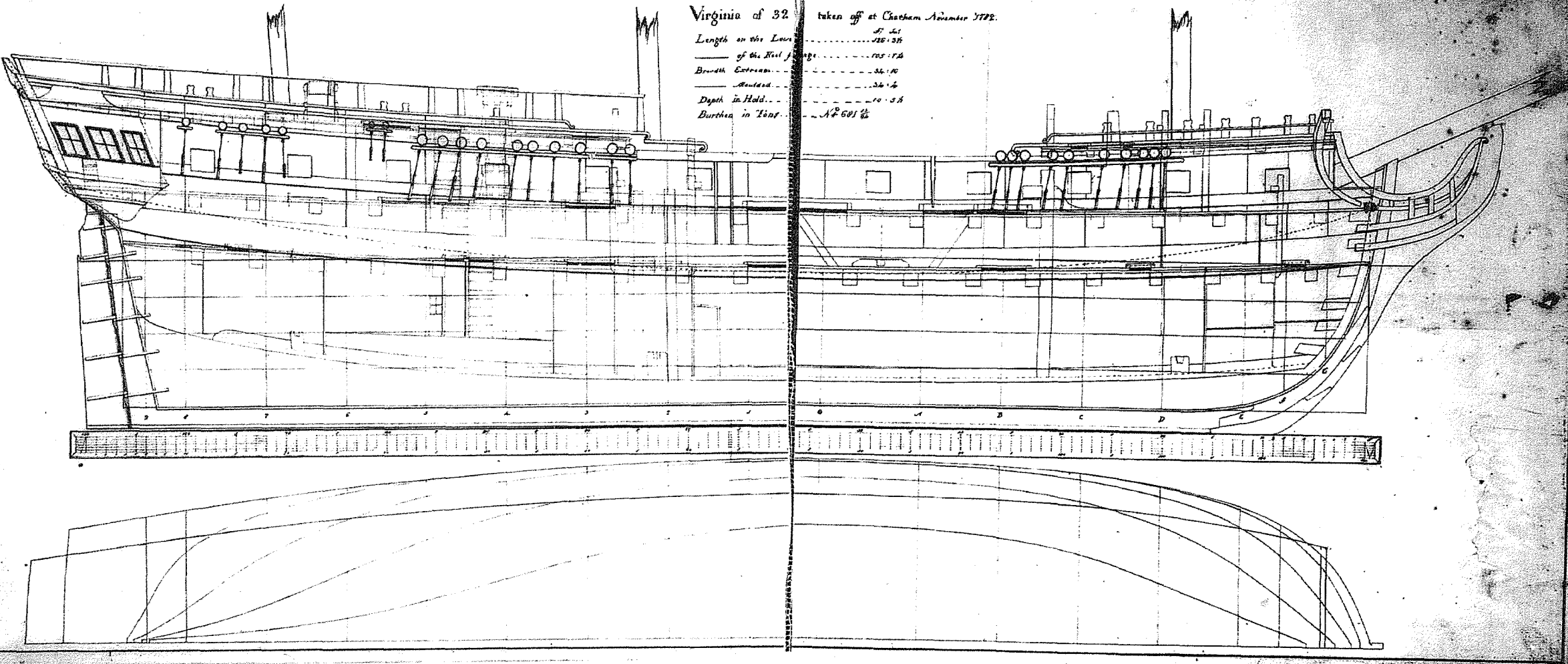


Virginia of 32

taken off at Chatham November 1772.

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NAVAL DOCUMENTS OF
The American Revolution

Treaty of Alliance

The most Christian King and the United States of North America, to wit, New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, having this Day concluded a Treaty of Amity and Commerce, for the reciprocal advantage of their Subjects and Citizens have thought it necessary to take into consideration the means of strengthening those engagements and of rendering them useful to the safety and tranquility of the two parties, particularly in case Great Britain in Renouement of that connection and of the good correspondence which is the object of the said Treaty should break the Peace with France, either by direct hostilities, or by hindring her commerce, and navigation, in a manner contrary to the Rights of Nations, and the Peace subsisting between the two Kingdoms; and his Majesty and the said United States having resolved in that Case to join their Councils and efforts against the Enterprises of their common Enemy, the respective Plenipotentiaries, impow'ed to concert the clauses by conditions proper to fulfil the said

Traité d'alliance eventuelle et défensive

Le Roi Très Chrétien et les États-unis de l'Amérique Septentrionale, savoir New-Hampshire, le Baye de Massachusetts, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pensylvanie, Delaware, Maryland, Virginie, Caroline septentrionale, Caroline Méridionale et Georgie, ayant conclu ce jourd'huy un Traité d'Amitié, de bonne intelligence et de commerce, pour l'avantage réciproque de leurs Sujets et Citoyens; ils ont eu devoir prendre en considération les moyens de renouer leur liaison, et de la rendre utile à la sûreté et à la tranquillité des deux Parties, notamment dans le cas où la Grande Bretagne en haine de ces mêmes liaisons et de la bonne correspondance qui forment l'objet du dit Traité, se porteroit à rompre la paix avec la France, soit en l'attaquant hostilement, soit en troublant son commerce et sa navigation, d'une manière contraire au droit des gens et à la paix subsistante entre les deux Couronnes; et la Majesté

NAVAL DOCUMENTS OF
The American Revolution

VOLUME 11

AMERICAN THEATER: January 1, 1778–March 31, 1778

EUROPEAN THEATER: January 1, 1778–March 31, 1778

MICHAEL J. CRAWFORD
Editor

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With a Foreword by
President George W. Bush

And an Introduction by
DR. WILLIAM S. DUDLEY
Director of Naval History

NAVAL HISTORICAL CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
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Each volume of this series is a reminder of the key role played by William Bell Clark, original editor. Drawing on his deep knowledge of the navies in the American Revolution, his initial selections and arrangements of materials compiled over a devoted lifetime provided a framework on which subsequent efforts have continued to build.

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A keg mine of David Bushnell's design, made for use against British vessels in the Delaware River.

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In Memoriam

WILLIAM JAMES MORGAN

(1917–2003)

Esteemed scholar and valued colleague, Dr. William James Morgan set an example of personal integrity, leadership, and lifelong devotion to duty in the highest traditions of the naval service. This volume is dedicated to his memory, but his truest monuments are the volumes of this series produced under his editorship.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

FOREWORD

July 14, 2003

I commend the Department of the Navy for its continuing efforts to publish the Naval Documents of the American Revolution. This project records the commitment and bravery that secured American Independence, while highlighting the remarkable character of early Americans and the legacy of patriotism and heroism they have given us.

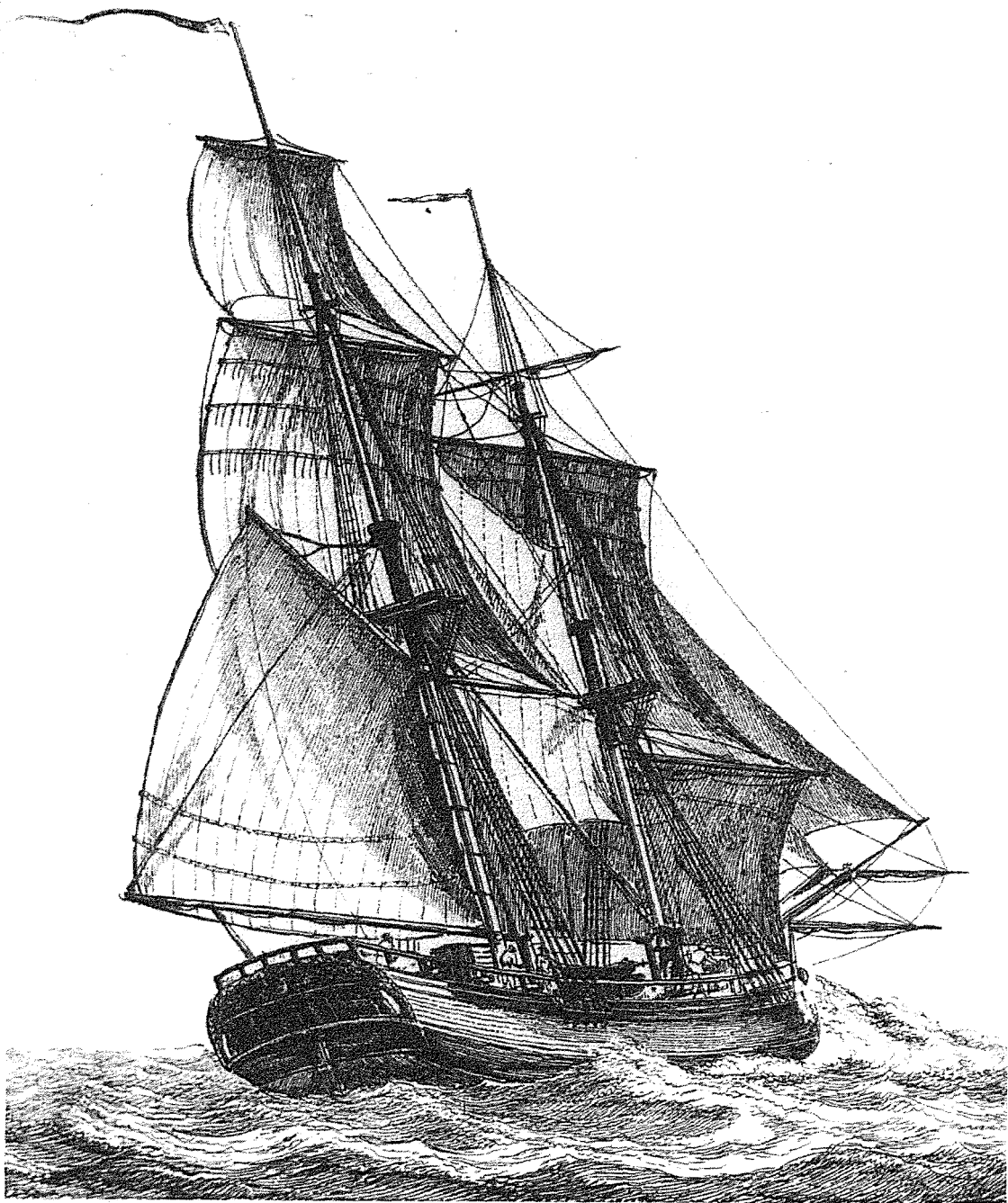
This 11th volume of the Naval Documents of the American Revolution covers the period between January and March of 1778. It documents the deteriorating balance of naval forces between the fledgling American Navy and Britain's Royal Navy. By March 1778, six of the thirteen frigates that were the backbone of the American Navy had been captured or destroyed and five of the remaining seven were not in service. Moreover, the professionalism and élan of the British Navy, also very evident in the documents appearing in this volume, made the idea of an American challenge to British sea power ever more daunting.

Despite the dire situation and prospects for the Navy, American military leaders, political leaders, and citizens from all walks of life struggled to build a Nation -- and a navy -- that would command the respect of the world.

They understood that victory required both material and inner strength. Joseph Reed, a delegate from Pennsylvania to the Continental Congress, wrote: "Our former Difficulties have been surmounted by Vigour & firmness. The Power & Strength of the Enemy & common Danger [have been overcome] with a Sense of the Justice of our Cause. ... The last great Evil, clashing Interests & sinister Ambition only remains; that conquered, Victory is most certainly ours. But I am very clear, it requires more Wisdom & Prudence to combat this than all others."

Today the United States is well prepared, materially and morally, to face the forces of "sinister ambition" that challenge America in the war on global terror. The same resolve that is evidenced in the pages of this volume is the hallmark of our approach to the present conflict. The daily courage of the patriots that founded our Nation have always been an inspiration to succeeding generations of Americans.





This print and others of similar nature throughout the volume are engravings by Gerrit Groenewegen, from the Eberstadt Collection of Naval Engravings and Etchings, Naval Historical Center.

Introduction

The United States Navy has a long tradition of making the record of its activities and accomplishments available to the public through publication of historical documents. The tradition goes back to the 1880s, when the Navy's judgment that it was important to make known the record of its contributions to the winning of the Civil War resulted in the publication of the *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion* in thirty-one volumes between 1894 and 1927.

Commodore Dudley W. Knox, who was in charge of the Navy's Historical Section and subsequently the Office of Naval Records and Library from 1921 to 1946, attributed the scarcity of works on the history of the United States Navy to the "inaccessibility of authentic sources." His remedy was twofold. First, he transformed the Office of Naval Records and Library into a modern archival repository, where records were systematically collected and professionally processed. Second, he undertook to collect, edit, and publish selected naval records. Under his direction, the Navy published *Naval Documents Related to the Quasi-War Between the United States and France*, in seven volumes, between 1935 and 1938, and *Naval Documents Related to the United States Wars with the Barbary Powers*, in seven volumes, between 1939 and 1945. The Naval Historical Center is currently continuing this function with two major series, *The Naval War of 1812: A Documentary History*, and the series in which the volume in hand is the latest contribution, *Naval Documents of the American Revolution*.

Published documentary collections encourage research and writing. They save research time by identifying and bringing together related sources from scattered locations. They suggest historical connections and highlight neglected subjects. They identify obscure persons and references mentioned in the documents. They ease reading the documents, while they help avoid misreading texts. Perhaps most important, they stimulate intellectual curiosity.

More than forty years ago, in a review of William Bell Clark's book on *George Washington's Navy*, Rear Admiral Samuel Eliot Morison noted the need for a comprehensive naval history of the American Revolution. Clark, who at the time was working under contract to the Navy as the first editor of the *Naval Documents of the American Revolution* series, responded in a private letter,

Nobody will be able to write a naval history of the American Revolution, covering all the aspects you mention, until the documents I am editing are published. . . . Without the facilities the [Director of Naval History] has placed at my disposal the task would be almost insurmountable, as no one man could in a dozen lifetimes dig into the repositories of Europe and America and extract the mass of material available.

With the project approximately half completed, many historians of the American Revolution have been making good use of the series to write on operational, economic, and local aspects of the war at sea. Just as every serious naval history of the Quasi-War, the Barbary Wars, and the Civil War written since publication of the Navy's documentary series on those conflicts has relied heavily on them, every serious scholar of naval warfare of the American Revolution mines deeply from *Naval Documents of the American Revolution*.

Dr. Michael J. Crawford, editor of this volume and head of the Early History Branch of the Naval Historical Center, and his assistant editors, E. Gordon Bowen-Hassell, Dr. Dennis M. Conrad, and Mark L. Hayes, labored together many years in surveying collections, selecting documents, transcribing, translating, and annotating the materials, and, finally, preparing the comprehensive index. I am deeply grateful to Dr. Crawford and his associates for so ably producing a volume that will be of continuing value to scholars, students, naval personnel, and other individuals interested in the crucial role played by the sea and by those who go down to the sea in ships in the development of the American nation. This volume is a major contribution to the Naval Historical Center's mission to promote an understanding of America's naval and maritime heritage.

WILLIAM S. DUDLEY, Ph.D.
Director of Naval History

Editors' Preface

“France, who is in a perfect state of security, but for political reasons, would have Britain declare war against her first; but convinced I am, at all events, she will not let us fall.” Thus wrote a “gentleman in Martinique” to “a friend in Baltimore” in a letter dated 19 January 1778. By the start of 1778, many on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean anticipated an early entry of France into the war between the United States and Great Britain. False rumors of the recognition of American independence by France, Spain, the Netherlands, and even Prussia, circulated in America with as much currency as did the equally false report of the death of Benjamin Franklin in Paris at the hands of an assassin. Every ship’s master arriving in an American port from Europe found himself eagerly questioned about the state of affairs in Europe and the attitude of the French toward Americans. Everyone realized that France’s entry into the conflict would fundamentally transform the nature of the war between Great Britain and the United States.

By the new year, the French government was ready to replace surreptitious aid to the cause of American independence with formal recognition and alliance. On 6 February, Louis XVI and the American Commissioners in France secretly signed two treaties, one of amity and commerce, and the other of alliance. On 13 March the French ambassador in London informed King George III that France recognized the independence of the United States of America. Within days, King Louis XVI and King George III each withdrew his ambassador from the other’s court. A formal state of war only awaited an act of armed hostility; and the French, as the perceptive gentleman from Martinique understood, desired that the British fire the first shot. France’s recognition of American independence and the resulting inevitability of war between France and Great Britain made a radical change in British strategy necessary. A colonial war of independence now merged with a war fought in a global arena over the balance of power in Europe.

The purpose of the series *Naval Documents of the American Revolution* is to present the war at sea of the American Revolution. In fulfillment of its mission, the Naval Historical Center, the principal historical agency of the United States Navy, publishes materials that will facilitate the study of the role of sea power in the winning of American independence; to cover the Spanish siege of British-held Gibraltar, or Anglo-French naval combat on the coasts of India, is not in the Center’s mandate.

In accord with the general principle of thoroughly documenting the War of American Independence, this series will continue to include documentation of all naval campaigns in North American waters. Naval operations outside those waters, in the Caribbean, European waters, and the Indian Ocean, unless they involved U.S. forces, will only be covered by documents that summarize and give an overview. Operations of the Continental Navy and American privateers (whether Loyalist or Patriot), wherever in the world they occurred, will, of course, continue to be documented.

This volume builds on the accomplishments of previous editors and staff. The project's first editor, William Bell Clark, laid the foundations for our *Naval Documents of the American Revolution* series as early as the first decades of the twentieth century, when he began collecting the texts of documents relating to the naval aspects of the war. Dr. William James Morgan, editor of Volumes 5 through 9, laid a course that has proved a reliable chart to his successors. To Dr. William S. Dudley, who was editor of this series from Dr. Morgan's retirement in 1982 until 1990, when he became Senior Historian of the Naval Historical Center and Dr. Crawford assumed the post, we owe a debt of gratitude.

The editors of this volume wish to acknowledge with thanks the superb assistance rendered us by the two other historian-editors in the branch, Christine F. Hughes and Charles E. Brodine, Jr., co-editor and associate editor of the Center's *The Naval War of 1812: A Documentary History* series. In particular, Charles contributed to the selection of documents in this volume relating to naval activities on the Delaware River. Charlotte Marie Knowles, the branch program assistant, ably transcribed many of the documents from manuscript into electronic text. The staffs of other Center branches, especially the Navy Department Library and the Curator Branch's Photographic Section, provided essential services.

During a ten-month fellowship in documentary editing, Dr. Gregory D. Massey assisted the project by selecting, transcribing, annotating, and indexing documents concerning the lower South and the West Indies for this volume as well as for Volume 10. The Center is grateful to him for his fine contribution and to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, which sponsored his fellowship.

The following interns assisted with various editorial tasks: James Bartlinski, of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Dyann Collins, of Pepperdine University; Ellen Jacobs, of the University of Richmond; Lieutenant Dale Maxey, USN, of Fredericksburg, Virginia; Magdalena Ortiz, of James Madison University; and Monique Fletcher, Fiona MacGregor, and Ewan MacMillan, of the University of Aberdeen, Scotland.

Among the translations of foreign-language materials appearing in this volume are those by Commander Canio Di Cairano, USNR (Ret.), Susan Cameron, Elizabeth G. Crabbs, Russell B. Holmes, and Dr. Oscar M. Villarejo. John Arnold performed wonders of research for the volume at the Public Record Office in London.

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Extracts from *The Private Papers of John, Earl of Sandwich, First Lord of the Admiralty, 1771-1782*, edited by G. R. Barnes and J. H. Owen ([London]: Navy Records Society, Copyright © 1932-38), are reprinted by permission of the Navy Records Society.

The present volume publishes the texts of documents drawn from repositories and private collections located across North America as well as in several centers of learning in Europe. We greatly appreciate the cooperation of all of these institutions and individuals.

The Naval Historical Foundation contributed a subvention toward the printing of this volume, for which we are deeply grateful.

Accepting responsibility for any failings of commission or omission, the editors trust that this volume of documents will advance understanding of the role of the war at sea in the founding of the United States of America.

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Editorial Method

Principles of Selection

In selecting documents for this series, the editors' goal is to include those records that are necessary for a comprehensive understanding of the war at sea of the American Revolution. By comprehensive, the editors do not mean they include every document touching on the war at sea, but rather that they provide full coverage of naval aspects of the armed struggle and present the reader a meaningful overview of the entire sea effort. As an earlier volume explained, "documentation bearing on the regular naval forces on both sides, state navies, privateers, merchant shipping, logistics of the conflict, and operations on sea, lake, bay and river fall within the context of 'naval document' as used in this series" (Vol. 6, p. xi).

The series accounts for the activities of each of the Continental Navy's warships and of most of those of the state navies. It seeks to document every aspect of the ordinary business of operating and maintaining the Continental and state navies. It chronicles privateering activities, both American and British.

We also cover the activities of British squadrons in American waters and of selected individual British warships. No attempt is made to document the ordinary business of operating and maintaining the Royal Navy and therefore fiscal accounts, muster rolls, payrolls, and share lists are excluded. There is also little about British supplies, cannon, gunpowder, munitions, pay, prize money, and building and fitting out of ships. We do, however, cover British naval operations, logistics, convoys, transports, and manning of vessels. Documents have also been included that concern the aims and strategy of the British, account for prizes taken, and balance Patriot accounts of actions and operations. Coverage of the British naval effort in this and previous volumes will serve as the model for treatment of the naval efforts of France and other European powers in coming volumes.

We print diplomatic correspondence that deals directly with naval matters, including the outfitting of privateers and American naval vessels, the sale of their prizes in European and Caribbean ports, and the supplying of America with munitions by European powers. Internal American politics that affect naval operations are documented, but not so internal European politics. In covering the French, Spanish, and Dutch naval war efforts, we publish documents that: concern aims and strategy; follow movements of squadrons and selected individual warships from these countries; relate to joint operations with American armies and navies; or illustrate the effects of allied naval forces on the American populace, as well as on the American war effort. In short, we provide enough documentation of the European efforts to give context to those of the United States.

Variant Texts

When multiple copies of a text are available, the version that is closest to the text that the recipient read is printed. For example, an autograph letter signed has precedence over a recipient's letter book copy, since the former is what the reader saw and the latter may contain copyist's errors; but a recipient's letter book copy has precedence over a draft, since the former is probably closer to the version the writer sent, containing changes made in preparing the final version. Significant variations between versions are discussed in notes; otherwise the editors do not identify variant versions.

Placement of Documents

Documents in this volume are divided into two sections, the American Theater and the European Theater, according to where they originated, even though some documents created in Europe may concern events in America, and some created in America may be about events in Europe. Within each theater, documents are arranged in chronological order by date of origin. Under each date they are ordered by place of origin, from north to south. For documents published on the same day in the same location, public records precede private; and public records appear in order of organizational hierarchy. In this hierarchy, Continental records precede state, and state precede municipal; executive documents precede legislative, and legislative precede judicial; a letter from the president of Congress precedes a letter from a committee of Congress, and a letter from a committee of Congress precedes a letter from a board acting for the committee; a document of the British Admiralty precedes one from an admiral, and a letter from an admiral precedes one from a captain. A letter written on the same day as its response always precedes that response. Laid out in tabular fashion, the principles of arrangement are as follows:

By theater: American, followed by European
By chronology
By geography north to south
public, by organizational hierarchy
private

Documents that cover a span of dates, such as a letter written over the course of several days, are placed at the last date in that span.

Undated and incompletely dated documents appear at their earliest conjectured date, as follows:

<u>Conjectured Date</u>	<u>Placement</u>
sometime in a given year	before documents dated 1 January of that year

sometime within a given month

before documents written the first of the month

after a given month

before documents dated the first of the next month

Notes

Notes follow each document. Each document has an unnumbered source note that precedes the numbered notes and describes the document using abbreviations to indicate the type of document and the repository and collection from which it came. If the document was taken from a published source, that source may be short titled. The abbreviations used in all of these cases are listed below. Contemporary addresses, endorsements, and docketings are also given in the source notes.

The full name and rank or position, if known, of persons named in the text but not identified in the text or notes, can be found in the index. In notes identifying officers of the Royal Navy, a bracketed numeral after the name refers to the enumeration system employed by the British Admiralty to differentiate officers of the same name and incorporated into *The Commissioned Sea Officers of the Royal Navy 1660–1815*, Occasional Publications of the Navy Records Society, Vol. 1, edited by David Syrett and R. L. DiNardo (Aldershot, England: Scolar Press, for the Navy Records Society, 1994).

Transcription

Transcriptions adhere as closely as possible to the originals in spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and abbreviation, including the retention of dashes and underlining found in the original text. Exceptions to this general rule are as follows: The names of ships are italicized. Complimentary closes, unless unusual or otherwise significant, are shortened and end with [&c.], and, in the interests of saving space, are attached to the last paragraph of text. Words and passages that were crossed out by the author are transcribed either as overstrikes or in notes if they are deemed significant by the editors. When a spelling is so unusual as to be misleading or confusing, the correct spelling immediately follows the misspelled word in square brackets and italicized type or is discussed in a footnote.

In the eighteenth century, the thorn, a symbol much like the letter *y*, was used in place of the letters *th*. In this volume, the thorn is represented by the letter *y*, so that “*y^e*” is “the,” “*y^t*” is “that,” “*y^s*” is “this,” and so forth. Another symbol, the “tailed P,” or *ꝑ*, is retained. This symbol represents any of the prefixes *per*, *pro*, and *pre*. The tilde, a flourish employed by writers in the eighteenth century to indicate the omission of one or more characters, is silently replaced by the appropriate letters.

Where the source is a newspaper or other printed work, the editors have not attempted to retain typeface: for example, blocks of text in all italics have been put in roman font, and some words in all capitals have been normalized. Exceptions are

printed broadsides or advertisements where different typefaces emphasize the meaning of the text.

In order to present accurate texts, this volume renders non-English documents in their original language, including preserving spelling and accent marks however irregular. Each of these documents is accompanied by an English translation.

Ships' Logs

Two categories of modifications to the original text appear in the transcriptions of most of the logbooks and officers' journals that appear in this volume. First, a number of columns with such information as the direction of the wind, ship's course, distance traveled, latitude, and longitude are eliminated. The noon bearing is brought into the text of the "Remarks" column, set off as a separate paragraph. Second, the dating of the daily entries has been made to conform with civil time, rather than sea time. Most eighteenth-century logbooks and journals of ships at sea began the new day with the previous day's noon reading—the locating of a ship using navigational instruments when the sun was at its meridian. Thus, according to the log of a ship in the midst of the ocean, noon on 31 December civil time would be the beginning of 1 January. In this volume, however, each day's entry begins with midnight, except as noted. In making this modification, the editors start each entry with either the noon bearings or the last bearings of the previous day.

Abbreviations Commonly Used in Logbooks

Abbreviations commonly used in logbook entries found in this volume are listed below in alphabetical order, with their expanded meanings. In the text, the abbreviations in this list may be followed by a period or colon and lowercased words may be capitalized.

<u>Abbreviation</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
abs ^t	abstract
ab ^t	about
anch ^d	anchored
anch ^r	anchor
an ^d	anchored; answered
ans ^d	answered
answ ^d	answered
b b	best bower
bb ^r	best bower
b ^d	board; bound
b ^r	bower

brig ^t	brigantine
br ^t	brought
bro ^t	brought
b ^t	best; boat; brought
b ^t b ^r	best bower
com ^y	company
comp ^y	company
con ^s	contains
c ^r	clear
d	distant
dis	distant
dist	distant
dist ^{ce}	distance
em ^d	employed
emp ^d	employed
e ^t	east
exch ^d	exchanged
fa ^m	fathom
fath	fathom
f ^m	fathom
forem ^t	foremast
fores ^l	foresail
f ^r	fair
f t gal	foretopgallant
fth	fathom
g ^t	gallant
h ^d	handed
hh ^d	hogshead
larb ^d	larboard
lat	latitude
lat ^r	latter
l ^d	larboard
leg ^s	leagues
lg ^s	leagues
long	longitude
low ^d	lowered
l ^s	leagues
m	main
m ^d	made
mains ^l	mainsail
maj ^{ys}	majesty's
miz ⁿ	mizzen
m ⁿ	main
mod ^t	moderate

mod ^{te}	moderate
m ^s	miles
m t	main top
m ^t	mast
mtg ^t	maintopgallant
nor ^d	northward
north rd	northward
obs ^d	observed
off ^t	officer
onb ^d	on board
p ^{cs}	pieces
p ^s	pieces
p ^t	part; past; point
pun ^d	punished
q ^r	quarter
rec ^d	received
recv ^d	received
remd ^r	remainder
rem ^r	remainder
rep ^g	replacing; repairing
ret ^d	returned
r ^f	reef
rid ^g	riding
sch ^r	schooner
s ^d	sounded
sh ^t	short
sig ^l	signal
sig ^{nl}	signal
s ^l	sail; small
sm ^l	small
south ^d	southward
star ^d	starboard
stays ^l	staysail
stud ^{gs^l}	studding sail
t	top
tend ^r	tender
tgm	topgallant mast
t g ^t	topgallant
tk ^d	tacked
topgall ^t	topgallant
topm ^t	topmast
top ^{sl}	topsail
t ^s	topsails
TS	topsails

var ^l	variable
—w ^d	—ward (as in <i>leeward</i> , <i>northward</i> , etc.)
wea ^r	weather
west rd	westward
w ^r	water; weather
w ^t	west; with
w th	with
y ^d	yard

Textual Devices

The editors silently supply letters and words that are missing from a damaged manuscript but are obvious from the context. They use brackets and roman type to supply those letters and words that are probable, with a question mark within the brackets where they are questionable. The editors use brackets with italic type when supplying the proper spellings of personal, and geographic names or the correct spellings of words that are otherwise confusing. The bracketed, italicized phrases, [*torn*] and [*illeg.*] (“illegible”), indicate indecipherable or non-conjecturable words missing from manuscripts. The virgule, /, in source notes indicates a line break in addresses, endorsements, and docketings. Extracts, translations, and enclosures are indicated thus: [Extract]; [Translation]; [Enclosure]. All other editorial insertions in the body of the texts are indicated by italic type within brackets. For documents in which the texts lack a date or place of origin, the editors supply a date or place, or both, in square brackets and italic type, flush right before the text.

[roman]	probable conjectural reading, or text supplied from another part of the document (in the case of logbooks in particular)
[roman?]	questionable conjectural reading
[<i>italic</i>]	editorial explanation
[<i>torn</i>]	document is damaged, with non-conjecturable text missing
[<i>illeg.</i>]	text is indecipherable
[Extract]	the text following is part of a larger text
[Translation]	the text following is an English translation from the text’s original language
[Enclosure]	the text following was an enclosure of the preceding text
overstrike	crossed out text

Abbreviations Used to Describe Manuscripts

Copy	Contemporary copy
D	Document
Df	Draft
DfS	Draft Signed

DS	Document Signed
L	Letter, Recipient's Copy
LB	Letter Book
Transcript	Copy not contemporary
Translation	Contemporary translation

Repository Symbols

CaNSHP	Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
CsMh	Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif.
Ct	Connecticut State Library, Hartford, Conn.
CtHi	Connecticut Historical Society, Hartford, Conn.
CtNLHi	New London County Historical Society, New London, Conn.
CtY	Yale University, New Haven, Conn.
DLC	Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
DN	Navy Department Library, Washington, D.C.
DNA	United States National Archives, Washington, D.C.
FrBAPM	Archives Du Port Militaire, Brest, France
FrPMAE	Archives Du Ministère Des Affaires Etrangères, Paris, France. Document conservé au Centre historique des Archives nationales à Paris.
FrPNA	Archives Nationales, Paris, France. Document conservé au Centre historique des Archives nationales à Paris.
M-Ar	Massachusetts State Archives, Boston, Mass.
MB	Boston Public Library, Boston, Mass. Rare Books Department. Courtesy of the Trustees.
MdAA	Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, Md.
MdAN	United States Naval Academy Museum, Annapolis, Md.
MdHi	Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Md.
MeHi	Maine Historical Society, Portland, Maine
MH-H	Harvard University. Houghton Library, Cambridge, Mass. By permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.
MHi	Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, Mass.
MiU-C	University of Michigan. William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.
MSaE	Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.
Nc-Ar	North Carolina State Department of Cultural Resources. Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, N.C.
Nh-Ar	New Hampshire Department of State. Division of Records Management and Archives, Concord, N.H.

NHi	New-York Historical Society, New York, N.Y.
NHPr	Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park, N.Y.
NjGbS	Rowan College of New Jersey, Savitz Library, Glassboro, N.J.
NjHi	New Jersey Historical Society, Newark, N.J.
NN	New York Public Library, N.Y.
NNPM	Pierpont Morgan Library, New York, N.Y.
PHarH	Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Division of Archives and Manuscripts, Harrisburg, Pa.
PHi	Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.
PPi	Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Pa.
PPISPM	Independence Seaport Museum Library, Philadelphia, Pa.
PPAmP	American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pa.
PU	University of Pennsylvania Library, Philadelphia, Pa.
PWacD	David Library of the American Revolution, Washington Crossing, Pa.
PYHi	Historical Society of York County, York, Pa.
R-Ar	Rhode Island State Archives, Providence, R.I.
RHi	Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence, R.I.
RNHl	Newport Historical Society, Newport, R.I.
ScHi	South Carolina Historical Society, Charleston, S.C.
SpMAH	Archivo Historico Nacional, Madrid, Spain
SpSAG	Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deporte, Archivo General de Indias, Seville, Spain
SpVAS	Archivo General de Simancas, Valladolid, Spain
UKLNMM	National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, United Kingdom
UKLPR	Public Record Office, London, United Kingdom
Vi	Virginia State Library, Richmond, Va.
ViHi	Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Va.
ViU	University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.

Collection Symbols

Adm.	Admiralty
Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol.	Archives diplomatique, Correspondance Politique
C.O.	Colonial Office
H.C.A.	High Court of Admiralty
PCC	Record Group 360. Records of the Continental and Confederation Congresses and the Constitutional Convention. "Papers of the Continental Congress"
PRO	Public Record Office
RG	Record Group
S.P.	State Papers (Domestic)

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AMERICAN THEATER

From January 1 to March 31, 1778



AMERICAN THEATER

From January 1 to March 31, 1778

SUMMARY

During the winter months of January, February, and March 1778, British and American naval efforts in the American Theater reflected conditions created by the momentous events of the previous autumn, the capitulation of Lieutenant General John Burgoyne's British army at Saratoga, New York, and the capture of Philadelphia by British forces under General Sir William Howe and Vice Admiral Richard, Lord Howe. Expectation of France's imminent entrance into the war in support of American independence influenced many decisions by naval leaders in America. The British Navy strove to maintain an effective blockade of the American coast, despite the deteriorating condition of their warships, while supporting the British army's footholds in the rebellious territories in the seaports of New York, Newport, and Philadelphia. Needing to get cruising warships to sea, as well as shipments to Europe of American produce, particularly tobacco, and to allow shipments of munitions, uniforms, and salt into their ports, American revolutionaries struggled to pierce the blockades of the Narragansett Bay, Long Island Sound, Chesapeake Bay, and Charleston S.C., while taking advantage of weaknesses in the blockade, particularly at Boston, the eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia, and the inlets of North Carolina's Outer Banks.

Although Americans had rebuilt the fort at Machias, Maine, Sir George Collier at Halifax reported the province of Nova Scotia in no danger of invasion. Royal Navy ships and provincial armed vessels continued to capture American privateers operating in Nova Scotia's bays and inlets.

An American project to send the French armed ship *Flammand*, with a few American officers on board authorized to make prizes, from Portsmouth, N.H., to Charleston for a cargo of rice, failed because the French crew, deceived as to their original destination, which they had been told was the French West Indies, refused to sail for Charleston.

The ship *Royal Bounty* was carrying American prisoners from Halifax to Newport when the prisoners rose, took over the vessel and brought her into Marblehead. British authorities claimed credit for the prisoners on the balance sheet of prisoners exchanged, but Americans denied that the vessel should be considered a cartel, since it was coming from one British-held port and heading for another.

Boston's secure harbor accommodated several ships fitting out, including Continental Navy brig *General Gates* and Connecticut Navy ship *Defence*. Continental Navy frigate *Boston*, Captain Samuel Tucker, set sail from Massachusetts Bay on 17 February, carrying John Adams, appointed to take the place of Silas Deane as one of the American Commissioners in France. The State of Massachusetts ordered brigantine *Massachusetts* on a cruise off England or the Iberian Peninsula and fit-

ted out several state trading vessels, dispatching *Adams* and *Favorite* to France via South Carolina, *Gruel*, *Nantes*, and *Union* to France, and *Dolphin* to Spain. The British captured *Gruel* off Halifax and *Union* before she reached France.

Continental Navy frigates *Providence* and *Warren* and ship *Columbus* fitted out at Providence, R.I., awaiting a good opportunity to sail through the British squadron based in Newport. In a heavy fog on the night of 16 February, *Warren* slipped past the blockaders in the Narragansett and, after a short cruise, made it to the safety of Boston. But *Columbus*, attempting to break out on 27 March, ran aground and the British burned her.

British transports prepared to proceed to Boston to take on board the Convention Army that had capitulated at Saratoga the previous October, until the Continental Congress abrogated the agreement to release the British soldiers.

Work continued on the building of Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy* at Norwich, Connecticut. The state government appointed its own agent to devise a way to get the new Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull* safely over the bar in the Connecticut River at Saybrook.

British authorities made the decision to issue privateering commissions at New York. They also planned to establish a navy yard at New York City, to alleviate the vexing problems of maintaining Royal Navy vessels on the North American station. Vice Admiral Richard, Lord Howe, noted the depletion of naval stores and seamen's clothing in his fleet. Observing that some of his frigates, long on station, would soon be unfit for service, he recommended more frequent relief of ships assigned to him. Considering the aid to the Americans in ships of force expected from "foreign Powers," he suggested that the frigates be replaced with ships of the line. Howe voiced doubts that, with the forces at his command, he would be able to detach ships occasionally for the defense of Newfoundland or for convoying trade from the West Indies.

During the unusually cold winter of 1777–78, the infamous winter of Valley Forge, ice clogged the Delaware River so that the British shipping at Philadelphia was, for the most part, confined to the wharves until 8 March. The Americans conceived of several methods of destroying that shipping. The satirical poem *The Battle of the Kegs* immortalized David Bushnell's unsuccessful attempt to float kegs of gunpowder fitted with detonating devices through the ice-choked river against British vessels along the wharves. Major François Louis Teissèdre de Fleury, of the Continental Army, proposed a rocket-powered fire boat; he also proposed sending men over the ice with shirts impregnated with sulfur to set fire to the ships. General George Washington ordered the erection of a battery across the river from the wharves, in an attempt to destroy the shipping with heated shot.

The Americans employed armed boats to stop market boats from supplying Philadelphia, and the State of Pennsylvania commissioned its navy's barges as privateers to capture transports attempting to reach the city. A few such transports became caught in the ice and were captured by American forces. In January, the crews of two Pennsylvania Navy armed boats defected, with the boats, to the British. Under persistent pressure from George Washington, the state of Pennsylvania eventually agreed to sink its galleys in creeks to prevent their capture by the enemy.

In mid-February, a Continental Army detachment under Brigadier General Anthony Wayne requested Continental Navy Captain John Barry's assistance with a

foraging expedition on the New Jersey shore. Under Barry's command, a force, acting in armed boats along the Delaware River shore, burned hay needed by the British in Philadelphia to feed their horses. The raid acted as a diversion, allowing Wayne to make off with a large herd of cattle for the Continental Army.

On 7 March, Barry's command, consisting of two Continental Navy barges and three Pennsylvania Navy armed boats, captured two British transports, laden with hay for the British army, and their escort, the armed schooner *Alert*, in the service of the British army's engineering department. Barry ordered the large assortment of engineering tools on board unloaded. To prevent their recapture Barry had the transports burned, but he attempted to escape in *Alert*, renamed Continental Navy schooner *Wasp*. Unable to evade the superior force of the four British warships in pursuit, Barry ran the schooner on shore.

Continental Navy Captain Isaiah Robinson and Captain Nathaniel Galt of the Pennsylvania State Navy sailed to Philadelphia under a flag of truce with provisions for American prisoners held there, but the British placed the two men under arrest as spies.

Dissatisfied with Continental Navy Commander in Chief Esek Hopkins's performance and failure to obey orders, Congress dismissed him from service on 2 January.

The Continental Navy Board of the Middle Department reprimanded Captain John Barry for disrespect to Stephen Hopkinson, a member of the board. The two had exchanged heated words when Hopkinson interfered with Barry's efforts to carry out the board's orders to sink the frigate *Effingham*.

The Royal Navy maintained an effective blockade of the Virginia Capes, capturing many vessels attempting to leave or enter the Chesapeake, including several heavily armed merchantmen from France and the Maryland state trading vessel *Lydia*. The Maryland Navy offered the ship *Defence* for sale. On 31 March, Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Captain James Nicholson, broke her rudder on the Middle Ground shoal and was captured as she was making the last of several foiled attempts to sail past the blockade. Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina cooperated in protecting navigation in the Chesapeake Bay, with their navies' galleys transporting goods and interfering with British operations in shallow waters. Maryland struggled to man its armed vessels, and Virginia built two galleys on the eastern shore to protect shipping along the seaboard.

Unable to enter the Chesapeake, Denis-Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen took his heavily armed merchantman *Ferdinand* into Cape Lookout Bay, North Carolina, where he established a shore battery to protect his ship as he discharged its cargo. Cottineau would later see service with the Continental Navy, along with his fellow Frenchman, Pierre Landais, who had come to America as master of the merchantman *Flammand*.

On 15 January 1778 an extensive fire in Charleston, S.C., destroyed several hundred houses, causing damages valued by one estimate at half a million pounds. Many Charlestonians believed the fire to be the work of the British men-of-war's boat crews who nightly came ashore from the blockading squadron. The ships of this squadron patrolled the coast from South Carolina to East Florida, but most remained off Charleston, the main trading port of the rebellious South, where they took many merchant vessels as prizes.

Attempting to protect their trade, the South Carolina government fitted out a squadron of armed vessels, consisting of the ship *General Moultrie*, the brigantine *Notre Dame*, and the brigs *Polly* and *Fair American*. Difficulties manning and the need to train new recruits delayed the squadron's sailing until 12 February. By then the Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*, which was also fitting out at Charleston, had augmented the squadron. The frigate's commander, Captain Nicholas Biddle, wishing to test his new ship against the British, consented to delay sailing until South Carolina's small fleet was ready to put to sea.

Randolph, Biddle, and all but three of the crew never returned from this cruise. The fleet safely passed the blockading British squadron and sailed for the West Indies. There it encountered H.M.S. *Yarmouth*, of sixty-four guns. The crew of the American frigate fought valiantly against the British ship of the line, but the heavy fire of the latter resulted in *Randolph's* blowing up. The other ships of the squadron escaped to Charleston.

The government of South Carolina may have intended its fleet merely to drive the British warships from the vicinity of Charleston, but British intelligence thought it was destined either to attack St. Augustine or to convoy a large number of American and French merchantmen past the British warships waiting offshore.

Alexander Gillon accepted appointment as head of the South Carolina Navy on condition that he be allowed to journey to France to obtain three frigates for the navy he was to lead.

Georgia's naval force consisted of several galleys for defense and for the apprehension of smugglers who supplied the British at St. Augustine. Unable to man the galleys adequately with volunteers, the state's executive council sought cooperation of the Continental Army to allow soldiers to serve in them.

Anticipating an attack on East Florida, the British stationed *Galatea*, *Hinchinbrook*, and East Florida province armed sloop *Rebecca* permanently off the coast at Frederica, Ga., to defend the inland navigation to the St. Mary's River, which the British fleet used for fresh water.

Bermuda was a valuable source of salt for the Continental forces, required for curing beef and pork, while Bermudans, unable to raise sufficient foodstuffs themselves, surreptitiously engaged in proscribed trade with the mainland. When Virginia Loyalist Bridger Goodrich, holding a privateering commission from the governor of Bermuda, seized Bermudan vessels engaged in that illegal commerce, he found himself and his ship threatened with violence by the enraged islanders.

On 10 January, a detachment of Continental Army troops under Captain James Willing set out from Pittsburgh in the Continental Army armed boat *Rattle Trap* on an expedition down the Ohio River to the Mississippi. At Natchez, Willing had the residents sign a capitulation and declaration of neutrality. At the British settlement of Manchac, Willing's party captured the ship *Rebecca*, of sixteen guns. The American force took several other trading vessels, seized slaves, and brought their booty into New Orleans. Louisiana's Governor Bernardo de Gálvez issued a proclamation of neutrality, offered protection to British subjects fleeing the invaders, and refused British demands to turn out the Americans and return the seized British property. He allowed the Americans to sell the property to Spanish citizens, who obtained the goods and slaves at bargain prices, while he secretly transferred to Oliver Pollock, the resident agent of the Continental Congress, sup-

plies that had been sent from Spain. The governor and council of British West Florida, in Pensacola, created a provincial corps and sought the assistance of native allies in expelling Willing's force. Meanwhile, the British Navy dispatched H.M. sloops *Sylph* and *Hound* into the Mississippi and sent men to reinforce H.M. sloop *West Florida*, on Lake Pontchartrain.

On 27 January, the sailors and marines of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*, Captain John Peck Rathbun, surprised the forts at Nassau, New Providence, in the Bahamas, capturing gunpowder, several merchant ships in the harbor, and British letter of marque ship *Mary*.

In the West Indies, tensions increased between the French and British. The British complained of French collusion with the rebels: the governors of the French islands permitted the Americans to use their ports as bases to fit out and repair privateers and to dispose of prizes; many "American" privateers were owned and manned by Frenchmen, having but a single American on board as the nominal captain; and French naval vessels provided convoy to American shipping leaving French ports. For their part, the French had their naval vessels warn off British cruisers examining ships near the French islands and protested that officers of British tenders had defective commissions that were inadequate for authorizing examination of vessels displaying French colors.

Near Barbados, H.M.S. *Ariadne* and H.M.S. *Ceres* captured the slow-sailing Continental Navy ship *Alfred*, but *Alfred's* swifter consort, Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*, got away. British warships also captured several American privateers operating in the West Indies, including *St. Peter* and Massachusetts privateer brigantines *General Washington* and *Hampden*. Captain Samuel Chew, of the Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*, and some thirty of his crew lost their lives in an inconclusive engagement near Barbados with the packet *Grenville* during which the British mail was lost. At the commencement of the battle the mail was hung off the stern for sinking in case of capture and a stray shot cut the slings. Massachusetts State Navy brigantines *Hazard* and *Tyrannicide* arrived at St. Pierre, Martinique, after a cruise that took them to the coast of Portugal.

On 13 February, Rear Admiral Sir Peter Parker relieved Vice Admiral Clark Gayton at Jamaica.

• January

“A LIST OF MEN BELONGING TO THE *BALTIMORE*”[*Maryland Navy galley Baltimore, Baltimore, 1778*]

Tho^s: Walker—Cap^t:
 Rich^d: Brogdon 1st: L^t:
 James Boyle 1 L^t: mariens
 John Crapper 2^d: D^o:
 Abraham Strong Mid. {has been absent some time I believe he has Run
 Tho^s: Weems—D^o:
 Daniel Boyle—D^o: Run—
 John Norris—Carp^r:
 John Thompson Boats^{rn}:
 Henry Rantford—Drown'd
 1 John Sandsberry—Sailor in the *Conqueror*
 Charles Daily—D^o: sick on shore
 2 Benjⁿ: Sutton—D^o:
 Joshua Cross—D^o: Sick—not fitt for service
 3 Samuel Willson—D^o:—
 4 Benjⁿ: Rollings—D^o:
 Able Mason—Guners M^t: Sick at home—
 5 Will^m: Adair—Sailor—*Conqueror*
 6 Joshua Hodgskins—D^o:—D^o:
 7 Tho^s: Patterson—D^o:—Joiner—
 Negro Abraham—D^o:—
 John Norridge—D^o: Same
 Jerry Bryan—D^o: *Conqueror* sore leggs
 Paul Hutton—Marien
 Hard man Swing—D^o: Run
 Patrick M^c:Avery—D^o: Run
 Phillip Hindly—D^o:—
 Mosses Guthrie—D^o:
 John Jones—D^o:
 T S Hollen—Sailor Cooper in *Baltimore* query
 John Hawser—D^o:

D, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4570-117.

“A LIST OF MEN BELONGING TO THE *INDEPENDENCE*—”[*Maryland Navy galley Independence, Baltimore, 1778*]

Bennett Mathewis Cap^t:
 John Bruel 1st: Lieut: on board y^e *Chester*
 Joal Higgenbotton Master on furlow
 John Stevenson—L: Mariens resignd
 John Hart—Mid
 Gitting Gover—D^o: resignd
 John Payne—Boat^{rn}: on board y^e *Chester*

Tho^s: Lucas—Guner sick on board
 Roderick M^cKensey Carp^m:—in the yard
 Tob Cooe—sick on shore
 James Ingram—Run—
 Math^w: Morratty-Smith, on board y^e *Chester*
 Nath^l: M^cClure—on board y^e *Dolphin*
 Dan^l: Waldrom—(on board y^e *Dolphin*)
 John Smith—in y^e Shop
 Joseph Nichols—on board the *Chester*
 George Camp—D^o—
 Will^m: Condron—Run
 Joseph Parkhurst—Run
 Barn: Cadigan—on board y^e *Chester*
 Henry Turner—time up/on board the *Dolphin*
 Will^m: Logue—on board y^e *Chester*
 Will^m: Miles Serg^t: mariens in the *Dolphin*
 Joseph Darlington—Drum. Sick on shore
 James Curry—marien—on board y^e *Chester*
 John Lewis—Sick at home/run—
 Edward Reed—on board y^e *Chester*
 John Flinn—run
 Henry Loyd—Sick on board not good for much
 Tho^s: Servant—on board the *Chester*
 Edward Freeman (in the *Conqueror*) in y^e *Chester*
 George Tollinger—

Wanted 13 Swivles

John Payne jun^r: Sailor—in y^e *Chester*
 George Younger Marien—run
 John Crossby—run
 John Ellis—Run
 Henry Lungreen—run
 Dennis Clancy seaman just Entered

D, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4570-119. Docketed: "Baltimore."

ARMAMENT OF MARYLAND NAVY GALLEYS

[*Baltimore*, 1778]

Inventory of Guns belonging to the Galley *Baltimore*.

2 Eighteen's

14 Fours, 6 Swivels

Has on board 2 Long & 2 Short Fours received from on board the Sloop *Molly*.

Independance

2 Eighteen's

2 Twelve's

2 Sixe's

4 Fours, 16 Swivels

Conqueror

4 Eighteen's

10 Four's, 14 Swivels

Chester

4 Eighteen's

10 Fours

There is 14 Six's belonging to the Ship *Defence* on board of the Galley *Baltimore*.

D, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4570-118. Docketed: "Guns belonging to/the *Balt. Galley*."

LIEUTENANT JOHN CHEVER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL

[*Maryland Navy galley Chester, Chestertown, 1778*]

Sir

I apply to Counsel for arms for the Use of the States on bord of the Galley *Chester* forty Muskets with Bayonets And Catredg Boxses and Likewise forty prickers and Brushes and thirty Cutt Lashes and seven paire of pistells and two hundred flints and twenty worms and One Box of Muskett Catredges.—From yours

John Chever L' on bor'd *Chester*

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-12-78. Docketed: "Sundries for/the *Chester Galley*." Chever was lieutenant of marines on board *Chester*.

COLONEL GEORGE MORGAN TO CAPTAIN JAMES WILLING

January 1778

Provisions issued at Fort Pitt to M^r Willing for 30 Men on a Voyage to New Orleans Viz

6500^{lb} Biscuit & Flour

3000^{lb} Beef

Is 5200 Rations Bread

3000^{lb} Pork

& 5400 d^o Meat

That is Rations for 30 Men 180 Days

70 Gallons Wiskey at ½ Pint ^ᵀ Man ^ᵀ day

will last 30 Days—

Suppose 5 Boats to ascend the Rivers rowed by 20 Men each is 100 Men—It will require 90 days Provisions is 9000 Rations or

11250^{lb} Flour &

9000 Pork — also

560 gallons of Rum

Querie—How are they to be supplied?

I recommend to M^r Willing to fix on a Plan with the Commanding officer for the purpose & it will not be difficult to execute—But orders should have been given by Congress—

Geo: Morgan

It is to be lamented that you had not been able to leave this the 1st. of October The Time I have so often pointed out to Individuals of Congress. You should now be about leaving Orleans to ascend the River & thereby secure your Passage & at one third the Expençe of Provisions &c—I now dread the Issue.

G M

L, DNA, PCC, item 159, 433 (M247, roll 178). Morgan was Deputy Commissioner-General of Purchases, Western District, and Agent for Indian Affairs. Addressed at the foot: "To Mr./James Willing." Filed with Brig. Gen. Edward Hand to the Continental Commerce Committee, 17 Jan., below.

January 1

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 1st. 1778.

Order'd, That M^r. Ivers¹ pay Cap^t. Abner Sylvester for part of Cargo for Schooner *Starks*². . . . £450..—..—

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l.³ deliver Cap^t Ab^r. Sylvester a Gallon Pot for the use of Schooner *Starks*.—

Order'd, That M^r. Ivers pay Cap^t John Rider Master of the Schooner *Hannah*,⁴ for Advance Wages &c. as p^r his Bill 76..14.—

& 745 1/2 Dollars as part of the Cargo 223..13.—

£300.. 7.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 146-47.

1. Thomas Ivers, cashier of the Massachusetts Board of War.

2. Massachusetts State trading schooner *Starks*, Littlefield Sibely, commander.

3. David Devens.

4. See NDAR 10: 816, 823.

LIBELS FILED IN THE MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME COURT OF THE MIDDLE DISTRICT

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY,

To all whom it may concern.

Middle District.

NOTICE is hereby given, That Libels are filed before me, against the following Vessels, their Cargoes and Appurtenances, viz.—In Behalf of William Day, Commander of the Ship *General Mifflin*,¹ and all concerned therein, against the Brigantine *Fame*, of about 150 Tons burthen, James Coates, late Master: In Behalf of William Rogers, Commander of the armed Brigantine *General Washington*,² and all concerned therein, against a Letter of Marque Ship *Jonathan*,³ of about 300 Tons burthen, Richard Townshend, late Master: In Behalf of William Cole, Commander of the armed Brigantine *Oliver Cromwell*,⁴ and all concerned therein, against the Sloop *Fly*, of about 70 Tons burthen, John Bray, late Master: In Behalf of Nathan Nichols, Commander of a Letter of Marque Sloop, called the *Patty*,⁵ and all concerned therein, against sundry GOODS, said to be British, and taken out of a Boat belonging to the *Lovely Lass*, George Thompson, late Master; And against sundry GOODS, said to be British, and taken out of the Schooner *Hope*, William Hunt, late Master. All which Vessels and their Cargoes, so libelled, are said to have been taken and brought into the Middle District aforesaid. And for the Trial of the Justice of said Captures, a Maritime Court, for the said District, will be held at Boston, on Friday the 16th Day of January, A. D. 1778, when and where the Owners of said Captures, and all concerned therein, may appear and shew Cause (if any they have) why the same, or any of them should not be condemned.

N. CUSHING, Judge of said Court.

Independent Chronicle, and the Universal Advertiser (Boston), 1 Jan. 1778.

1. Massachusetts privateer ship *General Mifflin*, 350 tons burthen, mounting 26 carriage guns, a crew of 120 men, owned by Philip Moore and Archibald Mercer, of Boston, was commissioned on 28 Oct. 1776. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 5, p. 333.

2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *General Washington*, mounting 18 carriage guns, a crew of 130 men, owned by Isaac Sears and Paschal Nelson Smith, of Boston, and Samuel Broome, of Wethersfield, Conn., was commissioned on 10 Nov. 1777. M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 139, p. 150. She was termed a Connecticut privateer in her Continental bond of 25 July 1777. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 6, p. 47.

3. Ship *Jonathan*, mounting ten 4-pounders and four 6-pounders, built at Liverpool in 1774, bound from Liverpool to New York. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

4. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Oliver Cromwell*, William Coles, commander, mounting 16 carriage guns, a crew of 130 men, owned by John Derby & Co., of Salem, was commissioned on 29 Apr. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, p. 300.

5. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Patty*, mounting 4 carriage guns, a crew of 16 men, owned by Darbey & Nichols, of Salem, was commissioned on 13 Aug. 1777. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 11, p. 60. The owners were probably Elias Hasket Derby and Ichabod Nichols, who appear as *Patty's* owners in the bond for her next commission, 21 Jan. 1778. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, pp. 230, 233.

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE OF MASSACHUSETTS PRIVATEER SCHOONER *LEE*

For SALE,

The Schooner *LEE*,¹ burthen 75 Tons, a prime Sailer, has run all the War as an armed Schooner. Inquire of THOMAS STEVENS at Manchester.

Independent Chronicle, and the Universal Advertiser (Boston), 1 Jan. 1778.

1. On 29 Oct. 1775 *Lee* was commissioned a schooner in Washington's Fleet and was commanded by John Manley and later Daniel Waters. She was commissioned on 12 Mar. 1777 as a Massachusetts privateer schooner, John Skimmer, commander, mounting 10 carriage guns with a crew of 54 seamen. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, 216.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN JOHN LINZEE, R.N.

By Andrew Snape Hamond Esq^{re}.
Captain of His Majestys Ship the
Roebuck, and Senior Officer of the
Squadron stationed in the River
Delaware.

Whereas you have represented to me that the Crew of His Majesty's Ship, under your Command, suffer very much by the Weather at this inclement Season for want of suitable Cloathing and there is not a sufficient Assortment of Navy Slops in the Squadron to answer their necessary demands. You are therefore hereby authorised and required to cause the Purser of His Majestys Ship under your Command to purchase such Slops as may be requisite for the Use of the Ships Company; taking care the same is done at as easy a Rate as possible, and that they are good and fit for the purpose.

The Purser will be also to procure proper Vouchers for the Slops he may so purchase, and the Prices paid by him for the different Articles, are to be Charged against the Men receiving any thereof, upon the Ships Books, in a distinct Column, under the head of purchased Slops—

Given onboard the *Roebuck* at Philadelphia the 1st January 1778.

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778-1780), pp. 1-2. Addressed at foot: "To/Captⁿ. John Linzee/of His Majesty's Ship the/*Pearl*."

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO JAMES MASON

By &c. &c.

The very Sickly state of the Ships under my Orders here, rendering it absolutely necessary notwithstanding the very high Price of fresh Provisions that they should be accomodated therewith once a Week for the better re-establishing the Men's Health. You are hereby required and directed to Purchase from time to time a sufficient Quantity of Fresh Beef to Serve in lieu of Salt Beef one day in the Week onboard the several Ships & Vessels under my Directions until further Order, on the best terms you can for the Crown; drawing Bills for the Amount on the Commissioners of the Victualing, and taking such Vouchers as are required.

Given &c. [*on board the Roebuck at Philadelphia*] 1st January 1778.

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), pp. 5–6. Addressed at foot: "To/M^r James Mason/Purser of His Majesty's Ship/*Roebuck*."

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

[Extract]
Dear Sir,

Wilmington January 1st. 1778—

We have recovered our Sloop which I wrote concerning the other Day, & no other Damage sustained by the Tories retak^s her, than a few Barrells of Flower, & some Pork; our Party hav^s surprized & drove them of [*f*] whilst unloading her.—

The Brig¹ is like to be much more valuable than was at first supposed, there appears to be a great Quantity of Arms, Baggage & some Cloths, Ammunition, Rum & Wine, and I am in hopes some Soldiers Cloathing, in short she is full, & I understand lately from England, but called by York & took in Officers Baggage & the Soldiers now Prisoners, there were upwards of 90 Waggonloads brought from her the Day before yesterday, but very few yesterday, being chief p^t of the Day securing her by fasts on the Shore, the Tide having made very ful, & the Ice had Nigh carried her off, but believe she is now well secured—I have ordered Waggons in to carry of [*f*] the Arms heavy Baggage &c to the neighborhood of Nottingham, where I Judge they will be more secure, & shoud be glad of your direction relative to the removal of the Prisoners—Officers are now sorting the Arms & Baggage &c for Removal, & as soon as an Inventory of the whole can be made out it shall be done & transmitted. . . . I remain [&c.]

W. Smallwood

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "His Excell^y Gen^l Washington." Docketed: "Wilmington 1st Jan^y/1778/from/Gen^l Smallwood." Two paragraphs referring to payment due the 5th Maryland Regiment are not printed here.

1. Transport brig *Symmetry*,—Monkman, master. For more on her capture, see *NDAR* 10: 816, 818, 825, 826, 833, 834.

PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO WILLIAM CRISPIN

In Council

Sir

Lancaster January 1st. 1778

By the bearer M^r William Bradford¹ I have sent you four thousand pounds for the purpose of providing provisions for the fleet belonging to this State—I should

have sent a greater sum but the Treasury is almost exhausted I however hope shortly to have it in my power to send you a further sum—I am with respect [&c.]
Thomas Wharton jun^r

L, PHarH, RG 27, Executive Correspondence (loose) of the Supreme Executive Council. Addressed at foot: "M^r W^m. Crispin." Docketed: "1778 January 1st. To M^r/W^m. Crispin Commis-/sary to the fleet.—"
1. Probably William C. Bradford, paymaster of the Pennsylvania Navy.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Thursday, January 1, 1778

The Marine Committee, to whom the letter of the Hon. Thomas Cushing, Esq.¹ of the 6th of December last,² with the inclosed bill of exchange, were referred, report, That, in their opinion, the said bill ought to be paid by a warrant on the treasury in favour of the persons in whose behalf the said bill was drawn:

Resolved, That Congress concur with the committee.

Ordered, That the said report, with the bill and letter, be referred to the Board of Treasury.

JCC 10: 7–8.

1. Thomas Cushing was the naval agent overseeing the construction of Continental Navy frigate *Alliance*. NDAR 10: 315, 479.

2. NDAR 10: 817.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. GALATEA, CAPTAIN THOMAS JORDAN

Jan^r 1778

Thursd 1

[Charlestown] S 69 W 122 Ls
½ p^t 8 AM Saw a Sail Gave Chace at 11 Fired
a Shot & Bro^t too the Sch^r *Jolly Robin* from
Porto Prince bound to Boston Laden with
Molasses Calab Hopkins Master¹
d^o: West 98 Ls
D^o [Mod^{te}] & fair W^r: [PM] Read the Articles
of War & Abs^t to Ships Company Punished
Simon Needs w^t 1 Dozⁿ for Neglect of Duty.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4197.

1. Schooner *Jolly Robin*, Caleb Hopkins, master, a crew of seven seamen, owned by Smith & Co. of Boston, from Hispaniola to Boston, laden with molasses, tea, and coffee, taken in lat. 32° 45', long. 73° 11', sent to St. Augustine. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. PERSEUS, CAPTAIN GEORGE KEITH ELPHINSTONE

January 1778

Thursday 1st

Port Royal WNW 8 Leagues.
at 6 AM, made the Signal for a Sail in the SW^t, gave chace with
the *Carysfort*, at ½ past saw another under the Land to which we
changed; at 9 fired Six nine pounders Shotted and brought too
the chace, she proved a Rebel Brig from Piscattaway to Charles-
Town in Ballast,¹ took charge of her, and brought her people
on board; at Noon sailing down to join the *Carysfort* who had
left off chasing the Other Sail.

Land of S^o. Edisto NW^t 5 or 6 Leagues

Light airs inclinable to calm; PM dismantling and bring Stone Ballast from the Brig; at 6 Set her on fire:

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/688.

1. Brig *Nesbitt*, Samuel Smallcorn, master, a crew of eight seamen, owned by Erskin & Mitchell of Boston, from Boston to Charles Town, destroyed. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 238-39.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM GARNIER, R.N., TO WILLIAM RICHARDSON

Par William Garnier Ecuyer
Capitaine du Vaisseau de Sa
Majesté Le *Southampton*./.

Il Vous est Ordonné par ces présentes de Vous rendre à bord de la Corvette *Snail* (*Limace*) et d'enprendre le Commandement; en Conséquence Vous feréz Voile avec La plus grande promptitude pour Croiser entre les débouquemens, et depuis Les Isles Turques à La partie du nord de St^t Domingue, à L'effet d'Interrupter tous Les Battimens Commercaux Venants, allans ou appartenans aux habitans des Colonies de sa Majesté en Amerique présentement en Rebellion. Vous continueréz ce service jusqu'au dixieme Jour du mois de fevrier Prochain. que Vous devez vous en Returner au Port Royal, où Si vous Trouvéz le Chevalier Pierre Parker² Vous vous conforméz aux ordres qu'il Vous donnera. que S'il arrivoit qu'il n'en seriez à Vous ordonner pour quelque Service particuliere, Vous feriez alors Carener la ditte Corvette Avec toute la Célerité possible, pour reprendroit Continuer Votre croisiere dans les mêmes parages.

Donné de moi à Bord du Vaisseau de
sa Majesté Le *Southampton* dans Le
Port de Port Royal Le 1^{er}. Janvier
1778. Signé W^m. Garnier

a Monsieur

Monsieur W^m. Richardson³

Je Sousigné Interpréte de la langue Angloise Au Cap françois. Certifie avoir traduite a l'ordre de M. Le Général⁴ La Commission ci dessus, de l'Original en Anglois qui m'a été remis par le Sieur Richardson Capitaine de La Corvette Angloise *Snail*, en foi de quoi. Au Cap Le 15. Janvier 1778. Signé Gautarel./.

Pour Copie conforme à L'Original
dargout

[Translation]

By William Garnier Esquire
Captain of His Majesty's Ship
the *Southampton*.

You are ordered by these presents to go on board the Sloop of War *Snail* and take command of her.¹ You will then, with the greatest speed, set sail to cruise among the passages, from the Turks Islands to the northern part of Saint Domingue, for the purpose of intercepting all Merchant ships coming from, going to, or belonging to the inhabitants of His Majesty's American Colonies now in Rebellion. You will continue this duty until the tenth day of February next. You are then to return to Port Royal, or if you should meet Sir Peter Parker² you will carry

out the orders he will give you. Should it happen that there might be no specific service for you to perform, you will then careen the said Sloop as quickly as possible, so as to resume the remainder of your cruise in the same waters.

Signed by me on board His Majesty's Ship *Southampton* in the harbor of Port Royal on the 1st. January 1778.
(Signed) W^m. Garnier

To M^r.

M^r. W^m. Richardson³

In witness whereof, I, the undersigned, interpreter of the English language at Cape François, certify that I have, by order of the General,⁴ translated the above commission, from the original in English, which was handed to me by M^r. Richardson, commander of the English Sloop of War *Snail*. At the Cape on the 15. January 1778. (Signed) Gautarel./.

A Copy conforming to The Original
dargout

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 137/73, fol. 122. Docketed: "In Gov^r Dalling's (N^o 15)/of 12th. Feb^y 1778./(5.)/d^r." Enclosure no. 5 in Gov. John Dalling's letter to Lord George Germain, 12 Feb. 1778.

1. Tender of H.M. frigate *Southampton*.
2. Rear Adm. Sir Peter Parker.
3. Master's Mate, frigate *Southampton*.
4. Robert, Comte d'Argout de Neritiers, governor general of Saint-Domingue.

January 2

MAJOR GENERAL EYRE MASSEY TO GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE

Sir,

Halifax 2 January 1778

The 22^d. November, we receiv'd here the disagreeable news from Quebec, of General Burgoyne's misfortune: soon after the Lieutenant Governor¹ and Council sat, and wrote me a letter to apply for the removal of the Rebel Prisoners.

I wrote to Sir George Collier to inform him, as it was reported that General Burgoyne's Army were brought Prisoners to Boston, I gave it as my opinion the sooner the Prisoners were sent from this the better, that they might be exchange'd: the Lieut^t. Governor wrote to me to make the requisition, which I refus'd as I had your Orders to receive them on shore: but would give them up when requir'd by the Commanding Naval Officer.

But thus have they been delay'd from early in November to this day, and it is hard to say how much longer.

I am quite happy to remain in any Command your Excellency is pleas'd to have prescrib'd to me; but why am I to be left with an Officer, that does every thing in his power, to retard the Service and make me unhappy, by such frequent delays.

Brigade Major Studholme's² & M^r Franklin's³ Expedition from Saint John's to Machias, was stop'd by Captain Foetus⁴ of the *Vulture*, telling them, he had Orders from Sir George Collier not to assist them.

With the concurrence of the Lieut^t. Governor, I order'd Major Small⁵ to reinforce that Detachment; & the reason Sir George Collier prevented Captain Foetus

from cooperating with Major Studholme, was that Sir George, wanted the whole honour of destroying Machias with his Ships: the failure of which, has given fresh spirits to the Rebels.

Major Small will inform your Excellency of every particular. During the General Court Martial I thought it highly necessary to send Major Souter to take the Command of Fort Cumberland: he went in very severe weather and is now return'd: after performing that disagreeable journey with great chearfulness: and effected with the greatest judgement everything I wish'd.

He has reported to me the vast expence of that Post, & what little use it is of, for the protection of this Province.

As there are sixty Yorkshire families there, who are without doubt good subjects, and would all be destroy'd, were we to abandon that Post, which is my only reason for continuing it: in the last War it was usefull to the French, as they came there from Canada, by the Bay of Verte.

Since Captain Barron was taken Prisoner, I appointed Captain Collett as Assistant Engineer; but on Captain Spry's Complaint of the extraordinary expences of that Gentleman; I have sent one there of Captain Spry's recommending; so that I hope the Works,⁶ will go on the better.

I reported to your Excellency that I had sent Captain Spry there this Summer to push on the Works: and as the whole of Lieut^t Col: Goreham's Corps⁷ is there, I beg your permission to withdraw the Light Infantry Company of Marines, which I order'd there, when the place was invested: and which I did not think I could recall without your permission, after having reported it to you.

Without doubt if Major Studholme can keep his ground at Saint John's: (which he tells me he will do.) this Province must be safe from any harm by the Bay of Fundy as it is exactly opposite Anapolis.

I hope your Excellency approv'd of my continuing the Coal Works. When I heard of the number of small Pirates, that were on the Coast, I sent the Deputy Quarter Master General to apply to Sir George Collier to protect the Coal vessels: he sent me word the *Albany* was at Canso: she might as well be in England: I then purchas'd a small arm'd sloop, which I call the *Howe*,⁸ and sent her & the *Gage*,⁹ which brought in all the vessels except one.

Sir George Collier told the Officer that commanded the *Howe*, that General Massey may send them out; but the first Man of War would take their Prizes from them: this has damp'd the Officer: & I have mention'd to my Lord George Germaine, to pray he will send me Two letters of marque.

I beg to report to you the *Gage* took one of those little Pirates, which mount-ed twelve swivels, and had taken many Merchantmen on this Coast.

I have Officer'd & mann'd those two little vessels mostly with Governor Legge's Corps.¹⁰

As I return'd you Captain Shaw's Commission which has had a good effect; you will please to send me a Commission for Captain Daniel Cunningham, who has got half his Company: and an Adjutant's Commission for Lieut^t Tho^s Green, who now acts by my Order.

Notwithstanding my complaints of Sir George Collier's conduct; Major Small will do me the justice to say; he never heard me speak a disrespectfull thing of Sir George Collier; since he interfer'd & settled matters: and I promis'd you I would

not trouble myself about him: but, Dear Sir, how unkind Lord Howe is, not to send here another Officer.

My Lord in his letter said there must be a publick hearing; I do not care how soon; but I cannot be insulted, by any Man, for so I must call it when my letters to you, are dated from the 20th. November to this date; for so long ago, has he inform'd me a Ship of War was to sail for the Grand Army: & five have been fix'd, & counterorder'd since.

I have had the honour to be under your immediate Command; I therefore appeal for my perseverance in every point of Duty.

I am at this time high up in Rank, & have not a Colonel's Command here.

Do not be surpriz'd if your Excellency sees me in the *Howe* sloop: for either Sir George Collier must be recall'd, or myself, for I can never serve with any Man, who occasions such delays to the King's Service in time of Rebellion.

I again repeat to your Excellency; that I am ready to serve my King, wherever you order me.

As my Lord Howe is pleas'd to say, Sir George Collier must have a publick hearing; I say for that; it is by no means the method to conquer the Rebels, no more than it was for a two Decker,¹¹ to cut out of Shiep's Gut River¹² ten little Lumber boats, which were sold for thirty Pounds each, & leave a large French Mast Ship¹³ there, on which there are Masts that would sell for Three hundred Pounds each, at Portsmouth, which the present Master of the *Gage* offer'd to effect: & bring to this Port.

The Troops under my Command are furnished with the most excellent provisions. The King's Molasses have been expended for some time.

As I this moment have heard the *Cabbot* is to sail in the morning,¹⁴ I hope you will pardon me, for not writing this letter myself—and also forgive the Contents, from Dear Sir [&c.]

Eyre Massey

L, UKLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 7, no. 830. Docketed: "M. Gen^l Massey/to/Gen^l Sir W. Howe/Halifax 2^d Jan^y 1778." Endorsed: "Rece^d 27th March/Complains much of S^r G. Collier/Fort Cumberland very expensive/& become unnecessary—/desires to withdraw the L^t Inf^y/Comp^s of Marines from thence—/Desires to be relieved—."

1. Commo. Mariott Arbuthnot.
2. Maj. Gilfred Studholme.
3. Col. Michael Francklin, Superintendant of Indian Affairs in Nova Scotia.
4. Comdr. James Feattus, R.N.
5. Maj. John Small, who led a force of 400 men against Machias in Aug. 1777.
6. Coal mines at Spanish River, Nova Scotia.
7. Royal Fencible Americans, a Provincial regiment commanded by Lt. Col. Joseph Gorham (Goreham).
8. Formerly a Massachusetts privateer. See *NDAR* 10: 696.
9. Nova Scotia Province armed sloop *Gage*.
10. Loyal Nova Scotia Volunteers, a Provincial regiment raised by Gov. Francis Legge of Nova Scotia in Dec. 1775.
11. H.M.S. *Rainbow*, a frigate mounting 44 guns on two decks. See *NDAR* 9: 749–51, 757–58, 758–59, 760, 789; 10: 82–84, 587.
12. Sheepscoot River, Me.
13. Massachusetts State trading ship *Gruel*, Capt. Joseph Proctor. See *NDAR* 9: 910–11, 911n, 949; 10: 66, 82, 83, 257, 587.
14. H.M. brig *Cabot* sailed on 12 Jan. with a convoy of 10 merchantmen and arrived at Newport on 21 Jan. UKLPR, Adm. 52/1636, part 3, fols. 28–29.

CAPTAIN JOHN CAREY TO MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Hon^{ble}: SirPortsmouth [2]¹ Jan^y 1778

Last Saturday Evening after a very fatiguing passage of 42 Days, I arriv'd at Old York² in the State Sloop *Republic*,³ meeting with very bad weather, has disabled her from proceeding any farther unless intirely refitted. her Sails are shatter'd to Rags; the Anchors, & Cables are lost; my Mate dy'd with a Fever on his Passage; One Man was lost Over board. eight Men who went ashore with Cap^t Palmer on an Island, was oblig'd to leave them, the weather coming up so boisterous was forc'd to cut our Cables. The Cargo is very valuable, consisting agreable to the Packet, which is now forwarded. You'll Please immediately to forward with respect to my further proceedings, & shall wait at Portsmouth your Orders. by an unfortunate Accident in cleaning a gun, I am badly wounded in the hand. I am Sir [&c.]

John Cary

NB—Should have forwarded the Acco^t of my Arrival, but Col^o. Langdon⁴ thought it most convenient to wait for the Post.

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 153 (Board of War Letters, 1777–1780), p. 32. See Captain John Carey to Captain John Lamb, 16 Jan., and Massachusetts Board of War to Captain John Carey, 19 Jan., below.

1. The date is supplied by the placement of the letter in the index to vol. 153.

2. York, Me.

3. Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic* had been sent to Martinique in August 1777 with a cargo of fish, boards and staves. She was to return to Massachusetts or New Hampshire with a cargo of molasses, rum and cotton. See *NDAR* 9: 691; 10: 230–31.

4. John Langdon, Continental Agent for New Hampshire.

“VOTES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE [CONTINENTAL] NAVY BOARD
OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT”

[Boston] 1778 January 2^d.

Voted That M^r. William Barrons 1st: Lieutenant of the Ship *Providence*¹ be appointed first Lieu^t of the Ship *Boston*² and that a Letter be wrote him to inform him of this Appointment and to require his Attendance immediatly on board her.—

D, DLC, Papers of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Providence*, Capt. Abraham Whipple, commander.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Boston*, Capt. Samuel Tucker, commander.

ORDER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL

State of Massachusetts Bay

Council Chamber [Boston] Jan^y 2^d. 1778

Ordered—That Col^o. Tho^s. Crafts be and hereby is directed to detach from his Reg^t¹ one Subaltern, one Serjeant, one Corporal & 7 Privates and place them as a Guard on Board the Cartel Vessel² in this Harbour with perticular Orders not to permit any Person to depart from or to enter on Board the Said Cartel till further Order—And in Case there shall be any rising on Board the Said Cartel or Attack made upon the same which can not be Quelled without firing on the Insurgents or Assailants in such Case the Said Col^o. is hereby directed to give Orders to the Guard aforesaid to fire upon them & to repeat the same till they shall submit to Order—

read & Accepted

Jn^o. Avery D^y Sec^y

DS, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 174 (Council Papers, 1777-1778), p. 65.

1. Massachusetts militia regiment.

2. Brigantine *Favorite*, Lt. John Brown, commanding. She sailed soon after for Halifax, arriving on 10 Jan. See Captain Sir George Collier, R.N., to the Massachusetts Commissary of Prisoners, 17 Jan., and *The Continental Journal and Weekly Advertiser* (Boston), 29 Jan., below.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

2^d—[January] Thaw. The morning fine, with the wind at S. The afternoon thick, with small rain.

At 11 this morning came in the *Brune* Frigate with about 30 sail of vessels under her Convoy from the Delaware. At the same time Came in The *Eagle* of 64 Guns, having the Flag of Lord Howe on board, in three days from the Delaware. Lord Howe was saluted by Sir Peter Parker, with 15 Guns, which was returned with 13. As soon as The *Eagle* dropt anchor his Lordship was saluted with 17 Guns from the North Battery, which was returned with 11 only.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 233.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Friday, January 2, 1778

Congress having no further occasion for the service of Esek Hopkins, Esq^r who, on the 22 December, 1775, was appointed commander in chief of the fleet fitted out by the Naval Committee,

Resolved, That the said Esek Hopkins, Esq^r be dismissed from the service of the United States.

JCC 10:13.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. PORTLAND, CAPTAIN THOMAS DUMARESQ

January 1778

Friday 2nd

At the Pitch Kettle Moorings in English Harbour Antigua—

6 AM^d they¹ came, & were employ'd as before. Sailmakers repairing Sails. at Noon Came in y^e *Antigua* Brig from a Cruize. and brought in y^e *Nancy* Schooner an American Privateer of 12 Carriage Guns & 41 Men y^e Privateer had 4 Men kill'd & 15 Wounded.—²

At the Pitch Kettle Moorings in English Harbour Antigua—

D^o W^r [Moderate breezes and Clear Weather] Our Two Tenders fitting out.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/711, part 3.

1. At 1 P.M. on 1 Jan., "the Carpenters and Caulkers left off working for y^e Holiday."

2. Georgia privateer schooner *Nancy*, John Brown, commander, mounting 12 guns, crew of 40 men, 80 tons burthen, belonging to and from Georgia, on a cruise, taken by H.M. brig *Antigua* on 28 Dec. 1777, sent to English Harbour, Antigua. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

GOVERNOR VALENTINE MORRIS TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]

My Lord.

St Vincent 2nd January 1778.

I have the honor of this moment receiving by the *Grantham* Packet, your Lordships Duplicate of the 3^d October circular,¹ as also secret and confidential; together with your original letter of the 5th of November; to have my conduct merit his Majesty's approbation has ever been my supreme wish, and ambition; to receive such is the utmost completion.

... I am sorry to inform your Lordship that his Majesty's Sloop lately employed in carrying provisions to the out Posts of this Island,² was yesterday evening taken by an American Privateer of 14 Guns, in one of the windward bays of this Island, into which she run hoping to avoid capture; and I must hire & insure another for that service. the one taken will be directly carried to St Lucie, or Martinica, and tomorrow I shall send to demand her from the french Governor as also those English Seamen permitted to be detained in chains in St Pierres. I am from the late conduct of that nation in these latitudes, convinced both will be refused; and I shall immediately transmit to your Lordship an account thereof, but your Lordship may rely on it these people expect, nay act in such a manner that must draw on some chastisement, explanation, or war with them, under these circumstances; and thinking the latter not the most impossible consequence, I feel very unwilling to drop those connections and source of informations which I have established, and hitherto kept up in the French Islands; yet, with concern I repeat it, this I must do unless I am permitted to make a charge in my contingent account of the expence I have already been at, and still must continually incur to keep these up. I wish it could possibly suit the other services to have one of his Majestys Frigates constantly stationed at, and for this Government. give me leave my Lord to observe that the last peace giving such valuable acquisitions to his Majesty in these windward seas, has much altered the nature of the former services for the Islands; and demand a regular station for the immediate protection of the windward Islands; much too valuable to be neglected; round which the Americans, or I might call them French Privateers swarm and in whose seas most of their captures are now, and in case of a French war will be made. . . . I have the honor of remaining with respect and esteem [&c.]

Valentine Morris

L, UKLPR, C.O. 260/5, fols. 65–66. Addressed below close: "The R^t Honorable/Lord George Germaine." Docketed: "St Vincent 2^d Jan^y 1778./Governor Morris/R. 3^d April/Ent^d." Two omitted paragraphs concern Morris's dispute with the St. Vincent Assembly over their treatment of the Carib Indians.

1. See NDAR 10: 666–67.

2. St. Vincent provision sloop *Two Friends*. See Deposition of John Carmody, 17 Jan., below.

January 3

"VOTES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE [CONTINENTAL] NAVY BOARD
OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT"

[Boston] January 3. 1778.

M^r. William Hopkins formerly master of the Continental Sloop *Providence* resigned his Commission and desired a Certificate of his being discharged from the Service which was granted him—

D, DLC, Papers of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT
TO LIEUTENANT WILLIAM BARRON

Navy Board Eastern department
Boston January 3^d. 1778

Sir

You are appointed first Lieutenant of the Continental Ship *Boston* Cap^t Samuel Tucker Commander who will Sail on a Cruise in less than three weeks—

You are therefore requested to repair immediatly (without delay) onboard and bring as many Sea men, & landsmen & marines with you as you possibly can—

We are your hum^{ble}. Serv^{ts}. in the name of Navy Board—

W^m. Vernon

L, RHi, George C. Mason, *Reminiscences of Newport*, vol. 5, p. 316 (Deluxe Inlaid Edition, 1901). Addressed at the foot: "M^r Will^m. Barron/1st. Lieu^t Ship *Providence*."

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston Jan^y. 3^d. 1778.

Order'd, That Thomas Lewis be paid for Handspikes for the Brig^t *Favorite*,¹ as Pr^r Bill . . . £1..18.—

Order'd, That Cap^t Ingersoll² deliver Col^o Joshua^a Davis the Row Galley³ with her Stores &c. Pr^r Order of Court on File. Col^o Davis to pay a reasonable price for the Hire of said Galley & Cap^t Ingersoll to take a Receipt, & make return to the Board.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 148–49.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
2. Capt. Nehemiah Ingersoll.
3. Massachusetts Navy row galley *Lincoln*.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

3rd Jan^y Some heavy rain last night. Fine day. Wind S. The Streets almost clear of Ice.

Lord Howe came on shore this Morning, but returned on board to Dinner. He does not intend to take any quarters in town.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 233.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Saturday, January 3, 1778

A letter, of the 26 December, from the navy board, at Bordentown, with sundry papers enclosed, respecting the conduct of Lieutenant Henessy,¹ was read:

Ordered, That it be referred to the Marine Committee. . . .

THREE O'CLOCK, P.M.

The Committee on the Treasury brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon, . . .

Ordered, That a warrant issue on the Treasurer in favour of John Brown, Esq^r.², for 13,359 dollars, for the purpose of discharging Thomas Cushing's order on the Hon. Henry Laurens, Esq. president of the Marine Committee, for that sum, in

favour of Andrew and James Caldwell, & Co. dated Boston, 6th December last, and expressed to be for the use of the continental ships building in Massachusetts bay;³ the said Marine Committee to be accountable:

JCC 10: 15, 16.

1. Lt. John Hennessey, Continental Navy.
2. John Brown was secretary of the Continental Marine Committee.
3. Continental Navy frigate *Alliance* and a seventy-four gun ship of the line. NDAR 10: 817.

“A RETURN OF THE SICK IN THE STATE HOSPITAL AT BALTIMORE”

[*Baltimore*] January 3^d 1778

<u>Men's Names</u>	<u>Cap^t</u>	<u>Disorder</u>	
Robert Carr	Furnavil	Sore arm	
John White	D ^o	a Cough	
Zehp ^b White	D	Sore hand	} Occationed by the } bursting of a Gun
William Bohom	D ^o	Sore Leg	
Cornelius Carne	D ^o	Convalescent	
Stephen Fennell	Dorsey	Dropsey	
John Quin	Furnavil	Sore Foot	
Thomas Yates	D ^o	Sore Leg	
John Sly	D ^o	Plaurisy	
Men belonging to the Shipping			
Nat. Egbert	Coursey C. ¹ Gally	Bilius Dysentary	
Sam ^l Gardner	D ^o .	Sore Leg	
Thomas Green	D ^o .	Convalescent	
John Cain	D ^o .	Sore Leg	
Benj ⁿ Cheshire	Cook Ship <i>Def.</i> ²	Splenetic ³	

I believe there is not one in the Hospital but may in a Short time be fit for Duty
G[*eorge*] Gale Surgⁿ.

D, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636–10–2. This return is apparently in response to a request by the Governor's Council for a list of those in the hospital, in order to determine who might be likely to return to service. Maryland Council to Dr. George Gale, 24 Dec. 1777, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779.

1. Maryland Navy galley *Chester*, Capt. Thomas Coursey, commander.
2. Maryland Navy ship *Defence*, Capt. George Cook, commander.
3. *Splenetic*. having an illness relating to the spleen.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

January 1778

Saturd^r 3

Chews Point going up York River SWBW
Veerd to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a Cable AM Heeld & Scrub^d between wind &
water both sides—
[Chews Point going up York River SWBW]
Light Breezes & Clear PM at 2, *Emerald* made the Sig^l for
Seeing a Strange Sail at 3 Weighd & gave Chace *Emerald* &
Tender in C^o at 5 Saw the Flashes of Several Guns fired by the
Tender at the Chace at 6 Fired 2 Guns & Spoke a French Brig

the Tenders prize from Baltimore Load^d. w^h. Tobacco,¹ at 8
Came too with the B^t B^r in 6 f^m.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/687.

1. French brig *Alexandrine*, Jean François Forand, master, owned in France, a crew of 12 seamen, from Rappahannock River to Dunkerque, with tobacco, taken in Chesapeake Bay, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40. Although attributed in the prize list as a prize to *Richmond*, the brig was libelled and condemned on 20 Feb. as a prize of *Emerald* in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/92, fol. 731, and 49/93, fols. 212–13. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/266/9.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PHOENIX*, CAPTAIN HYDE PARKER, JR.

January 1778

Saturday 3^d.

Cape Henry SE 2 or 3 Miles.

At 2 AM fill'd the Main Topsail & set the Fore Sail. At ½ past 6 saw a Sloop to Wind ward and a Schooner to Leew^d. Bore away Out all Reefs set Studing sails and gave Chace. At ½ past 7 Came up with and took a Schooner from Boston,¹ Shortend Sail and Bro^t too Main Topsail to Mast; took the Prisoners out & destroyed the Prize. The Main Topsail being Split unbent it & bent another. At ½ past 9 made Sail set Main Topsail. At Noon Fresh Gales & Squally. Tackd

Cape Henry N 60^o W Dist^{cc}. 19½ Leag^s.

Fresh gales and Cloudy In 2^d & 3 Reefs of the Topsails At ½ p^t 3 PM Wore Ship. Lost a Log & 2 lines At 4 mod^t and Clear Out 3^d Reefs Sounded 60 f^m. no ground At 10 Sounded [5]6 f^m. Brown Sand.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/694.

1. Schooner *Betsy*, Thomas Flinn, master, owned by William Powell of Boston, a crew of 5 seamen, from Boston to North Carolina, in ballast, destroyed. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *GALATEA*, CAPTAIN THOMAS JORDAN

Jan^y 1778

Sat^d 3

d^o. [Charlestown] S 88^o W 79 Ls

D^o W^r. [Mod^{te} & fair] ½ p^t 8 AM Saw a Sail Gave Chace at 9 Saw Another Sail Gave Chace to the latter at 10 fired a Shot & Bro^t too the Sch^r *S^t Ann* from Virginia to Curesau Laden with Flour & Bread Fred^k Dewitt Master¹ Wore Ship and Made Sail after the other Vessel—

d^o. S 76^o W 51 Ls

Strong Gales and Cloudy W^r [PM] at 3 the Chace WNW at 5 Carried Away the Larboard fore topsail yard Arm & 2 Studding sail Booms, & Broke the Tiller Rope Reeved a new One ½ p^t 6 fired a Shot & Bro^t too a Brigg from Dominica to Hallifax between the hours of 10 PM and 2 AM fired 6 Guns Signals to our Prizes

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4197.

1. Schooner *St. Ann*, Frederick Dewitt, master, a crew of ten seamen, owned by Francis Renout of Curaçao, from Virginia to Curaçao, taken in lat. 33^o 20', long. 76^o 18', sent to St. Augustine. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PERSEUS*, CAPTAIN GEORGE KEITH ELPHINSTONE

January 1778
Saturday 3^d

Port Royal WbS^o: 6 Leagues
at 9 AM Saw two Sail to the Northward, at 10 the Lighthouse
NNW $\frac{1}{2}$ W 5 Leagues; at Noon gave chase to a Ship and a Brig
in Company with the *Carysfort*.

Ch^s. Town-Lighthouse WbS^o: 4 miles—
Light breezes and clear weather; at 1 PM the *Carysfort* in chase
of the Ship; arrived up so near to the Brig, who was almost
crossing Charles-Town Bar, to fire Twenty five nine pounders at
her, she appeared a Privateer of 16 Guns,¹ and escaped only by
drawing us in Shoal water off the Bar; the *Carysfort* having left
off chase, hauled the wind and joined her; at 4 Anchored in 7
f^{ms}: the Lighthouse bearing NNW 2 Leagues:

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/688.

1. South Carolina letter of marque brig *Bellona*, Capt. Cross, from Nantes, with prize ship *Glorious Memory*. See Journal of the South Carolina Navy Board, 5 Jan., and *South-Carolina and American General Gazette*, 8 Jan., below.

GOVERNOR THOMAS SHIRLEY TO MARQUIS DE BOUILLÉ

Sir,

Dominica 3^d Jan^y 1778

As I doubt not but that Your Excellency's Aid du Camp the Baron de Fagan must have arriv'd some days at Martinique, So I presume he has already made my excuses to Your Exc^y and told you, Sir, the reasons why it was impossible for me to answer Your Excellency's Letter of the eighteenth instant relative to the Seizure of the Brigantine¹ belonging to the Sieur Serjenton,² by him. The accident of a fall which I receiv'd the day after his departure, and which has confin'd me to my Bed for some days, has prevented me from doing myself that honor untill now.

I embrace this first opportunity in my pow'r to acquaint Your Exc^y that the Brigantine belonging to the Sieur Serjenton was condemned on 26th. Ult. in the Court of Vice Admiralty here. I likewise in order to convince Your Exc^y of the equity and justice upon which this Condemnation has been founded have sent Mons^r Gillon³ His Majesty's sworn Interpreter and Master in Chancery for this Island to lay all the original Papers with the several Proofs and the Reasons for her Condemnation, before Your Exc^y By which I am perswaded it will fully appear, that Your Exc^y has been most impudently impos'd upon, by having that matter represented to you in a false light. Your Exc^y will I hope from this be induc'd to think more favourably of His Brittanick Majesty's Subjects of Dominica, than Still to entertain an Idea (tho' the Brigantine is not giv'n up) that any of them can be guilty of the severe crimes Your Exc^y has thought proper, in your Letter to lay to their charge, very harsh if founded in truth. But surely, Sir, Accusations ought to be avoided untill great reason from Facts and probability of truth appear to authorize such a Liberty to be tak'n.

You must pardon me, Sir, (tho' somewhat us'd to this Stile of writing from Your Exc^y's Predecessor) If I say that in my opinion we may carry on our Masters' Business to full as good, if not better effect, by using more moderation and temper when it shall become our duty to make Demands in their Name.

I have the honor to be [&c.]

Tho^s: Shirley

L, UKLPR, C.O. 71/7, fols. 38–39. Addressed below close: “His Excellency/The Marquis de Bouillé/Governor Martinique/&c. &c. &c.” Docketed: “In Gov^t: Shirley’s of 9th Jan^y 1778./(2).” Enclosure no. 2 in Gov. Thomas Shirley to Lord George Germain, 9 Jan. 1778, *ibid.*, fols. 34–36.

1. *Union*. See NDAR 10: 676–77.
2. John Sargentton [Serjenton, Seigenton], merchant at Martinique.
3. John Gillon.

GOVERNOR VALENTINE MORRIS TO MARQUIS DE BOUILLÉ

Sir

St^t: Vincent 3^d Jan. 1778

I once more have the honor of troubling y^e Excellence with a requisition for the delivery up to the Gentleman, who will have the honor of presenting you this, of sundry English subjects, principally seamen who I learn are permitted to be kept in Irons, not only onboard sundry vessels in St^t Pierre harbor, but also in some of the Prisons in the Islands under your Excellences Government. should any be detained for trifling Debts, the Gentleman who will have the honor to deliver this to your Excellence, will be empowered to discharge these; shou’d any be unhappily detained for transgressions against the laws of your Excellences Government, I must leave them, recommended however to your Excellencys clemency, to receive such indulgence as many French Subjects have experienced from me. shou’d these however under any pretence of capture by his Majesty’s rebellious Subjects, be detained in Ports, prisons, or houses, within your Excellences Government, a detention secured under the very forts of Martinica, and thus guaranted to the detainers as it were by your Excellence; I must, and do demand their release in the name, and on the part of the King my master, as also the Delivery up of a Sloop of his Britanick Majesty belonging to this Government,¹ carrying the Kings provisions to some of his out Posts, which was on the first instant taken off one of the Bays of this Island, by a privateer and carried into one of the Islands under your Excellences command. I herewith transmit the proof of the Capture which I have further verified under my hand and Seal, and must now claim the same also in the name and on behalf of his Majesty, whose person I have the honor however unworthy of the same to represent in this Government. as these are objects by no means of a Commercial, or neutral nature but respect that faith which should be observed between our respective courts, I will not give myself leave to doubt but that your Excellence will order immediate release of the first, and restitution of the Latter, with all that was onboard her to be made, or I must look on an refusal as the most ample declaration of a resolution in his most Christian Majesty, and his Governors, to act avowedly in violation of all treatys, subsisting between the two nations, and as more than an implied declaration of future enmity, instead of that friendship which has lately subsisted between the Courts of London, and Versailles, and which it has been my unwearied endeavor, hitherto to preserve by the most Scrupulous observance not only of all those engagements, mutually entered into between our two Courts, but also by every mark of attention to Subjects of his Christian Majesty which might shew my private wish to Cultivate strict friendship, as well as bare observance of treatys. sorry I am to be compelled to say, the open encouragement given in the Ports of the French Islands, and even in the Royal Dock at Fort Royal,

under as it were your Excellences own inspection, to the rebellious subjects of the King my master, gives me great reason to complain of a very different return made to these attentions of him who still hoping your Excellences answer to this (which will be transmitted to his Court) may yet prevent misunderstandings that are easier avoided than repaired. has the Honor to subscribe himself Your Excellences [&c.]

/Signed/
Valentine Morris

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 260/5, fols. 71–72. Addressed below close: “His Excellence/Marquis De Bouillie.” Notation in Morris’s hand: “St Vincent Jan^y ye 3^d 1778/letter to the French Gov^r the Marquis de Bouillie/reclaiming a sloop her cargoe & English seamen/detained prisoners/Valentine Morris—.” Docketed: “In Gov^r Morris’s of/15th Jan^y 1778./ (1).” Enclosure no. 1 in Gov. Valentine Morris to Lord George Germain, 15 Jan., below.

1. St. Vincent provision sloop *Two Friends*. See Gov. Valentine Morris to Lord George Germain, 2 Jan., above, and Deposition of John Carmody, 17 Jan., below.

JAMES HARTLEY TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY PHILIP STEPHENS

Sir

Saint Vincent 3^d Jany 1778

In pursuance of the directions of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty communicated by your letter of the 30 Sept. last I have the honor to transmit you herewith a list of all Captures which have been condemned in His Majestys Vice Admiralty Court for this Island as Droits of Admiralty since the breaking out of the Rebellion in North America I have the honor to subscribe myself Sir [&c.]

J^s: Hartley

[Enclosure]

St Vincent

I do hereby certify the annexed List of Captures condemned in His Majesty’s Court of Vice Admiralty of this Island to be a just and true Copy from the Records of the said Court and that no other Vessels have been condemned as Droits of Admiralty since the breaking out of the Rebellion in America

J^s: Hartley
Judge Surrogate.
Court of Vice Adm^y:

Passed the Registers Office

W Taylor

D^y Reg^r: Cour: Vice Adm^y

[Enclosure]

A List of Captures condemned in His Majesty's Court of Vice Admiralty in Saint Vincent

Date of Condemnation	Name and Quality of the Prize	By whom taken and under what Commission	To whom condemned	Grounds of Condemnation	Gross Amount of the Sales of Vessels and Cargoes
1776 October 19	Sloop <i>Hoope</i> ¹	His Majesty's Ship <i>Solebay</i>	To the Captors	American Property	1845..—..—
1777 March 12	Sloop <i>Ruth</i>	The Searcher of his Majesty's Customs	To the Captor	Ditto	206.. 7.. 5
June 20	Sloop <i>Speedwell</i>	The Collector of His Majesty's Customs	To the Captor	Ditto	901..—..—
September 18	Schooner <i>Johnston</i>	The <i>Revenge</i> Privateer	{ One half to the Captors absolute; the other half paid to the Captors upon their giving Security to refund the same if His Majesty should think proper so to order	Ditto	2689..18.. 3
Ditto	Schooner <i>Friends Adventure</i>	Ditto		Ditto	835.. 0.. 8
November 14	Sloop <i>Plymouth Packet</i>	The <i>General Morris</i> commissioned by Governor Morris	To the Captors	Ditto	} The Cargoes not yet disposed of
Ditto	Brig <i>Mermaid</i>	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	

L, UkLPR, Adm. 1/3885. Addressed at foot of first page: "To/Philip Stephens Esq"

1, Sloop *Hope* was captured by H.M.S. *Solebay* on 31 August 1776. See NDAR 6: 377, 377n.

January 4 (Sunday)

ALEXANDER ROSE TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Sir,

New London January 4th. 1778—

I am willing to hold an Eighth Share of your New Ship *Putnam*^l Commanded by Cap^t Thomas Allon; And As you cannot as yet ascertain her Cost & outfits, I shall leave it between said Cap^t Allon And you to fix the Sum I am to pay for it which I hereby promise to Confirm.

For payment of my said Eighth I have put into the hands of Cap^t Andrew Breedin the Sails—rigging—Cables And Anchors of two ships now Laying in Providence for sale; with orders to pay the money into Cap^t Allons hands for your use As fast as it can be collected.

I am desirous of holding a quarter instead of an Eighth in the *Putnam*, but as I must first Consult my partners in Carolina, I purpose writing them immediately for their consent, and hope in about six weeks to obtain it, in which case I shall write you further and order the payment of such further share into your hands—I am Sir [&c.]

Alex Rose

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 70, no. 4200. Addressed at foot: "To Nath^l Shaw Jun^r Esq^r." Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Alex. Rose/Letter." Docketed in another hand: "4200."

1. Connecticut privateer ship *General Putnam*, 20 guns, building at New London.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

January 1778
Sunday 4

New Point Comfort, SWBW 4 or 5 lg^s.

AM at 5 Weighd & gave Chace to 4 Sail to the North^d. at 7 the Entrance of Rappahanock Riv^r. NW 2 Lg^s. [at] 8 Sent the Boats man^d. & arm^d. to a Sloop one of the above Sails at 10 Came too with the BB^r. in ½ 4 [4½] f^m. W^r. the N^o. End of Gwins Island West 4 or 5 m^s. & a Ship & Snow in Rappa^k. R^r. NW 7 or 8 M^s. Fired a Gun & made the Sig^l for the Boats to Return The Boats returnd, the Chace having fired Several Shot at them D^o. Weighd & came to Sail *Emerald* & tender in Sight ½ past 11 Fired 2 Guns & made the Sig^l for the *Emerals* Tender to return she being going in Shore after the Above Chace, Spoke His maj^s. Ship *Emerald* D^o. & prize in Co.

[New Point Comfort, SWBW 4 or 5 lg^s.]

First p^t. mod & Clear Residue mod^t. & Cloudy, *Emerald* & Tender in C^o. prize Brig^l a Stern in Chace of the Ship & Snow in y^c. Rapp^k. PM at 1 TK^d. Ship & Bore down to the prize The Entrance of Rappahanock River on the Star^d. Side going up North 2 M^s. & on the Larb^d. SSW 3 or 4 M^s. at 2 TK^d. Ship, prize in C^o. Received new Fore & Mⁿ. Stay Tackle Falls, the old wore out & not for their proper use at 4 Emp^d. working up the Rappahanock, prize in C^o. *Emerald* & Tender 5 or 6 M^s. ahead [at] ½ p^t. 4 the *Emerald* & Tend^r Anch^d. ahead

at 5 Anch^d. in the Rappahanock with the BB^r in 5th. W^r as did the prize, Veerd to ¼ of a Cable the Entrance of D^o. River on the Starb^d hand going up NE 3 or 4 M^s. & on the Larb^d. SSE 4 m^s. at 6 Heard the Report of Guns fired up the River,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/687.

1. French brig *Alexandrine*, Jean François Forand, master, taken by *Emerald* and *Richmond* on 3 Jan. near Rappahannock River.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EMERALD*, CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL

Jan^y 78

Sunday 4th

Newpoint Comft NEB.E.

at 7 AM weigh'd & Came to Sail, in Chace of some more Vessels.

Pepperpoint NNW,

Ditto wea^r [Fresh breezes and fair wea^r] ordered the *Richmond*, to attend our prize,¹ at 2 PM in Chace of a Ship & a snow, at 4 PM saw them both run aground, at 5 PM Anchored off Carters Creek Rapahanock River, sent the Barge & took the Ship,² & the Cutter to the Snow,³ but being fired on, she return'd⁴

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/311.

1. French brig *Alexandrine*.

2. Ship *Dragon*, from Rappahannock River to Dunkerque, with tobacco, taken in Rappahannock River, sent to New York City as prize of *Emerald*. "The Crew got on Shore in their Boats." Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239-40. She was labelled on 28 Jan. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York by Capt. Benjamin Caldwell and was condemned on 20 Feb. as a prize of *Emerald*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/93, fol. 213 and H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 17-18. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/311/3 where her master's name appears as Claude Bondit.

3. Snow *Elegante*,—Collenau, master.

4. The log notes on 5 Jan.: "Ditto Wea^r at 4 PM saw the Prize Ship afloat, at 5 PM the *Richmond* & our prize Anchored here, at 6 PM the Ship anch^d. by us." UKLPR, Adm. 51/311.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PHOENIX*, CAPTAIN HYDE PARKER, JR.

January 1778

Sunday 4th.

Cape Hen^y N 60^o W Dist^{ce}. 19½ Leag^s.

At 6 AM Out all Reefs At 8 made Sail & gave Chace to a Sail to Southw^d At 10 Three Sail in sight At Noon Tackd

Cape Hen^y N 52 W Dist^{ce}. 24 Leag^s.

Fresh breezes and fair. At ½ past 2 PM Tack'd Ship, At ½ p^t. 3 Fir'd several Shot & Bro^t too the Chace A Sloop from Bermudas bound to North Carolina.¹ Bro^t too sent a Petty Officer and [6?] Men to Navigate her to New York, took the prisoners out. In 1st. Reef & 2 D^o. of the Topsails At 5 Made Sail & parted Company At 8 In 3^d reef Topsails

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/694.

1. Sloop *Recovery*, Ephraim Paynter, master, owned by P. Paynter & Sons of Bermuda, a crew of 5 seamen, from Bermuda to North Carolina, with salt and rum, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239-40. *Recovery* was condemned as a lawful prize by the Vice Admiralty Court of New York on 9 Feb. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 6. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/437/13, where she is described as a Bermudian merchant ship flying French colors.

CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER ATKINS, R.N., TO LIEUTENANT HENRY THORP, R.N.

By Cristopher Atkins, Esq^r
Commander of his Majesty's Ship *Æolus*.

You are hereby required a[n]d directed to repair on Board the *Æolus* Schonner¹ and there to take on you the command, and cruize off and amongst the Keys or the differents passages to wind ward or lee ward as you will sind [find] most convenient for intercepting and taking of vessels belonging to his Majesty's rebellious subjects in america taking care to avoid cruizing off the ports or approaching so near the coasts of any french, or spanish settlements as to give any unnecessary umbrage or interruption to the subjects or trade of those Nations or any just-cause of complaint and on no pretence to put into the island of hispaniola.

Any ships or vessels you may take during the cruize you are to send to Port-Royal to be proceded against according to law.

When you schal have taken a prize you are to send me a Letter with-all the papers appertaining to her condemnation to be given immediately to the agent at Kingston to be proceded against.

Given under my hand on Board his Majesty's Ship *Æolus* in Port-Royal harbour this 4th day of january 1778.

Signé
Cr^{ph}. Atkins

Copy, FrPNA, Marine, B⁴ 140, fol. 212. Addressed below close: "To Lieutenant henry thorp/here-by appointed to command/the *Æolus* schonner."

1. Tender of H.M. frigate *Æolus*.

January 5

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

Number 49.
Sir,

Eagle Rhode Island
January the 5th: 1778.

With this you will receive a Duplicate of my Letter of the 10th of December,¹ wherein I have submitted several Particulars to the Consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, respecting the general Appointment of the Ships of His Majesty's Fleet under my Direction: The Original having been sent in the *Brilliant* Ordnance Transport.

By my Letter of the 6th: of the same Month,² given to the Care of Captain Reynolds,³ who took his passage to England in the *Dutton* Transport, their Lordships will be informed of the Disposition made for the further Employment of the Ships which had been concerned in the late Operations in the Delaware. Those Arrangements having taken place, and the Ships proceeded according to their several Destinations, I sailed on the 29th. for Rhode-Island.

The Condition of the Ships, and the Service for which they are respectively intended, being shewn in the enclosed Returns; I only trouble their Lordships with some Circumstances peculiar to each, which, in the general State of this Fleet, require such further Explanation.

The floating Ice, which subsists with little Intermission the earlier part of the Year within the port of New-York, does not admit of Ships being continued there in Safety, unless at the Wharfs in the East River. Commodore Hotham was therefore desired to station the *Mercury* and *Rose* to cruize alternately in the mean Time, on the Jersey Coast; As, by the Tenor of his last Letter there seems little Appearance of any material Insult being attempted by the Rebels, on the port adjacent to their former Stations.

A new Lower Mast and Bowsprit have been requisite for the *Cerberus*; And for the *Venus* of which the Fore-Mast and Bowsprit were sprung on her passage from England. The Main-Mast of the *Fowey* is in the same State, and the Ship reported to be in other respects defective and unfit for Winter-Service at Sea. I have directed a particular Inquiry to be made into the Grounds of that Representation; But the Sickness which prevailed amongst the Crew on their Arrival, would have been an insurmountable Obstruction to the proposed Employment of the Ship at this Time.

The *Centurion*, *Cerberus* and *Tartar* are much out of Condition; the last more particularly. The *Senegal* and *Scorpion* have been long in the same State: And the *Rose*, *Swan* and *Raven*, being single Bottoms, will suffer by their Continuance in this Country. But the Occasion for the immediate Service of the Ships has been such this last Year, on every Station, that they could not be relieved.

On my Arrival here the 2^d. Instant in the *Eagle*, with the *Brune* and *Solebay*, I had the Concern to find, that the Number of Sick in the *Raisonable* and *Somerset* was much increased. And from the Scarcity of such vegetable Refreshments as their Complaints require, it is uncertain when the Ships may become fit for the Service on which I meant they should be employed; at least in the earlier part of the Year.

In the Dispatches I received from Sir Peter Parker a short Time before I left the Delaware, I had an Account of the Loss of the *Syren*, by some unaccountable Neglect, as signified in the Extract from the Rear Admiral's Letter of the 22^d. of last November herewith enclosed.⁴ An Inquiry into the Circumstances of the Accident will be directed, when the Captain is exchanged.

The Ship having been added to the Squadron reserved for the immediate Defence of the port, preparatory to the threatened Invasion of this Island (the particulars of which are also added from the Rear Admirals preceding Letter of the 30th. of October)⁵ her place must be supplied, if possible, from other Services. The Relief on the Cruizing Stations, will thence become more confined: But the Force the Rebels can now assemble in the Northern Colonies, requires every Attention to this important post; wherein Assistance from the Fleet can contribute to its Security. These Endeavors in the same respect will be equally extended to the Province of Nova Scotia.

For this last Occasion I mean to employ the *Raisonable*. Consequently the chief defensive Strength of this Fleet, which could be collected on a pressing Occasion (adverted to in Case of a Rupture with the other Maritime powers in Europe) would be so much reduced.

The Service on the point of taking place at the Time expressed in the Rear Admiral's Letter, tho' essential and recommended for Consideration in the Spring; could not be sooner undertaken, nor, for different Reasons, since prosecuted.

The *Chatham*, which, of the two-decked Ships, is in the most defective State, will soon sail to be refitted in England. The *Amazon* and *Juno* will proceed under Orders to the same Effect; with the Transports waiting here to receive the Troops of General Burgoyne's Army, when it is ascertained at what port they are to be embarked.

These are the only Ships which the Exigencies of the present Service admit of being spared from the American Station; Tho' many of them are unequal in their Condition to the constant Employment on which they are necessarily engaged. But being yet unapprized of the Mode, in which it may be required that the Operations of the ensuing Campaign should be carried on; I can only submit the State of the Fleet to their Lordships' Consideration, with respect to the Appointments requisite in Number and Circumstance, for the future purpose intended.

The Port of New-York being insecure for the third Rates so late in the Year, the Stores sent in the *Buffalo* for the Ships of that Class, were brought in her to Rhode-Island. By removing a part of her Lading into the *Grampus*, and other Expedients, that Store-Ship will be cleared to sail for England with the *Tortoise* and *Chatham*. But as no fit Place can be provided at this port for depositing the Stores, of which a considerable part will be left in the *Grampus* after those which can be received into the Ships here have been taken out, she must necessarily be detained, until the Season admits of her Return to land the Remainder at New York.

The Commanders of the Store-Ships representing with great Justice the Weight of the Charge laid unavoidably on them, under the only Mode that can be adopted for the Issue of Stores from their Ships, in these Circumstances; With respect to the many Articles of the small Stores more especially I am to request their Lordships' Orders, that an Extra Clerk, or other qualified person, may be appointed to have Charge of the Stores on similar Occasions: As the same Necessity will very probably subsist for the Attendance of the Store-Ships and Issue of the Stores from the Ships immediately, in future Instances.

The *Lark* and *Flora* losing their Masts on their last Cruize off of Boston, added to the many other Accidents of the same kind which happened last year, will render the Scarcity in that Article of the fitting Stores a considerable Inconvenience.

In further Reply to the purport of your Letters by the *Venus*, I am to acknowledge as an Instance of their Lordships Indulgence, the adequate Salary they have been pleased to assign for Captain Duncan⁶ during his Continuance in the assistant Capacity they have authorized.

I stated in my Letter of the 28th of August,⁷ the Directions I had given upon Advice from Captain Brisbane⁸ of the Capture of the *Fox*; with my Motives on that Occasion. I have since been informed by Sir George Collier, that Captain Fotheringham⁹ was re-instated in the Ship; tho' it was then judged impracticable to put her in Condition for proceeding to Newfoundland or Europe: Her Rigging being deemed wholly unserviceable, and the Stores at Halifax too much exhausted to supply the Defect.

I shall now in Obedience to their Lordships' Commands signified in your Letter of the 23^d of August,¹⁰ give Orders for a Court Martial to be held to inquire into the Cause of the Capture of the *Fox*, as soon as the Number of Officers and Men judged sufficient for the purpose have been released; And I shall re-commis-

sion the Ship accordingly. Their further Directions respecting the *Hancock* will be complied with at the same Time.

Lieutenant Robinson,¹¹ late of the *Bristol*, has the Leave communicated to him for his Return to England; and quitted the *Bristol* before I left the Delaware.

Having been some Time before informed from Rhode-Island of the Decease of Captain Banks¹² I judged it expedient, in consideration of the many beneficial Services rendered by Captain Bourmaster¹³ in his Office of Principal Agent of the Transports, and for the Encouragement of the Officers in that Branch, to promote him to the Command of the *Renown*. But his Health not permitting him to to repair immediately to the Ship, and the Arrangement afterwards made for a considerable part of the Transports to remain at Philadelphia, requiring extraordinary Attention to have them fitted for future Employment, which his Experience in that Department more particularly qualified him to direct, I appointed Captain Dickson¹⁴ to command the *Renown*; and Captain Dawson¹⁵ (who has been distinguished by the most spirited Conduct on several Occasions, since he has served in this Country) to the *Greyhound*: Influenced in that Choice, by fresh Testimonies of the Ability which induced their Lordships to place the *Hope* as a Sloop of War on the Establishment of the Navy, in Favor of Captain Dawson.

Tho' their Lordships have intended that the Quantity of Provisions by the Convoies sent with the *Experiment* and *Venus* should amount to a proportion for 13,000 and 16,000 men respectively for four Months; One of the Victuallers having been separated from each of the Convoies on the Passage and taken by the Rebels; The Supply received has not been greater in the whole than for a Term of fifteen Weeks for 29,000 Men. A further small deduction must be made from that Computation, consequent of a Misfortune that happened to the *Juliana* Victualler;¹⁶ which in passing on to Philadelphia for supplying the Ships left in the Delaware, struck, by some Inattention, on one of the upper Range of Chevaux de Frize, which entered her Bottom, and she immediately sunk. By the particular Diligence of the Agent, Lieutenant Barker,¹⁷ the Ship was weighed and taken up to the Town. But I had not received any Account before I quitted the Delaware of the Articles of her Lading which were preserved in fit Condition to be issued in the Fleet.

The *Hope* Victualler, which separated from the *Venus*, was retaken by the *Mermaid*. But the Frigate proceeding on after the Privateer which was in Sight at the same Time, she parted from the *Hope*.¹⁸ And the Victualler not being since arrived, there is Reason to apprehend some further Accident has happened to her. A considerable part of the Bread received at New York by former Convoies, has proved very defective. The apparent Cause thereof, with the several other Matters respecting the Victualling Service, have been reported to the Commissioners in that Department.

The Paper enclosed (the Contents of which were communicated to me a few Days before I left the Delaware) contains all the Particulars I have received regarding Ships of two Decks building by the Rebels, since the Date of the Information I transmitted to their Lordships with my Letter of the 29th. of last June.

I am, with great Consideration, Sir, [&c.]

Howe

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 116–21. Addressed at foot of first page: “Philip Stephens Esq^r/Secretary of the Admiralty.” Docketed: “[5 Janry 1778]/Rhode Island/Lord Visc^t. Howe/R, 21 Mar/(6 Inclosures).”

1. See NDAR 10: 700–702.
2. See NDAR 10: 675–76.
3. Capt. Francis Reynolds, R.N.
4. See NDAR 10: 566.
5. See NDAR 10: 357.
6. Capt. Henry Duncan, R.N.
7. See NDAR 9: 835–37.
8. Capt. John Brisbane, R.N.
9. Capt. Patrick Fotheringham, R.N.
10. See NDAR 9: 596–97.
11. Lt. Lewis Robertson, R.N.
12. Capt. Francis Banks, R.N.
13. Capt. John Bourmaster, R.N.
14. Capt. Archibald Dickson, R.N.
15. Capt. George Dawson, R.N.
16. See NDAR 10: 645, 645n, 679.
17. Lt. Thomas Barker, R.N.
18. British Navy victualler *Hope*, John Hyde, master. See NDAR 9: 588; 10: 579, 579n.

[Enclosure]

Intelligence received the 25th: December 1777.

James Morris, late Master of the *Friendship* Brig from the Island of Providence¹ for London, was taken by a Schooner Privateer² the 6th: of last September, in the Latitude of 39^o, and 50^o: West Longitude; and was carried into Boston, from whence he was released in Exchange about the middle of November

He reports, that there were forty Privateers carrying from 12 to 32 Guns (tho' mostly from 16 to 22 Guns) fitting at that port: The Rebels arming all the Captures they can make serviceable for the purpose: Among these the *Weymouth* Packet³ taken on her Return from Jamaica last July, about 300 Leagues from the Lizard. Many British Seamen enter from the Prizes, to serve in the Privateers: Of which some are the property of Persons who keep Dram-Shops in the Town.

That he saw the Keel and Floor-Timbers laid for a 74 Gun-Ship, building at North End in Boston; The Scantlings whereof appeared scarcely sufficient for a Frigate; And only 12 Men were at work upon her.

He was informed another Ship of the same Class was building at Portsmouth in New Hampshire but did not hear any further particulars concerning her.⁴

By another person released from Portsmouth arrived about the same Time at New-York, this last Ship is said to be covered in as high as the Lower Deck, and proposed to be finished in next May. It was reported that the Guns and Furniture were daily expected from France.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 126–27. Enclosure No. 3 in Viscount Howe's Letter No. 49, 5 Jan. 1778, to Philip Stephens.

1. New Providence Island, Bahamas.
2. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Eagle*, Samuel Avery, commander. See NDAR 10: 89.
3. H.M. packet ship *Weymouth*, Paul Flynn, commander. See NDAR 9: 879, 907, 947, 947n; 10: 11, 33–34, 45.
4. This 74-gun ship of the line was later named *America*.

"Disposition of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels employed in North America
under the Command of the Vice Admiral the Viscount Howe"

Duplicate

Eagle Rhode Island

January the 5th. 1778.

Rate	Ship's Names	Guns	Men	Commanders	Appointments	
3	<i>Eagle</i>	64	522	{ V. A. L ^d . Howe } { Cap ^t . Duncan } { — Curtis }		} Off Newport
4	<i>Bristol</i>	50	367	{ R. A. S ^c . P. Parker } { Cap ^t . Caulfield }	Preparing to proceed for Jamaica	
3	<i>Nonsuch</i>	64	500	Cap ^t . Griffith	To remain at Rhode Island	
.	<i>Raisnable</i>	—	—	— Fitzherbert	Intended for Halifax	
.	<i>Somerset</i>	—	520	— Ourry	{ Not fit for immediate Service at Sea on Account } { of Sickness }	
4	<i>Chatham</i>	50	350	H ^{ble} . W. Cornwallis	Intended for England to be cleaned and refitted	
5	<i>Amazon</i>	32	220	Cap ^t . Jacobs	{ To proceed with the Transports destined for } { Boston & England }	
6	<i>Mermaid</i>	28	200	— Hawker }	To be employed on the Coasts adjacent	
.	<i>Unicorn</i>	20	160	— Ford }		
St. Sh.	<i>Buffalo</i>	—	200	— Bromedge	To proceed to England w th . the <i>Chatham</i>	
—	<i>Grampus</i>	—	230	— Reddall	{ To proceed to New York when the Season will } { admit }	
—	<i>Tortoise</i>	—	160	— Brenton	To proceed with the <i>Chatham</i> to England.	
[F. Sh.]	<i>Strombolo</i>	—	45	— Clayton	Much out of Repair, to return to New York.	
5	<i>Apollo</i>	32	220	— Pownoll }	{ Intended to cruize together on the New England } { Coasts }	
.	<i>Venus</i>	36	240	— Williams }		
.	<i>Brune</i>	32	220	— Ferguson	To be employed on the New England Coasts	

At and in the Neighbourhood

	6	<i>Solebay</i>	28	200	— Symonds	{ Appointed to convoy two Victuallers to Chesapeake Bay, and there remain under Captain Onslow's Orders }
A.Vess.	6	<i>York</i> <i>Rose</i>	— 20	— 160	Lieu ^t Wallbeoff Cap ^t Reid	{ To proceed with Dispatches for the Delaware } { Arrived with a Convoy of Victuallers. Appointed to return to her Station at Huntingdon Bay }
	4	<i>Renown</i>	50	350	L ^t . J ^{no} . Botham acting	{ Between the North Ferry on Narraganset Shore and the Island of Conanicut }
	5	<i>Lark</i>	32	220	Cap ^t Smith	{ Between Calf Pasture Point on Narraganset Shore and Pine Hill on Prudence Island }
	.	<i>Flora</i>	—	—	— Brisbane	{ Between the North East End of Prudence Island and Arnold's Point Rhode Island }
	.	<i>Diamond</i>	—	—	— Feilding	{ To the Northward of Dyre's Island between Coggershall's Point Rhode Island, and Prudence Island }
Sloop Galley		<i>Kingsfisher</i> <i>Alarm</i>	14 8	125 40	— Græme } L ^t Saumarez } acting }	In the Sekonnet Passage
	5	<i>Juno</i>	32	220	Cap ^t Dalrymple	{ On a Cruize off Fisher's Island. Intended to proceed with the Transports under the Direction of Cap ^t Jacobs, for being cleaned & refitted in England }

of Rhode Island

5 JANUARY 1778

"Disposition of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels employed in North America
under the Command of the Vice Admiral the Viscount Howe"—Continued

Rate	Ship's Names	Guns	Men	Commanders	Appointments
4	<i>Preston</i>	50	367	{ Comm ^o . Hotham } { Cap ^t . Uppleby }	In the East River
.	<i>Centurion</i>	—	350	— Brathwaite	
6	<i>Tartar</i>	28	200	— Ommanney	} — D ^o . — Refitting
4	<i>Isis</i>	50	350	— Raynor	
6	<i>Cerberus</i>	28	200	— Symons	
.	<i>Fowey</i>	20	160	— Collins (acting)	
.	<i>Sphynx</i>	—	—	— Hunt	
.	<i>Maidstone</i>	28	200	— Gardner	
Sloop	<i>Nautilus</i>	14	125	— Collins	
—	<i>Senegal</i>	—	—	— Molloy	
Bomb	<i>Carcass</i>	—	—	— Howorth (act ^s)	
—	<i>Thunder</i>	—	—	—	
H ^t . Ship	<i>Jersey</i>	—	—	— Halsted	} — D ^o .
A ^d . Sl.	<i>Haerlem</i>	—	—	Lieu ^t . Knight	
Galley	<i>Dependence</i>	—	—	— Clark	
—	<i>Spitfire</i>	—	—	— Scott	
—	<i>Crane</i>	—	—	—	Staten Island
5	<i>Thames</i>	32	220	Cap ^t . Howe	At Sandy Hook
Sloop	<i>Swan</i>	14	125	— Ayscough	} Huntingtndon Bay
—	<i>Raven</i>	—	—	— Stanhope	
—	<i>Falcon</i>	—	—	— Harwood	} New City Island
—	<i>Scorpion</i>	—	—	— Browne	
A.Vess.	<i>Halifax</i>	—	40	Lieu ^t . Quarme	{ Lately refitted & returned to her Station in } { the Sound }
—	<i>Diligent</i>	—	—	— Farnham	Cruizing in the Sound
Sloop	<i>Dispatch</i>	14	125	Cap ^t . Mason	{ Appointed to cruize for 5 Weeks off little Egg } { Harbour and then to repair to Rhode Island }

At and in the Neighbourhood of New York
by return dated 1st January 1778.

At Halifax and on the Coasts of
Nova Scotia & New England, under
the Orders of Sir George Collier

5	<i>Orpheus</i>	32	220	Cap ^t Hudson	Ordered to Halifax to careen { At Halifax so sickly as to be unfit for } cruizing	Under the Direction of Cap ^t Hamond
.	<i>Ambuscade</i>	—	—	— Macartney		
.	<i>Rainbow</i>	44	280	Sir Geo: Collier	At Halifax { Cruizing from the West End of Saint George's } Bank and Northward to Casco Bay	
.	<i>Blonde</i>	32	220	Cap ^t Milligen		
6	<i>Milford</i>	28	200	S ^r W. C. Burnaby	{ Cruizing from St ^t George's Bank across to Casco } Bay & N ^o ward to Damascore Isl ^d .	
.	<i>Scarborough</i>	20	160	Cap ^t Barkley		
Sloop	<i>Albany</i>	16	125	— Mowat	{ Appointed to cruize from St. George's Bank over } to Cape Sable having been cleaned & refitted at Halifax.	
.	<i>Hope</i>	8	80	— Dawson		
.	<i>Hunter</i>	—	110	— Boyle		
.	<i>Vulture</i>	—	125	— Feattus		
A.Vess.	<i>Cabot</i>	—	—	Lieut ^t Dod		
6	<i>Greyhound</i>	28	200	Cap ^t Dickson		
5	<i>Roebuck</i>	44	280	Cap ^t Hamond	In the River Delaware } At the Entrance of the Delaware }	
.	<i>Pearl</i>	32	220	— Linzee		
6	<i>Liverpool</i>	28	200	— Bellew		
.	<i>Camilla</i>	20	160	Hon: C: Phipps		
[A.]S.	<i>Vigilant</i>	20	150	Cap ^t Christian		
Sloop	<i>Zebra</i>	14	125	— Orde		
Galley	<i>Cornwallis</i>	—	40	Lieu ^t Spry		
A.Vess.	<i>Viper</i>	10	50	— Pakenham		
St. Sh.	<i>Adventure</i>	—	40	— Tonken		
4	<i>Experiment</i>	50	320	Sir Ja ^s Wallace		

"Disposition of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels employed in North America
under the Command of the Vice Admiral the Viscount Howe"—Continued

Rate	Ship's Names	Guns	Men	Commanders	Appointments
3	<i>S^t Albans</i>	64	500	Cap ^t Onslow	} Stationed at the Entrance of Chesepeak Bay.
5	<i>Phœnix</i>	44	280	— Parker	
.	<i>Emerald</i>	32	220	— Caldwell	
.	<i>Richmond</i>	—	—	— Gidoin	
Sloop	<i>Otter</i>	14	125	— Squire	
6	<i>Carysfort</i>	28	200	Cap ^t Fanshawe	} Stationed on the Southern Coasts from South Carolina to Augustine
.	<i>Perseus</i>	20	160	H ^{ble} . G. K. Elphinstone	
.	<i>Galatea</i>	—	—	Cap ^t Jordan	
.	<i>Lizard</i>	28	200	— Mackenzie	
A.Brig	<i>Hinchinbrook</i>	—	65	Lieu ^t Ellis	
6	<i>Daphne</i>	20	160	Cap ^t Chinnery	{ Ordered to convoy a Transport first to S ^t Augustine and afterwards to Pensacola
Sloop	<i>Swift</i>	14	125	Cap ^t Keppel	{ Appointed to convoy the <i>Eagle</i> Packet from the Delaware 300 Leagues into the Sea, and then repair to Rhode Island
6	<i>Garland</i>	20	160	Capt. Pearson	} In the River S ^t Laurence
.	<i>Triton</i>	28	200	— Lutwidge	
Sloop	<i>Viper</i>	10	110	— Graves	
Brig	<i>Canceaux</i>	—	55	Lieu ^t Schank	

Howe

D, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 128–29. Docketed: "Duplicate/5th. January 1778/Disposition of His Majesty's/Ships and Vessels employed/in North America." Enclosure No. 4 in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe's letter No. 49 to Philip Stephens, 5 Jan. 1778.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO CONTINENTAL SECRET COMMITTEE

Gentlemen

New London Jan^r 5 1778

I Received a Letter from W^m Bingham Esq^r from S^t Peters Martineco, advising of his shipping to my Care Seventeen Brass ~~Cannon~~ Field-pieces, Shott, Carriages, Powder &c. by Cap^t Lamb,¹ who is Safe arrived at Boston, and desires I would retain them in my hands untill I Receive your further orders respecting them—I have given orders to have the whole delivered to John Bradford Esq^r. Con^{tl}. Ag^{ts}. and suppose he has informed you of their arival & quantity of each of the other articles—Cap^t Lamb whos to have customary freight should be glad to know what you allow for such Stores from Martineco—I am &c

LB, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, Letter Book (Jan. 1775–July 1782). Addressed at top: “To the Secret Committee/of Congress.”

1. Capt. John Lamb, commanding the American letter of marque brigantine *Irish Gimblet*.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO THE CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE

Gentlemen

New London Jan^r 5th 1778

Inclosed is a copy of what I wrote you y^e 24th Nov^r.¹ Since that I have not Received any of your favours—I suppose by this you have heard of y^e total Loss of the Sloop *Schuyler*,² being drove on shore by a British Ship³—having nothing further to add only the Ship *Trumbull* calls daily for Supplies & must be obliged to advance a Large Sum as the Seamen time Expires and must be paid off—expect to have her out of the River this Spring early—I am [&c.]

P.S. Suppose that M^r Bradford has advised you of the Brig *Resistance* Sending in a Prize.⁴

LB, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, Letter Book (Jan. 1775–July 1782). Addressed at the foot: “To the Hon^{bl} Marine Committee/of Congress.”

1. NDAR 10: 590–91.

2. See NDAR 10: 699, 734, 739, 745, 756, 761–62, and 824.

3. H.M. sloop *Falcon*.

4. Ship *Mermaid*, James Cockran, master, captured by Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*, Captain Samuel Chew, commander, on 18 Dec. 1777.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROEBUCK*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

January 1778

[alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]

Mond^y 5th

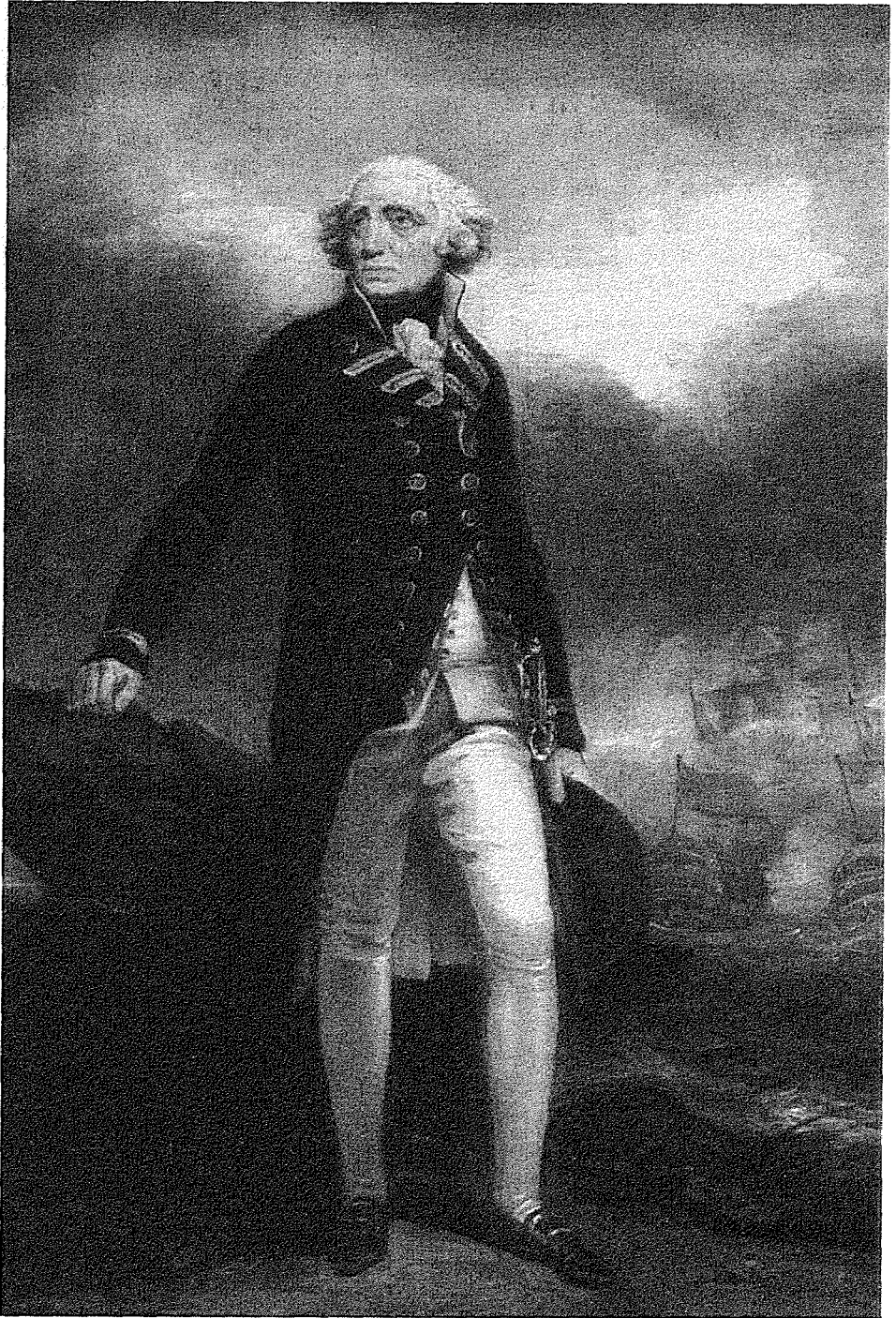
AM at 10 Sent a Leutⁿ 2 Gentleman & 32 Men to asist the Ship in Distress Laying down the River near Chester.—

First & Mid^{lc}. Light Airs & Cloudy Lat^c. Moderate & Clear

PM at 4 Sent a Gentleman & 20 men to Extinguish a fire that Borke out in Town at 8 Boats & Men return'd that were assisting the Ship in Distress one of them the *Cathrine*^d was brought up to town & the other after Being got off the Isln^d [continued] her Voyage

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4311.

1. Probably ship *Catherine*, T. Boog, master, 300 tons burthen, mounting ten 6-pounder and six 4-pounder cannon, built in Philadelphia in 1771, lengthened in 1777, owned by Herries & Co. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*. She is described as a letter of marque in the Master's Log of H.M.S. *Roebuck*, 5 Jan. UKLPR, Adm. 52/1964, fol. 84.



Vice Admiral Richard, Lord Howe, R.N.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *DELAWARE*, COMMANDER JAMES WATT

Jan^y 1778 Moored to a Wharf [at Philadelphia]
 Mond^y 5 D^o W^r. [Light Breezes & Clear W^r.]
 [AM] much loose Ice drifting up & down the River
 D^o W^r. at 4 PM sent an Officer and 30 men to extinguish a fire
 in the Town which was soon got under [*control*]

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/239, 6.

DIARY OF ELIZABETH DRINKER

1778 Janry. . . . 5 . . . a numbe[r] of those floating Barrels of Gun-Powder continue coming down the River, they have been frequently firing at 'em to day¹. . . .

Elizabeth Drinker, *The Diary of Elizabeth Drinker*, edited by Elaine Forman Crane, et al., 3 vols. (Boston: Northeastern University Press, 1991), 1: 273.

1. This refers to the "Battle of the Kegs."

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Monday, January 5, 1778

The Committee on the Treasury brought in a report which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

Resolved, That a warrant issue on the Treasury in favour of Samuel Lyon,¹ for 611 ²⁰/₉₀ dollars, in discharge of Daniel Tillinghast, agent in Providence, for his order dated the 13 September² last in favour of said Lyon for £183 7 4 lawful money, the Marine Committee to be accountable.

JCC 10: 21.

1. Samuel Lyon was the secretary of Commo. Esek Hopkins.
2. Not found.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

January 1778 [in Chace of the Ship & Snow in y^e. Rapp^k.]
 Mond^y 5 AM at 9 Read the Articles of war & pun^d. R^d. Hawkins (Mar^e)
 wth. 12 Lashes for Neglect of Duty, Open a Cask of Beef N^o.
 2269 Con^s. 180 Sh^t. 6 & a Cask of pork Con^s. 308 Sh^t. 3 pieces—
 [Anchored in the Rappahannock River]
 Fresh Breeze & Cloudy for the first p^t. Residue Light Airs with
 Calms PM Weighd & Came to Sail as did the prize Brig
 Emp^d. working up the Rappahanock at 4 PM Came too with
 the BB^r. in D^o. River in 5 f^m. W^r. near the *Emerald* as did the prize
 Brig Veerd to ½ of a Cable, the Upper point of Carters Creek
 NWbN 1½ M^s. Musketo Point EBS 4 or 5 M^s. & Balls P^t.
 WBN. *Emerald* made the Sig^l. for our Captⁿ. Sent the Barge to
 assist in getting off a Ship which the *Emerald* had run aground
 Load^d. with Tobacco the Crew having got aShore¹ at 6 She
 Anch^d. near us she having floated,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/687.

1. Ship *Dragon*, Claude Bondit, master.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[Williamsburg] Monday the 5th day of January 1778—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Captain George Elliot twelve Barrels of Bread six ditto of flour, three ditto of Spirits, two Cables seven and half inch, and two Coil of two inch Rope for the use of the *Safeguard* Galley.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 336.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [Charleston] Monday 5th January 1778—

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first CommissionerGeorge Ab^t. Hall, Edward Darrell, Esq^{rs}

M^r. James Wakefield was desired to Attend the Board and did Attend Accordingly—The Commissioners Agreed with him that M^r. William Sommersall should put a Valuation on an Iron Cabouse belonging to him for the use of the Brigg *Polly*—¹

An Order to M^r. M^cCully RightonM^r. Righton

Sir/

The Commissioners of the Navy direct that you send a boat to Hobcaw Tomorrow Morning to bring down what pig Iron may be at Mess^{rs}. Bagby & Mansons wharf

Navy Board 5th January 1778

By Order of the Board

Edward Blake first Commiss^r

Ordered that M^r. Sawyer² be directed to give such Receipts to the Commissary Gen^l. as he has required—

Also to purchase a Quantity of Junk—That he do Supply the *Notre Dame*³ with Bread for Six Weeks, at the rate of Five Pounds ⌘ Man ⌘ week, and make *up the deficiency with Pease & Rice*⁴

M^r. Sommersall was desired to appraise a Cabouse on board a Ship at Gibbes' wharf

A Note to Mess^{rs}. Bourdeaux⁵ & Atkinson—⁶

The Commissioners of the Navy present their Compliments to Mess^{rs}. Bourdeaux & Atkinson and will be much Obliged to them for the Loan of as many water Casks as they can possibly Spare out of the *Bellona*⁷ and her prize as a sufficient Number for the present Expedition Cannot possibly be purchased in Charles Town—

Navy board 5th Janu^ry 1778—

An Order was drawn on the Treasury in fav^r. of M^cCully Righton for his 2 Acco^{ts}. for Novem^r & Decem^r. £296.12—6—

Adjourned to Tomorrow Evening 4 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 128.1. South Carolina privateer brigantine *Polly*, Capt. Hezekiah Anthony, commander.

2. Elisha Sawyer.

3. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame*, Capt. William Hall, commander.

4. Words in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.

5. Daniel Bourdeaux.
6. Joseph Atkinson.
7. South Carolina letter of marque brig, Capt. Cross, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *GRASSHOPPER*, COMMANDER WILLIAM TRUSCOTT

Jan 1778 [S^t Martin's] S. 17.57 E Dist^{ce}. 106 Leagues
 Monday 5th Light Breezes & Clear W^r: Variation P Azimuth 5.30 Nth: at
 7 AM Saw a Sail to the NW. Gave Chace, fired 2 Six Pound
 Shot, to make her bring too found her to be a schooner from
 Casco Bay, took possession of her.¹

D, UkPLR, Adm. 51/396, part 5, 32.

1. Schooner *Beggar's Benison*, Joshua Titcumbe, master, 120 tons, crew of 10 men, from North Carolina, with lumber, sent into Antigua. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

January 6

LIEUTENANT EDMUND DOD, R.N., TO THOMAS COMPTON,
 MASTER OF THE *ROYAL BOUNTY*

N^o. 3/

Private Signals to be Observed by the
Royal Bounty for the better keeping
 Company with his Majestys Armed Brigg
Cabot Lieutenant Edmund Dod Commander

When I want to speak with you, I will hoist a Blue Ensign at the Main Top
 Gallant Mast head with or without a Gun—

Should the prisoners Mutiny on Board or that you have Reason to suppose
 they intend it,¹ you are to hoist a S^t Georges Jack at the Flagg staff at the main top
 mast head, & haul up your Foresail—

When I intend that you shall keep ahead of us all night, and that you are to
 carry a Stern Light, I will at sun set hoist a Union Jack at Fore top gallant Mast head
 and my Ensign, and fire one Gun

In the Night

Should the prisoners attempt to Mutiny, and take the Ship in the Night, you
 are to shew three Lights one above the other & burn Two false fires, at 5 Minutes
 Distance between, and cut you Jeers &^c and I will answer by Burning one False [*fire*]

Should we part Company and meet again in the Night, the Ship to Windward,
 shall shew three Lights of Equal height in the Fore shrouds which will be answer'd
 by the Ship to Leeward, shewing Two Lights one above the other, in the main
 Shrouds—

Given on board His Majestys Armed Brigg
Cabot in Halifax Harbour this 6th: Day
 Jan^y: 1778—

Edm^d: Dod—

Council Chamber Boston Feb^y 23^d: 17778 [1778]

A True Copy

Attest Jn^o. Avery D^y Sec^y

Copy, M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 8 (Various- Charter Parties-Relating to Prisoners), p. 78.

1. The American prisoners mutinied and seized the *Royal Bounty* on 13 and 14 Jan. See Master's Journal of H.M. Brig *Cabot*, 12-13 and 14 Jan., below.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston Jan^y 6th 1778

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins¹ deliver Col^o Joshua Davis Cordage sufficient for Halyards for the *Lincoln Row-Galley*—

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l² deliver M^r Homer³ for the Brig^t *Massachusetts*⁴ one Cord Wood—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers⁵ pay William Cordwell for Tinning a Kettle for Brig^t *Massachusetts* £9..-.-

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 150-51.

- 1. Caleb Hopkins.
- 2. David Devens.
- 3. Robert Homer.
- 4. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.
- 5. Thomas Ivers.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO JOSEPH RUSSELL, JR.

New London January 6. 1778.

I have sent the barer on purpose to git your Account as I Cannot make up mine with the Owners of the *Revenue*¹ with out it and Should be Glad you would Send me by the barer, the Ballance as I am Disappointed of the money from Col^l Griffing² and am much putt to it for want—The New Courses & Top Sails of the *Rebecca*³ must be Apprizd and att foot I have Stated the Proportion of Money due to Each Vessell for the *Rebecca*— I should be Glad that when you see M^r Millir⁴ you would Desire him to make out his Acco^t and Send me and I will Send him mine. I did Intend to Come down to Bedford but am so Unwell that att Present I dare not Think of it I am Sir [&c.]

Nath^l Shaw Jun^r

PS I hope you wont have a Visit from your New Port Neighbours but am much Afraid of it. Sell the Beaf as Soon as you have a Tolerable offer N S

[Enclosure]

The Ship ⁵ Sold for	£5750.. 0..0
The Men are to have one half	<u>2875.. 0..0</u>
Cap ^t Perse ⁶ had 33 Men whose part is	£ 988.. 5..0
Cap ^t Champlin ⁷ had 63 Men whose part	<u>1886..15..0</u>
	<u>2875.. 0..0</u>
Cap ^t Champlin had 12 Guns whose Share is	£1725.. 0..0
Cap ^t Perse had 8 Guns whose share is	<u>£1150.. 0..0</u>
	<u>2875.. 0..0</u>
Nathan Millir as Agent for Cap ^t Perse is to	
Receive for the Crew	£ 988.. 5..0
for the Owners of Perses Sloop	<u>1150.. 0..0</u>
	<u>2138.. 5..0</u>

Nath^l Shaw Jun^r as Agent for Cap^t Champlin
 is to Receive for the Crew 1886..15..-
 for the Owners 1725.. 0..-
£3611..15..-

LB, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, Letter Book (January 1775–July 1782). Addressed at top: “To Joseph Russell Jun^r/ Merch^t att Bedford.”

1. Connecticut privateer sloop *American Revenue*.
2. Probably, Col. Samuel Griffin.
3. Ship *Rebecca*, captured by Connecticut privateer *American Revenue* and Rhode Island privateer sloop *United States*. See NDAR 10: 540, 540n, 622.
4. Nathan Miller, agent for Capt. Benjamin Pearce, commanding Rhode Island privateer *United States*. For more on Nathan Miller and his accounts, see NDAR 10: 540n.
5. *Rebecca*.
6. Capt. Benjamin Pearce.
7. Capt. Samuel Champlin, Jr., commanding Connecticut privateer sloop *American Revenue*.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL SMEDLEY TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Dear S^r:

Fairfield Jan^y 6th. 1778

Yours ☞ Cap^t Bartram^l Came to Hand I Shall Obey your Orders & Repair on Board the Ship² this week. Should have been there Before now was it not for hopes of Recruiting Men here more Plenty & Collecting Wheate for Bread for the Ship Whether the Latter will be Poseble or not I Cannot Tell it is but Little we have yet Collected having met with Disappointment from our Farmers Pious Conduct M^r Cables is now out in the Country Collecting Am S^r Yours

Sam^l Smedley

L, CtHi, American Revolution, Box 6, Naval Affairs, 1776–1782. Docketed in Shaw's hand: “Sam^l Smedley/Letter/January 6. 1779.” It is impossible to determine whether it was Smedley or Shaw who wrote the correct year. Smedley was in Fairfield recruiting for the *Defence* in January of both 1778 and 1779.

1. Ebenezer Bartram, formerly first lieutenant of the *Defence*.
2. Connecticut Navy ship *Defence* at Boston.

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO PATRICK HANNAN AND THOMAS CONNOLY

[Annapolis] In Council 6 January 1778

Ordered that the Western Shore Treasurer pay to Patrick Hannan one hundred twenty three pounds, Sixteen Shillings & three pence for work done to the *Chester* Galley and thirty three pounds Seventeen Shillings & six pence for the use of Tho^s. Connoly ☞ auth. passed the B^d. of Auth.

123.16.3

☞ order

33.17.6

T Johnson Jun^r

157.13.9

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-53/83.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EMERALD*, CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL

Jan^y 78

[Pepperpoint NNW,]

Tuesday 6th

at 6 AM the *Richmond* warping nearer in Shore to cover the Boats, boarding the *Snow*,¹ sent a Flag of Truce on Shore, In Rapahanock River

Moderate & fair weat^r employed taking the Cargo out of the Snow, to lighten her; at 3 PM she got off; hove up the Best Bower, & let the small Bower go; the Longboat & Cutter employed taking the Tobacco out of the *Richmond*, & carrying it on Board the Snow; some people on board the Snow repairing the Rigging, which her crew had Cut.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/311.

1. Snow *Elegante*, — Collenau, master, from Rappahannock River to Dunkerque, with tobacco, taken in the Rappahannock River, sent to New York City as a prize of *Emerald*. "The Crew got on Shore in their Boats." Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40. Her prize papers are in H.C.A. 32/317/8. *Elegante* was libelled on 28 Jan. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York by Capt. John L. Gidoin, and was condemned on 20 Feb. as a lawful prize of *Richmond*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/93, fols. 212–13, and 49/94, fol. 18.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

January 1778
Tuesdy 6

[Anchored in the Rappahannock River]

AM at 5 slung the Lower Yards & Cleard Ship for Action at 6 Carried out y^e Stream Anch^r & 2 Hawsers Weighd the BB^r & warpt near^r in Shore to Cover the Boats in getting off [f] a Snow Load^d. wth. Tobacco which the *Emerald* had run aground & to drive the Rebels who were Stripping her¹ Fired 4 Shot & drove the Rebels out of her, Sent the Long B^t with the Stream Anch^r.

[Anchored in the Rappahannock River]

Light Airs with Calms at Times [PM] The *Emeralds* & Our Boats Em^d. Lightning the Snow, Rec^d. out of her 33 Hh^{ds}. of Tobacco PM at 3 the Brig got off, ½ p^t weighd & dropt into our Birth again at 5 Anch^d. close by us the prize Snow,²

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/687.

1. French snow *Elegante*. See note to Journal of H.M.S. *Emerald*, 6 Jan., immediately above.

2. The log notes on 7 Jan.: "6 AM Emp^d. Sending the Tobacco on Board the Snow & Stowing it away AM at 8 the *Emerald* made our Sig^d. for a petty Off^r: at 9 sent aShore by a Flagg of Truce 7 American prisoners the Boatsⁿ. with a Gang of hands Emp^d. Riging the Snow." The riggering of *Elegante* continued on 8 Jan., *Richmond* sending nine men on board to carry her down to Hampton Roads, and on 9 Jan. *Emerald* and *Richmond* with their three prizes dropped down the Rappahannock. UKLPR, Adm. 52/687.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[Williamsburg] Tuesday the 6th day of January 1778.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Mr Richard Hardy thirty Bushels of salt, it being for thirty Barrels of Beef purchased of him by Mr Jn^o Peirce for the Use of the Navy.—

This Board doth recommend to his Excellency the Governour and the Honourable the Council Mr David Larkens to be a second Lieutenant in the Navy of this Commonwealth.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public store, deliver to Captain George Elliot as much Cloth as will make himself, David Larkens and Edward King coats on their paying for the same.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 337.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [Charleston] Tuesday 6th January 1778—

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commissioner
 Geo Ab^t Hall, Josiah Smith, Edw^d Darrell, Esq^{rs}—
 A Letter to his Excellency the President¹

The Commissioners of the Navy desire to Acquaint the President that the Commissary of Stores² has informed them, that upon application to the Ordnance Keeper for 4^{lb} Shott out of the Arsenal for the Naval Expedition now fitting out, he refused to deliver them without an Order from the Continental Agent;³ They will therefore be glad that an Order may be procured for 1500 shot the Quantity wanting—

By Order of the Board—

Navy Board 6th Janr^y 1778—

Edw^d Blake first Commiss^r

Order'd That Elisha Sawyer Esq^r Commissary do purchase a Quantity of Nails, Carpenters, & Coopers Tools for the use of the Naval Department—

1. An Order ⁴ was drawn on the Treasury in fav ^r [of]	}	£242.13.4.
Sam ^l Maverick for wages due him on board the		
Brigg <i>Defence</i>		

Ordered that the Clerk do pay such of the workmen at the State Ship Yard as may want their wages—

Adjourned to Tomorrow Evening 6 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 128–29.

1. John Rutledge.

2. Elisha Sawyer.

3. Either John Dorsius, Livinus Clarkson or Abraham Livingston, Continental Agents at Charleston.

4. Words or letters in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Board of Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. GALATEA, CAPTAIN THOMAS JORDAN

Jan^ry 1778

d^o. [Charles Town] N 83^o W 43 Ls

Tuesday 6

at 10 [AM] Wore at 11 Saw a Sail Gave Chace

d^o. [Charles Town] S 74^o W 40 Ls

Strong Gales and Squally ½ p^t 1 [PM] Fired a Shot & Bro^t too the Sloop *Speedwell* from Providence in Rhode Island to Charlestown S^o Carl. Laden with Apples, Potatoes, Onyons & Cyder Tho^s. Munro Master¹ Employed Getting the Stores out of the Prize

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4197.

1. Sloop *Speedwell*, Thomas Munro, master, 30 tons, a crew of five seamen, owned by Paine & Co. of Providence, taken in lat. 33^o 18', long. 76^o 28', destroyed. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40. *Speedwell*, 15 tons burthen, cleared from Providence on 17 Nov. 1777 for South Carolina with a cargo of 50 barrels of cider, 1000 bunches of onions and 50 bushels of potatoes. R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Outward and Inward Entries, 1776–1787, p. 56.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP GRASSHOPPER, COMMANDER WILLIAM TRUSCOTT

Jan 1778

[St. Martin's] D^o. S. 3^o = 44 E Dist^{ce}. 96 Leagues

Tuesday 6th Fresh Breezes & Cloudy. at 6, AM, Saw a Sail to the NE standing to the SW. Gave Chace.
 [S^t Martin's] S. 13.05 W Dist^{cc}. 73 Leagues
 Do^c and Clear W^r at 4 PM Fired 2 Six Pound Shot, to bring the Chace too found her to be a Sloop from Carolina, bound to Martinico, took possession of her. Made sail.¹

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/396, part 5, 32.

1. Sloop *Adventure*, William Ricker, master, 50 tons, crew of seven men, from Virginia, with tobacco, sent into Antigua. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

January 7

CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER TO CAPTAIN HECTOR MCNEILL

Sir

Boston Jan^y. 7. 1778

Please to Deliver M^r. Sam^l. Read present Pusser [*i.e.*, *purser*] of the Ship *Boston*, what Slops may belong to s^d. Ship, he giving a Receipt for the same & you will Oblidge Yours to Serve

Sam^l. Tucker

L, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 1, p. 25. Addressed at foot: "To Hector M^cNeal Esq^r." Docketed: "Copy of an Order/to Cap^t. M^cNeil for/the Pussers stores/Jan^y. 7. 1778."

JOHN BRADFORD TO CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Honble Gentlemen,

Boston 7th January 1778

Your Letter was handed Me only last Saturday Ev'ning by the honb S Adams¹ I immediately sent an Express to Bedford [*in Dartmouth*] to acquaint M^r Jarvis² with your Orders respecting the Loading the *Mellish*³ with all Dispatch. I receiv'd his Answer last Ev'g he writes Me he is doubtful if such a Cargo is to be purchas'd, but as y^e honbl Committee has order'd it nothing shall be wanting in his power to accomplish it—He says He should advertise to give Cash or West India Goods, & I shall be purchasing what I can here & send down to him the Mode of getting things is expensive & tedious, being oblig'd to freight in two Bottoms & cart it across an Isthmus The Brig *Tryton*⁴ is now waiting for a Wind, she is mann'd with french Sailors, & a Cap^t. Born in Guernsy,⁵ by Marriage a Nephew to Doctor Franklin, her Acct & Outfit you shall have soon yours &c

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 105. Addressed at foot: "The Honb^{le}. Commercial Committee."

1. Samuel Adams.
2. Leonard Jarvis, Deputy Continental Agent at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.
3. British transport ship, taken by the Continental Navy ship *Alfred* and Continental Navy sloop *Providence* on 12 Nov. 1776. See *NDAR* 7: 111, 160, 183, 271.
4. Brig *Triton*, taken by Washington's Fleet schooners, *Hancock*, Samuel Tucker, commander, and *Franklin*, John Skimmer, commander, in Nov. 1776. See *NDAR* 7: 104, 105, 137, 139, 141n, 906, 1014, 1058.
5. Peter Collas was married to Jane Mecom, daughter of Franklin's sister, Jane Mecom.

JOHN BRADFORD'S ACCOUNT FOR PRIZES OF THE CONNECTICUT STATE NAVY

M^r. Sam^l. Elliot Ag^t of Prizes for the State of Connecticut in a/c. wth. Jn^o. Bradford

D^r
1776

July To Sundries supply'd Cap ^t Harding for Brig ^a . <i>Defence</i>	£133.16.10
To Cash paid him	60.—
To 1 Cag Butter 56 ^l . @ 7 ^¼ ^d .	1.13.10
2 hamms Bacon 27 ^l @ 5 ^d .	.11. 3
2 doz port Wine @ 24/	2. 8—
a Bottle Jesuits Bark	2. 8—
26 Gall ^s . Vineager	1. 6—
12 y ^{ds} . Friese ^l @ 6/	3.12—
49 Gall ^s . Rum @ 5/4	<u>13. 1. 4</u>
	25. 0. 5
To 1 pair Pistolls dld Cap ^t Smedly	<u>4. 4—</u>

£223. 1. 3
1064. 4.10^¾
£1287. 6. 1^¾

Boston. 7th Jan^y. 1778

Errors Excepted

Jn^o. Bradford

C^r

By Brig ^a . <i>Defence</i> 's 4/16 of N ^t Proceeds of Sundries sold by JB belonging to Ship <i>L^d. Howe</i>	181. 3. 4 ^½
By . D ^o . . D ^o . 5/16 of D ^o belong ^g . to Ship <i>George</i>	900.18. 7
By . d ^o . D ^o . . of D ^o belong ^g . to Brig ^a . <i>Annabella</i>	123. 2.10 ^¼
By . D ^o . D ^o . proport ⁿ . of Sundries sold by W ^m . Greenleafe Esq ^r . w ^{ch} . was paid to JB	82. 1. 4

£1287. 6. 1^¾

7 JANUARY 1778

JOHN BRADFORD'S ACCOUNTS OF SUNDRIES SUPPLIED CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE

Acco^t. Sundries supply'd Cap^t. Harding of y^e. Brig^{nc}. Defence

[Boston 7 January 1778]

To 1 doz Wine & 1 peck Oatmeal for a sick man	1..10..—
1 pair Shoes dld Dunham	.. 8..—
Cash paid John Hardline	.. 4.. 4
½ Gall ^o . Rum 3/. ½ Gall ^o . Wine 5/	.. 8..—
To Cash paid Joseph Webb Sundry Ship Chand ^y	15.. 3.. 8
10 fathoms Junk	1.. ..—
8 Gallons Rum @ 5/4	1..14.. 8
2 Gall ^s . Vineager a peck Barley 6 Bottles Wine for Sick Man	1.. 1.. 9
2 Common Tents for Boatsails—@ 66/8	6..13.. 4
1 Muskett dld by Cap ^t . Hardings ¹ ord ^r .	3.. 6..—
2 Fusees dld M ^r . Elliot @ 84/	8.. 8..—
6 Bottles wine dld Doct ^r . Windship ²	..15..—
1 broad Sword & Shold ^r . Strap dld D ^o . Cap ^{ts} order	2.. 2..—
1 hogs ^d Rum 119 Gall ^s @ 5/4	31..14.. 8
1 P ^s Irish Linnens 23 y ^{ds} dld Cap ^t . @ 4/	4..12..—
1 black Sholder Strap D ^o	1.. 6
1 doz Plumes dld M ^r . Elliot	12..—
6 Hams Bacon	1..19.. 4½
3 Barr ^s beef @ 80/	12..—..—
1 Barr ^l Oatmeal	1..—..—
1 Cask Wine 5 doz 3 @ 25/	6..11.. 3
3 Bottles Porter	4..—
5 Musketts, Bayonetts & Powder	16..10..—
48 Plumes	<u>2.. 8..—</u>
	40..12.. 7½

1 Surtout Coat Scarlett & green	4..10..—
2 pair Silk hose @ 9/ 1 p ^r th ^d D ^o 6/	1.. 4..—
1 Waistcoat & breeches to Cap ^t Smedley ³	2.. 8..—
2 pair Silk & 2 pair th ^d hose	1..10..—
2½ Bar ^{ls} . Oatmeal	<u>..12..—</u>

<u>10.. 4..—</u>
£130..11.. 6½
<u>3.. 5.. 3½</u>
£133..16..10

Commiss^o 2½ ⌘ C^t

Errors Excepted

Jn^o. Bradford Con^a. Agent

DS, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 9, p. 231. Enclosed in John Bradford to Samuel Eliot, Jr., 7 Jan. See Samuel Eliot, Jr., to John Bradford, 9 Jan., below.

1. Capt. Seth Harding.
2. Dr. Amos Windship (or Winship) of Boston.
3. Capt. Samuel Smedley.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston January 7th. 1778.

Order'd, That M^r Ivers¹ pay Jon^a Balch for Sundries for Schooner *Starks*, as Pr
Acc^t. . . . £4. 4. 7 —

Order'd, That M^r Ivers pay Joshua Lapham for a Cap & Saddle for Schooner
Starks £1. 2/. —

Order'd, That M^r Ivers pay Isaac Phillips Esq^r for 20 Tons Stone Ballast for
Schooner *Starks* £6. -.-

Order'd, That D^r John Greenleaf deliver Doc^{tr} Fudger² Medicines for one
hundred Men on Board Brig^t *Massachusetts*—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 152–53.

1. Thomas Ivers.

2. Dr. Harris Ellery Fudger was appointed surgeon of the Massachusetts Navy brigantine
Massachusetts on 15 Nov. 1777. *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War*, 17 vols. (Boston:
Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers, 1896–1908), vol. 6, 140.

MAJOR GENERAL JOSEPH SPENCER TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

[Extract]

State of Rhode Island

Providence Jan^y 7th. 1778

May it please your Excellency

. . . There has Generally been about Six ships and Frigates of Force belonging
to the Enemy, Round the Channel of Rhode Island, through the summer and fall
Past: there is a large Number lately Arrived there of Transports, at least a Hundred,
and in the whole now there, upwards of 20 ships, Frigates, and Sloops of War, Eight
or nine of which of the line.¹ Lord Howe came there Last saturday;² they have late-
ly been sounding in the Channel near Warwick Neck, and we hear of some other
preparations, that Indicate some designs against us. . . .

Jo^s Spencer

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed flush left below signature: "His Excellency Gen^l
Washington." Docketed: "Rhode Island 7th/Jan^y 1778/from/Gen^l Spencer/Ans^d 24th." The letter also
discusses provisioning problems for the army in Rhode Island and Spencer's desire to resign his com-
mand. On 24 Jan. Washington replied that he was aware Vice Adm. Howe had sailed for Newport with
more than 100 transports to winter there. DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4.

1. The ships of the line were *Eagle*, 64 guns, *Nonsuch*, 64 guns, *Somerset*, 64 guns, *Raisonable*, 64 guns,
Bristol, 50 guns, *Chatham*, 50 guns, with the storeships *Buffalo*, *Crampus* and *Tortoise*, former third rate
ships of the line.

2. Howe arrived at Newport on Friday, 2 Jan.

NEWS FROM BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY

BURLINGTON, Jan. 7.

On Tuesday last the schooner *Little Hope*, with part of her cargo consisting of
rum, sugar, coffee, tea, and a number of blankets, drifted from Philadelphia with
the ice above Point no Point. The day following Major Edwards,¹ with eight more,
boarded her, after having with much difficulty worked their way through the ice.
Previous to their boarding her the Captain of the schooner, with five sailors, parad-
ed as though they intended to dispute the matter; but their hearts failing them,
they saved further trouble by a ready surrender.

The same day (several vessels drifting in the ice between Philadelphia and Gloucester-Point) Capt. Robert Quigley, with twenty-four of the militia, boarded & took the transport brigantine *John*, & the armed schooner *Industry*, with thirteen English seamen, among whom are two Captains. The brigantine had several hogsheads of rum, &c. on board and the schooner some tobacco. After taking out the valuable articles, and stripping them of their rigging, sails, &c they were burnt.²

Another party of our militia, on the same day, made prize of the transport brigantine *Lord Howe*, which was also stripped and destroyed; and the day following a sloop, on her way from Chester to Philadelphia, was taken with about twenty barrels of flour on board. In these little expeditions, thirty four British seamen and soldiers were taken; and on Friday last they passed through this city, on their way to a place of security.

Maryland Journal, and the Baltimore Advertiser, 28 Jan. 1778.

1. Possibly Maj. Marshall Edwards, Lewis's Pennsylvania Battalion.

2. For more on transports adrift in the ice of the Delaware River, see Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 1 Feb., below.

CAPTAIN JAMES WILLING TO BRIGADIER GENERAL EDWARD HAND

Sir

Fort Pitt Jan^y 7th. 1778

As I expect to bring at least five Boats from New Orleans laden with dry Goods and Navigated by 20 or 25 Men each I request the favour of you to give the Necessary Order for a sufficient Quantity of Flour to be lodged for me at the Arkansaws not less than Sixty or Seventy Bar^{ls}. of 250 lb or 300 lb each as the Men must have 1½ Rations ~~per~~ day also Twenty or Thirty b^{ls}. of Pork, so as to be there the begining of April. I will supply my Crews with the Remaining quantity of Meat necessary below, The Annexed¹ is Col^o Morgans estimate of Provisions necessary had I left this as I ought any time in October last—I am Sir [&c.]

Ja^s: Willing

L, DNA, PCC, item 159, pp. 436–37 (M247, roll 178). Addressed at the foot: "To Gen^l Hand." Docketed: "Col. Morgan's/estimate—."

1. See Colonel George Morgan to Captain James Willing, Jan. 1778, above.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. ROEBUCK, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

Jan^y 1778

[alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]

Wednesday 7th

AM recvd a lighter of Coals

First part moderate with some rain the latter fair weath^r Not much Ice in the River

PM a Vessel with a Flag of Truce came alongside with some provisions for the Rebel Prisoners¹

D, UklPR, Adm. 52/1964, fol. 84.

1. Shallop *Polly*, Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy, master.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT

The Commissioners of the Navy Board
of the Middle Department
Gentlemen

[York, Pa.] January 7th 1778

Your Letter of the 26th ultimo¹ has come to hand and Shall be duely attended to. As the Eastern Navy Board are in great want of flour & Iron to carry on the public business within their district we request that you will immediately purchase on the best terms in your power 2,000 Barrels flour and 100 Tons Iron and have the same transported down to little Egg Harbour and there Stored to wait the arrival of some Vessels which the Navy Board at Boston will send round. The Masters of said vessels will be directed to apply to you, and you will give Orders for the delivery of the same.

We shall expect an immediate answer from you relative to the above purchase and remain [&c.]

P:S: please to let us know if vessels can be Chartered at Egg Harbor to carry the Flour & Iron to Boston

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 119 (M332, roll 6).

1. Not found.

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO JOSEPH MACCUBBIN

[Annapolis] In Council 7th January 1778

Ordered That the Western Shore Treasurer pay to Joseph Maccubbin Seventy six pounds Ten Shillings for Whiskey purchased for the Galley *Independence* ^{ph} auth passed the B^d.

^{ph} order

T Johnson Jun^r

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-53/70. Endorsed: "Ent^d. E. F."

"AN INVENTORY OF THE SHIP *DEFENCES* STORES AS SHE NOW LAYS VIZ"

Annapolis the 7th January 1778

Boatswains Stores.

Hull, Masts, and Yards	Some Spars yards And Topmasts
Compleat, Bowsprit Except'd	Ditto . . . Blocks
Standing And Running Rigging,	Hooks And Thimbles
d ^o	2 Cat Blocks.
2 Bowers	1 Fish Hook
1 Stream	1 Viol And Block.
1 Kedge	2 pair of Can hooks
2 Cables Half worn	4 Marline Spicks
1 Old Steam Hawser	3 Serving Mallets
1 Towline	3 Fids
4 Scrappers	3 Palm plates
8 Sail Needles	1 Hand lead And line
1 Log line & Reel	1 Dipsea line

Boatswains Stores. — *Continued*

4 Tarr Buckets	4 Hand Spicks
10 Capstan Bars	12 Ships oars
A Barge with 6 Oars	6 Swabbs
20 Tuns Pig Iron for Balls ^t	2 Lantrons
	2 Crow Barrs

Sails

1 Jibb	1 Lower Steering Sail
1 Fore Stay sail	2 Fore topmast d ^o
1 Sprit sail Top sail	1 Top Gall ⁿ . d ^o
1 Spritsail	1 Main topmast Staysail
1 Fore Sail	1 Top Gallan d ^o
1 Fore Top sail	1 Main Sail
1 d ^o . . . Top Gall ^t Sail	1 Main Topsail
1 d ^o . . . Top Gallan Royal	1 Main Top Gall ⁿ Sail
1 Mizzen Staysail	1 d ^o . . . d ^o . . . Royal
1 d ^o . . . Topmast Staysail	1 Lower Steering sail
1 d ^o . . . Topsail	1 Topmast d ^o
1 Driver	1 Top Gallan d ^o
1 Jigger	
2 Sprits for the Barge	

Carpenters Stores

6 Setts of pump Gear	2 Chisells
1 Broad Ax.	1 Drawing Knife
1 Adds	1 Saw
1 pump Hammer	2 Tarrpauling
4 Hatch Barrs	1 Grind Stone
	1 plain

John Grant Carpen^t

Coopers Stores

16 Iron Bound water Casks	1 Cooper pump
1 Harness Tubb	2 wooden Hand pumps
1 Marking Iron	1 Coopers Adds
1 Bung Board,	1 Drawing Knife d ^o
1 pair of Compasses	1 Ax
1 Funnel	4 Draw Bucketts
4 Mess Cans & 1 pump Can	4 Mess Fidds

Joseph Dunbarr Cooper

Annapolis the 7th January 1778

Ship *Defences* Stores

Brought forward

Cooks Stores

1 Large iron Hearth	2 Copper Kittles
1 Small Iron pott	1 flesh fork

Cooks Stores—*Continued*

1 Grid Iron	1 fringing pan
1 Wood ax	1 Cleaver
1 Large Iron Laddle	

Cabbin Stores

1 Speaking Trumpett	2 Compasses
1 Spy Glass	1 Hanging d ^o .
4 Half Minute Glasses	1-2 Hour Glass
1 Hour Glass	1 Cabbin Table
1 pair of Candle Sticks & Snuffers	4 plates
3 Knives & 3 forks	2 Dishes
4 Cabbin Chairs	1 Suit Continenal Collours

Samuel Walker master

Gunners Stores

10 . . . 6 pounders	14 Worms
4 . . . 4 Ditto Double fortified, with Britchins Compleat.	15 Sponges and Rammers
52 Tackle Blocks & falls	14 Ropeing Sponges
14 Britchins	4 Ladles
14 Hand Spicks	2 Fidds
14 Crow Barrs	2 Marline Spicks
1 Sett of Catrige prmrs	14 powder Horns
14 match Staves with Some Match	14 prickers
	A parcell of Wadds

Geo: Ross 1st. Lieut^t & John Berryman Gunner

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4595-8. Docketed: "7 January 1778/Inventory of Tackle/Act left on Board the/Ship *Defence*"; "An/Inventory of what Is now on/Board the Ship *Defence*/1778—."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EMERALD*, CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL

Jan^y 78 In Rapahanock River
Wednesd^y 7th Ditto Wea^r: [Moderate & fair wea^r:] employed refitting the
Snow,¹ and working up Junk, took Sails out of the two prizes² &
put them onboard the Snow.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/311.

1. French snow *Elegante*, — Collenau, master.
2. French brig *Alexandrine* and ship *Dragon*.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PHOENIX*, CAPTAIN HYDE PARKER, JR.

January 1778 Cape Hen^y N 67 W Dist^{ce}. 15 Leagues
Wednesd^y 7th. At ½ p^t 6 AM Saw a Sail to [N^o]w^d. Wore Ship Out all Reefs,
set Top gallant Sails &c^a & gave chace. Sailmakers rep^s Fore
topm^t Staysail.

Cape Hen^y West Dist^{cc}. 2 Leagues.

Mod^t breezes and cloudy at 2 PM Fired several Shot & Bro^t too the Chace A Brig from Guadeloupe bound to Virginia^l Shorten'd Sail & Bro^t too Main Topsail to the Mast, sent a Boat for the Prisoners & a Petty Officer & six Men to Navigate her to New York. At 5 In first Reef Topsails & made Sail at 7 the Brig parted Company at 8 In 2^d. & 3^d. Reef Fore & Main Topsails and 2^d Reef Mizen Topsail. At ½ past 11 Close Reef'd the Topsails and Handed them Bro^t too under the Main Sail.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/694.

1. French brig *Genevieve*, Pierre Tourounet, master, owned by Casamajor & Co. of Guadeloupe, a crew of 17 seamen, mounting 4 carriage guns, from Guadeloupe alleged to St. Peter's (St. Pierre and Miquelon), with rum, salt &c., sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40. *Genevieve* was declared a recapture on 9 Feb. by the Vice Admiralty Court of New York, claimed by Robert Dale & others, but her cargo was condemned as a lawful prize. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 4–5. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/340/16 where her master's name is given as Pierre Tournet.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Wednesday the 7th day of January 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Magazine, deliver to Mr Isaac Mercer one hundred weight of Gunpowder, six Quires of Cannon cartridge Paper and three quires of musket ditto for the use of the *Norfolk Revenge* Galley.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain John Barret for one hundred pounds upon account for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the use of the *Hero* Galley.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Mr Richard C. Graves a quantity of salt from the forge not exceeding fifty Bushels for the Purpose of Barrelling Pork for the use of the Navy.—

Ordered that Mr James Davis make the necessary Repairs wanting to the Vessells *Molly* and *Virginia* employed in Trade for this Commonwealth.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 337–38.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [*Charleston*] Wednesday 7th January 1778

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commissioner

Geo. Abb^t Hall Josiah Smith Edw^d Darrell

Tho^s Savage Jn^o Edwards Tho^s Corbett Esq^{rs}—

A Letter from Secr^y of The Prevy Council—

January 7th 1778

Sir/

By order of his Excellency the president,¹ I am to inform you, that Cap^t Biddle² has resigned the Command of the Ship *Gen^l Moultrie*, and that it is his direc-

tion with the advice of the prevy Council, the Commissioners of the Navy do appoint a proper person, to Succeed to the Command of her—

I am Gen^l
Y^r Hbl^e Serv^t

Edw^d Blake Esq^r first—
Commiss^r of the Navy Board }

(Signed) Jn^o Colcock. Sec^y P^y C^l—

A Valuation of 4 Carriage guns 4 pounders Borrowed by this State from Mess^{rs} Mey & Cripps³ and put on board the Brigg *Polly*⁴ Comanded by Cap^t. Anthony,⁵ being refer'd to us We do therefore appraise the Same at Seven Hundred pounds the Pair—Given under our Hand, at Charles Town this 7th January 1778

(Signed) { Will^m Logan—
Will^m Somarsall

A Valuation of a Cabouse

It being Refer'd me to Value a Cabouse on board the Brigg *Polly* Comanded by Cap^t. Anthony I Appraise the same at One Hundred pounds Current Money of this State

Charles Town Jan^y. 7th. 1778

(signed) W^m Somarsall

*Adjourned to tomorrow, 10 O'Clock.*⁶

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 129–30.

1. John Rutledge.

2. Capt. Charles Biddle of Philadelphia. Charles Biddle, *Autobiography of Charles Biddle, Vice-President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, 1745–1821* (Philadelphia: E. Claxton and Co., 1883), 105. Biddle states erroneously that Vice President William H. Drayton offered him the command of the ship *Volunteer* which was commanded by Capt. Philip Sullivan.

3. Florian Charles Mey and John S. Cripps, merchants at Charleston.

4. South Carolina privateer brigantine serving in the South Carolina Navy for the naval expedition with frigate *Randolph*.

5. Capt. Hezekiah Anthony.

6. Words in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.

DECLARATION OF MOSES NATHANS

Copy

[Jamaica 7 January 1778]

M^r Moses Nathans, from the Cape,¹ last from the Mole,² Saith: —That on his Arrival at the Cape Dec^r. 13th. he found a great Number of Soldiers there, the Barracks full, and a great Number of Officers in the Town, on enquiry he was informed, that Soldiers arrived there almost every day—that on the 15th. or 16th. of December a Number of Soldiers arrived there about 6000.—as he was informed.—that he saw them—that the Current news of the Town was, that the Troops were in the pay of Spain and intended against the Island of Jamaica.—That a Spanish Man of War, was then there, on board of which it was said, Money had been brought to pay the said Troops.

That there were five French Frigates there at one time, and when he left the Cape about December 22nd. there remained only two.

That he sailed from the Mole the 5th. Instant Janry and Landed at Cow Bay on the 7th. Janry.—

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 137/73, fols. 68–69. Docketed: “Copy of a Declaration/of Moses Nathans/In Gov^r Dalling's (N^o 13)/of the 13th. Jan^y 1778./ (5)/d^r.”

1. Cap Français [Cape François], Saint-Domingue.
2. Môle Saint-Nicolas, Saint-Domingue.

DEPOSITION OF DOMINICK FRENCH, JOHN SPURRITT AND HOPKIN LEWELLIN

DOMINICA BEFORE Charles Winstone Esquire
 One of His Majesty's Justices of
 the Peace for the Island of
 Dominica.

PERSONALLY appeared Dominick French late Master of the Ship *Whim*, belonging to the Port of Liverpool in the Kingdom of Great Britain, and owned by Thomas Case of Liverpool aforesaid Merchant, John Spurrutt late Chief Mate of the said Ship *Whim*, and Hopkin Lewellin late Second Mate of the same Ship, And jointly and severally made Oath as follows And first the said Deponents jointly say, That on the Twenty Ninth day of January One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Seven The said Ship sailed from the said Port of Liverpool for the Coast of Africa and after taking in a Cargo of Slaves and Rice at the Island of Bannanoas on the Coast of Africa the said Ship sailed from thence on the Seventeenth day of November now last past bound to the Island of Barbadoes And these Deponents further say that on the Twentieth day of December now last past being in the Latitude of Barbadoes the said Ship *Whim* was taken by an American Brigantine of Twelve or Fourteen Guns called the *Fairfield*¹ whereof one James Hovey was Master, and carried into Carbay² in the Island of Martinico on the Twenty Fourth day of the same Month of December And these Deponents also jointly say That on Saturday the Third day of this instant January they took their Passages from the Port of St- Pierre's in the said Island of Martinico on board of a French passage Schooner to be landed on this Island, the said Schooner being bound to the Island of Guadeloupe to call in her way at this Island and upon these Deponents going on board the said Passage Schooner they discovered two Negro Boys on board, which the Deponents knew to be part of the Cargo of the said Ship *Whim* And the Deponent Dominick French further deposeth That upon his Arrival at Roseau in this Island on Sunday last the Fourth Instant he went to His Excellency Governor Shirley and related the Circumstance of the Two Negro Boys (part of the said Ships Cargo) being on board the said Schooner or French Packet and prayed His said Excellency to have said Schooner stopped by the Fort that the Deponent might recover back the said two Negro Boy Slaves for the Owner of the said Ship *Whim*, this Deponent apprehending that the property of the said Slaves was not altered by the illegal Capture and Sale aforesaid, which request His said Excellency was pleased to comply with, and the said Schooner was in consequence thereof fired at and brought to by the Fort at Roseau and the said two Negro Boys were landed from on board the said Schooner and carried by this Deponent before Charles Winstone Esq^r one of the Members of His Majesty's Council and a Justice of the Peace for the said Island of Dominica who told this Deponent he might take the said two Slaves into his possession as the property of the Owner of the said Ship *Whim*. And all these Deponents jointly swear that the two Negro Boy Slaves aforesaid were two of the Slaves of the Cargo of the said Ship *Whim* at the time of the Capture by the Rebels And that the Rebel Colours of America were hoisted on board the said Brigantine *Fairfield* & her Prize the said Ship *Whim*, when they sailed

into Carbay in Martinica aforesaid, at which Bay there were two more Prizes lying, one of which had Rebel Colours flying And that there is a Fort at Carbay aforesaid mounting Four Guns, and garrisoned by a Commandant & Soldiers who these Deponents apprehend & believe were in the Service of His most Christian Majesty the French King, And that the next Day being Christmas Day, the Commandant and several other Gentlemen of Martinico went on board the Rebel Privateer called *Fairfield*, for the purpose as these Deponents heard and believe of purchasing the Cargo of Slaves of the Ship *Whim*, which Cargo was landed on the Twenty Sixth of December in the Morning, & disposed of by the Rebels to the French Inhabitants at very low Prices AND this Deponent Dominick French for himself further deposeth that on his Arrival at the Town of Saint Pierre in Martinico aforesaid on the Twenty Seventh of December last he took with him the English Interpreter M^r Michell & waited on the Person in Command at S^t Pierre's, who this Deponent was informed was the Lieutenant Governor,³ and demanded from him restitution of the Ship *Whim* & her Cargo of Slaves this Deponent alledging that the two Nations of France & Great Britain were in amity together, that the Lieu^t Governor asked of this Deponent where the Ship *Whim* was, whether in the Port of S^t Pierre's or Fort Royal, the Deponent answered no, that She was in a Bay situate between those Ports. the Lieutenant Governor then told this Deponent he never took cognizance of anything not done in the Ports, that there were Guarda-Coasta's out, who were to take care no illegal Trade was carried on. And then the Lieutenant Governor said to this Deponent through the Interpreter, that no Prizes were allowed to stay in the Ports of Fort Royal or S^t Pierre's more than Twenty Four hours, that the French Nation was in friendship with all other Nations, and would grant them every necessary Succour. That this Deponent being under a promise to return on board the Rebel Privateer in the Afternoon of the Twenty Seventh of December, with the Master of her, was met with by several Gentlemen in Saint Pierre's who advised this Deponent not to return on board. that this Deponent mentioned to them, as he had given his promise he must do so, on which they said they supposed he was not thereby prevented from seeking his liberty—And advised him to go to the Interpreter, and apply with him to the Lieutenant Governor for his Liberty, and discharge from Confinement by the Rebels. that this Deponent accordingly waited on the Lieutenant Governor and he sent the Interpreter to a M^r Bingham⁴ who acts (as the Deponent understands) as Agent for the Rebels at Saint Pierre's, to give his the Lieutenant Governor's Compliments to M^r Bingham, and request of him to discharge this Deponent. That M^r Bingham accordingly complied, & wrote a Letter to Hovey the Captain of the Privateer, in consequence of which this Deponent was discharged by him.

Dom^k French
John Spurr
Hopkin Lewellin

Sworn before me this
7th day of January 1778
Cha^s Winstone

D, UKLPR, C.O. 71/7, fols. 40–41. Docketed: "The Deposition of Cap^t/French and his first &/Second Mate, relative to/the Capture of the Ship/*Whim* by an American/Privateer called the *Fairfield*/ whereof one James Hovey/was Master.—/In Gov^t Shirley's of 9th: Jan^y 1778./ (3)/d^r." Enclosure no. 3 in Gov. Thomas Shirley to Lord George Germain, 9 Jan. 1778.

1. Rhode Island privateer brigantine *Fairfield* was commissioned on 28 Oct. 1777 and was owned by Amos Hubbard and others of Providence.
2. Carbet.
3. Commandant La Perrier.
4. William Bingham.

January 8

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y. 8th. 1778—

Order'd, That Nath^l. Baker for Sundries for Brig^t *Massachusetts*¹
 as Pr Account be paid £ 9..19.. 7½
 also on Acc^ot. of d^o. for Row Galley² £ 4.. 9.. 9½
 £14.. 9.. 5—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), p. 154.

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.
2. Massachusetts Navy row galley *Lincoln*.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO ROBERT MORRIS

Sir

New London Jan^r 8 1778

I Received your kind favour th the bearer M^r Ross¹ and am much obliged to you for the acquaintance of so worthy a person—By fitting out many of the Continental Vessells I am largely in Advance and have been very unlucky in not having any of the Prizes coming into this Port, I expected Cap^t Chew² in the *Resistance*³ those that he should take into this port, and in consequence of that have not made Application for the Money—I beg you will let me know by a Line if this New Board⁴ will have Power to Settle Acco^{ts}. pay &^c. or whether I must be obliged to come to your State & you'l oblige Sir &^c.—

LB, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, Letter Book (1775–1782). Addressed at foot: “To Robert Morris Esq^r/Pennsylvania—.”

1. Richard Ross, express rider for the Continental Congress.
2. Capt. Samuel Chew, Continental Navy.
3. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.
4. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

DEPOSITION OF ENSIGN SANDS NILES

Province of New York
 Court of Vice Admiralty.

The Deposition of Sands Niles¹ in the Cause of John Tabor Kempe Esquire his Majesty's Advocate General for the Province of New York at and by the Relation of Harry Harwood² Esq Commander of his Majesty's Sloop of War the *Falcon* on Behalf of himself and the other Officers and the Crew of the said Sloop of War and all others interested therein against the armed Sloop *Schuyler*³ her Apparel and Furniture, taken upon the Standing interrogatories filed in this Court.

First. To the first Interrogatory this Deponent saith that he was born in Stonington in Connecticut—that he has lived there for the greatest Part

of seven Years last past, and that he is a Subject of the united States of America.

Secondly. To the second Interrogatory this Deponent saith that he was present at the Taking of the armed Sloop *Schuyler*.

Thirdly. To the third Interrogatory this Deponent saith that the said Sloop was taken to the Eastward of Satauket Harbour,⁴ on the tenth Day of December last—that the Reason of her being taken was that she was transporting about Sixty three armed Men, from Connecticut to Long Island in the Province of New York—that the said Sloop was taken by his Majesty's Sloop of War the *Falcon* commanded by Harry Harwood Esquire.

4 To the fourth interrogatory this Deponent saith that the Name of the Master of the said Sloop is John Carr⁵—that he was appointed to the Command of the said Sloop by the Board of War of the united States of America—that the said John Carr took Possession of the said Sloop at New London in Connecticut—that the said John Carr was born in Irèland and that his last fixed Place of Residence was at Philadelphia in Pensylvania

5. To the fifth Interrogatory this Deponent saith that he cannot materially depose.

6 To the Sixth Interrogatory this Deponent saith that he was on Board the said Sloop *Schuyler* when she was taken—

7. To the Seventh Interrogatory this Deponent saith, that the Name of the said Sloop is the *Schuyler*—that she has been called by that Name as long as he the Deponent has known her—

8. To the Eighth Interrogatory this Deponent saith that he cannot materially depose.

9. To the ninth Interrogatory this Deponent saith, that the said Sloop the *Schuyler* belongs to and was fitted out by the continental Congress

10

11

12 To the tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth

13 Interrogatories this Deponent saith that he cannot materially depose.

14

15

16: To the Sixteenth Interrogatory this Deponent saith that when the *Falcon* was coming up to the said Sloop the said John Carr bundled up a Number of Papers which the Deponent believes were the Papers of the said Sloop and then made his Escape.

17

18

19 To the 17. 18. 19. 20th: Interrogatories, and to the first, second, third,

20 fourth and fifth additional

1 Interrogatories this Deponent saith that he cannot

2 depose.

3

4

5

Taken the 8 Day of
January 1778.

D Mathews⁶ Reg^r

D, UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/450/9.

1. Ensign, Ely's Regiment, Connecticut Militia.
2. Comdr. Harry Harmood, R.N.
3. Continental Navy sloop *Schuylcr*.
4. Setauket, Long Island.
5. Lt. John Kerr, Continental Navy.
6. David Mathews, register of the Vice Admiralty Court of New York.

OFFICERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA NAVY TO
THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

TRENTON, Jan'y 8, 1778.

*To the Honourable the President of the Supreme Executive Council of the State of
Pennsylvania:*

HONOUR'D SIR:—We, the Subscribers, Officers in the Pennsylvania State Fleet, beg leave to remind you and your Honourable Council, tho' with reluctance, well knowing the Multiplicity of Business you must have on hand, but Self and the uncertainty of human affairs, prompts us, and doubt not you will give a few minutes attention to what we Wish you may not think unreasonable.

It is with Concern that, although we have done everything in our powers, so far as our Capacities would serve, and hazarded our Lives in Support of the Glorious cause of Liberty and Independence, Do find that there is not any provision made by your Honourable Council for any of us, our Men or Families, in case of being kill'd or maimed in the service. We would not presume to say that it has been in some Measure the cause of so much Desertion, but have reason to believe it has, so should see propper to take the premises into consideration, and allow a pension as in your Wisdom may seem meet, it would give alacrity to both Men and Officers on another Campaign and relieve the distressed of the Former.

JOHN RICE,
THO'S MOORE,
WM. ALLEN,
JOHN BRICE,
NATHAN BOYS,
HUGH MONTGOMERY,

WILLIAM BROWN,
GEORGE GARLAND,
ISAAC ROACH,
JNO. McFATRICK,
WM. POTTS,
JOHN HARRISON.

Pennsylvania Archives, 2d ser., 3: 161.

PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO COMMODORE JOHN HAZELWOOD

In Council

Lancaster January 8. 1778

The enclosed is triplicate of my last letter to you—Yesterday Captain Blewer¹ of the State Navy-board called upon Council, the above letter will serve as an answer to part of his business

It is the opinion of Council that if the Cannon filling (the touch holes with lead) Stores &c^a. be removed ten or fifteen miles from the water; but distributed in many places so that the quantity in either, may not be an object worth the attention

of the enemy; it may answer better, taking every circumstance in view, than sending them forty or fifty miles, and deposited in one place; or part of the cannon might be sunk in the river; for, as the season is far advanced, and there is difficulty in procuring sufficient teams especially with expedition; it will therefore be advisable to return them almost as soon as they are safely secured.

M^r William C. Bradford² left this the other day and took with him four thousand pounds for the Commissary³ and three thousand pounds to pay the boats crews &c^a; when the treasury is replenished a further sum shall be sent. Capt^m Blewer mentioned to Council that many of the men belonging to the boats were married and their wives in a good deal of distress for the want of provisions; and probably if they went off, their husbands would follow: If the State Navy board and yourself should be of Opinion that furnishing some of those Women with rations, will be of utility to the state, Council will not object

I am also requested by Council to inform you that they ha[ve] had an eye towards the extraordinary expence which you must necessarily have been at and will still continue whilst you have the command of the fleet have allowed you to draw rations from the time of your appointment w^{ch} you will see by the enclosed resolve—

Council have no doubt of every exertion of yours and the State Navy board, to secure the Stores &c^a. belonging to the fleet as well as attention to the seamen I am very respectfully [&c.]

Thomas Wharton jun^r
Pres^t

The resolve above mentioned Council is desirous of reconsidering the result of which will be forwarded to you in a few days—

L, PHarH, RG 27, Executive Correspondence (loose) of the Supreme Executive Council. Addressed at foot: "Commodore Haslewood."

1. Joseph Blewer.
2. Paymaster, Pennsylvania Navy.
3. William Crispin, Commissary, Pennsylvania Navy.

JOURNAL OF H.M. ARMED SHIP *VIGILANT*, COMMANDER BRABAZON CHRISTIAN

January 1778
Thursday 8th

Lashed alongside a Wharf at the upper part of the Town of Philadelphia
Mod^t Breezes and hazey with some Rain & Snow employed occasionally came on board 14 Men who deserted from the Rebels with 2 Armed Galleys¹

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/1037, fol. 6.

1. Two Pennsylvania Navy guard boats (half galleys), commanded by Captain Nathan Boys and another officer, on loan as privateers for use in the lower Delaware River. See William Bradford to President Thomas Wharton, Jr., 24 Jan., below.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Thursday, January 8, 1778

A letter, from the navy board of the eastern department, dated 16 December last,¹ to the Marine Committee, was laid before Congress and read.

Ordered, That it be referred to the Marine Committee. . . .

The Marine Committee, to whom was referred the letter of the 18 November, 1777,² from the navy board for the eastern department, brought in a report,³ which was taken into consideration;

Resolved, That, considering the necessity of the case, the encouragement given by the said board, to man the ship *Providence*, be approved:

That the bounties given to seamen by the resolve of Congress of the 29 March, 1777,⁴ is not to be stopped out of their wages, but deducted from their prize money, where any future prize money is obtained:

That the said navy board be supplied with a number of blank commissions, and that they be empowered to grant commissions to officers not above the rank of lieutenants, where vacancies may happen, and the good of the service absolutely requires that they should be immediately filled, but not otherwise:

That the commissary general of purchases be directed to give an order upon the late commissary, J. Trumbull, for 500 bushels of salt, in favour of the navy board in the eastern department, unless they should be already provided therewith.

Resolved, That the remainder of the report be postponed.⁵

JCC 10: 28–29.

1. Not found, but see “Votes and Resolutions of the [*Continental*] Navy Board of the Eastern Department,” 16 Dec. 1777. NDAR 10: 743–44.

2. Not found, but see “Votes and Resolutions of the [*Continental*] Navy Board of the Eastern Department,” 18 Nov. 1777. NDAR 10: 529.

3. DNA, PCC, Report of the Marine Committee, 8 Jan. 1778 (M332, roll 6, fol. 30).

4. See NDAR 8: 223.

5. See Journal of the Continental Congress, 20 Mar., below.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EXPERIMENT*, CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE

Jan^y: 1778

Thursday 8th.

[Cape] Henlopen NWbN 473 Miles

AM at 3 Light Airs and Cloudy. ½ p^r: 7 Saw a Sail bearing WNW. we made Sail and Gave Chace, Sent a Boat onb^d: found her to be a Brig from Turks Island Bound to Bermudas Loaded with Salt. ¼ p^r: 9 made Sail ¼ p^r: 10 Saw a Sail bearing NWBW. which we take to be a Schooner. ½ p^r: 11 the Schooner Tacked and Hauld her Wind. at Noon the Chace bore NE 6 Miles—

Ditto NNW¾W 440 Miles

Fresh Gales and Cloudy W^r:

at 2 PM fired a Gun and brought too the Chace She proved to be a Sloop Named the *Morning Star* 5 days from Great Egg Harbour for Hispaniola with flour and Tobacco on Account of the Reble Congress¹ took 8 Men out of her, and sent 2 petty Officers and 8 Men On board her. at 4 made Sail the Sloop in Company. ½ p^r: 5 Close Reefed the Main & fore Topsail and Handed the Mizen D^o: the prize SBW 2 Miles.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/331, fol. 112.

1. Sloop *Morning Star*, Job Carr, master, from Great Egg Harbor to St. Eustatius, with flour and tobacco, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 30 October 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 485. She was libelled on 28 Jan. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and condemned on 20 Feb. 1778. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/93, 214 and 49/94, 19–20. Her prize papers give the master's name as Job Kerr and her destination as Curaçao. Ibid., 32/404/7.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Thursday the 8th day of January 1778.—

Ordered that Mr William Nicholson foreman at the Chickahominy shipyard be allowed ten shillings per day for his Labour.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 339.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *GALATEA*, CAPTAIN THOMAS JORDAN

Jan^{ry}: 1778

Thursd 8

d^o. [Charles Town] S 76° W 37 L^s.

at 12 [AM] Saw a Sail Gave Chace Fired 2 Shot & Bro^t too the Sch^r *Favorite* from S^t Cruize bound to Ocrecock Sam^l Smith Master^l at 5 Struck TGM Read the Articles of War & Punished. Hugh Murphy. Rob^t Trice & Cons^t. Driscole with 2 Dozⁿ. Each for Drunkeness & Neglect of duti

d^o S 55° W 30 L^s.

Strong Gales with Thunder Lightning & Rain—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4197.

1. Schooner *Favorite*, Samuel Smith, master, owned by D. George & Co. of St. Eustatius, a crew of eleven seamen, bound from St. Croix ("Santa Cruz") for North Carolina with salt, taken in lat. 33° 14', long. 76° 38', sent to St. Augustine. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [*Charleston*] Thursday 8th Jan^y 1777.¹ [1778]

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Edward Blake Esq^r: first Commissioner

Josiah Smith, Jn^o. Edwards, Edw^d Darrell, } Esq^{rs}—
Geo Ab^t Hall, Tho^s Savage Tho^s Corbett }

Captⁿ Sullivan² attended the Board and reported he had been on board the Ship *Gen^l Moultrie* & found the said Ship to be in his Opinion a Much fitter Vessel for the present Intended Expedition then the Ship *Volunteer*—And also thought she may be got ready for Sea Sooner than the *Volunteer*—

Adjourned to 4 oClock this afternoon—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 130.

1. Letters or numerals in italics are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.

2. Capt. Philip Sullivan.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [*Charleston*] Thursday afternoon 8th January 1778

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Edward Blake Esq^r: first Commissioner

Tho^s Corbett, Josiah Smith, Edward Darrell, } Esq^{rs}—
Tho^s Savage, Geo Ab^t Hall, John Edwards, }

A Letter to his Excellency the President¹

Navy Board 8th January 1778—

Sir/

This Board Yesterday Evening received a Letter from the Secretary of the prevy Council by your Excellency's Order informing them that Captⁿ Biddle² had resigned the Command of the Ship *Gen^l Moultrie* & desiring they would appoint a proper person to Command her—They beg Leave to acquaint your Excellency that upon enquiry of the Different Captains of the Vessels going upon the intended Expedition it appears to them impracticable that Men can be Obtained sufficient to Compleat the Complement for the Three Briggs & the Two Ships, they have therefore applied to Captⁿ Sullivan to take the Command of the Ship *Gen^l Moultrie* with his Officers & Men, which he has agreed to do—They therefore recommend that the Ship *Volunteer* may be discharged from the Service, That Captⁿ Sullivan be appointed to the Command of & his Officers & Men turned over to the Ship *Gen^l Moultrie*—

By Order of the Board

Edward Blake first C[ommiss^r]

The Commissary³ of the Naval Department⁴ having informed [*the*] [*F*]irst Commissioner that he could not possibly get a Waggon to [*Ca*]rry Powder to Broughtons Battery, tho frequently applied for—the following Letter was wrote

Navy Board January 8th 1778—

Sir/

The Vessels are in want of their powder to take on board this Evening or in the Morning, the Commissary has Informed the Board he Cannot possibly get a Waggon to Carry it to Wilkins's fort (unless it can be done they will be under the Necessity of Applying to the president, or the Vessels must wait) they therefore beg that you will Order one on that Service Immediately—by Order of the board

Edw^d Blake first Commiss^rTo Mich^l Kaltiesen Esq^r—⁵A Letter to Captⁿ. James Doharty—Navy Board 8th Janr^y 1778—Captⁿ. James Doharty

Sir/

By M^r. Henry Talbert you will receive Two Thousand Pounds, out of which You'll please pay the Men belonging to the *Beaufort* Gally (to the time the pay Bill left with the Navy Board is made out) and take proper Vouchers for all the Money you pay—The remainder (after paying off the people belonging to the Gally) You'll please apply to the purchase of good pork for the use of the Naval Department

By order of the Board

Edward Blake first Commiss^r

You'll please Observe that all pay Bills, and Other Accounts delivered against the Public must be Attested—

Orders were drawn on the Treasury in favour of

Captⁿ. James Doharty for the use of the*Beaufort* GallyEdward Taylor for 37^C & 3^{qrs} of Iron for the use of
the Naval Department—a £50 [Ⓟ] C^t }

£2000 ———

1887..10

—————
£3887..10—

Adjourned to Tomorrow Evening 6 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 130–32.

1. John Rutledge.
2. Capt. Charles Biddle of Philadelphia. See *Journal of the South Carolina Navy Board*, 7 Jan., above.
3. Letters in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the *Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina*, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.
4. Elisha Sawyer.
5. Wagonmaster General of South Carolina.

THE SOUTH-CAROLINA AND AMERICAN GENERAL GAZETTE,
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1778

CHARLESTOWN, January 8.

The *Carysfort*, Capt. Fanshaw, and *Perseus*, Capt. Elphinston, are still cruising in the neighbourhood of our bar. We cannot learn they have taken any prizes since our last, but a brig from Martinico, and a Bermudian sloop.¹

Capt Cross, in the letter of mart Brig *Bellona* richly laden, arrived on Sunday, in 7 weeks from Nantz together with the ship *Glorious Memory*, William Stewart, late master, bound from Antigua for St. U[b]es and Corke, which he took near Bermuda on the 9th of last month. Capt. Cross and his prize were chased almost all Saturday by the *Carysfort*, *Perseus* and a sloop, each of which fired several shot at him.²

When Capt. Cross left France, every preparation, indicating an approaching rupture, continued to be made. He informs, that the *Alexander*, Blundell;³ the *Porgey*, Willis; and the *Mary*, Todd, from this port for France; and the *Lexington* privateer, Capt. Johnson,⁴ with some other American vessels, had been taken by the enemy's cruizers; and that the *Cæsar*, Moncrieff, from this port for Amsterdam, was lost in the Texel.

Capt. Clement Conyers, jun. lately arrived here from St. Eustatius, informs us, that being commander of the sloop *Owner's Delight*, belonging to this port, he was taken in the night of the 6th of November last by Hugh Stevenson, of Antigua, in the schooner *Revenge*, mounting 8 carriage and 8 swivel guns, fitted out and commanded by himself, who carried him into St. Christopher's. Mr. James Anderson, of this place, was on board the *Owner's Delight* as part owner and supercargo; by his letters, and from Capt. Conyers's account we learn, that they received the most polite and humane usage from Capt. Stevenson, as well as from his first Lieutenant, Mr. Whipple: Their treatment of them was so uncommonly kind and generous, that they cannot help desiring this account may be published.

Last night Capt. Horn of the brig *Minerva*,⁵ arrived in town. He left Providence, in Rhode Island, on the night of Dec. 24, and on Friday last at 8 o'clock in the morning, a little to the southward of Cape Fear, fell in with a British frigate, an armed brig, and an armed sloop. The weather being very calm, the frigate sent her barge, having a swivel in her bow, and all her crew armed, to Capt. Horn's vessel, which having no guns, the captain and crew, in all eight persons, took to their boat, and arrived at Long Bay on the next morning.—

1. Sloop *Hetty*, David Tims, master, from Bermuda to Charleston. See *NDAR* 10: 835, 836n.

2. See *Journal of H.M.S. Perseus*, 3 Jan., above.

3. Ship *Alexander*, Thomas Blandell [Blundell], master, taken by H.M.S. *Enterprize* in the Bay of Biscay. See *NDAR* 10: 911.

4. Continental Navy brigantine *Lexington*, Capt. Henry Johnson, commander, was taken by H.M. cutter *Alert* on 19 Sept. 1777. See *NDAR* 9: 651–52.

5. Brig *Minerva*, John Horne, master, 30 tons burthen, mounting no guns, a crew of six men, bound for South Carolina, with a cargo of 67 bushel barrels of cider, 60 bushels of apples and 300 bushels of potatoes, cleared from Providence on 18 Nov. 1777. R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Outward and Inward Entries, 1776–1787.

PAY ABSTRACT OF THE MEN ON BOARD CONTINENTAL ARMED BOAT *RATTLE TRAP*

Pay Abstract of the following Men sent on Command with Cap^t. James Willing on board the Continental arm'd Boat *Rattle Trap* destined for New Orleans from the Date of their respective Enlistments untill the 8th Day of January 1778—

Mens Names	Company	Regiment	Commencing	Ending	
Daniel Whitacre Corp ^l	Cap ^t . Harrison ¹	13 Vir ^a . Reg ^t	1776 Dec. 25	1778 Jan. 8 th	£34. 7. 6
John Walker	"	"	1777 Jan ^y 1st.	D ^o	30.13. 4
Leven Sprigg Corp ^l	"	"	1776 Decem. 28	D ^o	34. 2. 0
Richard Murray	"	"	1777 Jan ^y 22	D ^o	29.—.—
John Ash	"	"	Feb ^y 20 th .	D ^o	26. 8. 4
John Henwood	"	"	Jan ^y 1st	D ^o	30.18. 4
Lawrence Kenan	"	"	Feb ^y 7	D ^o	27.13. 4
Solomon Walker	"	"	July 1 st	D ^o	15.13. 4
Nicholas Walker	"	"	D ^o	D ^o	15.13. 4
Jacob Wheat	"	"	March 4	D ^o	25. 8. 4
James Taylor	"	"	Jan ^y 9	D ^o	30.—.—
Marcus Foley	"	"	Dec ^r . 8	D ^o	2.10.—
Lazarus Ryne	"	"	Feb ^y 1	D ^o	28. 3. 4
Philip Hup	"	"	Jan ^y 2	D ^o	30.11. 8
Richard Roddy	"	Jan ^y "	Jan ^y 21	D ^o	29. 1. 8
Nathaniel Kennison	"	"	March 7 th 1776	D ^o	25. 3. 4
Henry Hoyt. Corp ^l	Cap ^t . Scotts ²	"	Dec ^r . 19	D ^o	34.18. 4
Henry Hawk	"	"	May 19 to Oct ^r . 24	—	17. 5.—
John Marney. serg ^t	Cap ^t . McCormacks ³	"	Nov ^r . 19 D ^o . —Jan ^y . 8	D ^o	37. 8.—
Thomas Love Corp ^l	"	"	Decem ^r 26 th Feb ^y 9	D ^o	30. 5.—
				Amo ^t . Carried forward—	£534.19. 2

Copy, D, PHarH, Records of the Comptroller General.

1. Capt. Benjamin Harrison.
2. Capt. David Scott.
3. Capt. George McCormick.

LIEUTENANT DE VAISSEAU MARQUIS DE VERDUN DE LA CRENNE
TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

a Bord de la *Renommée* en rade du port au prince
le 8 janvier 1778

Monseigneur

j'ai l'honneur de vous rendre compte que j'ai mouillé en cette rade le 2 de ce mois, pour y prendre des vivres pour mon equipage; n'en ayant plus que jusqu'au six de ce mois; les vivres que lon doit m'envoyer de france ne sont point encor arrivés et monsieur l'intendant ni moi n'avons encor rien aucunes nouvelles a cet egard, mais lon a pris le parti de me donner deux mois de vivres, que lon a pris sur ceux qui ont été envoyés pour la *boudeuse*, et que lon remplacera par une egalle quantité de ceux que lon envoyer pour la *Renommée*. j'espere être prêt a mettre a la voile demain au soir pour aller continuer ma croisiere sur le mole s^t nicolas—

je n'ai rien rencontré d'interessant dans ma derniere croisiere sur le mole s^t nicolas, que deux bricks anglais le 22 de decembre—lun nommé le *Badger* de 16 canons commandé par m^r *everitt* ayant le grade de master and commander ce qui equivant au grade de capitaine de fregate;¹ lautre le *loëstoff's prise* commandé par m^r jordan lieutenant de vaisseau² partis l'un et l'autre de La jamaïque le 12 de decembre je leur ai signifié a l'ordinaire que je ne souffrirais pas qui le etablis- sent leur croisiere pres de nos côtes et je les ai accompagnés depuis le cap a foux jusqu'a 10 lieuës au nord nordouest du mole s^t nicolas ou je rencontraï la fregate la *dédaigneuse* qui croise ainsi que moi dans ce parage j'ai l'honneur d'être avec respect Monseigneur [&c.]

Verdun de La Crenne.

[Translation]

on Board the *Renommée* in the road of Port-au-Prince
the 8th January 1778

My Lord

I have the honor to report to you that I anchored in this road on the 2nd of this month, to take in provisions for my crew, not having enough to last beyond the 6th of this month; the provisions to be sent to me from France have not yet arrived, and neither the Intendant nor I have yet received any news in this regard, but he has decided that he will give me two month's provisions from those which had been sent out for the *Boudeuse* and that they will be replaced with an equal quantity from those to be sent for the *Renommée*. I hope to be ready to sail tomorrow evening to continue my cruise off Mole Saint-Nicolas.

I met with nothing of interest on my last cruise off Mole Saint-Nicolas, except two English brigs on the 22nd of December: one named the *Badger* of 16 guns commanded by Mr. Everitt, having the rank of master and commander which is equivalent to capitaine de fregate;¹ the other the *Lowestoffe's Prize* commanded by Mr. Jordan, lieutenant,² both having sailed from Jamaica on the 12th of December I signified to them that I would not tolerate their cruising near our coast, and I accompanied them from Cap-à-Foux as far as 10 leagues to the north northwest of Mole Saint-Nicolas, where I met the frigate *Dédaigneuse*, who was also cruising in this latitude as was I. I have the honor to be with respect My Lord [&c.]

Verdun de La Crenne.

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fol. 204. Notation at top: "M Verdun de La Crenne./."

1. Lt. Michael John Everitt.
2. Lt. Charles Jordan.

EXTRACT FROM THE JOURNAL OF FRENCH NAVY FRIGATE *TOURTERELLE*,
CAPITAINE DE VAISSEAU FRANÇOIS, CHEVALIER DE LA LAURENCIE

[*Marie-Galante*] Le 8 J'ai mis à la voile dans le Canal de la Dominique, [il] y avait un Corsaire Anglais que j'ai aperçu courir sur un de nos batteaux allant à la Martinique, j'ai été à leur rencontre et ayant approché à portée de la voix le Corsaire, je lui ai déclaré que je m'opposerais à cequ'il vistitat aucun bâtiment en ma présence il a fait route sur le champ pour le Roseau.¹

Les courans portant bas, je suis venu du côté de St^e Pierre et du Fort Royal.

[Translation]

[*Marie-Galante*] On January 8 I sailed into the Dominica Passage; there was there an English privateer that I had seen chase one of our boats going to Martinique. I was at their encounter and having approached the privateer within speaking distance, I declared to him that I would oppose his searching any ship in my presence; he immediately sailed for Roseau.¹

The currents carrying us down, I came along the coast from St. Pierre to Fort Royal.

Copy, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fol. 87. "Extrait du Journal de la campagne La *Tourterelle*."

1. Marginal notation: "Départ."

January 9

CAPTAIN SIR GEORGE COLLIER, R.N., TO THOMAS COMPTON

N^o. 1/

By Sir George Collier Commander
of his Majestys Ship *Rainbow*, Senior
Officer in the Harbor of Halifax &
having the Direction of His Majestys
Ships and Vessells employed on the
Coasts of Nova Scotia New England &c

You are to proceed to Sea under the Convoy of his Majesty's arm'd Brig *Cabot*,¹ taking the strictest Care not to part Company, but to keep as near her as the Wheather will admit of, in the Station allotted you by Lieutenant Dod²—

You are to Victual the Rebel Prisoners at two Thirds the Allowance granted by his Majesty to the Seamen of His Navy, the Quantity to be allow'd them will be exhibited in a Paper given you with these Orders—

In case of parting Company with the Convoy, You are to proceed immediately to Rhode Island where you are to Acquaint the Commanding Officer of the Kings Ships there of your Arrival, and receive his Orders for your further proceedings

Given on board His Majestys
Ship *Rainbow* in the Harbor of
Halifax the 9th: January 1778—

Geo Collier

Council Chamber Boston Feb^y 23^d 1778

A True Copy

Attest. Jn^o: Avery D^y Sec^y

Copy, M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 8 (Various—Charter Parties—Relating to Prisoners), p. 77. Addressed at foot: "To/M^r: Thomas Compton/Master of the/*Royal Bounty* Cartel." Docketed: "Copys of Papers/Instructions &c from/S^r: Collier to Cap^t/Compton of the *Royall/Bounty*."

1. See Master's Journal of H.M. Brig *Cabot*, 12–13 and 14 Jan., below.
2. Lt. Edmund Dod, R.N.

JOHN BRADFORD TO THOMAS MORRIS AND WILLIAM LEE

Gentlemen,

Boston 9th Jan. 1778

This serves to inclose the Invoice & Bill of Loading for a Cargo shipp'd on Board the Brig *Tryton*¹ Peter Collis² by Order of the Commercial Committee of Congress to your Address which I wish safe to hand and to a good Markett, the Seed is of the best Quality & excellently well cleans'd, the Ash is also of the best Quality. I expected to have got this Vessell away a Month before but have been detain'd by Want of Seamen, you will please to advance the Cap^t £22..7 Stg to pay four Men whom I am obliged to pay hard Money. You have also Bills Loading for Eleven Tons of very clean chipp'd Logwood which goes on my own Account if you have shipp'd me any Tea by Cap^t Harris of the *Pacquet*,³ you will pay yourselves and ship the Amount of the Wood in the best Bohea Tea, excepting a small Chest of Hyson. the Committee mentions nothing more respecting the Disposal of the Brig & Cargo than that you are to dispose of the Cargo to the best Advantage and apply the Proceeds as directed by them and to load the Vessell with Salt, & send her back immediately to this Port. We have no News of Importance—Burgoin with his Army remain in the Vicinity of the Town very harmless Neighbours how long they may remain here is uncertain, having nothing material to add, I salute with the Compliments of the Season & am yours

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 106. Addressed at foot: "Mess^{rs}: Morris & Lee." On 10 Jan. Bradford wrote Morris and Lee requesting that they advance to Capt. Peter Collas £80 for his primage and to allow him 3s. 4d. for his daily expenses. PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 47, no. 99. Primage is a small payment made by shippers to the captain of a ship for his special care of their goods.

1. Brig *Triton*, taken by Washington's Fleet schooners, *Hancock*, Samuel Tucker, commander, and *Franklin*, John Skimmer, commander, in Nov. 1776. See *NDAR* 7: 104, 105, 137, 139, 141n, 906, 1014, 1058.

2. Peter Collas.

3. Massachusetts Navy trading brigantine *Penet*, John Harris, commander.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston, Jan^y: 9th: 1778—

Order'd, That the Ship *Johnson*¹ be sold Cap^t Williams² with her Appurtenances agreeable to Inventory at £4050..—.—

(Prize Acco^t)

Order'd, That M^r Com^y Devens³ deliver Cap^t Chapman⁴ for Brig^t *Nantz*:⁵ —

600^{hd} Bread,

½^{Cwt} Sugar—

½ B^l Flour

12^{lb} Coffee—

½^{Cwt} Rice

20^{lb} Butter—

4 Barrels Beef	1 Gallon Oil—
2 d ^o . Pork	1 Box Candles—
1 Quintal Fish	15 G ^{lls} . N ^c Eng ^d Rum
20 Bushels Potatoes	
1 Bushel Beans	

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins⁶ deliver Cap^t Chapman for Brig^t *Nantz* . . . ½
Chaldron Sea Coal—

Order'd, That Rob^t Pierpont⁷ Esq^r pay M^r Ivers⁸ for Hire of Brig^t *Favorite*⁹ from
August 26th. to Oct^r 26th. 1777—

two Months . . . @ £87..10/. P^r Month £175..—..—

also, for the same Vessel employ'd

as a Cartel 2 Months . . . @ £195..— 390..—..—

£565..—..—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 156-59.

1. British letter of marque ship *Johnson* was captured by the Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*, the Massachusetts privateer schooner *Active* and the Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Speedwell* on 18 July 1777. See NDAR 9: 862, 867; 10: 15, 105-6, 470.

2. George Williams.

3. David Devens, commissary general for the Board of War.

4. Capt. Joseph Chapman.

5. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.

6. Caleb Hopkins.

7. Former Massachusetts Commissary of Prisoners.

8. Thomas Ivers.

9. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., TO JOHN BRADFORD

Sir

Boston 9th Jan^y 1778

I rec^d the Accounts sent me bearing date 7th Jan^y 1778.¹—it is easier to imagine, than to describe my surprize at receiving them in so loose a manner—permitt me, to ask you, if you think the State of Connecticut, together with the Officers and People of the *Defence* are to be put off with a loose C^t of neat proceeds &^c of the several Vessells taken?²—As it is but just, in behalf of the State, I now demand an Account of all the Stores taken taken in the *George*, *Annabella*, and *Lord How*.²—together with an account of the several disposals, of the Stores so taken, or (if so order'd by my constituents) the Stores themselves, as they were convey'd away not only without my consent, but contrary to my express order, as Witness Francis Dana Esq^r and Major Chase—

The Arms, Ammunition and Warlike Stores I do not mean to include in the above, as they were sent to his Excellency Gen^l Washington, only so farr as to have a regular account of the appraisement &c

I observe the accounts are clos'd, the Porterage and many other charges arising in unloading the *George* & *Lord How* were paid by me, and I think cannot be included in the Settlement—The Charge of Commission is a matter I shall say nothing about at present.—I shall transmitt your accounts to his Excellency Gov^r Trumbull by the first safe Conveyance I remain [&c.]

Sam Eliot J

Copy

Copy, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 9, p. 233. Addressed at foot: "John Bradford Esq^r/favord by Cap^t Parker." Capt. Timothy Parker commanded Connecticut Navy ship *Oliver Cromwell*.

1. See John Bradford's Account of Sundries Supplied Connecticut Navy Ship *Defence*, 7 Jan., and John Bradford's Account for Prizes of the Connecticut State Navy, 7 Jan., above.

2. For more on *Defence's* role in the capture of *George*, *Annabella* and *Lord Howe*, see NDAR 5: 563, 576, 618-19, 619-20.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *JUNO*, CAPTAIN HUGH DALRYMPLE

January 1778
Friday 9

NE point of B^k: Isl^d:1 SbE 3 or 4 miles

A.M. watch Hill NW 1 Mile, TK^d ship Saw a Sail to the Southward gave Chace at 11 spoke with a Snow,² she prov'd to be a frenchman, took 22 men out of her, sent 2^d: Lieut and a Patty Officer & 9 men On board, y^c: Snow waring Round, she fell on our L^d: Q^r: & carried away Our driver Yd and boom—

South End of Block Island NEbE 3 leagues—

D^o: W^r: [Fresh Gales and hazy w^r:] PM saw a Sail to the NE got the Spare Fore topsail yd across for a driver Boom—hauld up the Courses and lowerd the topsails for the Snow at 4 passd by his Maj^{ty}: Ship *Rose*, at 5 spoke with an Armd Sloop *York* from R. Island, sent a boat on b^d: of her ½ p^t: 5 Light House³ NEbN 3 or 4 miles dist—at ½ p^t: 7 anchor'd in 15 ½ fths with Small Bower in⁴ & veerd ½ Cable, Found Rid^g: Here his Majestys Ship *Eagle*, Visc^t Howe (Admiral of the White &c. (*Bristol*) S^r: P^r: Parker, R^r: Admiral of the Blue, *Chatham* (*Nonsuch*, *Reasonable*, *Somerset*, *Brune*) *Amason*, *Solebay Unicorn* and a Number of Transp^{ts}:—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4229.

1. Block Island.

2. Snow *David*, from Nantes to New London, with arms, clothing, cordage &c., was taken on 9 Jan. off Long Island and was sent into Rhode Island as a prize of the *Juno*. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486. Her master was Jean David according to her prize papers. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/303/4.

3. Rhode Island Lighthouse at Beaver Tail Point.

4. Blank in manuscript.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, JAN. 9, 1777 [1778]."

"The city has lately been entertained with a most astonishing instance of the activity, bravery and military skill of the royal navy of Great Britain. The affair is somewhat particular, and deserves your notice. Some time last week two boys observed a keg of a singular construction, floating in the river opposite to the city, they got into a small boat, and attempting to take up the keg, it burst with a great explosion, and blew up the unfortunate boys.¹ On Monday last several kegs of a like construction made their appearance²—An alarm was immediately spread through the city—Various reports prevailed; filling the city and the royal troops with consternation. Some reported that these kegs were filled with armed rebels; who were to issue forth in the dead of night, as the Grecians did of old from their wooden



David Bushnell

horse at the siege of Troy, and take the city by surprise; asserting that they had seen the points of their bayonets through the bung-holes of the kegs. Others said they were charged with the most inveterate combustibles, to be kindled by secret machinery, and setting the whole Delaware in flames, were to consume all the shipping in the harbour; whilst others asserted that they were constructed by art magic, would of themselves ascend the wharfs in the night time, and roll all flaming thro' the streets of the city, destroying every thing in their way.—Be this as it may—Certain it is that the shipping in the harbour, and all the wharfs in the city were fully manned.—The battle began, and it was surprizing to behold the incessant blaze that was kept up against the enemy, the kegs. Both officers and men exhibited the most unparalleled skill and bravery on the occasion; whilst the citizens stood gazing as solemn witnesses of their prowess. From the *Roebuck* and other ships of war, whole broadsides were poured into the Delaware. In short, not a wandering chip, stick, or drift log, but felt the vigour of the British arms. The action began about sun-rise, and would have been compleated with great success by noon, had not an old market woman coming down the river with provisions, unfortunately let a small keg of butter fall over-board, which (as it was then ebb) floated down to the scene of action. At sight of this unexpected reinforcement of the enemy, the battle was renewed with fresh fury—the firing was incessant till the evening closed the affair. The kegs were either totally demolished or obliged to fly, as none of them have shewn their *heads* since. It is said his Excellency Lord Howe has dispatched a swift sailing packet with an account of this victory to the court of London. In a word, Monday, the 5th of January, 1778, must ever be distinguished in history, for the memorable BATTLE OF THE KEGS.”³

Pennsylvania Ledger: or the Philadelphia Market-Day Advertiser, 11 Feb. 1778.

1. For more on David Bushnell's experiment with floating kegs, see *NDAR* 6: 1507.

2. Monday, 5 Jan., the alleged date of the Battle of the Kegs.

3. This account, which was published under a Burlington, N.J., 21 Jan., dateline, is attributed to writer and satirist Francis Hopkinson, as is a ballad based on the event, “The Battle of the Kegs,” 4 Mar., below. Moses Coit Tyler, *The Literary History of the American Revolution* (New York: G. P. Putnam, 1897), 148.

ABRAHAM VAN BIBBER TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Dear Sir

Baltimore 9th January 78

M^r Crockett has Agreeable to yr Desier ingaged Captⁿ Roggers¹ to take the Command of the Schooner² you proposed giving him—this will be Delivered to you by Captⁿ William M^cFadden whome I have A verry good opinion of, he has A desier to gett into A good boat I have Advised him to yr servis & mentioned the boat *Dolphin*³ to him & to go too Martineque. If you will send her wi^t orders to be sold I will give A good price for her there—or if you will sell her here I would give A good price for her here, if you incline to send her & its not Convenient to load & Dispatch her from Annapoles I would Render you any servis in that way from here, I am exseedingly sorry the Ship *Defence* is to be Sold here, for gods Saike if in yr power prevent it. my hopes has long been that that Ship would pay the States debt in the westinges. My p^r [*partner*]⁴ sais he maid severrell proposels that he thought and intended would tend towards paying that Debt. Viz that he would hold A part of any of yr Vessells & Dispatch them &^c—but that you informed him naught

could be don in that way, nor could he learn of Any thing intended to be sent out but the *Lidia* & Schooner, that Ship I beleve you will join me in opinion will not gett out while those times hold—you will not I hope think me troblesum or Empatient w^t out Suffitient cause & I know of no other then yr Self to Adress myself concerning this busness, I thought while I was in Annapoless that it was the most ardent wish & intention of the Assembly to have that Debt paid, and still hope you have sum Ledgeable Sceem in adjitation that will Affect it—I am [&c.]

Abm. Van Bibber

P S A sloop in sight Said to be from S^t Martains w^t A load of salt & goods if She has A news Extranerry will forward it to you

yr^s A V B

L, MdAA, Maryland States Paper (Red Books), S 989, 4585-37. Addressed: "His Excell^y Thomas Johnson Esq^r/Annapoless." Docketed: "9 Jan^y 1778/Abraham Vanbibber." Notation below address reads: "the Sloop Mentioned w^t in is from Corroso [*Curaçao*] w^t 2000 bushels of Salt & Dry goods, this is her 3^d Voige w^t Salt w^t in 12 mounths & now her Cargo is worth £40000, from no Capite in A maner."

1. Capt. John Rogers, Maryland Navy.
2. Maryland State trading schooner *General Smallwood*.
3. Possibly Maryland Navy schooner *Dolphin*.
4. Either Benjamin or John Crockett, Maryland merchants and privateer owners.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Friday the 9th day of January 1778.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Benjamin Carter Waller for the use of Thomas Whiting esq^r for forty three pounds fifteen shillings, for the use of Jn^o. Hutchings esq^r for fifty two pounds fifteen shillings, for the use of Edward Archer esq^r for fifty four pounds seventeen shillings and six pence, and for the Use of Warner Lewis esq^r for thirty three pounds fifteen shillings for their Attendance as members of the Navy Board from the second day of November 1777, to the ninth of January 1778 inclusive.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board, 339.

CAPTAIN WILLIS WILSON TO GOVERNOR RICHARD CASWELL

Sir, Edenton [*N.C.*] 9th. Janry 1778.

I waited on the Virginia Navy Board some time past, and informed them the impossibility of getting men for the *Caswell*, at the pay they limited me to, which is twenty dollars bounty, & half a dollar per day, provided they ship for three years.¹ They informed me it was not in their power to advance the pay, & instructed me to follow such orders as I might receive from your Excellency from time to time. I think proper to acquaint your Excellency that the merchants give such exorbitant pay for seamen, that it's entirely out of my power to procure them at the price above mentioned.

your Excellency's orders how to act, shall be strictly attended to by your mo. Ob. hble. Servet.

Wilis Wilson.²

LB, Nc-Ar, Governors Letter Books I.1, Gov. Richard Caswell Letter Book, 1775–1779, p. 404. Addressed at the foot: "Gov: Caswell."

1. For pay authorized by the North Carolina Senate, see *NDAR* 10: 802.
2. Capt. Willis Wilson, of Portsmouth, Va., commanding Virginia Navy galley *Caswell*.

THE NORTH-CAROLINA GAZETTE, FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 1778

NEWBERN, January 9, 1778.

Since our last arrived here the schooner *Rachel*, Captain Smith, from Martinico; by whom, and by several other vessels from thence, we have an account, that Capt. Ord,¹ in the *Retaliation* privateer,² belonging to one of the northern states, has taken the *Lord Howe* privateer, of 16 guns,³ and carried her into Martinico; also that Capt. Monro,⁴ in a privateer belonging to Rhode-Island,⁵ had engaged, off Antigo, a large Jamaica ship of 20 guns, and would have taken her, but by some accident she blew up, and but three men were saved out of her whole compliment.

1. Capt. George Ord.
2. Pennsylvania privateer brig *Retaliation*.
3. See *NDAR* 10: 732.
4. Capt. James Munro.
5. Rhode Island privateer ship *Blaze Castle*.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [*Charleston*] Friday 9th Jan^y 1778.

The Board Met According to Adjournment¹

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commiss^r— . .
 Tho^s Savage, Tho^s Corbett, Edward Darrell } Esq^{rs}—
 Josiah Smith, John Edwards }

The Board agreed that Five Hundred pounds should be paid to the Pursers of the *Gen^l Moultrie*, *Polly*, & *Fair American*, to provide Stores for the Captains & Officers of said Vessells—

Agreed to deliver the Ship *Volunteer* to the Owners and Direct the Commissary² to receive all the Stores supplied the Said Ship—And that the first Commissioner do write a Letter of thanks to the Owners of said Ship—

The first Commissioner Accordingly wrote the following Letter

Navy Board Charles Town Jan^y 9th 1778

Gentlemen

The Navy Board finding it impracticable to man all the Vessels Intended for the Expedition against the British Men of War now Cruizing on the Coast, have resolved to discharge the Ship *Voluntier*, and deliver her with her Stores to the Owners—I am also desired to return you the thanks of the Board for your very Public Spirit in so readily offering the said Ship *Volunteer* for the Service of the State—

I am Respectfully Gent^l—
 Your Most Obed^t Serv^t—
 Edward Blake first Commiss^r

To the Gentlemen Owners
 of the Ship *Volunteer*— —

Adjourned to Tomorrow Evening 6 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 132.

1. Words or parts of words in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.
 2. Elisha Sawyer.

ORDER BOOK OF 1ST SOUTH CAROLINA REGIMENT

[Headquarters, Charleston]

[Extract]

Orders by Major Scott¹ Jan^y: 9th: 1778 Cap^t Drayton² Cap^t for the Day tomorrow, Lieu^{ts}. Williamson³ and Weatherly⁴ for Duty tomorrow, Lieu^t Clifford for the Barrack Guard tomorrow.—

Gen^l Orders, Parole Putnam—

one Cap^t one Subaltern 1 Serj^t. & 29 Rank and file from Col^l. Roberte's Reg^t⁵ to hold themselves in Readiness to go on Board some of of the Vessels in this State now preparing for the Navy Expedition⁶. . . .

LB, ScHi, Regimental Order Book of Captain Saunders, 1777–1783 (call no. 34/217). Roger Parker Saunders (Sanders) was a captain in the 1st South Carolina Continental Regiment.

1. Maj. William Scott, 1st South Carolina Continental Regiment.
2. Capt. Charles Drayton, 4th South Carolina Continental Regiment.
3. Probably Lt. John Williamson, 1st South Carolina Continental Regiment.
4. Lt. Isaac Weatherly, 1st South Carolina Continental Regiment.
5. Col. Owen Roberts, commanding the 4th South Carolina Continental Regiment.
6. South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie* and brigantines *Notre Dame*, *Fair American* and *Polly*, which were ordered to join Continental Navy frigate *Randolph* on a cruise.

GOVERNOR MARQUIS DE BOUILLÉ TO GOVERNOR VALENTINE MORRIS

A La Martinique le 9 Janvier 1778

Monsieur

J'ai reçu la lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, relativement à deux réclamations, dont l'une pour des prétendus prisonniers anglais que vous dites être détenues aux fers, dans nos prisons, après l'avoir été à bord des bati-mens americains par lesquels ils ont été pris Je ne pue faire droit à une parielle réclamation qui porte à faux, puisqu'il n'existe et ne peut exister d'autres prison-niers anglais qui ceux qui le sont, ou par les decrets de la justice, conformément à nos loix, et Sur lesquels Je n'ai aucun droit, ou ceux qui le sont par mes ordres pour des faits de police et à l'égard desquels Je me ferai un plaisir d'user d'indul-gence, d'après la recommandation de votre Excellence le porteur de votre lettre vous dira comme moi, que c'est Sans fondement qu'on vous a engagé aporter des parielles plaintes.

Vous me faites l'honneur de me renouvelés vos plaintes sur la protection que Je donne aux americains, ou rebelles comme vous voudrez les nommés, elle n'est autre aussi que J'ai eû l'honneur de vous le mander plusieurs fois, que celle que nous devons à tous les peuples et que le droit des gens nous empeche de leur refuser. J'ai fait connaitre a Me[ssrs.] les Gouverneurs anglais, lors de mon arrivés dans cette Colonie, les principes de conduite que Je tiendrais dans la Circonstance actuelle, conformément à ceux adoptés par ma Cour, et Je ne m'en suis pas écarté.

J'ai donné ordres au Gouverneurs de St Lucie de faire chercher le batiment que vous me marquez avoir été pris par les americains, et de faire droit à votre Excellence réclamation si ce batiment est découvert¹

J'ai L'honneur d'être avec une haute Estime et parfaite consideration, &c^a.

/Signed/

Le Marq: De Bouillie

[Translation]

Sir

At Martinique the 9 January 1778

I have received the letter your Excellency did me the honor of writing, concerning two claims, one of which was for the so-called English prisoners who, you say, are being held in irons, in our prisons, after having been held on board American ships by whom they had been seized. I cannot accede to such a claim, which is irrelevant, since there does not exist, and cannot exist any English prisoners other than those already being held, either by order of a court, in conformity with our laws, and over whom I have no jurisdiction, or those who are prisoners by my orders for police action, and with regard to whom it would be a pleasure for me to exercise leniency, according to your Excellency's recommendation, the bearer of your letter will tell you, as I would, that it is without foundation that you were encouraged to submit such claims.

You do me the honor of renewing your complaints regarding the protection I give the Americans, or rebels as you are wont to call them. It is no different from what I have had the honor of reporting to you several times, that it is the same protection we owe all people and which the law of nations prevents us from denying. I informed the English Governors, upon my arrival in this Colony, the principles of conduct that I would adhere to in this present situation, conforming to those adopted by my Court, and I have not deviated from them.

I have issued orders to the Governor of St. Lucia to have a search made for the ship you indicate to me has been seized by the Americans and to accede to your claim if this ship is found.¹

I have The honor to be with high Esteem and perfect respect, &^a

/Signed/

The Marq: De Bouillie

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 260/5, fol. 73. Notation: "January the 9th & 13th. Copy of Marquis de Bouillie & Commandant Laperieres letters to/General Morris on his reclamation/of a vessell belonging to St Vincent.—" Docketed: "In Gov^r. Morris's of/15th Jan^y 1778./ (2.)." Enclosure no. 2 in Governor Valentine Morris to Lord George Germain, 15 Jan., below.

1. St. Vincent provision sloop *Two Friends*. See Governor Valentine Morris to Governor Marquis de Bouillé, 3 Jan., above.

January 10

MAJOR GENERAL EYRE MASSEY TO GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE

[Extract]

Sir,

Halifax 10th January 1778

The delay of the *Cabot* obliges me to be again troublesome to you.

... I have ordered three sloops and a schooner, with coals to go with this convoy¹ which have been ready to sail for eight and twenty days; & would have sent you more, could I have got vessels.

I beg you will not suffer any Contracts to be made for Coals, without my knowing of it first: as there are proposals going from this, that will not answer.

At this time there are twelve hundred Chaldrons dug up, which Captain Clarke will ship at the same rate he has done.

I think it necessary to inform your Excellency, that the Pyrates² which have done all the mischief on the Coast of this Province, appear as fishing boats, and have concealed arms: and all the Sea Officers have said, that Lord Howe has desir'd, that they shall not be molested: for they take the Merchantmen, which the Ships of War speedily retake: in this situation appear'd the Pyrate which the *Gage* lately took.³

This, please to keep to yourself, as I got this intelligence from the Master of the *Gage*, who is the best Pilot for the Eastern Coast, as well as Guide, in case of a landing; and whom I have found faithfull upon all occasions. . . .

Eyre Massey

L, UKLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 7, no. 861.

1. H.M. brig *Cabot's* convoy which arrived at Newport on 21 Jan. Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 237.

2. Massachusetts privateers.

3. See *NDAR* 10: 696, and Major General Eyre Massey to General Sir William Howe, 2 Jan., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *APOLLO*, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

January 1778.
Saturday 10

South part of Nantuc[ket] Shoal N 37 E 11 Lg^s
at 7 AM saw a Sail in the NE. made Sail and gave Chace, soon after saw another Sail to the Eastw^d. made the *Venus* Signal to Chace her, at 10 fired a Shot at the Chace, who brought too; A Brig¹ from Newberry Port in Ballast, bound to Maryland, took out her people, and put a petty Officer and 6 men on board her, repeated the *Venus* Signal to Chace to the E^t at noon made Sail, and gave chace to the Sail in the East. *Venus* & Prize in Company.

South part of Saint George's Bank

N 74 E dist. 15 Leag^s.

Fresh Gales and hazey. 4 PM finding we did not near the Chace, She being near the Shoals and Night coming on, left of[*f*] chace and wore to the East^d.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 2.

1. Brig *Friends*, Hugh Hill, master, owned by Stephen Hooper, from Newburyport to Maryland, in ballast, taken on 10 Jan. near St. Georges Bank, later burned. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486. On 13 Jan. *Apollo's* Journal records: "[6] AM find the Prize a great incumbrance; sent our Boats on board her, and took out her Sails, Provisions &c^a and set her on fire." UKLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 2.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 10th 1778

Order'd, That M^r Ivers¹ pay George Williams Esq^r for sundry Expences going to Salem to divide Goods in Prize Brig^t *King George*,² as Pr Acc^t. . . . £16..12../.—

Order'd, That M^r Com^y Devens³ deliver Rich^d Derby Esq^r two peices Russia Duck in return for two p^s furnishd by him for the Brig^t *Massachusetts*.⁴—

Voted, That George Williams Esq^r be desir'd to proceed to Salem, & purchase the Brig^t *King George* upon the best Terms in his power.—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers pay Gibbins Sharp for Sundries

for Brig ^t <i>Favorite</i> ⁵ as Pr ^r Acc ^t .	£24..—..—
also for sundry Work &c ^c on board Brig ^t <i>Nantes</i> ⁶	44.. 8.. 4
& for Sundry work &c ^c on board Brig ^t <i>Massachusetts</i>	<u>78..17.. 4</u> <u>£147.. 5.. 8</u>

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 160–61.

1. Thomas Ivers.

2. Brigantine *King George* was taken by the Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts* on 8 Oct. 1777. See NDAR 10: 65, 65n.

3. David Devens.

4. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.

5. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

6. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.

GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL

(Copy—)

State of Rhode Island &c^c

Providence Janu^r 10. 1778—

Sir

Since I had the Honour of addressing your Excellency last Three Persons belonging to Salem made their escape from the Enemy's Fleet at Rhode Island who inform that Lord Howe arrived at Newport Harbour on Saturday last with a Fleet of 20 Sail of Transports including a Frigate¹—That there is at present in the Harbour of Newport 9 Ships of the Line² a Number of Frigates Ships & Sloops of Warr to the amount of Twenty Sail and 180 Transports Five of our People who were taken some time past on board a Privateer and carried into Newport Harbour were taken with the Smal Pox and put upon Coasters Harbour which is a smal Island a little North of Newport. they made their escape from that Place on Wednesday Night last they confirm the above account and add that for several Days before they made their escape the Enemy were collecting a large Number of Flatt Bottomed and other Boats between said Coastres Harbour and a Place called Coddingtons Cove—By other Intelligence we learn that the Enemy had selected out a Body of their best Troops in order to go on some private Expedition—that We are daily in expectation of their attempting some part of this State.—Thursday arrived of [f] Kinimicut Point³ about Six Miles below this Town a large Brig a Flagg of Truce with Cloathing for General Burgoins Army⁴ On Friday a Flagg return'd here⁵ which had been sent by General Spencer with the Paymaster of General Burgoin's Army for the Cloathing & she was stopd at the uper Ship and not sufferd to go within Twelve Miles of the Town of Newport which has not heretofore practised which induces us to believe the Accounts to be true—that preperations are making for some Expedition upon the main Land.—I need not mention to your Excellency the necessity of hasting your Troops forward—and haveing your Militia in readiness to assist us in case of need I am [&c.]

Nich^s. Cooke

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at bottom: "Gov^r. Trumbull—." The draft of this letter is at RHi, Rhode Island Historical Society Manuscripts, no. 540, vol. 3, 39. A similar letter to Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene, 13 Jan., is printed in *The Papers of General Nathanael Greene*, edited by Richard K. Showman, et al. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1980), 2: 256–58.

1. H.M. frigate *Brune*, convoying about 30 transports from the Delaware River, arrived on Friday, 2 Jan. H.M.S. *Eagle* with Vice Adm. Howe anchored in Newport harbor the same day. See Diary of Captain Frederick Mackenzie, 2 Jan., above.

2. The ships of the line in Newport harbor were H.M.S. *Eagle*, 64 guns, H.M.S. *Nonsuch*, 64 guns, H.M.S. *Somerset*, 64 guns, H.M.S. *Raisnable*, 64 guns, H.M.S. *Bristol*, 50 guns, H.M.S. *Chatham*, 50 guns, and the former ships of the line (now storeships) H.M.S. *Buffalo*, H.M.S. *Tortoise* and H.M.S. *Grampus*.

3. Conimicut Point.

4. A flag of truce brig with clothing for Gen. Burgoyne's army sailed from Newport for Providence on 6 Jan. It was under the charge of Lt. John Piper, assistant quartermaster general at Newport. Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 234.

5. This flag of truce arrived at Newport on Thursday, 8 Jan., with letters from Gen. Burgoyne. Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 234.

COMMANDER PHILIP BROWNE, R.N., TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL

Scorpion off New City Island [N.Y.]

Jan^y 10th. 1778

Pursuant to Orders from Commodore Hotham commanding His Majesty's Ships at New York, I do hereby give notice, that if any Flag of Truce be sent hereafter, from any part of the Main, to any part of Long Island, contrary to the notice already given of the Vice Admiral Lord Howe's intentions in that respect, the vessel bearing such Flag will be detain'd, and the Persons belonging to her treated as spies—

Philip Browne Captⁿ
of His Maj. Sloop
Scorpion

L, Ct, Jonathan Trumbull Papers, vol. 8, pp. 41e-f. Docketed: "10th Jan^y 1778/Cap^t Philip Browne of The/*Scorpion*—declaration/No Flaggs to Long-Island/Spies—/rec^d 18th. inst^a."

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO WILLIAM SMITH

William Smith Esq^r
Sir,

[York, Pa.] January 10th 1778

Two thousand Barrels flour & 100 Tons Iron is wanted to send to the Eastward for the use of the Navy—as flour hath become scarce and dear in the Jerseys and all that can be got there will be wanted for the Army, it is doubtful whether we can ensure that quantity to be delivered at Egg Harbour to be shipped on board Vessels to be sent from the Eastward, we desire your opinion whether that quantity cannot be procured on reasonable terms either in Maryland or Virginia contiguous to some secure port on the Eastern Shore where vessels can come to & return from without danger from the enemy if it can we desire your advice who to employ for that purpose and shall order vessels accordingly.—We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 120 (M332, roll 6).

CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

Gentlemen

York [Pa.] Jan^y 10th 1778

Having been Ordered to attend Congress to answer a Complaint of the Navy Board,¹ I now beg leave to lay before your Honors the following Facts, which I can prove, and which I hope will set my conduct in a fairer point of view in the Eyes of your Honors than in that which the Navy Board have placed it.

On or about the 24th of November last² I received an order from the Board desiring a Return of the men on Board my Ship the *Effingham*, which I instantly complied with. Two or three days afterward verbal orders came ~~from the Board~~ to white Hill, for Captain Read and myself to attend the Board at Bordenton immediately—this we complied with travelling two miles in the midst of a heavy Rain

Having waited on M^r Hopkinson he gave orders in writing to prepare our Ships immediately for Sinking or Burning, which he delivered to me as Senior officer,³ and I on going out communicated to Captain Read—we returned to White Hill where our ships lay, and began to clearing them of their Stores and materials, but As Cap^t Read was in want of hands he went up the next day to Bordenton to hire some, and on his return informed me that M^r Wharton had told him the Frigates Should be sunk that night or next morning—It is necessary for me to inform your Honors that previous to the receipt of the orders for Sinking Captain Read and myself had taken every measure to defend our vessels from all attempts of the Enemy, and those measures we are morally certain woud have been effectual in repelling any force the Enemy could have Sent up the River to take possession of, or to destroy our Ships—the *Washington* had on Board 13 Guns 12^s 6^s & 4 pdrs I had on board my ship Ten Guns—part of those Guns we had collected from the merchant vessels then up at Bordenton which they readily gave us for our defence. we had also got enrolled 80 Good men on board each of our Frigates, partly collected from the said merchant vessels and ready for action on the Shortest notice, besides we had expectations of getting men from the shallops that were coming down from Trenton, I had one of my Boats with a 3 pounder in her, and Captain Reads Barge ready for look out Boats. added to this a heavy fresh then in the River occasioned by the great Rain which fell at that Time made it impossible for the Enemys Boats to come up—Being consious of the Secure Situation of our ships we thought it our duty to expostulate with the Navy Board before they were rashly destroyed, and for that purpose we waited on the said Board, and communicated the precautions we had taken, and added that was General Washington fully acquainted with the Security of the Ships he would not order them to be Sunk, and further that they might be made ready for Sinking should the wo[r]st happen—I then offered to go to his Excell^y the General, and give him full information of all that had been done—M^r Hopkinson answered us that the Board had already wrote the Gen^l the Ships should be Sunk, and that sooner than they should disobey one Jot of his orders they would rather the whole Thirteen Frigates should be Sunk. I think it necessary at this period to exculpate myself from a charge which the Navy Board in the Extract of their letter furnished me by order of Congress has laid against me viz “In the presence of several Strangers he in the most indecent Terms refused to execute our orders” Now I do aver that the following conversation passed only in the presence of Captain Read and the Board, M^r Hopkinson acquainted us that His Excellency the General had been informed by a Lad from Philad^a that the Enemy were preparing Boats, and the Frigates might possibly be their object—I assured Him that Boats could not board us—He replied, He would take General Washington[’s] opinion sooner than mine—I told him I did not doubt that, but that nevertheless I knew more about a ship than General Washington and the Navy Board together, and they that ordered my Ship Sunk unless by direction of the Marine Committee I should protest against—That I was

Commissioned by Congress to command her, and therefore expected to be consulted before she was destroyed—M^r Hopkinson replied you shall obey our orders—upon which I left him—I leave to your Honors to judge wherein are the indecent terms in which I refused to execute the Orders of the Board.

I immediately repaired to my Ship, got all clear, and acquainted the Board of it the 30th Novem^r Last. A few Hours afterward M^r Hopkinson came down to White Hill with an order to Haul the Ships on Shore and Sink them by Sunsett—this was at a rong Time of the Tide, yet the orders were punctually obeyed. not satisfied with giving orders M^r Hopkinson came on board my Ship himself, and as soon as she Struck the Ground he ordered the Plugs out and the water run in so fast we could not heel the Ship to the Bank, in consequence of which she lay down on her Beam Ends and was very near oversetting—The next morning I went to Bordenton and acquainted the Board with the situation of the Ship—I was told it was a misfortune and that we must do the best to remedy it. I informed them nothing on my part should be wanting—The Board then gave me verbal orders to hire all the hands I wanted, which I found to be a very difficult matter being obliged to coax them and pay extravagant wages—I made two Efforts at different Time to raise the Ship, but without success. Having concluded on making a third Trial I had occasion to send to the Board for some things which were necessary for that purpose, when I received for answer that M^r Hopkinson would come down and raise her himself—This insult I overlooked having the getting up of my Ship much at Heart. Accordingly I took all the Purchases I could think off and got every thing Ready. About 10 Oclock I sent up to the Navy Board for as many of Col^o Nichola's Invalids⁴ as they could send. the day having then cleared up (it snowing in the morning) pretty moderate—In the interim I collected all the Seamen I could and began to heave upon the purchases. About One OClock a Sergeant and 6 or 7 men of the Invalids came to my assistance. I think it necessary to acquaint your Honors that in the Two former attempts to raise the Ship I had from 20 to 25 of these men and I was much disapointed to see so few of them come on this occasion, and asked the Sergeant the reason—He told me that Mess^{rs}. Hopkinson & Wharton had ordered him to bring such of the men as were well cloathed—However with this Supply I set to work with as much ardor as possible. After Some Time M^r Hopkinson came running out saying “Captain Barry, doth she rise”—“No sir how can she rise when you keep the People back—”Poh says he “you are always Grumbling”—“what do you say” “go along” says he “and mind your business, you Scoundrel it is a Lie!—”says Barry “What do you tell me I lie—he replied “it was a lie in them that said So”—I then called the Sergeant who brought the men—when he repeated that the Board had given him orders to bring the well cloathed men down—Upon which M^r H: told me he would bring me to an account for this—my answer was “d—n you I dont value you more than my duty requires”—“Sir says he “you never minded your Duty”—I immediately told him he was “a Liar” and that the Continental Congress knew I had minded my Duty—and added that had he minded his Duty as well—this Ship would not be in her present condition”—M^r Hopkinson retired, and I pursued my business until one of the Purchases gave way—

This, Gentlemen, is a true relation as nearly as I can recollect, and I submit to your Honors judgment how far my Conduct has been blameable—I shall only add, that it has been a principal Studdy with me to behave with the greatest respect to

the Navy Board ever since their appointment and I will just suggest to your honors whither ~~Captains of the Navy ought~~ the good of the Service does not require the Captains of the Navy to be treated as ~~Gentlemen~~ with respect complacence,⁵ and as Gentlemen?⁷ so long as they Observe their Duty—For my part I should think myself unworthy of the Commission the Honorable Congress has been pleased to give me could I tamely put up with different Treatment. I have the Honor to be gentn.⁶

Copy, PPISPM, Barry-Hayes Papers. Docketed: "Copy of A Narative/to Congress/1778."

1. *NDAR* 10: 832.

2. Barry's recollection of the date is in error for events described in this report occurred before 10 Nov. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 453–54.

3. Francis Hopkinson wrote to Capt. Barry on 2 Nov. 1777 ordering the frigate *Effingham* to be sunk. *NDAR* 10: 377.

4. Col. Lewis Nicola, Invalid Regiment.

5. Complacence, meaning an inclination to oblige.

6. The letter was read before Congress on 13 Jan. 1778 and forwarded to the Marine Committee.

INVENTORY OF STORES FROM THE BRITISH TRANSPORT BRIG *SYMMETRY*

List of Camp Equipage Military Stores, Baggage &c. taken in the Brig^t. *Symetry*¹

Cap ^t Deliverd Gen ^l <u>Sullivans Division</u> —	Remain at <u>Wilmington not dld.</u>	Sent to Faggs Manor <u>Meeting house</u>
195 Musquets	5 Musquets	532 Musquets—
180 Bayonets		190 Bayonets—
	20 Fusils or Rifles	21 fusils or Rifles
206 Bayonet belts		400 Buff belts—
57 Cartridge belts		69 Cartridge belts
54 Waist belts		55. Waist Belts
247 Gunslings		44 Gunslings
35 HairKnapsacks	a Cask Bell Tents & Drum Cases	12 Bell Tents
9 New Drums & Cases	4 Drums & Cases	20 Drum Cases
143 Cartouch boxes		38 Cartouch boxes
142 Regimental Coats		200 Setts Cartouch boxes & sets of
116. Waistcoats		Belts complete.
203 pair Breeches		925 Cartouch boxes old Fashiond.
440 shirts		56 Camp Kettles
490 pair Stockings	a Cask Kettles & Canteens	424 Tin Canteens
466 Neckcloths	about 30 loose Kettles	
337 Pair Shoes	about as many on hand of Shoes— A Number of Marquis or Officers Tents & beding not sorted— the marquis Orderd to Faggs Manor	1066 New Knapsacks 230 New Ticklenburg Tents— 117 worn d ^o . fit for use 38 old ditto— 3 ps Sail Duck

2 ¼ bbs pitch
Spare Sales of y^c
Brig

Cont^d Over
Deliverd Gen^l
Sullivans Division

Cont^d over
Remain at the store
in Wilmington—

Cont^d Over
Sent to Faggs
Manor Meeting

A number of musquets
& Cannon Cartridges—
19 Soldiers Bed Cases
about 3 pipes Wine
six or Eight hhd^s of
Rum, a Case port
—the Brig^t
Provisions & Stores
orderd to the
Commissaries—
3 boxes of Medicines
not full or much to
spare from y^c. Division

20 pack Saddles in
complete order
4500 Musquett
Cartridges
25 scythes fitted—
53 old hangers
1 Cask Grenadier &
1^t Infantry
Accoutrements
A Number of Tent
poles Pinns &
Mallets—

A number of Packages
near 200 Chiefly
Officers
Trunks & Chests of
the 10 & 15th. Reg^t. of
Foot Guards of
British which
contains Clothing
Camp Equipage &
Stores for private
Use of considerable
Value

NB. as the Trunks Liquours and Marquis were not examined fully—the account of
them is not exact

Moor Hall Jan 10. 1778
Clement Biddle
C G F²

DS, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "Estimate of the Brig^t/Symmetry's Cargo/taken
at Wilmington"; "Estimate of/Symmetry's Cargo/at/Wilmington/Jan^y: 1778."

1. Captured on 27 Dec. 1777 by General Smallwood's battalion near Wilmington. For more on the
capture of the transport brigantine *Symmetry*, see *NDAR* 10: 816, 818, 825, 826, 833, 834.

2. Lt. Col. Clement Biddle, Commissary General of Forage, Continental Army.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PHOENIX*, CAPTAIN HYDE PARKER, JR.

January 1778.
Saturday 10th.

Cape Henry N 33°. 26' Dist^{ce}. 16 Leagues
At 8 AM Saw a Sail to the Westward let a Reef out of the
Topsails and gave Chace At 10 Departed this Life John
Phillips Seaman; at noon saw Land bearing SWBW 5
Leagues, gave over Chace, punishd W^m. M^cFadgan with 12
Lashes for neglect of Duty.

The land of the Maiden Paps West 4 Leagues. [Lat.
36°.20'N]

Fresh breezes and fair Wea^r. Tack'd Ship & shortend Sail
At 1 PM saw a Sloop to Eastw^d. made Sail & gave Chace at
3 Committed the body of the deceased to the deep At 5
the Chace ESE ½ E at 6 lost sight of her, Shortend Sail
and took the 2^d and 3^d Reefs in the Topsails; At ½ past 7 saw
a Sail to SE^t. O^t [out] all Reefs & set Stud^{gsl}. mod^t. breezes
& hazy, at 9 Fir'd a Shot and Bro^t. too a Brig from
Nantucket bound to Carolina in Ballast.¹ Shortend Sail &
Bro^t. too Main Topsail to the Mast, sent a B^t. onb^d. the Prize,
Unbent her Sails, took them & the Prisoners out &
destroyed her.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/694.

1. Brig *Polly*, Ebenezer Jenkins, master, owned by Seth Jenkins & Co. of Nantucket, a crew of 7 seamen, from Nantucket to North Carolina, in ballast, destroyed at sea. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239-40.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Saturday the 10th day of January 1778.—

Mr George Stewart appointed, muster Master, pay master and purchasing commissary to the Gallies *Accomack* and *Diligence* stationed at the Eastern Shore; appeared and entered into Bond with Southy Simpson gent his security for duly expending and disbursing all sums of money as may come to his hands, purchase all such Liquors and provisions as the said Gallies may require, muster the men belonging to the said Gallies once in every month at least, pay the Officers and sailors off once in every three months, and render an exact Account or accounts of all his proceedings upon oath by virtue of the said appointment; and in consideration of the said services the Board doth agree to give him one hundred and fifty pounds per annum.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Mr George Stewart for one thousand pounds upon account for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the Gallies *Accomack* and *Diligence* building at the E Shore—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 340.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *DILIGENCE*, COMMANDER THOMAS DAVEY

January 78

Haneauga [*Great Inagua Is.*] SEBs off shore 5 [Leagues]

Saturday 10th D^o W^r. [Modt. Breezes & Clear W^r.] at ½ past 4 AM Spoke a Ship from Boston bound to Cape Nichola. sent an Officer & 8 Men to take charge of her¹

D^o [Haneauga] SBE 5 or 6 Leagues

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/250.

1. Ship *Minerva*, — Morton, master, from Boston, with lumber &c., taken by *Diligence*. Gayton's Prize List, 26 Feb. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240.

DECLARATION OF B. J. CLEMENT

[*Port-au-Prince, 10 January 1778*]

Le Soussigné Capitaine du Brigantin la *belle provencale* de La Martinique, venant de la traite des noirs à la Côte d'afrique, Declare a Monsieur de feron Capitaine des Vaisseau¹ commandant La fregate du Roy La *boudeuse* Et sur la Rade du port au prince qu'Etant au vent de L'isle S^{te} Lucie, j'ai été visité par un Corsaire bateau de quatorze canons (le dimanche septieme jour de decembre) dont je ne sçais pas Le nom. il portait pavillion amerquain, mais il n'Etait presque armé que de francais, mes gens aïam même Reconnuë cinq á six Matelots de leur connoissance, ént^r'autre le maître d' Equipage Sortant du navire le s^t *Louis* du hâvre, condanné á la martinique, que ce corsaire Ma obligée de metre mon Canot á la mer avec une mer assés grosse, sans avoir Egard a mes Representations en qualité de négrier que pendant une heure de tems quil a employé a faire visiter mon batimant par Ses gens, il m'a fait perdre un tems présieux pour doubler la pointe du Nord de la ditte isle, la nuit Etant survenuë Et en même tems vent de NNE & de Nord ce qui m'a obligé de revirer de bord et ma fait démâter de mon petit mâ^t de hune, que le lendemain huit j'ai arrivée par le Sud de la ditte isle, ou j'ai atteint mouillage, par 20 braces vis a vis la Riviere Dorée ou j'ai fait regréer un autre petit mat de hune que sur les onze heures du soir, endormi de fatigue, j'ai été éveillé par un boulet qui a tombé a la mer Pres de mon gouvernail; C Etait un autre Corsaire anglais, ameriquain d'huit Canons, même cérémonie pour le canot, et il m'a fallu, de fera, envoyer mon Congé de L'amiral a bord de lui par mon lieutenant le S^t d'anguy, quil a gardé a Son bord, tandis que Ses gens Sont venue me visiter. Declare en autre que la Cap^{te}. (nommée Monnirau)² S'est fait passer pour Royaliste anglais, a mon Sudit officier, Et quil a seu faire convaincre a ce jeune homme que j'Etai chargée le lettres de plusieurs Cap^{te}. anglais faisant leur traite a la côte, Et qu'en concequence il m'a menacé de m'Enlever mes papiers Si je ne lui deliverais ces lettres, ce que j'ai été obligés de faire, pour me les faire rendre: ce corsaire, d'ailleurs faisant toujours route, Et moi démâté a l'ancre, declare encore que le lendemain de mon départ de S^t Lucie (le 18 decembre) j'ay été Rencontre á environ quatre a cinq Lieues sous le vent de la martinique par la petite fregate anglaise le *Cygnat* de 16 Canons,³ Et que le quatre de ces present mois, pres de la Pointe de jean rabel, une autre petite frégate de la même Nations Nommée La *Diligente*⁴ m'en á fait de même, Declare de plus que ces deux petites fregates ne mont point obligée, comme les anglais ameriquains, de metre mon Canot á lá mer qu'elles m'ont envoyé abord, deux officiers que se sont comportes, vis avis de moi, avec la plus grande politesse, ne m'ayant dailleurs interrogé que pour sçavoir des nouvelles

Tout ce que je viens de declarer cy dessus est tiré de mon journal de Navigation et d'apres la plus exactte verité, fait á bord de la *Belle Provencale* ce 10 de janvier mil sept cent soixante & dix huit.

B. j. Clement, du jardin, Bergeron d'anguy

Nous officier du sus dit Batiment Certifions que le Contenu de la presente declaration du Sieur Clement nôtre Capitaine est tres veritable. a bord du dit Navire ce jour et an que dessus signée

Du jardin

Bergeron D'anguy

Cette declaration m'a esti faite le 11 j^{er} 1778 je certifie quelle est Conforme a l'original dont je suis resaisi au port au prinse a bord de la fregatte la *Boudeuse* ce 23 j^{er} 1778

le ch^{er} ferron du quengo
com^{de} la ditte fregatte

[Translation]

The undersigned master of the brigantine the *Belle Provencale* of Martinique, coming from the slave trade on the coast of Africa, declares to Monsieur Ferron [*du Quengo*], commanding the King's frigate the *Boudeuse* in the Road of Port-au-Prince, that being to the windward of the Island of St. Lucia, I was searched by a Privateer vessel of fourteen guns (on Sunday the seventh day of December) whose name I do not know. She was flying the American flag, but was manned by almost all Frenchmen. My crew even recognized five or six seamen they knew, among others the boatswain from the ship the *St. Louis* of le Havre which was condemned at Martinique. That this privateer forced me to put my ship's boat into the water in heavy seas, ignoring my Protests as a slave trader; that for one hour he spent searching my ship with his crew, made me lose precious time to weather the North point of said island, night having overtaken us along with a wind from the NNE and North which obliged me to tack and caused me the loss of my small topmast. That on the next day the eighth I arrived on the South side of said island, where I succeeded in mooring in 20 fathoms opposite the River Dorée where I had another topmast rigged. That about eleven o'clock in the evening, while asleep from fatigue, I was awakened by a cannon shot which fell in the sea near my rudder; it was another American privateer of eight guns, the same formality ensued for the ship's boat and he required me to send my Pass from the Admiral on board his ship with my lieutenant, Mr. d'Anguy, while his crew came to search my ship. Declares also that the captain (named Monnirau)² pretended to be an English Royalist to said officer; and that he was able to convince this young man that I was charged with letters of several English captains trading on the coast. Consequently he threatened to take away my papers if I did not deliver these letters to him, which I was obliged to do in order to have my papers returned. This privateer, furthermore, was under way while I was dismasted at anchor. Declares further that the day after my departure from St. Lucia (18th December) I fell in with the small English frigate the *Cygnat* of 16 guns³ approximately four to five leagues to the leeward of Martinique, and that on the 4th of this present month, near Jean Rabel Point, another small frigate belonging to the same country named the *Diligent*⁴ which did the same to me. Declares also that these two small frigates did not force me to put my ship's boat in the water, as the Americans did, that they sent on board two officers, who behaved towards me with the greatest politeness, questioning me only to learn news.

All that I have declared above is drawn from my log book and follows the most exact truth. Given on board the *Belle Provencale* this 10th day of January one thousand seven hundred seventy eight.

B. J. Clement; du Jardin; Bergeron d'Anguy

We the officers of the above said ship certify that the contents of the within declaration of Mr. Clement, our Captain, is quite true. On board said ship this day and year as above, signed

du Jardin
Bergeron d'Anguy

This declaration was made before me on the 11th January 1778. I certify that it is a true copy of the original which I reacquired at Port-au-Prince on board the frigate the *Boudeuse* this 23rd January 1778.

the Chevalier Ferron du Quengo
commanding said frigate

Copy, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fol. 109.

1. Actually lieutenant de vaisseau.
2. Perhaps Capt. Nathaniel Monro, commanding the American privateer sloop *Henry*. See *NDAR* 10: 810–11.
3. H.M. sloop *Cygnets*, Comdr. Robert Stratford, commanding.
4. H.M. sloop *Diligence*, Comdr. Thomas Davey, commanding.

“FROM THE SUPPLEMENT TO *THE JAMAICA GAZETTE* OF JANUARY 10.”

Kingston. The Ship *Jean*, capt. Spyers, who arrived here from the coast of Guinea, on Tuesday last, the beginning of December, fell in with an American privateer, to the windward of Barbadoes, with whom he was closely engaged for upwards of four hours, when the privateer thought proper to shear off, being greatly damaged in her hull and rigging; the *Jean* lost seven men in the action.

A gentleman just arrived from Martinico informs us, that the above privateer, named the *Fly*, captain Mansfield, of 14 carriage guns and 190 men, put into St. Pierre, the 6th of December, to refit. She had 12 men killed, and 18 wounded. Capt. Mansfield's right arm was shot off, the first lieutenant received a musket ball through his shoulder, and two swivel balls through his arm, the second lieutenant was blown up by a powder flask, which the boatswain was preparing to throw on board the *Jean*.¹

London Packet; or, New Lloyd's Evening Post, 28 Feb.–2 Mar. 1778.

1. For another account of this engagement, see *NDAR* 10: 732.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA

London.

A letter from Montego Bay, dated Jan. 10, says, “By Capt. Jacks, who arrived a few days ago from the Grand Caimanas, we are informed, that the crew of the *Camel* privateer, James Pine, Commander, belonging to Charles-Town,¹ landed on the west end of that Island the 14th of December, and plundered the inhabitants, both men, women, and children, of all their cloaths and furniture, not leaving them so much as a plate, knife, or fork, &c. killed their live stock of all kinds; carried off two Negroes, four puncheons of rum, three casks of wine, some barrels of flour, cordage, block, &c.”

Lloyd's Evening Post and British Chronicle (London), 9 Apr. 1778.

1. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Comet*, Capt. James Pyne, commanding.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ARIADNE*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PRINGLE

January 1778
Saturday 10

Englishmans Head NBS 4 Leagues
Little winds & fair.
English Harbour NE 3 Leagues—

At 1 PM saw a sloop and a Schooner, coming up along the shore of Gaudaloupe with Rebel Colours flying. at 3 came up so close to the Schooner that I could see she was a loaded vessel & the Sloop and armed one. Fired several shot at the sloop which occasioned several of her men to Jump overboard & swim to the shore—but she being about 1/8 part of a Mile to the windward of us, Escaped between the Island of Guave & Gaudaloupe—the passage of which the Pilot was unacquainted with. The Schooner during this was making off the other way. Tacked about & stood after, but cou'd not come up with her before she run on shore. at 4 pm made sail & stood to the Northward.

The prize in Company.—

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/60.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *GREYHOUND*, CAPTAIN ARCHIBALD DICKSON

January 1778
Saturday 10th

Deseada S 14^o W 235 Leag^s
at ½ past 6 AM saw a sail in the SE Q^r made Sail & gave Chace at 9 AM fir'd 2 nine pounders & 3 three pounders to bring her too, which prov'd to be a Brigg from Boston bound to Surinam,¹ sent a Mate & 5 Men on board her and took out Seven Prisoners.²

D^o. S 12^o W 201 Leag^s
First & Middle parts Mod^t & Cloudy, Latter Fresh Gales & Squally with Showers of Rain at times.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/420.

1. Brig *Industry*, Joseph Kennicut, master, 90 tons, crew of 9 men, with fish and tobacco, sent into Antigua. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

2. *Greyhound's* Journal states that the prize remained in company and was carried into Antigua on 18 Jan. UklPR, Adm. 51/420.

