

Naval Documents of The American Revolution

Volume 6

**AMERICAN THEATRE: Aug. 1, 1776–Oct. 31, 1776
EUROPEAN THEATRE: May 26, 1776–Oct. 5, 1776**

Part 6 of 8

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- Gun a Sigl for the Convoy to Anchor at Noon Anchd in Carlisle Bay in 30 fs & veer'd to 2/3 of a Cable
Mod: & Cloudy at 4 PM fired a Gun & made the Sigl for all Merchantmen
- Thursday 26th Empd staying the Foremast & setting up the Rigging –
Mod: breezes & Cloudy at 7 PM fired a Gun a Sigl for the Convoy to Weigh at 9 Weighd and came to sail 5 Sail in Co
- Friday 27th At 11 AM NE End of St Vincents WNW 5 or 6 Lgs
Mod: & Cloudy TKd Occasionally
- Saturday 28th 1/2 pt 3 AM Wore Ship at 9 Empd turning up the Bay,
at 10 Came too an Anchr in Kingston Bay in 30 fs Water
Veer'd to 1/3 of a Cable
at Single Anchr in Kingston Bay in the Island of St. Vincent
at 5 PM warp'd the Ship farther in & Moor'd Ship²

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/909.

2. *Ibid.*, the *Solebay* and transports had come to embark the 6th Regiment of Foot. The convoy sailed for New York on October 11.

29 Sept. (Sunday)

MASTER'S LOG OF H. M. BRIG *Diligent*¹

- Sept 1776 In Canso Harbour
- Sundy 29th at Noon Anchd with the Bt Br in 4 1/2 fm Muddy bottom, Veer'd to 1/3 of Cable found lying here 2 Brigs which were taken by the Rebels, took from them 5 Men belonging to the Privateer

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1669.

METCALF BOWLER TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.¹

Sir

Newport Sept 29th 1776 –

Agreeable to Coll. Chrstr Lippits request, have taken up Capt [Nicholas] Websters Sloop [*John Wilkes*] into the Service of This State, to transport the Tents, and other necessarys, for the use of his Regiment, which are now on their march to New York. – and desires. I would send them to your care at New London, to be forwarded immediately to Coll. Lippit agreeable thereto – inclos'd you have Capt Nicholas Websters receipt for 90 Tents. 15 Marquee Tents. 80 wooden Canteens 40 Knapsacks. 9 dozen Cod lines & 30 Tent Poles, all which youll please to receive & forward. – if you should judge it necessary, for Capt Webster to proceed to New Haven, he will do it, and deliver the Goods, agreeable to your Orders. – I remain With esteem and regard [&c.]

M Bowler. Commt Safety

1. Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Letters and Papers, NLCHS.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR. TO CAPTAIN NICHOLAS WEBSTER¹

Sir

New London Sep 29 1776.

The Tents &c which you have on Board for Col [Christopher] L[i]ppitts Regemt you are to Proceede with in your Sloop up the Sound as farr as Fairfield and their deliver them if you find his Regt their, if he is Gone on to N. York you must if you think it Safe Proceede up as farr as Stanford and advise Col Leppitt and take his Direction I have also put on board Seventy two Tents more which you must Deliver as farr up the Sound as you think you can with safety they are for the Use of the Continental Army & must be delivered to Genl Washingtons order you must send an express to the Genl soon as you arrive and deliver the Inclosed Letter I am Sir [&c.]

N Shaw Junr

To Capt Nicholas Webster Present

[Endorsed] a True Copy of the Orignal

Nicholas Webster

1. Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Letters and Papers, NLCHS.

JOURNAL OF H. M. S. *Cerberus*, CAPTAIN JOHN SYMONS¹Sept^r [17]76

Block Island N47E 14 Leagues

Sunday 29

at 6 AM saw a Sail gave Chace at 8 fired a 3 pdr & brot: too the Chace a Brig from Antigua bound to New London [sic] Loaded wth Sugar taken by the *Sally* privateer² md the *Syrens* Sigl to take care of the prize, the *Merlin* fired 2 Guns & brot too the Brigs boat with the Privateersmen sent the Brigg to the Hook under Convoy of the *Merlin* Fresh breezes and hazey Close reefed the Topsails at 4 P M handed Fore & Mizn Topsails at 9 parted Co wth the *Merlin* & Prize

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/181.

2. *Ibid.*, 1/487, *Agnes*, William Mather, master, John Mather, owner, for London, not New London as stated in the journal, Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777.JOURNAL OF H. M. SLOOP *Merlin*, CAPTAIN WILLIAM C. BURNABY¹1776 Sept^r

Montock point NEbE-8 Leag[ues]

Sunday 29

at 6 AM saw a Sail to the Westwd gave chase [at] 9 spoke the Brig^t *Agnes* — Madder Master Loaded wth Sugar taken by the Rebels & bound to Rhode Isl^d

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/604.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN IN SOUTH CAROLINA
DATED SEPT. 29."¹

The French and Spaniards are inclined to protect the American vessels; for this purpose two French frigates are actually arrived at the island of Hispaniola, to be joined by two more French and two Spanish frigates, which are to cruise off Port Rico, and round the island of Hispaniola; other

vessels are to protect the trade at Martinico and Guadaloupe; we have now here a French sloop with goods from Martinico. A general amnesty to all French deserters is published at Martinico. — A vessel from Turks island brings us a copy of the French commandant's instructions respecting the protection of all American vessels, and informs us, that he requested it may be made known to all America as soon as possible.

1. Almon, ed., *Remembrancer*, IV, 141.

WILLIAM BINGHAM TO SILAS DEANE¹

[Extract]

Sir,

St Pierre Martinique Sept 29th 1776

Agitated betixt Hopes & Fears, I have been waiting with the greatest Impatience & Suspence of Mind, for the Event of an Engagement at New York, which the Papers I lately had the honor of transmitting you, announced the Americans were in daily expectation of.

I have seen an Extract of a Letter dated Philadelphia 29 August, with the following Relation; that Twelve Thousand of the Kings Forces had disembarked at Long Island; that Four Thousand had marched two Leagues into the Country, but were repulsed with the Loss of 100 Men & 2 principal Officers made Prisoners. The Loss on our Side is not mentioned, nor whether they were opposed by Regular Troops or Militia.

I sincerely lament my Inability of furnishing you with the most authentic & circumstantial Intelligence, well knowing how absolutely necessary it is, that you should be thoroughly acquainted therewith; but I am fully persuaded, that the frequent Captures of our Vessels deprive me of those Papers of Information, which are directed for me; however, if it was not for the disappointment of News, we have no Right to complain; considering the Number of more valuable Prizes that we have taken from the Enemy. Our Privateers have met with uncommon Success. they have made great Havock amongst the West India Men; so that upon casting up Accounts, the Ballance will be immensely in our Favor.

1. *Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society*, XXIII, 36.

30 Sept.

JOURNAL OF H. M. S. *Liverpool*, CAPTAIN HENRY BELLEW¹

Sept 1776

Going into Halifax Harbour

Monday 30

at 2 AM fired 2 guns for signal for anchorg 8 Do ancd in [10] fm abreast of the Town — ancd here 2 of the Prizes, found riding here H. M Ship *Rainbow*, *Lark*, and *Viper*, at 10, Arrd the other 2 Prizes, one of which ran a ground, sent the Pinnacle to assist her, getting down F topmast, being sprung. First part strong Gales, and Squally, middle and latter modr and Cloudy, PM empd getting down the F Topmast, and getting another up.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/548.

JOURNAL OF H. M. S. *Scarborough*, CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY¹

- Sepr 76 Cape Sable NbE distant 4 or 5 miles
- Satury 28th at 3 A M Long Island head ESE 3 Leagues, at 4 lost the Log & 2 Lines, at 8 Cape Percieux, N dist. 6 or 7 Leagues, the Gannet Rock SW 2 or 3 miles.
- First part fresh Breezes & Clear, Middle & Latter Modte & Hazy; at 1 p m saw several small Vessels in shore, at 4 turning into port La tour in chace of a Sloop & 2 Schooners, got up Topgallt: yards & set the sails, fired Guns occasionally at the Sloop which proved to be a Rebel Privateer: at 6 the Privateer Ran aground on the Et side of the Harbr & fired 3 shot at us, at 1½ past the Ship got aground; carried out the stream Anchor & Cable hove the Ship off, came too, with the Bt Br in 6 fms water & veer'd to 1½ a Cable, sent the Cutter & retook a Schooner loaded with fish; the Wt point coming into the Harbr SWbS the Et point SbE, Thrum Cap No
- Sunday 29th at 8 AM the Rebel Sloop haul'd in behind a Small Island, at 10 the Boat empd sounding.
- First part fresh Breezes & Hazey. Middle & Latter fresh Gales & Squally. at 1 PM sent the Boat to sound at 1½ past [1] the Rebell Privateer fired 3 shot at the boat, at 2 the Boat return'd, at 10 Lower'd the Lower yards & struck Topgallant Masts, veer'd to a Cable.
- Monday 30th At a Single Anchor in Port La tour Harbr
- First part fresh Breezes & Squally, Middle & Latter Modte and Cloudy

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/867.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO THE CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE¹

Providence, off the Isle of Sable
30th Sepr 1776 —

Gentlemen

I had the honour of writing to you the 27th Ulto p the Brigtine *Britannia* a Whaler which I sent in under the Care of Lieut [William] Grinnell likewise 4th Currt pr the Brigtine *Sea Nymph* which I sent in under the care of Mr W. [William] Hopkins — also 7th Currt p the Brigtine *Favourite* which I sent in under the care of Mr J. [Joseph] Vesey — the *Sea Nymph* was from Barbados for London, the *Favourite* from Antigua for Liverpool.

From that time 'till the 14th I cruised without seeing any Vessels — I then spoke the *Columbus's* Prize the Ship *Royal Exchange* bound for Boston. — by this time my water and Wood began to run short which induced me to Hand to the Northward for some Port of Nova Scotia or Cape Briton — I had besides a prospect of destroying the English shipping in these

parts — the 16th & 17th I had a very heavy Gale from the N W which obliged me to dismount all my Guns and Strike every thing I could into the hould — the 19th I made the Isle of Sable and on the 20th being between it and the main I met with an English Frigate with a Merchant Ship under her convoy. — I had hove too to give my People an Opportunity of taking Fish when the Frigate came in Sight directly to windward and was so good natured as to save me the trouble of Chasing him by bearing down the instant he discovered us. — When he came within Cannon shot I made Sail to try his speed Quartering and finding that I had [illegible] the advantage shortened Sail to give him a Wild Goose Chace and tempt him to throw away Powder and shot — accordingly a Curious Mock Engagement was maintained between us for Eight hours 'till Night with her Sable Curtain Put an end to this famous exploit of English Knight Errantry. he excited my contempt so much by his continual firing at more than twice the proper distance that when he rounded too to give his Broadside I ordered my marine Officer to return the Salute with only a Single Musquit. We Saw him next morning standing to the westward and it is not unlikely that he hath told his friends at Hallifax what a trimming he gave to a "Rebel Privateer" that he found infesting the Coast. — that night I was off Canso harbour and sent my Boat in to gain information on the morning of the 22d I anchored in the harbour and before night got off a Sufficiency of Wood and Water. — here I recruited several men and finding three English Schooners in the harbour we that night Burnt one Sunk another and in the morning carried off the third which we had loaded with what Fish was found in the other two.

At Canso I recd information of Nine Sail of Ships, Brigs, & schooners in the harbours of Narrowshock & Peter de Great at a small distance from each other in the Island of Madame on the East Side of the Bay of Canso — these I fully determined to take or destroy — and to do it effectually having brought a shallop for the purpose from Canso I despatched her with twenty five Armed Men to Narrowshock while my Boat went well Manned and Armed to Peter de great and I kept off and on with the Sloop to keep them in Awe at both places. — the Expedition succeeded to my wish — so effectual was the Surprise and so general the Panic that numbers yeilded to an handful without Opposition and never was a Bloodless Victory more compleat. — as the shipping that were loaded were all Unrigged I had recourse to an expedient for dispatch — I promised to leave the late Proprietors Vessels sufficient to carry them home to the Island of Jersey on condition that they immediately fitted out and Rigged Such of the rest as might be required— this condition was readily complied with and they assisted my People with unremitting application 'till the Business was compleated. but the evening of the 25th brought with it a Violent Gale of Wind with rain which obliged me to Anchor in the Entrance of Narrowshock where I rode it out with both Anchors and whole Cables ahead. — two of our Prizes the Ship *Alexander* and Schooner *Sea Flower* had come out before the Gale began — the Ship Anchored Under a point and rode it out but the

Schooner, after Anchoring drove and run Ashore — She was a Valuable Prize being loaded with Oil — but as we could not get her off I next day ordered her to be set on Fire. — the Schooner *Ebenezer*, taken at Canso, was driven on a Reef of Sunken Rocks and there totally lost — the People having with difficulty Saved themselves on a Raft. Towards noon on the 26th the Gale began to Abate. — the Ship *Adventure* being Unrigged and Almost Empty I ordered her to be Burnt. — I put to Sea in the Afternoon with the Brigantine *Kingston Packet* — and being Joined by the *Alexander* went off Peter de greate. I had sent an Officer round in a Shallop to order the Vessels in that harbour to meet me in the offing and he now Joined me in the Brigantine *Success* and informed me that Mr [Bernard] Gallagher (the Officer who had Commanded the Party in that harbour) had left it at the beginning of the Gale in the Brigantine *Defiance* and taken with him my Boat and all the People. — I am unwilling to believe that this was done with an Evil intention. — I rather think he concluded the Boat and People necessary to Assist the Vessel in getting out, the navigation being difficult and the wind, at that time, Unfavourable, and when the Gale was begun I know it was impossible for them to return

Thus weakened I could Attempt nothing more. — With one of our Brigs and the Sloop I could have Scoured the Coast and Secured the destruction of a large Coal Fleet that was loading near Lewisburg with the *Savage* only to protect them.

The Fishery at Canso and Madame is effectually destroyed. — out of Twelve Sail which I took there I only left two Small Schooners and one Small Brig to convey a number of Unfortunate men not short of three Hundred Across the Western Ocean. — had I gone further I should have Stood chargable with inhumanity.

In my ticklish Situation it would have been Madness to loose a moment — I therefore hastened to the Southward to convoy my Prizes out of harms way — Dawson's Brig² having been within fifteen leagues of the Scene of Action during the whole time.

On the 27th I saw two Sail which we took for Quebeck Transports. — Unable to resist the Temptation, having appoint'd a three days Rendavouze on the SW part of the Isle of Sable, I gave Chace, but could not come up before they had got into Lewisburg — a place where I had reason to expect a far Superior Force and therefore returned and this day Joined my prizes at the Rendavouze.

If my poor endeavours should meet with your approbation I shall be greatly rewarded in the pleasing reflection of having endeavoured to do my Duty: — I have had so much Stormy weather and been obliged, on divers Occassions, to carry so Much Sail that the sloop is in no condition to continue long out of Port. — I am besides very Weak-handed and the Men I have are scarce Able to Stand the Deck for want of Cloathing, the weather here being Very Cold. — These reasons induce me to bend my thoughts towards the Continent. — I do not expect to meet with much, if any, Success on my return — But, if Fortune should insist on sending a transport or so

TABLE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE NAVAL OFFICE FEES¹

Naval office Newhampshire [Portsmouth] September 1776

For Entering every Ship or Vessel from Massachusetts coast ways —	0..3..0
For clearing to Ditto —	0..3..0
For Entering from any other of the American States	0..6..0
For Clearing to Ditto —	0..6..0
For Entering Every Ship or Vessel from a foreign Voyage —	0.12..0
For clearing to Ditto —	0.12..0
For Every Register —	0.12..0
For Recording every Register —	0..2..0
For endorsing every Register —	0..2..0
For every Bond —	0..2..0
For a bill of health —	0..3..0
For a coket —	0..2..0
For a permit to Unload —	0..1..0
For every pass for the Forts —	0..2..0

1. Bouton, ed., *Documents and Records of New Hampshire*, XVIII, 684.PETITION FOR COMMISSION FOR JOHN WHEELWRIGHT TO COMMAND THE
MASSACHUSETTS PRIVATEER BRIGANTINE *Reprisal*¹

State of the } To the Honora[ble] Council of said State
Massachusetts Bay } sitting at Watertown Septemr 30th 1776 —

Job Prince & Samuel White Agents for themselves & for Jacob Fowle, Andrew Cabot, Jno Coffin Jones, & Benja Hitchborne, Owners of the Brig *Reprisal* — Represent to your Honors, that they have at the joint & proper Expence of the said owners, fitted out, armed and mann'd, and equipt, the aforesaid Brig now lying in the Harbour of Boston, and ready for the Sea — burthen'd about seventy Tons — to be navigated by Seventy Men — mounting Eight Carriage Guns, Three pounders — Ten Swivels, and other Impliments of War — and provided with Seventy Barrels, Beef & Pork, & fifty Butts Water, together with Six hundred weight of Powder & Twelve hundred weight Shott — and to be commanded by Jno Wheelwright — Samuel Smallcorn first Lieuts Nathaniel Thayer second Lieutt John Gregore Master — Jno Ritchmond Doctr Peter Johnson Gunner & Joseph [Richmond] Steward — For the purpose of cruizing on the Enemies of the United States of America, And their Property —

They therefore make this application to your Honors, for a Commission for the said Brig the said Jno Wheelwright in the Bond herewith exhibited, having compiled with Requisitions of the Honorle Congress in such Case —

Sam White in Behalf of Capt Job
Prince & Owners —

[Endorsed] In Council Octr 3d 1776 Read & Ordered that a Commission be issued out to the above mentioned Jno Wheelwright as Commander of the Said Briga on his Complying with the Resolves of Congress –

John Avery Dpy Secy

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 312.

Boston Gazette, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1776

Watertown, September 23 [sic 30].

On Monday last Capt. Freeman Paine, in the schooner *Eagle* from Providence, sent into Boston harbour a ship from Grenada bound for Europe, laden with 209 hogsheads sugar, 158 puncheons rum, &c.&c.¹

We also hear that Captain Paine is arrived safe into Plimouth with two prizes, one of which is the brigantine from Virginia mention'd in our last,² and the other a West Indiaman; and that he took a fifth, from Honduras, but she is not yet arrived.

Yesterday se'nnight was sent into Providence by Capt. Munroe [James Munro], the prize ship *Blaze Castle* from Barbados bound for London having on board 100 pipes of Madeira wine, 120 hogsheads sugar, 18,000 weight Whalebone, 120 barrels of Oil, &c.³

Wednesday last a sloop laden with Dry Fish was carried into Salem by Capt. [Samuel] Waters in the schooner *Dolphin*, mounting only six swivels.⁴

Wednesday Capt. [Nathaniel] Odiorne, in the *Washington* privateer, carried into Newbury-Port, a bark from New York, bound to St. Vincents, with provisions for 120 men for 6 months. She sailed in company with 5 or 6 transports, under convoy of the *Solebay* frigate, in order to fetch troops from thence.⁵

1. Ship *Caledonia*.

2. The brigantine *Fanny*, from Virginia, Captain William Tokely. She had been loaded by the Secret Committee of the Continental Congress, and became the subject of extensive controversy.

3. Munro commanded the Rhode Island privateer sloop *Sally*.

4. Sloop *Halifax*.

5. Snow *Millham*.

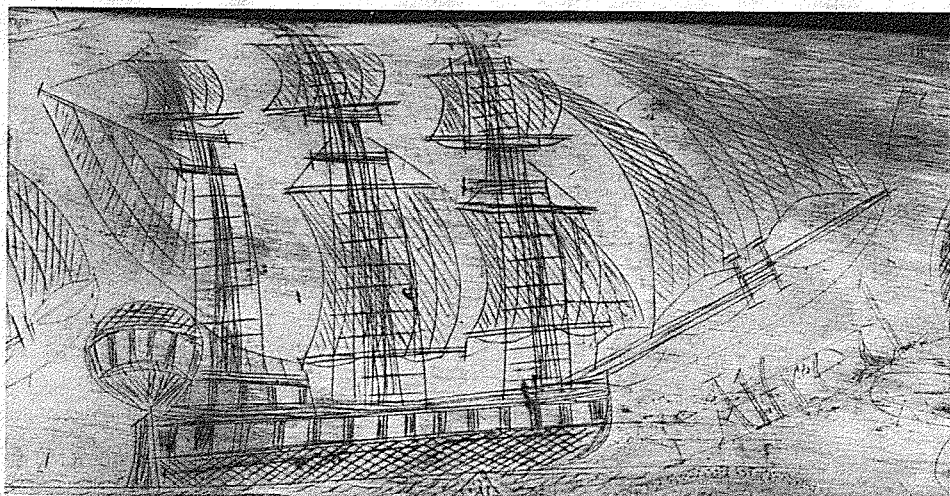
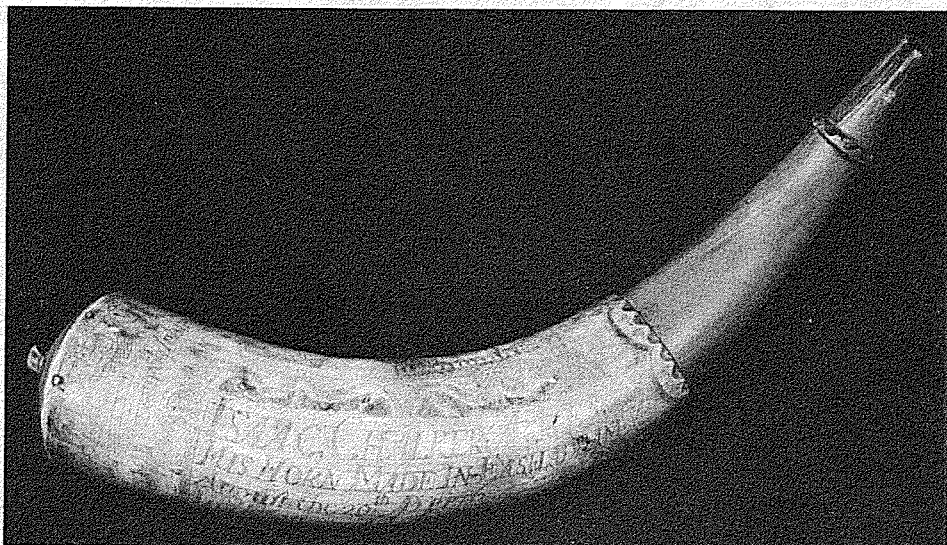
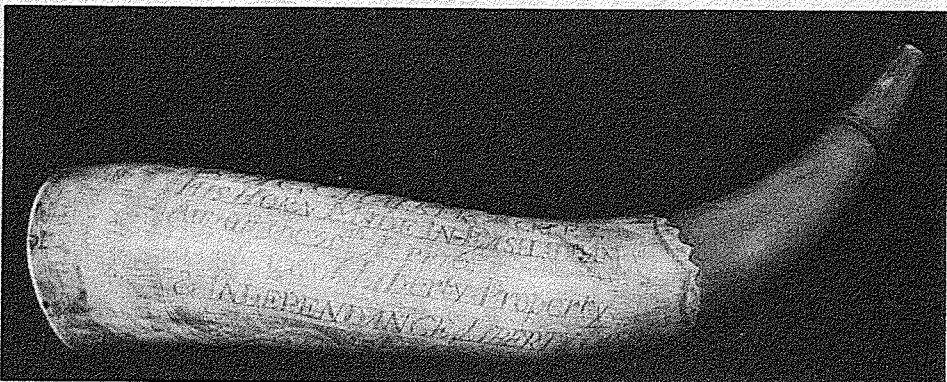
JOHN BRADFORD TO JOHN HANCOCK¹

Dear Sir

Boston 30th Sepr 1776

By last post I inclos'd to Mr [Robert] Morris the State of the Case of the Condemnation of Ship *peggy*. as she is Claim'd by the former Owners who have Appeal'd to Congress and beg'd the favr of Mr Morris to give it into your hands. I have only to say there are sundry persons of Credit in town who have made their Escape from Hallifax which saw the process & were in Court at the trial and know she was Condemned²

As I know it gives you pleasure to hear of the Success of your friends I wou'd inform you that Johnny Winthrop is 1/4 or 1/3 part concern'd in a



Continental Marine Corps Powder Horn With Continental Ship Alfred Carving Thereon.

Small privateer out of Cap[e Ann]³ wch has sent in a valuable prize loaded with Sugar and a large quany (somwhere abot 100 pipes) [illegible] Madeira [wine] A second prize a packet of Abot. 70 tuns no Cargo on [board but] Elaphants teeth. the vessel is valuable & she has Six Brass Cannon Carrying a pound & half shot, they have taken a third prize, which is a three deck ship the privateer got in last Saturday with a Sum of money and a quany of plate taken out of her and left the prize near the land, it is probable she is in at Cape Ann, As the wind was favourable Yesterday and last night and no Enemy on the Coast, none of the Enemies ships have been seen from our shores for more than a fortnight,⁴ we are told the *Columbus* has sent in a prize to portsmo without any farther particulars,⁵ the Cruisers from this State dont shine in taking prizes. [Daniel] Waters in [the] *Lee* I heard of last week she was then in the track of the Jamaica ships, after wasting a whole month in harbours before she went abroad, [John] Ayres I have not heard from since he Sailed wch is near four weeks, [John] Skimmer and [Samuel] Tucker Sail'd last week fitted for a two months Cruise Some good might Arise from keeping them vessells in [the] Service with good Commanders but the Characters of none not now employ'd are very Exceptionable⁶

I hope these may find you and your good Lady Rejoycing in the Blessings of health. be pleas'd to offer my best Compliments to her, and believe me to be [&c.]

Jn^o Bradford

Ive wrote to Mr Winthrop to pick out a pipe of the best wine for your private use we shall be able to accomodate you with a hhd of best Barbds powderd Sugars wch are to be Sold on Wednesday next

1. Society Collection, HSP.

2. The *Peggy*, captured by Washington's armed schooners *Hancock* and *Franklin*, was condemned at Boston, September 5, 1776. The appeal from the verdict was based upon whether she had been properly condemned in the Admiralty court at Halifax. If not she could be considered only as a recapture, and not a prize. The appeal was finally dismissed "neither party appearing" on May 24, 1784. Revolutionary War Prize Cases, Records of the Court of Appeals in Cases of Capture, 1776-1787, NA.

3. John Winthrop, Jr. was part owner of the Massachusetts privateer schooner *Warren*.

4. The three prizes were the ship *Picary*, brigantine *Swallow* and ship *Sarah and Elizabeth*. The latter arrived safely at Cape Ann on the same day that Bradford wrote.

5. The ship *Royal Exchange*.

6. The men named were captains of the small armed schooners originally commissioned by Washington in 1775.

COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS TO THE CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE¹

Gentlemen

Providence Septembr 30th 1776 -

Inclosed you have a Copy of the Account Captn Whipple gave me of his Cruise who arrived here Yesterday in the *Columbus*, and a Copy of a Letter I receivd this day from Mr Goddard - the *Columbus* is very foul, shall order her to Newport the first fair Wind to clean - The *Hampden* & *Alfred* ale ready all but Men, which I have not been able to get a sufficient number

yet — The new Ships are down the River with about One hundred Men each,² but as there are so many Privateers a fitting out which give more encouragement as to Shares; it makes it difficult to mann the Continental Vessels —

There is some Small Arms arrived here belonging to the Continent, Imported by Messrs Nicholas Browne & Company, Should be glad of an Order for them for the New Ships, as I expect to get Orders from the Committee of this State to Enlist Men out of their Troops when they meet, which will be this week I am Gentlemn [&c.] E.H

To the honble John Hancock Esqr

President of the Marine Committee
at Philadelphia

1. Hopkins Letter Book, RIHS.

2. The Continental frigates *Providence* and *Warren*.

JOURNAL OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO BUILD TWO CONTINENTAL FRIGATES IN RHODE ISLAND¹

[Providence] Sepr 30. 1776

Voted That application be made to John Cole Esqr Attorney at Law that he attach William Duntons share in the Privatier Sloop, *Montgomerys* last Cruise, for and in behalf of the United American States. as he belonged to the Continental Fleet at the Time he went said last Cruise, and that all others that have left the service of the said ships in this Harbour, and have Inlisted on Board Privatiers, that they be served in like manner.

1. Journal R. I. Frigates, RIHS.

CLARK & NIGHTINGALE TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.¹

Sir

Providence Sepr 30. 1776

Inclosed you have a Copy of a letter which Mr Updike has received from his Friend in Milford — The Vessel therein mentioned is one we Charter'd on the Continental Account and on her return was taken by a tender; but before she got into port was retaken by the *Schuyler* Captn [Charles] Pond and carried into Long-Island, there they tooke out her Cargo, consisting of Powder, Arms, Salt Petere & dry goods &c for the Continent & a few hhd Molosses as Adventurers, on the Enemy taking possession of Long Iland She was loaded with Sea Coal & carried into Milford — we have now to request of you that you would Endeavour to have this matter accomodated — As you are Continental Agent & she was taken by a Continental Privateer & fitted out on the Continental Accot we think some method might be found that the vessel may be returned to us; that we may return her again to the owner — We should not have troubled you with this affair, but we wrote to Congress about it, and they have been so much taken up with business of more importance, that they have not had time to answer

it — In answer to your favr of the 25 Inst we must inform you that the Sea Coal you mention is private property and the persons who own it will not sell as they propose making use of it, in an Air Furnace which they are about setting up, but we imagine you may [be] able to get it out of the Sloop, *Nancy* before mentioned & it would be rendering the Continent & yourselves a Service if you could get her into your Port & have the Matter settled; as we want to settle our accounts with Congress — your compliance with this request will greatly Oblige Sir [&c.]

Clark & Nightingale

I. Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Letters and Papers, NLCHS.

Newport Mercury, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1776

Newport, September 30.

The *Columbus*, Capt. [Abraham] Whipple went up the east passage on Saturday evening, having taken 3 prizes, one of which, a brig went in with him, as also a large schooner, said to belong to the *Diamond*, Capt. [Thomas] Stacey, the particulars of which we have not heard. The same evening a snow went up the bay, said to be a prize belonging to the *Revenge*, Capt. [Samuel] Dunn, of Swansey.

The privateer *Independence*, Capt. Truxen [Thomas Truxtun], of Connecticut,¹ is arrived at the eastward, having taken 2 ships and 2 brigs; one of the brigs, after taking out some cotton, cocoa, &c. he gave to a number of prisoners.

1. Truxtun was commissioned in New York, not Connecticut. Referring to this cruise, he writes:

During our revolution, I myself was once a whole day in a fleet near the banks of Newfoundland, and from having possession of the signals taken in a brig I had captured the day preceding, answered every one they made, and finally cut off from its rear and carried away at night (about ten or eleven o'clock) a valuable ship.

Thomas Truxtun, ed., *Instructions, Signals, and Explanations, offered for the United States Fleet* (Baltimore, 1797), 35.

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE OF PART OF THE CARGO OF PRIZE SHIP

*Nathaniel and Elizabeth*¹

The Public are hereby desired to take Notice, That a parcel of Jamaica Spirits and Sugars, part of the Ship *Nathaniel & Elizabeth*'s² Cargo, will be sold in New London, on Tuesday the 15th of October next, at Publick Vendue, by Prosper Wetmore, Marshal.

By Order of the Maritime Court,
Winth. Saltonstall, Register

New-London, 30th Sept. 1776.

1. *Connecticut Gazette*, October 4, 1776.

2. A prize of the Continental brig *Andrew Doria*. See Volume 5.

CAPTAIN NATHANIEL PACKARD'S ACCOUNT AGAINST THE RHODE ISLAND SLOOP *America*¹

	Nathl Packard A Cet Corrent With	Cr	The Owners of the Sloop <i>America</i>	Dr
Sept 1776	By 121 Barel flour @ £ 5/8	£ 653..8..0	By 42 hoghads Rum 4926 gellons @ 3/	£ 738.18..0
	By 75 Barel flour @ 5/	382.10..0	By 42 Hh for the Rum @ 36/	75.12..0
	To Barel Expended on Bord		By 550 lb Powder @ 3/9	103..2..6
	To 6875 feet of Bord @ £15 p meleo[n]	103..2..6	By 100 lb Lead @ 4 1/2	1.17..6
	To 150 feet Expended on Board		To 2 Swivel guns	7.10..0
	To 1 Bb Tobacker 192 lb @ 66/	6..6..8	To 3 Blunder Buses guns @ 36/	5..8..0
	To 1Bb Tobacker 138 lb @ 66/	4..2..6	To 2 Duple fotefed 4 Poundr Waying 1800 lb	48..0..0
	To 1 Tearc Tobacker 364 @ 60/	10.18..5	To 4 Smaller Carage guns	44..0..0
	To 1 Hh Tobacker 517 lb 1 Tarce 170 Da[illegible]	13.10..0	To 2 Small arms @ 36/	3.12..0
	To 17 Hh Wait 11038 one hundred aloued for Damage Neat 10938 at 60/	328..6..8	To 1 Pair Pestels	1.16..0
	To 14 Half Bb Pork @ 3/12	50..8..0	To 5 Peses flemish Linen @ £ 7/4 x 2 ps Used for flyg Jebb	36..0..0
	To 4 Half Bb Motton @ 3/12	14..8..0	By Six Peses Ravin Duck @ £ 5/2 2 ps used	30.12..0
	To 3 Half Bl Motton Expended		By 1 Bolt oze[n] bregs 139 yard @ 1/4 46 yds used	9..5..6
	To 1 Bb Pork	6..0..0	To 8 lb Twine @ 4/6	1.16..0
	To My Permission Sold	90.12..0	To 367 lb Cordge @ 4/10	16.10..0
	To My C[o]massens		To 1796 lb Cordge @ 4/7	78..3..0
	@ 5 prC	£ 83..3..7	To 2 Boxes green Tea 140 lb @ 9/ consd W Foster	63..0..0
		1663.12..9		

To the Bell Des-			To 72 Canasters of Hyson Tea 18/	64.16..0
b[urs]ments	167..2.10		By 3 Hh Salt 41 Boshel 3/	7.10..0
	<u>£ 250..6..5</u>	<u>250..6..5</u>	x 27/over cost	
	Returns	1413..6..4	By 90 yards of Swansken Cloth @ 3/	13.10..0
To My Commisions on Return @ 21½	35..6..4		By 3 Boxes of Bohea Tea 3/9 20 lb	22.10..0
Ear Excepted Pr Me		<u>1378..0..0</u>		<u>£ 1373..8..6</u>
32 Shakes Hh Returnd	} Nath ^l Packard			<u>4.12..6</u>
in said Sloop			To Cash in full	1378.10..0
			Er Exsepted By Me Nath ^l Packard	
			Remains Undevided { The Powder Lead Swivels Cannon	
			Small Arms Pistols Twine Cordage	
			& of Packer 10. 16. & 4. 12. 6	
			The salt over Cost 1. 7. 0	

1. Nicholas Brown Papers, JCBL. The approximate date is .September 30, Packard having sailed from Providence August 21, 1776.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'S ACCOUNT AGAINST THE CONTINENTAL BRIG
*Andrew Doria*¹

1776	The Brig <i>And. Doria</i>	Dr
Aprl		
10	To 1 Arm Chest £ 3..0..0	
	To 1 bar Oatmeal 1..0..0	
	To 1 bar pork 3.10..0	
	To 12 lb [sugar] Brown 0..3..0	
	To 21..3..12 lb Bread @ 12/ 13..2..6	
	from Brig <i>Boulton</i>	20.15..6
24	To 8 Days Warfage & Brig Stores &c	1.10..-
	To Use Lesters Stage 5/ Capron Kettles &c 10/	0.15..-
	To pd Fink for bar Tallow	6..3..8
	To 41 ft plank	0..6.10
	To John Turners Bill 21/ Goddard's do 95/6	5.16..6
	To Joshua Starrs Bill the Block maker	4..8..5
	To James Tilley's do the Rope maker	40..8..2
	To John Bolles do Black Smith	2.18..2
	To John Deshon do for pl Timber &c	0.10..-
	To 7 Gal Linseed oile 6/	2..2..0
	To 3 box Candles Amo	3.13..2
	To 10 bar pork @ 72/ 20 bar beef @ 50/ } freight & Expences at Norwich 36/ }	87.16..0
	To 10 bar Flour Amt to	15..0..6
	To Joseph Owens Bill for Putty &c	2.10..0
	To 10 bus potatoes 1/6	0.15..0
	To pd Danll Latham for piloting the Brig } to Rode Island & on a Cruse }	9..0..0
		<u>204..8.11</u>
	To 30 p Shoes @ 6/6	9.15..
	To 6 Shirts	4.12.10
Augt	To 55 Shirts as p Bill 50..14..0	
	To 22 p Trousers 16.10..0	
	To 29 p Shoes 7/6 10..17..6	78..1..6
	To Cash pd Capt Hinman for money advanced the people pr Capt [Nicholas] Biddles ordr }	13.10..0
		<u>105.19..4</u>
29	To pd Brown for Stock at Fishers Island	3.12..0
	To pd the Butchers Bill from 26th Aprl } to 4th May }	12.10.11
	To pd the Butcher June 28th	1.15..3
Sepr	To Cash pd Wm Willden as p Rect & Capt }	3.12..-
30	Biddles Letter }	
		<u>331.18..5</u>

To Saml Latimers Bill 8..13..11

8.13.11

carred page 6

Brig *Andrew Doria*

Dr

To Sum Brot over

£ 340.12 :.4

To Commission 5 pCt

17..0..6

£ 357.12.10

1. Shaw Collection, Book 39, 6, 7, YUL.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'s ACCOUNT AGAINST THE CONTINENT¹

1776

The Continent

Dr

Sepr 30 To pd Mich Melallys Accot against Govr
[Montfort] Brown & [James] Bab-
bage² & Servants &c as pr Govr &
Counsel advice &c

35..0..1

Charged to Ship *Alfred*

1. Shaw Collection, Book 39, 19, YUL.

2. Taken prisoners during Commodore Hopkins' assault on New Providence.

JOURNAL OF H. M. S. Syren, CAPTAIN TOBIAS FURNEAUX¹

Sepr 1776

Block Island bearing No 26°Wt 18 Lgs

Monday 30

A M at 6 a Sail in the Wt out Reefs & gave Chace [at] 8
the Chace shortned Sail & stood towards us at 9 the *Cer-*
berus mde our Sigl to speak the Chace having hoisted out her
boat & some people in her went towards Long Isld shore. the
Merlin being in shore of us hoisted out her boat & took the
Brigg's boat, with 8 Men in her [at] 10 spoke the Chace, a
brigg from Antigua² taken by a rebel Privateer. bro't too, the
Cerberus [made] our Sigl for a Lieut: sent an Officer & 2
men to carry her into New York at Noon mde [sa]il &
parted Co the *Merlin* & prize.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/930.

2. The *Agnes*, William Mather, master, from Antigua to London, with sugar. She had been taken by the Rhode Island privateer *Sally*, Captain James Munro, *Public Advertiser*, London, October 15, 1776.

MAJOR GENERAL HORATIO GATES TO MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER¹

[Extract]

(Copy)

Ticonderoga September 30th 1776 —

. . . The Cordage you mention is arrived; but General Waterbury is greatly disappointed in not receiving the Cables. The Gallies must sail with such as are to be had here. Better shall be sent them, the moment they come to my Hands. We are industrious in repairing the Old Fort, the Stone Redoubt at the East Point of Ticonderoga, and constructing the out Line of a Strong Fort upon Mount Independence. Precautions are also making to

place the Fleet in Security for the Winter — These are Works which keep us all employed, the Sick and Malingerers excepted, and they are more than they ought to be. —

The Powder, Lead, Flints and Musket Cartridge Paper wrote for, so long ago, are not, even in Part arrived. The large Demand supplied to the Fleet reduces our Magazine so much, that, should the Fleet, after expending their Ammunition, be Obligated to retire, we shall not have any thing like Sufficient, to make a proper Defence here. This should be seriously attended to, and not a Moment more lost, in furnishing the Quantity demanded in my Letter to you of the 5th Instant.

I am informed the fourth Row-Galley is ready to be Launched. — The whole of the different Gangs of Ship Carpenters being Consolidated into one Body to finish her.

Is it not the Intention of Congress to continue to increase our Fleet with the utmost Expedition. — If it is, more Carpenters should be forthwith engaged, and that Work carried on with all the Spirit, and Industry we are Capable of. The Ague has so worn down the Carpenters sent by Order of Congress that more cannot be expected from them this Season; therefore, to Continue this Important Work, more must be supplied.

Inclosed is a Copy of Genl Arnold's Letter to me of the 21st Instant. His Demands are complied with as far as in my power by the *Trumbull* Galley, Capt. [Seth] Warner, which sailed last Thursday evening to join the Fleet. — General Waterbury Sails with the Two other Gallies to morrow morning Early, & the Schooner *Liberty*, will immediately after proceed to the Fleet. — The Heavy Storm last night would fill me with Great Anxiety, had not General Arnold (as you will see in his Letter) Assured me that he had a Safe Harbour within his Reach. —

1. Papers CC (Letters of Major General Philip Schuyler) , 153, II, 419-26, NA.

MEMOIRS OF MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH¹

[Harlem, September] 30th. — The moving over of boats to Montresor's Island continued. The same day, a frigate went through Hell Gate, and came to anchor about 10 o'clock, A. M. near *La Brune*. At 12 o'clock, she came to sail, and stood to the eastward. Just at evening another ship came up; —

1. Abbatt, ed., *Heath Memoirs*, 59.

JOSEPH WILLIAMS TO WILLIAM COIT¹

[Extract]

Camp 1 Mile from Kingsbridge Sept 30th 1776

. . . As to the battle at Nyork you have been Misinformd — it is true we was oblige[d] to Leave Nyork on Acct of being Surrounded by their Shipp[s] Ten of which Came into the East River, a Little below Hell gate, & on Sunday the 15th Landed a Large Number of troops under the Cover of their Cannon, Our Genl had Concluded on a retreat before, As it was impos-

sible to Stand Against their Ships – & had Movd their Cannon Ammunition, Provisions, & the Chief of their baggage, of Consequence, the week before, & Marchd the greatest Part of the troops back toward Kingsbridge for fear the Enemy would Come upon the back of us – their was only 2 Brigades in the City when the Enemy Landed viz Genl Persons [Samuel Holden Parsons] & Genl [James] Wadsworth & Part of a Brigade at Horns Hook under Commd of Colo Sergeant [Paul Dudley Sargent], the Enemy Landed between the two Brigades, & Colo Sergeant, & Advancd So quick, that the two Brigades retreated back to the Main body of Our Army, without much Opposition, Colo [Samuel] Selden was taken on the retreat, Majr [James] Chapman of New London Killd, of Co [John] Tyler[’s] Regim – Lieut [John] Wheatly wounded, & Taken Prisnr – those brigades Cheifly Lost their Bagage – Colo Sargent, Lost three men in the Cannonade, the week before, but did not Engage them on Sunday – the next day being Monday, Our Army got Prepar’d for them & Engagd them with Spirit, & drove them two Miles, & you may depend on it Killd four hundred, of the Enemy, & met with but Little Loss on Our Side . . . we Are Pretty well Out of Reach of their Shipping now, & I believe Our Army will be Able to make a Stand, where they Now are, & give them a Nother Drubbing if they Attempt to Come out – Our Army is in three divisions, One over on the Jersey Side, One at fort washington ten miles from Newyork – & one this side of Kingsbridge – Our troops on the Jersey side has retreated back out of reach of their Cannon . . .

1. Trumbull Papers, YUL.

NARRATIVE OF CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND¹

[H. M. S. *Roebuck*, September 2 to September 30]

2d Sepr	. . . and in the Course of two days that we lay abreast of it [Governors Island], we felt the effect of their return, as they fired through the ship, and obliged us to shift our birth: but the next day two Companies of Hessians were sent to take possession of it.
3d	All the Men of War, except the Vice Admiral & <i>Centurion</i> (that were left at Staten Island) moved up within a Mile of the Town, and the Transports Anchored from Red Hook to yellow Hook, on the Long Island Side. The Army extended themselves on the Island, and after some days erected Batterys against the Rebels Works at Waltons Point near Hell Gate, and the General fixed his head Quarters at Newtown. Flat Boats were sent to the Frigates in the Sound and others were sent up Newtown Creek, so that the Enemy could not guess where the descent of the Troops would be made next. During this time most of the Inhabitants of Long Island came in & took

the Oath of Allegiance; and as it is a most delightful Country abounding with every necessary & convenience of Life, and the weather remarkably fine, both Army & Navy were well supplied with every thing they could desire. As soon as the Rebels had quitted Long Island, which they had spent so much time to fortify, General Washington, who was at the Head of their Army, (a Man tho' of dull parts, yet not without some military knowledge) conceived the Town to be no longer tenable, and immediately determined on removing out of it all the Military Stores, and every thing that could be carried away, and took the resolution of making his stand at the North End of New York Island, where the ground is by nature remarkably strong, and where already they had a very considerable Fortification by the Name of Fort Washington. That this was their intention was easy to be perceived, by what was seen to be going on: and it was imagined, that General Howe was much divided whether he should land his Army upon the Main in West Chester, and come at the back of the Rebels, and cut off their supplies from the Country; or whether he should first secure the Town; which on account of the winter, and for many very obvious reasons was an object of great consequence; He & My Lord Howe both thought so, and in a short time resolved upon the latter: But as General Sullivan had prevailed upon them to grant him his Parole of Honor to go to the Congress at Philadelphia, in order to make a true representation of matters, and to use his endeavors for a committee to be sent to treat with the Commissioners, it is to be conceived they either flattered themselves that by this means an honorable accomodation might perhaps be brought about, or were desirous of shewing, to all the world, that nothing had been neglected to settle the matter without further bloodshed; Our operations were therefore delayed untill his return. He came back the 11th with the Account that the Congress had appointed a Committee of three of their Members to meet the Commissrs whenever they thought proper: The next day was appointed, and My Lord Howe & the General with the Secretary to the Commission (Mr Stratchey) [Henry Strachey] went to the Jerseys to meet them. The three Persons the Congress chose to send on this occasion were, Doctor Franklyn, J Adams & Rutledge of So Carolina, three Men the most violent for Independancey of any in their whole body; so that the Meeting was a very short one, for on their declaring themselves deputies

12th Sepr

13th Sepr

from the free & Independant States of America, and refusing to treat on any other terms, his Lordship broke up the Assembly, and returned the same night to his Ship. All the Fleet Boats were sent to Newtown Creek under the Commd of Commodore Hotham & several of the Captains; And the *Phoenix*, *Carysfort*, *Orpheus* & *RoeBuck* passed the Batterys of New York Town, into the East River, and Anchored off the Mouth of it, where the *Rose* had been for some time, and had a few days before been very roughly handled by a battery the Rebels had erected against her, as the River there is not above three Quarters of a Mile wide. The next day we passed with the General at Newtown, where it was determined, that the *Phoenix* & *Orpheus*, with the *Rose*, should proceed the morning of the 15th against the Rebel Battery opposite to Hell Gate, in order to make a feint and draw the attention of the Enemy that way, whilst the Army should effect a landing at Kep's Bay, opposite to Newton covered by the *RoeBuck* & *Carysfort*: But in the Morning the Pilots concieving the Tide would be too rapid for the Ships to Anchor off the Rebel Battery (of which Captain [Hyde] Parker [Jr.] acquainted Como Hotham), the disposition of the Ships were changed: and the whole five moved to the other side into Keps's bay, and took their stations in the best manner to secure the landing of the Army. The Rebels had a Line of entrenchment along the Bank, which on the Ships anchoring they mann'd and made an appearance of giving a strong opposition to the Troops if they should land there.[*] General Clinton commanded this descent; at 9 OClock the Boats appeared coming down the Creek, by 10 they were at the Mouth of it, and as the Tide of Flood run Strong, it was necessary they should row down along the shore, a certain distance, before they attempted to cross the stream, which brought the whole embarkation (consisting of five thousand Men in about 100 boats) in view at the same time. Six large Transports lay a little below taking in the remainder of the Army; The Hills were cover'd with Spectators; The ships kept up a constant fire, which soon set the Enemy running, when the Light Infantry & Granadiers landed, and climbed up a Rock, by the Rebels deemed inaccessible, making all together the finest scene one has ever beheld.

15th Sepr

15th Octr
[sic September]

In three hours the whole Army was landed and in possession of all the heights within 2 Miles in which they met with little or no opposition: for as soon as it was known

[September 16]

the Troops were crossed over, The Rebels immediately abandoned the Town of New York & all their Posts, and made their escape by the Side of the North River. some hundreds indeed were intercepted & taken Prisoners but in no degree equal to what might have been expected. The next day the Army moved forward (leaving behind three Regiments for the Guard of the Town & environs) and extended their Line from River to River. In the afternoon, three Companies of Light Infantry having advanced within Gunshot of the Rebels works, had a skirmish with a considerable Body of them. They were soon supported by a Hessian Brigade & other Corps, when an end was put to the matter, and they retired back to the ground the General had before given orders to occupy, with the loss of about 20 Men killed & 60, or 70 wounded. What the Rebels lost was not known, but from their situation it was imagined they must have suffered greatly. The Ground the Enemy now occupied was so exceedingly strong, and their numbers so great (being at least thirty thousand) that the General determined to wait for the last division of Hessians, consisting of five thousand Men (whose arrival was daily expected) before he made any further attack upon them; and then resolved to embark his army once more, and on land on the Main, in West Chester County; when the Rebels would be under the necessity of either meeting him in the Field, or suffer themselves to be surrounded. He therefore gave orders to throw up a Chain of Redoubts from River to River in front of his Camp, and with Ships of war on each of his Flanks remained quiet untill the.

22d Sepr

He thought it necessary however to possess himself of the Post of Paulus Hook on the west side of the North River, as it not only annoyed the Ships passing to and fro, but might do considerable damage to the Town. The Admiral therefore Ordered the *Renown Tartar* & a Bomb, against the Works, whilst Lord [Hugh] Percy was embarked with about 500 Men to land as soon as the Enemy should be driven from their Guns. This attack was intended to have been made on the 22d Sepr but being little wind & the *Renown* not being able to get there in proper time, it was put off untill the next day, and The *RoeBuck* was sent in her place. This delay however gave the Enemy time to move off their Stores, Baggage & Provisions, as well as most of their Cannon, and upon the Ships Anchoring, the post was quite aban-

done; & Ld Percy took possessn without the smallest opposition.

A few days before this, the Rebels committed an Act; which at once shewed their inveteracey against us, and their determined Resolution to sacrifice every thing to the cause they had engaged in. They secreted People in different parts of the Town, provided with proper combustibles, in order to set fire to it. They just gave time for the Houses to be filled from the Fleet & Army, And for those to return, that had been driven away, and taking the advantage of a very Stormy Night, about one OClock in the morning set fire to the So part of the Town in three or four places, and as the wind blew strong from that Quarter and most of the Houses were covered with Shingles, it soon made a considerable progress Northward. For a long time it burnt with so much fury that there were little hopes of saving any part of the City, and even a Number of the Transports that were got to the Keys were looked upon to be in great danger. Boats were immediately sent to bring them off, and a Number of Seamen from the Men of War were sent ashore to the assistance of the Inhabitants, who, giving all over for lost, at first seemed only to look on with astonishment, but at last being rouzed by the Activity of the Sailors & Soldiers in pulling down Houses to make breaks in The fire, They set heartily to work and being exceedingly well supplied with Engines & Buckets, a stop was put to its progress about 10 oClock next day, by mere dint of labour & ingenuity, after burning 9 hours with great fury and consuming at least a quarter of the whole Town.

General Washington, & the Heads of the Rebels, took great pains in making a publick denial of their being accessory to this disaster, but nobody believed them; as every circumstance that was discovered tended to prove that there had been people hired for the purpose. Several fellows were taken allmost in the very act of setting Houses on fire: others were taken with Bundles of Matches dipped in Rozin & Brimstone, under their great Coats: some of which were thrown into the Flames, or hanged by the Heels, by the enraged Populace; but the greatest part of them, with many other suspected Persons were sent to the Jail, where by changing cloathes with each other, They were so altered that the next day their accusers did not know them, and the greatest part escaped punishment for want of Evidence.

About this time the Commissioners published a declaration importing, that although the Congress had disavowed every purpose of Reconciliation, not consonant with their extravagant & inadmissable claim of Independancy, They (the Comrs) thought fit to declare that they were equally desirous to confer with His Majtys well effected subjects upon the means of restoring the publick Tranquility: but this like every thing of that kind had not the smallest effect: For so general was the Revolt, that during the whole time of the Seige of New-York, and even after you [*sic* we] was in possession of the Town, not a Single Man of any sort of consideration left the Rebels and came into us. There were a few Gentlemen (mostly people who had held offices under Government) that had secreted themselves in Long Island, or had taken refuge onboard the ship with Governor Tryon, that came & joined us, but their number, at the most, that ever I heard of, did not exceed twenty.

*Note The Genl & his aid dCamp Lord Maison c[a]me on bd the *RoeBuck* an officer of my Ship was sent to the masthead and gave notice of the motions of the Enemy in the Trenches [Hamond's note.]

1. Hamond, No. 5, UVL.

New-York Gazette, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1776

New-York, Sept. 30.

On Thursday the *Halifax* Packet, Captain Bolderson, sailed from this Port for England.

On Wedensday last, the *Eagle* Man of War, Vice Admiral Lord Howe, came up from off Bedlow's-Island, and moored off the Fort in the North River; and, next Morning, the *Bristol*, Vice Admiral Lord Shuldhham, and the *Preston*, Commodore Hotham, came up and placed themselves likewise in the North River just above the *Eagle*.

Many Transports and other Ships and Vessels are anchored off the Town in the North and East Rivers.

JOURNAL OF BARTHOLOMEW JAMES, H. M. S. *Orpheus*¹

[September 16 to September 30, 1776]²

We weighed, and parting from the above ships, ran up between Blackwell's Island and the main, and came to in Turtle Cove, having on our passage struck on a rock, but got off with little or no damage. The 25th [*sic*] I was sent down to Lord Howe with some dispatches, having ten miles to row; and on my return, the people, having got drunk, mutinied and made an

attack on me, which obliged me to use my hanger, and by cutting them over their hands disabled them, in doing which I broke my hanger in two pieces, but first had very fortunately got the better of the most insensible part of them, two having promised to row on board, where I arrived in a most fearful situation about half-past one in the morning, when I had them sufficiently punished for their infamous conduct.

Our boats, while the ship was advanced on this service, constantly rowed guard abreast of Hell Gates, which is perhaps one of the most dangerous situations that can be imagined, its consequences being fatal to a vast number of ships and boats. During our stay in this river we supplied the ship with fresh provisions and vegetables, and recruited our sick, of which we had a vast number, on Blackwell's Island. The 29th [*sic* September 21], about eleven o'clock, the town of New York was set on fire by some of the rebels, and one-fourth of it burnt to the ground. The chief of those concerned in this business was detected, hung up by the heels, and their brains knocked out with the soldiers' muskets, while others were thrown into the flames and consumed with the houses; such was the consequence attending those unhappy villains who so far succeeded in their wishes as to destroy the property of individuals.

The rebels made an attack on Mintizieurs Island³ on the night of the 30th [September 22] but were repulsed and a major and several men taken prisoners; and on October 2nd [22] I walked out to the encampment of our army at Kingsbridge, and having viewed the situation of both armies, whose advanced sentinels were within call of each other, saw, in returning, a rebel spy taken and hung immediately to a tree; he died with great heroism, lamenting only that he could not communicate his intelligence to his commander-in-chief, as he had done with success twice before.⁴

1. Loughton, ed., *James' Journal*, 33-35.

2. In *James' account* of this period in the East River on board H. M. S. *Orpheus* his dates are wrong. They have been corrected where possible.

