PARKER, JR.<sup>1</sup>

July 1776

In Gravesend Bay

Tuesday 2d

at 8 A M Fired a Gun and made the Signal to Weigh Do Weigh'd and came to Sail, in Company with the *Greyhound* & *Rose* at 12 came too in the Narrows with the Small Bower in 10 fm Water Veer'd to  $\frac{1}{3}$  Cable Open'd a Cask of Beef No 70 Conts 180 ps Lost in Soundg a Hand Lead & Line

First part fresh Breezes with Rain. Midl & latter fresh Gales and Clear, at 3 P M Weighed and run in shore Straton Island distance  $\frac{1}{4}$  Mile came too wth the Bt Bowr Veer'd away to half a Cable, fired Several shott at a party of Rebels onshore,

Wednesdy 3d

A M Weigh'd the Bt Bower & let go the Small, Moor'd Ship with the Stream, Fired a Gun and made the Signal for the Troops to Land Anchd here the Admiral with a Number of Transports from Graves End Bay Bedlows Island NNE Red Hook NEB East

First and Midl parts fresh Breezes & Clear latter light airs and fair P M Anchor'd here some Transports from Graves End.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/693.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Rose*, CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE<sup>1</sup>

July 1776

Anchd In Sandy Hook Road

Monday 1st

First part light breezes and foggy at times Midle Calm, with Thunder, Lightning and hard rain, latter Cloudy, PM at 4 the Adml made the Sigl to Weigh, do Weigh'd and Came to Sail as did the Fleet, Steering up for New York, left riding at the Hook H M Sloop *Swan*, at 7 Anchor'd in Gravesend Bay, 4 fm the Church NEBN and the So point of Long Island NWBN Do Anch'd the Fleet,

Tuesday 2d

AM at 8 weigh'd and came to sail with the *Ph[o]enix* and *Greyhound*, Clear'd Ship for Action, Steering through the Narrows. at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 11 Anchor'd off the N Point of Stratten [Staten] Island  $6\frac{1}{2}$  fm Do Point WNW Do Anch'd the

*Ph[o]enix* and *Greyhound*, the Tide of Ebb making strong the Fleet could not get through the Narrows.

Squally with rain at times PM at 4 Weigh'd and run close to the Watering Place, Anch'd the Adml made Sigl for the Granadiers & light Infantry to land, at 9 they landed, at 10 Weigh'd and drop't further out,

Wedsdy 3d A M the Amdl and Fleet under Way turning up, Read the Articles of War &c to the Ships Compy PM Anch'd the Adml and part of the Fleet,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/805.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Greyhound*, CAPTAIN ARCHIBALD DICKSON <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 In Gravesend Bay

Tuesdy 2nd at 1½ past 7 AM weigh'd & Came to sail as did the fleet at 10 Do sail'd through the Narrows between Long Island & Staten Island at noon new york in sight Bearing NE Depart'd this Life James Essex Marine. Clear'd Ship for Action First Part Light airs wt rain at 1 PM Anchor'd near Staten Isld as the tide of Ebb made out strong against us & part of the Fleet without the Narrows at 1½ past 4 Weigh'd & sail'd nearer the shore & anchor'd in 6 fathm water wt the best bower & moor'd wt the stream anchor at 7 PM the Troops began to Disembark

Wednesy 3rd 6 AM the sigl was made on board the *Ph[o]enix* for the troops to Land when moor'd Hill point NNW½W Bedlers Island NNE Nices point of Long Island SEbS the Bluff of Staten Island S by E½E Diste off shore a Cables Length – Light Breezes & Variable Vars Empd the Long boat Empd waterg

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/420.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Senegal*, CAPTAIN ROGER CURTIS <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 At single Anchor In Gravesend Road.

Tuesday 2d 4 AM Weigh'd pr signl from the Adm in Compy with the *Phoenix*, *Rose*, and *Greyhound*, & first division of Transports, and run thro' the Narrows, but falling little Wind & drifting NW with the tide of Ebb. at Noon bore down with [1] division to the Fleet.

1 PM Anchor'd here with the best bowr in 15 fam Veerd away to ½ a Cable at 5 the tide of Flood making weigh'd & work'd up with the first division of Transports at 8 Anchor'd off the NE pt of Staten Island in 8 fam & veer'd to ½ a Cable and begun to disembark the Troops at 11 finish'd disembarkg the Transports not being able to get up

Wednesday 3d at 8 AM finish'd Landg the 1st Brigade

Fresh Breezes –

at 6 P M Weigh'd p Signal at 8 made Sail and run thro' the Narrows at 10 Anchd wth the small Br in 8 fam abreast the Wt bank Long Island Wt end No 2 Leags Light-house SSE 4 Leags

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/885.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Chatham*, CAPTAIN JOHN RAYNOR <sup>1</sup>

July [1776] Gravesend Bay

Wednesdy 3 at 7 AM Made the signal for weighing at 8 weigh'd & Made sail with the Fleet. turning thro' the Narrows. the rebels kept a Constant firing of Small Arms from Long Island at the Shipping as they passed by at ½ past 11 Came too with the Fleet in 13 fm Water. Lost from the Best Bower Anchor One Buoy & Buoy Rope

Strong Gales & Clear Wr at 6 PM Weighd at 7 Came too in 6 fm water the Rebels kept a Constant firing with a twelve Pounder which they had on long Island. at the remainder part of the fleet in Coming thro the Narrows Anchord here the *Centurion* with the rest of the fleet –

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/192.

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

[Philadelphia] Wednesday, July 3, 1776

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be empowered to contract with shipwrights, to go to Lake Champlain, on the following terms:

To allow each man at the rate of 34 dollars and two-thirds per month; one month's pay to be advanced, upon their giving security, if required:

Each man to be allowed one ration and a half, and one half pint of rum, a day:

Their tools and arms to be valued:

Two-thirds of their wages to be paid, monthly, to whomever they shall leave the power of receiving it:

Their pay to commence from the day they sign articles, and continue until they are discharged, with an allowance of one day's pay for every twenty miles, between the place where discharged, and their respective homes.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the Declaration; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. [Benjamin] Harrison reported, that the committee, not having finished, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the Declaration.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 507, 508–09.

JOHN ADAMS TO ABIGAIL ADAMS<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Philadelphia July 3, 1776

Your Favour of June 17. dated at Plymouth, was handed me, by Yesterdays Post. I was much pleased to find that you had taken a Journey to Plymouth, to see your Friends in the long Absence of one whom you may wish to see. The Excursion will be an Amusement, and will serve your Health. How happy would it have made me to to have taken this Journey with you?

I was informed, a day or two before the Receipt of your Letter, that you was gone to Plymouth, by Mrs. Polly Palmer, who was obliging enough in your Absence, to inform me of the Particulars of the Expedition to the lower Harbour against the Men of War. Her Narration is executed, with a Precision and Perspicuity which would have become the Pen of an accomplished Historian.<sup>2</sup>

I am very glad you had so good an opportunity of seeing one of our little American Men of War.<sup>3</sup> Many Ideas, new to you, must have presented themselves in such a Scene; and you will in future, better understand the Relations of Sea Engagements. . . .

Yesterday the greatest Question was decided which ever was debated in America, and a greater perhaps, never was or will be decided among Men. A Resolution was passed without dissenting Colony "that these united Colonies, are, and of right ought to be free and independent States, and as such, they have, and of Right ought to have full Power to make War, conclude Peace, establish Commerce, and to do all the other Acts and Things, which other States may rightfully do." You will see in a few days a Declaration setting forth the Causes, which have impell'd Us to this mighty Revolution, and the Reasons which will justify it, in the Sight of God and Man. A Plan of Confederation will be taken up in a few days.

1. Butterfield, ed., *Adams Family Correspondence*, II, 27-28.

2. In the Pierpont Morgan Library is John Adams's acknowledgment, of July 3, to Miss Polly Palmer, for her letter of June 15, 1776. It states, in part: "I will inclose to you a Declaration, in which all America is remarkably united. - It compleats a Revolution, which will make as good a Figure in the History of Mankind, as any that preceeded it. - provided always, that the Ladies take Care to record the Circumstances of it, for by the Experience I have had of the other Sex, they are either too lazy, or too active, [to] commemorate them. . . . Howes Army and Fleet are at Staten Island. But there is a very numerous Army, at New York and New Jersey to oppose them. Like Noahs Dove, without its Innocence, they can find no Rest."

3. Abigail Adams described, in her June 17 letter, her visit to the Connecticut brig *Defence*, then lying in Plymouth harbor.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER  
OF THE PROVINCIAL TROOPS AT THE Barracks<sup>1</sup>

Sir: -

[Philadelphia] 3d July, 1776.

It being judg'd expedient to remove Lieutenants Boger and Ball, Prisoners of war, stationed at Germant'n, from that place to York Town, and those Gentlemen having refused to give the Parole required of them pre-



vious to their removal and necessary upon that occasion, you are hereby required to order a discreet officer with a suitable guard, to proceed to Germantown and take into Custody the said Lt's Bager [Boger] and Ball, if they still refuse to sign the Parole, convey them forthwith to York Town, and there deliver them to the keeper of the Common Goal to be safely kept until this Committee or the honbl'e Congress shall discharge them.<sup>2</sup> Provided, that if the said officers shall freely sign the Parole, the officer may send back the Guard and proceed with s'd Prisoners to York Town, and deliver them to the Care of the Committee, there to reside agreeable to the terms thereof.

1. Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 2nd series, I, 445.

2. *Ibid.*, 409, 410, an undated return of British prisoners in York Town, York County, lists: "Richard Bogyr, 2d Lieut. of his Majesties Ship *Liverpool*, taken at Sea off the Cape of Virginia, the latter end of March, 1776 [*sic* April 7]. George Ball, 3d Lieut. of the *Roe-buck*, taken 28th March, 1776, off Cape Henlopen. Robert Chase, Lieut. of the *Gasper* [*Gaspee*], taken November 20th, 1775, in the River St. Lawrence."

#### MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

##### In Committee of Safety.

Philad'a, 3rd July, 1776.

Capt. West [*sic* Martin Wert] was directed to deliver Commodore Davison the whole Quantity of Ammunition that he now has on Board the Ammunition Vessel.

By order of the Board, John M. Nesbitt, Esq'r, Paymaster, was desired to advance two Months' pay to Lieut. [John] Emmes, of the Fire Brig't.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 627-29.

#### *Pennsylvania Gazette*, WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 1776

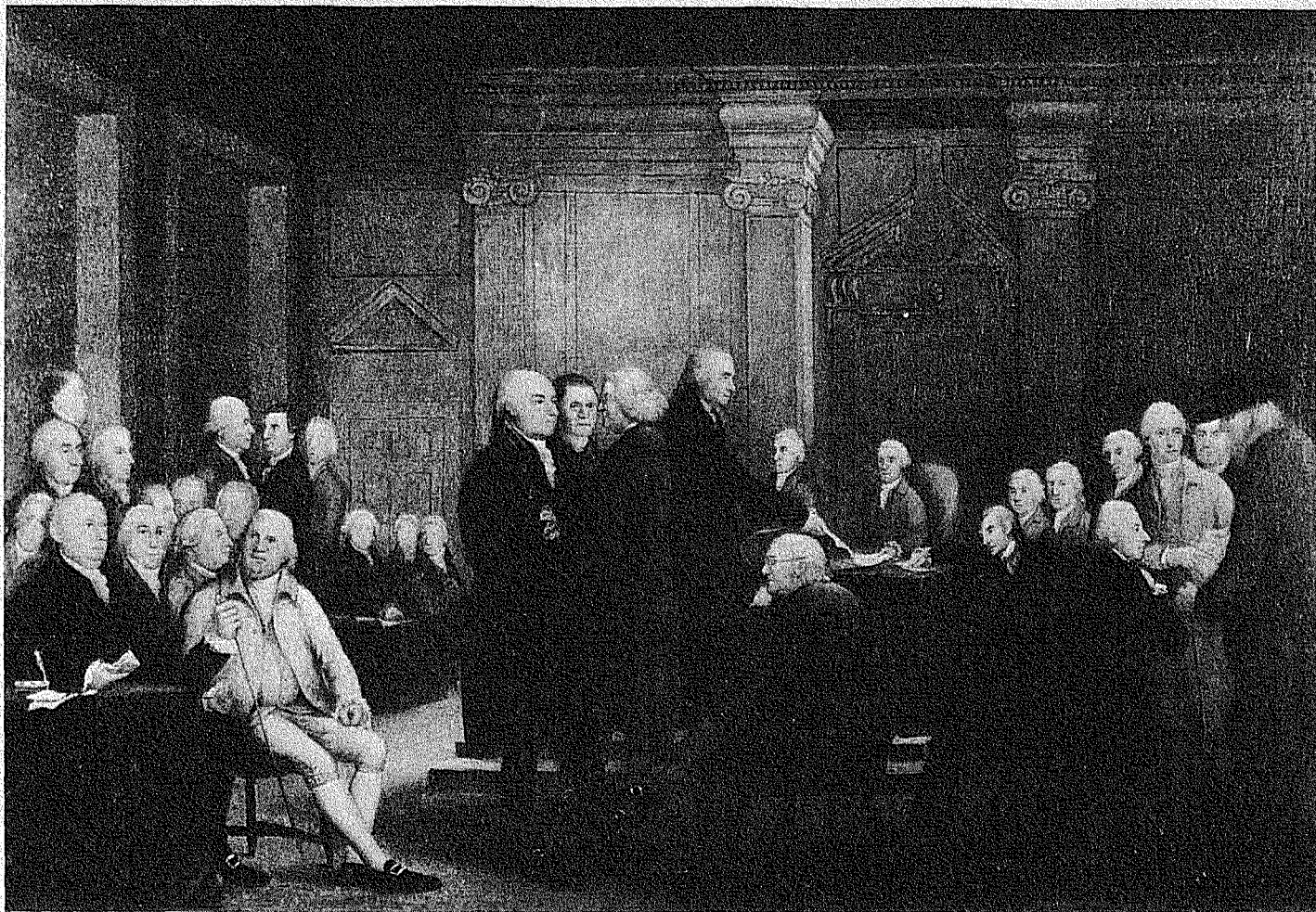
Philadelphia, July 3.

Yesterday the CONTINENTAL CONGRESS declared the UNITED COLONIES FREE and INDEPENDENT STATES.

Yesterday Captain [William] Meston, late of the snow *Dickenson*, of this port, arrived here from Bristol, but last from the West-Indies. — He sailed from this place last February, bound for Nantz, but the Mate, assisted by the crew, seized and confined the Captain on the coast of Portugal, and then altered their course for London; the southerly winds driving them into Bristol Channel, they arrived at Bristol the 8th of April, when the mate proposed to set off immediately for London with all the letters and papers on board for the inspection of government. The vessel was detained at Bristol till the determination of government concerning her should be known.<sup>1</sup>

The following Captains, belonging to this port, were at the Bay of Honduras the 24th of last February, viz. [Edward] Spain, John Green, [John] Taylor and Phillips; also Capt. [George] Buchanan. of Baltimore.

1. See Volume 4, 1024-25.



*"The Congress Voting Independence, July 4th, 1776."*

JOURNAL OF H. M. S. *Orpheus*, CAPTAIN CHARLES HUDSON <sup>1</sup>

July 1776

Cape May WBN 20 Leagues

Wednesday 3

at 4 AM Gave Chase to two sail in the N Et at 6 fired a Six Pdr & spoke one of the Chase a Schooner from Egg Harbour for the Wt Indias <sup>2</sup> sent an Officer & 4 Men on board & made sail

Fresh Breezes & clear Wr at one P M in 1 Reef Topsails & hove too, at 8 made Sail at 11 In 2 Reef Topsails saw too sail in the SW: Qr gave Chase sent a Boat Mand & Arm'd to the Chase a B[rig] from Philladilphia for Burdeaux in France <sup>3</sup> sent an Officer & four men on board & gave Chase to the SWt

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4279.

2. *Fidelity*, William Willis, master, from Philadelphia for the West Indies, with flour, Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

3. *Ibid.*, *Polly*, Philip Lacey, master, belonging to the Congress, from Philadelphia for France, with oil, flour and spermaceti candles. William Hodge, who was bound for France with instructions issued May 30, 1776, by the Secret Committee, was a passenger on board the *Polly*. He destroyed his papers before the capture by the *Orpheus*, Papers CC (Other Reports of Committees of Congress), 37, NA.

JOURNAL OF H. M. SLOOP *Kingsfisher*, CAPTAIN ALEXANDER GRAEME <sup>1</sup>

July 1776

do [Cape Henlopen] N 80 Wt 104 Miles

Wednesday 3

6 AM saw 2 Sail to Leeward gave Chase as did the *Orpheus* & Tenders – saw the *Orpheus* bring too her Chace

12 PM saw 2 Sail gave Chase at one the *Orpheus* to the other both Ships came up with their chase & took them laden with bread, flour, beeswax & Tobacco from Philadelphia bound to port L[ouise] <sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/506.

2. The prize taken by the *Kingfisher* was bound to the West Indies. She was the *Peggy*, Thomas Patten, master, from Philadelphia, with flour, Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

GEORGE WOOLSEY TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen

Balt 3d July 1776

The Length that the Troubles between Great Britain & the Colonies have run to & the Impossibility of this Province being an idle Spectator make me think that every Inhabitant of this Province should render what Service his Abilities are capable of Induced by these Motives & these only, I now offer my Services to the Public, as Captn of one of the Gondolas.

I would not desire to be first on the List, if any Man more capable than myself offers at the same Time I think that few will offer, who have had much more Experience than myself. As I have a Wife and Family, and am confident that my pay in the Service will not support them (If you should

think proper to give me the Command of one of these Vessels.) I must endeavour to have my Business carried on by some careful Hand. Therefore would wish when I am not in actual Service, that my Station might be in the River patapsco that I might have it in my Power to inspect my Affairs as often as my Duty to the Public will permit. On these Terms you may depend on the Public receiving all the Services in my Power. And if acceptable to you Please write to me on this Subject soon, as I think any Man who commands one of these Vessels should go to Philadelphia to make himself acquainted with the working them. I would therefore on a Certainty of being appointed go to Philadelph[ia] for that purpose. I would also wish to know my Rank (if appointed), and who they are if any are before me in Rank. I am Gentlemen [&c.]

Geo: Woolsey.

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

#### JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND CONVENTION <sup>1</sup>

[Annapolis] Wednesday, July 3, 1776.

On motion, Resolved, That the Council of Safety be empowered to fit out, as soon as may be, three vessels with a number of guns, not exceeding ten each, and also any number of armed boats not exceeding six, for the service and defence of this colony, and to order such of the vessels in the service of this colony as they may think necessary, to cruise on the eastern shore, for the protection thereof.

1. *Maryland Convention*, 10.

#### MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Williamsburg] Wednesday, July 3rd, 1776.

Same [warrant] to Capt. James Barron for £121.18.10 for pay roll of boat *Liberty* to 25th June, also for use Capt. R'd Barron for £100.7.3 for Do. of boat *Patriot* to 25th June.

Ord[ered]. that the Boat formerly taken by Capt. Barron, late the property of John Mitchell, now up James River, be delivered to Capt. Barron, or his order, to be by him employed in the public service.

A warrant to Capt. James Barron, £96 upon acct in part of the prize money of Brig *Fanny*, to be distributed in equal proportions among the men concerned in taking the s'd Brig.

Same to Capt. Thos Lilly for £162.19.3 for pay of workmen on Brig *Liberty*.

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 234, 235.

#### JOURNAL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Wednesday July 3d 1776.

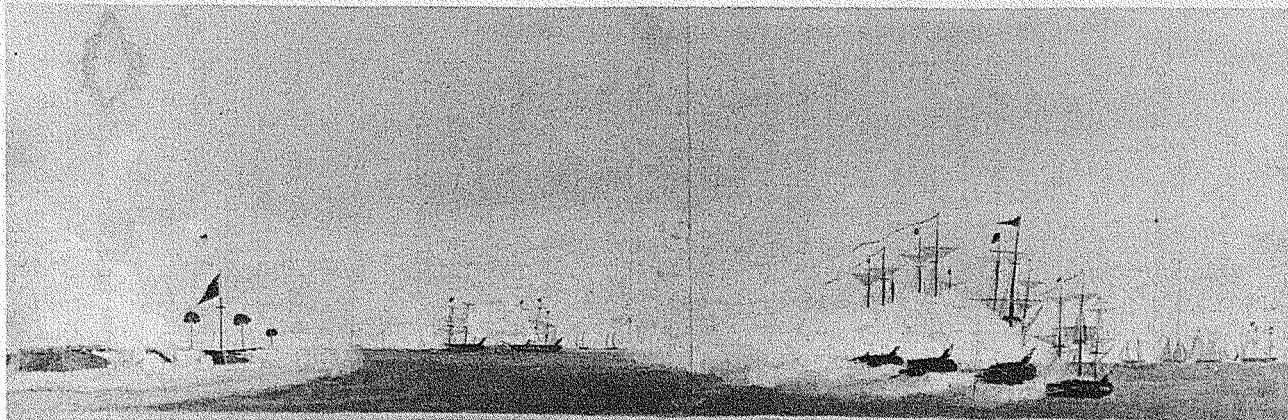
Resolved That Mr David Baron be permitted to Ship to the French, Dutch or Neutral West India Islands twenty six thousand and four hundred White Oak Staves, Fifty two thousand red Oak Staves, two thousand five

hundred White Oak Hogshead heading, and Fifty thousand twenty two Inches Shingles, The said David Baron first entering into Bond with Security before the Commissioners for the port of New Bern in the sum of three thousand pounds that he will import into this province, the whole Amount of the Nett proceeds of the above Articles, in Arms Ammunition and Salt the danger of the Seas and Enemy excepted.

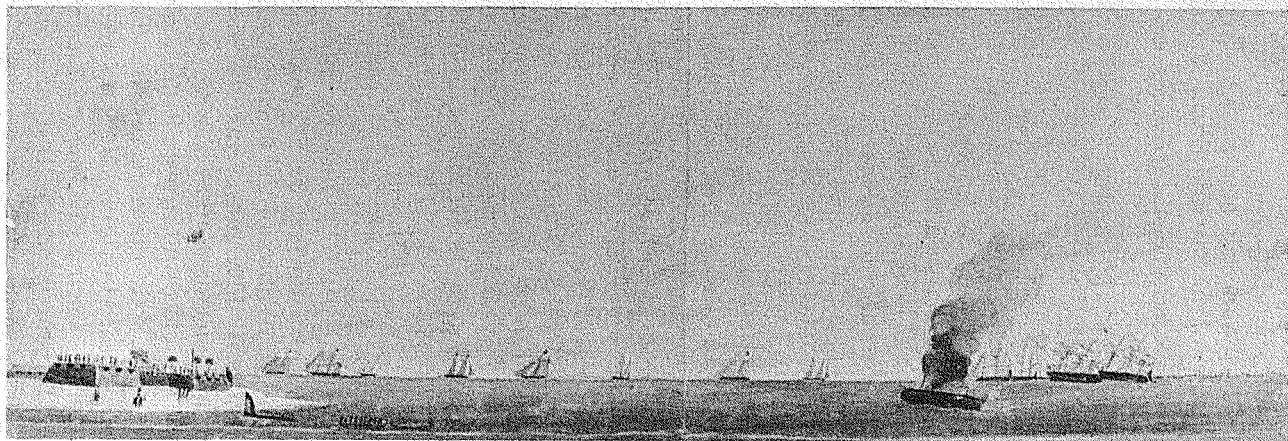
1. Secretary of State Papers (Provincial Conventions and Congresses/Councils 1774-1776), NCDAH.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH-CAROLINA, DATED  
JULY 3, 1776" <sup>1</sup>

On Tuesday the 4th ult. the British fleet, consisting of ten ships of war and thirty transports, appeared off our bar. So formidable an armament would have alarmed us had we not been conscious of the justice of our cause, but trusting that the Almighty would support and protect us in this glorious struggle for liberty, the most righteous of all contests, we were resolved to make the most vigorous opposition in our power. — We had information two days before that there were in at Bull's, so that their arrival was not altogether unexpected. — As we were ignorant of the mode of attack intended by the enemy, General [John] Armstrong ordered so[me] breast-works to be thrown up at such places as he thought they would most probably attempt to land, little thinking they would bend their whole force against Sullivan's island fort. So great a number of vessels, as you may suppose, could not get over the bar immediately, nor did they until Sunday the 9th, on which day Generals Lee and Howe arrived here. Lee immediately saw the defenceless state our town was in, and the impossibility of keeping it if attacked in such a situation, he accordingly next day drew up all the men in town, in number about one thousand, told them the absolute necessity of some breast-works being thrown up round the town, pulling down the houses on the wharves, &c. The people expressed the greatest alacrity in doing it immediately, — OLD and YOUNG, HIGH and LOW, RICH and POOR, WHITE and BLACK, ONE WITH ANOTHER, set about the work, and for several days were constantly employed in making such preparations for a defence of the town as were thought necessary, the enemy all the while lying within twelve miles of the town. On the tenth their last and largest vessel, the *Bristol* of fifty guns, came over the bar, having previously taken out all her guns and stores, and that night a very smart gale of wind came on, which lasted two days, and drove off the vessel that had her stores on board, who never could beat up again till Tuesday the 25th, when she and the *Experiment*, another fifty gun ship, appeared off the bar, and both came over the next day. During this interval the enemy landed their troops, in number about two thousand effective men, on Long-Island, which is at the back of Sullivan's, with intent, we supposed, either to attack us in front and rear at the same time, which certainly was a very good plan if they could have effected it, or to land on the main, get possession of Ha[d]drell's point, and by that means cut off the retreat from Sullivan's, if they silenced the fort; and



*"The unsuccessful attack on the Fort on Sullivan's Island on the 28th June 1776."*



*"The morning after the engagement on Sullivan's Island. The ships of war having retired a few miles below the Fort are on a heel repairing damages and particularly stopping shell holes between wind & water. Despatch boats and other vessels are seen a few miles off passing and repassing between the fleet & Genl Clinton's army on Long Island to the East of Sullivan's Isld."*



on Friday last, the 28th, they convinced us that the former was their scheme, for at three quarters of an hour after ten o'clock in the morning, their bomb-ketch began to play on the fort at Sullivan's, to divert their attention while the ships advanced to make their attack, and at half past eleven o'clock the following ships were all engaged, the *Bristol* of fifty guns, *Experiment* fifty, *Solebay* twenty-eight, *Syren*, twenty-eight, *Active* thirty six, *Acteon* thirty-six, and *Sphynx* twenty – the *Sphinx* had her bowsprit shot away the first shot that was fired at her, which sent her out of the line, the *Acteon* was drove ashore by another shot as it is said, but that is of no consequence, for she could not be got off, and the next morning the enemy set her on fire, leaving almost all her stores on board, some of which however we have got, and shall get most of her guns; the ketch was totally disabled, after discharging about twenty shells, by one bursting which split the bed of the mortar. – The five first vessels continued a very heavy cannonade, one of the most fierce ever known, without ten minutes intermission in the whole, in which by the most moderate calculation they could not have fired less than twelve thousand times, till nine o'clock at night, when they ceased, lying the whole time within four hundred yards of the fort, and about three o'clock next morning they very quietly retired to their former station. The *Bristol* has lost her mizen mast, and her main mast is also much disabled.

Monday morning, five sailors, who deserted from the *Bristol*, gave us the following intelligence, viz. the Commodore was wounded in the breech, Capt. of the *Bristol* his arm shot off, forty-four men killed, and thirty wounded; *Experiment*, Captain and fifty-seven killed, and thirty wounded; *Solebay* three or four killed; they can say nothing as to the killed and wounded of the other vessels. The Captain of the *Bristol* sailed for England on Sunday, to carry them the good news, I suppose. Our whole loss at the fort was ten killed, three of whom by their own imprudence, and twenty-two wounded. The fort is as good as ever it was. The conduct of Col. Moultrie, his officers and men, merits the highest applause, and reflects the greatest honour on them. Lee was present almost the whole fire, and declares both officers and men behaved with the greatest coolness and intrepidity; they behaved as well as ever men did, as well as men could do. Unfortunately for us nearly all the ammunition at the fort was expended by three o'clock, and it was some time before they could even get a small supply; if we had had double the quantity there, in all human probability neither of those fifty gun ships would have got off; as it is, the *Experiment* has three or four ports knocked into one, and is otherwise terribly shattered. It is astonishing and almost incredible to think that a palmeto log fort with twelve guns (those were all they could bring to bear on the vessels) and three hundred men should make such havock with so formidable a fleet of British vessels. At the time of attacking the fort, their troops endeavoured to land on the island, and were twice repulsed by [William] Thompson's rangers, about three hundred men. Be assured the foregoing account is true in every particular. There are many other circumstances of the spirit and bravery of individuals, which would appear still more incredible

for young soldiers, that I have not time to relate. I expect in about ten days we shall have another brush with them, and doubt not but through the divine favour we shall be equally successful.

1. *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, July 23, 1776.

MASTER'S LOG OF H. M. ARMED VESSEL *Cherokee* <sup>1</sup>

July 1776                      Moored in Savannah River Georgia  
 Tuesday 2            The first part Strong gales and squally with rain Thunder  
                                  and Lightning the middle and Latter parts fresh breezes  
                                  and fair at 8 PM sent our boat man'd and Armed (in Com-  
                                  pany with two boats belonging to His Majestys Sloop *Raven*)  
                                  to the Carolina Shore  
 Wednesday 3    at 8 AM the Boats returned with 33 Sheep and some poultry  
                                  which was delivered on board the *Raven*.

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1662.

JOURNAL OF H. M. SLOOP *Raven*, CAPTAIN JOHN STANHOPE <sup>1</sup>

July 1776                      Moor'd off Cockspur in Savannah River.  
 Tuesday 2d            (A M) the people [employed] Occasionally. First part  
                                  fresh gales and Squally Wr with Rain Thunder and Light-  
                                  ning, middle modt breezs latter Calm. Mannd & armd the  
                                  Longboat and sent an Officer in her to the Carolina Shore,  
                                  together with the *Cherokees* boat & a Canoe with Negroes  
                                  to get Stock  
 Wednesdy 3d    (A M) at 3 departed this Life John Jose, Sailmaker. The  
                                  Boats returnd with a variety of Stock.  
                                  Modt Wear The Longboat watering.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/771.

"A LETTER FROM BARBADOES, DATED JULY 3 [1776]." <sup>1</sup>

The armed schooner *Apollo*, of ten guns, has taken and brought into Carlisle-bay three American vessels, viz. A snow and two sloops, from Cape Nichola Mole, where they had delivered cargoes of lumber, &c. and had reladen with powder, &c. The French have several cruizers in the West Indies, to prevent, as much as possible, their vessels from trading with the Americans.

1. *London Chronicle*, August 31 to September 3, 1776.

#### 4 July

JOURNAL OF H. M. SCHOONER *Magdalen*, CAPTAIN JOSEPH NUNN <sup>1</sup>

July 1776                      off Sorel [St. Lawrence River]  
 Thursday 4            Fresh breezes and Cloudy Wr P M sent the seamen who  
                                  Entered to serve on the Lakes to Champlain.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4252.



JOURNAL OF CAPTAIN HENRY DEARBORN <sup>1</sup>[On board H. M. S. *Viper*, June 30] <sup>2</sup>

This morning we come to sail with a good Breeze,<sup>3</sup> we are extremely well Treated by Capt [Samuel] Graves, and the other officers on Board at 7 O Clock this evening we are abreast of Grand Manan.

July 1 We have very little wind, the weather is very Cloudy, at 12..O..Clock We have a brisk Breeze and a thick Fog.

2 The weather remains Foggy, we have a light Breeze; our General Course is S.S.W. but as the weather is thick, and we not willing to fall in with the Land until it is Clearer, we keep running off and on waiting for the weather to clear up.

3 The weather is clear, we are in sight of Mount Desert, we have a fresh Breeze at N.W. We are steering for Machias, at 3..0..Clock, as we were about entering Machias harbour, we espied three small sail to windward, the Capt sent a barge after them at 6. 0 Clock the barge Return'd with a small fishing Schooner as a prize,<sup>4</sup> they inform'd the Capt that there was a small privateer along shore, which fired several shot at them, at seven O Clock the Capt orderd about 20 hands on board the schooner Which they had taken, with some Blunder-Busses and [o]ther arms, and sent them off, after the Privateer, which was in sight when the Schooner left the ship, which was about sunset.

4 We are cruising up and down from Mount Desert to Machias waiting for the schooner which went after the privateer last Night, the weather is very fine – at 2 O Clock P:M: the Boats return'd with two small fishing boats and two men we anchor'd this night by an Island, Called Mespecky.

1. *Dearborn Journal*.

2. While Dearborn did not name the vessel to which he and Major Meigs transferred, her identity as the *Viper* is established by the captain's reference to the commander as "Capt Graves" and the journals of both the *Scarborough* and *Viper*, PRO, Admiralty 51/867 and 1039.

3. Journal of the *Scarborough*, Sunday June 30, 1776, "A M sail'd hence H: Majs Sloop *Viper*."

4. The *Mayflower*; see journal of the *Viper*, July 3, 1776.

JOURNAL OF H. M. SLOOP *Viper*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 Machias Harbour NE  $1\frac{1}{2}$  E 4 Leags.

Thursday 4 at 6 AM Seized a Schooner name unknown at 8 Tackd Ship at 10 out all reefs at 11 Fired a gun as a Sigl for the boat

Modt & hazey at 2 P M in 1st reef topsls at 3 Tackd Ship at 8 Came too with the best br in 17 f[m]s verred 1/3 Cable Mack Island NWBN Misspeca head SbW  $1\frac{1}{2}$  a Mile

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/1039.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN JOHN FISK <sup>1</sup>

By the Major Part of the Councill

Capt Jno Fisk

The Sloop *Tirannicide* under your Com[m]and being in All Respects

Equiped in warlike manner, & being also well & properly man'd so as to Enable you to proceed on a Cruise,

You therefore are Directed Immediately to proceed on a Cruise not only against our unaturall Enemys, But Also for the Protection of the Trade of the united Colonys, and you are Directed not to Cruise farther East than the Island Sable on the Coast of Nova-Scotia, nor farther South than the Latitude of 35 north, nor further West than the sholes of Nantucket, untill the further Order of this Board unless forced so to Do by stress of Weather, always using every necessary precaution to prevent the Sloop under your Command from falling into the hands of the Enemy.

And whereas you have Received a Commission by force of arms to Attack seize & take on the high Seas all Ships & other vessells belonging to Inhabitants of Great Brittain, or others Infesting the sea Coast of this Continent, You are therefore Punctually to follow the Instructions already Delivered you for Regulating your Conduct in this matter and in all things Conduct your self Consistant with the trust Reposed in you.

Councill Chamber Watertown July 4. 1776 –

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 400.

*New-England Chronicle*, THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1776

Boston, July 4.

To be Sold at Public Auction, at the House of Mr. Benjamin Burdick, in Marblehead, the 18th Day of July, Instant, The Ship *Hope*, burthen about 280 Tons, with her Boats and Appurtenances, now lying at Boston; and her Cargo, consisting of Powder, Fire-Arms entrenching Tools, of all Kinds, Carpenters Tools, of all Kinds, some Cordage, with a Vari[e]ty of other Articles, too Large to enumerate:<sup>1</sup> Also, the Brigantine *William*, about 100 Tons, lying at Lynn, with her Cargo, consisting of Fayal Wines.<sup>2</sup>

Colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, Middle District, ss.

Libels are filed before me in Behalf of the Officers, Marines and Mariners of the Continental armed Vessels, *Hancock*, *Lee*, *Lynch*, *Warren* and *Franklin*, against the Ship named the *Lord Howe*, of about 200 Tons burthen, commanded by one Robert Park; – against the Brigantine named the *Annabella*, of about 180 Tons burthen, commanded by one Hugh Walker; – and against the Ship named the *George*, of about 220 Tons burthen, commanded by one Archibald Bog. – Another Libel is filed before me, in Behalf of the Officers, Marines and Mariners of the Continental armed Vessels, *Lee*, *Warren* and *Lynch*, against the Ship named the *Anne*, of about 223 Tons burthen, commanded by one John Dennison. – Which Ships and Brigantine, are said to have been taken carrying Supplies to the Fleet and Army employed against the United Colonies, and armed Soldiers infesting the Sea-Coast of America, and brought into the Counties of Suffolk and Essex.<sup>3</sup>

Another Libel is filed before me, in Behalf of John Adams, Commander of the armed Sloop called the *Chance*, and his Company of Marines and Mariners, and the Owners of the same Sloop, against the Ship named the

*Lady Juliana*, of about 240 Tons burthen, commanded by one Christopher Stephenson, and taken and brought into the County of Essex; which Ship, her Cargo and Appurtenances, are said to have been, at the Time of Capture, the Property of, and owned by divers Inhabitants of the Island of Great-Britain.

And for the Trial of these Captures, the Maritime Court for the Middle District of the Massachusetts-Bay, will be held at the Court-House in Boston, on Tuesday, the Twenty third Day of July, 1776, at the Hour of Ten in the Forenoon: – Of which, this Notice is given, pursuant to the Laws of the Colony aforesaid, that the Owners of the Vessels taken as aforesaid, or any Persons concerned, may appear and shew cause, (if any they have) why the same Vessels, or any of them, and their Cargoes and Appurtenances, should not be condemned.

Tim. Pickering, jun. Judge of said Court.

Note. Persons claiming the Whole, or any Part or Share, either as Owners or Captors of any Vessels taken and libelled, must by Law, file their Claims before the Judge of the Court five Days before the Day set for the Trial, or they will be forever barred therefrom.

1. The powder ship *Hope*, taken by James Mugford, in Washington's armed schooner *Franklin*.
2. The *William* was taken by Samuel Tucker, in Washington's armed schooner *Hancock*.
3. These were the four transports, carrying part of the 71st Highland regiment, taken by Washington's schooners and the Connecticut colony brig *Defence*.

*New-England Chronicle* THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1776

Boston, July 4.

By a Number of creditable Persons who are arrived in Town from Halifax, which Place they left the 13th ult. we learn – that Gen Howe, with upwards of 140 Sail of Men of War, Transports, &c. with about 8 or 9000 Troops on board, sailed from thence three Days before they came away, supposed bound for New-York. – That, in this Fleet went fourteen volunteers under the command of Capt. Stantan [John Stanton], of the 14th Regiment, among whom are, Brigadier [Timothy] Ruggles and Son, late of Hardwick; William Tyng, John Hicks (whose Father was slain at Lexington by these very Ministerial Butchers, while fighting gloriously for his Country's Liberty) and John Howe, the two latter were Printers, and all three formerly of this Town. – That General Howe left behind one or two Men of War to guard the Dock-Yard, and the whole of the Marines, two Companies of the 14th regiment, a Detachment from the Train of Artillery, and all the Light Horse; besides which, all the Women and Children, and the sick and wounded Soldiers, were also left, under the Command and direction of General [Eyre] Massey. – That only 500 Recruits, as a Reinforcement, have, as yet, arrived there. – That strong Fortifications were erecting on the Citadel-Hill, and near the Dock-Yard, the General being in great Fear of an Attack from the Continental Forces. – That General Burgoyne, in the *Isis*, a 50 Gun Ship, arrived at Quebec with 4000 Troops, from England, the Middle of May. – That Major Meigs, who was unfortunately taken prisoner at Quebec the 31st of December last, was sent to Halifax in the *Niger* Frigate,

Captain Talbot. He is permitted to go to Connecticut on his Parole of Honour, but to return when called on. – That Captain Martindale, who was taken in one of our Privateers, with about 70 Men, and carried to England, was sent back in the *Grey hound* Frigate, and arrived at Halifax the latter End of May. –<sup>1</sup> That the Tories, who went from hence were in a miserable Situation, wishing they had never quitted [the] town, but tarried and taken the consequence. – And, that the Negroes, carried off when the Army and Fleet were obliged to evacuate the Town and Harbour, were sent to Louisburgh, to dig Coal for their tyrannical Masters. These Blacks were commanded by a Certain captain Lindsey.

By the above Persons we also learn, that the infamous Dr. John Prince, formerly of Salem, had been using his Influence to get an armed Brig fitted out there, to cruise for American Property; but could not find Men base enough to prosecute so scandalous an undertaking, there being two to one, of the Inhabitants, warm Friends to the glorious Cause of America.

1. Commander of Washington's brig *Washington*, taken in December 1775 by H.M.S. *Fowey*.

#### JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY<sup>1</sup>

[Lebanon] Thursday 4th July, [1776]

Cap. Theo. Stanton, of the galley *Shark*, exhibited his account of many sundrys for and about said galley, of £ 95 9 6, and [James] Tilley's bill for rigging &c. £ 34 2 2, total £ 129 11 8, and is allowed, and ordered that said sum be drawn for. *Order given.*

*Voted*, That an order be drawn on the Pay-Table for Capt. Theo. Stanton for £ 100, to be by him improved in purchasing provisions and necessities for the galley, and render his account thereof. *Order given, delivered said Stanton.*

Whereas this Board are informed that vessels loaded with provisions frequently pass down the Sound, to go out to Sea, and in this critical time when the coasts are lined with ships of our enemies, who are in great need of our provisions, and without which they cannot carry on their hostile designs against us, and very many of our provision vessels having already fallen into their hands, and much of their supoport having been received and derived that way, and the danger at this time of their being taken being greater than ever,

*It is therefore resolved and ordered*, That Cap. Niles of the Colony's armed schooner *Spy*, now lying in the harbour of New London, or the commander of any other armed vessel belonging to this Colony, be and they are hereby directed, to seize and bring into port any such provision vessel or vessels which he or they may be able to discover and take, in or about said harbour, offing or sound, bound to sea, and the same hold and detain, and make report of the circumstances, cargo, and destination of such vessel or vessels, the master's name, place of abode, owners names, the licence by which they have sailed &c., to his Honor the Governor, and take his directions relative to the proceeding or further detention of such vessel.

*Provided nevertheless*, That if any vessel so taken shall appear to be fur-

nished with papers, clearances or authority from the Hono. Continental Congress, allowing such vessel to proceed to the port of her destination, and such vessel is not to be hindered or detained by said captain or commander: anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding. *Copy given.*

Orders for Cap. Stanton.

*Resolved and ordered*, That Cap Theo. Stanton, of the Colony row-galley *Shark*, shall and may from time to time have and receive a supply of salted beef and pork, and bread and stores sufficient for the support of the officers, sailors and marines in the service of this Colony on board said galley, of Capt. Jno. Deshon, who is directed to deliver the same, and that he, said Stanton, provide all other necessaries for their supply; and that he take order that the same be dealt out to them prudently and carefully, without spoil or waste with such fresh fish &c. as they take; and that he keep a just and exact account of the purchase and expenditure of such provisions and the same render to his Honor the Governor at the end of two months, for his consideration and further orders in the premises.

*Further resolved and ordered*, That the said Stanton do from time to time apply to and receive of Mr. Nathl Shaw at New London all such powder, shot and military stores as said Shaw shall judge necessary for said galley.

*Further resolved and ordered*, That said Stanton with said galley do for the present and until further orders make the harbour of Stonington his general place of rendezvous, and that he cruize from thence thro' Fishers Island Sound as far westward as New London Harbour and east and south of Fishers Island when opportunity presents that he may do it with prudence, and that he observe and obey such signals as Cap. Harding in the Colony brig *Defence*, and Cap. Niles in the armed schooner the *Spy*, or other his superior officer from time to time shall appoint and make to him. *Copy given, sent to Mr. B. Huntington.*

Allowed on account of Samll Wheat of Norwich, viz. To paid Daniel Latimer &c. to carting 4 guns and 1 load of carriages to Norwich for the use of the schooner *Spy*, £ 3 18 0. And order to be drawn accordingly. *Is done.*

1. Hoadly, ed., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 465-67.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'S ACCOUNT AGAINST COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS <sup>1</sup>

[New London, July 4, 1776] <sup>2</sup>

Admiral Hopkins to boarding out the Sikest of his

People to private houses @ 10/p Week

1776 Apr To pd Lucretia Mallason for boarding of

Edward Ingraham 4 Weeks

John Holden 3½ do..

To pd Love Beebe for boarding

John Bingham 4 Weeks

Joseph Crage 4 do

} of the *Alfred* .. £ 4..5..0

} of the *Alfred* .....4..0..0

|  |                                 |                        |            |         |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------|---------|
| To pd Ann Stark for boarding             |                                 |                        |            |         |
| Alexr Nelson                             | 4 Weeks                         | } of the <i>Alfred</i> | .....      | 4.10..0 |
| James Wood                               | 5 do                            |                        |            |         |
| To pd Jane Fox for boarding              |                                 |                        |            |         |
| Robert Rich                              | 4 Weeks                         | } of the <i>Alfred</i> | .....      | 3.13..0 |
| John Hannah                              | 2 do                            |                        |            |         |
| Timo O hara                              | 1½ do of the <i>And Doria</i>   |                        |            |         |
| To pd Hannah Kittle boarding             |                                 |                        |            |         |
| James Robeson                            | 10½ Weeks                       | } <i>Alfred</i>        | .....      | 6.15..0 |
| John Perry                               | 3 Weeks                         |                        |            |         |
| To pd Grace Rogers 1 Week & 6 Days Board |                                 | } .....                | 0.18..8    |         |
| of Samel Farguson <i>Providence</i>      |                                 |                        |            |         |
| To pd Telemus Williams boarding          |                                 |                        |            |         |
| John Miller                              | 3 Weeks                         | } <i>Columbus</i>      | .....      | 3..0..0 |
| Peter Neil                               | 3 do                            |                        |            |         |
| To pd Lucy Colfax boarding               |                                 |                        |            |         |
| Barne Stinback                           | } 12 Weeks of the <i>Alfred</i> | .....                  | 6..0..0    |         |
| Wm Hambleton                             |                                 |                        |            |         |
| Robt Robeson                             |                                 |                        |            |         |
| To pd John Hall for boarding of          |                                 |                        |            |         |
| Samel Williams Cook of the <i>Alfred</i> | 2 Weeks                         | } .....                | 8.10..0    |         |
| George Robeson                           | <i>Providence</i> 5 do          |                        |            |         |
| Isaac Kimbell                            | ditto 5 do                      |                        |            |         |
| Hugh McKeene                             | <i>Cabot</i> 5 do               |                        |            |         |
| To pd Sarah Skinner boarding             |                                 |                        |            |         |
| Joseph Shields <i>And Doria</i>          | 4 Weeks                         | } .....                | 6..8..7    |         |
| Richd Stewart <i>Columbus</i>            | 8 do & 6 Ds                     |                        |            |         |
|  | Carried over                    | .....                  | £ 48..0..3 |         |
| To the sum brot over                     |                                 |                        | £ 48..0..3 |         |
| To pd Joseph Owen for bording            |                                 |                        |            |         |
| John Johnston                            | 6½ Weeks of the <i>Cabot</i>    | } .....                | 5.10..0    |         |
| John Scott                               | 4½ do of the <i>Alfred</i>      |                        |            |         |
| To pd John Dennis for boarding himself   |                                 | } .....                | 0.16..0    |         |
| 1 Week & 5 Days <i>And Doria</i>         |                                 |                        |            |         |
| To pd Ebenezer Webb boarding             |                                 |                        |            |         |
| John Rily <i>Columbus</i>                | 3 Weeks                         | } .....                | 3..0..0    |         |
| John Hart ditto                          | 3 do                            |                        |            |         |
| To pd William Harvey boarding            |                                 | } .....                | 1.15..0    |         |
| John Simmons                             | 3½ Week <i>Columbus</i>         |                        |            |         |
| To pd Sarah Lewis for boarding           |                                 |                        |            |         |
| Francis Higgans                          | 12 Days <i>Columbus</i>         | } .....                | 1.13..6    |         |
| Robert Pyser                             | 11 do of ditto                  |                        |            |         |
| To pd Lucy Gailard boarding              |                                 |                        |            |         |
| George Mirick                            | <i>Alfred</i> 2 Weeks           | } .....                | 2.10..-    |         |
| John Ouneals                             | do 3 do                         |                        |            |         |

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| To pd James Angel boarding<br>John McNeal of the <i>Providence</i>                                | 3..2..-           |
| To pd Sarah Peniman boarding<br>John Kessler & Thos Burnes <i>Columbus</i>                        | 14..0             |
| To pd Mary Harris & Guy Brooks for boarding<br>John Moore of the <i>Alfred</i>                    | 3..4..0           |
| To pd Wido[w] Potter boarding<br>W. Jinnings Doc <i>And Doria</i>                                 | 5.11..6           |
| To pd John Owing boarding<br>Walter Spooner & Gideon Whitfield<br>Midshipmen of the <i>Alfred</i> | 11.13..0          |
| To pd do board Joseph Crage<br>Master Armes the <i>Alfred</i>                                     | 1..0..0           |
| To pd Joseph Owen for boarding<br>John Gallard of the Ship <i>Columbus</i>                        | 4.10..0           |
|   | <u>£ 92.19..3</u> |
| To pd Cloe Coit for board<br>Mrs Appleby a Woman taking in<br>the bomb Brig & 2 Daughters         | 15..0..0          |
| To pr shoes for ditto   | 0..6..0           |
|   | <u>108..5..3</u>  |

Commissn 5 PCt .....5..8..3

Charged to Ship *Alfred*

1. Shaw Papers, Ledger 39, 8, YUL.

2. Date approximated from longest bill (12 weeks from April 8, 1776), and allowing a few days to make up the account.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'s ACCOUNT FOR CARE OF THE  
SICK FROM THE CONTINENTAL FLEET <sup>1</sup>

| 1776    | Hospitle for the Sik of the Fleet                                     | Dr        |
|---------|---|-----------|
| Aprl 10 | To 12 lb Chocolat .. @ 1/8  | £ 1..0..0 |
|         | To 6 Washing tubbs  | 0.11..0   |
|         | To 1 Shod Shovel  | 0..2..6   |
|         | To pd the Butchers Bills  | 52..9..7  |
|         | To pd the Bakers Bills  | 33..0..7  |
|         | To pd Doc Philip Turners Bill   | 15..1..0  |
|         | To pd Green Plumb the Saxton<br>for buring 18 people                  | 5..8..0   |
|         | To pd Jos Owen for Sundries del[ivere]d<br>Willcox Surgeon            | 1.10..0   |
|         | To pd Sarah Poneman for sund[rie]s deld<br>John Ernst Kessler Surgeon | 3.18..6   |
|         | To pd Guy Richards Bill for Rum<br>Meal Boards &c                     | 34.15..6  |
|         | To pd Church & Hallam for Vinegar                                     | 0..9..4   |

|  |            |          |
|--|------------|----------|
| To pd John Holt for ditto .....  | 0..8..0    |          |
| To 8 Cord wood .....   | 6..8..-    |          |
| To 20 Cord ditto .....   | 15..-..-   |          |
| To 2 Iron Potts .....  | 1..8..-    |          |
| To 77 Gal Melasses .. @ 3/ .....   | 11.11..0   |          |
| To 61½ lb Candles .. . /10 .....   | 2.11..3    |          |
| To 19 lb Coffee .. . 1/2 .....   | 1..2..2    |          |
| To 20 bus Indian Meal 3/6 .....  | 3.10..0    |          |
| To 1 lb Tea .....  | 0..5..0    |          |
| To 260 lb Rice .. . 33/ .....  | 4..5..5    |          |
| To ½ bus Salt .. . 6/ .....  | 0..3..0    |          |
| To 10 bus potatoes .. . 1/6 .....  | 0.15..0    |          |
| To paid for Soap .....   | 1..9..8    |          |
| To pd for Carting Wood .....   | 0..6..0    |          |
| To pd Robt Manwaring for 39 G[allons] Milk .....                               | 1.14..8    |          |
| To pd for Sand .....   | 0..9..4    |          |
| To pd for a Sheet .....  | 0.10..0    |          |
| To pd for Candles .....  | 0..3..4    |          |
| Carried over   | £200..5.10 |          |
| To the sum brot over .....   | £200..5.10 |          |
| To pd Roger Gibsons Bill .....   | 5..8.10    |          |
| To pd Mingo's Bill .....   | 0.12..6    |          |
| To pd Samuel Latimers Bill .....   | 1.19..3    |          |
| To pd Henry Typsons Bill .....   | 0..6..4    |          |
| To pd John Hews for Nursing .....  | £ 3..3..0  |          |
| To pd Wm Harvey for ditto .....  | 2.17..0    |          |
| To pd John Clark for ditto .....   | 0.15..0    |          |
| To pd Reuben Hadlock for ditto .....   | 3..0..0    |          |
| To pd Boatswain Coit for ditto .....   | 12..0..0   |          |
| To pd Cathrine Hawkins for do .....  | 0.18..0    |          |
| To pd Mary Crocker for ditto .....   | 0.12..0    |          |
| To pd Mrs. Aplebey for ditto .....   | 1..4..0    |          |
| To pd Juday for Washing .....  | 1..4..9    |          |
| To pd Beulah for ditto .....   | 0.12..-    |          |
| To pd Patiance for ditto .....   | 0..6..6    |          |
| To pd Wids Latimer for her Girl do .....                                       | 1..4..0    | 26.16..3 |
| To pd Peter Robesons Bill for<br>Making Cabbins Coffins &c }                   | 22.19..3   |          |
| To pd Eb Douglass Bill for Nails .....   | 2..8..8    |          |
| To pd John Lamb for House Rent .....   | 10..0..0   |          |
| To pd Duncan Stewart for ditto .....   | 10..0..0   |          |
| To pd Doc Coits Bill .....   | 89..7..3   |          |
| To pd Doc Wolcott Bill .....   | 137.17.10  |          |
| To pd John Chapman for overseeing &<br>attending at the Hospitle 60 day a 6s } | 18..0..0   |          |



|   |         |
|---|---------|
| To pd Pickett Latimer for Straw .....                               | 2.15..0 |
| To pd John Cockran's Accot for boarding<br>John Miller at Say Brook | 5.2..0  |
| To pd Doc Sam Field's Bill for do .....                             | 1.7..6  |
| To pd Dan Hurlbutt for Carting wood .....                           | 0.12..0 |

£535.18..6

To Commissions 5 pCt. ....26.15..6

Carried to Ship *Alfreds* Accot .....562.14..0

[New London, July 4, 1776]<sup>2</sup>

1. Shaw Papers, Ledger 39, 10, 11, YUL.

2. The date is approximated. This bill is likely to have been drawn on the same day as the account covering the boarding out of sick men. See footnote 2, previous entry.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO THE OFFICERS BRINGING  
CARPENTERS FROM MASSACHUSETTS AND CONNECTICUT<sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen,

Skenesborough July 4th 1776.

On Your Arrival at this Place, You are to put Yourself under the Command of H[e]rmanus Schuyler Esqr A. D. Q. Mr: General, Who will give You Directions as to the Work You are to do here; Every Company of twenty five Men will undertake the Building & Constructing such a Vessel as he shall direct. He will furnish You with the Materials. —

As in the present State of Affairs Every Article of Provisions allowed You by Your Contract, cannot be procured. I hope, Nay I have tho the fullest Confidence that You will be Contented with such as can; Especially as I do hereby Engage that Every Deficiency will be made up in Money. —

At this Critical Hour, It is the Duty of Every Well Wisher to his Country, to exert himself to the Utmost & I hope Gentlemen That You will be Early & late at a Work so Necessary as the Constructing Vessels to maintain our Superiority on the Lake.