January 11 (Sunday)

CAPTAIN SIR GEORGE COLLIER, R.N., TO THOMAS COMPTON

No. 2/

Private Instruction

If the Prisoners should happen to take the Command of the Ship from you¹ & carry her into Boston,² You are in that Case to apply to M^r Robert Peirpont

(Commissary for Prisoners) shew him this paper & demand a Return of those Subjects of his Majesty, in Exchange, held at Boston in Captivity—

Geo Collier

Rainbow [at *Halifax*]

11th: January 1778—

Council Chamber Boston Feby 23^d. 1778

A True Copy

Attest Jn^o. Avery D^r Sec^y

Copy, M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 8 (Various— Charter Parties—Relating to Prisoners), p. 79. Addressed at foot: “To M^r: Compton master of the Cartel Ship/*Royal Bounty*.”

1. The American prisoners mutinied and seized the cartel ship *Royal Bounty* on 13 and 14 Jan. See Master’s Journal of H.M. Brig *Cabot*, 12–13 and 14 Jan., below.

2. *Royal Bounty* was carried into Marblehead on 24 Jan. See *The Continental Journal, and Weekly Advertiser* (Boston), 29 Jan., below.

MASTER’S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *LARK*, CAPTAIN RICHARD SMITH

Jan^y: 1778

Sunday 11

At Anchor in Providence River Near Warwick Neck
 AM Row’d Guard Sent y^e Longb^t for Water
 At Anchor in Providence River Near Warwick Neck
 Light Breezes with Snow at 8 PM fresh Breezes with Sleet
 Saw a Sail Bearing W^t Made y^e Sig^l as it was not Answerd
 Made it again, the Tender got under Sail & Stood after y^e
 Strange Sail at ¾ past Saw aNother WNW, Slip^d the Cable &
 Stood after her, the Tender Spoak us haveing Run y^e Chase
 aShore at 10 Anchor’d aBrest of y^e Vessel aShore hoisted
 out y^e Barge & Sett fire to y^e Chase She Was a large Schooner
 in Ballast,¹ the Rebles fir’d Musketrss at the Barge but Did no
 Damage

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1826.

1. Probably, the schooner *Sally*, Benjamin Sisson, master, 20 tons burthen, bound for South Carolina, in ballast, which cleared from Providence on 17 Dec. 1777. R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Outward and Inward Entries, 1776–87, p. 60.

MASTER’S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *DIAMOND*, CAPTAIN CHARLES FEILDING

Jan^y: 1778

Sunday 11th.

[anchored off *Dyer Island*]

[AM] Emp^d. Occasionally and a party on Shore Brooming
 Exercised Small Arms
 First and Middle parts mod^t Breezes with Snow and Sleet
 Latter mod^t and Cloudy PM at 8 broug^t too a American
 Sloop from Swansea¹ attempting to get to sea

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1699.

1. Sloop *Prudence*, Abraham Simmons, master, owned by Simmons & Gardner, from Swansea, Mass., with fish, lumber, onions and potatoes, taken off *Dyer Island*, sent into Newport as a prize of H.M.S. *Diamond*. Howe’s Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *UNICORN*, CAPTAIN JOHN FORD

January 1778
 Sunday 11

Moor'd as before. [in Rhode Island Harbor]

[AM] emp^d: receiving a new Cable from the *Grampus*, and 10 Punch^{ns} of Bread from one of the Victuallers.

Moor'd as before. [in Rhode Island Harbor]

First part mod^t: & fair W^r: middle & latter parts strong Gales & Squally with Snow, and Rain, at 3 PM weigh'd our small B^r: Anchor in order to see it was clear, when in endeavoring to clear it, we drove alongside of the *Chatham*, at 6 PM got clear, & rec^d: orders from Lord Howe to get under Way, the Advance Ships firing Signal Guns as an Alarm to prevent some Rebel Vessels from making their Escape out of the River, at 10 slip'd our Cable & Sign^l: from the *Eagle*, & came to Sail, at ½ past 10 saw a Sail & gave Chace, fir'd a Number of Guns with round & Grape & small Arms at the Chace,¹

Monday 12

at 2 AM run her on Shore near Stoney Town,² Tack'd Ship & stood to the Eastw^d: at 7 AM saw the Chace (which was an arm'd Brigg)³ within some Breakers & another arm'd Vessel within her,⁴ at 8 saw 2 Sail⁵ to the Eastw^d: gave Chace, at 10 they ran aShore under a Fort on Point Judith, which fir'd at us, Tack'd Ship. after returning them a few Guns.

[off Point Judith, R.I.]

Mod^t: & clear W^r: at 6 PM abreast of Secunnet Passage, stood off & on all Night

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1017, fol. 230.

1. Probably, sloop *Hawke*, Stutely Williams, master, 30 tons burthen, mounting no guns, with a crew of 7 seamen, bound from New London to South Carolina, with 2 hogsheds of fish, which cleared from Providence on 31 Dec. 1777. R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Outward and Inward Entries, 1776-87, p. 60.

2. Stonington, Conn.

3. Brigantine *Industry*, Isaac Field, master, 30 tons burthen, mounting 4 guns, with a crew of 12 seamen, bound for South Carolina, with 52 barrels of cider, which cleared from Providence on 3 Jan. R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Outward and Inward Entries, 1776-87, p. 61.

4. Possibly, brigantine *Britania*, Josiah Haynes, master, 40 tons burthen, mounting no guns, with a crew of 7 seamen, bound for Surinam, with 60 hogsheds of tobacco, 1,500 feet of pine boards, 3,000 hoops and 92 shaken casks, which cleared from Providence on 22 Dec. 1777. R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Outward and Inward Entries, 1776-87, p. 61.

5. Probably, sloop *Sally*, Daniel Aborn, master, 20 tons burthen, mounting no guns, with a crew of 6 seamen, bound for St. Croix, with 20,000 hoops and boards, 500 red oak staves, &c., which cleared from Providence on 3 Jan., and brigantine *Sally*, John Voce, master, 50 tons burthen, mounting no guns, with a crew of 5 seamen, bound for South Carolina, with 23,000 feet pine boards, which cleared from Providence on 5 Jan. R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Outward and Inward Entries, 1776-87, p. 61.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROEBUCK*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

January 1778
 Sund^y: 11th.

[alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]

AM at 4 sent an officer & 17 Men in the half galley to reconnoitre the River down to Mudd Isl^d.¹ at 9 the Galley went on Shore on the Jersey's & destroy'd a Breast work and guns

belonging to the Rebels. d^o. the Half galley, Officer & Men
 Return'd after distroying some guns that were Left on Board of
 the Remains of Vessells the Rebbels Burnt
 Light airs & fair with snow & frost
 P.M. Employ'd in Cleaning the Ships decks

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4311.

1. Probably former Pennsylvania Navy armed boat *Thunder* which deserted to the British in September 1777.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM WILMINGTON, DATED JANUARY 11, 1778”

“Last week the Jersey Militia took a prize, and began to unload her; the ice came down so thick that they were obliged to leave her. She drifted to the Delaware Shore, when she was boarded by the Militia, and unloaded of the following articles, viz. 47 Hogsheads of Jamaica Spirits 6 years old, 51 pieces of linen, 18 bales of broad cloth, a large quantity of shalloons, 17 chests of tea, 60 dozen of stockings, silk, worsted and cotton, 24 dozen of gold and silver laced hats, boxes of glass, 100 doz. of claret and porter, and some pieces of oznabrgs. A number of small craft have been taken; two topsail vessels were burnt by the New-Jersey troops above us,¹ a large ship in going down a few days ago, got on shore at Reedy Island.² the militia collected with a field piece; their attempts have as yet proved ineffectual; but as Capt Kirkwood³ is down with a party of our men, I flattr, myself we shall get her.”

Dunlap's Maryland Gazette; or the Baltimore General Advertiser, 20 Jan. 1778.

1. For more on British transports drifting with the ice in the Delaware River, see Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 1 Feb., below.

2. See News from Burlington, 14 Jan., below.

3. Capt. Robert H. Kirkwood, Delaware Regiment.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EXPERIMENT*, CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE

January 1778
 Sunday 11th.

Ditto [Cape Henlopen] NW $\frac{1}{2}$ N 294 Miles
 AM at 9 Saw a Sail bearing NWBN^o: made Sail and gave
 Chace at 10 fresh Gales and Squally W^r: at $\frac{1}{2}$ p^r: 11 fired 8
 shott & brought too the Chace, She proved to be a Schooner
 who hoisted Danish Colours and had all Englishmen onboard,
 Bound to America¹ took 4 Men out of her and Sent 2 petty
 Officers & 4 Men Onboard Her—

Ditto N 50 W 193 Miles
 Hard Gales and Cloudy PM at 1 in 3rd. Reefs and Handed
 the Topsail & Mains^l: and Set the foresail the 2 prizes in
 Company.² at 3 Handed the foresail & Set the Main & Mizen
 Staysails. at 5 Ballanced the Mizen and Set it. and Set the Main
 Topm^t: Staysail. at 11 Set the foresail at Midnight Moderate
 and Cloudy in Company as above.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/331, fols. 112–13.

1. Schooner *Willing Maid*, John Thomas, master, from Curaçao to North Carolina, with salt, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 30 October 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 485. She was libelled on 23 Jan. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and condemned on 13 Feb. 1778. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/93, fols. 211–12 and 49/94, fols. 12–13.

2. Sloop *Morning Star* and schooner *Willing Maid*.

ORDER BOOK OF 1ST SOUTH CAROLINA CONTINENTAL REGIMENT

[Extract]

Head Quarters Charles Town Jan^y 11th day 1778—

Gen^l. Orders Parole Success, Ordered that 1 Cap^t. 2 Subalterns 2 Serjeants & 48 Rank & file from y^e 1st Reg^t. 1 Cap^t. 2 Subalterns 2 Serj^t. and 48 Rank and file from y^e 2^d Reg^t. 1 Cap^t. 1 Subaltern 1 Serj^t. & 30 Rank & file from y^e 4th Reg^t. 1 Subaltern 1 Serj^t. & 19 Rank & file from y^e 5th Reg^t. be in Readiness tomorrow Morning to go on Board the Vessels¹ Drawn for—Each Reg^t. to provide their men with 18 Rounds each & 50 Rounds per man to be put into a Military Chest on board the vessels they go in The Cap^t. and Subalterns who are to Command the different parties, are to meet tomorrow morning at the New Barracks to draw for the Vessels they are to go on board The officers Commanding parties are to take Care to keep Good order and Discipline amongst their men And prevent them from giting into any Disputes with the Sailors, & assist the Cap^s. of the Vessels to the utmost of their power, in attacking the Enemy, Any officer who Chuses to Change his Tower of Duty may have Leave by acquainting First the Commanding officer of their Respective Reg^t.—The names of the Officers going on this command are to be Given in to the Gen^l.

LB, ScHi, Regimental Order Book of Captain Saunders (call no. 34/217). Roger Parker Saunders (Sanders) was a captain in the 1st South Carolina Continental Regiment.

1. South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie*, and brigantines *Notre Dame*, *Fair American*, and *Polly*.

January 12

MAJOR GENERAL EYRE MASSEY TO GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE

Sir,

Halifax January y^e. 12th. 1778—

Last night arriv'd here the *Favourite*¹ Brig a Cartell from Boston: which has brought most of the Officers of the *Fox*,² Cornet Grant and four Men of y^e. 16 Dragoons and Sevrl of Frasers Officers with a few Men, the whole in great distress for Clothing, M^r. Ogleve³ of Frasers Reg^t.⁴ deliv'd me the enclos'd from L^t Col^o. Campbell⁵ which he pray'd I would open, I did in the presence of Maj^r Small,⁶ and as I had Captain Baron and Doctor Cullen exchange'd, and that through a Correspondence with General Ward,⁷ who I knew last War, I have now inform'd him, that if he orders L^t Col^o. Campbell on board any Frigate cruising in Boston Bay, sendg him to Rohde Island or to Halifax, I have pledg'd my Honor, your Excellency will send L^t Col^o. Ethen Allen in Exchange for him, which be so kind as to order—

By the *Favourite* last night I find L^t Gen^l Burgoyne and his Army are still at Cambridge. Why Sir George Collier does not send the Flag of Truce⁸ to Boston, he best knows, but he has neither consultd the Lieu^t Governor⁹ on that or anything else my plan was for the Cartell to have Remain'd under the Convoy¹⁰ in the Bay, and send a Boat, thats if there was not Man for Man given up, She should return to Halifax, or go the Grand Army—

Upon Recollection of my last letter to your Excelcy, wherein I hint to You, the great Mischief that is done on this Coast, by the fishing Boats having a Protection,¹¹

I most humbly pray, You will not think me impertinent in such a Report, I did not mean to say his Lordship¹² show'd the least Countenance to such Rebbels, but to show the necessity of more small Vessels here.

I have orderd Lieu^t Needham to Cloth the Men who arriv'd last night, which are about Thirty, I ought to Send Your Excellency the Return of those people, but cannot get it, as the *Cabot* is just underway, and I am [&c.]

Eyre Massey M. Gen^l

L, UKLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 8, no. 867. Docketed: "Major Gen^l Massey/to/Gen^l Sir W. Howe/Halifax 12th Jan^y 1778/enclosing a letter from Col: Campbell/to Gen^l Howe/Rec^d. by [blank] 27th March."

1. Cartel brigantine *Favorite*, Lt. John Brown.
2. H.M.S. *Fox*, Capt. Patrick Fotheringham, commander, captured by the Continental Navy frigates *Hancock* and *Boston* on 7 June 1777.
3. Probably Quartermaster William Ogilvie.
4. 71st Foot [Fraser's Highlanders].
5. Lt. Col. Archibald Campbell, Fraser's Highlanders.
6. Maj. John Small.
7. Maj. Gen. Artemas Ward.
8. Flag of truce (cartel) ship *Royal Bounty*, Thomas Compton, master.
9. Rear Adm. Marriot Arbuthnot.
10. H.M. brig *Cabot's* convoy.
11. See Major General Eyre Massey to General Sir William Howe, 10 Jan., above.
12. Vice Adm. Viscount Howe.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. BRIG *CABOT*, LIEUTENANT EDMUND DOD

January 1778
Monday 12th At Anchor in Halifax Harbour
at 10 AM hove Short and Made the Signal for Sailing at 11 D^o
Drove Veair^d away a Cable & Broug[ht] up
At Anchor in Halifax Harbour
Light Airs & Clear at 12 PM fired one Gun & Come to Sail
with a Convoy of 10 Merch^t Vessels & the *Royal bounty*¹ Cartell
at 4 Sambro head SW 5 or 6 Miles Sambro light House WBS
at 12 the Convoy all in Sight at Merdⁿ Convoy all In Sight—

Tuesday 13th Cape Sambro Light N ½ E^t Dist. 25 lg^s.
First part Light Breezes and Clear Middle Thick W^r with
Snow Latter fresh Breezes & Clear at 5 PM Made the
Signal for the Convoy to Come under our Stern & Bore Down
to the Cartel that the prisoners Began to Mutiny Bore Down
to her Supres'd the Mutiny at 8 Close Reef^t the T. Sails
One off the Conv[o]y left the Fleet at 10 Bore Down & fired
a Shot at the Cartel for Goweing ahead at 12 the Conv[o]y
in Sight

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1636, fol. 28.

1. Ship *Royal Bounty*, Thomas Compton, master. She was formerly a Greenlandman from Leith, which was captured near the Shetland Is. in July 1777 by the Massachusetts privateer ship *American Tartar* and recaptured on 22 Sept. by H.M.S. *Diamond* and tender *Buckram*. *Royal Bounty* was sent into Halifax where she was sold on 13 Dec. See NDAR 9: 562, 950, 950n.

NEWS FROM PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

PORTSMOUTH, Jan. 12

By a Letter from on Board the *Portsmouth* Privateer commanded by Capt. John Hart, of this Town, dated Bilboa, Nov. 25, 1777, we learn, that he was out on a Cruize, and fell in with the *Squirrel* Man of War, of 20 Guns,¹ convoying a Fleet of Merchantmen from Newfoundland. The *Portsmouth* engaged the *Squirrel* three Hours and got off with the Loss of seven of her Men, whose Names are not yet known, excepting — French of this Town.

The Freeman's Journal, or, New-Hampshire Gazette (Portsmouth), 13 Jan. 1778.

1. H.M.S. *Squirrel*, Capt. Henry Harvey, commander.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *HAERLEM*, LIEUTENANT JOHN KNIGHTJan^y 1778

[anchored in Newport Harbor]

Monday 12

AM Adm^l made the Sig^l for weekly acct^s at Noon Got the Topsail and Cross jack Yards up came onb^d a Pilot weigh'd and came to Sail

[in Newport Harbor]

Mod^l and Cloudy PM Standing out of Road Island¹ at 1 past his Maj^{ty}s Ship *Juno* at 2 haul'd our wind round Brantons Reef² and Stood to the Eastward at 3 Road Island light house NWbW at 6 Came too with the small Bower in Pennekees³ Harbour in 4 fm^s veerd to ½ of a Cable the N^o. Point of Cuddyhunk⁴ WSW Body of Gull Island NEbN and the Body of Pennekees NNW sent the whale Boat on shore to Naswanna Island⁵ with the Pilots and took of[f] 2 Whale Boats

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1789, part 8, fol. 225.

1. Rhode Island.
2. Brenton's Reef.
3. Penikese I.
4. Cuttyhunk I.
5. Nashawena I.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

12th Jan^y Thaw. Mild weather. Wind N.

About 9 o'Clock last night the Signal for an Enemy was made by the advanced ships up the Bay,¹ which was soon after answered by Lord Howe in *The Eagle*; who at the same time made a Signal for the *Unicorn* to Slip. She soon got out to the harbour's mouth; and about 12 o'Clock a good deal of firing was heard to the Westward.² Nothing appears this Morning but a Frigate coming in. Tis now said that two of the Rebel Frigates³ went down the Naraganset passage, past the *Renown* last night.

A Rebel Sloop⁴ came through Bristol ferry last night, and was not discovered until she came abreast of the *Diamond* stationed near Dyer's Island, who immediately sent a boat on board and took her. It appears she came from Swansea, and was bound to Hispaniola with a Cargo of Fish, Onions, Apples, &c., and had five men on board.

Sailed the *Neptune* Armed Schooner for New York.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 235.

1. See Master's Journal of H.M.S. *Lark*, 11 Jan., above.
2. See Journal of H.M.S. *Unicorn*, 11–12 Jan., above.
3. Continental Navy frigates *Warren* and *Providence*. The report was erroneous.
4. Sloop *Prudence*, Abraham Simmons, master. See Master's Journal of H.M.S. *Diamond*, 11 Jan., above.

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY,
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 1778

New-York, January 12.

The Rebel Privateer brig called the *Active*,¹ Capt. Williams,² lately taken by his Majesty's Frigate the *Mermaid*, is cast away on the coast of New-Jersey; the Vessel is lost, and the Crew consisting of about 20 Men, are now Prisoners with the Rebels. . . .

Yesterday Morning was sent in here by his Majesty's Ship the *Phœnix*, Capt. Parker,³ the French Brig *La Geniviere*,⁴ from Guadaloupe, said to be bound for Mequelon, in Newfoundland; but was taken the 7th Instant, on the Coast of Virginia.

The Prize-master says, that no less than 12 Sail of Rebel Vessels were taken in one Day off the Carolinas, by his Majesty's Ships on that Station, and sent to Augustine.

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Active*. See NDAR 10: 528, 528n.
2. Capt. John Foster Williams.
3. Capt. Hyde Parker, Jr., R.N.
4. Brig *Genevieve*, Pierre Tourounet (Tournet), master, from Guadeloupe to St. Pierre and Miquelon Is. See Journal of H.M.S. *Phoenix*, 7 Jan., above.

PROCLAMATION OF GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE

By His Excellency Sir WILLIAM HOWE, K.B.
General and Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.

PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS a considerable Quantity of Naval Stores is known to be in this City, the Property of which has not been thoroughly ascertained; and whereas Importations have been made of sundry Articles which may be wanted for His Majesty's Service. It is hereby required, that all Persons having in their Possession, and not in actual Use, Cordage, Anchors, Cables, Sails, Sail-Cloth, Twine, Pitch, Tar, Rosin, Turpentine, Masts, Yards, Spars, Oars, Plank and Ship-Timber, do report to the Quarter-Master-General, as soon as possible after the Publication hereof, and before the 19th Day of this current Month, the Quantity of each Article; declaring upon Oath, how long the same has been in their Possession, and the Names of the real Proprietors thereof; distinguishing, to the best of their Knowledge, the Time of the Importation, and also distinguishing the Articles manufactured here: It is further required, that no Naval Stores are to be disposed of, by Sale, or otherwise, from this Date, without Permission in Writing from me; or, in my Absence, from the Commanding Officer of His Majesty's Troops in this City.

All Persons failing to report as above directed, or who may be found removing or selling any Part of the said Stores, after the Date, or contrary to the Spirit and Intent of this Proclamation, shall be liable to forfeit the same.

Given under my Hand at Head-Quarters in Philadelphia,
the 12th Day of January, 1778.

W. HOWE.

By His EXCELLENCY'S Command,
ROBERT MACKENZIE, Secretary.

[*Philadelphia*] PRINTED by JAMES HUMPHREYS, JUNR. in *Market-street*, between *Front* and *Second-streets*.

Broadside. The document is headed by the Royal Arms. There is a manuscript version of this proclamation in UKLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 8, no. 866.

HENRY STEVENSON TO GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE

The following hints from a real Friend to Government are Most humbly submitted to His Excellency General Sir William How, Knight of the Bath & Commander in Chief of His Majestys Forces in America &c &c &c

Toward the last of March after the Equinoctial Gales are over, I woud humbly recommend [*blank*] Troops to Cheseapeake Bay, to Baltimore Town on Patapsco River for the following reasons—'Tis the only Town of any consequence the Rebels now possess, from Boston to Charles Town, Its astonishing the Commerce that is carried on there, tis from Baltimore mostly the Rebel Army is supplied with Provisions and Ammunition, the latter is supplied from the French and Dutch by Two Inlets on the Eastern Shore of Maryland & Virginia One called Sinapuxent, the other Chingotegue. (both to the Northward of Cape Charles) and transported in small Craft to Baltimore; The whole Trade of the Bay centres there; 'tis but Thirty Miles from Annapolis, the Rebels Seat of Government, (where His Excellency the General has been) laying nearly central between the two grand Rivers, Patowmack, & Susquahanah, and commands a fine Country for some hundred Miles North West—You wou'd secure the Eastern Shores of Maryland & Virginia, and the Three Lower Countys on Dellaware by which the Inhabitants will chearfully supply the whole Army, (under His Excellency) with more provisions than they can consume for three Years besides Fish in great abunda[*nce*]

The Inhabitants of the Eastern Shore of Ma[*ryland*] (a few Oliverians excepted)¹ have always been friendly to good Government, and have not been much disturb'd 'till lately. Those on the Western Shore who have been much distress'd by the Saints² will have an opportun^y of becoming free and will have an opportunity of retaliating their persecutions—I wou'd recommend Two Sloops War, one in Chester; the other in Great Choptank Rivers, with Three or four Tenders, which will support a Trade with the Eastern Shore. Two or three Ships about the Capes, blocks up their whole Trade, of Maryland and Virginia, in that case the Rebels small Trading Vessels will have no other place to take shelter in, except Egg Harbour, in the Jerseys or the Carolina's—

From intelligence I have lately received, there lies in the Bason of Baltimore, a Fine Frigate, of 28 Guns, call'd the *Virginia*, Two New Frigates, an old 18 Gun Ship

call'd the *Defence*, a fine New Brig call'd the *Sturdy Beggar* of 14 Guns with other privateers, Galleys & small Craft, which greatly Annoy the British Subjects—

At this Town of Baltimore (well known to Sir Rob^t Eden, the late Governour) about Twenty Independants kept the whole province in Confusion and there dictated, to the Congress, and burn'd the Hessian Colours taken at Trenton, headed by Hancock—There is between 18 & 19 feet Water in Potapasco River with soft Ground, Caton, one of Lord Howes pilots, whom I sent off with three others know's the River well—

About two miles below the Town on Weston point there is a Fort mounted with Guns, two of which are 32 pounders which I can have spiked; also a Boom across the North East Branch, but the best way woud be to run the Shipping two miles higher up in the North West Branch, where the ships may lay within 30 yards of the Shore, and land the Troops on a fine dry place called the Ferry point and March into the Town or Fort without opposition—When in possession of Baltimore you are in a most plentiful Country, it lies only 80 Miles from Carlisle, their Capital & principal Magazine.

The sending Troops to Baltimore early in the Spring, wou'd prevent the Southern Malitia being obliged to join Washington's Army, and who, wou'd enter into the New Levies under His Excellencys Command, Thousands of whom wou'd rejoice at an opportunity of assisting His Majestys Army—

H^y Stevenson

Philadelphia

Jan^{ry}. 12th. 1778

Coppy

Stevens's Facsimiles, vol. 24, no. 2076. "In the Sackville Manuscripts is a letter from M^r Stevenson to Lord George Germain 13 September 1780 representing services rendered to the army in America and desiring assistance from the Government. The 'Hints' given here in Facsimile are there referred to thus:— 'I presented the Outlines of a Plan to General Howe through Sir William Erskine which was much admir'd, & would have been put in Execution had General Howe continued in command. I likewise shew'd it to M^r William Eden & sent it to his Brother Sir Robert.'" Ibid.

1. *Oliverians*: a reference to the followers of Oliver Cromwell. Stevenson is suggesting a comparison between the American insurrectionists and the Puritan revolutionaries who sought to overturn the monarchy during the English Civil Wars of the seventeenth century.

2. *Saints*: Continuing his reference to the Puritans in the English Civil Wars, Stevenson implies that the principal supporters of the American Revolution are dissenters from the Church of England, principally Congregationalists, Baptists, and Presbyterians.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. ROEBUCK, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

January 1778

Mond^{ry}. 12th.

[alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]

A.M. at 1 came down the River from the Rebels two half galley's & Surrended¹ at 6 Sent an Officer & 17 Men in the half galley to finish destroying the guns in the Rebel wrecks² at 12 the Officer and men return'd—D^o. W^r. [Light airs & fair with snow & frost] PM Employ'd repairing & Blacking the Ships Rigging

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/4311.

1. Two Pennsylvania Navy armed boats under the command of Capt. Nathan Boys whose crews deserted with them from Coopers Creek. See William Bradford to President Thomas Wharton, Jr., 24

Jan., below. They were either two of the armed boats *Argus*, *Fire Brand*, *Resolution*, *Tormentor* or *Vulture*. John W. Jackson, *The Pennsylvania Navy, 1775-1781* (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1974), 340-41.

2. The half galley was sent on 13 Jan. to continue the destruction of the guns in the wrecks. UKLPR, Adm. 51/4311.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Monday, January 12, 1778

Resolved, That the president inform Governor Caswell, of North Carolina, of the purport of the said examination, and request him to examine the persons who came over in the vessel with J. Folger, and inform Congress of every circumstance that may come to his knowledge respecting the said despatches:¹

That the Board of War be directed to confine the said John Folger in close prison, till advice can be received from Governor Caswell, or till further orders from Congress. . . .

Whereas, Congress have received information that a sloop named the *Pennsylvania Farmer* is arrived at Baltimore from Curoçoa, with a load of salt, the property of Mr. Gerardus Beekman, a citizen of the State of New York, but now with the enemy in the city of Philadelphia: and whereas, the delegates representing the State of New York have applied for the interposition of Congress, that proper measures might be taken for seizing the salt; and whereas the public service will suffer the most material injury if the most expeditious measures are not adopted for securing this cargo for the use of the United States:

Resolved, That the governor and council of the State of Maryland be desired forthwith to take measures for securing the said salt for the use of the United States, and to cause the same, without delay, to be delivered to the commissary general of purchases, or any of his deputies; and in case the information given to Congress should be ill founded, and that the cargo above-mentioned should be *bona fide* the property of any faithful citizen of these states, or of any foreigner, that the governor and council of the State of Maryland be desired to seize the same, as well as all other quantities of salt, and to cause the same to be delivered, agreeable to the directions above mentioned.

JCC 10: 42-43.

1. For the theft of the dispatches intended for the Continental Congress by Joseph Hynson, see William Bell Clark, *Lambert Wickes, Sea Raider and Diplomat: The Story of a Naval Captain of the Revolution* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 1932), 354-55.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir.

York Town [Pa.] 12th Jan^y. 1778.

I had the honour of writing to Your Excellency the 1st Inst. by Post. I remain without any of Your Excellency's favours.—

Inclosed is an Act of Congress¹ of this date calculated for securing a quantity of Salt lately arrived at Baltimore for public use, as that article is & from all appearance will be most extremely wanted for the Army service, Congress are anxiously desirous of securing every Cargo that is or shall be imported. The term, "secure" in the Resolve, Your Excellency may be assured comprehends the Idea of purchasing

if this shall be judged to be a means preferable to an Act of power.—I have the honour to be [&c.]

Henry Laurens,
President of Congress.

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4566-42. Addressed at the foot: "His Excellency/Gov^r. Johnson/Maryland—." Docketed: "Ltr from President of Congress &/Resolve ab^t seizing Salt/in Baltimore Jan^y. 12th 1778/B."

1. See Journal of the Continental Congress, 12 Jan., immediately above.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy^l Board [Charleston] Monday 12th January 1778—

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commissioner

George Abb^t. Hall, Tho^s Corbett—Esq^{rs}—

The following Orders were drawn on the Treasury in fav^r of—

Dan^l ONeille for the use of the Rope walk £4000 ———

John Moore wages due on board the Floating Battery 154. 17. 6

Jn^o. Calvert Advanced by him for the different Rendezvouses 4095 ———

William Trusler Sundry Acco^{ts} for Beef viz

Brigg *Comet*£728. 14. —

Pilot Boat *Trial* 69..19 —

Rattle Snake 176.. 4.. 6

Floating Battery 39.19. 6

Beaufort Gally 188,, 6.—

Ship Yard 223,,14 —

Pilot Boat *Eagle* 150.. 2 —

Brigg *Notre Dame* 735..14. 6

2312..13. 6

£10,562..11.—

Adjourned to Tomorry Evening 6 oClock

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 133.

1. Words in italics exclusive of ships' names are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776– March 1, 1779.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PERSEUS*, CAPTAIN GEORGE KEITH ELPHINSTONE

January 1778

Ch^s. Town Lighthouse NNW 10 Lgs

Monday 12th:

at 5 AM His Majesty's Ship the *Lizard* joined company, at 8 gave chace to a Sail to the Westward by Signal; at 10 Saw the Land ahead, at Noon in chace with the *Carysfort* and *Lizard*.

N^o. Edisto WNW 4 Leagues

Moderate breezes and clear, PM still in chace, advancing close to the Shore, hoisted out the Boats and Sent them ahead to Sound; at ½ past the chace ran aground; came too with the Best Br^r in 4½ f^{ms}: carried out the Stream Anchor and warped the Ship closer in Shore to the chace, at 2 began

to fire on her (she hoisted Rebel Colours) and kept it up untill half past 4, then Manned and Armed the Boats and sent them with the *Lizards* to Board the Chace, which was an Armed Brig, keeping up a smart fire on the Boats, called them Back, fired at the chace preceding the Sending the Boats, one hundred and twenty five nine pounders; at 8 hoisted in the Boats, weighed and made Sail, and joined the *Carysfort* and *Lizard*,

Tuesday 13th: at Midnight the *Lizard* Seized the Rebel Brig *Ann* from Newbury to Ch^s. Town:¹ at Noon the *Carysfort*, *Lizard* and prise in Company; Spoke a Sloop and Schooner.

D^o: NW 8 or 9 Leagues

Fresh gales and hazy the first and middle parts, latter moderate and clear; PM Cut off from the B^t B^r: Seven, and Small B^r: four fathoms; of bad Cable; Mustered the Ships company; the prize parted company;

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/688.

1. Brig *Ann*, Edward Edwards, master, with bricks and lumber, from Newburyport to Charleston, taken off Stono Inlet, sent to St. Augustine, capture credited to *Lizard*. Howe's Prize List misdates this capture as 1 Jan. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 238-39.

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

House of Assembly

Monday, January 12th: 1778.

Resolved,

That if the Commanding Officer of the Continental Troops in this State will draught such a number of Men from the several Batallions as will Man the Row Gallies, this House will make their pay equal to the pay of the Men now on board the said Gallies for such time as they shall serve on board the same.—

Ordered,

That the said Resolve be communicated to the General¹ and Council that the necessary steps may be taken to carry the same into execution

Extract from the Minutes

J^s: Wood Jun^r: Clk.

LB, DNA, PCC, item 73, p. 149 (M247, roll 87).

1. Maj. Gen. Robert Howe.

January 13

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT

[Boston] Tuesday Jan^y 13. 1778

In the House of Representatives. Upon the Petition of Daniel McNeill¹ and Thomas Harris² setting forth their having entered into Bonds with this Court for the prosecuting a Cruize for Twenty five Days under the Command of Capt. John

Manly, and for which they gave Bonds to the Amount of Six thousand Pounds which Bonds are put in suit and the Cause is now pending before the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Suffolk. The said Court is hereby required to Continue the Action untill the next Term, to the end that the Parties may have an opportunity to settle the same in the manner that has been proposed if they see fit.

In Council Read and Concurred.
Consented to by Fifteen of the Council.

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 38 (Massachusetts General Court Records, 1777–1778), pp. 231–32.

1. McNeill commanded the Massachusetts privateer schooner *America* (16 guns) during her cruise with the Continental Navy frigates *Hancock* and *Boston* in May and June 1777. See *NDAR* 8: 375, 435, 436, 452, 918, 1006–7, 1007n, 1024, 1024n.

2. Harris, a merchant at Boston, was the principal owner of *America*.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 13th. 1778—

Order'd, That M^r Com^y Devens¹ deliver Cap^t Bartlett Holmes for Schooner *Hannah*,²

1 ^{Cwt} ..0 ^{gr} ..— ^{lb} Bread,	10 ^{lb} Candles &
1 quarter Fresh Beef—	2 Bush ^l Potatoes.—
1/2 Cord Wood—	

Order'd, That M^r Ivers³ pay Sam^l Gore for Sundry paint^s

for the Laboratory as P^r Acc^t

472..11.. 4

also, for d^o for Brig^t *Freedom*⁴

2..18..—

£475.. 9.. 4

Order'd, That Eben^r Ruddock for Wharfage Ship *Adams*⁵ as p^r Bill, be p^d
... £4..16..—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 162–63.

1. David Devens, Commissary General of the Massachusetts Board of War.

2. Massachusetts State trading schooner *Hannah*.

3. Thomas Ivers.

4. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Freedom*.

5. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.

GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE TO REAR ADMIRAL SIR PETER PARKER

S^r Providence Jan^y 13th 1778.

We have sent you William Edwards late Master of the British Ship of War *Syren*, in order to be exchanged for the late Master of the Continental Ship *Hancock*¹— We have likewise sent the Surgeon,² & four other Persons late belonging to the *Syren* w^{ch} you will please to Credit us for—

We have not yet rec^d. any of the Prisoners we wrote for from Halifax—As soon as that is done, We will send you the Remainder of the Officers of the *Syren*, (the Cap^t. excepted)³ & some other Officers belonging to the British Navy, whom We have Prisoners.— M^r Hurd & Goodwin who have had Two Men sent for their exchange, I request may be sent up by the first conveyance—I am—

Df, R-Ar, Letters from the Governor (1778–1779), vol. 3, p. 2. Docketed: “Lre to S^r P. Parker/Jan^y 13th. 1778.”

1. John Diamond, Master, Continental Navy.
2. James Hellyar, Surgeon, R.N.
3. Capt. Tobias Furneaux, R.N.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

13th Jan^y Slight frost last night. Soft day. Wind S.

The *Unicorn* returned into Port. She saw nothing the night of the 11th, but a small Schooner at which she fired a good many Cannon shot,¹ and at length drove her ashore within point Judith, but in a situation where she durst not follow her. It is imagined she must have suffered considerably by the fire of the Ship.

An address was presented this day by the Principal Inhabitants of Newport, to Lord Howe, on his arrival in this Port.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 236.

1. Probably schooner *Hawke*, Stutely Williams, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Unicorn*, 11–12 Jan., above.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY

[Extract]

At a meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety held at Hartford January 13th, 1778.

Voted, To draw on the Committee of the Pay-Table in favour of John Smith, lieut. of the ship *Oliver Cromwell* in the service of this State, for the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds, lawful money, to be by him improved in paying the wages of the men he has inlisted and may inlist to serve on board said ship, and to account.

14 Jan^y, order delivered to sd Lieut. Smith. . . .

Hoadly, ed., *Public Records of the State of Connecticut* 1: 510.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN THOMAS READ

Thomas Read Esquire
Sir

[York, Pa.] January 13th 1778

The present situation of the Frigate *Washington* of which you are Commander rendering it very uncertain at what time she may be brought into service, and the desire you have to be active in the service of your Country having induced you to take the Command of the Continental Brig *Baltimore* we now direct that you repair immediately to Baltimore where the said Brig^t lies and as we intend that she shall be fitted out as a packet and under your direction you will without loss of time proceed upon that business and we trust your good judgment will direct the most frugal & beneficial way of manning that vessel. We have wrote to M^r Jonathan Hudson to assist you in the execution of this business,¹ and as the Agents at Baltimore were formerly directed to supply him with any articles in their possession belonging to the public which might be suitable for fitting this Vessel, you will apply to him to know what has been done and what may be had from the Public Stores. We now authorize you to purchase any materials Canon or Stores which may be wanted for fitting this Vessel and to engage on the best terms in your power a proper compli-

ment of men for manning her, but we recommend to you to observe the greatest frugality in all cases—Mr Hudson will assist you, and we would have you advise with him every matter—he will pay off accounts which may arise in the course of the business.—

We would have you get your officers from those already engaged in the service but at this time unemployed. When the Brig is ready to take on board a Cargo you will advise the Commercial Committee who will order her a lading and direct your voyage which you are to obey. The Public dispatches which it is intended you shall carry will also be sent down in due Time, and before you sail you must furnish this Committee with a Compleat inventory of every thing on board your Vessel signed by yourself and officers together with a return of the men on board and the terms on which they are engaged. We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, pp. 120–21 (M332, roll 6).

1. See Continental Marine Committee to Jonathan Hudson, 13 Jan., immediately below.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO JONATHAN HUDSON

M^r Jonathan Hudson
Sir

[York, Pa.] January 13th 1778

This will be delivered you by Thomas Read Esquire Commander of the Continental frigate *Washington* now laid up at Bordenton in the Delaware, who being anxious to be active in the service of his Country, we have appointed to the Command of the Brig *Baltimore* and have determined that she shall be fitted out under his direction. He now goes down to your place for that purpose, and we have directed him to apply to you for assistance and advice¹ in all cases which we hope you will readily give him. You will get from the Agents any public Stores, Cannon, or Materials in their possession which may be suitable for this Brig, and also concert with Captain Read the best and cheapest mode of procuring what is wanted. You will pay all accounts which may arise in the execution of this business, and have them certified by Captain Read where he contracts.

Mess^{rs}. Purviances² have lately informed us that they had delivered you sail Canvas for the use of the Brigantine—you will please to enquire of them for the Cannon Muskets &c left in their care out of one of the Continental Vessels laden'd the last Spring at Baltimore which may now answer, and we hope you have made considerable progress in procuring the Cordage that will be wanted. We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 121 (M332, roll 6).

1. See Continental Marine Committee to Captain Thomas Read, 13 Jan., immediately above.

2. Robert and Samuel Purviance, Jr., merchants at Baltimore.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EXPERIMENT*, CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE

January 1778

[Cape] Henlopen NW $\frac{3}{4}$ W 160 Miles

Tuesday 13th.

AM at 7 Saw a Sail in the NE Quarter out 2nd. Reefs Topsails & made Sail punished Geo: Hookings with one Dozen for Neglect of Duty. the Sloop in Company.¹ at Noon Tack'd.

Ditto NW $\frac{3}{4}$ W 156 Miles

Fresh Gales and Cloudy Saw our prize Sloop bearing SSE distance 3 Lgs. Still in Chace. PM at $\frac{1}{2}$ p^m: 1 fired a Shot and

brought too the Chace She proved to be a Brig from Surnam Bound to Boston Loaden with Molasses.² took 7 Men out of her. and Sent 2 petty Officers and 6 Men onboard Her. at 3 our prize Sloop Joined us. $\frac{3}{4}$ past [3] made sail the Sloop & Schooner in Company. at Midnight backed the Mizen Tops^{ls}: for our prizes.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/331, 113.

1. Sloop *Morning Star*.

2. Brigantine *Sally*, Thomas Vollandine, master, from Surinam to Boston, with molasses and coffee, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 485. She was libelled on 28 Jan. 1778 in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York, UklPR, H.C.A. 49/93, 213-14. *Sally* was ordered appraised as a recapture on 20 Feb. with *Experiment* receiving the recaptor's share of $\frac{1}{2}$ of the ship's value. Her cargo was condemned as lawful prize on the same day. *Ibid.*, H.C.A. 49/94, 19. *Sally's* prize papers give her master's name as Thomas Vallintine, *Ibid.*, H.C.A. 32/447/13.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Tuesday the 13th day of January 1778.—

Frances Massuerre¹ personally appeared before the Board, and resigned his Commission as second Lieutenant of the Ship *Tartar* which is ordered to be filed.— Mr Richard Herbert foreman at the Chickahominy shipyard personally appeared before the Board, and agreed to take twelve shillings and sixpence per day in full of his expences and services at the said yard, which is allowed him, he obliging himself and his apprentices Markham Wood, William Wood and Malachi Manning to continue there for the space of one year from this day.—

DS, VI, Navy Board Journal, 341.

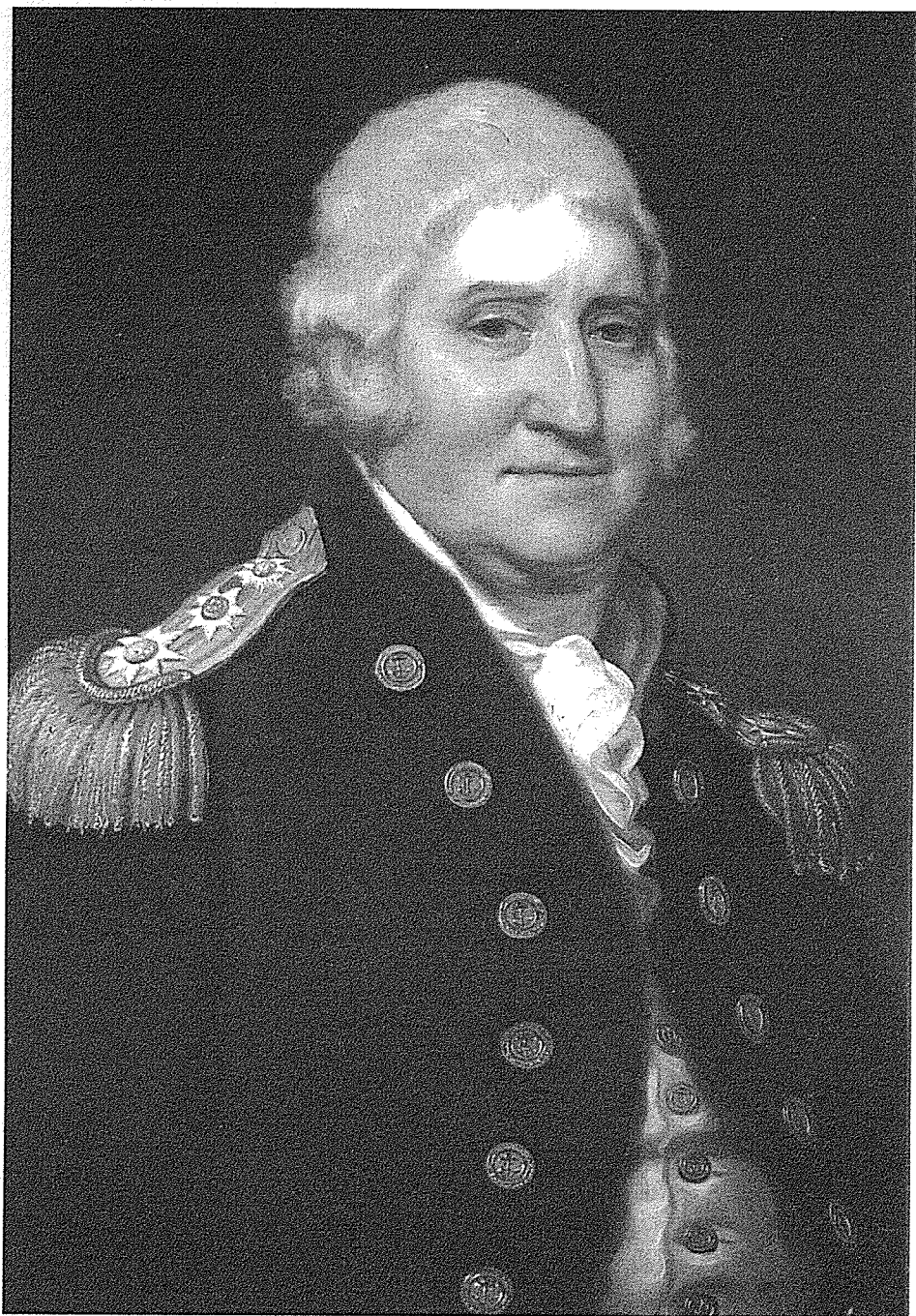
1. Francis Messcares [*Messieres, Messuere, Messares*].

CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL, R.N., TO GOVERNOR PATRICK HENRY

Sir

Emerald, Hampton Road, 13th January 1778.

Having been lately in the Rapahanock, where numbers of Negroes came on board; and as it is not my wish or Intention to distress Individuals, I sent them all on Shore, upon condition, that they should not be ill treated or punished for running away, which I had the strongest Assurances of, from their masters that came for them; yet not withstanding these promises, I have too much reason to fear, they have been extremely ill treated; as many of them came on board two Nights after, they had been returned; complaining much of ill usage, and two with marks of Violent beatings, but as it was not then convenient for me to stay, to inquire into the particulars, I sent them back; as I had given my word, I should receive none; but thought it incumbent upon me to inform you of it; and if a Stop is not put, to such proceedings, both from humanity, and the breach of faith, We shall in future be obliged to keep all that comes to us. I have since my being in this Bay at least, refus'd four hundred, and I am informed the idea on Shore, is, that we land them, to save provisions and water and not from favour; but that is a mistake, for they can always be sent in Prizes, where they are of use, and at this time, thirty would not be inconvenient. The same reason has been given for landing Prisoners, that was given for landing Blacks, but with as little foundation, for when I landed Prisoners last; (the 29th of December,) at which time I wrote to you, there was a convenient,



Admiral Sir Benjamin Caldwell, R.N.

and immediate opportunity of sending them to New York; and mentioned particulars, why they were not sent.

I feel most sensible for this unfortunate war, and the Calamities it occasions, and tho' ambitious to distinguish myself in the execution of my Duty, in Seizing vessels &c^a: hope I do it, with tenderness, to Individuals, and Credit to myself; and I have no doubt Sir, but you will interfere, as far as is in your power, that Justice takes place, with regard to those poor Wretches, I am writing about. I am [&c.]

B. C.

LB, UkLNMM, Benjamin Caldwell Papers, CAL/110, pp. 12–13. Addressed at the foot: "To/Governor Henry/at/Williamsburgh."

CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

Emerald, Hampton Road, 13th January 1778.

My Lord,

I have great satisfaction, in informing Your Lordship, of our having taken three French men, loaded with Tobacco. On Sunday the 4th instant laying with the *Richmond* in Mocksack [*Mobjack*] Bay, at 2 PM, saw two Sail coming down the Bay; we lay quiet for some time, that they should get down the farther; allowing day Light, to get over the Shoal Water, before we weighd, and then gave Chace; my Tender presently brought us a Brig,¹ and Night coming on, and loosing sight of all other Sails, we Anchored; In the morning, saw the *Richmond* in Chace, of a Sloop and Schooner; and immediately gave Chace; the small Vessels got into Shoal Water, and Captain Gidoin sent his Boats to take them, but as they were Armed, the Boats were called of[.]. We then saw two Sail² standing into the Rappahanock-river, and gave them Chace, desiring the *Richmond* to follow with the Prize Brig, then some distance aStern; (as otherwise she might have been Retaken, by the armed Vessels, which we imagine were a kind of Convoy:)

The wind was down the River, and our Pilot was not well enough acquainted to turn the Ship up; but fortunately one of my people, (a regular South Carolina Pilot,) took charge of the Ship, and worked her up in a masterly manner, at 4 PM, the two Sail, a Ship and Snow run a ground; the men left the former, and we took possession of her, and next Evening got her afloat, when the *Richmond* joined me: (with the Brig:) the Snow lay close in Shore, where there was a small Body of Militia, and a Galley³ in a Creek, near her, therefore I order'd Captain Gidoin, (as his Ship draws less water than mine,) to warp his Ship in, next morning (Tuesday the 6th:) by day light, which was done, and upon firing a few Shot, the Frenchmen left the Snow, and the Galley went up the Creek; I then sent an Officer with a Flag on Shore to assure the people, we would not hurt their houses, or do them any kind of damage, if they would not fire upon the Boats, as they must see, both the Village and Snow, were under the Guns; which was agreed to, and in a few Hours she was got of[.].

The Ship has Three hundred and Fifty Eight Hogsheads, the Snow One hundred and Ninety Nine, and the Brig Two hundred, in all seven hundred and Fifty Seven; they were bound to France, but the loss of men, and the Season, had determin'd them to go first to Martinico. I am [&c.]

B. C.

LB, UklNMM, Benjamin Caldwell Papers, CAL/110, pp. 14–15. Addressed at the foot: “To/The Viscount/Howe.”

1. French brig *Alexandrine*, captured on 3 Jan. See notes to Master’s Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 3 Jan., above.

2. Ship *Dragon* and French snow *Elegante*. See notes to Journal of H.M.S. *Emerald*, 4 Jan., above.

3. Probably Virginia Navy galley *Page*, Capt. James Markham, commander.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [Charleston] Tuesday 13th January 1778—

The Board Met According to Adjournment—

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commissioner

Geo Ab^t. Hall, Tho^s Savage, Ed^w Darrell Esq^{rs}—

Captains Hall,¹ Sullivan,² Morgan,³ & Anthony⁴ attended the Board, and reported that they Could not possibly be ready as they could wish, to proceed to Sea on the Intended Expedition, until the next Spring Tides, as it is thought, the Men on board each Vessel, Ought to be stationed & Trained some Little time before they sail—

A Letter to M^r. John Stevenson

Navy Board 13th. Jan^r 1778—

M^r. Stevenson Sir/

You’ll please Order a *Schooner to take*⁵ on board the *Gen^t Moultries* Water now on *Eveleighs Wharf*, and put it on board said Ship as Early as possible tomorrow, as She must Sail in a day or Two

I am Sir y^r Hbl^e Serv^t

Edward Blake first Com^r

A Letter to Captⁿ Nicholas Biddle Esq^r—

Navy Board 13th Jan^r 1778—

Sir/

The Commissioners of the Navy Having been Informed by Captains Hall, Sullivan, Morgan, & Anthony, that they Cannot possibly get the Different Vessels under their Command properly fitted and Clear to proceed to sea as Early as Thursday next (the time they are Informed that you intend to Sail) and as the Success of the Intended Expedition greatly depends on the Vessels being well fitted, and the people properly Quartered, and regularly Exercised to their Duty in Case of Meeting the Enemy at their first going out of Port, and as the Success of the Expedition will probably be attended with very great Advantages to the Continent in General as well as this State in particular—The Commissioners think it would be imprudent to Order the Vessels to Sail before they are fitted & Mann’d and in Clear good Order to make a proper and Vigourous Attack, should they fall in with the Enemy soon after they got to Sea—They therefore request as a particular favour that you will not Sail with the Ship *Randolph*, before the next spring Tides by which time the *Gen^t Moultrie*, *Notre Dame*, *Fair American*, and *Polly* will Certainly be fitted, Mann’d, Clear, and ready to Sail in Company with you—By Order of the Board

I am Sir

Your Most Obed^t Hbl^e Serv^t

Edward Blake first Comm[^r]

To Nicholas Biddle Esq^r—
Commanding the Continental
Frigate *Randolph* }

An order was drawn on the Treasury in fav^r of—
 Stephen Duvall for the *Eagle* Pilot Boats pay bill from } £468— —
 the 4th. Oct^r 1777 to the 4th Ins^t being 3 Months }
 Adjourned to next Thursday Evening 6 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 133–35.

1. Capt. William Hall, commanding the South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame*.
2. Capt. Philip Sullivan, commanding the South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie*.
3. Capt. Charles Morgan, commanding the South Carolina privateer brigantine *Fair American*.
4. Capt. Hezekiah Anthony, commanding the South Carolina privateer brigantine *Polly*.
5. Words in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.

GOVERNOR JOHN DALLING TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

Duplicate

N^o. 13.

Jamaica 13th: January 1778.

My Lord,

I am particularly fortunate that the Sentiments expressed in my Dispatch N^o. 10. are conformable to what your Lordship has declared and recommended in your Letters.—

I have taken the Liberty to enclose Copies of what I wrote to Lord and Sir William Howe,¹ on the Subject of your Lordship's circular Letter of the 3^d. of October, and the List of Vessels which had been then commissioned as Letters of Marque.

The Assembly, from a confidence in me, have put their Publick works, and particularly the Forts and Fortifications, under my immediate inspection, upon which business my attention is now much employed; anxious also to infuse a Spirit of Emulation into our wretched Militia, I have, for that end accepted the command of the Regiment in my own Parish, and intend to provide them with uniforms Arms &c^a but a general reformation must arise legislatively. The absurdity of the Laws of this Island relative to the Free Negroes and Mulattoes render that Set of People a Nuisance, who by our Neighbours are greatly depended on as their first good and Security.

I shall be unwearied till I can, in some degree, rectify this great Evil. In these times a manifestation of our wants and wishes would, even if not ill timed, be teasing and importunate; when our present Enemies shall be subdued, I know that, in future, from the reason of things, an acquiescence of the Mother Country supported by a well regulated Militia, and a proper Disposition of the Free Mulattoes and Negroes will ascertain a Safety to the Island never yet in being.

I am solicitous to get every kind of Intelligence, and shall be particularly careful in not transmitting any but that which may be depended upon; nor shall any Expence be wanting, to obtain it.

A Copy of a Letter from M^r. Burt I have the Honor to transmit to your Lordship,² as to the Ships of Seventy four and fifty four Guns; none of such force are in these Seas, Frigates only have been interfered with by our Cruisers, and their Number now at S^t Domingo about eleven. I flatter myself the French mean nothing hostile; but take the Liberty to observe that in case of a Rupture they will have that force ready for Action in these parts, which they would find it very difficult to send out after a declaration of War; Line of Battle Ships can easily follow. Forgive me, my Lord, for this conception.

I have the honor to be [&c.]

John Dalling

P.S.

I have the Honor to enclose to your Lordship a piece of Intelligence which,³ since writing the above has this night been transmitted to me by a Gentleman who makes it his Business to scrutinize into all Reports coming from our neighbouring Island,⁴ and who, searching after the Author took it down from his own Mouth.

John Dalling

L, UKLPR, C.O. 137/73, fols. 57–59. Addressed at foot of first page: “The Right Hon^{ble}: Lord George Germain &c. &c. &c.” Docketed: “Jamaica 13th. Jan^y: 1778./Governor Dalling./(No. 13)/R. 28 Feb^y./(Dup. Orig^t: not reced)/(5 Inclosures.)/Ent^d.”

1. See NDAR 10: 209, 494.
2. Enclosure no. 4, Gov. William Mathew Burt to Gov. John Dalling, 16 Dec. 1777. Burt reports two French 74-gun ships, one 54-gun ship and some frigates are bound to Cape François from Martinique with troops. This enclosure is not printed.
3. See Declaration of Moses Nathans, 7 Jan., above.
4. Saint-Domingue.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *AURORA*, CAPTAIN JAMES CUMMING

Jan^y: 1778 d^o. [Madeira] N 62:07 E. dis. 829 L[eagues]
 Tuesday 12 d^o. Wea^r: [Squally]
 at 1 PM spoke the Commodore,¹ at 2 made Sail & run ahead of
 the Fleet;² employ’d occasionally
 Wednesday 13 d^o. N 62:51 E. dis. 869 L[eagues]
 Cloudy Wea^r:
 at ½ past 2 PM. saw a strange Sail to which we gave Chace & at
 8 came up with her, when she proved to be the *S^t Peter*, an
 American Privateer of 18 Guns,³ out Cutter & sent our first
 Lieu^t: on board her,⁴ to take Charge & bring her officers &
 men on board our Ship, in laying too carried away our Mizzen
 Mast &c.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/65.

1. H.M.S. *Niger*, Capt. Robert Lambert, commanding.
2. The London convoy.
3. American privateer ship *St. Peter*, Samuel Chace, commander, 200 tons, mounting 18 carriage guns and 23 swivel guns, with a crew of 119 men, from Martinique, on a cruise, sent to English Harbour, Antigua. Young’s Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below. See Capt. James Cumming to Philip Stephens, 14 Jan., below, and NDAR 10: 197, 337, 730, 731, 732, 810.
4. Lt. William Burchell.

January 14

MASTER’S JOURNAL OF H.M. BRIG *CABOT*, LIEUTENANT EDMUND DOD

January 1778 Cape Sambro N^o 29 E^t Dis 39 lg^s Cape Sable N^o 38 lg^s
 Wednesday 14th 40 W Dis 17 lg^s—
 Light Breezes & Clear W^r [AM?] Out 2 Reef M. T. sail & out
 y^c Fore T. sail & 1 Reef of y^c Mainsail Set y^c Jibb y^c Convoy in

Sight Bore Down to windward of y^e Cartell¹ Fresh Gales & Squally Close Reef y^e Topsail & Reef y^e Mainsail Hard Gales & Squally with Snow & Sleet Han[d]ed the Topsail low^d. Down the Mainsail at ½ past 2 Bore away after y^e Carteel She having put before the wind at 3 lost sight of the Carteel hauld up Our courses to Join the Rest of the Convoy Hard Gales with Snow Bro^t too had lost Sight of the Co[n]voy—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1636, fol. 28.

1. Ship *Royal Bounty*, Thomas Compton, master.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 14th. 1778

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l Devens¹ deliver Cap^t Bartlett Holmes for use of Schooner *Hannah*²—

2 Water Casks—

½ B'll Pork— &

2 Beef Barrels—

1 Bread Barel—

1 Bushel Salt—

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver Mess^{rs} Kemble & Thomas four peices Duck for the Brig^t *Nants*³—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers⁴ pay Dineley Wing for repairing a Boat for Brig^t *Massachusetts*⁵. . . . £3..16.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 164–65.

1. David Devens.

2. Massachusetts State trading schooner *Hannah*.

3. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.

4. Thomas Ivers.

5. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.

JOSIAH WATERS TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Dear Sir

Boston January 14. 1778

Your favors of the 2^d & 6th Instant I have rec^d the things you have order'd shall be forwarded as soon as the Teams arive from Norwich—

As to the Lieu^t who it seems was against your being appointed, for his name & circumstances I refer you to M^r Patrick Ward of Groton by whom I was inform'd—

The Ship¹ is Condemn'd & I suppose her Cargo will be sold at Public Auction—the Particulars of her Cargo I cannot give you. she has I suppose a pretty general assortment of dry Goods, Some Flour, Beef &c

Cap^t Lambs² Cargo is Allmost out—he will be with you soon—I am Respectfully Sir [&c.]

Josi Waters

Complim^{ts}. to D^r Wolcot,³ have rec^d his orders and shall endeavor to procure for him What he has requested

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 25, no. 1566. Addressed: "To/Nathaniel Shaw Jun^r Esq^r/Merchant In/New London." Addressed at foot: "Nath^l Shaw Esq^r." Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Josiah Waters/Letter/Jan^r 14 1778." Docketed in another hand: "1566."

1. Ship *Mermaid*, James Cochran, master, prize of Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*, was libelled on 25 Dec. 1777. See *NDAR* 9: 804.
2. Capt. John Lamb, commanding the American letter of marque *Irish Gimblet*, who was unloading his cargo at Boston.
3. Dr. Simon Wolcott of New London.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *HAERLEM*, LIEUTENANT JOHN KNIGHT

Jan^y 1778
 Wednesday 14

[anchored off Penikese Island]

at 3 AM weigh'd and Came to Sail Stood to the Westward at 4 wind Came ahead bore away and at 5 Came to agⁿ in Pennekees Harbour bearings as before at 8 weigh'd and Came to Sail Stood to the E^tward at 9 Run thro Quickss Hole into the Vineyard Sound and Stood to the Eastw^d. Saw a Schooner Boat Gave Chace fired 4 four Pounders Shotted with round and Grape 2 Swivels and 30 Rounds of small arms to bring D^o. too but she run on shore at Noon working into Homles's Hole¹ TK^d occasionally

[anchored off Penikese Island]

First and middle Parts Fresh Gales and Cloudy Latter Fresh Breezes PM at 1 Came too in Homles Hole in 4 fm^s. veer'd to ½ of a Cable the W^t. Chop NbW E^t. Chopp NbE Saw a Sloop Schooner and 2 Pilots Boats at the Head of the Hole sent a Boat and Br^t. them out and anch^d. them Near us the Boat was fired at from the Shore fired 4 four Pounders Shotted to Cover the Boat

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1789, part 8, fol. 225.

1. Holmes's Hole, now Vineyard Haven Harbor, Martha's Vineyard.

WILLIAM CRISPIN TO PRESIDENT THOMAS WHARTON, JR.

[Extract]

Dear Sir

. . . The Officers of the fleet is Settling their Accounts with me up to the 1st of the year Some I have Got to take Money, I therefore hope, by M^r Bradford,¹ I Shall have a further Supply of that Nessa[ry] Article. I have Paid Some of the Officers 3/9 a Rat[ion] of all Species, Which as things is Now, I Believ[e] [is] Low & What the Continential officers are allow[ed].

I am with Respect Yours to Serve

W^m C²

Trenton Jany 14th 1778

L, PHarH, RG 27, Executive Correspondence (loose) of the Supreme Executive Council. Bracketed portions taken from *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st ser., 6: 174. Addressed: "To/His Excellency Tho Wharton Esq^r/President of the State/of Pensylvania at/Lancaster." Docketed: "1778 Jan^y/14th. from/William Crispin."

1. William C. Bradford, paymaster of the Pennsylvania Navy.
2. William Crispin, commissary of the Pennsylvania Navy.

NEWS FROM BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY

BURLINGTON, January 14.

About eight days ago a very large schooner drove on shore upon the Pea patch, in the Delaware, with the ice, richly laden; having on board, 101 hogsheads of rum and spirits, a large quantity of fine and coarse cloth, India silk, bohea tea, &c. &c. The ice having cut the vessel through, the crew delivered themselves to the militia of Salem county, and the principal part of the cargo has been saved and stored in a place of security.

Pennsylvania Packet, or the General Advertiser (Lancaster), 21 Jan. 1778.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Wednesday, January 14, 1778

The Committee on the Treasury brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

Ordered, That a warrant issue on the commissioner of the loan office in the State of Maryland, for 10,000 dollars in favour of the Marine Committee, to answer a demand made by Samuel and Robert Purviance, continental agents in Baltimore; the said committee to be accountable:

JCC 10: 51.

"SIGNALS TO BE OBSERVED BY COMMANDERS IN THE CONTINENTAL NAVY"

- | | |
|----------|--|
| By day | The Ship to Windward must hoist a French Jack at the Fore top Gallant mast head and lower the fore top Gallant Sail or Topsail—
If a Sloop a French Jack at the mast head and lower the foresail—
If a Scooner a French Jack at the Foretop mast head and lower the foresail
The Ships to Leeward must hoist a Continental Jack at the main top Gallant mast head and lower the main top Gallant sail or main top sail
If a Sloop or Scooner they must hoist a Continental Jack at the main topmast head and lower the main sail Then each Vessell to Show her proper Colours at the Ensign Staff The windward Vessell to fire one Gun to Leeward and the Leeward Vessell one to windward— |
| By night | The Ship to windward must Shew two lights aBrest and fire one Gun The Ship to Leeward three lights one above the other and fire two Guns |

NB all Commanders are Strictly ordered to destroy these Signals before the Enemy's Boats board them

York [*Pa.*] January 14th: By order the Hon^{ble}: the Marine Committee

John Brown Secretary

a true Copy of the original

Attest^d. Will^m. Story Clerk to Navy Board Eastern Department

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812). Addressed at foot: "To Sam^l Tucker Esq^r Commander/of the Ship *Boston*—."

SAMUEL AND ROBERT PURVIANCE TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

Baltimore Jan: 14th. 1778

By the Bearer we received this evening a Letter from the President of Congress with Copy of the Resolve of Cong^s.¹ which we presume is now sent to your Excellency. The purport of his Letter to us is to request our best Endeavours either to prevent the Sale or removal of the Cargo of Salt which is referred to by the Resolve, or otherwise to endeavor to secure it for the Public Use, lest it should be dispersed before You can have time to take proper Measures in the Matter—We therefore Judge it proper to advise you what We know of the Matter. Captⁿ Newton Master of the Salt Sloop² called upon us when he arrived, to ask our Advice, having had some Dealings with Us last Winter. We told him the Necessity of the Country for Salt & advised him ags^t selling it in bulk but to retail it out so as to serve as many as possible. This We understand he continues to do, & has as yet only sold About 200 Busl^s besides 100 Busl^s engaged to us in order to cure Provisn^s for Two Cont^l Vessels which We are fitting out,³ & to replace some belonging to another Concern, which we were obliged to let Captⁿ. Nicholson have Before he sailed—As this is the Case & that there is not a probability much more of it can be disposed of before You can take such Steps as you Judge best, We think it fit not to interfere in the Matter unless there is an apparent Necessity to prevent its being dispersed.—We know M^r. Beekman⁴ was concerned in the Sloop last Voyage She made here, & we believe still is so; and We are much inclined to think is no Enemy to the American Cause, having last Year abandond his Residence at New York & taken Refuge in Philad^a.—We have also pretty good Reason to believe that Isaac Gouvernour Esq^r. of Curasso [*Curaçao*] a most Zealous Friend to America, & a Gentleman who has taken great Pains to serve its Cause, is half owner of this Sloop & Cargo. We doubt not that Your Excellency for these Reasons woud Wish to have the Affair conducted with as much delicacy as possible, & so as not to give Just Cause of Umbrage to real Friends.

A Young man who has been in N^o Carolina on Business for us, is Just returned from thence & assures us there are larger Quantities of Salt at Edenton South Key⁵ & Suffolk, so that large Supplies might be expected, did not the Cruisers prevent it. We likewise learn that considerable Quantities are on the Eastern Shore which is prevented coming up by the Enemies Cruisers in the Sound.

Yeiser is set out on the Purchase of Cattle for the Army & has taken a good deal of Cash with him⁶—We shall be ready to advance the Remd^t of our Subscription for that purpose when ever it is called. We are [&c.]

Sam^l & Rob^t Purviance

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4585-35. Addressed: "His Excellency Thomas Johnson Esqr/Annapolis/ Express." Docketed: "14 Jan^y 1778/Sam^l & Rob. Purviance/ab^t seizing Salt in Balt^o."

1. See Journal of the Continental Congress, 12 Jan., above.

2. Capt. [William?] Newton of the sloop *Pennsylvania Farmer*.

3. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Capt. James Nicholson, commander, and Continental packet *Baltimore*.

4. Gerardus Beekman (Beeckman) of New York and Philadelphia.

5. South Quay, Va.

6. Englehard Yeiser was a Baltimore cattle merchant engaged by the commissary general of purchases of the Continental Army to purchase livestock. William Buchanan to Gov. Thomas Johnson, Jr., 12 Jan. 1778, *Calendar of Maryland State Papers*, Number 4, Part 2, *The Red Books* (Annapolis, Md.: Hall of Records Commission of the State of Maryland, 1953), entry 1466, pp. 230-31.

LIBEL FILED AGAINST THE PRIZE SLOOP *LITTLE JOHN* IN MARYLAND ADMIRALTY COURT

State of Maryland Baltimore County SS

To the honourable Benjamin Nicholson Esquire Judge of the Court of Admiralty erected by the honourable Convention of Maryland to take Cognizance of hear, try and determine the Propriety of Captures of vessels and other Property brought into the said State of Maryland pursuant to the Resolves of the honourable Continental Congress & the Law of Nations.—

The Bill of Complaint of John Ryan, Commander of the Ship called *Mary & Elizabeth*, who as well for himself as the Seamen & all others belonging to or concerned in the said Ship on this Behalf prosecuting sheweth that he the said John Ryan did on the first Day of January in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight in then the Jurisdiction of this Court discover on the high Seas and as lawful Prize take the Sloop *Little John* commanded by William Lawence about thirty Tons Burthen together with her Tackle, Apparel Furniture and Cargo. And the said John Ryan doth further show that the said vessel called *Little John*, her Tackle, Apparel, Furniture & Cargo did at the Time of the Capture aforesaid belong to a Subject or Subjects of the King of Great Britain not residing within Bermuda, Providence or the Bahama Islands or any of them And the said John Ryan doth further show that the said Vessel being then and there employed in conveying Provisions & other Necessities to the British Army & Navy then within Some one of the united States of America was on the said first Day of January in the year aforesaid within the Jurisdiction of this Court discovered on the high Seas and as lawful Prize taken together with her Tackle, Apparel, Furniture and Cargo Therefore the said John Ryan prays this honourable Court that the said Vessel with her Tackle, apparel, Furniture & Cargo may be adjudged and condemned as forfeited to the use of the Captors thereof and all others concerned in the said vessel according to the Resolutions of the honourable Continental Congress in that Behalf made & provided & the Law of Nations.—¹

J^c To^y Chase² for Libell^{ts}

DS, PWacD, Sol Feinstone Collection of the American Revolution, no. 885. Docketed: "Jn^o Ryan &/others.—/agit/Sloop *Little John*/ & Cargo) Libel/M^r Gibson/file/M^r J. T. Chase/filed the 14th day of January 1778." William Gibson was register of the Maryland Admiralty Court at Baltimore.

1. The Court of Admiralty adjourned until May. The court ordered *Little John* to be sold on 1 July 1778. D, MdAA, Admiralty Court (Minutes), S 117-3, 7869.

2. Jeremiah Townley Chase, lawyer at Baltimore.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EXPERIMENT*, CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE

January 1778

Wednesday 14thDitto [Cape Henlopen] NW $\frac{3}{4}$ W 156 Miles

at Noon¹ Saw a Sail bearing NEBN. made Sail and Gave Chace. Open'd a Cask of Beef N^o: 4698 Contents 182 Short of Weight 8 & by Acc^t: 4 Pieces—at 11 fired a shot & y^c Chace Lay too She proves to be a Dutch Ship² sent an Officer & 11 Men onb^d: her & took 11 Men out of her at Noon sent her with the Other 2 Prizes³

Ditto NW $\frac{1}{2}$ W 130 Miles

D^o: W^r: [Fresh Gales and Cloudy] PM at 1 Saw a Sail in SE Quarter. made Sail and gave Chace. at 2 Spoke the Chace a

french Ship and Supplied Her with some provisions. at 4 Made Sail for our Prizes they Bore W^t the french Ship Steerd SE. at 6 fresh Gales and Clear W^t at 9 Hand'd the fore Topsail at 11 fresh Breezes and Cloudy the 3 prizes in Company

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/331, fol. 113.

1. Should read "AM."

2. Dutch ship *Margaretta*, Derrick Roiter, master, from Cadiz to Curaçao, with salt, bale goods and cordage, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 485. *Vrouw Margarita* was libelled on 30 Jan. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York, and was reclaimed by her master, Geele Joches Ruyter, and others, on 11 and 12 Mar. 1778. On 1 Apr. the judge denied their request that a commission be sent to Cadiz to prove their claim, and she was condemned as a lawful prize on 13 May. UklPR, H.C.A. 49/93, fol. 218, and 49/94, fols. 30–31, 50, 102–4. Her prize papers are in UklPR, H.C.A. 32/484/1 where her master's name appears as Geele Joches Ruyter.

3. Sloop *Morning Star* and brigantine *Sally*.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Wednesday the 14th day of January 1778.—

Ordered that Mr William Frazier deliver to Captain Richard Taylor two Coils of 1 3/4 inch rope, four ditto of 2 1/2 inch, four ditto of 2 inch, one ditto of 3 1/2 inch and one Coil of six thread Ratline for the use of the Ship *Tartar*.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 342.

VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY PHILIP STEPHENS

Sir,

14 Jan^y 1778

I beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that this comes by the *Lynx* Captⁿ Parry,¹ who with the *Lord Amherst* sail from hence tomorrow Morning for Bluefields and from thence with the Trade the 20th: Ins^t to the Downs, agreeable to their Lordships directions; My having had information of a Rebel Frigate and 2 Privateers being off Cape Antonio² to intercept the Convoy has induced me to send His Majesty's Ship *Æolus* Captain Atkins³ (who is quite clean from the Wharf) to cruize off that Cape and join the Convoy there, with which he is to continue untill they are 120 leagues past the Gulph,⁴ which I hope will meet their Lordships approbation, Captⁿ. Atkins sailed Yesterday Morning to put my Orders in execution—I am sorry to inform their Lordships that since Privateers have been allowed to be fitted out here We have lost a great Number of Men by desertion, they meeting with so much encouragement from the owners of the Vessels that 'tis with the greatest difficulty I can Keep the Fleet under my Command compleatly manned but I do as well as I can without distressing the Trade.

In answer to their Lordships Letter of 9th: Sep^r: inclosing a Paper transmitted to them by Lord Weymouth containing complaints against Captⁿ. Bateman⁵ and Captain Lloyd,⁶ I beg leave to acquaint them that agreeable to their directions I have enquired into the Facts relative to the Two Spanish Brigs and Captⁿ. Bateman refers me to his Letter dated 28th: May last which he sent me on his arrival from that Cruize and which Letter is enclosed for their Lordships information[;]⁷ in regard to the complaint against Captain Lloyd as he is at present at Pensacola I must beg leave to refer their Lordships to the several Letters I received from him, and which were transmitted to their Lordships the 5th: August last.⁸

Since my last to their Lordships (a duplicate of which is enclosed) I have received an other complaint from the Governor of Hispaniola against two Frigates for Burning an American Sloop on their Coast,⁹ One of which Frigates I understand is the *Winchelsea*, Captain Bateman having informed me of the transaction previous to the Receipt of the French Governors Letter, I beg leave to enclose Captain Batemans Letter, a Copy of the Complaint and a Copy of my Orders when he went on that Cruize,¹⁰ the latter I doubt not will be sufficient to satisfy their Lordships that my orders were not deficient.—

I have intercepted a Letter from Mess^{rs}: Fitches Merchants in Kingston enclosing a Bill of Exchange to a Rebel in America which I forwarded to the Lieut^r Governor of this Island¹¹ that the Kings Attorney General's opinion might be taken thereon, and I now beg leave to enclose to their Lordships the intercepted Letter and the Attorney Generals opinion on it.—¹²

In regard to the disposition of the Squadron—His Majesty's Ships *Winchelsea* & *Stork* continue at the careening Wharf but will be very soon ready for Sea: The *Southampton* is ready for Sea and waiting to Convoy the two Ships to Pensacola that are expected from England in the next Convoy: The *Atalanta* is still at Pensacola, the *Hornet* is getting ready for Sea when she is to proceed to Pensacola to relieve the *Atalanta*, whom I shall order to proceed to England with the Convoy as directed by their Lordships:

The *Lowestoffe*, *Glasgow* & *Badger* are on a Cruize the *Diligence* at Turk Island: The Two *Floridas* Sloops¹³ are on their Station. The *Porpoise* and *Racehorse* at the North side to collect the Trade & convoy them to Bluefields: The *Porcupine* is at the Bay of Honduras—The *Glasgow* has been at Sea 14 Weeks I have expected her to return for sometime past, The last Account I had of her was, by a prize she sent in, that she was in chase of a large Ship supposed to be an American Frigate, I am therefore at a loss to determine what is become of her.—

Inclosed I send the State and Condition of His Majesty's Ships in Port together with the List of Officers made and removed since the 25th: Octobr last;¹⁴ The whole Number of Prizes taken to this day is 219 Sail. I am with great respect Sir, [&c.]

Clark Gayton

Antelope Port Royal
Harbor Jamaica 14th:
January 1778

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240, fols. 493–95. Addressed at foot of first page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r." Notation in Gayton's hand: "My letter to the/Admiralty/N^o 2."

1. Capt. Francis Parry, R.N.
2. Cabo San Antonio, Cuba.
3. Capt. Christopher Atkins, R.N.
4. Gulf of Florida.
5. Capt. Nathaniel Bateman, R.N..
6. Comdr. Thomas Lloyd, commanding H.M. sloop *Atalanta*.

7. Enclosure not found. At this point Stephens inserted a check mark in the margin signifying attention.

8. See *NDAR* 9: 716, 716n. In the margin is a pointed hand by Stephens indicating attention.

9. See Governor Comte d'Argout to Governor John Dalling, 16 Jan., Governor John Dalling to Governor Comte d'Argout, 31 Jan., and Vice Admiral Clark Gayton to Governor Comte d'Argout, 2 Feb., below. See also *NDAR* 10: 618, 629, 636–38, 719–21, 741–42.

10. Enclosures not found. In the margin are three check marks by Stephens signifying attention.

11. John Dalling, now governor of Jamaica.

12. In the margin are two check marks by Stephens indicating attention.
 13. H.M. sloop *Florida*, Lt. John Osborn, commander, and H.M. sloop *West Florida*, Lt. George Burdon, commander.
 14. In the margin are two check marks by Stephens signifying attention.

EDWARD BYAM, JUDGE OF THE VICE ADMIRALTY COURT OF ANTIGUA, TO
 SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY PHILIP STEPHENS

(Duplicate)

Sir, Antigua January the 14th. 1778
 In Obedience to the Commands of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, signified to me by Your Letter of the 30th. of September last, which I had the Honour to receive on the 15th. of last Month, I do now transmit to You, for their Lordship's Information, four several Lists, including all the Captures which have been condemned in the Vice Admiralty Court of this Island since the breaking out of the Rebellion in North America, specifying by whom taken, and under what Commission, if any; to whom condemned, the Grounds of such Condemnation; and the Amount, and Disposal of the Produce of such of the said Captures as have been condemned as Droits of Admiralty: And I beg Leave to express my Hopes that the Plan I have adopted in the Arrangement of these Lists, and the Mode in which I have classed the several Captures, may answer their Lordship's Purposes, and meet with their Approbation.

I pray, Sir, You will please to inform their Lordship's that it was not in my Power to comply with their Order so immediately as to transmit these Lists by the Packet which brought me Your Letter, as she remained at this Place only eight, and forty Hours, and it was not possible that the Lists could be completed in that space of Time. I have the Honour to be Sir, [&c.]

Edward Byam
 Judge of the Court of
 Vice Admiralty of
 Antigua.

Duplicate, UkLPR, Adm. 1/3885. Addressed below close: "Philip Stephens Esq^r/Secretary to the Lords Commissioners of the/ Admiralty—."

LISTS OF PRIZES CONDEMNED IN THE VICE ADMIRALTY COURT OF ANTIGUA

[Antigua 14 January 1778]

N^o: 1.

(Duplicate.)

A List of Captures made by His Majesty's Ships of War since the breaking out of the Rebellion in North America, and which have been condemned in the Court of Vice-Admiralty of Antigua; The Grounds of such Condemnations being an Act of Parliament passed in the sixteenth Year of his present Majesty for prohibiting all Trade and Intercourse with the Colonies in Rebellion, specifying by whom such Captures were made, and which agreeable to the said Act have been Condemned to the Captors.—

Captures.	Masters Names.	When Condemned.	By what Man of War taken.	By whom Commanded.—
Sloop <i>Betsy & Polly</i>	Hezek ^h . Perkins	March 12 th . 1776.	<i>Pomona</i>	William Young
Ship <i>Two Brothers</i>	James Johnson	ditto	<i>Experiment</i>	Robert Keeler
Brig <i>Greyhound</i>	Walter Stephens	ditto	<i>Argo</i>	William Garnier
Sloop <i>Two Brothers</i>	Jared Starr	ditto	<i>Viper</i>	Samuel Graves.
Ship <i>Peggy</i>	Charles Kirby	ditto	ditto	ditto
Schooner <i>Elizabeth</i>	Benjamin Davis	ditto	ditto	ditto
Sloop <i>Sally</i>	Wilkie Dodge	ditto	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq.
Sloop <i>Diamond</i>	Peter Whitney	ditto	<i>Pomona</i>	William Young
Schooner <i>Polly</i>	Mathew Van Alstyn	ditto	Ditto	Ditto
Brig <i>America</i>	Jonathan Lambert	ditto	<i>Lynx</i>	Alexander Scott
Ship <i>Chester</i>	David Ridley	ditto	<i>Viper</i>	Samuel Graves
Sloop <i>America</i>	Robert Campbell	ditto	Ditto	Ditto
Sloop <i>Maryland</i>	Samuel Sweet	March 21 st . 1776	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq.
Brig <i>Tarter</i>	Benjamin Deane	29 th .	<i>Viper</i>	Samuel Graves
Brig <i>Dove</i>	Wilkinson Timmons	ditto	<i>Hind</i>	Henry Bryne
Schooner <i>Sally & Betsy</i>	James Green	April 3 ^d : 1776	<i>Lynx</i>	Robert Keeler
Brig: <i>Betsy</i>	Thomas Wood	ditto	<i>Argo</i>	William Garnier.
Brig: <i>Sawney</i>	Robert Woodhouse	April 18th	<i>Viper</i>	Samuel Graves.
Schooner name unknown		ditto	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq.

Sloop <i>Sally</i>	Nathaniel Packard	ditto	<i>Pomona</i>	William Young
Brig <i>Falmouth</i>	John Martin	May 18th 1776.	<i>Argo.</i>	William Garnier
Sloop <i>Elizabeth</i>	John Chace	ditto	<i>Pomona</i>	William Young
Schooner <i>Bumper</i>	Henry Mosely	ditto	Ditto	Ditto
Schooner <i>Nancy</i>	Samuel Hinckly	May 9th	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq.
Sloop <i>Speedwell</i>	Thomas Davis	22 ^d .	<i>Experiment</i>	Alexander Scott.
Brig: <i>Neptune</i>	Hugh Russell	ditto	<i>Pomona</i>	William Young
Sloop <i>Peggy</i>	John Robinson	June 5 th . 1776	<i>Liverpool</i>	Henry Bellew
Brig: <i>Ellyatt</i> ¹	William Hallock	19th	<i>Hawke</i>	Robert Palliser Cowper
Brig: <i>Fair-Haven</i>	Nathaniel Delano	ditto	ditto	Ditto
Sloop <i>Two Brothers</i>	Sangford Thompson	27 th .	<i>Pomona</i>	Thomas Eastwood
Brig: <i>Two Brothers</i>	Holden Mason	July 4 th . 1776	<i>Hawke</i>	Robert Palliser Cowper
Ship <i>Africa</i>	Joseph Ripley	ditto	<i>Hind</i>	Henry Bryne
Sloop <i>Prince of Orange</i>	Ebenazar Waterous	July 19th	<i>Pomona</i>	Thomas Eastwood
Schooner <i>Dolphin</i>	Thomas Woodhouse	ditto	<i>Roebuck</i>	Andrew Snaip Hammond
Sloop <i>Sally</i>	Giles Buckingham	ditto	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq
Brig: <i>Resolution</i>	Samuel Stacey	July 23 ^d .	Ditto	Ditto
Sloop <i>Daniel</i>	Daniel Darby	29 th .	<i>Weazle</i>	Samuel Warren.
Brig: <i>Hester</i>	John Marshall	August 7th 1776	Ditto	Ditto
Sloop <i>Speedwell</i>	Jos ^h . Manchester	15 th .	<i>Hind</i>	Henry Bryne
Schooner <i>Fair Lady</i>	Ephraim Farnham	September 18 th . 1776	<i>Seaford</i>	John Colpoys
Sloop <i>Maria</i>	Amos Hewitt	October 1 st . 1776	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq
Schooner <i>Molly</i>	Neil Campbell	October 1 st . 1776	<i>Endeavour</i>	Francis Tinsley
			Armed Brig	
Schooner <i>Absalom</i>	John Cales	10th	<i>Seaford</i>	John Colpoys
Schooner <i>Three Friends</i>	Benjamin Eldridge	ditto	<i>Galatea</i>	Thomas Jordan
Sloop <i>Robert</i>	Jesse Howell	15th	<i>Shark</i>	John Chapman
*Brig: <i>Putman</i> , Privateer ²	Christ ^r . Whipple	November 26: 1776	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq
Brig: <i>Independence</i>	Stephen Tinker	Decem ^r . 5 th :	ditto	Ditto
Schooner <i>Betsey</i>	Robert Lennis	10th	ditto	Ditto

LISTS OF PRIZES CONDEMNED IN THE VICE ADMIRALTY COURT OF ANTIGUA—*Continued*

Captures.	Masters Names.	When Condemned.	By what Man of War taken.	By whom Commanded.—
Brig: <i>S^t George</i>	John Taylor	ditto	<i>Pomona</i>	Thomas Eastwood.
Sloop <i>Susanna</i>	Seth Ewell	Dec ^r : 17th	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq
Sloop <i>Sally</i>	William M ^c Cullock	ditto	ditto	Ditto
Schooner <i>Young Shark</i>	Ezra Fields	Decem ^r : 24th	<i>Seaford</i>	John Colpoys.
Sloop <i>Mary</i>	Thomas Lauvies	31 st :	ditto	Ditto
Sloop <i>Lively</i>	Jonathan Parsons	January 9th 1777.	<i>Unicorn</i>	John Ford
Schooner <i>Hope</i>	William Ross	14th	<i>Hind</i>	Henry Bryne
Sloop <i>Pigeon</i>	John Smith	24th.	<i>Roebuck</i>	Andrew Snaip Hammond
Schooner <i>Three Friends</i>	Jer ^h . Dickenson	February 18: 1777	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq
Brig: <i>Prince Frederick</i>	Hector M ^c Allister	ditto	ditto	Ditto
Brig: <i>Adventure</i>	Lawrence Langford	ditto	<i>Roebuck</i>	Andrew Snaip Hammond
Sloop <i>Peggy</i>	Alex ^r : Thompson	ditto	ditto	Ditto
Sloop <i>Speedwell</i>	— Hazard. ³	20th	<i>Perseus</i>	George Keith Elphinstone
Schooner <i>Sea-Flower</i>	Thomas Croker	March 3 ^d .	<i>Falcon</i>	John Linzee
Snow <i>Adventure</i>	William Coffin	14th	<i>Perseus</i>	George Keith Elphinstone
Sloop <i>John</i>	John Cockran	ditto	<i>Seaford</i>	John Colpoys
Schooner <i>Union</i>	Jean Collineau	ditto	<i>Perseus</i>	George Keith Elphinstone
Sloop <i>Adventure</i>	Thomas Nowell	ditto	ditto	Ditto
Sloop <i>Dartmouth</i>	James Littlefield	18th	<i>Mermaid</i>	James Hawker.
Sloop <i>Perseverance</i>	James Parker	25th	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq
Schooner <i>Champion</i>	Joseph Haskell	April 4th	<i>Perseus</i>	Charles Phipps
Schooner <i>Betsy</i>	John Holmes	ditto	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq
Sloop <i>Betsy</i>	James Howard	ditto	ditto	Ditto
Schooner <i>Ranger</i>	William Davis	ditto	<i>Camilla</i>	John Linzee
Sloop <i>Adriana</i>	George Codwise	10th	<i>Antigua & Endeavour</i>	W ^m . Sweeny & Fra ^s : Tinsley
Sloop <i>Mermaid</i>	John Bishop	ditto	<i>Galatea & Nautilus</i>	Tho ^s . Jordan & Jn ^o . Collins

Schooner <i>Rose</i>	Solomon Bunker	24th	<i>Antigua</i>	William Sweeny
Schooner <i>Spry</i>	William Yardsley	ditto	ditto	Ditto
Sloop <i>Ranger</i>	Daniel Bigelow	28th	ditto	Ditto
Sloop <i>Polly</i>	Thomas Dickenson	May 8th	<i>Beaver</i>	James Jones
Schooner <i>Dolphin</i>	And ^w . M ^c Kenzie	12th	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq
Brig <i>Juno</i>	Isaac Coleman	22 ^d .	<i>Otter</i>	Matthew Squires
Sloop <i>Nancy</i>	Samuel Dunwell	ditto	ditto	Ditto
Sloop <i>Betsy</i>	Will ^m . Richardson	June 18th	<i>Cygnat</i>	Robert Stratford
*Brig. <i>Musketo</i> Priv ^{tr} 4	John Harris	July 10th.	<i>Ariadne</i>	Thomas Pringle
Schooner <i>Jenny</i>	George Ralls	June 25th	<i>Seaford</i>	John Colpoys
Brig: <i>Sampson</i>	Timothy Jarvis	Decem ^r . 16th.	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq
Brig: <i>Peggy & Katey</i>	W ^m . Rowntree ⁵	ditto	ditto	Ditto
Schooner <i>Success</i>	James Burrows	ditto	ditto	Ditto
Schooner <i>Brothers</i>	W ^m . Cunningham	Decem ^r . 31 st .	<i>Seaford</i>	John Colpoys
Sloop <i>Maria</i>	Israel Obar ⁶	January 9th 1778	<i>Portland</i>	Thomas Dumaresq

* American Privateers

N^o. 2

(Duplicate.)

A List of Captures made by sundry Persons without Commissions since the breaking out of the Rebellion in North America and which have been Condemned as Droits of Admiralty in the Court of Vice Admiralty of Antigua; the Grounds of such Condemnations being an Act of Parliament passed in the Sixteenth Year of His present Majesty for prohibiting all Trade and Intercourse with the Colonies in Rebellion, specifying by whom such Captures were made, and the disposal and amount of the Produce of the said Captures.—

Captures.	Masters Names.	When Condemned.	By whom & where Seized and taken	Amount of Sales in Current Money	Disposal.	
					To His Majesty	To The Captors.
Brig <i>Dolphin</i>	Hugh Smith	March 12 th : 1776	Bertie Entwisle	1140.. 3..—	570.. 1.. 6	570.. 1.. 6

LISTS OF PRIZES CONDEMNED IN THE VICE ADMIRALTY COURT OF ANTIGUA—*Continued*

Captures.	Masters Names.	When Condemned.	By whom & where Seized and taken	Amount of Sales in Current Money	Disposal.	
					To His Majesty	To The Captors.
Schooner <i>Fanny</i>	James Mahony	ditto	John Fletcher	106..12.. 4	53.. 6.. 2	53.. 6.. 2
Schooner <i>Two Brothers</i>	Smith Milliner	15 th .	Bertie Entwisle	274..17.. 6	137.. 8.. 9	137.. 8.. 9
Schooner <i>Thomas</i>	James M ^c Cabe	21 st	John Fletcher	150..14.. 4	75.. 7.. 2	75.. 7.. 2
Brig <i>Harriott</i>	John Southcomb	April 18th	Ditto	1571..11.. 8	785..15..10	785..15..10
Sloop <i>Cæsar</i>	Thomas Prizgar	January 28th 1777.	Rich ^d . Joseph & Jn ^o . Murray	256..19.. 7	128.. 9.. 9½	128.. 9.. 9½
Schooner <i>Pellican</i>	Michael Dupuy	November 5th 1776.	The Mariners at Sea	1121.. 8.. 9	505..18.. 1½	615..10.. 7½
Ship <i>Reynolds</i>	Gideon Manchester	December 10th	Ditto	<u>1409..16.. 7½</u>	<u>621..14.. 3½</u>	<u>788.. 2.. 4</u>
			Amount—	<u>£6032.. 3.. 9½</u>	<u>£2878.. 1.. 7½</u>	<u>£3154.. 2.. 2</u>
N ^o . 3.			(Duplicate)			

A List of Captures made by sundry Non-Commissioned Vessels since the breaking out of the Rebellion in North America and which have been condemned to His Majesty as Droits of Admiralty in the Court of Vice-Admiralty of Antigua the Grounds of such Condemnations being an Act of Parliament passed in the Sixteenth Year of his present Majesty for prohibiting all Trade and Intercourse with the Colonies in Rebellion specifying by what Vessels such Captures were made and the amount of the Produce thereof, such Produce having been ordered to be paid to the Owners of the said Non-Commissioned Vessels, as a Reward for the expence and trouble attending their equipping and fitting out those Vessels, on sufficient Security being given by the said Owners to refund the said Produce, or such part thereof as His Majesty may please to direct.

Captures.	Master's Names.	When Condemned.	By what Non-Commissioned Vessel taken	By whom Commanded.	Amo ^t of Sales in Current Money.
Sloop <i>Mary</i>	Giles Mansfield	Janu ^a : 28 th : 1777.	Sloop <i>Reprizal</i>	Morto Downey	£ 559..17.. 2¼
Schooner <i>Resolution</i>	John Carey	ditto	ditto	ditto	2948.. 2.. 9¾
Schooner <i>Adventure</i>	Thomas Robinson	Feb ^y : 5th.	ditto	William Bell	1770..19.. 4

Schooner <i>Sea-Flowe</i> [r]	Joshua Farnham	13th	Schooner <i>Laurel</i>	James Robinson	443. 3.. 1
*Priv ^{tr} Sch ^r <i>Diana</i>	David Davis	18th	Schooner <i>Stagg</i>	Edward Barnes	849.. 9.. 4
Sloop <i>Polly</i>	Seth Griffin	ditto	Schooner <i>Laurel</i>	James Robinson	651..15..11
Sloop <i>Elizabeth</i>	Stafford Dickenson	20th	Sloop <i>Reprizal</i>	William Bell	2900..14.. 5½
Schooner <i>Savage</i>	Edmund Standin	ditto	Schooner <i>Stagg</i>	Edward Barnes	1456..14.. 2¼
Brigg <i>Three Adventurers</i>	Ebenezer Lane	25th	Schooner <i>Try-all</i>	William Jardine	1260..14.. 0¼
Schooner <i>Polly</i>	Elisha Butler	ditto	Schooner <i>Stagg</i>	Edward Barnes	154.. 2.. 5
Brig: <i>Freedom</i>	Joseph Hudson	March 3 ^d :	Schooner <i>Laurel</i>	James Robinson	2455..18.. 8½
Schooner <i>Nancy</i>	James Clarkson	20th	Sloop <i>Reprizal</i>	William Bell	666.. 4.. 5
Sloop <i>John</i>	John Ducker	27th	Schooner <i>Royal George</i>	Benja ⁿ . Roberts	880.. 0.. 6½
Two Negro Slaves		ditto	Schooner <i>Stagg</i>	Edward Barnes	94..15.. 0
Sloop <i>Betsy</i>	John Tucker	31 st .	Sloop <i>Reprizal</i>	William Bell	589..17.. 7
Schooner <i>Mars</i>	Benj ^a . Tatem	May 8th.	Schooner <i>Surprize</i>	James Morres	2361..14.. 9½
Brig: <i>Squirrel</i>	Jonathan Paine	15th.	Schooner <i>Laurel</i>	James Robinson	2420.. 6.. 5
*Priv ^{tr} Sch ^r <i>Speaker</i>	John Welch	20th	Schooner <i>Surprize</i>	James Morres	657..13.. 8½
Sloop <i>Two Brothers</i>	Thomas Clements	June 2 nd .	Sch ^{rs} : <i>Laurel & Greyhound</i>	Ja ^s . Robinson & Jos ^h . Berry	3325..14.. 1¼
Schooner <i>Sally</i>	Thomas Place	6th	Schooner <i>Surprize</i>	James Morres	2529..11.. 2
Schooner <i>John</i>	Rich ^d . Quartermass	ditto	Ditto	Ditto	715..13.. 3
Sloop <i>Charm^s Polly</i>	Malcolm M ^c Aulay	16th	Schooner <i>Greyhound</i>	Joseph Berry	1947.. 1.. [?]
Sloop <i>Eagle</i>	Hugh Gibson	ditto	Schooner <i>Laurel</i>	James Robinson	3710..16.. [?]
Polacre <i>L'Huron</i>	François Godin	18th	Sch ^{rs} . <i>Surprize & Ranger</i>	Ja ^s . Morris & W ^m . Farley	4183.. 0.. 2
Schooner <i>Putnam</i>	Johannes Watson	July 2 ^d .	Schooner <i>Ranger</i>	William Farley	1546.. 2.. 3
*Priv ^{tr} . Sloop <i>Christiana</i>	Joseph White	Aug ^t : 21 st .	Sloop <i>Ranger</i>	Stephen Phillips	1322..12.. 9
Sloop <i>La Fortune</i>	François Serge	ditto	Ships <i>Lord No[r]th &</i>	Geo: Ross & W ^m . Baddicum	499.. 0..10
*Priv ^{tr} : Sloop <i>Swallow</i> ⁷	Sylvester Gray	ditto	Sloop <i>Ranger</i>	Stephen Philips	852.. 2.. 6

LISTS OF PRIZES CONDEMNED IN THE VICE ADMIRALTY COURT OF ANTIGUA—*Continued*

Captures.	Master's Names.	When Condemned.	By what Non-Commissioned Vessel taken	By whom Commanded.	Amo ^t of Sales in Current Money.
Sch ^r : <i>Little Alexander</i>	W ^m . Walker Humphrey	Jan ^r : 15 th : 1777	<i>Hillsborough</i> Packet	George Blackhall	<u>938.. 6.. 0</u> <u>£44692.. 5.. 1¼</u>

* American Privateers.

N^o. 4.

(Duplicate.)

A List of Captures made by sundry Vessels Commissioned pursuant to an Act of Parliament passed in the seventeenth Year of his present Majesty to enable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to grant Commissions to private Ships and Vessels since the breaking out of the Rebellion in North America, and which have been Condemned in the Court of Vice-Admiralty of Antigua, The Grounds of such Condemnations being the above Act of Parliament, specifying by what Vessels and under what Commissions such Captures have been made, and which agreeable to the said Act have been Condemned to the Captors.—

Captures.	Masters Names.	When Condemned.	By what private Vessel of War taken	By whom Commanded.	From whom The Commission—
Sloop <i>Endeavour</i>	Solomon Davis	Septem ^r : 15 th . 1777.	Ship <i>Valiant</i>	John Naylor	High Court of Admiralty
Schooner <i>Industry</i>	John Bennett	December 4th	Sloop <i>Harlequin</i>	Joseph Merry	His Excellency the General
Schooner <i>Cherokee</i>	Thomas Case	ditto	Schooner <i>Surprize</i>	William Garnett	Ditto
Sloop <i>Friendship</i>	Arthur Davis	23 ^d .	Sloop <i>Harlequin</i>	Joseph Merry	Ditto
Brig <i>Polly</i>	Joshua Hills	January 9th 1778	Ship <i>Stanley</i>	John Langford	High Court of Admiralty
Schooner <i>Elizabeth</i>	Uzziel Clarke	ditto	Schooner <i>Hawke</i>	Edward Barnes	His Excellency the General

Duplicate, UkLPR, Adm. 1/3885. Enclosed in Edward Byam to Philip Stephens, 14 Jan., above. Appended to these lists are certifications of authenticity, by George William Jordan, Register, Samuel Henry Warner, Marshall, and Edward Byam, Judge, of the Vice Admiralty Court of Antigua.

1. Brig *Elliot*. NDAR 5: 331, 855.
2. Rhode Island privateer brig *Putnam*. NDAR 7: 24.
3. John Hazard, master. NDAR 8: 1057.
4. Virginia Navy brig *Musquetto* [*Musketo*]. NDAR 9: 19–20.
5. William Roundtree, master. NDAR 10: 563, 777.
6. Israel Foster Omer, master. NDAR 10: 721, 777.
7. Pennsylvania privateer sloop *Swallow*. NDAR 9: 237.

CAPTAIN JAMES CUMMING, R.N., TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY PHILIP STEPHENS

Sir/

Aurora at Barbados Jan^y 14th. 1778.

Please to acquaint My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that His Majesty's Ship *Aurora* under my Command being ordered by Cap^t Lambert¹ to go ahead of the Fleet & make the Island of Barbados on the 12th. Instant, I fell in with & took on the 13th. the *S^t Peter* Rebel Privateer commanded by Sam^l Chace, of 18, 6 P^{rs}. & 130 Men,² which Ship had been out of Martinico 5 weeks on a Cruize & had taken the *Industry* — — Darling Master³ from London bound to this Island with Provisions, a Brig of 16 Guns parted from him the day before, that had been cruizing with him—I am Sir [&c.]

Ja^s. Cumming

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/1612, section 28, no. 1. Addressed below close: "Ph Stephens Esq^r—." Note by Stephens on back: "3 April/Publish it in the/Gazette."

1. Capt. Robert Lambert, commanding H.M.S. *Niger*.

2. See Journal of H.M.S. *Aurora*, 12–13 Jan., above.

3. Ship *Industry*, T. Darling, master, 200 tons burthen, built at Bristol, England, in 1765, bound from London to Jamaica. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *AURORA*, CAPTAIN JAMES CUMMING

Jan^y 1778

d^o. [Madeira] N 62:51 E. dis. 869 L[eags:]

Wednesday 14

at 2 AM saw the Island of Barbados bearing W. dist. 10 Leag^s
at 11 AM came to an Anchor in Carlisle bay, with our prize,¹ &
found the fleet,² riding here.

At Anchor in Carlisle Bay Barbadoes Needhams Fort So.
dist, 4 Miles

Fine Wea^r: [PM] Employ'd in setting up the Rigging Fore & Aft,
Distributed the Prisoners, among the Men of War, to go round
to Antigua;

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/65, 133–34.

1. American privateer ship *St. Peter*, Samuel Chace, commander.

2. The London convoy.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

January 1778

[approaching Barbados in Lat. 13^o..00' N^o.]

Wednesday 14th:

AM D^o. W^r: [Moderate & Cloudy] At ½ past 2 heard Guns
fired to the W^tward at 3 one of the Convoy¹ fired a Gun &
made the Signal for seeing the Land D^o. fired a Gun &
answ^d. her Sig^l. D^o. fired 6 Guns & brought too with our
Starb^d. Tk^d. on board Saw Barbadoes. NWbW 4 or 5 Leag^s
at 4 the W^t-ermost Part WNW ½ W the N^o-ermost part NNE
D^o. Sounded 80 fathoms no Ground at ½ past 5 made Sail
fired a Gun & made the Sig^l for Anchoring At ½ past 7
Came to an Anchor with the Best B^r in 30 fathoms W^r in
Carlisle Bay & Veered away to a whole Cable the Fort E ½
N the Church NEbN Pelican Point NBW ½ W dist off

shore 1 ½ Mile found Riding here His Majestys Ship *Hind* with the Bristol Fleet & 2 Sail more of Men of War anchord with us the *Deal Castle, Hound & Sylph* & 80 Sail of the Convoy at 10 Fired a Gun & made the Sig^l for all Cruizers, at 11 the Sig^l for all Masters of Merchantmen at 11 Anchord here the *Aurora* with her Mizⁿ. mast gone & a Rebel Privateer which she had taken.² Long Boat a Watering.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. The London convoy.
2. American privateer ship *St. Peter*, Samuel Chace, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *HOUND*, COMMANDER JOSEPH NUNN

January 1778
Wednesday 14

Barbadoes N^o 84.47 W 59 Leagues

The Convoy¹ 6 Leagues a Stern shortned Sail at 1 AM Saw the Island of Barbadoes bearing NNW 5 Leagues brought to and made the Signal for seeing the Island at 4 Joyned the fleet the Commodore made the Signal to bring to on the Starboard Tack at 6 the fleet made Sail and Ran into Carlisle Bay at 8 spoke his Majestys Sloop *Ceres* on a Cruize at 11 Let go our Best Bower in Carlisle Road drove of [f] the Bank hove up the Anchor and Came to Sail D^o the *Aurora* brought in the *S^t Peter* Rebel Privateer of 20 Guns taken the Evening before²

Laying to off Carlisle Bay Barbadoes
Fresh gales and Showery W^r
at 3 An Officer came from the Commodore with Orders for us to Bear Down to and keep Company with the *Duke of Chandoss* who had driven of [f] the Bank at 6 Came to with the best Bower in 45 fm^s Water in Carlisle Bay Veerd away two Cables sent Our Long Boat on Board the *Aurora* for 8 Prisoners

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/463.

1. The London convoy.
2. American privateer ship *St. Peter*, Samuel Chace, commander. See Captain James Cumming, R.N., to Philip Stephens, 14 Jan., above, and Young's Prize List, 14 Mar., below.

January 15

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 15th. 1778.

Voted, That Col^o. Glover¹ & Cap^t Phillips² be a Committee to consider what is necessary to be done with the Sloop *Republick*³ arrived at York⁴ & act with Regard to her as they may think best—

Order'd, That Caleb Davis Esq^r be charg'd the Amount of Sundry's supplied Brig^t *Hazard*⁵. . . . £9041.. 9.. 2 —

Order'd, That M^r Ivers⁶ pay Elisha Brewster for sundry Stores for Schooner *Hannah*,⁷ as p^r his Acc^o. . . £18..17.. 8 —

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 165-69.

1. Col. Jonathan Glover.
2. Capt. Isaac Phillips.
3. Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic*, Capt. John Carey.
4. York, Me.
5. Massachusetts Navy brig *Hazard*.
6. Thomas Ivers.
7. Massachusetts State trading schooner *Hannah*.

THE CONTINENTAL JOURNAL, AND WEEKLY ADVERTISER (BOSTON),
THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1778

BOSTON, JANUARY 15, 1778.

Yesterday arrived in port the privateer brigantine *Speedwell*,¹ Capt. Greely;² She took on her cruise a brigantine from Lisbon bound to London, Daniel Bruce, master;³ with 300 pipes of Madeira wine, and a quantity of cordage, &c. &c. which it is hop'd will arrive safe in port.

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Speedwell*.
2. Capt. Jonathan Greely.
3. Brigantine *Brothers* was retaken on 12 Dec. 1777 by H.M.S. *Blonde* near Casco Bay and sent to Halifax. See NDAR 10: 710-11, 711n.

THE INDEPENDENT CHRONICLE, AND THE UNIVERSAL ADVERTISER (BOSTON),
THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1778

BOSTON, JANUARY 15.

Tuesday Evening arrived the Ship *Mars*,¹ from France. By whom we learn, that the Continental Frigate *Raleigh*, has safely arrived there, having taken two Sugar Ships;² which had also arrived.

Sunday last arrived at a safe Port, a Ship from Surrinam, with 450 Hogsheads Molasses, some Sugar, dry Goods, &c.

Tuesday arrived a Ship and Snow from France, laden with dry Goods.

1. Massachusetts privateer ship *Mars*, Thomas Truxtun, commander. See Libels Filed in the Massachusetts Maritime Court of the Middle District, 23 Feb., below.
2. Ship *Jamaica*, David Watt, master, captured by Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*, and ship *Anna Susannah*, John Taylor, master, captured by Continental Navy ship *Alfred*. See NDAR 10: 875, 877, 939, 947, 961, 1060, 1061, 1155, 1156.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *HAERLEM*, LIEUTENANT JOHN KNIGHT

Jan^{ry} 1778

Thursday 15

[anchored in Vineyard Haven Harbor]

AM Came onb^d. a Flagg of Truce at 3 AM anch^d. by us a Sloop¹ from Connecticut bound to Nantucket with Provisions took the Master and hands out sent 5 men to take Charge of her

[anchored in Vineyard Haven Harbor]

Fresh Breezes and Clear weather PM at 1 weigh^d. and Came to Sail Prize Sloop and 2 Pilots Boats in Company Emp^d. work-

ing to the W^t w^d in the Vineyard Sound TK^d occasionally at
4 Came too in Tarpaulin Cove in 3½ fm^s water Veer'd to ⅓ of
a Cable the W^t Point of the Cove SW the E^t Point ENE & a
fort at the Head of the Cove N^o.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1789, part 8, fol. 225.

1. Sloop *Sally*, master unknown, owned by Timothy Folger, from Connecticut to Nantucket, with provisions, taken by H.M. sloop *Haerlem* on 14 Jan. in Holmes's Hole, sent to Newport. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 485.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

15th Jan^y Hard Frost. Strong wind at W.

Sir Peter Parker sailed this morning in the *Bristol*, 50 Guns, for Jamaica, having been appointed to the Command on that Station: He saluted Lord Howe on going out, which was returned.

Sailed at the same time The *Solebay* Frigate for the Delaware with dispatches for Sir William Howe. There is some reason to suppose that the Delaware is frozen up by this time; but the *Solebay* is directed to get up the River if possible. Two Navy Victuallers sailed under Convoy of the *Solebay*, supposed to be intended for the supply of The Ships of War in the Chesapeake.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 236.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY

[Extract]

At a meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety holden at Hartford on the 15th day of January, A.D. 1778.

... *Voted*, That Capt. John Cotten¹ be desired to procure up Connecticut River fifty spars, suitable for masts, bowsprits, booms and yards, for the use of this State, and that he shall be allow'd a reasonable reward for his trouble. . . .

Voted, That Lieut. Joseph Squire be and is hereby appointed a Captain of Marines on board the ship *Defence* belonging to this State, and his Excellency the Governor is desired to commissionate him accordingly.

Voted, That Lieut. [James] Day be and he is hereby appointed a Captain of Marines on board the ship *Oliver Cromwell* belonging to this State, and his Excellency the Governor is desired to commissionate him accordingly. . . .

Hoadly, ed., *Public Records of the State of Connecticut* 1: 511.

1. Capt. John Cotton was supervising the construction of the Continental Navy frigate *Bourbon* at Chatham on the Connecticut River.

LIBEL FILED IN CONNECTICUT MARITIME COURT FOR NEW HAVEN COUNTY

A Libel is filed before the Honorable Elihu Chauncey, Esq; Judge of the Maratime Court for the County of New-Haven, against the Sloop *Peggy*, and her Cargo, Darly Doyle, Master, navigated with Forty Men, lately employed under the Commission of Vallentine Jones,¹ Commandant of New York, to supply the City of New York with Fuel, Forage and Provisions, which Vessel was taken on the 14th Day

of December last past, by Peter Griffing, Captain of a Company of Rangers, commissioned by the Governor of the State of Connecticut: The Justice of said Capture will be tried by said Court on the 11th Day of February next, at two of the Clock in the Afternoon, at the State House in New-Haven; of which this Notice is given to all concerned.

JOHN WHITING, Register.

Dated at New-Haven, January 15, 1778.

The Connecticut Journal (New Haven), 28 Jan., 1778.

1. Maj. Gen. Vallentine Jones.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JOSEPH ELLIS TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sir

Haddonfield [*N.J.*] Jan^y 15 1778.—

As I was appointed by Governor Livingston to the Command of General Newcomb's¹ Brigade I thought it my duty to acquaint Your Excellency with the State of the Militia under my Command—There is about five hundred at this time out in Service, w^{ch} has in general proved a sufficient force to prevent any trade or Intercourse between this country & the city of Philad^a—But we have not in other respects been as serviceable to the states as we might had we been provided with means for that purpose—we are at present destitute of Ammunition & my application to our Governor for a supply hath not yet had the desired effect—Had we been possessed of a couple of field pieces, several of y^e Enemies Vessels must inevitably have fallen into our hands more than has & we should have been able to have covered & saved the Guns of the State Fleet on board the wrecks, w^{ch} the Enemy now have in part destroyed—Have received orders from His Excellency Gov^r Livingston to remove all Stock in the Co^{ys}. [*counties*] of Burlington, Gloster & Salem, to some distance from the Shore Should be happy in executing those orders, but at this season of the year, find it will be attended with the greatest difficulty on account of Provender—we labour under many inconveniences in consequence of having no officers in the staff department & If your Excellency would condescend to point out a mode to remove any, or all those difficulties, w^{ch} at present obstruct our usefulness it should be gratefully received, & thusly attended to by Your Excellency's [&c.]

Jo^s: Ellis

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "Haddenfield 15th./Jan^y 1778/from/Gen^l Ellis/Ans^d 18th."

1. Brig. Gen. Silas Newcomb, New Jersey Militia, who resigned on 4 Dec. 1777.

CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE TO ROBERT AND SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JR.

Commercial Committee.

Gent^l.

York [*Pa.*] January 15th 1778.

We are informed that you are building a Small vessel that will be ready for launching in a few days. We should be glad to know whether you will sell her, & what you will ask for her as she is when launched. We would wish for a speedy answer as we shall look out some where else for a suitable Vessel for our purpose if we should not purchase that you are building.

We don't doubt at all Gentⁿ. but that you could make it convenient to take bills on the Commissioners at Paris; but we have not heard that Congress had any thoughts of drawing on them. We hope you will be able to get the draft on the Loan office paid or negotiate certificates, otherwise we don't know how we shall be able to pay the balance which it seems will be due to you. Indeed we shall be averse to making any applications to Congress for Monies for any of our Agents until they shall have presented us with their accounts, that we may show to Congress what balances are due and urge the necessity of granting Warrants on the Treasury or Loan Offices for the payment thereof. We hope that this will prove an effectual Spur to you Gentⁿ and compel you to do what we have long since requested and what we expect, to wit, to transmit to us your accounts and vouchers immediately We are [&c.]

Fran Lewis
William Ellery
James Forbes

L, MdHi, Samuel and Robert Purviance Papers. Addressed: "Mess^{rs}. Samuel & Robert Purviance/merchants/Baltimore." Note: "Fwr^d by/Col^o. Fitzgerald." Docketed: "N^o 87/Fra^c. Lewis/W^m. Ellery & Ja^s/Forbes./Jan^y 15th. 1778."

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO CAPTAIN BENNETT MATHEWS

[Annapolis] In Council 15 Jan^y 1778—

Ordered. That the western shore Treasurer Pay to Cap. Bennett Matthews four hundred and thirty nine pounds one Shilling and six pence for and on Acc^t of the Galley *Independence*

⌘ order

T Johnson Jun^r

439.1.6
75
514.1.6

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-53/48.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[Williamsburg] Thursday the 15th day of January 1778.—

Mr Henry Brown personally appeared before the Board, and agreed to hire his negroes, James, Cesar, David and Julius, Sawyers, at three pounds each per month, and further agreed that they should continue in the service for the use of the Navy for the term of one year, if so long wanted, which the board have assented to, and their Wages to commence from this day.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 343.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM MOULTRIE'S ACCOUNT OF THE BURNING OF CHARLESTON

[Charleston January 15, 1778]

Jan. 1778. At this time the men-of-war's boat's crews [*Carrisford* and *Perseus*]¹ were frequently in town, getting provisions and intelligence; we had so many Tories

then in town, that they could get good information from them, and so as to avoid our guards. Early this morning, 15th January, about 4 o'clock, A.M. a dreadful calamity happened in Charlestown: a fire broke out in a back house or kitchen in Union-street, near Queen-street, the wind blowing fresh at N. and N.N.E. and raged with such fury as to baffle all efforts, and in a little time, it was communicated to the neighboring houses, and by the falling sparks of fire, houses in Broad, Elliott and Trad-streets, likewise took fire, and spread to the houses in Church-street, Bedon's-alley, and East-Bay, insomuch that on the Bay from Queen-street to Grenville's-Bastion at the south-end thereof, only 5 or 6 houses escaped: About 6 o'clock that evening, the fire was in a great measure got under, after having consumed 252 dwelling houses, besides kitchens and back stores: A list of which, with their value as taken in the year 1776, viz:

	Dwelling houses.	Currency.*
East-Bay,	56	£177,425.
Broad-street,	29	72,700.
Elliott-street,	51	89,900.
Bedon's-alley,	15	28,750.
Church-street,	17	24,100.
Trad-street,	34	73,200.
Union-Street,	32	20,760.
Chamber's-alley,	9	9,500.
Unity-alley,	8	3,500.
Queen-street,	1	8,000.
	<u>252.</u>	<u>£.507,835.</u>

* This is the currency of South-Carolina, five shillings to the dollar.

It was a very affecting scene to see the inhabitants running through the streets, looking for some place of shelter to put themselves and children in. We had strong suspicions, at the same time, that it was done by design: we had guards posted at every corner, and patrols going constantly through the streets the whole night. The next day was a sad spectacle, indeed! to behold the goods and property of different kinds, piled up in the streets in a promiscuous manner, and the proprietors harrassed out, and worn down with fatigue, standing to watch over their property, covered with blankets, and shivering with cold: and, to add more to their distress, it was so very cold, that the water which was thrown by the engines upon the tops of the houses to extinguish the fire, run down and hung in isicles along the eaves.

The soldiers, headed by officers, exerted themselves in an extraordinary manner, to assist in extinguishing the fire; and had the thanks of the inhabitants given them, through me, in general orders. Notwithstanding this great calamity, still we were alarmed every night with the cry of fire; it seemed as if they were determined that the town should be totally destroyed.

We had information that the men-of-wars boats were in town every night; and we had every reason to believe that they were the instigators of all the mischief that attended us.

William Moultrie, *Memoirs of the American Revolution*, 2 vols. (New York: David Longworth, 1802; reprint ed. New York: Arno Press, 1968), 1: 199–201.

1. H.M. frigates *Carysfort* and *Perseus*.

GOVERNOR VALENTINE MORRIS TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]
My Lord.

S^c Vincent 15th January 1778

. . . I herewith transmit to your Lordship the copy of my letter to the Marquis de Bouillie mentioned in my last, reclaiming his Majestys Provision Sloop of this Island, carried first into S^c Lucia and then to Martinica; as also the Marquis answer,¹ and that of Mons^r Perrier the Commandant or Lieutenant Governor of S^c Pierres, in Martinica. notwithstanding these plausible answers your Lordship will see by the Deposition of M^r Carmody,² also enclosed, that the Sloop was at Martinica; could have been delivered up had the French Governor meant to act with Sincerity, & was actually secreted from him, doubtless by something more than connivance, since M^r Bingham³ gave out that it would never be given up by the French Governor, on any reclamation, but might be bought and would then be delivered up.

if ready to be produced in the latter instance, the collusion between the Governor & Mr Bingham, will be obvious to your Lordship, and put this past all doubt, I shall tomorrow send over again to Martinica a person privately, and not ostensibly, authorised [*by*] me to buy it: and by the next packet shall transmit to your Lordship a further account of what I shall be able to do therein.

I at same time released, paid their expences & caused to be brought over, thirteen stout, able, British seamen; whom bribes, nor yet menaces which were both plentifully made use of, could induce to enter on board American Privateers, to fight against their lawful Sovereign.

I am sorry to say that much chicane was used to prevent their being brought off, but my requisition, and directions to the persons entrusted with the commission were so peremptory, and so full, that nothing short of open refusal, could keep these from me. yet many more were secreted purposely to prevent my getting them; these I shall again send after, when the person goes to buy the late provision Sloop. my conduct therein must I trust meet his Majestys approbation, as also my making a charge in the Contingent account with the Lords of the Treasury, for part of those considerable expences I have repeatedly mentioned in my former letters, myself unable from my private funds to incur; and which I am at, to preserve a regular, and secret correspondence in the different French Islands, where I must observe your Lordship may rely on it, every art is, and will be used, to detain & force into American service English Seamen, to give every possible encouragement to the Cruizers of the rebels, and by every art of evasion to elude every sort of restitution, or indemnification for such conduct, claimed in any other manner than by his Majesty's Admiral, accompanied by a proper compliment of Men of War sufficient to inspire due respect.

Whenever this may be adviseable to be done, I will be ready to furnish his Majestys Admiral's with information of Captures, detention of Seamen, and other similar facts on the part of the French Governors, militating against the faith of all treaty. the French even ~~accompanying~~ conveying as it were the Americans; one or two of their Frigates having several times proceeded to Sea to certain latitudes, with sundry American vessells bound to America.

I have the honor further to inform your Lordship, that nine thousand more Troops are expected at Martinica, from France; that they fully expect a war with Great Britain, and they work double days, and days and a half on the Fortifications,

particularly at Fort royal which they will not permit an Englishman to go near but I am happy in further informing your Lordship, that the present number at Martinica, even at present, is bringing on great scarcity of provisions.

With concern I inform your Lordships that this Government arm'd Sloop called the *General Morris*, is this moment come into harbor, much shattered in her masts, yards, and rigging, in an engagement with a brig of superior force, and a Sloop of equal force with her, as will make her require very considerable repair before she can again be at sea: one of my former letters mentioned its having brought in two small Prizes, the amount of which when sold will be carried to account. . . .

I have the honor to be, with respect and esteem My Lord [&c.]

Valentine Morris

L, UKLPR, C.O. 260/5, fols. 67–70. Addressed in margin of fol. 68 by Valentine Morris: "Right Honb^{le}/Lord George Germain." Docketed: "S^t Vincent 15 January 1778./Duplicate/R^e Honble Lord George Germain/with deposition of M^r Carmody/Letter to Marquis De Bouillie/his Answer thereto—." The seven omitted paragraphs concern his disputes with the St. Vincent Assembly over the treatment of the Carib Indians.

1. *Two Friends*. See Governor Valentine Morris to Governor Marquis de Bouillé, 3 Jan., and Governor Marquis de Bouillé to Governor Valentine Morris, 9 Jan., above.
2. John Carmody. See Deposition of John Carmody, 17 Jan., below.
3. William Bingham.

January 16

CAPTAIN JOHN CAREY TO CAPTAIN JOHN LAMB

Cap^t Lamb

Portsmouth Jan^y 16 1778

Capⁿ. Seth Cobb¹ Prize Master of a ~~Sloop~~ Brig *Liberty*² belonging to Virginia, being bound to Boston, not being acquainted with the particular Laws & Rules of these States respecting Privatiers, begs your Assistance in giving any directions & instructions relating to his regular proceedings in the disposal of his Cargo; any assistance you may give him shall be gratefully Acknowledged by your Obe^d. & hhl serv^t

John Cary
John Carey

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 205, 2d ser. (Revolution Letters, 1775–1783), p. 275. The letter is written and signed by a clerk. Carey, who had injured his hand in cleaning a gun, signed the letter below.

1. Cobb was prize master of the sloop *Portland*, T. Bailey, former master, which *Liberty* captured on 5 Nov. 1777 off Lisbon and brought into Portsmouth, N.H.
2. Virginia Navy brig *Liberty*, Capt. Thomas Herbert, commander.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 16th 1778—

Order'd, That Col ^o . Crafts ¹ deliver Cap ^t Lambert for Brig ^t <i>Massachusetts</i> ²	
30 ^{lb} Match Rope—	Six Gimblets Bitts—
Six Sheep Skins &	Six Quire Cartridge Paper

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l³ deliver Cap^t Lambert for Brig^t *Massachusetts*, 1 Bolt Duck & 100^{Cwt} Sheet Lead—⁴

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver M^r James Homer for the Brig^t *Massachusetts*, 100^{lb} Coffee.— 1 Bushel Oatmeal— & one Bushel Salt—

Order'd, That Cap^t Isaac Freeman proceed to Old York,⁵ with Sails Cables & Anchors for the Sloop *Republic*,⁶ and that he return with said Sloop to Boston as soon as possible he to be paid at the Rate of £20.—.— p^r Month—

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins⁷ deliver Cap^t Isaac Freeman one Cable from Wheelwright & Barnard, a Mainsail & Foresail from Kemble & Thomas; also one Anchor & two pounds Twine, for Sloop *Republic*.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 169-71.

1. Col. Thomas Crafts.

2. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.

3. David Devens.

4. Inserted here in a different hand "The Lead not Ch^d by y^e Comm^y."

5. York, Me.

6. Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic*, Capt. John Carey, commander. See Captain John Carey to Massachusetts Board of War, 2 Jan., above, and Massachusetts Board of War to Captain John Carey, 19 Jan., below.

7. Caleb Hopkins.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY

At a meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety holden at Hartford on the 16th day of January, A.D. 1778.

Upon the representation of Gen^l Sam^l H. Parsons,¹ shewing to this Board that a small privateer is now fitting out by the general's order to drive small tenders and boats from the western coasts, which cannot be completed unless they can obtain the loan of one [of] the nine-pounders at New Haven belonging to this State, and praying for the loan thereof for the purpose aforesaid: Whereupon it is resolv'd by this Board, that one of the said nine-pound cannon at said New Haven be loaned to the said Gen^l Parsons for the purpose aforesaid; and he is hereby permitted to receive the same on his giving his receipt therefor.

Hoadly, ed., *Public Records of the State of Connecticut* 1: 513-14.

1. Brig. Gen. Samuel Holden Parsons, Continental Army.

PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO THOMAS SAVADGE

Sir

Lancaster 16th January 1778.

Yesterday Capt. Sutter delivered your Letter of the 5th. Instant. It is not the design of Council to sell the Salt works. Distressed as they have been [&] still are, at the unaccountable delays that have happened, they might well have renounced before now the undertaking, thro despondence. But well apprized that useful attempts must be persevered in, notwithstanding many & great obstacles intervene & resist, if the good of Society be designed & promoted, they resolve to push [their] works vigorously, if possible, into the full execution of their original plan: the supply of Salt to the good people of this State.

Sensible of the many & various hindrances you have met with arising from the peculiar Circumstances of the times, & otherwise: & how much your attention must be engrossed by the erections & machinery proper to success in [the large] plan you have gone upon, Council have employed & appointed the Bearer hereof, M^r James Davidson, to repair immediately to East Jersey & reside at the works as their agent. He is empowered & instructed to do every thing that may be effectual in attaining the so much to be desired End; the full operation of the scheme. For this purpose, he is supplied with money; it is to be hoped, however, for the last time; as a yield of Salt proportionable to three hundred thous^d. Bushels P^r Annum, which you hold out to Expectation will soon supply efficaciously every need. Assisted by M^r Davidson, whom we strongly recommend to your Civilities, as a very active & at the same time, a very worthy Gentleman, Council expect you will be enabled to surmount every remaining difficulty, & that you & he will concertedly & spiritedly proceed in the business.

The report that Commod^r Hazlewood was send^s 300 of his Boatmen to you, was extraordinary enough. But can have no foundation. He is now directed to select 30 or more of the most suitable for Guards, & for further service, & lend them to the works till other dispositions can be made.¹ Among these, it [is] likely some of the Artisans wanted, will be found.

Your own Interest so strongly urges to every Exertion, that it would be vain for me to seek arguments to persuade you. I see you have proper Ideas of the Quantities of Salt which may be manufactured. The Market is large & may be depended on. Realise then the well founded prospects. By serving yourself, you Serve the publick, and great advantage with certain Honour, must be your reward
Referring you to M^r Davidson, I remain, Sir,

Df, PHarH, RG 27, Executive Correspondence (loose) of the Supreme Executive Council. Addressed below close: "To M^r Tho Savadge." Docketed: "1778 Jan^r 16th To M^r/Thomas Savage at the/Pennsylvania Salt works."

1. See Timothy Matlack to Commodore John Hazelwood, 16 Jan., immediately below.

TIMOTHY MATLACK TO COMMODORE JOHN HAZELWOOD

Sir

Lancaster January 16. 1778

The situation of the Salt Works belonging to the State has been laid before the Council, and they find a Number of Men is wanted there.¹ Upon consideration they request that you will select from among the men under your command thirty of the most promising of them and send then down to the Works.

M^r James Davidson will call on you and confer with you on the business above mentioned—Several Tradesmen will be wanted, and if they can be had from among your people to serve for the Winter, it will perhaps be proper to employ them in this manner—M^r Davidson is appointed one of the directors of the Works and authorised to use his best discretion therein: Any assistance you can give him will be a publick benefit—I am with great Respect [&c.]

Ty Matlack²

L, PHarH, RG 27, Executive Correspondence (loose) of the Supreme Executive Council. A duplicate letter is addressed: "To Commodore Hazelwood." Ibid.

1. See Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council to Thomas Savadge, 16 Jan., immediately above.

2. Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

The Commissioners of the Navy Board
of the Eastern Department.
Gentlemen

[York, Pa.] January 16th 1778

We have before us your Letters of the 18th November¹ and the 16th. and 19th. of December last.² We should have sent an answer to the first before this Time, but have waited for the resolutions of Congress on the report of this Committee respecting the principal parts of that letter. We now enclose you the resolutions of Congress on all the points about which you requested information,³ excepting that of Pay and Rations for officers not in actual service, which is postponed for further consideration

When Congress shall have determined thereon we will transmit to you their Resolution.⁴ We inclose you likewise a Resolution of Congress of the 9th. of Decem^r.⁵ and the opinion of the Marine committee of the 25th of March⁶ from their Books which hath long since been transmitted to the Continental Agents; and also twelve blank Commissions and fifty Warrants. You will enquire for such continental officers as are out of employ and commissionate them, and not others, unless such cannot be found.

A Bill drawn by the Honorable Thomas Cushing Esq^r superintendant of the building of the 74 Gun Ship and frigate in Massachusetts Bay hath been presented to Congress and paid, and is charged by the Marine Committee to your Board for which he must be accountable to you the amount is 13359 Dollars you will please to inform him that applications for Money and any thing respecting these Ships ought regularly to be made to you. In answer to yours of the 16 December we observe what you have said respecting the equipment of a number of Brig^s to employ our officers not in actual service and to Cruize on the Trade of the enemy is a measure that cannot be gone into at this time. The *Dispatch*⁷ must pursue her intended Voyage—The necessity of fulfilling our Contracts requires it. A voyage is planned for the *Mellish* and we shall have employment for the Schooner and every other Vessel we can procure. We have wrote to the Navy Board in this District and to Maryland about the purchasing flour and Iron for the use of the Navy in your department and so soon as we shall have got things in a proper train shall give you notice of it.

We are at a loss to determine precisely what you mean by the distribution of Prize Money among Supernumerary officers as to each Vessel a Certain number of officers is assigned among whom and the seamen the prizes are to be distributed, all above that number are useless and cannot be intitled to a share of Prizes otherwise than Privates.

We are sorry to find that you were under the necessity of augmenting the wages of the Carpenters in Connecticut. As Committees are met at New Haven to regulate the Prices of Provisions and other articles we hope you will be able soon to reduce the wages to sums proportionate to such regulations.⁸

In answer to your last of the 19th. of December—The accounts of the arrival of Captain Chews⁹ valuable prize¹⁰ gave us great pleasure, we hope the *Boston* will be soon at Sea; and don't doubt but you will take proper Steps for the preservation of the *Warren*, *Providence* and *Columbus*. How any of the Continental Agents could have

paid Commodore Hopkins the one twentieth part of all prizes taken before his suspension and since his arrival from the Bahamas we cannot conceive when the enclosed determination of the Marine Committee of the 25th of March was immediately transmitted to them for their Government—

As to a supply of Cash we presume before this Time you have received the Warrants granted the 3^d of December¹¹ for 100,000 Dollars which we think you could not have received when you wrote the 19th December—We send you a Copy of the New Signals for the Navy¹² of which you will order your Clerk to make out Copies and see that they are delivered to the Commanding officers of the Ships in your district as soon as may be.—We are [&c]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, pp. 122–23 (M332, roll 6).

1. Not found. However, see “Votes and Resolutions of the [*Continental*] Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.” *NDAR* 10: 529.

2. Not found. However, see *NDAR* 10: 743 and 754.

3. See *Journal of the Continental Congress*, 8 Jan., above.

4. See *Journal of the Continental Congress*, 19 Jan., below.

5. The only resolution of 9 Dec. 1777 that likely would be of interest to the Navy Board of the Eastern Dept. orders that a bill of exchange drawn at Boston, 17 June 1777, by Abraham Livingston, for himself and William Turnbull, in favor of Capt. Pierre de Campe, be referred to the Board of Treasury. *JCC* 9: 1011.

6. See *NDAR* 8: 197–98.

7. Continental packet, which the Navy Board of the Eastern Dept. wanted to convert into an armed vessel. See *NDAR* 10: 748.

8. In response to a recommendation of Congress, representatives of states from New Hampshire to Pennsylvania met in January at New Haven, Conn., to draft regional price controls in an attempt to rein in runaway prices. The delegates took only a week to agree to a comprehensive scheme of prices. The effort, however, was in vain as a variety of factors forced prices and wages to continue their rapid rise. Richard Buel, Jr., *Dear Liberty: Connecticut's Mobilization for the Revolutionary War* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1980), pp. 148–50.

9. Capt. Samuel Chew, commanding Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.

10. Ship *Mermaid*, James Cockran, master.

11. See *NDAR* 10: 652.

12. “Signals to be Observed by Commanders in the Continental Navy,” 14 Jan., above.

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO CAPTAIN BENNETT MATHEWS

[*Annapolis*] In Council 16 January 1778

Ordered That the western shore Treasurer pay to Capt Bennett Mathews two hundred Dollars on Account of the Galley *Independence*

ꝰ order

T Johnson Jun^r

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-53/41.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Friday the 16th day of January 1778.—

This Board doth recommend to his Excellency the Governour and the Honourable the Council Mr William Christian, as a proper person to be appointed a Lieutenant in the Naval department.—

Captain William Saunders of the *Manley* Galley, received Orders to proceed to Chessenessex on the eastern shore, and when there to follow the directions of Col^o. Southy Simpson.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 343.

PROPOSAL OF TERMS FOR COMMANDING MARYLAND STATE TRADING SHIP *LYDIA*

[Annapolis, 16 January 1778]

The *Lidia* to go for Nants Bourdeux or any port she can make in the Neighbourhood

Capⁿ. Fenwick to have 14 £ Sterl^s ̄ Month. & to be paid up to the Time of Sailing from each port.

— the proceeds of 4 Hh^{ds} of Tobacco averaged on the net proceeds of the whole Cargo

100¹ £ Sterl in lieu of primage & other Advantages.

5/ Ster^l a Day whilst in France on the Ships Business for his extra Expences. £50 Guineas if discharged in France with^t another Vessel.

£75. for Cabbin Stores in Maryland if he returns again from France reasonable cabbin Stores there.

D, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-30A. Docketed: "The Councils Offer to/Capⁿ Ig^s Fenwick/to go in the *Lydia*/16 Jan^r 1778."

1. The number "200" appears adjacent in the left margin perhaps in a different hand.

CAPTAIN IGNATIUS FENWICK'S PROPOSALS TO COMMAND
MARYLAND STATE TRADING SHIP *LYDIA*

[Annapolis, 16 January 1778]

Ignas Fenwick takes Charge of the State Ship *Lydia* on the following terms—

To go to some port in Europe to Northw^d of the Streits Mouth¹

To carry no guns outw^d bound

To have fourteen pounds Str^s ̄ month wagers, & to be paid up to the time of sailing from Each port—

If taken Prisoner his wagers to go on Untill Exchangd or otherwise makes his Escape & Returns to the State of maryl^d—

To have Eight hh^{ds} Tob^o: Priviledge in the hould or the Neet proceeds of four hh^{ds}. &^c &^c &^c

To have one Guinea ̄ hh^d. Primage on Delivery of Tob^o

To be Allow^d five Shillings Str^s ̄ day Expences while in the port of france on the Ships Duty—

If Dischargd in france to Receive over & above what wagers is due Sixty Guineas to Defray Expences home to be Allowd Necessary Cabben Stores

I F—

D, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-30.

1. Straits of Gibraltar.

CAPTAIN JAMES BELT'S PROPOSALS TO COMMAND MARYLAND STATE TRADING SHIP *LYDIA*

[Annapolis, 16 January 1778]

Cap^t Belts proposals to the Honble Council of Maryland

14 £ Sterling ̄ Month, to be paid from port to Port.

Proceeds of 4 hhd^s Tob^o. avaraged on the net proceeds of the whole Cargo.

5/ Stg ̄ Day for extraordinary expenses whist on the Ships Business in France¹

250² £ Sterling in lieu of primage and other advantages.

50 £ Sterling if discharged in France without another Vessel

The use of the Cabbin is the priviledge of the Cap^s

Whatever Goods J B may purchase in France to pay no Freight on—

Reasonable Cabin Stores in Maryland & France

D, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-31. Docketed: "James Belts/proposals to go in/the Ship *Lydia*—." Notation on this document suggests it may have been written on or about 16 Jan.

1. "10/" appears to have been written over "5/," then to have been crossed out, and "5/" to have been written again.

2. The number "100" appears adjacent in the left margin in a different hand.

3. This line is written in a different hand.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *CARYSFORT*, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE

Jan^y 1778.
Friday 16th

Charles Town Lighthouse NW ½ W 5 Leagues Att
Anchor.

At 4 AM Tk^d to the N^oward At 6 Saw 3 Sail D^o made the
Signal & gave chace to the S^oward & *Perseus* to the NE—At 7
fired several Shot at the Chace ½ past 9 She br^t too, D^o found
her a Schooner from Cape Ann for Charles Town in Ballast.¹
D^o Scuttled her—At Noon made Sail

D^o Lighthouse N 59^o W^t 8 Leagues

Fresh Gales & Cloudy Wea^r—At 1 PM in 2^d Reef Topsails & Tk^d
to the E^{ward}—At 7 made Sail—At 8 Sounded 13 fa^m.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/168, fol. 358.

1. Schooner *Rachael*, Mark Burnham, master, 25 tons, a crew of five seamen, owned by Rogers & Allen of Cape Ann, Mass., destroyed. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40.

GOVERNOR COMTE D'ARGOUT TO GOVERNOR JOHN DALLING

S^t. Domingue.
Monsieur

Au Cap Le 16. Janvier 1778.

J'ai l'honneur d'Informer Votre Excellence que le Chevalier de Cuverville¹
Commandant la fregatte du Roi mon maitre L'*Inconstante* a amené Ici hier quinze
de Ce mois dans le port de Cette Ville une corvette nommée le *Snail*² (*Limace*)
Commandée par M^c William Richardson,³ trouvée sous la grange⁴ à deux lieuës de
terre arretant et Visitant tous nos Batimens, n'ayant d'autre Commission qu'une
délivrée par Mr. Garnier Capitaine de Vaisseau⁵ et dont J'envoÿe à Votre Excellence
une Copie traduite Sur l'original qui m'en a été présenté.⁶ Un Pareil titre n'étant
aucunement Légal et ne devant reconnoitre qu'une commission Emanée d'une
Cour d'Amirauté ou au moins de L'amiral en Station à la Jamaïque, Je pourrois
avec Raison Livrer à la Severité des Loix ce Capitaine Richardson et le faire con-
damner Comme Pirate et forban, mais Voulant, Monsieur, prouver à Votre
Excellence combien Je desire Entretienir L'union qui regne entre nous et encore
bienplus Lui prouver ma confiance en Elle, Je lui renvoie cette corvette avec le
Capitaine Richardson sous l'escorte de la fregatte L'*Inconstante* et Je la prie très
Instament de me rendre elle même la Justice que Je pouvois me procurer dans nos

tribunaux, et que m'assure L'illégalité de son titre. Ma déference à la Justice de votre Excellence doit d'autant plus me mériter tous égards de sa part, que J'ai l'honneur de la prévenir que Je Suis très pertinemment Instruit que c'est ce même Batiment qui, il y a quelques temps, inquietoit, Vexoit et arretoit tous nos Caboteurs faisant le Commerce de la Côte, et que L'Instant d'avant la prise qui en a été faite par notre fregatte il Vouloit Arreter et fouiller un Batiment marchand du havre.

Je profite également de l'envoi de la fregatte *L'Inconstante* vers votre Excellence pour la prier de nouveau de me rendre Justice de L'Insult manifeste faite au Pavillon du Roi mon maître, par les deux fregattes de Sa majesté Britannique les *Maidston*⁷ et *Squell*⁸ qui renverserent dans la Baÿe de Jean Rabel les canons d'une de nos Batteries et le Pavillon, ainsique Je Vous en ai informé par ma dépeche du 15. décembre⁹ dernier à laquelle il est bien Etonnant que vous ne m'ayéz encore fait aucune Réponse.

Je Préviens Votre Excellence, que ce n'est Réellement que dans l'Espoir qu'elle S'empressera de me rendre la Justice que Je lui demande, et qui m'est duë, que Je Consens à Lui renvoyer la Corvette la *Snail*, que pour Eviter toute démarche indiscrete que Je me suis fait donner une déclaration par le Capitaine Richardson, comme il n'avoit Réellement d'autre titre d'armement que L'Ordre qui Lui a été donné par le Capitaine Garnier, et qu'il m'a remis en Original, et Enfin Je la préviens pour la dernière fois que Sa réponse déterminera bien décidément la Conduite que Je dois tenir pour réprimer et arreter les Vexations Continuelles qu'éprouvent sur nos Côtes nos Caboteurs et notre Commerce de France tant de la part des Batimens de sa majesté Britannique que de celle d'un tous de Corsaires. donnés de toute autorité Legale et dont nos Côtes sont Couvertes.

J'ai l'honneur d'être avec La plus haute estime, et la plus parfaite Consideration Monsieur [&c.]

dargout

[Translation]
St. Domingue
Sir

At the Cape the 16. January 1778.

I have the honor of informing Your Excellency that Chevalier de Cuverville,¹ commanding the frigate of the King, my master, the *Inconstante*, brought Here yesterday, the 15th of This month, a sloop of war named the *Snail*,² under the command of Mr. William Richardson,³ found off La grange two leagues from land,⁴ which was stopping and Searching all our Ships, carrying no Commission other than the one issued by Captain Garnier,⁵ and I am forwarding to Your Excellency a Copy translated from the original, which had been presented to me.⁶ Since such a document is not at all Legal, and since I am required to recognize only a commission issued by a Court of Admiralty or, at least, from the Admiral of the Jamaica Station, I could, with good Reason, Hand over Captain Richardson to the Severity of the Law and have him condemned As a Pirate or freebooter, but Wishing, Sir, to prove to Your Excellency how much I desire to Maintain the union that exists between us and still, even more, to prove to you my confidence in Your Excellency, I am sending this sloop of war back, along with Captain Richardson, escorted by the frigate *Inconstante*, and I most earnestly urge Your Excellency to show me in return the same Justice that I could myself obtain in our courts, and who assure me

of the illegality of the document. My respect and esteem for Your Excellency's Justice should entitle me to all Considerations on your part, especially because I have the honor of advising you that I Know very well for a Fact that this Ship is the same one that, a short while ago, disturbed, Annoyed and stopped all our Coasting Vessels plying their Trade along the Coast, and that the Moment before her seizure by our frigate she was Trying to Stop and search a Ship from Le Havre.

I am also taking advantage of dispatching the frigate *Inconstante* to Your Excellency to urge you again to render me Justice for the manifest Insult to the Flag of the King, my master, by the two frigates of His Britannic Majesty the *Maidstone*⁷ and the *Squirrel*⁸ who removed, in Jean Rabel Bay, the guns from one of our Batteries and the Flag, just as I informed You by my dispatch of the 15th of December⁹ last to which, Astonishingly, you have still not sent me any Answer.

I advise Your Excellency, that it is only Really in the Hope that you will lose no time in granting the Justice which I ask of you, and which is due me, that I Consent to return to You the sloop of war *Snail*, so as to Avoid all imprudent courses of action, that I had Captain Richardson make a declaration, since he Actually had no authorization other than the Order which had been given him by Captain Garnier, and of which he handed me the Original, and Finally, I advise you for the last time, that your answer will determine, without any doubt whatsoever, the Conduct I must take so as to repress and to halt the Continual Harrassments experienced along our Coasts by our Coasters and by our Trade with France, as much on the part of the Ships of His Britannic Majesty's as on that of all Privateers. given with all Legal authority by which our Coasts are Covered.

I have the honor to be with The highest esteem and the most perfect Respect,
Sir [&c.]

dargout

To His Excellency The Governor of Jamaica.

L, UKLPR, C.O. 137/73, fols. 120–21. Addressed: "à Son Excellence M^r Le Gouverneur de la Jamaïque." Docketed: "In Gov^r Dalling's (N^o 15)/of 12th Feb^r 1778./(4)." Enclosure no. 4 in Governor John Dalling to Lord George Germain, 12 Feb., below.

1. Capitaine de vaisseau Louis Cavelier de Cuverville.
2. Sloop *Snail*, tender of H.M. frigate *Southampton*.
3. Master's mate, frigate *Southampton*.
4. Punta de la Granja, Spanish Santo Domingo.
5. Capt. William Garnier, R.N.
6. See Captain William Garnier, R.N., to William Richardson, 1 Jan., above.
7. Actually, H.M. frigate *Winchelsea*.
8. Actually, H.M. sloop *Hornet*.
9. See NDAR 10: 636–38, 719–21, 741–42.

January 17

CAPTAIN SIR GEORGE COLLIER, R.N., TO MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSARY OF PRISONERS

Sir

Rainbow at Halifax 17th. January 1778.

Your Letter of the 31st. December was brought me by the Cartel Vessel *Favorite*, with a Number of the Kings Subjects liberated from Boston & mentioned in Your List.

Lord Viscount Howe Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Fleet in America having been pleas'd to direct my sending a Number of the American Prisoners to Rhode Island to be exchanged from thence, I had just embark'd upwards of 260 on board the Cartel *Royal Bounty*¹ for that purpose, who waited only for a Wind to Sail when your Cartel arriv'd.—The Numbers so much exceeding what the *Favorite* cou'd carry, I saw no occasion to make alteration in the Arrangement, & She Sail'd the next Day for Rhode Island from whence the Exchange will be made under the immediate Direction of Lord Howe, to whom I have sent the List of the Officers & People liberated which arrived here, and for whom his Lordship or the Commanding Officer at Rhode Island will direct an equal Exchange to be made.—

I have signify'd to Quarter Master Ogilvy, and M^r. Burns Surgeons Mate that Officers of equal Rank will be releas'd for them.—

It rests alone with Lord Howe whether any prisoners shall be set at Liberty in Exchange for those you say were liberated with Captⁿ. Jones,² Captⁿ. Macdonald³ & M^r. Ross,⁴ as I have particular Directions from his Lordship on that Head.—

Daniel Heister⁵ is sent in the *Royal Bounty* Cartel to Rhode Island.—

I desir'd that the Rev^d. M^r. Eagleston⁶ might be exchang'd for M^r. Brooks Chaplain of the *Hancock*,⁷ instead of which another Clergyman is sent here. I shall however permit M^r. Brooks to be releas'd but I shall be glad M^r. Eagleston may be immediately set at Liberty.⁸

I was perswaded that the piratical Robberies of Crabtree⁹ (mention'd in my former Letter) and other little privateers, wou'd not be approv'd by those in Authority at Boston, and I am very glad to have this Opinion confirm'd in Your Letter. I am [&c.]

Geo Collier

Cap^t. Fettyplace,¹⁰ M^r. Moss, & M^r. Cooper will proceed in this Cartel/

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 198 (Council Letters, 1777), pp. 398–99. Addressed at foot of second page: "Rob^t Pierpoint Esq^r—." There is a copy in M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, Revolutionary Rolls, vol. 8 (Various—Charter Parties—Relating to Prisoners), p. 160, with a note by John Avery, Deputy Secretary of the Council, that Capt. Fettyplace, Mr. Ross and Mr. Cooper were not in the cartel.

1. Ship *Royal Bounty*, Thomas Compton, master.

2. Capt. John Jones of the brig *Lord Lifford*. See NDAR 7: 1155–56, 1197, 1219, 1283; 8: 304, 400–401.

3. Capt. John McDonnell or MacDonald. See NDAR 8: 304, 400–401.

4. William Ross. See NDAR 6: 213, 249–50, 303, 675–76, 777, 881, 998–99, 1000, 1020.

5. See NDAR 10: 440, 838.

6. See NDAR 10: 433, 440.

7. Edward Brooks. See NDAR 10: 433.

8. Other Continental Navy officers who returned in *Favorite* were Lt. Stephen Hill, 1st lieutenant of frigate *Hancock* and prize master of frigate *Fox*, Lt. Simon Gross, 2d lieutenant of frigate *Boston*, and Lt. Robert McNeill, 1st lieutenant of Marines of frigate *Boston*, all taken in frigate *Fox*. Those taken on frigate *Hancock* included Lt. Joseph Adams, Edward Brooks, chaplain, John Bell, boatswain's mate, and Theophilus Soper, drummer. The cartel brig *Favorite* arrived at Boston on 29 Jan. 1778.

9. Capt. Agreen Crabtree of Massachusetts privateer schooner *Harlequin*. See NDAR 10: 528, 695–96, 837.

10. Capt. Edward Fettyplace, Jr., of Massachusetts privateer schooner *Dolphin*. See NDAR 10: 32, 46, 89.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. APOLLO, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

January 1778.
Saturday 17

Ditto [South part of Saint George's Bank] N^o. 66 E^t 25
Lg^s.
at 5 AM had 42 fath: at 7 saw a Sail, out all reefs & made Sail,
at 8 Spoke the Chace a Sloop, called the *Friendship*,¹ from Casco

Bay bound to Guadaloup with Lumber, employed in taking out what was Necessary in order to destroy her. *Venus* in C^o.

Ditto [South part of Saint George's Bank] WbS 25 Lg^s. First part Moderate and hazey with Snow, middle and Latter Strong gales and hazey with rain, at 4 PM sounded 36 fath: having cleared the Sloop of her Provisions, Sails & Water, set her on fire. at 6 wore Ship & close reefed the Topsails

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 2.

1. Sloop *Friendship*, Thomas Harmon, master, owned by Wells & Co., from Casco Bay to Guadeloupe, with lumber, taken on 17 Jan. near St. Georges Bank, later burned. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486.

TIMOTHY PARSONS TO MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Porthmouth Jan^y 17th 1778

Sir/

Your Ship *Cruel*¹ was fixt and Ready for the Seas the tenth of this Ins^t, was waiting for a fair wind when I Left wiscaset the 12: I have Advanced two Hundred and fifty Pounds in fixing her, which I have Given the Barer hereof an Order for, which Should be Glad the Hon^{ble}: Bord would Send Me by him—I Shall be at Boston in March and Bring the Acc^{ts}. for Settlement if You prepose to Ship of Any Masts this Season it would be best to procure the Ships Lumber this winter as it can be got better and Cheaper than in the Summer. I Should be Glad to Serve the Hon^{ble}: Bord if they have any thing further to do in my way Am with due Resp^t. [&c.]

Ti^m^o: Parsons

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 205, 2d ser., (Revolution Letters to the Board of War, 1775–1783), p. 278. Addressed at foot: "Sam^t: Phips Savage Esq^r:/Pres^t: of The Hon^{ble}: Bord of War/Boston."

1. Massachusetts State trading ship *Cruel*. See *NDAR* 10: 280, 555, 556, 621, 622, 643.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER TO LIEUTENANT WILLIAM BARRON

Sir

Boston Jan^y 17. 1778

These are to Desire & direct you to proceed to Freetown & Apprehend & bring on Board the Ship *Boston* Two Negro Men who belong to the Ship & have to serve on Board till next May viz^t: London Jerry & Francis Heck, you will Inlist such other suitable Men as you may meet with I am Yours—

Sam^l Tucker

L, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fms Am 812), vol. 1, p. 25. Addressed at foot: "M^r: Barron Gentl^o:—/1st. Lieu^t: of the *Boston* Frigate."

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT

[*Boston*] Saturday Jan^y 17th: 1778

In the House of Representatives. Whereas by a Resolve of the General Court passed the Sixth Day of August last, the Board of War were empowered and Directed to purchase or build two Armed Vessels to be employed in the service of this State, And whereas it appears to this Court, that the size and dimensions of the

two Armed Vessels mentioned in said Resolve are too large to answer the purposes for which said Vessels were intended.

Therefore Resolved, That the said Resolution passed the Sixth Day of August last be, and hereby is revoked and declared null and void. And that the Board of War be, and they are hereby empowered and Directed forthwith to procure suitable Materials for Building and Arming two Vessels to mount Sixteen or Twenty Guns each.

In Council Read and Concurred.

Consented to by Fifteen of the Council.

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 38 (Massachusetts General Court Records, 1777–1778), p. 238.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 17th. 1778

Order'd, That Stephen Samson for Sundry Iron Work for Brig^t *Hazard*¹ as p^r Bill £34..15.. 3 —

Order'd, That Cap^t Chapman be paid the Ballance of his Account of Disbursements on Brig: *Nantes*² £280..13/. —

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 171–72.

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Hazard*.
2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO COMMODORE WILLIAM HOTHAM

Private
D^r. Sir.

Eagle [Newport, R.I.]
Jan^y 17; 1778

The *Chatham* being soon to return to England, will afford an opportunity for the safe conveyance of your Letters; and perhaps no less eligible to Capt Montagu¹ for his passage Home. I will beg of you to mention the Circumstances to S^r Hen^y Clinton for his commands also.

I have nothing to add on public concerns; except that I shall be desirous soon to receive your opinion of the Naval Force requisite to be detained at New York when the Season admits of my Return to the Delaware.

The 50 Gun Ships are best adapted to the confined Navigation in that River. But until I know what Disposition is thought requisite for your Out-posts and the guard of the Sound,² I cannot make my arrangements for the other Services.

There being no means to lodge any Stores at this miserable place, the *Grampus* must be sent back to land her Stores at New-York, when your River is open; And an assortment for the ships on this Station, sent in the *Elephant* & kept afloat. I am with the most perfect regard D^r. Sir [&c.]

Howe

L, Hull University, England, Brynmor Jones Library, William Hotham Collection, Letters from Viscount Howe, 1776–1780 (DDHO/5/1). Addressed at foot of first page: "Com^r Hotham." Docketed: "17th. January 1778./Letter from Lord Howe."

1. Capt. James Montagu, R.N.
2. Long Island Sound.

BROADSIDE FROM CAPTAIN HENRY BELLEW, R.N.

His Majesty's Ship
LIVERPOOL,
Being Hauled off from the Wharf,
It is expected and ordered,
That every Man absent from her, do immediately repair
on Board, or they will be apprehended as Deserters.
Ten Volunteer
SEAMEN
Wanted for the above Ship.
Henry Bellew.

PHILADELPHIA: Printed by JAMES HUMPHREYS, JUNIOR, in
Market-street, between Front and Second-streets.

Broadside. Notation at top left: "January 17th 1778."

FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

[*York, Pa.*] War Office Jan'y 17th 1778

I have been duly honoured with your Favour of the 11th instant.¹ The Committee to whom I communicated it feel themselves happy in the Anticipation of the Supply they shall acquire from your Exertions, the Necessity whereof still continues & Things yet bear the same unfavourable Aspect. Pork can be procured here at £4..10 ¢ hundred but Salt is not to be had for curing any large Quantity. The Committee will not prescribe Price or any other Matter to you as they are so perfectly satisfied of your better Judgment in the Business arising within your State. The Seisures & Certificates in Consequence of them were intended to be levelled against & given to Engrossers & Speculators great Numbers of whom abound in the State of Maryland equal at least to persons of that pernicious Cast in any other State. They extend their Purchases & Influence into this State wherein the Board of War have repeated Information they have purchased up great Quantities of Provisions & every Article wanted for the Army. These avaritious & dangerous People had raised the Expectations of the People so high that no reasonable Price would command their Commodities. This Consideration induced the Idea of Seisures & Certificates & the Committee cannot but think that the severest Steps would be justifiable with People whose sole Motive was Gain. Any Loss they may sustain will be but a proper Punishment. As to the Persons who grow or raise Provisions on their Farms the Case is to be sure different. The Committee are sensible of the Justice of your Excellency's Observations as to the Bay Navigation. They shew too the Necessity of forwarding everything we can during the Winter when the Men of War do not venture so high up the Bay. Your Sentiments as to the Necessity of building Boats of a proper Construction have been laid before the Marine Committee who have had some such Measure in Contemplation & will no Doubt immediately take Steps for having them built Mean time if your Excellency can have Tobacco Flatts Shallops & other Craft fitted for a temporary Purpose all Expences in hiring buying or repairing them will be borne. The Treasury Board

will take Care to furnish the necessary Supply of Cash & either transmitt it to you or pay your Drafts as you shall deem most proper. I enclose the Information herewith sent for your Excellency's Consideration & Enquiry & have the Honour to be [&c.]

Francis Lightfoot Lee

L, MB. Addressed: "On public Service/His Excellency/Thomas Johnston/Gov^r To State of Maryland/Annapolis." Docketed: "Jan^y 17, 1778/Francis Lightfoot Lee/of the Board of War/ab^t Provisions & the/procuring Vessels to/bring it up the Bay."

1. Gov. Thomas Johnson, Jr., to President of Congress, 11 Jan. DNA, PCC, item 70, fols. 237–40. In his letter Johnson discusses the difficulties of obtaining pork and provisions for the Continental Army in Maryland.

BRIGADIER GENERAL EDWARD HAND TO THE CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Gentⁿ.

Fort Pitt 17th. Jan^y. 1778

I do myself the honour to inclose you a demand made on me by Captⁿ. Ja^s. Willing of the Arm'd Boat *Rattle Trap*, for Provisions to be sent to the Arkansaws,¹ a Spanish post on the Mississippi and an Estimate made by Col: Morgan, as the Demand & Estimate both, were made on Supposition, and I have not had any orders respecting it. I beg to be favoured with your Instructions on the Subject, Captⁿ. Willing Saïld the 10th. at night with very Good Water I have the honour to be [&c.]

Edw^d: Hand

L, DNA, PCC, item 159, 431–2 (M247, roll 178). Addressed at the foot: "The Hon^{ble}. Commercial Committee." Docketed: "N^o. 78/Letter from/gen. Hand/17 Jan: 1778—/referred to the board of/treasury—."

1. See Colonel George Morgan to Captain James Willing, Jan. 1778, above.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PHOENIX*, CAPTAIN HYDE PARKER, JR.

January 1778.
Saturday 17th.

Cape H^y N 60 W Distⁿ. 27 Leag^s.

At 1 AM Set the Fore Sail. At 6 S^d. 22 f^m. Fine Sand. At 7 saw a Sloop to NE gave Chace. ½ p^t 11 Fired a Gun & Bro^t too a Sloop from Virginia b^d. to S^t Eustatius.¹ Shortend Sail & Bro^t too Main Topsail to the Mast took the Pris^{rs}. out & put onb^d. a mid[*shipman*] & 6 Men to Navigate her to N. York—

Cape Hen^y N 86 W Distⁿ. 22 leagues

Mod^t Breezes and Cloudy. At ½ p^t 2 [*PM*] parted C^o. with the Prize At 2 Wore Ship. In 2^d Reef Topsails. At 4 Sounded 40 Fa^m. Small Stones; Fell overboard from Main Topm^t head W^m. Houper Seaman, threw overb^d. Gratings &c^a. to save him Without Effect. At 6 Fresh gales & squally Close Reefd the Fore and Main Topsails and handed them, carried the Mizen Topsail y^d. away. Unbent the Sail, down the Yard & struck y^c. Topgall^t. Mast.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/694.

1. Sloop *Sally*, John Patterson, master, owned by Roger McCallister of Maryland, from Maryland to St. Eustatius, with tobacco, a crew of 7 seaman, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40.

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO CAPTAIN IGNATIUS FENWICK

[Annapolis] In Council 17. January 1778

Ordered That the western shore Treasurer pay to Cap^t Ignatius Fenwick three hundred and fifty pounds on Account of the Ship *Lydia* of which Acco^t to be rendered

⌘ order

T Johnson Jun^r

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-53/39.

LIEUTENANT JOHN OSBORN, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON

Sir

When I last had an Opportunity of Writeing you from this Port, I informed you of M^r Gaulds being absent on the Surveying Service & that I should sail for Ship Island on the 25th of September I arrived there on the first of October & on the 8th M^r Gauld returned on board We Immediately sailed for this Port where we arrived on the 16th During the whole summer the Sloop leaked much, & complained in every part, but during this last passage we could hardly keep her free with the Pumps

On my arrival I represented this to Captain Lloyd,¹ who was pleas'd to order the Sloop to be Careen'd on the 15th of December we hove Down, & the Sheathing being entirely distroy'd by the Worms, some of it was ripped off, when her Bottom was found eaten through by the Ratts; on cutting the Pieces out, the Timbers were so rotten that they might be pulled to pieces with ones fingers

On the Starboard Bow, of Seven Timbers which could be seen, only two were sound, & on the Larboard Side of Twenty three, Thirteen together were rotten & the rest much decayed

Cap^t Lloyd has had a Survey on her The report of which he has Transmitted to you²

I must beg your Excuse for saying that a Sloop, is a very improper Vessel for the Surveying service, as Accidents continually happen to the Boats in hoisting them in and out, In a Schooner or Brig, those Operations are performed with more ease & Safety

Since the Encrease of the *Florida's* Complement she is incapable of carrying a Sufficient Quantity of Provisions, which Occassions the People being at Short Allowance during the Summer, when they undergo the greatest fatigue; And as the Service she is employed on requires her to carry a great Quantity of Stores; her hold is so full that the People are obliged to sleep on Deck

As she can never proceed to Sea again with Safety, or be refitted at this Place, I wait with impatience to know your determination with respect to myself and the Crew

I have the Honour to be with the greatest Respect Sir [&c.]

Jn^o: Osborn

Florida Sloop

Pensacola January 17th: 1778

A Coppy

Clark Gayton

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240, fols. 523-24. Addressed below close: "Clark Gayton Esq^r: &c. &c." Docketed: "Liu^r: Osborns/Letter." Docketed in another hand: "In Vice Adm^l: Gayton's Letter/Dated 20 April 1778—"

1. Comdr. Thomas Lloyd, commanding H.M. sloop *Atalanta*.

2. The survey, condemning H.M. sloop *Florida*, is enclosure no. 4 in Vice Adm. Clark Gayton to Philip Stephens, 20 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240, fols. 526-27.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *SOUTHAMPTON*, CAPTAIN WILLIAM GARNIER

Jan^{ry} 1778.

Saturday 17th

Moor'd in Port Royal Harbour, Jamaica.—

(AM) Sailld His Majesty's Arm'd Ship the *Lord Amherst*^l with the Remainder Part of the Convoy, & the *Thynne* Packet for England, sent the weekly Account on board the Flag.—

Moor'd in Port Royal Harbour, Jamaica.—

Fresh Breez^s, the first Part, Latter Mod^t: and Variable.

(PM) Employ'd Staying the Mast, and Setting up the Rigging, sent on board the *Hazard* Tend^r: Provisions, D^o: Open'd a Tierce of Pork Contents 168, Short 1 P^s: came in here the *Unity* Schooner wth: Fish and Lumber from Sealem, The *Snail* Tend^{rs}: Prize,² D^o: answ^d: the Sig^t: on board y^e flag.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/914.

1. British ordnance transport, John Geed, master, 600 tons burthen, mounting 24 nine-pounder and 8 six-pounder carriage guns, owned by Durand & Co., built in 1764 on the Thames River. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*. See NDAR 10: 295, 695.

2. Schooner *Unity*, Hilton, from Salem, with fish and lumber. Gayton's Prize List, 26 Feb. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240. See Captain William Garnier, R.N., to William Richardson, 1 Jan., and Governor Comte d'Argout to Governor John Dalling, 16 Jan., above.

DEPOSITION OF JOHN CARMODY

The Deposition of John Carmody of the said Island of S^t: Vincent Sheweth

That the said Deponent was dispatched by order of His Excellency General Morris,¹ with a letter to the General of Martinique,² to claim a Sloop called the *two friends*, which said Sloop was employed in the Government Service in the aforesaid Island, and was on the 1st of January instant taken by an American Privateer in Coubamarou Bay, to windward of the said Island. That this Deponent on his Arrival at the Carenage in the Island of S^t: Lucia, saw the said Sloop *Two Friends* at anchor in that Port—That he immediately applied to the commanding Officers at the Garrison there, and informed him of his errand to the General of Martinique, and requested the said Sloop might be detained until the General of Martiniques pleasure was known—That the Commanding Officer returned for Answer, That he had no Authority to detain the Sloop claimed, & therefore could not do it, until application was first made at Martinique, & he received orders for that purpose—That this Deponent then went to Fort Royal, & delivered His Excellency General Morris's Letter to the French General who gave him a Letter directed to the Commanding Officer at S^t: Pierres,³ which he said was an order for the delivery of the Vessel in case she should be in that port, or near it. That the said Deponent in going from Fort Royal to S^t: Pierres, again, saw the said Sloop *Two Friends* at Anchor in a bay in Martinique called Fond Capott,⁴ distant from S^t: Pierres about six miles. That he delivered the French Generals Letter to the Commanding Officer at S^t:

Pierres, & acquainted him with his seeing the said Sloop at the last mentioned Port. That the said Commanding officer assured him he would immediately dispatch an order to Arrest the said Vessel—That this Deponent waited on the Commanding Officer the day following, & was by him informed that he had sent the King's Guard de Costa after the Sloop, but that she was not [to] be found in the said Port, called Fond Capott, that the Guard de Costa had returned without being able to receive any Intelligence of her, And That he would write a Letter to General Morris on the subject which this deponent received a day or two afterwards⁵—That this deponent was given to understand from others, That M^r Bingham⁶ an American Agent had received early information of the intention of claiming the said Sloop, as also of the French Guard de Costa being sent after her, & had accordingly secreted the Vessel to some private place where it was impossible for this Deponent to procure any knowledge of. And also had heard that the said Bingham had declared it would be needless for any Person to recover the said Vessel by claiming her from the French General for that she should never appear to give any opportunity of the Claim's being effected And that the only method of obtaining her would be by purchase from him and no other.

(signed) John Carmody

Sworn before me the 17th January 1778

(Signed) Rob Malloun

Ex^d Valentine Morris

Copy, UklPR, C.O. 260/5, fols. 75–76. Docketed: "In Gov^r Morris's of/15th Jan^y 1778./(3.)." Notation: "St Vincent Jan^y ye 17th 1778/Copy of Deposition/by/John Carmody/respecting Provision Sloop &c."

1. Gov. Valentine Morris of St. Vincent.
2. Marquis de Bouillé, governor of Martinique and French Windward Islands.
3. Commandant La Perrier.
4. Shallow waters of River Capot.
5. A copy of this letter, which is not printed, is in UklPR, C.O. 260/5, fol. 74.
6. William Bingham.

January 18 (Sunday)

CAPTAIN RICHARD JAMES TO MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Falmouth [*Me.*] Jan^y 18th 1778

Gentelmen these are to acquaint you I shall Sail to-day. The Ship *Union*¹ Gentelmen was Exceeding dirty wich Oblidge me to Lay her On shore and Clean her, She is now Well Cleand. likewise her leek is stopt that was in her Lumber port Inclosed is an Account of disbursments of the Ship *Union*. Together with Wages Paid Authar Shattuck and James Pike Salors for Service on Board while under the Comand of Capt Hayns² I have draughted on the Honor^{ab} Board for thirty pounds Lawfull Money in favour of M^r Moses Shattuck of this Place wich you^{ll} Please to pay, The Ballance of Account Inclosed Please to pay to Jon^a Glover Esr. I am informd by a Captin of a Vesell from Hallifax their is now four Crusers Station^d between Cape Cod and Cape Sabel, wich I may Have the good furtune to Escape them, no more at Present. I am Gentelmen [&c.]

Rich^d James

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 205, 2d ser. (Revolution Letters to the Board of War, 1775–1783), p. 280. Addressed at top: "To the Hon^{ab} Board of War of/the State of the Massatchetts."

1. Massachusetts State trading ship *Union*. See *NDAR* 10: 555, 633, 642–43, 697, 810, 811.

2. Capt. William Haynes.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport, Rhode Island]

18th Jan^y Heavy rain most part of last night, with a Strong wind at S. Clear day.

About 10 o'Clock last night a Rebel Sloop¹ came ashore on the S.W. point of Brenton's neck. She luckily struck on a narrow piece of Sandy Beach, and was but little damaged. She is about 60 Tons burthen, from Surinam to New London, laden with 60 Hogsheads of Molasses, 2000 weight of Coffee, some sail cloth, and a few dry goods; and has 8 hands on board. She sailed 30 days ago in company with 3 other vessels for the same port. A party of Light Infantry was sent down early this morning who secured the people and took possession of her.

Came in The *Sphynx* from New York, with three small trading vessels under her Convoy.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 236.

1. The following day Vice Adm. Howe decreed that the sloop was a lawful prize of the army under Maj. Gen. Robert Pigot. Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 237.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. GALATEA, CAPTAIN THOMAS JORDAN

Jan^{ry}: 1778

Sunday 18

S^t Augustine South 34 L^s

½ p^t 8 AM Saw a Sail Gave Chace.

Charles town West 40 L^s

Fresh Gales and Cloudy W^{tr} at 3 [PM] fired 4 Shot & Bro^t too the Sloop *Little Charles* from S^t Eustatia bound to Charlestown S^o Carlo Laden with Rum Salt & Dry Goods Jerh^h: Dickenson Master¹

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/4197.

1. Sloop *Little Charles*, Jeremiah Dickenson (Dickinson), 30 tons burthen, mounting 9 cohorns and 4 swivel guns, a crew of fourteen seamen, owned by Robert Keel of St. Eustatius, taken in lat. 32^o 53', long. 81^o 84', sent to St. Augustine. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40. She was libelled on 25 Feb. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and was condemned as a lawful prize of *Galatea* on 20 Mar. 1778. UklPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 40.

COMMANDER THOMAS LLOYD, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON

Sir

Atalanta Pensacola 18th January 1778

I receiv'd yours of date 11th Decem^{br}: last acquainting me that the Stores demanded, are to be sent by the *Hornet*; Inclos'd I send you some other Demands His Majesty's Ship under my Command being much distress'd for want of Stores; I have Careen'd and Sheathed His Majesty's Sloop *West Florida*, and the Carpenter, reports to me that she will not run longer than six months except she gets a New bottom, I have given M^r: Burdon¹ Orders to proceed to the Lakes,² agreeable to your Orders. . . The *Florida* is now on the Careen but the Carpenters find her so Rotten that she cannot proceed to Sea, till she gets a thorough repair which can-

not be done at this Port, I have Ordered them to put in the Planks which was taken out in Order, to examine her, and have inclos'd their report to you,³ and should be glad to know how I am to Act respecting her and think it necessary to inform you that a Vessel cannot be bought at this Place fit for the Surveying Service.

The late Boatswain and Gunner of the *Atalanta* are Dead, and I have appointed John Chambers to Act as Boatswain and Will^m: Handy to Act as Gunner, till I have your further Orders, they are both diligent and Sober Men, and should be very happy to have them appointed, in the room of the former if you think proper. I have appointed M^r: David M^c:Cullugh to Act as Surgeons Mate of His Majesty's Sloop *West Florida*, and inclose you the Surgeons report of his Quallifications. Inclos'd you will receive Demands, for, Boatswains, Gunners, and Carpenters, Stores, and likewise a Demand for Muster Paper, and the State and Condition of His Majesty's Sloop *Atalanta*, *West Florida*, and *Florida*.

I expect M^r: Burdon will sail to morrow, he was detained some days waiting for Hands from the *Daphne*. I am Sir [&c.]

T. Lloyd

A Coppy

Clark Gayton

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240, fols. 520–21. Addressed below close: "Clark Gayton Esq^r &c. &c." Docketed: "Cap^r Loyds letter." Docketed in another hand: "In Vice Adm^l: Gayton's Letter/20 April 1778."

1. Lt. George Burdon [2], commanding H.M. sloop *West Florida*.

2. Lakes Borgne and Pontchartrain.

3. Enclosure not printed. The survey, condemning H.M. sloop *Florida*, is enclosure no. 4 in Vice Adm. Clark Gayton to Philip Stephens, 20 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240, fols. 526–27.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. SEAFORD, CAPTAIN JOHN COLPOYS

January 1778

At Sea Latit^d. 12 : 12 N^o: Obs^d.

Sunday 18th.

At 10 AM Read the Articles of War to the Ships Company—

At Sea Latit^d. 13 : 1 N^o: Obs^d.

Fresh breez^s: & fair W^r: At 4 PM Saw a Sail to the N^o: W^d: Gave Chace At ½ Past 8 PM Fired 23 Shott at the Chace bro't her too, Proved the Brigg *General Washington*, an American Privateer of 18 Guns from Boston,¹ Exch^d. the Prisoners—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/880, part 3.

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *General Washington*, William Rogers, commander, mounting 18 guns, crew of 84 men, 120 tons burthen, from Martinique, sent into Barbados. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below. See Governor Edward Hay to Lord George Germain, 4 Feb., below.

January 19

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT

[*Boston*] Monday Jan^y: 19. 1778

In the House of Representatives. Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Public Treasury of this State, Two hundred and Forty five Pounds Ten Shillings to M^r: John Peck in full for his Wages and Board, whilst modelling and attending on Building the Brigantine *Hazard*.¹

In Council Read and Concurred.
Consented to by Fifteen of the Council.

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 38 (Massachusetts General Court Records, 1777–1778), p. 243.
1. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Hazard*. See John Peck to Samuel Adams, 20 Feb., below.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, [Boston] Jan^y 19th. 1778—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers¹ pay M^r John Archer for Sundry's for Brig^t *Hazard*,² p^r Cap^t Samson's³ Bill of Exchange bearing Date Dec^r 1st 1777—for £14..11.. 6

Order'd, That M^r Ivers pay M^r John Archer for Sundry's supplied Brig^t *Tyrannicide*,⁴ p^r Cap^t Harredens⁵ Bill of Exchang bear^s date Dec^r 2^d 1777—for £30.. 0.—

Order'd, That William Fleet for 90^{Cwt.} 1^{gr.}..19^{lb} Lignumvita deliver'd Cap^t Chapman⁶ for Brig^t *Nantes*⁷ as p^r Account be paid . . . @ 12/. £54.. 5.—

Order'd, That the Commissary General⁸ deliver Cap^t Isaac Freeman one quarter Fresh Beef & some Bread, also three pounds Sugar to carry him down to Old York⁹ to bring up the Sloop *Republic*¹⁰—

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins¹¹ deliver Cap^t Isaac Freeman Two Gallons Rum to carry as Stores to York—

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver Cap^t Bartlett Holmes for Schooner *Hannah*¹²—

½ Barrel Pork	100 ^{lb} Bread	28 ^{lb} Sugar
28 [<i>bushels</i>] Rice	8 ^{lb} Butter	½ Bushel Peas
10 ^{lb} Candles	6 Gall ^s Rum	2 Empty Barrels

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins deliver Cap^t Bartlett Holmes for Schooner *Hannah*—

4 Hogsheads New England Rum	1 Quart Pott—
1 Gallon Pot	1 Brass Cock

part of the above Rum from M^r Hall—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers pay Cap^t Isaac Freeman for Expences for Sloop *Republic* . . . £36..—.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), pp. 173–74.

1. Thomas Ivers.
2. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Hazard*.
3. Capt. Simeon Samson, Massachusetts Navy.
4. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Tyrannicide*.
5. Capt. Jonathan Haraden, Massachusetts Navy.
6. Capt. Joseph Chapman, Massachusetts Navy.
7. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.
8. David Devens.
9. York, Me.
10. Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic*, Capt. John Carey, commander.
11. Capt. Caleb Hopkins.
12. Massachusetts State trading schooner *Hannah*.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO CAPTAIN JOHN CAREY

Sir.

[Boston] War Office 19th Jan^y 78.

We receivd your Letter from Portsm^o advising of your Arival and Misfortune. This Day will sail Capt Isaac Freeman, who will be your pilot from York¹ to Boston

he brings with him, Sails, Cable & Anchor. you will as soon as possible, leave York and come to Boston, taking Care to be as frugal in Yr Expences as possible. we wish you Safe here and are Yr Frds &c

Sam Pbps Savage
Pres^t

N.B.

if you are not able to come up y^r Self in s^d Sloop² deliver her to Cap^t Freeman.—

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 205, 2d ser. (Revolution Letters, 1775–1783), p. 279. Addressed at top: “Cap^t John Cary.” Docketed: “Cap^m. John Cary/Jan^y 19th/1778.” There is another copy in M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Mass. Board of War Minutes, 1776–1780), p. 150.

1. York, Me.

2. Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic*.

THE BOSTON-GAZETTE, AND COUNTRY JOURNAL, MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 1778

BOSTON, Jan. 19.

We hear the ship *Portsmouth*, of 20 Guns,¹ returned to Portsmouth last Thursday from a Cruise, during which she took two Prizes,² and carried them into Bilboa; and on her Return she took two more, one of which was a 20 Gun Ship³ with 40 Men, bound from London for New-York, laden with Woolens, &c. to the amount of 8,000 l. Sterl. prime Cost, which last Prize she parted with only four Days before her Arrival. The other, a Brig laden with Provision⁴ is arrived in a safe Port.

Friday last a Privateer Sloop of 10 Guns,⁵ commanded by Capt. Connolly⁶ of Manchester, returned to Salem from a Cruise. About a Month ago he fell in with and engaged a Ship of 20 Guns, with 40 Men, during which the Ship blew up, and all the Hands but Nine were lost. She was bound from London for Antigua, with a very valuable Cargo, estimated (as the Hands say who were taken off the Wreck after she blew up) at upwards of 80,000 l. They say also, there was a Lady of an immense Fortune on board, who likewise perished, but we have not learnt her Name.

We hear a Prize Ship of 290 Tons,⁷ mounting 14 Carriage and 12 Swivel Guns, and navigated with 45 Men, taken by the *Cumberland* Privateer belonging to this Place,⁸ is safe arrived at an Eastern Port,⁹ with the following Cargo, viz. 30 Pipes Port Wine, 4 Hogsheads ditto, 4 & a half Hogsheads Lisbon ditto, 166 Pipes Madeira ditto, 78 Hogsheads ditto, 68 Quarter Casks ditto, 300 Boxes Claret, 13 Chests Green Tea, 40 Tons Pig Iron, a Quantity of Gin, Brandy, &c. &c. &c.

1. New Hampshire privateer *Portsmouth*, John Hart, commander.

2. Brig *Emperor of Germany*, Robert Hawkins, master, and brigantine *Mercury*, John Pearce, master. See NDAR 10: 853, 854, 943, 944, 984, 990–91, 996–97, 1002.

3. British letter of marque ship *New Duckinfield*, W. Foster, master. See *The Freeman's Journal, or New-Hampshire Gazette*, 20 Jan., below.

4. Brig *Swan*. See *The Freeman's Journal, or New-Hampshire Gazette*, 20 Jan., below.

5. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Trenton*, John Conolly, commander, of Salem. See NDAR 10: 15.

6. Capt. John Conolly. See NDAR 10: 15.

7. Ship *Lady Gage*, Joseph Royal Loring, master. See Libel Filed in Massachusetts Maritime Court of the Eastern District, 19 Jan., below.

8. Massachusetts privateer ship *Cumberland*, James Collins, commander.

9. Falmouth, Me.

LIBEL FILED IN THE MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME COURT OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT

State of Massachusetts Bay. }
Eastern District. } *To all whom it may concern.*

NOTICE is hereby given, That a Libel is filed before me, in Behalf of the Owners of, and the Officers, Marines and Mariners on board the private armed Ship *Cumberland*,¹ James Collins, Esq; Commander, against the Ship *Lady Gage*, burthen about 250 Tons, Joseph Royal Loring late Master, and her Appurtenances and Cargo. And for the Trial of the Justice of said Capture, a Maritime Court for said District, will be held at Falmouth, in the County of Cumberland, on Tuesday the Tenth Day of February, 1778, at the Hour of Ten in the Forenoon, when all Persons concerned may appear and shew Cause, if any they have, why the same Vessel, her Cargo and Appurtenances, should not be condemned.

TIMOTHY LANGDON, Judge of said Court.

Boston-Gazette, and Country Journal, 19 Jan. 1778.

1. Massachusetts privateer ship *Cumberland*, mounting 20 carriage guns with a crew of 180 men, owned by Paul Dudley Sargent, Nathaniel Crafts and Job Prince, of Boston, was commissioned on 12 and 13 Sept. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 5, pp. 112, 115.

LIBEL FILED IN THE MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME COURT OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT

State of Massachusetts Bay. }
Eastern District. } *To all whom it may concern.*

NOTICE is hereby given, That a Libel is filed before me in Behalf of the Owners of, and the Officers and Mariners on board the private armed Schooner *Hannah and Molly*,¹ Agreeen Crabtree, Commander, against the Schooner *Resolution*, burthen about fifteen Tons, John Long late Master. And for the Trial of the Justice of the said Capture, a Maritime Court will be held in Pownalboro for said District, on Wednesday the 25th Day of February, 1778, at the Hour of Ten in the Forenoon, when all Persons concerned may appear and shew Cause (if any they have) why the same Vessel, with her Appurtenances and Cargo, should not be condemned.

TIM. LANGDON, Judge of said Court.

Boston-Gazette, and Country Journal, 19 Jan. 1778.

1. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Hannah and Molly*, 25 tons burthen, mounting 8 carriage guns, a crew of 13 men, owned by Agreeen Crabtree, of Frenchman Bay, Me., was commissioned on 31 July 1776 and recommissioned on 29 Aug. 1777. M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 139, pp. 124, 141.

JOHN ROWE TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT

To The Hon^{ble} the Council & House of Representatives for the State of the Massachusetts Bay in Gen^l Court Assembled at Boston Janry 19th 1778.

Humbly Sheweth—

John Rowe of Boston in the County of Suffolk Merch^t Agent for the Owners of the Private Armd Schooner *Phenix*¹—That the said Schooner on a Cruize against the Enemies of the Unitd States of America lately capturd & brought into this harbour of Boston A Certain Snow calld *Our Lady of Mount Carmell & S^t Anthony*² which was libelld & tryed in the Maritime Court of the Middle district of Said State and

was found to be the Property of Some of the Subjects of the King of Portugall and not liable to Condemnation and was therefore acquitted and Orderd to be Restord to the Owners thereof—³

But as the Captain⁴ of the Said Snow and Some of his Officers & Men are Sent away & not to be come at so that She may be Restord to them.—& Should the Owners of the schooner *Phenix* Attempt to Restore her—they must Run Great Risque in doing it, for if they Should put an American Master on board & Send her to Portugall with Proper Certificates from the Maritime Court Your Petitioner apprehends the British Cruizers would Pay no Regard to Such Proceedings but would consider her as Lawful Prize and as Such would proceed against and Condemn her The Owners of the *Phenix* would then be exposd to future Law Suits & Damages by Prosecution of the Owners of Said Snow—And Should the Owners of the *Phenix* proceed to Sell the Said Snow for Account of the Owners—the Money must not be divided among them neither is there any Person Authorized to Receive it

The Owners of the *Phenix* who are inhabitants of Pensilvania & other Southern States in America are Desirous of Petitioning the Honorable Continintall Congress—(As its A Matter which Concerns the Whole Continent) for their advice & Direction in the Premises—

but as this cannot be Effected Immediately Your Petitioner humbly Prays this honourable Court to Appoint Some Person giving Sufficient Bonds for the Security of the Same to take Possession of the Said Snow her Cargo & Appurtenances & keep them till an order of Congress Shall be had thereon. Your Petitioner also begs Your Perusall of A Letter he Receivd from One of the Owners of the *Phenix* & who is A Member of the Honble Congress—on this Occasion⁵ and your Petitioner as in Duty bound—will Ever Pray—

John Rowe

DS, DNA, PCC, item 44, pp. 39–42 (M247, roll 58). Docketed: “J. Rowe 19th Jan^y to the/Assembly of Massachusetts Bay/respecting the Snow called/our *Lady of Mount Carmel*.”

1. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Phenix*, Joseph Cunningham, commander.
2. *Nostra Senhora de Carmo e Santo Antonio*, João Garcia Duarte, master. See NDAR 10: 9–10, 10n, 22, 135, 318, 319, 664, 794.
3. See NDAR 10: 664.
4. João Garcia Duarte.
5. Robert Morris. See NDAR 10: 318–20.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Monday, January 19, 1778

Resolved, That a member be elected from the delegates of Maryland, to be added to the Marine Committee: The member chosen, Mr. [James] Forbes. . . .

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the Marine Committee of the 8 January; Whereupon,

Resolved, That officers of the navy, not in actual service, be entitled to their pay, but not to rations, nor to the subsistence money allowed by the resolution of the 25 July, 1777. . . .¹

JCC 10: 60, 61, 62–63.

1. Congress passed a resolution to reconsider the next day. Journal of the Continental Congress, 20 Jan., below.

GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR., TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

Sir.

Baltimore 19th Jan^y 1778.

Your Favor of the 12th Ins^t was delivered to me last Friday,¹ I received a Letter also at the same Time, from Mess^{rs} Samuel & Robert Purveyance² informing me that they had good Reason to believe that M^r Governere³ of Curasoa was part Owner of the Sloop⁴ & Cargoe, and that the Captain was retailing the Salt in very small Quantities at £15 p^r Bushel and would not sell it to Ingrossers. Before the Receipt of your Letter, I had been advised by M^r Van Bibber,⁵ of the Arrival of this Vessel, that this was her third Voyage and that the Captain,⁶ in a former one, refused to sell in Gross and had retailed his Salt at a lower Price than he had been offered for it in large Quantities. The Council and myself thought it best that Enquiry should be made, as to the Property of the Vessel and Cargoe and that, unless the Owners were real Enemies, a Purchase would be much more eligible than a Seizure, especially, as the Scarcity of Salt is not now so great as the Congress seems to have apprehended and I willingly, came here with that View. The inclosed Affidavit and correspondent verbal Information from several of the trading Gentlemen in Town is the Result of my Enquiry. M^r Beakman⁷ is known to some of the trading Men here, and has, as I am informed by them and others, been always esteemed, not only a firm but a suffering Whig; what Connexions he has had here, seems to have been with those who are Whigs. The Captain says, that he was employed in the Service of the Congress from New York to Curasoa with a Cargoe, in this Vessel, to make Remittance for Powder sent to New York by M^r Governere, and that M^r Beakman offered her Cargoe of Salt last year to M^r P. Levingston⁸ for the Use of the Congress, at two thirds the Price it was sold for at Egg Harbour. Seeing no Circumstance against M^r Beakman but what ought to be equally decisive against every Body else now in Philadelphia, I have forbore to make any Seizure of the Salt, on an Assurance, which I have no Doubt will be kept, that the Congress may have it, if they please, at the common selling Price, which is now 15£, a Bushel, 1000 Bushels at least, will be reserved for an Answer. One M^r John Davis since I began this Letter came in and offered me 200 Bushels, just brought up at £14 a Bushel. M^r William Lux & others have a late Arrival at South Key⁹ North Carolina and will engage to deliver 1000 Bushels here as soon as possible, they expect one Half of it within a Fortnight at 13£ p^r Bushel. There have been several late Arrivals in North Carolina, Virginia, and in the Inlets on the Eastern Shore, amongst the latter 700 Bushels belonging to this State, these 700 Bushels, about 300 at Snow Hill, about 200 at Annapolis and about 150 in the Neighbourhood of this Town, all belonging to this State, the Congress may have at a reasonable Price. Several People expect Salt in, daily and small Quanties of imported and Country made Salt are, every now and then, brought to this Place for Sale. Those who have and expect Salt, seem desirous of giving Congress the Preference and independent of all other Circumstances which would make it more desirable to purchase, the Congress may be supplied in that Way with a greater Quantity than in any other of this. The Council & I are so well satisfied that if the Treasury of this State could possibly bear it, we should immediately purchase 1500 or 2000 Bushels for the use of the Continent, but we have not the Money. If I might advise, it would be, to order the Comm^y to purchase what is immediately wanted here for Cash and, there can be little Doubt but, in a short Time, there will be a Plenty and at a lower Price. A few

Days ago, I received a Letter from M^r Richardson¹⁰ in the purchasing Commissary's Department, at George Town; he had borrowed one hundred Bushels of Salt of M^r Hooe¹¹ & had just been informed that a Quantity which he expected from Virginia had reached a Creek on Potowmack, from whence he might soon get it. I am well informed of large Quantities of Salt expected here, but a Seizure will certainly determine People to stop what they can and prove not only highly prejudicial to the Inhabitants of this State, but prevent Congress from being supplied at so cheap a Rate on the Whole, with any large Quantity at the Places by much the most convenient for Carriage . I am [&c.]

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "The President of Congress."

1. See President of Congress to Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., 12 Jan., above.
2. See Samuel and Robert Purviance to Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., 14 Jan., above.
3. Işaac Gouverneur of Curaçao.
4. *Pennsylvania Farmer*.
5. Isaac Van Bibber, merchant at Baltimore.
6. Capt. [William?] Newton.
7. Gerardus Beekman (Beeckman) of New York City and Philadelphia.
8. Philip Livingston, New York delegate to the Continental Congress and member of the Commerce Committee.
9. South Quay, Va.
10. Thomas Richardson.
11. Robert Townsend Hooe of Alexandria, Va.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Monday the 19th day of January 1778—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to George Webb esq^r for twelve pounds for the Balance of his acco^t as a Commissioner of the Navy Board.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 344.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES

[*Williamsburg*] Monday the 19th of January 1778.

Ordered, that Mr. *Richard Henry Lee*, Mr. *Thornton*,¹ and Mr. *Jett*,² be added to the committee appointed to examine into and report the state of the navy.³

Journals of the House of Delegates of Virginia (Williamsburg: Alexander Purdie, 1778), 126.

1. George Thornton, delegate from Spotsylvania County.
2. Thomas Jett, delegate from King George County.
3. For the text of this report see Journal of the Virginia House of Delegates, 22 Jan., below.

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[*Savannah*]

Thursday January 19, 1778

RESOLVED, That his Honor the Governor¹ be requested to direct the Commissary to enquire for such houses without the Town of Savannah may be suitable for Hospitals for the use of the Continental Naval & Land forces doing duty with State, and in case Such can be found that this House be acquainted therewith.

Extract from the minutes

J^s WOOD, Jun^r Clerk.

The Revolutionary Records of the State of Georgia, 2: 17.

1. John Houstoun.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN MARTINICO
TO HIS FRIEND IN THIS TOWN, DATED JAN. 19, 1778.”

“By sundry advices, already in your hand, you are informed of the protection and encouragement we Americans meet with in the French islands; indeed much more than we could expect from any neutral power. I send you a list of privateers fitted out and owned in this island, and cruizing under Congress colours, viz ship *St. Peter*, of 18 six pounders;¹ brig *Gen. Washington*, 16 four pounders;² sloop *Ranger*, 14 four pounders; sloop *Fortune*, 12 six pounders; sloop *St. John*, 14 four pounders; sloop *New Rambler*, 10 six pounders; schooner *Success*, 14 four pounders; brig *Retaliation*, 14 six pounders;³ a brig at Port Royal, 16 four pounders; there are eight others, chiefly sloops. These compleat our cruizing fleet, belonging to St. Piere’s. A great number of privateers, belonging to New-England, often put in here, many of which are very fortunate. No English vessel dare venture themselves in the English channel, without a convoy, as sure as they do, in a few days, they come addressed to some gentlemen in this island. We have daily prizes coming in. The French vessels go and come uninterrupted.

“France, who is in a perfect state of security, but for political reasons, would have Britain declare war against her first; but convinced I am, at all events, she will not let us fall. Our late successes in America, may prevent their interfering vigorously in our behalf immediately, which they were prepared for. In my next, I will send you a list of the prizes brought in here since the American war commenced, and believe it will far exceed your expectations.

“It is expected convoys will be granted us, and our vessels sail in large fleets to the continent.”

Maryland Journal, and the Baltimore Advertiser, 10 Mar. 1778.

1. American privateer ship *St. Peter*, Samuel Chace, commander. See *Journal of H.M.S. Aurora*, 12–13 Jan., above, for her capture.

2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *General Washington*, William Rogers, commander. See *Journal of H.M.S. Seaford*, 18 Jan., above, for her capture.

3. Pennsylvania privateer brigantine *Retaliation*, George Ord, commander.

January 20

THE FREEMAN’S JOURNAL, OR NEW-HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE,
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1778

PORTSMOUTH. [January 20.]

Last Tuesday arrived here the ship *Portsmouth*,¹ JOHN HART, commander, in nine weeks from Bordeaux:—on his passage to this place, fell in with and took the following vessels, viz. Brig *Emperor of Germany*,² laden with beef and butter:—Brig *George*,³ laden with dry fish,—Brig *Swan*,⁴ of 8 carriage guns, laden with beef, butter, and herrings—& letter of Marque ship, *New-Duckinfield*,⁵ mounting twenty carriage guns, laden with dry goods, wines, &c. Capt. HART, also spoke the following American vessels. Dec. 30, in Lat. 27, 5 m. N. Long. 56, 40 m. W. ship—Joseph

Packwood, master, from New-London, to St. Eustatia, out 12 days. Jan. 6th, Lat. 37, 10 m. N. Long. 61, 23 m. W. Privateer schooner *Gen. Lincoln*,⁶ John Margison commander, from Boston, on a cruize, out 7 days, Jan. 12th, ninety leagues E. by S. from Cape-Ann, Brig *Friendship*, Joshua Loring master, from Boston to Martinico, out three days.

1. New Hampshire privateer ship *Portsmouth*, mounting 20 guns, a crew of 100 seamen, owned by John Langdon and others, of Portsmouth, was commissioned on 7 June 1777. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 12, p. 11.

2. Brig *Emperor of Germany*, Robert Hawkins, master. See NDAR 10: 990–91, 996–97, 1002, 1008–9, 1013, 1013n, 1017, 1021, 1022, 1052, 1066.

3. Brigantine *George*, from Newfoundland to Bilbao. See NDAR 10: 1002, 1003n.

4. Brig *Swan*, J. Chambers, master, 140 tons burthen, mounting 4 four-pounders and 4 three-pounders, from Bristol to Jamaica, owned by Miles & Co., built in New England in 1765. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

5. British letter of marque ship *New Duckinfield*, W. Foster, master, 305 tons burthen, mounting 2 nine-pounders, 10 six-pounders, 6 four-pounders and 2 two-pounders, from London to Jamaica, owned by Nesbit & Co., built in 1771. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

6. Massachusetts privateer schooner *General Lincoln*, John Margeson, commander.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER TO MARINE CAPTAIN RICHARD PALMES

Copy of Cap^t. Tucker's Orders to the Cap^t. of Marines on his appointment to the Command of the *Boston* Frigate

Jan^y. 1778—

Sir

You being Commanding Officer of Marines on board the Ship *Boston* under my Command—My Orders are that the Commissioned & Non commissioned Officers are to go on board with the Men under your Command & reside there constantly at their Duty—

You are to be particularly careful that a Commissioned Officer does constantly lie on board every night—

You are to obey such Orders as you shall receive from me, or the Commanding Officer of the Ship in my Absence—

The Commanding Officer of the Ship is not to give any Marine Leave to go on Shore upon their own Occasions, if you have any reasonable Objection thereto

The Marines are to be exercised in the Use of their Arms as often as you shall think proper, and are to be employed as Centinels, and upon any other Duty & Service on board the Ship which they shall be capable of—Such as not on Duty that 24 hours as Centinels, therein to be subject to the Officers of the Ship—but they are not to be obliged to go aloft, or be beat or punished for not shewing an Inclination to do so, being assured the Ambitious will do it without driving—Those Marines not on immediate duty are to be turned on Deck by a Serjeant to do Duty as above—

The Marine Arms, Cartooch Boxes, Drums, Fifes & Accoutrements are under the immediate Inspection of You or your Officers—You are to be careful that the Arms be kept in good Order, & keep a sufficient number of Cartridges & Balls in readiness for Action—You are welcome to go on Shore when you please, leaving such Orders with your Officers, as are for the Safety & good Order of the Ship—

Relying wholly on your good Judgement for the Honour and Glory of your Country in the Defence of which, make no Doubt of your doing your duty as a faithful Officer—

Given under my hand on Board the Continental Ship *Boston* this 20th. day of January A.D. 1778.—

Copy, DLC, Journal of Lieutenant William Jennison, p. 4.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 20th. 1778

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l.¹ deliver Cap^t Bart^t Holmes four feet Wood, for Schooner *Hannah*.²—

Order'd, That Col^o. Crafts³ deliver Cap^t Bart^t Holmes 14½^{lb} Sheet Lead—for Schooner *Hannah*.—

Order'd, That Col^o. Crafts deliver for the Brig^t *Massachusetts*⁴ 61½^{lb} Sheet Lead.—

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver M^r James Homer for Brig^t *Massachusetts* . . . 40 Bushels Potatoes.—

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins⁵ pay Cap^t Bartlett Holmes for Wages & sundry Disbursements for Schooner *Hannah*, £186.. 1.. 8⁶

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 175–77.

1. David Devens.
2. Massachusetts State trading schooner *Hannah*.
3. Col. Thomas Crafts.
4. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.
5. "M^r Ivers" is inserted above "Capt. Hopkins". Thomas Ivers was the cashier for the Board of War.
6. "£181.1.8" is inserted after this amount.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO CAPTAIN BARTLETT HOLMES

War Office
Boston Jan^y 20th 1778

You being Master of the Schooner *Hannah* our orders are that you proceed with the first fair wind and with the greatest dispatch to North Carolina there make sale of your Cargo and let it if possible purchase a load of Flour or Wheat, but if not to be purchased procure 50 Barrels of good Pork and compleat your Lading with Corn. If Bar Iron can be procured at [*blank*] P^r Ton purchase three or Four Tons and floor the Vessell with it

As your arrival here depends on your dispatch you will use your utmost endeavors to load your Vessell as quick as possible and wherever you happen to fall in, which we recommend may be to the Northward rather than the South of Boston and give us the earliest advice of your arrival. & wait our orders—We wish you a good Voyage & are y^r Friends &

By order
Sam^l P Savage Pres^t

I Acknowledge the above to be a true Copy of the orders I have received of the hon^a. Board of War & promise to obey the same—

Bartlett Holms

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), p. 433. Addressed at top: "Captⁿ. Bartlet Holmes."

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO MORRIS, PLIARNE, PENET & CO.

War Office
Boston Jan^y 20th 1778

Gentlemen

The foregoing is a Copy of our last by the Ship *Union*¹ since which we are without your favours. This covers an Invoice & Bills of Lading of the Brig^a. *Nantes*'s cargo Joseph Chapman Master, which we desire you will sell for the most it will yeild, & invest the Neat proceeds thereof (together with the residue of such other Cargoes, & Vessells as you may have of ours on hand,) with the utmost dispatch, in the said Brig^a. & in such Goods as we have formerly wrote for; or in these mention'd in our Schedule below; giving the preference to the Articles as they Stand in Order. We think it needless to hint to Gentlemen of your Experience in Business of how much importance it is to the welfare of this State, at this time, to have her Vessels dispatch'd with promptitude, as well as exactness, both in the quantity & quality of the Goods required. Any delay in the dispatch must inevitably bring our Vessels upon this Coast at a Time when the days are long, and the Weather fine, at which time, we are most infested with British Cruizers. We beg leave to observe that, the cheif end & design of our passing a Contract with the Sieur Pliarne & C^o. was in order to lay in a Stock of such Goods as this State stood most in need of: & for that purpose, a Clause was inserted therein, by which your house obliged itself to advance to the Amo^t of £80,000 Sterl^g. untill the Board of War could by a circuitous Commerce, as well as by direct Remittances, place in your hands the necessary funds; this we have endeavored to do, by all the means in our power: our State (the fisheries being destroyed) having no Staple of Native Growth (except Lumber). & Chesapeak bay having been intirely block'd up, the last Summer, makes it ineligible & almost impossible, to Ship Tobacco from thence, whilst things remain so circumstanced. We therefore make no doubt but that your house must hold us acquitted on that head: especially when you consider that the Breach of Contract did not originate with us. You will excuse us when we acquaint you that in favor of your house we have declin'd Connections that might have been more advantageous to this State. however being desirous to maintain friendship, & a good understanding with all our Correspondents, & presuming that our successes against the common Enemy will place this State in a more honorable point of Light we trust to your Exertions alone, for an immediate Supply; assuring you that you will run no hazard in fullfilling your Engagements with this Board: however to obviate all difficulties we are very desirous that you will transmit us all Acc^{ts}. of Sales, & an Account Current that we may be able (agreeable to our Contract) to liquidate all Accounts for the last year—We are Gentⁿ. [&c.]

By order of the Board
Tho's Walker Pres^t P. T.

Schedule viz^t.

3 point Blankets
Cloths Viz^t blue browns. diff^t. Shades
Buff. (with Trimmings)
abo^t. 7.^{#2} to 8[#] p^r y^d.
Soldiers Shoes large & Strong
Stocking or hose white yarn
Felt hats for Soldiers (large)

Coarse Linnens for Soldiers Shirts
 ab^t 30³ a 2.[#] 3[#] a little for Officers
 White Flannell (thin) for Linings
 D^o. Swanskins⁴ or Coarse Espagno Cettes
 Russia Sheeting. 30 Ells in a peice. cost
 in London 42/ or 45/ Sterl^s
 Brown or some other kind of your
 own fabrick instead to make Rifle
 Shirts or frocks principally
 boxes of Sheet Tin a third X
 Lanthorn hornes feuilles de fanuelles
 Sewing threads of all Collours &^c. for
 Coarse Linnens
 Russia Duck
 Ravens d^o.
 Ticenburgh
 Sail Twine
 Cambricks (common sort)
 Four Ton Lead to Ballast—
 duplicate by the *Boston* Frigate

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), pp. 151–54.
 Addressed at foot of last page: “Morris Pliarne Penet & Co.—”

1. Massachusetts State trading ship *Union*.
2. Symbol for the *livre tournois*.
3. There is a symbol above “30” which appears to be a tilde.
4. Any of various fabrics resembling flannel and having a soft nap or surface.

ISAAC SEARS TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Sir

Boston Jan^r 20th. 1778

I have 2 bales light duck 40 muskets 14 pair of Pistels role Sheet lead 6 Coper Ladles for 9 pounders redy to Send you as soon as I Can get a team.¹ I have ingaged 40 Cables to be maid which have the promiss of them in ten days, have not yet found any flints if to be had Shall Some them,—please to inform me if Capⁿ. Jancy² has the Ship³ & in what time you Judge She will be Compleat for Sea—I Should Send more Pistels if they was to be had, hope Some more may arive before the Ship Sails I am Sir [&c.]

Isaac Sears

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 26, no. 1640. Addressed at foot: “To/Nath^l Shaw Esq^r.” Docketed in Shaw’s hand: “Isaac Sears/Letter/Jan^r 20 1778.” Docketed in another hand: “1640.”

1. On 1 Feb. Sears wrote to Shaw that he had been unable to procure a team to send these articles to Norwich. CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 26, no. 1642.

2. Capt. Joseph Jauncey of New Haven had been proposed as captain of the *General Putnam*. See NDAR 10: 237, 237n.

3. Connecticut privateer ship *General Putnam*, Thomas Allon, commander.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO DANIEL TILLINGHAST

New London Jan^r 20 1778

I Rec^d a line from M^r Green Informing me that as soon as the 4 lb Shott were ready he would advise me y^t I might send for them, Since y^t I have not heard from

you. I beg you'll let me know when I may send, as the Vessell¹ I want them for is almost ready to Sail—I also want Three Tons of Grape Shott & 5 doz Lathorns, I beg you would be so good as to procure them for me, as I know not where else to get them & you'll much oblige [&c.]

LB, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, Letter Book (Jan. 1775–July 1782). Addressed at top: "To Dan Tillinghast Esq'/Con' Ag' Providence."

1. Connecticut privateer sloop *American Revenue*, Samuel Champlin, Jr., commander.

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY PHILIP STEPHENS

Number 51.

Sir,

Eagle Rhode-Island
January the 20th: 1778.

Captain Cornwallis,¹ appointed to the *Chatham* for returning to England on Account of his State of Health, is charged with the Care of this and my other Dispatches of the 5th: and 6th: Instant, sent by the same Opportunity. He will be accompanied by the *Buffalo* and *Tortoise*, with such of the Naval Transports as are judged unfit in their present Condition, to remain longer in this Country.

Fourteen of the Lower-Deck Guns will be left from the *Chatham*; to lighten the Ship in the Extremities, for her Passage to England; and to replace the same Number furnished from the *Centurion* for being mounted last Summer in the *Vigilant*. The *Tortoise* being weak and making much Water forward in bad Weather at Sea, Four nine-pounders have been also taken from that Ship for Arming the *Delaware* Frigate; the Guns of which (cast in this Country) have been inspected and are deemed unserviceable.

I am acquainted in my late Advices from Commodore Hotham with the Loss of the *Mercury* the 24th: of last Month; By striking upon some of the Obstructions placed in the North River the preceding Year, tho represented to have passed in the accustomed Channel. The Injury was so considerable, and the Effect so sudden, that the Ship sunk almost immediately; And I have the further Concern to hear, that very few of the Stores, a part of the Guns excepted, are likely to be preserved. Captain Montagu's² Relation of the Circumstances is herewith transmitted.³ And by an Inquiry into the Cause of the Loss of the Ship immediately directed, the Officers and Men are acquitted of all Misconduct on that Occasion.

The Commodore's Letters being sent by the *Maidstone*, I was then first informed by Captain Gardner,⁴ that the *Conway* Store-Ship, with Baggage for the Army, parted from him the 21st: very unnecessarily, as he apprehends.

I received at the same time, the Report of the Survey taken on the *Fowey*;⁵ and Letters from Captain Pearson of the 28th: of October,⁶ which arrived a few Days before in an Armed Ordnance-Transport dispatched from Quebec. The Copies thereof are herewith enclosed.

I have added Copies of the most necessary Papers referred to in the last; for the fuller Information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty respecting the State of the Maritime Force in that Province.⁷

An Answer has been lately received from Lieutenant General Burgoyne, by which it is signified, that no part of the Force comprehended in the Convention of the 16th: of last October, will be permitted to embark, except at Boston. And from

some very exorbitant Demands for Extraordinaries furnished to that Army, and required to be adjusted before the Troops are released; there is great Reason to suspect the Rebels mean to evade a Compliance with that part of the Engagement. The Particulars, by Desire of General Pigot,⁸ have been dispatched in the *York* Armed Sloop, to Sir William Howe. But the Passage of the Sloop up the Delaware, for conveying the Intelligence to Philadelphia, is very uncertain at this Season of the Year. I shall nevertheless, in consequence of General Burgoyne's recent Application for the Transports to be sent immediately to Boston, endeavor to get them advanced on their passage towards that port, as far as Cape-Cod-Harbour, in the mean time; Under Conduct of the *Amazon* and *Juno*.

The Commission, Instructions and other authorities, together with the Letter for Vice Admiral Gayton, having been delivered to Sir Peter Parker, who sailed in the *Bristol* for Jamaica the 15th. Instant. Captain Griffith⁹ will remain in the *Nonsuch*, with the Command of the Ships assembling at this port after the Departure of the *Amazon*, as soon as the State of the Navigation will admit of my returning in the *Eagle* to the Delaware; which I reckon may be attempted early in the Month of March.

The Demand for Slops, and more especially for Shirts and Shoes, has been so urgent, that the Supply sent out in the last Store-Ships is considerably deficient of the Quantity requisite even for the present Necessities in the Fleet. The Distress of the Men becomes considerable on that Account; many of them being rendered incapable of Duty in the severer part of the Winter-Season. And those proceeding by Exchange, are sent destitute of Cloathing in almost every Article.

An Alteration having been made in the form of Distinguishing Signals appointed for the Ships on this Station; A Copy of those distributed for Use at the Commencement of the present Year, is herewith transmitted.

I am, with great Consideration, Sir, [&c.]

Howe

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 135–37. Addressed at foot of first page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r/Secretary of the Admiralty." Docketed: "20 Janry 1778/Rhode Island/Lord Visc^t Howe/R, 21 Mar/(8 Inclosures)."

1. Capt. William Cornwallis, R.N.
2. Capt. James Montagu, R.N.
3. See *NDAR* 10: 806–7.
4. Capt. Alan Gardner, R.N.
5. Enclosure not printed. H.M.S. *Fowey* was found to be in need of major repairs to hull and masts.
6. See *NDAR* 10: 327–28.
7. See *NDAR* 10: 140–42.
8. Maj. Gen. Robert Pigot.
9. Capt. Walter Griffith, R.N.

BRIGADIER GENERAL CASIMIR PULASKI TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

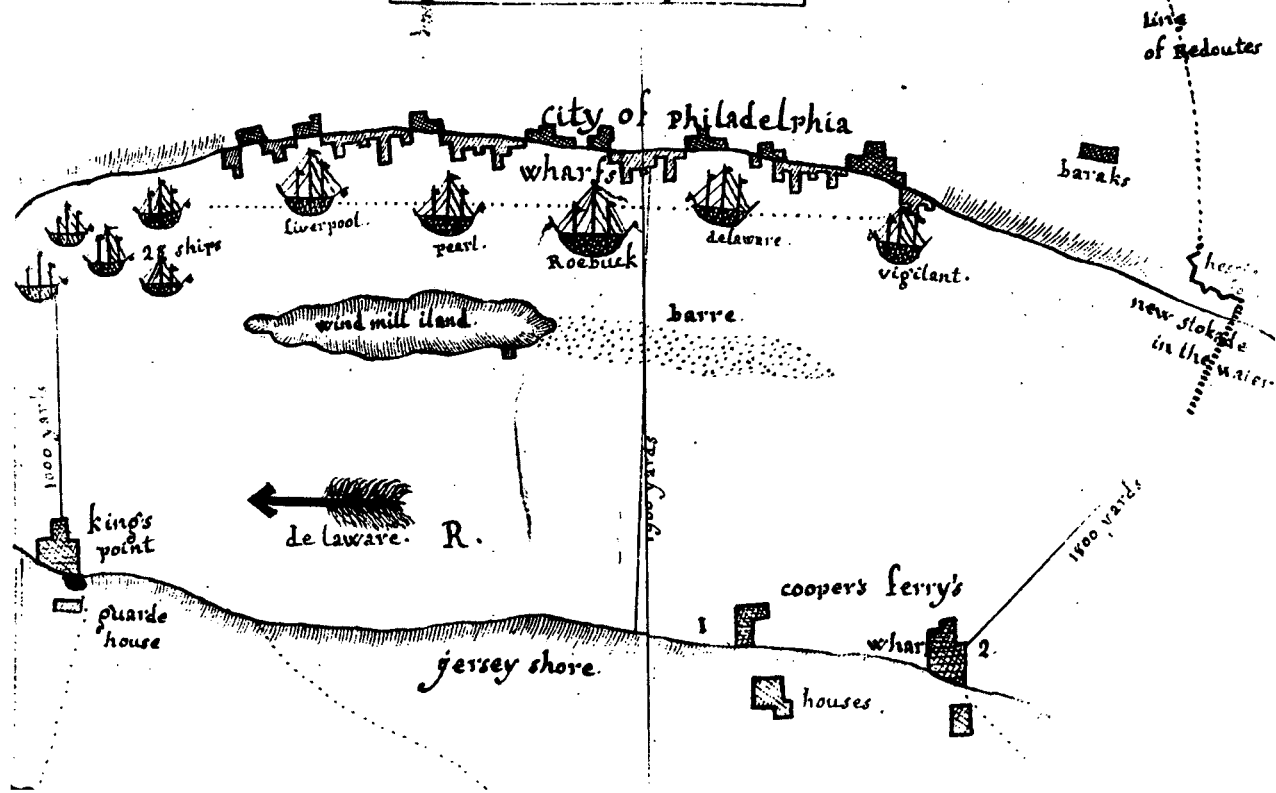
[Extract]

Mon General . . .

Le 20 Janvier 1778 a Trentown

La Marine se conduit ici tres mal; on ne peut prevenir autremen Les disputes parmi Les Dragons et Les Matelots que par un ordre expré pour Leur Comandant qu'il prend avec moi Les Mesures convenables et quil ordere etant absente á Son

View of the enemy fleet
before Philadelphia
19 January 1778.
By L^t Fleury



"View of the enemy fleet before Philadelphia 19 January 1778"

Subalterne qu'il fasse executer tout que Le biens dû Service exigera—il y a une Maison pre dune grand ecurie il faut quils le vacû pour que Les Dragons soient pré de Leurs chevaux. . . .

[Translation]

My General . . .

20 January 1778, Trenton

The men of the Navy behave themselves very ill—it will be impossible to prevent disputes between the Sailors and Dragoons, unless an express order is given to their Commanding Officer to agree with me upon proper measures, and to order his Subalterns in his absence to do all that the good of the Service shall require—there is a House adjacent to a spacious Stable, the Seamen ought to give it up, in order that the Dragoons may be near their Horses—. . . .

L, with contemporary translation, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "A Son Excellence/Le Generl Washington." Docketed: "Brigad^r Gen^l Pulaski./20th Jan^r 1778/Rec^d. 22^d—Answ^d. 26^h." This extract is an addendum to a letter written by Pulaski to Washington regarding the situation of the cavalry, specifically the lack of provisions and discipline.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL FRANÇOIS-LOUIS DE FLEURY TO JOHN LAURENS

My dear Colonel,

as I was still at trenton, I thought, that I Could employ my leasure, usefully at Cooper's ferry, and I went down to that place, to try if I could, with five or six Determined militiamen, Creep upon the ice, & set on fire one or two of the enemys ships, by means of two sulphured shirts, that I had Ready for that purpose.

but the River is not frozen at all, & I have been disappointed.

During my station at Cooper's ferry, I have done some observations, which I pray, that you present to his excellency;

I begg together that you send me his answer by the bearer, as it is not time to be lost. I am dear sir [&c.]

L. fleury

Burlington, 20. January.

1778.

send me your answer to trenton turn over

the enemys, were yesterday Cutting the loggs of the wharf upon windmill iland.

I suppose for firewood.—

they are Rising palissades, from their Redoute nearest to the River, till the very place, where the tide when gone down...it is likely to prevent the desertion, or for their safety.

they have two hessians Centrys, close by the water, below the beach.—

[Enclosure]

Observations

Made at Cooper's Ferry.—

the 18. January. 1778.—

Situation of the River.

The River Delaware which is frozen at trenton, is not such opposite to philadelphia: the Current being very free, the ferry boat goes & Comes back every day. (that I have seen Myself). But the boats Can not Land in any other place, than the wharf of kings point, & the two of Cooper's ferry. all the Remainder of the shore is incum-

bred with ice, half floating, half fasten'd to the shore, in such manner that neither boats, nor men Can Land.—

Batterys.

the nearest place, to the enemy fleet, is king's point. twenty eight bigg trade ships lay together, Below, the windmill iland, & opposite to the old fort, about 1000 yards from the Jersey shore.—

as the king's point's wharf is very Narrow, only one eighteen pound^r. Can be placed upon; but two others, can be advantageously in the shore twenty yards behind. the both parapets, by taking Caution, to have Fascines & gabions Ready, can be done canon prove, in one night. one mortar, or howyzt, to throw Carcassess, or shells, would be more useful; if they were possible to be had.—

N.B. the Canon of the galleys is on shore, near burdentown, & the Commodore haselwood¹ has told me, that he has send above trenton two field eighteen p^d. Carriages.

Coll. ellys,² who Commands the militia at hoddenfield, think that he Could, defend the batery in time of ice, as it is now, with his militiamen.—

if the enemy would attempt to attack the battery by landing, & that we think not, to can Repulse them; it would be easy to carry back the guns & secure them, to the other side. of Cooper's creek; by taking the bridge way. (it is only of boards.)—

one big brick house which Lays close by the wharf, Could successfully defend the battery against Landing storm.—

fire boats.

two kinds of fire Boats may be employed. the first, would be Loaden, with tuns powder, & burst in the midle of the fleet. they could be surely directed, by one strong Racket filled with particular Composition, & fasten'd in the very midle of the head of the boat, to give him direction & velocity. . .

one Mast sunk in the stern of the boat, horisontaly under the water, & to which one sail would be circularly bound, would hinder the Current to Drive it out the way.— the head of the boat, armed with a strong sharp point of iron, would remain fixed in the enemy's ship, till its bursting up.—

N B . . . the expences will be small. every flat bottom boat answer the purpose...the Commodore haselwood offers to help me by his knowledge, in their Construction, & Rectify my ideas he promises to come at trenton, where we Could try, by one boat, before executing by several.

the galleys have salpeter, & powder; I can make the Composition; & one turner will do the moule under our direction.—

besides I suppose that the park of artillery has some quick maches already done.—³

2.^d. kind of fire Boats.

that second kind is not to be used so soon. the nord est wind blows very often, & very hard in the month of february & march, & according to the instructions that I have Received of the ferrymen, several boats, filled with tar & other Combustibles, Could be Leaded in the night, over the barr, between Cooper's ferry, & philadelphia, & after, the wind, & the tide, would surely Drive them streigth to the wharf of t[h]e cyty, where the ships lay.—

if his excellency aproves the above schemes; I begg to send me, positive orders...the commodore will be glad to Receive the same, & we will work friendly & cordyally,

together; nor day nor night will be spared from our part to justify the truth of his excellency.—

L. fleurv̄⁴

Burlington. 20. January 1778.

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "To/Colonel Lawrence/in his absence./Colonel Harrison/Aides de Camp to his excellency/general Washington./head quarters." Docketed: "L: Col. Fleury/20th Jan^y 1778/Rec^d. 22^d./Answ^d./Plan of Phila."

1. Commo. John Hazelwood, commanding the Pennsylvania Navy.
2. Brig. Gen. Joseph Ellis.
3. In these two sentences, Fleury seems to be saying that a "turner" or lathe operator would make a mold ("moule") to hold the mixture of saltpeter and gunpowder ("the Composition"), which would be packed into the fire boat and ignited using quick matches or fuses that the artillery corps would have. See illustration p. 204, below.
4. Fleury was a lieutenant colonel of engineers in the Continental Army.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN HENRY BELLEW, R.N.

By &ca. &ca.

You are hereby ordered and directed to take the four Vessels named in the Margin¹ under your Convoy, and to proceed with them down the River Delaware the first favorable opportunity, giving them all possible Assistance in passing the Obstructions in the River, as well as protection from the Enemy in case of their meeting with any accident by the way. When you shall have arrived at the Capes, You are to deliver the enclosed Orders² to Lieutenant Whitworth³ Commanding the *Stanley* Armed Brig (who is to take Charge of the Convoy) and then proceed with all possible expedition to New York, where you are to deliver the enclosed Dispatches⁴ to Commodore Hotham and follow his Orders for your further proceedings.—

Given &c [on board the *Roebuck* at Philadelphia] the 20th January 1778.

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), pp. 10–11. Addressed below close: "Capt. H. Bellew/*Liverpool*.—"

1. "Dispencer Pacquet. Ship *Catherine*. Alert Schooner. Brig *George*."
2. Marginal notation: "Vid Pa^s."
3. Lt. Richard Whitworth, commanding H.M. armed brigantine *Stanley*.
4. Marginal notation: "Vid Letters Pa^s: 4 & 5."

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Tuesday, January 20, 1778

Resolved, That the resolution passed yesterday, respecting the pay of officers of the navy not in actual service, be re-considered. . . .

A letter, of the 12, from General Washington, and one, of the 17th, from Brigadier General Smallwood, respecting some captures taken in the Delaware, were read:

Ordered, That they be referred to the Marine Committee.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO ROBERT AND SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JR.

Marine Committee
Gentlemen

York [*Pa.*] Jan^y 20th 1778

We acknowledge the receipt of your Favour of the 10th ins^t and agreeable to your requisition we now inclose you herein a Warrant of Congress upon the Loan officer of your State for Ten Thousand Dollars which you will apply to the Credit of this Committee. If the Office cant furnish out the Cash, we wish you would, if you can negotiate them, take Loan office Certificates in Lieu thereof.

We rejoice to hear that Captain Nicholson¹ is off your hands, and now require you to make up your Accounts with this Committee and transmit them as soon as possible We are [&c.]

Henry Laurens
President

L, NHpR, Correspondence Regarding Naval-Maritime Matters, 1775-1783, item 64. Addressed at the foot: "Mess^r S: & R Purviance."

1. Capt. James Nicholson, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*.

GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL

Gent.

Balt 20. Jany 1778.

I inclose you the Draft of my Ltr. To Congress¹ which contains all the Information I could give you abt. the Salt Sloop² this Morning I set out for Fred^k and shall return again as soon as I well can—No Money is sent to Kent or Cecil nor any Money or Salt to M^r. Dashell³ of Queen Anne p G^s.—I am afraid we shall be behind in our purchase of provisions Maj^r. Tootle⁴ told me there were great Quant^s of Pork for Sale in Dor. had we not better get some Body to purchase there & in Caroline.⁵—Rogers⁶ will be soon down in the *Gen^l Smallwood* I suppose he goes to M^r. Harrison Mart⁷—if the *Lidia* is ready before I get down you'll give her sailing Orders if it is only to go to Nantz or Bourdeux to any Body you please the more particular Orders may follow her We hear but I wish it better ascertained though I believe 'tis true that the Canadians have possessed themselves of Canada as far as Montreal inclusive and all Stores &c^a. With a View of becoming the 14th State and that Gates⁸ has sent them 2 or 3 regim^{ts}. I am [&c.]

Th Johnson

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4587-2.

1. See Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., to President of Congress, 19 Jan., above.

2. *Pennsylvania Farmer*.

3. Capt. Robert Dashiell.

4. Maj. James Tootell, Severn Battalion, Maryland Militia.

5. Kent, Cecil, Queen Annes, Dorchester (Dor.) and Caroline are counties on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

6. Capt. John Rogers, commanding Maryland State trading schooner *General Smallwood*.

7. Richard Harrison, agent for Maryland at Martinique (Mart.).

8. Maj. Gen. Horatio Gates, commander-in-chief of the Continental Army in the Northern Department and president of the Continental Board of War.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Tuesday the 20th day of January 1778.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain Francis Bright for the use of Mr William Frazier for One thousand pounds upon Account for the purpose of buing Provision and other necessaries for the use of the Navy.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 345.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EMERALD*, CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL

January 1778

[In Hampton Road.]

Tuesday 20th

at 7 AM Weigh'd & Came to Sail in Company with the *Richmond* & our Tender, at 11 AM saw two Vessels¹ up the Bay gave Chace.

Cherry Stone Point NE, Back River WSW.

Ditto Wea^r [Fresh breezes & Squally] [PM] in Chace of Ship which we suppose to be a Frigate, d^o. Chaced all Night;

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/311.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Capt. James Nicholson, commander, and Maryland Navy brig *Defence's* tender *Amelia*, Capt. Henry Massey, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

January 1778

[Hampton Town NW 3 or 4 Miles]

Tuesday 20

Var^l. W^e [AM] *Emerald* m^d. the Sig^l. & we Weighd & came to Sail her tender in Com^y at Noon New p^t Comfort NW 6 or 7 Miles, gave Chace to 2 Sail up the Bay¹

New P^t. Comfort NW 6 or 7 M^s.

Mod^t. Breezes [PM] *Emerald* & tender in Com^y Still in Chace

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/784.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia* and Maryland Navy brig *Defence's* tender *Amelia*, Capt. Henry Massey, commander. See Journal of H.M.S. *Emerald*, Captain Benjamin Caldwell, 21 Jan., below.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PERSEUS*, CAPTAIN GEORGE KEITH ELPHINSTONE

January 1778

Land of North Edisto WNW 4 Leagues.

Tuesday 20th:

at 7 AM Saw 2 Sail to the SE^t and one in the SW Q^r wore Ship and gave chace, the Land in Sight and the chace a small Schooner close in Shore, at Noon in chace, running along Shore.

Land of South Edisto WNW 3 Leagues.

Light breezes and cloudy, at 2 PM the *Carysfort* and *Lizard* joined, the *Carysfort* made the Signal to chace to the Westward, at 5 Saw two Brigs to Windward, at 6 the chace tacked and Stood off Shore; at 7 Tacked, and fired Twelve Nine pounders Shotted at the chace, which bore down, and proved the *Reflechi* a french Brig from Newbury to Ch^s. Town,¹ took charge of her, & brought her people on board, found her in Ballast only:

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/688.

1. French brig *Réfléchi*, François Coitard, master, of Bordeaux, a crew of nineteen, from Newburyport to Charleston, taken off South Edisto Is., sent to St. Augustine, "(N.B. This Vessel some time since landed at Newberry her Cargoe of Goods from France)." Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, 239-40.

January 21

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 21st 1778—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers¹ pay Thomas Lewis for Sundry's for Schooner *Hannah*² Bart^t Holmes Master £12.. 5.. 6—

Order'd, That Cap^t Chapman pay M^r Ivers for one half the Passage of two Passengers to France in Brig^t *Nantes*³ amount^s at £7..—.— to £14..—.—

Exchange 1,000 Livres Tournois,—

Gentⁿ. At Fifteen days sight of this our first & only Bill of Exchange, pay to Cap^t Joseph Chapman or his order, one Thousand Livres Tournois, Value in Account with the said Captain, & to serve for his Expences in Case he should be taken on his passage to France, in the Brig^t *Nantz*, himself Master, & place the same to the Account of the Board of War.—

(Sign'd) Tho's Walker Pres^t P.T.

Mess^{rs} Morris, Pliarne, Penet & C^o.

Merch^{ts}. Nantz

receiv'd the above Bill of Exchange from the Board of War.⁴

(Sign'd) Joseph Chapman

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 177-78.

1. Thomas Ivers.

2. Massachusetts State trading schooner *Hannah*.

3. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.

4. See Massachusetts Board of War to Morris, Pliarne, Penet & Co., 20 Jan., above.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO CAPTAIN JOSEPH CHAPMAN

War Office

Boston Jan^y 21st 1778

Sir—

You being Master of the Brig^a *Nantes* now loaded and ready to Sail. Your orders are to proceed to Nantes in the Kingdom of France. deliver your Letters to Mess^{rs}. Morris Pliarne Penet & Comp^y. Merchants there to whom you are consigned—

When you have discharged you[r] present Cargo, You are to get your Brig^a. fitted and in order with the greatest dispatch to take your homeward Cargo. And endeavour to make all the dispatch you possibly can and endeavor to impress the minds of Mess^{rs} Morris & C^o. of the necessity of your being dispatch'd if possible in a few days so you may be at home as early in the Spring as you possibly can—

And after you have loaded proceed directly for Boston or any safe port in this or New hampshire State and acquaint the Board of your arrival by Express—

We have desired your Merchants in France to furnish you with the Money for paying yourself & Men as P^r. agreement also for other disbursments But we recom-

mend to you to be as frugal as possible.¹—We wish you a good Voyage and are yr^e Friends

By order

Tho^s Walker Pres^t P T

I acknowledge the above to be a true Copy of the orders I have rec^d. of the hon^a. Board of War & promise to obey the same

Joseph Chapman

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), p. 434. Addressed at top: “Capt^m. Joseph Chapman.”

1. On 21 Jan. the Board of War also wrote Morris, Pliarne, Penet & Co., requesting them to furnish Chapman with money for himself, his crew, and other disbursements for the brigantine *Nantes*. LB, M-AR, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), p. 154.

JOHN ROWE TO ROBERT MORRIS

D^r. Sir

Boston Janry the 21st: 1778—

The Portuguese Snow¹ was tryd at Our Maritime Court & Acquitted after A Serious Tryall.—The Snow is now here & her Cargo hous’d I have petitiond Our General Court that they may appoint Some Person or other to take Charge of her &c untill the Determination of Congress may be had thereon & with the Petition I accompany’d your Letter to Me—which will give them your Sentiments²—Respecting this Unlucky Capture—

Its my Opinion that the Cargo be sold as soon as Congress Shall order—& the mony Lodgd in the Publick funds on Interest untill Some Method can be found to Restore the Am^o. to the Former Owners—

If I can be of any Service in the Sale or any other Matter, it will be executed with Pleasure & Attention I Inclose you Copy of My Petition to the Gen^l Court³ the Sooner the Determination of Congress Shall be Effected the Better. As the Cargo must naturally Leak Out by Laying in Pipes—espically Oyl I am D^r. Sir [&c.]

John Rowe

L, DNA, PCC, item 44, pp. 43–46 (M247, roll 58). Addressed: “To/The Hble./Robert Morris Esq^r/Att Manheim/In/Pensilvania.” Docketed: “Boston 21 Jan^y 1778/John Rowe Esq^r advising/the Acquittal of the Portugueze/Snow taken by Cap^t Cunningham/& enclosing a Copy of his Memorial/&c./N 4.”

1. *Nostra Senhora de Carmo e Santo Antonio*, João Garcia Duarte, master, taken by the Massachusetts privateer schooner *Phoenix* on 28 Aug. 1777. Her cargo consisted of cotton and fish oil. See NDAR 10: 9–10, 10n.

2. See John Rowe to Massachusetts General Court, 19 Jan., above.

3. On 29 Jan. Rowe wrote Morris that he had just learned that the Massachusetts General Court was not going to act at present on his petition and urged “that its Necessary the Congress Should take it up with^o Delay.” DNA, PCC, item 44, pp. 47–48 (M247, roll 58).

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[Extract]

The Council met

Lancaster, Wednesday, January 21, 1778.

Present. His Excell^y. Tho^s. Wharton, jun^r. Esq^e. President. Jacob Morgan, Esq^e. __John Hambright, Esq^e. __Jacob Arndt, Esq^e. Thomas Urie, Esq^e. __& __Thomas Scott, Esq^e.

(Jacob Morgan, Esq^e went this Afternoon for Reading.)—An Order, was drawn on the Treasurer, in favor of Shriver, Summers & Lasky, for the Sum of Two Thousand Pounds toward the Amount of their Bill for supplying the Fleet, to be charged to Will^m. Crispin, Commissary of Provisions for the said Fleet. . . .

D, PHarH, RG 27, Minute Books of the Supreme Executive Council, vol. 6, pp. 198–99. The remainder of the minutes discusses the commissioning of a Justice of the Peace and Barrack Master Michael Hubly's petition for a raise.

THE PENNSYLVANIA PACKET, OR THE GENERAL ADVERTISER (LANCASTER)
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1778.

LANCASTER, January 21.

On Thursday last the sloop *Bachelor*, John Staples master bound for Philadelphia, burthen about 50 tons with three hands on board, was taken by Capt. Joseph Rice, of the artillery;¹ and a party of eight men, off Marcus Hook. Her cargo consists of 26 casks of rice, 8 barrels of beef, 2 casks of porter, 24 firkins of butter, 500 bushels of potatoes and turnips, 6 hogsheads of loaf sugar, 3 ditto of brown sugar, 5 ditto of rum, 17 tierces of salmon, 18 boxes of soap, 1 chest of bohea tea, 20 hams, 20 cheeses, 2 barrels of tar, 1 pipe of wine, 1 hogshead of bottled claret, 4 barrels of flour, and 192 half hides.

1. Rice was a captain in the 4th Continental Artillery Regiment.

NAVAL NEWS FROM PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 21.

On Wednesday last the sloop *Charming Polly*, Captain Brown, and the armed brig *Kitty*, Captain Moore, arrived here from New York; the former, with a cargo of merchandize, sailed from thence on Tuesday the 6th instant. On Tuesday the 13th, being off Wilmington at anchor, the Rebels sent a sloop, with one piece of cannon, and three boats, one with a prow gun, full of armed men from Christiana-creek, with a view to take them;—on their appearance the brig weighed anchor, and dropped down with the tide to meet them, received the first fire from the Rebel sloop, and returned it with such ample interest, as intimidated the boats from proceeding; and the sloop, after firing four or five shot, got a boat a-head, and rowed into the creek. . . .

Royal American Gazette (New York), 12 Feb. 1778.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Wednesday, January 21, 1778

Congress according to the order of the day, resumed the consideration of the resolution passed 19th, respecting the pay of the officers of the navy, and sundry amendments being made, and some agreed to,

On motion, *Resolved*, That the original resolution, with the amendments, be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. G Morris,¹ Mr. Harvie² and Mr. Clark.³

Ordered, That the committee sit on this business, and report this afternoon.

Adjourned to 3 o'Clock.

THREE O'CLOCK, P.M.

...

The committee to whom was referred the resolution of the 19th, respecting the pay of the officers of the navy, and the amendments adopted and proposed, brought in a report, which was read;

Whereas sundry Officers lately belonging to Ships and Vessels of the United States of America, by reason of the Loss of such Ships and Vessels or otherwise are not now in actual Service, and other such Officers and Men are now and hereafter may be in Captivity,

Resolved, That the Navy Boards of the Several Districts do forthwith and thereafter once in every three Months make return to the Marine Committee of the Officers not in Service as aforesaid, and of their past Services or Neglect of Duty; that the Said Committee do from Time to Time dismiss such of the Said Officers as they may think proper, and that the Remainder do receive their Pay, but no Rations or Subsistence Money; and further,

Resolved, That the Officers and Men who are or may be in Captivity be allowed their full Pay and the same Provisions as when on Board the Ships in the Service of the Said States, deducting therefrom all such Provisions as may be issued to them respectively by the Commissary of Prisoners or any other Person on Account of the Said States.

Ordered, That the consideration thereof be postponed till to morrow.

JCC 10: 68-73.

1. Gouverneur Morris, New York delegate to Congress.
2. John Harvie, Virginia delegate to Congress.
3. Abraham Clark, New Jersey delegate to Congress.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EMERALD*, CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL

January 1778

Wednesday 21st

Cherry Stone Point NE, Back River WSW.

at 6 AM saw a Brig running into Anapolis at 8 AM saw the Ship turning up to Baltimore;¹ left of Chace, and Anchored in 7 f^m. Water.

North End of Kent Island, NE ½ N Anapolis Church WBS.

Ditto weather [Fresh breezes & Squally]

[PM] saw two small Vessels coming up the Bay, sent our Tender in Chace, which took one, & the *Richmond* took the Other; took the Salt out of ours & let her go; the other had a pass from General Howe

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/311.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Capt. James Nicholson, commander, was in company with Maryland Navy brig *Defence's* tender *Amelia*, Capt. Henry Massey, commander. See Captain James Nicholson to Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., 21 Jan., below. Nicholson was authorized on 2 Dec. 1777 by the Continental Marine Committee to obtain a fast-sailing tender to precede *Virginia* down Chesapeake Bay to give notice if it discovered British frigates in the bay below. The Committee repeated this instruction in their letter to Nicholson on 28 Jan. See Continental Marine Committee to Captain James Nicholson, 28 Jan., below.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

January 1778
 Wednesday 21
 New Pt Comfort NW 6 or 7 M^s
 AM at 6 saw 2 Sail^l up the Bay at 9 *Emerald* m^d the Sig^l ½ p^t
 anch^d of Annapolis wth BB^r in 9 f^m. W^r. Rattle Snake point
 NBW ½ 6 or 7 Miles the Chace was the *Virginia* Continental
 Frigate who went into Baltimore
 Rattle Snake Point WBN 6 or 7 Miles

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/784.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Capt. James Nicholson, commander, and Maryland Navy ship *Defence's* tender *Amelia*, Capt. Henry Massey, commander.

CAPTAIN JAMES NICHOLSON TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir,
 Ship *Virginia* off Point Comfort Jan^y 21st 1778
 I am sorry my necessity had obliged me to detain the *Defences* Tender,¹ which your Excellency was obliging enough to lend my officer. I beg leave to assure your Excellency that Armed Boat² I brought from Baltimore for this purpose, I am obliged to send over to Sharpes Island after some Deserters with my Master, Mate, and four men. it is nine days since and have not yet heard from them. This accident and the Continental Ship under my Command being so liable to suffer, I flatter myself, will be sufficient apology for the detention of the Boat. I have directed the Agents to forward the Boat immediately from Baltimore. I am [&c.]

James Nicholson

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4587-27.

1. Maryland Navy ship *Defence's* tender *Amelia*, Capt. Henry Massey, commander.

2. Probably Maryland Navy schooner *Dolphin*, Capt. Daniel Bryan, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PERSEUS*, CAPTAIN GEORGE KEITH ELPHINSTONE

January 1778
 Wednesday 21st
 Land of South Edisto WNW 3 Leagues.
 at 8 AM the Lighthouse NNW 4 Leagues; at 10 Saw a Sail to the
 Eastward, and gave chace, with the *Carysfort* and *Lizard*, at 11
 made the chace, a large Ship, standing upon a Wind; at Noon
 Mustered the Ships company, in chace.
 Ch^s. Town Lighthouse WSW^t 10 Leagues.
 Fresh gales with hard Squalls at times; at 2 PM arrived up with
 the chace, she proved a french Ship named the *Bourbon* from
 Guardaloupe to charles-Town with Rum, Sugar & Coffee &c^{a:1}
 took charge of her, and brought all her men on board, at 10
 Lost sight of the *Carysfort* and *Lizard*, and handed the Fore and
 Mizen Topsails:

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/688.

1. French ship *Bourbon*, Pierre Martin, master, 300 tons, mounting 8 guns but pierced for 20, a crew of ten officers and thirty-six seamen, owned by Jean Tessier of Nantes, from Guadeloupe "supposed for Charles Town," sent to St. Augustine, capture credited to *Carysfort*, *Perseus* and *Lizard*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239-40.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *GALATEA*, CAPTAIN THOMAS JORDAN

Jan^{ry} 1778
Wednesd 21

d^o: [Charles town] N 67^o W 9 L^s.
at 2 AM TK^d. to W^w^d. at 7 AM Saw 2 Sail in the SW Q^r: Gave
Chace at 10 fired a Shot & Bro^t too & Spoke with His Majesty
Brigg *Hichenbrook* then gave Chace to the other Sail
d^o: N 66^o W 70 Miles
Fresh Breezes and Cloudy W^r ½ p^t 3 [PM] fired a Shot & Bro^t
too the Brigg *Chance* from Cape Francois bound to Charles
town S^o Carolina Laden with Bale Goods Salt & Coals John
Stevens Master¹ In Hoisting out the Cutter She Stove D^o
Hoisted out the Longb^t & She Sunk Hoisted her in & hoisted
out the Pinnacle & Sent her on board the Brigg

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4197.

1. Continental brigantine *Chance*, Lt. John Stevens, Continental Navy, commander, mounting 8
cuhorns and 8 swivel guns, a crew of sixteen seamen, owned by the Continental Congress, laden with
salt, dry goods and small arms, taken in lat. 32^o 17', long. 77^o 29', sent to St. Augustine. Howe's Prize
List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239-40. For Continental Agent John Dorsius's purchase of
the brigantine *Chance* in Charleston, and his plan to employ the vessel in trade with Cape François, see
NDAR 9: 822.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ÆOLUS*, CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER ATKINS

Jan^{ry} 1778
Wedn^{ry} 21st

Cape Coriantes NE ½ [E] 6 Lgs—
at 5 AM. saw a Sail to Windward—made Sail & gave Chace—
Tkd occasionally—At Noon, it being calm, hoisted out the
Barge & Cutter—& sent them after the Chace under the
Command of Lieut. Lindsay¹
D^o. N ½ E—3 Lgs—
Light Airs & Calms—at 1 PM. set up the Topmast Shrouds fore
& aft at ½ past 6 the Boats returnd from the Chace; she provd
to be an American Schooner from the Ocoys² bound to
Nantucket put 5 Men on board & receivd 6 Prisoners—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4107, part 1.

1. Lt. George Lindsay.

2. The Ocoys, now Les Cayes, Haiti. See NDAR 7: 1053.

January 22

CAPTAIN SIR GEORGE COLLIER, R.N., TO
SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY PHILIP STEPHENS

Sir

Rainbow at Halifax
22^d. January 1778

Lord Viscount Howe Commander in Chief of His Majestys Ships in America,
was pleas'd to give me discretionary Powers of sending the *Fox* to England from
hence, when a proper Opportunity for Convoy offered.

A violent Gale of Wind coming on at SE about three Weeks ago, in this Harbor,
the *Milford* parted her Cables & drove ashore above the Careening Yard; we got her

off, the third Day afterwards, with no material discovered Damage to her Bottom, but very considerable in her upper Works, Yards, Rigging &c: the very great Quantity of Stores necessary to equip her for cruising Service, join'd to the length of Time it would take at this inclement Season to repair Her here, made me judge it best for the King's Service to send Her to England to be refitted, escorting thither at the same Time the *Fox* (who has very few Men belonging to Her) & the *Dunmore* Store Ship.—

I have the Honor to enclose herewith a Copy of the *Milford's* Defects as given in, to me, by the Master Shipwright;¹ He observ'd upon the Time of repairs mentioned in it, that it meant such Days as would admit of his Peoples working, for that at this severe Season it would probably be three Months before She was ready.—

In Obedience to the Commands of Lord Howe, I delivered back to the *Fox*² into the Charge of Cap^t Fotheringham, who has my Orders to proceed to Spithead, & acquaint their Lordships of his Arrival there.

In my Letter of the 24th November by a Merchant Ship,³ I had the Honor to inform their Lordships that from the Arrangement & Vigilance of the Kings Ships which I sent for the protection of the valuable, & important Fisherys of Canso, & Isle Madame, the Merchants had been so successful, as not to lose a single Vessel this Season, by the Rebel Privateers, tho' several of them had been cruising in that Neighbourhood.

The Province remains at present very Quiet, & without any appearance of being molested during the Winter, tho' the Rebels have repaired the Fort I destroyed last August at Machias,⁴ and have thrown up some additional Works for the protection of that Town.

I enclose a List of Prizes taken by His Majestys Ships & Vessels employed under my Direction,⁵ & am Sir [&c.]

Geo Collier

L, UklPR, Adm. 1/1612, fol. 8. Addressed at foot of second page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r" Endorsed by Stephens: "R, 18 feby/19 Feby/Acq^t L^d Howe with/the arrival of the *Milford* & *Fox*—/send it in again/20 feby/Our rec^t/Approve of his sending/home the *Milford*."

1. "The Defects of His Majestys Ship *Milford*," 30 Dec. 1777, UklPR, Adm. 1/1612, 10. Enclosure not printed.

2. H.M.S. *Fox*, Capt. Patrick Fotheringham, commander.

3. Actually the letter was dated 30 Nov. See NDAR 10: 633, 672.

4. See NDAR 9: 749–53; 10: 82–85.

5. The list of prizes is printed immediately below.

PRIZE LIST OF CAPTAIN SIR GEORGE COLLIER,

An Account of Vessels seized as Prizes & Retaken by the detach'd Squadron of Lord Viscount
between the 1st. Day of May 1777

When taken	By what Ship taken	Where taken	Prize or Retaken	Vessel	Name of the Master	Owner	Residence of Owner
1777							
May 12.	<i>Albany</i>	Off Cape Cod	Prize	<i>Seaflower</i>	Edw ^d Mathews	Call & Pittes	Cape Cod
June 1.	<i>Scarborough</i>	Cruize	d ^o	<i>S^r Barbary</i>	Tho ^r Ross		Falmouth
May	<i>Vulture</i>	Bay of Fundy	d ^o	<i>Hannah</i>			
Sep ^r	<i>Syren</i>	Off Block Isl ^d .	d ^o	<i>Batchelor</i>	S ^r Stilman		
Nov ^r	d ^o	d ^o	d ^o	<i>Success</i>	Abel Coffin	Jackson	Newbury
June 14	<i>Milford</i>	Bay Fundy	d ^o	<i>Little John</i> ¹		H Darley	Boston
18	<i>Ambuscade</i>	Boston Bay	d ^o	<i>Hope</i>	Jn ^o Jutua	Jn ^o Jutua	
July 30	<i>Mermaid</i>	Cape Sable	d ^o	<i>Hero</i>	Ferrebault	N Green	Boston
14	<i>Milford</i>	Cruize	d ^o	<i>Expedition</i> ²	Jer ^h . Dawsey		
"	d ^o		d ^o	<i>Hezibeth</i> ³	Swaine		
June 23 ^d	<i>Scarborough</i>	At Sea	Retaken	<i>Generous Friend</i> ⁴	Stilman		
July 8.	<i>Rainbow</i>	W. of N. Scotia	Prize	<i>Hancock</i> ⁵	Jn ^o Manley	Congress	Philadelphia
9.	<i>Juno</i>	Boston Bay	d ^o	<i>Betsy</i> ⁶	Geo Lane	Eld ^d Lane	Newbury
Aug ^t 25	<i>Rainbow & Hope</i>	Pinnequid ⁷	d ^o	<i>Judry</i>			
29	d ^o	Lat 44 ^d .36 ^m	d ^o	<i>Mary</i>			
30	d ^o	Townsend	d ^o	<i>William</i>			
"	d ^o	Sequin Isl ^d .	d ^o	<i>Polly</i>	Harmon	Harmon	Old York
Oct ^r 1.	<i>Ambuscade</i>	Lat 42.10 N.	d ^o	<i>S^r W^m Erskine</i> ⁸	Montgomery	Wilson & C ^o	Glasgow
4	<i>Milford</i>	Coast N Scotia	d ^o	<i>Dolphin</i> ⁹	Fettyplace	Colonies	
16	<i>Vulture</i>	River S ^r John's	d ^o	<i>Polly</i>	Howe		
20.	<i>Scarborough</i>	Coast N Scotia	d ^o	<i>Beverley</i>	Jn ^o Vickers	Master	Beverley
Dec ^r 1.	<i>Cabot</i>	Lat 42 ^d .30 ^m	d ^o	<i>Diana</i> ¹⁰	T. Packer	T. Adams	Boston
7	d ^o	20 Leag ^s W. Halifax	d ^o	<i>Hawk</i> ¹¹	W ^m . Fuller	W ^m . Parson	d ^o
18	<i>Rainbow Tender</i>	Lat 43 ^d .30 ^m	Retaken	<i>George</i>	B Hayward	Penny & C ^o	Pool G.B.
June	<i>Ambuscade</i>	Massachusetts Bay	Prize	<i>2 Brothers</i> ¹²	G Maxwell		
	d ^o	d ^o	d ^o	<i>Success</i> ¹³	J Fisher		
3 ^d	d ^o	Casco Bay	d ^o	<i>Swallow</i> ¹⁴	A Woodbury		
5	<i>Mermaid</i>	Cape Negro	Retaken	<i>2 Betsy</i> ¹⁵		H Bolson	
"	<i>Syren</i>	Off Cape Sambre'	Prize	<i>Jammy</i>	Z Rust		Bristol NE
May	<i>Milford</i>		d ^o	<i>Revenge</i>			
	<i>Mermaid</i>		d ^o	<i>Elizabeth</i> ¹⁶			
July 19	<i>Victor</i>	W. of Light House	d ^o	<i>Dolly</i> ¹⁷			
21	<i>Hope</i>	Passamaquodi	d ^o	<i>Dolphin</i>	J Clark		
	<i>Mercury</i>		d ^o	<i>3 Friends</i> ¹⁸			
June 21	<i>Scarborough</i>	Coast New Engl ^d .	d ^o	<i>M^cPherson</i>	Benj ⁿ . Cole		
Aug ^t 20	<i>Rainbow</i>	M ^c Desart R ^h .	Retaken	<i>3 Brothers</i> ¹⁹	J. Johnson		
29	<i>Mermaid</i>	Seal Islands	d ^o	<i>Fanny</i>	J Wood		
13	<i>Rainbow</i>	Machias	Prize	<i>Betsy</i>			
Sept ^r	<i>Ambuscade</i>	Boston Bay	Retaken	<i>Restoration</i> ²⁰			
Sept ^r	<i>Mermaid</i>	Barrington	Retaken	<i>Sophia</i> ²¹			
..	<i>Rainbow</i>		Prize	<i>Joseph</i>		Boylston	Boston
..	d ^o		d ^o	<i>2 Brothers</i>			
Augt. 28	d ^o	Sequin Isl ^d .	d ^o	<i>Lucy</i>			
Sep ^r 1.	<i>Milford</i>	Isle Holt ²²	d ^o	<i>Topinambou</i> ²³	Picket		Nantz
Oct ^r 12	<i>Scarboro'</i>	Georges Banks	d ^o	<i>Lucy</i> ²⁴	N Rose		Boston
Nov ^r	<i>Rainbow</i>	Off Townsend	d ^o	<i>Innes</i>	Smith		
Dec ^r 5	<i>Milford</i>	Boston Bay	d ^o	<i>Betsy</i> ²⁵	Ross		
4	d ^o	Lat 41 ^d L ^t 65	d ^o	<i>Industry</i> ²⁶	M ^c -Clellan		
17	<i>Blonde</i>	Casco Bay	Retaken	<i>Brothers</i> ²⁷	D. Bruce	J & G Ewing	London
Nov ^r 15	<i>Greyhound</i>	Lat 41d.30m Long 64.40	d ^o	<i>Scipio</i> ²⁸	S. Kirkam	Paul Graves	N ^o . Yarmouth

R.N., FROM MAY TO DECEMBER 1777

Howe's Fleet under the Orders of Sir George Collier & sent into the Port of Halifax &c & the Day of the Date hereof.

Guns	Men	Tons	From whence	Where bound	Lading	How rigg'd	To what Port sent	To whose Case consigned
	4	45	Cape Cod	S ^t Peters	Lumber	Schooner	Halifax	Thomson
			Falmouth	S ^t Lucia	d ^o	Sloop	d ^o	Brymer
			Machias		d ^o	d ^o	Annapolis	Butler
		100	Surinam	Boston	Molasses & Cocoa	Brig	New York	
		100		Newbury	d ^o & Coffee	d ^o	d ^o	
	7	60	S ^c Carolina	Salem	Rice	Brig	Halifax	Thomson
	4	30	Boston	S ^t Peters	Lumber	Sloop	d ^o	Butler
		95	d ^o	Hispaniola	d ^o	d ^o	d ^o	Prowse
			d ^o	S ^t Peters	Rice & Indigo	d ^o	New York	
			S ^t Pierre	Boston		d ^o	Halifax	Thomson
		100			Tobacco & Flax Seed	Brig	New York	
32	300	700	Boston	On a Cruize	Stores &c	Ship	Halifax	Thomson
		100	Newbury	Martinico	Lumber	Brig	d ^o	Butler
	9	50	Pinnequid	Boston	Cordwood	Schooner	d ^o	Thompson
	8	80	Frenchmans Bay	Boston	Lumber	Sloop	d ^o	d ^o
	6	90			Cordwood	d ^o	d ^o	d ^o
	3	50			Lumber & Cordwood	Schooner	d ^o	d ^o
	20	200	Glasgow	New York	Sundry Goods &c	Ship	d ^o	Butler.
			Cruize		Stores	Schooner	d ^o	Thomson
			River S ^t John's	Machias	Ballast	Sloop	Annapolis	Butler
		65				d ^o	Halifax	Thomson
	7	40	Cadiz	Boston	Wine & Salt	Schooner	d ^o	d ^o
	5	80	d ^o	Newbury	d ^o	d ^o	d ^o	d ^o
	8	100	Newfoundl ^d	Bilboa	Fish	Brig	d ^o	d ^o
						Sloop	d ^o	Butler
					Wood	d ^o	d ^o	d ^o
			Salem	Gaudelope	Fish & Lumber	Schooner	d ^o	d ^o
			Mecina	London	Fruit Wines &c	Brig	d ^o	Prowse
				Surinam	Fish Butter Oil Lumber	Schooner	d ^o	d ^o
						Sloop	Annapolis	Thomson
						d ^o	d ^o	Prowse
				S ^t Pierres		Schooner	Halifax	Thomson
			Piscataqua	Fishing		d ^o	Windsor	d ^o
						Brig		d ^o
			Newbury	Surinam	Lumber & Fish	d ^o	Halifax	d ^o
	8		Newfoundl ^d	Barbados	Fish	d ^o	d ^o	d ^o
			Falmouth NE	Quebec	Wines	d ^o	d ^o	Prowse
	6				Boards	Sloop	d ^o	d ^o
						Ship	d ^o	Butler.
			Grenada	London	Sugar Rum Coffee Cotton	Brig	Halifax	Prowse
	10	150	Guadalupe	Boston	Rum Bale Goods &c	d ^o	d ^o	Thompson
		90			Cord Wood	Sloop	d ^o	d ^o
		80			Cordwood & Lumber	d ^o	d ^o	d ^o
				Any Port in	Dry Goods & Brandy	Brig	d ^o	Thomson &c
			S ^c Carolina	Boston	Rice	Schooner	d ^o	Thomson
	6		Townsend	Marblehead	Lumber	d ^o	d ^o	d ^o
			C. Porpois	W ^h Indies	d ^o	d ^o	d ^o	d ^o
			Falmouth	S ^t Lucas	d ^o	Brig	d ^o	d ^o
			Madeira	New York	Wines	d ^o	d ^o	Butler
			Teneriff	London	d ^o	Snow	d ^o	d ^o

Halifax 22^d Jan^y 1778

Geo Collier

D, UklPR, Adm. 1/1612, part 2, 9. Docketed: "List of Prizes taken by H M S^r under the Orders of Sir George Collier—in his Letter 22 Jan^y 1778."

1. Joseph Pratt, master. See *NDAR* 9: 108-9.
2. See *NDAR* 9: 240.
3. Sloop *Elizabeth*, Barzillai Swain, master, was captured on 3 Aug. See *NDAR* 9: 697-98.
4. See *NDAR* 9: 191.
5. Continental Navy frigate *Hancock*. See *NDAR* 9: 229-30, 239, 246-47, 269-72, 274, 279-80.
6. See *NDAR* 9: 240.
7. Pemaquid, Me.
8. John Montgomery, master. See *NDAR* 10: 6, 6n.
9. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Dolphin*, Edward Fettyplace, Jr., commander. See *NDAR* 10: 32, 32n.
10. Thomas Packer, master. See *NDAR* 10: 678, 678n.
11. Schooner *Hawke* was captured on 9 Dec. See *NDAR* 10: 687, 687n.
12. Sloop *Two Brothers* was bound from Boston to Kennebec River, Me. See *NDAR* 9: 4.
13. Sloop *Success*, Siphonis Fisher, master, was bound from Camden on Penobscot Bay, Me., to Boston. See *NDAR* 9: 4.
14. E. Woodberry, master. See *NDAR* 9: 15.
15. Matthew Boosen, master; John Procter, prize master. See *NDAR* 8: 793, 793n; 9: 20, 20n.
16. See *NDAR* 9: 52, 52n.
17. From Newburyport bound to Saint-Pierre and Miquelon. See *NDAR* 9: 296, 296n.
18. From Piscataqua, N.H., bound to Curaçao. See *NDAR* 9: 123.
19. Thomas Johnson, master. See *NDAR* 9: 772, 772n.
20. — Robbins, master; Sherman Lewis, prize master, from Quebec bound to Oporto. See *NDAR* 9: 869-70, 870n.
21. John Aire, master. See *NDAR* 9: 870, 870n.
22. Isle au Haut, Me.
23. Joseph-Jean Pichot, master, from Martinique bound to America. See *NDAR* 9: 861, 861n.
24. From Charleston, S.C. Vice Admiralty Court of Nova Scotia records state that the schooner *Lucy's* master was Nathaniel Thare. See *NDAR* 10: 123, 123n.
25. See *NDAR* 10: 662, 662n.
26. See *NDAR* 10: 662, 662n.
27. Brig *Brothers*, Daniel Bruce, master, was recaptured on 12 Dec. See *NDAR* 10: 710-11, 711n.
28. Snow *Scipio*, Samuel Kirkman, master, was recaptured on 23 Dec. See *NDAR* 10: 786-87, 787n.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *APOLLO*, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

January 1778.

Thursday 22

Ditto [Cape Sable] NNE ½ E 26 Lg^s.

at 4 AM sounded, had no ground with 70 fath: of line, ½ past 6 up Foretopgallant Mast, set the Topsails, at 9 out 3^d reef Maintopsail, at 11 wore Ship, at noon *Venus* not in sight.

Ditto [Cape Sable] N 54 E 29 Lg^s.

First and middle parts fresh breezes and hazey, Latter Mod^{te} and Cloudy. at 3 PM saw a Sloop to the Northw^d. at 4 carried away the Gaff and Mizzen topsail Yard, at 5 fired a Shot at the Sloop, who shortned Sail, & bro^t too, sent the Boat on board her, she was called the *Linkhorn*¹ from Newberry Port bound to Surinam with Lumber and Fish, took out her people & put a Mate & 4 men on board, closed reefed the Topsails and lay too,

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 2-3.

1. Sloop *Linkhorn*, James Mitchell, master, owned by Samuel Knowell, from Newburyport to Surinam, with lumber, taken on 22 Jan. off Cape Sable, later burned. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486. *Apollo's* Journal on 23 Jan. adds: "at 8 AM took the Prize in Tow, finding her very Leaky, employ'd the people to get several Articles out, in order to destroy her. . . at 4 [PM] set fire to the Prize." UklPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 3.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEAMEN FOR CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER SLOOP *REVENGE*

The remarkably fast sailing Sloop *REVENGE*, Joseph Conkling, Commander, mounting 10 Carriage Guns and 12 Swivels, having every necessary Store on Board for a four Months Cruize, is now waiting for a few Seamen. Any Gentlemen Sailors having a Mind to try their Fortune by Sea are desired to call on the Commanding Officer on Board, or at Capt Douglas's, where they will meet with good Encouragement.

New London, Jan. 22. 1778.

Connecticut Gazette; and the Universal Intelligencer, 23 Jan. 1778.

THE ROYAL AMERICAN GAZETTE (NEW YORK), THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1778

NEW-YORK, January 22.

On Monday last arrived here the schooner *Willing Maid*,¹ laden with salt; yesterday the brig *Sally*,² with melasses; and a sloop³ with flour and tobacco: They are all prizes to his Majesty's ship *Experiment*, commanded by Sir James Wallace. The *Sally* parted four days since with a large Dutch ship,⁴ also a prize to the *Experiment*; her arrival is hourly expected. The prizes parted with the *Experiment* last week, she was then in chace of a sail which they imagine was a privateer.

Capt. M'Kindley, of the *Cornwallis*, from Glasgow, who arrived here last Monday, informs us, that on Sunday the eleventh instant, in lat. 33. 38. long. 72. he spoke the *Galatea* frigate, she had been three weeks out on a cruize from the Delaware, had taken four prizes,⁵ sent two of them to St. Augustine and had the other two then with her. On the 14th. about noon, off Cape Henry, he observed a sloop to windward bearing down upon him; at two P.M. she hoisted American colours and fired a gun to windward, upon which he ordered the courses to be handed and had the ship cleared to engage; but upon firing her bow chaces the sloop hauled her wind and endeavoured to escape, he immediately gave chace and soon came up with her; upon firing the first broadside he perceived that all her people, except the officers, disappeared; they skulked below until she struck, which was after the *Cornwallis* had fired several broadsides into her. She was from Bordeaux, bound to Baltimore, laden with cloathing, cordage, sail cloth, brandy, &c. mounted six carriage guns and ten swivels had on board forty-two men, and a great number of small arms. Capt. M'Kindley put his mate and five men on board of her, but a sail appearing to leeward, coming fast up, which he suspected to be a privateer, and his guns being rendered unserviceable, he thought it prudent to bear away. . . .

Last evening came into this port, the sloop *John Wilkes*, Paul M'Donald, late master, from North-Carolina, bound to Bedford,⁶ in Massachusetts Bay, having on board 90 barrels tar, 30 barrels turpentine, 300 bushels Indian corn, 100 bushels pease and 40 barrels flour. She was taken the 14th ins. by, Robert Hunter, in the letter of marque ship *Elizabeth*,⁷ owned by Messrs. George and John Buchanan, of Glasgow, on his passage from this place to the Bay of Honduras.

Yesterday arrived the brig *Two Brothers*, John Kelso, master, from Jamaica; about ten days since he spoke his Majesty's ship *Phoenix*, off the Capes of Virginia, who, the preceding night, had burned a brig belonging to Nantucket. . . .

A large brig lately attempting to escape from Providence River, through the Seconnet passage, was boarded by a party, commanded by a non-commissioned officer of Lieutenant Colonel Innes's⁸ company of the Royal Artillery, who set her on fire, by which she was consumed.

1. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 11 Jan., above.
2. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 13 Jan., above.
3. Sloop *Morning Star*, Job Carr (Kerr), master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 8 Jan., above.
4. Ship *Vrouw Margarita*, Geele Joches Ruyter, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 14 Jan., above.
5. The prizes were schooner *Jolly Robin*, schooner *St. Ann*, sloop *Speedwell* and schooner *Favorite*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Galatea*, 1 Jan., 3 Jan., 6 Jan. and 8 Jan., above.
6. New Bedford.
7. British privateer ship *Elizabeth*, Robert Hunter, commander, 140 tons burthen, mounting 18 six-pounder guns, built in New York City in 1770. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777-1778.
8. John Innes.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT
TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Continental Navy Board
Borden Town 22^d. Jan^y 1778

Sir/
The Bearer Captⁿ. Alexander¹ late Commander of the Frigate *Delaware*, is well informed of the Situation of the Shipping at Philadelphia, & is of opinion that with a little Assistance the Enemy might be annoyed greatly in their Trade & Shipping whilst the River continues full of Ice—he is desirous of communicating his Sentiments on the Subject to your Excellency—The few naval Officers here, are very anxious to do something against the Enemy whilst the present Opportunity offers. I have the Honour to be [&c.]

Fra^s. Hopkinson

L, NNPM, Autographs of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, p. 211. Addressed at foot: "His Exc^t Gen^l. Washington."

1. Capt. Charles Alexander, Continental Navy.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT

The Commissioners of the Navy Board at Bordenton
Gentlemen

January 22^d. 1778

As that part of the Continental Navy late in the Delaware are either lost or rendered useless, there appears no necessity of your continuing in Jersey we therefore request your removal to Baltimore giving us notice when you arrive.—

If you should think it necessary one of your Board may remain at Bordenton for a Short time, the expediency of which you will be able to judge, and if necessary you'l agree among yourselves upon the person to remain. If M^r Nixon¹ should not be with you on receipt of this, you will be pleased to give him notice that the place of residence of the Navy Board is by our direction to be at Baltimore and that we expect his attendance We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 124 (M332, roll 6).

1. Col. John Nixon.

SAMUEL AND ROBERT PURVIANCE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

Sir,

Baltimore 22 Jan. 1778

On receiving your Letter of the 12th with Copy of the Resolve of Congress respecting the Cargo of Salt arrived here,¹ We immediately wrote a Letter to our governor,² (whereof you have copy inclosed) advising him the Situation of the matter, which was such, as renderd it unnecessary for us to take any Measures therein before the governor shoud deliberate thereon. We presume he has informed you what he has done.—In the meantime We have the pleasure to acquaint you that several small Cargoes of Salt having arrived here and on the Eastern Shore of late, the price begins to drop considerably, from 15 to 8 & £10 ^{per} Bus^l and a great probability of its soon being much lower. We are certain there will be no difficulty or uncertainty about procuring enough for curing whatever Provisions may be wanted for the Army.

Yesterday morning Captⁿ Nicholson returned to the mouth of this River³ with the *Virginia* Frigate, having narrowly escaped being taken by the *Emerald & Perseus*⁴ who pursued her from New Point Comfort untill She got in the River. Captⁿ Nicholson left Patuxent River last Sunday with a N West Wind & got to Point Comfort against Evening when the Wind lull'd. Had it continued that Night or next Morning, he woud certainly have got out; The Enemy Frigates' Eight in Number (besides Tenders) being in Hampton Road where they commonly lye detaching out Cruisers toward the Cape & up the Bay, as often as moderate Weather will admit of it. The only Chance which there was of getting out depended on a leading Wind to carry the Frigate out at once, without Stopping below. The Enemy's Cruisers being now aware of the design, will certainly render it much more hazardous for her to get out.—The only advantage gained by this last Attempt is The certain knowledge of the *Virginia* being a very fast Sailer. The Frigate which Chased her being accounted amongst the first Rate Sailers in the Britttish Navy.

We have received neither Answer nor Remittance from the Marine Committee since we last wrote you for Money.⁵ As the Bearer Lieut^t Plunket will be a favourable Opp^t of sending us some Money, We beg you will send us 10 or 12 thousand Dollars by him. We are [&c.]

Sam^l & Rob^t Purviance

L, DNA, PCC, item 78, pp. 161–64 (M247, roll 100). Addressed: "The Honble Henry Laurence Esq^r/President of Congress/York Town." Docketed: "Letter from Sam^l & Ro. Purviance/Baltimore 22 Jan^y 1778/recd 24./referred to the board of/treasury." Notation: "Lieut^t Plunket."