3. Montresor Island, now Ward's Island.

4. This is *James'* version of the death of Nathan Hale.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Philadelphia] Monday, September 30, 1776

A petition from J. Rowe and others, owners of goods on board the ship *Elizabeth*, which was taken by captains John Manly, Daniel Waters and John Ayres, commanders of the three armed vessles *Hancock*, *Lee* and *Lynch*, and libelled in the court maritime for the state of New Hampshire, and, by the sentence of the said court, acquitted; against which sentence, an appeal has been entered, was presented to Congress and read, praying that the said appeal may be heard and determined; Whereupon,

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, with full powers to hear and determine on the appeal brought against the sentence passed on the libel against the ship *Elizabeth*.

The members chosen, Mr. [Robert Treat] Paine, Mr. [Samuel] Huntington, Mr. [Thomas] Stone, Mr. [George] Wythe and Mr. [James] Smith.²

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 834, 835.

2. See Journal of the Continental Congress, October 14, 1776, for decision on appeal.

WILLING, MORRIS & CO. TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

Gentn

Philada Septr 30th 1776

having lately written to Mr [Thomas] Ringgold and Mr [Robert] Hooe on the Subject of our engagement to Your State, we immagined you wou'd not have been uninformd of the many disapointments we have met with in the Several adventures undertaken for the purpose of procuring Arms & Ammunition. We had lately a Schooner taken & carried into the West Indias with a fine Cargo onboard & Yesterday we had the Mortification to hear that the Brig *Charming Peggy* Capt Coningham [Gustavus Conyngham] which we sent to Dunkirk² was Chased by two Cutters coming out of that Port & she run into Ostend, where in Consequence of the Empress Queen's prohibitory [Dec]laration, Officers went onboard to Seize the Brig but the Capt & Crew resisted and drove them off, weighd Anchor & got under Sail to push out again when unfortunately in Working out they ran aground, the Vessell bilged, a reinforcement of Officers came down & Capt Coningham was obliged to fly – onboard of this Vessell we had Lead, Flints Arms & Powder more than sufficient to pay our Contract with your State & were Concerned in a Cargo of dry Goods onbd her that wou'd now have sold for upwards of £30,000 Curry had they got here safe; this Vessel has been gone on the Voyage ever since Septr last & is a very hard & heavy loss, as indeed several of the others we engaged in have proved.

The difficultys of procuring Arms & [amm]unition in Europe were unforeseen when we made the engagement, & the low prices agreed at, prevented our looking to the West Indias for the Supplys or it shou'd have been finished long since. We have still several other adventures depending from which we expect to fullfill our engagement and shall be happy in doing so, you may depend that the first Arms & Ammunition we have the good Fortune to receive shall be applyed to that purpose & no other. We have the honor to be Gentn [&c.]

Willing Morris & Co

1. Executive Papers, Box 2, Folder 75, Md. Arch.

2. See Volume 3, 471n.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

In Council of Safety,

[Philadelphia] September 30th, 1776.

Congress having Resolved that they will provide for persons in their service who shall be so disabled as to be incapable of serving on board their

fleet or in the Army, & a Certain Nicholas Curry, a seaman late belonging to the *Bull-Dog* arm'd Boat, belonging to this State, having been by accident disabled from ever performing his duty, the Council do therefore Resolve the said Nicholas Curry be allowed half pay from the time of his discharge untill furthur provision is made for persons in like situations.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 735.

JOSEPH RICE TO THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

Gentlemen

Understanding that you intend Imedietly to make the appointments of Captains to such Gallies as are at present without them, and I haveing Petitioned to Your Honnorable Board some time past for a Command beg leave to acquaint you that I have been waiting the Result of my Petition, and understang it is nessesary to make a second application do beg of your Honnor to take My Petition under your consideration I am Gentlemen with due Respect [&c.]

Jo^s Rice

Philadelphia }
septr 30th 1776 }

1. Simon Gratz Autograph Collection, Case 5, Box 28, HSP.

JOURNAL OF H. M. S. *Pallas*, CAPTAIN WILLIAM CORNWALLIS¹

September 1776

Latde 40°41' N

Monday 30th

A M Sounded every hour 80 to 50 fathoms no ground, ½ past 5 out reefs, 5 Sail in Company, at 6 the *Northside Planter*, *Hereford*, *Ann* and *London* parted Company steering to the Eastward, at 8 set lower Steering sails at 10 got up another Boom, set them again, bent the Cables, the *Alexander* in Company.

First and middle Fresh Gales & hazey, latter Moderate and foggy, at 1 P M down steering sails, at 2 saw a Ship ahead standing to the Westward, ½ past 3 fired a Gun as a signal to speak her, at 4 brot too, out boat and sent her with an Officer onboard, she proved to be the *Anne* from Dominica bound to London, but had been taken by an American Privateer the 31st August, in Latde 42°N; Longde 39 W, they were carrying her to New York, sent an Officer, Master's mate, and 12 Men onboard,² took six of the Privateer's Men out, at [5] in 1st and 2d reefs, ½ past 6 in boat and made sail, down Top Gallt yards, at 9 in 3d reefs

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/667.

2. *Ibid.*, on October 4, 1776, the prize ship *Anne* parted with the *Pallas* and shaped "her Course to the Eastward." The prize master, Lieutenant Oakes, carried her into Portsmouth, England, on November 4, *Whitehall Evening Post*, November 5 to November 7, 1776.

But if the Frigates cannot be spared to this State then your Committee recommend that a staunch Brigantine of about One Hundred and Fifty Tons be procured to mount Twelve to Sixteen Carriage Guns be properly manned and to bring as many supernumerary seamen as can possibly be procured in which the said articles may be shipped viz

Thirty Tons of small flatt Bar Iron for Waggon Tire

Ten Tons broad thick flatt ditto for Axes

Six Tons small square Iron

Four Tons thick square Ditto for machine or Mill Work,

Forty Faggots square Steel

Two Faggots German flatt Ditto

Ten Tons Plough-shear moulds half with a thick Land Side and Half for shovel Ploughs

One Groce Mill Saw Files

Four Groce Whip and Cross-cut Saw Ditto

Six Groce Hand Saw Ditto

Twelve Dozen Philadelphia made Club Axes

One Hundred and Fifty Barrels of well baked Ship Bread

(Amounting to about nine Thousand and Five Hundred Pounds-Currency exclusive of the Brigantine)

If Cotton or Wool Cards can be procured a Groce of each

If Broad Hoes to be had reasonable Twelve Groce

Resolved That the Report be taken into immediate Consideration

And the same being taken into Consideration accordingly

The First and Second Clauses were read to the House and severally amended and agreed to

While the House was in Debate upon the Third Clause of the Report

A Motion was made and seconded That the sense of the House should be taken whether the Members of the late Congress who had been appointed to the Places of Emolument *before* the Constitution was established have a Right to sit and vote in the present General Assembly without being re-elected

And the sense of the House (without a Question thereon) was That such members had an undoubted Right

The House then proceed in the Consideration of the Third Clause of the Report and the same being read after several amendments made thereto was agreed to And the Report as amended and agreed to is as followeth

That it is their Opinion application should be made to our Delegates at Philadelphia to endeavour to procure Two or more Frigates on the Continental Establishment to be stationed at this Port particularly during the Winter when they can be of little service to the northward which with our armed Vessels may in a great measure secure our Trade and protect our Coasts.

That if our Delegates succeed in this Application your Committee would recommend That the said Frigate take in as Ballast One Hundred Tons of Bar Iron besides the articles under-mentioned

But if the Frigates cannot be obtained or if they should not be allowed to bring those articles then your Committee recommend that proper small Vessels be procured to bring the said articles of a light Draught of water armed with Carriage or Swivel Guns properly manned and with as many Supernumerary Seamen as can be procured or that the Delegates do take such other steps as they shall think expedient to procure the said Articles to be sent to this State as soon as possible And that Mr Archibald Gambell be recommended to the Delegates as a proper Person to assist them and that he be desired to follow their Directions in procuring the said Articles and forwarding the Vessel or Vessels in which the same are to be brought viz.

Sixty Tons of small flat Bar Iron for Waggon Tire

Twenty Tons broad flat thick Ditto for axes

Twelve Tons small square Iron

Eight Tons thick square Ditto fit for machine or mill work.

Eighty Faggots square Steel

Four Faggots German flatt Steel

Twenty Tons Plough-Shear moulds half with a thick Land side and half for shovel Ploughs

Twenty-four Dozen Philadelphia made Club axes

As many mill Saw Cross Cut and Whip Saw and Hand Saw Files and as many Wool and Cotton Cards as can be procured

Three Hundred Barrels of well baked ship Bread And

Five Hundred Reams of printing Paper

1. Salley, ed., *South Carolina General Assembly Journals*, 66-68.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Sphynx*, CAPTAIN JAMES REID¹

September 1776	Moor'd in Savannah River (Georgia), as before
Saturday 28	Boats employed Wooding & Watering – Little Wind and Cloudy Wr PM put Forty Negroes on board the Pilot Schooner with a Weeks Provisions each, to proceed to St Augustine, Emp'd destroying the old Vessels on Shore, being obliged to leave the Port for Want of Provisions,
Sunday 29	AM Cleard hause[r], unmoored, & Weighed and run down to the Lighthouse, & came too Anchor; Moderate Breezes and hazey Wr
Monday 30	AM sent the boat on Shore at the Lighthouse for Water, at 10 weighed & came to Sail in Co the <i>Cherokee</i> – at Noon lighthouse W $\frac{1}{2}$ N 8 Miles

Modt & Cloudy Wr 2 Sail in Sight, at 1/2 past 3 Spoke
His Majestys Ship *Lively* from New York bound to St
Augustine, at 5 TKd in Co the *Lively* & *Cherokee*, Tiby
Lighthouse WbN 4 Lgs

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/922.

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO PHILIP STEPHENS¹

Duplicate

Antigua, 30th September 1776.

Sir, My last Letters for their Lordships came addressed to you, by His Majesty's Sloop *Weazle*; I have not received any Dispatches from their Lordships since those by His Majesty's Sloop *Shark*; nor have I since had any particular Intelligence concerning the American Rebels; except the common Report of their having sundry Armed Vessels, Cruizing for the homeward bound Trade; from the West India Islands; several of which have been taken, and sent for different Ports in America; and some of them it's said, have been Re-taken by the Kings Ships Stationed on the Coast of America. The aforesaid Armed Vessels are said to Cruize about the Latitudes of 30° to 35° North which is at a greater distance, than I can send the Kings Ships at present under my Command to; unless their Lordships will be pleased Considerably to Reinforce the Squadron; and thereby enable me to send out a greater Number of Cruizers, which might then be spread to a greater distance from the Islands.

The inclosed paper Marked No 1, is Copy of a Letter I received the 21st Current from the Honble Craister Greatheed of St Christophers, (Commander in Chief of the Leeward Char[r]ibbee Islands for the time being) by which their Lordships will perceive that on the 5th Instant a terrible Fire broke out in the Town of Basseterre, St Christophers, which has Consumed the greater part of that Town; and to add to their Calamity, on the 6th & 7th Septemr came on a Violent Gale of Wind, with heavy rain; which has done considerable Damage among the Islands, and to the Shipping; particularly at Guadalupe, Marygallante, Martinico, Montserrat, St Kitts and the Islands to Leeward. His Majesty's Brigantine Tender the *Sandwich*, in coming over from Prince Ruperts Bay with Water, was caught in the Storm, and obliged to Cut away her Main Mast, and put into the Island of Nevis where She procured a new Mast and got refitted and arrived at English harbour the 20th Instant.

I am apprehensive His Majesty's Sloop *Pomona*, has also met with some disaster and gone away to Leeward; as her Orders directed Her return back to English harbour, the 5th September, and She is not yet arrived; nor have I received any Intelligence of her since the Gale of Wind.

She had before then taken an Armed Brigantine with 8 Guns and 20 Men; which is put into the Island of Tortola in distress; having Cut away her Foremast and thrown her Guns overboard in the late Gale of Wind.

The *Portland* has been Careened, is Refitted and Sails this day on a Cruize; — The *Hind* has been Eleven times hove Kell Out, to repair the

Damage her Bottom received by striking the Ground coming into English harbour the 25th July; of which Accident I wrote their Lordships by the *Weazle*: Her Damages are now repaired, and She is refitting for Sea with all possible Expedition.

Yesterday His Majesty's Sloop *Hawke* came in from Barbados, and acquaints me no Packet is expected to arrive there from England for the Month of August last – The other inclosed Papers marked No 2, 3, and 4; are Account of the Appointment and removal of Officers between the 1st July 1776, and the 30th September 1776, List of Prizes taken since the 1st August last; and the State and Condition of the Squadron under my Command; which you will likewise please to Communicate to their Lordships. I am Sir [&c.]

Jam^s Young.

[Endorsed] Recd 22 Decr [1776]

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/309.

1 Oct.

Whitehall Evening Post, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 TO
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1776

A letter from Hallifax dated Oct 1 says, On Friday last [September 27] arrived here his Majesty's ship *Viper*, from Annapolis [Royal], having brought in with her three prizes, which she took near that place. On Sunday arrived his Majesty's ship *Liverpool* from a cruize, in which she has retaken several prizes (three of them, we hear, were West India ships) loaded with rum, sugar, &c. which had been taken by the American privateers.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM HALIFAX, OCT. 1."¹

On Sunday last [September 29] we received advice from Liverpool, in this Province, that some American privateers had taken in Port Medway, a brig belonging to Captain Hall; a sloop the property of Mr. Richard Cunningham, of this town, and several others; and also a ship (nearly loaded with lumber, spars, &c.) out of which they took the provisions, sails, anchors, cables, &c. cut away all the rigging, and after destroying part of the said ship left her.

A schooner loaded with cattle, roots, &c. was likewise taken out of the harbour of Liverpool, bound to this port; and the following persons, who were passengers, were made prisoners, viz. Capt. Forster, Mr. Hawkins, and Mr. Stevenson.

1. *Whitehall Evening Post*, November 14 to November 16, 1776. The above letter, according to the editor, came "by the *Beaver* sloop of war, which arrived last Week from thence."

TRISTRAM DALTON TO SAMUEL WHITE, OF CUSHING & WHITE, BOSTON ¹

Dear Brother White:

Newburyport Octo 1st 1776

I am told you have the Care of fixing out a privateer Sloop for some Gentlemen in Boston — and that its probable I might thro' your good Means obtain a small Share in her — You'll really oblige me if you can procure me an 1/8th or even 1/16th in this or any other now gone or going soon.

You know a little Expençe is not looked At now and if any One can secure a Share in what is going forward in that Way Capt White can — I hope Hannah and all is well I am with Truth & Esteem [&c.]

Tristram Dalton

To Mr Samuel White

At Capt Job Prince Boston

1. Emmet Autograph Collection, NYPL.

PETITION OF OWNERS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS PRIVATEER SLOOP
Revenge TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL¹

These may certifie That The Bearer Robert Gragg [Cragg], late Chief Mate on Board The Ship *Anna Maria*, from Barbadoes for London, Wm Pringle Commander; and taken by the Privateer sloop *Revenge* of Salem Joseph White Commander. That said Gragg, ever since he was set on shore here in Salem, has behaved in a very orderly and peaceable manner; is, we believe, a man of sound Morals, of sobriety and temperance; in no wise given to bad Company, a sincere friend to the Cause of America. But being now well advanced in life (upwards of sixty) of a very infirm Constitution, unable to endure the severities of This or the English Climate, He Humbly prays The favour of the Honourable the Council of This State, That of Their Goodness, They will grant him The liberty, to go to the West Indies in any Vessel that may hereafter be bound There; — a Climate, He, a number of years past has been accustomed to; That he may pass the small remainder of his life There in Peace. — He frankly and with gratitude acknowledges, and declares, That on all occasions will acknowledge, That he has been always treated with the greatest civility and kindness since his being made a Captive. May [it] please your Honours, as we are of opinion, That, he said Gragg, is truly sincere in his above declaration and a worthy honest man, Pray your Honours indulgence in this Case, and That his prayer may be granted. —

Salem 1st Octor 1776.

Elias Hasket Derby

Edward Gibaut

Joseph White

Joseph Lee

Miles Greenwood

William Bartlett

[Endorsed] State of Massachusetts Bay In Council Oct. 17th 1776 On the Petition of Robert Cragg, praying he the said Cragg may have liberty to depart this State to the west Indies in any Vessel that may hereafter be bound there — Order'd that the sd Robert Cragg have the Liberty he petitions for

— and that he have liberty to depart this State accordingly to the west Indies — and it is recommended to the Commanders of armed Vessels and others to let the sd Cragg pass unmolested accordingly

John Avery Dpy Secy

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 363. Endorsement on document indicates that petition was granted.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL¹

[Watertown] Tuesday October 1st 1776

On Motion Ordered that the Commissary General be and he hereby is directed to purchase three hundred Blbs Pork belonging to the Cargo of the Ship *Queen of England* now Advertiz'd for Sale.

Whereas Capt John Foster Williams of the Sloop *Republick* and Capt John Clouston of the Sloop *Freedom* both belonging to this State are in want [of] some Iron Ballast that they may Immediately proceed on their Intended Cruize Wherefore the Committee for Fortifying the Harbour of Boston be and they are hereby directed to deliver the said Williams and Clouston out of the Row Galley lying in Boston Harbour as much Iron Ballast as they may stand in need of at this time for their several Sloops.

Petition of Jeremiah Obrian in behalf of himself and his Company on board Sloop *Machias Liberty* in the Service of this State setting forth that he is in great want of Money and Provisions that he has already advanced five or Six hundred Dollars to his Men that they are still in want of more and that it is very difficult to keep them from entering into private property and praying that he may be granted a supply of Money and Provisions.

In Council Read and thereupon Resolved that the Commissary General of this State be and he hereby is directed to furnish necessary Provisions from Time to Time to the Men belonging to the Sloop *Macchias Liberty* under the Command of Capt Jeremiah Obrian and in Actual Service on board the said Sloop until the next meeting of the General Court.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 19, 253, 254-55.

NICHOLAS AND JOHN BROWN TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE¹

Gentlemen

Providence Octr 1st 1776.

This serves to Inclose you Capt Gidn Cra[w]fords & the French Merchts Accots for sales and Returns of the Cargo of the Brigg *Happy return* in 56 days from Nantes, he brings Accots of Capt [Samuel] Avery in the Schooner *Sally* at Nantes & Capt [Joshua] Bunker in the Schooner *William* at Burdox, fited by Us on the Contenentl Accot Capt Craford recd abot 12000 Livrs of Capt Avery — which is inCluded in his return'd Cargo, All which is now Unladin & safely stord here, except the Salt, wch is Also takg out — The Cargo in return so far as we have Examind Appears to be Well bought & as low as from England, The Cargo Outward

Came to a very bad Market wch you'l Observe by the Accots The Powder, Arms, Blankets flints, sum of the Cloths &c are Wanting for the Ships of War here and as they with these Articles will be Compleetly ready for the Seas, and being Allready Hall'd down the River waiting only for the Men & Officers Commissns with the Advice of Govr [Stephen] Hopkins & the Comadore We Shall Deliver them, and in due Time render Accot of the same²

Capt Crawford Informs Us that the Ship *Hancock & Addams* Comdd by Saml Smith of Phia was to sail on her Return in two days after him with a Large Quantity of Wollins Gunlocks, Flints Blankets &c &c, Allso the Brigg Capt Blundile, and Schooner Capt Thos Crawford for South Carolina, both with very large Quantitys of Powder

The Ship *Sally* Capt Rollins [Thomas Rawlins] of Phia was to sail in 8 days with Wollens Gunlocks &c &c what Salt may be Wanted to pack Beef for the Ships of Warr here will be made use off, the Remainder will Lay with the other articals for Your orders which you'l please to give as Soone as Convenient Suppose the Salt wou'd Sell together at 9/ L Money Pr Bushel we are Gentlemen [&c.]

[Endorsed] Copy Letter to Robt Morris Esq Mentiong Sundrys for the Ships to be deld — Octo 1. 1776

1. Nicholas Brown Papers, JCLB.

2. *Ibid.*, the Secret Committee replied on October 13: "we hope you have Not delivered Any of the Goods as you Mention, for the Congress will order A distribution as they think most for the publick Service." The Committee ordered the cloth and blankets delivered to Quarter Master General Thomas Mifflin for use of the Army.

COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS TO REV. SAMUEL HOPKINS¹

Sir

Providence October 1st 1776 —

I receivd yours of the 20th September (yesterday) and am very much Oblig'd to you for your Address and Advice, and as to your Complaints of the Morals of the People belonging to the Navy I am now to let you know that I did not enter into the Navy as a Divine, and that I am not qualified to Act nor give directions in that Matter, the Congress whom I serve made provision for a Chaplain to perform that necessary duty, but to my Mortification I have not been able to get a single Man to act in that Character although I have applied to many. — If you know of any that has the good of Mankind at heart Sufficient to expose himself to necessary Danger of that Service should be glad you Send him who you may depend shall be treated with due Respect — And if none can be procured I cannot but Condole with you the depravity of the times — I am with great Respect Sir [&c.]

E H. —

1. Hopkins Letter Book, RIHS. Reverend Samuel Hopkins was pastor of the First Congregational Church at Newport.

STEPHEN HOPKINS TO JOHN ADAMS¹

Sir

Providence Octr. 1, 1776

On my Journey homward, at a Town called Millstone in Somersett County in the Jerseys, I found confined there, a strange groupe of about fourteen Prisoners, four of which belong to New England, and had been taken at different times by British Cruisers, and carried to Hallifax, and having no other means to get Home, ships themselves on Board some small Transpot Vessells bound to New Yorke, wheer they weir to be discharged. Four more of them are French Subjects taken in the same manner on this Coast and carried also to Hallifax, and weir returning in like manner in Order to get Home, one of them is a Boy of eleven years of age belonging to Halifax, the Remaindr British Seamen. I promised these Prisoners that I would write to the Board of War concerning them, in order to procure their Release, or at least the Liberation of the New England men and French men, and I wish you to use your Influence for that purpose. I Remain your Friend

Step Hopkins

To John Adams Esqr
Chairman to the Board of War

1. Papers CC (Letters addressed to Congress) , 78, XI, 101, NA.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

At a Meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety [at Lebanon] October first, 1776

Voted, That the overseers of the furnace [at Salisbury] be directed to cast a suitable proportion of four-pound shot for the cannon cast there, and that Capt. Jabez Perkins of Norwich be permitted to purchase about forty or fifty of those shot for the two cannon he is to have: provided it can be done without interrupting the casting of cannon.²

Voted, That Mr. Andrew Huntington of Norwich be permitted to purchase at the furnace at Salisbury two four pounders and six swivels with shot suitable for them; he paying four pounds per hundred weight for the cannon and the customary price for the shot and swivels.³

1. Hoadly, ed., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 527, 528.

2. For the Connecticut privateer sloop *Nancy*.

3. Purchased for the Connecticut privateer brig *Ranger*.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR. TO GEORGE WASHINGTON¹

Sir

New London October 1st 1776

The 29th Ulto I shipt by Capt Webster Seventy Two Tents which was Sent me by Daniel Tillinghast Esqr of Providence and hope they will get safe to hand — I now by Capt Thos King send you Nine Marque and Ninety Seven Common Tents which I hope will also Come Safe —

In Case any of the Brittish Ships Should come down this way, I think we Should have the Earliest Notice of it, as we are Daly Shipping Goods up the Sound for the Army, I am Sir [&c.]

Nath^l Shaw Jun^r

1. Washington Papers, LC.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'S ACCOUNT AGAINST THE CONTINENTAL
SLOOP *Providence*¹

[New London, October 1, 1776]²

1776	The Sloop <i>Providence</i>	Dr
Apr 10	To 1 Anchor from Brig <i>Boulton</i> 6.3.8 @ 48/	16..7..6
	To 1 barrel Tallow from Fink amo to	8..1..7
	To Samel Latimer the Smiths Bill	1.13..6
	To 1 Boat Sails & Oars d[elivere]d Capt [John Paul] Jones from Brig <i>Boulton</i>	8..0..0
	To Cash advanced Elias Thomas being on board a Prize deserted from the Enemy & on his way to Providence as pr Rect & my Letter of advice to Capt Jones	1..1..0
		<hr/> 35..3..7
	Commissions 5 pCt	1.15
		<hr/> 36.18..7

1. Shaw Collection, Book 39, 4, YUL.

2. The date is based on the Elias Thomas entry in the account. A crew member of the *Providence*, he was sent on board the prize brig *Britannia* late in August. The prize was retaken off the Delaware Capes but, as the account indicates, Thomas made good his escape.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT ON THE BRITISH FORCES IN CANADA
AND ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN¹

[October 1, 1776]²

The force of the Enemy in Canada & on the Lake is from the best Intelligence as follows

10,000 Men Landed in Canada from Europe &c, 8,000 of wch with many Canadians are to go against Ticonderoga &c all effective men and in good order & appearance — it is without doubt General Carleton intends to command in person, with Burgoine, Fraiser [Simon Fraser], Jones & Nisbit &c —

their Naval force is

a Ship Built in England taken to pieces & Brought out on board the fleet, she is put up at St Johns & Launched there, has 18 Guns 24 pounders, swivels, &c

2 Brigs about 10 Guns each	} Swivels &c
3 Schooners about 8 ditto	

20 Gundelo's two Guns each from 9 to 12 pounders

250 Batteaus all with Swivels & many of them with Guns in their Bows
a very fine Train of Artillery of six Companys & at least 100 pieces of
Cannon, thought to be the finest ever sent from England, a General Officer
Commands it, General [William] Philips

every Sailor & Marine that cou'd possibly be spared is sent to man
their fleet —

thier determined Intention is if Possible to form a Junction of thier
Army with General How — in wch case General Carleton will command the
whole

Sr John Johnson is gone round by Oswego with near [6]00 Indians,
McCleans Immigrants & some Canadians & Scotch Volanteers — there is
some doubt he may come in by Fort George & cut off our Communication
with Ticonderoga he is sanguine in his expectation of taking Fort
Ge[o]rge & geting the Command of the Lake

1. US Revolution, LC.
2. Date is approximated.

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD'S SUPPLY REQUISITION¹

Memorandum of Articles which have bin repeatedly wrote for, & which
we are in the Extreemest, want of. — Vizt

Ten Dble headed Ten Grape, & Ten Chain Shott for each of the follow-
ing Guns —

N	Pd			
1 . . 18	10	shott	each kind	30
6 . . 12	10	do	each	180
22 . . 9	10	do	do	600
8 . . 6	10	do	do	240
23 . . 4	10	do	do	690

1740

300 lb Musquet Ball

All the Useless old Iron that will do for Langridge

200 lb Buck Shott

A Sufficient quantity slow Match for the Fleet }
very little on hand & that exceeding bad — }

Port fire —

12 Horn'd Tin Lanthorns

50 Swivels with Monkey Tails

3 Anchors. 150 lb 200 lb 250 lb

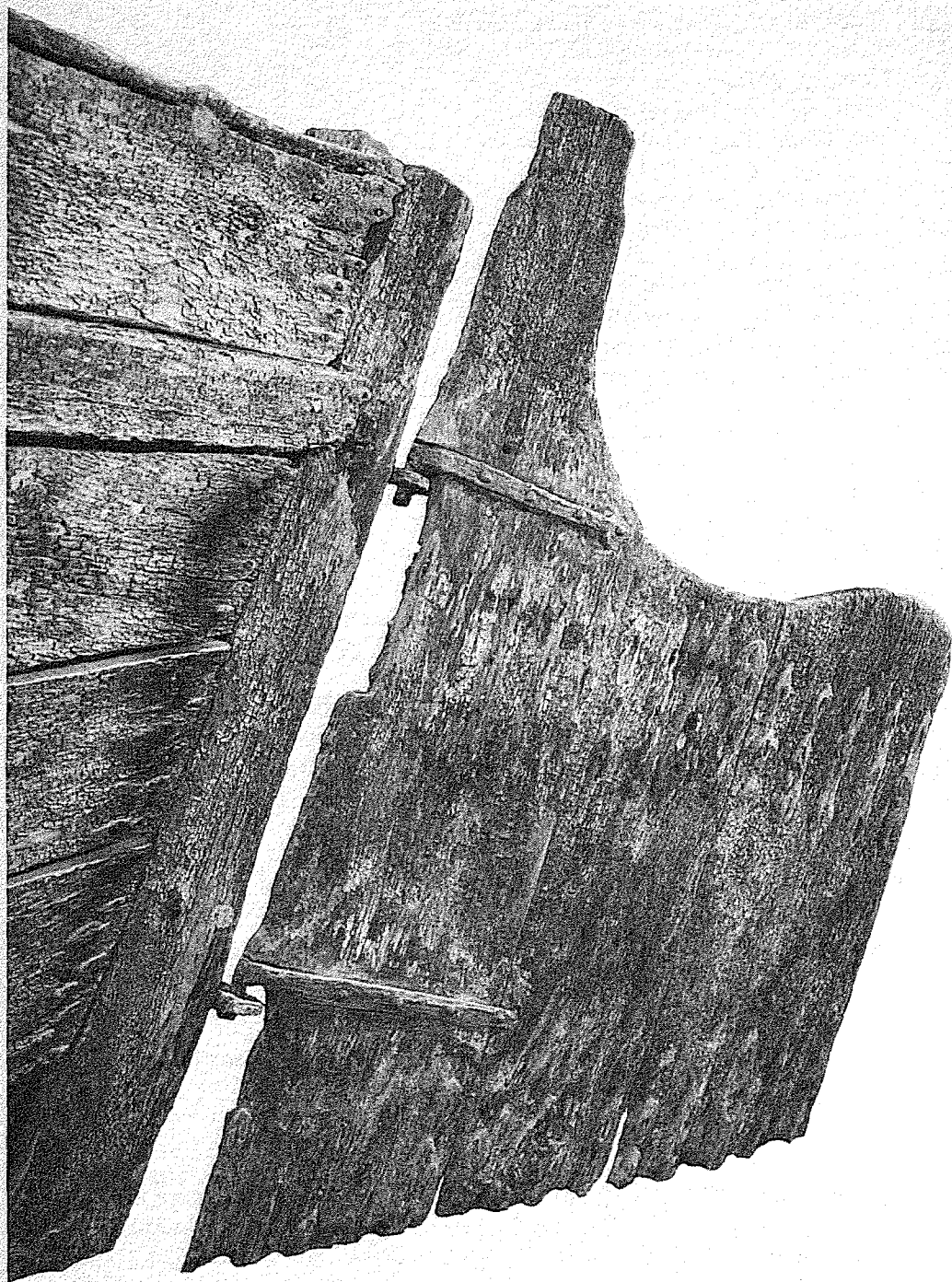
3 Cables, for Ditto —

4 Sett Calking Irons —

1 ps Oznabriggs

2 Doz. 6. & 7 Inch single Blocks for Gun Tackles

6 lb. Twine & 2 doz Sail Needles —



Rudder of Continental Gunboat Philadelphia.

All the Old Junk that Can be spared —
 1000 Tacks for Spunges
 1 Barrell Pitch
 1 ditto Tarr
 300 hand Granadoes filled & Fuses —
 100 lb 5. to 9 Inch Spikes —
 One Cask 20 d Nails
 One ditto 10 d ditto
 One Quoil 5 Inch rope for Springs
 One ditto 3 Inch ditto
 One Ditto. 2½ Inch ditto
 One ditto..1½ Inch ditto
 One ditto small ratline
 One ditto Spun Yarn
 30 Inch Pine Boards
 Rum As much As you please
 Cloathing. for at least half the Men in the Flet who are Naked
 One hundred Seamen, (no land Lubbers)

Valcouer Octr 1, 1776

B Arnold

1. Gates Papers, Box 4, NYHS.

EXAMINATION OF SERGEANT STILES¹

Serjeant Stiles, returned this morning From the Isle Aux Noix where he was sent this Day weeks, says he left it last Night, at Sun Set, that their Appeared to be upwards of Two Thousand Men on the Island, In Tents, That he saw a Schooner Mounting Twelve Guns Two Gondolas Compleated with thre Guns in Each & a Square Sail, One Gondola Launched & Not Compleated. & Two on the Stocks one of them Just set up, that a Number of People were encamped at Rives a Cote where they have Erected a Battery of heavy Cannon — He also Saw Many Tents on Hospital Island & on the West Shore between that & Isle Aux Noix — that he passed Windmill Point in the night & believes there was Four hundred Indians there, & that on the Bay Opposite he Saw many lights & fires & suposes the Regular Troops were encamped there —

Valcour 1 Octo 1776

1. Schuyler Papers, Box 40, NYPL.

DIARY OF DR. LEWIS BEEBE¹

[Ticonderoga] Tuesday October 1st. After breakfast and waiting upon the hospital as usual, Crossed to head quarters. took a view of the Gundoloas and Rowgallies; two of which, were Just going to sail, in order to Join the Fleet; in which goes Genl Waterbury;

1. "Journal of a Physician on the Expedition Against Canada 1776," *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* (Philadelphia, 1935), LIX, 350. Hereafter cited as "Beebe's Journal," *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL¹

Sir Head Quarters Harlem Heights Octor 1st 1776

I have the honor of your favor of the 27th ulto and note the contents. The Row Gallies belonging to your State together with those the property of the United States and all other vessels, on the approach of the Men of War, ran up the North River under cover of the Battery on Mount Washington, from whence tis now impossible to remove them. As they are now posted they are serviceable to us, by preventing a communication with the Ships, and keeping out Row Guards by night, to give us timely notice of the approach, or any movement of the Enemy. To take from them their Crew would be rendering them entirely useless, and to rob them of their weapons would dispirit the men. However, if it should be thought advisable, after weighing the above circumstances, to have the Crew ordered to Connecticut or any of the Arms or other weapons on board to be sent there, your orders shall be attended to. The situation of the Enemy's Ships is very different at this time from what it was before the evacuation of New York. We then had the command of a narrow pass communicating from the Sound to the East River, commonly called Hell-Gate, which is now in their possession — Two of their Ships came through yesterday, one I think a Transport, the other a Frigate mounting 24 Guns —

1. Trumbull Papers, XXIX, Letter Book IV, 355, 356, ConnSL.

COLONEL JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON TO JABEZ HUNTINGTON¹

[Extract] Camp Kingsbridge Octo 1st 1776

Yesterday a Frigate from N York passed throu' Hell-gate and went up Sound out of Sight we fear her Intention is to interrupt our Navigation. another Frigate came throu' soon after and turned up into the Mouth of the River before Haerlem we apprehend an Attack from the Enemy very soon. . .

1. *Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society*, XX, 324-25.

JOURNAL OF BARTHOLOMEW JAMES¹

[New York, October 1, 1776]²

we quitted this uncomfortable station and proceeded down the [East] river; and on our way ran on board a transport, carried away our larboard forechains, cathead and small bower-anchor stock, and greatly damaged the transport.

1. Laughton, ed., *James' Journal*, 35. The incident is incorrectly dated October 3.

2. Journal of the *Orpheus* reads:

Tuesday, October 1st . . . at ½ past 4 weighed and run down the East River at Six ran foul of a Transport, SE end of Governors Island which broke the Small

Anchor Stock, and lost it, and shaked the fore chains. Anchd with the Best Bower, and Cleared the Transport, and stowed the smll Bower and Sheet Anchors. laid out the Stream Anchor in the mouth of the Channel, and weigh'd the Bt Bower, then came to sail & at 12 Came too off Bedlows Island.

PRO, Admiralty 51/650.

DIARY OF LIEUTENANT JABEZ FITCH¹

[On board the Prison Snow *Mentor*]

[New York] Tuesd: Octr: 1st: 1776 I arose very Early in the Morning, & walk'd the Deck as Usual; It is a Lowery Morning, & the People geting Ready to heave up as soon as the Tide Turns. . .

At 1½ after 9 the Snow & the Ships that had the Prisoners on board, got under way, & a little before 12 came to in North River Opposite to the Colledge, where we have a very Melancholy Prospect of the Affects of the late Fire, which is sopus'd to have Destroy'd a fourth part of the City, & chiefly in this part of the Town.

Soon after we came too, I borrow'd a pocket Looking Glass & Raisor, & Shav'd my myself [*sic*] having never look'd in a Glass before, since I was first sent on board the Fleet on the 29th of Augt:

In the Afternoon there came an Offr: on board, & took a List of our Names again, we were also again Inform'd that we were to go on shore Tomorrow; The Night following was cold & very Tedious for us, in our uncomfortable Lodging.

1. Sabine, ed., *Fitch's Diary*, 52.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE MEMORANDUM ¹

On my leaving London, Arthur Lee esq requested me to inform the committee of correspondence that he had had several conversations with the French ambassador, who had communicated the same to the French court; that, in consequence thereof, the Duke de Vergennes had sent a gentleman to Arthur Lee, who informed him that the French court could not think of entering into a war with England, but that they would assist America, by sending from Holland this fall £200,000 sterling worth of arms and ammunition to St. Eustatius, Martinique, or Cape Francois; that application was to be made to the governors or commandants of those places, by inquiring for Monsieur Hortalez, and that, on persons properly authorized applying, the above articles would be delivered to them — ²

Philada. October 1, 1776. The above intelligence was communicated to the subscribers, being the only two members of the committee of secret correspondence now in this city, and on our considering the nature and importance of it, we agree in opinion that it is our indispensable duty to keep it a secret, even from Congress, for the following reasons:

(1) Should it get to the ears of our enemies at New York they would undoubtedly take measures to intercept the supplies, and thereby deprive us not only of those succors, but others expected by the same route.

(2) As the court of France have taken measures to negotiate this loan and succour in the most cautious and secret manner, should we divulge it immediately we may not only lose the present benefit, but also render that court cautious of any further connection with such unguarded people, and prevent their granting other loans and assistance that we stand in need of and have directed Mr. Deane to ask of them, for it appears from all our intelligence they are not disposed to enter into an immediate war with Britain, though disposed to support us in our contest with them; we therefore think it our duty to cultivate their favorable disposition towards us, draw from them all the support we can, and in the end their private aid must assist us to establish peace or inevitably draw them in as parties to the war.

(3) We find, by fatal experience, the Congress consists of too many members to keep secrets, as none could be more strongly enjoined than the present Embassy to France; notwithstanding which Mr. Morris was this day asked by Mr. Reese Meredith whether Dr. Franklin and others were really going ambassadors to France, which plainly proves that this committee ought to keep this secret, if secrecy is required.

(4) We are of opinion that it is unnecessary to inform Congress of this intelligence at present, because Mr. Morris belongs to all the committees that can properly be employed in receiving and importing the expected supplies from Martinico, and will influence the necessary measures for that purpose; indeed we have already authorized William Bingham, esq. to apply at Martinico and St. Eustatia for what comes there, and remit part by the armed sloop *Independence*, Captain [John] Young, promising to send others for the rest. Mr. Morris will apply to the marine committee to send other armed vessels after her, and also to Cape François (without communicating this advice), in consequence [of] private intelligence, lately received, that arms, ammunition and clothing can now be procured at those places. But should any unexpected misfortune befall the States of America, so as to depress the spirits of the Congress, it is our opinion that, on any event of that kind, Mr. Morris (if Dr. Franklin should be absent) should communicate this important matter to Congress, otherwise keep it until part of or the whole supplies arrive, unless other events happen to render the communication of it more proper than it appears to be at this time.

B. Franklin Robert Morris

[Endorsed] Communicated to me this 11th October, 1776, and I concur heartily in the measure. Richard Henry Lee

Communicated to me the 10th day of October, 1776, and I do also sincerely approve of the measure. Wm Hooper
(Copy)

1. Wharton, ed., *Revolutionary Diplomatic Correspondence*, II, 151-52.

2. Thomas Story carried this intelligence from Lee.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO WILLIAM BINGHAM¹

[Philadelphia]

We are now at the 1st of October & have heard from Mr. Deane after his arrival at Bourdeaux his last letter is dated 23d June when he was just setting out for Paris. We have later intelligence than his In Consequence of which we desire you to enquire of the General & Governor whether they have recd any Arms or Ammunition from Monsr. Hortalez with directions to deliver the same to any persons properly authorized by Congress to receive them If they have, We hereby authorize you to receive the same giving your Receipts on behalf of the United States of America. If none such are arrived enquire if they have any advice of such & request they will make known to you when they do arrive. We desire you will make the like application to the Governor of St. Eustatia, but proceed cautiously in this business. We think you shou'd go there yourself in a French Vessell or if that might be unsafe or make a noise get Mr Richd Harrison or some person in whose prudence You can Confide, Let the first question be, whether His Excellency has received any advice from Monsr. Hortalez, if the answer be in the Negative, tell him that he will receive letters from such a person & that those advices have reference to you, therefore request the favour of being immediately made acquainted when they come to hand & you will wait on him or send a proper person in your stead — If the answer be in the affirmative then enquire if his Excellency has rec'd anything beside advice from Monsr. Hortalez & if he has, inform him you are empowered to receive the same from him agreeable to the directions sent with the Goods, We believe you had best proceed in the same Cautious manner at Martinico & open no more of the business than Circumstances shall make absolutely necessary

We also enjoin you to the Stricktest secrecy and herewith enclose you two separate letters as your proper Authority for receiving any Goods or Money Mr Hortalez our agent in Europe may remit

It was intended that Capt [John] Young shou'd deliver you this letter but as we have some important dispatches to send Mr Deane, we have concluded to send Mr Wm Hodge junr the bearer hereof with the same in order that he may deliver them with his own hands. You'l please to shew Mr Hodge proper attention and assist him to the utmost of your power in procuring him a passage immediately from Martinico to France, in a good Ship, if any Man of War or Packet should be going, make application to the General to recommend Mr. Hodge to the Commander, also to the Commander of the Port where he goes to in France to give him support & assistance from thence to Paris with the best dispatch. If Mr. Hodge should want money for his Expences supply him & transmit us his receipts for the same. You will serve Your Country by forwarding Mr Hodge without delay but you need not mention to the General how urgent we are on this point unless you find it will promote his dispatch —

We learn from many quarters that a Fleet of Twenty Sail of the Line are fitting out at Brest & Toulon Shou'd they come out to the West Indies & be destined to Commit Hostilities against the British Trade or Territorys, they have a fair opportunity to Strike a Capital Stroke at New York where they have upwards of 400 Sail of Ships Guarded only by 2 sixty four Gun Ships, two fiftys and six Fortys the rest are all Frigates &c Twenty Sail of the Line wou'd take their whole Fleet with ease & then we could as easily manage their Army. We had omitted above to desire that you shou'd send back in the Sloop *Independence* Capt Young a proportion of the Arms Ammunition Money or other Stores you may receive either at Martinico or St Eustatia from Monsr Hortalez, taking bills of Loading for the same deliverable to us or our order & if the quantity you receive shou'd be considerable, you may send by Capt Young about the Value of three or four thousand pounds Sterlg observing that we want Muskets & Woolen Cloathing most immediately. We shall send more Armed Vessells after Capt Young to bring away the remainder of what you may receive or buy and are sir [&c.]

1. Papers CC (Other Reports of Committees of Congress), 37, 40-43, NA. Continuation of a letter begun September 21.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO SILAS DEANE¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia, October 1, 1776.

Dear Sir: Mr. [Robert] Morris has communicated to us the substance of your letters to him down to the 23d June, when you were near setting out for Paris. We hope your reception there has been equal to your expectations and our wishes; indeed we have no reason to doubt it, considering the countenance we have met with amongst the French Islands and their seaports in Europe. It would be very agreeable and useful to hear from you just now, in order to form certain opinions of the designs of the French court respecting us and our contest, especially as we learn by various ways they are fitting out a considerable squadron at Brest and Toulon. What a noble stroke they might now strike at New York! Twenty sail of the line would take the whole fleet there, consisting of between four and five hundred sail of men of war and transports, store-ships and prizes. Was that piece of business once effected by a French fleet, we would engage to give them a very good account of General Howe's army in a short time; but, alas! we fear the court of France will let slip the glorious opportunity, and go to war by halves, as we have done; we say go to war, because we are of opinion they must take part in the war sooner or later, and the longer they are about it the worse terms they will come in upon . . .

If France means to befriend us, or wishes us well, they should send us succours in good muskets, blankets, cloths, coatings, and proper stuff for tents, also in ammunition; but not like the Venetians, wait until we are beat, and then send assistance. We are willing to pay for them, and shall be able soon as we can safely export our tobacco and other valuable produce . . .

Our frigates are fine vessels, but we meet difficulty in procuring guns and anchors. Our people are but young in casting the former, and we want coals to make the latter. However, these difficulties we shall surmount, and are bent on building some line-of-battle ships immediately. The success in privateering and encouragement given by the merchants will inevitably bring seamen amongst us. This, with the measure that will be adopted to encourage the breeding of seamen amongst ourselves, will in a few years make us respectable on the ocean. Surely France cannot be so blind to her own interests as to neglect this glorious opportunity of destroying the power and humbling the pride of her natural and our declared enemy.

We make no doubt but you have been made acquainted with the negotiations of Monsieur Hortalez, and in consequence thereof we conclude you will be at no loss to obtain the supplies of goods wanted for a particular department, notwithstanding we know that the greatest part of those remittances that were intended you have been intercepted by one means or other. It is unfortunate and much to be regretted that those remittances have had such ill fate, but we hope you have obtained the goods on credit, and you may depend that remittances will be continued until all your engagements are discharged.

Clothing and tents are so much wanted for our armies that we entreat you to apply immediately to the court of France for a loan of money sufficient to dispatch immediately considerable quantities of stuff fit for tents, and of coarse cloths, coatings, stockings, and such other comfortable necessities for an army as you can readily judge will be proper. You will get these goods either sent out direct in French vessels or to their islands, where we can send for them; but if you could prevail on the court of France to send out men-of-war with them it would be most acceptable. Whatever engagements you make for the payment of the cost of such clothing and necessities the Congress will order sufficient remittances to fulfil the same; but in our circumstances it requires time to accomplish them. You'll observe the secret committee have given orders to Mr. Thomas Morris to procure sundry articles and dispatch them immediately; and if you succeed in the negotiations of a loan from the court for this purpose, you may employ him or act in conjunction with him to procure and dispatch those articles by them and such others as you shall judge necessary, and the remittances to be made him will serve to refund the loan. Should the court decline this matter perhaps the Farmers-General may be induced to advance the money or stake their credit for the sake of securing the tobacco the secret committee will remit to Europe. These things we throw out as hints, and shall only further observe that you can not render your injured country more essential service at this time than by procuring these supplies immediately.

We are told that our vigilant enemies have demanded of the courts of France, Spain, and Portugal to deliver up the American ships in their ports and to forbid their having any future intercourse with them. The court of Portugal has complied so far as to order our ships away on ten days' notice. That France and Spain gave evasive answers. This is private uncertain in-

telligence; but we think you will do well to intimate to the ministers of those nations that first impressions are lasting; that the time has been when they stood much in need of American supplies; that the time may come again; that, although we are styled rebels by Britain, yet our friendship may hereafter be of the utmost importance to those powers particularly that possess American colonies, and that injuries now done us will not be easily effaced. These hints of argument you'll offer as the suggestion of your own mind, and endeavour to influence them by interest or fear from taking any active part against us. On the contrary, as it is evidently their interest to encourage our commerce, so we hope you'll be able to influence them by one means or other to protect and license it in the utmost extent.

We shall not take up more of your time at present, But remain, sir
[&c.]

1. Wharton, ed., *Revolutionary Diplomatic Correspondence*, II, 157, 159, 160-61.

ROBERT MORRIS TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

In Secret Committee

Philada Octr 1st 1776

Gentn Publick Bodys shou'd be equally cautious of taking offence as of giving it, because mischiefs are very apt to arise therefrom & generally before a remedy can be applyed. You have taken amiss the refusal of fourteen ps Canvass wanted for your Colonial Vessels & had information that 2000 ps had been imported in one Vessell here. These are your premises & the Facts are as follow. It was not this Committee that refused you the Canvass for we had agreable to orders of Congress delivered the whole to the Marine Committee & that whole consisted of about 600 ps instead of 2000, but it was not possible the Marine Committee cou'd spare you a single Bolt, because the Congress had but a day or two before your application ordered all the light Duck & other stuff, then in the Publick Stores or that could be bought in the City to be made up into Tents and sent immediately to Genl Washington, the Marine Committee remonstrated against this measure alledging that none of the Continental Vessels cou'd be sent out if this Canvass was taken from them, No Matter they were told the Soldiers should have Tents if they stripped the Yards of those Continental Frigates & Cruizers that had sails made up, & in Consequence of this measure which nothing but the extream necessity of our Army could justify, We have now a parcell of five Vessells lying here useless at a time they might have been most advantageously employed. Therefore Judge you, whether that Committee or the Congress itself cou'd have justified sparing you the Canvass you wanted. You may depend Gentn that no just grounds are ever meant to be given by Congress or any of its Committees for Complaints like yours. We are all embarked in a Cause that requires our utmost united exertions to carry us through, and be assured that you can always Command our utmost Aid and assistance, when it can possibly be extended, consistent with the

general Welfare. For & on behalf of the Secret Committee. I have the honor to be Gentn [&c.]

Rob^t Morris

1. Red Book, IV, Md. Arch.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO LIEUTENANT THOMAS ALBERTSON ¹

Sir

Philadelphia October 1. 1776. —

The Continental Schooner *Muskeito* under Your Command being well fitted and manned you are to set sail for Occracock in North Carolina and proceed up with said Schooner to Edenton. On your arrival there put into the post office any letters you carry with you and the Military Stores and other goods you have on board deliver to Messrs Hewes & Smith Merchants at that place. Those Gentn are to lade you back therefore you must loose no time in discharging and getting the Vessel ready for the reception of Naval Stores, or any other goods which they may want for to put on board, which you are to receive to the full lading of your vessel. You are to apply to the Convention or any other Public body at that place for any dispatches they may want to send by you, and as soon as you have received your Cargo and dispatches from Messrs Hewes & Smith, you are to set sail for this place, proceeding with caution to avoid being taken by the enemy. Should you find our Bay shut up by the Men of war and that you cannot get in by the Cape May Channel, bear away for some of the Inlets and write to us when you get in.

You are to be careful of the Schooner her Materials and Stores and we expect you will be diligent and attentive to the execution of your business. We are Sir [&c.]

P:S: you must make the utmost dispatch from Carolina & take care not to waste any Powder. Should you be taken, throw all Letters and Papers over-board Slung to A Shott to Sink them. —

1. Marine Committee Letter Book, 25, NA.

LIBEL FILED IN PENNSYLVANIA ADMIRALTY COURT AGAINST THE
PRIZE SHIP *William* ¹

Port of Philadelphia, }
Pennsylvania, ss. } To All whom it may concern.

Notice is hereby given, that a Court of Admiralty will be held on Friday the eighteenth day of October inst. at the State-house, in the city of Philadelphia, then and there to try the truth of the facts alledged in the bill of James Armitage² (who as well, &c.) against the ship or vessel called the *William*, burthen about one hundred and fifty tons, with her tackle, apparel, furniture and cargo, lately commanded by John Bond. To the end and intent that the owner or owners of said ship and cargo, or any person concerned

therein, may appear and shew cause, if any they have, why the same should not be condemned according to the prayer of the said bill.

By order of the Judge,
Andrew Robeson, Register.

[Philadelphia] October 9 [sic 1], 1776.

1. *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, October 1, 1776.

2. Armitage commanded the Pennsylvania 6 gun privateer schooner *Chance*.

MUSTER ROLL OF THE CONTINENTAL SLOOP *Independence*¹

A Return List of the Officers Seamen & others on board the Sloop *Independence* John Young Esqr Comr

		Ship'd 23d July 1776
John Young	Captain	
James Robertson	1st Lieutt	10 Sepr
Wm Whitpain ²	Master	4 Do
Geo: Brookman	1st Mate	16 Do
Willm Oates	Midshipman	18 Do
Pe Lacollade ³	Do	21st Do
Wm Darby	Boatswain	28 Do
Wm Tucker	Gunner	21 Do
Wm Hanover	Gunners Mate	4th Do
Robt Priest	Carpenters mate	18 Do
Joseph Stout	Carpenter	
Stephen Elms	Clerk	5 Do
John Corlett	Cooper	18 Do
Alexr Riddle	Cook	4 Do
Henry Tucker	Landsman	16 Do
James McCord	Steward	20 Do
Danl Turner	Able Seaman	21 Do
Ralph Watkin	Do	Do
James Black	Landsman	22 Do
Leonard May	Do	23 Do
John Reily	Able Seaman	24 Do
John Colwell	Do	Ditto
John McKinsy	Do	Ditto
Chas Moore	Do	Ditto
James Fisher	Do	Ditto
Nichs Toub	Boy	16 Do
John Paterson	Do	23 Do
James Cownover	Able Seaman	25 Do
Edwd Crilly	Landsman	Octr 1st
Willm Adams	Surgeon	Sepr 26th

1. Record Group 45, Subject File NA, Box 6, NA.

2. Whitpain was discharged September 6, 1776 from the Pennsylvania state ship *Montgomery*, "to enter the Continental service," Hazard, *et al.*, eds., *Pennsylvania Archives*, 2nd series, I, 339.

3. Stephen Pater de la Cossade whose memorial read in Congress on September 11, 1776 was "referred to the Marine Committee," Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 751.

MUSTER ROLL OF THE PENNSYLVANIA ARMED BOAT *Porcupine*¹

[Extract]

Muster Roll of the Armed Boat *Porcupine* commanded by Robert Tatnall Esqr from Sepr 1st to Octr 1st 1776

No	Mens Names	Station	Time pay Commenced	Monthly Pay
1	Robert Tatnall	Capt	Sepr 1st	£ 10..0..0
2	Charles Jones	Gunner	do	4..0..0
3	Robert Ra[w]le	Private	do	2.12..6
4	George Palmer	do	do	do
5	William Drisdale	do	do	do
6	Thomas Peek	do	do	do
7	Jacob Barber	do	do	do
8	John Burt	do	do	do
9	John Stratford	do	do	do
10	Andrew Vandyke	do	do	do
11	Israel Taylor	do	do	do

I do Certify in honour, That the Officers, non Commission'd Officers & Privates belonging to the Armed Boat *Porcupine* under my command, are bona fide engaged in the Naval Service of the State of Pennsylvania, & receive pay according to the time mentioned to their names & the rank they hold in this Role. I do also Certify on honor, that the two on Duty for Wood and one Absent wth leave were all effective —

Rob^t Tatnall.

[Endorsed] This Muster taken from Sepr 1st to Octr 1st 1776, of the People belonging to the Armed Boat *Porcupine* commanded by Robert Tatnall Esqr of the Naval force in the service of the State of Pennsylvania. One Captain, One Gunner and Six privates —

Lod^k Sprogell, M. M. [Muster Master]

1. C. E. French Collection, MassHS.

MONTHLY PAY RATE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA NAVY¹

Pay of the Armed Boats P month, to Commence from Oct'r 1, 1776.

Captain,	32 Dollars	Batterys,	
1st Lieutenant,	20 do.	Master,	16 [dollars]
2d Lieutenant,	16 do.	Master's Mate,	12 do
Captain's Clerk,	12 do.	Gunner's Mate,	9 do
Boatswain,	15 do.	Carpenter's Mate,	9 do
Gunner,	15 do.	Boatswain's Mate,	9 do
Carpenter,	15 do.	Qur Master,	8 do
Steward,	12 do.	Carpenter's Yeoman,	
Cook,	9 do.	Qr Gunner,	8 do

Drum & fife,	8	do.			
Privates,	8	do.	Commodore,	60	do
Boys,	4	do.	Doctor	26 2/3	do
			Mate,	15	do
			Pilot,		
			Midshipman,	12	do
			Armorer,	9	do.
			Master of Alarms [<i>sic</i>]	10	do
			Boatswain's Yeoman.		

1. *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, V, 30–31.

LUX & BOWLY TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER¹

Honorable Sir

Baltimore 1 Octobr 1776

We are favord with yours of the 27th ulto, respecting the Cordage we were to furnish Mr Stewart [Stephen Steward] for the Gondolas &c on the public account.