Little Jealousies, which are the Bane of Every Service, I dare say, will not take Place in Your Minds; But that You will harmonize with every Person Employed in the public Service. — I am, Gentlemen [&c.]

Ph: Schuyler

1. Schuyler Papers, Letters & Orders, 18 April, 1776–29 June, 1777, NYPL.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO MAJOR GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD<sup>1</sup>

Sir:

New York, July 4, 1776.

The distress we are in for want of Arms induces me again to urge your sending on all such as can possibly be spared with the greatest expedition. The enemy have landed under cover of their Ships and have taken possession of Staten Island, from which in all probability they will soon make a descent upon us. The Arms would have to be sent to Norwich

and from there by Water to this place provided there is no risque; otherwise by land. Wishing you better Health, I am, etc.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 217.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

New York July 4th 1776

Sir When I had the honor to address you on the 30th Ultio, I transmitted a Copy of a Letter I had received from a Gentleman, a member of the Honble Genl Court [of Massachusetts], suggesting the improbability of Succours coming from thence in any reasonable time either for the defence of this place, or to reinforce our Troops engaged in the Canada expedition. I am sorry to Inform you, that from a variety of Intelligence his apprehensions appear to be just, & to be fully confirmed. Nor have I reason to expect but that the supplies from the other two Governmts, Connecticut and New Hampshire will be extremely slow and greatly deficient in number. As It now seems beyond question and clear to demon[st]ration, that the Enemy mean to direct their Operations and bend their most vigorous efforts against this Colony, and will attempt to unite their Two armies, that under Genl Burgoyne, and the one arrived here, I cannot but think the Expedient proposed by that Gentln is exceedingly just, and that the Continental Regiments now in the Massachusetts Bay should be immediately called from thence, and be employed where there is the strongest reason to believe their aid will be indispensably necessary. The expediency of the measure I shall submit to the consideration of Congress, and will only observe as my Opinion, that there is not the most distant prospect of an attempt being made where they now are by the Enemy, and If there should, that the Militia that can be assembled upon the shortest notice will be more than equal to repel It. they are well armed, resolute and determined, and will Instantly oppose any Invasion that may be made in their own Colony.

I shall also take the liberty again to request Congress to Interest themselves in having the Militia raised and forwarded with all possible expedition as fast as any considerable number of 'em can be collected, that are to compose the Flying Camp. This I mentioned in my Letter yesterday, but think proper to repeat It, being more & more convinced of the necessity. The Camp will be in the Neighbourhood of Amboy and I shall be glad that the Conventions or Committees of Safety of those Governments from whence they come, may be Requested to give me previous notice of their marching, that I may form some plan and direct provisions to be made for their reception. The disaffection of the people at that place and others not far distant, is exceedingly great, and unless It is checked and overawed, It may become more general and be very alarming. The arrival of the Enemy will encourage It. They, or at least a part of them are already landed on Staten Island which is quite contiguous, & about Four Thousand were marching about It Yesterday as I have been advised, and are leaving no Acts unessayed to gain the Inhabitants to their side, who seem but too favourably disposed. It is not unlikely that in a little time they

may attempt to cross to the Jersey side and Induce many to Join 'em either from motives of Interest or fear, unless there is a force to oppose 'em.

I this Moment received a Letter from Genl Greene an Extract of which I have inclosed. The Intelligence It contains is of the most Important nature and evinces the necessity of the most spirited and vigorous exertions on our part – The expectation of the fleet under Admiral Howe is certainly the reason the Army already come, has not begun their hostile Operations – When that arrives we may look for the most Interesting events & such as in all probability will have considerable weight in the present contest. It behoves us to be prepared in the best manner, and I submit It again to Congress, whether the Accounts given by these prisoners do not shew the propriety of calling the Several Continental Regiments from the Massachusetts Government, raising the flying Camp with all possible dispatch and Engaging the Eastern Indians.

1. Papers CC (Letters from George Washington), 152, II, 159–63, NA.

#### JOURNAL OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL SAMUEL BLACHLEY WEBB <sup>1</sup>

[New York]

Thursday, July 4th – Last night – or rather at day light this morning – we attack'd a sloop of the enemies mounting eight Carriage Guns – She lay up a small river, which divides Staten Island from the main call'd the Kills. We placed two 9 pounders on Bergen Point – and soon forced the crew to quit her – by the shrieks, some of them must have been kill'd or wounded – the sloop quite disabled.

1. Ford, ed., *Webb Papers*, I, 152.

#### DIARY OF ENSIGN CALEB CLAP <sup>1</sup>

[New York]

July 4th the whole army turned out and Mannd the Lines A Little before Day

July 4th the Admiral came through the Narrows about Ten o Clock with About 20 Sail in Company with him,

About Seven o Clock PM 10 or 12 Sail came up through the Narrows and Joined the fleet.

July 4th, Ten pieces of Cannon were carried to Elizabeth Town in order to prevent their Landing and Pilleging that Town

1. *The Historical Magazine*, 3rd series, III, 137.

#### JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO JEREMIAH WADSWORTH <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

New York 4th July 1776 –

Last Saturday & Sunday the Enemy arrived at the Hook, about 140 Sail, in the whole 3–50 gun ships & three or four smaller ships of Warr – they sent 2, or 3 right to Quebec from Halifax, & have recd about as many, to reinforce them that they have about the same Number, they carried away from Boston – it is said they are Sickly – I don't doubt it; – The Evening before

last, & last Evening, they came up thro' the narrow[s] the greatest part of the Fleet, near 100 sail – & came to under Staten Island – Yesterday morning they landed, a Party on that Island – & have sent their Tenders, to lye all around the Island, to cover them, & seem to be preparing to form an Encampment there – I expect they will encamp & secure themselves there, & wait the Arrival, of the Hessians Cossacks Tartars, &c &c – & then Attack us – possibly they will attack us sooner, we should wish it – the day before yesterday we expected an imediate attack, & prepared for it, but were disappointed; it has almost Cleared the City of the Women and Children – many have all along tho't here, that they would not come here, but now they scamper off, very fast – The Congress will declare Independance in a day or two – it has pass'd a Comittee of the whole House unanimously, & I hope now, they have done, what ought to have been done Six months ago, they will move, with Vigor, & obtain from the French, a diversion in our Favr in the West Indies, where they are well prepared to do it – Staten Island are mostly Tory's – they were ordered to send off their stock, but they found means to delay & delay, so that, we had but Just got off the fat Cattle, when the Enemy, as they wished, came on, & prevented our [tak]ing off the Lean – yesterday they were very [torn]mselves, & killing & sending on Board the Sh[torn] as they could find – doubtless some pretty [torn] I am Dear Sir [&c.]

Jos: Trumbull

12 oClock – I am Just told that one of the Enemys Armed Sloops of 14 Guns, that ran up the Kill, near Eliza[beth] Town, has been attacked by 2, 12 pdrs from the Shore, a great Number of her men killed by grape shot, & bored thro & thro – & finally Set on fire, She is yet on fire & the flames & smoke in sight she is totally destroyed – A House full of their Officers, has likewise been shot thro' – & they driven over the Kills for shelter 8 of their Boats endeavoured to Land some men last Night, on Long Island, below the Narrows, but our People Ambushed them, killed some of their men took 4 prisoners & drove them back – We have now a Battery at the highland, of the Narrows on Long Island Side & several Guns playing on the Ships & transports passing several transports have turned back below again – these things Enspirit our People the Militia Especially – a finer Set of Men & better Armed I never saw, than the Militia of N Jersey – <sup>2</sup>

1. Wadsworth Papers, ConnHS.

2. An edited version of this part of Trumbull's letter was printed in the *Connecticut Courant*, July 7.

*New-York Journal*, THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1776

New York, July 4.

Last Saturday arrived at the Hook (like the swarm of Locusts, escaped from the bottomless pit) a fleet said to be 130 sail of ships and vessels from Halifax, having on board General Howe, &c. sent out by the Tyrants of Great Britain, after destroying the English constitution here, on the pious design of enslaving the British Colonies and plundering their property at

pleasure, or murdering them at once, and taking possession of all, as Ahab did of Naboth's vineyard.

On Monday about 1000 of them landed on the west end of Long Island, but soon embarked again, and seeing a party of rifle-men, said to be about 1000, gave them three huzzas, which they returned with the Indian war-whoop. On Tuesday morning some of them appeared coming up, and before night about 45 sail came above the Narrows, and anchored at and near the Watering Place, where they fired about 50 cannon shot, of which we have not heard the occasion, and landed many of their men, whom we could plainly see exercising and parading.

It was apprehended they intended to penetrate into the interior parts of the island, or to some of the neighbouring towns, but it does not appear they have yet attempted it, or done any thing on shore, except taking up a little bridge on the causeway between the Landing and the Highlands, at the Ferry. We hear General [Hugh] Mercer, with a detachment, was yesterday dispatched to watch their motions and act as occasion might require.

We are assured that Major [John] Lamb, Capt. [Eleazer] Oswald, and Capt. [Aaron] Burr, are prisoners on board this fleet.<sup>1</sup>

1. This paragraph is in error. Burr was not captured; Lamb and Oswald had been taken at Quebec on December 31, 1775.

#### JOURNAL OF BARTHOLOMEW JAMES <sup>1</sup>

[*Chatham*, June 10 to July 4, 1776]

This fleet, which was bound to the attack of New York, consisted of his Majesty's ships, *Chatham*, Rear Admiral Shuldhham of the White (who had on board General Lord Percy, General [Robert] Pigot, &c.), the *Centurion*, the *Greyhound* (having on board General Sir William Howe), *Rose*; *Senegal* and *Merlin* sloops of war, with about two hundred sail of transports having on board the army. The *Greyhound* parted company with the fleet the 13th, in the night, with an intention to go ahead and reconnoitre, and the main body of the fleet moved slowly on, from the frequent light winds and calms that accompanied us.

We arrived at Sandy Hook on the 2nd of July without meeting any remarkable circumstances, where we found his Majesty's ship *Phoenix* with several sail of merchant ships. At noon the 4th the signal was made for the whole fleet to weigh, when the *Chatham*, passing through the centre, was cheered by every ship. I do not remember seeing a more pleasing sight, which the fineness of the day greatly contributed to, more particularly as we expected we were immediately going to the attack of New York. We made the necessary preparations for landing, on our passage up; and at sunset anchored in Gravesend bay; but, for reasons only known to the commanders-in-chief, we put off the landing the troops for this night. At day-light the 5th the signal was made to weigh, the *Phoenix*, *Rose* and *Senegal* leading the fleet through the Narrows, but the wind dying away obliged us again to anchor. At four o'clock the signal was once more made to weigh, and the fleet boats manned; at six we passed the Narrows amidst a very unsuccessful

fire from the rebels, having killed but very few; at seven we landed the army or Staten Island without opposition, when two or three hundred men of the enemy surrendered themselves prisoners of war to the first division of grenadiers.

1. Laughton, ed., *James' Journal*, 27, 28. As will be noted, by comparing this narrative with the journals of the various British ships of war, the events herein described occurred between July 2 and July 4, 1776, not July 4, 5 and 6, 1776.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Merlin*, CAPTAIN WILLIAM C. BURNABY <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 Sandy hook N39°W Distce 11 Le –

Thursday 4 A M saw the Land Tack'd Ship & stood N E at 12 saw the Land bearing from NNW to W – 6 or 7 Miles –  
Light Breezes & fair – at 4 P M gave chase to a Privateer drove her ashore & fired a Number of Guns at her at 5 came too off the Southmost Wood Lands

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/604.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Centurion*, CAPTAIN RICHARD BRATHWAITE <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 Moored off Gravesend Church

Tuesday 2d First part Moderate & Hazy with Rain middle & Latter Moderate & Cloudy with some Lightning, P M the *Ph[o]enix* made the Signal for the *Greyhound*, *Rose* & *Senegal* Sloop of War, 3 Armed Vessels & a Division of the Transports to get Under way, Manned & Armed 7 Flat Bottomed Boats, sent them on board the different Transports to assist in landing the Troops on Staten Island, at ½ past 10 the Flat Bottomed Boats returned to the Ship

Wednesday 3d A M at 7 the Admiral made the Signal for the Fleet to get under way, at ½ past 8 Weighed & Came to Sail, as did the Admiral & Fleet, at 11 Anchored with the Best Bower in 16½ fas Water Veered to ½ a Cable, the Bluff of Staten Isld N. W, Gravesend Church NE –

Fresh Breezes & Clear Weather, P M Manned & Armed the Flat Bottomed Boats, & Sent them onboard the different Transports, to land some Troops on Staten Island,

Thursday 4 A M at 3 the Boats Returned, at 7 Weighed & came to sail as did the *Asia* & Transports, at ½ past 10 Anchored with the Best Bower in 5 fas off Staten Island, Hendricks Point S E. the Town of New York NNE½E, the Bluffs of Staten Island SSE, unbent the Mainsail, –

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/177.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Asia*, CAPTAIN GEORGE VANDEPUT <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 At single Anchor off the Buoy of the middle

- Monday 1st P M at 4 came to Sail at 6 came to with the Best Br in Gravesend Bay in Company with the *Chatham* with Vice Adml Shuldham's Flag on board the Fleet under his Command
- Tuesday 2 A M part of the Fleet got under way & were taken aback. Read the Articles of War &c. to the Ships Company First & latter parts light Breezes and Clear, Middle fresh Gales and Squally with Rain
- Wednesday 3 A M the Signal was made for Landing the Troops, Mann'd Flat Boats
- Thursday 4 Light Breezes & fine Wr A M at 8 hove up and came to Sail at Noon came to in 10 fm off the Watering place on Staten Island fired several Guns at the Rebels on Long Island

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/67.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Swan*, CAPTAIN JAMES AYSCOUGH <sup>1</sup>

- July 1776 Moord at Sandy Hook
- Mond 1st AM light winds & foggy Adml Sigl for sailing Empd Watering PM Modt & hazey at 4 the Adml Sigl to weigh & the fleet weighd & Came to sail Sent the Sergeant & Men on Shore to the light house the *Mercury* packett & 4 Transports lying here
- Tuesd 2 AM 3 Men Came from long Isld for Protecktion on board of us -  
P M Light Winds & fair Empd Occasionally
- Wedy 3d AM fresh Breezes & Clear Wr at 4 sent a Tender with an Officer up to the Adml with the People came on board 57 Men from the Jerseys for Protecktion  
PM fresh Breezes & Fair Empd Watering
- Thursd 4 AM Do Wr Empd Occasionally Loos'd sails to dry -  
P M Modt Breezes & fair handed sails at 5 the Tender Return'd sent her up again to the Adml with Refugees

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/960.

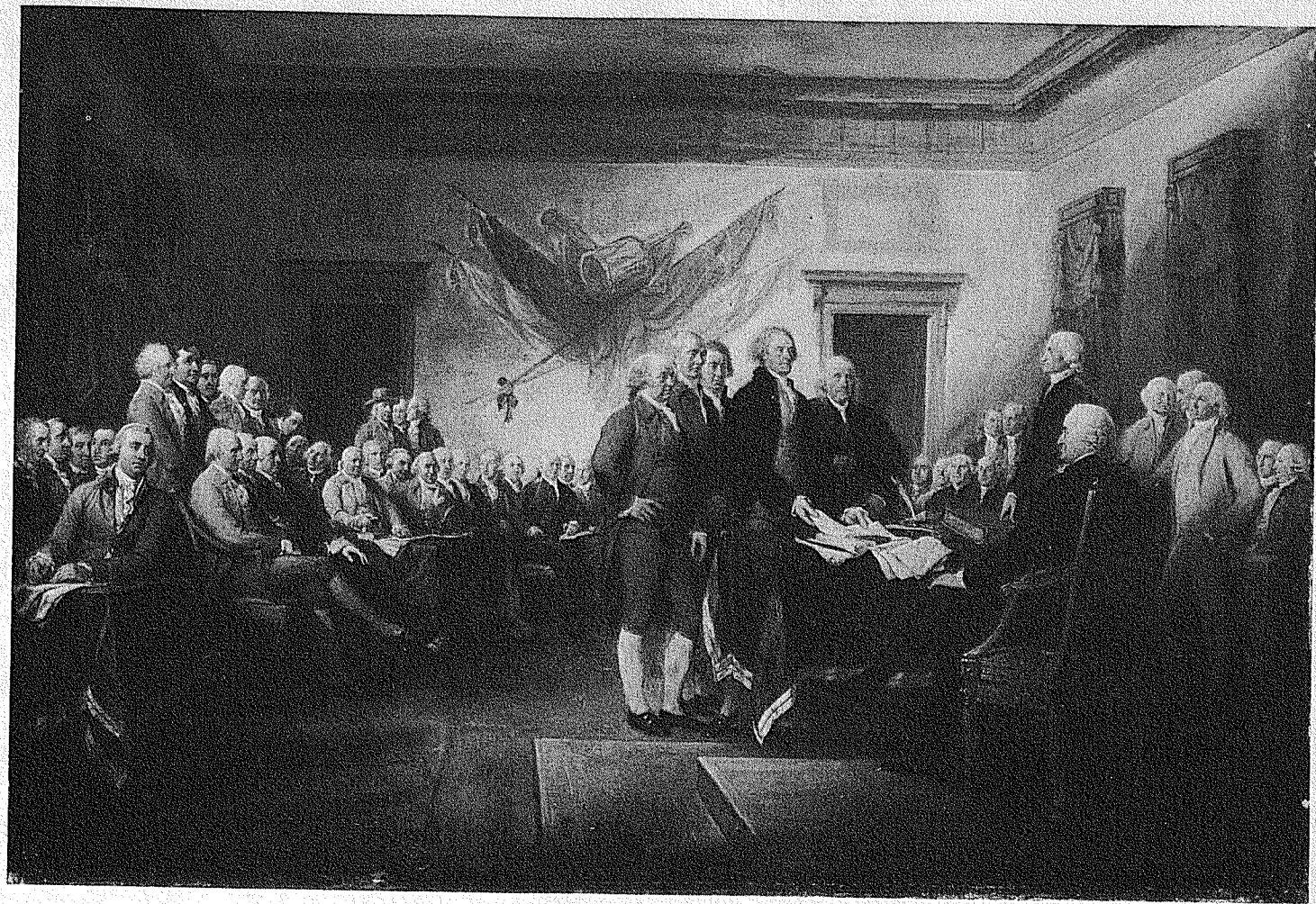
DIARY OF DR. THOMAS MOFFAT <sup>1</sup>

[On board H.M. Sloop *Swan*]

July 1st [1776] morning foggy wind SE Thermometer 78 noon. P M near five o'clock the Fleet stood up to the Narrows. Ev Thunder Lightning rain.

July 2d Therm 78 no tidings from the fleet.

July 3d The *Augusta* tender dispatched this morning to learn the Event of the Fleet sailing. Thermometer 68. A sloop from Shrewsbury with refugees anchor'd under the *Swans* stern. Capt'n Ayscough invited them aboard and receiv'd them most kindly. Some of them appear'd of good condition and among them a half pay retired officer Capt Morris of the 47th Regt being 58 in number also P M 3 Gentlemen from Perth



*"The Declaration of Independence, July 4th, 1776."*



Amboy. All agree in opinion of the present Tyranny and oppression from the officers authorizd by the Continental and Provincial Congress who hunt catch and imprison all that are suspected of Attachment to the King and British Parliament. The Amboy Gentlemen say that yesterday G[eneral] Howe landed a detachment on Staten Island who were joind by 300 Inhabitants which obligd the Rebels to retreat and that 100 Riffle men but not true had joind the Kings troops.

July 3d [sic 4th] Noon Thermometer 72. Evening the Tender with Lieut Dowie and the Shrewsbury People went up to the Admiral and General.

1. Thomas Moffat's Diary, LC.

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

[Philadelphia] Thursday, July 4, 1776

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the declaration; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair. Mr. [Benjamin] Harrison reported, that the committee of the whole Congress have agreed to a Declaration, which he delivered in.

The Declaration being again read, was agreed to as follows:

[Here is inserted the complete text of the Declaration of Independence]

The foregoing declaration was, by order of Congress, engrossed . . .

Ordered, That the declaration be authenticated and printed.<sup>2</sup>

That the committee appointed to prepare the declaration, superintend and correct the press.

That copies of the declaration be sent to the several assemblies, conventions and committees, or councils of safety, and to the several commanding officers of the continental troops; that it be proclaimed in each of the United States, and at the head of the army.

Ordered, That Mr. [Robert] Morris and Mr. [Joseph] Hewes determine the hire of Mr. [Charles] Walker's vessel, which was employed by Commodore Hopkins in the service of the continent.<sup>3</sup>

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 509, 510-16.

2. First printed in the *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, July 6, 1776.

3. See Hopkins' letter of May 22, and Resolve of Congress, of June 7, 1776. Walker's vessel had been impressed to bring off some of the cannon seized at New Providence.

## DAY BOOK OF JOSHUA HUMPHREYS<sup>1</sup>

1776 Ship Yard

|   | Dr | L | S  | D |
|---|----|---|----|---|
| April 15 To cash pd Adam Watt for 3½ day[s] |    |   |    |   |
| on the Sloop <i>Fly</i>                     |    | 1 | 10 | - |
| To do pd John Black for 5 days on do        |    | 2 |    |   |
| 17 To do pd Thomas Heavans for 3½ days on   |    |   |    |   |
| the Sloop <i>Fly</i>                        |    | 1 | 10 | - |
| 20 To do pd James McNeal for 2½ days on     |    |   |    |   |
| the Sloop <i>Wasp</i>                       |    | 1 | -  | - |

|      |    |  |    |    |     |
|------|----|--|----|----|-----|
|      | 25 | To do pd Wm McMichael for 3½ days on Sloop <i>Fly</i>                              | 1  | 10 | -   |
| May  | 1  | To do pd John Cotton for 11 days on <i>Fly</i> & an old Snow                       | 2  | 15 | -   |
|      | 13 | To do pd Nathan Terry for 1 day on the Schooner <i>wasp</i>                        |    | 4  | 6   |
| 1776 |    | Contra   | Cr | L  | S D |
| July | 4  | By do Recd of Wm West for two bills against the Brig <i>Lexington</i> <sup>2</sup> | 37 | 18 | 5   |
|      |    | By do do for Schooner <i>Fly</i> [ <i>sic Wasp</i> ] <sup>3</sup>                  | 7  | 11 |     |
|      |    | By do do for Sloop <i>Hornett</i> <sup>4</sup>                                     | 27 | 18 |     |

1. Wharton & Humphreys Day Book, 1773-1781, HSP.

2. April 1 and May 20, 1776.

3. April 7, 1776.

4. April 12, 1776.

#### AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF JOSHUA BARNEY <sup>1</sup>

[May 11 to July 4, 1776]

We returned to Philad when our Captain was nominated to the command of a 28 Gun Frigate called the *Delaware* (a new ship) <sup>2</sup> Here I left the *Wasp* & was ordered on board the Sloop *Sachem*, which was then fitting out, I remained on board some days as commanding officer & had got her ready for sea; <sup>3</sup> when I was sent for on shore & presented to Mr. Robert Morris at that time President of the Marine Committee; Mr. Morris after asking me my name put his hand in his pocket & pulled out a paper which was a Commission as a Lieutenant in the Navy (June 1776) which he gave me, observing that the Committee had been informed of my good behaviour at the Battle in the *Delaware* & that if I continued to act as I had done, he would always be my friend & should be happy to serve me (which he has ever done) : a few days afterwards Capt. Isaiah Robinson took command of the *Sachem*, when we sailed on a cruise. <sup>4</sup>

1. Manuscript Autobiography, DARL.

2. Charles Alexander was appointed to the *Delaware* by Congress on June 6, 1776.

3. The *Sachem* had been the sloop *Edward*, captured by the *Lexington* on April 7, 1776; libeled against, April 13; condemned April 29, and bought by the Marine Committee on May 2, 1776.

4. The orders were dated July 2, 1776.

#### MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

##### In Committee of Safety,

Philad'a, 4th July, 1776.

Upon application of Capt. Nath'l Falconer for a quantity of Grape Shot, for the use of the Marine Committee of Congress,

By order of the Board, Robert Towers, Commissary, was directed to deliver One Cask of Grape Shot, for the use aforesaid.

By order of the Board, an order was drawn on Jno. Nixon, Esq'r, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Capt. Jno. Hazelwood, for £100, which is directed to be Charged to his account.

The following advertisement is ordered to be published in the different News Papers of this City:

The Committee of Safety hereby Offer a Reward of One hundred Dollars to any Person who shall discover by whom the Pier intended to be sunk near Fort Island, was cut loose from its moorings and turned adrift.

*Resolved*, That the 6 Canon arrived from New London be sent down immediately to Fort Island, and that Capt. Proctor be directed to fit Carriages for them and place as many of them, for the present, on the Platform at the Battery there as it will contain.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 629, 630.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Orpheus*, CAPTAIN CHARLES HUDSON <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 Cape May NW  $\frac{3}{4}$  N 26 Leagues

Thursday 4 Light Airs & clear

at 4 P M sent the Barge Man'd & Arm'd in Chase of a Sloop to the Southward at 9 fired 2 Six Prs as a Signal to the Barge & continued making false fires, at 12 the Barge ret'd with a Sloop from Philadelphia for Martinico with Flour <sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4279.

2. *Martin*, James Neal, master, from Philadelphia for the West Indies, with flour, Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

CAPTAIN JAMES NICHOLSON TO THE MARYLAND CONVENTION <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen: Baltimore, July 4, 1776 – five o'clock.

I was favoured with your commands last evening, but too late to get the ship under way.<sup>2</sup> Am now proceeding with the ship and tenders, and shall lose no opportunity in getting to Annapolis as soon as possible, to wait your further commands. I am, gentlemen, [&c.]

James Nicholson.

To the Honourable the Convention of Maryland.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, VI, 126.

2. See Journal of the Maryland Convention, July 3, 1776, ordering the ship *Defence* to Annapolis immediately.

CAPTAIN JOHN MARTIN TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen, [Chincoteague, July 4, 1776]

This will inform you of my safe arrival with the Brig *Friendship* in to Chingoteague on Tuesday July 2d which Mr Richards has taken on your accts I likewise [send] you a manifest of the Cargo I have on board, best part of which I have got on Shore under the protection of Coll. F. Lemmon be so kind to let me know as soon as possible what measures must be taken with the Brig & Crew – the[y] being all in debt to the Vessel, some 3 £ some more & sum less. I have not time to write you a full detail for there is 3 tenders cruising off this harbour which puts me in confusion till I get my Cargo landed. If the Brig should fit out again I should be ap-

pointed to go in her. I hope you will grant me leave to go as far as Baltimore to see my little family & settle with my last owner.

I have on board 8 Officers & 23 hands – 3 four pounders, 6. 3 pounders, 6 swivels & 1 Cohorn – Be so kind to let me know what quantity of Powder & lead I shall keep on board for the Vessels use, for the Tenders is dangerous. If the Brig is fitted out again she must have a new windlass, and new fore and main Tops & a new main mast. The Steareage is cut off and if I carry this number of hands she will not carry as much by 200 barrels as last voyage. Gentlemen [&c.]

John Martin

N.B. I lost the opportunity by Mr. Lux by not knowing he would go that day & confusion with the Tenders, I was fired at near the harbour by one the morning I got in – J.M.

[Enclosure]

Manifest of Sundrys reced. on board the Brig *Friendship* Capt John Martin.

|                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 7 Chests, mark R.F. No 1 & 7 | 17 Chests of Arms         |
| 1 bale Do Do No 8            | 2 Cases markd E.R.        |
| 23 bales of Canvas.          | 1 Cask mark W.            |
| 225 barrells of Powder       | 1 Bale mark J.R.          |
| 228 half barrells of Powder  | 1 Chest mark H.C.         |
| 2 large Chests               | 1 Bale mark H.C.          |
| 1 Crate                      | 11 Bolts of Loose Canvas. |
| 3 Barrells                   | 1 Small Box mark H.Y.     |
| 2 Sheets of lead             |                           |

1. Correspondence of Council of Safety, Md. Arch.

#### MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Williamsburg] Thursday, 4th July, 1776.

Same [a warrant] to Wm. Clayton, Esq'r, for use Rich'd C. Graves for £24.12.0, for sundry articles and work for Brig *Liberty*.

Capt. Samuel Evans, master of the *Friendship*, taken as a Prize by Capt. R'd Barron, is all[owe]d his parole.

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 236.

#### JOURNAL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Thursday July 4th 1776.

Whitmill Hill Esquire one of the Commissioners appointed by the Provincial Council to Charter a Vessel or Vessels and agree with Masters and Seamen to proceed on a Voyage at the expence of this province for Arms and Ammunition exhibitted his account whereby it appears that he hath received from the public Treasury the Sum off fifteen hundred pounds, that he hath regularly laid out and Expended in Cargoes which he Shipped on Board Captain James Butler and Captain Daniel Cartwright on Account of this province the Sum of fourteen hundred and ninety nine pounds, four-

teen Shillings and seven pence which leaves a Ballance of five Shillings and five pence in the Hands of the said Whitmill Hill due to the public, which Ballances his Account –

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

### JOHN WELLS' ACCOUNT OF THE BRITISH ATTACK ON CHARLESTON <sup>1</sup>

[Charleston, June 29 to July 4]

Nex Morning all the Men of War, except the *Actaeon*, were retired about two Miles from the Island, which they had quietly effected under Cover of Night. The Battery fired several Shot at the *Actaeon* which she answered; But soon after, her Crew set her on Fire and abandoned her, leaving her Colours flying, Guns loaded, with all her Ammunition, Provisions and stores on board. They had not been long gone before several Boats from the Island went to her; Lieut. Jacob Milligan, with some others, went on board, and brought off her jack, Bell, some Sails and Stores; while the Flames were bursting out on all Sides, he fired three of her Guns at the Commodore. In less than Half an Hour after they quitted her, she blew up.

The *Bristol*, against which the Fire was chiefly directed, is very much damaged. It is said, that not less than 70 Balls went through her. Her Mizenmast was so much hurt that they have since replaced it with another. The Mainmast is cut away about fifteen Feet below the Hounds, and instead of her broad Pendant soaring on a lofty Mast, it is now hardly to be seen on a Jury Mainmast considerably lower than the Foremast. The *Experiment* had her Mizzen Gaff shot away; the other Vessels sustained little Damage in their Rigging. The Loss in the Fleet, according to the Report of the Deserters, is about 180 killed and wounded; among the former is Captain Morrison <sup>2</sup> of the *Bristol*. Sir Peter Parker had the hind part of his Breeches shot away, which laid his Posteriors bare; his Knee Pan was hurt by a Splinter. There have been several Funerals in the Fleet since the Engagement, and from the Parade of some, it is conjectured they were of Officers of Rank. Some of the Deserters say, that Capt. [Alexander] Scott, of the *Experiment*, is among the killed.<sup>3</sup>

The Loss of the Garrison was as follows:

Artillery. Killed, 1 Matross. Wounded, 2 Matrosses.

2d Regiment. Killed, 1 Sergeant, 9 Rank and File. Wounded, Lieutenants [Henry] Gray and [Thomas] Hall, the fife Major, 1 Sergeant, 19 Rank and File.

An Officer's Mulatto Boy was killed.

Total. Killed 12 – Wounded, 23.

Both the Officers were but slightly wounded, and are now well – 3 of the wounded Privates are since dead.

The Works are very little damaged; but hardly a hut or Tree on the Island escaped the Shot entirely. Many Thousands of the Enemy's Shot have been picked up on the Island.

The Day after the Action his Excellency the President presented Ser-

geant [William] Jasper with a beautiful Sword in Esteem for his distinguished Valour.

We hear that the Fort on Sullivan's will be in future called Fort Moultrie, in honor of the Officer who commanded there on the twenty-eighth of June, 1776.

The Men of War dropped down some distance from the Island a few Days after. The Seamen in the Fleet had sufficient Employment in repairing. Several Deserters came from both Fleet and Army and are agreed that we need not expect another Visit at present. It was talked, that the two large Ships would go to English Harbour in Antigua to get refitted, the Transports with the Troops, to proceed to New York, under Convoy of some Men of War, to join the Grand Army; and that two Frigates would be left to cruise between North-Carolina and Georgia.

On the 2d of July Gen. Lee sent a Flag to the Enemy, with a Proposal to exchange a Prisoner for Col. Ethan Allen, who it was said was in the Fleet; a Present of some fresh Meat and Vegetables was sent at the same Time. Genl. Clinton being at Long Island, an Answer was not received till two Days afterwards, when he informed Gen. Lee, that Col. Allen was not on board; and in Return for his Present, sent some Porter, Cheese, &c. Two Engineers came in the Boat, but as they were received at some Distance from the Fort, they were deprived of an Opportunity of seeing what they were probably sent to observe.

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

2. Captain John Morris lost his right arm, and was so badly wounded that he died a week later in the *Pallas* Hospital ship.

3. Captain Scott lost his left hand, but was not killed.

#### JOURNAL OF H.M. SCHOONER *St. Lawrence*, LIEUTENANT JOHN GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 . . . . . At anchor in Spen[ce]rs creek

Thursday 4 at 8 A M came on board two Companys of Soldiers to be carried to the fleet Loos'd the topsls

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

#### JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Experiment*, CAPTAIN WILLIAM WILLIAMS <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 . . . . . Moored in 5 fathom hole Within Charles Town Barr  
Tuesday 2 AM a Signal for all Lieutenants, Shifted our Topsails being shot to Pieces, got [down] the Main Topsail Yard being much Wounded Employ[ed] Repairing Mn Tsail Being much Wounded Jibb & Staysails. Gunners puting Spare Trucks on Disabled Carriages Carpenters closing up the shot holes. Cloudy with Some Rain

P M struck Yards & Topmasts  
Wednesday 3 AM fair got up the Mn TSL Yard & bent the sail Washed the Ship below, Seamen Employd Abt the Rigging, Carpenters as before at 10 Do Came down from the Rebels a Flag of Truce Which was met by our boat & Carried on board

the *Solebay* hoisted in the Barge & Cutter both being through &c

Modt & fair

PM the Truce Returned to Town Unbent the Courses being Shot to Pieces.

Thursday 4 AM Got up Yards & Topmasts at 8 A M a Signal on board the *Active* for a Court Martial on Capt [Christopher] Atkins late of the *Acteon*, had a Survey on the Remains of Gunners Stores employ[ed] on Sundrys.

Fresh Gales & fair P M at 3 the Signal for the Court Martial was hauld down Capt Atkins being Honourably Acquitted, Sail makers Employd on the Fore Courses

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/331.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SCHOONER *St. John*, LIEUTENANT WILLIAM GRANT <sup>1</sup>

July 1776

Anchor'd in St Mary's River

Monday 1. First part fresh Breezes and Cloudy, the Midle & Latter Squally with rain Loosed sails to dry at Noon handed them, read the Articles of War &ca to the Schooner's Co Sent the carpenters on Shore to Cut Brooms, Sent the Boat Cruizing up One Branch leading to Georgia Kept the People under Arms in the Night.

Tuesday. 2. Modt Weather Loosed Sails to dry, Sent an Officer & some Men to bring down Mills's boat a Rebel to fit her out as a Tender, sent the Cutter watering & Fishing. Came on board Capt Graham, The Cutter returned - Recd some Rigging & other necessary Ropes, the old being decayed & un-service[a]ble The People under Arms all Night

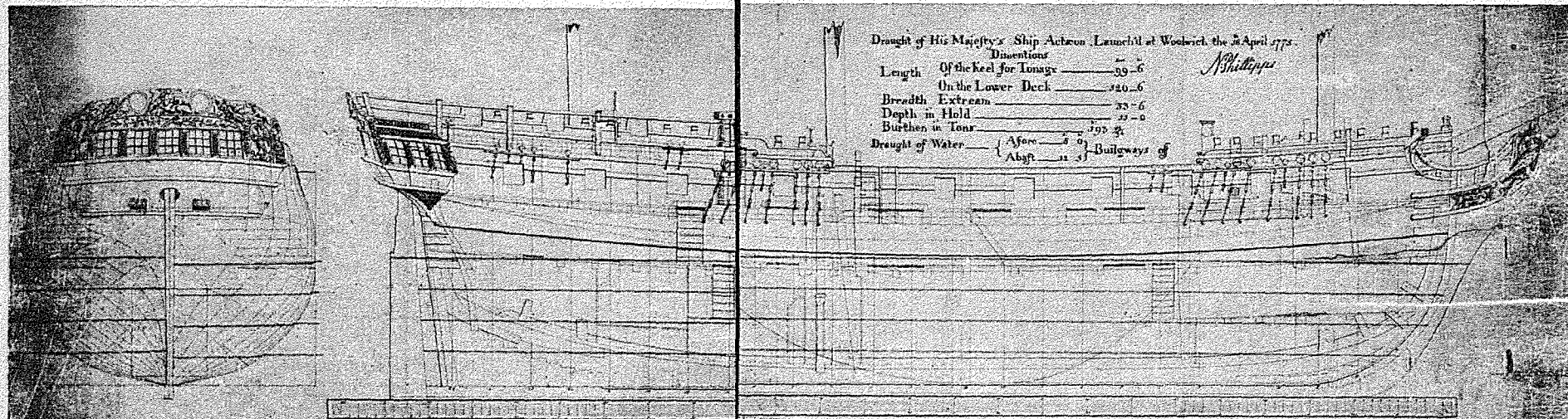
Wednesday 3. Fresh Breezes and Cloudy. Loosed sails to dry at Noon handed them Gote the small Sloop Do sent Men and rigging on board to fit her, Sent her Manned & Armed to Cumberland Island, sent a Boat up the River with Capt Graham to the detachment <sup>2</sup> people under Arms all night,

Thursday 4 read the Articles of War &ca to the Schooners Co Fresh breezes and Clear Weather sent the Pilot Boat up the River to the Township to Capt Graham for to hear their situation, or whether he wanted assistance, sent the Cutter off[f] Cumberland Island for Water and fresh Beef, Came on board 2 Canoes from Jokell with some information, People under Arms.

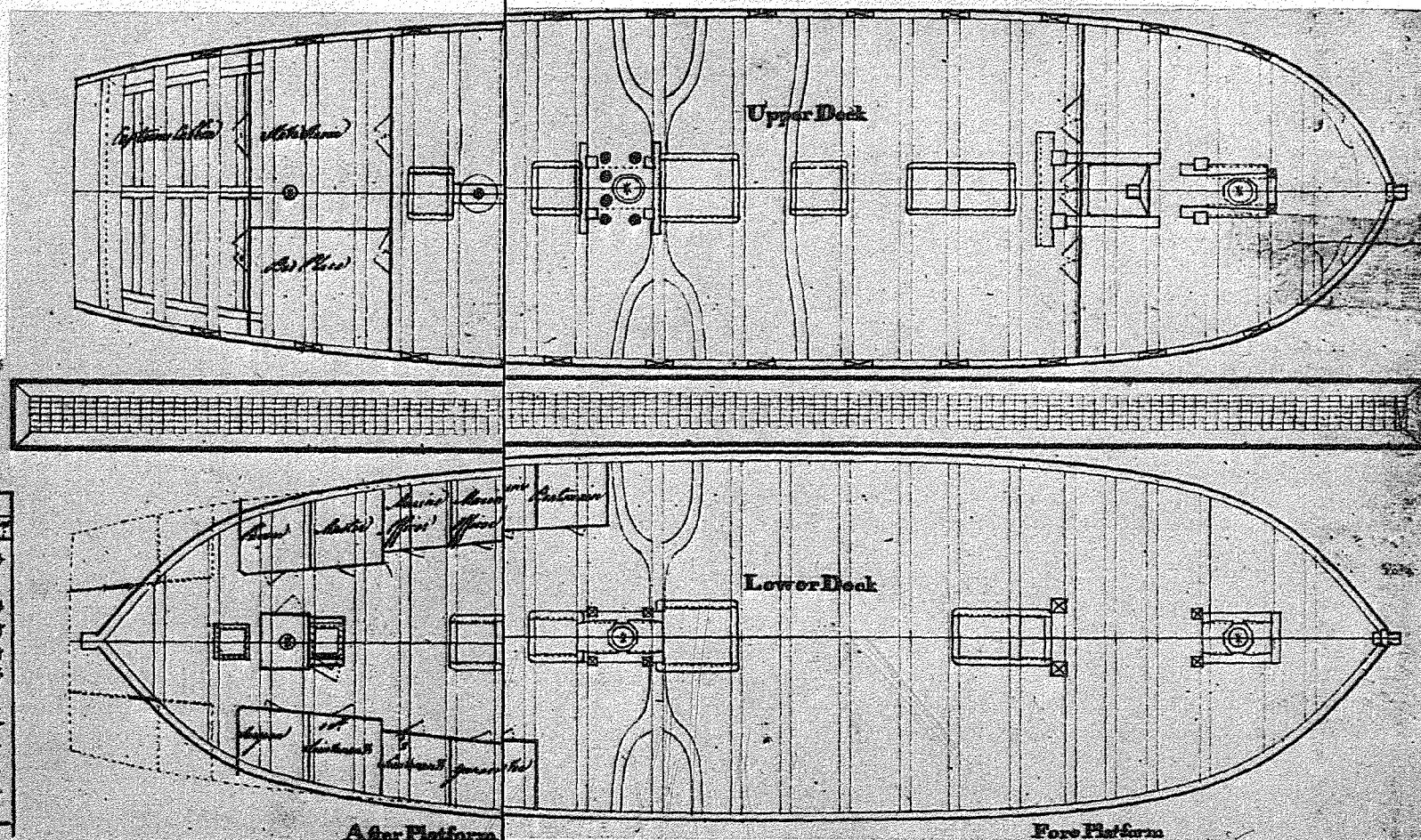
1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

2. *Ibid.*, a detachment of the 16th Regiment which had been placed on board the *St. John* at St. Augustine on May 21, 1776.





(Top) Profile and body plans of HMS Actaeon, 32 guns, (Bottom) Upper and lower deck plans of HMS Actaeon, with spar dimensions.



Woolrich 2 April 1772

Actaeon

|         | Keel | Breadth | Depth | Tonnage |
|---------|------|---------|-------|---------|
| Keel    | 39-6 | 32-6    | 13-0  | 1000    |
| Breadth | 32-6 | 32-6    | 13-0  | 1000    |
| Depth   | 13-0 | 13-0    | 13-0  | 1000    |
| Tonnage | 1000 | 1000    | 1000  | 1000    |
| Keel    | 39-6 | 32-6    | 13-0  | 1000    |
| Breadth | 32-6 | 32-6    | 13-0  | 1000    |
| Depth   | 13-0 | 13-0    | 13-0  | 1000    |
| Tonnage | 1000 | 1000    | 1000  | 1000    |
| Keel    | 39-6 | 32-6    | 13-0  | 1000    |
| Breadth | 32-6 | 32-6    | 13-0  | 1000    |
| Depth   | 13-0 | 13-0    | 13-0  | 1000    |
| Tonnage | 1000 | 1000    | 1000  | 1000    |
| Keel    | 39-6 | 32-6    | 13-0  | 1000    |
| Breadth | 32-6 | 32-6    | 13-0  | 1000    |
| Depth   | 13-0 | 13-0    | 13-0  | 1000    |
| Tonnage | 1000 | 1000    | 1000  | 1000    |





## 5 July

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Viper*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

July 1776

At Single Anchor in Misspeca Harbour

Friday 5 at 5 AM Saw a Sail in the S E Gave Chase with the boats at  
10 Seizd the *Dover* Schooner <sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/1039.

2. *Dover*, A. Furnald, master and owner; from Piscataqua, a fishing voyage, with fish, Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SLOOP *Tyrannicide*, CAPTAIN JOHN FISK <sup>1</sup>Remks on Friday 5th of June [*sic* July] 1776 [Salem harbor]

At 1 After in the After noon weighd Ankor stood Out in the bay ran  
About 7 Legues to the eastward Of cape Ann tack stood to the  
westward tack off[f] And on in sight of the Cape Rainy weather –

1. John Fisk Journal, AAS.

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Friday July 5th 1776

Petition of William Hazen, setting forth, That Cpts Obrien, & Lambert took (without colour of Law) a certain Schr owned by him & others, & brot her into Newbury Port, where she was 20 days without being libelld, that upon Examination by the Genl Court into the Premisses said Schr was order'd to be discharged & deliver'd to the Petr. That he finds the goods on board said Schr have been much wasted &c And praying, that the Hon: Court, will prevent said Obrien, & Lambert & their Companies [from receiving any monies that may be due to them from the Colony until they] have made satisfaction for such Waste, & for the Illegal Capture & detention aforesaid.

Resolved, That the Hon: Board be desired to defer ordering any Monies to Captains Obrien, & Lambert, & their Companies that may be due to them from the Colony, 'till determination shall be had on the Petition of Willm Hazen, praying, that he may be enabled to obtain satisfaction for waste of Goods committed on board a certain Schooner belonging to said Hazen & others, & for the illegal Capture, & detention of the same.

1. Mass. Arch. vol. 35, 153.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Friday July 5th 1776

Resolve of the Board that the Honble Walter Spooner Esqr be Impower'd & directed to Clear out all such Vessells that are now in the harbour of Dartmouth furnishing them with the Necessary Papers and taking Bonds with Sufficient Suretys agreeable to the Resolves of the Congress of 6th March 1776, and also agreeable to the Resolves of the General Court of the Colony and Especially One Published the 19 June last —

On Motion ordered that John Phillips be Commissionated for the Arm'd Sloop Call'd the *Warren* for the purpose of Making Reprisals on the Enemies of the United Colonies giving Bond & Complying with the Order of this Court in such Cases made —

The Committee Appointed to prepare particular Instructions for Richard Welden Commander of the Brigantine *Rising Empire* reported the following Vizt. —

Capt. Richard Welden

The Brigantine *Rising Empire* under your command being now Equipt in Warlike Manner, & Also being properly Man'd & Enabled to go out on a Cruise you are first directed to come to Boston, & there to apply to the Commissary Genl of this Colony for such Provisions as you further stand in need of, & then you are to Cruize on the Coast of the Colonies laying between Cape Sables and New York, and thro' the several Sounds laying in sd Colonies, at the same time using all Necessary precaution to prevent your Vessell from Falling into the hands of the Enemy, and whereas you have received a Commission by force of Arms to Attack Subdue and take all Ships and Other Vessells belonging to the Inhabitants of Great Brittain on the High Seas Under Certain Restrictions, you must punctually follow the Instructions here with Deliverd you for your Conduct Respecting this Matter—

Council Chamber

By Order of the Major Part of the Council

June 27th 1776

Jeremiah Powell President —

[P.S.] Which shou'd have been Recordd Page 48 —

Capt. Richard Welden

The Brigg *Rising Empire* under your Command being now equipt in Warlike Manner, & Also being properly Mannd & enabled to go out on a Cruise you are directed to Cruize on the Coast of the Colonies laying between Cape Sables & New York and thro' the Several Sounds laying within sd Colonies, at the same time using all Necessary precaution to prevent your Vessell from falling into the hands of the Enemy, and in Case any Vessells should be ready to Sail from Dartmouth by the 20th Inst you are hereby directed to take said Vessells under your Convoy, & then Convoy to the Lattd of 38d North and Longitude 67 Degs west from London, & then to make the best of your way on your Cruise. And whereas you have received a Commission by Force of Arms to Attack Subdue and take all Ships and other Vessells belonging to the Inhabit[ant]s of Great Brittain on the High Seas, Under Certain Restrictions you must Punctually follow the Instructions herewith delivered you for your Conduct respecting this Matter —

By Order of Council —

Jeremiah Powell Presd

Bonds being given Agreeable to the Order of the Board A Continental Commission was issued to John Phillips Commander of the Sloop *Warren* dated this day and deliverd with the Instructions of Congress —

a Petition of Leml Williams praying for the appointm[en]t of sd Phillips record[e]d Page 67.<sup>2</sup>

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 20, 61, 62, 63.

2. *Ibid.*, vol. 7, 326, Continental bond for \$5,000 was made this date.

PETITION FOR COMMISSION FOR JOHN PHILLIPS TO COMMAND THE  
MASSACHUSETTS PRIVATEER SLOOP *Warren* <sup>1</sup>

To the Honourable the Council of the Colony of  
the Massachusetts Bay in New England  
the Petition of Lemuel Williams of Dartmouth  
Humbly Shews

that your Petitioner together with Several other Persons his Partners have at their own Expence fitted an armed Sloop Called the *Warren* for the Purpose of Makeing reprisals on the Enemies of the united Colonies of North America agreeable to the laws and Regulations of this Colony which vessel is now near Ready for Sailing your Petitioner Humbly Prays that John Philips of Dartmouth may be Commissioned Capt of the Said armed Sloop and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray  
[Dartmouth] July 5th 1776

Lemuel Williams

Said Sloop is 60 Tons Burthen Carrys Six Guns & fifty men –

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 414.

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE OF PRIZE SHIP *True Blue* <sup>1</sup>

Notice is hereby given, that on Tuesday the 25th of July inst. at Ten o'Clock in the Forenoon, at Col. Daniel Tillinghast's Wharff, in Providence, will be sold at public Vendue, to the highest Bidder, the Ship called the *True Blue*,<sup>2</sup> Burthen about 200 Tons, with her Appurtenances and Cargo, consisting of Rum, Sugar, Cotton, Coffee, Ginger, Pimento; &c. pursuant to a Decree of a Court of Justice held in Providence the 4th Instant, by the Hon. John Foster, Esq; Judge of said Court.<sup>3</sup>

Providence, July 5, 1776.

Paul Tew, Sheriff

1. *Providence Gazette*, July 6, 1776.

2. Taken by Captain Elisha Hinman, in the Continental brig *Cabot*. James Stable, late master of the *True Blue*, protested the seizure of his ship. Admiralty Papers, vol. 9, R. I. Arch.

3. *Ibid.*, the day after the sale, Daniel Tillinghast, the Continental agent, reported as follows:

£ 12,691..12..0 – The Sales of the Ship her Appurtenances and part of her Cargo sold here, as pr Acct Sales exhibited by the Sheriff. . .

£175..18..10 – The Wages due to the Officers and men late belonging to said Ship, as pr Account on File. . .

214..14..3 – The Cost of Prosecution Trial Condemnation &c as pr Bills and Accounts on File. . .

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Lebanon) Friday, July 5th, [1776]

Mr. Job Winslow, builder of the galley *Crane*, laid in his account and bill, and the same was examined, adjusted and allowed, being in the whole

£1013 6 10; he having received by two drafts £700, the balance being £313 6 10, is ordered to be drawn for. And order given accordingly. *Delivered said Winslow.*

1. Hoadly, ed., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 467, 468.

BRIGADIER GENERAL NATHANAEL GREENE TO GEORGE WASHINGTON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Camp on Long Island July 5 1776

... I sent to General [John Morin] Scott this morning four Prisoners taken at the Narrows last Night – The following is a Copy of their Examination they were taken sepearate and agree in their Account in every thing except the number of men The Captains account was the best and I believe the rightest, and I apprehend not much from the truth.

The fleet saild from Halifax the 10 of June, and Arrived the 29th. The fleet consists of 120 sail of Topsail Vessels and that they have on board 10,000 Troops received at Hallifax, besides some of the Scotch Brigade that have joined the fleet on the passage The Troops from the West Indies Joind the Army at Hallifax and was there received with them.

A list of the Generals – How

Pigot

Piercy

Grant

Jones <sup>2</sup>

A list of the Ships of force –

*Asia* 64

*Centurion* 50

*Chatham* 50

*Phoenix* 40

*Greyhound* 30

*Rose* 20

*Swan* 16

*Senegal* 16

four days before the fleet sailed from Hallifax a packet arrivd from England that brought an Account of Admiral Hows sailing with a fleet of one hundred & fifty Sail on board of which was 20,000 Troops. The fleet saild a few days before the Packet. they are expected in here every day.

General Carltons Regiment went from Hallifax to Quebeck. the *Niger* Ship that went from Hallifax in April to Canada met [John] Burgoyne going up the River with 36 transports 6,000 troops on board.

General Carltons Son went into Quebeck painted like an Indian.

The People of Statten Island went on board the fleet as they lay at the Hook – several boat loads of them.

Our people are firing with the Nine pounders at the Narrows but have not heard where they have done any execution. There was a smart fire heard at the Westard of Statten Island about four this morning. It is supposed to be an Attack upon fort Smith in the South part of Statten Island. ...

1. Washington Papers, LC.

2. William Howe, Robert Pigot, Hugh Percy, James Grant and Daniel Jones.

"THE EXAMINATION OF JAMES MACFARLAN A SOLDIER BELONGING TO THE  
55TH REGIMENT, COLL. MEDIE - " <sup>1</sup>

[New York, July 5, 1776] <sup>2</sup>

The Coll. absent - the Regiment now Commanded by the Major who is General Howe's Aid de Camp. - He left Staten Island about 1 or 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon - He came away in a Skiff opposite the Blazing Star ferry -

He left Halifax (where they went from Boston) about four Weeks ago - Some of the Grenadiers & light Infantry landed on the Island on Tuesday Night and the Battalions on Wednesday - They Consist of 9000, about 1000 Sick & lame - General [James] Grant of the Brigade to which the Examinant belongs, is about 1½ Mile from Blazing Star in Land, with three Batalions of 8 Co each - No Breast Works or other remarkable works raised since Grant came on the Island - The Men so weak & feeble, and the weather so hot that they cannot work and therefore don't intend raising any yet a while - About 400 of the Inhabitants to be sworn yesterday, to be true to carry Arms, but not to go out of the Country - He has not tasted a bit of fresh Provision since he has been on the Island - but Yesterday they began to buy - Their Centries are all along the shore - two together in the Night Time - The report in the Army is that they are waiting for the Fleet from England - He thinks one half of the Army are very easy about the Dispute and had rather let it alone, these are chiefly Scotch & Irish, but the English are very violent - They expect a reinforcement of 10 or 12000 Men - He thinks Admiral Shulldham Commands the fleet - If they are to be attackd now is the Time - The Capt of the Tender was killed on Thursday Morning as reported thru' the Army - A Schooner was taken the other Night loaded with flour, about two Miles from Blazing Star, supposed to be from Amboy -

A Great many flat bottomed Boats, with 16 Oars will carry two Companies, but are all yet with the fleet - in general abt 36 in a Company & many not that -

There was a talk at Halifax abt a regiment of Indians but it all went over & none Came - The Inhabitants of Staten Island are well and no Soldier dare do any thing agt them - The other Night the Soldiers broke up a Cellar belonging to a Man who had deserted to Jersey (supposed to be Mr Mesereau) & knocked in the Heads of some wine Cask & drank it, for which they were tryed next day by a general Court Martial - A large Man, a Ship Carpenter (Richd Lawrence) came aboard them with a likely young Man, the first Night after they came from Sandy Hook & told them there was nobody on the other side of the Island but a parcell of Jersey rascals & 500 of such as he would drive them all - The Army have the bloody flux & Scurvy - There are no light Horse among the regulars these were left at Halifax till they see whether they can make their landing good, but have riding & draught Horses - The Grenadiers & light Infantry in a Brigade by themselves in the Middle of the Island. - The reinforcemt expected every

day – The Men so weak that they cannot march 12 Miles in [a] day to save their Lives –

A great many (near 20) Boats from Long Island, came on Board & helped them land their Men on Staten Island the Boats used to Carry Grass – they had been at the Light House a fortnight –

1. Washington Papers, LC.

2. The endorsement upon this document reads: "Examination of James McFarelan a Soldier in the 55th Regt deserted from Staten Island July 4th or 5th 1776." General Nathanael Greene's letter of July 5th, states that the man was taken at the Narrows "last night," so the examination took place July 5th.