1. See President of Congress to Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., 12 Jan., above.

2. See Samuel and Robert Purviance to Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., 14 Jan., above.

3. Patapsco River

4. Actually H.M.S. *Emerald* and H.M.S. *Richmond*. Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 21 Jan., above.

5. NDAR 9: 197.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA SENATE

[Williamsburg, 22 January 1778]

A Message from the House of Delegates was delivered by Mr. *Richard Henry Lee*.

That they have agreed to several Resolutions that [. . .]¹ Also, that having received Information that a *French Vessel*,² loaded with Tobacco, being under the

Protection of a Company of Militia of the County of *Lancaster*, commanded by a certain Captain *Yerby*, was lately most unwarrantably and traiterously delivered up to two of the Enemy's Ships of War³ on certain Conditions, injurious to the Honour and Justice of the Commonwealth, and in Violation of the Protection which Foreigners have a Right, by the Usage of civilized Nations, to expect, while peaceably trading in its Ports, they have resolved, that the Governor be desired to cause immediate and strict Enquiry to be made into the Conduct of the said Captain *Yerby*, his Aiders and Abettors, concerning the Premises; and the proper Officers be directed to arraign and pursue the Offenders, so as that they may, on Conviction, be brought to condign Punishment, according to the Laws of this Commonwealth; and that the Governor and Council be authorized to make such Compensation to the Owner of the Said Vessel and Cargo, so delivered up to the enemy, as to them shall appear consistent with Reason, Justice, and the Honour of the State.⁴ To which said several Resolutions they desire the Concurrence of the Senate. And he delivered in the same, and then withdrew.

Journal of the Senate (Williamsburg, Va.: John Dixon & William Hunter, 1777), 53-54.

1. For the content of the portion not printed here, see *Journal of the Virginia House of Delegates*, 22 Jan., immediately below.

2. French snow *Elegante*, — Collenau, master.

3. Probably H.M.S. *Emerald* and H.M.S. *Richmond*. See the Journals for these ships for 3-6 Jan., above.

4. On 4 Mar., the Virginia Council decided that Captain Yerby "did treacherously & basely deliver up the Vessel & Cargo aforesaid to the british Ships of War" and awarded the captain £5,000 in compensation for his loss. *Journals of the Council of State of Virginia*, edited by H. R. McIlwaine (Richmond: Virginia State Library, 1932) 2: 97.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES

[*Williamsburg*] Thursday the 22^d of January 1778

Mr. *Richard Henry Lee* reported from the committee appointed to examine into and report the state of the navy, that the committee had accordingly examined the same, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the report in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the clerk's table, where the resolutions of the committee were read, and are as followeth, *viz.*

Resolved, that the armed vessels *Dragon*, *Tartar*, and *Gloucester*, shou'd be fitted for service with all possible expedition, and stationed between *Cherrystone's* harbour and Cape *Charles*, in order to keep open and free from interruption by the enemy's cruisers the channel between that cape and the middle ground, and the officer commanding these vessels be directed to keep two swift sailing pilot boats or tenders, one of which to be continually at sea, off the mouth of said channel, to inform inward bound vessels of the station of the enemy's cruisers, and to bring them under the protection of said armed vessels; that the other tender cruise in the bay, and give notice where the enemy's ships are placed.

Resolved, that the harbour of *Cherrystone's* should be well fortified as soon as possible, and a small magazine of stores kept there for the use and refitting of the vessels placed on that station without loss of time, which harbour, so fortified, will afford great security to the trade of *Chesapeake* bay.

Resolved, that as the protection and security of vessels bound in the bay is of great importance to our sister state of *Maryland*, as well as to this commonwealth,

that the commissioners appointed to meet commissioners on the part of *Maryland* concerning the navigation of the bay, &c. be instructed to press upon the commissioners from *Maryland* the propriety of that state joining with this in defending and securing the navigation of *Chesapeake*.

Resolved, that the two gallies now building on the *Eastern Shore*¹ shou'd be fitted as soon as possible, and stationed, one of them in *Matomkin* harbour, and the other in *Chingoteague*, for protection of trade on the sea board.

Resolved, that it will be expedient and proper to propose to the state of *North Carolina* that one² of the two large gallies built for the defence of the sea coast harbours of that state by this commonwealth shou'd be received by that state at the expense she cost this, and be employed, together with the galley of this state now at *Edenton*,³ for the protection of a navigation equally important to both states.

Resolved, that the original design of building gallies in each river was for the defence of such rivers against the attempts of the enemy, that they should be stationed in the respective rivers, should be fixed constantly near the mouths or entrance into such rivers respectively (unless upon very urgent occasions the Governour and Council should direct them to some other use) with orders to be perpetually cruising there when the weather will permit, as well to prevent the enemy's tenders from entering to disturb and pilage the shores as to protect the trade of the same, and that, when large vessels of war shall enter and pass up said rivers, the gallies be ordered to attend them and watch their motions, keeping constantly between the enemy's ships and the shores, so as to prevent the pernicious practice, now too much in use, of suffering the enemy to draw provisions from the country, for the better enabling them to prolong the war and injure the commerce of the state.

The said resolutions being severally read a second time, were, upon the question severally put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ordered, that Mr. *Richard Henry Lee* to carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Journals of the House of Delegates of Virginia (Williamsburg: Alexander Purdie, 1778), 133–34.

1. Virginia Navy galleys *Accomac* and *Diligence*.

2. Virginia Navy galley *Washington*.

3. Virginia Navy galley *Caswell*, Capt. Willis Wilson, commander.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Thursday the 22nd day of January 1778.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain Wright Westcott, for seventy pounds upon account for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the use of the *Norfolk Revenge* Galley.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 346.

EXTRACT FROM THE JOURNAL OF FRENCH NAVY FRIGATE *TOURTERELLE*, CAPITAINE DE VAISSEAU FRANÇOIS, CHEVALIER DE LA LAURENCIE

[*St. Pierre, Martinique*] Le 22. J'ai en connaissance d'un bâtiment démâté de son grand mât faisant route pour gagner le mouillage, aussitôt je lui ai envoyé ma

chaloupe avec deux autres des bâtimens marchands. Il etait insurgent, manquait de tout, je l'ai fait remorquer et mouiller dans la rade.¹

[Translation]

[*St. Pierre, Martinique*] January 22. I became aware of a ship dismasted of its main-mast attempting to reach the anchorage; I immediately sent my long-boat with two others from the merchant ships. It was a rebel vessel, lacking everything; I saw that it was towed and anchored in the road.¹

Copy, FrPNA, Marine, B⁴ 140, fol. 87. "Extrait du Journal de la campagne La *Tourterelle*."

1. Marginal notation: "Secours donné"; "aid given."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. YARMOUTH, CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT

Jan^y 1778

Dominico bears S 69 W 32. Leagues.

Thursd^y 22^d

[AM]—in the morning saw two sail in the SE Quarter, coming down before it—at 8 gave chase,—at ½ past 9 bro^t too the Leewardmost, found her to be an American Brigg called the *Fortune*, W^m: Trefethen Mast^r: Bound to Martinico, her Cargo Masts, Spars, Lumber, Fish &c^{a:1}—took out her hands and made sail after the other.

Barbadoes bears South 24 Leagues

At 1 PM Bro^t too our chase, found her to be a Brigg from Salem called the *Alex^r: Lane* Mast^r: bound to Martinico² took out her hands, and at 5 in 1st reef the Topsails, wore Ship and stood to the N^o: in order to carry the 2 Prizes into S^t: Johns.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1091, fol. 171.

1. Brig *Fortune*, William Trefethen or Frefethem, master, 200 tons burthen, crew of 10 men, from and belonging to Piscataqua, N.H., with lumber, taken by *Yarmouth* on 22 Jan., sent into Antigua. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

2. Brig *Alexander*, Joseph Lane, master, 130 tons burthen, crew of 7 men, from and belonging to Salem, with fish and oil, taken by *Yarmouth* on 22 Jan., sent into Antigua. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

January 23

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 23^d 1778—

Order'd, That Jonathan Glover Esq^r for Horse hire & Sundry Expences as P^r Account, be paid, £425.. 3.. 6 also, that he be paid Sundries for Schooner *Hannah*,¹ Ship *Union*,² & freight of Tar from Br^g K^g *Geo^r:3* 73.. 7.—

Order'd, That Sam^l Gore for Sundry's for Ship *Julius Cæsar*⁴ & for Tallow, Tub, Putty &c. del'd Cap^t Fisk⁵ as p^r Account, be paid . . . £3..13.. 6

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l:⁶ deliver M^r Homer⁷ for the Brig^t *Massachusetts*,⁸ three Cord Wood.—

Order'd, That Alexander Edwards for 154^t Clear Boards for Brig^t *Penet*,⁹ be paid . . . £1.. 8.—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers¹⁰ pay Josiah Harris for Taking in and measuring Flaxseed for Cargo of Brig^t *Nants*,¹¹ two Months @ £15 p^r Month . . . £30.—.—

Order'd, That the Ballance of Joseph Gondels Account for cleaning Flaxseed for Brig^t *Nantes* £99..14/. be paid

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 181–82.

1. Massachusetts State trading schooner *Hannah*.
2. Massachusetts State trading ship *Union*.
3. Brigantine *King George*, John Watmough, master, taken by Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts* on 8 Oct. 1777. See NDAR 9: 65, 65n.
4. Ship *Julius Caesar*, Azariah Uzuld, master, was a prize of Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic*. See NDAR 7: 32, 34, 46, 71, 112, 347, 1228. She was purchased by the Massachusetts Board of War and renamed *Bourbon*. See NDAR 7: 207, 217, 232, 605.
5. Capt. John Fisk, Massachusetts Navy.
6. David Devens.
7. James Homer.
8. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.
9. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Penet*.
10. Thomas Ivers.
11. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.

NEWS FROM NEW LONDON

NEW-LONDON, January 23.

By a gentleman just arrived from Bedford,¹ we learn that a sloop of 14 guns² has been sent from Newport to Martha's vineyard, to demand pilots for the fleet destined for Boston, to take in Burgoyne's troops; they refused to comply with the demand, and the sloop (after taking a coasting vessel³ out of Holmes's Hole⁴) sailed for Newport, it is said, to bring force sufficient to lay waste the island.

Maryland Journal, and the Baltimore Advertiser, 3 Mar. 1778.

1. Now New Bedford.
2. H.M. sloop *Haerlem*. See Master's Journal of H.M. Sloop *Haerlem*, 14 and 15 Jan., above.
3. Sloop *Salby*, master unknown, from Connecticut to Nantucket, with provisions. *Ibid*.
4. Now Vineyard Haven Harbor.

GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL TO BENJAMIN HENSHAW & WILLIAM WHITING

Gent.

Please to deliver Col^o. Noah Phelps or order sixteen six pound Cannon, cast at your Furnace & belonging to this State, to be by him Conveyed according to order to Boston for the Use of y^e State Ship *Defence*, lying in that Harbour given under my hand at Hartford

y^e 23^d of Jany 1778

Jonth: Trumbull, Gov^r:

L, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 12, p. 336. Addressed at foot: "To Mess^{rs}./Henshaw & Whiting/Managers of y^e Furnace/Salisbury."

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY

[Extract]

At a meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety holden at Hartford in and for the State of Connecticut on the 23d day of January, A.D. 1778.

Voted, That the Committee of Pay-Table be and they are hereby directed to draw on the Treasurer in favour of Sam^l Eliott jun^r, Esq^r, for the sum of one thou-

sand pounds, money, to be in account as agent of this State. The order to be delivered to Mr. John Wasson, clerk of the ship *Defence*.

Voted, That the Committee of Pay-Table be and they are hereby directed to draw on the Treasurer in favour of Sam^l Smedley, captain of the ship *Defence*, for the sum of four hundred pounds, money, to be in account. Said order to be delivered to Mr. John Wasson, clerk of said ship.

Voted, That the Committee of Pay-Table be and they are hereby directed to draw on the Treasurer in favour of Colo. Noah Phelps for the sum of one hundred and sixty pounds, money, to be in account and to enable him to transport a number of cannon from Salisbury to Boston for the use of the ship *Defence*, which he is appointed to do. . . .

Hoody, ed., *Public Records of the State of Connecticut*, 1: 515.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL FRANÇOIS-LOUIS DE FLEURY TO JOHN LAURENS

Sir

I have send to you three days ago, one Letter datted Burlington, by which I mentioned to you, the several schemes that I have formed to set on fire the english fleet. since that time I have done some small tryals, which confirme me in the first opinion. viz. that by the fire Boats, which I intend to Construct, by the help of the commodore, the succes is almost Certain.

I ask leave to Repeat you their Construction.

1st. I will have about twelve flat bottom boats, very easy to be got, in all places of the river. 2^o. make within a sort of floating mine in one trunk or chest very strong, & filled with powder: the deck will be Covered with carcasses, or bombes. . . . 3.^d the direction & velocity will be given to the boat by a strong Racket, of a particular Composition; and one mast sunked in the water, will suport by the stern, the boat, against the Current. . . . 4.^o. the head armed with a strong spur of iron will fixe the boat in the ships, till the poudet blows up, & set on fire the next ships.—

I offer, to do my tryal under the eyes of such which his excellency will apoint for that. . . . but I must have orders, & the commodore haselwood, shall be directed to work accordingly with me.

I begg to answer me immediately as it is not time to be lost.

I am going to burdentown, to look for boats. & tar.—

be so Kind to present my Letter to his excellency general Wassington, & permit me to assure you of my sincere & great Regard & friendship.—I am [&c.]

L. fleurÿ

trenton 23. January 1778.

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "To/Colonel Lawrence/in his absence Colonel harisson/Aides de Camp to his excellency/head quarters."

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N.,
TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY PHILIP STEPHENS

Roebuck at Philadelphia
the 23^d. January 1778.

Sir,

Since the departure of my Lord Howe from hence a month ago, no material occurrence has happened except the loss of the Brig *Symmetry*, laden with Baggage

for the Army.—On account of the Ice usually found in the Delaware during some Weeks in the Winter, the Ships of War were withdrawn from their Stations to the Town; and an Embargo took place on all Shipping the 24th. of December. But a favorable opportunity, and the consideration that the want of the Cargo might be felt by the Troops, tempted the Commander of the Ship of War charged with that Duty at the Mouth of the River, to allow the Vessel to attempt to reach Philadelphia. In her passage She had the Misfortune to run a ground near Wilmington, where a Body of the Rebels are Posted, and before any Assistance could be given from hence, the Ice formed and She fell into the hands of the Enemy.¹

The Admiral carried with him near Sixty sail of Transports, which are divided between New York and Rhode Island; about the same number remain here, with the greatest part of the Flat Boats; which together, with the Men of War and Armed Vessels under my Orders, are undergoing such repairs and equipment as the time of year, and circumstances will allow of. The Service of the last Year has made this a heavier Work than might be expected, but there is no doubt of the whole being compleated early enough in the Spring to prevent any delay to the Operations of the Army on that account.

Enclosed is the State and Condition of the Squadron under my directions, and also an account of their present Stations.²

I have the honor to be with much regard &ca.—

A. S. Hamond

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Letter Book (1778–1779), pp. 6–7. Addressed at foot: “Philip Stephens Esq^{re}. Admiralty Office.” Marginal note: “P^r. *Despencer Pacq*”

1. Transport brig *Symmetry*, W. Foxton, master, 400 tons burthen, mounting six 4-pounders, built at Whitby, England, in 1764, new decks and repairs made in 1774, owned by J. Atty. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*. At the time of her capture her master was a Capt. Monkman.

2. Marginal notation: “Vid pa^s 7.” See enclosure, below.

DISPOSITION OF CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND'S SQUADRON

Roebuck at Philadelphia
23^d. January 1778

Disposition of His Majesty's Ships and the Vessels under the Orders of Captain Andrew Snape Hamond; detached from the Fleet under the Command of the Vice Admiral the Viscount Howe.

Ships Names.	Commanders.	Where Stationed &c.
<i>Roebuck.</i>	Capt ⁿ . A. S. Hamond.	Alongside the Wharfs at Philadelphia, to take Shelter from the Ice in the River.
<i>Experiment.</i>	Sir James Wallace	Cruizing at the entrance of the River.
<i>Liverpool.</i>	Capt. H. Bellew.	Appointed to Convoy the Pacquet down the River.
<i>Camilla.</i>	Hon ^{ble} . C. Phipps.	} At the Wharfs at Philadelphia, to take Shelter from the Ice in the River
<i>Pearl.</i>	Capt. Jn ^o . Linzee	
<i>Zebra.</i>	— Jn ^o . Orde.	
<i>Vigilant A.S.</i>	— B ⁿ . Christian	
<i>Delaware A.S.</i>	— James Watt	
<i>Adventure Store s^h.</i>	Lieu ^t . H. Tonken	
<i>Viper A. Sch^r.</i>	— E. Pakenham	
<i>Cornwallis Galley</i>	— T. Spruy.	
Several Tenders, Pilot Boats, Gun Boats, &c.		

A. S. Hamond

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Letter Book (1778–1779), pp. 6–7. Addressed at foot: "Philip Stephens Esq^r.—Admty Office."

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL

[Annapolis] Friday 23^d January 1778—

Captain Maybury¹ is requested to deliver to Captain Conway² the spikes that were on board the *Defence* for the Sloop *Molly*. . .

[Ordered] That the Commissary of Provisions deliver to Captain David³ 4 Barrels Pork 7 Barrels of Bread and 30 lbs. Candles for the Ship *Lydia* in Pot^{o4} 5 Barrels Bread, 5 Barrels Beef and 3 Barrels Pork for the Galley *Conqueror*

D, MdAA, Governor and Council (Proceedings) 1777–1779, SM 123-22, M3156-3.

1. Capt. Beriah Maybury.
2. Capt. Robert Conway, commanding Maryland State trading sloop *Molly*.
3. Capt. John David, commanding Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*.
4. Probably an abbreviation for Potomac River. Maryland State trading ship *Lydia* was working its way down the Potomac River from Alexandria at this time.

STEPHEN STEWARD TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

[West River, Md.] January the 23 1778

Gentlemen,

I find the *Dolphin*¹ Eat with the worm like a Huney Come What we have dun to hir I am afraid will make hir leek worse She Cant be maid till without Nue Planking hir allmost all over or at lest Nine streks of a side must Cum out When she went out of my Hands She was in as good order as any boat & Vessell culd be She had twelve Sails viz main Sail fore Sail Jebb flying Jebb Watter Saile Ring tail Squar sail and Bonnet Stearing Sail and two Topsails and Try sail and now she has not got half the Number and what she has got is Rotten and Ratt Eaten I make no doubt but many of your vesels are in the sam way this shos you how Nesserey a Super Intendent would be to your Navey or marein affairs besides have your Business dun with So much Ease to your Selves I shud think a man that under Stands the hole Business of Ships would be a Saving to the State—I mean a man that understands Building Repairing Rigen loading maning and sending a ship to Sea—I am [&c.]

Stephen Steward

[P.S.] I send you a piece of the *Dolphins* Bottom by that you may Se what order She is in

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4588-28. Addressed: "To/the Honrebll/Govener & Counsell." Docketed: "Stephen Steward/23^d Jan^y 1778."

1. Maryland Navy schooner *Dolphin*, Capt. Daniel Bryan, commander.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[Williamsburg] Friday the 23rd day of January 1778—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Lieutenant John Thomas for fifty Pounds upon Account for the purpose of furnishing Necessaries for the Use of the *Protector* Galley.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 347.

ORDER BOOK OF 1ST SOUTH CAROLINA CONTINENTAL REGIMENT

[Extract]

Head Quarters Charles Town Jan^y 23^d: 1778

General Orders Parole Randolph—

... 1 Cap^t 1. Subaltern 2 Serj^{ts} & 48 Rank & file from the 1 Reg^t to go on Board the *Randolph*² tomorrow morning as was order'd before the Boats will be ready at the Market wharf for them. . . .

LB, ScHi, Regimental Order Book of Captain Saunders (call no. 34/217). Roger Parker Saunders (Sanders) was a captain in the 1st South Carolina Continental Regiment.

1. Capt. Joseph Ioor and his company from the 1st South Carolina Continental Regiment.
2. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[Savannah]

Friday January 23, 1778

The following message was Sent to the House of Assembly.

M^r Speaker & Gentlemen

Application has been made to this board by M^r Wereat¹ the Commissioner of trade Setting forth that the Brigantine *Recovery* belonging to the State is now nearly ready for Sea, and that there is only a quantity of Rice provided for her Cargo, and Submitting to our consideration whether it would not be of advantage to the State to put on board also a few Casks of Indigo.— We beg leave to recommend this matter to your honorable House & must observe that the addition of a few Casks of Indigo will add considerably to the value of the cargo & consequently produce larger returns in Goods, which at the present time especially becomes very necessary, and will add nothing to the outfit and voyage of the Vessel— If the matter Strikes your honorable house in the Same point of view you will be pleased to order a quantity of Indigo to be purchased & put on board this Vessel at the public Cost and for the public, benefit. And we further beg leave to Send you here-with a Letter from Commodore Bowen² recommending Several matters which appear to us of high utility to this State

JOHN HOUSTOUN

Council Chamber

January 23^d 1778

The Revolutionary Records of the State of Georgia, 2: 13–14.

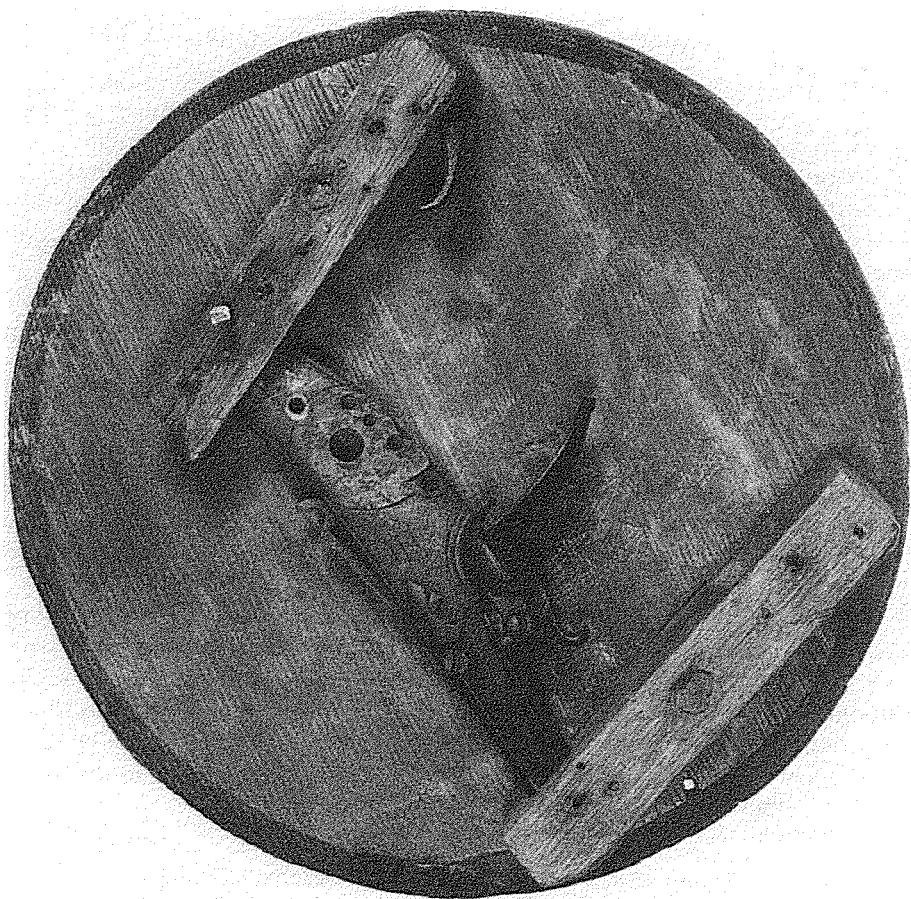
1. John Wereat, Continental Agent for Georgia.
2. Commo. Oliver Bowen.

January 24

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 24th. 1778

Order'd, That Jonathan Balch for Sundry's for Brig^t *Massachusetts*,¹ & also for Brig^t *Nantes*² as p^r Account, be paid . . . £22..14.. 6.—



*Firing mechanism of a keg mine of David Bushnell's design,
made for use against British vessels in the Delaware River*

Order'd, That Jon ^a . Rogers for 107 feet clear Boards,	£1.. 6.. 9
—& for nine days Work on board Brig ^t <i>Nants</i>	<u>8.. 2.. —</u>
as p ^r his Account, be paid	£9.. 8.. 9

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 183.

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.
2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.

CHARLES WALLER TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE

[*Newport*] Rhode Island
24th January 1778—

Sir

Having been appointed Commissary for Prisoners in this Department, I am in the absence of Sir Peter Parker to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 13th: Inst: relative to the Prisoners wrote for from Halifax and the Release of Mess^{rs}: M^c: Hurd & Goodwin for whom two British Prisoners are said to have been already sent.

Being, by the neglect of the former Commissary¹ who lately left this Country, not furnished with due Information on the Subject of those implied Engagements, I request to be favored with such further Particulars regarding them, as may enable me to return a more satisfactory answer to your Inquiries.

I can only inform you in General at this time, that a Cartel-Ship named *Royal Bounty*, lately Sailed to convey about 270 American Prisoners from Halifax to this Port, in Consequence of Sir Peter Parker's Direction: In order for their Release in place of British Prisoners received by Us from Providence and Boston. This Ship being by the violence of the Prisoners diverted from her destined Course will probably be conducted to some of the Northern Ports.²

Due Requisition will be made in consequence for Credit to be given in proportion to the Number of Prisoners released; after Notice has been received of her arrival. The Names of Mess^{rs}: M^c: Hurd and Goodwin are not in the List of those Prisoners transmitted to me. And I therefore conclude that they were not carried into Halifax.

Credit will be given for the Surgeon³ three Seamen and a Boy late belonging to the *Syren*. The Master⁴ of the *Hancock* is supposed to be embarked in the missing Cartel. I am Sir [&c.]

Cha^s: Waller.

L, R-Ar, Letters to the Governor (1778), vol. 12, p. 3. Addressed: "Nich^s: Cooke Esq^r:/Providence." Docketed: "Lre from Cha^s: Waller Commissary/of Prisoners at Newport/Jan^y: 24. 1778."

1. John Read.

2. Cartel ship *Royal Bounty* was seized by the American prisoners on board and carried into Marblehead on 26 Jan. See Master's Journal of H.M. Brig *Cabot*, 13 and 14 Jan., above.

3. James Hellyar, Surgeon, R.N.

4. John Diamond, Master, Continental Navy.

WILLIAM BRADFORD TO PRESIDENT THOMAS WHARTON, JR.

Trenton January 24 1778

We are under Necessity of sending the Pay Master¹ to your Excellency for some Cash there being now almost two Months pay due the Men. and M^r Crispin² is in great Want indeed.

Some little Time Major Boys³ applied for the loan of Two of our Guard Boats, which he would Man & victual at his own Expence and take them down to Cohansey, thinking he could take some Vessels from the Enemy. We lent hi[m] two and put an Officer & Ten Men in each, to take them down as far as Cooper Creek, from whence he was to take them by land. They got to Cooper Creek in the Evening and when the Officers went to sleep the Crews ran off with the Boats and carried them to the Enemy. One other Boat we fitted out under the Command of Cap^t Collins⁴ and he took her by Land from Burlington, and hope he is got down Safe. In case this Boat should take any Prize what part is the State to draw, and how is the Prize to be divided. We told Cap^t Collins that the Commodore and all the Fleet must draw a part of all he should take. We pray your Excellency will send down by Billy Bradford⁵ how the Prizes, if any, should be divided.

The greatest part of the Powder is removed this, but the Cannon we cannot move, as there is no Waggon to be got that will bear them. however shall the best I can. I am left here alone, none of the Board being with me. I am also tired being here, had much rather be in action with the Militia. I am Your Excellencys [&c.]
W^m. Bradford

L, PHarH, RG 27, Executive Correspondence (loose) of the Supreme Executive Council. Addressed: "To His Excellency Tho^s Wharton Esq^t/President of the State of/Pennsylvania/at/Lancaster—." Docketed: "1778 Jan^y 24th from William/Bradford Esq^t—."

1. William C. Bradford, Paymaster, Pennsylvania Navy.
2. William Crispin, Commissary, Pennsylvania Navy.
3. Capt. Nathan Boys, formerly commanding Pennsylvania Navy galley *Franklin*.
4. Capt. Robert Collings, formerly first lieutenant of Pennsylvania Navy ship *Montgomery*.
5. William C. Bradford.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Saturday, January 24, 1778

The Marine Committee, to whom were referred the letters of General Washington and General Smallwood, respecting the capture of several vessels and goods by detachments of the main army, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

Resolved, That the vessels and goods lately captured as aforesaid, ought to be libelled in the court of admiralty in that State where the capture was made; but if no such court should be erected in that State, then the prosecution should be in the court of such State as the captors may find convenient, the judge whereof, on condemnation, will order distribution to be made agreeably to the resolution of Congress; and that six printed copies of the extracts of the journals of Congress relative to the capture and condemnation of prizes, &c. be transmitted to General Washington and General Smallwood.

JCC 10: 88.

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO CAPTAIN JOHN ROGERS

[Annapolis] In Council 24th January 1778

Ordered. That the western shore Treasurer pay to Capt Rogers¹ two hundred and thirty seven pounds fourteen shillings and six pence due to the *Gen^l Smallwoods* Crew p Acc^t passed

By order
T Johnson Jun^r

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-53/25.

1. Capt. John Rogers, commanding Maryland Navy trading schooner *General Smallwood*.

COLONEL JOSEPH DASHIELL TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Worcester County [*Md.*] 24th. Jan^r. 1778

May it please your Excellency

Having this opportunity by M^r Backer do my Self the pleashure To Inform you that a briggenteen has ariv'd at Senepuxent With a Very Valuable Cargo from France among which I am Inform'd their is a Considerable quantity of Dry Good Sutable for the Army. The Oners is not yet Com'd down and there fore Cannot Informe you the Particulars. the Brigg Tuck Two Prises on her passage One of them a Brigg. with five thousand hhs Salt the other of them Laden with Fish. but neither of them is Yet ariv'd. The Captⁿ. Made applycation to me to Receive the prisonars which I did and have Sent them to Cambridge Under guard, fifteen of them and one man Taken by a bote out of Senepuxent. I Shall be much oblidge to you to let me know Wheather the Oners of the Vesils that Brought them in is not to pay The Expences, or wheather it is a Continental Charge—I am extreamly glad to heare of Captⁿ. Walkers¹ safe arival as we have bin much Alarm'd here on his Acct. And very fraid he was Taken, but am Since informd the Cannonade we heard was Cap^t. Nicholson² Scaling his Guns—I have Recd. About five hundred pounds worth of Good, Which I Shall forward to Cambrig as soon as I Calect what shoes & stokins will be ready this Week from the people. I should have got a much Larger quantity of Shoes if the Disaffected Shoemakers would have made them up, but as Soon as they heard the Shoes was Wanted for the Armeey, they Ras'd the price of Making from five shillings to fifteen shillings and those who has Leather plenty will not make a pare up for feare I should Seaze them—I am of oppinion a few Liens from the Gov^r & Council on the Occation would have a good effect; the purchasors of Beef Cattle have Desir'd me to Inform you that Late as your Order has Com'd their is many more Bullocks to be bought in this County then their is money to pay for, and that if they Could Collect a large Drove that Less than Twenty men, would Do to Drive them up as these two Countys mean to Join their Droves if you approve of it,—Should be exceding Glad to heare wheather the goods I Sent in Cap^t. Walker has mett your approbation as I shall be able from that to Regolate my Conduckt

I am exteamly Sorry to troble your Excellency on this head and do assure you that nothing but solisitation of a near Relation Should have made me attempt it. I have a frind a M^r William Merrill, who was taken Coming from Burmuda pasanger, and is now on board the *prince of Wales* Prison ship at New York, where he has bin Very Illy Us'd this Eight months. If it Shou'd be in your power to git him Exchang'd I Shall always acknowledge it as a singlar favour done me & his Wife who is my sisters Daughtor, and a woman as Illy able to bear the Loss as any Woman Living—I have the leasure to Inform you that their is a Large Ship Cast away near Metomkin in Virginia, her Cargo which is Very Large will be al sav'd, and is a grate part of it fitt for the Use of the Armeey. I heare Col^o. Simson³ has purchas'd it for the Armeey.

their is Three or fore Thousand pare of Shoes & Stokins & a large Quanty of Cloth of All kinds—There is Brigg. off Senepuxent to day which we hope is the prise Loaded with Salt Taken by the Brigg, in Senepuxent. Col^o. Simson is Ingaging all the Salt he can git for the Armeý. if You want Any for any troops plese mention it that I may Ingage it, as we have abundance of Tidewaters here on errrend. I have the Honor to be [&c.]

Joseph Dashiell

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4581-40. Addressed at the foot: "His Exc^l. Thomas Johnson." Docketed: "24. Jan^r. 1778/Joseph Dashiell." Dashiell was County Lieutenant of Worcester County.

1. Capt. Thomas Walker, commanding the Maryland Navy galley *Baltimore*.
2. Capt. James Nicholson, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*.
3. Col. Southy Simpson, Virginia Militia.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES

[*Williamsburg*] Saturday the 24th of January 1778.

Resolved, that for the future the pay of the officers in the navy, in lieu of their former pay and extra rations, be as follows:

To the Commodore,	£. 1 5 0	To the Carpenter	£. 0 6 0
Captain,	0 14 0	Carpenter's Mate	0 4 0
Lieutenant,	0 10 0	Quartermaster,	0 3 6
Master,	0 9 0	Armorer,	0 5 0
Master's Mate,	0 6 0	Master at Arms,	0 4 0
Midshipman,	0 6 0	Cook,	0 3 6
Gunner,	0 6 6	Steward	0 4 0
Gunner's Mate,	0 4 0	Clerk,	0 3 0
Boatswain,	0 6 0	Surgeon,	0 11 0
Boatswain's Mate,	0 4 0	Surgeon's Mate,	0 7 6

And Pilot, 7s. 6d. *per day*.

Ordered, that Mr. *Richard Henry Lee* do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Resolved, that in case of the death or resignation of any Commissioner of the Navy, the Governour and Council have power to fill the vacancy by appointing another commissioner, until the pleasure of the General assembly shall be known.

Ordered, that Mr. *Richard Henry Lee* do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Journals of the House of Delegates of Virginia (Williamsburg: Alexander Purdie, 1778), 140–41.

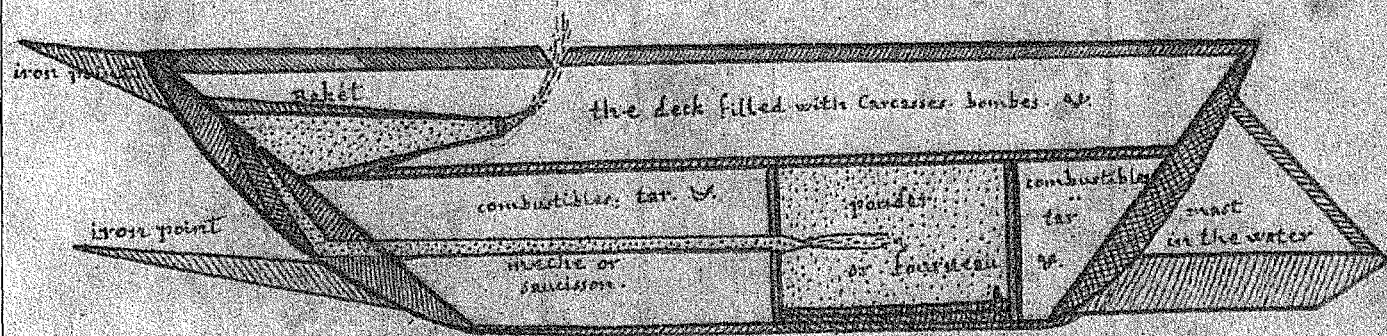
JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Saturday the 24th day of January 1778.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to John Boush for the use of Champion Travis esq^r for forty seven pounds for his attendance as a Member of the Board from the second day of November one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven to the ninth of January 1778 inclusive.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 347.

Profile of the fire boat.
 6 feet deep 4 wide 12 long



n. b. I find by Calculations that one Raket of six inches of Diameter, & 18 inches long, Loaded with My Composition, will move three hundred pounds, with Velocity sufficient to Run 1000 yards in six minutes... but as the Calcul is in fact

"Plan for proposed fire boat"

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ÆOLUS*, CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER ATKINS

Jan^y 1778
 Saturd^y 24th Cape Coriantes WNW 5 or 6 Lgs—
 at 7 AM. saw a Sail to the SE.—gave Chace—
 D^o NBE. 5 Lgs—
 Moderate Breezes PM. still in Chace—at 3 fired 5 Shot—at ½
 past bro^t too the Chace—She provd to be a Brig belonging to
 Falmouth in New England from the Ocoys¹—rec^d. 11 Prisoners
 & took Possession of her²—at 6 spoke a Spanish Brig from
 Martinico bound to New Orleans—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4107, part 1.

1. The Ocoys, now Les Cayes, Haiti. See *NDAR* 7: 1053.

2. Brig *Hiram*, with molasses. Gayton's Prize List, 26 Feb. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240.

January 25 (Sunday)

JOHN LAURENS TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL FRANÇOIS-LOUIS DE FLEURY

Sir Head Quarters [*Valley Forge*] 25th. Jan^y 1778.

Both the Letters which you wrote, proposing different Plans for the destruction of the Enemy's Shipping, were communicated to His Excellency. he applauds your Zeal for the Public Service and I have it in command from him to inform you, that he thinks employing some desperate fellows to use the sulphured Shirts would be the most likely way to succeed—he is afraid that the Scheme of the boats will be too easily frustrated; however as you seem to think so favorably of it, he gives you authority to make the experiment, getting such Advice and assistance from Commodore Hazlewood as may be necessary—the greatest Secrecy and Caution will be necessary, therefore the General does not require the formality of submitting your model to the inspection of any one, as the fewer the matter is communicated to the less likely it will be to fall into improper hands—prompt execution will likewise be advisable to give the less chance for discovery—if the Enemy have any notice of your design the guard-boats may without difficulty divert your fire-flats and render them harmless—

His Excellency desires me farther to observe to you that your rendering any important Service in this way, will entitle you to the farther notice of Congress—I sincerely wish you Success and remain with great regard Sir [&c.]

John Laurens
 Aide de Camp—

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "L: Colonel Fleury." Docketed: "Copy to L: Col. Fleury./25th Jan^y 1778."

CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE, R.N.,
 TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY PHILIP STEPHENS

Sir, *Carysfort* off Charles Town S^o. Carolina
 y^e. 25 Jan^y 1778.

When cruising off the harbour of Charles Town I have observed several large french ships, & one Polacre therein—and by information received from prisoners,

& by other means, a numerous fleet of french and american vessels, designed for different Ports in France & Holland, & laden with the produce of Carolina, are to push out when opportunity may offer—it is impossible to assure that they shall not escape the Kings ships on this station and therefore necessary to give you this intelligence—I have reason to think that those going to France, are for the Ports of Bourdeaux—Nantes—Rochelle—

I am, Sir, [&c.]
Rob^t. Fanshawe

Cha^s. Town was sett on fire
on y^e. 15 Jan^y. ab^t. 20 minutes
after 4 in y^e. morning—it burnt with
tolerable effect. upwards of
700 houses being destroyed.

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/1790, Section 22, no. 20. Addressed: "on His Majesty's Service/To/Ph. Stephens Esq^r/Adm^y. Office/London." Endorsed: "Rec^d 6 July & Read."

GOVERNOR GEORGE JAMES BRUERE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

N^o 21

Bermuda Jan^y 25th: 1778

My Lord

The family of the Goodrich's, of portsmouth in Virginia, were employed and Servisable, to my Lord Dunmore, before He left Virginia, but the Father and three Sons were all taken in different Vessels, the latter End of the Year 1776. William, and Bartlet Goodrich, on their Return from hence, to my Lord Dunmore, and to New York in Different Vessels with my Dispatches, and Captain Collins's¹ letters to New york, which they destroyed.

The three Sons made their Escape from the Rebels, but the Father I Suppose is a Prisoner as Yet.

The Brothers return'd to Bermuda, one after the other, as soon as they got their Liberty, and M^r Bridger Goodrich brought Your Lordships Dispatches, forwarded to Me by my Lord Howe, with M^r Knoxs² letter of the 9th of april 1777 covering the Copy's of Several Acts passed in the last Session of Parliament. And the Act for enabling the Commissioners for Executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain to Grant Commissions to the Commanders of private Ships and vessels employed in Trade or retained in His Majestys Service.

And M^r Bridger Goodrich and His Brother, having purchased a fine large Bermuda Sloop, a prize to His Majestys Ship *Galatea*. He armed and duely Qualified the Vessel, now Called the *Hammond*; with proper Securities, agreeable to the Act of Parliament; before Me as Vice Admiral and Surrogate.

And Captain Bridger Goodrich, in His Sloop *Hammond*; hath taken five prizes that were Trading to and from America.

And His Brother, an Owner, and the Said Captain very Generously and readily consented and desired: that the two Vessels belonging to Bermuda, loaded with Indian corn should be given up by Me, in His Majestys Name,³ that the Captain and owners of the Sloop *Hammond*, might not incur the penalty of their Bond, to Appease the People,—Complaining of Starving, for want of the Corn. I have the Honor to be my Lord [&c.]

George Ja^s Bruere

Since the date of the above letter M^r Bridger Goodrich hath taken and made Prize four more North American Vessels one of which He hath Sent to New York⁴ and the others are brought into this Port.

L, UKLPR, C.O. 37/37, fols. 5–6. Docketed: "Bermuda 25th Jan^y 1778./Governor Bruere./(N^o. 21.)/R, 23^d. April—/Ent^d."

1. Comdr. John Collins, commanding H.M. sloop *Nautilus*.
2. William Knox, British Under Secretary of State for the American Department.
3. Sloop *Ranger*, Capt. Dunscomb, and sloop *Dorothy*, Capt. Higs, from North Carolina to Bermuda. See Captain Bridger Goodrich to Commodore William Hotham, 7 Feb., below.
4. Schooner *Esther*, Joseph Mount, master, condemned on 10 Apr. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/92, fol. 48.

January 26

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 26th. 1778—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers¹ pay Moses Shattuck for Sundry Disbursments for Ship *Union*,² as p^r Cap^t James's³ Order, £30.—.—

Order'd, That Cap^t Chapman⁴ pay M^r Ivers for one half the Passage of one Passenger to France in Brig^t *Nantes*.⁵ £7.—.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 184–86.

1. Thomas Ivers.
2. Massachusetts State trading ship *Union*.
3. Capt. Richard James.
4. Capt. Joseph Chapman.
5. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.

NEWS FROM NEW YORK CITY

NEW-YORK, January 26.

Friday se'nnight arrived here the ship *Dragon*, Monsieur Claude Bondie, master,¹ with 338 hogsheads of tobacco,² a snow³ with 195, and a brig⁴ with upwards of 250, the whole amounting to more than 800 hogsheads. They were taken the 5th inst. in Chesapeak Bay,⁵ by his Majesty's ship the *St. Albans*, Richard Onslow, Esq; Commander; the *Emerald*, Benjamin Caldwell, Esq; and the *Richmond*, James Fielding, Esq;⁶ commander, &c. but were sent in by Capt. Caldwell.

The number of rebel vessels taken by his Majesty's ships on the Jamaica station, under the command of Vice Admiral Gayton, on the 7th of Sept. last, amounts to 162.

Of three vessels that attempted to get out of Providence a few days ago, one was taken, another burnt, and a third run ashore.

Livington's *The Royal Gazette* (New York), 31 Jan. 1778.

1. Ship *Dragon*'s prize papers give the master's name as Claude Bondit. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/311/3.
2. Gaine's *The New-York Gazette; and Weekly Mercury*, 26 Jan. 1778, reports "358 Hogsheads of Tobacco."
3. Snow *Elegante*, — Collenau, master.
4. Brig *Alexandrine*, Jean François Forand, master.
5. All three vessels were captured in the Rappahannock River. See Master's Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 3–6 Jan., and Journal of H.M.S. *Emerald*, 4 and 6–7 Jan., above.
6. H.M.S. *Richmond* was commanded by Capt. John Lewis Gidoin.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL

[Annapolis] Monday 26th. January 1778—

[Ordered] That the said Treasurer¹ pay to Captain John David one hundred and ninty seven pounds, ten shillings and ten pence per Account passed the Board—

That the Armourer deliver to Captain David² 12 pair of Pistols and 12 Cutlasses for the *Conqueror* Galley

That the said Armourer deliver to Cap^t. Bryan³ 6 Muskets, 6 Cutlasses and half a quire of Cartridge Paper for the *Dolphin*

That Major Fulford deliver to Captain Bryan 25 lb Cannon Powder and 80 Swivel Balls for the *Dolphin*

That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Cap^t. Bryan 1 p^r Shoes. . .

That the said Commissary of Stores deliver to Capt. David 24 p^r Shoes, 12 yds Swanskin,⁴ 10 Hatts and 4 yds Check

That the Commissary of Provisions deliver to Capt David 1 Box Candles for the C[onq^r]Galley

D, MdAA, Governor and Council (Proceedings) 1777-1779, SM 123-22, M 3156-3.

1. Western Shore Treasurer.

2. Capt. John David, commanding Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*.

3. Capt. Daniel Bryan, commanding Maryland Navy schooner *Dolphin*.

4. *Swanskin*: any of various fabrics resembling flannel and having a soft nap or surface.

GOVERNOR PATRICK HENRY TO CAPTAIN JOHN YOUNG

Captain Young

Williamsburg 26th January 1778

You are to proceed with the *May Flower* and hir Cargoe to New Orleans¹ and there deliver your Letters to the Spanish Governor² and receive his Commands. I expect there are some Goods waiting at that place to be delivired you on Account of this State. if there should take in such as are most wanted Viz^t. Blankets, Musquets & Bayonets. Coarse Linnens and Wollen Clothes and Tent stuff, and dispose of your Cargoe in a payment for them as far as it will go. If there are no Goods in return you may Dispose of the Cargoe there if you find it advantageous, and purchase with the amount of Sales such of the above articles as can be got, preferring Blankets and Arms. Take care to give no offence in any thing to the Spanish Governor and ask for Letters in answer to mine.

In case you see a certainty of being taken, You are to throw the Letters to the Governor over Board. I am [&c.]

P. Henry

[Endorsement]

Williamsburg 27th. January 1778. On Examination I find the above to be a true copy of the Order or Instructions given me by his Excellency the Governor of the State, and do Oblige myself to follow them implicitly and according to the true intent & meaning of the same, and that I will with all convenient speed proceed on the said Voyage, and in every respect transact the affairs for the best and render to his Excellency the Governor, or the Agent for the State for the time being, a just and fair Account of all matters under my care. Witness my hand—

Test

John Young³

LB, Vi, Thomas Smith Letter Book, vol. 1. Smith was Agent for Trade of Virginia.

1. On 25 April 1778, Raleigh Colston, agent for Virginia at Cape François, wrote to Smith: "I congratulate you on the safe arrival of the *Mayflower*, Capt. Young, who was destined for New Orleans." *Official Letters of the Governors of the State of Virginia*, vol. 1, *Letters of Patrick Henry, July 1, 1776–June 1, 1779*, edited by H. R. McIlwaine (Richmond: Virginia State Library, 1926), 235.

2. Don Bernardo de Gálvez.

3. Schooner *May Flower*, commanded by Capt. John Young, was captured on her return voyage by Capt. Bridger Goodrich. She was libelled in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York on 12 Aug. 1778, UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, 195, and was condemned as a lawful prize on 2 Sept. 1778, UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, 204–5. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/401/4.

ORDINANCE OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE MORE SPEEDY AND EFFECTUAL
MANNING THE NAVY.

No. 1061

WHEREAS, there is good cause to imagine that many seamen and mariners have been prevented from entering on board Continental vessels of war and armed vessels in the service of this State, by reason of their having previously engaged to serve private persons under penal articles, for the breach of which they would be subject to actions at law; in order, therefore, to remove such inconvenience,

Preamble.

I. *Be it ordained*, by His Excellency John Rutledge, Esq., President and Commander-in-chief in and over the State of South Carolina, and by the honourable the Legislative Council and the General Assembly of the said State, and by authority of the same, That no seaman or mariner, who shall enter on board any Continental vessel of war, or any armed vessel in the service of this State, shall be sued or in any manner molested for or by reason of any article or agreement which he hath made or may make to proceed on any cruise or voyage, or to work on board of any private ship or vessel; but all such articles and agreements shall, as to such seamen and mariners, be absolutely null and void.

Seamen on board armed vessels not to be sued for any private contract.

II. *And be it further ordained* by the authority aforesaid, That no seaman or mariner, for such entry, shall forfeit any wages or any share of prize money which shall be due to him for his service on board such private ship or vessel; any law, usage, custom or agreement to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

And shall recover their wages or shares due from private vessels.

III. *And be it further ordained* by the authority aforesaid, That this ordinance shall be and continue of full force until the last day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, and no longer.

Limitation.

HUGH RUTLEDGE, *Speaker of the Legislative Council*.

THOMAS BEE, *Speaker of the General Assembly*.

In the Council Chamber, the 26th day of January, 1778.

Assented to: J. RUTLEDGE.

Thomas Cooper and David J. McCord, eds., *The Statutes at Large of South Carolina*, 10 vols. (Columbia, S.C.: A. S. Johnston, 1836–41), 4: 401.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JOHN GAMBIER TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

Providence Chief of the Bahama Islands
26th: January 1778.

Copy.

My Lord,

In consequence of His Majesty's Orders signified to me by Lord George Germain last October, to repair to this place immediately, and to take on me the Charge of the Government (in the Absence of the Governor)¹ by Virtue of my Commission as Lieutenant Governor, I embarked from England last December and arrived here the 20th: Instant.

I am happy to find that many of the Inhabitants of these Islands are by their Principles loyal and Dutiful Subjects, at the same time I must acknowledge there are some who are not so well inclined, and who I fear do carry on a clandestine Trade with the Americans and amongst other Things do supply them with the very necessary Article of Salt, from some of the other Islands of the Bahamas, and which is not in my Power to prevent, as there is not any Naval Force within this Government.

I must therefore beg leave to make my Application to your Lordship to send some Naval Force, not only to protect these Islands against the American Privateers, but also to prevent the above pernicious Trade.

I think it necessary to acquaint your Lordship that there are not fourteen feet Water on the Bar of the Harbour of Providence at low Water, and that the common Tides rise between two and three Feet. I have the honour to be [&c.]

(Signed) John Gambier

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 388–89. Addressed at foot of first page: "His Excellency Lord Viscount Howe." Docketed: "N^o. 4./Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant/Governor Gambier of the/Bahama Islands to the/Viscount Howe./Dated 26th: January 1778." Docketed in another hand: "In Vice Adm^l: L^d: Howe's Letter/Dated 25 Oct^r: 1778." Enclosure No. 4 in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe's letter to Philip Stephens, 25 Oct. 1778.

1. Montfort Browne was captured by Commo. Esek Hopkins's squadron when they seized New Providence Is. in March 1776 and was taken to Rhode Island. See *NDAR* 4: 175, 386–88, 464–67, 1148.

GOVERNOR PATRICK TONYN TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

N^o. 51.

My Lord,

I have the honour to enclose to your Lordship a copy of Monsieur De Britignie's¹ plan for raising a Regiment for the service of the rebels, and some copies of other letters. He and twelve of his Officers were taken off Charles town bar and sent here by Captain Fanshawe² of the *Carysford*.

They are now, my Lord, in confinement as prisoners in the State House. I meant to send them to England to be disposed of by your Lordship by this opportunity; but I could not prevail upon the Master of the Vessel to take them on board.

I had a cartel of prisoners exchanged a little before their arrival.

Besides these french Officers sixty or seventy private men have been taken and sent here, many of them have enlisted into the Sixtieth Regiment, others are entered on board the Kings Ships or Privateers.

Among the french Adventurers there are some of them connected with men of family in France, and some old Officers, who seem to have been greatly imposed upon in france by the Commissioners from the Congress.

I have the honour to be with the greatest respect, My Lord; [&c.]

Pat. Tonym

St Augustine 26th. January 78.

L, UKLPR, C.O. 5/558, 58–59. Addressed below close: "Right Honourable/Lord George Germain." Docketed: "St Augustine 26th Jan^y 1778./Governor Tonym/(N^o. 51.)/R, 19th. March./(11 Inclosures.)/Ent^d."

1. Charles-François Sévelinges, "Marquis" de Brétigny (Brétigney). Brétigny planned to raise a regiment in South Carolina from residents of French ancestry and in April 1779 was authorised by the state to raise a regiment of French volunteers with the rank of colonel.

2. Capt. Robert Fanshawe, R.N. For the capture of the "Marquis" de Brétigny on 14 Nov. 1777 on the schooner *Mary Ann* by H.M.S. *Carysfort*, see *NDAR* 10: 493, 494n.

WILLIAM BINGHAM TO CONTINENTAL COMMITTEE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

[Extract]

Gentⁿ

St Pierre M/que Jan^y 26th 1778

... The open Protection & Assistance which the American Privateers & their Prizes receive in the Ports of this Island, joined to the new Arrangement which I had the honor of mentioning to you in my last,¹ have given Rise to Some spirited Letters betwixt our General² & the Governor of Antigua;³—the latter, in an illiberal & ungentlemanly manner, accuses the former of the most selfish & interested Conduct & alledges that he has certain proof of his receiving 15 % to his own Emolument on the sales of all Prizes sold in the Island; & impotently threatens him with the Resentment that may arise in the Breast of his Britannic Majesty, when this affair is properly represented:—

I come now to address you Gentlemen on another Subject which to me is of very Serious Importance;—During my Residence here, I have been under the Necessity of making some considerable Advances on Account of the Congress, & have entered into Engagements for them far beyond my Abilities to fulfill.

I have daily expected Remittances from the Continent, & have been daily disappointed—My sinking Credit & embarassed Situation have become a Subject of Mirth in all the W India Gazettes, & are Circumstances, which in this place tend greatly to derogate from the Respect due to the Appointment with which you have been pleased to honor me.

I would take the liberty of drawing upon the Commissioners at Paris, if I thought it would meet with either yours, or their Approbation;—I have done myself the honor of writing you on this subject but have received no Answer.—So that I remain in a state of Perplexity, Uneasiness, & Suspense, & which your indulging me with this Liberty, will alone relieve me from—

I have the honor to be with great Respect Gentⁿ [&c.]

W^m Bingham

L, DNA, PCC, item 90 (Letters from William Bingham and Others, 1777–82), pp. 21–28 (M247, roll 118). Seven paragraphs are not printed. In them Bingham reports on speeches in the House of Lords regarding Burgoyne's defeat and reflects on the debates' implications on the continued conduct of the war. Bingham also enclosed a copy of his letter to the committee of 28 Dec. 1777.

1. See *NDAR* 10: 820.

2. Marquis de Bouillé.

3. William Mathew Burt.

January 27

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *APOLLO*, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLLJanuary 1778.
Tuesday 27

Ditto [S^o part of Saint Georges Bank] SW $\frac{3}{4}$ S^o. 13 Lg^s.
at [6] AM had 18 fath: made Sail, *Venus* SbW. at 9 had 24 fath:
at 11 saw a Sail in the NW. wore Ship and made Sail as did the
Venus—another Vessel in Sight to the SE. out 1^l & 2^d. reef of
Topsails. at Noon *Venus* in Company.

Ditto [S^o part of Saint Georges Bank] WSW. 20 Lg^s.
First and Latter parts Fresh gales and Cloudy, middle Light
Airs. PM in Chace [of] a Schooner, at 1 the *Venus* fired 2 Shot
& brought her too, she proved the *True Blue*¹ Privateer of 10
Guns & 45 men from Casco Bay, bound on a Cruize, had been
out 1 day & taken nothing. rec'd 21 Prisoners from her, close
reef the Topsails, at 4 made Sail, sounded 23 fath: at midnight
had 24 fath:

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 4.

1. Schooner *True Blue* (Privr.), Lawrence Furlong, master, from Boston, on a cruise, fitted for war, taken on 27 Jan. near St. Georges Bank, sent into Newport. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486. Massachusetts privateer schooner *True Blue*, Laurence Furlong, commander, was commissioned on 16 Dec. 1777, mounted 10 carriage guns, had a crew of 65 seamen and was owned by John Cushing and Samuel White of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 7, 228, vol. 8, p. 1.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 27th 1778—

Order'd, That Thomas & Joseph Dakins Bill for Sundry

Iron Work for Schooner <i>Stark</i>	£ 4.15.. 8
for d ^o . for Row-Galley ¹	5..12..—
for d ^o . for Brig ^t <i>Nantz</i> ²	7.. 9..—
for d ^o . for Schoon ^r <i>Hannah</i> ³	<u>19.. 2.. 9</u>
	£36..19.. 5

deduct for 1^{cwt}..10^{lb} Iron5.. 1.. 7@ £15 p^r Hundred

be paid,

£31..17..10Order'd, That Ebenezer Batcheldors Bill for Sundry Iron Work for Ship
Adams,⁴ be paid £19.. 6.. 6.—Order'd, That Cap^t W^m. Fleet be paid Sundry Wharfage &c. as p^r Bill . . .
£30..11.. 5.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 186.

1. Massachusetts Navy row galley *Lincoln*.
2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.
3. Massachusetts State trading schooner *Hannah*.
4. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.

JOSEPH LOCKWOOD TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Sir, Wethersfield Jan^y: 27th: 1778—

I have lately purchased of M^r: Broome¹ a small part of the Ship *Putnam*²— & happening to fall in company with M^r: Thomas Lyman of Durham, last week, he desired me to enquire of you whether the Birth of Capⁿ: of Marines was vacant & if so he would be glad to accept of it, he says he will engage to raise a Company in a little time, he thinks he can get, in Durham & its vicinity forty good stout men. I have a very good Opinion of him he is a man of property, Sence & well principled if the Birth is vacant & there is a prospect of his obtaining it he will wait on you at New London & I dare say both you & Capⁿ: Allen³ will be pleased with him. I also saw Doct^r: Rosseter⁴ at the same time who seems inclined to take the Birth of Surgeon, I have but a slight acquaintance with him, however he tells me his character is Known at New London, he went one Cruize as Surgeon to the *Two Brothers*,⁵ you may learn his character, from M^r: Mumford⁶ Capⁿ: Chester⁷ or Capⁿ: Champlain⁸ he will also wait on you if there is a prospect of his obtaining the Birth, Be good enough to write me a few lines in answer by the return of the Post & you will oblige [&c.]

Jo^s: Lockwood

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 90, no. 5277. Addressed: "Nathanael Shaw Esq^r/Merch^t/New London." Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Joseph Lockwoods/Letter/Jan^r 1778." Docketed in another hand: "5277."

1. Either John Broome of Hartford or Samuel Broome of Wethersfield.
2. Connecticut privateer ship *General Putnam*.
3. Capt. Thomas Allon, appointed to command the *General Putnam*.
4. Dr. Timothy Rossiter, surgeon of the *General Putnam*.
5. Connecticut privateer sloop *Two Brothers*, Thomas Chester, Jr., commander, which was commissioned on 18 July 1776.
6. Thomas Mumford of Groton.
7. Capt. Thomas Chester, Jr., of Groton.
8. Capt. Samuel Champlin, Jr., commanding Connecticut privateer sloop *American Revenue*.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO FRANCIS HOPKINSON

Sir Head Quarters Valley Forge 27th: January 1778

I rec^d. your fav^r: of the 22^d. instant by Cap^t: Alexander¹ to whom I have given an order to take several pieces of Cannon with a proper supply of Ammunition, that he, in conjunction with the other Gentlemen of the Navy,² may endeavour to interrupt the Enemy's shipping in their passage up and down the River—³

Having never found an opportunity of conveying the letter which you some time ago sent to me for M^r: Duché, by such a channel as I thought it would reach him, I return it to you again. The Contents have not been made public. I am [&c.]

Copy, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "Jan^y: 27th: 1778/to/Francis Hopkinson Esq^r/of/Bordentown."

1. Capt. Charles Alexander, Continental Navy.
2. Under the command of Capt. John Barry, Continental Navy.
3. Delaware River.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Tuesday, January 27, 1778

The Committee on the Treasury report . . .

That a warrant issue on the treasurer in favour of the Marine Committee, for twelve thousand dollars, in discharge of John Langdon, continental agent at Portsmouth, in New Hampshire, his draught on said committee, dated the 20th December last,¹ in favour of Stephen Hooper, Esq^r for that sum; the said committee to be accountable:

JCC 10: 94.

1. See NDAR 10: 759. This letter was referred to the Board of Treasury on 26 Jan. JCC 10: 91.

FRANCIS LEWIS TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Dear Sir,

Baltimore 27th. Jan^{ry}. 1778.

Being indulged by Congress with a few days absence in order to visit my family at this place; As a member of the Marine Committee, I have been charged by that Board, to inspect the fitting out some Continental Vessells now in this harbour; of which one is a new Vessell built for a Packet Boat¹ destined to carry the Congress's dispatches to their Commissioners in Europe; This Vessell is ordered to be fitted for the sea with the utmost expedition, and commanded by Thomas Read Esq^r of the *Effingham* Frigate now laid up at Borden Town.

As this Packet Boat is directed to be armed for defence, being pierced for Twelve Carriage Guns four pounders and as no such cannon can be procured here, induces me to apply to your Excellency for Ten pieces of Cannon for that purpose, being informed that there is now at Annapolis several such belonging to this state under your direction.

If the Cannon can be spared, ~~upon the receipt~~ please to let me know the terms on behalf of the state, and upon the receipt of your answer I shall return to Congress and report the same. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Fra: Lewis

L, Phi, Etting Papers (Signers of the Declaration of Independence). Addressed: "On the Public Service/His Excellency/Thomas Johnston Esquire/Governor & Commander in Chief &c &c &c/att/Annapolis." Docketed: "27 Jan^y 1778/Francis Lewis/ab⁴ four pounders."

1. Continental Navy packet *Baltimore*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO RICHARD HARRISON

Sir.

In Council Annapolis Maryland Jan^y. 27th. 1778.

We have to acknowlege the Receipt of your Letters of [*blank*] and of [*blank*] the last inclosing your Account Current against this State, and are uneasy to find you under the Difficulties you mention, by being so considerably in Advance. By the Schooner *Chance*, you will find, we have purchased of Mess^{rs}. Vanbibber and Crocket,¹ one Half of that Vessel and Cargoe and refer you to Letters by her from those Gentlemen. You will receive this by the Schooner *General Smallwood*, Cap^t. Rogers,² with the inclosed Invoice. The net Proceeds of this Cargoe & Vessel, for which we hope you will be able to get a good Price, is to be carried to the Credit of this State. We have in View some further Means of making you speedy Remittances.

If the Schooner *General Smallwood* cannot be sold to advantage, we request you to send her back, ballasted with Salt.—We are [&c.]

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: “M^r Richard Harrison.” Harrison was agent for Maryland at Martinique.

1. [Abraham?] Van Bibber and John Crockett, merchants at Baltimore.
2. Capt. John Rogers.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN JOHN ROGERS

[Annapolis, 27 January 1778]

Instructions to Capⁿ Rogers of the Schooner *General Smallwood*—You are to proceed from hence to Martinique Consignd to M^r Richard Harrison in that Island—In proceeding down the bay your utmost care & diligence must be exerted in avoiding the Enemies Ships—If by unforeseen accidents you shou’d not be able to make the Island of Martinique & shou’d be oblig’d to put into any French or Spanish Port, the sales of ~~the Vessel and~~ the Cargoe must be put into the hands of some Merchant of the first Character there, & the nett proceeds are to be remitted by him to M^r Harrison, after Ballasting the Vessel with salt, & you are to acquaint M^r Harrison of your proceedings, & send him duplicates of yr Letter—

LB, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-42.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN JOHN DAVID

Cap^t Davy

[Annapolis] In Council Jan^y: 27th. 1778.

You are to proceed with your Galley¹ from hence to Smiths Creek in the mouth of Potomack, there to take under your protection the Ship *Lydia*, which you will defend and secure from any attempts that may be made against her by the Enemies of the united States—Upon the Ships sailing you will receive further orders from the Council.

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-43.

1. Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*.

THOMAS SMITH TO CAPTAIN JOHN YOUNG

Sir

Virginia W^{ms}burg 27th. January 1778

The Instructions given you by his Excellency the Governor of this State,¹ tho couched in a very concise manner, is of such Importance when the nature of the voyage (of which I have informed you) is considered, that I cannot too warmly recommend to you care, attention and dispatch on the affair, as much depends on this matter being well conducted for the Interest of the State and I must observe I think your own Honor, Interest and welfare is ultimately concerned in the event. The assurances given you by his Excellency and his Honble Council are in my opinion a sufficient inducement for you to exert every Faculty you are Master of, and should the circumstances turn out agreeable to our wishes I shall express myself with thanks on your return. wishing you a safe Voyage and speedy return, I am [&c.]

Thomas Smith A. S [Agent of the State]

LB, Vi. Thomas Smith Letter Book, vol. 1. Addressed at the top: "Captⁿ. John Young."
 1. See Governor Patrick Henry to Captain John Young, 26 Jan., above.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [Charleston] Tuesday 27th. January 1778—

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commissioner—

Tho^s Corbett, Tho^s Savage, Josiah Smith, Geo Smith, Edw^d Darrell, Esq^s

The Captains Hall,¹ Sullivan,² Morgan,³ & Anthony,⁴ were Summon'd to
 Attend the Board this Evening & they attended Accordingly—

A Letter was wrote to Alex^r. Moultrie Esq^r Attor^y General

Navy Board 27th January 1778—

Sir/

Captⁿ. Sullivan having Shipped on board his vessel in the Service of the State,
 Nine Seamen belonging to Captⁿ. John Holmes of the Ship *Brunswick* who has
 absolutely refused to pay their Wages, we shall be glad that you will write to him to
 pay the same (an Acco^t of which is Inclosed) which should he refuse to do please
 proceed against him agreeable to an Ordinance passed Yesterday—⁵

By Order of the Board

Edward Blake first Commiss^r

To Alex^r. Moultrie Esq^r }
 Attorney General }

[Agr]eed that the [undecipherable] of the before mentioned Mens wages *when*⁶
 settled by the Cap^t & Attorney General shall be paid to Captⁿ Sullivan by the Clerk,
 and to be repaid him when received by Alex^r Moultrie Esq^r—

A Letter to Captⁿ William Hall—

Navy Board January 27th 1778—

Sir/

The Commissioners of the Navy direct that you deliver from on board the
 Brigg *Notre Dame* to Captⁿ Sullivan of the *Gen^l Moultrie* Twelve of the Men belong-
 ing to the *Notre Dame*

Edw^d Blake first Commiss^r

To Captⁿ William Hall }
 of the *Notre Dame* }

A Letter to Captⁿ Philip Sullivan—

Navy Board January 27th 1778—

Sir/

You are hereby directed to apply to Captⁿ Hall of the *Notre Dame* for Twelve
 Men he has on board more than his Complement, and receive them on board the
General Moultrie, Captⁿ. Hall is directed to deliver the Men when you apply for
 them—

To Captⁿ. Philip Sullivan }
 of the *General Moultrie* }

Edw^d Blake first Commiss^r

Orders were drawn on the Treasury in fav^r. of
 Captⁿ Philip Sullivan Amo^t of his Acco^t against }
 the Ships *Volunteer* & *Gen^l Moultrie*. }
 Captⁿ. Will^m Hall his acco^t against the Brigg

£1823.. 5—

<i>Notre Dame</i>	743— —
George Bowing for 9 M ^{os} . wages on board the <i>Defence</i>	189— —
M ^{rs} . Lester for 2 Months wages for 3 Negroes—on board the Floating Battery to 19 th Jan ^y 20/ ⌘ Day	} 186— —
James Toussiger for Making 4 Six pound Carriages for the <i>Notre Dame</i> a £30 . . . . .		} 120— —
Tho ^s Shubrick Esq ^r for hire of his Negroe Carpen- ters at State Ship Yard to 31 st Dec ^r . Last	} 631..17.6

Adjourned to next Thursday Evening 6 oClock

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 136–37.

1. Capt. William Hall, South Carolina Navy.
2. Capt. Philip Sullivan.
3. Capt. Charles Morgan.
4. Capt. Hezekiah Anthony.
5. See "An Ordinance for the more speedy and effectual manning the Navy," 26 Jan., above.
6. Words in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.

ORDER BOOK OF 1ST SOUTH CAROLINA CONTINENTAL REGIMENT

[Extract]

Head Quarters Charles Town Jan^y. 27th. 1778

General Orders Parole

The Detachment that were order'd to hold themselves in Readiness to go on Board the arm'd Vessels, are to Imbark Imediately Cap^t. Blake¹ 1 Subaltern 1 Serjeant & 34 Rank and file from the Second Reg^t. are to Imbark on Board the *Gen^t. Moultrie*, one Subaltern 1 Serj^t. & 24 Rank & file on Board the *Fair Amarcan* Commanded by Cap^t. Morgan,² 1 Subaltern 1 Serj^t. & 15 Rank & file on Board the *Noterdame* Commanded by Cap^t. Hall,³ for this Duty Lieu^t. Proveaux⁴ & Lieu^t. Blanyar, who Are to Draw lots for the Choice of the 2 Briggs—⁵

LB, ScHi, Regimental Order Book of Captain Saunders (call no. 34/217). Roger Parker Saunders (Sanders) was a captain in the 1st South Carolina Regiment.

1. Capt. John Blake, 2d South Carolina Continental Regiment.
2. Capt. Charles Morgan, commanding South Carolina privateer brigantine *Fair American*.
3. Capt. William Hall, commanding South Carolina Navy brig *Notre Dame*.
4. Lt. Adrian Proveaux, 2d South Carolina Continental Regiment.
5. South Carolina privateer brig *Fair American* and South Carolina Navy brig *Notre Dame*.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. CARYSFORT, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE

January 1778.

Tuesday 27th

Charles Town Lighthouse WNW 14 miles
At 3 AM made the Signal & Tk^d Ship—At 6 Saw a Sail to the
E^tward D^o made the *Lizards* Signal to Chace At 8 made the
Lizards Signal to leave off Chace—At 11 Lighthouse NWBW ½
W D^o Saw a Sail D^o made Sail & gave Chace—

D° Lighthouse N 78° W^t 19 miles

First part fresh breezes Middle & Latter Little Wind & Hazy. At 1 PM Spoke the Chace, a French Brig from S^t Domingo for Charles Town¹ D° Shortn'd Sail & hove too At 3 hoisted the Cutter Out—At 5 hoisted the Longboat Out & sent her on board the *Hinchinbroke* for water. At 6 recieved from the *Hinchinbroke* 2½ Tons Water. At 8 hoisted y^c Boats in—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/168, fol. 360.

1. French brig *Flambeau*, Jean Cas Major [Casamajor], master, a crew of fifteen seamen, owned by Cas Major [Casamajor] & La Coste of St. Domingue, laden with rum, sugar, molasses, and coffee, sent to St. Augustine, capture credited to *Carysfort* and *Lizard*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 238–39.

LOG BOOK OF THE SHIP *MARY*, HENRY JOHNSON, MASTER

Janry	Remarks at [<i>New</i>] Providence
Tuesday 27 1778	Thick and Hazy With Rain Blowing fresh this Morning A Rebel Sloop ¹ Came off the Harbour Sent 40 of her hands on Shore took possession of the fort ² Which Obliged us to make the Best of our Way out of the harbour the Sloop Run in And Came too We Standing off Keeping in Sight of the Land— ³

D, DNA, Revolutionary War Prize Cases, Records of the Court of Appeals in Cases of Captures, 1776–1787, Case No. 67 (Rathburn v. the Ship *Mary*), Log Book of the Ship *Mary* (Aug. 1777–Feb. 1778), 25.

1. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

2. Fort Nassau.

3. From this entry on, the log is faked by her captors from the sloop *Providence*, in case she were to be examined by a British warship on her voyage north to New Bedford. See Journal of Marine Captain John Trevett, 31 Jan., below.

GOVERNOR PETER CLAUSEN TO CAPTAIN JOHN WATLINGTON

To Captⁿ. John Watlington

I have receiv'd your Complaints against the Commander of the commission'd armed Sloop from Tortola call'd the *Reprisal* with the notarial Deposition of Captⁿ. Walter Burk & Thomas Tatem, which I shall immediately send to the General at Antigua,¹ & therefore demand Satisfaction.—

P. Clausen.

St^e. Croix Januarii 27th. 1778

LB, DNA, RG 55, Government of the Virgin Islands, Box 1 (Copybooks, Letters sent by Gov. Peter Clausen to Foreign West Indian Officials, 1774–84), p. 35.

1. Gov. William Mathew Burt, governor of the British Leeward Islands.

VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON TO GOVERNOR JOHN DALLING

Copy

Sir

By M^r Clement this morning I had the honor to receive the Letter addressed to you from the Governor of S^t Domingue,¹ for the perusal of which I am very much obliged to your Honor; I have an exact copy of that Letter addressed to me,

but shall not answer it by their Frigate,² as I intend to send a Man of War on purpose, of which your Honor shall have timely notice.

The reason I did not answer his dispatch of 15th. December, was, I received it by a Spanish Officer, who I thought an improper Person to be sent with it.

I am, Sir, with great Respect, [&c.]

(signed) Clark Gayton

Adm^ls. Penn [*Port Royal, Jamaica*]

27th. Jan^y. 1778

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 137/73, fol. 118. Docketed: "Copy of Admiral/Gayton's Letter to—/Governor Dalling/dated 27th. Jan^y. 1778/In Gov Dalling's (N^o 15)/of 12th Feb^y 1778./(3.)." Enclosure no. 3 in Governor John Dalling to Lord George Germain, 12 Feb. 1778, below.

1. Comte d'Argout. See Governor Comte d'Argout to Governor John Dalling, 16 Jan., above.

2. French frigate *Inconstante*.

January 28

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. APOLLO, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

January 1778.

Wednesday 28

Ditto [S^o. part of Saint Georges Bank] WSW. 20 Lg^s.
at 8 AM saw a Sail to the West^d. out reefs, made Sail, and gave Chace, at noon the Chace bro^t too.

Ditto [S^o. part of Saint Georges Bank] SW ½ W. 11 Lg^s.
Fresh breezes and hazey for the most part, remainder Strong gales. PM sent a Boat on board the Chace, the *Betty*,¹ a Brig from Liverpool bound to Dominica, Lading with Provision & dry goods, had been taken by the *Harliquin*² Privateer of Boston in Lat^{de}. 18.0 N^o. took out the Prisoners, & sent a Petty Officer & 6 men on board her, at 4 close reef'd the Topsails, at 7 sound-ed 20 fath., at 9 24 fath.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 4.

1. Brig *Betty*, James Dawson, late master, owned by John Chorley, from Liverpool to Dominica, with provisions and dry goods, retaken near St. Georges Bank, sent into Newport. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486.

2. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Harlequin*, Francis Bowden Dennis, commander, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 60 seamen, owned by Jerathmeel Peirce and John Leach of Salem, which was commissioned on 12 Nov. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, 93, p. 95.

LIST OF BONDS FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIVATEERS

List of Bonds given on issuing Commissions for Privateers

(Viz^t)In New=Hampshire

Bond dated	2 ^d . Sept ^r . 1776 from	Rob ^t . Parker	Commander of the Schooner	<i>McClary</i>	of Portsmouth
D ^o .	2 ^d . Dec ^r . D ^o .	James Johnson	D ^o . of the D ^o .	<i>Adventure</i>	Exeter
D ^o .	6 th . D ^o .	Rob ^t . Parker	D ^o . of the Ship	<i>Portsmouth</i>	Portsmouth
D ^o .	26 th . Feb ^r . 1777.	Eliphalet Ladd	D ^o . of the D ^o .	<i>White Oak</i>	D ^o .
D ^o .	29 th . May D ^o .	Francois Burnyer Dievauroy ¹	D ^o . of the Brig:	<i>Non Pareil</i>	D ^o .
D ^o .	17 th . May	Tho ^s . Dalling	D ^o . of the Schooner.	<i>McClary</i>	D ^o .
D ^o .	29 th . May	Mendes Fits Cadits	D ^o . of the Sloop	<i>Wilks</i>	D ^o .
D ^o .	7 th . June D ^o .	John Hart	D ^o . of the Ship	<i>Portsmouth</i>	D ^o .
D ^o .	13 th . D ^o .	Nich ^{os} . Fautruel	D ^o . of the Ship	<i>Amphitrite</i>	D ^o .
D ^o .	5 th . July D ^o .	Ja ^s . Arnold	D ^o . of the Schooner	<i>Mary</i>	D ^o .
D ^o .	30 th . D ^o .	Mark Dennetts	D ^o . of the Brig:	<i>La Maria</i>	D ^o .
D ^o .	6 th . Aug ^t . D ^o .	Kinsman Paverley	D ^o . of the Schooner	<i>Friends Adventures</i>	D ^o .
D^o.	19th. D^o.	John Blackler	D^o. of the D^o.	<i>Union</i>	
D ^o .	2 ^d . Sept ^r . D ^o .	Joshua Stacpole	D ^o . of the Brig:	<i>McClary</i>	D ^o .
D ^o .	13 th . D ^o .	Tho ^s . Dalling	D ^o . of the D ^o .	<i>General Sullivan</i>	Exeter
D ^o .	28 th . Jan ^r . 1778.	John Gregory	D ^o . of the D ^o .	<i>McClary</i>	Portsmouth

D, DNA, PCC, Item 196, vol. 16, p. 77 (M247, roll 204). Docketed: "New=Hampshire/Privateer Bonds/for 1776-1777 & one for 1778." Endorsed: "New-Hampshire/List of/Privateer Bonds."

1. According to the bond for the brig *Non Pareil*, her commander's name was Flecher De Berruyer Du Vanrouy of Portsmouth. DNA, PCC, Item 196, vol. 11, p. 36.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 28th. 1778

Order'd, That Manasseh Marston for Sundry Work for Brig^t *Massachusetts*¹ as p^r Bill—be paid . . . £12..—..—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 187.

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.

JOHN CRUDEN, JR., TO REVEREND WILLIAM CRUDEN

My dear Father

New York 28th. January 1778

. . . there is an amazing quantity of goods brought in to N^o Carolina, and that Virg^a. & Maryland are supplied from that quarter.

If Lord Howe would only grant Letters of Marque to the Merch^{ts} of this Town. I am convinced much good would follow from the measure—the Rebell Army have received every Necessary in that round about way, and the insignificance of the place (Oacrecock) prevented Lord Howe from Sending Vessels to cruize there—whatever it might be formerly—all the Tobb^a of James River in Virginia is Shippd from it now, and if they were prevented from having any kind of Trade—the good effects would soon be seen—Some Gentⁿ of Virg^a & Carolina applied to Lord Howe to send Vessels there. explained to him the Service they would render Gov^t as well as the proffit that would Arrise to themselves—his Lordships words were “Will you never give these poor people an opportunity of coming in[]—If such measures are to bring them in farwell America it will never be my Country

I hope your Gov^t on the other side of the Water will think diffrently from his Lordship, and give every encouragment to the Mercantile Intrest to fit out Strong Vessels to cut of the Trade of the Southern Collonies, and if it is not the intention of Government to carry on the Warr in New England—I do think evry Town upon its Coast should be levell' with the ground, particularly Boston—desprate distempers requires desprate Cures—there is cruelty in destroying the property of your friends—but every Man who has anything at Stake and who is the friend of the King would cheerfully make the Sacrifice, and help to Burn his house rather than this Country should become independent—Those very towns are now gnawing the very vitals of the Nation, they are fitting out very respectable privateers and supplying their Army at our Expence, with the Cargoes of Vessells they make prizes of—Depend upon it the utmost exertions must be used but of their resources—let them have no Trade to the Southward, and no Privateers to the Northward—and send men who can plan and execute, and all will yet be well. . . .

John Cruden Jr

Transcript, Nc-Ar, English Records, Earl of Dartmouth Manuscripts, 1720–1783, H.R. 39 pp. 211–17. Addressed: “The Rev^d Mr Cruden.” Endorsed: “American.”

AGREEMENT OF JEHU EYRE AND OTHERS TO FIT OUT ARMED BOATS AS PRIVATEERS

Trenton January 28 1778

Whereas Col. Jehu Eyres and Company have obtained leave to fit out two of the Armed Boats in private Service to anoy the Enemy in the River Delaware. We the Subscribers do hereby bind ourselves to pay our Parts in Victualling, Manning and all other Expences accruing to the said Boats in fitting for the said Expedition¹

We do also agree that the Crews are to have One Half of all Prizes, they paying for the Provisions out of the first Prize taken; The other Half to be divided between the Subscribers

And it is further agreed that any Person refusing or neglecting, after being called on for that Purpose, to pay his part of the Expence, that on hearing of the Matter by a Majority of the Company, such Person so neglecting or refusing may be excluded the Company

Jehu Eyre
 W^m. Bradford²
 Joseph Blewer³
 W^m. Bradford for Paul Cox⁴
 Manuel Eyre⁵
 W^m. Bradford for John Hazelwood
 James Loughhead
 Jo^s. Marsh⁶

DS, NHpR, Correspondence Regarding Naval-Maritime Matters, 1775–1783, nos. 65–66 (Jehu Eyre Folder).

1. To Eyre Commodore Hazelwood gave a copy of his own commission, to which he added the following: "Sir you are Herby authorised By This Copy to Take Burn and Sinke all Vessels Belonging to the Enemy of The united Staits of Amirca givin under my ~~Sea~~ Hand This 28th of Janr^y 1778 John Hazelwood."

2. Chairman, Pennsylvania State Navy Board.
3. Member, Pennsylvania State Navy Board.
4. Member, Pennsylvania State Navy Board.
5. Member, Pennsylvania State Navy Board.
6. Member, Pennsylvania State Navy Board.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN JAMES NICHOLSON

Captain James Nicholson
 Sir

[York, Pa.] January 28th 1778

We have received your favour of the 23^d instant¹ and are sorry that your Late effort to get to Sea had failed The great service that might be done to the States by your Ship being out has urged us to wish much for that event and altho you have been unsuccessful in your late attempt yet we would not have that prevent your making an other trial and as we are perfectly satisfied that your best endeavours has been used, we doubt not a continuance of them will be kept up until the business is happily accomplished.

We observe what you say respecting the term of entry of some of your Crew being expired. we would have you if possible engage them again allowing them the bounty.

The Navy Board at Bordenton in a Letter of the 13th instant² writes that they had collected 19 or 20 Seamen belonging to the Navy and would send them forward to Baltimore as soon as a waggon could be had to take their baggage and provisions—These Men we expect are now nearly got down and you may order them on board your ship. This supply with such of your present crew as you may reinlist will keep the *Virginia* well manned

We authorize you to provide a small fast sailing Tender to preceede your ship down the Bay to give notice of the situation and motions of the enemies Vessels as we formerly directed³ & we trust you will embrace the first opportunity of pushing out confiding in your vigilance & good conduct we wish you success & are [&c.]



Collection of the New-York Historical Society

Captain James Nicholson

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 124 (M332, roll 6).

1. Not found.
2. Not found.

3. Nicholson was employing the Maryland Navy ship *Defence's* tender *Amelia* as a scout boat. For the Continental Marine Committee's previous authorization to obtain "a fast sailing Tender to precede the frigate," see *NDAR* 10: 652.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL

[Annapolis] Wednesday 28. January 1778—

Commission of Letter of Marque and Reprisal issued to John Rogers Master of the Schooner called the *General Smallwood* mounting four Carriage Guns navigated by 10 Men belonging to the State of Maryland & dated 20 Oct. 1777. . . .

[*Ordered*] That the Commissary of Prov^o deliver to Capt. Bryan¹ 1 Barrel Beef and 1 Barrel Bread for the Schooner *Dolphin*.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Proceedings) 1777–1779, SM 123-22, M 3156-3.

1. Capt. Daniel Bryan, Maryland Navy.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO WILLIAM LUX

Sir,

In Council Annapolis Jan^y 28th. 1778.

Please to furnish Cap^t Bryan¹ with what Cordage he may want, for the Use of the *Dolphin* armed Boat. We are &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "M^r William Lux."

1. Capt. Daniel Bryan.

CAPTAIN IGNATIUS FENWICK TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir,

Jan^y 28 1778 Piscataway Creek [*Maryland*]

The Ship¹ has been frose up for five or six days past it is now likely to Break away & leave us Clear for Sailing only the want of a Pilot I have Sent twice sent down to S^t marys for one but are not Come up. Judge they are Prevented by the Ice We have different Reports that the British Ships are in the Bay above the mouth Potomack Shold that be the Case Am Affraid the Galley² has not got down I am Disappointed in getting a hand from Alexandria that I had great dependance on & none of those that Cap^t Cooke³ Sent away Ever Came we Shall want two good Seaman more if they Can be got its likely Cap^t Ross or Cap^t Rogers⁴ may meet with Some Shold they be Disird to look out, Shold the polit Come up Shall push down Immediately unless orderd to the Contrary by next post I am [&c.]

Ignas Fenwick

MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Black Books), S 987, 4633-142. Addressed: "His Excell^y/Tho^s Johnson Esq^r/Annapolis." Docketed: "Cap^t Ig^s Fenwick."

1. Maryland State trading ship *Lydia*.
2. Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*, Capt. John David, commander. See Maryland Council to Captain John David, 27 Jan., above.
3. Capt. George Cooke, commanding Maryland Navy ship *Defence*.
4. Capt. John Rogers, commanding Maryland State trading schooner *General Smallwood*.

"A PAY ROLE OF MENS WAGES BELONGING TO THE *HENRY*. GALLEY—"[Williamsburg, 28 January 1778]¹(N^o. 1.)

From 28. Decem ^r to Janu ^r . 28.			
Robert Tompkins. Capt ⁿ .	31 D ^{ys} .		8/. 12 8 ..
Rations . . . for Ditto	31		3/. 4 13 ..
Joshua Singleton. 1 st Lieut.	31		6/. 9 6 ..
Rations Ditto	31		2/. 3 2 ..
Christopher Tompkins 2 ^d Lieut.	13		4/6. 2 18 6
Rations Ditto	13		2/. 1 6 ..
Francis Read 1 st Midshipman	31		3/. 4 13 ..
Rations Ditto	31		1/. 1 11 ..
Robert Dobson Midshipman	31		3/. 4 13 ..
Rations Ditto	31		1/. 1 11 ..
William Dunford. Master	31		5/. 7 15 ..
Rations Ditto	31		1/. 1 11 ..
Robert Hall Masters Mate	31	3 years }	3/. 4 13 ..
Rations . . . Ditto	31		1/. 1 11 ..
John Swope Surg ⁿ .	31		8/. 12 8 ..
Rations . . Ditto	31		1/. 1 11 ..
Ambrose Arnando Gun ^r	31		3/. 4 13 ..
Starkey Moss Carpenter	31		4/. 6 4 ..
John Warton Boatswain	31		4/. 6 4 ..
Peter Foster Carpent ^s . Mate	31	3 years }	3/. 4 13 ..
Edward Wollage Boats ^{ns} Mate	31		2/6. 3 17 6
Francis Horn Sailmaker	31		3/. 4 13 ..
Francis Brown Stuard	31		3/. 4 13 ..
William Lucas Clark	31		2/. 3 2 ..
Francis Moss Armorer	31		4/. 6 4 ..
James Willis Quarter Master	31		3/. 4 13 ..
Nucomb Dodd . . Ditto	31		2/6. 3 7 6
William Lucas Master Arms	31		2/6. 3 17 6
John Revell	31		2/. 3 2 ..
James Minter	31		2/. 3 2 ..
John Bander	31		2/. 3 2 ..
William Jarvis	31		2/. 3 2 ..
Dunford Moore	31		2/. 3 2 ..
Richard Saunders	31		2/. 3 2 ..
Philip Brumley	31		2/. 3 2 ..
William Pippen	31		2/. 3 2 ..
John Cleuverius	31		2/. 3 2 ..
John Wilson	31		2/. 3 2 ..
Edward Moore	31		2/. 3 2 ..
Turn Over—			£ 166. 4. ²
Amount Brought Forward			£ 166. 4 ..
James Peters	31 D ^{ys}		3/. 4 13 ..
Michael Donovan	31		3/. 4 13 ..

Spence Hall	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Henry Donohow	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Hugh Bingham	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Jerry Malone	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Michael Cuningham	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Patrick Welch	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Samuel Cavener	31	3/. 4 13 ..
James Williams	31	3/. 4 13 ..
John Clark	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Enoch Edwards	31	3/. 4 13 ..
John Prosser	31	3/. 4 13 ..
John Fitzhugh	31	3/. 4 13 ..
George Hall	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Ayers Darbey	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Custis Harman	31	3/. 4 13 ..
John White	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Charles Lucas	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Stephen Wilkeson	31	3/. 4 13 ..
James Lucas	31	3/. 4 13 ..
George Edwards	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Fredrick Byrd	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Williams Williams	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Banister Pippen	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Voss Foster	31	3/. 4 13 ..
Nicholas Scarborough	31	3/. 4 13 ..
<u>William Brumley</u>	31	<u>3/. 4 13 ..</u>

£ 296. 8 ..

Voss Foster Deserted Disall^d

4 13 ..

£ 291.15 ..

4 days additional Pay to the
Officers from 24th. to 28 Jan^y.

6 12—

298 7—

Robert Tompkins

[Enclosure]

Addition¹ Allowance 4 days pay from 24th to 28th Jan^y.³

to Captain	.. 12. —
1 st Lieut	.. 8. —
2 ^d . d ^o .	.. 14. —
Master	.. 12. —
Masters Mate	.. 8. —
2 Midshipmen	.. 16. —
Gunner	.. 12. —
Boatswain	.. 8. —
d ^o . Mate	.. 6. —
Carpenter	.. 8. —
D ^o . Mate	.. 4. —
Clerk & Steward	.. 8. —

Armourer	.. 4. —
Q ^r . Master	.. 2. —
Ditto	.. 4. —
Master at Arms	.. 6. —
	£ 6.12. —

D, Vi, Papers Concerning the State Navy, 1:346–48. Docketed: “a pay roll of the/*Henry Gally*.”

1. This pay roll is undated but must have been made out before 8 April 1778 when Lt. Joshua Singleton took temporary command.
2. The first page of the document ends here. The remaining entries are on the second page.
3. In the margin is written “(N^o. 2.)”

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *SOLEBAY*, CAPTAIN THOMAS SYMONDS

Jan^y. 1778
 Wednesday 28 D^o. [at Anchor off Cape Henry]
 at 7 AM saw a Schooner coming up the River¹ at 8 Weigh^d &
 kept turn^s towards her at 10 she ran aground, came too with
 B^t. B^r. hoisted the Boats out & sent them to her—
 D^o. [at Anchor off Cape Henry]
 Fresh Breezes & hazy at 2 PM the Boats Ret^d. having destroyed
 the Schooner Weigh'd and came to sail at 4 anch^d. with B^t. B^r.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/909.

1. Hampton Roads.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *GALATEA*, CAPTAIN THOMAS JORDAN

Jan^y. 1778
 Wednesd 28 D^o. [Charles town] S 46^o.48 W 26 L^s.
 [AM] Saw a Sail in the NE Gave Chace ½ p^t 8 TK^d ½ p^t 10
 fired a Shot & Bro^t. too the Brigg *Katy* from Edenton N^o.
 Carolina bound to Charles town S^o Carolina Laden with
 Tobacco & Staves William Bunker Master¹ S^d: 36 f^m Water
 D^o. S 48^o W 8 L^s.
 D^o W^r: [Mod^{te}. and fair] [PM] ½ p^t. 5 wore Ship

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/4197.

1. Brig *Katy*, William Bunker, master, 25 tons burthen, a crew of eight seamen, owned by William Hartshorn of Edenton, N.C., taken in lat. 33^o 00', long. 78^o 26', sent to St. Augustine. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *CARYSFORT*, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE

January 1778.
 Wednesday. 28th D^o. [Charles Town] Lighthouse N 78^o W^t. 19 miles
 at 5 AM Departed this Life Nich^s Inch Seaman At 7 the *Lizard*
 made a Signal for Seeing a Sail D^o made Sail & gave Chace to
 y^e NW *Lizard* in Company. At 10 Saw a Sail to the E^ward D^o
 hauld the Wind & gave Chace to her D^o Spoke the Chace
 found her a french Sloop from Misissippi for Charles Town
 D^o sent the Cutter on board her.¹
 D^o. Lighthouse N 75^o W^t. 13 Leagues

First & Middle part Mod^t & Cloudy Latter Fresh breezes & Hazy—At 2 PM Dble Reefd Topsails—at 8 the Prize Sloop in Company.—

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/168, part 8, fol. 360.

1. French sloop *Notre Dame des Charmes*, Pierre La Suss, master, a crew of twelve seamen, owned by Bourga of New Orleans, with rum, sugar, brandy and clothing, sent to St. Augustine, capture credited to *Carysfort* and *Lizard*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 238–39.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *BADGER*, LIEUTENANT MICHAEL J. EVERITT

January 1778

Wednesday 28th

D^o. [Turks Island] N^o 80^o.. 00' W^t dist: 14 Leagues.—

[at] 6 A.M. Saw a Sail in the NE Quart^r made sail and Gave Chace, [at] 9 Mod^t Breezes & Clear Weath^r Spoke the Chace which proved to be a Schooner from Cape Francois Bound to Virginia sent an Officer & Boat and took Possession of her.—¹

D^o [Turks Island] S^o 83^o.. 00' W^t dist: 8 Leagues.—

P.M. Mod^t Breezes & Cloudy Weath^r. People employ'd Making Points and Gaskets, [at] ½ past 4 Saw 2 Sail in y^c SW Quart^r made Sail and Gave Chace. Fresh Breezes & Cloudy Weath^r [at] 8 Lost Sight of y^c Chace Shorten'd Sail, In Reefs Topsails. Wore Ship D^o Weath^r.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/78, part 2.

1. Schooner *Liberty*, master unknown, with salt. Gayton's Prize List, 26 Feb. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240.

January 29

NEWS FROM BOSTON

BOSTON, January 29, 1778.

The Treatment of Lieutenant Thaxter¹ and Lieutenant Hopkins,² and others, while in captivity.

The 5th of June, 1777, being on board the letter of marque brig *Lucy*,³ of 12 guns, (a prize to the United States, and within 15 leagues of Nantucket) was that day taken by the *Amazon*, *Juno*, and *Orpheus* frigates: the first Lieutenant of the *Amazon*, coming on board the brig, ordered every one of us on board the cutter, and were transported on board the *Amazon* frigate:—At our arrival there, we were treated with many insults, our chests searched, and deprived of every manuscript, (however so trifling) and also our commissions were taken from us:—We were afterwards sent on board the *Juno*, and there lodged and messed in the bay, amongst the foremast hands, where we were obliged to suffer the insults of such people, as a man of war's crew consist of, (though we must say, the treatment from the foremast hands, was much better than what we received from the officers of that ship, as they took every opportunity of making use of insulting language, which was by us unnoticed.) We were kept on half allowance, which consisted of

burgoo, peas, pork, tainted beef, and some bread:—We must give credit to sundry of the foremast hands, who would often-times, send us a small part of their allowance, by which we made out to exist. We were denied speaking to any prisoner on board, even to the foremast hands, that were taken with us, and also forbid walking the quarter deck.

July 20. At 3 o'clock, P.M. there was an order for all the prisoners in the fleet, to go on board the *Amazon*. we were immediately, with the rest of the prisoners, put on board the cutter, and transported to the *Amazon*; and according to their usual custom, were huddled under the half deck, without the least distinction to rank or Station—and there messed and lodged all together, (being 25 in number) until we arrived at Halifax. [There were sundry officers of States vessels, who shared the same fate with us.] At our leaving the *Juno*, was deprived of a quadrant, and other mathematical instruments.

July 22. arrived at Halifax, July 23d. at 10 o'clock, A.M. we were sent on shore; at our landing, were delivered in custody of the main guard, who were ready for our reception, and were huddled through the town to goal, with treatment, similar to that which we received, while on board the frigates.

July 28. Thirteen of us, (the Continental officers) were sent to the barracks, and there confined to one room, 14 feet square, with 2 centinals in the room. . . .

The Letter of Marque Ship,⁴ (mentioned in our last, to have been taken by the *Portsmouth*⁵) is safe arrived in Port.

Independent Chronicle (Boston), 12 Feb. 1778.

1. Lt. Adam W. Thaxter, Continental Navy.
2. Lt. Esek Hopkins, Jr., Continental Navy.
3. Brig *Lucy*, Nathaniel Watson, master, prize of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*. See NDAR 9: 22, 22n, 109, 109n.
4. British letter of marque ship *New Duckinfield* (20 guns), W. Foster, commander.
5. New Hampshire privateer ship *Portsmouth*, John Hart, commander.

THE CONTINENTAL JOURNAL, AND WEEKLY ADVERTISER (BOSTON),
THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1778

BOSTON, January 29, 1778.

We hear from Marblehead that on Saturday last a Transport Ship,¹ bound from Halifax for New-York, arrived there with about 280 Continental Prisoners. She sailed from Halifax about 10 Days ago, under Convoy, and parted with the Convoy in a severe Gale a few Days after she sailed; and on the Prisoners' discovering they were separated they rose on the Crew, which consisted of 15 Hands, and carried her into Marblehead as above. Some of the Prisoners came to Town on Sunday last, and inform, they lost Twelve on the Passage, besides Two who accidentally fell overboard.

We also hear, That a Flag² returned into Cape-Ann from Halifax on Friday last, with upwards of 100 more, some of whom had been Prisoners above a Year.

1. Cartel ship *Royal Bounty*, Thomas Compton, master. *Royal Bounty* sailed from Halifax on 12 Jan. with several vessels under convoy of H.M. brig *Cabot* bound for Newport. *The Quebec Gazette, or La Gazette de Quebec*, 23 Apr. 1778.

2. Cartel brig *Favorite*, which arrived at Halifax on 10 Jan. Ibid. See *Independent Chronicle*, 5 Feb., below.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY

[Extract]

At a meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety holden at Hartford in and for the State of Connecticut on the 29th day of January, A.D. 1778.

... *Voted*, That an order be drawn on the Committee of Pay-Table to draw an order on the Treasurer for the sum of £250, in favour of Capt. John Cotton,¹ to be improved for procuring spars for the use of this State, to be in account.

Ord^r del^d Jan^y 29th. 1778.

Hoadly, ed., *Public Records of the State of Connecticut*, 1: 517-18.

1. Capt. John Cotton was supervising the building of the Continental Navy frigate *Bourbon* at Middletown, Conn.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEAMEN FOR CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER SLOOP *AMERICAN REVENUE*

—This is the PRIVATEER.—

To all Gentlemen Volunteers, who are desirous of making their FORTUNES.

An Opportunity is now presented them (if they apply speedily) on Board the Sloop *AMERICAN REVENUE*, one of the fastest sailing Vessels on the Continent; fitted in the best Manner for a four Month's Cruise, and will sail immediately, SAMUEL CHAMPLIN, Commander; who may be seen at the House of John Owen, or on Board the Privateer in the Harbour of New-London.—None need apply but good clever Fellows.

New-London, Jan. 29, 1778.

Connecticut Gazette; and the Universal Intelligencer, 30 Jan. 1778.

THE ROYAL AMERICAN GAZETTE (NEW YORK), THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1778

NEW-YORK, January 29.

Since the 6th inst. The rebels have taken the following vessels, near Chester, in the river Delaware; the transport brigs *John* and *Lord Howe*, the schooners *Hope* and *Industry*, that lately sailed from this port. They were forced on shore by large bodies of ice.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[Extract]

The Council met

Lancaster, Thursday, January 29, 1778.

Present. His Excell^y: Tho^s. Wharton, jun^r. Esq^e. President.

_____ Hon^{ble}. George Bryan, Esq^e. Vice President. _____

Joseph Hart, Jacob Morgan, John Hambright, Thomas Urie, Esq^{res}. Jacob Arndt,

_____ Thomas Scott _____ & _____ James Edgar, Esq^{res}.

An Order was drawn on the Treasurer, in favor of Mr. Joseph Bradford, for the Sum of One thousand & five hundred Pounds, to be charged to Will^m. Crispin, Esq^e. Commissary of Provisions for the Navy, & to be delivered to him by Mr. Bradford—An Order was also drawn on the Treasurer, in favor of Will^m. Crispin, Esq^e. for the

further Sum of One Thousand & five hundred Pounds, to be charged to his account—The Council taking into consideration, the extravagant price of Spirituous Liquors & the extreme difficulty, if not impossibility of procuring a supply for our Navy, Ordered, That the Men of the Navy, be allowed One Shilling each Man p Diem, in lieu of their Rations of Rum, until the General Assembly shall otherwise order herein—An Order was drawn on the Treasurer in favor of John Tyler, Armourer, for the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, to be charged to his account. . . .

D, PHarH, RG 27, Minute Books of the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council, vol. 6, p. 201.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Thursday, January 29, 1778

A letter, of the 19th, from F. Hopkinson,¹ one of the commissioners of the Navy Board, concerning the conduct of Captain Barry,² was read: Whereupon,

It was moved, that it be

Resolved, That Captain Barry be not employed on the expedition assigned to his conduct by the Marine Committee, till further orders of Congress.

It was previously moved to add after the word “conduct,” *by the approbation of Congress*, and the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

The question was then put on the motion as amended, and the house being equally divided, it passed in the negative.

JCC 10: 99.

1. Francis Hopkinson; letter not found.

2. Capt. John Barry.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT

The Commissioners of the Navy Board at Bordenton

Gentlemen

[York, Pa.] January 29th 1778

We have directed Captain Barry to employ the Pinnace and Barges belonging to the Frigates¹ and the Barge taken by Captain Josiah² in annoying the enemies Vessels in their Passage up and down the Delaware and to employ such a number of Continental Navy officers now out of service, and collect such a number of men as he may think necessary to officer and man the Fleet of Boats under his command.

We desire that you would deliver to him such war-like Provisions and other necessarys as he may think necessary for equipping and victualling the said Boats.

As it appears to us that in this way we may greatly annoy the enemy and collect considerable quantities of Provisions and other necessarys for the use of the Army and the Country, and as every thing depends upon dispatch we earnestly request that you will give him all the assistance in your [*power*] in equipping and moving the Boats across the land and in every other thing that respects the execution of this business. As Captain Barrys station cannot from the nature of the business be fixed and he may occasionally by his distance and situation down the River want supplies, we would have you furnish him with such sums of Money as he may want during his Cruize—You will have the Barge taken by Captain Josiah valued before fitted to make her Continental property—We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 126 (M332, roll 6).

1. Continental Navy frigates *Washington* and *Effingham*.
2. Capt. James Josiah, Continental Navy.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY

Captain John Barry

Sir

[*York, Pa.*] January 29th 1778

We having agreed to employ the Pinnace and Barges belonging to the Frigates¹ and the Barge taken up by Captain Josiah² in the River Delaware on a Cruize in Said River under your command We hereby empower you to receive such war-like Stores, Provisions & other Stores from the Navy Board, and to employ such Continental Navy officers not in actual service and to collect such a number of Men as you shall think necessary for officering manning victualling and equipping said Boats. As you will have frequent occasion to land on each side of the Delaware during your Cruize you will take effectual care to restrain your officers & men from plundering, insulting or in any way treating ill the Inhabitants of the Country. Humanity good Policy and your reputation demand that they Should be treated with kindness—you may want supplies from them and their assistance in moving to a place of safety such effects as you may capture. you will therefore attend particularly to this Instruction. We have directed the Navy Board to furnish you with every thing necessary for equipping your little fleet and with money to procure supplies for your Crews as occasion may require. You will take account of all goods of every kind which you may Capture and prevent their being pilfered. As it will be necessary that you should take with you or appoint on Shore some honest faithful persons who are well acquainted with the Country and will undertake to procure waggons for the speedy removal to a place of safety and take care of such goods as you may Capture—you will attend particularly to this necessary point and employ such persons. You will give immediate notice to General Washington of such stores as you may Capture which are necessary for the use of the Army. We would have you Sink or otherwise destroy the Hulls of all such Vessels as you may take which cannot be removed to some place of safety. The Vessels w^h you take and preserve and the goods which you Capture must be libelled in the Court of Admiralty in the State into which they are carried—you will therefore employ some suitable Attorney to libell for the same.

The Success of your Cruize depending upon your dispatch activity prudence and valour we hope you will exert the utmost of your abilities on this occasion. Write to us frequently and particularly of your proceedings. Wishing you success We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 125 (M332, roll 6).

1. Continental Navy frigates *Washington* and *Effingham*.
2. Capt. James Josiah, Continental Navy.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *CARYSFORT*, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE

January 1778.

D^o [Charles Town] Lighthouse N 75 W^t 13 Leagues

Thursday 29th

At 2 AM lost sight of the Prize At 4 Veer'd Ship At 8 Saw a Sail D^o made Sail and gave Chace at ½ past 9 fired 2 Guns & br^t too a Schooner from Port S^t tonie¹ for Charles Town in Ballast² D^o punished Henry Connelly with 2 Dozen lashes for Drunkenness At 11 Veer'd & Lay too. D^o made Sail—At Noon the *Lizard* Joined Company.

D^o Lighthouse S 86^o W^t 47 miles

Mod Breezes & fair Wea^r—At 6 PM made the Signal & Veerd to the NW.—At [*blank*] Tk^d to the SW—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/168, part 8, fols. 360–61.

1. Possibly Port San Antonio, near Cabo San Antonio, Cuba.

2. Unidentified schooner, formerly a prize of South Carolina privateer *Rutledge*, Capt. John Porter, 25 tons burthen, destroyed. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40. This schooner may be the unidentified schooner taken by *Rutledge's* tender, sloop *Pallas*, in Jan. See Deposition of Peter Norris, 18 Feb., and Petition and Claim of Captain John Porter, 20 Feb., below.

CAPTAIN JOHN PECK RATHBUN TO ANY CONTINENTAL AGENT

States Sloop of War The *Providence*

of[*f*] the Harbour of New
Providence Janu^r y^e 29th. 1778

S^r

The Bearer hereof Cap^t John Cockram in the Sloop *Trya*[*l*] a Prize Taken by the afforesaid *Providence* Whe have Thought Fitt by and With the Consent of Cap^t Officers and Sloop Crew To give Unto John Cockram & those assisten To Convey The Said Sloop and all and Every Part or Parts of our Shares that Shal Be Comming unto Us For and in Consideration of their Singular Courage and assi[s]tance During our Stay on the Island of Provid^{ce}. Nott Doubting but the Congress Will ass Readily give their Part I remain S^r yours

John Peck Rathbun

Given under my Hand
in behalf of My Self and
the Sloop Crew.

L, DNA, PCC, item 41, vol. 10, pp. 23–24. Addressed: "For one of/The Continental Agents/of the United States of/North America." Notation: "M^r John Cheney." Docketed: "Letter from Rathburn/to Continental Agent."

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MARTINECO DATED JAN. 29, 1778."

"We sail'd in the Privateer *Revenge*,¹ Captain Isaac Freeborn, from Marthas Vineyard Dec. 9[,] 1777. About ten Days after we fel in with a Privateer Schooner, gave her a couple of Shot, and she run. About 8 Days after, we fell in with and took the Slo[o]p *York*,² from Glasgow bound to Barbados, laden with dry Goods, some Provisions, &c. which was sent in to Martineco. About 4 Days after fell in with a large English Ship of 18 Guns, which was too much for us. We afterwards came across a Fleet of about 100 Sail to Windward of Barbados, but they being convoy'd by 5 Frigates, and it blowing a hard Gale, we could do nothing with them. We then bore away for Martineco, sprung our Mast, and carried away our Topmast, but luckily got in and found our Prize safe. We are now making a Brig of the Sloop, which will be call'd The *Saucy Revenge*."

Boston-Gazette, and Country Journal, 9 Mar. 1778.

1. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 60 men, owned by John Dean and Mungo Mackay, of Boston, was commissioned on 30 Apr. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 7, p. 50. For her return to New Bedford, see "Extract of a Letter from Bedford dated March 19," 19 Mar., below.

2. Snow *York*, John Adams, master, 120 tons burthen, built at Liverpool in 1769. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

January 30

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL

[*Boston*] Friday January 30th. 1778

Capt John Lambert's Roll of Brig *Massachusetts*¹ Crew for one months advance Wages amounting to Two hundred thirty eight pounds seven shillings & four pence—Read & Allowed & Ordered that Warrants be drawn on the Treasury in full discharge of each of the above Rolls—Warrants drawn accordingly—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 22 (Council Records, January–October 1778), 47.

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 30th 1778

Order'd, That Ebenezer Fosters Bill for Sundry[s] for Brig^t *Penet*¹ £1.. 4.— be paid—

Also, That he be paid for Sundrys for *Lincoln Galley* £4.. 4.—⁹

Order'd, That Mess^{rs}. Bowdoin & Reed for Flaxseed for B^{rs} *Nantes*² & Casks for d^o. as p^r Account be p'd . . . £349..11.—³

Order'd, That M^r. Ivers⁴ pay Col^o. Glover⁵ Cap^t James's⁶ Bill of Disbursements for Ship *Union*⁷ £32..12.. 6—

Order'd, That John Chesman's Account for repairing Fire Arms for Brig^t *Massachusetts*⁸ . . . £23..15.— be paid—

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins⁹ deliver Doct^r. Fudger¹⁰ for the Benefit of the Sick on board Brig^t *Massachusetts* 2 doz Bottles Port Wine.—

Order'd, That Jon^a. Glover Esq^r for Wharfage two Schooners (viz.) *Glover & Savage*, as p^r Bill, be paid £0..15 S../—

Order'd, That Gen^l. John Glover¹¹ in full for Schooner *Hannah*,¹² be paid £1600.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 189–91.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Penet*.

2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.

3. "paid Feb^y—" is inserted below in a different hand.

4. Thomas Ivers.

5. Col. Jonathan Glover.

6. Capt. Richard James.

7. Massachusetts State trading ship *Union*.

8. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.

9. Caleb Hopkins.

10. Dr. Harris Ellery Fudger.

11. Brig. Gen. John Glover, Continental Army.

12. Massachusetts State trading schooner *Hannah*.

CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE TO ROBERT MORRIS

Sir

York [*Pa.*] January 30th. 1778

We have received your favours of the 19th, 22nd, 23rd & 24th¹ instant and returning thanks for the Contents we shall reply to them in course.

In answer to yours of the 19th. we received the Letters Sent down to you for your opinion, and think with you that M^r. Steward² is a very honest Active man, we have wrote him to have the Brigantine chartered by M^r Lux³ Surveyed, and should she be deemed insufficient to perform the voyage, of course the Charter party will be void—we have taken Steps which we hope will prove effectual for procuring materials for the new Brigantine at Baltimore,⁴ and as Cap^t. Thomas Read has taken the command and undertaken the fitting of her out, we expect she will soon be got ready for the Sea. in due Time we shall order M^r Steward to Load her with Tobacco.

We Shall be glad to receive the Account of the Tobacco on hand in Maryland & Virginia

As you concur in Opinion with us that the Building of Small fast Sailing Vessels for Commercial purposes would be an eligible plan, we wish to have your sentiments, as to the Burthen, Construction Rigging &c of those Vessels, keeping in mind that the principal design is to ship with some degree of safety Tobacco from Cheseapeak Bay. We think they might be built at the Continental Ship yards out of the small Timber that will be left from Ships of war.

Before receipt of yours of the 22nd, M^r Lux had advised the arrival of Cap^t Buffington and his having taken measures for bringing the Goods up to Baltimore—M^r Lewis⁵ being now there he will give directions to have them sent forward. We have given the Board of War an Account of Captain Lambs Cargo, and we think it would be proper in future to furnish that Board with Lists of all articles that may arrive, suitable for the army, and they to communicate the same to the Officers of the different Departments.

We approve of your Selling the Eight casks Indico taken out of the Brigantine *Andrea Doria* and brought up to Lancaster if you think it best so to do.

To yours of the 23^d. we shall only say that we shall do justice in everything respecting M^r Sargentons Brigantine.

We come to reply to yours of the 24th. we agree that it is of much Importance to furnish M^r. John Ross with the means of repaying the Money the Commissioners at Paris have advanced, as well as for his own advances and for that purpose we fully approve of your altering the Bills of Loading of Some of the Cargoes of Tobacco now on board Vessels in Maryland and Virginia (formerly consigned to M^r Thomas Morris) and taking new Bills of Loading Consigned to M^r Ross or his order to be disposed of by him and the proceeds applied to the purposes afo^r—this we authorize you to do, and as M^r Ross has transacted his business in A Satisfactory manner, you will please to write and Sign a Suitable Letter to him (which we will also Sign) directing him to dispose of those Cargoes &c and should any balance remain in his hands to invest the Same in Goods suitable for the army, and Ship them for the Continent, observing to him also that the Vessels which carry the Tobacco and are chartered to return to the States should bring back salt.

By Express yesterday we had Account of the arrival at Edenton in North Carolina of Two Vessels with 129 Bales of Cloth, Blankets Hose Shoes &c shipped by Mons^r. Currabasse⁶ at Cape Francois; and Captain Morrison from Martinico

touched at Edenton and landed 9 Bales of goods Shipped by M^r. Bingham. The Brigantine *Success* which we ordered round from Boston is also arrived at that port. We can see no better way than to order the purchase of Cargoes of Tobacco for those Vessels even at the high price it now bears, as waiting on that to be transported from Virginia would occasion great delay. We are [&c.]

William Ellery
James Forbes

P.S. Inclosed are the Coppies of A Letter from General Hand⁷ of an Estimate of Provisions of Col^o. Morgan⁸ and of A Letter from M^r Willing.⁹ The originals have been laid before Congress who were Startled at the Expenche, which is like to arise on this Voyage or expedition and have postponed the Consideration thereof. As we were not in Congress when the Adventure was undertaken and know nothing about it excepting what appears by the Letters to the Governor of New Orleans & Louisiana,¹⁰ to our Agent¹¹ there and the Instructions given to M^r Willing and are no Judges respecting Col^o Morgans estimate of the Provisions we should be glad to have your Sentiments on this matter as soon as possible.

We hope you will be able to compleat the Books of the Secret Committee in a Short Time so that they and the papers may be laid before Congress, and a Commercial Committee appointed upon the Plan proposed by you or one Similar to it, for we are fully convinced from the little we have seen that such A plan is necessary and that we are unequal to the Important business Committed to our charge.

William Ellery
James Forbes

L, PYHi. Addressed at the foot: "The Honorable/Robert Morris Esq^r"

1. Not found.
2. Stephen Steward, shipbuilder at West River, Md.
3. William Lux, merchant at Baltimore.
4. Continental Navy packet *Baltimore*.
5. Francis Lewis, member of the Continental Marine Committee.
6. Monsieur Carabasse, Continental Commercial Agent at Cape François.
7. See Brigadier General Edward Hand to Continental Commerce Committee, 17 Jan., above.
8. See Colonel George Morgan to Captain James Willing, Jan., above.
9. See Captain James Willing to Brigadier General Edward Hand, 7 Jan., above.
10. Bernardo de Gálvez.
11. Oliver Pollock.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN IGNATIUS FENWICK

Sir.

[Annapolis] In Council Jan^y. 30th. 1778.

Yours of the 18th. is just come to Hand. The Galley¹ left this some Days past to meet your Vessel,² according to appointment, with the Stores required. We would have you proceed to meet the Galley. We shall be under Difficulties in sending hands from hence & hope you will be able to procure them. We shall, in a few Days, send to you at Smith's Creek where, we hope you will be. We are &c^a.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777-1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "Cap^t. Ignatius Fenwick."

1. Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*, Capt. John David, commander.
2. Maryland Navy trading ship *Lydia*.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

January 1778

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia

Friday 30th.

Moderate & Cloudy [AM] Sent the Boats on b^d. y^c. Victualer for Provisions & employ^d. Carry^s. Staves Hoops & Casks on board the *Jane* Victualer

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia

Light Airs [PM] the *Otter* & Arm'd Schooner¹ went in Chace of a Ship that hoisted French Colours² At 8 PM came to anchor the *Otter* and Prize

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. *Dasher*

2. Ship *Fortune*, Joseph Mass (or Masse), master, owned by Joseph Mass, a crew of 14 seaman, from Guadeloupe to Nantes, with rum and sugar, taken in Chesapeake Bay, sent to New York City as a prize of *St. Albans* and *Otter*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240-41. *Fortune* was libelled on 12 Mar. by Capt. Richard Onslow in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and was declared a recapture on 10 Apr. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 33, 72-73. Her cargo was condemned as a lawful prize of *St. Albans*, and she was ordered to be appraised, with *St. Albans* receiving 1/8 of her value. *Fortune* had been taken in the West Indies by a French privateer fitted out at Martinique with a false Continental Congress commission and a crew of Frenchmen, and had been carried into Guadeloupe and sold. On 15 Apr. she was appraised at £1,092, and the Vice Admiralty Court ordered her sold. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/333/7.

LIEUTENANT DE VAISSEAU MARQUIS DE VERDUN DE LA CRENNE

TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

a Bord de la *Renommée*, en croisiere sur le mole s^t nicolas
le 30 janvier 1778

Monseigneur

depuis le 10 de ce mois que je suis a ma croisiere, sur le mole s^t nicolas, j'ai chasé et joint le 25, a trois lieuës au nordouest de la pointe occidentale de la tortuë une petite goëlette anglaise, n'ayant que 10 pierriers et 17 hommes d'equipage, nommée le mosquito commandé par le second pilote de la fregate le winchelsea nommé james seton qui ma fait voir son ordre du capitaine Bateman¹ commandant le winchelsea par le quel il lui est enjoint de chercher le bateau le palisser dans le debouquement entre mogane et les cayques pour le faire révenir a La jamaïque et d'être de retour a port royal de la jamaïque le 15 fevrier au plus tard; il ma egallement montré la lettre adressée a cet effet au lieutenant rye² commandant actuellement le bateau le palisser,³ qui est la mouche ou la decouverte de la fregate le winchelsea

j'ai enjoint a cette goëlette de s'éloigner de la côte, et que si je l'y rencontrais une seconde fois je la conduirois dans l'un des ports de Cette colonie, et comme dans sa commission il lui est seulement ordonné de se deffendre ni tout son pouvoir, en cas qu'elle soit attaqué par quelque pirate, ou batiment rebelle. je lui ai dit en consequence que si elle savoit de fouiller quelque batiment francais, je la traitois comme pirate

j'ai appris par cette goëlette que la fregate le winchelsea devoit escorter, de la jamaïque au angleterre; un convoi qui doit mettre a la voile le 10 de mars prochain, et quil croyoit que ce convoi n'auroit pas dautre escorte

j'ai encor appris que le 20 de ce mois il a du partir de la jamaïque un convoi pour l'angleterre sous l'escorte de la corvette le linx et du lord amherst batiment marchand armé en guerre pour le compte du roi

Le 26 de ce mois a la pointe du jour, etant a 2 lieuës au nord de la pointe occidentale de la tortuë je rencontraï un bateau, a qui je donnaï chasse vent arriere, courant a l'ouest j'apperçus peu apres un batiment a trois mats par mon bossoir de bas bord a environ deux lieuës et demie de distance qui parvissoit prolong la terre en courant comme le bateau, il mît un pavillon anglais au bout de sa vergue d'artimon et tira un coup de canon a poudre; je vis bien que ce signal etoit pour ordonner a sa mouche a qui je donnois chasse de se raliër; je mis alors mon pavillon et ma flamme que j'assurai d'un coup de canon a poudre, et je fis porter sur cette fregate qui etoit a moins de deux lieuës de la côte; elle mît par apres pavillon et flamme anglaise; qu'elle n'assura pas et manœuvra de maniere a se rapprocher peu a peu de son bateau, en prenant chasse toutes voilles dehors; a midi elle fit signal a son bateau de venir lui parler, et mît en panne pour cet effet environ un demi quart d'heure ensuite de quoi elle reprît chasse vent largue courant a l'ouest nord ouest toutes voilles dehors et son bateau prît chasse vent arriere courant au sud ouest

depuis le matin jusqu'a ce moment j'avois approché la fregate anglaise d'environ une lieuë quand j'ai apperçu deux batiments dans l'ouest comme je ne pouvois pas distinguer ou ils faisoient route, et que je craignois qu'en chassant la fregate ces batiments ne fussent visités par le bateau, ou quen donnant chasse au bateau, ils ne le fussent par la fregate, j'ai pris le parti de diriger ma route sur ces batiments jusqu'a ce que j'ai distingué qu'ils couroient a peu pres comme la fregate, et alors j'ai continué de lui donner chasse et je ne l'ai abandonnée que lors que la nuit close me l'a fait perdre de vuë etant alors a quatre lieuës au nordouest de l'île de cuba j'ignore quel est le nom de cette fregate qui n'est que de 18 a 20 canons et qui m'a paru tres bien marcher, je n'ai pas pu l'approche plus près qu'une lieuë de distance

au coucher du soleil les deux batiments que j'avois vu dans l'ouest se trouvoient a environ trois lieuës de distance de moi, l'un d'eux avoit un pavillon au haut de son grand peroquet dont je n'ai pas pu distinguer la couleur, mais pour en imposer davantage a la frégate anglaise j'ai mis un pavillon blanc au petit peroquet et j'ai tiré un coup de canon a poudre pour quelle imaginât que je répondois au signal de ce batiment

j'ai encor rencontré dans cette derniere croisiere deux petites goëlettes qui ont été prises sur les insurgents par des batiments marchands anglais ayant des commissions en guerre, pres des îles bermudes, et qui faisoient route pour se rendre a la jamaïque, l'une delles manquoit d'eau douce, je lui en ai donné une quantité suffisante pour se rendre a la jamaïque

il raigne depuis dun mois des vents de nord et de nordest tres violents dans ces parages qui ont dechiré presque toutes mes voilles les unes apres les autres; un batiment marchand francais nommé l'*esperance* parti du port de paix avec huit jours de vivres et d'eau pour se rendre au cap se trouvoit au bout de dix jours porté par le vent et les courantes sous le vent du mole s' nicolas ou la force du vent ne lui permettoit pas d'entrer je lui ni donné leau et les vivres dont il avoit besoin

j'ai aussi donné du secours a un bateau chargé de planches pour le roi, parti du port au prince pour se rendre au mole, ou il ne pouvoir entrer depuis plusieurs jours vu la force du vent, il avoit cassé son beaupré dechiré ses voilles et faisoit beaucoup deau, je l'ai fait mettre en etat de gagner le mole, ou je l'ai même fait conduire par le petit canot de ma fregate et huit hommes de mon equipage

j'ai maintenant fort peu de malades et mon equipage est en assez bon état
 j'ai l'honneur d'être avec respect Monseigneur [&c.]

Verdun de la Crenne—

[Translation]

on Board the *Renommée* on a cruise off the Môle Saint-Nicolas
 the 30th January 1778

My Lord

Since the 10th of this month I have been on a cruise off of Môle Saint-Nicolas. On the 25th I chased and came up with a small English schooner having only 10 swivel guns and a crew of 17 men three leagues to the northwest of the western point of the island of Tortue. She was named the *Mosquito*, commanded by the 2nd mate of the frigate *Winchelsea*, James Seton, who showed me his orders from Captain Bateman,¹ commanding the *Winchelsea*, directing him to search for the vessel *Palisser* in the passage between Mayaguana and the Caicos Islands, in order to have him return to Jamaica and be back at Port Royal, Jamaica, by the 15th February at the latest. He also let me see the letter on this subject addressed to Lieutenant Rye,² commanding the *Palisser*,³ which is the tender or scout boat for the *Winchelsea*.

I ordered this schooner to keep away from the coast, and that if I met her a second time, I would take her to one of the ports in this colony, and since his commission merely states that he is to defend himself with all his might in case of attack by any pirate or Rebel ship. I told him, therefore, that if he had in mind searching any French ship, I would treat him as a pirate.

I learned from this schooner that the frigate *Winchelsea* is to escort, from Jamaica to England, a convoy which will set sail on the 10th March next and that he believed that it would have no other escort.

I also learned that on the 20th of this month a convoy was to have departed Jamaica for England under escort of the sloop *Lynx* and the *Lord Amherst*, an armed merchant ship in His Majesty's service.

On the 26th of this month at daybreak, being 2 leagues to the north of the western point of the island of Tortue, I met a vessel which I chased before the wind. Running to the west, I soon sighted a three-masted ship on my port bow at a distance of approximately two and a half leagues which appeared to sail along the shore running as the vessel did. She hoisted an English ensign at the end of her mizzen yard and fired a blank cannon shot. I well saw that this signal recalled her tender that I was chasing which was hugging the shore. I then hoisted my ensign and pennant, which I confirmed with a blank cannon shot, and I ordered to close this frigate which was less than two leagues from the coast. Shortly after she hoisted the English ensign and pennant which she did not confirm and maneuvered to approach her boat gradually while sheering off under full sail; at noon she made a signal to her boat to come speak with her and hove to for this purpose. About half of a quarter hour later she resumed sheering off with the wind on her quarter, running to the west-northwest under full sail, and her boat sheered off before the wind, running to the southwest.

From morning until this time I had approached the English frigate within about one league when I sighted two ships to the west. As I could not distinguish their course and fearing that by chasing the frigate these ships would be searched by the vessel, or in chasing the vessel they would be searched by the frigate, I decid-

ed to set my course for these ships until I made out that they were running nearly the same as the frigate, and then I continued chasing her, and I did not give up until night fall made me lose sight of her, being then four leagues to the northwest of the island of Cuba. I do not know the name of this frigate which had only 18 or 20 guns and which seemed a very fast sailer. I could not draw closer to her than about one league.

At sunset the two ships which I had seen to the west were approximately three leagues away; one of them hoisted an ensign at the maintop; I could not distinguish its color, but to overawe the English frigate I raised a white ensign at the foretop and fired a blank cannon shot so that she imagined I was answering her signal.

On this last cruise I also met two small schooners, which had been captured from the Americans by English merchantmen having commissions for war, near the Bermuda Islands, and which were on a course for Jamaica; one of them needed fresh water, so I gave her enough to make Jamaica.

For two months very violent winds from the north and northeast have prevailed in these latitudes which have torn almost all my sails, one after the other. A French merchant ship named the *Esperance* which departed from Port-de-Paix with eight days supply of provisions and water to sail to Cap Français, was at the end of ten days carried by the wind and currents to the leeward of Môle Saint-Nicolas where the strength of the wind prevented her entering. I gave her the water and provisions she needed.

I also aided a vessel loaded with planks for the King, which sailed from Port-au-Prince for the Môle, which she had not been able to enter for several days because of the force of the wind. It had shattered her bowsprit, had torn her sails and she was making much water. I had her put in condition to make the Môle, where I had her taken by a small boat from my frigate and eight men from my crew.

I now have very few sick and my crew is in rather good condition. I have the honor to be with respect Sir [&c.]

Verdun de la Crenne—

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fols. 205–6.

1. Capt. Nathaniel Bateman, R.N.
2. Acting Lt. Edward Rye, R.N.
3. See *NDAR* 10: 494, 790.

GOVERNOR PETER CLAUSEN TO GOVERNOR WILLIAM MATHEW BURT

Sir

By your Excellency's Letter of the 27th. of Decemb. last I find that a mere naked Information, which You say to have receiv'd of a Sloop mounting fourteen Guns actually fitted out at S^t. Thomas, has not only alarm'd You, but also induced Your Excellency on the Strenght of this Information, to call upon me in the Name of the King, Your Master, not only to stop and disarm the said Sloop fitted out from S^t. Thomas, but also to prevent any Vessel, piratically taken from the King your Masters Subjects being brought into and sold within my Government—

I must beg leave here upon to animadvert, that I am at a loss to find any Probability for your Excellency's believing such Informations; as I am confident that your Informer has no other Proof than hear Saying; and I am amazed that

Your Excellency will on the Slight Strenght of Your Informers Tale, accuse me of Disobedience of my Kings Laws and Ordinances, which I unavoidably must have committed if your Assertion had only the Shadow of truth—

I declare upon Honor, that there never was fitted out any armed Sloop or Kind of Vessel at S^t. Thomas; and I will have forfeited my Life, if ever any Vessel has been carried to Buck-Island belonging to His Danish Majesty opposite to the Harbor of S^t. Croix, there landed and sold her Cargo.

I call therefore upon Your Excellency in the Name of truth and honesty, to oblige your Informer to prove his Informations: and in failure thereof, to punish him, according to his committed Crime of falsehood: by which the Informers of every Grad[e] will be deterred from reporting false Stories—

Let me further beg of Your Excellency to establish an honest Agent here and an other at S^t. Thomas in whom You can have Confidence: and You will then not be importuned with false Reports, nor I troubled with their Vexations, which grieve me, as my Point, in them many Years I as Governor have served my King and Country, has constantly been Obedience to my Master and his Allies, joint with the Welfare of that Government which I have been intrusted with: and which now seems to be doubted with You by Virtue of your Informations.—¹

I am with due Regard Your Excellency's [&c.]

P. Clausen.

S^{te}. Croix

Januarii 30th. 1778

LB, DNA, RG 55, Government of the Virgin Islands, Box 1 (Copybooks, Letters sent by Governor Peter Clausen to Foreign West Indian Officials, 1774–84), pp. 35–36. Addressed at top of first page: "To His Excellency/Governor Burt &c^a. &c^a. &c^a. /Antigua."

1. In his first letter of 29 Dec., Clausen had urged Burt to send an agent to St. Croix and St. Thomas so as to dispel fictitious reports of American privateers operating in the Danish Virgin Islands. Governor Peter Clausen to Governor William Mathew Burt, 29 Dec. 1777. Ibid.

January 31

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT

[*Boston*] Saturday Jan^y. 31st. 1778

In the House of Representatives. On the Petition of the Honb^{le}. William Seaver¹ Esq^r.

Resolved, That the said William Seaver Esq^r. receive out of the Publick Treasury of this State Eight hundred forty One Pounds, Eight Shillings and four pence in full of his Account for building the Brigantine *Independence*² and furnishing her with Sundry Stores for two Cruizes.

In Council Read and Concurred.

Consented to by Fifteen of the Council.

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 38 (Massachusetts General Court Records, 1777–1778), 277.

1. William Sever.

2. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Independence*, built at Kingston in 1776.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Jan^y 31st 1778

Order'd, That George Minot's Bill for Wharfage of Brig^t *Nants*¹ am^o^b to £6.. 8/. be paid.—

Voted, That Jon^a. Glover Esq^r be desir'd to procure a Master & Crew for the Brig^t *Favorite*.—²

Order'd, That the Ballance of Ebenezer Foster's Account for Sundry Iron Work for Brig^t *Massachusetts*³ £25.. 9/. be p'd

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 192.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.

2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

3. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO CAPTAIN JOHN LAMBERT

War Office

Boston Jan^y 31st 1778

Sir

You being Commander of the arm'd Brig^a *Massachusetts*. Your orders are to proceed with the first fair wind on a Cruize from hence to the Coast of England Spain or Portugal,

In this Cruize you are to use your best exertions to Capture or destroy all Arm'd and other Vessells laden with British property

Should you meet with Fish or Lumber Vessells or Vessells from the Coast of Africa we advise your sending them to Martinico, consign'd to M^r Godfrey Hutchinson Merch^t and our Agent there. suitable Cargoes of Fish & Oyl you will send to Mess^{rs}. Gardoque & Sons Merch^{ts}. in Bilboa, Vessells with Mahogany Lignum Vita[*e*] & other dying Woods send either to Nantz or Bourdeaux if to Nantz consign them to Mess^{rs} Morris Pliarne Penet & Comp^y, if to Bourdeaux consign them to Mess^{rs} Raimbeaux & C^o.¹ our Correspondents in those Ports, all other prizes, that may be laden with provision, Cloathing Ammunition &c our orders are that you send them immediately to this or the nearest port on the Eastern Shore of this State, ordering all prize Masters to send immediate intelligence to this Board by Land and be careful with all Prizes to send the Papers by the Prize Master—

If on your Cruise you expend all your Men before you get on the Coast of Europe Then proceed back for this State. If not, Upon the European coast where you are at Liberty to touch at Nantes Burdeaux or Bilboa to Refitt if need be, Where you may apply to the Gentlemen before mention'd.—

If at Nantes, apply for what Goods you can bring home as P^r. Schedule if at Bourdeaux or Bilboa you should send in any prizes & should touch there then you are to desire the Gentlemen as above to advance as nigh the neet proceeds of the prizes as P^r. Schedule and, bring home with you, make all the dispatch you possibly can from any port you should put into, at the port you put in at If you take a Cargo in, on your homeward passage you are not to Cruize but make the best of your way home. if you should see any Sail and you judge you can take & Man her you may, but run no risk as you may have a Valuable Cargo on Board—

You will by all means send or bring in as many prisoners as you possibly can to the united States for the purpose of redeeming our suffering Seamen in the hands of the Enemy. Recommending to you the giving us all possible intelligence from Time [to] Time & we wish you a good Cruize & a safe Return.—& are Y^r Friends &c

By order the Board

Sam P^hs Savage Pres^t

War Office 31 January 1778.

The foregoing are Copy of my Orders which I promise to observe.

Jn^o: Lambert²

Mem^o. of Sundries to be Shipt on Board the Brig^a *Massachusetts* Captⁿ. Lambert
Viz^t.

50 Barrels Powder

1000 Blanketts 3 point

600 P^s. Linnen. $\frac{3}{4}$ fit for Soldiers Shirts

$\frac{1}{4}$ d^o. for Officers

cost 1/6 to 2/6 Sterl^g.

Lead to Ballast

2000 P^r. Soldiers Yarn Hose

2000 P^r. d^o. Shoes large & Strong if not large & strong
send none

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War), pp. 435–37. Addressed at top: “Captⁿ. John Lambert.”

1. The firm of Reculès de Basmarein & Raimbaux, merchants at Bordeaux.

2. Lambert, formerly first lieutenant of the brigantine *Massachusetts*, was promoted to captain in the Massachusetts Navy on 15 Nov. 1777. *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution*, 17 vols. (Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printer, 1896–1908), 9: 443.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO GOVERNOR PATRICK HENRY

[*War Office, Boston, January 31, 1778*]

“We take the earliest opportunity to Acquaint you of the Arrival of a Prize Sloop¹ taken by Capt. Robert Herbert² in your Privateer Brigantine *Liberty*,³ the Circumstances of which as given in by the Prize Master Mr. Seth Cobb,⁴ are as follows, On the 5th of November the Sloop near the Rock of Lisbon on her Passage from Malaga to London laden with Lemmons and Raisins was Captur’d[,] the prize Man’d, keeping on board two persons belonging to her, and the Prize Master order’d to proceed to North Carolina, after keeping Company Two days with the Brigantine, was by a Gale of wind Seperated and after attempting to get to her Design’d port was forc’d by a Series of Misfortunes into Mount Desert,⁵ one of the most Eastern Ports of this State from whence he proceeded & with Difficulty got into a Town to the Eastward Call’d York, part of which time for Want of Suitable Provisions the people were obliged to eat Raisins for the Support of Life, not a Man [on] board Except the Master and Mate fit for duty and the Sails almost blown to Pieces, he there protested, and taking a Pilot on Board left that Port, Design’d for Boston, but was forced into Squam a back Port on Cape Ann where he had the Additional Misfortune to get on a Bar, which oblig’d him partly to unload his Vessel from whence the Master came to Boston by Land and apply’d to the Members of this Board for advice and assistance.”

Samuel Phips Savage

President of the War Office in Boston

Robert Armistead Stewart, *The History of Virginia’s Navy of the Revolution* (Richmond, Va.: Mitchell & Hotchkiss Printers, 1933), 47–48. The original letter has not been found. It was probably addressed to Gov. Patrick Henry or the Council of State of Virginia.

1. Sloop *Portland*, T. Bayley, master, 100 tons burthen. *Lloyd’s Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

2. Capt. Thomas Herbert.

3. Virginia Navy brigantine *Liberty*.

4. See Captain John Carey to Captain John Lamb, 16 Jan., above.

5. Mount Desert Island, Me.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *UNICORN*, CAPTAIN JOHN FORD

January 1778
Saturday 31

Moor'd as before [*in Newport harbor*]
at 8 AM hove up and came to Sail, mod^e & hazey W^r:
Abreast the Lighthouse [*at Beaver Tail Point*]
PM fresh Breezes and thick hazey W^r: at 2 the West End of
Block Island NE dist: 2 Leagues, at 3 saw a Sloop to the SW,
gave Chace, fir'd several Guns with round and Grape at her, at
5 brought too the Chace, she proved to be a Sloop¹ from New
London bound to S^c: Cruz.² took the Crew on board Prisoners,
and put a petty Officer & 5 Men on board her to take Charge,
parted Comp^y: with the Prize and sent her to Newport,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1017.

1. Sloop *Polly*, Thomas Gyon, master, owned by Thomas Gyon & Co., from New London to St. Croix, with provisions and lumber, taken on 31 Jan. off Block Island, sent into Newport. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486. She was libelled on 25 Feb. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and condemned on 20 Mar. as a lawful prize of H.M.S. *Unicorn*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 38. Her master is given as Thomas Clark in her prize papers. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/424/12.

2. St. Croix.

ROBERT MORRIS TO JOHN BROWN

Dear Sir

Manheim [*Pa.*] Jan^y 31st. 1778

I rec'd your favour by Cap^t Barry with its enclosures for which I thank you & herewith send a packet for Mess^{rs} Hewes & Smith¹ which I beg you will forward by their express and inform me first Conveyance whether the Committee send them any Money. I shou'd also if agreeable to the Committee be glad to see H & S.s letter to them which shall be Returned again if you send it to me

Congress last Fall gave 100 Blank Commissions for Privateers or Letters of Marque to the Commercial Committee to be sent abroad to their agents I beg you will put six of them under a Cover to M^r John Ross to the care of Mess^{rs} Sam^l & J. H. Delap in Bourdeaux & put that letter under a Cover to Cap^t Patrick Barry & send it to him at Mess^{rs} Hewes & Smith by their express. M^r Ross will have opportunity to make use of these Commissions agreeable to the designs of Congress and I have promised him they shoud be sent, your compliance will oblige D^r Sir Your Obed^t hble Serv^t.

Rob^t Morris

L, PHi, Dreer Collection (Signers of the Declaration of Independence). Addressed: "To/M^r John Brown/at/York Town." Docketed: "Manheim Jan^y 31. 1778/Hnble Robert Morris Esq^r". John Brown was secretary of the Continental Marine Committee.

1. Joseph Hewes and Robert Smith, merchants at Edenton, N.C.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

January 1778
Saturday 31st.

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia
at 3 AM Came on board the Schooner¹ M^r: Athern fell from
on board the Schooner & was drown'd
Moored in Hampton Road Virginia
Moderate and hazy [*PM*] sent the Schooner and Pinnacle with
a Lieut^t in chace of a Sloop in the NE Q^r: at 5 returned y^c:
Arm'd Schooner & Pinnacle from chacing a Rebel Sloop after
setting fire to her.²

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. *Dasher*.

2. Not identified on Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 240-41. The schooner that appears in that list as having been captured by *St. Albans* on 31 Jan. was actually taken on 4 Feb. See Journal of H.M.S. *St. Albans*, Feb. 4, below.

JOURNAL OF MARINE CAPTAIN JOHN TREVETT

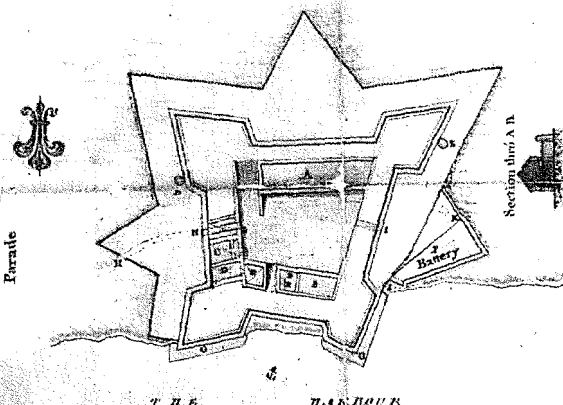
[*Sloop Providence, New Providence Is., Bahamas*
[1-31 January 1778]]

Now we are Agoing on a New Cruse¹ and a new Year Jan 1778 I have had A Long time to think of What I am A Going to undertake but I am Very well Satisfied that we Are in a Good Cause & we are fiting the Lords Battel and we are Getting under sail Runing Down from Georgetown the Next Day put to See Standing to the Southward the Next Day att Day Light Saw a Sail to the Eastward then Saw two More that Pruded to [*be*] British one Ship Brigg and Sloop tha [*t*] Gave Chase the Ship Ganed farst on us by 2 PM the Ship we Could Discover her Teair of Guns Night Come on And Dark we Haled Down All Sail & put our Lights out of Sight and in a Few hours we Could See her and She pased and When She Gott out of our Sight we Alterd our Corse and the Next Morning we Could See no Sail Att all now we had hove over a Board So Much of Our Wood and Started So Much Warter that we Concluded to Make All Sail for Abaco [*Island*] we had A Short Pasage to Abaco we Come to Anker and went to fixing A Scailing Lader in Tew Days Arfter [*26 Jan.*] we Stood over for New Providence we Sent Down our Top Mast and Top Sail Yard and Howsed our Guns and New providence in Sight [*27 Jan.*] we kept all our men out of Sight and About 12 Aclock att Night we Got a Brest of The Harbor and A Light are of Wind of [*f*] the Land I had now picked out my Lams better I Could never Wish All Smart but one was Lame he Says to Me I can not Run I Made him this Replia You are the Man I would Chuse we Sune Embarked on Board fifteen Men first as our Barge would Take no More and then twelve besides My Selve that Made 28 All; we Carred Nothing with us to Eat or Drink but filled our Pockets with Carteredges we Landed About A Mile from the Fort² we Got our Scailing Lader and All in order and I Recolected When I was with Comadore Hopkins I Recolected one of The Pickets was out and I thort itt would be faverabel I Left our Men and Went My self I found the Picket had never bene put in a New I went thru Near the Ambezears [*embrasures*] I heard talking in the fort Emeadety one of the Sentres Came to the Corner of the Fort and Hallowed All is well tha [*they*] Anserd att the Other End of the fort All is well The Ship³ Lay Near the foort all is well I Lay a few Minets as I Expected tha ware Walking Round I went back and we Came on with the Scailing Lader and Lay Down Near the fort untill tha Should Come Round Agan for I Expected Every Half [*h*]our tha would Cry out which we had bene but a Short Time before tha Came Round and Cry^d. All is well I Waited a Few Minets and then we Plased the Scailing Lader near one of the Ambazear & Went over Every Man followed I Gave Positive orders for No Man to fire a pistel as I new itt would A Larm the town As I was a Turning Round the Corner of the Barrucks I met one of the Sentres full Butt I Took Hold of His Coler and orderd him Rite into the first Barruck Door; he was much frighted and Said for God Sak What have I Dune the Next Man to Me fired a Pistel over My Sholders att the Man I had Hold of butt Did no Damege I Spoke a Sorft Werd and put Him into the Barruck and Examend him I found there was only one More Sentinel att the Other End of the foort I Sune put him in a Nother Barru[ck] And Examend them apart When I Gott into the fort I found Severel of the Eighteen

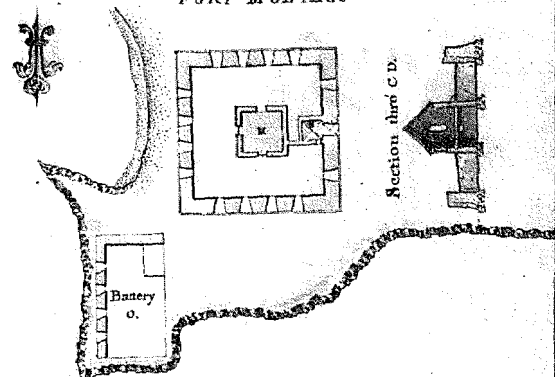
A Particular Plan of the **FORTS**
NASSAU and **MONTAGU**
 and the two Batterys on the **ISLAND** of
NEW PROVIDENCE Shewing, the
 Repairs lately made therein by *Joh. Montagu* Engineer
 by Order of the Hon^{ble} *Thomas Ogle* Esq. Lieut
 General and Commander in Chief of His
 Majesty's Forces in North America: &c.

Part of the Town of New Providence.

FORT NASSAU.



FORT MONTAGU



- REFERENCES TO**
Fort Nassau.
- A. Soldiers Barracks.
 - B. Kitchen, with six Officers Barracks overhead.
 - C. Powder Magazine.
 - D. Casemate.
 - E. Well.
 - F. The Water Battery, consisting of six Batteries, with casemate, the Entrance of the Harbour.
 - G. Stone Vestibule.
 - H. Principal Entrance.
 - I. Sally Port.
 - K. Orse.
 - L. Guard Tower.
- Fort Montagu.**
- M. Officers and Soldiers Barracks.
 - N. Powder Magazine.
 - O. Water Battery, Commanding the two Entrances into the Harbour and mounts A. B. Cannon.
- Remarks. The whole is of Masonry and Cemented with the Stone being only to show the repairs.

Joh. Montagu
 Engineer

Scale for Fort Montagu, 20 feet to an inch.

Scale for Fort Nassau, 40 feet to an inch.

Forts Nassau and Montagu, New Providence, Bahamas

pounders Loaded and Matches Litt by them I Examend the Men we toock in the foort and tha Each of them Told one Storry I found About three Tons of Pooder and Tha informed Me that Govener Gambear^t had Sent into the Fort Every Arterkel Nesesity About thre Weeks before we paid them these Visit; I Asked these priseners the Reasion of Only Tew Sentres tha informed Me If tha had only time to fire one or Tew of them Guns in Less then Ten Minets tha would have fife [*five*] Hundred Men in the forte we Emeadetly orderd one of the prisener to See What Cartreges ware filled Took A Lanton and Proseded to the Magazene of Pooder and finding Not So Many as I thort Nesesity Sett Tew Men a filling Carterg[*es*] now itt was Tew AClock in the Morning and we Kept up thare Custom Crieng out All is well Every Half our and the Jamaca Ship Anserd and a Nother Vesel up the Harber we Employed the Remainder of the Night in Placing Some of the Cannon on the Different Streets and on Ship Day Light now Appears we Sett our Thirteen Stripes A Flieng; and You Must Remember we ware Landed Without A Singel Bisket or any thing to Eatt or Dring that Gave Me Now Consern as we Had Tules to Work with in the fort The first Move I made was to Send a Flag not to the Govener or Commandig officer but I Sent itt to M^r James Gould A Merch^t and a Gentlemen formerly a Native of Newport Rhode island he Emeadely Came Down to the Fort I had the Scalen Leder Lanchéd out of one of the Ambezeairs he New Me Emeadely he Asked Me What our fleet Consisted of I made Yuse of Commadore Biddels fleet⁵ I informed him the Fleet was of[*f*] the Island Abbaco and I was Sent into See Some of My Old Frinds In a Tender and that we ware bound the North Side of Jamaca only Hearing Cap^t Henry Johnson was in Your haber & I Came to Waite on her and was Determend to take her of[*f*] and My orders from the Commadore was not to Molest or Disturb any Private Property onless war Like Stores; Then I informed My Frind Gould I had Tew Hundred Men and thirty officers and I had Plenty of Provison for the Men but I mus[*t*] have Breckfast Gott for My thirty Officers he Emeadely Said itt Should be Gott as Sune as Posab[*el*] he Emeadely Called on the Bakers and Stoped a Very Large Allowance of Bread & Down Came Butter Corfea and Every Arterkel we wanted and A Very Good Breck[*f*]as & Dubel Allownce Before our Breckfast Came; I sent M^r Mickel Molton⁶ fore Miles thru the Town to Take the Other Foort⁷ with Only Tew Men I Gave Perteckeler Orders and I new thare ware only 2 Sentres and to give them no Time to parle and to inform them that we had Posesion of Fort Nassau with Tew Hundred Men and thirty officers and Keep Posesion untill you herd from Me he succeded with out Any Diffculty The Next Afare or bizness was to Gett Posesion of the Ship She Mounted Sixteen Carrege Guns & was All most Redy for See She Lay withen Pistel Shot of the fort I Sent A Long Side A boat I Took from one of the Wharfs With fore Men and a Midship Man to Bring to the foort All the boarding pikes and Muskets Pistels &c the Cap^t Was Sick on Shore and the Second in Command Refused to Lett them Come on board I was All Redey to Settlet the Affair with them I Haled her with hard Langege & Some hard Names and tha Admitted them on board the Midship man Staid on Board & Sent thare Crew and Arms into the fort then Our Breckfast being Redy we Sett Down and Made A Very Harte Breckfast the Town in Grate Confusion and we Could See fife or 6 Legs att See and Could not See nothing of our Vesell Arfter Breckfast was Over M^r Gould Came Down and asked Me Wether we had had Sufficent I informed him we had I then Asked M^r Gould If thare was Any Turtel in the Crorls he Said thare was I Said I Should like A Turtel Cucked he Said itt Should be Done Accordingly the Lades Orderd thar Servents to Work and we had A Grand Turtel Diner that Day About 2 PM we Saw a Sail Standing for the Harber and a Nother Sail A Runing Down from Harber Island one was the Sloop

*Providence*⁸ and the Other was Cap^t Chambers⁹ in a Privateair of Sixteen Guns¹⁰ fitted out att Jamaca the Sloop *Providence* Gott Safe into the Harber About Tew Hours before Cap^t Chambers Gott Near the Barr I had informaiton of Cap^t Chambers being Looked for I informed Cap^t Rathbun [J] New [who] the Privater was we Concluded to Hall Down All our Cullers I Likewise Halled our flagg Down att the fort but the Devel was in the Men Wemen and Children for the Hills being Coverd Men a Waven Hatts wemen the Aprons and She Runnin in for the Bar and att Last tha Gott A boue out Side of the Harber and She Roing hard for her and Waving thare Hatts She bore A Way and Going out Side I Run our Flagg up and Gave her thre Eighteen Pound Shot one of the 18 pound Shot went into her Main Beame And never hert a Man She went Round the Island an Came in A Nother way and Came to Anker in Sight of us . . . I Fore Saw I Could Give M^r Molton Now Asistance att the other fort as itt was fore Miles from us I Sent a Mesage to him to Spike all the Guns & brake All the Ramers & Spunges and heve All the Powder in the Sea So as to Discomode them All he Could and Return Emeadety to our foort Which he Did Compleat; and Arived with All His forse A Littel before Dark his fors[e] was Tew Men and himself; You Must Remember before our Sloop Got to our Asistance All this was Dune And A Good Diner of Turtel Reserved for them and then our Sloops Crew ware Qualitey that Day for the[y] Dined att 7 Aclock in the Evening Arfter Dining I may Say Sup[p]er; Cap^t Rathbun had the Sloop Morred Abrest of the Town & Springs on her Cabel and likewise the Ship So that we ware All in good Order; Arfter M^r Molton had Distroed All the Amanition and Spiked the Guns att the Other fort Cap^t Cham[b]ars Came by that fort and Ankerd About Gun Shot from us and thare he Now lays Now itt 9 Aclock in the Evening and as for our parts we are Very Eazea but the inhabitens in Grate Consternaton Moving thare Effects out of the Town and the Culerd people Very Riatus Are I May Say Culerd people for tha are of All Cullers from Cole Black to White—So Ends this first 24 Hours—

[28 Jan.] This 24 Hours begans with Pleasent wether All Hands on board The Vesels bizea in Getting the Ship *Marry* formely Commed by Cap^t Henry Johnson Redey for Sea and Lixwise A Brigg¹¹ with A large Quantity of Indego and other Valuabel Goods on board This Brigg M^r Danel Beairs¹² o[u]r therd Lieu^t is to take the Command; The Town of New Providence in Grate Confusion Many of them Moving back thare Valuable Goods Grate Numers of All Cullers onder Arms Round the Goveners House & All the Hills Round is aLive with thare Guns &c Glisening itt Gives Me but A Very Littel uneziness for I Have now in the foort Twenty fife Men with My Self and All in Good Sperits as Many of them is Very U[r]gent for Me to fire on What tha Call Black Berds; but I think I Know What Ground I Stand on and If I Can do without I am Determend in My one Mind not to Shed Blude . . . this Morning Came withen Half a Pistel Shot of the fort Some of thare Culerd Trupes one of them Holloweng to Some Near att Hand Seing me on the Walls of the fort Says thare is that Dam Buckener Come Again that Carred Away Govener Brown¹³ I paid no Attention to no Such Small Affairs . . . Sune Affter the Colecter M^r Hunt and Tew Gentlemen Came Down Near the fort I Purseved tha would wich to Speak to Me I orderd our Scalling Lader Lanchd over the Wals of the fort and went out to Meait them I found that Govener Gambeair had Sent Down M^r Hunt Colecter of the Custum House and these Tew Gentlemen to Enquir of Me What our Intenshons Ware I informed him that Commadore Biddel had Gave orders to Cap^t Rathbun to take fort Nassau and All Armed Vesels and All Ameri[c]an Properte we Could find in the Harber of New providence and Likewise to hold Sacred All Privet Property Which I meain to Comply witt and the Govener May Rest Ashured that He may Give himself and his frinds My werd

an[d] oner as An American that His person & All the inhabitens I Shall Protect but that I under Stood that Cap^t Chambers' Agent had the Sailes and Some Small Regen in his Store near his House and I want them Sent Down under the fort—and Likewise I hear the Agent Commands a parte of these Men that are under Arms on the hiles . . . I wated About one Hour and herd Nothing more from the Govener. . . then I Informed M^r Mickel Molton that I would have the Scailing Lader Lanshed of[f] the Walls of the fort and Go up Amongst the Rabel as I have inform^d You thare was All Cullers and tha ware All in Sight of the fort and If he Saw any Confushon Amung them to not Mind Me but to give them Tew or thre Eighteen pounders as we had them Redy Loaded with Grave and Langrege Shot I Gave My self one hour to go to them we Lanced the Lader and I took My Hanger¹⁴ in My Hand as a Walking Starf and then Seet out I had Walked but a Few Steps before I came Across Collector Hunt he Asked Me Whare Bound I informed him he Says If itt is a Greabel to You I will go with You I anserd itt was Very Agreabel he says itt is All in Your Way to Stop Att the Agents Hou[se] first I informed him What orders I had Left att the fort and I had but a Short time to Spend he Anserd itt would take but a Few Minets Accordingly we Sune Went to the Agents House and the Lady Sune Made her Apperence and Semed not a very well Pleased I Asked her Whare her Husban was She Sune Informed Me he was on the Hills and had not bene att Home Since we had taken the fort M^r Hunt Asked Me to Sett Down and handed Me a Chair I Said I had no time to Sett the Lady Did not Seme to be Pleased I inform^d her I was Agong to See him and would or May Come home When he Pleased for I would Protect him and his Property M^r Hunt Says to her Whare is Your Bottels of Wine A Serv^t Sune Brought them She Did not take any M^r Hunt & My Self Took a Glass Each and then Proseded up the Heall I Sune Saw this Gentlemen I informed him What I came for he Redely Complied and Dezired M^r Hunt to Walk with Me and Dezire His Wife to Send All the Sailes & Regeing Down by her Servents which was Dune Now Every Arterkel that was Neseserry for the Tew American Scuners¹⁵ was Gott them I then Informed the Cap^t tha had but a Few hours to gett Redy as our Ship & Brigg would be Redey by the Next Night and tha most Luse no time and If tha Wanted any Arterkel that was to be had att New Providence My C^t was Good as Long as I had the Command of the fort . . . I should not have Made them that offer If itt had not bene for a Refege Vesel Lay thare from George [*Georgia*] with a Valuabel Cargo of Goods & Provishens and we had put A Man on Board to Take Charge of Her and the Man or Merch[ant] that oned her Asked Me that Day What Cap^t Rathbun was A Going to Do with Her I anserd him I Could not Say he then informed Me and Shew Me that the Onerabel Congress had Given Liberte to All that ware A Mind to Leve the united States that tha may Go I new All this; he Emeadely offerd me Any Servis that Lay in his Po[w]or att the Same time Inform^d Me he had Plenty of Provison If I wanted I Should be Wellcome I Gave for Anser we had Riche oners and we Wanted for Nothing we Did not Alltho we Kept A Man on board we Did not Entend bringing her of[f]—This 24 Hours Ends Pesabel—and Pesabel—

[29 Jan.] Now Day Light Appears and A Plesent Morning; Cap^t Rathbun Came Ashore and Came to the fort and Informs Me tha will be All Redey for Sea the next Morning and that we Should Want thre Pilots one for the Ship one for the Brigg and one for the Sloop and the Scuners would be in Redeness to follow the Ship as itt is a Bard Harber we concluded on one Way to Procure the Pilots and Expected itt would Make a Bone of Contenshon betwixt the Whig & Torre parte[s] that was I have About 25 Casks of Rice belonging to Cap^t Chambers & his Crew in the fort have them Turnd

out under our Muskets and have A Vandue I have a man in My Eye I will Gett to be thare and to Give Me a hint Hew the Pilots are; You have Your Barge Mand and Armd on the opersit Side from the Shore So as the Inhabitents Should not Discover Any of our Prosedings And I will have All but Tew Casks Rold out them I want to Give to the Tew Men that we have Prisoners in the fort as tha have famelys and are Poor; Cap^t Rathbun Agreed to All this; the Next thing was When I Had My Vandue itt was to be Early Next Morning and When I had Gott My Pilots Marked out I was to take My Hatt of[f] & Screch My head that was the Signel, the Next Morning Twenty three Casks ware Rold out before Sun Rise A Short Time After Sun Rise I had our Drumer with his Drum I orderd him to beat with Me as I was A Going to Market Squair Whare most of the Gentlemen Resorted and A grate Number Gott Round Me to heair What I had to Say I informd them I was well Convinsed of Bred [bread] Kind being Very Scase and I had A number of Casks of Rice Rold out from the fort that I would Sell them Very Cheap and If tha would not Purshhes them I would have them Started in the Sea & I Should have My Vandue att 8 Aclock I then Returned with my Drumer and Sent him into the fort itt was not Long before A number of Men and Boys Came Round I had thre Casks headed up and one head of Each Noked in then I Adresed My self to the Children to Run and Gett Some Baggs or Baskets and I would Give them What Rice tha wanted I told them to tell thare Mothers itt was Banyon Day¹⁶ and tha must have Rise Pudden and Butter; I Kept Laughing and Talking with them the Same as If tha had bene Pertickeler Acquainted thare was Boys & Black Girls Came Plenty of them tha Sune went of[f] with the thre Casks Rice; All this time My frind was a fixing on the Best Pilots I Sune Gott the Marks & Numbers of them I Gos up to one of them in Some Movement I Says What Price will itt best to fix I intend tha Shall go Sune and Vere Cheap I Pules of[f] My Hatt and began to Scrash as If I had Some Crepers thare I Luked a one Side now our Barge was Making for the Shore as Sune as She Struck the officer Steped out I Pecked out My thre Pilots and informed them and Gave them My Werd an[d] oner that as Sune as tha Carred the Vesels over the Bar I would have them Landed; one and All Declared tha ware not Pilots I order them Emeadelly in the Barge and Opened a Book of Hard Names upon one and All the Pilots tha Carred All over Safe I must Remind You the Arfternune before we Sailed I Dined with My Frind Gould I had not Sett Down att Tabel Long before one of the Lades A Loockeng out of the Winder Saw a Man Runing for thare House I Steped up and Mett him on the Peazer [piazza] He Inform^d. Me Cap^t Chamber[s] was A Landing His Men I Sent him Back to the Fort and Sune followed him I had Spys All Round I Come a thort one Sune Arfter he informed Me tha had Gott Some Peses of Cannon on the Goveners Hill and that Night tha ware Determined to Attack us I told My Good Frinds tha would have a hard time of itt If tha Did for I Should not Mind fore Times thare force I new All this Stoff I Said; would Sune be herd by them this Cap^t Chambers I was Entemetly Acquainted with Him in the Bay of Hondorus not Long Arfter this the Sun being About 2 Hours Hie frind Gould Came Neair the fort and his Famely Going over to Hog island I went out of the fort And Smilingly Said I Hope You are not Afraid No I am not Affraid but I Do not Expect to See You Any More for tha have All the Privaters Crew att the Goveners House and Makeing Every Preparation to Attack You to Night; for tha have Discoverd Your Strength; and If I thort as he Expresed him self that You had nothing Butt that Dam^d. Bumboat I would fight Aganst You My self I Smiled and told him itt Gave Me no Consern but If he Came over to Morrow Morning he would find Me in the fort we parted and he went to Hog island but You Must Remember I never invit-

ed no one to Come into the fort but I Kept them out untill I was Redey to Leve the Place Arfter My Frind Gould Left Me I Returned And went into the fort. I Asked one Jack Scranton¹⁷ a Rhode island Young Man that was the Spryes Man I had into the fort wether he Could Shin itt up to the head of the Top Mast So Spoke a herd Word and Sad Yes then I told him to Gett a hamer and Nails Redey untill I prepared A Flagg and Sent one Cap^t Tower of New London with itt I Did not Right but a few Lines to the Govener informing him that the Men ware Very Numerus on the Hills and Made An apperance Horstile and undfrindly and If tha Should not Disperse in 15 Minets arfter the Flag Returns to the fort I Shall be Gin to Cananade the Town and he May Rely on itt that I will Give no Quarter nor take none att this time of his Receiving this Billet Jack Scranton had Gott up the Top Mast head and was Nailing our flagg All in Sight and Within hearing the Flag Sune Returnd from the Govener and in Less than Twenty Minets Scarsly A Man to be Seen on the hills Att Sunsett and the Evening Vere Still and Quairt this Night All Hands Employed Getting All the Poder and Cartreges out of the fort onboard our Sloop and then began to Spike our Guns & Breeck all the Ladels Spunges and Destroing Every Warlicke utensil [30 Jan.] by Day Light we ware All Redy to Embark I must inform You that this is the S[e]cond time of My being att the Taken of New Providence and that thare never was A Dollor Taken from Any of the Inhabitens but this one Arterkel that is to Say M^r Duncam Mercht Att New Providenc had fore Hundred Waite of Powder As I was Inform^d. by one of My Frinds I Sent a Billet to him and Demand[ed] Eitt and that was All the Properte I ever herd of Being Taken from them . . . About ten Aclock this Day All our Peopl was out of the foort only My Self and that was no More then the Boat Could Take of[f] I had the Tew Prisners in the fort Confind So as tha Should Give no Information untill we Got of[f] to the Sloop *Providence* we took our Scailing Leader with us & Toed itt part of the way and then Lett itt Go A Drift All our Vesels over the Bar but our Sloop and She had her Mansel [*mainsail*] up and our Anker Short a peke for Tew hours before I Could Gett all in Rediness About ten Minets before I Gott into the Barge A Gentlemen Came with A Mesage to Me from Cap^t Chambers that Comanded the British Privatear as he was Near Att Hand Att Mrss Bunches Tarvern with an invitaiton to Drink one Glass of Punch before I went on board Att the Same time Swaring that no one Should Hert Me and Profesed A Great Del of Frenship; not old Anuf or a Yanke Yett. I Sent by this Gentlemen Like Man an Anser to Cap^t Chambers If he would Come over the Bar and take the Sloop *Providence* then I would take Some Punch with Him . . . but I new I had Left a bone of Contention betxxit the Whigs & Tore[s] So Caled for the 20 ord Casks Rice I Turnd out to Trap My Pilots Arfter I Had them that was All the Vandue I wanted; then I Made out Bills Some one Cask and Some Tew and Sold itt without Money or Price to the Whig Parte and made them take them Away before I Left the fort I anserd Every Point I Could wish for the Very Time we Got under way to Come over the Bar the Privatear Did the Same And Anchored Whare we Left and went on Shore tha Goot All by the Ears a fiting with Each other and Confined M^r Gould and Some Others we are over the Bar now and have Anserd Every Perpose I Could wish no Blood being Spilt the Ship Brigg & Tew Scuners a Leg a head Standing for Abaco we Released About thirty Ameri[c]ans that was thare Priseners Abaco or the Hole in the Rock in Sight. arfter I had Dined this Day Cap^t Rathbun and Lieu^t Vezea¹⁸ Dezired Me to Lay Down to Gett A Littel Rest as not one of our Men nor My Self Had any Sleep from the time we Landed untill now for When we Releved Gards we took them from ond part of the fort and put them on duty att A nother So as to Deceve the inhabitens and Make them think we had a grate Number

of Men in the fort the Most men I Ever had in the fort from the first to the Last was Twenty Eight besides My Self
 Now itt is Allmost Sun Sett Cap^t Rathbun and the Liu^t thinking I was a Sleep was in the Cabin & talking with Each Other I all this time was a Lising to hear What tha had to Say I found in a Short time tha ware ordering a Signull to be Hove out for our Ship¹⁹ to Bare Down to us and to take Lieu^t George House²⁰ out of Her and put Me in his Plase I then Turn out of My Cabin and Interfere^d in this and Said I had bene Acquainted with Lieu^t [*House*] Since the first of the War and A better officer tha was not in the Service Lieu^t House was Sune on board the Sloop And Side[d] in with Cap^t Rathbun and our other Liu^t So I finerly went on board and I had one half of our Sloops Crew Amounting to thirty Men I had not Got on Board the Ship But for we saw a Ship Bearing Down on us I Got on Board the Ship and then we parted the Ship Standing for the Sloop we Allterd our Course in the Ship and the Next Morning [*31 Jan.*] we Gott by Abaco and See no More of Ship Nor Sloop and now we Makeing the Best of our way for Block Island I had the Log book Kept in the Same Maner as If Cap^t Henry Johnson had the Command bound for New York this I had Dune in Case I had Come Acrors any British Cruser and I Did not intend to Run out of My Way from Any Ship;

Journal, RNHi, John Trevett Papers, No. 44–18. John Trevett was born in 1747 at Newport, Rhode Island, and died there in 1823. There are two versions of Trevett's Journal in his hand, namely No. 44–16 and No. 44–18. No. 44–18 appears to be the original version, written in an earlier hand and in the Rhode Island vernacular, covering the period 1776–82. No. 44–16 is a more polished and corrected copy of No. 44–18, covers the period 1775–82 and appears to have been written later, ca. 1795. There is a third version in a different hand and attributed to his son, Eleazar. The No. 44–16 version of the Journal was printed incompletely as "The Journal of John Trevett, U.S.N., 1774–1782" in *The Rhode Island Historical Magazine*, vol. 6 (July 1885–Apr. 1886); vol. 7 (July 1886–Jan. 1887). Charles R. Smith prints the original version of the Journal and a short biography of Trevett in his *Marines in The Revolution* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1975), pp. 325–42, 472–73.

1. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*, Capt. John Peck Rathbun, commander.
2. Fort Nassau.
3. Jamaica letter of marque ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.
4. Lt. Gov. John Gambier.
5. Capt. Nicholas Biddle, who was forming a squadron at Charleston, including the Continental Navy frigate *Randolph* and four South Carolina Navy ships and letters of marque.
6. Lt. Michael Moulton, Continental Marines.
7. Fort Montagu.
8. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
9. Capt. William Chambers.
10. Jamaica letter of marque sloop *Gayton*.
11. Sloop *Washington*.
12. Lt. Daniel Bears, second lieutenant of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
13. Gov. Montfort Browne.
14. A short naval sword.
15. Sloop *Tryal* and an unidentified sloop.
16. Banyan Day is a day when no meat is issued to the crew of a ship.
17. Midn. John Scranton, Continental Navy.
18. Lt. Joseph Vesey, first lieutenant of the Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
19. Ship *Mary*.
20. Lt. George House, acting third lieutenant of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*, who had been appointed a lieutenant on the Continental Navy brig *Hampden* in August 1776.

GOVERNOR JOHN DALLING TO GOVERNOR COMTE D'ARGOUT

Copy
 Sir

Jamaica 31st January 1778

I had the honor of your Excellency's dispatch of the 16th. Instant, by the Chevalier de Cuverville,¹ to whom I shall, with pleasure, render every kind of civility.

The nature of your Excellency's complaints against the person commanding the Tender, called the *Snail*,² relative to the Commission granted by Captain Garnier,³ and the Vexations your Vessels have received from him, made it necessary for me to lay your letter before the Admiral, he has informed me that you have written in terms exactly corresponding with those addressed to me, and that you will receive his Answer by a Ship of War, which he intends to send to you expressly for that purpose.

The impediments given to your Commerce, I am afraid considering the Times, and the Cloak so kindly lent to that of our Rebels, must occasion some little stoppage, now and then, to the fair Trader: but what are your disquietudes, and Vexations, to our real Captures and plunderings, to the ruin of many a wretched family by nominal Rebel Privateers? How have our Coasts throughout the whole West India Islands been infested by such piratical Interlopers? manned, not with our European Subjects, not with those Rebels who were our Subjects, but totally with French Men, French Negroes and French Molattoes; not fitted out in rebel Ports, but in French ones, not by American Rebels, but by French Merchants. I dare say, your Excellency will readily join with me in thinking, as there cannot be acts of higher Piracy than some of the abovementioned that it would have been justifiable, nay, that it would have been absolutely right, (as to both Nations) that these people should have been delivered over to the severity of our Laws and suffered the punishment due to such heinous crimes.—

I will again be proper to acquaint your Excellency, that the command of the Admiral here is totally distinct and separate from that of the King's Governor in whatever concerns the Ships of War, or the conduct of the Officers under him, and therefore I must wholly refer you to his Answer. Your Excellency's Astonishment will cease when I assure you, that I have not received the dispatch of the 15th of December mentioned in your Letter, it is an Affair entirely unknown to me, and it would only have been doing me Justice, as no notice had been taken of it, to have supposed it must have miscarried. The *Squirrel* sailed on Wednesday the 6th of November 1776, the *Maidstone* on Wednesday the 31st of March 1777. They sailed then from hence for Europe, and have never since returned into these Seas.

Your Excellency has been pleased to say, "enfin je le previens pour le dernier fois, que sa reponse determinera bien decisement la conduite que je' dois tenir pour reprimer et arreter les vexations continuelles que'prouvent sur nos cotes nos Cabateurs &c."—These are words perhaps rather implying more than your Excellency can mean. Your Character for Humanity, and good Sense, seems to stand too fair to let small Evils light up in your mind that which may be productive of the most horrid of all Ills, a general War.

I do assure your Excellency, that no one can be more solicitous to preserve the Union now subsisting, or promote the continuance of it than I am, and it is my earnest Wish that you should have the fullest conception of the high Esteem and Regard with which I am Sir [&c.]

(signed) John Dalling

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 137/73, fols. 114–15. Addressed below close: "To His Excellency/The Governor of/S^t Domingo." Docketed: "Copy of Governor Dalling's/Answer of 31st Jan^y 1778/to Count D'Argout's Letter/of 16th Jan^y 1778./In Gov^r Dalling's (N^o 15) of/12th Feb^y 1778./(1)." Enclosure no. 1 in Governor John Dalling to Lord George Germain, 12 Feb., below.

1. Capitaine de vaisseau Louis Cavelier de Cuverville, commanding the French frigate *Inconstante*.
2. Sloop tender of H.M. frigate *Southampton*, Capt. William Garnier, commanding.
3. See Captain William Garnier to William Richardson, 1 Jan., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*, COMMANDER JAMES R. DACRES

Jan^y: 1778
Saturday 31

St^e eustatia Bore NW & by N 3 or 4 Leagues
at 7 A.M Came to Anchor in eustatia Road wth. the Best
Bower in 11 fath^m. water Veer'd away to Half a Cable
found riding here the *Rattlesnake* Privateer Belonging to
America¹ [S]ent the pinnace on shore wth. an Officer to the
Governor for [Inte]lligence at 11 Weigh'd & Came to sail
under Single Reeft Topsails the *Rattlesnake* riding in the
road²

St. eustacia N & By W Dist^{ce}. 2 or 3 Leagues
These 24 Hours Strong Gales with squalls of Rain

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/4141, part 8, fol. 191. The journal was kept by Lt. David Lockwood.

1. Pennsylvania privateer ship *Rattlesnake*, David McCulloch, commander, mounting 18 nine-pounders. See *NDAR* 10: 373, 462, 463, 732, 733n, 737, 738n, 748, 810.

2. For another account of this encounter, see *The New-York Gazette: and the Weekly Mercury*, 30 Mar., below.

WILLIAM AND GODFREY HUTCHINSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

(Duplicate)
Sir

St^e Pierre M/que Jan^y: 31st. 1778.
(Original by Davis & Dupl^a Capt Hill.

We have Already had the pleasure of writing you by this Conveyance, and are now Sorry to Acqu^t you that we have rec'd Acco^{ts}. of one of the fish Vessells mention'd in our last being retaken, & carried into Dominica, & the other we fear has met with the same fate, as She does not yet Appear. You will please for the future to Order all Captains in the Service who may send any Prize Vessells to our Add^s. to take all the People out belonging to them & put in the Same Number of their own, each Person answering to the Names Agreeable to the Shipping Paper. Several Vessells have passed British Ships by this method. You will Likewise furnish them with Blank Clearances, to be filled of as they are coming into this Port, as Vessells from America.

As this Avoids any Difficulties arriseing, & is a great Advantage, in regard to the Duty's & Prevents any Advantages being taken from the Vessell being known to be a Prize, in w^{ch}. Case Government Obliges them to an Immediate Sale. they will at the same time in the Clearan^e they fill up pay Attention to that part of G H Letter

Carey,¹ in regard to mention^s but one half the Quantity of Fish on Board; As this Vessell is just Geting under way; we Conclude, with tender of our best Services on every Occasion & are with Respect Sir [&c.]

W^m. & G Hutchinson

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 205 (2d ser., Revolution Letters, 1775-1783), 285-85a. Addressed below close: "The Hon^{ble}. Samuel Phillips Savage Esq^r/President of the Honble Board of War./Boston."

1. Capt. John Carey, commanding Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic*.

February

PROPOSED ACT FOR THE BETTER REGULATION OF THE
CONNECTICUT STATE NAVY

[*Hartford, February 1778*]

We your Honors Committee appointed to take into Consideration what measures ought to be come into for the better regulation and Government of the Navy or Vessels of Force fitted out by this State, and the Officers marines and Mariners employ^d on board of Said Vessels—

Take leave to Report That in the Opinion of this Committee The following Bill be passed into an Act of this Assembly viz An Act for the better regulation of the Navy, being Vessels of War belonging to this State

Be it Enacted by the Governor Council & Representatives in General Court Assembled and by the Authority of the Same; That

1 The Commanders of all Ships & Vessels of war belonging to this State are Strictly required to Shew in them Selves a good example of Honour & vertue to their under Officers & men, and to be very Vigilant in Inspecting the behaviour of all Such as are under them, and to discountenance & Suppress all dissolute immoral & disorderly practices, and all Such as are Contrary to the Rules of discipline & Obedience, & to Correct those who are guilty of the Same, according to the rules & usages in Such Cases.

2 The Commanders of Ships where there is a Chaplain are to take Care that divine Service be daily performed, morning & evening & a Sermon preached on Sundays unless bad weather or other extraordinary Accident prevent.

3 If any person Shall be heard to Swear, Curse or blaspheme the name of God, the Commander is Strictly enjoind to punish them for every Offence, by Causing them to wear a wooden Collar or some other Shamefull badge of distinction for so long time as he Shall Judge proper

4 He who is guilty of Drunkenness, if a Seaman shall be put in Irons until he is Sober, but if an Officer he shall forfeit two days pay

5 no Commander of any Ship or Vessel Shall inflict any punishment upon a Seaman beyond Twelve lashes upon his naked back, with a Suitable whip, without the Sentence of a Court martial, but if the offence require it he may apply for a Court martial & in the mean time confine the Offender

6 The Commander of any Ship or vessel is never by his own authority to discharge a Commission or warrant Officer nor to punish or Strike him but he may Suspend or Confine them for offences until a Court martial can be holden for the Trial of their offence

7 The Officer who Commands, by accident of the Captain or Commander's absence (:unless he be absent for a time by leave:) Shall not order any Correction, but Confinement, and upon the Captain's return on board, he shall then give an Account of his reasons for so doing.

8. The Captain is to cause the Articles of War to be hung up in some public place of the Ship and read to the Ships Company once a month.

9 The Sea Men Shall, at their request be furnished with Slops that are necessary, by the Captain or purser who Shall keep an Account of the Same.

10 The Capt before he sails on a Cruize Shall make return & leave with the Governor or Commander in Chief of this State, or Such other person or persons as Shall be appointed for that purpose a Compleat list of all the Officers and men with the time and terms of their inlistment & entering: and during his Cruize Shall keep a true account of the desertion or Death of any of them: and of the entering of others, and after his Cruize and before any of them are paid off, he Shall make return of a Compleat list of the Same, including those who Shall remain on board his Ship, together with an account of the Slops & necessary articles deliver^d out to each man, which ought to be deducted out of their pay.

11 The Captain is to take care when any inferiour officer or Voluntier Seaman are turned over into the Ship under his Command, from any other Ship, not to rate them on the Ships books in a worse quallity, or a lower degree or Station than they served in the Ship they were removed from, & for his guidance, he is to demand from the Commander of the Ship from which they are turned Over, a list under his hand of their names and qualities.

12 Any officer Se[a]man or others, intituled to wages or prize money, may have the Same paid to his Assignee or Agent provided the Assignment or power of Agency be Attested by the Captain or Commander the Master or purser of the Ship or any Assistant or Justice of the peace.

13 The Captain is to discourage the Seamen of his Ship from selling any part of their wages and Shares, and never to attest a Letter of Attorney of any Seaman until he is fully Satisfied that the Same is not granted in Consideration of money given for purchase of his Shares or Wages when any inferior Officer or Seaman dies, the Captain is forthwith to make out a Ticket for the time of his Service & return the Same to the Governor or Commander in Chief of this State or other persons for that purpose appointed in order that the wages may be paid to the Executors or Administrators of the deceas^d

14 A convenient place shall be set apart for Sick or hurt men to which they are to be removed with their hammocks & bedding when the Surgeon shall advise the Same to be necessary and Some of the Crew shall be appointed to attend & serve them & keep the place Clean.

15 It is left to the discretion of the Commander to Shorten the allowance of provisions when absolute necessity Shall require it, taking care that the men be punctually paid for the Same.

16 The Captain Shall frequently Order the proper Officer to Inspect into the Condition of the provisions of all kinds on board & take all due & necessary care to preserve the same good wholesome & fit for use.

17 The Captain or purser Shall Secure the Cloathing, bedding, & all other Articles & things of such persons as Shall die or be killed, with a true Inventory thereof, to be deliver^d to their Executors or Administrators

18 All papers, Charter parties bills of lading passports and other writings whatsoever, found on board any Ship or Ships, which Shall be taken Shall be carefully preserved and the Originals sent to the Courts of Justice for Maratime affairs; and if any person or persons Shall willfully or negligently Destroy or Suffer to be destroy^d or willingly Conceal^d from the proper Officer any Such paper or papers he or they So offending Shall forfeit their Share of Such prize or prizes and Suffer

Such other punishments as the Offence Shall deserve by the Judgment of a Court martial.

19 When in Sight of the Ship or Ships of the Enemies & at Such other times as may make it appear necessary to prepare for an Action or engagement the Captain Shall Order all things in his Ship in proper posture for fight & Shall in his own person & according to his duty heart on & encourage the Inferiour Officers & men to fight Courageously & not to behave themselves feintly or cry for quarters on pain of Such punishment as the Offence Shall appear to deserve for his neglect.

20 Any Captain or other Officer, mariner or others, who Shall basely desert their duty or Station in the Ship or run away while the Enemy is in Sight or in time of Action, or Shall entice others so to do: Shall Suffer Death: or Such other punishment as a Court martial Shall inflict.

21 Any Officer Seaman, or marine who Shall begin, excite, cause or Join in any mutiny or Sedition in the Ship to which he belongs on any pretence whatever, Shall Suffer death, or Such other punishment as a Court Martial Shall direct. any person in or belonging to the Ship, who Shall utter any words of Sedition or mutiny, or endeavour to make any mutinous Assembly on any pretence whatever Shall Suffer Such punishment as a Court Martial Shall inflict.

22 None Shall presume to quarrel with, or Strike his Superior on pain of Such punishment as a Court Martial Shall order to be inflicted.

23 If any person Shall apprehend he has Just cause of Complaint, he Shall quietly and decently make the Same known to his Superior Officer or to the Captain as the case may Require, who Shall take care that Justice be done him.

24 There Shall be no quarreling or fighting between Shipmates on board any Ship nor Shall there be used any reproachfull or provoking Speeches tending to make quarrels & disturbances on pain of Imprisonment and Such other punishment as a Court martial Shall think proper to inflict.

25 If any person Shall Sleep upon his watch or negligently perform his duty, which Shall be enjoined him to do, or forsake his Station, he Shall Suffer such punishment as a Court martial Shall Judge proper to inflict according to the nature of his Offence.

26 All murder Shall be punished with Death.

27 All Robbery and Theft Shall be punished at the discretion of a Court martial.

28 Any master at Arms, who Shall refuse to receive Such prisoner or prisoners as Shall be Committed to his Charge, or having receiv^d them Shall Suffer him or them to escape, or dismiss them without orders for so doing, Shall Suffer in his or their Stead, as a Court Martial Shall order & direct.

29 The Captain, Officers, & others, Shall use their utmost endeavours, to detect, apprehend, & bring to punishment all offenders and Shall at all times readily assist the officers, appointed for that purpose, in discharge of their duty, on pains of being proceeded against and punish^d at discretion.

30 All other faults, disorders, and Misdemeanours which Shall be Committed on board any Ship, which are not herein mentioned Shall be punished according to the laws usages & Customs in Such Cases at Sea.

31 That his Excellency the Governor or Commander in Chief of this State for the Time being be & he is Hereby fully Impowered to appoint a Court martial

for the Trial of all Cappital Crimes Committed at Sea on board any of the vessels of war belonging to This State; which Court martial Shall Consist of nine members at Least & as many of them as may be obtain^d. without delay Shall consist of Officers belonging to the Navy of this State.

32 That in Cases not Cappital the Commander or Captain of any Ship or Vessel may appoint a Court Martial which Shall Consist of at least One Captain one Lieutenant with One Lieutenant of marines if there shall be Such officer of the marines then present, & the Eldest Captain Shall preside when more are appointed—

All Sea Officers of the Same denomination Shall take rank of the Officers of marines.

33 That in all Cases when the nature of the Case Shall require His Excellency the Governor or Commander in Chief of this State is Impowered to appoint a Court martial for the Trial of offences not Cappital, Committed at Sea, on board any vessels of war belonging to this State Every member of a Court Martial Shall Take the following oath viz. You Swear that you will well & truly try and impartially determine the Cause of the prisoner now to be tried according to the Rules & regulations of the Navy of the State of Connecticut, so help you God. which Oath Shall be administered by the president, to the other members, & the president Shall himself be Sworn by the officer in such Court next in Rank.

34 All witnesses before they may be admitted to give Evidence Shall take the following Oath viz.

You Swear the Evidence you Shall give in the Cause now in hearing Shall be the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth, So help you God

35 And it shall be the duty of the president of every Court martial to transmit to the Governor or Commander in Chief of this State every sentence, which Shall be given with a Summary of the evidence and proceedings thereon by the first Opportunity, and the Sentence of a Court martial for any Capital Offence, Shall not be put in execution until it be laid before the Governor or Commander in Chief of this State, who Shall have power to Confirm Such Sentence or respit and reprieve the Offender under Such Sentence until the next Session of the General Assembly.

36 The Captain or Commander of any Ship or vessel Shall receive & obey all such Orders & Instructions as Shall be given him from time to time by his Excellency the Governor and his Committee of Safety or Such other persons as Shall be appointed for that purpose

37 There Shall be allowed to each man Serving on board the Vessels of Force belonging to this State a daily proportion of provisions according as is expressed in the following Table viz.

Sunday	1 lb bread,	1 lb beef	1 lb pottatoes or turnips
Monday	1 lb bread	1 lb pork	half a pint peas or beans & 4 oz. Cheese
Tuesday	1. lb bread,	1 lb. beef	1 lb pottatoes or turnips & pudding
Wednesday	1 lb bread	2 oz. butter	4 oz. Cheese & half a pint rice or Samp. ¹
Thursday	1 lb bread	1 lb pork	& half a pint of peas or beans
Friday,	1 lb bread	1 lb beef	1 lb pottatoes or turnips & pudding
Saturday	1 lb bread	1 lb pork	half pint of peas or beans & 4 oz, Cheese

Half a pint of rum pr man per day when at Sea & half that quantity when in port.

One pint vinegar for six men p^r week.

38 The pay of the Officers and men shall be as follows per Callendar month—

Viz.

	dollars		dollars
Captain or Commander	32.	Yeoman	9
Lieutenant	20	Quartermaster	9
Master	20	Quarter gunner	8
Mates	15	Cook	12
Boatswain	15	Coxswain	9
Boatswain ^s first mate	9½	Captain ^s Clerk	15
ditto second ditto	8	Steward	13½
gunner	15	Chaplain	20
gunners mate	10½	Able Seamen	8
Surgeon	21½	Cap ^t of Marines	26½
ditto mate	10½	Lieutenant of Marines	18
Carpenter	15	Sergeants	8
ditto mate	10½	Corporalls	7½
Cooper	15	Fifer	7½
Midshipmen	12	Drummer	7½
Armourer	15	privates or Marines	6½
Sailmaker	12		

39 If any person duly inlisted or engaged on board of any Vessel Shall desert the same he Shall forfeit all his wages due & Shares of prizes and shall Suffer Such other punishment as a Court Martial Shall Judge

40 That in Cases of re-captures, the recaptors Shall have and retain in lieu of Salvage one eighth part of the true value of the Vessel & Cargo or either of them, if the Same hath been in possession of the Enemy not more than twenty four hours, if more than twenty four hours & less than forty eight hours one fifth part; if more than forty eight hours & less than ninety Six hours, one third part; if more than ninety six hours the one half: unless the vessel hath been legally Condemned as prize in Some Court of Admiralty, in which Case the Recaptor to have the whole.

41 That all Captures, prizes & Shares in lieu of Salvage on the captures made by any Ships or Vessels belonging to this State Shall be & belong one half thereof to the use of this State: & the other half to the use of the Captors, the Necessary Charges of Condemnation being first deducted

42 That the Captain of a Single Ship or Arm^d. Vessel have two Twentieth parts for his Share of the prize allotted to the Captors

That the Lieutenants of the Ship & of the marines Surgeons Chaplains pursers Boatswains, gunners, Carpenters, Masters, Mates, have three Twentieth parts equally divided among them Share & Share alike

That the midshipmen, Clerk, Surgeons Mate, Steward, Sailmaker Cooper, Armourer, Boatswain^s mate Cook, Coxswain, & Serjeants of marines have three twentieth parts equally divided among them Share & Share alike

That the remaining Twelve Twentieth parts be divided among the rest of the Ships Company Share & Share alike.

provided that where more than one Ship or vessel are in Company & Concern^d in the Capture of any prize the part of Such prize which Shall be adjudged or accrue to each Ship or vessel Shall be Shared & divided among the Officers & Crew of Such Ship or vessel in the Same proportion as above Expressed in this Act.

43 That no Officer or man have any Share but Such as are actually on board their Several Vessels at the time any prize is taken, Excepting Such only as may have been Ordered on board any other prizes before taken, or Sent away by his or their Commanding Officers.

44 He who first discovers a Ship or Vessel which Shall be made a prize Shall be intituled to a double Share of Such prize.

45 He who Shall first board any Ship or other Vessel, making resistance, which Shall become a prize, Shall be intituled to a Triple Share of Such prize provided that this Act shall continue and be in force untill the rising of the General Assembly in may next & no longer.

all which is Submitted by your Honours most Obedient humble Servants

Sign^d p^r Order
Sam^l Huntington

Pas[se]d

In the Lower House

Test Benj^a: Payne Clerk

In the upper House

The further Consideration of this Report and Bill for An Act &c is referred to this Assembly in its next Session—

Test George Wyllys Secret^r

Concurred in the Lower House

Test Benj^a: Payne Clerk

D, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 8, 251a–z (pp. 1–28). Docketed: “Report of Committee/for Regulating the/Navy”; “Comittees Report/De Maritime Laws—”; “Com^{tees} Report/for regulating the ~~Militia~~ Navy/Oct^r 1777/Contin^d a 21 Nom [illegible]/Jan^{ry} 1778/Febr^{ry} 1778.” The Connecticut General Assembly never adopted these rules and regulations.

1. Corn mush; a coarse hominy or a boiled cereal made from it.

RESOLVE OF THE CONNECTICUT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Whereas that ~~one twentieth~~ part of all y^e prizes ~~belong~~ captured by the Arm^d Vessells belonging to this State (which by y^e Rules of Congress ~~as approp~~ relative to all prizes taken by Continental Vessells is appropriated to y^e Commadore or Commander in chief of y^e Continental Fleet) in this State has not been appropriated but is now in y^e hands of particular persons—

Resolved by this Assembly that y^e Committee of Pay-Table be and they are hereby directed and impowered to call all persons who now have or hereafter may have any of y^e said ~~20th~~ part of said Prizes or y^e avails thereof in their hands to Acc^t examine and adjust all Acc^{ts} relative thereto & receive & lodge y^e Money arising thereon with y^e Treas^r: taking his Rec^t: for y^e same & lodge s^d Rec^t: with y^e Secretary

Past in the lower House
 Test: And^w Adams Clerk.—

[*Hartford*]/Feb 1778/

D, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 10, p. 112.

February 1 (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF MARINE LIEUTENANT WILLIAM JENNISON

[*Boston*]

1778 Feb. 1. The Ship¹ fell down to Nantasket Road—

DLC, Journal of Lieutenant William Jennison, p. 5.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Boston*, Captain Samuel Tucker, commander.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

Roebuck at Philadelphia

the 1st February 1778.

My Lord,

The breaking up of the Frost has so much cleared the River of the Ice, that the *Liverpool* is enabled to sail for New York for the Generals Dispatches arrived there in the three last Pacquets.—With the *Liverpool* goes also a Mail for England in the *Despenser* Pacquet convoyed by two Armed Vessels.—

Since your Lordships departure from hence no material event has happened except the loss of the Transport Brig *Symetry* one of the Baggage Vessels from New York,¹ which run a shore near Wilmington, and by the Frost coming on fell into the Enemy's hands before any Assistance could be sent from hence.

Out of thirty Vessels that were taking in Forage at Tinnicum Island the 27th Decem^r when the Snow begun, only three (which were empty) failed of getting back to the Town; those drove up and down with the Ice for a day or two, and at last grounded on the Jersey Shore near Gloucester and were burnt by the Rebels.—

An Attempt was made some Weeks ago to get Six Gun-Boats past the Town, to lay in the Mouths of the Creeks on the Jersey Shore to prevent the Market Boats from passing; But as the two foremost of them deserted and came to Philadelphia,² the design was layed aside, since which it is said they have been carried over land to Salem Creek.³ There are also two Gun Boats and a small Privateer Sloop at Wilmington, and the Deserters from thence say the Rebels are preparing some Fire Machines—

The Cannon left by the Enemy in the Wrecks of their Ships and floating Batteries have been destroyed, and a small Work on the Shore opposite to them, erected for the purpose of preventing it, as well as to annoy Vessels going up and down the River, with one Gun mounted in it was also destroyed by the Officer sent on that Service

The Flat Boats are all in repair and the Transports and Men of War in some forwardness with their Refitting. I have the honor to be &ca.

A. S Hammond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Letter Book (1778–1779), pp. 9–11. Addressed at foot: “The R^d Hon^{ble}. the Lord Viscount Howe. &ca.” Marginal notation: “P: *York* Sloop.”

1. Transport brig *Symmetry*, — Monkman, master. See Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Philip Stephens, 23 Jan., above, and *NDAR* 10: 816, 818, 826, 833, 833n, 834, 834n.

2. For more on the two armed boats that deserted, see Journal of H.M. Armed Ship *Vigilant*, 8 Jan., Journal of H.M.S. *Roebuck*, 12 Jan., and William Bradford to President Thomas Wharton, Jr., 24 Jan., above.

3. See William Bradford to President Thomas Wharton, Jr., 24 Jan., above.

FRANCIS LEWIS TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Dear Sir

Cap^t Nicholson¹ of the Frigate *Virginia*, has applied to me as a member of the Marine Committee, pointing out the necessity he is under, of having a Tender, in order to reconnitre the Bay before he proceeds down with the Frigate.

He informs me that there is now at Annapolis armed boats belonging to this State, under your Excellency's directions, and prays that one of the largest might be lent for that purpose; he intends to embrace the first fair wind to proceed with the Frigate to Sea, and which Congress has very much at Heart. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Fra. Lewis

Baltimore 1st Feb^{ry} 1778

L, Monroe, Wakeman and Holman Loan Collection of the Pequot Library Association, Southport, Conn., on loan to the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, CtY. Addressed: "His Excellency/Thomas Johnston Esquire/Governor & Commander in Chief./at/Annapolis." Docketed: "1 Feb^{ry} 1778/Fra^s Lewis Esq^r." Note: "p^r Lieut^t/Barney." Barney was first lieutenant of the Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*.

1. Capt. James Nicholson, Continental Navy.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *CARYSFORT*, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE

February 1778.

D^o. [Charles Town] Lighthouse N 15° W 19 Miles

Sunday 1st.

At 2 AM made the Signal & Veer'd Ship At 6 made Sail At 7 Saw a Sail to the N^oward & one to the NW D^o made the Signal & gave Chace *Lizard* in Company. At Noon Still in Chace the *Lizard* in Company.

D^o. Lighthouse S 65° W^t 11 Leagues

Fresh breezes wth Rain—PM Still in Chace At 2 Tk^d & Stood off At ½ past Tk^d & Stood on At ½ past 3 Tk^d & Stood off in 3½ fa^m. D^o the *Lizard* in Chace of the Ship At 5 the *Lizard* bore NBW D^o. Prize Brig in Company.¹ At ½ past 10 lost Sight of the Brig—

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/168.

1. Dutch brig *Batavear*, Samuel Darverck, master, a crew of ten seamen, owned by Peter La Pole of Amsterdam, from Amsterdam to Charleston, with salt &c., taken off Santee River, S.C., sent to St. Augustine, capture credited to *Carysfort* and *Lizard*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*, COMMANDER JAMES R. DACRES

Feb^{ry} 1778

St. eustacia N & By W—Dist^{ce}. 2 or 3 Leagues

Sunday 1st These 24 Hours Strong Gales with squalls of Rain P.M & A.M
 Employ'd Standing off & on S^t eustatia & Cruizing round the
 Island at Noon the *Rattlesnake* still in S^t Eustatia Road¹
 S^t Eustatia ESE Dist. 2 or 3 Leag^s.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4141, part 8, fol. 192. The journal was kept by Lt. David Lockwood.

1. Pennsylvania privateer ship *Rattlesnake*, David McCulloch, commander. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Ceres*, 31 Jan., above.

February 2

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Navy Board Eastern department
 Boston N England February 2^d: 1778

Gentlemen

Having presumed to draw a Bill on you in favour of M^r William Dennie a Merchant of this Town for one hundred pounds Sterling, it becomes necessary to appologize for this Step by Explaining the reasons of our Conduct, which otherways must Appear very extraordinary, as we have neither the Express orders of Congress for it or have the Honour of being Connected with you in any other way than as public Officers of the Continent—

Congress having directed us to furnish the Hon^{ble}: John Adams Esq^r (who they have Appointed one of the Commissioners at the Court of France) with Every Accommodation necessary for his Voyage among which is the Article of hard money which we have not been able to obtain any other way Seasonably for his passage in the *Boston* now nearly ready to Sail, without discovering his Intentions which require Secrecy, therefore by his Consent and Advice have taken the Liberty to draw on you on this Occasion We flatter ourselves the Bill will be duly honoured—We have the honour to be [&c.]

W^m Vernon
 Jas: Warren

L, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 53, no. 60. Addressed at the foot: "Hon^{ble}: Benjamin Franklyn &/Arthur Lee Esq^{rs}." Docketed: "Navy Board/Boston/respecting Bill of Exchange 2 Feb. 1778"; "Letter from the Navy Board, E. Department/respecting their Bill of Exchange."

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE

Sir Council Chamber Boston February 2nd. 1778—

Having received information that a demand has been made by a Flag from Rhode Island that a Number of Prisoners Equal to the Number that lately arrived at Marblehead in the Ship *Royal Bounty* bound from Hallifax to New Port after taking the Ship out of the Hands of the British Captain.¹

The Council of this State have thought Proper to send you Copy of a Letter from S^r George Collier to Commissary Pierpoint² whereby it clearly appears that the said Ship was bound from Hallifax to New Port and Consequently notwithstanding S^r George calls her a Cartel she Could by no means be Considered as Such—And

therefore there Can be no propriety in their Demand of a Number of Prisoners in Exchange for those who happily liberated themselves in passing from One Port of the Enemy's to another—

In the Name and in behalf of the Council I am Sir, [&c.]

Jer: Powell Presd^t

L, R-Ar, Letters to the Governor (1778), vol. 12, p. 10. Addressed: "(On public Service)/His Excellency Nicholas Cooke Esq^r/Providence—." Docketed: "Jeremiah Powell Esqr: enclosing a Letter/from S^r George Collier respecting the Cartel/*Royal Bounty* Boston Feb^r 2^d 1778." Enclosure not found.

1. See Charles Waller to Governor Nicholas Cooke, 24 Jan., above. The master of the *Royal Bounty* was Thomas Compton.

2. See Captain Sir George Collier, R.N., to Massachusetts Commissary of Prisoners Robert Pierpont, 17 Jan., above.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO THE CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE

To The Honb^{le} Mareane
Committee of Congress
Gentlemen,

New London February 2, 1778

I wrote you 24th Nov^r:¹ & 5th. of January² last Since that have not been favor'd with any Answer, the Continual Call on me for Money from the Ship *Trumbull*, for Provisions, Mens Wages Stores &c for more than Twelve Months Past, purchasing and fitting out the Brigg *Resistance* Sam^l Chew Command^r: and no Prizes comeing in to this Port that in Short I have advanct my own Money to so great Am^o. that I am oblig'd to Send the barer M^r: John Hertell on Purpose to Request that you would Send me att least Twenty Thousand Pounds Lawfull Money, which Sum I have drawn on you in his favor of this date, he will have Occasion to make use of Five Thousand Dollars before he Returns home, beg you will let him have that Sum in Continent^l: Dollars, and the Remainder give him an order on M^r: Lawrence,³ the Treasurer of the Loan Office in this State—The Occasion of my not drawing as you desir'd me of y^e. 10th Decem^r: 1776 and y^e. 17th June last⁴ was that I Really Expected that their would have been sum Prizes Sent in hear by the Continent^l: Arm'd Vessells, and In that Case the Money would have come in to my hands, twelve months ago I paid all the Money in my hands belonging to the Contin^l: to Mess^{rs}. Livingston⁵ & Turnbull,⁶ by your order & no Prize is Come in Since & M^r: Dean⁷ who was to furnish the Ship *Trumbull* with what she wanted in the River, has Sent M^r: Ivis the Rope maker to me for payment of Two Large Cables Am^o. to One Thousand pounds and Cap^t John Lamb who arived att Boston with a Large Quantity of Warlike Stores that was shipt to my care by M^r: Bingham att Martineco Consisting of Seventeen brass Field peces, and Carriages Shott powder Arms &c which I orderd Cap^t Lamb to Deliver to M^r: Bradford the Continent^l Ag^t: and last Week Cap^t Lamb Came up from Boston and Demands the freight from me as Bradford says he has no money and will not pay him,⁸ have also Rec^d: orders from y^e. Commissioners of the Navy Board att Boston to git a Quantity of Provisions in Readiness for Publick use att this Port, & have Cal'd on them for Money, but Cant git any—and I make no doubt but we Shall Soon have the Ship *Trumbull* out of the River and fitted out—I mention these Matters only that you might see the Nessesity of my having the Money and Cannot git Supplys without it—

we have a Report that Cap^t Chew in the *Resistance* since Sending in the Prize⁹ into Boston, has been into Demarari River to Clean his Brigg and has Since taken

an Arm'd Schooner that was fitted out from Barbadoes, to Cruce on our trade, & that he has Mann'd her and keeps her to Cruce with him it gives me Pleasure to hear of his Success, as the fitting of him out was a Plan of my own, & I hope he will Answer your Expectations, I am [&c.]

Nath^l Shaw Jun^r

LB, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, Letter Book (Jan. 1775–July 1782).

1. *NDAR* 10: 590–91.

2. See Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., to the Continental Marine Committee, 5 Jan., above.

3. John Lawrence.

4. *NDAR* 9: 130.

5. Abraham Livingston, merchant at Boston.

6. William Turnbull, merchant at Philadelphia.

7. Barnabas Deane, merchant at Wethersfield, Conn.

8. On 2 Feb. Shaw also wrote the Continental Commerce (formerly Secret) Committee informing them that Lamb was demanding ten percent of the value of the cargo, an amount Shaw considered to be too much. Shaw stated that he was withholding payment from Lamb pending advice from merchants he trusted regarding the amount.

9. Ship *Mermaid*, James Cockran, master.

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY,
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1778

NEW-YORK, February 2.

On Thursday last was brought in here by Sir James Wallace, of his Majesty's Ship *Experiment*, a Dutch Ship of about 600 tons, called the *Lady Margareta*,¹ Capt. De Ruyter,² laden with a very large and valuable Quantity of Salt, Medecines, amongst which are between four and 5000 Weight of Jesuit's Bark, Wine, Brandy, Cordage, Linens, Tea, and mercery Goods, bound from Cadiz, as they pretend, to Coracoa, but more probably to South-Carolina, will turn out a valuable Prize to the *Experiment*, and a great Loss to the Rebels. This is the fourth Prize taken, and arrived in our Harbour, within the last twelve Days, by this vigilant and gallant Commander, and we doubt not that this present Cruize off this Coast, will soon produce us many more Arrivals of equal Importance with those now lying at our Wharfs.

The first Cost of the abovementioned Ship's Cargo at Cadiz, amounted to 84,000 Dollars.

Thursday last the Brig *Hannah*, Capt. Sybels,³ arrived here from Halifax, in 17 Days: He sailed from thence in Company with sundry other Vessels, some of which were for this Port, and the Rest for Rhode-Island, under Convoy of his Majesty's armed Brig the *Cabbot*.

Captain Sybels informs, That Prizes were daily brought into Halifax, by his Majesty's Frigates, and that when he sailed the *Blond*, *Milford*, *Orpheus*, *Scarborough*, *Fox*, and *Albany*, lay in that Harbour.

Thursday last the Ship *Tom*,⁴ Capt. Lee,⁵ arrived here in 8 Weeks from Liverpool.

On the 28th. of December, in Lat. 48, 48. Lon. 37, 35. Capt. Lee fell in with the Rebel Schooner Privateer *Warren*,⁶ Capt. Revel,⁷ from Beverly, in Massachusetts Bay, of ten Guns, and fifty Men, which he took, after a short Engagement, carrying away their Fore-Mast, killing one of their Men and wounding three, with no other Loss on his Side, than one Lad wounded, named John Neal. Capt. Lee took the

Guns and every other necessary out of the Privateer, and then left them to shift for themselves.

The next Day Capt. Lee fell in with and took the Schooner *Friendship*,⁸ Capt. Ellenwood,⁹ from Salem for Surinham, with Fish and Lumber, and ordered her for Liverpool; and the 9th Ult. Lat. 35, 55. Lon. 61, 46. he also fell in with and took the Schooner *Two Brothers*, Isaac Elwell, Master, from Newbury, for Trinidad, with Lumber and Fish, which he ordered for this Port, but parted from her in a Gale of Wind.

The 16th following in Lat. 37, 57. Lon. 63, 45. Capt. Lee engaged a Sloop of 12 Guns and about 70 Men for a considerable Time within Pistol Shot, when she was glad to sheer off, with considerable Damage, and as Capt. Lee put one third Part of his Men on board his Prizes, he thought it most prudent to pursue his Voyage hither.

The Zeal and Loyalty of the Liverpool Merchants, in Favour of Government is eminently evinced by the Number of Vessels they have already armed and stationed for the Annoyance of the Rebel Commerce and Communication with the natural Enemies of Great-Britain; the following are now cruising in the American Seas, The *Sarah Goulbourn*, Capt. Holland, of 20 six and nine Poundsers;¹⁰ the *Brilliant*, Capt. Priestly, of 20 six and nine Poundsers;¹¹ the *Belcour*, Capt. Moore, of 18 six and nine Poundsers;¹² the *Ellis*, Capt. Jolly, of 16 six and nine Poundsers;¹³ the *Pole*, Capt. Maddock, of 18 six and nine Poundsers;¹⁴ the *Marlborough*, Capt. Dawson, of 16 six Poundsers;¹⁵ the *Fanny*, Capt. Wignal, of 12 six Poundsers,¹⁶ and the *Sally* Sloop, Capt. Powell, of 12 four Poundsers.¹⁷

Lieut. Wright,¹⁸ Commander of the Brig *Dunmore*, Tender to his Majesty's ship the *Otter*, sent in here Yesterday Morning, a Brig from Dartmouth, N.E. in Ballast, for Ocracock, in North-Carolina;¹⁹ and a French Sloop from Guadaloupe, for Virginia,²⁰ loaded with Camp Equipage, Wine, Dry Goods, &c. &c.

1. Ship *Vrouw Margarita* (*Lady Margareta*), Geele Joches Ruyter, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 14 Jan., above.

2. Capt. Geele Joches Ruyter.

3. George Sibbles.

4. Letter of marque ship *Tom*, 200 tons burthen, mounting 12 six-pounder guns, built at Liverpool in 1771, owned by J. Backhouse. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

5. John Lee.

6. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Warren*, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 55 seamen, owned by Josiah Batchelder, of Beverly, was commissioned on 3 Dec. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 7, pp. 329, 330; Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 168, p. 59.

7. John Revell (Ravell).

8. Possibly a letter of marque, owned by Ebenezer Ellingwood, of Beverly. Octavius Thorndike Howe, *Beverly Privateers in the American Revolution* (Cambridge, Mass.: John Wilson and Son, The University Press, 1922), pp. 369-70, 411.

9. Benjamin Ellingwood. *Ibid.*, p. 411.

10. Ship *Sarah Golburn* (*Goulbourn*), N. Holland, commander, 400 tons burthen with three decks, mounting 20 six-pounders, built at Liverpool in 1777, owned by Brown & Co. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

11. Ship *Brilliant*, Priestman, commander, 450 tons burthen, mounting 2 nine-pounders and 12 six-pounders, built in Liverpool in 1777, owned by J. Sparling. *Ibid.*

12. Ship *Balcour*, H. Moore, commander, 350 tons burthen with three decks, mounting 4 nine-pounders and 14 six-pounders, built on the Thames River in 1759, repaired in 1777, owned by A. Goodrich. *Ibid.*

13. Ship *Ellis*, T. Jolly, commander, 350 tons burthen, mounting 16 six-pounders, built at Liverpool in 1775, owned by William Boats. Ibid.

14. Ship *Pole*, J. Maddock, commander, 250 tons burthen, mounting 18 six-pounders and 6 four-pounders, built at Liverpool in 1768, owned by J. Neilson. Ibid.

15. Ship *Marlborough*, G. Dawson, commander, 250 tons burthen, mounting 14 six-pounders and 2 nine-pounders, built at Liverpool in 1754, received thorough repairs in 1776, owned by J. Backhouse. Ibid.

16. Ship *Fanny*, J. Wignall, commander, 250 tons burthen, mounting 2 six-pounders and 12 four-pounders, built in Maryland in 1775, owned by J. Gildart. Ibid.

17. Ship *Sally*, Wilkinson, commander, 200 tons burthen, mounting 12 four-pounders, built at Philadelphia in 1759, rebuilt in 1765, received great repairs in 1773 and a new deck and sides in 1775. Ibid.

18. Lt. John Wright, R.N.

19. Brigantine *Rebecca*, master unknown, in ballast, from Dartmouth [Bedford in Dartmouth], Mass. for North Carolina, taken on 27 Jan. in Lat. 36°56", sent to New York City as a prize of H.M. sloop *Otter*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240-41.

20. Ship *Fortune*, Joseph Mass (Masse), master, with rum and sugar, from Guadeloupe to Nantes, taken on 31 Jan. in Chesapeake Bay, sent to New York City as a prize of H.M.S. *St. Albans* and H.M. sloop *Otter*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240-41. See Journal of H.M.S. *St. Albans*, 30 Jan., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EXPERIMENT*, CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE

Feb^y 1778

At Single Anchor off Sandy Hook.

Monday 2nd

AM Came down the Schooner *Willing Maid* which we fitted as a Tender.¹ Boats Emp^d. Watering. at 10 weighed and Came to Sail, running out from the Hook, passed by a Sloop from Bermuda and 4 Ships from London, Fresh Breezes and fair, Sailed over the Bar, PM at 2 Saw a Large ship ashore on Long Island; and Several small Sail, standing inshore, at 7 our Tender in C^o.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/331, 116.

1. On 3 Feb. *Experiment* ordered her tender *Hawk*, formerly *Willing Maid*, to cruize off Delaware Bay. Ibid. While in Delaware Bay off Maurice River on 6 Feb., *Hawk* captured sloop *Lee*, J. Bennett, master, from Maurice River, N.J., to Hispaniola, with tobacco and staves, and sent her to New York City. Her capture was credited to H.M.S. *Experiment*. Howe's Prize List, 30 October 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 485. *Lee* was libelled on 18 Feb. 1778 in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and condemned on 11 Mar. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 16, 29. Her prize papers give the master's name as Jacob Bennett. Ibid., 32/387/24.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Monday the 2nd day of February 1778.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain James Markham for one hundred and eighty pounds upon Account, for the purpose of recruiting Men for the naval department who gave Bond and security for faithfully applying the said money, rendering a true and just acco^t thereof, and returning any surplus that may remain in his hands by virtue hereof.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain Celey Saunders for three hundred pounds upon Account for the purpose of recruiting men for the naval Service, who gave Bond and security for faithfully applying the said money, rendering a true and just acco^t and returning any Surplus that may remain in his hands by virtue hereof.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Capt. James Markham for fifty pounds upon acco^t for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the use of the *Page Galley*.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain Celey Saunders for fifty pounds upon account for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the use of the *Lewis Galley*.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Magazine, deliver to Captain James Markham six muskets, and twenty six Cartouch Boxes for the use of the *Page Galley*.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 349–50.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *CARYSFORT*, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE

February 1778. D^o. [Charles Town] Lighthouse S 65° W^t 11 Leagues
 Monday 2^d. At 5 AM bore down to the Prize Brig^l—at 6 lost sight of the
 Brig—At 8 Saw a Sail to the E^tward gave Chace—At 10 Tk^d Ship
 D^o. Lighthouse S 38° W^t. 13 miles
 First part light breezes wth Rain Middle & Latter fresh Gales
 wth. Rain—At ½ past 1 PM fired two Guns to bring the Chace too
 D^o the Chace br^t too found her to be a Snow from Bourdeaux
 for Charles Town² D^o Shortn^d Sail, hoisted the Cutter out &
 Sent the Master, Midshipman & 7 Men on board the Prize—D^o
 rec^d on board all the prisoners D^o Close Reefd Topsails—at 12
 Prizes in Company

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/168.

1. Dutch brig *Batawear*.

2. French snow *Lanoir* (or *Lenore*), Louis Drouet, master, [2]50 tons burthen, mounting 6 guns, a crew of forty-four seamen, owned by "Basmarine Rimbau & Co." [*Reculès de Basmarein & Raimbaux of Bourdeaux*], with salt, wine, brandy, bale goods, &c., sent to St. Augustine. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *GALATEA*, CAPTAIN THOMAS JORDAN

February 1778 D^o. [Charles town] S 77° ..39' W 61 L^s
 Monday 2 at 8 AM Saw A Sail Gave Chace ½ p^t 9 fired a Shot & Bro^t too
 a French Ship on hailing him Said he was from Porto Prince
 bound to Charles town S^o Carolina Laden with Sugar Wine &
 Dry Goods^l
 D^o. N 72° ..20' W 42 L^s.
 Strong Gales and dark Cloudy W^r. at 4 [PM] H^d. T^s: Opend
 a Cask of Beef N^o. 6320 Cont^g: 190 P^{cs}. Short 2 P^{cs}. Set Main
 T^s: two Prize Briggs & French Ship in Comp^y.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4197.

1. French ship *Rosiere D'Artois*, D'Archambaut, master, [2]00 tons burthen, mounting four cohorns and four swivel guns, a crew of thirty-four seamen, from Port-au-Prince to Charleston, taken in lat. 32° 07', long. 76° 24', sent to St. Augustine. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239–40.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [Charleston] Monday 2d February [1778]
 The Board Met According to Adjourn[ment]

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commiss^r }
 Tho^s Savage, Tho^s Corbett, Josiah Smith } Esq^{rs}—
 Edward Darrell Geo Ab^t Hall }

...¹
 A Letter to his Excellency the President—

Navy Board 2^d Febru^r—1778—

Sir/

The Commissary for the Naval Department has applied to the Board for Salt, to pack and pickle the provissions purchased for the Navy, they will be glad if your Excellency will give an Order on the Commissioners for Salt, to Supply the Commissary with such Quantity as he may require for the above purpose—

To his Excellency } By Order of the Board
 John Rutledge Esq^r } Edw^d Blake first Commiss[r]

A Letter to Elisha Sawyer Esq^r Commissary—
 [Si]r/ Navy Board 2^d Febr^r 1778—

You are desired to purchase any Quantity of Flour that you can get for Baking Bread for the Navy, & place it in the hands of the Bakers who will the most Speedily Bake it up

Edward Blake first Commiss^r

Orders were drawn on the Treasury for the following Sums in fav^r of

James Bricken for 30 Spears for the <i>Gen^l Moultrie</i> a £6	£180 — —
James Stedman—	
Making Carriages for the Brigg <i>Polly</i>	£288—
for the Ship <i>Gen^l Moultrie</i>	246—
for the Brigg <i>Notre Dame</i>	180—
	<u>714 —</u>
	£894 — —

Adjourned to next Thursday Evening 6 oClock

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 137–38.

1. A letter to Commissary General William Vallentine concerning the exportation of rice is omitted.

VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON TO GOVERNOR COMTE D'ARGOUT

(Copy)

Sir *Antelope* Port Royal Harbor 2^d. Feb^r 1778

I had the honor of your letter of the 19th: december last with a declaration concerning the behaviour of some of the Officers under my Command,¹ it was deliverd to me by a Spanish Merchant, which was my reason for not answering it before, as I thought a letter on His Most Christian Majesty's Service, ought to have been forwarded, by one of His Officers & not by a Gentleman who was not to return.

In answer to that Letter, I now beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that it is not in my power to do more than transmit those papers to my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty together with a true Copy of my Orders to the Officers in that instance which I have already done in Order to convince them that those Orders were not obey'd, & further that I am not to blame. The Ships you mentiond to have Committed the Violence you complain of, have not been under

my Command for 18 Months.² I have however receivd a letter from one of the Captains, of my Squadron by which I am made acquainted with his proceeding[s,]³ that letter I have likewise transmitted to the Admiralty & now enclose you a Copy thereof: I am myself of opinion that their behaviour is so unwarrantable that they will be dismissd the Service, being quite contrary to my Orders; indeed I shou'd have answerd your letter ere this by one of His Maj^s Ships, had there been any one in port that cou'd have been spared.

In one of your Excellency's letters you were so obliging as to inform me, you had taken up the Pirate,⁴ that seized the Sloop (coming from Africa)⁵ off the Isle of Vaché and that you intended to proceed against him by a regular Course of Law and advising me that you expected to restore the Slaves &^c for which I am exceedingly obliged to your Excellency. I purpose sending one of His Maj^s Ships soon with my Answer to your last letter of the 16th January by the *Inconstant*. I hope you will send me the property that was so unlawfully seized, or that you will inform me, whether His Brittanick Majesty's Subjects are to have that property restord or not. I beg leave to Acquaint your Excellency that I am credibly informd that a Brigg of 16 Guns fitted out at Hispaniola and Mannd by French Men except the Captain, is now Cruizing off the Isle of Vache, he has made several Attacks on Merchant Ships coming here, about a Week ago chasd one of the Kings packets but could not come up with her; I hope your Excellency will rest assured, that I am as much disposed, as you are to keep up the harmony & peace Subsisting between our Courts which I have often mentiond to you before. As I expect to be relieved daily by the Rear Admiral of the Blue, Sir Peter Parker Kn^t your Excellency will please to direct your dispatches in future to that Officer

I am with respect & esteem [&c.]

Clark Gayton

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240, fols. 513–14. Addressed below close: "Le Comte D'Argout/Governor of Hispaniola." Docketed: "In Adm^l Gayton's Letter/Dated 14. Feb^r 1778." Enclosed in Vice Admiral Clark Gayton to Philip Stephens, 14 Feb. 1778.

1. See *NDAR* 10: 636–38, 719–21, 741–42.

2. H.M.S. *Maidstone* and H.M.S. *Squirrel*. See Governor John Dalling to Governor Comte d'Argout, 31 Jan., above.

3. Capt. Nathaniel Bateman, commanding H.M.S. *Winchelsea*, to Vice Adm. Clark Gayton. Letter not found.

4. American privateer *Tyger* (12 guns), Capt. Davie.

5. Sloop *Amelia*, John Tyrie, master. See *NDAR* 9: 986; 10: 113.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*, COMMANDER JAMES R. DACRES

Feb^r: 1778

S^t Eustatia ESE Dist. 2 or 3 Leag^s.

Monday 2

D^o. Weath^r. [Strong Gales with squalls of Rain] P.M & A.M
Continue Cruizing as Before People Employ'd working up
Junk the *Rattlesnake* Still in S^t Eustatia Road & Afraid to Come
out¹

S^t Kitts Bore E Dist. 4 or 5 Miles

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4141, part 8, fol. 192. The journal was kept by Lt. David Lockwood.

1. Pennsylvania privateer ship *Rattlesnake*, David McCulloch, commander. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Ceres*, 31 Jan. and 1 Feb., above.

February 3

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *MILFORD*, CAPTAIN SIR WILLIAM C. BURNABY

Feb^y 1778 D^o: [Halifax Light house] N 80 W^t: 167 Leag^s.
 Tuesday 3 [AM] Saw a sail to the S^ward Gave Chase
 D^o: [Halifax Light house] N. 81..09 W^t: 208 Leag^s.
 Light Breezes & fair intermixed with Calms Latter fresh Gales
 & fair [PM] Bro^t too the Chase she proved to be the Ship
*Gruel*¹ from Sheepsgutt, bound to Nantz, Laden with Masts, At
 Noon the *Dunmore* in Comp^y

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/607, 157.

1. Massachusetts State trading ship *Gruel*, Joseph Proctor, master, from Sheepscot, Me., bound to Nantes. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/346/3.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *UNICORN*, CAPTAIN JOHN FORD

February 1778 Do: [Nantucket South Shoal] N 14° W dist: 20 Leagues
 Tuesday 3 AM D^o: W^r: [light airs and hazey W^r:] at ½ past 9 saw a Sail in
 the NE Q^r: made Sail and gave Chase to D^o:
 Nantucket South Shoal N^o: 23° W dist: 21 Leagues
 PM mod^c and cloudy W^r: at 4 fir'd 3 Guns shotted at the
 Chace and brought her too, she prov'd to be a Schooner¹ from
 Boston bound to Virginia in Ballast, took her Sails on board &
 burn'd her,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1017.

1. Schooner *Sea Flower*, Joseph Joy, master, owned by Caleb Loring, from Boston to Virginia, in ballast, taken on 3 Feb., later burned. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Tuesday, February 3, 1778

The Committee of Commerce brought in a report; Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Committee of Commerce shall, from time to time, as occasion may require, recommend to Congress proper persons in the respective states to act as attornies in each State for recovering all commercial debts due to the United States of America, and for claiming the continental share of all prizes libelled in the court of admiralty of the State where they may respectively reside; and upon such persons being approved, that the president execute letters of attorney to such persons respectively, to be transmitted to them by the Committee of Commerce. . . .

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Committee of Commerce having recommended Abraham Livingston, Nathaniel Russel and Josiah Smith, Jun. as suitable persons to be appointed

attornies for recovering all commerical debts due to the United States of America, and for claiming the continental share of all prizes libelled in the admiralty court in the State of South Carolina, the said Nathaniel Russel and Josiah Smith, or either of them, to act in case of the absence or death of the said Abraham Livingston: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the persons above mentioned be approved, and that the President be directed to execute a letter of attorney to them accordingly. . . .

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee appointed to devise effectual means to prevent persons disaffected to the interest of the United States from being employed in any of the important offices thereof;¹ Whereupon,

Resolved, That every officer who holds or shall hereafter hold a commission or office from Congress, shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation:

I,——do acknowledge the United States of America to be free, independent and sovereign states, and declare that the people thereof owe no allegiance or obedience, to George the third, king of Great Britain; and I renounce, refuse and abjure any allegiance or obedience to him: and I do swear (or affirm) that I will, to the utmost of my power, support, maintain and defend the said United States, against the said king George the third and his heirs and successors, and his and their abettors, assistants and adherents, and will serve the said United States in the office of——which I now hold, with fidelity, according to the best of my skill and understanding. So help me God.

On this question, the yeas and nays being required,

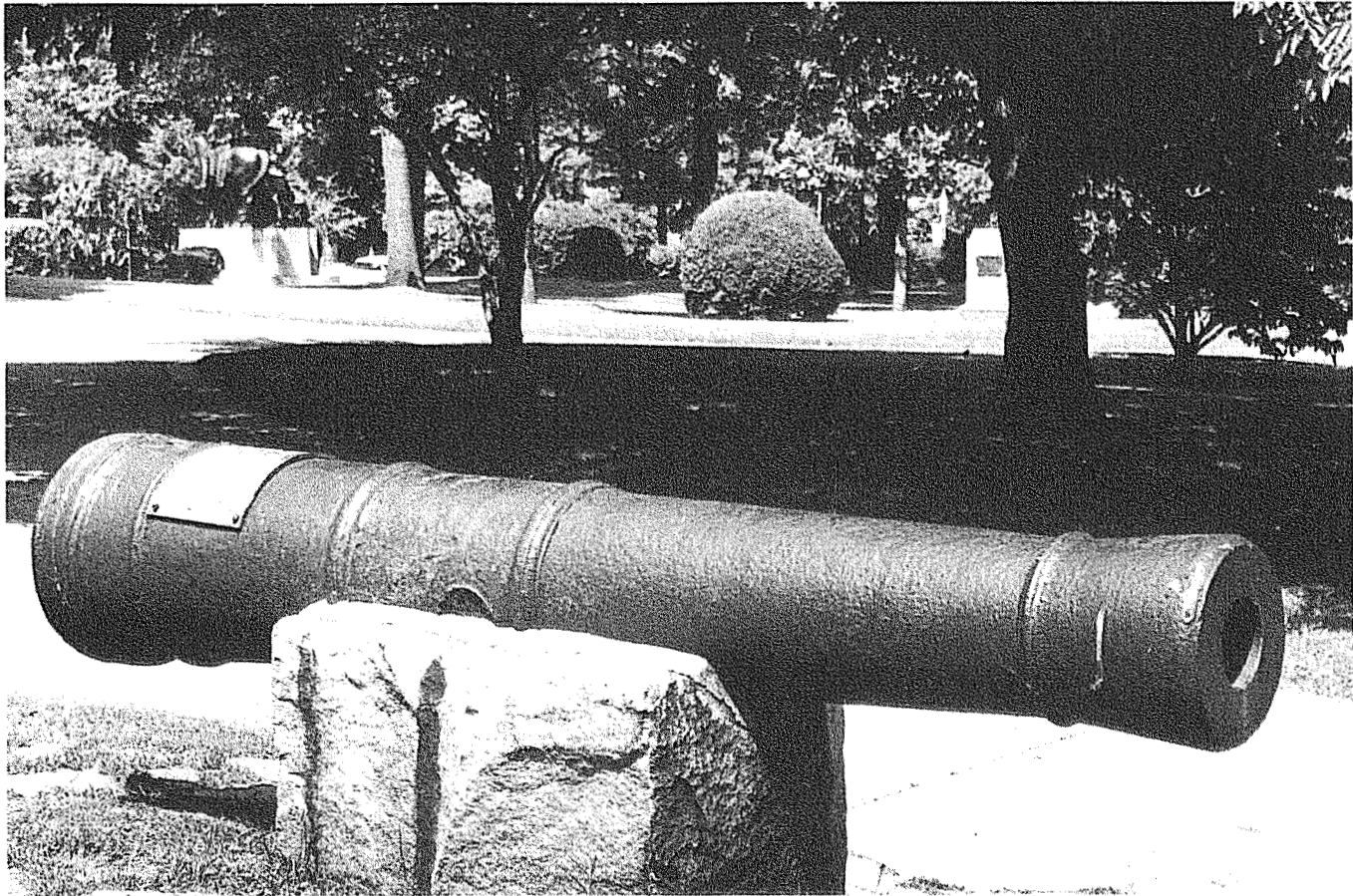
<i>New Hampshire,</i>			<i>Delaware,</i>		
Mr. Frost	ay	ay	Mr. M'Kean	ay	ay
<i>Massachusetts Bay,</i>			<i>Maryland,</i>		
Mr. Gerry,	ay	} *	Mr. Forbes,	no	} no
Lovell,	ay		Henry,	no	
<i>Rhode Island,</i>			<i>Virginia,</i>		
Mr. Ellery,	ay	ay	Mr. F. L. Lee,		
<i>Connecticut,</i>			<i>North Carolina,</i>		
Mr. Dyer,	ay	ay	Mr. Penn,	ay	ay
<i>New Jersey,</i>			<i>South Carolina,</i>		
Mr. Witherspoon,	ay	} ay	Mr. Laurens,	ay	ay
Clark,	ay		<i>Georgia,</i>		
<i>Pensylvania,</i>			Mr. Langworthy,	ay	} ay
Mr. Roberdeau,	ay		Wood,	ay	
Clingan,	ay	} ay			
J. B. Smith,	ay				

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

Congress proceeded in the report; Whereupon,

Resolved, That all officers of the army shall take and subscribe the foregoing oath or affirmation before the commander in chief, or any major general or brigadier general:

That all officers of the navy shall take and subscribe the same before one of the commissioners of the navy boards, or before a judge or justice of the peace of the State wherein they respectively reside, or shall receive their commissions or warrants. . . .



French cannon formerly mounted at Edenton, North Carolina, 1778

That every officer taking the foregoing oaths, or affirmations, or either of them, shall obtain from the person administering the same duplicate certificates specifying the time of his taking it, or them, and also his name and rank, or employment. . . .

That every officer in the navy shall deliver or send one of the certificates by him obtained to the navy board most convenient, who are required to transmit the same, and also a certificate of their own qualifications, to the Marine Committee, as soon as conveniently may be. . . .

That each deponent or affirmant shall retain and keep the other certificate by him obtained, as a voucher of his having complied with what is hereby enjoined him.

Resolved, That every officer, civil or military, now in office, shall take and subscribe the qualification above directed, within twenty days after notice hereof; and every person hereafter appointed to any office by or under the authority of the Congress of the United States of America, shall take and subscribe the same previous to his acting in such office; and every officer who shall continue or presume to exercise any commission, civil or military, under the authority of the Congress of the United States of America, without taking the qualifications in time and manner above directed, shall be cashiered, and forfeit two months' pay to the use of the United States of America, and be rendered incapable of serving in the army of the said states, and of executing thereafter any office under Congress.

Resolved, That the resolutions passed the 21 day of October, 1776, prescribing the form of an oath or affirmation, and directing the same to be subscribed by officers holding commissions or offices from Congress, be, and they are hereby repealed.²

JCC 10: 112–18.

1. See Journal of the Continental Congress, 21 Jan., above.
2. See *NDAR* 6: 1353.

CORNELIUS HARNETT TO GOVERNOR RICHARD CASWELL

[*York, Pa.*] Feb 3. [1778]¹

Being disappointed in sending this forward at the time expected, I cannot help mentioning to your Excellency very Shortly a matter which hangs heavy at my heart—Whilst all the States are fortifying every Creek & Inlet where Vessels can possibly enter, I fear Our State have Neglected Cape Lookout Bay and Cape Fear River. The latter is such a harbour, as may at all times be safe for the Enemy to Enter, & ravage the Country at will, more especially at this time, when all our Continental Troops are at the distance of 600 miles from that place. Cape Look Out is one of the finest Harbours on the American coast, & would be a noble Asylum for the Continental and Private Ships of war, to wood & water, as also a Place of Security for Trading Vessels chased by the Enemy. I am distressed beyond measure to find Our Sea Coast so much neglected, to please (I fear) a few Individuals who may be interested in the matter, I am [&c.]

Corn^s Harnett

[*P.S.*] I am confined to my room by the Gout, & therefore can not with that Accuracy I could wish, answer your Queres, in regard to Major Gen^l Pay &c I shall do myself the Honor of writing you in a Short time on that head—I could wish Your

Excellency would fall upon ways & means to procure all the Salted Pork in your State for the use of the Continental Army. Congress have every reason to believe the Army will be greatly distressed for that Article, I hope none will be Suffered to be Exported—Your Bills will be answered.

L, PHi, Charles Francis Jenkins Collection. Addressed: "His Exec^r Gov^r Caswell." Docketed: "A Letter from Corn^{ls}/Harnett Esq^r/dated the 31st Jan^y 1778/Recy^d. 17th March 1778."

1. This letter is a continuation of one started on 31 Jan., which discusses the need for taxation, paper money, and the possibility of sending North Carolina militia to reinforce the Continental Army in Pennsylvania.

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO CAPTAIN THOMAS WALKER

[Annapolis] In Council 3^d February 1778

Ordered That the western shore Treasurer pay to Cap^t Tho^s Walker Seven hundred and sixteen pounds eighteen shillings due the Galley *Baltimores* Crew per payroll examined and passed

order

T Johnson Jun^r

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-84/9.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[Williamsburg] Tuesday the 3rd day of February 1778—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain Christopher Calvert¹ for two hundred and fifty pounds upon account for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the use of the South quay Shipyard.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain Robert Tompkins for fifty pounds upon accot for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the use of the *Henry* Galley.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to John Jones for fifteen pounds fifteen shillings, as door keeper to this Board from the 20th day of November 1777. to the 31st day of January 1778 inclusive.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 350.

1. Although he is often referred to as "captain," Christopher Calvert never held a commission in the Virginia Navy. Gaius Marcus Brumbaugh, *Revolutionary War Records*, Vol. 1, *Virginia* (Lancaster, Pa.: Lancaster Press, 1936), p. 57.

MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT HOWE TO GOVERNOR JOHN HOUSTOUN

[Extract]

Sir,

Savannah the 3rd: February 1778

As I know nothing more essential to the safety of this State than completing the Continental Battallions stationed in it, and Manning of the Gallies,¹ I beg leave to give you my sentiments upon the subject, and if any thing I mention may be thought worthy the consideration of the Hon^{ble}: the Council and Assembly you will do me the favor of laying my Letter before them.

The Bounty and pay allowed for entering and serving on board the Gallies will by no means induce Seamen to enlist at this time, when they can get so much more by serving on board Merchant Men; nor will it even prevail on Land Men to serve, when every common Labourer receives Wages at least equal to the pay of the

Gallies. The governing principle of most common Men being Interest it is to that we ought to apply; and as I cannot conceive but Men are to be had, when once they are convinced that becoming Galley Men is the best thing they can do, some temptation adapted to this Governing principle, should be fallen upon; and as in the present exigence, they can hardly be bought too dear, we must accomodate to the necessity of the case, and come up to their price.—A considerable Bounty upon this occasion will, I doubt not be attended with very good effects; the taking care that the accomodations on board are comfortable, their Clothing and Provisions good, and their pay be regularly given them, that not only the Bounty and Wages are such as to tempt them to serve, but that when they have entered they may be induced to like the service by every proper care and attention: This with a sufficient portion of Land after three Years or still more if they serve during the War, and with such other measures as the wisdom of your Legislature will I doubt not suggest and adopt, I am persuaded will soon procure you more Men for the Gallies. I cannot quit this subject without once more observing that the Men should be had at any rate; and that in my opinion, properly adapted inducements will most certainly obtain them . . . I am, with the greatest respect, Sir [&c.]

(Signed) Robert Howe

Copy, DNA, PCC, item 73, pp. 149-56 (M247, roll 87). Addressed below the close: "His Honor, the Governor." Docketed: "Letter Gov^r of Georgia/February 3. 1778." Three paragraphs are not printed. They concern the deplorable state of the Continental and Minute battalions in Georgia. Howe stresses the need for better barracks, decent hospitals stocked with adequate medicines, and proper clothing and blankets to prevent desertion.

1. See Minutes of the Georgia House of Assembly, 12 Jan., above.

GOVERNOR PETER CLAUSEN TO GOVERNOR WILLIAM MATHEW BURT

Sir.

Your Excellency has been pleased under the 12th. of January last to transmit to me the Petition of James Potter, Attorney for John Adams Owner of the late Sloop *Rose* a private commission'd Vessel of War in Behalf of James Ledlar: in which I find he complains of, that the Crew saved were seized by the Guards and Dragged into a Dungeon where they now remain in a Deplorable Condition, one of whom died soon after being taken into Custody—

To which I must answer that those of the said Crew which the 26th. of Decemb: last were picked up in the open Sea, were carried into Salt River Bay and from there without the least Guard brought in the Town here at Christianstad, when I order'd them to be arrested, not in a Dungeon but in the same Chambers where Burghers and other Inhabitants of this Island are secured and arrested for Debts, and where they all are in very good Health and not one died contrary to M^r. Potters Insinuation.—

The same day I ordered the Pilot to go with a Guard and others to Buck Island, to bring Captain Ledlar with two of his People then there, down to this Place, as said Ledlar had made his Station at Buck Island, being constantly to an Anchor there, and his Domicile the Mansion House on said Island, from whence he could see every coming or going Vessel, which he then brought to and forced them to go to an Anchor untill he had searched them.—

The same he did when at Anchor at Buck Island or some other Bay's at St^e Thomas:—

He further attacked our own Vessels in the Mouth of the Harbour and within reach of our Guns, which several times were fired after him, chased them by constantly firing at them both with his Guns and small arms, so that a Schooner belonging to this Place and coming from Puerto Rico with Mules was in the above Manner chased by him and runned on Shore at the North Side of this Island, where she was lost—

These are neither Informations nor Narratives but Facts proved and asserted by himself and his saved Crew at a Polity Courts Examination which I have perused.—

I wonder if this is by Virtue of his Instructions (if ever he had a Commission) that he thus dared anoy the Trade and insult the Forts and Treaties of his King's Allies.—

I shou'd believe not; tho' one Mollineux from Tortola did the same before him: and he besides this killed a Man with a Musquet Shot on Board Ms^{rs}. Tennent & Ross's Vessel after he had hailed and brought her to, Killed Eight Sheep in the Pen at Buck Island, carried them on Board his Schooner, and pass'd close to the Harbour of this Town with them hanging quite fresh Killed over the one Side, so that no Body shou'd doubt his Violence: yea! when the Manager at Buck Island complained to him of his hostile Behaviour, acquainting him at the same time, that I had publickly forbid him and every Inhabitant here to supply them with fresh Meet from the Shore, but that they shou'd go in the Harbour where they cou'd get Refreshments: he then answered: I do not mind Your General, I wish, I had him and I wou'd hang him up by the Heels and I will take Sheep in Spite of him and the whole Island, also lay to an Anchor where I please.—

These gross Insults I must still forbear untill Satisfaction may be got from my Court, being tired of complaining in vain here: and I am likewise forc'd to suffer the daily Insults from the Commander of the Sloop call'd the *Reprisal* from Tortola; who has threatned different People of this Island and particularly Captain John Watlington, which Your Excellency will see by the following Deposition—¹

Your Excellency will judge by this whether I dare set James Ledlar on free foot,² before I have received my King's Orders, or whether I am bound to secure him untill such time.—

As to his Crew, I have nothing against they having been under his Orders and obliged to obey his Commands: but in regard to him I think, that his Misconduct rather than the Sloop's Misfortune aggravates his Crimes.—

I am sincerely Your Excellency's [&c.]

P: Clausen.

St^e: Croix

February 3^d. 1778.

LB, DNA, RG 55, Government of the Virgin Islands, Box 1 (Copybooks, Letters sent by Governor Peter Clausen to Foreign West Indian Officials, 1774–84), pp. 37–39. Addressed at top of first page: "To His Excellency/Governor Burt/&c^a. &c^a. &c^a/Antigua."

1. See Governor Peter Clausen to Captain John Watlington, 27 Jan., above.

2. In the copybook this reads: "on free foot James Ledlar" with numbers written in above rearranging the text.

PATRICK MOORE TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

St. Pierre [*Martinique*] 3^d. Februy 1778

Sir

The Brigantine *Ranger*¹ was Oblidged to Return from a Cruise after being Out two Weeks on Account of a Leak She Sprung at Sea, have had her properly over-hal'd & this day She Sails on a Second Cruise with 95 Men—her disbursements is Considerable having had her Caulk'd from the keel up

Should She meet with no Success this Cruise Am determined to Send her to the Continent when She Returns, the *S. Peter* is taken,² also the Brig *Washington*,³ No alteration in our Markets Only a Greater Scarcity of Flour, Beef Very Plenty, two Prizes loaded entirely with that Article having arrived lately, I understand Lamb⁴ is arrived at Boston, Shall be Glad to hear from you when Convenient I am Sir [&c.]
Patk Moore

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 141, no. 9070. Addressed: "To/Nath^l. Shaw Esqr./Merch^t/New London." Docketed: "Patrick Moores/Letter/Feb 3^d. 1778." Docketed in another hand: "9070."

1. Probably sloop *Ranger* (14 guns). See "Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in Martinico to his Friend in this Town, dated Jan. 19, 1778," above.

2. See Journal of H.M.S. *Aurora*, 12–13 Jan., 14 Jan., and Captain James Cumming to Philip Stephens, 14 Jan., above.

3. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 18 Jan., above.

4. Capt. John Lamb, commanding letter of marque brigantine *Irish Gimblet*. See NDAR 10: 812, 829, 830.

February 4

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT
TO JOSHUA HUNTINGTON

Navy Board Eastern departmt.

Boston 4th. February 1778

Sir

We have this day agreed with M^r William Smith of Fish kills to Supply you with twelve tuns of good refined Iron to be delivered to you at Norwich, with all possible Speed The Teamsters who bring the Iron are to be paid for the Carting for which they will have an order from M^r Smith and if any of the Iron is wanting of the weight received it must be deducted from their pay at £250 ^s tun If you have Supplied your self with any quantity write M^r Smith how much you shall want that he may Send the Surplus of twelve tuns to Boston

We received a Letter from M^r Deshon dated the 16th. Ult^o. at N. London¹ who informs us of your great necessity for money we desired him in ours of the 22^d January² to Supply you with what he could possibly Spare out of the sum he took with him which was Rhode Island & Connecticutt money that he expected to get Exchanged at Providence for Continental The duck and Cordage for the Ship³ we shall send forward soon as we can find Teams to carry it—

You will please to let us know what forwardness the Guns for the Ship at Salisbury⁴ is in and how soon they will be here you will also Inform us the price of Shot at the Furnace and what the Expencc of Carting will be—

If you can negotiate Loan office Certificates we will send you three or four thousand dollars We are [&c.]

W^m Vernon, on behalf of the Board

L, PHI, Frigate *Confederacy* Papers. Addressed: "On Public service/To/Maj^r: Joshua Hunting-ton/at/Norwich." Docketed: "W^m. Vernon/Letter Feb^y: 4th. 1778."

1. Not found.
2. Not found.
3. Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy*, building at Norwich, Conn.
4. Continental Navy frigate building at Salisbury, Mass., subsequently named *Alliance*.

JOHN BRADFORD TO ROBERT MORRIS

Dear Sir,

Boston 4th Feb^y: 1778

My last inform'd you that I had put the Bark *Nanny* to your Acc^t and had sent Orders to M^r: Jarvis¹ to fit her out immediately, this was in consequence of your Orders, provided I receiv'd no Counter Instructions from the Committe Commercial by the same post which I did not. But last Ev'ning by Express I had a Letter from them under 17th ultimo ordering Me to send the *Dispatch*² to Charlestown & also the Brig I lately bought at Boston which must mean that purchas'd at Bedford [*in Dartmouth*] as I have not bought one at Boston. their Letter is rather a Reprehension for not having sent away the *Dispatch* before, she being so fine sailing a Vessell. I detain'd at the Instance of the marine Board³ here, 'till they should hear from Congress, however it's a lesson which I hope I shall improve on. We hear Cap^t: Chew⁴ has taken a 12 Gun Sloop, & fitted her to cruize in Concert with him. It's probable, Sir, you have the Acc^t of Cargo ship'd by the late House of T M,⁵ Pliarne Penet & C^o: on Board the *Lynch* Cap^t: Adams⁶ for Acc^t of the public, the am^o: of which was 63454..1..2 the Am^o: of Disbursements 3103..2. if you stand in Need of them I can forward the Acc^t to you, I hope the *Tryton*⁷ has got near her Port, we may venture to say she went safe off this Coast. I'm sorry for your Dissappointment as the *Nanny* was a cheap Vessell but hope something may happen that may prove as beneficial to you⁸ having the Honor to be &c.

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 107. Addressed at top: "Hon^{ble} Robert Morris Esq^r."

1. Leonard Jarvis, Deputy Continental Agent at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.
2. Continental packet brig.
3. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
4. Capt. Samuel Chew, commanding the Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.
5. Thomas Morris.
6. Capt. John Adams.
7. Brig *Triton*, taken by Washington's Fleet schooners, *Hancock*, Samuel Tucker, commander, and *Franklin*, John Skimmer, commander, in Nov. 1776. See *NDAR* 7: 104, 105, 137, 139, 141n, 906, 1014, 1058.
8. As seen at John Bradford to Leonard Jarvis, 4 Feb., immediately below, *Nanny* would have been credited to Robert Morris's personal account.

JOHN BRADFORD TO LEONARD JARVIS

Dear Sir,

Boston 4th Feb^y: 1778

Your Fav'r of 26th Ulti^o: was duly receiv'd, I find that you are likely to succeed in fitting out the Ship *Mellish*¹ with a Cargo, which gives Me Pleasure, as the commercial Committe were so desirous of sending her to France—may you succeed agreeable to your most sanguine Wishes, its lucky M^r: Babcock² is with you, as

you'e had an Opportunity of striking with him for his Flax-Seed if to be sold, the Fustick I will engage Conditionally & you shall hear from Me before the next Post respecting it in my last I sent you a Copy of M^r Morris's³ Orders to me respecting the Brig *Nanny* he had mention'd to two or three of the Commercial Committee that such a Vessell lay on hand and if that Committee did not take her he should place her to his own Acc^t they had the Matter under Consideration and wrote him if they took her, they would write Me by a certain Time, M^r Morris accordingly wrote Me what had pass'd, & added I had not receiv'd any Directions from you concerning her to put her to his Acc^t but yesterday by Express I receiv'd a Letter from the Commercial Committee of 17th Ultimo desiring that the *Nanny* without delay might be sent to Charlestown South Carolina to the Address of Mess^{rs}. Clarkson & Livingston⁴ Continental Agents there to write those Gentlemen that they are directed to load her with Rice for France & consign her to W^m Lee Esq^r Cont^l Agent residing at Nantz—I rec^d. a Letter last week from M^r Morris the Contents were melancholly It was to forbid my Corresponding with my⁵ Brother Tho^s.⁶ in France being by his Desire discharg'd from the Agency owing to a profligate Life which he led lately in France, poor Burgoine is by a Resolve of Congress declar'd with his Army Prisoners of War yours &c

J B

The Committee desires you will get the Schooner⁷ ready to execute their Orders, they are about purchasing 100 Tons of Iron & 2000 Barrells Flour, they also desire that we would send forward their Acc^t till the 31st December

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 107–8. Addressed at top: "Leonard Jarvis Esq^r"

1. British transport ship, taken by the Continental Navy ship *Alfred* and sloop *Providence* on 12 Nov. 1776. See *NDAR* 7: 111, 160, 183, 271.

2. Adam Babcock, merchant at Boston.

3. Robert Morris.

4. Levinus Clarkson and Abraham Livingston.

5. An error for "his."

6. Thomas Morris, half brother of Robert Morris, and joint Commercial Agent with William Lee at Nantes, had become an alcoholic.

7. Schooner *Loyalty*, prize of the Continental Navy sloop *Providence*. See *NDAR* 9: 753, 854, 862.

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
PHILIP STEPHENS

Eagle Rhode Island

Feb^y the 4^t 1778

Sir,

The Store-Ships not being completely ready to proceed earlier with the *Chatham*, I have opportunity by that Ship, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the first of November,¹ on the Subject of the papers of Intelligence therewith enclosed: The *Ariel* not arriving here until the 30^t past.

I am much concerned that upon an occasion of so great importance to the King's Service in this Country, I am unable to assure you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that such sufficient precautions have been taken as promise those advantageous consequences, which from the circumstantial matter of the Intelligence, might be reasonably expected. Their Lordships adverting to the State of the Ships; The different objects to be necessarily attend- ed to, in their arrangement; And the nature of the Services on which they have

been without intermission employed, as more particularly noticed in my former Letters; they will be fully apprised of the Grounds on which that representation is founded.

The appointment of the *Raisnable*, before ordered to Halifax for an opportunity to procure the requisite accommodation for the number of Sick still remaining in that Ship, has been altered. All the servicable Men being assisted, as far as it could be done from amongst those lately belonging to the *Syren*, she has sailed to cruize on the probable Tract of the Ships intended to disembark their Stores in the New-England Ports.

The *Orpheus* & *Greyhound* are supposed to be now upon the same Station. And the *Apollo* and *Venus* left this Port some time since, to occupy another part of the usual approach to the New-England Coast.

The *Renown* (in the State for such Employment as their Lordships will have seen in the Returns) accompanied by the *Mermaid*, will also put immediately to sea, under the same orders as the two Frigates last mentioned.

These Ships may be, in Number, adequate to the present circumstances of the required Service; But I am yet unprepared to offer an opinion, either with respect to the time they may be able to keep the Sea, or the possibility to furnish a suitable Relief for continuing the same Guard on the passage to the Northern Ports: The indispensable Services connected with the defence of the Posts here on these Coasts, and necessary attendance on the Motions of the Army, considered.

The total want of proper Deck Quarters, and every other Requisite for the care & Re-establishment of the Sick, at this Port (where scarce any Article of Subsistence can now be obtained, exclusive of those sent from England) obliges me to remove a considerable number of them to New-York. And the *Somerset* will be to proceed with the Sick and Convalescents of her Compliment to that Port also, when the Navigation is practicable; as the only means of deriving any advantage from their future Service.

I have further to observe, on the general State of the Fleet; That the Ships have been so much reduced with respect to naval Stores, that the large Supplies lately received, will not be more than equal to their immediate Demands. And the Slops, from the same cause, are deficient in Quantity for the present necessities of the Men.

The *S^t Albans* is recalled from Chesepeak Bay, to be substituted in place of either of the Two-Decked-ships lately ordered to Sea, from this Port; Or to be otherwise employed, according to the State of her Men, as the Exigencies of the Service may then require.

The Appointment of the *Centurion*, *Isis*, and *Experiment*, will be influenced by similar Contingencies; But the particular determination postponed, until I have learnt how far the attendance of those Ships may be requisite for co-operating in the Services dependant on the Motions of the Army.

Under these Circumstances, I trust their Lordships will concur in the necessity for relieving the Ships of this Fleet in quicker Succession, from England. And by those amongst the larger Classes; if any reliance is to be had on the part of the late

Intelligence, respecting the Aid in Ships of Force which the Rebels may expect to obtain from foreign Powers, in case the intention is prosecuted with success.

I presume to think that measures should then be taken to provide three Ships of Force for each of the four principal Stations, at Chesepeak Bay, New-York, Rhode-Island, and Halifax. But twelve Sail of Two-decked ships be assigned for those fixed & seperate Appointments. Ten more will, I conceive, be equally requisite, for cruizing Detachments, & other incidental Services. Some of the Frigates (which from their much impaired State will otherwise soon become unfit to remain in this Country) might then be very suitably ordered to Europe.

These sentiments Submitted on the present call for the servicable Ships, will fully express my doubts of the possibility to furnish the Ships of Force, to form the occasional Detachment recommended for Newfoundland. Unless their Lordships shall have been induced, on further advices, to order a small Squadron from England; For the double purpose of intercepting the Capital Ships of the Enemy with greater probability of Success in these Seas, and facilitating the proof against the Captures made thereof, on these Coasts.

The same Impediment will occur on the probability of affording any effectual assistance from this Fleet, for the safer conduct of the Homeward-bound-Trade from the West-Indies, at the recited periods. It is not however explained, on what Meridian it is proposed that those Ships should cross any specified parallel, for determining the Route in which the Cruizers should be placed for their protection.

Since the receipt of Your said Letter of the first of November, I have thought it expedient to direct Captain Cornwallis,² after he has seen the Store-Ships well into the sea, to make the quickest dispatch with these Letters to England.

I am with great consideration Sir [&c.]

Howe

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 176-78. Addressed at foot of first page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r/Secretary &c. &c." Docketed: "4 Feby 1778/Rhode Island/Lord Visco^t Howe/Secret/R, 21 Mar."

1. Letter not found.

2. Capt. William Cornwallis, R.N.

COMMODORE JOHN HAZELWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sir

Trenton Feb^y 4th 1778

I have received a Letter from the Adj^t General wherein he informs me its Your Excellencys express orders that I shou'd send forward to Camp those few Troops Your Excellency was so kind to spare me for the use of our Fleet. I shall comply with the request as soon as possible. I expect our Pay Master in a few days & as soon as we can pay them for the time they have been with us, they shall be March'd off immediately. I shall also send Your Excellency the number of Men we have left, in the Fleet, as he in his letter desires—

We are about getting our Fleet in readiness, with all possible dispatch, but shall not be able to Mann above half of them: We had a great number killed & wounded, & a great many Run away since we came into Winter Quarters, & from

the weakness of our situation, I fear we shall not be of that service I could wish:—

I am fully of opinion, that if we could take possession of Billinsport & Fortify it, that we might soon stop the Pass of the River again; for the Pass they made through Billinsport is not above one hundred foot wide; and as to the inner Channel it can easily be blocked up, and while even we can hold Billinsport, nothing can pass up or down the River—I have sent Six Armed Boats down by Land, Mann'd with [some] of the Inhabitants that can be depended on, and am in hopes they will be of use [to] annoy the enemy below—If Your Excellency could spare me those Men that we have [now] trained to the Galleys, it would be of great use in keeping the Boats from carrying [in] Provisions to the enemy, and keeping their Craft from coming up to ravage this Shore. Having not to add, Am Your Excellencys [&c.]

John Hazelwood

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Because the lower left corner is torn, the missing words are supplied in brackets from the copy printed in *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st. ser., 6: 235–36.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

Feb^r 78
 Wednesday 4th Moored in Hampton Road Virginia
 at 8 AM y^e. *Otter* weighed & made Sail
 Moored in Hampton Road Virginia
 Light Airs and Clear [PM] sent y^e. Boats Man'd and Arm'd
 with a Lieut^t in Chace of two Sloops, Coming out of Portsmouth
 at 9 PM the Boats returned after burn^g a Schooner load'd with
 Salt¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. Schooner, name unknown, Joshua White, master, owned by William Roberts of Nansemond Co., mounting 2 guns, from Suffolk, Va., to Williamsburg, with salt, taken in James River, burned. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. She is listed under 31 Jan. on Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778.

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[*Savannah*]

February 4th 1778

The Commissary General has informed me that agreeable to your order¹ he hath enquired for a proper place for a hospital & finds the house lately occupied by John Patton very fit for that purpose—Under circumstances your honorable house will determine whether it will be necessary to appropri[ate] to that use by Law immediately
 Council Chamber
 February 4, 1778

JOHN HOUSTOUN.

The Revolutionary Records of the State of Georgia, 2: 23.

1. See Minutes of the Georgia Executive Council, 19 Jan., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*, COMMANDER JAMES R. DACRES

Feb^y 1778
Wednesday 4

S^t Eustatia Bore NNW Dist^{ce}. 3 or 4 Leagues
at 10 A.M saw a Sail in the NE gave chace half past 11 Spoke
with D^o. & Boarded her Prov'd to be the *Betsy* Schooner from
Virginia Bound to S^t Eustatia¹ Brought the Master & all the
men on Board, sent an Officer with 4 men to take Charge of the
Prize

S^t Bartholomew SW Dist^{ce}. 2 or 3 Miles
D^o. Weath^r [Strong Gales with squalls of Rain] P.M took the
Schooner in tow under Double Reeft Top^{sls}.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4141, part 8, fol. 192.

1. Schooner *Betsy*, Thomas Timpson, master, 20 tons burthen, crew of 7 men, from Alexandria, Va., with tobacco, flour and staves, sent into St. Christopher. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

GOVERNOR EDWARD HAY TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]

N^o. 21.

Barbados 4th. Feb^y 1778.

My Lord

There has been no opportunity of writing from hence to England since last July. I have now that Three Victuallers returning home after having delivered their Cargoes sent out by order of the Lords of the Treasury. There are Eight Victualling Ships arrived, Six of which are loaded with Flour, Beans and peas, and Two Vessels from Whitehaven with Herrings: These Articles were much wanted, particularly The Flour and Herrings; and are a very agreeable Supply to the Inhabitants, who through the different Branches of this Legislature, will make their Acknowledgements in a Loyal and Dutiful Address to His Majesty, and in an Address of Thanks to the Lords of the Treasury for the Ease and Readiness with which they complied with the Request of the Barbados Planters in London.

... I am very much obliged to Your Lordship for your Directions how to dispose of my Prisoners. I have attempted it several times but to no purpose. I herewith inclose Copy of a Letter I wrote to Captain Pringle¹ after all the Convoys of last Year were sailed. I have however fallen upon a method of disposing of them, which I hope Your Lordship will approve of. As the Governor of Martinique reclaimed the French Prisoners, and as I had likewise been credibly informed, that He prevents as much as possible any of his people from going on board of American Vessels, and that even the French Frigates take out all French Men out of such Vessels; I sent all the Foreigners to the French Islands. Some few Scotch and English Europeans who had been taken at Sea, and confined in America, and who were found among these prisoners, I sent away; And as to the Americans which were belonging to the *Mosquito* Privateer,² I took the opportunity of the expiration of the Pyrate Act the 1st. Jan^y to put them on board the Ships of the Convoy bound to Jamaica.

I have the pleasure to acquaint Your Lordship that the Convoy from Bristol consisting of 35 Sail under Convoy of the *Hind*, Capt. Hope³ and two other Ships of

War arrived here on Monday the 12. Jan^{ry} and the Convoy from London consisting of 81 Sail of Merchant Ships under Convoy of the *Niger* Capt. Lambert,⁴ and Four other Ships of War arrived here on Wednesday the 14 Jan^{ry}. The Same day Capt. Cummings⁵ in His Majesty's Ship the *Aurora* brought in the *S^t. Peter*, an American Privateer of 22 Guns and 115 Men;⁶ Capt. Cummings with a great deal of Good nature dispersed his prisoners on board of the Ships in the Two Convoys, which both sailed to the Several other Islands on Saturday the 17th.—

On Monday the 19 Jan^{ry}. Capt. Colpoys⁷ in His Majesty's Ship *Seaford* brought into this Bay the *General Washington* Privateer of 18 Guns and 85 Men,⁸ Ten of which are Negroes and have been sold. As Capt. Colpoys was immediately returning to Sea, having advice of other Privateers to the Northward of this Island; His prisoners were an incumbrance to him, I thought it my Duty for the safety of the Island, as well as for the benefit the Inhabitants receive from these Captures, to receive these Prisoners and confine them; But I shall send them away as fast as Opportunities offer.

I shall now be able to make out the Account of the expences of such prisoners, as I received last Year, and shall send the same properly attested to the Lords of the Treasury, and draw upon Their Lordships for the Amount of These Disbursements.

I have omitted to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Lordship's Circular Letter of the 3^d. October. In answer to which I have the honour to acquaint Your Lordship that on the 7. August last I received a Joint Letter from Lord Howe and the General dated 20. April to desire that I would grant no more licences for Rum &c^a. unless the Contractors ordered them. Since that time I have refused licences for Cargoes for the Fleet and Army; and I will certainly now continue to refuse them, in Obedience to His Majesty's Commands. But many Cargoes have gone without Licences.

I have the honour to be with great respect My Lord, [&c.]

Edw^d: Hay

L, UKLPR, C.O. 28/57, 9–10. Addressed below close: "The Right Honourable/The Lord George Germain/&c^a. &c^a. &c^a." Docketed: "Barbados 4th. Feby 1778./Hon^{ble}. Gov^r. Hay/(No. 21.)/R, 21st. May./(1 Inclosure.)/Ent^d." The omitted paragraph concerns the receipt of letters and the birth of a princess to Queen Charlotte.

1. Capt. Thomas Pringle, R.N.
2. Virginia Navy brig *Musquetto* [*Musquito*], captured by H.M.S. *Ariadne* on 4 June 1777. See *NDAR* 9: 19–20, 46, 104, 323–24, 696–97; 10: 273, 273n, 661.
3. Capt. Charles Hope, R.N.
4. Capt. Robert Lambert, R.N.
5. Capt. James Cumming, R.N.
6. American privateer ship, Samuel Chace, commander, captured by H.M.S. *Aurora* on 13 Jan. See *Journal of H.M.S. Aurora*, 14 Jan., above.
7. Capt. John Colpoys, R.N.
8. Massachusetts privateer brigantine, William Rogers, commander, captured by H.M.S. *Seaford* on 18 Jan. See *Journal of H.M.S. Seaford*, 18 Jan., above.

GOVERNOR VALENTINE MORRIS TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]

My Lord!

S^t: Vincent 4th February '78.

Having done myself the honor of writing to the Lords of His majestys Treasury, I have thought it my duty to transmit to your Lordship a copy of my letters and the

papers therein referred to requesting your Lordship's serious attention to them, and receiving his Majestys earliest directions. I will not now employ more of your Lordship's time on these, than just to observe that a bare perusal of these and other dispatches, which probably may be forwarded to your Lordship, will I trust make your Lordship fully acquainted with the disposition of the colonists here; with the pains, and temp'r I hourly take, and manifest, to prevent them from further breaking out into the utmost indecency, and refractoriness to every mode of order; and to repeat the absolute necessity there is, for his Majesty's Ministers to support his Servants here, and to send out the most decisive orders, and such as some of them at least may be openly shewn, to effectually curb the licentious turbulency of many leading people here, and to enable the carrying on his Majestys measures; and universal opposition to all of which, and to his Servants, seems to be the prevailing madness of the colony.

in respect of the conduct of the French in their Islands I have the honor to inform your Lordship, the 13th or 14th of last month a french Frigate in Saint Pierre harbor, weighed anchor, fired a gun for signal, for three american vessells, one bound for North Carolina and two for new London, as also for some others fitted out by Bingham,¹ these unmoored, ~~and altho'~~ Americans hoisted French Colours and the Frigate convoyed them to the Northward of Anagada,² one of the Virgin Islands as I learn, and in these vessells several young French Gentlemen Planters Sons sailed, avowedly to enter into the service of the Americans.

The *Rattlesnake* Privateer³ so much boasted of by the Americans, one of these two days also quitted Fortroyal in Martinica and came to S^t Pierres, and on doing it saluted that Fort it quitted and the Frigate there with twenty Guns and had the salute returned, with an equal number. but at S^t Pierres, saluting without putting up French Colours, the Forts there did not return it.

the messenger I sent to purchase privately the Gover^t Provision Sloop of this Island⁴ mentioned in my former letters to have been taken, did not Succeed, being told that the prize-master hearing of my reclamation, had run off with it (most probably sent away with it, by M^r Bingham), and was positively assured that there were not any more English Seamen other than those I had released prisoners. and yet the Emissarys I have (one of whom well acquainted with french ways, was in all the apartments of their several Prisons, and places of confinement, and saw and spoke to, the unhappy wretches) assure me there were several, at least fifteen or Sixteen men confined, only because they wanted not to enter ~~on-board~~, or if forced into strove to quit the service of the americans; and others because having no money to pay for lodgings, they were ~~then~~ in the Streets. the design of confining these usefull men ~~was~~ to compell them to enter on board American Vessells is obvious; since their Gov^t try to secrete them from my enquirys, when I am ready to discharge any debts they may have contracted, and by bringing them over here, to free the police of S^t Pierre of the pretence of their being found in the Streets.

I have the honor to be with respect and Esteem [&c.]

Valentine Morris

L, UKLPR, C.O. 260/5, fols. 134–35. Addressed: “S^c: Vincent 4th February 1778/Original/ R^c: Honble Lord George Germaine.” Docketed: “S^c: Vincent 4th. Febry 1778./Governor Morris./R, 18th. May./(5 Inclosures)/Ent^d.” A postscript, which is repetitive, is not printed.

1. William Bingham.
2. Anegada, British Virgin Islands.
3. Pennsylvania privateer schooner/ship, David McCulloch, commander. See *NDAR* 7: 1237; 8: 81, 413, 429, 430, 487, 699, 701, 871, 936, 966, 1013; 9: 93, 545, 899; 10: 373, 462, 463, 732, 737, 748, 810.
4. *Two Friends*.

February 5

JOHN BRADFORD TO CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Honb^{ble} Sirs.

Boston 5th Feb^{ry} 1778

Your favour the 17 Ulti^o: by express came to hand yesterday. the Reprehension it gives Me for detaining the *Dispatch*¹ is just—I ask Pardon for Transgressing and it will teach me in future not to listen to the Sollicitations of any Body, to go beside my direct Line of Duty. the *Dispatch* has been laying up I have not employed a Single Man on board her, On Receipt of Your fav^r I immediately engaged Cap^t: Brown² who was formerly Lieu^t: in the *Boston* to take the Command of her hope to get her away in a Week I have desird M^r Jarvis³ to get away the Bark *Nanny*, with utmost Expedition, wch is what the hon^{ble}: ~~Board~~ Committee must mean when they Order me to get away the Brig I lately bo^t: at Boston, As no Vessell has been purchased at Boston by me—and only that bark at Bedford [*in Dartmouth*]. she is a fine Vessell and will carry a great Quantity Rice I have also desired M^r Jarvis to fit the Schooner⁴ for the Sea Ready to obey y^r: Orders. how he goes on in loading the *mellish*⁵ I know not, as we have had no post from that Quarter—

This hour the Signal Guns are firing below for a Fleet in Sight wch we suppose to be Transports⁶ the Wind having been favourable to them Some days past having nothing to add Am y^{rs}. &c. &c.

J B.

The *Tryton*⁷ Sald 13 ultimo from below, she had a fine Time off—

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 108–9. Addressed at top: “Honb^{le} Commercial Committee.”

1. Continental packet brig.
2. Lt. John Brown, Continental Navy.
3. Leonard Jarvis, Deputy Continental Agent at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.
4. Prize schooner *Loyalty*.
5. British transport ship, taken by the Continental Navy ship *Alfred* and Continental Navy sloop *Providence* on 12 Nov. 1776. See *NDAR* 7: 111, 160, 183, 271.
6. British transports intended to embark Burgoyne’s Army at Boston.
7. Brig *Triton*, taken by Washington’s Fleet schooners, *Hancock*, Samuel Tucker, commander, and *Franklin*, John Skimmer, commander, in Nov. 1776. See *NDAR* 7: 104, 105, 137, 139, 141n, 906, 1014, 1058.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Feb^r 5th 1778—

Order'd, That Tho's Lewis for Sundries for Ship *Adams*¹ as p^r Account, be paid £10..11..10.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 200.

1. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.

THE INDEPENDENT CHRONICLE, AND THE UNIVERSAL ADVERTISER,
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1778

BOSTON.

The following is an account of the treatment that the Continental officers, taken in the frigates Hancock and Fox, and lately returned from a six months imprisonment, met with at Halifax, together with those officers mentioned in our last.

Being taken prisoners, on the 7th and 8th July last, by the *Rainbow* and *Flora*, they were carried directly into Halifax; and those taken by the *Flora* frigate, were well treated, the little time they were on board said *Flora*; from which they and their men were sent on board a prison ship, where numbers of their unhappy fellow-prisoners had been for a long time confined, and had the yellow-fever, the small-pox, and almost all disorders, to a shocking degree, without any physician allowed them, or any medicine, those that were taken in the *Hancock*, were put on board the *Rainbow*, and no distinction was made between the officers and men, but some took shelter in the hold, and under the half-deck; were for some time without any provision, and scarce any thing to support nature, while confined on board said ship;—upon our officers and people leaving the *Hancock*, their chests were searched, and all mathematical instruments such as quadrants, scales, dividers, together with all books, journals, &c. useful to navigation, were taken from them with a number of other articles, of value. After being in Halifax harbour 8 or 10 days, all the prisoners in the prison-ship, and in the *Rainbow*, were, on the Sabbath, in grand marine order, removed to the shore, and committed to the custody of the town-major, and all the British officers and soldiers in the place. The American officers were huddled in among the common men, and told, by the British officers, that they knew no distinction; and in this undistinguished manner, all the prisoners, 300 in number, were conducted, in the roughest manner, with unpardonable insults, into a large brick building, barracaded in by a very high fence, and under the care of the provost-guard. Thus the sick of the small-pox, yellow-fever, and other disorders, were drove into said building, indiscriminately with the well; and the American officers, thought a few minutes before, they were told that there was no distinction known between them and the men, yet, that American officers should be answerable, and suffer for all disorderly conduct that the prisoners should be guilty of: added to this, the surgeons were, the day after the prisoners were under said provost-guard forbid innoculating any person, on penalty of being confined in irons, &c. though much the greater part of the prisoners had never had the small-pox, and several among them were almost rotten with the disorder. The prisoners were told, that their weekly allowance, per man, was 4 pounds of pork, 3 pints of pease, 6 ounces of butter, 7 pounds of bread, 3 and

an half gallons of beer, and wood for cooking. All these articles were delivered out in pursers weight and measure, 12 ounces to the pound, &c. Even this small allowance was not only tainted, dirty, mouldy, &c. but often not even the pretended weight and measure was granted. Some considerable time after the poor American prisoners were under said provost-guard, an attempt was made, by a number, to dig out of the prison, which being discovered, numbers of them were put in irons, and confined in that manner, for the space of three months, and their irons kept on even after they were sent sick to the hospital; at the same time all the prisoners were deprived of their knives, rasors, &c. so that they were obliged to pull their pork to pieces with their fingers, and the like. It is also worthy of particular notice, that all the old countrymen and foreigners, that were taken prisoners, and almost every boy, were kept on board the British ships, some, through threatenings, persuasions, &c. were induced to enter into the British service; and often did the land and navy officers, come to the said provost-guard, and ordered persons to go on board the British ships, and, upon their refusing this, were kicked and banged, and hauled forceably away; in particular, Mr. Adiscott,¹ master of the schooner *Lee*, who was taken in a prize,² Mr. John Milen,³ a midshipman of the ship *Boston*, Thomas Jarvis, of Boston, and a large number of others, were taken away in this inhuman and cruel manner. The small-pox, fevers, &c. being brought from the prison-ship, and being all turned in together, indiscriminately, and no possibility of keeping themselves clean, numbers soon became very sickly, and a hospital was prepared for them, built in the roughest manner, inclosed with poor boards slightly feather edged, and nailed on to unhewn timber, no fire place, store⁴ or glass. 'Till a considerable time after the cold weather came on, to this dismal place the poor miserable sick were conveyed, where they were poorly sheltered with miserable bedding, and more miserable attendance, together with a most miserable diet, viz. per day, 1 pound boiled rice, a boiled flour dumplin, as big as the palm of a man's hand, with 8 or 10 raisins in each, and sometimes a weak insippid broth, no milk or herb drink of any kind, having for drink only a small quantity of spruce beer and rice water, scarcely discloured with the rice, and no fire to warm even the least thing. Thus the poor miserable suffered and died, oftentimes 3 or 4 or half a dozen per day, of fevers and the small-pox, mostly through want of proper attendance, and immediately on their dying, were carried out of the hospital, and laid in a cradle in the open air, and here kept 3 or 4 days, and when they were buried, their brother prisoners were obliged to dig their graves and burry them. In about 8 or 10 days after the prisoners were put under the provost-guard aforesaid, the Continental officers were removed to an apartment in the soldiers barrack, where they, from 13 to 18 in number, were closely confined to one room, with their firelocks and bayonets, in the hottest season of the year, with the door locked, and only two small windows, where they had their cabins and chests, were obliged to have almost constantly a fire to dress their provisions, which they were obliged to cook themselves, not being allowed even one of their own men to cook for them, 'till after frequent petitioning. For about a month they were thus closely confined, permitted to go to the necessary, under guard, and that only from sunrise to sunset; at no other time were they permitted to go out of the room, let the calls of nature be ever so urgent;

add to this, that they had no person to wait on them, they were obliged, by turns, to carry out their wash, &c. quite out into the open street, draw the water they wanted, &c. after frequent petitioning, as aforesaid, they were allowed one of the prisoners from the provost guard, to wait upon them, and the General,⁵ with much importunity, permitted them to walk 2 hours in the 24, in the barrack-yard, which was picketed in, and guarded at all parts with armed soldiers. During this, and for a long time after, they were almost suffocated with the heat of the room, which was so hot, that even the centries, who had only two hours to guard, before they were relieved, often fainted away. This, together with the scantness of provision allowed, the pork often tainted, and so bad as not to be eaten, the pease mouldy, and unfit for food, and any friends in town forbid speaking to them, or supplying them, and almost always turned away when they were bringing provisions, &c. Thus closely and cruelly confined, and so miserably supplied, they were obliged, as they were poorly furnished with specie, to sell some of their cloathing, and many other articles, at little more than half their value, in order to purchase necessaries; as they had no persons but soldiers to buy things for them, they were often imposed upon by them, in giving them more than the articles cost, and paying them dearly for their service. Many wearisome weeks were they in this deplorable situation, and no mortal to make application to, for the least supply, 'till Capt. Salter arrived from Boston, about the last of October, who, with great difficulty and risque, got to their window, and offered to supply them with what money they wanted for necessaries, they drawing bills on their friends, and was so friendly as to tell them, that he should ask neither commission or interest. In consequence of this they drew bills upon their friends, in favour of Mr. Salter; but as all papers that went from the prisoners being inspected by the officer of the day, it was a whole month before they received any intelligence relative to said bills, though they petitioned the General in the mean time, to know what was become of said bills, or whether he would permit Mr. Salter to advance them money upon them; at last, with difficulty, and much formality of parade, they were permitted to have some of the bills negotiated, with great complaints that they were too large; and at one time, when the provost serjeant was actually paying one of their bills, Capt. Eliot, the senior Captain, coming in, forbid the money being paid, and ordered the serjeant to restore the money to Mr. Salter: These matters were conducted with many disagreeable and insulting circumstances.

After the ship *Royal Bounty* began to prepare to carry the American prisoners to Rhode Island, to be exchanged, they were informed, by proper authority, that they were not permitted to purchase any articles at Halifax, on penalty of being deprived of them when they went away. In consequence of this, they made application to the General, for liberty to purchase a few articles of cloathing, and some necessary sea-stores; but this, it seems, lay with Governor Arbuthnot,⁶ who was pleased, in his great humanity, to permit, supposing the serjeant on guard, after proper examination, thought it necessary, to purchase a common blanket, 1 pair common shoes, 1 pair coarse stockings, and 6 pounds brown sugar, for the use of the Doctor, in case any of them should be sick on their passage. At length, on a very stormy day, in the midst of severe snow, rain and cold, they were ordered on board the said transport *Royal*

Bounty, where they arrived with all their cloaths and bedding, extremely wet, in which condition the hold of the ship was the most convenient place allowed them, and accordingly they took their station, forward of the cable tier, in the cole hold, amidst wood, lumber and cordage, without either fire or light, where they continued four days, in a cold, wet and gloomy condition, with extreme scanty allowance, 'till they had the happiness of being removed to the cartel brig *Favourite*, from Boston.

The foregoing is but a faint specimen of the ill treatment they have received; they forbear to mention the many cruel and insulting speeches that have been made to them, representing all the Americans as rebels, and their officers as destitute of honour, and restrained from using the British prisoners ill, only from a principle of fear.—They would be far from being cruel to any of the human race and particularly to prisoners; but they apprehend that American prisoners will not be used well, 'till we retaliate in kind and degree; and the treatment above-mentioned will, in some measure point out the manner in which Americans ought to make retaliation.

1. William Addiscott, master of the Massachusetts privateer schooner *Lee*. See *NDAR* 10: 349 and William Bell Clark, *George Washington's Navy* (Baton Rouge, La.: Louisiana State University Press, 1960), 213.

2. Snow *Lively*, John Carter, master, from Bristol, England, to Halifax, with rice and staves. Clark, op. cit., 213.

3. Probably, John Milne, a seaman on the Continental Navy frigate *Boston*.

4. *Stove* was probably intended.

5. Maj. Gen. Eyre Massey.

6. Lt. Gov. Marriot Arbuthnot.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ALEXANDER HAMILTON TO COMMODORE JOHN HAZELWOOD

Head Quarters Valley forge

February 5th 1778—

Sir,

It is his Excellency's desire, that you have all the public boats below the falls removed as expeditiously as possible to Coryells ferry, or higher as you may think necessary for their safety. Their present situation exposes them to being destroyed or taken without much difficulty and we should feel the loss of them.

I am Sir [&c.]

Alex Hamilton AD[C]

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "5th Feb' 1778/to/Commodore Hazelwood/from/A Hamilton/ADC."

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

Roebuck at Philadelphia

5th. February 1778.

My Lord,

Lieutenant Walbeoff with your Lordship's Dispatches for the General,¹ arrived here the 1st Instant. He came into the Delaware at a fortunate time, as the Ice was then breaking up; However he met with much difficulty, and shewed both judgment and perseverance in getting up the River.

The *Liverpool* passed the lower Chevaux de Frize the 3^d Instant. A Body of Militia appeared at Billingsport; perhaps with a view to be ready to take advantage of any accident, as they withdrew themselves upon the approach of the Ship, and She passed without any molestation.

A number of Army Victuallers are preparing to sail for Cork. They are all Ships of Force and will require no Convoy, but as more Frost is to be expected, it will not be proper to run the risk of their Sailing until towards the end of the Month. With them will also sail a Transport to carry home the Invalids of the Army.

Having so very lately had the Honor to write to your Lordship by Captain Bellew, I have little more to add by the return of the Sloop *York* than the account of the State and Condition of the Squadron entrusted to my Care. By the return which accompanies this your Lordship will perceive how much we have suffered from Fever and Flux.² As the Cold Weather came on, the numbers of Sick encreased so much, that besides an Hospital fitted up to hold One hundred and fifty Patients, each Ship had a small House allotted them near the Wharf they lay at, to hold such as could not be accomodated at the Hospital. All possible care, and every kind of nourishment, has been procured for them; and I have now the satisfaction to find a considerable change for the better.

The Number of Slops and Beds left here was very inadequate to the wants of the Men; I was therefore under the necessity of giving Orders to the Pursers of the Ships to purchase a quantity of the Articles most wanted. They will by that means come something dearer to the People than such as are Supplied by the Navy Board but that inconvenience is much over ballanced by the Relief obtained by it.

Several Vacancys having happened among the Officers, I have ordered others to act in their room, as no hinderance might happen to the Service on that account;³ and M^r Charles Fletcher the Surgeon of the *Roebuck* has been allowed to return to England for the re-establishment of his Health, having been found on Survey to be incapable of performing his duty.

Two Row Gallies are upon the Stocks, which, with the rest of the Squadron, I hope your Lordship will find fit for Service on your arrival; at least nothing shall be wanting on my part to obtain it. I have the Honor &ca. &ca.

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Letter Book (1778-1779), pp. 14-16. Addressed at foot: "The R^t Honorable/The Lord Viscount Howe/&ca. &ca."

1. Gen. Sir William Howe.

2. Marginal notation: "Vid. Hospital Return 4th Feb^y [1]778." Return not found.

3. Marginal notation: "Vid. Pa^s 18."

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO LIEUTENANT THOMAS WALBEOFF, R.N.

By &c. &c.

You are hereby directed to receive all such Dispatches as shall be sent to You from His Excellency Sir William Howe, as also all such as you will receive from me, for the Lord Viscount Howe; and proceed with all convenient expedition in the

Armed Sloop under your Command to Rhode Island, and follow his Lordships Orders for your further proceedings.—

As the Dispatches with which you are charged are of great Consequence to His Majestys Service, They must not on any Account whatsoever fall into the Hands of the Enemy; They are therefore to be kept ready for sinking in case of Accidents, and should You be overpowered by the Enemy your first care must be to destroy the Dispatches.

Given &c. [*on board the Roebuck at Philadelphia*] 5th Febr'y. 1778

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), p. 16. Addressed at foot: "Lieut^r Tho^s Walbeoff/*York Sloop.*"

VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE READ TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

[Extract]

Sir. Christiana Bridge [*Del.*] Feb^{ry} 5th. 1778.

... As to Cloathing I have heretofore represented to your Excellency that it's Manufacture within the State always was and still is inconsiderable. We lost many of our small Stocks of Sheep by the British Plunderers, and the last Year's Crop of Flax failed very generally. Fortune threw some Cloths in our way lately that will be sufficient for more than our Battalion Consists of at present, if you do not Order otherwise; they were taken out of A Schooner, deserted by her Crew, and after forced on our Shore by the Ice.¹ Several of our People as well as others from Jersey were busily employed in gutting of her, when A detachment of the Delaware Battalion, at the instance of Brigadier Patterson,² was sent to take into Possession such of the Cargo as might be of Use to the Army. Cloth's and Spirits were the only two Articles. A dispute arises between the State and those of its inhabitants, who saved the Goods from this Wreck, as to the Property, but in whomsoever it may be determined, I Apprehend our Battalion shou'd have the preference of such part of the Cloth's as Suited for their Uniform, and at the Request of the Field Officers I wrote to General Smallwood making Claim to them. As he declines to allow the Claim until he shall receive your direction therein I have sent A Copy of my Letter to him and his Answer, least in the Multiplicity of Business he shou'd delay Stating that Claim to your Excellency, for if decided in our favour the Cloth's may be immediately made up by A Number of Workmen, whom Col: Pope³ has collected at Dover. ... I am with great respect [&c.]

Geo: Read

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "His Excellency General Washington." Docketed: "Vice President Geo./Reed—feb^{ry} 5th. 1777./Rec^d. 19th Answ^d. 22^d—." Read was vice president and acting president of Delaware. The bulk of the letter, not printed here, discusses various issues of concern to the Delaware militia.

1. See "Extract of A letter from Wilmington, dated January 11, 1778," above.

2. Brig. Gen. Samuel Patterson, Delaware Militia.

3. Lt. Col. Charles Pope, Delaware Regiment.

THOMAS SAVADGE TO THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[Extract]

Sir

pennsylvania Saltworks, Feb^y 5 1778

Your letter of Jan^y 16th I duly rec^d. by the hand of M^r Ja^s. Davidson—Com^{dr}. Hazelwood does not think proper to furnish the Men you are pleased to Mention therefore the same cause still subsists as ever as done since the Calling out of the Militia and that prevents these Works being carried into execution and I do not see any prospect of a remedy Altho I had Seven Journeys to the different Councils and Assembl^ys to get a law passed for the exemption of my people from the Militia and With the greatest difficulty Obtained it and it his now entirely Neglected Such Men as Com^{dr}. Hazelwood Could furnish are not the Men I want Neither Will I pretend to Carry on the Works With Such Men. . . .

I am Sir with all due respect [&c.]

Thomas Savadge

NB

L, PHarH, RG 27, Executive Correspondence (loose) of the Supreme Executive Council. Addressed: "To/The Hon^{ble}. Tho^s Wharton Jun^r Esq^r/President of the Hon^{ble} Council/of State for the State of/Pennsylvania/~~to~~ fav^r of James Davidson Esqr." Docketed: "1778 February 21st. From/Thomas Savage." Five paragraphs of the letter are omitted. In them Savadge states he must be given complete authority over the works or he cannot continue to run them. A postscript states the need for wood.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. RICHMOND, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

February 1778

[Back River Point SWBS]

Thursday 5

AM, read the Burial Service & Committed the body to the Deep weigh^d & came to Sail as did the *Solebay* at noon Cherry P^t WNW 3 Leagues

Cherry P^t WNW 3 Leagues

Mod^t & Hazy PM at 1 Saw 2 Sail to the SW, at 3 weigh^d & gave Chace at 5 made the *Solebays* Sig^l to chace one of them that was to y^e. South^d. ½ p^t Anch^d. with BB^r in 7^m. W. Entrance Wighomoco E ½ S, Sent the Boats & Set fire to the Sloop who had run aground, Load^d. with Tobacco

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/784.

GOVERNOR RICHARD CASWELL TO JAMES COOR

Sir,

Newington, [N.C.] 5th. February, 1778.

It being certified to me that Capt: Roberts in the Schooner [*blank*] and Capt: Hutchins in the Schooner *Race Horse*, both from Bermuda, with Salt, on the faith and credit of the Resolutions of Congress—have disposed of their Cargoes for Corn and Pork, which they have now ready to Ship and return to their Island.

They are both small and will not carry more than 120 or 130 barrels of pork. I find a pretty large quantity of that article is to be purchased for the public, and by no means wish to discourage the bringing in of Salt—nor would I wish to have the Resolutions of Congress called in question.

I therefore recommend your permitting the said Captains to carry out the above quantity of Pork, my proclamation to the Contrary notwithstanding. If any

more Bermudians arrive with Salt, let them report to me their Cargo, and 'tis probable they will receive the same treatment, and 'tis very necessary as perhaps more Salt may be wanted for public use. I am [&c.]

R. Caswell.

LB, Nc-Ar, Governors Letter Books 1.1, Richard Caswell Letter Book, 1776–1779, pp. 292–93. Addressed at bottom: "James Coor Esq./N.O. Newbern." Coor was the Naval (or Port) Officer at New Bern.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board Thursday 5th February 1778—

[*Charleston*]

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commissioner

Josiah Smith Geo Smith Esq^{rs}.—

Navy Board Feb^r 1778—

Ordered that the Clerk of the Board¹ do go on board Each of the Vessels in the Service of the State now fitting out on an Expedition, and take an Exact List of all the Men on board, belonging to Each Vessel, that the purser of Each Vessel be directed to send an Exact List of all the provision Supplied by the Commissary² for the Cruize, and what has been Expended as well as what remains on board, of the Sea provisions, and that they do not make use of any of their Sea provisions while in port, as the Commissary has directions to furnish a Daily Supply of Fresh Beef That the Captains of the different Vessels be directed to go and *remain on board*, &³ see that the Men are Regularly Quartered & *Exercised at least twice Every day* while they remain in port and that *no more* Men be Enlisted for the present Expedition till the above [lists] are laid before the Board

By Order of the Board

Edward Blake first Commissioner

Ordered that the Commissary be directed to purchase as much Rum as will be Necessary for the present Expedition

adjourned to Next Monday Evening 6 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 139.

1. John Calvert.

2. Elisha Sawyer.

3. Words in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.

DON JOSEF PETELY TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

[Extract]

S^{or}. Gov^{or}. General

Mui s^{or} mio y de mi ma^{or} Veneraz^{on}. Acabo de tener noticias ciertas de la entrada en el Lago¹ de una Balandra Guarda costa de S. M. B. montada de 4 canones 12 pedreros y 25 à 30 hombres,² y para que en un todo, pueda yo caminar arralado à la voluntad de VE, le vengo tenga à bien remitirme las ordenes por el escrito de lo que devo executar en caso que sus oficiales soliciten desembar-

carse, ô que en las inmediaciones de este Fuerte³ ye baso de su Artilleria, pretenda el Capitan reconoser las embarcaciones que entran y salen por el Bayu,⁴ segun y como acontesio el año pp^{do}. y de cuio proceder habiendo dado parte al superior Gobierno rezibi las dos adjuntas ordenes. . . Estero de Sⁿ. Juan 5 de Febro. de 1778. [&c.]⁵

Josef Petely

[Translation]

Governor General

My dear and most Venerated Lord: I have just received certain news of the entrance into this Lake¹ of a Guarda costa Sloop of His Britannic Majesty, mounting 4 guns and 12 swivels, with a crew of 25 to 30 men,² and so that in everything I can act according to Your Excellency's will, please send orders in writing as to what I should do in case their officers ask permission to disembark, or if in the immediate vicinity of this Fort,³ or under its guns, the Captain presumes to examine the vessels that enter and leave this Bayou,⁴ as happened last year and of which, having informed the superior Government, I received the two attached orders. . . Bayou St. John, 5 Feb. 1778. [&c.]⁵

Josef Petely

L, SpSAG, Papeles de Cuba, Legajo 1. Addressed below close: "S^{ra}. D^{na}. Bernardo de Galvez." Portions not printed relate to supplying the Choctaws with provisions.

1. Lake Pontchartrain.
2. H.M. sloop *West Florida*, Lt. George Burdon [2], commander.
3. Fort St. John, which overlooked Bayou St. John where it meets Lake Pontchartrain. Petely commanded Fort St. John.
4. Bayou St. John, which connects Lake Pontchartrain with the Mississippi River.
5. For the draft of Gálvez's response, which was written on the left side of Petely's letter, see below at 26 Feb.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *HOUND*, COMMANDER JOSEPH NUNN

February 1778

Thursday 5

Abrest of the Keys off Port Royal [*Jamaica*]

at 10 AM Port Royal Harbour bore NNW distant 4 or 5 Leagues
at 11 fired a Gun and made a Signal for a pilot bore away for
port Royal Running down for Port Royal

Running down for Port Royal

Fresh Breezes and fair W^r at ½ past 12 Saluted Vice Admiral
Gayton with 13 Guns and at 1 Came to in Port Royal Harb^r with
Our Small Bower Moored with Our Best Bower to the
Northward w^h a Whole Cable each Way Came in the
Diligence's Tender with an American Sloop laden with Rice
Tobacco &c¹

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/463.

1. Sloop *Brothers*, master unknown, from Virginia, with tobacco, rice &c., taken by *Diligence*. Gayton's Prize List, 26 Feb. 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/240, fol. 506.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PORTLAND*, CAPTAIN THOMAS DUMARESQ

Feb^y 1778
Thursday 5th

Moored in Old Road S^t Christophers Town bore NNW
Eastermost Fort ESE ½ S Brimstone Hill NW ½ W
at 5 AM^d weigh'd and came to sail, at 9 Pass'd thro' y^e Road of
S^t Eustatia found that the *Rattle Snake* Privateer¹ had sailed the
night before. Steered towards S^t Martins.—

S^t Martins bore North Distance ab^t 6 Leagues
Fresh breezes and cloudy Weather Came by S^t Martin's, at 4
PM^d. Passed and came thro' the Dog and Prickley Pear Passage
took 2nd. Reef in Topsails, at 5 Anguilla bore EbS ½ S 4 or 5
Leagues

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/711, part 4.

1. Pennsylvania privateer ship *Rattlesnake*, David McCulloch, commander. See Journal of H.M. sloop *Ceres*, 31 Jan., 1 Feb., and 2 Feb., above.

February 6

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *UNICORN*, CAPTAIN JOHN FORD

February 1778
Friday 6

D^o: [Nantucket South Shoal] S 78° W dist: 28 Leags.
AM D^o: W^r: [fresh breezes & clear] sounded in 34, 35, 37 &
39 f^{ms}: fine brown sand & black Specks, at 10 saw a Sail in the NE
Q^r: gave Chace to D^o:

D^o: [Nantucket South Shoal] S 71° W dist: 32 Leagues.
PM mod^t and cloudy W^r: in Chace at 8 fir'd several Guns at
the Chace & brought her too, she prov'd to be the M^c: *Clarey*¹ a
Brigg Privateer of 8 Guns from Piscataqua on a Cruize, took the
Crew on board Prisoners & put a petty Off^{cr}: with 8 Men on
board her to take Charge,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1017, fols. 233–34.

1. Brig *M^cClary* (Priv^t), John Gregory, master, owned by Jacob Tredwell & Co., from Portsmouth, on a cruize, with provisions &c., taken on 6 Feb. off St. Georges Bank, sent into Newport. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486–87. New Hampshire privateer *McClary*, mounting 8 carriage guns, a crew of 50 seamen, was commissioned on 28 Jan. She was owned by Robert Furnis and others of Portsmouth and was bonded by Jacob Treadwell and Thomas Martin of Portsmouth. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 9, p. 108. *McClary* was libelled on 15 Apr. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and condemned on 8 May as a lawful prize of H.M.S. *Unicorn*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 97–98. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/401/9.

JOURNAL OF MARINE LIEUTENANT WILLIAM JENNISON

[*Frigate Boston at Boston*]

1778 [Feb.] 6

A heavy Snow Storm from N by E which drove ashore several
Vessels—

DLC, Journal of Lieutenant William Jennison, p. 5.

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT

[*Boston*] Friday Feb^y 6. 1778

In the House of Representatives. On the Petition of Simeon Samson and Jonathan Harraden.

Resolved, That the Prayer of the Petition be granted and that after the present Cruizes are out, all Commanders of Armed Vessels in the service of this State be allowed Eight Shares of all Prizes and Prize Goods which shall be Captured by them.

In Council Read and Concurred.

Consented to by Fifteen of the Council.

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 38 (Massachusetts General Court Records, 1777–1778), 296–97.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

6th Feb^y Fine mild weather. Wind E.

Lord Howe has made but few changes in the disposition of the Ships in the Bay since his arrival. The *Somerset* lies in the Naraganset passage, in place of the *Renown*. The *Nonsuch* lies above Gould Island, between Cononicut¹ and Prudence.² The *Lark* off Greenwich;³ the [*blank*] above Dyer's Island; the *Flora* above Popasquash;⁴ and The *Mermaid* in the Seconnet.⁵ The last ship relieved the *Kingsfisher*, which came in to the harbour to clean & refit. A Frigate always lies at Single anchor in the Channel, a little to the Northward of The Dumplings,⁶ ready to slip after any vessel upon the Signal being made. The Galley⁷ is stationed under our Battery at Fogland.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 241.

1. Conanicut I.
2. Prudence I.
3. East Greenwich.
4. Popasquash Point.
5. Sakonnet Passage.
6. The Dumplings (rocks).
7. H.M. galley *Alarm*.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY

[Extract]

At a meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety held in Lebanon the 6th day of February, 1778.

... *Voted*, To draw on the Committee of Pay-Table in favour of Capt. James Day of the ship *Oliver Cromwell* for £120, to be improved in inlisting men for said ship; to be in account. *Order d^d Feb^y 5th, 1778*. . . .

Voted and resolved, That his Excellency the Governor be advised and he is desired, to give orders as occasion may require, that the privateers now lying in the harbour of New London be not allowed a let-pass to pass the fort until the several commanders have respectively given bond to the Treasurer of this State in the sum of one thousand pounds, conditioned that they will not carry out on board said privateers any person or persons concerned in the late riot or mob and breaking the goal in New London. . . .

Hoadly, ed., *Public Records of the State of Connecticut* 1: 519.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EXPERIMENT*, CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE

Feb^y 1778
Friday 6th

Ditto [Sandy Hook] NWbN 201 Miles
AM at 7 Wore Ship; at 8 out 2nd & 3rd Reefs Tops^{ls}: at 10
Unbent the main Tops^l: & Bent a New One;—
Ditto NW ½ W 207 Miles
Mod^t: & fair W^r: PM at 5 Squally with rain in 3rd Reefs Tops^{ls}:
at 6 Bent the Main Sail, at 8 Mod^t: Breezes with rain; Handed the
fore & Mizⁿ: Topsails at 10 Saw a Sail SW: made Sail tk^d.
Ship, at 11 fired 5 Guns & brought too the Chace, a Sloop from
Hispaniola to Boston,¹ sent 2 petty Officers & 4 Men Onb^d. her,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/331, 116.

1. Sloop *Montgomery*, P. Potter, master, from Cape François to Boston, with molasses, coffee, &c., sent to New York City, Howe's Prize List, 30 October 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 485. She was libelled on 27 Feb. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and condemned on 20 Mar. 1778, UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 24, 43–44. Her prize papers give her master's name as Phineas Potter. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/404/3.

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO RICHARD CLARK

[Annapolis] In Council 6 Feb^y 1778

Ordered. That the western shore Treasurer pay to Richard Clark one hundred pounds one Shilling and six pence on Acc^t for work done to the Galley *Independence* and the further Sum of twenty three pounds twelve shillings and six pence for work done to the Galley *Conqueror* & two Acc^{ts} passed—

by order
T Johnson Jun^r

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-84/18.

RICHARD HENRY LEE TO LANDON CARTER

[Extract]

Dear Sir

Chantilly [Va.] 6th Feb^y 1778

. . . P. S. My Servant is returned from Leeds [*town with letters*]¹ from Congress. Inspector General Loyeauté² informs me that a Gentleman just from Charles Town tells him that a french man of war of 74 guns had engaged and beaten an English Frigate that had taken a French merchant man bound to Charles Town and that the M. of War afterwards convoyed the merchant Ship into Charles Town and that she immediately sailed to drive away another English Frigate that lay in the Road of Charlestown—Mons^r Loyeauté further say that he has other information that the French put war down for certain in the month of March—. . .

R. H. Lee

L, ViHi, Richard Henry Lee Folder, 125–27. Addressed: "Landon Carter esquire/of/Sabine Hall." The other portions of the letter discuss making syrup from corn and a false report of the stabbing of Benjamin Franklin in Paris.

1. Water stained.

2. Anne-Philippe-Dieudonné de Loyauté was Virginia's inspector general of artillery and military stores from 27 Jan. to 20 May 1778. *Letters of Delegates*, 8: 84. This report is false.

WILLIAM LEWIS TO JAMES HUNTER, JR.

Dear Sir

[Norfolk] 6th Feb. 1778—

I Rote you some days ago by M^r Waire since that I have View^d. The Boat & think has avery fine one but am afraid we shall be a good while In fitting out as hands are Scarc & this draught has made Most of the young Carpenters Run off^l Tho am in hopes we Shall Launch in 4 or 5 weeks—The Man of war² at presant Block up the road that there is hardly any getting Out I Expect we shall load in James River as there is no craft to bring down a Load I shall go to Surinam If nothing happens more than I at presant No off. as the Vesel that has Lately Arived from s^t Eustatia brings good Acc^s from that Quarter flour we shall want if we go there & we Shall partly Load with that & M^r Potts thinks off righting to you to gitt what You can of good [*flour*] for if you can not get it across it will be very High No its Very high here allready I Wish, if any hands should come by you Will try to Make them come this way you may tell them they Nead not be affraid for if we Ever get out of gun Shot of the man of war We shall not be caught as the very Sole of Keel is plain'd as smooth as a smothing ram will make it I hope you will come and se us before We go as I think It would be greatly to your advantage—If you could have An Interview with M^r Phripp as he has Express^d a great desire of seing You & the Partnership of P & B^s will dissolve in a year more you May Right Mes^{rs}. J & T smith⁴ that its Impossible to gett a boat here on any Price & the carpenters at Pres^t have from £18 to £20 [Ⓓ] ton for building I will send them a draught for a boat by first opp^y. I hope my Frend You will right me by Every opp^y. & give me the [*Current?*] news as We Seldom gett any here from the Army My Best Respects to Mrs. Hunter & tell her I wish she was here to Eate good roasted Rock fish as I think it Would cure her If she was Living here Lotts in Norfolk sell High I wish you had a few off them I am [&c.]

William Lewis

[P.S.] If any young Lads would come down I will give them good Incouragement ther is Z Lucas I believe would come down if he New it pray Send all you can you shall heare from me by Every opp^y dont send my Quadrant but want my Sea Bed I wish you could send it Petersburg

WL

L, ViU, Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, Letters of William Lewis to James Hunter (no. 9512). Addressed: "NCastle/To/M^r James Hunter Jun^r/Merch^t/Fredericksburg." Docketed: "1778/W^m Lewis/Norfolk 6 Feb'."

1. During the winter of 1777–78, the Virginia Legislature adopted a draft of single, childless men, for one year's service in the Continental Army. John E. Selby, *The Revolution in Virginia, 1775–1783* (Williamsburg, Va.: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 1988), 135–36.

2. Probably H.M.S. *St. Albans*, Capt. Richard Onslow, commander.

3. [Matthew] Phripp & [John] Bowdoin, merchants at Norfolk. Phripp needed a new partner because Bowdoin died in early October 1775.

4. Probably John and Thomas Smith, merchants at Norfolk.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*, COMMANDER JAMES R. DACRES

Feb^y 1778
Friday 6

D^o. [S^t. Bartholomew] Bore W & BS Dist^{ce}. 3 or 4 Leagues
at 3 A.M in Second Reeft Top^{sls}. at 7 Saw a sail to the
Northward at ½ past 9 Fired several 6 pound Shott at the

Chace at 10 Brought too the Chace prov'd to be the *Sally* Sloop of 6 Guns & 8 Swivels with 17 Men a Letter of Marque Belonging to Egg Harb^r Bound to S^t Eustatia, D^o. Brought the Master & Men on Board sent an Officer with 5 Men to take Charge of the Prize¹

S^t Eustatia SW Dist^{ce}. 4 or 5 Leagues

These 24 Hours fresh gales & Cloudy weath^r P.M nothing Material

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4141, part 8, fols. 192–93. The journal was kept by Lt. David Lockwood.

1. Sloop *Sally*, John Lacere, master, mounting 6 guns, crew of 17 men, 50 tons burthen, belonging to Philadelphia, from Egg Harbour, N.J., with flour, shingles, bread and tobacco, sent into St. Christopher. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

February 7

WILLIAM HOSKINS TO COLONEL JEREMIAH WADSWORTH

D^r Sir

Boston Feb^r 7th. 1778—

I Should according to my Promise have wrote you from Windham, but finding Col^o. Trumbull¹ to be better than had been Represented, also that he had himself wrote you, thought it Needless, on my Arrival here found Col^o. Sargent² was gone for Salem I wrote him, as you desired, to have your Part of the Prize in the Original Effects—But whether thro hurry, or he had forgot the Purport of mine when he answer me I Cant Say, for he writes me thus—Col^o. Wadsworth shall have what Wines he wants Advise me how much, I shall Eighther see, or write him again, & Impress him with your Intentions

The *Cumberland*³ has Sent into Martinico a Ship from Africa, above 3. or 400 Slaves, this Privateer will make you a Fortune, Sargent is no ways pleased with my Selling my Birth Right—However he has obliged me in Sparing 1/16. of the Privateer *Gen^l. Lee⁴* now fixing out. I believe I Shall get another sixteenth for your Account before I Leave this—do think of the flour for me—I expect to Leave this, Next week, if I Can Safely Leave my Family so near Burgoine & his Hell hounds—I am in Haste, Very Cold Post is Seting off. best Regards Attend all Friends [&c.]

W^m Hoskins

L, CtHi, Jeremiah Wadsworth Papers, Box 125, no. 361. Addressed: "Col^o. Jeremiah Wadsworth/at/Hartford/Ⓜ Post." Docketed: "William Hoskins/Feb^r 7th: 1778."

1. Col. Joseph Trumbull.

2. Paul Dudley Sargent.

3. Massachusetts privateer ship *Cumberland*, James Collins, commander. She was commissioned on 12 and 13 Sept. 1777 and was owned by Paul Dudley Sargent and others, of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 5, pp. 112, 115. *Cumberland* is described in the petition for her commission as a ship of about 296 tons burthen, mounting 20 six-pounder carriage guns, 4 three-pounder carriage guns and 14 swivel guns, and navigated by a crew of 150 seamen. M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 167 (Council Papers, 1777), p. 226.

4. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Lee*, John Hyer, commander. She was commissioned on 4 May 1778 and was owned by Paul Dudley Sargent, Joseph Barrell, Thomas Adams and Daniel Martin, of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, pp. 174, 175. *Lee* is described in the petition for her commission as a schooner of about seventy-five tons burthen, mounting 10 four-pounder carriage guns, 10 swivel guns, and navigated by a crew of 50 seamen. M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 168 (Council Papers, 1777–1778), p. 238.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *KINGSFISHER*, LIEUTENANT HUGH C. CHRISTIANFeber^y 1778

At Single Anchor in Seacconnett Passage,

Saturd^y 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12 AM Weighed and Worked higher up the Passage,

At Single Anchor in Seacconnett Passage,

Mod^t and Clear first part Remd^r Calm and heazey [PM]Working to Wind^d Obs^d a Rebell ship at Anchor, of [f] GouldsIsland^l which Determined me to Anchor more in the Stream,And higher up than the former Station $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 PM Anchoredw^t y^e B B in 3 f^m. veered to $\frac{1}{2}$ a Cable, Seacconnett Rocks SBE $\frac{1}{2}$ E flint Rocks SBW $\frac{1}{2}$ W^t

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/507.

1. Gould I. in Sakonnet Passage.

2. The Journal notes on 10 Feb.: "Observed the Rebel Sloop and Brigg to be still at Anch^r off Goulds Isl^d." UklPR, Adm. 51/507.

PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD

In Council

Gentlemen,

Lancaster Feb^y 7. 1778

It has been suggested that it is practicable to annoy the enemy in the River below Philadelphia with our Barges, call'd Guard boats—A spirit of enterprise in this Way, has discovered itself in Capt. Barry & other officers in the Continental Navy, and other persons, particularly in the Delaware. This state promises considerable advantage to the adventurers, as well as to the public. Application has been made to Council by Captain Dougherty¹ and M^r John Naghton requesting to be permitted to have two of the boats to fit out for this purpose. Their request would have been readily granted, ~~if they could have thought it consistent with the respect due to the officers and men of our Fleet who have distinguished themselves in the service of our Country~~—been readily granted, but that Council waited to find Captain Barry's example inducing the officers & men of our fleet for a time specified. public exertions we would wish to encourage & reward, asking the use of those Barges on the same footing, that others offer to take them that is to say, to give security for the safe return of the boats, find men & victuals, & take all they get from the Enemy; giving security, and acting under Commisⁿ as privateers² For if any benefit can arise from a plan of this kind it ought to be to the officers and men who have signaled themselves in the time of danger—Council therefore direct you to permit as many of the Boats as may be Spared to be fitted out immediately on the terms aforesaid, by our officers or others.

~~If all the boats cannot be manned by the officers and men now in the Pay of the State—We recommend that Capⁿ Dougherty and~~

For this Purpose, Blank Commissions from Congress are now enclosed to you.—They are to be filled up ~~for Lieutenants and security taken agreeable to the inclosed order from Congress and the bonds sent to Council~~—with the names of the Commanders of the Barges; but it may be inconvenient to term them Captains, because of the difficulty of finding suitable exchanges, in case of Capture. Perhaps Skipper, Midshipman, Boatswain, Coxswain, ~~or Commander~~, have been suggested.



Admiral Sir Richard Onslow, R.N.

You will accomodate this with the Gentlemen, whose ease we consult in this caution. They may at the same time wear what ~~names~~ Titles they chuse.

Council suppose that your board will think it advisable before long to fit out 2 or 3 of the Gallies to restrain the efforts of the Enemy up the Delaware. Farther instructions concerning the fleet will be given after the Assembly meets.

M^r. Bradfords letter of the 24th Jan^r is received and the forgoing, ~~I apprehend~~, will be considered as a Reply.

N.B. Bonds are to be given with surety in the penal sum of 5,000 Dollars, & the bond sent to Council to be forwarded to Congress—

Df, PHarH, RG 27, Executive Correspondence (loose) of the Supreme Executive Council. Docketed: "1778 February 7th. To the/the Navy Board at Bur-/lington."

1. Capt. Henry Dougherty, formerly of the Pennsylvania Navy.

2. The section of this paragraph from after the strikeout to this point was inserted in the margin in the course of revising the draft.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

Feb^r 78

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia

Saturday 7th.

AM Saw a Sail in the offing at anch^r Sent the Schooner¹ Man'd and Arm'd with a Lieut^t to the Sail in the offing

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia

Fresh breezes & Clear [PM] Open'd a Cask of Pork N^o. 3811 Cont^s. 306 Short 2 pieces at 6 PM the Schooner Returned found the Sail to be a French Brig which had got on Shore & lost her Rudder & main mast² took the men & Some goods out of her & then set her on fire She was load'd with all Necessarys for y^e. Rebels

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. *Dasher*.

2. Brig *Petit Camarade*, M. Sylverieux, master, owned by Pierre Pèrè & Fils of Bordeaux, mounting 2 guns, a crew of 17 seaman, from Bordeaux to Saint-Pierre and Miquelon Islands or Louisiana, with salt, wine, tea, woolens, &c., taken in Lynnhaven Bay, burned. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240-41.

BRIDGER GOODRICH TO COMMODORE WILLIAM HOTHAM

Copy.

[Bermuda] Sloop *Hammond* Febr^y 7th. 1778.

Sir,

According to your Desire I make free to acquaint You of the proceedings of the people in Bermuda. On the 10th. day of January 1778 I received a Commission from Governor Bruere, empowering me to seize, Attack and surprize all Vessels trading to the Colonies now in Rebellion, contrary to the Act of Parliament. I sailed from Bermuda bound on a Cruize and in Latitude 32°.10' N^o fell in with and took possession of a Sloop called the *Ranger*, Captain Dunscomb and Sloop *Dorothy* Captain Higs from Carolina loaded with Corn, pease, pork &c^a. both belonging to Bermuda. Knowing them to be lawful Prizes, put onboard Prize Masters, with Orders to proceed to Bermuda with an Intention of having them condemned according to Law; But on my Arrival the people of that Island came down to Town in a Body, about 400 Men headed by the Tuckers and one Hinson; demanded the Vessels of me and

Robert Shedden, who is a part Owner in the Sloop *Hammond*, which we refused to deliver; They then threatened to take our Lives and destroy our property in the Island, if we did not immediately give up these Vessels. Robert Shedden and myself waited on the Governor, to consult his Excellency on this Matter. They then came up to the Governor's House, and demanded from the Governor myself and R. Shedden, and again declared that we were pirates and had no Authority to take their Vessels; threatening our Lives in very severe Manner. I then thought myself so much in Danger, it being then Night, that I was under the Necessity of sending for 6 Marine Soldiers that I had then onboard, and went down with them onboard my Vessel. The next Day they got a Number of Boats and Ammunition from the Country with an Intention of boarding and destroying my Vessel and people. They also manned the Forts with an Intention of stopping me in their Ports. My Situation then was such, that I was obliged to go onshore, where I was immediately surrounded by a numerous Mob, and in order to save my Life, was under the disagreeable Necessity of giving up the Prizes.¹ They then made me promise them not to take any of their Vessels. In short they used their utmost Endeavors to injure me all that lay in their power. They stoned my Centries and cut away my Fast as I lay at the Wharf in hopes [of] destroying my Vessel: upon the whole their Behavior is such that I do not think any Subject's property safe in their Island, as many of them have openly confessed themselves Friends and strong Advocates [of] America, and do at present carry on a very brisk Trade to Carolina. And it is generally believed by the Friends to Government in the Island, that since Captain Collins² left the Island, that there has been sent to the Continent not less than thirty thousand Bushels of Salt, and is still daily going out of the Island.³ I am Sir [&c.]

Bridger Goodrich

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 194-95. Docketed: "Copy/Letter from M^r Bridger/Goodrich to Commodore Hotham/Dated 7th February 1778./N^o. 4/In Lord Howe's Letter/N^o. 55." Enclosure no. 4 in Vice Admiral Viscount Howe's letter No. 55 to Philip Stephens, 16 Mar. 1778.

1. See Governor George James Bruere to Lord George Germain, 25 Jan., above.

2. Comdr. John Collins, commanding H.M. sloop *Nautilus*.

3. See Governor George James Bruere to Lord George Germain, 19 Mar., below.

February 8 (Sunday)

COMMODORE JOHN HAZELWOOD TO PRESIDENT THOMAS WHARTON, JR.

Sir,

I received your Excellency's two letters of the 24th Dec^r & 8th Jan^y,¹ & note the Contents. We have done every thing in our power for the safety of the Fleet & their Stores, & have been as carefull as we could to keep the People together, notwithstanding all, there is a number of them deserted. We have got the Cannon on board the Galleys again, & the Stores, & are making ready the Fleet as fast possible, & hope shall be able to proceed down the River in a few days, as there is no Ice now in it, & the weather pretty moderate, & I hope our People will be better satisfied, for I am teased to death with one complaint or other, in particular for their pay.

I should have wrote to your Excellency long ago, but my perplexity with the People, & the short notice I have had of any opportunity going your way.

I am much obliged to your Excellency & Council's thought of the great expence I have been at, & hope your Excellency & Council will fix something for me that will be equal to it, for my pay only will not half support me in my station—I have sunk a great deal of money since I have been in the service.

I have received orders from General Washington to send to Camp all the Men that we received as a reinforcement from him when down at Fort Island. I have wrote him about it, & inclosed you have a copy of the letter wrote him,² but have not received any answer as yet. If we are to send them to Camp we cannot pay them what is due for this two months past.

I have been informed by Capt. Blewer³ & some others That a Col^l Smith,⁴ who was in Fort Miffln for some time, has made free with my character, which surprizes me much. He received some hurt in his arm in the Fort, came over to Red Bank, & another officer sent to take the Command at the Fort in his place.⁵ One day Gen^l Varnom⁶ sent for me on shore to meet him at Col. Green's,⁷ at Red Bank Fort. I went, & after doing my business with him, Col. Smith mention'd something to me about the Galleys that I knew to be false. I told him he was a lying scoundrel, with that he made a stroke at me, & nothing prevented me for treating him as he deserved but Gen^l Vernom & a number of other officers who interfered, & I was determined to take an opportunity to call him to account for it, but Gen^l Vernom constantly begging me to make the matter up, & even brought him on board the Province Sloop⁸ one night after dark, where part of our board was present, & insisted that we should be friends. After a great deal of persuasions of both sides, the matter was settled; we drank together & parted friends. I heard no more of it until lately, but I cannot find any person who heard him say it, or I should call him to a proper account for it. Cap. Blewer likewise informed me that a number of People blames us for burning the Ships. I wrote your Excellence & Council fully on that head before, which I thought was satisfactory.⁹

I have now to inform your Excellency That we have had several applications for the borrowing some of our armed Boats, by the Inhabitants of our own State, & that they would Mann & Victual them themselves, & would haul them down to Salem by Land, & annoy the enemy down the River. With the approbation of the Navy Board I have lent them. I should have sent them down ourselves, but I was afraid to trust our People with them, as they had run away with two Boats to the enemy, that we had sent down some time before.¹⁰ If your Excellency do not approve of the Boats being lent, we will call them in immediately. We have one Boat down that is on the Fleet's account; with a pickt crew on board that I think may be depended on, & Capⁿ Collins¹¹ in her, which I hope will take something before he returns, having not to add, am your Excellency's [&c.]

Trenton, Feb^r 8th, 1778.

JOHN HAZELWOOD.

Pennsylvania Archives, 1st. ser., 6: 246–47. Addressed: "To His Excellency Thomas Wharton, Esqr., President for State of Pennsylvania, Lancaster."

1. See *NDAR* 10: 795–96 and *Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council to Commodore John Hazelwood*, 8 Jan., above.

2. See *Commodore John Hazelwood to General George Washington*, 4 Feb., above.

3. Joseph Blewer, member of the *Pennsylvania Navy Board*.

4. Lt. Col. Samuel Smith, 4th *Maryland Continental Regiment*.

5. Maj. Simeon Thayer, 2d *Rhode Island Continental Regiment*.

6. Brig. Gen. James Mitchell Varnum, *Continental Army*.

7. Col. Christopher Greene, 1st Rhode Island Continental Regiment.
8. Pennsylvania Navy sloop *Speedwell*, Capt. Joseph Wade, commanding.
9. See *NDAR* 10: 645–48.
10. For more on this incident, see William Bradford to President Thomas Wharton, Jr., 24 Jan., above.
11. Lt. Robert Collings, Pennsylvania Navy.

REWARD OFFERED FOR DESERTER FROM MARYLAND NAVY GALLEY *INDEPENDENCE*

TWENTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Baltimore, Feb. 8, 1778.

DESERTED, last night, from the galley *Independence*, lying at Fell's-Point, Edward Freeman, a marine, born in England, about 27 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches high, dark complexion short brown hair, stoops much in his walk, has a down look and sour countenance Had on when he went away, a new felt hat, one outside coarse white cotton jacket, one whitish coloured sailor's under ditto, blue cloth breeches, with a white patch in the seat, one pair of coarse white yarn stockings, new shoes, and one new Oznabrug shirt. All the above mentioned clothes is much blooded, occasioned by a large cut which he received on the left side of his head, in an affray a few nights ago. As he enlisted with a recruiting officer in Baltimore Town, on the 3d instant, by the name of Edward Hill, perhaps he may endeavour to enlist again and change his name likewise. As the above fellow is an old offender, the subscriber is in hopes all masters of vessels, and others, who are friends to the States will endeavour to detect such a villain—Whoever secures the said deserter in any gaol, so that he may be had again, shall have Ten Dollars; or the above reward including what the law allows, if brought on board said galley, paid by

Bennett Mathews, Capt.

Maryland Journal, and Baltimore Advertiser, 10 Feb. 1778.

WILLIAM BINGHAM TO CONTINENTAL COMMITTEE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

[Extract]

Gent^{rs}

S^t Pierre M/que Feb^y 8th 1778

There have been Several Captures made by American Privateers amongst the Islands, & brought into this Port, attended with Circumstances which leave a Doubt in regard to the Rights of appropriating them to the Benefit of the Captors.—

Before I enter into this Matter I must promise to you, that there is no Method by which we can distress the Enemy's in these Seas more than by preventing the Intercourse betwixt one Island & another, & making Captures of their small Vessels, that carry occasional Supplies of Provisions & Produce.

A Number of them have been taken by our Privateers, but the English Merchants have availed themselves of an Expedient to cover their Property under Neutral Colors, at a very small Expence & Trouble;—They have only to solicit, & they are sure of obtaining a Burghers Brief at S^t Eustatia, which entitles them to the Privileges of Dutch Subjects, & to the Right of navigating under Dutch Colors;—The facility with which they procure these Briefs, has made it become a general Practice, & the office Perquisites of the Governor seem to be the principal Inducement that urges him to grant them.—

Altho many of these Vessels escape our Privateers under the Sanction of their Dutch Pass, yet Several of them have been brought into Port, when impartial Persons whose Interest will not affect their Testimony, have evidently made it appear that they were the Property of the English. When the Case has not been so clear, as to the Matter beyond the Reach of Contradiction, they have been released; but more from the principle of a cautious Adherence to the Rules of political Prudence, than from a sufficient evidence of their not being lawfull Prizes—

I am convinced that it is our Interest to be upon a friendly footing with the Dutch, & that we should carefully avoid every Subject of Quarrel or Complaint with any Neutral Power, but at the same Time we must do Justice to ourselves, in the Capture of the Enemy's Property, wherever we find it, which makes it absolutely necessary to give a Check to this growing Evil, which is of a most alarming Tendency, as the Practice will become more general, in proportion as it meets with the desired Success.

I Should be happy to receive your Instructions in regard to the Line of Conduct which I Should pursue in the Management of Such Affairs, & what Method would be most adviseable to put a Stop to Such fraudulent & collusive Acts;—A Case in point was adjudged here some time ago respecting a French Vessel, consigning English Merchandize; in which the General¹ acquiesced—The Vessel was restored to the Owner, & the Cargo given up to the Captors, without any Consideration being made for the Freight, or any Damages allowed for the Detention of the Vessel, & Disappointment on the Voyage; So much is the General our Friend & Protector— . . .

I have the honor to be with great Respect Gent^o [&c.]

W^m Bingham

L, DNA, PCC, item 90 (Letters from William Bingham and Others, 1777–82), pp. 29–32. Docketed: "From W^m. Bingham/Feb. 8th. 1778/see the files." The last three paragraphs are not printed.

1. Marquis de Bouillé.

February 9

JOURNAL OF MARINE LIEUTENANT WILLIAM JENNISON

[*Frigate Boston at Boston*]

1778 [Feb.] 9

Sold 1 Share of my Cruizing Prize money to Will^m. Spooner¹ for £33.6.8

DLC, Journal of Lieutenant William Jennison, p. 5.

1. William Spooner, merchant at Boston.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, [*Boston*] Feb^y 9th. 1778.—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers¹ pay Jonathan Gardiner's third Account for bringing up Brig *King George* from Salem.—

Order'd That Cap^t Hopkins² deliver Robert Lamb f^m. Brig^t *Favorite*,³

31 Barrels	} paid M ^r Ivers £30..—..—
10 Jackets	

Order'd, That Col^o. Crafts⁴ deliver Cap^t Bass⁵ for Ship *Boston*⁶ by the desire of the Navy Board,⁷ three hundred Swivel Shott they to return a like number.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 204–5.

1. Thomas Ivers.
2. Caleb Hopkins.
3. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
4. Col. Thomas Crafts.
5. Capt. Alden Bass, Commissary of Naval Stores for the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
6. Continental Navy frigate *Boston*.
7. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO CAPTAIN WILLIAM CORNWALLIS, R.N.

By the Viscount Howe, Vice Admiral
of the White, and Commander in Chief
of His Majestys Ships & Vessells
employed, and to be employed in
North America.

Having seen the Store Ships & Transports under your Convoy, three hundred Leagues into the Sea, Eastward of this Port; You are then to make the best of your Way for landing the Dispatches with which You have been charged, at the Port you can first most conveniently gain in England. But You are previously to direct the Commanders of the Store Ships to keep Company together, if possible, during the Remainder of the Passage to England; And to allow the Transports the Benefit of their Protection, whilst it can be done without Retardment to the Diligence they are respectively to use in Case of Seperation, for proceeding to their destined Ports without loss of Time.

Given on board His Majestys Ship
the *Eagle* at Rhode Island the
9 day of February 1778.
Howe

By Command of the Vice Admiral
Jos^h. Davies.

LB, NHi, BV Cornwallis, William: Order Book. Addressed flush left below signature: "To/The Honorable William Cornwallis/Commander of His Majestys Ship/the *Chatham*."

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY,
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1778

NEW-YORK, February 9.

Saturday Afternoon, the Ship *George*,¹ Captain Askew;² and the Ship *Martha*,³ Capt. Hutchinson, both Letters of Marque, arrived here from Whitehaven, in 8 Weeks, owned by Samuel Martin, Esq; of that Place. The 29th ult. in Lat. 34, they took the Schooner *Little-Betsy*, Capt. Sparks,⁴ from Boston for South-Carolina, with some Oyl and Lumber.

1. Snow *George*, 200 tons burthen, mounting 16 six and four-pounder guns, built in Virginia in 1775. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

2. James Askew.

3. Ship *Martha*, 200 tons burthen, mounting 8 guns, rebuilt at Whitehaven in 1777. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

4. Thomas Sparks. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/390/11.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Monday, February 9, 1778

The Committee of Commerce laid before Congress sundry letters, which were read and returned to the Committee; Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Committee of Commerce be empowered and directed to write to the commissioners at the court of France, desiring them to appoint one or more suitable persons to be commercial agents for conducting the commercial business of the United States in France and other parts of Europe.¹

JCC 10: 139.

1. Committee of Commerce to the Commissioners at Paris, 9 Feb., 1778, *Letters of Delegates* 9: 61–62. The Commissioners at Paris responded stating that John Bondfield at Bordeaux and Jean-Daniel Schweighauser at Nantes were the only authorized commercial agents, and that they would appoint more if necessary, but thought it best to await the appointment of consuls by Congress. American Commissioners in France to the President of Congress, 20 July, 1778, *Diary and Autobiography of John Adams*, Lyman H. Butterfield, et al., eds. (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1961), 4: 167–70.

CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN, R.N., TO COLONEL VERNON HEBB

Sir

I trouble you with a Proclamation¹ to prevent the Inhabitants being uneasy, or Removing their Effects from hence, and have also to acquaint you, that there are two Americans on board the *Richmond*, which I will take an Opportunity of sending and hope that you'll be pleased to return an equal Number, if you have any prisoners in your possession.² I am [&c.]

John Lewis Gidoin

Richmond

S^t Marys River [*Md.*] 9th. Feb^{ry} 1778

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4587-15. Addressed: "To/Colonel Varnel Ebb/of the Malitia of S^t Mary's County/Maryland, or the Commanding Officer."

1. See Proclamation of Captain John Lewis Gidoin, 9 Feb., immediately below.

2. Col. Richard Barnes informed Hebb that he did not have any prisoners in his possession. Col. Richard Barnes to Col. Vernon Hebb, 9 Feb., MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4587-12.

PROCLAMATION OF CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN, R.N.

[*St. Marys River, Md.*]

By Captain John Lewis Gidoin Commander of His Majestys Ship the *Richmond*, and Senior Officer, of his Majestys Ships in S^t Marys River.

Proclamation

I do hereby Declare that it is not my Intention to Disturb the peaceable Inhabitants of this Neighbourhood, by Landing of men from either of the Ships, or Destroying their Habitations, provided that they do not interfere with the Duty of His Majestys Ships. Given on board His Majestys Ship the *Richmond* in S^t Marys River the 9th. of February 1778

John Lewis Gidoin

D, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4587-16. Enclosed in Captain John Lewis Gidoin, R.N., to Colonel Vernon Hebb, 9 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

February 1778 Smiths P^t SW 2 or 3 Lg^s.
 Monday 9 AM Bent a new T. Sail & F T Gall Sail
 S^o. End of S^t Georges Island WSW 2 Miles
 Mod^t & Clear PM at 6 saw a Ship coming into S^t Marys River,
 at 8 weighd & gave Chace as did the *Solebay* at 9 B^t her too, she
 proved to be f^m. Alexandria Load^d. wth Tobacco,¹ took the prisoner
 s out & sent a L^t & 12 men into her, Anch^d. with BB^r in 8 f^m.
 W^r: as did the *Solebay* & prize

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/784.

1. Ship *Lydia*, Ignatius Fenwick, master, owned by the State of Maryland, a crew of 4 seamen, from Alexandria to Bordeaux, with tobacco, taken off St. Marys River, sent to New York City, prize credited to *Richmond* and *Solebay*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. *Lydia* was a Maryland State trading vessel. On 1 Apr. 1778 the Vice Admiralty Court of New York declared her a recapture. She was originally owned by Messrs. Rawlinson & Chorley. UkLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 53. Her prize papers are in UkLPR, H.C.A. 32/392/25.

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

February 9th 1778

[*Savannah*]

William Bennett appeared before the Board and represented on oath, that Some persons in Saint Andrews parish unknown to him were daily Sending off boats loaded with provisions to Saint Augustine and that some persons supposed to be the Florida Scout[s],¹ had lately robbed several people in Saint Johns parish of their horses.

ORDERED, That a copy of the above be immediately furnished Commodore Bowen² and that he be requested to man one of the Gallies by drafts out of the others And to Station her so as to intercept the Said Boats passing & repassing to & from the Southward and that he be required to renew his application to the commanding Officer of the Continental Troops³ for men to man all the Gallies as recommended by the honorable House of Assembly, & that so soon as they shall be mann'd they repair to their Several Stations there being in the opinion of this Board an absolute necessity for every exertion to have the[m] immediately and constantly upon actual duty.

ORDERED also That a Copy of the foregoing be furnished the Commanding Officer of the Continental Troops in Savannah.

The Revolutionary Records of the State of Georgia, 2: 26–27.

1. Possibly the British provincial unit, the East Florida Rangers.

2. Commo. Oliver Bowen.

3. Maj. Gen. Robert Howe. See Minutes of the Georgia Executive Council, 12 Feb., below.

February 10

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT
TO CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

Sir

Navy Board Eastern departm^t
 Boston February 10th. 1778

Notwithstanding the General Instructions Given you, You are now to Consider The Hon^{ble}. John Adams Esq^r (who takes passage in the *Boston*) as one of the

Commissioners with the Hon^{ble}. Benjamin Franklin and Arthur Lee Esq^{rs}. and therefore any Applications or orders received from him as valid as if received from either of the other two, you are to afford him on his passage every accomodation in your power, and to Consult him on all occasions with respect to your passage and General Conduct, and the port you shall Endeavour to get into; and on all occasion have great regard to the Importance of his Security and Safe Arrival. We are [&c.]

W^m. Vernon

Ja^s. Warren

L, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am812), vol. 1, p. 27.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT
TO CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

To Samuel Tucker Esq^r Commander on board the
Ship *Boston* at Boston in State of Massachusetts Bay—
Sir

Feb 10 1778

As soon as these Instructions get to hand you are to get to Sea as soon as possible, When there you are to proceed on a Voyage to Some Convenient Port in France, and on your arrival there Apply to the Agent if any in or near said Port for such Supplys as you may stand in need of, you are at the same time to give immediate Notice by Letter to The Honorable Benjamin Franklyn John Adams and Arthur Lee Esq^{rs}. or any of them at Paris of your arrival, requesting their Instructions as to your future destination, which Instructions you are Strictly to Obey as far as it shall be in your power, If however in the Course of your Voyage a favourable oppertunity should offer of doing Service to the States by taking or destroying any of the Enemy's Ships you are not to omit taking advantage of it, but may go out of your Course to Effect so good a purpose, in this we trust to your Zeal and discretion—

You are to take particular Notice that whilst on the Coast of France, or in a French Port, you are as much as you Conveniently can to keep your Guns Covered and Concealed, and to make as little warlike appearance as possible—

On your Arrival in France Send one of your officers with the Letter you are to write to the Commissioners to prevent its falling into improper hands.—We are [&c.]

W^m. Vernon

J Warren—

Navy Board Eastern departm^t
Boston February 10th. 1778

L, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am812). Addressed at the foot: "To Samuel Tucker Esq^r/Commander of the Ship *Boston*."

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Feb^y 10th. 1778—

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver Cap^t Turner² for the Brig^t *Dolphin*³ two
Cords Wood.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 206.

1. David Devens.

2. Capt. Israel Turner.

3. Massachusetts State brigantine *Dolphin*.

JOHN DESHON TO JOSHUA HUNTINGTON

Dear Sir

Providence Feb'y 10th 1778.

Since my arival hear I have Rec'd Letters from the board at Boston, in which they inform me the Hon'd Marine board at York Town¹ disaproves of Raising the Wages of the Carpenters to 15/ per Day,² being of Opinion that when the United States have agreed, and Completed that Agreement, Respecting the Stating the prices of Goods Labour etc. there will be no more Difficultys arise, but all things will go on well, it is my Sincere wish it may be so. I have Recomendend to the board to Send you Certifycates for 10000. Doll's there being no Cash to be had at Boston. it may Posabley Enable you to Send forward Teems for the Cannon at Salsbury, and these may Return with Riging etc. for the Ship under your Care.³ I forgot to ask you what forwardness the Cannon where in for the Ship at Salsbury. wish a line from you soon. am Sir your Humble Serv't

John Deshon.

Connecticut Historical Society *Collections* 20: 82.

1. Continental Marine Committee at York, Pa.

2. For more information on the problem, see *NDAR* 10: 55, 56, 136, 137.3. Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy*.

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH, R.N.

Copy.

By the Viscount Howe, Vice Admiral of
the White, and Commander in Chief of
His Majesty's Ships and Vessels employed
and to be employed &c. in North America

Whereas the Ships named and stationed as in the List herewith delivered, are intended to be employed in conjunction with the Land Forces under the Command of Major General Pigot¹ for maintaining possession of Rhode Island and defeating the hostile Attempts of the King's rebellious Subjects inhabiting the adjacent Colonies, As well as to prevent the Success of their Endeavors in other respects, for continuing their opposition to the re-establishment of His Majesty's Authority and Government in this Country: And whereas the chief direction of the said Ships will devolve on you, in the Absence of a Senior Officer:² You are therefore to have regard in the Conduct of those Services, to the following General Instructions.

You will be to take your Station in the *Nonsuch* at the Port of Rhode Island. In such Parts thereof for co-operating with Major General Pigot (or the Commanding General Officer for the time being) in defence of the Island,³ And for communicating with the Ships of your Division anchored off of the Creeks and Harbors contiguous to the Port, as you deem most effectual for the several purposes as aforesaid. Being also to give the General every other assistance you can render for the Support and Accommodation of the Troops.

Having made the Dispositions requisite for these principal Objects of your care, within the Limits of the Port, it will become necessary to provide for the establishment of the same Restrictions on the New England Coasts; And for giving Protection to the Transports sent with Supplies for the use of the Fleet and Army to this Port and New York.

You will be to appoint the Ships with which you may be provided according to the Number, that can be spared from other less urgent Services, to such Stations as

from Intelligence procured, or the Information the Captains so employed you deem most likely to be productive of the intended Effect, More especially with regard to the Ships of the Enemy, designed for Boston and the other New England Ports. But having reason to believe from late advices obtained, that the Rebels are meant to be furnished by foreign Powers, with Ships of more considerable force than they have yet possessed; And that they are constructing One, or more of Dimensions equal to a third Rate (the first to be finished in the ensuing Month of May) at Portsmouth and Boston,⁴ for which proper Artillery and other Stores are daily expected to arrive at those Ports, in large Armed Ships from Europe, probably under French Colours. It will therefore be expedient to station the Frigates on the New England Coast (two at least keeping always together) that they may join in greater force occasionally when not supported by any two decked Ships which I shall endeavor to appropriate in Succession for such Service.

Conformable to this Intention, the Senior Officer at Halifax is directed to Apprise You as he has opportunity of the Stations assigned for the Ships under his Orders, And you are to acquaint him in like manner, with the Arrangements proposed by you, for your mutual accommodation.

You are also to correspond with Commodore Hotham⁵ at New York, Both in respect to Supplies of Provisions and Stores that can be consistently furnished from thence, when wanted for the Ships of your Division, and for communicating such necessary Information respectively, as will enable you better to conduct the parts of the King's Service, with which you have been separately entrusted.

The Captains stationed as beforementioned will be to avail themselves of the Knowledge they may gain, respecting the most probable means for intercepting the Ships of the Enemy passing to and from the New England Ports, And also regarding the use to be made of such places of Anchorage, as may be found on the Coasts of the Northern Provinces, in case it should become necessary to have recourse thereto on any emergency, or for preventing the disadvantage of being forced from their Stations in the Winter Season.

Returns of the Disposition of the Ships under your Orders (employed at Sea or within the Limits of this Port) are to be transmitted to me from time to time, as any change is made therein, under the Heads as in the Form annexed.

A Correspondence having some time subsisted with M^r Nicholas Cook,⁶ chosen by the disaffected Inhabitants of the Colony of Rhode Island to be their Governor, And also with the Inhabitants of New England, by a Commissary of their Appointment, for negotiating an Exchange of Prisoners,⁷ meant to be chiefly confined to this Port; The further Conduct thereof will remain to be transacted under your Inspection, assisted by M^r Charles Waller Commissary in that Department, On the former Plan of rendering Officer for Officer, claiming equal Rank in the Armed Vessels of the Enemy, and Sailor for Sailor of Ability to serve in the Fleet. Persons of other Descriptions made Prisoners by the Rebels, are also to be exchanged in like manner, for those in similar Characters. But all British Seamen taken in the Service of the Rebels (not having deserted from any of the Ships of War) may be retained involuntarily to serve in the Fleet. And Deserters are to be reserved for being tried at a Court Martial for such breach of their Duty and Allegiance.

In the Distribution of any able Seamen procured in this manner, care is to be taken that the Less qualified Men, belonging to Ships furnished with such able

Seamen, are not selected and discharged from those Ships Books, to the Supernumerary Lists, for being turned over into other Ships, as is too frequently practised on similar occasions to the great prejudice of the general Service. If therefore when you Muster and Inspect the Qualifications of the Men, in the Ships of your Division, you should find that any Supernumeraries have been so improperly transferred, you are to order the replacing of them to the Complements of such Ships respectively, the intention being in all Instances, when it is necessary to complete the Complements of the Ships from such Drafts, to have the Men so assorted, amongst the several Ships, that the number of the more or less serviceable Men, may be the most equally divided.

Complaints having been sometimes made that the Men in particular Ships of the Fleet were much inferior in Quality to the Rates given with them, when received in England, the Captains deeming themselves restrained from the Liberty of altering those Rates, according to the actual pretensions of the Men: You are on such representations signified to you, to examine (in conjunction with the Captains or other Officers, whom you shall see proper to call to your assistance on that occasion) into the Circumstances thereof, and to cause such change to be made in the disproportioned Rates of the Men (pursuant to the Intentions and Orders of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty thereon) as upon due inquiry touching their respective Abilities you judge fit.

The Agent Lieutenant Knowles^s is instructed to inform you concerning the state of the Transports, preparing and fitted for occasional Service. Also of the Batteaux and Flat Boats which can be employed for the Embarkation or conveyance of the Troops posted on this Island, as Major General Pigot may desire; And of every other particular in his charge; As the Deputy Agent Victualling and Surgeon having the care of the Sick are directed to do, in the matters of their respective Departments.

You are to transmit to me, by every suitable conveyance, an Account of your proceedings regarding the several Objects of your present appointment: With Returns of the Captures made by the Ships under your Orders, according to the Form subjoined, And of the state and Condition of the Ships, from time to time, as any change occurs therein: Distinguishing only on the back of the last, in what manner Supernumeraries belonging to no Ship were procured, with their Qualities and the Names of the Ships to which those being part of the Complements of other Ships belong. And you are further to acquaint me, at the same time, with the particulars of any Intelligence you have obtained concerning the Operations and Designs of the Rebels for strengthening themselves in their illegal resistance, With the measures you deem most effectual to prevent the Success of their Endeavors therein, and every other Information necessary to be communicated for promoting the Benefit of His Majesty's Service, which you may have then acquired.

Given on board His Majesty's Ship
the *Eagle* at Rhode Island
the Tenth day of February 1778
Howe

By Command of the Vice Admiral
Jos^h. Davies

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 392-97. Addressed flush left below signature: "To./Captain Griffith/Commanding a Division of/His Majesty's Ships, Or the Senior/Officer for the time being at/Rhode Island." Docketed: "N^o. 6./Copy of Orders given to Captain/Griffith for his Conduct in the/Command of the Division of/the Fleet stationed at Rhode Island./Dated 10th. Feb^r. 1778./In Vice Adm^l. L^d. Howe's Letter/Dated 25th. Oct^r. 1778—."

1. Maj. Gen. Robert Pigot.
2. See Vice Admiral Viscount Howe to Philip Stephens (No. 51), 20 Jan., above.
3. Island of Rhode Island.
4. The 74-gun ship of the line *America* at Portsmouth and an unnamed 74-gun ship of the line at Boston. See Vice Admiral Viscount Howe to Philip Stephens (No. 50), 5 Jan., and enclosure, above.
5. Commo. William Hotham.
6. Gov. Nicholas Cooke.
7. Massachusetts Commissary of Prisoners.
8. Lt. John Knowles, R.N.

BILL FOR MAKING FLAGS FOR CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER SLOOP *AMERICAN REVENUE*

New London feb^r y^e 10. 1778

Nathn^{el}: Shaw To Sam^l Bill

	d ^r
To Making Colors for y ^e Sloop <i>Revenue</i>	4 .. 0.. 0
To fine thread for y ^e Starrs	0 .. 4 0
To Grinding and Polishing doctors Instrmnts	<u>2 .. 8 0</u>
	£6 ..12 0

Erros Exc^d

☞ Sam^l Bill

DS, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 76, no. 4377. Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Sam^l Bills/Bill." Docketed in another hand: "4377."

RECEIPT OF MONEY FOR CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER BRIGANTINE *TRUMBULL*

[*Norwich, Conn.*]

Rec^d Norwich 10 Feb^r 1778 of Seth Harden^l Esq^r by M^r. John MBreed² One Hundred & Twenty Pounds on Acco^t of Brig^t. *Trumbull*—

Howland & Coit agents³

DS, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 56, no. 3582. Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Seth Harding." Docketed: "3582."

1. Capt. Seth Harding, Connecticut Navy.
2. John McClarren Breed.
3. Joseph Howland and Thomas Coit.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EXPERIMENT*, CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE

Feb^r 1778

Ditto [Sandy Hook] NbW 192 Miles

Tuesday 10th.

AM at 7 Moderate & Cloudy set the Tops^{ls}: at 8 out 2 & 3 Reefs Tops^{ls}: and got up TopGall^t Yards, Sailm^{kr}: repairing the Mizen

Ditto NbW 218 Miles

Little Winds Sailmaker Repairing the Mizen PM at 2 Saw Several Guns fired in the SE made Sail Saw a Vessell dismasted; at 6 Spoke y^e Brigg *Rowley*; 7 Days from N^w: York, Bound to Granada: Sent our Boats on^{bdt}: & Rec^{dt}: the Master Ja^s: Tweed; and 23 Men with Some Small Stores, She had Lost her Masts

and 8 Guns in the late Gale the 9 Instant. She belonged to R^d Yates and Several other Gentlemen Merchants in New York. Saw a Sloop WnW. made Sail & Gave Chace.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/331, 117.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

[Extract]

Dear Sir,

Wilmington February 10th: 1778

I am much obliged by your favor received last Evening, and shall take every necessary precaution to obviate any design formed against this Post—but I am induced to think the Information was groundless, as we have now seven Prisoners taken on the Evening of the 7th; part of them taken by the mouth of Derby Creek going up with Provision, & the others above that, coming down from Philadelphia after having sold their Provisions, also a Deserter from the *Roe Buck* a New-England Man, who was taken some Time ago, who have heard nothing of an Embarkation—the Deserter is an intelligible Man, has been detained upwards of 12 Months on board, & has never had a secure Opportunity of escaping before Saturday afternoon, he informs there was not then a Man embark'd, & that no Ships were ready to receive them, but that he understood 30 Sail of Transports had received Orders to get ready to sail to England (this indeed may indicate something) I also have certain intelligence of p^t of the Hessian troops being posted on this side the Schuylkill—Sunday; all which serves to shew the Quakers information was False. . . . I have [&c]

W Smallwood

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "His Excellency/General Washington/Head Quarters/Valley Forge." Notations: "Public Service"; "Express/W Smallwood." Docketed: "From General Smallwood/Febr^y 10th: 1778/21st: Febr^y." The remainder of the letter deals with contracting for shoes and punishing deserters.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE SALE OF THE MARYLAND NAVY SHIP *DEFENCE*

[Annapolis, 10 February 1778]

Now lying at Annapolis and to be sold there on Tuesday—the Tenth—Day of February next for the Benefit of this State the Ship *Defence* with her Tackle Apparel and Furniture an Inventory of which may be seen at any Time at Cap^t Mayberrys¹ She is quite clean ready to receive a Cargo or to go on a Cruise.²

~~#-Order~~ T Johnson Jun^r Co^l.

D, MdAA, Maryland State Papers, (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-54.

1. Capt. Beriah Maybury.

2. On 11 Dec. 1777, the Maryland House of Delegates authorized Gov. Johnson and the Maryland Council, rendered as Co^l in the signature, to sell the *Defence*. NDAR 10: 709.

COLONEL RICHARD BARNES TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

D^r Sir,

Leo^d. Town [*Md.*] the 10th. Feb^y. 1778

By the inclosed Letters you will find the Enemy have again paid us a visit, and taken Capⁿ. Fenwick.¹ Capⁿ. David² was here yesterday and returned to his Vessel at the mouth of this Bay³ a few hours before I rec^d. information of the Enemies being

in St^c Marys River, and as the wind was fare for Capⁿ. Fenwick, and it being in the Night, I imedeately sent information to Capⁿ. David, in order that he might prevent Fenwicks faling into their hands, which appears not to have had the desired effect. I have thout proper to send an Express with this, thinking it may be of consequence for you to know it, You will therefore be kind enough to pay M^r. Medley⁴ what you think adequate to his trouble and expences. The Arms you sent to M^r. Hopewells⁵ for this County I was at the expence and trouble of sending for, to this place, and on examination, find to be a parciel of refused things, that a great proportion of them will not make fire with any degree of certainty, many not at all, and those that woud, the Casks are in as bad a situation that they are not to be depended on, and not a single Bayonet, or Cartouch box, sent with them, the boars of the Guns all different, which for the Militia so often called on, in a hurry ought to be the same, as it can't be expected lead can be procured for them in time in any other manner. In short I really shall be glad that when it may be convenient for one of the State Vessels to take them back to Annapolis that they would do it. Notwithstanding I am convinced there is no part of this State so badly Armed as we are, and none so much exposed. Col^s. Jordan,⁶ Reeder⁷ & Maj^r. Thomas⁸ have seen the arms & have the same opinion of them as myself, thirty of the best of them I shall send in the morning to Col^o. Hebb. If you have any thing new I shuld be glad to be informed of it. I remain [&c.]

Rich^d. Barnes

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4587-13. Addressed: "To/His Excellency/Tho^s Johnston Esq^r/Annapolis." Notation: "☉ M^r Medley." Docketed: "10 Feb^{ry} 1778/L^t Richard Barnes/ab^t Ship *Lydia*'s fallg/into the Enemy's Hands;" "10 Feb^{ry} 1778/Rich^d Barnes L^t/inclosing V Hebb's/L^t & a proclamation/from his M. Ship *Rich^d* [*Richmond*]." Col. Richard Barnes was lieutenant of St. Marys County.

1. Capt. Ignatius Fenwick, commanding Maryland State trading ship *Lydia*.
2. Capt. John David, commanding Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*.
3. Breton Bay.
4. Either Henry or Joseph Medley of St. Marys County.
5. Hugh Hopewell.
6. Col. Jeremiah Jordan, St. Marys County militia.
7. Probably Col. John Reeder, Jr., of St. Marys County.
8. Maj. John Allen Thomas, St. Marys County militia.

COLONEL VERNON HEBB TO COLONEL RICHARD BARNES

Dear Sir,

Porto Bello [*Md.*] 2 °Clock 10 Feb^{ry} 1778

I rec^d your favour ☉ James and am glad to find you think the Answer I gave was Consistant with my duty, the Ships last Night changed there Station round to back part of S^c George Island, near off pinepint,¹ so here they now Lye and am sorry to inform you that Cap^t. Fenwick² fell in there hands last Night, I have ordered down Smoot³ & Watts,⁴ which I think will be men enough but shoud be glad to have 20 or 30 Gun's down as what armes we have is very bad, and I fully expect they will make some tryell to get Smith Brig out, you may depend that no Communication shall be permitted to the Enemy, and I am [&c.]

Vernon Hebb

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4587-14.

1. Piney Point.
2. Capt. Ignatius Fenwick, commanding Maryland State trading ship *Lydia*.
3. Probably Capt. John Smoot, Maryland Militia.
4. Possibly Capt. George Watts, Severn Battalion, Maryland Militia.

GOVERNOR RICHARD CASWELL TO THOMAS OGDEN

Sir, Dobbs, [N.C.] 10th. Feby 1778.
 Capt Parker from Bermuda is permitted to take on Board 80 or 90 Barrels of Pork that quantity being short of the price of salt he brought in. The Naval officer I have written to,¹ who will clear him out. I still want some salt, for the public and will take the quantity you mention and furnish a proportionable part of the Cargo, on your signifying what the same is. I can do nothing with the Frenchman respecting the powder, until the meeting of the Council which will be in a few days. I am [&c.]

R. Caswell.

LB, Nc-Ar, Governors Letter Books 1.1, Richard Caswell Letter Book, 1776-1779, pp. 298-99. Addressed at foot: "Mr Thomas Ogden."

1. Caswell wrote to James Coor, Naval (or Port) Officer at New Bern, on 10 Feb. *Ibid.*, p. 299.

LIEUTENANT WILLIAM LEEDS TO WILLIAM BINGHAM

Sir
 I have just fell in with & been aboard the Ship *Waddell*,¹ a prize belonging to the *Enterprize* Cap^t Je ne Scai quoi out of which I have taken 6 firkins of Butter, one Cask Potatoes, & 2 Dozen beer, which I Shall esteem it a favour you woud pay for— I have the honour to be Sir [&c.]

Resistance at Sea

Feb^y 10th 1778Pour acquit² a S^t pierre Le 6 Mars 1778P^r. Décane

6 fk a 80 ^{#3}	—	480 [#]
1 Bouc ⁴ potato	—	100
2 d ^{ne} . bierre	—	<u>36</u>
	=	616

for
 Sam^l. Chew
 Will^m. Leeds

L, PHi, Simon Gratz Autograph Collection, Case 5, Box 27 (American Navy in the Revolution). Addressed: "To Will Bingham Esq^f Martinique—."

1. Ship *Waddell*, William Scott, master, 200 tons, from Bermuda to New York, built at New York City in 1772. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-78*.

2. "Paid."

3. Symbol for *livre tournois*.

4. Abbreviation for "boucaut," or "cask."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. SEAFORD, CAPTAIN JOHN COLPOYS

February 1778

Tuesday 10thAt Sea Latit^{de}. 12 : 45 N^o: Observ^d:

At ½ Past 2 AM Saw a Sail Att 3 D^o fired I Shott bro't too a Brigg, Proved an English Brigg from Newfoundland to Barbadoes,¹ taken by a Rebel Privateer,² Exchang'd the Prisoners and Sent the Brigg to Barbadoes—

At Sea Latit^d. 13..45 N^o: Observ^d:Fresh breez^s: & Squally W. with rain At 12 PM. tacked Ship

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/880, part 3.

1. Brigantine *Free Briton*, John Drayton, master, 120 tons burthen, crew of 8 men, from Newfoundland to Barbados, with fish, sent into Barbados, taken on 8 Feb. by American privateer *Fair Play*, retaken by *Seaford*. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

2. Probably Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Fair Play*, Isaac Somes, commander, mounting 12 guns, with a crew of 60 men, owned by Tristram Dalton of Newburyport, which was commissioned on 17 July 1777. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 4, p. 113. See NDAR 10: 89, 90n.

February 11

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

A Journal of a Cruze by god's permishon in the Good
Ship Cauld the *Boston* apertaining to the
United States of America

[*Nantasket Roads, Mass.*]

1778 on the Eleventh of february Embarkd on board a Pilot boat att Boston and went Down to Nantasket Roads on board Said *Boston* Frigate the Ship being Ready for Sea the wind and Weather Prevented my going this day the former being SE & Latter Very thick and full of Rain.—

Nothing more Remarkable this Day

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston Feb^y 11th 1778

Order'd, That Pearson Jones's Bill for Sundry Expences for Isaac Collyer a Seamen on board the *Tyrannicide*¹ Cap^t Harraden,² put on Shore under his Care, sick at Falmouth, be paid, £7..12.—

Order'd, That Cap^t M^cCluer³ permit Jotham Bush to go on board the Guard-Ship,⁴ under his command, under proper Restrictions.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 208–9.

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Tyrannicide*.

2. Capt. Jonathan Haraden.

3. Capt. William McClure.

4. Massachusetts State prison ship *Rising Empire*.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO MORRIS, PLIARNE, PENET & CO.

Gentlemen

War Office Boston Feb^y 11th 1778

The foregoing is a Copy of ours¹ by the Brig^a *Nantes* Capⁿ Chapman.² we have only now to confirm the same, and desire you would send us in each of the Ships, ordered back with Salt, and by the *Nantes* 5 or 6 Tons of good Cordage from 4 Inches down to a Ratlin—We are [&c.]

By order the Board
Sam^l Phips Savage
President

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), p. 157. Addressed at foot: "Mess^{rs} Morris Pliarne Penet & Co."

1. See Massachusetts Board of War to Morris, Pliarne, Penet & Co., 20 Jan., above.

2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*, Capt. Joseph Chapman, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EXPERIMENT*, CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACEFeb^r 1778

Ditto. [Sandy Hook] NbW 218 Miles

Wednesday 11th.

AM at 4 Brought too the Chace a Sloop from New haven for Martinico with Provisions Lumber & live Stock,¹ took the Master and 4 Men out of her & put 2 petty Officers & 7 men Onb^d: her. at 8 Close Reefed the Tops^{ls}: Dark & Cloudy with rain Prize in C^o.

Ditto NbW ¼ W 182 Miles

Fresh Gales and Rain, PM at 3 handed the fores^l: & Tops^{ls}: & Lay too under the Main & Mizen Stays^{ls}: at 4 Orderd the Prize for New York, Carried away the forem^t: Main shroud; at 7 Set y^e fore & Main Tops^{ls}: at 9 Brought too again Strong Gales; Sounded 50 fms no Ground

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/331, 117.

1. Sloop *Dolphin*, J. Miles, master, from Salem to St. Eustatius, with provisions, lost. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 485. She was lost on Long Island according to *The New-York Gazette: and Weekly Mercury*, 9 Mar. 1778.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO COMMANDER JAMES WATT, R.N.

By &c. &c.

Whereas it is judged expedient to [Fit] and Arm the *Philadelphia* Galley for the Defence of this City, and the better executing the King's Service on the River Delaware; and a Complement of Seamen will be wanted for the purpose of navigating the said Galley. You are hereby authorised and directed to Enter for Wages and Victuals on a Supernumerary List on the Books of His Maj^s. Ship under your Command thirty Seamen as the Complement of the *Philadelphia* Galley for the abovementioned purpose, until further Order.

Given &ca [on board the *Roebuck* at *Philadelphia*]11th. February 1778.A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), pp. 17–18. Addressed at foot: "Captⁿ. Ja^s. Watt _____ Delaware."

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO ROBERT ATCHESON

By &c. &c.

Whereas it is judged expedient to fit, and Arm the Row-Galley named the *Philadelphia*, as well for the Defence of this City as the better executing occasional Services in the River Delaware; and I have thought fit to appoint You to Command the said Galley: You are hereby authorised and directed to repair forthwith onboard the Row Galley *Philadelphia*, and take upon You the Charge and Command of the said Galley until further Order accordingly. The Officers and Company serving onboard the said Galley, being hereby strictly enjoined to behave themselves jointly and severally in their respective Employments with all due respect and obedience unto You, their Commander for the Time being; And You likewise to observe, and

execute all such Orders and Directions which You may receive from time to time from me, or any other your Superior Officer for His Majesty's Service.

Given &c. [*on board the Roebuck at Philadelphia*] 11th. Feby 1778

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), pp. 16–17. Addressed at foot: "M^r Robert Atcheson—/hereby appointed to Command/His Majesty's Row-Galley/*Philadelphia*."

RECRUITING POSTER FOR H.M. GALLEY *PHILADELPHIA*

ALL

Loyal Seamen

OR

Able-Bodied Landmen,

Desirous of Serving his Majesty

KING GEORGE THE THIRD,

And willing to enter on Board the GALLEY

PHILADELPHIA,

Fitted for the better Defence of the CITY, and

River-Service only;

Now Lying at the NEW-FERRY WHARF;

Will meet with every Encouragement they may merit, and will not be required to serve in any other of His Majesty's Ships or Vessels, contrary to their Inclination.

GOD save the KING.

[*Philadelphia*] PRINTED by JAMES HUMPHREYS, JUNR. in *Market-street*, between *Front* and *Second*. [11 February 1778]¹

Broadside.

1. For date, see Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Commander James Watt, R.N., 11 Feb., and Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Robert Atcheson, 11 Feb., both above.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO FRANCIS LEWIS

Sir.

In Council Annapolis 11th. Feb^y 1778.

We have six four Pounders which belonged to the *Defence*,¹ we believe, very good, and their Carriages compleat. The Congress may have them with the Carriages, for the Price such would sell for at Baltimore, of which, we presume, you may be easily ascertained. We have no other four Pounders that we can spare with any Convenience. We had some Guns made at Dorsey's Works for fours, but they carry a Shot of 5^{lb}. and upwards. Perhaps we could make out your Number with them, if we can, the Congress may have four of them, but, 'tis likely they are too heavy for your Purpose—We are &c^{ca}

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "The Hon^{ble}. Francis Lewis."

1. Maryland Navy ship *Defence*.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

February 1778 At Anchor in the Potowmack
 Wednesday 11 Var^l W^r PM a Rebel Galley came down the River & run within 2
 Miles of the *Solebay* who Slipt & stood towards her, the Galley fir'd
 2 Shot at her, & sever^l were Exchanged in the Course of y^e Chace,
 but the Galley¹ always kept in Shoal water & at last run into S^t
 Marays²

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/784. The 10 Feb. entry in the *Richmond's* Journal reads: "PM saw 3 Sail coming down the River, at 6 Veerd ½ a Cable."

1. Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*, Capt. John David, commander, which had been sent down from Annapolis to the mouth of the Potomac River to escort *Lydia* down Chesapeake Bay. See Maryland Council to Captain Ignatius Fenwick, 30 Jan., above. For background, see Colonel Richard Barnes to Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., 10 Feb., above, and Deposition of Captain Ignatius Fenwick and the Crew of the Maryland State Trading Ship *Lydia*, 12 Feb., below. *Richmond*, *Solebay* and prize *Lydia* set sail down the Potomac on the morning of 13 Feb. for Hampton Roads.

2. St. Marys River.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *SOLEBAY*, CAPTAIN THOMAS SYMONDS

February 1778 D^o. [at Anchor off S^t George's Point]
 Wednesday 11 Fresh gales & hazy 1st part, Mid. & latt^e C^r at 1 PM saw a Rebel
 Galley thro the Haze coming down the River,¹ slipt the small B^r
 & got under sail & gave chace, the Galley soon after fired a shot
 at us, began to fire at her & continued doing so for about ½ an
 hour, when not being able to get nearer to her on acc^t of a
 shoal, wore ship & stood for the *Richmond*, at 4 Anch^d with B^t B^r
 in 10 f^s, fired 65 nine pounders Shotted on this occasion, Struck
 T: G^t masts—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/909.

1. Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*, Capt. John David, commander. For another account of this action, see Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, immediately above.

February 12

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[*Nantasket Roads, Mass.*]

Remarks on Thursday February 12th 1778

This morning after overhauling my Ships Stores found Several Necessary arti-
 cles Omitted by being So much hurried for which I Sent to town for Imediately by M^r
 Barron¹ my first Leiu^t & Richard Palmes Esq^r Capt of Marines Which Proceeded in
 the Same boat that brought me Down but the wind being Strong from the NW they
 Could not Reach the town Untill midnight and I Could not Possibly Unmore Ship—
 Here Ends this 24 hours—

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

1. Lt. William Barron.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston Feb^y 12th. 1778Order'd, That M^r Ivers¹ pay Cap^t Turner² on Acc^t Brig^t *Dolphin*³ Sixty Pounds.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 209.

1. Thomas Ivers.
2. Capt. Israel Turner.
3. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*.

NEWS FROM BOSTON

BOSTON, February 12, 1778.

Certain Intelligence is received, by the Owners of the private armed Ship *Revenge*, James Tracy, Esq; Commander, of her safe Arrival at Bordeaux, in France, and all Hands on board well, notwithstanding what our implacable Enemies in New-York and elsewhere, have published, of her being captured by such and such a Ship, belonging to the King of Britain, and carried into *such* a safe Port.

Independent Chronicle, and the Universal Advertiser (Boston), 19 Feb. 1778.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL SMEDLEY TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL

Honoured Sir

Boston 12th Feb^y 1778

Permit Me to Trouble your Excellency with a few Lines more Concerning the Ship *Defence* She Now Lying at hancocks Wharf with all her Provisions on board Excepting bread and flowr and Small Stores her sails bent with One hundred men on board Includeing Officers Your Excellency Doubtless knows the Expences She is attended with therefore my Reasons for Troubleing your Excellency at this time Is to beg the Authority to Suppley Our Agent with Cash Sufficient to Send us to Sea Immediately—

your Excellency Cannot think how Exceeding Expensive Ships are fitted Out at this Day Notwithstanding their are about fourteen sail of armed Vessels In this Harbour at Present but none so forward with men as Our Ship For which I have taken unweared Pains Sent to Falmouth Cape-Cod Marthes Vineyard and several Other Sea Port Towns which makes it Veary Expensive but better then to have the Ship Lye in Port all the Season for it would be Impossable to man from this Port as I have Not entered above three or four here since I begun to Recrute I have Advanced the Greatest Part of the money you sent for Articles for the Ship that was much wanted and therefore beg your Excellency to Send by the bearer M^r Rob^t Wasson a Sufficient Sum of money to M^r Eliot to Compleat the Ship and Pay the men their Wages Due the Same he wants Perhaps he will Mentain to you in his Letter¹—

I Likewise shall be Glad of my Orders and if your Excellency thinks Proper to send New Commissions, as I see Nothing but What is here mentioned to hinder Sailing in ten Days—

therefore for the Public Good make no Doubt your Excellency will Compley With my Request the Cannon I Expect every hour therefore hope soon to Pay the State threefold for all her Expences. Conclude your Excellencys [&c.]

Sam^l Smedley

N.B: M^r Rob^t Wasson is a Young Gentleman of a Good Character and one of my Officers who your Excellency may trust with aney Sum you think Proper—

L, Ct, Jonathan Trumbull Papers, vol. 8, pp. 75a–b.

1. See Samuel Eliot, Jr., to Governor Jonathan Trumbull, 12 Feb., immediately below.

SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL

Hon^d Sir

Boston 12th Feb^{ry} 1778

By M^r Wasson¹ who is sent by Cap^t Smedley² to Hartford, I take the liberty of mentioning the difficultys in which I have been involved since I wrote to your Excellency—The bread which I had belonging to the State (taken in the Brig *Honor*)³ has all been condemn'd, its put me back one day, but the next day a Gentleman was kind enough to lend me about 10,000^{lbs} which was sufficient to stow in the Vessells, upon my promising to repay him in a short time—I must request the Councils attention to it, and that I may have flour forwarded to make good my word, and to compleat the bread for the Vessells, who have all their provisions, Wood & Water (except bread) in—Agreable to your Excellencys order I reserv'd a Nine & half Inch Cable, it was adjudg'd insufficient for the Ship, which oblig'd me to lay 2 Cables (belonging to Coll Trumbull)⁴ into one of 11 & ½ Inches.—I have been oblig'd to purch[ase] an Anchor for her—which with the other great expen[ces] attending fixing out the Ships, has so drain'd me of Mon[ey] that I am reduc'd to the necessity of requesting a Supply.—I intended to have forwarded the bills by M^r Wasson, but am prevented by the Workmen being all call'd to a Muster for drafting Men to Serve in the Army. Cap^t Parker⁵ will sett out for Hartford on the Morrow, I shall write by him and send them forward—I remain [&c.]

Sam Eliot J

L, CtHi, Jonathan Trumbull Papers. Addressed: "On publick Service/His Excellency Jon^a Trumbull Esq^r/in/Hartford." Notation: "Favord by/M^r Wasson." Addressed at foot: "Governor Trumbull."

1. Robert Wasson. See Captain Samuel Smedley to Governor Jonathan Trumbull, immediately above.

2. Cap^t. Samuel Smedley, Connecticut Navy.

3. *Honor* was a prize of the Connecticut Navy ship *Oliver Cromwell*. See NDAR9: 242, 772, 786, 786–87, 879, 879n, 972.

4. Col. Joseph Trumbull.

5. Cap^t. Timothy Parker, commanding the Connecticut Navy ship *Oliver Cromwell*.

CAPTAIN THOMAS MAYHEW TO MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Gent^m

Plimouth Feb^{ry} 12 1778

I wrote you last week Concerning my getting A Crew for the ship *Adams*.¹ Am very sorry to Inform the Honb^{le}: Board I am like to be disapointed. the man who was to be my mate is put in Master of A Brig^t and some of the men I expected to get, have ship'd in different Vessells. Others are going up to Boston to look out for Voyages, as they hear 60 dollars A month is given for hands. I have gone so far as to Offer 55 dollars for mate & 45 for men P^r month. I shall make further trial, as there is seamen (sufficient in this Town to man a ship) who have not engaged, however would not have you keep the Vessell for me if A master & seamen should Offer for her. I shall be at Boston in A few days when I shall wait on you—I am Gent^m. [&c.]

Tho^s Mayhew jr

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 153 (Board of War Letters, 1777–1780), p. 40. Addressed: "To/the Hon^{ble}. Board of War/Boston." Docketed: "Captⁿ Mayhew Letter/Febr^y 12 1778"; "M^r May[hew's] Letter/to the Board—/Febr^y 12th 1778."

1. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*. See *NDAR* 10: 476, 484.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL CHAMPLIN, JR.'S RECEIPT FOR PRIZE MONEY FOR THE
CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER SLOOP *AMERICAN REVENUE*

New London February 12. 1778 Received of Nathaniel Shaw Jun^r thirty three hundred pounds Lawfull Money on Acco^u of my Prize Money due for two Cruses in the Sloop *American Revenue* Under my Command—the Ballance to be paid as Soon as the Law Suit depending att Congress is Settled—¹

Samuel Champlin

£3300..0..0—

DS, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 19, no. 27.

1. Brigantine *Sally*, Barry Hartwell, master, bound from London to Tobago, was captured by the Connecticut privateer *American Revenue* on 22 Jan. 1777. *NDAR* 8: 68. When *Sally* was condemned as a lawful prize by the North Carolina Admiralty Court at New Bern in late March 1777, her owner, Samuel Mifflin of Philadelphia, appealed to the Continental Congress. *JCC* 9: 1052. See also *NDAR* 8: 275–76. For the outcome of the appeal see Henry J. Bourguignon, *The First Federal Court: The Federal Appellate Prize Court of the American Revolution* (Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 1977), 229–30.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

The Commissioners of the Navy Board at Boston
Gentlemen

[York, Pa.] Febr^y 12th 1778

We have lately paid a bill drawn by John Langdon esq^r on this Committee dated the 20th December last in favour of Stephen Hooper Esq^r for 12,000 Dollars¹ and have charged the same to your Account. you will please to debit M^r Langdon with the amount of the said Bill and direct him to apply to you in future for any money he may want as it is proper the Marine Agents in your Department should make their applications to your Board.² We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 126 (M332, roll 6).

1. See *NDAR* 10: 759.

2. See *NDAR* 10: 309–10.

DEPOSITION OF CAPTAIN IGNATIUS FENWICK AND THE CREW OF THE
MARYLAND STATE TRADING SHIP *LYDIA*

S^t Mary's County [Md.] 12 February 1778

Then came Cap^t Ignatious Fenwick late Master of the Ship *Lydia* John Ridgely Mate Stephen Gough Pilot, and Thomas Lawson Seaman and made Oath that on coming down Potomack River when they got off the mouth of S^t Mary's River, on Monday the Ninth Instant Between Eight and Nine ^oClock at Night they saw two Ships¹ lying in S^t Marys River, and taking them to be the Enemy they then Tacked the Ship and Stood up Potomack in order to get out of sight, but by the time they wore aboute the Enemy was under Sail, and gave chase, and come up with them so fast that they thought proper to leave the Ship to get a shore as the Enemy was then near them at not more than three Quarters of a mile off, and these Deponents fur-

ther declares that in coming down Potomack River when there were off Buttons Bay² they saw a Vessell which they took to be a Galley,³ but heard no Gun, or saw no Signal from her,

Sworn to before Vernon Hebb

D, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-64.

1. H.M.S. *Richmond* and H.M.S. *Solebay*. See Journals of H.M.S. *Richmond* and H.M.S. *Solebay* for 9 Feb., above.

2. Breton Bay.

3. Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Thursday the 12th day of February 1778.—

Ordered that John Scott, Michael Comer, and William Richardson, marines on Board the Brigantine *Northampton*, be discharged from the service they having served the time of their enlistm^t—

John Boush is appointed Clerk of this Board in the Room of William Drew who hath resigned that office.

Ordered that Mr William Holt, deliver to Lieutenant Stratton, one seven inch Cable, one Coil of two and three quarters of an inch Rope, one ditto of two inch, and fourteen fathom of four Inch for the Use of the *Hero* Galley.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 352.

ACCOUNTS OF VIRGINIA NAVY BRIG *NORTHAMPTON*

[*Williamsburg*]

Brigg *Northampton* to W^m. Frazer D^r
1778.

Jan ^{ry}	5.	To 2 Barrels Bread W ^t 264 ^{lb}
	6.	To 124 ^{lb} fresh Beef
	8.	To 3 Barrels Bread W ^t 328 ^{lb} N ^t
	"	To 1 Barrel White Bread 156 ^{lb} N ^t
	"	To 2 Bushels Potatoes
13.	To ½ Bushel ditto	
"	To 52 ^{lb} Spun yarn 168 ^{lb} Beef	
15.	To 4¼ Gallons Whisky ½ Bush Peas	
16.	To 4 Gallons Whisky	
17.	To 4 Gallons ditto	
18.	To 1 Bushel Potatoes	
"	To 4 Gallons Whisky	
"	To 1 Coil Cordage 42 ^{lb}	
"	To 1 ditto 2 Inch Rope W ^t 100 ^{lb}	
"	To 1 ditto 1½ Inch ditto 82 ^{lb}	
19.	To 4 Gallons Whisky 1 Bush Salt	
20.	To ½ Gallon peach Brandy 82 ^{lb} Beef	
"	To 4 Gallons Whisky	
21.	To 4 Gallons ditto 22 nd 43 ^{lb} Spun yarn	
23	To 2 Barrels Tarr 4 Gallons Brandy	

	24	To 108 ^{lb} Beef
	"	To 4 Gallons Brandy 25 th 4 Gallon d ^o .
	26	To 4 Gallons Brandy
	27.	To 160 ^{lb} White Bread 2 Gallons Brandy
	28	To 2½ Gallons Brandy 1 Gall ^o . Brandy
	"	To 247 ^{lb} Beef 8 ^{lb} Iron Worke
	29.	To 325 ^{lb} Bread 4 Gallons Brandy
	"	To 5 ^{lb} Iron Worke
	30.	To 4 Gallons Brandy
	"	To 116 ^{lb} Iron 31 st 8 ^{lb} Iron worke
	31	To 4 Gallons Brandy
Feb ^r	1.	To 4 Gallons Brandy
	2	To 78 ^{lb} Bacon 4 Gallons Brandy
	"	To 86 ^{lb} Iron
	3	To 105 ^{lb} Beef 4 Gallons Brandy
	"	To 4 Gallons Whisky 10 ^{lb} Hogs Lard
	"	To 5 Gallons Cyder
	4	To 25 Gallons Whisky 8½ ^{lb} Iron work'd
	"	To 3 Gallons Brandy 301 ^{lb} Salt pork
	"	To 1 Firkin Butter 1 Barrel Tarr
		Carried forward
		Amount brought forward
Feb ^r	12	To 4 Barrels Bread
	"	To 2 Barrels Fresh Pork
	"	To 205 ^{lb} Salt Pork
	"	To Cash paid Francis Graves for wooden Gun T Crg ¹

The above Articles Reciev'd for the use of the Brigg *Northampton*

Francis Bright

DS, Vi, Papers Concerning the State Navy, vol. 2, Papers Concerning the Brig *Northampton*. Docketed: "Brig *Northampton*/Acco^r/Enter'd in the Book."

1. Traveling carriage.

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[*Savannah*]

Thursday February 12, 1778

ORDERED. that a Letter of Marque be granted to Cap^t John Latreyte of the Sloop *Le Vengica* he giving security and otherwise complying with the regulations of Congress. . . .

The following resolves were sent from the house of Assembly Viz^t

House of Assembly Wednesday February 11, 1778

...

RESOLVED That his Honour the Governor and Council be empowered to procure the house at Thunderbolt commonly called the Oyster house for the reception of the Sick of the Continental Naval, and Land forces and treat with the proprietors of the same for that purpose as soon as possible.¹

A Letter from General Howe² containing the opinion as to the manning the Gallies with Continental Troops, and suggesting many reasons why it could not be done was laid before the Board.³

The Revolutionary Records of the State of Georgia, 2: 30–33.

1. See Minutes of the Georgia Executive Council, 19 Jan. and 4 Feb., above.

2. Maj. Gen. Robert Howe.

3. See Minutes of the Georgia Executive Council, 9 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *BADGER*, LIEUTENANT MICHAEL J. EVERITT

February 1778

D° [Turks Island] N 82½. 00' W^t dist. 29 Leagues.—

Thursday 12th

[at] 6 A.M. Saw a Sail in the NE Quart^r made Sail and Gave Chace. [at] Noon Fir'd Eight Four Pound^{rs}. Round and Grape. Bro^t her too, she proved to be a Schooner from Boston Bound to Cape Francois. sent an Officer and Boat & took Possesion of her.—¹

D° [Turks Island] N 86°. . 00' W^t dist. 40 Leagues.—

P.M. D° Weath^r [Squally Weath^r with Rain] In 3^d Reef Topsails. [at] 8 D° Weath^r Prize in Comp^y

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/78, part 2.

1. Schooner *Tryall*, — Smith, master, from Boston, with fish and lumber. Gayton's Prize List, 26 Feb. 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/240.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN ANTIGUA,
DATED FEBRUARY 12.”

“Two days since his Majesty's frigate *Greyhound*,¹ Capt. Dixon,² sent in here a brig from Boston, Jonathan Blodget, Master, laden with lumber and fish. Thomas Russell, of Charlestown, was her owner.—The *Aurora* has lately sent into Barbados, the rebel vessel *St. Peter*, of 20 guns and 107 men;³ and the *Seaford*, Captain Colpoys,⁴ has sent into the same island the Brig *General Washington*, of 18 guns and 80 men.⁵ Advice is received that the *Ariadne* has taken a rebel frigate of 36 guns.⁶ The officers and men belonging to the Royal Navy, on this station, merit the highest encomiums, they are enriching themselves and doing essential service to their country, by the valuable prizes they take from the American rebels and send in to the different ports of his Majesty's West-India islands. The number they have already taken is almost incredible, as very few vessels that appear in those seas who are, or have on board, the property of rebels, elude the vigilance of our cruisers.”

Rivington's *The Royal Gazette* (New York), 21 Mar. 1778. The quoted letter probably ends after the third sentence, since the remainder of the “Extract” refers to events subsequent to 12 Feb.

1. See Vice Admiral James Young to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 13 Feb., below.

2. Capt. Archibald Dickson, R.N.

3. American privateer ship *St. Peter*, Samuel Chace, commander. See Journal of H.M.S. *Aurora*, 12–13 Jan., above.

4. Capt. John Colpoys, R.N.

5. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *General Washington*, William Rogers, commander. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 18 Jan., above.

6. Continental Navy ship *Alfred*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M. sloop *Ceres*, 9 Mar., below.

GOVERNOR JOHN DALLING TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

(N^o. 15)Jamaica 12th. February 1778

My Lord,

The reason of your Lordship's not having received any dispatches by a particular Convoy, must have been occasioned by the Pacquet's having sailed much about the same time. No Man can rejoice more at an Increase of the august House of Brunswick than I do, so that I announced it to His Majesty's Subjects here with equal Joy, and Satisfaction.

I have the Honor to enclose to your Lordship, a Dispatch of the Governor of S^t. Domingo addressed to me;¹ a Letter of mine to the Admiral here;² his Reply³ and my Answer to Mons^r. D'argout,⁴ which I flatter myself your Lordship will approve of.

The forming a Judgement of such matters, totally out of my Sphere, m[a]y be presumption, at the same time it may be my duty and your Lordships wish, that I should give an Opinion. I have then, my Lord, my Fears about me as to Vessels fitted out in the manner that these Tenders are; commanded perhaps by young unexperienced People, or which may be worse, by those low people unknowing in either rights, propriety, or Conduct, and furnished only with a kind of Warrant from a private Captain, although a superior Officer is on the Spot. This Warrant may be competent as to Rebels, but, whether as to the French Commerce, is the great question: I could say a great deal more upon this Subject, but your Lordship's better Judgement will at once determine upon the propriety, or impropriety of these Vessels, and their Commissions. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect my Lord [&c.]

John Dalling

L, UKLPR, C.O. 137/73, fols. 112-13. Addressed at foot of first page: "The Right Hon^{ble}: Lord George Germain &c. &c. &c." Docketed: "Jamaica 12th. Febr^y 1778./Governor Dalling/(N^o 15)/R. 3^d. April./(5 Inclosures.)/Ent^d."

1. See Governor Comte d'Argout to Governor John Dalling, 16 Jan., above.

2. Enclosure not printed, being the transmittal letter for Governor Comte d'Argout to Governor John Dalling, 16 Jan.

3. See Vice Admiral Clark Gayton to Governor John Dalling, 27 Jan., above.

4. See Governor John Dalling to Governor Comte d'Argout, 31 Jan., above.

February 13

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[Nantasket Roads, Mass.]

Remarks on Friday febr^y 13th—1778

This Morning Still Continues fresh Gales from the NW Which Prevents me from Unmoreing Still I haveing Some Capatal business att Brantre¹ Send my boat on Shore to Georges Island and brought off a Pilot to Conduct me their at 10 AM Proceeded their finisht my business and Returnd on board by 5 PM Where I found my Offercers to my Satisfaction Returnd from Boston with all my Necessarys I Indented for Except it was Pistols I thought Propper to Send my Ships master

M^r Bates² on board of a Schooner for wood which lay in the Road M^r Bates not liking the wood Returnd & acquainted me
So Ends this Day—Still Blowing from the NW—Hard gales

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

1. Tucker went in the ship's boat to Quincy Bay near Braintree to embark John Adams and his son, John Quincy Adams, for a voyage to France. See *Diary of John Adams*, 13 Feb., below.

2. Benjamin Bates.

JOURNAL OF MARINE LIEUTENANT WILLIAM JENNISON

[*Frigate Boston at Boston*]

1778 [Feb.] 13 Cap^t Tucker¹ went to Braintree in his Barge & brought the Hon^{ble} John Adams and suite on Board—

DLC, Journal of Lieutenant William Jennison, p. 5.

1. Capt. Samuel Tucker, Continental Navy.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[Extract]

[*Quincy Bay, Mass.*]

1778 February 13. Fryday.—Captain Samuel Tucker, Commander of the Frigate *Boston*, met me, at M^r Norton Quincy's, where We dined, and after Dinner I sent my Baggage, and walked myself with Captain Tucker, M^r Griffin a Midshipman, and my Eldest Son, John Quincy Adams, bet. 10 and 11. Years of Age, down to the Moon Head, where lay the *Bostons* Barge. The Wind was very high, and the Sea very rough, but by Means of a Quantity of Hay in the Bottom of the Boat, and good Watch Coats with which We were covered We arrived on board the *Boston*, about five O'Clock, tolerably warm and dry.—On board I found M^r Vernon,¹ a Son of M^r Vernon of the Navy Board,² a little Son of M^r Deane of Weathersfield, bet. 11. & 12. Years of Age,³ and M^r Nicholas Noel, a french Gentleman, Surgeon of the Ship, who Seems to be a well bred Man. . . .

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), p. 3.

1. William Vernon, Jr.

2. William Vernon, Sr., member of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

3. Jesse Deane, son of Silas Deane.

PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO COLONEL JOSEPH KIRKBRIDE

In Council

Sir

Lancaster February 13th 1778

The enclosed is copy of a letter which the secretary wrote to you yesterday. M^r William Crispin Commissary of provisions for the boats Crews as well as the paymaster M^r William C Bradford have occasion for a considerable sum of money. Col^o Coats¹ by his Letter to Council a day or two before he was unfortunately captured mentions that he had collected to the amount of four or five thousand pounds—this money I much wish was deposited in the hands of the above mentioned gentlemen or into the hands of the State Navy board for the abovesaid purposes—I beg your attention to this matter—You have hereby full power and authority to call

upon any person or persons who Colonel Coats may have left the money with, and receive it of them, and pay the same, one half to M^r William Crispin, the other half to Colonel William Bradford, or any other member of the State Navy board, for the use of the fleet—if the money has been left by Colo. Coats with you, which is not very improbable, it may save you some trouble. I am with much respect [&c.]

Thomas Wharton jun^r

Pres^t.

L, PHarH, RG 27, Executive Correspondence (loose) of the Supreme Executive Council. Addressed at foot: "Colonel Kirkbride." Docketed: "1778 Feb^r: 13th: To Colonel/Joseph Kirkbride."

1. Col. William Coates, Pennsylvania Militia.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Friday, February 13, 1778

The Committee to whom the letter of W. Aylett, deputy commissary general of purchases in Virginia, was referred brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon, Congress came into the following resolution:

Whereas, there is great danger of the armies of the United States being very much distressed, if the exportation of beef and pork from the State of North Carolina be not immediately prohibited; Therefore,

Resolved, That the legislative and executive powers of the State of North Carolina be earnestly requested immediately to lay an embargo on all beef and pork, except so much as may be necessary for the vessel's use for the voyage, and to take the most effectual measures to prevent the embargo from being evaded . . .

The committee on the state of Georgia brought in a report which was read:

No. 1

The Committee appointed to take into Consideration the Situation of the State of Georgia, beg leave to Report as follows, viz:

Whereas the State of Georgia has laboured under many and great difficulties in throwing off the Yoke of British Tyranny and acceding to the Continental Union, and being but a weak State, and almost surrounded by Enemies, it will be necessary for their Protection and Assistance to maintain on the Continental Establishment, at least two thousand Men. And whereas there are now in the State of Georgia four Battalions of Infantry, one of Horse, three Companies of Artillery, and six Row Gallies,¹ which will be a considerable Expence in Officers, while there are but few Privates under their Command, and as there is great Need of retrenching all superfluous Charges;

Resolved . . . There shall be two Row Gallies, with the usual Officers and fifty Privates each, together with one large or two small armed Sea Vessels, to cruize constantly on the coast and protect the Trade. These Vessels to be instead of the Gallies already built there, which shall be sold, and the money appropriated for the use of the Sea Vessels aforesaid. . . .

No. 3

. . . *Resolved*, That Major General Howe and three of the eldest field Officers in South Carolina shall immediately repair to Georgia and consult with the Commanding officer there and the field Officers of the said State, on a Plan for reducing the Province of East Florida, and when the said Plan shall be agreed on it shall be at the Option of General Howe either to carry it on in person, or to com-

mit the Execution thereof to Colonel Samuel Elbert, and that General Howe shall order of the Continental Troops in South Carolina, to be employed in conjunction with the Troops now in Georgia to carry on the said Expedition, and that General Howe be empowered and required to send on the said Expedition, such Continental Artillery, Arms, Stores, &c, either in South Carolina or Georgia, that may be found necessary. And further that General Howe, or the Officer Commanding on the said Expedition, be empowered to borrow of the states of South Carolina and Georgia, all such Artillery, Arms or any other Military Stores necessary for the forwarding this Expedition, and that the Continent will make good the loss or damage. . . .

No. 4

Whereas at the first of the Dispute with England, the Planters and Lumber Makers in the State of Georgia had large Quantities of Rice and Lumber by them, the greater part of which has perished for want of Exportation; And also now the Planters have a large share of two Crops of Rice on hand which must soon be good for little, and the Lumber Makers are entirely without any Sale or demand for their Labour, as there is little or no Exportation, but by Strangers who are mostly French, and seldom take any thing but Indigo. The mercantile part of the State being in general inimical to Independence, many of them have left the State of themselves, others have been sent away, and the few remaining have declined all Trade. And whereas the Continent is in want of remittances to France, and the Islands, and it being well known that nothing makes a surer remittance, than Rice, Deer Skins and Lumber, and also that the Ports of Georgia are less disturbed by the Enemy than most other Ports in America, The Delegates of Georgia hope that some mode may be adopted, in the Continental Commerce to take off the Produce of that State, whereby the distresses of the Inhabitants may be much lessened, and they be enabled, as readily as they are willing, to pay the Taxes necessary for the support of Government.

Resolved, Therefore that the Continental Agents, in France, be ordered immediately to purchase a Number of Prizes sent in there, especially Vessels from one hundred and fifty to three hundred Tons Burthen, and send them to Georgia with Cargoes, suitable for the Inhabitants, or Soldiery, consigned to one or more Agents to be chosen by the State, who shall give security for their Conduct which Agents Shall load the said Vessels back to France, &c, or the Islands, as they shall be ordered by your agents in France. And also if the State can procure Vessels themselves and will load them with Rice, Indigo, and Deer Skins to France, and consign them to the continental Agents, or to the West Indies, with Rice, Corn or Lumber, consigned to the Continental Agents there, that on the Vessels sailing so loaded, and a Bill of Lading from the Captain, and an Invoice of the Cargoes being sent to the Commercial Committee, the said State Shall be entitled to draw on the said Committee for the amount of the Cargo and necessary Charges. A Duplicate of the Bill or Bills for the said Amount coming with the Invoice and Bill of Lading, on the receipt of which the said Committee shall be empowered to pay the said Bill, and the Cargo as aforesaid shall be deemed Continental, and be at the Risque of the Continent from the time of Shipping.

Resolved, That when Prizes are taken by any Continental Vessel in the West Indies that some of them be ordered into Georgia for sale and the proceeds to be shipped in the produce of the Country to such ports as may be ordered.

The Commercial and Marine Committee having lodged a sum of Money in Georgia for the purpose of Importing Arms Ammunition, Cloathing &c, for the use of the Troops: And whereas the State has likewise established a fund for that purpose, and appointed Commissioners to carry on the same, and the State has ordered their Delegates to apply to Congress, that whatever Money, goods &c may be in Georgia belonging to the Continent be put under the Management of the State in order that justice may be done in the Transacting thereof, and no Interference happen between the State and the Continent.

Resolved, That all money's goods, wares, and Merchandize, belonging to the Continent and sent to Georgia by the Marine or Commercial Committee, be delivered over to the order of that State, the said State to be accountable, and that the Marine and Commercial Committee be desired to give Orders accordingly.

Ordered, That the consideration thereof be postponed till to morrow.

JCC 10: 156, 159–60, 161, 163, 164–65.

1. Georgia Navy galleys *Washington*, *Lee*, *Bulloch*, and *Congress*, built at the direction of the Continental Congress on 5 July 1776. NDAR 5: 937. There were also two unnamed galleys built by the state.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO COLONEL RICHARD BARNES

Sir

In Council Annapolis 13th. Feb^y. 1778.

We received yours of the 10th. last Night. Nothing is left in our Power, with Respect to Cap^t Fenwick, but to endeavour to get him and his People back again. We have got Prisoners enough taken in Merchant Vessels, to exchange for the *Lydia's* Crew, but they are at a Distance from hence and it will be several Days before they can be sent down. If the Men of War¹ are not already gone down, we request you to send a Flag on board and desire the Captain to send Fenwick and the Crew on Shore, for whom we will send a like Number of Prisoners of equal Rank, on board the Man of War and you are impowered to pledge our Faith for the Performance, or, if the Cap^t will not send them on Shore, to desire his Promise that they shall not be sent away 'til we have an Opportunity of sending a Flag, with Prisoners in Exchange. We do not know the Number or Rank of Fenwick's People on Board, if you can ascertain them, please to advise us. Cap^t David's Galley² wants heaving down and several Things to be done to her: we wish her to come up as soon as she can with Safety. The Arms we sent, we designed should be and thought were, effective: many of the Public Arms, some of them since returned, were then out. It was out of our Power to then send you Arms of one sized Bore or fitted with Bayonets; we had a few with Bayonets but wanting Belts and Scabbards; those you have may be returned and we shall contrive you as many others, though it is next to impossible to get Scabbards and Belts at present. We have seen a Gen^t lately from Wilmington but we have nothing new from thence, the Army or from Congress. We inclose Cap^t David's Orders which we wish you to send him and by which you will see that he is to come up or stay, as you may judge best—We are &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "The Col^o. Rich^d. Barnes."

1. H.M.S. *Solebay* and H.M.S. *Richmond*.

2. Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*, Capt. John David, commander.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN JOHN DAVID

Cap^t David.In Council Annapolis 13th. Feb^r. 1778.

As Cap^t. Fenwick¹ has fallen into the Enemy's Hands, we imagine your Stay in Patowmack will be of no Service and therefore desire, as soon as you think you safely may, you will proceed up to Annapolis, to get the Galley² fitted, but if the Men of War³ continue in Patowmack and Col^o. Barnes should think your Stay usefull, on which you are to advise with him, we would have you continue whilst the Men of War remain in Patowmack We Are Sir &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777-1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "Cap^t David."

1. Capt. Ignatius Fenwick, commanding Maryland State ship *Lydia*.

2. Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*.

3. H.M.S. *Solebay* and H.M.S. *Richmond*.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[Williamsburg] Friday the 13th day of February 1778—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Mr Thomas Cary for one hundred and twenty pounds upon acco^t for the purpose of recruiting men for the Naval service, who gave Bond and security for his faithfully applying and accounting for the same.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 353.

THE NORTH-CAROLINA GAZETTE, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1778

NEW BERN, Feb. 13, 1778.

On Sunday last arrived here from the island of Providence, Mr. Wright Stanly,¹ who was lately taken in the Letter of Marque sloop the *Lydia*,² belonging to this port, and carried to Jamaica, where all the Americans that are taken are confined till they can be sent to England, but Mr. Stanly, with several Captains of vessels, were fortunate enough to make their escape to Providence.³

Mr. Stanly, who himself, with Captains Cockran, Annibal, Moor, and some others arrived with him,⁴ were in the action, brings us a very particular account of the taking of the forts on the island of Providence, and cutting out of the harbour 7 sail of vessels, one a very large Jamaica ship richly laden,⁵ with only a single privateer, and about 60 or 70 Americans. The account is as follows.

"ABOUT a 11 o'clock at night, on the 27th of January the continental sloop of war *Providence*, mounting twelve 4 pounders, carrying 50 men, commanded by John Pech Rathburne, landed 25 of her crew under command of his captain of marines⁶ on the island of New-Providence. They were joined by 18 or 20 Americans who had been prisoners on board different ships of war, and made their escape from Jamaica and were there waiting for opportunities to their respective homes.

They took possession of fort Nassau with the cannon, ammunition, and 300 stand of small arms. A ship mounting 16 guns and 45 men, Johnson commander,⁷ with rum, sugar and coffee, from Jamaica to New-York, lay there in the road, as also five vessels captured by the privateer sloop *Gayton*, Captain Chalmers⁸ of Jamaica and sent in there for condemnation.

At day break 4 men were sent on board the 16 gun ship to take possession and send the officers and crew into the fort, the commanding officer being shewn the 13 stripes hoisted in the fort and informed that it was then in the hands of Americans, who would sink the ship if the order was not instantly complied with, thought proper to submit, they were carried to the fort and there put in irons. Other parties were sent to take possession of the five prizes⁹ which they soon effected and secured their prize-masters in the same manner.

This being done, a party marched to the Governor's and demanded the keys of the eastern fort,¹⁰ which, after being informed what had happened (it being then only sun-rise) he delivered. They took possession of that fort also, removed some powder and small arms, spiked up the cannon and returned to fort Nassau.

All this was effected by ten o'clock, by which time the inhabitants were in the utmost surprise and confusion, and were removing their effects out of town, but were informed by the Americans that they did not intend to molest the person or property of any inhabitant of the island unless reduced to the necessity in their own defence.

About 12 o'clock a motley crew of negroes, molattoes, and whites to the number of 150 to 200 appeared armed, and threatened to attack the fort, but on being told that if they presumed to fire a gun, the town should be laid in ashes, and seeing preparation being made for that purpose, they dispersed.

The *Providence* now came into the road and anchored near the ship, and very soon after the *Gayton* also appeared. Continental colours were immediately struck, and the guns on board the *Providence* housed, in hopes the *Gayton* would come to an anchor, but signals being given by a number of persons from the beach and hills adjacent, she tacked and stood off, on which the fort began to play on her with 18 pounders, from which she received considerable damage, but under cover of night made her escape.

No attack was made this night on the fort, but next day at 3 o'clock, two bodies of men consisting of about 500 with several pieces of cannon marched within sight of the fort, and summoned it to surrender or that they should storm it and give no quarter. The garrison nailed their colours to the flag-staff in the presence of the messenger, cut away the halyards, and returned for answer that they would not surrender while a man survived.

Until twelve at night the garrison expected to be attacked, but their enemy being more disposed to sleep than fight, retired to rest.

Next morning early the prizes were manned, the guns of the fort spiked, the ammunition and small arms carried on board the privateer, and the whole garrison with their prisoners embarked, and put to sea. Two of the prizes being of little value were set on fire, the rest stood for New-England, except a sloop called the *Tryall*, which on the 7th instant safely arrived here with Captains Cockran, Moor, Annibal, Mr. Stanly and some others belonging to this place.[]

1. John Wright Stanly, ship owner at New Bern, N.C.

2. North Carolina privateer sloop *Lydia*, Benjamin Appleton, commander, which was captured on 20 Oct. 1777 by H.M.S. *Daphne*. See NDAR 10: 230.

3. New Providence I.

4. Captains John Cockrom, Cornelius Anabil, Nathan Moar and Isaac Mackey. See the Petition of Captains John Cockran, Cornelius Anabel, Nathan Moor and Isaac Mackey to the Continental Congress, 21 Feb., below.

5. Ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.

6. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines.
7. Ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.
8. Capt. William Chambers.
9. Sloop *Washington*, sloop *Tryal*, an unidentified sloop and two unidentified schooners.
10. Fort Montagu.

CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

Copy

My Lord,

Carysfort off S^t Augustine 13th. February. 1778

The *Galatea* being in want of Water, and encumbered with Prisoners, joined me here on the 11th. Instant, and from Captain Jordan¹ I have the honor to receive your Lordship's Letter of the 17th. December, with your orders of the 13th. and 18th. of the same Month, respecting the employment of the *Galatea* and the alteration in the Signals to be made by Ships meeting at Sea.

No suitable opportunity has hitherto offered to transmit to your Lordship any Account of the proceedings of the Ships acting under my Orders on these Southern Coasts, but present circumstances seem to require special means whereby to inform you of them; and Governor Tonyn concurring in such opinion, his Excellency is pleased to provide a Vessel for the purpose.

The accompanying reports will inform your Lordship of the state and condition of the King's Ships on this Station, of the disposition of them, of the prizes made by them, of the provisions remaining in Store here for their use on my arrival and of some other particulars.²

It remains further for me to give account of my conduct in the Execution of your Lordship's orders, and Instructions to me dated the 13th. October last.

Leaving the Victualling Brig in Chesepeak Bay under care of Captain Elphinstone,³ with orders, that as soon as the *Perseus* could be ready (she then wanting Provisions and Water) he should convoy her to S^t Augustine, and if he should find it expedient, land the Stores and order [the]⁴ Transport to return to England. I proceeded with the *Carysfort* and *Lizard* off Charles Town, South Carolina, and soon learnt from Prisoners taken, that in that port several Armed Vessels were preparing for Sea,⁵ together with a Fleet [of] French and American shipping laden and designed for different foreign Ports in Europe, among others a Schooner, having on board Monsieur De Bretigney⁶ with his Suite of ten french Officers, some other foreigners with Arms, accoutrements, cloathing and necessaries for a Corps of French Chasseurs to be raised for the Service of the Rebels, fell into my Hands, they were going from Charles Town to some Northern port from which they might most conveniently join the Rebel Armies—concluding that by this time (the 15th. November) the *Perseus* would certainly be on her return from S^t Augustine to the appointed Rendezvous off Charles Town, I left the *Lizard* cruising there, and went with our prisoners (upwards of Eighty) to S^t Augustine. Copies of such papers, found [on] the foreign Officers, as seemed to be most material, were delivered to Governor Tonyn, the originals are herewith transmitted to your Lordship.

On my arrival I found that an accident had necessarily detained the *Perseus* at S^t Augustine, the Victualler, going into the Harbour was cast on the Bar, and with difficulty got off, it was owing to the personal attendance of Captain Elphinstone with assistance from the *Perseus* that the Vessel and Stores were not entirely lost, the



Captain Robert Fanshawe, R.N.

Stores were lodged in the care of M^r William Alexander, Merchant, and the Transport ordered to return to England, but it will probably be many Weeks before the damage she sustained will be sufficiently repaired for her to proceed accordingly.

It was the 28th. November, before the *Perseus* could get off from the Shore her necessary Supplies, and it was not till the 5th. December that the *Carysfort* was in condition to follow her, so difficult and precarious is the communication between S^t Augustine and the Ships in the Road, it is very seldom practicable to get off any Supplies in the Ships Boats and the expence of Craft is most enormous, even such Means are not always to be procured.

I joined the *Perseus* and *Lizard* off Charles Town on the 8th. December, by that time the latter wanted Supplies, I ordered her to S^t Augustine, as well to obtain them, as to keep communication with Governor Tonym, from the 11th. December to the 12th. January the *Carysfort* and *Perseus* cruized in Company off Charles Town, the *Lizard* then rejoined and till the 22^d. the three Ships cruized generally in sight of each other between Port Royal and Cape Romaine.

On the 20th. December, I observed the *Randolph* Congress Frigate,⁷ drop down from Charles Town and joined a large French Ship and a Pri[vateer] in Rebellion Road—All Accounts obtained [of] the Enemys intention concurred in that they were busily equipping as great Naval Force as they could, and that an embargo was [laid] on all Shipping—such Intelligence led me to think that our chief attention should be given to that place, in order to prevent the Fleet getting out, or supplies going to them. I thought it probable that want of Seamen was one cause of the embargo, and therefore that any overture from me, for an Exchange would be improper; more especially as I had heard that on a late Cartel sent by Governor Tonym to Charles Town, M^r Rutledge the President, either could not or would not produce an adequate number of British Subjects.

By the 22^d. of January, the *Perseus* was in want of Water, encumbered with Prisoners mostly french, taken in Vessels of that Nation, two of which seized as they were going to Charles Town⁸ where then in Company and on which it was expedient that the judgment of a Court of Admiralty should be had as soon as possible, I sent her to S^t Augustine, and the *Carysfort* and *Lizard* continued to cruize in Company 'till the 3^d. February, it was on the 23^d. January I had intelligence that the *Galatea* had been seen, and that she was coming to join me off Charles Town.

By the 3^d. February I found the *Carysfort* under Circumstances nearly similar to those which a few days before made it necessary to send the *Perseus* to Port, I was not quite so short of Water, but I had 26 Men Sick on board and Seven on Shore, and 35 absent in prizes; 83 prisoners, and encumbered with three foreign Vessels seized off Charles Town, one of them the *Lenore* french Snow from Bordeaux,⁹ having a Letter of Marque Commission from France and carrying 44 Men, with a valuable Cargo on board.¹⁰ I left the *Lizard* off Cape Romaine, concluding that she must soon have been joined by the *Galatea*, and that by the time of my arrival at S^t Augustine, the *Perseus* would be ready to Sail, if not before gone from thence—On the 10th. I found her in the Road, she had a very tedious passage, and had hitherto been unable to gett off the necessary Supplies—to my very great Mortification the *Galatea* also arrived here two days after, being in great want of Water, Sickly and encumbered with Prisoners and Prizes. I thereupon dispatched the *Perseus*, though scarce half compleat, to join the *Lizard*, and the most earnest endeavors are using

to get the *Carysfort* and *Galatea* to sea also. Captain Jordan's not joining me sooner, was owing to his pursuit of the *Chance*, a Congress Brig of 8 carriage Guns,¹¹ George Stevens Commander,¹² the Chace led him a good distance off the Coast before he took her, and bad Weather, contrary Winds and the Gulph Stream made it difficult for him to regain it.

By M^r Alexander's report of the Victualling Stores remaining in his charge there is a great deficiency, and upon examination, there is found no Beef, Pork, Spirits, Oil or Butter, and but little Bread fit for Use, the accident to the Transport caused great damage and Loss, and such was some time ago the reduced state of Provisions at S^t Augustine, that of necessity recourse was had to our Stock, to prevent the Prisoner's starving. Governor Tonyn applied to me for an Order for this purpose. I did not however, think it proper to give such Sanction for distressing the King's Ships, they would now experience great want if Providence had not afforded means of supplying. I hope to find in the prizes now here, Bread, Beef, Pork, Flour, Spirits and Calavances¹³ sufficient with the remains of the King's provisions to victual the Ships for three Months from hence; and by the same means to furnish them with Naval Stores to prevent distress, unless we have the misfortune to lose more ground Tackling. The *Carysfort* and *Perseus* have each only two Bower Anchors.

The *Carysforts* and *Lizard's* Bowsprits have been sprung above ten Weeks.—but in that time rough Weather has frequently proved that by fishing and gammoning they are made perfectly secure.

I have occasionally employed the *Hinchinbrooke* in bringing water to the Ships off Charles Town, but both her lower Masts were lately found to be too bad for her to keep at Sea with them. She is now at S^t Mary's as well to get new ones (which I understand she can there do) as to guard the frontier of East Florida—The *Rebecca* provincial Armed Sloop is there with her.

In my way to S^t Augustine (on the 6th of February) I met a Vessel dispatched by Governor Tonyn, to advise me of Intelligence he had received of an intention of the Rebels to invade East Florida—I send your Lordship a Copy of his Letter.¹⁴ I have since had an Interview with his Excellency, and I do not find that there is certain reason for the alarm. It seems to me probable that the Rebels had Intelligence of the late Scarcity of provisions at S^t Augustine, and that they did there upon contemplate an attack, and perhaps surmise that in such case the Frigates would be withdrawn from before Charles Town, and an opportunity then present itself for their Fleet to push to Sea and for supplies to get in.

I had formerly signified to Governor Tonyn that one of the Frigates would be on the Coast of Florida at some time in every Month, and that he might always be sure to find another off Charles Town—His Excellency concurs with me that present appearances do not require any immediate alteration of this Plan. I understand that S^t Augustine is now supplied with Provisions and necessaries sufficient to last till a required relief may arrive, and to remove the incumbrance of a great number of foreigners taken in Prizes I appropriated two of those Vessels, but one of them was unfortunately lost on the Bar.

The Province has for its defence about 1,500 Men, Regulars, Rangers, and Militia, but it unfortunately contains many disaffected persons from whom the Rebels obtain constant intelligence, there seems too much reason to doubt the fidelity of some who hold Office under Government.

What Force the Rebels could bring against the Province cannot be easily ascertained, An enclosed paper will give your Lordship the best account I can obtain of the state of South Carolina, In Georgia seems to be scarce any regular Corps,—but one composed of about 300 Hessians, but their Banditti are numerous.

I can only conjecture the design of the Fleet of Rebel Armed Ships, to be to cover the escape of the Merchantmen, and then attempt some place against which they flatter themselves with hopes of Success.

Bermudia is in my opinion, an object for them, the intercourse between that place and Charles Town affords some reason to suppose that they have there many friends to encourage and assist them.

I have wrote to inform the Secretary of the Admiralty of the Fleet of Merchantmen preparing to Sail from Charles Town and supposed to be bound to different Ports in France and Holland.¹⁵

Early on the Morning of the 15th. January a fire broke out in Charles Town and con'd burning till the next Day.¹⁶ an enclosed paper contains all the particulars of the damage which I have yet learnt.

The *Comett*, Congress Brig of 16 Guns, [is] carried into Pensacola by the *Daphne*.¹⁷

Your Lordship will observe that neither of the three Ships have hitherto cruized [to] the Northward of Cape Romaine, and consequently that the several Inlets of North Carolina have been unguarded by them, for this seeming neglect, I beg leave to submit to your Lordship the following reasons.

Intelligence early obtained, and frequently till the Embargo was laid, confirmed by different means, convinced me that Charles Town was the great emporium of the Southern Colonies, to which foreigners bringing supplies chiefly resorted, that from thence a considerable Fleet of Merchantmen, on whose safety future Supplies in a great measure depended, was preparing to Sail, and that to compleat the Lading of this Fleet, some hundreds of Waggons were constantly employed bringing the produce of the Country even so far distant as Virginia. That there also was the Rendezvous of Rebel Armed Vessels, and that they were preparing for Sea—Such Circumstances induced me to think that that place required the utmost attention, and I did not judge that a single Ship was suitable to the object, it has therefore been my endeavour to keep two on that Station every Month it became necessary that one should go to Florida; as well for Supplies as with a view to the defence of that Province, such Ship in her Passages to and from S^t Augustine ranged the Coast of Georgia. Our wants and incumbrances have sometimes been such that before the Ship sent to the Southward could return, it became expedient for another to go for Relief.

The most considerable of our prizes being [from] foreign Nations, it behoved the Captors to be very careful of their safety to the nearest Court of Admiralty, S^t Augustine was convenient in this and other respects.

When the *Carysfort* was last at New York, she received from the Hospital a number of Men, for different Ships, and with them, [it] is apprehended, infection of a fever which [in] several Instances has shown itself to be of [a] putrid kind, it still continues but with less malignant Symptoms. Captⁿ. Jordan imputes the Sick on board the *Galatea*, a[re] to infection taken at New York. The *Perseus* and *Lizard* have been very healthy.

Present Circumstances require that the Ship to be relieved by the *Galatea* should immediately leave this Station. I purpose [in] about a Fortnight to order the *Perseus* to New York, and the three Ships then rema[in]ing will have provisions for about three Months, but no store for a longer time. I hope and persuade myself that the Schooner which conveys this to your Lordship will arrive in time for any Supplies which may be thought proper to send to us, or for a Relief of Ships to come to us, before our necessities compel us to leave the Station.

I am with very great Respect Your Lordships [&c.]

Robert Fanshawe.

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 213–19. Addressed at foot of first page: “The Viscount Howe &c.—.” Docketed: “Copy/Letter from Captain Fanshawe/to the Viscount Howe, dated/13th February 1778.” Docketed in another hand: “In Lord Howe’s Letter/N^o. 57—.” Enclosed in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe to Philip Stephens, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 207–10.

1. Capt. Thomas Jordan, commanding H.M. frigate *Galatea*.
2. Enclosures not found.
3. Capt. George Keith Elphinstone, commanding H.M. frigate *Perseus*.
4. Bracketed portions are in the gutter and not readable.
5. South Carolina Navy squadron fitting out for an expedition to clear the coast of British frigates.
6. Charles-François Sévelinges, “Marquis” de Brétigny (Brétigny).
7. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*, Capt. Nicholas Biddle, commanding, which was to lead the South Carolina Navy squadron. See NDAR 10: 716, 751, 789.
8. *Bourbon*, Pierre Martin, master, and *Réfléchi*, François Coitard, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Perseus*, 21 Jan., and Journal of H.M.S. *Perseus*, 20 Jan., above.
9. Snow *Lanoir* [*Lenore*], Louis Drouet, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Carysfort*, 2 Feb., above.
10. The other two French ships were *Bourbon* and *Réfléchi*.
11. Continental brigantine *Chance*, returning from Martinique on a voyage for the Continental Commerce Committee. See Journal of H.M.S. *Galatea*, 21 Jan., above.
12. Continental Navy Lt. John Stevens.
13. Calavances or garabances (akin to garbanzo) are a type of chick-pea.
14. Enclosure not found.
15. See Captain Robert Fanshawe, R.N., to Philip Stephens, 25 Jan., above.
16. For more on the Charleston fire, see Brig. Gen. William Moultrie’s Account of the Burning of Charles Town, 15 Jan., and Captain Robert Fanshawe, R.N., to Philip Stephens, 25 Jan., above. Enclosed paper not found.
17. See NDAR 10: 786, 786n.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PORTLAND*, CAPTAIN THOMAS DUMARESQ

Feb^y 1778

D^o. [Anguilla] bore S $\frac{3}{4}$ W Distance 93 Leagues

Friday 13th

[at] $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 AM^d. Saw 2 Sail in y^e NW Q^e made sail as did the Tenders at 10 Pass’d our Weather beam a Sloop standing to y^e Eastward, fired six six pounders at y^e Chace she brought too— she proved to be an American Sloop, swifted [*shifted*] y^e Men.¹

D^o. [Anguilla] bore SSW 108 Leagues

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/711, part 4.

1. Sloop *Swallow*, Joseph Davidson, master, 57 tons burthen, crew of 7 men, from America, with horses and lumber, sent into Antigua. Young’s Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

(Copy)

Antigua 13th Feb^y: 1778.—

My Lord

His Majesty’s Ships *Greyhound* and *Vulture* belonging to your Squadron, having been drove off the Coast of America, put into this Island; the former much

Damaged, which has been repaired as well as we can do it here; the Latter proved very Sickly and will I fear leave some of her Men behind.

I detained the *Greyhound* to Convoy some Victuallers and Store Ships from Europe to Philadelphia, and New York; who according to Custom make this Island their Route to America, most of them without any apparent reason of distress; but all of them having Letters of Marque become Cruizers instead of proceeding on their Voyage which has now happened with some of these, who had Success, and knowing this a better market for their Prizes come here; this I apprehend will always be the Case so long as Government Continue giving them Letters of Marque and I doubt not were these Transports Suffered to go from hence alone, they would, if Successful return back; I have therefore put them under the Charge of Captain Dickson¹ of the *Greyhound* accompanied by the *Vulture* in Order to prevent their doing so.—I have likewise sent prisoners (on board the *Vulture* One Edgcumbe late a Midshipman belonging to the *Hinchenbrooke* Schooner (who I am Informed deserted from said Schooner, and carried off with him some others of the Company; also a Boat, and some Arms.) He was taken in an American Privateer Schooner of Twelve Guns and forty Men from Savanna in Georgia;² Acting as first Lieutenant on board said Privateer. Lieutenant Douglas³ who Commanded His Majesty's armed Brigantine *Antigua*, when she took the aforemamed Privateer, knew Edgcumbe well: whilst a Midshipman in One of the Kings Guard Ships at Plymouth; I have therefore sent him to your Lordship to be dealt with as you may think proper; I have also sent some others of the Company of the Privateer, that were taken with him, in Order to prove Edgcumbes being first Lieutenant of the Privateer; I am with great Regard.—My Lord [&c.]

/Signed/ James Young

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot: "Vice Admiral The Viscount Howe." Docketed: "13th: Febr^y 1778/Copy of a Letter to Vice/Admiral, Viscount Howe/transmitted him by the/*Greyhound*./In Adm^l Young's Letter/Dated 13th: March 1778." Enclosed in Vice Admiral James Young to Philip Stephens (No. 2), 13 Mar. 1778, below.

1. Capt. Archibald Dickson, R.N.
2. Georgia privateer schooner *Nancy*, John Brown, Commander.
3. Lt. Billy Douglas, R.N.

February 14

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[*Nantasket Roads, Mass.*]

Remarks on Saturday febr^y 14th 1778

at 5 AM began to Unmoor Still blowing fresh gales at 2 PM got one Anchor on board after a hard and heavy peace of work at 3 d^o put my Pilot for Brantre on Shore Very Clear Weather with fresh gales—
So Ends this day—Nothing More Meteral—

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

JOURNAL OF MARINE LIEUTENANT WILLIAM JENNISON

[*Frigate Boston at Boston*]

1778 [*Feb.*] 14 Unmoored Ship—

DLC, Journal of Lieutenant William Jennison, p. 5.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO JOSEPH HENDERSON

State of Massachusetts Bay

[*Boston*] Council Chamber February 14. 1778.—M^r Joseph Henderson.

Whereas you have been appointed by the General Court Commissary of Prisoners of War for this State. You are hereby directed to Demand & Receive of Robert Pierpont Esq^r late Commissary of Prisoners of War for the Same, the Prison Ship *Rising Empire* & all such Prisoners of War, belonging to same, as he may have in his possession and them take under your Immediate Care. You are also hereby Authorized & directed upon the arrival of any Vessells of War or others belonging to this State, to Enter on Board the same & Demand of the Commanders of such Vessells, a List of all prisoners they may have on board; their Names, & Rank, with the Names of the Master & Owners of said Vessells of War; and you are to take care that such prisoners are Immediately sent on board the Guard Vessell or Vessells in this Harbour Belonging to this State, and to keep a particular Acco^t of the Names Rank &c. of all such prisoners.

You are not to suffer any prisoners put on board the Guard Ship to come on shoar or leave the same Vessel, nor suffer any persons to go on board said Vessells (but such as may be Employed for the Supplying the Said Vessells with provisions &c), without an order from the Council.

You are to take Speciall care to Employ Faithfull men to Command the Guard Ships, with a Sufficient number of hands as may be Necessary to take care of the Vessell & prisoners

You are to apply to the Commissary General for such provisions &c as may be Necessary from time to time for the prisoners and the Vessells Crew, taking care every one has their proper Rations, and that nothing is wasted or Embezzeld by those that have the distribution of the Same.

Whatever may be wanting for the use of the Guard Ships, and whoever may be Employ'd in doing any Work on board said Vessells you are to take care to have done at the lowest Rates, laying your Acco^{ts} once a Quarter before the Council.

You are carefully to Inspect & See that all persons you may Employ on board the Guard Ships do their duty, and make Weekly Returns to you—and you are on the first Monday of every Month to make a particular Return to the Council, the State of the Guard Ships with the Number of Prisoners their Names & Rank &c

Read & Accepted

Jn^o Avery D^y Sec^y

Df, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 168 (Council Papers, 1777-1778), pp. 184-85.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston Feb^y 14th 1778

Order'd, That David Spear for sundrys for Brig^a. *Nantes*¹ as P^r acc^t be paid £25..17..—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 211-12.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

Eagle Rhode Island

February the 14th: 1778.

Sir,

Twelve french Seamen, being part of the Crew of a Snow called the *David*,¹ lately stopped by His Majesty's Ship the *Juno* in attempting to pass into the Port of New London, are put onboard the *Buffalo*, and the same Number onboard the *Tortoise*, for being conveyed to England. And the Captains of the Store-Ships are directed to give You Notice thereof on their Arrival, that they may receive the Commands of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for the further Disposal of those Foreign Seamen.

I am, with great Consideration, Sir, [&c.]

Howe

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 179. Addressed at foot: "Philip Stephens Esq^r/Secretary of the Admiralty." Docketed: "Recd 24 Mar." Endorsed in Stephens' hand: "30 Mar/Desire L^d Weymouth/will receive & signify to us/his Maj^{ty}s Com^{ds}. how they shall be/ disposed of."

1. See Journal of H.M.S. *Juno*, 9 Jan., above.

PETITION OF CAPTAIN ROBERT HARDIE

To His Excellency The President of the Executive Council of the
State of Pennsylvania.

The appeal of Robert Hardie, late Commander of the *Burk* Galley, from the Judgment of a Court Martial held at Bristol, the 9th of Dec^r. ult., for the Tryal of s^d Robert Hardie, for disobeying the Commodore's orders.

May it please your Excellency,

I was ordered, with three more Gallies, to lye guard at Burlington; after remaining five or six days on constant Duty, with the Boats at Point-no-Point during the Day, & returning every Night, the officers & Men complained that they were not relieved according to Custom, nor the Promise that had been given to them by the Commanding officers. I accordingly applied to the Commodore to know when we were to be relieved, He told me if the Gallies were to lye there six Months, they should not be relieved. I remonstrated to the Commodore that his Treatment was contrary to all order & Regularity, in the highest Degree arbitrary & oppressive, & that without a regular Rotein of Duty through the whole Fleet, & a total Impartiality, Anarchy & Confusion would ensue. That I thought it my duty to myself & crew, to deviate from such absurd orders, & that I would immediately order my galley to Bristol. This was put into Execution, I was arrested of consequence, the Court set & I was broke & ordered to be confined as a dangerous Man to the American states. My Tryal was equally unjust & cruel. Instead of being tried according to our Regulations, by the galley officers— the Men that fought, guarded & did every other Duty with me. The Court consisted of many of the officers of the Fire Vessels & Guard Boats, Men that had never been on the like Business, some not of age, particularly the Commodore's son, who from his Father's accusation, had no right to a seat. The Judgment showed the Inability of the Court, for without any Evidence, on other grounds, than the visionary Phantoms of their childish Brains, I was to be confined as a dangerous Enemy to the states. My constant & uniform

Behaviour ever since the Beginning of this Contest gives their suspicions the Lye. To serve my Country I have sacrificed a private Fortune sufficient to have supported me with ease & affluence. Considerable sums are now in the state Funds, to sink or swim by the Issue of our arms, &c., myself risking my Person equally with my fellow sufferers to banish Tyranny from our shores. Under these peculiar Circumstances, to have my character thus stigmatized, after giving up my Possessions in Philadelphia to the Hands of the Enemy, to be deprived of the Pay & subsistence necessary for one at this Juncture, to supply the wants of a wife & a large Family of Children, is distressing to the highest Degree. I acknowledge I was too rash & hasty in my Proceedings, but I, at the same time think the Commodore's Behaviour was much more so, & had no Failure happened on his Part there would not have been any Rupture. I have applied to the Commodore to reinstate me, but he says he has it not in his power, desiring me at the same time to make application to your Excellency, & that he does not doubt but I shall be satisfied. Relying, therefore, on your Excellency's Favor & Good Will, I flatter myself I shall have it once more in my Power to shew my steady & firm attachment to this state in particular, & to the whole United States of America. I am your Excellency's [&c.]

ROB^t. HARDIE,

Bristol, Feby. 14th, 1778.

Pennsylvania Archives, 1st ser., 6: 259–60. Addressed: "To His Excellency Thomas Wharton, Esq., President of the Executive Council, Pennsylvania."

DEPOSITION OF CAPTAIN PATRICK BARRY

YORK-TOWN [*Pa.*], February 14.

The deposition of Capt. Patrick Barry, introduced with an absurd bombastical declaration in a late Philadelphia Evening Post,¹ shews to what poor and mean evasions the enemies of our peace are driven to support their sinking credit. That same Patrick Barry having escaped from their tyrannic influence, voluntarily gives the following deposition, by which it appears that the great Superintendent-General of Pennsylvania, without any charge brought against the captain, orders him to be dragged out of his bed at night and clapped under guard without informing why or wherefore. A notable instance of the so much boasted clemency of the British government—and some of the first fruits of the unbounded goodness and justice of the new Superintendent-General. But the aim was evidently to strike awe and terror into the Captain, and prepare him for swearing to any thing Governor Galloway pleased to dictate. After this course of preparation the Captain is examined—Mr. Galloway draws up the deposition, taking care to tell the truth but not the whole truth; he leaves out all the Captains declarations of the great preparations for war making in France—inserts the trifling circumstance respecting the *Seaflower*—writes an introductory harrangue, and then runs with it to Mr. Towne² for publication. If these great men Howe and Galloway have no better proofs of the pacific dispositions of France and Spain than what they got from Captain Barry, their hopes must hang by a very slender thread indeed. Mr. Galloway having formerly practised the law, knows how to ask what is called a leading question—Was not the *Seaflower* SEIZED at France. The Captain says she was only STOPPED. But let the following deposition, speak for itself—

Burlington County, ss.

Captain Patrick Barry, being duly and voluntarily sworn on the holy Evangelists, doth depose and say, That he arrived at Edenton in North Carolina about the 10th of November last, immediately from France and Spain—That he saw in several ports both of France and Spain the greatest preparations for war: That the general opinion of those he conversed with in those countries, particularly in Spain, was, that a war in Europe would, speedily commence. That about the 5th of October, being on his voyage, he spoke Capt. Cunningham³ in a cutter called the *Revenge*,⁴ who told him he had that day spoke a French twenty gun ship, the Captain of which informed him, Capt. Cunningham, that he believed war was already declared between France and England. That he, this deponent, after his arrival at Edenton came to Germantown in Pennsylvania, and sent into Philadelphia to his wife, who came out to him with another woman, and assured him he might safely go into Philadelphia and come out again when he pleased: That he accordingly went into the city, and the second night after, being in his bed about 10 o'clock, a party of soldiers came with an order from Joseph Galloway, and took him to the guard-house, where he was kept all night: The next morning he was taken before Mr. Galloway, who seemed much out of humour with him for not waiting on him at his first arrival in town, and threatened to put him in the provost, obliging him to give security for his appearance when called upon: That in the evening of the next day Enoch Story came to him, and putting him under charge of an officer, sent him up to Mr. Galloway, who, examined him upon oath, asked him what they were about in France? That this deponent replied that they were making great preparations for war.—He then asked if the *Seaflower* had not been seized in France?—To which he answered that she had been stopped and some guns taked out of her⁵—that the *Liberty* had also some guns taken out of her, but they were restored again: And that the *Seaflower* and *Liberty* sailed from France together.⁶ And further this deponent saith not.

PATRICK BARRY

Taken and sworn before me, one of the Justices of the Peace for the county of Burlington, at Bordentown, this 10th day of January, 1778.

JOSEPH BORDEN

Pennsylvania Gazette (York), 14 Feb. 1778.

1. *The Pennsylvania Evening Post*.
2. Benjamin Towne, printer of *The Pennsylvania Evening Post*.
3. Capt. Gustavus Conyngham.
4. Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*.
5. See NDAR 10: 882-84, 884n-85n, 894, 894n.
6. Sloop *Liberty*, Capt. Nicholas Brown Seabrook. Ibid. 882-84, 884n-85n, 894n.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL

[Annapolis] Saturday 14th. February 1778

[Ordered] That the Commissary of Stores deliver to the *Defences* People 4 pair of Shoes to be charged at 20s. ⌘ pair—

D, MdAA, Governor and Council (Proceedings) 1777-1779, SM 123-22, M3156-3.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO GOVERNOR PATRICK HENRY

Sir.

In Council Annapolis 14th. Feb^r 1778.

Just before your Letter of the 26th. Jan^r came to Hand,¹ we received the Resolutions of Congress of the 19th. for establishing a Communication for transporting Provisions to the Army² and sent the Letters to you and the Governor of North Carolina,³ from Congress, on the same Subject, by Express. The Congress having adopted M^r Buchanan's⁴ proposed Mode will we imagine, induce you to concur in it, rather than pursue that which you at first intended. The Board of War had mentioned to us a Scheme of transporting Provisions by Water, nearly similar to what had occurred to you and that our Gallies might be useful in the Execution of it. We had no Objection to risking the Gallies but it appeared to us, that it would have been very expensive and very uncertain, as our Gallies draw upwards of eight Feet, with their Provisions, Water and Ballast, and have but little Room for Stowage when but tolerably manned. The Number of Men of War in the Bay and their Activity, confirms us in Opinion, that the Communication by Water will be too uncertain to rely on and, in all Probability, when the Enemy discover that the Army draws its Supplies through this Bay, the Number of Men of War will be still increased. It appears to us, that the keeping this Bay clear or obliging the Ships of War to keep together, is an Object worthy the Attention, not only of these States, but of Congress, and that, if the *Virginia* Frigate was laid up and her Crew employed in Gallies for that Purpose, they would be much more usefully employed than they are at present. We have five Gallies now fitted,⁵ the Hull of a sixth & seventh almost finished,⁶ all very stout but we cannot compleatly mann two. The Assembly, seeing no Likelihood of manning the Whole, directed the two unfinished Gallies to be sold,⁷ and, if your State or the Congress incline to purchase, we had much rather dispose of them for the Public, than for private use. The Enemy took a fine Tobbacco Ship belonging to this State, in Patowmack the other Day,⁸ they grow more venturesome than heretofore, and we are apprehensive if not checked, will put an End to the little Trade we have.—We are Sir &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "Governor Henry."

1. In his letter Henry urgently requests that the Head of Elk be fortified and that a Maryland Navy galley assist in carrying provisions for the Continental Army from Virginia to the Head of Elk. *Official Letters of the Governors of the State of Virginia*, vol. 1, *Letters of Patrick Henry, July 1, 1776–June 1, 1779*, edited by H. R. McIlwaine, (Richmond: Virginia State Library, 1926), 236.

2. Journal of the Continental Congress, 19 Jan., above.

3. Gov. Richard Caswell.

4. William Buchanan, Commissary General of Purchases, Continental Army.

5. Maryland Navy galleys *Baltimore*, *Chester*, *Conqueror*, *Independence* and *Plater*.

6. Maryland Navy galleys *Annapolis*, building at Baltimore, and *Johnson*, building at West River.

7. NDAR 10: 765, 783.

8. Maryland State trading ship *Lydia*, Capt. Ignatius Fenwick, master, captured on 9 Feb.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Saturday the 14th day of February 1778—

Ordered that Mr James Southall, deliver to Mr Robert Ferguson, ten fathoms of Match Rope for the Use of the *Page* Galley.—

Captain John Barret received orders to proceed with the *Hero* Galley under his command to Newports News for the protection of the trade and Inhabitants and to follow such directions as he may receive from time to time from the Board.—

Cap^t. James Maxwell received verbal orders to purchase two hundred bushels salt for y^e navy.

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 354.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

Feb^y 1778
Saturday 14

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia—
AM hove up the Small Bower anchor and hove Short on the B^t B^r found the small B^r Cable very bad; unbent the Small Bower Cable & b^t y^c. Sheet Cable to y^c Small B^r Anch^r.
Moored in Hampton Road Virginia—
Light Airs [PM] saw a Sail off the Capes from the M^t head at 7 Sent the Boats Man'd & Arm'd with two Lieutenants with an Intent to Cut out the Vessels out of the Channel within the Bar; found them on ground. burn'd two Sloops load'd with Tobacco and took 12 Prisoners.¹ Two of our people dangerously wound'd. lost Six Cut Lashes and 5 Pistols in last Nights Expedition—Moored Ship

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/828, fol. 9.

1. Sloop *Shore*, George Rogers, master, owned by the State of Virginia, mounting 4 guns, a crew of 9 seamen, from James River to Cape François, with 82 hogsheads of tobacco, taken off Hampton Creek, burned; and sloop *Defiance*, John Rogers, master, owned by the York River Company of Williamsburg, mounting 4 guns, a crew of 9 seamen, from James River to Martinique, with 93 hogsheads of tobacco, staves, &c., taken off Hampton Creek, burned. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. George Rogers had been commissioned captain of the Virginia State trading sloop *Shore* on 19 Dec. 1777. *Journals of the Council of the State of Virginia*, edited by H. R. McIlwaine (Richmond: Virginia State Library, 1932), 2: 50.

VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

Antelope Port Royal Harbor 14th: Feb^y. 1778.

Sir,

I beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that agreeable to their Orders I have sent His Majesty's Sloop *Sylph* with as many of the Indian presents as she cou'd stow, after shaking several of her Water Casks; 15 of the Bales were so large that the *Sylph*'s Hatchways were not Wide enough to admit of their going down, as was three Casks nearly twice as large as a Jamaica Sugar Hogshead; those with some other Articles remained to be sent, a part of which was put on board the *Southampton* whom I appointed to Convoy the *S^t Andrew*¹ and *Marian*² to Pensacola, and there still remains 15 Bales, 3 Casks 3 Bbls and 6 puncheons which I purpose putting on board the *Hound* & which Sloop shall be dispatched as soon as possible with them.

I also beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that the Rear Admiral of the Blue Sir Peter Parker Kn^t arrived Yesterday in His Majesty's Ship *Bristol* to relieve me and take upon him the Command of His Majesty's Squadron stationed at this Island: The *Antelope* is getting ready for Sea as fast as possible and I expect to proceed in

her to England in fourteen days at farthest, when I intend to take the *Diligence* with me as she has been out Six Years. she has been hove down and I hope will do very well to go home

I further beg leave to acquaint their Lordships that His Majesty's Ships *Niger*, *Hind*, *Sylph*, *Hound* & *Cameleon* arrived with the London and Bristol Convoys the 30th: Ultimo. By the *Lynx* I enclosed to their Lordships, a Letter dated the 19th: december addressed to me by the Governor of Hispaniola.³ I now beg leave to enclose my answer⁴ together with a duplicate of my last letter—as to the Squadron nothing particular has occur'd since my last. I am with great respect Sir, [&c.]

Clark Gayton

P:S. I omitted to inform their Lordships that agreeable to their direction I have delivered to The Admiral, Sir Peter Parker a Copy of my instructions together with attested Copies of all the Necessary orders and directions I have received since, as also a Copy of all the stationed Ships Orders for his Guidance

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240, fols. 511–12. Addressed at foot of first page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r." Endorsed: "R, 3 Ap^r 1778."

1. Ship *St. Andrew*, T. McMinn, master, 200 tons burthen, mounting four 4-pounders and six 3-pounders, owned by Clark & Co., built in Georgia in 1771, from London to Pensacola. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

2. Ship *Marian*, J. Mackenzie, master, 180 tons burthen, mounting four 3-pounders and two 4-pounders, owned by Clark & Co., built at Newburyport in 1775, from London to Pensacola. *Ibid*.

3. See NDAR 10: 741–42.

4. See Vice Admiral Clark Gayton to Governor Comte d'Argout, 2 Feb., above.

February 15 (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. APOLLO, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

February 1778

The Seal Island N 34.42 E^t 29 [Lgs.]

Sunday 15

at 9 AM saw a Sail SSW, made Sail and gave Chace, at noon 17 fath. water; still in Chace. The *Venus* not in Sight.

The Shoal on S^t G[eorges] Bank WbS 3 Lg^s

Fresh breezes and thick dirty W^r at 1 PM fired a Shot at the Chace and brought [her] too, a French Ship, called *La Felicite*,¹ from Beverly in Boston Bay, bound to S^t Domingo, in Ballast. took out the Captain, Mates & some of her people & sent a Petty Officer & men on board her, made Sail and gave Chace to a Vessel bearing East, but not nearing her, at ½ past 5 Shortned Sail & left off Chace. Sounded 32 fath water, fine sand & Shells,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 6.

1. Ship *Felicité*, Bertran Olivier, master, owned by M. Barron, from Beverly to St. Domingue, in ballast, taken on 15 Feb., sent into Newport. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486. *Felicité* was libelled on 11 Mar. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York. The ship was reclaimed on 8 Apr. by Walter Franklin for Peter and John Berthon, but her cargo was condemned as a lawful prize of H.M.S. *Apollo* on 8 Apr. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 54–57. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/330/17.

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER[*Nantasket Roads, Mass.*]Remarks on Sunday february 15th 1778

This Morning att 6 AM began to heave a head att 8 d° Got Under Way and Proceeded to Marblehead for Some of my Offercers & men att 2 PM Came to Anchor after firing Several Signal Guns att 4 PM Sent my Large Boat on board a Coaster and furnishd the Ship with three Cords of wood So Ends this day

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

JOURNAL OF MARINE LIEUTENANT WILLIAM JENNISON

[*Frigate Boston at Boston*]

1778 [Feb.] 15 Sailed with a WSW wind, & put in to Marblehead at 2 pm—

DLC, Journal of Lieutenant William Jennison, p. 5.

JARED TRACY TO COLONEL WILLIAM AYLETT

[Extract]

Sir

Boston 15th. Feb^{ry}. 1778.

Your favour of the 24th. of December has come safe to hand by Captⁿ. Perkins.¹ Colo. Trumbull² had also favour'd me with yours to him P^r the Same Conveyance, also yours P^r post December 12th. . . Am Verry glad you Prevail'd on Captⁿ. Sargent³ to Sail at last, he has arriv'd Safe though his Cargo is much damag'd through his negligence in lying so long there,⁴ it is so much here that it will be of Great Service too us. We have had the Good fortune to get in fifteen out of Eighteen Sail that Sail'd from Virginia, though we have lost so many Vessles in this trade,⁵ it has been of great Service to the Continent. The flour will Not Stand us in one half so much as it would Sell for here, after paying all Expences, Including the Vessles lost in Elk,⁶ which by the by is not a fair charge to that acc^t besides the Troops & prisoners here would not be supply'd from any other Quarter. I was Oblidg'd to Send Many Vessles that was not so well fitted as I would have wish'd, As I wanted Such a number, it was very Difficult to Obtain them. I was under the same difficulty with Masters, Men was very Scarce, & was Oblidg'd to Send such as I could get. They were a troublesome Set, but I did the best I cou'd, have just Received orders to furnish a number more Vessles, to Send to your place, as you will see by the inclosed Cobby, had those orders came last October they would have been Easily Comply'd with, but the season is now so far advanc'd that I don't expect to make but a small hand of it. The Interruptions that has been in the Commissary Gen^{ls}. Department this way I fear will be Atte[n]ded with very Ill Consequences. I am Sir [&c.]

Jared Tracy

N.B. Cobby of The Letter sent By Schooner *Liberty* Nath^l Low is added.

Transcript, DLC, Peter Force Transcripts, Miscellaneous Letters, S-W, 220:10-11. Addressed at foot: "William Ayllet Esq^r." Heading at top: "Copy of a letter to Colo. Aylett, Feby. 15th. 1778/Retained in the hands of M^c Tracy." Aylett was Deputy Commissary General of Purchases, Continental Army, at Williamsburg, Va.

1. Probably Capt. John Perkins.
2. Col. Joseph Trumbull, Commissary General, Continental Army.
3. For Capt. Sargent's inactivity, see *NDAR* 9: 739.
4. James River, Va.
5. For the flour trade with Virginia, see *NDAR* 8: 947-48; 9: 739-40.
6. Elk River, Md.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL RICHARD K. MEADE TO MAJOR JOHN JAMESON

[Extract]

D^r S^rH^d. Q^{rs}. [*Valley Forge*], Feb^y 15th 1778

... A M^r Putnam formerly as he says in our Navy,¹ & dress'd in blue, & Buff, or white, Uniform, has been more than once in this Camp; acknowledges also his having been in Philadelphia, this, with many suspicious circumstances collected in the examination of him, Induces the Gen^l as we hear he lodges in the House where you do, or are often, to desire that unless you are well convinc'd he is to be trusted, that you will if in your power secure him that he may not carry any ill design into execution I am Yours [&c.]

R K M.² ADCL, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "To Maj^r Jⁿ. Jameson³/Feb^y 15th. 1778."

1. No officer named Putnam served in the Continental Navy.

2. Lt. Col. Richard Kidder Meade of Virginia, aide-de-camp to Gen. George Washington from 12 Mar. 1777 to 23 Dec. 1783.

3. Maj., 2d Continental Dragoons.

REAR ADMIRAL SIR PETER PARKER TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS*Bristol* Port Royal Jamaica15th. Feb^y 1778

Sir

I sailed from Rhode Island in the *Bristol* the 15th. of last Month—the 5th. instant I called off English Harbour, and by Desire of Vice Admiral Young went in There that Evening, and proceeded the Morning following with the *Nottingham* Ordnance Ship,¹ and the *Eliza* a Ship in Ballast, which brought out Naval Stores for the Squadron at Antigua—I arrived with Them Here the 13th. instant, and shall agreeable to Their Lordships orders, take upon me the Command of His Majesty's Ships on this Station, as soon as Vice Admiral Gayton Sails for England—I am Sir [&c.]

P: Parker

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed at foot: "Philip Stephens Esq." Endorsed by Stephens: "Read."

1. Ship *Nottingham*, L. Bowden, master, 600 tons burthen, mounting 28 guns, owned by Durand & Co., built in 1764. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.JOURNAL OF H.M. BRIG *ENDEAVOUR*, LIEUTENANT FRANCIS TINSLEYFeb^y 1778Standing off & on in Guave Bay¹

Sunday 15

at 10 AM Saw a Ship under Eng^s Colours under the Isl: of Roan²
Standing to the NW^d.Isl. Roan East 4 Leg^s:

Fresh Breezes & Clear at 10 PM Saw a Ship to the East^d. bearing down³
 ½ past hawld her wind to the Nor^d. Spoke the *Pelican* & TK^d. to the Nor^d:
 the Chace in Sight to windward all Night

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/4181, part 11, fol. 51.

1. Gouyave Bay, Grenada.
2. Ronde Island, The Grenadines.
3. Supposedly Massachusetts privateer ship *Cumberland*, James Collins, commander, operating out of Martinique. See Journal of H.M. brig *Endeavour*, 16 Feb., below.

February 16

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[*Marblehead*]

Remarks on Monday february 16—1778—

this Morning the wind being NE and blowing Quick I waid my Anchor and Dropt farther up the harbour Very full of Rain I then Seeing no Probability of going to Sea give two midshipman two matts¹ and my Pusser² Liberty to go on Shore att 2 AM³ the wind Got Round to Northward I desired Preparation to be made for geting Under way fired Several guns to bring my Offercers off but finially I was Oblidged to go and bring them on board the wind in the time had raisd So high that I Could not get Under way Untill 7 PM on tuesday 17th d^{o4} then waid Anchor and Came to Sea firing Seven guns for a Salute

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

1. Mates.
2. Purser Nathaniel Pearce (Peirce).
3. Probably means "PM."
4. See Diary of John Adams, 18 Feb., below.

JOURNAL OF MARINE LIEUTENANT WILLIAM JENNISON

[*Frigate Boston, Marblehead*]

1778 [Feb.] 16 We had great Difficulty in getting under way—At 7 pm in passing halfway Rock, a distance of 5 or 6 miles from the Harbour, M^r Barron¹ the 1st. Ship's Lieutenant fell overboard, & by catching hold of the Flukes of the Anchor, which he was trying to fish—was haply caught & got on board—Course ESE—

DLC, Journal of Lieutenant William Jennison, p. 5.

1. Lt. William Barron.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[Extract]

[*Frigate Boston, Marblehead*]

1778

Feb. 16. Monday.

Another Storm for our Mortification—the Wind at N.E. and the Snow So thick that the Captain¹ thinks he cannot go to Sea. Our Excursion to this Place, was

unfortunate, because it is almost impossible, to keep the Men on Board—Mothers, Wives, Sisters come on bord, and beg for Leave for their Sons, Husbands, and Brothers to go on Shore for one Hour &c So that it is hard for their Commander to resist their Importunity.

I am anxious at these Delays. We shall never have another Wind So good as We have lost.—Congress, and the Navy Board, will be Surprized at these Delays, and yet there is no Fault, that I know of.—the Commander of the Ship is active and vigilant, and does all in his Power, but he wants Men—he has very few Seamen indeed.—All is as yet Chaos on board—His Men are not disciplined.—The Marrines are not. The Men are not exercised to the Guns.—They hardly know the Ropes. . . .

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), pp. 5–7.

1. Capt. Samuel Tucker, Continental Navy.

JOHN BRADFORD TO ROBERT MORRIS

my dear Sir

Boston 16 feb^r 1778

Your favour of the 15th. Ultimo reach'd me last Evg in wch you acknowledge Sir Patrick Houstons Rec^t for 300 Dollars. & that you have noted it accordingly. I wrote under the 4th. Instant acquainting you with Orders I had Recd from the Marine Board¹ respecting the *Nanny*. I am sorry they happen to thwart You in that Vesell as she is a great Pennyworth. however Sir I shall endeavour to make it up in the purchase of the *Mermaid*² which is a very good Ship of about 200 Tons & well found. tho the amazing difficulty of getting hands Added to the Extravagant wages we are under the Necessity of giving renders it almost Presumpstion to attempt a Concern in Navigation I note you[r] Reliance on my doing your business with as much Caution as if it was for my self You may rely on it Sir when I transact anything for you, if I Err it will be too Cautious. I have lately Rec^d an Admonition from the Marin[e] Board which felt very Sensibly it being the first Reproof I have deserved from them the Case was simply this. the Commercial Committee ordered me to fit out the *Dispatch*³ for Charlestown S^o Carolina. I began to equip for that Errand, when the Navy Board⁴ here apply'd to me to let hir go into the Naval Department being so fast Sailing a Brig, and being so well furnishd in france for that Purpose at a Grat Expençe. I objected to their proposals being under such Orders from the Committee who had the immediate direction of that Vessell. But they at last prevaild on me to Suspend send^g her away till they should write the Committee on the Subject, which they did & I Recd for Answer that both they & I had gone out the Line of duty which was certainly true, and I am determind not to do the like again. she is not yet Saild for ten days past we have not had two working days, the Weather being so bad. M^r J. Adams⁵ has been several days on board the *Boston* and Yesterday Morning She Saild from Nantasket Road.⁶ am fearfull she will return again as the wind has been all this day Contrary you know Sir who Commands that Ship.⁷ I heartily wish he was equal to it. I'l venture to predict he will make a miserable figure in that Command. this I beg Sir may Remain inter nos as I dont give my Sentiments Officially. pity it is so fine a Vessell shou'd not be under a man of a different Cast—

I rejoyce to find you have accepted and are going back to Congress. I hope this present Era, will bring proud Britain to acquiescence of our Independence that you may apply to your mercantile matters the next without being disturbed—

Capt^t Skimmer^s has got a fine Brig⁹ with 16. 4^{lb}. Cannon he will get away in about a month, and I have great Expectations from him as has Every one who know him I am [&c.]

J. B.

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 110–11. Addressed at top: “Hon^{ble} Rob^t Morris.”

1. An error for Continental Commerce Committee. See John Bradford to Robert Morris, 4 Feb., above.
2. Ship *Mermaid*, prize taken by Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.
3. Continental packet brig, Lt. John Brown, Continental Navy, commanding.
4. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
5. John Adams.
6. Adams came on board the *Boston* on 13 Feb., and the frigate sailed on 17 Feb. for France.
7. Capt. Samuel Tucker, Continental Navy.
8. Capt. John Skimmer, Continental Navy.
9. Continental Navy brig *General Gates*, formerly prize *Industrious Bee*.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston Feb^y 16th 1778

Order'd That materials be immediately provided for building equipping & arming a Frigate to carry 20 nine pounders. Also for a Brig^a. to carry 16. six pounders with a long quarter Deck¹

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 212–14.

1. See Acts and Resolves of the Massachusetts General Court, 17 Jan., above.

LIEUTENANT'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *LARK*, CAPTAIN RICHARD SMITH

Feb^y 1778

D^o. [Att Single Anchor off Pine Hill.]¹

Monday 16th.

AM. Clean^d between Decks Vent^r working.

D^o. [Att Single Anchor off Pine Hill.]

The first p^t fresh breezes & hazy with Snow, the mid^{le}. & Latt^r p^{ts}. fresh breezes with sharp frosty weather. PM att ½ p^t 11 saw a sail in the NW^t.² fired several shott att Her to Alarm y^c *Somersett*. the Tender Continued after Her Firing att Her & burning False Fires att ¾ p^t 11 made the Tenders sign^l to come within hail at Midnight the *Somersett* fired great guns & Small Arms—³

D, UKLNMM, ADM/L/L/62.

1. Pine Hill on Prudence I.
2. Continental Navy frigate *Warren*, Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, commander, breaking out through the Narragansett or West Passage. See Diary of Captain Frederick Mackenzie, 17 Feb. and 24 Feb., below.
3. Lt. Charles Knatchbull of H.M.S. *Lark* remarks: “At 11 PM Saw a Ship pass us about a Mile to the W^dward. going down the Harbor. fired several Shot at her in passing.” UKLNMM, ADM/L/L/62.

MEMOIR OF ELIAS WARE

[*Providence, 16 February 1778*]

... as the *warren* a thirty six Gun frigate lay in providance harbour & had never been to sea it was proposed to Sail her through the British fleet that lay at Newport

& fetch her into Boston Harbour & one Cap^t Peck¹ undertook the Voyage, he sails out in the month of february One Very Dark Knight with wind & tide Down providance river I was then walking the beach with a gun & bayonet on my shoulder as a centinel The first Discovery I made of it I took it to be a black Cloud but I soon found my mistake it past by me Very quick & under full Sail She was Discovered by the men of war² that Lay in the harbour, two of them Lay partly the south west of Newport the other³ Lay on the other Side in bristol bay; when she was Discovered By the men of war; they made all preperations to Give her a broad Side for which Cap^t Peck was jealous of—he had Laid his plan to Run in between the Island⁴ & the british Ship when he had Saild right against the Seventy four⁵ he fires a broad Side in to her; they Said it was A Damned Yanky trick the british Ship had made no preperations on that Side to Give them a gun General Pigot⁶ had the Command of Rhoad island & he Gave orders with out Delay to amediately Cut their Cabels & Give Chase one frigate & one armd Schoonor obeyed the orders & gave Chase two Days but found it in vain to prosue any farther & Returned to their Station. the *Warren* was safely landed in Boston—

Memoir (ca. 1814), pp. 33–35. Private Collection, Mr. B. Thomas Hynson, Simpsonville, Maryland, 1975. Ware was a member of Capt. Thomas Pettee's Company, Rhode Island Militia.

1. Actually, Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins.

2. Tender of H.M.S. *Lark*. See Diary of Captain Frederick Mackenzie, 17 Feb., below.

3. H.M.S. *Lark*.

4. Conanicut I.

5. H.M.S. *Somerset*, 64 guns.

6. Maj. Gen. Robert Pigot.

CAPTAIN HENRY BILLINGS TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Sir Incloasd is mr Cahoon¹ letter who was prizemaster of y^e Brig *George* which I first took & was retaken in boston Bay last June and was caried to hallefax² and been in prisen Ever Sence he came in y^e Ship³ that Got in to marblehead that y^e priseners retook. that peic of Sheloone⁴ I will Send you by y^e first oportunity. the mony I took of Capt Lam⁵ on my acco^d you must consider me & what hard luck I have met with I dont know how to Get y^e hard money no more than y^e dead nor how to replace it in martenico As lamb talck of y^e oners are to meet when lamb returns from boston and Settle on honnerable terms: Sr I forgot to mention to You when I was out y^e first cruice I went in at pint peter⁶ to land a man that broak out with Small pox & made youse of your name for 408 livers french money of mr constant⁷ which is chargd in y bill of disbursments to y^e Sloop⁸. I am [&c.]

Henry Billings⁹

Norwich February y^e 16 Day 1778

L, CtNLHi, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Letters and Papers, portfolio 13.

1. Joseph Cohoon. See *NDAR* 9: 129n.

2. Brig *George* was recaptured by H.M. frigates *Orpheus* and *Amazon* on 17 June 1777. See *NDAR* 9: 129, 129n.

3. Cartel ship *Royal Bounty*.

4. A lightweight twilled fabric of wool or worsted used for linings of coats and uniforms.

5. Capt. John Lamb, commander of the American letter of marque brigantine *Irish Gimblet*. See *NDAR* 10: 812–13, 829, 829n, 830.

6. Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe.

7. William Constant of Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe.

8. Connecticut privateer sloop *Trumbull*.

9. Formerly a lieutenant in the Connecticut Navy.

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY,
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1778

NEW-YORK, February 16.

The last Accounts from his Majesty's Ship the *Liverpool*,¹ are, That she lays at a Place called Old Rockaway; at low Water, she is dry as far as her Fore Chains, and there is 11 feet astern: Her Rudder is knocked off, and 'tis thought she will not be lost. . . .

Friday arrived here the *Lee* Sloop,² Capt. James Lowe, loaded with Staves, Flour, and Tobacco; she was cut out of Morris's River³ in Delaware Bay, by the *Hawke* Schooner,⁴ a Tender belonging to the *Experiment* Man of War, the ever vigilant and brave Sir James Wallace, Commander. This is the fifth Prize sent in here within this Month by the *Experiment*. The *Lee* spoke with the *Dispatch* Sloop of War, with a Brig Prize, both bound to Rhode-Island.

1. On 11 Feb. H.M. frigate *Liverpool* ran aground in a gale on Long Island and was bilged.

2. Sloop *Lee*, J. Bennett, master, from Morris River [Maurice River], N.J., to Hispaniola, with a cargo of tobacco and staves, taken on 6 Feb. in Maurice River, sent to New York City as a prize of H.M.S. *Experiment*. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 485. Her prize papers give the master's name as Jacob Bennett. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/387/24. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 2 Feb., above.

3. Maurice River, N.J.

4. H.M. schooner tender *Hawk* was formerly *Experiment's* prize *Willing Maid*.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [Charleston] Monday 16th February 1778—

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commiss^r

Josiah Smith, Geo. Smith, Edward Darrell Esq^{rs}—

*The*¹ first Comm^r informd y^e Board that he had wrote & ordered the Clerk to deliver Instructions to Capt^s. Hall,² Sullivan,³ Morgan⁴ & Anthony,⁵ & their warrant officers respectively,— which the Board approved.

Ordered that the Clerk of the Board⁶ do Enquire of M^r Isaac D^a Costa what Sum of Money has been subscribed by the merchants & others of Charles Town for the purpose of Inlisting Seamen for the several Vessels lately fitted *out* on an Expedition in the Service of the State, and that *he* do request M^r D^a Costa will pay said Moneys into the *Trea[s]ury* and that *the* following Certificate be given to *the* Treasurer of the Charles Town Insurance Company—

Navy Board 16th February 1778—

These are to Certify that Three Hundred Men & upwards have Entered into the Service of the State and Sailed on a Cruize against the Enemy, in four Vessels, Vizt Ship *Gen^l Moultrie* & Brigg's *Notre Dame*, *Polly*, & *Fair American*, to whom have been paid a Bounty of Thirty Dollars Each & which includes the Ten Dollars Granted by the Charles Town Insurance Company as per their Resolution of December 15th 1777—

By Order of the Board

Edward Blake first Commiss^r

The following Orders were drawn on the Treasury in favour—

John Bonnet for work on board the <i>Gen^l Moultrie</i>	£293. 10—
Wheeler & Smith for the <i>Volunteer</i>	160. .. —

Edw ^d Shrewsbury for the Brigg <i>Polly</i>	150 — —
Ja ^s Cooke for the <i>Polly</i> & <i>fair American</i>	803. 6 —
Tho ^s Addison for Lumber & ^c for Ship Yard	33,,10—
Sam ^l Wells for Lumber for the Ship Yard.	460,,18,,9
Edm ^d Egan Beer for the Brigg <i>Polly</i>	553. 2. 6
John Hughes 2 Acco ^{ts} . against <i>Beaufort Gally</i>	514..15—
Paul Pritchard for the <i>Notre Dame</i> — £23. 9.	
ditto for the <i>Gen^l Moultrie</i>	596 14. 6
	620.. 3 6
David Hamilton for the <i>Eagle</i> pilot Boat.	115 — —
Cha ^s Duncan Rendezvous Acco ^t <i>Fair American</i>	3736,, 12. 6
Tho ^s Ditchfieldditto. . . . <i>Fair American</i>	4797. 10—
ditto ditto <i>Notre Dame</i>	3321. 10—
Rich ^d Ellis . . 2 ditto. . . . Ship <i>Volunteer</i>	4555 — —
John Vesey.ditto. . . . Brigg <i>Polly</i>	4017. 17. 6
James Bryanditto. . . . <i>Gen^l Moultrie</i>	5168,, 2. 6
Will ^m Trusler Sundry Acco ^{ts} . Viz ^t	
The <i>Tryaks</i> Acco ^t of Beef	57.. 1—
	continued Over
	£29357,, 19 3
The <i>Eagle</i> Pilot boat for Beef.	85,, 12,, —
The Ship Yardditto	74,, 15,, —
The Floating Batteryditto	9,, 12,, —
The <i>Rattle Snake</i> ditto	29..16—
The Brig ^t <i>Notre Dame</i>ditto	953. 5—
The Ship <i>Gen^l Moultrie</i> . . ditto	697,, [1.6]
The Ship <i>Volunteer</i> ditto	234. 1. 6
The Brig ^t <i>Fair American</i> . .ditto	894. 14. 6
The Brig ^t <i>Polly</i> ditto	1289. 17. 3
The Several Vessels to divide.-ditto	377. 15. 6
	£340004,, 9,, 6

Adjourned to next Thursday evening 6 oClock

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 139–41.

1. Words in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.

2. Capt. William Hall.
3. Capt. Philip Sullivan.
4. Capt. Charles Morgan.
5. Capt. Hezekiah Anthony.
6. John Calvert.

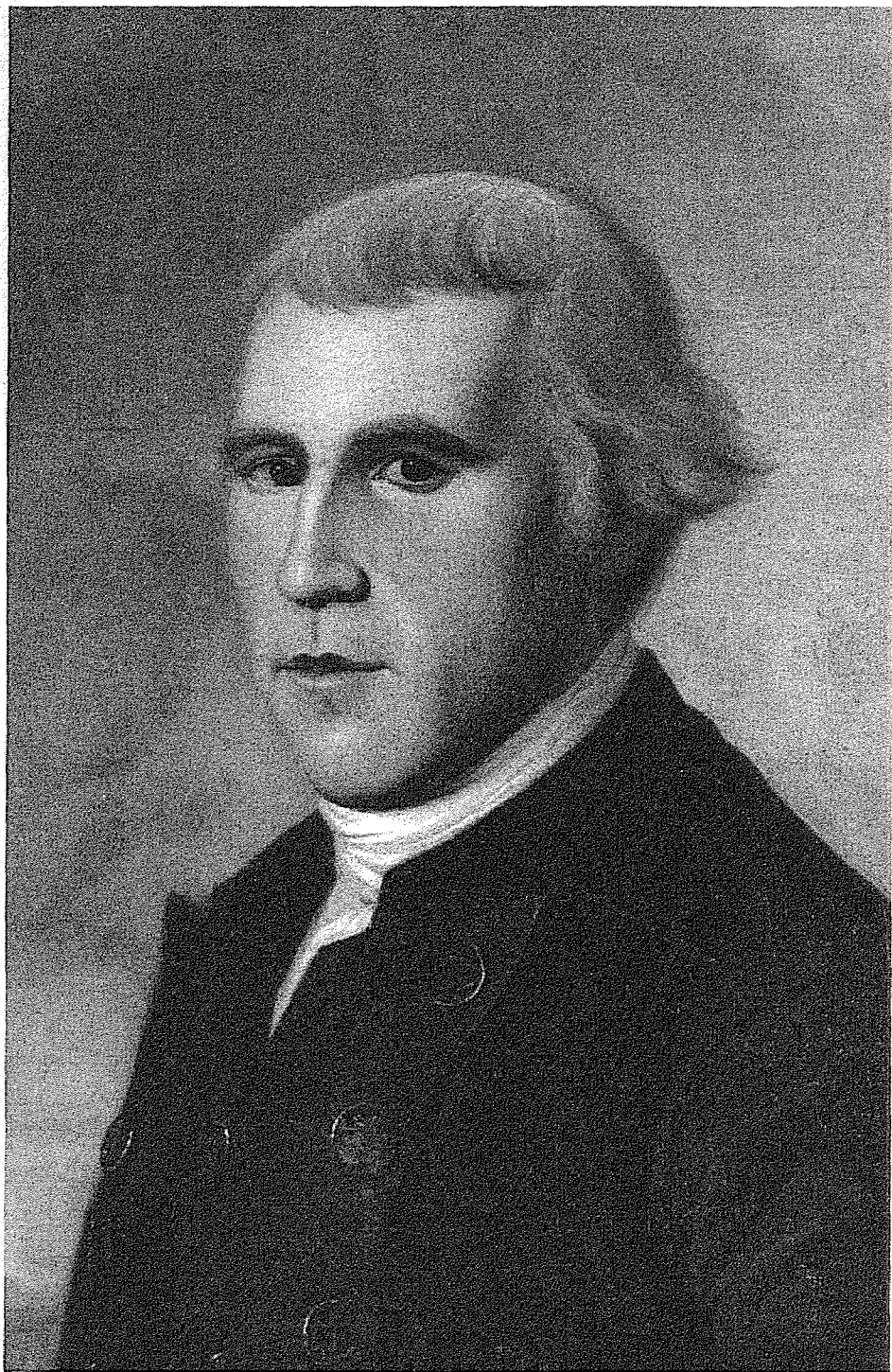
PRESIDENT JOHN RUTLEDGE OF SOUTH CAROLINA TO
PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

[Extract]

D^r Sir/

Cha^s. Town Feb. 16. 1778

. . . The British Cruizers having done much Damage on our Coast, it was determined, about the 17th. of December, to fit out some armed Vessels, to act in Concert



Captain Nicholas Biddle

with the *Randolph & Notre Dame*, against them__In order to man those Vessells, & prevent the Enemy's obtaining Intelligence, our Ports were shut, till this Squadron sailed__The Preparation's for the Expedition, (like all our other Works,) took up much more Time than was expected, & unfavourable Winds prevented it's getting to Sea, till last Thursday__¹ Inclosed is a List of their Force, with which, I hope Cap^t Biddle will give a good Account, of some of the Enemy's Vessells. . . .

I am with great Esteem d^r Sir [&c.]

J: Rutledge

P.S. I have paid the Bearer one hundred & Eighty five Continental Dollars.____

Seamen Officers-Marines
included

Ship <i>Gen^l Moultrie</i>	Cap ^t Sullivan ²	118__37__	12-6 & 6-9 pd ^s .
Brig ^t <i>Notre Dame</i>	___ Hall__ ³	78__16__	18-4 pd ^s .
___ <i>Fair American</i>	___ Morgan__ ⁴	69__20__	8-4 & 6-6 pd ^s .
___ <i>Polly</i>	___ Anthony__ ⁵	74__30__	14-4 pd ^s . ____

L, PHi, Simon Gratz Autograph Collection, Case 1, Box 10. Addressed below close: "The Honorable Henry Laurens Esq^r" Docketed by Henry Laurens: "President Rutledge./16 Feby 1778/Received 16 March." Docketed in another hand: "N^o 8."

1. 12 February.
2. Capt. Philip Sullivan.
3. Capt. William Hall, South Carolina Navy.
4. Capt. Charles Morgan.
5. Capt. Hezekiah Anthony.

JOHN LEWIS GERVAIS TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

[Extract]

Dear Sir

Charles Town 16. Feb^r 1778—

. . . I mentioned to you in a former letter¹ that we had laid an embargo & were fitting out a Small Fleet, our little Squadron, went out I think last Friday,² consisting of the *Randolph*, *Notre Dame*, & three other Vessels³—Steering Southwardley, next day two Ennemy's Frigates were in Sight again,⁴ from which we conclude they had not seen them, the report is they are gone to Turks's Island to take a twenty Gun Ship that lies there to prevent us from getting Salt, & several Vessels loaden with that necessary Article—probably we shall not Know their real destination till they return. Last Saturday it was moved to send a message to the president⁵ to know the reason of this embargo & why the house were not informed of it in a parliamentary way—the president returned an answer the Same Morning by the Master in Chancery acquainti[ng] the house, that the measure had been determined during the recess of the house, that contrary Winds & other circumstances had prevented the Squadron to sail Sooner, that this armement was made to put a Stop to the depra-dations of the Ennemy—that the night before he took off the embargo contrary to the Opinion of a Majority of the privy Council, as he thought a longer continuance was injurious to trade—that this embargo was so notorious, that he thought if the house had disapproved of it he should have heard from them— . . . I remain truly Dear Sir [&c.]

John Lewis Gervais

L, ScHi, Henry Laurens Papers, Miscellaneous Letters, 1772–1801 (SCHS No. 54, roll 19). Addressed below close: “Hon^{bl}. Henry Laurens Esq^r” Docketed: “John Le. Gervais/16 Feb^r 1778/Rec^d. 16 March.”

1. See NDAR 10: 750–51.

2. 13 February. Actually, the squadron sailed on Thursday, 12 February.

3. South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie*, Capt. Philip Sullivan, and privateer brigantines *Fair American*, Capt. Charles Morgan, and *Polly*, Capt. Hezekiah Anthony, which were serving in the South Carolina Navy for this expedition.

4. H.M.S. *Perseus* and H.M.S. *Lizard*. See Captain Robert Fanshawe, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 13 Feb., above.

5. John Rutledge.

JOURNAL OF H.M. BRIG *ENDEAVOUR*, LIEUTENANT FRANCIS TINSLEY

Feb^r 1778

Isl. Roan East¹ 4 Leg^s:

Monday 16

at 6 AM She Bore up under Eng^s. Colours, let fly her Top G^t Sheets fired a Gun & hawl'd her Wind to the Nor^d. at 10 Carried away the Main Top G^t Mast, find the Chace to Out Sail us, at 11 *Pelican* Wore to the Nor^d. D^o. Stood after her Suppose the Chace to be the *Cumberland* a Rebel Privatier of 22 Guns,² Heavy Gales & rain

NE: End of Granada SEBE 8 Leg^s.

Hard Gales & rain Beating up the NE Side of Granada

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4181, part 11, fol. 51.

1. Ronde Island, The Grenadines.

2. Massachusetts privateer ship *Cumberland*, James Collins, commander, mounting 20 guns, crew of 180 men, was commissioned on 12 and 13 Sept. 1777 and was owned by Paul Dudley Sargent and others, of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls, vol. 5, 112, 115.

February 17

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[Extract]

[*Frigate Boston, Marblehead*]

1778.

17. Tuesday. [*February*]

. . . The Weather is fair, and the Wind right, and We are again weighing Anchor in order to put to Sea.—

Captⁿ. Diamond¹ and Captⁿ. Inlaker, came on Board, and breakfasted, two Prisoners taken with Manly² in the *Hancock* and lately escaped from Halifax.

Our Captⁿ.³ is an able Seaman, and a brave, active vigilant officer, but I believe has no great Erudition.—His Library consists of Dyche's English Dictionary, Charlevoix's Paraguay—The Rights of y^e. Xtian Church asserted vs. y^e. Romish and other Priests, who claim an independent Power over it—The 2^d Vol. of Chubb's posthumous Works. 1 Vol. of the History of Charles Horton Esq. and 1 Vol. of the delicate Embarrassments a Novell.—I shall at some other Time take more Notice of some of these Books.

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), p. 7.

1. Probably, John Diamond, sailing master of the Continental Navy frigate *Hancock*.

2. Capt. John Manley, Continental Navy.

3. Capt. Samuel Tucker, Continental Navy.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston Feb^y 17th. 1778

Order'd That Joseph Ruggles be paid for sundry Work for Brig^a *Massachusetts*¹ as P^r Aco^t. . . . £27..14..10

Voted, That Captⁿ. Phillips² be a committee to hire Stores on Grays wharf sufficient to contain the Cargo of the Sloop *Republic*³ order'd to unload there—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 214-17.

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.
2. Capt. Isaac Phillips.
3. Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic*.

MAJOR GENERAL JOSEPH SPENCER TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL

Sir,

Providence 17th. Feb^y 1778

By M^r Strong I have recd your Excellency's letter of the 16th. Instant.—I have hopes of Cash from Congress Soon to relieve me from my Distressing wants.

I heartily Rejoice to hear that there is Such hopes of the recovery of Col^o. Trumbull.¹—Last night the Ship *warren*² passed by the Enemies Ships and we Suppose She has Safely Escaped them.—

I fear this Army will Soon be in distress for want of provisions.—I enclose the Kings Speech in Parliment on the 20th: Novm^r 1777. I am [&c.]

Jo^s Spencer

L, Ct, Jonathan Trumbull Papers, vol. 8, p. 84. Addressed at foot: "His Excellency Governor Trumbull."

1. Col. Joseph Trumbull.
2. Continental Navy frigate *Warren*, Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, commander.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Extract]

[Newport. Rhode Island] 17th Feb^y—Some Snow last night. Cold weather, and hard frost. Strong N.W. wind all last night and this day.

. . . A Rebel Ship¹ escaped last night by way of the Naraganset passage. She was first discovered by the *Lark*'s Tender, which lay about half a mile ahead of the *Lark*. As soon as the tender saw her she slipt her Cable, but before she could get under way the ship was near on board of her. The tender then followed her and kept firing small arms. The *Lark* having everything in readiness gave the ship a broadside as she passed, but without any apparent effect. The *Somerset* being also prepared in the Naraganset passage gave her a broadside from both Decks, notwithstanding which she got clear to Sea. The tender followed her as far as the Lighthouse.² Neither the *Lark* or *Somerset* attempted to pursue her, nor did any Frigate go out of the harbour after her. It is probable she went into Bedford [*in Dartmouth*]; as the wind would not admit of her going round Point Judith. She did not fire a Shot.

Came in this Evening a Privateer Brig of 8 Carriage guns,³ 6 Swivels and 51 men, taken by the *Unicorn*. She had been out but a few days from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, when taken, was bound to the West Indies, and had made no capture.

Mackenzie, *Diary* I: 244–45.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Warren*, Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, commander. See Lieutenant's Journal of H.M.S. *Lark*, 16 Feb., and Memoir of Elias Ware, 16 Feb., above.

2. Rhode Island lighthouse at Beaver Tail Point, R. I.

3. New Hampshire privateer brigantine *McClary*, John Gregory, commander. See Journal of H.M.S. *Unicorn*, 6 Feb., above.

FRANCIS LEWIS TO SAMUEL AND ROBERT PURVIANCE

Gentl^m.

York Town [*Pa.*] 17 Feb^{ry}: 1778.

The day before I left Baltimore, it was reported there, that a large French ship was on shore on the Coast near Chingoteague, and that they were taking part of the Cargo out in order to lighten her. The Agent from France arrived here yesterday and informs us that a 50 Gun ship laden for the Congress may be ab^t this time expected at the Capes from S^t Domingo, and is anxious to know if that ship reported to be on shore may not be the same, of which please to get the best information you can and inform me—also whether the *Virginia* has embraced the opportunities of these fair winds to put to Sea, which I am very anxious to know I am [&c.]

Fra: Lewis Chairman of Commercial Committee

L, MdHi, Samuel and Robert Purviance Papers. Addressed: "Mess^{rs} Sam^l & Rob^t Purviance/att/Baltimore." Docketed: "no 8 [*tom*]/Fra^s: Lewis 17th. Feb^{ry}:/1778—."

ROBERT MORRIS TO CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Gentlemen,

Manheim [*Pa.*] Febr^y. 17th. 1778—

Agreeable to my promise you will find inclosed herein a Manifest of all the Tobacco that has been bought by the Secret Committee shewing what has been exported what quantity arrived, how much taken & lost and what remains except that it is not in my power to ascertain the exact quantities in the hands of M^r J. H. Norton of Williamsburg, M^r Benjⁿ. Harrison jun^r. Carter Braxton Esquire Mess^{rs}. James & Adam Hunter and Tho^s. Jett Esquire the latter I think did send me an Account of his purchase but if he did it is mislaid this Gentleman had not the Money sent him, time enough to lay the whole out before prices rose above his limits he therefore must account for the Balance in Money unless you choose to order him to Invest it now in Tobacco, the other Gentlemen have Tobacco to nearly the Amount of their balances as the deficiency only arises by the breach of bargains they made for it, several not delivering the full quantities they agreed for, I have employed myself a few days in entering up & adjusting a very long acct. between the Committee & my House W. Morris & C^o.¹ which was employed to Conduct their purchases & find a balance in their favour of about £5000 Curr^{ty} several articles of account however are not included therein as I cannot at present ascertain them exactly but when the whole are included I believe the Committee will be still more indebted to them, besides £6000, they are to be paid for the ship *Lord Camden* taken on her Return from France & Insured by the Committee—

Enclosed herein you will receive a letter I have written to M^r John Ross which I have signed agreeable to your desire by which you will see I have directed 142 hhds Tobacco on board the *Snow Speedwell* Capt. Kent (indeed this was ordered to him last spring) 120 hhds Ⓢ the Brig^t. *Braxton*, 476 hhds Ⓢ the Brig^t. *Governor Johnston*, & 269 hhds by the Brig^t. *Morris* Capt. Gunnison, to be Consigned to him or his order

on acco^t of the United States Amounting to 1007 hhds in all & if it arrives safe will over pay his advances, but we cannot Count upon the whole to arrive, I have desired each Vessell to [*blank*] out the first opportunity. there Remains—

492 hhds on Board the *Chase* under care of Mess^{rs}. Purviance—

117 hhds on Board the *Snow George*

ditto on Board the Ship *Virginia*, under care of M^r Braxton

ditto on Board the Brig^t [*blank*] under care of Step^h. Steward

ditto in the hands of the Gentlemen mentioned in the general Manifest all unappropriated and of course I suppose will be applied towards satisfying the demands or Claims of Mons^r Francy,

You will also find herein a paper of Entries proper to be made in the Books of the Commercial Committee for the purpose of transferring the balances therein ascertained from the Books of the Secret Committee where in I have made Correspondent Entries and did intend to have continued this practice as fast as I settled any accounts therein, had I been left to pursue this business agreeable to the offer made in Congress. I thought it essentially necessary to settle these as the foundation of your present operations & would now send you the Books but the Crossing of Susquehannah is yet too dangerous before they shall wait your orders which you may depend shall be instantly complied with

The Charter Party for the Brig^t *Governor Johnson* is amongst the Committees papers but as her voyage is transferred to your care had best be deposited with yours, the Brig^t *Morris* belongs to the Continent she was bought by Jn^o Langdon Esquire in New Hampshire & her Cost & charges must be transferred to your Debit. The *Snow Speedwell* Capt Kent was valued at £2000 Virginia Curry by persons appointed for the purpose, she is my property & no Charter party has ever been made but the Committee must in this as in all other Cases Insure the value of said Vessell, in proportion as their part of the Cargo is to the whole, and the same with the Brig^t *Boston* in which I am interested with M^r Braxton & M^r Ross, this Brig^t might have been sold both before & since she loaded for £3000—which I deem her valuation and should be glad you would either order Charter parties to be made out for these Vessells or Enter on your Minutes that you are Insurers thereon against all Risques untill the Cargoes are landed, at the Valuations—I have mentioned in the proportions that your part of the Cargoes bears to the whole on board. The letting these Vessels take in Goods for the public has been of great prejudice to the Owners as they could long Since have sold them if disengaged to good profits but instead of that they have been long detained on heavy expenses; part whereof they think you should pay & respecting which I shall speak to you when I come to York.

I am now at the 19th. february & find myself disapointed by Mess^{rs}. Hunters, of Fredericksburgh² who promised our Acco^t. Curr^t with them by the last post but it is not come therefore I will leave the Sum a blank for the present—

that they are accountable to you for, it is however above £9000 this Currency & soon as I receive their account the proper Entries shall be made in the Secret Committee Books for transferring that balance also to you I must observe however, that a part of this balance has come into their hands from the Sales of Goods saved from Ship *Esther* & Brig^t. *Gen^t Mercer* since that price of Tobacco was above the purchasing limits consequently these Gentlemen will have some Money & some

Tobacco to acco^t for, they are Men of honour & good Merchants and will deliver every hogshead of the Tobacco they bought. I have ten Hogsheads of Tobacco on Board the ship *Chase* & ten Hogsheads on board the Snow *George* for which I was to pay Eighteen Guineas ₹ Ton freight, but as it is probable the destination of these Vessells must be altered and that the Cargoes will be assigned to Mons^r Francy, you may have these twenty hogsheads also at the first Cost & charges if you choose it. if not they may go forward on my account as first intended and you'l please to give me an answer to this offer. I have just received a letter from M^r J Brown³ dated the 15th. Ins^t desiring me to return Mess^{rs}. Hewes & Smiths⁴ letter to the Committee, this I did by Mons^r Francy he also says you wish for an extract of their letter to me on the subject of the *Pathys* Cargo of Salt & it shall be enclosed herein. I cannot help remarking that Col^o. Aylett⁵ seems fond of raising his own reputation at the expense of other peoples, he made last Summer several attacks on Col^o. Braxton by insinuation as he does now on M^r Hewes & I believe both these Gentlemen to be Men of as much honor & honesty as Col^o. Aylett or any others upon Earth. I believe at the same time that Col^o. Aylet is an active Commissary but he seems too full of Suspensions & too free in writing them and Congress should guard against giving in too readily to the belief of such things or they will not get any Men who value their Characters to serve them, on the 13th Novem^r last I wrote Mess^{rs}. Hewes & Smith if any Salt arrived there belonging to the Public not to Sell, but Store it untill they should receive the Committees orders as it would all be wanted for the use of the Army &ca they acknowledge the receipt of this letter in theirs to me of the 11th. Decem^r from which the enclosed extract is taken by which you'l find they had sold the *Pathys* Salt previous to the Receipt of my orders & that Col^o. Aylet himself was in some measure the cause of it

Soon after the *Patty* arrived in North Carolina with her Salt on Public Account, a Snow *Nancy* Capt Forster belonging to M^r Ross & myself arrived there also with a Cargo of Salt on our Account & Mess^{rs}. Hewes & Smith with equal precipitation & without orders proceeded to make Sale of it for which they justify themselves in the Same manner as they do for the Sale of the public Salt, however this Cargo arriving latter than the *Pathys* they had not sold the whole of it when my orders respecting it reached them soon as I heard of this Snows arrival in N^o. Carolina I offered the Cargo of Salt to M^r Buchanan⁶ (not suspecting Mess^{rs}. Hewes & C^o. would make any Sale untill they heard from me) and he told me M^r Aylett being Depty Commissary of purchases in that Department he would buy it, but M^r Aylet being distant from me & the price of Salt low in N^o Carolina Compared to what it was here I determined not to lay mine & my Friends property at his Mercy—

Therefore I wrote to Mess^{rs}. Hewes & Smith proposing that they should measure the Snow *Nancys* Cargo of Salt value it at the then Current price & then make a large purchase of Green Pork on the best terms in their power; Cure & Barrell it, ready for Sale to those that should want, and the concern in this Pork to be in thirds one of which their Acco^t. $\frac{1}{3}$ ^d. M^r Ross & $\frac{1}{3}$ ^d mine, by this mode M^r Ross & myself gave up one third of our Salt at a low price for the sake of being $\frac{2}{3}$ ^{ds} interested in the Pork, this proposal reaching M^r Hewes & Smith before all the *Nancys* Cargo of Salt was Sold but long after the *Pattys* was gone, they adopted the plan & executed it as far as the remains of the *Nancys* Cargo enabled. I have mentioned this matter in order to clear M^r Hewes of any unworthy suspicion being confident he does not

deserve them and I hope Congress will never countenance them by gratifying Col^o. Aylet with orders to make the enquiry he offers, what I have mentioned about the *Nancys* Cargo of Salt & the Pork scheme may probably be remembered by M^r. Brown, by M^r. Gerry M^r. Peters & some others in York as I told them last Winter the orders I had given and added that I expected the Pork to be put up in consequence would some day or other prove a Seasonable Supply to the Public the Price of £18. ⌘ Barrell is very high but I should have made more of the Salt if it had not been so applyed for I Sold another Cargo that arrived since for £7—this Curry ⌘ bushl. and the purchaser is gone down from Pennsylvania to receive it there & bring it up at his own risque & expense. whereas the *Nancys* Cargo Sold at 60s to 70s that Curry ⌘ bushel & the Green Pork Cost 100s to 120s ⌘ 100^b besides Barrells, Salt Cooperage & ca & ca and you well know that all kinds of charges are raised to a most enormous pitch, M^r. Hewes also writes me that if M^r. Aylet had not wanted that Pork for the Public Service he could & would have had above £20—Virg^a. Curry for every Barrel of it—

M^r. Brown says you have wished I would recommend M^r. Ross for one of the Commercial agents in Europe, I have told you Gentlemen his deserving Character but I am too sick of recommending agents ever to do it again, he says also that Col^o. Harrison's plan is approved except the Commissions of one ⌘ C^t on return Cargoes in which I agree with you & think if instead of one ⌘ C^t he were allowed one quarter ⌘ C^t on a certain sum on every Cargo that returns to him for his care & trouble herewith it might do very well.

I think there is no points mentioned in any of your or M^r. Browns Letters that this and my preceeding Letters has not answered.

last Night I rec^d. A letter from M^r. Will^m. Wilkinson⁷ of Wilmington of which I take the Liberty to enclose you a Copy and if you were not previously informed the arrival of those Stores you will now give the necessary orders respecting them or rather let the Marine Committee do it as these articles are more properly in their department—With much Respect & Esteem I remain [&c.]

Rob^t. Morris

P.S. I am this moment informed by a Gentleman that saw a person lately from the City of Philadelphia that the report of a Riot in London is well founded as he heard Bill the Bookseller read an Account of it in an English paper—He says Gen^l. Howe offers (in hand Bills) free passages in the Transports to any persons or Families that desire to remove to England—

L, ScHi. Henry Laurens Papers, Additional Loose Papers concerning the Revolution and the Treaty, 1776–1783 (SCHS No. 45b, roll 16). Docketed: "Rob^t. Morris to/Commercial Committee the 17th feby/1778—/Respecting the Commercial Affairs of/the United States."

1. Willing, Morris & Co., merchants at Philadelphia.
2. James Hunter, Jr., and Adam Hunter, merchants at Fredericksburg, Va.
3. John Brown, secretary of the Continental Marine Committee.
4. Joseph Hewes and Robert Smith, merchants at Edenton, N.C.
5. William Aylett, Deputy Commissary General of Purchases, Continental Army.
6. William Buchanan, Commissary General of Purchases, Continental Army.
7. Letter not found.

PETITION TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

To His Excellency Tho^s. Johnson Esq^r. Governor of Mary^l^d.
May it Please y^r. Excellency

We the under written with many others being Concerned in Vessals arrived at the Different Inlets of the Eastern parts of Mary^l^d. and Virginia Beg leave to

Represent to your Excellency, that a large part of the Trade Carried on by this State is by way of those Inlets and from thence down the River Pokamoake and thro the Tangier Sound to the Differ^t parts of this State, And that the Carriage that way has of late been Very precarious and Dangerous by Reason of the Boats & Tenders of the Enemy Continually Cruising in and about those places, And that we are of opinion that if one or Two of the gallys were Stationed in the Sound and about the Mouth of the River Pokamoake that it would Render the Commerce thro that Channel much Safer and be of much advantage to the publick as well as private property, All which is Humbly Submitt^d. by the under written to y^r. Excellency
Dated at Balt. Town Feb^y 17th. 1778

Ben Crockett

Isaac VⁿBibber
Ben Crockett
Sam^l & Rob^t Purviance
Henry Sheaff
Charles Garts
John Phile
[William] Lux & [Daniel] Bowly
Jesse Hollingsworth
[George] Woolsey & [George] Salmon.
John M^cLure
William Neill

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4585-1. Docketed: "Feb^y 17th. 1778/Petition from sundry/Inhabitants of Baltimore/for a Galley to protect the/Trade in the Sound./Isaac VⁿBebber."

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO ARCHIBALD BUCHANAN AND ALEXANDER COWAN

[Annapolis] In Council 17. Feb^y 1778.

Ordered That the western shore Treasurer pay to Tho^s. Sim Lee Esq^f Seven hundred & seventy four pounds five shillings & eight pence half-penny to be delivered over to Buchanan¹ & Cowan² due on Acc^t for building the Galley³ per Acc^t passed

⌘ order

T Johnson Jn^r

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-15-182E.

1. Archibald Buchanan, shipbuilder at Baltimore.
2. Alexander Cowan (or Cowen), shipbuilder at Baltimore.
3. Probably Maryland Navy galley *Annapolis*, which was being built by Buchanan and Cowan.

WILLIAM AND GODFREY HUTCHINSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

(Copy)

St Pierre M/Que. Feb^y 17th. 1778
Original ⌘ cap^t Freeborn.¹

Sir,

Our last to you wass 31st Ult^o. Since which the Master of the two Vessells taken by Captain Harraden,² have got to this Island. one of them wass carried into Dominica,³ & the Other into Antigua.⁴ the former mistook Dominica for this Island

& by that means was taken, the Latter was Owing either to the Stupidity, or Villiainy of the Mate of the Vessel, Cap^t Harraden had taken the method mentioned to you in our Last. there was not a prisoner left on Board & every precaution taken. the Cap^t pass^d. well on his Examination, but, when it came to the mates he told his own Name instead of the one he had assumed, w^{ch}. imediately condemn^d. them. we are very Sorry for this Misfortune.—The Masters cannot be too carefull as they are if met wth. Examined very Closely.—It will be best to order the masters of any Vessells Coming to this Island, to run for Dominica & to cross the Latitude in the Night. We have finished the Sales of the Other Vessell & Cargo, w^{ch}. will furnish you with by the next Oppertunity. Interim we are very Respectfully Sir [&c.]

Copy, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 205 (2d ser., Revolution Letters, 1775–1783), 328. Addressed below close: “Samuel P: Savage Esq^r.”

1. Capt. Isaac Freeborn, commanding Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*.
2. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Tyrannicide*.
3. Brigantine *Alexander*, James Waddie, master. See Captain Simeon Samson to the President of the Massachusetts Board of War, 5 Mar., below.
4. Schooner *Good Intent*, William Dashpar, master. Ibid.

GOVERNOR LORD MACARTNEY TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]

Grenada

N^o. 3

My Lord

St. George's February 17th. 1778

... Having dispatched all the public business of Tobago, I sailed from thence on the 12th. of January, & arrived at Carriacou the principal of the Grenadines, on the 13th. I returned here on the 16th. and had the pleasure of seeing the London fleet, destined for these Islands, arrive all safe on the next day. The *Deal Castle*, under whose protection the ships for Grenada came down, is to remain here for our particular protection.—The *Aurora* intended for the Tobago station, having lost her Mizzen Mast and sprung her Boltsprit, was obliged to bear away for Antigua to refit, but I presume will speedily return.—

I imagine, the *Adventure* Transport¹ (with the 24 Eighteen pounders and a detachment of Matrosses on board, intended for Tobago, as mentioned in your Lordship's dispatch of the 4th. December,) could not get down the River in time, to join the West India Convoy, as We have not yet received any account of her.—

I beg leave to express how very sensible I am of your Lordships constant attention to the security, & wants of this Government & have the honor to be with the highest Respect My Lord [&c.]

Macartney

L, UKLPR, C.O. 101/21, fols. 155–56. Docketed: “Grenada 17th Feby 1778./Lord Macartney./ (N^o. 3.)/R, 21st. May./ (3 Inclosures./ Ent^d.” The two omitted paragraphs concern the improvement of Tobago's defenses and Macartney's request for 500 light infantry muskets for the militia.

1. British ordnance storeship *Adventure*, R. Salmon, master, 300 tons burthen, mounting twenty 9-pounders, owned by Thompson, built on the Thames River in 1764. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

February 18

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER[*Marblehead*]Remarks on Wednesday, Feb^y 18th. 1778—¹

At 7. AM—fresh Gales & fair weather, the Main Geers² broke, then I had the Yard slung with a Chain The People Employed as usual.—

att 7 PM waid Anchor and Came to Sea with a Pleasent gale from the NW att 8 d^o Cape ann bore of us NNE Distance about 3 Leagues from which I take my departure Pray God Conduct me Safe to france & Send me a Prosperous Cruze Midle & Latter parts of this 24 hours Very Clear & Pleasent Gales Latt^d of Cape ann 42^d:46^m North Long^d 69^d:45^m west

<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>
Latt ^d in 42:38	Long ^d in 69:50 west
Latt ^d by OBs ^r 41 ^d :53 ^m N	

Course	Dis ^t	X Latt ^d	Depar ^t	Latt ^d in	X Long ^d	Long ^d in	Mr ^d Dis ^t
S ^o 69 ^d : E	127m	45m S ^o	116; E	41:53 N	2 ^d :36; E	67:14 m	116; E

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

1. Although the date is actually 17 Feb., Tucker adjusted it to sea time as he expected to be at sea by day's end.

2. Jeers are a combination of tackles for hoisting and lowering the lower yards.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[*Frigate Boston, Marblehead*]

1778.

Feb. 18. Wednesday.

Last night, about Sunsett We Sailed out of Marblehead Harbour, and have had a fine Wind from that time to this 24 Hours. The constant Rolling and Rocking of the Ship, last night made Us all sick—half the Sailors were so. my Young Gentlemen, Jesse and Johnny¹ were taken about 12 O Clock last night and have been very Seasick ever since. I was Seized with it myself this forenoon. My Servant Joseph Stevens² and the Capt^{ns}. Will³ have both been very bad.

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), p. 8.

1. Jesse Deane and John Quincy Adams.

2. Joseph Stephens.

3. Perhaps William Goss, Jr., a boy on board the *Boston*.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston Feb^y 18th 1778

Order'd That the Comm^y¹ deliver M^r. Barrett² one Bolt Duck for Ship *Adams*³

Order'd That the Comm^y Gen^l deliver Captⁿ. Turner⁴ for Ship *Adams* one Cord

Wood.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 217–19.

1. David Devens.

2. Probably Samuel Barrett.
3. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.
4. Capt. Luther Turner.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY

At a Meeting of the Deputy Gov^r: & Council of Safety holden at Hartford in and for the State of Connecticut on y^e. 18th: Day of February AD 1778—

Resolved By this Board that the Com^{tee}. of Pay-Table be & they are hereby directed to Draw on y^e Treas^r: in fav^r: of Sam^l: Eliot Jun^r: Esq^t: of Boston for y^e Sum of four thousand pounds Lawful Money for the purpose of fitting out (as soon as possible) y^e Ship *Defence* & y^e Ship *Oliver Cromwell* &c: and to be in Acc^t: as Agent for this State.—Said Order to be Deliv^d. to M^r: Rob^t: Wasson taking his Rec^t: for y^e same—

[*Resolved*, That his Excellency the Governor be desired to give the necessary and proper sailing orders and all the necessary directions to said ships.]

A true Copy

Attest: And^w Adams Clerk

Hartford 18th Feb^r 1778 Rec^d from Com^{tee}. Pay Table an Order on John Lawrence Esq^r: Treas^r: for the State of Connecticutt in favour Sam^l: Elliott Jun^r: Esq^r: for the Sum of Four Thousand Pounds L Money

Rob^t: Wasson

D, NHpR, Correspondence Regarding Naval-Maritime Matters, 1775–1783, no. 68; Hoadly, ed., *Public Records of the State of Connecticut*, 1: 566. The bracketed portion appears only in the printed version. Docketed: "Gov^r & Council/Ord^r: £4000.0.0/to Sam^l: Elliott J^r Esq/Febr^y: 18. 1778."

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Wednesday the 18th day of February 1778.—

Mr Foster Webb junior, appointed Paymaster and Muster Master to the Gallies, and other Vessels belonging to the Navy stationed on the western side of Chesapeak Bay, appeared and entered into Bond with George Webb esq^r: his Security for his faithfully performing the Duties of his said Offices; justly expending and disbursing all Sums of money as may come to his Hands; rendering exact accounts upon oath when required, mustering the Men on Board once in every two Months; and returning any surplus money that may remain in his Hands by Virtue of the said Appointment; and in consideration of the said Services and expenses, this Board doth agree to give him two hundred and twenty five pounds per year.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 355.

DEPOSITION OF PETER NORRIS

South Carolina/.

Peter Norris, Mariner, maketh Oath, that on or about the Third day of October last past he sailed from the Port and Harbour of Charles Town on board the private Sloop of War called the *Rutledge* in the Quallity, and Station of a Prize Master bound on a Cruize that in about a fortnight after their Sailing from Charles Town afore-

said, the said Sloop of War took a Sloop Called the *Pallas*, which was Armed and fitted out as a Tender to the said Sloop *Rutledge* for the more Successfully Cruizing against the Enemy; That after some time Cruizing together, the Sloop parted from her said Tender in pursuit of a Fleet; That in about a fortnight after, the said Sloop *Rutledge* again fell in with the said Tender She (the said Sloop *Pallas*) then having with her a Prize, a small Schooner on board of which prize, Captain Porter¹ the Commander of the said Sloop *Rutledge* put this Deponent as prize Master; That in a few days after, in a Gale of Wind, the *Rutledge* parted from her Tender and said Prize, in which this Deponent was, and in two days after the Tender again fell in with the Vessell in which the Deponent was, and Continued in Company with him four days when they descried a Sail, to which the Tender gave Chace, and in about an hour afterwards took her; that She proved to be a Schooner Called the *Polly and Nancy* Commanded by Captain John Davis from Mobbille bound for Jamaica laden with Staves and heading—That Captain Matthew Smith Master of the said Tender ordered the Deponent out of the Prize which he then Commanded into the said Schooner *Polly and Nancy* and desired him to proceed, in her for Charles Town—that whilst proceeding on, in Company with the said Tender and the other prize Schooner, the Seamen and Mariners, on board the Tender, as this Deponent is informed, Mutin[*i*]ed, and Joining Capt. Davis former Master of the Schooner *Polly & Nancy* and who was then a prisoner on board the said Tender took her from the said Captain Matthew Smith—That the said John Davis, then being with his Mutineers in full possession of the Tender the only Armed Vessell of the three bore down Upon and re-captured the other Schooner and then gave Chace to the *Polly and Nancy*, in which this Deponent was, who hearing some small Arms in the Night, had made all the Sail in his power from an Apprehension in his own Mind of some mischief and on the next day after soon Came up with the Schooner of which this deponent was prize Master and made prize of her That Captain Davis ordered this Deponent on board the Tender, and on his Obeying and Coming up to her in a boat, he was threatned with the loss of his head if he should open his Mouth to Speak,—That the Deponent informed said Davis, that being a Prisoner he meant to behave as such. That the Deponent was then Called down into the Cabbin, where, after some discourse and drinking, the Deponent Consented to go as Master in the *Polly and Nancy* to Jamaica, That Davis believing he would do so, put him on board as Master, and also put on board M^r Williams the English Owner of the Schooner *Polly and Nancy* and one man more. That immediately after, to wit, on the Nineteenth day of January last they all three hauled the Wind for Jamaica, and that the[y] Continued for about the space of Twenty four hours to make the best of their way thither, when Capt. Davis, then Commander of the said Sloop *Pallas* (fitted out as a Tender to the *Rutledge*) Ordered this Deponent to alter his Course for Mobbille, which he accordingly did, and for about four days following made sail for that place. That during the time this Deponent was in Company with Capt. Davis, who Commanded the said Tender, Capt. Davis frequently spoke with this Deponent and with imprecations and menaces threatned to blow out his Brains in Case he should attempt to run away and again fall into his hands. But this Deponent on the Evening of the fifth day after being recaptured by Capt. Davis (having previously determined to take the first Opportunity to make prize of the said Schooner *Polly and Nancy* & to proceed for Carolina) again took the Schooner as prize and bore

away for Charles Town. That William Thomas, Patrick M^cLean, James M^cDaniel & Daniel Russell were the Seamen who Assisted the Deponent in making Capture of the Schooner a second time That the Deponent hath brought the said Schooner into the Port and Harbour of George Town where he arrived on Wednesday last, having on board the said M^r Williams and one James [*blank*] a Seaman as prisoners. That he apprehends himself with the said other persons who have as aforesaid assisted in making the Prize to be intituled, under the Resolutions of Congress & Laws of this State, to the said Schooner *Polly and Nancy* her Cargo &^{ca} or some part thereof, and means to Libell her, if permitted, in the Court of Admiralty of this State as lawful Prize.

Sworn before me the 18th day
of February 1778.

Peter Norris.

H: Rutledge J: A:/.

D, DNA, Revolutionary War Prize Cases, Records of the Court of Appeals in Cases of Capture, 1776–1787, Case no. 25, pp. 2–3.

1. Capt. John Porter.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *SNAKE*, COMMANDER WILLIAM YOUNG

feb 1778

[*off S^t: Martin*]

Wednesd 18th:

Mod^t & fair. Chaced three sail. found them to be two letters [of] Marque & a prize they had taken while we were in Chace, sent an Officer to take charge of the prize.¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/906, part 1, fol. 29.

1. Brigantine *Anthony*, Jesse Atwell, master, 112 tons burthen, crew of 9 men, laden with horses, from America, taken on 18 Feb. by H.M. sloop *Snake*, sent into St. Christopher. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

LOG OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *TYRANNICIDE*,
CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN

Remarks on Wenesday Feb^y 18th. 1778

Latt^d. P^r Observ^t. 12..44 [*N*]

Middle Part pleasant Weather—at 4 AM Saw Barbadoes bearing North at 8 AM Saw a Sail which was the Schooner we saw before saw a Sail to the Leeward bore down for her She proved to be a ~~Sail~~ Ship Frigate¹ she gave us two BroadSides without doing us any damage except a Shotts passing through our Fore Sail haul'd our Wind and then we left her fast Barbadoes bore NNE Distance 10 Leagues—

[*At noon*] Latt^d. P^r Observ^t. 12..37 N^o.

[*PM*] These 24 hours begins with a Moderate Breeze and Clear Weather—at 6 PM the Island of S^t Vincents bore NW

D, MSaE, Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide* (November 1777–May 1778).

1. H.M.S. *Deal Castle* (20 guns). See Journal of H.M.S. *Deal Castle*, 18 Feb., immediately below, Captain Simeon Samson to the President of the Massachusetts Board of War, 5 Mar., and Captain Jonathan Haraden to the President of the Massachusetts Board of War, 8 Mar., below.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *DEAL CASTLE*, CAPTAIN WILLIAM PARKER

Febry 1778.

Wednesday 18thLatt^d: 12°.. 38' [*off St. Vincent*]

Mod^t: & Cloudy at 10 AM Two Sail in Sight in the NNE
Coming Down before the Wind our Main Top Gall^t: Sail Set,
The fore & Mizzen Top Gall^t: Yds Down.

Lat^d: in 12°.. 31'

Moderate Breez^s: & fair some times but little Wind, at 3 PM the
two Strange Sail hoisted English Colours, which we Answr'd tak-
ing them for English Vessels & Tack^d towards them Soon after
we were a bout Discover'd them to be Rebel Vessels by their
Closing the Wind & making all the Sail they Could, & hauling
Down their English Colours. As they Stood athwart us (& being
no great Deal of Wind) we Discharged three Broadsides at
them, but they not being not within Point Blank did them no
material injury. When abaft our beam we put about after them
& made all the Sail we Could pack they Seemingly keeping a lit-
tle more than a point from the Wind. When about and all
trim'd they were little More than Gun Shot from [*us*], but with-
in the Space of ¼ hour t'was very evident they had Considerably
the heels of us, which they finding, display'd their Rebel
Colours out of derision. The One Mounted 18¹ & the other 16
Guns,² we Continued the Chace until 7 PM when they were hull
Down, then Tack'd to the S^oward

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/234, part 8, fols. 336–37.

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Tyrannicide*. See Captain Jonathan Haraden to the President of the Board of War, 8 Mar., below.

2. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Hazard*. See Captain Simeon Samson to the President of the Board of War, 5 Mar., below.

February 19JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER[*Frigate Boston at sea*]Remarks on Thursday the 19th of Febry—1778

This 24 hours begins Very Pleasant & a Prosperous gale WNW my people
Employd Clearing Ship & other necessary Duty att 6 AM Saw three Large Ships
bearing East they Standing to the Northward I mistrusted they where a Cruzeing
for me I hauld my wind to the Southward found they did not Persue I then
Consulted my Offercers to Stand to the Northward after them we agreed in opin-
ions Wore Ship Run one hour to the Northward then I Discoverd that one was
a Ship Not Less than ourselfs one out of Sight to the Northwar^d & the other
appeared to me and offercers to be a twenty gun Ship¹ the man att the mast head
Cauld out a Ship on the weather Quarter—att that time the other two Under our
Lee and Under Short Sail I then Consultted the Hon^{ble} John Addams Esq^r and my

offerers what was best to do not knowing how my Ship may Sail one and all Consented to Stand to the Southward from them att 10 AM I then wore Ship to the Southward and Stood from them the two that were Under my Lee before I wore; Immediately wore and Stood affter me att 12 on Meridian Lost Sigh[*t*] of the Small Ship² and the other³ was about three Leagues Under my Lee Quarter So Ends this 24 hours—

Latt^d by OBs 41^d:28^m N

Course	Dist	X Latt ^d	depart	Latt ^d by OBs ^r	X Long ^d	Long ^d in	Merid Dis
S ^o 81 ^d ; E	156	25 ^m S ^o	154; E	41 ^d :28 ^m N	3 ^d :24 ^m ; E	63:50 W	270

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

1. H.M. frigates *Apollo* (32 guns) and *Mermaid* (28 guns) and the prize ship *Félicité*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 19 Feb., below.

2. Prize ship *Félicité*.

3. H.M.S. *Apollo*.

JOURNAL OF MARINE LIEUTENANT WILLIAM JENNISON

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

1778 [Feb.] 19 Discovered a Sail to the Eastward at 5 am—At 10 am discovered 2 others supposed to be Cruizers¹—Stood for them till noon. At 3 pm One of the Ships² in Chase of Us—Course SE by S—

DLC, Journal of Lieutenant William Jennison, p. 5.

1. H.M. frigates *Apollo* and *Mermaid* with prize ship *Félicité*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 19 Feb., below.

2. H.M.S. *Apollo*. Ambrose Serle, *The American Journal of Ambrose Serle, Secretary to Lord Howe, 1776–1778*, ed. Edward H. Tatum, Jr. (San Marino, Calif.: The Huntington Library, 1940), 315. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 19 and 20 Feb., below.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[Extract]

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

1778.

Feb. 19. Thursday.

Arose at 4 O Clock—The Wind and Weather still fair.—The Ship rolls less than Yesterday, and I have neither felt, nor heard any Thing of Sea Sickness, last night nor this Morning

....

The Mal de Mer, Seems to be merely the Effect of Agitation. The Smoke and Smell of Seacoal, the Smell of Stagnant, putrid Water, the Smell of the Ship where the Sailors lay, or any other offensive Smell, will increase the Qualminess, but do not occasion it. . . .

In the Morning We discovered three Sail of Vessells ahead.¹ We went near enough to discover them to be Frigates, and then put away.—We Soon lost Sight of two of them: but the third chasd Us the whole Day.²—Sometimes We gained upon her, and Sometimes She upon Us.

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), pp. 8–9.

1. H.M. frigates *Apollo* and *Mermaid* with prize ship *Félicité*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, immediately below.

2. H.M. frigate *Apollo*. Ambrose Serle, *The American Journal of Ambrose Serle, Secretary to Lord Howe, 1776-1778*, ed. Edward H. Tatum, Jr. (San Marino, Calif.: The Huntington Library, 1940), 315; Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, immediately below.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. APOLLO, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

February 1778 Ditto [South part of Saint Georges Bank] WbN $\frac{1}{4}$ N 31
Thursday 19. [Lgs.]

$\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 AM saw a Sail SW. with the Night Signal out, which we answered, on which she bore down and Spoke us, His Majestys Ship *Mermaid*, from Rhode Island on a Cruize— $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 saw [a] Sail¹ to the Westward, coming down, a little after She hauled her wind to the South^d. and finding we did not chace her, she bore down again, on her making us more [pl]ain, She again hauled her wind to the South^d Tacked and made all the Sail [we] could after her, at Noon Prize in Company²— *Mermaid* in Sight.

Ditto W $\frac{1}{2}$ S. 35 Lg^s.

Last part Moderate Gales and clear W^r remainder Light Winds and hazey, at [1] PM Lost sight of the *Mermaid*, set Studding Sails, at 4 Still in Chace, bestering her little or none, at 8 She bore South, a Short Ship with 3 Top gallant Masts, and Sails well, at Midnight the Chace out of Sight, down Studding Sails.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 6.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Boston* bound to France.

2. Ship *Félicité*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 15 Feb., above.

JOHN BRADFORD TO CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Hon^{bl}. Gentlemen,

Boston 19 Febr^y 1778

I had the Honour to write you under 5th Instant acquainting you that I had forwarded your Orders to M^r Jarvis¹ respecting the Bark *Nanny*, as also to have the Schooner² in Readiness to obey your Orders, the Weather has been such for a Fortnight past as to prevent the Post passing till last Ev'g I receiv'd a letter from M^r Jarvis pointing out the Impossibility of providing a Cargo for the *Mellish*³ but says he is getting her rigg'd & ready for Sea to comply with any future Orders that may arrive, he can purchase but a very small Quantity of Flax-Seed in his Neighbourhood, & there is no Ashes to be come at, the Risque of importing the Seed from Connecticut is so great in crossing the Harbour of Rhode-Island and the Charge so high in sending it from hence it would enhance it to 30/ P^r Bush¹ & after the most vigorous Efforts I could [not] engage any person to fix any certain time to deliver it here, The[y] would not risque the Convenience of bringing it to Markett, indeed if they had contracted, they could not have comply'd, the Roads being so extremely bad that neither Carts or Sleighs could pass—I am preparing the *Dispatch*⁴ for the Sea, but am much impeded by the bad Weather having scar[c]e had a fair Day, since I receiv'd your Orders to send her away—My exertions shall

not be wanting to get her to Sea, & in future no Sollicitations shall bias Me from strictly conforming to your Orders being with the greatest Respect yours &c

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 112. Addressed at foot: "The Commercial Committee."

1. Leonard Jarvis, Deputy Continental Agent at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.
2. Schooner *Loyalty*, prize of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
3. British transport ship, taken by Continental Navy ship *Alfred* and Continental Navy sloop *Providence* on 12 Nov. 1776. See *NDAR* 7: 111, 160, 183, 271.
4. Continental packet brigantine, Lt. John Brown, commanding.

ACTS AND RESOLVES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT

[*Boston*] Thursday Feb^y 19. 1778.

In the House of Representatives. On the Petition of John Bradford, Continental Agent, and George Olney Agent for Samuel Chew Esq^r and Company of the Brigantine *Resistance*,¹ belonging to the United States, shewing that the said Chew hath sent into the Port of Boston a Prize Ship² with a mixed Cargo, a large quantity of which is much wanted by the Public, and which the Agent for the Company cannot consent to give up, if they come to a Division—therefore praying for liberty to sell said Ship and Cargo at Public Auction.

Resolved, That the Prayer of the Petition be granted, and that the Petitioners hereby have liberty to sell said Ship and Cargo at Public Auction; Any Act of this Court to the contrary notwithstanding.

In Council Read and Concurred.

Consented to by Fifteen of the Council.

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 38 (*Massachusetts General Court Records, 1777–1778*), p. 328.

1. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.
2. Ship *Mermaid*, James Cockran, master, captured by the *Resistance* on 16 Nov. 1777. See *NDAR* 10: 754, 754–55, 760, 804, 812.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston Feb^y 19th. 1778

Order'd That M^r Ivers¹ pay Joseph Fairbanks the balance of Flaxseed dld M^r Harris² for Brig^a *Nantes*³ . . . £6..12.—

Order'd That Captⁿ Hopkins⁴ receive all the small Stores belonging to the Brig^a *Favorite*⁵ from Comm^y Peirpoint⁶—

Order'd That M^r Ivers pay M^r Tho^s Maccarty for hire Store N^o. 12 on the long Wharf improved by the Board . . . £16.. 0.. 0

Order'd That M^r Ivers pay M^r Daniel Sargent. Lewis Simpson & Ja^s. Clarks order in his Favor for their wages on board the Schoo^r *Boston Alex^r* M^cLellan Master being the Balla^{ce} of their wages £22..16.—

Order'd That M^r Ivers pay Captⁿ Turner⁷ for advance wages . . . £90.. 0.. 0

Order'd That the Comm^y Gen^l:⁸ receive 10 Hhds Molasses from the *Republic*⁹ q^t as follows

Gall ^s	
106 . .	9 on ^s
102 . .	11.
117 . .	7
103 . .	6
99 . .	10

104 . . 14
 106 . . 13
 106 . . 12
 107 . . 9
104 . . 5

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 220–22.

1. Thomas Ivers.
2. William Harris.
3. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Nantes*.
4. Caleb Hopkins.
5. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
6. Robert Pierpont, former Massachusetts commissary of prisoners.
7. Capt. Luther Turner, commanding the Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.
8. David Devens.
9. Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic*.

THE INDEPENDENT CHRONICLE, AND THE UNIVERSAL ADVERTISER (BOSTON),
 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1778

BOSTON, February 19, 1778.

Yesterday se'nnight, arrived here, the armed Sloop *Adams*,¹ EDWARD BEEKE,² Commander, from a Cruize, all well. On the 28th of January, in Lat. 35. 18 Long. 65. 10 spoke with the Sloop *Catharine*, David Arnold, Master, from Providence, bound to the Cape,³ all well. January 29, in Lat. 36. 20 Long. 67. 10, spoke with a Sloop from Newbury-Port, — Boles Commander, out 10 days, all well.

1. Connecticut privateer sloop *Adams*, mounting 14 guns, a crew of 80 men, was commissioned on 30 July 1777. She was owned by Samuel Broome, of Wethersfield, and John Broome, Andrew Rowland and Jeremiah Platt, of Hartford, Conn. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 1, p. 21.

2. Edward Beebe of Wethersfield, Conn.

3. Cape François, Saint-Domingue.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SALE OF THE ARMAMENT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS
 PRIVATEER SLOOP *TRENTON*

To be viewed any time before Sale.
 (Sunday excepted)

WHICH will be next Tuesday, at 3 o'clock P.M. on the wharf of Joshua Ward, Esq; by applying to Mr. John Dutch, Agent for the privateer *Trenton*,¹ viz. 3 most excellent double-fortified CANNON, with carriages, tackles, crab-handspikes, cartridges, shott, ladles, worms, spunges, rammers, waddings, tampions, aprons, lanthorns, match-rope, priming-horns, and wires, compleat.

ALSO,

Swivels, blunderbusses, muskets, pistols, half-pikes, tomahawks, cutlasses, cartridge-boxes, powder, hand-cuffs, a quantity iron-bound water butts, &c. &c. &c.

Salem, February 19, 1778.

Independent Chronicle, and the Universal Advertiser (Boston), 19 Feb. 1778.

1. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Trenton*, Thomas Colony [Conolly], and later, John Conolly, commander, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 70 men, owned by Samuel Page & Co., of Salem, was commissioned on 9 May 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 7, p. 227. She received a new commission on 11 Mar. 1778, commanded by Joseph Leach and owned by Aaron Wait and John Dutch, of Salem. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 7, pp. 239, 240.

CHARLES WALLER TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE

Sir
Newport Rhode Island. 19th: February: 1778—
The American Prisoners under my Care suffering greatly by Sickness and other Effects of the inclement Season, And as no adequate means of Relief can be had at this Port; I am directed to advise You of their distressed Situation; and to propose the landing of them at Bristol or Warwick-Neck if that Expedient is approved: On condition however, that such of them as were taken in Arms, do not Serve again in any Military Capacity, until they have been duly Exchanged for British Prisoners of the same Qualities.

I troubled You with a Letter dated the 24th: January: on the Subject of the particular Persons you demanded in Consequence of an Engagement subsisting with Sir Peter Parker; And mentioned at the same Time, the expected Arrival of the *Royal Bounty* Cartel Ship, with several American Prisoners which were to be released in Exchange for British Prisoners received here and at Halifax.—

It is reported that those Persons taking Possession of the Cartel, had put into Salem; and that the Ship was deemed a Capture and detained. I am therefore to request the favour of being informed; Whether the Claim to the immediate Release of the Ship (unarmed and fitted in every Respect as a Cartel) together with her Furniture and Crew; and also of a suitable Allowance for the Number of Prisoners embarked in Her, is to be addressed to You; or in what other manner that just Claim is to be preferred. I am, Sir [&c.]

Cha^s: Waller.

L, R-Ar, Letters to the Governor (1778), vol. 12, p. 23. Addressed at foot: "Nich^s: Cooke Esq^r."

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RAISONABLE*, CAPTAIN THOMAS FITZHERBERT

Feb^r: 1778
Thursd^y: 19th.
D^o: [Block Isl^d.] S 72°..46' W 91 Lg^s
AM at 4 Tackd at 6 Let the 3^d & 2^d reefs out at 7 Saw a Sail
W ½ S Tackd & Chacd her Made Sail
D^o: [Block Isl^d.] S 78°..6' W 92½ Lg^s
Fresh Gales and Cloudy PM ½ past 3 fird a Shot at the Chace
¾ past She bro^t: too D^o: we bro^t: too a schooner¹ from Cape
Ann to Bilboa took possession of her took the 2^d reef in the
Tops^{ls}: at 7 made the sign^l: & wore

D, UkLPR, Adm. 52/1938, fols. 137–38.

1. Schooner *William*, J. O. Serjant, master, Serjant, owner, from Cape Ann to Bilbao, with tobacco and rice, taken off St. George's Bank, sent into Halifax. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 487. She was libelled on 27 Feb. in the Vice Admiralty Court of Nova Scotia and condemned as a lawful prize of H.M.S. *Raisnable* on 19 Mar. CaNSHP, Vice Admiralty Court Register, 1777–1782, vol. 6, p. 112. According to the Vice Admiralty Court's records, her master's name was Osborn Serjeant.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *UNICORN*, CAPTAIN JOHN FORD

February 1778
Thursday 19
D^o: [Block Island] N 23° W dist: 101 Leagues
AM Light Airs and Variable at 6 saw a Sail in the SE Q^r:
gave Chace to D^o: at Noon came up with the Chace fir'd a

Gun & brought her too, she prov'd to be a Privateer Brigg, (the *Reprisal*)¹ of 10 Guns from Boston on a Cruize, took the Prisoners on Board, and put a petty Off^r: with 8 Men on board her to take Charge

D^o: [Block Island] N 22° W dist: 137 Leagues
PM light Airs and Cloudy W^r:

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1017, fol. 235.

1. Brig *Reprisal* (Priv^e), James Brown, master, owned by Charles Signy, from Boston, on a cruise, with provisions &c., taken by *Unicorn* on 19 Feb. off St. Georges Bank, sent into Newport. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486–87. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Reprisal*, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 60 seamen, was commissioned on 28 Jan. and owned by Charles Sigourney and others of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 7, pp. 34, 35. She was libelled on 15 Apr. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and condemned on 8 May as a lawful prize of H.M.S. *Unicorn*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 98. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/439/8.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PHOENIX*, CAPTAIN HYDE PARKER, JR.

February 1778 Martha's Vineyd N^o. 32 West Dist^t 236 Leag^s
Thursday 19th At 1 AM Squally shortend Sail At 5 made Sail Sailmaker
employed repairing the Fore Sail
Martha's Vineyd N^o. 30 West Dist^t 280 Leag^s
Mod^t and Cloudy Wea^e Read the Articles of War &c^a. to Ship's
Company at 2 PM saw a Sail to Southward made Sail and
gave Chace, cut up for Firing for the Ship's use a Jibb Boom and
Mizen topsail Yard at 5 Came up with & took a Sloop¹ from
Dartm^o. in New England bound to Coroso,² Bro^t too Main
Topsail to the Mast, sent a petty officer & 4 Men to Navigate her
to Antigua At 6 Bore away & made Sail

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/694.

1. Sloop *Sally*, Luther Burges, master, owned by Leonard Jarvis of Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass., from Dartmouth to Curaçao, with fish and oil, a crew of 4, taken by H.M.S. *Phoenix* at sea, sent into Antigua. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 239–40.

2. Curaçao.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Thursday, February 19, 1778

A letter, of the 12, from Brigadier General Hand, at Fort Pitt, to the Board of War, was laid before Congress and read;¹ Whereupon,

Resolved, That Brigadier General Hand transmit to the Arkansas, so much of the provisions which were demanded of him by Captain James Willing, of the armed boat *Rattletrap*, as he can spare, and judges necessary and proper for the purpose.

Ordered, That the letter be returned to the Board of War, to do therein what they judge proper and necessary.

JCC 10: 184.

1. In his letter of 12 Feb. to the Continental Board of War, Brig. Gen. Edward Hand explained that Col. George Rogers Clark, leading an expedition against Kaskaskia, could provide protection for Willing's provision boats for part of their way to the Arkansas Post. DNA, PCC, item 159, pp. 402–4 (M247, roll 178).

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN JAMES NICHOLSON

Sir

In Council Annapolis 19th. Feb^y. 1778.

We have immediate Occasion for the Schooner *Dolphin*¹ and should be glad you would return her as soon as possible—We are Sir &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: “Cap^t James Nicholson/of the *Virginia* Frigate.”

1. Maryland Navy schooner *Dolphin*, Capt. Daniel Bryan, commander.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN BENNETT MATHEWS

Sir

In Council Annapolis 19th. Feb^y. 1778.

If your Galley¹ is ready we request you to bring her down without Delay, if she is not, we would have her finished with the greatest Despatch as her immediate Service is required—We are &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: “Cap^t Mathews.”

1. Maryland Navy galley *Independence*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN IGNATIUS FENWICK

Sir

In Council Annapolis 19th. Feb^y. 1778.

We had an Account of the Capture of the *Lydia*¹ and supposed you had fallen into the Hands of the Enemy. We shall be glad to see you up as you propose. There can be no Justice or Colour for the Claim of the Sailors, to the Things saved; those we would have sent to us by Cap^t David² or, if he cannot bring them, have secured. We do not know what Contracts you made with the Seamen, from what passed, we expected you would be obliged to give River Pay; if so, we think them entitled to their Wages or if they had not contracted, they will be entitled for the Time they were in our Service, wherefore we would have you, unless they contracted for the Voyage and had their Advance—and were not by Contract, excluded from River Pay, to settle their Accounts and pay up to the Time of the Capture—We are &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: “Cap^t Ignatius Fenwick.”

1. Maryland State trading ship *Lydia*.
2. Capt. John David, commanding Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Thursday the 19th day of february 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public store, deliver to Cap^t Richard Taylor two claw hammers, eight hundred pump tacks, five hundred ten penny nails, five hundred eight penny ditto, two hundred four penny ditto, ten horn lanthorns, four tin ditto, & eight Gimblets for the use of the ship *Tartar*.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Magazine, deliver to Captain Richard Taylor sixteen powder horns, forty pound of sheet Lead, and two hundred flints for the use of the ship *Tartar*.—

Resolved that for the future, the pay of Mr Charles Smallwood and Mr John Smallwood and the negro smiths of the said Charles, be as follows to the said

Charles and John twelve shillings and sixpence each, and to the negroes six shillings each per day to commence the 24th decem^r last.—

Resolved that for the future, the pay of Mr Richardson Henley in Lieu of his former pay be seven shillings and sixpence in full of his services and expences of every sort, to commence from this day.

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Richard Hobday Davis for the use of Captain Christopher Calvert for three hundred Pounds upon Account for the purpose of furnishing necessaries, and paying the Carpenters at the South quay shipyard. see Davis's rec^t in Calverts letter.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 356.

THE SOUTH-CAROLINA AND AMERICAN GENERAL GAZETTE,
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1778

CHARLESTOWN, February 19.

The sloop *Henry*, of 10 guns,¹ commanded by Capt. Munro,² was taken the 19th of December, and carried into Grenada, by the Government sloop fitted out there,³ after a very obstinate engagement, in which Capt. Munro was killed, and every officer on board the enemy's vessel wounded: Mr. Connor, the Captain of her, is since dead.

The *Portsmouth*, of 26 guns, commanded by Capt. Hart,⁴ has taken the ship *New-Duckenfield*, Capt. Forster,⁵ from London and Madeira for New-York, mounting 20 guns. Capt. Hart very generously allowed the 1st and 2d mates and 6 sailors to take their longboat, with a sufficiency of provisions, and proceed to Antigua, where they arrived six days after.

A London paper of November mentions, that Rice had risen from 21s. to 30s. the cwt. and that tobacco had also risen considerably.

Stocks fell two and a half per cent. the day after the accounts of Burgoyne's surrender were received in London.

The British and Irish December fleet is arrived in the West-Indies.

The prize sloop *Tom*, Thomas Alloway late master, bound from St. Christopher for Tortola with a cargo of dry goods, &c. and taken by the *Scorpion* privateer of Salem, Capt. Thorndick,⁶ is arrived in this State.

1. American privateer sloop *Henry* was condemned as a recapture in the Vice Admiralty Court of Grenada on 21 Jan. 1778. See "A List of all Captures which have been Condemned in the Vice Admiralty Court of Grenada since the Commencement of the present Rebellion in North America," 11 Mar., below.

2. Capt. Nathaniel Monro. See *NDAR* 10: 481, 809–10.

3. Grenada government sloop *Bottetourt*, James Connor, commander.

4. Capt. John Hart.

5. For more on the capture of the British letter of marque ship *New Duckinfield*, Capt. W. Foster, see *Boston-Gazette*, and *Country Journal*, 19 Jan., and *Freeman's Journal, or New-Hampshire Gazette*, 20 Jan., both above.

6. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Scorpion*, Israel Thorndike, commander, arrived at Salem on 20 Feb. See *Boston-Gazette*, and *Country Journal*, 23 Feb., below.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE SALE OF VESSELS AT CHARLESTON

*On Tuesday next, February 24, precisely at 12 o'Clock, will
be sold at Auction before the Exchange,*

THE following VESSELS, viz. The Ship HOPE, formerly called the *True Briton*,¹ together with the cargo now on board; she is British built, well found, a prime sailer,

pierced for 20 guns, well calculated for a letter of marque, and is now ready for sea: The Brig. SWIFT, with the cargo of rice now on board, consisting of 444 barrels; she is a remarkable fast sailer, well found, and now ready for sea: The Sloop TOM,² burthen about 300 barrels of rice, a prime sailer, in thorough repair, her sails and rigging entirely new, and now ready to take in a cargo. The above vessels are in the stream opposite Rose's wharf, and their inventories may be seen in Messrs. WEBB and BENTHAM's hands.

At the same Time will likewise be sold,

TWO very large Anchors to be viewed on Gadsden's wharf, and a fine large Sailing Boat with sails, in the dock at Champney's wharf.

South-Carolina and American General Gazette, 19 Feb. 1778.

1. British letter of marque ship *True Briton*, a prize of the Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*. See *NDAR* 9: 919-20, 931; 10: 789.

2. Prize of Massachusetts privateer schooner *Scorpion*, Israel Thorndike, commander.

February 20

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

Remarks on Fryday the 20th febr^y—1778¹

This 24 hours begins Very Pleasant the Ship Still in Chase² I being Poorly mand dare not attack her and many other Principal Reasons att 2 PM Satt fore and main topmast Stearing Sails found I Left the Ship att 6 PM it being dark Lost Sight of the Ship in Small Sails & hauld my wind the Cruzer Supposing I bore away to Stear the Course I was going When She Saw me first Bore away and run ESE while I for Six or Eight hours had being Runing four Points more Southerly att the Rate of Seven knots brought her in my opinion to bear of me ENE Distance about Eleven & half Leagues then the wind headed me I fell off to ENE then Runing att the Rate of 6 knots for three hours Saw the Same Ship Direct a head Standing to Southward & westward about 5 Leagues Distance hove in Stays after makeing of her Plain and Stood to the westward because I Could not Weather her on the former tack after Runing three hours to the westward the wind favoured me I then hove in Stays and Came to windward of the frigate about four miles and was Intirely Satisfyd it was the Same Ship about four Miles Under my Lee Quarter they again Tackt Ship and Continued Chasing that day—but I found I Rather Left my Enemy—

Latt^d In by Observation To Day 40^d:02^m N

Course	dist	X Latt	Depart	Latt Per OBs	X Long ^d	Long ^d in	M Dist
S ^o 43 ^d ; E	118.	86. So	80m E	40 ^d :02 N	1 ^d :46m E	64 ^d :04 ^m W	350; E

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 19 Feb. to noon of 20 Feb., following sea time.

2. H.M. frigate *Apollo*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 20 Feb., below.

JOURNAL OF MARINE LIEUTENANT WILLIAM JENNISON

[Frigate *Boston at Sea*]

1778 [Feb.] 20

The Ship¹ still in Chase of Us—In the latter part of the day it became very Cloudy with Rain & exceedingly dark—About 1 at night it began to blow strongly with Squalls—A Clap of Thunder with sharp Lightning broke upon the Main Mast just at the upper Wounding—which burnt several of the Men on Deck—a most terrible Night—The Capt. of Main mast was struck with the Lightning which burnt a place in the Top of his head about the bigness of a Quarter Dollar—he lived three Days & died raving mad—It was supposed by Officers and Men, that the Lightning striking the Mast had descended down to the Hold of the Ship & forced its way along the Keelson & found its passage thro' the Counter of the Ship—

The horror of Darkness, Our imminent Danger, & it blowing almost a Hurricane, filled All with apprehensions not communicabl to every One The apprehension was expected to be from an Idea entertained that Lightning was always exhibited as following the Grain of Wood—Such a Crisis may be conceived of, but Relative Ideas can not equal—In such a conjuncture the Mind, the Soul is absorbed in the Abyss of Reflection—

At 2 pm or perhaps later—The Ship in Chase of us—we making from her as fast as we could—Cap^t Tucker having placed Me at the Main Hatchway to communicate the Result of the Soundings in the Well Room—the first report was 4 feet Water in the Hold, the second 5 feet, the 3^d. more, which confirmed Us in the Idea as “above mentioned, (that is) That the Lightning had passed from the step of the Main Mast to the keelson, & continuing along the Keelson thro' the Transum and made its Exit thence” but Providence ruled, In 10 or 15 minutes the Carpenter told me that there was but three feet this great Impulse to the force of self preservation, viz. Capt^m Tucker went on the Quarter Deck and ordered the Quarter master at the Helm to Alter the Ship's Course two points to the Eastward—The Officer on Deck was ordered to set the Fore Stay sail—in the interim the Ship was in pursuit—but on this Alteration of our Course and no Lightening for some Minutes, We passed from the usual View of the Ship pursuing Us so that she lost sight of us, and thus we escaped being captured, as we surely should have been in the morning following—as she was a heavier Ship than the *Boston* & directly from Halifax, a large Frigate of 36 Guns, well mann'd & by some information from Boston knew of the Ship's Destination with M^r Adams on board—Cap^t Tucker had Instructions not to risque the Ship in any Way that might endanger M^r Adams, & was ordered to land him safe in France or Spain—

Feb 20

DLC, Journal of Lieutenant William Jennison, 5–6.

1. H.M.S. *Apollo*, 32 guns.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *APOLLO*, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

February 1778
Friday 20

Ditto [South part of Saint Georges Bank] W $\frac{1}{2}$ S. 35 Lg^s.
AM saw the above Ship,¹ gave Chace, $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9 She Tacked to the SE and a[*br*]est of us was dist. about 4 miles to Windward, at 11 Tacked and every Sail set that could be of Service. filled Salt Water—at Noon the Prize Missing.²

Ditto [South part of Saint Georges Bank] NWbW $\frac{3}{4}$ W 53
[Lgs.]

First and middle parts Mod^{te}. gales and hazey, Latter a Strong gale of wind & a great Sea from the NE. PM in chace, but rather loosing ground, at 4 Set Studding Sails [*the*] Chace SEbS. at 7 the Chace in Sight with Night Glasses, at 10 Lost sight of the Chace, at 11 close reefd the Topsails, it coming to blow very hard, $\frac{1}{2}$ past wore Ship

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fols. 6–7.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Boston* bound to France. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 19 Feb., above.

2. Ship *Félicité*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 15 Feb., above.

LIEUTENANT JOSEPH ADAMS TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

honorable Gentlemen of Thee honorable Navy Bord

This is To sertify Thatt John Brick a Negro man on Bord Board Thee ship *hancock* on Thee Seventh of June Last past In Thee Engagement with Thee frigate *fox* on fortunetly Lost his Left Legg Gentlemen from your most obedent most humble servant

Joseph Adams 2L^t

Boston feb 20th 1778

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 137, 366 $\frac{1}{4}$. Endorsed: "John Brick's pay ceased 7th. of Augst. 1777."

1. This claim was substantiated by Samuel Curtis, surgeon in Continental Navy frigate *Hancock*, on 6 Mar. 1778. The Commissary of Pensioners, John Lucas, sent Brick's petition to the Massachusetts General Court on 7 Nov. 1780. In May 1781, the Massachusetts House of Representatives granted John Brick a pension of half his pay to commence from his discharge date of 7 Aug. 1777. M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 137, 366, 366 $\frac{1}{2}$, and 366 $\frac{3}{4}$.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board [of] War Boston Feb^y 20th 1778

Agreed

With Captⁿ. Nicholas Bartlet to proceed in the Brig^a. *Favorite*^l from Boston to South Carolina & France to have 5 Ton & not to exceed 6 Ton privilidge and to have at y^e. port in France the customary primage & to have $\frac{3}{4}$ P^r. day while in port & half the passage Money

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 223–25.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO CAPTAIN LUTHER TURNER

Sir

War Office Boston Feb^y 20th 1778—

You being Master of our Ship *Adams*¹ your orders are to proceed to Charleston South Carolina and apply to Mess^{rs}. John I Cripps & Mease² Merchants there to whom you are consign'd who will give you a Cargo of Rice & also supply you with money to pay all necessary disbursements

As the Letters you have delivered you for those Gentlemen contain the first sett of a Bill of Exchange for ten thousand Doll^s: you will, if you should be so unfortunate as to be taken on your passage to South Carolina, either burn them or throw them overboard but not untill you find you must be captured—When you have compleated your load you are to proceed for Nantes in the Kingdom of France & deliver your Letters & Cargo to our Friends Mess^{rs}. Morris Pliarne Penet & Comp^y who will furnish you with a proper Cargo homeward & also supply you with money to defray your charges & pay your Men such advance as have been agreed, but you will be as frugal as possible—

Upon your return you are not confin'd to this place but may make the first port to the eastward of Boston you can, from whence you are to give the earliest notice to this Board by express. We wish you a good Voyage & are—Your assured Friends

By order the Board
Sam^l P. Savage Pres^t

The foregoing is a Copy of my orders which I promise to observe—

Luther Turner

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), pp. 437–38. Addressed at top: “Captⁿ. Turner.” A draft of this letter is in M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 199 (Revolution Letters, 1778), p. 17.

1. See Captain Thomas Mayhew, Jr., to Massachusetts Board of War, 12 Feb., above.
2. John S. Cripps and Florian Charles Mey.

JOHN PECK TO SAMUEL ADAMS

Honoured Sir

Boston Feb^y: 20th: 1778

The Subject of Ship building having very early engaged my mind, I at length adopted a plan which appear'd an improvement in the art & much wanted, and by a long Course of experiments (in small) attended into considerable expence I was confirm'd of the truth of it

Thus encouraged I offer'd my services to the Gentⁿ. of the Committee of Donation here for building one of the Vessells as Yourself Sir may remember being of that Com^{tee}. and then the first & only patron.

This failing, in the Year 1776 I applyd for building one of this States Vessells. failing here in July of the same Year I took the liberty to address the Hon. House of Assembly then siting at Watertown on this subject, in Oct^o. following their Committee reported in favour of my method & a resolve passed to build a Vessell under my direction and in Decem^r. a Comm^{tee}. of Council concurrd & materials were provided accordingly.

A recapitulation of said address may be useful here as it will bring the substance thereof into one view—

Therein the Hon. Assembly was inform'd that I had taken up the Subject of Ship. building & pursued it in a manner altogether new.

That instead of constructing a Ship such an one as should exhibit a pleasing appearance & merely from thence to be pronounced a prime sailer, I had consider'd it mechanically, as a power to divide, and a Body fit for motion; & that a ship thus constructed would possess the following qualities preferable to another of like dimentions & midship side, built in the usual manner—viz^c:

- 1st. Shall be stiffer than another
- 2d. shall hold the wind
3. shall steer easier
4. shall scud safer
5. shall rise & fall with longer, easier motions
6. shall be stronger
7. less liable to Hog either light or in loading
8. will easiest steer herself afore the wind
9. will move headwise in some circumstances of Tides & wind when others will move stern foremost
10. shall sail fastest
11. shall be the best sea-boat.

The proof of the foregoing articles (chiefly) were to the said Committees explain'd by diagrams & otherwise to their satisfaction.

And further were set forth, That the trim of a ship should be determin'd while she is only on paper—

That she should possess the Qualities of Stiffness & swiftness as afores^d and Burthen

That by continuing in a plain mathematical track a ship may be produced having a Body perfectly harmoniz'd, possessing the above and many other qualities, which grow, as it were, one out of another—

That there's a certain fore & aft stiffness requisite in Vessells which has not been much attended to.

That Vessells built on the plan in practice, want this quality which occasions their pitching in a Sea & at Anchor—by this means a tier of Guns is greatly affected.

That the Trim of such a Vessell will be effected by a small alteration in her loading, oftentimes with the necessary expence of provisions so as to affect her sailing materially—

That such Vessells are liable to agitation from little force, motion of the Sea, Power of any kind.

That the mechanism of such a Vessell (intended for fast sailing) is destroyed & resistance increased; & that this will be in proportion to the heterogeneity of curvatures, & the frequency of them.

And contrarily, that in my Method, Vessells necessarily possess this quality viz^c fore & aft stiffness. & the uses of it—

That Vessells being stiff in this fore & aft direction, will be necessarily stiff sideways.

That stiffness gives easy motions, easy motions give accommodation to Wounded, the sick. & the well as it respects ease.

That Figure gives capacity, this gives accommodation as it respects room.

That Figure gives stiffness, contributes to fast sailing, to steering easy, to easy motions, to the best sea-boat &c^a & that it was considered of great materiality. The foregoing & many other qualities depending upon it, &c^a &c^a.

A due consideration of the Subject treated in the manner hitherto set forth induced the aforementioned Hon^{ble} Committees to a favourable report. and in April last the Brigantine call'd *Hazard* was produced—¹

How far the Performance accorded with the expectation of the public, may be best learnt from the Gentⁿ of s^d Com^{tees} whose attention was (and may yet be) to the predictions, & the fulfilment of them: to whom I must beg leave to refer: for such I apprehend were by some Gentⁿ in a manner reckon'd the concurrence of so many prime Qualities, seeming incompatible; & thence pronounc'd impossible. However in my said Address I had been sparing on that head.

But notwithstanding this Method has been favoured with the approbation of several worthy Gentlemen of whom permit me Sir to account Yourself, and the success that has attended it in this first essay exemplified in the instance of The *Hazard*: it is now in a state of inactivity; & the Action of other power is necessary to put into new motion: to this end I ask the continuance of your kind patronage, and the instance aforesaid which encourages me to ask, I am confident, as far as it shall appear an improvement in useful science will as besides your beneficent disposition encourage You Hon^d. Sir the more readily to gr[ant] it—

Here permit me to add respecting advantages that attend this method.

It has been said before that "Vessells constructed in my method are stronger["] here it is so meant particularly on acco^t of Figure, hence it is that their sailing quality is preserved for the longest space of time; in other words small alterations in their trim, shall make the least possible alteration in their figure.

But of Vessells built on the Plan in practice, tis usual to saw their wastes & Beams, & otherwise weaken them, & by such means they are found to sail faster. the reason is plain. they wanted Figure, to which by weakness they more & more accommodate themselves: & hence from greater fitness render'd more equally supported—

This leads to consider its effects (Figure) in large Ships, which being weak from magnitude, would be greatly strengthen'd by a strict adherence to my method of construction. But magnitude gives Power, & it is easy to conceive with what amazing swiftness, & steadiness, such a large Body must move, compar'd with The *Hazard*; especially with the advantage of proportionate dimentions.

Besides the ease & stillness of such a Vessel at Anchor & the like in a heavy sea, admiting of the exercise of her Guns, perhaps her lee tier, when another shall be necessitated to house her weaker ones: & further when another shall be overborn by stress of weather, that this (construct) shall be alive, as it were, in its proper element, are all advantages of no small account—

Moreover the saving in Expen^ce of Cables, Anchors & Cordage is much favour'd by my method of construction—

After all Sir it remains (with me I confess) to proportion the several directions of length, breadth & depth, in such manner as shall (as far as these are concern'd) produce a Vessel sailing the Swiftest possible, & at the same time preserve

L, NN, Samuel Adams Papers, vol. 11, 2099–2103. Incomplete.

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Hazard*. See NDAR 10:706 and the Acts and Resolves of the Massachusetts General Court, 19 Jan., above.

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

Number 54.

Eagle Rhode Island

Sir,

February the 20th: 1778.

Commodore Hotham acquainting me in his last Letter received the 18th: Instant from New York that there is a great Deficiency of Powder as well as several other Species of Ordnance Stores in the Care of the Store-keeper in that Department; And as I have not yet received Notice of any Supplies being prepared for the Fleet; I am to request the Interposition of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty therein: Also that Attention may be had, more particularly to the Quality or Stowage of the Match sent here; a considerable part of the former Supply proving damaged and unfit for Use.

The Powder, the Commodore informs me, may be procured from Captures made on this Station; there being 1400 Barrels in the Care of the Ordnance-Store-keeper, which he reports to be equally good with that furnished by the Crown.

I am, with great Consideration, Sir, [&c.]

Howe

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 183–84. Addressed at foot: "Philip Stephens Esq^r/Secretary of the Admiralty." Docketed by Stephens: "N^o. 54/20 Feby 1778/Rhode Island/Lord Howe/R, 13 May." Endorsed by Stephens: "15 May/Send Copy to/the M^r G^l of ordnance/& desire &c."