We did not enter into any agreement with him to finish it at any particular day; but on his return from Philadelphia, as he could not get it there, we promised to do our endeavours to compleat it as soon as possible, and which we mean to comply with, so soon as we get rid of the Firgates² Rigging, which we think will be finished in a week — after that, we hope to furnish for the Gondolas nearly as fast as it is wanted, and shall agreeable to Mr Stewarts directions forward it to Annapolis as we make it. We are Hon-ble Sir [&c.]

Lux & Bowly

1. Red Book, XI, Md. Arch. Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer was chairman of the Maryland Council of Safety.
2. Continental frigate *Virginia*.

JOURNAL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

[Halifax] Tuesday October 1st 1776.

Resolved That the Commissary of Stores or his deputy or Captain Forster at Wilmington do deliver to the Commissioners at Edenton appointed to fit out the Armed Vessell *King Taminy* out of the Public Stores at Wilmington such Materials as the said Commissioners may apply for taking a Receipt for the same —

Resolved That Sylvanus Pendleton Esquire Commander of the Armed Brigg *King Taminy* fitted out by this State do with all possible Expedition proceed to Occacock Bar and there lay for the protection of the Trade until the return of the *Pennsylvania Farmer* from her intended Cruize; And then that the said Sylvanus Pendleton shall immediately proceed to Sea on a Cruize for the Term of one Month against the Enemies of the United States of America, and to take as many of the merchant Ships, the property of the Subjects of Great [Britain] as may be in his power and for that pur-

pose to Cruize Between the Latitudes of thirty two and thirty five and ten and to keep within the distance of eighty Leagues of the American Shore and that after the Expiration of the One Months Cruize the said Sylvanus Pendleton shall return to Occacock Bar and should he take any prizes the same must be sent to Occacock or some other port.

Resolved That Joshua Hampstead Esquire Commander of the Armed Vessel *Pennsylvania Farmer* fitted out by this State do immediately proceed to Sea and Cruize the Term of one Month against the Enemies of the United States of America and to take as many of the British Ships the property of the Subjects of Great Britain as may be in his power and for that purpose to Cruise between the Latitudes of thirty two and thirty five ten and to keep within the distance of eighty Leagues of the American Shore, and that after the Expiration of the one Months Cruize the said Joshua Hampstead shall return to Occacock, and should he take any prizes the same must be sent to Occacock or some other Convenient port

1. Secretary of State Papers (Council of Safety, 1775–1776) , NCDAH.

COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED TO FIT OUT THE BRIG *Pennsylvania Farmer* TO THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

Gentlemen

Newbern October 1st 1776.

We being intrusted by your Honble Board to fit out an armed Vessel from this Port, can now inform your Honours that the Brig! *Pennsylvania Farmer* is compleatly fitted and man'd ready for service, and hath been so some months past only for the want of shot, which we have now got, sufficient for a Cruise and as she is so well man'd and fitted, and the whole Crew as well officers as men so anxious of going out rather than be laying allmost Idle in a harbour, which does not altogether suit the disposition of a sailor, and as she has been at a considerable expence to the Country we think it adviseable she should goe out, as its quite probable that in a very short time she may reimburse the Country in an ample manner the whole expence and much to spare, by bringing in some valuable prizes, which we hope you'll take into Consideration and if approved off by your Honble Board, you'll send us directions to send her on a Cruise. We think no time is [to] be Lost from Certain Accounts we have had of a fleet of Merchantmen sailing this month from Jamaica for England without convoy –

We some weeks agoe were anxious of geting the Brig down to the Bar, but could not send her with Safety as she had not a sufficient anchor and Cable. it was thought, to ride out a Gale of Wind which might be expected at this season of the year and none to be purchased, we thought ourselves justifiable, especially as so much of the Country property was depending, in taking one from a sloop belonging to Mr Schyler of New york, that we were told was to be carried up Trent river there to be Layed up this Winter 'till the Spring, out of the way of Hurricanes, therefore we Judged it could well be spared without any detriment to Mr Schyler sole owner of said Sloop,

and [as] the Country's Service required it we did not think the owner himself had he been here would have had the least objection to it nor do we believe any person else had it not been particularly wanted at the same time for the Brigantine *William*, belonging to Mr John Wright Stanly and others as we were informed by the master of the said Brig — thus far respecting the said anchor and cable we thought proper to mention to your Honours at this time as we are inform'd a Complaint is intended to be lodged against us respecting the same —

No Commission having as yet been made out for the *Pennsylvania Farmer* you'll please to send one for her by the Bearer with your directions — We are Gentlemen [&c.]

Joseph Leech Rich^d Ellis D Barron

1. Secretary of State Papers (Council of Safety, 1775–1776), NCDH.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY¹

[Charleston] Tuesday the 1st Day of October. 1776

Resolved That this House will ballot for Commissioners to superintend and direct the Naval Affairs of the State of South Carolina

And the House having proceeded to ballot accordingly

It appeared That Edward Blake Thomas Savage, Josiah Smith junior Thomas Corbett Roger Smith George Abbot Hall and the Honourable Thomas Shubrick Esquires had the Majority of Votes

A Bill for establishing a Board of Commissioners to superintend and direct the naval affairs of the State of South Carolina was read a Second Time

And the names of the Commissioners being inserted and several amendments made to the Bill

Ordered That the Bill be sent to the Legislative Council

1. Salley, ed., *South Carolina General Assembly Journals*, 70, 72.

2 Oct.

TRIAL AND CONDEMNATION IN HALIFAX VICE ADMIRALTY COURT OF WASHINGTON'S SCHOONER *Warren*¹

Nova Scotia Court of Vice Admiralty 12th Sept 1776 —	}	Cause
		Henry Bellew Esqr Commander of his Majestys Ship of War the <i>Liverpool</i> VS the Schooner <i>Warren</i> —
		Libel filed & entred order made thereon as on file
		Owen Williams Midshipman on board his Majestys Ship the <i>Liverpool</i> being Duly Sworne Deposeth that on or about the 26th of August last they fell in with the Schooner <i>Warren</i> to the Westward of Georges Bank & gave chase to her from 5 o Clock in the morning till about

11 o Clock when they took her that they had eight Carriage Guns some Swivels & about 48 men on board the Schooner that the Deponant was afterwards put on board the said Schooner as Prize Master, & that she was brought by him into this Port of Halifax where she now is —

Owens Williams

Sworne before me the sixteenth day of Sepr 1776

Charles Morris junr Regr —

2d Octobr
1776

Court opened by makeing Proclamation as usual Proclamation made for all Claimers none appeard — then the Judge order'd the Decree to be pronounc'd as on file whereby the said Schooner *Warren* her Boats Guns Tackle and apparell were Condemn'd as lawfull prize to the Captors thereof —

Court adjourn'd without Day in this Cause —

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

JOURNAL OF H. M. S. *Scarborough*, CAPTAIN ANDREW BARKLEY¹

Octr 76

At a Single Anchor in Port La tour Harbr

Tuesday 1st

AM the Boat empd sounding, Lost a hand Lead and Line; the Rebell Privateer fir'd 3 shott at the Boat. Modte & Clear, PM the Boat Empd sounding, sighted the Anchor, let it go again;

Wednesy 2d

at 9 AM sent an Officer with the Cutter to Reconnoitre the Privateer who got out of the Creek in the Night at 10 the Boat return'd finding the Privateer up at the head of the Harbr 4 miles above us in shoal water, at ½ past weigh'd & made sail, sent 4 men on board the Schooner which we retook from the Rebell Privateer.

at 1 PM the Schooner in Co at 6 Cape Negro NWbW 8 or 9 miles, and brought too [the] Main TS to the Mast.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/867.

CERTIFICATE OF THE ACCOUNT OF SALES OF THE BRITISH PRIZE BRIG *Harlequin*¹

Providence Octor 2: 1776. —

Paul Tew Esqr produced before me this Account Sales of the Brig. *Harlequin* and her Cargo.² The Sale commanced by him August 28th 1776. The whole Amount is £7418..3..1 —

Witness John Foster Judge of Prize Matters

Cost and Charges Amount to 193..0..6½

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

2. Taken July 2, 1776. See Volume 5.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

At a Meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety [Lebanon]
October 2nd, 1776

Voted, That the *Spy*, commanded by Capt. [Robert] Niles, be ordered and directed to get ready with all possible dispatch and to cruise in the Sound betwixt Montack Point and Stamford, in order to watch the movements of our enemies and to give intelligence in the easiest and best manner for the security of the navigation belonging to the United States and of the towns upon the Sound and to annoy our enemies, until further orders.

Voted, That Serjeant John Spencer of Capt. Wells's company in Col. Walcott's regiment, and also seven or eight seamen or marines of the same, be permitted to enlist on board the ship *Oliver Cromwell*, and that others may be enlisted in their stead in said regiment if they can be without premium.

Whereas the great cry and want of the necessary article of salt threatens to disturb the publick peace and safety of the State, that it makes it absolutely necessary in order to supply both the publick and private necessities of the people, and that in the most private and speedy method; Therefore voted and resolved, that a suitable number of vessels be provided at publick expence to be sent under convoy in order to get a speedy supply of that article. And Capt. John Deshon is appointed as an Agent to carry this resolve into execution.

Instructions to Capt. John Deshon

You are hereby instructed and ordered forthwith to impress and cause to be appraised the schooner *Hannah and Elizabeth*, which was taken by Capt. Robert Niles of the armed schooner *Spy*, belonging to this State, and take up and have appraised five hundred tons more of vessels from about sixty to about one hundred tons burden, which are good for sailing and well found, and see them suitably manned and supplied with provisions and suitable cargoes for purchasing the salt, to go out at your discretion and direction as to their sailing and place of destination. They are to be guarded and protected by an armed vessel, for which end you are to advise the Governor and Council of Safety for their orders to such one as they shall see fit. You are to do the whole with the greatest secrecy and dispatch.

To Captain John Deshon of New London Greeting

You are hereby authorized and impowered to take up or impress five hundred tons of vessels from about sixty to about one hundred tons, good for sailing and well found, and have them appraised by suitable persons under oath, for publick service. For which this shall be your warrant.

Voted, That his Honor the Governor be desired to appoint such persons as he shall think proper, to be Master of the ship *Oliver Cromwell*; also any other officer that shall be wanted; and also, to give such orders for medicine on board said ship as shall be wanted.

Voted, That Dr. Samuel Lee of Windham be and he is hereby appointed Surgeon and Physician on board the ship *Oliver Cromwell*.

1. Hoadly, ed., *Connecticut Records*, XV, 528-29.

“A LIST OF PRIZES TAKEN BROUGHT IN & CONDEMNED IN THE COUNTY OF
NEW LONDON IN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUTT” ¹

Time of Capture	Captor		Time Condmnd	Prize taken		General Cargo	Claim admitted	Whole Amount
	Vessels Name	Comanders Name		Vessels Name	Masters Name			
April 4, 1776	American Fleet	Como. Hopkins	July 5 1776	Brig. <i>Bolton</i>	Edward Sneyde	Warlike Stores	None	} £ 387.
Idem	Idem	Idem	Idem	Schooner <i>Hawke</i>	—	Idem	None	
Idem	Idem	Idem	Idem	Sloop <i>Glasgows</i> Tender	—	Balast	Halfe	
					—	Stores of above		
July 11, 1776	Brig. <i>And: Doria</i>	Nicholas Biddle	Augt. 22, 1776	Ship <i>Nath. & Elizabeth</i>	William Hoar	Rum Sugar &c.	Wages and 47 Hhd Rum & 5 Hhd Sugar Jama Property	809.19..7½ 1585.14..7
July 27. 1776	Brig <i>Cabbot</i>	Elisha Hinman	Sepr 20 1776	Jamaica	Property	47 Hhds Rum 5 do Sugar	None	2129..5..8
Sepr 22. 1776	Sloop <i>America</i>	Thos Nicholson	Novr 11 1776	Ship <i>Adventure</i>	Richd Chapman	Rum Sugar Wine [Molasses]	Wages	8974..5..9
Sepr 21. 1776	Bright <i>Defence</i>	Seth Harding	Novr 12 1776	Ship <i>John</i>	James Dunbarr	Rum Sugar Cotton &c.	Wages	14632.15..4

Sepr 22. 1776	Idem	Idem	Novr 11. 1776	Ship <i>Sally</i>	Will: Jackson	Ivory & Balast	Wages	736..2..2
Octo. 2. 1776	B <i>Cabbot</i>	Elisha Hinman	Decr 2. 1776	Ship <i>Clarendon</i>	John Deniston	Sugar &c.	Wages	10731.11..4½
Aug. 22. 1776	Schooner <i>Spy</i>	Robert Niles	Decr 2. 1776	Sch: <i>Hanah & Eliz[a.]</i>	Ronald Bruce	Rum Sugar &c.	Wages	3584..— .11½

Extracted from the Records of the Maritime
Court for the County of NewLondon
P Wint Saltonstall Regr

1. US Navy, Miscellaneous Mss., 1775–1804, LC.

BILL FOR ESCORTING GOVERNORS MONTFORT BROWNE AND
PHILIP SKENE TO NEW YORK FOR EXCHANGE¹

The State of Connecticut to John Skinner Dr.
for Escorting Govrs Brown & Skeen to N York
Octr. 2 1776 (Viz)

For him Self	Eleven Days	a 8/	4..8..0
to his horse	120 Miles	a 3d	1.10..0
To Six Troopers	11 Days Each	a 4/	13..4..0
To hire horses			9..0..0
To Expences Coming back from York			12.13..1
			<hr/> 40.15..1
Cr by Cash recd by pr Treasure			30..0..0
			<hr/> 10.15..1
Octr 24th By An Ordr on do as Pr }			18..0..0
Recd on the Other Side }			<hr/> 7..4.11

Errors Excepted

John Skinner

1. Conn. Arch., 1st Series, VI, 404, ConnSL.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR. TO ROBERT MORRIS¹

To Robt Morris Esqr

N Lond Octo 2 1776

Chairman of the Sec. Comtee

Gen. Yrs of the 5th Ultmo came to hand last Post & agreeable to your directions have made inquiry for Duck & Cloth Suitable for Tents, & am sorry to say their is not a pease to be purchased in this State. I Suppose Mr Dean has Advised you of his Sending me one hundred & one Bolts of Russia Duck and Fifty bolts of Oznabrigs have made use of a few bolts for the Navy – This Moment a Fine Ship from Jamaica with 400 hhds of Sugar and 100 hhds Rum & sum Cotton was sent in hear by Capt Harding belonging to this State² she Sailed in Co with Two hundd Sail & Harding was in P[u]rsuit of the Fleet Imagine our Crusers will alter the Course of many of them I am Gentlemen [&c.]

N Shaw Jun^r

1. Shaw Collection, Letter Book, YUL.

2. Ship *John*, James Dunbar, master, taken September 21. US Navy, Miscellaneous Mss., 1775–1804, LC.

MAJOR GENERAL HORATIO GATES TO BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD¹

[Extract]

Tyonderoga October 2nd 1776

This will be deliverd to you by General Waterbury, as I shall be happy to know that he has Join'd you, desire you will dispatch an Express boat

with the News — The *Liberty* Schooner sails tomorrow, by whom I shall send any further Accounts that may Arrive from Our Southern Army — The Other Row Galley will be here tonight from Skeen, & is in such Forwardness, that I expect she will be ready to sail from hence in a Week . . .

1. Gates Papers, Box 19, NYHS.

DIARY OF LIEUTENANT JABEZ FITCH¹

[On Board the Prison Snow *Mentor*]

[Off New York] Wednesd: the 2nd: Was a very cold Morning; we had our breakfast of Chocolet, earlier than common, partly on ac[coun]t: of our Expectation of Landing this Day; but about 1 oClock a Number of Marines came on board, and Inform'd us that we were not to Land this Day, & that there had between 3 & 4 hundred of the Prisoners ben Landed, who had all Engaged to Join the Kings Army.

This Day the Capt Order'd a Large Cable to be Quiled away in our Birth, which greatly Disoblig'd us in the Day Time, but yet as we expected Emedately to Land, we thought little of it, but when Night came, we found ourselves greatly Disaccommodated, & by Reason of this unnecessary & Disingenuous Order of Capt: Davis, we Rested but very little but spent the Night considerably, as we had done before, while we were on board the *Passific*.

1. Sabine, ed., *Fitch's Diary*, 52, 53.

DIARY OF DR. THOMAS MOFFAT¹

[On board H. M. Sloop *Swan* at Sandy Hook]

Wednesday Octr 2d Thermom: morning 50. The *Merlin* with a Prize Brigantine from the W Indies came into the Hook. Captn Burnaby dind aboard and supd. P M The *Daphne* St John Chinnery Commander with 11 Transports (having Burgoynes light horse aboard) passd up to the Fleet.

1. Thomas Moffat's Diary, LC.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Philadelphia] Wednesday, October 2, 1776

A petition from John Bayard, Alexander Henderson and Matthew Irwin, was presented to Congress, and read; Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to sell the petitioners, 1,600 lb. of powder, and 800 lb. of lead, for the use of their privateers, *General Lee* and *Colonel Parry*.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 838, 839.



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Né à Boston, dans la nouvelle Angleterre, le 17 Janv 1706.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO SILAS DEANE¹

Sir

Philada October 2d 1776

We have this day received from the Honorable Congress of Delegates of the United States of America the important papers that accompany this letter being,

first, a Treaty of Commerce & Alliance between the Court of France & these States —

Second, Instructions to their Commissioners relative to the said Treaty —

lastly, A Commission, whereby you will see that Doctr. Franklin, The Honorable Thos Jefferson Esqr & yourself are appointed Commissioners for Negotiating said Treaty at the Court of France.

These papers speak for themselves & need no Strictures or remarks from us, neither is it our business to make any. You will observe that in case of absence or disability of any one or two of the Commissioners the other has full Power to Act.

We therefore think it proper to inform you that Doctr Franklin & Mr Jefferson will take Passage with all Speed, but it is necessary that their appointment on this business remain a profound Secret and we do not choose even to trust this paper with their rout. suffice it therefore, that you expect them soon after this reaches your hands, but by different conveyances. And if you do not see some evident advantage will arise by Communicating this Commission to the French Ministry immediately, We give it as our opinion You had best suspend it, until the arrival of one or both these Gentlemen, because you will then benefit of each others advice & abilities, and we apprehend their arrival will give additional Importance to the Embassy

But should you be of opinion that delay will be in the least degree injurious to our Country or its Cause, you must by all means use your own discretion in this matter, wherein we are not authorised to instruct or advise; we only offer our own thoughts on the Subject. Shou'd you think proper to disclose this Commission to the Ministers of France, enjoin the Stricktest Secrecy respecting the Names, or rather insist that it be not made known to any Persons, but those whose office and employments entitle them to the communication that any others are joined with you in it because if that Circumstance reaches England before their arrival it will evidently endanger their Persons. The Congress have ordered the Secret Committee to lodge Ten thousand Pounds Sterling in France subject to the drafts or orders of the Commissioners for their support, and you may depend that remittances will be made for that purpose with all possible dilligence. We can also inform you, that you may expect instructions for forming Treaties with other Nations. Consequently you will Cultivate a good understanding with all the Foreign Ministers.

We have Committed these Important dispatches to the care of Mr Wm Hodge junr who we hope will in due time have the pleasure to deliver them in person, he knows nothing more of their Contents, than that they are Im-

portant and in case of Capture his orders are to sink them in the Sea. This Young Gentlemans Character, Family, & alertness in the Publick Service, all entitle him to your Notice. He is also charged with some business from the Secret Committee wherein your Countenance & assistance may be usefull you will no doubt extend it to him and also engage Mr [Thomas] Morris's exertions therein

You will please to advance Mr Hodge the Value of One hundred & fifty pounds Sterling for his Expences & transmit us his receipt for the same. We most fervently pray for a successfull negotiation & are with the utmost attention & regard Dear Sir [&c.]

B Franklin Rob^t Morris

P. S Mr Hodge has some instructions from the Secret Committee which he will lay before you & if the Negotiation of Monsr Hortalez respecting Arms & Ammunition has been Conducted with success it will be needless for Mr Hodge to make Contracts for those Articles. You will know how that Matter is and direct Mr Hodge accordingly, And if you should think it of more Consequence to send him immediately back here with dispatches than to employ him in the business that Committee have proposed he will obey your orders & Mr Morris may do the other —

1. Charles Roberts Autograph Collection, 733, HCL.

RICHARD HENRY LEE TO WILLIAM LEE¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia October the 2d 1776

. . . The American strength on that Lake [Champlain] is at this time so great both by land and water that they rest secure against any attempts from Gens Carleton and Burgoyne. When the whole Fleet and Army were collected before New York, the British Troops havg been for some time in possession of Staten Island, they landed the greatest part of their Army on Long Island, where they had not been long, before an engagement happened between 3000 of the American troops and (as the best accounts here agree) at least 18,000 of the regulars, which ended in the loss of about 1000 Men taken, killed, & wounded of the Americans, who made few prisoners, but who slaughtered of their enemies many more than were killed of their own people — It being very evident that Long Island and the City of N. York were not to be defended against a potent land army & sea force acting in conjunction, both these places were in their turns evacuated, and the American Army retreated to their present post on the heights of Haerlem about 8 or 10 miles above the City and on the same Tongue of land upon which the Town stands. This is a very strong post by nature and strongly fortified by Art[illery]. 30,000 men are there placed to prevent the further progress of Mr Howe and to this time he has been effectually prevented . . . Thus things remain this 2d of October — The British Army have Connecticut on their right where they do not incline to go, Gen Washington with 30,000 men on the heights of Haerlem in their Front, and on their left the Jersies

in which an army of observation is posted either to prevent penetration that way or to aid Gen. Washington occasionally. The N. [North] River is so obstructed that Vessels cannot go above the heights of Haerlem, and these obstructions are covered by 50 pieces of heavy Cannon placed on the heights. This you may depend upon it is a true state of things at present, and you will readily see how poor a compensation it promises for the expence of 12 millions this Campaign, and the loss of America for ever. . . . when the Army and Fleet destined against America was made known, the eyes of all Men were opened, the blind saw, the timid became determin'd, and all joined in commanding the Congress to declare the Colonies Free & Independent States, which they did. . . The number of Prizes taken by the American Cruisers is wonderful — At least 6000 hhds of Sugar and a world of other Goods are already safe in these Ports, and the American force by Sea daily increasing. I do really think, that if a great Statesman with proper powers were to arise in England, he would endeavor to save his Country by immediately acknowledging the independence of North America and forming with these States an advantageous Treaty of Commerce. Shortly it may be too late.

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 5/40. An intercepted letter.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

In Council of Safety,

[Philadelphia] Oct'r 2d, 1776 —
Three o'Clock, afternoon.

New Commissions were given out to the Captains of the Gallies, & they were qualified to execute their Trust faithfully, &c., which qualifications they signed.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 739.

Pennsylvania Journal, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1776

Philadelphia [October 2].

Since our last was sent in here, the ship *William*, Captain [John] Bond, from Jamaica for Liverpool, with 150 hds. of sugar, 9 hds. of rum, and 2 bales of cotton, taken by the privateer sloop *Chance*, and a brig from Barbados for London, with 200 hds. rum, taken by the Continental sloop *Providence*.¹

By the ships from Jamaica, we learn, that provisions have become very scarce there, that the negroes had actually rose and cut off several plantations in that island, and that the Governor had proclaimed martial law. We also learn, that the humane Butchers of Britain had ordered the scattered remains of the 60th regiment, stationed there since the year 1772, to this continent to cut our throats, instead of letting them remain there to protect the island.

Last Saturday a number of officers and privates, belonging to the American army, and who had been taken prisoners in Canada, arrived in this city agreeable to the proclamation of Gen. Carlton. They were sent in four transports, under convoy of the *Pearl* frigate of thirty-two guns, from Quebec to New-York, where Gen. Howe detained them on board a fortnight. . . .

1. Brigantine *Sea Nymph*, Francis Trimmingham, master.

Pennsylvania Gazette, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1776

Philadelphia, October 2.

We hear that an armed vessel is now fitting out in this city, which will be called the *Parry*, in honour of the late gallant Colonel [Caleb] Parry, of this State, who fell on Long-Island the 27th of August last, nobly contending for the freedom and independence of his country.¹

1. The six gun Pennsylvania letter of marque schooner *Colonel Parry*, William Gamble, master.

LIEUTENANT RICHARD BOGER, R. N., TO ROBERT MORRIS¹

Sir,

York Town Jail, Octob'r 2d, 1776.

In Conformity to the Resolution of Congress for the allowance for Officers who are Prisoners, I directed Mr. Graybel, the Goaler of York Town, after paying him the over plus of his Bill for Mr. [George] Ball and myself to call upon the Committee of this place, who return'd for answer that they had no directions in the case. I shall therefore be oblig'd to you to regulate this matter with the Committee of York Town in such a way that payment may be made to the Landlords here, as it will be inconvenient for them to wait on the Congress. As I never before found any Difficulty in getting this matter settled, the Committee at Germantown readily paying it, I have now to apologize to you for the trouble offered to you, which this new Circumstance has occasioned. I am, Sir [&c.]

Rich'd Boger.²

Directed Robert Morris, Esqr, in Congress.

1. *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st series, V, 31.

2. Boger, in the *Edward*, was captured by Captain John Barry. See Volumes 4 and 5.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

[Williamsburg] Wednesday October 2d 1776

A Permit issued to Captain Butler, of the Sloop *Wealthy* lately arrived from Bermuda with Salt, to dispose of his Cargo and trade with the Inhabitants of this State for the same.

A Permit issued to the Sloop *Good intent*, Richard Towle Master, lately arrived here with Salt from Bermuda, to return to the said Island. Manifest of Cargo filed Bond executed & ordered to be recorded.

1. McIlwaine, ed., *Journals of the Virginia Council*, I, 182, 183.

JOURNAL OF H. M. SLOOP *Falcon*, CAPTAIN JOHN LINZEE¹

Septemr 1776 Moor'd off Ball'd Head.
 Sundy 29 AM Anchord here H M Sloop *Terriable* Rec'd Gunners
 Stores from the *Cruizer*
 Modte and Cloudy Wr P M our men came on Board from
 the fort which was burnt.²
 Mondy 30 Empd Occasionally
 October Modte Wr with Lightning and Rain Empd Occasionally
 Tuesdy 1 Recd some Boatswn & Carpenters Stores from the *Cruizer*
 Wednesy 2 Fresh Breezes with some Rain AM unmoord Ship and hove
 Short on the Bt Br at 11 Weighd & Came to Sail under
 Double Reefed topsails in Compy with H M Ships *Active* &
 Scorpion & 2 Tenders with some Mercht Vessells³ H M
 Sloop *Cruizer* was Burnt.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/336.

2. Fort George on Bald Head.

3. Departure of this fleet left Cape Fear River open for the first time since the beginning of the war. The fleet reached New York on October 18, PRO, Admiralty 51/336.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY¹

[Charleston] Wednesday the 2d Day of October. 1776
 Message from the President by the Clerk of the Legislative Council
 Mr Speaker and Gentlemen
 Lieutenant Dogharty declines accepting the Command
 of the Brigantine *Comet*

John Rutledge

1. Salley, ed., *South Carolina General Assembly Journals*, 73, 75.JOHN FITZPATRICK TO JOHN STEPHENSON¹

[Extract]

Mans[c]hac 2 Octor 1776 -

We have nothing new with us worth mentioning excepting that the American Barge that went to New Orleans some time ago, has repassed here in her way to fort Pitt, the other Day; it is said she has 15000 some hundreds of Gun Powder on Board, she never called here going up or down.

1. John Fitzpatrick Letter Book, 1768-90, NYPL.

JOURNAL OF H. M. S. *Atalanta*, CAPTAIN THOMAS LLOYD¹

October 1776 Grand Caicos Wt End SSW
 Wednesday 2 At 4 A M bore away & out 2d and 3 reef TSs set Steerg
 Sails saw 2 Sail in the SW Qr
 at 1 P M saw 3 Vessels at Anchor in Shore hauld down
 Studg Sails Brot too & hoisted the Boats out, sent them to
 speak 3 Vessels in North Caicos Harbour, at 5 fired a gun

and made the signal for the Boats $\frac{1}{2}$ pt repeated Do the NW part of the Grand Caicos WBS 3 or 4 Leags at 6 the boats return'd hoisted them in & made Sail at 8 fired 2 Six Pds & 7 Swivels, brot too a Sloop from Port Dauphin bound to Rhode Island² took out 7 Americans & 5 french Men, sent a Petty Officer and 6 Men in Lieu³

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/75.
2. Sloop *Susannah*, Benjamin Allen, master, with a cargo of molasses, sugar, etc., see Gayton's Prize List under October 8.
3. *Atalanta's* journal on October 4 notes: "suspended Jno Why, Boatsn, for receiving out of the Prize *Susannah* an Ensign knowing it to be stole," PRO, Admiralty 51/75.

JOURNAL OF H. M. S. *Pallas*, CAPTAIN WILLIAM CORNWALLIS¹

October 1776 Latde 43° 18'

Wednesday 2d Fresh Breezes and Cloudy,

at 1 P M saw a Sail to the Eastward, out 2d reefs, made sail [and] gave chace, at 2 TKd $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 made the Signal for the Prize² to Tack to the Eastward 5 made the Signal for the Prize to Tack and stand after us, at 6 the Chace which [was] a Brig and appeared to be an American Privateer about 4 Miles upon the Weather [beam,] at 7 lost sight of her, shortned sail and brot too for the Prize, at 8 sounded 80 fathoms [no] ground, set the Foresail, at 10 fill'd the Maintopsail,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/667.
2. The prize ship *Anne* retaken three days before.

3 Oct.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPT. GEORGE GREY, OF THE *George* VICTUALLER, FROM ON BOARD THE *Boston* PRIVATEER, OCT. 3, 1776"¹

I embrace the opportunity of sending this on shore by a Newfoundland Banker, to acquaint you that I was taken the 20th of September, after losing the convoy 18 hours in thick weather; when they finish the voyage they are to proceed to Boston with us. They took one of the same fleet that day, and two since.²

1. *Whitehall Evening Post*, November 21 to November 23, 1776.
2. The *George* was libeled against in Massachusetts Admiralty Court, Middle District, October 24, 1776, by Captain Silas Atkins, Jr.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER, DATED FORT ST. JOHN, AT THE HEAD OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN, OCT. 3."¹

Our batteaus and vessels are all ready, and we propose in two or three days setting out on our visit to Ticonderoga and Crown Point, which we hope to give a good account of. We had an alarm that a party of 5 or 6000 of

the rebels had been sent up through the woods, in order to come down and burn our vessels; we lay on our arms for four and twenty hours, but the enemy did not appear. We expect to get to the other end of the Lakes in a fortnight from this time.

1. *Whitehall Evening Post*, November 21 to November 23, 1776.

COMMODORE MARRIOT ARBUTHNOT TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN¹

[Extract]

No 4

Nova Scotia

Halifax 3d October 1776

My Lord, I have had the honour of Your Lordships letter dated 20th July; And I shall do my Utmost to prevent any intercourse or Correspondence between the Colonies in Rebellion, and any Persons in this Province.

No Vessel has lately arrived in this Harbour from London with Merchandize, and your Lordship may be Assured that all Trading Vessels shall be Narrowly Watched. —

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 217/52, DAC Photocopy.

MASTER'S LOG OF *H. M. S. Milford*¹

October 1776

Do [Seal Island] No 55 Et 16 Leags

Thursday 3

at 2 A M saw a Sail in the NW Quarter, gave Chace . . .
at 7 spoke the Chace Which prov'd to be a Brig from Hallifax taken by an American Privateer.²

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1865.
2. The brigantine *Halifax*, Richard Hinckly, master, for the West Indies with a cargo of fish. She was taken on September 22 by the *General Putnam*. The Halifax Vice Admiralty Court awarded the officers and men of *H. M. S. Milford* one eighth part of the value of the recaptured brigantine and cargo, Vice Admiralty Register, vol. 5, 1769-1777, N. S. Arch.

JACOB BOARDMAN TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL¹

In Committee of Correspondence, }
Inspection and Safety —

Newburyport 3d October 1776

To the Honourable the Council of the State of the Massachusetts, Bay —
May it please your Honours,

The Bearer, Capt George Evans, in the Brign *Necessity*, was Sent into this port, the 27th Ulto by the privateer *Hancock*, Capt Wingate Newman of Philadelphia, the Owners of the Privateer have Discharged, Capt Evans & his Brign, he was Bound from Bermudas to Liverpool, in Nova Scotia, Loaded with 2000 Bushels of Salt, five Hhds of Molasses, & twenty Bbs of Limes, he was from thence to Carry Lumber, Masts &c. to Bermuda, his Vessel by the Register Appears to have been Condemned, in an Admiralty Court, at Bermuda, Last March, and is here Reported, to Belong to Mr [David] Beveridge of Philadelphia, Now We Beg your Honrs Direction whether said Capt Evans, shall here Unload, & Sell his Cargo, & whether

he shall be permitted, afterwards to Load with any thing, that may be Shipped from hence, to Foreign parts, also Whether your Honrs think it proper Mr Beveridge, should be Informed, of the Vessels being here brot in, & whether you will Order your Secretary, to give this Information, or Leave it to this Committee to do, — Your Order by the Return of Capt Evans, will be punctually attended to, by your Honors [&c.]

In B[eh]alf & p Order of the Committee

Jacob Boardman, Chairmn, P T

[Endorsed] In Council [Watertown] Octr 8[th] 1776 Read & there-upon Ordered that Benja Austin & Henry Gardner Esqr be a Committee to take the above Petition under Consideration & Report —

John Avery Dpy Secy

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 323.

RICHARD DERBY, JR. TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL ¹

Sir

Salem 3d October 1776 —

Last Evening, The *Massachusetts*, Capt [Daniel] Souther comandr of the Brigantine belonging to this State, Arrived here, and Informs me that a few days After he Sailed, he fell in with & Took a Brigantine of Abt 250 Tons, from Falmouth in England, mounting Six Three Pound Cannon, & having on board a Capt & about 20 Privates, of the 16th Regt of Dragoons, with their Horses & Acoutremts² The Chaplain of the Regiment is Also with them —

With Respect to News I can Only Inform you that this Vessel sailed from Falmouth on the 27th July Inst a Month after they Embarked, in Company with Twelve others under the Convoy of the *Daphne* of Thirty two Guns, from whom they parted but a Day or two before they were taken, they all had the same kind of Cargo, makeing in the whole two Hundred & thirty Horses, a Fleet of about Seventy Sail Sailed About Three Days before them, Under a Strong Convoy, having on Board the Remainder of the 16th Regt of Dragoons, and the last Division of Hanoverians, as he says About 5,000 Men bound for New York, they were short of Horse Provisions & some of the Horses have died of the Staggers & he supposes that the late Gales have Destroy'd many more, He says the People in Brittain know Nothing what is passing in America, & Capt Souther Informs me the Chaplain has Told him the People in England begin to grow very Uneasy! — not a single News Paper or Letter has as yet been found, if their should be any more News Transpire You shall soon be Informed of it, I think You may Depend on the Account he gives of the Sailing of the Fleet, & that they are now near if not Arrived at York —

A Privateer Sloop Belonging to this place, is Just Arrived, Who fell in with the Fleet of Twelve Sail and was so Closely Pursued by the *Daphne*, that the Enemy fired Musket Ball into them, but by heaving Overboard all

her Guns, Water & Provision & by Sawing Down her upper Works barely made her Escape³ — I am with all Due Respect to The Honorable Board [&c.]

Rich^d Derby Jun^r

A true Copy —

Attest John Avery Dpy Secy

1. Washington Papers, L.C.
2. The Brig *Henry and Ann*, John Farrah, master, *Independent Chronicle*, Boston, October 24, 1776.
3. Not a privateer, but Washington's schooner *Lynch*, Captain John Ayres, *ibid.*, October 10, 1776.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL¹

[Watertown] Thursday October 3d 1776

Account of Benjamin Austin Esqr for £14 paid Capt John Clouston for one Months Advance Wages to Seven Men enlisted on Board the Sloop *Freedom* Read Ordered and Allowed that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury for £14 — in full discharge of said Account — a Warrant was drawn accordingly and Signed by 15 of the Council.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 19, 257, 259.

ORDERS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL RESPECTING THE CONTINENTAL FRIGATE *Boston*¹

Council Chamber [Watertown] Octr 3d 1776

Ordered — That the Committee of Correspondence Safety & Inspection of the Town of Newbury Port be and they are hereby directed to deliver Capt Hector McNeil [McNeill] for the use of the Ship *Boston* eight Swivel Guns bro't in Said Town the last year by one Capt Johnson who was from the W. Indies in the Service of this State —

Ordered That the Committee for fortifying the Harbor of Boston be and they are hereby directed to send by Water to Newbury Port Twelve Swivell Guns out of the Row Gally in Boston Harbor to be deliver'd Capt Hector McNeil for the Use of the Ship *Boston* —

Jn^o Avery Dpy Secy

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 310, 310a.

Independent Chronicle, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1776

Boston, October 3.

Yesterday was sent into this Harbour, by the *Columbus* ship of War, Capt. Whipple, a Brig from Antigua; bound for Europe, with 250 Hogs-heads of Rum.¹

A Ship from Jamaica was also sent into Cape-Ann last Monday; said to have been taken by a Rhode Island Privateer.²

Monday last was sent into Cape-Anne, a Prize Ship, three Decker, from Barbados bound to London; taken by Capt. [William] Coas in the [Massachusetts privateer] *Warren*. She has on board, 394 Hogsheads Sugar, 180 Puncheons Rum, 20 Casks Indigo, 70 live Tortoise, 6 Casks Tortoise Shell, 50 Bags Cotton, some Cash and Plate, and a Quantity of Mohogany.³

The Public are hereby informed, that the Sale of the Brigantine *Carolina Packet*, and her Cargo, will not be on the 8th of Instant, as advertised in our last, but timely Notice will be given when the Sale is to be.

The Sale of the Ship *Queen of England*, and the remaining Part of her Cargo, consisting of Pork and Butter, which was advertised to be on This Day, the third Instant, at 11 o'Clock, before Noon, at Captain Fleet's Store, on the Long Wharf, Boston, is postponed to Saturday next 5th Instant, at the Time and Place above-mentioned.

1. Brig *Lord Lifford*, 80 tons, John Jones, master.

2. Probably the ship *Camden*, 300 tons, Joseph Richardson, master, taken by Captain Christopher Whipple in the Rhode Island privateer brig *Putnam*.

3. Ship *Sarah and Elizabeth*, 300 tons, James Foot, master.

LIBELS FILED AGAINST PRIZES IN THE MASSACHUSETTS
ADMIRALTY COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT¹

[Boston, October 3, 1776]

State of Massachusetts-Bay, }
Middle District, ss. } To all whom it may concern.

Notice is hereby given, That a Libel is filed before me in behalf of Allen Hallet and his company, and the owners of the armed schooner called the *Sturgy* [*sic Sturdy*] *Beggar*, against the ship *Batchelor*, of about 200 tons burthen, George Barclay late master, and against her cargo and appurtenances, said to be taken and brought into Newbury-Port in the district afore-said; and for the trial of the justice of this capture, the Maritime Court for said Middle District will be held at Salem, in the county of Essex, on Friday, the eighteenth day of October, 1776, at nine o'clock in the morning, when and where the owner of said ship, her cargo and appurtenances, or any persons concerned, may appear and shew cause, if any they have, why the same should not be condemned.²

Notice is hereby given, That Libels are filed before me against the following vessels, their cargoes and appurtenances, to wit, — in behalf of the officers, and company, and owners of the privateer schooner *Dolphin*, against the sloop *Halifax*, of about 95 tons burthen, John McGregor, late master: — In behalf of Jacob Martin and company, and the owners of the privateer schooner *Fair Lady*, against the schooner *Molly*, of about 60 tons burthen, John Bahannon, late Master; — and against the sloop *Industry*, of about 50 tons burthen, Ebenezer Farnam, late Master: — In behalf of Nathaniel Odiorne and company and the owners of the privateer schooner *Washington*, against the snow *Millham*, of about 200 tons burthen, John

Johnson late Master; and against the schooner *Eagle*, of about 70 tons burthen, which had been before taken by the *Weasel* man of war, and was retaken by the said privateer *Washington*. All which vessels so libelled, are said to have been taken and brought into the County of Essex. And for the trial of the Justice of these Captures, the Maritime Court for the said Middle District, will be held at Salem, in said county of Essex, on Friday the eighteenth Day of October next, at nine o'clock in the forenoon; when and where the owners of said captures or any person concerned therein, may appear and shew cause, if any they have, why the same, or any of them, should not be condemned.

Tim. Pickering Jun., Judge of said Court

1. *Independent Chronicle*, Boston, October 3, 1776.
2. *Batchelor* was condemned on October 18, 1776, Shipping Miscellany, E.I.

“EXTRACT OF LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN PROVIDENCE . . . DATED
OCTOBER 3, 1776.”¹

Sunday last arrived the *Columbus* from a successful cruize, having taken four prizes, viz, a brig from St. Croix, bound to Scotland, with 265 hogsheads of rum, one tierce and twelve barrels of sugar; a ship from St. Croix, bound to London, with 291 hogsheads, 59 tierces, 23 barrels, and 12 kilderkins of sugar, and 15 hogsheads and 3 barrels of rum; a ship from Grenada, bound to London, with 300 hogsheads of sugar, 57 hogsheads of rum, one pipe and 2 hogsheads of wine, and some cotton; a brig from Montserrat to Cork, with 218 hogsheads of rum.

The sloop *Providence*, in the service of the States, has taken two prizes, one laden with oil, the other with sugar. Our privateers likewise continue to be successful; some prizes have arrived in the river, but have not yet learnt what they are.

Captain Crauford arrived here on Sunday from Nantz, after a passage of 8 weeks:²

1. *New-York Gazette* published at Newark, N. J., October 12, 1776.
2. Captain Gideon Crawford in the brig *Happy Return*.

INTERROGATION OF JAMES MORRES, MASTER OF THE PRIZE BRIG *Minerva*¹

Interrogatories answered by James Morres late Commander of the
Brig: *Minerva* – Providence October 3: 1776 –

Interrog. When where and by whom was the said Brigantine taken what is her Tonage, from whence and to what Port was She bound, what are the Contents of her Cargo, and who are the Owners of the said Brig; and her Cargo, and are the papers now shewn to you all the papers belonging to said Brigg.

Answer. The said Brig upon the 26 Day of September AD 1776 being upon the High Seas in Latt 36½ North was taken by Thomas Child[s] Commander, his Officers and men belonging to the private Brig-

antine of War called the *Industria*. The said Brig *Minerva* is of the Burthen of above 70 Tons. She was bound from the Island of Antigua in the West Indies to the Port of Dublin in Ireland and the Port of Milford in England.* her Cargo consists of about 74 hhds of Rum 24 Hhd of Sugar the Owners of the said Brig *Minerva* are Dover, Bell and Taylor Merchants in Company in said Antigua. — The Papers now shewn to me are all the papers belonging to the said Brig *Minerva* except the Portage Bill now on board the said Brig.**

James Morres

Sworn to in Providence October 3: 1776 —

Before John Foster Judge in Prize Causes —

* He first said She was bound to New York, then, told me to put down that She was bound to Dublin and Milford. —

** He promised to deliver the Portage Bill, and accordingly I received it Octor 4. 1776 —

N.B. The Portage Bill says the Brig was bound to New York.

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

MAJOR GENERAL HORATIO GATES TO BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD¹

Dear General

Tyonderoga 3d October 1776

Last Night I received Your Letter of the First Instant by Lieut: [James] Calderwood. Capt [David] Hawley carried with him all the Seamen that were to be had here, when he went from Hence. Those who have been procured since, Sailed Yesterday in the Two Row-Gallies, under General Waterbury's Command, to which were Added One Hundred & Ten Men, Officers Included. Besides the Number you determined upon, for the Full Complement of each Row Galley, — not One of the Two Hundred Seamen promised from New York, have yet Arrived here. I now give up the hopes of seeing them for this Year — As to the Equipment of the *Trumbull*, I am not answerable for any Deficiency, General Waterbury, who had the Intire Management of Rigging and Arming The Gallies, will satisfy all your Questions upon that Head. — I know not howmuch Cordage you wrote for in July, or whether it is yet half Arrived; but this I know, that General Waterbury Assured me there was not more than half the Quantity necessary. and we shall have much to do to furnish the Galley which came last night from Skeensborough. Not a Cable yet Arrived from Albany & those here too bad for Use — Capt Dow who perfectly understands Fitting of Vessells, has my Orders to Assist Captain _____ in getting his Galley Equip'd with the utmost possible Expedition. I am told shee will Sail in a Week, being much better Fitted when she left Skeensborough, than those who came before her from thence, Col [Jonathan] Trumbull [Jr.], & Mr Conductor Lane, assure me they have put every Article that you Demanded in your last Letter on board the *Liberty* Schooner Except what is not to be

had here — where it is not to be had you, & the Princes of the Earth must go unfurnish'd — As to any unnecessary delays made by the Captain of The *Liberty*, I must refer you to Genl Waterbury. I am told the Man was dilligent, and that the Vessell wanted more Caulking than you suspected

All the Cloathing we have, goes in the *Liberty* Schooner, to be delivered to your Order —

I have represented to General Schuyler & to Congress the Absolute necessity of taking immediate measures to Augment Our Fleet upon this Lake, I suppose so Important Business will not be deferred, or Delay'd: —

I take it for Granted you will Consult with General Waterbury & Colonel [Edward] Wigglesworth & with them Determine when it is proper Season to retire Up the Lake, I am confident Your, & their Zeal, for the public Service, will not suffer You to return One Moment sooner than in prudence & Good Conduct you Ought to do it. Perhaps, some Station nearer Crown Point, may, About the Time you Mention, be proper to be taken but this must be submitted to your better Judgements in Maritime Affairs —

The Commissary sent in the Gallies which Sailed Yesterday Fourteen Barrells of Rum, Six more go now in the *Liberty*; a Quantity of Fresh Beef, and Other Victuals, went by the same conveyance, which Mr Yancey acquainted you with, particularly by Letter; if you think proper to keep the *Lee* Gondola, or any Other, to go between Ty— & the Fleet, we can be Able to send you Supplies in as Ample manner as Ty— will Afford —

I have read & Noticed Serjeant Stiles's Examination, by the Enemy's building a Battery for Heavy Cannon at River La Cole, I am inclined to suspect they are rather Acting upon the Defensive; — but until the Middle of the next month Arrives, I shall not intirely give up the probability of seeing them this Year —

Col Trumbull gave you the best Account in his Power of the Transactions in the Neighbourhood of N. York, as I have constantly done, & as I shall continue to do; therefore, be satisfied, when you do not hear all you wish; it is because all you wish is not come to my knowledge. There is not a Syllable of News, good or bad, since I wrote to you, Yesterday —. My Affectionate Compliments to General Waterbury & Col Wigglesworth. & believe me dear Genl Your Affectionate [&c.]

H G —

[Endorsed] Copy of Letter to General Arnold, Dated Tyonderoga 3d October — 1776. —

1. Gates Papers, Box 19, NYHS.

MAJOR GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER TO JOHN HANCOCK¹

[Extract]

Albany October 3d 1776

The Cables are by this Time arrived at Tyonderoga — They were made at poghkeepsie and with Dispatch and forwarded without a Moment's Delay.

No Carpenters are to be procured here, the far greater part of the great Numbers I sent up in the Course of the Campaign have sickened and returned Home — On the Subject of encreasing our Navy on Lake Champlain I have already wrote to Congress.

1. Papers CC (Letters of Major General Philip Schuyler), 153, II, 433-36, NA.

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

October 1776

Fishers Island WNW 6 or 7 miles

Thursday 3

at 6 A M sett the Topsails saw a Sl to the No wd gave chace a[t] 10 saw a Sl to Windwd hauld our Wind & gave Chace²

Fresh Breezes & fr at 2 P M md the Sigl to Anchor at 3 Came too wt the Bt Br in 8 fm Et End Gardners Isld S1½E off shore 2 Ms

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/181.

2. The master's log of the *Cerberus* is far more informative:

10 AM saw a Sail to windwd gave Chace ½ past 11 wore Ship & fir'd several Broad-sides at the Chace, which proved to be a Privateer, & he run between Fishers Island reef & Watch Pt. for Stonington & where there is not above 15 feet at high water.

PRO, Admiralty 52/1650.

JOURNAL OF AMBROSE SERLE¹

[On board H.M.S. *Eagle*, New York]

Thursday, 3d [October].

The *Daphne*, Capt. [St. John] Chinnery, with 12 Sail of Transports having on board the 16th. or [John] Burgoyne's Regiment of Light Horse, came up this Morning. They have been 10 Weeks and 3 Days on their Passage, having parted with one of their Ships, and lost about 40 Horses. No Letters from England for me, to my great Disappointment. One Ship was missing, wch (as we afterwards learned) was taken by the Rebels.

Lord Shulldham, Sir Peter Parker, Commodore Hotham, and their several Captains, dined on board the *Eagle*. Their Discourse ran much upon the good or ill Qualities of Wines, in which I have but little Judgement, and therefore could have but little to say.

1. Tatum, ed., *Serle's Journal*, 118-19.

DIARY OF LIEUTENANT JABEZ FITCH¹

[On board the Prison Snow *Mentor*]

[Off New York] Thirdsd: the 3rd: [October] Being very weary of my Lodging, I turn'd out Early in the Morning, & Walk'd the Deck for a Long Time, the Weather being Clowdy cold & Chilly; Capt: [Jonathan] Brewster is much unwell this Morning; We seem this Morning also, to meet with great Difficulty in geting Breakfast nor do we yet know whether we are like to break our Fast at all.

We had some words this Forenoon with Capt: Davis, on acct of the Cable, but to no great purpose that I know of as yet.

At about 10 oClock (with much Difficulty) we procured a Dish of Chocolate; Capt: Hawker came on board about this Time, but Informs us of nothing new, concerning our Landing, or any other Matter; I spent most of this Day on Deck, on acct: of being Discommoded below, alth'o the weather was Chilly & uncomfortable, I was also somewhat unwell.

Toward Night the Sailors came down and cover'd the Cable with Grating & other Rough Affairs for us to lodge on, pretendedly sopping we were much beholden to them for so great a piece of Lenity & Care for us. After this I procured a number of Oxslings, with which I prepared myself a Lodging on one of the Gratings, on which I Rested the most Comfortable that I had done since my Imprisonment.

1. Sabine, ed., *Fitch's Diary*, 53.

DIARY OF DR. THOMAS MOFFAT¹

[On board H.M. Sloop *Swan* at Sandy Hook]

Thursday October 3d Thermom: morning 55 Dind and supd aboard the *Merlin*. Saw a Curious Diary, Log book, 1/2 minute glass Hermetically seald filled with a Compass Chrystal capd, with a small reflecting mirror for Planetary observations with several years work in Logarithms.

1. Thomas Moffat's Diary, LC.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Philadelphia] Thursday, October 3, 1776

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be empowered to take such measures, as they shall judge necessary, for purchasing, arming and equipping, a frigate and two cutters, in Europe, and to give proper orders for the said frigate making a cruize in the British channel against our enemies, and for the said cutters to be employed in transporting to these states, such articles, as the said Committee have been ordered to import.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 842, 846.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO HEWES & SMITH, EDENTON¹

Gentlemen

[Philadelphia] October 3d 1776

You will receive this from Lieutenant Thomas Albertson commander of the Schooner *Muskeeto* now employed in the Continental service as an advice Boat, She carries but few Letters this voyage but what there are must be put in the post office, and the same price charged for carriage as if they had gone from hence by Land — which you will please to see done Mr [Joseph] Hewes having fitted this Schooner himself before he left

this — You will take care to receive the Cargo which consists altogether of Continental Stores sent for the use of the Continental Troops in your State and deliver the same to the proper Officers granting Lieutenant Albertson a receipt for what he delivers and you'll please also to supply him with what money may be absolutely necessary to defray the Charges and expences of his Vessel but no more, taking his accountable receipts for what you pay him one of which you'll transmit by the Vessel. We desire you to Ship back by this Vessel One hundred barrels Cool Tar, two tons tawlow in barrels, and twelve barrels Rosin, for the use of our Navy. If the Schooner will carry more put it on board, if not so much, you must leave out a little of each. We beg you will despatch Mr Albertson back immediately, don't allow him to stay on any account. If he wants a few men pray assist him in getting them and your drafts on the Chairman of the Marine Committee for the Cost of the goods ordered & of the Schooners disbursements will be duely honored. We are sir [&c.]

P:S: You have enclosed a manifest of the Cargo and Mr Hewes must allow a handsome freight for his goods which you'll Credit in the Schooners accounts.

1. Marine Committee Letter Book, 26, NA.

SECRET COMMITTEE TO WILLIAM HODGE¹

[Copy]

Philadelphia Octor 3d 1776

Sir We deliver you herewith Copies of the Letters & Credentials you had from us when you sailed on your late unfortunate voyage, the originals whereof we understand you destroyed on being taken by the *Orpheus* Man of War.² We have since that time taken other measures for procuring Arms and Ammunition which probably may have succeeded, therefore we request you will lay those Copies and this Letter before Silas Deane esqr at Paris and follow such advice and directions as he may give respecting Arms and ammunition but with respect to the Cutters we approve much of that Plan and wish it to be executed and even enlarged. We therefore propose that you should consult with Mr Deane and Mr [Thomas] Morris on this subject, and if you find it will be in your power to procure Seamen and obtain liberty to Arm and fit out vessels in France, Spain, or Holland that you should if possible buy a Frigate of 20 to 40 Guns, have her compleatly fitted armed and manned putting in a gentleman of unexceptionable good character being also an able Seaman to command her for which purpose we give you herewith a blank Commission to be filled up with his and the Ships name which may be the *Surprize*. The Captain and you may appoint the other Officers necessary for this Ship giving to each a Certificate shewing his Station. When the Ship is compleated you must give Orders to the Captain signed by Mr Deane to cruize in the Channel against the enemies of the United States of America, making Prize of all British property as he can

meet with. He may send his prizes into such Ports in France as may be most convenient and you will there demand protection for them, or rather let Mr Deane demand this and also liberty to make sale of such goods as he, Mr Morris and yourself may think best to sell there, direct the Captain to take out any drygoods he finds on board his Prizes into his Own Ship, and when by this means he has got a considerable quantity on board, let him come away for this Coast, and get into the first place of safety he can in the United States of America. The Captain must before he goes give bond duly to Observe all the Rules and Regulations of Congress and herewith we deliver you a blank bond, with a book of those Rules and a List of the Continental agents. Any Prize that he sends into France you must send forward from thence to some of these States, unless Mr Deane Mr Morris & yourself agree it is more for the Public good to sell in France and if you sell them there apply the Neat proceeds to pay the Debts you Contract in this business. Besides this Ship we approve also of the Two Cutters as mentioned in our former Letters. You may Arm fit and Man them and dispatch them hither soon as possible, either with Arms, Ammunition, or such other goods as Mr Deane and Mr Morris may recommend or provide. We deliver you Commissions &c. for these Vessels also, and recommend you to be very attentive to the choice of Captains; they should all be good Seamen Men of good character and Principles, strongly attached to this Country and its cause and prefer Americans thus deserving to any other Country. If such Americans are not to be found, seek for good men of other Countries that have been here or have connections amongst us; we know that there are many such in Europe that would be glad of the employ. This Ship must make but a Short Cruize in the Channel and a Short one will do the business for she will daily meet Prizes, but if She is long there they will have men of War in quest of her. We hope you'll meet with some fine fast sailing ship for this purpose, and be able to purchase & fit her on reasonable Terms. We shall desire Mr Deane & Mr Morris to join you in the necessary assurances to those you deal with of being faithfully reimbursed & we again repeat that we shall make remittances in the produce of this Country for that purpose.

We will also make you a proper Compensation for your trouble and services hereafter when they can be better ascertained therefore wishing you success we remain Sir [&c.]