#### JOURNAL OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL STEPHEN KEMBLE <sup>1</sup>

[Staten Island] Friday, July 5th. At Headquarters.

Went to Deckers Ferry to give Orders. All quiet, except a Shot or two from the Rebels opposite the Church, which are frequent and not noticed by us, except on the Night of the 3d, when the Rebels brought down Cannon and fired on the *George* and other Schooners lying opposite Deckers Ferry; killed one Man and Wounded four in the *George*, and it was thought proper for the *George* to haul into the Dock.

1. "The Kemble Papers," *Collections of the New-York Historical Society for the Year 1883* (New York, 1884), I, 79. Kemble was Deputy Adjutant General of the British Army.

#### DIARY OF DR. THOMAS MOFFAT <sup>1</sup>

[On board H. M. Sloop *Swan* at Sandy Hook]

July 5th the *Merlin* with a prize Ship belonging to N York with flour and provision for Surinam<sup>2</sup> proceeded up to the fleet. Thermometer morning 70 noon 78. The army is cantoned in Staten Island.

1. Thomas Moffat's Diary, LC.

2. Probably the *Hawke*, John Clarkson, master, from Newburyport for Surinam, taken by H.M.S. *Cerberus* on June 1.

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

[Philadelphia] Friday, July 5, 1776

*Resolved*, That the president write to Governor Cooke, requesting him to order fifty ship carpenters to be engaged, on the best terms, at the expence of the continent, and sent to General Schuyler at Albany, as soon as possible, in order to build vessels for the defence of the lakes.

The committee appointed to consider the state of Georgia, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That four gallies be built at the expence of the United States, under the direction of the convention of Georgia, for the further defence of said colony [state]:

And whereas the delegates of said colony of Georgia have represented to the said committee, that it will be necessary that two forts be erected in the said colony, the one at Savannah and the other at Sunbury:

*Resolved*, That two companies of artillery be raised, consisting of fifty men each, officers included, for the purpose of garrisoning such forts, in case

they shall be erected, at the expence of the said colony; and that blank commissions be delivered to the delegates for the officers, to be filled up by the assembly or convention of said colony [state].

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 518, 519, 521-22.

#### MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

##### In Committee of Safety.

Philad'a, 5th July, 1776.

*Resolved*, That Mr. James Dunlap be employ'd as Surgeon of the Naval Armament, the Ship excepted, and Artillery, and Superintendants of the Hospital, and that he be allowed Ten shillings p Day, and three Rations.

The *Fly* armed Vessel, having arrived at New York with 6 Canon for the use of this Province, being a part of the 20 order'd by Congress,

*Resolved*, That Messrs. Levi Hollingsworth & Tho's Richardson be requested to go to New York, and endeavour to Convey the said Canon to this City in the most Expedi[ti]ous manner.

That they be authorized to hire Carriages for that purpose, either in this City or any other place, as they may judge most proper.

Capt. [Charles] Alexander <sup>2</sup> was desired to deliver Robert Towers, Commissary, all the power & Arms taken out of the Brig't *Nancy*, near Cape May.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records* X, 632, 633.

2. Of the Continental schooner *Wasp*.

#### "EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, JULY 5." <sup>1</sup>

Yesterday arrived a ship, John Dean, Commander; likewise a brigantine and a schooner, belonging to this place, from Brest. The particulars of their cargoes I am not acquainted with, but they are said to be very valuable to the Americans at this present time. Captain Dean reports, that when he left Brest harbour, five men of war and two frigates were almost ready to put to sea, and were bound to Cape Francois.

1. *London Chronicle*, August 22 to August 24, 1776.

#### MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Williamsburg] Friday, 5th July, 1776.

Same [a warrant] to Lieut. Armistead for use Rob. Tompkins, for £20 upon acct for purchase of materials for his Galley.<sup>2</sup>

Ordered, that the Keeper of the Magazine deliver Lt. Armistead, for use Capt. Tompkins Rowe Galley, 100 lbs. powder and 200 lbs. Lead.

A warrant to L't Thomas Armistead for £41.14.6 for pay of his Marines to 1st July.

The Comm'ee adjourned 'til to-morrow, being dissolved by the adjournment of Convention. This constitutes the — of their proceedings.

1. *Virginia State Papers*, VIII, 238, 239.

2. The galley *Henry*.



PURDIE'S *Virginia Gazette*, FRIDAY, JULY 5, 1776

Williamsburg, July 5.

Last Tuesday was taken near the capes, and moored safe in Hampton creek, by capt. Richard Barron, a sloop from [New] Providence with a large quantity of limes, pine-apples, turtle, &c. also two carriage guns, and 14 swivels. . . .

Lord Dunmore sent a flag of truce some few days ago to Gwyn's island, with a letter for general [Andrew] Lewis, wherein he proposes an exchange of prisoners, and tells the general, that if he has not a sufficient number of our people, that he shall give him credit for the overplus, and pay him as soon as he can. General Lewis, we hear, answered his lordship's very *witty* and *ingenious* proposal as it deserved.

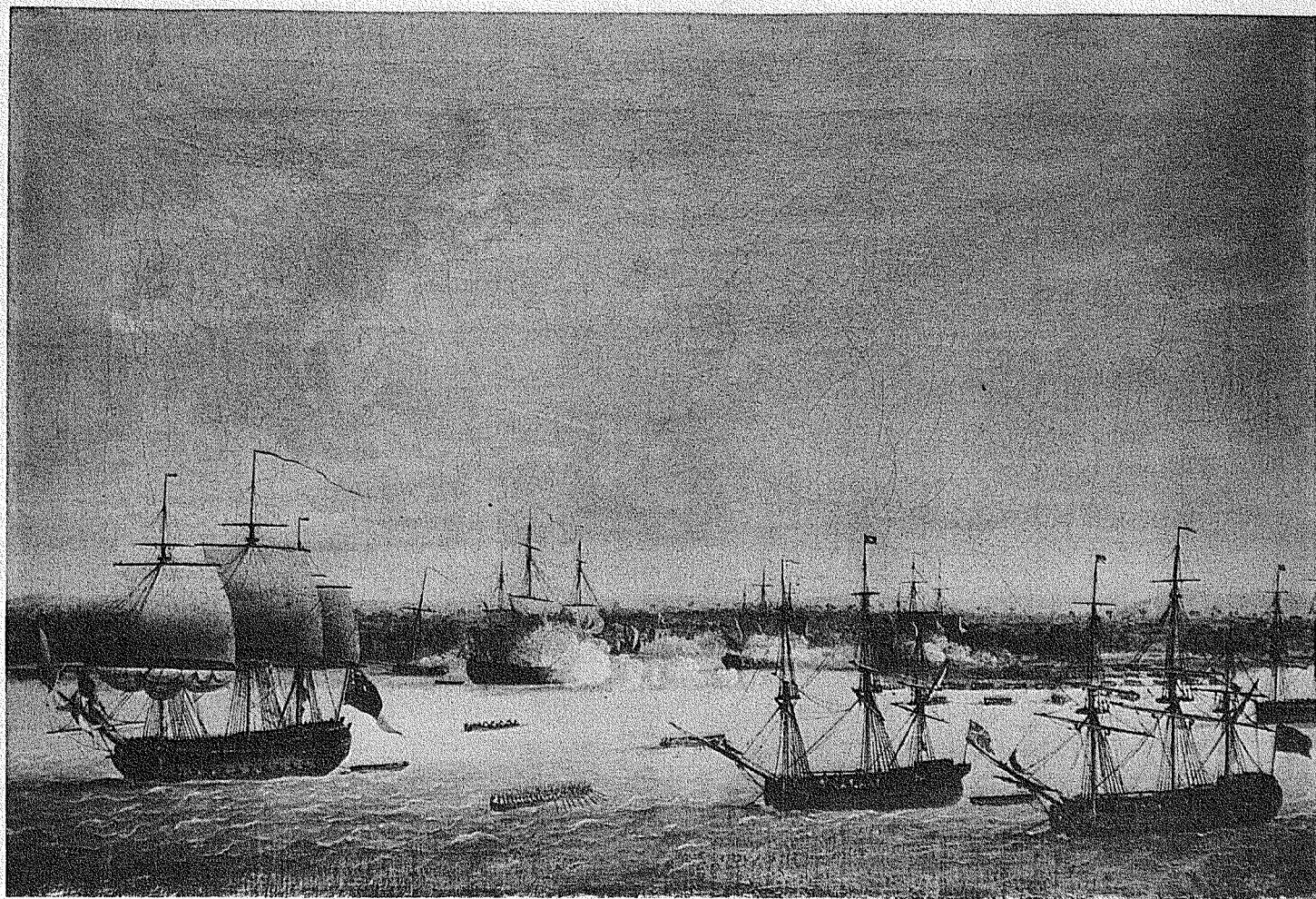
GOVERNOR JOSIAH MARTIN TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN <sup>1</sup>

Snow *Peggy*, So Carolina within the  
Bar off Charles Town July 5th 1776.

My Lord,

Since I had the honor of writing to Your Lordship by The *Duke of Cumberland* Packet nothing of great moment, or out of the common course of things has occurred, with regard to the Province of No Carolina, except the withdrawing of the Fleet and Army from thence on the 31st day of May; a measure which was taken on the manifold considerations, that the Army was not then all arrived, that the season was too far advanced for the service of British troops in this Climate; that carriages, and horses, the indispensable means of enabling the Army to penetrate into the Country, were not in our hands, that it was probable the Rebels, having already disarmed the friends of Government, in case the necessary facilities should be obtained by the Army on its taking footing on shore, would fall back on the Country and drive before them the well affected; preventing our junction with them, and rendering the subsistence of the Army difficult, by desolating the country behind them: but above all, the representation of General Clinton that his Army might probably be ordered to join General Howe, before the reduction of the Country could be compleated, and order restored, which would turn Victory to defeat, convinced, and satisfied me, that Conquest, of that Province, was not then, an object to be pursued.

The Armament on its departure from Cape Fear, bent its course hither, as I understand, on fair presumption that a sudden stroke might be made with advantage. but owing to a train of unlucky circumstances, which Your Lordship will better learn from The Commanders of the Expedition, a month was almost consumed before any attempt was made upon the enemy. On the 28th of last month, The Squadron attacked a strong battery of the Rebels on Sullivan's Island; and after a severe Cannonade, that lasted more than nine hours, the Ships, having expended most of their ammunition, were obliged to haul off, having sustained great damage, and very considerable loss of men. General Clinton, with whom I had the honour to be



*Assault on Charleston.*

at this time, had made every arrangement, that time, and circumstances, and the position in which his Army lay, admitted, to support, and take advantage of this attack: but the Frigates intended to make a diversion in his favour, being laid aground by the Pilots, and none arriving at their appointed Station, nothing could be attempted by the Army but at the hazard of every thing.

It is now resolved My Lord to join the main Army under General Howe, and all preparations are made accordingly. As my family, cut off from my advice for want of communication, is detained at Long Island, near New York, and I understand that Province to be the next object of His Majesty's Arms; I hope, so tender a consideration, will justify me to my Royal Master, and to Your Lordship, for accompanying this Armament thither, while it is utterly out of my power to effect any good purpose in North Carolina, where I have left on board a Transport which I hired for the purpose, under the protection of The King's Ships, on that Station, a number of the friends of Government, who took sanctuary on board the Fleet during its stay at Cape Fear; among whom, there are persons qualified, and instructed to keep up a Correspondence with, and to give every possible encouragement to the well affected during my absence; while I do assure Your Lordship, shall be no longer, than to see how far it may be possible to rescue my family. an additional motive with me for going thither, of which I have the satisfaction of General Clinton's approbation, is, that I may be able to answer the inquiries of The Commander in Chief in relation to the Province of North Carolina; where, as in all other the southern Provinces, I am firmly persuaded, The King's Government may be restored, by the adoption of a Plan, of which General Clinton has done me the honour to communicate the outlines, which that Gentleman I apprehend has the merit of first conceiving, and has formed I am sure upon information collected with most unwearied pains, and attention, and better than any other person possesses, its great object is to get at, to arm, and draw into use the friends of Government who inhabit the interior Country, and by their means to press the Rebels on the back, while The Regular forces engage their attention on the Coast. it is a plan My Lord, in my humble opinion, altogether as complete in all its parts, and hanging as well together as can be imagined; and I must say, bids so fair to succeed, under General Clinton's directions, that if it fails, I should be almost inclined to think the reduction of these Provinces out of hope; which pursuing General Clinton's Plan I persuade myself, will be effected in the most desirable way, by the strength of the friends of Government in the Provinces themselves, who will evermore, after conquest, most effectually secure their allegiance.

The check His Majesty's Arms have received in the attack made by the Squadron here the other day, will certainly operate disadvantageously by teaching the Rebels higher opinions of their own strength, although I think it to be imputed to the deception of the Pilots, in not carrying The ships so close to the enemy's works as they engaged to do, by which, as in a distant Cannonade must always be the case, all advantage was on the side of the Ar-

tillery on shore; and the Bravery of the British Seamen, which was displayed, as usual, upon this occasion, could not command, the success it deserved. I have the honour [&c.]

Jo. Martin

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 5/318, LC Photocopy.

JOURNAL OF H. M. SCHOONER *St. John*, LIEUTENANT WILLIAM GRANT <sup>1</sup>

July 1776

Anchor'd in St Mary's River

Friday 5

(A M) Heeled the Schooner & paid her Starbd side with Brimstone & Turpentine & blacked the Bends, also paid her sides with Tar Came on board the Boat from Cumberland with fresh Beef for the Schooner's Co people rather sickly under arms as before.

Fresh breezes & Clear W[eathe]r Loosed [sails] to dry Called all hands to Quarters exercisd Gt Guns & small Army & empd firing at Marks, Sent the Pilot Boat, manned & Armed to Jackell Island upon a requisition of some Gentlemen who had lately come from Engld Fired away to bring to a Canoe 3 half Pounders shotted – The People under Arms in the Night,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

6 July

COMMODORE MARRIOT ARBUTHNOT TO VICE ADMIRAL  
RICHARD LORD HOWE <sup>1</sup>

Copy/

My Lord,

Halifax, 6 July 1776.

Since the Letter I did myself the honor of writing to your Lordship by the *Renown*, who Sailed on the 2d Inst with a Convoy of fifteen Sail of Transports, containing Highlanders, Hessians & Guards; The *Brune* Capt Fergusson arrived from Commo[dore] Hotham at this place on the same day, whom he parted with on the 24th June last, on the Banks of Newfoundland, & dispatched to this place in search of the Army, with Orders to join Commo Hotham off Cape Le Have, and left this place for the aforesaid purpose on the 4th Inst having received the appointed Rendezvous.

The 5th Inst arrived the *Carcass* Sloop, Capt Dring, who parted from Commo Hotham with part of his Convoy in a Fog on the 21st of June, soon after, he fell in Company with His Majts Sloop *Cygnat* under Adml Montague's Command & detained him in escorting twelve Sail of Transports, consisting of Hessians & one Company of Guards & brought him to this place, whose Commander the Hble Wm Clement Finch, I have ordered to repair to his proper Station again.

I have also given Capt Dring his Orders to proceed to Sea immediately with his Convoy & directed Capt [Christopher] Mason of the *Tamer* to assist in performing that Service.

The Horse Ships I hope will be ready to Sail in two or three Days, as

the Forage is arrived from Cumberland; to which I shall only add, that I have directed the *Cygnets* to make the Island of Sable on her return to Newfoundland, & the *Hope* Capt [George] Dawson to accompany her, & the latter to remain on that Station as I have information of two Privateers Cruizing in those Parts, a Sloop & Schooner. I am [&c.]

M<sup>t</sup> Arbuthnot.

By the *Tamer* Capt Mason

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 5/125, 28d.

JOURNAL OF H. M. SLOOP *Viper*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

July 1776

At Single Anchor Machias [harbor]

Saturday 6 8 A M Weighd & Came to Sail

Mode & Cloudy Saw a sail to the Etward gave chase ½ past 2 fired 4 Shot at the Chase sent the boats to bring her out she firing upon them and the rebels from the shore fired a gun and Made the Sigl for the boats to return found one man Shot through the Arm in the yawl at 5 P M the Rebels fired at us from the Shore returnd two Shot

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/1039.

JOHN LANGDON TO WILLIAM WHIPPLE<sup>1</sup>

Dear Sir –

Portsmouth 6th July 1776

Your several favo'rs of the 22d 4th and 6th p Post, and Express I've receivd by which I see I've Liberty to Ship Hands, and shall proceed to Enter some immediately, tho' many have left us within this three Weeks for want of Employ, but we seem to work without Tools, for want of the Commissions for the Capt and Officers; and the Regulation, of the Wages for the Officers, as it seems that must under go a Revision, the able Seamen are to have Eight dollars, and the Common and Marines 40/ only, I fear this will create some difficulty, as most part will think themselves able Seamen, I suppose the Honble Marine Committee will have some general plan, for the whole management of this Business; how many Men each Ship is to carry including Officers; what Officers are to be allowed Boys or whether any how many able Seamen on board each Ship, whether Hammocks are to be found for all the Men, in short the whole should be very Explicit an Order for small Arms is wanting, say some of them Carbines which were taken, also the Powder and what quantity on board of each Ship; and also the Ball and what quantity, suppose the Ship, to find all Arms of every sort, how long the Men are to be Enter'd for, (say Six or twelve Months) I shall endeavour to procure the Provisions, as soon as may be, after getting the order of Committee; I think myself greatly Obliged by your constant Endeavour in the matter of Agency and much Obliged to the Honble Committee for their Unanimous Nomination of me, to the Congress, who have Honour'd me with the appointment,<sup>2</sup> shall endeavour to give Satisfaction, I shall much depend, on having particulars directions and Orders which I

humbly conceive (in some small matters) must be Discretionary, as it will require Execution before can get Intelligence from Phila – of this the Honble Committee will be Judges –

I shall do every thing in my power that a good Man is sent up, but beleive shall see you first, as its not likely they will choose me till you return, shall depend on seeing you, the latter end of this Month with my Chaise and Trunk &c By your Letter it seems the Agent is to have the whole Business belonging to the Continent in this Colony, under his Care, if so whether the Honble Congress means to have a particular Clerk kept, who is to be under Oath which I think would be best, and how that Clerk is to be paid, whether a place should not be prepared to heave the Ships down &c if so as I think there must be I intend building a Wharf at my own Expence, at which the Ships can heave down &c paying what is reasonable, only that what ever Extraordinary Expence attends particularly for the convenience of those Ships shall be paid by the Continent – say Two or three Hundred Dollars, no doubt before this comes to hand you'll have sent on the Commission, agreeable to List, shall inclose you some of the Names of the Warrant Officers which hope will be agreeable – The discovery of the infernal plot at New York is grand hope the Colonies will shew proper Spirit on the Occasion and make proper Examples of those leading Rascals, concern'd in the diabolical design. – It give me pleasure to see the near approach of the grand Qustion, may Heaven guide you in the right way, I must confess its to me very plain, and for my own part I think Providence has called on us aloud, for some Time, to put the Question, to the Eternal Honour of America let it be Unanimous, Pray forward as soon as may be the Commissions and Warrants, as we must have the Officers on board, which will put the Men in Order and induce them to Enter. if the Guns should come from Philadelphia, should be Glad you'll bring with you, or send the Dimention of the Guns, diameter at the Britch, do at base Ring do at Trunnions and size of them (exact Length from Center of Trunnion to Britch and from that to Muzzle the Diameter of the Bore;[] without all these, we cannot put Carriages together, neither can the Gunner prepare any thing which will take some time after the Guns are here, tis surprising they will not let us have the first Guns when it will take so long tim[e] to get them down here, in short had I had Discretionary Orders when I came away from Philadelphia, and as I came home contracted at Providence for the first Guns our Ship might without least doubt been at Sea. It is impossible to give dispatch to any thing at so great Distance, unless some discretionary Powers. – In Equiping this very Ship had I absolute Orders at first to fit her for Sea, in every way whatever she would have now been waiting the Orders of the Admiral, and saved at least, One Thousand, or fifteen hundred pounds LMoney –

The warrants for the Master, Gunner and Boatswain you'll please send or bring immediately, as to the Cook or any others, can't see the least ill convenience in the blank warrants coming – All my Letters after this to you shall inclose to Brother [Josiah] Bartlett who will open them in case of your

Absence as I expect you'll set out the last of this Month for home. – I am with great Respect [&c.]

John Langdon <sup>3</sup>

1. John Langdon Letter Book, Captain J. G. M. Stone Private Collection, Annapolis.
2. Langdon was appointed Continental agent for New Hampshire on June 25, 1776.
3. Langdon also wrote this date to Josiah Bartlett, the other New Hampshire delegate in Congress. John Langdon Correspondence, 1773–1797, NHHS. A copy is also in the John Langdon Letter Book, Captain J. G. M. Stone Private Collection, Annapolis.

APPLICATION FOR COMMISSION FOR RHODE ISLAND PRIVATEER  
SLOOP *Diamond* <sup>1</sup>

Sir, Providence July 6th 1776.

We the Subscribers of Providence and Newport in the Colony of Rhode Island Merchants, request your Honor to grant a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal to William Chace Commander of the Sloop *Diamond* – of which we are Owners, she is burthened about Sixty Tons, carries Six Carriage Guns Four Pounders, and Ten Swivel Guns, manned with Forty Men and fitted with a suitable Quantity of Muskets, Blunderbusses, Cutlasses, Pistols, Powder, Ball, and other Military Stores. She hath on board Twenty Eight barrels Beef and Pork, Fifteen Tierces Bread and Six barrels Flour with some Rice Beans Pottatoes &c. Benjamin Almy is First Lieutenant Henry Weedon Second Lieutenant, and Isaac Freeborn Master. We are with great Respect Sir [&c.]

William Chace John Brown <sup>2</sup>

To the Honorable Nicholas Cooke Esquire.

1. Maritime Papers, Letters of Marque, Petitions & Instructions 1776–1780, R. I. Arch. The commission was issued the same day, and a copy of it is in Admiralty Papers. vol. 9, R. I. Arch.
2. Continental bond, \$5,000, was executed this date. Bonds, Masters of Vessels, R. I. Arch.

JOURNAL OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO BUILD TWO CONTINENTAL  
FRIGATES IN RHODE ISLAND <sup>1</sup>

[Providence] July 6.

Voted that we Exchange the Poark now at Newhaven belonging to the Ships for The like quantity to be Received of Robert S[illegible]

Voted That Avery Parker be Appointed first Lieut [of] Marines on Board the *Providence* on his Inlisting thirty three good Men in Twenty Days from this Date.

Voted That William Dunton William Comstock and Thomas Bowen – be Appointed Midshipmen. The two first on Board the *Warren*, and Bowen on Board the *Providence*.

1. Journal R. I. Frigates, RIHS.

*Providence Gazette*, SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1776

Providence, July 6.

A Letter from St. Eustatia, of a late Date, mentions that the *Seaford* Frigate had seized a Vessel in that Port from Philadelphia; and on the Mas-

ter's complaining to the Governor, he immediately sent a File of Soldiers to release the Vessel, confined the Lieutenant of the *Seaford* several Hours, and ordered the Forts to be immediately repaired.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Lebanon] Saturday, 6th July

Cap. Niles moving for instructions &c., on consideration voted the following instructions:

To Cap. Robert Niles, of the Colony armed schooner *Spy*,  
Greeting:

You are hereby instructed carefully and diligently to attend the duty of your station and department, to keep a careful watch and look-out for any and every hostile ship or vessel which may be hovering about our coasts, take any that you can, give every signal and intelligence of and concerning them in your power and for the advantage of the trade and friends of the country. You are also to take care and prevent, as far as lies in your power, any smuggling trade and clandestine management contrary to the laws and embargos of this Colony and any prohibitions of the Hono. Continental Congress, for which and every faithful exertion for the good of the Colonies and the support of the laws, this shall be your sufficient warrant. Given &c. Signed by the Governor, and copy delivered Cap. Niles.

1. Hoadly, ed., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 468, 469.

EXAMINATION OF JAMES AUCHMUTY <sup>1</sup>

White Plains in Westchester County  
July 6th 1776

James Auchmuty Esqr of Boston being examined saith

That he together with his Wife & Child sailed from Halifax on the 10th of June last in a Transport Sloop called the *Charlotte* whereof [Samuel] Cox was Master bound for New York. That on Friday last the said Sloop was taken by Capt. [William] Rogers in an American Armed Sloop called the *Montgomerie* & carried into Fire Island Inlet on the south side of long Island & from thence with his said wife & Child was sent prisoners to this place. That this Examinant was appointed by Genl Howe Store keeper to the Engineers & that the pay allowed him was four shilling Sterlg per Day with the promise of its being augmented to five. That the Fleet of which the *Charlotte* Transport was one - amounted to about one hundred and thirty Sail. That the Army on Board the said Fleet consisted of near Ten thousand men exclusive of Marines as he the Examinant understood. That it was reported at Halifax that Lord Howe with the German Troops were intended for New York. That it was said Eleven thousand regular Troops went with Genl Burguoiné to Quebec. That the said Sloop *Charlotte* was



laden with Intrenching Tools some Spikes, *Cheveau de frise* & some Mantulets.

James Auchmuty <sup>2</sup>

1. *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts Relating to the War of the Revolution in the Office of the Secretary of State, Albany, N.Y.* (Albany, 1868), I, 418. Hereafter cited as *New York Historical Documents*.
2. Midshipman Richard Bruere (son of Governor Bruere of Bermuda) and Samuel Cox, both taken in the *Charlotte*, were also examined this date, *ibid.*, 419.

PAROLE OF SAMUEL COX, MASTER OF THE PRIZE SLOOP *Charlotte* <sup>1</sup>

I, Samuel Cox, being made a prisoner of war, by the army of the Thirteen United Colonies in North America, do promise and engage, on my word and honour, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence to the township of Bedford, in Westchester county, in the Province of New-York, being the place of my destination and residence, and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain during the present war between Great Britain and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the Assembly, Convention, or Committee or Council of Safety of the said Colony, shall order otherwise; and that I will not directly or indirectly give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or do or say anything in opposition to, or in prejudice of the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said Colonies during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

Given under my hand, this sixth day of July, A.D. 1776.

Saml. Cox,

Master of the Sloop *Charlotte*, transport.

1. *New York Provincial Congress*, II, 236-37. Paroles identically worded were signed the same day by Joseph Woolcombe, chief mate of the *Blue Mountain Valley* transport; Midshipman Richard Bruere, James Auchmuty, storekeeper for the British engineering department; John Simpson, master of the *Saville* victualer; Thomas Renington Harris, mate of H. M. Sloop *Savage*; William Elder, a volunteer, and William McDermott. *Ibid.*, 237, 306, 307.

*Constitutional Gazette*, SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1776

New-York, July 6.

On Tuesday last the CONTINENTAL CONGRESS declared the UNITED COLONIES FREE and INDEPENDENT STATES.<sup>1</sup>

His Excellency Molyneaux Shulldham, Esquire, now in our Harbour, is appointed Admiral of the Blue; and the Major-Generals Carleton and Howe, to be Generals in America only.

The Sloop *Miffin*, Captain [Thomas] Palmer, arrived at Philadelphia last Wednesday from St. Eustatia, with six tons of powder and dry goods, &c.

On Tuesday morning the remainder of the fleet from Halifax came to the Watering place, and there landed their men, our people leaving it the day before. It is said there is on the island 10,000 men.

Upwards of 5000 men, have, within the course of this week arrived here from New-Jersey, Long Island, &c.

Yesterday afternoon arrived the first division of the Connecticut forces, commanded by the Hon. Brigadier Generals [David] Waterbury and [James] Wadsworth, and this day the remainder are expected to arrive, being in the whole 5000 well equipped and disciplined.

1. Referring to the resolution of July 2, 1776.

VICE ADMIRAL MOLYNEUX SHULDHAM TO PHILIP STEPHENS <sup>1</sup>

*Chatham*, off Staten Island near

Sir,

New York, the 6th July 1776

I herewith transmit you the Disposition of His Majesty's Squadron under my Command, also the State and Condition of those Ships from which I have been Able to Collect them. I am Sir [&c.]

M: Shuldham

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/484.

"DISPOSITION OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS AND VESSELS IN NORTH AMERICA,  
UNDER THE COMMAND OF VICE ADMIRAL MOLYNEUX SHULDHAM." <sup>1</sup>

| Rate      | Ship               | Commanders            | Disposition  |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|
|           |                    | V. A. Shuldham        |  |
| 4th       | <i>Chatham</i>     | Captain John Raynor   | Moor'd off the Watering<br>Place on Staten Island<br>New York bearing N N E<br>½ E. distance 8 Miles                                   |
| "         | <i>Centurion</i>   | " Rd Brathwaite       |  |
| 5         | <i>Phoenix</i>     | " Hyde Parker         |  |
| 3         | <i>Asia</i>        | " Geo: Vander-<br>put |  |
| 6         | <i>Rose</i>        | " James Wallace       |  |
| "         | <i>Greyhound</i>   | " Archd Dickson       | In the Creek between the<br>S Wt point of Staten<br>Island and the Town of<br>Amboy to Cut off the<br>Communication with<br>New Jersey |
| Storeship | <i>Adventure</i>   | Lieutt John Hallum    |  |
| Sloop     | <i>Senegal</i>     | Captn Rogr Curtis     | In the Creek off the NW<br>part of Staten Island At<br>Sandy Hook  |
| Schooner  | <i>Tryal</i>       | Lieutt John Brown     | Cruizing between the<br>West end of Long<br>Island & Cape Henlo-<br>pen  |
| Sloop     | <i>Swan</i>        | Captn: Jas Ayscough   | At Virginia<br>Supposed to be at, or<br>Cruizing off the Dela-<br>ware   |
| 5th       | <i>Orpheus</i>     | " Chas Hudson         |  |
| "         | <i>Roebuck</i>     | " A. S. Hamond        |  |
| 6         | <i>Fowey</i>       | " Geo: Montagu        |  |
| Sloop     | <i>Kingsfisher</i> | " Alexr Graeme        |  |
| "         | <i>Otter</i>       | " Matw Squire         |  |

| Rate       | Ship                | Commanders               | Disposition   |
|------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 6th        | <i>Sphinx</i>       | " Anty Hunt              | At Cape Fear  |
| "          | <i>Syren</i>        | " Tobias Ferneaux        |   |
| Sloop      | <i>Falcon</i>       | " Jno Linzee             |   |
| "          | <i>Cruizer</i>      | " Fras Parry             |   |
| "          | <i>Scorpion</i>     | " Honble Jno Tollemache  | At Charles Town South Carolina  |
| Schooner   | <i>St Lawrence</i>  | Lieut Jno Graves         |   |
| 4th        | <i>Bristol</i>      | Commodore Sr Petr Parker |   |
| "          | <i>Experiment</i>   | Captain [blank]          | At Savannah in the Province of Georgia  |
| "          |                     | " Alexr Scott            |   |
| Sloop      | <i>Raven</i>        | " Jno Stanhope           |   |
| Arm'd Ship | <i>Cherokee</i>     | Lieutt Jno Ferguson      | At Sai[n]t Augustine  |
| Schooner   | <i>St John</i>      | " Wm Grant               |   |
| "          | <i>Hinchinbrook</i> | " Alexr Ellis            |   |
| 6th        | <i>Lively</i>       | Captn Thos Bishop        | Ordered to Saint Augustine with Cash & Necessaries for His Majesty's Forces   |
| Sloop      | <i>Nautilus</i>     | " Jno Collins            | Sent to Bermuda for the Protection of the King's Ordnance Stores  |
| 6          | <i>Liverpool</i>    | " Heny Bellew            | Cruizing between Martha's Vineyard & the East end of Long Island  |
| "          | <i>Cerberus</i>     | " Jno Symons             |   |
| Sloop      | <i>Merlin</i>       | " W.C. Burnaby           |   |
| 4th        | <i>Renown</i>       | " Fras Banks             | Cruizin[g] In Boston Bay  |
| 6th        | <i>Milford</i>      | " Jno Burr               |   |
| Sloop      | <i>Hope</i>         | " Geo Dawson             |   |
| Brig       | <i>Halifax</i>      | Lieutt Wm Quarme         |   |
| 6th        | <i>Scarborough</i>  | Captn Andw Barkley       | In the Bay of Fundy to prevent any Hostile Attempts on the Province of Nova Scotia the latter ordered to ConvoY Transports with Hay &c. to Halifax & from thence to Sandy Hook. |
| Sloop      | <i>Viper</i>        | " Saml Graves            |   |
| "          | <i>Tamer</i>        | " Chrs Mason             |   |
| Schooner   | <i>Dispatch</i>     | Lieutt Jno Goodridge     | Cruizing between Cape Sambrough and the Isle of Sable.  |

| Rate        | Ship             | Commanders           | Disposition  |
|-------------|------------------|----------------------|--|
| 5           | <i>Niger</i>     | Captain Geo Talbot   | At Halifax, Ordered to Convoy the Transports with Light Horse to Sandy Hook                      |
| Sloop       | <i>Savage</i>    | " Hu: Bromedge       | [At Halifax] Ordered to protect the Collery at Spanish River in the Island Cape Breton           |
| "           | <i>Albany</i>    | " Hy Mowat           | [At Halifax] Fitting   |
| Arm'd Ship  | <i>Canceaux</i>  | Lieutt John Schank   | [At Halifax] Ordered to Quebec with General Howe's and my Dispatches                             |
| 6th         | <i>Mercury</i>   | Captn James Montagu  | Sailed to Halifax with Dispatches to Me from Sir Peter Parker Supposing to find Me at that Place |
| Brig        | <i>Diligent</i>  | Lieutt Edmd Dod      | At the Island of Saint John in the Gulph of Saint Lawrence                                       |
| 4th         | <i>Isis</i>      | Captain Chas Douglas | } Supposed to be sailed for England.<br>In the River Saint Lawrence.                             |
| 6th         | <i>Lizard</i>    | " Jno Hamilton       |  |
| "           | <i>Triton</i>    | " Skeffn Lutwidge    |  |
| Sloop       | <i>Hunter</i>    | " Thos Mckinzie      |  |
| Arm'd Ships | <i>Lord Howe</i> | " Jno Pringle        |  |
|             | <i>Bute</i>      | " Anty Parry         |  |
| Schooner    | <i>Magdalen</i>  | Lieutt Joseph Nunn   |  |
| Brig        | <i>Gaspee</i>    | " Geo Wilson         |  |

*Chatham* off Staten Island 6th July 1776.

M: Shuldham

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/484.

VICE ADMIRAL MOLYNEUX SHULDHAM TO PHILIP STEPHENS<sup>1</sup>

Duplicate.

*Chatham* off Staten Island, near

Sir,

New York the 6th July 1776.

I acquainted you in my Letter of the 9th of June that I had Appointed Mr Evan Nepean Purser of the *Falcon*, and my Secretary, Purser of the *Roe-buck*, in the room of Mr James Mason, whose Death was reported to me by Captain [John] Linzee of the *Falcon*, but as that information is since found to be groundless, I have withdrawn the Warrants I had Signed on that occasion.

Captain Bellew of His Majesty's Ship *Liverpool* having acquainted me

in his Letter of the 10th past (a Copy of which I inclose for their Lordships information) that Mr Richard Boger his Second Lieutenant is taken Prisoner by the Rebels<sup>2</sup> I have Appointed Mr John Hinckley Midshipman on board His Majesty's Ship *Chatham* Second Lieutenant of the *Liverpool* in his room, which Appointment I hope their Lordships will be pleased to confirm, by sending out a Commission for him. I am Sir

M: Shuldham

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/484.

2. Taken April 17, 1776, in the *Liverpool's* tender the *Edward*, by Captain John Barry in the Continental brig *Lexington*.

#### DIARY OF DR. THOMAS MOFFAT<sup>1</sup>

[On board H.M. Sloop *Swan* at Sandy Hook]

July 6th morning Thermom[eter] 67. noon 72. P M Twelve refugees came aboard the *Swan* being of Connecticut and Long Island.

1. Thomas Moffat's Diary, LC.

#### JOHN HANCOCK TO GEORGE WASHINGTON<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Philadelphia July 6 1776

I have wrote to Governor Cooke to engage immediately, and send forward as fast as possible, fifty ship Carpenters to General Schuyler for the Purpose of building Vessels on the Lakes. Fifty have already gone from hence on that business. . .

1. Washington Papers, LC.

#### JOHN HANCOCK TO THE CONTINENTAL AGENTS IN MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND<sup>1</sup>

Sir,

Philada July 6th 1776

As I purpose writing You fully on the Subject of Marine Affairs some Time in the Course of next Week, I shall only enclose at present a Resolve of Congress, directing you to send the Arms taken out of the Scotch Transports, to Genl Washington at New York:<sup>2</sup> and indeed, this is all I have Time to do now, being in great Haste Sir [&c.]

To

J. H. Prest

Mr John Bradford Agent in Massachusetts Bay

Mr Danl Tillinghasst Agent in Rhode Island

1. Papers CC (Letter Books of the President of Congress), 12A, NA.

2. See Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 524.

#### *Pennsylvania Ledger*, SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1776

Philadelphia, July 6.

Tuesday Captain [William] Meston, late of the snow *Dickinson*, of this port, arrived here from Bristol, but last from the West-Indies. — He sailed from this place last February, bound for Nantz, but the Mate, assisted by the crew, seized and confined the Captain on the coast of Portugal, and then altered their course for London; the southerly winds driving them into Bristol Channel, they arrived at Bristol the 28th of April,<sup>1</sup> when the mate proposed to set off immediately for London with all the letters and papers on board

for the inspection of government. The vessel was detained at Bristol till the determination of government concerning her should be known.

By accounts from the Capes we are informed; that a brig from St. Thomas's with 400 barrels of powder, arms, dry goods, &c., coming into our Capes on Saturday last, was chased by the *King-Fisher*, and run aground off Cape May.<sup>2</sup> Captain Barre [John Barry] and Weekes [Lambert Wickes] sent their boats to assist in unloading her; having taken out all the arms, cannon, 160 barrels of powder, and some dry goods, as much as their boats would hold – they discovered the men of war's boats coming to her, upon which they opened the remainder of the powder, and spreading some doubled canvass upon it they laid on the canvass live coals, and left her – one of the man of war's boats having got along side, they had hardly boarded her before she blew up.

1. The *Dickinson* arrived at Bristol on April 8, not April 28, 1776. See *European Theatre*, Volume 4, that date, 1024-25.
2. The brig *Nancy*, Captain Hugh Montgomery.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, JULY 6." <sup>1</sup>

On Saturday last the brig *Nancy*, Captain Montgomery of Wilmington, loaded by Congress with 400 barrels of powder, 50 or 60 small arms, dry goods, 101 hogsheads of rum, and 62 hogsheads of sugar, was drove on shore by the *Kingfisher* at Cape may; the brig had 6 three pounders mounted; with which, at one time they beat off the boats, and one of their tenders; after which, being assisted by Capt. Barry and Weekes who took out of her in a fog, 62 firelocks, 260 barrels of powder, and some dry goods; but the fog clearing away, the ships came within shot, and sent five barges full of men to attack her; the brigs people finding it impossible to keep her any longer, started 130 or 40 barrels of powder in the cabin, and about 50 weight in the main-sail, in which they wrapped some fire, with an intent to communicate to the powder, and quitted her. One or two of the men of wars boats soon boarded her; one was close under stern, and the others very near. Those on board had given three cheers, and fired their arms at our people, when the fire took effect on the powder, and sent 30 or 40 of them (as is supposed) into the air. Some of them went 30 or 40 yards high, who soon returned to the water, unable to tell who hurt them. They have taken up eleven bodies, two laced hats, and a leg with a white spatter dash; they are both supposed to belong to officers. The water was covered with heads, legs, arms, entrails, &c. one of the boats was towed off in a shattered condition, with only 6 men; Thus did they huzza for a Scotch prize. Some of our people got one or two small cannon mounted on shore, with which they fired at the boats when boarding the brig; the men of war returned the fire, and killed Captain Weeks brother,<sup>2</sup> who was third Lieutenant of the *Reprisal*, and wounded a boy in the thigh.<sup>3</sup>

1. *Connecticut Courant*, July 15, 1776.
2. Lieutenant Richard Wickes; see Lambert Wickes's letter of July 2, 1776.
3. Elizabeth Montgomery in her *Reminiscences of Wilmington* . . . (Wilmington, Del., 1872), 176-81, gives an interesting but a highly embroidered account of this event.

COMMISSIONERS OF THE CONTINENTAL NAVY IN ACCOUNT WITH THE  
SLOOP *Sachem* <sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia, July 6, 1776]<sup>2</sup>The Sloop *Sachem*

Isaiah Robinson Commander  
To the Commissioners of Naval Stores

Dr

— For First Cruise —

1776

|          |  |               |           |            |
|----------|--|---------------|-----------|------------|
| June 7   | To 4 Bolts of Oznabrigs 179 yds .....  | @ .....       |           |            |
|          | " 3 Bolts Russia .....   | @ £7.10 ..... |           |            |
|          | " 12 lb Sewing Twine .....   | @ 2/6d .....  |           |            |
| July 8   | " 22 Two pound Round Shott Wt 43 lb....  | @ 2½d ....    |           |            |
|          | " 300 lb Grape Shott .....   | @ .....       |           |            |
| 15       | " 103 three pound Shott. wt 309 lb.....  | @ 3d P 1b..   | 3.17.3.   |            |
| "        | " 50. ditto double headed 201 lb .....   | @ 3½d P...    | 2.18..7½  | 6.15.10½   |
| "        | " 18 Hammocks .....  | @ .....       |           |            |
| 20       | " 13 Rammers .....   |               | 8.8..     |            |
| 24       | " Cash paid for a Jack & Pendant .....   |               | 4.15..-   |            |
| 31       | " do.....for Portorage of Guns .....   |               | 1.14..8   |            |
| August 5 | " do.....for a Brass Compass .....   |               | 3..-.     |            |
| 20       | " do.....for sundrys as P Cash Book vizt .....   |               |           |            |
|          | " .....for stocking a Gun &c .....   |               | 1.13..6.. |            |
|          | " .....William Craig for 12 Mast Hoops .....   |               | 1..4.-    |            |
|          | " .....1 Cord of hickory Wood, hawling &c & for<br>hawling 2 Carriages                             |               | 1..7..2   |            |
|          | .....Ct qr lb  |               |           |            |
|          | " ..0. 3. 21 of Junk .....   | @ 15/ .....   | 14..0½    |            |
|          | " .....Mrs Richardson for making a Jack .....  |               | 10..6     |            |
|          | " .....Michael Fisk for building a Camboose .....  |               | 1..5.-    |            |
|          | " .....Robt Burnet for Nails, Thos Cuthbert for }<br>Wharfage & days labour p Capt Locktons Bill } |               | 15.18.-   |            |
|          | " .....66 lbs Beef @ 4½d .....   |               | 1..4..9   |            |
|          | " .....Thos Hollingsworth for 4 Bbs. Flour .....   |               | 4.17..2   |            |
|          | " .....Hill & Marot for a long Boat & Sloops Oars..  |               | 24.10.-   |            |
|          | " .....Dean Timmons for a Box of Candles .....   |               | 13.10     |            |
|          | " .....John Murdock for a Boatswains Call .....  |               | 1.17..6   |            |
|          | " .....Wm Perkins Smiths bill & for a penknife ..  |               | 14.11..2  |            |
|          | " .....Saml Rhoad's Bill & John Ridge's Bill .....   |               | 6..3..9   |            |
|          | " .....Wm Rigden & Benja Condys Bills .....  |               | 8.13..6   |            |
|          | " .....James Allenby's Bill .....  |               | 1..8.11   |            |
|          | " .....Robert Wright for plains .....  |               | 9..9..3   |            |
|          | " .....Alexr Carlisle for a hyde & the Stationers Bill   |               | 2..2.11   |            |
|          | " .....Sundry Chandlery as P Chandlery Book .....  |               | 99..8..5¾ |            |
|          | " .....Sundry Cordage as P Book of Issues .....  |               | 60.11..4  | 249..4..9¾ |
| " 27     | " 20 Tons of Pig Iron .....  | @ £9 P Ton.   | 180..-.-  |            |
| " 31     | " Cash paid for making Cartridges .....  |               | 2..5.-    |            |
| Sept 8   | " Cash paid for ¾ bord & Wood hawling Sawing &c ....   |               | 1.13..6   |            |
| 16       | " " " for 21 lb Mutton & 4d and 13 lb Beef @ 5d  |               | 12..5     |            |
|          | " " " for hawling her powder to the Magazine...  |               | 2..6      | 14.11      |

1. Woodhouse Collection, HSP.

2. This date the *Sachem* dropped down the Delaware River from Philadelphia. See William Bell Clark, *Gallant John Barry* (New York, 1938), 99.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

## In Committee of Safety

[Philadelphia] 6th July, 1776.

*Resolved*, That Doct'r [James] Dunlap be authorized to employ a Surgeons Mate, whose pay shall be 18 Dollars per Month, & 2 Rations per day.

*Resolved*, That the pay of the following Officers employed on Board the armed Boats in the service of this Province, be as follows, & to commence the 1st day of June last:

|            |        |            |
|------------|--------|------------|
| Boatswain, | £ 3 10 | Per month, |
| Carpenter, | 4      | p'r do.,   |
| Gunner,    | 4      | do.        |

That the Offices of Steward & Clerk be held by one Person, whose pay shall be £4 10 per Month.

That the pay of the following Officers employed on Board the Provincial Ship & Floating Battery, be as follows, and to Commence the 1st day June last, vizt.:

|                   |       |            |
|-------------------|-------|------------|
| Boatswain's Mate, | £3 10 | per month. |
| Gunner's Mate,    | 3 10  | do.        |
| Quarter Masters,  | 3 7 6 | do.        |
| Quarter Gunners,  | 3 7 6 | do.        |
| Steward,          | 4     | do.        |
| Steward's Mate,   | 3 5   | do.        |

The President of the Congress this day sent the following Resolve of Congress, which is directed to be entered on the Minutes of this Board:

In Congress, 5th July, 1776:

*Resolved*, That Copies of the Declaration [of Independence] be sent to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils of Safety, and to the several Commanding Officers of the Continental Troops, that it be proclaimed in each of the United States, and at the Head of the Army.

By order of Congress.

'sign'd, John Hancock, Presid't.

Adjourned to 5 O'Clock; . . .

*Ordered*, That the Sheriff of Philad'a read, or cause to be read and proclaimed at the State House, in the City of Philadelphia, on Monday, the Eighth day of July, instant, at 12 o'Clock at Noon of the same day, the Declaration of the Representatives of the United Colonies of America, and that he cause all his Officers, and the Constables of the said City, to attend the reading thereof.

*Resolved*, That every Member of this Committee in or near the City, be ordered to meet at the Committee Chamber, before 12 o'Clock, on Monday, to proceed to the State House, where the Declaration of Independence is to be proclaimed.

The Committee of Inspection of the City and Liberties were requested



to attend the Proclamation of Independence, at the State House, on Monday next, at 12 O'Clock.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 633, 634-35.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MEMBERS OF COUNCIL OF SAFETY,  
CHESTERTOWN <sup>1</sup>

No 60

To Messrs Smyth, Hands & Nicholson

Gentn The Convention have appointed you members of the Council of Safety, and we beg your attendance immediately.

Messrs Vanbebbber, and Harrison have bought up a Brig, and shipped us a valuable Cargoe, as you will perceive by the inclosed copy of the invoice.

You will be pleased to dispatch waggons immediately from Kent or elsewhere as to be had, sufficient to convey this Cargoe to Chester Town, and also to provide Provision for the Guard to Chingoteague, and back, which is to consist of a commissioned Officer & 24 Privates out of Captn Vezey's Company. We are [&c.]

P.S. The Convention have this moment determined that the Battalion and three independent Companies immediately march to the Jersey's armed – you will therefore not lose one moment's Time, but send the waggons instantly down to Virga, we shall be totally without arms 'till these arrive – As Vezey's independent Company is to march immediately – you are desired to send a Captn & 30 picked Men of the militia to guard the Waggons.–

[Annapolis] 6th July 1776

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

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO VAN BEBBER & HARRISON <sup>1</sup>

No 63.

Sirs Inclosed you have Bill of Lading & Invoice of sundries shipped on Acct of this Province in the *John* Captn                    amtg £                    which you will dispose of to the best advantage Captn [John] Martin is arrived with the needful and your orders in his favour shall be paid at sight – The Brig is immediately to return to you, the articles we most want you have a list of enclosed – Your Letters of May 21st & Mr R.H. 15th June we have not Time to answer, particularly at this Time being much hurried by military Preparations, and shall say that we are well pleased with every thing you have done, and shall give you every Support in our Power.

[Annapolis] 6th July 1776

[Enclosure]

Powder Gunlocks musquets Course Clothes to Cloath 3000 men blankets – 3000 – greatly wanted, 3000 Course Stocks, 2000 pr Shoes—

Lead – Gun flints, thin Duck for tents Course Hats better than the last sent by Mr Vanbebber, German Ozns good. Tin – Camp Kettles, & Cantines <sup>2</sup>

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

2. Enclosure is in Executive Papers, Box 2, Md. Arch.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL JAMES KENT <sup>1</sup>

No 61.

Sir Captain Nicholson be[ing] appointed to the Command of one of the Continental Frigates, renders it necessary that some Gentleman should be commissioned to fill the Department he acted in, on board the ship *Defence*. – the subalterns, tho' otherwise very clever want experience, and as we have been advised by Capt'n Nicholson, you had sailed in a Vessel of Force, and probably would accept the Command of our ship, and as we were well satisfied of your zeal, activity, and prudence, we moved, and obtained Liberty from the Convention to propose it to you, to take the command of the *Defence* – you will please to favor us with your answer immediately, and signify to us, whether you will accept it. We wish you to receive the Commission and leave it to yourself to determine if it will not be better to accept the command, which probably will have continuance, than of the Battalion, which will be disbanded the first of December. We are [&c.]

[Annapolis] 6th July 1776.

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

BENJAMIN HARRISON, JR. TO WILLING, MORRIS & Co.<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Williamsburg 6th July 1776

. . . The *Fannys* fate is so discouraging that I scarcely know how to be making proposals to you to order a further Purchase of Tobacco, but I am of opinion myself that small Vessels with it, may easily be got out of Hampton Port under the Direction of our famous Capts [James and Richard] Barrons I shall write them immediately to know their Sentiments on this Subject & inform you of their Answer, if they Determine that it can be done, the Tobacco must be got in that neighbourhood, it will be too expensive to fetch what we have bought from Cumberland Town, There is a very fine Ship in James River that brought the Highlanders <sup>2</sup> she will carry between 4 & 500 Hhds, & I do not know what our navy Board intend to do with her, I shall apply to them to put off the sale or chartering of her till I can hear from you, if you direct her to be loaded I suppose it must be purchased unless you have our Present Stock carted about 26 Miles, it would cost I suppose about 15/ p Hhd the Ship is pierced for a Number of Guns, I am Dr Sir [&c.]

Benj Harrison Junr

The *Fanny* cannot be maned without the Order from Congress, & other vessels may be manned in the same way <sup>3</sup> –

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

2. The British transport *Oxford*, retaken in Chesapeake bay by Captain James Barron.

3. The *Fanny* was under charter by the Secret Committee of Congress, but Harrison had been unable to man her or complete her cargo.

NEWS FROM THE BRITISH WEST INDIES <sup>1</sup>

Basse Terre, (St. Kitts,) July 6

We hear orders are expected or are already arrived from England, giving Admiral [James] Young directions to cut out of every foreign port all American vessels that may be found there.

The *Pomona* has brought into the road of Sandy-Point, a Dutch ship going from St. Eustatius tis said to Amsterdam loaded with sugars, but we are told she has powder on board and was bound to America. We hear she is the property of Mr. D'Graaff of St. Eustatius.

It is currently reported that English men of war in future will not be permitted to enter the road of St. Eustatius.<sup>2</sup>

1. *Connecticut Courant*, August 12, 1776.

2. See letter from St. Eustatius, July 11, 1776.

## 7 July (Sunday)

CAPTAIN CHARLES DOUGLAS, R.N., TO LIEUTENANT JOHN STARKE <sup>1</sup>

Copy/

By Charles Douglas Esqr Captain of His  
Majts Ship *Isis* & Senior Officer in the  
River St Lawrence

Whereas His Majestys Service requires that a sufficient Naval Force be with all speed got ready, on the lake Champlain; And whereas it is hoped & thot thro' the indefatigable Zeal of His Servants of the Army & Navy in their Countrys Cause hitherto so manifest the Hull of His Majts Schooner which you Command may be transported by Land beyond these rapids

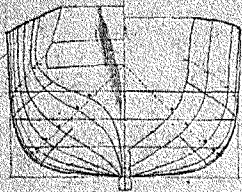
You are hereby required & directed to exert Yourself accordingly, to the utmost of your power under the direction of Capt [Thomas] Pringle of his Majestys Arm'd Ship the *Ld Howe* co-operating therein with the General Officers, Engineers & other Officers of His Majestys Army respectively. And should the success of this important Enterprize demand the taking down of the said Schooner near to the very Waters edge as she now floats, leaving nothing but the Timbers standing; you are hereby Authorized to acquiesce in her being taken down to within two streaks of her present line of floatation accordingly; And moreover directed to be yourself aiding & assisting therein as occasion may require.

For all which this shall be your order

Given under my Hand on board His Majts  
Armed Schooner *Maria* at the foot of the  
rapids of Chambly in Canada the 7th July  
1776

(signd) Ch<sup>s</sup> Douglas

To Mr John Starke <sup>2</sup> Commanding as Lieutenant  
His Majts Arm'd Schooner *Maria* Chambly



[Endorsed] The same to Mr Edward Longcroft Commanding as Lieut  
His Majts Armed Schooner the *Brunswick*

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 5/125, 43d.

2. Starke relates:

The Rebels having possessed themselves, last Autumn, of all the Armed Vessels and craft upon the Lake Champlain, when they invaded the Province, and since that time had strengthened their force upon it by building more Vessels, the more effectually to secure the command of the Navigation of it, being a frontier post of much consequence, which opened or shut the communication betwixt the Province of Quebec and Ticonderoga. It was therefore judged to be a matter of the utmost importance to His Majesty's Service, that the command upon the Lake shou'd be regained; but there was no possible method of accomplishing it, but by a Naval Force; and the falls and shallow water in the River Sorell, which flows from the Lake into the St Lawrence, present an insurmountable obstacle to Vessels of any considerable dimensions passing into it. Craft of various descriptions were constructed in England, and sent out in pieces to be joined together, for this Service, but these were far from being sufficient to encounter the Naval Force of the Enemy - It was therefore determined to carry Vessels overland, the distance of twelve Miles, from Chambly to St Johns; and accordingly the experiment was made, and was crowned with success.