ACCOUNT OF SURGEON'S INSTRUMENTS FOR THE CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER
SLOOP *AMERICAN REVENUE*

[*New London*]Sloop *American Revenue* to Simon Wolcott.D^r:Feb^r 20th: 1778.

To 1 Case Crooked Needles	6.. 0..0
To 1 Sett Teeth Instruments	3.. 0..0
To 1 Trocar ¹	2..10..0
To 1 Male Catherer	4..10..0
To 1 Large Ivory Syrringe	14..0
To 1 Insicion Knife with knob at Point	1..10..0
To 3 Crown Lancetts	3.. 0..0
To 2 Doz Large Splinters Leatherd &c	1.. 4..0
To 2 Wooden Boxes	10..0
To 6 Boxes Lockyers Pills	<u>3.. 0..0</u>
	<u>£25..18..0</u>

Errors Excepted

P^r. Simon Wolcott —

To 6 Boxes Lockyers Pills Chargd Sloop *Revenge*²
in y^e. Bill

3.. 0..0
£28..18..0

DS, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 35, no. 3056. Endorsed: "New London Feb^r 25 1778/Rec^d. the Within of/Nath^l Shaw Jun^r/Simon Wolcott." Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Doc^t Wolcott/Sloop *A: Revenues/Acc^o* Feb^r 20 1778." Docketed in another hand: "3056."

1. A sharp-pointed instrument fitted with a small tube for insertion into a body cavity, duct or vessel.
2. Connecticut privateer sloop *Revenge*, Capt. Joseph Conkling, commander.

THE CONNECTICUT GAZETTE, AND THE UNIVERSAL INTELLIGENCER,
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1778

NEW-LONDON, February 20.

A Boat from Long-Island, bound into Connecticut-River, with sundry Articles of British Manufacture, was a few Days ago seized by a Boat from the Ship *Trumbull*.¹ 'Tis hoped this may give Check to a Trade which has already been too long carried on with Impunity—and very detrimental to the fair Trader, as well as contrary to an express Law of the State.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull* at the mouth of the Connecticut River.

CRUISING ORDERS FOR THE CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER SLOOP *WOOSTER*

[*New Haven, ca. 20 February 1778*]¹

Sir you being Commander of the Privateer Sloop *Wooster*² now lying in this Harbour & fitted for a Cruize against the Enemies of these States, Our Orders to you are to embrace the first fair Wind and get to Sea—As to the Cruizing Grounds shall Leave it to your Discretion and Judgement—If you are fortunate Enough to take any of the Enemies Vessells on the Coast, order them into the nearest & safest port, with Directions to have the Owners Immediately Advertised of her, or their Arrival—& the Vessel or Vessells libelled without loss of time—If you take any Provision Vessells send them into Boston or some Eastern Port—If you should take any Prize or Prizes that you Judge would sell to good Advantage in Martinico, you will send them thither—& after the Cruize is performed put into Martinico to Refit—If you have it in your power you are at Liberty to purchase a fast Sailing Brig^t & transfer the *Woosters* Guns & Military Stores on board her & to Continue your Cruize in such Brig^t—in which case you are to send the Sloop home with such Cargo as you may be able to purchase—Let her be furnished with a new set of Sails or at least with Cloth to make an entire new set when she gets home.—You will be very Carefull in Searching any Vessells that come in your Way least you may be imposed on by false papers, wherever you find British property, tho on Board Foreign Vessells make prize of it—In case the Cruize should prove unsuccessfull (which God forbid) & you are obliged to put into the West Indies to Refit, you are to Draw Bills on the Owners for such sums as you may find Necessary for that purpose—If possible take up Money of some person who will Receive his pay here, as You well know the Difficulty of Remiting Money thither—In case you send any Prize into Martinico Direct the Prise Master to Apply to M^r Bingham³ the Continental Agent, for his Advise & assistance in Disposing of the Vessell & Cargo—

Ebenezer Peck Comander

Peter Colt } Agents
~~Ebenezer Peck~~ }

L, DLC, Marine Miscellany, Accession 5114 A. Addressed at top: "Cap^t Eben^r Peck." Docketed: "Orders to Cap^t E Peck."

1. Based on the date *Wooster* was commissioned by Gov. Jonathan Trumbull.

2. Connecticut privateer sloop *Wooster* was commissioned on 20 February 1778 and was owned and bonded by Pierpont Edwards & Co. of New Haven. *Wooster* mounted 10 carriage guns and was manned by a crew of 60 seamen. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 16, p. 48 (M247, roll 204). She was named for Brig. Gen. David Wooster who was mortally wounded at the battle of Ridgefield, Conn., on 27 Apr. 1777.

3. William Bingham.

PRIZE SHARE LIST FOR CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER SLOOP *WOOSTER*[*New Haven, ca. 20 February 1778*]¹A List of the Officers Mariners & Marines & Boys On Board the
Sloop *Wooster* for the Present Cruize—Feb^y 1778—

Cap ^t Eben ^r Peck	Seven shares
Lieu ^t Major Lines	Four shares
D ^o . Tim ^o White	Four shares
Mast ^r Sam ^l Dunwell	Four shares
Doct ^r Abel Catlin	Do Do
Amos Sherman 1 st Prize Master	Three shares
Richard Sill Doct ^{rs} Mate	two shares
James Howel Lieut Marines	two shares
Isacc Hotchkiss 2 ^d Prize Master	two shares
Jedediah Andrews 1 st Mate	two shares
Ebenezer Smith Gunner	two shares
Tim ^o Andrews Boatswain	two shares
Ichabod Barnes Carpenter	two shares
Abr ^m . Pinto Capt ^{ns} Clark	1½ shares
John Thompson Gunners Mate	1½ shares
John Taylor Carpentars Mate	1½ D ^o
[blank] Cook	1½ D ^o
Abijah Bradley Steward	1½ D ^o
Eli Hotchkiss Armourer	1½ D ^o
Abr ^m Dickerman Master at Arms	1½ D ^o
Joseph Smith Q ^r Master	1½ D ^o
Joseph Hulse Q ^r Master	1½ D ^o
Henry Yorke Serj ^t Marines	1½ D ^o
Nathaniel Kimberly Drummer	1¼ D ^o
Daniel Northrop Fifer	1¼ D ^o

People — of 1 Share

Chandler Pardy	Moses Moses
Joseph Hotchkiss	Tim ^o Huffman
Isacc Granis	David Barker
Elijah Bradley	John Ilses
Asher Moulthrop	Bishop Dodd
Elisha Mayo	Banabas Palmar
Roswell Bradley	Sandry Truby
Edward Gudfell	Alezander M ^c Donanld
Isacc Pardy	George Ledgyard
Isacc Bradly	Tim ^o . Hudson
Zachariah Davison	Sam ^l Jones
Dan ^l Goodfell	Sam ^l Woodruff
Joseph Pardy	
Abijah Pardy	
Robert Procter	

Boys of half a share

John Walker

Jessee Mallery
 Isacc Chidsey
 Medad Slauter
 Sam^l Hotchkiss
 W^m. Alling

D, DLC, Marine Miscellany, Accession 5114 A. Docketed: "List of People on/Board the Sloop *Wooster*/Cap^t E Peck Command^r."

1. Based on the date *Wooster* was commissioned by Gov. Jonathan Trumbull. See Cruising Orders for the Connecticut Privateer Sloop *Wooster*, 20 Feb., n. 2, above.

JOHN PENN AND CORNELIUS HARNETT TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

York [*Pa.*] Feb^y 20th. 1778

Having heard that Joshua Hampstead,¹ is now in Maryland, we take the liberty to inclose to your Excellency, a Copy of a Resolution of the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina,² relative to his Conduct, requesting that you would be pleased, to give such directions as you may think proper for securing the said Hampstead, in order that Justice may be done that State, and transmit an account of what is done to Governor Caswell. We have the Honor to be [&c.]

J. Penn
 Cor^s. Harnet

P. S. If not too Troublesome we shall be much obliged to your excel^y. To let us know if this man is in Maryland & what is done in regard to him.

J P
 C. H.

L, Sold by NjHi in 1983; printed in *Letters of the Delegates* 9: 150. Addressed at the foot: "His Excel^y Tho^s. Johnson esq^r." Docketed: "J. Penn Lre/ab^t Securing J/Hampstead—."

1. Capt. Joshua Hampstead had commanded the North Carolina Navy brigantine *Pennsylvania Farmer* from 1776 to 1777.

2. NDAR 10: 772.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Friday the 20th day of February 1778.—

Mr Isaac Mercer received orders to proceed to Mr Holts¹ and take on Board such articles as are there for the Gallies *Hero* and *Norfolk Revenge*, which he is to carry and deliver, and then go to Suffolk for a Load of Salt.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 357.

1. William Holt.

WILLIAM LEWIS TO JAMES HUNTER, JR.

Dear Sir

Norfolk Feb. 20th. 1778—

Your Obliging favours I have Rec^d so often Since I have Bin here that I Blush when I think of it. Therefore shall apologize no farther But Proceed to give you the News here.

Our Vesel is not yet Launch^d, Owing to our Carpenters And the confution the draught has made in this Quarter.¹ Nor nether can I tell you when she will but am

in hopes in three weeks we are making sails but have no rigging For Shrouds, but am in hope all will be ready by the time That the Hull is done, this is Now one of the worst Places in Virgi^{na}. to gitt out of for two man of war Blocks up the Place² there was two Sloop burnt of Hampton Creek the Other day³ & the third narrowly Escaped Which Fielding Lewis & C^o. Own^d half off which was Sold by George Kelley & C^o. For £3800 she is a very Fine Sloop & Commanded by a Very Cleaver Fellow she got in the Creek after a Very hot Engagement attackted by 6 Barges—I Expect to be Compleatly fitted shall mount twenty Swivels if can gett them I gave £302 for two Parr^d that came from the Man off warr the Other Day, so that if you come a Cross any Pray Buy them It will take a most enormous sum to Fitt us out My Compt^s. To M^{rs} Hunter & Believe me to be [&c.]

William Lewis

A List of schooners spares

M Ms^t 64 feet Long } 16 Inches in Partners
Fore D^o 62 D^o }

M boom 43 D^o.

Bowsprit 13 D^o with the stem head

Gaufs 17-

Jibb boom 19

Square sail y^d. 36 boom D^o.

Top sail y^{ds}. 24.

Steering sail booms 15

Ring Tail D^o. 15

Cross Jack y^{ds}. 32—

So that you May Guess what a Quty of Canvass it will take for our sails I recon it will Tak at Least 25 Bolts.

If you could send the [*illeg.*] catt here/you would make a Good tripp.⁵

L, ViU, Albert and Shirley Small Special Collection Library, Letters of William Lewis to James Hunter (no. 9512). Addressed: "Attⁿ. James Hunter Ju^{nr}/Merch^t/Fredericksburg." Docketed: "1778/Capt^t Lewis/Norfolk 20 Feb^r/Smith f^l ..8—."

1. On the draft, see note 1 in William Lewis to James Hunter, 6 Feb., above.

2. One is certainly H.M.S. *St. Albans*, Capt. Richard Onslow, commander.

3. Sloop *Shore*, George Rogers, master, and sloop *Defiance*, John Rogers, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *St. Albans*, 14 Feb., above.

4. I.e., two pairs of swivel guns.

5. This sentence, written to the right of the list of spars, appears to have been added as a postscript.

PETITION AND CLAIM OF CAPTAIN JOHN PORTER

South Carolina

In the Admiralty

John Porter

To the Honorable Hugh Rutledge Esquire

V^s.

Sole Judge of the Court of Admiralty in

Peter Norris & others

the State of South Carolina.

The petition and Claim of John Porter Captain and Commander of the private Sloop of War Called the *Rutledge*, as well in behalf of himself as of the Owners, Officers, Seamen & Mariners Of and belonging to the said Sloop *Rutledge*, to the Libel or Information exhibited in this Honorable Court on the eighteenth day of this Instant February by Jacob Read Esquire against the Schooner *Polly and Nancy*

her Tackle, furniture and Apparel, Goods, Wares and Merchandizes on the part and behalf of Peter Norris, William Thomas, James M^cDaniel, Daniel Russel and Patrick M^cLean.

SHEWETH,

That on the third day of November last, He the said John Porter as Captain and Commander of the Said Sloop *Rutledge*, under and by Virtue of a Commission signed by the Honourable John Hancock Esquire and Dated the thirtieth day of October last, Sailed on a Cruise against Enemies of the United States of America, having on board the said Peter Norris, William Thomas, James M^cDaniel, Daniel Russel and Patrick M^cLean, that previous to Your Petitioners sailing Articles were entered into between the Owners, Officers and Seamen of the said Sloop *Rutledge*, whereby it was agreed that all prizes taken on the said Cruise, should be divided between them in such proportions as were Settled by the Articles, which said Articles are filed herewith & marked A: That shortly after, they sailed from the Harbour of Charles Town, they took a Sloop Called the *Pallas*, that Your said Petitioner put Matthew Smith on board the said Sloop *Pallas*, and Armed and fitted her out as a Tender to the said Sloop *Rutledge*, That the said Tender took a prize Schooner on board of which he the said John Porter put the said Peter Norris as prize Master, that the said Tender as the said Claimant is informed and believes, some days after took the Schooner *Polly and Nancy* Libelled in this Cause, and that the Captain of the said Tender put the said Norris on board the said Schooner *Polly and Nancy* as prize Master, and that he the said Norris hath brought the said Schooner into the Port of George Town where She now is as prize, but Claims the same to his own use, and that of the said William Thomas, James M^cDaniel, Daniel Russel and Patrick M^cLean in Exclusion of Your Petitioner and the Owners, Officers, and Mariners of the said Sloop *Rutledge*.

WHEREFORE Your Honor's petitioner & Claimant in behalf of himself the Owners, Officers & Mariners of the said Sloop *Rutledge* doth Claim the said Schooner her Tackle, furniture & Apparel & the Goods, Wares and Merchandizes taken on board of her and prays that the same may be decreed to be divided by and between them in such Shares and proportions as if the same had been taken by the said Sloop *Rutledge* and that Right and Justice may be done in the premises, according to the Stile, usage and Practice of this Honorable Court, and Your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray.

E: Rutledge.
proctor

Sworn in Court
20th. February 1778.
Hugh Rutledge J: A:/.
.

The aforesaid John Porter being duly Sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, maketh Oath and declareth, that the facts in the foregoing Claim and answer set forth within his knowledge are true, and those facts without his knowledge he believes to be true.

John Porter.

Sworn in Court 20th. Feb^y. 1778.
Hugh Rutledge J: A:/.¹

D, DNA, Revolutionary War Prize Cases, Records of the Court of Appeals in Cases of Capture, 1776–1787, Case no. 25, pp. 9–10.

1. On 27 Feb. the jury found for the claimants and decreed that the prize shares be distributed according to the articles of agreement. On 10 Mar., under the provisions of an act of the South Carolina General Assembly that established the Court of Admiralty's jurisdiction, Jacob Read, attorney for Peter Norris, et al., filed an appeal. Because the schooner *Polly and Nancy* had been recaptured and remained in British hands for over four days, Read argued that the owners, officers, and crew of the privateer sloop *Rutledge* forfeited all claim to the prize. The Standing Committee on Appeals of the Continental Congress reviewed the case and affirmed the jury's verdict on 14 Aug. D, DNA, Revolutionary War Prize Cases, Records of the Court of Appeals in Cases of Capture, Case no. 25, pp. xiv, 23, 28–31.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *DAPHNE*, CAPTAIN ST. JOHN CHINNERY

February 1778 Charles town Bar N 12°E Dist^{cc}. 71 Leagues—
 Friday 20 at. 6. AM, more [*moderate*] set the Main & fore Topsails at 10
 Clean^d. Between decks
 D^o. North 31 leagues Cape Hattress shoals N 39° E 96
 leagues
 Mod^{te}. & Cloudy [*PM*] the *Commet* in C^o. Employ^d. occasion-
 ally Sound^d. 100 fathoms no Ground ½ past 5 Saw a sail to
 the NE made sail & Gave chace Got up top G^t. Y^{ds}. at ½ past
 6 came up with D^o. she Proved to be a Schooner from Charles
 town for Cape Franceway [*Cap Français*]¹ took Possession of
 her at 7 Gave chace to the E^t.ward ½ past 10 came up with D^o.
 fired a Gun & brought her too She prov^d. to be a Sloop from
 Charles town for Cape Franceway² took Possession of her & 11
 made Sail & Joined the *Commet*—³

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/227, part 2, fol. 74.

1. French schooner *Louise*, Pierre Guilband, master, owned by Paul Rolland, laden with rice and tar, sent to New York. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 484. *Louise* was libelled on 11 Mar. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and was condemned as a lawful prize of *Daphne* on 8 Apr. 1778. UklPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 28, 55–56.

2. Sloop *Wren*, Jonathan Cushman, master, owned by James Russell, Jr., laden with rice and lumber, sent to New York. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 484. On 11 Mar. *Wren* was libelled in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and was condemned as lawful prize on 8 Apr. 1778. UklPR, H.C.A. 49/94, 28, 55.

3. H.M.S. *Daphne* escorted *Comet* and her two other prizes into New York on 6 Mar. UklPR, Adm. 51/227, part 2, fol. 75.

February 21

JOJRNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

Remarks on Saturday the 21^t Febr^y—1778¹

This 24 hours begins with fresh Gales & Cloudy Still Chased by that Ship² att 4 PM Variable winds att 6 d^o Calm att 7 Sprung up a Breze from the NE Run Untill 10 PM SSE attended with Sharp Lightning and hard thun-

der in Small Sails Cleard Ship Ready for an attackt att 12 mid Night the Lightning Struck the Ships mainmast & topmast d° wounded three men Struck Several others Down though We Wair in great danger Receivd but Little Damage—Latter Part fresh gales & Rain Saw no more of the Ship the Sea being Very Cross and high forced me to Scud before the wind under my fore Sail a Very dangerous Sea Runing—So Ends this 24 hours With hard Gales Scuding—

Course	Dist	X Latt ^d	Depart	Latt ^d P acc ^t	X Long ^d	Long ^d in	M Dis ^t
So 37 ^d ; E	110m	89m So	66 ^m ; E	38 ^d :33 ^m N	85 ^m ; E	60 ^d :39 W	416 ^m . E

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 20 Feb. to noon of 21 Feb., following sea time.

2. H.M. frigate *Apollo*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 20 Feb., above.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston Feb^y 21st 1778

Order'd That the Comm^y Gen^l deliver Captⁿ. Turner² for the Ship *Adams*³ Viz^t

1 Barrell Pork	30 ^{lbs} Candles
3 d° Beef	8 Bushels Potatoes
6 ^{cwt} . Bread	½ ^{cwt} . Sugar
1 Bushell Pease & Beans	15 ^{cwt} . Coffee—

Order'd That M^r. Ivers⁴ pay Nicholson Broughton for Freight Sundrys for the Ship *Gruel*⁵. . . £35.. 0.. 0

Voted That Col^o. Glover⁶ be desired to proceed to Marblehead to Assist Captⁿ. Bartlet⁷ in procuring hands for the Brig^a. *Favorite*⁸—

Order'd That Captⁿ. Hopkins⁹ deliver Jn^o. Scollay Esq^r 8 P^r. old Sheets out of the *Favorite*—

Order'd That the Comm^y deliver Captⁿ. Sam^l. Barrett 2 Bolts Duck for the Brig^a. *Dolphin*¹⁰—

Order'd That M^r. John Darts's bill for a Top gallant Sail 66 yards for the Ship *Adams* be paid Amo^t. @ 9/6 £31.. 7.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 226–29.

1. David Devens.

2. Capt. Luther Turner.

3. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.

4. Thomas Ivers.

5. Massachusetts State trading ship *Gruel*.

6. Col. Jonathan Glover.

7. Capt. Nicholas Bartlett, Jr.

8. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

9. Caleb Hopkins.

10. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*.

JOURNAL OF MARINE CAPTAIN JOHN TREVETT

[*Ship Mary, at Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard*]

[18–21 February 1778]

we Saw a Number of Sailes on our Pasage but never Spoke with Any the first Land we Made was the Vinyard¹ we are now Runing Down for Nantucket itt is now 18 Days Since we Parted with the Sloop *Providence*² and we have had Very Cold

Wither and hard Gailes out of thirty Men there is not more then ten but Who has there Hands & feet froze one Man froze to Death his Name was James Dark he informed Me When I took him att New Providence that he had bene taken by a British Privateer and that He belonged to Vergenea this Day [18 Feb.] we Ankerd under Nantucket the Wind Still blowing Very heard So that we Can not Gett on Shore we firing Signul Guns the Next Day [19 Feb.] the Wind Continues Blowing So no boat Can Come on Board I thort itt Nesesere to bure James Dark and we Did itt in a Decent Maner the third Day [20 Feb.] Several Bots from Shore Came on Board being Very Short of Provison Sent on Shore and Purchesed fife [five] Sheep So we ware well Provided with Fresh Perk;³ the Wind Abates now A Sail in Sight Runing Down the South Side of Nantucket; the Nantucket Men not Less then Twenty on board our Ship She Stood Down for our Ship these Men Agred one and All that itt was the *Harlem*⁴ Privateer from New York Now we Got under Way I Made the Nantucket Men an Offer to Sheair All Equal A Like for I Shoud take her; out of the 20 I think there was Tew Stood by us we Stood for Each Other and before we Goot up with her we Discoverd her to be the Sloop *Providence* that we had parted with of [f] Abaco As we Pased her we ware Rejo[ic]ced to See them we had not time to Drar our Shot and we Gave them A Salute and tha [they] Returnd in the Same Maner we hove About and followed the Sloop in; the Wind Moderrates Run under Nantucket and we Came to Anker as the Wind would not Admit of Going over the Shouels this is the 20 of febr^r 1778 A Light are of Wind att N. East and Lukes Lik[e] A Storm Runing by the Round Shoule the Snow begins to fly Quick & the blow Encreases; now a Snow Storm and So thik we can not See but a Short Distanc Runing for Cape Poge About 12 A clock our Ship Struck very hard on a Shole Neair the Horse Shue we had Very hard Time A Considerabel of a Sea we Kep^t All Sail on her until we Got Acrost the Shole and Depened our warter and then we Lett go our Anker but Before we Goot of [f] this Shoul We Lost our Ruder and Stove our Boat on Deck the Next Morning [21 Feb.] we found the Sloop *Providence* Gott on Shore Going into Old Town⁵ but Sune Got of [f] Again the Next Day by the Asistance of Boats we Got Safe into Old Town there we Discharged our Cargo Consisting of Rum Molase[s] Sugers Corfea Some Indego & Cotton a Valuabel Cargo Some part of our Cargo Sent Down to Hie anners⁶ Some to Boston but the most Sent to Bedford⁷ So Ends this Cruse—

Journal, RNHi, John Trevett Papers, No. 44–18.

1. Martha's Vineyard.

2. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*, Capt. John Peck Rathbun, commander.

3. "Pork."

4. H.M. sloop *Haerlem*, Lt. John Knight, commander.

5. Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard.

6. Hyannis, Mass.

7. Bedford in Dartmouth, now New Bedford.

ELIHU COFFIN TO CAPTAIN JOHN PECK RATHBUN

Edgartown February y^e 21st 1778—

Cap^t John Peck Rathbon to Elihu Coffin

D^r

To Carring of men to your Prise Ship¹ and Asisting

with my Sail Boat and two men £18-00-00

To one freight to Betford² with S^d Boat and

Asisting in Caring the Prsnrs	<u>36-00-00</u>
	£54-00-00
Errors Except ^d the mee—Elihu Coffin	
To M ^r Anthny Bill for Board	£ <u>3-13-00</u>
	£57-13-00
Rc ^d : the Contents In full Elihu Coffin	

DS, RNHi, John Trevett Papers, No. 44–11.

1. Ship *Mary*, taken by Continental Navy sloop *Providence*, Capt. John Peck Rathbun, commander, on 27 Jan. at Nassau, Bahamas. She put into Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, on 20 Feb. for repairs. See Libel, 3 Mar., below.

2. Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Saturday, February 21, 1778

The Marine Committee, to whom was referred the complaint of the navy board in the middle department, against Captain [*John*] Barry,¹ report, as their opinion,

“That Captain Barry hath treated the said board, in the person of Mr. Hopkinson, one of that board, with indecency and disrespect, and that he ought, within twenty days after this resolve shall have been notified to him by the said board, make such acknowledgment as shall be satisfactory to them:”

On the question put to agree to the report,

Resolved in the affirmative.

JCC 10: 189.

1. NDAR 10: 832.

CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE TO ROBERT MORRIS

Commercial Committee

Sir

York [*Pa.*] Feb^y 21. 1778. .

We acknowledge the Receipt of your favours of the 7th 8th. 12th and 17th instant.¹

In answer to that of the 7th respecting our misterious Commerce we laid it before Congress together with mons^r Hortalezs Letters, (one of which was a highly finished Political performance) who have added two members to the Commercial Committee to take the same into consideration. They will enter upon the business this afternoon, and when Congress Shall have determined upon this important matter, we will give you the Result.

In answer to that of the 7th respecting the New Brigantine at Baltimore² &c. we have some Time Since ordered her to be loaded with Tobacco for France. She is to go as a Packet to be armed and Commanded by Captain Read.³ We have ordered the Two Vessels which last arrived at North Carolina from Hispaniola to be loaded with Tobacco and Consigned to M^r Carrabasse.⁴ The Brigantine *Success* Captain Harris now at Edenton was ordered before her Sailing from Boston to proceed from Carolina to Bilbao to the address of Mess^{rs}. Gardoqui & Sons.⁵ Congress have ordered General Hand⁶ to send Provisions to the Arkansaws.⁷

In Answer to the 8th would observe that we think M^r Duer⁸ would have been very illy employed in telling you any thing that might have passed in Congress in

which you were concerned; especially we think him highly culpable in representing to you that the Commercial Committee had complained to Congress that their not having the Books in their possession was a grievance to them; because it was a gross misrepresentation. Mess^{rs}. Forbes & Ellery who were the only members of the Commercial Committee then present, laid before Congress General Hands Letter &c respecting the *Rattle Trap*.⁹ Some of the Members were dissatisfied with that undertaking and asked a Multitude of questions about it. The Instructions given to Captain Willing were read; but still they wanted more light, when accidentally it was mentioned that the Books and Papers of the Secret Committee were in your hands. This occasioned a Conversation about them, which, if we could, we should think it not worth our while to relate. Let it suffice that so far from complaining against you on account of the Books, the Members of the Committee were for your retaining them 'till they should be settled.

We laid this Letter before Congress who desired us to inform you that they would have you still keep the Books in your possession and settle them as soon as you could.

We have asked your advice frequently and freely, and have as often and as freely received it and shall continue to trouble you while we remain of the Commercial Committee (which we hope for reasons we have already mentioned to you will not be long) whenever we find ourselves embarrassed.

In answer to yours of the 12th we leave the disposition of the Indies intirely to you.

Yours of the 17th is now before Congress and will be answered in due Time We have the Honor to be [&c.]

Fra: Lewis
William Ellery

L, NjGbS. Stewart Collection. Addressed at the foot: "The Honorable/Robert Morris Esq^r" Docketed: "York 21 Feb^y 1778/Commercial Committee/to R Morris."

1. An extract of the 7 Feb. letter, regarding Caron de Beaumarchais's firm Roderigue Hortalez & Co., is in the Lee Papers, MH-H. The letters of 8 and 12 Feb. have not been found. That of 17 Feb. is printed above.

2. Continental Navy packet *Baltimore*.

3. Capt. Thomas Read, Continental Navy.

4. Mons. Carabasse, Continental Commercial Agent at Cape François, Saint-Domingue.

5. Joseph Gardoqui & Sons, merchants at Bilbao, Spain.

6. Brig. Gen. Edward Hand.

7. See Journal of the Continental Congress, 19 Feb., above.

8. William Duer, New York delegate to the Continental Congress.

9. See Journal of the Continental Congress, 19 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Saturday the 21st day of February 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Magazine, deliver to Captain Richard Taylor one six Pounder in his Possession for the use of the ship *Tartar*.—

Mr William Steele is appointed a Lieutenant to the *Tempest*.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 357.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

February 1778

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia

Saturday 21st

[AM] at 9 saw two Sail Stand^s In towards the Bay at 10 Saw another Sail, the two headmost Ships appeared large, made the

Private Sig^l which they did not answer, but Showed French Ensign & Pendant, the Wind and Tide not permitting the getting under Sail got a Spring upon y^c. B^t. B^r. Cable & prepared for Action

At Single Anchor in D^o.

Mod^t and Cloudy [PM] unmoored Ship took up the Small Bower Anch^r & hove Short on the Best Bower Anchor at ½ past 2 the two French Ships hailed to the South w^d and Stood out towards Cape Henry, they being then just to the E^t w^d of Wilobys Shoal. they had a Tier of Guns & appeared Armed discovered the Ship Coming In to be a Man of War Sloop made the Private Sign^l which She answered at 6 anch^d. H.M: Sloop *Senegal* Captⁿ. Molloy Inform'd me he passed within hail of the two French Ships, the one had 44 Guns the other 26 Guns that they were full of Men & prepared for Action.¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. French ship *Ferdinand*, Denis-Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen, 44 guns, with a crew of 250 men, and the ship *Vicomte de Veaux*, Pierre Donat de La Garde, master, 24 guns, with a crew of 89 men. See "Extract of a Letter from Captain Onslow to Viscount Howe," 2 Mar., below.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *SENEGAL*, COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY

February 1778
Saturday 21.

Cape Henry W^t. 30 S. 29 Lea^s

At 4 AM let the reefs out of the courses, & set the Foresail & c^c. At ½ past 6 saw the Land Smiths Island WbN 7 or 8 Lea^s. At 7 saw two sail ahead, made the private signal with 2 Guns (the ship ahead showing french colours & standing in for the Capes) which was not Answered, the largest bearing after the other up James River, they seem large ships & arm'd.

Cape Henry SS.W^t. 2 or 3 Miles.

Moderate & cloudy wea^t. Stood up for Hampton road, the two ships ahead, At 2 P.M. they tacked, as we did expecting the S^t *Albans* to move but finding she did not, Tacked & stood up for them, when they hauled down their french colours & pendants, hoisting vanes, ½ past 3 passed them (the largest of 44 Guns, the other of 24 guns, full of Men, & under Arms, & seemed prepared for Action & Tompions out, without shewing colours[]),¹ At 4 Answered the S^t *Albans* private signal with 2 Guns, At 5 Anchored in Hampton road in 12 f^m. [Old] point comfort NEbN Willoughby P^t. SEbE 4 M:

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/885. Part of the entry for 22 Feb. reads: "At break of day saw the two Ships in the bay under sail."

1. See note at Journal of H.M.S. *St. Albans*, immediately above.

MEMORIAL OF CAPTAINS CORNELIUS ANABIL, JOHN COCKROM,
NATHAN MOAR, AND ISAAC MACKEY TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

N^o Carolina

Newbern 21st Febuary 1778

The Subscriber Cornelius Anabil, John Cochran,¹ Nahan Moar & Isaac Mackey, all from this Port, in different Vessels, were taken and Caried down to Jamaca, after making our escape from the men of War, got a passage to the Island of Providence² after our Stay in thar twenty Six Days when in the 25 Ult^o. the State Sloop of War³ Capt Rothbarn⁴ landed twenty three Men & took possession of Fort Nassau & soon was reenforced by us, We & one Officer belonging to said Sloop,⁵ Boarded a Ship of Sixteen Guns,⁶ belonging to Jamaca, which we kept, Sent the Prisoners to the Fort Likewise, one Sloop loaded with Rice & Indigo,⁷ & one other Sloop which they Caried off besides this we got [() which will Shew in Cap Rothbarns letter to us) Before the arival of Said Sloop we all had got Vesels to Come to this State Some loaded with dry goods & others with Salt, & after this Sloop came in & took the Fort, & we being Active in there Assistance dare not Stay after her departure, to come in those vessels we had engaged to bring to this State.—

As Cap Rothburn & his Crew has freely resigned to us there part of s^d. Sloop,⁸ we flatter ourselves the Congress will do the Same as we are known to be Men long in business & Some had Commissions in Armed Vessels in this State & Acquitted ourselves with honours & now have lost our All.

Cornelius Anabil,
John Cockrom
Nathan Moar
Isaac Mackey

DS, DNA, PCC, item 41, vol. 10, pp. 21–22 (M247, roll 52).

1. Probably John Cockrom, master of the *Peggy*, from North Carolina with Indian corn, which was captured by H.M.S. *Galatea* on 25 Mar. 1777. See *NDAR* 8: 1061.

2. New Providence I., Bahamas.

3. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

4. Capt. John Peck Rathbun, Continental Navy.

5. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines.

6. Ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.

7. Sloop *Washington*.

8. Sloop *Tryal*. See Captain John Peck Rathbun to Any Continental Agent, 29 Jan., above.

JOURNAL OF CAPTAIN MATHEW PHELPS

[Natchez, February 21, 1778]

Our settlers were, with very rare exceptions, well disposed to the American cause. Willing was a good speaker, and he represented the case for the colonies, and the certainty of their ultimate success, in very persuasive terms. He assured us that five thousand American troops, under Gen. Clarke,¹ were on their way to this quarter, to take possession and bring us under their jurisdiction, and all that Congress and he, their agent, required of us, was the oath of neutrality; which oath, when he concluded his address, was duly administered and freely taken; our people not being disposed to compromise themselves at that period of uncertainty and transition, by any overt act, on one side or the other, which might, in certain contingencies, be construed to their disadvantage.

John Francis Hamtramck Claiborne, *Mississippi as a Province, Territory and State*, (Jackson, Miss.: 1880; reprint ed., Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1964), 1: 118. Phelps had immigrated to Natchez from Connecticut in 1776. *Ibid.*, 108–11.

1. Col. George Rogers Clark, Illinois Regiment, Virginia Militia.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM RIO NOVA BAY, ST. MARY’S,
IN THE ISLAND OF JAMAICA, FEB, 21, 1778.”

“Tuesday, the 17th instant arrived from the Island of New-Providence the schooner *Recovery*, Thomas Costart, master, with dispatches from the Lieutenant-governor¹ of that island to his Excellency the Governor and Admiral;² by her we are informed, that in the night of the 27th of last month, the Fort of Providence³ was taken by the crew of an American privateer,⁴ who were joined by a number of Americans then in the place. That they continued two days in possession of the fort, during which time they also possessed themselves of the ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master, of 16 guns, belonging to Kingston, bound on a voyage to New York, who had been obliged to put in there the 25th of November, to unload, and repair damage sustained by running on a reef of rocks at Crooked Island; she was refitted, and the last of her cargo along-side to be taken in; her powder was still in the magazine of the fort, where it had been lodged when she hove down, and the master sick on shore; of all which, it appears, the rebels had received full information, previous to their landing.

“They likewise possessed themselves of five prizes which had been sent in there by the letter of marque sloop *Gayton*, Captain Chambers. On the 28th, the *Gayton* came in over the bar, in expectation of the ship *Mary* being ready for sea, and to have proceeded with her as far to the northward as Cape Hatteras, it being suspected that privateers would be in waiting for her. Captain Chambers had been only out from Providence on a short cruize of seven days. The first intimation he received of the change which had taken place, was by a shot fired at him from the fort, the privateer, and the ship, which had by this time been manned, &c. by Americans. With much difficulty he again got out over the bar, with his rigging considerably damaged, and an 18 pound shot from the fort through his hull. The following day he attempted the eastern channel, and got possession of a small fort⁵ there of four 9 pounders, where he was joined by a very few loyal inhabitants, who, with a considerable number of Negroes, agreed to attack the fort that night, whilst the *Gayton* should run down along-side the privateer, and board her. At eleven o’clock at night they got under way for that purpose, when, by the darkness of the night and the unskilfulness of the pilot, the sloop was run a-ground, which retarded their plan. Next morning they got under way, and proceeded very near the privateer, when she cut her cables and got away, having about half an hour before sent away the ship *Mary* with three of the prizes, and set fire to the other two.”

The Remembrancer; or, Impartial Repository of Public Events. For the Year 1778 (London: J. Almon, 1778), pp. 99–100.

1. John Gambier.

2. John Dalling and Vice Adm. Clark Gayton.

3. Fort Nassau.

4. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*, Capt. John Peck Rathbun, commander.

5. Fort Montagu.

February 22 (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER[*Frigate Boston at sea*]Remarkable Observations on board the *Boston*—Sunday 22^d Febr^y 1778¹

This 24 hours begins with heavy gales and a Dangerous Sea Runing; one thing or another Continually giving away on board Ship our Ship made a great deal of water in Several Places which Caused the Chain Pumps Continually to be Kept at Work att five PM hove two Under foresail and Lying Very Uneasy and Dangerous att 2 AM Bore away and Run before the Wind to Prevent any farther Damage if Possible att 2 the above Mentioned time Receivd a Very heavy See but Sustaind Little Damage att half Past 3 AM Discoverd our foresail was Split in the Larbourd Leach but Could not Prevent it att that time for the Distress we wear at that time in; I Little Expected but to be Dismasted as I was almost Certain I heard the mainmast Spring below the Deck afterwards Discoverd the truth of it Still Continues an Extremity of Weather So Ends this day Pray god Protect Us and Carry us through our Various troubles

Latt^d Obs^d in 37^d & 1^m North

Course	Dist	X Latt ^d	Depart	Latt ^d P obs	X Long ^d	Long ^d in	Merid Dis ^t
S ^o 29 ^d ; E	106m	92 ^m So	53m E	37=01 N	1 ^d =08 E	59=31 W	469. Eas ^t

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 21 Feb. to noon of 22 Feb., following sea time.

JOURNAL OF MARINE LIEUTENANT WILLIAM JENNISON

[*Frigate Boston at Sea*]

1778 [Feb.] 22

Discovered a Vessel to Windward—At 7. am.

At 12 she fired a Gun to Leeward & hoisted Danish Colours, upon which we fired a Gun to Leeward & hoisted American Colours, & in making Sail, had a heavy Squall which carried overboard our Main Top Mast—which gave her An Opportunity to escape—Course NE

DLC, Journal of Lieutenant William Jennison, 6.

MUSTER ROLL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY SLOOP *PROVIDENCE*

A Muster Roll of all the Officers Seamen & Mariners belonging to the Continental [*torn*]
Providence Commanded John Peck Rathburn Esq^r From January y^e 6th To February y^e [22? 1778]

Number	Names	Stations	Time of Entry		Wages Pr Month:	Promotions
			Year	Month		
1	John Peck Rathbun Esq ^r	Cap ^t	1777		— 48 —	
2	[Joseph Vesey]	1 Lieutenant	Nov ^o y ^e 13		— 24 —	Prize Ship <i>Mary</i>
3	[Daniel] Bears	2 D ^o			— 24 —	D ^o Sloop <i>Washington</i>
4	George House	1 D ^o of y ^e <i>Hampden</i>	Oct ^{br} y ^e 4 th		— 24 —	
5	George Nich[olson]	Master	D ^o		— 24 —	Prize Ship <i>Mary</i>
6	John Trevett	Cap ^t Marines	D ^o		— 30 —	
7	James D[<i>torn</i>]	Surgeon	Nov ^v y ^e 1 st		— 21 ⁽²⁾ / ₃ —	Prize Ship <i>Mary</i>
8	Thomas Alexander	1 Mas ^{tr} mate	D ^o y ^e 13		— 15 —	
9	John Ern st Kesler	Surgon ^s Mate	D ^o y ^e 13		— 21 ³ / ₈ —	[<i>torn</i>]
10	Nicholas E Gardner	2 ^d mate	Nov ^{br} y ^e 5		— 15 —	Prize Ship <i>Mary</i>
11	Lillibridge Worth	Gunner	Octo ^{br} y ^e 6		— 13 —	
12	James Kennedy	Boatswain	Nov ^{br} y ^e 1		— 13 —	
13	Joseph Burgis	1 Boat ^s mate	October y ^e 20		— 9 —	Prize Ship <i>mary</i>
14	James Morton	2 ^d D ^o	D ^o y ^e 6		— 9 —	Wounded at georgeTown ¹
15	James Adamson	Midshipman	Nov ^{br} y ^e 7		— 12 Turnd Over	
16	John Scrantum	D ^o	D ^o 17		— 12 —	Prize Ship <i>mary</i>
17	James Campbell	Sail[maker]	Oct ^{br} y ^e 4		— 10 —	
18	Robbert Jackson	[<i>Torn</i>]	D ^o		— 10 —	Sick [<i>at the</i>] Vineyard ²
19	Isaac Harrington	Carpen ^{tr} mate	D ^o		— 9 —	[<i>torn</i>]

D, R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Revolutionary War (1776–1781), p. 183. There is a copy of this muster roll in R-Ar, Transcripts of Military Records, vol. XL, 676.

1. South Carolina.

2. Martha's Vineyard.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT TO
CAPTAIN ABRAHAM WHIPPLE

Sir,

Providence Febr'y 22^d 1778

You are hereby Directed to enter Men on board your Ship, on the same terms they were entered on board the Continental Ship *Warren*—which was fifty Dollars Bounty over and above what is allowed by the Honble Continental Congress, the Mens allowance Rum Provisions &c must be punctually delivered them, you are to get your Ship Ready for Seas as soon as possible, and to apply to Coll^o D. Tillinghast¹ our Agent for whatever Supplys you stand in need of I am [&c.]

Per Order Navy Board
John Deshon—

LB, MiU-C, Abraham Whipple Papers, Letterbook, 1778. Addressed at the foot: "To A. Whipple Comm^{dr} Ship *Providence*—." Docketed in the margin: "[J.] D. Letter/[Fe] by 22.78."

1. Col. Daniel Tillinghast, Continental Agent for Rhode Island.

GOVERNOR THOMAS SHIRLEY TO VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG

(Copy.)

Dominica Sunday Morning 22^d: February 1778

Sir

I have the honor to send you inclosed an information which I received this Morning upon Oath—A Rebel Sloop called the *Revenge* mounting 12 four pounders, was brought in here the Night before last, by five Seamen who Confined the Captain and took possession of her the Day she left S^t Pierres Road; in sight of the Shiping and under the fire of three Battery's. The Vessels mentioned in the inclosed List I am told will be Convoy'd by one or two French Frigates, which I do not in the least Doubt; as I am persuaded they have been carrying on this unjustifiable practice for some time; for I have seen several Convoys under French Colours pass by close under this Island. — — has begged that his name may not be made publick which I have promised shall not, unless the Service requires it, in hopes that I may get information from others.

I am also informed that another Fleet of about 15 Sail bound for America will take their Departure in three Weeks from Martinico.

If this Intelligence will be of any use to His Majesty's Service my purpose will be fully answered, and I shall not fail to communicate any further intelligence, which I may receive.

The Vessel which I send express with this will wait for your Answer, and I beg leave to request you'll inform me when you dismiss her. I have the Honor to be With the Highest Esteem & Regard Sir [&c.]

(Signed) Thomas Shirley

[Enclosure]

A List of Vessels bound from Martinico to North America. Viz^t
A Schooner bound from Baltimore, Laden with dry Goods, mounting 8 Carriage Guns, 25 Men a very fast Sailor.—
A Sloop bound for Boston Laden with dry Goods English manufacture taken from Prizes; mounting 10 Guns, 50 Men, a dull Sailor.—
A Brigg about 120 Tons, Laden with dry Goods bound for Casco Bay, no Guns, tar'd sides and no head.—

A Virginia Pilot Boat Laden with dry Goods bound for Virginia no Guns.—
Two Briggs about 120 Tons each Cargoes unknown, French property & bound for Boston.—

The above Vessels are to Sail from Martinico the 23^d. or 24th of this Month.

— — maketh Oath upon the holy Evangelists of Almighty God that the above is a true list of Vessels lying at Saint Pierre Martinico and on the Eve of their Departure for North America to the best of the knowledge and information which he the Deponent could get.

(Signed.) — — —

Sworn before me this

22^d. day of February 1778

Cha^s Winstone

A Member of his Majesty's Council
and a Justice of the Peace for the Island
Dominica—

(The above is a true Copy.)

Jam^s Young.

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot: "Admiral Young." Docketed: "Dominica 22^d. February 1778./Letter of Intelligence from/Governor Shirley Concerning/Sundry American Vessels/at Martinico, bound to/America, and inclosing/a Deposition thereof. And/my Answer thereto—/Dated 26th: February 1778./In Adm^l. Young's Letter/Dated 13 March 1778." Enclosed in Vice Admiral James Young to Philip Stephens (No. 1), 13 Mar. 1778, below.

February 23

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

Remarkable Observations on Monday Febr'y 23^d 1778¹

This 24 hours begins with hard gales and Close weather Runing Under foresail at 2 PM I thought Propper to haul the foresail up handed it Lay by under Mizzen at 3 d^o got down T Gallant yards att 4 d^o Carred away the Slings & Chain of the Missen Yard furld the Mizzen and Sat the Mizzen Staysail Midle Part Continues fresh gales att 4 AM Something moderate made Sail and began to Repair the Riging in being much Shatred in the gale att 6 d^o Saw a Sail to the NE Runing to the Southward and westward I Stood on to the Southward & Eastward about half an hour She Crost me about a League to windward I Suposed her to be a french marchant-man bound to america I then Wore Ship made Sail and Persewed her for fear She Should not be one of them I found I Came up with Chace Very fast I Perceivd She had Sat all the Sail she Possibly Could I then Crow[*d*]ed Sail about 11 AM it Came full of Rain and I Lost Sight of her for two or three hours—Here Ends this day—

No Observation

Cours[<i>e</i>]	Dist	X Latt ^d	Depart	Latt ^d Per acc ^t	X Long ^d	Long ^d in	Meridian D
South		miles			miles		
9 ^d E..	56	55 South	9..East	36 ^d =06 N	11 E..	59 ^d =20 ^m W	478 MilesE

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 22 Feb. to noon of 23 Feb., following sea time.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE

Sir

Council Chamber Boston Feb^y 23^d 1778—

This State having a Considerable Number of Men now Prisoners of War at Newport which are, as we apprehend, unreasonably detained there, we have appointed Col^o. Gabriel Johonnot to proceed to the Place beforementioned in order to obtain their Release, we therefore Request that your Excellency would give him Liberty to proceed to Newport with a Flag for the purpose aforesaid.

Cap^t. John Manly late Commander of the Continental Frigate called the *Hancock* has been for a long time Confined as a Prisoner of War, he is a brave and Active Officer, and the Public would be greatly served if his Liberation from Captivity could be speedily Accomplished; The Measures that have already been taken for this Purpose have failed; we beg leave therefore to Propose that the Captain of the *Syrene* Frigate¹ should be given in Exchange for Cap^t. Manly, we hope this Proposal will be agreeable and if it should, we request that you would make proposal thro' M^r. Johonnot to the Commanding Officer at Newport for this Exchange & we would further Request that in Case your State should not have any Marine Officers in Captivity that you would permit any other of the Officers of the *Syrene* Frigate to be exchanged for Cap^t. Waters² and Cap^t. John Foster Williams;³ & that your excellency would thro' M^r. Johonnot make the proposals Accordingly.—

In the Name & behalf of the Council, I am, Sir [&c.]

Jer: Powell Presid^t

L, R-Ar, Letters to the Governor (1778), vol. 12, p. 25. Addressed at foot: "Gov^r. Cooke—."

1. Capt. Tobias Furneaux, R.N.

2. Capt. Daniel Waters, Continental Navy, was captured on board frigate *Hancock*. See *NDAR* 9: 181, 273, 284, 326.

3. Williams was a captain in the Massachusetts State Navy and was captured commanding Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Active*. See *NDAR* 10: 528n.

THE BOSTON-GAZETTE, AND COUNTRY JOURNAL, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1778

BOSTON, February 23.

Friday last Captain Thorndike¹ returned to Salem from a Cruize, during which he took a Brig of 140 Tons, laden with English Bale Goods, out of which he took as many as his Vessel could well hold, with which he arrived as above. The Prize is suppos'd to be arriv'd at some Port at the Eastward, as she was left well Mann'd 10 Days ago.

1. Capt. Israel Thorndike, commanding Massachusetts privateer schooner *Scorpion*, mounting 2 carriage guns and 14 swivel guns with a crew of 40 men. She was commissioned on 8 Nov. 1777 and was owned by Joseph White and Miles Greenwood, of Salem. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 7, pp. 135, 138.

LIBELS FILED IN THE MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME COURT OF THE MIDDLE DISTRICT

State of Massachusetts Bay.

To all whom it may concern.

Middle District.

NOTICE is hereby given, That Libels are filed before me, against the following Vessels, their Cargoes and Appurtenances, viz. In Behalf of Daniel Parsons,

Commander of the armed Schooner *Gloriosa*,¹ and all concerned therein, against the Ship *Oxford*, of 130 Tons burthen, John Stewart, late Master: In Behalf of Joseph Pitman, Commander of the armed Schooner *Blackbird*,² and all concerned therein, against the Schooner *Dolphin*, of about 40 Tons burthen, Jeremiah Allen, late Master: In Behalf of John Guliker and others, against the Ship *Royal Bounty*,³ of about 300 Tons burthen, — —, late Master: In Behalf of Thomas Truxton, Commander of the armed Ship *Mars*,⁴ and all concerned therein, against the Brigantine *Margarett and Mary*, of 180 Tons burthen, George Izatt, late Master; and against the Sloop *James and Betty*, of about 90 Tons burthen, Thomas Grant Denwood, late Master: In Behalf of Thomas Herbert, Commander of the armed Brigantine *Liberty*,⁵ and all concerned therein, against the Sloop *Portland*, of about 70 Tons burthen, Thomas Baily, late Master: In Behalf of John Connaway, Commander of the armed Schooner *Terrible*,⁶ and all concerned therein, against the Sloop *Industry*, of about 90 Tons burthen, Jacob Elchy, late Master. All which Vessels and their Cargoes, so libelled, are said to have been taken and brought into the Middle District aforesaid. And for the Trial of the Justice of said Captures, a Maritime Court for the said District will be held at Boston, on Tuesday, the 27th Day of March, A. D. 1778, at Ten o'Clock in the Forenoon, when and where the Owners of said Captures, and all concerned therein, may appear and shew Cause (if any they have) why the same or any of them should not be condemned.

N. CUSHING, Judge of said Court.

Boston-Gazette, and Country Journal, 23 Feb. 1778.

1. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Gloriosa*, mounting 8 carriage guns, a crew of 45 men, owned by Joseph Laughton, of Boston and John Tracy, of Newburyport, was commissioned on 17 Sept. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 5, pp. 357, 358.

2. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Blackbird*, mounting 8 swivel guns, a crew of 20 men, owned by Edward Norris, of Salem, was commissioned on 24 Oct. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 5, pp. 86, 89.

3. Cartel ship *Royal Bounty*, Thomas Compton, master.

4. Massachusetts privateer ship *Mars*, Thomas Truxtun, commander, mounting 22 carriage guns, a crew of 150 men, owned by Isaac Sears and Paschal Nelson Smith, of Boston, was commissioned on 24 May 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, p. 311.

5. Virginia Navy brigantine *Liberty*, mounting 6 carriage guns, was returning from a trading voyage to Nantes. The sloop *Portland*, from Malaga to London, with raisins and lemons, was taken off Lisbon on 5 Nov. 1777. See Massachusetts Board of War to Governor Patrick Henry, 31 Jan., above.

6. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Terrible*, John Conway, commander, mounting 4 carriage guns and 10 swivel guns, a crew of 35 men, owned by Thomas Gerry and Samuel Trevett, of Marblehead, was commissioned on 28 Nov. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 7, p. 225.

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO CAPTAIN RICHARD BRAITHWAITE, R.N.

Secret

By the Viscount Howe Vice Admiral
of the White and Commander in Chief
of His Majestys Ships and Vessels
employed and to be employed &c in
North America.

Whereas several Transports under the Conduct of Cap^t Dalrymple,¹ Commander of His Majesty's Ship the *Juno*, with the *Cerberus* and *Haerlem* Armed Sloop, have been order'd to assemble in Cape-Cod-Bay, to be in Readiness for receiving the British and Foreign Troops made Prisoners under the Command of Lieutenant General Burgoyne; In order for their Conveyance from Boston to

England, pursuant to a Convention executed at Saratoga the 16th of last October.² And whereas I have since been advised that the Persons in the chief Authority amongst the King's rebellious Subjects in these Colonies, have declared their Refusal to perform the Conditions of the Convention with Reference to the Release and Embarkation of the said Troops, as expressed in the Copy of their resolutions annexed;³ Whereby the longer Detention of the Transports on the New England Coasts, becomes unnecessary for the purpose of their previous Appointment: You are therefore hereby directed to proceed in the *Centurion* with the utmost Dispatch You are able, to join the said Ships of War, Armed Sloop and Transports, in Cape-Cod Harbour, and to take the Command for the future Disposal of them, as hereinafter expressed.

The Transports having been Originallay destined for England, it is still meant to persevere in that Intention, as far as may be consistant with a necessary Regard to the future Use of the Provisions embarked in them for the Subsistance of the Troops; You are (as the Nature of the Anchorage in Cape Cod Harbour will admitt) to cause the said Provisions to be the [more] speedily removed into any, the smallest Number of Transports best adapted from their State and Condition to receive the same; For being brought under Convoy of the Frigates and Armed Sloop back to this Port: Either to the Southward of the Nantucket Shoals, or by the Channel through which they proceeded for Boston, as judged expedient. The Provisions are to be disposed of, as the General commanding at this Port shall appoint; And the Captains of the Frigates and Lieutenant in the Armed Sloop, to take Orders from the Senior Captain of His Majesty's Ships remaining here, in Case of my Absence at the Time of their Arrival.

You will be yourself to put to Sea at the Same Time in the *Centurion* with the rest of the Transports which You are to attend until they have passed to [the] Eastward of S^t George's Bank, And then leave them to be conducted by the Agent on their further Passage to England: Sending a Copy of these Instructions, and of the Resolutions beforementioned, together with an Account of your Proceedings in consequence, to the Secretary of the Admiralty for the Information of the Board, in the Agent's Care. And having parted with the Transports, You are referred for your future Governmt to the Contents of the Sealed Orders deliver'd herewith.

But in Case, upon your Arrival at Cape-Cod Harbour, you find it impracticable to remove the Provisions with any Dispatch as above expressed; Captain Dalrymple is to repair with the Ships of War and Transports before under his Conduct, for lodging the Provisions at this Port. And having seen the Convoy in Safety, until the Transports have entered the Nantucket Channel on their Return, Or past the Southern Part of the Shoals without the Island, You are then to open the Sealed Packet delivered for your future Guidance as aforesaid. Given on board His Majesty's Ship *Eagle* at Rhode Island 23^d February 1778

(a Copy) Howe

By Command of the Vice Admiral
Jos^h. Davies

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/1838, part 9, no. 23. Addressed flush left below signature: "To/Cap^t Rich^d Brathwaite/Commander of His Majesty's Ship/*Centurion*." Docketed: "Copy of L^d. Howe's Order/to Cap^tⁿ. Braithwaite/No: 9." Enclosure no. 9 in Captain Walter Griffith to Philip Stephens, 9 Apr. 1778.

1. Capt. Hugh Dalrymple, R.N.

2. This fleet of transports was ordered to Boston to embark Gen. Burgoyne's army, captured by the Americans at Saratoga on 16 Oct. 1777, and return them to England. A short time later, the Continental Congress, suspecting bad faith on the part of the British, suspended the embarkation. As a result the troops, known as the Convention Army, remained in America as prisoners until war's end.

3. Enclosure no. 6 is not printed. See *JCC* 10:29–35 for the resolution of 8 Jan.

JOHN DENISON'S ACCOUNT WITH THE CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER
SLOOP *AMERICAN REVENUE*

Stonning town Feb^y the 23^d 1778
To Opining A Randivouze at
John dennisons For 4 days—
from Febru^y the 19th to Febre^y the 23^d
for the *American Revinue* Liquer For
the Inlisters Victuels for the Officers

£7:19:9

Levi Youngs First Lieu^t
Recd the above for John Denison
John A Christophers

DS, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 76, no. 4356. Docketed in Shaw's hand: "John Denisons/Bill." Docketed in another hand: "4356."

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SHIP CARPENTERS AT NORWICH

Ship-Carpenters may find good Employ by applying to the Continental Ship-Yard, Norwich River.¹

Norwich, Feb. 23, 1778.

Connecticut Gazette and the Universal Intelligencer (New London), 6 Mar. 1778.

1. The Continental Navy frigate to be named *Confederacy* (36 guns) was building at this yard.

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY,
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1778

NEW-YORK, February 23.

On Friday last was sent in here by his Majesty's Ship *Experiment*, Sir James Wallace, Esq; Commander, the Rebel Sloop *Montgomery*,¹ Felix Potter, Master, from Hispaniola for Boston: She was taken the 7th Instant, in Lat. 39, Lon. 72, and is loaded with Coffee, Molasses, &c. &c. This Sloop was formerly a Privateer out of Providence, in Rhode-Island Government.²

1. Sloop *Montgomery*, P. Potter, master, from Cape François to Boston, with a cargo of molasses, coffee &c., taken at sea on 6 Feb., sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778. UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 485. *Montgomery*, Phineas Potter, master, sailed from Providence on 18 Nov. 1777 for Hispaniola with a cargo of lumber, fish and provisions and is described in her clearance papers as being of 30 tons burthen, mounting no guns and a crew of ten. R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Outward and Inward Entries, 1776–1787. See *Journal of H.M.S. Experiment*, 6 Feb., above.

2. Rhode Island privateer sloop *Montgomery*, commanded successively by Daniel Bucklin, William Rhodes and Thomas Rutenber. See *NDAR* 5: 76, 813, 890, 1271, 1302, 1302n; 6: 116–17, 136, 138, 182, 506, 508, 508n, 512n, 803, 820, 955, 956n, 804n, 1056, 1317, 1330, 1331n; 7: 32, 32n, 113, 115–16, 119, 166, 167, 168, 314–15, 449, 642, 644, 646.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

The Commiss^{rs} of the Navy Board at Boston
Gentlemen

[York, Pa.] Feb^y 23^d. 1778.

The French Ship *Flamand* now in Portsmouth New Hampshire is directed by the Committee of Commerce to proceed forthwith to Charles Town in South Carolina there to be laden'd with Rice &c for France. This Ship mounts 18 Six pounders and is navigated with 70 Seamen and fast sailer. The Committees intention is to give this Ship a Commission in expectation of picking some Prizes on the passage to Charles Town, and for that purpose you are requested to send out of your department a Captain and two Lieutenants in the Continental Service who have not at present an Actual command together with Eight or ten Seamen in order to conduct any prizes that may be taken into Port. In navigating the Ship as a merchant ship the french Captain is to have the command but in giving chase or in an engagement the Continental Captain and his officers are to have the sole direction. The Captain & officers appt^d to this service Should be persons who have some knowledge of the Carolina Coast. They are upon their Arrival at Charles Town to return as soon as may be to their former station in your department. Should they be so fortunate as to take Prizes on the Passage—One half will be set apart for the Continent—The Continental Captain and his Officers will draw One Eighth and the french Captain and his officers and Crew will be intitled to the other $\frac{3}{8}$ ^{ths}. If you should or should not be able to procure a Suitable Captain officers and seamen, you will give seasonable notice thereof to the Continental Agent at Portsmouth that the ship may not be unnessarily delayed.

We have given orders to our Agent in Maryland to purchase 2000 Barrels flour and 30 Tons bar Iron and to have the same transported to the Inlet of Senepuxent on the Sea Coast in Maryland about 50 Miles to the southward of the Capes of Delaware

You will immediately on receipt hereof despatch the Continental Schooner at Bedford,¹ and charter as many small fast sailing Vessels and despatch them for that Port as you shall think will be sufficient to carry the above quantity of Flour to such Ports or places in the Eastern States as you shall think proper to direct. Our Agent William Smith Esq^r will give the necessary Orders for having the Vessels loaded immediately on their arrival. You will endeavour to get Masters for those Vessels who are acquainted with the Coast and Inlet above mentioned and if you cannot Charter Vessels without Insuring them we empower you So to do having them properly valued. We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 127 (M332, roll 6).

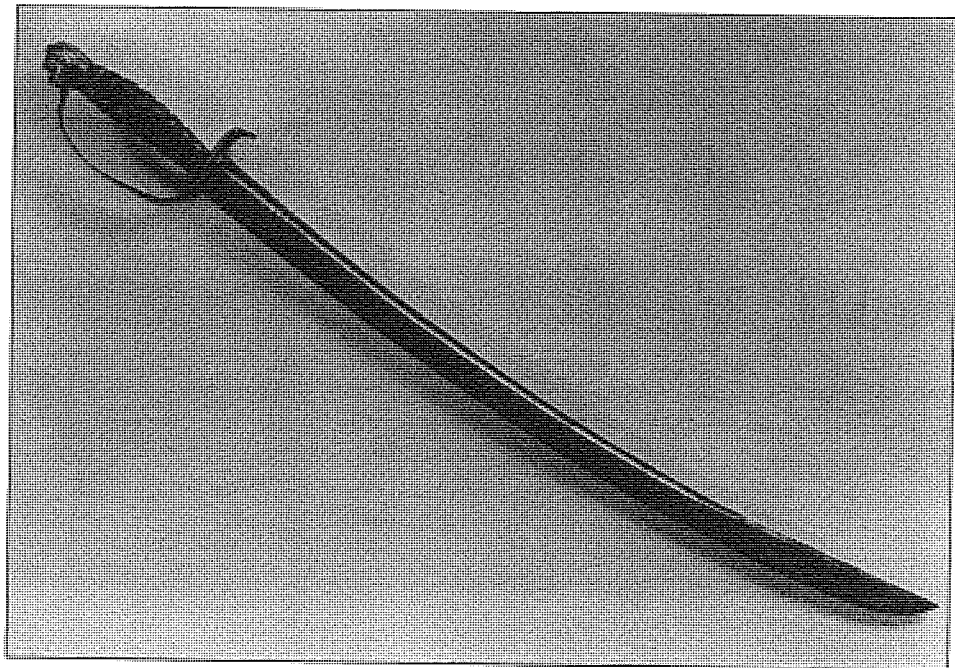
1. Continental trading schooner *Loyalty*.

CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE TO JOHN LANGDON

Commercial Committee
John Langdon Esq^r
Sir

York [Pa.] February 23^d. 1778

We have agreed with M^r Francey¹ that the *Flamand* shall go to South Carolina and there take in A load of Rice for France.



Sword belonging to John Barry

The Ship will be upon our risque to Carolina and the Captain of her² being unacquainted with the Coast, and there being a possibility of her taking a Prize on her Passage, we have agreed with M^r Francey to send in her a Continental Navy Captain and two or three officers and Eight or Ten Seamen if to be had,

We write to the Navy Board in the Eastern Department for that purpose, if they should not be able to furnish them in season you must put on board a proper Person who is acquainted with that Coast. You will give the *Flamand* all the dispatch in your power We are [&c.]

Fra: Lewis
William Ellery
James Forbes

L, Private Collection, Capt. J. G. M. Stone, Annapolis, Md., 1959. Addressed at foot: "John Langdon Esq^r." Docketed: "Commerical Comm^e/Letter Feb^y 23^d/1778. Answ^d."

1. Jean-Baptiste-Lazare Théveneau de Francy, Beaumarchais' secretary. For more on the committee's arrangement with de Francy, see de Francy to John Langdon, 3 Mar., below.
2. M. de Fassy.

BRIGADIER GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE TO CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY

Sir,

Selem 23rd Feb^y 1778

You are to pass up the River, with your Boats and Burn all the Hay along the Shore from Billings Port to this place—taking an Acc^t of the Persons Names to whom it belongs together with the Quantity—

On one John Kelleys place at the Mouth of Rackoon Creek there is near One Hundred Tons—and up Mantua Creek there is a Considerable Quantity—it is His Excellencies Wish to Deprive the Enemy from Rec^s the Benefit of the forage—and at the Same time for such persons as are friends to their Country—to Receive Recompence at a future day—for Altho' it is a Maxim that Private Property must be Sacrificed to Publick good—Yet it is not His Excellencies Intention to Distress the Individual for the benefit of the Publick; but where Prudence and Policy, joined to Necessity will justify the Measure—and not even then but with a full Intent that Restitution be made to that Individual.

You will by the first Opportunity Transmit to Head Quarters, the Names of the Persons together with the Quantity of forage belonging to each that you may have Destroyed persuant to this Order

By His Excellencies Command
Ant^y Wayne BG

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4.

BRIGADIER GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE TO SECOND LIEUTENANT SIMEON JENNINGS

Sir

Salem 23^d Feb^y 1778

You are to proceed with the Detachment under your Command being nineteen in number (Belonging to the Reg^t of Angle,¹ Chandler,² Durkee,³ Pren[*tiss*]⁴ And Bradley⁵) on board Captⁿ. Barreys Boats and after Executing the duty on which he is Sent⁶ (which he will Communicate to you) you will be landed on the Penns^a Shore, when you will Immediately march to Camp and Report at Head Quarters as soon As You Arrive—I am Sir [&c.]

Ant^r Wayne BG

Captⁿ. Barrey will land Lieut^t Jennings on the Pennsa Shore, as Soon As the Captⁿ. has Effected the Business on Which he is Ordered

AW

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "Orders to Lieut^t/Jennings." Jennings was a second lieutenant in the 2d Rhode Island Continental Regiment.

1. Col. Israel Angell, 2d Rhode Island Continental Regiment.
2. Col. John Chandler, 8th Connecticut Continental Regiment.
3. Col. John Durkee, 4th Connecticut Continental Regiment.
4. Probably Lt. Col. Samuel Prentiss, 1st Connecticut Continental Regiment.
5. Col. Philip Burr Bradley, 5th Connecticut Continental Regiment.
6. See Brigadier General Anthony Wayne to Captain John Barry, 23 Feb., immediately above.

CAPTAIN BENNETT MATHEWS TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

I make know Dout but you have expected me down with the Gally^l At Annapolis before now but if you will Look back at the weather we have had for three weeks past their have been but A few days fit for Caulking And Cleaning of Vessalls for we have mist now oppurtunity to get the Gally ready as fast as possible. I have her now Hove down and A Clean bottom And am making all the dispatch posible to have Her fitted Which As soon as it is done I Shall Come down with you and do expect it will be in Seven or Eight days from this date I remain [&c.]

Bennett Mathews—

Baltimore

February 23rd: 1778

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-75. Addressed at the top: "His Excellency Thomas Johnson."

1. Maryland Navy galley *Independence*.

CAPTAIN BENNETT MATHEWS TO CUMBERLAND DUGAN

Sir

I am Desired by the Governor and Council to take as much ship Bread in Casks as we can stow the quantity I have left to M^r Hanson^l which you will have Pact ready for Calling for

Bennett Mathews

[*Baltimore*] Februr^y 23rd. [1778]

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Revolutionary War Papers), S 997, 19970-5-5/4. Docketed: "To M^r Dugan."

1. John Hanson.

"MEMORANDUM OF SUNDRY ARTICLES DELIV^d CAP^t DAVID OF THE *CONQUEROR*."

[*Baltimore*, 23 February 1778]

Viz—

one fore top Sail

two Ryalls—

three Coils New Cordage ab^t 3^e.

three Compases
 one tin Lanthorn—
 one hand pump
 Some Nails Sorted, & Scupper
 1 Bucket
 1 Can
 1 Cooks Axcs
 2 tin potts—
 1 Copper Sauce pan
 3 Canvas Hammocks / a box with Candles
 2 gang Casks 1 New lead line a Deep Sea line & hand lead
 Continental Ensign & Jack—

Rec^d. the above Articles of Igna^s Fenwick for the use of the State of Maryland
 this 23^d of Feb^y 1778.

John David

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-76.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO COLONEL HENRY HOLLINGSWORTH

Sir

In Council Annapolis 23^d. Feb^y 1778.

We send you, for the Use of the Continental Army, by the Bearer, upwards of 600 Bushels of Salt. Receive, measure and pass your Receipt for it. Delay the Boat as little as may be. We desire you'll return the Baggs, if you can possibly do without them, if not, mention them also in your Receipt. One of the Virginia Gallies is on its Way for the Head of Elk, with Salt, but is likely it will be some Time before she gets up—By a Letter received yesterday from Gen^l Washington, you cannot be too diligent in forwarding Provisions to him and in purchasing. There are yet some Cattle in Worcester County; the Money we advanced was short, and we cannot advance more—Is any Body gone down, on that Business—We are &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777-1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "Col^o. Henry Hollingsworth."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EMERALD*, CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL

Feb^y 1778

[In Tangier Sound.]

Monday 23^d

Ditto Weather, [Fresh breezes & Cloudy] made our Sloops Signal to Chace to the Northward, at 9 AM anchored, here a Sloop from New York; at Noon came alongside a Sloop loaded with flour,¹ Taken by our Tender.²

[In Tangier Sound.]

Moderate & Clear Weather, [PM] Anchored here our Tender with a Sloop loaded with Tobacco;³

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/311.

1. The Journal entry for 24 Feb. reads: "at 6 AM Unmoored Ship and hove short on the Small Bower, took the flour out of the Vessel & let her go." UklPR, Adm. 51/311.

2. H.M. tender *Polly*.

3. Sloop *Friendship*, with tobacco, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239-40. On 1 Mar. *Emerald*, *Otter*, *Emerald's* tender *Polly* and the prize sloop *Friendship* set sail down Chesapeake Bay. UklPR, Adm. 51/311.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

February 78
Monday 23^d

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia
Light Airs & hazy at ½ past 8 [AM] Sheeted home the T: Sails at 9 got under way at ½ past 9 two Sail in Sight to the Eastw^d.¹ gave Chace at 10 made the private Sign^l to the *Solbay* the Chace being French, made the Sig^l for a Gen^l Chace to the Eastw^d. The *Senegal* with the Victualer and Prizes Moored to an Anch^r below old point Comfort when I got under way, Agreeable to my Orders.

Cape Henry SW 1½ Miles—
Mod^t Breezes Clear [PM] the *Solbay* fir'd a Shot at the Chace and hoisted her Colours The Chace hoisted French Colours at ½ past 7 the *Solbay* brought too the Sternmost French Ship,² Captⁿ. Symonds haled me, and told me, She was from S^t. Maloes & that the other Ship bore E ½ S

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. French ships *Ferdinand*, Denis-Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen, master, 44 guns, and *Vicomte de Veaux*, 24 guns.

2. French ship *Vicomte de Veaux*, Pierre Donat de La Garde, master. For more details on her capture, see Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 23 Feb., and "Extract of a Letter from Captain Onslow to the Viscount Howe," 2 Mar., below.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *SOLEBAY*, CAPTAIN THOMAS SYMONDS

Feb^y. 1778
Monday 23

off P^t Comfort
at 9 AM saw 2 Ships off the Cape, chased p^r Sig^l to the SE S^t *Albans* in Company—
Cape Henry WBS 2 or 3 Miles
Little Wind & f^t at ½ past 4 PM fired 8 Shot at one of the Chace, at 6 fired 4 Shot at the Chace & b^t her too, a French Ship from Port L'Orient bound for Virginia,¹ S^t *Albans* in Chace of the other²

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/909.

1. French ship *Vicomte de Veaux*, Pierre Donat de La Garde, master, owned by the Vicomte de Veaux of Paris, mounting 24 guns, navigated by 89 seamen, from L'Orient to Chesapeake Bay, with salt, woolens, cordage &c., chased out of Lynnhaven Bay, sent as prize to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. She was declared a lawful capture on 10 Apr. 1778 by the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and credited as a prize of the *Solebay*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 67. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/471/10.

2. French ship *Ferdinand*, Denis-Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen, master, 44 guns.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *SENEGAL*, COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY

February 1778
Monday 23.

[*Old*] Point Comfort NEbN
Light airs & showery wea^r At 9 AM. weighed with the S^t *Albans* who made sail after the two ships in Lynnhaven bay¹ we laying to for the Victualer & two prizes (seeing two Armed Vessells coming from Hampton) to pass us. At 11 anchored in Lynnhaven bay in 6 f^m. three Ships in Company. Saw the *Solebay*

Running down the bay & joined chace with the *S^t Albans*, after the two ships now in sight & passing the Capes for sea—

[*Old*] Point Comfort WBS. 2 Lea^s.

Fresh breezes & cloudy wea^t. At 4 P.M. saw 4 Armed Vessells coming round p^t. Comfort sent the Tender to observe their Motions heard guns frequently in the SE quarter.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/885.

1. French ship *Ferdinand*, Denis-Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen, master, 44 guns, and French ship *Vicomte de Veaux*, Pierre Donat de La Garde, master, 24 guns.

February 24

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

Remarkable Observations on Tuesday Febr'y 24th 1778¹

This day begins with Close Weather and Rain att 2 PM Got Sight of our Chase which strove to Cross me a head about one League but as Soon as they Discoverd me they kept by the wind I then Came up with her Very fast when I Came up within a mile & a half I hoisted american Colours I then took a Squall from the west Very heavy Carred my M T Mast over Board Lost nor wounded no man thanks to god She Seeing that hoisted Normendy Colers fired a Gun to Leward I answerd one do I was oblidged to go before the wind Untill the Squall was over the Ship Seeing my distress bore after me and Run NE for about half an hour but Could not Come up with me though I was Under Short Sail She then kept the wind and Stood to the Northward I had the good fortune to Save my Sails and Riging though Very much Shatred midle and Latter Parts of this 24 hours my People Employd Cleareng Riging Somthing moderate with Rain

Latittude OBServd in 37^d=10^m North

Course	Dist	X Latt ^d	Depart	Latt ^d	Per Obs	X Long ^d in	Longd in	Meridian D
			miles					miles
N 40 ^d E	84m	64 ^m N	54 East	37=10 N		1 ^d =05; E	58 ^d =15 ^m W	532; E

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log Book of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 23 Feb. to noon of 24 Feb., following sea time.

PETITION OF JEAN BAPTISTE HUGOUNENE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL

[*Boston*]

Au trez honorable
trez honorable Conceil
Superieur et Souverain
de la province de la nouvelle
angleterre

Suplie trez humblement jean Baptiste Hugounene Cap^e des navire marchant en france, de l'isle de la Martinique. disant que desirant armer un Corssaire d'environ

quatorze pieces de Canon, equipe de soixante dix hommes. il plaise aux messieurs du Conceil luy faire accorder une Commission en guerre pour deffendre les interest des treze provinces unies Offrant pour Caution M^{rs}. price & macarty. il ne cessera de faire des voeux pour la prosperité et L'heureux succès de la liberté

Hugounene

[Contemporary Abstract]

The Petition of John Baptiste Hugounene Master of Brig^a *little Betsey* of Martinico—

humbly prayeth

That the honble Council will grant him a Commission or letter of Marque for the s^d. Brig^a burthen about One hundred & fifty Tons & mounted with fourteen Guns four Pounders & manned with seventy men, has on Board all Provisions Sixty Bls Beef & Pork & four thousand W^t. Bread & Ammunition for a Six Months Cruize & your petitioner as in duty bound &c^a. &c^a.

signed

Hugounene

Officers on Board are as follow Viz^t

Jean Bap: Hugonene Commander

Cl^e. Gregory 1^t Lieut.—

NB: Y^r Petitioner proposes to give for his bondsmen Miss^{rs}. James Price & W^m M^cCarty—Merch^{ts}.—

In Council Feb^y 24: 1778 Read & Ordered. That a Commission be issued out to John Bap: Hugonene as Commander of the above mentioned Brig^a. he complying with the Resolves of Congress

Jn^o. Avery D^y Sec^y—

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 168 (Council Papers, 1777–1778), pp. 328–29. Addressed at foot: “To the honourable/Council of the State/of Massachusets bay.”

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board [of] War Boston Feb^y 24th 1778

Order'd That Henry Alline's Bill for Gauging 83 Hhds Molasses & 14 Hhds Rum from the Sloop *Republic*¹ be paid £3..12..—

Order'd That M^r Ivers² pay Captⁿ. Turner³ on account of Brig^a: *Dolphin*⁴ £60.. 0.. 0

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 231–32.

1. Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic*.

2. Thomas Ivers.

3. Capt. Israel Turner.

4. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*.

SUSANNAH SOMES TO MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Gent/

Glouster Feb^y 24, 1778

Understanding that you are agents for the Brig *Liberty* on board of which Vessel my Husband M^r Nehemiah Somes is first Leiutenant as I am informed as he has been absent from his family a Considerable time and I and his Children are in great want of the necessaries of life I pray you to send me something in money or

Goods on his Account for my Support I am well satisfied that you will greatly oblige him in so doing as well as Your Hum^l Serv^t

Susanah: Somes

Test sam Leighton

Edm^d: Grover Leighton

This Certifies that Susanna Somes above Mentioned is the lawful wife of S^d Capt. Nehemiah Somes and that her Circumstances are as above described and I have no doubt but it will be agreable to hir Husband to let her have some Support

James Porter Town Clerk

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 153 (Board of War Letters, 1777-1780), p. 45. Addressed at top: "The Hon^{ble}: The Board/of War.—"

RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL OF WAR TO CHARLES WALLER

State of Rhode Island & Providence Plantations
In Council of War Providence February 24th. 1778.

Sir,

We have received yours of y^e. 19th. instant proposing to dismiss the Prisoners in your Hands.—Humanity forbids us to Reject the Proposal.—It will be as convenient to you to put them ashore at Bristol, and as the Prisoners may more easily be landed, and sooner meet with Refreshments and Accomodations, there than at Warwick-Neck you will send them to that Place. You may be assured that On our Part we will do every Thing we can to prevent those taken in armed Vessels from taking up Arms until they shall be duly exchanged and for that Purpose desire you to furnish us with an exact List of them. As a further security we advise that you cause them to give their Paroles.

The Ship *Royal-Bounty* arrived at Marblehead in the State of the Massachusetts-Bay w^{ch} is not within our jurisdiction.—To the authority of that State we must refer you for Information respecting that Matter, as we are not possessed of The circumstances attending s^d. Ship to determine thereon.—We send by this Conveyance all the British Prisoners taken in the Sea-Service who are in our hands excepting Capt. Furneaux of the *Syren*, and inclose you a List of them.—We are willing to exchange Capt. Furneaux for Col. Ethan Allen who was taken in Canada and is now a Prisoner upon Long-Island; and desire you to propose it to L^d. Howe.—Upon his Lordship's agreeing to the Exchange Capt. Furneaux shall be immediately discharged. We have also received yours of the 24th: of January; and some Time since gave Orders for the making out and stating the Account of the Exchange of Prisoners with Sir Peter Parker.—As soon as they are completed we shall transmit them to you.

We propose that M^r. William Smith late Captain's Clerk of the *Syren* who goes in this Cartel upon his Parole be exchanged for M^r. John Sprague late Doctor of the *Active Privateer*¹ who is now here upon his Parole and hath been detained here by Sickness ever since he left Rhode Island; and that Lieut. Samuel York of the Sloop *Sachem* an armed Vessel in the Service of the United States now on board the Prison Ship be exchanged for Lieut. Otway of the *Lark*, who also goes in this Cartel upon his Parole. We also propose that L^t. Muirson² who was a L^t of Marines in the Continental Service and was taken upon the Lake in the Year 1776, in the

Engagem^t where Gen^l Arnold Commanded & suffered to pass upon his Parole be discharged from his Engagement for L^t Meredith of the *Syren* who likewise is sent if that is agreeable. M^r Muirson being discharged from his Parole it will be considered that L^t Meredith is likewise discharged.

In Behalf and by Order of the Council I Subscribe Myself Sir [&c.]

[Enclosure]

Prisoners sent in the Cartel. 25 Feby 1778.—

William A. Otway Lieut	}	<i>Lark</i> Frigate
Francis Brooks Midship ⁿ		
Charles Vaughan Lieut	}	<i>Syren</i> Ship of War—
Ja ^s . Meredith L ^t Marines		
W ^m Smith Clerk		
Richard Hardy Midship ⁿ		<i>Unicorn</i> Ship of War—
John Maston Midship ⁿ		<i>Juno</i> Frigate
James Quelch Marine		
Jn ^o . Destmond	}	Seamen Ship <i>Syren</i>
Jn ^o . White		
Jn ^o . Primus		
Mem ^o . Otway is exchanged for York	}	and their Paroles discharged
Smith Sprague		
Meredith Muirson		

Df, R-Ar, Letters from the Governor (1778–1779), vol. 3, p. 11. Addressed at foot of first page: “M^r Charles Waller.” Docketed: “Copy Lre to Ch^s. Waller/Commissary of Prisoners at/Newport Feb^y 24th. 1778.”

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine, John Foster Williams, commander.
2. Lt. Heathcote Muirson, lieutenant of marines on Arnold's Fleet galley *Washington*.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Extract]

[Newport. Rhode Island] 24th Feb^y Fine weather. Wind W.

Six men came in last night from Swansea. They say it was The *Warren*, Rebel Frigate, which escaped down the Naraganset passage the night of the 16th Instant. This is confirmed by some of the Rebel papers, but with this addition, that “she almost destroyed one of The Ministerial Frigates which attempted to oppose her.” The fact is that she was suffered to escape, but did not fire a gun. . . .

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 252.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE HADDONFIELD MILITIA

Head Quarters Valley Forge

24th Feb^y 1778.

Sir

I have sent over [*blank*]¹ to take the charge of some pieces of heavy Artillery, with which I have directed him, to give the Enemy's shipping near the City all the annoyance in his power, while the river continues in its present situation. He will stand in need of a body of infantry to cover the Artillery in this operation and to

aid in throwing up some little work that may be necessary to give them greater security and enable them to act with more effect.—I have therefore to request, you will give him all the Assistance you can afford, from the militia under your command.—He may possibly have it in his power to do something to advantage by means of red hot shot or otherwise. I am Sir [&c.]

G^o. Washington

DfS, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Commanding Officer of Militia/Haddonfield." Docketed: "26th. Feby 1778./to/the Commanding Officer/of Militia Haddonfield."

1. "Captn. Lieut Symonds" is inserted here in the Varick Transcript. DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 3B, Varick Transcripts. Actually his name is Captain-Lieutenant Jonas Simonds, 2d Continental Artillery Regiment. See General George Washington to Captain-Lieutenant Jonas Simonds, immediately below.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO CAPTAIN-LIEUTENANT JONAS SIMONDS

Sir,

You are to proceed forthwith into the State of New Jersey, and apply to Capt Alexander¹ of the navy who is hereby directed to deliver you the pieces of heavy artillery at present under his care; with which you are to give all the annoyance, in your power, by means of red hot shot or any other that may appear to you effectual to the enemy's shipping near the city of Philadelphia. The most eligible mode of proceeding to effect this, as to the choice of position, the construction of any necessary work, or other matter whatever, I must leave to your own discretion, to be governed by circumstances.

But I must observe to you the necessity of guarding against a surprise or the loss of your cannon and party, in case of any attempt for that purpose being made by the enemy: in order to which I have written to the commanding officer of the Jersey Militia at Haddon field to afford you all the aid he can, from the militia under his command as a security for your cannon and to assist in raising any little work you may find requisite.² You will apply to him accordingly, and enter upon the purposes for which you are sent as speedily as possible.—One thing you will have particularly to attend to is that as you will have to act on a point of land, or kind of peninsula; there will be great danger of the Enemy throwing parties above and below you and getting into your rear in which case your retreat would be intercepted. This will require a good look out pretty far on both your flanks.

Given at Head Q^s at Valley Forge, by
command of his Excell^y, this 24th. day of
Feby 1778

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at head in another hand: "To Capⁿ L^t Jonas. Simonds of the Artillery." Docketed: "Instructions to/Capⁿ Simonds/24th: Feby 1778."

1. Capt. Charles Alexander, Continental Navy.

2. See General George Washington to Commanding Officer of the Haddonfield Militia, immediately above.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROEBUCK*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

February 1778

[alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]

Tuesd^y 24th.

[AM] Mod^t & Clear W^r, Boatswain employ'd overhauling the Rigging

Thick hazey W^r

PM at 3 Employ'd Fitting out the *Pembroke* (Tender) & half Galley's with arms Provisions &C^{a.1} at 11 the *Pembroke* with the two Galleys left the Ship in Comp^y with a Great N^o. of flatt Boats, Carrying the 2 Batt^{ns}. of Light Infantry to be landed at Billingsfort from Whence they were to march to Salam & the Boat's to follow them Down the River²

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4311.

1. Tender *Pembroke* was probably the Pennsylvania Navy armed boat *Thunder*. The half galleys were two of the Pennsylvania Navy armed boats that deserted to the British on 12 Jan. For more on this defection, see Journal of H.M.S. *Roebuck*, 12 Jan., above.

2. This expedition was in response to the rounding up of cattle by Brig. Gen. Anthony Wayne's brigade in Salem County, N.J., from 19 to 23 Feb. 1778. Surmising that the British had learned of his movements, Wayne asked Capt. John Barry to create a diversion with his force of six armed boats to cover the brigade's withdrawl to Haddonfield. Barry's force rowed up the Delaware to Mantua Creek on 24 Feb. and then worked its way down the river to Alloway Creek, N.J., burning about 400 tons of hay enroute before retiring to Port Penn, Del., on 25 Feb. See Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 26 Feb., below.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROEBUCK*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

Feb^y 1778

[alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]

Tuesday 24th

[AM] Moderate and fair weather employ'd in cleaning the Ship and overhalling the rigging—

Light airs and dark cloudy weather

PM the *Zebra* dropd down at 10 the *Pembroke* Tender dropd down the River with two Gun boats some Flat boats & Arm'd Vessels¹ under the Command of Capt. Linzee² with 2 Battallion[s] of Light Infantry³

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1964, 89.

1. For more on the tender *Pembroke* and the two gunboats, see Journal of H.M.S. *Roebuck*, 24 Feb., esp. note 1, above.

2. Capt. John Linzee, R.N.

3. For more on this expedition, see Journal of H.M.S. *Roebuck*, 24 Feb., esp. note 2, above, and Brigadier General Anthony Wayne to General George Washington, 25 Feb. and 26 Feb., below.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO WILLIAM SMITH

William Smith Esq^r

Sir

[York, Pa.] February 24th 1778

We request you will immediately on receipt hereof purchase 2000 Barrels of Common Flour with 30 Tons of bar Iron and forward the same as soon as may to Senepuxent¹ with directions to a proper person there to receive and deliver the same to such masters of vessels as shall arrive there for that purpose—We have by Express this day directed the Navy Board for the Eastern Department to send from

thence round to Senepuxent small fast sailing Vessels that may be sufficient to take off the above quantity.²

We shall apply to Congress for money to enable you in the execution which we shall send you by the first safe conveyance. We shall rely upon your care and expedition in this affair & are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 128 (M332, roll 6).

1. Sinepuxent, Md.

2. See Continental Marine Committee to Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept., 23 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL

[Annapolis] Tuesday 24th February 1778

Ordered That the western shore Treasurer pay to Benjamin Chambers one hundred and twenty nine pounds twelve Shillings for 144 Gallons Whiskey furnished the Galley *Conqueror* and the State Boats by order of this Board—

D, MdAA, Governor and Council (Proceedings) 1777–1779, SM 123-22, M3156-3.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

February 78

Cape Henry SW 1½ Miles—

Tuesday 24th.

at 5 AM Saw a Sail to the SE from the Mast head,¹ out Studding Sails. left off Chace, it being little Wind, and no Chance of Speak^s the Chace not Judging it proper to be lead off the Coast with only 35 Tons of Water on board.

D^o [Cape Henry] N 33 W 12 Leagues.

Mod^t and fair [PM] Saw two Sail One bearing NWbW the other bearing SWbW. at Same time saw a Smoak to the EbN, which we took to be two Ships engaging at 2 Sett the T M: & T: G^t Studding Sails

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. Probably, French ship *Ferdinand*, Denis-Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen, master, 44 guns, which *St. Albans* had been chasing the previous day.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PERSEUS*, CAPTAIN GEORGE KEITH ELPHINSTONE

Feb^y 1778

D^o [Ch^s Town Lighthouse] NNE 7 or 8 Leagues.

Tuesday 24th:

at 5 [AM] Saw a Sail in the SW^t which proved the *Lizard*, at 6 AM Saw the chace again, and standing in for Ch^s Town Bar; gave chace, as did the *Lizard*; at 8 almost calm hoisted out the Boats and Towed the Ship; [at] 11 the chace altered her course to the S^oward.

D^o: NNE^t: 4 or 5 Leagues.

Light breezes and hazy: at 2 PM the *Lizard* brought too the chace, the Ship *Glanure* from Rochell¹ to Charles-Town laden with dry Goods and Salt; at 4 brought too and took charge of

her, brought all her men on board to the Number of forty eight;²

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/688.

1. La Rochelle, France.

2. On 9 Mar. H.M.S. *Lizard* escorted French ship *Glanure* into St. Augustine. UkLPR, Adm. 51/688.

“MEMORANDUM OF AMERICAN PRIVATEERS IN MARTINIQUE & THE CONDUCT
OF THE FRENCH TOWARDS THE AMERICANS”

Saint Vincent 24th Feb: 1778.

On monday the 9th Feb. a french 64 Gun Ship fired a signal Gun, when Six loaded american vessells and two french Snows and several others of mix'd property unmoored, but all hoisted french Colours. the Man of War convoyed these to the northward

On the 13th there remained in St Pierre Road twenty two armed brigs either Americans or owned by the French and called Americans

Among these was a Captain Tew¹ in a Congress vessell who kept the American Colours flying all the time he remained in Harbor, his vessell pierced for 18 Guns but mounts only 16,² tolerably well manned, but exact number not known on board of him a french guard conducted fourteen British Seamen from the places of confinement where they had been kept & who were all cruelly whipped as soon as put on board because the honest Tars had said they might force them onboard but nothing should make them fight against their King and Country.

Another Privateer of 14 Guns, all the crew except only one, foreigners mostly french from Martinica. this had lately brought in a rich prize, Captain Scott bound to Antigua

A Captain Dalling³ owned in America, in a 14 Gun brig 6 pounders & 113 men.⁴ A Capt. Hendrickson owned intirely in Martinica, 14 Guns, exact number of men unknown. he sailed out to Demarara to protect some vessells with valuable cargoes expected there from America

A Captain Hovey⁵ Owned Mostly in Martinica, a 14 Gun brig 170 men, most of them French men.⁶ A Captain Billing⁷ owned in Martinica about 14 Gun brig well manned.⁸ A Captain Staunton, owned in Martinica about the same number of guns & men.⁹ A Captain Ord,¹⁰ mostly owned in Martinica, a 14 Gun brig manned intirely with French men & other foreigners¹¹

the *Cumberland* a Congress vessell, a Ship of 22 Guns,¹² a compleat vessell compleatly manned and a prime sailor.

A Capt. Coit¹³ or Moit in a large hermophrodite brig.¹⁴ besides these many Congress Schooners, 22 armed Brigs in all, and between 20 & 30 vessells of inferior Size, all the small ones owned in Martinica. M^r Bingham¹⁵ dines very frequently and lives in great intimacy with Mons^r Perier¹⁶ Commandant of St Pierre.

Generally when a Guineyman is taken the Captains of the Privateers make presents of several of the negroes first to the General & then to most or all of his inferior officers before he is allowed to sell the rest, but after this Step he has the fullest indulgence.

A French Officer strongly recommended to the French General sailed to America with those vessels which sailed the 9th of February with M^r Bingham's recommendation for a commission from the Congress Army

It is expected that M^r Bingham will be superceeded from the complaints made against him to the Congress of there being to[o] good an understanding between him and the french General to the prejudice of the captors of prizes in the disposal of them. to counterbalance these complaints, he has just thrown into the Loan Office in America what, or greatest part of the money he has made during these troubles.

The Americans meditate Seriously an attack on Dominica & Tortola or without fail on one in case they shall think it impossible to make both.

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 260/5, fols. 153-54. Docketed: "In Gov^r Morris's of the/18th & 25th Febr'y 1778./ (3)/d^r." Endorsed: "~~Duplicate~~ Copy/Ex^d." Notation: "Saint Vincent 24th Feb: 1778./Memorandum of American Privateers in Martinique & the Conduct of the French/towards the Americans." A duplicate copy of this document in C.O. 260/5, fols. 159-60.

1. Capt. Samuel Chew, Continental Navy.
2. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*, 10 guns.
3. Capt. Thomas Dalling.
4. New Hampshire privateer brigantine *General Sullivan*, 14 guns.
5. Capt. James Hovey.
6. Rhode Island privateer brig *Fairfield*, 14 guns.
7. Capt. Henry Billings.
8. Connecticut privateer sloop *Trumbull*, 12 guns.
9. American privateer brig *General Howe* (or *Howe*), 10 guns.
10. Capt. George Ord.
11. Pennsylvania privateer brig *Retaliation*, 14 guns.
12. Massachusetts privateer ship *Cumberland*, James Collins, commander.
13. Capt. William Coit.
14. Connecticut privateer brig/sloop *America*.
15. William Bingham, Continental Commercial Agent at Martinique.
16. — La Perrier, commandant of the fort and town of St. Pierre and lieutenant governor of Martinique.

February 25

RICHARD BULKELEY TO COLONEL CREIGHTON

Secretary's Office

Halifax 25th February 1778

Sir

I am to acquaint you that in Consequence of the Representation you have made of the Mischiefs done to the Settlement of Lunenburg by the New England Privateers, The Lieutenant Governor¹ has Order'd the *Loyal Nova: Scotian*² (Just now return'd to this Harbour from the Bay of Fundy) to be gott ready for Lunenburg. She mounts eight Carriage Guns, but she must be mann'd from Lunenburg, as it cannot be done from hence, and this may be done without any great difficulty, as she may lay in the Harbour untill Occasion may call her out.

Please to inform of the State of your Ammunition that if there is any want, Application may be made for a Supply. I am Sir. [&c.]

Rich^d Bulkeley

LB, CaNSHP, Commissioner of Public Records Collection, Government at Halifax Series, Letter Books of the Governors and Provincial Secretaries, vol. 136, p. 260. Addressed below close: "Colonel Creighton/Lunenburg." Bulkeley was secretary of the Nova Scotia Council.

1. Rear Adm. Marriot Arbuthnot.
2. Nova Scotia Province armed schooner.

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

Remarks on Wednesday February 25th 1778 on board the *Boston* Frigate¹

Moderate gales with a tumbling Sea Employd about giting a New main topmast to hand & fixing the rigging²—att 2 PM Reefed the fore and Mizen topsail Under Moderate Sail—Midle & Latter Parts Moderate gales & Cloudy—

Lattitude Observed In 37^d=48^m North

Course	Dist	X Latt ^d	Depart	Latt ^d	Per Obs	X Long ^d	Long ^d in	Meridian D
N ^o 64 ^d ; E	88	38 ^m N ^o	79; E	37 ^d =48 ^m N		1 ^d =39 ^m ; E	56 ^d =36 ^m W	611 miles E

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 24 Feb. to noon of 25 Feb., following sea time.
2. The crew got the main-topmast up and rigged it during the afternoon of 25 Feb. Ibid.

JOURNAL OF MARINE LIEUTENANT WILLIAM JENNISON

[*Frigate Boston at Sea*]

1778 [*Feb.*] 25 Got up a New Main Top Mast, Main Topsail Yard & Top Gallant Mast & yards and bent their Sails—Lat. by Obs. 38.35 N.

DLC, Journal of Lieutenant William Jennison, 6.

COLONEL JONATHAN GLOVER TO MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Dear Sirs,

Marblehead Feb^r 25: 1778

I am very Sorry to Inform your Honours that I am very Sick of my voyage, as soon as Cap^t Bartlett¹ Return from Boston & it was known, that he was Bound to South Carolina & France. the crew that had agreed to go in the Brigg, purchased of Col^o. Orne,² all Left to go with him. Soon after, the Cap^t followed them, he is Shipt to go Capt Bartlett Mate, they are to have one Months pay advance^d. hear one Months at Carolina & one Months in France, I have given Cap^t Bartlett thirty pounds L Money, as his people wanted Some Money Before they Set off, they all Sett out for Boston to Morrow Morning, where I hope you^l See them Soon—Since the Master & crew Left the Brigg, I have Shipt a New Master, & have the promies of A Mate & three hands, & am in Search of More, Shall do all in my power, which will not be Much I fear, while we have Vessels in our harbour that is in want of hands for Bilbao or France, Capt Bartlett can Inform you More Particular Respecting the geting of Seamen at this time, then I write you—I have Been this day to Beverly & Manchester after two Sch^{rs}. which I heard of their—But could Not Obtain Either of them, I have Sent two Men off to Newbury to get the Brigg, on Shore in order to grave—I purpos[*e*] to follow them to Morrow or Next day without the weather Should prevent Me I am Gentlemen [&c.]

Jon^a Glover

Thursday Morning 8 OClock. I now Sett of for Newbury, I due Not Expect to get Seamen that will go without the Brigg is in this Harbour—

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 153 (Board of War Letters, 1777–1780), p. 46. Addressed: "To/The Hon^{ble} Board of War/In/Boston." Docketed: "Col^o. Glovers Letter/Feb^y 25/1778."

1. Capt. Nicholas Bartlett, Jr., commanding the Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
2. Azor Orne.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO MORRIS, PLIARNE, PENET & CO.

Gentlemen

War Office Boston 25th Feb^y 1778

This, please God, will be deliverd you by Cap^t Luther Turner in our Ship *Adams*,¹ by whom you will receive Letters from our Mutual Friends Mess^{rs}. John I Cripps & Mey Merchants in Charlestown S^o. Carolina² Inclosing Invoice & Bill Lading of a Cargo of Rice, which we wish safe to your hands.—You will please to dispose of the Cargo to our best Advantage and dispatch the Ship directly Back. ballast with Salt to which you will Add an Assortment of such Articles as mentiond below. You will be kind eno' to send us the Masters Receipts for such Moneys as you may furnish him with to his men, & other disbursments.—We are very Respectfully [&c.]

Sam Phps Savage Presd^t
By order of the Board.—

☞ the *Adams*

Cap^t Luther Turner

Three Point Blanketts

Blue Cloth

White d^o proportioned $\frac{7}{8}$ blue $\frac{1}{16}$ Red $\frac{1}{16}$ WhiteRed d^o for Soldiers Cloths,—Stout large Shoes & Stockings of a Good Quality
for Soldiers—Linnen for Shirting for d^o. from 30^s to 50^s sols

Ravens Duck

Ticklenburghs

Cordage of Different Sizes from 1 to 4 Inches,—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), pp. 160–61. Addressed at top: "Mess^{rs}. Morris, Pliarne Penet & C^o."

1. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.
2. John S. Cripps and Florian Charles Mey.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY

At a Meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety holden at Hartford in and for the State of Connecticut on the 25th Day of February, 1778.

Whereas the Hon^{ble} Congress of the United States have authorized and requested his Excellency the Governor and this Board to cause the continental frigate *Trumbull*, now lying near the mouth of the river Connecticut and there detained by reason of an apprehended difficulty of getting over a bar of sand, cal-

I'd Say Brook Bar, to be removed and got over said bar ready to proceed to sea &c. Therefore,

Resolved and ordered by his Excellency the Governor and this Board, That Capt. John Cotten of Middletown be and he is hereby fully authorized, impowered and directed, forthwith to endeavour by all proper and practible means in his power, to cause the said continental frigate to be remov'd and got over said bar and into the harbour of Newlondon, and for that end to employ such help and assistance of men and materials as he shall find and adjudge proper and necessary.¹ And Dudley Saltonstall, Esq^r, commander of said ship, and all other officers and men belonging to said ship, are hereby requested, ordered and directed, to afford said Capt. Cotten every aid, help and assistance in their power, to effect this important and necessary object and which Congress have so much at heart. And said Capt. Cotten is to use his best prudence and discretion in prosecuting this important business to prevent the said ship falling into the hands of the enemy, or any other misfortune; and to make report as soon as may be to his Excellency the Governor of his doings in the premises together with the expence attending the execution thereof, that the same may be defrayed and proper information immediately made to said Hon^{ble} Congress.

Hoadly, ed., *Public Records of the State of Connecticut*, 1: 567-68.

1. See Captain John Cotton to Governor Jonathan Trumbull, 26 Feb., below.

BRIGADIER GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sir

Haddenfield 25th Feb^r: 1778—

I landed in New Jersey the 19th: and proceeded to Salem the same Evening—the next Morning I sent out several Detachment to Collect Cattle &c^a: pursuant to the within Order; at the same time Dispatched the enclosed Letter to B. Gen^l Ellis—¹

It was difficult to meet any Cattle; Altho the Country abounded with them; as the Inhabitants had Secreted all such as were fit for our use in the Swamps—however I have got together upwards of One hundred and fifty Head, which will be at Mount holly this day at 3 oClock—there is a Number more in the Vicinity of Coopers ferry & the River between this and Dunck's ferry, which we shall also drive, and doubt not but I shall send to Camp in the course of four days more at least 250 head exclusive of about thirty Capital Horses for Lee's Troop²—Upon hearing that the Enemy were about to land at Burlington, I attempted to pass the Cattle over at New Castle with Capt. Barrys Boats, but this failing have sent them by the way of Mount holly—passing with the main detachment between them and the River; and In order to amuse the Enemy and Effect the Destruction of the Forage on the River—I Directed Capt. Barry with a Detachment in Boats to execute the Order, of which the Enclosed is a Copy—he began the Business yesterday at the Mouth of Racoons Creek at 10 oClock in the morn^g: falling down with the tide—this drew the Attention of the Enemy that way—and at one oClock this Morn^g: twenty flatt bot-tomed Boats with a Number of other craft full of Troops, rowed down the River by Glochester Point—but where they have landed I am not yet Informed—but expect every moment to here—as I have Detached horse Men both up and down the

River—leaste they should amuse us below, whilst they are passing at Dunck's ferry, in this Case I shall out flank them—

If the Jerseys should not be their Object I fear for Smallwood—he is in a feeble Condition—he has not Carriages sufficient to move his Baggage—

I Shall push the Cattle for Trent town, and in Case the Enemy have landed in this State will Remain, with the Militia and part of the Detachment to prevent the Enemy from Maroding too farr—until I receive your Excellencies further Orders on the Occasion—General Ellis the Commanding Officer here Informs me that the whole of the force he can Collect dont exceed three Hundred—I am Your Excellencies [&c.]

Ant^y Wayne BG

NB I have sent you the
Originals—not having time
to Copy the Different Orders

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "On Publick Service/His Excellency/General Washington/Head Quarters." Notation: "Ant^y Wayne." Docketed: "Haddonfield 25th Feb^y/1778/from/Gen^l Wayne." Notations: "The express char[g]ed with this is to pass & has/Direction to Impress fresh Horses/if Necessary Ant^y Wayne/25th Feby 1778"; "Artillery."

1. Brig. Gen. Joseph Ellis, New Jersey Militia.
2. Capt. Henry Lee, 1st Continental Dragoons.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROEBUCK*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

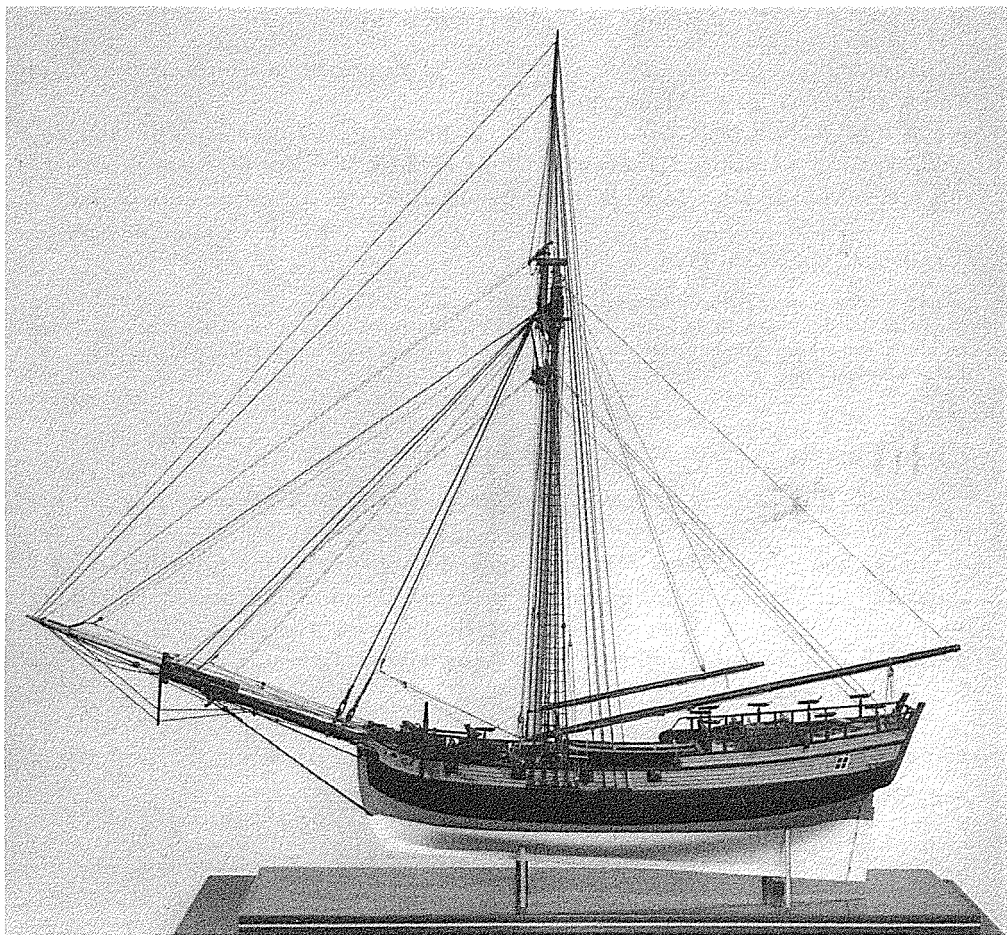
Feb^y. 1778 [alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]
Wednesday 25th. AM some hands employd Wolding a New Main Mast—
First part D^o. Weather [Light airs and dark cloudy weather] latter D^o and rain PM at 10 Mannd some Flat Boats to carry the 42 Reg^t. & Queens Rangers to Coopers Ferry

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1964, 89.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY *CORNWALLIS*, LIEUTENANT THOMAS SPRY

Feb^y: 1778 at Single Anchor between philadelphia and Coopers ferry
Wednesday 25 ½ p^t. 1 AM. weighd and came to sail Down the River in Company
With the *Pearls* Tender Half Galleys and flatt boats with Troops¹
at 4 Anchor in 5 fathom water above the Cheaveux de frize
Close to the *Zebra* at 6 weighd and rowd through the East
Chanal to Billings port and Anchor in 4 fath^m. water a Cables
Lenth from the shore
At Single Anchor at Billings port The two lower
Chimneys SW ½ W
Light Airs inclinable to Calm at 1 PM came to sail Rowd and
Towd with flatt boats down the River ½ p^t. 6 Anchor in ¼ 3 f^{ms}.
Water of the High land of [f] Christeen² in C^o. with Cap^t Lindsey
in his Tender *Zebra* and flat boats³

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1676, pt. 2, fol. 35.



Continental Navy sloop Providence

1. For a description of this expedition, see Journal of H.M.S. *Roebuck*, 24 Feb., esp. note 2, above, and Brigadier General Anthony Wayne to General George Washington, 25 Feb., above, and 26 Feb., below.

2. Christiana Creek, Del.

3. The expedition consisted of H.M.S. *Pearl's* tender, Capt. John Linzee, commander, H.M. sloop *Zebra*, Comdr. John Orde, commander, and flat boats.

NOTICE OF SALE OF PRIZE SCHOONER

To be SOLD, by decree of the Hon. the COURT of ADMIRALTY, on Thursday the 12th of March next, in the town of Hampton,

A SCHOONER boat about twenty five or thirty tuns burthen, with her rigging, tackle, apparel, &c. also a quantity of SALT, RUM, SAIL DUCK, and several other articles, lately taken by Capt. *James Barron* carrying supplies to the *British* ships of war.¹

BEN. POWELL, Marshal.

WILLIAMSBURG, *Feb.* 25, 1778.

Purdie's *Virginia Gazette* (Williamsburg), 6 Mar. 1778.

1. The Virginia Court of Admiralty's 20 Feb. order for the publication of this notice states that there was also a Negro man named Gawin on board the small schooner when captured by Cpts. James and Richard Barron. *Ibid.*

NOTICE OF SALE OF PRIZE SLOOP FORTUNE

To be SOLD, by decree of the Hon. the COURT of ADMIRALTY, on the 6th of March next, at East warehouses in, Gloucester county,

A SLOOP¹ about forty or fifty tuns burthen, together with her rigging, tackle, apparel, &c. taken up in *Chesapeake* bay by Capt. *Richard Billups* and the company under his command in *September* last, in which vessel was a quantity of FLOUR and BREAD. The said sloop, rigging, &c. may be seen by applying to *Richard Billups*, who lives near the place.

BEN. POWELL, Marshal.

WILLIAMSBURG, *Feb.* 25, 1778.

Purdie's *Virginia Gazette* (Williamsburg), 6 Mar. 1778.

1. *Fortune* was libelled on 10 Mar. in Williamsburg. See "At a Court of Admiralty held in the City of Williamsburg, the 10th day of March 1778" below.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP SENEGAL, COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY

February 1778

Cape Henry ESE¹

Wednesday 25

Light winds & clear wea^r AM. saw two Ships at anchor within C Henry, one with french colours, & one at sea plying, sent the Tender to reconnoitre & them to be the *Solebay* with a french ship of 24 guns.¹ At 11 the *Solebay* & prize Anchored by us. And S^t *Albans* standing up for the ships—

Ditto

Moderate & clear Anchored by us the S^t *Albans* at ½ past 1 P.M. Emp^d receiving & stowing provisions from the victualler

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/885.

1. French ship *Vicomte de Veaux*, Pierre Donat de La Garde, master, 24 guns.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JOHN GAMBIER TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

Quadruplicate

Nassau in New Providence
the Chief of the Bahama Islands
25th Feb: 1778.

My Lord

I am extremely sorry to acquaint your Lordship that a very unfortunate Accident happened here a few Days after my Arrival, and before I had Time to make any Disposition for the Safety and Defence of the Island.

On the 27th of January in the Night a Party of Marines were landed from a Vessel of War belonging to the American Congress¹ [to] the Westward of this Town, who marched silently to Fort Nassau and took Possession of it; very unfortunately there were many Americans here (who had gott Passages from the West Indies) who went into the Fort and joined them, they then pointed the Guns on the Town, and sent a Flag of Truce to acquaint the Inhabitants, if there was the least attempt made to raise any Force to attack the Fort, they would fire immediately on the Town, and at the same Time to assure them that none of the Property of the Inhabitants should be injured, which Threat and Promise prevented many of the Inhabitants from joining me, and thereby the Americans considerably outnumbered the Assistance I could gett.

In the Morning early their Ship entred the Harbour and seized on a large Jamaica Ship² laden with Sugars and Rum (that putt in here to refitt) and also on three small Vessels³ that were Prizes to a Jamaica Privateer.⁴

The Americans kept Possession of the Fort two Days, at the End of which Time they spiked up the Guns, destroyed the little Powder that was in the Fort, and sailed with their Prizes.

Since the above Accident I have formd an Association which most of the Inhabitants have entred into, and have agreed to do Duty in the Fort, till we can gett some military Assistance, from Lord Howe or Sir Peter Parker to whom I have wrote for that Purpose, or else some Assistance from England.

I am sorry to say there is a very considerable Trade carryed on, between the Americans and some of the Inhabitants of these Islands and that large Quantitys of Salt are sent to America, which it is not in my Power to prevent for want of some Military Assistance to support the Civil Power.

The foregoing Accident points out the Necessity there is for some Naval Force to be stationed here, as well as some Detachment of Soldiers, and without which whenever the Americans can spare Troops to garrison this Place, they certainly will take Possession of it and keep it.

I am sure I need not point out to your Lordship the many Disadvantages that must attend the Jamaica Trade, as well as that to West Florida and East Florida, was this Place a Rendezvous for American Privateers. I have the Honour to be [&c.]

Jn^o: Gambier.

L, UklPR, C.O. 23/24, fols. 22-23. Addressed at foot of first page: "Right Hon^{ble}: Lord George Germain." Docketed: "New Providence, Bahamas/25th Febry 1778." Docketed in a different hand: "Lieu^t: Gov^r: Gambier/R, 10th: July./Ent^d: (10)."

1. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*, Capt. John Peck Rathbun, commander.
2. Ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.
3. Sloops *Washington*, *Tryal*, and an unidentified sloop.
4. Jamaica letter of marque *Gayton*, Capt. William Chambers, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*, COMMANDER JAMES R. DACRESFeb^{ry} 1778Latt^d: 18° .. 19 N° [*In Anegada Passage*]

Wednesday 25

at 12 [AM] saw a sail to the N°ward at 2 AM fired 2; 6 pound
 shott to Bring her too prov'd to be a sloop from New haven
 Bound to Santa Cruix D° sent an Officer & 5 Men to take
 Charge of her¹

Latt^d: 18° .. 37 N°D° Weath^r: [Light Airs & Calm] P.M nothing Material

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4141, part 8, fol. 195. The journal was kept by Lt. David Lockwood.

1. Sloop *Three Friends*, Ebenezer Barker, master, crew of 5 men. UKLPR, Adm. 36/7828.

GOVERNOR VALENTINE MORRIS TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]

My Lord.

St Vincent 18th February 1778.

. . . a very few days ago a french Man of War of sixty four Guns took under con-
 voy and proceeded with Six American Vessells from St Pierre, bound to America.
 French troops conducted onboard these american Vessells, and from prisons, and
 other places where they had been kept, between Sixty & Seventy English Seamen
 who when received onboard were most cruelly whipped on pretence of either hav-
 ing attempted to escape from or refusing to enter onboard the american Privateers.

I firmly hope My Lord, I, or some other of his Majestys Governors, may receive
 some early directions to remedy that practice of the french Governors or to have it
 openly avowed by them, in order to have such avowal transmitted home. should I
 be honored with his Majestys commands herein these shall be executed with what-
 ever precision and firmness I shall be directed to use.

their privateers have since my last arrived in Martinica with many valuable
 English prizes; might I My Lord presume to hint an easy redress to this; it would be
 to remark that three or at most four of his Majestys Men of War cruizing close
 round the french Islands, would more effectually cut off the possibility of American
 Cruizers coming out, or their carrying prizes there than four times that number
 cruizing more largely, nay even ten times that number cruizing about his Majestys
 own Islands; for without access to Ports to go into & refit, victual, or man, or into
 which to carry their Captures, there would be immediately an end in these seas, to
 those audacious and by the French so much countenanced, nay authorized depre-
 dations committed on the commerce of His Majestys subjects.

With these Asylums left open to them all remonstrances, reclamations, &c^t: your
 Lordship may depend upon it is only time thrown away, paper uselessly blotted, his
 Majesty's honor insulted, and his subjects continue to be daily dreadfully pillaged.
 were some of these Cruizers of Force sufficient to command respect, the French
 ports must be open to them as allies, & thus certain intelligence at least, would be
 constantly acquired by the Captains of the Men of War. the measure recommended
 does not appear to me to be in the least likely to be Productive of a French War, but
 on the contrary preventative, by depriving the french of those funds they now
 obtain, towards carrying on one, Should this become unavoidable, and at present
 the French not acknowledging avowedly the Americans as independant States, dare

not obstruct that chastisement, his Majestys Ships of War may give these rebels, when not within the actual protection & limits of the French Islands.

Your Lordship will I hope pardon the freedom of a hint probably unnecessary, yet which has been dictated by the Zeal for his Majesty, and that intilligence of facts obtained by

Your Lordships most obedient Humble Servant
Valentine Morris

PS: Feb. 25th. I have the honor herewith to transmit to your Lordship copies of one of my letters of the 17th, & one of 23^d of this month, to the Lords of the Treasury, having done the same to their Lordships by this letter, both your Lordship & they will more fully know the unaccountable conduct of the Colonists of this Government, I shall take the freedom in my next of offering what appears to me a short & effectual method of checking it.

PS I have sent to Admiral Young¹ & to Governor Birt² copies of those I trust useful informations relative to the Americans & the conduct of the french which under cover of my copies of my letter to the Lords of the Treasury your Lordship receives.

L, UKLPR, C.O. 260/5, fols. 145–48. Addressed: “Saint Vincent 18th Feb. 78./Original/Right Honble Lord George Germaine.” Docketed: “S^t Vincent 18th. & 25th. Feby 1778./ Governor Morris./R, 16th. May./ (3. Inclosures.)/Ent^d.” The omitted eight paragraphs concern Morris’s frequent disputes with the Assembly of St. Vincent concerning the Carib Indians.

1. Vice Adm. James Young.
2. Gov. William Mathew Burt.

February 26

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[Extract]

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

1778.

Feb. 26. Thursday. I have made many Observations, in the late bad Weather, Some of which I do not think prudent to put in Writing—a few I will Set down. 1st. I have Seen the inexpressible Inconvenience of having So Small a Space between Decks, as there is in the *Boston*.—as the main Deck was almost constantly under Water, the Sea rolling in and out at the Ports and Scuppers, We were obliged to keep the Hat[*ch*]ways down—Whereby the Air became So hot and so dry in the ‘Tween decks that for my own Part, I could not breathe, or live there.—Yet the Water would pour down when ever an hatchway was opened, so that all was afloat.—2. The *Boston* is over metallled,—Her Number of Guns and the Weight of their Metal is too great for her Tonnage.—She has 5 Twelve Pounders, & 19. Nines.—We were obliged to sail, day & Night during a Chaise with the Guns out, in order to be ready, and this exposed Us to certain Inconvenience and great Danger.—They made the Ship labour and roll, So as to oblige Us to keep the Chain Pumps as well as the Hand Pumps, almost constantly going—Besides they Wring, and twist the Ship in such a Manner as to endanger the Starting of a Butt, but still more to endanger the Masts and Rigging.—3. The Ship is furnished with no Pistolls, which She ought to be, with at least as many as there are officers, because there is nothing but the Dread of a

Pistoll will keep many of the Men to their Quarters in Time of Action. 4. This Ship is not furnished with good Glasses, which appears to me of very great Consequence. our Ships ought to be furnished with the best Glasses that Art affords. Their Expencc would be Saved a Thousand Ways. 5. There is the Same general Inattention, I find on Board the Navy to Œconomy that there is in the Army. 6. There is the Same general Relaxation of order and Discipline. 7. There is the Same Inattention to the Cleanliness of the Ship and the Persons & Health of the Sailors, as there is at land of the Cleanness of the Camp and the Health, and Cleanness of the soldiers.—8. The Practice of profane Cursing and Swearing, So Silly as well as detestable, prevails in a most abominable Degree.—it is indulged and connived at by officers, and practised to in such a Manner that there is no Kind of Check against it.—and I take upon me to Say that order, of every Kind will be lax as long as this is So much the Case. . . .

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), pp. 11–12.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT TO JOHN LANGDON

Navy Board Eastern department
Boston 26 February 1778

Sir

We are favoured with yours of the 15th. and regrett our inability to Supply you with money as much as you possibly [*torn*]n.—

Since our last of the 12th: John Deshon Esq^r has been in Town and took with him all the Loan office Certificates that we were possessed of except 2500 dollars in order to get Exchanged for Continental money in the States of Rhode Island and Connecticut to pay the officers and men belonging to the *Warren* that Escaped from Providence last Monday night was a week thro^b the Fire of the Enemys Ships that lay in the passage—

M^r Deshon sat out last Saturday morning in expectation of meeting the *Warren* at New London.

We have (being truly Sensible of your necessitous calls for money) Sent you by M^r Noble in Certificates Fifteen hundred dollars of what remains with us being every hour in expectation of a Supply of money which we shall not fail giving you Notice thereof soon as comes to hand—We are [&c.]

W^m Vernon, on behalf of the Board

L, Private Collection, Capt. J. G. M. Stone, Annapolis, Md., 1959. Addressed at the foot: "Hon^{ble}. John Langdon Esq^r." Docketed: "Febru^y 26th. 1778/William Vernons/Letter Answ^d."

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston Feb^y 26th 1778

Ordered That Captⁿ. Isaac Freeman be paid the Bal^l of his Acc^t for Piloting & sundry expences for the Sloop *Republic*¹ . . . £37..13.. 4

Orderd That the Comm^y Gen^l2 deliver Captⁿ. Luther Turner for the Ship *Adams*³ 20^b Butter—

Order'd That Captⁿ. Hopkins⁴ receive from the Brig^a. *King George* now y^c. *Dolphin*⁵

23 Barrels Tar
11 d^o. Pitch—

Order'd That M^r Henry H. Williams's Bill for 30 Tons Water supply'd the Brig^a:
*Freedom*⁶ Captⁿ. Clouston be paid £ 3.. 0.. 0

Order'd That M^r Ivers⁷ pay M^r John Owen's Bill for Buckets for the
Brigantine[s] *Massachusetts*⁸ & *Favorite*⁹ £ 6.. 0.. 0

Order'd That M^r Ivers pay Captⁿ. Turner on account Ship *Adams* £67..16..—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 234–36.

1. Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic*.
2. David Devens.
3. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.
4. Capt. Caleb Hopkins.
5. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*.
6. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Freedom*, Capt. John Clouston, commander. For her capture by H.M.S. *Apollo*, see *NDAR* 9: 932; 10: 816.
7. Thomas Ivers.
8. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.
9. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

LIBEL FILED IN THE MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME COURT OF THE MIDDLE DISTRICT

STATE of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY. } To all whom it may concern.
Middle-District.

NOTICE is hereby given, That a Libel is filed before me, in Behalf of Capt. Marine,¹ Commander of the armed Schooner *Congress*,² and all concerned therein, against the Sloop *Elizabeth*, of about 70 Tons burthen, James Littlefield, late Master. Which Vessel, with her Cargo and Appurtenances, is said to have been taken and brought into the Middle-District aforesaid; and for the Trial of the Justice of said Capture, the Maritime-Court for the said District, will be held at BOSTON, on Wednesday, the 18th Day of March, 1778, when and where the Owners of said Capture, or any Persons concerned therein, may appear, and shew Cause (if any they have) why the same should not be condemned.

N. CUSHING, Judge of said Court.

Independent Chronicle, and the Universal Advertiser (Boston), 26 Feb. 1778.

1. Capt. John Martin.
2. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Congress*, mounting 6 carriage guns with a crew of 30 men, owned by John Farrey and Henry Newhall, of Boston, was commissioned on 24 Oct. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 5, 121, 122.

ISAAC SEARS TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Sir

Boston Feb^y 26th. 1778

I have now an oppertunity to send of[*f*] the articles purchased for the *Putnam*,¹ to the Care of M^r John Perit at Norwich, I have Sent but 78 muskets, Cou'd git no more, I think 60 is plenty for the *Putnam*, I am Sorry it was not in my Power to procuer a harth & Copper for the Ship & the other articl's Capⁿ. Allen² gave me a minet of, they are not to be had here, I Shell Still be on the lookout if Can git the articl's defiseant Shell do it, the Copper Capⁿ. Allen desierd me to git for the Smoke hole Cou'd not be had the man that he expected to have had it of, Could not let me have more than about 25^{lb} which was all he had, will not Sheet Iron do,

Such as they make the Salt pans of I sopose that may be had with you Inclosed is My acco' against the Ship *Putnam* except the Cartage I am Sir [&c.]

Isaac Sears

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 79, no. 4642. Addressed at top: "Mr Nathl Shaw." Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Isaa[c] Sears/Letter/Feb 26 1778." Docketed in another hand: "4642."

1. Connecticut privateer ship *General Putnam*, Thomas Allon, commander.
2. Capt. Thomas Allon.

RECEIPT OF CAPTAIN SAMUEL SMEDLEY

Received Boston February 26th. 1778 of M^r Daniel Umphry¹ Sixteen Pieces of Six Pound Cannon Belonging to State of Connecticut One of which Being Rendered Unfit for Service by having one of the Truneons Broke of [f] for Ship *Defence*

Sam^l Smedley

L, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 12, p. 335.

1. Daniel Humphry.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY

At a Meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety holden at Hartford in and for said State on the 26th day of February, A.D. 1778.

Resolv'd, That Capt. Rob^t Niles¹ be and he is hereby directed to deliver to the Hon^{ll} Wm. Pitkin, Esq^r,² or order, two hogsheads of sulphur,³ taking his receipt for the same.

Resolv'd, That Capt. Rob^t Niles be directed to deliver to Mr. Isaac Doolittle,⁴ of Newhaven, and Company, or order, one hogshead of sulphur, taking a receipt for the same.

Resolv'd, That Capt. Rob^t Niles be directed to deliver to Colo. Jedidiah Elderkin⁵ or order, one hogshead of sulphur, taking a receipt for the same.

Resolv'd, That Capt. Rob^t Niles be and he is hereby directed to deliver to Nath^{ll} Wales jun^r, Esq^r,⁶ or order, one hogshead of sulphur, taking a receipt for the same. . . .

Hoadly, ed., *Public Records of the State of Connecticut*, 1: 568.

1. Capt., Connecticut Navy.
2. Member of the Connecticut Council of Safety.
3. This sulphur had just been imported from the West Indies by Niles in the Connecticut Navy trading sloop *Dolphin*. See Pay Roll of Connecticut Navy Trading Sloop *Dolphin*, 6 Mar., below.
4. Inspector of firearms for Connecticut.
5. Elderkin was a colonel in the Connecticut Militia who had been responsible for guarding the powder magazine at Windham.
6. Member of the Connecticut Council of Safety.

CAPTAIN JOHN COTTON TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL

Honorable Sir

I Received your Directions with Regard To the Ship *Trumbull*¹ I Shall Sett out for N London on Monday in Order to See Cap^t Saltonstall² on the Buisness and See the Situation of the Ship I Shall Use all Means possible in Order to Effect the the

Gting her Over the Barr butt in the Mean Time would be Informed where I am to Gett A Supply of Money to Carrey on that Buisness as the Men Must be hired by the Day there.³ Being butt Sixteen Now on board InCluding Officers, Your Ans^r P^r Bearer will Oblige [&c.]

John Cotton

[*Middletown, Conn.*] Feb^y 26th 78.

L, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 11, p. 565a. Addressed: "To His Excelenc^y." Docketed: "Capt Cottens Letter."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull* in the Connecticut River at Saybrook. See Journal of Connecticut Council of Safety, 25 Feb., above.

2. Capt. Dudley Saltonstall, commanding the frigate *Trumbull*.

3. On 27 Feb. the Connecticut Council of Safety ordered Cotton paid £100 for the hire of men. He acknowledged receipt on 5 Mar. Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 11, p. 565b.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., & CO. TO CAPTAIN SAMUEL CHAMPLIN, JR.

New London Feb^y 26th 1778

Sir You are now Command^r of the Private Armd Sloop *American Revenue* fitted and Man'd for a four Months Cruse Against the Enemy's of the United States and I hope you will have good Success, I have given you a letter of Credit on my Friend M^r Patrick Moore Merch^t In S^t Pierr's Martineco, for Such Nessesary Stores you may have Accassion for, and would Recomend Frugality.—In Case you Send any Prize to the West Indias I would Recomend your Sending her to M^r Moores Address and if you Should be so lucky as to take any Dry goods, I would Recomend your taking them on Board the *Revenue*, but as Matters may be Circumstancd I must leave the matter with you to do the best in your Power for the Benefitt of the Concern'd, so wish you a good Cruse and Safe Return to your Friend & Owners [&c.]

Nath^l Shaw Jun^r & C^o.

a True Copy of the Original

☞ Samuel Champlin J^r

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 76, no. 4385. Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Cap^t Champlins/Orders." Docketed in another hand: "4385."

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO PATRICK MOORE

Sir

New London February 26th 1778—

I Received your favours of y^e. 28th of Nov^r and 10th January last, the former by Cap^t Lamb, who Arived att Boston, and is fitting his Brigg.¹ for a Privateer, and Imagine by this he has her in great forwardness—I Observe that he has left in your hands (att my disposal) Godfry Hutchinsons Obligations to the Amount of Sixteen hundred pound Sterling, and that he has taken a Concern of ½ in the Sloop *Trumbull*² (now the Brig^{tn} *Ranger*) for a Privateer for my Acco^{ts}. I hope she will have Success, and should be Glad you would Send me the Acco^{ts}. of y^e. Charges, Prizes &c, When an Oppertunity Pressents. Samuel Champlin Command^r of the Privateer Sloop *American Revenue*³ will Deliver you this, and as the Vessell belongs to me Should be Glad you would Supply him with such Stores as he may have Accassion for, and Charge the Am^o. to my Acco^{ts}. & Send me his Bill, have Given

Cap^t Champlin Orders In Case he takes any Prize, whose Cargoe may sute att S^t Pierres to Send her to your Address,⁴ the N^t Proceeds of which would have Ly in your hands Untill further Orders, have also given Cap^t Jo^s. Conkling in the Arm'd Sloop *Revenge*,⁵ a letter of Credit on you for Assistance &c and have Recomen'd to him to send such Prizes as may be Suitable for your Markitt to you, and would have you follow his Directions In Regard to the N^t Proceeds—Cap^t Lamb this moment came from Boston, and writes you by this Oppertunity, and Suppose he has Mentioned my purchasing One Eighth of the Brigg. I am Sir [&c.]

Nath^l Shaw Jun^r

LB, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, Letter Book (Jan. 1775–July 1782), pp. 236–37. Addressed at top: "To M^r Patrick Moore/Merch^t In S^t Pierre, Martinico."

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Favourite*, formerly *Irish Gimblet*, John Lamb, commander, was commissioned on 27 May 1778. She was bonded by William Shattuck, merchant of Boston, John Lamb, mariner of Norwich, Conn., and Patrick Moore of Martinique. M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 139, pp. 172, 221 (Bond not to enlist any man in New England outside of Massachusetts).

2. Connecticut privateer sloop *Trumbull*, Henry Billings, commander.

3. Connecticut privateer sloop *American Revenue*.

4. See Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., to Captain Samuel Champlin, Jr., immediately above.

5. Connecticut privateer sloop *Revenge*.

BRIGADIER GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

8 o'C[lock] PM

Mount Holly [*N.J.*] 26th Feb^y 1778

Sir

The flat Bottomed boats which I mentioned to have passed down the River landed yesterday Morning about two OClock at Billings Port—about Two thousand in Number—fifteen Hundred of which Encamped last Night within Seven Miles of Selem—and I doubt not but that they are now Employed in Collecting the Cattle &C^a. which the Inhabitants in that Quarter took great pains to hide from us—finding means at the same time to give the Enemy exact Intelligence of our Numbers and Rout—in Consequence of which that body were thrown over below—but in Order to leave Nothing to chance; and in full Confidence of securing my Detachment and the Militia under Col Ellis¹—they landed about Two Thousand more at two OClock this Morning at Coopers Creek, Coopers ferry and Gloucester Point, with four Pieces of Artillery and a Considerable body of Light Horse—and Surrounded Haddonfield in all Quarters before day Light—I had been at the ferries Opposite the City the preceeding Evening—and from their Motions Apprehended a Manoeuver of this Nature—which was also Mentioned to me by an Old friend—who Observing me through his Glass aCross the River—found means to Convey—the Intelligence

The Militia having made a Custom of beating tattoo at Nine OClock—I made it answer for the Signal to Decamp—sending off all the Publick Stores at the same time to this place—where I also found Forty Barrels of Powder &C^a &C^a.—these I have sent on to Trent Town with One Hundred and Fifty Head of Cattle taken from Selem—under the Conduct of Lieu^t Col Sherman² with about 140 men who will be at Trent Town tomorrow afternoon

It's Probable they will now Effect a Grand forage—a Prodigious Number of Cattle and Horses can be had from the Country that they now possess from Haddonfield to Selem—the forage Immediately on the River is for the most part

Destroyed and I intend to Effect the Destruction of that Situate on Mantua, Timber and Coopers Creeks

But we shall not be able to Prevent them from passing thro' the Country at pleasure—their Numbers being Eight to one—but in Order to Circumscribe them as much as Possible—I have taken the Liberty to Call on Gen^l Polaskie³ for such part of His Horse as can Conveniently be spared and fittest for duty

The Country being in a Naked Condition and abounding with Cattle &C^a, has Induced me to use every exertion to Cover it as much as possible until I receive your Excellencies further Orders

I this Moment learn that four or five Waggon belonging to the Comm^y which were on a back Rout from Selem loaded with Spirits Brandy &C^a. have fell into the Enemies hands—and in all Probability we have lost a small guard of Seven men left to Conduct them

From the Supiness and Disaffection of every part of this State which I have passed through (on my Present tour)—I don't expect a Single man of the Militia to turn out more than those already under Col Ellis, which don't amount to three Hundred—the People in this Quarter being (if Possible) more toriestically Inclined those in the State of Penns^a. I am with every Sentiment of Esteem [&c.]

Ant^y Wayne

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "His Excellency/Gen^l Washington/Head Quarters." Notation: "Ant^y Wayne." Docketed: "[26th] Feb^y 1778/from/Gen^l Wayne." Notation: "Gen^l Polaskie is Requested to forward this/to His Excellency with all Possible Despatch/Ant^y Wayne BG/Mount Holly 27th Feb^y/1778."

1. Brig. Gen. Joseph Ellis, New Jersey Militia.
2. Lt. Col. Isaac Sherman, 2d Connecticut Continental Regiment.
3. Brig. Gen. Casimir Pulaski, Continental Army, and Chief of Dragoons.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *DELAWARE*, COMMANDER JAMES WATT

Feb^y 1778

Moor'd to a Wharf [at *Philadelphia*]

Thursd^y 26

Thick hazey W^r

AM Embarked the 2^d. Battalion of Light Infantry in Flatt Boats & Gally's & Landed them at Billing[s] fort, from whence they were to march to Salim & the Boats to follow them down the River¹

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/239, fol. 9.

1. The galleys were *Cornwallis* and *Pembroke*. For more on this expedition, see Journal of H.M.S. *Roebuck*, 24 Feb., esp. note 2, Brigadier General Anthony Wayne to Captain John Barry, 23 Feb., and Brigadier General Anthony Wayne to General George Washington, 26 Feb., above, and Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 26 Feb., below.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Thursday, February 26, 1778

Resolved, That it be an instruction to the captains or commanders of privaters, to annoy the enemy by all the means in their power, by land or water, taking care not to infringe or violate the laws of nations, or the laws of neutrality. . . .

The Committee on the Treasury brought in a report; Whereupon,

Ordered, That a warrant issue on the treasurer in favour of the Committee of Commerce for twenty thousand dollars, advanced upon their application, for the purpose of loading with rice the ship *Flamand*, ordered to South Carolina;¹ the said Committee to be accountable.

JCC 10: 196, 199.

1. See Continental Commerce Committee to John Langdon, 23 Feb., above.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY *CORNWALLIS*, LIEUTENANT THOMAS SPRY

Feb^y: 1778
Thursday 26

At Single Anchor at Billingsport The two Chimneys SW
½ W [anchored off Highland of Christiana Creek]
At 2 AM weighd Rowd and Towd Down the River at 8
Anchord in 5 fath^m. water off the peapatch [*island*] Reedy point
bearing SW 3 miles in Company as above Except the *Zebra*
at 11 Saw 6 boats¹ weighd and Gave Chace ½ p^t 11 fired two
24 pound shott at one of them at the same Time Saw a Ship
and sloop the ship had a Schooner in Tow She proved to be
the *Nautilus* at Noon Anchord a Gain
At Anchor Below the peapatch
First part Dark Cloudy weather Latter snowy at 1 P:M. Cap^t
Lindsey² took a boat loaded with rum ½ p^t 3 Cap^t Lindsey
Orderd Us to go And Anchor off a Creek and Batter a Rebel
Schooner that lay there which we did at 5 weighd by his Order
½ past 5 Anchord off Sealam Creek in 5½ fathom water

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1676, pt. 2, 35.

1. This was Capt. John Barry's force of six armed boats, returning to Port Penn, Del., from New Jersey where they had burned about 400 tons of hay from Mantua Creek to Alloway Creek. See Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 26 Feb., immediately below.

2. Capt. John Linzee, R.N.

CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sir

According to the Orders of General Wayne I have Destroyed the Forage from Mantua Creek to this Place the Quantity Destroyed is about four Hundred Tons & Should have Proceeded farther had not a Number of the Enemies Boats appeared in Sight & Lining the Jersey Shore Deprived Us of the Opportunity of Proceeding Farther on the Same purpose, Shall Remit to Your Excellency the Names of the Persons Whose property was Destroyed & Likewise the Quantity of Each, have thought Proper to Detain four of Your Men to assist in Getting the Boats away as Some of my Men are Rendered Incapable of Proceeding thro Fatigue But Shall again Remit by the First Order Of Your Excellency having no farther Occasion for the Remaining Part of the Detachment under my Command have thought Proper to Discharge them & am Sir With Due Respect [&c.]

John Barry

Port penn Feb^y: 26. 1778

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "To/His Excell^{ty}: Gen^l: Washington/at Head Quarters/Near the Valley Forge." Docketed: "Port Pen 26th. Feb^y:/1778/from/Cap^t: Barry—."

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO CHRISTOPHER LOWNDES

Sir.

In Council Annapolis 26th. Feb^y: 1778.

Cap^t: Coursey^l waits on you about the Remainder of the Rigging for the *Chester* Galley. We are very desirous of getting her fitted and wish you to expedite it and send it to Elk Ridge. The Delay and Risk in sending a Boat round, we wish to avoid. We are &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "Christopher Lowndes Esq^r."

1. Capt. Thomas Coursey, commanding Maryland Navy galley *Chester*.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Thursday the 26th day of February 1778.

Mr Isaac Mercer received orders to proceed to Warwick, and deliver two hundred Bush^l of salt to Cap^t: Charles Thomas, from whom he will receive some Cordage and Swivel shot which he is to bring down and Land at Mr Holt,¹ and then wait on the Board for further Orders.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 359.

1. William Holt.

DENIS-NICOLAS COTTINEAU DE KERLOGUEN TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

My Lord Washington Generalissimo of the American Forces.

My General,

Deign to accept the humble respects of a Stranger, who has taken every method to land near your Camp—in order to offer you the more readily such succours as his Cargo may afford—the inclosed contains a list of the Articles which compose it and I shall wait for your orders before I begin to sell any thing—

I dare flatter myself that you will be pleased to accept my respectful Compliments of Congratulation upon the Success of your Arms—I regret that I was not bred to the Land-Service, as I would in that case have solicited the honor of serving under you—I should esteem myself very happy could I be of the number of Victims, in your glorious cause—If I should be judged worthy of being employed in the naval Service, and my Vessel could be made useful to the Continent, I shall always be ready—and I flatter myself that if I should not fulfill the end of my Mission, it would appear that any other man would have failed—Having been forced to anchor in Cape Look out bay (my Vessel drawing too much water to go into Beaufort)—where I was not sufficiently guarded against attacks from the enemy—I established a battery of Six twelve pounders on Shore—and posted a guard at the point—The Chevalier de Cambray, an Artillery Officer, who is going to offer his Service to you—directed the work with all the Skill of his profession—when the Cargo is Discharged, I propose to go into Beaufort and erect another Battery—I intend to name them Forts Washington and Hancock—I flatter myself

that you will not take it amiss, and that you will consent that one of these Forts should bear your name—it is too good an Omen to a Battery placed for the Defence of Vessels, to allow of your refusing your assent. The name alone will be more formidable to the Enemy, than the Cannon of the Fort—

Deign to accept the assurances of profound respect with which I have the honor to be [&c.]

D Cottineau.

Capt. of the Frigate *Ferdinand*—

Cape Look out [N.C.] 26th February 1778.

[Enclosure]

List of The Cargo of Ship *Ferdinand* Capt Cottineau

Nails of every sort	Files of different Sorts
Superfines, half fines and Common Blankets— }	Chissels &c. &c.
Cloths of every sort	Painted India Callicoes
Tamies of all sorts	New fashion, lace & head Dresses
Woolen, thread, & Silk stockings	Cotton & Woolen lineings
Woolen and thread Caps	Needles & Pins of all sorts
Cards for Wool & cotton	Thread & Silk of different Sorts
Baskets of Superfine oil of olives	Epauletts for Officers, Plumes for Hats
Drinking glasses	Uniform Butt ^s for the Navy officers
Thread for Sails and Sewing Twine	Cordials of all Sorts
Writing & Paper for Impression	Watches of Silver & Gold
Superfine & common Tea	Silk for Ladies of different Sorts
Yellow Nankin	Cambricks—
Various merceries	Moreover there are many other articles—
Boxes of Drugs	One Cable 170 fathom for a large Ship.
Fine & Royal Cloths	
Sail Duck & small Canvas	
Black Pepper	
Loaf Sugar in Barrels	
Green Coperas	
Ready ground Paint with oil in } Barrels— }	
Paint Oil	
Fine & ordinary Salt	
Silk & thread handkerchiefs	
Silk Stockings of various Sorts	
Hats of every quality	
Coniac Brandy in Keggs.	
Mens Shoes—	
French Rum—	
Superfine Holland paper	
Leather for Shoes	

Salt in sacks & Casks
 Coffee
 Burgundy in Bottles }
 Madeira & Barrels }
 Claret, superfine
 Cables & other Ropes for the }
 use of ships— }
 Shirting & Sheets for the
 Hospital
 Umbrill's—

Cape look out 26 Feb^r 1778.

Copy, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "Invoice of Ship/*Ferdinand's* Cargo 1778."

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [*Charleston*] Thursday 26th February 1778—

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Josiah Smith Jun^r in the Chair

Geo Ab^t Hall, Tho^s Savage, Tho^s Corbett, Edw^d Darrell Esq^{rs}—

The following Order of the Privy Council dated the 12th Ins^t was Received by the Board this Evening the purport of which is as follows—

Viz

In the Privy Council

February 12th 1778—

The Board recommended to his Excellency to direct that the Vessel now building at the Ship Yard & Intended for a Galley, be Built for a sea Vessel

By his Excellency the president^l

Ordered Accordingly

(Signed) John Colcock

Sec^{ry} P^{ry} C^l

The following Orders were drawn on the Treasury in fav^r of

Rob ^t Cochran for 3 Months rent of the Ship Yard	}	£305 — —
& Four Negroes to the 28 th Ultim ^o		

Will ^m Wilkins Making Sails &c. for the		
<i>Defence</i>	£75 —	
ditto for the <i>Eagle</i> pilot boat	295 .	
ditto for the <i>Tryal</i> ditto	<u>54.15</u>	
		424. 15 —

Leger & Greenwood for rum Supplied the		
Commissary		7199,,15 —

Nath ^l Russell & C ^o . for rum supplied ditto		5432 — —
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Elisha Poinsett Medicines for the <i>Notre</i>		
<i>Dame</i>	£850..2. 6	

ditto for the <i>Fair American</i>	<u>118.15</u>	968,,17,,6
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Edward Stiles for the <i>Comet</i>	£ 7 — —	
for the <i>Volunteer</i>	38. 7. 6	

for the . . . <i>Genl Moultrie</i>	58.10 —	
for the . . . <i>Fair American</i>	6 — —	
for the <i>Polly</i>	51.15	
for the <i>Rattle Snake</i>	<u>4 — —</u>	
		165,,12. 6
M ^{rs} . Lester for 1 Month wages for 3 Negroes	}	93
a 20/ ph day on board the floating Battery		
Ordered to be p ^d by J:C ²		
		<u>£14,589 — —</u>

Adjourned to next Monday Evening at 6 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 141–42.

1. John Rutledge, president of South Carolina.
2. John Colcock, secretary of the South Carolina Privy Council.

THE SOUTH-CAROLINA AND AMERICAN GENERAL GAZETTE,
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1778

CHARLESTOWN, February 26.

Mr. Samuel West arrived here a few days since from New-Providence, by way of North-Carolina, and has favoured us with the following intelligence.

“On Jan. 25th 1778, the Continental sloop *Providence*, of 14 guns and 75 men, commanded by Capt. Rathburn,¹ arrived at the west end of New-Providence, where, in the evening, he landed Mr. John Trevitt,² his captain of marines, with 23 men. This party immediately proceeded to Mr. James Gould’s plantation; from thence to Fort Nassau, which they took possession of, and secured 3 men who were in it. In the fort were also ten American sailors (among whom was our informant) who joined Capt. Trevitt. At day-light the inhabitants of New-Providence were not a little astonished to observe the American colours displayed on the bastion; every thing having been so quietly conducted, that not the least alarm had been given during the night. Capt. Trevitt, early in the morning, sent 5 men in a boat to a Jamaica ship that had put in there in distress; she was called the *Mary*, mounted 16 guns, had 30 men on board, was owned by Mr. Alex. Ross, merchant in Kingston, and commanded by — Johnson;³ her cargo consisted of rum, sugar, wine, coffee, &c. destined for New-York. The ship was immediately given up, and the Captain and crew carried to the fort, and there secured. Capt. Trevitt then sent 6 men to Governour Gambier,⁴ to demand the immediate surrender of Fort Johnson,⁵ which, after some little hesitation, he agreed to; the party thereupon took possession of the fort, spiked the cannon, and then rejoined their comrades at Fort Nassau.

“The townspeople, to the number of near 200, were now in arms: But a message from Capt. Trevitt to the Governour, threatening to fire from the fort on any number of men exceeding 9, he should see together, soon occasioned them to disperse very peaceably. At 4 o’clock in the afternoon of the 26th, the *Providence* came into the harbour, affecting to run from a privateer sloop of 16 guns,⁶ commanded by one Chambers.⁷ Capt. Rathburn came close under the guns of the fort, and Chambers was following him, but observing an unusual commotion in the town and neighbourhood, and a boat attempting to go out to him, hove in stays, when he received two 18 lb. balls from the fort, in which the American colours were there-

upon hoisted. Capt. Rathburn sent his boat in chase of that which had attempted to go to Chambers, which they took, and made two men who were on board prisoners. Immediately afterwards near [3]00 men got under arms, and Chambers came up to Fort Johnson (about two miles from Fort Nassau) where he had his crew reinforced to upwards of 100 men. Chambers left his sloop under the command of his lieutenant, and headed the inhabitants that were in arms. Capt. Rathburn, at 8 o'clock in the evening, ordered Capt. Trevitt, with five men, a drum and fife, to go into the town, requiring all the friends of America to repair to him, under pain of being treated as enemies. This produced a reinforcement of 15 New-England sailors. Governour Gambier hereupon came to the fort, demanding the reason for this notice: Trevitt answered, "He apprehended the inhabitants proposed attacking the fort, and that if they did, his intention was to lay the town in ashes; that the colours were nailed to the flag-staff, and that it was the determined resolution of all his men, as well as himself, never to surrender." The Governour retired, making no reply; and no attack was made. The 27th was employed in rigging three American sloops,⁸ which had been taken by Chambers, and condemned, but not sold. In the evening notice was given to the poor to come and take what they pleased of upwards of 60 barrels of rice that were unheaded; they had been taken in Chamber's prizes, and were his property. Numbers partook of this unexpected bounty.

"On the 28th in the morning, Capt. Trevitt evacuated the fort, having previously spiked upwards of 50 pieces of cannon. He gave Capt. Johnson and three men that he found in the fort their liberty; the other prisoners, 32 in number, he carried with him on board. Capt. Rathburn burnt two American sloops that had been taken by Chambers, and then set sail, having with him the ship *Mary* and three sloops, besides the *Providence*.

"Chambers, as soon as he observed Capt. Rathburn get under weigh, did the same. When Capt. Rathburn had got over the bar, he hove too, challenging Chambers to action, which however the latter thought prudent to decline, and Capt. Rathburn proceeded to sea with his prizes. Capt. Rathburn gave the five men who boarded the sloop (of whom Mr. West was one) the sloop *Tryal*, in which they arrived at Newbern in North-Carolina, on the 7th of this month.⁹

"Capt. Ranking,¹⁰ of the privateer sloop *Elbert*, that was cast away some months ago on Abaco,¹¹ was with his crew, near six weeks on that island: They were taken off by a Bahamian wrecker, and carried into Providence,¹² where Capt. Johnson compelled the sailors to take the oath of allegiance to George III, and enter on board his vessel. They were part of the crew, when Capt. Rathburn took possession of the ship. Capt. Ranking was released from close confinement by Capt. Rathburn; being sickly, he was sent to Mr. Gould's plantation, but could not be found when the *Providence* left the island."

1. Capt. John Peck Rathbun, Continental Navy.
2. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines.
3. Henry Johnson, master of the ship *Mary*.
4. Lt. Gov. John Gambier.
5. Fort Montagu.
6. Jamaica letter of marque sloop *Gayton*.
7. Capt. William Chambers.
8. Sloops *Washington*, *Tryal*, and an unidentified sloop.

9. Samuel West was not one of the five men listed as having received *Tryal*. See Memorial of Captains Cornelius Anabil, John Cockrom, Nathan Moar, and Isaac Mackey to Continental Congress, 21 Feb., and Captain John Peck Rathbun to Any Continental Agent, 29 Jan., both above.

10. Probably, Capt. William Ranking of South Carolina.

11. Great Abaco I., Bahamas.

12. New Providence I., Bahamas.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO DON JOSEF PETELY

[*New Orleans*]

[Extract]

Enterado del Contenido de su carta de Vmd de 5 de Feb^o. devo decirle q^c. si alguno de los ofiziales de las Balandras Inglesas¹ quisieren saltar en tierra para venir à la villa se lo permitira con tal de q^c. hayan de venir à presentarseme, à cuyo fin hava que les acompañe un soldado de ese Puerto

Por lo q^c. toca à q^c. los Ingleses quieran Reconocer las embarcaciones q^c. entrán y Salen p^r. el Bayu² bajo el tiro de nuestro cañon, les haviá Vmd. conocer con toda la prudencia, y politica posible la ninguna facultad q^c. tienen para practicarlo, y si insisten en executarlo me dara Vmd. parte p^a. tomar la providencia q^c. me pareca conveniente. . . .

26 de Feb^o.

[Translation]

In Response to your letter of 5 Feb., I ought to tell you that if any of the officers from the English Sloops¹ want to land in order to come into the town, it will be permitted provided that they come and present themselves to me, to which end have them accompanied by a soldier from this Port.

In regard to the English wanting to Examine ships that enter and Leave from the Bayou² within the reach of our cannon, inform them with all prudence, and politeness that they have no right to do so, and if they insist on doing it, inform me so that I may take whatever measures I think fit. . . .

26 Feb.

Df, SpSAG, Papeles de Cuba, Legajo 1. This draft was written to the left of Petely's letter, printed above at 5 Feb. Portions not printed relate to supplying the Choctaws with provisions. Petely commanded Fort St. John overlooking the Bayou St. John which connects Lake Pontchartrain with the Mississippi River.

1. H.M. sloop *West Florida*, Lt. George Burdon [2], commander, and her tender.

2. Bayou St. John.

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO GOVERNOR THOMAS SHIRLEY

(a Copy)

Antigua 26th: February 1778.—

Sir

I have just received the favour of your Excellency's letter of the 22^d. Instant, inclosing me information of sundry American Vessels then lying at Martinico;¹ which were expected to Sail from thence to North America at the times mentioned in said Paper of Information: it is now too late to endeavour to intercept any of those that were to sail with the first convoy: But at all events (if I have Ships here at the time mentioned for the others Sailing) I will try in what manner the French will behave (should our Ships meet with them during the time the American Vessels are in Company.)—

Should you obtain any further Intelligence concerning the French Ships of War Convoying the American Vessels to and from their Islands: I shall be much obliged to You to communicate it to me as early as possible; that I may try to intercept them. The Vessel your Excellency has been pleased to send express on this occasion arrived here about 5: O.'clock this afternoon, and I dispatch her immediately with this. Captain Bruce being gone from hence, I send back the Letter addressed to him.

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

(Signed.) James Young.

Copy, UklPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot: "His Excellency Governor Shirley/Dominica." Docketed: "Dominica 22^d February 1778./Letter of Intelligence from/Governor Shirley Concerning/Sundry American Vessels/at Martinico, bound to/America, and inclosing/a Deposition thereof. And/My Answer thereto/Dated 26th February 1778./In Adm^t Young's Letter/Dated 13 March 1778."

1. See "Memorandum of American Privateers in Martinique & the Conduct of the French towards the Americans," 24 Feb., above.

“A LIST OF REBEL VESSELS, TAKEN BY THE SQUADRON, OF HIS MAJESTY’S SHIPS & VESSELS, UNDER MY COMMAND AT JAMAICA, BETWEEN THE
21ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1775 AND THE 26TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1778.—”

[Extract] N ^o . of Vessels Taken	When Taken year	Vessels Names.	Mast ^s Names.	where Belonging.	Lading.	By which of His Majestys Vessels taken	Commanders Names.	Agents Names.
49	[76]	Schooner <i>Nancy</i>	Salmon		Molasses, Sail Cloath &c	<i>Maidston</i>	Alan Gardner	Mal: Laing
50		Sloop <i>Betsey</i> ¹	Blackmore		Molasses &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
51		Schooner <i>Polly</i> ²			ditto.	ditto	ditto	ditto
52		Sloop <i>Pacificate</i> ³			Dry Goods &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
53		Brigg <i>Yarmouth</i> ⁴	Folger	Nantuckett	Lumber, Fish, Oil &c	ditto	ditto	ditto.
54		<i>Williamsburgh Packett</i>	Osborn	Virginia	Flour, Bread & Staves	<i>Boreas</i>	Cha Thompson	Campbell & Gelbraith
55		Schooner <i>Marianna</i> ⁵	Will D'Grave	Philadelphia	Flour & Staves	<i>Maidston</i>	Alan Gardner	Mal: Laing
56		Sloop <i>L'June Bale</i>		Philadelphia	Flour, Corn, Lumber &c	<i>Racehorse</i>	Lieu ^t : Jones	Watkins
57		Sloop <i>Postillion</i>	Serron	S Carolina	Rice & Indigo	<i>Maidston</i>	Alan Gardner	Mal: Laing
58		Schooner <i>Ipswich</i> ⁶	a Dutch Mas ^{rs}	Boston	Fish, Lumber &c	<i>Boreas</i>	Cha Thompson	Campbell & Gelbraith
59		Brigg <i>Fraiture</i>				<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Charls & Peter Ramsey.
60		Schooner <i>Polly</i> ⁷			Fish & Lumber	<i>Boreas</i>	Cha Thompson	Campbell & Gelbraith
61		Schooner <i>John</i> ⁸			ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto
62		Sloop <i>S^t Esprit</i>			Dry Goods &c	<i>Racehorse</i>		Mal: Laing
63		Schooner <i>Tho^s & Ann</i> ⁹			ditto & Sugar	<i>Boreas</i>	Cha Thompson	Campbell & Gelbraith
64		Schooner <i>Betsey</i>			Fish & Lumber	<i>Antelope</i>	Will Judd	Peter & Charles Ramsey
65		Schooner <i>Peggy</i>			Salt &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
66		Sloop <i>Stordy</i>			Rice & Indigo	ditto	By Chambers deliverd up to W. Judd	ditto
67		Sloop <i>Polly</i> ¹⁰			Lumber & Stock	<i>Boreas</i>	Cha Thompson	Campbell & Gelbraith
68		Schooner <i>Sally</i>			Flour & Bread	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Peter & Charles Ramsey
69		Brigg <i>Hazard</i>			Molasses, Salt &c	<i>Maidston</i>	Alan Gardner	Mal: Laing
70		Sloop <i>Prosperous Polly</i>			Salt & Dry Goods	<i>Badger</i>	Cha: H: Everitt	ditto
71		Sloop <i>Reliance</i>		Dartmouth	Horses, Lumber &c	<i>Maidstone</i>	Alan Gardner	ditto
72		Sloop <i>Sandwich</i>	John Elkins		Salt &c	<i>Porcupine</i>	James Cotes	Peter & Charls Ramsey
73		Sloop <i>Ann</i>			ditto	<i>Badger</i>	Cha: H: Everitt	Mal: Laing

74	Sloop <i>Dolphin</i>	John Field	ditto & Coffee	ditto	ditto	ditto
75	Brigg <i>Molly</i>		Salt &c	<i>Badger</i>	Cha: H: Everitt	Mal: Laing
76	Brigg <i>Molly</i>		Lumber & Horses	ditto	ditto	ditto
77	Sloop <i>Will</i>		Molasses, Coffee &c	<i>Boreas</i>	Cha Thompson	Campbell & Gelbraith.
78	Sloop <i>Hope</i>		Molasses &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
79	Schooner <i>Fanny</i>			<i>Porcupine</i>	James Cotes	Peter & Charles Ramsey.
80	Schooner <i>S^t Ann</i>			<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	ditto
81	Sloop <i>Lidia</i>			ditto	ditto	ditto
82	Brigg <i>Hawk</i>	Boston	Lumber &c	<i>Porcupine</i>	James Cotes	ditto
83	Sloop <i>Mary</i>	Boston	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto
84	Sloop <i>Sea Nymph</i>		Powder, Wine &c	<i>Badger</i>		
85	Schooner <i>Juno</i>			<i>Antelope</i>	Will Judd	Peter & Charles Ramsey
86	Schooner <i>Hannah & Elizabeth</i>		Lumber &c	<i>Badger</i>	Cha: H. Everitt	Mal. Laing
87	Schooner <i>Hannah</i>		Lumber &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
88	<i>Polly</i>	Nantuckett	Molasses &c	<i>Hornet</i>	Rob Haswell	Peter & Charles Ramsey
89	Schooner <i>Polly</i>		Tobacco &c	<i>Hound</i>	James Robinson	
90	Sloop <i>Liberty</i>		Rum, Dry Goods &c	<i>Racehorse</i>	Tho Cadogan	Bowes
91	Sloop <i>Adventure</i>		Rice, Indigo &c	<i>Hound</i>	Jam Robinson	
92	Brigg <i>Burley Castle</i>		Lumber &c	<i>Badger</i>	Cha H: Everitt	Mal: Laing
93	Schooner <i>S^t Ann</i>		Rice, Flour &c	ditto	ditto	ditto.
94	Brigg <i>Suckey</i>		Lumber, Fish & Oil	<i>Badger</i>	Cha H: Everitt	Mal: Laing
95	Brigg <i>Polly</i> ¹			ditto	ditto	ditto
96	Schooner <i>Fortune</i>			ditto	ditto	ditto
97	Sloop <i>Fortune</i>			ditto	ditto	ditto
98	Schooner <i>Loweist</i>			ditto	ditto	ditto
99	Brigg <i>Warren</i>			ditto	ditto	ditto
100	Schooner <i>Friendship</i>			ditto	ditto	ditto
101	Schooner <i>Victory</i>			ditto	ditto	ditto
102	Sloop <i>Betsey</i>		Flour, Bread & Staves	<i>Boreas</i>	Cha Thompson	Campbell & Gelbraith
103	Schooner <i>Mary</i> ²		Fish & Lumber	ditto	ditto	ditto
104	Schooner <i>Victory</i>			<i>Badger</i>	Cha H. Everitt	Mal: Laing
105	Schooner <i>Nancy</i> ³			<i>Porcupine</i>	James Cotes	Peter & Charles Ramsey.
106	Schooner <i>Locas</i>			<i>Badger</i>	Cha H Everitt	Mal: Laing

"A LIST OF REBEL VESSELS, TAKEN BY THE SQUADRON, OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS & VESSELS, UNDER MY COMMAND AT JAMAICA, BETWEEN THE
21ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1775 AND THE 26TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1778.—" *Continued*

[Extract]	N ^o . of Vessels Taken	When Taken year	Vessels Names.	Mast ^r Names.	where Belonging.	Lading.	By which of His Majestys Vessels taken	Commanders Names.	Agents Names.
	107		Schooner <i>William</i> ¹⁴			Lumber, Horses &c	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith.
	108		Schooner <i>French Town</i>			Cask & Dry Goods	<i>Badger</i>	Cha H Everitt	Mal: Laing
	109		Sloop <i>Unity</i> ¹⁵		Guadelope	Rum &c	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith
	110		Schooner <i>Cannon</i> ¹⁶				<i>Boreas</i>	Cha Thompson	ditto
	111		Schooner <i>Farmer</i>				ditto	ditto	ditto
	112		Schooner <i>Juliet</i>				ditto	ditto	ditto
	113		Schooner <i>Happy-Return</i>				ditto	ditto	ditto
	114		Sloop <i>Juliana</i> ¹⁷			Flour & Staves	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	ditto
	115		Schooner <i>Volante</i> ¹⁸			Molasses	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbrath
	116		Sloop <i>Betsey & Ann</i> ¹⁹			Soap, Rum &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
	117		Brigg <i>Aurora</i> ²⁰			Molasses &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
	118		Sloop <i>Sally</i> ²¹			ditto & Dry Goods	ditto	ditto	ditto
	119		Sloop <i>Dick Cole</i>				<i>Diligence</i>	Tho Davey	Robinson & Wair
	120		Sloop <i>Dolphin</i>				ditto	ditto	ditto
	121		Sloop <i>Henry</i> ²²	Amos Weeks		Arms &c	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho. Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith
	122		Schooner <i>Providence</i> ²³			Molasses	ditto	ditto	ditto
	123		Schooner <i>Nancy</i>			Lumber &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
	124		Sloop <i>Hornett</i> ²⁴	Nichols		Arms & Indigo	<i>Porcupine</i>	Tho Cadogan	Bowes
	125		Brigg <i>S. Louis</i>			Provisions & Tobacco	<i>Diligence</i>	Tho Davey	Robinson & Wair
	126		Schooner <i>Magdalene</i> ²⁵			Rice &c	<i>Porcupine</i>	Tho Cadogan	Bowes
	127		Brigg <i>Ann</i> ²⁵			Powder, Ammunition, &c	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Peter & Charles Ramsey.
	128		Sloop			Rice &c	<i>Boreas</i>	Cha Thompson	Campbell & Gelbraith
	129		Brigg			Fish, Lumber &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
	130		Ship <i>Lamulan</i> ²⁷		Old France	Dry Goods &c	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Peter & Charles Ramsey
	131		Sloop <i>James</i> ²⁸			Salt	d ^o .	ditto	ditto
	132		Schooner ²⁹		Philadelphia	Silk & Dry Goods	<i>Boreas</i>	Cha Thompson	Campbell & Gelbraith
	133		Schooner			Flour	<i>Porcupine</i>	Tho Cadogan	Bowes

134	Ship <i>Adventure</i>		Salt &c	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris ^r : Atkins	Her ^s : Ross.
135	Brigg <i>Dublin</i>		Molasses &c	<i>Boreas</i>	Cha Thompson	Campbell & Gelbraith
136	Sloop <i>Hornett</i>		Salt, Rum &c	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris: Atkins	Her ^s : Ross.
137	Sloop <i>Numbrell</i>		Salt	ditto	ditto	ditto
138	Schooner <i>Betsey</i> ³⁰		Molasses	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith
139	Schooner <i>Dolphin</i>		Dry Goods	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris Atkins	Her ^s : Ross.
140	Brigg <i>Dolphin</i>	Boston	Fish, Lumber &c	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith
141	Sloop <i>Swift</i>		Sugar	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson
142	Sloop <i>Rover</i> ³¹	S. Carolina	Tobacco & Rice	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith.
143	Sloop <i>Mary</i>		Molasses & D. Goods	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Peter & Charles Ramsey.
144	Schooner <i>Sally</i>	Boston	Fish & Lumber	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson
145	<i>Antonio</i> ³²	Carolina	Lumber, Pitch &c	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith
146	Sloop <i>Tryall</i> ³³	S. Carolina	Molasses &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
147	Schooner	Carolina	Staves & Tobacco	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson.
148	Polacra <i>La Providance</i> ³⁴		Wine, Cordage &c	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Peter & Charles Ramsey.
149	Sloop	Carolina	Rice &c	<i>Lowestoffe</i>	Will Locker	Her ^s : Ross
150	Schooner	Georgia	Rice &c	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith
151	Schooner <i>Ann</i>	N. Carolina	Turpentine	<i>Antelope</i>	Tho Davey	Robinson & Wair
152	Schooner <i>Hope</i>		Tobacco, Staves &c	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson.
153	Schooner <i>Georgia Packet</i>		Rice & Indigo	ditto	ditto	ditto
154	Schooner <i>Sally</i>		Lumber &c	<i>Porpoise</i>	Tho Haynes	Robinson & Wair
155	Schooner <i>Gen^t: Thompson</i>			<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith
156	Schooner <i>Dispatch</i>	Virginia	Corn, Flour &c	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris ^r : Atkins	Her: Ross
157	Sloop <i>Mary Angelic</i> ³⁵	S Carolina	Rice & Lumber	<i>Lowestoffe</i>	Will Locker	ditto
158	Schooner <i>Burford</i>	N. Carolina	Pitch, Tarr &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
159	Sloop <i>Swallow</i> ³⁶	Murphy	Fish, Oil & Lumber	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris ^r : Atkins	ditto
160	Sloop <i>Esprence</i>	S. Carolina	Rice, Indigo &c	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Peter & Charles Ramsey
161	Sloop	Boston	Molasses, D Goods	<i>Lowestoffe</i>	Will Locker	Her ^s : Ross
162	Schooner <i>Tryall</i>	Salem	Fish & Lumber	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson
163	Sloop <i>Beauford</i>	S. Carolina	Rice &c	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris ^r : Atkins	Her ^s : Ross
164	Sloop <i>Papillon</i>	S. Carolina	Tobacco, Hogslard &c	<i>Antelope</i>	Cha: H. Everitt	Robinson & Wair
165	Sloop <i>Elizabeth</i>		Molasses &c	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Peter & Charles Ramsey.
166	Brigg <i>L'Creetia</i>		ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto
167	Brigg <i>Sunberry</i>	Georgia	Dry Goods	<i>Antelope</i>	Cha H. Everitt	Robinson & Wair
168	Sloop <i>Industry</i>		Molasses &c	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith.

"A LIST OF REBEL VESSELS, TAKEN BY THE SQUADRON, OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS & VESSELS, UNDER MY COMMAND AT JAMAICA, BETWEEN THE 21ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1775 AND THE 26TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1778.—" *Continued*

[Extract]	N ^o . of Vessels Taken	When Taken year	Vessels Names.	Mast ^r . Names.	where Belonging.	Lading.	By which of His Majesty's Vessels taken	Commanders Names.	Agents Names.
	169		Sloop <i>Sunbry</i>		Rhode Island	Oil & Pearl Ashes	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris ^r . Atkins	Her ^s : Ross
	170		Schooner <i>Sally</i> ⁸⁷		Georgia	Rice & Coffee	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson
	171		Schooner <i>Pat^r. Henry</i>		Newburn	Tobacco &c	<i>Badger</i>	Mich. J. Everitt	Mal: Laing
	172		Sloop <i>Phœnix</i> ⁸⁸		S. Carolina	Rice &c	<i>Lowestoffe</i>	Will Locker	Her ^s : Ross
	173		Sloop <i>Independance</i> ⁸⁹			Flour &c	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris ^r . Atkins	ditto
	174		Schooner <i>Gen: Washington</i> ⁹⁰		Georgia	Rice & Indigo	<i>Hornett</i>	Rob Haswell	Peter & Charles Ramsey.
	175		Schooner <i>Ferrett</i> ⁹¹		N Carolina	Tobacco, Staves &c	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris ^r . Atkins	Her: Ross
	176		Brigg <i>Freindship</i> ⁹²		Rhode Island	Rice &c	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith
	177		Snow <i>Washington</i> ⁹³			Rice	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson
	178		Schooner <i>Betsy & Ann</i> ⁹⁴			Tobacco & Lumber	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith
	179		Schooner <i>Dove</i>	Smith	N Carolina	Tobacco &c	<i>Lord Amherst</i>	F. J. Hartwell	Peter & Charles Ramsey
	180		Sloop <i>Lidia</i>	Ute	N London	Molasses, Rum &c	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	ditto
	181		Brigg <i>Delaware</i> ⁹⁵	Kirby	Philadelphia	Salt, Brandy &c	<i>Hornett</i>	Rob Haswell	ditto
	182		Sloop <i>Suckey & Polly</i>	W. Shine	N. Carolina	Tobacco & Indigo	<i>Badger</i>	Mich: J. Everitt	Mal: Laing
	183		Schooner <i>Adventure</i> ⁹⁶		Virginia	Flour, Staves &c	<i>Stork</i>	Fra: L'Montais	Campbell & Gelbraith
	184		Sloop <i>Washington</i>		N. Carolina	Lumber &c	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris: Atkins	Her: Ross.
	185		Schooner <i>Dorothy</i> ⁹⁷		Virginia	Tobacco & Staves	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Peter & Charles Ramsey.
	186		Brigg <i>Resolution</i> ⁹⁸	Merideth			<i>Lowestoffe</i>	Will Locker	Her: Ross
	187		Schooner ⁹⁹		Maryland	Salt, Dry Goods &c	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris: Atkins	ditto
	188		Schooner <i>Wild Catt</i>	Dussau	Baltimore	Dry Goods &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
	189		Sloop <i>Horn Snake</i>	More	Charles Town	Tobacco, Rice & Indigo	<i>Diligence</i>	Tho Davey	Robinson & Wair
	190		Ship <i>Argo</i>	Cockran	Cape Nichola	Sugar, Coffee & Molasses	<i>Porcupine</i>	Tho Cadogan	Robinson & Wair
	191		Sloop <i>Boston</i>		Virginia	Salt &c	<i>Porpoise</i>	Tho Haynes	ditto
	192		Schooner <i>Adventure</i>	Boner	Cape Nichola	Salt &c	<i>Stork</i>	Fra L'Montais	Campbell & Gelbraith
	193		<i>S^r. Joseph</i>		N. Carolina	Tobacco & Lumber	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Peter & Charles Ramsey
	195		Schooner <i>Hazard</i> ⁹⁰	John Smith	Virginia	Tobacco & Flour	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson
	196		Sloop <i>Betsy</i>	S. Hood	N. Carolina	Sugar, Molasses &c	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Peter & Charles Ramsey

197	Sloop <i>Defiance</i> ⁵¹	Bartlet	Boston	Molasses	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith
198	Brigg <i>Sally</i> ⁵²			Provisions	ditto	ditto	ditto
199	Schooner <i>Success</i> ⁵³			Molasses	ditto	ditto	ditto
200	Sloop <i>Speedwell</i>	Thrift	S. Carolina	Lumber & Rice	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson
201	Brigg <i>Elizabeth</i>			Dry Goods	<i>Antelope</i>	Will Judd	Peter & Charles Ramsey
202	Brigg <i>Lark</i> ⁵⁴		Boltimeore	Shingles &c	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson
203	Sloop <i>Matompkin</i> ⁵⁵	Elisha Gain	Virginia	Tobacco	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris: Atkins	Her: Ross
204	Ship <i>Speculation</i> ⁵⁶	Pike	New Port	Lumber	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson
205	Sloop <i>Susannah</i> ⁵⁷	Parsons	Cape Ann	Lumber &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
206	Brigg <i>Minerva</i> ⁵⁸	Agborn	N. Carolina	Salt, Coffee & D Goods	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith.
207	Schooner <i>Dolphin</i> ⁵⁹	Babson	Glocester	Fish, Lumber &c	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris: Atkins	Her: Ross
208	Brigg <i>Elizabeth</i>		Boston	Dry Goods	<i>Badger</i>	Mich: J. Everitt	Mal: Laing
209	Ship <i>Minerva</i> ⁶⁰	Morton	Boston	Lumber &c	<i>Diligence</i>	Tho Davey	Robinson & Wair
210	Schooner <i>Unity</i> ⁶¹	Hilton	Salem	Fish & Lumber	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson
211	Schooner <i>Happy Return</i> ⁶²			Salt, Rum &c	<i>Glasgow</i>	Tho Pasley	Campbell & Gelbraith
212	Schooner <i>Liberty</i> ⁶³			Salt &c	<i>Badger</i>	Mich: J. Everitt	Mal: Laing
213	Sloop <i>Brothers</i> ⁶⁴		Virginia	Tobacco, Rice &c	<i>Diligence</i>	Tho Davey	Robinson & Wair
214	Sloop <i>Revenge</i>	Dean	Cape Nichola	Gun Powder, Shott Dry Goods &c	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Peter & Charles Ramsey
215	Schooner <i>Oxford</i>	Vickry	ditto	Salt, Sail Cloath &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
216	Sloop <i>Cartharine</i>		Rhode Island	Fish & Lumber	ditto	ditto	ditto
217	Schooner <i>Tryall</i> ⁶⁵	Smith	Boston	ditto	<i>Badger</i>	Mich: J. Everitt	Mal: Laing
218	Brigg <i>Henry</i>	Dailey	N. Carolina	Lumber &c	<i>Southampton</i>	Will Garnier	Campbell & Robinson
219	Brigg <i>Hiram</i> ⁶⁶			Molasses	<i>Æolus</i>	Chris: Atkins	Her: Ross
220	Schooner <i>Betsey</i>		Virginia	Tobacco	<i>Winchelsea</i>	N. Bateman	Peter & Charles Ramsey
221	Sloop <i>Victory</i>		Cape Nichola	Molasses, Coffee &c	ditto	ditto	ditto
222	Schooner <i>Defiance</i>		Virginia	Dry Goods &c	<i>Porcupine</i>	Tho: Cadogan	Robinson & C ^o .
223	Sloop <i>Active</i>		Virginia	Tobacco & Flour	<i>Badger</i>	Mich: J. Everitt	Mal: Laing
224	A small Privateer ⁶⁷				<i>Racehorse</i>	Ja ^s : M ^r :Namara	
<u>11</u>	Rebel Vessels taken at Pensacola						
<u>235</u>	Taken off the Western Islands						
236	Schooner <i>John</i>	Eze: Woodbury	Boston	Bale Goods & Iron	<i>Antelope & Diligence</i>	Charles H. Everitt & Tho Davey	

D, UkLPR, Adm. 1/240, 498–507. Gayton's Prize List, 26 Feb. 1778. This completes the list which was first printed in *NDAR* 4: 517 and continued in *NDAR* 6: 1169–71.

1. Captured on 10 Nov. 1776. *NDAR* 7: 102.
2. Captured on 10 Nov. 1776. *NDAR* 7: 102.
3. Captured on 12 Nov. 1776, probably from Cape François to Carolina. *NDAR* 7: 122.
4. Captured on 4 Nov. 1776, from Nantucket to Môle Saint-Nicolas. *NDAR* 7: 43.
5. Captured on 20 Nov. 1776, from Philadelphia to Môle Saint-Nicolas. *NDAR* 7: 227.
6. Captured on 13 Dec. 1776, from Boston to Môle Saint-Nicolas. *NDAR* 7: 478.
7. Captured on 15 Dec. 1776, from Rhode Island to Cape François. *NDAR* 7: 489.
8. Captured on 15 Dec. 1776, from Newburyport to Cape François. *NDAR* 7: 489–90.
9. Captured on 20 Dec. 1776, from Cape François to Philadelphia. *NDAR* 7: 535.
10. Captured on 25 Dec. 1776, from Boston to Saint-Domingue. *NDAR* 7: 597–98.
11. Paul Preston, master. Captured on 9 Mar. 1777, from South Carolina probably to Saint-Domingue. *NDAR* 8: 956.
12. Captured on 20 Mar. 1777, from South Carolina to Saint-Domingue. *NDAR* 8: 175.
13. Captured on 8 Feb. 1777, from Charleston probably to Saint-Domingue. *NDAR* 7: 1149.
14. Captured on 20 Mar. 1777, from New London probably to Cape François. *NDAR* 8: 160.
15. Captured on 2 Apr. 1777, from Guadeloupe to Philadelphia. *NDAR* 8: 259.
16. Archibald M'Neill, master, captured on 16 Mar. 1777, from South Carolina to Cape François. *NDAR* 8: 395.
17. Captured on 1 Apr. 1777, from Virginia to Cape François. *NDAR* 8: 259.
18. Captured on 5 Apr. 1777, from Martinique to Beverly, Mass. *NDAR* 8: 283.
19. Captured on 4 Apr. 1777, from St. Thomas to Philadelphia. *NDAR* 8: 273.
20. Captured on 10 Apr. 1777, from Guadeloupe to Newburyport, Mass. *NDAR* 8: 317.
21. Captured on 16 Apr. 1777, from Martinique to South Carolina. *NDAR* 8: 355.
22. American privateer sloop, captured on 19 Apr. 1777. *NDAR* 8: 382.
23. Captured on 2 May 1777. *NDAR* 8: 898.
24. Continental Navy sloop *Hornet*, Capt. John Nicholson, captured on 27 Apr. 1777: *NDAR* 8: 454.
25. Captured on 28 Apr. 1777, from Charleston, S.C., to Martinique. *NDAR* 8: 461.
26. Brigantine *Anne*, James Garrigues, master, captured on 14 May 1777. *NDAR* 8: 968–69.
27. Captured on 19 May 1777, from Cape François to America. *NDAR* 8: 998–99.
28. Captured on 19 May 1777, from Cape François to South Carolina. *NDAR* 8: 998–99.
29. Captured on 22 May 1777. *NDAR* 8: 1020.
30. Captured on 27 June 1777, from Cape François to Philadelphia. *NDAR* 9: 185.
31. Captured on 24 July 1777, from Cape François to Casco Bay. *NDAR* 9: 340.
32. Sloop *Antonio*, captured on 21 July 1777, from North Carolina to Cape François. *NDAR* 9: 314.
33. Captured on 25 July 1777, from Cape François to Charleston. *NDAR* 9: 340.
34. Captured on 18 Aug. 1777, from Cape François to America. *NDAR* 9: 766–67.
35. Captured on 12 Sept. 1777, from Charleston to Môle Saint-Nicolas. *NDAR* 9: 922.

36. Rhode Island letter of marque sloop, John Murphy, commander, captured on 12 Sept. 1777. *NDAR* 9: 921.
37. Captured before 18 Oct. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 209.
38. Captured on 21 Aug. 1777, from Charleston to Môle Saint-Nicolas. *NDAR* 9: 782–83.
39. Captured before 18 Oct. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 209.
40. Captured on 4 Nov. 1777, from Georgia to Cape François. *NDAR* 10: 400.
41. Captured before 18 Oct. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 209.
42. Captured on 14 Oct. 1777, from Charleston to Môle Saint-Nicolas. *NDAR* 10: 169.
43. Captured before 11 Nov. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 470.
44. Captured on 4 Nov. 1777, from North Carolina to St. Croix. *NDAR* 10: 400.
45. Captured before 18 Nov. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 535.
46. Captured on 13 Nov. 1777, from Virginia to Cape François. *NDAR* 10: 481.
47. Captured on 18 Nov. 1777, from Virginia to Cape François. *NDAR* 10: 536.
48. North Carolina privateer brig, Joseph Meredith, commander, captured on 20 Nov. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 553, 563.
49. Captured before 22 Nov. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 574.
50. Captured on 7 Dec. 1777, from Virginia to Cape François. *NDAR* 10: 683.
51. Captured on 9 Dec. 1777, from Martinique to Salem. *NDAR* 10: 694.
52. Captured on 8 Dec. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 687.
53. Captured on 9 Dec. 1777, from Martinique to Salem. *NDAR* 10: 694.
54. Captured on 19 Dec. 1777, from Newburyport to Cape François. *NDAR* 10: 758.
55. Captured before 18 Dec. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 754.
56. Captured on 22 Dec. 1777, from Newburyport to Saint-Domingue. *NDAR* 10: 785.
57. Captured on 21 Dec. 1777, from Cape Ann to Saint-Domingue. *NDAR* 10: 773.
58. Captured on 19 Dec. 1777, from St. Lucia to North Carolina. *NDAR* 10: 758.
59. Captured on 27 Dec. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 818.
60. Captured on 10 Jan. 1778, from Boston to Môle Saint-Nicolas. *NDAR* 11: 91.
61. Captured on 17 Jan. 1778. *NDAR* 11: 154.
62. Captured on 22 Dec. 1777, from Martinique to Virginia. *NDAR* 10: 785–86.
63. Captured on 28 Jan. 1778, from Cape François to Virginia. *NDAR* 11: 228.
64. Captured on 5 Feb. 1778, from Virginia. *NDAR* 11: 296.
65. Captured on 12 Feb. 1778, from Boston to Cape François. *NDAR* 11: 329.
66. Captured on 24 Jan. 1778, from Les Cayes to Falmouth, Me. *NDAR* 11: 205.
67. American letter of marque sloop *Guest*, Edward Kaller, master, captured on 14 Oct. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 217.

February 27

RICHARD BULKELEY TO JAMES MORDEN

Sec^{ry}'s Office

Halifax 27 February 1778

Sir

The Stores of War found on board the Armed Ship the *Hancock*¹ fitted out by the Rebels be now to be Sold for the benefit of the Captors of said Ship, the Lieu^t Governor² requests that you would purchase all said Stores Agreeable to the Resolution in Council of the 17th July 1776.—The Lieu^t Governor further desires, that in Case any other Stores of War during the Rebellion shall be Order'd to be Sold agreeable to the Act of Parliament for the Benefit of the Captors, that you will purchase the same on the behalf of the Principal Officers of His Majesty's Ordnance, as the Publick Sale of such Stores would probably be attended with the most dangerous Consequences. I am Sir &c

Rich^d Bulkeley

LB, CaNSHP, Commissioner of Public Records Collection, Government at Halifax Series, Letter Books of the Governors and Provincial Secretaries, vol. 136, pp. 260–61. Addressed below close: "James Morden Esq His/Majesty's Ordnance Store keeper." Bulkeley was secretary of the Nova Scotia Council.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Hancock* was captured by H.M.S. *Rainbow* on 7 July 1777 and carried into Halifax on 12 July.

2. Rear Adm. Marriot Arbuthnot.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

1778.

Feb. 27. Fryday.

A Calm.—As Soft and warm as Summer.—A Species of black Fish, which our officers call Beneaters,¹ appeared about the Ship. One Source of the Disorders in this Ship, is the Irregularity of Meals.—There ought to be a well digested System, for Eating, Drinking & sleeping. At Six, all Hands should be called up. at Eight, all Hands should breakfast.—at one all Hands should dine.—At Eight again all Hands should Sup.—It ought to be penal for the Cook to fail of having his Victuals ready punctually.—This would be, for the Health, Comfort and Spirits of the Men, and would greatly promote the Business of the Ship.

I am constantly giving Hints to the Captain² concerning Order, Economy and Regularity, and he seems to be Sensible of the Necessity of them, and exerts himself to introduce them.—He has cleared out the Tween Decks, ordered up the Hammocks to be aired, and ordered up the Sick, such as c'd bear it, upon Deck for Sweet Air. This Ship would have bred the Plague or the Goal Fever, if there had not been great Exertions, since the storm, to wash, sweep, Air and purify, Cloaths, Cots, Cabins, Hammocks & all other Things, Places & Persons.—

The Captⁿ. Yesterday went down into the Cock Pit, and ordered up every Body from that Sink of Devastation and Putrefaction—ordered up the Hamocks &c. this was in Pursuance of the Advice I gave him in the Morning "if you intend to have

any Reputation for Economy, Discipline, or any Thing that is good, look to your Cock Pit.—[']

Yesterday the Captⁿ. brought in, a Curiosity which he had drawn up over the Side in a Buckett of Water, which the Sailors call a Portuguese Man of War, and to day I have Seen many of them Sailing by the Ship.—They have Some Appearances of Life and Sensibility.—They Spread a curious Sail and are wafted along very briskly.—They have something like Gutts, hanging down which are said to be in a degree poisonous to human Flesh. The Hulk is like blue Glass. I pierced it with the Sharp Point of my Pen Knife & found it empty. the Air came out, and the Thing Shrunk up almost to nothing.

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), pp. 12–13.

1. Bonitas.
2. Capt. Samuel Tucker, Continental Navy.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston Feb^y 27th 1778—

Order'd That M^r. Joseph Hall deliver Captⁿ. Turner 15 Gall^s. Rum for the Ship *Adams*¹—

Order'd That Capt ⁿ . Roger Bartlets Bill for his attendance	9 Days @ 18/.	£8.. 2..—
& 6 Mens Labour	1 d ^o . @ 18/	5.. 8..—
on board the Brig ^a . <i>Favorite</i> ²		£13..10..—
be paid—		

Order'd That M^r. Ivers³ pay Captⁿ. Luther Turner the Ball^e. of his portlidge Bill & disbursments for the Ship *Adams*

amo^t. £52..14.. 4

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 236–38.

1. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.
2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
3. Thomas Ivers.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *DELAWARE*, COMMANDER JAMES WATT

Feb^y 1778 Moor'd to a Wharf [at *Philadelphia*]
 Frid^y 27 Light Airs with Rain at times,
 Employ'd Manning Boats to Carry Troops to Coopers Ferry.—
 D^o. Landed the 42^d. Regm^t. & Queens Rangers¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/239, fol. 9.

1. On the morning of 28 Feb., flat boats were sent over to Cooper's Ferry with reinforcements for a foraging party. The British also used boats to withdraw the foraging party from Cooper's Ferry on 2 Mar. UKLPR, Adm. 51/239, fol. 10.

BOND FOR PENNSYLVANIA PRIVATEER BOAT *LIZARD*

KNOW all Men by these Presents,
 That WE, John Campbell & John Harvie
 are held and firmly bound to The Honorable Henry Laurens Esquire President of Congress and to his Successor and Successors in the said Office for the Time

being—, in Trust for 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*, in North-America, in the Penalty of Five Thousand Dollars to be paid to the said Henry Laurens his Successor & Successors in Office as President of Congress for the Time being or to their certain Attorney, Executors, Administrators or Assigns: To which Payment well and truly to be made and done, We do bind Ourselves, our Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these Presents. Sealed with our Seals, and dated the Twenty Seventh Day of February in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred & Seventy Eight.

THE Condition of this Obligation is such, That if ~~the above bounden~~ _____ who is Commander of the Boat— called Lizard— belonging to John Campbell & C^a mounting _____ Carriage Guns, and navigated by _____ Men, and who hath applied for a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal, to arm, equip, and set forth to Sea, the said Lizard— as a Private Ship Boat of War, and to make Captures of Vessels and Cargoes belonging to the Crown and Subjects of Great-Britain, shall not exceed or transgress the Powers and Authorities which shall be contained in the said Commission, but shall in all Things observe and conduct himself, and govern his Crew, by and according to the same; and shall make Reparations for all Damages sustained by any Misconduct or unwarrantable Proceedings of himself or the Officers or Crew of the said Lizard— Then this Obligation shall be void, or else remain in Force.

Sealed and Delivered
in the Presence of

John Campbell (Seal)
Jn^a Harvie (Seal)

DS, DNA, PCC, Item 196, vol. 9, p. 91. This is a printed form with blanks left to be filled in, indicated here by the underlined sections. An identical bond was executed for the boat *Otter* on the same day. *Ibid.*, vol. 11, p. 46.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

[Extract]

Dear Sir,

Wilmington February 27th. 1778

On Wednesday Evening the Enemy in a Sloop of war, one Galley, and about 40 Boats fell down the Delaware, and Anchor'd off this Place at Dusk: The Boats were full of Troops & upward of 30 said to be Flat Bottomed from the best intelligence I received, I cou'd not distinguish from this Place, as they came down under cover of this shore, and at Dusk made over to the Jersey Shore, & came to an Anchor opposite to some Fires which had been made there in the afternoon, The Stores & Baggage were immediately sent a small distance on the Lancaster Road, and the Garrison rested on their Arms all Night prepared to receive them, the Morning proving hazey the Boats were not discernable, but the Ship & Galley moved down with the Tide, some eight Horse who had been ordered the Evening before to scour & patrol on the Shore above & below Newcastle, to discover their motions, brought Intellegence the Boats had gone up Salem Creek, but this is not to be depended on, as I think it was too hazey for them to be seen; nor have I yet discovered whether they have Landed in Jersey, or gone down below, tho I have had several Scouts out

for that purpose, but no Boats can be had here proper for such discoveries. . . . I have the Honor to be [&c.]

W Smallwood

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "General Washington." Docketed: "Wilmington 27th: &/28th: Feby 1778/from/Gen^l Smallwood/An^d. 1st. March." The rest of the letter discusses the difficulties of finding commissaries who fill orders completely and with goods of adequate quality.

COLONEL JOSEPH DASHIELL TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

[Extract]

Snow Hill [*Md.*] 27th Febr^y 1778

May it please Your Excellency

. . . I am Sorry to Inform you that a Ceartin John Starling with Sundry others of our owne people have Taken three Vessels in our Sound & at Annemesex and Care'd them to the Enemy if you Could posably Send a galley to that Station, she Would be of grate Use in keeping the Annemesex Gentry In order, who are Continuly Saplying the Ennemy—I was at Accomack a few days ago whare I saw a man Come to give Col^o Simson¹ Information, that he had a letter from you for him Reletive to Starling being at Annemesex a Recruiting, but that he was Chas'd in the Bay by one of Capt Nicholsons Tenders² and Sunk your Letter: So that we donot know what your Commands may be on that head. . . .³

Joseph Dashiell Lieut

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4584-120. Addressed: "on public sarvice/His Excellency/Thomas Johnson Esq^r/Gov^r of/Maryland." Docketed: "27 Febr^y 1778/Col^o Jos Dashiell." Col. Dashiell was County Lieutenant of Worcester County.

1. Col. Southy Simpson, Virginia Militia, of Accomac County.

2. Tenders belonging to Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Capt. James Nicholson, commander, Maryland Navy ship *Defence's* tender *Amelia*, Capt. Henry Massey, commander, and Maryland Navy schooner, Capt. Daniel Bryan, commander.

3. The remainder of the letter concerns the purchasing of clothing and cattle, and other matters relating to the Maryland militia.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Friday the 27th day of february 1778.—

Ordered that Mr J. Rollinson,¹ deliver to Cap^t Jn^o. Barret two hundred two pound shot with as much Langret—and double headed shot as he may want for the use of the *Hero* Galley.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Mr Robert Ferguson for the use of Cap^t James Markham for One hundred pounds on acco^t for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the *Page* Galley.—

Ordered that a warrant issue to Mr Robert Ferguson for the use of Lieutenant Stafford Lightburne for one hundred pounds on acco^t for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the use of the *Lewis* Galley.—these warrants were issued by the advice of the Governor.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 360.

1. John Rollinson.

CAPTAIN JAMES WILLING TO LIEUTENANT JAMES ELLIOT

[*Manchac, West Florida*]M^r James Elliot

Dear Sir

Feb^y 27 1778

You are hereby authorised to recruit Men as Soldiers &^c in the Service of the United States to serve three years or During the War, or if you cant recruit for so long two years, Twenty Dollars bounty and Arms Accoutrements & Cloathing fitting a Gent^l Soldier, all those who inlist must take the follow^s Oath of which you have a Copy you'll Comply with these Instructions and push for Orleans I am [&c.]

Ja^s Willing

L, DNA, PCC, item 41, vol. 3, pp. 35–36 (M247, roll 49). Docketed: "Recruiting Orders from/Captⁿ James Willing/To/James Elliot L^t." Elliot was commissioned a 1st lieutenant of an Independent Pennsylvania Company, Continental Army, on 27 Feb. 1778.

GOVERNOR JOHN DALLING TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]

(N^o. 16.)Jamaica 27th. February 1778

My Lord,

. . . There is every reason to think that the appearance of His Majesty's Ship the *Diligence*, at the Mosquito Shore, has been attended with good effects, for I have not received any Complaints, nor heard of any further depredations committed by the Spaniards on the property of His Majesty's Subjects there since the accounts which were first transmitted to Sir Basil Keith by M^r Lawrie;¹ I shall therefore represent to the Admiral the utility of sending one of the Ships of his Squadron to visit that Coast as often as it can be done with convenience. . . .

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect My Lord, [&c.]

John Dalling

L, UkLPR, C.O. 137/73, fols. 124–25. Addressed at foot of first page: "The Right Hon^{ble}: Lord George Germain &^c. &^c. &^c." Docketed: "Jamaica 27th. Febr^y 1778./Governor Dalling/(N^o. 16.)/R, 22^d. April./(4 Inclosures.)/Ent^d."

1. John Lawrie. See NDAR 4: 1400–1402, 1411–12; 5: 74, 522, 537–38.

February 28

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[Extract]

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

1778.

Feb. 28. Saturday. last Night and this Day We have enjoyed a fine easy Breeze. the Ship has had no Motion but directly forward.—I Slept as quietly and as Soundly as in my own Bed at home. . . .

The Ship is now in very good order, cleaned out, between Decks, on the Main Deck, in the Cabin and Quarter Deck.—The Masts, Yards, Sails and Rigging are well repaired.

The Captⁿ.¹ has just now Sent written Orders to the Steward of the Ship, to make weekly Returns to him of the State of Provisions and to be very frugal of Provisions and Candles, which appeared to be very necessary as near one half of the Ships Stores of Candles are expended. . . .

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), p. 14.

1. Capt. Samuel Tucker, Continental Navy.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board [of] War Boston Feb^y 28th 1778

Order'd That Captⁿ. Hopkins¹ deliver Captⁿ. Bartlet² one Bbl Tar for the Brig^a.

*Favorite*³—

Ordered That the Comm^y⁴ deliver Captⁿ. Bartlet for the Brig^a. *Favorite*

1 Iron Pot	6 ^{cwt} ..0 ^{qr} ..0 ^{lb} Bread
6 lbs Coffee	2 quintals Fish
0..2 ^{qr} ..0 ^{lb} Bread	1 Box Candles
7 ^{lbs} Sugar	1 Bush ^s Beans
5 Bbls Beef	1 Firkin Butter
3 d ^o . Pork	$\frac{3}{4}$ ^{cwt} Sugar
1 d ^o . Flour	20 ^{lbs} . Coffee—

Voted That Captⁿ. Williams⁵ be desired to send up all the old Sails &^c out of the Capt^{ns}. Fisk⁶ & Harreden⁷

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 238–40.

1. Capt. Caleb Hopkins.

2. Capt. Nicholas Bartlett, Jr.

3. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

4. David Devens.

5. Capt. George Williams.

6. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*, commanded by Capt. John Fisk from February until November 1777.

7. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Tyrannicide*, commanded by Capt. Jonathan Haraden from February 1777.

CHARLES WALLER TO MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSARY OF PRISONERS

Sir Newport Rhode Island 28th: February 1778.—

Having been advised that the Cartel-Ship named the *Royal Bounty*¹ engaged and fitted for the removal of several American Prisoners from Hallifax to be Exchanged at this Port, has been forcibly carried into Marblehead; And the customary Exemptions from restraint in the Case of Vessels of the same description, denied in this Instance: I am in my Duty as Commissary of Prisoners in this Department to Claim the Release of the said Cartel-Ship, with her Crew, Furniture and Stores; And Credit to be allowed on Account for the number of Prisoners by that means obtaining their Liberty.—

The Ship having been prepared in all Respects conformable to the Character in which she was employed; And the Prisoners left free from every other Restraint, excepting with regard to the Port of destination where the Exchange was appointed to be made; Full assurance is entertained of receiving due Satisfaction in this Respect.—

But if (as reported) the Ship has been Sold for the benefit of the released Prisoners, and the equity of the claim in the Extent now preferred shall be denied; I am then to request You will let me know the Resolution taken thereon, that I may report the particulars as by my Station required. I am Sir [&c.]

Cha^s: Waller.

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, Revolutionary Rolls, vol. 8 (Various-Charter Parties-Relating to Prisoners), p. 151. Addressed: "To/M^r R, Pierpont/Commissary of Prisoners,/at Boston." Docketed: "Charles Waller's/Letter Commissary/of Prisoners at Newport/to Rob^t Pierpoint/Esq^r—/Feb^r 28^t 1778—." Notation next to address: "C. Waller/Comm^r: Pris^{rs}." On 14 Feb. Joseph Henderson succeeded Robert Pierpont as Massachusetts commissary of prisoners.

1. Thomas Compton, master.

CHARLES WALLER TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE

Sir

Newport Rhode Island 28th: February: 1778—

The same principle of Humanity professed in the Letter I have received from You of the 25th: Inst: and the just adherence to Engagements in the Correspondence with M^r Cooke regarding the Exchange of Prisoners transacted under his Direction, were the motives for the proposal in my last of the 19th:—

A List will be transmitted with the Prisoners to be Landed, as soon as the Weather will admit of sending them to Bristol; And the Paroles of the Officers will be taken; But as little Credit is generally speaking to be placed in the Assurance of the ordinary Seamen, it is hoped M^r Cooke's interposition will be used to procure a suitable observance of the Conditions, that they do not serve again in any Military Capacity, until they have been duely discharged from this Engagement.

The Release of M^r Smith¹ against M^r Sprague² tho' not perfectly consistent with the original Conditions of Exchange with respect to parity of Rank is agreed to. Also of M^r York³ for M^r Otway;⁴ And M^r Muirson⁵ for M^r Meredith:⁶ And it is understood that those Officers are respectively Disengaged from their Paroles given.

I am directed to add that the Exchange of Coll: Ethan Allen, being a matter regarding the Department of the Commander in Chief of the Land Forces, Lord Howe has not authority to concur in the proposition.

I am also to take this opportunity of Stating the Impropriety in granting conditional Paroles for British Prisoners to come to any of the Ports occupied by the King's Forces under an Engagement to return at a limited time, if not able to procure the Release of some specified American; And to desire the Practice may be discontinued.

The favour of a safe conveyance for the enclosed Letter respecting the detention of the Cartel Ship *Royal-Bounty* at Boston,⁷ is requested. I am Sir [&c.]

Cha^s: Waller.

L, R-Ar, Letters to the Governor (1778), vol. 12, p. 28. Addressed at foot: "Nich^s Cooke Esq^r."

1. William Smith, captain's clerk of H.M.S. *Syren*.
2. John Sprague, surgeon of Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Active*.
3. Lt. Samuel York, lieutenant in Continental Navy sloop *Sachem*.
4. Lt. William A. Otway, R.N. See *NDAR* 10: 499, 643, 688.
5. Lt. Heathcote Muirson, lieutenant of marines in Arnold's Fleet galley *Washington* on Lake Champlain in 1776. See Charles R. Smith, *Marines in the Revolution, A History of the Continental Marines in the American Revolution, 1775-1783* (Washington, D.C.: History and Museums Division, U.S. Marine Corps, 1975), 30.
6. Lt. James Meredith, lieutenant of marines in H.M.S. *Syren*.
7. See Charles Waller to Massachusetts Commissary of Prisoners, 28 Feb., immediately above.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'s, ACCOUNTS WITH CONTINENTAL NAVY VESSELS

[New London, 28 February 1778]

The Honorable Marine Committee D^r

1776				
Apr ^l 10	To Am ^o Ship <i>Alfreds</i> Acco ^t	1843..17.. 6		
	Sloop <i>Providence</i> d ^o	36..18.. 7		
	Ship <i>Columbus</i> d ^o	6.. 6.. 4		
	Brig <i>Cabot</i> d ^o	30..14.. 9		
	Sloop <i>Fly</i> d ^o	116..18.. 0		
	Brig <i>And Doria</i> d ^o	<u> 357..12..10</u>	2392.. 8.. 0	
June	To Am ^o Brig <i>Cabots</i> d ^o		3320.. 3.. 9	
Sep ^r	To Am ^o Brig <i>Hampden's</i> d ^o		317..15..11	
	To Am ^o Sloop <i>Schuyler's</i> d ^o		16..13.. 0	
	To Am ^o d ^o Dav ^d Hawley Commd ^r		2236.. 9.. 3½	
	To Am ^o d ^o John Kerr Commd ^r		416..14.. 7½	
	To Am ^o Ship <i>Alfreds</i> d ^o			
	To Am ^o Ship <i>Trumbulls</i> d ^o		7187.. 8..10	
	To Am ^o Brig <i>Resistance</i> d ^o		11019.. 4.. 3	
	To Am ^o Schooner <i>Mefflens</i> d ^o		1698..17.. 2	
	To Mes ^{rs} . Levingston & Turnbolls Bill for 10,000 Dollars		3000.. 0.. 0	
	To the sloop <i>Providences</i> Bill		337.. 0.. 4	
Contra				C ^r
1776				
Aug ^t	By N ^t proceeds of Sales Brig <i>Boulton</i> Schooner <i>Hawk</i> & <i>Glasgous</i> Tender		837.. 2.. 9	
	By d ^o of Schooner <i>John</i> & <i>Joseph</i>		688.. 4.. 1	
	By d ^o of Ship <i>Nath^l</i> & <i>Eliz^a</i>		1849.. 3.. 0	
	By d ^o of y ^e <i>True Blue</i>		689.. 3.. 7	

28 FEBRUARY 1778

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NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.'s, ACCOUNTS WITH CONTINENTAL NAVY VESSELS—*CONTINUED*

Dec ^r 1778 Feb 28	By d ^o of y ^e Ship <i>Clarendon</i>		8509..17.. 6
	By a Warrant on the Loan Office of this state for	35000	
	By Cash of John Hartell	<u>5000</u>	12000.. 0.. 0
		40000	
	By the N ^t proceeds of the <i>Schylers</i> Prizes	880..17.. 5	
			1037..10..11
	By the N ^t proceeds of the <i>Mifflins</i> d ^o		106.. 6.. 6
	By the N ^t proceeds of y ^e <i>Schylers</i> & <i>Mifflins</i> d ^o .		605..10.. 4¾

D, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, ledger no. 39 (1776–1778).

JOSHUA STARR'S ACCOUNT WITH THE CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER
SLOOP *AMERICAN REVENUE*

Sloop *American Rivenew*

New London Feb 28 1778

To Making Bowsprit	£1..10.. 0
To one Fermer ¹	0.. 4.. 0
To Making 9 Catrig Boxes Tops at 2/6	1.. 2.. 6
To 6 Blocks at 3/6	1.. 1.. 0
To 3 Mallets at 2/6	0.. 7.. 6
To 6 Falls Fire Stocks 4/	1.. 4.. 0
To one Large deadeye	0.. 3.. 0
To one Survng Mallet ²	0.. 4.. 6
To 18 Tompkins at /6	0.. 9.. 0
To Reming 2 Pumps at 12/	1.. 4.. 0
To 6 Sets of Pump boxes at 10/	3.. 0.. 0
To Fixing Rammers	0.. 1.. 9
To one Set of Burton Blocks	2.. 0.. 0
To Making Sq ^r Sail Yard out of Old Boom three Days work at 20/	3.. 0.. 0
To 2 Blocks at 5/	0..10.. 0
To one Duble Do 10/	0..10.. 0
To Making Jibboom	0.. 5.. 0
To Making Studingsail Boom 6 Inch 2/	0..12.. 0
To 16 Carrig Trucks at 6/	4..16.. 0
To Sheveing ³ Main Sheet Blocks	0.. 6.. 0
To 6 Small Fermers at /4d	0.. 2.. 0
To 6 Bit handels at /4d	0.. 2.. 0
To Making Sq ^r Sail Boom 2 Days work	2.. 0.. 0
To 12 Tomkins	0.. 5.. 0
To 20 Spare Blocks of Difrent Size 4/6	4..10.. 0
Errors Excepted Per Joshua Starr	£29.. 9.. 3
From 20 Feb Resivd at Difrent Times 6 Gallons of Rum Towards the Above at 2..14..0	16 : 4: 0
To March 1	£13 : 5: 3 due
Received the Above Contents P ^r Joshua Starr	
Sum Brot over	£29.. 9.. 3
Brig <i>Nancys</i> ⁴ Boom	9..—..—
Sq ^r Sail Boom	12..15..—
	£51.. 4.. 3
a Main Mast Cut up for a Bowspreat	50.. 0.. 0
	£101.. 4.. 3
1 Hand pump	.. 9..—

DS, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 76, no. 4368. Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Joshua Starrs/Bill." Docketed in another hand: "4368."

1. A thin-bladed chisel or gouge used in shaping and finishing wood.

2. A serving-mallet used in the serving or winding marline around rope as a means of protection.

3. To sheave is to add a wheel or rim to something, used as a pulley.

4. Connecticut privateer brigantine *Nancy*, Michael Melally, commander.

RIVINGTON'S *THE ROYAL GAZETTE* (NEW YORK),
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1778

NEW-YORK, February 28.

We are informed, that his Majesty's ship *Phoenix*, Capt. Hyde Parker, commander, was forced by the late violent gales of wind, which have been fatal to several vessels at sea, to bear away for the West-Indies, on the 6th instant, she was spoke with by the *Experiment* man of war, and had then taken two prizes.¹

On Wednesday last arrived a schooner,² she is said to be one of seven vessels, which lately sailed from New-England, for Carolina, and West-Indies, and was taken by his Majesty's Ship *Experiment*, Sir James Wallace, commander, who has also secured two more of this same fleet,³ and was left in pursuit of a fourth. The *Experiment* took up at sea about 25 men, the whole company of the armed brigantine *Rawleigh*, Capt. Tweed, of this port, for Grenada, which was in the very article of foundering, when Sir James Wallace providentially perceived the firing of their guns, with signals of distress, and instantly bore down to their relief. . . .

Yesterday arrived from a cruise, the *Levant*,⁴ Capt. Martin, a letter of marque of 28 guns, and 130 men, on which she had taken three prizes, and retook a vessel from Oporto for London, laden with 300 pipes of wine, and sent her into Bristol, where she is said to be safely arrived.

1. Sloop *Recovery*, Ephraim Paynter, master, and brig *Genevieve*, Pierre Tourounet (Tournet), master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Phoenix*, 4 Jan. and 7 Jan., above.

2. Schooner *Newport*, J. Caines, master, from Boston to South Carolina. Her master's name is given as Roger Keane in her prize papers. UkLPR, H.C.A. 32/410/12.

3. Sloop *Dolphin*, J. Miles, master, from Salem (or New Haven) to St. Eustatius, and brigantine *Polly*, John Saunders, master, from Boston (or Newburyport) to South Carolina.

4. Ship *Levant*, James Martin, commander, 330 tons burthen, mounting 20 six-pounder and 8 three-pounder guns, rebuilt in 1777, owned by Davis & Co., Bristol, England. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO BRIGADIER GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE

[Extract]

Head Quarters Valley Forge 28th. Feb^y. 1778

Dear Sir

. . . I sent a party of Artillerymen to attempt to annoy the shipping that lay at Philad^a while there was Ice in the River,¹ but as that must be all destroyed by the late thaw and no great chance of any more during the remainder of the Season, I think you had best order them to return to Camp except you find they can be any how usefully employed. . . . I am &c^a.

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "28th. Feb^y 1778/to/Gen^l Wayne." The remainder of this letter concerns the collection of cattle and a postscript on the removal of cannon to keep it from falling into the enemy's hands.

1. See General George Washington to Captain-Lieutenant Jonas Simonds, 24 Feb., above.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROEBUCK*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

Feb^y 1778 [alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]
 Saturday 28th AM Sent some Flat boats to Coopers Ferry to a Foraging Party there
 Fresh gales and cloudy with some Snow the Fore part
 [PM] the Flat boats under Capt Linzee's Command returned¹

D, UklPR, Adm. 52/1964, 89.

1. The flat boats with two light infantry battalions that went down to Salem, N.J., on 24 Feb.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Saturday, February 28, 1778

The Committee on the Treasury brought in a report;¹ Whereupon,
Ordered, That a warrant issue on the treasurer in favour of the Marine
 Committee, for five thousand dollars, to be transmitted to Nathaniel Shaw, Esq.
 continental agent in Connecticut:

That a warrant issue on John Lawrence, Esq. commissioner of the continental
 loan office in the State of Connecticut, in favour of the Marine Committee, for thir-
 ty-five thousand dollars, to be transmitted to the said Nathaniel Shaw, for which two
 sums the said Committee is to be accountable.

JCC 10: 207-8.

1. DNA, PCC, item 136, vol. 2, p. 111 (M247, roll 145).

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

To the Commissioners of the Navy Board at Boston

Gentⁿ. [*York, Pa.*] February 28th 1778

We have received your Letter of the 2^d instant. We have now to advise you that we have
 this day paid to Nath^l. Shaw j^c Continental Agent at New London the sum of Forty
 thousand Dollars in part of the balance of his Account against the Marine
 Department which you will please to charge him with and we have ordered him to
 place the same to your Credit. we have also directed him to make up his accounts
 and produce them to your Board in order that they may be examined and settled.
 This we desire you will have done without loss of time and when he furnishes his
 account Current you will please to transmit to us a Copy thereof for our Inspection
 before we order payment of the balance We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 129 (M332, roll 6).

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Nathaniel Shaw j^c Esq^r

Sir [*York, Pa.*] February 28th 1778

We have received your Letter of the 2^d instant¹ & in consequence of your
 demand for money you have advanced for the Marine Service we have paid M^r John

Hertell whom you sent for that purpose Five thousand Dollars and have delivered to him a Warrant on the Loan office of your State for Thirty five thousand Dollars making 40,000 Dollars to your debit. Since the appointment of the Navy Board at Boston it has been our determination that all applications for money and other Matters relative to Marine affairs should be made to them, for which reason we have charged that Board with the above sum and you must Credit them for the same. As it is high Time your Accounts with the Marine Department were settled, we request that you will with all expedition produce them to the Navy Board who will settle and pay the balance that may be due to you and in future you are to be governed intirely by thier directions in Marine Affairs. We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 128 (M332, roll 6).

1. See Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., to the Continental Marine Committee, 2 Feb., above.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY *CORNWALLIS*, LIEUTENANT THOMAS SPRY

Feb^r 1778

At Anchor of Sealam Creek

Saturday 28

First P^t Snowy middle and Latter fair weather at 8 AM Rowd till the Vessel took the Ground let go the small Bower at 9 the Troops Embarked¹ at 10 weighd and came to sail in Company with Cap^t Lindsey² and the Troops
[at Noon] Abrest of Christeen Creek³

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1676, pt. 2, 35.

1. Two light infantry battalions.
2. Capt. John Linzee, R.N.
3. Christiana Creek, Del.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

February 1778

Working in between the Capes.

Saturday 28th.

Mod^t & hazy AM at 6 saw the Land, of Cape Charles bearing West 5 or 6 Leagues, let the Reefs out, up TG^t Yards, set TG^t Sails, Departed this Life James Quint Seaman

Working in between the Capes.

Fresh Breezes at 1 PM TK^d saw a Sail to y^c ENE at 2 Saw a Ship with a Danish flag at her MTG^t m^t head, D^o m^d Sail after her, at 4 she An^d sent the Boats to Exime her, she proved to be a Ship Cadiz b^d to Williamsburg in Salt,¹ B^r too & spoke the *Solebay* & *Senegal* at 8 anch^d as did the above in 10 f^m. W^r Cape Henry WSW 3 or 4 Miles

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/784.

1. Danish ship *Good Hope*, Jurgin Lassin, master, owned by Niel Ferguson of Albany, from Cadiz to St. Thomas, with salt, mounting 3 guns, a crew of 22 seamen, taken off Cape Henry, prize credited to *Richmond*, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239-40. *Good Hope* was condemned in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York on 10 Apr. 1778. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 66. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/344/2, in which her master's name appears as Jurgen Larsen.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *GLASGOW*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PASLEY

1778. Feb^o
Saturday 28

Lat^d 18°. 55 N Navassa [*Is.*] bore NNE. 6 Leagues.
At 7 (AM) Cape Tiberoon¹ ENE. 7 Leagues. at 10 Cleand
and Washd between Decks with Vinegar, At 11 Issued Slops
and Tobacco to the Ships Company. Employed
Occasionally.

Cape Tiberoon ENE $\frac{1}{2}$ N^o. 5. Leagues.
Light Breezes and fair, intermixd with Calms. At 4 (PM) saw 4
Sail to the SE. At 6 Arm'd the Pinnacle and sent the Master in
Chase, who spoke one of them, a French Schooner from Aux
Coyes to Porto Prince At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 Saw 2 Sloops and a
Schooner to Norw^d, Arm'd the Cutter and sent an Officer to
speak them, who upon firing a Musquett to bring them too, the
Schooner and one of the Sloops Fired on the Boat and wound-
ed one of the people, the Cutter return'd; when we fired 20
Round, 3 Double Headed, and 5 Grape Shott 9 Pounders,
besides small Arms, whereupon they took to their Oars in the 2
Arm'd Vessels and Sheer'd in Shore, leaving the other Sloop
Deserted by the People, Man'd the Cutter & sent her to take pos-
session, The Pinnacle at that time joining her, they pulld after the
other two, and endeavored to board the Sloop, but was obliged
to sheer off, having 3 of the Pinnacle Men Wounded, At Midnight
the Boats returned, Man'd the Prize and sent her to Jamaica.—²

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/399.

1. Tiburon Peninsula, Saint-Domingue.

2. Sloop *Abigail*, master unknown, 100 tons burthen, bound to Boston, with molasses and rum.
Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/241.

REAR ADMIRAL SIR PETER PARKER TO COMMANDER ROBERT HASWELL, R.N.

(Copy)

By Sir Peter Parker Kn^t Rear
Admiral of the Blue &c &c

Having received information from Ja^s Gambier¹ the Lieutenant Governor of
the Bahama Islands, that the American Privateers are very troublesom, continually
keeping the Inhabitants of those Islands in fear and apprehension of Invasion, and
that on Monday the 26 of last Month, one Privateer² landed a large Party of Men at
the West end of the Island of Providence,³ who march'd by land to the Metropolis,
and took the Fort by surprizing at 2 oClock in the Morning, and turned the Guns
upon the Town, then took possession of a large letter of Marque Ship⁴ lying in the
Harbour belonging to Jamaica laden with Sugar, Coffee & Rum—as also some
Sloops⁵—destroyed all the Gunpowder, spiked up the Guns and then sail'd for
Carolina—

And Whereas the Lieutenant Governor of the said Islands has applied to me
for assistance and sent here M^r Thomas Collard to purchase Gunpowder, to replace
what has been destroyed.—

You are therefore hereby Authorizd and required to receive M^r Thomas Collard on board His Majestys Sloop under your Command and Give him a passage to Providence, together with such Gunpowder as he may have procured for the use of the said Fort, or as much of it as can be conveniently stowed in your Magazine

On your arrival at Providence you will deliver the dispatches you will receive herewith to the Lieutenant Governor, and concert with him the most probable means for intercepting and destroying any American Privateers that may be lurking thereabouts—

You will then proceed to Turks Island and co-operate with His Majestys Governor of the Bahama Islands together with the Agent, in concerting & carrying into execution such further plans and regulations as may be thought best for His Majestys Service, for the protection of His Majestys Subjects at Turks Islands, and for promoting the Salt Trade carried on there—agreeable to the Extract of a report of the Board of Trade respecting the said Islands (a Copy of which you will receive herewith) And it is recommended to you to be very particular in the account of your proceedings, that I may lay the same before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty

You are to remain on this Service as long as your provisions will conveniently last, or till you have fully answered the purposes for which you were sent there, in either case you are to make the best of your way to rejoin me at this Port—

Given on Board His Majestys
Ship the *Bristol* Port Royal
Harbour Jamaica the 28 Feb^y 1778
P. Parker

L, UkLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed at foot of last page: "To/Captain Rob^t Haswell/Commander of His Majestys/Sloop The *Hornett*/By Command of the Rear Admiral/Jn^o. Read." Docketed: "In Sir Pet^r Parker's Letter/Dated 19th. April 1778." Enclosure No. 7 in Rear Adm. Sir Peter Parker's letter to Philip Stephens, 19 Apr. 1778. There is another version of this letter in Adm. 1/241 which was enclosed in Rear Adm. Sir Peter Parker's letter to Philip Stephens, 25 Apr. 1778.

1. John Gambier.
2. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*, Capt. John Peck Rathbun, commander.
3. New Providence I.
4. Letter of marque ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.
5. Sloops *Washington* and *Tryal* and an unidentified sloop.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *AURORA*, CAPTAIN JAMES CUMMING

Feb^y 1778
Saturday 28

Moored at the Wharf in English Harbour Careening—
d^o Wea^r: [Fair Weather] employ'd occasionally. Arriv'd his
Maj^s Ship *Phoenix* S^r Hyde Parker Comm^r from N^o: Amer:
also our tender¹ with a Prize, laden with Tobacco & naval
Stores.²

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/65, part 4, fol. 135.

1. Schooner *Libra*.
2. Sloop *Fly*, Timothy Toby, master, 12 tons burthen, crew of 4 men, from and belonging to North Carolina, with tobacco, tar and turpentine, taken on 21 Feb., sent into Antigua. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *SEAFORD*, CAPTAIN JOHN COLPOYS

February 1778
Saturday 28th.

At Sea Latit^{de}: 13..50 N^o: Obs^d: [*off St. Lucia*]
At 8 AM Saw a Sail to the S^ow^d. Gave Chace At 12 Left off
Chace—

At Sea Latit^{de}: 13..50 N^o: Obs^d:
Ditto W^r: [Moderate breez^s: and fair W^r:] At 1 PM Saw a Sail
in the NW Gave Chace, At 4 PM Abreast of Fort Royal
Martinico, At 5 D^o: the Chace Run a Ground on Martinico
½ Past D^o: the Ship Struck, Armed the boats and took the
Chace, Proved the Ship *Hampden*, an American Privateer
of 12 Guns;¹ At 6 the Prize got off. Emp^d. getting out the
Kedge Anchor & Warps, to get the Ship off. At 10 D^o: got
the Ship off, The French Fort kept Continually firing at us,
which obliged to leave two Hawsers, which were fast on
the Rocks,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/880, part 3.

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*, John Bartlett, commander, mounting 12 guns, crew of 64 men, 120 tons burthen, from Martinique, belonging to Salem, sent into Dominica. Young's Prize List, 14 Mar. 1778, below.

March

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT
TO CAPTAIN ABRAHAM WHIPPLE

Navy Board Eastern Department [*Boston*] March 1778

To Abraham Whipple esq^r Commander of the Ship *Providence*
at Providence in the State of Rhode Island

Sir

As soon as these Instructions get to hand you are to get to Sea as soon as possible,¹ when there you are to proceed on a voyage to some convenient port in France, and on your Arrival there Apply to the Agent—if any in or near said Port—for such Supplys as you may stand in need of—

You are at the same time to give immediate Notice by Letter to the Honble Benjamin Franklin Arthur Lee & John Adams Esq^r or any of them at Paris of your Arrival—Respecting their Instructions as to your future Destination which Instructions you are Strictly to Obey as far as it shall be in your power if however in the Cours of y^r Voyage a favourable Oppertunity should Offer of doing Service in the States by taking or destroying any of the Enemies Ships you are not to omit taking advantage of it. But may go out of y^r Course to effect so good a purpose In this we trust to y^r Zeal & Discretion, You are to take particular Notice that whilst on the Coast of France or in a French Port you are as much as you Conveniently Can [*to keep*] your Guns Covered and Concealed and to make as little warlike appearances as possible—

On your Arrival in France send one of your Officers with the Letter you are to write to the Commissioners to prevent its falling into improper hands we are [*&c.*]

William Vernon
On behalf Navy Board

L, MiU-C, Abraham Whipple Papers.

1. For more on the dispatch of frigate *Providence*, see William Vernon to James Warren, 18 Mar., 26 Mar., and 28 Mar., and William Story to William Vernon, 20 Mar., below.

JOURNAL OF MARINE CAPTAIN JOHN TREVETT

Now is March 1778 we are Arrived with the Sloop *Providence*¹ att Bedford² the Ship³ we Left att Old Town⁴ Repairing and Getting a New Ruder then we are A going to Bring her to Bedford

...⁵ Cap^t Rathbun and My Self Sett out for Boston to Call on the Board of Warr Setting thare⁶ we Spent part of Tew Days and Returnd to Tarnton Cap^t Rathbun Sett out for his Home and Left Me Att Tarnton to Go to Plimouth with lawyer Paine⁷ of Tarnton to the Triall of the Ship⁸

Journal, RNHi, John Trevett Papers, No. 44–18.

1. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
2. Bedford in Dartmouth, now New Bedford.
3. Jamaica letter of marque ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.
4. Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard.
5. Ellipsis in manuscript.
6. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
7. Robert Treat Paine, a lawyer and resident of Taunton who represented it in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.
8. The ship *Mary* was tried on 19 May at Plymouth in the Massachusetts Maritime Court for the Southern District. Capt. John Peck Rathbun was not satisfied with the verdict of the court, which divided the prize between the Congress and the captors rather than to the captors alone, and in June sent Trevett to York, Pa., with an appeal to the Continental Congress.

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *OLIVER CROMWELL*

[*Boston March 1778*]

Ship *Oliver Cromwell's* Acco^{ts}—

Ship *Oliver Cromwell* To Sam^l Eliot J^r.

Dr.

1778

Jan^y

To.	State of Con ^t . for sundries viz.		
	1 doz: Housline	1..16.—	
	22 ^{lb} . Worming @ 5/	5..10.—	
	1 doz Marline 36/ 1 d ^o . Housline 36/—	3..12.—	
	32. gal ^s : N. E. Rum dld at Sundry times in Dec ^r . @ 35/	<u>56.—.—</u>	66..18.—
	p ^d . for Sundries viz.		
To.	1—barrel Rozin	6.—.—	
	1—d ^o . Pitch	4.—.—	
	2. d ^o . Tierces Tar £9.—.— 1 bl. Pitch £4	13.—.—	
	1 Tierce Tar	4..10.—	
	1 quire paper 4/ ½ peck fine Salt 10/. . . . .	..14.—	
	10 yd ^s : Russia Duck for Cap ^t : Parker's ^l Cott @ 24/.	12.—.—	
	1 quire Paper . . . . .	.. 4.—	
	6 ^{lb} . Sugar. <u>1.. 1.—</u>	1.. 5.—	
	11 Sheets Tin at 3/	1..13.—	
	1 quire Paper . . . . .	.. 4.—	
	6 ^{lb} . Sugar	1.. 1.—	
	7 ^{lb} . d ^o	1.. 4. 6	
	2 quire paper. . . . .	.. 8.—	
	6 plates . . . . .	..10.—	
	½ ^{lb} . Bohea <u>1..10.—</u>	2.. 8.—	
	Paints. 1 ^{cwt} .. 0..14	6..15.—	
	Crane Irons 2.. 0.. 1 @ £7..10/.	15.—.—	
	1 quire Paper 4.—	

MARCH 1778

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ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *OLIVER CROMWELL*—Continued

6 ^{lb} . Deck Nails at 3/ . . . . .	..18..—	
2 ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails at 4/ . . . . .	.. 8..—	
6 ^{lb} . Sugar at 3/6	1.. 1..—	
1 quire Paper . . . . .	.. 4..—	
6 ^{lb} . Sugar	<u>1.. 1..—</u>	3..12..—
2. ^{cwt} 6 ^d . Nails 6/. 3 p ^r . HL Hinges 16/6.	1.. 2.. 6	
1 q ^r paper 4/ 7 ^{lb} . Sugar 24/6.	1.. 8.. 6	
13 ^{lb} . Coffee @ 6/. 78/. 14 ^{lb} . Sugar 49/	6.. 7..—	
1 quire paper . . . . .	.. 4..—	
10 ^{lb} . Flour to Gunner . . . . .	..10..—	
1 q ^r paper 4/. 21 ^{lb} . Sugar 73/6. 13 ^{lb} Coffee 78/	7..15.. 6	
14 ^{lb} . Sugar 49/ 3 large Bowls. 18/	3.. 7..—	
9. small Bowls 45/ 1 doz Plates 20/	3.. 5..—	
1 keg white lead 57 ^{lb} @ 10/	28..10..—	
1 quire paper 4/ 1 p ^r . HL Hinges 5/6 . . . . .	.. 9.. 6	<u>52..19..—</u>
	sum carried over	£126.. 9.. 6
		£193.. 7.. 6
1778 To Sum bro't over		£193.. 7.. 6
To Cash paid J. F. Osgood for 25 f ^t . knees @ 3/	3..15..—	
paid M. Bourke for Truck ^a . . . . .	..18..—	
paid Rosman Lawrance ² Ⓢ Cap ^t . Parker's order	6..—..—	
paid T. W. Foster ³ Ⓢ d ^o	45..—..—	
paid for ³ / ₄ ^{cwt} . Bread d ^o	1..10..—	
paid Cap ^t . Parker	3..—..—	
paid d ^o	3.. 9..—	
paid d ^o 54..—..—		
paid d ^o 18..—..—		
paid d ^o <u>298..—..—</u>		370..10..—

p ^d . Mr ^r . Frisby ⁴ to buy Crockery for the Cabin	9..—..—
p ^d . Mr ^r . Holman y ^e . Steward. ⁵ to buy Necessaries	9..—..—
p ^d : the Mason's bill	4..10..—
p ^d : Dyer for float . . . . .	.. 8..—
p ^d . to F. Shaw. for Wharf ^a . while graving	2..—..—
p ^d . for. 2 loads Wood	7.. 4..—
p ^d : the Carvers. bill	20..16..—
p ^d : Rich ^d . Gridley's bill	15.. 8..—
p ^d . Mr ^r . Ede's ⁶ bill	8..—..—
p ^d . Cap ^t . Parker	40..—..—
p ^d . the Steward for Necessaries 2.. 2..—	
p ^d . for 1 bl Cyder 4..10..—	
p ^d . Cap ^t . Faggin for a Sail 35..—..—	
p ^d . for 1 load Wood 4..16..—	
p ^d . Mr ^r . Frisby 10.. 4..—	
p ^d . the Steward for Necessaries <u>4.. 4..—</u>	60..16..—
p ^d : Thomas Hudson's bill . . . . .	.. 6..—
p ^d : William Higgins ⁷	12..—..—
p ^d : Jos. Hunt. for Wood	4..10..—
p ^d : a Frenchman for Blankets	126..12..—
p ^d : William Higgins	12..—..—
p ^d : Chase Roger's ⁸ board	2..—..—
p ^d : William Higgins	12..—..—
p ^d . d ^o	30..—..—
p ^d : James White's bill of Board	10.. 1.. 2
p ^d : John Goddard's bill	3.. 1.. 3
p ^d : William Higgins	12..—..—
p ^d : William Cunningham's bills	29..11.. 3

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *OLIVER CROMWELL*—Continued

p ^d . Ebenezer Chandlers bill	3..—..—	868.. 7..8
carried forward		£1061..15..2
To Sum bro't forward		£1061..15..2

1778

March	To. Cash paid M ^r . Osgood's bill		15..12..—
	p ^d . Curtis Reeds bill	19..17.. 9	
	d ^o . d ^o .	<u>19.. 2.. 8</u>	39.. 0.. 5
	p ^d . Ebenr. Chandlers d ^o .	3..—..—	
	d ^o . d ^o .	<u>4..11.. 8</u>	7..11.. 8
	p ^d . Joseph Webb's d ^o		4..18..—
	p ^d . the Rendezvous bill	42.. 4.. 6	
	John Chapman's ⁹ bill	100.. 5..—	
	Marg ^t . Bagnals bill	11..10..—	
	Rose Stephen's. bill	4..16..—	
	Marg ^t . M ^c Kinney's bill	6..12..—	
	d ^o . d ^o .	1.. 7..—	
	Will ^m . Fanalys d ^o	2.. 8..—	169.. 2.. 6
	p ^d . Bossenger Foster —2 p ^s . Ticklinburgs		127..10..—
	p ^d . the Steward	7..—..—	
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Harding's order to Lieu ^t . Chapman.	20..14.. 6	
	p ^d . Domminique Tausin ¹⁰	14.. 8..—	
	p ^d . M ^r . Frisbys. bill	21..—..—	
	p ^d . John Badgers. bill	28..16..—	
	p ^d . Mons ^r . Tallemon	3..12..—	
	p ^d . Cash for 26 P ^r . Mens Shoes	26..—..—	
	d ^o for a Match Cask	<u>..18..—</u>	122.. 8.. 6
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Parker	305..15..—	

	p ^d . d ^o	306..—..—		
		611..15..—		
	p ^d . Butler for Boards	2.. 8..—		
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Day for a fife .....	.. 8..—		
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Lamb for Taffier ¹¹	<u>78.. 6..—</u>	692..17..—	
	p ^d . Hemmenway for a Boat attending the Ship, and Pilot	3..10..—		
	p ^d . Green for Wood	9..18..—		
	p ^d . Sam ^l . Townsend's bill	9.. 4..—		
	p ^d . to 3 Seamen enter'd in			
	Cap ^t . Parker's book's to them	6..18..—		
	p ^d . for Scales & Weights	3..—..—		
	p ^d . Sarah Owens bill	<u>6.. 6..—</u>	<u>38..16..—</u>	<u>1217..16.. 1</u>
	sum carried over			£2279..11.. 3
1778.	To Sum brought forward			£2279..11.. 3
March	To. Cash paid for 1 groce Corks .....		..12..—	
	paid Mr Byles ¹²		<u>4.. 8..—</u>	5..—..—
	To. Hunt. & Brown	bill	45..—..—	
	To. Henry Roby	d ^o	4..17..—	
	To. John Andrews.	d ^o	7..15..—	
	To. Jon ^a . Balch.	d ^o	14.. 0.. 6	
	To. Joseph Clark	d ^o	409..14.. 6	
	To Samuel Harris	1 ^t . bill	£95..12	
	d ^o	2 ^d . d ^o	<u>17..12..—</u>	113.. 4..—
	To Thomas Greenough	bill	..16..—	
	To. John Hootons	bill	10.. 8.. 4	
	To. Thomas Green	bill	58.. 5..—	
	To. Abraham Hayward.	bill	1.. 4..—	

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *OLIVER CROMWELL*—Continued

To. Winter Calef.	bill	10..—..—	
To. Joseph How.	bill	14..10.. 6	
To. John Matchet's	bill	28..—..—	
To. Samuel Harris.	bill	5.. 7.. 6	
To. William Cordwell.	bill	4.. 6..—	
To. John Owen.	bill	104..11..—	
To. John Butler.	bill	4.. 1..—	
To. Benja ^a . Burts	bill	12.. 6..—	
To. Bossenger Foster's	bill	45..—..—	
To. Joseph Webb's.	bill	6.. 8..—	
To. James Burt.	bill	30.. 4.. 6	
To. Thomas Mayo.	bill	398.. 1.. 8	
To. Joseph How's	bill	4.. 3..—	
To. Samuel Barretts.	bill	61.. 3..—	
To. John Andrews	bill	26.. 4.. 6	
To. Job. Prince J ^c	bill	45..—..—	
To. Sam ^l . Whitwell	bill	119..14..—	
To. Waters, & Stanbridge	bill	127..12..—	
To. Parker, & Bradshaw.	bill	825.. 9.. 9	
To. Ellis Grays.	bill	<u>59..10.. 8</u>	2596..17.. 5
	carried forward		£4881.. 8.. 8
To. Sum bro't forward			£4881.. 8.. 8
To. Brown, & Emmes	1 st bill	20.. 9.. 6	
d ^o d ^o . . . . .	.2 ^d .	<u>188.. 8..—</u>	
d ^o d ^o		208..17.. 6	
		<u>116.. 3..—</u>	325.. 0.. 6
To. William Fanaly	bill	3..—..—	
d ^o	d ^o	<u>4..16..—</u>	7..16..—
To. Jon ^a . Balch's	d ^o		24..10..—

To Edward Carnes	d ^o	729.. 2.. 7
To. John Ballard	d ^o	1..12..—
To. John Lamb	d ^o ½ hhd. Rum con ^g . 108 gal ^s . @ 42/—	<u>113. 8..—</u>
		6082..17.. 9
To Cash paid Cap ^t . Parker. 12 th . Feb ^r		0.. 0.. 0
To Will ^m . Stone for ballast		3..—..—
To Cash paid Gardner Truck ^a . Pitch &c.		<u>.. 9..—</u>
		£6086.. 6.. 9
Ship <i>Oliver Cromwell</i> to Sam ^l . Eliot J ^r . for Stores viz:		Dr

1778
March

To. State of Conn ^t		
15. bls. of Beef out of the <i>Honor</i>		
22. bls. of Pork	d ^o	
3. bls. of Flour	d ^o	
36. bls. of Beef from Avis &c		
16½ d ^o . of d ^o . in 11 Tierces d ^o		
3. d ^o . of Pork	d ^o	
38. d ^o . of Pork from Hayley		
1 Cask of Tobacco	603 ^{lb} . N ^t	
11 firkins of Butter	685 ^{lb} . N ^t @ 2/.	
6 scains Housline	@ 3/	..18..—
3 bls. of Hams		
3 Casks flour N ^o .		
3. Casks d ^o .		
3 Casks Beans		
12 bags. Bread.		
Paid for sundries. viz.		
1 Cask Porter Gal ^s . at 7/.		
1 Cask Oatmeal N ^o . 420.		
3 Casks Rice	14..1..24 N ^t	

MARCH 1778

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *OLIVER CROMWELL*—Continued

1 keg. Barley		
28 ^{lb} . Sugar 49/ 1 q ^r paper 4/	28 ^{lb} . Sugar 49/	5.. 2..—
16 ^{lb} . Coffee. at 6/		4..16..—
1 bl. Vinegar 30 Gal ^s		
1 bl. Sugar 2..2..4 N ^t		
1 large Bowl . . . . .		..12..—
1 q ^r Paper . . . . .		.. 4..—
60 ^{lb} . Coffee (best) at 10/		30..—..—
60 ^{lb} . . . d ^o . d ^o at 10/		30..—..—
100 ^{lb} . d ^o inferior. at 6/		<u>30..—..—</u>
To. Cash p ^d : Bright. for 1 bl. Vinegar		
To Duncan Ingraham J ^r —25½ Cheeses 437½ ^{lb} .		
To. John Langdon's ¹³ bill		
To. ¼ quintle Fish.		4..16..—
To. 5. Hhds Bread 16.. 2.. 0		
5. new Hhds @ 30/.		<u>7..10..—</u>
To. J Lamb. for. 28 Gall ^s W. I Rum @ 42/.		<u>58..14..—</u>

D, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 9, pp. 244a–f. This document is incomplete.

1. Capt. Timothy Parker, commanding the Connecticut Navy ship *Oliver Cromwell*.
2. Seaman, *Oliver Cromwell*.
3. Thomas Wait Foster, gunner, *Oliver Cromwell*.
4. Lt. Caleb Frisbie, second lieutenant of *Oliver Cromwell*.
5. Samuel Holman, steward, *Oliver Cromwell*.
6. Edward Edes, baker at Boston.
7. Midshipman, *Oliver Cromwell*.
8. Cooper, *Oliver Cromwell*.
9. Lt. John Chapman, first lieutenant of *Oliver Cromwell*.
10. Dominique Tausin or Tawsin, surgeon of *Oliver Cromwell*.
11. An inferior rum made from distilled sugarcane juice in the West Indies.
12. Josias Byles.
13. John Langdon, tallow chandler at Boston.

March 1 (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *APOLLO*, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

March 1778 Ditto [South Part of Saint Georges Bank] WSW dist. 30
 Sunday 1. [Lgs.]

at 6 AM saw the *Mermaid* and Schooner to Windward,¹ gave chace to the Schooner as did the *Mermaid*, at noon Coming up with the Chace very fast—

Ditto [South Part of Saint Georges Bank] West dist. 25 Lg^s. First part Fresh gales and clear, middle Lightning, Latter Hard gales of Wind and Snow, and a great Sea from the SW at 1 PM the *Mermaid* fired at the Chace, at ½ past we fired a Shot at the Chace, who hoisted Rebel Colours & bro^t [too] a Schooner called the *Rebecca*, from Newbury Port, bound to Hispaniola with Lumber & Fish,² the *Mermaid* sent men on board her & received her people likewise sent 29 Rebel Prisoners on board the *Mermaid*, her Cruise being [exp]ired & She going into Port. at 6 wore Ship and made Sail;

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 8.

1. *Mermaid* began chasing the schooner *Rebecca* on 28 Feb. in the afternoon. UkLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 8.

2. Schooner *Rebecca*, master unknown, from Ipswich to Hispaniola, with lumber and fish, taken on 1 Mar. off St. Georges Bank, sent into Newport. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486. She was libelled on 15 Apr. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York by Capt. James Hawker of H.M.S. *Mermaid* and was condemned on 8 May 1778 as a lawful prize of *Mermaid*. UkLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 96–97. Her prize papers give the master's name as Thomas Dodge. UkLPR, H.C.A. 32/437/6.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]
 1778.

March 1. Sunday. discovered that our Mainmast was Sprung in two Places—one beneath the Main Deck, where if the Mast had wholly failed in the late Storm it must have torn up the main Deck and the Ship must have foundered.—This is one among many Instances, in which it has already appeared that our Safety has not depended on ourselves.

A fine Wind, all day and night.—Somewhat Sea Sick.—The Ship was very quiet and Still—no Disturbance—little noise.

I hope for the future We shall carry less Sail, especially of night, and at all times when We are not in Chase.—

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), p. 15.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
 OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT

Gent^l. Head Quarters Valley Forge 1st March 1778.

I am informed that a number of the continental flat Boats still remain at Bordentown. I wrote to Commodore Hazelwood to have them removed higher up

the River,¹ but why he has not done it I do not know. I am very apprehensive that the Enemy will ~~destroy~~ one day or other make an excursion and destroy our Vessels Boats and Stores at that place. To prevent as much of this as possible I shall esteem it as a favor if you will, upon your return, have all the flat Boats sent up as far as Trenton and if Commodore Hazelwood has not hands enough with him to carry them up the Falls I will write to Coryell and desire him to employ people to do it. These Boats may probably be of the greatest importance to us in the Course of the Campaign; and I therefore beg that your first attention may be paid to them.

As I see no great prospect of the Gallies² being of any use to us while the Enemy have their ships of War at Philad^a. I submit it to you whether it would be not be better to have the Cannon and Stores taken out of them and the Hulks carried up the Creeks and sunk. From repeated misfortunes we have lost the greatest part of our heavy Cannons at our different posts and we ought therefore to be as careful as possible of the remainder. I am informed that the Cannon taken out of the Continental, State and private Vessels yet remain at Bordentown to a very considerable amount. I could therefore wish that means might be fallen upon to remove them from the Water Side, some distance back into the Country from whence they may be brought occasionally. I also think that every kind of public Stores should be removed from thence if possible, for as the Enemy have the Command of the Water they may at any time destroy or carry them off. I make no doubt but the Gentlemen of the State Navy Board will cheerfully co-operate with you in what respects their Department. I have the honor to be Gentⁿ.

PS If the Commodore carries the Boats no further than Trenton he should give Coryel notice that he may come down for them. It will be worth considering whether the Cannon cannot be carried up the River in the Boats—

Copy, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "Francis Hopkinson/&/Jn^o Wharton Esq^s." Docketed: "1st. March 1778/Francis Hopkinson/&/Jn^o Wharton Esq^s."

1. Delaware River.

2. Pennsylvania Navy galleys.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHN CORYELL

Sir

Head Quarters Valley Forge 1st. March 1778

I am very anxious to have all continental flat Boats below Trenton carried up the River as far as Easton or near it, that they may be entirely out of the Enemy's reach—I have desired the Gentlemen of the Navy Board to order Commodore Hazelwood to collect all those and carry them up as far as Trenton and when he has got them there to let you know it. I shall therefore be exceedingly obliged to you if you will collect a proper number of hands who are used to carry Boats thro the Falls and go down for them when you have notice. Or if you do not receive such notice in a few days, the Men may as well go down to Bordentown where the Boats are and bring them up from thence. There are a number of Cannon and some Stores there which I want carried to a place of safety. If you think the Boats can be taken thro the falls with the Cannon in them, it will save much expence and secure them perfectly. You are to apply to Mess^{rs} Hopkinson¹ and Wharton² of the Continental Navy Board at Bordentown for the Cannon, if they can be carried up in the Boats.

I see by a letter of yours to Col^o. Lutterloh³ that you want Money for these purposes. You may hire the Men for doing this service upon an assurance of their being paid the moment it is performed. And you will therefore make out the account when you have finished and apply directly to me for the Money when it shall be paid with thanks. I am [&c.]

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "M^r Jⁿ^o Coryall." Docketed: "Jⁿ^o Coryall."

1. Francis Hopkinson.
2. John Wharton.
3. Col. Henry Emanuel Lutterloh, Deputy Quartermaster General, Continental Army.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT TO
GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sir/ From Co^l. Nixon's Continental Navy Board March 1st 1778

We are just now favoured with your's respecting the flat Bottom Boats &c. supposed to be at Borden-Town.¹ In answer to which we would inform your Excellency that all the Flat Bottom Boats we know of, being at or near Borden Town, were removed from thence up the River above two Months ago—if we find any there on our Return we shall not fail punctually executing your Desire. With respect to the Gallies, we are so far from having any Command over them, that we do not know how even a Recommendation from us to Commodore Hazlewood would be received, but if your Excellency will be so good as to write a Line on the Subject to the Commodore; or, which we think would be more effectual, to the State Navy Board,² we will take Care to convey it safe. We shall exert ourselves immediately for the Security of the Guns & Stores under our Charge, & use our utmost Influence with Individuals at Borden Town who have Guns or Stores there to remove them immediately. You may depend on our earnest Efforts to remove & secure every thing at that Place in the best manner we can—the procuring waggons for this Purpose will be our principal Difficulty. We have the Honour to be [&c.]

Fra^s. Hopkinson
John Wharton

P: S: We propose proceeding on our Journey Tomorrow morning.—

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at the foot: "His Exc^t Gen^l Washington."

1. See General George Washington to the Continental Navy Board of the Middle Department, 1 Mar., above.
2. See General George Washington to Pennsylvania Navy Board, 2 Mar., below.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY *CORNWALLIS*, LIEUTENANT THOMAS SPRY

March 1778

Abrest of Christeen Creek¹

Sunday 1

First part fresh Breezes and Cloudy with some snow midle
And latter moderate [AM] Sailing up the River and Anchor'd
Occasionally in Company as above²

Runing thro. the Cheaveux de Frize

First and middle part fair weather Latter Snowy

At 2 P.M. Anchor'd of[f] the North End of philadelphia
Disembarked the Troops³ Read the Articals of war to the C^o

D, UklPR, Adm. 52/1676, pt. 2, fol. 35.

1. Christiana Creek, Del.

2. See Master's Journal of H.M. Galley *Cornwallis*, Lieutenant Thomas Spry, 25 Feb., above.

3. Two light infantry battalions on flat boats which *Cornwallis* had escorted down the Delaware to Salem, N.J.

COLONEL HENRY HOLLINGSWORTH TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Head of Elk [*Md.*] 1 March 1778

Dear Governor

your Fav^r of the 23 with the *plater Galley*¹ and Salt came to Hand, I was absent with the Board of war at the time the weather being so Bad it was impossible to unload the Salt—on my return yesterday I found our Neighborhood had been allarm'd by some advances of the Enemy down the Deleway in boats, but Gen Smallwood informs they were not Landed on our Side the Delaway, yet this Indus'd me to think it most prudent to send the Salt to Charles Town as we have great quantity of publick Stores hear already, and the Road so very bad that tis impossible to remove them should we be Surpris'd, and being ordered by the Board of war to put up a quantity of Herring I thought it best to send it into the Neighbourhood where the fish were to be caught if the Virginia Galley should not be sent of[f]. I would advise that She be sent into the Mouth of Susquehanah where I have a Store provided for the salt and I have a plenty of Salt at Elk for any Immediate Demand—as to the Cattle below I should have sent for them ere now, but yesterday only Recd Cash, with an order from the Board of war to purchase all the provisions that can be Spar'd on the Eastern Shore and from those that will not Sell at a proper price to seise, this I am Loth to undertake at any rate, but more so without your approbation, nor could I attempt it, till I had Cash to ofer them, I take the freedom to Inclose one of the Hon^{bl} Boards Letters to me on that Subject, craving your assistance as I shall send down two Discreat persons to purchas in the penin[s]ula tomorrow Morning, should your Excelency in Council think it necessary to assist my Indeavours with any Credentials to Strengthen me, they may be sent to M^r James Huchingses on Kent Island, where I shall Direct my Brother who I shall send down to call for them (with some Cattle which he has)

—I have found some Inconveniency in my purchas, and fear I shall finde more from Some of the purchasers appointed by the Executive Council of Pennsylvania, who rais the price to no real advantage, I meant to give 10/ for good wheat at Elk 7/6 for Corn and oats, £5 for pork and Beef or £18 pr Barell for pork, and 15 for Beef, but those Gentmen have raisd wheat to 12/6 [Ⓕ] Bush. Corn 9/ and if they are prमित it will have no Eand. The Board of War have been pleas'd to appoint me to Supervise the purchas on this Shore, and Harford earnestly soliciting my Hurrying all the provisions and forage out of the peninsula first, but if I am to be Interrupted and Clashed with by purchasers from the other States, would wish to decline, though I have had the Honnour of the Thanks of Gen Washington and the Board of War, for sarvises in my Purches, my intent is to get all the Spare produce from the Eastern Shore first, and at the same time to Lay up part of that in Harford as Magazeans according to the Directions of the Board of war as that in Harford is much clearer of Fley, and will keep much longer sweet of cours fiter for Laying in in the Magazeans, but if while I am at much Hazard and

fateague geting the produce from the Eastern Shore, those Gentmen are prmited to come down and rais the price on me, and drain that country in which I am to Establish Magazeans, to the great Cost of the States, I would rather decline, as my utmost indeavours will fail to give Satisfaction, though attended with the greatest expence, I submitt the whole to your Honnourable Council, and would be happy in reciving your Directions on the premises and am Dear Sir [&c.]

H Hollingsworth
Superinted to purchase

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4585-75. Addressed at the foot: "His Excellency/Thomas Johnson Esq^r" Docketed: "1 March 1778/from Henry Hollingsworth."

1. Maryland Navy armed boat *Plater*, Capt. Richard Murrow, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *GLASGOW*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PASLEY

1778 Ma^r
Sunday 1

Cape Tiberoon¹ ENE ½ N^o. 5. Leagues.

At 4 (AM) saw a Sail to Eastward, Fired a Swivell and bro^t her too, proved a French Brig from St^t Louis to Honfleur.—At 7 Saw 3 Sail at Anchor in Irish Bay, stood in for them, found 2 of them to be the Vessels we had engaged in in the Night. The Schooner Mounting 12 Guns and the Sloop 10. both wearing French Colours.²

Donna Maria³ NNE. 3 Leagues.

Moderate Breezes with Rain at times. Employd on sundry necessary Duties.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/399.

1. Tiburon Peninsula, Saint-Domingue.
2. American privateers. See Journal of H.M.S. *Glasgow*, 28 Feb., above.
3. Cap Dame Marie, Saint-Domingue.

March 2

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

Remarks on Monday March the 2^d 1778 on board the *Boston*¹

The first part of this 24 Hours attended with Fresh Brezes & Haizey Weather at 1 PM. found our Main Mast Sprung, down M T G. Yard,² the Carpenters, ~~the Carpenters~~ Employd in Fishing the Main Mast: The middle & latter part. Fresh Brezes & cloudy Weather. nothing else Remarcable this Day.—

My People employd as usual about Necessary Duty.

Monday March 2^d.

Latt. P Obs: 41..38 N^o.—

Course	Dist	X Latt ^d	Depart	Latt ^d P Obs	X Long ^d	Long ^d in	Meridian Distance
North							
62°; E	156	72. N	137: E	41 ^d =38 ^m N	3 ^d =00 ^m ; E	47 ^d =09 ^m W	1053m; East

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 1 Mar. to noon of 2 Mar., following sea time.
2. Main-topgallant yard.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]
1778.

March 2. Monday. a fine Wind still and a pleasant Morning.—The Colour of the Water which is green, not blue as it has been for many Days past, the Appearance of large Flocks of Gulls, and various other Birds, convinced the knowing ones, to Say that We were not far from the Grand Bank of N. Foundland. The Captain however thinks it 35 Leagues to the N. West of Us.—Our Mast was Yesterday repaired with two large Fishes, as Y [*they*] call em, i.e. large oaken Planks cutt for the Purpose and put on. it Seems now as firm as ever.—The Sailors are very Superstitious. They Say the Ship has been So unfortunate that they really believe there is Some Woman on board.—Women are the unluckiest Creatures in the World at Sea &c.

This Evening the Wind is very fresh, and the Ship Sails at a great Rate.—We are out of the Reach I hope of the Gulph Stream and British Cruizers, two Evils, which I have a great Aversion to.

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), p. 15.

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

[*Boston*]

Monday, March 2, 1778.

Jabez Fisher, Esq; brought down a Report of the Committee of both Houses on the Letter from General *Putnam*, viz.

“That they were informed by General *Putnam*,¹ that the United States had Occasion for forty Pieces of Cannon from 18 to 32 Pounders—thirty Cables of about 13 Inches, and thirty Anchors weighing about ten Hundred each, for the obstructing and keeping Possession of North River—and that he now applied to this State to furnish him with as many of the Articles aforesaid as they could well spare.”

Read and thereupon *Ordered*, That Mr. *Wendell*,² Mr. *Gray*³ and Col. *White*⁴ be a Committee to enquire what of the above-mentioned Articles can be procured.

A Journal of the Honorable House of Representatives, [January 7 to March 13, 1778], (Boston, 1777 [1778]), 198.

1. Maj. Gen. Israel Putnam commanded Continental Army forces in the Hudson River Highlands.
2. Oliver Wendell of Boston.
3. Ellis Gray of Boston.
4. Col. Ebenezer White of Rochester, Plymouth County.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

2^d March—Strong gale of wind from the W.N.W. after 11 o’Clock last night, which continued most part of this day. Snow during the night, about 3 Inches deep. Very cold day.

Lord Howe has kept up the strictest discipline in the Navy since his arrival here, and business is carried on with the utmost secrecy. The Ships of War receive sealed orders, and instructions to be ready to sail on the first Signal. Their signal is frequently made suddenly, and they go immediately out of the harbour without knowing their destination till they are fairly out of the Port. His Lordship applies

himself with the utmost assiduity to the public business, and is very seldom seen on shore. A Conduct highly praiseworthy in a man who has the chief direction of affairs of such great consequence to the Nation. If he indulged himself after the fatigues of the Campaign, in even the most innocent recreations, it would give room for the malicious spirits at home to say he neglected the public concerns.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 253–54.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD

Headquarters Valley Forge March 2^d. 1778

Gentlemen

As the Gallies can now be of no service in the River, and the enemy have it in their power to get them into their possession, with all their cannon and stores,—I beg your leave strongly to recommend it to the Board, without delay, to evacuate them of their cannon and stores; and—removing these to a place of security, in some interior part of the country—to carry the Gallies up into some of the creeks, and have them sunk.—If there should be any other vessels, belonging to the state in the river, I would mean to comprehend them; and if there should be any stores at Bord[en]town, or other places on the river—these also ought to be removed to a place of safety. We can reap no advantage from keeping the Gallies, cannon and stores in such an exposed situation, and if they should fall into the hands of the enemy, which they would in all probability do, the gallies would be useful to them, and the cannon and stores would be no inconsiderable loss to us. I am Gentlemen [&c.]

G^o: Washington

L, PWacD, Sol Feinstone Collection of the American Revolution, no. 1578. Addressed at foot: "Pensylvania/Navy Board." Bracketed portion is torn.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROEBUCK*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

March 1778

[alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]

Monday 2^d

Fresh gales and Snow at Noon cleared the Decks of Snow
Fresh gales and squally with Frost and Snow [PM] sent the Gun
Boats, Tenders &c to assist the *Vigilant* in covering the embarkation of the Troops at Coopers Ferry after which the *Vigilant* halld to the Wharf and the Gunboats & Tenders return'd¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1964, fol. 89.

1. Tender *Pembroke* and two armed boats (half galleys) had been assisting H.M. armed ship *Vigilant* in covering the embarkation of the 42nd Regiment and the Queen's Rangers.

CONTINENTAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

To the Honble Navy Board at Boston.

Gentlemen

York Town [*Pa.*] 2 March 1778

The Committee of Congress for foreign Affairs, directing letters from time to time to your care, doubt not of your attention to forward them to our

Commissioners and agents abroad, or to others as they may happen to be directed. you will be pleased to attend to the character of the person who may take charge of Packetts or letters, to any public Officer beyond seas, and to give direction for sinking the papers, when in imminent danger of falling into the hands of the Enemy. You are desired also to take the trouble of sending to the printers in Boston for the Gazettes in course, as you happen to have opportunities of enclosing them to our Commissioners in France either directly or thro' M^r Bingham, our Agent at S^t Pierres, Martinique. By ordering each printer to keep one course of papers, you can never be in want of a number proper for a packet, if you send for them to the Offices alternately, as vessels offer, The printers may make a charge to the Committee of Congress for foreign Affairs or to your board on our account— We are &c.

(Signed) James Lovell
for the Committee

Copy, DNA, PCC, item 79, pp. 173–74 (M247, roll 105).

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN ONSLOW TO THE VISCOUNT HOWE”

Dated—S^t. *Albans* off Willoby's point 2^d. March 1778.

“The Ships we chased, were the *Lyon* of 44 Guns and 250 Men and the *Count de Veaux*^d of 24 Guns and 89 Men. The latter was the Ship that the *Solebay* took, in every respect fitted and prepared for Action. By what I have since learned from the Prisoners, they came from Port L'Orient the 1st of January, determined to force a Trade, and to oppose inferior Force. The Ship I before mentioned that the *Richmond* and *Senegal* chased, was the *Ferdinand* of 44 Guns, 250 Men, with 50 Volunteers from S^t Maloes. They are loaded with Salt, Cordage, Woolens and Supplies for the Rebels. They frankly own, that upwards of 40 Ships from 1000 to 200 Tons, all armed, are now loading and equipping from the Ports of Dunkirk, S^t Maloes, Nantz, Bourdeaux and L'Orient. They are all cleared out for the French West Indies: After they sail, they change the Names of their Ships, keep false Journals and Reckonings.—There are no Papers to be found; indeed they do not scruple saying, that they have destroyed their Letters and papers; and that the Ships now coming, will come by Fours, and Six together, to force past our Frigates and small Ships. That they are mostly intended for the Chesepeake Bay and Charles Town. Being drove from off those Ports, to attempt Boston. The Ships of any Force they wish to dispose of to the Rebels, and to purchase smaller Craft, for to make their Returns in Tobacco. Two Rebel Frigates of 32 Guns sailed from L'Orient the 23^d: December 1777, loaded with Arms, Ammunition and Cloathing.”²

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 200–201. Docketed: “Extract of a Letter from/Captain Onslow to the/Viscount Howe./Dated 2^d: March 1778./N^o: 7/In Lord Howe's/Letter N^o: 55.” This extract is enclosure No. 7 in Vice Admiral Viscount Howe to Philip Stephens, 16 Mar. 1778 (No. 55), below.

1. Ship *Vicomte de Veaux*, Pierre Donat de La Garde, master, owned by the Vicomte de Veaux of Paris, captured by H.M.S. *Solebay* on 23 Feb., and sent to New York City as a prize of *Solebay* and *St. Albans*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. The Vice Admiralty Court of New York declared her a lawful capture on 10 Apr. 1778. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 67.

2. Continental Navy ship *Alfred* (24 guns), Elisha Hinman, commander, and Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh* (32 guns), Thomas Thompson, commander, set sail from L'Orient on 29 Dec. 1777. NDAR 10: 1158.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [Charleston] Monday 2^d March 1778.¹

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present— Edward Blake Esq^r First Commissioner
 Thomas Corbett Geo Ab^t Hall Edw^d Darrell Esq^{ts}

The following Orders were drawn on the Treasury in favor of—

Nathan Legare for 10 Barrels Beef . . a £40	£400,,—,,—
John Waren for 12 Barrels Pork a £50	600 ———
Capt ⁿ Philip Sullivan for the <i>Gen^l Moultrie</i>	400 ———
ditto . . . ditto for the <i>Volunteer</i>	975 ———
Elisha Sawyer Commissary his Acco ^t of Disbursements	14234. 6. 8
Paul Pritchard for the <i>Volunteer</i> to be paid by J. C. ²	16..10 —
William Johnson Sundry Acco ^{ts} . against the	
<i>Brigg Polly</i> £794. 13. 6.	}
<i>Notre Dame</i> 359. 7....	
<i>Rattle Snake</i> 49. 11. 3.	
<i>Brigg Fair American</i> 280..12. 6.	
<i>Eagle</i> Pilot Boat 73. 4. 9.	
<i>Tryall</i> ditto 17..10.—	
Commissary for Sundrys	101. 10 —
Tunis Tebout Ball ^{cc} . of his Acco ^t for	
<i>Beaufort Gally</i>	875. 4. 6
	£19177,,10. 2-

Agreed that the *Rattle Snakes* Cargoe of Rice now in Store at Gadsdens wharf be forthwith Advertized and Sold at Public Vendue by the Clerk of this Board—

Adjourned to next Thursday Even^g 6 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 143.

1. Letters and numerals in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.

2. John Colcock, secretary of the South Carolina Privy Council.

BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUSTINE PREVOST TO GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE

[Extract]

Duplicate.

St Augustine 2^d. March 1778.

Sir.—

. . . The Reports of the preparations of the Rebels against this place have subsided lately, I can not think that as long as their Ports are shut up by our Frigates, they can design any attempt against this place. The distressing the Settlements on the river St^t John is not so easily prevented, as small stragglng parties could effect it, and cannot be so easily discovered, but the Parties of Indians which now and then go to War against them and pass that way, deter them from the attempt. . .

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect Your Excellency's [&c.]

A Prevost

P:S. I this moment received information that Rebels are Arming their Gallies in order I suppose to prevent our Men of War from taking in water at St^t Mary's river, where they can do it with more expedition than here.—

AP.

L, UklPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, 974; microfilm copy, ViW, British Headquarters Papers, vol. 9., 974. Addressed at foot of first page: "To/His Excellency—/Sir William Howe, &c^a." Docketed: "Duplicate/Brig^d Gen^l. A. Prevost/to/ General S^r W^m Howe/S^r Augustine. 2^d Mar. 78/Rec^d. from S^r W^m Howe 12th May/1778/Enclosing Copies of his letters of the/1st. Nov^r & 12 Feb^r with several Enclosures,/the Monthly Returns, & many letters/from Pensacola.—Captain M^cIntosh/has leave to go to N York. Enclosing Capt [Muller]/& Lt. Sutherland's Memorials.— L^t/Barrow, 16th. has leave to go to N York./About the Creek Indians giving/satisfaction to M^r Stuart for the insult/offered to his Agent.—Begging Bat &/Forage Money to be allowed to officers/here. The Rebels are arming their Galleys.—" Seven paragraphs pertaining to routine army matters are omitted.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

[Extract]

At a Council held in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola on Monday the 2^d. March 1778

The Minutes of the last Council day (11th. February) were read & approved.

His Excellency the Governor Acquainted the Board that he called them together in Consequence of some Accounts that he had just received from the River Mississippi purporting that a Party of the Rebels had come down the said River Seized on a Merchant Ship called the *Rebecca* John Cox Master¹ then laying at the Settlement of Manchack and had also taken Possession of the said Settlement making several of the Inhabitants Prisoners on the Parole—which Intelligence he thought proper to lay before them And as the advice of the Kings Military Servants might be necessary upon this Occassion he had requested William Garnier Esquire Captain of His Majestys Ship *Southampton* Lieutenant Colonel Stiell² Commanding officer of the Troops here and John Fergusson Esq^r Commander of the Sloop of War *Sylph* to assist at the Board who accordingly came into Council—whereupon M^r Thomas Walters Super Cargo of the said Ship *Rebecca* who had brought the Intelligence referred to having been Summoned to attend for that purpose was called before the Board and gave the following Information upon oath

Information upon oath of Thomas Walters late Super cargo of the Ship *Rebecca* taken at Pensacola before His Excellency Peter Chester Esquire Captain General and Governor in Chief of His Majestys Province of West Florida &C in Council

This Informant saith that on Monday the 23^d of February about Eleven oClock in the forenoon he arrived at Manchack from the River Amit³ & went into Hickeys Tavern Where he was told by said Hickey, by M^r Swanson, the Two M^r Monsantos and M^r Heckshaw that the Ship *Rebecca* Capⁿ. Cox of which Ship this Informant was Super Cargo mounting Sixteen Carriage Guns (four Pounders and Six Swivels—Navigated by 25 Men) but had then only fifteen on Board and laying at the Levee opposite said Town was that morning about seven oClock Seized by a Party of Americans (Supposed to be between fifteen or Twenty in Number) Commanded by one M^cIntyre⁴ That upon this Intelligence and being fully Convinced that the ship was in their hands as he saw a Number of Strange Men Walking the Deck dressed in Hunters Froks He Consulted with M^r Hickey and M^r Swanson what was best to be done in this Emergency who advised him to make

his immediate Escape as they were themselves all Prisoners upon Parole That he was in the same Company informed that Each of these Rebels was armed with a Rifle Gun a Cutlass and a Pair of Pistols—also that there were four hundred more Expected down every Minute Among whom was James Willing formerly an Inhabitant of this Province and further that Anthony Hutchins Esquire a Magistrate at the Natchez was brought down by them and put on Board the Ship in Irons That Mess^{rs}. Hiorn,⁵ Blommart⁶ & Mc^cIntosh⁷ all of the Natchez District were coming down as Prisoners with the other party And this Informant farther saith that he thought there was no time to be lost He made his Escape over the Garden Fence into the Cane Brake and thence to the River Amite from which place he arrived here last night and farther saith not.

Sworn in the Council Chamber at

Pensacola this 2^d day of March 1778—

before His Excellency in Council

Attest: Rich^d Combault⁸ D. Cler. Concii.

William Burns Master of a Drogger who also arrived last night from the River Amite being then called before the Board gave such Information as fully Corroborated the above.

His Excellency then desired the opinion of the Board what measures were necessary to be adopted for the protection of the Province in Consequence of the Intelligence now before them

The Board after deliberating thereon recommended to His Excellency the Governor that application be made to William Garnier Esquire Captain of His Majestys Ship *Southampton* to order one of the Kings Ships under his Command to proceed to the River Mississippi in order to Intercept the Ship *Rebecca* and the Captain of His Majestys Ship so ordered to receive on Board of him such Loyal Subjects with their properties as may apply for protection and also that Captain Garnier be requested to give such assistance to Lieutenant Burdon of the Armed Sloop *West Florida* in the Lake Pont-Chartrain as may enable him to secure the passes into the Lakes gain Intelligence of the Strength and designs of the Enemy and afford assistance & Protection to the loyal Inhabitants of the Western parts of the Colony Whereupon His Excellency Immediately wrote a Letter to Capⁿ. Garnier making the above requisitions. . . .

The Bord were unanimously of opinion that an assembly should be called—but that the Writts of Election be delayed untill farther Intelligence is received respecting the operations of the Rebels in the Western part of this Province. . . .

D, UKLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 247–48. Two paragraphs dealing with land grants and Indian affairs are not printed here.

1. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master, 250 tons burthen, built in Newfoundland in 1773, owned by G. Montgomery of London. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

2. Lt. Col. William Stiell, commanding officer of the British Army in West Florida.

3. Amite River.

4. Lt. Thomas McIntyre, Independent Company in Western Pennsylvania, 30 Dec. 1777.

5. William Hiorn, commissioner at Natchez.

6. John Blommart, magistrate of West Florida.

7. Alexander McIntosh, planter at Natchez.

8. Richard Combault, deputy clerk of the West Florida Council.

REAR ADMIRAL SIR PETER PARKER TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

Bristol Port Royal

Jamaica 2^d March 1778

Sir

Vice Admiral Gayton intending to sail to morrow morning, has given me up the Command of His Majesty's Ships on this Station, together with all the Necessary Papers and Instructions.—

The State of the Squadron and the Arrangement of the Ships, their Lordships will be fully informed of by the Vice Admiral—

I shall be enabled by the next opportunity to lay before their Lordships a particular State of the Wharfs and Store Houses, some of which appear to me, to be in immediate want of repair, and will, if speedily undertaken, save much expense to Government. You will receive herewith my Journal from the 1st Nov^r 1776 to the 14th February 1778. I am Sir [&c.]