P.S. It is absolutely necessary that you observe the utmost Secrecy in all this business and make use of every Cloak or Cover you can think of to hide the real design

1. Papers CC (Other Reports of Committees of Congress), 37, 3-5, NA. Another copy in the Lee Papers, UVL, differs slightly in capitalization and punctuation.
2. Hodge was a passenger on board the brig *Polly* bound for Bordeaux, when taken by H.M.S. *Orpheus*. See Volume 5.

ROBERT MORRIS TO VARIOUS FRENCH MERCHANTS¹

[Copy]

Gentn,

Philada October 3d 1776

The bearer hereof Mr Wm Hodge Junr is a Young Gentn we esteem, he now goes for France Via the West Indies & is uncertain at what Port he may land. He has business with Silas Deane Esqr & our T Morris. We beg therefore you will furnish him with their Address, & render him any other Service, he may Stand in need of. If he wants money for Expences, Please to advance it, & his draft on Mr Deane will be Honored. Your Compliance will Oblige Gentn [&c.]

To

Mr John Danl Schweighauser at Nantes

Messrs Saml & J. H. Delap at Bourdeaux

Mr Andw Limozin at Havre

Messrs P. Steval & Son at Dunkirk

1. Papers CC (Other Reports of Committees of Congress), 37, 61, NA. Enclosed in Committee of Secret Correspondence to William Hodge, October 3.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

In Council of Safety,

[Philadelphia] October 3rd, 1776.

The following Commissions were granted this day, agreeable to the Resolves of Congress, Viz't:

For the Privateer Sloop *Congress*, Wm. Greenway, Commander, of the Burthen of 40 Tons, mounting Six Carriage Guns Navigated by Forty Men, owned by John Bayard, Jos. Dean & co., Privateer Brig, *General Lee*, John Chatham, Commander, Burthen ab't 100 Tons, Mounting 12 Carriage Guns, Navigated by Ninety Men, owned by John Bayard, Alex'r Henderson, & co.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 740.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

[Annapolis] Thursday October 3rd 1776

The Council of Safety purchased of Major [William] Horsey The Schooner *Friendship* with her riging, sail and Tackle, agreeable to Inventory lodged for one thousand Pounds Common Currency. Major Horsey agrees to deliver said vessel fit for Sea at Baltimore Town. The Council of Safety agreeing to insure from Capture on her way up the Bay. Mr. Horsey impowered to purchase twenty Hogsheads of Tobo not exceeding twenty shillings pr Ct & one hundred Barrels of Flour at Baltimore Prices. The Vessel is not to be detained for the Tobacco, or Flour. Flour to be inspected

at Baltimore, if thought necessary by the Council of Safety to be ready to take in her cargo within twelve days.

Ordered That said Treasurer pay to Majr William Horsey three hundred Pounds, for above purchase.

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

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

[Williamsburg] Thursday October 3rd 1776

A Permit issued to Captain John Seymore, of the Sloop *Dick Cole*, lately arrived with Salt from Bermuda, to trade with the Inhabitants of this State.

1. McIlwaine, ed., *Journals of the Virginia Council*, I, 184.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM CORNWALLIS, R.N., TO PHILIP STEPHENS ¹

Pallas at Sea 3d Octor 1776.

Latde 44°..30' / Longde 61°..30'W

I wrote to you by a Merchant Ship the 15th of Sepr in which I desired you would be pleased to acquaint their Lordships, that we were so short of water that unless we had a fair Wind very soon I should be obliged to put into some Port, we have since been very unlucky in our Winds and not meeting with any Men of War, I propose putting into some harbour in Newfoundland to get water; Thirteen of the Convoy parted Company in a Gale of Wind, the rest have parted by request or of their own accord, as we have taken the greatest pains the whole Voyage to keep them together and never have steered out of their Course only gone a little more to the Northward than they chose. On the 30th Sepr we retok a Ship that had been taken by an American Sloop Privateer the last day of August in Latitude 42° N; Longde 39° W, she was call'd the *Anne* bound from Dominica to London they were carrying her to New York. We Yesterday chased a Brig which we took to be an American Privateer, but she got away in the Night. I am Sir [&c.]

W Cornwallis

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/1611, 3, 11.

4 Oct.

"A TRANSCRIPT OF THE ENTRIES OF LETTERS OF AGENCY IN HIS MAJESTYS COURT OF VICE ADMIRALTY FOR THE PROVINCE OF NOVA: SCOTIA. TO THE 4TH DAY OF OCTOBER 1776."¹

Time of delivery & Entry	Dates of the Agency.	Names of the Agents & places of abode's.		Names of the Prizes.	Names of the Ships by which they were taken.
4 May 1776	26 March 1776	Robert Hallowell of Boston.		Schooner <i>Tartar's</i> Cargo	<i>Lively</i>
26th Sepr "	8th July "	David Phips of Halifax		Sloop <i>Fanny</i> & Cargo	<i>Niger</i>
2d Octr "	no day	Alexander Brymer do		Sloop <i>Charming Polly</i> & Cargo	<i>Renown</i>
				Brigantine <i>Juno</i>	<i>Kings Fisher</i>
				Sloop <i>John</i>	<i>Nautilis</i> [<i>Nautilus</i>]
2d Octr "	11th May "	Alexr Brymer & Edwd Braggs of Halifax		Sloop <i>Britania</i> & Cargo	<i>Milford</i>
2d Octr "	no day "	Alexr Brymer		Schooner <i>Betsy</i>	<i>Hope</i>
2d Octr "	25th April "	Alexr Brymer & Edwd Braggs		Ship <i>James</i> & Cargo	<i>Chatham</i>
2d Octr "	12th do "	Ditto	Ditto	Ship <i>Chance</i>	<i>Roebuck</i>
3d Octr "	9th March "	Alexr Thompson of Halifax		Brig <i>Mermaid</i>	<i>Senegal</i>
2d Octr "	30th do "	Ditto	Ditto	<i>New York Packett's</i> Cargo	<i>Tamar</i>
				Schooner <i>Lyon</i>	<i>Cerberus</i>
2d Octr "	4th June "	Alexr Brymer of Halifax & Henry Parker Esqr of London		Schooner <i>James</i>	<i>Phenix & Asia</i>
Ditto	Ditto "	Ditto	Ditto	Brigantine <i>Deligence</i>	Ditto Ditto
Ditto	Ditto "	Ditto	Ditto	Ship <i>Lady Gage</i>	Ditto Ditto
Ditto	Ditto "	Ditto	Ditto	Sloop <i>Hannah</i>	Ditto Ditto
Ditto	Ditto "	Ditto	Ditto	Brigantine <i>Amazon</i>	Ditto Ditto
Ditto	25 April "	Brymer & Braggs		Schooner <i>Esther</i>	<i>Scarborough</i>
				Schooner <i>Hawk</i> & Cargo	<i>Cerberus</i>
				Schooner <i>William</i> & Cargo	Ditto
				Brigantine <i>Elizabeth</i>	Ditto

4th May "	26th March "	Robert Hallowell of Boston	Sloop name unknown & Cargo	<i>Lively</i>
			Brigantine <i>Recovery</i> & Cargo	<i>Kings Fisher</i>
2d Octr "	11th May "	Alexr Brymer	Schooner <i>Lydia</i> & Cargo	<i>Lively, Milford & Hope</i>
2d Octr "	5 March "	Alexr Brymer	Schooner <i>Molly</i> & Cargo	<i>Mercury</i>
2d Octr "	4th June "	Ditto & Henry Parker of London	Schooner <i>Lady</i> & Cargo	<i>Renown</i>
			Brigantine <i>Mary</i> & Cargo	<i>Phenix</i>
2d Octr "	11th May "	Alexr Brymer & Edwd Braggs	Sloop <i>Success</i>	<i>Kings Fisher</i>
			Sloop <i>Britania</i>	<i>Milford</i>
			two Schooners names unknown	<i>Viper</i>
2d Octr "	11th May "	Brymer & Braggs	Schooner <i>Triton</i>	<i>Milford</i>
Ditto "	Ditto "	Ditto	Ship <i>Princess Royal</i> a Recapture	Ditto
3d Octr "	13th Augt "	Alexr Thompson Halifax & Henry Bellew Esqr Comr Liverpool	Brigantine unknown	<i>Liverpool</i>
Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Sloop <i>Swan</i> & Cargo	Ditto
Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Schooner <i>Neptune</i> & Cargo	Ditto
Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Sloop <i>Sally</i> & Cargo	Ditto
			Schooner <i>Sandwich</i>	<i>Otter</i>
			Schooner <i>Dolphin</i>	Ditto
			Sloop <i>Baltimore</i>	<i>Albany</i>
2d Octr "	11th May "	Brymer & Braggs	Ship <i>John</i> a Recapture	<i>Milford</i>
Ditto	Ditto "	Ditto	Brig <i>Diana</i> a Ditto	Ditto
3d Octr "	13 Augt "	Alexr Thompson of Halifax & Henry Bellew Esqr Comr Liverpool	Schooner <i>Warren</i>	<i>Liverpool</i>

A true and perfect Transcript of the Registry of all Prizes that have been Condemnd in His Majes[ty's] Provincial Court of Vice Admiralty, and of all Entries of letters of Agency, that have been enter'd or offerd to be enter'd, in the preceeding half Year in the said Court.

Given under my hand at Halifax in the Province of Nova: Scotia this 4th day of October Anno: Domini 1776, and in the sixteenth Year of His Majesty's Reign.

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

MEMORIAL OF THOMAS CUSHING TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL ¹

To The honble The council of the State of the Massachusetts Bay

The Memorial of Thomas Cushing Agent for building Two Continental Frigates in this State

humbly-Sheweth,

That your Memorialist has received directions from the Marine Committee of Congress² to apply to this State for Powder, Ball, Musckett Shot & Other Military Stores for the Continental Frigate Called the *Boston* Commanded by Capt Hector McNeil which they say will be paid for or Returned by the Congress, that your Memorialist finds there will be Wanted for the Said Frigate Four Tons of Powder, one Thousand double headed shott nine pounders, one Thousand weight of Musquet Bal[l], Ten Swivel Blunder Buss's fifty Small Arms, Eighty Cartouch Boxes five hundred flints some swivel & some partridge Shot fifty Screw'd bottom Power Horns, he therefore humbly prays [illegible] that your Honors would Supply him with the Articles before mentioned for the use of the Frigate *Boston* Hector McNeil Commander which will either be paid for or Returned by the Congress & your Memorialist as in duty bound shall ever Pray

Thomas Cushing

[Boston] Oct. 4. 1776

[Endorsed] In Council [Watertown] Oct. 4. 1776

Ordered That the Commissary General be and hereby is directed to Supply the Petitioner Thomas Cushing Esqr, or his order with four Tons of Powder out of the Powder Mill at the Town of Andover and with other articles mentioned in the Petition as also such Other Military Stores As he finds necessary for the use of the Continental Frigate Called the *Boston*, he the said T Cushing giving his Receipt therefor -

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 314, 315.

2. See Continental Marine Committee to Cushing, September-21.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO ABEL COFFIN, PRIZE MASTER OF THE
BRIGANTINE *Kingston Packet* ¹

Providence Sloop of War in Sounding on St Georges Bank

4th Octor 1776 -

you are hereby appointed Commander of our Prize the Brigantine *Kingston Packet* - You are to use your utmost endeavours to Navigate her

Safe through the Shoals of Nantucket into our free State of Rhode Island you herewith receive her Register which you are to deliver on your Arrival to the Continental Agent. In any case of necessity you are at Liberty to go in to any Other Port within the United States of America. — You are however to endeavour to keepe Company with our Prize the Sloop *Portland* and to assist each other in the Passage as occasion may require — Be careful of the Brig and her Stores Cargo &c let nothing be wasted or lost — and by all means keepe a careful look out to prevent surprises and avoid Speaking with any Vessels — Your careful observance of the dutys with which I entrust you will recommend you to our further Notice I am Sr
[&c.]

Jn^o P Jones Captain

NB if you find any good Seamen willing to enter you are to engage them in my Name for the Navy.

1. Revolutionary War Prize Cases, No. 6, Court of Appeals, 1776-1787, NA.

Connecticut Gazette, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1776¹

New-London, October 4.

Last Lord's-Day Se'nnight Capt. Rowe, with a Party of Men, landed at a Place called The Old-Man's, near Brookhaven, on Long-Island, in order to remove his Family from Corum, to the Main, where he met one Richard Miller, a Native of East-Hampton, who had taken a Commission under Gen. Howe, and was inlisting Men for the Regular Army, and as he was riding by Capt. Rowe's Door where a centry was placed, Miller was hailed and ordered to stop, which he refused to do, and rode the faster, and after being repeatedly called upon to stop, and he not regarding, the Guard fired at him, when a Ball entered his Body, and he died the next Morning.

Last Wednesday a Prize Ship from Jamaica, bound to London, was sent into Port by the armed Brig *Defence*, belonging to the State of Connecticut, commanded by Capt. Seth Harding; she sailed from Montego Bay in company with 200 Sail under convoy of two Men of War, who had parted with them and returned into Port. Her Cargo consists of 306 Hogsheads of Sugar, 158 Ditto of Rum, 16 Bails of Cotton, a Quantity of Coffee and Mahogany, and has two Turtle on Board. She is about 300 Tons, called the *John*, McDonald, Master, was taken 12 Days ago.

An Embargo being laid on the Shipping in Jamaica, on Account of the Insurrection among the Negroes, for want of Provisions, detained the above Fleet; who, when they sailed, were on short Allowance of Provisions.

Yesterday Noon, Capt. Harding, in the *Defence* Privateer arrived from a Cruize; the same Morning off Narragansett-Beach, he fell in with two British Frigates, who fired 60 or 70 Shot at him, and he returned them a like Number. About 2 o'Clock Yesterday the two Frigates came to Anchor off Goshen-Reef, about 5 Miles westward of this Harbour.

Capt. Harding, two Days after taking the Prize before mentioned, fell in with and took a Guinea-man, homeward bound from the West-Indies, William Jackson, Master.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'S ACCOUNT AGAINST THE CONNECTICUT
PRIVATEER SLOOP *American Revenue*¹

Sloop American Revenue

1776	Saml Champlin Comdr	Dr
Octr 4	To p Wm Dogett Pilot	£ 5. . . . -
	To 50 lb 20d Nails @ 1/3	3. . 2. . 6
	To 10 lb 10d ditto 1/6	15. . . -
	To 300 feet Boards	1. . 5. . . -
	To 300 feet Plank	2. 10. . . -
	To 268 lb Tallow @ 8d	8. 18. . 8
	To 200 lb ditto Stores 8d	6. 13. . 4
	To 50 lb white Lead @ 1/	2. 10. . . -
	To 4 Barrells Lampblack	10. . . . -
	To 10 Gallo Oyl 8/	4. -
	To 20 lb Oakam	6. . . 8
	To 1/2 barrell pitch	15. . . -
	To 1/2 barrel Tarr	15. . . -
	To 6 lb Spikes 5/ 19 lb Leather 28/6	1. 13. . 6
	To 1 Brass Compass	3. -
	To 44 lb Iron Chains @ 1	2. . 4. . . -
	To 1 Ton Pigg Iron	10. -
	To 132 feet Oars	1. 13. . . -
	To 3 time Glasses	12. . . . -
	To Carpenters Tools	7. . . 8
	To pd for 3 Calking Irons	9. . . . -
	To drawg. Knife	7. . . 6
	To Bitt & Bitt Stock 7/ Saw 7/	14. . . . -
	To 1 pr Coopers Compasses 6/ Vise 2/	8. . . . -
	To 33 Yards Ticklingburg	4. 19. . . -
	To 30 yds ditto for spare 3/	4. 10. . . -
	To 42 yds Tow Cloth for Hammocks	6. . 6. . . -
	To Wharfage & Storage	3. 10. . . -
	To Stage Capson Kittles &c	1. -
	To Expences to Lebanon &c after Commiso	5. -
	To Cordage Blocks &c	10. -
	To Nathl Hempsteads Bill for 808 lb Cordage } @ 10d	33. 13. . 4
	To p Reuben Stantons Bill	2. -
	To p Ichabod Powers Bill	11. . 0. . 5
	To p Ichd Powers Senr Use of his boat	4. . . 6
	To p Peleg Cheesborough for 172 Cord of Wood	1. . 4. . . -
	To 4 Load ditto @ 10/	2. -
	To p Jno Rothbone's Bill	1. . 5. 10
	To p Jno Hayes Ditto	18. . . 3

To p Jno Bolles ditto		10.17..2
To p Pember Calkins ditto		12..7..3½
To Ebenezer Goddards ditto		15...--
To Amos Brot Forwd	£	184..5..7½
Amot Carrd Forwd		184..5..7½
To Saml Latimers Bill		15.14.11
To Joshua Starrs do		4.11..4
To George Colfax ditto		7..4..3
To Clark Elliotts ditto		1.19..-
To Wm Steward for 3c 2q 17 lb Balla[st]		30...--
To Jno Owens Bill		22.18..1
To Jno Champlins ditto		6...--
To p Saml Coit for 3 days Work	6/	18...-
To p Thomas Holt 3 days do	6/	18...-
To p Jno Craige 16 days	5/	4...--
To p Thomas Holloway 14 do	5/	3.10..-
To p Wm Bolton 9 ditto	4/	1.16..-
To p David Pool 18 ditto	5/	4.10..-
To p Ichabod Youngs 10 do	4/	2...--
To p Frank Cutland charg Wm Packw[oo]ds Accot		
To p Danl Brown 9 days	4/	1.16..-
To p Jonathan Leeds 18 do	5/	4.10..-
To p Wm Leeds 8½ ditto	5/	2..2..6
To p Wm Powers 18 ditto	5/	4.10..-
To p the French sailors for Labour		24..8..-
To p 30 Gallo Rum fittg out	8/	12...--
To John Wards Bill		17..5
To John Braddicks ditto		1.16..-
To pd Wm Leeds Expencc to Stonington		1.19..10
To Rum gave the Carpenters		1.15..-
To David Gardiners Bill		5..2..2
To 3 Skeins Marline	@ 2/6	7..6
To 10 lb Sheeting Nails	1/	10...-
To Alexr Merrills's Bill		6.15.10
To Ebenr & Wm Ledyard's Bill		1.15..-
To p ditto for 2 Loaves Sugar		1.18..3
To p 40c 1q 1 lb Bread	@ 25/	61.11..3
To 5 Barrells Pork	100/	25...--
To 13 Barrells Beef	66/	42.18..-
To 2 Barrels Flour 3c 3q 24 lb	20/	3.19..4
To 20 lb Coffee	1/	1...--
To 1 Barrell ditto 199 lb	10d	8..5.10
To 2 Barrells Sugar wt 4c	65/	15...--
To 42½ Gallons Old Rum	8/	17...--

Sloop *American Revenue*

Saml Champlin Commdr

Dr

To 89½ Gallons ditto	6/	26.17..-
To 1 Firkin Butter 70 lb	@ 8d	2..7..4
To Christo Leffingwells Bill for } Medicines & Provisions }		39.8..1½
Amot Carrd Over	£	603..7..8

1. Nathaniel & Thomas Shaw Collection, Ledger 4, YUL. Ledger 9 contains a rough draft with omissions and not totalled.

MEMOIRS OF MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH¹

[Headquarters, near Harlem] 4th [October]. – The brig and tenders in the East River came down, and cast anchor near *La Brune* frigate; and the *Roebuck* and *Phenix* sailed up the North River, and joined the other ships which lay at anchor there.

1. Abbatt, ed., *Heath Memoirs*, 60.

DIARY OF LIEUTENANT JABEZ FITCH¹

[On board the Prison Snow *Mentor*]

[Off New York] Fryd: the 4th: [October] Was a Rainey Morning, on acct: of which, we were oblig'd to keep more below than Common, which was very uncomfortable; About 10 oClock I went up on the Quarter Deck with Majr: [Levi] Wells, where he & I set while Noon, in which Time there was considerable movements of the Ships Laying near us; There was also several other Ships came in this Day, some of them had Troops on Board, & we were Inform'd that they had newly Arriv'd.

Toward Night we Observ'd the Landing of a considerable number of Horse, from on Board the Ships newly Arriv'd.

The Night following was Remarkably Cold & Chilly, I Dream'd more than common of Returning home, & that I was free from my Confinment &c.

1. Sabine, ed., *Fitch's Diary*, 53.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Philadelphia] Friday, October 4, 1776

A petition from the officers and men of the brig *Andrew Doria* was presented to Congress and read; Whereupon,

Resolved, That the continental agents in Philadelphia be directed, with all despatch, to make an estimate of all the prizes taken by the *Andrew*

Doria, and lay the same before the Marine Committee for their approbation; which being obtained, that the said agents be directed to pay to the officers and men of the *Andrew Doria*, one half of what may be estimated to be due to them:

That the said agents be farther directed to make an estimate of the stores and prizes taken by the fleet, commanded by Commodore Hopkins, and brought from Providence, and lay the same before the Marine Committee for approbation, as aforesaid, and pay to the officers and men entitled thereto, one half of what may be estimated to be due to them.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 847.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

In Council of Safety,

[Philadelphia] October 4th, 1776.

Resolved, That the Ship *Montgomery*, belonging to this State, be brought up & exchange her present cannon (18 pounders) and take Sixteen Twelve pounders, and that Capt. [Joseph] Blewer & Capt. [Francis] Gurney be directed to procure proper Carriages for said 12 Pounders, and attend Particularly to their being fitted and put on board said Ship.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 741.

AFFIDAVIT OF JOHN FINLEY AND OTHERS ¹

Alexandria, the 4th October 1776.

On Tuesday the 23rd of July last, we, the subscribers, set off from this place with intention to see the enemy's ships, which we were informed were proceeding up Patowmack, and arrived opposite them at Sandy-Point, in Maryland, about half an hour past 6 o'clock in the evening, where we found a body of militia stationed, who informed us there were more men a little lower down the river, to whom we immediately went, and were by them told that col. [William] Harrison, with a detachment of 25 men, was gone down to prevent the enemy's taking off capt. [Robert] Conway's boats, by means of a gondola and armed schooner, which had left the ships for that purpose, as was conceived. We saw the *Roebuck* under way turning down, and firing now and then across the field, between the detachment and main body, and heard other great guns, which we supposed were from the gondola and armed schooner. We returned to the main body where we immediately heard a brisk firing of small arms and swivels, which was thought to be an engagement betwixt the detachment and the enemy. We think about sixteen cannon were fired in the whole. The men appeared to be all drawn up ready with their arms, and during the firing seemed in good spirits, and we heard several of them ask if they might not go to the assistance of the

detachment. We saw, nor discovered, nothing like cowardice; but on the contrary, a willing spirit seemed generally to prevail.

John Finley, William Hunter, James Lawrason.

Sworn before me, William Ramsay, J.P.

(Copy.)

1. *Maryland Gazette*, November 7, 1776.

CAPTAIN GEORGE COOK TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

Gentlen

Ship of Warr *Defence* at Sea October 4th 1776.

I have the pleasure to inform you by Capt Brown whom I've sent Prize Master of a Snow belonging to Glasgow from the bay of Hondoras Loaded with Mahogany & some logg wood bound to Cork which we this morning made a Prize of,² at the same time took a Sloop from St Augustine bound to Liverpool she had no Cargoe on Board except a little Indico. — Their papers with a large packet of letters belonging to the Sloop you'll receive p: Mr Walker who I've made Prize Master

I'm inform'd by Capt Bolton Master of the Snow that he was Boarded by a boat belonging to a 22 Gunn Ship the first of this Instant, who enquired of him if the Jamaca fleet had sail'd. he likewise says there was another ship of 24 Gunns the names of either he does not Remember — We are also informed by two Passengers from the Sloop that the *Otter*, Squires [Matthew Squire], & Tender, the Schooner *Hinchenbrook*, Elliss [Alexander Ellis], and three small Schooners with 4 & 6 Gunns are Stationed of[f] St Augustine the *Cherokee* of Six 4 Pounders the *Raven* of Sixteen 6 pounders and the *Sphynx* of Twenty 9 Pounders Stationed off Coxspur in Georgia which is all the intelligence I have got at Present. Our Ship's Company is all hearty & in high Spiritts I have the Honor to be Gentl [&c.]

Geo: Cook

N. B. The two Passengers above mentioned I've sent in the Sloop, & am in hopes they'll be able to give you some satisfactory Intelligence G. C.

1. Red Book, XI, Md. Arch.

2. The brig *Georgia*.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY¹

[Charleston] Friday the 4th Day of October 1776

The House proceeded to a Third Reading of a Bill for establishing a Board of Commissioners to superintend and direct the naval affairs of the State of South Carolina

But it appearing upon Reading the First Clause of the Bill that the Honourable the Legislative Council had struck out the name of one of the Commissioners who had been ballotted for by this House and inserted the name of another Gentleman in Stead,

Resolved That this House will immediately proceed to ballot for another Commissioner

The House proceeded to ballot accordingly

And the Ballots being reckoned

Mr Speaker reported That George Smith Esquire had the Majority of Votes

Ordered That the name inserted in the Bill by the Legislative Council be struck out and that the Name of George Smith Esquire be inserted instead thereof

Which being done accordingly

The Bill for establishing a Board of Commissioners to superintend and direct the naval affairs of the State of South Carolina was read a Third Time

Resolved That the Bill to do pass and that the Title be "an Act"

Ordered That Mr Thomas Waring and Mr Keating Simons do carry the Bill to the Legislative Council for their Concurrence

1. Salley, ed., *South Carolina General Assembly Journals*, 79-80.

5 Oct.

The Freeman's Journal, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1776

Portsmouth, October 5, 1776.

Yesterday arrived here the Brigantine *Marquis of Kildare*, Capt. Thomas Palmer, in 7 Weeks from Bourdeaux, with a Cargo of military stores, &c. He informs us the French treated him with the utmost kindness, and seem'd ready to do every thing in their power to serve him; that the Custom-House officers permitted the American vessels to pass without examination, while the English, were all searched.

The 1st Instant, arrived at Falmouth, Casco-Bay, a sloop from Halifax, commanded by one Patten, and taken off Narraguagus river, by Capt. Joshua Stone, in the *Retrieve* privateer, fitted out from Falmouth.

INFORMATION FROM OWNERS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS PRIVATEER SCHOONER *Speedwell*¹

On tues[da]y the 1st day of October Inst, the Privateer Schooner, from Boston (the day before) named the *Speedwell*, took a Snow from London, which Sail'd last July in Company with Twenty four top Sail Vessels, bound to Boston: but finding the Harbor evacuated Steer'd off; and by the information of the Mate of the above prize Snow,² the fleet are now hovering about Nantucket, not knowing where to go, 'till they get orders from New York: as they sign'd Bills of Lading for Boston. — This Sign'd by part of the Proprietors of the said Privateer *Speedwell* Commanded by Capt Jno Greely, this 5th day of October 1776³

Tho^s Hichborn Jur Jam^s Swan P: Parkman

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 329.

2. The snow *St. George*, 120 tons, Benjamin Bidgood, master, sent into Marblehead October 4, 1776, *Independent Chronicle*, Boston, October 10 and October 24, 1776.
3. On the strength of this information, the Massachusetts Council ordered the state naval vessels to "proceed towards Nantucket in order to fall in with the abovementioned fleet." *Mass. Arch.*, vol. 165, 330.

GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL, LEBANON¹

Sir, —

Providence, October 5th, 1776.

I am to acknowledge the favour of your Honor's letter of the 1st instant, and to inform you that I laid it before the committee appointed to act in the recess of the General Assembly, who also conferred with Commodore Hopkins, and Mr. [Aaron] Burr upon your plan of an expedition to Long Island.

The committee upon the information and advice of Mr. [Stephen] Hopkins, a member of the General Congress, had countermanded their order for the marching of Col. [William] Richmond's regiment to New York, and had given permission to the men to enlist on board the Continental vessels fitting from this State. But anxious to do everything in their power to serve the general cause have, in consequence of the conference above mentioned, issued new orders to Col. Richmond to march with such of his regiment as shall not engage in the Continental vessels to proceed to New London on Friday next, and then to follow such orders as he shall receive from a general officer to be appointed by General Washington. They have also directed Mr. Bowler to send forward the whaleboats from the Massachusetts by that regiment, together with such as he can collect in this State, which will be between twenty and thirty. They have also ordered the two Row Gallies of this State to New London to strengthen the naval force as much as possible.² The Row Gallies are to be under the direction of Commodore Hopkins, who will write you by this express, and to whom I beg leave to refer you for an account of the forwardness of the Continental vessels in this State. This letter will be delivered you by Mr. Jonathan Hazard, a member of the General Assembly, whom I beg leave to recommend to your Honor's attention. I am, with great esteem and respect, Sir, [&c.]

Nich^s Cooke

1. *Collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society*, VI, 173, 174.

2. *Ibid.*, 171, 172.

COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL¹

Sir

Providence October 5th 1776

I receivd yours of the 1st & 3rd of this Instant, and have laid them before the Governor & Council, and they have passed the inclosed Resolves —.

The *Alfred* and *Hamden* are ready — the two new Frigates I expect will be ready in about a week if they can be mann'd, which none of the four are half at present —.

Greenian's Journal

OR

New-Hampshire Gazette.

[Vol. 1.] *Sept* SATURDAY, October 5, 1776.

[No. 20.]

PORTSMOUTH October 5, 1776.

YESTERDAY arrived here the Brigetie Marquis of Kadare, Capt. Thomas Zimmer, in 9 weeks from Bourdeaux with a cargo of military stores &c. He informs us the French treated him with the utmost kindness, and seem'd ready to do every thing in their power to serve him; that the Customs-House officers permitted the American vessels to pass without examination, while the English were all searched. Further particulars in our next.

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, Sept. 5.

"Our affairs at Ticonderoga and Crown Point wear a favourable appearance, whereas by the last return, the garrisons were about thirteen thousand strong, of which about 2000 were unfit for duty, in addition to these five other Regiments were on their march from Connecticut and Massachusetts, and about 4 regiments at other different posts. At New-York things for the present are a little flattered, by means of the retreat, but the skirmish on Long Island has served to convince our army, that they are now able with the regiments that are destined to meet the enemy on equal terms: General Lee is ordered to reinforce them with several regiments from the Northward, and one from Rhode Island, and with firm conduct our Generals may yet battle the enemy, there is reason to imagine that the enemy have suffered more than our army including the captives."

The 11th instant a Privateer, Calico-Say a Ship from Hiliton, commanded by one Patten, and taken off Narraganset river, by Capt. Josias Stone, in the Revenue Privateer, sent out from Portsmouth.

I shall do all in my power to forward your Expedition, and join your Fleet when ever you give Orders so to do at New London — but expect you will Excuse me to the Congress for not putting their Orders in Execution with respect to some of the Fleet — I am with great Respect Sir [&c.]

E H

1. Hopkins Letter Book, RIHS.

COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS TO JOHN BRADFORD¹

Sir

Providence October 5th 1776 —

Captn Whipple shew'd me a Letter from you respecting the Agency of the People belonging to the Fleet — This is therefore to Impower you to act as their Agent untill further Orders, although you are a total Stranger, any otherwise than being appointed by the honorable Continental Congress. We think it a Sufficient Recommendation to Impower you to act as our Agent as Long as you act to our Satisfaction —

In behalf of the Officers and Men in the Navy, I am Sir [&c.]

E H

To Mr John Bradford Agent for the Continental Fleet at Boston

1. Hopkins Letter Book, RIHS.

“A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN, AT PROVIDENCE . . . DATED
OCTOBER 5TH”¹

The two Continental Frigates here have fallen down, got their Guns, and will be ready to sail in 10 Days. One carries twelve 18-Pounders, fourteen 12-do. eight 9-do. the whole 32. The other, twenty-eight Guns. — Their Names are, the *Warren*, and *Providence*. — Capt. [John Burroughs] Hopkins, commands one, and [Abraham] Whipple, the other.

1. *Independent Chronicle*, Boston, October 10, 1776.

Providence Gazette, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1776

Providence, October 5.

On Sunday last Capt. Gideon Crawford arrived here from Nantz, in France, after a Passage of eight Weeks. He informs that great warlike Preparations continue to be made in that Kingdom, where every Kind of Indulgence is shewn to American Vessels. He also advises, that he saw an Account in a French Paper of the *Marlborough*, a 90 Gun Ship, being blown up at Plymouth some Time in July last, and that great Part of the Crew perished.¹

The same Day arrived here, from a successful Cruize, the Ship *Columbus*, Captain Abraham W[h]ipple, in the Service of the United States, having taken four Prizes, viz. a Brig from St. Croix, bound to Scotland, with 265 Hogsheads of Rum, 1 Tierce and 12 Barrels of Sugar; a Ship from

St. Christophers, bound to London, with 291 Hogsheads, 59 Tierces, 23 Barrels and 12 Kilderkins of Sugar, and 15 Hogsheads and 3 Barrels of Rum; a Ship from Grenada, bound to London, with 300 Hogsheads of Sugar, 57 Hogsheads of Rum, 1 Pipe and 2 Hogsheads of Wine, and some Cotton; and a Brig from Montserrat, bound to Cork, with 218 Hogsheads of Rum. Two of the above Prizes are arrived at the Eastward.²

Capt. John Field, in the Privateer *Joseph*, of this Place, has taken a Schooner, bound from Nevis to London, laden with Sugar and Rum: And Capt. [Thomas] Child, in the Privateer *Industry*, likewise of this Place, has taken a Brig from Antigua, bound to Ireland, having on board Sugar and Rum. Both the above Prizes are arrived in Port.³

It is reported that five or six Sail of Provision Vessels, bound to New-York, have been taken by some Privateers, and carried in at the Eastward.

1. Brig *Happy Return*. Captain Crawford's account of H. M. S. *Marlborough* had no basis in fact.
2. The prizes *Royal Exchange* and *Lord Lifford* arrived at Boston; the other two were recaptured.
3. The schooner *Sally* and brigantine *Minerva* respectively. *Providence Gazette*, October 12, 1776 carried the libel notices.

JOURNAL OF LIEUTENANT WILLIAM DIGBY¹

October 5. Went up to our corps at Riviere-la-Cole,² after remaining with my friends of the 31 regiment till I recovered sufficient strength. I sailed up in a raddoux vessel carrying six 9 pounders, commanded by captain [Edward] Longcraft, who shewed me every civility in his power. The floating Battery, *Maria*, and *Carlton* sailed with us, & our little voyage was pleasant, the day being fine, & the Lake now turning very broad. General Burgoyne was on board the *Maria*, who ran aground on a bank, but was towed off without any damage. The vessels were all cleared & ready for action, waiting only for the *Inflexible*, our largest vessel which was shortly expected up.

1. Digby's Journal, BM.
2. Rivière la Colle.

DIARY OF JOSHUA PELL, JR.¹

5th October our Squadron sail'd from the River La Cole, same day arrived the *Inflexible*, a 20 Gun Ship, the largest then ever known on the Lakes.

1. "Diary of Joshua Pell, Jr.," *Magazine of American History*, II, 46.

JOURNAL OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL STEPHEN KEMBLE¹

[New York] Saturday, Oct. 5th.

The *Roebuck* and *Phenix* lay off Bloomingdale waiting a Wind to proceed up the River. Three Rebel Vessels are seen lying between Forts Wash-

ington and Constitution,² the first on this Island, the other on Jersey Shore; the Vessels not above five Miles asunder.³

1. "The Kemble Papers," *Collections of the New-York Historical Society for the Year 1883*, I, 92.
2. This was Fort Lee; Fort Constitution being farther up the river.
3. The second attempt by Bushnell's submarine was probably made at this time. See Appendix B.

DIARY OF LIEUTENANT JABEZ FITCH¹

[On board the Prison Snow *Mentor*]

[Off New York] Saturd: the 5th: [October] Was a very Cold uncomfortable morning, we had our Chocalet Earlier than Usual, after which I spent some Time in walking the Deck. I then went below and did some writing.

At about 10 oClock the Prisoners on board the *Argo* were Landed, soon after which, we were Direct ed to have our Bagage &c Ready to Land Early Tomorrow Morning; We Observ'd a Considrabl number of Horse Landed again this Day; The Seamen spent most of the Day in overhalling the Hold, they Hoisted out a great number of Water Butts &c. which clutter'd the Deck in a prodigious manner, which greatly Disaccomodated us above, as well as below; About Noon some of our People had some small Stores came on board, by the Snows Boat; The Night following some of our People met with some peculiar Insults from the Centrys when they attempted to go on Deck, for Necessity, this we were afterward Inform'd was occasioned by a fals Report, that some Officer on board, had an Intention to make his Escape.

1. Sabine, ed., *Fitch's Diary*, 53-54.

JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONVENTION¹

[Fishkill] Die Sabbati, 9 ho. A. M.
Octor. 5th, 1776.

A letter from Tench Tilghman to Wm. Duer, Esqr. dated the 3d inst. was read, a part whereof is in the words following, to wit:

Capt. Cook is now up the river cutting timber for chevaux-de-frise; as he is much wanted here to sink the old vessels, the General begs that you would immediately send him down; we are at a stand for want of him, for as he has superintended the matter from the beginning, he best knows the properest places to be obstructed.

Ordered, That a certified copy of the above part of Mr. Tilghman's letter [be] immediately despatched to Capt. Cooke.

A letter from Capt. Samuel Tudor, one of the superintendents of the Continental frigates building at Poughkeepsie, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

Poughkeepsie, 2nd, Octr. 1776.

Gentlemen — The bearer, Mr. McEuen, is employed in the yard as plumber to the ships; his business is obliged to stop for the want of lead, which we cannot procure for him. We are informed there is a quantity at Fishkill under your direction and disposal; beg it as a particular favour you would furnish him with such quantity as he may want, with all expedition, as our orders from the commissioners are to put the ships in the water as soon as possible. We are with respect, gentlemen [&c.]

Saml. Tudor.

Peter R. Livingston, Esqr.

Malcom McEuen, the bearer, was called in and interrogated as to the lead necessary for the said frigates, and withdrew.

Ordered, That Mr. Danl. Bush be and he is hereby directed to deliver to Nathl. Sacket, Esqr. all the lead in his possession belonging to this State, taking a receipt for the same; and that this Convention will justify him in the execution thereof.

Ordered, That Nathl. Sacket, Esqr. deliver to the bearer hereof, Mr. Malcom McEuen, for the use of the Convention for the Continental frigates building at Poughkeepsie, two tons of lead, and that he take Mr. McEuen's receipt for the same, to be charged to Continental account.

1. *New York Provincial Congress*, I, 661, 662, 663.

“AN ACT FOR ESTABLISHING A COURT OF ADMIRALTY AND CUSTOM-HOUSES
WITHIN THE STATE OF NEW-JERSEY.”¹

Be it Enacted by the Council and General Assembly of this State, and it is hereby Enacted by the Authority of the same, That it shall and may be lawful for the Governor or Commander in Chief for the Time being, with the Consent of the Council, any three whereof to be a Quorum, to establish, by Ordinance or Commission, a Court of Admiralty; and also such and so many Custom-Houses, with their necessary Officers, to be commissioned by the Governor or Commander in Chief for the Time being, as to the said Commander in Chief and Council shall appear expedient and necessary; provided, that this Act shall be and continue in Force for one Year, and from thence to the End of the next Session of General Assembly, and no longer. Passed at Princeton, October 5, 1776.

1. *Acts of the General Assembly of the State of New-Jersey, at a Session begun at Princeton on the 27th Day of August 1776, and continued by Adjournments (Burlington, 1777)*, 7-8.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

In Council of Safety,

[Philadelphia] October 5th, 1776.

A Commission granted for Wm. Connell, Comman'r of Schooner *Gen'l Thomson*, 6 Carriage Guns, 12 Men, 40 Tons, Own'd by Edmund Beach & Co.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 742, 743.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND CONVENTION¹

[Annapolis] Saturday, October 5, 1776.

On motion of Mr. T. Ringgold, Resolved, That the Council of Safety fit and load the schooner *Resolution* and send her out on a voyage to sea at the expence and risque of this state, the former order of this Convention to the contrary notwithstanding.²

1. *Maryland Convention*, 32, 33.
2. Cargo of *Resolution* was tobacco, flour and bread. Maryland Council of Safety to Jesse Hollingsworth, October 5, Council of Safety Letter Book, No. 1, Md. Arch.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO LUX & BOWLY¹

No 202.

Gentn We have recd yr favor of the 1st inst and provided you will engage to begin making the cordage for the armed vessells within ten days from this Time & will continue in that business 'till a Sufficient Qty is Supply'd, we desire you will immediately come down, & contract with us for it — if you Cannot; — be pleased to Signify it to us by the first Safe Opportunity. [Annapolis] Octr 5th 1776

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

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE OF THE PRIZE SHIP *Caroline*
AT CHINCOTEAGUE, VIRGINIA¹

Williamsburg, October 5, 1776.

By virtue of a decree of the hon. court of admiralty of this state, will be sold at public vendue, for ready money, on Monday the 21st instant, at the house of Mrs. Watts, on Chingoteague,

The Ship *Caroline*, of London, lately made a prize by the *Harlequin* privateer, capt. [William] Woolsey, of Baltimore, with her sails, rigging, and materials, being about 200 tons burthen, plantation built, about six years old, but, having been stranded on the coast of England, has been since rebuilt, and her keel, stern and stern-post, many of her futtocks and floor timbers of English oak; she is supposed to be equal, if not superior, to a new American built vessel. An inventory of her sails, rigging, and materials, may be seen at the subscribers, or on board said ship. — At the same

time will be sold part of her cargo, consisting of choice Muscavado sugars and rum, shipped on board said ship from Jamaica for the London market. And on the following day will commence the sale of the residue of the cargo, consisting of 400 hogsheads of sugar, and 117 puncheons of rum, at Pitt's landing on Pocomoke river, in Chesapeake bay, which lies convenient for transportation to any part of Virginia, Maryland, or Philadelphia markets, and will continue until the whole is disposed of.

Ben Powell, marshal.

1. *Maryland Gazette*, October 17, 1776; also in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, October 16, 1776.

MASTER'S LOG OF H. M. ARMED VESSEL *Cherokee*, LIEUTENANT
JOHN FERGUSON¹

October 1776 St John's Inlet No 70.00 Wt distance 8 Leagues
Friday 4 at 5 AM out 3d reefs of the Topsails at 6 the *Raven* in
Sight at 7 Wore Ship Sounded in 17 ffm at 9 Out reefs
Topsails and set Top gallt sails at 10 Wore Ship the *Raven*
in Sight
Mode breezes and Cloudy Wear at 8 PM Lost sight of the
Raven Sounded in the Night from 15 to 13 ffm
Saturday 5th at 6 AM Saw the Land from SW to WNW Do saw the
Raven and two Ships running in for the Land 1/2 pt 9
Anchd in St Augustine bay wth the Bt Br in 10 ffm Veered
to 1/2 a Cable found riding here His Maj's Ships *Lively*
Raven and *Otter* Sloops and the Snow *Elizabeth* Transport
Mr Figtree Mastr and His Majys Schooners *St Lawrence* &
St John Lying in St Augustine Harbour at 11 weighed and
ran further in Shore at Noon Anchd wth Bt Bowr in 10 ffm
Veered to 1/2 a Cable
The most part fresh Gales and Squally Do rec'd from the
Raven 60 pds of fresh beef at 5 Do veered to a whole
Cable

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1662.

6 Oct. (Sunday)

MASTER'S LOG OF H. M. S. *Juno*¹

Octr 1776 Hopewell Isld NbE Dist. 30 leagues
Sunday 6th AM Sounded 103 fm fine Sand Tacked Ship At 7 Sounded 75
fm grey Sand & Small Stones. 1/2 pt 9 Out 2d & 3 reef Top-
sails & Set top Gallant Sails - at 12 Saw a Sail to the Eastwd
Mod. & hazy at 4 A Brig in Sight ENE 5 or 6 Miles at 1/2
pt 5 Set F. topMt Steering Sails, top Galt Sail, & Driver At
5 Sounded 65 fm Sandy bottom 1/2 pt 7 hauled down the
Steerg Sails & Driver - at 9 the Brig in Sight Bearg ENE 1/2 E

5 or 6 Miles At 10 lost Sight of the Chace $\frac{1}{2}$ pt discovered her At 11 Bore up & Set the fore top Mt Steering Sail at 12 spoke the Chace & found her to be the *Diana* Brig loaden wt provisions bound for New York but taken by the *Hawk* rebel privateer 15 or 16 Days pt² Sent a petty Officer & 5 Men to take Charge of her – Brought on bd 5 of the privateers Men

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1811.

2. Brig *Dinah* which had been captured by the Massachusetts privateer schooner *Hawke*, Captain John Lee, Vice Admiralty Register, vol. 5, 1769–1777, N. S. Arch.

MAJOR GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD TO GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

Sir

Boston 6 October 1776.

Yesterday I received from Mr Glover, Agent at Marblehead, a Box of broad Swords, which he lately found in the Scotch Ship *Ann*, that was taken some time since. Also received from Mr Bradford, Agent for Continental Prizes, the inclosed Invoice, of articles which he has in his hands. The reason he gave for delaying it so long, was, the Plaids were infested with the small pox and he thought it necessary to cleanse and air them considerable time before they were used. I am Your Excellency's [&c.]

Artemas Ward

1. Washington Papers, LC.

LIEUTENANT THOMAS QUIGLEY TO THOMAS RANDALL ¹

On board the [*General*] *Putnam*, Cranberry,

Sir –

Oct. 6, 1776.

I received yours of the 1st of October, in which you advise me to keep a good look out for the enemy's vessels. You may depend there shall none of them pass us through our negligence; we have seen three since my last to you, the first, a large snow, which we chased within sight of the Hook, but two of the enemy's vessels, tenders, coming out of the Hook, was obliged to give over the chase and return. The second, a brig, we took to be a transport, which we likewise chased some hours off Cranberry inlet, but being in sight of four other vessels, and one of them, a frigate, who gave us chase, we were obliged to run in again. The third, a hermaphrodite, but the wind blowing hard at northeast, could not get out to her. I have thought fit to send Mr. Little to you to be informed what we are to do for provision, it being very near out; we have, since the captain went away, broached one barrel of beef and one of bread entirely spoiled, and at this time there is not above three days' meat on board the vessel. We have not above four foremast men that is able to stand their watch upon deck for want of shoes and other clothing; therefore they beg you would endeavour to give us some speedy relief, either by sending us some money or otherwise as you shall

think most expeditious. I had a letter from the captain of the same date as yours, but he has not mentioned any certain time of his being on board, which makes me conclude that it will not be very soon, as he is no great starter. I am, sir [&c.]

Thomas Quigley.

1. *New York Provincial Congress*, II, 321.

7 Oct.

POWER OF ATTORNEY GRANTED BY THE OFFICERS AND
CREW OF H. M. S. *Liverpool*¹

[Extract]

Know all men by these presents That we the Officers and Major Part of the Company of his Majestys Ship *Liverpool* Have constituted Ordained and made and in our Stead and place put, and by these presents do Constitute Ordain and make and in our Stead and place put Capt Henry Bellew of the said Ship and Mr George Sherry of the *Eagle* our agents for all Such Prize or Prizes as shall have been sent or may hereafter be sent by us to the Port of New York. To be our true Sufficient and Lawful Attorneys as aforesaid for us and in our Names and Stead and to our use to ask demand Levy Recover and Receive of and from all and every Person or Persons whomsoever the same Shall and may concern all and Singular Sum and Sums of money Debts Goods Wares Merchandize Effects and things Whatsoever and wheresoever they shall and may be found due owing payable belonging and coming unto our Constituants by any ways and means Whatsoever nothing excepted or reserved. Giving and hereby Granting unto our said attorneys our full and whole strength Power and Authority in and about the Premisses; and to take and use all due means Course and Process in the Law for the Obtaining and Recovering the same and of Recoveries and Receipts thereof; in our Names to make Seal, and Execute due Acquittances and discharges: and for the Premisses to appear, & the Persons of us the Constituants to Represent before any Governor Judges, Justices, Officers, and ministers of the Law whatsoever, in any Court or Courts of Judicature and there on our behalf to Answer Defend and Reply unto all actions Causes Matters and things Whatsoever relating to the Premisses with full Power to Make and Substitute one or more Attorneys under our said attornies and the same again at pleasure to Revoke. And generally to say Do Act Transact Deliv[er] Accomplish and Finish all Matters and Things Whatsoever relating to the Premisses as Fully, Amply and Effectually to all Intents and Purposes as we the Said Constituants ought or might or Could Personally, altho. the matter should require more Special authority than is herein Comprised We the said Constituants Ratifying, allowing and holding firm and Valid all and whatsoever our said attornies or their Substitutes shall Lawfully Do or Cause to be done in and about the Premisses by Virtue of these Presents. In

Witness whereof We have hereunto set our hands and Seals the seventh day of October Annoque Domini 1776 in the Sixteenth year of his Majestys Reign

Signed Sealed and delivered

in the Presence of us

Henry Bellew

W^m Hammings 1st Lt

B Christian 2d do

Rob^t Watson Masr

David Pattullo Bos

Jn^o Dixon Gunr

W^m Harman Lt Mars.

Hugh Goold –

Jⁿ Walker Mr Mt

John Draper Mar Mt

A Turnour Mid

J Gwathin Mid

P King Mid

Nc Ps Rothery Clk

[and 85 seamen, landsmen, boys
and marines]

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

JOHN LANGDON TO ROBERT MORRIS¹

Sir

Portsmouth October 7th 1776 –

Your favour of the 5th Ult. came to hand a few days since on the receipt of which I immediately made strict enquiry for Duck & other Cloth suitable for Soldiers Tents but not a single Bolt was to be had in this State, what few ther was to be had some Time since I bought to compleat the first suit of Sails for the Frigate *Raleigh* am now much in want of about seventy Bolts of heavy Canvas to Compleat her second Suit for which I hope to have an order on the Agent at Providence who I hear has some belonging to the States. — I have now the pleasure to inform you that Yesterday the *Marquis of Kildare* (which I sent to France with Lumber &c (on the accot of the States) arrived from Bourdeaux which place she left the 15th August & Cap [Thomas] Palmer who commands the Brig says that on the 17th Septemr in Lattitude 39.20 N, Longitude 46.12 W fell in with Twenty three Sail Ships three of which he took to be Men of War the rest Transports it being thick Weather was within Gun shot of them before he discovered them; one of the men of War bore down upon them, upon which he & also the Passengers (who were two) on board threw their Letters Overboard not thinking they had the least chance of escape but it luckily came on verry thick & blew fresh Gale by which he got clear. There was a large Packett for [*sic* from] Mr Deane which was done up in Lead for the purpose Destroyed, & even my Letter with Invoice from the House of S & J H Delap suffered the same Fate, have no other papers than a receipt from the House of the Delivery of the Cargo & Copy of the Bill of Ladeing of the Goods Shipt; shall have Duplicates by Severall Vessels who were to Sail soon, of which are the following. The Schooner *Wm Joshua* Bunker to Sail in four or five Days after Palmer for Providence the Sloop *Mary* Samuel Morgan to sail in four or five days for the Continent; Sloop *Samuel* James Hutchins to sail in 10 or 15 Days Sloop *Lucretia* Jacob Surly for new York 20

Days the Cap. & Passengers give very pleasing accot. of Matters the French Ports all open for every sort of Merchandize from America, all high in favour of the Continent. Cap. Palmer was in Company with Mr Dean at Bourdeaux who spoke very highly of the Treatment he received there; the Cap. understood that Mr Dean was offered a Million Sterling on the Credit of the Continent before he left Bourdeaux for Paris to which place he was gone when Palmer came away. Capt Palmer has made verry pretty Freight for the Cargo he carried out which amounted only to about Eight Hundred Pounds Lawful Money first cost here haveing bro't the following Articles on Cargo (tho' he came away without compleating the Sales leaving it with the House of Messrs Delap what was on hand) — Vizt 5000 wt Powder 250 small Arms, One hundred Thousand flints, upwards of four Thousand Yards of small Canvas 400 or 500 Jackerats 100 Knapsacks 100 Legings 80 large Ruggs 2 small Bales woolings one Bale Linnen not yet opened, and Ten Tons of Lead, The Powder only will pay cost of Cargo with all charges and hire of Vessel, no doubt it will be agreeable to the Honle Secret Committee that I should reserve such things as may be wanting for the Frigate such as the Powder about fifty or a hundred of the Musquetts some Flints Lead some of the small Canvas which together with that I hope will be immediately ordered from Providence will compleat the second Suit of Sails the Ruggs & Blanketts cannot be done without on board Ship The rest of small Canvass which is very suitable for Tents, can be spared & sent as soon as I receive orders for that or any other part of her Cargo the Masts & Oak plank sold verry well, as the Cap. says some were disposed off before he came away I mentioned to the Honble Committee severall Times that Masts are to be had here which together with other things would make a Good Cargo for France or Spain & pay the Greatest Freight by far of any thing I know of upon the Continent which may be seen by this Brigs Cargo which made the Freight of One Thousand pounds Sterling out & as much (nearly) home on about 800 £ Lawf[ul] money cost of Cargo should the Honle Committee see fit to send Vessel from hence with such a Cargo it may be done to advantage as one of these prize Ships might be purchased Low which would carry large Cargo of Masts & Lumber. I am with respect [&c.]

Jn^o Langdon

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

Boston Gazette, MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1776

Watertown, October 7.

A Privateer belonging to Salem which arrived there last Thursday, fell in with the Fleet of twelve Sail, and was so closely pursued by the *Daphne*, that the Enemy fired musket balls into her; but by heaving over all her Guns, Water and Provisions, and by sawing down her upper Works they (bravely) escaped.¹

We also hear that three more prizes have arrived at the Eastward, 2 laden with Fish, the other with Molasses.

We hear that Capt. [Jonathan] Greely in a Privateer belonging to Boston, who sailed from thence last Monday afternoon, sent into Marblehead last Friday a Prize Brig, laden with Pork and Beef.²

Saturday last a Sloop laden with Lumber, was sent into Boston by Capt. Waters. She was bound to New York from the Eastward³ — Is it not astonishing there should still be such People among us, who would supply our Enemies to cut their own throats?

1. Continental schooner *Lynch*, Captain John Ayres.

2. Snow *St. George*, Benjamin Bidgood, master, from England for New York.

3. Schooner *Sally*, Jesse Noble, master.

JOHN BRADFORD TO JOHN HANCOCK¹

Dear Sir

Boston 7th Octor 1776

I Beg leave to inform you that four prizes are lately sent into this State vizt. two to plimouth & two to this port by one Capt Paine of Charlestown South Carolina. he fitted his privateer at Providence on the Credit of the State of So Carolina but on Account (it is said) of the Continent, and on his return to that State found that port shut up by the Enemies Ships, if he belongs to the Continent shall esteem it a particular favour if I may Receive Orders from the Congress respecting this matter by as early an Oppertunity as may be, as the prizes will be sold in about three Weeks

The *Columbus* sent in a Brig a few days since to this port with 214 hhds Rum from Montserrat² [Daniel] Waters in the schoor *Lee* Return'd yesterday and bro in a small schooner with 49 hhds fish & 10 M Lumber³ have no news of any of our Cruisers please to excuse Brevity the Bearer is Just going. I am [&c.]

J Bradford

1. Society Collection, HSP.

2. The *Lord Lifford*.

3. The *Sally*.

THOMAS CUSHING TO THE CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE¹

Gentlemen

Boston Octr 7. 1776

I have received Your Favor of the 21 Sept last wherein I find The Congress have determined to Comply with the Wishes of our assembly with regard to the Ship Commanded by Capt McNeil² & have Authorised Me to Accept the proffered assistance of the said Assembly in fitting out Equipping arming and manning that Frigate; I have already received most of the Cannon & they will all be at Newbury port in a few days, I have agreeable to your directions applied to & obtained an order from this State for Powder Ball and musquet shot & such other Military Stores as the Ship may stand in need of, I shall do all in my power to have her Compleatly fitted

for the Sea & hope she will be ready in a few days but must beg leave to remind your Honors that I have not as yet received the Commissions for the Officers and they will not Care to go to Sea till they are possessed of them least they should be deem'd Pirates, I hope they will be here in a few days otherways the Ship will wait for them. I shall also want a fresh supply of Cash immediately which please to forward by the very first opportunity. my former supply is quite exhausted. I remain with great respect Gentlemen [&c.]