The *Maria* was the only Vessel on the establishment of the Navy ordered for this Service, the rest being Provincial Vessels -  
Lieutenant Starke's Narrative, NMM.

#### COMMODORE MARRIOT ARBUTHNOT TO PHILIP STEPHENS <sup>1</sup>

Copy

Sir I pray that you will be pleased to lay the inclosed Letters to Lord Howe before their Lordships, because they contain almost the whole of what has passed at this place since the Fleet & Army left it which was the 11th June past: Lord Howe call'd off Cape Sambre the 23d of that Month & tarried but a few Hours and proceeded to join the Fleet at Sandy Hook near New York.

I have great reason to believe that Commo Hotham is not yet arrived the length of Le Have between the Capes Sambre & Sable because the Winds have been mostly S.W.

This Morning part of the light Cavalry came in from Windsor & will embark immediately having caused the Agent to prepare the Transports to receive one Hundred Horses: I hope by the 9th they will be ready to join the Army.

I am sorry to find so many of the Convoy has separated but it has enabled me to assure their Lordships that the Troops are in perfect Health & Spirits, I cannot think of anything farther for their Lordships information except that the *Mercury* is now clean & we shall dispatch her as fast as her enfeebled Condition will admit being very sickly & short of Complement I am &c

M Arbuthnot

Halifax 7th July 1776

PS. Since I have closed this Letter, last Night Commo Hotham appeared off this Harbour with the remainder of his Convoy after dispatching the *Britannia* Storeship to this place who is safe arrived as also the *Jersey* Hospital

Ship with many Complaints which we will remedy as fast as possible without loss of time –

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 5/125, 28b.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Viper*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

July 1776                      At Single Anchor Machias [harbor]  
 Sunday 7                    Came too with the best bower in 13 f[m]s  
                                  First & Middle parts Modt & Cloudy    At 1 P M brought too  
                                  the *Endeavour* Schooner & Seizd her <sup>2</sup>    at 3 Weighd and Came  
                                  to sail 3 Schooners in Co

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/1039.

2. *Endeavour*, J. Batson, master and owner, from Piscataqua on a fishing voyage. Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SLOOP *Tyrannicide*, CAPTAIN JOHN FISK <sup>1</sup>

Remks on Sunday 7th of July 1776

At 8 in the Morning saw asail to the Eastward bore away found her to be a Learge ship made a nother ship to the Eastward found them to be 2 ships one from Jamica bound to London the Other from Antagua bound to new York two good prizes taken by the *Hero* [*sic Yankee*] Capt [Henry] Johnson At 7 came to Ankor in salem Harbour

1. John Fisk Journal, AAS.

NICHOLAS AND JOHN BROWN TO CAPTAIN WILLIAM CHACE <sup>1</sup>

Capt Wm Chace Sr

Providence July 7th 1776

You being Commander as well as part Owner of the Sloop *Diamond* now bound [on] a Crews Against the Enemeys to the thirteen United Colonys, our Instrucktions are that You proceade to Sea as Soon as possable and that You Crews off Burmudose, the Bay of Mantancis Cape St Anthoneys or Crooked Island Passage, as You and Your Principle Officers May think best, and that You take Aney Vessill or Other property belonging to England Ireland or the English West Indies or Aney other Vessill & Cargo whatever which you May find bound to or from the [*sic or*] Aiding or Assisting or in aney Manner whatever Supplying the Fleet or Armeys now Ingauged or to be Ingauged Against the United Coloneys – Aforesaid, and that you Send all the prizes You may take to this place Under Good Commanders According to the Value of the prize and that the prize Master be Orderd to Fall in on the Back of Nantuckett or the Vineyard and their go onshore with his Boat, if in want of a pilot, and that the Said Prize Come in between Nantuckett & the Vineyard, as being much the Safeest from the Enemy & then proceade into Buzards Bay by going though Woodshoole or Quickses Hoole and proceade to Bedford, or Directly here if he Should have Good Intelligence of our Coast being Clear, if not he will Send us an Express by Land as Soone as possable Adviseing of Every perticular Relai[tin]g to Said Prize. We Rec-

ummend Your Staying out with the Sloop as Long as You possibly Can as You know the Grait Expençe as well as Trouble in Giting away, We are your Friends & owners

Nich<sup>s</sup> Brown      John Brown

1. Nicholas Brown Papers, JCBL.

# RESOLVES OF A COUNCIL OF WAR HELD AT CROWN POINT <sup>1</sup>

At a Council of War held at Crown Point

July 7th 1776. –

The Honorable Major General Schuyler President.

Honble Major General Gates

Briga Genl Sullivan

Arnold

De Woedke

} Members. –

Resolved, That under our present Circumstances, the Post of Crown Point is not Tenable, & that with our present Force, or one Greatly Superior to what we may reasonably expect, It is not Capable of being made so, this Summer. –

Resolved therefore, That It is prudent to retire Immediately to the Strong Ground, on the East Side of the Lake opposite to Ticonderoga, with all the healthy & uninfested Troops, & that the Sick & Infected with the small Pox be removed to Fort George, It appearing Clearly to the Council, that the Post opposite to Ticonderoga, will the most Effectually secure the Country & removing the infected With the small Pox, obviate Every Objection that May at present retard the Militia, (Ordered by Congress) from Joining the Army. –

Resolved, That the most Effectual Measures be taken to secure our Superiority on Lake Champlain, by a Naval Armament of Gundolas, Row Gallies, Armed Batteaus.

Resolved, That one or more Surveyors be immediately Employed, to trace out a Road, between the High Ground opposite to Ticonderoga, & the Road leading from Skenesborough to the Northern Settlements. –

Ph: Schuyler      B. Arnold

Horatio Gates      B. D. Woedtké.

Jn<sup>o</sup> Sullivan

1. Schuyler Papers, Letters & Orders, 18 April, 1776 – 29 June, 1777, NYPL.

## GEORGE WASHINGTON TO WILLIAM WATSON, PLYMOUTH <sup>1</sup>

Sir,

New York 7th July 1776

I received yours of the 19th Ultio, and directed the Papers you wrote for to be Transmitted you; but find upon Inquiry, they are not among any in my Possession now. Colonel Moylan, who used generally to receive & examine the Papers appertaining to the Prizes, being called upon, says that previous to his Departure from Cambridge, he made up all the Prize Papers & put them in such a Channel as he thought most likely to convey them to the different Agents. He supposes they were. He cannot Recollect to

whom they were delivered. If they cannot be got, you must try the Legality of the Captures, upon such Evidence as you can collect from the Men who were in the Vessels when they were taken & from other Circumstances

If they were going to Nova Scotia, for the purpose mentioned by the Claimants, I presume it will not be difficult for them to prove it by Witnesses.<sup>2</sup> I am, Sir [&c.]

G. Washington

1. Washington Papers, LC.

2. The sloop *Polly* and the schooner *Industry*, captured November 5, 1775, by Captain William Coit in Washington's schooner *Harrison*. See Volumes 2 and 3.

#### DIARY OF ENSIGN CALEB CLAP<sup>1</sup>

[New York]

July 7th Seven Seamen Deserted from the Shipping and was brought before the General, two of which was born in New England

July 7th A Regular Deserted one who formerly Lived in New York. he brings news that their Well Men are Landed and their sick are Aboard Yet, he informs they expect A Reinforcement soon that they, not One burn Ship but several Menofwar and the Rest are tenders and transports the whole to the amount of 170 Sail

1. *The Historical Magazine*, 3rd series, III, 137.

#### MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

No 18.

Head Quarters Staten Island, 7th July 1776

The *Mercury* Packet is dispatched to inform your Lordship of the Arrival of the Halifax Fleet on the 29th June at Sandy Hook, where I arrived four Days sooner in the *Grey Hound* Frigate. I met with Governor Tryon on board of ship at the Hook . . . from whom I have had the fullest Information of the State of the Rebels . . .

. . . We passed the Narrows with three Ships of War and the first Division of Transports, landed the Grenadiers and Light Infantry as the Ships came up . . . The Remainder of the Troops landed during the next Day and Night and are now distributed in Cantonments where they have the best Refreshment . . .

I propose waiting here for the English Fleet or for the Arrival of Lieut General Clinton . . .

Vice Admiral Shuldhham was joined on his Voyage by six Transports belonging to the Highland Corps.

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 5/93, 433.

#### "EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Swan*, SANDY HOOK, NEW YORK, JULY 7, 1776"<sup>1</sup>

I send you this by the *Mercury* packet, bound for Falmouth, which I hope will be the last, until I shall have the happy enjoyment of seeing you myself, which may be about the middle of next September; it depends upon



the arrival of Lord Howe and the fleet which we expect hourly; we should have been sent to England from Halifax, but being acquainted with the coast about this place, the Admiral detained us to assist in convoying the fleet to the place above-mentioned, where we have arrived all safe and well, and the troops landed on Staten Island without the least opposition; three hundred friends joined the troops immediately; no attack I believe will be made until the grand army arrives; our station at present is off Sandy-Hook light-house, which was attacked about four days before we arrived, by five hundred rebels, with two brass field-pieces, six pounders, double fortified, but were driven off by a serjeant and corporal of the 57th regiment, with five of Gov. Tryon's men; they killed 14 of the rebels, one of which we hear is a major; we expect it will be attacked again very soon, but we are well prepared for them. The friends of government are making their escape as fast as possible, we have sent up to the Admiral one hundred within these few days, and many thousands we find, by the information of these people, will join the troops as soon as they can get to them, but at present they are not able, for the rebels disarmed them some time ago, so that they are not able to defend themselves against the villains who have eaten the poor farmers out of house and home; the waterside is guarded by riflemen, to prevent their getting off. This rebellion will not last long, when once we begin, for the friends of government are very numerous. I have nothing particular to mention, only that my poor school-fellow, John Harding, was drowned about six weeks ago, in a boat getting off cattle, and three of the men; my brother I shall not be able to see, I am afraid, before we sail, but hear that he is well, by one of my old acquaintances.

N.B. Captain Brothie, in the *Eleanor* is well, he is up at the watering-place with the troops.

1. *London Chronicle*, August 20 to August 22, 1776. The letter, according to the legend on it, was "received by Capt. L from his son, and conveyed by the *Mercury* packet to Falmouth."

#### JOHN ADAMS TO ABIGAIL ADAMS <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Philadelphia July 7. 1776

The Disign of our Enemy, now seems to be a powerful Invasion of New York and New Jersey. The Halifax Fleet and Army, is arrived, and another Fleet and Army under Lord How, is expected to join them. We are making Preparations to meet them, by marching the Militia of Maryland, Pensilvania, and New Jersey, down to the Scene of Action, and have made large Requisitions upon New England. I hope for the Honour of New England, and the Salvation of America, our People will not be backward in marching to New York. We must maintain and defend that important Post, at all Events. If the Enemy get Possession there, it will cost N. England very dear. There is no danger of the Small Pox at New York. It is carefully kept out of the City and the Army. . . .

1. Butterfield, ed., *Adams Family Correspondence*, II, 37-38.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE MARYLAND DELEGATES IN  
THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

No 12

Gentln, The Convention have ordered that the sum of 10,000. £ be appropriated to fortify the City of Annapolis, and place obstructions in the River Severn, but as we have not, nor know of, an Engineer properly qualified to carry on the works, and your station may perhaps afford you an opportunity of assisting us with one; we beg you will make enquiry for and recommend to us some Person of knowledge and experience in that service; <sup>2</sup> we are anxious to comply with the resolve of Convention; as Annapolis is very undefensible and we presume from it's advantageous situation wi[ll] be an object with the enemy - . . .

[Annapolis] 7th July 1776.

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

2. Thomas Stone replied on July 22 that he had no success in obtaining an engineer—"Every man who ever fired a Cannon or was present at erecting any kind of fortification has been taken up for the Continental Service." Correspondence of Council of Safety, Md. Arch.

APPLICATION OF RICHARD ELLIS FOR A COMMISSION FOR THE NORTH  
CAROLINA PRIVATEER SLOOP *Heart of Oak* <sup>1</sup>

Sir

New Bern 7th July 1776 -

The Sloop *Heart of oak* is wholly owned by myself she is Seventy Tons Burthen or thereabouts carries four guns about four pounders Com-manded by George Denison Wm Troop Mate, Second mate & twelve common men, I shall put on board of her one hundred Wt of gun powder, four hundred wt. of Lead & shot, twenty barrels of Pork, and 3000 wt. of Bread flour & rice; I should be very glad you wd send me for Her by return of the Bearer a Commission for a Letter of Marque, & reprisal you have herewith inclosed the Bond properly executed which is required by the Honble the Continental Congress. I am Sir [&c.]

Rich<sup>d</sup> Ellis

The Honble Cornelius Hartnett Esqr

1. Treasurer and Comptroller Papers, Port Papers, NCDAH.

COLONEL CHARLES COTESWORTH PINCKNEY TO HIS MOTHER <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Fort Johnston July 7. 1776

A Small Sloop laden with 3000 lb of powder 350 stand of arms, some Blanketts, oznabrgs, sails & Rum the property of the public of this Province ran ashore the day before yesterday near Stono Inlet, a party of our regiment & the John's Island & James Island Militia Companies have saved the Cargo; but the vessell, which is a little rotten affair, is so fast aground that she will be lost. . . .

To Mrs Pinckney  
at Charles Elliott's Esqr Sandy Hill -  
By the Negroe Boy Isaac -

1. Pinckney Papers, SCHS.

LIEUTENANT THOMAS TONKEN, R.N., AGENT FOR TRANSPORTS, TO THE  
COMMISSIONERS OF THE BRITISH NAVY <sup>1</sup>

Five fathom Hole, within Charlestown

Honble Gentlemen,

Bar, 7th July 1776.

I beg leave to acquaint you, that the *Harcourt* Transport Under my direction, having had a contagious fever onboard, during her passage from Cork and Burying Several of the Troops, arrived at Cape Fear, very Sickly; – The Physician to the Army recommending it to Major General Clinton as absolutely necessary, that most part of the Bedding onboard her should be Burnt, in order to prevent the Spreading of the Infection thro' the Army, I have in consequence of an order I received from Sir Peter Parker (a copy of which I herewith Inclose) Seen Three hundred, and Eighteen Beds, Burnt, and have granted a Certificate thereof, to the Master of the said Transport; which You will please to take notice of.

The *Chatham*, one of the Transports under my direction, arrived Safe at Cape Fear since my Letter of the 16th May; As has also, the whole fleet that Sailed with us from Cork except the *Carcass Bomb*.

As Mr. Jones, Carpenter of the *Ranger* Sloop, has been of infinite Service in attending to the repairs of the flatt bottom Boats, which were much damaged, that with difficulty they could Swim, owing to the Blowing weather, and a great Surff on the Shore, when the Troops Landed on Long Island, to the Northward of Sullivans Island, And as I also experienced his Attention the Service, in repairing the defects of the *Harcourt* Transport, in Milford Haven, I therefore most humbly recommend him to your Board as a very deserving good Man; having been many Years Carpenter of the *Ranger*, and bears an extraordinary good Character from all his Officers. I also think it necessary to acquaint you that a Mathew Walker, belonging to the *Pigot* Hospital Ship, and a Pensioner to the Chest at Chatham, deserted to the Rebels from one of the Flatt bottom Boats, under my command, the day the Troops went to make an Attack on Sullivans Island, – I therefore suppose he is a person undeserving any further Benefit from that Chest.

The *Harcourt* Transport has been twice aground, getting over the Bar of Charles Town, but has received little, or no damage And the *Prince of Piedmont*, and *Friends Adventure*, Army Victuallers, are totally Lost; the former on the Bar, and the latter in Spencers Inlett; – from the *Prince of Piedmont* we Saved about half the Provisions, and from the *Friends Adventure*, the Whole,

I beg leave likewise to acquaint you, that I Lost my Cutter, with all her Materials, in a Gale of wind; from being Sent to a Schooner to Sound, and Recon'oitre & Buoy the Bar of Charlestown, by order of Sir Peter Parker; I am [&c.]

Tho<sup>s</sup> Tonken

Principal officers & Commrs of His Majs Navy

[Endorsed] Lieut. Tonken Rd 23d Augt

1. PRO, Admiralty 49/2, 176-77, LC Photocopy.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED FROM AN OFFICER ON BOARD HIS  
MAJESTY'S SHIP THE *Bristol*, NEAR CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA,  
DATED JULY 7.”<sup>1</sup>

I have the pleasure to tell you that I am now much better than I was on the 28th of June; that day I was in a shocking condition in an engagement with the rebels. I shall now send you a true account just as it was. We fell down in company with the *Experiment*, of 50 guns, the *Solebay* and *Active* frigates of 28 guns each. As soon as we brought up to Sullivan's fort leading up to Charlestown, we then began to fire, which continued for nine hours and an half; I must say a very smart engagement. They killed us near 50 men, and dangerously wounded more, to the amount of 50 and upwards. The *Experiment* lost about 30 killed, and 40 and upwards wounded. The *Active* had only one killed (the Lieutenant) and few wounded. The *Solebay* had three killed and few wounded. Our worthy Capt. [John] Morris was killed by my side, and eight marines and sailors. The Captain of the *Experiment* had his arm shot off, but is in a fair way of recovery. The Commodore Sir Peter Parker, who I am with, is wounded; myself also in my left leg, but it is in a fair way of recovery without amputation. Had the army, which was but four miles from us, and was to have joined us, come in due time to our assistance, we might have taken Charlestown, as we silenced the fort for an hour and half. We are in a shattered condition, and are getting up jury masts to go to Halifax to repair, which will take some time, being shot through and through. During the action no slaughter-house could present so bad a sight with blood and entrails lying about, as our ship did. I suppose you will see a narrative of the action in the news-papers as soon as you have this. Gen. Lee is at Charlestown; and the army under Generals Clinton and Cornwallis is gone to the northward, as nothing can be done here, the weather being so extremely hot.

Our fleet is in a bad condition with the scurvy.

1. *London Chronicle*, August 27 to August 29, 1776.

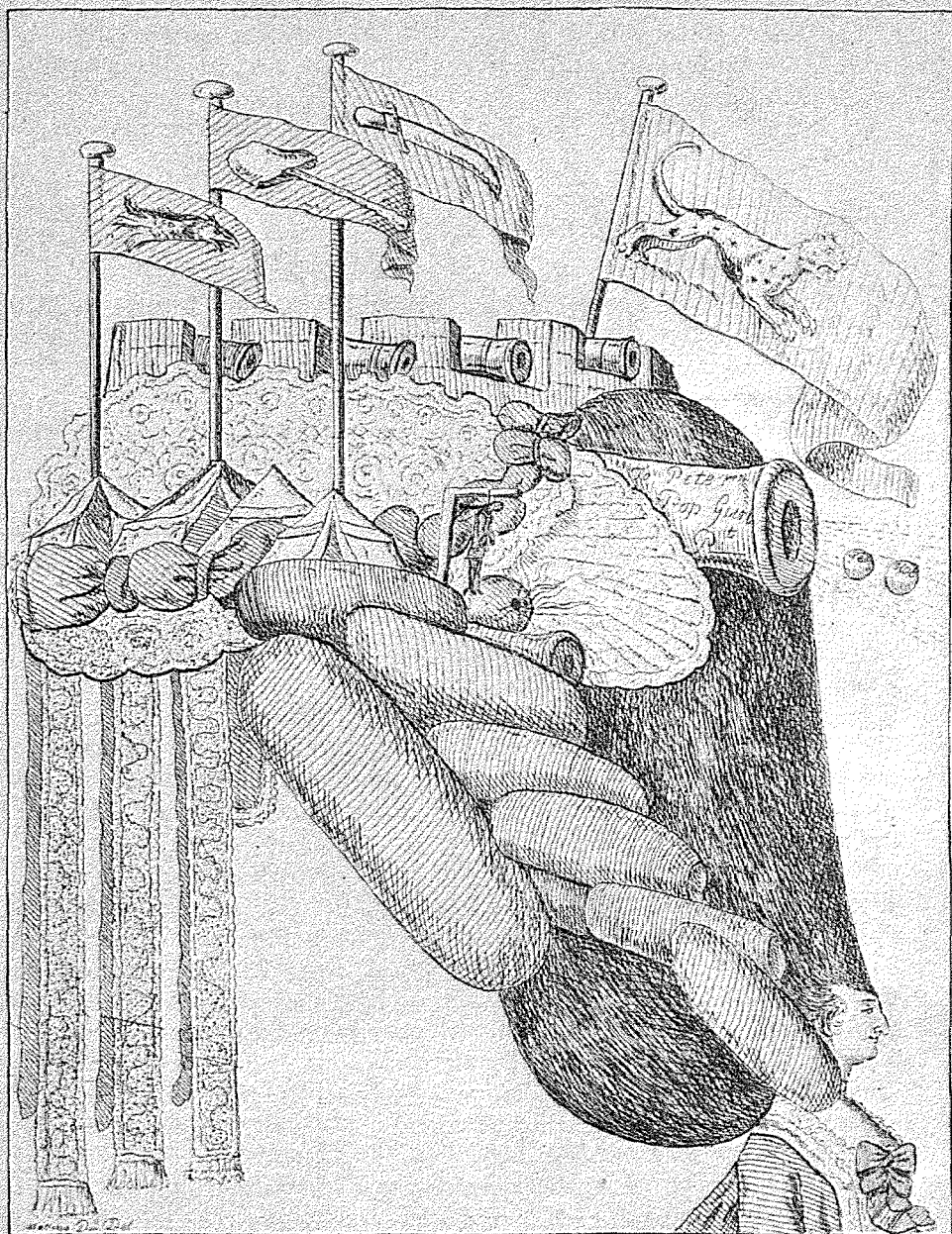
## 8 July

### COMMODORE MARRIOT ARBUTHNOT TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Halifax. Nova Scotia 8th. July 1776

. . . Your Lordship will long since have been informed that General Howe and Admiral Shulldham left us on the 11th of June past, on the 23d following Lord Howe in the *Eagle* called off the harbour but tarried only a few hours and then steered to the southward; yesterday Commodore [William] Hotham called also off [this] place in quest of the fleet and army, with many of his, Convoy dispersed, who had put into this Port, consisting of Hessians and two Companies of the Guards commanded by Messrs Cox and Trelawney, consisting in the whole of 13 sail Transports, all of whom were despatched the 5th under convoy of two Sloops. The *Renown* likewise sailed two days before with 15 Sail consisting of part of the 72 [*sic* 71st] Heighland Regiment, and some Hessians, the former he brought from



MISS CAROLINA SULLIVAN.  
*one of the obstinate daughters of America, 1776*

Nantasket. Notwithstanding your Lordship may feel a little uneasy at the dispersion of so great a part of this Convoy by Fogs which at this season are intolerable, permit me to assure you that the whole of the Troops are in the highest health and spirits; to which I will add that the Light Cavalry are this moment embarking and will be ready to be convoyed by a Frigate to morrow, which ship My Lord you may depend shall lose no time in depositing them at Sandy Hook near New York, as far as depends upon, Sir Your Lordship's [&c.]

Signed M<sup>t</sup> Arbuthnot

1. Nova Scotia Papers, DAC.

#### ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT <sup>1</sup>

Watertown Monday July 8th 1776.

Letter from Jerathl Bowers informing that both the Arm'd Vessels, that he had care off were compleated, but had no provisions, and requests Orders concerning it – came up referred to the Hon: Council –

Read, & Order'd that General Lincoln draught a Report, & he reported accordingly –

That Jerath: Bowers Esqr be desir'd to purchase for this Colony a Quantity of Flour, Beef & Pork with other Necessary Articles, and cause them to be dealt out to such inlisted Persons in the same daily Proportions as this Court have Order'd to the Soldiers of this Colony.

Petition of Timothy Pickering Junr – setting forth, That he hath late advertized the trial of divers captures at the Maritime court to be held at Boston on the 23d day of July instant, but that he since finds the small Pox is spread thro' that Town, wch will render it inconvenient if not impractea-ble to hold the said court there at the time proposed: He therefore prays the Hon: Court to pass a Resolve to enable him to hold his court for the trial of the captures above referred to, at Salem in the County of Essex on the said 23d day of July.

Whereas the Maritime Court for the Middle District of this Colony is advertized to be held at Boston on the 23d day of July instant for the trial of the justice of the captures of the ships named the *Lord Howe*, *George*, *Anne*, & *Lady Juliana*, & the brig named the *Annabella*; & the Judge of said Court has in his petition to this Court shown that since the advertisement aforesaid, he finds it will be inconvenient, if not impracticable to hold his court at Boston as aforesaid, & prayed this Court to enable him to hold the same Court at Salem in the county of Essex on the said 23d of July.<sup>2</sup> Resolved, That the maritime court aforesaid for the trial of the captures aforesaid, be held at Salem in the Co of Essex on Tuesday the 23d day of July instant at the meeting of the Revd Messr Barnard & Dunbar at the hour of Ten in the forenoon. And that all proceedings at the same court shall be valid, & effectual in law, in like manner as if it had been held at Boston on the same day according to the original advertisement thereof – of which all persons concerned will take notice, & govern themselves accordingly.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 35, 157, 159.

2. *Ibid.*, 173–74, on July 13 the General Council changed the trial date to July 30.

MAJOR JOSEPH WARD TO JOHN ADAMS <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Boston 8th July 1776

Sir The Small pox having of late spread much in the Town, it was judged impracticable to prevent its going through the Town, and on Friday last the General was inoculated, and gave permission to the Regiments in Town to inoculate. We have taken every precaution to prevent the Troops at the Posts out of Town from taking the distemper, and disposed matters in the best manner we can for defence in case of an attack.

It seems that the Devil and the Tories have overshot their mark at New York; having found we were not so easily conquered by the Sword as they imagined we should have been, they have been trying their luck at secret powder plots and conspiracies—I think this will produce good to America. to the Enemy's fleet at New York we expect some important event will soon take place. May Heaven give us a decisive victory which shall make the impious Tyrant of Britain tremble as did an antient Tyrant, when he read the hand writing upon the wall.

When will America appear in character, and take rank as a Nation?—If we wish to prolong the war, to waste our blood and treasure, to form an inconsistent character, and to be condemned by the wise, and by posterity, let us still talk of treating with British Commissioners and after they have exerted all their powers to divide, to bribe, to poison, to kill burn and destroy, then form a reunion and reconciliation.—We do not question that there are some weighty reasons for delaying a Declaration of Independence, but we are puzzled to find what those reasons are. I rejoice to see the Declaration of the Philadelphians, and hope this will be a leading step. In my humble apprehension, an early Declaration might have saved the United Colonies three millions sterling, and ten thousand lives. However, I hope all is for the best; none of these delays discourage me in the least, but I want to shorten the work.

I have just received intelligence from Cape Ann, that a Privateer which belongs to this Town has taken and sent into that Harbour two Ships from the West Indias, one of them has four hundred and fifty Hogsheads of Rum on board, which were designed for General Howe, the other was bound to England with four hundred hogsheads of Sugar, two hundred hogsheads of Rum, Cotton Wool &c &c <sup>2</sup>

1. Adams Papers, MassHS.

2. The ship *Creighton* and the ship *Zachariah Bayley*, taken by the Massachusetts privateer sloop *Yankee*, Henry Johnson, commander.

ISAAC SMITH, SR. TO JOHN ADAMS <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Mr. Adams

Boston July 8th. 1776

I have to inform you that Yesterday was sent into C[ape] Ann by Capt. [Henry] Johnson of this port Two ships One Large One from Jamaica with 500 hhd. Sugar and rum and 39 bags Cotton &c.—A General and Lady, passengers. The Other from Antigua on the Kings Account for Genl. How

with 430 hhd. Rum all broad Air. They both made resistance both Vessells had more hands than the privatear . . . <sup>2</sup>

1. Butterfield, ed., *Adams Family Correspondence*. II, 41, 42.

2. The Massachusetts privateer sloop *Yankee*, of 9 guns and 60 men; the prizes being the ship *Zachariah Bayley*, of 300 tons burden, and the ship *Creighton*, of about 200 tons; *Mass. Arch.*, vol. 7, 342, and *New-England Chronicle*, July 11, 1776.

SAMUEL ELIOT, JR. TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL <sup>1</sup>

Honoured Sir:

Boston, July 8, 1776

Some days past I did myself the honour of informing you (very briefly) of Captain [Seth] Harding's engagement. I purpose forwarding the particulars as they appear upon trial, which is appointed to be on the 23d of this month. I am now setting out for Reading, to obtain Colonel [Archibald] Campbell's deposition, which, with the other evidences, shall be duly handed you. I shall esteem it a favour in your Honour to inform Captain Harding (who will doubtless be with you by the time this reaches you) the trial is to be on the 23d, not 26th, as he was informed; as it is absolutely necessary that two intelligent persons who were on board the brig should attend the trial.<sup>2</sup> Three days will make an amazing difference. There are many claimants; but my counsel affirms that half the ship *George* and brig *Annabella* will be adjudged to the Colony brigantine. Captain Harding will assign the particular reason for leaving this port. It was the opinion of all his friends that he could not justify himself in staying while the small-pox was so prevalent in this place, and so many on board the brig liable to take the infection. We parted with regret. His polite and genteel carriage and easy deportment has gained the esteem of all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

I must request the favour of particular directions respecting those who had the misfortune to be wounded in the engagement. They have had the best attendance. I have discharged their bills, with the Captain's consent. If any allowance is made to them, it ought (I think) to be deducted. Captain Harding mentioned that an allowance of about thirty or forty pounds was to be made for the loss of a limb, but could not tell with respect to the others. I should be glad for it to be ascertained, as it should be taken out before there is any division.

I must beg your Honour's pardon for thus troubling you; but I thought it my duty to mention every (although some may be trivial) circumstance that I am in doubt of. With pleasure I would acquaint your Honour the prize brig *Annabella* is brought up, and laid along side Hancock's wharf. She is damaged, but not so much as I expected. There may be some directions necessary for regulating my conduct: your Honour may depend upon my strict observance and punctual fulfilment of any you shall at any time think necessary to favour me with. I remain [&c.]

Samuel Eliot, Jun.,

Agent to Captain Harding.

P.S. Yesterday Captain Johnson, in a sloop of ten carriage guns, carried into



Cape-Ann a large three-deck Jamaican, with near six hundred hogsheads best sugar, some rum, &c.; also, a brig loaded with rum from Antigua, both bound for London. She had been cruising about six weeks.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 5th, I, 134.

2. Eliot also wrote this date to Harding informing him of the trial date change. Seth Harding Papers, MHA.

JOURNAL OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO BUILD TWO CONTINENTAL  
FRIGATES IN RHODE ISLAND <sup>1</sup>

[Providence] July 8th

Voted that Mr John Brown pay such Sums of Money as he shall think necessary [to] the Recruiting Officers from [time] to time. and that the Treasurer supply him accordingly.

Voted that Mr William Barron be appointed [to] pay the Board of the People that belong [to] the Ship *Providence*.

Voted That Mesers John Brown John Smith and William Rus[sell] be appointed a Committee to settle the Treas[ury] Accounts. likewise Mr George Olneys Accoun[t.]

Voted That the Sum of Six Hundred pounds Lawfull Money be paid Rufus Hopkins Esqr in part, for the Cannon making for the Ships.

Voted that Niles Christian be Appointed Chief Mate on Board the *Warren* if he Signs the Articles tomorrow Morning.

Voted That John Channing be Appointed Second Lieut of the Ship *Providence*

Voted As their is not a sufficiency of Medicens to be procurd in N. Eng[land] that Jabez Bowen write to Stephen Hopkins Esqr requesting him to procure an Order from the Marine Comtee. for Dor Morgan to put up two Medicin Chests with the necessary Instruments for the two Ships of War fitting hear. and that the same be forwarded hear as soon as possible.

Voted That Simon Dunbar be appointed a Midship Man on Board the *Warren*.

Voted That their be three Hundred Swivel Shott deliverd Mr [blank] Pain, for the use of the Vessell that he is agoing to Charles Town in. He being employed by that Government to Transport a Number of Seamen in the Service of that State thither. On his paying 3d pr piece for the 8 oz. and 2d pr piece for the 6 oz. Shott.

Voted That Nicholas Easton Gardiner be Appointed a Midship Man on Board the Ship *Providence*

Voted That Samuel Knap be Chief Cook of the *Warren*.

Present at the above Meeting Nicholas Brown, Chairman Joseph Russell Jos. Br[own] J[ohn] Brown. Jos. Nightingale, Daniel Tillinghast, Henry Ward, William Russell and Jabez Bowen.

1. Journal R. I. Frigates, RIHS.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'s, ACCOUNT AGAINST THE CONNECTICUT GALLEY  
*Shark* BEFORE HER DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

| 1776                                    | Row Gally <i>Shark</i>                   | Theo[philu]s Stanton Commander | Dr          |
|---|--|--------------------------------|-------------|
| May 8                                   | To 2 Quarts Oyl 3/9                      | Kegg lamblack 2/               | £ .. 5..9   |
|   | To 1 barrell Tarr                        |                                | 1.10..-     |
| June 12                                 | To 10 Musketts with Bayonets @           | 60/                            | 30 -..-     |
|   | To 100 lb Powder @                       | 5/4                            | 26 13. 4    |
|   | To 7 lb Muskett Ball                     | 6d                             | . 3. 6      |
|   | To 17 lb Lead                            | 6d                             | . 8. 6      |
|   | To 2 dozn Flints                         | 6d                             | . 1. -      |
| July 8                                  | To 9 pr Large Ships Pistols @            | 25/                            | 11..5..-    |
|   | To 1 pr Neat Brass ditto                 |                                | 1.15..-     |
|   | To 18 Cutlasses @                        | 20/                            | 18..-..-    |
|   | To 1 Large Brass Blunder Buss            |                                | 3.10..-     |
|   | To 2 Smaller ditto @                     | 50/                            | 5..-..-     |
|   | To 2 Iron ditto                          | 45/                            | 4.10..-     |
|   | To 7 hand Granadoes fill'd               | 2/                             | ..14..-     |
|   | To 8 Tarr'd Canvas Cartrige Boxes fill'd |                                | .. 8..-     |
|   | To 3 lb Match Stuff                      | 1/                             | .. 3..-     |
|   | To 21 lb Muskett Ball                    | 6d                             | ..10..6     |
|   | To 19½ dozn Flints                       | 6d                             | .. 9..9     |
|   | To 299 lb Powder                         | 5/4                            | 79.14..8    |
|   | To 67 lb Lead                            | 6d                             | 1.13..6     |
|   | To 4..9 Pound Cannon 75..0..20 @         | £8 ton                         | 30..1..6    |
|   | To 2 Copper Ladles wt 8½ lb @            | 2/6                            | 1..1..3     |
|   | To 90 Nine pound Shott                   |                                | 6.10..3     |
|   | To 30 Cartridges for ditto <sup>2</sup>  |                                | .. 1..3     |
|   | To 7 Musketts with Bayonets              | 60/                            | 21..-..-    |
|   | To 50 Nine pound Shott                   |                                | 3.12..3     |
|   | To 2 Tierces Rum Nt 109 Gallo @          | 5/6                            | 29.19..6    |
|   | To 65 lb Lead                            | 6d                             | 1.12..6     |
|   | To 1 dozn Bayonets                       |                                | 2. 8..-     |
|   | To Joshua Starrs Bill                    |                                | 3.16..5     |
|   | To p[aid] Docter Woolcots Bill           |                                | ...6..-     |
|   |  |                                | £287.. 4..4 |
| To My Commissions on the above @ 2½ pCt |  |                                | 7.. 3..7    |
| Amot Carrd. to Accot Curr               |  |                                | £294.. 8..- |

1. Shaw Papers, Ledger 26, YUL.

2. *Ibid.*, Ledger 4, in another copy of the account, the four items ending with the 30 cartridges are bracketed and endorsed "from Adml Hopkins."

DIARY OF ENSIGN CALEB CLAP <sup>1</sup>

[New York]

July 8th About 130 Sail are now, this side the Narrows, towards stratton Island July 8th -

It is Reported that on stratton Island the soldiers are not allowed on shore,

that the Officers go Shore, and that the Inhabitants sell them sauce and Milk, and they behave very Civil, and will not Let the Soldiers abuse them It is Reported that this fleet, consists of only what was in Boston, except about 300 that was drove off[f] Last fall, that General Washington does not expect they will attack these Lines, till they have a reinforcement, some way or other, It is expected Admiral Howe will arive soon, from England, as we have accounts that he sail'd in the *Eagle* Man of war some time since, but no account what Troops he has with him, but suppose Heshians if any But come as soon as they will, I hope we Shall be able to give them a warm Reception (God Willing) .

1. *The Historical Magazine*, 3rd series, III, 137.

#### RETURN OF SUPPLIES FOR THE NORTHERN ARMY <sup>1</sup>

A Return made New York July 8th 1776 to his Excellency George Washington Esqr General & Commander in Chief, of the Forces of the United Colonies of Sundry Articles, Shipp'd, for Albany, in good Order, by Hugh Hughes Assistant Quarter Master General, on Board the Sloop *Genl Wolfe* Andrew Do[w]ne Master, and to be delivered to the Honourable Major General [Philip] Schuyler or his Order.

8 Boxes of Musket Ball Wt 1135 lb

5 Tons of Lead

20 Reams of Cartridge Paper

6 Saws

Andrew Downe

1. Washington Papers, LC.

*New-York Gazette*, MONDAY, JULY 8, 1776

New York, July 8.

The Fleet, from Halifax, we informed our Readers, in our last, was arrived at Sandy-Hook, to the Amount of 113 Sail: 'Tis difficult, from their Situation to ascertain their Number, but we suppose it does not exceed 130 Sail: Monday it came up into Yakes's-Bay below the Narrows; Tuesday several ships came to at the Watering-Place; Wednesday more followed; and by Thursday noon the whole Fleet was at Anchor in a Line from Kill Van Kull to Simonson's Ferry on the East Side of Staten-Island. The *Asia* brought up the Rear of the Fleet, and in the Narrows was fired at from a small Battery on Long-Island, Which complement was returned by about 40 Twenty-four Pounders, one of which lodged in the Wall of the House of Mr. Bennet, but did no Hurt to the Family; and three Shot had near done much Mischief to the House and Family of Mr. Dennise Dennise, one of them narrowly missing the Kitchen, wherein was a Number of the Family; a Second struck the Barn, and the Third destroyed much of the Fence of the Garden opposite the Front Door of the Mansion House.

Part of the Army is now encamped on Staten-Island, and we have not the least Reason to doubt, will endeavour to secure the North Side thereof

by Entrenchments, whilst the Shipping protects the other Parts of it.

As soon as the Troops landed, they paraded the North Shore, and on Wednesday Morning made their Appearance near Elizabeth-Town Point; but the Country being soon alarmed, they retreated, took up the Floor of the Draw-Bridge in the salt Meadows, and immediately threw up some Works.

A Sloop of 12 Six Pounders, belonging to the Fleet from Halifax, laying in the Kills, near Mr. Decker's Ferry, was almost torn to Pieces last Wednesday Morning, by a Party under the Command of General [Nathaniel] He[a]rd, from the opposite shore, with two 18 Pounders. The crew soon abandoned the Sloop, and we suppose she is rendered entirely unfit for any further Service.

We hear two Men of War now lay near Amboy, in order t'is supposed to stop all Navigation that Way.

The number of Highlanders, lately taken prisoners in the different vessels from Scotland, amounts to about seven hundred and fifty.

Since our last arrived the first Division of Connecticut Forces, commanded by the Hon. Brigadier Generals [David] Waterbury and [James] Wadsworth.

Yesterday 7 Seamen belonging to the *Killingsworth* Transport, of 700 Tons, was Brought to Town from Long-Island, having deserted the Ship the Night before: They say the Number of Soldiers with the Fleet is about 8500, who are all encamped; and that many of the Seamen intended to desert the Fleet when an opportunity presented.

Last Wednesday Night the Capt. of a Transport, and four of his Men, were taken at the Narrows, and brought to Town: They were looking for a Boat that had gone adrift, and going too near the Shore were taken by the Riflemen.

"EXAMINATION OF EBENEZER COLEFOX, SAILOR, DESERTER FROM  
THE ENEMY'S FLEET." <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

On Monday evening, July 8th, 1776, deserted from on board the *Amity's Admonition*, commanded by Captain John Noles, (it being one of the fleet now lying in our harbour,) a certain Ebenezer Colefox, who says: That on the 22d of May last he was taken a prisoner in the sloop *Macaroni*, commanded by Captain John Arthur, belonging to Mr. Nathaniel Shaw, of New-London, of which sloop he was mate. That he was carried into Halifax by the vessel that took him. That the vessel in which he was a prisoner arrived in Halifax on or about the 10th of June last . . . Does not know that any ship of war was left at Halifax, except the frigate which took him, called the *Cerberus*. In the fleet in our harbour now are the *Asia*, two ships of fifty and one of forty guns; the *Greyhound* frigate; two sloops, commanded by [James] Wallace and [James] Ayscough; one small sloop cruising on the back of Long-Island, and a few small armed vessels. The tender on which we fired some days ago much damaged, and had one man killed and eight or

nine wounded . . . He got ashore by swimming on a piece of plank to Long-Island; when near the shore he called out, and the guards came down and received him, almost spent with being in the water two hours.

Taken this 9th July, 1776.

Jno. Morin Scott, Brigadier-General.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 5th, I, 197-98.

VICE ADMIRAL MOLYNEUX SHULDHAM TO PHILIP STEPHENS <sup>1</sup>

*Chatham* off Staten Island near

Sir,

New York the 8th July 1776.

I am to acquaint you of my Arrival at this place with His Majesty's Ships under my Command and the whole Fleet of Transports, Victuallers, and Storeships, under their Convoy, fortunately without any loss or separation the 3rd Instant, and that His Majesty's Troops under the command of General Howe were landed on that day and the next on Staten Island without any Opposition or interruption, the Inhabitants having immediately on our landing surrendered and put themselves under the protection of His Majesty's Arms, Two hundred of them are Embodied and the whole Island have taken the Oath of Allegiance and fidelity to the King, and I have the pleasure to acquaint you that a party of Sixty Men with their Arms made their Escape from the Province of New Jersey a few days ago and joined the King's Troops.

General Howe having yesterday represented to me that it would be attended with many salutary consequences if Two of His Majesty's Ships were Stationed up the North or Hudson's River to cut off and intercept any Supplies coming to New York, to give protection to His Majesty's well disposed Subjects, and answer many other good purposes, I have given Orders to Captain Parker of the *Phoenix* taking the *Rose* under his Command to proceed the first favorable Opportunity upon this Service, tho' from the number of Batteries they will have to pass it will be an Arduous and important undertaking, but I hope will be attended with the wish'd for success. Their Lordships will please to observe there will then remain with me for our future Operations only the *Chatham*, *Asia*, *Centurion* and *Greyhound* Frigate, which I hope will be sufficient, as it appears to me the General does not think himself sufficiently Strong to proceed further 'till the Arrival of the reinforcements under Lord Howe, and Commodore [William] Hotham, which my Cruizers are Stationed off Rhode Island and other places to intercept and direct hither.

I am sorry to find myself under the necessity of sending you the disagreeable Intelligence I received from Captain [John] Symons of His Majesty's Ship *Cerberus* whom I joined in my passage to this place, that four Transports, part of the *Flora's* Convoy (two of them the *Crawford* and *Oxford*,) have been taken in their passage by the Rebels, one of which was retaken by Captain Symons, but after the Troops had been removed out of

her into one of the others, and in this Ship he found a Journal of the Prize Master, who was a Lieutenant of one of the Rebel Vessels which attack'd the *Glasgow*, and as an Account of that Action is mentioned in it, in justice to Captain [Tytingham] Howe I transmit it to you for their Lordships and your information.<sup>2</sup>

His Majesty's Ship *Mercury* with Dispatches for General Howe and me, from General Clinton and Sir Peter Parker arrived at Sandy Hook the 1st June, and not finding me there was Ordered to Halifax, which has prevented my receiving them and of consequence sending you a particular Account of Sir Peter's proceedings to the Southward, but by the information of Captain Parker of the *Phoenix*, Captain Montagu in the *Mercury* left the *Bristol* the 21st May, at Cape Fear, and was then preparing to proceed to Charles Town South Carolina.

The Light Horse not being ready to embark on our leaving Halifax for want of Forage, and the *Tamer* being hourly expected from the Bay of Fundy, having under her Convoy a number of small Vessels with that Article, I have directed Captain [George] Talbot of the *Niger* to continue at Halifax, and with the *Tamer* when the Transports are ready, to Convoy them to Sandy Hook, at which place I daily expect their Arrival.

The *Savage* which I left refitting as soon as she is ready, I have Ordered as a Convoy and protection for the Collery to be carried on at Spanish River in the Island of Cape Breton, for the Supply of His Majesty's Troops and the Inhabitants of Halifax, conformable to a Scheme of General Howes. I am Sir [&c.]

M: Shuldham

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/484.

2. *Ibid.*, the Journal of Lieutenant James Josiah, of the Continental brig *Andrew Doria*.

LIEUTENANT HENRY CHADDS TO PHILIP STEPHENS<sup>1</sup>

*Hartfield* Transport  
Staten Island July the 8th 1776.

Sir/

*Hartfield*  
*William &*  
*Mary*  
*Good Intent*  
*Spy*  
*Argo*  
*Savill*  
*Three*  
*Sisters*  
*Resolution*  
*William*  
*Royal George,*

Please to Acquaint My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the Transports (named in the Margin) under my Direction, Sailed from Halifax the 9th of June with Troops for this Place, under the Convoy of Vice Adml [Molyneux] Shuldham, and Arrived here the 29th, the Troops were Landed on this Island the 1st of July. The Transports are Employ'd filling their Water and preparing to receive the Troops when Ordered, I am, Sir [&c.]

H: Chads.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/1611, 9; 3, LC Transcript.

DIARY OF DR. THOMAS MOFFAT <sup>1</sup>[On board H.M. Sloop *Swan* at Sandy Hook]

July 8th [1776] Thermometer morning 71 Noon 78. Three Negroes took refuge in the *Swan*, afterwards came aboard two Quakers also another person with letters and Cloaths for their Friends who had joind the Kings Army. Dind aboard the *Mercury* pacquett.

1. Thomas Moffat's Diary, LC.

BRIGADIER GENERAL HUGH MERCER TO GEORGE WASHINGTON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Eliza[beth] Town 8th July 1776

Col [Rufus] Putnam has directed some Works for [the] defence of Eliza[beth] Town Ferry & adjacent Approaches to that Place – No Ground from thence to Newark Bay will serve for erecting a Battery – As for Bergen Shore the Land is proper but the Channel so Wide, that little advantage will accrue, as to guarding that Bay –

The Boats & Can[n]on along this Shore to Amboy are removed up the Creek & secured under Guard –

1. Washington Papers, LC.

JOHN HANCOCK TO THE MARYLAND CONVENTION <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen

Philada July 8th 1776

Altho' it is not possible to forsee the consequence of human actions, yet it is neverthe[le]ss a duty we owe ourselves, and Posterity in all our public counsels, to decide in the best manner we are able, and to trust the event to that being, who controls both causes and events so as to bring about his own determination – Impressed with this sentiment, and at the same time fully convinced that our Affairs may take a more favorable turn, the Congress have judged it necessary to dissolve all connection between Great Britain and the American colonies, and to declare them free and Independent States, as you will perceive by the inclosed declaration, which I am directed by Congress to transmit to you, and to request you will have it proclaimed in your Colony in the way you shall think most proper

The important consequences to the American States from this declaration of Independence, considered as the ground and Foundation of a future Government, will naturally suggest the propriety of proclaiming it in such a manner as that the People may be universally informed of it I have the honor to be Gentn [&c.]

John Hancock, President

(Copy)

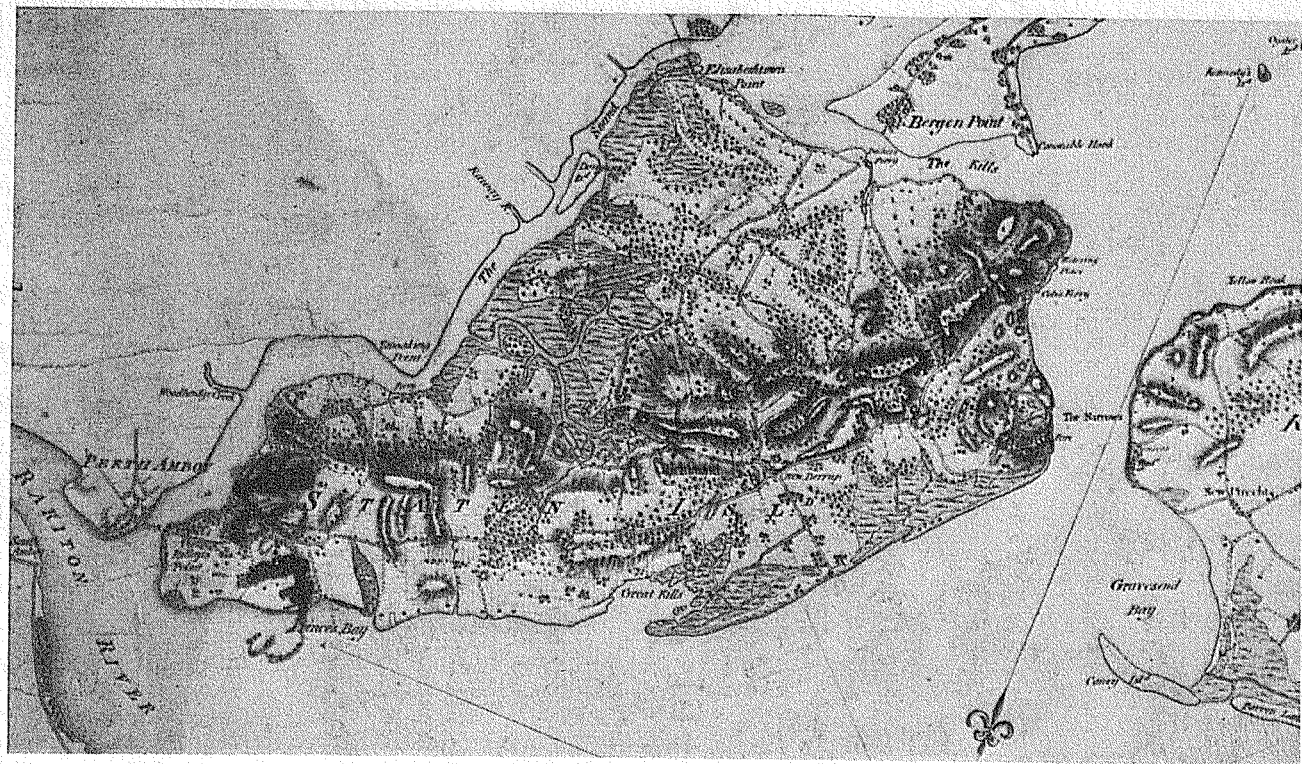
1. Purviance Papers, MdHS.

JOSEPH HEWES TO SAMUEL JOHNSTON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Philadelphia 8th July 1776

Dear Sir I have received your favors of the 23d of May, 6th & 11th of June, the first of these came last to hand, I have not had an oppertunity to



*Staten Island, New York.*



forward your Letter to Elmsley, Tryon is not to be trusted with it, I shall send it by some Vessel bound to France or Spain, I cannot find out any other way of conveyance, and that is precarious,

I received a Letter from your Committee of Secrecy War and intelligence respecting the expediency of Fortifying the harbour of Cape look out, I laid the matter before a Committee of Congress appointed to consider what places were proper to be Fortified. but before they consider & make report thereon it is absolutely Necessary they should have a plan or Map of the harbour with proper explanations and discriptions, these should be taken by an engineer on the spot who should form a plan of the Fortifications necessary to be made and the expence that would attend it, I have wrote to Mr. Harnett [Cornelius Hartnett] twice on this subject, but as I have reason to believe many Letters miscarry I now mention the matter to you, in hopes you will endeavour to prevail on the Council of Safety to get the matter done as early as possible. I find a disposition in most of the Members of Congress to grant to our Province all that can be reasonably expected, it is not in their power to assist us at present with Cannon but as several Forges are beginning to Cast twelve & eighteen pounders I hope towards Winter they will not only have it in their power but be heartily disposed to assist us with [some] heavy pieces to put into such places as may be thought Most advisable, this is all you can expect, it is all that is done in the like cases. . .

My friend [John] Penn came time enough to give his vote for independence, I send you the declaration inclosed, all the Colonies voted for it except New york, that Colony was prevented from Joining in it by an old Instruction, their Convention meet this day and it is expected they will follow the example of the other Colonies. . .

. . . all the Regiments on Continental pay that were raised in this Province are now at New York and on the lakes, Six thousand Militia from this province & three thousan[d] four hundred from Maryland will march in a Few days towards New York, the Jersey Militia are all in Motion. . .

Our Northern Army has left Canada and retreated to Ticonderoga and Crown Point, Several Regiments had not well men enough to Row the Sick over the Lakes, men were draughted from other Regiments to do that Service, in short that Army has melted away in as little time as if the destroying Angel had been sent on purpose to demolish them as he did the Children of Israel, we are endeavouring to get the Lakes fortified in the best manner we can to prevent [John] Burgoyne from passing them and entering the Colonies on that scale,

A paper has been privately laid on the Congress Table importing that some dark designs were forming for our destruction, and advising us to take care of ourselves, some were for examining the [cellar] under the Room where we sit, I was against it and urged that we ought to treat such information with Contempt and not show any marks of fear or Jealousy, I told some of them I had almost as soon be blown up as to discover to the world

that I thought myself in danger, no notice has been taken of this piece of information which I think was right.

Joseph Hewes

1. Charles Roberts Autograph Collection, Box 1, HCL.

DIARY OF CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Philadelphia] July 8th 1776

warm Sun Shine morning at 11 went and meet Committee of Inspection at Philosophical Hall, went from there in a body to the Lodge, Joined they Committee of Safety (as Called) went in a body to State house yard where in the presence of a great concourse of people the Declaration of Independancy was Read by Jon Nixon the Company declared their approbation by 3 repeated huzzas, the Kings arms was taken down in Court room State house same time, from there Some of us went to B. Armitages tavern stayd till one. I went and dined at Paul Fooks. layd down there after dinner till 5. then he & the French engineer went with me on the Commons, where the Same was Proclaimed at each of the 5 Batalions . . . there was bonfires ringing bells with other great Demonstrations of Joy upon the unanimity & agreement of the Declaration &c

1. Diary of Christopher Marshall, HSP.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO JOHN LANGDON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Philadelphia 8th July 1776

My Dear Sir, Yours of the 24th ulto I've rec'd – it grieves me that the frigates cannot begot to sea, which I am sensible they might before this, had proper attention been paid to cannon in season. I have been a long time endeavouring to draw the attention of the Committee to the regulation of the Navy but hitherto without Success; the present establishment certainly needs amendment, but business is so exceedingly pressing that it's impossible to form a judgment when it will be done; in my opinion a purser is a necessary officer, but as no provision is made for a purser, I think it necessary you should appoint a Steward. I submit it to you whether it would not be best to appoint a man that would do for a purser, as the wages at present are much higher than will be allowed for Stewards if Pursers are established . . .