P: Parker

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed at foot: "Philip Stephens Esq^r." Endorsed: "R, 24 Ap^l."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *SEAFORD*, CAPTAIN JOHN COLPOYS

March 1778

Roseau Bay Dominica

Monday 2nd.

Ditto W^r. [Moderate breez^s and fair W^r] At 1 PM the Sloop *Harlequin* belong^g to Antigua, bro't in a Prize Brig from Surinam to Boston, At 2 the Brig *Liberty*, belonging to Dominica, bro't in a Prize Sloop from Georgia to Martinico

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/880, part 3.

March 3

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[Extract]

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

1778.

March 3.

Tuesday. our Wind continued brisk and fresh all the last Night, and this Morning our Course is abt. N.E.—Showers in the Night and this Morning.—The Flocks of Gulls, Still pursuing Us.

This Morning, M^r Parison¹ breakfasted with Us.—Our Capt.² in gay Spirits, chattering in French, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Dutch, Greek, and boasting that he could Speak some Words in every Language.—He told Us he had ordered two more Fishes upon the Mainmast to cover the Flaws, above Deck.

The Captain, Lt^s, Master, Mates and Midshipmen, are now making their Calculations, to discover their Longitude, but I conjecture they will be very wild.

The Life I lead is a dull Scène to me.—No Business: No Pleasure; No Study.—our little World is all wet and damp: there is nothing I can eat or drink without nau-

seating.—We have no Spirits for Conversation, nor any Thing to converse about.—We see nothing but Sky, Clouds and Sea, and then Seas, Clouds and Sky. . . .

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), p. 16.

1. François Parison, brevet captain of artillery in the Regiment d'Auxonne under Du Coudray, who was returning to France.

2. Capt. Samuel Tucker, Continental Navy.

JOHN LANGDON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

Portsmouth New Hampshire

3^d. March 1778.—

Sir.—

Iv'e wrote several Letters to the Honble. Marine Committee, which I fear have miscarried as Iv'e had no Answer, Iv'e for a long time waited for a Supply of Money to pay off the Several Debts which I had Contracted for the Continent, but have received little or none, the Marine Board at Boston¹ are doing every thing in their Power to Supply me, but hitherto they have not been able to accomplish it, there is now large Sums due to several Tradesmen on the *Ranger*, a large sum due to my Carpenters who have been at work all Winter in the Woods procuring Timber for the 74² have had large number of Teams employed hawling Timber all which is now at the Landings unpaid for all these matters must be immediately discharged, even if I am obliged to Sell my own Estate for the purpose.

It gives me great pain & it is not a little humiliating to me, after Ive pawn'ed my own Credit for Payment not to have it in my power to comply with that punctuality I could wish, Ive long Since paye'd away my Stock of Cash for the Service those Debts which have been Sometimes Standing the money having—Depreciated so amazingly makes the people very uneasy

Knowing the great difficulty the Honble. Congress are at in procuring money for the different Departments Ive' done every thing in my power to put off the payments hoping Some Continental Prize might come in by which I should be furnished but as that has not happened the time is now come that I must make payments at all events, nothing prevents my arranging the Yard with Carpenters & I could go on next Month (building the 74) with Spirit but want of Cash will prevent it unless immediately Supplied I need not mention the many other Demands I have upon me for Supplies of the French Ship³ & for Transporting the Warlike Stores &ca the Committee must be Sensible of it.—It makes me a little unhappy to be thus Streightened for Money to carry on the Building of Ships here as it's a very disadvantageous to the Continent. tho' I believe may Say without Boasting it has been carried on with as much advantage to the Continent as elsewhere—as it's not in the power of the Board of at Boston to Supply me, I must intreat an immediate Supply by some means or other, otherwise the business must totally Stop.—I'm under the necessity of asking an immediate answer to this from the Honble. Committee that I may know how to Conduct myself in the Business of engaging Carpenters & other matters.—I have the honor to be [&c.]

John Langdon
Agent

P.S. Should be glad that the Navy Board at Boston were impowered to Settle my Acct^s both for the

Marine & Commercial Committee if it shall be agreeable.—

L, ScHi, Henry Laurens Papers, Letters to Henry Laurens chiefly concerning Official Business, 1778 (SCHS No. 17, roll 9), 13. Addressed at foot of second page: "The Honble./Henry Laurens Esquire." Docketed: "John Langdon/to/Henry Laurens/3^d March 1778."

1. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
2. The 74-gun ship of the line, later named *America*.
3. French ship *Flamand*, M. de Fassy, master.

LIBEL OF THE SHIP *MARY* IN MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME COURT,
SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Mas^{ts}: Bay ———
Southⁿ: District

To the honourable Nathan Cushing Esq^r
Judge of the maritime Court for said
District. _____

Be it remembred that the third day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & seventy Eight John Trivett¹ of Providence in the State of Rhode Island & Providence Plantations—Mariner—cometh into Court and on behalf of John Rathburn² commander of the Armed Sloop of war called the *Providence* duly commissioned & set forth to cruize upon the Enemies of the United States of America and in the service & Employ of and owned by the said States and of the officers marines & mariners on board the same for all whom the said Trivett is agent libels propounds and gives the said Court to understand and be informed that the said commander officers and marines & mariners in said Armed Sloop did on the twenty seventh day of January last past on the high Seas within the Jurisdiction of this Honourable Court attack conquer and take possession of and afterwards on the twentieth day of February last past bring into the Port of Old Town³ so called within the District aforesaid a certain Ship called the *Mary* lately command^d: by Henry Johnson burthened about two hundred & fifty Tons laden with sundry goods wares and merchandize as p^r: Schedule—and said Trivett avers that said Ship and her appertences together with her said Cargo were at the time of Capture aforesaid the property of Some of the Subjects of the King of Great Britain (Other than the Inhabitants of Bermuda [New] Providence or Bahama Islands—that said Ship was then bound & employed to carry Supplies to the fleet and Army employed against said States & that the master & Supercargo of her then had such Supplies—That said Ship at the time of her capture aforesaid was a Vessel of war employ^d: by the Subjects of Said King enemies of these States to annoy infest and make depredations upon the Sea Coasts & navigation of America & was set for that purpose and duly commissioned by the Said King for that purpose and to Cruize upon the Subjects of Said States and mounted Sixteen carriage guns & was armed with a large quantity of Swivels musketts pistols blunderbusses Swords & Cutlasses and of Cannon Swivel musquet & Pistol Powder and ball and manned with thirty men—By force of all which & of the laws of this State & the resolves of Congress said Ship her Cargo & appurtenances are become forfeit & are to be distributed to and amongst the said commander officers marines & mariners.—

Wherefore as this is of a maritime nature and within the Jurisdiction of this Honourable Court the said Trivett prays the advice of the Court thereupon & that by a due course of Proceedings said Ship her Cargo & appurtenances may be deemed to be & remain forfeited & to be distributed to and amongst the said Command^e Officers marines & mariners according to Law & the resolves of Congress.

John Trivett} Agent as afores^d.

True Copy attest Bartlett LeBaron Reg^r

D, DNA, Record Group 267, The Revolutionary War Prize Cases: Records of the Court of Appeals in Cases of Capture, 1776–87, Claim No. 67 (M162, roll 8). Docketed: “N^o: 5/Label/Ship Mary.”

1. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines.
2. Capt. John Peck Rathbun, Continental Navy.
3. Now Edgartown, Martha’s Vineyard.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH GARDNER TO ROBERT STEVENS & CO.

Gentlemen.

Onboard the *Greenwich* 3rd. Mch. 1778

This is to Acquaint you the Third day after the Sloop¹ Left Bedford [*in Dartmouth*] we came a Cross a Ship of Fourteen Guns and Fifty men we Engag’d her and fought her three Glasses but being Cutt and much shattered to pieces was oblig’d to Quit her. we had the misfortune to Loose poor Moses Casey in the Fray & four more Wounded this is Likewise to acquaint you the Eighteen of February we tooke a Schooner Transport from Hallifax bound to Newport Loaded with Codfish & Coal but was blown off the coast and was bound to Antigua we put a Prize Master on board and sent her to Martinico this is Likewise to acquaint you that the third of March we tooke another Schooner from Hallifax bound for Tobago her Cargo Consists of Sixty four Hogsheads & Eight Tierces of Codfish Eighty five Barrells of Pickled Fish & Seventeen hund^d feet of Lumber & Staves we Likewise put a Prize Master onboard of her & sent her to Martinico this is Likewise to Acquaint you we are now Cruising in the Latitude of Barbadoes and shall Cruise back and forth about Six Weeks Longer with the provisor we shoud not take any thing else till then and with the provisor we shoud take another Hallifaxman we shall go with her to Martinico if we should take a Britainer we shall proceed direct for America. This is to Acquaint you that I have Orderd one half the proceeds to be laid out in Produce & the other half to be Shipt home in Cash I am Gentlemen Yours &^c

Joseph Gardner

L, RNHi, George Peabody Wetmore Papers. Addressed: “To/Mess^{rs}:/ Robert Stevens & C^o. owners/of the Sloop *Greenwich*—/State of/ Rhode Island.”

1. Rhode Island privateer sloop *Greenwich* was fitted out at Bedford in Dartmouth during Nov. 1777. See NDAR 10: 567.

THE NEW-YORK PACKET, AND THE AMERICAN ADVERTISER,
THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1778

FISH-KILL, March 5.

Extract of a letter, dated March 3.

Last Wednesday night, a party of thirty volunteers, from Col. Meig’s¹ regiment,² in four whale boats, under the command of Major Humphrys,³

Lieutenants Lay⁴ and Burret,⁵ made a descent upon Long-Island, in the neighbourhood of Smith-Town for the purpose of destroying several of the enemy's shipping, particularly a large ship of 20 guns aground near that place: The ship was unfortunately got off the preceding day, but they set fire to, and destroyed a brig of about 200 tons burthen, a large schooner and an armed sloop. All were employed in the enemy's service: They brought off two Captains, and several seamen, together with as many sails, rigging and furniture as the boats could contain; all was affected without loss, and the party returned to the main next morning. The enterprize was well planned and conducted; and such an one, as in Gaine's and Rivington's papers, would have filled a column with immences and infinites, and exhausted Johnson's dictionary of all those terms which express, enterprize, conduct and resolution.

The *Warren*, of 36 guns, commanded by young Captain Hopkins,⁶ a few days ago, got out of Providence river safe, notwithstanding the vigilance of the enemy's ships to prevent her. She got off, tis said, in a snow-storm; ran past the guard-ship⁷ almost unobserved, without damage, took her course through the enemy's fleet, where they could not fire on her, without risque of damaging their own ships: While she was in the midst of the fleet, she gave them a broadside, and made the best of her way, while the ships continued their fire on her, to little purpose, till she was some miles off.

1. Col. Return Jonathan Meigs.

2. 6th Connecticut Continental Regiment.

3. Brigade Maj. David Humphreys.

4. 1st Lt. Asa Lay.

5. 2d Lt. Charles Burrirt (or Burret).

6. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, Continental Navy.

7. H.M. frigate *Lark*. See Lieutenant's Journal of H.M.S. *Lark*, 16 Feb., and Mackenzie, *Diary*, 17 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Tuesday, March 3, 1778

Resolved, That a member from Connecticut be added to the Marine Committee:

The member chosen, Mr. Huntington.¹

JCC 10: 217.

1. Samuel Huntington.

JEAN-BAPTISTE-LAZARE THÉVENEAU DE FRANCY TO JOHN LANGDON

Copy of my letter of the 21 of february to the H^{ble}. john Langdon.

Sir. york town [*Pa.*] 3^d march 1778.

I am at last arrived here after the most tiresome Voyage; my being Such a long while on my journey has detained rather too much *Le Flammand* into your port;¹ the first thing which I would have Settled, was to determine, if that vessel should be purchased or Sent back; the H^{ble}. the Commercial Committee had received your answer upon the information they did ask from you, therefore it was unani-

mously agreed to Send that Ship to Charles-town South Carolina to take her loading; the gentlemen of the Commercial Committee have wrote to the navy-board in Boston that they give orders to Some of the Continental captain of navy not employed, to go to Portsmouth & Embark upon *Le Flammand* with Some few men if that captain finds it necessary; he will go as far as charles-town with M^r Fassy & in case he meets with Some Vessels he may be able to take, then he Shall have the Command of the Ship for the time of the fighting only, & the prizes Shall be divided in the following manner, viz 1/8 to the public, 3/8 for the French crew, & 1/8 for the American. in case a Captain Could not be got, the navi board is directed to Send at least a good pilote well acquainted With the Coasts of the Southward to go along with M^r Fassy. i beg of you not to let go that vessel without at least thir pilote. & as the Season is Very much advanced now, I intreat you to order the Captain to make all the haste possible; the vessel must be under Sail a week after the reception of the order.

I directd M^r Fassy to prepare his papers as if he was going from S^t Peter of Miquelon to S^t Domingue; as you have been in that island, I Shall be very much obliged to you if you will give him some proper directions about it, inform him with the names of Some merchants there &c.—

I am Very much pleased with all the members of Congress, & I do not expect to meet with the least difficulty; however I cannot Settle nothing as the different invoices concerning what is arrived of our goods upon the Continent, have not been Sent yet to the Commercial Committee; it Seems to me you had told me that you Sent last year the amount of what you did received by the *Mercury* & *Amphitritte*, it was never received; I beg of you to have a copy of it made & to Send it directly along, with the amount of what is come in the packet *Mere Bobie* & upon *le Flammand*.

As it is very important that this vessel may Sail the Soonest possible, it was thought more prudent to Send a duplicate of our letters, I have altered Something in this of the first I wrote you the 21th. of last month, because then I had not been yet acquainted that those amounts I Speak you of were never received here.

my plan of going to Settle in Virginia is altered for the present however I shall proceed from here to the Southward Very Soon, but I Shall come back to Settle the whole of my business.

I did not heard yet from the Vessels I expected; what begins to make me very much uneasy.

Will you be So good to Send directly by your Servant the inclosed to M^r Gardner;² in his letter there is one for Captain Fassy.

I beg you will present my most H^{ble}. requests to your lady & M^{rs}. Patty;³ my respectfull Complements to General Whipple.⁴

I have told to the Commercial Committee that I have left Some money with a merchant in Portsmouth to pay the Expences of the *Flammand*. I have the honour to be [&c.]

De Francy

L, Private Collection, Capt. J. G. M. Stone, Annapolis, Md., 1959. Addressed at the foot: "the H^{ble}. John Langdon Esq^r" Docketed: "Mons. Francy's/Letter Answ^d/3^d March."

1. Ship *Flamand* arrived at Portsmouth, N.H., on 1 Dec. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 668–69, 961.

2. William Gardner, Deputy Continental Agent for New Hampshire.

3. Martha Langdon, sister of John Langdon and future wife of Lieutenant Thomas Simpson, Continental Navy. Lawrence S. Mayo, *John Langdon of New Hampshire* (Port Washington, N.Y.: Kennikat Press [1970]), 23–24, 146, 147.

4. William Whipple, Brig. Gen., New Hampshire Militia.

ORDER OF CAPTAIN JAMES WILLING

[*Manchac, West Florida*]

Permitt M^r William Dunbar and his Property to Remain unmolested untill further orders he being a fr^d. to America

March 3. 1778

Ja^s. Willing
Captⁿ. in US. of
America

Copy, PHi, Simon Gratz Autograph Collection, Case 8, Box 20.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola on Tuesday the 3d March 1778.

The Minutes of Yesterday having been read & approved His Excellency the Governor laid before the Board a Letter which he had this morning received from Captain Garnier of His Majestys Frigate *Southampton* in Answer to His requisition of Yesterday and the same being read was ordered to be entered on the Minutes as follows

Sir

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellencys Letter of Yesterdays date Informing me of a Small Party of the Rebels having Seized the *Rebecca* John Cox Master lying in the River Mississippi and having made themselves Masters of the Town of Manchack In Consequence of Which I have ordered Captain Fergusson of His Majestys Ship *Sylph* to proceed up the River Mississippi and use his utmost endeavours to retake the said Ship and give every assistance in his power to His Majestys loyal Subjects Situated on the Banks of the River and that he may more Effectually comply with your Excellencys Requests I have sent him a Copy of your Letter and am fully persuaded he will exert himself to the Utmost. I have likewise ordered a Petty officer and Six Seamen to the reinforcement of Lieutenant Burdon. I have the Honor to be [&c.]

Southampton

W^m Garnier—

Pensacola March 3^d 1778.

His Excellency also laid before the Board a Letter which he had just received from Lieut: Burdon Commanding His Majestys armed Sloop *West Florida* dated at the pass of Massiac Lake Pontchartrain which being read was ordered to be entered on the Minutes as follows

Sir

I'm sorry its not in my power to give you any farther Accounts of the proceedings of the Rebels then which I hope you have received by M^r Leviston & M^r

Chrystie, That they have taken M^r Walters Ship & have dropt down about a League from the Town, the party by the best accounts is fifty in Number & about four hundred to follow. on Thursday night there was a Number of Guns fired from the ship which I believe the other party is arrived at Manchack I shall take all opportunities to get the best Intelligence. I have sent one Smith upon that account & I expect him tomorrow night or the next Morning who I shall send directly to Pensacola. I have taken 10 Cask of the Kings Powder from on Board of M^r Mitchells Sloop for the good of His Majestys Service for fear it should fall in the hands of the Rebels and give the Master a receipt for it till I shall hear from you or Captain Lloyd:¹ which I hope you will approve of my proceedings & am in hopes Sir by the time this arrives to You that you have sent me some assistance which I do not doubt if the Rebels comes down the Amit² but I Shall give you some good accounts of them my not writing to Cap^t Lloyd by this opportunity I hear he is not at Pensacola I am Sir [&c.]

G. Burdon

James Cheeseborough Master of the Sloop *Hilsborough* who arrived this morning from the River amit was then sent for and being called before the Board gave the following Information upon Oath.

Information upon oath of James Cheeseborough Master of the Sloop *Hilsborough* taken at Pensacola before His Excellency Peter Chester Esquire Captain General and Governor in Chief of His Majestys Province of West Florida in Council

This Informant saith that on Thursday evening last (the 28th. Ultimo) about six oClock he was laying in his Sloop at the lower Indian Village on the River Ibberville when John Tyner who resides at the Forks of the Ibberville came on Board his Sloop with a Letter from M^r Philip Barbour (who had gone Passenger with him from Pensacola and had shipped some goods on Board) and gave this Informant the following Account That the Ship *Rebecca* had dropped down about a league below Manchack but had left M^r Hutchins³ at Manchack who desired this Tyner to put him on Board the Ship saying that as they had taken all his property he would go to the Ship in hopes of recovering it That as they were rowing to the Ship M^r Hutchins told Tyner that he could not hear of any more than fifty Men in the whole of the Rebels—That they had taken Mess^{rs}. Blommart⁴ Hiorn⁵ and M^rIntosh⁶ Prisoners who were coming down with the remainder of the Party among whom was James Willing who was understood to have the Command Tyner further told this Informant That M^r Henry Stuart the Deputy Superintendent⁷ had taken refuge in the Spanish Fort that the Rebels had been to demand him and offered a large Sum of Money for him, and that the officer Commanding at the Fort refused to deliver him up.

Sworn in the Council Chamber at

Pensacola this 3^d day of March 1778.

before His Excellency in Council

Attes^r Rich^d Combault D Cler Concii

Whereupon His Excellency desired the advised of the Board what Steps farther were necessary to be made for the Security of the Province

The Board were of Opinion that application be made to Lieutenant Colonel Stiell⁸ Commanding Officer of the Troops to Detach an Officer and Twenty five Men from the Garrison to Lake PontChartrain to Act in Concert with Lieutenant Burdon on Board of the Armed Sloop *Florida* to defend the Passes of the Lakes in Case the Rebels if in Force should attempt to Penetrate farther into the Colony—

Lieutenant Colonel Stiell was thereupon applied to by His Excellency at the Board who readily acquiesced in the demand

The Board also recommended to His Excellency to apply to Colonel Stuart the Superintendent⁹ for A Detachment of His Corps of Rangers to be sent to the Lakes and afterwards to the River Nitabanie¹⁰ there to protect the Inhabitants or to assist them in bringing off themselves and their property as occasion may require

Colonel Stuart being present in Council Promised to send off Twenty men under the Command of Captain Pearis.¹¹

The Board farther recommended to His Excellency the Governor to take two Small Vessels into the Service of Government for the purpose of Transporting the Troops with their Ammunition and Provisions to the Lake PontChartrain whereupon M^r John Mitchell a Merchant of this Town owner of the Sloop *Hillsborough* and Adam Chrystie Esq^r a Magistrate of Manchack District who arrived here Yesterday in his Sloop the *Florida* were sent for and being applied to at the Board for their respective Vessels Immediately engaged them in the Service upon the Faith of the Council that should either of their Vessels be taken or lost they should be paid for by Government. M^r Chrystie being requested by His Excellency and the Board to proceed himself in his said Sloop *Florida* with Captain Pearis & the Rangers under his Command to the intent that the Service upon which they were sent might be more Effectually performed under the Care of a Magistrate of the District and was so well Acquainted with the Country He readily Consented to go His Excellency therefore by the advice of the Board gave him the following Instructions.

Sir

In Consequence of the Information which I have received of a Party of the Rebels having taken Possession of Manchack I have ordered an Officer with a Detachment of 25 of the Kings Troops on Board the Sloop *Hillsborough* taken into the Service of Government to proceed Immediately to Lieut. Burdon who Commands His Majestys Armed Sloop *West Florida* now lying in Lake Pontchartrain opposite the Pass of Massiac which Troops with their Provisions are to be put on Board M^r Burdons Vessels in order to Act in Consert with him to defend the passes of the Lakes in Case the Rebels if in Force should attempt to penetrate farther into the Colony You will also take on Board your Sloop the *Florida* now taken into the Kings Service Captain Pearis with a Detachment of Colonel Stuarts Rangers and some Seamen to be furnished You by Captain Garnier of the *Southampton* with whom you will proceed to Lieutenant Burdon and after the Troops are disembarked from the *Hillsborough* on Board of M^r Burdon the *Hillsborough* will proceed with You to the River Nitabanie where You & Captain Pearis will act Jointly in order to protect or if the Enemy is in Force & Circumstances require it of which you must be the Judge from the Information you receive upon your arrival at the

Nitabanie Captain Pearis with his detachment will assist in bringing off to Lake Pontchartrain under the Protection of Mr Burdon Such of His Majestys Subjects with their Negroes and other properties as You may find in that part of the Country and you will as soon as in your power after your arrival at the Nitabanie if you have not the most Certain and positive Information of the Strength of the Rebels proceed from the Nitabanie to the Settlements on the River amit or to Manchac if Possible in order to obtain the most Certain and Possitive Information of the Number of the Rebels who have come into the Province of their Strength and designs and after having obtained Certain Information thereof you are to Communicate the same to me as soon as Possible If you find their Numbers Small and think it practicable with Captain Pearis his Rangers and such other Assistance as you can procure in the Country to dispossess them You will Attack them and drive them from Manchack after which You will return here with such Prisoners as you may be able to take If you find that they have abandoned the place in that Case you will also return here endeavouring first to obtain the fullest Information of all the proceedings of the above party since they came into the Province

P^r Chester

Council Chamber

3^d March 1778—

P S You are not to suffer any Person or Persons to embark on Board your Sloop or the *Hillsborough* but such as will put themselves under your Command & obey Your orders—P: Chester.

And then the Board was adjourned—

D, UkLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 249–51.

1. Comdr. Thomas Lloyd, commanding H.M. sloop *Atalanta*.
2. Amite River.
3. Anthony Hutchins, magistrate at Natchez.
4. John Blommart, magistrate of West Florida.
5. William Hiorn, commissioner at Natchez.
6. Alexander McIntosh, planter at Natchez.
7. Henry Stuart was Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Southern District.
8. Lt. Col. William Stiell.
9. Col. John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Southern District.
10. Natalbany River.
11. Capt. John Pearis, West Florida Rangers.

PROCLAMATION OF GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

[*Nueva Orleans, Marzo 3, 1778*]

Dⁿ. Bernardo de Galvez cavallero de la Real distinguida orden de Carlos tercero, Coronel de los realès Exercitos, Intendente, Inspector, y Governador General Interino de esta Provincia por Su Magestad, &^a — Como há venido a mi noticia que un Destacamiento de los Inglesses Americano baya por el Rio Mississipy, he pensado en esta circunstancia advertir al Publico que las Intenciones de Su Magestad (que Dios guarde) son de observar una perfecta Neutralidad en las diferencias que estos tienen con la grande Bretaña a fin que ningunos de sus Vasallos se Inquiete, y Altere sus ocupaciones por esta Novedad, Y Para que sepan estos Vecinos estantes y havitantes que les es permitido como lo

permiso en consecuencia de la Neutralidad Declarada conceder Indistinctamente á unos y otros el sagrado derecho De Hospitalidad cada y quando se presenten Necesitados á Reclamarlo: Y para que á todos conste mando que se haga saver a son de Caxa de guerra y q^e se ponga testimonio Del presente en los lugares Publicos acostumbrados de esta Ciudad; Dado en Nueva Orleans á tres de Marzo de mil Sette Cientos Settenta y ocho años; Bernardo de Galvez; Por Mandado de Su Señoria Juan Baptista Garic Es^{no} de Gobierno.—

Certif^{on}.

Dⁿ. Juan Baptista Garic Escribano de Gobierno de la Provincia de la Luisianna como mejor Puedo y Devo certifico y doy fee quel Bando antecedente se publico por Voz de Nicolas Jurdin Pregonero Publico en los Parajes acostumbrados de esta Ciudad al toque de Caxas de guerra con el Acompañam^{to}. de dⁿ. Mauricio hoonor haciendo funciones de Ayudante, Phifanos tambores, y una Compania de Sargentos, y despues fixado en la Plaza y en la puerta del Principal y otros parajes y lugares acostumbrados de esta Ciudad, y para que conste pongo la Presente en la Ciudad de la Nueva Orleans á tres de marzo de Mil Settecientos Settenta y ocho años: Juan Baptista Garic Es^{no}. de Gobierno.

Es conforme a Su original que queda en mi poder y archivo a q^e me Remito y de ordⁿ. Verbal de Su Señoria el Señor Gov^{or}. general, Doy el pres^{te}. escrito en dos foxas con esta de pap^l comun por no estar en practica el Sellado en esta Ciudad de la Nueva Orleans á treze de Marzo de mil Settecientos Settenta y ocho años—

En testim. de verdad —

Juan B^a. Garic
Es^{no}. de Gov^o.

[Translation]

[*New Orleans, March 3, 1778*]

Don Bernardo de Gálvez, Knight of the Royal Distinguished Order of Carlos III, Colonel of the Royal Army, Intendant, Inspector, and Acting Governor General of this Province for His Majesty, etc.—As it has come to my attention that a detachment of American Englishmen is proceeding along the Mississippi River, it has occurred to me in this circumstance to notify the public that his Majesty's intentions (may God keep him) are to observe perfect neutrality in the differences that the latter have with Great Britain in order that none of his subjects may become worried and change their occupations because of this new occurrence, and in order that these permanent residents and inhabitants may know that it is permissible for them, as I permit it as a consequence of the declared neutrality, to grant without distinction to one and all the sacred right of hospitality whenever they need to claim it, and in order that it may be clear to all, I am ordering that it be announced to the sound of a military drum and that an official copy of these presents be placed in the customary public places in this city. Given in New Orleans on the 3rd of March of the year one thousand seven hundred seventy-eight. Bernardo de Gálvez. By order of His Lordship, Juan Baptista Garic, Government Clerk.

Certification.

Don Juan Baptista Garic, Government Clerk of the Province of Louisiana, as best I can and should, certify and attest that the foregoing order was published through Nicolas Jurdin, Public Crier, in the customary places in this city to the

sound of military drums, accompanied by Don Mauricio Hoconor, acting as Adjutant, fifes, drums, and a company of sergeants, and afterward in fixed position in the square and at the main gate, and in other customary localities and places in this city, and in order that it may be a matter of record I am posting these presents in the City of New Orleans on the 3rd of March of the year one thousand seven hundred seventy-eight. Juan Baptista Garic, Government Clerk.

It is in agreement with its original, which remains in my possession and file to which was given to me, and by verbal order of His Lordship the Governor General, I am issuing these presents written on two sheets with this one on ordinary paper, because stamping is not practiced in this City of New Orleans, on the 13th of March of the year one thousand seven hundred seventy-eight.

In testimony of the truth.

Juan B^a Garic
Government Clerk

Copy, SpSAG, Santo Domingo, Legajo 2596.

March 4

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War Boston March 4th 1778—

Order'd, That M^r Otis¹ deliver Mess^{rs} Kemble & Thomas 200 yards light Sail Cloth, for Brig^t *Favorite*²—

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver Mess^{rs} Kemble & Thomas [*blank*] yards English Duck, for the Brig^t *Favorite*—

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver Cap^t Turner⁴ for the Brig^t *Dolphin*⁵—

6 Barrels Beef	1 1/2 Bushel Beans—
2 d ^o . Pork—	1 Box Candles—
7 ^{Cwt} Bread—	15 Gall ^s Rum—
1 Bbl Flour—	1/4 ^{Cwt} Sugar—
1 ^{Cwt} .,—r.—lb Rice	14 ^{lb} Coffee—
1 Firkin Butter—	6 Bushels Potatoes—
1/2 Cord Wood—	

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 242–43.

1. Samuel Allyne Otis, merchant at Boston.
2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
3. David Devens.
4. Capt. Israel Turner.
5. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*.

JOHN BRADFORD TO LEONARD JARVIS

Sir,

Boston 4th March 1778

Your Favour of the 23d Ultimo is before Me in Answer to which on turning to your[s] respecting the *Mellish*,¹ I believe I misapprehend you, I wrote to Congress you had fitted her ready to obey their future Orders—Cap^t Wood was previously engag'd therefore the Cap^t you formerly mention'd I hope will remain on Board—an

Act has pass'd our gen'ral Court that Goods & Staves of all Kinds whatever belonging to the public which may be at Bedford [*in Dartmouth*] be immediately moved from thence. The Commissioners of the Navy² acquainted Me with this Matter two Days ago & was rather inclinable that I should send you an Express to inform you of it. On receipt of this I think it will be best to move ev'ry Article belonging to the public from Bedford. the Merchandize may be sent to Boston where it may soon be chang'd for Money which is at present extremely wanted in the naval Department. You will please also to order the Merchandize landed at Bedford out of the Ship *Mary*³ Capt Rathburn's⁴ prize, to send her without delay, That Ship by no means comes within the Description of entitling the Crew to the whole of her, which I believe he is convinc'd off; after the Conversation which pass'd at y^e. navy office between y^e Capt & Commissioners—I've applied to M^r Lowell⁵ to take up the Matter, We have employ'd Sturges Gorham⁶ to get the Remainder of her Cargo over to the Hyannis⁷ provided the Ship has not got there which he supposes She has as he left Orders for that purpose—The generous Disposition of M^r Abraham Livingston⁸ is just as extensive as I judg'd it was. Cap^t Rathburn before the Commiss^s. told Me that L⁹ inform'd him he would have given a third more for the *Mellishes* Cargo, if Mr Jarvis¹⁰ had ask'd it, & that he had paid M^r Jarvis £900 more than he had accounted with the Captors for. I reply'd just in that Manner as I would wish you or any other person on the like Occasion to vindicate an injur'd Character, the Commissioners agreed with Me in Sentiments—how base it was! if the Army were favour'd in the purchase, that he should take that low Way of informing Rathburn with it; however his Drift is very evident to Me, as he is fix'd in the Agency at Charlestown with Clerkson,¹¹ it was with a Design to bring Grist to his Mill¹²—you ask what Wages I gave to Master & Men, I gave the last Master £20 P^r m^o. to Rec^d. £80 L m^o. In France—I gave the men from £8 to £15 three of which I was oblig'd to advance £45 hard money too, in short, the difficulty of getting Vessells to Sea, from this port is almost insuperable, I'm now fitting away a Brig for Charlestown but when I shall man her I know not, its the *Dispatch*¹³ wch I detain'd at the Request of the Board¹⁴ to fit out as a Cruiser nothing new yours &c

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 112–13. Addressed at top: "Leonard Jarvis Esq^r"

1. British transport ship, captured by Continental Navy ship *Alfred* and Continental Navy sloop *Providence* on 12 Nov. 1776. See NDAR 7: 111, 160, 183, 271.

2. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

3. She was captured by Continental Navy sloop *Providence*, at Nassau, Bahamas, on 27 Jan. See Libel, 3 Mar., above.

4. Capt. John Peck Rathbun, Continental Navy.

5. John Lowell, lawyer at Boston.

6. Sturges Gorham, merchant at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

7. Hyannis, Mass.

8. Continental Agent at Charleston, S.C.

9. Abraham Livingston.

10. Leonard Jarvis, Deputy Continental Agent at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

11. Levinus Clarkson, Continental Agent at Charleston, S.C.

12. Rathbun was first lieutenant of Continental Navy ship *Alfred*, when she captured *Mellish*, and therefore had an interest in her prize money.

13. Continental packet brigantine, Lt. John Brown, Continental Navy, commander.

14. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

CAPTAIN HUGH DALRYMPLE, R.N., TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN BURGOYNE

Juno Cape Cod Harbour—

4th. March 1778—

Sir

I take the earliest opportunity by L^t. Carter¹ in the *Haerlem*² Cartel, to inform you of the Arrival of the Transports under my Charge, & that I am appointed by the Viscount Howe, to receive you & your Suite on board the *Juno*, under my Command, for your Conveyance to England, when you shall be at liberty to embark, seperately or together with the Troops, as you will let me know in Return, to be the Intention, And I am to acquaint you that I will move the *Juno*, to Nantasket Road, for facilitating your Embarkation. If you will please to inform me of your having negotiated an Agreement to such Effect, upon faith duly pledged, that no Insult shall be offered in the mean time to any of the Ships of War, or other Ships & Vessels appointed for fulfilling the purpose of the Convention, & Distinguished by Flags of Truce, in Testimony of the Restriction they are under from committing any Acts of Hostility; You are otherwise to take your passage in the *Haerlem*, in order to your being received on board the *Juno*, in Cape Cod Harbour.—

Inclosed is a List of the Transports with their Tonnage,³ that you may be able to settle the proper Arrangement of the Troops destined for Europe; for every thing else I refer you to our Meeting on board the *Juno*, where I have a number of private Letters for you, General Phillips⁴ & Col. Kingston,⁵ & a large Box of Letters for the Army—I am Sir [&c.]

Hugh Dalrymple

L, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 8, fol. 367. Addressed at foot of second page: "Lieu^t General Burgoyne." Docketed: "From Captⁿ/Dalrymple to Gen^l/Burgoyne Inclos^s/a List of Transports/Mar. 4. 1778."

1. Lt. Robert Carter, first lieutenant of H.M.S. *Juno*.

2. H.M. sloop *Haerlem*.

3. MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 8, fol. 368.

4. Maj. Gen. William Phillips.

5. Lt. Col. Robert Kingston, adjutant general of Burgoyne's army.

JOHN DESHON TO CAPTAIN DUDLEY SALTONSTALL

Sir

New London March 4th 1778

The Honob^l Continental navy Board at Boston having Directed me to adopt Such Measures and means as Shall appear most likely and Expedient to get the Ship under your Command^l out of Connecticutt River and bring her in to this port, in our former Conversation on this matter you may Remember it was and Still is my Oppinion the most likely method to Succeed is to lighten the Ship as much as Posable bring her to an Even Keel, and a full tide, when the Coast is Clear take our Chance to run her over the Barr. I am now Going to Providence to Dispatch the Ship *Collumbus*, and Expect to Return in Ten Days, when I Shall give my whole attendance in the ab^v s^d. Business. in the meantime wish you would Engage men for the Cruise fill up the vacanceys of your Petty Officers as will best Suit you, and your Ship in all Posable forwardness, and if necessary hire such men by the Day as you have Okation for. no time must be lost, as this is the Proper time for getting out the Ships, we Can not Expect Very full tides after this month. I have Desired Nath^l. Shaw Esq^r to Suply the Ship with Every thing you may have Okation for. you may Rely on my Return as soon as Posable I am [&c.]

John Deshon

"Papers of William Vernon and the Navy Board," 212. Addressed at the foot: "To Dudley Saltonstall Esq^r./Commander of Ship *Trumbull*."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull*.

JOHN DESHON TO LIEUTENANT JOHN KERR

Sir New London March 4th 1778
 You are Ordered to take Command of the Schooner *Mifflin* untill further Orders from the Honob^l Continental Navy Board at Boston, you are to Rec^c. Orders from time to time from Dudley Saltonstal Esq^r Commander of the Continental Ship *Trumbull* Respecting the Ground you are to Cruise over, untill Such time as the Ship *Trumbull* is Got Safe out of the River. you are to Render Every Service in your Power to Capt^m Saltonstal in assisting to get this Ship out. you Shall have a Commission as Lieut^c in the Continental Navy forwarded you from Boston as soon as I Return to the Board, Same date as the one taken from you by the Enemy.¹ Call on Nath^l Shaw Jun^r Esq^r, Our agent for suplys that are Necessary,

Your Humb^l Servant
 P^r Order the Board
 John Deshon

you will Observe Strict Discapline using your Ship's Comp^y and those whom the fortune of warr may throw into your hands with Generousaty and Tenderness. I wish you Success and am in behalf of the board your Humb^l Serv^t

J. D.

"Papers of William Vernon and the Navy Board," 213. Addressed at the foot: "To Lieut^c John How/N. London." The recipient is incorrectly identified as Lt. John How in the transcription published by the Rhode Island Historical Society.

1. Kerr lost his commission some time prior to 3 Dec. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 657. He commanded the Continental Navy sloop *Schuyler*, which was captured by H.M. sloop *Falcon* on 10 Dec. 1777. Kerr escaped just before his vessel was taken. *NDAR* 10: 699.

THE BATTLE OF THE KEGS

For the PENNSYLVANIA PACKET.

BRITISH VALOUR DISPLAYED: Or, The BATTLE of the KEGS.

GALLANTS attend, and hear a friend
 Trill forth harmonious ditty;
 Strange things I'll tell, which late befel
 In Philadelphia city.
 'Twas early day, as Poets say,
 Just when the sun was rising;
 A soldier stood on a log of wood
 And saw a sight surprising.
 As in a maze he stood to gaze,
 The truth can't be deny'd, Sir;
 He spy'd a score of kegs, or more,
 Come floating down the tide, Sir.
 A sailor too, in jerkin blue,
 This strange appearance viewing,

First damn'd his eyes in great surprize,
 Then said—"some mischief's brewing:
 "These kegs now hold the rebels bold
 "Pack'd up like pickl'd herring,
 "And they're come down t' attack the town
 "In this new way of ferrying."

The soldier flew, the sailor too,
 And scar'd almost to death, Sir,
 Wore out their shoes to spread the news,
 And ran 'til out of breath, Sir.

Now up and down throughout the town
 Most frantic scenes were acted;
 And some ran here and others there,
 Like men almost distracted.

Some fire cry'd, which some deny'd,
 But said the earth had quaked;
 And girls and boys, with hideous noise,
 Ran thro' the streets half naked.

*Sir William*¹ he, snug as a flea,
 Lay all this time a snoring;
 Nor dreamt of harm, as he lay warm
 In bed with Mrs. *Loring*.²

Now in a fright he starts upright,
 Awak'd by such a clatter;
 First rubs his eyes, then boldly cries,
 "For God's sake, what's the matter?"

At his bed side he then espy'd
*Sir Erskine*³ at command, Sir;
 Upon one foot he had one boot
 And t'other in his hand, Sir.

"Arise, arise," *Sir Erskine* cries,
 "The rebels—more's the pity!
 "Without a boat, are all afloat
 "And rang'd before the city.

"The motley crew in vessels new,
 "With Satan for their guide, Sir,
 "Pack'd up in bags, and wooden kegs,
 "Come driving down the tide, Sir.

"Therefore prepare for bloody war,
 "These kegs must all be routed,
 "Or surely we despis'd shall be,
 "And British valour doubted."

The royal band now ready stand,
 All rang'd in dread array, Sir,

On every slip, in every ship,
 For to begin the fray, Sir.

The cannons roar from shore to shore,
 The small arms make a rattle;
 Since wars began I'm sure no man
 E'er saw so strange a battle.

The *rebel* dales—the *rebel* vales,
 With *rebel* trees surrounded;
 The distant woods, the hills and floods,
 With *rebel* echoes sounded.

The fish below swam to and fro,
 Attack'd from ev'ry quarter;
 Why sure, thought they, the De'il's to pay
 'Mong folks above the water.

The kegs, 'tis said, tho' strongly made
 Of *rebel* staves and hoops, Sir,
 Could not oppose their pow'rful foes,
 The conqu'ring British troops, Sir.

From morn to night these men of might
 Display'd amazing courage;
 And when the sun was fairly down,
 Retir'd to sup their porridge.

One hundred men, with each a pen
 Or more, upon my word, Sir,
 It is most true, would be too few
 Their valour to record, Sir.

Such feats did they perform that day
 Against these wicked kegs, Sir,
 That years to come, *if they get home*,
 They'll make their boasts and brags, Sir.

Published in *The Pennsylvania Packet: or the General Advertiser* (Lancaster), Wednesday, March 4, 1778. This ballad is attributed to writer and satirist Francis Hopkinson, who wrote it in response to a report of the incident in "Extract of a Letter from Philadelphia, Jan. 9, 1778" in *The Pennsylvania Ledger*, 11 Feb. 1778, above. The letter is also attributed to Hopkinson. Moses Coit Tyler, *The Literary History of the American Revolution* (New York: G. P. Putnam, 1897), 148.

1. Gen. Sir William Howe, commander-in-chief of the British Army in Philadelphia.
2. Elizabeth Lloyd Loring, the wife of Joshua Loring, British commissary of prisoners.
3. Brig. Gen. Sir William Erskine, quartermaster general of the British Army at Philadelphia.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN JAMES NICHOLSON

Captain James Nicholson

Sir

[*York, Pa.*] March 4th 1778

Your letters of the 25th & 26th ultimo per Lieutenant Barney¹ are now before us. We are concerned to find your last attempt in getting the frigate *Virginia* to sea had been fruitless; but as your letters inform us such is the fondness your officers and Seamen retain for the Ship that you think they will chearfully make another

treat. This has induced the Committee to resolve that another treat be made as soon as possible and to expedite the same they have this day requested Governor Johnston to continue to you the use of the Tender, as well as to furnish you with, or empower you to procure an able and skillful Pilot.—²

By information from Lieutenant Barney we have reason to apprehend our late Agents will not supply the Ship unless more Money is put into their hands. this we are restrained from doing until the large sums already placed there is accounted for, and least this should throw embarrassments in your way the Committee have this day appointed Stephen Steward Esq^r of West River their Agent for supplying the *Virginia* and have put money into his hands for that purpose,³ we shall rely upon your giving him all the Assistance in y^r power. We assure you that we retain a tender regard for your Character, and hope you will by this succeeding attempt be enabled to wipe off any malicious reflections (if any there be for we know of none) on your character.—

Enclosed you have Lieutenants Plunket⁴ and Barneys Commissions. wishing you success We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, pp. 129–30 (M332, roll 6).

1. Lt. Joshua Barney, first lieutenant of frigate *Virginia*.
2. See following document.
3. See Continental Marine Committee to Stephen Steward, 4 Mar., below.
4. Lt. Thomas Plunkett, Continental Marines.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Thomas Johnston Esq^r
Governor of Maryland
Sir

[*York, Pa.*] March 4th 1778

We have been honoured with your Letter of the 11th ult^o addressed to M^r Lewis A Member of this Committee.¹ The offer you therein make us of furnishing the Brig *Baltimore* with Six Pieces of Cannon four pounders with their Carriages. Rammer Rods, Spunges &c or as many thereof as may be compleat, we accept and will order payment for the same as soon as the value is ascertained agreeable to the mode you propose. We beg leave to request your Excellency to Order those Cannon to be sent up to the point at Baltimore in the manner most convenient.

As we have hitherto been unfortunate in our attempts to get the Frigate *Virginia* to Sea, the Committee have this day resolved that Captain Nicholson be Ordered to make one other attempt.² We are informed it will be necessary that he be furnished with a Tender for giving him intelligence in the Bay also a proper Pilot to carry the ship out as the want of a Pilot rendered his last attempt abortive—for these reasons we must entreat your Excellency to permit Captain Nicholson to a further use of the Tender, he was lately furnished with³ as well as to impower him to procure a good Pilot in such manner as you shall think fit for we are informed he cannot procure one without your sanction. We have the Honor to be [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 130 (M332, roll 6).

1. See Maryland Council to Francis Lewis, 11 Feb., above.
2. See Continental Marine Committee to Captain James Nicholson, immediately above.
3. Maryland Navy schooner *Dolphin*.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO STEPHEN STEWARD

Stephen Steward Esq^r

Sir

[York, Pa.] March 4th. 1778

We have this day determined that Captain Nicholson should make another Attempt for proceeding with the *Virginia* Frigate to sea, and having reasons to believe that the late Agents will demure to the supplying her, unless we put more money into their hands which we are restrained from doing until the account for the large sums already delivered them. From these and other motives the Committee have appointed you their Agent for supplying the said ship with Stores, Provisions &c and to enable you thereto you are to call on M^r Francis Lewis j^r at Baltimore for four thousand Dollars giving him duplicate receipts for the same. From the knowledge we have of your Zeal for the service of your Country we flatter ourselves this business will be executed under your direction with alacrity We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 129 (M332, roll 6).

CHARLES BONDFIELD TO GOVERNOR RICHARD CASWELL

Sir,

Edenton 4th. March 1778.

I have sent up to M^r Henry Montfort for the purchasing Tobacco,¹ to load the Brig *Pennsylvania Farmer*,² the amount of the proceeds of the public Salt in Edenton, except what I have advanced for the vessel. The proceeds of the Salt being very short of what will be sufficient to purchase the Cargo, M^r Montfort and myself have agreed to put on board, and the Assembly having made no provision in the resolve, in that case, I have in order the Vessel may be despatched sent the Bearer William Coltrain express to your Excellency, for an order on both or either of the Treasurers' for such a sum of money as may be wanted for the above purpose, which will be at least, including the Disbursement and outfits on the Vessel £4000. Should it be in your power, I would be glad to have the order by return of the express, as it will not be in my power to advance such a sum as will be wanting, being already in advance. I shall endeavour to have the vessel soon Complete for Sea, altho' she is much out of repair. I am [&c.]

Cha^s Bondfield.

LB, Nc-Ar, Governors Letter Books 1.1, Richard Caswell Letter Book, 1776–1779, p. 432. Addressed at bottom: "Gov Caswell."

1. Henry Montfort was joint commissioner for purchasing with Charles Bondfield at Edenton.

2. North Carolina Navy brigantine *Pennsylvania Farmer*.

ALEXANDER GILLON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

Sir

A few days ago I was favoured with a Letter from your Commercial Board¹ Acquainting me that the Honourable Congress had passd an order for half the Sum to be advanced me on my Contract² but deferred sending the Money till it was known if I continued my engagement with them in Consequence of an Appointment Proposd for me during my absence by his Excellency the President³

and the Honourable the Council of this State 25 days before my Contract with you as Appears by his Excellencys letter to me of the 3^d Nov^r which I received on the road about 300 Miles from York town on my way here permit me to observe to you my conduct thereon which I trust will be favourably thought of by Congress on my Arrival here I waited on his Excellency and thankd him for the Honour intended me of Appointing me to the command of the Navy of this State⁴ but that I was not at my own disposal in Consequence of my Contract with you that this was the only Reason why I did not Accept of his friendly offer as I have held myself ready to Act in that Line when called on so that I was not only bound by Gratitude but led by Inclination to give this State a Preference of my very few abilities if I had been disengaged on which his Excellency proposd writing you but the Letter from the Commercial Board seems to imply a desire on your Part for me to prefer this appointment to your Contract wherefore I have taken the Liberty to Accept of the Command of the Navy of this State provided You approve of it for which purpose I wish to set of[f] for France the 1^t May to procure the 3 frigates (for here) where I must tarry some Months during which or any other time I shall be happy to execute any of your Commands but if you prefer my Complying with your contract it will give me pleasure to compleat it. permit me therefore to request you will favour me with an early Answer ere I leave this that if Necessary I may Appoint Attornies here to Ship the purchases I shall make and that on my arrival in Europe I may Apply for and Procure the Credit wanted as I proposd in Case the property from America shoud be Captur'd or that I cannot effect the Insurance on the Exports and imports shoud you Accede to my Appointment here the President concurs with me in Opinion that it will not interfere with my other business if I shoud make your first Annual purchases as the building and fitting out the 3 frigates will detain me 6 Months there and that I must go to Holland to adjust my Old concerns there I will only add that I very much esteem the continuance of your favourable Opinion condescend then to grant it me and to believe that no offer on earth coud have induced me to waver even a Iota from your Contract except the one of being Called forth by the General Voice of the worthy people of this State be assur'd that neither Rank nor Intrest had any sway for if it coud your Contract by far exceded any Income I coud expect here tho they propose providing very bountifully for me and the other Officers I am with all due Respect—Sir
[&c.]

A Gillon

Charles town S^o. Carolina 4 March 1778

(Copy)

The Original went p^r M^r Gray As Return'd Express

AG

L, Private Collection, Allen C. Beeman, Riverside, Connecticut, 1976. Addressed below close: "To/The Honourable Henry Laurens Esq^r/President of the Honourable the Continental Congress." Docketed: "Alex^s Gillon Copy/4 March 1778/Rec^d 21 April—."

1. Continental Committee of Commerce.

2. For his contract with the Committee of Commerce, see *NDAR* 10: 550–51, 626–27.

3. John Rutledge, president of South Carolina.

4. Gillon was appointed commodore of the South Carolina Navy on 11 Mar. 1778. Charles Oscar Paullin, *The Navy of the Revolution, Its Administration, its Policy and its Achievements* (Baltimore: Burrows Brothers, 1906; reprint ed., Haskell House Publishers Ltd., 1971), 435.

LIEUTENANT DE VAISSEAU FRANÇOIS-MARIE, CHEVALIER DE KEROULAS DE COHARS
TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

Monseigneur

St. Domingue 4 mars 1778

depuis le compte que jay eu l'honneur de vous rendre a la fin de decembre concernant ma croisiere, et le collouque que jay eu avec une frégate angloise, elles discontinuent de tant aprocher nos cottes et des qu'elles nous aperçoivent elles virent de bord au large. le trois fevrier a neuf heures du soir et de nuit, une gaulette vint a nous a toutes voiles qui nous ayant aproché de tres prés nous hella dabord en anglois, et ensuite d'un ton fort imperieux, nous demandâ par deux fois en bon françois, qui nous etions. ma reponse fut de luy sinifier que s'il ne m'envoyoit son canot sur le champ j'allois tirer dessus, ce qu'il exécuta a la letre fort deconcerté de sa meprise; il m'avoit pris pour un marchand et se préparoit sans-doute a le traiter suivant leur usages journalier c'est a dire fort durement; c'ettoit un corsaire de dix pierriers nomé le *vixen* comandé par un offissier de la frégate le *Soubtanton*,¹ il se nome M. Sterlin² il vint luy-meme a bord avec un autre; apréz leurs avoir reproché leurs véhémences je demanday au Capitaine sa Commission qui n'ettoit autre-chose qu'une letre Sous Sing privé du capitaine garnier montant le *Soubtanton*;³ la défectuosité de cette Commission joint a ce qu'il n'etoit qu'a deux lieux de terre, et que la route qu'il faisoit l'en aprochoit encore, tout me déssida à l'arreter, elles ont été souvent avertye de n'en pas aprocher; je la menois au môle St nicolas d'ou il fut dépéché un courier au général,⁴ pour pouvoir Concerter Sur le party à prendre a ce Sujet; le general passant alors au môle m'invite à la mener au port au prince ou l'*inconstante* revenant de la jamaïque pour pareil sujet, luy aporloit une réponse de l'amiral,⁵ la gaulette a été renvoyée pour recevoir dorénavent elle et toutes les autres des commissions en regle; je n'ay pas moins signifié a celle-cy en la renvoyant que si je la trouvoy tres prez des terres françoises qu'elle seroit bonne prise et confisquée. jay traité de mon mieux les trois officiers qui y etoint les ayant eu a diner et a souper prez de trois semaines qu'a duré leurs detentions, ce qui n'a pas dependu de moy.

Chacune des frégates en croisiere dans ces parages ont au moins deux de ces mouches qui désolent nôtre commerce par leurs mauvais traitements, et souvent même leurs brigandages les marchants qui ont été rencontrés a [*illeg.*] mer nous en portent des plaintes journallement. a l'un on luy a pris sa boussole, à l'autre sa carte, et a beaucoup differentes espece de vivres: mais toujours des retards de cinq a six heures, et il est rare qu'ils n'en rencontrent qu'un; voicy Monseigneur, la dernier déposition qui m'a été fait: une espece de petit batiment pour Cabotage, que nous nomons houary, allant d'un port à l'autre, ses papiers bien en regle, est forcé par une tempete de se refugier dans un port de l'isle de Cuba, ou les espagnols le traiterent parfaitement, et pour la Sureté de sa navigation et pour sa Subsistance, car on luy donna des vivres et tout ce qui luy ettoit d'absolûe necesité, le tout gratis. le lendemain il fut encore jeté sur la même terre, et [*illeg.*] dans une petite baÿe non habiteé pour attendre un tems favorable. Un instant apréz un corsaire anglois de quatorse canons y mouilla aussi, qui envoya aussi-tot des gens armés à bord du françois lesquels apres avoir dépouillé batû les gens de l'equipage emporterent presque tous leurs vivres et apréz mainte insultes déchirerent son pavillon françois. le capitaine de ce houary se nome jean farouche né maltais; il n'a pu me donner d'autre enseignement concernant ce corsaire dont le capitaine nomoit

dit-il guillaume. des traits de cette nature sont indignes et malheureusement tres frequents, les plaintes qu'on porte a la jamaïque sont inutiles, on y renie tout, même l'incursion averée, de jean rabel,⁶ je tiens cependant des officiers anglois qui ettoit dans la gaulete que jay areté, que c'ettoit la frégate l'*winchelsea* de trente deux canons Capitaine bateman:⁷ le convois arivé en janvier a la jamaïque n'est presque rien deux frégates et deux corvettes faisoient seules leurs escortes; et elles n'ont en toutes que deux cent hommes de troupes de recrûes.

Jayourny, pour le travail de l'*inconstante*, mes charpentiers tous mes calfats et même de l'équipage ce qu'il en a demandé, nous etant rencontrés M. de Cuverville et moy de l'avis de n'employer les gens du comerce que dans les cas d'absolûe necessité, ce sont la je pence, Monseigneur, vos intentions: il seroit bien avantageux que les frégates qui viennent passer un an dans les colonies fussent carennées de frais en partant de france, pour eviter en outre de plusiers evenements qui en peuvent resulter, celuy d'etre obligé de les faire carenner icy, ou l'on fait payer au roy tres cherement le moindre besoin encore ne trouve-t-on pas toujours ce dont on ne peut se passer: aussi suis-je bien occupé à prevenir et à éviter a sa majesté aucun frais que ne soit forcé, et jusqu'a present jay été assés heureux pour n'avoir aucun evenements facheux que la force du vent et de la mer, m'ont fait craindre plusiers fois; et mon equipage Continue à se bien porter: Nous sommes tous icy dans l'attente du suplement de vivres qui doit nous estre envoyé, jay encore dans la *dédaigneuse* des vivres jusqu'au neuf avril, on m'a sinifié que si sous ce tems-la il n'en arrivoit pas, on seroit obligé d'en acheter; jay representé a M. l'intendant, combien ce double emplois seroit onéreux au roy l'achetant icy tres cher, il est persuadé ainsy que moy qu'il m'en sera arrivé sous ce tems-la:

M. de beaumont à des-armée de la *dédaigneuse* le premier mars, il passe en france pour un mariage avantageux:

M. dargout m'a invité à employer dans mon etat-major M. de S^t Julien,⁸ Enseigne de v^{au} resté malade apréz le départ de la frégate du roy l'*indiscrete* ou il etoit armé, je n'ay pas crûe devoir m'y refuser, l'ay compris, si vous l'approuvé, comme surnuméraire, ainsy que vous aviéz employé M. de beaumont:

je finis, Monseigneur, en vous supliant de vouloir-bien me continuer vos bontés et agreér les sentimens de reconnaissance du plus profond respect avec lesquels je suis Monseigneur [&c.]

Ch^{er} de Keroulas de Cohars

à bord de la frégate du roy la *dédaigneuse*
en rade du port au prince, partant pour sa
croisiere sur le môle S^t nicolas, ce 4 mars
1778.

[Translation]

My Lord

St. Domingue 4th March 1778

Since the account which I had the honor to convey to you at the end of December concerning my cruise, and the encounter that I had with an English frigate, they discontinue to approach our coasts as much and when they discover us they change course toward the open sea. On 3 February at nine in the evening and at night, a schooner came to us under full sail, which, having approached very near, hailed us in English, and then in a very imperious tone demanded twice in good French who we were. My response gave her notice that if she did not send her

ship's boat immediately, I would fire upon her, which she executed to the letter being very disconcerted by her mistake; she had taken me for a merchant ship and was prepared without doubt to treat me according to their daily practices, that is to say very harshly; she was a privateer of ten swivel guns called the *Vixen* commanded by an officer of the *Southampton*;¹ he was named Mr. Sterling;² he came on board himself with one other; after reproaching their vehemences, I asked the captain for his commission, which was nothing other than a signed letter taken from Captain Garnier on board the *Southampton*;³ the imperfection of this commission together with his ship being only two leagues from land, and her course which made her approach closer brought me to determine to seize her, they have been often warned not to approach so near; I took her to Môle Saint-Nicolas, whence I sent a courier to the general,⁴ in order to be able to confer on the course of action to take on this matter; the general, then staying at the Môle, invited me to carry her to Port-au-Prince where the *Inconstante*, returning from Jamaica, carried a response to him from the admiral⁵ concerning a similar subject; the schooner was sent back to receive, from henceforth, she and all the others, proper commissions; I nevertheless signified to him, in sending him back, that if I found his ship very near the French coasts that she would then be a lawful prize and condemned. I treated as best I could the three officers who were here, having provided them dinner and supper the nearly three weeks that their detention lasted, over which I had no power.

Each of the frigates cruising in these waters has at least two of these tenders which distress our trade by their bad treatment, and often even their acts of plunder. The merchants who have been boarded at sea complain of it daily. From one, his compass was taken, from another, his chart, and from many, different kinds of victuals: but always delays of five or six hours, and it is rare that they meet no one; here is, My Lord, the last deposition made to me: a type of small coasting vessel, which we call a wherry, going from one port to another, its papers in good order, is forced by a storm to take refuge in a port of the island of Cuba, where the Spanish treated him perfectly, both for the safety of his ship and for his subsistence, for they gave him victuals and everything that was absolutely necessary, and all without charge. The next day, she was again cast onto the same shore, in a small, uninhabited bay, to await more favorable weather. A moment later an English privateer of fourteen guns anchored there also; she immediately sent armed men on board the French vessel, who, after having plundered and beat the crew took away almost all their victuals and after many insults tore up the French flag. The captain of this wherry is named Jean Farouche, Maltese-born. He was not able to give me any other information concerning this privateer, whose captain's name he said was William. Acts of this nature are infamous and unhappily very frequent, the complaints that are carried to Jamaica are useless, there they deny everything, even the confirmed incursion at Jean Rabel [*Bay*].⁶ I learn, however, from some English officers who were in the schooner that I seized, that it was the frigate *Winchelsea* of thirty-two guns, Captain Bateman.⁷ The convoy which arrived in January at Jamaica is almost nothing, two frigates and two corvettes comprising their sole escort; and they have only two hundred soldiers on board.

I furnished, for the work on the *Inconstante*, my carpenters, all my caulkers, and even some crewmen which he requested, we having met M. de Cuverville, and I advised him to employ the people of trade only in cases of absolute necessity; these are, I think, My Lord, your intentions. It would be very advantageous for the

frigates which come to spend a year in the colonies to be freshly careened before sailing from France, in order to avoid further events that could happen to them, among them to be obliged to be careened here, where the least need costs the King dearly, still one does not always find what one cannot do without: also, I am very concerned to prevent and preclude from His Majesty any expense that is not required, and up to the present I have been rather happy not to have had any inopportune events which the force of the wind or sea have several times caused me to fear; and my crew continues well; we are all here in eager expectation of a supplement of victuals which ought to be sent to us; I have still in the *Dédaigneuse* victuals to last until the ninth of April; I have been told that if within that time none has arrived, we shall be obliged to buy some; I have represented to Monsieur the Intendant how onerous this double employment would be; buying it here is very dear; he is persuaded as much as I that some will arrive within that time.

M. de Beaumont left the *Dédaigneuse* the first of March; he is going to France for an advantageous marriage.

M. d'Argout has invited me to employ on my staff M. de St. Julien,⁸ Enseigne de Vaisseau, who remained here ill after the departure of the King's frigate the *Indiscrète* did not believe I should refuse; I have enrolled him, if you approve it, as supernumerary, in the same way that you employed M. de Beaumont.

I conclude, My Lord, in asking you kindly to continue to me your goodness, and accept the sentiments of gratitude and of the profoundest respect with which I am, My Lord [&c.]

Chevalier de Keroulas de Cohars

On board the King's frigate the *Dédaigneuse*
in the road of Port-au-Prince, departing for
a cruise off Môle St. Nicolas, this fourth
day of March 1778.

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fols. 74–75. Notation at top of first page: "M de F[leurieu]"; "Ch^t de Keroulas de Cohars/La *Dédaigneuse*."

1. H.M. frigate *Southampton*.

2. Archibald Sterling, master's mate of frigate *Southampton*.

3. Capt. William Garnier, commanding H.M.S. *Southampton*.

4. Robert, Comte d'Argout de Neritiers, governor general of Saint-Domingue.

5. Vice Adm. Clark Gayton, commanding the Jamaica Station.

6. See *NDAR* 10: 618, 629, 636–38, 719–21, 741–42; and Vice Admiral Clark Gayton to Philip Stephens, 14 Jan., Governor Comte d'Argout to Governor John Dalling, 16 Jan., Governor John Dalling to Governor Comte d'Argout, 31 Jan., and Vice Admiral Clark Gayton to Governor Comte d'Argout, 2 Feb., above.

7. Capt. Nathaniel Bateman, commanding H.M. frigate *Winchelsea*.

8. Jean-René-César de Saint-Julien-Chambon.

March 5

THE INDEPENDENT CHRONICLE, AND THE UNIVERSAL ADVERTISER (BOSTON),
THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1778

Boston, March 5, 1778.

Arrived at Dartmouth [*Bedford in Dartmouth*], some Time last Week, the Sloop *Providence*,¹ John Rathburn,² Esq; Commander, with a valuable Prize Brigantine,³

mounting 14 Guns, cut out of the Harbour of New-Providence; where he landed with 28 Men, marched up to the Fort, in Sight of 300 Men under Arms, took Possession of it; from thence, went to the Prison, released from their Confinement, about 30 American Prisoners, captured about as many British, tarried in the Town⁴ three Days, then made good his Retreat, without any Loss, after spiking up the Cannon, stripping the Magazines of all the Powder, being about 1600 wt. &c.

1. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
2. Capt. John Peck Rathbun.
3. Ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master, which *Providence* captured on 27 Jan.
4. Nassau, Bahamas.

ADVERTISEMENT OF A LIBEL FILED IN NEW HAVEN MARITIME COURT

[*New Haven*]

A Libel being preferred to the Honorable Elihu Chauncey, Esq; Judge of the Maratime Court for the County of New-Haven, in Favour of Peter Griffing, and his Company of Rangers, commissioned by his Excellency Jonathan Trumbull, Esq; Governor of the State of Connecticut, against the Schooner *Parker*, William Cole, late Master, burthen about 10 Tons, taken from the Subjects of the King of Great-Britain, in a Harbour of Long-Island by said Griffing and his Company in February last, and afterwards brought into the Port of New-Haven, with her Cargo. The Court for the Trial of the Justice of said Capture, will be holden at New-Haven, in New-Haven County, at the State-House, on the first Tuesday of April next; of which this Notice is given to all concerned, by Order of the Judge of said Court.

John Whiting, Register.

March 5, 1778.

Connecticut Journal, 11 Mar. 1778.

THE CONNECTICUT COURANT, AND THE WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,
TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1778

FISH-KILL March 5.

By a gentleman from the Eastward, we are informed that the week before last, Colonel Symes of New Jersey with four men, in a whale boat crossed over from Guilford to Long Island: When understanding a number of vessels were cast a way on the Island, they formed a design to seize some of the goods belonging to one of them, accordingly they five, with fixed bayonets, in the dead of the night surprised the house where the freight of one of the vessels were stored, made the master['s] mate, three sailors, and two tories prisoners and loaded their whale boat with part of the vessels cargo: they took 9 gold and 9 silver bound hatts, 60 pair of English shoes a chest of medicine a box of glass and earthen ware 24 steel plate cross cut saws a barrel of cofee, another of rum 1 doz. silk handkerchiefs 1 doz. buckskin gloves and many other valuable articles, and returned safe to Guilford with their prize.

PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD TO PRESIDENT THOMAS WHARTON, JR.

Sir

Trenton March 5th. 1778

The Board received a letter from General Washington, desiring us to take out the cannon &c^a. from the gallies, and then carry them to a creek and sink them, a copy of which letter your Excellency has enclosed.—¹

The gallies are now fitted and some fallen down as low as Bordentown, and had not a spel of bad weather come on they would have been at Burlington. The people on both sides the river are very uneasy, and fear they shall be plundered if the gallies do not protect them, and as we can compleatly man six or seven of the gallies we think they will protect the river and prevent any of their craft from coming up to plunder the towns and inhabitants along the shores, which they certainly will if the gallies are totally laid by. If they are laid by all the vessels at Bordentown will soon be destroyed as two or three small boats may easily do it. The Generals letter we shewed to Governor Livingston² who advises by no means to sink the galls. We have sent this of by express to your Excellency praying your advice and order on this matter. How we shall remove the Cannon I cannot tell, as we can find no carriage to carry them. M^r. Pancass³ was here some time ago, and said he would send some travelling carriages to us, but we have never heard any thing more from him. If your Excellency would send to Colonel Flower,⁴ and ask him to forward the carriages down, we could then easily remove the cannon I am by order of the Board [&c.]

Signed W^m. Bradford

Copy, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "Copy/ Col^o. W^m. Bradfords letter to Council." Printed in *Pennsylvania Archives*, 1st. ser., vol. 6: 332.

1. See General George Washington to Pennsylvania Navy Board, 2 Mar., above.
2. Gov. William Livingston of New Jersey.
3. Capt. David Pancoast, Flower's Artillery Artificer Regiment.
4. Col. Benjamin Flower, Flower's Artillery Artificer Regiment.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Thursday, March 5, 1778

The Committee on the Treasury, to whom [*was referred*] a letter of the 25 February, from the Board of War and Ordnance, relative to the allowance of clerks for the said office, report, "that considering the unavoidable expences of the officers attending Congress, and that capable and confidential persons should be obtained for the purpose, they are of opinion,

"That seventy-five dollars a month be allowed to the clerks in the secretary's office; the same to the first clerks in the offices of the Board of Treasury, of War and Ordnance, and the Marine Board; and that sixty-five dollars a month be allowed to second clerks in the said offices:

"That Belcher P. Smith and John Thaxter, clerks in the secretary's office, receive the pay of seventy-five dollars from the 6th of February last:"

Resolved, That Congress agree to the said report. . . .¹

FOUR O'CLOCK, P.M.

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be instructed and directed, to revise the commission and instructions heretofore ordered to be given to the commanders of privateers and letters of marque and reprisal, and the resolutions

heretofore passed, relative to captures by sea, and report such a form of a commission, and such instructions, as they judge proper and suitable to our present circumstances.

JCC 10: 223, 225.

1. DNA, PCC, item 136, vol. 2, p. 123 (M247, roll 145).

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *SOLEBAY*, CAPTAIN THOMAS SYMONDS

March 1778

D^o. [Cape Henry] N 68:26 W^t. 24 L^{gs}.

Thursday 5

at 2 AM gave Chace to a sail to leeward fired a nine pound Shot & b^t too a Schooner from Boston to Virginia took her in tow having Exchanged her Men¹

D^o. N 68:42 W^t. 33 L^{gs}.

Fresh Breezes & C^t at 5 PM wore Ship

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/909.

1. The schooner is not named but was taken into Hampton Roads on 6 Mar. in company with *Senegal*. She is probably schooner *Newport*, John Groce (Gross), master, which was condemned on 10 Apr. 1778 by the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and credited to *Solebay*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 68. *Newport's* prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/410/11, which describe her as being from Massachusetts bound to Virginia.

NOTICE OF REWARD FOR DESERTERS

Beaufort, March 5.

Notice is hereby given that the commander of the ship *Ferdinand* promises a reward of twenty five dollars to any person or persons who will take up any French sailor or sailors that may run away twelve miles from said ship, and deliver them to the commanding officer at Beaufort, who will likewise pay the necessary expence.

D. Cottineau.¹

North-Carolina Gazette (New Bern), 27 Mar. 1778.

1. Denis-Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen, master of ship *Ferdinand*.

THE SOUTH-CAROLINA AND AMERICAN GENERAL GAZETTE,

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1778

CHARLESTOWN, March 5.

LAST week a brig from Boston for this port was chased ashore a few miles to the northward of Sullivan's Island by a ship and a sloop. Three of the enemy's ships have of late been frequently seen from town.¹

Capt. Steele informs us, that the schooner *Lewis*, Capt. Rowan, from this port for the Mississppi, was carried into New-Providence by the crew on the 17th of last month. One Diamond was then master, and had been the principal ringleader. They gave out, that they had put Capt. Rowan and Capt. Pickles² (who they said was supercargo) ashore at the Matanzas, on the coast of Cuba.

1. H.M.S. *Carysfort*, H.M.S. *Lizard* and H.M.S. *Perseus*.

2. Capt. William Pickles of New Orleans. See *NDAR* 9: 97n-98n; 10: 266-67, 560.

Longitude du Méridien de Paris.



Map of the western part of the United States

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber at
Pensacola on Thursday the 5th day of March 1778—

His Excellency acquainted the Board that he had Convened them in Consequence of farther Intelligence he had received respecting the Transactions of the Rebels on the Mississippi Whereupon John Watkins of the Walnut Hills (about 35 Leagues above the Natchez) who came express with the particulars was called before the Board and gave the following Information upon Oath

Information upon Oath of John Watkins of the Walnut Hills in the Natchez District Yeoman taken at Pensacola before His Excellency Peter Chester Esquire Captain General and Governor in Chief of His Majestys Province of West Florida in Council

This Informant saith that on Wednesday the 18th. of February last about 10 oClock at night Two Small Barges came to the landing place belonging to His Plantation Situated on the River Mississippi about 35 Leagues above the Natchez at a place called the Walnut Hills and landed a party consisting of about Forty men Commanded by one Strodder Supposed to be a Lieutenant and one M^cIntyre said to be an Ensign in the Rebel Service. that these men came directly to his House and Seized four Persons named Robert Welsh, John Richmond Marshall Henry Earnest and John Earnest who were all in the employ of Colonel Stuart the Superintendant That the Rebels bound these people with Cords and repeatedly Swore that they would put them all to Death as they were in M^r Stuarts Service in the Indian department and in particular Robert Welsh he being an American Born They then Seized this Informant & Examined him whether he received any Kings pay and upon being answered in the Negative they told him it was the better for him That they informed him the River was full of Boats: That they afterwards compelled him to take the Oath of Neutrality as they Termed it threatning otherwise that he should share the same fate with the other men—That he accordingly did take the oath in the following Words (or as near as this Informant can Recollect) “You do Swear that you will not take up arms against the United States that you will give no bad talks to the Indians and that you will not send any Letters so help you God.” Upon his taking which Oath The Ensign M^cIntyre gave him a Certificate in the Words following “I do hereby Certify that John Watkins hath taken the Oath of Neutrality in the dispute between the United States and Great Britain” Tho^s. M^cIntyre That they next sent for an old Chactaw Indian who hunted for this Informant and who was encamped at a Short distance from his said House and upon his coming to them Strodders the Lieutenant gave him the following Talk “We are come down to take Possession of these Lands and we must look upon each other as Children from the same breast for we alike till the earth Tell this to your Nation and also that we desire them by no means to kill a white Brother be he of what Country he may Whether English French Spaniard or american and in particular tell them that if they lift the Hatchet against us Rifle men of America, we never will Bury it,” that they soon after went away with their Prisoners having first Plundered this Informant of his Rifle Gun two Smooth bored Fusils & one Pistol, That their whole stay at this Informants place was about Two Hours

And this Informant farther saith that on the next morning (the 19th) about day break a Second Party Consisting of about Sixty Men in one large Batteau mounting Swivils¹ and four Canoes under the Command of James Willing (formerly an Inhabitant of this Province who Ranked as Captain and also another Captain whose name this Informant does not Recollect passed his House laying upon their Oars and drifting with the Current That Willing hailed him asking whether he had any Indians or any People in the Kings Pay at his House and threatened to hang him upon the highest Tree in the Woods if he should be found to Harbour such people That a Canoe then came on Shore with five Men who walked up to his House among whom was one Michael Hoopock a Man well known to this Informant as a Trader in the River Mississippi who had been taken by this party at Aux Arcs with all his property and had joined them in hopes to Recover it at New orleans That this Hoopock told this Informant that the party said they had Embarked at Fort Pitt as did also the first That these Two parties consisted of one hundred Men who gave themselves out as an advanced party of Two thousand men who were to come down the River in May That this advanced party when they arrived at New orleans intended to Try their Prisoners and that he (Hoopock) was in hopes he should be enabled to recover his property there—And farther that they declared that all those Prisoners whom they Should take Employed in the Indian department or who had been deserted from their Service Should be put to Death without reserve And this Informant farther saith That the said Canoe after laying about half an Hour went away And that the next day he set off through the Chactaw nation for this Town and arrived here Yesterday And farther saith not—
Sworn in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola this 5th. day of March 1778
before his Excellency in Council
Attes^{ur} Rich^d Combauld D Cler. C:

His Excellency then desired the advice of the Board whether he should apply to Cap^t Garnier of His Majestys Frigate *Southampton* to remain here with his said Ship for the defence and Protection of the Province untill such farther Intelligence can be obtained of the Strength and designs of the Rebels as may render that measure unnecessary—

The Board were unanimously of Opinion that His Excellency should make that Application and the following Letter was then wrote by the Governor—

Sir

In my Letter of the 2^d Instant I acquainted you with the Information which I received from M^r Walters² & William Burns respecting the Party of Rebels who Surprized the Ship *Rebecca* at Manchack and made Several of the Inhabitants at that Place Prisoners on their Parole—Since which I have obtained farther Information of their Numbers and proceedings from a M^r Watkins an Inhabitant of the Province who lives at the Walnut Hills about 35 Leagues above the Natchez & have Inclosed to you His Information this day taken upon Oath before His Majestys Council I also send you an Extract of a Letter from Lord Germain to me dated 25th. January 1776 together with a Copy of His Lordships Letter dated Whitehall 22^d January 1776 to the Lords of the Admiralty also the Extracts of Lord George's Letter to me of the 7th. February and the 2^d July 1777.³

The above mentioned Inclosures will Convince You that it is my Duty from the Information received to apply to you, which I do by the advice of His Majestys Council, to remain here, with the *Southampton* for the defence and Protection of the Province, untill such farther Intelligence can be obtained of the Strength and designs of the Rebels, as may render that measure unnecessary. I have the Honor to be &c.

P. Chester—

To which Letter his Excellency soon after received an answer as follows—
Sir.

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of Your Letter of Yesterdays date, inclosing the deposition of John Watkins together with four Extracts from Letters of Lord George Germain & a request to me to remain here with His Majestys Ship *Southampton* under my Command for the defence and Protection of the Province

After having maturely considered the said Deposition together with those of Mr Walters & W^m. Burns, I cannot find the Number of Rebels to consist of more than one hundred, & those in two different Parties; from the Steps that your Excellency (together with Mr Stuart Superintendant of Indian Affairs) has already taken of Sending one Thousand Indians together with a Party of his Rangers to the Nitabani⁴ reinforcing Lieut: Burdon with an officer and 25 Men from His Majestys 16th Regiment, to Guard the Pass of Manchack and His Majestys Ship *Sylph* commanded by Captain Ferguson up the River Mississippi, I cannot think You have any thing to fear from such a Party of Men—at all Events His Majestys Ship under my Command drawing near Seventeen feet Water, could not act unless the Province was attacked by Sea—if Your Excellency has any Suspicion of that or can point out to me in what the *Southampton* can be of any Service, I will readily Comply with your Request, on the other hand as I know Ships to be much wanted at Jamaica unless you can give me such Information, I must proceed to put my former orders in Execution—I have the Honor to be &c.

Southampton

W^m Garnier—

Pensacola March 7th. 1778⁵

But I would recommend it to you to get a Small Vessel drawing little Water & as the *Florida* Sloop is unfit for Service I will put her men and Guns on Board, and send her up the Lake to the Pass of Manchac—

And then the Board Adjourned—

D, UKLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, 251–54.

1. Probably Continental Army boat *Rattle Trap*.

2. Thomas Walters, supercargo of ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.

3. UKLPR, C.O. 5/592, 129–32; NDAR 3: 524; UKLPR, C.O. 5/593, 61–68, 277–82.

4. Natalbany River.

5. Evidently an error for March 5th.

COLONEL JOHN STUART TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]

Duplicate N 22.

My Lord

Pensacola March 5th 1778

... Some of the Principal great and small Medal Chiefs of the Chactaws have just left me, this Nation is extremely well attached and much devoted to the Kings

Interest. Whilst they were here M^r Bethune¹ my Commissary received the letter a Copy of which I have the Honour to submit to your Lordship, the Intelligence contained in it I immediately communicated to Governor Chester,² I am sorry to say that it did not prove entirely groundless, for on the 1st Instant M^r Walters,³ a young Gentlemen concerned in Trade arrived here in five days from Manchac, on the Mississippi by whom we were informed that two Rebel Batteaux under the direction of a M^r Willing⁴ came down the Mississippi so rapidly that they reached the Settlements without being discovered.

The Chactaws as mentioned in M^r Perrys Letter had returned to their Villages and were to be replaced by a fresh Party consisting of about fifty M^{rs} Perry and Welsh⁵ their Conducters remained at their Station at the House of a M^r Watkins⁶ about 30 Leagues above Natchez, a man extremely well affected to Government and upon the Night of the 18th Ultimate they were Unfortunately surprised and made Prisoners together with two others employed along with them. On the 19th in the Morning the Rest of the Party arrived at M^r Watkins's house consisting in the whole of about One hundred men, At Natchez they seized several Persons well affected to Government, from thence they proceeded down the River seizing & Plundering in their way all those whom they understood to be friends to Government, they arrived the 24th Ultimate at Manchac in the Morning, so Rapid was their Descent that they surprised the Village and made the Inhabitants Prisoners before they had any information of their approach. My Deputy M^r Henry Stuart was then there with a few Indians on their way to this Place, the first object of the Rebels was to seize a Ship then Lying at the Bank (Loading for London) with Sixteen Guns and a number of Swivles, which they effected without the least opposition.⁷ Their next Object was to apprehend M^r Stuart of which they happily failed, for he found means of making his Escape, and is said to have taken refuge [*refuge*] in the Spanish Fort where he is protected. But of this I expect a very particular Acc^t from himself by the first opportunity.

The Rebels fell down the River with their Prize to New Orleans, Governor Chester will inform your Lordship of the steps he has taken in consequence of this intelligence; and I have the Honour of submitting to your Lordship the orders which I sent to M^r Charles Stuart my Deputy and M^r Bethune my Commissary in the Chactaw Nation, I do not doubt but every step will be taken by them to recover the Settlements upon the Mississippi.

The Party of Rebels who are come down give out that they are to be followed by a Body of Two Thousand in May next.

Captⁿ Pearis⁸ of the Loyal Refugees with Twenty five Men which is as many of his Company as are at Present fit for Service, is embarked to give what assistance he can to the Settlers upon the Amit,⁹ who have abandoned their Plantations and are retired to the Nitalbani,¹⁰ and upon his arrival there I hope he will be Joined by such a body of Chactaws as will enable him to recover Manshac, for further particulars with respect to this invasion I beg leave to refer your Lordship to Governor Chester. Upon the whole I think it rather to be lamented that the Inhabitants in the Mississippi District have not been formed into A Militia, under the Direction of such Persons as could be confided in. . . .

I beg leave to assure your Lordship that no attention or exertion in my Power shall be wanting totally to Defeat the present invasion of the Rebels upon the Mississippi; and to forward His Majestys interest in every part of my Department.

I have the Honour to be [&c.]

John Stuart

L, UKLPR, C.O. 5/79, 112–15. Eight paragraphs of this letter are not printed here. They relate the activities of Indians in Col. Stuart's district. Addressed at the foot of the first page: "The Right Honorable Lord George/Germain His Majestys Principal Secretary/of State for the American Department. &c^a &c^a." Docketed: "Pensacola 5th March 1778./M^e Stuart./ (N^o. 22.)/R, 6th July/(Dup-Orig^l not reced/(4 Inclosures.)/Ent^d."

1. Farquhar Bethune, Indian Deputy and Commissary.
2. Gov. Peter Chester.
3. Thomas Walters, supercargo of ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.
4. Capt. James Willing, Continental Army.
5. Hardey Perry and Robert Welsh, settlers in the Natchez District.
6. John Watkins, plantation owner at Walnut Hills.
7. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.
8. Capt. John Pearis.
9. Amite River.
10. Natalbany River.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO DON BALTASAR DE VILLIERS

[March 5, 1778]

I have received the communication of the 25th of last month from which I learned of the arrival at that place of Mr. Willing with a party of Americans after having captured the English post of Concordia.¹ I trust in your zeal and prudence in knowing what measures to take to prevent the attacks of the Chickasaw Indians, on account of the aid you gave those Americans.

As soon as I see Francisco Farg Jones and Antonio Generaces, I shall punish them because they misused the passport that you gave them in that they were dealing with the foreigners, thus betraying the confidence you had in them.

God guard Your Lordship many years.

NEW ORLEANS, *March 5, 1778.*

BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

Señor DON BALTASAR DE VILLIERS.

Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1945, Vol. 2, *Spain in the Mississippi Valley, 1765–1794*, edited by Lawrence Kinnaird, Pt. 1, *The Revolutionary Period, 1765–1781* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1949): 256. De Villiers was the Spanish commandant of the Arkansas district.

1. Concord, or Concordia, to be distinguished from the settlement called Concordia on the Spanish side of the Mississippi across from Natchez, was apparently on the English side in Illinois Country, for on 2 Feb., fourteen English settlers wrote Gálvez from the Spanish Arkansas Post petitioning for protection, stating that they "upon their arrival at the English side found the Place called Concord abandoned and understood that Captain Willing left Orders that nobody should remain there." Quoted in Charles R. Smith, *Marines in the Revolution: A History of the Continental Marines in the American Revolution, 1775–1783* (Washington: History and Museums Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, 1975), 184.

ALEXANDER ROSS TO COLONEL JOHN STUART

Copy of a Letter from M^r Alexander Ross to the Honorable John Stuart Esq^r
dated at New Orleans march 5th. 1778.

Dear Sir,

I did myself the honor to write to you some time ago from this Place, to which I beg your Reference—The following Intelligence is of so much Importance that I have thought it my Duty to send it to you by Express, in Conjunction with M^r Campbell, least you have not yet had a true Account of the matter.

The 19th. of February a Party of Americans supposed to be about two hundred arrived at the Natchez under the Command of a M^r Willing. They seized the Inhabitants who being without Protection were obliged to Capitulate; a Copy of the Capitulation will be herewith sent you.¹

The Inhabitants lower down the River have not been so fortunate they have seized and destroyed all of their Properties that they could find, and obliged them to fly for Protection to the Spaniards. Your Brother had a very narrow Escape being obliged to fly in his Shirt to the Spanish Fort at Manchac where he now is very safe; They offered a considerable Reward for him, some say a thousand Dollars, but altho' the Commanding Officer there was only a Corporal he behaved nobly, and told them since he was under Protection of the Spanish Flag he would defend him with his last drop of Blood; the Governor has approved much of his Conduct on this Affair and is determin'd to promote him.

They have cleared all the English side of the River of its Inhabitants, and nothing to be seen but Destruction & Desolation. By mere Accident I escaped with my few Negroes, but I shall lose every thing else; a Party has been sent after me some Days who will I suppose play the same Game on the Lakes, that they have done on the Mississipi. So that this flourishing Province may be said to be abandoned for want of Protection. Its truly shocking to behold so many worthy People who have been ruined by a Banditti for no other Crime than their Loyalty. They were promised Protection in your Province and they fled to it. But I cannot help saying they have been most shamefully neglected. But I am persuaded you & Colonel Dickson² will exert yourselves on this particular Occasion to prevent these Robbers escaping with Impunity.

One or two hundred Regulars with as many Indians would in my Opinion be very sufficient to give a very good account of them.

They give out, and it is pretty generally believed, that above five thousand will be down in the Spring May, & that they are determin'd to have Pensacola, so that it will be necessary to have a pretty strong force on the Mississipi and well fortified.

They have taken several Vessels in the Rivers and those that escaped are under the Protection of the Governor here, who I believe feels on this occasion for the unhappy English.

I have got a few Negroes here and wish to have your Advice what to do with them.

I know not what to do I am really in a very unhappy and a disagreeable Situation.

The hurry I am in will I hope apologize for the Inaccuracy of this Scrawl.

In the mean time I beg leave to assure you that I am [&c.]

Signed. Alex^r Ross.

Copy, UkLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, no. 989 (2). Docketed: "Copy/Alexander Ross Esq^r/to/The Superintendent/ New Orleans 5th. March 1778."

1. For the text of the capitulation, see Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 17 Mar., below.

2. Lt. Col. Alexander Dickson commanded a detachment of the 16th Regiment of Foot of the British Army at Mobile.

CAPTAIN SIMEON SAMSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Port S^t Pears Martineco

5th March 1778.—

Sir

This being the first Opportunity I have had of Writing your honor since I saild from Townsend this may serve to Acquaint you of the small success of the Brig^a: *Hazard & Tyrannicide* during our Cruise we have taken three Prizes laded wth. Fish & Lumber &c the Particulars of which you will see by the Inclosed Mem^o: w^{ch}. we sent for this Port but were so unlucky as to have the two first of them Retaken the last is Arrived here and is Disposed of by the Agent M^r Hutchinson¹ who has treated me very kindly and in my Oppinion is much of a Gentleman and deserving of the Commission he has from the state—After we took the last Prize above Mentiond we steard for the Western Islands and then for the Coast of Portugal and Cruised there untill we found the weather so Bad and having nearly lost my Rudder w^{ch}. I with much difficulty saved as the head was split and it other ways much damaged that I was obliged to quit the Station and stear for Madaera where we Cruised some time & meeting with no success put away for the Windward Islands & Cruising there sevrul Weeks with the like success and our Vessells being Verry Foul and our Water & some species of our Provisions nearly Expended I thought Proper to stear for this Port where we Arrived 22^d Feb^y last and have not seen but one British flagg flying during our Cruize w^{ch}. was a Frigate that we fell in with a few days before our Arrival here, w^{ch}. we bore away for and discovered her to be a Six and thirty gun Frigate w^{ch}. we not thinking proper to Engage sheard from her w^{ch}. she perceiving gave us Chase but we run her out of sight in three or four hours I have since learn'd she was the *Deal Castle*.²—The *Hazard* proves to be an Excelant Sailor and is a good Sea boat and Works kindly every way. During our Cruize we spoke with and Boarded a number of Vessells w^{ch}. all Prooved to be French Spanish Dutch Portagee and Deans &c all of which we examined strictly

We are now Prepareing to heave down to clean and Expect to be Ready to Sail next Week my Intention is to Recruit wth. Provisions & Water for a three Months Cruise dureing w^{ch}. time I hope to make up for our Bad success hitherto—As I never have lost sight of my Consort the *Tyrannicide* dureing our Cruize we expect to keep Company untill our Return to Boston

I do not think it best to acquaint you where we Intend to Cruise for fear of my Letter being Intercepted—but Remain S^r [&c.]

Simⁿ Samson

[Enclosure]

Mem^o: of the Prizes taken by the Brigantines *Hazard &*
Tyrannicide belonging to the State of the Massachusetts Bay
—Viz

13th Dec^r 1777 Took The Brig^a. *Alexander* James Waddie Master from

Halifax bound for Jamaica . . . ab^t 120 Tons

Cargo³ Viz^t—

140 Hh^{ds}. Fish
 22 Tierces ditto
 106 Shook Hh^{ds}.
 3 Hh^{ds}. Herrings
 2,600 Staves
 2390 feet Boards
 15 bb^f Mackrell
 3 Tierces & 2 bb^f Salmon
 6 bb^f Herrings
 50 bundles Hoops
4 Casks qt: 1 Ton of Oil

22^d Dec^r 1777 The Schooner *Good intent* Will^m: Dashpar Master
 from Harbour Grass Newfound Land bound to Dominica . . . ab^t 45
 Tons⁴—Cargo Viz^t

75 Hh^{ds}. Cont^g Six hundred Q^{ds}. Fish
169 Bundles Hoops—18 Shook Rum Puncheons

23 Decem^r 1777 The Brig^a. *Polly* Walter Stevens
 Master from S^t Johns Newfoundland for Barbadoes ab^t 180
 tons . . . Cargo⁵ Viz^t—

284 Hh^{ds}. Cod Fish 50 bb^f Herring 4,250 feet Boards
 20 Casks Oil...24 Bundles Hoops—
6 Bags Cont^g 360^{lb}. Feathers—

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 199 (Revolution Letters, 1778), pp. 28–31a. Addressed at top of first page: “Hon^{ble}: Sam^t P^hps Savage.” There is a similar letter, misdated 5 Mar. 1777, in M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 57, pp. 300–04.

1. William or Godfrey Hutchinson.
2. See Journal of H.M.S. *Deal Castle*, 18 Feb., above.
3. Brigantine *Alexander*. See NDAR 10: 725.
4. Schooner *Good Intent*. See NDAR 10: 768.
5. Brigantine *Polly*. See NDAR 10: 779.

WILLIAM AND GODFREY HUTCHINSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
 MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Sir./

S^t pieres M/Que March 5th: 1778.

The foregoing is Copy of ours @ Cap^t Freeborn.¹ We have now to acquaint you the Brigans^e: *Hazard & Tyrannicide*² arrived here the 21st instant & that we are giving them the needful Assistance & shall Dispatch them as speedily as possible. they are in want of many Articles & their Supplies we fear will far exceed the proceeds of the prize they have taken.³ After their Departure we will render you regular Acco^s. of our proceedings. In the meantime we remain very respectfully Sir./

W^m & G Hutchinson

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 205 (2d. ser., Revolution Letters, 1775–1783), p. 328a. Addressed below close: “Sam P: Savage Esq.” There is another version of this letter in M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 57, p. 299.

1. Capt. Isaac Freeborn, commanding Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*.
2. Massachusetts Navy brigantines *Hazard* and *Tyrannicide*.
3. Brigantine *Polly*, Walter Stevens, master. See NDAR 10: 779, 779n.

March 6

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 6th 1778

Order'd, That the Com^r Gen^l deliver Cap^t Bartlett² for Brig *Favorite*,³ one Cord Wood & ten pounds Tallow.—

Order'd, That M^r Joseph Hall deliver Cap^t Bartlett for the Brig *Favorite* all the New-England Rum in his hands & return the quantity.—

Order'd, That Cap^t Fisk⁴ of Salem deliver Cap^t Bartlett for Brig *Favorite*, a Boat from Brig *Massachusetts*.⁵—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers⁶ pay Mary Reed Thirteen Pounds Ten Shillings, for advance Wages to Nath^l Couzens a Seaman on Board Ship *Adams*.⁷—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 244–45.

1. David Devens.
2. Capt. Nicholas Bartlett, Jr.
3. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
4. Capt. John Fisk, former commander of the brigantine *Massachusetts*.
5. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts*.
6. Thomas Ivers.
7. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO CAPTAIN CHARLES FEILDING, R.N.

Copy,

By the Viscount Howe, Vice Admiral
of the White, and Commander in Chief
of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels
employed and to be employed &c. in
North America.

Whereas His Majesty's Ship under your Command, together with the several Ships of War and Armed Vessels named in the Margin,¹ is intended to be employed for the better Security of the Port of Halifax, and necessary restraint upon the rebellious Inhabitants of the New England Provinces attempting to put to Sea from the different Ports thereof, with intent to distress the Trade or otherwise to injure the property of the Kings well affected Subjects, And also to prevent the Assistance attempted to be furnished by Foreign Powers, in Ships, Arms, Ammunition and other Stores requisite for enabling them to continue their opposition to the re-establishment of His Majesty's Authority in those Colonies. And whereas the chief direction of the said Ships will upon your Arrival at Halifax, devolve on you, in the Absence of a Senior Officer; You will therefore have regard in the conduct of those Services to the following General Instructions.

You will be to appoint the Stations and suitable Employment of the Naval Force under your orders, for the annoyance of the Enemy, which you are by every means to pro[mote] with Effect, to the utmost of your Power. And as upon consulting and advising with the Lieutenant Governor, or other Chief Magistrate for the time being in the Province of Nova Scotia for the Defence thereof (or for cooperating with the Commander in Chief of the Land Forces in what relates to his Department) you shall judge to be most advisable in those respects; But in the Disposition of the Ships for these purposes, the Port of Halifax should not, but

upon the best assured propriety of the measure, be left without one of the two decked Ships, for the occasional protection of the Magazines and Stores.

A particular Attention will be necessary in these Views, to any preparations the Enemy may intend on the Western Shore of the Bay of Fundy, for making incursions on the opposite Coasts of Nova Scotia, Or on the Settlements at Fort Cumberland, and the parts adjacent thereto, And to the more considerable Armaments, the Rebels are reported to have in contemplation at Boston and Portsmouth: In each of which Ports credible Advice has been received, that they are building a Ship of Dimensions equal to a third Rate, That, at Portsmouth, it is supposed will be finished in the ensuing Month of May:² But, the other (in all probability) not until a long time after, if it is meant ever to perfect the Construction thereof.³

The Guns and principal part of the Furniture of the first, are said, to be daily expected to arrive in a French Ship from Europe.

You will be to appoint the Ships with which you may be at any time provided, to such Stations, for intercepting the Ships sent with Supplies to be landed at Boston and the New England Ports as from Intelligence procured, or the Observations of the Captains employed, you deem most likely to be productive of the intended Effect. And regard being had to the number of Ships the Rebels are endeavoring to procure from Europe, It will be expedient, so to regulate your disposition of the Ships stationed on the New England Coasts, that the Frigates so appointed (two at least keeping at all other times together) may be supported by either of the larger Ships, under your Orders, Which it will be requisite to appropriate alternately for the same Service.

Captain Griffith⁴ or the Senior Officer for the time being at this Port, is directed to apprise you, as he has opportunity of the Stations assigned for the Ships under his Orders, with the same Intention. And You are to acquaint him in like manner, with the Arrangements proposed by you, for your mutual accomodation.

The Captains stationed off of the New England Coasts, will be to avail themselves of the Knowledge they may gain respecting the most probable means for intercepting the Ships of the Enemy passing to and from those Coasts. And also regarding the use to be made of such proper places of Anchorage as they may discover on the Coasts of the Northern Provinces, in case it should become necessary to have recourse thereto, on any emergency, or for preventing the disadvantage of being forced from their Stations in the Winter Season: Being to inform me of the Reports made to You from time to time in those respects.

With regard to the Stations to be taken in the Bay of Fundy and other Parts of the Province of Nova Scotia, as well as the Island of St' John's; the regulations in the concerns of the Victualling, Hospital, and other Civil Duties of the Port of Halifax; In matters either still in progress, or conditional to take place; You are referred to the Instructions which have been given thereon at different times to the Senior Officers commanding there in Succession, for your information and guidance. You are to correspond with Commissioner Arbuthnot⁵ and furnish him with the most seasonable Intelligence, You at any time acquire, regarding the different Branches [of] the King's Service, committed to his direction. And when you shall have occasion to apply for Stores for the Ships under your Orders, in any repairs and refittings necessary thereupon, You are to conform to the requisitions of the

Commissioner regarding the Dispatch and regulation of those Services, appertaining [to] his department, acquainting him moreover with the notice you have received therein; and apprising the Captains of the Ships not before acquainted with this Injunction, that they may likewise have due regard thereto under the same Circumstances.

In case by the Capture of any trading Ships of the Rebels or Ships Armed for War, you sho'd be encumbered with a number of Prisoners not inclined to enter for the King's Service, you are permitted to Exchange them against any British Prisoners, Officer for Officer claiming equal Rank in the Armed Vessels of the Enemy, and Sailor for Sailor of Ability to serve in the Fleet, as on a proffered communication for that purpose, with the disaffected Inhabitants of the Colonies having British Captives in their Possession, you find them disposed on those conditions to release. But if being then at Sea and unable to make such advantageous Exchange, you are likely to be compelled to quit your Station unseasonably on that Account; Or that the Commanders of any of the Ships under your Orders, should ever be in the same Situation, You are respectively permitted to land such Prisoners (not being His Majesty's European Subjects or taken in Arms) in the Provinces most convenient with reference to the general purpose of your appointments, endeavoring however to obtain an Engagement, that an equal Number under the same Circumstances shall be released, when claimed in future: Persons of Descriptions other than as before mentioned made Prisoners by the Rebels are also to be exchanged in like manner, for those in similar characters. But all British Seamen taken in the Service of the Rebels (not having deserted from any of the Ships of War) may be retained involuntarily, to serve in the Fleet. Deserters are to be reserved for Trial at a Court Martial, for such breach of their Duty and Allegiance.

In the Distribution of any able Seamen procured, care is to be taken, that the less qualified Men, belonging to Ships furnished with such able Seamen, are not selected and discharged from such Ships Books to their Supernumerary Lists; For being turned over into other Ships as is frequently practised on similar occasions, to the great prejudice of the general Service.

If therefore when you Muster and Inspect the Qualifications of the Men (which you are at seasonable opportunities to do) you shall find that any Supernumeraries have been so improperly transferred in the Ships under your Orders, You are to direct the replacing of them to the Complements of the Ships respectively: My Intention being in all Instances, when it is necessary to complete the Complements of Ships from such Drafts, to have the Men so assorted amongst the several Ships, that the number of the more or less serviceable Men, may be the more equally divided.

Complaints having been some times made that the Men in Ships arriving from England, are much inferior in Quality to the Rates given with them, when they were first received, The Captains deeming themselves restrained from the Liberty of altering those Rates according to the actual pretensions of the Men; You are on such representations signified to you to examine (in conjunction with the Captains or other Officers whom you shall see fit to call to your assistance on that occasion) into the circumstances thereof. And you are to cause such change to be made in the disproportioned Rates (pursuant to the Intentions and Order of the

Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty thereon) as upon due inquiry touching their respective Abilities, you judge fit.

You are to transmit to me by every suitable conveyance, an account of your proceedings regarding the several Objects of your present Appointment; A Return of Captures made by the Ships under your Orders, and Disposition or Service, on which they have been appointed as in the Forms annexed; Together with the Condition of them, as any change of circumstances happening from time to time thereof may require: Distinguishing on the back of the last, in what manner Supernumeraries belonging to no Ships were procured, with their Qualities and the Names of the Ships to which those being part of the Complements of other Ships belong. And you are further to acquaint me, with any Intelligence you acquire, concerning the Operations and Designs of the Rebels, for strengthening themselves in their illegal resistance, with the measures You deem most effectual to prevent the Success of their Endeavors; And every other Information you have procured, by which the benefit of His Majesty's Service may be promoted in any respect. But if any occurrences in the Division of the Fleet under your Command; The particulars you obtain respecting preparations making by the Rebels, for fitting or putting to Sea with Armed Ships in Number and Force; Or any other Advice regarding their measures and conduct, coming to your knowledge, appear of sufficient Moment to merit the speedy Notice of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty; You are not to neglect any favorable opportunity to communicate the same immediately by Letter to the Secretary, for their Lordships earliest Information. When you shall proceed to Sea in the Ship you Command for the purpose of carrying any part of these Orders into execution, you are to leave with the Senior Officer remaining in the Port of Halifax, for the time being, attested Copies of such parts hereof as may be necessary for his Instruction and Government in the several Instances as before recited, during your Absence.

Given on board His Majesty's Ship the *Eagle* at Rhode Island the 6th day of March 1778.

Howe

By Command of the Vice Admiral

Jos^h. Davies

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 400–406. Addressed flush left below signature: "To/Captain Charles Feilding/Commander of His Majesty's Ship/the *Diamond*, Or the Senior Officer/for the time being at/Halifax." Docketed: "N^o. 8./Copy of Orders given to Captain/Feilding for his Conduct in the/Command of the Division of/the Fleet stationed at Halifax./Dated 6th Mar^h. 1778./In Vice Adm^l: L^d. Howe's Letter/Dated 25th Oct^r. 1778." Enclosure no. 8 in Vice Admiral Viscount Howe's letter to Philip Stephens, 25 Oct. 1778.

1. The ships named in the margin are *Centurion*, *Raisnable*, *Rainbow*, *Ambuscade*, *Blonde*, *Scarborough*, *Vulture*, *Hunter*, *Albany*, *Hope*, and *Cabot*.

2. A 74-gun ship of the line, later named *America* and completed in 1782.

3. An unnamed 74-gun ship of the line, building at Boston, which was never completed.

4. Capt. Walter Griffith, senior officer commanding at Newport.

5. Rear Adm. Marriot Arbuthnot, commissioner of the Royal Navy dockyard at Halifax and lieutenant governor of Nova Scotia.

PAY ROLL OF CONNECTICUT NAVY SLOOP *DOLPHIN*

Sloop *Dolphin* to Robert Niles¹
for Sundry Persons Wages by him Paid "Viz"

1777			Dr.
Robert Niles Master	f ^m Sept ^r 27 th . to March 6 th . 1778	5 mo. 7 Days @ £20	£104..13.. 4
Frederick Calkins Mate	f ^m Oct ^r 12 th . to Feb ^y 25 th . —	4 mo 13 ^D @ £10	44.. 6.. 8
Peter Jeffers Carpt ^r	f ^m Nov ^r 14 th . to Mch 2 ^d . —	3 m 16 ^D — @ £10	35.. 6.. 8
John Leseur	f ^m Oct ^r 3 ^d . to D ^o . 5 th . —	5 mo 2 ^D — @ £9	45..12..—
John Paterson	f ^m No ^v 15 th . to Feb ^y 24 th . —	3 mo 9 ^D — @ £9	29..14..—
Cornelius Savage	f ^m Oct ^r 6 th . to M ^h 6 th . —	5 mo 0 ^D — @ £9	45..—..—
Zefeniah Hatch	f ^m No ^v 14 th . to D ^o . 2 ^d . —	3 mo 16 ^D — @ £9	31..16..—
Abner Bebee	f ^m D ^o . 13 th . to D ^o . 2 ^d . —	3 mo 17 ^D — @ £9	32.. 2..—
Joseph Webb	f ^m D ^o . 26 th . to D ^o . 2 ^d . —	3 mo 4 ^D — @ £4	12..10.. 8
James Treet	f ^m Dec ^r 26 th . to Feb ^y 24 th . —	1 m 28 ^D — @ £6..12	12..15.. 3
Lawdin Higgins	f ^m D ^o . 29 th . to D ^o . 18 th . —	1 m 20 ^D — @ £2..8	4..—
			£397..16.. 7
			<u>101..—..—</u>
			£296..16.. 7
By one Months Pay in West Indies			

D, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 12, p. 332.

1. Captain, Connecticut Navy.

6 MARCH 1778

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JOHN CORYELL TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Honoured S^r

I Re^{cd} yours of the 1st instant the third at night & am Determined to serve you according to your Directions If Possable the Badness of the weather has hindered me to proceed on with any more Boats Since my Last but Expect to Start the Remainder in two or three days that I now have at my Ferry & when they are gone I will go after the Rest I am afraid I Cant Bring up any Cannon in the Flat Boats If Ther should be any Durn boats¹ below as I Expect There is I Kno I Can Bring up Cannon in Them and will I have ingaged a number of Brave watermen for the Purpose & I am d^r S^r [&c.]

Jn^o CoryellCoryells Ferry March y^e 6th 1778

PS There was a number of peaceis of Duck Left at My place I had to press Sleds to move them to Reading & I Kept one for the use of My Self & men: If it Cant be Spared it is not Cut I will send it on

J C

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "Coryells Ferry 6th March/1778/from/John Coryell—."

1. *Durham boat*: A flat-bottomed boat, from forty to sixty feet in length, with a beam of eight feet and a draft of twenty inches, originally designed to carry iron ore and freight on the Delaware River. They were fitted with two masts and sails, and were propelled by poles. Alfred Hoyt Bill, *The Campaign of Princeton, 1776-1777* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1948), 28-29.

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE OF IMPORTED GOODS

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Just arrived in Cape Lookout bay, from France, the frigate FERDENAND, mounting 36 guns, with 200 men, Monsieur de Gatinau,¹ one of the king's officers, commander, who has imported the following goods, which will be sold at the town of Beaufort, Carteret-County, on the 12th day of March next, viz.

Nails of all sizes, blankets of all qualities, woollen cloth of all sorts, woollen, thread, and silk stockings, woollen and thread night caps, woollen and cotton cards, sweet oil, window glass, wine glasses, sewing thread and silk, twine, paper, green tea best quality, nankins, mercery ware, medecines of several kinds, linnen, sail cloth, black pepper, loaf sugar, fine and common salt in hogsheads and bags, silk and thread handkerchiefs, hats, Burgundy, Madeira, and Bordeaux wine, Coniac brandy, shoes, rum, leather, rope and cables, shirts and sheets for hospitals, umbrelloes, calicoes, coffee, milinary ware, pins and needles, buttons for uniforms, cordials, harpsichord and violin strings, gold watches, silk gown patterns, cambrick, copperas, hard ware, plumes for ladies and officers, paintings of all colours, gold and silver shoulder straps for officers, &c. &c.

North-Carolina Gazette (New Bern), 6 Mar. 1778.

1. Denis-Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen.

CAPTAIN THOMAS JORDAN, R.N., TO GOVERNOR PATRICK TONYN

(Copy).

Galatea off S^t Marys 6 March 78

Captain Fanshawe¹ having thought proper to order the *Galatea* under my Command to remain upon this Coast, to act in consort with the *Hinchinbrook* and

Rebecca, in order to prevent the Rebel force from advancing by the inland navigation towards S^t Augustine.

On consulting Lieutenant Ellis,² and Mowbray³ I find the *Galatea* cannot be got into S^t Marys⁴ without the utmost risque, but they inform me Frederica⁵ will afford much more Water, and she if got into that port may be placed so as to prevent the advance of any Force to the Southward, for this reason I think it right to take the *Hinchinbrook*, or both with me for a few days as circumstances may require, as they inform me should the Rebels be passed Frederica before we get there, that they together can scour the inland Navigation down to S^t Mary's, and the *Galatea* be placed so, that if possible to get them between us.

I shall consult Colonel Brown⁶ upon this head, and collect every information I can relative to them, and request your Excellency will give me as early as possible any intelligence, that may enable me to defeat the designs of these Invaders.

I think if we can stop them at Frederica it will be much better than suffering them to advance so far on as this. I beg leave to assure your Excellency my endeavours shall not be wanting upon this or any other occasion, and I am upon all Your Excellencys &c

(Signed) Tho^s Jordan

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 5/558, fols. 129–30. Docketed: "East Florida/Copy of a Letter from/Captain Tho^s Jordan/of the *Galatea*/to/His Excellency/Governor Tonyn/N^o. 1." Docketed in another hand: "In Gov^t Tonyn's of Ap^t 28th. 1778/N^o. 54." See Governor Patrick Tonyn to Lord George Germain, 28 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, C.O. 5/558, fols. 127–28.

1. Capt. Robert Fanshawe, R.N.
2. Lt. Alexander Ellis, R.N.
3. Capt. John Mowbray.
4. St. Marys River, Fla.
5. Probably St. Simons Sound, Ga., into which the Frederica River flows from the northward.
6. Lt. Col. Thomas Brown, East Florida Rangers.

OLIVER POLLOCK TO THE CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE

(Copy)

Sirs

New Orleans 6th. March 1778

I had the Honor of receiving Your's by Express sent by Cap^t James Willing the 4th. Inst, dated the 21st. Nov^r, covering Copies of a Letter from the Secret Committee of the 12th. June, as also of Your's 24th. October. The whole of which I have perused, and take this Opportunity of returning You my sincere thanks, for the Honor you have done me in placing Your Confidence in me as Your Publick Agent in this Part of the World. And You may depend there is nothing in my power but shall be done to perform my Duty in that Station. I have delivered Your Letters to the G— [*Governor*], and am now getting them translated properly, but as this Vessell is just going off, I have read them over & Communicated the Contents to him, which he is well pleased with, and still disposed to serve You, therefore rest assured every thing You desire shall be put in Execution immediately. I have now proper hands upon the look out for Goods & Boats, but you have omitted inclosing the List for the former, & for this I must be governed by Cap^t Willing who I expect in a Day or two. I have the pleasure of inclosing You Copy of the Capitulation the chief of the Inhabitants made with him at the Natchez,¹ and since this, Lieu^t M^c-Intyre has taken a Ship mounting 16 Guns, at Manchack;² as also several Boats

with Indigo & Peltries & Negroes, which are arrived here, & which I have got the Go-s leave to dispose of—

M^cIntyre has also taken a Brig^t below, loaded with Lumber for Jamaica.³ I cannot now possibly give you an exact Account of The Prizes, as they are not yet unloaded, and some not yet arrived; but I believe upon the whole they are considerable, and be assured I shall make the most of them for Your Interest.

With respect to the Bills you got from Mess^{rs}. Willing Morris & C^o., I have now wrote their R[obert] M[orris], and furnished him with the Acco^{ts}., by which he will find I have reduced the Balance largely by Remittances to France & Cape Francais, but this shall not prevent your being supplied with what You call for, as the G. . . . has promised to assist me with some Cash tho' he has not as yet received any orders for so doing; the Remainder I shall make up out of the Prizes, & my own Stock & Credit shall be immediately employed. I do not know yet whether I can get the Boats dispatched under Spanish Passports, or not. If I cannot get this done, I will have them Manned & Armed as you order, as in all Probablility they will be attacked by a Party of White Men & Indians they may send from Pensacola, but we shall be provided to receive them, as I am now engaging a parcel of resolute Batteau Men well attached to the Cause, and shall make all the Expedition possible. Pickles's Brig^t is here,⁴ but I am affraid it will not answer to send anything by Sea, as I expect a Frigate round from Pensacola every moment, which will search all Vessells outward bound, but this I shall determine on, & consult with the Gov— about, and do the best for Your Interest. I am happy to find you have been so successful in this last Campaign, and hope you have obliged Howe to surrender before now, or leave the City of Philadelphia, After this is done I think it will be highly necessary, to establish Forts on the Mississippi, with a proper force to support your Trade up the River, otherwise you cannot expect Boats to go back & foreward unmolested after this Expedition. I observe the Carriage of Your Flour comes high, but notwithstanding⁶ this, if once a proper Trade is fixed, & that you are sure of its coming safe, and geting the necessary Returns as you want them, this inconveniency or extraordinary Expence, must be put up with during the present times, as You cannot depend on any Supplies you order by Sea. Flour is now worth 12 Dollars @ 200^{lb}., and I can dispose of very large quantities at this price, and the sooner in my opinion you fix Your Correspondance in France (so as to order all the Light Goods you want this Way) the better. Even Liquids, such as Claret, Taffia & Rum, may be sent up on very good Terms. This being the needfull till I get the Batteaus dispatch'd, by which I shall write you fully; Permit me to have the Honor of assuring You Sirs, to be with the greatest Respect & well wishes for your Safety.— Yours &^{ca}.

Copy, DNA, PCC, item 50, pp. 205–7 (M247, roll 64). Addressed at the foot: “The Hon^{bles}./Robert Morris William Smith/and Henry Laurens Esq^{rs}.”

1. For the text of the capitulation, see *Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida*, 13 M^{ar}., below.

2. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.

3. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.

4. Brigantine *Norton*, William Pickles, master.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ARIADNE*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PRINGLE

March 1778
Friday 6

Barbados S^o. 8 Leagues—
First & latter parts squally, middle Fresh Breezes.
At 7 AM saw a sail bearing ENE, made the Signal & gave chace.
The *Ceres* in Company—
Barbados NW ½ N 25 Leagues
First and middle parts squally with showers of Rain, latter moderate & fair. at 3 PM came up with the Chace, proved to be the *Grenville* Packett from Falmouth who had an Engagement on the 4th Ins^t with a Rebel Brig Privateer of 16 Guns,¹ during which the Mail with Letters shott away.—² The *Ceres* in company.—

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/60.

1. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*, Capt. Samuel Chew, commander.
2. See Governor Thomas Shirley to Lord George Germain, 12 Mar., Governor Valentine Morris to Lord George Germain, 12 Mar., and Governor Edward Hay to Lord George Germain, 27 Mar., below.

March 7

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 7th 1778—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers¹ pay Cap^t Bartlett² his Portage Bill and Account of disbursements for the Brig^t *Favorite*³—

£234..11.. 7—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 245–46.

1. Thomas Ivers.
2. Capt. Nicholas Bartlett, Jr.
3. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL OF WAR TO CAPTAIN NATHANIEL CODDINGTON

In Council of War
Providence March 7th. 1778.

Sir,

You being appointed Master of the Sloop *Diamond* in the Service of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations and now fitted for Sea and ready to Sail, Our Orders to you are to embrace the first favourable Opportunity of Wind and Weather and Proceed to Sea and make the best of your way to such Port or inlet in the State of Maryland as by getting all possible Information you shall find is safest, and least infested by the Enemys Ships of War, and on your arrival at such Port you are to value yourself upon some Merchant of eminence and Reputation and to request that they purchase for you on Account of this State a Lading of Flour or other Provisions; and for the Amount of such Cargo as they may purchase and lade on board said Sloop you are hereby authorized and fully empowered in behalf of this State to draw Bills upon the Honble William Ellery Esqr. a Delegate for this State in Congress in favour of any Person or Persons for the Amount of

such Sums as they may furnish You with for the Purpose aforesaid, agreeable to a Letter of Credit furnished you by this State bearing even Date herewith.

Having finished your Business in Maryland in which you are to make all possible Dispatch you are then to make the best of your Way to such Harbour in Bosworths Bay¹ or Boston as by getting all possible Intelligence you shall find is most safe, and on your arrival at such Port you are immediately to inform this State thereof by Express.

We earnestly reccommend to you to be very frugal in your Expences and Disburstments, make all the Dispatch you can and above all be very vigilant in keeping a good look out against our common Enemy.

And for your Care and trouble in this Behalf we agree to allow you 90 Dollars per Month as Wages and Twenty barrels Privilege. We Wish you a prosperous Voyage and safe and Speedy Return.

Signed by Order & in Behalf of the Council by

Df, R-Ar, Letters from the Governor (1778-1779), vol. 3, p. 13. Addressed at top: "State of Rhode Island &c./Cap^t Nathaniel Coddington." Docketed: "Rough Draft of Letter of Credit and Orders/to Cap^t Coddington of Sloop *Diamond*/March 7th. 1778." The letter of credit is on the reverse of document.

1. Bosworths Bay cannot be identified; perhaps Buzzards Bay is intended.

THE PROVIDENCE GAZETTE; AND COUNTRY JOURNAL, SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1778

PROVIDENCE, March 7.

Last Week arrived at a neighbouring Port¹ the *Providence* Sloop of War, of 12 Guns, in the Service of the United States, John Rathbun, Esq; Commander. About a Month since Capt. Rathbun entered the Harbour of New-Providence, in the Night, where he landed 30 Men, 15 of which scaled the Walls of the Fort,² by means of Rope-Ladders, and got Possession, where they found only one Centinel; the Remainder of the Party possessed themselves of Hog Island, opposite the Town.³ The Inhabitants were informed next Morning, by a Flag, that their Property would be safe, provided no Attempt was made against the Sloop or her Crew. The same Day the Sloop was driven to Sea by a Gale of Wind, and remained out 16 Hours. On her Return Capt. Rathbun took Possession of a large Ship from Jamaica,⁴ bound to New-York, richly laden, mounting 16 Six and Four Pounders, that had put in there to stop a Leak. A Privateer from Jamaica,⁵ mounting 16 Guns, which had sent several Prizes to New-Providence, arrived in the Harbour, but on receiving a few Shot from the Sloop, she immediately weighed, and went round to another Part of the Island, where her Guns were landed, and placed before the Governor's House. Capt. Rathbun afterwards released 30 Americans from Prison, took about the same Number of British, and burnt a Sloop and Schooner that had been carried in there; he also took Possession of three Sloops,⁶ one of them with a valuable Cargo of Indico and Rice, that had been captured by the Privateer above mentioned. After wooding and watering the Sloop and her Prizes, spiking the Guns in the Fort, and taking out a Quantity of military Stores, Capt. Rathbun quitted the Island, having remained there three Days, and arrived safe in Port in Company with the Ship. One of the Sloops is also arrived.

1. Bedford in Dartmouth (now New Bedford), Mass.

2. Fort Nassau.

3. Nassau, Bahamas.

4. Jamaica letter of marque ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.

5. Jamaica privateer sloop *Gayton*, William Chambers, commander.

6. Sloops *Washington* and *Trial* and an unidentified sloop. *Washington's* cargo consisted of indigo and rice.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO COMMODORE WILLIAM HOTHAM

Roebuck at Philadelphia
the 7th March 1778.

Sir,

I have been favored with your Letter of the 14th ult^o. by Captain Collins¹ of the *Nautilus*, who arrived here with the Dispatches on the 26th. of last Month. He now has my Orders to return to New York, and is charged with Convoing two Ordnance Transports and several other Vessels bound thither.

The accident that has happened to the *Liverpool* is most severely felt here;² it has so much weakened this Squadron, that the remaining Ships are but barely sufficient to preserve an open Communication with the Sea, and execute the necessary Attendance unavoidable to the particular Situation of the Army. It is therefore that I am obliged to request that you will please to send back the *Nautilus* or some Frigate with the Baggage and Hay Ships which Sir William Howe expects are prepared at New York for this place, it not being in my power at present to send a Ship from hence on that Service.

I do not write to the Admiral by this Conveyance, as I expect his Lordship will have left Rhode Island before the Letter would reach that place.

The Delaware which for some days before the Arrival of the *Nautilus* had been quite clear of Ice, has by the last Frost been again so much filled with it, that the Fleet of Army Victuallers and other Ships going down the River, are still detained at the Wharfs on that account. I am with all possible respect

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Letter Book (1778–1779), pp. 21–22. Addressed at foot: “Commodore Hotham.—”

1. Capt. John Collins, R.N.

2. On 11 Feb. frigate *Liverpool* ran aground and bilged on Long Island. See *The New-York Gazette: and the Weekly Mercury*, 16 Feb., above.

ARTICLES OF SURRENDER OF THE BRITISH ARMY SCHOONER *ALERT*

Copy of the Articles of Capitulation agreed upon Between Cap^t Moore of the Schooner *Alert* in His Britanick Majesty’s Service & Cap^t John Barry on the Part of the United States

Every Lady in the Ship is to have their Baggage &c Belonging to their own Private Property—

—
The Lady’s are to Be Sent to Philadelphia By the first Conveyance

—
The Men to Remain Prisoners of War ‘till Exchanged

—
Dilworth the Pilot to Be held as a Prisoner of War

—
On these Conditions I Deliver up the Schooner *Alert*

—
We the Subscribers Do Severly agree to keep the above Articles Sacred

March 7th. 1778

Daniel Moore Master of *Alert*
 Luke Matthewman Lieu^t—
 Ratified By Cap^t. John Barry

A True Copy from the Original

Copy, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4.

CHRISTOPHER LOWNDES TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

S^r

Bladensburgh [*Md.*] March 7, 1778

I reced your Excellencys favour of y^c. 26 ult^o. by Captⁿ. Coursey,¹ & am much concern'd I have it not in my Power to furnish y^c. cordage want'd for y^c. *Chester* galley, as I have no Hemp, I have taken every then in my Power to get some, but all were ineffectual, y^c. ten Tonns that were offer'd last Fall, I have heard nothing of lately, but will try what I can do to procure it; y^c. season for purchasing Hemp is not farr of [f], but y^c. Price I can form no Judgement of, y^c. Cordage & Cables want'd, agreeable to Captⁿ. Coursey's List, will not be much under six Tonns, if your Excellency depends upon me for y^c. above articles, I will use my endeavours to get Hemp, & likewise on y^c. most reasonable Terms, & when a resolution is fix'd, I shall hope for y^c. favour of a Line, for fear any other Engagement shou'd be enter'd into;

In y^c. Book I kept for y^c. purpose of taking y^c. oaths of allegiance, I made a small mistake, it arose from y^c. following cause, in this neighbourhood, there are three men of y^c. name of James Wilson, y^c. name of one of them is in my Book, who stands there as James Wilson son of Hugh, but it ought to be Ja^s. Wilson, son of Joseph, this I wish to have rectify'd accordingly in y^c. Book I sent to Annapolis I am [&c.]

Chris^t. Lowndes

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4585-82. Addressed: "To/His Excellency/Thos Johnson Esq^r/at Annapolis." Docketed: "7 March 1778/Christ^o. Lowndes."

1. Capt. Thomas Coursey, commanding Maryland Navy galley *Chester*.

ORDER OF GOVERNOR PATRICK HENRY

[*Williamsburg*]

The commander of the Sloop *Congress*¹ is desired to deliver M^r. Stewart Holt two good Swivel Guns for public use. Let him not be detained & have four Musquets

P. Henry
 Mar 7th. 1778

L, Vi, Executive Papers, 1777-80. Docketed: "1778/March 7th."

1. Virginia Navy trading sloop, Capt. William Skinner, commander.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Saturday the 7th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick Store, deliver to Lieutenant Michael James for the use of the sailors on Board the Brigantine *Northampton*¹ the following arti-

cles viz. one ounce of thread, nine shirts, one Jacket, five yards stript Cottons, five Caps, six and half yards Cloth, two pair shoes, trimings for a coat and Jacket and cloth for a pair Breeches on his paying for the same.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 361.

1. Virginia Navy brigantine *Northampton*, Capt. Francis Bright, commander.

CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL, R.N., TO CAPTAIN THOMAS SYMONDS, R.N.,
COMMANDER MATTHEW SQUIRE, R.N., AND COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY, R.N.

Sirs, *Emerald Lynn Haven Bay, 7th March 1778.*

Having received directions from Captain Onslow,¹ to proceed with His Majesty's Ships, *Solebay*, *Otter* and *Senegal*, between the Tail of the Horse Shoe Shoal, and the Middle Ground; You are to proceed there in Company with His Majesty's Ship under My Command, and to be placed at equal distances, to effectually stop the passage into the Chesepeak Bay, in order to prevent French Ships, which he has information² are hourly expected; and also the *Virginia*³ and *defence*⁴ Frigates, from going to Sea, which he has also information, intends pushing out the first opportunity: —Whenever occasion offers, that it may be necessary to Chace up or out of the Capes, a Frigate and a Sloop is always to remain at the Anchorage.

In case of Tempestuous Weather, you are at liberty to act as you think proper for the Safety of His Majesty's Ships under your Command; and should you unfortunately part your Cable or be obliged to slip, and drove to Sea, you are to return with all possible expedition, and not to Chace small Vessels without, which may prevent your immediate return to your Station, as great inconvenience may arise to His Majesty's Service from your absence.

Not having My Lord Howes Chacing Flag, Whenever the Quarter or bearing Flag is shewn, it is to be understood you are to Chace. I am [&c.]

B. C

LB, UKLNM, Benjamin Caldwell Papers, CAL/110, p. 21. Addressed at the foot: "To/The Captains/Symonds, Squire/& Molloy."

1. Capt. Richard Onslow was the senior officer commanding the Royal Navy squadron in Chesapeake Bay.

2. The intelligence resulted from the capture of French ship *Vicomte de Veaux*, taken by H.M.S. *Solebay* on 23 Feb. See "Extract of a Letter of Captain Onslow to Viscount Howe," 2 Mar., above.

3. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*.

4. Maryland Navy ship *Defence*.

CAPTAIN JOHN COLPOYS, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG

(Copy)
Sir

Seaford E: Harbour [Antigua] 7 March 1778

"The 22^d: of Feb^r: we were so unluck'y as to Spring our Fore mast, which Obligated me to proceed for Carlisle Bay, in order to get it secured, on the Night of the 24th: just to Windward of the Bay, a large Sloop, ran a cross our Hause, we gave chase to her for some time, but there being little Wind, we were not able to come up with her. I have since learnt, that she is called the *Tyger*,¹ Commanded by one Bassettea French man, and owned, by a Mon^r: Prevot, or Prejean,² of Martinique; She has on board 60 Men all French (one Excepted) he is called the English



"Destruction of the Randolph Frigate"

Captain; She has Cruized for some time as an American Privateer, and has been very Successful, we Killed and Wounded some of her people, and set her Sails on Fire, which I am sorry to say, they had adroitness enough to Extinguish very soon.—

In consequence of the Intelligence I received from a Spanish Sloop that left S^c Lucia the 27th: Ult^o: I thought it advisable to proceed (in my way to Dominica) under the Lee of Martinique, on the 28th: being off the Diamond Rock, we got sight of a Ship to the Westward to which we gave Chase, and followed her close in with Martinique, where we both got a Ground a Little to the Southward of the Bay, where the American Privateers are allowed, to carry in, and sell their Prizes, some of her People Jumped over Board and got on Shore, I sent our Boats on board her, she proved to be the *Hampden*, a Rebel Privateer belonging to Salem, Mounting 14 Guns & Sixty Men, & had Ports for 2 Guns more³—'till we Boarded her I supposed her to be the *Rattle Snake* (the Privateer which has done so much mischief in these Seas) which was my inducement for following her so near the Shore; However, not being within reach of the Guns, of any of the French Batteries, and she proving to be a Vessel which had formerly been taken from us, I thought myself very Justifiable in Bringing her off.—

We were upwards of three Hours, before we were able to get the *Seaford* off, (owing to the Wind being in from the Sea) which however we at length effected, without any other loss then that of Starting our Water, as yet we have no great room to suppose, that the Ships bottom has suffered any thing to speak of, though she gave some pretty heavy Thumps.—when we were luck'y enough to get the Ship off, we were (for want of Wind) drove by the Current, some thing to the North^d: directly opposite a Bay from whence a Battery of several Guns played on us for some time, I have the satisfaction to tell you, that their Shot did us little or no damage, it has several times happen'd to us, as we have past along under the Lee of the French Islands, to be fired at from their Batteries; and that, at times when, we have not been in Chase, and when our Conduct, could not be deemed a Breach of any neutrality; and which I am in Hopes, the Attacking of Rebellious Subjects (where ever they may be found) will not be considered as an infringement of^o—

I am Sir [&c.]

Signed/ John Colpoys

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot of first page: "Vice Admiral Young." Docketed: "*Seaford* 7th March 1778/Letter from Captain/John Colpoys Concern:/ing His proceedings and/the taking the *Hampden*/Privateer.—/(N^o. 3.)/In Adm^l Young's Letter/Dated 7th. April 1778." Enclosure no. 3 in Vice Admiral James Young to Philip Stephens (No. 2), 7 Apr., which was received on 22 May 1778 and read.

1. Probably American privateer *Tyger*. See *NDAR* 9: 986; 10: 113.

2. Cotney de Prejent. See *NDAR* 7: 368, 370; 8: 177, 355, 429, 943; 9: 402, 422, 460.

3. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*, John Bartlett, commander. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 28 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. YARMOUTH, CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT

March 1778

Lattitude 13°.. 25' N [*near Barbados*]

Sat^r: 7th

Mod^r: Breezes the first and middle parts. the latter little wind and fair. at 5 PM wore Ship and Stood to the N^o.ward, at ½ past 5 discovered Six Sail to the SW. soon perceived them to [*be*] on a Wind Standing to the Southward, two Ships, three Brigs and

a Schooner.¹ we wore and bore down on them Steering for the headmost and largest Ship—about 9 PM came with[*in*] hail of her as our Colours were then hoisted, we bid him hoist his Colours on w^{ch}. he hoisted American, and Immediately gave us his Broadside, which we returned. He kept up his firing very smart for about a Quarter of an hour, and then blew up. it was fortunate for us that we was to Windward of her, as it was—the Ship was in a manner covered with part of her's, a large piece of Timber Stuck fast to the Topgall^l sail. then on the Cap the Trucks on the Flagstaffs at the Maintopgall^l mast, and Mizentopmasthead Carried away Sails and Rigging tore all to pieces &c^a. we had 5 Men Killed and 12 wounded. On this Ship blowing up, the rest dispers'd different ways. and were soon out of sight. we gave chace some little time than bro^t to, to bend other Sails.

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/1091, fol. 177.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph* (32 guns), South Carolina Navy ship *General Moultrie* (18 guns) and South Carolina Navy brigantines *Notre Dame* (16 guns), *Polly* (16 guns) and *Fair American* (14 guns) with a prize schooner.

March 8 (Sunday)

GEORGE WILLIAMS TO COLONEL TIMOTHY PICKERING

[Extract]

D^r Sir,

at Boston March 8. 1778

... no fleet come for to demand M^r Burgoine¹ but expected Soon.

no Prises Latly Arrived the Brig *Hamden*² of Salem is Lost all her Mast and got into Martinico. our Shipping a great number Taking this winter, and privertering Turn's out Badly. we have three State Brig's out,³ and we have only one prise of thers into Martinico with Fish.

You mension'd Col^o Carlton⁴ has a mine to go into the Sea Service When he was in the Marchant service it was sayed he did not mine his busness, so well as he ought to have dun, was unfortened, so nelected, in a Ship of war no Trading. When I Look on the commanders of our Ships of war,⁵ I often think Carlton would due as well or Better then some others—In our navy Oldist Commander is to have I Suppose the Best Ship. I am Told the continent has a number of Spare commanders now wating for a Ship.

It seames to me we are appointing more Officers then we have Ships, and it will be Sayed of our rulers thay are following the Same Stepes of old England, which I am in hopes will not be the case. . . .

Geo Williams

L, MHi, Timothy Pickering Papers, vol. 17, pp. 108–10. Docketed: "G. Williams/Feb^r 8. 1778." Williams was a member of the Massachusetts Board of War. Pickering was a member of the Continental Board of War and had previously served as colonel and adjutant general to Gen. George Washington from 18 Jun. 1777 until 13 Jan. 1778. The portions of the letter not printed pertain to the provisioning and clothing of the Massachusetts regiments of the Continental Army.

1. A fleet of transports ordered to Boston to embark the army of Lt. Gen. John Burgoyne ("M^r Burgoine") and return them to England.

2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*, John Bartlett, commander, mounting 14 carriage guns, a crew of 60 seamen, was commissioned on 29 Nov. 1777 and was owned by Jonathan Ingersoll and others, of Salem. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, pp. 100, 103. As seen in the letter of Captain John Colpoys, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 8 Mar., above, *Hampden* had been captured by H.M.S. *Seaford* on 28 Feb. See *The Connecticut Gazette*; and *the Universal Intelligencer*, 20 Mar., below.

3. Massachusetts Navy brigantines *Hazard*, *Massachusetts* and *Tyrannicide*.

4. Lt. Col. Samuel Carlton of the 12th Massachusetts Continental Regiment who served from 6 Nov. 1776 until 12 Sept. 1778.

5. Massachusetts Navy.

CAPTAIN TOBIAS FURNEAUX, R.N., TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE
AND THE RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL OF WAR

Hon^d Sirs

Smithfield [*R.I.*] ye March 8th 1778

Having been informed that all the prisoners in this state have been sent down, either on Parole or exchanged (except myself) agreeable to proposal from Lord Howe, beg leave to ask why I was refused that favour as I think it is what I have right to expect, not only from my rank in the service, but as a gentleman, and as my civil treatment to all the prisoners that have fallen into my hand[s] has been such, as to suffer to my knowledge not the value of sixpence to be taken from them tho I am sorry to say I have not experienced the like, having several times seen my private property advertised to be sold in the paper within your juri[s]diction, and when I applied for liberty to come to town to make application to you about it was denied that favour, think with yourselves if I have deser[v]d, this treatment. I Am Hon^l Gentlemen [&c.]

Tob^s: Furneaux

L, R-Ar, Letters to the Governor (1778), vol. 12, p. 32. Addressed at foot: "To/the Hon^l Gov^r and Council/Providence."

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO COMMANDER JOHN ORDE, R.N.

By &c. &c.

Whereas a Fleet of Army Victuallers, Transports carrying Invalids and other Ships and Vessels allowed to depart, are now ready to Sail from hence, and wait only for the River to be clear of the Ice. You are hereby directed to take the said Fleet under your Convoy, and to proceed with them the first favorable opportunity down the river untill you join His Majesty's Sloop the *Nautilus*, when You are to put yourself and the Convoy under the Command of Captⁿ. Collins^l who is charged with the care of Conducting the Fleet to the Capes of the Delaware.

You are to give all necessary Assistance to the Convoy in passing the Chevaux de Frize, and all possible protection from the Insults of the Enemy & their Armed Boats which infest the Mouths of some of the Creeks in the River.

Captain Collins being directed to cause the Ships of the Convoy to be searched for Deserters from His Majestys Ships, and also for other Seamen that may have secreted themselves onboard; You are to be assisting to Captain Collins in this examination, and for the better knowing of the Deserters a Midshipman from each Ship here will be sent onboard the *Zebra*, who are, after the Search has been made, to return to their respective Ships the first suitable opportunity.—

Upon your arrival below the Shoals you are to receive the Pilots out of the different Ships, and when Captain Collins shall have proceeded with his Convoy; You are to take your Station off or within the Shoals of the Brown & the Brandywine for the purpose of giving Assistance to Ships coming into the River, and remain on that Service until You shall receive further Orders.

You are to keep half the number of Pilots onboard the *Zebra*, and the remainder are to be sent back in the Pilot Boats to Philadelphia.—

Given &ca. [*on board the Roebuck at Philadelphia*] the 8th. March 1778.

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), pp. 21–22. Addressed at foot: “Captⁿ. J. Orde/—*Zebra*.”

1. Capt. John Collins, R.N.

CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN TO PRESIDENT OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Gentlemen

Port St^e Piere Martineco March 8th. 1778

I have the Pleasure to acquaint you of my Arrival at this place after an unfortunate Cruize of which I shall endeavour to give you an account.—

The 10th. of December we took our Departure from the Eastern Shore and on the 13th. in Latt^d. of 38..37 Fell in with a Brig^t. from Hallifax, James Wadie Commander,¹ on the 22nd. took a Schooner from Harbour Grace Newfoundland Commanded by W^m. Dasper,² & on the 23rd. fell in with a Brig^t. from St^e Johns Newfoundland Walter Stevens Commander all laden with Fish &ca.³ (as you will see by the Copy of their Manifests herein enclos'd) all which we Ordered to the Island of Martineco but only the last mentioned Vessel arrived the others were both retaken—

After our taking those Vessels we steer'd for the Western-Islands and from thence to the Coast of Portugal at which place we fell in with a Brigantine from Lisbon Portuguese property on board of which we put our Prisoners—while we lay here we had very hard blowing Weather. spoke several French & Dutch Vessels who informed us of their being boarded by English Cruizers almost every Day—while laying too the *Hazard*⁴ Split the Head of her Rudder which much disabled her and the next day we fell in with a British Man of War who chased us off the Coast then we stood for Madeira where we Cruized off & on till we thought our Provision so nigh expended that it was proper to go into Port to refit We had not the pleasure to see a single Sail that we could make a Prize of—the Day that we made Barbadoes we discovered a Ship to the Leeward and gave chase to her but she proved to be a Frigate and when we hauled our Wind she came so nigh as to give us a Broadside without doing us any damage excepting one Shott passing through my Fore-sail she chased us about 5 or 6 Hours and then gave over Chase⁵—then we hauld our Wind for Martineco at which place we arrived the 22nd. of February and are now refitting for another Cruize but will not be prudent to say where considering whose hands those may fall into—

my People have been very sickly ever since I left the Western Islands not many short of Twenty has been sick all the Time & now I have on Shore betwixt Thirty & Forty unfit for Duty—

I Hope yet to make up a good Cruize before I return to America I am
Gentlemen [&c.]

Jon^a Haraden—

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 199 (Revolution Letters, 1778), p. 35. Addressed: "To/Sam^l. Phillips Savage Esq^r/Chairman to the Honb^{le}/Board of War/Boston." Docketed: "Cap^t Harreden Lett^r/Martinico March 8th 1778."

1. Brigantine *Alexander*. See NDAR 10: 725.
2. Schooner *Good Intent*. See NDAR 10: 768.
3. Brigantine *Polly*. See NDAR 10: 779.
4. Massachusetts Navy brig *Hazard*, Capt. Simeon Samson, commander, had accompanied Haraden's *Tyrannicide* on this cruise.
5. H.M.S. *Deal Castle*. See Captain Simeon Samson to the President of the Massachusetts Board of War, 5 Mar., above, and Journal of H.M.S. *Deal Castle*, 18 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. YARMOUTH, CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT

March 1778 Is. of Barbadoes WN^oerly 50 L^s Latitude 13°.. 10' N
Sund^y 8th Light airs and fair weath^r for the most part. Employed as before but chiefly in Securing the Mainmast and Maintopmast all the Stays being shot away, or much wounded,—at 4 PM having got things in tolerable order, made Sail always keeping in or near the Latitude of Barbadoes, looking out for the Irish Convoy, at 8 PM Spoke with a snow from Cork which had separated from the Convoy the day after they Sailed, Supposes the Convoy to be ahead of her

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1091, fol. 178.

March 9

JOURNAL OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL

Monday [*Exeter*] March 9th. 1778

Vote for a Committee to consider of some method to prevent so many good Landmen fit for the army from Entering on board Privateers bro^t up^l read and Concurred & M^r Gilman² Added—

LB, Nh-Ar, Council Records, Council Book VIII (1778–1784), 15.

1. This motion was introduced in the House of Representatives the same day. Nh-Ar, Journal of the House (1776–1778), 344.
2. Nicholas Gilman.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. APOLLO, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

March 1778 South end of Nantucket Shoal SWbW ½ W dist. 3 [Lg^s.]
Monday 9. at 6 AM had 60 fath. water, fine green sand [set] the Mainsail, and close reef'd Topsails ½ past 8 saw a Sail to the Westward, out reefs, made Sail and gave Chace, at 11 Set Studding Sails

Ditto [South end of Nantucket Shoal] NNW dist. 5 Lg^s.
 Mod^{te}. Gales and Cloudy, ½ past 3 PM fired a Gun and brought
 too the Chace, shortned sail & [came] too, sent a boat on
 board the Chace, the *Sally*,¹ a Sloop belonging to New London,
 from Martinique, with Rum & Salt, put a Mate and Men on
 board her, received her people, close reef'd the Topsails, at
 midnight had 29 fath. water, white and black Sand,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 8.

1. Sloop *Sally*, Hezekiah Freeman, master, owned by Joseph Williams & Co., from Martinique to
 New London, with rum, salt, &c., sent to Newport as prize of H.M.S. *Apollo*. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct.
 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 9th 1778

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver Cap^t Nicholas Bartlett for the Brig^t
*Favorite*² . . . 0^{Cwt}.. 2^{qr}..—^{lb} Bread, & 7^{lb} Sugar—

Ord'd, That Cap^t Hopkins³ deliver Cap^t Bartlett, the remains of the 6 Inch
 Cut Hawser for the Brig^t *Favorite*, and return the weight.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 247–48.

1. David Devens.
2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
3. Capt. Caleb Hopkins.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO CAPTAIN NICHOLAS BARTLETT, JR.

Sir

[*Boston*] War Office March 9th 1778

You being Master of the Brig^a: *Favorite*¹ your orders are to proceed to
 Charlestown South Carolina, and apply to Mess^{rs}. John Cripps & Mey Merchants²
 there to whom you are consign'd who will give you a Cargo of Rice & also supply
 you with money to pay all necessary disbursments

As the Letters you have delivered you for those Gentlemen contain the first sett
 of a Bill of Exchange for eight thousand Dollars you will if you should be so unfortu-
 nate as to be taken on your passage to South Carolina either burn them or throw
 them overboard but not untill you find you must be taken. When you have com-
 pleted your load you are to proceed for Nantes in the Kingdom of France & deliver
 your Letters & Cargo to Mess^{rs}. Morris Pliarne Penet & C^o who will furnish you with a
 proper Cargo homewards & also supply you with money to defray your Charges &
 pay your Men such advance as have been agreed ~~on~~ but you will be as frugal as possi-
 ble. Upon your return you are not confin'd to this Place but may make the first port
 to the eastward of Boston you can from whence you are to give the earliest Notice to
 this Board by express. We wish you a good Voyage & are Y^r assured Friends

By order the Board
 Tho^s. Walker Pres^t P T

I acknowledge the above to be a true copy of the Orders I have receiv'd & promise
 to obey the same

P^r — Nicholas Bartlett Jn^r

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), pp. 438–39.
Addressed at top: “Captⁿ. Bartlet.”

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
2. John S. Cripps and Florian Charles Mey.

JOHN DESHON TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

Gent^ln

Providence March 9th 1778

Saturday Evening I Got to this Place

yours of the 3^d and 5th Instant are now before me, in ansuer to the former, Respecting the Ship *Warren* I am happy She so well Succeeded in geting out of this river.¹ Every Circumstance Combined in her Favour that She might [*get*] Clear of the Enemy. the night was Exceeding Dark, and there was but little wind untill the Crittical time of Passing the Greatest Danger, when the wind Shifted very Suddenly into the N. W and blowd Exceeding hard so that the Enemy Could not without the Greatest Difficulty Get under Sail and Persue. I was at Warrick neck and up the Most part of the Night when the *Warren* Passed and am Very Sure it was Imposable for Captⁿ Hopkins² to gain the Port of N. London there being So much wind and the Weather so Severe Cold, there where [*were*] on board the *Warren* ab^t 170 men many of which had not a Second Shift of Cloaths, therefore it will be Very Diffucult as well as Teadius for Capⁿ Hopkins to beat this Course at this Severe Season. the Orders Given him by me, you have with you, which Gives him not the least Encouragement to Cruise. Nevertheless Should the Ship Keep out this three weeks I Shall not be in the least uneasy ab^t her, well Knowin the men in no Condission to Beat a Winters Courst, we have Succeeded byound Expectation in Geting her out, and I have not the least Doubt but She will in due time Return with honor to the Commander and his Comp^y

The Ship *Trumbull* must be Got out this month if Posable. we Cannot Expect so full Tides after March is out. I have Given the Necessary order to Captain Saltonstal³ for that Purpose, have furnished him with a Number of men, and 4000 Dollers in that he may Prosecute his Business with Dispatch. N. Shaw Esq^r Declined advancing more money having already advanced 20000 £ for Continant and having So many Calls for money on his own acco^t Said it was out in [*of*] his Powr to advance more untill Such time as he is Reembursed. he has Sent Express to Congress for that Purpose. N. Shaw has Quantety of Provisions and other Stores for the *Trumbull* which he Procured last year.

I have ordered Major Huntington⁴ to Enquire into the Situation of Salsbury Furnice assoon as Con[*venient*], and acquaint the board.

I Shall Transmitt him Certifcates to amo^t of your Order of the 5th Instant. I waited on the Treasurer this morning. have for answer he will do the best he Can, but Says I must take Some Certifcates Some Conecticut Some Rhoad Island and Some Curr^t money or he Cannot answer the Draft. I shall attend him untill I have Got payment, and follow your Directions in the Matter.

The *Collumbus* is not quite Ready Neither has She hands to Carry her out. Captⁿ. Hacker⁵ is in the Country. Shall be able to Give you better acco^t of her after I See him. you Shall in my next hear more ab^t her.

Captⁿ. Whipple⁶ has a fair Prospect of Getting his Ship well mand Very Soon, the termes adopted for that Purpose are as folows,

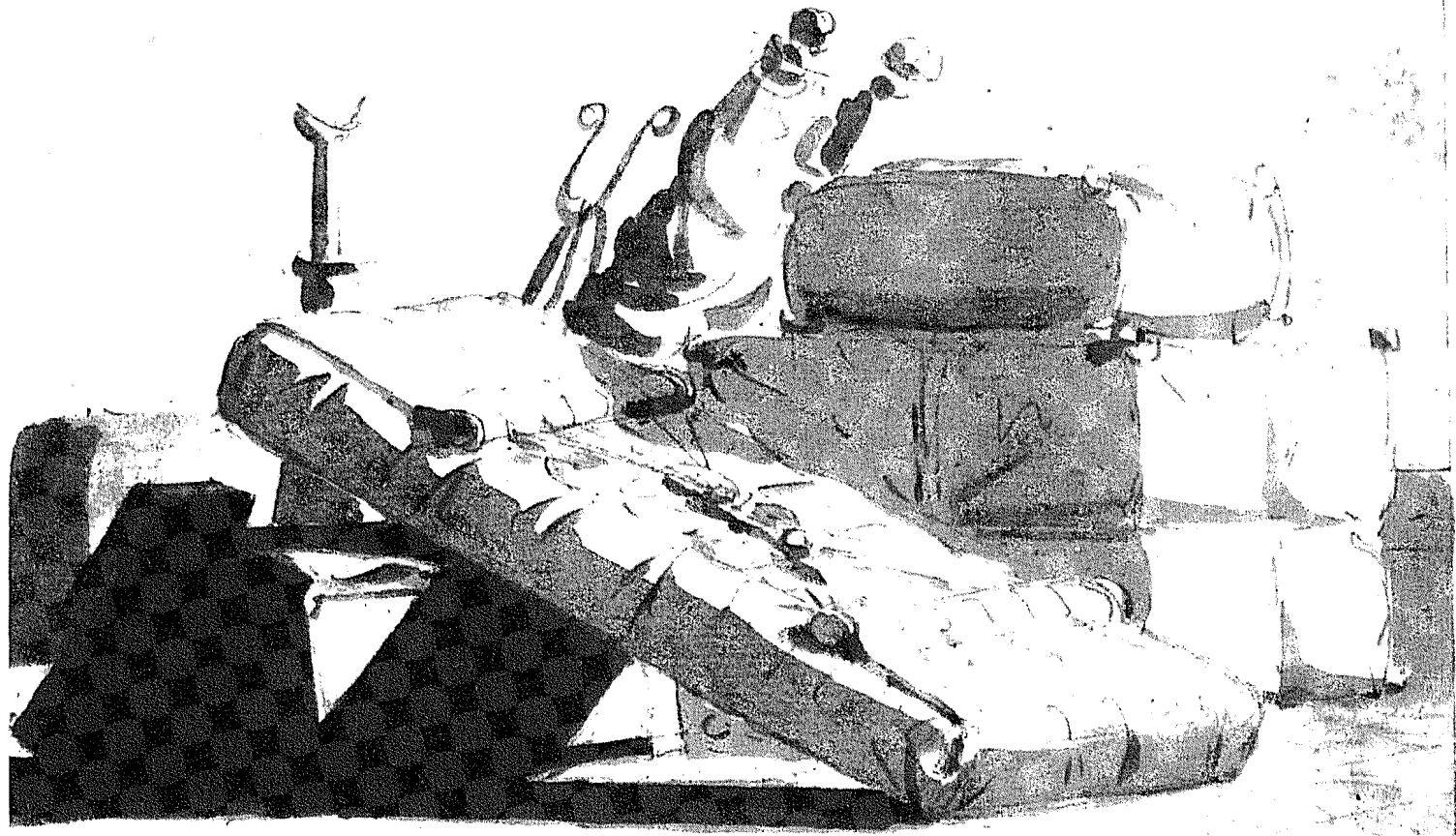
Viz^t. Each and Every man that will Enter on board S^d. Ship *Providance* for a Cruise Shall Recive adissional advance over and above what is allowed by the Honob^l. Continental Congress fifty Dollers.

this is the only Expediant I Could think of for Speedily maning this Ship, and Should it meet your Approbation I Shall be Very Happy. I am fully Perswaided She Could not be mand on anny better Terms. I have made Particular Enquirey into the Characters of those Gentlemen Captⁿ. Whipple has Recomend^d for his three Lievtenants, and find them fully answer their Recomendation. Captⁿ. Whipple has also Recomend^d Captⁿ. W^m. Joans⁷ for his Captⁿ. of Marines. he is a man well aquanted with the Service having Been in it the most of the War, and has Great Interest in Raising A Comp^y of Marines. his appearance and Character is Such I apprehend as will do Honor to the Service. I being anciously Concern^d for Getting out these Ships assoon as Posable have Promiss^d M^r. Joans this Captaincy and he is now Enlisting men well Knowing it will have Great Tendancy to man the Ships. if I am too forward in filling up those Vancansys your freindly admissiion in the Matter will be Kindly Excepted by me, who I assure you have no Other Interest in those Appointments then what Respects the Publick Good. if you approve you will Pleas to forward Comisⁿ. and warrants for the Several Persons whose Names I here Inclos^d. I hope the *Providance* will be Ready to Sail in 14 Days. if you approve of my filling up the Vacacys of Petty Officers in S^d Ship pleas to Signify it in your next, and with Respect to Vacancys in the Ship *Trumbull* who is Destitute of Some Officers you will Signify y^e Pleasure. the Officers who are appointed must be Men of Inflowance and Interest or we Shall never be able to man the Ships or do anny thng to Affect. I have not the least Doubt but if we are truly Industorous and not frightened at a little Extra Expence, we Shall Shortly make our Navy more Respectable, but in my humble Oppinion they must be Got out, while the weather Remains Cold and Severe—Y^{rs}. and C^o.

John Deshon

“Papers of William Vernon and the Navy Board,” 214–16. Addressed at the foot: “Honob:/Navy Board/Boston.”

1. Providence River and Narragansett Bay.
2. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins.
3. Capt. Dudley Saltonstall.
4. Maj. Joshua Huntington.
5. Capt. Hoysteed Hacker.
6. Capt. Abraham Whipple.
7. Capt. Wiliam Jones, Continental Marines.



A naval officer's packed gear

"DISPOSITION OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS AND VESSELS EMPLOYED IN NORTH AMERICA
UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE VICE ADMIRAL THE VISCOUNT HOWE."

Eagle
off Rhode Island
March the 9th. 1778

Rate	Ships Names	Guns	Men	Commanders	Appointments
3	<i>Eagle</i>	64	522	V. Adm ^l . L ^d . Howe Cap ^t . Duncan	To proceed to the Delaware
3	<i>Nonsuch</i>	—	500	— Curtis — Griffith — Reeve	
6	<i>Maidstone</i>	28	200	— Gardner	Refitting
6	<i>Unicorn</i>	20	160	— Ford	
St. Sh.	<i>Grampus</i>	—	230	— Reddall	Much out of Repair. To proceed to New York
F. Sh.	<i>Strombolo</i>	—	45	— Clayton	
3	<i>Somerset</i>	64	520	— Ourry	
5	<i>Lark</i>	32	220	— Smith	Between the North Ferry on the Narraganset Shore and the Island of Conanicut Between Calf Pasture Point on the Narraganset Shore and Pine Hill on Prudence Island
5	<i>Flora</i>	—	—	— Brisbane	
5	<i>Venus</i>	36	240	— Williams	Between the North East End of Prudence Island and Arnold's Point Rhode Island To the Northward of Dyres' Island betw ⁿ . Coggeshall's Point Rhode Island and Prudence Island; having returned from cruizing with the <i>Apollo</i> on Acco ^t of the Sickness of her Crew.
Sloop	<i>Kingsfisher</i>	14	125	Lieu ^t . Christian	
Galley	<i>Alarm</i>	8	40	— D'Auvergne	In the Sekonnet Passage.

Off Newport

At and in the Neighbourhood of Rhode Island

Detached from Rhode Island since the Return of the 5th January

4	<i>Renown</i>	50	350	Cap ^t Botham (acting)	Sailed the 6 th . Feb. to cruize for one Month from the S ^o . Point of Nantucket Shoals to the navigable Soundings on S ^t George's Bank & then to return to Rhode Island
6	<i>Mermaid</i>	28	200	___ Hawker	
5	<i>Juno</i>	32	220	___ Dalrymple	Sailed the 7 th . Feb ^y to cruize on the same Station as the <i>Renown</i> for 3 Weeks; To return to Rhode Island
6 A.V.	<i>Cerberus</i> <i>Haerlem</i>	28 —	200 —	___ Symons Lieu ^t Knight	
5	<i>Appllo</i>	32	220	Capt. Pownoll	Sailed the 15 th . Feb. for Cape Cod Harbour; ordered to return from thence to Rhode Island
3	<i>Raisorable</i>	64	500	___ Fitzherbert	Sailed the 7 th . Feb ^y to cruize for two months from the navigable Soundings on S ^t George's Bank Northw ^d . to Cape Sables & towards Boston & Piscataqua
4	<i>Centurion</i>	50	350	___ Brathwaite	
5	<i>Brune</i>	32	220	___ Ferguson	Sailed the 4 th . Feb. to cruize for one Month on the <i>Apollo's</i> Station & then to proceed to Halifax
Sloop A.V.	<i>Dispatch</i> <i>York</i>	16 —	125	___ Mason L ^t Wallbeoff	Sailed the 6 th . Mar. for Cape Cod Harbour. From thence to see the Transports destined for England to the Eastward of S ^t George's Bank; Then to cruize for 2 Months between Lat ^s . 41°. & 43° & Long ^s . 66°. & 70°. and afterwards to repair to Halifax
5	<i>Diamond</i>	32	220	Cap ^t Feilding	Sailed the 28 th . Feb ^y with a Convoy of Forage Transp ^s . to the Delaware. To return to Rhode Island
					Sailed the 8 th . Mar. with a second Division of Forage Transports to the Delaware. To return to Rhode Island and afterwards to proceed to Halifax

"DISPOSITION OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS AND VESSELS EMPLOYED IN NORTH AMERICA
UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE VICE ADMIRAL THE VISCOUNT HOWE."—*Continued*

Rate	Ships Names	Guns	Men	Commanders	Appointments	
6	<i>Sphynx</i>	20	160	___ Græme	Sailed the 4 th . Feb ^r to convoy an Hosp ^l . Ship through the Sound to New York. To return to Rhode Island	
5	<i>Amazon</i>	32	220	___ Jacobs		Sailed the 8 th . for New York. To be employed there on Port Service.
6	<i>Solebay</i>	28	200	Cap ^t . Symonds		Sailed the 15 th . Jan. with 2 Victuallers to Chesepeak Bay; To remain there under the Orders of the Senior Officer.
5	<i>Thames</i>	32	220	___ Howe	Sailed the 24 th . Feb. [<i>Thames</i>] 22 ^d . d ^o . [<i>Swift</i>] for New York; To be employed betw ⁿ . that Port and the Delaware	
Sloop	<i>Swift</i>	14	125	___ Keppel		
6	<i>Rose</i>	20	160	___ Reid	Sailed the 7 th . Jan ^r for her Station at Huntingdon Bay	
AV.	<i>Cabot</i>	—	—	Lieu ^t . Dod	Arrived from Halifax the 22 ^d . Jan ^r . Sailed for New York the 4 th . Feb: To return to Halifax with a Convoy.	
6	<i>Ariel</i>	20	160	___ Becher		Sailed the 24 th . Feb. with Dispatches to Chesepeak Bay; To return to Rhode Island
4	<i>Preston</i>	50	367	Comm ^o . Hotham Cap ^t . Uppleby	Off New York	
6	<i>Tartar</i>	28	200	___ Ommanney		
Bomb	<i>Carcass</i>	—	—	___ Howorth (acting)		
—	<i>Thunder</i>	—	—	___ Graves		
H ^l .Sh.	<i>Jersey</i>	—	—	___ Halsted		
Galley	<i>Dependence</i>	—	—	Lieu ^t . Clarke		
—	<i>Spitfire</i>	—	—	___ Scott		
—	<i>Crane</i>	—	—	—		

At and in the Neighbour

4	<i>Isis</i>	50	350	Cap ^t Raynor	Ordered for Service in the Delaware	hood of New York under the Orders of Com-modore Hotham
6	<i>Fowey</i>	20	160	___ Colins (act ^g)	At Sandy-Hook	
Sloop	<i>Swan</i>	14	125	Lieu ^t Totty	Huntingdon-Bay	
	<i>Raven</i>	—	—	Cap ^t Stanhope		
AV.	<i>Halifax</i>	—	40	Lieu ^t Quarmer		
Sloop	<i>Falcon</i>	14	125	Cap ^t Harmood	New City Island	
	<i>Scorpion</i>	—	—	___ Browne		
A.V.	<i>Diligent</i>	—	—	L ^t Farnham	Cruizing in the Sound	
Sloop	<i>Nautilus</i>	14	125	Cap ^t Collins	Sailed from New York for the Delaware with Dispatches	
—	<i>Senegal</i>	—	—	___ Molloy	Sailed from New York for Chesepeak Bay.	
5	<i>Rainbow</i>	44	280	S ^r G. Collier	At Halifax	At Halifax and on the Coasts of N. Scotia and New England, under the Orders of the Senior Officer at Halifax; By Return D dated 6th. January 1778.
..	<i>Ambuscade</i>	32	220	Cap ^t Macartney	At Annapolis	
.	<i>Orpheus</i>	—	—	___ Hudson	At Halifax refitting. Destined to cruize from the navigable Soundings on S ^t George's Bank to the opposite Coasts of Nova Scotia	
.	<i>Blonde</i>	—	—	___ Milligen	Sailed from Halifax 10 th . Nov ^r to cruize from the West End of S ^t George's Bank across the Bay of Boston to the Isle of Shoals	
6	<i>Fox</i>	28	200	___ Fotheringham act ^g	In Halifax Harbour refitting.	
.	<i>Milford</i>	—	—	S ^r W. C. Burnaby	In Halifax Harbour preparing to careen	
.	<i>Scarborough</i>	20	160	Cap ^t Barkley		
Sloop	<i>Albany</i>	16	125	___ Mowat	Sailed 15 th . Nov ^r to cruize from the Isle of Sable to Canso and Halifax	
.	<i>Vulture</i>	—	—	___ Feattus		
.	<i>Hunter</i>	—	—	___ Boyle	S ^t John's River.	
.	<i>Hope</i>	—	—	___ Dawson		

"DISPOSITION OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS AND VESSELS EMPLOYED IN NORTH AMERICA
UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE VICE ADMIRAL THE VISCOUNT HOWE."—*Continued*

Rate	Ships Names	Guns	Men	Commanders	Appointments
6	<i>Greyhound</i>	28	200	Cap ^t . Dickson	{ Sailed from Halifax the 19 th . Dec ^r . to cruize from the Navigable Soundings on S ^t . George's Bank to the opposite Coasts of Nova Scotia }
5	<i>Roebuck</i>	44	280	Cap ^t . Hamond	
.	<i>Pearl</i>	32	220	___ Linzee	} In the Delaware } } Under the } Direction of } Captn. Hamond } } At the Entrance of the Delaware }
6	<i>Camilla</i>	20	160	H ^{ble} . C. Phipps	
A.S.	<i>Vigilant</i>	—	150	Cap ^t . Christian	
—	<i>Delaware</i>	—	160	Lieu ^t . Watt (act ^g)	
Sloop	<i>Zebra</i>	14	125	Cap ^t . Orde	
Galley	<i>Cornwallis</i>	—	40	Lieu ^t . Spry	
A.V.	<i>Viper</i>	10	50	___ Pakenham	
St.Sh.	<i>Adventure</i>	—	40	___ Tonken	
4	<i>Experiment</i>	50	320	S ^t . Ja. Wallace	
3	<i>S^t. Albans</i>	64	500	Cap ^t . Onslow		} Ordered to Rhode Island } } At the Entance of } Chesepeak Bay }
5	<i>Emerald</i>	32	220	___ Caldwell	
.	<i>Phœnix</i>	44	280	___ Parker	
.	<i>Richmond</i>	32	220	___ Gidoin	
Sloop	<i>Otter</i>	14	125	___ Squire	
6	<i>Carysfort</i>	28	200	Cap ^t . Fanshawe	} Stationed on the Southern Coasts from South } Carolina to S ^t . Augustine. }
.	<i>Perseus</i>	20	160	H ^{ble} . G K. Elphinstone	
.	<i>Galatea</i>	—	—	Cap ^t . Jordan	
.	<i>Lizard</i>	28	200	___ Mackenzie	
A.V.	<i>Hinchinbrook</i>	—	65	L ^t . Ellis	

6	<i>Daphne</i>	20	160	Cap ^t Chinnery	Supposed to be lately arrived at New York
6	<i>Garland</i>	20	160	Cap ^t Pearson	} In the River S ^t Laurence
6	<i>Triton</i>	28	200	___ Lutwidge	
Sloop	<i>Viper</i>	10	110	___ Graves	
Brig	<i>Canceaux</i>	—	55	L ^t Schank	

Howe

D, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 190–91. Docketed: “March the 9th. 1778/Disposition of His Majesty’s/Ships and Vessels employed/in North America.” Docketed in another hand: “N^o. 1/In Lord Howes Lre/N^o. 55.” Enclosure No. 1 in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe’s letter No. 55 to Philip Stephens, 16 Mar. 1778.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

9th March. Cold raw weather. Wind E.

Captain Griffiths¹ of The *Nonsuch* having been appointed Commodore, and to Command on this Station when Lord Howe goes from hence, hoisted his broad pendant yesterday as soon as the *Amazon* went out of the harbour. He could not do it sooner, as Captain Jacobs² of the *Amazon* is a Senior Captain.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 255.

1. Capt. Walter Griffith, R.N.
2. Capt. Maximilian Jacobs, R.N.

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY,
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 1778

NEW-YORK, March 9.

Last week in the snow storm was cast away on the South side of Long-Island, near Judge Jones's, the sloop *Dolphin*,¹ of Milford, in Connecticut, bound to Martinico, with provisions and lumber, a prize to his Majesty's ship *Experiment*, Sir James Wallace, Commander. The people are saved, the vessel and Cargo lost. . . .

A Privateer Sloop of 10 Guns, sailed from New-Haven last Week for New London, there to be joined by some other Privateers, and then they intended to cruise off Sandy Hook. . . .

The Rebel Privateer Brig *Comet*,² Capt. Pyne, of 18 Guns, and 85 Men, was taken the 22d of December last, by the *Daphne* Frigate, St. John Chinnery, Esq; Commander, off the Isle of Pyne,³ and arrived here last Saturday under the command of Lieut. Drury,⁴ who informs us, That since the 22d. of July, the Day the *Daphne* left this Port, Capt. Chinnery took 11 Prizes, among them the Sloop *Lydia* of 14 Guns,⁵ from Guadaloupe for North-Carolina loaded, three from South-Carolina, &c. &c. and when he parted from the *Daphne*, all was well on board. . . .

Saturday also was sent in here by his Majesty's Frigate *Apollo*, Philemon Pownall, Esq; Commander, the Ship *Felicity*,⁶ Capt. Edenton, taken about fourteen Days ago, near St. George's Bank: Almost all her Cargo⁷ was put on board the Schooner *Polly*, at Sea, and sent to Salem. When she was taken, two Ships and a Sloop hove in Sight, when Capt. Pownall immediately gave Chace to the largest, which was supposed to be a Rebel Frigate of 36 Guns,⁸ and the other two Privateers of an inferior Force. The *Felicity* has only on board a few Casks of Wine, and some Cordage.

1. Sloop *Dolphin*, J. Miles, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 11 Feb., above.
2. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Comet*, James Pyne, commander. See NDAR 10: 786.
3. Isle of Pines (Isla de Pinos), Cuba.
4. Lt. Thomas Drury.
5. North Carolina privateer sloop *Lydia*, Benjamin Appleton, commander. See NDAR 10: 230, 628n.
6. Ship *Felicit  *, Bertrand Olivier, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 15 Feb., above.
7. Typographical error for "crew".
8. Continental Navy frigate *Boston*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 19 and 20 Feb., above.

JOHN LAURENS TO HENRY LAURENS

[Valley Forge] Head Quarters, 9th March, 1778.

My Dear Father:

. . . The naval expedition in which some of our brave landmen, you say, have embarked, will, I hope, be crowned with deserved success.¹

... You will be informed of Cap^t Barry's² success with two or three armed boats on the Delaware. Two transports loaded with forage,³ one of them mounting six four pounders attended by a schooner,⁴ mounting eight four pounders and four howitzers, fell into his hands, by his gallantry and address. The schooner had on board a lieutenant of engineers⁵ and company of artificers, some valuable intrenching tools, officers' baggage and wines, delicacies destined for Gen^l Howe's table, etc. Cap^t Barry was obliged to destroy the ships, and set out on a new cruise with the schooner. A large fleet of the enemy's vessels were coming up the river.⁶ Barry maintained an obstinate fight; his men once leaped into the boat and were preparing to desert him; his presence of mind and singular address recovered them. He renewed the combat, but surrounded and overpowered, he was obliged to run his schooner on shore, where he saved the cannon and every thing valuable, and rendered the schooner useless. You may see that I write in great haste, which I am the more sorry for, as it would give me pleasure to dwell upon the praises due to Cap^t Barry. Among other things taken on board the schooner are a number of German letters and papers relative to the foreign regiments in British service, from whence we hope to gain some useful intelligence. Gen^l Knyphausen's⁷ order of the Lion d'or is likewise taken, but will be sent unto him. I am ever your most affectionate

John Laurens.

The Army Correspondence of Colonel John Laurens in the Years 1777-8 Now First Printed from Original Letters Addressed to his Father Henry Laurens President of Congress with a Memoir by Wm. Gilmore Simms (New York, 1867; reprint ed., New York: New York Times and Arno Press, 1969), 134-41.

1. South Carolina Navy expedition which sailed with the Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*, Capt. Nicholas Biddle, to clear the South Carolina coast of British frigates.

2. Capt. John Barry, Continental Navy. See Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 9 Mar., below.

3. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master, mounting six 4-pounders. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M.S. *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., below; and Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N. to Philip Stephens, 26 Mar., and Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

4. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the Army. See, *Ibid.*

5. Lt. Stratton, Royal Engineers.

6. H.M.S. *Experiment*, H.M. frigate *Brune*, H.M. sloop *Dispatch* and H.M. sloop *York* escorting a convoy of eleven transports with forage from Rhode Island.

7. Lt. Gen. Wilhelm, Baron von Knyphausen, Hesse-Cassel Army.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EXPERIMENT*, CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE

March 78
Sunday 9th.
[Monday]

Employ'd working up the River Delaware
AM at 7 Weighed the Convoy in Company. at 10 spoke the
George Armed Sloop. She Came down the Rebles having fired at
her & set fire to a Transport.¹ at Noon abreast of Morris hook.²
Punished John Julian for Mutiny in C^o: as above

Employ'd working up the River Delaware
Light Breezes and Hazy. PM saw a schooner and Ship within
Reedy Island.³ at 2 the *Brune Dispatch* & *York* Sloop Stood into
the East End of the Island. Sent our Lieu^t: on b^d: the *George* to
go ahead & prevent the schooner from going to the Westw^d:
the *Brune* & *Dispatch* fired Some Guns. the Rebles set fire to the
Ship & the schooner made Sail out. we fired several Guns at
her over the Island, and sevr^l: Shot was fired from the shore at
our Shipping. some Gun boats & a galley got over the Jersey

shore.⁴ and the schooner Run aGround on the Penselvania Shore. 7 Miles below New Castle, we fired Several Guns at her & the Rebles set her on fire at 7 anch^d: Close to the Schooner in 3½ fathoms Found the schooner full of Water⁵

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/331, fols. 120–21.

1. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, 180 tons burthen, built on the Thames River in 1752, underwent thorough repairs in 1772 and had new upper works in 1776. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

2. Morris Hook on Morris Liston's Land at the mouth of Blackbird Creek, near Appoquinimink River, Del.

3. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the Army, and transport *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master. For more on this action, see Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

4. Capt. John Barry and Lt. Luke Matthewman, commanding two barges from the Continental Navy frigate *Effingham* in company with three armed boats of the Pennsylvania Navy.

5. The next morning *Dispatch's* boat got *Alert* off the shore. UklPR, Adm. 51/331, fol. 121.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *DISPATCH*, COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER MASON

March 1778
[Monday] 9th

Sailing up the River Delaware—[*anchored in The Narrows*]
at 6 AM Weigh'd & came to Sail in Comp^y with y^e *Brune* &c.

Sailing up the River Delaware—
Mod^c & thick W^c[PM] The *Brune* orderd us to stand in between Port Pen & Reedy Island & on our approach a Schooner & several Gun Boats went out at y^e Opposite End of y^e Passage¹ they sat fire to a Transport they had taken,² they fir'd several Shot at us from a Battery, which we return'd with several Broad sides as we Pass'd, gave Chace to y^e Schooner & Gun Boats; The Gun Boats row'd within the Shoals; got y^e Schooner after firing several Shot at her & she at us. we drove her on shore in the bight of Newcastle & on y^e *Experiments* coming up sent our Boats & got her off, She prov'd to be the *Alert* Arm'd Schooner which had been taken a Day or too before,³ when we chac'd y^e Schooner we left y^e *Brune* Firing on their Battery, at 6 came too wth. the stream Anchor in 5½ f^m. as did the Convoy.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/253.

1. Capt. John Barry's force of five armed boats, consisting of two barges from the Continental Navy frigate *Effingham*, commanded by Barry and Lt. Luke Matthewman, and three Pennsylvania Navy armed boats.

2. Transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master, 250 tons burthen, mounting six 4-pounders, built at Whitehaven in 1749, underwent thorough repairs in 1771 and further repairs in 1776. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*. For more on this action, see Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 9 Mar., immediately below, and Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

3. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the Army. See Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dear General

Port Penn March 9th: 1778

'Tis with the Greatest Satisfaction Imaginable I inform You of Capturing two Ships¹ & A Schooner² of the Enemy the two Ships were Transports from Rhode Island Loaded with forage One Mounting Six four Pounders with fourteen hands Each the Schooner is in the Engineering Department Mounting Eight Double fortified four Pounders & twelve four Pound howitz Properly fitted in Every

Particular & Manned with thirty three men Among the Prisoners is a Lieutenant³ in the Same Departmen with the Schooner the Lieutenant together with the Captain of the Schooner⁴ Being verry Solicitous for the Liberty of a Fortnight thought Proper By the Advice of Nicholas Vandyke Esq^r a Member of Congress, to allow them their Parole for a fortnight to Go to Philadelphia with Some Officers Lady's that were taken in the Schooner. the Schooner is a most Excellent Vessel for Our Purpose & as there Are a Number of Ships Expected in Under Verry Little Convoy with the farther assistance of about forty men Should Give a Verry Good account of them, as the Enemy are Greatly Necessiated for want of Forage, the Schooner is Unloaded But have not as Yet the Manifest of the Cargo But are a Number of Engineering Tools on Board. Shall Give You a Circumstantial account^t of the Whole Cargo as Soon as Possible By the Bearer M^r John Chelton have Sent You a Cheese Together with a Jar of Pickled Oysters which Crave Your Acceptance Should have Remitted the Particulars Together with the Letters & Dispatches for General De heister⁵ Before But a fleet of the Enemys Small Vessels⁶ appearing in Sight Obligated me to Burn One of the Ships⁷ & am afraid the Other⁸ will share the same fate after Discharging her. But am Determined to hold the Schooner at all Events. Inclosed You have the Articles of the Schooners Capitulation⁹ as we Sent a flag on Board her After Boarding the two Ships & am Sir with Due Respect [&c.]

John Barry.

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "On Publick Service/to/His Excell^{ty} General Washington/at/Head Quarters/Near the Valley Forge." Notation: "Favoured By/M^r Chilton." Docketed: "Cap^t Barry/of the Navy/9th March 1778/Ans^d. 12th."

1. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master. For more on this action, see Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M. sloop *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., above; and Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Philip Stephens, 26 Mar., and Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army. See *The New-York Gazette: and the Weekly Mercury*, 23 Mar., below.

3. Lt. Stratton, Royal Engineers.

4. Daniel Moore.

5. Lt. Gen. Leopold Philipp, Baron von Heister, Hesse-Cassel Army.

6. H.M.S. *Experiment* with H.M.S. *Brune*, H.M. sloop *Dispatch* and H.M. sloop *York*, escorting a convoy of eleven transports with forage from Rhode Island.

7. Transport *Kitty*.

8. Transport *Mermaid*.

9. See Articles of Surrender of the Schooner *Alert*, 7 Mar., above.

WILLIAM LUX TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

May it please Your Excellency,

Baltimore 9 March 1778.

The States of America have three Parcells of Goods arrived on the Eastern Shore consisting of Bales of Tents and Cloth, which they want up here as quick as may be to be forwarded to York, And have directed me apply to you for one of the Galleys to go down to Onancock, which is just below Watts Island to bring them up. I therefore make application to you for that purpose, and if you can spare Cap^t David,¹ I will send down a proper Person to see them delivered to him. Your answer by the first Conveyance will oblige Sir [&c.]

Will^m Lux Cont^l Agent

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4585-81.

1. Capt. John David, commanding Maryland Navy galley *Conqueror*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN BENNETT MATHEWS

Sir.

In Council Annapolis 9th March 1778.

We just now are informed that a Ship a Brig and seven Sloops and Schooners were yesterday beating up the Bay and, in the Evening, were as high as Patuxent; there may be therefore be Occasion here, for your Galley,¹ by the Time you can get down. We have long expected you nor can account for your Delay, and require you to push to this Place instantly on your Receipt of this. No Excuse will be admitted. We are &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777-1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "Cap^t Bennett Mathews or the/Command^r Officer of the *Independence* Galley."

1. Maryland Navy galley *Independence*.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN ONSLOW TO THE VISCOUNT HOWE"

dated S^c *Albans* off Willoby's Point March 9th 1778.

"The *Solebay* and *Senegal* rejoined me from their Chase the 7th: Instant. Captain Symonds informs me the Ship he chased¹ was a long Frigate-built French Ship, but he did not think prudent to follow her any longer, as a NW Gale came on, lest he should be led off the Coast. The *Solebay*'s Bowsprit was sprung, but will be fished and fit for Service by to-morrow Night.

I have the Satisfaction of saying, that out of four large French Ships who have lately attempted the Ports in this Bay, three have been chased off the Coast and one taken."²

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 220. Docketed (with extracts of 27 Mar. letter): "Extracts of two Letters from/Cap^t Onslow to the Viscount Howe,/dated the 9th: and 27th: March 1778./In Lord Howe's Letter/N^o 57." This extract is enclosure No. 2 in Vice Admiral Viscount Howe to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 23 Apr. 1778 (No. 57).

1. French ship *Ferdinand*, Denis-Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen, master.

2. The ship that was taken was the ship *Vicomte de Veaux*, Pierre Donat de La Garde, master, owned by the Vicomte de Veaux of Paris, captured by H.M.S. *Solebay* on 23 Feb., and sent as a prize to New York City. The Vice Admiralty Court of New York declared her a lawful capture on 10 Apr. 1778. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 67. See "Extract of a Letter from Captain Onslow to Viscount Howe," 2 Mar., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *GLASGOW*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PASLEY

March 1778
Monday 9

The S.W. End of Little Heneago [*Inagua*] WNW ½ W. 2 Leagues.

At 9 (AM) saw two sail to the NW. Made Sail and gave Chase to one of them.

The S^o. End of Mayaguana NBW. 6 Leagues.

Fresh Breezes and Fair, first and latter part, Middle Squally with Rain. At 1 (PM) Fir'd 2 Shott & bro^t too the Chase, sent an Officer to Examine her. Proved a Schooner from S^o. Carolina to the Mole,¹ took possession of the Prize bro^t the Prizoners on board, sent a Petty Officer with People to take her to Jamaica.²

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/399.

1. Môle Saint-Nicolas, Saint-Domingue.

2. Schooner *Nancy*, William Howland, master, from South Carolina to Hispaniola, with rice, indigo, and tobacco. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

LIEUTENANT DE VAISSEAU MARQUIS DE VERDUN DE LA CRENNE
TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

Au Cap Français le 9. mars 1778.

Monseigneur.

Depuis la lettre que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous écrire le 28. du mois de Janvier jusqu'au 2. de ce mois, je n'ai rien rencontré d'intéressant dans ma croisière, quoique j'aie plusieurs fois parcouru la côte depuis la partie orientale de la Tortuë jusqu'au Mole Saint Nicolas; mais depuis cet instant jusqu'à présent j'ai toujours été en présence de quelque bâtiment Anglais.

Le 2. de ce mois je rencontrai à environ 3. lieues au Nord-Est du Mole S^t Nicolas et à la distance de trois quarts de lieues de la côte un petit bateau; qui n'avait pour artillerie que 10. pierriers, que mit pavillon et flamme Anglaise, je lui tirai un coup de canon à poudre pour le faire mettre en panne, et lui dit de mettre son canot à la Mer ce qu'il fit, un midchipman qui vint abord me montra la commission de ce bateau qui est signée Robert Lambert, Capitaine de la frégate le Niger, dont il est la découverte et approuvée par l'Amiral Gayton, datée du 7. février; ce bateau qui a autant 30. hommes d'Equipage se nomme Lady Parker et son Commandant Abraham Rose, master de la frégate le Niger! je dis au Midchipman que vu la grande proximité où je le trouvois de nos côtes; j'allois le conduire dans un des Ports de la Colonie, où le Général^l décideroit de son sort, sur quoi il me dit qu'il sortoit du Mole S^t Nicolas, où il avoit été obligé d'entrer pour réparer le dommage qu'il avoit souffert par le mauvais temps et que le Vent contraire depuis l'Instant de son départ l'avoit empêché de s'éloigner plutôt de la Côte, sur quoi je gardai le second abord avec sa commission, et dis au bateau de me suivre et que j'allois envoyer un Canot au Mole pour vérifier s'il sortoit en effet de ce port; M^r le Comte D'Ailly, qui se trouvoit alors commander au Mole, me manda que le rapport de ce bateau étoit vrai, mais qu'il étoit très Surpris qu'étant parti dans la Nuit il ne fut pas plus éloigné de la Côte à 4. heures du Soir. En conséquence je dis à l'Anglais, que peu s'en falloit que je ne l'aretasse et que je lui enjoignois de s'éloigner promptement de la Côte ce qu'il a exécuté.

J'ai du reste fait toutes les politesses possibles au midchipman qui a passé la Nuit abord, c'est par lui que j'ai appris que la frégate le Niger de 32. canons, commandée par Robert Lambert devoit venir au Cap au premier jour.

Le 3. mars après avoir parlé à deux bâtiments marchands hollandais venant de Curaçao et allant à Amsterdam, je donnai chasse à un bâtiment qui couroit sabordée à terre près le Cap à foux, ce bâtiment vira debord étant à environ une lieue de la Terre. j'avois mis pavillon et flamme française que j'avois assurés d'un coup de canon à poudre et ce bâtiment avoit mis pavillon et flamme Anglaise qu'il avoit également assurés d'un coup de canon. j'en tirai un Second pour lui marquer que je désirois lui parler, mais il continua toujours à prendre chasse, vers cinq heures voyant que je le gagnais beaucoup n'étant plus qu'à un demi quart de lieue d'lui. je tirai encore un coup de canon à poudre et alors il diminua de Voiles; et nous mimes chacun un Canot à la Mer, pour s'envoyer départ et d'autre officier. après les politesses ordinaires j'ai dit à l'officier que j'étois fort surpris que sa frégate s'approcha aussi près de la côte que j'avois ordre de l'en empêcher et que je ne souffrirais pas qu'elle visitât qui que ce puisse être sous mon pavillon.

À tout cela l'officier Anglais m'a répondu avec beaucoup de circonspection disant que son Capitaine repondroit lui même à l'officier que j'avois envoyé à son bord.

Cette frégate est le *Glascow* percée de 22. canons et montée de 20. seulement commandée par le Capitaine Pasley.² j'ai reconnu cette frégate pour être la même que celle que j'avois chassée le 26. du mois du Janvier avec un bateau, sans pouvoit la joindre ainsi que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous en rendre compte par ma lettre du 28. Janvier.³ j'en ai parlé a l'officier anglais qui m'a répondu qu'il n'etoit pas alors embarqué sur le *Glascow*; mais le midchipman qui lui servoit d'Interprete m'a dit qu'il s'en souveroit tres bien et que le bateau qui étoit alors avec le *Glascow* étoit le *dreadnought*, mais le Capitaine Anglais a dit a l'officier que j'avois envoyé a son bord, qui lui en a parlé, que ce n'etoit pas sa frégate, mais en même temps il est convenu qu'elle étoit la seule frégate de cette force a la Jamaïque.

Il a repondu avec beaucoup de circonspection a l'officier que j'ai envoyé a son bord, qu'il n'approchoit la côte de près que pour sa rendre plus prontement a sa destination. il a d'ailleurs ajouté, mais a quelle distance pretendez vous dont que les batiments de Guerre anglais ne doivent point approcher de vos côtes; ce a quoi l'officier francais a Eludé de repondre d'une maniere positive.

Il a dit ensuite que s'il n'avoit pas diminué de Voiles plutôt, c'est qu'il avoit des ordres de son amiral qu'il étoit pressé d'Exécuter. enfin apres beaucoup de politesses de part et d'autre les canots sont retournés chaqu'un a leur bord et j'ai suivi le *Glascow*, jusqu'a 9. heures du soir a la distance de 5. a 6. lieües de la côte.

Le 4. a onze heures du matin j'ai joint une petite Goëlette portant pavillon et flamme Anglaise que j'avois appercüe le matin a une lieüe et demie au Nord, Nord-Ouest de l'Entrée du Mole apres avoir assuré mon pavillon a l'ordinaire je lui ai dit de mettre un canot a la mer, voulant m'assurer qui elle etoit, sur quoi elle a fait des difficultés disant que son canot étoit cassé et repondant d'un ton tres rogue a ce que je lui disois, ce qui m'a un peu impatienté et m'a obligé de lui dire que s'il ne le mettoit pas a la Mer et qu'il ne vint pas abord j'allois tirer dessus, et j'ai fait en consequence pointer quelques canons, sur quoi il a mis son canot a la mer et est venu abord, je lui ai marqué mon etonnement de sa conduite et je lui ai demandé pourquoi il s'approchait si près d'en côtes francaises il m'a repondu toujours d'un ton tres rogue que c'etoit pour faire sa route, et que d'ailleurs les batiments de sa Majesté Britannique pouvoient s'approcher aussi pres de la côte qu'ils le jugeoient apropos; ses reponses et son ton m'ont un peu donné de l'humeur et je lui ai dit qu'en ce cas la si je le rencontrais une Seconde fois pres de la côte je lui passerais sur le Corps.

Je lui ai demandé avoir sa commission il m'a dit qu'il étoit officier et que je le voyois a son uniforme! a quoi j'ai repondu qu'un pirate pouvoit prendre un uniforme; il m'a alors montré une Copie Collationnée de sa commission de Lieutenant de Vaisseau qui est de l'Amiral Gayton du 3 mai 1777 mais je lui ai dit que cela n'etoit pas suffisant que je voulois voir s'il avoit un ordre pour commander ce batiment: les officiers du Roi commandant quelques fois des batiments particuliers: apres quelques difficultés il ma dit qu'il alloit l'envoyer chercher ce qu'il a fait. sa commission est de la frégate l'*Eole* capitaine atkins⁴ dont je joint ici une Copie avec la traduction⁵ il ma montré en même temps une Lettre cachetée de l'amiral Parker commandant actuellement a la Jamaïque adressée au Capitaine de L'*Eole*.

Le nom de cette petite Goëlette qui n'a que 4. petites canons de 2. livres et-huit pierriers se nomme l'*eole*, comme la frégate dont elle est la mouche, et le nom de celui qui la commande henry thorp.

L'on peut voir par sa commission dont j'ai joint ici Copie que sa conduite étoit nullement d'accord avec ses ordres en Consequence je lui ai dit qu'il s'en falloit tres peu que je ne le conduisis dans un des Ports de la Colonie et que je l'aurais fait sans la Lettre dont il étoit chargé de la part de l'Amiral. Surquoi il a adouci son ton et a accepté l'offre qui je lui ai faite de se rafraichir j'ai exigé qu'il s'éloignat prontement de la Côte et il a fait route en Consequence.

Le même jour a une heure apres midi j'appercus un batiment qui venoit abord opposé qui mit pavillon et flamme anglaise, je mis aussitot pavillon et flamme française que j'assurai a l'ordinaire et je manoeuvrai pour approcher cette frégate qui étoit au Vent a moi et qui tenoit le Vent. je la reconnus pour une frégate de 32. mais percée de 38. comme sont toutes les frégates anglaises de ce rang ce qui m'a fait juger que c'étoit le Niger.

La Goëlette L'eoie que j'avois parlé le matin a manoeuvré pour la joindre ce dont elle est venuë a bout vers 7. heures du soir j'ai fait mon possible pour conserver cette frégate dans la Nuit, mais le 5. au matin elle étoit au moins deux grandes lieues au Vent a moi lorsque j'ai appercu une Goëlette venant du Canal de la Tortuë avec un Vent tres foible, j'ai cru d'abord que cette goëlette étoit une mouche anglaise l'ayant vüe mettre en panne a quelque distance de la frégate Anglaise qui étoit alors a environ 2. a 3. lieues de la pointe de l'Ouest de la Tortuë et a même distance de la grande Terre, le Vent s'est un peu élevé et la goëlette a fait route a l'ouest ayant pavillon français, j'ai manoeuvré pour lui parler et elle m'a appris que la frégate anglaise avoit envoyé un canot pour la visiter qu'on l'avoit du reste traitée tres poliment, et qu'on s'étoit contenté de Visiter ses papiers, cette Goëlette qui venoit du Cap sa nomme la Marie patron Guibert. La frégate anglaise avoit sur moi l'avantage de la Marche, mais étant plus heureux dans le choix de mes bordées je me suis trouvé au Vent a elle a 4. heures du soir; j'ai mis pavillon et flamme française et je me suis préparé au Combat de toutes manieres; la frégate Anglaise a également mis son pavillon et nous l'avons assuré depart et d'autre d'un Coup de Canon a poudre; j'ai arrivé sur elle pour lui parler et lorsque j'ai été pres d'elle j'ai lu le nom du Niger, sur sa poupe: je lui ai demandé s'il n'alloit pas au Cap! il m'a répondu Oui. alors je lui ai dit que le Général n'étoit pas mais au Port-au Prince et je lui ai proposé de mettre son canot a la Mer et que j'en mettrois un de mon côté! il m'a répondu qu'il n'entendoit pas je lui ai répété la même chose en lui disant qu'en mettant chaqu'un un canot a la Mer nous nous entendrions mieux! Il m'a dit que ses canots n'étoient pas en état, surquoi je lui ai dit que j'étois bien surpris qu'il fit des difficultés de mettre un Canot a la Mer étant sur nos côtes, Lorsque j'offrois d'en mettre un de mon côté; mais que je le suivrais de si pres que je serais a même de m'opposer qu'il visitât aucun batiment sur nos côtes, alors le Niger a mis en panne et a mis un Canot a la mer et j'ai fait la même chose de mon côté; apres beaucoup d'honêtetes depart et d'autres; j'ai dit a l'officier Anglais (Et l'officier que j'ai envoyé abord du Niger a dit au Capitaine) que le Général étoit au Port-au Prince, que son voyage au Cap seroit inutile, s'il vouloit remettre lui même ses paquets au Général, et que s'il vouloit aller au Port-au Prince, je ly accompagnerois et lui donnerois s'il le desiroit mon propre Pilote de la Côte, le Capitaine Anglais a toujours répondu que ses ordres étoient d'aller au Cap. et non au Port-au Prince et qu'il étoit tres reconnaissant de mes offres obligeantes sur quoi on lui a répondu qu'je l'accompagnerois au Cap.

J'ai ensuite marqué mon étonnement de ce qu'il est visité le matin la Goëlette française surtout ayant une mission pour venir au Cap et que si j'avois été a proximité je ne l'aurois certainement pas souffert. l'officier qui est venu a mon bord m'a dit qu'ils avoient pris cette goëlette pour une de leurs mouches et le Capitaine a dit qu'il l'avoit prise pour une Goëlette Insurgente mais on lui a répondu que quand même elle eut été Insurgente je n'aurois pas souffert qu'elle eut été visitée si j'avois été assez près pour m'y opposer.

Les Canots etant rendus chaqu'un a leur bord la Frégate anglaise a forcé de Voiles et j'ai fait mon possible pour la suivre, mais je lui ai reconnu une Superiorité de Marche tres decidée au plus pres du Vent ce que j'attribuë en grande partie a ce que je ne suis pas maintenant a la difference a laquelle je devois être n'ayant plus de vivres abord; je serois même déjà en route pour le Port-au Prince pour y prendre des Vivres sans la rencontre de cette frégate; n'en ayant tout au plus qui jusqu'au 15. de ce mois; en sorte que je serai obligé d'en prendre un peu au Cap pour pouvoir me rendre au Port-au Prince avec sureté ayant ci devant écrit a 16^r l'Intendant de vouloir bien me faire faire du biscuit et préparer les autres parties de Vivres dont j'ai besoin n'ayant jusqu'ici reçu aucunes nouvelles des Vivres qui devoient m'être envoyés dans la Colonie quoiqu'ils dussent être arrivés depuis plus de deux mois.

Le 6. au matin j'appercus un batiment faisant route pour joindre la frégate Anglaise qui étoit alors a plus d'une Lieuë au Vent a moi. ce batiment apres avoir fait un signal de reconnaissance a mis pavillon et flamme Anglaise et je l'ai peu apres reconnu pour la frégate le *Glascow*, a qui j'avois parlé le 3. de ce mois, elles ont communiqué ensembles et ont navigué de consortte jusqu'a 3. heures du soir que le *Glascow*, s'est séparé en faisant route au Large de la Côte.

La frégate Anglaise me gagnoit beaucoup au Vent pendant le Jour mais le choix des bordées joint a ce que je portois plus de Voiles la Nuit a fait que je me suis trouvé le 7. au matin beaucoup au Vent a elle, j'ai d'ailleurs pris ma revanche vent arriere ayant alors beaucoup d'avantage Sur le *Niger*.

Le 7. au Coucher du Soleil je me trouvais ainsi que la frégate Anglaise a 4. a 5. Lieuës de l'Entrée du Cap, j'ai pris le parti s'approcher tres près a la faveur du Clair de Lune pour envoyer un Canot avec un officier tant au Commandant de la *Terpsicore*,⁶ qu'a M^r de Lileencourt⁷ pour qu'ils fussent prévenus a l'avance de l'arrivée de cette frégate et de ce qui s'étoit passé, mais ils étoient prevenus par Monsieur Dargout, que cette frégate devoit venir au Cap, avec ordre de la bien accueillir; la frégate l'*Inconstante* qui avoit été envoyée a la Jamaïque par Monsieur Dargout y ayant été très bien recuë.

La frégate Anglaise et moi entrames ensemble hier au soir en cette rade et je compte en partir apres demain matin pour éclairer la côte d'ici au Mole, et aller ensuite chercher des Vivres au Port-au Prince et je compte demain donner un grand diner au Capitaine de la frégate anglaise et au capitaine de la frégate Espagnolle et leur faire toutes les honnêtetés qui peuvent dependre de moi.

Je ne doute point que vous ne soyez informé du nombre des batiments de Guerre Anglais, qui sont maintenant a la Jamaïque sous les ordres de Sir Peter Parker, contre Amiral du pavillon bleuf, je joindre cependant ici la Liste de ceux qui y sont maintenant a ma Connaissance depuis le depart de l'amiral Gayton avec le Vaisseau l'*antelope*, il peut cependant y en avoir encor quelques autres dont je n'ai pas connaissance; il y a aussy dans le nombre de ces batiments quelqu'uns dont j'ignore le nom des Capitaines, mais je prend toujours la liberté de joindre ici la liste telle que je puis vous l'envoyer.

D après une conversation avec le Capitaine Anglais Robert Lambert, je crois pouvoir assurer qui c'étoit la frégate *Winchelsea*, Capitaine *Bateman*,⁸ qui étoit le Batiment Commandant des deux qui commirent les hostilités a Jean Rabel le 28. novembre dernier,⁹ dont Monsieur le Comte Dargout, vous a rendu Compte.

J ay l'honneur d'être avec le plus profond Respect Monseigneur [&c.]

Verdun de la Crenne

[Translation]

at Cap Francais 9th March 1778

My Lord.

Since the letter which I had the honor of writing you on the 28th January until the 2nd of this month, I met nothing of interest during my cruise, although I several times scoured the coast from the eastern part of the Île de la Tortue to Môle Saint-Nicolas, but from that time to the present I was always in the presence of some English ship.

On the 2nd of this month I met a small vessel at about 3 leagues Northeast of Môle Saint-Nicolas and at a distance of three quarters of a league from the coast, which had a battery of only 10 swivel guns, and flew the English ensign and pennant. I fired a blank cannon shot to make her bring to, and told her to place her ship's boat in the Water, which she did. A midshipman who came on board showed me the vessel's commission, which was signed Robert Lambert, Captain of the frigate *Niger*, for which she was the scout boat, and approved by Admiral Gayton, dated 7 February. This vessel had as many as 30 Crewmen, Her name was the *Lady Parker*, and Her Commander was Abraham Rose, sailing master of the frigate *Niger*. I told the Midshipman that in view of his very close proximity to our coast where I found him, I was going to take him to one of the Ports of the Colony, where the General¹ would decide his fate. Upon which he told me that she had departed from Môle Saint-Nicolas, where she was forced to repair damage that she had suffered from foul weather and that the contrary Wind from the Moment of his departure had prevented her from sailing any farther from this Coast. Upon this I kept the second officer on board with his commission and told the boat to follow me and that I was going to send a Ship's Boat to the Môle to verify if in fact she had left from that port. The Comte D'Ailly, who was then commander at the Môle, sent word that the report of this boat was true, but he was very surprised that, having departed in the Night, she was not any farther from the Coast at 4 o'clock in the Afternoon. Therefore, I said to the Englishman that he had just missed being captured, and that I ordered him to sail away from the Coast at once, which he did.

Nevertheless, I acted as politely as possible to the midshipman who spent the Night on board. I learned from him that the frigate *Niger*, 32 guns, commanded by Robert Lambert, was to come to the Cape the next day.

On the 3rd March, after having spoken with two Dutch merchant ships coming from Curaçao bound to Amsterdam, I gave chase to a ship which was running parallel to the land near Cap-à-Foux. This ship changed tack at approximately one League from Land. I had hoisted the French ensign and pennant and confirmed it with a blank cannon shot, and this ship had raised the English ensign and pennant which she also confirmed by a cannon shot. I fired a second time to indicate that I wished to speak with her, but she continued always to sheer off. At approximately five o'clock, seeing that I was gaining rapidly, being only one eighth of a league from her, I fired one more blank cannon shot, and then she reduced Sail and each of us placed a Ship's Boat in the Water to send an officer to each other. After the usual civilities, I said to the

officer that I was quite surprised to see his frigate approach so near to the coast, that I had an order to put a stop to this and that I would not tolerate his search of any ship under my flag.

The English officer replied with much circumspection, saying that his Captain would answer the officer I had sent to his ship.

This frigate was the *Glasgow*, pierced for 22 guns and mounting only 20, commanded by Captain Pasley.² I recognized this frigate as being the same one I had chased on the 26th of the month of January, together with a boat, without being able to come up with her, as I had the honor of reporting to you in my letter of the 28th January.³ I spoke of it to the English officer, who answered that he had not been then on board the *Glasgow*, but the midshipman serving as his Interpreter said that he remembered it well and that the boat with the *Glasgow* was the *Dreadnought*, but the English Captain said to the officer whom I had sent to his ship, and who spoke of it to him, that it was not his frigate, although he agreed that she was the only frigate of that force at Jamaica.

He answered the officer I had sent to his ship with much caution that he approached near to the coast only to reach his destination more promptly. He also added, but at what distance, then, do you expect English warships to keep off your coasts; to which the French officer evaded giving a positive answer.

He then stated that he had not reduced Sail sooner because he had orders from his admiral, which he felt pressed to Execute. Lastly, after much ceremony the ship's boats returned to their respective ships and I followed the *Glasgow* until 9 o'clock in the evening at a distance of 5 or 6 leagues from the coast.

On the 4th at eleven o'clock in the morning I came up with a small Schooner flying an English ensign and pennant, which I had discovered in the morning a league and a half to the North North-West of the Entrance to the Môle; after having confirmed my ensign in the usual manner I told her to place a ship's boat in the water, wishing to know who she was, upon which she made excuses saying that her ship's boat was shattered, and answering in a very haughty tone to what I was saying, which made me somewhat impatient and obliged me to tell her that, if she did not place it in the Water and come on board, I was going to fire on her, and I then had a few guns trained, at which she placed her ship's boat in the water and came on board; I expressed my astonishment at his conduct and demanded why he approached the French coast so closely; he answered, always in a very haughty tone, that it was to follow his course and further that His Britannic Majesty's ships could approach as near to the coast as they judged proper; his answers and his tone put me in a bit of bad humor, and I told him that in that case, if I were to fall in with him a Second time near the coast, I would have him run through.

I requested to have his commission; he told me he was an officer; that I could see it from his uniform! to which I answered that a pirate could wear a uniform; he then showed me a True Copy of his commission as a Lieutenant, which was issued by Admiral Gayton on 3 May 1777, but I told him that was not enough; that I wished to see whether he had an order to command the ship; the King's officers sometimes command private ships; after some objections he told me that he was going to send for it, which he did. His commission was for the frigate *Æolus*, Captain Atkins,⁴ of which I attach a Copy with the translation.⁵ He also showed me a sealed Letter from Admiral Parker, presently commanding at Jamaica, addressed to the captain of the *Æolus*.

The name of this small Schooner which has only 4 small guns, 2 pounders and eight swivel guns, was *Æolus*, the same as the frigate for which she was the tender, and the name of the commander was Henry Thorp.

One could see from his commission, a Copy of which is attached, that his conduct did not agree at all with his orders. Therefore, I told him that he barely missed being taken into one of the Ports of the Colony, and that I would have done it without the Letter with which he was entrusted by the Admiral. Upon which he softened his tone and accepted the offer that I made to refresh himself. I demanded that he quickly withdraw from the Coast, and he followed such a course accordingly.

On the same day at one in the afternoon I discovered a ship which was coming from the opposite approach, which hoisted the English ensign and pennant; I immediately hoisted the French ensign and pennant, which I confirmed in the usual manner, and I maneuvered to approach this frigate which was to Windward of me and was holding the Wind. I recognised her as a frigate of 32 guns but pierced for 38, as are all the English frigates of this rate, which made me judge her to be the *Niger*.

The Schooner *Æolus*, with which I had spoken in the morning, maneuvered to join her and succeeded at approximately 7 o'clock in the evening. I did my best to keep near this frigate during the night, but at 5 o'clock in the morning she was at least two full leagues to Windward of me, when I discovered a small Schooner coming from the Tortue Channel in a very slight wind. At first I believed that this schooner was an English tender, having seen her bring to at some distance from the English frigate, which was then about 2 or 3 leagues from the western point of the Île de la Tortue and at the same distance from the high land. The wind rose a little and the schooner followed a course to the west flying a French flag. I maneuvered to speak to her, and she told me that the English frigate had sent a ship's boat to search her, which treated her very politely, and that they were satisfied to examine her papers. This Schooner, which came from the Cape, was named the *Marie*, Guibert, master. The English frigate was a faster sailer than mine, but being more fortunate in choosing my tacks, I found myself to Windward of her by 4 o'clock in the evening; I hoisted a French ensign and pennant and I readied myself for Combat in every way. The English frigate likewise hoisted her ensign, and we both confirmed them respectively with a blank Cannon Shot; I bore down on her to speak with her, and when I was close to her, I read the name *Niger* on her stern: I asked her if she was not going to the Cape! She answered, Yes. Then I told her that the General was not there but at Port-au-Prince, and I suggested that she place her ship's boat in the Water and that I would do the same. She answered that she did not understand. I repeated the same to her, saying to her that, if both of us placed a ship's boat in the Water, we would understand each other better! She told me that her ship's boats were not in condition, at which I expressed my surprise that she raised objections to placing a Ship's Boat in the Water being near our coast, when I offered to place one in the water; but that I would follow her close enough that I could also oppose her, if she searched any ship off our coast. Then the *Niger* brought to and placed a Ship's Boat in the water, and I did the same. After much mutual politeness, I said to the English officer (And the officer I sent on board the *Niger* said to her Captain) that the General was at Port-au-Prince, that his voyage to the Cape would be useless; if he wished to hand over his packets to the General himself, and desired to go to Port-au-Prince, I would accompany him and give him my own Coastal Pilot, if he desired it. The English Captain nevertheless answered that his orders were to go to the Cape and not Port-au-Prince, and

that he was most grateful for my courteous offers, at which it was answered to him that I would escort him to the Cape.

I then expressed my astonishment for his search of the French Schooner that morning, especially being on a mission of proceeding to the Cape, and that, if I had been in the vicinity, I certainly would not have permitted it. The officer who came on board my ship told me that they had mistaken the schooner for one of their tenders, and the Captain said that he mistook her for a Rebel Schooner, but he was answered, that even if she had been a Rebel schooner, I would not have allowed her searched, if I had been near enough to oppose it.

When the Ship's Boats had been hoisted on board their respective ships, the English frigate crowded all Sail, and I did all I could to follow her, but I realised she was very decidedly Superior in Speed, especially close hauled to the Wind, which I attributed to my having no more provisions on board, a difference which now does not exist. I would be already en route for Port-au-Prince to take on board Provisions, if I had not met this frigate, having only enough until the 15th of this month at the most. As a result I was obliged to take on board a few provisions at the Cape so that I could return to Port-au-Prince with safety, having written to the Director of the Port on the 16th, requesting a supply of biscuit and to prepare for me the other provisions which I needed, not having received any news of the provisions to be sent to the Colony, although they were to have arrived more than two months ago.

On the morning of the 6th I sighted a ship following a course to join the English frigate, which was then more than a League to Windward of me. This ship, after giving the recognition signal, hoisted the English ensign and pennant, and a short time later I recognized her as the frigate *Glasgow* with whom I had spoken on the 3rd of this month; they communicated together and sailed in company until 3 o'clock in the afternoon, at which time the *Glasgow* parted company following a course Away from the Coast.

The English frigate gained on me, being much to windward, during the Day, but as a result of my choice of tacks along with my spreading more Sail during the Night, I found myself much to Windward of her on the morning of the 7th; I further took my revenge before the wind, having then much the advantage Over the *Niger*.

At Sunset on the 7th I found myself, as was the English frigate, 4 to 5 Leagues from the Entrance to the Cape. I decided to approach quite closely in the Moonlight in order to send a Ship's Boat with an officer, to both the Commander of the *Terpsicore*⁶ and Mr. de Lileencourt,⁷ so that they would be forewarned of the arrival of this frigate and of that which had happened, but they had been advised by Monsieur d'Argout that the frigate was to come to the Cape, with orders to welcome her. The frigate *Inconstante*, which had been sent to Jamaica by Monsieur d'Argout, had been very well received there.

The English frigate and mine entered this road together yesterday evening, and I expect to sail after tomorrow morning to scout the coast from here to the Môle, and then go to pick up Provisions at Port-au-Prince, and I expect tomorrow to give a formal dinner for the Captain of the English frigate and the captain of the Spanish frigate, and to render to them all the courtesies possible on my part.

I have no doubt that you are informed of the number of English Warships which are presently at Jamaica under the orders of Sir Peter Parker, Rear Admiral

of the Blue. I nevertheless attach herewith the List of those now there to my Knowledge since the departure of Admiral Gayton in the Ship of the Line *Antelope*. There may be others, however, of which I have no knowledge; there are also in this number of ships some whose Captains' names I do not know, but I yet take the liberty of attaching here the list, such as I can, to send to you.

According to a conversation with the English Captain Robert Lambert, I believe I am certain that it was the frigate *Winchelsea*, Captain Bateman,⁸ which was the Ship Commanding the two that committed hostilities at Jean Rabel Bay the 28th November last,⁹ of which Monsieur the Comte d'Argout sent you an Account.

I have the honor to be with the most profound Respect My Lord [&c.]

Verdun de la Crenne

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fols. 209–12. Notation at top of first page: "M de F.[*leurieu*]/M. Verdun de la Crenne/*La Renommée*."

1. Robert, Comte d'Argout de Neritiers.
2. Capt. Thomas Pasley, R.N.
3. See Marquis Verdun de La Crenne to Gabriel de Sartine, 30 Jan., above.
4. Capt. Christopher Atkins, R.N.
5. See Captain Christopher Atkins, R.N., to Lieutenant Henry Thorp, R.N., 4 Jan., above.
6. Lieutenant de Vaisseau Jean-Joseph Teyssier Des Farges.
7. Possibly, Jean-Baptiste de Tastes de Lillancourt, an officer at Saint-Domingue in 1754.
8. Capt. Nathaniel Bateman, R.N.
9. See NDAR 10: 618, 629, 636–38, 719–21, 741–42 and Vice Admiral Clark Gayton to Philip Stephens, 14 Jan., above.

CAPITAINE DE VAISSEAU CHARLES PICOT, CHEVALIER DE DAMPIERRE
TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

1^{ere}

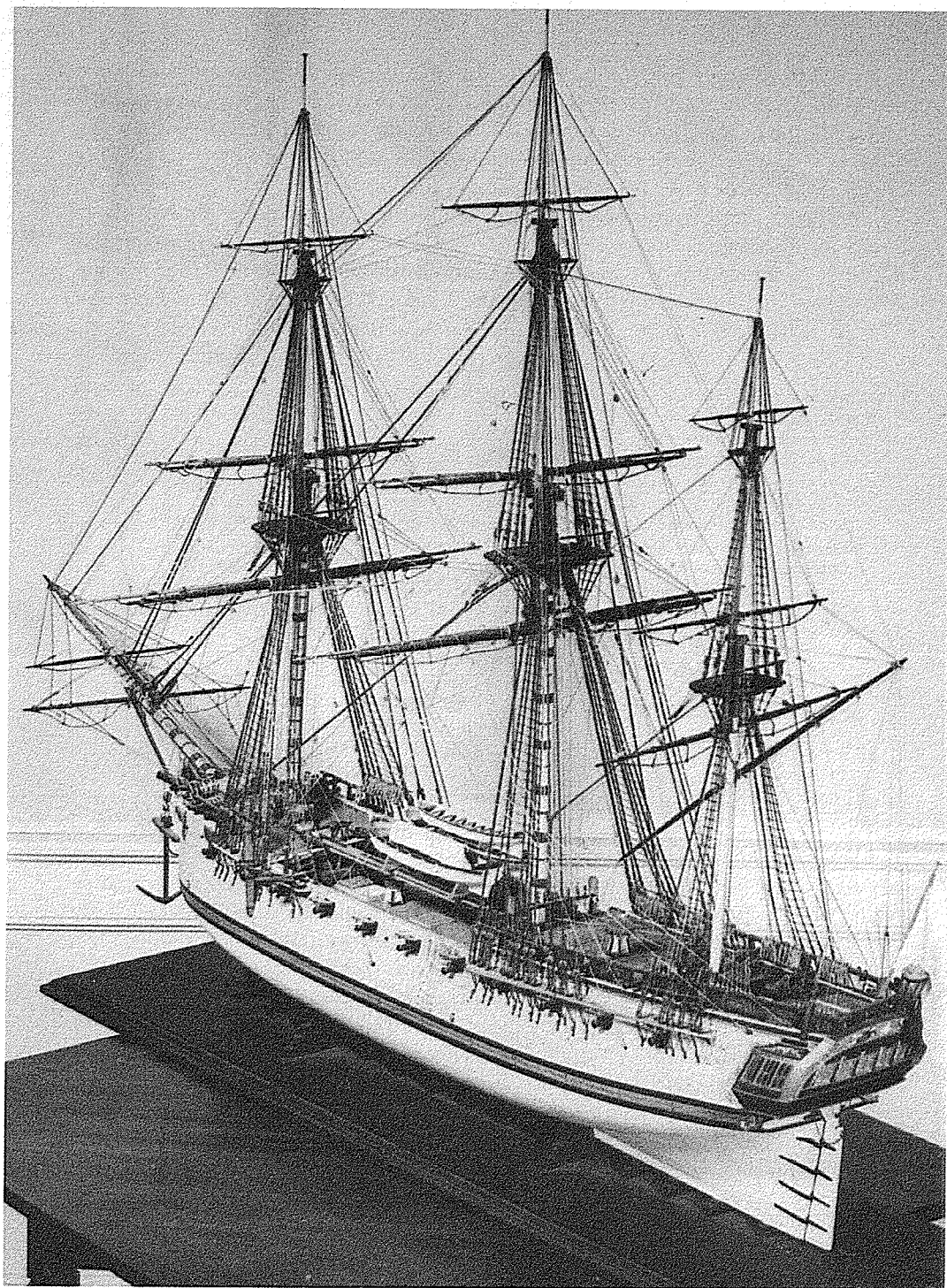
au fort royal martinique le neuf mars 1778

Monseigneur

Le dernier du mois de fevrier une fregatte angloise la *Seaford*¹ Cap^{te}. Boldeness a commit un acte d' hostilité Bien Extraordinaire. elle a prés dans la petite anse layet pres du fonds capot Entre S^t pierre & le fort royal un corsaire amer-icain,² qui S'y Estoit mal Echoué. L' equipage du corsaire S'est jetté a L'eau, & les royalistes En tirant dessus ont Blessé un Soldat françois a Terre. j'ai representé a m^e le general³ qu'il falloit Envoyer une fregate a L'amiral anglois a antigues⁴ pour lui demander Justice. il m'a repondu que cela n'estoit pas necessaire.

Si la fregatte la *Blanché*⁵ qui revenoit de convoier ne s'estoit pas trouvée En calme a Trois lieues Sous le Vent Eut pû rencontrer la fregatte angloise m^e le ch^{lr} de Trecession L'eut puni de Sons insolence; mais il ne pût Sçavoir ce qui Estoit arrivée qu'a onze heures du soir par le retour de L'officier qu'il avoit Envoie a la Batterie pour Sçavoir ce dont il Estoit question; il fût la route qu'on lui dit que L'anglois Tenoit avec Sa prise; mais le calme qu'il y Eut Toutte la nuit L'a mis hors d'etat de rien voir au jour. la fregatte angloise avoit plus de quatre heurs d'avance Sur lui. m^e le ch^{lr} de Trecession qui n'avoit des vivres que Jusque au quatre de ce mois Est venu En faire icy.

les anglois ont icy le *yarmouth* V^{au}. de Soixante Six canons, le *portland* de cinquante & Seize fregattes ou corvettes. je crois que leurs forces Sont Beaucoup plus considerables que les nostres qui avons Trois isles a garder dont deux Sont Separées par la dominique.



Continental Navy frigate Raleigh

les anglais ont de plus Beaucoup de corsaires qui pillent ainsy que les corsaires americains les Bateaux & mesme les marchands françois. on accorde Beaucoup Trop de protection icy a ces derniers les Americains mesme pour le commerce. Les hollandois ont Enviré des Vaux de guerre dans leurs colonies de ces mers. je Suis avec Le plus profond respect Monseigneur [&c.]

Le ch^{lr} De Dampierre

[Translation]

at Fort Royal Martinique 9th March 1778

My Lord

At the end of the month of February an English frigate the *Seaford*¹ Capt. Boldeness committed a Very Extraordinary act of hostility. She captured an American privateer² in small Layet Cove capsized near the back part between St. Pierre and Fort Royal which had run hard aground. The crew of the privateer jumped into the water, & the Royalists while firing on them wounded a French soldier on the land. I pointed out to the General that a frigate should be sent to the English admiral at Antigua to request justice from him. He answered that it was not necessary.³

If the frigate *Blanche*,⁴ which was returning from convoy duty, had not been becalmed about three leagues to leeward, she could have fallen in with the English frigate and the Chevalier de Trecesson would have punished her for her insolence. But he did not know until he arrived at eleven o'clock in the evening by the return of the officer that he had sent to the Battery to find out what was happening; he followed the course that he was told the English had taken with the prize; but the calm which lasted all night prevented him from seeing until daybreak. The English frigate had more than a four hours headstart on him. The Chevalier de Trecesson, who had only enough provisions until the fourth of this month, came in here to replenish.

The English have here the *Yarmouth*, a ship of sixty-six guns, the *Portland* of fifty & sixteen frigates or corvettes. I believe that their forces are considerably greater than ours, which have three islands to guard, of which two are separated by Dominica.

The English further have many privateers which plunder as the American privateers do French boats and even merchant ships. Too much protection is granted here to these Americans, even for trade. The Dutch have sent warships to their colonies in these seas. I am with the most profound respect Sir [&c.]

The Chevalier De Dampierre

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fol. 33. Notation: "M d. F[*leurieu*]; M de Dampierre."

1. H.M. frigate *Seaford*, Capt. John Colpoys, commander.

2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 28 Feb. and 1 Mar., above.

3. The governor general did send such a letter. See Governor Marquis de Bouillé to Vice Admiral James Young, 10 Mar., below.

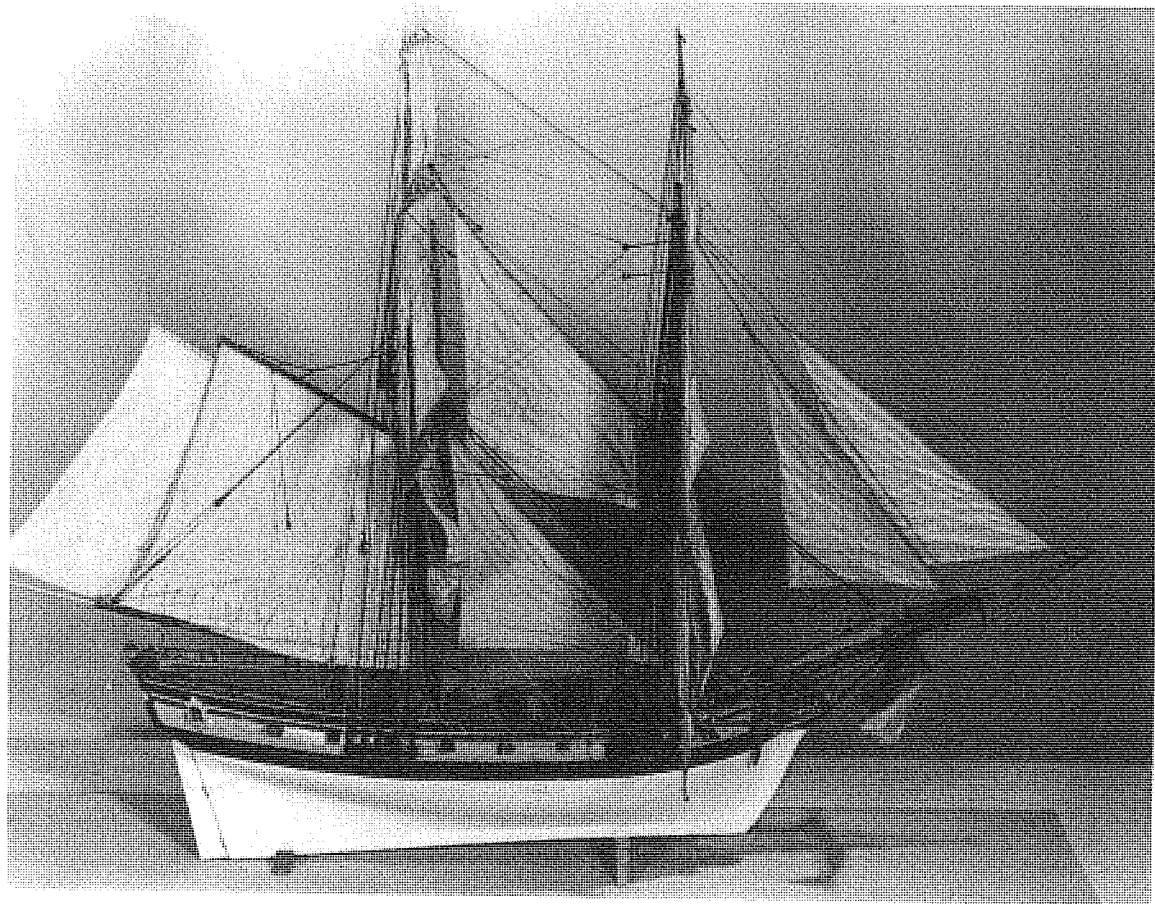
4. French Navy frigate *Blanche* (26 guns), Lieutenant de Vaisseau Chevalier de Trecesson Carne, commander.

LOG OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *TYRANNICIDE*,
CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN

[*St. Pierre, Martinique*]

Remarks on Monday March 9th. 1778

These 24 Hours a Moderate Breeze & pleasant Weather
employed in getting up the Rigging



South Carolina privateer Fair American

Cap^t Sam^{el}. Ingersoll¹ came on Board the Brig^t from S^t Eustacia haveing been Taken by an Island Cruiser and Set at liberty again

D, MSaE, Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide* (November 1777–May 1778).

1. Capt. Samuel Ingersoll, of Salem, a merchant and later a privateer captain. See *NDAR* 7: 3.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ARIADNE*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PRINGLE

March 1778

Barbados SWBW 43 Leagues—

Monday 9.

Moderate and Fair. at 6 am saw two sail in the N.E. made the signal & gave chace. at 11 fired two shot at the Headmost ship who took no notice of them. at ½ past made the signal for the *Ceres* to tack, at noon repeated it. still in chace.

Barbados S^o 67 Leagues—

Ditto Weather. at ½ past 12 the *Ceres* came up with the sternmost ship, who Hoisted Rebel Colours & Exchanged a Broadside with her in passing. At 1 came to Action with the before mentioned ship as did the *Ceres*; and at ½ past 1 the Rebel struck, the Headmost ship making off. The prize proved to be the *Alfred* of 20. 9^{prs.} & 181 men commanded by Elisha Hinman,¹ who informed me the other ship was the *Raleigh* of 32 guns.² Employed 'till 3 pm taking the prisoners out, & then made sail after the other ship. at 9 PM lost sight of the Prize.

D, UKLPR, Adm., 51/60, part 2, fol. 58.

1. Continental Navy ship *Alfred*, Elisha Hinman, commander, Congress ship of war, mounting 20 guns, crew of 180 men, 300 tons burthen, sent into Barbados. Young's Prize List, 20 July 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*, Capt. Thomas Thompson, commander, returning to America from France.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*, COMMANDER JAMES R. DACRES

March 1778

Latt^d. 15° .9 N [*north of Barbados*]

Monday 9

at 5 A.M Saw two Sail in the NE Qt^r D^o gave Chace as Also the *Ariadne* at 12 One of the Ships Hoisted Rebell Colours w^{ch}. we Began to Engage

Latt^d. 17° .34 N

D^o. Weath^r [Light Breezes & Clear Weath^r] at ½ past 1 P.M the Rebel Privateer Struck to his Maj^sty's Colours D^o. Brought too Hoisted out our Boats & took Possession of the Prize w^{ch}. prov'd to be the *Alfred* Belonging to the Rebels¹ Rec^d. on Board 59 Prizoners² at 5 Hoisted the Boats in & Gave Chace to the other Ship³ in C^o. wth. the *Ariadne*

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/4141, part 8, fol. 197. The journal was kept by Lt. David Lockwood.

1. Continental Navy ship *Alfred*.

2. See Muster Book of H.M.S. *Ceres*, 9 Mar., below.

3. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ON BOARD THE STATE BRIG *NOTRE DAME*,
DATED LAT. 13 LONG 57. MARCH 9, 1778.”

CHARLESTOWN, (S.C.) April 2.

Last Friday¹ the Prize-master² of a schooner taken by Capt. Biddle³ the 28th of February, arrived here: By him the following advices were received.

Extract of a Letter from on board the State Brig Notre Dame,
*dated Lat. 13 Long 57. March 9, 1778.*⁴

“On the 5th instant we brought too 2 Dutch frigates in lat. 18 long. 55—On the 7th saw a sail bearing E.N.E. gave chase; at 5 P.M. she appeared to be very large;⁵ she bore down upon us; at 7 she fired a gun, & then hailed the *General Moultrie*,⁶ who answered her; I being under the *General Moultrie*'s lee quarter, the *Randolph* on the *General Moultrie*'s weather-bow, the *Polly*⁷ to windward of both, and the *Fair American*⁸ to leeward of me. The enemy passed by the *General Moultrie*, and proceeded towards the *Randolph*. Captain Biddle hove out no signal for drawing up in line of battle, but laid his mizentopsail to the mast, and got ready to engage. The *General Moultrie* being to windward of me, I could not get up to the *Randolph*'s wake, therefore laid my topsail to the mast, to allow the *General Moultrie* to shoot ahead, both of us being then with our starboard tacks on board. By this time the enemy's ship got so near to the *Randolph* as to hail her, when the later luffed up in the wind, and brought her quarter and quarter deck guns to bear upon her, and discharged them. I immediately gave the enemy a broadside; she shot to windward of the *Randolph* and gave her a broadside; a warm engagement then ensued, and continued for twelve minutes, the *General Moultrie* and myself being within 100 yards of the enemy; At this time the *Randolph* unfortunately blew up; and I tho't it best to get clear of her.—The enemy immediately after gave chase to the *General Moultrie* and myself: I stood to the Westward, and the *Moultrie* to the southward. The enemy carried a flag at her foretopmast head. The *Randolph* shot away the enemy's mizentopmast and bowsprit. The second day after the engagement, I spoke the *Polly*, and am now in company with her, all well on board both vessels.”

Another letter from on board the same vessel, of the same date, says, “Neither Anthony [*Polly*] nor we received any hurt in the engagement, although we were near the *Randolph* and the *General Moultrie*, who were in the thickest of the fire. After the *Randolph* blew up, the enemy never stooped to save one man. but left them all to drown, and immediately gave chase to Sullivan [*General Moultrie*] and us; after firing a shot, finding she could not come up with our vessel, she wore and stood after the *General Moultrie*.”

The Prize master says, the enemy's vessel hailed, “The *Portland*,” she is Admiral Young's ship, and mounts 50 guns.

Connecticut Journal, 13 May 1778.

1. March 27.

2. Midn. Simeon Fanning.

3. Capt. Nicholas Biddle, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

4. The letter was from Capt. William Hall, commanding South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame*, to Edward Blake, First Commissioner, Board of Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina. See A Letter from Charlestown, South Carolina, dated 29th of March 1778, and President Rawlins Lowndes of South Carolina to President of Congress, 30 Mar., below.

5. H.M.S. *Yarmouth*, Capt. Nicholas Vincent, commander.

6. South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie* (18 guns), Capt. Philip Sullivan, commander.

7. South Carolina privateer brigantine *Polly* (16 guns), Capt. Hezekiah Anthony, commander.

8. South Carolina privateer brigantine *Fair American* (14 guns), Capt. Charles Morgan, commander.

"A LIST OF 181 PRISONERS TAKEN OUT OF THE REBEL SHIP *ALFRED*. VICTUA^D AT 2/3^D ALLOWANCE"

N ^o .	Entry.	Year	Appear- ance.	MENS NAMES.	Qualities	D. D.D. or R.	Time of Discharge	Year	Whither or for what Reason.
1	9. Mch	1778	9 March	Elisha Hinman Peter Richards Peter Douville Cha ^s Bulkey Jn ^o Welch. W ^m Hamilton Nathan Richards Edw ^d Revely Zach ^a Hall Freegift Arnold Jos: Hitchman Peter Burroughs John Lay Pardoin Burnham Jn ^o Lundland Sam ^l Lamb W ^m . Manders Evan Dio Ben Beoch Silas Derby	Capt ⁿ . 1 } 2 } Lieut 3 } Capt Marines Lieut d ^o . d ^o . Master Carp ^r	D	9 March	1778	<i>Ceres</i>
20	9 Mch	1778	9 Mch	Jn ^o Shouls Eleaz ^r Jackson Jos: Delahoy Jn ^o Tennant Ben. Bedford W ^m Mitchell W ^m Fell Jn ^o OBrien Luther Brock					

9 MARCH 1778

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"A LIST OF 181 PRISONERS TAKEN OUT OF THE REBEL SHIP *ALFRED*. VICTUA^D AT 2/3^D ALLOWANCE"

No.	Entry.	Year	Appearance.	MENS NAMES.	Qualities	D. D.D. or R.	Time of Discharge	Year	Whither or for what Reason.
				Cha ^s Beers	}	D	9 March	1778	<i>Ceres</i>
			Jn ^o Dunlap						
			Jn ^o Marchant						
			Eb ^r Flag						
			Tho ^s . Perrin						
			And ^m . Tiler						
			Peter Chalon						
			Julian Benvoir						
			Dom Faernel						
			Jul ⁿ . Karodine						
40			Jn ^o Brady						
41	9 Mch		Jon ^a Hammett						
		9 Mch	Ja ^s Tindall						
			Tho ^s Manter						
			Corn ^s Norton						
			Peter Daniel						
			Ant ^o Da Sylva						
			Ja ^s Bloudier						
			Ja ^s Percoff						
			Louis Gouillion						
			Ant ^r Dyer						
			Donald Tinker						
			Em ^c Da Sylva						
			Jean Colleax						
			Peter La Coste						
			Henry Toullie						
			Philip Joseph						
			W ^m Swain						
			Fra ^s L'Reau						
				}	D	9 March	1778	<i>Ceres</i>	

60				Pero Sharper					
61	9 Mch	1778	9 Mch.	Louis Kiou	}	D	9 March	1778	<i>Ceres</i>
			Jos: Jackson						
			Shandy Hilman						
			Cesar Baxter						
			Pierre Olivier						
			Prince Chace						
			W ^m : Roche						
			Nath ^l Marston						
			Nath ^l Hinman						
			Elias Carr						
			Sam ^l Guile	}	D	16 March	1778	Barbados	
			W ^m M ^c Neill						
			Edw ^d Brown						
			John Bowles						
			Rob ^t M ^c Farling						
			W ^m Sheldon						
			And ^w . White						
			Geo: M ^c Kenny						
			Cuff Belcher						
			Tlocks Gill						
81	9 Mch	1778	9 Mch	John Prunel	}	D	16 March	1778	Barbados
			Edw ^d Parsons						
			Nich ^s Greely						
			Jerm ^h Molie						
			Chr ^r Raney						
			Pierre Godard						
			Geo Crump						
			Jn ^o Hall						
			Aug ^e Dugo						
			Jn ^o Kellenbech						
			Anth ^y Gill	}	D	16 March	1778	Barbados	
			Cato Denny						
			Rich ^d Bramble						
			Nath ⁿ Spicer						

9 MARCH 1778

"A LIST OF 181 PRISONERS TAKEN OUT OF THE REBEL SHIP *ALFRED*. VICTUA^D AT 2/3^D ALLOWANCE"

N ^o .	Entry.	Year	Appear- ance.	MENS NAMES.	Qualities	D. D.D. or R.	Time of Discharge	Year	Whither or for what Reason.		
100 101	9 Mch	1778	9 Mch	Jon ^a Cogswell	Surg ^r	D	16 March	1778	Barbados		
				Rich ^d Cockhran							
				Sam ^l Erlom		D	16 March	1778	Barbados		
				James Butler							
				Ishmael Powers		Surg ^r	D	16 March	1778	Barbados	
				Amos Windship							
				Joseph Day			Surg ^r	D	16 March	1778	Barbados
				John Martin							
				Joseph Francis							
				Josh ^a Landlaud							
				Prince Doggett							
				Corn ^s . Dunham							
				W ^m Bartlett							
				Joshua Day							
Benj ^a Millett											
John Anderson											
Geo: Richards											
Rich ^d Morrison											
Steph ⁿ Minor											
Ja ^s Davis											
Thomas Fowler											
W ^m Tinker											
Mich ^l Ryan											
Jon ^a Emerson											
Silas Doggett											
Amos Lane											
Tho ^s Burton											
121				Abner Rogers		D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados		
				Jacob Allen							
				Jos: Poppolo							

				Stephen Pegg	}	D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados	
				Josh ^a Mitchell						
				Asa Kimball						
				Sam ^l Nickolls	}					
				Ja ^s Hogan						
				Corn ^s Riley						
				Josh ^a Spear	}	D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados	
				Ja ^s Coughlin						
				Rob ^l Lask						
				Nich ^s Murphy	}					
				Sam ^l Moses						
				Ja ^s . Castle						
				David Bell	}	D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados	
				Jos Dobell						
				John Brinley						
				James Miles	}					
140				James Skilling			D	16 Mch	1778	Barbados
141	9 March	78	9 Mch	Jotham Harris						
				W ^m Day	}					
				Tho ^s : Jeffries			D	16 March	1778	Barbados
				Sam ^l : Rawlins						
				Louis Rabin	}					
				S ^t : Jacque						
				Pierre Marle						
				And ^w : Knett	}					
				Etien Benard			D	16 March	1778	Barbados
				Major Tessieu						
				Fra ^s Guigneville	}					
				Pierre Movan						
				Jos Aubry						
				Jacque Marc	}					
				Pierre Garandell			D	16 March	1778	Barbados
				And ^w : Bronet						
				Pierre Fiquet	}					
				Jos: Bigolet						
				Fra ^s : Mandeville						

9 MARCH 1778

"A LIST OF 181 PRISONERS TAKEN OUT OF THE REBEL SHIP *ALFRED*. VICTUA^D AT 2/3^D ALLOWANCE"

N ^o .	Entry.	Year	Appearance.	MENS NAMES.	Qualities	D. D.D. or R.	Time of Discharge	Year	Whither or for what Reason.	
160				Jacque Fromage	}					
161.				Paul Chaloun						
				And ^w Kerney						
				John Conway						
				Claude La Combe						
				Jan Solier						
				Pierre Rene						
				Jan Gourel						
				Aug ^e Daigre						
				Philip Le Clerc						
				Hyacinte Gautier						
				Fra ^s Chequelle			D	16 March	1778	Barbados
				Giles Lanaux						
				Deville Blanche						
				Jan Louis Dumois						
				Louis Caix						
				W ^m . Grimes						
				Jan de France						
				Mich Percoff						
				Jos: Casneuf						
				Eve Dayeux						
181.				Jan Plesson					Tho ^s . Pringle F: Spurrier David Morgan John Booke	

MUSTER TABLE OF H.M. SLOOP CERES

[Extract] N ^o	Entry.	Year	Appearance	Whence and whether Prest or not.	MENS NAMES.	Qualities	D. D.D. or R.	Time of Discharge	Year	Whither or for what Reason.
[41]	9 Mar	1778	Mar 9	<i>Ariadne</i> taken in the <i>Alfred</i> an American Ship of 20 Guns	Edw ^d . Reevely	Mas	D	16 Mar	1778	Barbados Goal Merch ^t Service
					Peter Arnold	Mid	D	9 Apr		
5					Jos Hitchman Zach Hall Peter Burroughs	Mid Carp ^r	} D	16 Mar	1778	Barbados Goal
					John Lay Geo Burnham Jos D'lahoy Jn ^o . Lundland	Ab		D	15 Mar 16	1778	Fly Barbados Goal
50						Sam ^l . Lamb Jn ^o Tenant		D D	16 15		D^{o} Nova Scotia Volunteers
52	9 Mar	1778	Mar 9	Taken out of the <i>Alfred</i> an American Ship of 20 Guns	W ^m Manders		D	16 Mar	1778	} Barbados Goal
					Evan Dio Ben Beech		D D	16 16		
5					Silas Derby Ben Bedford		D D	16 15		
					Jn ^o Shoals	Ab	D	16		Loyal Nova [<i>Scotia</i>] Volunteers Barbados Goal
60						W ^m . Mitchell W ^m . Fell Eleaz Jackson	Ab Ab	D D D	15 15 16	1778	} Fly Barbados

9 MARCH 1778

MUSTER TABLE OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*—Continued

[Extract] N ^o	Entry.	Year	Appear- ance	Whence and whether Prest or not.	MENS NAMES.	Qualities	D. D.D. or R.	Time of Discharge	Year	Whither or for what Reason.
5					Jn ^o Obrien	Ab	D	15	1778	Goal
					Luther Breck	Ab	D	16		Fly
					Cha ^s Beers		D	16		} Barbados Goal
					Jn ^o Dunlap		D	16		
					Jn ^o Marchant		D	16		
70	9 Mar	1778	Mar 9	taken out of the <i>Alfred</i> an American Ship of 20 Guns	Eben ^r Flag		D	16	1778	} Barbados Goal
					Tho ^s Perrin		D	16		
					And ^w Tiler		D	16		
					Peter Chalon		D	16		
					Julian Benvoir		D	16		
5					D, Faernal		D	16	1778	} Barbados Goal
					Ju ⁿ Harodrine		D	16		
					Jn ^o Brady		D	16		
					Jn ^o Hammett		D	16		
					Ja ^s Tindal		D	15		
80					Tho ^s Manter		D	16	1778	} Barbados Goal
					Corn ^s Norton		D	16		
					Peter Daniel		D	16		
					Ant ^o D, Silva		D	9 Apr		
					Ja ^s Bloudier		D	16 Mar		
					Ja ^s Percof		D	16	} Barbados Goal	
					Louis Guillon		D	16		
					Anth ^y Dyer		D	15		Loyal Nova Scotia Volunteers

					Don ^l Tinker	D	16		Barbados Goal
5					Em ^l D, Silva	D	9 Apr	1778	Merch ^t Service
86	9 Mar	1778	Mar 9	taken out of the <i>Alfred</i> an American Ship of War	Jean Coilleaux	D	16 Mar	1778	} Barbados Goal
					Peter L'Coste	D	16		
					Hy Touillie	D	16		
					Phi Joseph	D	16		
90					W ^m Swain	D	16		} Merch ^t Service Barbados Goal
					Fra ^s L'Reau	D	16		
					Pero Sharper	D	9 Apr	1778	
					Louis Kious	D	16 Mar		
5					Jos Jackson	D	16		} Merch ^t Service
					Shandy Hilman	D	9 Apr	1778	
					Cesar Baxter				
					Pierre Olivier	D	16 Mar	1778	Barbados Goal
					Prince Chace	D	9 Apr		Merch ^t Service
					W ^m Roche	D	16 Mar		Barbados Goal
100					Tho ^s Burton	Ab	D	16	Sup ^r List

D, UKLPR, Adm. 36/7828. Blank columns have been omitted.

March 10

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *APOLLO*, CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL

March 1778

Tuesday 10

Ditto [South end of Nantucket Shoal] NNW 5 Lg^s.
at 2 [AM] wore and Stood [to] the Southward, 35 fath. white
sand, at 8 saw a Sail to the Westward, gave Chace, at 10 fired
[2] Guns and brought too the Chace, the *Polly* Schooner¹ from
Wignaw, South Carolina bound to Salem, with Rice, Indigo and
Deerskins, put a Petty Officer and Men on board her, close
reef'd the TS

Rhode Island NbE 22 Leagues

First part fresh breezes, middle and latter Foggy. at 4 PM had
40 fath. water, muddy Sand, Prizes in Company,² at 10 wore
Ship, at midnight lost sight of the Prizes, 35 fath. water, green
sand,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fol. 8.

1. Schooner *Polly*, Benjamin Cox, master, owned by Henry Williams & Co., from South Carolina to Salem, with rice, indigo & deerskins, sent into Newport. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 486. She was labelled on 15 Apr. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and condemned as a lawful prize of the *Apollo* on 8 May. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 96.

2. Sloop *Sally* and schooner *Polly*.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 10th 1778

Order'd, That M^r Ivers¹ pay Nathaniel Jenkins on Account Brig^t *Favorite*²
£5.. 8.. 6—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers pay Cap^t Israel Turner³ for Sundry disbursments on
Ship *Adams*,⁴ P^r Acc^t £76..15..—
also, for Ballance of Brig *Dolphins*⁵ Acc^t 224..14..10

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 248–49.

1. Thomas Ivers.

2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

3. Capt. Israel Turner.

4. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.5. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*, Capt. Israel Turner, commander.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO MORRIS, PLIARNE, PENET & CO.

Gentlemen

War Office Boston March 10th 1778

This please God will be delivered you by Cap^tⁿ. Nicholas Bartlet Master of our
Brig^a. *Favorite*¹ by whom you will receive Letters from our mutual Friends Mess^{rs}. John
Cripps & Mey Merchants in Charlestown South Carolina² inclosing Invoice & Bill of
Lading of a Cargo of Rice which we wish safe to your hands. You will please to dispose
of the Cargo to our best advantage and dispatch the Brig^a. directly back. ballast with
Salt to which you will add an assortment of such Articles as mention'd below. You will

be kind enough to send us the masters receipt for such moneys as you may furnish him with to pay his Men & other disbursments—We are very respectfully [&c.]

By order the Board
Thomas Walker Pres^t P T

Schedule—

Three point Blanketts
Blue Cloth
White d^o proportion'd 7/8 Blue 1/16 white 1/16 Red
Red D^o for Soldiers Cloths
Stout large Shoes & Stockings of a good Quality for Soldiers
Linnen for Shirting for d^o from 30^s to 50^s Sols
Ravens Duck
Ticklenburgh
Cordage of different Sizes from 1 to 4 Inches
100,000 Flints
50 Barrels Powder—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), pp. 162–63. Addressed at foot: “Mess^{rs}. Morris Pliarne Penet & Comp^{rs}.”

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
2. John S. Cripps and Florian Charles Mey.

MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH TO CAPTAIN HUGH DALRYMPLE, R.N.

Sir Head Quarters Boston Mar^h 10th: 1778

Inclosed are Sundry Letters from Lieu^t Gen^l Burgoyne by which you will learn his present Situation

Altho I wish on every Occasion to extend the Utmost Generosity to the Gentlemen of the Army yet to allow Letters to pass Unopened would be betraying the trust reposed in me, therefore any Idea of granting Such an Indulgence can not be admitted.

If any advantage in the Economy of Expence to the Government of Great Britain may be derived from Landing any Over pluss of Provisions from the Fleet for the Use of the Troops of the Convention, I have not the least Objection to it But wish you would ascertain the matter as Soon as Possible—

I rest assured, that whilst your vessels Enjoy Perfect Security Under the Sanction of their Flags not the least molestation or Inconvenience will happen to any of our vessels or Inhabitants—

I do my Self the Pleasure to Send Down to the flag^l a Turkey Sent here by Gen^l Burgoyne. I am Sir [&c.]

W Heath

L, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 8, fol. 414. Addressed at foot: “Cap^t Dalrymple.” Docketed: “To Cap^t Dalrymple/Mar. 10. 1778/(Copy sent Congress).”

1. H.M. sloop *Haerlem*.

LEONARD JARVIS TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

The Hon^l the Commiss^r of the Navy Board
Gentlemen

Dartmouth [*Mass.*] Mar 10th. 1778

Your Favour of the 3^d Instant^l was deliverd me by M^r Trivett²—Cap^t Rathburn³ has not yet got here—as soon as he arrives, I shall apply to him to know what may

be wanted for the intended Cruize—& shall apply to your Hon^l Board for those Articles, which cannot be procur'd here

It would have given me real pleasure to have found M^r Agent Trivett—& the Officers of the Sloop willing to send the Goods out of the *Mary*⁴ to Boston—but they have so long look'd upon them as their own that they cannot bring themselves to think of the delivering any part to the Continental Agent.

I am sorry to say that there does not appear to me to be that Disposition to do Justice to the States that I could wish in Officers of the Navy—I was fully of Opinion with your Honourable Board before the Receipt of your Letter—that Congress never meant to give the Captors the whole of what Armed Merchantmen they might take but, as I should have been thought actuated only by selfish Motives, I thought it best not to urge the Matter greatly 'till I was favour'd with your Instructions—since their Arrival, I have not been wanting in my Endeavours to get the Goods lodgd with me to be sent to Boston—but without Effect—all that I can obtain, is, leave to take an Account of them—

The Goods M^r Vesey⁵ tells me are all here—except a few Casks left at Marthas Vinyard to pay those who assisted in unlading &c—The Ship is strip'd & left at Woods Hole—If the Resolution of Congress should be constru'd in favour of the Captors, I shall be glad to hear that this Sloop is to be put out of Commission, being thoroughly persuaded that the Advantage arising to the States from her distressing the Enemy is by no means adequate to the Expence—I expect Cap^t Rathburn will on his Arrival, deliver me his Muster Role for payment—such have been my Advances for Government that I have it not in my power to do it must therefore request the favour of you to enable me to execute your Orders. I have a Quantity of Sugars & some Cotton belonging to the Continent on hand—but such has been the Effect of the talk'd of Regulating Act—that I have not had a purchaser apply for either these two Months. I am [&c.]

Leo: Jarvis

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80. Jarvis was Deputy Continental Agent at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

1. Not found.
2. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines, was prize agent for the officers and crew of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
3. Capt. John Peck Rathbun.
4. Jamaican letter of marque ship *Mary*, taken by *Providence* at Nassau, Bahamas, on 27 Jan. See Libel, 3 Mar., above.
5. Lt. Joseph Vesey, first lieutenant of *Providence*.

COLONEL JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO ROSE & TORRANCE

Gentlemen

Norwich 10th. March 1778

This You'll receive ☿ Capt Parker¹ in the Armed ship *Oliver Cromwell*, belonging to this State who comes to take in the Indigo, I requested you to purchase for and on Account of the State—You'll please to Ship the same by his taking a Sett of four Bills of Lading from Capt Parker therefor, one of which you'll Inclose & send to Mess^{rs} Pliarne Penet & C^o. Merchants in Nantz & forward by Capt Parker, one other you likewise Inclose to them & forward by First good Oportunity, one other You'll forward to me here, & the other You'll hold in Your own Possession—The Freight may be Blank Primage &c as Usual—I shall be glad to hear from you

& receive the Bills of Lading, with your Acc^{ts}. & Account of Prices Current with you, as soon as may be Convenient I hope the *Oliver Cromwell* will meet no Delay with you & dare say she will not by any means in your Power to prevent—I recommend Capt Parker to your favourable Notice, if he should Meet any Damage on his passage, I must also request your Aid & Assistance to him in repairing or Supplying the same &c.—I am [&c.]

Jos: Trumbull—

Copy, Ct, Jonathan Trumbull Papers, vol. 8, p. 101. Addressed at foot: “Mess^s Rose & Torrance.” Notation: “Copy—.” Rose & Torrance were Alexander Rose, merchant at Charleston, S.C., and John Torrans of Charleston, S.C.

1. Capt. Timothy Parker, Connecticut Navy.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROEBUCK*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

March 1778

[alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]

Tuesd^y 10th.

AM at 9 Sent the *Cornwallis* galley & *Pembroke* to the *Nautilus* in order to go down the River on Information of 3 Vessells being Taken by some Rebel Gun-Boats—¹

[alongside Cuthberts Wharf, Philadelphia]

D^o: W^c [Fresh Breezes] PM at 2 Haul'd of[*f*] in the Stream at 4 the *Deleware* & *Camilla* haul'd out in the Stream

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/4311.

1. *Nautilus* was off Billingsport. The three vessels were the transports *Kitty* and *Mermaid* with forage and the armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, of the British Army's Engineers Department. See Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar. below. They had been taken on 7 Mar. off Reedy Island by Capt. John Barry commanding a force of two barges from the Continental frigate *Effingham* and three Pennsylvania Navy armed boats. See Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 9 Mar., above.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN JOHN LINZEE, R.N.

By &c. &c.

Whereas I have thought fit to Station the *Pearl* between Chester and Reedy Island for the purpose of protecting the Navigation of the River; You are hereby directed to proceed thither in the said Ship with all possible dispatch, and Use your best endeavors to take or destroy the Rebel Armed Boats that infest the Mouths of the Creeks in that part of the River; and also to afford Assistance and protection to His Majesty's well effected Subjects going up and down the River, with proper Passes, to Supply the Town of Philadelphia with Provisions.

When any Transports or other Vessels may be coming up the River without Convoy, and not of sufficient Force to protect themselves from the Enemy's Gun-Boats, You are to take them under your protection and escort them within sight of the *Experiment* at Billingsport, Sir James Wallace being directed to take Charge of such Vessels from the *Pearl*, as you are likewise to do from Captⁿ Phipps¹ of the *Camilla*, who is stationed below You from Reedy Island to the Shoals of the Bay.

And whereas a Body of Troops under Colonel Mawhood² are embarked in Transports, and a number of small Vessels have been sent down the River,

Conducted by Captⁿ Watt³ of the *Delaware*, for the purpose of making Descents on the Enemy's Shore to procure Forage for the Army, You are as much as possible to keep the Enemy's Gun-Boats and Armed Craft from Wilmington and other places from molesting the Fleet, and in case of Application from Captⁿ Watt, you are to be particular in rendering them every Assistance and protection that may be in your power.

You are to endeavour to gain Intelligence of the Motions of the Enemy; and to acquaint me of your proceedings by every favourable opportunity.—

Given &ca. [*on board the Roebuck at Philadelphia*] 10th. March 1778.

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), pp. 22–24. Addressed at foot: "Captⁿ J. Linzee/—*Pearl*."

1. Capt. Charles Phipps, R.N.
2. Lt. Col. Charles Mawhood, 17th Foot.
3. Comdr. James Watt, R.N.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Tuesday, March 10, 1778

The Committee on the Treasury, brought in a report;¹ Whereupon,
Ordered, . . . That a warrant issue on the commissioner of the loan office for the State of New Jersey, on the application of the Marine Committee, in favour of the navy board in the middle district, for 11,000 dollars; to be charged to the Marine Committee.

JCC 10: 239, 240.

1. DNA, PCC, item 136, vol. 2, p. 145 (M247, roll 145).

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dear Sir,

Wilmington March 9th. 1778—

I received your Favor of the 6th. Inst^t, & in reply to that part relative to the British Prisoners, & their Treatment contained in the Deposition transmitted you, I can truly assert the whole is without the least foundation, except several being frostbit, which Fate many of our Soldiers in common shared with them, from the severity of the Weather, & unavoidably getting their Feet & legs wet in Landing, the Shore being very flatty & muddy; several of our Officers in bringing the Women on Shore got touched, & Cap^t Anderson¹ of the 2^d M^d. Reg^t had the Skin taken of his hands by the Frost, I shou'd have forwarded a state of this Matter, but several of the Officers who superintended the disembarkation & conducting the Prisoners to Town, are now out on Detachment, which prevents its being properly Authenticated, but it shall be sent in two or three Days on their Return.—

Cap^t Barry applied on Saturday Night about 12 O'clock for a Detachment to aid & support him in securing & unlading two Ships² & a Schooner³ which he had taken that afternoon, about Reedy Island, in conjunction with some Armed Boats of this Neighbourhood, one of the Ships mounts 6 and the Schooner 8 carriage Guns, he cou'd not inform what their Loadings were, I advised bringing them up this Creek, but have not heard from him since, but have understood he has hauled

them in the Piers at P^t Penn, & that the upper part of their holds, are stowed with Hay, In much haste remain Your Excellency's [&c]

W Smallwood

Wilmington March 10th 1778

Since I wrote the above an Officer from Cap^t Barry came last Night with a Bag of Ltrs &c. on his way to address them to you who will inform you more particularly of this Affair I hear from him the Ships being loaded with Forage are burnt &c. & we can't hear what has become of the Schooner but it's hoped she has got into Hamburg. Our People were attacked at 2 OClk off P^t Pen by a 20 gun Ship⁴ & an Armed Sloop⁵ which it was supposed were convoying the Remainder of the Forage Fleet—I have received Intelligence that many of the Enemy are out of Philad^a. above their Lines towards German Town but the Intelligence is not to be depended on—I am as above &c—

W S—

N.B. one of the Lt^{rs} gives an Account of 100 Transports being ordered round to Delaware, ab^t the middle of this Month &c

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "Public Service/His Excellency/General Washington/Head Quarters/Valley Forge." Notation: "W Smallwood." Docketed: "Wilmington 9 March/1778/from/Gen^l Smallwood."

1. Capt. Archibald Anderson, 2d Maryland Continental Regiment, who had been promoted to Major, 3d Maryland Continental Regiment, on 10 Jun. 1777.
2. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master, mounting 6 guns. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M. sloop *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., above.
3. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master.
4. H.M. sloop *Dispatch*, 16 guns.
5. H.M. sloop *York*, 12 guns.

CAPTAIN BENNETT MATHEWS TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

His Excellency
Sir

I have received yours¹ Express wherein you mention of a small Fleet being as high up the Bay as Petuxant² I cant tell what their Meneuver may be but you may expect I shall Sail Immediately for Annapolis, & should have been down before now but I could not get my men together. & Indeed I have been so poorly myself this weeks day that I have not been able to go out of the House and farr from being well at present—I Remain [&c.]

Bennett Mathews

Baltimore march 10th 1778

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-92A.

1. Maryland Council to Captain Bennett Mathews, 9 Mar., above.
2. Patuxent River.

"AT A COURT OF ADMIRALTY HELD IN THE CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG,
THE 10TH DAY OF MARCH 1778."

ORDERED, that the clerk of this Court make proclamation in the *Virginia Gazette*, for three weeks succesively, requiring all persons having any right or title to the sloop *Fortune* and cargo,¹ captured by Capt. *Billups*² and his company of mili-

tia of *Gloucester* county, to come into Court and claim the same, otherwise the Court will proceed to decree the money arising from the sales thereof as the law directs.

(*A copy*)

WILLIAM RUSSELL, clerk.

Purdie's *Virginia Gazette* (Williamsburg), 3 Apr. 1778.

1. See Notice of Sale of Prize Sloop *Fortune*, 25 Feb., above.
2. Capt. Richard Billups.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber at
Pensacola on Tuesday the 10th. day of March 1778

The Minutes of the three last days (2^d. 3^d. & 5th. instant) being read and approved His Excellency the Governor acquainted the Board that he had Summoned them at the request of Lieut: Colonel Stiell Commanding officer of His Majestys Troops within this Province who had some papers to lay before the Board

Lieut: Col: Stiell then informed His Excellency and the Board that he had received a Letter from Lieut: Colonel Disckson¹ of the 16th Regiment (at present at Mobile) inclosing a Letter from the Principal Inhabitants of that Town to that officer containing an Application for an Immediate Reinforcement of Troops at this alarming time—and also Covering reasons why the Fort² at Mobile ought to be defended. These Inclosures the Lt. Colonel produced to the Board and the same being read were ordered to be entered on the Minutes of the day and are as follows—

Honb^{le} Sir/

At this Alarming time when Certain Accounts have been received of the Rebels having reached Manchack and Committed several depredations on the Mississippi The Inhabitants of this place apprehensive of a Visit from them this Way, Consider themselves fortunate to have an opportunity of addressing themselves to an officer of your Rank who is so well Acquainted with their defenceless Situation, to Solicit You to use your influence with His Majestys Governor and Council, and the Commanding officer of the Province to send an Immediate reinforcement of Troops to this Fort and as they have with the deepest concern heard that this Fort in Case of an Invasion of the Province was intended to be demolished—They have therefore thrown together the Inclosed Reasons for Supporting and putting it in a proper State of defence which in their Humble Opinion merit the most Serious Consideration—We have the Honor to be [&c.]

John M^cGillivray

Robert Farmar

Peter Swanson

M^cGrant.

Jn^o Austin

Badon

Jn^o Benjⁿ Downe

W^m Burnett.

Ja^s. M^cGillivray

Chastang Jeune

W^m Gordon

Tho: Strother.

William Struthers

Walter Hood.

Tho^s Graham—

T^h. Chastang L'ainé

Reasons why the Fort of Mobile ought to be Defended.

That whoever is Master of it has the Command of the Chacktaw and Chickasaw Nations, so as to prevent them assisting His Majesty—

That in Case the Fort is abandoned or taken it will Impress the Indians with an Idea that His Majestys Troops are overcome and may induce them to Join the Rebels as their Ideas Carry them no farther than what they see—

That considering the Great Quantity of Indian Goods in that Town the Possessors of the Fort would have it in their Power to Employ these Indians against whomsoever they Chose

That on the Supposition of the Rebels being possess of the Mississippi and Amit³ was Mobile in their Power also: Pensacola could have no Supply of Provisions for its Inhabitants & Troops but from foreign parts—

That the Fort of Mobile being Possessed by the Rebels would require a Seige at a great expence to reduce it perhaps much greater than the repairing & Garrisoning of it so as to be able to repel them would Cost

That Mobile and its District contains a very considerable movable property which in Case of the Rebels possessing themselves of the Fort would be at the mercy of a Banditti

The Abandoning the Fort would Occasion every Man of Moveable property to send it to other Countries to the entire Ruin of the Trade and agriculture of the Province—

That if Mobile fall Pensacola will Totter having nothing to depend upon but the Troops in it—

That the Fort at Mobile if repaired and Garrisoned is the most defensible place in the Province

A True Copy Examind with the Original now in the Possession of Lieut: Col: Stiell

Rich^d Combault
D Clerk Concii

Pensacola 17th March 1778

His Excellency then desired the opinion of the Board upon the Papers before them

The Board Unanimously advised that every measure that Can possibly be taken should be pursued for the Immediate defence of the Town and Fort of Mobile & they recommend that His Excellency do Consult with Lieut: Colonel Stiell and the Principal Officers in Garrison under his Command, what number of Troops can at this Juncture with propriety be Spared from the necessary Duty of this Fort to reinforce that of Mobile—

His Excellency then Informed the Board That another express having yesterday arrived from the Natchez he thought it necessary that such Intelligence as the man had brought should be heard at this Board Whereupon Joseph Dawes a Settler on the reserved Land near the Natchez being called in gave the following Information upon oath—

Information upon Oath of Joseph Dawes Yeoman living near the Natchez landing, taken at Pensacola before His Excellency Peter Chester Esquire Captain General and Governor in Chief of His Majestys Province of West Florida in Council—

This Informant saith that Early on Friday morning being the 20th of February last Patrick Clemmons (a man who lived at this Informants House) [(J)who had been at the Natchez Landing) about 3 Miles distant, the day before came to his said House, with a Small party of about four or five Men most of them Armed, and all dressed in Hunters Froks and told him that Colonel Willing (as he was called who had been formerly an Inhabitant of the Natchez) was at the Natchez Landing and advised him to go in to him (which Words he understood meant the same as "to Join him) that Clemmons told him, if he refused they had orders to tie him and bring him in That he Promised Clemmons he would come in—upon which Clemmons took him aside from the rest—and told him that he had orders to drive in all the Horses—but as he did not want to hurt him (Dawes) he advised him to hide his Horses in the Cane Brake That this Deponent then asked Clemmons whether he meant to Join them, who told him no, but that he sided with them for the present to secure what little property he had—but that he would Quit them as soon as he could—That this Informant then desired Clemmons and one Robert Dunbar also a Settler at the Natchez who lived with him to go back to the landing and try to find Out their Numbers and what they were come about which they accordingly did and Shortly returned brought him Word that their Numbers appeared to be between four & Six hundred—That Colonel Willing had Sent a party of Men to take a large Batteau which was laying at the White Cliffs about 15 Miles below the Landing and which was laden with Six thousand Bushels of Indian Corn That he had also ordered all the Inhabitants of the Natchez District who were Single men to Join him—and the others who were well Affected to him to remove over to the Spanish side of the River within fifteen days—That they had taken Several Prisoners on their Way down the River (to Wit) John Blommart Esq^r a Magistrate of this Province—at Aux Arcs—M^r Alex^r M^rIntosh & Will^m Eason Planters at the Natchez who were going up the River, Robert Welsh and three others, at Watkin's Landing, and this Informant also saith the he was told Parties had been sent out to take M^r Thompson a Gentleman who lately arrived from Jamaica—And that he saw his Negroes drove in pass't his House and Donald M^rPherson who lived at the next Plantation below this Informants & whom he understands to have been Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions at the Natchez—That William Hiorn Esq^r also a Magistrate was Carried in under a Guard and his Negroes drove in That they had also Seized M^r M^rIntosh's Property—That Jeremiah Roulh a Settler also in the said District who had Joined them called at this Informants House, in his way to take his son in Law Isaac Johnson Esquire, also a Magistrate and shewed him (Dawes) ropes of the kind wherewith he had Tied Donald M^rP[h]erson, and said he had orders to Tie all those and bring them along who refused to go in—That Dunbar and Clemmons farther told this Informant that another party were sent to take Anthony Hutchins Esquire a Magistrate of the Quorum—And this Informant also saith that he saw Several of his Neighbours & other Settlers to the Number of Thirty at least going to Join Colonel Willing That they all seemed very happy upon the Occassion and desired him to go with them which he (fearing the Worst) Promised to do, but that he concealed himself in a Cane Brake and while he lay their M^{rs} Dunbar (the wife of Robert Dunbar) came down for Water—and seeing him told him that she had been informed by Henry Bradley and James Truly both Inhabitants of the District

that Colonel Willing was about to send them off Express to the Chactaw Nation and that they had called at his House for him to go with them That this Informant staid in the Cane Brake untill Saturday morning Early when he made his Escape and passed through the Chactaw Nation And that when he came to the Six Towns he desired the Indians to Seize Bradley and Truly should they come into the Nation and to open all Letters but those directed for Pensacola and Mobile which they Promised to do—That he saw but Two white Men in the whole Nation—The commissarys having gone down as he Understood with a Number of the Chactaws to Visit the Superintendent⁴ at Pensacola—That he sent off an Indian Express to Mobile to alarm the Inhabitants which express however only arrive half a day before him That he got there on Friday last the 6th. Instant late at night and came from thence to this Town where he arrived Yesterday about noon—And this Informant farther saith that he could not learn positively what Willing and his party meant to do at the Natchez—but that it was by some thought he meant to repair the old Fort there⁵ and place some men in it and also that Some time before this party arrived he Spoke with a Batteau Man at the Natchez who said he had then just come from Fort Pitt and that there were between Forty and fifty large Batteaus there, but for what purpose he knew not and that some of these Batteaus had gone adrift with the Fresh and farther this Informant saith not Sworn in the Council Chamber at Pensacola
 this 10th day of March 1778 before His
 Excellency in Council
 Attest^r: Rich^d Combauld D Cler Concii

His Excellency also mentioned to the Board that in the present Situation of Affairs he Conceived it to be the duty of every Publick Officer under the Crown in this Town in Particular and the Province in General to exert themselves with the utmost Zeal to Support His Majestys Government and Lawfull Authority—and as he had for sometime observed that numbers of Strangers daily resort to this Town from the Rebellious Colonies or Elsewhere whose Characters for Loyalty and attachment to His Majestys Interest are (if not to be Suspected) at least unknown—they not having thought proper to call upon those in Publick authority to profess and make known their Allegiance to His Majesty and their disapprobation of the present Rebellion Agreeable to an order Published by the Magistrates of this Town on the 24th of June 1776 to that Effect His Excellency therefore Submitted to the Board whether it would not be proper that an order of Council be made and Published Commanding all Strangers whomsoever who now are in this Town and all those who hereafter may arrive in the same during these troublesome times within five days after Publication of this order or their arrival as aforesaid personally to appear before some or one of His Majestys Justices of the Peace or other Publick Officer of Government there to give a good and Satisfactory Account of themselves declaring who they are from whence they came & what their Views and designs may be in coming to this Province and if required take the Oath of Allegiance and the other Oaths required by Law and to Testify their entire disapprobation of the Rebellious measures now carrying on in the Kings Colonies of North America and all Persons who shall or may disregard Evade or disobey this order will be deemed liable to the Penalties and Punishments mentioned in a late

Act of Parliament of Great Britain "Entitled an act to empower His Majesty to Secure and detain Persons Charged with or Suspected of the Crime of High Treason Committed in any of His Majestys Colonies or Plantations in america or on the High Seas or the Crime of Piracy;"⁶ and That the intent of the said order may be the more Effectually carried into Execution that all and every the Inhabitants of this Town and in particular all Innholders Tavern keepers Retailers of Spirituous Liquors House keepers who entertain Lodgers be hereby required and Commanded within Five days from the Publication of the Said Order on their receiving any Strangers into their Houses to report and give Information to the Clerk of this Board of all Strangers who now are or hereafter may be at their said Houses as lodgers or otherwise upon pain of forfeiting their Licences and being prosecuted with the utmost Rigour of the Law

The Board Unanimously concurring with His Excellency in the necessity of such a Measure It was therefore ordered that the Clerk of this Board do by Publick advertisement notify the Inhabitants thereof that they may take one Notice and Govern themselves Accordingly

And then the Board Adjourned—

D, UkLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 254-58.

1. Lt. Col. Alexander Dickson, commanding officer of British troops at Mobile.
2. Fort Charlotte.
3. Amite River.
4. Col. John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District.
5. Fort Panmure.
6. Known as "North's Act," the law authorized holding suspects without benefit of *habeas corpus*.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ARIADNE*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PRINGLE

March 1778

Barbados S^o 67 Leagues—

Tuesday 10.

At 6 AM saw several casks Floating by which suppose was thrown overboard by the chace.¹ At 8 am made the signal to speak with the *Ceres*, & finding that the Chace was Lightening & that we did not gain upon her, left off chace she being then 4 Leag^s distant, & Hauled the Wind to the Southward.—

Barbados S^o 90 Leagues

Light Airs & fair. At 5 PM saw several Casks floating by, sent the Boat & Examined them, proved to be Empty Beef & Water Casks. which was thrown overboard by the *Raleigh*. The *Ceres* in Company.—

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/60, part 2, fol. 59.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*, COMMANDER JAMES R. DACRES

March 1778

[*off Guadeloupe*]

Tuesday 10

at 9 A.M found we did not Come up wth. the Chace¹ D^o. Veer'd Ship as Did the *Ariadne* & Stood to the Sthward
Latt^d. 17^o.. 34 N

First part Light Winds Midd^{le}. & Latt^e fresh Breezes & Cloudy
P.M & A.M Nothing Material Peop^{le}. Employ'd Repairing the
Rigging

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/4141, part 8, fol. 197. The journal was kept by Lt. David Lockwood.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*.

GOVERNOR MARQUIS DE BOUILLÉ TO VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG

(A Copy:)

A la Martinique le 10th. Mars 1778

Monsieur

J'ai L'Honneur d'écrire à votre Excellence pour me plaindre d'une Frégate de sa Majesté Britanique, appelée le *Seaford* qui a insulté grièvement le Pavillon du Roy et manqué au droit des Gends, en attaquant et en prenant sur les cotes de la Martinique un Batiment portant Pavillon blanc qui S'y étoit réfugié, et qui S'y étoit meme Echoué. La Chaloupe de cette Frégate a fait feu sur un troupe de Soldats et D'Habitants sans armes, dont un des premiers a été blessé. Je lui demande la punition du Capitaine commandant cette Fregate, la restitution du Batiment; & si elle me refuse une reparation proportionée, je regarderai cet acte come un hostilité caracterisée et qu'elle a autorisé.

Je Porterai egalement plainte á votre Excellence contre differens corsaires de sa Nation qui foullent, insultent & arrêtent nos caboteurs. si de pareilles Violences étoient repetées, Je la previens que Nos Frégates ne pourroient se dispenser de couler bas tous de ces Pirates q'elles rencontreroient.