Thomas Cushing

The Honble John Hancock Esqr
Robert Morris & others
Members of the Marine Committee

1. Charles Roberts Autograph Collection, 722, Box 2, HCL.
2. Frigate *Boston*.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BOSTON, OCTOBER 7." ¹

The prize taken by Captain [Jonathan] Greely and sent first into Marblehead is come round here,² she has brought papers to the middle of August, which give particular accounts of the Spaniard's invading the kingdom of Portugal and taking possession of several towns. The inference is plain — war is or must be declared.

The mate of a London ship brought up this evening by Capt. Atkins,³ informs, that the ministry are so suspicious of plots and conspiracies being laid, that four persons dare not be seen conversing together in London, — they are immediately dispersed. A privateer is just arrived at Salem, after taking three prizes, one of which is loaded with dry goods to the amount of 37,000 l. sterling. This fine prize is not yet arrived. A day seldom passes without provision vessels, Jamaica-men or something being taken.

1. *Pennsylvania Journal*, October 16, 1776.
2. Snow *St. George* taken by Greely in Massachusetts privateer *Speedwell*.
3. Ship *George* prize of Silas Atkins, Jr. in Massachusetts privateer *Boston*.

GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE TO RICHARD DERBY, JR.¹

Sir,

Providence October 7th 1776 —

Your Favour of the 24th ulto came to Hand when I was in the inoculating Hospital. As the Two Ships built here were nearly ready for the Sea, and there was a Prospect of their being soon manned none of their Guns could be spared. I however delayd returning you an Answer as it was proposed by some Gentlemen to lend Ten of the Guns belonging to the Forts in this State. But the Committee appointed to act in the Recess of the General Assembly which sat here on the 5th instant did not think proper to take such a Measure: And I am sorry to inform you that it is not in our Power to afford you any Cannon from this State. I am with great Regard [&c.]

Nich^s Cooke

P.S. The Water is so low that the Furnace is stopped.

[Endorsed] Copy Lre to Richd Derby Jr Octr 7th 1776 respecting Guns for a Continental Frigate

1. Letters from the Governor, 1768-1777, vol. 2, R. I. Arch.

MASTER'S BOND FOR THE RHODE ISLAND BRIG *Victory* ON A VOYAGE
TO HISPANIOLA ¹

Know all Men by these Presents, That *we Bartolemis Susaris of the Island of Hispaniola Mariner* as Principal, and *Paul Allen of Providence in the County of Providence in the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations* as Surety, are held and firmly bound unto the Governor and Company of the said State in the Sum of *Twelve Hundred Pounds* Lawful Money, to be paid to the said Governor and Company, for the Use of said State: To which Payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our Heirs, Executors and Administrators, and each of us and them, for and in the whole, jointly and severally, firmly by these Presents. Sealed with our Seals. Dated the *Seventh Day of October* in the Year of our Lord 1776

Now the Condition of this Obligation is such, That if the said *Bartolemis Susaris* who is Master of the *Brigg* called the *Victory* and now bound on a Voyage, with said *Brig* and her Cargo, to the *Island of Hispaniola* shall in all Things, during and respecting said Voyage, truly observe the Regulations made by the Most Honorable the Continental Congress, and this General Assembly, concerning Trade, and for securing the Observance of such Parts of the Association as are not inconsistent therewith, and shall, within Eighteen Months after the Departure of the said *Brigg* produce to Henry Ward, Esq; Intendant of Trade at Providence, in said State, or to his Successor in said Office, a Certificate from the proper Officers at the Port or Place where the Cargo of the said *Brigg* shall be delivered (provided it be within the United States, and proper Officers are appointed) or otherwise under the Hands and Seals of three or more reputable Merchants residing there, that the same was there unladed, then this Obligation shall be void, or else in full Force.

Sealed and delivered

in the Presence of

Jon^a Jenkins Junr

William Mumford

B. ssusaris

Paul Allen

1. Maritime Papers, Bonds, Masters of Vessels, R. I. Arch. This is a printed form, with the handwritten words in italics.

NARRATIVE OF CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES¹

[August 21 to October 7]

He left the Delaware the 21st of August, and arrived at Rhode Island on the 7th of October, 1776. Captain Jones had only seventy men when he sailed from the Delaware, and the *Providence* mounted only 12 four-pounders.

Near the latitude of Bermudas he had a very narrow escape from the enemy's frigate the *Solebay*, after a chase [and an engagement] for six hours within cannon-shot, and considerable part of that time within pistol-shot. Afterwards, near the Isle of Sable, Captain Jones had a running fight with the enemy's frigate the *Milford*; and the firing between them lasted from ten in the morning till after sunset. The day after this rencontre, Captain Jones entered the harbour of Canso, where he recruited several men, took the tories' flags, destroyed all the fishery, burned the shipping, &c. and sailed again the next morning on an expedition against the Island of Madame. He made two descents at the principal ports of that island at the same time; surprised, burned, and destroyed all their shipping, and the fishery, though the place abounded with men, and they had arms. All this, from the Delaware to Rhode Island, was performed in six weeks and five days; in which time Captain Jones made sixteen prizes, besides a great number of small vessels and fishery which he destroyed

1. Sands, ed., *Life and Correspondence of John Paul Jones*, 39–40.

Newport Mercury, MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1776

Newport, October 7.

Last Thursday a prize brig, loaded with rum and sugar, went up the east passage; she was bound for Antigua for the British fleet and army at New-York, and taken by the privateer *Industry*, Captain Thomas Child, who had taken another large brig from Jamaica, loaded with sugar, mahogany and logwood, which, we hear, is safe arrived at the eastward.

The *Lady Washington* privateer, Capt James Godfrey, has sent a fine ship into a port in the Massachusetts's State, loaded with 425 hogsheads of sugar, some rum, cotton, &c.

A ship loaded with dry goods, bound to Quebec, and taken by Capt. [Arthur] Crawford, went into a safe port yesterday; about the same time another ship from Jamaica, with sugar, rum, &c. taken by Capt [Abner] Coffin,¹ went into a secure harbour.

1. Crawford and Coffin commanded the *Hawke* and *Favourite* respectively.

GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL TO THE COMMITTEE
OF THE PAY TABLE¹

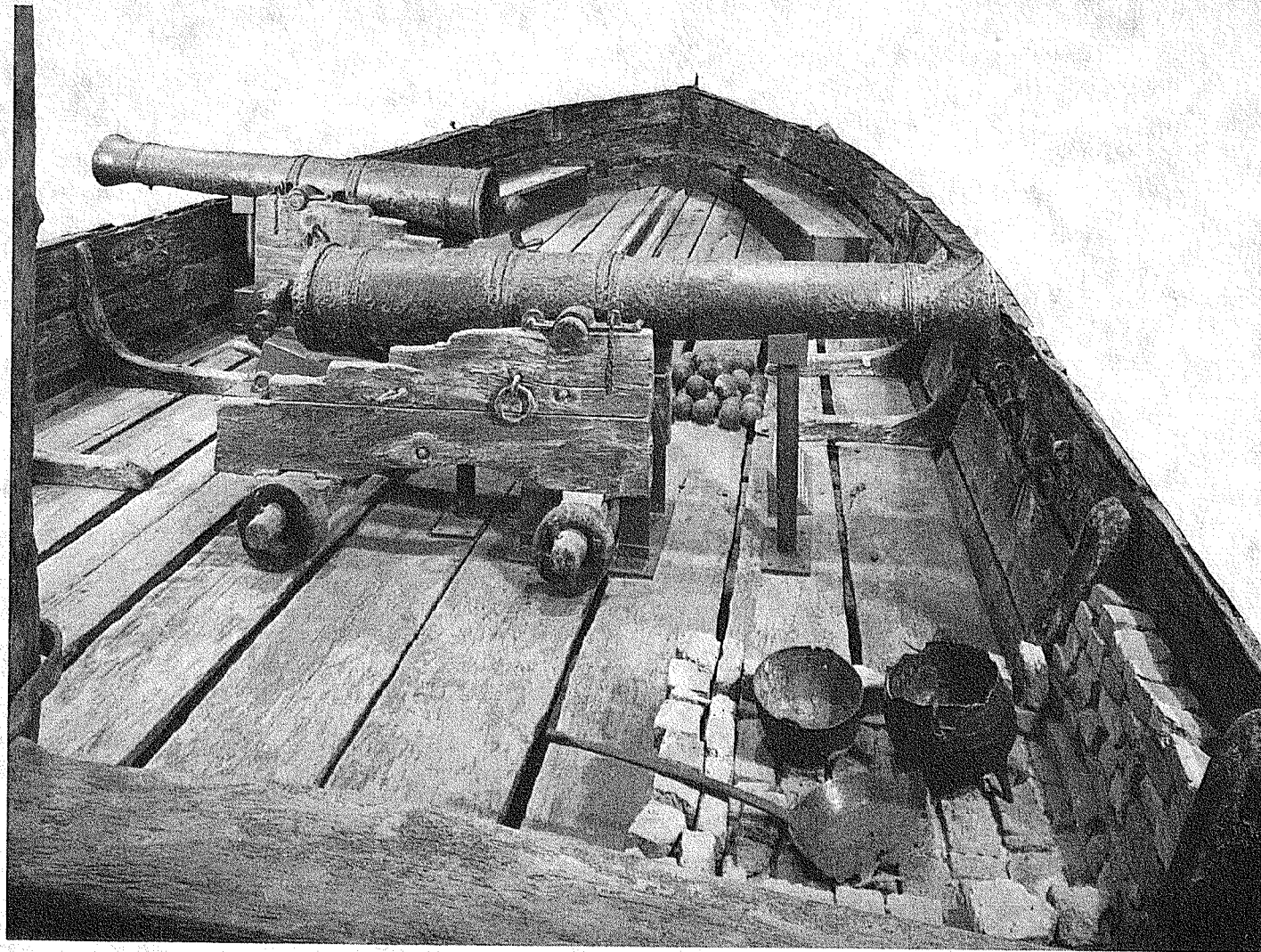
Gentlemen

Lebanon Octor 7th 1776

Please to draw on the Treasurer of this State for the sum of forty five pounds money to be paid to Nathel Wales Jur Esqr to be by him improved in purchasing Gun Locks and procuring Guns — for the use of the Ship *Oliver Cromwell* in the service of this State & to render his account [&c.]

Jonth Trumbull

1. Conn. Arch., 1st Series, IX, 119a, ConnSL.



Looking Aft From Amidships, Continental Gunboat Philadelphia.

JABEZ HUNTINGTON TO CAPTAIN JOSHUA HUNTINGTON¹

[Extract]

Norwich Octo'r 7th 1776

Since I wrote you Capt. Harden [Seth Harding] is arived from his Cruise has taken two fine Ships one of them Safe arived at N L [New London] She is Loaded with Sugar, Rum Coffey and Cotton Supposed to be worth fifteen thousand pounds the Other prize is daily Expected; [Robert]. Niles 2d Prize is not arived and Suppose is most Likely Taken your Brother obtaind so Little part of Mr. [Nathaniel] Shaws Privateer that he keeps it himself.

your Brig'e is Like to be fitted as a Letter of Mark and so proced on a Trading voige . . .

1. *Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society*, XX, 47.

JOURNAL OF LIEUTENANT WILLIAM DIGBY¹

7 October. The First-Brigade moved up to our post at Riviere-la-Cole, and ours went up to Point-au Faire, seven miles higher. The order for our proceeding on the Lake, was as follows. Three small boats in front of all, as a party of observation; our schooners and armed vessels in line of battle following; Gun boats carrying 24 or 12 pounders in their bow and maned by the Artillery. The battalion of Grenadiers in flat bottom boats, & in their rear, the remainder of the army in battows. One gun fired from a gun boat was a signal to form 8 boats abreast, and two guns a signal to form a line of boats, this had a pretty effect, as our men were all expert at rowing, having been ordered to practise frequently. This was the first intention of our crossing, but afterwards found not to answer so well, as our armed vessels and gun boats engaging theirs seperately, leaving the troops on land to wait the decision, as were any accident to happen to the armed vessels, the troops must be in a most hazardous situation, & little able to defend themselves with small arms against the cannon of the enemy.

1. Digby's Journal, BM.

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO MAJOR GENERAL HORATIO GATES¹

Dear General

Valcouer Octr 7th 1776 -

I received your favour of the 2d Inst & Copy of yours of the 23d Ulto yesterday by General Waterbury who arived with the Two Gallies about 2 oClock. — I fully expected by him, to have all the particulars of the Evacuating Long Island, & New York, He seems to know little of the Matter, & General Washingtons Letter seems not very explicit — the Affair of long Island, seems, still in Obscurity — I am Very Anxious for Our Army, & Friends. below Lord Hows, desiring a Conference, & Neglecting his Appointments, seems not very favourable It Appears to me our Troops, or Officers [*sic*], are Pannic Struck; or why does a hundred Thousand Men

Fly before, One quarter of their Numbers, is It possible my Country Men can be, callous to their wrongs. or hesitate one moment, between Slavery, or Death — what Advantage can we derive by blockadeing, the Enemy when, they Are in possission of a Part of the Country sufficient to support them. it appears to me Concise measures, should be Adopted — however, I will say no more, least I incur the Censure, we passed on their Council last Spring for Judgeing too rashly of our measures — That Being, in whose hands are all human Events will doubtless turn the Scale in favour of the Just. & opprised —

Nothing worth Notice has Occurred in this quarter since my last, the weather is very severe here, & Gales of wind freq[ue]nt. If the Enemy do not make their apperance by the Middle of this Month I have thought of returning to Button Mold Bay — as I think they will not pretend to Cross the Lake after that Time, we are prepared for them at all Times & If they attempt Crossing the Lake, I make No Doubt of giving a good Accot of them — I am Dear General Your Affectionate [&c.]

B Arnold —

1. Gates Papers, Box 4, NYHS.

JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY¹

[Fishkill] Die Lunae, 9 HO. A.M.

October 7th 1776.

The report of the committee on the sundry letters and papers of Capt. Thomas Cregier, and the petition of sundry officers and mariners of the armed vessel or schooner *Putnam*, delivered in their report, which was read. Thereupon,

Resolved, That the said armed schooner *Putnam*, together with her arms, cannon, ammunition, boats, rigging, tackle and furniture, be immediately sold, and that John Imlay, Esqr. be agent for that purpose, who is hereby directed, out of the proceeds, to pay the officers and crew their wages, and all other reasonable charges, and to remit the surplus to the treasury of this Convention.

1. *New York Provincial Congress*, I, 665.

New-York Gazette, MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1776

New-York, Octo. 7.

On Thursday last arrived here from England, the *Daphne*, Captain [St. John] Chinnery, with several Transports under Convoy, having on board the XVIIth Regiment of Light Horse, under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel [William] Harcourt.

So vast a Fleet was never seen together in this Port, or perhaps in all America, before. The Ships are stationed up the East-River or Sound, as far as Turtle Bay; and, near the Tówn, the Multitude of Masts carries the

Appearance of a Wood. Some are moored up the North-River; others, in the Bay between Red and Yellow-Hook; some, again, off Staten Island; and several off Powles-Hook, and toward the Kills. The Men of War are moored chiefly up New-York Sound, and make, with the other Ships, a very magnificent and formidable Appearance. Five Men of War have been detached from the Squadron into the North-River above Greenwich, probably to assist the Operations of the Army against the Rebels, who still remain on the Northern Extremity of this Island, and on the Heights about Kings-bridge.

It is said, the *Flora* Frigate of 32 Guns commanded by Capt. [John] Brisbane, is preparing to sail, with several Transports under Convoy.¹

1. "Saturday, 5th [October]. This afternoon the *Flora* Frigate, Capt. Brisbane, sailed down the Harbor in order to convoy a Number of Transports off these Coasts in their Passage to Halifax." Tatum, ed., *Serle's Journal*, 119.

DIARY OF LIEUTENANT JABEZ FITCH¹

[On board the Prison Snow *Mentor*]

[New York] Mond: the 7th: [October] Our Chocalet was Spoil'd in the Morning for want of good Water, we had therefore but a very Indifferent Breakfast; I spent most of this Forenoon on Deck; At about 11 oClock Mr: [Joshua] Loring & another Offr: came on Board & Order'd us to make Emediate preperation for Landing, there was also a Parole, or Writing prepared for us to Sign, which we all comply'd with, & the Field Officers first went ashore with Mr. Loring; After which I went up onto the Quarter Deck & Wrote some of the foregoing Lines, in Expectation soon to leave the Snow, not knowing what kind of Quarters or Treatment, will be next provided for us, yet hope that the Exchang will not be for the Worse.

About 4 oClock we were Landed with our Bagage on a Ferry Wharf near the Bair Market in N. York, where we wated for Orders, while near Sunset, when Mr. Loring Directed us to a very large House, on the West side of Broad Way, & South of Warren Street. . . .

Having this Large House Assign'd us with a small Yard to Walk in &c, we sopose we have chang'd our Cituation Rather for the better, both on acct: of Noise & Crowd.

1. Sabine, ed., *Fitch's Diary*, 54.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Philadelphia] Monday, October 7, 1776

The Secret Committee having informed Congress, that they had chartered and loaded in Virginia, the *Aurora*, late the prize ship called the *Oxford*, for account of the continent:

Resolved, That the president write to the governor and council of Virginia, and request them to give all the assistance in their power, in manning and despatching the said ship.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 849, 850-51.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON¹

No 6

Philadelphia Octobr 7th 1776

Dear Sir As I have not been able for some time to attend the Marine Committe I last Saturday took the liberty to show Mr Morrice [Morris] your letters Concerning the Conduct of the Providence Committe about Guns and soon found Mr Hancock thro the multiplicity of Business had not laid the affair before the Marine Committe Mr Morrice resented their Conduct extremely and Desired liberty to lay the letter before Congress but as I was uncertain but some bad Effect might arise from laying it before the whole Congress I Declined it He then Desired liberty to lay it before the Marine Committe to which I Consented He said he would do his utmost that your ship should have them Guns at Providence and without paying that Enormous price for them I am in hopes them guns will be ordered for your Ship & one of theirs ordered to wait till guns can be sent from here where they are Contracted for at 35 & 40 pound this money pr tun

I Believe (inter nos) your letters to the President Concerning marine affairs have not been laid before the Committe nor much attention been paid them the great & important Business in which he is Constantly Employed and the almost immense number of letters which he is Constantly receiving on the most interesting Subjects makes it impossible for him to attend to them all and lesser matters must be neglectd I sincerely wish he did not belong to the Marine Committe but would Confine himself to the affairs of Congress which is Business abundantly sufficient to employ the time of any one human being

I was Disappointed of seting out last week as I Expected and as I am in hopes I am some better than I have been I Believe I shall try to tarry here till Col Whipples arrival which I think I may Expect in 12 or 14 Days from this time according to his letter of the 23d ulto

As for news we have none at this time how long we shall be without any I Cant say as by the last accounts from Ticonderoga they were Dayly looking for Burgoine up the lake and it seems Genl Howe is preparing to attack our Camp at Harleam God grant we may have better fortune than we had at the attack on Long Island the Enemy are now in Possession of Stratton Island, Long Island, Governors Island, the City of New York & Powles's hook I pray God they have now reached their Ultimatum and that from this time their power may Decline I am your very hearty friend

Josiah Bartlett

1. Dreer Collection, Signers, HSP.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

In Council of Safety,

[Philadelphia] October 7th, 1776.

An order was drawn on Mr. Nesbitt, in fav'r of Cap't John Hazlewood, for £ 50, on acc't of Fire Rafts, to be charged to his acco't.

Resolved, That all the Powder now on board the Ship, Floating Batterys and armed Boats belonging to this State, be delivered to Mr. Robert Towers, Commissary, who is hereby directed to replace it with a like Quantity.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 744.

DIARY OF CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL¹

[Philadelphia] Octr 7th 1776

. . . having an Invitation from the owners of Sloop *Congress* & *Chance* on the 5th to dine with them on Turtle at James Byrns [tavern] this day I went near two were was Between 60, or 70, persons I came away before 6 . . . A vessell arrived this day from Surinham with Some Powder, lead, Some Stands of arms & Some woolen Cloths Mallasses &c &c &c a vessel from Bermudas with Salt arrived this Day his Excellency General Lee from the Southward,

1. Diary of Christopher Marshall, HSP.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND CONVENTION¹

[Annapolis] Monday, October 7, 1776.
Post Meridiem.

The Convention proceeded to elect a judge of the court of admiralty in the room of John Hall, Esquire, who resigned that office, and John Rogers, Esquire, was elected.

1. *Maryland Convention*, 33.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD¹

[Williamsburg] Monday the 7th October 1776.

Robert Brown, Josiah Foster, Joel Foster, George Brookes & Henry Knight appeared before the Board and severally undertook for the sum of One hundred and seventy Pounds to Build each of them a flat Bottom'd Boat for the use of this Common Wealth for the purpose of Transporting Troops of the following Dimensions, to wit, Forty feet Keel, fourteen feet Beam, three Feet four Inches Deep to the Top of the Gunnell, Eight Inches Wash Board to be Ceiled in the same manner as the Boat lately Built by Mr Herbert, to be Built with good white Oak Plank one Inch and a half thick, the Ceiling to be of Pine Plank clear of Sap three Quarters of an Inch thick, to Row with Twenty Oars fixed upon Iron Swivels, to be fitted with proper Stern Sheets and every other Thwart Bound, to be Built after the manner of the Boat lately Built by Mr Herbert except the Gun Carriages, to be properly Tar'd and finished in a Workman like manner and delivered to the Board with proper Oars for each Boat, on or before the fifteenth day of December next. For the Performance of which Contracts the said Robert Brown, Josiah

Foster, Joel Foster, George Brookes & Henry Knight respectively entered into and acknowledged their Bonds which are Ordered to be Recorded – Lieutenant Thomas Merriwether of the Marines lodged a Complaint with the Board against Lieut George Rogers of the Brig *Liberty* in the following Words, to wit, “The Language of Lieut George Rogers to the Marines is the most Scurrilous, Abusive & Profane, wholly unbecoming an officer & Gentleman. That he has at different Times Struck them, Particularly John Reynolds with a piece of Iron when unwell and excused from Duty by the Commanding Marine Officer.” Ordered that the said Rogers be summoned to appear before the Board at the Capitol in the City of Williamsburg on Wednesday next to answer the said Complaint –

A Letter from Miles Cowper Esqr informing the Board of a Quantity of Tarr and Turpentine he had sent to Messrs Smith and Roan for the use of the Navy agreeable to a request of the Board. – Ordered that the said Smith & Roane Acct be Debited therewith to the Amount of One hundred & Eighty four pounds ten shillings. –

Adjourned till tomorrow morning nine of the Clock.

Signed,
Thomas Whiting 1st Comsr

1. Navy Board Journal, 66-67, VSL.

JOURNAL OF THE GEORGIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

At a meeting of the Council,

[Savannah] Oct. 7th, 1776.

The President² laid the following before this Board, viz.:

In Convention.

This house having received some information which gives them great reason to apprehend an attack is intended against this Province; and having also been informed of an armed boat being upon the coast, and having committed some acts of depredation upon the inhabitants. It is the opinion of this house that the said matter, together with all evidence and proofs attending the same, be referred to the President. That he be requested by and with the advice of this Council to use the most vigorous, speedy and effectual means for putting the Province in a proper posture of defense, so as to repel the said attacks in case they shall be made, and prevent further depredations and robberies; and to assure him that this Province will most heartily concur with him in the said measures, and cheerfully defray the expenses attending the same.

Ordered, that a copy of this minute be presented to the President by Mr. Speaker after the rising of the House.

The above being considered, it was the opinion of the Board that two boats of ten men each be stationed at the inlets of Hossaba, Saint Catherine's, Sapalö and at the dividings of Saint Simon's Island, for observation

and intelligence; and fifty men stationed at the extreme points of land Beulah, Hardwick, Sunbury, Sutherland's Bluff and Darien.

1. Candler, comp., *Georgia Records*, I, 204, 205.
2. Archibald Bullock.

JOURNAL OF H. M. SLOOP *Nautilus*, CAPTAIN JOHN COLLINS¹

October [1776] Moor'd of [f] Saint Georges Town Bermuda
 Sunday 6 Empd in Cleaning the Ship
 PM Saw a sail in the Offing
 Monday 7 AM found her to be a Ship of War PM Anchd here a
 Retaken Brig by H M: Ship *Galatea*² also Anchd in Cas-
 tle Harbor the *Galatea*

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/630.
2. Brigantine *Favourite*, John Davis, master, from Antigua for Liverpool, with sugar; recaptured by the *Galatea*, Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1776, *ibid.*, 1/487. See Davis' protest, October 8.

8 Oct.

COMMODORE MARRIOT ARBUTHNOT TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN¹

My Lord

The success which his Maj: Arms have Obtained over the Rebels on the 27th of August, the particulars of which will come to your Lordships hands from better authority, than mine.

I shall therefore only say that it has enabled Lord Howe to send some ships of War for the protection of this coast from the Rebel pirates, who have entred our defenceless harbours indiscriminately from Cape Sable, to very near this port Landed to the great terror of the Well Affected People; Cut out severel Vessels and done much Mischief, to prevent which for the future I have aplied to General [Eyre] Massey and he has been pleased to comply with my requisition that a Capt & 50 Men be sent to Barrington, near Cape Sable, & a Subaltern & 30 to Liverpool with Arms & Amunition under the care of the Comanding Officers to be delivered to such well Affected subjects as will joine the Kings Troops, if necessary I hope my Lord this precaution will Effectually secure this part of the Frontier from further insult.

I must now pray your Lordship will excuse the Hurry in which this letter is written As I have not time to read it the Vessel who carries it being Under sail unexpectedly. I have therefore chosen to be deficient in allmost every thing rather than omit the smallest attention to your Lordships commands, because I am Most Unfeignedly My Lord [&c.]

M^t Arbuthnot

Halifax — Oct: the 8th 1776

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 217/52, DAC Photocopy.

JOHN LANGDON TO JOHN BRADFORD¹

Sir

[Portsmouth] Octr 8, 1776

I have an order from the Honle Continental Marine Committee to purchase Gunns Musqetts, Ball, &c for the Frigate at this Place that she may be fitted out to act in Conjunction with Cap McNeal [Hector McNeill] am likewise directed to call on the Agent for your state to furnish any matters that may be in his Power, I have therefore desired Messrs Breck & Hammett to wait on you, to know wether any Ball [can] be had, & what quantity, out of the Publick Stores² — I shall take it kind if you'll mention this to Mr Cushing & know wether any Guns can be had from your State more than Compleats Cap. McNeal Ship, shall thank you for an answer as soon as may be my kind Regards to your Lady & family — with due respect [&c.]

Jn^o Langdon

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

2. *Ibid.*, Langdon to Breck & Hammett, Boston, October 8.JOHN LANGDON TO JOHN HANCOCK¹

Sir

Portsmouth October 8, 1776

Your favour of 21 Ult. is now before me nothing would give me Greater pleasure than to have it in my Power, to Cooperate with the Agent of the Massachusetts in fitting out the Frigate *Raleigh* to cruise in Conjunction with the *Boston* Cap. McNeale, as recommended by the Honle Assembly's of Massachusetts & New Hampe and now ordered by the Honle Committee, At present it's impossible, as both States have only Guns for one Ship indeed in this State we have not a Single Gun suitable, The Ship *Raleigh* as I've often wrote the Honbl Committee has laid since June entirely waiting for Guns a sett, of which has been laying at Providence during that Time, every other material might have been obtained and the Ship manned at that Time had the Guns been ready the Privateers have stript us of our hands tho' I've no doubt she would soon be manned could the Guns be had we have about fifty Men on board and no more can be prevailed upon to enter untill the Guns are here, I conversed with Mr. [Thomas] Cushing and some of the Honle Committee on the Matter & told them I would Strain every nerve, to procure the Guns but told them at the same time of my Disappointment at Providence & that unless a sufficient number of Guns could be procured out of the Batteries in the Massachusetts she could not go out —

I shall use my best endeavours to procure Cannon but see not the least prospect unless ordered from Providence or Philadelphia in some Armed Vessel, which would not be verry great risque as there is not any Ship cruizing in this Bay at present belonging to the Enemy. —

The Brig which is just arrived here from Bourdeaux on accot of the Continent,² (of which I've wrote the Honle Secret Committee fully to which

I beg leave to refer the Honle Marine Committee) has brou't Powder small arms &c which I shall reserve for the Ship agreeable to order of the Committee, so that nothing is wanting but Guns & Men the latter of which I believe may be had, should there be a prospect of the Ship's going out I shall take Care to keep all Matters as secret as possible relative to the Continent agreeable to Orders but as to this matter all this part of the Creation knew the Intent long ago. —

Mr [John] Wheelwright who was second Lieut, of the *Raleigh* has left her for the Command of a Privateer I've therefore put Cap Hopley Yetton [Yeaton] on board as third Lieut; (Mr. [Josiah] Shackford who was third rising to second instead of Wheelwright) to act untill pleasure of the Honle Committee is known, I would beg leave to recommend Mr Yetton as a Gentleman worthy of that Post, he has Youth of his side a most excellent Seaman of undoubted Spirits, verry high in favour of the States verry popular among the Seamen — I am with all due respect To the Honle Committee [&c.]

John Langdon

1. John Langdon Letter Book, Captain J. G. M. Stone Private Collection, Annapolis.
2. *The Marquis of Kildare*.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL¹

[Watertown] Tuesday October 8th 1776

On Motion Ordered That Brigadier Farley be and he hereby is directed to deliver Thomas Carthy James Howard James Rogers Thomas Griffiths William Gorman John Harrington George Taylor Rees Pugh Thomas Barker Prisoners in Ipswich Goal to Hector McNeill Commander of the Continental Frigate called the *Boston* provided they are willing to enter on board said Frigate.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 19, 263.

RECEIPT TO PAUL REVERE FOR A SHARE IN THE MASSACHUSETTS PRIVATEER BRIGANTINE *Speedwell*¹

Boston Octor 8th 1776 Recd of Paul Revere Esq — Two hundred & Eighteen pounds $\frac{1}{4}$ in Part for his Sixteenth part of Schooner *Speedwell*² & Warlike Impliments now on a Cruis —

p W^m Foster — Agent

£218..1..7

1. Paul Revere Misc. and Receipts, MassHS.
2. The *Speedwell* was commissioned September 6, 1776, under the command of Jonathan Greely. The principal owners were Thomas Melvill, William Foster and John Hinkley, Mass. Arch., vol. 7, 158.

MUSTER ROLL OF THE CONNECTICUT STATE SCHOONER *Spy* ¹

Schooner *Spy* to Robert Niles
for sundry Persons wages by him paid Vizt.

Dr

	fm Jun 8th	to Octr 8th	at [3]92½ P mo	£	
Robt Niles Capt	ditto	ditto	at 120/	38..8..-	
Timothy Parker leut	ditto	ditto	at 120/	24..-..-	
Zebadiah Smith do	ditto	ditto	120	24..-..-	
Benjm Mortimore Boatswn	ditto	ditto	90/	18..-..-	
Robt Moore Clerk	ditto	ditto	90/	18..-..-	
John Lessieur Cook	ditto	ditto	72/	14..8..-	
Eben Blakesley Gunr	ditto	ditto	90/	18..-..-	
Ezekeil Sayers Seaman	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..-	
John Hall ditto	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..-	
Archibald Nails ditto	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..-	
John Tucker ditto	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..-	
Wm Rambow Boatsons Mate	ditto	ditto	54/	10.16..-	
James Devenport Seaman	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..-	
John Johnson ditto	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..-	
John Gaylord Marine	ditto	ditto	40/	8..-..-	
Wm Swan ditto	ditto	ditto	40/	8..-..-	
Wm Davall Seaman	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..-	
Stephen Squire ditto	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..-	
Josiah Carew Carpenter	ditto	ditto	90/	18..-..-	
Zepheniah Tapping Seaman	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..-	
David Hand Marine	ditto	ditto	40/	8..-..-	
David Bowers Seaman	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..-	
Luther Hildreth ditto	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..-	
Wm Goldsmith Offr Marines	ditto	ditto	54/	10.16..-	
Caleb Brown Marine	ditto	ditto	40/	8..-..-	
Lewin Chatfield Seaman	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..-	

John Gan	ditto	ditto	ditto	48/	9.12..—
Ezekiel Miller	Marine	ditto	ditto	40/	8..—..—
Wm Cove	Pilot	fm Augt 13 to	ditto	60/	3.10..—
John Tisaker	Seaman	fm ditto to	9th Sepr	48/	2..3..2
Joseph Hally	ditto	ditto	Octr 8th	48/	4..8..—
Wm Sprigs	ditto	ditto 22d	Sepr 14th	48/	1.16..9
John Nailes	ditto	ditto 13th	ditto 19th	48/	2.17..7
Henry Walker	ditto	ditto	ditto	48/	2.17..7
Thomas Coffin	ditto	ditto	Octr 8	48/	4..8..—
Manuel Swazey	ditto	ditto	Sepr 9th	48/	2..3..2
Wm Gardiner	Marine	ditto	ditto 19	40/	2..8..—

Amt Card Over

387.16..3

Amount brought over

£ 387.16..3

Taguin Ferdinando [seaman]	fm Aug 22d	to Octr 8th	48/	3.13..8
Silas Clement	ditto	ditto	48/	3.13..8
Richd Baxter	ditto	Sepr 8th	48/	1..7..2
James Gowdy	ditto	Octr 8	48/	3.13..8
Danel Tomy	ditto 25th	Sepr 18th	48/	1.18..6
Anthony Bonacourse	ditto	ditto	48/	1.18..6
Thos Etherby	ditto	ditto	48/	1.18..6

£ 405.19.11

Commission at 5 Pr Ct

20..6..—

426..5.11

Errors Excepted pr Rob^t Niles[Endorsed] Schooner *Spy* Acct Wages—Octr, 18th 17761. Conn.Arch., 1st Series, IX (*Spy*), 45a,45b, ConnSL.

DISBURSEMENTS MADE BY CAPTAIN ROBERT NILES OF THE
CONNECTICUT SCHOONER *Spy*¹

Schooner <i>Spy</i> to Robert Niles						Dr.
1776	To sundry disbursements by him paid Vizt					
June 13th	To 1 bushl Corn	at	3/	£		3..0
	To 1/2 bushl Prusticot potatoes	at	3/			1..6
23d	To 17 1/2 lb Lead	at	5d			7..3 1/2
July 6	To horse hire to Lebanon					5..0
	To 2 days expence for Self and Horse					6..—
13th	To 9 lb LobSters	at	1 1/2d	lb		1..1 1/2
Augt	To Horse hire and keeping at Norwich	}		after Cash		4..0
	To paid For potatoes in Old Town					1..0
Sepr 14th	To Horse Hire and Expences to Lebanon					7..6
Aug 3d	To expences at Old Town Getting hands					11.10
Sept 21	To 26 Fowels at 6d Yk Currency in L M					9..9
Octr 8	To 3 Rations pr day fm June 8th to Octr	}				11..8..9
	8th 366 in all for my Self at 7 1/2d					
	To 122 Rations for Mr [Timothy] parker		7 1/2d			3.16..3
	To 122 ditto for Mr [Zebediah] Smith		at 7 1/2d			3.16..3
						21.19..3 1/2
To Commission at 5 Pr Ct						1..2..1
						23..4..5 1/2

Errors Excepted pr Rob^t Niles

1. Conn. Arch., 1st Series, IX (*Spy*), 36, ConnSL.

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

October 1776 Montock point No.37W 10 Leags
 Tuesday 8 at 6 AM saw a Sl bearing S 1/2 E 3 or 4 Miles 6 AM gave
 Chace to the Et wd. *Syren* in Co
 Modt Breezes and Clear saw three Sl to the NW gave
 Chace at 4 PM fired 20 9 pounders & brot. too the
 Vessell[s] a Snow from Barbadoes & a Brigg from the Bay
 of Honduras, taken by an American Privateer² and a Brigg
 from Surinam bound to New London loaded wth
 Molasses³ sent a Mid. & 5 Men to take care of her

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/181.

2. The recaptures were the snow *Jenny*, William McNeily, master, from Barbados for Belfast with rum, and the brig *Carron*, J. Montgomery, master, from the Bay of Honduras for Cork with mahogany and logwood, Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, *ibid.*, 1/487.

3. *Ibid.*, the *Batchelor* owned by Nathaniel Shaw, Jr.

JOURNAL OF H. M. S. *Syren*, CAPTAIN TOBIAS FURNEAUX¹

October 1776 Block Island NbW $\frac{1}{2}$ W 9 or 10 Lgs
 Tuesday 8th at 3 Tkd Exercised Great Guns & sml Arms at 11 mde Sail
Cerberus in Co
 P:M: at 2 saw 3 Sail under the Land gave chace fired 3
 Shot at a Brigg left her for the *Cerberus*, & haul'd up for
 the other two to prevent them from running a Shore. they
 hoisted out their Boats & people went on shore, then the
 Two Vessels bore down for us, bro't too hoisted out our
 Boats & took Possession of them. a Snow from Barbadoes
 for Ireland & a Brigg from the Bay of Honduras for
 Glasgow. they were taken by Rebel Privateers. sent a
 Boat Arm'd [to] the other Brigg in Shore, the *Cerberus*
 having brot her too at 7 hoisted in the Boats & stood to
 the So wd

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/930.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Philadelphia] Tuesday, October 8, 1776

The Secret Committee having informed Congress that a vessel was arrived with sundry articles by them imported on account of the Continent,

Ordered, That the said committee deliver to the Board of War such articles as are suitable for the army, and to the Marine Committee such articles as are for the navy, and to Mr. J. Mease such as are suitable for cloathing, to be made up into cloaths for the soldiers.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, V, 854, 856.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

In Council of Safety,

[Philadelphia] October 8th, 1776.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay Capt. Wm. Hallock £ 21 1 7, for Salvage of Sundries saved out of Brig't *Nancy* blown up at Cape May.

This board taking into their consideration the Advanced prices of almost every necessary of Life, and upon a proper Representation from the Chevaux de Frize Pilots, respecting their situation, do hereby

Resolve, That the said Pilots, in addition to their pay from this State, be allowed, from the date hereof, to receive five shillings P foot for every vessel they conduct through the Chevaux de Frize to and from Chester, to be paid by the Captains or owners of such vessels.²

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 744, 745.

2. Printed in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, October 9, 1776.

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

Sirs/

Baltimore October 8 — 1776

the Bearer Capt William Worth has C[o]me from Newengland to take Charge of the Schooner *Dolley N: 10* that Was Sunk at the alarm at Baltimore, there Seems to Bee a Anker & Cabbie Missing I have taken all the pains I am Capable of to find them, But Cannot and Capt Nicoldson has Put a Vallew On Such as hee Soposd the[y] Ware, for your Consideration these things Ware Soposd to Bee takken Care of By the People that Sunk the Vessells But Wee Cannot find them Now — and Many Such Complaints are Made the Setteltment of Which Must Bee Left to you, he Says their Ware 2 gafs Lost and has the Carpenter bills for their Cost, and the higher Whille Sunk these things I Make Bold to Mention at his Request as hee has Been With Mee this 10 Days to Sarch for the things and Pleading for a Line to you Stating his Loses — it is So Strange What Became of the Ankers and Cabbles But the[y] Cannot Now Be found — Can I Sell any of your Publick Bread I think I Could Sell Some With your Lisence — I have Sum More 20 Penny Naills for you from your Humble Servant

Jesse Hollingsworth

1. Red Book, XI, Md. Arch.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD¹

[Williamsburg] Tuesday 8th October 1776 —

Ordered that a Warrant Issue to Capt George Muter for Three hundred and forty eight pounds two shillings and one penny half penny for the Pay of his Company on Board the *Hero* Galley for the Months of August & September last as p Pay-roll this day settled. —

Ordered that a Warrant Issue to Lieut Benjamin Pollard for One hundred and eighty one pounds sixteen shillings & three pence for Disbursements & Pay of his Company of Marines for the Months of August & Sept'r last as p Acct this day settled. —

1. Navy Board Journal, 68, VSL.

SAMUEL ASHE TO WILLIE JONES, HALIFAX¹

[Extract]

Cape Fear Octr 8th 1776

Dear Sir/ *Laudamus te deum*; We here at present Joyfully chant forth, — The Vessels of War lately here, I am Just now informed, took their departure a few days since, first burning two of their Tenders — We have now an Open Port, tho' I fear it will not long be one, unless the honble Board will hurry down some Ball. . .

1. Secretary of State Papers (Council of Safety, 1775–1776), NCDAB.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY¹

[Charleston] Tuesday the 8th Day of October 1776

It being suggested to the House that there was no Pilot or Pilot Boat for the Bar and Harbour of Beaufort nor any Fund from which they could be supplied and maintained

Ordered That Mr [Daniel] DeSaussure Captain [John] Joiner Colonel [Benjamin] Garden Captain [Thomas] Savage and Major [Keating] Simons be a Committee to consider and report proper ways and means of procuring maintaining and regulating a Pilot Boat to attend the Bar and Harbour of the Port of Beaufort

Mr Speaker reported That this House having attended the President in the Council Chamber he had presented to His Excellency

An Ordinance for providing Juries for Beaufort District at the next November Courts

And also,

An Act for establishing a Board of Commissioners to superintend and direct the naval affairs of South Carolina

To both which His Excellency had been pleased to give his Assent

1. Salley, ed., *South Carolina General Assembly Journals*, 87, 89.

PROTEST OF JOHN DAVIS, MASTER OF THE BRITISH BRIGANTINE *Favourite*¹

Bermuda,

By His Excellency George James Bruere
Esqr Governor Commander in Chief and Vice
Admiral of the Islands. —

To all to whom this Present Writing or Instrument of Prot[est] shall come or may concern Greeting. —

Know Ye that this eighth day of October in the Year of Our Lord one Thousand and Seventy Six, before me personally appeared John Davis Master of a Certain Brigantine called the *Favourite* who Solemnly made Oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that on the Sixth Ulto being then on his Voyage from Antigua bound for Liverpool in England in the Latitude 37°.30 No: and Longitude 49°.30 Wt when he was pursued and taken by a Provincial Privateer Sloop, called the *Providence* John Paul Jones Commander, and again on the 24th of the same Month September in the Latitude 37°.00. No Longitude 68.30 West he was retaken by His Majesty's Ship the *Galatea* Thomas Jorden Esqr Commander, the Wind at same Time blowing very Strong from the S:S:W: by the Neglect of the Privat[eer's] People he got his Top sails, Jebb, and Main top mast Staysail split that on the Seventh Instant, he arrived in Castle Harbour Bermuda, in Company with the *Galatea*, And again on the eighteenth Instant this deponent farther saith that having used his utmost endeavours to get his Vessel ready for the Sea, he applied to Capt John Collins of His Majestys Sloop *Nautilus* to Assist him with some People to Navigate his Vessel to New York but without

Success, Wherefore the said John Davis for him self his Mariners, Owners, Freighters and all others whom it doth or may concern doth hereby Protest against the Matters aforesaid, and all Damages Occasioned or sustained thereby, as also against all Costs delays disappointments, expences and other Matters and things which can or may lawfully be protested against in as Large and Ample Manner as the same can or may be done by Law or Form, And Persevering in the said Protest the said Appearer hath hereunto set his hand this 18th day of October 1776 —

John Davis

This Done and Protested before me the Governor and Vice Admiral aforesaid, In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Caused the Public Seal of these Islands to be affixed the day and year first above written —

George Ja^s Bruere²

By His Excellency's }
Command }

Jn^o Randle D: Secy

1. Book of Bonds, Deeds and Grants, No. 14, 388-89, Bda. Arch.

2. *Ibid.*, a similar protest was made this date by Robert Hogget, master of the brigantine *Alice* which had been taken by the Rhode Island privateer sloop *Joseph*, and recaptured by H. M. S. *Galatea*.

VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON TO PHILIP STEPHENS¹

Squirrel, Jamaica

October 8th 1776

Sir./.

Herewith you'll receive Duplicates of what I sent you by the last Packet

I beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that the 17th of last Month, a French Frigate arriv'd Command'd by The Chevr de Monteil, the occasion of His coming was to claim a Rebel Schooner which had been Seiz'd by His Majestys Ship *Squirrel* and sent into Port Royal; The Chevalier in his claim sets forth, that she was taken within a Mile of the Shore, within Gun Shot at the Point under the Colours at the Mole, which he consider'd as passing beyond the bounds of the Treaties, & a violation of the Laws of Nations, and at the same time say'd he flatterd himself, I should think it very Natural for the Schooner to avail herself of the Protection afford'd her by his Court. In answer to which I inform'd him that after the repeat'd assurances which had been given from all the Foreign Powers to His Britanick Majesty of not Interfering or affording any protection to his Rebellious Subjects, I was greatly surprizd at the part of his Letter mentioning affording those people protection, which was very contrary to the Assurances; I mention'd before.

In respect to the Vessel in dispute she was a considerable distance from the Island of Hispaniola, when she was first Chased by the *Squirrel*, and was not within Gun Shot when taken, that I had always given particular

directions to the Captains of the Kings Ships under my Command never to approach near any French or Spanish Possessions but in cases of the greatest urgency, it being my most sanguin wish, for the good understanding at present Subsisting between the two Nations to be maintaind, as this Rebel Schooner, had been Seizd in consequence of the Kings directions it was not consistant with my Honor to deliver her up, but as it was a National matter must be Settled by our respective Ministers, which I should take the earliest opportunity of laying before mine, with which answer he Sail'd the next Morning very well Satisfied, and inclosed is for their Lordships information exact Copies of His Claim in French, with the English Translation & likewise of my Answer, which I hope will meet with their Lordships approbation

On Captain [Stair] Douglas's arrival I gave Him Copies of The Chevaliers claim and desired he would be very particular in His answer, as it was to be sent for their Lordships information, which he [*sic* it] accordingly has been. In His Log for that Day, Sworn to by the Master of the Ship, it appears that when he made the Tenders Signal to Chace this Schooner, Cape Nichola Mole bore about SEBs 7 or 8 Leagues, and by the Affidavit of the Officer Commanding that Tender, attested by the Crew, that when he made her a Prize he was Five or Six Miles distance from the Land, all which circumstances are very contrary to those advanc'd by The Chevalier and plainly shews He was not well acquaint'd with the nature of His claim, Capt. Douglas likewise gave me his Log for the 6th & 7th days of September Sworn to by His Master, wherein it also appears that this very French Frigate offer'd protection to a Schooner from St Augustine at the Distance of Ten or Eleven Leagues from the Land, in Sight of the *Squirrel*, provided she had come from any part of North America, bound to Hispaniola and desired it, and inclosed me the Depositions of the Master & Supercargo of that Schooner, who are both People of very good Character. I must beg leave to say that I think this behaviour of The Chevaliers a Gross violation of the Treaties he talks of, and contrary to the Laws of Nations. Inclosed for their Lordships information are exact Copies of Captain Douglas's orders, His Answer to the Chevaliers claim; the Papers refer'd to in it, which I hope will also meet with their Approbation²

(I likewise beg leave to inclose their Lordships the Extract of a Letter from Captain [Thomas] Lloyd, complaining of the Master of the *Anna Teresa* Packet not complying with His Instructions and parting Company, which I hope they will be pleas'd to Communicate to the Port Masters General, in order that the Master may be made an Example of for leaving his Convoy, after the Port Master General of this Island, had applied to me for one.)

Inclosed is likewise an Extract of a Letter from Captain Davey respecting the Illicit Trade carried on in the River Mississippi, since which I have receiv'd another from Him dated 27th August, informing me of His having been in at the Havanna, for Water, but that they would not permit

any Person to go onshore, but sent onboard every thing wanted. He was told there was in the Harbour a Sixty four Gun Ship, and Six large Frigates

In my Letter of the 13th June last, I inclos'd their Lordships; Letters I had received from the Principal Inhabitants of the Mosquitto Shore, of two Spanish Guarda Costas, having Seizd a Sloop belonging to the Inhabitants, I now beg leave to inclose them the Copy of a Petition from Messrs Irving & Blair Owners of the Sloop, with an Affidavit annex'd to it, of her being carried to Porto Bello, and from thence to Carthagená, praying I would send to Demand her, which His Excellency Sir Basil Keith, has likewise desird as Governor of the Island, so that as soon as the more Important Duty of the Station will admit of it I propose sending a Ship to Carthagená to Demand the Sloop, or the value of her, & her Cargo

I likewise beg leave to inclose the Copy of an Affidavit of a James McGlashan, of an English sloop being taken by a Spanish Guarda Costa, at a place call'd Alta Vella, on the South Side of Hispaniola, in the Spanish Territories, and shall also send to Demand her, as soon as the Service will allow of it -

The *Grantham* Packet, arriv'd the 16th of last Month, Dismast[ed] in a Hurricane to Windward - I've order'd her Damages to be repair'd at the Kings Yard and supplied with Stores, and directed the Storekeeper to procure Bills of Exchange for Payment thereof - and by this opportunity have wrote to the Navy Board respecting it, which I hope their Lordships will approve

I have the pleasure to inform their Lordships that His Majts Ships & Vessels under my Command have taken Forty Six Sail of the Rebel Americans; including Eight taken by the *Diligence* at Pensacola

With respect to the Disposition of His Majestys Ships & Vessels under my Command I beg leave to inform their Lordships that the *Antelope*, *Winchelsea*, *Atalanta*, *Racehorse* (Sloop) are Cruizing in the Windward Passage - The *Squirrel*, at Port Royal but intend'd to go with the Convoy the 28th instant - The *Boreas* arriv'd the 5th instant from New York having safely Land'd the 30th Regiment. The *Maidstone* is likewise arriv'd from the Convoy, both of which Ships I've order'd to be fitt'd for Sea again as fast as possible - The *Badger* Brig will Sail in a few days for Pensacola to releive the *Diligence* who is exceeding bad, and intend her to remain 'til the *Atalanta* has Careen'd which shall releive her - The *Porcupine* Schooner is at Greenwich attending the Survey on the Masts & Bowspreet many of which are very defective after the Survey, if I find them in such Condition as I Judge Necessary for their Lordships immediate Knowledge I shall dispatch her Express - I am, Sir, with great respect [&c.]

Clark Gayton

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/240.

2. *Ibid.*, Captain Douglas' letter to Gayton, October 4, and other enclosures referred to by the Admiral.

"A LIST OF REBEL VESSELS TAKEN BY THE SQUADRON OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS & VESSELS, UNDER MY COMMAND AT JAMAICA [APRIL 16 TO OCTOBER 8, 1776]" ¹

No of Vessels Taken.	when Taken	year	Vessels Names.	Mastr Names	where Belonging.	Lading.	By which of his Majestys Vessels taken	Commanders Names.	Agents Names.
14	16 April	"	Sloop <i>Lovely Lass</i>	Jas Bodrick	Casco Bay	Lumber	<i>Maidston</i>	Alan Gardner	Mal: Laing
15	"	"	Sloop <i>Sally</i>	Martin	Philadelphia	Shingles	<i>Squirrel</i>	Stair Douglas	Campbell & Gelbraith.
16	"	"	Ship <i>America</i>			Ballast	<i>Squirrel</i>	Stair Douglas	ditto.
17	"	"	Sloop <i>Polly</i>		Rhode Island	Lumber, Staves &c	<i>Maidston</i>	Alan Gardner	Mal: Laing
18	"	1776	Schooner <i>Sally</i>			Lumber	<i>Squirrel</i>	Stair Douglas	Campbell & Gelbraith
19	"	"	Brigg <i>Rakes Delight</i>			Rum & Sugar	ditto	ditto	ditto.
20	"	"	Schooner <i>Mary</i>	John Green	Philadelphia	Powder & Ammuni- tion	<i>Porcupine</i>	Fra L'Montais	ditto
21	"	"	Sloop <i>Penelope</i>	Jos: Meglew	Rhode Island	Lumber, Flour, & Candles	ditto	ditto	ditto
22	"	"	Schooner <i>Friends Adventure</i>	Ross		Shingles	ditto	ditto	ditto
23	"	"	Schooner <i>Nightingale</i>	Folger	Nantuckett	Oil &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
24	"	"	Sloop <i>Hope</i>	Geo: Cuzens	N. Carolina	Rice &c	<i>Antelope</i>	Will Judd	Peter & Charles Ramsey
25	"	"	Sloop <i>Flying Fish</i>	Littlefield	ditto	Lumber &c	ditto	ditto	ditto.

"A LIST OF REBEL VESSELS TAKEN BY THE SQUADRON OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS & VESSELS, UNDER MY COMMAND AT JAMAICA [APRIL 16 TO OCTOBER 8, 1776]" Continued

No of Vessels Taken.	when Taken year	Vessels Names.	Mastr Names	where Belonging.	Lading.	By which of his Majestys Vessels taken	Commanders Names.	Agents Names.
26	18 Sept	"	Schooner <i>Lady Carolina</i>	J. Douglass	Philadelphia	Provisions	<i>Squirrel</i>	Stair Douglas Campbell & Gelbraith
27	20 "	"	Schooner <i>Benjamin</i>	Fra. Boardman	Salem	Candles &c.	<i>Atalanta</i>	Tho Lloyd Ramsey's.
28	22 "	"	Schooner <i>Unity</i>	Seth Clark		Molasses, Sugar, Coffee &c.	<i>Porcupine</i>	James Cotes ditto
29	27 "	"	Schooner <i>Adventure</i>		Nantuckett	Provisions, Lumber &c	<i>Boreas</i>	Cha: Campbell & Gelbraith Thompson
30	27 "	"	<i>Hopewell</i>	Elisha Jones	Philadelphia	Flour, Candles &c	ditto	ditto ditto
31	"		Schooner <i>Mary</i>	Bradford	ditto	Flour, Lumber &c	<i>Squirrel</i>	Stair Douglas ditto.
32	"		Sloop <i>Tristram</i>	Will Scott		Tobacco	ditto	ditto ditto
33	"	"	Sloop <i>Charlotte</i>	John Williams	Virginia	ditto, Flour &c	<i>Porcupine</i>	James Cotes Peter & Charles Ramsey.
34	"	"	Sloop <i>Hannah</i>	Silvester Gray	Cape Nichola	Molasses, Sugar &c.	ditto	ditto ditto
35 [14]	"	"	Schooner <i>William</i>		ditto	Molasses, Sugar, Rum &c	<i>Maidston</i>	Alan Mal: Laing Gardner
36 [25]	"	"	Sloop <i>Dolphin</i>		ditto	Molasses, Rum &c	ditto	ditto ditto

37	76	Sloop <i>Susannah</i>	Benj: Allen	Cape Nichola	Molasses, Sugar &c	<i>Atalanta</i>	Tho Lloyd	Peter & Charles Ramsey.
38		Schooner <i>Two Brothers</i>	J. Watkins	Maryland	Bread & Flour	<i>Racehorse</i>	Lieut Jones	Watkins.
39		Schooner <i>Polly</i>			Pitch & Tarr	ditto	ditto	ditto.
40		Brigg <i>Rebecca</i>			Rice &c	<i>Boreas</i>	Cha Thompson	Campbell & Gelbraith
41		Brigg <i>Ranger</i>		Philadelphia	Flour, Lumber &c	<i>Antelope</i>	Will Judd	Peter & Charles Ramsey
42		Schooner <i>Betsey</i>	Will Newman	Newberry	Molasses &c	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	ditto.
43		Schooner <i>Patsey</i>	Will Gorton	Virginia	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto
44		Schooner <i>Will & Henry</i>	Rich Eastef	S Carolina	Sugar, Rum &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
45		Schooner <i>Dolphin</i>	John Cole	ditto	Rice	ditto	ditto	ditto.
46		Sloop <i>Amiable</i>	Louis Roux	Cape Nichola	Sugar, Rum & D Goods	ditto	ditto	ditto
47		Sloop <i>Pheba</i>	J. Gordant	Rhode Island	Flour & Lumber	ditto	ditto	ditto
48		Brigg <i>St Mary</i>		Cape Nichola	Gun Powder, Wine &c	<i>Antelope</i>	Will Judd	ditto

1. Gayton's Prize List, PRO, Admiralty 1/240.

9 Oct.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF NOVA SCOTIA¹

At a Council holden at Halifax on the 9th October 1776

Present

The Honorable the Lieutenant Governor

The Honorable	Charles Morris	} Counsellors
	Richard Bulkeley	
	Henry Newton	
	Arthur Goold	
	John Butler	

The Lieutenant Governor having Applied to Major General [Eyre] Massey for a party of the Troops, to defend the Coasts from the Insults and depredations of the Rebels. — And the General having Agreed to give Eighty Men for that purpose. — It was Resolved that thirty Men be sent to Liverpool and fifty to Yarmouth. —

1. N. S. Arch.

MASTER'S LOG OF H. M. S. *Milford*¹

October 1776

Wednesday 9

Do [Seal Island] No 48W. 26 Leags
at 8 AM Departed this Life Michael Royne Marine Com-
mitted the Deceased to the Deep, saw a Sail to the NW set
Steering sails and gave Chace.