Govr [Stephen] Hopkins who has the direction of matters respecting the cannon at Providence, promises me that he will order the cannon for the *Rawleigh* to be sent from thence immediately, provided the Committee there think that the furnaces will be able to cast more for those ships by the time they will be ready to receive them – so you may expect to hear from thence on this subject.

1. William Whipple Papers, Force Transcripts, LC.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM HALLOCK TO THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen

Cape May Road 8th July 1776

I herewith send you Inclosed an accot of a couple articles saved by El-

lias Hughes out of Brig *Nancy* which I have had apprised but having no orders how to settle with him, begs you'll have it adjusted according to agreement, or let me know how I am to proceed, likewise several accts & Charges which occurred in geting the Powder &c from the Beech to the Main & Carting it Cross the Country to put on Board the *Wasp*, which you'll Please to direct how I am to discharge.

I further Inform you that after the delivery of the Wreck &c into my Care; Captain [Hugh] Montgomery took the Liberty to allow George Taylor to go to the Beech & take what of the Wreck he Could get, the said Taylor went with a number of hands & Quold up the Rigging that the Captains, Wicks [Lambert Wickes], Barry, & myself saved the day before; next day by my orders, the Master & Six hands went over in my Boat, with the Mate & two hands belonging to the Brig *Nancy* with their Long Boat, in order to bring off all the Rigging, my Boat took in all the Rigging & Guns on the Sound side which Loaded her, the Mate & People refusing to take in the Rigging on the Sea Side & accordingly the Mate Sold it to the said George Taylor for Six Pounds – Contrary to my orders, said Taylor brought over a quantity of that rigging which he sold for £11-13s-9d besides sending up to Philadelphia a Considerable Quantity in Ezekial Stevans & John Connors Boat:

Gentlemen You'll please to excuse my troubling you with affairs which perhaps you are not Concerned in however I know of no other to apply to – Capn Barry Sail'd the 5th Instant for Egg Harbour to Heave down we have every day since seen Eight & Nine Sail in the Offing at present three in Sight I am Gentlemen [&ca.]

Will<sup>m</sup> Hallock <sup>2</sup>

1. Committee of Safety, Navy Papers, Pa. Arch.

2. Captain of the Continental sloop *Hornet*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO STEPHEN STEWARD <sup>1</sup>

No 8

Sir The Council of Safety will take Mr Sprigg's Vessel, if you are of opinion, that she will make a fast sailer, draw little water, and suit this Province as an armed vessel, of which please to advise us in Writing, and request she may be got ready with the utmost dispatch – we hope and expect a fortnight will compleat her – when can you Set off for the Eastern shore to examine the vessels, which are offered as suitable for the purpose? – we want them. – you promised to be with us on Friday, but we did not understand, whether you could immediately go over the Bay. – this matter requires dispatch, and we beg your immediate answer; if you can go, we shall be much pleased – if you cannot go, do you know any one, who would be proper to send on that Business? We are [&c.]

[Annapolis] 8th July 1776

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

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CHARLES RIDGELY AND JOHN WESTON <sup>1</sup>

No 11.

Sir, We have immediate occasion on account of the Province for some Swivels and small Cannon from four Pounders downwards, and shall (as we are informed your Furnace is in Blast), be very glad to know whether you can cast them. If you can, be pleased to let us know the Terms, and by what Time you can furnish us with them. We are [&c.]

[Annapolis] 8th July 1776.

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

MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN <sup>1</sup>

Camp on Long Island Province of S. Carolina

My Lord,

July 8th 1776

A few days after I had dispatched my letter to your Lordship of the 3d of May, informing You of the arrival of the Fleet in Cape Fear river, (a duplicate of which is herewith annexed) The *Nautilus* Sloop of war arrived from the Northward, and brought me a letter from Major General Howe dated at Hallifax, from whom I had not heard for four months before, his dispatches by the *Glasgow* man of war having been thrown overboard in an engagement with the Rebel Fleet.

From the general purport of Genl Howe's letter, it did not appear that he expected or called upon me for any immediate assistance at the opening of the Campaign, nor did he name either the time or place of joining him, but rather seemed on the contrary to intimate his wishes that some operations might take place in some of the Southern Colonies, and pointed out Charles Town in the Province of South Carolina as an object of importance to his Majtys. Service.

Previous to the receipt of this letter my intentions were, as your Lordship will have observ'd, to have proceeded to Cheasapeak bay, but having received some intelligence at that time that the works erected by the Rebels on Sullivan's Island (the Key to Charles Town harbour) were in an imperfect and Unfinished state, I was induced to acquiesce in a proposal made to me by the Commodore <sup>2</sup> to attempt the reduction of that Fortress by a Coup de main; I thought it possible at the same time that it might be followed by such immediate Consequences as would prove of great advantage to His Majesty's service. I say immediate My Lord! for it never was my intention at this season of the year to have proceeded further than Sullivan's Island, without a Moral certainty of rapid Success.

With this object in View we sailed from Cape Fear on the 31st of May and within a few leagues of Charles Town were joined by the *Ranger* Sloop of war with the remainder of the Transports from England belonging to this Fleet; by which Conveyance I received your Lordships dispatches of the 3d of March signifying to me his Majesty's Pleasure "that if upon the arrival of the armament at Cape Fear I should be of opinion upon a mature Consideration of all circumstances, that nothing could be soon effected that would be

of real and substantial Service and Advantage, or that the making any attempt would expose the troops to great loss from the season being too far advanced, and that there would be a hazard of disappointing the service to the Northward, that I do in that case proceed immediately to join Majr General Howe with my whole Force, leaving however a Regt or two if the purpose therein referred to could be effected," and being of opinion that the object before me came within your Lordships description, and might be soon accomplished, I came to a determination to proceed.

Unfortunately, delays of various kinds have intervened, some occasioned by Contrary Winds and Storms, and other Circumstances, so as to protract the Movements of the Fleet, to a much more distant period than was at first expected, and to forebode that the operations of the army would be Converted from a Coup de main, to something too much like a formal siege.

By these delays difficulties were daily increasing upon me, however upon weighing every Circumstance, Lord Cornwallis agreed with me in opinion that he could not more effectually Co-operate with the intended movements of the Fleet than by taking possession of Long Island which was represented to Communicate with Sullivan's Island by a ford passable at low water, and with the main by creeks navigable for boats of draft; this was accordingly done and our whole force assembled there on the 18th of June excepting a few recruits, who were left on board the transports by way of deception.

It became Naturally our first business to ascertain the ford and its situation, but to our Unspeakable Mortification the channel which for some time before was reported to have been only 18 inches deep at low water, was now found to be 7 feet, a circumstance we are told Not Uncommon on this sandy Coast; by this discovery your Lordship will perceive that our operations from Long Island were rendered limited and Confined, and altho' my situation gave Jealousy to two different objects, the Main and Sullivan's Island, as I had not boats for above 6 or 700 men I was reduced to one attack, without being able to favour that by any diversion on the other.

Thus circumstanced I took the first opportunity of acquainting the Commodore, that from this discovery I was apprehensive that it would not be possible for the troops to take the share in the attack I once flattered myself they would have been able to have done, still however assuring him that whenever he should think proper to begin his attack I would make every possible diversion in his favour or send him two Battallions to act on his side in Case he and the Genl Officer appointed to Command them, should be of opinion they could be protected in their Landing and employed to advantage; in answer to which it seemed to be Understood that I should give the best support I could and we waited only for a Wind to begin the attack.

At this time tho' the Rebels had an entrenchment and battery on that point of the Island on which I intended a landing I thought such a disposition might be made with the light ordnance I had on shore as would dislodge them and cover the landing of the troops, but Unfavorable Winds,

preventing the attack of the Fleet for four days, they removed from this Station and took up some strong ground 500 yards back in a much more extended Front, than the narrow Spit of sand on which they had first placed themselves, having a battery on their right a Morass on their left, razing their former work and making it a Glacis or esplanade to that more retired; this my Lord defended and sustained by 3 to 4000 men had a formidable appearance, and such a one as a small army in boats advancing singly through a narrow channel Uncovered, Unprotected Could not attempt without a manifest Sacrifice; my attentions were therefore drawn towards the Main, to make an attempt on Hedrall's point <sup>3</sup> by landing within 3 miles of it, I accordingly made my request to the Commodore that some frigates might be directed to cooperate with me in that attempt to which he assented, but as my Movements depended in great measure upon those of the Fleet it was impossible to decide positively upon any plan.

It was about eleven o'Clock in the Morning on the 28th of last month, when we discovered the Fleet going upon the attack of the Fort on Sullivan's Island, but as when they brought up they did not appear to be within such a distance, as to avail themselves of the fire from their tops, grape Shot, or Musquetry, I was apprehensive No impression would be made upon the Battery; I likewise saw that the 3 Frigates supposed to have been destined to cut off the Rebel communication with Hedralls point, and favour my attack on it were aground immediately after the 4 leading Ships had taken their Stations.

I made every demonstration every diversion by Cannonade, while the Sands were Uncovered, I ordered small armed Vessels to proceed towards the point of Sullivan's Island, but they all got aground; The troops were disposed of in such a manner as to be apartée to attempt a landing either on Sullivan's Island or the Main as circumstances during the attack should appear to make necessary;

The Cannonade of the Fleet continued without any favorable appearance till night; expecting however that it would be renewed in the morning, I made the best disposition I could of the small ordnance we could Collect to enable me if necessary whilst the tide suited to have made one effort on Sullivan's Island; an attempt Contrary I must Confess to every Military principle, and Justifiable only in Cases of the success of the Fleet or its distress, to support the one or relieve the other; But at day brake to our great Concern we found the fleet had retired, leaving a Frigate aground, which was afterwards burned;

In this situation any feeble effort of ours would answer no good purpose, and finding that the Fleet had suffered a good deal, and that the Commodore had no intention of renewing the attack, I proposed to him that as soon as possible I might proceed with the troops Under my Command to the Northward, they are Now in great health, but I fear would not remain long so in this Climate. we shall sail in a few days for N. York where I hope they will arrive in good time to do that service which from a Variety of

difficulties they were prevented from rendering here. I have the honour to be with great respect My Lord [&c.]

H Clinton

[Endorsed] R[ecieve]d 21st Augt 1776 By Mr Reeves – Ent[ere]d

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 5/93, 947.
2. Commodore Sir Peter Parker.
3. Haddrell's Point.

COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER TO MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON <sup>1</sup>

*Bristol in Five Fathom Hole*

Sir

8th July 1776 off Charles Town. –

I am Honoured with your Letter of Yesterdays Date, and as soon as the Transports that are to carry the first Brigade are Watered, They shall be Ordered over the Bar, and proceed to Spences Inlet. I have the Honor to be Sir [&c.]

P: Parker

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

GEORGE LAWFORD TO VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG <sup>1</sup>

Sir

English Harbour Antigua 8th July 1776

His Majesty's Ship *Argo* (whereof I am Purser) being Ordered to Victual and be got in readiness to Sail for England (on Account of the bad Condition she is found to be in) I request the favour you will please to permit me to Resign the Pursership of the *Argo*, in Order to Continue your Secretary; during the time of your Command. I am with the greatest respect, Sir [&c.]

Geo: Lawford

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/309.

## 9 July

MACHIAS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT <sup>1</sup>

[Machias] July 9, 1776.

To the Honble Council & The Honble The House of Representatives of the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay

We the Committee of Safety for Machias, beg Leave to Acquaint your Honours that on Saturday Last came into our Harbour the *Viper* Sloop of War, & She has taken five fishing Vessels, Two of which had about one hundred Quintals of fish Each, all which Vessels were taken as they were passing by our Harbour bound home. & said Man of War after Tarrying here Two days sailed for Annapolis Royal with her prizes where the Ship *Marlin* of Eighteen Guns Lyes. there to fix out one or two of the schooners for Tenders to Cruize upon the Shore for three Months to pick up Every Vessel that passes. her station is as we are Informed by Mr Ralph Hacock from Mount Desert to Granmenan. Mr Hacock was Master of one of the Vessels Taken. owned in this place and the Capt of the *Viper* gave him

Leave to Come on shore by his pleading the great necessity of his family. and Mr. Hacock gives further Information that the *Viper* mounts Ten guns six pounders. and Twenty swivels. & has one hundred & Thirty Men. but have been at Two thirds allowance all their Cruize. We would Inform your Honours that had the Machias privateers been here we would have Tryed to have taken the *Viper* but being destitute of any such assistance we Lye Almost at the Mercy of our Enemies. if we cannot pass with our Vessels we cannot maintain our families but a short time in this place. Therefore we beg that your Honours would take our Difficult Circumstances into your Consideration and Grant us such Relief as you in your Wisdom shall think proper and we the Committee as in duty bound will Ever pray

By order of the Committee

Benja Foster Charn

1. Baxter, ed., *History of Maine*, XIV, 358-59.

### JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL <sup>1</sup>

[Watertown] Tuesday July 9th 1776

A Form of a Register, draughted by Mr [Richard] Derby for the Schooner *Diligent* Duncan Campbell Master & Owner be a form for all Future Registers — Vizt

LS Jurat — Duncan Campbell of George Town in the County of Lincoln & Colony of Massachusetts Bay Mariner — That the Schooner *Delight* Whereof the said Duncan Campbell is at Present Master, being a Square Stern'd Vessel, of the Burthen of About One hundred & Sixty One Tons, was built at George Town in the County & Colony aforesd in the Year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven hundred & Seventy five — And that he the said Duncan Campbell — at present Owner thereof and that no Foreigner directly or indirectly hath any Share or part or Interest therein — <sup>2</sup>

Dated at Watertown the fourth day of July in the Year of Our Lord, One Thousand Seven hundred & Seventy Six —

By Command of the Major part of the Council —

— A Depty Secry —

The Petition of Lemuel Williams of Dartmouth Humbly Sheweth —

That your Petitioner together with several other Persons his Partners have at their own expence, fitted an Armed Sloop Call'd the *Warren* for the purpose of making reprisals on the Enemies of the United Colonies of North America, Agreeable to the Laws & regulations of this Colony which Vessel is now near ready for Sailing your Petitioner Humbly prays that John Phillips of Dartmouth be Commissiond Capt of the sd Arm'd Sloop, and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever pray — sd Sloop is 60 Tons Burthen Carry's Six guns & fifty Men— Lemuel Williams

Bonds given recorded page 60 — <sup>3</sup>

Instructions to Capt. John Fisk Commander of the Sloop *Tyrannicide* Vizt

The Sloop *Tyrannicide* under your Command being in all respects equip'd in Warlike Manner and being also well & properly man'd so as to



enable you to proceed on a Cruise – You therefore are directed Im-[mediate]ly to proceed on a Cruise not only against our Unaturel Enemies but Also for the Protection of the Trade of the United Colonies, and you are directed not to Cruise, Untill the further order of the Board, further East than the Island [Sable] on the Coast of Nova Scotia, nor further south than the Lattitude of 35 North nor further West than the Shoals of Nantucket unless forced so to do by Stress of Weather Allways Using every Necessary Precaution to prevent the Sloop under your Command from falling into the hands of the Enemy –

And whereas you have receiv'd a Commission by Force of Arms to attack Seize and take on the High Seas all Ships & other Vessells belonging to the Inhabitants of Great Britain, or Others Infesting the Sea Coast of this Continent, you are therefore Punctually to follow the Instructions already Deliver'd you for regulating your Conduct in this Matter & in all things Conduct your Self Consistent with the trust reposed in you.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 19, 65, 67–68.

2. It is not clear whether the schooner's name should be *Diligent*, as stated in the preamble, or *Delight* as stated in the register.

3. See Journal of Massachusetts Council, July 5, 1776.

#### JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Lebanon] Tuesday, July 9th, 1776

*Voted*, That Capt. Niles be allowed one and a half per cent. on his purchases and payments of his crew &c. on board the schooner *Spy*.

1. Hoadly, ed., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 470–71.

#### GEORGE WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Head Quarters New York 9th July 1776

Sir, . . . We have Intelligence, that may be relied on, of Lord Howe's being on his passage for this place with a large Fleet and about 15,000 Men, and is hourly expected. By several deserters from Staten Island and the Ships of War, whose Accounts all agree, that Genl [William] Howe proposed no Attempt on us, till the Arrival of this reinforcement, when it is said with a part of his Army, he will make a descent on the Jersey side, while the Fleet and other part of the Army in Conjunction, attack this City. To oppose this force, in which the Ministry put so much Confidence, I think it necessary to exert our every Nerve, and by defeating their Views this Campaign, be enabled to meet them with double advantage the next; should they think proper to pursue their unwarrantable measures; I hope the good people of your Colony, or State, will be ready, on all occasions, to fly to our Assistance if needed, I have a Confidence in and doubt not they will be ready and willing.

To prevent the Enemy from obtaining fresh provisions, is a Matter highly necessary to be attended to. I am informed that there are great Quantities on the Islands in the Neighbourhood of New London, Vizt Fishers, Block, Plumb & Elizabeth, Islands and Martha's Vineyard; these are

accessible to Ships of force, and no doubt, they will soon be on a plundering Voyage. I could wish your Attention to this Matter, that the Stock might all be removed quite out of reach of the Enemy. The East end of Long Island, I am told, is not less exposed than the others; I think effectual Steps will be taken in regard to that, as I have had a Conference with the Convention of this Province, and an order has gone out for driving all the Stock from the Sea Coast.

In conference, of a full Board of General Officers yesterday, it was recommended, I should apply to your Honour for the three Row Gallies, lying now at New London, or in the River, together with as many heavy Cannon as you can possibly spare, they are what will be much wanted here; and if you find it consistent, would Beg you to forward them as soon as possible . . .

1. Washington Papers, LC.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO MAJOR GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

New York, July 9, 1776.

Sir: The inclosed Declaration will shew you, that Congress at Length, impelled by Necessity, have dissolved the Connection between the American Colonies, and Great Britain, and declared them *free and independent States*; and in Compliance with their Order, I am to request you will cause this Declaration to be immediately proclaimed at the Head of the Continental Regiments in the Massachusetts Bay . . .

You will also perceive, that Congress have resolved, that the Arms taken in the Scotch Transports should be sent here. The President informs me, he has wrote to the Agents respecting them; but as I presume they are in your Possession, or in some of the Stores by your Order, you will have the Whole of them forwarded with all possible Dispatch, in the usual Rout and with necessary directions.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 242, 243.

DAIRY OF ENSIGN CALEB CLAP <sup>1</sup>

[New York]

July 9th several Frinch Gentlemen have been at the Generals, and have been to the Congress, and are now come back to the General It is Reported that we may depend on their Assistance by Sea,

The Enemy Expect A reinforcement of 12 thousand every day, but whether it may be soon or not we cannot determine, the deserters that have come from them latly bring news that they are 9 thousand Strong now, but we dont Cridit their Report -

We expect Manly in soon with a 34 Gun Ship, besides A number of small Privateers to the amount of 80 or more.

their is now several small ones, that Cruce round here a Nights to watch the movements of the Enemy and see that the Tories do not go aboard which are very suspicious they wait for an oppertunity, Scarcely a day but what some desert from the Enemy, either from the Navia, or Regulars -

several New England men that have been taken, some that have been with them 3 Years, and they improve every opportunity of deserting that favours July 9th this day the Declaration of the Independant States of America was read at the Head of the Brigade after which a part of the 80 Psalm was sang, and then Mr [Abiel] Leonard made Prayers, after that the whole Brigade give three Cheers

1. *The Historical Magazine*, 3rd series, III, 137-38.

### MAJOR CHARLES STUART TO HIS FATHER, THE EARL OF BUTE <sup>1</sup>

Staten Island, New York, July 9, 1776

We left Halifax on the 10th June, and after a very tedious passage arrived at Sandy Hook on the 29th June.

Preparations were immediately made for landing on Long Island and taking possession of a Hill which the enemy had strongly fortified - with judgement, as it commanded Brooklyn's Ferry and the town of New York.

As we knew there were a number of the Rebel Troops upon this Island, and that in all probability they would oppose our landing, it was thought necessary to land the army in three divisions, the first consisting of our Corps of Grenadiers, the Lt. Infantry, and First Brigade under the command of Ld. [Hugh] Percy, Gen. [James] Robertson, and Brigadier Gen. [Alexander] Leslie, with 8 pieces of cannon; the other Brigades were to land in the same order under their respective Generals.

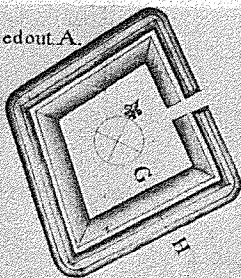
Owing to representations made by General Robertson the plans were changed. We received order to sail on the 1st July for this Island (instead of Long Island). Sandy Hook is just 6 miles from New York, and is itself a small sandy peninsula, very low, which forms a harbour in the Jersies; in order to go to the town you must pass through a passage about a mile in breadth, formed by Long Island on the right and Staten Island on the left, on both sides very commanding ground, which we supposed they had fortified. This they call the Narrows.

On the 2nd July we passed them, convoyed by the *Phoenix*, *Rose*, and *Greyhound* Men of War. Fortunately we were deceived, the enemy had no cannon upon these posts; had they, we must have been annoyed most prodigiously, for the wind, not being favourable, we were three hours passing them. We were ordered to land at the Watering-place, which the Grenadiers and Lt. Infantry did without opposition, and remained the whole night under arms.

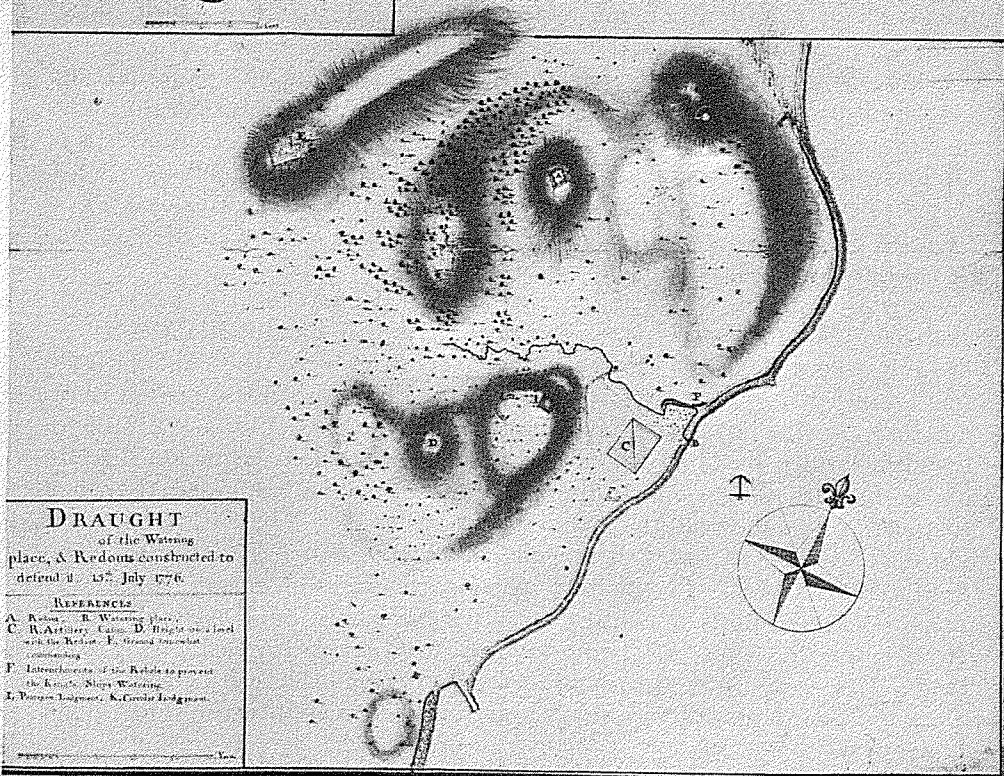
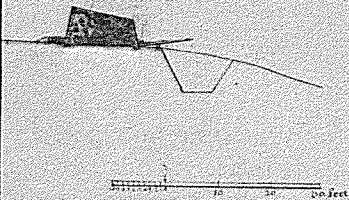
The next morning we were canted in the Villages, and the inhabitants received us with the greatest joy, seeing well the difference between anarchy and a regular mild government; it is supposed we shall stay here, making frequent excursions into the plains.

Our situation is by no means despicable; we are in the most beautiful Island that nature could form or art improve, we have everything we want, and six or seven deserters come every day either from Long Island or the Jersies who bring intelligence that the rebels are very discontented, but there is no believing these poor deluded wretches.

Plan of the Redoubt A.



Section through G. H.



# DRAUGHT

of the Watering  
place, & Redoubts constructed to  
defend it. 15<sup>th</sup> July 1776.

## REFERENCES

- A. Redoubt. B. Watering place.
- C. R. Artillery Camp. D. Right one of the  
works for the Redoubt. E. Ground enclosed  
within the fort.
- F. Intrenchments of the Rebels to prevent  
the Rebels' Ships Watering.
- G. Porters Lodgment. H. Rebels Lodgment.

Watering Place and Redoubts on Staten Island.

They likewise say that Carleton's army is at Fort Edward, which is only 50 miles away from New York.<sup>2</sup>

Only six Companies of the Highlanders are arrived, and from the manner they separated at sea we fear much for them; of those transports that were taken off Boston, one made resistance till Major Menzies was killed and Col. Campbell and several officers of the 71st made prisoners.

There is a report that Washington has left New York with 15,000 to go to the Southward.

General Clinton we have no certain news of; we heard that Sir Peter Parker had landed him up Charles River; if so, he will lose half his army with distempers occasioned by the severity of the heat and dust. He has positive orders to join this army, but he is fool enough to disobey and command an army when he is incapable of commanding a Troop of Horse.

The heat here is insufferable, and I fancy it is that that gives me violent pains in my stomach, which distresses me exceedingly. An active campaign will, I hope, cure me of it.

1. *Letters of Charles Stuart*, 9-10.

2. Guy Carleton's army was still in Canada, and never did get to Fort Edward in 1776.

BRIGADIER GENERAL HUGH MERCER TO GEORGE WASHINGTON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Amboy 9th July 1776

Sir Nothing extraordinary has happened here, The Frigate that appeared yesterday under Sail standing towards the Town is now out of View – supposed to be in Princes Bay – At this Post & the Blazing Star are posted about 1000 of the N Jersey Militia – They begin to be so anxious to return to their harvest, under the apprehension of their families being without support, if they continue longer that I have permitted a Draft from each Company to be discharged – about 200 in all – and have assured the others they shall be releivd when the Pensyla Militia arrive –

Ten or Twelve days hence the Harvest I am told will be secured; when it is so; the Militia will return On duty with pleasure & in the mean time will assemble at the first Summons – . . .

1. Washington Papers, LC.

CAPTAIN THOMAS CREGIER TO THOMAS RANDALL <sup>1</sup>

Worthy Sir –

Shrewsbury Town, July 9th, 1776.

After my due respects to you and your Honourable House, I am to inform you what has brought me to this place. You must in the first place know, my business here is to draw on you for some cash, which Mr. John Murr[ay] has supplied me with, sixteen pounds sixteen shillings, on account of your schooner *General Putnam*, for which I have given a bill payable at three days' sight, which I hope will meet with honour. I should not have come thus far, but understand at Squam Inlet, where I left my vessel this morning, that there was a letter here for me from you, I thought proper to come myself, but cannot find any; here was a letter for me, but it has been intercepted.

Sir, on the fifth of this instant being about 9 miles distance to the SE. of Egg Harbour, I saw two sail standing to the northward; I then gave them chase; the wind being light, I got out my oars, and rowed until three o'clock in the afternoon, when the wind came to the SW.; after eleven hours' chase, I drew near them; I then shortened sail and got all clear for action; at 4 in the afternoon I got within 170 yards of the sternmost ship in order to board her, but she putting her helm hard a starboard, hauled up her ports, gave me her whole of ten guns: she proved to be a ministerial pirate of 20 guns. I hauled my wind in for the shore, she did the same, and continued firing without intermission. When I was within 400 yards of the shore, I made a small tack, but she being very near me I received her whole broadside, at which I hove about and ran ashore, about 40 yards from Squam Inlet. I then got all my arms and ammunition on the beach, and the ship came to anchor about a quarter of a mile from us, and began a heavy firing upon us; at last, she hoisted out two barges and manned them with about 50 men; but as they approached the shore, we handled them so roughly that they were obliged to make a scandalous retreat. She continued her fire until dark, when she weighed, expending upwards of 400 weight of powder. I had 17 large holes in my mainsail, and some shot in my hull. When the tide made, I got my vessel into this inlet, where I will repair as soon as possible, and hope to pay the pirates for their usage. I am [&c.]

Thomas Cregier.

Thomas Randle, Esqr. Member of the Provincial Congress,  
or in his absence, Jacobus VanZandt, Esqr. Member  
as aforesaid, in New-York

1. *New York Provincial Congress*, II, 304-05.

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

[Philadelphia] Tuesday, July 9, 1776

*Resolved*, That an order for 10,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the Committee of Secret Correspondence, for the purchase of two vessels; they to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to settle a cartel for exchange of prisoners:

The members chosen, Mr. [Carter] Braxton, Mr. [James] Wilson, and Mr. [Benjamin] Harrison.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 529-30.

#### JOHN ADAMS TO SAMUEL CHASE <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Philadelphia July 9. 1776

Dear Sir. Yours of the 5th came to me the 8th – You will see by this Post, that the River is past and the Bridge cutt away. The Declaration was yesterday published and proclaimed from that awefull Stage, in the State house Yard, by whom do you think? by the Committee of Safety! the Committee of Inspection, and a great Crowd of People. Three Cheers rendered

the Welkin. – The Battalion paraded on the common, and gave Us the Feu de Joy, not with standing the Scarcity of Powder. The Bells rung all Day, and almost all night. Even the Chimers, Chimed Away. . . .

As soon as an American Seal is prepared, I conjecture the Declaration will be Subscribed by all the Members, which will give you the opportunity you wish for, of transmitting your Name, among the Votaries of Independence . . .

The Arms, are taken down from every public Place. The Army is at Crown Point. – We have sent up a great Number of Ship wrights, to make a respectable Fleet upon the Lakes.

We have taken every Measure to defend New York. The Militia are marching this day, in a great Body from Pensilvania. That of Jersey has behaved well, turned out universally. That of Connecticutt, I was told last night by Mr [Samuel] Huntingdon, were coming in the full Number demanded of them, and must be there before now. – We shall make it do, this year, and if We can Stop the Torrent, for this Campaign, it is as much as We deserve for our Weak ness and Sloth, in Politicks, the last. Next year We shall do better. – New Government will bring new Men into the Play, I perceive: Men of more Mettle.

Your Motion, last Fall for sending Embassadors to France, with conditional Instructions was murdered, terminating in a Committee of Secret Correspondence, which came to nothing.

1. Adams Papers, MassHS.

#### COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN HOYSTEEED HACKER <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Philadelphia July 9th 1776 –

I receiv'd yours of the 5th instant and think you are pretty well hemm'd in – think it best you should keep your Vessel in the best posture of defence you can, and asist the Common Cause all in your power with your Sloop – but should it so happen that you can't help falling into Enemy's hands you are to destroy the Sloop rather than let them get her – <sup>2</sup>

You will continue thereabouts and do what Service you can until further Orders – You may draw for any Supplys you may want – I am Sir Your Friend &c

E H

To Hoysteed Hacker Esqr Commander of the *Fly* at Brunswick or Amboy.

1. Hopkins Letter Book, RIHS.

2. See order of Hopkins to Hacker, June 14, 1776.

#### PETITION OF JAMES ROBINSON TO THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

The Petition of James Robinson Mariner – Humbly & respectfully Sheweth –

That your Petitioner late Master of the Brigintine *Polly* from Hunduras loaded with Logwood & Mahogany was taken the 13th of last April near the Capes of Delawar, by the *Lively* Privateer Schooner fitted out by Lord

Dunmore and Carried to his fleet in Virginia, where he remained Prisoner About two Months; when he was so fortunate as to Make his Escape and a few days a[ft]er arrived in this City. —

That your Petitioner was formerly Master of a Ship of War of Great Britain, on which account he was while a Prisoner in virginia, strongly importuned to enter again into that Service, and had offers of being reinstated in the Same Station; but Conscious of his attachment to the Rights & Liberties of the Country which he has adopted, for the last twenty Years, where he has a Wife and Several Children, he earnestly Wishes for an Oppertunity of using his best Endeavours in rendering Some Services to America. —

That your Petitioner had the Honor of Commanding the Letter of Marque-Ship — *King of Prussia* belonging to this place, when attacked in January 1758 by a French Privateer from Louisburg The Event yet recent with many of the Gentlemen of your Honourable Board. —

Your Petitioner, now presumes with the greatest Respect and Deference, humbly to solicit, that your Honorable Board Would be pleased to appoint him to the Command of one of the Gallies now building, floating Battery, or of any other vessel of war under the Direction of y[ou]r Honourable Board, or otherwise be Pleased to recommend him to The Service of the Congress of the united States of America. —

And your Petitioner will with Gratitude act & Pray &c

James Robinson

[Endorsed]

We the Subscribers have for a long time known the Petitioner Capt James Robinson, and beg leave to recommend him to the Honorable Board as a Person meriting their Notice, and capable of conducting himself in the Station he solicits to the Satisfaction of the Honorable Board and that of the Public. —

Philada July 9th 1776 —

Sam<sup>l</sup> Mifflin  
Peter Chevalier  
Clement Biddle  
Dan<sup>l</sup> Clymer  
Geo. Bryan  
W<sup>m</sup> Bradford  
W<sup>m</sup> Heyshan  
John Wilcocks  
Tho<sup>s</sup> Bradford  
John Phillips  
Peter Knight  
Enoch Hobart  
Blair MClinachan

Jo<sup>s</sup> Cowperthwait  
Tho<sup>s</sup> Read  
And<sup>w</sup> Hodge Jun<sup>r</sup>  
Jn<sup>o</sup> Bayard  
Sam<sup>l</sup> Massey  
Alexander Gillon  
W<sup>m</sup> Richards  
Benj<sup>n</sup> Harbeson  
Isaac Melcher  
Thomas Canby  
George Douglass  
Is. Hazlehurst  
Philip Wilson

1. Am 2891 (Provincial Delegates), I, 131, HSP.



ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE OF THE PRIZE SHIP *Juno* <sup>1</sup>

On Thursday, the 24th instant July, will be sold at the Coffee-house, at 7 o'Clock in the Evening, the Prize Ship *Juno*, with all her Boats, Tackle and Furniture.<sup>2</sup> She is a fine new Ship, about 250 Tons Burthen. An inventory of her Stores, &c. will be put up at the coffee-house before the Day of Sale.

[Philadelphia] July 9, 1776

1. *Pennsylvania Gazette*, July 10, 1776.

2. One of the three Jamaica men taken by the Pennsylvania privateer sloop *Congress* and *Chance*.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, DATED JULY 9." <sup>1</sup>

Capt. Martin in a brig from——, is arrived on the coast. He had on board 17 tons of powder and 460 stands of arms, all of which are safely landed.

1. *New-York Journal*, July 11, 1776.

STEPHEN STEWARD TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Gentellmen/ [Shipyard, Maryland] July the 9, 1776.

I have yours of yesterday with a list of Vessels. There is many People that have Vessels would be glad to get your Money for them, wether they ware sutebel for your use or not. Will have as fine a Vessel of our own, as almost any in this Bay, and gos pretty fast. I want to sell her very much but am afraid she would not answer the end you want her for. Mr Spriggs now gos fast and will carklated to be lenthend'd by putting 10 feet in her. She will draw but litell water, and I think will go very fast, but I may be mistaken in her Sailing tho she certainly sails fast now. I will be off on Friday, and go to Baltimore for you or the Eastern Shore tho your business requires my being in the yard. I will do what you think most advantages for the Province. I think to get Capt. [John] Kilty to go to the Eastern Shore and will git him to come up with me for that purpos. I se the most of those Vessels you send a list off must be in Nanticoke and Wicomico as these two Rivers are block't up how are you to get them out if they shuld sute your purpose. John Ball has aplied to me for to get the building one of the Row galleys which I have no objection to. If you think well off it. The more of them that are abuilding in one yard the more hands will be employed, therefore wee shall bee beter ab[le] to protect them from the enemy tho I should be glad Mr Ball and Every honest man should have part of the Province business.<sup>2</sup> I am Gentelmen [&c.]

Stephen Steward.

1. Correspondence of Council of Safety, Md. Arch.

2. The Council on July 12 requested Captain Kilty and John Bull to examine vessels for sale on the Eastern Shore. *Ibid.*, Council of Safety Journal, 29 August 1775 to 20 March 1777.

DEPOSITION OF JOHN RUMBLEY <sup>1</sup>

John Rumley deposeeth and saith that he was taken by a Tenders boat

on the Shore of Spring Island, that while he was on board the Tender he saw a Boat standing out of Hoopers straights directly for the Tenders in Company with that which this deponent was on board of, that the said boat continued to course directly on board on of those tenders and it appeared to this Deponent to be the voluntary act of those on board said Boat to go to the Tenders, as there was not a gun fired at them, or any measures taken by the Tenders of sending a Boat, or using any other means to bring said Boat to them; that the sd boat getting alongside of one of the Tenders, he knew it to be Basil Clarkson's boat, and that sd Clarkson and three other persons were in her. all of whom got on board the Tender; that soon after Clarkson and his Company boarded the Tender, this deponent heard men on board the several Tenders hail each other, and say that the *Defence* was laying off Hoopers Island, and that Basil Clarkson and a certain John Baptist told them so, which sd Baptist and two others who went on board the Tender when Clarkson came off from them in his boat about one hour & a half after his going on board, and further saith not.

Taken before the Committee of Observation for Dorchester County this ninth day of July Anno. Dom. 1776.  
[Cambridge, Maryland]

Signed p order Jno C. Harrison Clk.

1. Browne, ed., *Arch of Md.*, XII, 18.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Roebuck*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 At a Single Anchor at Gwin's Island in Virginia  
Monday 8th at 6 in the morning the *Fowey* weighed by order to protect the entrance of the Haven.  
Light breezes and clear weather, Received all our Marines on board from the Camp on Gwins Island; and made every thing ready for the Sea;  
Tuesday 9th at 5 in the Morning the Rebels opened Several Batteries on the Fleet, and kept up a constant fire on the *Dunmore*, manned all the Boats and sent them to the assistance of the Fleet to get them out of the enemies fire.  
Moderate breezes with small rain, employed Securing the Fleet,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/796.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Otter*, CAPTAIN MATTHEW SQUIRE <sup>1</sup>

July [1776] Moored in Gwins Island Harbour Virginia  
Monday 8 Found our Sheathing much eat under the Bows.  
Mode & fair. P M employed clearing the Ship. The Rebels opened a Battery of two Guns on the *Dunmore*, by which two of our Men were wounded onboard & one killed. Do she slipt her Cables & got away from the reach of the Battery, as did the rest of the Fleet. Found that the Cannon of the

above Battery, they had opened against us were 18 & 9  
P[ounde]rs

Tuesday 9 Hove up & towed farther to the Eastward, as did all the Fleet,  
& employ'd in righting Ship & getting every thing on board.  
Mode & fair. Employed in getting onboard our Stores & Pro-  
visions.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/663.

COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER TO PHILIP STEPHENS <sup>1</sup>

*Bristol in Five-Fathom Hole*

Sir within Charles Town Bar 9th July 1776

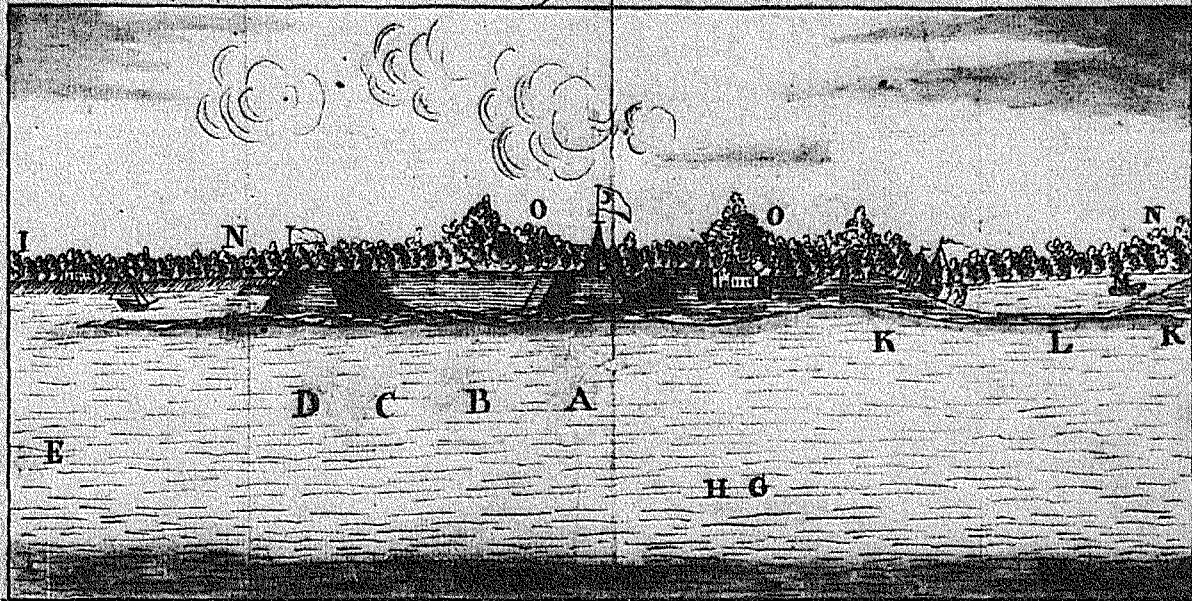
The 19th. of last May I wrote a full account of my Proceedings to that Date – The 26th the *Sphynx* and *Pensacola Packet* returned from Reconnoitring and making Their Observations on Charles Town, the Engineers Report of the State of the Fortifications, and the Works carrying on, added to an Account General Clinton received that the Troops wou'd not be wanted so soon as He expected, made an Attempt on that Place adviseable – The 21st of May the *Sphynx* and *Pensacola* chased a Ship and a Pirate Brig of 18 Guns called the *Comet*; the Brig got over Charles-Town-Bar and Anchored within Gun Shot of the Ship, which They run on Shore; Lieutenant [Toby] Caulfield in the *Pensacola*, mounting only Two Swivels, assisted by the *Sphynx*'s Boats, set Her on Fire, 'tho She was under the Protection of the Brig, a Schooner of Sixteen Guns, and several Armed Vessels, that came down the River to prevent Her from being destroyed, or got off; The Ship was called the *St James*, Captn Wilson, belonging to Bristol, Laden with Rum and Sugar; She Sailed from Jamaica the 27th of April, and was taken the 18th of May, coming through the Gulf Stream by the fore-mentioned Brig commanded by One Turpin – The 22d Lieutenant Caulfield took a Sloop close in Shore and Burnt Her; I have mentioned these Circumstances because Captain [Anthony] Hunt thought it incumbent on Him to write to me, and bestow much Praise on Mr Caulfield on this Occasion – May 30th the Fleet got over the Bar at Cape Fear, and I gave out a Rendezvous by General Clinton's Desire for Bulls Bay, and that Night sent the *Sphynx* and the *Delegate* (a Boat belonging to the General) to look in There, to gain Intelligence.

The next Morning we Sailed, and joined the *Ranger* with Her Convoy, which complete the whole Number of Ships under my Direction, excepting such as Their Lordships have ordered on a different Service. By the *Ranger* I received Their Lordships Instructions of the 8th of last March – June 1st We anchored off Bulls Bay, but not finding the intelligence expected, it was determined to move so soon as possible to Charles-Town-Bar. that Night the *Sphynx* and *St Lawrence* Schooner, and next Morning the *Active* were sent off the Bar, to make observations, and remove any Obstructions that might be laid in our Way – June 2d the *Ranger* and *Delegate* went to Sound the North End of Sullivan's Island and Long-Island as far as the Rattle Snake, and next Day from the Northwt of the Rattle Snake to the North

End of Long-Island – June 3d foreseeing what great advantages might be drawn from Arming the *Friendship*, and having full Authority from the Lords of the Admiralty to Employ Her as an Armed-Ship, I gave Mr [Charles] Hope the first Lieutenant of the *Bristol* an Order to command Her, and I have the Pleasure to inform Their Lordships, that through the Zeal, activity, and good Conduct of Captain Hope, She was of singular Service – June 4th The whole Fleet except the *Ranger* Anchored off Charles-Town-Bar – The 5th the *Delegate* covered by the *Friendship*, sounded the Bar, and Laid down Buoys, preparatory to the intended Entrance of the Harbour to Morrow, by the Frigates – Ordered the *St Lawrence* to join the *Ranger*, and the *Friendship* to proceed to the Southwd of Long-Island – The 6th Directed Captn Wills [Willis] to Place the *Ranger*, *St Lawrence* and *Friendship* where General Clinton thought Proper – The 7th being convinced from the View I had of the Fortification on Sulivans Island, that the *Bristols* assistance wou'd be absolutely necessary, I directed Captn [William] Williams to assemble the Captains of the Squadron and call before Him all the Masters and Pilots for Their Opinion, whether the *Bristol* cou'd be got over the Bar, They having reported, that if She cou'd be brought to 17: feet 6 Inchs She might be got Over, I gave immediate Orders, for Her Guns to be taken Out, and The Ship to be lightened for that Purpose; the same Day, all the Frigates and most of the Transports got over into five Fathom Hole, the *Prince of Piedmont* Victualler struck fast on the Bar, and was Bilged, but all the Provisions were saved; the *St Lawrence* Schooner and Eight of the smallest Transports joined the *Ranger* at Spences Creek, which is to the Northwd of Long Island and the Armed Ship took Her Station off the South End – The 8th a Flag of Truce came off, with a Letter from a Person who stiles Himself Colonel Moultrely, apologising for firing at Our Flag of Truce, that went Yesterday with a Proclamation from General Clinton. June 9th – the General landed on Long-Island with about 4 or 500 Men – The 10th The *Bristol* got over the Bar with some difficulty – 15th Gave the Captains my Arrangement for the Attack of the Batteries on Sullivan's Island, and wrote next day to the General to acquaint Him that the Ships were ready; at 5 this Morning the Boats of the Squadron under the Command of Lieutenant [Anthony James Pye] Molloy of the *Bristol* attacked and forced on Shore, near Stono's Creek a large Sloop mounting ten four Pounders; the Rebels having Scuttled Her, Mr Molloy set Her on Fire, and She Blew up soon after with a very great explosion, being for the most part Laden with Gun Powder, purchased at St Eustatia – June 21st The Armed Ship not being wanted at Long-Island, came into the Harbour; made the Signal to Unmoor, to cause a Diversion, 'tho the Wind was contrary, imagining that Our Troops were engaging the Rebels, at the North End of Sullivan's Island, this Day the General fixed on Sunday the 23d for Our joint Attack. June 23d made a private Signal to the General, that I wou'd go on the Attack at One O'Clock, but the Wind coming contrary, Hauled down the Signal at 11 – The 25th the *Experiment* arrived, and next Day came over the Bar, having been Lightened, and most of Her Guns got Out – At the

same Time made a new Arrangement for the Attack – June the 27th the wind flattering Us, made the private Signal to the General and got under Way, but were obliged to Anchor, the Wind flying suddenly round to the Northward – June 28th ½ past Nine informed General Clinton by Signal, that I shou'd go on the Attack Half an Hour after Ten, I made the Signal to Weigh, and about a Quarter after Eleven, the Ships brought up against the Fort ( a View of which I now send You) in the following Order; – The *Active* against the Three Guns on The Face of the East Bastion, *Bristol*, against five Guns in the Curtain and the Two on the Flank of the East Bastion; *Experiment* against the four remaining Guns in the Curtain, and the Two, on the flank of the West Bastion; *Solebay* against the Three Guns on the Face of the West Bastion – The *Thunder Bomb* covered by the *Friendship* brought the Saliant Angle of the East-Bastion to Bear NWBN, and Colonel James, (who has ever since our Arrival been very anxious to give the best Assistance) threw several Shells a little before, and during the Engagement, in very good Direction – The *Sphynx*, *Actaeon*, and *Syren* were to have been to the Westward, to prevent Fireships or other Vessels from annoying the Ships Engaged, to Enfilade the Works, and when, the Rebels were driven from Them, to cut off[f] Their Retreat if possible – This last Service was not performed, owing to the ignorance of the Pilots, who Run the Three Frigates aground; The *Sphynx* and *Syren* got off in a few Hours, but the *Actaeon* remained fast, 'til the next Morning when the Captain and Officers thought proper to Scuttle, and Set Her on Fire; I ordered a Court-Martial on the Captain, Officers, and Company, and They have been Honourably acquitted – Captain Hope made His Armed Ship as useful as He cou'd on this Occation, and He merits every Thing that can be said in His Favor – During the Time of Our being abreast of the Fort, which was near Ten Hours, a Brisk Fire was kept up by the Ships, with Intervals, and We had the satisfaction, after being engaged Two Hours, to oblige the Rebels to slacken Their Fire very much; We drove large Parties several Times out of the Fort, which were replaced by others from the Main; About half an Hour after Three, a considerable Reinforcement from Mount Pleasant Hung a Man on a Tree, at the back of the Fort, and We imagine that the same Party ran away about an Hour after, for the Fort was then, totally silenced, and evacuated for near One Hour and a Half, but the Rebels finding that Our Army cou'd not take Possession, about Six O'Clock a considerable Body of People reentered the Fort, and renewed the Firing from Two or Three Guns, the rest being I suppose dismounted. About Nine o'Clock, it being very Dark, great part of our Ammunition Expended, the People fatigued, the Tide of Ebb almost done, no prospect from the Eastward, and no possibility of our being of any further Service, I ordered the Ships to withdraw to Their former Moorings – Their Lordships will see plainly by this Account, that if the Troops cou'd have co-operated on this Attack, that His Majesty wou'd have been in Possession of Sullivan's Island; But I must beg Here to be fully understood, least it shou'd be imagined, that I mean to throw even the most distant Reflection on our Army; I shou'd not discharge my Consci-

133  
*Summit of the Platform on this fort carried American pieces of Cannon 32 and 24 pounders, 8 & 6 upon  
 the side of each Section, two on each of the Corners, and 4 upon the Centre. There was a Second Battery of three pieces  
 of Cannon and a Mortar beyond the West Bastion, and three pieces of Ordnance in a third line, behind the Middle  
 Grave. As for the position of the Mortars, one was 12 feet, and the length of the fort, from the Westward to the East, to  
 that of the East Bastion, 550 feet. The whole Work being now well ready.*



1  
*A. S. B. E. being the British land on the West End of Sullivan's Island with the Disposition of the Fleet, Commanded by  
 Commodore Sir Peter Parker. On the 28th of June 1776, which was the day when the British first landed on the Island.  
 A. The Bristol, B. The Panther, C. The Experiment, D. The Ship, E. The Ship, F. The Ship, G. The Ship, H. The Ship, I. The Ship, J. The Ship, K. The Ship, L. The Ship, M. The Ship, N. The Ship, O. The Ship, P. The Ship, Q. The Ship, R. The Ship, S. The Ship, T. The Ship, U. The Ship, V. The Ship, W. The Ship, X. The Ship, Y. The Ship, Z. The Ship.*

ence were I not to acknowledge, that such was my Opinion of His Majestys Troops from the General down to the private Soldiers, that after I had been engaged some Hours, and perceived that the Troops had not got a Footing on the North End of Sullivan's Island, I was perfectly satisfied that the Landing was impracticable; and that the Attempt wou'd have been the Destruction of many brave Men without the least probability of Success; and This I am certain will appear to be the Case, when General Clinton represents His Situation – The *Bristol* had Forty Men Killed, and Seventy One Wounded, the Morning after the Engagement the Mizen Mast fell over Board, and We have been obliged to cut off[f] Twenty Two Feet of the Main Mast, and to Case and Fish the Remainder of it; the Foremast must be also Fished; The Head of the Main Topmast, and Caps of the Bowsprite and Top Gallant Mast shot away, and She is also much Damaged in Her Hull, Yards and Rigging – The *Experiment* had Twenty Three killed and Fifty Six Wounded and suffered much in her Hull, Masts, Yards, and Rigging – The *Active*, Lieutenant Pike Killed, Six Wounded – and the *Solebay*, Eight Wounded. The Fort has 26 and 32 Pounders, several unlucky accidents concurred to make it difficult to Silence it, The Three Frigates ran aground in endeavouring to get to Their Stations, Our Springs were shot away, and the Tide wou'd not suffer Us for a long Time to carry out an Anchor – Not One Man who was Quartered at the beginning of the Action on the *Bristols* Quarter Deck escaped being Killed or Wounded. Captain [John] Morris lost His Right Arm, and received other wounds. The Master is wounded in His Right Arm but will recover the Use of it; I received several Contusions at different Times, but as none of Them are on any Part where the least Danger can be apprehended, They are not worth mentioning. Lieutenants Caulfield, Molloy and [Charles Edward] Nugent were the Lieuts of the *Bristol* in the Action, They Behaved so remarkably well, that it is impossible to Say, to whom the Preference is due, and so indeed I may Say, of all the Petty-Officers, Ships Company, and Volunteers; at the Head of the latter I must Place Lord William Campbell, who was so condescending as to accept of the Direction of some Guns on the Lower-Gun-Deck; His Lordship received a contusion on His Left Side, but I have the Happiness to inform Their Lordships, That is has not proved of much Consequence – Mr. Caulfield who acted as my Captain during great part of the Engagement, I appointed the 2nd instant to the Command of the *Thunder Bomb*, till further Order, in the Room of Captain [James] Reid, preferred to the *Sphynx*, whose Captain I have appointed to the *Active*, and Captain Williams to the *Experiment*, Vacant by the Resignation of Captain [Alexander] Scott, who has lost His Left Arm, and is otherwise so wounded, that I fear he will not recover. Lieutenant Deans of the *Thunder Bomb*, who was on Board the *Bristol* some Hours in the Heat of Action, and passed through some severe Firing in carrying my Orders to different Ships, I appointed Second Lieutenant of the *Bristol* in the Room of Mr Molloy moved to be First – July 3d Captain Morris, who lost his Arm, and since Dead, having resigned the Command of the *Bristol* I promoted Captain Caulfield of the

*Thunder Bomb* to be Captain of Her, Lieutenant Molloy to the Command of the *Thunder*, Lieutenant Deans to be First Lieutenant of the *Bristol*, and Lieutenant Riddall [Ambrose Reddall] (who was first of the *Experiment*, and Fought Her much to my Satisfaction) to be Second – I have continued Mr Nugent (whose Deserts are equal to any Promotion He can receive) Third Lieutenant, tho' He acted as such in the Engagement because I had only promoted Him a few Days before, to be a Lieutenant, and the other two Gentlemen have length of Service to Plead, and an unblemished Reputation, which made Them known and respected as Officers before this Period.–

Agreeable to Their Lordships Order authorising me to appoint Officers to Act, I shall deliver to the Commander in Chief in America when I join Him, a List of such Appointments as I have made, since I was Honoured with this Command, for His determination, All of Them, except Two, have been in Consequence of vacancies caused by the late Engagement – I cannot conclude this Long Letter, without remarking, that when it was known, that we had many Men too weak to come to Quarters, almost all the Seamen belonging to the Transports offered Their Service with a truly British Spirit, and a just sense of the Cause we are Engaged in; I accepted of upwards of Fifty to supply the Place of Our Sick; The Masters of many of the Transports attended with Their Boats, but particular Thanks are Due to Mr Chambers, the Master of the *Mercury*.