J'ai L'honneur d'etre [&c.]

Le M^{is}: de Bouille

[Translation]

(A Copy:)

Martinique the 10th March 1778

Sir

I have the Honor of writing to your Excellency in order to protest against one of his Britannic Majesty's Frigates, named the *Seaford*, that seriously insulted the King's Flag and failed to observe the laws of Nations by attacking and seizing on the coast of Martinique, a Vessel flying a white flag which had taken refuge there, and which had even run aground.¹ The Long-boat from the Frigate opened fire on a troop of Soldiers and unarmed Inhabitants, of which one of the former was wounded. I request the punishment of the Captain commanding that Frigate,² the restitution of the Vessel; & if you refuse me a proportionate reparation, I shall consider this act as one of a marked hostility and one which you have authorized.

I shall also bring protest before your Excellency against different privateers of your Nation which oppress, insult, and stop our coasting vessels. if similar acts of Violence were to be repeated, I warn you that Our Frigates will not be able to excuse themselves from sinking all of those Pirates that they might encounter.

I have the honor to be [&c.]

Le M^{is}: de Bouille

Copy, UkLPR, Adm. 1/310. Docketed: "Martinique 10. March 1778/Lre of Complaint from the/Marquis De Bouille, Concerns/an American Privateer being/taken near the Island Martinique/by His Majesty's Ship *Seaford*./ (N^o: 1:)/In Adm^t Young's Letter/Dated 7th. April 1778." Enclosure no. 1 in Vice Adm. James Young to Philip Stephens (No. 2), 7 Apr., which was received on 22 May 1778 and read.

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 28 Feb., Captain John Colpoys, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 7 Mar., and Capitaine de Vaisseau Charles Picot, Chevalier de Dampierre to Gabriel de Sartine, 9 Mar., above.

2. Capt. John Colpoys.

CAPITAINE DE VAISSEAU CHARLES PICOT, CHEVALIER DE DAMPIERRE
TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

Duplicata au fort royal [*Martinique*] le 10 mars 1778
Monseigneur

J'ai L'honneur de Vous rendre compte que m^c de Jassaud¹ En venant prendre a St pierre le Convoy qui y Est m'a Ecrit que le Samedy Sept de ce mois Voiant une B^t qui alloit Se perdre parcequ'il Estoit chassé par une fregatte angloise. a assureé Son pavillon d'un coup de canon, ce qui a rassuré le B^t. il a Esté Ensuite a la fregatte angloise qui Si est Trouvée la *mouche*² cap^{te}. garner. il lui a parlé avec fermeté & politesse. & L'a conduit au large Toutte La nuit.

le B^t chassé Estoit une prize faite par un corsaire americain & chargé de comestible. les colons qui Estoient furieux de ce qu'il y avoit Eu un corsaire americain pris Sous une Batterie³ chantent aujourd huy la palinodie. ils Sont bien difficile a contenter Je Suis avec le plus profond respect Monseigneur [&c.]

Le ch^{te} De Dampierre

[Translation]
Duplicate at Fort Royal Martinique 10th March 1778
My Lord

I have the honor of sending you an account that Mr. de Jassaud,¹ while coming to St. Pierre to take the Convoy assembled there, wrote to me that on Saturday the Seventh of this month, Seeing a Ship, which was going to be lost because she was being chased by an English frigate, he confirmed his colors with a cannon shot which reassured the Ship. He Then Made for the English frigate which Proved to be the *Fly*, Captain Garner.² He spoke to him with firmness & politeness & escorted her to sea All through the night.

The Ship being chased was a prize captured by an American privateer & laden with foodstuffs. The colonists, who were furious that an American privateer was taken under a Battery,³ are today recanting. They are quite difficult to satisfy. I am with the most profound respect My Lord [&c.]

the Chevalier De Dampierre

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fol. 35. Notation: "M de F[*leurieu*]; M de Dampierre."

1. French Navy frigate *Amphitrite* (30 guns), Lieutenant de vaisseau André Charles, Chevalier de Jassaud de Thorame, commander.

2. H.M. sloop *Fly*, Comdr. Edward Garner, commander.

3. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 28 Feb. and 1 Mar., and Capitaine de Vaisseau Chevalier de Dampierre to Gabriel de Sartine, 9 Mar., above.

March 11

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 11th 1778

Order'd, That Thomas Lewis for Sundry Work for Brig^t *Favorite*¹ as p^r Bill be p'd . . . £9.. 0.. 6—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers² receive of Lazarus Goodwin for Cap^t Holmes³ Expences & Time for himself & Men to Plimouth after Schooner *Elizabeth*, & for disappointment . . . £40..16/.

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 249–50.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
2. Thomas Ivers.
3. Probably Capt. Bartlett Holmes.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO CAPTAIN ISRAEL TURNER

Cap^t I. Turner,War-Office, Boston March 11th 1778

You being Master of the Brig *Dolphin*,¹ now ready to sail, Your Orders are to proceed to Bilboa in Spain, & on your arrival there, to deliver your Letters to Mess^{rs} Joseph Gardoqui & Sons, to whom you are consign'd.²—When you have discharg'd your Cargo, get your Vessel ready to load back, & when Loaded—make all the dispatch in your power, for this or any other Eastern Port in this, or in the State of New-Hampshire, & imediately after your Arrival give us Notice by an Express—if you should be so Unfortunate as to be taken on your passage to Bilboa, either burn or thro overboard all your letters. Avoid as much as possible Speaking with any Vessells at Sea and be careful of the Vessells Stores & Provisions.—We wish you a good Voyage & safe Return.

By Order of the Board of War

P.S. You are to take in Salt sufficient to Ballast your Vessel but you are by no means to load your Vessel deep.—

I Acknowledge the foregoing to be a true Copy of the Orders I have receiv'd of the Hon^{le}. Board of War and promise to Obey the same

Israel Turner

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), pp. 439–40. Addressed at top: "Cap^t I. Turner."

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*.
2. See Massachusetts Board of War to Joseph Gardoqui & Sons, immediately below.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR TO JOSEPH GARDOQUI & SONS

Gentⁿ,War Office Boston March 11th 1778

We have been honor'd with your sundry favors of the 27 April 30th May 17 July 30th & 31st August 18th Sept^r 8th & 18th October & 15th Nov^r & note in conformity their several Contents. We are sorry to inform you that all our adventures both to

and from your Port have miscarried, but we hope this will meet with better fortune. The Bearer of this Captⁿ. Israel Turner in our Brig^a *Dolphin*¹ is loaded with an assorted Cargo, to your address as P^r Invoice & Bill of Lading, which we now enclose & desire you will sell the same for the most it will yeild & invest the Neet proceeds together with the old Ballance in such Articles as are mention'd underneath in proportion to each of them. We entreat you to give Captⁿ Turner all possible dispatch & as by agreement he is to receive £60 Sterling on his safe arrival in Bilboa & the Crew one months pay, this you will advance to him, besides what moneys may be necessary for his Disbursements We are very respectfully [&c.]

By order
Sam^l P Savage Pres^t

1 Cable	14 Inches	120 Fathom
1 d ^o .	14 d ^o .	120 d ^o .
1 d ^o .	13 d ^o .	120 d ^o .
Shroud Hawser	7 ½ Inches	200 Fathom
if in Two Coils one to be 6 fathoms Longer than the other—		
1 main Stay	10 ½ Inches	14 Fathom
1 spring Stay	8 ½ d ^o .	14 d ^o .
Mizen Stay	7 Inches	10 Fath ^m .
1 Fore d ^o .	10 d ^o .	10 d ^o .
1 spring d ^o .	8 d ^o .	10 d ^o .
2 Coil	5 Inch Ropes	120 d ^o Topmast Shrouds
1 Coil	5 ¼ d ^o .	for Mizon Shrouds 120 fath ^m .
1 d ^o .	6 d ^o d ^o .	160 d ^o back Stays
1 d ^o .	6 d ^o d ^o .	30 d ^o Topmast d ^o .
1 d ^o .	4 ½ d ^o d ^o .	30 d ^o for Spring d ^o .
1 d ^o .	5 ½ d ^o d ^o .	80 d ^o for Topsail Sheets
1 d ^o .	4 ½ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o .
1 d ^o .	4 d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o .
2 d ^o .	3 ¾ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o .
4 d ^o .	3 ½ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o each for Lanyards &c.
4 d ^o .	3 ¼ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o each
6 d ^o .	3 d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
6 d ^o .	2 ¾ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
6 d ^o .	2 ½ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
4 d ^o .	2 ¼ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
carried up—		
Bro ^t up		
8 Coils	2 Inch Ropes	120 Fathom each
8 d ^o .	1 ¼ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
8 d ^o .	1 ½ d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
8 d ^o .	12 Thread Ratlin	120 d ^o d ^o .
8 d ^o .	9 d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
5 d ^o .	6 d ^o d ^o .	120 d ^o d ^o .
4 d ^o .	6 d ^o Worming	120 d ^o d ^o .
10 ^{cwt} ..0..0	4 d ^o Spun Yarn	
10..0..0	3 d ^o d ^o .	

5..0..0 2 d^o d^o
 1 Coil 4 ½ Inch 120 Fathom for Fore & main Sheets
 2 main Tacks 7 Inches at y^e knot 14 Fathom each &
 tapering to the end
 2 Fore Tacks 6½ Inches at y^e d^o. 14 d^o. d^o. &
 tapering to the end
 1 Coil 5 Inch 120 Fathom for boye Ropes
 Bolt Ropes viz^t
 1 Coil 5 Inch 100 Fathom
 1 d^o. 3½ d^o. 100 d^o.
 1 d^o. 2½ d^o. 60 d^o.
 1 d^o. 2 d^o. 80 d^o.
 200 Fathom head Rope 1¾ Inches
 100 d^o. small d^o. 1½ d^o.

The above articles pray send and others as in the Letter

10,000 Blanketts at ab^t. 25 Rials

10,000 P^r. Soldiers white Stockings at ab^t. 8 Rials

10,000 P^r. d^o. Stout Shoes at ab^t. 16 d^o.

6,000 d^o. Shirts d^o. 20 d^o.

100 P^s Ravens Duck

50 P^s Russia d^o.

50 P^s. Ticklenburgh

Salt sufficient to Ballast the Vessel but by no means to load deep

If the Sales of this Cargo with the Ballance of our Acco^t now in your hands should be more than sufficient to procure the foregoing Schedule you will then Ship us the Ballance in English Blue Cloths from 8/ to 10/. Three Quarters of them to be of the Lower price or 8/ ~~9~~ yard.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 151 (Letters from the Board of War, 1776–1780), pp. 163–66.
 Addressed at foot: “Mess^{rs}. J. Gardoque & Sons—.”

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*.

CAPTAIN JOHN LAMB TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Dear Sir

Boston 11th. March 1778

I Drew on You for fifteen hundred Pounds in faivour of M^r Waldren¹ which bill Please to honour as P^r Draft. the Ocation of this was the Guns² that come down for Cap^{tn} Smedly³ are not fit for any thing and this Gentleman whome the Draft is in faivour hath Promis^d. the Guns to me that was taken at Providence by Cap^{tn}. Rathbun⁴ no news I am Your Friend

John Lamb

weather being Extreemly bad have not been Able to Do much Since I come Down the above Bill is Drawn in faivour of the bairer

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 24, no. 1557. Docketed in Shaw's hand: “John Lamb's/Letter/Mar. 11. 1778.” Docketed in another hand: “1557.”

1. Jonathan Waldron, merchant at Stonington, Conn.

2. The cannon for Connecticut Navy ship *Defence*, which were cast at the Salisbury Furnace, Conn.

3. Capt. Samuel Smedley, Connecticut Navy.

4. The 16 guns captured in the Jamaica letter of marque ship *Mary* by the Continental Navy sloop *Providence*, at New Providence I.

BARNABAS DEANE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

Sir

Wethersfield 11th Mar. 1778

The *Trumbull* Frigate which was built under my Direction in this State is Still Block'd up by the Enemy,¹ The Captain of her² Proposes to make an Attempt to get her out Sometime this Month, I find myself in want of Cash to pay off the Bills which are Still due from the Frigate which will Amount to Twenty Thousand Dollars, which Sum Please to Send me an Order for on the Loan Office in This State by the Bearer Col. Wadsworth³ who Can give Your Honor any Information Respecting the Frigate which you might wish to know—I have the Honor to be [&c.]

Bar^s. Deane

L, CtHi, Barnabas Deane Papers, Box 384. Addressed at top: "Hon^{ble}. Henry Laurens Esq^r." Docketed: "Copy of a Letter to The/Hon^{ble}. Henry Laurens Esq^r/March 11th. 1778—."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull*. See Journal of the Connecticut Council of Safety, 25 Feb., and Captain John Cotton to Governor Jonathan Trumbull, 26 Feb., above.

2. Capt. Dudley Saltonstall, Continental Navy.

3. Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROEBUCK*, CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

March 1778

[anchored off Philadelphia]

Wednesd^y: 11th.

[AM] Sent a Midshipman & 7 Men to Assist in fitting the *Philadelphia* Gally—

[anchored off Philadelphia]

Little Wind with Sleet & rain [PM] people Employd on Sundrys, The *Experiment*, *Brune* & Convoy from Rhode Isld arrived at Billingsport, and the Hay [*transports*] proceeded up to the Town, also the *Nottingham* Transport Laden with Stores for the Army from Cork.¹ In their way up the Men of War destroy'd the Transport that had fallen into the Enemys Hands at Port Pen and retook the Schooner²

D, UklPR, Adm. 52/1964, fols. 90–91.

1. Transport ship *Nottingham*, L. Bowden, master, 28 guns, 600 tons burthen, three decks, built on the Thames River in 1764, owned by Durand & Co., London. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

2. On 9 Mar. the transports *Kitty* and *Mermaid* with hay were burned at Port Penn, Del., by Capt. John Barry. The armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, was recaptured the same day by H.M.S. *Experiment* and H.M.S. *Brune* from Barry's armed boats north of Reedy Island. See Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 9 Mar., above, and Captain James Ferguson to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE, R.N.

By &c. &c.

Having thought it necessary for the present to Station the *Experiment* under your Command at Billingsport, for the better preserving the open Communication of the River; You are hereby required and directed to place the Ship near that place, and to afford all possible Assistance and protection to Ships passing the Obstructions layed down by the Enemy between Mud Island and Billingsport.

And whereas the Passage through the lower Chevaux de Frize is at present very narrow and confined; it is most earnestly recommended to You whilst you re-

main on this Service to Use every means in your power to widen the Passage by either removing some of the Chevaux de Frize, or pulling them to pieces as you shall think fit; and any materials, or Assistance that you may require on this important Business, will be most readily granted upon your Application.

The Boats employed on the River in Supplying the Town with Provisions, having regular Passes from the Majistrates of the Police, and limited for a certain time, are to be allowed to pass without hindrance or Molestation, provided they call onboard to shew their permission.

Given &c. [*on board the Roebuck at Philadelphia*] 11th. March 1778.

A. S. Hamond

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), pp. 24–25. Addressed at foot: “S^r James Wallace/—*Experiment*.”

PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

In Council

Sir

Lancaster March 11. 1778.

The enclosed is copy of a letter written by the Navy Board of Pennsylvania,¹ which the Council thought proper to refer with such intelligence respecting the boats &c in Delaware as Captain Huston² shall be able to give to your Excellency. However unwilling the State may be to lose their little force on Delaware, their confidence in your wisdom will induce a ready obedience to your Excellency's Orders in that and every other military department. Perhaps it may be necessary to take effectual measures to prevent the men belonging to the boats from joining the enemy upon their being ordered to sink the gallies &c

Captain Huston will receive orders from you to the Navy Board. I have the Honor to be [&c.]

Tho Wharton jun^r Pres^t

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: “His Excellency Gen. Washington.” Docketed: “Lancaster 11 March/1778/from/Gov^r Wharton.”

1. See Pennsylvania Navy Board to President Thomas Wharton, Jr., 5 Mar., above.
2. Capt. Thomas Houston, Pennsylvania Navy.

PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD

In Council

Gentlemen

Lancaster March 11th. 1778

Your letter of the fifth Instant¹ by Captain Huston² the Council have thought it prudent to refer to his Excellency Gen^l Washington; and have recommended Captain Huston to attend on him with such intelligence as he can give respecting the fleet of our State. However unwillingly we may see this little fleet destroyed or abandoned we must not hesitate to obey the orders which his Excellency may finally give in this case; Otherwise we shall get into confusion which will be fatal to us: And we are confident His Excellency would not order the gallies to be sunk without seeing a real necessity for so doing.

The Council intend writing to M^r Pancoast³ respecting the Carriages but they expect very little from it, and recommend you to depend on your own exertions to have the Guns &c^a removed if the General shall order it.

The very instant I can furnish you with money as well to pay the fleet as for the Commissary⁴ M^r W C Bradford⁵ shall set off with it. I am with respect [&c.]

T. W.⁶

L, PHarP, RG 27, Executive Correspondence (loose) of the Supreme Executive Council. Notation at foot: "by Captain Huston." Docketed: "1778 March 11th. To the/Gentlemen of the Pennsylvania Navy Board."

1. See Pennsylvania Navy Board to President Thomas Wharton, Jr., 5 Mar., above.
2. Capt. Thomas Houston, Pennsylvania Navy.
3. Capt. David Pancoast, Flower's Artillery Artificers Regiment.
4. William Crispin.
5. William C. Bradford, Paymaster, Pennsylvania Navy.
6. President Thomas Wharton, Jr.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY

Captain John Barry

Sir

[York, Pa.] March 11th 1778

We have received your letter of the 8th instant¹ and congratulate you on the successful commencement of your expedition and hope it will be attended with Similar advantages to the Public and Glory to the gallant Commander, brave officers & men concerned in it, throughout the whole course. The good Opinion you have of your Prize Schooner² has determined us to purchase her for a Cruizer, you will therefore obtain the consent of the Partys who took her, have her fairly valued, and take her at that evaluation for the public. She is to be called the *Wasp*, and as you have represented her to be properly equipped in every particular for an Armed Vessel, you will see that she is officered & manned as soon as possible, take the command of her yourself or bestow it on some brave Active prudent officer. You will employ her there so long as you shall think prudent, but should you apprehend there will be danger of her falling into the hands of the enemy you will send her out of the Bay into Senepuxent, Chincoteague or any of the Inlets on the Coast, where you will be able to collect a full complement of Men if not well manned before—That done let her take such station off Cape Henlopen as to be able to descry the enemies Vessels coming in & going out of the Capes and to secure a Retreat should she fall in with any Vessels of Superior force. We observe that you have advised General Washington of your success, and expect you have furnished him with Inventories of what was on board your Prizes. Any articles which he may direct to be kept for the use of the Army you will retain having them properly valued and deliver them as he may direct. With regard to the general distribution of the Prize money it is our opinion it should be distributed according to the number of Men & Guns in each Boat concerned in the Capture. As to the distribution among the officers and Men in the Continental Boats (If no previous agreement had been entered into) it must be made agreeable to the Continental Regulations, but if those Regulations Should Appear not to be adapted to the peculiar circumstances of your expedition, we consent that you should enter into such agreement with your officers and Men as shall be most satisfactory to you & them. We approve of your consulting the Honorable Nicholas Vandyke Esq^r when necessary and would have you agreeable to your Instructions, put your Prize goods under his care or any other person you may think proper, and continue to pursue the main object of your expedition with all your usual vigour and activity. The

Prisoners you have taken or shall take you will deliver to the commander of that Department of the main Army which may be most convenient to you. We thank you for the early intelligence of your success—your well known bravery and good conduct gives us Strong hopes of hearing from you often on Similar occasions With the best wishes for your Success We are [&c.]

P: S: Please to transmit to us an Inventory of the effects you have Captured. enclosed is Lieutenant Cokelys³ receipt for 50 Dollars which he will account with you for.

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, pp. 134–35 (M332, roll 6).

1. Not found. However, see Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 9 Mar., above.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, mounting eight 4-pounders, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army.

3. Lt. James Coakley (Cokely, Cokelys), Continental Marines, who had been assigned to Barry's frigate *Effingham*.

“THE SLOOP CONGRESS PAY ROLE 15TH. FEB^Y UP TO 11TH MARCH”

Mens Names	Time Entry	discharg ^d	[Williamsburg, 11 March 1778]		
			months	wages pr month	Am ^t Brought Over
					£217..12..0
W ^m Skinnr	th 15 Feb ^y	—	25 days	at £15—	12..10..0
Ab ^r Kieble	do—	—	do—	at 12—	10.. 0..0
Jo ⁿ . Scriver	do—	—	do—	at 7..10	6.. 5..0
Levin Howse	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
Jo ⁿ . Stone	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
Barry Freeman	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
W ^m Nugent	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
George Dawson	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
Sam ^s Brownlow	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
Sab ^t Cole	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
John Luis	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
[T]ho ^s Pemoh	do—	—	do—	at 5—	4.. 3..4
Partrick Armour	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
Robert Cary	do—	—	do—	at 7—	5..16..8
					£308..17.."
			By 3 days allowed Capt ⁿ Skinner—		1..10
					£310.. 7.."
			deduct part of John Vina's Wages disallowed		3..15..4
					306..11..8

D, Vi, Papers of Various Ships, 1776–1782, Papers of *Congress*, 1778.

HENRY LOWES TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

Somerset [County, Md.] Mch. 11. 1778

Have taken the liberty to trouble you on acc^o. of a heavy loss I have lately Mett with, on Sunday night last¹ I had a New Schooner loaded with wheat stolen from my Landing & on Monday I hear they were Seen going down our Sound²—there-

fore Conclude they are gone to the Ships—Since which I am Informed Some Villians who left this place last Summer & Join'd Dunmore³ were Skulking ab^t last week—from the method in Which She was taken, I think if I Cou'd get ab^d. Shoud meet with Some Redress—Shoud therefore Ever Acknowledge it as a Singular favour youd grant me a flagg or Permission to go down the Bay in search of hir.—The Boat I propose to go in if a flagg can be had is a Small Sch^r John Parker Mast^r have not to add but am [&c.]

Henry Lowes—

The Value of Sch^r & Cargoe is ab^t £460.0.0—

Since writing the Above I am Credibly Inform'd one Cannon, who Belonged to Cⁿ Walkers Gally⁴ is gone & that there are a great Number of Men Com^d down from Sussex⁵ to get off.

HL

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-100.

1. 8 Mar.
2. Tangier Sound.
3. Virginia Royal Governor John Murray, 4th Earl of Dunmore.
4. Maryland Navy galley *Baltimore*.
5. Sussex County, Del.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Wednesday the 11th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick Store, deliver to Mr David Anderson for the use of the Officers and sailors on Board the ship *Dragon*, thirty pair shoes, ten pair stockings, twenty shirts, and as much Cloth as will make two suits of Cloaths with trimings on his paying for the same.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 362.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO DON JOSÉ DE GÁLVEZ

N^o. 130.

Exmo S^{or}.

Mui S^{or} mio: Aprovecho de esta primera ocasion para participar a V.E. como ha llegado una pequeña partida de Americanos sobre este Rio Misisipi mandada por el Capitan Willing, apoderandose de los puertos Ingleses nombrados Concordia, Arkansas,¹ Natches, y Manchak²

Muchos vecinos y havitantes de estos establecimientos pasaron con sus bienes en nuestros territorios reclamando la proteccion del Soberano q^e les he acordado, pero los q^e no lo executaron por falta de tiempo y no quisieron abrazar el partido de las treze provincias unidas, ò a lo menos hazer juramento de neutralidad, fueron hechos prisioneros de Guerra, y los negros y demas bien^s que seles encontraron han sido aprendidos y pillados por sus enemigos,

Tambien han apresado una fragata mercante de diez y seis cañones³ que se hallava en el ante dho puerto de Manchak, un Bergantin que estava en las pasas de la embocadura de este rio⁴ pronto a salir, y todas las Canoas q^e encontraron navegandolo.

Por la adjunta copia se enterara V.E. de la Capitulacion hecha por los vecinos y havitantes del Establecim^{to}. de Natches con el enunciado Capⁿ. Willing.⁵

La politica que he tenido con haver acordado a los Realistas la proteccion de S.M. q^e reclamaron segun consta del Bando que incluío,⁶ no solo fuè para que no tuviesen nada que arguir sobre la que tengo concedida a sus contrarios, respecto a que la Ley— deve ser igual en la neutralidad que guardamos, permitiendoles a estos depositar en esta Ciudad las presas hechas contra aquellos.

Con esta dha politica espero sacar grandes ventajas en beneficio del Rey y de esta Provincia, En lo primero por que todos los efectos como añil, pieles &^a que han salvado è introducido en nuestros territorios no saldran de ellos sin licencia mia y por consiguiente sin pagar los devidos derechos de Extraccion, y En lo segundo por que los negros tanto apresados como los que han sido refujiados en nuestros Dominios, cuios dueños piensan retirarse a Europa seran vendidos y comprados por estos havitantes ni a la mitad de su valor, respecto a la prontitud con que deven hirse los propietarios, y dudando si el Rey permite que en los puertos de España vendan los insurgentes las presas y sus cargazones, se executara tacitamente la de los dichos negros por los interesados para que jamas pueda constar que Yo huviesse tenido conocimiento de esta maniobra afin de evitar todo argum^{to} y queja de parte de la corte de Londres sobre este particular.

La expedicion Americana llegò en las inmediaciones de esta Ciudad donde esta campada con consentimiento mio, y si antes de su salida ocurriese alguna novedad digna de la atencion de V.E. se la comunicarè oportunamente para su intèligencia y la de S.M.

Todo lo que traslado a la noticia de V.E. para que sirviendose instruir al Rey de este acaecimiento y de mis providencias se digne prevenirme lo que fuere de su r^l agrado.

Nuestro S^{or} que a V.E. los m^s. a^s. que deseo—Nueva Orleans 11. de Marzo de 1778 Ex^{mo}. S^{or} [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

[Translation]

No. 130.

Most Excellent Sir:

My dear Sir:

I shall take this first opportunity to notify Your Excellency that a small party of Americans commanded by Captain Willing, has arrived on the Mississippi River, seizing the English posts called Concordia, Arkansas,¹ Natchez, and Manchac.²

Many neighbors and inhabitants of these establishments pass through our territories with their goods, demanding protection of the Sovereign who has accorded it to them, but those who did not do it for lack of time and did not want to embrace the party of the thirteen United Colonies, or at least to take an oath of neutrality, were taken as prisoners of War, and their negroes and other personal belongings were taken and seized and pillaged by their enemies.

They have also seized a merchant ship of sixteen guns³ which was obtained at the aforementioned post of Manchac, a Brigantine that was passing through the mouth of this river,⁴ preparing to depart, and all the Canoes they encountered on it.

The attached copy is to notify Your Excellency of the Capitulation made to the said Captain Willing by the neighbors and inhabitants of the Natchez establishment.⁵

The policy I have had of according to the Royalists the protection of His Majesty which they claimed according to the Proclamation, which I am including,⁶ was not only so that they would have nothing to reproach us with as far as what I

have conceded to their adversaries, with respect to which the law should be equal in the neutrality we are maintaining, allowing them to deposit in this City the prizes made against them.

With this said policy I hope to derive considerable advantages for the King and for this Province. In the first place, because all the goods such as indigo, furs, etc., which the parties saved and brought into our territories will not be sold by them without my permission, and consequently they will have to pay us the proper Export duties, and in the second place, because so many negroes were seized as well as those who have taken refuge in our Dominions, whose owners want to return to Europe, will be sold and purchased by these inhabitants at barely half their value, depending on how quickly the owners want to leave, and doubting whether the King will allow the rebels to sell the seized ships and their cargoes in Spanish ports, the sale of the negroes by those concerned must take place quietly so that it cannot be proven that I know of this business, so as to avoid any quarrels or complaints by the Court of London on this matter.

The American expedition came near this City where it is encamped with my consent, and if before their departure anything new happens worthy of Your Excellency's attention I will notify you promptly, for your information and that of His Majesty.

Regarding everything brought to Your Excellency's attention which serves to inform the King of this event and of the measures I have taken, please inform me of His Majesty's pleasure.

May Our Lord keep you many years—New Orleans 11. of March 1778. Most Excellent Sir. [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

L, SpSAC, Santo Domingo, Legajo 2596, fols. 159–61. Addressed at the foot: "Exmo Señor Dⁿ. Joseph de Galvez." Two enclosures: A copy of Don Bernardo de Gálvez's proclamation of neutrality of 3 Mar.; and a copy, in Spanish, of the capitulation of Natchez of 21 Feb.

1. Concord, or Concordia, to be distinguished from the settlement called Concordia on the Spanish side of the Mississippi across from Natchez, was apparently on the English side in Illinois Country, for on 2 Feb., fourteen English settlers wrote Gálvez from the Spanish Arkansas Post petitioning for protection, stating that they "upon their arrival at the English side found the Place called Concord abandoned and understood that Captain Willing left Orders that nobody should remain there." Quoted in Charles R. Smith, *Marines in the Revolution: A History of the Continental Marines in the American Revolution, 1775–1783* (Washington: History and Museums Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, 1975), 184. The British settlement called Arkansas, to be distinguished from the Spanish Arkansas Post near the confluence of the Arkansas and Mississippi Rivers, may have been the place identified as Old Arkansas, about 100 miles north of Arkansas Post, below the River St. Francis, on B. Romans' 1776 map of the southern British colonies. "A General Map of the Southern British Colonies in America . . .," by B. Romans, 1776, reproduced in Kenneth Nabenzahl, *Atlas of the American Revolution* (Chicago: Rand McNally, 1974), 16–17.

2. Notation in left margin: "El Gov^{or}. dela Luisiana, Da g^{ta}. del arribo en el rio Misisipi de una pequeña partida de Americanos. Puestos que han tomado, Presas hechas, y proteccion acordada a los q^e. la reclamaron, Incluyendo copia de la cap^{on}. hecha p^f los vecinos de Natches, y concluie dando parte de su politica, y ventajas q^e. espera sacar con esta"; translation: "The Governor of Louisiana notes the arrival of a small party of Americans on the Mississippi River, the posts they have taken, the prizes they have made, and the protection accorded those who laid claim to it, including a copy of the capitulation drawn up by those who live in the neighborhood of Natchez, and concludes by giving some of his policies and the advantages which can be derived from them."

3. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.

4. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.

5. For the text of the capitulation, see Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 17 Mar., below.

6. Proclamation of Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez, 3 Mar., above.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO DON JOSÉ DE GÁLVEZ

N^o. 131.Exmo S^{or}

Mui S^{or} mio: En Consequencia del aviso que pasè al Congressò de las Provincias unidas segun di quenta a V.E. de hallarse depositados en esta Ciudad los generos que por R^l. disposi^{on}. se me han dirijido de esos Reinos con destino a su servicio, han despachado los diputados al Capitan Willing con una partida a su Cargo que se ha introducido sobre este rio Misisipi y conducidose por el hasta esta Capital:¹

A su arribo me entregò dos cartas de los citados diputados del Congreso con una Zertificacion del Presidente que los Autoriza (Cuias Copias fielmente traducidas acompaño.)² por las que me participan esta expedicion, previniendome que me deve entender con dⁿ. Olivero Polock su agente en las remesas de dhos generos bien sean por el rio, ò por mar en las Embarcaciones que flete ò compre a este fin.

V.E. vera la solicitud que me hazen de proveer a el Agente del Caudal que huviere menester para sus operaciones a la que no sè aun si deverè asentir, temiendo no Sea del agrado de S.M. este suplem^{to}. aunque me aseguran lo contrario, y quizas me determinarè quando llegue el Caso siendo moderada la Cantid^d. que pidiere y que ella no perjudique a las obligaciones de Esta Provincia, confiado en que auxiliandolos con fuertes partidos de generos no tomara a mal el Rey que en esta consecuencia me huviesse resuelto a librarla, y que su R^l. benignidad se dignara aprovar este Conducta enteramente dictada por mi amor y Zelo al servicio de S.M. que deseo azentar para merezer sus R^s. sufragios.

Nuestro S^{or} guarde a V.E. los m^s. a^s que deseo. Nueva Orleans 11. de Marzo de 1778. [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

[Translation]

No. 131.

Most Excellent Sir

My dear Sir:

In Consequence of the information that I sent to the Congress of the united Colonies, as I informed Your Excellency, of the arrival in this City of the goods that by Royal disposition were directed to me from those Kingdoms destined for its service, the deputies sent Captain Willing with a party under his command, who descended the Mississippi River to this Capital.¹

On his arrival he delivered to me two letters from the said deputies of the Congress with a Certification of the President that gives them Authorization (Copies of which, faithfully translated, are enclosed)² by which they inform me about this expedition, urging me to assist Mr. Oliver Pollock, its well-known agent, in the sending of the said goods by the river, or rather in the Ships that he charters or buys for this purpose.

Your Excellency will see the request they made of me to provide to the Agent of the Property what he needs for his operations, to which I did not know whether I ought to assent, dreading that this act of supplying may not be the pleasure of His Majesty. Nevertheless they assured me to the contrary; this perhaps fixed my determination, setting Bounds to the Quantity requested so that it might not injure the obligations of This Province. My confidence that in aiding them with large amounts of goods I would not offend the King led me to deliver the supplies. May

his Royal goodness deign to approve this Conduct, dictated entirely by my love and Zeal for the service of His Majesty, which I desire to affirm in order to merit his Royal favor.

May Our Lord keep Your Excellency many years, as I desire. New Orleans 11. of March 1778. [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

L, SpSAG, Santo Domingo, Legajo 1236, fols. 166–67. Addressed below close: “Exmo. S^o Dⁿ. Joseph de Galvez.”

1. Marginal notation: “El Govern^o de la Luisiana, Dando g^{ia}. de la llegada del Capⁿ. Willing con una partida de Americanos en solicitud de Efectos, incluyendo copias de las cartas de los diputados del Congreso y Zertificacion del presidente, haze presente la pretencion q^e hazen estos de suplir a el Agente del Caudal necesario p^a. sus operaciones.” Translation: “The Governor of Louisiana reports the arrival of Capt. Willing with a party of Americans, asking for goods, enclosing copies of the letters from the deputies of Congress and certification of the president, presenting their pretensions to ask them to supply the agent of the property what is required for their operations.”

2. The enclosed Spanish translations, filed with the letter, are of letters to Don Bernardo de Gálvez from Continental Secret Committee, 12 June 1777, and Committee of Commerce, 24 Oct. and 21 Nov. 1777, and the President of Congress’s certification of the letters, signed by John Hancock and dated 24 Oct. 1777. For the original English of the letters see *Letters of Delegates*, 25: 624–26, 635–38.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ÆOLUS*, CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER ATKINS

March 1778

Wedn^y 11

Body of the Mone [*Mona Passage*] NE. dist. 4 Miles
at 7 AM—Porto Rico NE. 8 or 9 Lgs—at 8 gave Chace to a Sail
to the West^d—

D^o. [*Mona Passage*] N 34° E 10 [Miles]
Fresh Gales & fair—Still in Chace—at 2 PM. carried away the
fore topmast Stud. Sail Yard.—at ½ past 3. fir’d a Shot & bro^t
too the Chace—a French Brig from Cayene to Port au Prince
wth an American Cargo on b^d.—took Possession of her on
Suspicion—¹

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/4107, part 1.

1. Brig *Hazard*, from Newburyport, with fish and lumber. Parker’s Prize List, 21 June 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/241.

LOG OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *TYRANNICIDE*, CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN

[*St. Pierre, Martinique*]

Remarks on Wednesday March 11th. 1778

These 24 Hours Moderate, Clear pleasant Weather

Received on board 2 Tierces Molasses 1 bar^l. Flour and one Cord of Wood.

This Morning a Fleet of American Merchantmen sailed under the Convoy of
Two French Frigates

D, MSaE, Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide* (November 1777–May 1778).

H. SYMSON TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY PHILIP STEPHENS

Sir
 Grenada 11th. March 1778

I have the honor to enclose herewith a duplicate of my last of the 16th. January, also duplicate list of all Captures which have been condemned and of recaptures tried in the Court of Vice Admiralty of Grenada and the Grenadines since the commencement of the present Rebellion in America to which is aded a recapture not included in the Original List, viz. the Snow *York*, taken by his Majesty's Ship *Pelican*¹—It appeared by the depositions of the American Master & Mate that she was taken by an American Privateer when on a Voyage from Cork bound to N. York, but I could not trace to what Part she belonged, nor the Snow or the Former masters names; I presume their Lordships will cause public notice to be given of it in the London Gazettes.

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

H Symson

[Enclosure]

Duplicate

Grenada 16th. Jany. 1778—

Sir

In compliance with the directions of the Lords of the Admiralty signified to me in your Letter of the 30th. Sept^r I have the honor to enclose herewith a list of all Captures that have been condemned in the Vice Admiralty Court of this Island, since the breaking out of the Rebellion in North America, specified in the manner directed.¹

I have not as yet received the list of Captures condemned at Tobago, but believe there are none. I shall however be able to transmit a certain account by the next Packet, along with a duplicate of this.—As to those condemned at St. Vincents, the Letter which I lately had ~~the~~ occasion to write you, would explain my situation as Judge of the Court in that Island which may prevent their Lordships from receiving the desired information, unless a Letter has been also addressed to the Judge there, which I find has on some occasions been done.

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

H Symson

L, UklPR, Adm. 1/3885. Addressed below close: "To Philip Stephens Esq^r."

1. Lists are printed below.

A LIST OF ALL CAPTURES WHICH HAVE
OF GRENADA SINCE THE COMMENCEMENT

Vessels taken	Captains Names	By what Vessels taken	Captains Names	Under what Commission	When Condemned
Schooner <i>Sally</i>	William Serjeant	Seized by Mathias McNamara Esqr Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Sene Gambia Africa &ca			March 14 th 1777
Schooner <i>Catherine</i> ¹	Lazar Tra baud	Transport Ship <i>True Love</i>	John Reid	Not known	April 11 th . 1777
Ship <i>Oliver Cromwell</i> ²	Herman Courter	Sloop of War <i>Beaver</i>	James Jones		June 18 th . 1777
Sloop <i>Orange</i>	John Leighton	Privateer Sloop <i>Howe</i>	James Dougal	No Commission	July 1 st . 1777
Schooner <i>Rebecca</i>	Putnam Cleves	ditto	ditto	ditto	July 3 rd . 1777
Schooner <i>Driver</i>	Caleb Hogg	Privateer Brig <i>Revenge</i>	Daniel Campbell	ditto	Septem ^r 22 ^d . 1777
Schooner <i>Cleora</i>	Richard Ellingwood	ditto	ditto	ditto	Septem ^r 22 ^d . 1777
Schooner <i>Sally</i>	John Sloane	ditto	ditto	ditto	Septem ^r 22 ^d . 1777
Schooner <i>Union</i>	William White	Privateer Sloop <i>Howe</i>	James Dougal	ditto	October 10. 1777

A List of Re-Captures which have been Tried in the Vice Admiralty

Vessels retaken	Owners names	by what Vessels retaken	Captains Names	Under what commission
Brigantine <i>Venus</i> ³	Unknown	Privateer Brig <i>Revenge</i>	Daniel Campbell	No Commission
Brigantine <i>Polly</i>	John Clements of Bristol	Sloop of War <i>Grass-hopper</i>	William Truscott	
Sloop <i>Henry</i>	Jeanette & Honoré Philip of Grenada	Government Sloop <i>Botetourt</i>	James Connor	From Lord Macartney
Snow <i>York</i> ⁴	Unknown	Brig <i>Pelican</i>	Lieut. J: P: Ardesoif	

Grenada

These are to Certify that the foregoing Lists are true Lists of all Captures
and the Grenadines, and of the proceedings had therein, taken from the

D, UKLPR, Adm. 1/3885. Enclosed in H. Symson to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 11 Mar. 1778.

1. See NDAR 7: 490.

2. See NDAR 9: 102, 104, 121, 125, 195, 323, 545.

3. See NDAR 9: 562, 600; 10: 197-98, 296, 297n.

4. See NDAR 10: 792, 792n.

BEEN CONDEMNED IN THE VICE ADMIRALTY COURT
OF THE PRESENT REBELLION IN NORTH AMERICA

to whom Condemned	On what Grounds Condemned	By whom sold	Amount of Sales to	the whom Nett Proceeds paid	By what Authority paid
The King	for being the Property of the Rebellious Subjects in North America and trading therefrom	the Marshall of the Court	£137...- Currency	Remaining in Court	
ditto	for trading with the Americans	ditto	1565..12..6	Lieu ^t John P. Ardesoif	by Order from His Excellency Lord Macartney
James Jones	for being the Property of some of the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania in Actual Rebellion	delivered to the Captors			
The King	for being the Property of the Rebellious Subjects in North America & trading therefrom	the Marshal of the Court	1383..14..3 ½	the Owners of the Privateer	ditto
ditto	ditto	ditto	636..12..9	ditto	ditto
ditto	ditto	ditto	1207..16..1	ditto	ditto
ditto	ditto	ditto	729..14..11	ditto	ditto
ditto	ditto	ditto	625..5..½	ditto	ditto
ditto	ditto	ditto	1636..5..8	ditto	ditto

Court of Grenada and the Grenadines since the Commencement of the present Rebellion in North America

date of Sentence	Nature of Sentence	Amount of Sales	to whom paid.
Novem ^r 12. 1777	to be sold by the Marshal of the Court & after paying £353..11..1 being one eighth of the appraised Value for the use of the Re-Captors, the remainder to remain in Court for the benefit of the Owners of the said Brig <i>Venus</i>	£2518..4..7.-	Balance remaining in Court
October 13 th . 1777	to be restored to the Owner on his paying to the said Will ^m . Truscott £299..3.. being one Eighth of the appraised Value		
January 21 st . 1778	to be restored to the Owners on their paying £61..17..6 being one eighth of the of appraised Value for the use of the Re-Captors		
January 21 st . 1778	to be sold by the Marshal of the Court & after paying £93..15.. being one Eighth of the appraised Value for the use of the Re Captors the Remainder to remain in Court for the benefit of the Owners of the said Snow <i>York</i>	£715..	Balance remaining in Court

which have been Condemned and all Re-Captures which have been tried in the Vice Admiralty Court of Grenada Registry of the said Court.—

In Faith and Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and affixed the Seal of the said Court this Nineteenth day of February One thousand seven hundred and Seventy eight, and in the Eighteenth Year of His Majesty's Reign

Will Howard
D^r Reg^r Cur^r Vice Adm^r

March 12

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

War-Office, Boston March 12th 1778

Order'd, That Nicholas Bartletts Bill of Disbursments for Brig^t *Favorite*^d be p'd
... £19..16..10—

Order'd, That Ebenezer Foster's Bill for Sundries for Brig^t *Favorite* be p'd, —
a^g... £19..11.. 3—

Order'd, That M^r Ivers² pay Isaac Bartlett³ Wages due to him as p^r Portage Bill
... £51.. 4.— not p^d at this time⁴—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 250–51.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.

2. Thomas Ivers.

3. Capt. Isaac Bartlett commanded the Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic* on a trading voyage to Martinique. He arrived at Fort Royal on 19 Sept. and died there of a fever on 9 Oct. 1777. See NDAR 9: 691; 10: 230–31.

4. This notation is in a different hand.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT
TO CAPTAIN HOYSTEED HACKER

Sir

Providence March 12th 1778

By Athority Committed to me by the Honob^l Continantal Navy Board at Boston,

I hereby Order & direct you to Equip the Ship *Collombus* under your Command with one Suit of Sails and riging Compleat, take on board her a Sufficint quantity of Ballast, fill all her Watter Casks with Watter, which will answer for Ballast, take on board four Carrige Guns & all The Swival Guns and Cohorns belonging to S^d Ship, also Twenty Small Arms with Sufficiant quantity of Amunition for S^d Canon Small arms &c.—agrea with Twenty men (Exclusive of your Commission officers) to Carry S^d Ship to N. London, and Embrace the first fair wind & Sutable time after you are ready, and proceed on your Passage for N. London in State of Conecticut, for which Service you are to pay Each man on the arivel of Said Ship *Collombus* at N. London (fifty Dollars) Or in Case the Winds, or the British Ships of War Should Prevent your Geting Into N. London, you are to pay Each man Respectivly fifty Dollars on your Arivel into anny Safe Port, but you are by all means to Endeaver to get into the port of Boston if Disappointed in Geting into N. London afore Said.—

you are to take Care to have on Board your Ship at Sailing a Sufficiant quantity of Provisions to last your Ships Company Two months, the above S^d orders & Directions you are to Execute assoon as Posable without delay or loss of time.¹

Whatever necessarys you may have Okation for in fitting your Ship you are to Apply to Daniel Tillinghast Esq^r Continantal Agent (or) on your arivel at N. London aply to Nath^l Shaw Jun^r Esq^r for necessary Suplys

aquaint the Navy Board at Boston assoon as may be your arivel in port from whom you will Receive further Orders

I wish you Success & a Safe Passage and am [&c.]

p^r Order Navy Board
John Deshon

L, MHi, Charles Pelham Greenough Papers. Addressed at the foot: "To/Hosted Hacker Esq^r/Commander of the/Ship *Collombus*/Providence." Endorsed: "Providence 27th March 1778/We think no better Pilot then your self can be/got, therefore we desire you will undertake the/Polotage of the out of this River yourself, for/w^{ch} service compensation will be made./on behalf of the board/W^m Vernon."

1. See William Vernon to James Warren, 18 Mar., below.

LEONARD JARVIS TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

The Hon^l the Commiss^s of the Navy Board
Gentlemen

Dartmouth [*Mass.*] Mar 12th. 1778

Your Favour of the 10th. Inst^t was handed me just now by Cap^t. Bass.¹ I shall do all in my Power to procure a Master & hands for the *Loyalty*—but fear that it will be without Effect: as every Master in our Neighbourhood is engaged—I shall write to M^r Bourroughs²—who Cap^t. Bass tells me you mentiond as being likely to go—& shall send to Freetown, where I am told there are some People who are acquainted with Sinepuxent—as soon as I have provided a Master—shall advise you of it—that you may forward his Orders—

M^r Trivett,³ as I have already informd your Board will not suffer me to take any further Charge of the Goods than an Account of them—they have shipt a few Hogsheads of molasses by Cap^t Sturgis Gorham & I have procurd a Sloop to take in a load for the Hyannas—which is also to be deliverd Cap^t Gorham & who I have requested to keep them in his Possession 'till he has Orders from your Hon^l Board or myself—I am sorry to see so little Attention paid by the Officers of the Navy to your Orders—& had I not feard that the Consequences of an Attempt to wrest the Goods out of Trivet's hands might have been a greater Detriment at this time to the publick, than letting them remain till the Condemnation, I should have certainly done it, but if your Hon^l Board thinks otherways & will favour me with your Orders—& procure me Authority to call in the Aid of the Militia—I will certainly do it.

The Cargo as usual does not turn out near so great as was reported—the Papers that the Captors may produce to the Court will probably ascertain the Quantity shipt—& then if a Decree is obtaind (as I am confident it will in fav^r of Government) they may be call'd to Account for the whole Cargo—

Herewith I send you a Muster Role of the Sloop *Providance* & a Return from Lieu^t House⁴ of what things are wanted for that Vessel—her Stern & Quarters—he says must be rebuilt—I shall engage Carpenters for the Purpose—but I do assure you Gentlemen, that nothing but a Desire of serving the Publick would induce me to have anything to do with the Sloop—unless there sh^d. be a great Alteration in the Department of both Officers in General & the men—there is no Subordination on board—which is a little surprizing considering the number of Officers they have on board—If the Role is to be paid off, must beg the favour of you to furnish me with Cash for the purpose as I have no money on hand & am already largely advance. I am [&c.]

Leo: Jarvis

P. S. M^r House—who has acted as Lieutⁿ on board the *Providence* & was lately on board the *Hampden*, might possibly be prevail'd on to take the *Loyalty*, by your Boards requesting it—

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80.

1. Capt. Henry Bass.
2. Capt. Ezekiel Burroughs, Continental Navy, former commander of Continental Navy brig *Hampden*.
3. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines.
4. Lt. George House, Continental Navy, former first lieutenant of Continental Navy brig *Hampden*.

STURGIS GORHAM TO MARINE CAPTAIN JOHN TREVETT

Bedford [*in Dartmouth*] March 12th: 1778

Received of John Trevett on Board the Sloop *Success* my self Master bound for the Hyanas¹ viz^t Thirty four Cask of Molasses ☿ Invoice three thousand Six hundred and Nine Gallons as Guaged at Bedford which I am to Carry in said Sloop to Hyanas and there Store them (or at Barnstable) and take the best care of them in my Power they being on Acco^t & Risque of all Concerned in the prize Ship *Mary*² lately Captured by the Sloop *Providence*³ Jn^o. P Rathburn Esq^r Commander for which I am to have Six Dollars for the freight of each Cask to Hyanas, and all other Charges for Storege &^c as Customary to be paid on the Delivery of the same I haveing Signed two Receipts of this Tenor & date the one being Accomplished the other to be Void—and I promise to deliver to John Trevett or his order the above Goods whenever called for he paying Charges as above the dangers of the Seas and all unavoidable Casualties Excepted

☿ Sturgis Gorham

DS, RNHi, John Trevett Papers, No. 44–14.

1. Hyannis, Mass.
2. Jamaica letter of marque ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.
3. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

SIMON WOLCOTT TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Edgar Town Martha's Vineyard

March 12th: 1778—

Dear Sir/

We are here envelop'd in those eternal Foggs that covers these Regions of Missery in perfect Health Praying for & Dayly expecting a Wind to go to Sea to make our Fortune—Our Ships¹ company consists off about Seventy five hearty Ladds but tis impossible to give you their exact Num^r as they are many of them on Shore—

Can hardly say I am anxious for my Family whilst they remain under your kind Care & Protection—Give my best Love to your Wife & that dear Girl her Sister to whome I should have Wrote was not the conveyance of Letters so uncertain,—We are intirely buried as to News—

The People here are Moon Cusers² & Extortioners having already made themselves masters of all our Cash—I think we shall make our Fortune (if you dont put an end to the War too soon) Tho I see that y^e. Seeds of discord are sewn on Bord which shall do my endeavour to prevent springing up,—Remember me to all Friends and believe me to be Your Affec^t Friend & Hum^l Serv^t

Simon Wolcott³

L, C&Y, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 70, no. 4129. Addressed: "To/Nathaniel Shaw Jun^r Esq^r/Merch^t/New London." Docketed: "4129."

1. Connecticut privateer sloop *American Revenue*, Samuel Champlin, Jr., commander.
2. Mooncurser: 1. A link-boy, or torch carrier, who lights one's way through the streets, especially one who leads his clients into a pack of rogues; 2. ship wrecker.
3. Wolcott was one of the bonders of the privateer *American Revenue*.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY

Sir [Valley Forge] Head Quarters 12th March 1778

I have received your favor of the 9th. inst and congratulate you on the Success which has crowned your Gallantry and Address in the late Attack upon the Enemies Ships¹—altho circumstances have prevented you from reaping the full benefit of your Conquest, yet there is ample consolation in the degree of Glory, which you have acquired—You will be pleased to accept of my thanks for the good things which you were so polite as to send me, with my wishes that your suitable recompense may always attend your Bravery I am Sir &c.

as the Intrenching Tools are of great Value you will be so good as to reserve them, and take particular care of them—

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Captain Barry/of the Navy." Docketed: "Copy to Capt/Barry of the Navy/March 12. 1778."

1. The capture and burning of British transports *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master, and the armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, of the Engineers Department of the British Army.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN NEAR HEAD-QUARTERS,
DATED MARCH 12, 1778."

"Captain Barry has distinguished himself exceedingly on the river; he had collected several of the gun-boats which formerly belonged to the gallies, with three of them, having a four-pounder in each, and others only manned with musquetry, he attacked two large ships loaded with forage from Rhode-Island,¹ under convoy of a tender, mounting eight carriage guns,² both of the ships had 4 six-pounders. He attacked them with great spirit, and after a warm engagement of half an hour, the ships surrendered.—He then pursued the schooner, and parading all his boats, sent a flag to demand the surrender, with which the Captain (a Lieutenant in the navy) thought proper to comply,³ though with a tolerable stock of spirit he might have kept off double the number,—he then took all his prizes to Reedy-Island, and the next tide the *Eagle* man of war⁴ and several other ships of force came up,⁵ seeing these three vessels laying at the piers they came too, by this time the prizes were unloaded of every thing valuable, and the men had formed an intrenchment of the bundles of pressed hay; a severe cannonade then commenced, when the little garrison observing preparations to land, they set fire to the vessels, except the schooner, into which Barry, in order to save her, had thrown himself— the enemy perceiving the ships on fire, desisted from landing, and our men kept possession of the shore, having mounted the cannon taken from the ships, with which they engaged the enemy and hulled them repeatedly—Barry was soon overtaken by one vessel, who detained him till some others came up, six were

observed firing upon him at once. Finding it impossible to get up, he ran the schooner ashore and left her, from whence she was towed off in a very mutilated condition. All the cargoe except the hay is preserved—the schooner had four brass howitz, and some curious instruments in the engineers department, with a great number of letters. We have taken about 100 prisoners; 1 Captain⁶ and a company of artificers, 1 Lieutenant of artillery and about 60 sailors, all of whom are safe at Wilmington.—In short, it is as gallant an action as any during the war, and does great honour to the brave officer and his associates who planned and executed it.”

Pennsylvania Gazette (York), 21 Mar. 1778. This letter was published under a Lancaster, March 18, date-line.

1. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M. Sloop *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., above; and Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Philip Stephens, 26 Mar., and Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, mounting eight carriage guns, belonging to the Engineers Department of the Army. See, *Ibid.*

3. Daniel Moore was not a lieutenant in the Royal Navy.

4. Actually H.M.S. *Experiment*.

5. H.M. frigate *Brune* and H.M. sloops *Dispatch* and *York*, escorting the convoy of eleven transports with hay from Rhode Island.

6. Lt. Stratton, Royal Engineers.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN CHARLES PHIPPS, R.N.

By &c. &c.

His Majesty's Ship *Camilla*, being intended to be Stationed between Bombay Hook, and Reedy Island for the defence of the Navigation, and keeping an open Communication with the Town of Philadelphia; You are hereby directed to proceed on the Service abovementioned, and use your best endeavours to take or destroy any of the Rebel Armed Boats you may meet with, and also to give all possible protection to His Majesty's well affected Subjects carrying Supplies of Provisions to the Town.

But the more immediate Object of your present appointment is to cover and protect from Insult a Foraging Party going down the River under the Command of Colonel Mawhood;¹ and Captain Watt of the *Delaware*, who has directions to consult with you from time to time in order to take measures for their Security, according as they may find it necessary to move about, or circumstances may require.

And whereas I have thought proper to Station the *Zebra* about the Shoals of the Brown and the Brandywine, with Pilots onboard for facilitating the arrival of Ships coming up the River, and the *Pearl* from Reedy Island to Chester; You are to endeavor to hold a Correspondence with each of their Captains when opportunities will allow, in order to gain Intelligence of the Enemy's motions, and whenever you find it necessary you are to send to them for Assistance.²

You are to forward the Pilots down to the *Zebra* by every opportunity, and to send me as often as possible an account of your proceedings—

Given &c. [on board the *Roebuck* at Philadelphia]

12th. March 1778.

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778-1780), pp. 25-27. Addressed at foot: "Honorable Charles Phipps/*Camilla*.—"

1. Lt. Col. Charles Mawhood, 17th Foot.

2. See also, Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Captain John Linzee, R.N., 10 Mar., above.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FRANCIS DOWNMAN, ROYAL ARTILLERY

[*Philadelphia*]

March 12th.—A number of ships and small craft went down the river to-day with the 17th, 27th, and 46th regiments, supposed for forage. Ten or twelve ships from Rhode Island came up town to-day with forage, very opportunely. The rebels have got at Wilmington Creek several galleys and other vessels with which they annoy ours very much. They have just now taken two of the Rhode Island fleet and destroyed them;¹ they have also taken the *Alert*² belonging to Captain Montresor,³ with several officers' wives and much baggage and valuable things on board. It is no honour to our navy or army that this nest of rebel vessels is suffered to do so much mischief. An attack both by land and water would be the means of effectually taking and destroying the whole.

Downman, "Services of Lieut.-Colonel Francis Downman," 217-18.

1. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., Journal of H.M. Sloop *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., above, and Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army.

3. Capt. John Montresor, Royal Engineers.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Thursday, March 12, 1778

The Marine Committee laid before Congress a copy of a proposed letter to Captain Barry,¹ among other things empowering him to purchase, for the use of the Continent, and to fit out a vessel² which he has lately taken in Delaware Bay:

Resolved, That Congress approve of the purchase being made, and that it be referred to the Marine Committee to give such directions as they judge proper respecting the naming, officering, and manning the said vessel when purchased, and the manner in which she is to be employed.

JCC 10: 246.

1. See Continental Marine Committee to Captain John Barry, 11 Mar., above.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, mounting eight 4-pounders, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army.

DANIEL ROBERDEAU AND JONATHAN B. SMITH TO PRESIDENT THOMAS WHARTON, JR.

March 12th, 1778, York Town. [*Pennsylvania*]

Sir,

The Committee of Council and Assembly,¹ who left us this day intimated the desire of the State to offer to Congress our Gallies and Xebechs, on reflection the Delegates think it of such importance that they request particular instructions on the head, lest they should act contrary to your, and the intention of the State. We shall expect Instructions and are [&c.]

Daniel Roberdeau.
Jon'a. B. Smith.²

Pennsylvania Archives, 1st. ser., 6: 359. Addressed: "His Excellency Thomas Wharton, jun'r, Esq., President of the/ Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Lancaster. ☞Express."

1. A committee of members of the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council and Pennsylvania General Assembly.

2. Roberdeau and Smith were delegates to the Continental Congress from Pennsylvania.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN JAMES NICHOLSON

Sir.

In Council Annapolis 12th. March 1778.

M^r Sleamaker,¹ on his Return, has called on us and gives us such Information of the Number & Situation of the Ships that we imagine there will be no immediate Attempt to run the *Virginia*: indeed we think the Chance of getting through so small, that we wish you not to make a Push, if your Orders give you any Latitude. Our Sentim^{ts}. on the Subject have already been mentioned to some of the Gent^l. of the Congress. The *Defence's* Tender² & the *Plater*³ have been constantly employed in the Service of the Congress and are like to be so; We also want the *Dolphin*,⁴ chiefly for the same Purpose & request you'll send her down to us—We are &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "Cap^t James Nicholson."

1. John Slemaker (Sleamaker, Sleaymaker), a Chesapeake Bay pilot.
2. *Amelia*, Capt. Henry Massey, commander.
3. Maryland Navy armed boat/galley *Plater*, Capt. Richard Murrow, commander.
4. Maryland Navy schooner *Dolphin*, Capt. Daniel Bryan, commander.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Thursday the 12th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that Mr William Frazier deliver to Captain Celey Saunders what Iron, Cordage, and other necessaries he may want for the use of the ship building on Mattapony.—¹

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 363.

1. Virginia Navy ship *Tempest*.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. RICHMOND, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

March 1778
Thursday 12

Cape Henry SW ½ W 4 or 5 Lg^s.
Var^d. W^r AM at 5 Weigh^d & came to Sail in C^o. w^h. H.M.S. *Solebay*, *Emerald Senegal*, & *Otter*, at 6 m^d. the *Dunmores* Signal to join D^o. she join^d us at 7 was order^d to Chace to y^e SE, made sail, at 9 y^e *Emerald* Tk^d. & stood up way at 11 Anch^d. w^h. B^t B^r in ½ 3 fath^m. W^r Veerd ⅓ of a Cable *Senegal* & *Otter's* Tender nearer in Shore Cape Henry SW ½ W, 4 or 5 Leagues, sent the 1st Lieut^t with the Boats with Orders to Cap^t Molloy to get of [f] the French Ship we had chaced but if it was found impracticable, he was to destroy her
Cape Henry SW ½ W 4 or 5 Lg^s.
Mod^t & Hazy [PM] saw the above Ship, cut away hir Foremast & Mⁿ. M^t. at 2 the Boats Ret^d. having left the above a Compleat

wreck¹ at 4 weigh^d & came to Sail in C^o. w^h. the *Senegal* & *Dunmore*, at 5 saw 2 Sail to the South^d. standing in for y^e Cape gave chace *Senegal* in Comp^s at 11 m^d. the P^t Sig¹² to a Ship within the Cape which she did not answer,

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/784.

1. French ship *Tonnere*, L. Dessau, master, owned by Mons. Deledebat of Bordeaux, mounting 20 guns, with a crew of 50 seamen, from Cape François to Chesapeake Bay, with bale goods &c., taken off Smith's Island, destroyed, prize credited to *Senegal*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41.

2. I.e., made the Private Signal.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

March 1778

[At Anchor Crumps Hill SbE ½ E]

Thursday 12th.

Light Airs & hazy. AM got under way H M: Ships the *Emerald*, *Richmond*, & *Solbay* with H M: Sloops the *Otter* & *Senegal* at 9 two of the Ships Anch^d. between the Horse Shoe & Middle [Ground], the other two in Chace. One of them Stood without the Capes, the other up the Bay, at ½ past 10 the other two ships got under way, at ½ past 11 the three up the Bay, Anch^d. the fourth, & Chace out of Sight

Ditto [At Anchor Crumps Hill SbE ½ E]

Mod^t Breezes & fine W^r. [PM] Saw a Sail off Cape Henry, the Tender got under way & gave Chace the Sail lying too having French Colours the above Sail anchored ahead of us about ½ Gun Shot, hoisted out the Boats & took possession of her, found her to be the *Jean Andre* a ship of 12 Guns from Bourdeaux bound to the Chesapeake Bay with Cloathing &c^{a.1} Came on b^d from the French Prize 38 Prisoners

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. Ship *Jean André*, Guillaume Coronet, master, owned by Mons. Jauge & Co. of Bordeaux, mounting 12 guns, a crew of 40 seamen, from Bordeaux to Chesapeake Bay, with cordage, canvas, clothing, &c., taken off Willoughby's Point, sent to New York City as a prize of *St. Albans*. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. She was libelled by Capt. Richard Onslow on 30 Mar. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and condemned as a lawful prize of *St. Albans* on 27 Apr. 1778. UklPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 81. Her master's name appears as Pierre Couronnet in her prize papers. UklPR, H.C.A. 32/365/10.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *SENEGAL*, COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY

March 1778

[Cape Henry ESE. 5 Lea^s.]

Thursday 12

Light airs & foggy wea^t At 6 AM weighed in Co with the *Emerald* *Richmond* *Solebay* *Otter* & *Dunmore* brig. At 7. saw a sail to the E^t ward, gave her chace, with the *Richmond*, the chace ran cross the tail of the Middle ground for Smiths Island. At 11. she ran aground about the Middle of Smith Island, then hoisted french colours & fired a shott which we returned with the 4 pounder. At ½ past 11 Anchored in 3 f^m. North end of Smiths Island NNE. S^o. point W ½ N. sent the pinnace with a flag of

Truce to speak her, but was prevented by their firing seven shott at the boat. At Noon the french ships Mast fell by the board, soon after her Foremast, the *Richmond* having sent three boats in case of boarding her, sent them with ours to Assist in saving the people which the[y] effectd & threw her guns over board. She was called the *Tonnere* of 350 tons, 50 Men & 18 Guns from Cape François to the Rebels.¹

Smiths Island N^o. end NNE S^o. end W ½ N
Fresh breezes & clear wea^t At 1 P.M. weighed & plyed for C
Henry with the *Richmond*

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/885.

1. Ship *Tonnere*, L. Dessau, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 12 Mar., above.

THE SOUTH-CAROLINA AND AMERICAN GENERAL GAZETTE,
THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1778

CHARLESTOWN, March 12.

The *Comet* privateer of 16 guns and about 87 men,¹ commanded by James Pyne, Esq; which sailed out of Charlestown the 2d of November last, was taken by the *Daphne*, Capt. Chinnery,² of 20 guns, the 22d of December following, off the west end of Cuba, and carried into Pensacola, from whence Captain Pyne was sent to New-York, and his men distributed on board different vessels.³

Last Monday Mr. Jarvis Williams, with three others which belonged to the *Comet* at the time she was taken, arrived here from St. Augustine,⁴ from which place they made their escape in the night of the 23 ult. and brought off with them a Negroe fellow belonging to Mr. Righton, of Charlestown, cooper.

The *Daphne*, Capt. Chinnery, of 20 guns, and the *Comet*, and 35 men, are cruising off Charlestown bar.

Capt. Brown, in a privateer from this State, was lately taken by an English letter of mart after an obstinate engagement, in which he lost one of his legs, and carried into Jamaica.

1. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Comet*.

2. Capt. St. John Chinnery, R.N.

3. For *Comet's* capture, see NDAR 10: 786, 786n.

4. Jarvis Williams, master's mate, and Paul Ripley, midshipman, were two of the four members of *Comet's* crew that escaped from St. Augustine. See Journal of the South Carolina Navy Board, 26 Mar., below.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. GLASGOW, CAPTAIN THOMAS PASLEY

March 1778
Thurs^y 12

Ditto. [The East End of Mayaguana] NNW. 6. or 7 Leagues
At 9 (AM) Saw a Sail to Westw^d. Gave Chase, At Noon short-
ned Sail and gave over Chase, Reefd TS

The SE. End of Mayaguana NWBW. 5 Leagues.
Fresh Breezes and Cloudy At 2 (PM) Saw a Sail to Westward,
Gave Chase At 7. Fired 3 Guns & bro^t her too, sent an Officer

to Examine her, Proved a Sloop from Cape Francoise to New London. took possession of the Prize bro^t the Prisoners on board and sent a Petty Officer with people to take Charge of her.¹ and made Sail to the S^ow^d.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/399.

1. Sloop *Lucy*, Richard Reynolds, master, 70 tons burthen, crew of 7 men, belonging to Joseph Smith of New London, from Cape François to New London, with molasses, salt, etc. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. See Louis F. Middlebrook, *Maritime Connecticut During the American Revolution*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: The Essex Institute, 1925), 2: 7.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *YARMOUTH*, CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT

March 1778
Thursd^y 12th

Is: Barbadoes W^t S^oerly. Latitude in 13°.. 14' N^o.
at 3 AM saw a Sail to Leeward of us, gave chace, at ½ past 9 shortned Sail and hoisted a Boat out, and bro^t on board 4 Men who were on a piece of a wreck,¹ they informed us they were on board the Ship engaged the 8 Instant when she Blew up, that they had nothing to subsist on from that time, but by Sucking the rain water that fell on a piece of Blanket they had fortunately picked up. The Ship was an American Privateer of 36 Guns and, and 305 Men.² resumed our Chace, w^{ch} steered due West.

Is: Barbadoes West. Latitude in 13°.. 07' N
Fresh gales and fair, we continue our chace, but do not perceive we come up with her. at 10 PM lost sight of her, at 11 made the Island Barbadoes bearing WSW 4 or 5 Leagues. down steering Sails, in 2^d reef the Topsails, and hauled our Wind to the N^oward,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1091, fol. 178.

1. The seamen were Hantz Wortman (or Hans Workman), John Kerry (or Carew), Alexander Robinson and Batholomew Bourdeau. UKLPR, Adm. 36/8072 and Adm. 43/23. See Deposition of Hans Workman, John Carew and Alexander Robinson, 16 Mar., and Muster Table of H.M.S. *Yarmouth*, 31 Mar., below.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

GOVERNOR THOMAS SHIRLEY TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

My Lord,

Dominica 12th March 1778.

Hearing that a safe opportunity offers from S^t Kitts for England I avail myself of It in order to send Your Lordship the several inclosures which contain intelligence that I think my Duty to communicate to Your Lordship by the earliest opportunity.—There is now actually passing by this Island a Fleet of eleven Sail under Convoy of a large French Frigate. They are mostly small Vessels, and are beyond a doubt American Vessels Convoy'd to S^t Eustatia and other parts.—It may not be improper for me to embrace this occasion to acquaint Your Lordship that the *Grenville* Packet with the January, and it is likewise said the February Mails on Board has had a very severe Engagement with a Rebell Privateer of Force¹ and that

both Mails are lost. There seems to be no doubt of the Truth of the matter with respect to the Fate of the January Mail; but it is hoped that the February Mail was not on board the *Grenville*.

I have the Honor to be, My Lord, [&c.]

Tho^s: Shirley

L, UKLPR, C.O. 71/7, fols. 42–43. Docketed: "Dominica 12th March 1778/Governor Shirley/(2 Inclosures.)" Endorsed: "R, 16th May/Ent^d."

1. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*, Capt. Samuel Chew, commander. See "Memorandum of American Privateers in Martinique & the Conduct of the French towards the Americans," 24 Feb., Journal of H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 6 Mar., above, and Governor Valentine Morris to Lord George Germain, 12 Mar., immediately below.

GOVERNOR VALENTINE MORRIS TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]

My Lord.

S^t Vincent 12th Mar. '78.

... with great concern I this moment learn of the January mail being lost by a severe engagement the Paket¹ had with an American privateer of force.² at the same time I beg leave to congratulate your Lordship on the Success of his Majesty's Ships *Ariadne*, *Cerres*. & *Yarmouth* against the several American privateers going to make a descent on Tobago.³ these are part of that force which was destined to have acted also ag^t Dominica or Tortola as mentioned in my letter to the Lords of the Treasury of the 23^d of February. the copy of which your Lordship received with mine of the 18th of same month to your Lordship. and of which I informed Admiral Young and his Majestys Governors M^r Shirley⁴ & M^r Birt.⁵ Tobago was on consultation substituted for Dominica, deemed too well guarded, and from Tobago the force was to have gone to Tortola.

it was one of the vessells mentioned in that list commanded by Captain Tew⁶ which attacked his Majestys Packet. Captain Tew and thirty of his crew were killed and his vessel greatly damaged by the Packet.

I trust by dint of vigilance, and private intelligence to frustrate every attempt meditated against this Island; they however have been various, but chiefly hitherto with intent only to plunder, but as the privateers altho perpetually hovering on our coasts with that intention & their boats Crews even attempting to land, have even by night as well as day found preparations to receive them. they never could succeed but once by landing and carrying of two negroes of a french settler from that tract of wood land sold by the Charibs to Collonel Etherington, and by directions of the Lords of the Treasury to me since confirmed to him; I have reason to think this was effected by previous concert with these negroes all in one hut and who else might I think have escaped into the woods.

... the very unexpected arrival of a dutch squadron of men of War at Statia,⁷ the particulars of which the Admiral & Gov: Birt will doubtless inform your Lordship more particularly than I can altho matter of surprise is to me of equal Satisfaction as I cannot doubt but these come as auxiliaries to his Britanick Majestys Ships here.

I have the honor to remain with due respect and esteem [&c.]

Valentine Morris

L, UKLPR, C.O. 260/5, fols. 161–65. Addressed below close: “R: Honorable/Lord George Germaine.” Docketed: “S: Vincent 12th March 1778./Governor Morris/R, 9th July./(7 Inclosures.)/Ent^d.” Portions not printed related to Morris’s disputes with the colonists of St. Vincent.

1. H.M. packet *Grenville*, Capt. Kempthorne.
2. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.
3. H.M.S. *Ariadne* and H.M. sloop *Ceres* captured the Continental Navy ship *Alfred* on 9 Mar., above, and H.M.S. *Yarmouth* engaged and destroyed the Continental Navy frigate *Randolph* on 7 Mar., above.
4. Gov. Thomas Shirley.
5. Gov. William Mathew Burt.
6. Capt. Samuel Chew, Continental Navy.
7. St. Eustatius.

March 13

MAJOR GENERAL EYRE MASSEY TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

My Lord

Halifax March the 13—1778

As a letter of Marque Sails, this day for Bristol, I think it my Duty, not to miss any opportunity to inform your Lordship, all is well here; I have an Express Every fortnight from Major of Brigade Studholme,¹ who commands at the Entrance of S^t Johns River, in his last letter he says, he has now so well secur’d his Post, that has not the least apprehension, should he be attack’d he will keep his Ground, and I daily See how usefull a Post, that will be, for the future Safety of this Province, I beg ten thousand pardons, for again Soliciting your Lordship in Speedy Sending out, Some Small Armd Vessels, at this time, there are three Pirates cruising between Cape Sabel and our Light house,² and all the Goods Sent from Engla[n]d to this place, are instantly bought up to supply the Rebellious Colonies, and that Trade, as much establs’d here, as the fair Trade is in London, and this be assur’d of as fact—from my Lord [&c.]

Eyre Massey

I have not had the least Accounts from Sir W^m Howe or any of the Southern Armies since Maj^r Smalls³ Departure from hence—

L, UKLPR, C.O. 217/54, fols. 42–43. Endorsed: “R, 22 April.”

1. Maj. Gilfred Studholme.
2. Cape Sambro Lighthouse.
3. Maj. John Small.

INTELLIGENCE FROM CAPTAIN JOHN MACARTNEY, R.N., AT HALIFAX

[Halifax]

Copy.

Intelligence received from Captain Macartney¹ with his Letter of the 13th March 1778.

— Conway,² Master of a Rebel Privateer Schooner of forty Tons, six Guns (two pounders) And a Number of Swivels with thirty five Men,³ came into Yarmouth near Cape Sable about six Weeks ago, killed one Sheep and pulled the Inside of a House down. A party of Men from the same Schooner about the 8th. of February last, marched down to Cape Vaisseau under Arms, in order to take a small Schooner belonging to Benjamin Barnet of Yarmouth, but did not take her, having found her good for little.

—That they have got plenty of Salt at Boston on French and Spanish Bottoms; one French Ship in particular of about four or five hundred Tons very lately arrived there with Salt; that it cost twenty Dollars per Bushel before she arrived.—That last Summer they had 300 Sail of Privateers all over America, and that this Summer they imagined they would have 700 Sail besides small Craft.—That the Island of St^t Peters^d was deserted by the French.—That the Rebel Army was the worst of the People.—That the Militia stayed at home to defend their Property. That there are a great Number of French Officers in their Army, and a number of French Seamen in their Privateers & that the small Privateers share every Prize equally, except a double Share for the Commander, and that they never condemn their prizes legally.— That a great Number of Vessels are gone from Boston, Marblehead &c^a to South Carolina for Grain, Pitch and Tar, which are very much wanted.—That they sailed in December last, and were expected to return in March or April: Their passage is through the Vineyard⁵ and close aback of Martha's Vineyard Island.

A small Privateer from Salem about the 20th of February says there are 25 or 27 Vessels of the same kind (carrying one Carriage Proa Gun & a number of Swivels round the Coamings of their Hatchways for fighting in the Hold; they row 18 Oars each and carry about 35 Men, built on purpose for going) ready to sail to line all the Coasts of Nova Scotia and destroy the Trade wherever they can.—That these Vessels are principally manned with Marblehead and Salem Fishermen, who are well acquainted with every small Harbour and Creek on the Coast. These Small Craft lie mostly in Harbours where they can run in one way and out another, in case of being pursued. They likewise report that the Americans had withdrawn their Troops from Machias, early in the Fall of the Year, after the *Rainbow* left it, to the Number of 1500 Men, bidding them defend themselves if they pleased, and that no Troops had been there since; and that it was not a place worth guarding.

—That a Brig of 18 Guns well found and manned and commanded by one Sampson⁶ is at present cruizing between Cape Sable and Halifax, fitted out on purpose to take the *Hope*, Captain Dawson;⁷ And that there are five very small Privatiers already on this Coast.

These small Privateers report that the way they generally get their Prizes in, is, by giving Cape Sable a Birth of 20 Leagues, and then making the best of their Way to Mount desert.⁸

The 'foregoing Intelligence was given to Captain Macartney in Annapolis Bason by the undernamed Inhabitants of Yarmouth near Cape Sable.

John Crowley	}	Justices of the peace
Phineas Durkee		
Jer ^h . Allen		Cap ^t of the Militia.

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 252–53. Docketed: "Intelligence received from/Captain Macartney./Dated 13th. March 1778./N^o. 1/In Lord Howes N^o. 59." Enclosure No. 1 in Vice Admiral Viscount Howe's letter No. 59 to Philip Stephens, 9 May 1778.

1. Capt. John Macartney, commanding H.M.S. *Ambuscade*.

2. Capt. John Conway.

3. Massachusetts privateer schooner *Terrible*, mounting 4 carriage guns and 10 swivels with a crew of 35 seamen, was commissioned on 28 Nov. 1777 and was owned by Thomas Gerry and Samuel Trevett, of Marblehead. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls, vol. 7, p. 225.

4. French island of Saint-Pierre (St. Peters), Saint-Pierre and Miquelon Islands.
5. Vineyard Sound, Mass.
6. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Hazard*, Capt. Simeon Samson, commander.
7. Capt. George Dawson, R.N.
8. Mount Desert Island, Me.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

War-Office, Boston March 13th 1778—

Order'd, That Thomas & Joseph Dakin be paid for Sundry Work for Brig *Dolphin*,¹ as p^r Bill . . . £39.. 3.. 9—

Order'd, That Rich^d Skillin be paid Sundry Work for Brig^t *Dolphin*, as p^r Bill . . . £11..11.—

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins² deliver Cap^t Turner for the Brig^t *Dolphin*, two Cohorns & two Swivels, with proper Apparatus for the Same.—

Voted, That Mess^{rs} Cross & Greenleaf be desir'd imediately to provide suitable Wooden Materials for building a twenty Gun Ship, to carry nine Pounders, & y^t they be allow'd a reasonable consideration for their Trouble—

Order'd, That the Com^y Gen^l deliver Cap^t Turner for the Brig^t *Dolphin* Six Ships Arms, one quarter fresh Beef and ten Bushels Potatoes.—

Order'd, That M^r Thomas Foster deliver Cap^t Turner for two Cohorns twenty five Cartridges 3 or 4^{lb} each, —for two Swivels Forty Cartridges, and one hundred Eighty Musket Cartridges from the Powder deliv^rd him from Sloop *Reprisal*,⁴ if he has it not[,] to deliver Cap^t Turner Powder sufficient to make the above Cartridges, & return the weight—

Agreed, with Cap^t Israel Turner on a Voyage from Boston to Bilboa in the Kingdom of Spain for £20.—.— p^r Month Wages, —to be paid in Bilboa £80.— instead of Primage, &c. five Tons Priviledge, & 3/4^d p^r day while in port in Spain.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 251-53.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*, Capt. Israel Turner, master.
2. Caleb Hopkins.
3. David Devens.
4. Massachusetts State trading sloop *Reprisal*, Capt. Nathaniel Carver, master. See *NDAR* 10: 362, 615.

CAPTAIN HUGH DALRYMPLE, R.N., TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN BURGOYNE

Sir

Juno Cape Cod Harbour 13th Mar^h 1778

I had the honor of receiving your letter of the 9th. In^t and have forwarded your packet to the Viscount Howe by the *Haerlem*, and shall continue in this port observing the strictest neutrality, till I have his Lordships order to remove, but I hope before I can possibly receive an answer from his Lordship, your aid-de-camp¹ will arrive with the agreeable Tydings that I am to have the pleasure of conveying you to England. hearing that you were indisposed I have used every means to make your passage comfortable, but I am sorry I shall have no milk, having neither Cow or milch Goat on board. You will find by the inclosed letter I received from M^r Leonard Deputy Commissary,² who was not arrived when I last had the honor to write you, That there are 1900 Barrels of Flour in three Victuallers in the Fleet

intended for your Troops. There are no provisions on board the Transports but what was intended for the Troops during their passage to England. I have wrote to the Viscount Howe That if the Troops were not to be embarked, I should ask his Lordships permission to put the whole on board one or more of the Transports if one not sufficient, to carry the same to Boston for the use of the Troops of the Convention, a written permission being first procured from General Heath for that purpose. I have received a letter from Gen^l Heath in which is the following paragraff "although I wish on every occasion to extend the utmost generosity to the Gentlemen of the Army yet to allow Letters to pass unopened would be betraying the Trust reposed in me, therefore any Idea of granting such indulgence cannot be admitted." So I shall take care of your private Letters together with those of every person in the Army. I return you many thanks for your present of a Turkey and remain with esteem [&c.]

Hugh Dalrymple

I beg leave to observe that there are only 7030 Tonaqe of Transports to carry the Troops—

L, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 8, fol. 426. Docketed: "From Cap^t Dalrymple/to Gen^l Burgoyne/Mar. 13. 1778/(Copy sent Congress)." There is a copy of this letter dated 15 Mar. in the William Heath Papers, vol. 9, fol. 10.

1. Ensign Richard R. Wilford.
2. George Leonard.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL CHAMPLIN, JR., TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Sir.

Edgartown March ye. 13th. 1778

I take this oppertunity by Colonal Norton^l to write you of our proceeding Since we² got here we have not had [a] wind that we Could Get to Sea with [torn] we left New London but are all Ready now for the first wind that presents.

we have got now on bord 73 hands which is the whole of our Crew but Expect two or three more if we Should not have a wind to Day but you may Depend that I Shall embrace the first oppertunty that offers.

I have Drawd on you in favor of Colonal Norton for Sundries as a firkin of butter a Cord of wood & for Shiping of people & poilatiage which I hope you will answer poilateage is 20 Dolars I have paid It out of my own pocket which I wish you will be so Good as to pay to my wife

I Shall send you these Bills after from your most Obed^t Humble Servt

Sam^l. Champlin Jn^r.

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 70, no. 4134. Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Samuel Champlin/Letter/March 14th 1778." Docketed in another hand: "4134." There are four enclosures which are bills Champlin paid from 6 Mar. to 12 Mar. at Edgartown.

1. Col. Jethro Norton.
2. Connecticut privateer sloop *American Revenue*.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO GOVERNOR JONATHAN TRUMBULL

Sir

New London March 13th. 1778—

I Received a letter from Cap^t Jn^o Lamb and he writes that you Could not let him have the Cannon I wrote you for Untill The Honb^{le}. Council mett^l—my Br^o. now waits on you for that Purpose, and Brings my Acco^{ts}. by which you'l see that I

am a Considerable sum in Advance for the Publick—Monsieur Michel Command^r of the French Ship² from France, comes with him, he would have waited on you before but the wether has been so bad, that their is Scarsly any travelling—I have Mentioned to him, the Great Advantages of sending his Ship out on a Cruce after Landing his Goods, and I believe if your Excellency should advise him he would Send her out—She is Really a fine Ship mount^s 40 Guns and has 220 Men and a Good Sailing Ship—if the State Should want any of Monsieurs Goods, I should think it would be best to git them as Soon as they come on Shore³—I am Sir [&c.]
Nath^l. Shaw Jun^r

L, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 9, p. 336. Addressed: "To/His Excellency Governour Trumbull/att/Lebanon—." Docketed: "13th. March 1778/Nath^l Shaw Jun^r/Esq^r/de Cap^t Michel/French Ship/rec^d. 14th Pr^t Th^s Shaw."

1. Possibly the cannon sent to Boston for the Connecticut Navy ship *Defence*.
2. Ship *Lyon*, J. Michel, master.
3. On 19 Mar. Trumbull wrote Shaw that Maj. Gen. Horatio Gates, president of the Continental Board of War, requested that the clothing which came in the French ship *Lyon* be forwarded immediately to the army. DLC, Peter Force Transcripts, Nathaniel Shaw Papers, 224: 203.

NEWS FROM NEW LONDON

New-London March 13.

Last Saturday arrived here from Port L'Orient in France the ship *Lyon*, a three Decker of about eleven hundred Tons burthen, commanded by Captain Michael^l having a defensive Commission mounting 40 Guns and has upwards of 200 Men deep laden with European and India Goods to a very large Amount: She left Port L'Orient the 31st of December in Company with another French Ship of 20 Guns² and the Continental Ships *Alfred* and *Raleigh*, but parted company with the two latter 13 Days after they came out of Port: the other Ship kept Capt. Michael Company till about three Weeks ago when both Vessels arrived at the Mouth of James's River, and the former going into the River was taken by a British Man of War,³ upon which Capt. Michael stood to the Eastward. Four Days before his Arrival here he saw a Fleet of 13 Sail with two Men of War under Continental Colours, but supposes they were a British Fleet.

A talk of War with Great-Britain still continued when this Ship left France and the Captain says it was expected would be soon declared.

Connecticut Courant, and the Weekly Intelligencer (Hartford), 17 Mar. 1778.

1. Capt. J. Michel.
2. French ship *Vicomte de Vaux*, Pierre Marie Donat de La Garde, master, from L'Orient to Chesapeake Bay, mounting 24 guns. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 241.
3. *Vicomte de Vaux* was captured by H.M.S. *Solebay* on 23 Feb. in Hampton Roads. See Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 23 Feb., above. Howe's Prize List credits the capture of *Vicomte de Vaux* to H.M.S. *Solebay* and H.M.S. *St. Albans* on 24 Feb. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 241.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

Roebuck at Philadelphia
the 13th. March 1778—

My Lord,

I had the honor to receive your Letter of the 22^d. February by the *Brune* yesterday, and to day nine of the Hay Ships have arrived at the Town, what happened to the others your Lordship will be informed of by Captain Ferguson.¹

This Supply arrived at a most seasonable time as the Army had only one Weeks Forage. This scarcity had determined the General to send a Body of Troops to the Jerseys with a number of small Vessels to collect what Hay that Country afforded. The Troops are embarked in Transports under the direction of Colonel Mawhood;² and Captain Watt of the *Delaware* is charged with conducting the Expedition, having the Galley³ and Armed Vessels under his Command; and as the Descent is intended to be in Cohanzey Creek, (which is upon the Station of the *Camilla*,) Captain Phipps is directed to make the security of the Fleet a particular object of his attention.

The *Pearl* is stationed from Reedy Island to Chester, and the *Experiment* is at Billingsport, where Sir James Wallace (who arrived there yesterday) will be employed in opening more of the passage of the lower Chevaux de Frize. The other Ships are at the Town, and placed chiefly with a view to prevent the Enemys Galleys from passing—

The Ice in the River prevented the Ships from moving from the Wharfs untill the 8th. of this Month. For a fortnight before there was so much Snow on the Ground, that little or nothing could be done towards the Building the Galleys or refitting the Ships, so that your Lordship will not find them so forward and compleat as I flattered myself would have been the Case, when I last had the honor of writing to your Lordship by the *York Sloop*. I have the honor &c. &c.

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Letter Book (1778–1779), pp. 22–23. Addressed at foot: “Vice Admiral Lord Viscount Howe. &c.”

1. See Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.
2. Lt. Col. Charles Mawhood, 17th Foot.
3. H.M. galley *Cornwallis*.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO CAPTAIN JOHN COLLINS, R.N.

Roebuck at Philadelphia
Friday 13th. March 1778.

D^r Sir,

I last night received the favor of your Letter of the 10th. acquainting me of the Ships being destroyed that you were sent to retake,¹ and that the Enemys Gun Boats had escaped into Wilmington Creek;² That Service being at an end, I am to desire You will now please to put into execution my Orders of the 7th. Instant by taking charge of the Convoy to the Mouth of the River, and afterwards making the best of your way to New York with such part of it as are bound thither.

In case you should be detained in the River by contrary Winds, I would have as many Pilots as can be spared from the Convoy put onboard the *Zebra*, and Captain Orde dispatched with all possible expedition down to his Station at the Entrance of the River, to facilitate the Arrival of the many Ships that are daily expected to be coming into the River. The Pilots now onboard the *Nautilus* are also to be left onboard the *Zebra*. I am [&c.]

A S Hamond.

P.S. The Commander³ of the *Cornwallis* Galley is to be directed to join the Fleet escorted by the *Camilla*, and put himself under the immediate Command of Captain Watt.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Letter Book (1778–1779), pp. 24–25. Addressed at foot: “Captain Collins/*Nautilus*—”

1. Transports *Kitty* and *Mermaid*.
2. Capt. John Barry and Lt. Luke Matthewman, commanding two barges from the Continental Navy frigate *Effingham* in company with three Pennsylvania Navy armed boats.
3. Lt. Thomas Spry, R.N.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

March 1778

Cape Henry SW $\frac{1}{2}$ W 4 or 5 Lg^s.

Friday 13

$\frac{1}{2}$ p^t 1 [AM] hoisted our Colours & fired 4 Guns, & she show^d. French Colours & haul^d them down, sent our Boats to Examine her, An^d. wth. B^t B^r in 7 fath^m. Cape Henry WBE 2 miles she proved to be a French ship f^m. S^t Maloes, saild hence for hamton Road the *Senegal* & prize,¹ at 9 weighd & came to Sail as did the *Dunmore*² at noon New P^t Comfort West 9 miles

New P^t Comfort West 9 Miles

Mod^t & hazy, sailing up the Cheseapeak *Dunmore* in Com^y [PM] sent the Barge with the *Dunmore* in Chace of a Schooner at anchor in shore, at 8 Anch^d with the B^t B^r in 7 f^m. Wth Mouth of Occohannock [*Creek*] EbN 5 or 6 miles at midnight the barge ret^d with a Schooner laden with Oats Salt &ca., the *Dunmore* took a Shooner, laden with Indian Corn

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/784.

1. French ship *Hector*, P. Parrie, master, owned by Mons. Roualt of St. Malo, from St. Malo to Chesapeake Bay, with salt, bale goods &c., mounting 14 guns, a crew of 45 seamen, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. Although Howe's Prize List credited the capture jointly to *Senegal* and *Richmond*, *Hector* was libelled by Molloy on 1 Apr. in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York and was condemned as a prize of *Senegal* on 27 Apr. 1778. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 81–82. Her master's name appears as Charles Porée in her prize papers. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/351/9.

2. H.M. armed brig *Dunmore*, Lt. John Wright, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *SENEGAL*, COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY

March 1778

Smiths Island N^o. end NNE S^o. end W $\frac{1}{2}$ N.

Friday 13

At midnight passed the Capes & saw a Vessell at Anchor, plyed for her & at 2 AM. fired six shott at her, the *Richmond* fired two, she then shewed french colours, & hauled them down immediately, sent our boat on board of her, & found her the *L'Hector* from S^t Maloes with Cordage, Salt, &c. for the Rebels¹ Anchored close by her C Henry ESE. 4 M. At 7 AM weighd & stood for Lynnhaven bay the prize following. At 10 anchored by the Commodore² in 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ f^m. water Old p^t Comfort WbS 4 or 5 Lea^s. Cape Henry ESE. 5 Leagues.

Old point Comfort WbS. 4 or 5 Leagues—

Fresh breezes & cloudy wea^r [PM] sent some of the French prisoners on board the S^t *Albans*, the prize being leaky, exam-

ined & found 3 holes bored through her Bows near the waters edge, with Cork in them. Emp^d. securing them & preparing the prize for sea.—

D, UKLPR, Adm., 51/855.

1. See note 1 at Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, immediately above.

2. H.M.S. *St. Albans*, Capt. Richard Onslow, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *SOLEBAY*, CAPTAIN THOMAS SYMONDS

March 1778

D^o. [at Anchor off Cape Henry]

Friday 13

at 1 AM heard the Report of 4 guns at 11 saw a sail to E^t ward weighd with the *Otter* & gave chace—

Cape Henry SW 2 or 3 Lgs

Mod: breezes & hazy ½ past 5 PM fired 25 Nine Pound Shot & some Musquetry & b^t too a Schooner from S^t Eustatia bound to Virginia with Bale Goods &c.¹ Exchanged hir men

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/909.

1. Schooner *Portsmouth*, Richard Talbot, master, owned by George Kerr & Co. of Portsmouth, Virginia, a crew of 10 seamen, from St. Eustatius to Chesapeake Bay, with rum, sugar and bale goods, taken off Cape Henry, sent to New York City. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. She was condemned on 22 Apr. 1778 by the Vice Admiralty Court of New York as a prize of *Solebay*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 79. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/426/6.

CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

Copy.

My Lord,

Carysfort off Charles Town Bar

13th: March 1778.

The very tedious Time taken to fit the Schooner designed by Governor Tonyn to have gone with Dispatches to the Northward, made it necessary for me to drop my Idea of such Conveyance to your Lordship; And as the *Perseus* is now going off the Station, in lieu of the *Galatea*, I send by her the Papers, which were to have gone in the Schooner; and am further to inform your Lordship of Occurrences since the 13th: of last Month.

In my Letter of that Date I mentioned the *Perseus* being sent from S^t Augustine to join the *Lizard* off Charles Town. She called off S^t Mary's and there completed her Water, and joined the *Lizard* the next Day. Those two Ships cruized in Company off Charles Town 'till the 10th: Instant, when the *Lizard* went to S^t Augustine to land Prisoners and for Water. This Morning I joined the *Perseus*, and after she is gone, I purpose to cruise in the *Carysfort* on the same Station.

I am sorry to inform your Lordship, that about the 12th: of February the *Randolph* Congress Frigate, with many other Vessels escaped from Charles-Town unperceived. The *Lizard* being then the only Ship cruising off that place was led off shore in pursuit of a french Ship, and a very strong N.W. Wind prevented her getting off the Bar again for some Days: in which Interim those Ships pushed out. What their real Destination is I cannot learn.

As Intelligence received leaves some Reason to apprehend that the Rebels still contemplate an Invasion of East Florida, the *Galatea*, *Hinchinbrooke*, and *Rebecca* Armed Sloop are at present employed for the Defence of that Province, and

Captain Jordan has my Direction to detain the *Lizard* also on the same Service, in case he should find Circumstances so require; otherwise to send her, after her Water is complete, to the Rendezvous off Charles Town.

Our Store of Provisions at S^t Augustine being [*nearly*] exhausted, I was under Necessity to apply to Governor Tonyn for a Supply from the Garrison-Stores to comp[lete] the *Carysfort* for three Months. It is scarce probable that any more Provisions can be procured there for the Ships by any Means. Before the *Perseus* parts from me, I will take from her what she can spare.

Captain Elphinstone will be able to represent better than I can by Letter, the very great Inconvenience the King's Ships have found in getting off Supplies from S^t Augustine: and should your Lordship wish to be informed of any Particulars omitted by me, he is well able from his long Experience on this Station to give Satisfaction therein.

I have the Honor to remain Your Lordship's [&c.]

(signed) Rob^t Fanshawe.

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols.222-23. Addressed at foot of first page: "Right Hon^{ble}. Viscount Howe." Docketed: "Copy of a Letter from Captain/Fanshawe to the Viscount Howe/dated 13th March 1778." Docketed in another hand: "In Lord Howe's Letter/N^o. 57." Enclosed in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe to Philip Stephens, Secretary of the Admiralty, No. 57, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 207-10.

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[*Savannah*]

Friday March 13, 1778

WHEREAS great inconveniences have arisen to the Gallies from the large number of persons requisite to form a Board called the Navy Board for the purpose of passing accounts and otherwise providing for the Said Gallies. And Whereas it appears from the representation of the Commodore¹ that such delays have happened in that department owing to the Said Cause, that the Service is greatly distressed, and at this particular juncture the same may be attended with the Most alarming events to the Safety and well being of this State the Men being dissatisfied for want of pay, some of them having deserted and other Circumstances taken place which call for immediate remedy. It is Therefore Ordered under the particular situation of things that in future and until the next house of Assembly shall meet and shall make farther order to the Contrary that any two or more members of the Said Board called the Navy board shall proceed to Act and in all things be competent to the business of the said Board. this order not to prevent any or the whole of the Members of the said Board from attending & acting if they shall so chuse.

The Revolutionary Records of the State of Georgia, 2: 52-54.

1. Commo. Oliver Bowen.

NEWS FROM JAMAICA

MONTEGO-BAY, (Jamaica)

March 13. Tuesday last arrived at Lucea the ship *Friendship*, Capt. Fisher, a letter of marque from Liverpool and Grenada,¹ and carried in a large American sloop privateer, called the *Gen. Gates*, commanded by one Casper Rowx, with a Congress

commission, mounting 14 sixes, 2 fours, 12 swivels, and four cohorns, with 85 men. About ten leagues to windward of the isle of Ash, they fell in with each other, when the privateer fired a shot and hoisted the American stripes, upon which an engagement immediately began with great spirit upon both sides, and lasted near seven glasses. They boarded the *Friendship*, and grappled with a large chain on her starboard quarter, and from her flying jib boom, threw a large stink-pot on her quarter-deck, which was luckily taken up and thrown overboard by some of the *Friendship's* people, without doing the least damage. Almost every man in the bowsprit, in the attempt of boarding was killed, and a great carnage had taken place throughout the privateer. The grapple breaking she fell a-stern, with her jib-stay, fore-stay, and other rigging all cut away; she then plied the great guns and small arms briskly, but at length was obliged to ask for quarter; She belongs to Sunbury in Georgia, and had been out of the cape about ten days; but made no prize. The second broadside from the *Friendship* killed the commander of the privateer, and during the action twenty-five were killed, besides a number dangerously wounded, five or six of whom are since dead, and many others not likely to survive. The *Friendship* mounts 16 four pounders and 6 swivels, with only thirty-five men and boys, of whom only one was killed and seven wounded.

Pennsylvania Ledger: or the Philadelphia Market-Day Advertiser, 6 May 1778.

1. Ship *Friendship*, D. Fisher, master, 220 tons burthen, mounting 12 four-pounders, from Liverpool to Jamaica, owned by J. Roberts, of Liverpool, built in Rhode Island in 1775. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777-1778.

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

(N^o: 1)

Antigua 13th. March 1778

Sir

Please to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the Trade from England to these Islands arrived here Safe the 20th: January last, under Protection of His Majesty's Ships *Niger*, *Hind*, *Aurora*, and *Deal Castle*, and the Sloops *Hound*, *Sylph*, and *Ceres*; by which I have received Duplicates of the Letters &c, their Lordships had transmitted me by His Majesty's Ship *Yarmouth*, and Octo^r: Packet; likewise Orders to take under my Command, the *Aurora*, *Deal Castle*, and *Ceres*; to Station the *Aurora* & *Deal Castle*, at the Islands Grenada, & Tobago; and Employ the *Ceres* as I may think best for His Majesty's Service; all which I have Complied with. As the *Aurora* came here Eight Months foul; had lost Her Mizzen Mast, and Sprung Her Main Mast, and Bowsprit; I thought it would be of great use on the Service she was appointed, to heave her down, whilst the other Damages were repairing; this is now Completed, and She Sailed from hence to her Station the 9th: Instant; The *Deal Castle* has remained there, since her Arrival, in these Seas.

The 13th: January the *Aurora* fell in (to Windward of Barbadoes) with the S^r: *Peter* a Rebel Privateer of 18 Guns & 119 Men;¹ Cruizing there to intercept the Convoy from England; which she took and brought into this Island; His Majesty's Ship *Seaford*, whom I sent off that Island to look out for the Convoy, has taken and carried into Barbadoes, the *General Washington* a Congress Brig^e: carrying 18 Guns & 84 Men;² She was also Cruizing for the same purpose, as were 14, or 15, others all from Martinico; The *Seaford* on Her passage from Barbadoes to this Island fell

in with and took the *Hampden* Rebel Privateer 12 Guns & 64 Men and carried her into Dominico;³ Their Lordships will also perceive by the Prize List transmitted them by this Opportunity that the *Ariadne* took a Schooner of 8 Guns and 30 Men;⁴ and distroyed two Sloops that run on Shore; mostly Mann'd with French Men; Lieutenant Billy Douglas Commanding His Majesty's Armed Brig^e: *Antigua*, has likewise taken (after a Smart Action) and sent into this Island, the Schooner *Nancy*, An American Privateer from Georgia Carrying 12 Guns and 40 Men;⁵ The *Antigua* suffered no loss or Damage, but the Privateer was a good deal Shattered and had 4 Men Killed and 5 Wounded, amongst the latter was the Commander, whose Thigh was broke by a Swivel Shott from the *Antigua*. Notwithstanding these Successes⁶ their Lordships will perceive by the Accompanying papers of Intelligence,⁷ these Seas still swarm with Armed Vessels and privateers, and I am extremely sorry to add, they mostly belong to French Owners; And the French Men of War Stationed here, Convoy the American Vessels part of their way, and clear of these Islands; all going under French Colours; The Masters of the American Vessels it seems make a Collection for a present to the French Captain; this Intelligence I received from a Brig that was taken after the Convoy had parted from them; and the Master informs me His Share in the aforementioned Collection, Amounted to Twenty four Johannes: As our Cruizers have not yet fallen in with any of these Convoys, I am Ignorant how the French would behave on the American Merchant Vessels being searched, which it is probable I shall soon know, for they must not be suffered to carry on such an Open breach of Neutrality; Their Lordships may rest assured, I will not begin Hostilities with them, 'till forced; so at present I shall only Order the Kings Ships under my Command, to follow, 'till the Convoy parts Company; and if they pretend to hinder that; they must take upon themselves the Consequences.

I must likewise desire you will acquaint My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that within these few days past a Dutch Squadron of five Sail, most of them Two Deck Ships, Commanded by The Count Byland⁸ are arrived at Eustatia; and the reason assigned for their coming here: "To Protect their Trade" and are it is said, to be Stationed at their different Settlements in these Seas.—

I have likewise received Information; that on the 8th: Instant, (Ten or Twelve Leagues to the Windward of the Island S^t: Martins) The *Portlands* Tender *Resolution* fell in with four Sail of Spanish Two Deck Ships of War; apparently Steering for Porto Rico, or S^t: Domingo; for what purpose all these Armaments are intended, I do not know but cannot avoid remarking to their Lordships every Action of the French and Dutch &c; in these Seas, carry very strong appearances of An Approaching Rupture; I have therefore thought it necessary to send His Majesty's Armed Brigantine *Endeavour*, Express to England, on the Occasion; and hope I soon shall receive their Lordships directions how I am to Act in all these Critical Circumstances, or that my Successor may bring with him Instructions on that head.⁹ I have given Notice to the different Islands at what times the Convoys are appointed to Sail for Europe; but have not yet Settled what Kings Ships will come with the first Convoy. Their Lordships must know the Squadron Employed here is very Weak and Insufficient for the Various Services wanted, in the present very precarious Situation and Uncertainty, who are our Friends or Foes. The Trade from Ireland Consisting of Vessels under Convoy of the *Camel* & *Cupid*, are all arrived

Safe (both the Kings Ships accompanying them I find are gone down to Jamaica) Their Lordships will perceive by the Abstract of Orders given to the Kings Ships under my Command (¶ Dispatch Marked No: 3.)¹⁰ that I thought it absolutely Necessary to send as Many of the Cruizers as I could, to look out for and protect the Convoy 'till they were clear of the French Islands; (now the place of General Rendezvous of the American Cruizers, where they receive all possible protection and Information) and I am happy to find they have Succeeded therein.—

I must again repeat my former request, that Their Lordships will be pleased to send some directions, about securing the prisoners taken on board the American Privateers &c; for We cannot keep them prisoners in the Kings Ships, without endangering the laying up the Squadron by Sickness &c; and the Governors of the Islands refuse Imprisoning them on Shore: They therefore get away to the French & Dutch Islands and go on board other American Privateers some of which have been taken several times within these last Six or Eight Months; this Constant Supply of Men to the Rebels Cruizing Vessels must undoubtedly prove very prejudicial to the Kings Service; as well as to the Trade of His Majesty's Loyal & Faithful Subjects, and I hope Administration will instruct me in some mode to remove the mischief.—

I have likewise received Information from Barbados, that the Packet from England with the January Mail on board, is Arrived there, in a Shattered Condition; having been Engaged on Her Passage by an American Cruizer;¹¹ and that during the Action the Commander of the Packet had caused the Mail to be Slung astern of His Vessel to have destroyed it in case of being Overpowered by the Enemy; and by Accident the same has been carried away by a Cannon Shot from the American Privateer;¹² this certainly proves very unlucky at this Critical Period, when I so much need their Lordships Instructions for my proceed[ings.] I hope, and ardently wish I may soon receive the Duplicates of their Lordships Dispatches for me that were on board the aforementioned Packet.

I am Sir [&c.]

Jam^s. Young

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot of first page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r." Docketed: "13 Mar 1778/Antigua/Vice Adm^l Young/(2 Inclosures)." Endorsed: "R, 18 Ap^l/Ans^d. 2^d May."

1. See Journal of H.M.S. *Aurora*, 14 Jan., Captain James Cumming to Philip Stephens, 14 Jan., above, and Young's Prize List, 14 Mar., below.

2. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 18 Jan., above, and Young's Prize List, 14 Mar., below.

3. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 28 Feb., above, and Young's Prize List, 14 Mar., below.

4. American privateer schooner *Johnston*, Charles Stacbehen, alias Thomas Williams, commander. See NDAR 10: 633, 633n, 661.

5. See Young's Prize List, 14 Mar., below.

6. Here Stephens inserted a bracket with the notation "Copy between the [/] for L^d. G. Germain." The brackets enclose the remainder of this paragraph and the next two and a half paragraphs ending with "or that my Successor may bring with him Instructions on that head." The underlined word "still" Stephens marked for deletion.

7. See Governor Thomas Shirley to Vice Admiral James Young, 22 Feb., and Governor Valentine Morris to Vice Admiral James Young, 24 Feb., above.

8. Vice Admiral Count van Bylandt.

9. Here Stephens inserted a bracket with the notation "So far as betwⁿ: [/] leaving out the parts underlined to M^r [Beeston] Long—." The brackets enclose the remainder of the paragraph.

10. Enclosure not found.

11. H.M. packet *Grenville*, Capt. Kempthorne, was attacked on 4 Mar. by the Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.

12. Stephens inserted brackets at the beginning of this paragraph and here with the notation "Copy this para: to the Post Off: & to M^r Long for informat: of West Ind: Merch^s." He underlined "likewise" for deletion.

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

(N^o: 2)
Sir

Antigua 13th: March 1778

Please to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that His Majesty's Ships named in the Margin¹ (belonging to Lord Howes Squadron) have been blown off the American Coast and put into this Island (some of them in distress and a Shattered Condition:) as have likewise the Victuallers bound to America named in the inclosed List Marked N^o: 1 and sundry Hired Transports bound to England with decayed Stores &c; as ~~is~~: List Marked N^o: 2,² and I must beg you will represent to their Lordships so many of them coming here in want of Stores, provisions &c: distresses us exceedingly; as we are by no Means provided for their reception; wanting Stores Provisions and Artificers to repair them. The small Squadron under my Command are so much kept at Sea; that the Weather and Climate distroys every thing so very fast it is with great difficulty we can keep them in repair. His Majesty's Ship *Renown* arrived here totally dismantled, and it will prove a very heavy and Long Jobb to refit her; should we be able to purchase the necessary Stores wanted for that purpose, which I very much doubt of, should no Store Ship arrive from England; the Merchants here will make us pay the most Shameful prices for whatever is wanted, and as she will employ the greatest part of the Artificers of the Yard; I shall be obliged to new Bottom the *Pelican* Brigantine by Contract; the Worms having got hold of her so much, she is not safe to go to Sea 'till that is done.—

The Captains of His Majesty's Ships that have come here from America inform me, great Quantities of serviceable Masts Sparrs &c are lying about at the different Ports in America now in Possession of the Kings forces, which would certainly be of very great use at the Kings Yard here, to refit His Majesty's Ships that may arrive at English Harbour, in want of such Stores; I mention this circumstance in hopes their Lordships may be pleased to direct the Commander in Chief in America, to send a plentiful Supply thereof, to the Kings Stores at this Island.³

I must likewise inform their Lordships, we are likely to be very much distressed here for Provisions, The Agents to the Contractors having neither Bread or Butter in Store; nor any other Specie at present, but Meat and of that no great Quantity. The whole Squadron have been at two thirds Allowance of Bread for these two Months past. Indeed I cannot help thinking there is great fault in the Contractors, or their Agents here; I have often directed the latter to send me regular Accounts of what provisions they had in Store but without effect; and I should certainly have been obliged to advertise for supply's on a new Contract; had not the Irish Convoy hove in sight this day; which I hope for the present will bring the needful Supplys of Provisions for the Squadron Employed here; I shall by this opportunity write to the Commissioners of the Victualing on the Subject that they may take proper measures with the Contractors in England to prevent the like Scarcity in future I am Sir [&c.]

Jam^s: Young

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot of first page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r." Docketed: "13 Mar 1778/Antigua/Vice Adm^l Young/(2 Inclosures)." Endorsed: "R, 18 Ap^l/Ans^d. 2^d. May."

1. The ships named in the margin are *Vulture*, *Greyhound*, *Phoenix* and *Renown*.

2. Enclosures not printed.

3. Philip Stephens enclosed this paragraph in brackets.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *YARMOUTH*, CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT

March 1778
Friday 13th

Barbadoes West. Latitude 13°. 07' N
at 3 AM saw three Sail [*to*] Leeward upon a wind, take them to be our Cruzers. at 3 AM Tacked to the Southw^d: at Day made the Private Signal—found them to be the *Areadne* and *Ceres*,¹ the third a great way ahead, dont know what she was, but they all made Sail,² and we soone lost sight of them—Fresh gales and Squally.

Barbadoes WbN 5 or 6 L^s: Latitude 13°. 02' N
Fresh gales and hard Squalls, with a great Sea. At 4 PM the Body of Barbadoes bore WSW 6 Leagues—at 6 close reefed the Topsails.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/1091, fols. 178–79.

1. H.M.S. *Ariadne*, Capt. Thomas Pringle, commander, and H.M.S. *Ceres*, Comdr. James R. Dacres, commander.

2. Probably Continental Navy ship *Alfred*, Capt. Elisha Hinman, commander, their prize taken on 9 Mar., above.

March 14

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN DESHON

Navy Board Eastern department
Boston March 14, 1778

Dear Sir

I Yesterday received your favour of the 11th. with the Certificates & money you sent,¹ M^r Thaxter² will Inform you that there is a deficiency of Twenty three dollars in the whole money fifteen of them were in one bundle M^r Thaxter has taken the paper which will of itself Shew the Mistake among it is some of this States money and some of Rhode Island but the sums are inconsiderable I shall Inclose the order you write for & three blank Commissions which I Suppose you will not use without Absolute Necessity requires new Appointments The Small pox prevails much in this Town & may Spread M^r Vernon stood it with great Fortitude Several days and at last thought it prudent to decamp I think he Judged right he left us on Thursday Morning with a design to Meet you at Providence which will make any further Observations on your Letter unnecessary as you & he will determine on the Several matters as you think proper I should be willing M^r Huntington³ had some of this Current money. The Bread for Whipple⁴ & other Articles for him are gone forward & hope at Providence before now We have no News. I wish to see you here & am Your friend & hum^{ble} Serv^t

J Warren

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80.

1. Letter not found.

2. Lt. Adam W. Thaxter, Continental Navy.

3. Maj. Joshua Huntington, supervising construction of Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy*.

4. Capt. Abraham Whipple, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Providence*.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT TO JOHN LANGDON

Navy Board Eastern department
Boston March 14. 1778

Sir

I Inclose you a paragraph of a Letter received from the Marine Com^{tee}. by which you will see their Intentions with regard to the French Ship *Flamand* under your directions & their orders to us¹ in Consequense of which we have ordered Cap^t Ayres² & two Lieutenants M^r Gross³ & M^r Thaxter⁴ to Engage ten Men & proceed to Portsmouth for the purposes therein mentioned You will please to Supply them with any articles necessary for such a Cruise according to the Rules of the Navy, I suppose the Ship will be at Sea very Soon I have long Considered it a misfortune to be called on to do so large business as you are with such Small Supplys of money & Lamented it was not in our power to furnish you agreeable to your requests & our wishes that Still remains to be our Situation I have however Collected a little money and Send you by Cap^t Ayres Four thousand dollars which you will please to Enter to our Credit and forward us a receipt you will likewise pass to our Credit twelve thousand dollars paid by the Marine Com^{tee}. on your Bill in favour of Stephen Hooper Esq^r in future you are to apply to our Board & I Sincerely wish it may be in our power to answer your demands.—I am [&c.]

J Warren in behalf of the Board

L, Private Collection, Capt. J. G. M. Stone, Annapolis, Md., 1959. Addressed at the foot: "Hon^{ble}. John Langdon Esq^r." Docketed: "March 14th. 1778—/James Warren's/Letter Answ^d."

1. See Continental Marine Committee to Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept., 23 Feb., above.

2. Capt. John Ayres.

3. Lt. Simon Gross, Continental Navy.

4. Lt. Adam W. Thaxter, Continental Navy.

PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sir

[Trenton] State Navy Board March 14 1778.

The Board received your Excellencys letter a few days ago requesting the Galleys might be dismantled & sunk—at the time we received the letter many of the galleys were fitted & ready to fall down to prevent any thing from coming up the River—Immediately on receiving your Excellencys we sent off an express to the President of our State¹ for orders sending a copy of your letter an answer to which we have not yet got—There is now Six Galleys well manned & this morning went from Borden town to carry Gen^l Waynes Brigade to Bristol where the galleys will remain til further orders—There now lays at or near Borden Town a number of Vessels to great amount of privat property & should the Galleys be destroyed they will fall to a very few small armed Boats. The inhabitants along the Shore are distressed at the thought of losing the Galleys on whom they think lays their safety—We laid Your Excellencys Letter before Gov. Livingston whose advice was not to destroy them yet. Many of the heavy cannon we should have sent off before this, but cannot get a carraige that is able to carry them; & should a superior force come up orders are given to sink the galleys which may soon be done. They have called on us for the Troops belonging to the N. Carolina Regiment, but as they were all gone down the River on duty we hope your Excellency will excuse his not bringing them & pray you will give them a little while longer—

By Order of the Board

Wm Bradford

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "[Trenton]/14th March 1778/from/Col Bradford."

1. President Thomas Wharton, Jr.

BRIGADIER GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sir

Borden Town. 14th Mar. 1778

Wishing to prevent the Enemy from Receiving any benefit from the forage in the Vicinity of the River, and anxious to save as much from the Fires as possible (by Obliging the Inhabitants to carry it into the Pines) took me up more time, than I at first expected—but that Business being now perfected—I have put the Detachment on board of the Gallies—to be landed at Bristol, where I expect to meet them by land at twelve oClock—when I shall either carry off or Destroy the Forage within the reach of the Enemy in the Counties of Philad^a and edge of Bucks, and drive off the Horses Cattle &C^a. fit for our Service, in pursuance of your Excellencies Orders thro Colonel Biddle—¹

The Cannon in travelling Carriages mentioned in your Excellencies Letter of the 28th Ultimo, has long since been Carried a Considerable distance above Trentown,—There are a Number of 3—6—& 9 Pounders on Ship Carriages on shore and on board of the Vessells in the Creek—these the Commodore Promises to take by Water to Trentown—as soon as he and The Navy Board receives Answers to letters they have wrote on this Occasion which they hourly expect—

If its thought expedient to dismantle the Gallies there ought not a Single Moment to be lost in sinking the Vessells, at this place, otherwise they will Inevitable fall a prey to the Enemy—they are too Valuable and too Numerous to be lost for want of a little trouble—

I would beg leave to suggest to your Excellency the expediency of Immediately driving off the Cattle in Cumberland County in this state—which by the best accounts, amount to between three and four thousand Head of fine Bullocks that with a few weeks Grass would make good beef—

Colo. Hugg² one of the purchasing Commissaries has wrote to Colonel Blane³ on the Occasion—I wish some attention was paid to his Opinion, I know him to be Industrious and very Competent to the Business had he the proper Powers—The Resources of this State in supplying Provisions for the Army are so great that two much attention cant be paid in Covering it from the Enemy—but I fear that your Excellency has it not in your power to make a Detachment Adequate to the purpose

I shall therefore forbear saying more on the Subject until I have the pleasure of attending you at head Quarters

Interim I am [&c.]

Ant^v Wayne

I have Detached Lieu^t Morton⁴ of the Virginia Troops to Camp with 22 head of Cattle (one of them for your Excellencies particular use being the fattest beast in New Jersey)

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "His Excellency General—/—George Washington/Camp—." Docketed: "March 1778/from/Gen. Wayne." Notations: "Ant^v Wayne"; "The bearer hereof is to pass free/14 March 1778 Ant^v Wayne"; "Cap^t Lee⁵ & part of his Troop would be of

the/most Essential Service will your Excell^y/please to Order him to join my Command/at Bristol—It may snow to Night/A. Wayne.”

1. Lt. Col. Clement Biddle, Commissary-General of Forage, Continental Army.
2. Col. Joseph Hugg, Assistant Commissary-General of Purchases, Continental Army.
3. Col. Ephraim Blaine, Deputy Commissary-General of Purchases, Continental Army.
4. 1st Lt. Hezekiah Morton, 12th Virginia Continental Regiment.
5. Capt. Henry Lee, 1st Continental Dragoons.

BOUNTY JUMPING OF CHARLES McDONNELL

[*Baltimore*]

Charles McDonnell entered as a marine on Board the *Independance*¹ the 17th day February 1778 for the term of two years for which he has rec^d. the Bounty & Signed the articles after being some time on Board he deserted and Enlisted with Colon^l Samuel Smith who told me he had given him thirty Dollars after which we got him on Board and put him in Irons the night after he got out of his Irons and made his escape and went to the s^d. Smith's Batalion² again where M^r Jn^o. Stevenson Seen him and Demanded him of Colon^l Smith who refused delivering of him unless he was paid the money he had advanced—

Bennett Mathews

March 14th. 1778—

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-101.

1. Maryland Navy galley *Independence*, Capt. Bennett Mathews, commander.
2. 4th Maryland Continental Regiment.

HENRY LOWES TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

Chatham [*Md.*] Mch. 14. 1778

I wrote you the 12th Instant¹ Since which I find I was wrong in My Conjectures as to the person who Stole my Boat as I have now the greatest Reason to blive it was one Winder Cannon who was a Deserter from Cap^t Walkers Galley.²—I am Convinced if I can obtain a flagg I Shall at least get the Vesell if not the Villian who Robed me I am [&c.]

Henry Lowes—

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-100A. Addressed: “His Excell^c/Thomas Johnson Esq^r/Governor of the State/Maryland—.”

1. Probably Henry Lowes to Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., 11 Mar., above.
2. Maryland Navy galley *Baltimore*, Capt. Thomas Walker, commander.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Saturday the 14th day of March 1778.—

Mr Isaac Mercer received Orders to call on Mr Holt¹ and take in some Brandy and Whiskey for the use of the Chickahominy shipyard, which he is to deliver, and then proceed to low point for a Load of Beef &c which he is to return with to the said yard, and also deliver, and then return for another of the same kind which he is to bring to Mr Holts, and wait on the Board for further Orders.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 363.

1. William Holt.

COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N., TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

on board His Britannic Majesty's Sloop
of War the *Sylph* in the River
Mississippi 14th March 1778

Sir

Having the honor to command one of His Britannic Majesty's Ships in this River, and having information, that your Excellency has received into your Government, a Body of Armed Men, Enemies to my Sovereign, and that you have suffered them, from the Spanish Territory, to commit depra-dations on this River, by forcibly seizing upon the Vessels, Property, and Persons of British Subjects, in violation of the Treaties of Peace, the Law of Nations, and the Rights of Men. I cannot help looking on such conduct on your part, as a tacit, if not an open declaration of war, against the King, my Master. I have therefore thought it necessary, to send an officer (with a Flag of Truce) to wait upon your Excellency, to know your sentiments on this subject. and at the same time to be informed what reception I may expect, if I approach the Town of New-Orleans. As I am fully determined not to suffer any affront to be offered to the British Flag. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed at bottom of the page: "His Excellency Don Bernardo de Galvez, Gov^r of Louisiana." Docketed: "Captain Fergusson's Letter/to Governor Galvez./14th March 1778/In Sir Peter Parker's Letter/Dated 27 July 1778—."

COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N., TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

On board His Britannic Majestys
Sloop of War the *Sylph*, in the
River Mississippi 14th March 1778

Sir

In my Letter of this day's date I had the honor to acquaint your Excellency with my sentiments, respecting the insults, that have been lately offered to His Britannic Majesty's Subjects in the River Mississippi, by a body of Armed Men, Enemies to the King, my Master, & under your Protection: I therefore conceived, that you had hostile intentions towards my Nation, & thought it proper to send an officer, with a Flag of Truce, to know your disposition; and to inform you, that I was fully determined not to put up with any affront, that might be offered to the British Flag. This caution I have used to preserve that Peace and Concord, which at present subsists between our respective Sovereigns, and to my great surprize, I have not yet received your answer. I am now to complain of an Insult, I received this afternoon, from a person, whom I understand, to be one of His Britannic Majesty's Rebel Subjects, named M^cIntyre,¹ who placed himself opposite to His Majesty's Ship under my command, and made use of several threats and provoking speeches, which I forbore to resent, out of respect to your nation, knowing, that every person under your Government, is answerable to your Laws.

I now find it indispensibly my duty to demand full and ample satisfaction for this insult; which satisfaction ought to be immediate, in order to present the fatal Consequences, that may attend your giving more countenance to a lawless Banditti, then you seem to do to His Britannic Majesty's Servants and liege Subjects. I hope your Excellency will conceive this to be a very serious matter, and

that it is my duty, to give the earliest notice of it to the Court of Great Britain. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Copy, UklPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed at the foot: "His Excellency Don Bernardo de Galvez Gov^r of Louisiana." Docketed: "Captⁿ. Fergusson's Letter/to/Governor Galvez/14th. March 1778/In S^r Peter Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778—."

1. Lt. Thomas McIntyre, who commanded a batteau in Capt. James Willing's flotilla. For more on this incident, see Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez to Commander John Fergusson, R.N., 15 and 20 Mar., below.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N.

Sir

I have had the honor of receiving by the officer, whom you was pleased to send me, two Letters, the one from yourself and the other from the Governor of Pensacola.¹ I omit for the present to answer the latter, and confine myself to yours of this day's date

I do not know, how you can take my mode of proceeding as a declaration of war, Violation of the Treaties of Peace, Law of Nations and Rights of Men; when at the same time I do not think, that I have taken a single step, which does not indicate a religious observation of the same Rights, which you accuse me of having violated. The Assistance and protection, which I have given to the Subjects of His Britannic Majesty are in too great a Number to be mentioned in this Letter, if you enquire after them of the very people, who received them.

If I have received the Americans upon the Territories, which I command, it was out of regard of the same rights of Men, which you say, I do not observe, and because in the present circumstances, I follow the example of the European Courts, in whose Sea-Ports, the Loyal Englishmen & the Americans are received indiscriminately, without it being looked upon by the Court of Great Britain, as a declaration of war.

You are at liberty to put what construction you please upon my way of proceeding: my ideas are certainly no others, than to remain neutral in the present war, according to the commands of the King, my Master: and should you (persisting in your opinion of my way of acting) pretend to commit the least hostility from Manchac to Balise, towards the Subjects of my Sovereign, or any one under his Protection in this Colony, you will find me as resolute to repress you by force of Arms, as I am willing to preserve the friendship & good understanding of the two Nations, as long as you will contain yourself in the proper limits, and observe the consideration due to a Mediation upon the Territories of his Catholic Majesty.

In hopes of your being equitable enough in consequence of my answer, to acknowledge the justice of my conduct, and my pacific intentions, and that the Peace, which we enjoy, will not be disturbed on your side, I offer you the assistance or provisions, which you may want yourself, as well as for your Ship, which you may safely bring near the Town, and come on shore, whenever it is agreeable to you. &c &c &c—

(Signed) Bernardo de Galvez

New Orleans 14th March 1778

Copy, UklPR, Adm. 1/241. Docketed: "Gov^r. Galvez's Letter to/Captⁿ. Fergusson 14th. March/1778—/In Sir P^r. Parkers Letter/Dated 27 July 1778—."

1. Not found. For more on this letter from Gov. Peter Chester, see William Wilton to Gov. Peter Chester, 8 Mar. in the Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 18 Mar., (first part); Gov. Peter Chester to Comdr. Joseph Nunn, R.N., 18 Mar., in the Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 19 Mar.; and Governor Peter Chester to Lord George Germain, 25 Mar., below.

"A LIST OF VESSELS TAKEN BY THE SQUADRON UNDER COMMAND OF VICE

By what Ship	Time When	From Whence	Name of the Vessel	Name of the Master	Sort of Vessel	N ^o of Tons
	Privateers					
<i>Ariadne</i>	29 th Nov ^r 1777	S ^e Lucia	<i>Johnston</i>	Cha ^s Stacbehen alias Tho ^s Williams	Schooner	30
<i>Antigua</i>	28 th Dec ^r "	Georgia	<i>Nancy</i>	Jn ^o Brown	Schooner	80
<i>Aurora</i>	13 th Jan ^r 1778	Martinico	<i>S^e Peter</i>	Sam ^l Chace	Ship	200
<i>Seaford</i>	18 Jan ^r "	Ditto	<i>Gen^l Washington</i>	W ^m Rogers	Brigantine	120
<i>Seaford</i>	28 th Feb ^r "	Ditto	<i>Hampden</i>	Jn ^o Bartlet	Ship	120
	Merchant Vessels					
<i>Pelican</i>	23 rd Dec ^r 1777	Portsm ^o New Hampshire	<i>York</i>	Eben ^r Brown	Snow	180
<i>Grasshopper</i>	6 th Jan ^r 1778	N ^o Carolina	<i>Beggars Benison</i>	Jos ^h Titcumbe	Schooner	120
<i>Grasshopper</i>	" Jan ^r "	Virginia	<i>Adventure</i>	W ^m Ricker	Sloop	50
<i>Greyhound</i>			<i>Industry</i>	Jo ^s Kennicut	Brig	90
<i>Yarmouth</i>	22 ^d Jan ^r "	Piscataqua	<i>Fortune</i>	W ^m Frefethem	Brig	200
<i>Yarmouth</i>	22 ^d Jan ^r "	Salem	<i>Alexander</i>	Jo ^s Lane	Brig	130
<i>Ceres</i>	4 th Febry: "	Alexandria	<i>Betsy</i>	Tho ^s Timpson	Schooner	20
<i>Ceres</i>	6 th " "	Egg Harbour	<i>Sally</i>	Jn ^o Lacere	Sloop	50
<i>Portland</i>		America	<i>Swallow</i>	Jos ^h Davidson	Sloop	57
<i>Aurora</i>	21 st Feb ^r	N ^o Carolina	<i>Fly</i>	Tim ^r Toby	Sloop	12
<i>Phœnix</i>		Dartmouth	<i>Sally</i>	Purgress	Sloop	32
<i>Seaford</i>		Newfoundland	<i>Free Briton</i>	Jn ^o Drayton	Brigantine	120
<i>Snake</i>	18 th Feb ^r	America	<i>Anthony</i>	Jesse Atwell	Brigantine	112
<i>Favorite</i>	26 th Feb ^r	Martinico	<i>Ranger</i>	Ja ^s Tilleston	Brigantine	110
<i>Experiment</i>	10 th Feb ^r	Newberry	<i>Polly</i>	Jn ^o Saunders	Brigantine	70

Philip Stephens Esq^rD, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Docketed: "14th March 1778/A List of Vessels taken/by the Ships & Vessels/un Young's Letter/Dated 14th March 1778."

ADMIRAL YOUNG AT BARBADOES & LEWARD ISLANDS 14TH: MARCH 1778"

Men	Guns	To what Country or Place belongs	Lading	Where sent	Particulars relating them and Cause of Seizure
30	8	Martinico	Prov ^s & Warlike Stores	Barbadoes	On a Cruize being a piratical Armed Vessel with an American & French Captain
40	12	Georgia	Prov ^s & Warlike Stores	Eng ^l : Harbour Antigua	On a Cruize
119	18		Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
23	Swivels				
84	18	Boston	Ditto	Barbadoes	Ditto
64	12	Salem	Ditto	Dominico	Ditto
11		Portsm ^o : New Hampshire	Lumber Staves &c.	Grenada	
10		America	Lumber	Antigua	
7		America	Tobacco &c	Ditto	
9			Fish & Tobacco	Ditto	
10		Piscatiaqua	Lumber &c	Ditto	
7		Salem	Fish & Oyl	Ditto	
7		Alexandria	Tobacco, Flour & Staves	S ^c : Kitts	
17	6	Philadelphia	Flour Shingles Bread & Tobacco	Ditto	
7		America	Horses & Lum ^{br} :	Antigua	
4		N ^o : Carolina	Tobacco Tar & Turpentine	D ^o :	
5		Dartmouth	Fish & Oyl	D ^o :	
8		Barbadoes	Fish	Barbadoes	Taken 8 th : Feb ^r : by the <i>Fair Play</i> an American Privateer Retaken by the <i>Seaford</i>
9		America	Horses	S ^c : Kitts	
8		America	Melasses	S ^c : Kitts	
6		Newberry	Ballast	Antigua	

James Young.

der the Command/of Vice Admiral Young/at Barbadoes and the/Leeward Islands.—/(N^o: 4)/In Adm^t:

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *STORK*, LIEUTENANT FRANCIS L'MONTAIS

March 1778 Mole P^u1 ENE Dis^{ce}. 3 Leagues
 Saturd^y 14 Ditto W^r [Strong Gales and Cloudy] Bore away to get under
 Cape Nichola at 4 [AM] saw a sail Comming out of the Mole
 Chaced Ditto, fired 3 Guns and brought her to, She proved a
 Schooner from the Mole Bound to Boston, took Possession of
 her, and sent her to Jamaica² (Robert Hudson Seamen fell
 overboard and was Drown'd
 At Noon Cape Nichola ENE the Mole Point NE Dist^{ce}.
 4 or 5 Leag^s.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/930, part 7.

1. Cap Saint-Nicolas Môle, Saint-Domingue.

2. Schooner *Rainbow*, David Wyer, master, 90 tons burthen, from Cape Saint-Nicolas Môle to Boston, with molasses. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

March 1778. Monti Christie¹ E^t C. Francois SWBW dist. 3 or 4 Leag^s.
 Saturday 14th AM D^o W^r [Fresh Breezes & Squally]. at 8 Monti Christie S.E. 3
 or 4 Leag^s.
 The E^termost Key of the seven Brothers SBE 2 or 3
 Leag^s. Monti Christie ENE dist 2 or 3 Leag^s.
 Fresh Breezes & Cloudy at ½ past 12 [PM] Saw a Sail to
 the E^tward d^o. Gave Chace at ½ past TK^d. & fired a Gun
 at & bro^t too the Chace a French Brig from Nantz bound
 to Cape Francois at 2 Saw a Sail to the W^tward Bore
 away to the W^tward & Gave Chace out Reefs & Got Top
 Gall^t Yards across At 3 fired 3. 6^{lb}. Shot at the Chace At
 ½ past She Bro^t too d^o. a Schooner from Boston bound to
 C. Francois Shortened Sail Hoisted out the Cutter &
 Sent her on board—Took out the Mate 2 Passengers & 5
 Men Sent 4 Men to take Charge of her & carry her to
 Jamaica at 4 hoisted the Cutter in. C. Francois SWbW 5
 Leag^s. Monti Christie EbS 6 or 7 Leag^s. the Prize Bore
 away for Jamaica²

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. Montecristi [Mounti Christi, Monti Cristi], Spanish Santo Domingo.

2. Schooner *Sukey*, master unknown, from Boston to Cape François, with flour and rice. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *YARMOUTH*, CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT

1778 March Barbadoes WbN 5 or 6 L^s Latitude 13°. 02' N
 Sat^y: 14th at 8 AM wore Ship—Our Lower rigging being very Slack, and
 the Masts being in great danger. at 8 AM bore away for
 Barbadoes. at 11 O^t 3 reefs

S^o end of Barbadoes WbS 4 Leagues Lattitude 13°.. 02' N
 Fresh gales and Cloudy weath^r—at 4 PM came to an Anchor in
 Carlisle Bay, with the small Bower in 15 fm: Fort Charles bearing
 SE 1/2 E. N^o point of the Island in sight WNW, and the
 Church NE. found riding here his Majesty's Ships *Areadne* and
Ceres with the *Alfred* Privateer of 20 Guns,¹ which they had lately
 taken, also his Majesty's Sloop *Fly*, and several sail of Merchant
 Ships.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/1091, fol. 179.

1. Continental Navy ship *Alfred*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M. Sloop
Ceres, 9 Mar., above.

March 15 (Sunday)

CAPTAIN HUGH DALRYMPLE, R.N., TO MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH

Juno. Cape Cod Harbour
 15th March 1778

Sir.

I received your polite letter by the *Haerlem* Cartel; I have taken the liberty of
 hiring one of your Fishing Boats to carry M^r Peter Robinson Midshipman, and
 William Holmes a Boy to Attend on him, to Boston, who hath the Charge of this
 letter to you; And beg you will be so Obliging, as to forward the enclosed to
 General Burgoyne.

I have it in Orders from the Viscount Howe, to Observe the Strictest
 Neutrality, while upon this Service, which was the principal reason of the Kings
 Ships being sent with the Cartel Transports, As they might be liable to commit
 depredations, were they left to themselves. I am Sir [&c.]

Hugh Dalrymple

L, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 9, fol. 12. Addressed: "To/Maj^r Gen^l Heath/Boston." Docketed:
 "From Cap^t Dalrymple/Mar. 15. 1778."

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD

Sir

Head Quarters Valley Forge 15th March 1778

I yesterday rec^d a letter from Gov^r Wharton¹ enclosing Copy of one from you
 to the Council on the Subject of keeping five or six Gallies manned for the protec-
 tion of the upper part of the River.² The Gov^r has very politely left the Matter to
 my determination, but I would not wish to interfere in a Business which is out of
 my line any further than by giving my advice. I cannot help thinking now as I did
 before that should the Enemy come up the River they will do it with a superior
 force and certainly carry them. But Cap^t Huston³ thinks with the Assistance of a
 small work upon land under cover of which they can run in Case of necessity, that
 they may be protected. I would wish you to consult Gov^r Livingston⁴ and the
 Gentlemen in the naval line upon this matter and do what to you seems best. But

you will not fail to secure the Guns and Stores of those Gallies that you strip in the safest manner untill means can be fallen upon to carry them away. I am &c

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Col^o Bradford." Docketed: "15th March 1778/to/Col^o Bradford." Col. William Bradford was the chairman of the Pennsylvania Navy Board.

1. President Thomas Wharton, Jr., of Pennsylvania.
2. See Pennsylvania Navy Board to President Thomas Wharton, Jr., 5 Mar., above.
3. Capt. Thomas Houston, Pennsylvania Navy.
4. Gov. William Livingston of New Jersey.

CAPTAIN JAMES NICHOLSON TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Baltimore March 15th 1778—

I Received your Excellency's Letter of the 12th. Ins^t p^r M^r Sleymaker.¹ Since which apprehend you have received the Marine Committees desiring your assistance and the continuance of the use of the Boat *Dolphin*² to the Ship.³ My Ship⁴ is now prepared to go down again and altho' there is but little probability of getting to Sea, unless, their orders are Contradicted by the return of the next post, and I can have the use of the Boat, I shall make another Attempt. M^r Sleymaker since my first attempt this Winter has refused acting as a pilot. Since which I have used all my endeavors to procure one both in Virginia and this place to no purpose. Their are several in this place, that has said they could Run the Ship to Sea from putuxen⁵ in the Night, such a person I want, as I am confident the Ship at present can not be got out otherways. Agreeable to your orders the *Dolphin* sails this day for Annapolis, and has two of my hands to Assist the Captain⁶ in carrying her round; I forward'd the Committees Letter by the last post, And shoud be glad to have your Excellencys answer as soon as possible, I am [&c.]

James Nicholson

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4587-26. Addressed: "His Excellency Tho^s Johnson Esq^r/p^r favor M^r/Stephen Steward Esq^r Annapolis." Docketed: "March 15th. 1778/Cap^t James Nicholson."

1. John Slemaker (Sleamaker, Sleaymaker), a Chesapeake Bay pilot.
2. Maryland Navy schooner *Dolphin*.
3. See Continental Marine Committee to Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., 4 Mar., above.
4. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*.
5. Patuxent River.
6. Capt. Daniel Bryan, Maryland Navy.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *CARYSFORT*, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE

March 1778

Sunday 15th

Charles Town Barr S^o 80^o W^t 8 Leag^s.

at ½ past 6 AM Tk^d to the E^tward—At 7 Saw a Sail to the E^tward D^o gave Chace—at Noon we perceive the Chace to be a Sloop.

D^o Barr S 78^o W^t 10 Leag^s.

Little Wind & Hazy—PM Read the Articles of War & Abstract to the Ships Company—At 5 got the Sweeps Out & fired several Shott at the Chace At 6 the Chace br^t too, she proved to be a French Sloop from Charles Town for Martinico, with Rice¹ D^o took the Prisoners on Board D^o sent a Mate & 4 Men on board the Prize and dispatched her for S^t Augustine

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/168, 368.

1. French sloop *Reynard*, Dominique Auguste Viand, master, owned by Henri Le Gros, sent to St. Augustine. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 487.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N.

Sir

I did not answer your first Letter the same day, that I received it, because it was wrote in English, and that it was Necessary to get it correctly translated, before it was answered, I hope you will accept of this reason and excuse the delay; and as for the repitition which you make, in your second Letter;¹ of your doubts, concerning my intentions towards your Nation, I think, you might have imagined, that they were peaceable ones, from the English Flag, which you see hoisted in the harbour of this Town, and which undoubtedly enjoys the Spanish Protection. Tho' the complaint, which you make to me of the American Officer, is a just one, it would be still more so, if one had not replied with harsh and offensive words to his simply hailing the Ship, which were the Motives of his insulting answer, for which however I will oblige him to make his excuses as well to me for the threatnings which he made upon the Spanish Territories as to yourself for his impudence, for which purpose, I hope you will send one of your officers, that the American in my presence may make a suitable Reparation as well to you, as to the Flag of His Britannic Majesty.

It is very requisite, that you should know, that it is Justice, which prompts me to take this Step and not the expression, which carries along with it a kind of menace, of your writing immediately to London. I know the respect due to a King's Flag, and I do not want any other motive to pay due honor to the same, but the respect which I profess for it. I am obliged to you for the just consideration you have had for the Territories of my Sovereign in containing yourself, within bounds, and beg, you would hinder any of the individuals of your ship to use the terms of Rebels and Banditti against the American Englishmen, who are now under the Protection of the King, my Master, because, without entering into the reasons of this War, I know, that, during the time which both parties are in this Colony, they ought to forget, that they are enemies, and that it is an immediate consequence, that where actions are prohibited, words should be the same.

I do not think that the Americans have any Idea of surprising your Ship, and in case they should attempt it, they are to know, that I will take your part, and will use all my power to chastize them; notwithstanding that, I send you a Corporal and six Granadiers, who if you choose are to remain along side of the Ship, and watch day and night, for the safety without. You are at liberty to receive the Boat, and to make use of all the assistance & provisions which I have already offered to you. &c &c &c

(Signed) Barnardo de Galvez

New Orleans 15th. March 1778—

Copy, UklPR, Adm. 1/241. Docketed: "Gov^r Galvez's Letter to/Captⁿ Fergusson 15th. March/1778—/In Sir P^r Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778—."

1. See two letters from Commander John Fergusson, R.N., to Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez, 14 Mar., above.

COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N. TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

On board His Britanic Majestys
Sloop of War the *Sylph*, in the
River Mississippi, 15th. March 1778

Sir

I am honored with your Excellency's Letter of yesterday's date, by which you express your surprise, at my conceiving you to be in a state of War against my Sovereign, I think, I have sufficiently explained my reasons in my letter of the 14th. which I was authorized to do, from knowing your Excellency's sentiments, respecting the privileges of the River Mississippi, fully explained in your Correspondence with Captain Lloyd of His Britanick Majestys Sloop of War *Atalanta*, in your Letter of the 12th. May 1777,¹ in which you remind him of the Rights of your Sovereign, and beg, he will recollect the Privileges, which the whole River enjoys, with regard to every Vessel being under your Guns in its utmost extent, and consequently prohibited by the Treaties of Peace, and Law of Nations to commit any Hostility at so short a distance. Notwithstand^s of which, your Excellency has permitted that Liberty which, you deny to the King, my Master, to a Party of His American Rebel Subjects (immediately under your Protection) I therefore naturally concluded, that your intentions were hostile towards Great Britain.

Your Excellency is pleased to say, that you are guided in your present proceedings by the Customs of Europe where the Royalists & Americans are received equally, without the Court of Great Britain taking it for a declaration of War.

I must beg leave to observe to your Excellency, that the present point in dispute, is by no means, parallel, as I look upon the River Mississippi, to be a common Harbour to the Ships of Great Britain and Spain, and that we ought mutually to preserve the Rights of both our Sovereigns. I now think it indispensibly my duty, on the part and in behalf of the King, my Master, to demand and require immediate restitution of the Vessels and property, that have been lately seized upon, in the Mississippi by His Britannic Majestys Rebellious American Subjects in violation of the Privileges of the said River: if there is any part of the property, that does not come under the above description, it may be deposited with your Excellency, till the pleasure of your Court is known. Your Excellency enjoins me to preserve the peace, which now happily subsists between our respective Sovereigns, which I have hitherto most religiously observed, and will continue so to do, as far as is consistent with my duty. I most ardently wish, that you may comply with this my very reasonable request, and by that means put it in my power to salute the Spanish Flag, and to pay my respects to your Excellency; which I cannot possibly do, till this point is settled, and whilst there is a Flag displayed under your Guns, which is not acknowledged by Great Britain, and ought not to be by any Power upon Earth, & particularly by Nations, that are possessed of Colonies who should be cautious of setting a pernicious example in abetting, favoring or assisting by any means, directly or indirectly, such Subjects united in such direct and open Rebellion against their natural Sovereign.

I have just received another Letter from your Excellency,² on the subject of the insult, I received, and expressing your disapprobation of such proceedings, which you say, you will put a stop to for the future, and at the same time, desiring that I would not use the appellation of Rebel, to any person under the Protection

of the Spanish Government, I would have your Excellency assured, that I will not suffer any person, under your Protection, to be insulted, but if ever I have occasion to answer, the People that have shaken off their allegiance to their lawful Sovereign, I can find no word, in my language; so expressive, as that of Rebel. I cannot receive any other concession from the man complained of, but that of his delivering himself up, and imploring the mercy of his Sovereign. I think the affront was as much offered to your Excellency as to me, you may accept of what reparation you think proper; and I do again assure you, that I will punish with the utmost Severity, any person under my command, that shall dare to insult even the meanest Subject under your protection.

I am surprised, that your Excellency sent six Granadiers for my protection, as I apprehend you are possessed of force enough to keep peace in your Province, and I flatter myself, I have sufficient force to defend the Ship, I have the honor to command—I dare say, your intentions were good, as such I take them, and have the honor to be [&c.]

Jn^o Fergusson

P.S I have the honor to thank your Excellency for your very polite offer of services, and am fully sensible of the attention you have had to British Officers & Subjects, on several occasions

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed at foot of last page: "His Excellency Don Bernardo de Galvez Gov^r of Lousiana." Docketed: "Captⁿ Fergusson's Letter/to/Governor Galvez 15th March/In S^r Pet^r Parker's Letter/Dated 27 July 1778."

1. See NDAR 8: 957.

2. See Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez to Commander John Fergusson, R.N., 15 Mar., immediately above.

LIEUTENANT DAVID LOCKWOOD, R.N., TO JOSHUA LOCKWOOD

Barbadoes March 15th: 1778

Majestys Ship *Ceres*

Dear Brother/

This is my Second Lett^r w^{ch}. I've sent since my arrival in the west Indies, where I am Station^d: for three years, I Kept from be^s: Employ^d: in a Cause, w^{ch}. I always thought not Right, to be Engaged in. Even at the Hazard of Looss^s: my Commission, w^{ch}. I dearly Bought not only wth. my Blood, but wth. many years Hard service,¹ and hav^s: Lost my Wife, and met wth. a multiplicity of misfortunes, be^s: left wth. six motherless babes and an aged moth^r: to Support, besides meet^s: wth. Great Losses, I was obliged to Accept of Employ^m^t: am Lieu^t: of the *Ceres*, a fine Sloop of 18: six pounders and runs upon Copper, shall be the Happiest of Beings to hear from you, my Dear Brother P^r: way of Eustatia. Directed to me at Antegua to the Care of M^r: Henderson at English Harbour and I shall be shure to Get it and Let me know how you all Do, for I still hope to see you, I have my Eldest Boy wth. me, who Joins in Duty and in Love to you, and his Cous^{ns}: Accept of my sincere wishes for Y^r: Health and welfare and remember, me kindly to Y^r: wife and my sister Polly, and Y^r: D^r: Babes w^{ch}. I pray God, to Bless wth. Every Comfort, and was it not for that Dam^d: name: of Be^s: Call^d: a Rable, I wou^d: soon be wth. you: for my ability in the Service, is well known, and will always make me be Respected; serve where I please, and am Happy to say that I am Bless^d: wth. a stronge and Good Constitution; and I will, upon the first affront: Repair to you;² I left my Mother at Bradenham in

March last in Good Health but wth. an Ack^s Heart. I purpose send^s to her by this Convoy. it was the 12th. of March when I left her and have a lett^r from her dated in Jan^r: Last. I am Y^e Affec^t: Broth^r:

(signed) Dav^d: Lockwood

write to me by all oppertunety

Copy, UklPR, Adm. 1/310. Notation: "Directed on the outside/M^r Joshua Lockwood/Charles Town, S^c: Carolina/with Care/A true Copy/Sam^t Barrington/The Original transmitted to the Admty/6. Oct^r 1778." Enclosed in Rear Adm. Samuel Barrington's letter No. 18 (Duplicate) to Philip Stephens, 6 Oct. 1778.

1. He was appointed a lieutenant on 21 Dec. 1758.

2. The Senior Officer at Halifax intercepted this letter and transmitted it to Vice Adm. Viscount Howe who forwarded it to Rear Adm. Barrington, commanding the Leeward Islands Station. His suspicions of Lockwood's disloyalty aroused by the letter, Barrington ordered Comdr. James R. Dacres to relieve him from duty as lieutenant on H.M. sloop *Ceres* and discharge him from her muster book to her supernumerary list for victuals until he could be returned to England for examination. UklPR, Adm. 1/310. Rear Adm. Samuel Barrington to Philip Stephens, No. 18 (Duplicate), 6 Oct. 1778. In May 1779 Lockwood accepted appointment as commodore of the South Carolina Navy.

March 16

JOHN BRADFORD TO ROBERT MORRIS

Dear Sir,

Boston 16th March 1778

I had the honour of writing you under the 16th Ultimo. at which time I had in View the Ship *Mermaid*¹ for your Account, since she's been sold at public Auction at £2900, which was far too high, having measured her before Sale, & found her to be but 168 Tons, 17 feet. I was much deceiv'd in her Size she being raisd to Carry her Guns, made her look much larger than she Really was. she must of Necessity be a very dull Sailer, being extremely full both forward & abaft but She may answer for the Frenchmen who bought her, if he can make one Passage clear. I am on the lookout for a proper Vessel for you. the Difficulty does not lay so much in buying as manning a Vessel, for that is truly a very difficult Task & what Voyage will Support the expence I know not mens Wages indiscriminately good or bad is 50 Doll^{rs} ^{per} month And Officers Just what they please to ask I hope men will be plentier as the Insurance Officers here have come to a resolution not to take any more Risque, w^{ch} will Induce the Adventurers to lay up their Vessels as they Arrive. I shall keep you duly Advis'd. In the meantime I wish you Tranquilly of mind in your present Retirement, & am [&c.]

J B

NB the worthy M^r Hancock² tells me he Shall sett out for Congress in about 3 Weeks I suppose his stay wont be long, as he will Certainly be chose Governour.—

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 113–14. Addressed at top: "Honble Robert Morris."

1. Ship *Mermaid*, prize of Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.

2. John Hancock.

JOHN BRADFORD TO CONTINENTAL COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Hon^{ble}. Gentlemen,

Boston 16th March 1778

I beg leave to inform you that M^r Thomas Grant (a late Owner in the Brig *Friendship*¹ wch I mention'd some time since to be recaptur'd & sent to this port) has been here & apply'd to Me for a Settlement of a Moiety of said Brig, he produc'd a Copy of a Charter Party made between the Commercial Committee & himself by which it appears the Brig was valu'd at four thousand Dollars—The Captors would make no Compromise therefore we sold her at public Sale, she sold for £1670 M^r Grant was inclinable to avail himself of the full half of that Sum and would not settle on any other Terms, therefore I declin'd settling at all, I first offer'd him four hundred pounds in part which He refus'd rec[e]iving, but I afterwards found he had a Vessell loaded with Salt here, he took Leave of Me after receiving a Certificate of the Sale of the Brig &^c I am very unhappy that it has not been in my Power to have got the *Dispatch*² to Sea before this Date, But such has been the Weather since the 6 February that we have scarcely had one Day in ten to do any out door Work, she will now sale in a few Days—The honble Committee hinted in their last that I should soon receive Orders from the Board of War, respecting the Sulphur & Nitre imported in the *Dispatch*, they don't yet appear, I could wish to have such Orders as the Season is approaching when I think it will be hazardous to keep them here, I take the Liberty (as some of the Members of y^c Commercial Committee are also Members of the Marine) to mention the Ship *Peggy*,³ last July was a year since she was captur'd by the Schooner's *Hancock*⁴ & *Franklin*,⁵ & was condemn'd at a marine Court, after being condemn'd at a Marine Court, at Hallifax, but an Appeal was made to Congress by the former Owners residing at Philadelphia, & the Determination is still suspended, the Captors are angry, as the Ship is growing worse by laying at the Wharf so long & in another Year would be of little Value, tho' she would now sell for £3000 I suppose at least I should have forwarded the *Trytons*⁶ Accounts er'e this, but they must have been incompleat as the Salmon remain'd unsold, 'till a few Days ago, I have finish'd the Sale—They leave a great Profit. By the next Post I shall forward the Whole—We have now five Capetol Ships,⁷ six Brigs, & a number of Schooners, two of the Ships are belonging to y^c State of Connecticut,⁸ & are mann'd principally from that State two Ships have been fitted for the Sea by the Day at 20/ Pr Day, & after being fitted are obliged to keep Day's Men on Board for Want of Sailors to man them. But the *Dispatch* will sail in a few Days, the post now going which I mis'd the last Week I come now to the above Date—the *Dispatch* goes down this Day, I have put four Carriage Guns & six Swivels on Board with eleven Hands—I have the Pleasure to acquaint you with the Arrival of the *Warren*,⁹ Cap^t. Hopkins¹⁰ speaks highly of her sailing, he took a Ship¹¹ from White Haven with Salt & some dry Goods, he took out of her a parcel [of] Duck & Oznabriggs with some other Articles which he has not yet made a Return of, he also took an Arm'd Snow¹² from the West Indies bound from¹³ Bristol with a few Hhds Sugar, & the Remains of her Cargo were Flax Seed, he left them both off Bermuda, neither of them are yet arriv'd—Since my last have receiv'd Orders from Gen^l Gates respecting the Sulphur & Nitre: my Clerk's Sickness has prevented my sending forward the *Tryton's* Acc^{ts}. I've compleated the Sale of the Salmon to such

Advantage that the hundred Trs¹⁴ sent to France with the first Cost of the *Tryton* is paid for by the Profit arising on said Sale—I hope in my next to give you Acc^t of y^e. Ship & Snow in the mean time am yours &c

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 115–17. The addressee is determined by the content of the letter.

1. Brig *Friendship*, Alex Exceen, master, chartered by the Continental Secret Committee, predecessor of the Commerce Committee. See *NDAR* 6: 194, 781; 7: 483, 616–17, 861.
2. Continental packet brigantine, Lt. John Brown, Continental Navy, commander.
3. Ship *Peggy*, James Kennedy, master. See *NDAR* 6: 15, 57, 62, 152, 164, 290, 1020, 1348; 7: 137, 725, 1242.
4. Washington's Fleet schooner *Hancock*, Capt. Samuel Tucker, commander.
5. Washington's Fleet schooner *Franklin*, Capt. John Skimmer, commander.
6. Brig *Triton*, Thomas Brinton, master, captured by Washington's Fleet schooners *Hancock* and *Franklin* in Nov. 1776. See *NDAR* 7: 104, 105, 137, 139, 141n, 1014, 1058, 1217.
7. Probably, Continental Navy frigates *Warren* and *Boston*, Continental Navy ship *General Gates* and Connecticut Navy ships *Oliver Cromwell* and *Defence*.
8. Connecticut Navy ships *Oliver Cromwell*, Capt. Timothy Parker, commander, and *Defence*, Capt. Samuel Smedley, commander.
9. Continental Navy frigate *Warren*.
10. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, Continental Navy.
11. Ship *Neptune*, J. Smallwood, master, from Whitehaven to Philadelphia, with salt and dry goods, which H.M.S. *Orpheus* recaptured on 26 Mar. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486–87.
12. Unidentified snow, — Smith, master, from St. Eustatius to Bristol or Ireland, with flax seed and fustic, which arrived safe at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.
13. Should read "for."
14. Tierses.

JOHN BRADFORD TO LEVINUS CLARKSON AND ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON

Gentlemen,

Boston 16th March, 1778

This will be handed you by Cap^t John Brown of the brig *Dispatch*¹ which doubtless you'[v]e long since given up as a missing Vessel, several Unavoidable Accidents have taken place since my last to you,² which has prevented the *Dispatch* sailing till now, I wish her safe Arrival with you, when I doubt not She will soon be dispatch'd—All the Commercial Committee, writes Me respecting the lading her at Charlestown is, you will send the *Dispatch* to Charlestown, to the Address of M^{rs} Clerkson & Levingston, who will load her with Rice & Indigo, & send her to Bourdeaux to the Address of William Lee Esq^r American Continental Agent—The Letter accompanying this is of an old Date design'd to go by Cleveland³ before he declin'd going in the Brig I hope you will have a happy meeting with Cap^t Brown & am yours &c

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 120. Addressed at top: "Mess^{rs}. Clerkson & Levingston."⁴

1. Continental packet brigantine, Lt. John Brown, Continental Navy, commander.
2. Not printed. Bradford explained on 10 Feb. the reason for the delayed sailing of the *Dispatch* was that the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept. had requested her transfer to the Continental Navy. DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 110.
3. Capt. Stephen Cleveland.
4. Joint Continental Agents at Charleston, S.C.

JOHN BRADFORD TO CAPTAIN JOHN PECK RATHBUN

Sir.

Boston March 16th 1778

I wrote to M^r Leonard Jarvis¹ last Week advising him with an Act lately pass'd by the general Court, that all Stores or Merchandize belonging to the Public & being at Bedford [*in Dartmouth*] be forthwith remov'd from thence. at the same time desir'd he would send up to this Town, what of the *Mary's*² Cargo might be landed there, supposing from what you told Me, that the *Mary* with the greatest part of her Cargo, had got over to the Hiannes³ but I find by M^r Jarvis's Letter it is all landed at Bedford—he writes Me he is refus'd having any Direction in the Matter. I only ask you if you can suppose such Conduct can stand the Test of Examination before the Marine Board at Congress,⁴ it is possible you may have made the marine Laws so much your Study as to be better instruct'd than the honorable. navy Board or myself, for we are fully of Opinion that all prizes arm'd or unarm'd on their Arrival must be put into the Continental Agent's Hands, there to remain 'till the marine Court shall determine how the distribution should be made—I beg leave to ask, if you have thought of the Consequence of refusing the Continental Agents Effects belonging to the Public, more especially at so critical a Juncture as the present, when such an Acc^t as before mentioned has pass'd, my Duty obliges Me, Sir, to direct you immediately on Rec^t of this to deliver into the Hands of Leonard Jarvis Esq^r the full half of ev'ry part of the *Mary's* Cargo, as I am not at liberty to let any thing of that kind remain at Bedford—if the Vessell & Cargo should finally be condemn'd to y^e Captors no objection against delivering the whole to them will arise on our part. I have furnish'd M^r Jarvis with a Copy of this Letter. shall be glad to receive your answer as soon as maybe, in the interim am yours &c

J B CA⁵

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 115. Addressed at foot: "To Cap^t Rathbourn, in his absence to Cap^t Trevett." Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines, was prize agent for the officers and crew of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

1. Deputy Continental Agent at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.
2. Jamaica letter of marque ship *Mary*, taken by the Continental Navy sloop *Providence* at Nassau, Bahamas, on 27 Jan. See Libel, 3 Mar., above.
3. Hyannis, Mass.
4. Continental Marine Committee.
5. Continental Agent for Massachusetts.

JOHN BRADFORD TO LEONARD JARVIS

Dear Sir

Boston 16 March 1778

Your favor ^{thru} Post of 2nd Ult^o¹ came to my Hands but about 2 Hour[s] before that of the 10th was del^d me by Captⁿ Bass.² the Advertisement the first Coverd I omitted publishing for Reasons I hinted in my last. The Conduct of the new Agent³ is such, no doubt influenced by Cap^t Rathbourne,⁴ that I dont Wonder at your Indifference at continuing in the Agency. I have reported their Conduct to the Board.⁵ Gen^l Warren⁶ who is the only Commissioner present—(M^r Vernon⁷ being drove away by the Small Pox) is greatly irritated & has wrote fully on the Subject to M^r Deshon⁸ who is at N London—G Warren says that Rathburn as Cap^t ought to know that all Prizes taken by the States Cruizers be they arm'd or unarm'd ought to be put into the Agents Hands & wait the Decision of the marine Court. I wish such Behaviour may not loose Rathburn's Commission & that of the

new Agent, I have apply'd to Lowell⁹ to undertake the Affair, for I expected two thirds of the Cargo would be landed at Heyinanes¹⁰ from Nantucket,¹¹ the Bearer hereof (G Warren tells Me) he goes to take the Command of the Schooner,¹² I am sorry you are so very bare of Money, & that it's out of my Power to help you, being little benefitted by the last Prize¹³ of Cap^t Chews, having occasion to keep half her Cargo for the Continent. I hope you will be able to get a Master for the other Vessell for Im afraid it's out of my Power yours respectfully

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 114. Addressed at top: "Leonard Jarvis Esq^r." Jarvis was the Deputy Continental Agent at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

1. Should read "instant."
2. Capt. Henry Bass.
3. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines, agent for the officers and crew of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
4. Capt. John Peck Rathbun, commanding Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
5. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
6. Maj. Gen. James Warren, Massachusetts Militia, member of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
7. William Vernon, member of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
8. John Deshon, member of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
9. John Lowell, lawyer at Boston.
10. Hyannis, Mass.
11. Actually, prize ship *Mary* was sent into Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, on 20 Feb. for repairs and not Nantucket. See Libel, 3 Mar., above.
12. Prize schooner *Loyalty*.
13. Ship *Mermaid*, prize of Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*, Capt. Samuel Chew, commander.

CAPTAIN EBENEZER WILLIAMS TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE

State of Rhode Island &c

Providence March 16th 1778.

Sir,

The Subscriber, in Behalf of Andrew and James Caldwell and Blair M^cClenachan of Pensylvania Merchants, requests your Excellency to grant a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal to him as Commander of the Brigantine *Polly* of which the abovenamed Persons are Owners. She is burthened One Hundred and Forty Tons carries Ten Carriage, and Six Swivel Guns, manned with Twenty-five Men, and otherways fitted in a warlike Manner with Muskets, Pistols, Cutlasses, Powder Ball and other military Stores. She hath on board Five Tierces Beef and Pork, Five Tierces Bread &c. Barney Hicks is Lieutenant and Theophilus Topham is [*master*]¹ of said Brigantine. I am Sir [&c.]

Ebenez^r Williams

L, R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Letters of Marque (1776–1780), Petitions and Instructions, p. 67. Addressed at bottom: "His Excellency Nicholas Cooke Esq^r."

1. Blank in manuscript.

VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY

PHILIP STEPHENS

Number 55.

Eagle Rhode Island

Sir,

March the 16th 1778.

In my Letters N^o: 49 to 53 inclusive, and by a subsequent Dispatch of the 4th of last Month, of which You will receive Duplicates by this Conveyance, I communi-

cated the material Particulars regarding the State of the Fleet and my Proceedings from the Time I left the Delaware last Year, until the Departure of the *Chatham*, in which those Letters were sent to England. I am now to report the later Occurrences, with the Changes made in the Disposition of the Ships since that Period. And proposing to return immediately to the Delaware, I leave these Dispatches to be forwarded in the *Grampus*.

The *Cabot* having been detached from Halifax early in January to convoy some Vessels with Necessaries for the Garrisons at Rhode-Island and New-York,¹ I was advised by Sir George Collier of the Appointments and State of the Ships under his Orders, added in the enclosed General Returns. No Opportunity offering in the meantime for sending Captain Mason² to refit the *Fox*, pursuant to my Instructions for the Detention of that Ship, Sir George Collier ordered Captain Fotheringham³ to proceed with her to England: And contrary to my Intention, having taken the same Resolution with regard to the *Milford*, in consequence of some Damage sustained by parting her Cable in a Gale of Wind, and grounding in Halifax Harbour. The *Dunmore* Store-Ship was then arrived.

By an Accident similar to that of the *Milford*, the *Amazon* was forced so near the Shore in this Port, that it was necessary to cut away all her Masts to save the Ship. And I have the Concern to be informed by Letters from Commodore Hotham⁴ of the total Loss of the *Liverpool* upon Long Island the 11th: of last Month, on Captain Bellew's⁵ passage with Sir William Howe's Dispatches from the Delaware to New-York: But the Ship's Company were safely landed from the Wreck. The Misfortune being recent, no Particulars could be added with respect to the Stores that could be preserved.

I received at the same Time an Account of the Violences committed by some of the Inhabitants of Bermuda, described in the Copy You herewith receive of the Report delivered to the Commodore by the Complainant.⁶

Tho' I suppose the Particulars may be credited, I am unable in my present Circumstances to make any Arrangement which would effectually restrain those criminal Excesses. The *Daphne* was intended to have been stationed at Bermuda, in Conjunction with the *Nautilus*. But I had not heard of Captain Chinnery⁷ from the Time he left New-York last July, until he was met at Sea a few Days since on his Return to that Port.

The *Amazon* was fitted with Jury-Masts to remain for Port-Service at New-York, until she can be more adequately provided for her passage to England, which is become necessary, as well in respect to the large proportion of Stores that would be required for refitting her abroad, as that her Bottom will need Examination; Having struck several Times on the Rocks in the Situation before-mentioned.

The *Cerberus* was substituted in place of the *Amazon* to attend the Transports designed for Boston with the *Juno*.

They sailed for Cape Cod Harbour the 15th. of last Month. But Intelligence being since received of the Resolution the Rebels had taken not to adhere to the terms of the Convention of Saratoga as recited in the enclosed Extract of their public Declarations;⁸ Orders were sent by the *Centurion* for Captain Dalrymple⁹ to return with the *Cerberus* and such of the Transports as would be of Burthen requisite to take and bring back all the Victualling Stores from the other Transports, to

this Port. The rest of the Transports which were too much out of Repair to remain longer in this Country, are to proceed on immediately to England; with the Agent Lieutenant Dickinson,¹⁰ by whom Captain Brathwaite¹¹ was to advise You of the proceedings in those Respects. The *Juno* and *Cerberus*, which are not in Condition for Cruizing Service, will be appropriated for those current Port-Duties at Rhode-Island or New-York To set at Liberty such other of the Frigates as, with Reference to their general State of Repair, may be less unfit to cruize on the New-England Coasts.

The Rebels taking Advantage of a favorable Alteration of the Weather, put to Sea in one of the 32 Gun Frigates named the *Warren*, towards the end of last Month; By attempting the Narragansett Channel, and passing the stationed Ships in the Night.

According to the latest Information obtained from some of the well-affected Inhabitants in the New-England Provinces, the Two-decked Ship building at Portsmouth¹² is not expected to be finished before the Autumn. Some of the Rigging and Half of the Guns have been received from France; supposed by the *Heureux*, which arrived towards the End of the last Year.¹³ The Cables, Canvass for the Sails, and Remainder of the Rigging and Guns, were daily expected from Europe. But no Part of the Ship building at Boston was said to be planked, nor any Appearance of Urgency observed for having her soon completed.¹⁴

The Assortment of Cordage received by the last Store-Ships, proving insufficient for immediate Use in the Fleet; I have directed a Quantity to be taken by Agreement from an unlicensed British Vessel¹⁵ lately brought into this Port. The Particulars are transmitted herewith.¹⁶ But the Property of the Vessel being yet undecided, the Conditions of the purchase have not been finally determined.

By Letters from Captain Onslow,¹⁷ I am informed that between the 14th and 28th Ultimo, the French Ships named the *Ferdinand* and *Lyon*, said to mount 44 Guns each, with another Frigate built Ship under the same Colours, intended for the Ports of Virginia, have been chased off from that Part of the American Coast; And the *Comte de Veaux* of 24 Guns intercepted;¹⁸ by the Ships stationed at the Entrance of Chesepeak Bay.¹⁹

The *Lyon*, favored by a Continuance of this foggy Weather, is believed to have since been arrived at New-London.

In consequence of the Intelligence Captain Onslow had collected, to the purport as in the Paper enclosed,²⁰ I have countermanded his Return to join me in the Delaware, until the Middle of the next Month.

A French Officer onboard the *Comte de Veaux*, professing himself to be the Viscomte de Sabron, is sent to England in the *Grampus*, for being further disposed of as the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty shall direct.

The Naval Stores remaining in the *Grampus* being removed into the *Townshend* Ordnance Transport for being conveyed to New-York, the *Grampus* sails for England immediately from this Port. And the *Townshend* will be also dismissed, as soon after as the King's Service will permit.

Captain Griffith²¹ will be left with the Care of the Naval Services on this Station. And as it has been requisite to replace the *Milford* by the *Diamond*, Captain Feilding²² will have the Conduct of the Division of the Fleet assembling at Halifax.

Both these Officers are directed, upon obtaining any Intelligence meriting their Lordships' Notice, to transmit the same to You by the earliest Opportunity.

I am, with great Consideration, [&c.]

Howe

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 186–89. Addressed at foot of first page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r/Secretary of the Admiralty." Docketed by Stephens: "N^o. 55/16 March 1778/Rhode Island/Lord Howe/R, 13 May/(7 Inclosures)." Endorsed by Stephens: "15 May/Send Copy to/L^d. G. Germain for/His M. Inforⁿ/ & of the Inclosures/except N^o. 2 & 3."

1. See Captain Sir George Collier to Thomas Compton, 9 Jan.; Master's Journal of H.M. brig *Cabot*, 12–13 Jan. and 14 Jan.; and Major General Eyre Massey to General Sir William Howe, 2, 10 and 12 Jan., above.

2. Comdr. Christopher Mason, R.N.

3. Capt. Patrick Fotheringham, R.N.

4. Commo. William Hotham, R.N.

5. Capt. Henry Bellew, R.N.

6. Enclosure no. 4. See Bridger Goodrich to Commodore William Hotham, 7 Feb., above.

7. Capt. St. John Chinnery, R.N.

8. Enclosure no. 5; not printed.

9. Capt. Hugh Dalrymple, R.N.

10. Lt. James Dickinson, R.N.

11. Capt. Richard Braithwaite, R.N.

12. The 74-gun ship of the line, later named *America*.

13. See *NDAR* 10: 887, 890–91, 999–1000.

14. Unnamed 74-gun ship of the line.

15. Bark *Lively*.

16. Enclosure no. 6; not printed.

17. Enclosure no. 2. See Captain Richard Onslow, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 9 Mar., above.

18. French ship *Vicomte de Vaux*, Pierre Donat de La Garde, master, with a letter of marque. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/471/10.

19. See Journal of H.M.S. *St. Albans*, 21–22 Feb., 23 Feb.; Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 23 Feb.; and Journal of H.M. sloop *Senegal*, 21–22 Feb., 23 Feb. and 25 Feb., above.

20. Enclosure no. 7. See Captain Richard Onslow, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 2 Mar., above.

21. Capt. Walter Griffith, R.N.

22. Capt. Charles Feilding, R.N.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

16th March. Rain and thick weather all day. Wind E.

The 43rd Regiment having undertaken to supply themselves with the necessary quantity of wood from Commonfence Neck,¹ during the time they continued on duty at the advanced posts, & having employed several Carts yesterday in drawing away what had been cut near Hicks's Orchard, the Rebels fired 6 Cannon shot at them from the Fort above Howlands ferry, but without effect.

Four Rebel Sloops went through Bristol ferry this day into Bristol bay. Two of them were full of men. Our battery² fired 12 Shot at them, but they passed through without any damage. Some of the Shot struck very near them.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 257.

1. See Journal of the Rhode Island Navy Schooner Galley *Spitfire*, 17 Mar.

2. British battery at Bristol Ferry on the island of Rhode Island.

JOURNAL OF THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY

At a meeting &c. at Lebanon, Monday, 16 March, 1778.

Consulted and advised on sundry matters with the French Capt. Michel,¹ lately arrived at N. London with a large cargo of goods &c. . . .

Cap. Niles,² present, account of his late voyage. . . .

Hoadly, ed., *Public Records of the State of Connecticut*, 1: 572.

1. French ship *Lyon*, Capt. J. Michel, master, had arrived on 7 Mar. at New London with salt and woolens.

2. Capt. Robert Niles, who had returned from the West Indies in the Connecticut Navy trading sloop *Dolphin* in late February with sulphur. See Journal of the Connecticut Council of Safety, 26 Feb., and Pay Roll of Connecticut Navy Trading Sloop *Dolphin*, 6 Mar., above.

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY,
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1778

NEW-YORK, March 16.

Saturday the Bark *Lydia*,¹ of Liverpool, Captain Evans,² of 46 Men, and 14 Guns, arrived here from Barbados, by whom we learn, That the following Rebel Vessels have been lately taken and carried into that Island, viz. The *St. Peter*,³ of 20 Guns, 107 Men, Capt. Chace,⁴ formerly Capt. Lamb,⁵ and mostly owned at Martinico, by the *Aurora*: The Brig *General Washington*,⁶ Captain Rogers,⁷ of 18 Guns, and 80 Men, by the *Seaford*, Capt. Colpoys; and a Ship, supposed to be a Rebel Frigate of 36 Guns,⁸ taken by the *Ariadne*, and carried into St. Kitts or Antigua.

Saturday arrived here a Bark of 300 Tons Burthen, taken by the *Nottingham* Indiaman,⁹ on her Passage from England to Philadelphia. The Bark sailed from a French Port, in Company with a very large Ship, both laden with Military Stores, to supply Mr. Washington's Army, and bound for some Port in New-England.

1. Bark (or snow) *Lydia*, 200 tons burthen, mounting 12 six-pounder guns, owned by James Chorley of Liverpool, built in Liverpool in 1775. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

2. James Evans.

3. American letter of marque *St. Peter*, operating out of Martinique. See Journal of H.M.S. *Aurora*, 14 Jan., and Captain James Cumming, R.N., to Philip Stephens, 14 Jan., above.

4. Samuel Chace.

5. John Lamb.

6. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *General Washington*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 18 Jan., and Governor Edward Hay to Lord George Germain, 4 Feb., above.

7. William Rogers.

8. Continental Navy ship *Alfred*, Capt. Elisha Hinman, commander, pierced for 20 guns but mounted up to 28 guns at various times. See Journal of H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 9 Mar., and Lieutenant's Log of H.M. Sloop *Ceres*, 9 Mar., above.

9. Ship *Nottingham*, L. Bowden, master, 600 tons burthen, mounting 28 guns, owned by Durand & Co., London, built in 1764. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[*York, Pa.*] Monday, March 16, 1778

One, of the 1st, from B. Harrison,¹ and one, of the 27 February, from G. Wythe, Esq:² were read:

Ordered, That the former be referred to the Committee of Treasury, the latter to the Marine Committee

One, of the 26 February, from J. Tazewell,³ desiring to resign his office as continental agent in the State of Virginia, was read. Whereupon,

Resolved, That his resignation be accepted, and that John Carter, Esq. be appointed in his stead.

JCC 10: 259.

1. Benjamin Harrison, former Virginia delegate to the Continental Congress.
2. George Wythe, of Williamsburg, former Virginia delegate to the Continental Congress.
3. John Tazewell who had been appointed Continental Agent on 23 Apr. 1776. See *NDAR* 4: 1216.

WILLIAM ELLERY TO WILLIAM VERNON

Dear Sir,

York Town [*Pa.*] M^h. 16th. 1778.

On the 11th. instant I received yours of the 5th. and M^r. Jn^o. Adams's of the 6th. of February. Two paragraphs of the latter I will transcribe; because I know it must give you pleasure. "Dear Sir, I had yesterday the pleasure of recieving your letter of the 22^d. of January, and beg leave to assure you I shall pay all proper attention to its contents, by rendering to the Gentleman you recommend every Service in my power.

"I had been before introduced to that young gentleman by his father;¹ for whom I have concieved a great deal of esteem, and from what I have seen and heard of the son I think him ingenious and promising; but as I shall have an ample opportunity to become more acquainted with him, I shall be better able hereafter to speak of him from my own knowledge, and you may depend upon it, that nothing shall be wanting on my part, towards recommending him in proportion to his merits." I most heartily congratulate with you on your Son's being under the patronage of so worthy a gentleman, and hope he will be a blessing and an honour to his father and his country. He early treads the great stage of the world, may his steps be directed by unerring wisdom, and boundless goodness!

I read that part of your letter, respecting the 74 at Portsmouth,² and a Paragraph of one I rec^d., about the same time and upon the same Subject, from M^r. Whipple,³ to the marine committee, and it was agreed to stop the building of her for the present. These huge ships are too costly and unwieldy; and it will require as many men to man one of them, as to man three or four frigates; besides we cannot with all the naval force we can collect be able to cope with the british navy. Our great aim should be to destroy the trade of Britain; for which purpose Frigates are infinitely better calculated than such large Ships. M^r. Whipple proposes to the marine comm[itt]ee to put the timber prepared for the 74 into a frigate to mount 30 18-pounders on one deck, and this proposal I believe would be complied with if our finances were not at present very low and the demands of the great departments of war very high. I wish we may be able to finish, man, and get to sea, in the course of the next summer, the frigates that are now in hand; but I very much doubt it. It gave the marine comm[itt]ee great Satisfaction to find that the *Warren* had got out. We have since heard that She had arrived at Boston, which we hope will prove true. I hope you will get out the *Providence* and *Columbus*. The *Virginia* hath made two fruitless attempts to pass out Chesapeak. She is order'd to make another. There are four or five Men of war in that bay; but I cannot think it so difficult to pass by them, as it is to pass those in our Bay. Our last accounts from Charlestown S^o. Carolina were, that Cap^t. Biddle⁴ with three State armed Vessels were determined to go over the Bar, and attack several British Vessels of about an equal force with them. I cannot forbear being anxious for the Event.

The marine Committee lately ordered Cap^t. Barry of the *Effingham* to take the four Boats, belonging to the Frigates which are sunk in the Delaware,⁵ and pro-

ceed on a Cruise upon that River. On the 7th. instant Two of them, the other two had not then got below the city, joined by five boats, half manned, attacked (near Bombay-hook) and took two of the Enemy's transport ships,⁶ one mounting six four pounders, the other two swivels; and also a Schooner⁷ with eight 4-pounders, twelve 4-pound howitzers and 32 men, properly equipped for an armed vessel. They first boarded the Ships, and, learning from them the Strength of the Schooner, Cap^t. Barry prudently sent a flag to the Schooner, ordering the Cap^t. of her to submit, and promising that he and his officers, on compliance, should be allowed their private baggage; whereupon they thought proper to strike. As the ships were loaded, the Schooner, being a suitable Vessel for a Cruiser, he is orderd to purchase and employ on the Delaware so long as he thinks it may be safe. She had in [*her*] a variety of useful and valuable Articles. This gallant Action reflects great Honour on Cap^t. Barry, his officers and the Crews of those Boats. The other two boats have since got down, and in their way took a small sloop, with fresh Provisions, bound to the City. I expect every day to hear of their further Success. These boats will annoy and injure the enemy more, in my opinion, than both the Seventy fours would, if they were built, equipped and manned,—at least upon the Delaware.

With regard to the Fish M^r. Whipple writes "I have never been able to procure any fish that I think worth sending to you or your friends, they ask 20 dollars pr Quintal for such as I would not by any means make use of. I do not suppose it possible to get any of the first Quality at present, when I can you may depend I shall not be unmindful of your order."

I thank you for the Stick of Sealing-wax. I had been obliged some times to secure my Letters with Wax taken from Letters I had received.

Please to write to me frequently, and send me all the news you can collect. The two armies are in status quo. Nothing material hath lately turned up. You will have heard, before this reaches you, that the intended Irruption into Canada is laid aside. We are obstructing and fortifying Hudson's River, collecting men and provisions &c &c for the next campaign. The last will be the most difficult to accomplish. To have subdued both the British Armies in one Campaign was not more than I expected the last; but it would have left us nothing to do the ensuing Campaign.

With the Aid of Heaven we will crush the Serpent's head next Summer, and force our Enemies to be at peace with Us! I have room only to add that I am Yrs

W^m. Ellery.

"Papers of William Vernon and the Navy Board," 221-24.

1. William Vernon's son, William Vernon, Jr., accompanied John Adams on board *Boston* during her voyage to France.

2. Continental Navy ship of the line *America*.

3. William Whipple, former New Hampshire delegate to the Continental Congress.

4. Capt. Nicholas Biddle, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

5. Continental Navy frigates *Washington* and *Effingham*.

6. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master.

7. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dear Sir

Wilmington March 16th 1778

There were three Ladies Captured by Barry¹ but he informs no one of the Name of Mitchell they were sent off from New Castle Yesterday with some others having by a Flag obtained permission to send them up by Water in one of our Vessells

We have had the Mouth of the Christiana for some Days blocked up by the *Nautilus* & some Gallies which has obliged Barrys little Fleet to lye snug here—this Morning 50 Sail of Transports have fallen down supposed to have Invalids on board the *Nautilus* &c weighed Anchor & is standing down with them—there are a Number of ships above said to be coming down with a Number of Flat bottomed Boats with Troops—There destination is conjectured against this Place Newcastle and the Country below I cannot depend on the Intelligence but have detached a Party with Captain Barry to remove a Quantity of Hay lying on the River below New Castle & to destroy such as can't be moved shou'd they attempt a Descent that way—In my last I mentioned the two ships being burnt² & they run poor Barry so hard that he was obliged to quit the Armed Schooner³ which he had captured but not till the last Extrimity having secured all that was on & in her except her Guns which were thrown over board before he left her—

Some small Armed Vessells Trad⁶ of Marcus hook the other Day a Party of 30 Foot & Six Horse under Cap^t Anderson⁴ was ordered to watch their Motions they landed upwards of 30 Men well Armed and advanced on our Party who immediately engaged and routed them killing 4 dead & wound⁶ several others as they were getting of in their Boats—one of the Slain was very well dressed & had a half Joe⁵ & 12 or 15 Guineas & it was supposed a Gold Watch &c but the Soldiers had riffled him of all but the above s^d. Gold before Anderson got up—he was said to be very active and spirited in commanding his men before he got knockd down—we now begin to feel the Want of Provisions much—as I before apprehended the Country is intirely drained what little we get is extremely poor salt Provision our Men never see I almost dread the Consequence our Commissaries must be stimulated to exert themselves or this Garrison will suffer much—hitherto I have done all in my Power to procure supplies & have succeeded beyond my wishes but the adjacent Country being so much exhausted we must now depend on the Purchasing Commissaries who without your positive Injunctions will let the Troops suffer. I have the honor to be [&c.]

W Smallwood

The Returns shall be forwarded to the Adj^t Gen. Tomorrow &c

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "Public Service/His Excellency/General Washington/Head Quarters/Valley Forge." Notations: "By Lt Dragoon—"; "W. Smallwood." Docketed: "Gen^l Smallwood./March 16th 1778."

1. Capt. John Barry, Continental Navy.
2. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master.
3. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army.
4. Capt. Richard Anderson, 7th Maryland Continental Regiment.
5. A half Johannes or "half Joe" was a Portuguese gold coin equivalent to eight Continental dollars in Apr. 1776. By Apr. 1778 the "half Joe" was worth approximately eighteen Continental dollars.

CAPTAIN HENRY LEE TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sirs.

Enclosed are some let^{rs}. received this morning p^r dragoon from Wilmington.

By intelligence from Philad^a. we learn that a large fleet sailed from thence on Friday last; they had with them a number of flat-bottomed boats. My intelligencer did not know the design of their expedition. Conjectures in the city were various. Some insinuated that Wilmington was the object; others, that they were gone on a grand forage to the lower county and the eastern shore of Maryland. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Hen^y Lee.¹March 16th. 78.

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4.

1. Captain, 1st Continental Dragoons.

CONTINENTAL BOARD OF WAR TO SAMUEL AND ROBERT PURVIANCE

Gentlemen

War Office [York, Pa.] March 16th. 1778

The Board have been duly favored with yours of the 14th. inst. They are happy to find you have put the important Business of procuring Tents for our Army in as good a Train as Circumstances will admitt. From our loss of Philad^a. the Workmen who came out are dispersed to Places in which Trade is open, & therefore none can be expected from this State; & every Sail Maker the QMG. [*Quarter Master General*] could possibly procure being at Work on Tents. You will please to keep as much Tent Cloth as you can have made up by the first of May, & send the Rest on to be made up under the Direction of the Quarter Master General. I am [&c.]

Richard Peters

By order of the Board

If you could by any Means contrive to get the whole made up at Baltimore it would be doing much Service; as the Workmen are every where exceedingly scarce. As the Enemy will endeavor to push out early, the Tents should be, by all Means, ready the first of May. We shall be much distressed for Want of Tents, as so many were lost last Year, from the lateness of the Campaign; therefore do exert yourselves to have them made, but do not detain the Cloth on a great Uncertainty.

If the *Virginia*¹ cannot get out, but should return, cannot some of her Hands be procured to make Tents?

Mr. Butler,² in the Service of the QMG, makes up 50 Tents a Week, with but a few Hands; therefore, I should think that Sailors &c might be procured, to make at least 30 p week, at Baltimore.

On Deliberation, the Board desire you will send on half the Tent Cloth you have; & you may receive from M^r Lux,³ an adequate Supply for your Workmen, out of a Quantity daily expected to arrive from the Eastern Shore.

R^d Peters

By order

L, MdHi, Samuel and Robert Purviance Papers. Addressed: "On public Service/Mess^{rs} Samuel & Robert Purviance/Baltimore/(War Office)." Docketed: "N^o 89/War office York Town/16th March 1778—/Rich^d Peters." Peters was secretary of the Continental Board of War.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*.

2. Possibly public armorer Thomas Butler.

3. William Lux, Continental Agent for Maryland.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [Charleston] Monday 16th March 1778—

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commissioner—

Geo Abbot Hall, Josiah Smith, Tho^s Corbett, } Esq^{rs}—
Edward Darrell, John Edwards . . .

In the Privy Council
March 13th 1778—

The Board advised his Excellency that a Cartel be proposed to the Governor of S^t Augustine and that the Commissioners of the Navy Board do prepare and fit out the *Rattlesnake* for a Voyage there with provisions Sufficient for the prisoners of Warr intended to be sent in her, of whose Number his Excellency will inform the Board

By his Excellency the President¹

(Signed) Ordered Accordingly John Colcock *Sec^o P.C.*²

Ordered that the Schooner *Rattle Snake* be immediately unloaded and fitted Out as a *Cartel*, to proceed to S^t. *Augustine* with prisoners of war—

Navy Board March 16th 1778

To Elisha Sawyer Commissary

Sir/

The Commissioners of the Navy request that you [*will*] with all possible Dispatch furnish the Necessary Stores and provisions for Fifty Men for One Month for the Schooner *Rattlesnake*

Edward Blake first Commissioner

Adjourned to next Thursday Evening 6 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 144.

1. John Rutledge.

2. Words and letters in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776–March 1, 1779.

CAPTAIN THOMAS PASLEY, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON

Sir

Glasgow at Sea 16th March 1778

I beg leave to acquaint You, that between the hours of ten and eleven at Night on Saturday February 28th I fell in with two Sloops and a Schooner, off Cape Teberoon,¹ The Darkness of the Night, prevented my discovering them till within less then Musquett Shott—I therefore (being very little Wind[*l*]) hoisted out the Cutter and sent her Man'd & Armed hoping to get possession, without noise or firing, for, from previous information the day before from a french Sloop, I knew them to be Americans. When the Boat came near she hailed, ordered them to keep off, and without further ceremony, immediately fired a number of Musquetts and all their Guns they could bring to bear right into her, by which three of her Oars were shot away, & a Man dangerously wounded.—Seeing them fire at the Boat, I hailed, told them I was an English Man of War that if they did not immediately desist, I would pour a broadside into them.—Their answer was Laconic.—Three Shott right into the Sloop; the *Glasgows* return being in quantity what they did not possibly expect, only induced them to leave off firing and consult their

safety by flight.—however as we fired between twenty & Thirty Guns, loaded with Round & Grape, besides many Vollies of small Arms, I flatter myself that they were made heartily to repent their timerity Their Oars which they plied with all their might) the lightness of the Wind being almost Calm,) and the extreme darkness of the Night, were all circumstances so favourable to small Vessels, that they affected their escape into Tiberon Bay

The Master in the Pinnacle who had been at Sun Sett dispatched on service now joynd the Cutter, who I had Reman'd, and sent to take Possession of the Deserted Sloop judging from the Privateers ceasing firing that she was silenced, agreed in consart to board her, By some accident the Pinnacle alone board[ed] her on her Quarter, they found them in such disorder and confusion that if their Pistols had gone off, presented within a Yard of those that opposed them, they assuredly with their handfull of Men, must have carried her, but they every one missing Fire owing to the shamefull bad Flints the Ships of Warr, are supplied with, left the Crew at the Mercy of the Privateers, With Bayonets fix'd on long Poles for Pikes, they wounded three of the Pinnaces Men dangerously, four of those extraordinary Weapons the boats Crew seized out of their hands and brought off in the Boat, the daring courage off the Boats Crew, merits every praise, And as I cannot say too much in favour of M^r Cooke the Master's Steady conduct, resolution, and bravery on this Occasion, I hope you will pardon the liberty I take in recommending him to Your future attention

The Prize Sloop, I immediately dispatch'd for Jamaica, stood off and on all night, and early next Morning hauled into the Bay where I saw both Vessels using their utmost efforts warping into Shoal Water, in the Cod of it.—The Schooner mounts Twelve Carriage Guns the Sloop Ten both seemed full of Men—Their Crews were mostly French, that language being the only one spoke when boarded, and they had in one Night transfered the Rebel Americans property, if Colours could effect it, for to my no small surprize they had both French Flags flying, the Sloop even in my sight, shifted hers for a Pendant, judging it more respectable—The small French Battery of Three Guns, that they lay under, was Man'd, & both Vessels as we stood in placed their Broad sides to bear, all trifling impediments to the *Glasgow* had their been no other—I leave you Sir to judge the conduct of the French on this occasion—And I have the Honor to be with great respect, Sir [&c.]

Tho^s Pasly

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240, fols. 516–17. Addressed below close: "To/Clark Gayton Esq'/Vice Admiral of the/White &c. &c." Docketed: "Cap^t Parsleys letter/In V A Gayton's Letter/Dated 20 April 1778." Endorsed in Gayton's hand: "a Cobby/Clark Gayton."

1. Cap Tiburon, Saint-Domingue.

DEPOSITION OF ALEXANDER ROBINSON, HANS WORKMAN AND JOHN CAREW

Barbados

By the Honorable Hillary Rowe Esquire
Chief Judge of his Majesty's Court of
Common Pleas held for the Precinct of
St. James et: And Also one of his
Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the
Body of this Island, and of the Quorum.

These are to Certify all it may Concern, That on the Day of the Date hereof Personally Came before Me, Alexander Robinson, Hans Workman and John Carew Marriners,¹ late Seamen on Board the Privateer Ship called the *Randolph*,² whereof [blank] Beedle was Captain and Commander,³ Who being duly Sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, Do severally and respectively Say and Declare That the said Privateer Ship the *Randolph* was Fitted out by the Inhabitants of Charles Town, South Carolina, on a Cruize against his Britannick Majesty's Ships and Vessels; And these Examinants further Say, That on Saturday Evening the Seventh day of this Instant March and year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Eight, the said Ship *Randolph* was Attacked by a certain Ship or Vessel which afterwards Proved to be his Majesty's Ship of War called the *Yarmouth*, whereof Nicholas Vincent Esquire is Commander; And that after a Quarter of an Hours Firing, or thereabouts, the said Ship *Randolph* was Blown up, by the Firing from the said Ship *Yarmouth*; And that at the Time the said Ship *Randolph* was Blown up, as aforesaid, there were Actually on Board the said Ship Three Hundred and five Men, including Officers and Seamen.—

In Faith and Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal this Sixteenth Day of March in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Eight.—

(Signed) Hillary Rowe.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 43/23 (Accountant General, Miscellanea, Head Money Vouchers). Addressed below close: "To/The Right Honorable The Lords/Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy."

1. These seamen were borne on H.M.S. *Yarmouth's* Supernumerary List as American prisoners from 12 Mar. until discharged on 8 Apr. to her Muster Table, having joined the *Yarmouth* as able seamen. Hans Workman appears as Hantz Wortman and John Carew as John Kerry on *Yarmouth's* Muster Table. UKLPR, Adm. 36/8072, Muster Table of H.M.S. *Yarmouth*.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

3. Capt. Nicholas Biddle.

March 17

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT TO GEORGE WHIPPY

Navy Board Eastern Department
Boston March 17 1778

Sir

You are hereby desired & Impowered to proceed Immediately to Bedford¹ Apply to M^r Jarvis & if he has not engaged a Master for the Scooner *Loyalty*,² take the Command of her, Engage a Mate and Crew, make all the dispatch in your power to Equip her for the Sea, and proceed ~~immediately~~ directly to the Inlet of Sinepuxant on the Sea Coast of Maryland, about Fifty Miles to the Southward of the Capes of Delaware, on your Arrival there Apply to William Smith Esq^r who is Agent for the Continent, & who will immediatly deliver you a Load of Flour & Iron, which you are to receive on board & proceed with directly to the first Safe port you can get into in this State, preferring Boston or Some port to the Eastward, as Bedford is threatned with an Attack from the Enemy, You will give us the Earliest Notice of your Arrival, & wait our further Orders, Unless you have Undoubted Intelligence the Coast is Clear, & you can with Safety proceed to Boston, where we wish to have the Cargoe, We wish you a Successfull Voyage—

I am in behalf of the Board [&c.]

J Warren—

Cap^t George Whippy

The within Orders you are to comply with as if directed to you—I wish you a good Voyage & am—Your humble Serv^t

Leo: Jarvis. Agent³

L, DN, Manuscript Collection.

1. Bedford in Dartmouth (now New Bedford), Mass.

2. Schooner *Loyalty*, Henry Atkins, master, was a prize of the Continental Navy sloop *Providence*. See *NDAR* 9: 753, 753n, 854, 854n, 862, 862n.

3. This order is on the verso of the document. Leonard Jarvis was Deputy Continental Agent for Massachusetts.

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN DESHON

Navy Board Eastern Department

Boston March 17, 1778

Dear Sir

Yours of the 9th. and 10th Instant¹ are received at the Board as I presume M^r Vernon will be with you by the time this reaches you, it will be unnecessary for me to make any particular Observations on the Contents, as you two being together can determine on your Several proposals & doings, I shall therefore only Say that I think them Judicious and by no means deserving of Censure, the Success in getting out the *Warren* is very pleasing, & is a presage of good Success in our attempts with regard to the others, I hope we shall make a figure with the navy here notwithstanding the obstacles arising from the Scanty State of our Finances, I am very much in Opinion with you about the *Trumball*, She must be got out this Month without fail no time hereafter promises so fair for Success and we had better try the Experiment however disagreeable it may be, I wish we could have Certain Accounts of the Safety of the *Warren*, I am Anxious about the Cannon for the New Ship here.² there seems to be a dilatoriness about getting her ready for Launching which has made me Uneasy I accordingly went to M^r Cushing³ last Evening & told him this matter must be Attended to & dispatched, he Complains of the want of money I desired him to call this morning & let me know how much may possibly do, I am expecting him & propose to furnish him with some—

You can hardly conceive what a run there is upon us for payment of Bills &c the office is Constantly full, how they discovered the money you sent I know not whenever you order and a proper opportunity offers the Certificates shall be sent Col^o. Tillinghast—⁴

Cap^t Burroughs⁵ is now here & has under Consideration a proposal I made him & his Lieu^t⁶ to go the Trip in the *Loyalty*. he has again mentioned a Brig^t at Warren to be sold, owned by Col^o Childs, & would be very Suitable for his Stores had you not better see her and see whether she and her price and manner of payment Suit—

I left M^{rs}. Warren Sick and my private affairs as well as my own health require a Journey to Plymouth as soon as I can dispatch the business immediatly Important, I shall be gone about a Week I hope soon for the pleasure of your Attendance

here M^r Vernon I suppose will take your place We have no News of Importance—I am [&c.]

J Warren—

P.S. Cap^t Burroughs has Agreed to go in the *Loyalty* if a master is not Already provided I know not whether I shall be able to get other Vessells I have no prospect at present—

If M^r Vernon is disposed to be Inoculated he may be by returning here before the 25th. of this Month.

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80. Addressed: "On public Service/Hon^{ble}. John Deshon Esq^r/Providence/In his Absence Hon^{ble}. Will^m Vernon Esq^r."

1. Not found.
2. Continental Navy frigate, later named *Alliance*.
3. Thomas Cushing, superintendent of building the frigate *Alliance*, at Salisbury, Mass.
4. Col. Daniel Tillinghast, Continental Agent for Rhode Island.
5. Capt. Ezekiel Burroughs, Continental Navy.
6. Lt. George House, Continental Navy.

PETITION OF PHILIP MOORE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL

State of Massachusetts Bay—
To the Honorable Council of said State
The Petition of Phillip Moore of Boston
Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner with others have fitted out the Ship Called the *General Mifflin* burthen about three hundred and fifty tons mounting Twenty, Six pounders and navigated by One hundred and Fifty Men, has on board as Provisions Two hundred barrels of Beef and Pork and Ten Tons of Bread, with Twenty barrels of Powder and four Tons of Shott

Officers on board are

Daniel M ^c Neill	as Commander
Edmund Roberts	1 st Lieut:
John Dennis	2 ^d Lieut:
W ^m Lasbey	Master
Rob ^t . M ^c Neill	Captain Marines—

Said Ship is intended to Cruize against the Enemies of these United States—

Your Petitioner therefore humbly requests that your Honors would grant a Commission to said Daniel M^cNeill as Commander of said Ship for the Purposes above mentioned

And as in duty bound shall Ever pray—

Ph: Moore

Boston March 17th. 1778

In Council March 18th. 1778 Read & Ordered—That a Commission be issued out to Dan^l. M^cNeil as Commander of the Ship above mentioned—he complying with the Resolves of Congress

Jn^o. Avery D^y Sec^y—

SIMON WOLCOTT TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Oldtown Martha's Vineyard

March 17th: 1778

Dear Sir

The bearer Cap^t Church arivd here yesterday from S^t. ustatia in comp^y of a Schooner belonging to Jos: Russell¹ from Hispaniola they bring nothing that is verray material as to News—only that y^e. Courts of France Spain & Portugal had acknowledg'd our Independance—you will give what Credit to the Acc^o you please—They have letters from W^m Packwood² who has arivd at Curracoa—

We³ are still impatiently wating a Wind to get to Sea we have now a prospect of going tomorrow as the fogg has just blown off—We have Seventy five or Eighty good People on Board & could get many more if we chose—

Some of our People are about to chuse M^r Mumford⁴ their Agent whether they will or not cant say the Cheiff officers being against it—Have never ben able to get any certain intelligence from the Main since we arivd here hope everything goes on agreeably with you—Excuse me to Lucy for not writing her & give her my best Love Accept same for the rest of Family—That you may be the happy possessor of the same good Health that at this present I Enjoy is y^e. Prayr & Wish of Your Affect^d Friend & hum^l. Serv^t

Simon Wolcott⁵—

P.S: The extreme uncertainty of [Co]nveyances is y^e. Reason of not writing I having nothing Material to say & You being her [*illeg.*]

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 70, no. 4128. Docketed in Shaw's hand: "[Simon] Wolcott/Letter/March 17th: 1778." Docketed in another hand: "4128."

1. Joseph Russell, merchant at New Bedford, Mass.

2. Capt. William Packwood of New London, master of the ship *Betsy*, was chartered by the Connecticut Council of Safety in July 1777 to sail to Curaçao for salt. He returned on 8 Aug. 1777 with 3,000 bushels of salt. Louis F. Middlebrook, *Maritime Connecticut During the American Revolution, 1775–1783*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: The Essex Institute, 1925), 2: 9, 266.

3. Connecticut privateer sloop *American Revenue*, Samuel Champlin, Jr., commander.

4. Thomas Mumford, merchant at Groton.

5. Wolcott was one of the bonders of the privateer *American Revenue*.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *KINGSFISHER*, LIEUTENANT HUGH C. CHRISTIAN

March 78
Tuesday 17

At Single Anchor in Seaconnett Passage Rhode Island,
Fresh Breezes with Rain Loosed Sails Discovered a Rebell
Schooner¹ under sail off Goulds Island² She fired two or
three Guns Emp^d Watering

At Single Anchor in Seaconnett Passage Rhode Island,
Fresh Winds and Clear, Sighted the Anchor And veered a
whole Cable Observed a Sloop At Anchor, Above fogland
point, Observed y^e Appear^{ce} [*of*] the Vessell over Seaconnett
at 12 veered to a whole Cable,

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/507.

1. Rhode Island Navy schooner galley *Spitfire*.

2. Gould I. in the Sakonnet Passage.

JOURNAL OF THE RHODE ISLAND NAVY SCHOONER GALLEY *SPITFIRE*,
CAPTAIN JOSEPH CRANDALL

March 1778

Remarks at Tiverton. at The Ferry¹

Teusday 17th.

First part unpleasant Weather, with Rain wind at E. AM Small Breese, at SW, Came to sail at the Gutt.² stood up the Reaver;³ toward Common Fence point, whare, we saw, a Number of The British troops, [on] the heights, on Common Fence,⁴ Gave, them 2 Eighteen pound, Shott, 2 Six ditto, one Three & Two Swivells ditto, without Receiving any Compliment from them, so hove about & Ran into the Wharlf at the Ferry, Latter part, fine weather.

D, UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/455/1. Title: "A Journal, began, on Board, the Galley *Spitfire*, belonging to the State, of Rhode Island, & Commanded, by, Cap^t Jos, Crandall," (Feb.-May 1778).

1. Howland's Ferry.

2. Nannaquaket Gut.

3. Pocasset River.

4. Men from the 43d Foot gathering wood on Common Fence Point. See Diary of Captain Frederick Mackenzie, 16 Mar., above, and 18 Mar., below.

MUSTER ROLL OF RHODE ISLAND NAVY GALLEY *SPITFIRE*An Account of the time of People^s. Entry & C

Time of Entry	Mens Names	Stations	Wages P ^r month		Times of Departure
			£	S	
1777 May. 12 th	Joseph Crandall	Captain	14..	8	
May 12 th	Shiffield Attwood ¹	first Lie ^t	7..	4	
May: 12 th	Paul Cartwright	S nd . Lieu ^t	7..	4	
May: 12 th	William Warren	Master	7..	4	Nov ^m : 11 th . Run ²
May: 12 th	Benj ^a : Cranston Jun ^r	Qt ^r : Master	7..	4	
May: 20 th	Benj ^a : Cranston	Masters mate	4..	10	
May: 12 th	Ebenezer Bosworth	Gunner	3..	18	Nov ^m : 11 th Run
May: 28 th	John Harding	Carpenter	3..	18	
May: 29 th	Sampson Sims	Steward	3..	00	Nov ^m : 11 th Run
May: 15 th	John Biulot	M ^d : Shipman	3..	12	
May: 12 th	William Crandall	M ^d : Shipman	3..	12	
May: 12 th	Joseph Ormsbe	Gunners mate	2..	14	
May: 28 th	Jonathan Harding	Carpenters Boy	1..	16	unfit ^t for Duty Discharge 13 Nov ^r
June: 8 th	William Ormsbe	Seaman	2..	08	February 3 Run Took 12 th May
June 8 th	Norfolk Moore	Cooke	2..	11	Nov ^m : 20 th Run
June 8 th	Pompey Oherre	Cooke mate	2..	08	Nov ^m : 20 th Run
June: 19 th	Rufus Whitaker	Carpenters mate	2..	14	
June 19 th	Edward Cole	Seaman	2..	08	
June 27 th	John Meelish	Boatswain	3..	18	Jan ^y : 27 th
		made Masters Mate			
June 27 th	William Clarke	Boatswains mate	2..	14	Nov ^m : 11 th Run
June 26 th	William Johnson	Coxswain	2..	14	
July: 18 th	Preserved Sisson	Master at Arms	2..	14	Nov ^m : 11 th Run

June: 24 th	William Smith	Seaman	2..08
June 27 th	Thomas Austin	D ^o :	2..08
June 28 th	Malcum Graham	D ^o from Dec ^{em} 28	3..18
June: 28 th	Thomas Barker	D ^o :	2..08
Sep ^t : 24 th	Joseph Stoddard	Armerer	2..14
Nov ^m : 15 th	John Ross	Seaman	2..08
Nov ^m : 16	Zebedee Brown	D ^o :	2..08
Novem ^r 20 th	Pierce Spear	Steward	3..00
Jan ^r y 4 th 1778	John Herrod	Seaman	2..08
January 12	Norton Thurston	Q ^t : Master	7.. 4
January 18 th	David Gifford	Master	7.. 4
January 18	Gideon Gifford	Seaman	2.. 8
	his		
January 18	Tobias X Smith	Seaman	2.. 8
	mark		
March 17	Joseph Willcocks		

June 24th Run
 Nov^m: 11th Run
 Dec^m: 28: 1777
 Malcum Graham ma^{de}
 Gunne^r
 June 30th Run
 Nov^m: 20th Run
 Advanc^d One months
 pay Sick

D, UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/455/1. Document is in the First Lieutenant's Journal, p. 19.

1. Lt. Sheffield Attwood.
2. See *NDAR* 10: 498.

LIBEL FILED IN CONNECTICUT MARITIME COURT FOR NEW HAVEN COUNTY

[*New Haven*]

A Libel being preferred to the hon. *Elihu Chauncy*, Esq; Judge of the Maritime Court, for the County of New Haven, against the sloop *Dove* and her Cargo, taken by Thomas Sellew, and his Company, in the armed Sloop *Lucy*,¹ on the 15th Day of December last, in Cold Spring Harbour, of Long Island. The Court for the Trial of the Justice of said Capture, will be held at New Haven in New-Haven County, at the State House, on the first Tuesday of April next, at two of the clock Afternoon, of which this Notice is given to all concerned.

By Order of the Judge of said Court.

JOHN WHITING, Register.

March 17th. 1778.

Connecticut Journal (New Haven), 18 Mar. 1778.

1. Connecticut privateer sloop *Lucy*, Thomas Sellew, commander, mounting 4 guns, a crew of 20 seamen, owned by Joseph Buckley, of Wethersfield, was commissioned on 2 Dec. 1777. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 9, p. 97.

CAPTAIN ISALIAH ROBINSON TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Copy

Sir,

New-Prison Philad^a. 17th. March 1778.

I came down here on Saturday last, in a Flag of Truce, with a Quantity of Provisions for our Prisoners here, they have thought proper to Detain me, and have lodged me here, I can assign no other reason for such Treatment, unless a pretext that no Officer of my Rank could with propriety come on such an Occasion, indeed they seem to Cavil at my Names being inserted as *Master of the Shallop*,¹ owing to a Mistake or Inadvertency in the person that wrote for Permission to send such Provisions in. M^{rs}. Robinson whose Mother and Relations live in Town, came down with me, to have, if permitted, an Opportunity of seeing them, I told the Officer who met me, who we were, and he without Scruple put her ashore, which it seems was improper, an Officer was sent after her, with whom she immediately and Unhesitatingly return'd. This is a Candid Representation of the Matter, and shall esteem Your Excellency's taking such Measures as you may judge expedient for my enlargement—I have the Honor to be [&c.]

(Sign'd) Isaiah Robinson²

P.S. Cap^t. Galt³ of the State Navy who came with me to assist in working the Shallop, is in the same Predicament, tho' he made up but the Number of Men Permitted—

A fair Copy from the Original

Sign'd Tho^s. Wallis

Fred^k. Sumfield

Copy, UKLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, No. 1022 (3–4). There is a second copy. *Ibid.*, vol. 9, No. 1022 (1–2).

1. Shallop *Polly*.

2. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy.

3. Capt. Nathaniel Galt, Pennsylvania Navy.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *CAMILLA*, CAPTAIN CHARLES PHIPPS

March 1778
Tuesday, 17.

Deep Water Point NEbE. 1 Mile
at 2 AM the flat boats employ'd landing the Troops at the
Entrance of Selam Creek on the Jersey Shore under the
Command of Captain Phipps.¹ at 11 Sailed the *Brune Dispatch*
Sloop and several Transports.
Newcastle N^o. 7 or 8 miles Ready Island S ½ W 2 Miles
D^o. Wea^r [PM] [Fresh Gales and Cloudy]

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/157, fol. 98.

1. H.M.S. *Camilla*, H.M. galley *Cornwallis* and some flat boats were on a foraging expedition up Salem Creek.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[Extract]

The Council met

Lancaster, Tuesday, March 17, 1778.

. . . Ordered, That the Commissaries for the Navy Department, who have heretofore been employed, be allowed three ⅔ Centum on the amount of their Purchases, in full for their Services in buying and issuing Provisions & Liquors.

LB, PHarH, RG 27, Minute Books of the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council, vol. 6, 231.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dear Sir,

Wilmington March 17th. 1778—

For this two Days past the Enemys Fleet have been passing by here, to Amount of 150 Sail, of which there were 70 or 80 Sloops & Schooners, some few flat-Bottom and a number of Ships Boats on Deck & in Tow besides—their destination not known, it's said there are Troops on board, but it is not reduced to a Certainty, if any, they were kept below, as there was no great appearance on Deck—The Communication with Philadelphia for some Days past, since this Fleet has been equipping, & falling down, has been much checked, & the Intelligence very doubtful—its probable if any Troops have embarked, they meditate a Trip up Chesapeake, to visit Annapolis Baltimore & the adjacent Counties on the head of the Bay, or perhaps may extend their Views up Patowmack—I shou'd have wrote you Yesterday, but wanted to discover their destination—they came too off this Place, & lay some Time I believe on acc^t of the Fog & Tide, but fell down below Reedy Island yesterday afternoon and anchored, I ha[ve] waited all this Morning for the Return of som[e] men I sent to dog them to discover whether [*torn*] stood out for the Capes—but as they have n[o]t returned, & I have this Opportunity, have been induced to forward this Intellegence, and remain with sincere Regard [&c.]

W Smallwood

excuse Papers being scarce

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed: "Public Service/His Excellency/General Washington/Head Quarters/Valley Forge." Notation: "W Smallwood." Docketed: "From/Genl Smallwood/Wilmington 17th March/1778." Bracketed portions are caused by a hole in the middle of the letter.

STEPHEN STEWARD TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

you ware kind Enuf to tell me you would lend two long Guns and two Swivels Ples to give orders to have them Deliverd to Captain Martain¹ I shall be much oblige to you If you will be kind Enuf to Send up afew Shot Such as Captain Martain Chuses M^r Henrey Howard Promises me he Will Cast any Quantitey of shot and any sise So I hope We Can Repay them verey soon I am [&c.]

Stephen Steward

[*West River, Md.*]

March the 17 1778

6—2 pounders on b^d. the *Johnson*²6 Swivels on b^d. the *plater*.³

MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4588-10. Addressed: "His/Exellency Tho^s. Johnson Esq^r." Docketed: "17 March 1778/Stephan Steward/ab^t. Carr^a Guns—." The last two lines are in Johnson's hand.

1. Probably Capt. John Martin.

2. Maryland Navy galley *Johnson*, building at West River.

3. Maryland Navy armed boat/galley *Plater*, Capt. Richard Murrow, commander.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Tuesday the 17th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick store deliver to Captain Richard Taylor for the use of the men on Board the ship *Tartar* the following articles viz sixty nine white shirts, or linen to make them one hundred and eighty eight yards of Checks, thirty five pair of shoes eighty five and half yards of coarse and fine Cloth, thirty eight pair of stockings, twenty Caps, six hats, thirty set of Buckles twenty seven Knives, and twenty two Handkerchiefs on his paying for the same.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 364.

CAPTAIN THOMAS JORDAN, R.N., TO GOVERNOR PATRICK TONYN

(Copy)

Galatea Frederica Sound [*Ga.*]17th. March 1778

I wrote the 6th. off S^t. Marys¹ to inform your Excellency Captain Fanshawe² had ordered the *Galatea* to remain upon this Coast in order to prevent an Armed Force said to be advancing by the inland Navigation to the Southward.

That she might be of effectual Service from the intelligence I could collect, Frederica appeared to be the place where she might best Act to Annoy them, accordingly the 13th Instant we got in over the Bar, and anchored in Frederica Sound³ where I learnt their two Galleys had been to steal Cattle, about a week since, but from what the Inhabitants say, they only remained twenty four hours, and then returned to the Northward.—A Lieutenant from one of them deserted with two Negroes, and he got on board the *Rebecca* at S^t. Marys, but the Negroes left him, Mowbray⁴ brought him to me at this place, the information he gives is, that they are weakly Maned, and in bad Condition[.]

I have sent Lieutenant Ellis⁵ up to the Town, and the *Rebecca* accompanied to secure the North end of the Island, and the Fort which commands the River and Town,⁶ the *Galatea* laying about Seven Miles from it, Yesterday I went up to view it, part of the Walls have been pulled down by the Rebels, when they took the Mortars &c away, but it might be easily put into that state of defence to be maintained with a very small force, and two Eighteen or Twenty four pounders in it, I am clear would prevent all the strength they can send from passing by the inland Navigation to the Southward.

I have since thought it proper to send Lieutenant Ellis on as far as Sapelo, to see if any thing can be done with their Gallies, and to assist Colonel Brown,⁷ if he meets with any impediment on his return, and give me leave to congratulate your Excellency on his late success in reducing Fort Barrington—I found his Surgeon with a few wounded at Frederica—

The little Schooner I propose to dispatch tomorrow, as the best Conveyance for them, and this information, but must request your Excellency will send her back to me, as we shall find her of the utmost use here.

I have the Honor to be &c

(Signed) Tho^s. Jordan

NB. I have sent my Sick which are numerous to M^r. Martin's House at Jekyl Island and Providence could not have conducted them to a more favourable place.

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 5/558, fols. 131–32. Docketed: "East Florida/Copy of a Letter from/Capt^m. Thomas Jordan/of the *Galatea*/to/His Excellency/Governor Tonym/N^o. 2." Docketed in another hand: "In Gov^r. Tonyns of Ap^l. 28th. 1778/N^o. 54/2." See Governor Patrick Tonyn to Lord George Germain, 28 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, C.O. 5/558, fols. 127–28.

1. St. Marys River, Fla.
2. Capt. Robert Fanshawe, R.N.
3. Actually St. Simons Sound.
4. Capt. John Mowbray.
5. Lt. Alexander Ellis, R.N., commanding H.M. brig *Hinchinbrook*.
6. Fort Frederica on northern tip of St. Simons I.
7. Lt. Col. Thomas Brown, East Florida Rangers.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola on Tuesday the 17th. day of March 1778.

Read the Minutes of the last Council day (the 10th. Instant) which were approved

His Excellency laid before the Board a Letter which he had received from W^m. Hiorn—Rich^d Ellis and Joseph Thompson Esq^{rs}. three of the Principal Inhabitants of the Natchez District dated the 23^d Februrary 1778 inclosing a Copy of the Terms of accomodation Settled between the Delegates of the People & their Associates and M^r. James Willing who Commanded the Party of Rebels which came into that part of this Province and the same being Read were ordered to be entered on the Minutes and are as follows

Natchez 23^d Febr^y 1778

May it Please your Excellency

We are Extremely unhappy to inform you that on Friday the 20th. Instant Cap^t. James Willing in the Service of the Thirteen United States of America did almost

at one and the same time Surprize and take Prisoners the Principal Inhabitants of this Country; who in order to prevent themselves being carried Prisoners to New orleans together with their Slaves &C were obliged to call a meeting and assent to the Conditions which are here Tra[n]smitted to Your Excellency.

The deplorable Situation of this District is such that we have every thing to fear from the Cruelty of the Indians our neighbours and therefore pray Your Excellency will use your utmost endeavours to prevent a people so unfortunate from falling a Sacrifice to the Merciless Cruelty of Barbarians.

Wishing you Health and every Blessing that this life can afford we are

Your Excellency &c &c &c

W^m Hiorn

Richard Ellis

Joseph Thompson

Natchez District
to Wit

Whereas on Thursday evening the 19th. Instant Captain James Willing in the Service of the United States of America arrived with a detachment of Men under his command at the Natchez Landing and the next morning Early sent out Sundry Parties who almost at one and the same time made the Inhabitants Prisoners of War on their Parole and having hoisted the Colours of the said United States and taken Possession of the Country in their name, The Inhabitants in this distressed and unprotected State fearing a Confiscation of their property thought it necessary to wait on the said Captain Willing to propose Terms of Accomodation which he readily agreeing thereto the said Inhabitants unanimously Delegated the four following Gentlemen to Treat for them and make the best Terms they Possibly Could

William Hiorn Esq^r

Samuel Wells Planter

Charles Percy Esq^r

&

Major Luke Collins

And as we the Delegates have obtained leave from the People to call in any Persons to our assistance, we may think proper we have desired the following Gentlemen

Isaac Johnson Esq^r

Richard Ellis Esq^r

&

Joseph Thompson Planter—

We the Delegates of the People and our Associates do propose the following Terms to Captain James Willing

First—That we will not take up Arms against the united States of America or aid Abet or in any wise give assistance to the Enemies of the said States

Agreed—

Secondly That our Persons Slaves and other Properties of what kind so ever shall remain safe and unmolested during our neutrality

Agreed

Thirdly That a list of the names of the Slaves of the Inhabitants shall on Honor be given in

Agreed

Fourthly That Captain Willing shall engage to send a Flag of Truce to the Chactaw Nation to give out a Talk with a Belt to prevent the Indians falling on this defenceless District—

Agreed.

Fifthly—That Captain Willing having in his Custody as a Prisoner one Robert Welsh in whose Possession was found an order from Farquhar Bethune Esquire Commissary for the Chactaw Nation to obstruct Harrass distress and oppose any Party of Americans coming down the River and it appearing to the Inhabitants of this District that the life of the said Robert Welsh was in Danger they Petitioned the said Captain Willing on his behalf who Immediately set him at Liberty; and shall engage to send him with the flag into the Chactaw Nation he having great Interest with them to incline them to Peace

Agreed.

Sixthly—That the Delegates and their Associates shall have leave to send a Copy of these Articles to Governor Chester at Pensacola accompanied with a Letter requesting His Excellency will take such Steps as shall prevent the Indians falling upon the Inhabitants

Agreed.

Seventhly—That the Delegates and their associates do in and on the behalf of the People take the following Oath: That they will not take up Arms or otherwise Act to the prejudice of the United States of America nor will by any means Comfort or abet furnish with Arms or Ammunition the Enemies of said States neither will they Furnish the Savages with Warlike Stores against the said States nor in Word or deed (except in the foregoing Article) treat with their Enemies but observe a Strict neutrality

Agreed—

Eighthly That the Delegates shall appoint one of their Body to accompany the said Captain Willing to New orleans

Agreed

Natchez District West Florida
Signed this Twenty first day of February
one thousand seven hundred and Seventy eight

Agreed to in the fullest extent
in Behalf of the United States of America
(All Publick Officers of the Crown of
Great Britain who have property
in this District Excepted) those who
have held Commissions & have
Signed the Oath of Neutrality come
within the above Articles

Ja^s Willing
Captain in the Service of
the United States—

Delegates—
W^m Hiorn L S
Sam: Wells— L S
Char^s Percy— L S
Luke Collins— L S

Associates—
Isaac Johnson L S
Richard Ellis L S
Joseph Thompson—L S

NB The Property of all British Subjects
who are non Residents in this District
also Excepted they being Enemies of the
said States

James Willing

M^r Alexander M^cIntosh A Merchant at the Natchez well known for his Loyalty and Attachment to His Majestys Person and Government (who brought the above mentioned Letter) attending by desire of the Board was then called in and gave the following Information upon Oath.

Information upon Oath of Alexander M^cIntosh of the Natchez District Merchant taken at Pensacola before His Excellency Peter Chester Esquire Captain General and Governor in Chief of His Majestys Province of West Florida &C &C &C Council.

This Informant saith That on the Nineteenth day of February now last past he was in a Batteau on his Way up the River Mississippi to Aux Arcs together with William Eason and William Williams when being a little above Coles Creek, about eight or nine Leagues higher up the River than the Natchez landing between the Hours of Eight and Nine in the Evening as they were at supper in their Batteau they were met by a Party of about Eighteen Men in a large Batteau Commanded by one M^cIntyre a Pensylvanian and a Lieutenant in the Rebel Service¹ among whom was Thomas Newman (formerly a Trader at the Natchez). That this Newman hailed them asking who they were which Will^m Eason told him This Newman then Swore that he had been Robbed at Aux Arcs by the Arkansa Indians—that with great difficulty he had saved his own and his peoples lives from the said Indians and then prayed this Informant and his party (for Gods Sake) if they had any thing to Drink to give him some—to which Eason answered that he had—Newman then desired Eason to light up his Fire that he might see to get ashore—which was accordingly done That fourteen or fifteen of the said Party then jumped out of the Boat all at once Each Armed with a Rifle Gun and Tomahawk That M^cIntyre called to this Informant by name—where are you? to which this Informant replied You have the advantage of me I dont know you—That as he was on the Gang Board Stepping on Shore, M^cIntyre with his Party came up and told him he was a Prisoner of War to the United States of America Adding “Ill take care of you that damned Scoundrel James Willing is come once more to pay you a Visit,” (alluding to this Informants former Expressions about Willing) That M^cIntyre then brought this Informant and his People to the Fire & demanded of him if he had any Letters or any other Company—to which he Answered he had no Letters, but was in Company with Williams and Eason on his Way to Aux Arcs about his Private Business—The same Question was then put to Williams and Eason who answered that they had some Letters M^cIntyre thereupon sent them on Board their Batteau with a Party of his own men to bring all the Letters they had and deliver them up to him upon receipt of which they opened and looked at them and then put them in his Pocket after which he Sent this Informant Williams and Eason on Board the Rebel Boat and a party of his own Men on Board their Batteau to take Charge of her—That as they were going down the River an-

other large Canoe full of Men Commanded by one Robert George (a Virginian Born and a Lieutenant in the Rebel Service)² Joined them. That the same night this Informant and the others were Carried down to the Natchez landing where they arrived about midnight—and were kept Prisoners on Board That one of their Canoes was Stationed a little above & the other a little below & the Batteau at the Natchez landing with Strict orders to keep a Sufficient Guard at the Batteau That the Two Lieutenants Landed with the remainder of their Party and Secured every Inhabitant at the landing with all their Slaves, after which a Party was sent out for the two Harrisons (Richard and Reuben,) who lived about one Mile Distant with whom Richard Harrison returned (having a Small sworn [*sword*] on) and Joined the Rebels (as this Informant believes from having seen him afterwards wear a Rebel Cocade) That at Break of day M^r Willing arrived in a Batteau called the *Rattle* or *Rattle Trap* during which time this Informant had been brought ashore and lodged a Prisoner in Richard Bacons House at the landing aforesaid. That upon Willings arrival different Parties were sent off to bring in the Neighbouring Inhabitants who were soon afterwards all brought in That Willing ordered a Party out to kill this Informants Cattle for Provisions under which pretence Several head of his Cattle were wantonly Shot down and left laying where they fell That the Party who were sent to Rifle this Informants house robbed him of all his Provisions being upwards of 5000 lb Weight—drove in 22 Head of his Hogs and killed them at the landing—That he was detained a Close Prisoner untill Saturday the 21st of February in the afternoon when he was Released on his Parole. When Just as he arrived at his House a Party of fifteen Men who had been sent after him came up with and brought him Back to Willing who detained him untill the next day (Sunday) in the afternoon when he was again Released And this Informant also saith that he heard M^r Willing declare that 2000 Men under the Command of A General Morgan³ would be down the River in the Spring to take Possession of this Country. That Robert George told him their Party consisted of about Twenty five Men at first who came from Fort Pitt on the 12th January which Party was increased to about one hundred men Chiefly picked up on the Ohio and the upper part of the Mississippi—That they had plundered M^r Hutchins⁴ of the 18 Slaves and all his other property—also Joseph Dawes of a Negroe Wench and had taken 4 Negroes 4 Horses & all the Hogs belonging to Henry Stuart Esq^r That M^r Willings Sent out to Kill one Beagleys Cattle and that he (willing) told him A M^r Elliot a Lieutenant⁵ had been sent down with Six Men in a Canoe and had gone three days a head of M^cIntyre with dispatches from the Congress to the Governor of Louisiana⁶ and Oliver Pollock⁷ a British Merchant residing at New orleans who has declared himself their Agent acquainting them with their Arrival &C. And added that the said Spanish Governor M^r Pollock and himself were appointed by the Congress to Condemn at New orleans the property he might Seize upon on his Way down the River and to Sell it for the benefit of the United States And this Informant farther saith that one Rabicaud a British Subject who lived at Aux Posts on the River Ouabache, (under the Command of Lieut. Governor abbot⁸) told him that he had a Batteau laden with Deer Skins Beaver &C to the amount of Ten or Twelve thousand Dollars which he was bringing down the River Mississippi and having heard that the Rebels were before him he went up the River Aux Arcs and applied to M^r Devellé⁹ the Spanish

Commandant there for a pass to New Orleans which pass he was refused—That while he was in the Fort of Aux Arcs he saw one Pountney¹⁰ a Trader there—which Pountney soon after he was gone got together a parcell of Hunters and came after him to the River Mississippi Seized his Batteau as British Property & carried her back to Aux Arcs to Mr Develleé who Immediately sent her off under a Guard of a Corporal & Six Men to M^r Willing at the Natchez (which Information was Corroborated by that of a Joseph and Thomas Holmes of the Natchez who had been employed by Said Pountney in Seizing the said Batteau) and that this Informant saw the said Batteau and Cargoe delivered up at the Natchez landing to M^r Willing by the Said Spanish Corporal as British Property Seized for the use of the Americans That M^r Blommart¹¹ While Trading on the English side at Aux Arcs was seized with all the property he had and brought down to the Natchez—and when Willing went away he left Blommart there on his parole for Two or three days to Settle his affairs, & then to come down to New Orleans with M^r Hiorn, the Commissioner¹²—That M^r Hiorn told this Informant that Willing had Two Commissions one as Captain in the Rebel Army and the other as Captain of a Rebel Privateer—That he (this Informant) understood that M^r Willing had been joined at the Natchez by the Two Harrisons William Reid a Blacksmith and Francis Dolony a practitioner in Physick That Willing said he should in going down the River begin at M^r Castle's¹³ Plantation at British Point Coupeé and take all the Slaves and property belonging to the English Plantations down to Manchack That the said Willing set off from the White Cliffs at the Natchez on Tuesday the 24th day of February having left behind him as he was told Some ammunition in a Small Store belonging to M^r William Williams under the Care of one Thomas Coomstock a man who had Joined them up the River. And this Informant saith that he left the Natchez on Sunday the first instant—came thro' the Chactaw Nation & arrived in this Town on Monday the 16th. Instant and farther saith not—Sworn in the Council Chamber at Pensacola on Tuesday the 17th. March 1778 before His Excellency in Council Attes^t Rich^d. Combauld D Cler: Concii.

M^r M^cIntosh farther acquainted His Excellency that he had been deputed by the Inhabitants of the Natchez to apply to him for one hundred Troops to be Immediately Stationed there in which Case the Inhabitants Promised to break their engagement of Neutrality and to Join with the Troops in their own defence That they would willingly assist with the Small Force they had in repairing the old Fort¹⁴ or Buildings Barracks for the said Troops and that he (M^r M^cIntosh) would pledge himself for the true performance thereof and would help to Support them with Provisions.

His Excellency then desired the Opinion of the Board thereupon but it being late the Board deferred giving their Advice immediately and were adjourned until tomorrow morning Ten of Clock.

D, UkLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 259-64.

1. Lt. Thomas McIntyre, lieutenant of an Independent Company, Western Pennsylvania, Continental Army.

2. Lt. Robert George, Clark's Illinois Regiment, Virginia Militia.

3. Col. George Morgan.
4. Anthony Hutchins, magistrate at Natchez.
5. Lt. James Elliot, 1st lieutenant of an Independent Pennsylvania Company, Continental Army.
6. Don Bernardo de Gálvez.
7. Pollock was Continental Commercial Agent at New Orleans.
8. Edward Abbott, British lieutenant governor of the Vincennes district.
9. Don Baltasar de Villiers, Spanish commandant of the Arkansas district.
10. William Pountney.
11. John Blommart, magistrate at Natchez.
12. William Hiorn.
13. George Castle, planter at Point Coupée, West Florida.
14. Fort Panmure.

CAPTAIN NICHOLAS VINCENT, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG

(Copy)
Sir

Barbadoes 17th March 1778

I take the Opportunity of the January Packets Sailing from hence tomorrow Morning, directly for S^c Johns, Antigua; of acquainting you of my having on the 7th: Instant at ½ past 5 PM, discovered Six Sail in the S:W. Quarter, on a Wind; Standing to the N^o:ward:—Two of them Ships,¹ Three Brigs² and a Schooner. We were then 50 Leagues due East of this Island; We immediately bore down upon them, and about 9, got close on the Weather Quarter of the largest and headmost Ship, They had no Colours hoisted and as Ours were then up, I hailed her to hoist hers, or I would fire into her, on which she hoisted American, and immediately gave us her broad Side, which We returned, and in about a quarter of an hour she blew up. It was fortunate for us, that We were to Windward of her.—as it was, our Ship was in a manner covered with parts of her, a great piece of a Top Timber Six feet long fell on our poop,—another large piece of Timber Stuck in our foretop-gallant Sail (then upon the Cap) An American Ensign rolled up, blown in upon the forecastle, not so much as Singed &c; Immediately on her blowing up, the other four dispersed different ways—We Chaced a little while, two that Stood to the Southward, and afterwards another that bore away right before the Wind, but they were soon out of sight—Our Sails being tore all to pieces in a most surprizing manner; We had five Men killed, and twelve wounded, But what I am now going to mention is something very remarkable, The Thursday following being then in Chace of a Ship Steering West; We discovered a piece of a wreck with four Men on it waving, We hauled up to it, got a boat out, and brought them on board; they prov'd to be four Men who had been in the Ship when she blew up,—and who had nothing to subsist on from that time, but by sucking the rain Water that fell on a piece of Blanket, which they luckily had picked up. They informed us the Ship blown up was called the *Randolph* of 36 guns and 305 Men; The other ship was the *General Mutray* of 20 guns; and the other three Armed Brigs; and Sailed from Charles Town S^c: Carolina about a month before. I resumed the Chace but she was too far ahead to get up with her, however I continued it in Order to drive her at least off the Station, 'till eleven that Night, when We made this Island; having lost sight of her, I hall'd my Wind, and intended to have got up again to Windward as far as I could; but it coming on to blow very Strong with a great Sea; and our main-mast being in great danger by the Slackness of Our Stays, having been obliged to

get up a Messenger in room of the Mainstay, which was intirely ruined, I bore away on Saturday last for this place. The *Ariadne* and *Ceres* had come in the day before, and brought in with them a very Stout Privateer called the *Alfred* of 20 Guns and 180, Men.³ I found here also the *Fly*, It has blown strong ever since I have been in, but the Weather now seems broke, and the two former will Sail to Morrow Noon in Order to get up to Windward, and to look out for the English Convoy; which sailed from England the 11th: Ult^o: under Convoy of the *Active*, *Boreas*, and two Sloops; about Ten Sail that seperated from them in the Chops of the Channel have been arrived some days,—so that I think they may be soon expected; and I purpose remaining here ‘till that time, The *Fly* I shall keep here ‘till the arrival of the February Packet, in Order to bring your Letters.” I remain with great respect Sir [&c.]

(Signed) Nich^s: Vincent

Copy, UkLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot of first page: “Vice Admiral James Young &c &c &c.” Docketed: “Barbadoes 17th: March/1778 Copy of a Letter/from Captain Nich^s:/Vincent of His/Majesty’s Ship/*Yarmouth*.—” Endorsed: “In Adm^t: Young’s Letter/ Dated 23 March 1778—.” Enclosure no. 1 in Vice Admiral James Young to Philip Stephens, 23 Mar., which was received on 22 May and read. There is another copy of this letter in Adm. 1/309.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph* (32 guns) and South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie* (20 guns).
2. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame* (16 guns) and South Carolina privateer brigantines *Polly* (14 guns) and *Fair American* (16 guns).
3. Continental Navy ship *Alfred* (20 guns).

March 18

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RAINBOW*, CAPTAIN SIR GEORGE COLLIER

March 1778.

Moored in Halifax Harbor

Wednesday 18

First p^t: fresh Breez^s: wth: Rain latter p^t: fresh Gales & clear wth: hard frost Empl^d: [prep]aring the Ship for Sea Came in 2 Schooners Prizes to the *Arbuthnot* Tender.¹

D, UkLPR, Adm. 51/762.

1. Schooner *Bellona*, Moses Fetcombe, master, from Guadeloupe to Newburyport, with rum, coffee and molasses, taken near Cape Sable on 12 Mar., sent into Halifax. Howe’s Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 484. According to Vice Admiralty Court records, she was captured on 7 Mar. between Cape Sable and St. George’s Bank by the *Rainbow*’s tender, the schooner *Arbuthnot*, Lt. Edward Dalton, commander. *Bellona* was libelled on 18 Mar. in the Vice Admiralty Court of Nova Scotia and condemned as a lawful prize on 7 Apr. 1778. CaNSHP, vol. 496, Vice Admiralty Court Register, vol. 6 (1777–1782), 117.

The second prize was the schooner *Polly*, John Dyer, master, from Falmouth, Me., to the West Indies, with lumber, taken on 17 Mar. near St. George’s Bank, sent into Halifax. Howe’s Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 484. According to Vice Admiralty Court records, she was captured on 13 Mar. off Falmouth in Casco Bay. *Polly* was libelled on 26 Mar. in the Vice Admiralty Court of Nova Scotia and condemned as a lawful prize on 21 Apr. 1778. CaNSHP, vol. 496, Vice Admiralty Court Register, vol. 6 (1777–1782), 118.

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 18th: 1778

Order’d, That M^r: Ivers¹ pay Cap^t: Carey² on Acc^t: disbursments for Sloop *Republick*³ £34..16.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 256–57.

1. Thomas Ivers.
2. Capt. John Carey.
3. Massachusetts Navy sloop *Republic*.

ISAAC SEARS TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JR.

Dear Sir

Boston March 18th. 1778

I recived your favour of the 8th. Instant the articles ☿ Capⁿ. Allen list¹ as much of them as I Cou'd Git was Sent of[f] about ten days agoe, I hope by the time you have recived them in good order—I had the account of the Brigge *Gen^l Washington*,² being taken before you advised me—Am Glad to hear that so Valueble a Cargo has arived in your port, & that Docter Franklin was in good health 31th Decem^r. last I am Sir [&c.]

Isaac Sears

PS

Since writing the above have recivd yours of the 22^d, I Shall this day look for the Instrments if to be had Send them, I Shou'd sent the Cross & Chain Shot, the teems that Carred the other articles would not take them Capⁿ Bredon³ is now out of town, as Soon as he Comes in will Send them, I Shall git the Coullers of Capⁿ. lamb⁴ & Send them

L, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 26, no. 1644. Addressed: "To/Nath^{el} Shaw Esq^r/at/New London." Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Isaac Sears/Letter/Mar 18 1778." Docketed in another hand: "1644."

1. Articles for Connecticut privateer ship *General Putnam*, Thomas Allon, commander, fitting out at New London.
2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *General Washington*, William Rogers, commander.
3. Andrew Breedin.
4. Capt. John Lamb, commander of Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Favourite*.

WILLIAM VERNON TO JAMES WARREN

Sirs

Providence 18th. March 1778.

This afternoon Cap^t. Deshon¹ sets out for New London, on the necessary business of geting the *Trumble* out of Connecticut River. The *Columbus* has fell down the River. Cap^t. Hacker² hath promised us he will be ready to Improve the very first opportunity of Wind & Weather that presents after to morrow. he is supplied with every thing requisite to carry his Ship³ to New London or the first port of Safety that he can get into. we have thought it best to put on board about Six Weeks Stores leas he shou'd be obliged to put off the Coast.⁴

Cap^t. Whipple⁵ Enters Men very fast he expects to have upwards of one hund^d. Men by the last of this Week. The plan that hath been adopted is, that the Ship⁶ proceed from hence on a Cruise, for the reasons already given by M^r. Deshon. indeed it appears to me that she cou'd not have been Mann'd upon the same terms that the *Warren* was. You will please to say If it be your opinion that she proceed directly to France: or That its consistant with our Instructions to Order her on a Cruise where we think it most likly to annoy our Enemies and take Prizes. If she is ordered to France you will transmit the Copy of the Orders rec^d. from the H^{ble} Marine board; and such other dispatches as you think may be with Safty sent thro' the dangerous Fire of a Line of the Enemies Ships. we don't judge it prudent to in-

trust papers of great consequence by this Ship. you will please to Send a Copy of the Signals to be observed in the Continental Navy,⁷ and what other papers & dispatches you may think Proper. I am [&c.]

P.S. pray let me know from Time to time all the News that's stirring w^{ch}. will multiply the Obligation of Y^r. &c

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80. Addressed at the foot: "To/James Warren Esq^r/Boston."

1. John Deshon.
2. Capt. Hoysteed Hacker, Continental Navy.
3. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*.
4. See Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department to Captain Hoysteed Hacker, 12 Mar., above.
5. Capt. Abraham Whipple, Continental Navy.
6. Continental Navy frigate *Providence*.
7. See "Signals to be observed by Commanders in the Continental Navy," 14 Jan., above.

GABRIEL JOHONNOT TO THE RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL OF WAR

Gentⁿ:

Agreeable to your directions I have settled the Account for the Exchange of Prisoners of Warr, For the State of Rhode Island, and have received of the British Commissary the ballance due taking care to Enlarge all such as belonged to this State—As their Idea of Rank widely differs from ours, I have been Obliged to take in Exchange for the Warrant and Petty Officers of the *Syrene* Frigate who were on their Parole, such Persons as (After Much Altercation) were nearest of rank to them—

Lord Viscount Howe, highly disapproves the Practice of sending Persons in on their Parole to Obtain Particular Persons in Exchange for them and if not after the Expiration of a certain period to return, and desires it may be discontinued—His Lordship, sensible of the Inconveniences and hardship, which the Prisoners Labor under, wishes they may be Exchanged as Early as Possible—and as he has not the Means of releiving them with proper Necessaries, readily Agrees to this or any Other State sending in Proper Supplies of Fresh Provisions & other Things for their more Comfortable support—And a Proper Person with them to distribute it—I am With the Highest Respect Gentⁿ: [&c.]

Gabriel Johonnot

Providence 18th. March 1778

L, R-Ar, Letters to the Governor (1778), vol. 12, p. 42. Addressed at foot: "Hon^{ble}: Council of Warr/for State of Rhode Island."

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Extract]

[Newport. Rhode Island]

18th March. Frost last night, and Strong wind at N.W. Wind W. during the day, and pleasant weather.

. . . The Rebels have fired a good many shot these last two days at the parties of the 43rd Regiment employed in cutting wood on Commonfence neck.¹ They also brought their Galley near, and fired at them,² but without any effect.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 257–58.

1. See Journal of the Rhode Island Schooner Galley *Spitfire*, 17 Mar. and 20 Mar.
2. Rhode Island Navy galley *Spitfire*.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *KINGSFISHER*, LIEUTENANT HUGH C. CHRISTIAN

March 78 At Single Anchor in Seaconneth Passage Rhode Island
 Wednesday 18 ½ past [7] AM Saw a Sloop on Shore at Seaconneth Beach,¹
 Sent y^e Boats Man'd and Armed hove into ½ a Cable, Emp^d
 Watering
 At Single Anchor in Seaconneth Passage Rhode Island
 Ditto Winds [Fresh Winds] and heazey [PM] the Sloop
 proved to be a Rebell Vessell the Boats not being Able to get
 her off, dismantled And set fire to her Emp^d Wooding

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/507.

1. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Kingsfisher*, 17 Mar., above.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEAMEN FOR THE CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER
 SHIP *GENERAL PUTNAM*

*The private Ship of War PUTNAM, mounting twenty Carriage Guns,
 (nine Pounds) will be ready for Sea by the middle of
 April:*

Any Gentlemen Volunteers who may chuse to enter on Board the said Ship
 for a six Months Cruize, shall be put on daily Pay from the Time of their coming
 on Board, 'till the Ship is ready to Sail.

THOMAS ALLON, Captain.

New-London, 18th March, 1778.

Connecticut Gazette; and the Universal Intelligencer, 20 Mar. 1778.

LIBEL FILED IN VICE ADMIRALTY COURT OF NEW YORK
 AGAINST THE CONNECTICUT NAVY GALLEY *CRANE*

Province of New York
 Court of Vice Admiralty

To the Worshipfull Robert Bayard Esquire Judge of
 the Court of Vice Admiralty for the Province of
 New York—

John Tabor Kempe Esquire his Majesty's Advocate General for the Province of
 New York at and by the relation of Cornthwaite Ommaney Esquire Captain and
 Commander of his Majesty's Ship of War the *Tartar* on behalf of himself, Hyde
 Parker Junior Esquire Captain and Commander of his Majesty's Ship of War the
Phoenix, Andrew Snape Hamond Esquire Captain and Commander of his Majesty's
 Ship of War the *Roebuck*, and the other Officers and Crews of the said Ships of War,
 and all others interested therein comes here into this Court of Vice Admiralty this
 Eighteenth day of March in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and
 Seventy eight—And by the relation aforesaid give the Court here to understand and
 be informed that on or about the tenth day of October in the Year of our Lord One
 thousand seven hundred and seventy six in Hudson's River in the Province of New

York hereinafter mentioned on the high Seas and within the Jurisdiction of this honorable Court they the said Cornthwaite Ommaney, Hyde Parker, and Andrew Snape Hamond with his Majesty's said Ships then under their respective Commands did pursuant to the Statute in such Case lately made and provided seize and take a certain Gally or Vessel called the *Crane*¹ of the burthen of about Forty Tons armed with Cannon the Master's Name whereof is unknown² (the Crew having deserted and left her) together with her Apparel and Furniture and have brought the same into this Port of New York in order to have the same legally adjudged—For that the said Galley or Vessel and the Apparel and Furniture thereof and every thing else on board the said Vessel seized and taken as aforesaid at the time of the said Capture and Seizure belongs to some Person or Persons Inhabitants of the Colonies of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three lower Counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia or of some or one of the said Colonies. Whereby and by force of the Statute in such Case lately made and provided the said Galley or Vessel with all her Apparel and Furniture is become forfeited to his Majesty as if the same were the Vessel and Effects of open Enemies—And by reason of the Premises and by Virtue of the said Statute in such Case lately made and provided the sole Interest and Property of and in the said Galley or Vessel with her Apparel and Furniture and every thing else on board the said Vessel liable to Forfeiture as aforesaid (the same being first adjudged lawful Prize pursuant to the Statute aforesaid) is granted to and vested in his Majesty's Flag Officers commanding in his Fleet in North America, the said Cornthwaite Ommaney, Hyde Parker, Andrew Snape Hamond, and in the other commissioned Officers of his Majesty's said Ships of War, and the Seamen, Marines, and Soldiers on board the same to be divided among them in such Proportions and after such manner as his Majesty hath been pleased to direct by his royal Proclamation in pursuance of the said Statute in such Case lately made and provided. Wherefore the said Advocate General at and by the relation aforesaid humbly prays that by the Decree and Sentence of this honorable Court the said Galley or Vessel the *Crane* her Apparel and Furniture and every thing else on board the same liable to Forfeiture may be adjudged and condemned as lawful Prize pursuant to the said Statute in such Case lately made and provided to be divided as aforesaid among the Captors and all others lawfully interested therein by reason of the Premises—

J. T. Kempe
Advocate General

DS, UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/300/11. Docketed: "New York Court of Vice Admiralty./Libel./The Advocate General/on the relation of/Cornthwaite Ommaney Esq^r/V^s/Galley *Crane*./filed the 18 March 1778." A similar libel was filed on 18 Mar. against the Continental Army galley *Independence*. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/360/11.

1. Connecticut Navy galley *Crane*. See *NDAR* 6: 1181, 1183, 1317–18, 1510.

2. Jehiel Tinker.

NEWS FROM NEW YORK CITY

NEW-YORK, March 18.

On Saturday [*last*] the *Harriet Packet*, Capt. Spargo,¹ brought in here the *Sea-Nymph*, of Philadelphia, Woodhouse,² Master, from Mastrandt, in Sweden, laden

with gunpowder, sulphur, salt, &c. which he took on his passage from Falmouth. The *Sea-Nymph's* cargo was smuggled from Jutland, where two schooners from Biddeford, were taking on board similar commodities. Woodhouse, previous to his departure, was sent for by the governor, who ordered him, at his peril, not to receive any military stores on board his vessel; but the Agent of the Congress, at that place invited him to a party of pleasure, and kept him four days, during which, the prohibited goods were shipped. She sailed from thence, January 13th and was taken the 1st inst. . . .

Tuesday last arrived the ship *Viscount De Vaux*,³ Piere Marie Donnat,⁴ master from Port l'Orient, in France, laden with woollens and other goods, calculated to alleviate the distress of Mr. Washington's army. She is a vessel of 600 tons burden, mounts 24 carriage guns, and was taken on the 23d ult. off the Capes of Virginia, while cleared and ready to engage, by the brave and vigilant Capt. Symonds,⁵ of his Majesty's ship *Solebay*. The loss of this cargo will be severely felt by the rebels.

Same day was sent in here by his Majesty's ship *St. Albans*, a large Swedish ship,⁶ of size similar to the prize above-mentioned. She was bound from Cadiz for Virginia, with a cargo of military stores and salt. It is said that she has upwards of 20 pieces of brass cannon in her hold. She was loaded along side of the large Dutch vessel⁷ that was taken sometime ago by the intrepid Sir James Wallace, in the *Experiment*.

Also arrived the ship *Lydia*,⁸ laden with tobacco, taken in Chesapeak Bay, by the *Solebay* and *Richmond* men of war.

At the same time the schooner *Newport*,⁹ J. Gross, master, from Boston, bound to Virginia, was sent into this port by Capt. Symonds of the *Solebay*.

The Letter of Marque brig *Loyal Subject* of Glasgow, commanded by Capt. Andrew Syme, who has been only ten days out from this port on a cruize, brought in with her, on Monday last, the following prizes, taken off Cape Hatteras, viz.—

Schooner *Bedford*, Thomas Maxfield, from New-England, in ballast; schooner *Joseph*, Abraham Tappan, from New-England, in ballast; schooner *Rachael*, Purnell Johnston, from Bermuda, with salt; brig *Sally*, Samuel Tucker, from ditto, with ditto; sloop *Henry*, Capt. Moody,¹⁰ from Hispaniola, laden with dry goods. Letters were found in these vessels, addressed to the hon. Joseph Hughes¹¹ and John Lawrie, Esqrs. of Carolina, ordering that a cargo of Tobacco should be immediately put on board of them, consigned to Guardsque and sons,¹² at Bilboa, in Spain, for which place they were to proceed.

Rivington's *The Royal Gazette* (New York), 21 Mar. 1778.

1. H.M. packet *Harriot*, Sampson Spargo, commander.

2. Brig *Molly* [formerly *Sea Nymph*], Thomas Woodhouse, master. See *NDAR* 10: 907–9, 909n, 967, 1010, 1033, 1033n.

3. French ship *Vicomte de Vaux*, a merchantman with a letter of marque.

4. Pierre Marie Donat de La Garde. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/471/10.

5. Capt. Thomas Symonds, R.N.

6. Swedish ship *Louisa Ulrica* [*Louisa Udrique*], Peter Arvidson, master, which was taken by H.M.S. *Senegal* on 18 Mar. (or 21 Mar.) in Lynnhaven Bay, Va. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240–41. See Journal of H.M.S. *Senegal*, 21 and 22 Mar., and Captain Richard Onslow to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

7. Dutch ship *Vrouw Margarita*, Geele Joches Ruyter, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 14 Jan., above.

8. Maryland State trading ship *Lydia*, Ignatius Fenwick, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 9 Feb., and Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 9 Feb., above.

9. Schooner *Newport*, John Groce, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 5 Mar., above.

10. James Moody. UkLPR, H.C.A. 32/352/5.
11. Joseph Hewes of Edenton, N.C.
12. Joseph Gardoqui & Sons.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

[*Valley Forge*] Head Quarters 18th March 1778.

Sir,

I have the honor of transmitting you the inclosed letter from General Smallwood,¹ giving intelligence of the Enemys motions in the Delaware, and his conjectures respecting their object—the account he has heard of troops being on board the Vessels is confirmed by the relations of deserters and others, who agree that a considerable number of men have been embarked and add that they took seventeen days provision with them—from this circumstance it is scarcely to be imagined that they are ordered on a Sea Voyage—The proportion of small Vessels in the Fleet makes it probable that they have in view to collect forage or attempt the destruction of the Salt-works, and both these ideas are favoured by accounts from the City.

As soon as their intentions are certainly known, they shall be communicated; in the mean time, I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect [&c.]

G^o: Washington

L, DNA, PCC, item 152, vol. 5, pp. 405–7 (M247, roll 168). Addressed: “The honorable/Henry Laurens Esquire/President of Congress/York.” Docketed: “Gen. Washington of/18 March 1778/recd 23^d.” Notation: “Letter from gene-/ral Washington—/18 March 1778—/inclosing one from gene-/ral Smallwood—.” The cover of the letter is signed “G^o: Washington.”

1. Brigadier General William Smallwood to General George Washington, 17 Mar., above.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD

Sir

H^d Q^{rs} V F. March 18 1778

I am favor'd with yours of the 15th.¹ which you will find fully answer'd by a letter which I wrote you upon the 14th. Inst.² by Cap^t Huston.³ As the N^o. Carolina Troops, now serving on Board the Gallies are exceedingly wanted with their Reg^{ts} I must insist that they be sent to Camp immediately on their return from below under the care of some officer of Foot, and one of the officers of Light Horse to prevent their stragling. I am &c^c

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: “Col^o: W^m. Bradford.” Bradford was colonel of the Philadelphia Associators, as well as chairman of the Pennsylvania Navy Board.

1. Actually 14 Mar. See Pennsylvania Navy Board to General George Washington, 14 Mar., above.
2. Actually 15 Mar. See General George Washington to Pennsylvania Navy Board, 15 Mar., above.
3. Capt. Thomas Houston, Pennsylvania Navy.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO COLONEL BENJAMIN FLOWER

Sir

[*Valley Forge*] Head Quarters 18th: March 1778

As Seven of the Gallies at Bordentown are to be stripped and Sunk, not having men Sufficient to work them, I desire you will send down travelling Carriages to remove the fine heavy Cannon belonging to them. If you have not carriages ready for the whole, send down as many as you have, with orders to remove part of

them at first some distance from the Water and then return for the remainder—I depend upon you doing this immediately upon rec^t of my letter, as the Cannon are liable to be taken away or destroyed should the Enemy come up the River, and we have none of Equal weights to replace them. I am Sir [&c.]

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Col^o. Benj Flower/or His deputy/Allen Town." Docketed: "[18] Mar. 1778/Col^o. B. Flowers/or His Deputy/at/Allen Town." He commanded Flower's Artillery Artificer Regiment.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO ROBERT LIGHTBODY

By &c. &c.

The Master of the *George* Armed Sloop being Suspended by Order of His Excellency S^r William Howe, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America; You are hereby authorised and required to take upon You the Charge of Commander of the said Armed Sloop *George*, the Officers and Ships Company being hereby directed to obey your Orders. And when You shall have received the Generals Dispatches onboard You are to proceed with the said Sloop, using all possible expedition, to New York; where you are to put yourself under the Command of Commodore Hotham, and follow his Orders for your further proceedings.—

Given &c. [*on board the Roebuck at Philadelphia*] 18th March 1778

A S Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Orders Issued (1778–1780), p. 28. Addressed at foot: "To/M^r Rob^t Lightbody/hereby appointed to Command/the Armed Sloop *George*."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PEARL*, CAPTAIN JOHN LINZEE

March 1778

[*at anchor off Wilmington*]

Wednesday 18.

At 6 AM Weigh'd & Sail'd, at 10 Anch^d with the S. Bower in 4½ f^m: muddy bottom Reedy point bearing.[*blank*] Got the Cables up between Decks & the Orlop Found riding here His Majesty's Ship *Camilla* & a Number of Foraging Vessels. At Noon the *Camilla* Weigh'd with a number of the Vessels under her cover going to Salem.¹

Reedy Point [*west*]

The first and middle part light breezes & fair, the latter fresh breezes & cloudy PM Fir'd a Gun at a Number of Rebels on the Pennsylvania shore who Fir'd upon our Boat as reconnoitring the Shore.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/675, fol. 39.

1. H.M.S. *Camilla*, H.M. galley *Cornwallis* and a number of flat boats under the command of Capt. Charles Phipps on a foraging expedition up Salem Creek.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *CAMILLA*, CAPTAIN CHARLES PHIPPS

March 1778

Newcastle N^o 7 or 8 Miles Ready Island S ½ W 2 Miles.

Wednesd^y 18.

at 9 AM Anchored here His Majesty's Ship the *Pearl*. at 10 made the Signal for the Fleet to Weigh, Weighed and Came to Sail

nearer the Jersey Shore, Anchored with the Best B^r in 4 fathom Water. sent an Officer and 13 Men onboard the *Cornwallis* Galley at 11 most of the Fleet went up Selam Creek. in Order to take onboard Hay & Forage &ca.

ditto

Light Breezes and Cloudy Wea^r

PM received onboard 11 Rebel Prisoners taken by our Troops at Selam at 7. the Officer & 13 Men returned with the *Cornwallis* Galley. and brought with them a Rebel Gunboat¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/157, fol. 98.

1. Probably the Pennsylvania Navy armed boat *Fame* (No. 71), mounting one 3-pounder, taken in Red Lyon Creek just above Reedy Point. See Master's Journal of H.M. Galley *Cornwallis*, 18 Mar., and *The Pennsylvania Ledger: or the Philadelphia Market-Day Advertiser*, 25 Mar. 1778, below.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY *CORNWALLIS*, LIEUTENANT THOMAS SPRY

March 1778

At Anchor off Reedy point

Wednesday 18

at 9 A:M. Anchord here his majestys ship *Pearl* ½ p^t 11 weighd and came to sail up the river

Working up the River

First part Fresh Breezes middle and Latter moderate at 2 P:M. Anchord off a Cannel in New Castle Bite in ¼ 2 fathom water and Landed Our people with the Additional marines from the *Camilla* and Marched to the head of Red Lyon Creek and took a Gun boat and Bro^t her off¹ at 5 weighd and came to sail at 7 Anchord Close to the *Camilla* off Reedy point

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1676, part 2, fol. 37.

1. Probably the Pennsylvania Navy armed boat *Fame*, No. 71. See Journal of H.M.S. *Camilla*, 18 Mar., above, and *The Pennsylvania Ledger: or the Philadelphia Market-Day Advertiser*, 25 Mar. 1778, below.

LUTHER MARTIN TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

It is with real Pain, I Inform your Excellency that the disaffected Inhabitants of this County,¹ joind as I have Reason to believe by many of the Inhabitants of Sussex² who have fled from their homes to avoid falling into the hands of some of our Troops who are Stationed there, have arrived to so daring Height of Insolence and Villainy that there appears but very little Security for the Lives or property of any person who from political or other Reasons are obnoxious to them.

Several Boats loaded with Tobacco, Wheat Flower &c have been taken away from Pocomoke, Jones Creek, Wicomico, and that very recently; Bodies of armed Men have within these few nights past been seen passing and repassing in the County. Persons in the law or part of it particularly one John Sterling, a Deserter, are openly and avowedly enlisting Men and Sending them aboard the Ships. But their Conduct last Night is yet more alarming—A party amou[nting] to Sixteen in Number commanded by Sterling made an attack upon the House of M^r David Wilson of Monocan³ a Cap^t of the Militia whose Zeal and Activity had distin-

guished him—they shot through the Door and badly wound'd him, tho' it is hoped not mortally, in the Shoulder, and took away his Arms—W^m Winder Son Esq^r a M^r Venables and one or two more were in their beds in the House at the time—Sterling told them they were his Prisoners and ordered them to get ready to go with him and in the mean time placed Guards at the Doors and out Houses but M^r Venables jumping out of an upper Window was fortunate enough to escape unperceived, which when they discovered, apprehensive that the Neighbourhood would be alarmed they decamped hastily leaving their Prisoners behind—This happened about three in the Morning

Near about the same time another Smaller party headed by Isaac Costin, as 'tis said, went to Cap^t John Williams about Eight miles lower with the same intent but M^r Williams and a Gentleman who was with him having got notice in time was prepared to receive them upon which they departed. Whether any others have met with the Same Treatment I have not yet heard

The Militia Officers are calling Some of the Militia out upon the Occasion but I am apprehensive it will be but of little lasting Utility—Should the disaffected be too weak to resist they will make their Escape by water, there being no armed Boats to prevent them, and as soon as they shall learn the Militia are disbanded they will return back to cause fresh Disturbance and those of the Militia who Shall have Shown themselves most active against them will probably be the first objects of their Violence

I would Submit it to your Excellency whether it would not be much more likely to secure the Peace of this place if a Company of a hundred Men or thereabouts, one half of which to be horse, under proper Officers were to be embodied and taken into constant pay and Stationed in this County—The expence of which in all Probability would not be much more considerable than what will attend the frequent calling the Militia into actual Duty, while the real Service of Such Company constantly embodied, and consequently a constant Check upon the disaffected would be infinitely greater, ~~while~~ at the Same time I presume their Superior Strictness of Discipline would be in some degree a Security against those outrages of which there has been to much Reason to complain in Cases where the Militia have in actual duty and which Serve rather to exasperate than intimidate—if beside Such a Company, a Galley or armed Boat of Some kind was to be Stationed in Annessex^t where I am told She might be very Safe as to the Ships, in order to cutt of the Communication between the Disaffected and the Shipping we Should soon I flatter myself, be in peace and Safety, and the Principal offenders be brought to Justice, of which at present there is so little prospect that the Sheriff does not dare go to Annessex to Summon Witnesses against the Criminals who await their Trial at the Special Court, and So[me] of the most material Witnesses live in that Neighbourhood which I fear will prevent a Possibility of proceeding against them at the Adjournment without manifest Injustice to the State

Should it be judged expedient to embody a Company to be Stationed here I would beg leave to inform your Excellency that M^r William Jones a Nephew of Samuel Wilson Esq^r and of the Gentleman last Night wounded, a young Gentleman who has served this last Campaign with Credit in the office of first Lieutenant in one of the Sixteen Regiments and has or expects to leave the Army in Consequence of the Reduction of those Regiments would with pleasure act in

the Service of the State in the office of first Lieutenant of Horse if any Should be raised or, if no Horse, in the foot. He is a youth of a good family and independant Fortune, possessd of Zeal for the Cause of the Country and endowed with Resolution Sufficient to execute his Duty I remain [&c.]

Luther Martin

Princess Anne, [*Md.*] March y^e 18th 1778

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Portfolio), S 992, 5429-60Z. Addressed at the foot: "His Excellency Thomas Johnson Esq^r"

1. Somerset County, Md.
2. Sussex County, Del.
3. Manokin, Md.
4. Big Annemessex River, Md.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Wednesday the 18th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that Mr Archibald Ritchie, deliver to Captain Eliezer Callender what shot he has in his possession belonging to the Navy, for the use of the Ship *Dragon*.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain Eliezer Callender for two hundred Pounds upon account for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the use of the ship *Dragon*.—, Issued by advice of the Governour,

Captain Eliezer Callender received Orders to put the ship *Dragon* under his command in the best order he can, and proceed with her to York, and acquaint the Board thereof.—By advice of the Governour.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 365.

THOMAS SMITH TO CAPTAIN JAMES HOBBS

Captⁿ. James Hobbs

Sir

Williamsburg 18th. March 1778—

With the Schooner *Hornett* now under your Command you will proceed immediately up to Fraizers Ferry where you'll have such necessary Steps taken with her, as will put her in a Situation for the Reception of her Cargo, which I hope may be done in a very short Time. After this done, you must proceed down with her and come into Queens Creek, where the Vessel is to take in her Load, the Tobacco intended for her is lying at the Capitol Landing. As Cap^t Healy¹ tells me the Schooner will want Nothing done, but to heave down and clean, I hope you will exert yourself to have her ready to load in a few Days. I recommend this matter to you in a perticular Manner as it is the first Essay you have made as a Commander in the State Service, and your Industry and good Conduct on this Occasion will in all probability lay a foundation for your Future interests I am [&c.]

Thomas Smith AS [*Agent of the State*]

LB, Vi, Thomas Smith Letter Book, vol. 1.

1. Capt. Samuel Healey was the former commander of *Hornet*.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber at
Pensacola on Wednesday the 18th day of March 1778—

His Excellency laid before the Board the following Letters from New Orleans &C which had been just received by Express Containing farther Intelligence respecting the proceedings of the Rebels in the Mississippi and the same being read were all ordered to be entered on the Minutes as follows

Letter from M^r William Wilton to His Excellency Governor Chester dated N Orleans 8th March 1778—

Sir/

I embrace this opportunity by a Canoe to the Hon^{ble}. John Stuart Esq^r with Letters to inform you that I arrived here Yesterday in the afternoon where I found every thing in the greatest Confusion many Planters Totally ruined by the Rebels taken their Negroes &C they have sent down the River and is in this Town about Sixty and many others on Board the Ship¹ with property taken at Manchack &C. as well as from many other Plantations, whose Negroes there are in this Town I cannot learn only some belonging to M^r Comyn² Poussett³ &C Your Negroes and M^r Livingstons⁴ are said all to be taken by Elliot⁵ which have Joined Willings⁶ Party at Manchac, they are now a Searching all the Plantations for Negroes &C They have a large property on Board the Ship which is on ground about three Miles below Manchac which they propose as soon as they can get her off to bring to this Town and Sell the Negroes &C the whole Number is about Two hundred Men & Boys the greatest Banditti that was ever seen and them divided into three Parties about Thirty or Forty on Board the Ship & about fifty in this Town the remains on Board the Brig⁷ they have taken about nine Leagues below the Town of New Orleans and at the Spanish side of the River They are now bringing her up to this Town She belongs to John Campbell laden with Lumber and Bound to the West Indies. These Rebels may with a Small party soon be dispersed and taken as they are the greatest part of them Joined Willing since his coming in this River.

I waited on the Governor⁸ yesterday but did not deliver your Letter or let him know I was any ways concerned in the Ship as you directed The Governor asked me many Questions whether you had heard any thing of it at Pensacola I told him I believed you had but only believed they were a Small Robber Party but of little Consequence and that I believed You relied if they attempted to take any thing from Manchack as it was under your Guns you would give Protection; to that he answered he could not interfere with as it was out of his Dominions it is thought here he will Suffer all the property taken to be sold here at Publick Vendue, there have been Numbers of Negroes taken from his side of the River. Pollock⁹ has declared himself Agent for the Congress—As M^r Campbell has sent down to M^r Stuart very full accounts of the whole Transactions with the Capitulation of the Inhabitants of the Natchez with Willing I refer you to these accounts which you may rely on to be facts I shall inform Captain Ferguson¹⁰ of the Situation of the Rebels on this River and that depend with great Secresy—and Should I have any thing further relating to the Province shall not fail of Acquainting Your Excellency with it by the first Conveyance I am [&c.]

W^m Wilton

Copy of an anonymous Letter¹¹ to M^r John Campbell Merchant at N orleans dated Point Coupeé 1st March 1778.

Dear Campbell

You have no doubt heard of the decent of the Americans and that they have carried every thing before them with fire and Sword by what I can learn. M^r Willing left Philadelphia with 27 Men & that he hath been reinforced on the Rivers to the Number of a hundred or thereabouts—The Natchez declared for the United States almost to a Man. Harry Stuarts House has been plundered and he himself narrowly Escaped, being at Manchack. The Vessel at Manchack was taken by Surprise¹²—Negroes and every thing Else, belonging to Comyns have been taken. But Bowker¹³ is Spared—The half of Castle's¹⁴ Negroes are Seized as the property of Smith. The houses of Walker and Alexander¹⁵ are burned to the Ground and as many of their Negroes as could be Caught are in their Possession. They are now gone down towards Batton Rouge—We understand from the French People that their Intention is to plunder and destroy all the way down to Manchack those whom they do not Consider as their Friends They have Got a Black list containing the names of Persons who are to be destroyed. I have learned the names of many, Alexander, Dunbar,¹⁶ Rob Ross, Taylor,¹⁷ Poussett, Williams¹⁸ and in Short all Royalists & Scotchmen—They ought to be now at Poussetts and his House will Probably be burned his Negroes have been removed to a Place of Safety—After leaving Manchack the Amit [*Amite River*] and Lakes are their next objects and they Come to Orleans by the Bayou of S^t John's where they expect to sell their Booty after which they return up the River—This is the Plan they have given out tho' it may not be their real Intentions—I have fortunately fallen in with M^r Alexander here who had he been caught was to have been cut into a hundred Pieces—so they declared at the Fort here—We want your advice what is best to be done in the present Emergencies perhaps you can procure Permissions for us from the Governor to Settle with our Negroes here for a Season. I believe we shall save the greatest part of them—We have received much Friendship and Hospitality from the people here—M^r Willings Party is considered by every Body here as a Band of Robbers & Plunderers. Their Chief Aim is to Seize Negroes and other property without Inquiring your Principals—whether for or against them Three Companies of men upon the River would have prevented all this & I do not see what is to prevent their being Subdued even Yet. Alex^r Ross will be Fleed alive if they Catch him and I'm told that Dunbars Principal Crime is having harboured him in his House at Baton Rouge & a Supposition, that they were Connected together in the Plantation

To M^r John Campbell }
N Orleans— }

To John Stuart Esq^f

D^r Sir—

You must long before this heard of the Party of Americans that is come down the River we were here uncertain of their Numbers untill Two days ago. their friends gave out that there was at least 2000 Men; as those Stories may be carried to you Morgan¹⁹ Jointly with me have Employed the Bearer to whom we promised

30 Dollars. The Party is Commanded by a M^r Willing and a Lieut: M^eIntyre²⁰ They left Fort Pit the beginning of January last being then only 35 Men but recruited as they came down and before they got to Natchez was above 100—the People there Capitulated—a Copy you have Inclosed²¹—and many Joined them—and some they pressed finding themselves growing Strong—they did not Treat the Inhabitants below with the same lenity for they took all the Negroes and Property of those who they knew to be Friends to Government & have now in this Town at least 150 or Two hundred Negroes Governor Chesters among the Number—Eighteen men took the Ship at Manchack²² and then went to your Brothers but he luckily made his Escape to the Spanish Fort where he is now in Safety tho' they offered 500 Dollars too for his Head to the Corporal which he Refused. The small Party was Magnified in a Written Account sent by a M^r Livingston to a M^r Jones from 18. to 180 Rifle men which he said he saw himself at M^r Carpenters.²³ this tho' under M^r Livingstons hand we know to be False. M^eIntyre is now here & has been down at the Rivers Mouth where he took a Brig of Mine²⁴—Captain Willing is bringing down the Ship; their whole numbers does not exceed 200 Men & on the least resistance most of those will disperse nor do they by their own Accounts expect any Reinforcement sooner than May—if then if the *Atalanta*²⁵ will come into the River She will save the Vessel yet—The Spanish Governor to do him Justice has given a Friendly Protection to all those that came to the Spanish Territories I am [&c.]