First part Modt & Hazey latter Fresh Breezs & thick
Fogg, Fir'd 6 Shot at the Chase ½ past Brot her too she
proved to be the *Lively* Snow taken by an American priva-
teer

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1865.

LIBELS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE ADMIRALTY COURT AGAINST
THE PRIZE SCHOONERS *Glasgow* AND *Neptune*¹

State of New-Hampshire, Rockingham ss.

A Libel is filed before me, against the schooner named the *Glasgow*, burthen about 35 tons, her cargo and appurtenances, commanded by John Cabot: — Also against the schooner named the *Neptune*, of about 50 tons burthen, her cargo and appurtenances, commanded by Thomas Fuller, which vessels are said to have been the property of some inhabitant or inhabitants, subject or subjects of Great Britain, and taken and brought into the county of Rockingham: This notice is given, agreeable to the laws of said state, 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, the 29th day of

October instant, at 10 o'clock before noon, to try the justice of 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.

J. Brackett, Judge of said Court.

Portsmouth, October 9th, 1776.

1. *The Freeman's Journal*, October 29, 1776.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL¹

[Watertown] Wednesday October 9th 1776.

Letter from Committee of Correspondence &c Newbury Port setting forth that Capt George Evans in the Brig *Necessity* was sent into said Port by the privateer *Hancock* Capt Wingate Newman that the Owners of said privateer have Discharged Capt Evans and his Brig and desiring directions whether said Capt Evans shall unload & dispose of his Cargo and whether be permitted afterwards to Load with any produce that may be Shipped from hence to Foreign parts &c²

On Motion Ordered That Thomas Cushing and Samuel Holton Esqrs be a Committee to examine the Acts relative to Armed Vessels to know whether the Board has a right to grant Commissions to privateers that shall be fitted out by this State.

On Motion Ordered That Daniel Hopkins Esqr be a Committee to propose a draft of a Commission for Armed Vessels fitted out by this State.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 19, 263-65, 266.

2. *Ibid.*, vol. 165, 324, the *Necessity* was a Bermuda vessel. The Council allowed Evans to dispose of her cargo of salt, molasses and limes, and to load with local articles.

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT¹

[Watertown] Wednesday October 9th 1776.

Whereas the Armed Sloop *Freedom* Capt John Clouston belonging to this State, has had the misfortune to have her Mast split, and is thereby disabled from continuing on her cruize, and is now in the Harbor of Plymouth. —

And Whereas it will be much for the advantage of this State, that the said Sloop should be altered into a Brig; and the Masts Sails, & Rigging of the Brig *Rising Empire*, belonging to this State lately condemned & now in said Harbor, are every way suitable for that purpose. —

Ordered, that Ephraim Spooner Esqr of Plymouth be desired, and is hereby empowered in conjunction with Capt Clouston to see that the Masts, Sails, & Rigging belonging to the Brig *Rising Empire* be taken out of her, and forthwith applied to equip the said Sloop as a Brig. that she may be able as soon as possible to proceed on her Cruise. —

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 36, 1, 5.

ORDER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL RESPECTING THE BRITISH PRIZE
TRANSPORT BRIG *Henry and Ann* ¹

In Council [Watertown] Octr 9th: 1776. –

Whereas the Prize lately taken by Capt Souther Commander of the Brig *Massachusetts* was sent into Townsend and has since been taken possession of by Mr Timothy P[a]rsons, Agent for the Eastern District & by him removed from thence to Wiscasset & there at present detained, which the Capt[o]rs apprehend May be Very detrimental to their Interest, It is therefore Ordered that Mr. Timothy Parsons Agent for the Eastern District, be and hereby is directed to deliver the Said Prize to Capt Souther or to his order, to Convey her to such Port in this State as Said Souther may think will be most condusive to the Interest of all Concerned²

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 325½.

2. The *Henry and Ann* was brought into either Salem or Boston, and was libeled against in the Middle District for trial at Salem on November 19, 1776, *Independent Chronicle*, Boston, October 31, 1776.

PETITION OF ADAM HELME TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL¹

To the Hon'ble Council for the State of Massachusetts Bay

Adam Helme in behalf of Adam Babcock Esqr humbly Sheweth, that the said Babcock is now loading a Brigantine at Dartmouth in the State aforesaid by Order & on Account of Congress as by Contract may be seen; which Brigantine it is thought necessary to Arm in some Degree. Your Honors are therefore requested to dispose of to (the said Babcock) for the purpose aforesaid a pair of small Cannon three Pounders belonging to this State which are now at Dartmouth aforesaid and entirely useless at present

Adam Helme

Watertown Octr 9, 1776

As the Honble Council with respect to the above Cannon I would propose to their Honors the depositing in the Hands of Mr Leonard Jarvis of Dartmouth (in whose care they were left by Thomas Durfey Esqr[]) a pair of larger Cannon (six pounders) as security for the above three Pounders until their Honors shall think proper to receive pay for them or until Mr Babcock can replace them with a pair of the same size

Adam Helme

[Endorsed] State of Massachusetts Bay Council Chamber Octr 9, 1776

It being represented to this Board that this State have two Cannon, three pounders, at Dartmouth, which Adam Helme has petitioned may be disposed of to him or will leave two other Cannon, Six pounders, in the Room thereof untill he shall replace the two, three pounders – Ordered that Mr Leonard Jarvis (or such Persons under whose care the said Cannon are placed) be desired to deliver Mr Adam Helme the Two Cannon, three pounders on his delivering the two Cannon Six pounders, provided they are sound. the two Cannon so left to be subject to the Orders & Use of this

State till the other two Cannon are returned or paid for at the Option of this Board –

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 327, 328.

LIBEL IN RHODE ISLAND ADMIRALTY COURT AGAINST
THE BRITISH PRIZE SHIP *Thomas*¹

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations	}	To the Honorable John Foster Esquire Judge of the Court of Justice created for the Trial of Prize Causes in and throughout the State aforesaid
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Arthur Crawford of Providence in the County of Providence and State afor[e]said Mariner Commander of the Private Sloop of War called the *Hawke* fitted out from Providence afor[e]said and duly Commissioned with Letters of Marque and Reprisal to Cruize against the Enemies of the United States of America, Comes into this Honble Court and for himself and in Behalf of the Owners of and the Officers and Mariners belonging to said Sloop, gives your Honor to understand and be informed That on the Twenty first Day of September AD 1776, being on a Cruize against the Enemies of the said United States on the High Seas, in Latitude 45°. and Longitude 48° he took and captured the Ship called the *Thomas* burthened Two Hundred Tons or thereabouts late Commanded by one Thomas Bell with her Appurtenances together with her Cargo consisting of Blankets, Coarse woolen Cloths, Irish Linnens, Sheeting, Shoes, Stockings, Dowlass, Brandy, Port Wine, bottled Porter, Cheese &c.&c.&c. bound from London in the Kingdom of Great Britain to Quebec in the Province of Canada; and which said Ship with her Appurtenances together with her Cargo before the time of Capture belonged to and were the Property of some of the Inhabitants of the Island of Great Britain, and were designed to supply the British Fleets and Armies now acting against these United States; and that your Informant hath sent the said Ship into the port of Providence within your Honors Jurisdiction. Wherefore he humbly prays that your Honor would take the Premises into Consideration, and order the proper Process and Monitions to issue as are in such Cases required by Law or that your Honor would otherwise Proceed as to Justice and Right appertaineth.

John Cole Proctor	}	for the said Arthur Crawford &c.&c.
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[Endorsed] Libel vs Ship *Thomas* and Cargo. Recd Octor 9th: 1776
Trial ordered to be Octor 28: 1776.

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

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'S ACCOUNT AGAINST THE BRITISH PRIZE SHIP *Sally* ¹

1776	The Prize Ship <i>Sally</i>	[Dr.]	1776	The Prize Ship <i>Sally</i>	Cr
Octo 5	To 4 Oars 64 feet		Octo	By 44 lb Iron Chains <i>A Revenue</i> ² @ 1/	£ 2..4..-
	To pd Love Beebe for boarding Jonah a Sweade & John Morris- son of the Guinea Man 1 Week	1..0..0		500 lb Lead do do for Musk- ett Ball	
9	To pd Jas Robeson for boarding John Tennant of do 1 Week	1..-..-		By 196 lb Lead do <i>O[liver]</i> <i>Cromwell</i>	
	10/ pd do 10/			By 2 bolts English Duck No 4 79 yds	
	To pd Charles Jeffery for boarding the 2d Mate, Trading Mate, Boatswain & Cooper	2..8..0		By 3½ ditto No 2 137 yd	
	To pd Benja Malleson boarding Thos Jones of the Ship <i>Sally</i> 2 Weeks	1..0..0		By 2 lb Twine Brig <i>Defence</i>	
	To pd Mrs Waterman for boarding Richd Cocknel Thos Jones Thos Hollaway Thos Rye Robt Sanders Charles Bateman of the ship <i>John</i>	5..2..-		By 3 paint brushes } 40 lb Nails, } board <i>Defence</i> 15 lb Oakham }	
				2 four pound Cannon wt 16 @ £4 -	
				2 Carriages for do mr Babcock the Cartage from Salisbury to Hartford 50 Miles	

To pd Thos Lothrop Boarding Prisoners 1.13..6 pd do for do	}	
To pd Noble Hinman for boarding J Watts a Passenger	}	20.19..5
To pd Love Beebe for boarding Thos Collens & Nicho Jafe 11 Weeks	}	22..-.-
To 2 Shirts & Jackets & 2 pr trousers		3..2..-
To paid for Raggs 6/		
To pd Jean Roberts for boarding Thos James & Thomas 11 Weeks	}	22..0..-
To pd ditto for Rags 13/9 & for Rum 15/		1..8..9

2 half Whore By ropes wt 28.3	}	O[liver] C[romwell]
1 half Worn B[uy] rope wt 12 7		
Small New Hawser 20 3		
2 New Buys @ 15/		
1 New Cable wt 24 Ct		
6 Sails		
8 Iron Bound Cask @ 18/ 4 do		
@ 6/ 10 do @ 16/		
3 do Buts - 30/ 31 do @ 36/.		
7½ lb Old Brass		
Copper pump 15/.		
5 Iron Bound Punchions to Defence		
161 lb Cordage deld Capt Walker in the Bomb Brig		
9½ yd Canvas Bring Defence		
27 lb Sps Brown Ground in Oile	}	board do
1 Brush 1 Sieve		
1 Large Ensign -	}	Brig Defence £8
1 old St Georges Jack -		
1 Broad Pendant -		
7 bus Cole to Defence		
23 bus do to Fort Trumbull		
2 lb Salts to Brig Defence		

Of the Prize Ship *Sallys* Stores Mr [Barzaleel] Beebe took 2
Check Shirts for Capt Harding & 2 for himself
Liut [Samuel] Smedley took a small Silver watch the Cristial
Brook

1. Nathaniel & Thomas Shaw Collection, Ledger 9, YUL. The *Sally* was a prize of the Connecticut state brig *Defence*.
2. Connecticut privateer sloop *American Revenue*.

JEREMIAH WADSWORTH TO BARNABAS DEANE¹

[Extract]

Dear Sir

Saw Pitts 9th Octob 1776

Your Favour of the 6th Instt I recd Yesterday by the returng Post who was flying and I cou'd not acknowledge it by him Is it Possible that Capt Mortimer has forgot his engagements. You remember how often I urged [John] Cotton to clinch that Rigging. However I am surprised at Nothing the daily disappointments I meet with, prepare me to believe any thing. The Rigers I believe will do as they please about the pric of their Labour or quit; Curse on such double dealing I think this Country is older in fraud & Chicanery than G Britain. This day several Ships & Tenders passed Fort Washington and penetrated through all our Cheaveaux D'frieze, Sunken Vessels & the Devil knows what, and have arrived safe on Taupon Sea a wide place about 4 Leagues above the Bridge. This will obstruct our Navigation down that River & bring us to the Necessity of much Land Carriage and if the Enemy effectually Stop the Navigation of the Sound their will be great difficulty in supporting our Army. . . .

I am very greatly mortified that You are so disappointed about the Ship,² and I suppose the Communication with the Jersys will be cut of[f] or greatly Obstructed but if it should be otherwise I dont see as any hemp will be had. the Devil has got footing among all orders of Men and we are going at a great rate to ruine unless a speedy alteration takes place. half the World are speculating. I fear the Person who [you] dispatched about the Hemp deserves a Neckcloth of it. I have no news from him Yet. . . .

1. *Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society*, XXIII, 40-42.2. The Continental frigate *Trumbull* built under Barnabas Deane's supervision.GOVERNOR SIR GUY CARLETON TO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
HECTOR CRAMAHE¹

[No.] 195

Off Wind Mill Point 9th of October 1776

Sir I have got thus far with the armed Vessels, except the *Inflexible* which I expect up tomorrow or next day at farthest, after which we shall take the first favorable wind to proceed upon our expedition.

I have given a Commission to Captain La Force to build a vessell for lake Ontario, in the execution of which I beg you will give all the assistance he may require — We have no news of Burn who was sent down to you ten days ago. I am &c

1. Guy Carleton Letter Book, Haldimand Papers, Additional Ms. 21699, BM.

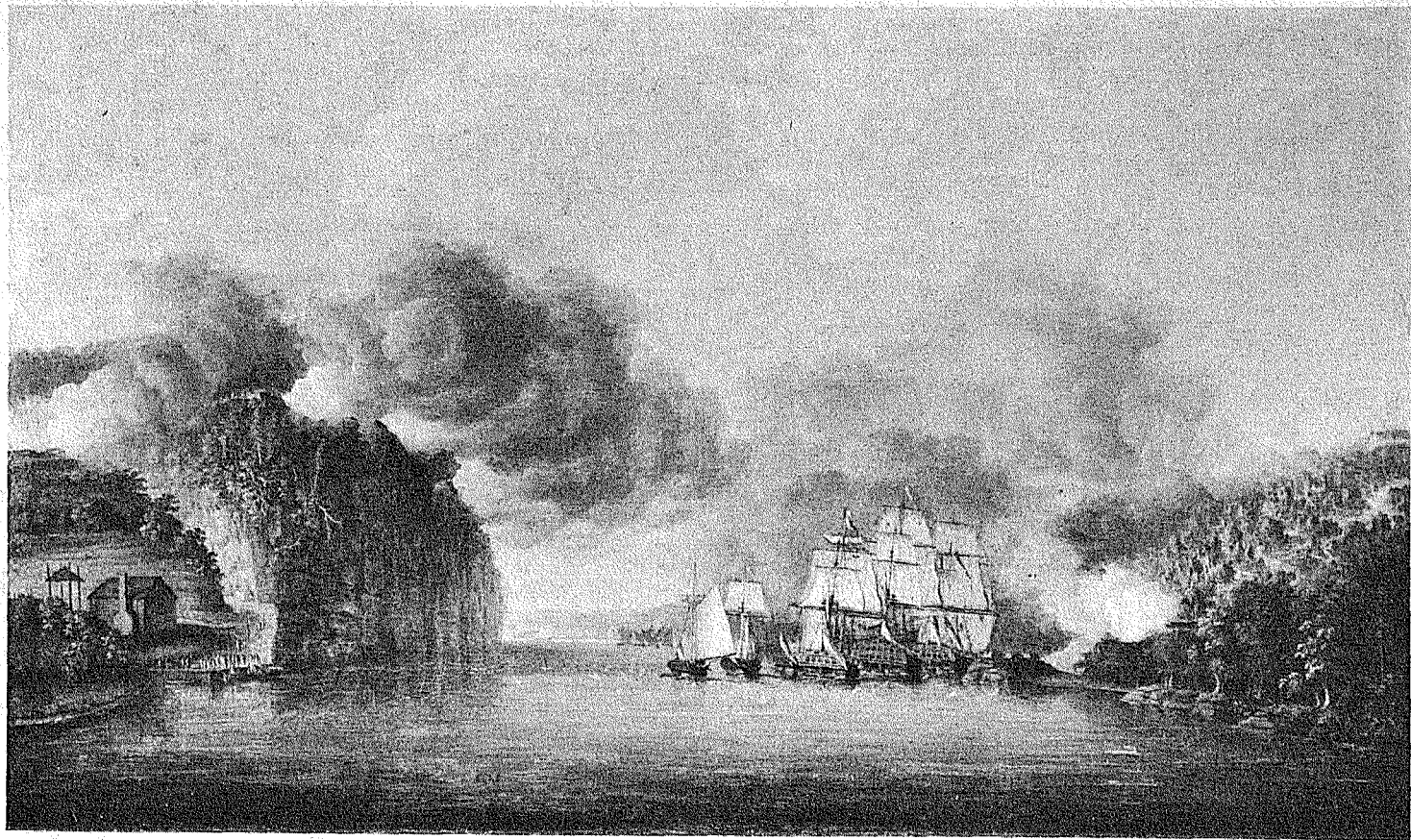
JOURNAL OF H. M. S. *Phoenix*, CAPTAIN HYDE PARKER, JR.¹

October 1776. —

At Single Anchor in North or Hudsons River.

Wednesday 9th

at 1½ pt 7 A:M Weigh'd and came to Sail in Co His Majes-ty's Ships *Roebuck*, *Tarter*, *Tryal* Schooner, & two Tend-



Ships of the Royal Navy Forcing Passage Up the Hudson River.

ers at 50' past 7 the Rebels began a heavy Cannonading from several Batteries on each Side of the River at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9 got through the Passage by the Chevieux de Frieze, Sunken Vessels &ca Hoisted two Flags at the Main Topgt Mast Head as private Signals, which was Answer'd by the *Repulse*. In passing the Forts a Mid, two Seamen and a Boy were Kill'd and twelve others wounded, Our Mizen Mast & Mizen Topmast entirely disabled, Main Stay, and Several of the Lower & Topmast Shrouds Cut; The Sails & Running Rigg very much damaged; The Spare Main topmt some other Sparrs & the Boats very much Shatter'd. We also received 4 Shot through our Hull, at Noon in Co as before, In Chace of Four of the Rebel Gallies &ca sent the *Tartar* a head to Cut them off. Dobbs Ferry ESE Distance $\frac{1}{2}$ a Mile Mode & Cloudy Wr in chace as before at 1 P.M. two of the Gallies, a Schooner, and Two Sloops ran on-shore, At $\frac{1}{2}$ pt Anchor'd with the B: Bower in 7 fm abreast of a Galley. Fir'd Several Broadships to Scour the Shore & sent the Long-boat & Cutters wth two Hawsers to make fast to the Galley; At $\frac{1}{2}$ pt 1 the *Roebuck* Anchd abreast of the other Vessels & the *Tartar* abreast of the other Galley. At $\frac{1}{2}$ pt 3 hove off the Galleys &ca and at 4 weigh'd & came to Sail in Co as before, and two Row Gallies, Two Sloops, & One Schooner Prizes. At 5 Anchd wth the B: Bower in Tapan-Bay in 6 fm Veer'd to $\frac{1}{3}$ of a Cable Tarry Town NE Distance Off Shore a Mile. At 6 Committed the Bodies of the Deceased to the Deep.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/694.

MASTER'S LOG OF H. M. S. *Roebuck*¹

October 1776

Wednesday 9th

Glass House Point SSW

AM. at 4 berrocaded the ship at 7 weigh'd and made sail with the *Phenex*, *Tartar*, *Tryal* Schooner & *Phenex* & *Roebuck*'s Tenders $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 the Enemy begun to fire upon us from their Batterys on Forts Lee & Washington and at 9 being past them they ceas'd firing at 11 the *Pembroke* brought of[f] a sloop which the Enemy had left at anchor, at Noon Anchor'd off Merlins Landing in $7\frac{1}{2}$ fath about $1\frac{1}{2}$ Cable from the Shore. In passing the Battery, the small Cutter was Shatter'd to pieces found it Necessary to Cut a drift, Lieut Leek & Mr Hitchcock Midst were killed and three Seamen & 7 Seamen Wounded open'd a Cask of Beef No. 17 Contg 186 Short 2 Pieces

Fresh gales & cloudy P.M. at 1 sent a Warp on board one of the Enemy's Sloops which was a Shore abreast of us & got her off as the *Phenix* & *Tartar* did one of their Galleys, & the *Pembroke* a Schooner with Provisions Arms &c on board at 5 Weigh'd and made sail & at 6 Anchor'd in 7 fath Tarry Town NE 1 Mile

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1965.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Tartar*, CAPTAIN CORNTHWAITE OMMANNEY¹

October 1776

Wednesday 9

Sailing up the North River

Mode and Cloudy wr at 7 AM weighed and came to Sail in Co with his Majesty's Ships *Phoenix* *Roebuck* *Tryal* Schooner and two Tenders at 8 do Five Batterys on the York and two on the Jersey Shore began to fire on us likewise hove a number of Shells with a Continual Fireing till 1½ past 9 after Hulling on [us] several times, wounded our Masts and cutting a great deal of the Rigging and Sails a Shott went thro the Mizen Mast and afterwards killd a Midshipmn² the Splinters of the Masts wounded the Captn Lieut of Marines & Pilot after passing the Batterys the Enemy began to Fire Small Arms from the Woods, which they continued for several Miles up the River at 10 gave chace to the Enemys Galleys, at 11 drove on shore several of their Merchmn and the *Independence* Galley at Noon drove on Shore the *Crane* Galley and continued Chace

Light Breezes and Cloudy, found that the rest of the Galleys had got out of Gun Shott, by the Assistance of their Oars at 1½ pt 1 came too abreast of the *Crane* Galley sent a Lieut and some Men and took possession of her

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/972.

2. *Ibid.*, Midshipman John Scott, buried the next day.

"RETURN OF THE KILLED AND WOUNDED ONBOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS
PASSING THE BATTERIES THE 9TH OCTOBER 1776."¹

Ships Names	Killed				Wounded							
	Lieutenant	Midshipmen	Seamen	Servants	Boatswain	Carpenter	Midshipman	Seamen	Servants	Negro-Man	Marines	
											Lieutenant	Corporal
<i>Phoenix</i>	—	1	2	1	1	1	—	8	1	1		
<i>Roebuck</i>	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	
<i>Tartar</i>	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
											Total killed	9
											Wounded	18
												27.

Copy H. Parker.

[Endorsed] In Lord Howes Lre of 23 Nov 1776

1. PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

NARRATIVE OF CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND¹

[H. M. S. *Roebuck*, October 3 to October 9, 1776]

- 3d Octr The *Daphne* arrived from England with Burgoyne's Regiment of Light Horse: They had 10 weeks passage, and gave account that the Hessians had sailed about the same time, so that they were now hourly expected.
- [5th] As the Rebel Army was chiefly supplied by the North River, and placed great dependance upon it, they had taken a great deal of pains to throw a Boom across, by sinking Vessels & frames of Timber, to prevent our ships from passing up. They had placed these obstructions in the narrowest part, where the
- 9th Octr River is about 12 hundred Yards wide, between two High Lands, having Fort Washington on the Right, and Fort Constitution on the left, each containing several batterys of heavy cannon, placed at some distance along the shore, and six row Gallies with each a large Gun in their prow guarded the boom in front; so that, we understood, they looked upon it to be perfectly secure: and it is possible, from seeing the great preparation they had made, we might also have thought so, if a deserter had not informed the Admiral that there was a passage open between two of the sunken Vessels (which his Brother the Ferry

Man had given him marks for) and offered himself as a Pilot. This intelligence was exceedingly agreeable to both the General & Admiral, conceiving, that if ships could be got up the North River, the Rebel's supplies would not only be cut off from Albany & that country, but even their Communication with the Jerseys would become very uncertain & unsafe which could not fail of distressing them, and would very much assist in the intended operation of surrounding their Army as soon as the Hessians should arrive.

9th Octr The *Phoenix Tartar* & *Roebuck* were therefore ordered upon this service, when after waiting a few days for an opportunity they passed through on the 9th Octr without the least obstruction, and with but little loss, considering they were an hour & a quarter within the Enemys fire.² The Galleys made the best of their way up the River, but two of them, with sevl other Vessels that came with supplies to the Rebel Camp were soon over taken, and fell into our hands: the former of which was a great acquisition to us, as they never after dared to shew us their Galleys again. Much praise is due to Capt Parker on this occasion (who led, in the *Phoenix*) for his steadyness & good conduct — when they drew near to the danger, the Pilot, in great confusion told him, that the marks which then appeared were not those that had been described to him, and he was totally at a loss. upon which C. [Captain] Parker, very prudently, immediately determined to take his chance where he knew the deepest water to be, which was Close to the eastern Shore, and which was the passage he came through when he passed down, before the obstruction of the Channel were said to be completed.³

1. Hamond, No. 5, UVL.

2. In the margin of his narrative, Hamond listed the losses of the three ships as follows:

The *Phoenix* lost a Midn & 2 Men & had several wounded.

The *Tartar* had a Midn killed & 2 or 3 woundd.

The *Roebuck* lost the 1st Lieutenant a Midshn & 2 Men and had 4 wounded.

The *Phoenix* actually had 4 killed and 13 wounded.

3. *Ibid.*, No. 1, a second version of the passing of the batteries is contained in a rough sheet attached to the narrative. It reads:

an American came into our Camp & stated that he was Brother to the Ferry Man who plyed from Fort Washington on the York side to Fort Lee on the Jersey shore, who had informed him that there was an opening in the Dam by which ships might pass, and had showed him where it was, and being asked if he would undertake to Pilot a ship through the opening, to which he assented for a Reward — The General upon this Information very strongly & officially pressed the Admiral to take advantage of this Information when 3 ships were ordered on that service the *Phoenix* Capt Parker *Roebuck* Capt Hamond & *Tartar* Capt Ommaney and embracing the first opportunity of a strong wind & flood Tide each ship followed in a Line after the other, having previously considered what would be best to be done in the Event of the Guide proving Treacherous a favorable opportunity offered abt Noon on when Capt Parker being senior officer Led the way & steered by the direction of the Guide towards the Middle of the Dam having Pistols laying on the Binnacle telling the guide what would be his Fate if the ships should stop in their passage. He for some time persisted in his

knowledge, but on the near approach confessed his perfect ignorance — Fortunately this had been so strongly suspected, that Capt Parker immedty hauld up to the side where it was known the deepest water lay — and the ships all passed within 40 yards of the Muzzles of the Enemys Guns in the Batterys of Fort Washington — amidst the fire of 100 Cannon from both sides of the River — in little more time than about 20 minutes —

LIEUTENANTS JEREMIAH PUTNAM AND NATHANIEL CLEAVES
TO GEORGE WASHINGTON¹

North River October the 9th 1776

Sir this is a Coppey of the precedings On Bord the galley *Independance* On the 8th Coll [Benjamin] Tupper sent Orders On Bord for Capt [John] Baker to prosceed On shore and that there Was no farther Buisness for him On Bord On the 9th at about 7 A M We Observed the Ships Below to Be moving We Imeadetly Cauld all Hands, after seeing the Other Galley Under way We hove Up and stood Up the river after them and When We got Above the Chevax De, free, spoke with Cook and askt what he Intended to Doo. He answerd that he Did not know But stood Up the River and said there Was Not Warter Enough to Goo in to the Creek the Wind Being Morderate We gained a head of them wich gave Us Encoregment to keep along it soon after Breezd Up & the Ships Gaind Upon Us fast: and at about 11 A M the[y] Began to fire Upon Us With their Bow Chases at About twelf they Over reacht Us wich Causd Us to Bare in Shore and at ½ P M We run her On shore Just Above Dobsey [Dobbs] Ferry Where We had not time Enough to Git Our people and things On shore in the Boates: and the shiping Began the fire Wich Obligd Us to Swim On shore. But no Lives Lost But, part of their Guns and Cheif of their Baggage, and I Observed the Enemy to hawl Up their Boats And man them, Wich, they Emeadetly Dropt On stern and fired a Bradside of Grape Shot as we Ley in the Bushes and Emeadetly sent their Boat On Bord With a Warp and hove her a long side from your [&c.]

Jerem^b Putnam Lt
Nathaniel Cleaves Liut

1. Washington Papers, LC.

MEMOIRS OF MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH¹

[Headquarters, near Harlem] 9th [October]. — Early in the morning, three ships, two of 40 guns, and one frigate, with two or three tenders, stood up the North River. They were briskly cannonaded from Fort Washington and Fort Constitution. They however passed our works and the chevaux-de-frise; the American galleys, small craft, and two large ships standing on before them. The two ships were run on shore near Phillips's mills, and two of the galleys near Dobbs' Ferry. The enemy took possession of the two galleys, and got them off. A boat landed a number of men, who plundered a store, stove the casks, and then set the store on fire, and left it. The Americans soon extinguished the fire.

Our General ordered Col. [Paul Dudley] Sargent, with 500 infantry, 40 light-horse, Capt. [Jotham] Horton of the artillery, with two 12 pounders, and Capt. [Edward] Crafts with a howitzer, to march immediately, with all possible expedition, to Dobbs' Ferry. The enemy took a schooner loaded with rum, sugar, wine, &c. and sunk a sloop, which had on board the machine, invented by, and under the direction of, a Mr. Bushnell, intended to blow up the British ships. This machine was worked under water. It conveyed a magazine of powder, which was to be fixed under the keel of a ship, then freed from the machine, and left with clock-work going, which was to produce fire when the machine had got out of the way. Mr. Bushnell had great confidence of its success, and had made several experiments which seemed to give him countenance; but its fate was truly a contrast to its design.²

1. Abbatt, ed., *Heath Memoirs*, 60-61.

2. Bushnell recovered the *Turtle*. See Appendix B.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK¹

[Extract]

Head Qurs, Heights of Haerlem
Octr the 9th [1776]

About 8 o'clock this morning, Two Ships of 44 Guns each, supposed to be the *Roebuck* & *Phoenix* and a Frigate of 20 guns, with Three or Four Tenders, got under way from about Blooming dale, where they had been lying some time and stood with an easy southerly breeze towards our Chevaux de Frise, which we hoped would have intercepted their passage while our Batteries played upon them, But to our surprise and mortification, they ran thro without the least difficulty and without receiving any apparent damage from our Forts, tho they kept up a heavy Fire from both sides of the River. their destination or views cannot be known with certainty, but most probably they are sent to stop the navigation and cut off the supplies of boards &c. which we should have received and of which we are in great need. They are standing up, and I have despatched an Express to the Convention of this State,² that notice may be immediately communicated to Genl [George] Clinton at the Highland Fortifications to put him on his guard in case they should have any designs against them and that precautions may be taken to prevent the Craft belonging to the River from falling into their hands.

1. Papers CC (Letters from George Washington), 152, III, 139, 141-42, NA.

2. *New York Provincial Congress*, I, 669.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH¹

Sir

Head Quarters 9th October 1776

I have this Moment yours of this Evening. The Party of 100 Men were ordered up to assist a Detachment of Artillery in covering the two New

Ships, should the Enemy attempt to cut them out or destroy them. Soon after I got home from Fort Washington I recd a Report that the Enemy had passed the new Ships and were landing at Dobb's Ferry, I then directed Colo [Joseph] Read to desire you, if that should be the Case to send the Field Peices and Howitzers forward if it should be judged necessary, and as Genl Clinton best knew the Ground to consult him upon the Necessity of sending on the Artillery, and if it was sent, that a strong covering Party should go with it. Till I recd yours I heard no more of the Matter. I am sorry you have been misinformed as to the Movement of the other Ships below, they have never stirred from their Moorings. You will therefore be pleased to order Capt Benson to be as expeditious as possible in getting the new Ships afloat and bringing them down to where they may be conveniently ballasted. I will take proper Care of the prisoners you are sending down —

While I was writing the above by his Excellency's Direction he went to Bed. I thought it a pity to disturb him to sign it. I therefore have the Honor to subscribe myself [&c.]

Tench Tilghman

1. Heath Papers, MassHS.

JOURNAL OF AMBROSE SERLE ¹

[On board H.M.S. *Eagle*, New York]
Wednesday, 9th [October].

This Morning the *Phoenix*, the *Roebuck* and the *Tartar* sailed up the North River above the Cheveaux de Frize of the Rebels under a heavy Discharge of their Cannon, which was not perceived to do them any Damage. The *Pearl* & *Repulse* kept where they were before; so that now the North River is in full Possession of His Majesty's Fleet, and the Retreat of the Rebels entirely cut off from N. Jersey. Their Vessels and Boats made the best of their Way up the River; but it is not yet known, whether any of them are destroyed or taken. The Rebels, we find, are deserting apace, are very sickly, and much dispirited. They are also retiring backward, destroying Corn & Hay as they go, further into New Jersey from Bergen & Newark, and the adjacent Parts.

1. Tatum, ed., *Serle's Journal*, 121.

DIARY OF FREDERICK MACKENZIE ¹

[New York] 9th Octr — At half past 7 in the morning The *Phoenix*, *Roebuck*, and *Tartar*, weighed anchor, and having the advantage of the flood tide, and a brisk Southerly wind, stood up the North River, followed by three or four small tenders. As soon as the Rebels perceived them under way, they beat to arms and manned all their batteries on each side of the River. About 8 o'Clock they began to fire very briskly at the Ships from

both sides, but particularly from the batteries near Kingsbridge and immediately opposite. The Ships fired but little, and in about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour had entirely passed those batteries without receiving any damage that could be observed by us. In their passage up, while we could see them, they drove about 20 sail of small craft before them, some of which they took. About 10 o'Clock they were again fired on by Some of the Batteries up the River, but as they were then out of our sight, it was not known what the consequence was.

This movement is certainly connected with the general plan for the attack of the Enemy, and points out clearly that our operations are intended against Mr Washington's Army on this Island.

1. *Mackenzie's Diary*, I, 75.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE RHODE ISLAND
FRIGATE COMMITTEE ¹

Gentlemen

[Philadelphia] October 9th 1776 —

We have been presented with a Letter from John Langdon Esquire Continental Agent at Portsmouth in New Hampshire to Josiah Bartlett Esquire a member of Congress, giving a very extraordinary account of your proceedings in respect to the Canon cast in your State for the use of the Continental Frigates. He says that the frigates at Providence cannot be ready to go to sea for two or three months, and that the frigate at New Hampshire waits only for Cannon, which under One pretence or other you have refused to supply him with altho they are lying useless in Rhode Island, and another Set might be cast in time for your ships. He represents your refusal of his reasonable request as having its foundation partly in interested motives and partly in Jealousy of the New Hampshire ship being at Sea before yours.

We cannot pretend to judge of the propriety of his Observations having only heard One side, but if the representation he has made be a just one, we shall think the Continental Interest was much misplaced when put into the hands of those who are capable of acting from such Motives against the public good. You'll observe we do [not] pretend to decide on your conduct, because we are willing to hear your defence of it. Mr Langdon is a Gentleman of character and puts his name to what he writes, therefore we suppose he will be ready to make good his charge, however it is not our present purpose to inquire into your conduct at this time, but to inform you that we have sent Mr Langdon Orders to call on you again for a Set of Cannon suitable for the New Hampshire Frigate, & as we understand those Cannon are paid for out of the Moneys you have received and drawn for, We now direct and insist that a compleat set of the Cannon most suitable for that Ship be immediately delivered to the said John Langdon Esquire or to his order for the use of the Continental Frigate the *Raleigh* now at Portsmouth, and we request that you will render him or his Agents all the assistance in your

power in transporting the said Cannon to Portsmouth in the most safe and expeditious manner. Mr Langdon has said nothing about Shot or other stores, but as it is our business to consider and attend to the Continental Interest at large abstracted from Jarring Interest or Jealousy of one State against another we likewise desire you may Supply Mr Langdon with Shott or any other Stores you have provided for the Continental service provided he wants them to expedite the sailing of the *Raleigh* which is now under Orders for immediate service. We also inform you that we shall send an Agent to inspect the state of the Frigates built under your direction that we may include them in our intended report to Congress.— We are Gentlemen [&c.]²

1. Marine Committee Letter Book, 27–28, NA.

2. *Ibid.*, the Marine Committee also wrote this date to Stephen Hopkins: “We hope Sir, that, your attachment to the general Interests of America, Your regard to the character of your State and your Friends employed therein, and your influence in that State will all combine to have those abuses re[c]tified. . . .”

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE RHODE ISLAND
FRIGATE COMMITTEE¹

Gentlemen

[Philadelphia] October 9th 1776

We the Subscribers Members of the Marine Committee of Congress being duely authorized to give such directions as may conduce to the Service of the United States of America in all things relative to this department, are now of opinion that a Compleat Set of the Cannon you have had Cast for the Continental Service ought to be applied to the immediate use of the *Raleigh* Frigate and therefore do Order and direct that you deliver a sufficient number of the most suitable Cannon for that Ship to John Langdon Esquire or to his Agent employed for the purpose of receiving and forwarding the same to Portsmouth, and for so doing this shall be your Warrant. Given under our hands at the Marine Office in Philadelphia the day and year above written. —

1. Marine Committee Letter Book, 28–29, NA.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN NATHANIEL FALCONER¹

Sir

[Philadelphia] October 9th 1776 —

You are hereby authorized and directed to repair to Providence in Rhode Island and there view examine and inspect two frigates lately built & now lying at that place. You are to call on the respectable Committee of Gentlemen under whose direction they were built and are to be fitted; give them notice of your arrival and appointment to this service, require from them an Inventory of the Continental Stores provided for these Ships, and examine into the quality of the same compareing the said Stores with the Inventory to see that they agree, and you are to make report as soon as may be to this Committee of the State and condition of these Ships, as to the Strength, workmanship, beauty and other qualitys, also as to the quality

and quantity of Stores, Number of Men and Officers belonging to them and of their forwardness for the Sea; and all persons employed in the building or fitting of said Frigates are hereby required to aid and assist you if need there be in performing the service hereby enjoined you, and for so doing this shall be your Warrant.

Given under our hands at the Marine Office the day and year first above written.

1. Marine Committee Letter Book, 29, NA.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO JOHN LANGDON¹

Sir

[Philadelphia] October 9th 1776. —

Your friend Mr Bartlett having laid before this board your Letter to him of the 14th Ultimo respecting the conduct of the Committee at Providence Rhode Island, on your applying to them for Cannon for the *Raleigh*, this conduct appears to us in the most extraordinary point of light, but as it is unbecoming of public Bodies, to condemn the conduct of any before they are heard in their own defence, We have wrote them of this date telling the points of which you complain and ordering them to deliver you a compleat set of the Continental Cannon in their possession those that are most suitable for the *Raleigh*, and further we have directed them to deliver you Shot or any other Continental Stores they have, if you think them necessary to expedite the sailing of that ship. we have also requested them to afford you any assistance in their power in transporting the cannon and Stores safe and soon to Portsmouth. We may not omit telling you that we have thought it only common justice to send Governor [Stephen] Hopkins a Copy of your Letter as the Commee were all of his appointment. We have said that deeming you a Gentleman of honor we doubt not but you will support the charge made against them, and under that belief we think it is justly your due and return you thanks for the information given us, as well as for your apparent solicitude for the public good. We have determined to have the Frigates inspected, and report made thereon. Before we close we must request your utmost exertions to get the *Raleigh* out to Sea, and the Captains and other Officers Commissions will now go forward immediatly We are sir [&c.]

1. Marine Committee Letter Book, 29-30, NA.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE NEW YORK CONVENTION¹

Gentlemen

[Philadelphia] October 9th 1776 —

Having received information that some of the enemies Ships of war and Tenders have passed the obstructions laid in Hudsons River, and got above the same; we are very anxious for the fate of the Frigates now building in your State. We therefore earnestly desire to direct your close attention to some probable means of securing the said Ships; either by launching

them immediately, if possible, and removing them to some place of greater Safety, or by such other Methods as your wisdom shall devise. With great respect. We are Gentn [&c.]

1. Marine Committee Letter Book, 30, NA.

Pennsylvania Gazette, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1776

Philadelphia, October 9.

By a letter from Boston, dated Sept. 30, we are informed . . . Captain [William] Co[a]s, of the *Warren* privateer, has carried into Newburyport, or Cape Ann, a very rich prize, laden with sugar, rum, cotton, plate and money.¹

We hear a large prize ship from Jamaica, taken by the *General Montgomery* privateer of this port, is ashore on the Cross Ledge, in our Bay; but it is expected she will be got off, by taking out part of the cargo.²

By a vessel from Cape Francois we learn, that a French 50 gun ship was cruizing off that place to protect the trade; that two prizes had been carried in there and sold by Captain Monro [James Munro], of Rhode-Island;³ and that they will not suffer the English men of war to go in there for water.

1. The ship *Picary*, 400 tons, carried into Cape Ann.

2. The ship *Thetis*, 300 tons burden, taken by the Pennsylvania privateer brig *General Montgomery*, James Montgomery.

3. See Volume 5.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD¹

[Williamsburg] Wednesday 9th Octr 1776. –

Ordered that a Warrant Issue to Joseph Harrison for Ten pounds nine shillings & ten pence for Medicines furnished for the use of the Brig *Liberty*. –

Present Mr [John] Hutchings –

Ordered that a Warrant Issue to Thomas Pollard for Thirty three pounds, on Account, to recruit Seamen for the use of the Navy, who gave Bond together with Richard Mitchell his Security in the Penalty of sixty [six] pounds Conditioned for his faithfully applying the said Money and rendering a Just and true Account thereof to the Board when required –

Ordered that Colo William Aylett deliver for the use of the Seamen on Board the *Hero* Galley two pieces of Oznabrigs and as much thread as may be Necessary for making the same up. –

Ordered that the keeper of the Public Store deliver for the use of the Marines on Board the *Hero* Galley one piece of Oznabrigs. –

Ordered that Colo William Finnie deliver for the use of the Seamen and Marines on Board the *Hero* Galley five Dozen pair of Yarn Stockings –

Ordered that the keeper of the Public Store deliver unto Capt Richard Barron five Bolts of Sail Cloth, six pounds of Twine and one Lanthorn for the use of the Boat *Patriot* –

Ordered that a Warrant Issue to Lieut Samuel Arell One hundred Pounds, upon Account, to Purchase Necessaries for the use of his Company Marines —

1. Navy Board Journal, 68, 70, VSL.

VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD TO CAPTAIN CHARLES THOMAS, WARWICK ¹

Sir,

Williamsburg Octor 9th 1776 —

You are desir'd to get the following Articles ready as early as possible for the use of the *Lewis* Galley and send them to James Town

- 1 -- 5 Inch Horne . . . 50 Fathom
- 1 .. Coil . . . 2½ Rope for Tackle fall
- 1 -- Do . . . 2 do
- 300 lb of 9 Thread Ratling for Netting
- 4 .. 9 Inch double blocks —
- 4 -- Single . . . do
- 12 .. 5 Inch . . . do

By order of the Naval Board Yr Hb'l'e Servant
Thomas Whiting 1st Comr.²

1. Navy Board Letter Book, VSL.

2. *Ibid.*, this date Thomas was requested to supply similar articles for the *Defiance*, Captain Callender, and the *Page*, Captain Markham.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD ¹

Charlestown, South-Carolina, Wednesday, 9th October 1776

In pursuance of an act of the General Assembly, passed the 4th October 1776 The following Commissioners Edw Blake &c to Superintend and direct the Naval affairs of this State, met and previous to their forming a board, took the following Oath of Qualification vizt.

I Do Swear that I will well and truly Execute the duties of my Office, as a Commissioner of the Navy Board to the best of my skill and Judgment. So help me God.

The Commissioners then proceeded to the election of the First Commissioner and Edward Blake Esqr. was by a majority of votes chosen First Commissioner of the Navy, and took his seat accordingly —

Resolved That the following Advertisement, for a Clerk of the Board, be published vizt.

The Commissioners of the Navy Board, give this public Notice that they are in want of a Clerk, whose duty and Business will be, to keep Regular Accots. and Journals of all Transactions, Relating to the said Board, also, when required, to go on Board the Vessels of War in the service of this State, & take exact accounts of the Officers & Seamen on board, to pay off the wages due them Respectively, & to make proper returns thereof to the said Board, on Oath, The Salary allowed for such Business will be Fourteen Hundred pounds per Annum. Any person

willing to engage will apply before Nine OClock on Saturday morning, the 12th Instant by letter directed to, Edward Blake, First Commissioner.

The Board upon enquiry into the state of the Navy, found that there was a vacancy for a Captain to command the brigantine-of-war *Comet*.

Ordered That the Following Letter be sent to the General Assembly then sitting. Vizt. To the Honble James Parsons Esq., Speaker, & Gentlemen of the General Assembly —

The Commissioners of the Navy Board on Enquiry find that a Captain is wanted for the Brigt *Comet* They recommend Captain Stephen Seymour, & Captain Edward Allen, as fit Persons for the Legislature to make choice of —

1. A. S. Salley, Jr., ed., *Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779* (Columbia, 1912), 5–6. Hereafter cited as Salley, ed., *South Carolina Navy Board*.

South-Carolina and American General Gazette, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2
TO WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1776

Charlestown, October 9.

We hear from Savannah, that the Men of War have left that River; so there is not now one of the Enemy's Vessels in South-Carolina or Georgia. It is said, there are some in Cape-Fear River in North-Carolina.

Yesterday two French Sloops arrived here from Hispaniola; the Cargo of one of them, consisting of Linens, Thread, Brandy, Rum, Liqueors, Claret, Sweet Oil, Paper, Soap, Nails, &c. is to be sold by publick Outcry at Mess. Lever and Greenwood's Store, on Friday next, the 11th. instant, at 9 o'Clock in the Forenoon.

COUNT D'ENNERY, GOVERNOR OF SANTO DOMINGO, TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE ¹

[Extract]

Port au Prince, 9 October 1776

P. S. I must add that besides the English frigate cruising near the end of the mole to intercept Insurgent Vessels, there is another cruising off Cap [Haitien] and Fort Dauphin for the same purpose; M. de Monteil is watching the mole; surely he will not tolerate any insults and at the very least he will comply with Instructions. Since Cap remains unguarded, I will send M. de Beaussier there as soon as possible because he is sighting and learning nothing during his cruise; this will not take place before the end of November however. M. de Monteil wants to leave without delay having only three months provisions left. I pointed out to him that I would keep him on my own responsibility until I receive your orders concerning him or until the arrival of other frigates which could relieve him. I shall give him the order in writing to stay here because, in the present circumstances, it is at least suitable, and necessary that two of the King's frigates remain on station

here. I hope that you will approve the orders which I am issuing M. de Monteil and M. de Beaussier in this matter. As I reported upon first receipt, we have news that a lively action took place in New York between the Royalists and the Insurgents; in any case, it cannot be decisive and I believe that the campaign of the English has been a failure since they will have to begin another one next year, which will prove very costly in any case.

1. AN, Marine B⁴, 128, LC Photocopy.

MASTER'S LOG OF H. M. SLOOP *Hawke*¹

Octr 1776 So most Sugar loaf NE 1 mile Body of St Vintcent S1½E dist off[f] Shore 2 miles
 Wednesday 9th AM at 8 sent the boat mannd and Arm'd to Examine a Sloop to the So ward Exercis'd Great Guns and small arms.
 [Variable Weather] PM at 1 The boat return'd with the Master of the Sloop finding his Papers not sufficient detain'd her. Sent the Lieut 1 midshipman & 7 men to carry her to St Vintcent

1. PRO, Admiralty 52/1780.

10 Oct.

COMMODORE CHARLES DOUGLAS TO CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL,
 H.M.S. *Blonde*¹

Sir

Sorel October the 10th 1776

Hereby acknowledging the late receipt of your letter and weekly account; I acquaint you, that so many things have concurred to retard my progress towards Quebec; that I despair of reaching Champlain before the 12th In the meantime, lest I should be still farther retarded, I take this method of expressing my earnest desire, of your getting the *Blonde* down below the Rapids to take in your lumber out of the *Lord Howe*: to the end that she may get down to the Bason, in order to be in readiness to proceed towards England, at a very short notice — where I wish to see us all speedily reunited: that we may concert measures how to dispose of His Majestys very important naval concerns in this River; in such manner; as shall be most for the interest of Government.

By what I have learnt, I think it probable that General Carleton did on Tuesday Evening or yesterday morning find our flotilla in readiness to go in quest of that of the Rebels so that we may shortly Expect important news from the farther end of Lake Champlain — As the *Inflexible* is of the party, I am not uneasy about the event — Her Keel was laid on the 5th of September, she was launched the 30th, and sailed the 4th instant: by no means the last of the Armament — All the Carpenters work bestow'd upon

her; until launching; did not exceed 12 men's labor for 16 days — By Lieutenant [John] Schank's contrivance and close unremitting diligence, Seamen did the rest of the business — If you have no occasion for the aid of the *Lord How's* men to get your Ship down send them forthwith to theirs — But I hope this may not find you at Champlain — am with great regard Sir [&c.]

Ch^s Douglas

1. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, CL.

WILLIAM BARTLETT TO GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

Hond Sir

Beverly 10th Octor 1776. —

I once more take the Liberty to write your Excellency which at this time when you are so deeply engaged against Our unnatural Enemies would Gladly Omitt did I not think it my duty therefore beg you'll Excuse it —

I wrote your Excellency some time Since, Concerning those Prizes, taken by Comm[odor]e Manly Viz the Ordnance Brige. *Nancey Ship Concord* & Ship *Jenny* Genl Miffilin having Recd a Part of Each Cargo Agreeable to your Order without any Prise being Stipulated In events their being Settld and the poor Captors are kept Out of their money some of which being in the Army while their famileys are here Almost Suffering for want off the Necessaries of Life Your Excellency Answer I Recd with the Greatest Pleasure in which you informed me you would Order Genl Miffilin to have a Valuation made upon those Goods and Transmitted me in Order for Settlement but have not as Yet Received it Beg your Excellency will Excuse me and not receive this as dictating, as I well know your Excellency to be full of humanity am Well Assured it would have been done Long since had not your time ben taken up in Matters of more and Grater importance.

If your Excellency will please to Order me to Charge the United States for the Coals out of Ship *Jenny* at the Same rate the remainder was sold for being about Eleven dollars p Chaldron that Ship may be settled —

Your Excellency was Pleas'd to Appoint or have Appointed a Committee to Apprize the Ordinance Stores they have presented their Bill to me for payment Butt have put it off untill I should receive your Excellency Orders they having Chargd One hundred Pounds L[awful] Money for their Trouble —

When your Excellency finds it Convenient to have Transmitted me the Value reced out of Ship *Concord* and the Valuation of the Ordinance Stores with Orders for Settlement Beg you'll Give me Orders to draw for what money I may want together with what remains in my hands to be Sufficient to pay the Captors —

Your Excellency may rely on my fidelity in not drawing for any more then will be sufficient for that purpose

Capt Bradford of Boston who has Supereceded me in my Agency Says he has Orders to Settle with all the Old Agents beg your Excellency Orders with respect to it

I shall forever acknowledge with Gratitude to your Excellency that Honour you was pleas'd to Confer on me in appointing me Agent for this department and hope have transacted the Business to your Excellency's Satisfaction

The Reflection join'd to the impeachment which is Generally implie'd or at least understood by a dismissal from any Office under Government has I confess given me very Sensible pain

If your Excellency thinks me Capable and Worthy of being reinstated in the Office of agency for this department hope shall do honour in my Station and shall Ever acknowledge the favour with the Gratest Gratitude

Hope that being who Governs all things both in heaven and in Earth will preserve & Protect you from falling into the hands of those Unnatural Enemies and that you may be the means under him of driving them Back to their Native Land Asham'd

Wishing your Excellency all that Happiness that can be enjoy'd in this Life Beg Leave to subscribe my self Your Excellency's [&c.]

William Bartlett

1. Washington Papers, LC.

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT¹

[Watertown] Thursday Octr 10th 1776.

Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of Machias. — representing, that unjustifiable Methods had been taken to injure the Character of Captain Jeremiah Obrien — and vindicating it in the highest terms —

In Council. Read, & Order'd, that Henry Gardner Esqr with such as the Honble House shall join, and that the same Committee take into Consideration the several Charges, & Accusations which have been made against Capt Jeremiah Obrien, and report thereon as soon as may be —

In the House of Representatives. Read, & Concurred, & are join'd —

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 36, 7, 11.

Independent Chronicle, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1776

Boston, October 10.

Last Tuesday arrived here from a Cruize, the armed Schooner *Lynch*, Capt. John Ayers, who on Friday, Sept. 27, in Lat. 39, 45 and Long. 49, 00. saw a Fleet of 49 Sail, among which were 5 Frigates, and two 3 Deckers. One of the Frigates gave him Chase, which continued from Noon, till half past 11 at Night; and was at one Time within 2 Miles of him, and finding he overhauled him so fast, was obliged to through over-board his Guns, stave his Water, &c. — and by it's growing dark, was the Means of his escaping being taken.¹

A Sloop, laden with Lumber, was, last Saturday, sent into this Port, by Capt. [Daniel] Waters. She was from the Eastward, and bound to New-York, to supply those very Blood-Hounds of Britain there, whose hellish

Cry continually is, Havoc, Blood, Murder and Plunder, from the cowardly, Yankey, American Rebels. 'Tis really a Pity some Method could not be taken to banish those Sons of Tyranny, Oppression and Slavery, out of this (determined to be) free Western American Empire.²

Last Friday was sent into Marblehead, by Captain [Jonathan] Greely, in the Privateer *Speedwell*, fitted out from this Place, a Prize Snow, from England, bound to New-York. She has on board the following Articles of Provision, 56896 wt. Bread, 8020 wt. Pork, 256 Bushels and 7 Gallons Pease, 257 Bushels Oat-Meal, 16000 wt. Beef, 12064 wt. Flour, 4136 wt. Rice, 4101 wt. Raisins, 165 Gallons Oil, 537 do. Vinegar, 3500 do. Spirits, 4645 wt. Butter, and 460 dozen Candles.³

Monday last, was sent into this Port, a Prize Ship, upwards 300 Tons, from the same Place, for New-York, with like Articles as the Snow above-mentioned, only with the Addition of four 3-Pounders, and 6 Swivels. Taken by Capt. [Silas] Atkins, jun.⁴

On Friday, the 18th October, At XI in the Morning, Will be sold by Public Vendue, At Swanzey, The Brigantines *Henrietta* and *William and Mary*, and their Cargoes, consisting of about 430 Hogsheads of Rum, and 40 Hogsheads of Sugar, &c.

J. Russell, Auctioneer.

The two Brigs will be put up at 12 o'Clock, one of them is 130 Tons, and the other 80 Tons, both of them are fast sailing Vessels, and well found.

At Public Auction, in Providence, Will be sold, at the Wharf of Messieurs Clark and Nightingale, On Wednesday, the 16th of October, The Ship *Blaze-Castle*, Frigate built, a prime Sailer, about 7 Years old, burthen 360 Tons, peirced for 18 Guns, English built; together with her Cargo, Consisting of Oil, Rum, Sugar, Cotton, and about one hundred Pipes old sterling Madeira Wine.