All the Regiments will be embarked in a few Days; the first Brigade consisting of Four Regiments will Sail in a Day or Two under Convoy, for New York; the *Bristol* and *Experiment* will I Hope soon follow with the Remainder. I have sent Captain Hope to England in the *Ranger*, with General Clintons Dispatches and Mine, the *Friendship* being Reinstated as a Transport. I am Sir [&c.]

P: Parker

P:S: Two of the *Bristols* Lower Deck Guns are quite unserviceable by the Trunnions being shot off –

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/486.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A SURGEON IN SIR PETER PARKER'S  
FLEET, DATED JULY 9, 1776.”<sup>1</sup>

We left Cape-Fear on the 27th of May, and anchored the same evening off the bar. The camp was struck at the same time, and the troops embarked the same evening on board the several transports. All our motions were so languid and so innervate, that it was the 9th of June before the *Bristol* and *Pigot* passed the bar of Charlestown; the *Bristol* in passing struck, which alarmed us all exceedingly; but, as it wanted two hours of high water, she soon floated again. The *Prince of Piedmont*, a victualling ship, was totally lost on the north breakers of the bar. General Clinton and Lord Cornwallis were both on board when she struck; but as the weather was very fine, they were not in the least danger. By our delays we gave the people every opportunity they could have wished for, to extend their lines, &c.:



they were not idle – every hour gave us astonishing proofs of their industry. As we anchored at one league distance from Sullivan's Island, we could see all that was going on with the help of our glasses. The fort on this Island is exceedingly strong (or rather the battery;) it is built of palm trees and earth, and on it are mounted eighteen of the lower deck guns of the *Foudroyant*: I never could distinguish more than seventeen; others imagined they could see nineteen – however, that is immaterial.

The signal for attacking was made by Sir Peter Parker on the 27th of June; but the wind coming suddenly to the northward, the ships were obliged again to anchor. The troops have been encamped on Long-Island since the 15th, and it was intended that General Clinton should pass the neck that divides Long-Island from Sullivan's Island, and attack by land while Sir Peter attacked by sea. General Lee had made such a disposition of masked batteries, troops, &c., that it is the opinion of all the officers of the Army whom I have heard mention this circumstance, that if our troops had attacked, they must have been cut off; but this assertion does not satisfy the Navy, for they certainly expected great assistance from the Army. Excuse this necessary digression. On the morning of the 28th, the wind proved favourable; it was a clear fine day, but very sultry; the *Thunder*, bomb, began the attack at half past eleven, by throwing shells while the ships were advancing. The ships that advanced to attack the battery were the *Bristol* and *Experiment*, two fifty-gun ships; the *Solebay*, *Active*, *Acteon*, and *Syren*, of twenty-eight guns; the *Sphinx*, of twenty, and the *Friendship*, an armed ship of twenty-eight guns. With this force what might not have been expected? Unfortunately the bomb was placed at such a distance that she was not of the least service. This Colonel James, the principal engineer, immediately perceived; to remedy which inconvenience, an additional quantity of powder was added to each mortar: the consequences were, the breaking down the beds, and totally disabling her for the rest of the day. The *Bristol* and *Experiment* had suffered most incredibly: the former very early had the spring of her cable shot away – of course she lay end on to the battery, and was raked for and aft; she lost upwards of one hundred men killed and wounded. Captain Morris, who commanded her, lost his arm; the worthy man, however, died a week after on board the *Pigot*. Perhaps an instance of such slaughter cannot be produced; twice the quarter-deck was cleared of every person except Sir Peter, and he was slightly wounded; she had nine thirty-two pound shot in her mainmast, which is so much damaged as to be obliged to be shortened; the mizzen had seven thirty-two-pound shot, and was obliged, being much shattered, to be entirely cut away. It is impossible to pretend to describe what our shipping have suffered. Captain Scott, of the *Experiment*, lost his right arm, and the ship suffered exceedingly; she had much the same number killed and wounded as the *Bristol*. Our situation was rendered very disagreeable by the *Acteon*, *Syren* and *Sphinx*, running foul of each other, and getting on shore on the middle ground. The *Sphinx* disengaged herself by cutting away her bowsprit; and, as it was not yet flood-tide, the *Sphinx* and *Syren* fortunately warped

off. The *Acteon* was burnt next morning by Captain [Christopher] Atkins, to prevent her falling into the hands of the Provincials, as fine a new frigate as I ever saw. Our ships, after laying nine hours before the battery, were obliged to retire with great loss. The Provincials reserved their fire until the shipping were advanced within point blank shot; their artillery was surprisingly well served, it is said, under the command of a Mr. Masson and DeBrahm; it was slow, but decisive indeed; they were very cool, and took great care not to fire except their guns were exceedingly well directed. But there was a time when the battery appeared to be silenced for more than an hour; the Navy say, had the troops been ready to land at this time, they could have taken possession. How that is I will not pretend to say. I will rather suppose it; but the fire became exceedingly severe when it was renewed again, and did amazing execution after the battery had been supposed to have been silenced. This will not be believed when it is first reported in England. I can scarcely believe what I myself saw on that day – a day to me one of the most distressing of my life. The Navy, on this occasion, have behaved with their usual coolness and intrepidity; one would have imagined that no battery could have resisted their incessant fire.

1. Force, comp., *American Archives*, 4th, VI, 1209–10. In Almon ed., *Remembrancer* [1776], III, 265, a portion of the foregoing letter is published. It is headed, "Extract of a genuine Letter from Mr. P ———, Surgeon, on board the ———, dated July 9, 1776, to Doctor S ———s, in London."

JOURNAL OF H. M. S. *Solebay*, CAPTAIN THOMAS SYMONDS <sup>1</sup>

July 1776                      At Anchor off Cummings Point [South Carolina]  
 Monday 8    2 Seamen ran away in the Night with the Barge.  
 Tuesday 9    Moderate breezes & Cloudy with rain  
                  Longboat Watering p m lost by the Longbt oversetting a fire  
                  Grapling p[ai]r of studg sl. Halliards 1 Do Jack & 2 Marines  
                  Musquets & Bayonets 3 Empty Casks

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/909.

RICHARD HARRISON TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Sirs    Martinique July 9th 1776 –  
 The preceding is Copy of what I had the pleasure of writing you from St Eustatia p Capt John Martin <sup>2</sup> – I have only now to add that under Cover you'll find duplicates of the Invoice & Bill Lading for the Goods I shipped by him – also Bill Lading and Invoice for thirty four Casks Powder now shipped by the *Molly* Capt [Thomas] Conway, which closes the purchase made for you on my seperate Acct – & I have therefore sent a Copy of my Acct Curr't leaving a Ball[an]ce in my favr of £948.10.9 your Money – If right youll please to enter it accordingly, & credit what you recieve in future as already advised – I am most respectfully Sirs [&c.]

R<sup>d</sup> Harrison

1. Red Book, XII, Md. Arch.
2. See Harrison's letter of June 15, 1776.

## 10 July

"A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER OF THE 31ST REGIMENT . . . DATED CHAMBLEE,  
60 LEAGUES ABOVE QUEBEC, 10TH JULY, 1776." <sup>1</sup>

What will seem most surprising to you is, that we are now hauling three large armed Vessels over Land, for twelve Miles, to the Lakes; the least of them is about 70 Tons, and the largest 100; they carry 14, 16 and 18 Guns.

1. *Public Advertiser*, London, September 18, 1776.

CONDEMNATION OF BRIGANTINE *Mary* AND CARGO IN NOVA SCOTIA VICE  
ADMIRALTY COURT <sup>1</sup>

|   |   |       |
|---|---|-------|
| Nova Scotia<br>Court of Vice<br>Admiralty<br>28th June 1776   | } | Cause |
| Hyde Parker Junior, Commander of his Majesty's Ship of War the <i>Phoenix</i> VS the Brigantine <i>Mary</i> and Cargo – Libel filed and entered Order made thereon as on file. Thomas Dykes Midshipman of His Majesty's Ship <i>Phoenix</i> being duly sworn deposeth as follows that the Brigantine <i>Mary</i> was taken by the <i>Phoenix</i> 's Tender near New York some time in March last loaded with Rum Bound into New York, that she is one hundred Tons Burthen & upwards that he the deponent gave all the papers that were found on Board (and given the deponent by Captain Parker) to Mr. Alexander Brymer Agent to Captain Parker, that the master of the said Brigantine, deserted the said Brig & went ashore on long Island. |   |       |

Thomas Dyke

2d July, 1776, sworn before me,  
Charles Morris junr Reg[iste]r –  
10 July Court opened, by making Proclamation as usual, the Advoc[at]e General moved for a decree in this Court, then the decree was pronounced as on file, whereby, the Brigantine *Mary* & Cargo are Condemned as lawfull Prize to the Captor thereof  
Court adjourned without day in this Cause.–

[Endorsed] Copy of this Case for Waddington fee £1.19..2

1. Vice Admiralty Register, vol. 5, 1769–1777, N. S. Arch.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SLOOP *Tyrannicide*; CAPTAIN JOHN FISK <sup>1</sup>

Remks on Wednesday 10th of July 1776

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 2 [A. M.]<br>4<br>5<br>12<br><br>1 [P. M.]<br>12 | Clear weather<br>Hald down all sails<br>Made sail thick fogg<br>Ends <sup>2</sup> thick fogg<br>Latt in 43d.07m Longd in 67d.27m<br>Moderate Breaze thick fogg and smooth water<br>Moderate Clear Weather |
|--|---|

1. John Fisk Journal, AAS.

2. The reference is to the end of the nautical day, not to the end of the fog.

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

[Extract]

Plymo July 10th 1776

. . . I Congratulate you on the discovery of the Plot at New York. I hope it will do great service. I Expect soon to hear of Some great Events from that quarter if they should be favourable to us what will they do next We have but little News here. now & then A prize from the West Indies is sent in. last Saturday got into Cape Ann two prizes taken by A small Sloop belonging to four or five persons in & about Boston. One from Jamaica A 3 decker with 400 hhds sugar 200 hhds rum. 30 Bales Cotton &c. the Other from Ant[i]gua with 400 hhds rum. this sloop could have taken Another Ship but had not Men to bring her off. & so let her go.<sup>2</sup> when are we to hear of your proceedings on the first Instant what Alliances and Confederations have you Agreed on. I want to see some French Men of War on the Coast. Our Borders seem to be in A state of peace & Tranquility how long they will Continue so I know Not. The Small Pox prevails & is scattered about the Country. in Boston they have given up all thoughts of stopping it & every Body is Inoculating

1. Adams Papers, MassHS.

2. The prizes *Zachariah Bayley* and *Creighton*, taken by Captain Henry Johnson, in the Massachusetts privateer sloop *Yankee*.JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY<sup>1</sup>

[Lebanon] Wednesday, 10th July,

Cap. [Jehiel] Tinker of the galley *Crane*, present, applies for directions about many things, and thereupon

*Voted and Resolved*, That Capt. Tinker of the galley *Crane* take two three-pounders at the old fort at N. London for said galley, to be delivered him by the keeper thereof; that he receive eight swivel guns, as soon as they can be obtained; that he receive ten muskets to be delivered him by Col. [William] Williams he procured, (*viz.* of Jona Goodwin;) that he receive of Mr. N. Shaw junr such powder, ball and military stores as he, said Shaw, shall judge necessary; that he receive from time to time a supply of salted beef, pork, bread, flour sufficient for the support of the officers, sailors and marines on board said galley, of Cap. Jno. Deshon, who is directed to deliver the same; and that he, the said Tinker, provide all other necessary provisions for them, and take order that the same be dealt out prudently, without spoil or waste, with such fresh fish as they may take; and that he keep a just and true account of the purchase and expenditure of such provisions and the same render to his Honor the Governor at the end of two months for his consideration and further orders in the premises.

And, that the place of his general rendezvous be for the present at N. London, and to cruize from Stonington to the mouth of Connecticut River and southward as far as Montauk Point, with proper precaution and prudence.

That he, his officers and men, and all others in the sea service, be under

the rules and laws of the Continental fleet as far [as] they are applicable, and until more particular or further rules can be made.<sup>2</sup>

Mr. Nathaniel Shaw junr. of N. London is appointed Agent for the Colony, for the purpose of naval supplies and for taking care of such sick seamen as may be sent on shore to his care.

*Copy given, sent by Cap. [Seth] Harding.*

*Voted.* That orders be drawn on the Treasurer in favor of Cpts. McCleave and Tinker for the sum of one hundred pounds each, to be improved to purchase necessities for the use of their crews, and to render their account thereof. *And orders given on paper, delivered them, present.*

1. Hoadly, ed., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 473-75.

2. *Ibid.*, a similar resolve was passed this date relative to Captain John McCleave of the galley *Whiting*.

ORDER ON THE CONNECTICUT COMMITTEE OF THE PAY TABLE IN  
FAVOR OF CAPTAIN ROBERT NILES <sup>1</sup>

Lebanon July 10th 1776

Draw on the Colony Treasurer for the Sum of four Hundred and seventy seven Pounds six shillings and nine Pence in Favour of Capt Robert Niles of the Schooner *Spy*, it being the Ballance of Said Schooners Account on the 8th of June [la]st, and also for two Hundred Pounds more for the Schooners use from that Time forward and to Render his Account thereof –

By Order of the Govr & Council of Safety

W<sup>m</sup> Williams Clerk

To the Committee of Pay Table

|                               |            |   |
|-------------------------------|------------|---|
| Ballance June 8th 1776        | - £477.6.9 | } |
| For future Use & to Acc[oun]t | 200.0.0    |   |
|                               | £677.6.9   |   |

1. Conn.Arch., 1st Series, IX, Schooner *Spy* Papers, 33a, ConnSL.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'s ACCOUNT AGAINST THE CONNECTICUT GALLEY  
*Crane* BEFORE HER DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

| 1776    | Row Gally <i>Crane</i>               | Jehiel Tinker Commander | Dr.      |
|---------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| July 10 | To 50 Yards Old Canvas               | @ 2/                    | 5..- -   |
|         | To 1 Funnel & Brass Cock             |                         | 4..3     |
|         | To pd Wm Coit for Cartridge paper    |                         | 1..4 -   |
|         | To pd Russell Hubbards Bill          |                         | 2..7 -   |
|         | To pd Evan Malbones Bill for Cordage |                         | 3..1..-  |
|         | To pd Christo. Leffingwells Bill     |                         | .8..6    |
|         | To pd Benjamin Backus ditto          |                         | .7..-    |
|         | To pd Messrs Ledyards ditto          |                         | .5..-    |
|         | To 2 Gallo. Linseed Oyl              | @7/6                    | .15..-   |
|         | To 500 lb Old junk                   | 40/                     | 10. - -  |
|         | To Jno. Bolles Bill                  |                         | 6..6.11  |
|         | To Jno. Deshons ditto                |                         | 0..0..0  |
|         | To Ebenezer Goddards ditto           |                         | 30.13..- |

|                                     |          |                  |
|-------------------------------------|----------|------------------|
| To Samuel Beldens ditto             |          | .4..2            |
| To Clark Elliotts ditto             |          | .7..6            |
| To 1 Compass                        |          | .7..6            |
| To 3 Nine Pound Cannon 56.1.15      | @ £ 8    | 22.11..-         |
| To 2 Copper Ladles wt 9 lb          | @ 2/6    | 1..2..6          |
| To 4 Wormers & Staffs               | @ 4/     | 16..-            |
| To 4 Rammers & Spunges              | 4/       | 16..-            |
| To 50. 9 Pound Shott                | }        | 8..8..9          |
| To 100 Six Pound ditto <sup>2</sup> |          |                  |
| To 2 barrells Powder wt 204½ lb     | @ 5/4    | 54.10..8         |
| To 1 Kegg pistol ditto wt 10 lb     | 5/4      | 2.13..4          |
| To 9 Musketts with Bayonets         | 60/      | 27..-..-         |
| To 30 lb Musckett Ball              | 6d       | 15..-            |
| To 2 dozn Flints                    | 6d       | .1..-            |
| To 46 pine Plank                    | 2d       | 7..8             |
| To Jno Wards Bill                   |          | .7..6            |
| To Joshua Starrs Bill               |          | 4.19..2          |
| To 62 feet Oak Plank                | @ 4d     | 1..0..8          |
| To Samuel Latimers Bill             |          | 18.11..5         |
| To Alexr Merrills ditto             |          | 2..-..-          |
| To James Tilleys ditto              |          | 12.17..2         |
|                                     |          | <hr/> £220..8..8 |
| To My Commission on the above       | @ 2½ pCt | 5.10..2          |
| Amo[unt] Carrd to Accot Curr        |          | <hr/> £225.18.10 |

1. Shaw Papers, Ledger 26, YUL.

2. *Ibid.*, Ledger 4, in another copy of the account, the six items ending with 100 six pound shot, are bracketed, and endorsed, "from Admiral Hopkins."

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO MAJOR GENERAL HORATIO GATES<sup>1</sup>

Dear Sir

Crown Point July 10th, 1776 -

Colonel [Thomas] Hartley arived from a Tour Down the Lake, last night. Inclosed is a Ccopy of his Journal. I make no Doubt the enemy have a number of Vessells in forwardness & will exert themselves, in Building to Command the Lake -

I have made a Drawft of the Artificers & have sent you a Number of each as pr the Inclosed Memorandum, I have ordered the Oar Makers to go Between this & Skensborough. If Timber Cannot be procured their they must return here where it is plenty. - I believe the Armourers will be wanted at Ticonderoga, & some few of the Black Smiths, the others will have employ at Skensborough, - all the House Carpenters you will Doubtless want, the Ship Carpenters are Devided into Gangs of fifteen Each, & will most or all of them be wanted at Skensborough. I have employed officers to Command the Artificers, which I believe will expedite the works I have orderd to Ty - some Boards, Plank &c, all that Can be procured will be forwarded you emediately

I am anxious to hear from New York, you will be kind enough to Transmit to Genl Schuyler a Coppy of Colo Hartleys Journal I am with Esteem & affection Dr Genl [&c.]

B Arnold

NB I Sent you ab[ou]t Four Tons Lead yesterday in Sheets & Ball, & have Three Tons remaining on hand. None can be found in this Fort

B A

[Enclosure]

10 July 1776

List of Artificers Sent from Crown Point to Ticonderoga & Skensborough July 10th 1776. Vizt

|                       |                                   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Capt. Edward Williams | } wth 65 Blk Smiths & Armourers – |
| Lieut. Solomon Bowman |                                   |

The Former with . . . Capt. Williams to go to Skensborough, the Latter with Lieut. Bowman to remain at Ticonderoga –

Lieut. Benjamin Beal with 34 House Carpenters

Thayer with 34 House Carpenters

Mr Noah Nichols wh 8 Wheel Wrights & Gun Carriage Makers

Richd Fittock wth 13 Ship Carpenters to Skensborough

Lieut Wm Curtis with 13 Ship Carpenters to Ticonda, If wanted, otherwise to Skensborough

B Arnold B Gl

1. Gates Papers, NYHS.

COLONEL THOMAS HARTLEY TO BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD<sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Crown point 10. July. 1776

Sir – In Pursuance of General Sullivans Orders, I set off from hence – on the 5th inst. in the afternoon. we had a very great storm that Evening which had near destroyed several of our Boats – and much injured our arms and Ammunition. against a very strong North Wind we arrived the second Evening at Cumberland Head proper Dispositions were made to provide against a Surprise or oppose an Enemy if any should appear.

We on the seventh found a small Quantity of Ship Timber – there which we destroyed. I ordered out several Parties who scoured the woods for many Miles round Cumberland Head. I sent also a Boat down the Lake as far as the Isle Mote early in the Morning, but neither of the Parties not Boat discovered an Enemy.

. . . I found a Quantity of good Plank and crooked Timber for Ship Building at Hayse's which is the Property of Mr. Udney Hays I ordered the same to be brought here in several Batteauxs, which are now at the Landing –

There was about 1000 Feet of Planks some Miles from the Shore, which at this Time of Year could not be conveyed to the Boats on account of some large Swamps – as it could not fall into the Hands of the Enemy till Winter (when perhaps we might procure it ourselves if wanted) I thought it improper to burn it.

At Haydes we found Hays, Cross and two other Men and by some Address we Collected the following Intelligence – That Crosses Father in Law had been there within a few Days, that he had informed that Generals Carleton and [Simon] Frazer were at St Johns with a considerable Body of Hanoverian and other Troops, that they were repairing the works at St. Johns – and that Sea Men were daily employed in Cutting wood, between that place and the Isle aux Nous, that they were building 3 Sloops and 2 Schooners – at St. Johns, which they expected would be soon finished and that they intended immediately to proceed to Crown Point. & that the Enemy did not mean to injure any of the Common People in those Settlements. . . .

1. Gates Papers, NYHS. Hartley was Lieutenant Colonel of the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

New York, July 10, 1776.

In pursuance of the power given me by Congress and the advice of my General Officers, I have wrote to General Ward and desired him forthwith to detach three of the fullest Regiments from the Massachusetts Bay, to join the Northern Army, esteeming it a matter of the greatest importance to have a sufficient force there, to prevent the Enemy passing the Lake and making an impression in that Quarter.<sup>2</sup> The Gondolas and Gallies will be of great service, and I am hopeful the Carpenters you have sent from Philadelphia, and that will go from the Eastward, on your application, will be able to build a sufficient number in time to answer every Exigency . . .

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 247, 248.

2. The letter to Ward had been written the same day.

MAJOR FRANCIS HUTCHESON TO MAJOR GENERAL FREDERICK HALDIMAND <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Camp at the Watering place on

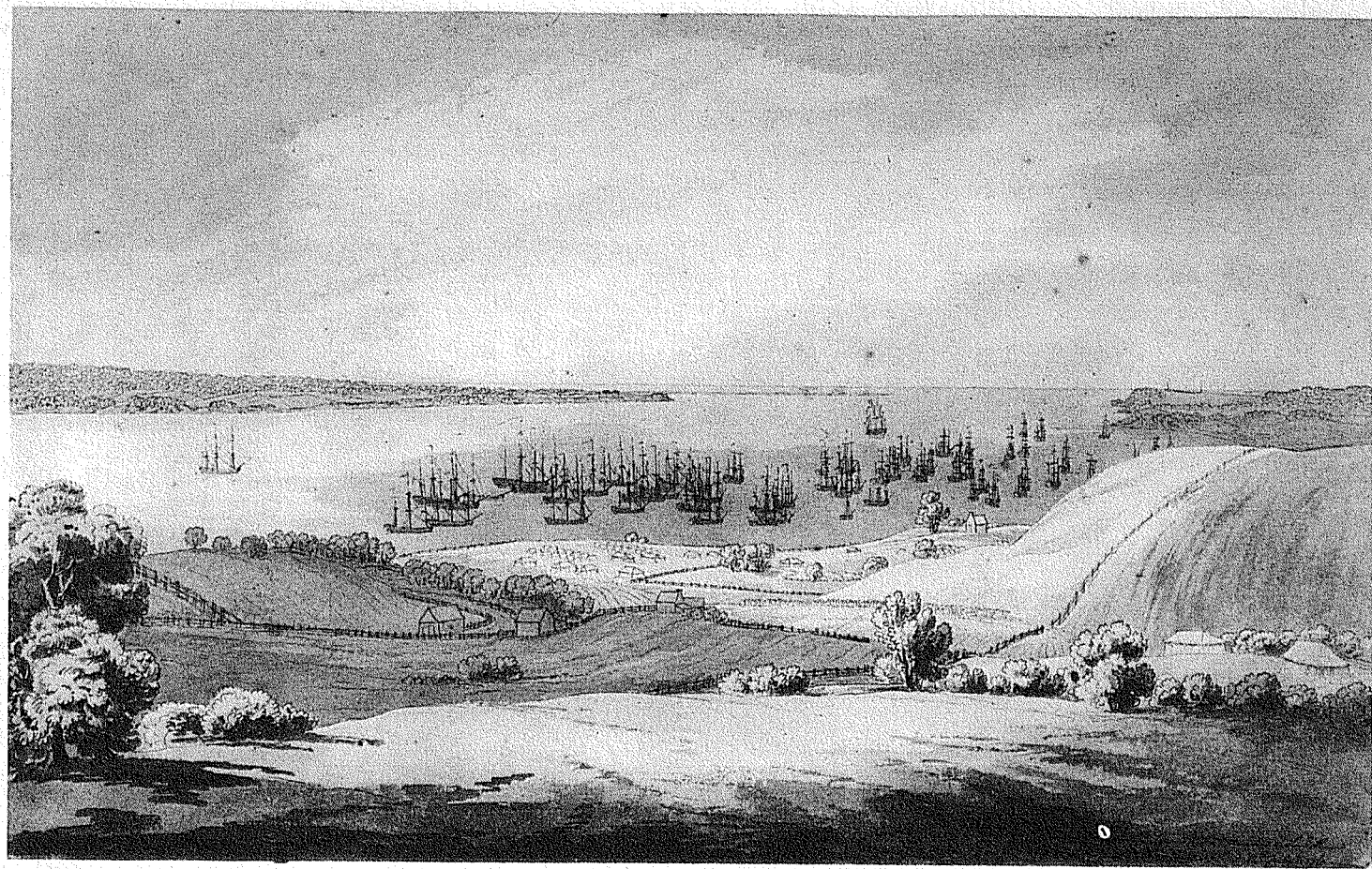
Dear Sir

Statton Island July 10: 1776

I wrote you by the Packet that sailed the 10th of last Month the day we sailed from Halifax and have now the pleasure to acquaint you of the safe arrival of the fleet at Sandy Hook the 29th Instt after an agreeable passage of 19 days – We found Governor Tryon at the Hook on board the *Dutches of Gordon*, he has with him Mr [Thomas] Barrow, Mr [John Tabor] Kempe, Oliver Delancy, Mr [Charles] Apthorp & M[r. Robert] Bayard, the three last Gentlemen made their Escape in a Cannooe from Apthorps house to the *Assia* lying below the Narrow, about ten Nights ago. Hugh & Alexr Wallace are hiding on Long Island, and Billy Bayard in Orange County – Captain Kennedy is at his house at Second River and every hour threatened with distruction, H. Wallace was taken up about three Weeks ago & brought before the Commitey on Long Island, from whome he found means to procure his discharge, otherwise he wou'd have been imprisoned. Mr Prevost remains Quiet at his house in the Jerseys; the Governor & people here are surprised how he finds means to do it. I wish he had come off with other people. New York is deserted by all the inhabitants who are friends to Gov-



ernment, and it is now in possession of Washington & Lord Sterling at the Head of about ten thousand Connecticote & New England Rebeles, the[y] have fortified the town & all the hights on Long Island Opposite to it – the fleet came up from the Hook Opposite to the little town of New Utrick in Gravesend Bay on Long Island the first Instt where a landing was intended but from the want of Water on the Island & the length of the March from these to town it was (I beleive) thought better to proceed through the Narrows and land on this Island, which was Effected in the Evening of the 2d Instt without the lest opposition, a few Riffle Men made their Escape on our approach, and all the inhabitants have since come in to us and shew the Greatest Satisfaction on our Arrival, which has releived them from the most horred Opression that can be conceived – the few Rebels that were on this Island displayed at the hights in the Narrows the Continantal Collours, which made us beleive they had a good Battery on that Commanding Ground but on our aproach, the Colours were puled down, and the trifling brest work that was thrown up we found deserted, its immaising the[y] did not fortify the Narrows – which woud have anoyed us greatly, they fired a few Shot on some of the Ships as they came through, from the Long Island side without doing any mischieff – the Army is now all landed & Cantooned all round the Island. The Head Qrs is on the Road to Elizabeth town, the House a Mr Hicks formerly lived in, but lately occupied by a Mr Banker of New York, who was a Member of the Povincial Congress. he is treated to a Q[uarte]r on board one of the Men of War, and General Howe has taken care to give orders for his Reception Lord [Hugh] Percy Commands the troops in the Center of the Island, his Head Qrs at Richmond Genl [James] Robertson with the first Brigade from the Landing along the Road to the Dutch Church, General Picket [Robert Pigot] with the Second at the blazing Star. Genl [Daniel] Jones with the 3d from the Dutch Church to Elizh ferry, Genl [James] Grant with the forth Brigade on the road to Amboy, Brigadier [Francis] Smith with the fifth Brigade, from the landing at the Watering place to the Narrows and Brigadier [James] Agnew with the 6th Brigade at Billops ferry opposite to the town of Amboy, Brigadr [Samuel] Cleaveland with the Artillery and Broken Corps, at and about the Watering place. near which I am incamped with the people Employed in the D[eput]y Q[uarte]r M[aste]r General Department. Shirreff [William Sherrieff] is with the General at Head Qrs It is said our Army will remean in their present Cantoonnement, untill the arrival of the fleet from Europe under Lord Howe, which is hourly Expected. the New Yorkers who are friends to Government are very apprehensive the New England Men will set fire to the town, as soon as the[y] find they can no longer keep possession of it. . . . the Highland Corps have been unlucky in the Voyage out Six of their Ships are taken that we know of, and but Six Companys of the 42d & Fraziers arrived with us – the Rebel privatiers are indifaticable, and I fear will pick up a Number of them. the last Accounts from the Southward say that Admiral Sir Rob [*sic* Peter] Parker had lightened his Ship and got her



*"View of the Narrows between Long Island & Staten Island, & our Fleet at Anchor & Lord Howe coming in taken from the height at the Water Place Staten Island 12th July 1776."*

over the barr, at Charlestown, by taking out her Guns, which he took in again as soon as he got over, and is now opposite the town . . .

I have Just now come from dining with Governor Tryon at Robertson, where I met Barrow and all the Refugees. Barrow desires I will present you, his best Respects, they all remember you with great Regard. he tells me its his opinion that Nine out of the 13 Provinces will declear for Government before the last day of November.

Its said the Admiral will send the *Assia*, and one or two More of the Men of War, up to town the first leading Wind, to destroy a battery they have at Poullers [Paulus] Hook ferry, and on Bedlows Island —

1. Haldimand Papers, BM.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Senegal*, CAPTAIN ROGER CURTIS <sup>1</sup>

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| July. 76       | At single Anchor off Wt Bank [New York Narrows]  |
| Thursday 4th   | at 4 A M weigh'd & work'd up Amboy Channel <sup>2</sup> at 10 brot too to stop tide.<br>Light Airs & Clear. 1 P M. Weigh'd & made Sail up the River at 2 taken aback & the tide of ebb coming down was obliged to drop down to Prince's Bay & Anchor'd with the small Br in 7 fam — Red head Wt 1 Mile |
| Friday 5th     | Light Airs — at 4 P M departed this Life Thos Salter, Seaman, at 10 buried the deceased —  |
| Saturday 6th   | A M Employed Watering<br>Fresh Breezes & Squally. Employ'd as before —   |
| Sunday 7th     | A M Light Airs with Rain at 4 P M Weigh'd the small Br & let go the best Br Veer'd to $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Cable and stow'd the small Br   |
| Monday 8th     | at 7 AM Weigh'd & run up for the Town of Amboy at 9 Anchd with the sm. Br in 3 fam the Fort NNW. 2 M[ile]s Red Bank NE 4 Ms from 10 till Noon sounded the Channel towds Amboy.<br>Light Airs inclinable to Calms, the Boat at low Water sounding Brunswick river                                       |
| Tuesday 9th    | at 3 AM Weigh'd & run down to Prince's Bay at 10 AM Anchd in 7 fam with the small Br Red head W $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{4}$ Mile Never Sink ESE $\frac{1}{2}$ S. 3 Leags<br>Ditto Weather P M the Boat employ'd Watering landed the Money & Mr Apthorp <sup>3</sup>                                  |
| Wednesday 10th | at 4 A M sent the Boat Watering at 10 Weigh'd & made sail for Sandy Hook at Noon running down for Sandy Hook.<br>Cloudy and Squalley the Wind flying to the NE — In Top Gt Sails & 1st Reef of TS at 4 Anchor'd in Sandy hook  |

bay with the small Br Veer'd to 1/3 of a Cable Light  
house NEBE 2 M[ile]s Never Sink SW. 2 Leags -

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/885.
2. Shuldham's report of the distribution of his vessels, as of July 6, 1776, described the *Senegal* as "in the Creek between the S W part of Staten Island and the town of Amboy to cut off the communication with New Jersey."
3. Charles W. Apthorp, a member of the New York Council, and a loyalist, whose mission was not disclosed in the ship's journal. According to William Smith, Apthorp "had disappeared" from New York on July 4, and was supposed to have taken refuge with Shuldham's fleet. William H. W. Sabine, ed., *Historical Memoirs . . . of William Smith . . .* (New York, 1956-1958), I, 281. Hereafter cited as Sabine, ed., *Memoirs of William Smith*. Apthorp was probably the Gentleman & Servant who came on board in a canoe from Long Island," as mentioned in the *Senegal's* journal June 29, 1776. See also Hutcheson to Haldimand, July 10. Major Hutcheson found him on board the *Dutchess of Gordon*.

#### DIARY OF DR. THOMAS MOFFAT <sup>1</sup>

[On board H.M. Sloop *Swan*]

July 10th Thermometer morning 70. Noon 80. P M The *Liverpool*  
Frigate *Halifax* Brigt a Ship from Glasgow with Part of G[eneral Simon]  
Frazers Highlanders came into Sandy Hook.

1. Thomas Moffat's Diary, LC.

#### COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS TO CAPTAIN PETER PARKER <sup>1</sup>

Capt Peter Parker No 2

Philada July 10th 1776

sir The Brigt *Dispatch* of which you are hereby Appointed Commander in the Service of this United States of America, being now ready for Sea, You are to proceed immediately on board said Brigantine for [the] Port of Bourdeaux in France & on your arrival there deliver the dispatches given you herewith to Messrs Saml & J. H. Delap Merchts of that place You are to consider these letter's directed to those Gentlemen as very important and must deliver them yourself soon as possible, you must have them Slung at Sea with a heavy weight ready to throw overboard & sink them in case you shou'd be unfortunately taken by the Enemy, but to avoid that danger you must make it a standing rule to run from every Vessell you see at Sea, the *Dispatch* is well found with plenty of Sails, rigging Stores & Materials You will therefore make good use of them and endeavour to make a short passage by a dilligent attention to Winds and Weather carrying at all times as much Sail as is proper

The Goods we have caused to be shipped onboard this Brigt are Consigned to Messrs Delap to whom you are to deliver the same & when this is done you must immediately Set about Arming the Brigt with Eight or Ten four pounder Cannon, as many Swivels Blunderbusses, Cohorns, Howitzers & Muskets as you think proper, but take care that the Cannon &c are of the best & handsomest, fit for ships use. You may if you think proper fit her with Close quarters & mount some Guns in the Cabin Steerage and Fore Castle, or you may Mount the whole on Deck and if she will bear more than

Ten Cannon you may buy them, You must procure a suitable quantity of Powder & Ball for the Cannon, Arms with Cartridges Cartridge Paper & all necessary apparatus thereto. You will Compleat this business with Expedition and procure the best advice & assistance in doing it. Messrs Delap will recommend you to proper People for this purpose & they will supply you with Money to pay the Cost You must Ship as many Seamen as you can possibly get, especially American Seamen or those that have been much connected in this Country but you are not to Confine yourself to those alone We are in Want of Seamen and You may bring People of all Countrys or Nations that are willing to enter into the American Service, You must make it known in the best manner you can that great Wages & encouragement is now given to Seamen in every part of America both for the Publick & for Merchant Service, You are therefore to bring over not only sufficient for your own Complement which as an armed Vessell might be Thirty or forty, but as many as you can Conveniently give Ship room to and you may Contract with them for such reasonable Wages as may be satisfactory to them If any Masters or Mates Want passages home you are to Accomodate them free of any Charge to them You must lay in sufficient of Provisions and allow each man plenty but suffer no Waste. You are to receive from Messrs Delap any Goods they may desire to Ship or from any other persons Goods that Messrs Delap approve of being shipped on board and when you are ready for departure you are to wait on those Gentln for their dispatches and when you receive the same, with their approbation for your departure you are then to make the best of your way back for this Coast, you know how it is lined with British Men of Warr at present and it is not possible for us to say what port may be Safest by the time you return, but as We expect you will be well Armed & Manned You need not fear Small Vessells, and by keeping Constantly a hand at each Mast head too look out for them You may avoid all large ones expecially as we expect the *Dispatch* will be a Flyer, and in France you may get another Compleat suit of Sails for her You must therefore push into the first safe port you can any where in the United States of America as by the time you Return you may expect to Meet with some of our own Frigates Galleys & Cruizers. Little Egg Harbour or Cape May will probably be as secure as any other places –

We deliver you herewith a Commission a list of Agents for Prizes, & the Resolves of Congress respecting Captures by which you will learn how to Conduct yourself in this respect. Your business however is not to Cruize but to make quick passage but if you meet any prizes on your return so much the better provided you do not loose time in sacking them and in Case of Capture you must send them in to some of the Agents, who will do the needfull for all Concerned. We expect you will be carefull of the Brigt her Stores & Materials dilligent in making dispatch both at Sea & in port, faithful in the discharge of your Duty and the Moment you reach any port in America come or send the dispatches Express to the Committee of Secret Correspondence. We are Sir [&c.]

P.S. Should you meet Silas Deane Esqr. who lately went from this place for Bourdeaux you may consult with and be advised & directed by him in all things relative to your business with the Brig *Dispatch* –

1. Papers CC (Other Reports of Committees of Congress), 37, 11–13, NA.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS  
TO SAMUEL AND J. H. DELAP, BORDEAUX MERCHANTS <sup>1</sup>

Gentln –

Philada July 10th 1776

You will receive this by the Brigantine *Dispatch* Capt Peter Parker & with it some letters for Silas Deane Esqr which being of Considerable Consequence We beg you will cause them to be sent or delivered to him with the utmost Expedition and we make no doubt he has left his address with you shou'd he have left Bordeaux –

You will find herein an Invoice & bill of loading for some Goods we have shipped onboard this Brig Consigned to you for sale these Goods you please to receive & make the most advantageous Sale of them that your market will admit –

Capt Parker has orders to Arm & fit out the *Dispatch* in a Warlike manner and we hope You will advise & assist him in doing it, you'll please to procure him the assistance of the most skillful Persons Tradesmen &c for doing that bussiness & supply him with Money to purchase Cannon, Swivels, Howitzers Musquets, Powder & Ball &c he must fit her in a very compleat manner & must have plenty of those kind of stores. He is also to procure as many Seamen as he possibly can to come with him in this Brig in which we also pray for your assistance & that you will furnish with money to pay advance wages for Provisions and a New Suit of Sails all which we hope he will soon get Compleated with your assistance. When you have paid all charges & Expences relative to this Vessell, whatever ballance remains from the Sale of her Cargo, you'll please to Invest in the purchase of some Brass Field Pieces Six & four pounders & if you can procure them, good Soldiers Muskets, Gun Locks, Powder or Salt Petre, or if you cannot ship such Articles, you may then Invest the said Ballance in Blankets and other Woolen Goods suitable for Wear in a Cold Climate and whatever you buy, ship onboard the said Brig *Dispatch* for address of the Committee of Secret Correspondence on Account & Risque of the United States of America and enclose to them an Invoice & bill of Loading for the same. It is necessary that Capt Parker make dispatch in fitting the Brig and getting her ready for Sea & that you also compleat your Bussiness for her soon as you can but she is not to Sail untill Mr Deane sends his dispatches for those are the most immediate object of the present Voyage Therefore if Mr Deane is not at Bourdeaux you will please to keep him informed when the Brig will be ready to return & the Moment his dispatches come to your hands deliver them to Capt Parker with an injunction to Sail immediately for this Coast agreeable to his orders Should Mr Deane be in Bourdeaux Capt Parker must be directed

by him entirely in all his proceedings and if Mr Deane desires any Goods to be shipped onboard the *dispatch* they must be received onboard in short the Captain is ordered to receive onbd all Goods you recommend therefore you'l please to Ship any you may have or that Mr Deane may order & inform Mr John Danl Schweighauser of Nantes that he may Ship any he has for account of this Continent. We hope you will assist in making it known that great Wages & encouragement are given to Seamen in America & the Seamen of every Country will be alike Welcome, We Shall have frequent opportunitys of addressing you & remain Gentln [&c.]

1. Papers CC (Other Reports of Committees of Congress), 37, 15-17, NA.

JOHN HANCOCK TO GEORGE WASHINGTON <sup>1</sup>

Sir,

Philada July 10th 1776

The enclosed Letter from Mr Ephraim Anderson <sup>2</sup> I am directed to transmit by order of Congress. As Mr Anderson appears to be an ingenious Man and proposes to destroy the British Fleet at New York, the Congress are willing to give him an opportunity of trying the Experiment, & have therefore thought proper to refer him to you.

The Event only can shew whether his Scheme is visionary, or practicable. Should it be attended with Success, (and the very Chance of it is sufficient to justify the Attempt) the infinite Service to the American States arising therefrom, cannot be described. or should it fail, our Situation will be in every Respect, the same as before.

Many Things seem highly probable in Speculation which however cannot be reduced to Practice. And on the other Hand, Experiment has shewn, that many Things are extremly practicable, which our most accurate Reasonings had taught us to believe were impossible. I have the Honour to be Sir, [&c.]

J H. Pres.

1. Papers CC (Letter Books of the President of Congress), 12a, NA.

2. Anderson wrote:

Gentlemen Being Anxiously desirous of being Serviceable to my Country, (in an Eminent degree) at this time of Publick Calamity - I am ready Immediately, to undertake the destruction of the British Fleet now at New York. If I may be Honour'd with Such directions from this Congress, my Plan of opperation I will Communicate to any of the Members of the House, for their Approbation, Convinced of the Proba[bi]lity of Success, and the Infinite Service Such [an] Enterprize wou'd be to those States Particularly at this time, Shall be glad to [execute] it at the Hazard of my Life. An Enterprize of the Same kind I undertook at Quebeck and Shou'd undoubtedly have Succeeded had not the Enemy had Intelligence and Stretched a Cable across the mouth of their Harbour; and myself by Accident much Burnt, - but thank God am recovered perfectly again and ready to make the like attempt - this Or any other Appointment I may be Honoured with Shall be thankfully Rec'd - As men Well acquainted with Military Di[sci]pline are much wanting in our Armies - I woud offer myself to the Congress for an appointment in that department, having Served in the British Army last War, have had greater oppertunitys of being acquainted with the Military as than most of our Officers are I shall wait the Order of the Congress at the Conestogoe Wagon in Market Street I am [&c.]

Ephraim Anderson  
Adjut to 2nd Jersey Batan.  
July 9th 1776 -

"DIMENTIONS OF THE *Delaware* FRIGATE OF 28 GUNS" <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Philadelphia, July 10] <sup>2</sup>

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Length Gun deck from the aft side of the Apron to the fore side rudder | 119    |
| Length Keell for Tonnage   | 96. -  |
| Extream breadth  | 32     |
| Depth in hold  | 10.. 6 |
| Height between decks   | 5.     |
| Waste amids[hip]   | 4.. 10 |
| Port Cells from deck   | 1.. 7  |
| do Up & down   | 2.. 1½ |
| do fore & Aft  | 2.. 4  |
| Distance between the ports   | 7.. 0½ |
| hight Under the Qu[arte]r deck from plank to plank                     | 6.. 6  |
| do Under the forecastle from do do                                     | 5.. 9  |
| Length of do   | 21. -  |
| Beak head abaft the Apron  | 3.. 6  |
| fore Mast port abaft the Beak head                                     | 3.. 6  |
| after port before the Rudder   | 8. -   |
| Center foremast abaft the Apron  | 16.    |
| do of Cable bitts do of foremast                                       | 11.    |
| do of Capstand do do   | 23½    |
| do of Main Mast do do  | 53     |
| do of do Capstand abaft Main Mast                                      | 15     |
| do of Mizen Mast do do   | 32     |
| do of do before Rudder   | 19     |
| Brest of the Figure before the hause piece                             | 12.. 6 |

1. Joshua Humphreys' Note Book, 165-66, HSP.

2. Date is approximated. Dimensions of frigate *Randolph* are dated July 10 in Humphreys' Note Book."DIMENTIONS OF THE *Randolph* FRIGATE OF 32 GUNS BU[IL]T AT  
PHILADA JULY 10, 1776" <sup>1</sup>

|  |         |
|--|---------|
|  | feet    |
| Length of the Gundeck from the aft side }<br>apron to the fore side Rudder | 137.. 3 |
| Keel for tonnage   | 112.. 0 |
| Extream breadth  | 34.. 6  |
| Depth in hold  | 11.     |
| Breadth of Transom   | 21.. 6  |
| Rising of Mids   | 1.. 9   |
| Breadth of floor   | 14.     |
| Tumbling home top timber   | 3..     |
| Hanging Gundeck  | 1.. 7   |
| Height between decks   | 5.. 2   |
| Waste Amids  | 5.. 2   |



|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Ports Cells from Deck   | 1.. 8  |
| Up & down in the Clear  | 2.. 3  |
| fore & Aft " do   | 2.. 6  |
| Distance between the ports  | 7.. 5  |
| 13 ports on the Gundeck   |        |
| Height from upper part Gun deck to the<br>upper part of Qutr Deck beams at fore end | 6.. 10 |
| Hight forecastle to the top of the beams at<br>the after end                        | 6.. 2  |
| Quarter deck short of the Center Mainmast<br>but should run within 2 feet of it     | 7.. 9  |
| Beak head from the Apron  | 3.. 9  |
| Foremost port abaft the beak head   | 4.. 1  |
| After port from foreside Rudder   | 9.. 6  |
| Length of forecastle  | 27.. — |
| Center foremast abaft the apron   | 19.. 3 |
| do of Cable bitts abaft the center for Mast<br>Butt should be at least 2 feet More  | 9.. 6  |
| Center Main Mast abaft center foremast  | 59.. 6 |
| Center of Mizen Mast abaft center Main Mast   | 36.. 6 |
| Center of do before the Rudder  | 22.. — |

## Dimentions of her Capstands

|  | ft    | thick        | Ins          |
|--|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Quarter Deck Up drumhead   | 4..   | 1 diamr by 4 | thickness 12 |
| lower do   | 3 10½ | do by 8      | filling Incd |
|  | feet  | In           | ft           |
| Length Barrell under the drum head   | 3..   | 2 by         | 1.. 8 Diamr  |
| Whelps at Bottom 10½ at surge 6½ at top 9½ & from the<br>Bottom to the Surge 2 feet 5 in |       |              |              |
| Lower Capstand, Upper drum head  | 4.. 9 | Lower        | 4.. 6 sided  |
| as above Barrell 2 feet Diamr hight as above   |       |              |              |
| Whelps at bottom 12 Inc, at surge 7½ at the top 10½                                      |       |              |              |

The Amot of Ship Carpenters & Laboure[r]s wages is £2289 when wages was at 7 shillings pr day & the Ship Joyners work Amt to £380 & used 22 thousand feet boards & Scantling

1. Joshua Humphreys' Note Book, 163-64, HSP. In the Josiah Fox Papers, PM, is a paper entitled: "Dimentions of two Frigates Mounting 36 Guns each, built at Philadelphia 1776—by Humphries & Wharton—& Ayre's of Kensington." The dimensions differ slightly from Humphreys' list, and read as follows:

|                                   |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Length of Gun Deck from the Apron | 137.6   |
| Keel for Tonnage                  | 110.10¾ |
| Breadth Moulded                   | 34.5 ½  |
| depth of hold                     | 11.0    |
| Height of Wing transom            | 16.10   |
| Upper edge of wale—forward        | 14.4    |

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Midships                                 | 12.4 |
| abaft                                    | 16.6 |
| Breadth at Wing Transom                  | 20.7 |
| dead rising                              | 1.5  |
| Breadth of Floor                         | 14.0 |
| Housing of Topside                       | 3.3  |
| Housing of Gun deck                      | 1.7  |
| at Middle Line                           | 1.4  |
| Height betwixt Decks                     | 5.2  |
| Depth of waist                           | 4.10 |
| Height of Port Cells above the Deck      | 1.10 |
| up & down                                | 2.4  |
| fore & aft                               | 2.8  |
| 13 ports on Gun Deck                     | 7.9  |
| Height between the upper & Quarter Deck  | 6.6  |
| do of Fore Castle                        | 5.6  |
| Confederacy / length of Keel for Tonnage | 135. |
| Do on the Upper Deck                     | 162. |
| Depth of Hold                            | 12.6 |
| from Deck to Deck                        | 6.   |
| Breadth Moulded                          | 36.6 |

The frigate built by Wharton & Humphreys was, of course, the *Randolph*; the one built by Ayres, the *Washington*, launched August 7, 1776.

"DEMENTIONS OF SHIP *Randolph* MASTS & YARDS 111 FEET KEEL

34/6 BEAM 11 FEET HOLD 5 FEET BETWEEN DECKS"<sup>1</sup>

|                  |          |          |
|------------------|----------|----------|
| Main Mast        | 85½ feet | head 11½ |
| Top Mast         | 51       | 6½       |
| Top Galt Mast    | 40       | 14       |
| Fore Mast        | 78       | 10½      |
| Top Mast         | 49       | 6        |
| Top Galt Mast    | 38       | 13½      |
| Mizn Mast        | 75       | 9        |
| Top Mast         | 56       | 20       |
| Bowspreat        | 51       |          |
| Jibb Boom        | 38       |          |
| Main Yard        | 72       | arm 2½   |
| Topsl yard       | 51       | 2¼       |
| Topgalt Yard     | 38       | 1½       |
| Fore Yard        | 69       | 2½       |
| Top sl yard      | 48       | 2¼       |
| Topgalt yard     | 36       | 1½       |
| Mizn Yard        | 69       |          |
| Cross jack yard  | 54       | 2⅓       |
| Topsail yard     | 38       | 1¾       |
| Spreat Sail yard | 51       | 2¼       |
| Topsail yard     | 38       | 1½       |

Built in the Year 1776 at Philadelphia

1. Boies Penrose Private Collection, Devon, Pa.

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE OF THE CARGO OF THE PRIZE SHIP *Juno* <sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia, July 10, 1776]

The Sale of the Ship *Juno's* Cargo, consisting of Jamaica Spirits, Sugar, Fustick, &c. will begin this Day, at Ten o'Clock A.M.<sup>2</sup>

N.B. The Sugar and Spirits will be sold by the single Hogshead.

1. *Pennsylvania Gazette*, July 10, 1776.

2. The sale was not completed that day. The *Gazette* a week later contained an advertisement, stating that the remainder of the cargo would be sold that afternoon "at Bright and Pechin's wharf."

MEMORIAL OF CAPTAIN JOHN KILTY TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Baltimore, July 10, 1776]

To The Honble The Council of Safety of The State of Maryland

The Memorial of Captn John Kilty Sheweth

That Your memorialist being informed Your Honours intend to erect a Wharfe and sundry Warehouses for the more speedy & effectual Landing, Shipping, and preserving the Naval Stores of this State, and as Your Honours may find it necessary to employ a Person in some respect in the capacity of a Master Attendant in the Dock Yards in Europe,

Your Memorialist (with submission) thinking himself by his profession qualified to undertake that Business, begs leave to assure your Honours that if he should be so happy as to meet with your approbation he will transact the same with Care and Fidelity —

1. Red Book, XIII, Md. Arch. While the Memorial is undated, it most probably falls just prior to July 12, 1776, when Captain Kilty was ordered by the Council of Safety to examine some vessels that were for sale on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He seems to have had steady employment from that time on.

"A LIST OF SHIPS IN LORD DUNMORES FLEET" <sup>1</sup>

July 10th 1776.

*Roebuck* a forty four Gun Ship. Commodore Hammond Commander

*Fowey* a twenty do do Montague do

*Otter* a ten gun Sloop of War Squires do

*Dunmore* a frigate built Ship mounting 4 Sixpounders on one Side.

*William* a Ship with 2 four pounders of a side, a part of the 14th Regt on board.

*Anna*, a Ship barricaded, with a part of the 14th Regt on board.

*Dun Luce*, a Ship occupied by the Queens loyals a Regt of Ds raising.

*Grace*, a Ship belonging to & occupied by Mr Fleming and family.

*Levant*, a Store Ship in which Governor Eden has taken a passage.

Brigantine *Fincastle* belonging to and occupied by Niel Jamieson.

Brigt *Dolphin* belonging to and occupied by Hector McAlester.

Brigt *Maria*, occupied by John Allason and family.

Do *Fanny*, occupied by Doctor McCaa & family.

Do *Betsy*, occupied by Capt. Boynoe and family.

Do Do occupied by Dr Coakley and family sometimes wt negroes.  
 Do — occupied by Mr Feener and family.

A Spanish Snow Prize Master, Super Cargoe, Capt & Crew on board.

Brigt *Helena* belonging to Roger Steuart, occupied as Prison for Prisoners.

Do *William & Charles* from Barbadoes on board 300 Hhds R[um]. & 100  
 Do Sugar sent in by the Governor of Barbadoes to Sir Peter  
 Parker.

Snow *Unicorn*, on board of which is a Black Smith Shop.

Brigt *Hammond*, occupied by Mr John Hunter & Mr Sprowle's family

Schooner *Thomas*, occupied by William Calderhead & family.

Do *Charlotte* occupied by William Hargisdes & family

Sloop *Cambell*, occupied by Mr Farmer & family.

Sloop *Peace & Plenty* belonging to and occupied by Mr Eilbeck

Sloop *Lady Augusta* belonging to and occupied by Capt. Lowes.

Sloop *Lady Gower* a Tender, John Wilkie Commander.

Sloop *Lady Stanly* a Tender, Willm Younghusband Commander.

Sloop *Lady Susan* a Tender Bri[d]ger Goodrich Commander.

Schooner *Gaze* a Tender belonging to the *Roebuck*.

Sloop *Fincastle* of 12 Guns belonging to the *Otter*.

Sloop *Lady Gage* a Tender belonging to the *Fowey*

Seven Sloops occupied by Messrs Spedden & Goodriches familys'

Two Schooners occupied by John Brown & family.

Ship *Logan* belonging to and occupied by Mr Logan & family.

Sloop *John Grymes*, occupied by said Grymes and some Dragoons.

Most of the other Vessels are Small Craft and occupied by Trades people &  
 negroes. Vessels that are not fit to go to Sea.

The *Lively* frigate cruising off[f] the Capes.

1. Browne, ed., *Arch. of Md.*, XII, 24-25.

#### PURDIE'S *Virginia Gazette*, FRIDAY, JULY 12, 1776

Camp before Gwyn's island, July 10, 1776.

Yesterday morning brigadier-general [Andrew] Lewis, accompanied by the colonels [Edward] Stephen, [William] Woodford, [George] Weedon, and [Mordecai] Buckner, arrived here, when a vigorous attack was made on the fleet and camp of the enemy. The ships were so roughly handled, that the *Dunmore*, and several others, were in a short time towed off; and the enemy abandoned their works, after carrying away all their cannon, except a six-pounder. We have taken the *Lady Charlotte* tender, with three guns, a very fine schooner, and pilot boat; which they made use of as tenders. The want of boats prevented our seizing many Tories, all their cannon, the greatest part of their baggage, and the negroes. The enemy have burnt several of their vessels, among them a very fine ship, supposed to be the *Dunmore*, which was rendered unfit for sea. His lordship lost his china by a double-headed shot, and it is said he himself was wounded in the leg by a splinter. The fleet is drove off without water; and although they have plenty of prize flour, there is not a biscuit on board. The houses, ovens,

and fortifications, which they had begun on the island, plainly prove they had no intention to leave it in so precipitate a manner. All the loss we sustained was in poor capt. [Dohickey] Arundel of the artillery, who was killed by the bursting of a mortar. The officers and soldiers of col. [William] Daingerfield's regiment behaved with great bravery.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO SAMUEL THOMAS <sup>1</sup>

*Roebuck* off of Gwins Island Virginia

Sir,

10th July 1776

Notwithstanding my orders of the 5th instant, directing you to proceed immediately to London with the *Levant* Victualler, so soon as you should have put the remainder of your Provisions on board the *Anna* Transport: It is now my further commands to you, that in case Governor [Robert] Eden shall apply to you, either for a Passage to England, or to remain here for his accommodation, you are in every respect to obey his orders; taking notice of the time he shall think proper to detain you; and on your arrival in England to acquaint the Commissioners for victualing His Majestys Navy therewith. I am Sir [&c.]

A.S. Hamond

To Mr. Saml Thomas Master of the *Levant* Transport.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/1902, 13, 12, LC Photocopy.

#### JOURNAL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Wednesday July 10th 1776.

Resolved That the Judges of the Courts of Justice for hearing and determining Maritime Matters at the Ports of Edenton Bath New Bern and Wilmington shall before they enter upon the Execution of their respective Offices take the following Oath to wit. "I A.B—do swear upon the holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that I will in all Cases which may come before me as Judge of the Court of Justice for hearing and determining Maritime Matters at the Port of ——— execute the said Office with integrity impartiality and according to the best of my skill and Ability." So help me God

1. Secretary of State Papers (Provincial Conventions and Congresses/Councils 1774–1776) NCDAH. The Council adjourned July 16 to meet at Halifax, July 21, 1776.

"A LIST OF SHIPS AND VESSELS UNDER THE COMMAND OF COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER AND THE SHIPS & VESSELS STATIONED AT CAPE FEAR, SAVANNAH & ST AUGUSTINE 10TH JULY 1776." <sup>1</sup>

| Ships Names   | Captains Names   | Where Stationed                       |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| <i>Bristol</i><br><i>Experiment</i><br><i>Syren</i> | { Sir Peter Parker<br>Toby Caulfeild Captn<br>Wm Williams<br>Tobias Furneaux | } Five Fathm Hole off<br>Charles Town |

|   |                         |   |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| <i>Falcon</i> Sloop                                   | John Linzee             | } At Cape Fear  |
| <i>Scorpion</i> Sloop                                 | Honble Jno Tollemache   |   |
| <i>Cruizer</i> Sloop                                  | Francis Parry           |   |
| <i>Active</i>   | Anthony Hunt            | } Going to Cape Fear<br>with Provision to complete<br>the whole to 3<br>Months, & to be stationed<br>off there. |
| <i>Raven</i> Sloop                                    | John Stanhope           |   |
| <i>Cherokee</i> Armd Vessel                           | Lieut [John] Ferguson   | } At Savannah.  |
| <i>Sphynx</i>   | James Reid              |   |
| <i>Hinchinbrook</i> Schooner                          | Lieut [Alexander] Ellis | } Going to Savannah with<br>Provision to complete<br>the whole to 3 Months<br>& to be Stationed off<br>there.   |
|   | P. Parker.              |   |
| [Endorsed] No 3 In Lord Howe's Lre of the 8 Aug 1776. |                         |   |

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

## 11 July

### JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Viper*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

July 1776                      Mount Desert NNE 7 or 8 Leags  
 Thursday 11    At 4 Saw a sail    Gave Chase    at 8 Seizd the *two brothers*  
                          Schooner <sup>2</sup>    at 9 Wore Ship  
                          First & Middle parts Foggy    latter Modt breezes & fair    at 2  
                          P M Seizd 2 Schooners names unknown <sup>3</sup>    at 6 Came too  
                          with the best br in 7 ff[m]s Long Island Road

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/1039.

2. *Two Brothers*, J. Bowden, master and owner, from Piscataqua on a fishing voyage, with fish, Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

3. *Ibid.*, the prize list dismisses them as "No Person found on board." Cargo, firewood and empty casks.

### LIBELS AGAINST THE SHIP *Susannah* AND THE SCHOONER *Rainbow* <sup>1</sup>

*Colony of New Hampshire, Rockingham, ss.*

Libe[l]s being filed before me, against the ship named *Susannah*, burthen about one hundred and eighty tons, her cargo and appurtenances, commanded by John Frazer – <sup>2</sup> Also against the schooner named the *Rainbow*, about thirty tons burthen, her cargo and appurtenances, commanded by John M'Monagle,<sup>3</sup> which vessels are said to have been improved in carrying supplies to the fleet and army employed against the united colonies, and brought into the county of Rockingham. This notice is given agreeable to the laws of the colony, that the maritime court erected to try and condemn

all vessels found infesting the Sea-Coasts of America, and brought into the county of Rockingham, will be held at the court-house in Portsmouth, on Tuesday the sixth day of August, 1776, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, to try the justice of the said Captures, that all persons concerned may appear and shew cause, if any they have, why the said vessels, their cargoes and appurtenances should not be condemned.

Joshua Brackett, Judge of said Court

Portsmouth July 11, 1776

N.B. All Claimants are by law to file their claims before the Judge five days before trial.

1. *The Freeman's Journal*, July 13, 1776.

2. The *Susannah* was taken March 6, 1776, by five of Washington's schooners under the command of Captain John Manley.

3. The *Rainbow* was taken November 25, 1775, by Captain Winborn Adams, in Washington's schooner *Warren*.

MAJOR GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD TO GEORGE WASHINGTON <sup>1</sup>

Sir –

Boston 11 July 1776

Agreeable to your Directions I have forwarded all the Arms and Accoutrements fit for use that were in the Hands of the Agents, lately taken from the Scotch Prisoners.

The Agents, without my knowledge, parted with part of the Arms; part of them were taken by the Commander of a Connecticut Privateer who assisted in taking the Transports; <sup>2</sup> and some I am told were thrown over board by the Prisoners, and others were broken; but I have not been able to obtain an exact Return of the Arms taken.<sup>3</sup> I am your Excellency's [&c.]

Artemas Ward

1. Washington Papers, LC.

2. The Connecticut brig *Defence*, Captain Seth Harding.

3. This date "73 Fire Arms, 60 Bayonets, 73 Bayonet belts, 73 Slings, 73 Shot Pouches, 50 Cartridge boxes, 73 Knapsacks," were sent to Joshua Huntington at Norwich to "forward to New York immediately." Huntington was warned: "If there will be any risk by water you will send them by land." *Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society*, XX, 312.

JOHN BRADFORD TO JOHN HANCOCK <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Boston 11th July 1776

These Serves Just to Inclose you Capt [Nicholas] Johnsons Rect for thirty Eight Charldron Coal <sup>2</sup> which I wish safe to hand and am with all due Respects [&c.]

J. Bradford

Boston 9th July 1776

[Enclosure] Received on Board the schooner *First Attempt* my self master Thirty ~~Eight~~ Seven Charldron Sea Coal for Acco of the thirteen united Colonies. ship'd by John Bradford which I promise to deliver at philadelphia to the Order of the Honble John Hancock Esqr the danger of the Sea

and Risque of the Enemys Excepted: for which I have Sign'd two Receipts one of which being Comply'd with the other to be void

37 Charldron

Nicholas johnson

1. Charles Roberts Autograph Collection, 720, Box 1, HCL.

2. The *First Attempt* was to go under convoy of the Continental sloop Providence, Captain John Paul Jones. See report of Lieutenants John Peck Rathbun and William Grinnell to Jones, July 16, 1776.

*New-England Chronicle*, THURSDAY, JULY 11, 1776

Boston, July 11.

Last Saturday was carried into Cape Ann, two Ships, taken in the Gulph of Florida, by Capt. Henry Johnson, of this Town, in the *Yankey Privateer*; and last Tuesday they were brought round to this Place. One is a fine Ship, 300 Tons burthen, commaned by James Hodge, bound from Jamaica for London, with upwards of 400 Hogsheads of Sugar, 200 Puncheons of Rum, 16 Packs of Cotton, and a Quantity of Pimenta.<sup>1</sup> The other is upwards 200 Tons, commanded by George Ross, from Antigua for General Howe at Halifax, with 439 Puncheons of Rum, &c.<sup>2</sup>

1. The *Zachariah Bayley*.

2. The *Creighton*. This issue of the newspaper also contained notice that court "will be held at Salem, on Tuesday, the thirtieth Day of July, 1776, at the Hour of Ten in the Forenoon, to try the Justice of the Capture . . ."

*New-York Journal*, THURSDAY JULY 25, 1776

Boston, July 11.

Last Saturday arrived here from Guadaloupe, the schooner *Polly*, David M'Cloud master, who has brought one hundred casks of powder, about seventy or eighty small arms, a number of carriage and swivel guns, a quantity of brimstone, shot, flints, &c.<sup>1</sup>

Yesterday morning, a fifth 13 inch iron mortar was found off the end of the Hon. John Hancock, Esqr's wharf.

1. The Commissary General was ordered "to lodge the Powder in one of the Colonies magazines & the other Military Stores in some of the Colonial Stores belonging to this State." Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 425.

JOHN BROWN TO CAPTAIN WILLIAM CHACE <sup>1</sup>

Capt. Chace Sr

[Providence, July 11, 1776] <sup>2</sup>

This Goes by Capt John Tillinghast With the Rudder & Tiller & [blank] belonging to the Yaul but I hope You'l Git a Boat at Newport as this Yaul belongs to Capt Jenckes & I find by Capt Tower that he Setts Very Grait Store buy her, You Doubtless will here of the Three Grand Prizes brot in to the Eastward one a Three Decker which with one other Ship is Supposed to be worth £30,000 Sterlg was taken by one priveteere of Little or No More Strength than Your Sloop, \*No Time ought to be Lost before You Git on the Ground for prizes, I hope in afue weeks to have the Satisfaction of going onbord of a Prize Ship from You, & if its Agreeable to You



& the Officers & Men onbord to Appoint Me for their Agent, I will do the Utmost in My power that the prize Shall neet as Large a Sum of Money as possable, to Every one Concernd I am Sr [&c.]

John Brown

P S. You'l please to Send up An Acct of what You May Advance at Newport

1. Nicholas Brown Papers, JCBL.
2. The date is approximated. Chace was commissioned July 6, 1776 to the command of the Rhode Island privateer sloop *Diamond*, and the news of the three large prize ships brought in to the eastward could have reached Providence the beginning of that week.
3. The Massachusetts privateer sloop *Yankee*, of 9 guns and 60 men, Captain Henry Johnson, had sent into Salem on July 3, the ships *Creighton* and *Zachariah Bayley*, *American Gazette*, July 9, 1776; and the Pennsylvania privateer sloop *Chance*, at about the same time had sent in the ship *Lady Juliana*, *New-England Chronicle*, July 4 and July 18, 1776.

### JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Lebanon] Thursday July 11th,

Capt. Coit came in, moving for an appointment.

The matter of appointing officers for the Colony ship building at Saybrook taken up and discoursed of largely, and of persons for the offices.

Question was put, whether we will at this time proceed to appoint a Captain and two lieutenants for said ship and resolved in the affirmative.

And on further consideration, and the question being put,

William Coit is appointed Captain of said ship.

Timothy Parker is appointed First Lieutenant of said ship, and

David Hawley is appointed Second Lieutenant of said ship.

*Voted*, That the date of the above officers' commissions be referred to the farther consideration of this Board, and their pay to commence from the date of the same.

That letters be wrote informing said Hawley of said appointment; the others being near &c.

Cap. Coit (in town) was called in, and the Governor gave him advice, instruction and admonition as to his conduct &c.

1. Hoadly, ed., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 475, 476.

### GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

New York, 11 July, 1776

We have intelligence from a deserter that came to us, that on Wednesday Morning, the *Asia*, *Chatham* and *Greyhound* Men of War weighed Anchor, and it was said, intended to pass up the North River above the City to prevent the communication with the Jerseys, they did not attempt it, nor does he know what prevented them.

A Prisoner belonging to the 10th Regt. taken Yesterday, informs that they hourly expect Admiral Howe and his Fleet, he adds that a Vessel has arrived from them and the prevailing Opinion is, that an Attack will be made immediately on their Arrival.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 251, 254.

*New-York Journal*, THURSDAY, JULY 11, 1776

New York, July 11.

On Wednesday last it [Declaration of Independence] was read at the head of each Brigade of the Continental Army posted at and near New York and everywhere received with loud huzza's. and the utmost demonstrations of joy.

The same evening the equestrian statue of George III. which Tory pride and folly raised in the year 1770, was by the Sons of Freedom laid prostrate in the dirt, the just desert of an ungrateful Tyrant! The lead wherewith this monument was made is to be run into bullets, to assim[il]ate with the brain of our infatuated adversaries who, "to gain a pepper corn, have lost an Empire."

*Quos Deus vult "perdere, prius dementat."*

DIARY OF DR. THOMAS MOFFAT <sup>1</sup>

[On board H.M. Sloop *Swan*]

July 11th [1776] morning Thermometer 71 Wind E Several people came from Long Island (among whom was ——— Fanning) <sup>2</sup> and proceeded up to the admiral and General also came in from Delawar bay the *Kingsfisher* Captn Graham [Alexander Graeme] with 2 Brigts and 2 Sloops prizes laden with flour bread &c from Philadelphia. He also destroyed an armed Brig with military Stores and 400 barrells of gun powder.<sup>3</sup> P M the *Mercury* Pacquett for Falmouth weighd and saild under convoy of the *Senegal* Captn [Roger] Curtis.

1. Thomas Moffat's Diary, LC.

2. Edmund Fanning, private secretary to Governor Tryon.

3. The brig *Nancy*, destroyed off Cape May on June 28, 1776, although 265 of her 386 half barrels of gunpowder had been taken ashore. The diary does not mention that the *Kingsfisher* lost her long boat, with a master's mate and six men, when the *Nancy* was blown up.

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

[Philadelphia] Thursday, July 11, 1776

A petition from John Cox was presented to Congress and read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to sell Mr. Cox half a ton of powder, for the use of the private vessel of war by him fitted out.

The Congress are so fully persuaded of the necessity of protecting the frontiers of New York from the incursions of the enemy, that they recommend that business to General Schuyler's immediate attention and direct that if the situation of affairs will admit of it, he take proper steps for erecting a fort at Oswego and building gallies on Lake Ontario, and pursue such other measures as may be best fitted to answer the views of Congress.

That posts be taken and forts erected at Presque isle, Le Beuf, and Kittanning, and a battalion be raised to erect and garrison the same.

That the commissioners of Indian affairs in the middle department be directed to inquire what naval force on Lake Erie will be necessary to secure to the United States the command of the navigation of that lake and to report the result of their inquiry as soon as possible to Congress.

The Marine Committee in pursuance of the order of Congress, reported that they have called before them, divers of the inferior officers, belonging to the ships *Alfred* and *Columbus*, and having heard their complaints against the Captains Saltonstal and Whipple, in their presence, are of opinion, that the charge against Captain Saltonstal does not appear to the committee to be well founded, and that the charge against Captain Whipple amounts to nothing more than a rough, indelicate mode of behaviour to his marine officers; <sup>2</sup> Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be directed to order the Captains, Saltonstal and Whipple, to repair to their respective commands; and that it be recommended to Captain Whipple to cultivate harmony with his officers.

The committee, to whom the letter from John Macpherson, of the 31 of May, was referred, brought in their report, as follows:

That they had examined Mr. Macpherson, respecting the contents of his letter, who alleged, that he had a promise of being appointed commander in chief of the American navy, by Messrs. Randolph, Hopkins and J. Rutledge, a committee of Congress to whom he communicated an important secret; but that he produced no evidence in support of such allegation; that they enquired of Mr. Hopkins about this promise, in the presence of Mr. Macpherson, and that Mr. Hopkins declared he recollected nothing of the kind: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the application and request of Mr. Macpherson is unreasonable.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 539, 540-41, 542-43, 544-45.

2. This report, undated, is in Papers CC, NA.

#### JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Baltimore July 11 - 1776

Sirs, The brigs are both dischar[g]'d.<sup>2</sup> On hoisting out the lower tier of the Flour on board Mr Lux and Bowley's Brig, I find it is damaged. I have had two gentlemen to view the Flour. The report they make I send you.<sup>3</sup> The Flour appears to have been wet sum time ago, as it is rotten all round the outsides and head of the barrill and has since dried so that it is hard and black which answers with what Capt Lunds reports concerning it, as he says that it has not been wet this sum time, but was under water more than two months ago, and not since His report I have taken down in writing as I think there has been a fault. I would bee glad that the blame should be fixt right. Mr Spear has all the damaged Flour in his custody, and says that he will bake all that can be bak'd, and the remainder must be

return'd I spose Mr Lux ought to take it; If so Mr Spear says hee will assist Mr Lux in dividing it, and such as can be bak'd, he will doe. The bake howses are going on and I sopose their might bee a parcel of bread, and part of Capt Woolseys flour sent to the Brig that lately arriv'd with your Powder, if it is practicable and must be done, the sooner the better. . . .

1. Correspondence of Council of Safety, Md. Arch.

2. The brigs *Fortune* and *Rogers*.

3. Hollingsworth requested Mark Alexander and Benjamin Griffith to examine the flour. They found it had been "damaged by Bilge Water admitted into the hold . . . the said flour is now hard, rotten & musty & unfit for baking or any other merchantable use." *Ibid.*, Alexander and Griffith to Council of Safety, July 12.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Roebuck*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND<sup>1</sup>

July 1776

Windmill point NWt 7 miles

Thursday 11th at 10 in the morning having got all the Fleet and Transports down and Gwins Island evacuated, made the Signal and weighed (at this juncture there was no water to be procured on the Island, and the Fleet in great distress for it) and made sail up the Bay; one of the fleet having got a ground made the *Otters* Signal to lay by to protect her. Fresh Gales and clear Weather, at 4 the *Dunmore* having carried away her mast, sent her an officer and Several Seamen to assist her. . . . at 8 made the Signal to anchor, and at 9 Anchored in 10½ fathoms, Point look out NW½Wt 3 Leagues.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/796.

CAPTAIN LAMBERT WICKES TO THE COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE  
OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen

On board the Ship *Reprisal* July 11th 1776

This will inform you of my proceedings since I left Cape May the 3d Instant. we left that place in Company with 13 Merchant Men, who I think all got Safe off, as we did not lose Sight of them till they got a good distance from the Land. We Saw no Ships of War at all on the Coast.

We this Day fell in with Captain [Charles] Mackay, in the ship *Friendship*, from Granada bound to London, loaded with Rum, Sugar, Cocoa, & Coffee which Ship I have taken, and sent John Parks in her prize-master & have given him orders to get into Philadelphia if possible, [and if] this should not be practicable, he is to Run her into the first port in his power & Send an Express to inform you Immediately. Mr [William] Bingham is Well and desi[re]s his compliments to you. from, Gent. [&c.]

Lamb<sup>t</sup> Wickes

P:S: Our people are all well to 3 or 4. We are in Longitude 57D West & Latt. 31 North

L:W:

1. Papers CC (Letters addressed to Congress), 78, XXIII, 293.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SCHOONER *St. John*, LIEUTENANT WILLIAM GRANT<sup>1</sup>

[July 1776]

Anchor'd in St Mary's River.

Thursday 11

(A M) Empd about the Rigging, At Noon unmoor'd, weighed & Shifted our birth further in and moor'd with a Cable each way. Sent the Pilot boat with an Officer & 6 men Armed to speak a Sloop of[f] the Barr.

Do [Fresh Breezes & Cloudy with Thunder Lightning & Rain] the Pilot Boat in Chase of a Sloop at 3 a very hard Gale of Wind & rain, Veered to a Cable on the Bt Br at 4 heard 2 Guns fired, from Mr Wrights Fort & Landing as a signl for his being attacked which we answd with 1 Gun Sent the Cutter Manned & Armed with Mr. [Peter] Beachop Master & 6 Men with Orders to gain intelligence & to bring off the Sick men if possible but by no means to suffer the Boat to go on Shore on that side; at ½ past the Cutter and a Canoe with Soldiers sett off at 6 the signall was repeated which we Answd with another Gun at ½ past 6 heard several Vollies of small Arms at 9 fired a Gun at the Brigg's boat who brought on board the Owner of her, Mr Egan Collector of his Majesties Customs and the Inhabitants of this river: At 10 The Soldier's Canoe wt the Corpral return'd on board wt an information that they Saw the Cutter fired upon from the Marshes below the Landing place & that he believed the Cutter & some of the People were taken some killed & the other's made prisoners which was confirmed in the Morning<sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

2. "We hear, that about 3 Weeks ago, two armed Vessels from St. Augustine cut a Sloop and Schooner, loaded with Rice, out of Ogeeche River in Georgia. A Party from the same Place had been employed in building a Fort at St. Mary's; a Boat belonging to them, with Capt. Peter Bachop and seven others on board, was taken about a Fortnight since, after some shots being exchanged; 3 of them were killed, and Capt. Bachop, with the other 4 brought Prisoners to Savannah," *South-Carolina and American General Gazette*, May 31 to August 2, 1776.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ST. EUSTATIA, JULY 11."<sup>1</sup>

We have a vessel here from Dublin, that sailed May 28, the Captain brings accounts of A. Thompson, Newry, A. Bryan and James Lecky, Dublin, being all taken up by order of the Privy Council of Ireland, for carrying on correspondence with the people in America. Mr. Bryan was discharged, but Mr. Thompson and Mr. Lecky were held to get bail, and when the Captain sailed, an officer was kept on Mr. Lecky's house, and his papers sealed up. It was the affair of the gunpowder he purchased last year for Mr. B[lair] M'Clenachan to be shipped by the *Hancock and Adams*, which Mr. Lecky was taken up for, and the appearance of Captain [Charles] Forrest

in Dublin, from Nantz, revived the story, and caused these disagreeable things to happen. Large subscriptions were made or offered for Mr. Lecky, to support him against this attack of the Council.

P.S. Two of the passengers that came in the beforementioned vessel from Dublin, are just arrived here: they say, that Captain Forrest arrived in Ireland from Nantz, in a vessel under French colours, and on his appearance in Dublin, was immediately suspected of coming for the powder, he was disappointed of taking away before, on which his vessel was searched, and several letters and papers found on board, two of which letters were for Mr. Lecky and Thompson; in consequence of which they were taken up. Mr. Lecky is held to 20,000 l. bail, and Mr. Thompson 300,000 l. but Captain Forrest would not be admitted to bail, and was committed to prison in irons, where he lay when those gentlemen came away. It was the general opinion in Dublin, that they would all three be removed to England for trial, and the consequence very uncertain.

1. *Constitutional Gazette*, August 28, 1776.

## 12 July

### JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Viper*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL GRAVES <sup>1</sup>

July 1776                      The Land Over Machias NNE    8 or 9 Leags  
Friday 12    at 9 A M Weighd and Came to sail    3 Schooners in Co in  
   1st & 2d Reefs  
   Modt & Clear    at 1 P M Saw a sail in the SE    gave Chase    at 2  
   Fired a Shot to bring her to    at 4 seizd the *Polly* Schooner <sup>2</sup>

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/1039.

2. "*Polly*, on a fishing voyage, with fish," Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

### JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SLOOP *Tyrannicide*, CAPTAIN JOHN FISK <sup>1</sup>

#### Remks on Friday 12th of July 1776

4 [A. M.]    Fair weather  
11            Saw 5 ships to the Southward    found them Learge ships    wore  
   ship stood to the Eastward  
   Lattd in 40d.37m    Longt in 65d.30m  
1 [P. M.]    Saw a schooner barring ESE    gave her chaise  
4            Came up with the chaise    she fired 2 shotts At us and then her  
   hole broad side    we engage her 1½ hour    then she struck to  
   the American Arms    we found her to be the *Despatch* <sup>2</sup> from  
   Halifax bound to New york    Capt [John] Goodridge that com-  
   manded her was Killed    the master Midshipman And 7 Others  
   wounded    1 man Killed    the Schooner much shatterd in the  
   Ingagement    we had one man Killed 2 wounded our Riggins  
   much hurt

1. John Fisk Journal, AAS.

2. H.M. Schooner *Dispatch*, 8 guns, 12 swivels and 30 men.

COMMITTEE OF KITTERY TO THE COMMITTEE OF PORTSMOUTH <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen –

Kittery, July 12th, 1776.

The Committee of Correspondence &c. for this Town have receiv'd a Letter from the Committee of Correspondence for Boston of the following import: viz: That they have information, and reason sufficient to induce them to believe, that a communication has been kept up between our Enemies ships & some of our small boats, and that they have tho't it necessary for the common safety, to order that no Boats or vessel be suffered in future to leave the Town without special permission, and that they have confined the fishing Boats within the Limits of one League from the shore. We therefore think it expedient to advise you of this measure recommended to us, as without your coming into a similar one, it will be of no effect. Wherefore we shall be much oblig[e]d to you for your opinion hereupon and what method you propose to take respecting this matter, and are with respect, [&c.]

John H. Bartlet, Chairman.

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, VIII, 303.LIBEL OF JOSHUA WENTWORTH IN NEW HAMPSHIRE ADMIRALTY COURT  
AGAINST THE BRITISH BRIGANTINE *Elizabeth* <sup>1</sup>

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Colony of New<br>Hampshire<br>Rockingham ss | } To the honble Joshua Brackett Esqr Judge of the Court –<br>Maritime of New-Hampshire |
|   |  |

The Information and Libel of Joshua Wentworth of Portsmouth in the County of Rockingham in the Colony aforesaid Esqr for and in behalf of the united American Colonies, and also in behalf of the Officers Marines and Mariners of the three Continental armed vessels named *Hancock*, *Lee*, and *Lynch* against the Brigantine named the *Elizabeth*, her Cargo and appurtenances, being of the burthen of about One hundred and forty Tons, Commanded by Peter Ramsay. The Libellant in behalf of the said Colonies, and of the officers, Marines & Mariners of said three armed vessels, Sheweth That John Manly commander of the said Continental armed vessel named *Hancock*, Daniel Waters commander of the said Continental armed vessel named *Lee* & John Ayers commander, of the said continental armed vessel named *Lynch* with the Officers Marines and Mariners of said three armed vessels, did on or about the third day of April A D 1776 (said three armed vessels being then in the service of the united Colonies) seize and retake upon the high-seas, and bring into the Port [of] Piscataqua in said County the said Brigant[ine,] then of about One hundred and forty tons burthen commanded by Peter Ramsay – which said Brigantine at the time of the recapture was in the possession of the enemy, and had been taken from Richard Hart of said Portsmouth Merchant late Owner thereof by some armed vessel belonging to the fleet employed against the united Colonies and detained in their possession for more than Ninety six hours then next preceeding the time of her being retaken as aforesaid Which said Brigantine at the

time of the recapture thereof had on board a Cargo consisting of divers Goods, wares and merchandize, together with four Negroes, which Cargo she was then carrying to and for the Fleet and Army employed against the united Colonies – by means whereof by the Laws of said Colony, in which case made and provided the said Brigantine, her Cargo and appurtenances ought to be condemned, wherefore the Libellant in manner aforesaid, prays process against the premises and that the same may be condemned and disposed of as the Law directs. – Dated at Portsmouth the 12th day of July A D 1776 –

Joshua Wentworth in behalf of }  
the united Colonies & Captors. }

Copy examined by Jona M Sewall Cler[k]

1. Revolutionary War Prize Cases, No. 2, Records of the Court of Appeals in Cases of Capture, 1776–1787, NA.

ORDER OF MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL ADMITTING PRISONERS TO A  
MORE LIBERAL PAROLE <sup>1</sup>

In Council [Watertown] July 12th 1776

Resolved that Philip Dalton a Midshipman and Prisoner of War now confined under his parole to the limits of the Goal Yard in Concord be admitted to sign a new Parole prescribed by this honble Board on the day of        inst and thereupon be enlarged accordingly and discharg'd from his former Parole And that any other Officer who may have sign'd a like Parole with the said Dalton, be admitted to sign said new Parole and thereupon be discharged from his former Parole.<sup>2</sup>

Jn<sup>o</sup> Avery Dpy Secy

To the Com[m]ittee of  
Inspection Correspondence & Safety of the Town of Concord

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 420.

2. *Ibid.*, 7, the new parole offered, permitted the prisoners to go within six miles of their place of residence to be set in some inland town.

PETITION FOR COMMISSION FOR SIMON FORRESTER TO COMMAND THE  
MASSACHUSETTS PRIVATEER SLOOP *Rover* <sup>1</sup>

To the Honle the Council of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay;  
the Petition of Joseph Sprague, Jacob Ashton and others humbly sheweth;

that your Petitioners have, at their own expence, fitted out an armed Vessel called the *Rover* – for the purpose of making Reprisals on the Enemies of the united Colonies of America, which Vessel is now ready for sailing; your Petitioners therefore pray that Simon Forester may be commissioned a Capt of the sd armed Vessel, and your Petitioners, as in duty bound will ever pray –

Joseph Sprague  
Jacob Ashton



[Endorsed] In Council July 12, 1776. Read & Order'd that a Comission be issued to the above nam'd Simon Forester Commander of the Sloop *Rover* on his giving Bond agreeable to the Resolves of Congress – <sup>2</sup>

John Avery Dpy Secy

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 421.

2. Continental bond for \$5,000 made this date, *ibid.*, vol. 7, 41.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'S ACCOUNT AGAINST THE CONNECTICUT GALLEY  
*Whiting* BEFORE HER DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK <sup>1</sup>

| 1776    | Row Gally <i>Whiting</i>                 | Jno. McCleave Commandr | Dr.        |
|---------|--|------------------------|------------|
| July 12 | To 51 feet pine Boards                   | @ 1d                   | £ .4..3    |
|         | To 10 [lb] pistol powder                 | 5/4                    | 2.13..4    |
|         | To 100 lb powder                         | 5/4                    | 26.13..4   |
|         | To 25½ lb Lead                           | 6 d                    | .12..9     |
|         | To 4 lb Shott 30 <sup>2</sup>            |                        | .18..9     |
|         | To James Tilleys Bill                    |                        | 3. 8..3    |
|         |  |                        | £ 34.10..8 |
|         | To My Commissions on the above at 2½ pCt |                        | .17..3     |
|         |  |                        | £ 35..7.11 |

1. Shaw Papers, Ledger 26, YUL.

2. In another copy of the account after the "110 lb" of powder is added "belonging to Colony." and the entry for the 4 lb shot reads: "To 30 four pound Shott Ad Hopkins." *Ibid.*, Ledger 4.

COLONEL JOHN TRUMBULL TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

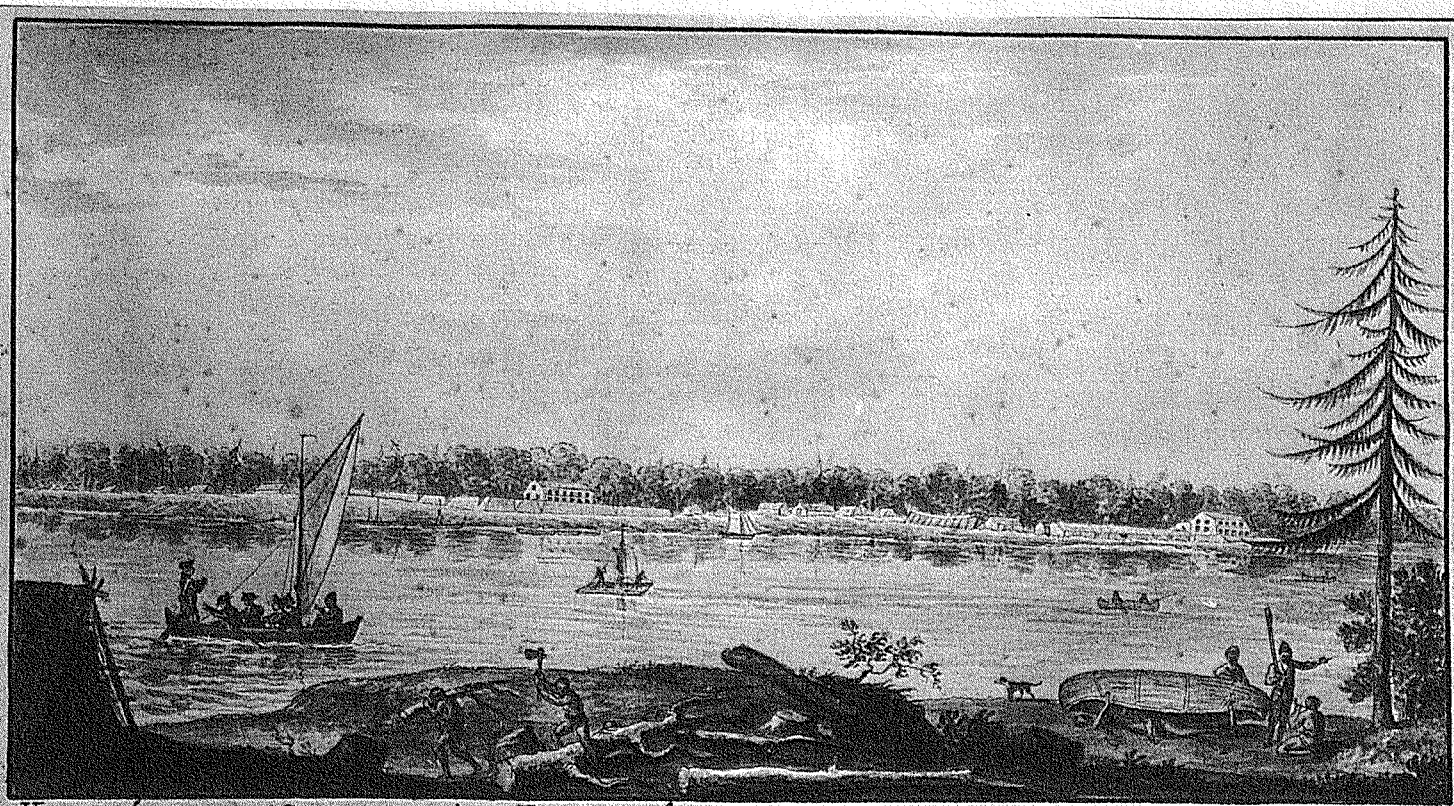
Tyconderoga 12th July 1776

This wretched situation of our Troops, induc'd the Genl Officers in a Council of War, to determine on a Retreat to this place; – The post we are to occupy here, is very advantageous. – it is a height Opposite to the Old-Works which commands the Entrance of Lakes Champlain & George – tis almost inaccessible except in two places where we propose Roads, the rest is surrounded by Rocks & Precipices – We shall easily be supply'd with Provisions from Skeensborough, at the head of Lake Champlain & can easily retire that way into the Country – This, without a Naval superiority on the Lakes, I fear we shall be oblig'd to do notwithstanding the strength of our Camp, unless we are very soon join'd by Six or Eight Thousand Men –

How we shall maintain our Naval superiority I must confess myself much at a Loss. – 'Tis true we build a thing call'd a Gondola, perhaps as much as one in a Week – but where is our Rigging for them, where our Guns, we have to be sure, a great Train of Artillery, but they are very few of them mounted on Carriages, & our Materials & Conveniences for making them are very slender.

We have Carpenters, shipbuilders, & Blacksmiths in plenty, but neither places for them to work in nor Materials in that plenty we ought to have;

To oppose the Enemy on the Lake, – we have a schooner of twelve Car-



VIEW of the NORTH and SOUTH RED OUBAT at ST. JOHN'S on the RIVER SOREL, and HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP INFLEXIBLE of 90 Guns, after having been taken to Pieces at QUEBEC, was transported over Land and rebuilt to ATTACK the Enemy's Floatilla upon LAKE CHAMPLAIN Canada. See The Ship Inflexible at Montreal &c. Hon. Rusby 1779.

riage Guns – a sloop of Eight; two small Schooners to Carry four or six each & three Gondolas – The large Schooner will be in good sailing order in two or three Days – the sloop is a most unmanageable thing, 'tis not possible to beat up against a head wind, in her – the two small schooners are not Arm'd, Gondolas are not Arm'd, – & even the Carri[ages] of their Guns are yet to be made –

The Enemy we find are at St. Johns repairing the works at the place, & building three schooners & two sloops, they have, no doubt every thing ready to their hands, the Rigging made, the Guns mounted, & only the wooden work to perform, – in which I fear they will have the advantage of us –

1. Lloyd W. Smith Collection, MNHP.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Phoenix*, CAPTAIN HYDE PARKER, JR.<sup>1</sup>

July 1776                      Moor'd off Staten Island. Distance from Shore about Quarter of a Mile. –

Friday 12th AM the Admiral made our Signal for an Officer. –  
Modt Breezes and fair Wr at 2 P M Fir'd a Gun & made the Signal to Unmoor, Unmoor'd & hove into  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a Cable on the Best Bower at 3 made the Signal to Weigh, Weigh'd & Came to Sail in Co with his Majesty's Ship *Rose*, the *Tryal* Schooner with the *Shulldham* and *Charlotta* Tenders at  $\frac{3}{4}$  past 3 the Battery at Red Hook upon Long Island began Firing, on our standing near Governors Island & Powlos Hook, they commenced a heavy Firing from their Batteries. At 5 past 4 being then between the last mention'd Batteries, we began Firing upon them. at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 5 we passed the Batteries near the Town & at 7 Anchord in Tapan Bay abreast of Tarry Town in 7 Fam Water Distance off Shore about a mile and a Quarter; Moor'd Ship with the Stream Anchor Tarry Town NEbE Dreadfull Hook NbW & Sneadings Ferry SbW $\frac{1}{2}$ W In passing the Batteries Recd two Shot in our Hull & One is the Bowsprit & several through the Topsails, the Netting & ca in the Waste was Shot away which Occasioned the Loss of 3 Cotts, One Seaman and Two Marines were Wounded. –

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/694.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Rose*, CAPTAIN JAMES WALLACE<sup>1</sup>

July 1776                      The Watering Place SWBW, and the East Point of Staten Island SBE

Friday 12th Little Winds and Clear Wr came in HM Sloop *Kings. Fisher*, at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 1 the *Ph[oe]nix* made sigl to Unmoor Do Unmoor'd & hove Short at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2 Weigh'd and came to Sail as did the *Phenix Tryal* Schooner and 2 Tenders, Steering for

the No River at  $\frac{1}{4}$  past 3 the Rebels began to fire upon us and the *Phenix* from Red Hook, Governors Island and the Town as we pass'd and Continued their firing from 6 more different Battery's on the Et. Shore for 11 Miles as high as Margets Hook. Return'd a Constant fire to all the Battery's as we pasd, they Shot away our Starbd fore Shroud, Fore Tackle Pendant, Fore Lift, fore topsail Clewlines, Spritsail & Main Top Sail Braces, one 18 Pound Shot in the Head of our fore Mast one through the Pinnacle, several through the Sails and some in the Hull. at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 5 pas'd the last Battery No of Guns not known, weight of Mettal from 12 to 32 Pounder at 8 Anch'd in Topsand Bay, 28 Miles above [New] York  $6\frac{1}{2}$  fm Terry Town  $E\frac{1}{2}N$  the Bluff Head on the Western Shore  $SBW\frac{1}{2}W$  Do Anch'd the *Phenix* &c.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/805.

### JOURNAL OF CAPTAIN HENRY DUNCAN, R.N.<sup>1</sup>

[On board H.M.S. *Eagle*]

11th [July], Thursday—This day saw the land of Neversink to the westward of Sandy Hook, the entrance into New York River. This night it blew pretty strong at NW. Carried sail and got under the land in the morning. [12th] By four o'clock Friday afternoon, got the length of Sandy Hook; found at anchor here the *Swan* and a transport or two. Proceeded up the river with baffling winds from the westward. The country appeared beautiful, both on the Long Island and Jersey side; the land well cleared and only sufficiently wooded to enrich the prospect. On our passage up, heard a very heavy cannonade, which we found afterwards to be the *Phoenix* (Captain Parker) and *Rose* (Captain Wallace) passing New York. A number of batteries fired on these ships about one hundred and ninety-six shot; the ships returned the fire, but as yet we know not the damage on either side. These ships are gone up the river to cut off the communication between New York and Albany. In running up the river the ship struck several times, but did not stop; suppose she received no damage. About half past five, arrived at the watering-place at Staten Island; the army, as we passed this island, cheered us, which we returned. Found the army in possession of Staten Island, a most delightful spot about sixteen miles long. They landed here without opposition, and found the inhabitants, about two thousand—500 of which fit to bear arms, well affected to Government. The ships found here were: *Chatham*, Vice Admiral of the blue Shuldham, Captain Raynor; *Centurion* Braithwaite; *Asia* Vandeput; *Liverpool*, Bellew; *Greyhound*, Dickson; and *Kingfisher*, Graeme. This evening General Howe came on board. Received him with a guard and march. Admiral Shuldham and several officers of distinction came on board. Received them all according to their rank.

1. *Duncan's Journals*, XX, 117–18.

MEMOIRS OF WILLIAM SMITH <sup>1</sup>

[Haverstraw] Friday 12 July

An Alarm after I was got to Bed with an Account that two Ships had passed the Forts below & anchored in the Bay 12 Miles below us – The Men ordered to guard the River & the Women to retire back. – At Naick a Detachment of Colo. Hay's Regiment Fired upon a Barge in her Approach to the Shore. I suspect they are sent up to receive Fugitives and Provisions, but the Vigilance & Heat of the Inhabit[ant]s will probably disappoint them unless they are strongly handed – The Committee resolve to write as I hear to General Washington for Aid. If he orders up Whale Boats to follow the Barges they can do little.

1. Sabine, ed., *Memoirs of William Smith*, II, 1.

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

Friday Morning,

White Plains, July 12th, 1776.

A draft of a letter to the committees of East and South Hampton, in answer to theirs received on the afternoon of the 10th inst. was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

In Convention of the Representatives  
of the State of New-York,

White Plains, July 12th, 1776.

Gentlemen – Taking into consideration your letter of the 5th inst. applying to us for directions relative to the preservation of the stock at Montauk. Since the date of your letter, you must have understood that Colo. [Henry] Livingston, the commander in that quarter, has applied to the county committee for their advice and assistance respecting the preservation of the stock, and making necessary defence in your quarter. We also understand from Messrs. [William] Dearing and [Ezra] L'hommedieu, that persons are appointed by the Commissary-General to lay up all the stock in those parts fit for use, and also, boats to be provided to remove the rest in case of danger; viewing things in this light, we hope your fears are subsided. In case they are not from the measures already taken, we shall expect to hear from you, and shall not be wanting in supporting all the friends of the common cause of America. We are, &c.

To the Committees of East and South Hampton.

Mr. Sampson Duyckinck came from the city of New-York, and informed the Congress that three ships of war had passed the fort and battery at New-York, and sailed up Hudson's river; that they were fired upon from all the batteries along the banks of the river; that he believes they have already passed King's Bridge. Thereupon,

*Ordered*, That Mr. [John] Jay, Major [Ebenezer] Lockwood, Mr. Mills, Colo [Gilbert] Drake and Mr. [Paul] Schenk be a committee to take such measures on this occasion, as to calling out such parts of the militia, sending expresses to the forts in the Highlands, and all such other measures as they shall think necessary.

1. *New York Provincial Congress*, I, 522.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

New York, July 12, 1776.

Sir: The design of this is to inform Congress that at about half after three O'Clock this Evening, two of the Enemy's Ships of War, one of 40 and the other of 20 Guns with three Tenders weighed Anchor in the Bay opposite Staten Island and availing themselves of a brisk and favourable breeze, with a flowing Tide, run past our Batteries up the North River, without receiving any certain damage that I could perceive, notwithstanding a heavy and incessant Cannonade was kept up from our several Batteries here as well as from that at Paulus Hook. They on their part returned and continued the fire as they run by. I dispatched an Express to Brigadier General Mifflin, at our Encampment towards the upper end of the Island, but have not heard whether they have got by or received any Damage.

The Account transmitted by this Morning's Post respecting the arrival of one of the Fleet, seems to be confirmed. Several Ships have come in to day. among them, one this Evening with a St. George's Flag at her Fore topmast head which we conclude to be Admiral Howe, from the circumstance of the Flag and the several and General Salutes, that were paid. It is probable they will all arrive in a Day or two and immediately begin their operations. . . .

By an Express this minute from General Mifflin the Ships have past his Works. I am in haste, etc.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 264, 265.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO BRIGADIER GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Head Quarters, New York, July 12, 1776.

Sir: Two Ships of Force with their Tenders have sailed up Hudson's River. I am apprehensive, that they design to seize the Passes in the Highlands by Land, which I am informed may be done by a small Body of Men. I must, therefore request you, instantly to desire General [Petrus] Ten Broeck, to march down as great a Force as he can collect to secure them, particularly the Post where the Road runs over Anthony's Nose.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 265-66.

RICHARD CAREY, JR. TO COLONEL JAMES CLINTON <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Head Quarters [New York] July 12th 1776

This is just to Inform you that two Men of War & three Tenders have this Afternoon passed by our Fort & gone up the North River past Kings

bridge, you will therefore take such Measures as to put the Forts under your Command in the best state of Defence Possible, to Annoy the Enemy, you are also to Dispatch Expresses along the River that no Vessels may fall into their Hands & to Give Notice to the Commanding Officer at Albany of this Manuavere, with all the Expedition Immaginable, by Command of His Excellency General Washington I am Sir [&c.]

Rich<sup>d</sup> Carey Jun<sup>r</sup> A:D:C<sup>2</sup>

P S I have it in Command further to Desire you would take the Carpenters from the Vessels, which are Building at Poughkeepsie, and prepare those Vessels which were taken from the Tories, and are at Esopus & Kingston, to be made use of as fire Rafts also to make Rafts in any other Way Expeditionously, that will answer the purpose of Harrassing the Ships which are gone up the River I Am as Above

R: Carey Jun<sup>r</sup> A D C

[Endorsed] This Letter to be forwarded to Albany by the Committee of New Windsor by Express –  
Fort Constitution July 13th 1776

James Clinton Coll  
& Commander of the Forts in the  
Highlands

1. Schuyler Papers, vol. 15, NYPL.

2. *Ibid.*, Clinton also received a warning this date of the approach of the British ships from Nathaniel Woodhull, president of the New York Provincial Congress.

#### MEMOIRS OF MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH<sup>1</sup>

[New York] 12th [July]. – Two British ships of war, the *Ph[o]enix* and *Rose*; and three tenders, at about 4 o'clock, P.M. taking advantage of the tide and a fresh breeze, came up from the fleet, and passed the city up the Hudson. A brisk cannonade took place from Red Hook, Governor's Island, Paulus Hook, and all the batteries on the North River side. The ships were several times struck by the shot, but received no material damage. The ships returned the fire, as they passed the batteries; and the encampment of our General's brigade, (the right flank of which being Col. [William] Shepard's regiment) was on the bank of the river. The tents were struck, and dropped on the ground, before the ships came a-breast of them. Several shots fell on the encampment, and one entered the embrasure of a small redoubt, on the flank of the encampment, and struck in the banquette on the opposite side of the redoubt, between the legs of two soldiers, but did no damage. Several American artillerists were killed and wounded, by the bursting of some of our own cannon. The ships ran nearly up to Tappan's Bay, and came to anchor.<sup>2</sup>

1. Abbatt, ed., *Heath Memoirs*, 41, 42.

2. Captain Samuel Richards noted in his diary that the mission of the British warships "appeared to be to reconnaute, to find the position and strength of our works." *Diary of Samuel Richards, Captain of Connecticut Line War of the Revolution* (Philadelphia, 1909), 31–32.

DIARY OF ENSIGN CALEB CLAP<sup>1</sup>

[New York]

July 12th 1776    tu Ships of War, with three Tenders, fired Several times from every Ships several Broad Side ware Shot from the first one, our People Kept up A Continuel fire till they got buy, they did us no damage, except Killed one Cow – Those Ships come by the City About half Past 4th O Clock P,M, at the Grand Battery their was five Men Killed, with our own Cannon, by Neglect of Swabing, and three Men Wounded, but not Mortal supposed

Our imagine they Struck the Ships severel times, conclude they Hulled her at Least Once –

July 12    at sunset A large Ship came through the Narrows; supposed to be the *Eagle*, with Vice Admiral How[e], all the Shipping in the Harbour fir'd A salute,

1. *The Historical Magazine*, III, 247.

JOURNAL OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL STEPHEN KEMBLE<sup>1</sup>

[Staten Island] Friday, July 12th.

About half after 3 in the Afternoon His Majesty's Ship *Ph[o]enix*, Com-manded by Capt. Parker, and the *Rose*, by Capt. Wallace, with the *Tryal* Schooner and two Tenders, got under Sail to pass the Town of New York; in about forty minutes they got a breast of Paulus's Hook, before which time they did not fire a Shot, tho' they received the whole of the Rebels fire from Red Hook, Governors Island, the Battery, and from some Guns in the Town. When they opened Paulus's Hook they began to fire on both sides, on which the Rebels fled from their Works at Paulus's Hook, but returned at intervals to their Guns and fired them; at half past four the Ships were past all the Batteries, and as far as we could judge received little hurt.

At 7 o'Clock Lord Howe came to an Anchor at the landing Place; was Saluted by the Admiral and the rest of the Fleet; at half past 8 the General went on board to see his Brother. Number of Shot fired by the Rebels, 196.

1. "The Kemble Papers," *Collections of the New-York Historical Society for the Year 1883*, I, 80, 81.

JOURNAL OF H. M. SLOOP *Kingsfisher*, CAPTAIN ALEXANDER GRAEME<sup>1</sup>

July 1776                      At Anchor off Staten Island

Thursday 11    1 AM sounded . . . the four Prizes & one Tender in Co    7 Do  
high land of Never Sink NWbN 11 a 12 Miles  
Squally with Thunder & Lightening    3 P.M came into Sandy  
hook in Co with our P[r]izes & Tender – recevied a Pilot on  
board, 6 do came too in sight of the Fleet at Staten Island  
with the B. B in 13 fm

Friday 12                      ½ past 1 P.M. hove up and made sail to join the Fleet in Co  
with our prizes & Tender    at 3 P.M came to At Staten Is-



land in Co as above & moored Ship with the Bowers out boats & sent the Water Casks on shore at 6 P.M. arrived Lord Howe Vice Admiral of the White in the *Eagle* of 64 Guns –

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/506.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Eagle*, CAPTAIN HENRY DUNCAN <sup>1</sup>

July 1776                      Sandy Hook N74..00W    Distant 13 Leagues  
 Friday 12th    At 6 AM Tacked ½ past 7 Tacked    At 8 the high Land of  
                     Never sunk NbW 4 Leags    At Noon out reefs Mode Breezes &  
                     Clear    At 2 PM came onboard a Pilot and took charge of the  
                     Ship    At 4 found riding at Sandy Hook His Majestys Sloop  
                     *Swan* who Saluted the Adml which we returned,    At 6 re-  
                     turned Vice Adml Shuldham's Salute with an Equal Number  
                     of Guns    ½ past 6 Anchor'd undr Statten Isld with the Bt  
                     Br in 10 fm Veered away and moored Ship a Cable each  
                     way    when Moored the ferry point on Statten Island SbE Bed-  
                     lows Isld NNE½N . . . found rideing her[e] Vice Adml Shuld-  
                     ham in His Majestys Ship *Chatham* with the *Asia Centurion*,  
                     *Liverpool*, *Greyhound* & *Kingsfisher* Sloop    also a Number  
                     of Transports Storeships, Victuallers &c and the Kings Troops  
                     in possession of Statten Island    ret'd a Salute from the whole  
                     Fleet.

1. NMM, Admiralty L/E/11.

JOURNAL OF AMBROSE SERLE <sup>1</sup>

[On board H.M.S. *Eagle*] Friday 12th [July]

This Morning, the Sun shining bright, we had a beautiful Prospect of the Coast of New Jersey at about 5 or 6 Miles Distance. The Land was cleared in many Places, and the Woods were interspersed with Houses, which being covered with white Shingles appeared very plainly all along the Shore. We passed Sandy Hook in the Afternoon, and about 6 o'Clock arrived safe off the East Side of Staten Island. The Country on both Sides was highly picturesque and agreeable. Nothing could exceed the Joy, that appeared throughout the Fleet and Army upon our Arrival. We were saluted by all the Ships of War in the Harbour, by the Cheers of the Sailors all along the Ships, and by those of the Soldiers on the Shore. A finer Scene could not be exhibited, both of Country, Ships, and men, all heightened by one of the brightest Days that can be imagined. What added to their Pleasure was, that this very Day about Noon the *Phoenix* of 40 Guns & the *Rose* of 20, with three Tenders forced their Passage up the River in Defiance of all their vaunted Batteries, and got safe above the Town, which will much

intercept the Provisions of the Rebels. We heard the Canonade, and saw the Smoke at a Distance. As soon as we came to Anchor, Admiral Shulldham came on board, and soon after Genl. Howe, with several officers of their respective Departments. By them we learnt the deplorable Situation of His majesty's faithful Subjects; that they were hunted after & shot at in the Woods & Swamps, to which they had fled for these four months to avoid the savage Fury of the Rebels; that many of them were forced to take up Arms & join their Forces; and that Deserters & others flocked to the King's Army continually. We also heard, that the Congress had now announced the Colonies to be INDEPENDENT STATES, with several other Articles of Intelligence, that proclaim the Villainy, & the Madness of these deluded People. Where we anchored was in full View of New York, and of the Rebels' Head Quarters under Washington, who is now made their Generalissimo with full Powers.

1. Tatum, ed., *Serle's Journal*, 28, 30.

VICE ADMIRAL RICHARD LORD HOWE TO CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE  
HAMOND, R. N. <sup>1</sup>

By the Viscount Howe, Vice Admiral of the White and commander in Chief of His Majestys Ships and Vessels employed and to be employed in North America.

Pursuant to the Instructions I have received from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for the Employment of His Majesty's Ship the *Roebuck* according to their further Intentions: You are hereby Authorized and required to apply for, and in your future proceedings be governed by the Directions You shall from time to time receive from me, or any other Chief Officer of the Division or Detachment of the Squadron under my Command, wherein you may be hereafter placed.

You are to comply with the several Signals and Instructions for the Government of the Squadron, and Establishment of a more Uniform Discipline in the Ships, which you will receive herewith; untill further Order.

Given on board his Majesty's Ship *Eagle* at  
Sandy Hook the 12th Day of July 1776

Howe

To Captn Andw Snape Hamond  
Commander of His Majesty's Ship the *Roebuck*  
By Command of the Vice Admiral Josh: Davies

1. Hamond, Orders received, 1775-1776, UVL.

DIARY OF DR. THOMAS MOFFAT <sup>1</sup>

[On board H. M. Sloop *Swan*]

July 12th morning Thermometer 65. Noon 74. P M Lord Howe in

the *Eagle* arrivd having touchd at Halifax and left the fleet off the western Islands. arrivd also a small Schooner wth Turtle and fruit from New Providence.