The Sale of the *Carolina Packet*, and her Cargo, will [be] on Thursday, the 24th Instant, October, at Plymouth.

1. Ayres was chased by H. M. S. *Unicorn*, see *New-York Gazette*, October 21, 1776.

2. The *Sally*, 90 tons, from Halifax with fish and lumber, taken by Washington's schooner *Lee*.

3. The *St. George*, Benjamin Bidgood, master.

4. The ship *George*, George Grey, master, was taken by the Massachusetts privateer schooner *Boston*.

Continental Journal, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1776

Boston, October 10.

Same day [October 7] Capt Forrest¹ return'd to Salem from a cruize, in which he has taken 5 prizes, one of which is of considerable value, as the bills of laden of her cargo that is come to hand amounts to £ 36,000 sterl. Capt. Forrest put his prisoners ashore at Cape Finister, where he was inform'd that the Spaniards had made a public Declaration of War against Portugal, and were ravaging the frontiers of that kingdom.

1. Captain Simon Forrester of the Massachusetts privateer sloop *Rover*.

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO MAJOR GENERAL HORATIO GATES ¹

[Extract]

Valcouer Octr 10th 1776 —

I am much surprised so little Attention is paid to us by the good People below, I should have imagined, Two hundred Seamen could have ben sent us, in three, or four Months, after they were so pressingly wrote for. — I make not the least doubt there has ben the greatest Industry Used at Ty, in fitting out the fleet, I am glad to hear the other Gally is so forward, I expect to see her the first fair wind —

The Cloathing which is arived is a sufficient supply of the kind, we much want One hundred pr Shoes. & Hose, One hundred Watch Coats, Fifty pair Breetches, & Twenty Blankets & hatts — or Caps — We are Vic-tualled for abt Ten Days. —

You may depend I shall do nothing of Consequence, without Consulting Genl Waterbury, & Colonel Wiggelsworth, both of whom, I esteem Judicious honest Men, & good Soldiers — We Cannot at Present Determine how long it will be requisite to remain here. It may depend on the Intelligence we may receive — we shall Not return One Minute Sooner than is prudent. & necessary.

I have received no late Intelligence From the Northward, the loss of the small Canoes, (All we had) has prevented my sending out small Parties. I have wrote Colonel [Jonathan] Trumbull [Jr.] to Send me three or four which may be procured at Ty. or at Crown Point. —

I am of Opinion with you respecting the Battery building at River a Cote, that the Enemy, are Acting on the Defensive, they are at the same time Exerting themselves, to Augment their Navy, & if they hear (in Time) that Lord How is in Possession of New York, they will doubtless At-tempt a Junction with him. If they think it practicable, their Fleet. I make no Doubt in the Course of this Month will be very Formidable, if not equal, to Ours. —

I have taken Two four Pounders From the *Liberty* for the *Trumbull*, & three of her small Guns, there is others at C Point Suitable for Her, & Colo-nel [Thomas] Hartley may be supplied with large ones for his Castle from Ty. — The Schooner goes up for Provisions I wish she may be, emediately dispatched Back — the Guns may be ready when she returns at Present she does not want them. —

I am, extreemly glad You have represented to Congress & Genl Schuy-ler the Absolute Necessity of Augmentg Our Navy, on the Lake, It. ap-pears to me an Object of the utmost Importance, I hope measures will be emediately taken for that Purpose — There is water between C Point & Point Aux Feu for Vessels of the largest Size, I am of Opinion that Row Gallies are of the best. Construction & Cheapest for this Lake, perhaps it may be well to have One Frigate of Thirty Six Guns, she may carry Eight-teen pounders on the Lake & will be Superior to Any Vessel that can be built at, & Floated from St Johns — Carpenters ought to be emediately employed

to Cut Timber & Plank — & three hundred set at Work at Skensborough the 1st of Feby — of these Matters I hope we shall have time to Confer hereafter.

1. Gates Papers, Box 4, NYHS.

DIARY OF JOSHUA PELL, JR.¹

[Pointe au Fer]

10th Oct'r our little squadron sail'd from Point au Fer toward the upper or great Lake; about 12 o'clock on the 11th one of our arm'd boats espied their Fleet at anchor in the Bay of Belcour [Valcour]. Our arm'd Boats immediately rush'd in amongst them and engag'd them without waiting for orders; the *Carlton* went to their assistance, and kept a continual firing until dark, during which time we destroyed a Schooner called the *Royal Savage*, and greatly damaged another; unluckily for us, the wind chang'd and hindered the other part of our Squadron from giving the *Carlton* any assistance; had it not thus happen'd, in all probability, the Rebels whole fleet would have been destroy'd. Our loss consist in two Arm'd Boats been sunk; about ten men kill'd and sixteen wounded. The loss of the Rebels is not positively known.

I do justice to Capt'n Dacres, he behav'd like a true British Tar; he was engaged by five of them together, and when order'd to join his squadron he would not, till the General's own Boat came on board with positive Orders to dissist.

The Rebels Fleet consisted of sixteen sail of schooners, sloops and Row Galleys. The Rebels Anchor'd close under the Land, and our Indians did them considerable damage with their small arms from the shore.

1. "Diary of Joshua Pell, Jr.," *Magazine of American History*, II, 46.

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON TO EDWARD RUTLEDGE¹

[Extract]

You have heard that 3 ships have passed fort Washington & gone up the river with out meeting with the least difficulty from all those obstructions which we have attempted to create — I am not surprized at it having long ago from the manner in which that work was conducted predicted what has hapned & proposed to the Genl what wd have secured us agt the whole navy of England at Less expence than this has cost us — The sinking blocks tho' he inclined to it it was over ruled at head Quars
10th Octr 1776 Fishkill

1. Robert R. Livingston Papers, 1765-1776, LC.

COLONEL JOSEPH REED TO MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH ¹

Sir

The General [Washington] desires you would immediately order a sufficient Party of Men under Capn Cook to get off & bring down the Vessel which is grounded above. And that in the mean Time the ballastry the rest be proceeded in with all possible Expedition. It is of so much Consequence that his Excellency begs the utmost Attention may be paid to it. I am sir [&c.]

Jos: Reed Adj. Genl

[Headquarters] Oct. 10. 1776

1. Heath Papers, MassHS.

COLONEL GEORGE WEEDON TO JOHN PAGE ¹

[Extract]

Camp Haerlam Highths Octobr 10th 1776 –

My dear Sir, Since I wrote you last nothing very Material has happened with our Army and that of our Enemies, now and then, a few shot are exchanged by the scouting parties, except that, we have been very friendly Neighbours since the 16th Ulto in this Quarter, nor do we understand any thing of Consequence has taken place in Canada, Burgoing [Burgoyne] is on one side the lake perpairing to cross with a very large fleet, of Boats and some Arm'd Vessells, Genl Gates is ready to receive him at Ticonderago where he has a well Regulated Army in high spirits, The place well Fortified, and a fleet nearly equal to his, Our lines at this place are now very Formidable and I think sufficient to defend against twice our Number, The Troops Desart from each Army almost every night, four Sentinals left their posts two nights ago and went over to the Enemy, all of them Irishmen, four from the Enemy came over to us yesterday morning, are of the same Kidney. — Lord Stirling was yesterday Exchanged for Govr Brown of [New] providence, he got to Head Quarters in the Evening, and relates his treatment whilst a prisoner was very polite from those in High rank, except Dunmore, who Vissited him the Morning after the Battle on the Island, with one Epthorþ, The latter treated him with Complaisance, but our Old acquaintance on whose enterlex this Climate has had no Impression, Accosted him thus, "So, how do you do, I am sorry to see you in such D——nd Black Company," (meaning other officers who ware Prisoners in the same room) He Observed to him, it was poor Consolation to Gentlemen officers who the chance of war had put in his power, and remarked, he had not of late been so fimiliar with Black Company as his LdShip, This wheel'd him on his heel, and since he never would see him — his Lordship has returned to us Exceeding hearty, and brings account that Burgoyings Light Horse arived at N. York three days ago, They ware four months at sea, you may Guess the Order they landed in, besides this they lost 70 of them on the passage, The last Division of Hessians with a very large Fleet of Transports are still at sea, they are Bringing out several

Hundred Waggon Horses, Waggons, Carts, flat Bottom Boats &c, &c, and is call'd the Grand Fleet, I hope the equinox has some hidden blast in store for them, . . . I inclose you a rough sketch of this most horrid Country, now the seat of war, by it you may form some Idiea of the Advantages the Enemy has over us in their Shiping, and dair say you'll wonder how this Army has so long escaped, when you come to see the Number of creeks, Rivers, and Guts that make into it, all of which are Navigable for almost any ship, and at this time a 28 Gun Frigate lays in Hellgate, a place not much wider then the Streets of Williamsburg, I dair say Andrews may be able to form a pritty Exact sketch from the one sent, the distances are laid down by Griffith who is well Acquainted wth every part . . .

1. Weedon Papers, ChHS. Page was chairman of the Virginia Council of Safety.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW YORK, OCT. 10"¹

On the 8th of October 340 rebels, in five flat-bottomed boats, with two pieces of cannon, came down Harlem river a little past four in the morning, and attacked an out-post of ours on Montresor Island, where there were about 80 men. The *Brune* frigate being at anchor near the Island, fired at the boats in the dark, and by the first shot sunk one of them full of men; and after a short skirmish they were beat off the island. Their loss is not exactly known, but they left a major and 27 men wounded. Our loss fell upon the 71st regiment, of which four were killed and six wounded. Had it not been for the darkness of the morning, in all probability few, if any at all of them had escaped; for the frigate was obliged to cease firing, because she could not distinguish our people from the enemy.

1. *Whitehall Evening Post*, November 16 to November 19, 1776.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Philadelphia] Thursday, October 10, 1776

The Marine Committee having recommended Captain Abraham Whipple, of the ship *Columbus*, to the command of the *Providence* frigate, at Rhode Island,

Resolved, That he be promoted accordingly.

The Committee farther reported on the rank of the captains of the navy of the United States, which was agreed to as follows:

		Guns.
1. Jas. Nicholson, of the	<i>Virginia</i> ,	28
2. John Manly,	<i>Hancock</i> ,	32
3. Hector M'Neil,	<i>Boston</i> ,	24
4. Dudley Saltonstall,	<i>Trumbull</i> ,	28
5. Nicholas Biddle,	<i>Randolph</i> ,	32
6. Thomas Thompson,	<i>Raleigh</i> ,	32
7. John Barry,	<i>Effingham</i> ,	28

8. Thomas Reed,	<i>Washington,</i>	32
9. Thomas Grennell,	<i>Congress,</i>	28
10. Charles Alexander,	<i>Delaware,</i>	24
11. Lambert Wickes,	<i>Reprisal,</i>	16
12. Abraham Whipple,	<i>Providence,</i>	28
13. John Hopkins,	<i>Warren,</i>	32
14. John Hodge,	<i>Montgomery,</i>	24
15. William Hallock,	<i>Lexington,</i>	16
16. Hoysted Hacker,	<i>Hampden,</i>	
17. Isaiah Robinson,	<i>Andrew Doria,</i>	14
18. John Paul Jones,	<i>Providence,</i>	12
19. James Josiah,		
20. Elisha Hinman,	<i>Alfred,</i>	28
21. Joseph Olney,	<i>Cabot,</i>	16
22. James Robinson,	<i>Sachem,</i>	10
23. John Young,	<i>Independence,</i>	10
24. Elisha Warner,	<i>Fly,</i>	
Lieut. [John] Baldwin,	<i>Wasp,</i>	8
Lieut. [Thomas] Albert- son,	<i>Musquito,</i>	4

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be empowered to settle the rank of the lieutenants of the navy.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare the form of an oath to be taken by the officers of the army and navy:

The members chosen, Mr. [George] Wythe, Mr. [Thomas] Stone, and Mr. [Robert Treat] Paine.

The Board of War brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That General Schuyler be directed to take such steps as are necessary, for procuring a sufficient number of as large vessels as the navigation of the lakes will admit of, for the service of the states the next campaign, that the command of the lakes may be effectually secured:

That General Washington be directed, if he shall judge it necessary, to sink the new ships mentioned in his letter of the 5th instant.

Resolved, That the farther consideration of the report be postponed.

The Board of Treasury reported, that there is due,

To Captain Hazlewood, Captain [William] Greenway and Mr. [Gunning] Bedford, a balance of 267 10/90ths dollars, their whole account of their charge for preparing six sail of fire ships at New York, and their expences going to, in, and coming from, New York to Philadelphia, being 392 10/90ths dollars; of which they have received from S. Moylan, Esqr quarter master general, the sum of 125 dollars; the remainder is 267 10/90ths dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS¹

Sir,

[Philadelphia] October. 10th 1776—

We learned some time ago with much concern that the expedition we had planed for you to execute, woud prove abortive; as the ships had gone out a Cruizing under the sanction of Governor Trumbulls recommendation, with which we cannot be well satisfied, altho in this instance, we are disposed to pass it by in silence being well convinced both he and the several Captains meant to perform service at a time the Ships were idle. Supposing therefore that you will have been obliged to lay aside the expedition to Newfoundland, We now direct, that you immediately collect the *Alfred*, *Columbus*, *Cabbot* & *Hampden*, take them under your command and proceed for Cape Fear in North Carolina where you will find the following Ships of war

The *Falcon* of 18 Guns

The *Scorpion* of 16 Guns &

the *Cruizer* of 8 Guns & a

number of valuable prizes said to be 40 or 50 in number, and other vessels under their protection the whole of which you will make prize of with ease. We understand they have erected a kind of a fort on Baldhead at the entrance of Cape fear River but it being only manned with a few people from these Ships we expect you will easily reduce it and put the same in possession of the State of North Carolina or dismantle it as may appear best. When you have performed this service you had best deliver to the Continental Agents there such of your prizes as may sell well or be useful in North Carolina others you may convoy into Virginia or this place for we don't recommend your remaining at North Carolina for fear of being blocked up there; perhaps you will receive advice that will render it eligible to proceed farther Southward to rout the enemies ships at South Carolina and Georgia and if that is practicable you have not only our approbation but our Orders for the attempt.

We hope, Sir, you will not loose one single moment after receipt of this Letter but proceed instantly on this expedition. We are sir [&c.]

P:S: Should the *Cabbot* be still on a Cruise, or if returned cannot be ready to proceed upon the Above expedition as early as one of the frigates lately launched at Rhode Island, you will proceed with the later in lieu of the *Cabot* as soon as she can be prepared for the Sea or you may take both the *Cabot* and frigate if to be done without delay. We wish your plan for manning this fleet from the State of Rhode Island may prove effectual, and we do in the warmest manner urge you to omit nothing on your part which may tend to promote so important a purpose and which we have most earnestly at heart. The Commissions for the officers of the frigates will be forwarded immediately — ²

1. Marine Committee Letter Book, 30-31, NA.

2. The postscript only is in the Hopkins Papers, RIHS, and is signed by eight members of the Marine Committee: John Hancock, Robert Morris, William Ellery, Josiah Bartlett, Thomas McKean, Richard Henry Lee, William Hooper, and Arthur Middleton. An

endorsement reads: "Honourd Sir Have Taken the Liberty to open it and Find That it Should be Forwarded Immediately, have Sealed and Dispatch it / our Ship is all Ready but maning your Dutifull Son J. B. Hopkins." The endorser was commander of the frigate *Warren*, which still lay off Providence.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO HENRY TUCKER AND
THOMAS GODET, BERMUDA ¹

Gentlemen

[Philadelphia] October 10th 1776

We have occasion for a quantity of Salt to cure beef & Pork the ensuing season for the use of our fleet and dont care to buy up what arrives here transiently as the people are much in want of that article, and would murmer were it to be bought off their hands. We therefore request that you will immediately on receipt of this letter Charter five or Six good fast sailing large Sloops, Schooners or Brigantines, and either load them with Salt at Bermudas or send them to Turks Island for it, just as you may find safest and best — send one of them to Edenton in North Carolina consigned to Messrs. Hewes & Smith one to Baltimore in Maryland consigned to our Order; & the others here addressed to us. Perhaps it may be most prudent to load part in Bermudas and part in Turks Island but our great Object is to get the Salt soon and safe here. —

You will Charter these Vessels on the best terms in your power by the Month or otherways, have them valued and we agree to insure them for so long as they remain in our Service, and if the terms are reasonable that may probably be a long time. You'll buy the Salt as cheap as you can and give them the utmost dispatch or it will be too late for our purpose. We must depend on you to advance the money for the cost of the Salt until we can reimburse you, which shall be done by returning some of these Vessels to you with Cargoes of Provisions and probably a Convoy with them. Should any of the Vessels be taken or lost we will either pay for them in Provisions or undoubted good bills on Europe or the West Indies as may best suit the Owners. We hope you will be able to comply with these orders immediately for which we shall allow you areasonable Commission — Interest for the advance of your Money and Commissions on the Goods we shall consign you hereafter and for your security we pledge you the faith and Credit of the United States of America being so authorized to do by the Honorable the Continental Congress of which we are members and are Gentleman [&c.] P:S: If you cannot send Six send as many Vessels as you can short of that Number

1. Marine Committee Letter Book, 31-32, NA.

LIBEL FILED IN PENNSYLVANIA ADMIRALTY COURT AGAINST THE
PRIZE BRIG *Sea Nymph* ¹

Port of Philadelphia, }
Pennsylvania, ss. } To all whom it may concern.

Notice is hereby given, that a Court of Admiralty will be held at the Court-house, in the city of Philadelphia, on Monday the 28th day of October

IN CONGRESS.

The DELEGATES of the UNITED STATES of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, TO*

John Paul Jones, Esquire,

WE, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct and Fidelity,
DO, by these Presents, constitute and appoint you to be

~~of the armed~~ ~~commander in~~ ~~the~~ *Captain* ~~of the~~ ~~United~~
States of North-America, fitted out for the Defence of American Liberty, and for repelling every hostile
Invasion thereof. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the Duty of

~~by doing and performing all manner of Things thereunto belonging. And we do strictly charge~~
~~and require all Officers, Marines and Seamen under your Command, to be obedient to your Orders as~~
Captain

And you are to observe and follow such Orders and Directions from Time to
Time, as you shall receive from this or a future Congress of the United States, or Committee of Congress
for that Purpose appointed, or Commander in Chief for the Time being of the Navy of the United
States, or any other your superior Officer, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, the Usage of
the Sea, and the Instructions herewith given you, in Pursuance of the Trust reposed in you. This
Commission to continue in Force until revoked by this or a future Congress.

DATE: *Philadelphia, October 1st 1775.*

By Order of the CONGRESS,

John Hancock

PRESIDENT.

ATTEST.

Charles Carroll

inst. at ten o'clock in the forenoon of the same day, then and there to try the truth of the facts alledged in the bill of Captain [John Paul] Jones of the armed sloop called the *Providence* (who as well, &c.) against the brigantine or vessel called the *Sea Nymph* (her tackle, apparel, furniture and cargo) burthen about fifty tons, lately commanded by Francis Trimmingham, to the end & intent that the owner or owners of the said brigantine and her cargo, or any person concerned therein may appear and shew cause, if any they have, why the same should not be condemned according to the prayer of the said bill.

By order of the Judge.
Andrew Robeson, Register

October 10

1. *Pennsylvania Ledger*, October 12, 1776.

Pennsylvania Evening Post, Thursday, OCTOBER 10, 1776

[Advertisement]

Ran away the fourth inst. (October) from the armed vessel *Ranger*, John Mitchell commander, four men, viz. Patrick M'Carty, an Irishman, about twenty two years of age. George Milton, an Englishman, about 25 or 26 years of age, a servant of Mr. Swift of this city. Edward Serjeant, near forty years of age, who has lately been sick. Joseph Stevenson, a native of this city. Whosoever secures said men, shall have Six Pounds reward, or Four Dollars for each. — As the security of this city depends upon the naval armament, it is hoped no person will conceal or encourage them. Phil. Oct. 13 [*sic* 10].

DIARY OF CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL¹

[Philadelphia] Octr 10th 1776

. . . Prize ship in the river from Jamaica with 310. Hoghead Sugar, 90. Casks or Puncheons of Spirits she is Called the *Thetis* Captain May, taken by *Genl Mo[n]tg[o]mery* Privater Capt Hambleton.² also a privater Brigg from St Martins arrived yesterday.

1. Diary of Christopher Marshall, HSP.

2. The ship *Thetis*, 300 tons, Hezekiah May, master, from Jamaica for London, taken by the Pennsylvania privateer brig *General Montgomery*, Captain James Montgomery (not Hambleton). She was condemned November 1, 1776, and was purchased by the Continental Marine Committee to be outfitted as an armed xebec.

MEMORIAL OF JAMES CLARKE AND OTHERS TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

[Baltimore, October 10, 1776]²

The Memorial of James Clarke, Robert Christie Junr, Melchior Keener, Robert Christie & Oliver White, and Robert Johnston —
Sheweth

That early in the month of March your Memorialists Vessels were sunk at Whetstone Point, for the purpose of preventing any of the British Ships of War from coming up to Baltimore Town.

That agreeable to a Resolve of Convention they have already been allowed sums of money for the damage the Vessels sustained by being sunk.

But that your Memorialists have never received any satisfaction for the Time their vessels was employed in that service which was about three and one half Months.

As that matter is referred to the Council of Safety, we would pray that a day may be fixed for Our attendance at Annapolis, and that the Bearer may be informed what Voucher will be necessary to lay before your Honorable Board.

1. Red Book, XI, Md. Arch.

2. Date approximated. Council acted on the petition on October 10, Council of Safety Journal, 29 August 1775 to 20 March 1777, Md. Arch.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

[Williamsburg] Thursday October 10th 1776

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain Richard Barron for five hundred and eighty eight Pounds four Shillings being the balance due him his Officers & crew of the Boat *Patriot* for the two tenths of the Brig. *Fanny* and her Cargo taken by the said Boat which Share they are entitled to under a resolution of Convention passed the tenth of January last. Captain Barron having given Bond and Security to account with the said Officers and Crew for their several proportions thereof.

Ordered that Captain William Smith of the Minute Men in Gloucester County do discharge from that Service any Ship Carpenters or Apprentices to Ship Carpenters who may desire it upon the order or application of the Commissioners of the Navy Board.

1. McIlwaine, ed., *Journals of the Virginia Council*, I, 190-91.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD¹

[Williamsburg] Thursday 10th October 1776.

Ordered that a Warrant Issue to William Goodson for Three pounds ten shillings for a pr of Pistols furnished Capt Lilly for the use of the Brig *Liberty*—

Ordered that the Captain of each Vessel in the Navy do immediately make a return to this Board the number of Officers and Men in actual service on Board their respective Vessels. The number and size of their Gunns; The number and Condition of their small Arms of every sort, and a full and Compleat list of their Ammunition and Stores of all kinds. And that the Clerk of this Board cause a Copy of this Order to be delivered to each of the Captains in the Naval service. —

Ordered that a Warrant Issue to Lieut Jacob Valentine for Ninety one pounds eight shillings for Disbursements and pay of his Company of Marines from the eighth day of July last to the Ninth Instant as p Account this day settled. —

Ordered that Colo William Finnie deliver unto Capt Richard Barron one Drum for the use of the *Patriot*. — Also One Drum for the use of the Boat *Liberty*. —

Ordered that William Smith discharge from his Company of Minute Men Thomas Mason a Ship Carpenter provided he is willing to Quit the Service and go to Work at his Trade with James Davis who is Building the *Gloucester* Galley —

1. Navy Board Journal, 70-72, VSL.

JAMES DAVIS TO THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

Gentlemen

[New Bern, October 10, 1776]²

Mr Stanly [John Wright Stanley] having Occasion to wait on you with a memorial relative to the Conduct of the Commissioners of the Provincial armed Vessel the *Pennsylvania Farmer* permit me by the same Opportunity to lay before your Honours something on the same Subject To this Duty I am impelled by the strongest of Ties, a sacred and venerable Regard for constitutional Liberty and the Honour and Interest of my Country. When these are invaded it would be criminal to be silent. And here Gentlemen it would be necessary to pause a while and endeavour to investigate the secret Springs of this Patriotism If it is expected Honours, lucretive Appointments, or any sinister Expectations whatever that whets my Zeal I may be justly suspected of deviating from the modern Patriots, and little Credit paid to my Narrative. But if none of these Views appear, and that they do not I appeal to the Gentlemen of the Council themselves, to the chief of whom I have the Honour to be personally known to, then I hope you will believe the Facts I shall here endeavour to state to be true.

The Provincial armed Vessel the *Pennsylvania Farmer* sailed from this Town a few Days since after lying here with 110 men on board at the Expence of near Forty Pounds per Day, upwards of six months, in the most inglorious, inactive and dissolute state that perhaps was ever suffered in any Country. By the Inexperience, Inactivity and neglect of the Officers of this Vessel, who early began their Irregularities by inlisting the regular Soldiers into their Service, a continued Scene of Riot, Outrage and Robbery has been carried on by the People of her the most daring Insults on the Inhabitants of the Town suffered to pass with Impunity. One hundred and ten Pints of Rum poured out to them every morning kept them continually drunk and ready for any mischief, especially as they consist of Men of all Nations and Conditions, English, Irish, Scotch, Indians, Men of Wars Men and the most abandoned sett of Wretches ever collected together Two of the Officers broke open the Gun Room, and with a number of the men went off with the

Boat with Intent to join Lord Dunmore's Fleet, and actually reached Currituck County. they were apprehended and are still at large on board. They have wasted near 100 Pounds of Powder in wantonly firing at and bringing too all Boats, Canoes and Vessels of every sort, even Passengers in the Ferry Boat have been insulted. Capt. Thos Shine of the Militia, with his Company on board coming up to the General Muster, was fired on and a Ball passed within a few Inches of his Arm. Of this Insult he complained to me I remonstrated to the Officers but met with nothing but Abuse. With Regard to myself Gentlemen, I have been exceedingly obnoxious to this Crew of Banditti, for I can call them by no other Name. As I had the Honour to be one of the Commissioners for that Vessel I very early opposed the iniquitous measures I saw pursuing and objected to the injudicious Choice, as I thought, of the Officers of the Vessel, men utter Strangers, without Abilities, without Interest, Connections, or any Tie whatever to the Country the Captain having never sailed in, much less more commanded, a square rigged Vessel in his Life, Capt. Oliver of the marines being the only officer on board known to the Country. The Chief Mate, one Barton, a Person intrusted by Mr. Durant of St Croix with a Vessel and Quantity of Powder for the use of this Province, the whole of which Vessel and Cargo he attempted to [illègible]. I say Gentlemen, by the means above I became obnoxious to these men and have suffered every Insult from them and sustained considerable Damage. They came to my Landing and destroyed a Bay Boat that cost me Thirty pounds, cut her up for Fire Wood and took out every Bolt and spike Nail they could come at Of this I complain'd to the Officers and Commissioners but could get no Redress. As the Vessel lay opposite my Plantation at Green Spring the men came repeatedly into my Cornfield and carried off Quantities of green Corn and grew so daring that I was forced to repell them by Force and lay on my Arms for many nights. Of this I complained to the Commissioners but could get no Redress.

I have been told the Reason for lessening the number of Commissioners for this Vessel was the Impossibility of doing Business effectually with such a number I heartily agreed with the Gentlemen who made this complaint, and am fully convinced Business could not be effectually done while I opposed Contracts for Beef for the Vessel at 5d a Pound when I was buying for my own use at 3d and while I opposed some glaring accounts that freely passed after my Expulsion from the Commission. While I was on the Commission I spent much Time and some Money and was willing to do every act in my Power to further the good Intentions of the Council in ordering this Vessel to be fitted out, but am not concerned at being left out of a Commission wherein I could do no good to my Country nor Honour to myself.

I must beg your Honours further Indulgence while I say a few Words in Justification of a most infamous Slander cast on me by Capt. Hamstead [Joshua Hempstead] and the Officers of this Vessel. They have propagated in all Companies a Story of my being disaffected to the present measures pursuing against British Tyranny, which I make no Doubt has reached your Honours Ears, giving for a Reason that I would not let my Son go in the

Vessel. My Attachment to the glorious Cause of Liberty in which we are at present embarked, and the very early and active Part I have taken in it, stands, I hope, too well recorded in this Province to be shaken by the insidious and base Acts of disappointed Faction, and as to my Son as he is yet too young to be known to the World it is necessary I should set the Matter right with regard to his Conduct. He was brought up to the sea, and great Part of his Apprenticeship sailed out of Cadiz in Spain to many Parts of Europe, since his Return home he has been in the Employ of Mr Cornell and has been master of a Vessel out of this Port. He was the first Officer shipped on board the Vessel to superintend the Rigging and continued on board upwards of two months. When the Commissioners went into the Choice of Officers he was appointed Second Lieutenant in a short Time after, by the Caprice of the Commissioners he was appointed Master with this he was contented, and would have now been on board, had not I ordered him to resign an Employ he was not likely to gain any Credit by

Upon the whole Gentlemen I have the fullest Conviction within my own Mind that this Vessel in her present Dress will utterly defeat the good Intentions of the Council, and as far as my poor Opinion goes would heartily recommend a Revision of her.

I hope your Honours will pardon my Presumption in troubling you with this long Epistle, But when Arbitrary Power runs triumphant among us and the Sacred Barriers of Private Property are destroyed; the inestimable Blessings for which we are now contending and pouring out our best Blood in Streams, I could no longer be silent. I have the Honour to be Gentlemen [&c.]

James Davis

1. Secretary of State Papers (Council of Safety, 1775-1776), NCDAH.

2. The date is approximated. On October 1, the *Pennsylvania Farmer* was ordered on a cruise, and Davis's letter reports that she sailed "a few Days since." However, from Edenton on October 18, it was stated that she had returned to New Bern to heave down. See Commissioners for Fitting Out the Brig *King Tammany* to the North Carolina Council of Safety, October 18.

EDWARD ALLEN'S COMMISSION, THE SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE BRIGANTINE *Comet*¹

By his Excellency John Rutledge Esquire President and Commander in Chief of South Carolina —

To Edward Allen Esquire, Greeting —

Know ye that I with the advice and consent of the Privy Council of the State do hereby appoint the said Edward Allen to be Captain and Commander of the Brigantine of war called the *Comet* of the burthen of about [blank] Tons belonging to this State, hereby giving Commission, License and authority to you therewith by force of arms to apprehend, seize and take all ships, Vessells and Goods which are liable to seizure and Confiscation pursuant to the resolves of the Representatives of the said State in

General Congress assembled and to bring the same to the next convenient port in Order to be legally adjudged in some court of Admiralty or some other court having Jurisdiction in cases of Capture You are therefore diligently and faithfully to perform the duty of Captain and Commander of the said Brigantine and follow and observe all such orders and Instructions as you shall from time to time receive from me or the President or Commander in Chief for the time being of this State or any other your superior officers – And all inferior Officers belonging to the said Brigantine are hereby required and commanded to obey you as their Captain according to the rules and discipline of war –

By his Excellencys Command – Given under my hand and seal at Ch's
 William Nisbett D: Regr. Town in S Carolina aforesaid the 10th day
 of October in the Year of Our Lord One
 Thousand Seven hundred and Seventy Six –

1. Miscellaneous Records of the Secretary of State (A), 1776-1801, 15, SCDAH.

OLIVER POLLOCK TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Copy]

N[ew] O[rleans] 10th October 1776

Sirs, This will be handed you by Captain George Ord, whom I have supplied with Sundries, and to whom I beg Leave to refer you for Particulars.

As I conceive myself to be too much interested in every Thing that can serve America (notwithstanding my present Situation is remote from the Scene of Action) I eagerly embrace the Opportunity of exerting my utmost Endeavours for the glorious Cause, and had every Thing compleated soon after he came here: But just when he was ready to Sail, arrived the *D[iligence]* s[loo]p of w[ar], and I had only Time to save the Cargo, and did every Thing in my Power to save the Vessel under his present Protection: But then your Situation and Consequence was not sufficiently understood here, and of Course I laboured in vain both for my Friends and own Interest; but of late since your last Declaration, and every Circumstance turning out so far beyond the Expectations of your warmest Friends, Times here have taken a quite different Turn, and I make no Doubt but before this you have taken such Steps as will gain the Hearts & Protection of all those you desire. Permit me therefore to make tender of my hearty Services, and to assure you that my Conduct shall be ever such as to merit Confidence and Approbation of that Country I owe every Thing but Birth. I have the Honor to be, Sirs [&c.]

O. Pollock

The Honble Andrew Allen & } Committee of Congress
 Robert Morris }

1. Papers CC (Letters and Papers of Oliver Pollock), 50, I, 53, NA.

VAN BEBBER & HARRISON TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

Gent.

[Martinique] Octo 10th 1776

We beg leave to refer you to ours of the 8th herewith sent – since then we have received here in Exchange for the same Quantity we had at Statia 120 half barels Gun powder, which we have put on board the Brige *Friendship* on your Acct and enclosed you will find a Bill of Lading & Invoice for it. We are most respectfully [&c.]

Van Bibber & Harrison

P.S. Capt [John] Martin says that the mistake of the 10 bbls powder you mention was rectify'd before he sailed –
(Copy)

1. Red Book, XI, Md. Arch.

2. See Council to Van Bebber & Harrison, August 5, 1776.

11 Oct.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Liverpool*, CAPTAIN HENRY BELLEW¹

October 1776

In Halifax Harbour

Friday 11

AM Discharged the Prisoners, into H. Majestys Ship *Boulogne* –

First part modr and Cloudy, middle and latter fresh Gales and Cloudy, at 3 PM hove short, 1½ past weigh'd; at 4 came too and sent the *Warrans* Guns² onboard the *Rainbow*, at 5 weighed and came to sail,

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/548.

2. The guns of Washington's schooner *Warren*, Captain William Burke, taken August 26, 1776 by the *Liverpool*.DIARY OF SIMEON PERKINS, LIVERPOOL, NOVA SCOTIA¹

Friday, Oct. 11th – Peter Linnard, a fisherman late in the schooner *Dragon*, arrives from Canso in a shallop, and informs that about 14 days ago the schr. *Dragon* was taken by a privateer, William Carlton, commander, as she was lying in Fisherman's Harbour, and sent to New England.² The skipper Knowlton went with her. He also informs that the rest of the crew were kept on board the privateer till she went to Canso, and [illegible] where she was run ashore by Capt. [George] Dawson.³ Carlton and his Lieut., with some others made their escape. About 25 were taken with two of the fishermen – B. Holmes and John Peach, and put on board the brig *Diligent*, Capt. [Edmund] Dod. He also informs, a sloop, Capt. Jones, of Rhode Island has been in at Canso, and taken away 5 sail of ships, brigs, etc. Burnt, sunk and destroyed 5 or 6 more, and taken some things out of stores.⁴

1. Harold A. Innis, ed., *The Diary of Simeon Perkins, 1776–1780*, Champlain Society (Toronto, 1948), XXIX, 133–34.

2. The Massachusetts privateer schooner *General Gates*.
3. H. M. Sloop *Hope*.
4. The Continental sloop *Providence*, Captain John Paul Jones.

JOHN LANGDON TO BRECK & HAMMETT, BOSTON¹

Gent.

Portsmo October 11, 1776 —

You'll be kind enough to call on Capt [John] Bradford who will inform you if he has any large Cables, I am in want of Two for the Continent from 15 to 17 Inches pray inform me P return of Post if any such can be had from the Agent or from any private Person — Your [&c.]

J Langdon

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

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT¹

[Watertown] Friday Octr 11th 1776.

Memorial of James Noble Shannon, & Jonas Farnsworth — ² setting forth — That the armed Schr *Diligent*, (taken in July 1775, and now in the service of this State) with all her Appurtunances &c have been condemned in the Maritime Court for the Eastern district of this State and the Memorialists, are by a decree of the Honble Timo Langdon Esqr Judge of said Court, appointed joint Agents to sell said armed Schooner with all her appurtunances &c for the benefit of the Captors. That they are also Agents for the Armed Schr *Margaretta* taken in June 1775, whose Cannon, and other appurtunances are now on board the Sloop *Liberty*, in the service of this State. — That they have had repeated applications to sell said Schr *Diligent*, Cannon, Swivels &c to private persons, which they have refused to do, until they had given the Hon: Court the first offer thereof. That they take this earliest opportunity of acquainting the Hon. Court therewith; and should the Hon: Court not think it expedient to purchase them, they shall still have the satisfaction of having done their duty in preferring the Interest of the publick before that of Individuals.

Resolved that the Honble Richard Derby jr Esqr be, & he is hereby directed to discharge the Schooner *Diligent* from the Service of this State, and take into his Custody all the Cannon, and other Stores that are onboard said Schooner, and are the property of this State, and the said Hon: Richd Derby Esqr is hereby further directed, to discharge Capt John Lambert Commander of said Schr *Diligent* together with the Officers, & Men under his Command from the Service of this State.

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 36, 12, 15.
2. *Ibid.*, vol. 210, 323.

JOHN AVERY TO E. THOMPSON¹

Council Chamber Watertown Octr 11th 1776

Sir, I am directed by the Hon'ble Council of this State to apply to you for a Number of Commissions for Commanders of Armed Vessels authorizing them to cruise upon the Enemies of America, sign'd by the President of Congress, as this Office is exhausted of those important Papers — Please to send me by the Bearer as many as you can spare and as many Bonds and they shall be refunded as soon as sufficient Number shall arrive from Philadelphia which are hourly expected — I am Sir [&c.]

John Avery Dpy Secry

E. Thompson Esqr The Secretary of the State of New Hampshire

1. Peter Force Papers, LC. A copy is in Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 353.

PETITION OF NEHEMIAH SOMES TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL¹

State of Massachusetts Bay The Hon'ble Council now sitting In Watertown —

The Petition of Nehemiah Somes

Humbly sheweth —

That your Petitioner is fitting out an Armed Vessell to cruise against the Enemies of these united States and is now ready equipt for Sea but they haveing three Six Pounders and one four Pounder which he apprehends, are too heavy for his Sd Vessell — ² therefore humbly requests your Honors to exchange them for Cannon of less Metal Vizt Six three Pounders which he understands by Colo [Thomas] Crafts are at present Useless — if this Proposal should not be agreeable to your Honors he will obligate himself to procure Six Cannon of equal Goodness whenever called for provided your Honors will grant the Loan of them Cannon mentioned as Above —

And as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Nehemiah Somes

Boston Octr 11[th] 1776

[Endorsed] Read & Ordered that Moses Gill Esqr be a Committee to make Enquiry relative to the Cannon mentioned in the Above Petition & Report what is best to be done —

John Avery Dpy Secy³

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 165, 356.

2. The Massachusetts privateer schooner *Active*, 85 tons, Andrew Gardner, master.3. *Ibid.*, 357, 357½, the Council agreed to supply Somes with the cannon including "four Three pounders from on board the *Diligent*."JOHN B. LIVINGSTON TO ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON¹

Dear Robt

Providence Octobr 11th 1776

I am just arrived at this place, and by good information find every kind of goods immoderately dear, sugars three pounds. . Rum 6/9. to 7/. Cotton 3/4 — Coffee 81½ all in Lawfull money, so that you will easily concieve

that it will not answer for me to lay out any money on my own acct dry goods they tell me are in the same proportion. . but I am in hopes that they will fall something as a large Ship bound to Quebec with Clothing &c was brought in a few days ago by Capt [Arthur] Crawford but is not yet condemned,² as the Ship belongs partly to the Governor. I shall to morrow morning wait upon him. and endeavor to make a purchase before hand upon the Invoice which if I can the goods will come much Cheaper as the merchants of this place make a point of out bidding strangers, and indeed the owners themselves bid, which is by no means customary any where else. I shall endeavor (if we cant purchase on the Invoice) to play them a like trick —

This evening I was informed that a Vessel belonging to the C. Congress³ has taken 8 Vessels which she has manned and sent home, And destroyed 5 more most of which are Ships. she took them in a Harbor near the banks. it is I think very great news — Capt Crawford has likewise taken two more prizes both sugar Ships the one a three Decker, the many Captures that are daily made convinces me that it is best to lay out our money in Privateers I wish you. Mr [William] Duer, and Mr [John] Jay would be concerned in one, a small Sloop now laying at Hartford. would be a very proper Vessel. Could you get Guns in our province, she would not I think cost above £2000 pounds, and she has the charecter of a fast sailer — Mr [James A.] Stewart tells me I have made £800 pounds by the *beaver* Capt [Stewart] Deane;⁴ much more than I expected. which money Blair has recd and vested it in a ship mounting 28 Guns. as I have not seen him I dont know on what terms I am interested though I am not sorry for it as it is utterly impossible buying in a privateer here, Guns and other stores being so high — Stewart was offered £3000 pounds Lawfull money for the *Beaver* as she lay just from a Cruise. when her Cargo. and all cost the owner but £2400 York — You may think things has rose amazingly here — I wish you and Mr Duer would endeavor to buy up all the 6 and 4 pounders you possibly can. at any thing less than £ 70 a pair — For the 6. and £ 50 pounds for the 4 — at least you may buy if it is possible 10 pair of each sort, if you can buy the Cannon endeavor to buy muskets lik[e]wise — Capt Cook no doubt will be a proper person to get these things if he will engage. I shall be at Hartford in a fortnight where I wish you would direct my Letters to be left, as the Cannon will determine my buying the Sloop. — I find that I cant exchange any of my Tea here. as the merchants are afraid of engaging in that Article expecting it will be imported soon, and I believe it will. — You see that I am baffled in all my schemes. but I have one more, which is to go to Govr Trumble [Jonathan Trumbull] and endeavor to borrow a few Tons of Salt Petre — which if he consents will stand me in good stead. as I shall repay him when the bounty is taken off. should I succeed I shall do wonders as the devil himself has not more cunning than these people — I have not heard of Harry since my last, but believe he is safe as the Enemy has not come to Huntington as yet.⁵

I come now to the Articles you desired to get for you. shoes none to be had. Linnen of about 4/ formerly now 16/. Hatts £4. and every thing in proportion I am afraid to buy for Mr Duer as he may get them at Phila much cheaper but if I must purchase for him he must write me by the Post. show him this Letter that he may see what prCt we shall make or break by purchasing goods in these parts. . Carting Goods they pay 2/8 pr mile. strangers no doubt must pay 3/. & they are a set of Vagabonds that shall never have the honor of my company Among them again — I expect to recieve a large Packet of Letters at Boston from you in answer to my last untill which unless I hear something extraordinary I shall not be able to write, in the mean time I remain

Your affectionate brother

John B Livingston

I forgot to mention that the *Ceberus* [*Cerberus*] retook two Vessels bound for this Port — and a Small Schooner belonging came in here two days ago haveing had a handsome drubbing by a large Ship.

1. Papers Relating to Naval Affairs, NYHS.
2. The ship *Thomas*, taken September 21 by the Rhode Island privateer sloop *Hawke*.
3. The Continental sloop *Providence*, John Paul Jones.
4. The New York privateer sloop *Beaver*.
5. Henry Beekman Livingston.

Newport Mercury, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1776

Newport, October 11.

Last Tuesday two of the enemy's ships took 4 vessels off Montague Point; 3 of which were prizes to Capt. [James] Munro, and some other privateers; the other a merchantman belonging to Connecticut. All the people belonging to these vessels, we hear, took to their boats, and got safe ashore near Stonington.¹

Last Monday the Continental sloop *Providence*, Capt. [John Paul] Jones, arrived at a safe port, having, in a cruise of 6 weeks, captured 16 sail of vessels, 6 of which he burnt; among the others is one ship, with 3000 quintals of codfish, some smaller fishermen, and two West-Indiamen.

1. The three recaptures made by the British vessels stationed off Block Island were the *Agnes*, *Jenny*, and *Carron*, Howe's Prize List, March 31, 1777, PRO, Admiralty 1/487.

SHIP NEWS FROM NEWPORT¹

Newport, October 11, [1776]

Last Tuesday a prize ship loaded with sugar, rum &c. arrived safe at Stonington, taken by Capt. Nickerson in a small sloop from Plymouth²

The *Independence* privateer, Capt. Truxton, is arrived at an Eastern port: He has taken 2 ships and 2 brigs; one of the brigs he gave some prisoners, after taking out a quantity of cotton, cocoa, &c. the other brig is arrived safe, loaded with oil, and tis said one or both of the ships are arrived.³

The *Broom* privateer, Capt. Welding is arrived safe in an Eastern port, with 5 valuable prizes, all which he took in 4 days after he sailed.⁴

We hear, a few nights past, one of the enemy's barges went into the harbour of Norwalk, and cut out a sloop of about 40 tons.

1. *Independent Chronicle*, Boston, October 17, 1776.
2. The Massachusetts privateer sloop *America*, Captain Thomas Nicholson.
3. The New York privateer sloop *Independence*, Captain Thomas Truxtun.
4. The Rhode Island privateer sloop *Broome*, Captain Richard Whellen.

CAPTAIN TOBIAS FURNEAUX, R.N., TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE¹

Sir

Syren off Block-Island October 11th 1776

Having received a permission from Lord Howe for an Exchange of Prisoners, I therefore take the Liberty to Inform you, I have on board His Majesty's Ships under my Command a Number of Prisoners: Vizt Masters of Merchant Ships, Mates and Private Seamen, who I am ready to exchange for British Subjects of the same Rank, Vizt Masters for Masters, Mates for Mates, and Seamen for Seamen; Knowing no other place as convenient for such Exchange as Block-Island, whenever you shall think proper to send over to that Island, any Persons of the said Ranks, and Qualities, I will return an equal Number, on the faith of an Officer to any Person deputed to receive the same, or to manage such Exchange. —

To prevent a greater number being sent over, than I may have to return; I take the Liberty to Inform you I have at present two Masters, five Mates, and Twenty four [Seamen] I am Sir [&c.]

Tob^s Furneaux

1. Letters to the Governor, vol. 8, R. I. Arch.

MEMORIAL FROM STONINGTON TO THE CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY¹

To the Honourable the General Assembly, now Setting at New Haven — The Memorial of the Committee of Correspondence & Inspection of the Town of Stonington; and Sundry of the Inhabitants of said Town. Most humbly sheweth

That where as, Your Honours thought fit in your Last Session in May to Grant for the Defence and Protection of this place: a Captain and Ninety Men; Since which one half has been Ordered to New London. Your Honours may Remember that this Town is the only one in this State, that has Received any Damage from those Sons of Tyranny and Despotism: Sent by that more than Savage Tyrant, George the Third, To deprive us of those unalienable Rights, that the Supreme Governour of Heaven and Earth has invested us with. Your Memorialists therefore pray that the Number of men Ordered and Destined as above, may Still be Continued. And that the Two Eighteen Pounders, and four Twelves, and Shot &c that were Ordered in your former Session for this place: may be Delivered as Soon as possible;

As this Harbour is perhaps more Used by Coasters, and Vessels bound to Sea, than any Harbour in this State; and is a place of great Consequence; not only to this, but other States We therefore beg Leave to Inform your Honours: that Several Vessels have Lately been Chasd into this Harbour by the Kings Ships; and have here been protected. Your Memoriallists further pray that the Three Large Cannon (now at New London) belonging to this Town be likewise ordered for this place; and the Two field pieces that was Lent by this Town to the Town of New London: be ordered back to the Town of Stonington

We therefore Flatter our Selves that this our Most reasonable Request will be granted. And your Memorialists as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Stonington Octor 11th 1776^a

Joseph Denson	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Nathaniel Minor} \\ \text{Paul Wheeler} \\ \text{John Brow Jur} \\ \text{John DeDenison 4th} \\ \text{Henry Babcock} \\ \text{Simon Rhodes} \end{array} \right\}$	Committee
Alexander Bradford		
Robert Stanton		
Nathaniel Palmer		
Nathan Palmer		
Nathan Palmer Jur		
John Daviss		
Andrew Palmer		
Michael Ash		

1. Conn. Arch., 1st Series, IV, 400a, ConnSL.

2. *Ibid.*, 399, a petition from the inhabitants of Groton was also submitted this date requesting "the first Company of Millitia belonging to this Town to return home that both their & our Wives & Children may be partly relieved from the very great anxiety they are now in. . . ."

Connecticut Gazette, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1776

New-London, October 11.

A Ship burthen 225 Tons, taken by Capt. Tho. Nickeson [Thomas Nicholson], in the Privateer sloop *America*, belonging to Plymouth, was last Week brought into a Port in this State. The Privateer had been only 7 Days out when she took this Prize, and was left in Chase of another. The Cargo of this ship is as follows, viz. 200 Hhds. sugar, 100 Puncheons Rum, 20 casks Madeira Wine, & Quantity of Logwood and M[a]hogany.

Last Tuesday two prize Snows were retaken by two British Men of War in sight of Stonington Harbour. — One of them was a Prize which had been taken by a Providence Privateer, commanded by James Munro; the other had been taken by a Privateer belonging to the State of Rhode-Island. We learn that the People got on shore in their Boats.

Wednesday a Brig bound into this Port, from the West-Indies was taken by a Man of War near Montauk Point; but the People got on shore in their Boat.

Yesterday the Prize ship (a Guinea-man) mentioned in our last to be taken by Capt. Harding, in the Brig *Defence*, belonging to this State, arrived safe in this Harbour.

The ship *Hope*, mentioned in this Paper, (No. 670.) to be taken by the schooner *Spy*, Capt. Niles, we hear was afterwards retaken by the Enemy and carried into New-York.

GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL TO GEORGE WASHINGTON ¹

Sir

New Haven October 11th 1776

In consequence of your favor proposing a descent on Long-Island, although I was so unhappy as not to be able to meet Generals [James] Clinton and [Benjamin] Lincoln at this place as requested, I applied to the State of Rhode Island and obtained their consent and orders, that Colo [William] Richmond and such part of his Battalion as shall not enlist on board the Continental Vessels should assist in the enterprize. Colo Richmond will accordingly begin his march this day for New London, and bring with him the Whale Boats collected in Massachusetts Bay and Rhode Island to the number of which, it is apprehended, will be of use to the Troops ordered on this servic — , especially to secure their retreat, should it be attempted to be cut off. When Colo Richmond arrives at New London he has orders to put himself under the command of such General Officers as Your Excellency shall appoint. I have this day conferred with Colls [William] McIntosh and [Henry Beekman] Livingston on the subject. They inform me they are supplied with provisions and ammunition for their purpose, and only want such a number of water craft as; with the Whale Boats divided into three parts that each may be sufficient to transport 12 hundred men, as he means each division to be so placed at the inlets to the Island, as, if cut off from one, he may resort to the other, to make his retreat sure, if necessary. These I have ordered for him, and dare say will be provided for him without delay. The number of men he proposes to set out with will doubtless be sufficient for his first attempt but what reinforcement will be best soon to follow after to answer every purpose Your Excellency will judge. They may be thrown over from Norwalk or Stamford very soon, if placed there. I am apprehensive lest some difficulties may arise with respect to the command. Colo McIntosh is a superior Officer to Lieut Colo Livingston, and Richmond is superior to both — Colo Livingston appears to be a young Gentleman of real spirit and abilities, and has every advantage in his knowledge of the Island and the people there. The other Gentlemen have also their merit. May not a difficulty arise as to the command. I hope there will not. As the Gentlemen are all well disposed, I hope they will all cooperate to the best advantage in the whole. What is further necessary to render their operations effectual you will please to consider and direct —

Our naval expedition against the Ships of the Enemy in the Sound is still in contemplation, and preparations are making for the same as fast as we can. Commodore Hopkins writes me the 5th instant, that the *Alfred* and *Hampden* are ready, and that the two new Frigates there would be ready in about a week if they can be manned, neither of them having more than half their complement at that time. Our Ship and Brig, will, we trust, be ready

to join them; and when they are equipped it is proposed they shall first attack the two Frigates that infest the Coast about Montauk Point, if they attempt to give them any interruption; otherwise, that they proceed directly up Sound, and give the best account they can of the Ships in the East River — I am now informed, that the two Frigates and the *Alfred* are manned from Colo Richmonds Regiment, which I hope will prove true, but if not, am in hopes they may be compleated by Volunteers from Rhode Island and New London. But if they should still fall short of their full compliment, I beg leave to suggest to Your Excellency, whether they could not, with out inconveniency, be filled up from some parts of your Army, unless the Row Galley Men, by the Enemy's Ships passing up the North River, are rendered useless, in which case, they may be ordered to some proper place along Sound for Commodore Hopkins to take them in. I have given Commodore Hopkins the utmost assurance, to give him all possible intelligence, from time to time, of the Enemy's Ships of Force this side of Hell Gate, that he may be apprised what he has to encounter. To that purpose I beg leave to suggest to your Excellency to give orders to such Commander of the Guards or Posts in sight of the Enemy's Ships to give me intelligence from time to time of their force and whether or when any of the Enemy's Ships may join them through Hell Gate. I understand one 24 Gun Ship of the Enemy has already passed through to them — Since my last from Commadore Hopkins am informed, that the *Columbus* Capt Whipple has arrived in Port at Rhode Island. Have wrote to him to take her with him, if possible, which will make a considerable addition to his force. Please to afford me your advice and fullest information. I cannot but flatter myself with strong hopes of advantages to be desired from this adventure of our Ships as well as the expedition to Long Island. Secrecy in both is of utmost importance

1. Trumbull Papers, XXIX, Letter Book IV, 361-64, ConnSL.

GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL TO COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS¹

Sir

New Haven Octobr the 11th 1776

Your favour of the 5th Instant came safe to hand in which you Inform me, that the *Alfred* & *Hampden* are ready & the two New Frigates you expect will be ready in about a week, I hope no attention or diligence will be wanting to have them prepared by that time, and shall Indeavour that there be no delay as to ours, tho am Necessitated to Apply to you or your State to furnish a quantity of Shot for our Ship We have the Round, but double headed, Chain Sliding and Starr Shot we have none. hope you can Supply what will be wanting for the present. we have sent to our furnace for them but fear it will be impossible to have them ready at New London by the time they may be wanted for the present Expedition but may be ready to be replaced if Necessary very soon after; the size of the Cannon for which we shall want them are Nine pounders. I understand the *Columbus* is now in Port, if so, cannot she join your Squadron? for no force ought to be

Omitted which human foresight can devise to render our Success as sure as may be at this Critical time with our Army As this expedition if Success full may much disconcert [illegible] the Enemy —

Since my last to you there has been two more frigates up sound as far as against Say brook, but Suppose now returnd towards Block Island how far they or either of them may be the Object of your attention shall Submitt, no doubt there ought to be a Spy upon them out from Newport or New London or both to Watch and give Intelligence of their Motions, and if they or either of them may be decoyed in, so as to fall in your way, and the force from New London to join you at an Appointed time or Signal given, perhaps you may first give a good Account of them before you proceed up the Sound which by the way is the Main Object. I have Employed Capt [Nathaniel] Shaw [Jr.] the barer hereof to Conferr with you on the Subject and Acquaint you from time to time with every Occurrence, & see that every preparation is made on our part and give every necessary Intelligence & Assistance as it will be difficult for me to do by letter & at this Distance where I may be detain'd with the Assembly for a fortnight or three Weeks. The Expedition on Long Island set forward by Genll Washington will be Conducted by Coll McIntosh & Livingston & Richmond if he joins them —

I have Requested Coll Livingstone as soon as he Arrives on Long Island to employe trusty spies along on the south side. to Watch the Motion of the Enemies Ships from New York & give speedy Intelligence if there is Any Appearance of their Coming round the Island that you May have the earliest Notice if any such matter should happen, we hear that your ships are now Manned from Coll Richmonds Regiment. if any failure on that Account tho hope Number of Volunteers may be found at Rhodisland & New London, but if still wanting there may possibly be a Complement thrown Aboard from Genll Washingtons Army upon a sudden Occasion & for so short a time as they might be wanted, if timely Notice is sent forward to Genll Washington of their being wanted. I understand there is a 24 gun Ship got thro Hell Gate & joined the two frigates tho now one lyes at Huntington a Considerable Distance I shall Indeavour to gain every Intelligence in my power & acquaint you with any alteration or reinforcement which may happen there I am, with Esteem & Regard Sir [&c.]