1. Thomas Moffat's Diary, LC.

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

[Philadelphia] Friday, July 12, 1776

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed, on the 8th of May last, on the instructions given to Commodore Hopkins, be discharged; and that the matters to them referred, be committed to the Marine Committee, who are invested with the same powers as the committee, now discharged, were at their appointment; and that the Marine Committee be directed to proceed to enquire, as well how far the said commodore has complied with the instructions given him by the naval committee, as into the complaints reported by the Marine Committee on the 13th of June, to have been exhibited against him.

The committee appointed to examine into the claims of Mr. Charles Walker, for the hire and expences of his sloop *Endeavour*, and the damages he has sustained, in consequence of her being taken into the service of the United Colonies, and brought from New Providence to New London by Commodore Hopkins, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said sloop *Endeavour* be restored to the said Walker, with all her stores and materials, as she came from sea, and now lies at New London:

That the sum of two thousand dollars be paid to the said Charles Walker, for the hire of her, and in lieu of all losses, damages, premiums of insurance, and expences whatever:

That the said Charles Walker be permitted to invest the balance of the said 2,000 dollars, (or what remains, after defraying his expences, and paying for the repairs and out fit of his vessel), in produce, and export the same.

*Resolved*, That Mr. [Francis] Hopkinson be added to the Marine Committee:

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 545-46, 556.

MARINE COMMITTEE OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS TO CAPTAIN  
JOHN ASHMEAD <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Philada July 12th 1776

The Marine Committee having considered how necessary your attendance is in the Yard taking care of the materials, and the Frigate of which

you are Clerk;<sup>2</sup> think proper to request that you will not go on the proposed expedition to the Jerseys, but that you remain to do your very necessary business

You may show this to your Commanding officer, to whom, it is hoped, it will prove a satisfactory reason for your stay<sup>3</sup> We are sir [&c.]

Robert Morris

Geo: Read

Button Gwinnett

Arthur Middleton

Fra<sup>s</sup> Lewis

[Endorsed] Agreed in Congress

John Hancock Prest

1. American Ms., 803, 229, HSP.

2. The frigate *Randolph*.

3. Ashmead was a member of Captain Joseph Cowperthwait's company of Quaker Light Infantry.

### LYDIA McFUNN TO CAPTAIN NICHOLAS BIDDLE<sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia July 12th 1776]

My Dear Nicky

I wrote to you a few days ago by the Post Charles says you wont thank me for it for My letter Cant be worth the Postage, I hope you wont say so – your Vessel is to be Launch'd on Monday Next<sup>2</sup> we long to see you Charles and Stacy<sup>3</sup> went yesterday– Our family Prety well – No Particular News, so I shall make this letter like Charles a note – your affect Sister

Lydia

1. Nicholas Biddle Papers, on deposit at HSP.

2. Lydia McFunn's letter seems to establish the date the *Randolph* was launched as Monday, July 15, 1776, rather than the July 10 date given by M. V. Brewington in his "Design of Our First Frigates," (*American Neptune*, Salem, 1948), 24. The July 15 date is further substantiated in the account of "Frigate *Randolph* Nicholas Biddle Esqr Comr To the Commissioners of the Navy Dr," HSP. In the page devoted to bills "Previous to her being Launch'd," the final date listed is July 12. In the account "For First Cruise," is an item, "July 17 To Cash paid Jacob Kelimle for Lime Juice [£] 5." In the frigate *Delaware*'s account is a bill dated July 12, for "Lime Juice for Her Launch [£] 5." It points to July 10 for the launching of the *Delaware* rather than the *Randolph*.

3. Charles Biddle and Stacy Hepburn.

COMMISSIONERS OF THE CONTINENTAL NAVY IN ACCOUNT WITH THE FRIGATE *Delaware* <sup>1</sup>

[Philadelphia]

The Frigate *Delaware* William [sic Charles] Alexander Commander

To the Commissioners of Naval Stores

Dr

[Previous to her being launched]

|       |      |   |             |            |
|-------|------|---|-------------|------------|
| 1776  |      |   |             |            |
| March | 27th | To 54 Bolts of Canvass Vizt   |             |            |
|       |      | 18 Bolts of Holland Duck @ £9.10  | £ 171..0..0 |            |
|       |      | 8 Bolts do @ £ 9  | 72..--      |            |
|       |      | 28 Bolts Russia @ £ 8   | 224..--     |            |
|       |      | [Illegible] Twine Wt 62 lb @ 2/6 d pr   | 7.15..-     | £474.15..0 |
| April | 30   | " paid York & Dowers for 14 yds. of old Canvass   |             | 5.14..0    |
| June  | 18   | " [11] Peices of Canvass assorted Vizt  |             |            |
|       |      | L 4 Peices 134 ¾ yds  |             |            |
|       |      | French 7 Peices 1105 ¾ yds  |             |            |
|       |      | 36 lb Sewing Twine a 2/6  | 4.10..0     |            |
|       | 27   | To Cash paid for 1 Quire writing Paper  |             | 2.6        |
| July  | [9]  | To Singleton & Plunketts Bill for Blocks &ca delivered<br>Coburn the Rigger }             |             | 105.19..3½ |
|       | 12   | To Thomas Penrose for an Anchor Wt [illegible] lbs a 6d p & a Stock<br>& Stocking do &c } |             | 50..2..-   |
|       |      | To Wetherell & Cressons Bill for Boards   |             | 3.18..4½   |
|       |      | To Cash paid Jacob Kelimle for Limes & Lime Juice for Her Launch                          |             | 5..--      |
|       |      | To " paid days Labour at making Wadds p J. Locktons Acct                                  |             | 1.10..0    |

JULY 1776

1047

1. Woodhouse Collection, HSP.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

In Committee of Safety.

Philad'a, 12th July, 1776.

This Committee some time past Freight'd & hired the Brig't *Nancy*, Capt. [Hugh] Montgomery, on a Voyage for procuring arms & ammunition, on Account of this Province, and having engaged to secure the Value of the said Vessel to the owners in case of loss: *And Whereas*, The said Brig't. *Nancy*, on her Return from St. Thomas with Powder and other goods, was Run on shore near Cape May and lost; In Consequence thereof, the owners of said Vessel exhibiting an Account against this Committee for the Value of said Brig't and other matters therein mention'd; Therefore,

*Resolved*, That Robert Morris, Thomas Wharton, Jun'r, & Robert Whyte, Esq'r, the Committee for Importing Powder, Arms, &ca, be authorized to settle the above mention'd account, and make Report to this Board.

The Powder Committee Report that they have examined the accounts exhibited by Joseph Shallcross, & Co., respecting the loss of the Brig't *Nancy*, amounting to £ 1457 10, and find it reasonable and just.

In Consequence thereof, an Order was drawn on Jno. Nixon, Esq'r, & others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of said Joseph Shallcross & Co., for the said sum of £ 1457 10.

Upon application of General [Daniel] Roberdeau, for the following Articles for the use of the Armd Brig't *Venus*, going on a Voyage for Arms and Ammunition, Robert Towers, Commissary, is directed to deliver them, and are as follows:

half a hundred of Gunpowder;  
60 lbs. Musket Shot,  
60 Swivel shot,  
12 two pound shot.

Lieut. [John] Webb, of the Armed Boat *Bull Dog*, having been suspended from Duty, by a Court Martial, during the pleasure of the Commadore, who has Resign'd his appointment as Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said Lieut. John Webb be restored to his Command as Lieutenant.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 642-43.

THOMAS SMYTH TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Ship Yard [Maryland] July the 12th 1776.

. . . You will please to remember that the hire of the waggons sent to Chingoteague will amount to a pretty large Sum. It will be some time before I can attend the Council as I am much Engaged in forwarding the building of the Row Galley which I have undertaken and am anxious to have her done very compleat. Anything which the Council may have to do in the meantime in this quarter they will command me. What has been

done towards sending for the Goods from Chingoteague, Mr. Nicholson has no doubt informed you. I am Gentlemen [&c.]

Tho<sup>s</sup> Smyth.

1. Correspondence of Council of Safety, Md. Arch.

JAMES MURRAY TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen

[Cambridge, Maryland] July 12th 1776.

Bazil Clarkson of this County was brought before us a few days ago being charged with going on board the Enemies Tenders, and carrying some men to join Lord Dunmores Party; And upon examining into the affair, we thought it our duty to send him over under the care of Capt [James] Hindman to take his trial before your board. John Rumbley was the only Witness produced to us against him, whose deposition we have taken & now send you enclosed.<sup>2</sup> It is said Clarkson bears a very ill character as to holding a communication with & carrying men in his boat to the Tenders. And we have just now been informed, that one Job Slacom Jr of this County will prove that he endeavoured to persuade him & some others to go with him on board the Tenders and join Lord Dunmore, but as the guard was just setting off with the Prisoners, we could not delay them until we sent a summons for Slacom. There were several other persons apprehended in this County on Suspicion of being unfriendly and having a communication with the Enemy, but upon our enquiry into their conduct, we could fix nothing criminal on them, & therefore discharged them, tho' some of them were under rather suspicious circumstances And indeed we are sorry to inform you that we have lately discovered such an unfriendly disposition in many of the Inhabitants about the Islands in this County that we are convinced it will be productive of very ill consequences unless some steps are immediately taken to keep them in proper order; And we beg leave to submit it to your Consideration, whether it may not be absolutely necessary for the public service, that part of one of the Independant Companies be immediately stationed in that part of this County. The inhabitants there are so much exposed to the depredations of the Enemy, that we cannot help thinking many of them have been induced from that circumstance rather than from inclination to appear friendly towards them, and that many may be prevented from attempting to join the Enemy could they see any Forces stationed among them to afford them proper protection. Our militia have been so long on duty, guarding our Bay and River Shores to prevent the depredations of the Enemy and the Escape of Tories, that they have many of them lost considerably in their Harvests and suffered much in other parts of their property, and we fear that if they are not assisted very soon they will be almost in a state of despair. Capt Woollford's Company which was originally intended for this County is now taken from us, and part of it is ordered by Major Price to be stationed in Somerset, and the other part on the mouth of Nanticoke, whereby it is rendered almost useless to this County; and we are left in a manner defenceless, tho' as much exposed as any County in the Province.

This being the situation of our County we thought it necessary to inform you thereof, and we doubt not but your Honours will pay proper attention thereto. We are with great respect [&c.] Signed p. order.

James Murray, Chairn

P.S. We are greatly in want of Powder, and should be glad to receive a supply as soon as possible. –

1. Correspondence of Council of Safety, Md. Arch.

2. See deposition of John Rumbley, July 9, 1776. Murray was writing for the Dorchester County Committee.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *Otter*, CAPTAIN MATTHEW SQUIRE <sup>1</sup>

- July 1776 At an Anchor off Gwins Island Harbour
- Wednesday 10 A M got on board our Guns. The Fleet under weigh in order to get under shelter of HMS *Roebuck* & *Fowey*  
 Little wind & fair At 5 PM fired a six Pr at the Rebels  
 at 7 PM came to sail, having seen the Fleet all safe & under Sail. Do sent several of our Men to assist them. At 9 anchd in 3½ fam
- Thursday 11 At 8 A M the *Fowey* made the Signal for the Fleet to get under weigh. Do repeated it. At 10 came to sail. At 11 anchored in 3 fam sent Boats to assist the Flour Ship, she being grounded. Find that there is no possibility to get her off without heaving part of her Cargoe over board. Sailed the *Roebuck* with the Fleet.  
 Fresh breezes & cloudy. At 1 P M the Rebels burning our Encampment.
- Friday 12 Finding all our attempts to get the Flour ship off were in vain, began to heave overboard part of her Cargo to lighten her.  
 Do W[eathe]r At 5 P M hove the Ship off, & shifted her farther to the No ward.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/663.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Williamsburg] Friday 12 July 1776

Commissions, this Day issued unto James Cocke Esqr Captain and Commander of the *Raleigh*, a Brigantine in the Service of this Commonwealth – John Barret first lieutenant & Joel Sturdivant second Lieutenant; also John Calvert Captain & Commander of the Row Galley *Norfolk's Revenge* – Argill Herbert first Lieutenant – Robert Elam second Lieutenant & James Tennant Master.

Additional Instructions, to Captain James Cocke, of the Cruizer Brigg *Raleigh* were drafted, considered, approved of, ordered to be fairly transcribed, & a copy thereof delivered Captain Cocke and are as follows,

Sir,

You are to take both the Captains Barrons <sup>2</sup> to Cruize with you; and you are directed at some convenient Time to send one or



both of them to the Eastern Shore, with orders to bring the Gun powder lodged there & belonging to the Public, to such safe Place or Harbour on this Shore as you may direct; observing all possible care, Circumspection, & secrecy in conducting this business, so as to run as little Risque in transporting this Gun-powder over the Bay as possible.

Ordered that a Letter be written to the Commanding Officer on the Eastern Shore, desiring him to deliver to Captain James Cockes Order all the Powder under his care, belonging to the Public, except, so much of it, as he may judge necessary for the use of the Troops & armed Vessels on that Shore; and that the said Commanding Officer be directed to lend every assistance in his power to execute that Business.

It being represented to this Board by Captain William Michell that his Company of Marines is very insufficiently armed; Ordered that fifty two Musquets & Bayonets be delivered to him from Mr. James Hunters Manufactory at Fredericksburg.

1. H. R. McIlwaine, ed., *Journals of the Council of the State of Virginia* (Richmond, 1931), I, 67, 68. Hereafter cited as McIlwaine, ed., *Journals of the Virginia Council of Safety*.
2. Captain James Barron of the boat *Liberty*, and Captain Richard Barron of the boat *Patriot*.

COMMODORE SIR PETER PARKER TO MAJOR GENERAL HENRY CLINTON <sup>1</sup>

*Bristol* in Five Fathom Hole

Sir

within Charles Town Bar 12th July 1776

I am honoured with your Letter of this Date,<sup>2</sup> and wish You a good Passage to the Camp, and from Thence to New York. I am sorry the Master of the *Sovereign* was detained last Night on Board the *Bristol*. Captain [John] Drummond has undertaken to inform You of the Circumstances, and make the Officers Apology – I am glad the Transports are Watered, and all our People embarked, the Marines were attacked last Night, 'tho without Effect, and I must own that from the Activity and Vigilance the Rebels have shewn ever since our Arrival, I did expect that They wou'd be on the Watch to take every Advantage – I am obliged to You for the offer of Captain [Thomas] Montcriefs assistance; the *Bristol* is ready to go over the Bar, as soon as the Weather will permit, – shou'd a very Dark Night happen, and Captain Montcrief will undertake it, I will send a Boat with Him, and proper People who understand the nature of Sounding; 'Tho I cannot expect much information, because, They cannot go within where the Ships were anchored, without being seen from the Fort, and consequently would be in manifest Danger – I have the Honor to be Sir [&c.]

P: Parker

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

2. *Ibid.*

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Sphynx*, CAPTAIN JAMES REID <sup>1</sup>

July 1776

Moor'd in Five Fathom Hole off Charles Town Sullivan's Island NW $\frac{1}{2}$ W, Cummin's Point NW $\frac{1}{2}$ N And the Light House WSW $\frac{1}{2}$ W.

Friday 12 Do [Fresh Breezes & Cloudy] Wr lost Twelve Puncheons getting the Casks off, by being Attacked by the Rebels, at Night Andw Simpson & Jams Trivallion, Run away with the Cutter to the Rebels from the *Harcourt* Transport; where she was in Waiting to fetch the Pilots out of the Ships that were over the Bar,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/922.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SCHOONER *St. John*, LIEUTENANT WILLIAM GRANT <sup>1</sup>

July 1776 Anchor'd in St Mary's River.

Friday 12 at 2 (A M) heard the Drums beat which we imagin'd were the Troops, fired 1 Gun & kept every body under Arms.  
Fresh Gales and Squally weather with rain,  
The Surgeon came on board & acquainted me that the Sick People were sheltered in Mr Wrights Fort, & that the Rebels had concealed themselves in the Marsh below the Landing and had fired on our Boat & had shot Jno Sn[o]dden dead & wounded Alexr Gray; had taken Mr [Peter] Beachop 2d Master & Pilot with Lieutenant Beacher of the 16th Regt & 3 of our Seamen Names John Wisdall, Christr Howard & William Harland, The Rebels stripped the killed & Wounded as well as Prisoners robbed the Hospitall of every Article of Clothes Bedding and Provisions belonging to the Sick, Carried off all the Arms & Ammunition, Burnt the Cutter and added every Insult to distress – In the night they marched off with the prisoners, kept the Schooners Co under Arms, fired several Guns and small Arms as Signals to bring to Boats – At 8 the Pilot [boat] returned,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

13 July

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SLOOP *Tyrannicide*, CAPTAIN JOHN FISK <sup>1</sup>

Remks on Satterday 13th of July 1776

1 [A. M.] our Master Boatsun & 15 men Repairing the schooners Riggins  
12 Fair Weather

Latt in 40d.26m Longd In 65d.50m

1 [P. M.] Small breaze Cloudy weather got sum sail on the schooner makeing the best of our way for Salem

6 Our Gunners mate blowd his right hand off[f] Ocationed by the catching of A powder Orne in his hand

1. John Fisk Journal, AAS.

CAPTAIN ROBERT PARKER TO THE NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL <sup>1</sup>

Lee, July 13th, 1776.

Gentlemen – I am to inform you that I have just Rec[eive]d a letter from Mr Bigerat, Esq., Merchant in Martinico,<sup>2</sup> who informs me that there has



*Peter Parker.*

been a great Scarcity of Provisions there; owing to a number of vessels being detained in France on account of contrary Winds. On the 6th of May was the first arrival for a long time, & since up to 14th of the above month, 14 sail has arrived and has brought one hundred thousand weight of Gunpowder & a great many Chests of fire arms & great quantities of course Woolen Cloths, there is Likewis 12 sail of ships expected ourly with 10,000 or 12,000 weight of Powder in each vessell: he further adds, there is not a Board nor a Cod fish in the Island & you may have Imediate Dispatch & a great Price for the above articles. Therefore if your Honours think fit to send a vessell with fish and Lumber, I think there is a Great Prospect of making a good Voyage and little or no dangour of being taken as there is no Cruisers on this Course [*sic* Coast], and will be chiefly hau'd up in the West Indies on account of the hurricane months. If your Honnours sees fitt to hire a vessell & send for the above purpose, I know of one that is a good sailor & will answer, & shall be glad to serve you in so good a cause, if you think me worthy of being trusted as a master and am with Respect [&c.]

Rob<sup>t</sup> Parker.

N.B. My letter was dated the 14th of May. He said Powder was 5s.10d. on account of our vessells weighting there so long, but it has since fell a great Deal & he thinks it will be less. The first vessels that goes there will get Woolen Goods cheap & I fear they will be much wanted in our Army next winter.

[No address]

R. Parker.

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, VIII, 303, 304.

2. See also Pierre Begozzat to Governor Cooke, February 22, 1776. Volume 4, 40-41.

*The Freeman's Journal*, SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1776

Portsmouth, July 13, 1776

Wednesday last was bro't into Falmouth, by Capt. [Agreen] Crabtree, a sloop from Anapolis [Royal] bound to Halifax, taken off the Grand Passage, loaden with Lumber, Hand Spikes, Butter, Cheese, Potatoes, &c.<sup>1</sup>

1. Crabtree commanded the Massachusetts privateer schooner *Hannah and Molly*. See his petition to the Massachusetts Council, July 30, 1776.

MASTER'S LOG OF H.M.S. *Milford* <sup>1</sup>

July 1776

Cape Ann WNW 14 Leags

Saturdy 13

Fresh Breezs and Clear at 6 AM saw a Sail in the N E Qr made sail and gave Chace, at 10 Fired a Shot and brought too the Chace, sent an Officer onboard, proved to be an American Sloop loaded with Lumber <sup>2</sup> Recd the prisoners onboard, sent the Mate and four Men wth the prize to Hallifax, at Noon made Sail and wore Ship, parted Compy with the prize.

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1865.

2. The sloop *Britannia*, bound for Boston, Vice Admiralty Register, vol. 5, 1769-1777, N. S. Arch.

JOSIAH BATCHELDER, JR. TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL <sup>1</sup>

To the Honorable Council  
of the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay } Beverly July the 13th 1776  
Honorble Gentlemen, these to acquaint you that, Agreeable to my Commission, I have hired and fitted a Small Vessel, for the purpose of obtaining Intilgence of the Motions, of the Fleets & armies of our enemies,<sup>2</sup> Capt Robert Haskoll who will Remitt you this Letter, is to be Intrusted with this Important business, it will be needless to Recommend him, as he has made one Voyage already in the Same employ, he now waits on your Honors for your Orders & directions,<sup>3</sup> he will acquaint you with his proposals which I think are much better than our former Scheeme, I hope you will dispatch him as Soon as possible I think we have no Time to Loose, I have the Honor to be Gentlemen [&c.]

Jos<sup>h</sup> Batchelder jun<sup>n</sup>

N.B. I found it Very difficult to procure a Suitable Vessel

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 209, 444.

2. The *Dove* schooner.3. The Council named a committee to draft instructions for Captain Haskell on July 15, *ibid.*, vol. 19, 77.PETITION OF BOSTON COMMITTEE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT <sup>1</sup>

The Subscribers beg leave to represent to the Genl Court, That two Armed Vessels, now under the command of Messrs Obrian [Jeremiah O'Brien] & [John] Lambert, have had orders, from time to time, from the Court, & have cost the public large Money, but have effected very little – That Obrian is said to be now gone to Marblehead for Stores for a three Months Curize, & 'tis reported that he intimates, that he shall not pay any regard to the Orders of Court, & has offered one, if not both, those Vessels for Sale. And That a person now appears, who wou'd give the Cash for one of those Vessels. –

From this Representation, 'tis suggested to the Court, whether it might not be conducive to the public good, that an enquiry be made into the property of said Vessels, & such measures be taken in the premises, as may Secure that interest in those Vessels, which belongs to the Colony. The Comtee tho't it their duty to make the above Representation & suggestion to the Honble Court.

Boston July 13th 1776.

Benj<sup>a</sup> Lincoln      Solomon Lovell  
J. Palmer          John Bachellor  
John Boswick

[Endorsed] In Council July 20th, 1776. Read & Comitted to Richd D[e]rby Thos Cushing Esqr & Jno Taylor Esqr to take the same under Consideration & Report  
Jn<sup>o</sup> Avery Dpy Secy

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 448.

*Providence Gazette*, SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1776

Providence, July 13.

Since our last some Officers of the British Fleet, who had broke their Parole of Honor, by going beyond the Limits prescribed by the General Congress, were brought to Town, and secured in Gaol.

LIBEL OF CAPTAIN NICHOLAS BIDDLE AGAINST ARMS AND AMMUNITION  
TAKEN FROM TWO BRITISH TRANSPORTS <sup>1</sup>

Providence, ss.

Colony of Rhode Island, &c.

A Libel is filed before me, in Behalf of Nicholas Biddle, Esq; his Officers and Men, belonging to the Brigantine *Andrew Doria*, a Continental Vessel of War, and one of the Fleet for the Protection and Defence of the United Colonies of America, under the Command of Esek Hopkins, Esq; Commander in Chief, against 191 Fire Arms with Cartouch Boxes, 3 Fusells, 2 Hangers, 162 Bayonets, 80 Broad Swords, 8 Halberts, 2 Drums, 2 pair of Bag-pipes, 1 Ship Bell, 3 Jacks, 2 Ensigns, 1 Pendant, 273 Pounds of Gun-powder, and 2600 Musket Cartridges with Balls: said to have been captured and taken by the said Officers and Men, upon the high Seas, and brought into the Port of Providence, in the County of Providence, in said Colony, from on board two Transport Vessels,<sup>2</sup> used and employed in the Service of his Britannic Majesty. All which said Fire-Arms, Ammunition, &c. at and before the Time of said Capture, belonged to and were used by the British Army, acting against the said United Colonies; and for Trial of the Justice of said Captures, the Court erected in and for said Colony, for the Trial of Maritime Causes, will be holden at said Providence, on the Twenty-second Day of July, A.D.1776, at the Hour of Ten in the Forenoon. This Notice is given, pursuant to the Law of said Colony, that the Owner or Owners, of said Fire-Arms, Ammunition &c. of any Person concerned therein, may appear and shew Cause, if any they have, why the same shall not be condemned.

John Foster, Judge of said Court

1. *Providence Gazette*, July 13, 1776.

2. The British transports, *Crawford* and *Oxford*, with Highland troops.

GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL TO JOHN HANCOCK <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Lebanon 13th July 1776.

In conformity to Resolve of Congress of 27th ulto I sent to Mr [Nathan-iel] Shaw for an Account of the Cannon left at New London by Commodore Hopkins, their number, size, bore and weight; and also an account of the other Cannon there. Enclosed is Copy of his Return made to me;<sup>2</sup> by which it appears, that if the fourteen heaviest Cannon had been sent to Philadelphia, there would not have been one twenty four pounder in our Fort; and only one eighteen of those left by the Commodore – The ten of nine are old. We have been necessitated to make use of them for the present. One of them unfit for use –

The Plan sent, and other representations shew the Situation and Advantages of the Harbour of New London – Hitherto the Sound is not invested by the Enemy –

Yesterday received your letter of the 6th instant, inclosing the Declaration of the United States of America. Shall have it proclaimed in the Colony in such a Manner that the People may be universally informed of it – I am with great trust & regard, [&c.]

Jon<sup>th</sup> Trumbull

1. Trumbull Papers, XXIX, Letter Book IV, 70, ConnSL.
2. The return showed ten cannon mounted in Groton Fort; six sent to Philadelphia; nine mounted in Mamecock Fort; four each on board the galleys *Shark* and *Crane*, and one on Shaw's wharf; a total of thirty-four received from Hopkins. The colony cannon were divided, seven at New London and six at Groton. Papers CC (Connecticut State Papers 1775–89), 66 I, 215–16, NA.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'S ACCOUNT AGAINST THE CONTINENTAL BRIG *Cabot*<sup>1</sup>

| 1776 | The Brig <i>Cabot</i> [Elisha] Hinman Commandr        | Dr                |
|------|---|-------------------|
| July | To the Sum brot over                                  | £ [blank]         |
| 13   | To 39 Frocks @ 8/6                                    | £16.11..6         |
|      | To 44 Shirts 14/4                                     | 31.10..8          |
|      | To 81 p troussrs 6/8                                  | 27..0..0          |
|      | To 2 shirts & 3 p trousers }<br>from G. Richards      | 2..7..4           |
|      | To 8 shirts from Pool                                 | 6..6..2           |
|      | To 50 p Shoes R Douglass                              | 17.15..0          |
|      | To 26 p do R Manwarg                                  | 9.15..0 111..5..8 |
|      | To 3 doz Wine   | 5..8..0           |
|      | To 1 Demi John Wine                                   | 2..8..0           |
|      | To 105 lb Mutton at Stonington }<br>as p Hinmans Bill | 1..6..3           |
|      | To pd John Owens Bill for a }<br>House of Rendezvous  | 15.16..8          |
|      | To 1 p trousers from G. R. de[livered] Thos Dandy     | 6..6              |

1. Shaw Papers, Ledger 4, 109, YUL.

MAJOR GENERAL HORATIO GATES TO BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD<sup>1</sup>

Head Quarters Ticonderoga 13th. July 1776.

Dear Sir, I am anxious to have you here as soon as possible, as maintaining our naval Superiority is of the last Importance: I labour continually to get the Commodore<sup>2</sup> to Crown-Point with the Vessels; but am baffled by the Laziness of the Artificers, or the Neglect of those, whose Duty it is to see them diligent at their Work. I hourly expect one, or two more Gondolas, from Skeenesborough and labour all in my Power to get them rigged, and armed. I am certain you will not lose a Moment in forwarding the Troops

and Stores from the Point. We shall be happy, or miserable, as we are, or are not prepared to receive the Enemy. I am your affectionate [&c.]

Horatio Gates

1. Gates Papers, NYHS.

2. Commodore Jacobus Wynkoop.

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

[White Plains] Saturday Morning, July 13th, 1776.

A draft of a letter to Col. Pierre Van Cortlandt, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

White Plains, July 13th 1776.

Sir – Be pleased to order such a number of your regiment to guard the stores in which provisions and other effects belonging to the public, are lodged at and near Peekskill, as you may think necessary. Col. [Samuel] Drake will afford them the necessary supplies of bread and pork.

As it would not be prudent on every little alarm to call great numbers of the inhabitants from their farms, we hope the detachments you may order in service, will not be greater than the exigency of affairs may require.

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

To Col. Pierre Van Cortlandt.

A draft of a letter to Lieut. Colo. [James] Hammond, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

White Plains, 13th July, 1776.

Sir – We last evening ordered Col. [Thomas] Thomas to send you a reinforcement of 40 or 50 men, together with 100lbs. of lead, and 2 quarter casks of gunpowder, all of which we hope you have received.

There is no great reason to apprehend that any considerable incursions into the country will be made by parties from the ships in the river, and therefore are of opinion it would not be expedient for great numbers of the militia to leave their farms at this busy season of the year.

Great attention should be paid to the conduct of the disaffected among us, and care taken to prevent any unusual gatherings of them, and let all such of them be apprehended and secured as may give any aid to the enemy, or threaten to give you any molestation. Col. Drake will give the necessary orders for provisions, and we hope the Whigs of this country will distinguish themselves by their zeal and alacrity on this occasion.

We are, sir, [&c.]

Lieut. Col. Hammond.

A draft of a letter to His Excellency Genl. Washington, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:



Saturday morning, July 13th, 1776

Sir – On being informed yesterday afternoon that two ships of war had gone into the North River, and passed by all the fortifications on York island, the Convention immediately sent an express to the commanding officer of the fort at the Highlands, advising him thereof. Last evening advice arrived that two frigates and two or three tenders were at anchor at Tarry Town, whereupon the Convention sent the inhabitants a supply of powder and ball, and took immediate measures for reinforcing the inhabitants along that shore. This morning the Convention were informed that the frigates and tenders still lay there at anchor, and that several barges were busy in sounding the river. Another detachment of the militia has been directed to guard the stores in that neighborhood, in which are sundry effects belonging to the public. The Convention will endeavour to prevent their making incursions into the country, and beg leave to suggest to your Excellency, the propriety of keeping a strong guard at King's Bridge, the destruction of which they apprehend to be an object with the Enemy.

I have the honr. to be with esteem, [&c.] By order.

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

1. *New York Provincial Congress*, I, 522–23.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO CAPTAIN PATRICK DENNIS <sup>1</sup>

Sir:

Head Quarters, July 13, 1776.

Mr. [William] Duer informs me, that there are two or three Vessels lying at the Dock of Mr. Beverley Robinson in the Highlands. As it is probable, the Men of War which sailed up the River Yesterday, may have anchored to the northward of those Ships, I think it absolutely necessary that an Attempt should be made to secure those Vessels for future Service. I have, therefore to desire the Favour of you, to procure proper Persons to bring these Vessels down the River, and to anchor them under the Fort where General [Thomas] Mifflin commands.

It is absolutely necessary, that this Matter should be conducted with the utmost Secrecy, and Dispatch, and as I am of Opinion that you possess these Requisites, I have thought proper to apply to you, for your Services in this Matter. I am, etc.

1. Fitzpatrick, ed., *Writings of Washington*, V, 268.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Eagle*, CAPTAIN HENRY DUNCAN <sup>1</sup>

July 1776

Moored off Statten Island

Saturday 13th At 9 AM made the Sigl for all Captains

The first & Middle parts Light airs & fair with Calms, latter fresh Breezes with rain At 2 P M Saluted the General <sup>2</sup> on his coming on-board with 15 Guns

1. NMM, Admiralty L/E/11.

2. Howe.

JOURNAL OF CAPTAIN HENRY DUNCAN, R.N.<sup>1</sup>[On board H.M.S. *Eagle* off Staten Island]

13th [July 1776]. — This day General Howe came on board. Saluted him with fifteen guns. Mr. [Samuel] Reeve was dispatched with a flag of truce to Amboy, in the Jerseys, opposite Staten Island, on the west side, with letters from the admiral, which they received. In the evening Lieutenant [Philip] Brown was likewise sent with a flag of truce and despatches to George Washington, Esq., &c., at New York. Three boats were sent off to meet ours; but as the letter was addressed as above, the people who came off said they had no such person amongst them as George Washington Esq., but supposed all the world had known General Washington since last spring.

1. *Duncan's Journals*, XX, 118–19.VICE ADMIRAL RICHARD LORD HOWE'S INSTRUCTIONS<sup>1</sup>[H.M.S. *Eagle*, July 13, 1776]

General Instructions and Directions For the conduct of the  
Ships of War, when sailing or in chace by Day.

## Article 1.

officers  
summoned  
on board  
the Admiral  
to be pro-  
vided with  
an orderly  
Book.

For the advantage of dispatch, and the more convenient distribution of orders the Officers summoned by signal are to attend on board the Admiral provided with an orderly Book; wherein they are to minute down the receipt of all public Letters and orders then to be delivered; to enter all verbal directions given; and all written instructions to be copied from the day-book of the Ship in which the Admiral is embarked; and so sign their names in evidence of the receipt of such orders and directions, when so required.

## 2.

Ships com-  
manded by  
senior or  
junior  
officers  
equally to  
bear up as  
may be  
most  
convenient.

It is to be observed in order to avoid inconvenience from the customary practice, founded on the regulations specified in the general printed sailing Instructions, with respect to the conduct of senior Officers towards their Juniors, that the ships of war are to bear up for each other, shorten sail, &c. without regard to the seniority of the Commanders, or other claim of distinction, in such manner as shall be found most convenient on either part, and may best guard against the hazard of falling on board each other.

The same attention is likewise to be had, on all occasions, in giving place to, or otherwise accommodating, ships proceeding as directed by signal from the Admiral, or making the signal to speak with him.

## 3

Ships  
nearest to  
strange ships  
passing near  
the fleet  
at anchor,  
to examine  
them.

The Captains of ships lying, or stationed on, the part nearest to which any strange ships may happen to approach the Fleet when at anchor, by day or night, are to examine such strange ships, without waiting for more particular directions by signal, or otherwise for that purpose.

And they are to make known, without loss of time, to the Admiral, or the Commander of their division, the particulars of any material information they may there by obtain.

## 4.

The order in which  
Ships in-  
chace are  
successively  
to return  
to the  
fleet  
upon signal  
for that  
purpose.

When more ships than one happen to be out in chace on the same quarter or bearing from the Admiral, and it is meant that any of them should return back to the Fleet; (which will be signified by the proper bearing-flag shewn at the same time that the general signal is made) the ship farthest from the chace is first to return, in compliance therewith.

If the Signal be nevertheless continued abroad, after that ship has made sail to join the fleet, the next ship most distant from the chace is then to do the same; and soon, one after the other in succession, whilst the signal remains abroad

But if the signal flag be taken in before all the chacing-ships are upon their return to the fleet, the ships, one or more, that shall not then have made sail to join the fleet, are to continue the pursuit, till the signal is again made requiring their return also to the fleet.

## 5.

Of ships  
ordered to  
repeat signals  
between the  
Admiral &  
ships in chace

Ships sent out in succession to repeat signals between the Admiral and the ships in chace, are to keep at proper intervals asunder; varying their stations occasionally, according to the change of distance and number of ships ordered from the fleet upon that service.

## 6

on view of  
the fleet  
after  
separation  
in chace

In case of separation in chace (which is always to be avoided as much as possible, without permission first obtained, or upon extraordinary occasions) the ships are to be made known on their return in sight of the fleet, by the respective daily signals instituted for that purpose, in preference to the distinguishing signal delivered, when it can be done with equal convenience and effect.

JOURNAL OF AMBROSE SERLE <sup>1</sup>[On board H. M. S. *Eagle*] Saturday 13th. July [1776]

This Morning the Captains of the Fleet waited on the Admiral [Howe], and received his Lordship's Orders. They acquainted us, that General Burgoyne is coming down to Albany with the Army under his Command, together with 1000 Indians; and that they had overtaken the Rebels, who had penetrated into Canada, driven them into a Swamp, and put above 500 of them to the Sword. The Troops hold them very cheap, and long for an opportunity of revenging the Cause of their Countrymen, who fell at Bunker's Hill . . .

I heard likewise that Lieut. Stanhope has run from his Parole of Honor, wch he had given to the Rebels on being taken Prisoner, and that they have advertised him in the New York Papers.

Genl Howe and three of his Aides de Camp dined with the Admiral on board the *Eagle*, and continued on board till late in the Evening. The Discourse chiefly turned upon military Affairs, upon the Country, and upon the Rebels. The Army seem to be actuated by one Spirit, and impatiently wait for the Arrival of the Hessians & other Troops.

Govr. Tryon also came on board, to whom I delivered a Packet I had in Charge for him, who recd. it & the Bearer with his usual Politeness.

By a perspective Glass, we have a distinct View of the Rebels' Encampments, of the Town of New York, and of Hudson's River for a considerable Space beyond the Town. The Rebels appear very numerous, & are supposed to be near 30,000, but from the Mode of raising them, no great matters are to be expected, especially when their loose Discipline is considered.

1. Tatum, ed., *Serle's Journal*, 30, 31.

VICE ADMIRAL RICHARD LORD HOWE TO GEORGE WASHINGTON <sup>1</sup>*Eagle* off of Staten Island

July the 13h 1776

Sir

The Situation in which you are placed and the acknowledged liberality of your Sentiments, induce me very much to wish for an opportunity to converse with you on the Subject of the Commission with which I have the honor to be charged; As I trust that a dispassionate consideration of the Kings benevolent intentions, may be the means of preventing the further Effusion of Blood, and become productive of Peace and lasting Union between Great Britain and America.

If this proposal should be acceptable, I would advance in a Frigate to have the pleasure to receive you, as near to the Town of New York as will be most for your accommodation

I flatter myself I shall find no difficulty in obtaining Credit to my assurances for the perfect Safety of your Person, & free liberty to return on Shore at your Pleasure. tho' I shall be equally ready to afford any more prefera-

ble Security that may be required, in case no other objection occurs to the desired Interview. I am Sir [&c.]

George Washington Esqr &c - &c - <sup>2</sup>

1. CL.

2. This is the letter which Washington refused to receive. See the various communications upon this subject. The Clements Library issued in 1959 a brochure reproducing the letter, entitled: "An Unaccepted Letter to George Washington: 1776."

VICE ADMIRAL MOLYNEUX SHULDHAM TO VICE ADMIRAL RICHARD  
LORD HOWE <sup>1</sup>

*Chatham off Staten Island*

13th July 1776.

My Lord

The great Confusion in which I left my private Affairs in England when I was called upon and appointed to the Command of His Majesty's Fleet in America, requiring my Return, I beg the Favor your Lordship will give me Leave to proceed to Great Britain in any Manner You shall please to direct.<sup>2</sup>

I am less scrupulous in making this Request when I see so important a Trust under the Direction of so distinguished and experienced an Officer as your Lordship. I have the Honor to be Your Lordships [&c.]

M. Shuldham.

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

2. *Ibid.*, the next day Howe refused the request, stating: "the critical State of the King's Service at this Time, will not permit me to lessen with any Propriety the Naval Force attendant upon the Operations of the Army: Which Force is . . . already much inferior to the Occasion."

JOURNAL OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL STEPHEN KEMBLE <sup>1</sup>

[Staten Island] Saturday, July 13th.

About half past five in the Afternoon Lieut. Blenerhasset, 10th. Regt., was sent from the Quarters of that Regt. near Elizabeth Town Point, to endeavour to cut off one of the Rebels Boats, but, going too near, was fired upon from the Redoubt and breast Work with small Arms and Cannon, by which the Lieut. was dangerously Wounded in the head, and one Man in the Leg and thigh but slightly.

1. "The Kemble Papers," *Collections of the New-York Historical Society*, I, 81.

CONTINENTAL BOND OF THE PENNSYLVANIA LETTER OF MARQUE BRIG *Venus* <sup>1</sup>

1776 *Venus*, Brigantine. Guns, 6: Men, 25.

Commander, William Raddon

Bond, Continental \$5,000

Bonders, Thomas Pryor, William Raddon, both of Philadelphia

Owners: Daniel Roberdeau and Thomas Pryor & Co.<sup>2</sup> Philadelphia

Witnesses, William Barrell, J. W. Reed

1. Papers CC (Ships' Bonds Required for Letters of Marque and Reprisal), 196, XV, 93, NA. An abstract from the bond. Attached to the bond is a paper reading: "Brigantine *Venus* of about 75 Tons Mounting Six three Pounders Carrying Twenty five Men William Raddon Commander Thomas Cummin second in Comd Six Barrels Salt Provision Twelve Barrels Bread &c Owned by Daniel Roberdeau Thomas Pryor & Compy of Philadelphia July 13th."
2. According to a receipt dated July 9, 1776, Thomas Pryor sold a share in the *Venus* to William Barrett, for £100. Stephen Collins Accounts, vol. 13, LC.

CALEB GOUGH TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

Gentlemen,

... Mr J[es]e Hollingsworth recd your favr p Capt Nicholson & thanks you for the d[ra]ft therein inclosed, which he will apply to the purposes you direct and render you an acct of the Charges of unloading the Brigs and removing the soldiery as soon as the amount can be ascertained.<sup>2</sup>

He desires me to assure you, that he will give all the assistance he can to Geo Wells in procuring the timber for the Gondolas & will always be glad of such Commissions from you as it may be in his power to execute. I am Gentlemen, for Mr. J. Hollingsworth [&c.]

Caleb C. Gough.

Baltimore July 13th 1776.

1. Correspondence of Council of Safety, Md. Arch.

2. The brigs *Fortune* and *Rogers*.THOMAS SMYTH TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Gentlemen

Eastern Neck July the 13th 1776

The inclosed paper was delivered me yesterday to lay before your Board you'll be pleased to direct the Clerk to make out the Acct arising thereon & give Orders for the payment thereof—When the Council requested Waggons to be hired & despatched to Chingoteague for the Cargo of Arms &c shipt by Messrs Harrison & Vanbebber they sent no Directions whom to apply to for the delivery of the Cargo nor the name of the Brig in which they were imported nor the Captains Name, nothing but an unattested Copy of the Invoice & orders for the militia Guard.

The Capt. of the Guard who escorts the Waggons which are gone to Chingoteague has Orders to bring up the Arms & powder lately imported in a Brig for the use of this Province. I hope the Receipt of the Committee of North Hampton County for the Goods imported by Capt. Speake <sup>2</sup> will be the means of discovering in whose Care the Cargo of the Brig is and am with much respect [&c.]

Tho<sup>s</sup> Smyth

1. Revolutionary Papers, Box 12, Md. Arch. Thomas Smyth was chairman of the Kent County Committee of Observation.
2. Revolutionary Accounts, Md. Arch. contains a receipt for carting the powder received from Captain Speake reading: "1776 Capt Johanus Speake Dr July 14th To Cartage of 60 barrells Gunpowder 22 Casks Sulphur 14 Muskets & 10 Swivell Guns £0. .15.0 (To Storage for ditto 2.12.- [total] 3. .7- Recd the full Contents for the above Wm Downing for Rebecah Watts."



*Molyneux Shuldham.*

COLONEL RICHARD BARNES TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

Gentn

St Inigoes. 13th July 1776

I recd information on Friday the 12th July that there was a considerable number of Ships and Small Vessells between Smiths Point & Point Lookout, on which I ordered five Companys of Militia to repare there as fast as possible, and Imediately set out to the Point myself in order to git further information, on my arrival there I found about forty Sail of Vessells, they were then about twenty five miles off the Point in the Bay, where they continued till in the Night, in the Morning about fifty eight Sail were discovered opposite Smiths Creek in Potomack, & eight in the Bay, on which I gave orders to call the Companys of my Battalion imediately to march to Potomack in order to prevent their landing in the District of the 21st Battn. We have had two small Vessells drove on shore from the Fleet, on board of one of them was three Whites & two Negroes, three of which now have the small Pox on them, on[e] of the White Men informed us the Fleet was Dunmores, and that Govr Eden was on board the *Fo[w]ey*, & that he heard it surmised that they intended to take possession of St Georges Island, since which the *Foey* and her Tender have come to in St Marys River, and I don't doubt but the greatest part if not all of the Fleet will be there in the morning, we have between two and three hundred of our Militia stationed in different places, and I have just sent off an express to Colo [Jeremiah] Jordan to supply me with one or two hundred Men of his Battalion if Possible,<sup>2</sup> from the above affair I think it would be proper Captn [Rezin] Bealls company from Drum Point should be ordered here and their place there supplied with the Militia of the Co[un]ty. I should be glad of your advice and assistance. I should have wrote you more particularly but have been Marching from place to place from the morning till now, which is twelve Oclock in the Night, and am much Tired. Mr Hugh Hopewell has promised me to hire an express in Calvert to carry this to you, should therefore be glad you would pay him. I remain Gentn [&c.]

Richd<sup>d</sup> Barnes

1. Red Book, X, Md. Arch.

2. Jordan commanded the upper battalion of the militia of St. Mary's County, and Barnes, the lower battalion.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Roebuck*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND <sup>1</sup>

July 1776

At a Single Anchor off of Point Lookout Cheseapeak bay

Saturday 13th at 6 in the morning made the Signal and weighed, and made Sail, at 11 Anchored in 7 fathoms in the River Powtomack, Point lookout E1½ So distant 2 Leagues, and Saint George Island NNW 3 miles; most of the Fleet in Sight, and at Anchor, exercised the Ships company at Great Guns and Small Arms.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/796.



JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY <sup>1</sup>

[Williamsburg] Saturday the 13th July, 1776

A Warrant from the Navy Board in favour of Captain Thomas Lilley, of the Brigg *Liberty*, for One hundred & fifty pounds for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for said Brig was presented Countersigned by the President & ordered to be registered.

Instruction to Captain John Calvert of the Row Galley *Norfolk Revenge*, were drafted considered, approved of, Ordered to be fairly transcribed & a Copy thereof delivered Captain Calvert & are as follows

Captain Calvert,

You must with all convenient dispatch proceed with the Row Galley, *Norfolk Revenge* under your Command, down James River & into the Bay as far as you may Judge safe and necessary for the purpose of annoying or distressing the Enemy, or for protecting any of our own trading Vessells or any foreign Vessel coming with friendly Intentions of trading with us; taking care at the same time to afford all the Protection in your Vessels to such of the Inhabitants on the Shores as may be exposed to the attacks of the Enemy – In all other Vessels we order & request you to exert your best skill & Judgement in all matters which may fall within the Line of your duty, having especial regard to the safety of the vessel and men under your Command on one hand, & on the other to the full exertion of your Power and Abilities in Captivating annoying distressing, & destroying such of the Enemy's Ships or Vessels which may fall in your way, & which you may judge to be of inferior strength to the Galley which you Command, You are to Chuse your own Ground for Cruising, unless when acting in Conjunction with Captain [James] Cocke Commander of the Brigg *Raleigh* in which Case you must pay a proper Regard to his Directions & Instructions.

A Warrant from the Navy Board in favour of James Russell for thirteen pounds eighteen shillings & nine pence for medicine furnished Captain [Edward] Travis for the use of the *Manley* Row Galley, was presented, Countersigned by the President, and ordered to be registered.

A Warrant from the Navy Board in favour of Captain [John] Calvert for Fifty Pounds for furnishing the *Revenge* Galley with Necessaries was presented, Countersigned by the President, & ordered to be registered.

A Warrant, from the Navy Board in favour of Captain William Mitchell for Two hundred & fifty pounds towards the payment of his Company of Marines, was presented, Countersigned by the President, & ordered to be recorded.

1. McIlwaine, ed., *Journals of the Virginia Council of Safety*, I, 69, 71, 72.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA, JULY 13." <sup>1</sup>

A battery of two 18 pounders was opened on the enemy's fleet on Tuesday morning, whilst another of four 9 pounders play'd on their works and camp on Gwyn's Island. In a short time the whole fleet was forced to tow out of reach of the battery; their fire ceased after a few rounds. Their camp was thrown into confusion, and in the night, before we could procure boats to carry over our men, they removed all their tents except one, their cannon except one, and all their stores, &c. There were three tenders in the haven, which attempted to prevent our passage. — Their works were still manned as if they meant to dispute their ground, but as soon as our soldiers put off in a few canoes, they retreated precipitately to their ships. The tenders fell into our hands, one they set on fire, but our people boarded it and extinguished the flames. The enemy burnt two small vessels, and the night following a very large ship, supposed to be the *Dunmore*, for she was very much damaged, having received four 18 pound shot through her sides and a double headed one through her stern which raked her. — Her mate was killed, a sailor had his arm taken off, and Lord Dunmore had his leg wounded by this shot. The fleet has sailed from the Island, which we are in quiet possession of. From their works and preparation for others, and flocks of cattle left on the Island, it is evident they left it much against their inclination and long before they expected it. We found 150 graves and 12 dead negroes lying in the open air. They have had a dreadful fever amongst them, and the small-pox, I wish our army may not catch the infection. The *Roebuck* was at the mouth of Rappahanock. The *Fowey* and *Otter* did not choose to come to the assistance of the *Dunmore* which, unfortunately for her, had changed stations with the *Otter*, and by this means came into the jaws of our battery which was concealed. We did not lose a man.

1. *Pennsylvania Packet*, July 22, 1776.

JOHN PAGE TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER <sup>1</sup>

Sir

Williamsburg July 13th 1776

As the Enemy's Fleet has been driven from their Station and their Forces obliged to abandon Gwyn's Island, and we are informed they will endeavor to possess themselves of some Place on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, We have thought it prudent to given you the earliest intimation thereof, A Battery of 2. 18 Pounders played on their Ships and in a few rounds forced them to retire, 4. 9 pounders silenced their Batteries, raked their camp, and threw them into the greatest confusion, on which our Men, as soon as Boats could be procured, past over to the Island, which the Enemy abandoned with precipitation, carrying with them all their Cannon, except one, two of their tenders fell into our hands — The Ship *Dunmore* was so much damaged that, it is said, she was burnt the Night after the Cannon-

ade, they were obliged to destroy two other Vessels. We congratulate you on the Success of the American Arms in South Carolina, by this Express you will be fully informed of Sir Peter Parker's repulse<sup>2</sup> I am Sir [&c.]

John Page Pt Cl

1. Red Book, X, Md. Arch.

2. This letter was published in the *Maryland Gazette*, Annapolis, July 18, 1776.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SCHOONER *St. John*, LIEUTENANT WILLIAM GRANT<sup>1</sup>

July 1776

Anchor'd in St Mary's River

Saturday 13 (A M) unmoored and loosed sails to dry at noon handed them, took an Inventory of the Prisoners Cloaths on board – Lost taken & destroy'd Schooner's Cutter 1 Do. Masts 2 Spritsls 2, Grapnel Rope 3½ In: 30 fathoms, Boat sails 2, Iron Tiller 1, Rudder 1, Iron Ballast 1 Pigg, Water Cask 1, Gunners Stores lost Muskets Complete 5, Pole axes 2, Cutlasses 2 – Sent the Surgeon to bring the Dead & to bring down the Sick, wrote Mr Wright to send down a Boat [P.M.] sent the Boat to Cumberland Island for Wood and Water –

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/4330.

CAPTAIN LAMBERT WICKES TO THE COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE  
OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS<sup>1</sup>

Gent.

On board the *Reprisal* July 13th 1776

This will inform of a Small Addition to our good fortune in the Prize Way. We this day took Capt [John] Muckelno in the Schooner *Peter* of Liverpool from St Vincent bound to Liverpool in Brittain, Loaded with: Rum-Sugar Coffee Cocoa & Cotton, We also took Capt [Charles] Mackey in the Ship *Friendship* from Granada, bound to London, wch I have wrote you of before, and, Now; Send a Coppy of that Letter. this Schooner, is ordered into one or Either of the Egg Harbours, if she Can get in there, If not into any other Port on the Coast, I have given orders to Mr Jeremiah Holden to Send this letter & the Schrs papers & letters to you by Express on his Arrival in America. We had very little Wind this two or three days past & are but little further on our Way, than when I Wrote you last,<sup>2</sup> from Gentlemen [&c.]

Lamb<sup>t</sup> Wickes

1. Papers CC (Letters addressed to Congress), 78, XXIII, 295, NA.

2. "The American Congress have fitted out twenty privateers, of sixteen guns, and one hundred and twenty men each. A certain share of the prizes they take, is deposited in the Congress bank, to carry on the war, and the remainder is distributed among the crews. One of these privateers, named the *Reprisal*, took the *Friendship*, Capt, Macky, from Gr[e]nada with upwards of five hundred hogsheads of sugar. The captain of the privateer offered Capt. Macky his liberty and permission to take his *private* property, which were accepted. But the crew of the *Friendship* voluntarily entered into the service of the American Congress. This privateer two or three days afterwards took two more merchant vessels, viz, one from Antigua to Cork, and one from St. Vincent's to Liverpool." Almon, ed., *Remembrancer*, III, 235.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL COUNCIL OF BERMUDA <sup>1</sup>

At a Council held in Assembly at the  
Government House on Thursday the  
13th day of July 1776. –

Present

His Excellency the Governor –

|                            |         |                |            |
|----------------------------|---------|----------------|------------|
| The Hono'ble George Forbes | } Esqrs | Jonathan Burch | } Esquires |
| Thomas Smith               |         | John Harvey    |            |
|                            |         | Henry Tucker   |            |

His Excellency acquainted the Board that Mr Eston had resigned his Commission as Judge of the Court of Vice Admiralty and that Colonel Jones not having Acted lately and being at present rendered incapable to Attend by his indisposition he desired the Council would think of a person well Affected to His Majesty and Government, of good Abilities and Qualified to serve as a Judge of the Admiralty, and that may be willing to serve in that Office. After some consideration thereon His Excellency proposed John Randle Esquire a proper person to be Judge of the said Court of Vice Admiralty, the Board having no Objection to Mr Randle His Excellency was pleased to Appoint him accordingly. –

1. Proceedings of the Governor's Council, 299–300, Bda. Arch.

## 14 July (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Scarborough*, CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY <sup>1</sup>

July 76 Moor'd in Annopolis Harbour  
Sunday 14th came in H: Majts: Sloop *Viper* with 4 Schooners

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/867.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SLOOP *Tyrannicide*, CAPTAIN JOHN FISK <sup>1</sup>

Remks on Sunday 14th of July 1776

5 [A. M.] Small Airs of wind from SW Learge swell from the NE

12 Thick foggy weather the prize in Company

Lattd in 41d.21m Longd in 67d.3m

1 [P. M.] A Learge tumbling sea from the S W got our horser [hawser]  
on board the schooner to tow her

1. John Fisk Journal, AAS.

ABIGAIL ADAMS TO JOHN ADAMS <sup>1</sup>

[Extract]

[Boston] Sunday july 14

I suppose you have heard of a fleet which came up pretty near the Light and kept us all with our mouths open ready to catch them, but after staying near a week and makeing what observations they could set sail and went of to our great mortification who were [prepared?] for them in every respect.<sup>2</sup>