Jonth Trumbull

P S — Shall yield you my assistance of Excuse to Congress — the good of the Service is their Object — as I Am Sure 'tis your's Sir

1. Hopkins Papers, RIHS.

MEMOIRS OF MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH¹

[Headquarters, near Harlem] 11th [October]. — There was a considerable movement among the British boats below. This afternoon, Gen. Washington's pleasure-boat, coming down the river with a fresh breeze, and a topsail hoisted, was supposed, by the artillerists at Mount Washington to

be one of the British tenders running down. A 12 pounder was discharged at her, which was so exactly pointed as unfortunately to kill three Americans, who were much lamented.

1. Abbatt, ed., *Heath Memoirs*, 62.

JOURNAL OF CAPTAIN HENRY DUNCAN, R.N.¹

[On board H.M.S. *Eagle*, East River, New York]

11th [October]. – This afternoon the admiral, with most of the captains, and Commodore Hotham, with all the flat boats and batteaux, went up the East River to Kipp's and Turtle Bay, near the west end of Blackwell's Island, where we remained all the night, during which time the army were striking their tents and preparing to embark. About three o'clock Saturday morning, the 12th, the troops were embarked in the flat boats and batteaux, to the number of between four and five thousand men; the guards and 42nd regiment, between fourteen and fifteen hundred men, were embarked on board sloops under my direction. At daybreak in the morning the boats set off, and no sooner had they put off, with an amazing strong tide, but it came on a fog equal to pitch darkness, with now and then an interval of light for a few seconds. The boats were put off; to attempt to stop them would have been very dangerous, for the headmost boats must have anchored, and the boats that followed would in all probability run foul of them, to the imminent danger of sinking each other; the admiral, therefore, rather chose to run the risk of passing Hell Gate with all the boats in that rapid tide and dark fog. I went astern and ordered all the boats to move forward. Soon after their putting off, a galley towing one of the artillery boats, in endeavouring to cross a vessel lying in the passage, towed her athwart hawse; the boat ran directly up her cable, and overset instantly. Many of the people were picked up; there were three field-pieces lost, and I suppose five or six people. There were very few people in the flat boats had ever been through or knew anything of the passage of Hell Gate. This made the danger much the greater. To keep the starboard shore was the safest passage; straight through carried them upon the rocks, and the larboard shore would have brought them under the fire of the enemy, perhaps without being able to land or retreat; but the boats got all very luckily through, the one instance only excepted, and arrived at Frog Point, the place of their destination about nine o'clock, where they landed without opposition.

1. *Duncan's Journals*, XX, 131–32.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS¹

[Philadelphia] Friday, October 11, 1776

Resolved, That General Washington be desired, if it be practicable, by every art, and whatever expence, to obstruct effectually the navigation of the North river, between Fort Washington and Mount Constitution, as well

to prevent the regress of the enemies' frigates lately gone up, as to hinder them from receiving succours.

The Secret Committee informed Congress that a vessel was arrived at Rhode Island, with sundry articles imported by their order, for account of the United States.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to report in what manner the goods imported ought, in their opinion, to be disposed of.

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be directed to deliver over to the direction of the Committee of Secret Correspondence two of the continental cruisers now ready for sea, to perform such voyages as they shall think necessary for the service of these states:

That the Marine Committee give orders to the remainder of the continental cruisers, now in the port of Philadelphia, and ready for sea, to proceed on such voyages, or perform such immediate services, as the Secret Committee shall direct, in writing, addressed to the commanders thereof.

The Marine Committee to whom was referred the account of Captain Martindale, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

Resolved, That there be paid to Captain Sion Martindale the sum of £43 5 3 lawful money, equal to 144 18/90 dollars, in full of expences and disbursements on the brig *Washington*, and other expences from Halifax to Casco Bay.

Resolved, That a member be added to the Marine Committee, in the room of Mr. [Stephen] Hopkins, who is absent.

The member chosen, Mr. [William] Ellery.

1. Ford, ed., *JCC*, VI, 866, 867, 868-69.

RICHARD HENRY LEE TO SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JR.¹

Dear Sir,

Philadelphia 11th October 1776

Among the inconveniencies of this busy scene, I esteem it not the least, to be so often prevented from acknowledging the favors of my friends sooner than I do. It has been owing to much business that your letter of the 27th has not received an answer before now. I have the pleasure to acquaint you that in ranking the Captains of our Continental Ships, the Congress have placed Captain [James] Nicholson at the head, he being the first Captain. I wish it were in my power to give you a satisfactory answer about the building another Frigate. Hitherto nothing has been determined on this subject, the Committee having been prevented by an infinite multiplicity of other business; and to the same cause has it been owing t[hat] no orders have been sent concerning the Frigate *Virginia*. I have no doubt but that another Frigate will soon be directed, and that the Builder of greatest merit will be prefer'd. It would give me the greatest pleasure to hear that the *Virginia* was ready for Sea, and I am happy in being satisfied that the Managers of this business in Baltimore will not loose a moment in effecting so sal-

utary a work. I suppose a want of Anchors will be the greatest obstruction, as I take it for granted no time will be lost in getting the guns down from Mr [Samuel] Hughes's works, and having the Carriages made. I shall be glad to have an exact state of the Frigate & what She wants to complete her. I refer you to the papers for news and am Sir [&c.]

Richard Henry Lee

1. Purviance Papers, MdHS.

WILLIAM ELLERY TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE¹

[Extract]

Philadelphia Oct 11th 1776 —

A naval Expedition is on Foot, which if carried into Execution will be very advantageous to the United States, and to the Officers and Seamen in the Navy. If the *Cabot* should not be in Port the Marine Commee have ordered that One of the Frigates should be employed in it. Commodore Hopkins in a Letter to that Commee hath informed them, that One of the Frigates could soon be got ready, and intimated that he could mann her with Draughts from our Troops. I hope that the Genl Assembly will countenance this Measure, and give every other Assistance in their Power to forward the sailing of the Fleet.

1. Letters to the Governor, vol. 8, R. I. Arch.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

In Council of Safety,

[Philadelphia] October 11th, 1776.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay Doctors Duffield & Rush for their attendance on the Fleet & Artillery Company of this State, from 27 Septemb'r, 1775, to July 5th, 1776, with Rations, £ 182 8 1.

A Commission was Granted, agreeable to resolve of Congress, to James Smith, Commander of the Letter of Marque Brig *Rutledge*, Mounting 12 Carriage Guns, navigated by 60 men, Burthen about 120 Tons, owned by Alexander Gillson [*sic* Gillon]

3 O'Clock

Resolved, That Messrs. David Rittenhouse, Joseph Blewer, Emanuel Eyres & Peter Brown, go down to the Piers to-morrow and fix upon a method for fastening the Chain, and give directions to Thomas Davis & Lewis Gyon to prepare everything necessary to fasten it, without Delay; And that the Commodore order the Boom to be brought up to Kensington, to Mr. Peter Brown's Landing, as soon as the tide will serve.

1. *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, X, 749-50.

"LIST OF THE PRISONERS OF WAR IN THE TOWN OF READING" ¹

[Extract]

Taken on the River St. Lawrence, November 19th [1775].

Mr. Ryal, Master of the *Gaspee*.

Taken at Point Levy, November 4th [1775].

Mr. M'Kenzie, Midshipman of the *Hunter*.

Taken on the River St. Lawrence, November, 19th [1775].

Joseph Whitefield, Cook of the *Gaspee*.

James Carr, Foremastman.

Reading, October 11th, 1776.

I do hereby certify, that the foregoing is an exact List of the Prisoners of War in the care of the Committee of the Town

By Order of the Committee.

James Read, Chairman

To the Hon'ble the Council of Safety of the State of Pennsylvania.

1. *Pennsylvania Archives*, 2nd series, I, 424-26.

WILLIAM LUX TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY ¹

Gentlemen,

Baltimore 11 October 1776.

The Privateer *Harlequin* being now ready to Sail and Capt Benja Handy appointed Commander, he now waits on you to obtain a New Commission the former one being in the Name of Capt Wm Wolsey, and he being now on the Eastern Shore we cannot procure it to return to you, But we hereby engage and pledge our Honors that it shall be returned immediately on his getting here, hoping you will not on that accot detain our Vessel, as she is now rather late for the Jamaica Fleet, some of which we flatter ourselves with bringing in I am in behalf of the Concern Gentr [&c.]

Willm Lux

1. Red Book, XI, Md. Arch.

CUMBERLAND DUGAN AND LEMUEL CRAVATH TO THE
MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

[Extract]

Inventory of Schooner *Ninety two*, Vizt

Her Hull main mast, main topmast, foremast, and fore topmast, with one Spare topmast, bolsprit, flying jib boom, main boom & Gaff, fore boom & gaff, main top sail & cross jack yards, foretopsail & cross jackyards with all her lower and topmast shrowds, bolsprit shrowd, tyes Stays halliards brace bowling takels, & [torn] as She now lyes two pumps with geer in them companion binacle &c [torn] Cables, the largest & best bower almost new [torn]es: 2 of them new — 2 or 3 spare pump box's 4 [torn] for the

Cabin some glasses broke, with 4 dead lights for them 1 large iron pump hook, & 1 iron boat hook 1 doz new grummetts, & 1 doz new thumb blocks 1 doz blocks & 6 large spare Blocks
 1 doz Spare sheeves, & 2 doz new Spare Cleets Some old Sails for parcelin & some old rope on it about, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb weight of new 4 inch rope 9 Latches, with 3 iron hatch barrs —
 a Cabin table, & fire wood for a Voyage 7 Spare cat block & hook, some spare mats for Shrowds &c 6 water Casks 3 of them iron bound, & one iron bound water Cask Stove.
 about $\frac{1}{2}$ a barrel of tarr in a Barrell 1 large iron Cabous, with 2 iron potts in it 1 deep sea lead wt 20 lb with a deep sea line [torn]ead wt 8 lb — with one or two hand lines [torn] 1 ladle, 1 speaking trumpet [torn] hour glass, the glass [torn] 3 pint mugs, 1 wine glass 1 knife box 500 pump nails 1000 Scupper nails 500 8d nails 500-10d & a parcell 20d nails a Box for the nails &c — abot 1 lb coffee in a Bag 2 new log lines — 2 iron marline spikes 1 new tinder box, abot 20 lb Candles in a Box 1 iron candlestick, abot $\frac{1}{2}$ bushl pease in a bag 2 Spoons, 3 pewter plates 2 large Bowles some caulking irons & Chiz[e]lls, some points & gaskets a peice of good pump leather english tan, 2 Bennacle Compass's — one of them new — abot 3 lb of sewing twine & some Needles — 1 Sugar box — 1 Grog cann, 1 hand Saw 1 drawing knife, some gimblets, 1 Broom 6 hand Spikes, —
 Some Spare old rope & some new [torn]orming & Spun yarn, & some spare [torn] 1 Main Sail, 1 foresail 1 j[ib], 1 fl[ying] jibb — I believe She has a Spare old Mainsail & foresail, but of that Wm Jacobs Sailmaker can best inform you as also of her other Sails, & the Condition of the whole of her Sails, & how many She has &c —

The lowest Price we will take for said Schooner is Eight hundred pounds Common money

Baltimore 11th Octobr 1776
 Cumb^d Dugan
 for Self &
 Lemⁱ Cravath²

1. Executive Papers, Box 2, Folder 76, Md. Arch.

2. The Council had expressed interest in purchasing or chartering the schooner, Council of Safety Letter Book, No. 1, Md. Arch.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND CONVENTION ¹

[Annapolis] Friday, October 11, 1776.

On motion of Mr. [William] Paca, Resolved, That the several vessels lately drifted on the shores of this state from lord Dunmore's fleet, or otherwise made captures of, be raised up, appraised, and fitted out for the use of this state, or exposed to sale, at the discretion of the Council of Safety; the cargoes of the said vessels to be also exposed to sale, and the monies arising

from the sale of the said vessels and cargoes, be paid into the hands of the treasurer of the western shore, subject to the disposal of this or a future Convention or legislature.

1. *Maryland Convention*, 38.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY¹

[Annapolis] Friday. October 11th 1776

Commission of Reprisal issued to James Handy of the *Harlequin* Privateer, mounting Six Swivels, he having given Bond according to Resolve

Mr Benjamin King appointed Captain of the Schooner *Resolution*, and the Council of Safety agree to pay him the same Wages, and [*sic as*] Merchants pay, and empower him to procure hands to man her:—

Ordered That Western shore Treasurer pay to Benja King fifty Pounds on Acct of Schooner *Resolution*.

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

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN JOSEPH HANDY¹

No. 211.

Sir, We have heard of your Return into this Country these six Weeks, and are also informed, that you are loading out and intend to sail again Soon for the foreign West-Indies. —

We expected from thence a valuable Cargo in your vessel, in return for that sent out, but have neither received an Account of your Arrival there, Sales of your Cargo, or what you have brought to America in Return. —

As we cannot doubt but that you have a Letter to us from one of our Agents on those subjects, or can give us the necessary information, we cannot help expressing our Surprize that you have not long ago done it, and hope that you will immediately, on Receipt of this, acquaint us with all you know on the Subject, and also transmit such Letters as you may have to us. —²
[Annapolis] Octr 11th 1776

1. Council of Safety Letter Book, No. 2, Md. Arch.

2. Handy, commanding the schooner *Three Sisters*, had been sent to St. Eustatius by the Council. See Volume 5, 652-53.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD¹

[Williamsburg] Friday 11th October 1776. —

Ordered that John Smith, Robert Smith, Jesse Foster, Joshua Hudgins, George Filyoung, William Soaper & Christopher Foster Ship carpenters who are at Present Engaged in the Service of Capt William Smiths Company of Minute Men in Gloucester County be discharged from the said Service provided they are willing to Quit the same and Engage in Working

at their Trades on some of the Vessels which are Building or to be Built for the use of the Navy –

Ordered that the keeper of the Public Store deliver unto Capt Isaac Young-husband One thousand Pump Nails for the use of the Brig *Musqueto* –

Alexander Massenburg, Joseph Willson, Jno. Chick, Thomas Coleman, Thomas Bailey & John Royston Warrant officers on Board the Brig *Liberty* Commanded by Capt Thomas Lilly lodged a Complaint with this Board against the said Lilly in the following Words, to wit, “That your Petitioners influenced by the most laudable Motives the Love of Liberty freely & Voluntarily entered into the Marine Service of this State on the Board the Brig *Liberty* fully determined to risque their Lives in defence of the Rights and Liberties of their Country and are still so determined Provided they can be entitled to the Rights and Usage of Freemen themselves but that their daily Labour accomodation serving up their Provisions delay in the payment of their Wages, want of Regularity of Orders and proper Subordination among Men & Officers and the Arbitrary, Tyranical unmanley & illiberal behaviour and Treatment of their Commander Capt Thomas Lilly has made their Condition on Board the said Brig the Condition of the Slavery and of course intolerable inasmuch that they are determined at the risque of their Lives not to submit longer to it without seeking redress and endeavouring to be heard before this honble Board instituted as your petitioners have been taught to believe for the hearing redressing and adjusting all Grievances made to it from persons suffering in the Navy. – That your Petitioners pray they may not be prejudged seditious and Mutinus from the Freedom in which they express their Greivances, as Freemen they think it the essential Right of Free Marines to Speak openly – they protest against a Seditious & factious Spirit and beg that their Gr[ie]vances now setforth may be enquired into by the Evidence of the whole Crew of Officers & Seamen of the said Brig. That your Petitioners the Warrant Officers on Board the said Brig are compelled to the Duty of Common Sailors the compliment of Seamen being reduced to four & one Boy occasioned by the Desertion of the Men who could not & would not Submit to the usage and Treatment of their Captain. – That your Petitioners who are Messmates have their Provisions cooked intolerably bad and when they complain of it and beg to Dress it themselves are refused that small privilege and the Cooks Fire Ordered to be put out. – That whilst the Brig *Liberty* lay at Baltimore your Petitioners the Marines and common Sailors were huddled into a Miserable Loft and obliged to Diet & Lodge together without distinction and your Petitioner John Royston Steward of the said Brig obliged to Sell his Cloaths to Raise Money to pay his Washing Woman Capt Lilly having never paid him from the Time of his entering with him one shilling, that whilst she lay at the above place thirteen Sailors and five Marines deserted. In your Petitioners Opinion for want of their Wages with other Cruel Treatment. – Your Petitioner John Chick Gunner complains alone that whilst very sick he has been called up late at night wantonly to Load & Charge the Guns which he has begged in the day he might be Permitted to do but refused. –

Your Petitioner Thomas Coleman Pilot also Complains that in the discharge of his Duty on Board the said Brig he is so Thwarted and contradicted that it is impossible to do it satisfactory or safely. — Wherefore your Petitioners pray that right & Justice be done them that their complaints be heard and if made good by proper Testimony they be redressed which redress they beg may be to be removed from the direction and Authority of Capt. Lilly who has threatened them with severer Treatment when he gets them at Sea. Lastly your Petitioner Alexander Massenburg begs leave further to shew that at the Time of his Signing Articles with Capt Lilly it was Agreed by the said Lilly that he the said Massenburg should be at Liberty to remove from the said Brig at any Time when he was dissatisfied with his Birth and could get one more agreeable to himself and no longer than last Saturday told your Petitioner he might go when and where he pleased from which he thought himself discharged." — Which being Read It is Ordered that the said Capt Lilly be summoned to appear before the Board at the Capitol in the City of Williamsburg on Tuesday next to Answer the said Complaint. —

1. Navy Board Journal, 72-75, VSL.

DIXON AND HUNTER'S *Virginia Gazette*, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1776

Williamsburg, October 11.

Since our last a Spanish ship arrived in Hampton road; it is said she came to purchase a cargo of flour, and has on board 6000 dollars. Advices by this ship say, that the French seem determined to strike some capital blow against Great Britain in a very short time.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY¹

[Charleston] Friday the 11th Day of October 1776

Resolved That the Commissioners of the Treasury as a further Encouragement to the Commander and Marines belonging to the vessel called the *Revenge* do pay and advance to the said Commander and Men out of the amount of the Sales of the Cargo taken from on board the Transport Brigantine called the *Glasgow-Packett* One Sixth of the neat Amount of Sales of the said Cargo

1. Salley, ed., *South Carolina General Assembly Journals*, 106, 108.

12 Oct.

MAJOR GENERAL JOHN BURGoyNE TO CAPTAIN CHARLES DOUGLAS, R.N.¹

(Copy)

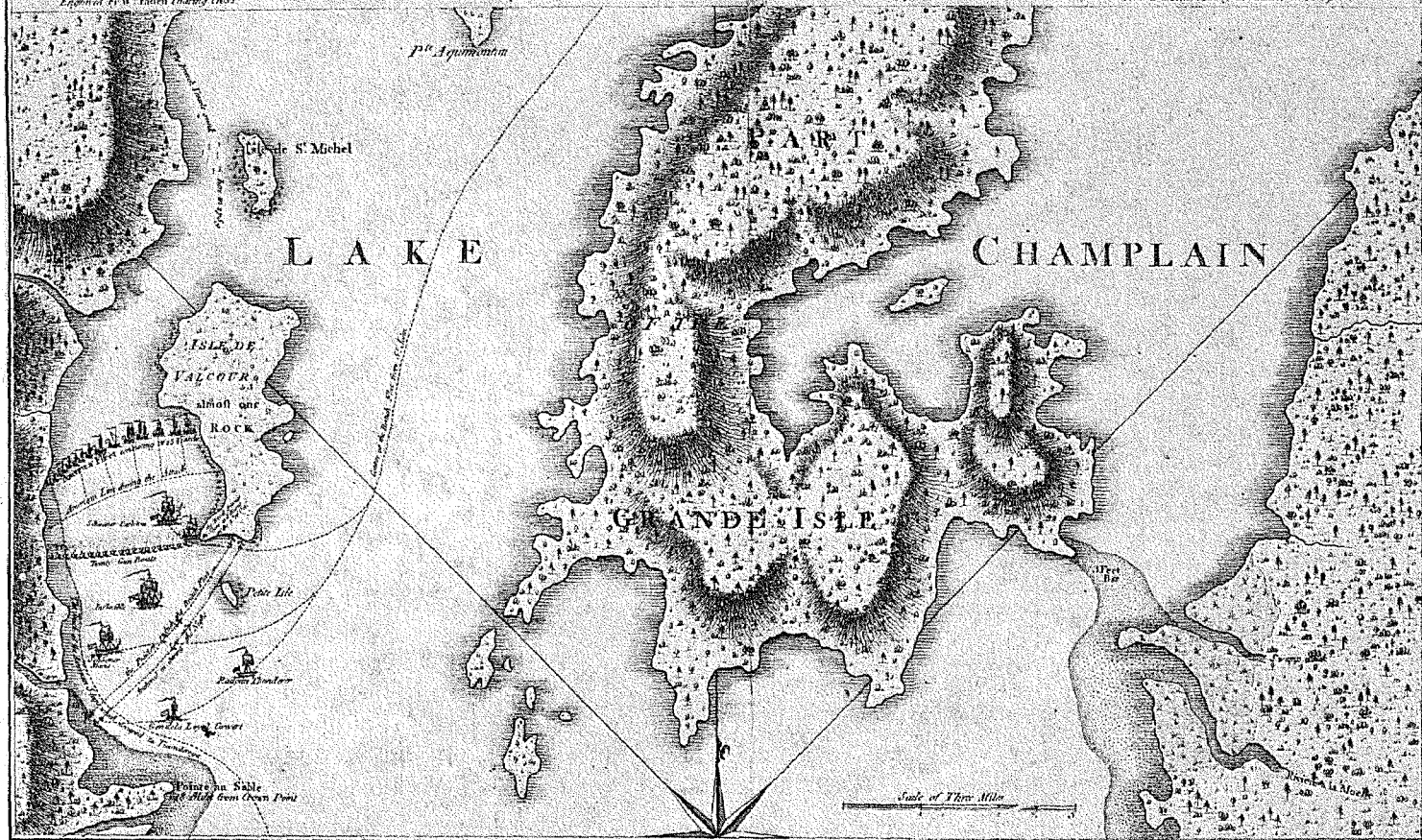
Camp at River La Cole 12th [October] 76

My Dear Sir I seize the first instant of my Intelligence, to inform you, that the Rebel Fleet, was found Yesterday Morning, at Anchor between the Isle Val[c]our, and the Main: They had intended to sail as this Morning: and

THE ATTACK AND DEFEAT OF THE AMERICAN FLEET under Benedict Arnold, by THE KING'S FLEET Commanded by CAPTⁿ JOHN PRINGLE,
upon LAKE CHAMPLAIN, the 11th of October, 1776

Engraved by W. Fisher (drawing from)

From a Sketch taken by an Officer on the spot



Battle of Valcour Island.

it was a Compleat Surprize. Our Fleet got above them, And the *Carleton* with one Division of Artillery Boats engaged; the rest of the Ships could not get into action, the Wind being strong at N.E. with this small part of our Force, we have taken & destroyed, the *Royal Savage* the largest of their Vessels; two others are supposed to be disabled: We have besides Thirty or forty Prisoners: but the best part of my intelligence is, that our whole fleet, was formed in line above the Enemy, and Consequently they must have surrendered this morning or given us battle upon our Terms, the Indians and Light Troops, are abreast with the Fleet: they cannot therefore Escape by Land. You may therefore expect my dear Sir, in a day after this news, the important decision of the Lakes I will forward it to you with Equal diligence and Joy, in the mean time accept my Congratulations, upon the Glorious Spirit, with which the Naval Department has begun, I am going forward shortly in person, in hopes the leading Brigade of the Army, may be able to move on directly.

I dare say you will think it right, and I request the favor of you to Act Accordingly to lay a positive Embargo on the sailing of all Vessels, till the result of this great business properly Authenticated by the Generals dispatches, can be forwarded through you to Government. I have the honour &c:

(sign'd) J. Burgoyne

[Endorsed] No 1 In Capt Douglas's Letter 21st October In the Lords of the Admty's of 29th Novr 1776

1. PRO, Colonial Office, 5/125, 81c.

The Freeman's Journal, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1776

Portsmouth. October 12.

Last Sunday arrived at Saco a small prize-Schooner sent in by the *Putnam* Privateer, John Harmon Commander, having on board 300 bushels of salt and some oyl. Next day arrived another schooner, taken by the same privateer, having on board 375 Quintals of green fish; and some oyl; she brings an account of another small vessel taken that is not yet arrived, and one that they took, which was afterwards drove ashore by a frigate — the Vessel lost, but the people got on board the privateer again; the frigate drove the Privateer into a harbour, and came to anchor with intention of keeping her in; but Capt. Harmon got one of his guns ashore on a point of land, & fired on the frigate, when she returned whole broadsides into the woods at them, but did no damage — Capt. Harmon after a few shots was so lucky as to cut away her fore-stay, which obliged her to come to sail, and put to sea.

Last Wednesday arrived at Falmouth, a Prize ship, of between 3 & 400 tons, from Portsmouth in England, to Quebec, laden with Powder, Nails, Beef, Butter, &c. has 16 carriage-guns, 8 of which were mounted. She was taken by a Privateer from Newbury, by stratagem.¹

Since our last arrived in this Port, two prize Schooners, the *Glasgow* and the *Neptune*, laden with fish & oyl, to a considerable amount, taken off the banks of Newfoundland, by Capt. Robert Parker, of this Port.

This morning a small prize schooner with 200 quintals of fish was sent into this harbour; she was taken by Capt. Calton [William Carleton] in the *General Gates* Privateer from Salem.²

1. Ship *Nancy* taken by the Massachusetts schooner *Hawke*, Captain John Lee.

2. The schooner *Dragon*; see Diary of Simeon Perkins, October 11, 1776.

PETITION OF TWO OFFICERS OF THE ARMED SCHOONER *Diligent*
TO THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT¹

The Petition of the Following Persons Humbly Sheweth

That We Your Petitioners have repeatedly Petitiond your Hons to the followg Purport that we had servd this State since the 16th March last in Differ[en]t Departments on Bord the Schooner *Dilligent* John Lambert Commander which we are sorry to say to little advantage to the Country or Ourselves, we therefore Requestd of your Hons to give us an honourable Acquittance Discounting for time Serv'd, or to place us in some way wherein we cou'd render service to the General Cause and Contribute to our Advantage, for in the Channel we then was in we saw no Prospect of Executing Services Adequate to our pay, as our Seamen had mostly left the Vessl we also Enquird of your Hons the Reason of the Detainment of our Wages, or wither we was Accountable for our Captains Conduct, as we reminded your Hons the Tenor of our Commissions bound us to Obey Superior Commands, therefore we cannot View ourselves Culpable as we Disobey'd no lawfull Commands Consistent with our Duty, on which Account we Doubt not if our Conduct is Enquird into of Acquiting ourselves with Honr and to your Satisfaction, we also wou'd beg leave to Acquaint your Hons that you did not Acquit us in the Recess of the House but desird the Continuance of our Service till the Court concurd with our Discharge, which Agreeable to your Hons Request we did till last Saturday the Vessl was Discharg'd altho daily Sollicitd in a private way and greatly to our Advantage, as we thought ourselves happier in Defence of the United States than in any other Service. we therefore still hold ourselves in Readiness to Accept of Commissions by Sea or Land if a Vacancy presents in protecting the Country at the hazard of our Lives. on the Contrary if nothing suitable offers we pray your Hons that we may be immediately Discounted with for our former Services and honourably Discharg'd that we may have no Obstruction of taking up Elsewhere assuring your Hons that we have allmost spent the whole of our Wages in the Pursuit of them in so Expensive a Day, we woud further inform your Hons that with the Utmost Difficulty we got our Commander to make up his Role, which after finishing and not taking a Duplicate of the same, by some means or other it has got lost, by which means we Immagine it proves an Obstruction to our Obtaining our Wages we have daily Sollicitd him to make up another but to no

Effect, we therefore humbly pray that your Hons would take it into your Wise Consideration, that we may no longer suffer by our Commanders Neglect, as we remain here upon great Expence and loosing our time, which in the present Day may be Valuable to the Country and ourselves, our fervent Zeal for which (while we lay Dormant) we have not an Opportunity of Showing, we therefore once more lay ourselves at the feet of your Hons praying we may no longer be kept in Suspence hoping that our Petition may be Complyd with and that Suffering Innocence may be rewarded & as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray. Our Wages are as Follows. viz

Walter Perkins Second Lieut serv'd from the 16th March To the 12th Octr viz 7 Months, 2 Weeks, 0 Days a £ 5 pr Month

	37.10..0
Receivd Cash	5..--..-
Ballance due	£ 32.10..-

Peter Clark Capt of Marines & Master at Arms from the 16th March To the 12th Octr 1776 Do. 7 Months, 2 Weeks, 0 Days at £ 5 pr Month.

	37.10..0
Receivd Cash	3..0..0
Ballance due	£ 34.10..0

[Endorsed] In Council Octr 1776 Read & sent down

John Avery Dep Secy

1. Mass. Arch., vol. 210, 46.

Providence Gazette, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1776

Providence, October 12.

Capt. Arthur Crawford, of this Place, has taken and sent into a safe Port a ship from London, bound for Quebec, laden with Blankets, woollen Cloths, Irish Linens, Sheeting, Dowlas, Shoes, Stockings, Boots, Brandy, Port Wine, bottled Porter, Cheese, &c. Her Cargoe, when she sailed, was estimated at Fifteen Thousand Pounds Sterling. He has likewise taken two Ships from Jamaica.

Tuesday last [October 8] arrived from a Cruize the Sloop *Providence*, Capt [John Paul] Jones, in the Service of the United States. During her Cruize she took 13 Prizes, most of them Fishermen, six of which she burnt or sunk, after taking out the Hands, and ordered the others to different Ports. One of them is arrived at the Eastward.

Capt. [Abner] Coffin, in the *Favourite* Privateer, of this Port, has taken a Ship from Jamaica, bound for London, laden with Sugar, Rum, Limes, Pimento, &c. This Prize is also arrived in a safe Harbour.

Thursday last arrived the Privateer *Industry*, Capt. [Thomas] Child, of this Port. About a Fortnight since he fell in with a very large Jamaica

Ship, mounting 10 Carriage Guns, which he engaged for several Hours; but the Sea running high, and his Vessel making much Water, he could only bring two of his Guns to bear, and was finally obliged to quit her. Capt. Child had two Men killed, and five or six wounded.—¹

Capt. [John] Ayres, who arrived at Boston on Tuesday last, in an armed Schooner, on the 27th ult. in Lat. 39:45, Long. 49, saw a Fleet of 49 Sail, among them five Frigates and two 3 Deckers.

Two valuable Prizes, a Snow and Ship, laden with Provisions, bound from England to New York, are taken, and carried in at the Eastward.

A Brig from Falmouth, bound to New York, is taken and carried into Townsend, at the Eastward, having on board a Captain and about 20 Privates of the 16th Regiment of Dragoons, with their Horses and Accoutrements, also the Chaplain of said Regiment.

We hear that a Privateer belonging to Newport has taken two valuable Prizes, and sent them in at the Eastward

We hear that the *Cerberus* Frigate has this Week retaken two valuable Prizes, that had been captured by some of our Privateers. The Hands that were put on board one of them escaped in their Boat.

[Advertisements]

All Persons having any Bills against the Privateer Sloop *Montgomery*, for the Second and third Cruizes, are desired to exhibit them on Thursday next to Messieurs John Smith, David Lawrence, or Joseph Cooke, of whom they may receive their Pay. Providence, October 11, 1776.

Providence, October 11, 1776.

Notice is hereby given, that on Thursday the 17th Instant, at Ten o'Clock in the Forenoon, at Capt. Joseph Crawford's Wharff, in Providence, will be Sold at public Vendue, to the highest Bidder, the Brig *Lawrence*, Burthen about 110 Tons, with her Appurtenances and Cargo, consisting of Rum, Sugar and Sea Coal

Also the Brig *Elizabeth*, Burthen about 110 Tons, with her Appurtenances and Cargo, consisting of Salt, Virginia Tobacco, Flour, and two Carriages, one a Phaeton, the other a Kitatega; also 7 Negro Men Slaves, 3 large Cables, and 2 large Anchors, &c. pursuant to a Decree of a Court erected in the State of Rhode-Island, &c. for maritime Affairs, held at said Providence the 1st of October inst. by the Hon. John Foster, Esq; Judge of said Court.

Paul Tew, Sheriff.

N.B. Part of the Salt will be sold in small L[ot]s.

Whereas a Number of Persons have purchased Goods of said Tew at public Vendue out of several Prizes sold some Time past, and neglect to pay for the same: All such Persons are hereby requested respectively to make immediate Payment, otherwise their Names, [illegible] of respect to Persons, will be exposed in the Public P[lace], more [esp]ecially those who do not live or reside in the Town of Providence. Also all Persons that have

Money lodged in their Hands for the Subscriber, are desired to pay the same immediately, that the Sale may be completed.

To be Sold at public Auction,
On Monday the 21st of this inst. October, at Messieurs
Greene's Wharff in East Greenwich,
The Ship *St. James*,

With her Appurtenances and Cargo, consisting of 372 Hogsheads of Sugar, 82 Puncheons of Rum, 11 Bags of Pimento, 1800 Pounds Weight of old Copper, and 36 Pipes and 4 Hogsheads of Madeira Wine, and to continue till all is sold.

Henry Rice, Sheriff.

1. An item from the *Daily Advertiser*, London, October 22, 1776, reads:

London [October 22]. Captain Pearce, of the *Dick*, arrived at Liverpool from Jamaica, in Lat. 40, engaged a Privateer, who, after a Skirmish of two Hours, sheered off, he supposed her to be a Sloop of about 10 or 12 Guns, Bermuda built; there was a Ship in Company with her, which he imagined was a Prize, but could not be certain, as it was in the Night.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Carysfort*, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAW¹

October 1776

Moord in Frog [Throg] Bay

Saturday 12th At 6 AM Weighed & Run more in Shore a little above Frog [Throg] point – at 9 hoisted a Striped Flag at the Mizon topmt head & fired a Gun Do our Troops in the Flatt bottom Boats began to Land Do Saw the Inhabitants [&] a few Armed Men driving away the Cattle. . .
Do Wear [Light Breezes & Cloudy] – At 1 PM Moor'd Ship with the Stream Anchor to the Soward in 7 fam & the Small Bower in 5 fam close to the bank, [in] which there is but 6 foot Water – Do our Troops still Landing.

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/168.

"LIST OF THE ENEMIES FLEET ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN"¹

[Valcour Island, October 12]

1 Ship	18..12 P[s]
1 Schooner	14.. 6 do
1 ditto	12.. 6 do
	6..24 do Brass
1 Redeaux	12..12..ditto
	4.. 8 Inch Howitz
28 Gondolas. with one Gun each	12.18. & 24 P[s]
	& One 8 Inch Howitz
2 Gondolas	3 Guns each 12. Pounds

N B two of the above Gondolas sunk by our fleet the first Day & one blown up, with 60 Men.

1. Schuyler Papers, Miscellaneous Military Papers, NYPL.

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO MAJOR GENERAL HORATIO GATES ¹

Dear General

Schuyler Island Octr 12. 1776

Yesterday morning at 8 oClock the Ennemies fleet, Consisting of one Ship mountg Sixteen Guns, One Snow, mounting the same Number One Schooner of fourteen Guns, two of Twelve, Two Sloops, a Bomb ketch, & a large Vessell (that did Not come up) with Fifteen, or Twenty flatt Bottom Boats or Gondolas varying, One Twelve or Eighteen pounder in their Bows — Appeared of[f], of Cumberland Head. we, emediately prepared to receive them, the Gallies & *Royal Savage* were ordered Under way, the rest of our fleet lay at An Anchor at 11 oClock. they ran under the Lee of Valcouer & began the Attack. the Schooner by some bad Management fell to Leward, & was first Attacked. One of her Masts was wounded. & her Rigging Shott away. the Capt thought prudent to run her on the Point of Valcouer, where all the Men were saved the Enemy boarded her & at Night, Set fire to her — at, half past 11 the engagement, became General, & very warm. Some of the Enemies Ships & all their Gondolas, beat & rowed up within musquet Shott of us. they, Continued a Very hot fire with Round & Grape Shott untill five OClock. when they thought proper to retire to about Six or Seven hundred Yards distance & continued the fire, untill Dark — the *Congress* & *Washington* have Sufferd. greatly, the Latter Lost her first Lieut killed, & Capt & Master wounded, the *New York* lost all her Officers except her Captain. the *Philada* was hulled in so many Places that She Sank, About One hour after the engagemt was over, the whole, killed & wounded, amounts to abt Sixty, the Enemy, Landed a large Number of Indians On the Island & each Shore, who. keep an Incessant Fire On us, but did little Damage — the Enemy had to Appearance Upwards of One thousand Men in Batteaus, prepared for boarding. — We suffered much for want of Seamen & Gunners, I was obliged myself to Point Most of the Guns on board the *Congress* which I believe did good execution — the *Congress* received Seven Shott between Wind & Water, was hulled a doz times, had her Main Mast Wounded in Two places & her Yard in One, The *Washington* was hulled a Number of times, her Main Mast Shot thro. & must have a New One. both Vessells are very leaky & want repairing.

On Consulting with Genl Waterbury & Colonel Wiggilsworth, it was thought prudent to Retire to Crown Point, every Vessells Ammunition being Nearly three fourths spent. & the Enemies greatly Superior to us in Ships, & Men, — at. 7 oClock Colonel Wiggilsworth in the *Trumbull* got under Way, the Gondolas & Small Vessells followed & the *Congress* & *Washington* brought up the Rear. the Enemy did not, attempt to molest us, most of the fleet is this minute came to An Anchor, the Wind is small to the So ward, the, Enemies fleet is Under way to Leward & beating up. — as soon as our Leakes are Stopped, the whole fleet will, made [*sic* make] the utmost Dispatch to Crown Point, where I beg you will Send Ammunition & your further Orders for us. — On the whole I think we have had a Very fortunate escape, & have great reason to return, our humble, & hearty thanks to

Allmighty God for preserving. & delivering so many of us from, our more than Savage Enemies. I am Dr General Your affectionate [&c.]

B Arnold

P S I had not moved on board the *Congress*, when the Enemy Appeared, lost All my Papers & most of my Cloaths on board the Schooner I wish a doz Batteaus well Manned could be sent emediately to tow up the Vessells in case of a So[uther]ly Wind

I cannot in Justice to the Officers in the fleet Omit mentioning their Spirited Conduct During the Action

B A

1. Gates Papers, Box 4, NYHS.

MAJOR GENERAL HORATIO GATES TO BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD¹

Dear General,

Ticonderoga 12th October 1776. —

I have received your Favours of the 7th & 10th Instant, and am pleased to find You, and your Armada, ride in Valcour Bay, in defiance of the power of Our Foes in Canada; The *Liberty* arrived last Night, and sails this Moment with the provisions you wrote for, and some of Mr Yauncy's best Beef. — I have long ago urged the necessity for Continuing to Increase Our Naval Strength upon the Lake, and shall now send your Letter to General Schuyler, and desire him to make such Extract from it, as if further requisite to induce Congress to direct the forwarding that Useful Work. —

No News, is good News; for, except what is in the inclosed paper, I know none to send You. — I firmly believe that the beating the Enemy received from Our Troops, upon Monday the 16th Ultio, & the Fire of New York, have cooled their Ardour so much that it remains a doubt with me whether General Howe will make Another Attempt before he gets Succours from England; perhaps his Foreign and National Troops have disagreed; perhaps he waits fresh Instructions from His Master. — Whatsoever is the Cause of his Inaction, it is quite Certain, he has given Our Army Three Weeks to Form their Blockade of New York, and to Strengthen their posts in such a Manner, as not to be Forced but with Greater Loss than I think General Howe Can Afford. —

Inclosed is a Resolve of Congress, which when put into Execution will Establish their Independcy: and effectually, and forever, put a period to the Domination of Great Britain. —

My respectfull Compliments to General Waterbury & Colonel Wigglesworth. — I am Dear General Your Affectionate [&c.]

Horatio Gates

1. Gates Papers, Box 19, NYHS.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE¹

[Extract]

Head Qrs Harlem Heights Oct 12th 1776

On the morning of the 9th Inst Three of the Enemy's Ships, Two of 44 Guns & One of 20, with three or four Tenders ran up the North River without receiving any interruption from our Chevaux de frise or apparent damage from our Batteries, tho a heavy fire was kept up against them from each side of the River. They are laying at Tarry Town from 29 to 30 miles above this, & out sailing Two of our Row Gallies in their passage up, they fell into their hands, the Crews escaped.

1. Washington Papers, LC.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBERT HANSON HARRISON TO
ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON¹

Head Qrs Heights of Harlem

Sir

Octob 12th 1776

Your favor of the 10th addressed to Mr Tilghman came safe to hand, which I took the liberty to open in his absence, presuming it to be more of a public than private nature. Having sundry dispatches now before me, I have only time to inform you, that Two Gondolas or Row Gallies were taken by the ships as they went up — that a Regiment of Militia lately from the Massachusets is detached to your assistance and that this Morning about Four thousand of the Enemy landed at Frogs [Throg] point, who forming themselves in to Two divisions according to the Intelligence I have received, have marched towards East & West Chester — as soon as the account was brought to Head Qrs, his Excellency set out for Kings bridge, and my last advices are, that he was pursuing the Enemy. before this (now 1/2 after 3 oClock) perhaps something has been done — Mr Tilghman is with him. I wait impatiently to hear. I am Sir [&c.]

Rob^t H Harrison

P S. please to shew this to Mr. [William] Duer. I have his Letter for Mr Tilghman but cannot answer it now

1. US Revolution (October 8, 1776–February 28, 1777), LC.

COLONEL JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON TO ANDREW HUNTINGTON¹

[Extract]

Camp Kingbridge 12th Octo. 1776

We have no News of importance save the Loss of the Navigation of the North River by Means of the Ships which went up last Wednesday 14 Miles above us. it will make more Work for Land Carriers. we shall be disobliged for Want of Boards &c.

1. *Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society*, XX, 330, 331.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *Niger*, CAPTAIN GEORGE TALBOT¹

October 1776 At Single Anchor between New City Isl & Hart Island

Saturday 12 At 5 AM Weigh'd came to sail & run into 2 fath Water & came too off Stevens's House on Frog Neck in order to cover the Army Intended to Land near there from 10 AM till Noon the Army Landed to the Wt Wd of the Neck without Opposition

1. PRO, Admiralty 51/637.

DIARY OF DR. THOMAS MOFFAT¹

[On board H.M. Sloop *Swan* at Sandy Hook]

Saturday October 12 Thermom morning 47. came into the Hook the *Merlin* with 2 prize Ships 1 from Honduras bay² 1 from the W Indies with Rum and Sugar also the *Susanna* Brig with troops from Portsmouth.

1. Thomas Moffat's Diary, LC.

2. See Journal of H. M. S. *Cerberus*, October 8.

New-York Gazette, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1776

Newark, October 12.

Last Thursday se'nnight, Captains Coffin and Grennell, with a boy, made their escape from Staten-Island in a canoe, and got safe to Bergen Point, and from thence came to this place last Saturday: The former was taken going from New-York to Nantucket some months since, and the latter, on the 28th of August, in lat. 33, 30, long. 66, 20, in a brig from the Western Islands for Nantucket, by a new English 20 gun ship called the *Galatea*, John Jones,¹ Esq; commander, sheathed with copper, and a most extraordinary sailer, being part of a convoy for some ships from London bound to New-York, some of which are arrived at Sandy-Hook.

1. H. M. S. *Galatea* was actually commanded by Captain Thomas Jordan.

MATHEW IRWIN IN ACCOUNT WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA PRIVATEER BRIG
*General Putnam*¹

[Philadelphia, September 18 to October 12, 1776]

Sept. 18.	Brige. <i>Genl. Putnam</i> , ² my part, paid John Sparhawk	} 100..--..
	2d Payment towards Share in her	
Oct. 12	Brigte <i>Gen. Putnam</i> , my part, paid Dr. Sparhawk	} 86..5..-
	3d. payment	

1. Mathew Irwin's Account Book, 1769-1784, LC.

2. The *General Putnam*, Charles Ferguson, commander, 12 guns and 90 men, was commissioned August 27, 1776, "List of Armed Vessels from Port of Philadelphia, 1776-1777 . . .," *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* (Philadelphia, 1902), XXVI, 146, 147.

DIARY OF CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL ¹

[Philadelphia] Octr 12th 1776

. . . by Letter yesterdays Eastern Post, Paul Fooks reced from Nantz, in old France from Monsr Pennel,² that he had Loaded 2 Vessels for Virginia with Blankets, Course cloaths, Lining, Arms Amunition &c also 2 of Same Commodities for Rhode Island, and that he had another (besides this that brought this Letter both Loaded with same Commodities &c) that would Sail in a few days; which I hope will all arrive safe I think this Letter was datd 3d Augst two Vessels with Salt arrived within these two Days past, and yet its Said Some are Selling it at 3 dollars p Bushel, (so inhumane are some of our Citizens to poor people) . . . A wonderfull ordinance publishd in *Evening Post* numb. 270, Inviting all Masters of Vessells coming with Salt, to Sell it to them for 15/ p Bushell³ A rare Council of Safety

1. Diary of Christopher Marshall, HSP.

2. Pierre Penet, of the French firm Penet & Pliarne.

3. *Pennsylvania Evening Post*, October 12, 1776.

“STEPHEN STEWARD’S ACCT OF TACKLE, STORES &C TAKEN FROM
SCHOONER *Resolution*”¹

[Baltimore] Octr 12th 1776 Recd of Roger Horace Pratt of the
Schooner *Resolution* the following Articles —²

A Quantity of Sheet Copper & Funnel
2 Sheets of Lead the remains of the Iron ballast
the Cranes Stanchens ring Eye bolts belonging to the Vessel
30 Hammocks 1 Cot & bottom
35 lb Soape 1 Box Candles 2 Arm Chests
13 Cutlasses an English Jack & Ensign
A French Jack Ensign & Pendant
A Continental Jack
1 Musket & Cattrich box & a few musket balls
7 Horns with powder
Main Topmast Staysail Halyards & down haul
2 Bundles of Shrouds & Topsail Sheet stoppers
26 Tompions 2 Tackel & Falls
40 Double & 3 Single Saile Blocks, 26 Single Blocks
4 Snatch Blocks 2 Marling spikes
2 Treble Blocks a small Quantity of spare Rope
2 Lead lines 4 Buckets
1 pr Lower Steering Sail Halyards 1 pr Topmast Ditto
1 Copper Pump 2 Sides & 2 peices Leather
1 Hauser 5 Inch 80 Fathom — Return’d
1 Marble pestle & Morter
the Medicine Box with its Contents

1 Stream Anchor

1 Water barrel 1 Hose & 1 Harnes Tub

1 Saw 4 Augers 3 Calking Irons 1 pr Callipers 1 Gauge

1 Plane 1 Adz 1 Gimblet 1 Worm 1 Tommy Hauk

the Spritsail Yard & Gear —

Octr 12 1776 The following Articles left on board in order to fit the Schooner *Resolution* for Sea Exclusive of the Masts Yards Sparrs Standing & runing riging Barge & Gally Boate —

4 Double blocks 15 Inch & 4 Saile blocks, 1 Main Sheet Tye & Fly blocks 2

Doz 5 & 6 Inch blocks, 2 small & 1 large snach bk

10 Tacle Hooks & Thumbles 4 Marling spikes

17 Seasing Trucks & 2 Doz Grumets 4 spare dead Eyes

16 Sail blocks 3 Boat Gripes & a Fore Topen lift

Standing Jib Sheets & Fore Topmast Steeringsail Halyards

Lower steering Sail Halyards & Maintopmast St sail Tack & Halyds

Some points & Gaskets 3 balls 6 thred Worming

15 balls ropeyarn & 3 of Spunyarn

2 Leads & lines a Half Bushel with spikes a pitch Shoffle

1 Grind stone, 1 Log line 4 Buckets 1 Coopers Funnel

3 Paint pots 7 Upper & 7 Lower pump Boxes 2 Tack Sailes

1 Copper Pump 4 pump Spears 6 Brakes & 1 pump hook

1 pr Can[t] hooks 2 Scrubing Brushes & Clamps 3 Scrapers

1 Fish hook 1 Tommy Hauk 2 Tarr Brushes 2 Handspikes

1 Crow 2 Sides pump Leather 2 Bow & 1 Kedge Anchor

2 Iron Buoys 2 Cables the one 8 the other 9 Inch & 1 Tow line

2 Mess Tubs — 1 Hauser 5 Inch 80 Fathom

2 Quoils of Inch & half & 1 of 2 Inch & 1 of 2½ Inch Rope

part of a Quoile of 12 thred rattling

2 Water pipes 2 Hhds & 3: 60 Gallon Casks

11 Barrels & 2 Hhds of Bread & a Quantity of loose Bread

Main Sail Fore Sail Jib flying Jib 2 Topsails & 2 Top Galt Sails

[2] Lower & Top mast Steering Sails 1 Water Skid 1 Harnis Tub

Box with Nails & half Tub

A Iron Cabbuse with 2 Iron potts Ladle & Tormenters

4 Tarpawlings some Carpenters Tools

3 Spy Glasse's 3 speaking Trumpets part of Box Candles

3 Wood & 1 Brass Compasses

A Continental Jack Ensign & Pendant 1 Cutlass

pr Steelyards & a Funnel 3 Stools

3 half hour Glasses & 3 half & 2 Qr Minuet Glasses

2 Te Kettles 1 Coffee pott & Tinder Box

2 Sauce panns 5 Wine Glasses 5 Basons 2 pepper Boxes

1 Cruet 1 Tureen ½ doz Knives & forks

4 Spoons 17 plates

2 Dishes 5 padlocks 2 Bread Basketts

6 Skains Marlin & 6 Twine

1 Cot & Frame — Cabbin Brush

1. Executive Papers, Box 2, Folder 72, Md. Arch.

2. "Ordered That Mr Stephen Steward take Possession of all the military Stores, Guns & Rigging of the Schooner *Resolution*," Council of Safety Journal, 29 August 1775 to 20 March 1777, Md. Arch.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD¹

[Williamsburg] Saturday the 12th October 1776. —

Ordered that a Warrant Issue to Lieut Peter Stubblefield for the use of Capt Gabriel Jones for Two hundred and fifty two pounds six shillings and eight pence for pay of his Company of Marines from the twenty ninth day of August last to the Eleventh Instant as p Pay-Roll this day settled. —

Ordered that the keeper of the Public Store deliver unto Capt George Elliott one two hour Glass, fifteen Yards of Oznabrigs and six Pound of sewing Twine for the use of the *Safeguard* Galley. —

Ordered that Mr William Finnie deliver unto Capt George Elliott twenty five Flannell Packetts and twenty pair of Stockings for the use of the *Safeguard* Galley. —

Ordered that the keeper of the Public Store deliver unto Capt Robert Tompkins twenty five pounds of Dry white Lead one two hour Glass, one large speaking Trumpet, one small Ditto, fifty Shotts, fifty Worsted Caps seventy five pair of Course Stockings, fifty pair of Shoes, thirteen Pieces of Checks, One hundred and seventy five Yards of Oznabrigs, one pound of Lampblack, Ten Barrells of Bread thirty pr of Breeches fifty Jacketts and one Spie Glass for the use of the *Henry* Galley. —

Ordered that a Warrant Issue to George Cutlett for the use of Capt Alexander Dick for Three hundred Pounds upon Account, to Purchase Necessaries and for pay of his Company of Marines. —

Ordered that the keeper of Public Store deliver unto Capt William Saunders four Palms, six Mens Hats, two Dozen Sail Needles, four pounds of Twine and eight p[r] of Mens Stockings for the use of the Schooner *Adventure*. —

Ordered that the keeper of the Public Store deliver unto Capt Richard Taylor three pieces of Chip thirty Yards of Cloth, four pound of Twine, one small speaking Trumpett and one two hour Glass. And that Colo Finnie deliver unto the said Capt Taylor twenty flannell Jacketts and eight pr of Stockings for the use of the Schooner *Hornett*

1. Navy Board Journal, 75-77, VSL.

VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD TO CAPTAIN CHARLES THOMAS¹

Sir

[Williamsburg, October 12, 1776]²

Inclos'd you have a memorandum of Cordage which please to send to James Town or the College landing as soon as possible,

1 Cable 7 Inches 70 foot-Fathom long

- 1 Coil of Ratlin 1 do Spun Yarn —
- 1 do 5½ Inch Cordage. 1 do 2 Inch do
- 1 do 2½ Inch do for the *Hornett* Capt Richd Taylor
- 1 Coil Spun Yarn 1 do Inch Cordage
- 1 do 2 Inch do for the *Adventure* Capt Saunders

(Sign'd)

Thomas Whiting 1st Comr

- 1. Navy Board Letter Book, VSL.
- 2. Date taken from minutes of the Board.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD¹

Navy Board [Charleston] Saturday 12th Octr. 1776 —

The Board met according to adjournment.

Present. Edward Blake first Commissr —

Thomas Savage, Josiah Smith Jun Geo Abbot Hall, Thomas Corbett, Roger Smith, George Smith —

Read several applications to the Board for the Clerk's office & then proceeded to choose a Clerk —

Mr. John Calvert was declared unanimously Elected to be Clerk of this Board & he took the following Oath of qualification vizt.

I John Calvert do swear that I will well & truly execute the duties of my Office as Clerk of the Navy Board to the best of my skill & Judgement & that I will faithfully keep secret the Business of the said Board, when requir'd

So help me God

Received a Muster Roll of the Brig. . *Defence*
do a Muster Roll of the Brig. . *Comet*

The following Letter was sent to Capt. Thomas Pickering
Capt. Thomas Pickering

You are hereby required to use the utmost diligence in Manning the Brig. *Defence* under your Command & getting her ready for Sea, in particular we recommend that you take the most effectual means, for recovering the Seamen who have deserted from your Vessel as speedily as possible if they are to be found in Town & make a return to the Navy Board of your Compliment of Men by Tuesday next at Nine OClock in the Morning

A similar Letter was also sent to Capt. Edward Allen Commander of the Brig. *Comet*:

- 1. Salley, ed., *South Carolina Navy Board*, 6.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY¹

[Charleston] Saturday the 12th Day of October 1776

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House an Ordinance for allowing and keeping in Repair a Pilot Boat to attend the Bar and

Harbour of Beaufort and for regulating the Pilotage of the said Harbour
Read a Third Time in that House

1. Salley, ed., *South Carolina General Assembly Journals*, 109, 112.

13 Oct. (Sunday)

LIEUTENANT JOHN STARKE'S SKETCH OF THE WAR IN CANADA ¹

[Schooner *Maria*, October 11 to October 13]

. . . the Rebel Fleet was attacked and destroyed in the two different engagements, in the Lake Champlain, on the 11th and 13 of October 1776 — By this Victory the command of the Navigation of the Lake was regained; the Province of Quebec was secured from future invasions; and the Army whose operations had been impeded untill this object was attained, had now scope to act — The Season of the year being far advanced, the expedition against Ticonderoga was postponed untill the following year.

1. Lieutenant Starke's Narrative, NMM.

"A LIST OF HIS MAJESTY'S ARM'D VESSELS, GUN BOATS &c. SERVING ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN DURING THE CAMPAIGN 1776."¹

How	No	No	Wt of Metal				
Rigg'd	of	of	24 Ps	12 Ps	9 Ps	6 Ps	Swivels
	Men	Guns					
Ship	120	17	<i>Inflexible</i>				
							10
Schooner		14	<i>Maria</i>				
						14	6
Schooner	45	12	<i>Carleton</i>				
						12	6
Ketch	35		<i>Thunderer</i>				
					8 Inch Howitz		
Hoy	35	7	<i>Royal Convert</i>				
					7		
			Gun Boats				
	247						

1. Provincial Marine, 1764-1784 (RG 8, "C" Series, vol. 722A), DAC.