Don^d. Campbell—

Copy of M^r W^m. Wiltons Letter to the Hon^{ble}.

David Hodge Esq^r dated N Orleans 8th. March 1778—

D^r Sir—

I embrace this opportunity of informing you that I arrived here last night where I found every thing in the greatest Confusion. almost all the Planters Robbed of their Negroes,

there is about 60 in Town and it is imagined will be put up to Publick Sale Many more is on Board the Ship²⁶ which is aground about a League below Manchack Willing and about 30 Men is Trying to get her off. their party would be easily taken they have taken a Brig²⁷ belonging to M^r John Campbell about Nine Leagues below the Town and at the Spanish Shore—all the Governors and M^r Livingstons Negroes are said to be taken by Elliot who have joined the Rebels. in Short every thing here is in the Greatest Confusion, all the Property it is said to be on Board the Ship taken from Manchack except some Indigo Swanson²⁸ and others have taken to the Spanish Fort. The whole Number of Rebels is about Two hundred men and must have joined them since their arrival in this River they are now Divided into three Parties about 30 or 40 on Board the Ship some at New orleans and the remainder on Board Campbells Brig below the Town to bring the Brig to New Orleans. Pollock have declared himself Agent for the Congress

I waited on the Governor Yesterday but did not deliver the Governors Letter as the Ship was not come down. it is thought if they do not get her off that they will set her on Fire. I did not acquaint the Governor what I came for here or that I had the least concern in the Vessel The Governor Ask'd me many Questions whether they had heard of the Americans being in the Mississippi. I told him we had that a Small Robbing Party had taken a Ship at Manchack, but the Governor

paid but little regard to it I believed that if it was true that his Fort at Manchack would protect the property there being within the reach of his Guns He gave for answer that he had nothing to do with it every one here thinks he will Suffer all the property to be sold. As M^r Campbell is Just going to send off a Boat with Letters to M^r Stuart with the Capitulation of the Inhabitants of the Natchez I refer you to these Letters which you may rely on for Truth I am &C.

W^m Wilton

P S I shall send down a Canoe to Cap^t Fergusson at the Balise informing him of all Particulars here if I can get a Man I can trust; I expect the mate of the Ship here, if he arrives Shall send him.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Burdon of His Majestys Armed Sloop the *West Florida* to His Excellency Governor Chester dated in the Lake Pontchartrain 3^d March 1778—

Sir.

I have just received an Account that the Rebels are coming through the lakes by the Person I had wrote to you I had sent up to enquire & I hope he will arrive safe with Letters from People that are true. You may depend upon him, I hope to have the *Florida* Sloop in the Lakes by tomorrow or next day. They have an intention to attack me but I hope I shall give them play till I shall hear from you or Capⁿ Lloyd for I shall not come out of the Lakes till I am obliged to fly I am &C

Ge^o Burdon

P S. I shall put the people to allowance but I hope by the *Florida* I shall receive Provisions²⁹

Letter from M^r Philip Moore to His Excellency Governor Chester dated Batton Rouge 24th February 1778—

Sir

Notwithstanding I have not the honor of your Excellencys acquaintance Yet my Zeal for His Majestys Service prompts me to inform you of the following Intelligence. Yesterday a negroe of M^r Watts returned here from Manchack and brought up Accounts, that the Rebels were there, that they had taken Possession of the Ship *Rebecca* Cox, that he saw Several men on Board her & in Town with Rifle Guns and Blanket Coats, that they had been hunting for M^r Henry Stuart who had fortunately Fled to the Spanish Fort with all the Negroes of Manchack that they (the Rebels) came the night before the last the Negroe was not acquainted with their Numbers, but Imagined they were about Twenty five, & that they intended to take the Ship down the next day when they were to be joined by the rest of their Party. This fellow has been Cross Examined and Persists in the same Accounts— Soon after the above a White man that lives on M^r Henry Stuarts Plantation at Point Coupeé arrived from thence with accounts that a Party of about three or four hundred men had destroyed every thing about the Plantation. besides Capⁿ Cox Ship there are Several other Vessels in the River, if the Rebels have force Sufficient they will undoubtedly take them but it is to be wished that they will be Stopped by some of His Majestys Ships before they get far out of this River I have a Vessel here which I am Trading with Provisions for Governor Tonym, which I ex-

pect every moment will fall into the hands of the Enemy as there is no Force assembled here to oppose them.

Your Excellency will be pleased to Excuse the Inaccuracy of this Letter as I have been upon the Watch all night I have the Honor to be [&c.]

Philip Moore—

Thomas Gibson the man who brought all the said Letters (except the one (N^o 5) from Lieut: Burdon which came by Henry Smith through the lakes) being then called before the Board Gave the following Information upon Oath

West Florida Information upon Oath of Thomas Gibson Mariner belonging to the Brig *Neptune* John Knowles Master now laying in the River Mississippi taken at Pensacola before His Excellency Peter Chester Esquire Captain General and Governor in Chief of His Majestys Province of West Florida &Ca. in Council

This Informant saith That Wednesday the fourth day of this Month he being on Board the Brig *Neptune* John Knowles Master then laying about Eleven Leagues below New Orleans laden with Lumber and outward Bound to Jamaica a Party of the Rebels in Number about Forty Commanded by M^cIntyre & Harrison⁹⁰ (two of their officers boarded the said Brig *Neptune* and Seized her that on Seizing her they took the Master (John Knowles, three Passengers, to Wit, M^r John Priest Capⁿ Benjamin Hodgson & M^{rs}. Hamilton this Informant and the rest of the People out of her & put them on Board their Batteau and carried them up to New Orleans—where the Passengers were set ashore—and the Brigs Seamen ordered with their Chests &C to M^r Pollocks the Rebel Agent where their said Chests were Examined—That the Rebels wanted to detain the Seamen offering them great Encouragement if they would enter in their Service and go on Board the Ship which they had taken but their Seamen all refused and put themselves under the Spanish Governors Protection That this Informant understood while he was at New Orleans that the Governor had assigned the Rebels Quarters in a large Old House on the other side the River opposite to the Town That he Saw Several Negroes at Orleans which the Rebbels had Seized on the English Settlements on the River and he understood there were near Two hundred Negroes in all. That those he said were going in droves along the Streets (and as he was told) to M^r Pollocks House there to be Vendued for which it was said he had the Governors Permission That he also heard the Spaniards had bought Several of the said Negroes very Cheap That he left New Orleans on Sunday the Eight Instant in a Small Canoe & came to the Bay of Mobbille & thence in an open Boat to this place, where he arrived late last night And this Informant farther saith That as they were Rowing up to New Orleans from the Brig at the time she was taken the Rebels in the Batteau told him that they Intended to go to Mobbille and thence (if Strong enough in Numbers) to proceed to Pensacola—And farther Saith not

Sworn in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola on Wednesday the
18th. day of March 1778 before
His Excellency in Council

Attest^r: Rich^d Combault D Cler Concii

The advice of the Board being then desired upon the Papers before them

The Board unanimously recommended to His Excellency that Joseph Nunn and Thomas Lloyd Esquires Commander of His Majestys Sloops of War *Hound* and *Atalanta* now lying in this Harbour be requested to Assist at the Board and that the said Several Papers be laid before them These Gentlemen being accordingly sent for came into Council and the Several Letters abovementioned together with the Information being read to them The Board advise the Governor to request of Captain Nunn that he do proceed Immediately to the River Mississippi and Join the *Sylph* in Protecting this Province from the farther Incursions of the Rebels and that either the *Hound* or the *Sylph* be requested to go as high up the River as Manchack in order to dislodge any of the Rebels who may remain there & to intercept such of them as may attempt to Escape up that River And that Captain Lloyd be requested to remain here with the *Atalanta* for the defence and Protection of the Province untill such further Intelligence can be obtained of the Strength and designs of the Enemy as may Render that measure unnecessary

Whereupon His Excellency wrote the following Letters to the said Gentlemen³¹

Sir/

The proceedings of a party of the Rebels under the Command of a M^r James Willing Joined by a large Body of Banditti who have plundered the Inhabitants of the Province on the River Mississippi and carried their Negroes and Other property to New Orleans to be disposed of there as Communicated to You this day in Council Renders it necessary that some reinforcement Should be Immediately sent to His Majestys Sloop of War *Sylph* Captain Fergusson now lying in the said River—And the Inclosed Extracts of a Letter from Lord George Germain to me dated the 25th. January 1776. together with the Copy of his Lordships Letter to the Lords of the Admiralty dated Whitehall 22^d January 1776 as likewise the Inclosed Extracts of Lord George Germain's Letters to me of the 7th February & 2^d July 1777. authorizeing me to make the Application in Cases of like Emergency³²—It becomes my Duty to apply to you which I now do by the advice of His Majestys Council to proceed Immediately to the River Mississippi and Join the *Sylph* in Protecting this Province from the farther Incursions of the Rebels. It has been further recommended to me by the Council to request that either yourself or Captain Fergusson would proceed with one of His Majestys Ships as high up the Mississippi as Manchack in order to dislodge any of the Rebels who may remain there and to Intercept such of them as may attempt to Escape up that River and the other to be Stationed in such part of the said River as you may think most advantageous to His Majestys Service—

I have not the least Doubt that your Great Zeal for His Majestys Interest will induce you to Cooperate in any measure that can tend to the preservation and Security of West Florida and am upon this Occasion to thank you for Your Chearfull Compliance with such propositions as have been already made to you this day in Council I have the Honor to be [&c.]

Council Chamber Pensacola }
18th March 1778 }

P^r. Chester

It was also recommended to His Excellency that the Commanding Officer of the Troops be requested to send one hundred men if to be Spared from the necessary Duty of this Garrison to reinforce those already in the lakes—to Cooperate with the party of Rangers & Indians sent to the Nitabanie³³ and upon receiving certain Intelligence that the Rebels are not in Force to proceed to take Possession of the Settlement of Manchack and also to keep up a Correspondence with His Majestys Ships in the River Mississippi and Lieut: Burdon of the *West Florida* in the Lakes.

Lieutenant Colonel Stiell³⁴ being then requested to attend at the Board His Excellency made the above requisition at the same time desiring his Opinion thereupon to which the Lieut: Colonel replied that in his Opinion not One man could at this time be spared from the defence of this Garrison on account of the extensive line he had to defend and if they could be spared the Fort at Mobile ought to be the first reinforced—That his orders on leaving England were Expressly to defend Pensacola but should His Excellency think proper to give him any orders on the Subject he should conceive it his Duty to obey them. Upon which representation of Lieut: Colonel Stiell and the Captains of the Garrison having Unanimously given it as their opinion to His Excellency a few days ago that no Troops could be Spared from the Strength of this Garrison The Governor did not think proper to give Lieutenant Colonel Stiell any Positive orders for that purpose at present.

The Board farther advised that application be made to Colonel Stuart the Superintendant to send a Party of such Rangers as could be spared and a Body of Indians under the Command of a Captain to the Natchez and that Colonel Stuart be offered a Guard or Centries at his House for his Protection from the Troops in Garrison in Lieu of the Rangers he may send off

And then the Board adjourned to Six oClock this evening.

D, UKLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 264–72.

1. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.
2. Thomas Comyn or Valeris Stephen Comyn, planters at Baton Rouge/Point Coupée.
3. Francis Poussette, planter at Baton Rouge/Point Coupée.
4. Philip Livingston, Jr., planter at Manchac.
5. Lt. James Elliot, Continental Army.
6. Capt. James Willing, Continental Army.
7. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.
8. Don Bernardo de Gálvez.
9. Oliver Pollock, Continental Commercial Agent at New Orleans.
10. Comdr. John Fergusson, R.N., commading H.M. sloop *Sylph*.
11. The writer was William Dunbar. See the docketing on the copy of the letter in UKLPR, PRO 30/55, Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, no. 968.
12. Ship *Rebecca*.
13. Thomas Bowker, planter at Natchez.
14. George Castle, planter at Natchez.
15. Henry Alexander, settler at Natchez.
16. William Dunbar, planter at Natchez.
17. Edward Taylor, settler at Natchez.
18. William Williams, settler at Natchez.
19. Patrick Morgan. "M^r Ross," in the copy in *ibid.*, no. 997 (2).
20. Lt. Thomas McIntyre, Continental Army.
21. For the text of the capitulation, see Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 17 Mar., above.
22. Ship *Rebecca*.
23. Caleb or Richard Carpenter, planters at Natchez.

24. Brigantine *Neptune*.
25. H.M. sloop *Atalanta*, Comdr. Thomas Lloyd, commander.
26. Ship *Rebecca*.
27. Brigantine *Neptune*.
28. William Swanson.
29. "P.S. I have put the people at 2/3^d allowance but I hope by the *Florida* I shall receive Provisions" in the copy in UKLPR, C.O. 5/129, 40-41.
30. Richard Harrison, settler at Manchac.
31. Only the first letter (to Comdr. Joseph Nunn) is printed here. The wording of the second letter (to Comdr. Thomas Lloyd) is essentially the same, except for ordering him to remain at Pensacola with the *Atalanta*.
32. See Gov. Peter Chester to Capt. William Garnier, R.N., in Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 5 Mar., above.
33. Natalbany River.
34. Lt. Col. William Stiell, commanding British troops at Pensacola.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola on Wednesday the 18th. day of March 1778—
at 6 oClock P.M.

His Excellency mentioned to the Board that as Colonel Stuart Superintendent¹ (who is a Member of this Board) is so much Indisposed as to be unable to give attendance and assist with his advice at the Council He thought it very proper that a Deputation of four Members should be sent to him, to acquaint him with what had been done at this Board, in the Forenoon and to request his advice and opinion upon the Steps necessary to be pursued on the present occasion to the intent he may be enabled to Cooperate by Adopting such measures in his department as may Tend most to the Security and protection of the Province and in dispersing the Rebels—Accordingly Lieut: Governor Durnford² M^r Livingston³ L^t. Col: Dickson⁴ & Captain Johnstone⁵ being nominated for this Service waited on Colonel Stuart and after sometime returned with Extracts of the orders Colonel Stuart had already given to the different officers in his Department which are as follows.

M^r Stuart the Superintendants Instructions and Letters to his different officers as follows

Wrote M^r Charles Stuart the 2^d March 1778—To Assist M^r Bethune⁶ who is now dispatched to March with as many white People as he can Collect together with the Chactaw Six Towns and Chickasaw Indians also to assist him with Provisions and to advise M^r John M^cIntosh of the same

M^r Bethunes Instructions as follows—To employ the Six Town Indians and the Chickasaw Hayes with all the Traders he can Collect & M^r Charles Stuart either to lead them or employ a Trusty Person so to do.

18th March 1778. Wrote M^r Bethune to Post himself with what Traders white People and Indians he can Collect on the Banks of the Mississippi./—

And a General assurance from that Gentleman that he would chearfully comply with any proposition that might be made for the good of the Service

His Excellency then mentioned to the Board that Colonel Stuart and some other Gentlemen had acquainted him that John M^cGillivray Esq^r. of Mobile had expressed a desire to be employed at this time and to exert his Influence in raising a Number of Men to Act against the Rebels who have penetrated into the Western

parts of the Colony Whereupon the Board unanimously advised His Excellency that M^r John M^cGillivray Should be thanked for his Zeal & laudable Exertions upon this Occassion and also that he be appointed Lieutenant Colonel Commandant of a Provincial Corps to be forthwith raised by him & employed for the defence and Protection of this Province as His Majestys Service may require to consist of five Captains (whereof the Lt. Colonel to be one) five Lieutenants five Ensigns Ten Sergeants and 250 Rank & File that M^r Alexander M^cIntosh of the Natchez be appointed First Captain of the said Corps—that the pay of the said Officers be the Same as that of Officers of the like Rank in the Regular Troops—and the mens the same as Colonel Stuarts Rangers; that their Provisions be the same allowance as the Troops have That Arms & Ammunition be furnished to the said Corps—and that Exclusive of their Pay the said Corps of Provincials Shall be entitled to Gratuitous Grants of the like Quantities of Land in the Province (upon the termination of the Rebellion) as the Provincial Troops serving under General Howe⁷ are to have And that they shall continue Embodied during the present Invasion, or if they can be engaged longer for such time as the Kings Service may require—and the better to enable Lt: Col: M^cGillivray to Compleat his Corps The Board Recommend that a Number of Blank Commissions be sent to be filled up by him with the names of such persons as officers whom he may think can be depended upon and have influence to raise the men—and that whatever Contingencies may be requisite for the said Corps to be defrayed. It was farther recommended that His Excellency do write to Lt Colonel M^cGillivray on the Subject and that their Corps be ordered to the Natchez with what Number of Indians M^c M^cGillivray can Collect to assist and Protect the Inhabitants of that District and those of the Western parts of this Colony and to Cut off the retreat of the Rebels upon the Channel of the Mississippi.

The Board also advised His Excellency to make applications to Colonel Stuart for the use of His Sloop She being a Vessel of an Easy Draught of Water & well Calculated for this Service to be sent to reinforce Lieut: Burdon⁸ of *West Florida* in the Lakes And that the Commanding officer of the Navy be applied to (in Case Col: Stuart Comply with this Requisition) to order Lieut: Osborn⁹ and the Seamen of the Armed Sloop *Florida* (lately Condemned as unfit for Service) to go on Board the said Sloop and that another Vessel be hired by Government to carry round M^r Stuarts Indian presents to Mobile—in Lieu of his said Sloop—if Agreed to be lent whereupon Lieut: Governor Durnford offered to wait on Colonel Stuart to make the above Requisition.

His Excellency the Governor was then pleased to mention to the Board that he thought it absolutely necessary at this time when the Province is actually Invaded by a Party of the Rebels that the Inhabitants of this Town & of Mobile do Evince their Loyalty & Firm Attachment to His Majesty & Government and do give the Strongest Proofs of the dependence that can be put on them in Case the Rebels should penetrate farther into the Colony The Board unanimously concurring with His Excellency upon the Expediency of the Measure It was therefore ordered that the Clerk of the Council do by Publick Advertisement Notify & require all and every the Inhabitants of this Town of Pensacola personally to appear before Two or more of His Majestys Justices of the Peace for this District at the Court House within the Fort on Monday the 23^d. Instant at Eleven oClock in the

Forenoon there to take the oath of Allegiance to His Majesty His Heirs & Successors and also to give in a Muster Roll of themselves and Families & what arms & ammunition they are respectively Possessed of and that all defaulters will be deemed disaffected to His Majestys Person & Government—

That the Clerk of this Board do request M^r Martin the Clerk of the Peace to notify the Magistrates of this District thereof and that they are desired to attend at the Court House for that purpose and that he (the Clerk of the Peace) do make a return of all such Persons who have paid due obedience to this order to the Clerk of the Council to be laid before this Board. It was farther directed that a Similar advertisement be published at Mobbille & that the Clerk of the Council do write to the Magistrates of that District requesting them to appoint a Short day and some Convenient place for the like purpose and do make a return thereof to him to be also laid before the Board, and then the Board adjourned to tomorrow morning Ten oClock

D, UKLPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 272–75.

1. Col. John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs.
2. Lt. Gov. Elias Durnford.
3. Philip Livingston, Jr., Deputy Secretary of the West Florida Council and secretary to Gov. Peter Chester.
4. Lt. Col. Alexander Dickson, 16th Foot.
5. Capt. William Johnstone, ordnance officer, British Army.
6. Farquhar Bethune, Indian Deputy, Southern District, and Commissary for the Choctaw Nation.
7. Gen. Sir William Howe.
8. Lt. George Burdon (2), R.N.
9. Lt. John Osborn (1), R.N.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N.

Sir

In your letter of the 15th instant¹ you demand an immediate restitution of all the Vessels taken in the Mississippi by the American Englishmen, in consequence of the privilege of this River, which I explained in my Correspondence with Captain Lloyd;² but according to Justice or reason, I can give up only those, which, after a long examination, shall be deemed to be in that case; and this examination I was making long before you came to make your demand, and several Subjects of His Britannic Majesty have already recovered their liberty, and the Property, which was taken from them, in consequence of the Spanish Protection, but there are others, to whom the said protection cannot be of any use, tho' they have been taken in this River. You will be surprised that notwithstanding the declaration, which I made to Captⁿ Lloyd, that the whole River enjoyed the protection of Spain, I now permit, that Captures be made in it, but the present circumstances require a more extensive explanation, than those at that time.

The Man of war the *Atalanta* left this Town, on purpose to meet the Ship of War, the *Columbus*, which was said to be within the Balise (and to the Captⁿ of which, I wrote the same words and the same prohibition.)³ It is well known, that my intention was to prevent any engagement between this Town & y^e Belise; which was the only part, in which they could meet, and in which both sides of the river belong to my Sovereign, so that, tho' my Letter mentions the whole river, it was only taking part of the whole, as it frequently happens in conversation. If I had this

reason only on my side, this grammatical defence would be of little value, but to give you the most solid one, give me leave to propose the following questions to you. Does England resign all her rights of the river Mississippi to Spain.

You will answer, certainly not. Can two Sovereigns be in possession of one thing at the same time, and both exert their Sovereignty over the same. Certainly not.

How then is it possible to maintain that from Manchac and upwards the whole breadth of the River belongs to both the Sovereigns, who own it's banks. The Navigation is free to both, but that, and the property are two different things and each Sovereign has his respectively; If the Maritime Powers, by a Mutual agreement, have reserved to themselves as a property, belonging to their Dominions, a portion of the sea, which is within reach of their Cannon, this portion is taken from an Extensive and free Ocean, which knows no Master, and of course, in the River Mississippi from the Belise to Manchac, it is not so, because both sides of the River belong to the same Sovereign. But from Manchac upwards, the immediate Possession of the River, ought to be ascertained from the Middle of the River, from whence to each side, the River belongs to respective owners of the Banks. I have no occasion to give you this explanation, when the last Treaty of Peace⁴ in the sixth Article says.

"To remove for ever all Subjects of dispute with regard to the Limits of the Territories of both Nations. It is agreed, that for the future the Confines of His Britannic Majestys and those of His most Christian Majesty (which now are those of His most Catholic Majesty) shall be fixed irrevocably by a line drawn along the Middle of the River Mississippi from it's source to the River Iberville, and from thence by a line drawn along the Middle of this River, and the Lakes Maurepas and Ponchartrain to the Sea."

I think this is very clear, and that now you will know, that my expression to Captⁿ. Lloyd, of the whole River, could not have any other meaning, but that, which I have explained in the beginning of this Letter, and only meant that part, in which the two Ships could meet one another; because, on the contrary, Spain would be able to prohibit all British Settlements in this River; and suppose, that the expressions of the Treaty of Peace were not so clear, that my reasons were not so weighty, as I know them to be, and that this river actually enjoyed the Immunity from the neighbourhood of the Spanish Territories; with what right can you demand the Spanish protection for the Vessels taken upon the English side, when even on ours, and where we have an incontestable right, this same Immunity, which you represent, has been violated so frequently by the Men of War of His Britannic Majesty.

I have now an Envoy at Pensacola to remind the Governor of the said place, of the outrages committed by the English detachments, up the River upon the Spanish Hunters and Canoes, which came down from the Illinois, firing upon them, and taking the Miserable fruit of their labour. Two years ago an English Man of War took American prizes in this River, and in the Middle of our possessions, with little respect for the same;⁵ and lately a Kings Sloop had the impudence to attack, fire upon & violently stop a Packet of his most Catholic Majesty, which was in this River, and hoisted the Royal Flag, which might have indicated, to whom she belonged;⁶ after such facts, upon what right can you fix your demand.

Notwithstanding those reasons, and forgetting for some time the just resentment for the wrongs done to my Nation, (and from which I will not desist, untill I have obtained a complete satisfaction) It is an impartial justice, which has guided me in taking notice of the Captures made in part of the River, belonging to my Sovereign, on purpose to return them to their first owners; and those, which do not come under that denomination, must follow the fate of war, you remain at liberty to retake them out of the dominions under my command; and in consequence of this Principle, I will fix, thereto, that you have nothing to demand from me, or I to return to you: this being fixed, concludes the object of your pretensions, you may on this head, salute the Town, if you choose (to which I will answer, as I ought to do) and come on shore, where I will have the honor of receiving you. I hope, you will now be sensible, that I have no other reason for admitting the American Colours in this Port, than those, which the rest of the Sea-ports both in Europe and America have, tho' you tell me, that the case is by no means parallel, I think it is and a sound judgement does not depend upon ourselves.

In the course of the day, you shall receive an answer to the other part of your Letter, which being of a different nature, require a separate answer—&c &c &c—
(Signed) Bernardo de Galvez

New Orleans

18th. March 1778

Copy, UklPR, Adm. 1/241. Docketed: "Gov^t. Galvez's Letter to/Captⁿ. Fergusson 18th. March/1778—/In Sir Pet^r. Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778—."

1. Above.
2. Comdr. Thomas Lloyd, commanding H.M. sloop *Atalanta*.
3. See *NDAR* 8: 957.
4. Treaty of Paris, 10 Feb. 1763.
5. During a cruise to the Mississippi River and vicinity in the summer of 1776, H.M. sloop *Diligence*, Thomas Davey, commander, captured eight vessels. *NDAR* 5: 1223 and 6: 1168.
6. A British privateer sloop fired on, and stopped, the Spanish packet *Príncipe de Asturias* in the Mississippi on 28 Aug. 1777. *NDAR* 9: 929–30.

CAPTAIN JAMES WILLING TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

Sir

[*New Orleans, 18 March 1778*]¹

I have had the honor of receiving your Excellency's Letter of the 16th with respect to my making restitution of certain Prizes made by me upon the River Mississippi, to which I must take the Liberty to answer. That the Prize N^o. 1. is a Negro belonging to a British Subject and came on Board a Vessel now the Property of the American States, but as the Master of that Negro was previously under your Excellency's Protection I agree to restore him upon a full reliance that you will procure a like restitution in Case any of the Persons or Property of or belonging to the said American States now or hereafter under your Excellency's protection, shall be inveighled or received on Board any British Vessel now in this River.—That the prize N^o. 2 is a Brigantine² seized upon the River Mississippi on her Voyage to Jamaica and belonging to Subjects of Great Britain Enemy's to the American States; she was seized consonant to the Authority and particular Instructions of my Masters the Hon^{ble}. Congress; and by way of just reprisal for the Seizure of a Number of American Vessels made in this River near two Years ago by a Cap Davy commanding a British Sloop of War named the *Diligence*³ who even

seized one Brigantine at this Levy and whether this last Capture was made by the Consent of the then Governor of this Province or the Court of Spain, I think it not my Business to require; But apprehend I have an undoubted Right to seize and take the Persons as Prisoners and Property as legal Prize of or belonging to Subjects of Great Britain which I shall find in the River Mississippi or elsewhere not under your Excellency's Immediate Protection, and the Prize in question cannot I apprehend come under that denomination when she was seven Leagues distant from this City on her Voyage to a British Port and carrying British Property.—That the Prize N^o. 3 was seized at the Town of Manchac in his Brittannic Majesty's Dominions by Lieu^t. McIntyre an Officer under my Command, but left in Possession of the late Owner upon Express Condition that he should not remove his Person or any of his Effects from that Place till farther Orders which this Mr Shakespear⁴ faithfully promised, but in direct Violation of his Engagements, he fraudulently and surreptitiously stole away in the Nighttime with the Prize so legally made as will appear by the Affidavits herewith I therefore thought myself well Authorized to retake my Property upon the River, more especially as he was in his flight to Pensacola on Board some British Ship of War, for had he intended to demand an Azylum in this Government and protection for his Property he certainly would have landed these Effects so fraudulently taken away at Spanish Manchac as well as he has done his other Property—The prizes N^o. 4 are delivered up to Messe^{rs} Possett and Marshall⁵ as they were taken on Shore in his Catholick Majesty's Dominions—The Prize N^o. 5. I apprehend to be perfectly legal and justly made being the Property of Persons trading to and from Post S^t Vincents in the British Dominion and supplying the Enemy's of the said American States with Munitions of War and other Merchandize.—They had neither Passports or Protection from any Spanish Officer but must have certainly appeared at Post S^t Vincents in the light of British Traders, and even supposing these Traders to be Subjects of a neutral Power, the Property in question is still equally liable to Confiscation to the said States, for it is notoriously known that during the present Contest between great Britain and the American States, the British Ships never fail to seize, and their Admiralty Courts to condemn as legal Prizes all such Vessels as are found going to or coming from any Port belonging to the American States at War with Great Britain; It is equally the invariable practice of all Nations with respect to the Vessels of Neutral States found to be supplying the Enemy's of either of the Belligerent Powers with Warlike Stores, Arms, Provisions &c and that the Persons in Question have thus acted will evidently appear to your Excellency by Affidavit herewith and farther Testimony may be had if thought necessary by your Excellency—I have the honor to be [&c.]

Copy, DNA, PCC, item 50, pp. 145–47 (M247, roll 64). Notation below close: "Ex^d."

1. The date is approximate. The letter was written between 16 Mar., the date Gálvez last wrote Willing, and 24 Mar., the date Willing next wrote Gálvez.

2. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.

3. During a cruise to the Mississippi R. and vicinity in the summer of 1776, H.M. sloop *Diligence*, Comdr. Thomas Davey, captured eight vessels. *NDAR* 5: 1223 and 6: 1168.

4. Stephen Shakespear, settler at Manchac.

5. Francis Poussette and William Marshall, planters at Baton Rouge.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

March 1778

Mounti Christi¹ SWbS Dist. 9 or 10 Leag^s.Wednesday 18th:

AM D^o. W^r. [Fresh Breezes & fair] at ½ past 5 Saw a Sail to the S^oward bore up & Gave Chace at ½ past 7 fired 3. 6^{lb}. Shot at the Chace D^o. Shortened Sail & Hove too with her head to the N^oward Hoisted out the Barge & Cutter & sent them Mann'd & Armed after the Chace which we perceived had run on shore & hands quited her At ½ past 9 Sent the Long Boat to the Assistance of the others Monti Christi SBW 2 or 3 Miles At 12 the Sloop Joined Company found that she had Run ashore & all Hands quited her & by her Papers that was left behind that she was a Rebel Sloop (the *Dove*) from Newberry bound to Cape Francois Loaded with lumber Salt Fish & Spermacita Candles. Sent a Petty Officer with 4 Hands To take Charge of her.²

Monti Christi SSW 5 Miles.

Mod^t. & fair W^r. At 3 [PM] the Prize bore away for Jamaica At 6 Mounti Christi SEbS 4 or 5 Leag^s. dist.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. Montecristi [Mounti Christi, Monti Cristie], Spanish Santo Domingo.

2. Sloop *Dove*, master unknown, with lumber and fish. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

CAPTAIN THOMAS PRINGLE, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG

(Copy)
Sir*Ariadne*, Carlisle Bay the 18th March 1778—

I have the honour to acquaint you that early in the Morning of the 9th: Instant I saw two Sail to the Eastward, whom I chased, having His Majesty's Sloop *Ceres* in company.¹ The two Strangers at first shewed a disposition to attack us, but in consequence of the Kings ships having brought the sternmost to close Action about noon the other made off.—The Ship in Action after having given to and received from the *Ariadne* and *Ceres*, some broad sides struck and proved to be the Rebel Ship *Alfred* of twenty nine pounders and one hundred and Eighty Men.—Her consort the *Raleigh* of thirty two guns who with the utmost dispatch we made Sail after and chased from that time untill ten O'Clock the next day, but finding that we did not come up with her and that she was throwing every thing overboard to lighten we left off Chace and hauld our Wind to the Southward to regain the Station exceedingly chagrined to find that even a Copper bottom could not out sail a Ship tho' reduced by lightening to the quality of a skimming dish.

These two Rebel Cruizers had been at Port L'Orient in France to fitt out: and came here to Cruize for the English and Irish convoys having taken the Coast of Guinea in their way.—They had taken no Vessels since their leaving France, but had we not been fortunate enough to fall in with them, their Strength and situation in this country must have been of very fatal consequences to Trade.

My haste to go in search of the English fleet who are momentarily expected deprives me at present of an opportunity of being more full, and must therefore beg your excuse (till I have the honour of paying my respects to you) for any further particulars which you wish to know.

I am Sir [&c.]

(Signed) Thomas Pringle

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed below close: "Vice Admiral Young/Commander in Chief & &c." Docketed: "18. March 1778—Copy of a Letter/from Captain Thomas Pringle/of His Majesty's Ship *Ariadne*/at Carlisle Bay Barbadoes.—" Endorsed: "In Adm^t. Young's Letter/Dated 23^d. March 1778." Enclosure no. 2 in Vice Adm. James Young to Philip Stephens, 23 Mar., which was received on 22 May and read.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh* and ship *Alfred*.

March 19

LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN BURGoyNE TO MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH

Sir

Cambridge March 19 1778

M^r. Wilford my aid de Camp is just now returned.¹ I have the honour to transmit to you Copies of all the Resolves of the Congress that I have received.²

As the Congress have been so obliging to leave me a latitude for the place of Embarkation I propose to go by Rhode Island, & shall request your passports to set out with my family in about three days.³ In the mean time Sir I should be obliged to you if you would permit the officer commanding the flag of truce⁴ to come on shore for a few hours. By conversation with him upon the provisions in the transport[s] the means of landing it should it be thought proper, & the expediency of sparing it from the ships a great deal of time might be saved & conveniencies to our materiel arising might ensue. I mean the officer to be under parole not to convey any unopened letters.

I have reason to believe there is a military Chest on board the *Juno* for the use of these troops. I request to know whether you will permit it to be landed & delivered to M: Gen^t. Phillips,⁵ parole being given that there are no letters nor other papers therein contained.

I shall be obliged to you for an answer to this as soon as may be, & should wish also to have an interview with you at Cambridge or Boston as you may think proper. I am Sir [&c.]

J: Burgoyne

L, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 9, fol. 37. Addressed at foot of third page: "M: G: Heath." Docketed: "From Gen^t Burgoyne/relative to his having/permission to go home/ and desiring an/Officer to come up from/the Fleet & &c/Mar 19 1778."

1. Ensign Richard R. Wilford had just returned from Philadelphia. *JCC* 10: 207, 209, 218.

2. On 3 Mar. the Continental Congress resolved that Burgoyne, because of ill health, be allowed to embark for England "from Rhode Island, or any more expeditious route." Heath was ordered to take Burgoyne's parole and that of his suite, Lt. Col. Robert Kingston, Ensign Richard R. Wilford and Dr. Vincent Wood. *JCC* 10: 218.

3. Burgoyne set out overland from Cambridge on 5 Apr. and arrived at Newport, on 7 Apr. Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 265.

4. Midn. Peter Robinson, R.N.

5. Maj. Gen. William Phillips.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BEDFORD, DATED MARCH 19.”

“This Day we arrived in the Privateer *Revenge*,¹ Isaac Freeborn, Commander, 25 Days from St. Pieres, Martinico, being chased most of the Way. On the 3d Instant we fell in with the Pirate Ship *Apollo*,² having under her Convoy a Sloop and Schooner; at Eleven, A. M. we took the sloop called the *Sally*,³ with a Cargo of Wine, Rum, Salt, Limes, &c. at Twelve, ditto, the Ship gave us Chase, and continued the Chase till Seven next Morning, when we arrived in the Harbour of Bedford,⁴ with the Prize Sloop; the Ship being then in sight astern, but dare venture no farther. The Captain of the Sloop informs of her taking the the Brigantine *True Blue*,⁵ not long since, two other small Privateers,⁶ three Merchantmen, burnt, plundered and sunk several others; she has been in company with the *Unicorn*⁷ and *Mermaid*⁸ on our Coast this three Months; being greatly damaged by the Severity of the Weather, they are now gone into Port. The Officers belonging to the *General Washington*,⁹ came Home, from imprisonment, in the above *Revenge*.”

Boston-Gazette, and Country Journal, 23 Mar. 1778.

1. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*.

2. H.M.S. *Apollo*.

3. On 9 Mar. *Apollo* captured sloop *Sally*, Hezekiah Freeman, master, from Martinique to New London, with rum and salt. The Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo* does not record any chase as she was escorting the prize into Newport, where she arrived on 15 Mar. UklPR, Adm. 51/52, part 2, fols. 8–9.

4. Bedford in Dartmouth, now New Bedford, Mass.

5. Massachusetts privateer schooner *True Blue*, Laurence Furlong, commander, taken by H.M.S. *Apollo* and H.M.S. *Venus* off St. George’s Bank. See Journal of H.M.S. *Apollo*, 27 Jan., above.

6. H.M.S. *Unicorn* captured New Hampshire privateer brigantine *McClary*, John Gregory, commander, on 6 Feb., and later on 19 Feb. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Reprisal*, James Brown, commander. See Journal of H.M.S. *Unicorn*, 6 Feb. and 19 Feb., above.

7. H.M.S. *Unicorn*.

8. H.M.S. *Mermaid*.

9. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *General Washington*, William Rogers, commander, was captured by H.M.S. *Seaford* on 18 Jan. and sent into Carlisle Bay, Barbados. UklPR, Adm. 51/880.

DANIEL TILLINGHAST TO JOSHUA HUNTINGTON

M^r Joshua Huntington

[*Providence*] March 19. 1778

Sir

I have sent by Elias Woodward 558 four pound round shott, for M^r Nath^l Shaw Jun on his private acco^t also by M^r David Carver—441 of Ditto for Acco^t of M^r Shaw—and 37 of twelve pound Grape made up for the Ship *Trumbull*¹ w^{ch}. is to be forwarded to M^r Shaw you’ll please to pay the Carting agreeable to the recp^t inclos’d & charge the same to M^r Shaw. Woodward will produce his recp^t for his Load—your forwarding the same by All Expedition will infinitely Oblige Sir [&c.]

Dan^l Tillinghast

L, PHI, Frigate *Confederacy* Papers. Addressed: “To/Maj^r Joshua Huntington/Mercht In/Norwich.” Docketed: “Dan^l Tillinghast/Letter M^{ch}. 19 1778/&/Elias Woodward/Recep^t.” Tillinghast was Continental Agent for Rhode Island.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull*.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOR WILLIAM LIVINGSTON

Dear Sir

Head Quarters Valley Forge 19th March 1778

I yesterday rec^d information from General Smallwood at Wilmington that a number of Vessels, mostly Sloops and Schooners, had gone down the Bay with Troops on Board, their destination uncertain. Several deserters this day inform me that the number of Men embarked are four Reg^t of British which are at most 1000. We have had it reported from different quarters that an expedition was in agitation to destroy the Salt Works upon the Coast, and as the force of the Vessels mentioned by Gen^l Smallwood is calculated to run into the Inlets, I am apprehensive that may be their plans. Or perhaps it may be to collect Forage and Cattle in Salem, Cumberland and Cape May Counties. I have thought it my duty to give you the information, that you may order the Militia contiguous to the Sea Coast, and those upon the Delaware to be in readiness and to give the Countenance and Support I have ordered Col^o. Shreves Regiment¹ to march immediately to Jersey. I hope the Militia will resort to Col^o. Shreve² with the same alacrity that they did to General Wayne, if they do, I am convinced that a larger Body than what are embarked may be repulsed. I have the Honor to be &c

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Docketed: "19th March 1778/to/Gov^r Livingston."

1. 2d New Jersey Continental Regiment.

2. Col. Israel Shreve, Continental Army.

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Sir,

Philadelphia 19th March 1778

In Consequence of an Order from M^r Tho^s. Bradford (One of your Commissaries)¹ to M^r Emanuel Eyre² of Trenton to Ship 50 Barrels of Pork for the Use of the Prisoners in Philadelphia, and two Tons of Hay for their Cattle, M^r Eyre on the 6th. Instant wrote to M^r Ferguson³ requesting him to apply to me for a Passport for the Shallop *Polly*, Isaiah Robinson Master,⁴ manned with 3 Hands, to proceed hither with the abovementioned Articles. I accordingly authorized M^r Ferguson to transmit a Passport to M^r Eyre for the purpose desired—On the 14th. the Shallop coming down was brought to by one of His Majesty's Ships; and upon Examination it was found that M^r Isaiah Robinson, who had been represented as Master of the Shallop, was in Fact the Captain of the *Andrew Doria* Frigate, and that Nathaniel Galt Captain of the *Argus* armed Gun Boat,⁵ was one of the Hands with which she was manned.

As Captains Robinson & Galt appeared in assumed Characters I ordered them agreeably to the established Rules of War to be confined. I am with due respect, Sir, [&c.]

W Howe

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "General Washington/&ca. &ca." Docketed: "From/Gen^l Howe 19 March 1778/ans^d 22." The beginning of the letter, up to the word "Barrels", is missing from the recipient's copy and has been taken from the retained copy in UKLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, no. 1028.

1. Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners, Continental Army.

2. Emanuel (or Manuel) Eyre was a member of the Pennsylvania Navy Board.

3. Hugh Ferguson, British Commissary of Prisoners at Philadelphia.

4. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy.

5. Pennsylvania Navy armed boat *Argus*.

JOHN MACPHERSON TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

Gentlemen.

York Town [*Pa.*] March 19th: 1778—

May it please the Honorable Congress to be informed, that your humble servant wishes to leave this place tomorrow morning and proceed to some part of France as Speedily as possible;—Where I shall build a Vessel on a new construction, that will carry two, thirty two pounders, and eight 9 Inch Howitzers, with One Hund^d & Fifty Men.—With this Vessel I intend to Cruize for British East India Ships; and do not doubt but I shall be of much Service to the United States of America. Wherefore I beg your Honors will be pleased to grant me a Credit upon France for the Sum of One Thousand pounds Sterling; for which I will give the Honorable Congress a Mortgage upon my Estate, for the principal & Interest.—Or if it is more agreeable to the Honorable Congress, I will pay a Considerable part of that Sum in Continental Loan Office Bills, & Lottery Tickets.—I have, my own property, Twenty one of the latter. I hope your Honors will approve my Scheme, & Grant me this Assistance.—I am [&c.]

John Macpherson—¹

L, DNA, PCC, item 78, vol. 15, pp. 321–24 (M247, roll 99). Addressed: “To/The Honorable/The Congress of The/United States of America.” Docketed: “Capt McPherson/19 March 1778/Presented & pp^d.”

1. Apparently this offer was never accepted. For more information on Macpherson and another of his schemes, see *NDAR* 2:138.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. PEARL, CAPTAIN JOHN LINZEE

March 1778

Reedy Point [*west*]

Thursday 19

AM Set up the fore top & topmast Rigging
d^o.

The first part fresh Gales, the Middle & latter light Airs & fair.
PM Having information of two Arm'd Boats lying in Musquet Creek, Sent the Barge, Long boat & Cutter to Cut them out, while doing it the Rebels came down & fir'd on them which they return'd Fir'd two Guns from the Ship at the Rebels¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/675, fol. 39.

1. See *Pennsylvania Ledger: or the Philadelphia Market-Day Advertiser*, 25 Mar. 1778, below. These were probably two of the Pennsylvania Navy armed (guard) boats that had been sent overland to Salem Creek in January and February.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY CORNWALLIS, LIEUTENANT THOMAS SPRY

March 1778

Anchord Close to the *Camilla* off Reedy point

Thursday 19

at 11 A:M. weighd and came to sail for Sealam Creek and run a
Ground on the flatts Carried out the Kedg[e] anchor—

A Ground on Sealam Creek flatts

Moderate and fair weather at 1 P:M. the Vessel floated hove
up And came to sail at 2 Anchord in the Creek at 4 fired a 4
pounder at some Rebels¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1676, part 2, fol. 37.

1. On the following morning *Cornwallis* “fired 2 - 24 P^s at some people Assembled in the woods.” *Ibid*.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL

[Annapolis] Thursday 19th March 1778

Capt Conway,¹ You are to deliver the Sloop *Molly*² with her Appurtenances to Cap^t Daniel Deshon who goes Master of her, taking his Receipt on her Inventory the negro man you Left on board you are to send up in the Boat in which you go down—

D, MdAA, Governor and Council (Proceedings) 1777–1779, SM 123-22, M 3156-3.

1. Capt. Robert Conway, Maryland Navy.
2. Maryland State trading sloop.

THE SOUTH-CAROLINA AND AMERICAN GENERAL GAZETTE,
THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1778

CHARLESTOWN, March 19.

The sloop *Active*, formerly belonging to this port, and carried into Liverpool last Summer by her crew,¹ has been cruizing for some weeks past on this coast. She has taken several prizes, the masters and crews of some of which have been sent ashore; they give a very favourable report of the kind treatment they received from Capt. Powell, who commands the privateer.²

1. See NDAR 8: 869–70; 9: 371–72.

2. Sloop *Active*, J. Powell, commander, 100 tons burthen, mounting two 6-pounders and ten 4-pounders, built in Bermuda in 1773, owned by N. Ashton of Liverpool. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

GOVERNOR GEORGE JAMES BRUERE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

N^o 22

Bermuda March the 19th: 1778

My Lord

On the 14th Instant, I had the honor to receive, Your Lordships Circular letters, of October the 3^d. and November the 5th.

And having Received my Lord Viscount Howe, and S^r Williams joint letter last Year. not to Grant licence, for either Rum or Molasses, I have not given any licence Since, for those Articles.

Neither did any more than three or four small Vessels, go from this port in the Whole, with very small quantities, before I received my Lord Howes Dispatch, and not any, hath been cleared out since.

And I shall continue to pay perfect obedience to those Commands.

I rejoice, in the happy Event, of Her Majestys Safe Delivery of a Princess.

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect Your Lordships [&c.]

George Ja^s Bruere

My Lord

I conceive that large Quantities of Salt, Cleared out, from Turks Islands, and carried directly from thence to the Rebels. And some Salt brought from Turks Islands here, and then by Stealth, carried off again,¹ hath been of much more Detriment to His Majestys Service, than any small Quantities of Rum or Molasses, could be Detrimental to the Kings Service, or the Contractors.

there is neither Rum or Molasses, made in these Islands. and therefore what Molasses hath been sent from hence; was prize goods.—

L, UKLPR, C.O. 37/37, fol. 7. Docketed: "Bermuda 19th March 1778./Governor Bruere./(No. 22.)/R, 23^d April./Ent^d."

1. See Bridger Goodrich to Commodore William Hotham, 7 Feb., above.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF WEST FLORIDA

At a Council held in the Council Chamber
at Pensacola on Thursday the 19th day of March 1778—

His Excellency laid before the Board a Letter which he had received from Joseph Nunn Esq^r Commander of His Majestys Sloop of War *Hound* in Answer to the Governors Letter of Yesterday and the same being read was ordered to be entered on the Minutes in the Words following

Hound Sloop Pensacola March
19th 1778—

Sir

At Eleven oClock last night I was honored with a Letter from your Excellency¹ inclosing a Copy of a Letter from Lord George Germain to the Lords of the Admiralty together with three Extracts from Lord George Germains Letters,² informing me that a Party of Rebels under a M^r James Willing Joined by a large Body of Banditti who have plundered the Inhabitants of the Province on the Mississippi and carried their Negroes and other property to New orleans to be disposed of requesting me to proceed up the Mississippi with His Majestys Sloop under my Command in order to protect the Province from further Incursions of the Rebels, and that one of His Majestys Ships may be sent to Manchack to protect that post and to Intercept such of the Rebels as may attempt to Escape up the River.

In answer to which I am to acquaint your Excellency that I shall most readily Comply with your request by using my utmost Efforts for the protection of the Province and am in return to request that your Excellency will be pleased to furnish me with such Extracts of the Treaties between Spain and this Colony as may be necessary for my Guidance and also Copies of all such Letters &C which have Passed since this Invasion as may be necessary for my Information And that an Experianced Pilot for the Mississippi may be Immediately sent on Board. I have the Honor to be &c.

(signed) Jos Nunn

His Excellency also laid before the Board a Letter from the Honorable Colonel Stuart the Superintendant answering the Governors Requisition to him for his Sloop and the same was read & ordered to be entered as follows—

Sir

Lieutenant Governor Durnford³ has acquainted me with Your Excellencys wish that my Sloop could be Spared to Cooperate with Lieutenant Burdon⁴ in the Lakes—under the Command of Lieut: Osborne⁵—I have the Honor to assure your Excellency that I shall upon this and every other Occassion most Chearfully comply with what you & the Honorable Council may Judge right for His Majestys Service. at the same time I have Immediate Occassion for a Vessel for the Service

of my Department which I expect will be provided for me I have the Honor to be
&C

Jn^o Stuart.

Pensacola 18th March 1778.

Whereupon the Board Recommended to His Excellency the Governor that he do write a Letter to Captain Nunn of the *Hound* Sloop of War answering his Letter now upon the Table and making a requisition that Lieutenant Osborne of the Armed Sloop *Florida* (now Condemned) be sent with his Seamen in Colonel Stuarts Sloop to the Lakes to Cooperate with Lieut: Burdon agreeable to the Minute of Yesterday His Excellency accordingly wrote the following Letter to Captain Nunn

Sir/

The Honorable Colonel Stuart having Offered his Sloop to be employed in the Service of Government in the Western parts of the Province I have therefore to request of you to order the officers and Men of His Majestys Armed Sloop *Florida* now Condemned & unfit for Service to be put on board Coll. Stuarts Sloop and sent into the Lake PontChartrain to Cooperate with Lieutenant Burdon in defending the passes of the Lakes and gaining Intelligence of the Strength & designs of the Enemy

I have had the Honor of receiving Your Letter of this days date and thank you for your ready Compliance with my request to proceed to the Mississippi and have ordered the same Pilot on Board of you who Piloted the *Atalanta* into the Mississippi last fall.

The 7th. Article of the Treaty of Paris together with the Copy of a Letter from the Governor of Louisiana to Captain Lloyd⁶ & a late Letter written by me to the Spanish Governor demanding restitution of the Ship *Rebecca* Seized by the Rebels⁷ are Papers I Furnished Captain Ferguson⁸ Copies of which & of such other Correspondence or paper as you are Pleased to point out & I can procure shall be Immediately forwarded to you, as also a Copy of the Marine Treaties if You want them. I have the Honor to be &C

To which His Excellency soon received an answer which was ordered to be entered on the Minutes of the day Immediately Subsequent to the Governors Letter—and is as follows

Sir/

In answer to the Letter you was pleased to Honor me with Yesterday, I am to acquaint you that the officer Commanding the Sloop *Florida* is Charged with the Vessel and all her Stores, consequently cannot be ordered from her untill some of the Kings Ships going to Jamaica shall receive the Stores and give him receipts for them agreeable to the directions of the Commander in Chief

The rest of the Company of the *Florida* are only five Men fit for service, two of which are Americans the other part of her Complement were before my arrival part lent to Lieut: Burdon, part discharged to the *Atalanta* to Strengthen her Company which is now far short of Complement.

If you think it necessary to send Col: Stuarts Sloop to Lake Pontchartrain; and that the few men belonging to the *Florida* can be of any use I will order them to be lent.

For my own part if I may take the Liberty of giving my opinion I think the force Lieut: Burdon has is more than Sufficient to repel any Force he may have to oppose him.

Your Excellency was pleased last night to Signify to me, that you thought the *Florida* might be Converted to the use of a Floating Magazine; I have since enquired Particularly into the State of the Vessel and find she is entirely Rotten and very leaky of Course unfit for the purpose abovementioned I have the Honor to be &C

Joss. Nunn

Hound Pensacola }
28th March 1778—⁹ }

Henry Smith who came Yesterday with the express from Lieut: Burdon being looked upon as a man who could be trusted and very fit to be employed as a Scout upon the lakes—in the River Amit¹⁰ and up to Orleans to discover the designs of the Rebels and gain Intelligence—was called into Council and his Excellency demanding of him the Terms upon which he would undertake the Service required. Smith assured his Excellency that he expected no other reward than what such Services as he Should perform might be thought Worthy of—and it being mentioned that one Bellisle a Frenchman of whom said Smith had hired a large Boat for the late Service he had come upon, would be willing to sell him said Boat for the use of Government, and also to go with Smith in her upon the proposed Expedition of gaining Intelligence His Excellency was pleased by the advice of the Board to offer the said Belisle (by a Letter which was wrote to him) Two hundred Dollars for his said Boat and for himself one Dollars per day so long as he should continue in the Service of Government with Henry Smith

His Excellency then wrote the following Letter to Lieut: Burdon in the lakes with which Smith was ordered Immediately to set off.

Council Chamber Pensacola 19th March 1778

Sir—

I received your Letter of the 3^d March Inst^d by M^r Smith¹¹ I hear the greater part of the Rebel Banditti were at New Orleans on the 8th. Instant with the Plunder they took on the Mississippi.

They Report there is an Army of Rebels to follow them down the Mississippi—The *Florida* Sloop is so Rotten that she is Condemned but I shall endeavour to get another Vessel with the Officers and Seamen of the *Florida* and send her to your Assistance—I have purchased the Boat Smith returns in and engaged him with one Belisle, to be under your orders for the purpose of obtaining & forwarding Intelligence I therefore hope you will keep him Constantly employed over at Orleans or up the River Nitabanie¹² or amit. To this place I expect you will Instantly dispatch him upon receiving any Information of Consequence I am &C.

P.S. You will be pleased to Victual these Two Men during the time they are employed on this Service which will be Settled with you hereafter

Agreeable to the Minute of Yesterday that a Letter should be wrote by His Excellency the Governor to John M^cGillivray Esq^r of Mobile a draught thereof having been prepared was now read & the same being approved was ordered to be entered on the Minutes in hoc Verba

Sir

Colonel Stuart having acquainted me that you had expressed a desire of being employed at this time & exerting your Influence in raising a Number of Men to Act against the Rebels who have penetrated into the Western parts of the Colony. I accordingly Communicated the same to His Majestys Council who have unanimously joined with me in Opinion that you should be thanked for your Zeal and Laudable Exertions upon this Occassion and that you should be appointed Lieutenant Colonel Commandant of a Provincial Corps to be raised by you and such other officers as may be appointed to Act under you to be employed for the purpose of driving the Rebels out of the Colony with the Assistance of such Indians as can be raised in the Indian Nations

It is intended that the officers & Men of this Corps shall receive the same pay & Provisions as the officers and Men of Col: Stuarts Rangers—That they shall also have the like Quantity of Lands granted them in the Colony upon the determination of the Rebellion as the Provincial Troops serving under General Howe are to have and that they shall continue Embodied during the present Invasion or if they can be Engaged longer for such time as the Kings Service may require it—and the better to enable You to Compleat this Corps, a Number of Blank Commissions will be sent to be filled up by you with the Names of such Persons as officers who you think can be depended upon and have Influence to raise men—Arms & ammunition will be furnished at Mobile for such Number of Men as you are of opinion can be raised and whatever Contingencies are requisite shall be defrayed by the Crown—and all such other Expences as you shall Judge necessary for the Kings Service.

M^r Alexander M^cIntosh of the Natchez District who is on his way thither is recommended to me to be appointed first Captain in your Corps & is charged with this Letter; after Consulting with you he will proceed to the Natchez and endeavour to engage good men in that District for the Corps taking your directions for that purpose and receiving such Orders as you shall give him—I shall wait with Impatience for your answer to this Letter, and desire that you will Transmit the same by Express in the most Expeditious manner The Commissions shall be sent by return of the Express with the names inserted of the Persons you nominate as officers I hope you will Immediately begin to act as no time is to be lost. I have the Honor to be with great Regard. &c &c &c.

Council Chamber }
19th. March 1778— }

M^r Alexander Cameron a Commissary for the Cherokee Nation and a Captain in Colonel Stuarts Corps of Rangers sent in his name and desired to be heard before His Excellency in Council and being admitted mentioned to His Excellency & the Board that as he had been Informed by Colonel Stuart the Superintend^t that it was the request of this Board to send him with the Party of Rangers under his

Command to the River Mississippi—he thought it his Duty to acquaint His Excellency that not having any officers under him and only Thirty five Men in the whole of whom but Twenty were at Present in Town the remaining fifteen being ordered upon different Services he could not think of going upon this Service but that if he had men enough he would readily go upon any Expedition that could tend to promote the Kings Service and it being Mentioned to M^r Cameron that a Body of Indians had been promised by Colonel Stuart to Join him on the Expedition He thought proper to Inform His Excellency that no dependence could be put upon any Body of Indians notwithstanding the repeated assurances they might themselves give of their Attachment to His Majestys Interest and farther said that he would not go with a Serjeants Command—and then M^r Cameron withdrew) whereupon His Excellency was pleased by the advice of the Board to order that a Copy of this Minute be Immediately Transmitted to Colonel Stuart the Superintendant & that M^r Bruce¹³ and L^t Colonel Dickson¹⁴ (Two Members of this Board) be requested to Deliver the same to Colonel Stuart.

It being then made known to His Excellency the Governor that a Petty officer belonging to His Majestys Sloop of War *Atalanta* attended without He was ordered to be called in and delivered a Letter from Captain Lloyd in answer to His Excellencys Letter of Yesterday¹⁵ and the same being read was ordered to be entered in hoc Verba

Sir—

In answer to your Excellencys of the last evening inclosing Extracts of Letters from Lord George Germain¹⁶ &C I am to inform You that I have orders from Vice Admiral Gayton to sail for England with the Convoy on the 25th. Instant. Consequently the *Atalanta* must remain till then at this Place. If at that time it shall appear to your Excellency that the State of the Province renders her stay necessary, you will be pleased to inform me and I shall take my Resolution accordingly. I have the Honor to be—Sir Your Excellencys &c &c &c—

T Lloyd.

Atalanta Pensacola }
Harbor 19th. March 1778 }

M^r Bruce and Lieut Col: Dickson the Two Members who were sent to Colonel Stuart as above mentioned returning acquainted His Excellency that they had in obedience to his directions delivered the Copy of this days Minute respecting M^r Cameron to Colonel Stuart who had requested them to Inform his Excellency that he would Immediately send for M^r Cameron and after hearing him upon the Subject Transmit a Written answer to His Excellency

His Excellency then desired the Opinion of the Board whether as we had received Reports that the Rebels were coming down the River Mississippi in a large Body most probably with a design to attack Mobile or this place it would not be proper that the Ships and Vessels (which are mostly well armed at Present within any of the Ports or Harbours of this Province & particularly in those of Pensacola and Mobile should be prevented from leaving the same untill such farther Intelligence could be received as might render that measure unnecessary? The Board were unanimously of Opinion that such a Step was highly proper at this

time and therefore Recommended that an Embargo be laid upon all the Shipping within this Province untill farther orders And that His Excellency do Issue his Proclamation accordingly

And then the Board Adjourned

D, UklPR, C.O. 5/631, part 3, fols. 275–80.

1. In Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 18 Mar., (first part), above.
2. See Gov. Peter Chester to Capt. William Garnier, R.N., in Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 5 Mar., above.
3. Lt. Gov. Elias Durnford.
4. Lt. George Burdon (2), R.N.
5. Lt. John Osborn (1), R.N.
6. Probably one of several letters written by Gov. Gálvez to Comdr. Thomas Lloyd, R.N., commanding H.M. sloop *Atalanta*, in the spring of 1777 concerning the freedom of navigation of the Mississippi River. See *NDAR* 8: 446–47, 895, 948–50, 957.
7. Not found. See William Wilton to Gov. Peter Chester, 8 Mar., in Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 18 Mar., (first part), above.
8. Comdr. John Fergusson, R.N., commanding H.M. sloop *Sylph*.
9. Clearly a misdating by the clerk for 18 Mar.
10. Amite River.
11. In Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 18 Mar., (first part), above.
12. Natalbany River.
13. James Bruce.
14. Lt. Col. Alexander Dickson.
15. See Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 18 Mar., (first part), note 30, above.
16. See Gov. Peter Chester to Capt. William Garnier, R.N., in Minutes of the Governor's Council of West Florida, 5 Mar., above.

COMMANDER JOSEPH NUNN, R.N., TO REAR ADMIRAL SIR PETER PARKER, R.N.

(Copy)

Sir,

Hound Sloop Pensacola March 19th: 1778—

In pursuance of your Order of the 19th: last Month I arrived here with His Majesty's Sloop under my Command the 13th: Ins^t: the *Southampton* and *Atalanta* were lying in this Bay, the *Sylph* was some days before sent to the Mississippi, on the request of the Governor Chester, who had received intelligence, that one Willing with a Party of Rebels had come down to the River, taken a Ship,¹ plundered and made prisoners of many of the inhabitants; and obliged them to Swear Allegiance to the Congress; After my Arrival the Governor was informed that Willings Party consisted of only twenty five Men, from whom it was thought little could be apprehended, when the *Sylph* should get up the River—Yesterday morning the *Southampton* sailed and I was ready to Sail, when the Governor received expresses informing him that Willing was joined by a numerous banditti who had plundered the Inhabitants on the Banks of the Mississippi, and carried their Negroes and other property to be sold at New Orleans, taken a Brig,² and that a rebel General Morgan³ was expected down the River with Two thousand Men intending to make themselves Masters of this Province Late last night I received a Letter from the Governor, of which the enclosed is a Copy; as soon as I can get a pilot I shall proceed for the Mississippi in order to join Captain Ferguson, who I hope is by this time far advanced up the River. When you have perused the enclosed papers I flatter myself you will approve of my staying here to give all the assistance I can for the protection of this Colony—I have the honor to be [&c.]

Jo^s: Nunn

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed at the foot: "Sir Peter Parker/Vear Adm^l of the Blue &c^a. &c^a." Docketed: "In Adm^l Sr P. Parker's Letter/Dated 19th April 1778." It appears the letters "ear" were written over the letters "ice". Sir Peter Parker was promoted to Rear Adm. of the Red on 29 Jan. 1778 but was not promoted to Vice Adm. of the Blue until 29 Mar. 1779. There is another copy of this letter in Adm. 1/241 which was enclosed in Rear Adm. Sir Peter Parker to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 25 Apr. 1778.

1. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.
2. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.
3. Col. George Morgan, Continental Army, Deputy Commissioner General of Purchases, Western District.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

March 1778
Thursday 19th: Mounti Christi SEbs 4 or 5 Leag^s dist.
AM Light Winds & Cloudy At 2 Saw a Sail to the S^oward fired a 6th. Shot at and bro^t her too a Brig from Casco bay^l D^o. Hove too Hoisted the Cutter out & Sent her on board & took out the Captⁿ & 6 Men² Left the Mate & 2 Men Sent a Petty Officer & 6 Men to take Charge of her At 4 Hoisted the Cutter in & made Sail to the S^oward the Prize made Sail for Jamaica

Mounti Christi SW ½ W dist. 9 or 10 Leag^s.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. Brig *St. Joseph*, — Dubar, of Port-au-Prince, master and owner, mounting 2 guns, crew of 10 men, 120 tons burthen, from Casco Bay to Môle Saint-Nicolas, with lumber and staves. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

2. On 20 Feb. the *Niger* brought to "a French sloop bound to C: Francois Hoisted the Cutter out & Sent the Captⁿ of the Brigg & one of his Men on board of her (both Frenchmen)." UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PORTLAND*, CAPTAIN THOMAS DUMARESQU

March 1778
Thursday 19th At the Pitch Kettle Moorings in English Harbour Antigua AM^d. Got off y^e Foretop and Cap, got up Sheers to get out y^e Foremast. M^r William Peacock our first Lieutenant appointed to y^e Command of the *Comet*, Captain Swiney¹ being appointed to y^e *Cygnat* in y^e Room of Captain Stratford² Deceased. M^r Billy Douglas L^t and Commander of the *Antigua* was appointed our first Lieutenant. Fired the Morning and Evening Guns.

At the Pitch Kettle Moorings in English Harbour Antigua Fresh Breezes and some Showers of Rain. y^e Intervals clear. PM^d. Got out our Foremast. Sailmakers repairing the Sails on Shore. on Board overhauling y^e Bobstays. and Fore & Foretopmast Rigging.

D, UKLPR, Adm., 51/711, part 4.

1. Comdr. William Swiney (1).
2. Comdr. Robert Stratford.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *GRASSHOPPER*, COMMANDER ROBERT BOYLE NICHOLAS

March 1778
Thursday 19

Ship in Ditto [Roseau Road]

Strong Gales and Clear, at 8 AM, Slipt and gave Chase to an American Privateer Schooner, Standing to the So^d, fired 20 Six & 30-four, pound Grape and Round Shot to bring the Chase to, She got under the Protection of Martin[*i*]co Forts,¹

Ship at Sea

At 4 P:M: gave over Chase and Stood to the Nor^d, fresh Gales and Squally at 11 ditto Spoke His Majestys Ship the *Arora* [*Aurora*].

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/396, part 6, fol. 10.

1. See Journal of French Navy Frigate *Etourdie*, 19–20 Mar., immediately below.

JOURNAL OF FRENCH NAVY FRIGATE *ETOURDIE*,
LIEUTENANT DE VAISSEAU MARQUIS DE MONTBAS

du jeudy 19^{eme} [*mars*] a 3 heures apres midy jusqu'au vendredy 20^{eme}.
5^{eme} mouilliage a st pierre [*Martinique*]

a trois heures apres midy un anglo americain a été attaqué étant a une lieüe de la pointe du precheur par une fregate angloise.¹ ayant été averté à cette meme heure qu'on tiroit des coups de canon, j'ay filé la cable par le bout, et largue les amares. après un quart d'heure de travail l'*etourdie* étoit sous voile. le batiment attaqué étoit deja ammene l'orsqu'il m'a reconnü, mais aussitot qu'il a été assuré de notre protection il a hissé son pavillon et tiré sur le royaliste des pierriers qui étoient ses seuls armes. j'ay dirigé ma route de facon a pouvoir me mettre entre les deux batiments. le fort du precheur avoit deja tiré plusieurs coups de canon qui étoient trop éloigné pour rassurer l'insurgent. lorsque j'ay été reconnu par la fregate angloise, elle a pris chasse, et l'insurgent a fait route pour la fond capot. je l'ay chassé sans pouvoir la joindre jüsques par le travers de la grande ance de la dominique. il etoit alors nuit; c'est ce qui m'a determiné a retourner prendre mon poste a St pierre ou jay mouillie le vendredy 20^{eme} a sept heures du matin²

[Translation]

from Tuesday 19th March at 3 PM until Wednesday 20th March
the fifth anchoring at St. Pierre, Martinique

at 3 P.M. an American vessel was attacked by an English frigate,¹ being one league from Pointe de Prêcheur. Having been alerted at the same time that cannon shots had been fired, I slipped my cable at the end, and let go the hawsers. After a quarter hour of labor the *Etourdie* was under sail. The ship, which was attacked, had already struck when she recognised me, but, as soon as she was assured of our protection, she hoisted her flag and fired at the English frigate with swivel guns, being her only armament. I shaped my course in a manner to be able to place myself between the two ships. The fort at Prêcheur had already fired several cannon shots which were too distant to reassure the rebel ship. When I was recognised by the English frigate, she sheered off, and the rebel ship made her course for the mouth of Capot River. I chased her without being able to come up

with her until abeam of Grand Bay, Dominica. It was then night, which made me determine to return to my station at St. Pierre where I anchored on the 20th at 7 o'clock in the morning.²

D, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 147, fol. 302.

1. Probably H.M. sloop *Grasshopper*. See Journal of H.M. sloop *Grasshopper*, 19 Mar., above.

2. The next day *Etourdie* chased the English frigate from near Capot River to Carbet, losing sight of her in a calm, and ultimately returned to her moorings at St. Pierre.

March 20

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RAINBOW*, CAPTAIN SIR GEORGE COLLIER

March 1778.

Moored in Halifax Harbor

Friday 20

Light Breez^s & fair W^e

AM came in the *True blue* Tender & bro^t in a Rebel Snow bound from Spain to New England¹—empl^d as before—Shipwrights on b^d.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/762.

1. Snow *Neptune*, Edward Swansey, master, owned by Lee & Johns, from Bilbao, Spain, to Salem, with salt, iron & fruit, taken on 18 Mar. off the coast of Nova Scotia, sent into Halifax. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 484. According to Vice Admiralty Court records, she had sailed from South Carolina in June 1777 for Bilbao with a cargo of rice. After the rice was sold, *Neptune* took on board a cargo of fruit, which she carried to Bayonne, France. At Bayonne she took on board a cargo of salt, iron and fruit and was bound for Newburyport when captured by the *Rainbow's* tender, schooner *True Blue* (10 guns). Her master's name was Nathaniel Swaisey of Marblehead; the owners resided in Newburyport except for one who lived in Boston. *Neptune* was libelled on 1 Apr. in the Vice Admiralty Court of Nova Scotia and condemned on 21 Apr. 1778 as a lawful prize of *Rainbow*. CaNSHP, vol. 496, Vice Admiralty Court Register, vol. 6 (1777–1782), 119.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN BURGOYNE TO CAPTAIN HUGH DALRYMPLE, R.N.

(Copy)

Sir

Cambridge Mar. 20 1778

My aid-de-Camp¹ returned yesterday with the leave of Congress for myself and my family to return to England. I propose to have the pleasure of kissing your hands on board the *Juno* as soon as the necessary business here can be dispatched.

The Congress having though [t] proper to adhere to the Resolve of 8th Jan^y respecting the suspension of the Convention & consequently it must be some Months before the matter can be decided. I think it would be greatly for the economy of Government to land all the provisions destined for the Troops from on board the Transports under your Command. Gen^l Heath will send you herewith an engagement of protection for the said transports to come into Nantasket road² and I request you to make no delay in forwarding that measure.

General Heath will also engage for the safe conveyance of the Military Chest, which I understand is on board you; and I request you to forward it by a Lieutenant and in a safe Vessel, which Gen^l Heath will furnish—

If you were inclined to bring the *Juno* higher up there will be no difficulty in procuring a parole for her protection, but if it is equal to you I have no manner of

objection to going on board while you are in Cape Cod Harbour, and upon the whole rather prefer it as I think it may save time.³ I am Sir [&c.]

J. Burgoyne

PS

The Vessel sent by Gen^l Heath will proceed no further than Nantasket Road. You will therefore send the Chest of Cash on board one of the Transports

Copy, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 3, fols. 334–35. Addressed at foot of third page: “Cap^t Dalrymble.” Docketed: “From Gen^l Burgoyne/to Cap^t Dalrymble/to send the provisions/& M^r Chest—/Mar. 20 1778.”

1. Ensign Richard R. Wilford.

2. On 20 Mar. Gen. Heath assured Dalrymple that “the Transports will receive every wished for protection, and particular attention paid to the security of the Military Chest.” MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 9, fol. 48.

3. Burgoyne apparently changed his mind and never visited H.M.S. *Juno*. On 22 Mar. he sent Dalrymple a copy of the above letter because the vessel carrying the original was driven out to sea in a gale. MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 9, fol. 55. H.M.S. *Juno* and H.M.S. *Cerberus* escorted the empty transports back to Newport on 29 Mar. Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 261.

WILLIAM STORY TO WILLIAM VERNON

Sir

Boston March 20 1778

This Morning Your favour of the 18th Curr^t was received at the Office M^r Warren sat out for home Yesterday about twelve a Clock noon, expecting M^r Deshon would have been here by this time who gave directions to Open Letters directed to the Board. Upon which I opened yours & M^r Deshons & find by yours that M^r Deshon is gone to Connecticut, So that expect to be alone till the week after next for which I am very sorry as so many people are Continually coming about business which I have no Authority to Transact.

I find by looking over the Letters from the Hon^{ble}. Marine Com^{tee} a paragraph in that of the 26th. Oct^r last^l in the words following viz^t: “Cap^t McNeill² has Already Instructions where his Ship is to proceed viz^t to France a form of like Instructions is herewith Inclosed to be by you given to the Ships at Providence.” So that apprehend^s you will think it Adviceable to give Capt^t Whipple³ orders to go on a Cruise Inclose Copy of said Instructions & the Signals.⁴

The Order M^r Deshon mentions to be left behind I find was therefore now send it.

There is a report in Town and said to be Confirmed by the way of S^c Eustatia that the Courts of France Spain and Holland have declared these States Free & Independent States and that M^r Franklyn is admitted at the Court of France as their Ambassador. I wish it may be true. I have the honour to be [&c.]

Will^m Story

P.S. It is said that the King of Prussia has fitted out three Ships & has Sent to England to Inform them that they were bound to these States & if they molested them he would Send an Army to Hanover.

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80. Addressed at the foot: “Hon^{ble}. Will^m Vernon Esq^r.” Story was clerk of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

1. See NDAR 10:309–10.

2. Capt. Hector McNeill, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Boston*.

3. Capt. Abraham Whipple, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Providence*.

4. See Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department to Captain Abraham Whipple, Mar., at the beginning of the March entries, above.

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE

[Boston, 20 March 1778]

724

Ship Defence's Acco^{ts}:

Ship Defence to Sam^l Eliot Jr.
1777

Dr

Aug ^t	To Brig Defence—for Sundries.	viz.—		
	To Cash p ^d the Steward to buy Greens, Potatoes &c		2.. 8.—	
	d ^o p ^d for 23 gal ^s . Molasses. @ 18/		20..14.—	
	d ^o p ^d John Wasson's expences to Hartford		<u>5.. 4.—</u>	28.. 6.—
	d ^o p ^d Horse Hire to let Gov ^r Trumbull know of her Arrival			6.—..—
Sep ^r	To d ^o p ^d for 1197 ^{lb} . Beef at 10 ^d .		49..17.. 6	
	d ^o p ^d Hannah Cadels bill ag ^t Dimock		<u>1..16.—</u>	51..13.. 6
Oct. 2.	To John Deshon for 2 barrels of Herrings			5.—..—
16.	To 224 ^{lb} . Deck Nails . . @ 3/		33..12.—	
	2 bls. of Rum . 65 Gal ^s . . @ 40/—		<u>130.—..—</u>	163..12.—
Nov ^r 3 ^d	To 112 ^{lb} : Deck Nails. at 3/. 3 ^{lb} : Sheath ^s . d ^o @ 3/—		17.. 5.—	
	Cash paid for Rum 15 Gal ^s . . . @ 40/		30.—..—	
	112 ^{lb} . Deck Nails @ 3/.		16..16.—	
	1 Tierce Pitch £4.— 1 bl. Turpentine £4..10/—		8..10.—	
	Charge on d ^o from Dartmouth		<u>..12.—</u>	73.. 3.—
	To Sloop <i>Catherine</i> for several Coils of Rigging	}	84.—..—	
	w ^g : 6 ^{cwt} .—..— at least. at £14			
	To Cash p ^d M ^r Hitchborn for building a barge, & repairing the old one # Smedleys ¹ ord	}	<u>95..17.—</u>	179..17.—
	To Cash p ^d M ^r Byles. for Truckage			
	d ^o p ^d Alex Mackay for Cork		<u>60.—..—</u>	67.. 6.. 8
	To 112 ^{lb} : Deck Nails			16..16.—
	To Cash p ^d . Carting Cork		1..16.—	
	12 ^{lb} . Sheathing Nails		1..16.—	

AMERICAN THEATER

	7½ hund. 10 ^d . Nails	2.. 5.—	<u>4.. 1.—</u>	5..17.—
	To 112 ^{lb} : Deck Nails £16..16/. — ½ m: 10 ^d : Nails 30/—			18.. 6.—
	To the <i>Defence</i> for the Mainmast made into a Bowsprit			—..—..—
	To 42 ^{lb} . Deck Nails, & 10 ^{lb} . Sheathing Nails . @ 3/			7..16.—
Dec.	To Cash paid Sigourney for 18 gal ^s . W. I Rum			36..—..—
	To. 1 barrel Rozin		6..—..—	
	56 ^{lb} . Deck Nails		8.. 8.—	
	1 gal. N. E Rum		2..—..—	
	8 ^{lb} : 24 ^d . Nails @ 4/		1..12.—	
	½ ^{cwt} . 20 ^d . Nails		4.—	
	1 bl. Turpentine		4..10.—	
	2.. 0.. 4 ^{lb} . Lead ... @ 1/6		17.. 2.—	
	21 ^{lb} . Worming		<u>5.. 5.—</u>	<u>45.. 1.—</u>
		sum carried over		£704..14.. 2
1777.	To Sum brot over			£704..14.. 2
Dec ^r 13.	To Cash p ^d : Selliman to buy Rum for Riggers		1..16.—	
	p ^d for Slush ²		5..14.—	
	3 gal ^s . Spirit ... at 50/—		<u>7..10.—</u>	15..—..—
19.	To 3½ hund ^d . 6 ^d : Nails			1.. 1.—
	To. 10 ^d : 24 ^d : Nails		2..—..—	
	44 ^{lb} . Worming @ 5/		<u>11..—..—</u>	13..—..—
	To Cash p ^d : Joseph Selliman		30..—..—	
	d ^o . p ^d . Antony Gnospelius ³		<u>3..—..—</u>	33..—..—
22.	To. 1 bl Pitch		4..—..—	
	1 d ^o Turpentine		4..10.—	
	56 ^{lb} . Deck Nails ... @ 3/		8.. 8.—	
	4 ^{lb} . 24 ^d : Nails ... @ 4/		16.—	
	To <i>Oliver Crom^t</i> for 70½ ^{lb} . Sheet lead		<u>—..—..—</u>	17..14.—

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE—Continued

	To. 14 ^{cwt.} .. 2.. 0. Junk—mem ^o . this Junk was the Brig's Cable strain'd, & broke in 4 pieces in getting up the Brig. & work'd into small Rigging & Spunyarn	}	—..—..—
	carried forward		£784.. 9.. 2
	Ship Defence—To Samuel Eliot J ^r		Dr
			£ .. s. d
1777	To amount sundries bro't forward		£784.. 9.. 2
Dec 25.	To Cash paid Alex ^r Lord. Rigger	1..16.—	
29	d ^o . p ^d : Antony Gnospelius Board—2 Weeks—	3..12.—	
	d ^o . p ^d : E. Cox for 2 days work on board—	1..16.—	
	p ^d : for Bolts. to M ^r Welch	4..12.. 6	
1778			
Jan ^y 3	p ^d : the Riggers—viz.		
	John: M: Topp	for 23 days @ 21/	24.. 3.—
	John Stevens	23 days	24.. 3.—
	Rob ^t Way.	7½ days 20/	7..10.—
	Alex ^r Lord	7 days	7..—..—
	Moses Piper	6 days	6..—..—
	Robert Way. 27 th : Dec ^r . ..	6 days	6..—..—
	Alex ^r Lord. d ^o	6 days	6..—..—
	paid sundry Laborers viz.		
	Daniel Phips	6 days 18/	5.. 8.—
	Mich ^l Cary	6 d ^o	5.. 8.—
	Samuel Morgan . . .	6 d ^o	5.. 8.—
	James Cary	4½ d ^o	4.. 1.—
	paid Antony ^s Board. . .	1 week	1..16 —
			20.. 5.—
			112..17.. 6

	paid Sturgis Gorham for freight of			
	Sundries from Dartmouth	}	5.. 4.—	
6 th	paid Sturgis Gorham for 3 bolts Duck		135.—..—	
	paid sundry Laborers — viz.			
	James Cary 3 days @ 18/	2..14.—		
	Mich ^l Cary 3 days @ 18/	2..14.—		
	Sam ^l Morgan 3 days .. 18/	<u>2..14.—</u>	8.. 2.—	
	paid D: G. Phips for 6 days on Rigging	5.. 8.—		
	Alex Lord . . 6 days on d ^o	<u>6.—..—</u>	<u>11.. 8.—</u>	<u>161..10.—</u>
		carried over		£1058..16.. 8
1778	To Sum	.bro't over		£1058..16.. 8
Jan ^r 9.	To Cash p ^d : Antony's board 1 Week		1..16.—	
	paid the Riggers to buy Coal		18.—	
	paid Cap ^t : Thatcher for 2½ bolts Duck at £45		112..10.—	
	paid John Lary. Ⓕ Cap ^t : Smedleys verb ^l ord		..12.—	
	paid Antony . . on Acco ^t d ^o		2.. 2.—	
15 th :	p ^d : for Potatoes, Cabbages &c.	2.. 2.—		
	p ^d : M ^r : Selliman for Wood	<u>4..16.—</u>	6..18.—	
	p ^d : M ^r : Wasson ⁴ to pay Wages	8.. 8.—		
	p ^d : Sam ^l : Colesworth. 6 days Labor	5.. 8.—		
16.	p ^d : Charles Annis, & M ^r : Pierce's			
	Board to Eleanor Reed 2 W ^{ks} :	}	9..12.—	
	p ^d : M ^r : Wasson for 2 Men	1.. 4.—		
	p ^d : Lord the Rigger	<u>4..16.—</u>	29.. 8.—	
20 th .	p ^d : M ^r : Wasson to pay Wages	24..16.—		
	p ^d : Antonys board	1..16.—		
17 th .	p ^d : Moses Piper Rigger	12.—..—		
	p ^d : John Ballard for boards Ⓕ bill	36.. 6.. 5		
	p ^d : Cap ^t : Smedley for J. Pease ⁵	63..18.—		
24.	p ^d : J. M. Topp (Rigger. 16..16.—			

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE—Continued

	J. Stevens. d ^o	16..16.—		
	Moses Piper. d ^o	4.—.—		
	Alex Lord. d ^o	<u>6.—.—</u>	43..12.—	182.. 8.. 5
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Smedley for the Men			180..15..10
	p ^d . M ^r . Vernon ⁶ for 500 ft ² clear Boards			7..10.—
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Smedleys. order to Elwood ⁷			14..14.—
	p ^d d ^o to Rob ^t . Wasson			27.—.—
	p ^d . the Gunner to purchase Spirits of Turpentine			—..12.—
	p ^d . for Greens, Potatoes &c			1.. 4.—
	p ^d . D. G. Phips. Rigger in full			5.. 8.—
	p ^d . the Steward ⁸ for Greens &c			1.. 4.—
	p ^d . M ^r . Curtis for 1 Water Hhd		<u>3.—.—</u>	578.. 0.. 3
			sum carried forward	£1636..16..11
				£1636..16..11
1778	To. sum bro't forward			1..15.—
Jan ^y	To. Cash. paid D ^l . Halseys bill for Burns, & Gould's board			
Feb ^y 3.	To. d ^o . p ^d . M ^r . Dyer			8.—
	d ^o . p ^d . the Steward for Potatoes, Greens &c			1..16.—
	p ^d . Cap ^t . Jeacocks ⁹ for 4 gal ^s . Linseed Oil	3..12.—		
	1 draft Book	<u>3.—.—</u>		6..12.—
	p ^d . David Reed for 6 Cords of Wood			32.. 8.—
	p ^d . the Steward			2.. 8.—
	p ^d . Patrick Quin's bill Truckage			20.. 4.—
	p ^d . Rich ^d . Floyd for 6 Water Casks @ 66/			23.. 2.—
	p ^d . Edward Culver. Ⓢ Capt ^s . order			<u>18.—.—</u>
	p ^d . J. M. Topp (Rigger) in full			8.. 8.—
	p ^d . G. M ^c . Kinneys bill for boarding Nursing & attend ^g . Jn ^o . Parrett while sick	5.. 8.—		
	d ^o . d ^o . d ^o . Jabez Hubbles. d ^o	<u>5.. 8.—</u>		10..16.—
				104..18.—

	p ^d . for Wood 97½ Dol ^{rs}	29.. 5.—	
	p ^d . Selliman for Sail Needles	3.. 6.—	
	p ^d . the Steward	1..16.—	
	p ^d . Mr. Wasson for Men's Wages	9..—.—	
	d ^o d ^o	45..—.—	
25.	p ^d . Mons ^r . Tollemon for Duck	83.. 5.—	
	p ^d . Mr. Silsbey's board	13.. 5.—	
	p ^d . Mr. Rob ^t . Watson's expences to Hartford	<u>14..—.—</u>	218.. 1.—
	p ^d . Sundry Men's Board to M ^{rs} . Campbell	47..14.—	
	p ^d . Jon ^a . Holbrook for 21 Mens Passage	18..18.—	
	p ^d . Joseph Peases bill	36.. 2.. 8	
	p ^d . Simeon Spencers bill	58..13..10	
	p ^d . Coggeshall Rathburn's bill	9..13..10	10 ^d over
	p ^d . J. Wasson for Sundries	17..12.—	
	p ^d . William Greenleaf	<u> 9.—</u>	189.. 3.. 4
	p ^d . Gorham's bill	1..10.—	
	p ^d . d ^o	15..—.—	
	p ^d . Miss Linns. bill	6..—.—	
	p ^d . Will ^m . Turners. bill	12..—.—	Sea Stores
	p ^d . John Goddards bill	2..10.. 3	
	p ^d . Will ^m . Cunningham's bill	4..10.—	
	p ^d . D. G. Phips bill	9..—.—	
	p ^d . Simeon Skillins bill	57.. 4.—	
	p ^d . Thomas Newcomb. bill	<u>36..—.—</u>	<u>143..14.. 3</u>
			sum carried over—
1778	To. Sum bro't over		£2294.. 8.. 6
Feb ^r : 25	To Cash paid D ^r . Greenleaf	2.. 7.—	£2294.. 8.. 6
	p ^d . Rebecca Campbell	1..16.—	
	p ^d . Mr. Wasson for Mens Wages	47..14.—	
27	d ^o d ^o	60.. 8.—	

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE—Continued

28.	d ^o .	d ^o .	90. —. —	198.. 2.—	
	p ^d .	M ^r Wilkins for a bl Beer	2.. 8.—		
	p ^d .	M ^r Annis y ^c . Steward	<u>6. —. —</u>	<u>8.. 8.—</u>	210..13.—
	p ^d .	Jn ^o : & Benj ^a . Coolidge		5.. 8.—	
	p ^d .	Joseph Webb		9..15.—	
	p ^d .	Thomas Wilkins . in Oct ^r		1..17.. 6	
	p ^d .	John Hawley		1..19.—	
	p ^d .	Samuel Whitwells		15.—. —	
	p ^d .	Antony Gnospelius		6.—. —	
	p ^d .	Thomas Lewis		3..12.—	
	p ^d .	John Jones		1..16.—	
	p ^d .	Rebecca Campbell		1..16.—	
	p ^d .	M ^r Antony Gnospelius . for Brooms		..10.. 6	
	p ^d .	Smedley's order to Angel ¹⁰		<u>52.. 4.—</u>	99..18.—
Mar: 9 th .	p ^d .	for a barrel of Beer		2.. 8.—	
16.	p ^d .	Oliver Brewster		10.. 8.—	
	p ^d .	Isaac Jarvis		15.—	
	p ^d .	Thomas Elwood		2.. 8.—	
	p ^d .	Richard Floyd		4..16.—	
	p ^d .	M ^{rs} . Campbell		4.. 5.—	
	p ^d .	William Greenleaf		4..14.—	
	p ^d .	Isaac Greenwood		1.. 4.—	
	p ^d .	William Greenleaf J ^r		2.—. —	
	p ^d .	D: G. Phips		18.—	
	p ^d .	Thomas Popkins		<u>2.. 5.—</u>	36.. 1.—
	p ^d .	D. G. Phips		1..10.—	
	p ^d .	Antony		1..16.—	
	p ^d .	Martha M ^c Kinney		2..18.—	

	p ^d . Nath ^l . Warner	3..18.—	
	p ^d . John Chapman ¹¹ £49.. 4/. & £5..14/	54..18.—	
	p ^d . Joseph Webb	4.. 5.. 6	
	p ^d . James Coffin	4..10.—	
	p ^d . John Badger	28..16.—	
	p ^d . M. Linn	9.—.—	
	p ^d . John Cook	1.. 3.. 4	
	p ^d . Philip Ridgway	<u>..12.—</u>	<u>112..16..10</u>
	sum carried forward		£2753..17.. 4
1778.	To Sum. bro't forward		£2753..17.. 4
March.	To Cash. paid the Steward to buy Corn	11.. 8.—	
	p ^d . Mons ^r . Tallemon for 8½ gal ^s . Brandy	20.. 8.—	
	p ^d . M ^r . Barlow to buy necessaries	2.. 2.—	
	p ^d . the Cooper	2.. 8.—	
	p ^d . Anthony Gnospelius to purchase Baize &c	10..10.—	
	p ^d . Smedley to pay Mons ^r . Deblon	7..16.—	
	p ^d . James Burt's Bill	2.. 8.—	
	p ^d . Sam ^l . Carter for Horse Hire to Hartford for M ^r . John. & Rob ^t . Wasson as Expresses	<u>22.—.—</u>	79.—.—
4 th .	p ^d . M ^r . Wasson. to pay Men	130.—.—	
7.	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o .	130..16.—	
	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o .	71.. 8.—	
9 th .	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o .	120.—.—	
11 th .	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o .	50.—.—	
16.	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o .	26.—.—	
17.	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o .	81.—.—	
18	p ^d . d ^o . d ^o .	<u>18..15.—</u>	627..19.—
20 th .	p ^d . Butler for Boards	3..11.. 6	
	p ^d . Robert Wasson to buy Crockery for the Cabin viz. 1 Turenne 4 Platters	<u>3.—.—</u>	

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE—Continued

p ^d . Mr Beebe ¹² for Sail Needles	1.. 4.—	
p ^d . William Greenleaf	<u>4.. 3.—</u>	11..18.. 6
p ^d . for sundries— viz.		
11 ^{lb} . Deck Nails @ 3/	1..13.—	
2 p ^r . HL Hinges @ 5/6	..11.—	
2 p ^r . — d ^o . small @ 5/	..10.—	
6½ ^{lb} . woulding Nails @ 6/	1..19.—	
2 ^{lb} . d ^o . d ^o .	12.—	
5 ^{lb} : Deck Nails @ 3/	..15.—	
3 ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails @ 4/	..12.—	
2 ^{lb} . Deck Nails @ 3/	.. 6.—	
11 ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails @ 4/	2.. 4.—	
2 ^{lb} . 4 ^d . Nails @ 4/	.. 8.—	
1½ ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails @ 4/	.. 6.—	
11 ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails @ 4/	2.. 4.—	
4 Staples, & 2 Pump bolts w ^g . 2 ^{lb} .	<u>8.—</u>	<u>12.. 8.—</u>
	sum carried over	£3485.. 2..10
1778 Sum bro't Over		£3485.. 2..10
March. 14 ^{lb} . Deck Nails @ 3/	2.. 2.—	
6 ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails @ 4/	1.. 4.—	
5½ ^{lb} : scup: Nails @ 5/	1.. 7.. 6	
6 ^{lb} . 6 ^d . Nails @ 4/	1.. 4.—	
4 ^{lb} . would ^s Nails @ 6/	1.. 4.—	
13 ^{lb} . 24 ^d . Nails @ 4/	2..12.—	
10 ^{lb} . for locks, & keys @ 4/	2..—.—	
1 Hhd Coal	2..10.—	
1 quire paper	.. 4.—	
4 ^{lb} : Deck Nails @ 3/	..12.—	

	9 quires paper @ 4/	1.16.—	
	6 Iron bound Hhds. @ £4	24.—.—	
	4 Sheets Tin from my House	<u>..12.—</u>	41.. 7.. 6
	To Caleb Champney. Glazier for his bills		22.. 4.. 6
	To Josias Byles. Truckman for d ^o		0.. 0.. 0
	To Isaac Smith. for a [<i>blank</i>] & Poop lanthorn		51..15.—
	To. Knox: for his Bill		6.—.—
	To Hunt, & Brown for their Bills		436.. 8.—
	To John Andrews for his Bills		66.. 4.. 2
	To Joseph Clark. for d ^o		1461.. 1.. 1
	To John Hooton. for d ^o		12.. 4..10
	To Winter Calef. for d ^o		74.. 8.—
	To Jon ^a . Balch. for d ^o		127.. 5.. 4
	To James Seward. for d ^o		62..13.—
	To Joseph How. for d ^o		31..16.. 8
	To Francis Shaw. for d ^o		130..16.. 6
	To James Burt. for d ^o		4..18.—
	To. Tho ^s . Green. for d ^o		39..12.—
	To. Sam ^l . Harris. for d ^o		310.. 2.. 6
	To. Tho ^s . Green. for d ^o		43.. 8.—
	To Thomas Greenough for d ^o		2..11.—
	To Abraham Hayward for d ^o		<u>18.—.—</u>
	sum carried forward		£6427..18..11
1778.	Sum brought Forward		£6427..18..11
March.	To. Bossenger Foster for his bill		61..10.—
	To William Cordwell. for d ^o		42.. 9.—
	To Edward Gyles. for d ^o		1..16.—
	To Samuel Harris for d ^o . . . . .		..14.—
	To John Matchet. for d ^o		15.. 6.—
	To. John Brown for d ^o		3.—.—

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP DEFENCE—Continued

To. John Owen. for d ^o		147.. 4.—
To Joseph How. for d ^o		2.. 1..10
To. Bossenger Foster . . for d ^o		45.—..—
To John Andrews. for d ^o		46.. 4.. 6
To Waters, & Gyles for their Bill		157.. 2.—
To Thomas Mayo for his Bill		423.. 4.—
To. E Winter Calef. . . . for d ^o		4..12.. 6
To. Breeden for. . d ^o suppose		100.—..—
To Thomas Green. for Shakings 5 ^{cwt} @ 18/		4..10.—
To. William Stone. for ballast		9.—..—
To. State of Con ^t for 2.. 2..14 Cordage out of Sloop <i>Catherine</i>		
d ^o for 2 doz. Housline, & Marline	3..12.—	}
7 scains d ^o	1.. 1.—	
6. d ^o d ^o	18.—	
2.. 0..14 Spun yarn		
39 Gal ^s N: E Rum dld at sundry times in Dec ^r . . @ 35/	68.. 5.—	
To. Cash paid Cap ^t Lamb ¹³ for ½ of 2 hhds Taffier ¹⁴ 87 Gal ^s . . @ 36/	78.. 6.—	
paid for 2 q ^{ts} Oil . . . . .	..15.—	
paid for Cyder	4..10.—	
paid for Boats attending Ship while below	3..10.—	
paid. for a house Bell with a Spring	1.. 5.—	
paid for a hand Vice. for Armourer . . . . .	..18.—	
paid Antony Gnospelius for Sundries . . . . .	..12.—	
paid Byles . . for Truckage . . . . .	.. 9.—	
		<u>90.. 5.—</u>
	carried Over	£7581..17.. 9
1778. To Sum bro't over		£7581..17.. 9
March. To Job. Prince J ^{rs} . bill for Wine		45.—..—
To Sam ^l . Whitwells bill		82.. 2.—

To Parker, & Bradshaw. for ½ of their acco ^t	825.. 9.. 9
To Sam ^l Barrett's bill	214.. 5.. 6
To Henry Roby's. . bill . . . . .	.. 6..—
To Brown, & Emme's bill	1266..13.. 4
To Simeon Spencer's bill . . . . .	..19..11
To E Winter Calef's bill	10..—..—
To. Edward Carne's bill	1165.. 9.. 3
To. Ellis Gray's bill	154..18..—
To. Brown, & Emmes bill	183..13.. 6
To Jon ^a Balch's bill	18.. 3..—
To. P. D. Sergeants ¹⁵ bill	96..10.. 1
To John Ballard's bill . 700 ft Boards	5..12..—
To Will ^m . Shattucks bill	110..—..—
To. J. Lambs bill. . . ½ hhd Rum 108 gal ^s at 42/	113.. 8..—
To. Caleb. Champney's first bill	42..16.. 9
To Joseph Trumbull Esq ^r for 2 Cables 7½ inch. . meas ^r 92 fathom 109 d ^o . to be laid into one w ^g .	
To James Swards. after bill	<u>4..19..—</u>
	£11922.. 3..10

1778 Ship *Defence*. to Samuel Eliot J^r—
for sundries. for Stores. . . . viz.
[March] To. Brig *Defence* for sundries sav'd from last Cruize
17 bls. Pork
2 bls. & 4 Tierces Beef
1 bl. Peas. . & 1 b^l. Gruts¹⁶
a bag. Rice. . & a bag of Coffee.
½ bl. split. Peas.
½ Casks Tongues

0.. 0.. 0

20 MARCH 1778

735

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *DEFENCE*—Continued

½ bl. Barley	
1 box, & p ^t of a box Candles	
case empty Bottles.	
½ bl. Herrings	
To. State of Connecticut	
45. bls. of Beef. from Avis &c	
9. d ^o in 6. Tierces— d ^o	
1 d ^o Pork	
7. bls. Pork. out of the <i>Honor</i>	
1. Tierce d ^o d ^o	
9 bls. Beef d ^o	
3. bls. Flour d ^o	
38. bls. Pork . from Hayley	
12. firkins Butter 735 ^{lb} : N ^t at 2/	
1 Hhd Tobacco— 624 ^{lb} : N ^t at	
3 bls. Hams	
4 Tierces Flour N ^o 34	
N ^o 27	
N ^o 28	
& Casks. N ^o 24	
1 Cask Peas. 12½ bushels	
3 Casks Flour	
& Casks	
2 Casks Beans	
& Casks.	
14 bags Bread	
To. Sum bro't over	

1778
March.

£

To. Sam ^l Eliot Jr. . 9 hhds Bread.		
cont ^g —29 ^{cwt} ..2..0. at		
9 new hhds. . at 30/		
To Edward Edes for ^{cwt} qr. lb. Bread		
To. Board of War for.d ^o		
To. 3 Casks Rice 14 ^{cwt} ..3..18. N ^t at		
14 ^{lb} : Sugar 49/. 14 ^{lb} : Sugar 49/	4..18.—	
28 ^{lb} . d ^o . £4..18/. 28 ^{lb} . d ^o . £4..18/	9..16.—	
33 ^{lb} . Coffee . . at 6/	9..18.—	
1 Cask Oatmeal. N ^o . 340	" "	
120 ^{lb} : Coffee @ 10/.. & a bag 12/	60..12.—	
1 q ^r paper 4/.. 1 d ^o . 4/.. 1 keg Barley	" "	
28 ^{lb} . Sugar	4..18.—	
1 bl. d ^o . 2 ^{cwt} ..2..2 N ^t at	" "	
28 ^{lb} . d ^o	4..18.—	
38 ^{lb} . Coffee . . at 6/	10.. 8.—	
6 plates 10/.. 3 large Basons 18/	1.. 8.—	
3 small Basons 15/.. 9 ^{lb} : 24 ^d . Nails 36/	2..11.—	
6 ^{lb} wouilding Nails	<u>1..16.—</u>	5..15.—
1½ doz plates 30/.. 6 Basons 36/		3.. 6.—
1 large Bowl .....		..12.—
3 Tierces Tar £9.		
1 q ^r paper 4/	9.. 4.—	
1 2 hour glass . . . 1 patent hour glass		
1 patent ½ minute d ^o . . 1 d ^o . ¼ min: d ^o		
6 ^{lb} . Sugar 21/. — 2 ^{lb} . Alspice		
1½ ^{cwt} . Scupper Nails 12/		
35 ^{lb} . Sugar £6.. 2.. 6	6..14.. 6	
1 bl. Sugar . . . 2 ^{cwt} ..2..20 N ^t at		
1 Tierce Tar	4..10.—	

ACCOUNT OF SAMUEL ELIOT, JR., FOR THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SHIP *DEFENCE*—*Continued*

1—2 hour Glass.	3 ^{lb} : Tobacco 27/	.....
1 Cask Porter	gal ^s . @ 7/	.....
8 ^{lb} . best Fish	10/. 9 ^{lb} . d ^o . 11/	.....	1.. 1.—
¾ quintle d ^o.	.....		<u>4..16.—</u>
1 barrel Cyder	.....		4..10.—
12 Wine Glasses	4 bottles Mad ^{a.17}	.....
To. Duncan Ingraham J ^r	.....	
25½ Cheeses	437½ ^{lb}.	.....	" "
To. John Langdon's ¹⁸	.. bill	.....	" "
To. John Lamb.	71¾ gal ^s . Rum @ 42/	.....	<u>150..13.. 6</u>
carried forward.			

D, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 9, pp. 246a–1. This document is incomplete.

1. Capt. Samuel Smedley, commanding Connecticut Navy ship *Defence*.
2. Refuse fat from the ship's galley collected for greasing down masts, for applying to parceling when mixed with tar before serving a rope and for lubricating sheaves.
3. Anthony Gnospelius, marine on ship *Defence*.
4. John Wasson, clerk of ship *Defence*.
5. Midshipman Joseph Pease of ship *Defence*.
6. William Vernon, member, Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department.
7. Thomas Elwood, serjeant of marines of ship *Defence*.
8. Charles Annis, steward of ship *Defence*.
9. Jesse Jeacocks of New London, 1st mate of ship *Defence*.
10. James Angel of New London, 1st lieutenant of ship *Defence*.
11. John Chapman, 1st lieutenant of Connecticut Navy ship *Oliver Cromwell*.
12. Edward Beebe, of Stratford, Conn., master of ship *Defence*.
13. Capt. John Lamb, of Boston.
14. Tafia, an inferior rum made from distilled sugarcane juice in the West Indies.
15. Paul Dudley Sargent, merchant at Boston.
16. Possibly a mistake for "groats".
17. Madeira wine.
18. John Langdon, tallow chandler at Boston.

DANIEL TILLINGHAST TO JOSHUA HUNTINGTON

Coll Joshua Huntington

Providence March 20. 1778

Sir

I have here inclos'd you a Recp^t for 15 Shaken hh^{ds}. &c &c w^{ch}: Cask was Left here by the *Warren*, and are now order'd by the Navy board¹ to Norwich for the Ship Building under your care² the hoops are N^o for the hh^{ds}. here sent, w^{ch}. you please to Notice Accordingly & Charge the Expencc to said ship I am Sir [&c.]

Dan^l Tillinghast

L, PHi, Frigate *Confederacy* Papers. Addressed: "Major Joshua Huntington/Norwich." Docketed: "Dan^l Tillinghasts/Letter Mc^h. 20th 1778."

1. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
2. Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy*.

JOURNAL OF THE RHODE ISLAND NAVY SCHOONER GALLEY *SPITFIRE*,
CAPTAIN JOSEPH CRANDALL

March 1778

Remarks at Tiverton. [*at Howland's Ferry, R.I.*]Fryday 20th

Fine Pleasant weather wind, @ SW AM. Came to sail saw, a Number of British Mercenaries,¹ on the Heights near Common Fence Point, gave them, Six Swivell Shot, Stood up the Reaver.² went, Round Common Fence, gave them, 2 Eighteen pound Shott 2 Three ditto, & 1 Six pound Ditto, which cause them to disperce Retn^d, One Shott from their Fort at The Ferry;³ but did no Damage. Landed, with a Small Party E Side, of the point, but Saw, none of Enemy

D, UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/455/1. Title: "A Journal, began, on Board, the Galley *Spitfire*, belonging to the State, of Rhode Island, & Comanded, by, Cap^t Jos, Crandall," (Feb.–May 1778).

1. Men from the 43d Foot collecting wood on Common Fence Point. See Diary of Captain Frederick Mackenzie, 16 Mar., and 18 Mar., both above.

2. Pocasset River.
3. Howland's Ferry.

THE CONNECTICUT GAZETTE; AND THE UNIVERSAL INTELLIGENCER
FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1778

NEW-LONDON, March 20.

Capt. Williams who arrived here last Week from the West Indies, has given us a further Account of Vessels belonging to New-England, which are arrived in the West Indies, viz.

Brig *Swift*, Young; schooner *Polly*, Ailger; sloop *Betsey*, Kilby; schooner *Chance*, Smith; schooner *Neptune*, Meserve; Brig *Charming Sally*, Hammond; Brig *London*, Backliff; schooner *Prudence*, Boardman; schooner *Jane*, White; schooner —, Nichols; schooner *Nancey*, Cooper; schooner *Endeavour*, Elwell; sloop *Chance*, Cooper; sloop —, Doxey; schooner —, Pembleton.

Privateers in the West-Indies, belonging to the Northward.

Sloop *Revenge*, Freeborn;¹ Brig *Hamden*, Bartlet;² sloop *Revenge*, Sampson; Brig *General-Sullivan*, Darlin;³ ship *Cumberland*, Collins;⁴ schooner *Lincoln*, Margeson;⁵ sloop *Ramble*,⁶ —; sloop *Fly*,⁷ Stanton.

The Privateer Brig *Fairfield*, Capt. Hovey,⁸ is arrived at Bedford [*in Dartmouth*], from a Cruize.

About 30 Sail of the Enemy's Shipping are lying in Gardiner's Bay, having some Men of War with them.

1. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*, Isaac Freeborn, commander, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 60 seamen, was commissioned on 30 Apr. 1777 and owned by John Dean and Mungo Mackay, of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 7, p. 50.

2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*, John Bartlett, commander, mounting 14 carriage guns, a crew of 60 seamen, was commissioned on 29 Nov. 1777 and owned by Jonathan Ingersoll, of Salem and George Cabot, of Beverly. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, pp. 100, 103.

3. New Hampshire privateer brigantine *General Sullivan*, Thomas Dalling, commander, mounting 14 carriage guns, a crew of 100 seamen, was commissioned on 13 Sep. 1777 and owned by Eliphalet Ladd and others, of Exeter, N.H. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 6, p. 43 (M247, roll 203).

4. Massachusetts privateer ship *Cumberland*, James Collins, commander, mounting 20 carriage guns, a crew of 180 men, was commissioned on 12 and 13 Sept. 1777 and owned by Paul Dudley Sargent, Nathaniel Crafts and Job Prince, of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 5, pp. 112, 115.

5. Massachusetts privateer schooner *General Lincoln*, John Margeson, commander, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 50 seamen, was commissioned on 22 Dec. 1777 and owned by Philip Moore, of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 5, pp. 323, 326.

6. American privateer sloop *Rambler*, Nathaniel Monro, commander. See NDAR 10: 481, 481n, 810.

7. American privateer sloop *Fly* was fitted out at Martinique in the spring of 1777 and originally was commanded by Thomas Palmer. See NDAR 9: 93, 108, 180, 195, 223-24.

8. Rhode Island privateer sloop *Fairfield*, James Hovey, commander, was commissioned on 28 Oct. 1777 and owned by Amos Hubbard and others. William Paine Sheffield, *Rhode Island Privateers* (Newport, R.I.: John P. Sanborn, Printer, 1883), p. 60.

ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NEW JERSEY

[Extract]

[Trenton] Friday, March 20, 1778

...The Navy Board of the State of *Pennsylvania*, having applied to his Excellency the Governor to give Orders for procuring a Number of Carriages and Teams, to be used in removing the Guns and Stores belonging to some of the Gallies under the Care of the said Board, to a Place of Safety; which Application his Excellency has been pleased to lay before the House, and also to request that they will interpose and direct such Measures to be taken as the Exigency of the Case may require.

Resolved,

That the President and Council of Safety be empowered for the Space of twenty Days, to give Orders for impressing such and so many Carriages, Teams and Drivers as may be necessary for the Purpose, to be continued in Service for a Term not exceeding six Days at any one Time; provided that the said Navy Board engage to pay the Owners of the said Carriages and Teams so impressed like Wages as they are allowed when in the Service of the Continent.

Ordered,

That Mr. *Schenck* and Mr. *Westcot* do wait on the Council, and desire their Concurrence in the said Resolution.

Mr. *Schenck* reported, that Mr. *Westcot* and himself obeyed the Order of the House.

Votes and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of New-Jersey. At a Session begun at Trenton on the 28th Day of October 1777, and continued by Adjournments until the 8th of October 1778 (Trenton, 1779), 86.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO MAJOR GENERAL HORATIO GATES,
PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL BOARD OF WAR

[Extract]

Sir Head Quarters Valley Forge 20th: March 1778

... I am getting the heavy Cannon that were saved out of the Shipping upon Delaware mounted upon travelling Carriages, they are very fine Iron 18 and 24 pounders and I suppose will amount to about twelve. If we should take a post below the City, they, with the heavy Brass Artillery and the Mortars will be of the greatest use to us, but the Cannon will be too heavy to move any great distance. I have the honor [&c.]

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Major Gen^l Gates." Docketed: "20th March 1778/to/Maj^r Gen^l Gates/Presid^t Board War." The omitted portions of the letter concern the increase of advanced pickets to discover the recent movements of the British Army, British attempts to procure horses, and the establishment of two main Continental arsenals for artillery and military stores at Carlisle, Pa., and Springfield, Mass.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Friday, March 20, 1778

Congress took into consideration the report of the Marine Committee;¹ Whereupon,

Resolved, That officers of the continental navy not in actual service, be allowed their pay, but not their rations, nor the subsistence money allowed by the resolution of the 25 July, 1777:²

That such officers of the navy as are or may be taken by the enemy, be allowed the pay while in the enemy's possession or under parole, and rations during their captivity, deducting therefrom such supplies, as they may, in that time, have received from the enemy.

JCC 10: 272.

1. DNA, PCC, Report of the Marine Committee (M332, roll 6, fol. 30); see Journal of the Continental Congress, 8 Jan., above.

2. See NDAR 9: 337-38.

CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

D^e General Wilmington March 20th: 1778

Inclosed You have an Invoice of the Goods taken from On Board the Schooner *Alert*¹ & Ships *Mermaid* & *Kitty*² the Intrenching Tools You mentioned are Stolen by the Inhabitants together with about one fourth Part of the Cargo taken out of the Vessels I Should Be much Obliged to Your Excellency to Appoint Some Person at Middletown or Order them there to purchase what things You may Judge necessary for the Army as I wish they may have the Preference, the Capturers In general Expect the Articles to be sold at Publick sale in about ten days from this Date. I likewise Send You a Rough Draft of New York Island which Probably may be of Service to You.

The Enemy have forty Sail of Vessels up Salem Creek & about thirty more On the Delaware abreast of the Creek. they have from the Best information I Can collect about fifteen hundred Men Landed & am Satisfied their Intent[ions] is for Stock & forage Shall By the Earliest Opportunity Transmit to Your Excellency Every movement of the Enemy I Possibly Can Collect. Subscribe myself Your Excellencys [&c.]

John Barry

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "To His Excell^{cy} Gen^l Washington."

1. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., and Captain's Journal of H.M.S. *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., above.

2. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master. See *Ibid.*

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dear Sir,

Wilmington March 20th. 1778

The Enemys Fleet still remain down below Reedy Island, except such Transports as conveyed off the Invalids &c—various accounts of the Numbers, from 1,200 to 2,000, some are said to have marched down by Land, others to have landed from the Fleet near Salem, they have plundered, and were the other Day carrying off Forage, the Jersey Militia took & sent over here nine of their Seamen, they landed a small Party on Wednesday, and took out a Private Boat from Hamborough—They give out their Intentions are to destroy our Salt Works at Egg Harbour, to collect all the Forage adjacent to the River on both Sides, and to destroy this Place & Marcus hook in their Way up—I have ordered the removal of all the Hay that possibly can be carried from the River course, and have a Party below for that purpose and to burn such as cannot be moved, shou'd they attempt a Descent on this Side the Delaware—Cap^t Rumford is just setting out,¹ which prevents my adding more, than that I have the honor to remain [&c.]

W. Smallwood

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "General Washington."

1. Capt. Jonathan Rumford, Delaware Battalion of the Flying Camp.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO ROBERTSON STEVENS

Sir.

In Council [*Annapolis*] 20th March 1778.

We send Capt. Matthews¹ to Cambridge for all the Public Goods which are lodged there; you'll therefore please to deliver them to the Captain and dispatch him as fast as possible—We are Sir &c^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, S 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "M^r Robertson Stevens." Stevens (or Stephens) was sheriff of Dorchester County.

1. Capt. Bennett Mathews, commanding Maryland Navy galley *Independence*.

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO CAPTAIN BENNETT MATHEWS

[*Annapolis*] In Council 20 March 1778.

Ordered that the Treasurer of the Western Shore pay to Bennett Mathews One hundred Pounds for the use of the Galley *Independance* on Account—

Th Johnson

DS, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-132/33.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[Williamsburg] Friday the 20th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt, deliver to Mr John Smallwood three tons of Iron for the use of the Chickahominy Shipyard.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick store, deliver to Captain Thomas Lilly three thousand ten penny nails, two thousand eight penny ditto, one thousand six penny ditto, fifty pound of two shilling ditto, and fifteen pound twine for the Use of the ship *Gloucester*—¹

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 366.

1. Virginia Navy ship *Gloucester*, Capt. Thomas Lilly, commander.

“AT A COURT OF ADMIRALTY HELD IN THE CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG,
THE 20TH DAY OF MARCH 1778.”

ANY person claiming any share or interest in sundry articles of rigging, &c. taken on the high seas by *James Barron* and his crew, said to belong to the *Richmond*, a *British* vessel of war, are desired to come into Court and claim the same, as is directed by law, otherwise the Court will proceed to condemnation of the effects, and decree the money arising from the sales thereof according to law.

By order of the Court.

WILLIAM RUSSELL, clerk.

Purdie's *Virginia Gazette* (Williamsburg), 3 Apr. 1778.

CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW, R.N., TO COLONEL CHARLES HARRISON

Sir *S^t Albans*. Hampton Road. march y^e 20th. 1778.

Upwards of Thirty Negroes have just escaped from a boat [*at*] Portsmouth on Board His Maj^{ys} Ship *S^t Albans*. If I could be assured upon your Honor, that the Negroes would not be punish beaten or mistreated, I should be induced to return them and that sort of treatment, towards those miserable wretchs would induce me not to detain any of them by which means Individuals would regain a considerable part of their property. A contrary Conduct will oblige me to assist those people towards geting clear of the State of Virginia. I shall be gald [i.e., *glad*] of your Answer, by the return of the Flag. I am [&c.]

R^d. Onslow

L, PWacD, Sol Feinstone Collection of the American Revolution, no. 1042. Addressed at the foot: “Colonel Harrison.”

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

March 78 Moored in Hampton Road Virginia
Friday 20th. Light airs and Clear W^r AM Came off thirty five Negroes¹
unbent the Sails began Tarring the Standing Rigging &
Blacking the Yards sent a Flag of Truce to Portsmouth.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. See Captain Richard Onslow, R.N., to Colonel Charles Harrison, immediately above.

THURMER HOGGARD TO CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE

S^rVirginia Princess Anne, March y^e 20th 1778

I presume you have Long ere now been inform'd that I engaged With Mess^{rs}. Maxwell & Loyall,¹ to Cant a frame for one of the Frigates to be built at Gosport,² for one thousand Pounds, and as I am a considerable sufferor by Said undertakeing, take the liberty to enclose An Acc^t of the Timber at the prices they realy cost me, after rating my workmen & at the most reasonable Wages, and entreat the favour of you to lay it before the Honble Congress, in hopes they will give Directions to Mess^{rs}. Maxwell & Loyall to pay me the Bal^l. The Bearer M^r Stodder³ will do me the faver to give you any further information that may be required & I am [&c.]

Thurmer Hoggard

P.S. As Capt Tho^s Tolbut [*Talbot*] Agread for the other frame and is Since Dead and left me Ex^{ct} hope that frame may be Consider'd in the Same manner⁴ And Oblige y^{rs}

T.H.

L, DNA, PCC, item 78, vol. 11 pp. 293–96 (M247, reel 96). Addressed: “The Chairman of the Marine Cummittee of Congress/at/york Town/Pensylvania/ ~~th~~ faver of M^r Stodder.” Docketed: “Letter from Thurmer Hoggard/Virginia Princess Ann—/March 20. 1778/recvd 6 April.—/referred to the marine Com^c/who are directed to report.”

1. James Maxwell and Paul Loyall, Joint Commissioners for Building Two Continental Frigates at Gosport, Va.

2. On 20 Nov. 1776 the Continental Congress authorized the construction of two frigates in Virginia. *NDAR* 7: 223; 10: 631–32.

3. David Stodder (or Stoddart), Joint Commissioner with Paul Loyall of the Continental Ship Yard at Gosport.

4. *NDAR* 10: 1193–94, 1194–95.

GOVERNOR PATRICK TONYN TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

[Extract]

N^o. 52.

My Lord;

The province has remained in perfect tranquility I have the honour to inform your Lordship, notwithstanding the reports of the rebels preparations to invade this province with a considerable force, which gradually subsides: a party of them advanced towards Saint Mary River, and returned without effectuating any thing.

Upon every occasion I, my Lord, communicate my intelligence to Brigadier General Prevost, and no parties of observation from the Rangers¹ penetrate into Georgia without his previous approbation: I am, my Lord, solicitous of cooperating with him in harmony for the benefit of the King's service, but the Brigadier General declines attacking the province of Georgia with His Majesty's Troops, without positive orders from General Sir William Howe.

Captain Fanshawe² has, my Lord, chearfully given every assistance and has ordered Captain Jordan³ of the *Galatea* to protect the province. Lieutenant Ellis⁴ of the *Hinchinbrook* and Captain Mowbray⁵ of the *Rebecca* will secure the inland passage, at my desire the *Galatea* is gone into Frederica,⁶ while the others are to enter the inlets north of the Gallies Station and to pass up towards the *Galatea*, by which

means I expect to destroy the Gallies, and I hope, my Lord they will secure the inland passage and frustrate the designs of the rebels.⁷

I ordered Lieutenant Colonel Brown,⁸ my Lord, of the Rangers to penetrate as a Corps of observation the province of Georgia. He with a party of Rangers and a few Indians with very little loss has taken by assault Fort Barrington with twenty three prisoners, destroyed the Cannon, and, my Lord, burned this Fort. . . .

His Majesty's Frigates, my Lord, and the Privateers have been very successful in taking prizes, which are chiefly french Merchantmen. near four hundred french Men prisoners have been brought here. I provided Vessels to convey them to the french West India Islands, three are gone, and a fourth is preparing to depart. Monsieur De Bretignie⁹ and his Corps of Officers are still prisoners in the Statehouse, I shall send them to England to receive your Lordships commands by the first safe opportunity.

I have the honour to enclose to your Lordship a copy of a letter found in a Dutch prize taken by a letter of Marque, Captain Bachope,¹⁰ it will shew to your Lordship the rebel correspondence in England &^{ca}.

I have the honour to be with the greatest respect My Lord [&c.]

Pat. Tonyn

St Augustine 20th March

1778

L, UKLPR, C.O. 5/558, fols. 113–14. Addressed below close: "Right Honourable/Lord George Germain." Docketed: "St Augustine March 20 1778/Gov^r Tonyn/(N^o 52)/R, June 6th/(Inclosures 2)/Ent^d."

1. East Florida Rangers.

2. Capt. Robert Fanshawe, commanding H.M.S. *Carysfort*.

3. Capt. Thomas Jordan, R.N.

4. Lt. Alexander Ellis, R.N.

5. Capt. John Mowbray, commanding the East Florida province armed sloop *Rebecca*.

6. Probably St. Simons Sound into which the Frederica River flows from the northwards.

7. See Captain Thomas Jordan, R.N., to Governor Patrick Tonyn, 17 Mar., above.

8. Lt. Col. Thomas Brown.

9. Charles-François Sévelinges, "Marquis" de Brétigny (Brétigny). See Governor Patrick Tonyn to Lord George Germain, 26 Jan., above.

10. Peter Le Poole (Peter La Pole) to Samuel Downing, 17 Nov. 1777, UKLPR, C.O. 5/558, fols. 117–18. Contrary to Tonyn's report, the capture of the Dutch brig *Batavear* was credited to H.M.S. *Carysfort* and H.M.S. *Lizard*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Carysfort*, 1 Feb., above, and Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 238–39.

COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N., TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

On board His Britannic

Majesty's Sloop of War the *Sylph* on

the River Mississippi 20th March 1778

Sir

I have received by the hands of an officer your letter of the 18th Instant, in return to mine of the 15th. and am sorry to say, that your answer is little satisfactory in so much that you have granted only part of my demand, in consenting to give up part of the British Property, and you have given no answer to my proposal of the other part of the property, being deposited with your Excellency, till the pleasure of your Court is known. It was not necessary for your Excellency, to point out to me the Article of the Treaty of Peace respecting the limits of this Country, as I was before fully instructed on that head.

You have also been pleased to alter your Sentiments with regard to the Privileges of the River Mississippi, expressed in your Correspondence with Capt^m Lloyd; perhaps you may be right, but that is a point, I will not take upon me to determine. I will only beg leave to remind you of what you observed to the above Gent[leman] on the same Subject in your Letter of the 26th. April 1777,¹ you say that we ought mutually to preserve respect for the Territories of both King's—Had your Excellency observed that rule, you would not have permitted the British Ship called the *Rebecca*, to have been taken within Musquit shot of Fort St^t Gabriel, belonging to his Catholic Majesty, and under your command. I will again repeat to your Excellency, what I have before advanced, that you have admitted into your Government a Body of Armed Men, Enemies to the King my Master, & suffered them from thence to make War against his Subjects, & seize their property in the Mississippi, which you allow only to be free to Great Britain & Spain.

Now I will ask your Excellency, how it is possible for me to discriminate between the Subjects of Spain, & the Enemies of Great Britain, as they are so intermixed between, and enjoy the same protection under your Government. You have been pleased to say, that the Treaties of Peace, and the privileges of your Government have been often violated by British Men of War; if so, your Excellency certainly knew where to seek for redress; and you cannot think me responsible for the faults of others, or that I will give up a just claim on such assertions, no, I will firmly adhere to my demand and if you think it a point of too much importance to be settled between you & me, it must be determined by our respective Courts. I will again urge that whatever part [of] the British Property, now in question, you think yourself not at liberty to restore, may remain deposited with your Excellency, till the pleasure of your Court is known.

I cannot help feeling for the great distress of my fellow Subjects, now in your Province, and I am exceedingly alarmed for the consequences, that may attend the measures, that you have adopted, & seem now to pursue against them, measures that I am apprehensive will eventually draw upon your Country the Calamities of War. I have the satisfaction to say that since my Arrival in this River I have most scrupulously kept inviolate the Treaties of Peace, now subsisting between our Nations if you have done so, it remains hereafter to be determined, & most certainly your Excellency will be answerable for the consequences.

In my last letter to your Excellency, I mentioned my ultimate resolution respecting a salute & visit.

I must now advance a few words, in answer to what you say, is customary in the Ports of Europe where Loyalists and British American Rebel Subjects are equally received; I agree with you, that such revolted Subjects have been received in several parts of Europe, but I averr, that they have never been permitted to land in Arms, in The Territories of any Prince or Potentate in Europe, and from thence to commit hostilities against the Liege Subjects of His Britannic Majesty either in the Harbours of such Prince & Potentates, or within Gun-Shot of their Coasts. I will farther Acknowledge, that British Ships and Vessels have been taken at sea by American Privateers and carried into different Ports of Eurpope, where they have been introduced as American property, and sold by private sale, but when timely information was given to the British Ministers, they have been constantly claimed, and upon their Owners proving their property have been delivered up to them,

and I have no reason to doubt, that the Same Justice will be done in America when timely application is made in the name of His Britannic Majesty.

I am now to conclude having advanced every argument, that a sense of my duty, humanity and love to Justice can suggest to me, and I hope that your Excellency is actuated by the same sentiments, and that you will admit the Justice of my claim: To which your definitive answer is requested. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Jn^o. Fergusson

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed below the close: "His Excellency Don Barnardo de Galvez/Gov^r Louisiana." Docketed: "Copy of Captⁿ. Fergussons/Letter to Gov^r Galvez/20th. March 1778/In Sr Peter Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778—."

1. See *NDAR* 8: 446–47.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N.

Sir

The two last points of your letter,¹ to which I promised in mine a separate answer,² were your complaints against the American Officer, and my intention in sending you six Granadiers.

As the first of these points, you will give me leave (tho' we both know the case) to mention it in writing, that it may be an undeniable fact; because if our Courts read the expressions of insult and others relative to this affair, they would really think, that I would not have given you, & to your Flag a competent satisfaction. The fact (as I have been informed) was this: the Americans plac'd themselves opposite to your Ship and hailed, from whence came you, and was answered, that no answers were given to Rebels or Banditti, to which words several others of the same kind were added, and to which the Americans replied; since we are such, we will come this night and pay you a Visit with two hundred Men—

In which of these expressions, is there an affront offered to you or your Flag. If the officer has behaved improperly, it is to me, in threatening from a place, from whence it is not permitted, and for which he has given me ample satisfaction before the officers of my Court, as well as he would have done to you, if you had chose to accept of it: so that without further reflections I do not find any reason to deliver you the said officer, as you demand it; these threats proceeded from imprudence and levity, you may call them an insult, but not an affront—This insult (and it was nothing else) consisted in words, and in words, ought to have consisted the satisfaction. If it had been in facts, his person would have been your satisfaction: this is Justice, and any other pretensions are needless.

In regard to the six Granadiers & a Corporal, which with my Boat & the Royal Flag were to stay along side of your Ship. I must be very little acquainted with war (tho' it is my profession) had I thought, that seven Men could be capable of defending your Ship, which I took upon to be well armed. If my ideas had been to reinforce her, I would not have sent so small a Number; a reinforcement is useless, if its object is not to assure victory at the end of a battle.

What I mean is, on the contrary to prevent the beginning of an engagement. This being supposed, and the Americans alledging, that those vessels have been taken in this River, and that they have the right of reprisals in the same River. To prevent any rash attempt I sent neither the Boat, nor the Grenadiers, but a Flag of

a King which is respected by the Americans. Moreover as soon as you complain to me of an insult and demand satisfaction from me, I think myself responsible, as soon as you lay the effects to my charge, it is incumbent upon me to prevent them for the future, and how if it is so, can you be surprised, that I take the only step, which secures you from insults & complaints, and me from responsibility and satisfactions. In short you thought my intentions were good, & you was in the right, because I am not capable of entertaining bad ones against any body—&c

(signed) Bernardo de Galvez

New Orleans

March 20th. 1778

Copy, UkLPR, Adm. 1/241. Docketed: "Gov^r. Galvez's Letter to/Captⁿ. Fergusson March 20/1778/In Sir Pet^r Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778."

1. See Commander John Fergusson, R.N., to Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez, 14 Mar., second letter, above.

2. See Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez to Commander John Fergusson, R.N., 14 and 15 Mar., above.

DONALD CAMPBELL TO COLONEL JOHN STUART

Copy

Dear Sir

I wrote you by express twelve days ago, the return of which express I impatiently wait for: the Situation of matters are very little altered since, only M^r Christie¹ has surprised the Party at Manchac, has taken, Killed or Wounded 16 out of 25 that was there, but they having soon a reinforcement he prudently retired and they have proceeded up the River to plunder whatever was left un plundered before, and carrie away some Negroes that had not got over to the Spanish side, What could Induce your Governor to send so few men had 200 been sent afirst all would be over, and it would be only the first loss but now from the Quantity of Plunder many has and more will be induced to Join them, they are now about 200 and had M^r Christie but 50 Men and a few Indians he would have prevented their going past Manchac, nothing but certain ruin attend every Person in this River and they have distroyed all the provisions on the Amitt² and now talk of doing the same to every place along the lakes and Mobile Bay, and then about Pensacola. Your Brother³ is safe here, he arrived last night nothing Material has been done by the Man of War,⁴ some of the Council ought to be sent, I am afraid he is too warm, and all the Property which is very considerable is now on the Spanish Side and its but doing Don Galves the Justice due to him to say he has given protection to every person who desired it, and should Captⁿ. Ferguson quarrel with him every person here is ruined without redemption, wishing you health & happiness I am [&c.]

Signed.—Don^d. Campbell

New Orleans

March 20th 1778.

I request my letters may not be seen so as to send Copys back for some letters which Col^l. Hutchins⁵ wrote your Governor last year Copys were sent to Congress and he is now in Custody and all his Negroes taken from him for that reason, of this Mr Willing made no secrete.

L, UKLPR, C.O. 5/79, 99-100. Addressed at the foot of the first page: "The Honorable John Stuart Esq^r" Docketed: "New Orleans 20th. March 1778/Copy of a letter from/M^r Donald Campbell to the/Superintendent/In M^r Stuart's (N^o 23)/of 13th. April 1778./(8)."

1. Adam Chrystie, a magistrate of the Manchac District.
2. Amite River.
3. Henry Stuart.
4. H.M. sloop *Sylph*, Comdr. John Fergusson, commanding.
5. Lt. Col. Anthony Hutchins of West Florida.

March 21

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 21st 1778—

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins¹ receive of Cap^t John McNear, two Cannon 3 pounders, with their Appurtenances from Prize Brig^t *Favorite*.²—

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins deliver Cap^t John McNear for M^r Timothy Parsons 20 Fathom 3 1/2 Inch Ropes to secure Masts at Pownalborough.—

Voted, That John Brown Esq^f be desir'd to write Timothy Parsons respecting further securing Masts at Pownalborough—

Order'd, That John McNear for freight of Sundries from Tim^o Parsons at Pownalborough, belonging to Brig^t *Favorite* be paid . . . £4..16.— (Prize Acco^t)

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins deliver D^r John Warren from Brig^t *Favorite*, for the Continental Hospital Eighty Eight Yards old Linnen.— (ch^d. in May 17.)—

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins deliver D^r Gardner³ for the State Hospital, from Brig^t *Favorite*, 44^{ds}. old Linnen valu'd @ £9

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777-1778), 260-61.

1. Caleb Hopkins.

2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*. She was formerly the British Army transport *Favorite*, John Bell, master, captured by the Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Massachusetts* on 22 Apr. 1777. See NDAR 8: 787, 787-88, 788n; 9: 186. Brigantine *Favorite* served Massachusetts subsequently as a prison ship, Roger Bartlet, commander, in Boston harbor and as a cartel vessel to Halifax, Lt. John Brown, commander. See NDAR 9: 981-82; 10: 67, 236, 451, 748, 748n, 778, 793, 837, 838n.

3. Dr. Joseph Gardner.

RIVINGTON'S *THE ROYAL GAZETTE* (NEW YORK),

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1778

New-York, March 21.

It is determined by government that a Royal Dock-Yard shall be established at New-York, in order to which we are informed, the Right Hon. the Lords of the Admiralty, have appointed Edward Le Cras, Esq; a native of the island of Jersey, and two and twenty years Captain in the Royal Navy, to be Commissioner.

It has been also resolved, that Letters of Marque and Reprisal shall be issued at New-York to cruizers against the enemy's shipping, and it is reported that General Tryon will give public notice when his Excellency shall think proper for the owners of them to apply for their commissions. . . .

"This week arrived a fine French frigate built Ship of 600 tons burthen, mounting 24 guns,¹ mann'd with 100 Frenchmen) Laden with sundry goods from

Old France, taken by his Majesty's ship *SOLEBAY*, off the Capes of Virginia; which ship has brought under her convoy the following prizes lately taken by his Majesty's ships on the Cheasepeak station, viz. a large ship laden with Tobacco,² taken by his Majesty's ship[s] *SOLEBAY* & *RICHMOND*; a French ship,³ taken by his Majesty's ships *St. ALBANS* and *OTTER*; a schooner from Boston,⁴ with 116 Bushels salt taken by the *SOLEBAY*; and a large ship (which was coming in under Danish colours)⁵ taken by his Majesty's ships *RICHMOND*, *SOLEBAY* and *SENEGAL*, in sight of the *St. ALBANS* riding in Hampton road.

On the first inst. (March) a large Frigate like ship (supposed to be French) with bright sides,⁶ coming into the Capes was chased the whole day by the *SOLEBAY*, and would have been taken, but a dark night too soon coming on facilitated her escape, as did a French ship of 40 guns richly laden,⁷ consort to the *SOLEBAY*'s prize,⁸ from the *St. ALBANS* and *SOLEBAY*, (on the 23d past.) More ships are daily expected at the Cheasepeak, from Old France, cleared out for St. Domingo, but have all false names, and false clearances for America (26 are bound to Virginia, with an intention to carry home tobacco,) but we hope there will be a good account given of them, and that we shall have the pleasure of seeing most of them arrive safe at New-York, for the benefit of the captors."

... On Thursday was sent into this port, by his Majesty's sloop *Galatea*, a French ship, *Rosiore D'Artois*, of 220 tons,⁹ loaded at Nantz; had proceeded to Hispaniola, where she took in some molasses and taffia, to revive the spirits of the drooping.

Invoices of her cargo at Nantz amount to a considerable sum. . . .

The schooner *Esther*, late Joseph Mount master, a famous patriot for Liberty, and one of the first who inlisted seamen for the Congress in this place, was taken by the armed sloop *Hammond*, Captain Bridgen Goodrich,¹⁰ loaded with 65 hogsheads of tobacco, from South Quay, in Virginia, for Martinico, in lat. 34 : 10, North, long. 70 West from London. Captain Goodrich had taken two empty New-England vessels, a Monsieur from Hispaniola with salt and *bijoutrie*, which were sent to Bermuda for condemnation.—Since the 1st of December he hath taken nine prizes.

1. French ship *Vicomte de Vaux*, Pierre Marie Donat de la Garde, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 23 Feb., above.

2. Maryland State trading ship *Lydia*, Ignatius Fenwick, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 9 Feb., and Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 9 Feb., above.

3. French ship *Fortune*, Joseph Mass (or Masse), master. See Journal of H.M.S. *St. Albans*, 30 Jan., above.

4. Schooner *Newport*, John Groce, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 5 Mar., above.

5. French ship *Hector*, Charles Porée, master, from St. Malo to Chesapeake Bay, with salt and cordage. See Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 12 and 13 Mar., and Journal of H.M.S. *Senegal*, 13 Mar., above.

6. French ship *Ferdinand*, a long frigate-built ship, mounting 44 guns and manned by 250 seamen. H.M.S. *Solebay* and H.M.S. *Senegal* chased her until 7 Mar. when they returned to Chesapeake Bay. See Captain Richard Onslow, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 9 Mar., above.

7. French ship *Lyon*, mounting 44 guns and manned by 250 seamen, was in company with the ship *Vicomte de Vaux* and was chased out of Chesapeake Bay on 24 Feb. by H.M.S. *St. Albans*. See Captain Richard Onslow, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 2 Mar., above.

8. French ship *Vicomte de Vaux*.

9. French ship *La Rosière D'Artois* (*The Rose Queen of Artois*), D'Archambaut, master, from Port-au-Prince to Charleston, with sugar, wine and dry goods. Her name is misspelled as *La Rigiere d'Artois* on Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 239-40. See Journal of H.M.S. *Galatea*, 2 Feb., above.

10. Bridgen Goodrich.

ORDER OF THE NEW JERSEY PRIVY COUNCIL

[Extract]

[Trenton]

A Message from the Council by Mr. *Keasby*.*Council-Chamber, March 21, 1778.**Ordered,*

THAT Mr. *Keasby* wait on the House of Assembly, and inform them that the Council concur in the Resolution contained in their Message of Yesterday, by Mr. *Schenck* and Mr. *Westcot*, relative to the impressing of Carriages and Teams for removing the Guns and Stores belonging to some of the Gallies, to a Place of Safety.

Mr. *Cook* reported, that Mr. *Mac Murtrie* and himself obeyed the Order of the House.

Votes and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of New-Jersey. At a Session begun at Trenton on the 28th Day of October 1777, and continued by Adjournments until the 8th of October 1778 (Trenton, 1779), 88.

THE PENNSYLVANIA LEDGER: OR THE PHILADELPHIA MARKET-DAY ADVERTISER,
SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1778

PHILADELPHIA.

About four or five weeks since, sixteen young fellows left this city in a shallop and a flat, to go down to Muskmelon creek,¹ in order to purchase provisions; on the passage down, just below Reedy-Island, the shallop with eight of them on board, and armed with two four pounders and three swivels, was attacked and fired upon by a galley, with twenty-five armed men on board;—after receiving two or three fires, by which time they had got pretty near each other, the shallop returned the fire from her two four-pounders and swivels all at once, which cut away the gally's main-mast, and obliged her to run into Duck creek: The shallop then proceeded down, and joined the flat at Muskmelon,—where, while they were busy purchasing provisions and loading their vessel, a schooner, a sloop, and a number of armed boats, came down to take them; and being too powerful for them to encounter, they quitted their vessels, and having got ashore, eleven of them travelled across the country to the head of Nanticoke,² where, having purchased a pettitauger for a half joe, ten of them went on board, with two muskets, and proceeded down to Tangier sound; after cruising six days, they boarded a schooner bound from Baltimore to Damn quarter,³—but finding she was going to purchase stock for some of the British men of war, four of them again took to their pettitauger, determined to make good their losses with the first rebel vessel they should meet;—they had now only one musket and two cartridges with them; two days after they fell in with a schooner, having three hundred bushels of wheat and three men on board, bound to Baltimore. This vessel also they boarded and took possession of, giving the men their choice, either to be put on board the first British frigate they should meet, or to take the pettitauger, and go ashore;—they accepting the latter, our adventurers proceeded in the schooner down Chesapeak to Cape Charles, where they expected to find some men of war; but, being disappointed, put to sea, with only three gallons of water, a peck of Indian meal, two gammons and a piece of pork: Two days after, they were chased into Cape

Henlopen, by a rebel privateer, which, luckily for them, grounded for about half an hour, in which time they got clear of her, and the privateer, after she got off, put to sea: they proceeded up the Bay, and arrived here Saturday last.

1. Mispillion River (Muspilion Creek), Del.
2. Nanticoke River, Md.
3. Damned Quarter (now Dames Quarter), Md.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL SAMUEL SMITH

Sir.

In Council Annapolis 21st March 1778.

We think it adviseable to make the Purchase of the Leather Breeches with the Deduction of 30s. a Pair as you mention. We inclose you an Order on M^r Dallam for the 20 Blankets & 20 Pair of Shoes and Stockings, the rest to be sent to Baltimore as indeed we long ago ordered, as to the Whole which might be collected in Harford.¹ We shall not be able we are apprehensive, to comply with your Request by Cap^t. Landsdale,² before we get the Goods from Cambridge which were purchased below & sent thither, we have amongst them, ready made Shirts, Shoes & Stockings and some Blankets; Part of the Cloth we shall send to Baltimore. A Galley³ is gone for the Goods and we hope to be soon relieved from our Difficulties, as to every thing but Blankets—We are Sir &^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, SM 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "Col^o. Samuel Smith." Smith was lieutenant colonel of the 4th Maryland Continental Regiment.

1. Harford County.
2. Capt. Thomas Lansdale.
3. Maryland Navy galley *Independence*, Capt. Bennett Mathews, commander. See Maryland Council to Robertson Stevens, 20 Mar., above.

ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO CAPTAIN RICHARD MURROW

In Council Annapolis 21st March 1778.

Ordered that the Western Shore Treasurer pay to Richard Murrow ten Pounds on Account for the Use of the State Boat The *Plater*¹

Th Johnson

D, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-132/36.

1. Maryland Navy armed boat/galley *Plater*, Capt. Richard Murrow, commander.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS*, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

March 78

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia.

Saturday 21st.

Mod^t Breezes & pleasant W^r AM Came alongside Six Negroes Employed Tarring the Rigging and Quarter Deck Nettings.

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia.

Fresh Breezes and Clear [PM] Saw five Ships at Anchor, two Just off Cape Henry and three further up the Bay,¹

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. The journal entry for 22 Mar. reads: "AM received a Flag of Truce from Portsmouth returned Several Negroes." Capt. Onslow wrote Col. Charles Harrison requesting a flag of truce to discuss the return of several negroes who had come on board *St. Albans*. See Captain Richard Onslow, R.N., to Colonel Charles Harrison, 20 Mar., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *SENEGAL*, COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY

March 1778
Saturday 21

C Henry SSE $\frac{1}{2}$ E 4 Lea^s Willoughbys point WbS $\frac{1}{2}$ S.
5 Lea^s

At 11 AM. saw a ship to the SE. of us, standing for the bay she fired a gun & made a Signal for a Pilot; we made the private signal & shewed French Colours, the other ships hoisted Rebell colours, prepared to weigh or cut & give chase.—

Ditto—

First & middle part fresh gales latter moderate P.M. hove to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cable but could not purchase our Anchor At 1 P.M cut & stood for the ship at Anchor in Lynnhaven bay with swedish colours,¹ at 2 fired a gun at her when she struck her colours, Anchored by her in 7 f^m. with the sm^l b^c C Henry ESE $\frac{1}{2}$ S. 2 or 3 Lea^s.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/885.

1. Swedish ship *Louisa Ulrica*, Peter Arvidson, master. See note to Journal of H.M. Sloop *Senegal*, 22 Mar., below.

INTELLIGENCE EXTRACTED FROM THE JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ANTELOPE*,
CAPTAIN CHARLES HOLMES EVERITT

Antelope in the Lattitude of 27:08 N^o: March 21st 1778

Spoke the *Comet* Packet from Pensacola & S^t: Augustine for Jamaica who sailed eleven days ago, the Master of her informed me that His Maj^s: Ships, *Perseus*, *Carrysfort*, *Lizard*, & *Galatier*¹ had all been at S^t: Augustine and brought into that Port, nine French Ships, they had taken out of eleven sail, that had sailed from Bourdoux, bound to South Carolina, no news of the movements of the American Rebels,

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240, fol. 515. Docketed: "Intelligence/In V.A. Gayton's Letter/Dated 20 April 1778." Enclosed in Vice Adm. Clark Gayton to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 20 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/240.

1. H.M.S. *Galatea*.

GOVERNOR PETER CHESTER TO BRIGADIER GENERAL AUGUSTINE PREVOST

Sir.—

Pensacola 21st March 1778

Colonel Stuart the Superintendent,¹ has this moment acquainted me, that within a few hours he shall dispatch an express to S^t: Augustine.

I therefore take the earliest opportunity of acquainting you, that in the Month of January last, one James Willing of Philadelphia,² Robert George,³ and Thomas M^c:Intyre,⁴ the first a Captain the other two Lieutenants in the Rebel Army, left Fort pitt with about 35 Men, and on their way down the Ohio and Mississippi, were joined by a Banditti, making in the whole about 100.

This body after having passed two parties of White men, and Indians undiscovered (which Colonel Stuart had posted in different parts of the Banks of the Mississippi, to prevent the Rebels penetrating by that Rout into the Colony) arrived at the Natchez on the 20th. of last Month at Night, and nearly at the same

time, by sending different detachments into the Country, surprized all the Magistrates and people of influence in that settlement who after some days conference entered into an engagement of Neutrality with the Rebels; they then proceeded down the river taking with them the Negroes and property of a M^r Hutchins and himself a Prisoner he being particularly obnoxious to them.

An advanced party on the 23^d Ult^{mo}: in the morning surprized a Ship called the *Rebecca* at Manchack mounted with sixteen carriage Guns, four pounders besides Swivels,⁵ and made the Inhabitants of that Settlement prisoners on their Parole: The Main body soon after joined by three or four People of the Natchez settlement, and a number of French and Spanish Batteau Men and other Banditti; laid waste all the Settlements from Point Coupe to Manchack, burning several houses and seizing upon all the Negroes and property of the Inhabitants, a very few excepted with this booty a part of them have proceeded to New Orleans, where it is said their plunder is to be disposed of at publick Auction, by one Oliver Pollock who has declared himself an Agent for the Congress, They also seized a Brig called the *Neptune* loaded for Jamaica about 11 leagues below New Orleans,⁶ and by the last accounts had increased their numbers to between three & four hundred.

Upon this Information, I sent Captain Ferguson⁷ of His Majesty's Sloop of War *Sylph* to the Mississippi, in order to intercept any of the Vessels they may have taken in attempting to get to Sea, and to demand Restitution from the Governor of Louisiana of all British property, brought by the Rebels into his Colony, and I have remonstrated against his giving them any protection or furnishing them with supplies

I have also requested Captⁿ Nunn⁸ of the *Hound* Sloop of War lately arrived here to join the *Sylph*, in the Mississippi, and desired that one of the Sloops may proceed to Manchack, to prevent their Return up the River and Obstruct the passage of a body of Rebels, who it is reported consist of 2000 (others say 3000) men and were to follow this party from Fort Pitt, under the command of Colonel George Morgan in that Service,⁹ and are expected to arrive here in May.

The Inhabitants of the Natchez have sent to me, desiring the assistance of 100 Men from this Garrison, and promising with this support to break their Neutrality and join the Troops against the Rebels, but I found upon consulting Lieu^t Colonel Stiell¹⁰ and other Officers of the Garrison, that such a Detachment could not be spared from hence, without endangering the safety of this place, should the Rebels come against it in any force: I have had the like application from the Inhabitants of Mobile to reinforce that Post, the loss of which would greatly distress us here and cut off our supply of Fresh Provisions, however it is not thought prudent to detach a Man from our present Strength; altho' I have the measure much at heart, and if Willing should be prevented, by the King's Ships in the Mississippi, from getting to Sea, and return to take Post at the Natchez; He will continue with his Banditti to keep possession of that country, unless the Chactaw Indians and what white men can be procured in their Nation, march against him.

Colonel Stuart has sent one his Commissaries upon this Service, and expects the Indians are all in motion, however we find after the great expence which it has cost Government in supporting these Savages, that they cannot be depended upon; one of his Commissaries M^r Alexander Cammeron having declared to me in

Council, that he did not think the Indians were to be depended upon, or could be brought to act, unless they had troops sent with them.

I am endeavouring if we can find Men to raise a Provincial Corps under the Command of John M^cGillevray Esquire, who has greater influence about Mobile, and with the Traders in the Indian Country, than any other Person in the Province: I however still doubt, whether he will be able to collect more than 100 Men, and that they will not agree to be embodied longer than for the Expedition to the Natchez; so that should this Party of the Rebels be drove out of the Colony and no Men kept up at the Natchez in future, to support the Inhabitants, they will not only abandon the Settlement but all the Inhabitants on the banks of the Mississippi and in the Western parts of the Province, will in my opinion also, remove, least a second plundering party should come against them, and which one hundred troops would have prevented.

There is great ground to believe the Rebels are meditating an attack upon us with considerable force, as I have intelligence from M^r Rocheblave¹¹ Commandant of the Illinois Country, also by a Deserter who arrived in the Province in February last, that there were a great number of large Batteau's lying in the Ohio at Fort Pitt, intended for some Expedition which must be against this Colony. I have therefore to request that you will send us what number of troops you can spare, at least to return the three Companies of the Sixteenth Regiment, who will not only enable Lieutenant Colonel Stiell, to make a Vigorous defence here, but afford to send such a Detachment to Mobile as will secure that Post, from falling into the hands of the Enemy.—

I have so short notice of the present opportunity that it will not be in my power to write to Governor Tonyn, I therefore beg you will communicate the Contents of this letter to his Excellency. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Copy, UkLPR, PRO 30/55, Gen. Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, no. 1030. Addressed at the foot: "Brigadier General Prevost." Docketed: "Copy/From his [~~E~~] Gov^r Chester/to/Brig Gen^l Prevost."

1. Col. John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Southern District.
2. Capt. James Willing, Continental Army.
3. Lt. Robert George, Clark's Illinois Regiment, Continental Army.
4. Lt. Thomas McIntyre, Independent Company in Western Pennsylvania, Continental Army.
5. Ship *Rebecca*, John Cox, master.
6. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.
7. Comdr. John Fergusson, R.N.
8. Comdr. Joseph Nunn, R.N.
9. Col. George Morgan, Continental Army, Deputy Commissioner General of Purchases.
10. Lt. Col. William Stiell, commanding British army at Pensacola.
11. Philippe François Rastel, Sieur de Rocheblave, British commandant of Fort Gage, at Kaskaskia.

COMMANDER JOSEPH NUNN, R.N., TO REAR ADMIRAL SIR PETER PARKER

Hound Sloop Pensacola
March 21st 1778.

Sir

I have been waiting here for the Governor's Dispatches¹ to the Governor of New-Orleans,² since I did myself the honour to write you the inclosed Letter of the 19th Instant,³ I have just now received them and shall proceed to Sea to-morrow Morning.

Enclosed I send the State & condition of his Majesty's Sloop under my Command, as well as those of the *Atalanta* & *Florida*, who is unfit for Service; and

Ship, *Mifflin*⁵ Captain McNeal⁶ Twenty, six and nine pounders, very long, a little Hog'd a Midships, Figure Head.

Ship *Hancock*⁷ (formerly the Jamaica Packet) Eighteen 6 Pounders, a Man Head, British built, black Sides long Royal Masts.

Ship, *Minerva*⁸ Captain Grimes, Twenty 9 Pounders (Guns formerly the *Syren's*)⁹ Bright sides, carries her Guns very high, a Woman's Head, very upright Stern, long Royal Masts.

Four new Brigs from fourteen to Sixteen Guns each with Figure heads.

Sloop *Providence*,¹⁰ Twelve Guns at Bedford

Sloop *Revenge*,¹¹ Twelve Guns at Bedford.

A Mate and Midshipman of the *Apollo* Prisoners at Bedford, taken by the *Revenge* Privateer,¹² about the 20th. of March in a Prize Sloop¹³ of the *Apollo's*

Several Merchantmen at Bedford bound to South Carolina and from thence to Bordeaux.

Not more than 2000 Troops from Point Judith to Providence.

General Putnam was at Boston about the middle of March, collecting Anchors and Cables to make a Boom for the North River across The Narrows, near Fort Montgomery.

The Rebel Troops that were intended for Canada are now at Albany and many discharged their time being out.

There are two large Continental Stores, in which are Cables (for their Continental Ships) Cordage Sail Duck in great quantities and other valuable Stores, transported from Boston to Mystick and Hingham between Plymouth and Boston, the occasion of this removal was for fear of an attack on Boston.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 226–27. Docketed: "Intelligence/respecting Armed Ships at/Boston the 23^d. March 1778./In Lord Howe's Letter/N^o 57." Enclosure No. 5 in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe's letter No. 57 to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 23 Apr. 1778.

1. Connecticut Navy ship *Defence*.
2. Capt. Samuel Smedley, Connecticut Navy.
3. Connecticut Navy ship *Oliver Cromwell*.
4. Capt. Timothy Parker, Connecticut Navy.
5. Massachusetts privateer ship *General Mifflin*.
6. Capt. Daniel McNeill.

7. Massachusetts privateer ship *Hancock*, Thomas Snoden, commander, owned by Mungo Mackay and Samuel White, merchants of Boston, was commissioned on 3 Apr. 1778. M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 139, p. 161. She had formerly been H.M. packet ship *Weymouth*, Charles Flynn, commander, employed as a packet between Jamaica and London. See NDAR 10: 33–34, 34–35, 45, 340.

8. Massachusetts privateer ship *Minerva*, John Grimes, commander, owned by John Cushing and Samuel White, merchants of Boston, was commissioned on 3 Apr. 1778. M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 139, p. 162.

9. H.M. frigate *Syren*. See NDAR 10: 498, 652.

10. Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

11. Probably the Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*, Ezekiel Burroughs, commander, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 50 seamen, owned by Mungo Mackay and William Shattuck, merchants of Boston, which was commissioned on 26 May 1778. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 7, p. 55; Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 168, p. 338.

12. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Revenge*, Isaac Freeborn, commander. See "Extract of a Letter from Bedford," 19 Mar., above.

13. Sloop *Sally*, Hezekiah Freeman, master. See *ibid*.

JAMES WARREN TO JOHN LANGDON

Sir

Plym^o. Mach 23^d. 1778

I am now at this place where your favour of the 18th: Instant by Cap^t. Ayres did not reach me till this Evening. I am Sorry to find the *Flamand* & her Crew in the Situation She is.¹ it would certainly be Improper if not Impracticable to proceed any further on the plan proposed by the Marine Committee.² & Have therefore determined on a Suspension of the orders given us. you will therefore not delay the Ship on that account. I sincerely wish you Clear of her. as I easily Conceive they give you much Trouble. I am in great haste [&c.]

Ja^s. Warren

L, Private Collection, Capt. J. G. M. Stone, Annapolis, Md., 1959. Addressed at the foot: "Hon^b: John Langdon Esq^r" Docketed: "James Warren's/Letter Plymouth/March 23^d 1778—"

1. When the ship left France, the crew of the *Flamand* were deceived by their captain regarding the ship's destination, believing they were bound for the West Indies instead of North America. They mutinied during the voyage and were suppressed with difficulty. Apparently, the captain and crew behaved badly while in Portsmouth, N.H., giving John Langdon a great deal of trouble. They refused to follow Congress's instructions to sail to Charleston, S.C. Continental Commerce Committee to John Langdon, 7 May 1778, Private Collection, Capt. J. G. M. Stone, Annapolis, Md., 1959.

2. See Continental Marine Committee to Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department, 23 Feb., above.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

23rd March. Fine clear day. Slight frost in the morning, but a very mild afternoon. Wind N.

Lord Howe, in The *Eagle* of 64 Guns, sailed out of the harbour at 12 this day for The Delaware. It is supposed he will call off Sandy hook, in order to have an interview with Commodore Hotham who commands at New York. There was no salute on his going out. His Lordship has been here since the 2^d January last.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 259.

JOHN DESHON TO WILLIAM VERNON

Dear Sir

New London March 23^d 1778

I find that Governor Trumbull and his Council have ordered Cap^tⁿ. John Cotton to get the Ship *Trumbull* out of Conecticut River. I know not by what Authority they Gave Such an order, however if the Ship is Got out Shall be Glad, you Shall know more ab^t this matter in my Next.—

Here is about thirty or forty Tons of Cordage and a quantity of Duck, Boath Suitable for the Ship at Norwich¹ Imported in the french Ship lately arived,² Suppose the Duck will be Sold at £36.. Cordage at £12.. I have Desired M^r. Nath^l. Shaw Jun^r to Receive boath those articals for the use of the Continent, & to Get them at the most Reasonable Rate

one Ton of Oakham has been Shipt from this for North River & I am Very Sure flax may be had much Cheaper there then Oakham, and is much Better for the use they want it for—I shall be Glad of a line from you and a little Good News, I Remain [&c.]

John Deshon

L, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80. Addressed at the foot: "W^m Vernon Esq^r/Providence."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy*.

2. Probably the French ship *Lyon*, Capt. J. Michel, which arrived at New London on 7 Mar.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *RAVEN*, COMMANDER JOHN STANHOPE

March 1778

Laying in Huntingdon Bay [*Long Island*]

Monday 23

(AM) sailed the above Sloop¹ got up lower yards and Top Gall-
Masts the Longboat wooding Loosed Sails at Merⁿ: handed D^o:

Laying in Huntingdon Bay

These 24 Hours light breezes and fair at 3 (PM) got the
Tender along Side put onboard Two four Pdr^s: with
Armenition accordingly and Two Petty Officers 15 Seamen a
Serjant Corprol and 8 Private Marines D^o: sailed the Tender
in Company with y^c Galley² to joine the *Halifax*³ &c^a. Likewise
a Boat Manned and Armed from the *Falcon*⁴

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/771.

1. H.M. sloop *Swan*, Comdr. James Ayscough, commander.

2. H.M. galley *Dependence*, Lt. James Clark, commander.

3. H.M. brig *Halifax*, Lt. William Quarme, commander.

4. H.M. sloop *Falcon*, Comdr. Harry Harmood, commander.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY *DEPENDENCE*, LIEUTENANT JAMES CLARK

March 1778

Entrance, Cow Neck Bay E ½ S 2½ miles—off Loyd's beech
½ Cable Dist—[*Long Island*]

Mondy 23^d:

AM. weighed & rowed out of Loyds Neck harbor. anchored
with the Best bower in 4 f^m. W^r: veered to ⅓ of a Cable—
Exercised Great Guns & small arms

Loyd's Head¹ NNW 1½ Miles

Calm the first P^t: with fair W^r: middle & latter light airs & vari-
able At 5 AM. [PM] weighed & rowed out of the Bay,² an-
chored off the Beech in 4 f^m. W^r: at 9 P.M. anchored here H:
M: Brigg *Halifax* & 2 tenders,³ at ½ past 10 P.M. weighed &
made S^l: received on board 26. marines.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1694, fol. 86.

1. Lloyd Point, *Long Island*.

2. Huntington Bay, *Long Island*.

3. One tender was from H.M. sloop *Raven* and the other was from H.M. sloop *Falcon*. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Raven*, 23 Mar., above.

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY, MONDAY, MARCH 23, 1778

NEW-YORK, March 23.

On Thursday evening and yesterday several vessels arrived here from Philadelphia, they are a part of the fleet of thirty sail of vessels, which left the river Delaware last Monday se'nnight, they bring the following accounts: The schooner *Alert*, Capt. Daniel Moore, had been taken off Reedy-Island by some rebel gallies; the passengers and principal property were immediately landed at Wilmington;

the vessel was in three hours fitted out and presently took and destroyed by fire, two vessels from Rhode-Island, laden with hay.¹ Soon afterwards, Sir James Wallace in his Majesty's ship *Experiment*, hove in sight, pursued, and re-took the *Alert*, but the rebels had prepared combustibles in the cabin to set her on fire, which from the briskness of the *Experiment's* people, was prevented. There were on board the *Alert*, Mrs. Willington, Mrs. Sproule, and her family, Lieut. Stratton, of the Royal Corps of Engineers, and a number of artificers in that department. We are informed that most kinds of provisions were plentiful, that all the foraging parties of the Royal army had proved very successful, they not having lost more than 12 men killed and wounded, during their several excursions. . . .

The brig *Polly*,² Capt. M^cDavitt, from Bristol for this port, after beating on the coast several weeks in the winter, stood away for the West-Indies, and was taken by a rebel privateer and carried into one of the French islands.

The Sloop *Active* Letter of Marque,³ Captain Powell, sailed from this Port the 20th of December, since which he has taken three brigs, two schooners, and one sloop; five of them he sent into Antigua, and carried one into St. Augustine, where he cleaned, took in a number of hands, and was gone on a cruize again.

1. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Experiment*, 9 Mar., and Journal of H.M.S. *Dispatch*, 9 Mar., above; and Captain Andrew Snape Hamond, R.N., to Philip Stephens, 26 Mar., and Captain James Ferguson, R.N., to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 27 Mar., below.

2. Brig *Polly*, B. M^cDavitt, master, 200 tons burthen, built at New York City in 1772, owned by Pennington of Bristol. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

3. Sloop *Active*, J. Powell, commander, 100 tons burthen, mounting ten 4-pounders and two 6-pounders, built in Bermuda in 1773, owned by N. Ashton, from Liverpool bound to New York. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EXPERIMENT*, CAPTAIN SIR JAMES WALLACE

March 1778
Monday 23

Moored off Billings Port in the River Delaware
Fine W^r: [AM] Sent a party of Marines and an Officer onshore to do duty at Billingsport. hulled ship & Boot topped with White Lead & Tallow. Sent our Boats Armed up the Creek.¹ to bring out some small Craft belonging to the Rebels—²

Moored off Billings Port in the River Delaware
D^o: W^r: PM finding Several Men belonging to a Brig onshore plundering the Inhabitants. we took them onb^d: and Confined them,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/331, fol. 122.

1. Mantua Creek, N.J.

2. On 24 Mar. the Journal records that "our Boats brought too small Boats down the Creek and Anchored them alongside us." Ibid. These possibly were Pennsylvania Navy armed boats (half galleys) that had operated as privateers in the lower Delaware during the winter.

LIEUTENANT ROBERT COLLINGS TO PENNSYLVANIA NAVY BOARD

Newingland Town 16 Miles up Cohansey creek [N.J.]
Gentlemen March y^e 23^d 1778.

I wrote to you By the Man that brought the Powder, informing you of Colonel Eyre¹ & myself² going to Join the Militia, with two field Pieces. we afterwards con-

cluded Colonel Eyre to Join the Militia and me to go a Cruize, with the Boats, down the Bay. I went with four Boats Row'd past three Tenders that Lay of [f] the Creek, when I got as Low as Ben Davis's Point, made two Sail coming up—we gave Chase a Schooner & Sloop, they Both Stood down the Bay. wind being N.W^t light and flood tide they Anchor'd. three Sail more hove insight, we Still Pursued the Chase, about 3 oclock in the afternoon we got in gun Shot. we went so close as to Hale them they gave us three cheers and a Gun. we Return'd three Cheers and attacked them Close, drove them from their Quarters Severall times. they Evacuated the Sloop and went onboard the Schooner. to their assistance, in the Action two arm'd Schooners Row'd up to us or we Shou'd have carried the Schooner and Sloop I then gave Chase to the Other Sail that was in sight by herself wind Springing up Southerly She beat down and I Row'd to Windward after her, we got so Nigh her as to Confuse them much they Bore away west, to give up the Sloop, to us, but unfortunately two Frigates hove insight coming up with a fresh Breeze from the Souther'd, and the whole five Sail Beat down the Bay to get Protection.

tho they had a Fair wind the Frigates came to Anchor and got the Vessails all Round them for fear our cutting some of them off, they are very fear'd of our Boats, one Tender won't trust to three or four Boats.

they seem Determind to Block us up if Possible. the Tenders Keep three or four in Company. we was alarm'd of the Enemy coming down here three Tender came into the Creeks mouth I had no Retreat. as their army was coming over Land, I hid the Boat in a Gut & Sunk her. I am now geting her up again.

I have Brought the Prizes up here with their Stores, the two Sloops wede took.—

I wrote to You for Grape Shot their is none in Either of the Boats.

if I had had the Eighteen pounder I Shoud of Carried the whole five Sail. I am Gentlemen [&c.]

Rob^t Collings

P.S. I am going to haul my Boat over to Buck creek,³ which is three Miles from here, and Empty's itself Below Ben Davis's Point

RC

L, PHI, William Bradford Collection, vol. 2. Addressed: "To/the Honourable the Navy Board/for the State Pennsylvania/at/Trenton/ ⚔ Colonel/Eyre."

1. Col. Jehu Eyre.

2. Formerly first lieutenant of Pennsylvania Navy ship *Montgomery*.

3. Black Creek, N.J.

MARYLAND COUNCIL TO ISAAC VAN BIBBER

Sir.

In Council [*Annapolis*] 23^d. March 1778.

We have an Expectation of having considerably more than £7000. offered for the *Defence*.¹ We know it was the Idea of many of the Gentlemen of the Assembly that she ought to sell for at least £10000. and if she does not bring full that Sum, we think it would be better to freight her for Part of her Cargoe, or to hold her in Partnership. We should have chose one of the Latter, but we are not at Liberty now the Assembly is sitting: we expect they will give Directions about her.—We are &c^{ca}.

LB, MdAA, Governor and Council (Letter Books) 1777–1779, SM 1075-6, 4007. Addressed at the foot: "M^r Isaac VanBibber."

1. Maryland Navy ship *Defence*.

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

Sir

Antigua 23rd March 1778.—

Since my last dispatches to their Lordships Dated the 14th Ins^t (forwarded Express by His Majesty's Brigantine *Endeavour*) I have received the pleasing Intelligence of the *Yarmouth's* and *Ariadne's* Success against the American Rebels Privateers;¹ which the Inclosed Copies of Letters received, from their Captains will more fully explain,² the five Sail that attacked the *Yarmouth*, were directly from Carolina; intended to make depredations on Tobago, and the Islands to Leeward; whilst many others were Cruizing to intercept the Convoys from Ireland, and England; the former Convoy are arrived (as I informed their Lordships in my Letters by the *Endeavour*) and the latter I flatter myself are safe; as some that parted from the Convoy are already got into Barbados, I am therefore in daily expectation of the others arrival here, which will certainly prove a very seasonable relief to us.—

I must farther acquaint their Lordships that Since my last Dispatches acquainting them five Sail of Dutch Men of War were arrived at S^t Eustatia;³ three others with a Store Ship,⁴ are likewise arrived at that Island and it is reported Six more are Expected, their destination is dubious; and I have some apprehens[i]ons is intended for America; as I am informed by the *Grenville* Packet just arrived here from England; that whilst they lay at Madeira, four Sail of Dutch Ships of War were at said Island; and had several American Passengers on board them; of this He informs me, The English Consul sent an Express to England, by way of Lisbon; I hope He did so; and that the same is arrived safe;—

What I can do to prevent their going to America, must depend on being able to get the Ships now here under my Command ready for Sea;—The *Renown* is so very much disabled, and so few Artificers in the Yard it may take up more time than I could wish to get her ready; The *Portland*, *Seaford*, and *Phoenix*; all came in with Sprung Fore Masts; however the three latter, will be ready for Sea in less than a Week, I shall use the utmost dispatch to get the *Renown* in a State of Service, and do not doubt if a Store Ship comes with the Convoy, now expected; I shall be able to get her ready in time; provided the other Dutch Ships of War do not arrive very soon; I am of Opinion it is absolutely necessary and for the good of His Majesty's Service; I should know their Intentions.—

The *Renown* and *Phoenix* belong to Lord Howes Squadron, but as Accident has brought them here at this very Critical time; I shall take upon me to detain them 'till I see the result of this new and unexpected Armament, or that I obtain Reinforcements and Instructions from their Lordships Concerning it. there is likewise an Opportunity by an Armed Brigantine belonging to Lord Howes Squadron; Commanded by Lieut^t Whitworth,⁵ who was blown off the Coast and is now ready to return; I shall therefore send her Express to His Lordship with the aforementioned intelligence, and my Surmises thereon; so many of the Kings Ships under my Command, are now Employed in Collecting the Convoy from the different Islands, for Europe that it prevents my having so strong a force at hand, as appears necessary; I expect the *Yarmouth* here in a few days, and hope 'tho she has been out a long Cruize & had (as hath all the Cruizers) uncommon bad Weather, for this part of the World; she may not want much refitting; I shall immediately endeavour to

get all possible Intelligence of the States real Intentions,⁶ and will be ready to proceed to Sea, at an hours Notice; should the same be found necessary; for which purpose I intend going to Old Road S^c Christophers which is in Sight of S^c Eustatia; I am Sir [&c.]

Jam^s: Young

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot of first page: "Philip Stephens Esq^r." Endorsed: "Rec^d. 22 May & Read."

1. H.M.S. *Ariadne's* capture of the Continental Navy ship *Alfred* on 7 Mar. and H.M.S. *Yarmouth's* destruction of the Continental Navy frigate *Randolph* on 9 Mar.

2. See Captain Nicholas Vincent, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 17 Mar., and Captain Thomas Pringle, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 18 Mar., above.

3. The Dutch squadron, commanded by Vice Adm. Count van Bylandt, included the ship of the line *Princess Royal Frederica* (56 guns), frigate *Thetis* (26 guns) and frigate *Sophia Wilhelmina* (24 guns). UKLPR, Adm. 1/310, "An Account of a Dutch Squadron Lately Arrived at S^c Eustatia.—31st March 1778."

4. The ships of the line *Princess Louisa* (54 guns) and *Maria Louisa* (54 guns), frigate *Jason* (36 guns) and storeship *Brunswick* (40 guns). UKLPR, Adm. 1/310, "An Account of a Dutch Squadron Lately Arrived at S^c Eustatia.— 31st March 1778."

5. H.M. armed brigantine *Stanley*, Lt. Richard Whitworth, commander.

6. States General of the United Provinces of the Netherlands.

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

Extract of a Letter from the Vice Admiral
Young to the Viscount Howe, dated, Antigua
23^d: March 1778.

"My Lord,

"By the *Stanley* armed Brigantine under the Command of Lieutenant Whitworth, I take the Opportunity to acquaint your Lordship, that His Majesty's Ships *Phoenix* and *Renown*, belonging to your Squadron, are come into this Island in Distress; the former wanting Water, Provisions and Firing, with her Rigging torn to pieces; and since her Arrival has also found her Fore-mast much sprung. These Wants are supplied here as well as the Deficiency of every Article she needed would allow. Luckily a Convoy from Ireland arrived and brought some Provisions of the Meat-kind, but nothing else; and I am in daily Expectation of another Convoy arriving from England with all other Species. The *Renown* came totally dismantled, and in so bad a Condition, besides being two Years and an half foul, that she will be a long Time before she can join your Lordship again: indeed should no Store-Ship arrive soon, I shall not be able to complete her.

"I must likewise inform your Lordship, a Dutch Squadron of Eight Ships of War (mostly of two Decks) with a Store-Ship,¹ are just arrived at S^c Eustatia, and 'tis said six others are expected. Their Destination at present I cannot learn; but have great Reason to think they are intended for America, as the January Packet, just arrived here from England informs me four Sail of them were at Madeira at the time the Packet was; and that a Number of American Passengers (appearing to be Gentlemen) were onboard them. The English Consul there sent an Express to England to inform the King's Ministers of this Armament, and I have done the like since their Arrival at Eustatia. They are commanded by Count Bylandt.² I have now sent the *Seaford*, Captain John Colpoys, to try if we can procure any farther Intelligence of them. And as the *Stanley* Brigantine must touch at S^c Kitts for

Water, she will be directed to wait there for the *Seaford's* Return; when Captain Colpoys will transmit your Lordship any further Information he may procure. The Squadron under my Command is so detached for Protection of the different Islands, that I have it not in my power at present (was I certain of their Destination) to prevent their proceeding. I shall therefore detain the *Phoenix*, till some Re-inforcement may arrive from Europe: for surely it must be known in England, that such a force is come into these [Seas] and they will certainly send after them. If they do, or I can procure farther Information, that may be necessary for You to know; I will immediately dispatch the *Phoenix* therewith to your Lordship. Could it be possible to get the *Renown* ready for Sea before the Dutch Squadron leaves S^t Eustatia, by collecting some of the small Frigates and Sloops under my Command, something may be tried. I hear Admiral Barrington in the *Prince of Wales* is appointed to relieve me; if on this Occasion he should be hurried out, He may perhaps also arrive in Time.”

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 224–25. Docketed: “Extract of a Letter from the Vice/Admiral Young to the Viscount/Howe, dated 23^d March 1778; with/a Copy of a Letter and paper of/Intelligence from Captain Colpoys.” Endorsed: “In Lord Howe’s Letter/N^o. 57.” Enclosure no. 4 in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe to Philip Stephens, 23 Apr. 1778.

1. See Vice Admiral James Young to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 23 Mar., above, for the names of the ships in the Dutch squadron.

2. Vice Adm. Count van Bylandt.

March 24

JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL

[Boston] Tuesday March 24th 1778

Whereas this Board have been informed that the Ship *Warren*¹ has on board one hundred barrels of Powder & being contrary to a Law of this State & in danger of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, Therefore Ordered that John Hopkins Esq^r² Commander of said Ship & he hereby is directed to haul off from General Hancocks Wharf into the Stream ‘till said Powder shall be taken out & transported to the place where this Council shall direct—

Ordered that the Commissary General be and he hereby is directed to receive One hundred barrels Powder, belonging to the Ship *Warren* John Hopkins Esq^r Commander in the Powder Magazine in Watertown ‘till said Hopkins shall want the same—

D, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 22 (Council Records, Jan.–Oct. 1778), p. 131.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Warren*.

2. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, Continental Navy.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO JOHN BRADFORD

Sir

New London Mar 24 1778

I Rec^d. a letter from the Honb^l Board of Warr directing me to send all the Warlike Stores in my hands to Springfield, I suppose they imagined that the Stores

⌘ Capt Lamb¹ were del^d here as I have no others & suppose if you were to send those Stores to Springfield you yould [*would*] Comply with those Orders

—Perhaps you have Rec^d Similar Directions, be so kind as to let me know by return of the Post &c—

LB, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, Letter Book (January 1775–July 1782). Addressed at head: “To John Bradford Esq^e/Cont^l Agent—.”

1. Military stores brought from Martinique to Boston by Capt. John Lamb in the brigantine *Irish Gimblet*. See NDAR 10: 620, 677, 812, 829, 830.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *RAVEN*, COMMANDER JOHN STANHOPE

March 1778

Tuesday 24

Laying in Huntingdon Bay [*Long Island*]

at 6 (AM) heard several Guns to the NW people Employed lashing the Booms the Sailmaker repairing the Awnings

Laying in Huntingdon Bay

First part Mod^{te}: Breezes Mid: and Latter Light airs (P.M.) at 1 came alongside y^e Tender she parted Company with y^e *Halifax*¹ & Galley² off Oyster Bay after setting fire to a Rebel Galley at Greenwich where the Marines landed and received a heavy fire of Musquetry from the Rebels which obliged them to retreat took y^e Two four Pdr^s: onboard likewise the remains of the Armentition with y^e Petty Officers and people

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/771.

1. H.M. brig *Halifax*, Lt. William Quarme, commander.

2. H.M. galley *Dependence*, Lt. James Clark, commander.

PAY ROLL OF THE CONNECTICUT NAVY SCHOONER *SPY*

		Schooner <i>Spy</i> to Zebadiah Smith				(Viz)
D ^r		for Sund ^y wages by him paid				
[<i>March</i>] 24						
Zebadiah Smith	Cap ^t	f ^m . Oct ^r 16. 1777	to March 24 th 1778	5 mo 8 d.	at 180/	£ 47.. 8.—
Asahel Smith	Leu ^t	Nov ^r 3.	ditto to Feb ^y 27 ditto	3 mo 24 —	120/	£ 22..16.—
Benj ⁿ . Mortimore	Master	Oct ^r 20	ditto to ditto 20 ditto	4 mo 0 —	120	£ 24.—..—
James Elderkin	Gunner	Ditto		4 mo 0 —	90/	£ 18.—..—
Jonathan Sachel	Boatswain	ditto	to Nov ^r 20	1 mo 0 —	90/	£ 4..10.—
Hen ^y Boardman	Boatswain's mate	Nov ^r 22 1777	to Feb ^y 22 1778	4 mo 2 —	54/	£ 10..19.. 6
John Johnson	Cook	Oct ^r 31 1777	to Feb ^y 22d 1778	3 mo 23 days	72/	£ 13..11.. 2½
Thom ^s Wood	Seaman	Nov ^r 3 ditto	to ditto	3 mo 19 days	48/	£ 8..14.. 4
Minor Elderkin	Seaman	ditto		ditto	48/	£ 8..14.. 4
Roger Avery	ditto	Nov ^r 12	to Feb ^y 22 1778	3 mo 10 —	48/	£ 8.—..—
John Parsons	Boy	Nov ^r 21	ditto 27 ditto	3 mo 6 —	40/	£ 6.. 8.—
W ^m . Swan	Seaman	Nov ^r 18	ditto 27	3 mo 9 —	48/	£ 7..18.. 5
Nath ^l . Swan	ditto	Nov ^r 24	ditto 24	3 mo 0 —	48/	£ 7.. 4.—
Jn ^o . Williams	ditto	ditto 12	ditto 22 ^d	3 mo 10 d.	48/	£ 8.—..—
John Masters	ditto	ditto 12	ditto 28	3 mo 16 d	48/	£ 8.. 9.. 8
Will ^m . Allen	Marine	ditto 30	ditto 20	2 mo 20 d	48/	£ 5.. 6.. 8
Sam ^l R Smith	Clerk	Dec ^r 20	ditto 22	2 mo 2 d.	90/	£ 9.. 6.—
Comis ^s . on ditto at 5 P ^r C ^t						£219.. 6.. 1½
						£10..19.. 4
Errors Excep ^d P ^r						£230.. 5..10½
Zebadiah Smith						

DS, Ct, Connecticut Archives, 1st Series, vol. 12, p. 338. Docketed: "N^o. 1/Schooner *Spy*s Bill/of Wages."

24 MARCH 1778

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MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M. GALLEY *DEPENDENCE*, LIEUTENANT JAMES CLARK

March 1778
 Tuesday 24th:

Loyd's Head¹ NNW 1½ Miles—
 at 6. AM. landed 43. marines from the different vessells, & 20.
 Refugees, in Stanford harbor,² burned a Rebell Galley, fired 4:
 24 Pounders round & Grape, & 4: 4 P^{rs}: with D^o: to Scour the
 woods, before the troops landed, at 8 AM. the troops
 Embarked, D^o: weighed & made Sail, at noon anchored with the
 best bower off Loyd's beech in 12 f^{ms}. W^r: veered to ½ Cable
 Loyd's head SE ¼ S. D. 3 miles.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1694, fol. 86.

1. Lloyd Point, Long Island.
2. Stamford Harbor, Conn.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT
 TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Continental Navy Board

Borden Town 24th. March 1778

Sir/

I wrote to you about a week ago¹ respecting the arbitrary Conduct of Genl Howe in confining Cap^t: Robinson² & Cap^t: Galt³ who went in to the City under the Sanction of a regular Flag—altho' I have no Doubt but your Excellency will do whatever is proper in the Affair, yet, as I have not had the Satisfaction of hearing any thing further, I am not a little anxious about it. We have certain Intelligence that those Gentlemen are now confined in the common Gaol.

I have been very industrious in removing the Stores &c—from this Place⁴—they are all deposited some few Miles back in the Country, except the Cannon—these I expect to send up the River next Week as I am told M^r: Coryell⁵ is to be here in order to take up all the flat Bottom Boats, with him shall the Cannon go—all such at least as I have any Command or Influence over—

We have here about 30 Tierces of Rice & as many Hogsheads of Cod-fish with some Cases of sweet Oil. If you think they will be of Use in the army I beg your Excellency's Requisition for them & they shall be immediately forwarded

As we have now no Fleet to supply here these articles, I think, had better be put to Camp than carted about the Jerseys where they will run the Risque of either falling into the Hands of the Enemy, or of being stolen or spoiled—Should your excellency order them to Camp it will be very necessary to write to Genl Lacey⁶ to furnish a sufficient Guard to conduct them—I will let him know the Time & Place of Rendevous—

General Lee⁷ passed thro' Crosswicks⁸ this Day on his way to Phila^d It is said he is going to be exchanged but for whom or in what maner I know not—I have the Honour to be [&c.]

Fra^s Hopkinson

P.S. As it is not intended the above mentioned Provisions should become a perquisite to any Commissary, the Continental Navy Board ought to have Credit for them & proper Receipts given.—

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at the foot: "His Exc^y Genl. Washington."

1. Not found.
2. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy.
3. Capt. Nathaniel Galt, Pennsylvania Navy.

4. This action was in response to Washington's request. See General George Washington to Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department, 1 Mar., above.

5. John Coryell.

6. Brig. Gen. John Lacey, Pennsylvania Militia.

7. Maj. Gen. Charles Lee, Continental Army.

8. Crosswicks, N.J.

ISAAC VAN BIBBER TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Please y^r Excellency

Sir,

Balt. 24th. M^{ch}. 1778

It has bee[n] Said here that the Ship *defence*¹ is not yet Sold,—if So and you Determine to Sell her, I would offer for her, (under the Inventory She was offer^d to Sale at,) the Sum of £7,000 ~~for her~~, or at that Rate for one half or $\frac{3}{4}$ of her if the State Chose to hold any part of her, I Could I Beleve put her to Sea with as much Convenience as Can be Exspect^d, as I have a Cap^t. & Crew Just Arrived with orders for Such a Vessel, Your answer Will oblige S^t y^r. Most ob^t. Ser^t.

Isaac Vⁿ. Bibber

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Red Books), S 989, 4585-77. Addressed: "His/Excellency/Tho^s Johnson Esq^r" Docketed: "24 Mar 1778/Isaac Vanbibber."

1. Maryland Navy ship *Defence*.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[Williamsburg] Tuesday the 24th day of March 1778.

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick Store, deliver to Captain William Saunders twelve Bolts of Canvas N^o. 1. three ditto of N^o. 4. thirty pound of twine, two dozen sail Needles for the *Manley* Galley.—

Ordered that Lieutenant John Thomas, deliver to Captain Richard Taylor ten of the sailors belonging to the *Protector* Galley, for the use and service of the Ship *Tartar*.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 368.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. ST. ALBANS, CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW

March 1778

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia

Tuesday 24th.

AM the Tender Schooner¹ Came down with two Prizes²

Moored in Hampton Road Virginia

Mod^t & Clear w^t. [PM] dispatched the Tender and Sent her away

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/828.

1. H.M. schooner *Dasher*.

2. Sloop *Holt*, master unknown, owned in Williamsburg, a crew of 4 seamen, from Williamsburg to Elk River, Md., with pork in barrels, cargo taken out; and schooner *Hawke*, master unknown, owned in Baltimore, a crew of 3 seamen, from Baltimore to Williamsburg, with iron, cargo taken out. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240-41. According to the prize list, these prizes were made on 21 Mar. *St. Albans's* Journal notes schooner *Hawke* was broken up for firewood on 5 Apr. and sloop *Holt* for firewood on 6 Apr. UKLPR, Adm. 51/828.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO DON JOSÉ DE GÁLVEZ

N^o. 136.

Exmo S^{or}.

Mui S^{or} mio: Haviendo llegado a esta Capital el Capitan Willing¹ comisionado para recibir aqui los efectos q^e se me han remitido de esos Reinos con destino a las

Colonias Inglesas,² Segun avisé a V.E. en oficio de 11 de este mes³ incluyendo copias de las Cartas de los diputados del Congreso, y Zertificacion del presidente que las Autoriza, Devo participar a V.E. que ya salieron de esta Ciudad parte de dhos efectos sin que nada huviesse traslucido en el Pueblo, y luego que se verifique la total entrega, de todos, daré quenta a V.E. de ella, y de las disposiciones q^e. he tomado a fin que no se tuviesse el mas leve conocimiento de estas operaciones. Lo que comunico a V.E. p^a. su inteligencia.

Nuestro S^{or}. guarde a V.E. los m^s. a^s. que deseo, Nueva Orleans 24 de Marzo de 1778 [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

[Translation]

N^o. 136.

Most Excellent Sir

My dear Sir:

Captain Willing¹ arrived in this capital, commissioned to receive here the goods that have been sent to me from those kingdoms, bound for the English colonies,² as I advised Your Excellency in a letter dated the 11th of this month,³ including copies of the letters from the deputies of the Congress and certification of the president who authorizes them: I must notify Your Excellency that part of the said goods have already left this city without anything having transpired among the people, and as soon as the entire delivery is confirmed, I shall report that fact to Your Excellency and the arrangements that I have made in order that there may not be the slightest knowledge of these operations. All of which I am communicating to Your Excellency for your information.

May Our Lord keep Your Excellency many years, which is my desire. New Orleans, 24th of March 1778. [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

L, SpSAG, Santo Domingo, Legajo 2596, fol. 198. Addressed below the close: "Exmo S^{or}. Dⁿ. Joseph de Galvez."

1. Capt. James Willing, Continental Army.

2. Marginal notation: "El Gov^{or}. de la Luisiana, da q^{ta}. de haverse entregado la maior parte de los Efectos q^e. se le han remitido al Capⁿ. Willing, y ofrece dar la q^{do}. se haia ejecutado con los restantes, y del metodo q^e. ha usado para ello." Translation: The Governor of Louisiana reports that most of the property that has been sent to him has been delivered to Captain Willing, and offers to report it when it has been accomplished with the rest of the property, and the method that he has employed to do so.

3. Above.

CAPTAIN JAMES WILLING TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

Sir

I am exceedingly sorry to find myself under a necessity of troubling Your Excellency with a Reply to the Letter of the 19th. Instant with which You have honoured me.¹ My duty impells me to it I therefore hope You will be pleased to reconsider the Cases of the several Claimants of the Prizes N^o. 2, 3 & 5.

N^o. 2 is a Vessel belonging to British Subjects,² on her Voyage to the West Indies laden with Articles absolutely necessary for the Enemies of the States I have the Honor to serve. She was seized, and made Prize without the least Alarm or Insult given to any of his Catholick Majesty's Subjects She was on float in the River Mississippi the Navigation whereof is equally free to British as Spanish Subjects and the American Independant States claim by the Laws of Nations a right to pursue take and seize the Persons and property of all British Subjects wherever they can possess themselves of either (not in the particular protection or ports of any Nation

Neutral in the present War[)]. The Vessell in question was not in Spanish port or protection. The Court of Vice Admiralty of Pensacola adjudged in the Case of American Vessells taken in the River Mississippi That the Capture so made came under the Denomination as that of Prizes made on the high Seas. By the same Rule I claim as a Lawfull Prize the Vessell and Cargo in question. If notwithstanding Your Excellency is not of opinion that this Prize is Legaly made, I hope You will suffer the Vessell and Cargo to be sold, and the Proceeds to be sequestred in Your Treasury untill a future determination by the Court of Spain and Congress.

The Boats or prize N^o. 3. tho' lastly taken below English Manchack was in fact in the actual possession of Lieutenant M^cIntyre³ an Officer under my Command at Manchack in the British Territories Stolen off in the Night by M^r Shakespear⁴ contrary to his Faith pledged, and I cannot help thinking that I have a right even to demand the Boat and Goods that were on board her as a property belonging to and stolen from me, supposing even the late Owner had actually applyed for and received the protection of a Neutral power. But this last was by no means the case The Boat was on float tho' fastened to a Log of Wood near the Shore on the River Mississippi the Possessor having neither demanded nor obtained your protection at that time. These matters considered (of which further proof may be made) I hope the Boat & Cargo will be adjudged lawfull prize

With respect to the Boats or prize N^o. 5 I have in a former letter to Your Excellency given a true State of their Capture. I chased them upon the River Mississippi about five Leagues above Spanish Aux Arcs, One of the Boats was Boarded and Taken upon the River, The Other chased & Boarded The Instant She touched the land on the Spanish Side of the Mississippi. Both were brought to the English Side But upon Application made I permitted them to deliver at the Spanish Aux Arcs a quantity of Flour for the use of his Catholic Majesty's Troops, As I observed before they traded to a British post, supplied the Enemies of the States of America, had on board the Goods received in return thereof, and had neither Passport, Permission nor protection as I presume to hope from any Officer of the Court of Spain for such Illicit Trade, I therefore must take the Liberty to esteem the Seizure of both these Boats as consonant to the Universal Custom of all Civilized Nations, and that they will be adjudged as Lawfull Prize accordingly

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

New Orleans 24th March 1778

Ja^s: Willing Captn
in the Service of the Indep^t
United States of America

L, SpSAG, Papeles de Cuba, Legajo 2370.

1. See Captain James Willing to Governor Don Bernardo de Gálvez, 18 Mar., above.
2. Brigantine *Neptune*, John Knowles, master.
3. Lt. Thomas McIntyre, Continental Army.
4. Stephen Shakespear, settler at Manchac.

GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ TO DON ANTONIO BUCARELI Y URSUA

Ex^{mo}. Señor.

Mui Señor mio; En Continuacion de las novedades q^e participé a V.E. en el Correo pasado le dire; como noticioso el Governador de Panzacola de la toma de los Puestos Ingleses por los Americanos mandó un destacamento de 90. hombres a el Manchak, los que entraron en él a el Amanecer del dia 19. del presente y encontrando la poca

Guarnicion que en el havia durmiendo, atacaron la Casa donde estaban, y despues de dos, o tres descargas de fusileria se apoderaron de ella habiendo muerto dos hombres, una Muger, y herido ocho o diez, tomando prisioneros de Guerra hasta el numero de 14. hombres q^e encontraron, y quedando por consiguiente Dueños del Citado Puesto.

Haviendo Savidó los Americanos que se hallaban en las inmediaciones de esta Capital el Suceso, incontinenti Armaron sus lanchas, y se pusieron en Mancha para el referido puesto con el intento de Vengarse, y desalojan a sus Enemigos, a donde llegaron y segun tengo noticia han buuelto a posecionarse de dho territorio segunda vez sin oposicion, pues con el Aviso q^e tuvieron los Realistas de su Salida, y q^e era mayor numero que el de ellos, abandonaron el puesto.

No contentos los Americanos con la retoma de Manchak, sino queriendo vengarse en sus Enemigos, me escribe uno de los Comandantes de Nuestros Puestos, que seguian en su busca, y que segun los informes que le dieron algunos Cazadores havian oido 33. tiros en el monte, sin Saver su Causa, ni el efecto q^e producieron.

Asi el mencionado Puesto de Manchak, como todos los demas de la partida Inglesa que estan Cituados en las orillas de este Rio Misisipi han quedado enteramente desiertos, por haverse pasado todos sus habitantes a nuestras tierras pidiendo la proteccion Española, huyendo no solo de los Americanos, sino tambien de los destrozos q^e los Indios Chactas hazen en sus habitaciones y bienes, quemandoles las Casas y quitandoles todo lo que en ellas Encuentran, dejando las personas solo con las Camisas, y diciendoles que se vayan de Sus tierras que no quieren mas Ingleses en sus territorios, y para ponerse a Cubierto de no ser Atacados de improvisto, segun me avisa el Comandante de la Punta Cortada, han apostado tres destacamentos desde la Orilla del Rio hasta lo interior del monte con la idea de tener noticia de quanto ocurra.

Es de admirar en la Ocasion presente la buena feo, armonia, y Respetto q^e dhos Indios Guardan a nuestros territorios, pues no han ejecuato el menor daño en ellos, y para darme a Conocer la amistad q^e quieren Conservar Con los Españoles, embiaron dos Gefes diputados Suyos a el Referido Puesto de la Punta Cortada, los q^e despues de unas harengas bastante largas dieron la mano a su Comandante, asegurandole del Respetto que Guardarian a los Dominios del Rey, y que Su Corazon, y el de toda la nacion havia buuelto acia nosotros, abandonando a los Ingleses. Yo atribuyo este modo de proceder a el buen trato con que he Recivido algunas partidas de ellos, que en varias Ocasiones han venido a visitarme.

El 14. del Corriente se presento en el Rio a distancia de media legua de esta Ciudad una Fregata de Guerra Inglesa,¹ cuyo Comandante² me ha hecho la peticion de que le entregue todas las presas que los Americanos han hecho en el Rio, y que las q^e han tomado en los territorios Ingleses quedasen depositadas en mi poder hasta la Resolucion de la Corte, a cuya infundada pretension le he Respondido que no obstante los muchos Insultos q^e los Ingleses han hecho en este Rio en medio de las poseciones de nuestro Monarcha, visitando, y Registrando las embarcac^s. Españolas, y q^e ellos mismos havian apresado nueve embarcaciones American^s amarradas en nuestras Orillas, havia sido una justicia imparcial, y el Conservar el Respetto devido a las poseciones del Rey lo que me havia movido a tomar Conocim^{to} de todas las presas q^e pudiesen estar hechas en parage donde Gozasen de la proteccion Española, para devolverlas a sus Respectivos Dueños, pero todas aquellas que hayan sido hechas en las Orillas Inglesas, o en sus tierras, seguirian la Suerte de la Guerra, quedandole la facultad de Recobrarlas donde pudiese siempre que no fuera en los Dominios de mi

mando, ni en parage donde puedan Gozar de la proteccion Española, con cuya Respuesta definitiva parece q^e por aora ha cesado en sus Contestaciones y demandas.

Es quanto Ocorre por aora que participar a V.E. a quien le aseguro el deseo que tengo de empliar mis contas facultades en su Servicio.

Nuestro S^{or}. Guarde a V.E. m^s. a^s. Nueva Orleans y Marzo 24. de 1778./ Ex^{mo}. S^{or}. [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

[Translation]

Most Excellent Sir.

My dear sir;

In continuation of the news that I sent to Your Excellency in the last post I tell you that the Governor of Pensacola, likewise notified of the taking of the English Posts by the Americans, sent a detachment of 90 men to Manchac; they entered it at dawn on the 19th day of the present month and encountered the small Garrison sleeping there, attacked the House where they were, and after two or three discharges of musketry took possession of it, having killed two men, one woman, and wounding eight or ten, taking prisoners of war some 14 men they encountered, and becoming in consequence owners of the said Post.

Having learned of the event, the Americans who were in the vicinity of this Capital immediately fitted out their barges and set out for Manchac, the referred to place, to avenge themselves and to dislodge their Enemies; they arrived there and according to my information have gained possession of the said territory a second time without opposition, inasmuch as with the Notice that the Royalists had of their Departure, and that there were more of them than themselves, they abandoned the place.

The Americans were not content with the retaking of Manchac without avenging themselves on their Enemies. One of the Commandants of Our Posts wrote me that they followed in pursuit, and that according to the information that some Hunters gave him, the Hunters heard 33 shots in the woods, without knowing the Cause, nor the effects they produced.

Thus, the aforementioned Post of Manchac, like the rest of the English Posts that are Situated on the banks of this River Mississippi, have remained entirely deserted, by having had all their inhabitants pass into our lands asking for Spanish protection, fleeing not only from the Americans, but also from the destruction that the Choctaw Indians do to their dwellings and goods, burning their Houses and stealing from them Everything that they find, leaving the people only with their Shirts, and telling them that they should leave their lands, that they do not want any more English in their territories; and in order to take shelter from unexpected Attack, according to the advice I receive from the Commandant at Cortada Point, they have posted three detachments from the Bank of the River to the interior of the forest, with the idea of taking notice of whatever may occur.

It is a cause to marvel on the present Occasion the good faith, harmony, and respect that the said Indians Keep towards our territories, as they have not done the least injury to them; and in order to make known to me the friendship that they want to Conserve with the Spanish, they sent two of their Chiefs, to the referred to Post of Cortada Point, who after some rather long orations, shook hands with the Commandant, assuring him of the Respect that they Maintained toward the Dominions of the King, and that Their Affection, and that of all the nation was again made ours, abandoning the English. I at-

tribute this method of proceeding to the good treatment with which I have Received some of their parties, who on several occasions have come to visit me.

On the 14th of the Current Month, there appeared in the River at a distance of half a league from this City an English Frigate of War,¹ whose Commander² petitioned me to deliver to him all the prizes that the Americans have made in the River, and that those that they have taken in the English territories remain deposited in my power until the Resolution of the Court; to which groundless pretension I Responded to him that—notwithstanding the many Insults that the English have made in this River in the midst of the possessions of our Monarch, visiting and Searching the Spanish vessels, and that they have likewise captured nine American vessels, fitted out on our Shores—there has been impartial justice; and to Conserve the Respect owed to the possessions of the King, who has moved me to take Cognizance of all the prizes that come to be made in areas that enjoy Spanish protection, in order to return them to their Respective Owners, but all of those that have been taken on the English Shores, or in their lands, would follow the Fortune of War, continuing the right of Recovering those where one can, provided always that there be no violence in the Dominions that I command, nor in areas that enjoy Spanish protection, with definitive Respect to which it appears that for now he has ceased in his Replies and demands.

It is as much as has Occurred for now that I communicate to Your Excellency, whom I assure of my desire of employing my full powers in his Service.

May Our Lord Keep Your Excellency many years. New Orleans the 24th of March 1778. [&c.]

Bern^{do}. de Galvez

L, SpSAG, Indiferente General, Legajo 1632 B. Addressed below the close: "Ex^{mo}. S^{or}. B^o. F. D^o. Ant^o. Bucareli, y Urzua." Notation at top: "Nueva Orleans y Marzo 24 de 78." Bucareli was viceroy of New Spain.

1. H.M. sloop *Sylph*.

2. Comdr. John Fergusson, R.N.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ARIADNE*, CAPTAIN THOMAS PRINGLE

March 1778

Barbados S ½ W 16 Leagues—

Tuesday 24.

First & middle parts Moderate & fair, latter d^o & Hazy. at 8 AM sprung the Main top Gallant Yard. at Noon saw a sail in the SW made the Signal & gave chace. *Ceres* in Company.

Barbados WNW 16 Leagues—

Moderate and Hazy. at 7 PM. Lost sight of the Chace. at ½ past 7 passed by a Light which the Chace had thrown overboard. at 8 the *Ceres* fired a Gun; hauled our Wind & Joined her, who had brought too the Chace. she proved to be the Brig *Fair Trader* John Adamson Master, belonging to and bound to Boston from Surinam. sent on board 2 Midshipman & 8 seamen.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/60, part 2, fol. 60.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *CERES*, COMMANDER JAMES R. DACRES

March 1778

[Sth. End of Barbadoes Bore W by N Dist^{ce}. 10 or 11 Leag^s.]

Tuesday 24

at 12 A.M Saw a Sail in the SW Qt^r. D^o. out all Reefs & Gave Chace as Did the *Ariadne*—

Latt^d: 12°.. 48 N

D^o. Weath^r: [Light Breezes & Cloudy] Still in Chace as Also the *Ariadne*, at 8 P.M. Fired a Shott to Bring the Chace too Prov'd to be a Brigg from Suranham Bound to Boston,¹ D^o. sent an Officer & 2 Men on Board of her, & Rec^d. on Board the Prizoners,

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/4141, part 8, fol. 199. The journal was kept by Lt. David Lockwood.

1. Brig *Fair Trader*, John Adamson, master. Journal of H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 24 Mar., immediately above.

March 25

PETER LANDER TO CAPTAIN NATHAN BROWN

Captⁿ. Nathⁿ. Brown

Salem March 25 1778

The Brig^t *Montgomery*¹ of which you are the Commander, is now ready for a Cruize upon the Enemies of the United States of N. America, among whom are Included all the Subjects of the King of Grate Briton, Except the Inhabetants of the Bermuda and Bahama Islands.—

Our orders are that you Procead Immedeatly to Sea Stearing your Course from Cape Ann over S^t. Gorges Bank—and from thence to Grand Bank Crossing it in the Latt^d. of 44^d N. Latt^d. and from that to the Eastward as far as the Longt^d. of 40 West. and thair to Cruize from the Latt^d. of 44 N. to the Latt^d of 48 untill you have bin oute two months and then you my [*may*] Cruize more to the Southward or any outhr way as you may think most for the benefit of you and the owners. if you Should take any Vessels with Light good[s] think it best for you to take as much oute onbord your Brig^t as possible. Would Advise you to Bring home as many Prisoners as you Can With Safety—we wish you a Good Cruize &^{ca}

Peter Lander
for him Self and
the outhr Owners

Order each Prize upon thair getting as far up as the Islands, to Clew up and Sheet home thair fore Top gallant Sail three times as a Signell—with the Coulers at the fore Toupmast head

N.

L, MSaE, Miscellaneous Shipping and Commercial Papers, Box 1. Docketed: "Instruction to/Cap^t Nathl Brown/of Pr Brig *Montgomery*."

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Montgomery*, Nathan Brown, commander, was commissioned on 5 Feb. 1778 and was owned by George Williams and Joshua Ward, Jr., of Salem. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, 292, 295. *Montgomery* is described in the petition for her commission as of about 160 tons burthen, mounting 16 carriage guns and 6 swivel guns, and navigated by a crew of 100 seamen. M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 168 (Council Papers, 1777–1778), 172.

JOHN BRADFORD TO CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE

Hon'ble Gentlemen

Boston 25th March 1778

The Commissioners^l being out of Town, I beg leave to acquaint you with the Arrival of the *Warren* Frigate into this Port. The Cap^t gives his Ship a great

Character for Sailing he has taken a Ship² & a Snow³ on his Cruize, the former from white haven for [*New*] York, out of which he has took a [*quantity of*] Duck & Oznabriggs, with Sundry other Articles, but not having a Return I Cant Enumerate the Particulars. the Snow was from the West Indies for Bristol with flax Seed & a few hogshheads Sugar, is a fine Arm'd Vessell. he left them off Bermuda, & neither Vessell Arrived. Cap^t Hopkins⁴ tells me if he had been properly mann'd, he could have taken Six other Prizes. I am afraid it will take a very Considerable Time to mann that Ship, as Men are not to be had at any tirms unless her appearance may be an inducement to the Tarrs to Quit the Privateers to go on board her. Cap^t Skimmer⁵ is now tak^s in his Water, and will in ten days be Ready for Sea, if he can procure his men. he has been much impeded by bad Weather in fitting I should have sent forward the Schooners⁶ Acc^{ts}. but my Clerk has been Sick shall give my attention to it, and forward it as soon as possible I have the honour to be Y^{rs}. &c. &c—

J. B.

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 118–19. The addressee is determined by the contents of the letter.

1. Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
2. Ship *Neptune*, J. Smallwood, master, from Whitehaven to New York or Philadelphia, with salt and dry goods, which H.M.S. *Orpheus* recaptured on 26 Mar. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486–87.
3. Unidentified snow, — Smith, master, from St. Eustatius to Bristol or Ireland, with flax seed and fustic, which arrived safe at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.
4. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, Continental Navy.
5. Capt. John Skimmer, commanding Continental Navy brigantine *General Gates*.
6. Schooner *Loyalty*, prize of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

JOHN BRADFORD TO LEONARD JARVIS

Boston 25th March 1778

This hour a Letter is handed Me from M^r Trivett,¹ by the Bearer the Midshipman² of the *Providence*, I told him the Letter requir'd no Answer, as he wrote Me he should send a Copy of Mine to him to Congress, I desird he let M^r Trivett know that I also should send forward a Copy of his On talking over Matters as he seem'd desirous of having my Opinion, he discours'd very modestly & calmly on the Occasion, & fully in Sentiment with Me, in what I advanc'd—As to the propriety of delivering the Cargo³ into your Hands, & as they would have so deliverd if you had not refus'd giving a Receipt for the Articles receiv'd, as things were circumstanc'd—I think, with Safety you might have given such a Receipt, as you would have held them only in Trust, He says they will now deliver them if you will give your Receipt, being so far from the Scene of the Action, & not having a fair Representation of Things from that Party, I am at a Loss how to advise, only I could wish for Harmony, as it gives the Enemy pleasure to see us quarell—The *Warren* is arriv'd, She took a Ship⁴ from White-Haven & took out of her from 5 to 6,000 [*pieces of duck and osnaburg*], she took also a Snow⁵ from y^e W. Indies for Bristol with Flax Seed they dont yet appear yours &c

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, p. 118. Addressed at top: "Leonard Jarvis Esq^r."

1. Capt. John Trevett, Continental Marines.
2. Probably Midn. James Adamson.
3. The cargo of ship *Mary*, prize of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
4. Ship *Neptune*, J. Smallwood, master, from Whitehaven to Philadelphia, with salt and dry goods, which H.M.S. *Orpheus* recaptured on 26 Mar. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486-87.
5. Unidentified snow, — Smith, master, from St. Eustatius to Bristol or Ireland, with flax seed and fustic, which arrived safe at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL GABRIEL JOHONNOT TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL

May it Please Your Honors

Agreeable to Instructions received from the Hon^{ble}. Council, I proceeded to Newport in Order to Enquire into the cause of the detention of a Number of Prisoners, due to the State of Massachusetts Bay, and Negotiate on that Business. on my Arrival there, I Applied to Lord Viscount Howe, Admiral and Commander of the British Fleet in America, relative to the Matter in Charge—Shewed him my Credentials, with the General Account of Prisoners Stated. His Lordship having carefully Examined the same, Observed that the Prisoners sent from Hallifax on board the *Royal Bounty* Cartel who rose and took the ship from the Master¹ and carried her into a Port in this State[,] must be deducted from the ballance. I Object^{ed} to it and Observed to his Lordship they were considered as having Liberated themselves, and Agreeable to the Custom Among European Powers could not be looked upon as Prisoners. He replied that she sailed from Hallifax as a Flagg, without any Armed Force on board and was designed for Boston as soon as She had touched at Newport to deliver the Prisoners and Obtain a receipt from the Commissary for them; That she could not be consider'd in any other View. Elucidating his Observation by asking Whether a Prison ship then at Newport bound to Bristol to deliver a Number of Prisoners, who should rise and take the ship from the Master and carry her to Providence could be considered as Liberating themselves; that he viewed the present Instance of the *Royal Bounty* Altogether similar. I answered his Lordship by Observing that the Armed Briggantine *Cabot* was a more Effectual Force than a few soldiers could Possibly be on board the ship, and rendered them almost useless; That the Briggantine *Cabot* was considered in that light, Appearing from Sir Geo. Colliers Instructions to the Master of the *Royal Bounty* which I shewed and from the Conduct of the Captain of the *Cabot* when the first Attempt to carry the ship off was made, Threatning if repeated he would soon clear the decks. That she could not be considered as a Flagg as his Lordship had given Positive Orders no Exchange should take place anywhere but at Newport, which was the reason Assigned by Sir Geo. Collier for not putting on board the Cartel Briggantine *Favorite* from this State then at Hallifax as many Prisoners as she could take and for sending them to Newport; That his Lordship's Elucidation was in my opinion far from being similar, in the one Instance the Intention and design was clear, in the other Cloaked to guard Against what really took place I was answered that the reason the Prisoners was not put on board the Cartel from Boston then at Hallifax was because she was insufficient for so large a Number and a Letter from Sir Geo. Collier Commanding Officer at Hallifax produced as a Corroborating proof, but it was likewise Observed by his

Lordship he did not Altogether Approve Sir Geo's Conduct but thought he might have put on board as Many as she could Convenient[ly] carry. That the *Cabot* was designed only as a Vessell to preserve Order in the Convoy. However he should not Enter into dispute about it. He had 'Thro his Commissary wrote to know whether the Ship and Prisoners were to be Allowed him or not,² the Answer would be determinate with him, if Against him it might Operate Against the plan he had in Agitation, and make him more cautious in future in Exchanging.

His Lordship discovered a strong disinclination to deliver any Prisoners untill the case of the *Royal Bounty* was decided, but strongly pressing him to it by Observing the length of time he had the ballance of Prisoners in his hands, the suffering state the Prisoners were in and the charge and Expence of sending Flaggs, he Agreed to my taking what might be due Allowing for those on board the *Royal Bounty* untill he received an Answer to his Letter.

Their Idea of Rank widely differing from ours, Obliged me to Take in Exchange for those officers in the Naval Line who went in on Parole for certain Persons Named in the Instrument to be sent out in Exchange, such Persons as were thought to be nearest of Rank to them, Neither Party being to be found and no knowledge of them to be had. Lord Howe Altogether disapproves the practice of sending Persons in on Parole to obtain perticular persons Named in Exchange or return & Desires it may be discontinued, would wish in All Applications of that Nature that Proposals may be forwarded and if Approved the Person or Persons will be sent out Immediately but that strict Attention must be paid to Rank Agreeable to Gen^l Washington's Proposal which was concurred in by his Lordship.

Captains of Lettres of Marque His Lordship Observ'd is by no Means of Equal rank with Captains of Armed Vessells fixed for Cruizing, no distinction being made between public and Private Property, the design being the Principal Object; Therefore a Lettre of Marque being designed for trade and defence cannot be deemed on a footing with a Privateer or Armed Vessell and Captains of the former will not be taken in Exchange for Captains of the Latter.

Upon my Remonstrating on the Treatment of the American Prisoners his Lordship readily Acknowledged that their Situation and Fare was truly hard, Unhappy and Miserable, that they were in want of convenience and comfort nor had he it in his power to releive them—That they were cruelly treated in being served with bad provisions or defrauded of their Allowance as had been represented His Lordship declared to be highly Exaggerated if not Altogether groundless—with respect to bad provision he Observed that not any were made use of in his Majesty's Navy without passing a Survey by Men on Oath and when Condemned as unfit for use were by an Act of Parliament order'd to be thrown into the sea on penalty of the Officers Forfeiting his Commission and paying a heavy fine. To shew how strictly they adhered to it and the little Probability of truth in the representation of the American Prisoners, His Lordship related the following Circumstance—That some time since a large Quantity of Provisions was Condemned at N York. The Inhabitants being People high in Government Interest, at that time prodigiously Strained for Provisions, unanimously Petitioned him that they might be Allowed it. He was he said highly sensible of an[*d*] felt for their distressd Situation, would have been happy to have Afforded them relief, more Particularly in granting the Prayer of their Petition; but was Obliged to

Commit the whole of it to the seas. His Lordship Added that it was equally Improbable that the American Prisoners were cut short of their Allowance, that he frequently sent the Captain of his ship to see to the distribution of it—was sorry the states so readily gave into Reports of a Treatment which self Preservation (Adverting to bodies being left Unburied &ca.) The Law of Humanity (which he would not Allow they were diverted off) and every feeling that the Human Mind in Civilized countries were Subject to, so loudly disclaimed and rendered Improbable.

His Lordship, declared he wish'd that some Method might be Adopted whereby they might be early Enlarged, at least that the Prisoners might be supplied with fresh Provisions and every thing else that would make their situation Comfortable, That Flags should be Admitted as Often as was Convenient or Necessary for that Purpose provided a proper Person was sent to distribute the supplies, That the Prisoners might not say they had not or were defrauded of what was sent them, and that the Prison Ships should be open to the Visitation and Inspection of our own Surgeons or Physicians.

With respect to the Exchange of Capt^a: John Manley late Commander of the *Hancock* Frigate, would Observe, that on Application to Governor Cook of the State of Rhode Island, Agreeable to my Instructions, to Obtain the Capt^a: of the *Syren* to be given in Exchange for him, the Governor informed me he had Offer'd him for Col^o: Ethan Allen, which could not be Alter'd, As I was by the Advice of the Council of said State requested to wait untill the Flag that sailed the Morning After my Arrival at Providence returned which it was supposed would be in two or three days, but by bad weather was detained twelve days. The Offer for Col^o: Ethan Allen was rejected by Lord Howe as out of his line of department. I again Applied for Liberty to propose Captain Furneaux but was denied. Therefore requested of Lord Howe that Captain Manley might be Enlarged on his Parole, untill Captain Furneaux could be obtained to be given in Exchange for him his Lordship consented and Gave the Commissary at Newport orders for that purpose and for setting at Liberty Captain Daniel Waters³ Exchanged for Capt^a: William Judd⁴ and Captain Samuel Green⁵ Exchanged for Captain Rob^t: Workman—Captain Clouston⁶ was Exchanged for the Master of the *Syren*⁷ and M^r: Joseph Foster for the Purser of said ship.⁸ The reason Assigned by Lord Howe for not sending out captain Bourke,⁹ Captain Clouston, Lieu^t: Adams and M^r: Foster, for Capt^a: Jones,¹⁰ Capt^a: Room,¹¹ Captⁿ: Coats and M^r: Emmons was that they were not of Equal rank.

Left with General Pigot a Copy of the Paroles of the British Officers with a List of the Names of those American Officers, who were to be sent in Exchange which Copy & List the General Engaged to forward to the Commanding Officer at N York that the American Officers might be sent or the British Officers Obligated to return, Agreeable to their Paroles. The Original's with a List of the Prisoners brought in the Flag as well as a List of those Prisoners set ashore at Bristol by Lord Howe. All which is humbly submitted by [&c.]

Gabriel Johonnot

Boston 25th. March 1778

L, M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 8 (Various-Charter Parties-Relating to Prisoners), p. 130. Addressed at foot of last page: "To The Hon^{ble}: Council of the State/of Massachusetts Bay." Docketed: "Col: Johonnots/Report Negotiating/Exch^a Prisoners at Newport/March. 1778."

1. Thomas Compton.

2. See Charles Waller to Massachusetts Commissary of Prisoners, 28 Feb., above.
3. Capt. Daniel Waters, Continental Navy, was captured as an acting lieutenant on Continental Navy frigate *Hancock*. See *NDAR* 9: 181, 273, 284, 326.
4. Judd was formerly captain of H.M.S. *Antelope*. See *NDAR* 10: 11, 108, 138, 180, 182, 182n, 340, 496, 532, 567, 594.
5. Green was captured commanding Massachusetts State trading vessel *Pliarne*. See *NDAR* 10: 400, 400n, 459, 459n.
6. Capt. John Clouston, Massachusetts Navy, was captured commanding Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Freedom*. See *NDAR* 10: 459, 459n, 816, 816n.
7. William Edwards. See *NDAR* 10: 643, 644, 644n, 838n.
8. Richard Backhouse. See *NDAR* 10: 537, 538n, 566, 567, 567n, 644, 644n.
9. Capt. William Burke was captured commanding Washington's Fleet schooner *Warren* on 26 Aug. 1776. See *NDAR* 6: 303-4, 304n, 638; 7: 95, 101, 347, 1078. At the end of Feb. 1778 he escaped from prison, presumably at New York, and on 30 Apr. petitioned the Continental Congress for back pay in Washington's Fleet and an officer's commission in the Continental Navy. DNA, PCC, item 41, vol. 1, pp. 162-63 (M247, roll 48).
10. Capt. Richard Jones, master of ship *Johnson*. See *NDAR* 9: 862, 867; 10: 15.
11. Capt. William Room, master of ship *Maesgwyn*. See *NDAR* 10: 354, 686.

WILLIAM VERNON TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

Gentleⁿ.

Providence 25th. March 1778

This moment several, of the Ship *Warrens* Men came to Town from Boston, who inform me they Arrived There last Monday; and in passing the Enemys Ships in this River¹ on the 16th.² they sustained some damage, their Mizen yard shot away, Main Yard wounded, several Shot passed through their Hull, one Man only sleightly wounded; The Wind blowing & continueing fresh at N W. the Crew badly Clothed, and Weather extream Cold were under the Necessity of standing to the Southward in warmer Weather under easie sail far as the Latt. 24..0. where they fell in with the Ship *Neptune* Cap^t Smallwood from Whitehaven bound to Phil^a. Loaded with Salt and dry Goods. . .and Soon after with the *Snow* — Cap^t Smith from St. Eustatia bound to Ireland with Flax Seed and Fustick both of w^{ch} Prizes they ordered to the first Port of Safty either in the State of New Hampshire or Massas.— and shou'd be happy to hear of their Arrival Cap^t Hopkins took out of the *Neptune* 120 bales of duck & some other Articles.

John Deshon Esq^f left this Place this day Week for Connecticut River determined to push out the *Trumbal* the next Tides, and if possible to get her into New London. she must be intirly stript of her Yards & Top Mast, & all her Stores even to a Swep't Hole that if possible to bring her to 9 or 10 feet Water with the Assistance of her Courses with Two Sloops she may get to N London in a few hours being only Twenty Miles distance. ~~Nothing can prevent it except a Gale of Wind Easterly, or the Enemys Ships laying off by [illeg.] Cove.~~ I Cannot doubt of his Success if the sound is clear of the Enemys Ships.

The *Columbus* has fell down the River³ five Mile below this Town waitg only a favourable Wind and Thick Weather to proceed to New London. we have Landed all her Stores, except 4 Swival Guns to keep off a Boat w^{ch}. brings the Ship to a light set of Ballast and must facilitate her Sailing, besides if she falls into the Enemies hands they will gain only an Old Ship—and Twenty five Men w^{ch}. we think sufficient to run the Ship to N London—

The *Providence* hath all her Stores on board for a Cruise. have inlisted about 100 Men in 10 days. Cap^t Whipple⁴ expects to have his Complement of hands in 8 or Ten days tho' I am very doubtful of his being able to Ship more then 150 in that

Time altho the encouragement we give the Men, on this pressing occation is 90 doll^s to able Sea men and 50 to Ordinary & Lands Men, to be deducted out of future Prize Money. we wish to have your approbation of this Measure, and also of our methods respecting the *Columbus*, *Trumbal* & *Warren*. we know nothing can justify our departing from the Rules prescribed by Congress, but the absolute necessity of geting those Ships out from their long & expensive confinement. our motives & exertions are intirely governed by rules of oeconomy [*and*] of good of the service. I am [&c.]

P.S. this moment hear the *Neptune* is Safe Arrived at Boston.⁵

Df, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80.

1. H.M.S. *Lark* and H.M.S. *Somerset* in the Narragansett or West Passage of Narragansett Bay.

2. 16 Feb. See Journal of H.M.S. *Lark*, 16 Feb., Memoir of Elias Ware, 16 Feb., and Diary of Captain Frederick Mackenzie, 17 Feb., above.

3. Providence River and Bay.

4. Capt. Abraham Whipple, Continental Navy.

5. H.M.S. *Orpheus* recaptured *Neptune* on 26 Mar. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486-87.

CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH, R.N., TO CAPTAIN PHILEMON POWNOLL, R.N.

(Copy)

By Captain Walter Griffith
Commander of a Division of
His Majesty's Ships and
Vessels at Rhode Island.

You are hereby directed to proceed to Sea in His Majesty's Ship under your Command, and having seen the Forage Ships and Navy Victuallers with His Majesty's Ship the *Isis*, safe into the River Delaware which Ship is to Convoy them up the said River, agreeable to the Orders given Captain Raynor¹ for the purpose: You are then to proceed and Cruise in Company with His Majesty's Ship *Maidstone* between the Lattitude of 38°: 30" and 40°: 30" N^o and 66°. 00" and 70°. 00["] West Longitude for the Term of Six Weeks, but you are nevertheless, at Liberty to extend the Limits & Term of your appointed stay at Sea according to Circumstances, & the Intelligence, you may receive, for furthering His Majesty's Service, for preventing any Trade or Intercourse with the Rebellious Colonests & intercepting the Arm'd Vessels fitted by them, for the Annoyance of the Trade of the King's faithful Subjects.

It being intended that Two Frigates should at all Times keep together, in Order to Act in greater Force, when not supported by any Two Deck Ship as it is expected that some Ships of Value & Force may soon arrive in the Rebellious Ports, Probably under French Colours, and if any Two should be under Orders to Cruise together, and should by Accident part Company; The Senior Captain is to give a Rendezvous for the purpose of Joining again, and if during the Time other Cruisers should fall in Company it is recommended to the Senior Captain to have as much regard to that Circumstance as his Orders will admit of.

If you should during your Cruise, meet with a Pacquet from England, or any other Ship, in which Major Cuyler,² first Aid de Camp to Sir William Howe is Embarked: You are to receive the Major and the Dispatches with which he is Charged, onboard your Ship (or as the Senior Captain then in Company shall direct) if so desired, as well as the Publick Dispatches addressed to the Admiral, or

General in other instances, and Convey the same for being forwarded up the Delaware, with the greatest expedition to the Admiral; giving Convoy to the Pacquet, as far as your different destinations will admit and at the Expiration of your Cruise, you are to return to this Port for further Orders: And for your General Conduct, when employed in Cruising or otherwise, whether at present or in future, on this or any other Station: You are also, to have regard to the knowledge you may obtain, respecting the several places of Anchorage on the Coasts of the Northern Provinces, in Case it should become necessary to have recourse thereto, on any Emergency, or for preventing the disadvantage of our Ships being forced from their Stations, in the Winter Season: And the further knowledge you may gain of the most probable means of intercepting the Enemys Ships passing to, and from, the New-England Ports, or any other Ports; And if you have a suitable Opportunity, of doing so (Previous to your own arrival in Port) you are to Communicate such information, both to Commodore Hotham,³ at New-York; The Commanding Officer at Halifax, and to me, for Our Guidance in any future Services; And for your further information, if you should fall in with any of the Cruisers, belonging to the Halifax Division, which may have a Letter directed to me on the Kings Service, you are to Open it, in Order to avail yourself of the intelligence it may contain, for the benefit of His Majesty's Service, and in like manner you may Open any Letters from me to him.

And if you should, at any time, on your Cruise, have a Suitable Opportunity of Writing to the Admiral, by any of His Majesty's Ships, going to the General Rendezvous, you are to avail yourself of it, and transmit to His Lordship your proceedings to that Time, with every intelligence you may have obtain'd (and your Opinion of the Authenticity of it) relative to the designs and operations of the Enemy by Sea and Land, with an Account of the Captures &c^a you may have made in the Form annexed, and the State and Condition of the Ship under your Command: The intent being that His Lordship may have the Earliest Intelligence possible; if it can be made known to him, sooner by yours, than thro' my Hands.

I herewith enclose to you such Intelligence as may be Necessary for your information, which you are at all Times to keep as Secret as possible: And if you should find it necessary for His Majesty's Service to Communicate the same to any other Captain, you are to deliver with it, the same Injunction.

Given onboard His Majesty's Ship
Nonsuch off Newport on Rhode Island
 this 25th day of March 1778.
 (Sign'd) Wat: Griffith

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/1838, part 9, no. 17. Addressed flush left below signature: "To/Capt: P. Pownal/Commander of His Majesty's/Ship the *Apollo*." Docketed: "N^o: 4." Enclosure no. 4 in Captain Walter Griffith to Philip Stephens, 9 Apr. 1778.

1. Capt. John Raynor, R.N.
2. Lt. Col. Cornelius Cuyler.
3. Commo. William Hotham.

JOHN DESHON TO JOSHUA HUNTINGTON

Dear Sir

New London March 25th 1778.

I know not what to say to you about the Matter you Mention, to give 18/ per Day will be a Violation of the Law of the State, at Same time I shall be Very Sorry to

have a Detainment on acco't of the Blacksmiths work of the Ship.¹ if it can be done I Shall be Glad to have your old Smith Kept a little while longer, as we shall soon see whether the new regulations will take place. I am willing to leave the whole to your Prudence and Discretion and shall be fully Satisfyed with your Proceedings in the Matter. I am much Disappointed with Respect to the Ship *Trumbull*, the Navy Board have Invested me with full power to get her out of the River,² and when I Return'd I Expected have found the Ship prepared according to my Directions when I left this place, but I find my Self Superceeded by order of his Excelency the Govenor and Council of Safty, who have appointed Capt'n John Cotton to Execute that Business, and made him Sole Director of the whole Matter. if you will Enquire of any of the Members of the Council of Safty whether the Honob'e Congress has Invested them with any New Powers since the appointment of our Board, and write me as soon as may be you will much oblige me. I have much at hart the getting the *Trumbull* out of the River, and I am Very Sure I could bring the Ship to Draw a foot less watter then She now does (*if what I here is true*) the prospect of a tide this night to get the Ship out is very Great, and I Sincerely wish She may Get out Safe if She Drew a foot less watter I should think the Risque Triffling.

I have nothing more to say then the Ship you are building³ must go on at all Events. I am [&c.]

John Deshon.

Connecticut Historical Society *Collections* 20: 83–84.

1. Huntington also had problems with carpenters' pay. See *NDAR* 10: 55, 56, 136, 137.
2. Connecticut River.
3. Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy*.

CAPTAIN SETH HARDING TO HOWLAND & COIT

Gentlemen

New London March 25th. 1778

I have Agreed with M^r Nathaniel Shaw Jun^r for my Sixteenth Concern in the Brigg^t *Trumbull* now Building att Norwich Landing and would have you Acco^u With him for the 1/32 part of the Duck & Cordage which Cap^t Billings¹ bro^t home which was 1/32 part of the Avails of the Sloop *Trumbull*² and also for One hundred and Twenty pounds in Cash paid you the 10th. of Febuary last³ as ~~þ~~ Rec^t and You'l Oblige [&c.]

Seth Harding

L, C&Y, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 56, no. 3581. Addressed at foot: "To Mess^{rs} Howland⁴ & Coit⁵ Agents/for Brigg: *Trumbull*." Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Cap^t Hardings/Order/on Howland & Coit." Docketed in another hand: "3581."

1. Capt. Henry Billings, commanding the Connecticut privateer sloop *Trumbull*.
2. Sloop *Trumbull* was sold by Capt. Henry Billings to Patrick Moore at Martinique and renamed *Ranger*. See Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., to Patrick Moore, 26 Feb., above.
3. See Receipt of Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., to Captain Seth Harding, 25 Mar., immediately below.
4. Joseph Howland.
5. Thomas Coit.

RECEIPT OF NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., TO CAPTAIN SETH HARDING

New London March 25th. 1778—

Received of Cap^t Seth Harding Mess^{rs} Howland¹ & Coits² Rec^t for One hundred & Twenty pounds in his favour also an order for 1/32 part of the Duck

& Cordage Imported by Cap^t Billings³ late Mast^r of the Sloop *Trumbull*,⁴ which I Promise to Acco^u with S^d. Harding for in One Month from this date att the Same Rate as the Said duck and Cordage is Charg'd by the other Owners—

Nath^l Shaw Jun^r

DS, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 56, no. 3584. Docketed in Shaw's hand: "Nath^l Shaw Jun^r/Rec^t." Signed by Seth Harding. Docketed in another hand: "3584."

1. Joseph Howland.
2. Thomas Coit.
3. Capt. Henry Billings, formerly third lieutenant of Connecticut Navy ship *Defence*.
4. Connecticut privateer sloop *Trumbull*.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT TO ROBERT MORRIS

Dear Sir/

Borden Town 25th. Mar: 1778

I have ordered the ship *Lion* and the Packet¹ to be taken out of the Creek² & run as high up the River as they can go & there anchored in the Stream. Should the Enemy make an Attempt this Way by Land & not by water or should the Gallies be able to keep off their small Boats the Vessels will be safer in the Stream than so near Shore—there are many other Reasons that induced me to take this Measure—& I hope you will approve of it;—Capt. McGinnis just now applied to me respecting the Sloop & Schooner under his Charge—He concurred with me in opinion, & will dispose of his Vessels in the same Manner.

Capt. Robinson³ of the *A: Doria*, went in about 10 Days ago with a Flag to carry Supplies to our People Prisoners in the City—The Flag was perfectly regular Leave having been first obtained for it's going in, & yet Genl. Howe has ordered him & Capt. Galt of the State Fleet,⁴ who accompanied him, to be seised under pretence of their being Spies, & has thrown them into the common Gaol—I have wrote to Genl. Washington but know not what has been done.—M^{rs}. Robinson is in great Distress⁵

General Lee⁶ passed thro' Crosswicks yesterday in his way to Philadelphia—

Brother Wharton⁷ has been gone some Time to Salem to see his Wife—What is become of him I know not—I hope he is safe—but the Enemy have been & now are at Salem & in it's Neighbourhood.

We are told D^e Franklin is dead of his wounds—I sincerely hope it is not so—

M^{rs}. Hopkinson joins me in affectionate Regards to M^{rs}. Morris & M^{rs}. Bach, my Compt^s to all Friends at Manheim—I am dear Sir [&c.]

Fra^s. Hopkinson

L, NHpR, Correspondence Regarding Naval-Maritime Matters, 1775–1783, no. 70.

1. Continental packet brig *Mercury*, Capt. John Ashmead. See NDAR 9: 165.
2. Crosswicks Creek, N.J.
3. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, formerly commanding Continental Navy brigantine *Andrew Doria*.
4. Capt. Nathaniel Galt, formerly commanding Pennsylvania Navy armed boat *Argus*.
5. See Continental Navy Board of the Middle Department to General George Washington, 24 Mar., above.
6. Maj. Gen. Charles Lee, Continental Army.
7. John Wharton, member, Continental Navy Board of Middle Department, at Bordentown.

THE PENNSYLVANIA LEDGER: OR THE PHILADELPHIA MARKET-DAY ADVERTISER,
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1778

PHILADELPHIA.

On Wednesday last, a rebel gun boat, with one three pounder, called the *Fame*, No. 71,¹ was taken by the *Pearl*² and *Camilla*'s³ boats out of a creek a little above Reedy Point.

Last Thursday the *Pearl*'s boats took two rebel boats out of a canal at Reedy Point; one a large long boat, fitted for a four pounder and one swivel; the other a yawl, fitted for five swivels, but neither men nor arms in them.

Last week a rebel schooner was taken in Duck creek, and brought up to this city.⁴ The number of the crew, now prisoners, are about twenty, amongst whom are two pilots, Henry Tudor, and James Bruce. It is said she was taken by a party of the crew belonging to the *Diamond*.⁵

1. Probably the Pennsylvania Navy armed boat *Fame*, Capt. Thomas Hazelwood. There is a notation on her muster roll for this period under her gunner, Andrew Vance, "went down the river with Captain [Joseph] Wade, on a cruize," January 1778. *Pennsylvania Archives*, 2d. ser., I: 202-3. She evidently was re-captured when the British evacuated Philadelphia as five men were assigned to her in July and August 1778. John W. Jackson, *The Pennsylvania Navy, 1775-1781* (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1974), 341.

2. H.M.S. *Pearl*, Capt. John Linzee, commander.

3. H.M.S. *Camilla*, Capt. Charles Phipps, commander.

4. See *The Pennsylvania Ledger: or the Philadelphia Market-Day Advertiser*, 21 Mar., above.

5. H.M.S. *Diamond*, Capt. Charles Feilding, commander.

"AN ACCOUNT OF THE NUMBER OF DESERTED SOLDIERS, GALLEYMEN &c.
FROM THE REBEL ARMY AND FLEET,
WHO HAVE COME INTO PHILADELPHIA AND TAKEN THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE,
WITH A PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF THE PLACES IN WHICH THEY WERE BORN.—"

Philadelphia March 25th 1778.—

Total Soldiers to this day		1134.
Of which were born in England	206.	
in Scotland	56	
in Ireland	492	
in Germany	88	
in America	283	
in Canada	4	
in France	<u>5</u>	<u>1134.</u>
 Total Galley-men &c to this day		 354.
Of which were born in England	69	
in Scotland	22	
in Ireland	157	
in Germany	16	
in America	75	
in France	<u>15</u>	<u>354.</u>

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Wednesday, March 25, 1778

The Committee on the Treasury brought in a report;
Whereupon,

Ordered, That a warrant issue on the treasurer in favour of the Marine Committee for 3,000 dollars, for the purpose of defraying their contingent expences; for which they are to be accountable.

JCC 10: 283.

GOVERNOR PETER CHESTER TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

Duplicate
(N^o 49)

My Lord,

Pensacola, 25th March 1778—

I am sorry to inform Your Lordship, that a Party of the Rebels have lately penetrated into the Colony by the Channel of the Mississippi, and laid waste almost the whole western part of the Province: The best intelligence that I have been able to procure of their proceedings, is as follows.

One James Willing late of Philadelphia, a Captain, (Robert George & Thomas M^cIntyre Lieutenants) in the Rebel Army with about 35 Men, draughted from the Rebel Troops, left fort Pitt, in the month of January last and on their passage down the Rivers Ohio & Mississippi, were joined by a Body of Banditti, amounting in the whole to about One hundred Men; an Advanced party of forty, first made their appearance in the Province, on the 18th of February last, about ten at night, at a place called the Walnut Hills, 35 Leagues above the Natches the residence of One John Watkins, where they Surprized the said Watkins, & four men, who had been placed there by Colonel Stuart, in order to gain intelligence—these men had for Some time before a party of Indians with them, as a guard for the protection of the River, who, could not be prevailed upon to Stay longer, and were returned in to their nation—On the 19th in the morning M^r Willing with the remainder of their body passed the Walnut Hills and on the same night, the whole reached the Natches, detached Small parties in to the Country, & Surprized all the magistrates & People of Influence in the Settlement, without giving the least Alarm, or affording them an opportunity to defend themselves—After 1, or 2 Days Conference, the Inhabitants by their Deputies, entered into an Engagement of Neutrality with M^r Willing, in order to prevent their Slaves & properties from being plundered, a Copy whereof is inclosed for your Lordship's information—

During this Negotiation, an advanced party, under M^cIntyre proceeded down the River Mississippi, carrying off with them, the Slaves & other property of Anthony Hutchins Esq^{re}, a Magistrate in that District, & himself a Prisoner, he being particularly obnoxious to M^r Willing—The waters of the Mississippi at this season of the year rise very fast, So that they passed down with great rapidity, & were not discovered by the Inhabitants settled on the Banks of the River—untill they reached Our lowest Settlement, Manchack, where early in the morning of the 23rd they Surprized a Ship called the *Rebecca*, late of London, John Cox, master mounted with Sixteen Carriage Guns, four pounders besides Swivels, and made the Inhabitants of that Settlement, Prisoners on their parole—

The main body, joined by three, or four People of the Natches Settlement, a Number of French & Spanish Batteau Men—Hunters, & other Banditti, Soon after followed down the River, and laid waste to most of these Settlements from Point Coupè to Manchack, burning Several Houses, and Seizing upon all the Slaves, & other property of the Inhabitants—

With this Booty, a part of them have proceeded to New Orleans, where the most Considerable body now are; (amounting it is said at present, to between three & four hundred)—The Slaves & property, they intend selling to the Spaniards, at publick Auction, under the direction of one Oliver Pollock a British Merchant, residing at New Orleans; who has declared himself An Agent for the Congress—

One of their parties also Seized a Brig, called the *Neptune*, loaded with Lumber, and bound for Jamaica, about Eleven Leagues below the Town of Orleans, & of course will endeavour to take every British Vessel in the River Mississippi—

The first measure, I adopted after the receipt of this information, was to request Captⁿ Ferguson¹ of His Majesty's Sloop of war *Sylph* to proceed to the Mississippi in order to intercept any of the British Vessels which the Rebels may have taken in that River, and attempt to carry out to Sea, to demand restitution from the Governor of Louisiana, of all British property brought by the Rebels into his Colony, & remonstrate against his giving them protection or furnishing them with Supplies—I also detached an Officer and twenty five men, from this Garrison, to the assistance of Lieutenant Burdon² of the armed Sloop *West Florida* in the Lake Pontchartrain, who is weakly manned, to Enable him to secure the Passes into the Lakes, and gain intelligence, in case the Rebels Should be in force, & attempt to penetrate farther into the Colony—Colonel Stuart,³ the Superintendant has Sent off twenty men of his Newraised Corps, to the River Nitalbanie,⁴ accompanied by M^r Chrystie⁵ a magistrate of that District, who will Endeavour to obtain the best intelligence of what number of the Rebels are posted on the River Amit,⁶ & at Manchack, and if practicable, to attack & dispossess them—

The Inhabitants of the Natches, have sent an Express to me, desiring the assistance of one Hundred Troops for whom they will Engage to build a Block House, Temporary Barracks and to furnish them with fresh Provisions, promising with this Support, to break their Neutrality, & join the Troops against the Rebels; but I found upon consulting Lieutenant Colonel Stiell,⁷ & other Officers of this Garrison, that Such a detachment could not be spared from hence—The Inhabitants of Mobile have also applied to me, to reinforce that Post, the loss of which would greatly distress us here, and cut off our Supply of Fresh Provisions, but it is not thought prudent to detach a man from Our present Strength as such a measure would Endanger the Safety of this place, Should the Rebels come against it in any great force—

Captⁿ Nunn⁸ of His Majesty's Sloop of war *Hound*, lately arrived here from Jamaica, has also, upon my requisition, gone to assist Captⁿ Ferguson in the Mississippi and one, or other of these Sloops will proceed up the River, as high as Manchack to dispossess the Rebels that may be left there, & prevent any of them from returning up the River—

I do not think it improbable when M^r Willing finds that the King's Ships will prevent his Sending any of the British Vessels, taken in the Mississippi, to Sea; that He may return & take post with his Banditti at the Natches, live upon the Inhabitants as free Booters & keep possession of that Country, unless driven out by the Savages; Colonel Stuart has therefore, dispatched one of His commissaries in order to raise the Indians, & white men in their Nation, for this Service, and he assures me, we may rely upon the Savages, who will take an active part, & makes no doubt that they are all in motion—however He has more confidence in them than I have myself; and the Event has shewn that a Small party of the Rebels have either undiscovered, or unmolested passed three different Posts Established by Col^l Stuart, on the Banks of the Mississippi with White men & Indians, for the purpose of preventing the Rebels from penetrating into the Colony by that Channel—

It really affords me much Concern to find, after the great expence, which it has cost Government by Presents, Provisions &c^a to attach these Savages, that they cannot when called forth, be depended upon, this was declared to me, by M^r Alexander Cameron an Indian Commissary, who being called upon by Me in Council to go with a body of Indians, & what white men he could get, asserted that no dependence could be placed upon any body of Indians—notwithstanding their repeated assurances of Attachment to the King's Interest; and that they could not be brought to act unless led on by Troops—

I am endeavouring to raise a Provincial Corps in the Colony under the Command of John M^cGillivray Esq^{re}. who has voluntarily offered himself for the purpose and has greater influence about Mobile & with the Traders in the Indian Country than any other Person in the Province; and to encourage Men to enlist. I have offered the Same Pay with Colonel Stuart's Rangers, & to grant them the like Quantity of Lands in the Colony, upon the termination of the Rebellion, as the Provincial Troops are promised serving under Sir W^m: Howe; Notwithstanding these Encouragements, I am still fearful, from our few Inhabitants, that M^r M^cGillivray will not be able to collect more than One hundred Men & that Even these will not consent to be Embodied for any Longer time than the Expedition to the Natches: So that should the Rebels be driven out of the Colony, & no Men Stationed at the Natches to Support the Inhabitants, I am of opinion that they will abandon that Settlement, and those below, and on the Banks of Mississippi, & western parts of the Colony will also remove, unless some farther protection can be given to them, than what they are to receive from the Indians on whom they place no Confidence and the most Valuable part of the Province, will be in a great measure depopulated, untill the Rebellion is Crushed.

I think there is much ground to apprehend that the Rebels intend to make an attack upon West Florida with a Considerable force, as I have intelligence from M^r Rocheblave Commandant of the Militia,⁹ in the Country of the Illinois that there were a Number of large Batteaus last fall lying in the River Ohio at Fort Pitt, intended for Some Expedition; this information has been corroborated by a Deserter from the Rebel Troops at Fort Pitt, who arrived in the Colony in February last, & it is generally supposed these Batteaus were intended to make an attack upon this Province—

M^r Willing & his Party all declare that an army from Fort Pitt, consisting of from two to three thousand Men under the command of one George Morgan a

Colonel in the Rebel Service, were to follow them, and are Expected to arrive in the Mississippi by the Month of May next—

Upon this Occasion I think it my duty to be watchful, & to use my utmost Endeavours for the Protection of the Colony. the Number of the Troops at this place, will not admit of making any Detachments & the Indians are not to be depended upon—I have therefore agreeable to my former instructions¹⁰ renewed my application both to Major General Dalling Governor of Jamaica,¹¹ & the Admiral upon that Station,¹² for Such assistance of Troops, & Ships to be sent here, as can be spared from the necessary duty of that Island, and service of the Station—I have also requested of the Admiral to order a Sloop of War to be stationed constantly in the Mississippi, near Manchack, during the present Rebellion, which measure will not only be a great protection to that part of the Province, & to the British Vessels in that River; but also a means of preventing the Rebels from penetrating thro' the River Ibberville,¹³ into the Lakes Maurepas & Pont Chartrain; The Admiral is farther requested to send another Vessel of an Easy draught of water to support Lieut^c Burdon of the *West Florida* in the lakes, his Sloop being very ill calculated for the Service to which she is appointed—¹⁴

I have likewise made an application to Brigadier General Prevost at S^t Augustin, for what assistance he can spare but I am apprehensive I shall receive no Support Either from him or the Governor of Jamaica. I have the honor to be [&c.]

P^t Chester

P.S. The Extracts of the Minutes of the Council respecting the Rebels, with our proceedings thereupon, shall be transmitted by the next opportunity—

Copy, UkLPR, C.O. 5/594. Addressed at the foot of the last page: "Right Hon^{ble} Lord George Germain."

1. Comdr. John Fergusson, R.N.

2. Lt. George Burdon (2), R.N.

3. Col. John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

4. Natalbany River.

5. Adam Chrystie.

6. Amite River.

7. Lt. Col. William Stiell.

8. Comdr. Joseph Nunn, R.N.

9. Philippe François Rastel, Sieur de Rocheblave, British commandant of Fort Gage, Kaskaskia, Illinois Country.

10. Gov. Chester is referring to instructions given by Lord George Germain to have *West Florida* reinforced by ships and soldiers from Jamaica. See *NDAR* 3: 482 and 532.

11. Gov. Peter Chester to Gov. John Dalling, 25 Mar. 1778, UkLPR, C.O. 137/73, 147–48.

12. Gov. Peter Chester to Rear Adm. Sir Peter Parker, 25 Mar. 1778, UkLPR, Adm. 1/241.

13. Now Bayou Manchac.

14. Gov. Chester also made a similar request to Vice Adm. James Young, commander of the Leeward Islands Station. Gov. Peter Chester to Vice Adm. James Young, 25 Mar. 1778, UkLPR, C.O. 5/129, 25–28.

March 26

JAMES WARREN TO MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH

Sir

Plym^o: March 26th: 1778

I think it proper you should be Informed that the Enemy at Cape Cod Harbour are driving a very Curious Stroke¹ we have Intelligence here which I

suppose is Authentic that many of our Vessels from the Southern States, & the West Indies are daily taken & Carried in there. whether this is done by those that come under the pretension of a Flag or by others, I am not able to say, nor do I think it very material, while they remain there under that Situation. surely it should not be made A rendezvous for Cruising Ships, & our Vessels by our Confidence in their professions, be Betrayed into Captivity. English Honour must be a subject of Burlesque, in future, Punic or Gallic Faith so long the subject of ridicule in Ancient & Modern History must drop into Oblivion, & give place to the more ridiculous Idea of English Honour & Virtue The Question may be how we can help ourselves. it may be A Question difficult to Answer, but if you have Gen^l Burgoyne still in your power, I Beg leave to Suggest it as my opinion that the Laws of God of Nature & Nations, as well as sound policy, would Justify his being detained till every Vessel taken is discharged with her Cargo.² The Subject Appears to me Important. you will therefore Excuse this Trouble, from your Friend and very Humb^l Serv^t

J Warren

L, MHi, William Heath Papers, vol. 7, fol. 77. Addressed: "Honb^{le}/ Major General Heath/Boston/ Cap^t Hammatt." Docketed: "From Gen^l Warren/respect^s Vessels being/taken by the Vessels/in Cape Harbour/Mar. 26. 1778." Warren was major general of the Massachusetts Militia, speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and a member of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.

1. A fleet of British transports, escorted by H.M.S. *Juno* and H.M.S. *Orpheus*, sent to convey the British "Convention" Army back to England which were anchored in Cape Cod Harbor.

2. Lt. Gen. John Burgoyne sailed for England on 5 Apr.

THE INDEPENDENT CHRONICLE, AND THE UNIVERSAL ADVERTISER (BOSTON)

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1778

BOSTON. [26 March]

Last Monday Afternoon¹ arrived here, the Continental Frigate WARREN, of 32 Guns, under the Command of John Hopkins, Esq.; which a few Weeks ago got out from Providence, in the Course of which she took two Prizes; one a Ship,² taken in Sight of Bermuda, from Whitehaven bound to Philadelphia, laden with Salt and Dry Goods; the other, a Snow³ from St. Eustatia, her lading unknown, both of which Prizes are hourly expected in Port.—

1. March 23.

2. Ship *Neptune*, J. Smallwood, master, which H.M.S. *Orpheus* recaptured on 26 Mar. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486–87.

3. Unidentified snow, — Smith, master, from St. Eustatius to Bristol or Ireland, with flax seed and fustic, which arrived safe at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

WILLIAM VERNON TO JAMES WARREN

Dear Sir

Providence 26th. March 1778

I congratulate you on the Arrival of the *Warren* at Boston, where I hear one of her Prizes the Ship *Neptune* is safe—have seen several of the *Warrens* crew, who make heavy complaints of their not being Supp[li]ed with Money to bear their expences on the Road; it will be injurious to Manning the Ship *Providence*, who hath now Entered about 120 men Cap^t Whipple¹ informs me he shall be ready to pro-

ceed to Sea in 8 or Ten days If you have any despatches that you may think Safe to Send tho' this dangerous passage please to Transmit them—The *Columbus* has fell down five Miles below y^e Town and will proceed to New London first suitable Time—

Cap^t Hyde of the Marines belong^s to the *Warren* acquaints me he hath been Supply'd with 100 Doll^r by Cor^t Davis at Boston request that he may be repaid, for w^{ch} Sum he will be accountable in the pay^t of his Men.

Cap^t Deshon² writes me he hath ingaged the refuseal of a quantity of Duck & Cord^a imported in the French Ship at N. London,³ have noted to him that we shall not want the Duck as their is a q^t in the *Warrens* prize the Cord^a I suppose may be wanted being at £12 ³/₄ ct. I am [&c.]

Df, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80.

1. Capt. Abraham Whipple, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Providence*.
2. John Deshon, member of Continental Navy Board of Eastern Dept.
3. Probably the French ship *Lyon*, Capt. J. Michel, which arrived at New London on 7 Mar.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *KINGSFISHER*, LIEUTENANT HUGH C. CHRISTIAN

Mar 78 Thur ^{dy} 26	At Single Anchor in Seaconnett Passage Rhode Island, Ditto Weather [Fresh Winds And Clear first part Remd ^r heazey] At 9 AM Sighted the Anchor, and veered to ½ a Cable Observed the Rebell Galley ¹ to be still at Anchor, off Gould Island, ²
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D, UklPR, Adm. 51/507.

1. Rhode Island Navy schooner galley *Spitfire*.
2. Gould I. in the northern part of the Sakonnet Passage.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GREENWICH, MARCH 26.”

Last Tuesday Morning about 200 of the Enemy landed (under Cover of a Row Galley¹ and two armed Sloops²) on Greenwich Point, with a Design of destroying a Quantity of Flour that lay on the Beach above the Point, and burning a Row Galley that was fitting in the Harbour. A party of fifteen Men from Colonel Meig's³ Regiment,⁴ under the command of Lieutenants Lay⁵ and Shaylor,⁶ reinforced by a few of the Inhabitants, attacked them, prevented their destroying the Flour, retook a Number of Cattle and Sheep, extinguish'd the Fire they had set on the Galley and compelled them to embark in the greatest Confusion, without the Loss of a Man either killed or wounded, on our side.

Connecticut Gazette; and the Universal Intelligencer, 10 Apr. 1778. Greenwich is now Old Greenwich, Conn.

1. H.M. galley *Dependence*. See Master's Journal of H.M. Galley *Dependence*, 23 and 24 Mar., above.
2. H.M. brig *Halifax* and tender of H.M. sloop *Raven*. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Raven*, 23 and 24 Mar., above.
3. Col. Return Jonathan Meigs.
4. 6th Connecticut Continental Regiment.
5. 1st Lt. Asa Lay.
6. 2d Lt. Joseph Shaylor.

CAPTAIN ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND, R.N., TO SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY
PHILIP STEPHENS

Roebuck at Philadelphia
the 26th March 1778—

Sir,

Lord Howe not being yet arrived from Rhode Island, and the General having desired the *Sandwich* Pacquet may be dispatched to England; I do myself the honor of writing to you by that Conveyance, to inform my Lords, the Commissioners of the Admiralty, what has passed here since my last Letter by the *Despencer* Pacquet.

From the end of December to the 8th. Instant the Navigation of the River Delaware has been interrupted by the Ice, but open at certain times for many days together. During one of these Intervals the Enemy attempted to pass a number of Gun Boats by the Town, with a view to annoy Vessels that might come into the River before the Ships of War could take their Stations; but two of the Crews deserting, and bringing their Boats with them, the others were Conveyed over land a distance of forty Miles, where they were joined by others from the Rebel Post at Wilmington; and two Transports (the *Katy* & *Mermaid*)¹ laden with Hay from Rhode Island fell into their Hands, together with an Armed Schooner in the Engineers Department from New York.² However the Rebels had not much Advantage from their Capture, as they were soon pursued, and obliged to set fire to the Ships, (which were consumed,) and the Schooner was retaken.

These Ships were part of a Fleet of eleven Sail sent from Rhode Island with Hay, under the Convoy of the *Brune*, and had separated at Sea. The *Brune* with the Remainder, and the *Nottingham* Transport from Cork,³ arrived in the River the 7th. Inst^d as did the *Diamond* with seven more Hay Ships about a Week after.

The Ships of War now form a Chain down the River; they have already taken and destroyed most of the Enemys Armed Boats that infested the Mouths of the Creeks; and Buoys are laid to mark the Obstructions, and Shoals; so that the Navigation to Philadelphia is rendered as practicable as it can be, untill more of the Chevaux de Frizes are either removed, or destroyed, which is about to be undertaken.

Several Detachments of the Army have been Crossed over to the Jerseys occasionally, whenever the Enemy have shewn themselves in that Country; who have always fled on the approach of the Kings Troops.—And a new Corps of Jersey Voluntiers having taken Post at Billingsport a few days ago, have already been joined by numbers of the Country People.

The Town has been well Supplied with Provisions during the whole Winter, and the Army has been remarkably healthy; but the Seaman in the Ships of War have not been quite so fortunate, as will appear by the return I have the honor to enclose.—

All the Transports and Flat Boats are repaired and in good Condition, and two Row-Gallies, each to carry an 18 Pd^t, which I have caused to be built here, by Order of the Admiral will be launched in a few days.—I am with all possible regard [&c.]

A.S. Hamond.

LB, ViU, Hamond Papers, Letter Book (1778–1779), pp. 27–29. Addressed at foot: “Philip Stephens Esq^{re}.”

1. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master.

3. Transport ship *Nottingham*, L. Bowden, master.

CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY

Captain John Barry
Sir

[York, Pa.] March 26th 1778

We have received your Letter of the 20th instant¹ covering an Inventory of the goods lately Captured, and are sorry that your Prize Schooner² had unfortunately be retaken; and that the Militia instead of affording you assistance had pilfered so much of the goods you had saved. We think with you that the Bay will be the best place for your meeting with success & hope you will use your utmost diligence in getting your small Squadron speedily down there.

With regard to the Prize goods you have Captured one half in our opinion belongs to the Continent. If it had fully appeared that the Schooner *Alert* was a Vessel of war and belonged to the Crown of great Britain, or was duely commisionated a privateer by his britannick Majesty and you had held she would have been solely the property of the Captors. We enclose here in A Resolve of Congress of the 30th of October 1776.³

As to the bounty offered by Congress for burning the Ships of war and Transports of the enemy it was confined entirely to the fire Ships fitted at Philadelphia last fall.⁴

We have advanced your officer M^r Clarkson⁵ Eight hundred Dollars for which sum we have enclosed his receipt and you are to be accountable for the same. We are [&c.]

LB, DNA, PCC, Marine Committee Letter Book, p. 135 (M332, roll 6).

1. See Captain John Barry to George Washington, 20 Mar., above.

2. Armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master, belonging to the Engineers Department of the British Army.

3. See NDAR 6: 1464.

4. See NDAR 9: 719, 777.

5. Midn. Matthew Clarkson, Continental Navy.

JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NAVY BOARD

Navy Board [Charleston] Thursday 26th March 1778—

The Board Met According to Adjournment

Present Edward Blake Esq^r first Commissioner—
Edward Darrell, Josiah Smith Esq^{rs}—

Orders were drawn on the Treasury in fav^r of

Dan^l ONeille for the use of the Rope walk £2000 — —

Paul Ripley wages due him as Midshipman on board the Brigg <i>Comet</i> from the 16 th Oct ^r 1777 to 14 March 1778 ¹ 4 Months & 27 Days a £28. ⌘ Month	}	137.. 4 —
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Jarvis Williams wages due him as Masters Mate on board the Brigg <i>Comet</i> from 27 th Sept ^r 1777—to the 14 March 1778— 5 M ^{os} . & 16 days a £30 ⌘ M ^o	}	166 —
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Mackie & Cameron Coupering Bread & Water Casks	174 [15]
Carried over	£247 [19]

[Brou]ght up	2447. 19 —
<i>Ralph</i> ² Atmer Caulking Public Boats	27 — —
<i>Jacob Boomer</i> Sundry Acco ^{ts} . Viz for the Brig ^t . <i>Notre Dame</i> —Beef supplyd £308..15.	
“ <i>Fair American</i> .....d ^o	372.. 5 —
<i>Ship Gen^l Moultrie</i> .....d ^o	983.. 5 —
Brigg <i>Polly</i> .....d ^o	313 — —
<i>Eagle</i> Pilot Boat .....d ^o	36.. 5 —
Schooner <i>Rattle Snake</i> ...d ^o	20..10 —
Ship yard .....d ^o	<u>333..11. 3.</u>
	<u>2367..11.. 3</u>
	£4872..10.. 3

Adjourned to next Monday Evening 6 oClock—

Salley, ed., *South Carolina Commissioners*, 145.

1. Paul Ripley and Jarvis Williams were two of four members of the crew of South Carolina Navy brigantine *Comet* who escaped from St. Augustine on 23 Feb. See *South-Carolina and American General Gazette*, 12 Mar., above.

2. Letters in italics, exclusive of ships' names, are taken from the engrossed copy of the Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 1, 1776–March 1, 1779.

COMMANDER THOMAS LLOYD, R.N., TO REAR ADMIRAL SIR PETER PARKER

(Copy)

Sir,

Atalanta Pensacola Harbor 26th of Mch 1778

I beg leave to inform You that I wrote Admiral Gayton by His Majesty's Ship *Southampton*, acquainting him that the Convoy would not be ready to Sail on the 15 Ins^t agreeble to his Order and that Manchack in the Province of West Florida was invaded by a party of Rebels

I was sent for in Council and it was the Governor and Councils Opinion that the *Atalanta* should remain here till further certain accounts should arrive of the force and intention of the Rebels and that the *Hound* should proceed up the Mississippi to Manchack and since that time the Merchants and Masters of Ships have made application to me by Petition bearing date the 23^d. Ins^t: to remain with His Majesty's Ship under my Command till the 15th: April next, that the late arrivals of their Ships & Vessels renders it impossible to sail before that time I have complied with their Request but have Ordered the Masters of the Vessels who intend taking the benefit of the Convoy to deliver me in writing the time their Ships will be ready, by which means flatter myself I shall be able to sail early in April. They are putting the Garrison into a better State of defence and erecting new Batteries an Officer and fifty Men belonging to the *Atalanta* are employed cutting Pickets, and I have taken the Old *Florida* Sloop which was condemned to tow them over, I shall give the Province every assistance in my Power while His Majesty's Ship remains here, and before my departure am hopeful the *Sylph* will be arrived from the Mississippi

I have this moment received two Letters from the Merchants in Orleans requesting that I should remain 'till the 10th: April next, that their property to be sent from that place in the Ship *Live Oak*¹ will amount to upwards of Forty thousand Pounds Sterling the State and Condition of His Majesty's Ship under my Command is enclosed in Cap^m. Nunns Letter to You I am [&c.]

T: Lloyd

P:S: Captⁿ: Nunn sailed for the Mississippi the 22^d: Ins^t: an Embargo was laid on the Shipping the 20th:—Since writing the above an express has arrived from Orleans to M^r: Stephenson the Contractor who brings an Account that the *Sylph* arrived there the 18th. or 19th: that the Governor of Orleans allows the Rebels to keep the Colours flying before his door and assists them in selling His Maj^e: Subjects property—You will be better informed by Captain Nunn and Captain Ferguson by the first opportunity if any thing should transpire necessary for your information, I shall acquaint You by every opportunity while I remain here.

Copy, UkLPR, Adm. 1/241. Endorsed: "In Adm^l: Sir P^r: Parkers Letter/Dated 19th: April 1778."

1. Ship *Live Oak*, — Nicholson, master, 180 tons burthen, mounting fourteen 4-pounders, built in Georgia in 1766 and lengthened and rebuilt in 1777, owned by James Mather of London. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

March 27

MINUTES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Board of War, Boston March 27th 1778—

Order'd, That Gibbins Sharp for Work for Brig^t *Favorite*,¹ Br^s *Dolphin*,² & Ship *Adams*³ — as p^r his several Bills — be

p'd £132.. 9.. 4—
£52.10.6⁴

Order'd, That Cap^t Hopkins⁵ receive of Stephen Samson j^r: a Moses Boat belonging to the Brig^t *Tyrannicide*⁶ with 1 Coil three inch Rigging, & a small Grappling in it—

Order'd, That Stephen Samson for securing a Moses Boat stole f^m: Brig^t *Tyrannicide*, 1 Coil Cordage, & 1 Grappling, & for Charges in transporting the same, & delivering them to Cap^t Hopkins — be paid — £3..12.—

LB, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 149 (Board of War Minutes, 1777–1778), 267.

1. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Favorite*.
2. Massachusetts State trading brigantine *Dolphin*.
3. Massachusetts State trading ship *Adams*.
4. Inserted in a different hand.
5. Caleb Hopkins.
6. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Tyrannicide*.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSARY OF PRISONERS TO CHARLES WALLER

S^r:Boston March 27th 1778

I have to acknowledge the Rec^t: of your Letter of the 28th. Ult^o: to Rob^t: Pierpont Esq^t: late Commissary of Prisoners for this departm^t:—And would Inform you, that the Ship called the *Royall Bounty* sent by S^r: George Colyer from Hallifax, for Newport with a Number of Prisoners belonging to this State, under the Guard of an Arm'd Vessell Called the *Cabot Cap^t: Dod*,¹ was brought into this Harbor; the Prisoners on board having Liberated themselves. And would observe Had these Prisoners been sent Imediately to Boston in the *Royall Bounty* as a Cartel, no attempt of that nature would have taken place, or been Justified and notwithstand-

ing you say "Newport was the place destined for their Exchange," yet when this State had sent a Cartel Imediately to Hallifax,² and was there ready to receive these very prisoners, that they should be sent under an Armed Force to another port, destroys the very Idea of a Flag & that regard which ought always to be paid to a Cartel—

I would therefore, as Commissary of Prisoners in this department, acquaint you that the said Ship *Royall Bounty* has been Tryed at a Maritime Court & Adjudged forfeited to the Captors & that this State does not look upon themselves answerable either for the Vessell or for those persons who Liberated themselves—

I am further to acquaint you, that Cap^t Tho^s Compton late Commander of the *Royall Bounty*, and Cap^t John Steward with Francis Cooper his Mate shall be Imediately sent to Newport, the former for Cap^t W^m Boatman of Salem & the two Latter for Cap^t Tho^s Valentine & Rich^d Carlen ~~his Mate~~, of Boston, now Prisoners at New York, if you will please to Signifie the same to me that the Excha^c shall take Place I am S^r

J H³ Com^y of Prisen^s

Df, M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 8 (Various—Charter Parties—Relating to Prisoners), p. 150. Addressed at top of first page: "To M^r Charles Waller Commissary of Prisoners at Newport."

1. Lt. Edmund Dod, R.N.

2. Cartel brigantine *Favorite*, Lt. John Brown, Continental Navy, commander.

3. Joseph Henderson.

LIEUTENANT'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *MAIDSTONE*, CAPTAIN ALAN GARDNER

March 1778

Brentons point SbE and Newport Church E^t—

Friday 27th.

AM the *Isis* & *Alarm* Sloop sailed with a Convoy, at 8 made the Sig^t for Masters of Merch^t Men

Brentons point SbE and Newport Church E^t—

First part fresh breezes & Cloudy, Middle & latter light Airs
PM at ½ past 9 the Alarm was made by the Ships¹ at the Advanced Posts, cut our Cable & Run out of the Harbour (P^r Order) as did the *Sphinx*. standing off the Lighthouse² at 11. observed a Sail coming down the Naragansett passage, but soon lost sight of her,³ the *Sphinx* went off point Judith;

D, UKLNMM, ADM/L/M/27.

1. H.M. frigate *Lark* and tender.

2. Beaver Tail (or Rhode Island) Lighthouse on Conanicut Island.

3. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*, Capt. Hoysteed Hacker, commander, breaking out to sea through the Narragansett or West Passage. See William Vernon to Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department, 25 Mar., above, and William Vernon to James Warren, 26 Mar., above, and 28 Mar., below.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NONSUCH*, CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH

March 1778

at Rhode Island

Friday 27th:

AM made the *Maidstone's* Sig^{nl}: for a Lieu^t Sail'd hence the *Isis* with a Convoy

at Rhode Island

First part Mod^e & cloudy latter little wind & hazey PM at 1 made the *Apollo* Sig^{nl}: for a Lieu^t: ¼ past 10 heard 2 Guns to the Northrd: ½ past the *Maidstone* & *Sphynx* sail'd hence p^r: Order—fir'd a Gun to Answer the Above Guns which we Suppos'd was an Allarm—from ½ past 10 to ½ past 11 heard many Guns & saw the Flashes which we Suppos'd were from the *Somerset* in the Nariganset passage¹—clear'd Ship—at Midnight Beat the retreat—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1880, fol. 17.

1. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*, attempting to break out to sea through the Narragansett or West Passage.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEAMEN FOR THE CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER
BRIGANTINE *NANCY*

GENTLEMEN Volunteers, who are desirous of serving their Country and at the same Time of making their Fortunes:—An Opportunity is now presented them on Board the Privateer Brig *NANCY*,¹ MICHAEL MELALLY² Commander, mounting sixteen carriage Guns, being a prime Sailor, well fitted for a four Months Cruize, and will sail in about three Weeks. The Commander may be seen on Board, or at the House of Mr. Ichabod Powers jun. in New-London.

New London, March 27, 1778.

Connecticut Gazette; and the Universal Intelligencer, 27 Mar. 1778.

1. Connecticut privateer brigantine *Nancy* was commissioned on 23 Apr. 1778, manned by a crew of 100 seamen and owned by Nathaniel Shaw, Jr. She was bonded by Michael Melally, Nathaniel Shaw, Jr. and Thomas Allon, all of New London. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 10, p. 107 (M247, roll 203).

2. Melally served as first lieutenant of Connecticut Navy ship *Oliver Cromwell* from August 1776 to March 1777.

RECEIPT FOR PRIZE MONEY BY CAPTAIN ELISHA WARNER

New London March 27th. 1778¹

Received of Nath^l Shaw Jun^e Six pounds Eleven Shillings L Money, it being Prize Money as a Lieuten^t on Board y^e *Andrew Doria*² Nicholas Biddle Esq^r Command^r for the Capture of y^e. Prize Ship *Nath^l & Elizabeth*³

⌘ Elisha Warner

£6..10..0

DS, CtY, Nathaniel and Thomas Shaw Papers, packet 68, no. 25.

1. The “8” appears to have been written over a “7”.

2. Warner was second lieutenant of Continental Navy brigantine *Andrew Doria*.

3. The ship *Nathaniel & Elizabeth*, William Hoare, master, was captured by *Andrew Doria* on 11 July 1776 and condemned in New London Maritime Court on 22 Aug. See NDAR 5: 1180, 1229, 1229n, 1270–71, 1272n, 1304; 6: 1100.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN JAMES FERGUSON
TO THE VISCOUNT HOWE, DATED, *BRUNE* AT SEA
THE 27TH: MARCH 1778.”

“I had two very hard Gales of Wind—that my Convoy were scattered and parted Company—that Seven of them joined me before I got off the Mouth of the

Delaware—and that the 6th: Instant when I anchored within Henlopen Light House, joined the whole of them except the *Kitty* and *Mermaid*, which by the Account I received from Sir James Wallace of the *Experiment*, that they with a Schooner¹ passed him as he lay at Anchor on their way up the River that Day, without taking Notice of him, notwithstanding the Orders I gave them sealed up, which they were to peruse and follow when they lost Company; A Copy of which I send You enclosed.—From the 6th: to the 8th: thick, foggy Weather. when about ten Miles below Bombay Hook spoke the *George*, an Armed Sloop from New York for Philadelphia with Dispatches from Commodore Hotham for His Excellency General Sir William Howe. The Intelligence I received from the *George*, was, that he saw the two Transports taken that Day off Reedy Island by Gallies and Gun-Boats belonging to the Rebels. The 9th: at Noon discovered a Sloop, a Schooner and four small Vessels at Anchor within Reedy Island. As the *Experiment* with a large Ship from Cork with Provisions Camp-Equipage and Recruits for the Army² were in Company, gave the Convoy in Charge of Sir James Wallace with Orders to push . . . with all the sail he could to get up to the North Entrance of the Passage that leads between Reedy Island and the Pennsylvania Shore, whilst the *Brune*, *Dispatch* Sloop and *York* Armed Sloop entered the South Entrance, with Intent to take or destroy the Enemy Vessels. On our Approach the Schooner and Armed Vessels got under Sail, and the Ship was set on Fire. The *Dispatch* and *York* continued the Chase thro' the North Entrance of the Channel, and the *Experiment* and *George* Armed Sloop with all the Sail they could after them by the upper End of Reedy Island. The Gallies or Gun-Boats got off; but the Schooner was run onshore and taken by the *Experiment's* and *Dispatch's* Boats. She proved to be the *Alert* Armed Schooner belonging to M^r: Montresor³ from New York with Baggage and Carpenters for the Army. The Ships [that] the Rebels had taken proved to be the *Kitty* and *Mermaid* Transports of my Convoy. The former had been attacked by some Tenders of Captain Hamond[']s after she was in possession of the Rebels and burnt. The latter, the *Mermaid*, was hauled to the End of a Wharf at Port Penn, her Sails unbent, and her Gu[ns] on a Battery ashore close by her. The *Brune*, about a Cable's length from Ship and Battery, poured in a few Broad-sides, and as she could not pass upwards [for] want of Water, tacked and stood out the Way I entered after seeing the *Mermaid* so effectually on Fire that it was out the power of the Rebels to extinguish it. I received no other Damage from the Rebels than some Shrouds and running Rigging cut by the Shot from their Battery. I joined the Convoy that Night at Anchor below New Castle.”

Copy.

By Captain James Ferguson, Commander
of His Majesty's Ship *Brune*.

In Case of Separation, the Rendezvous is the Delaware. But as I have every Reason to imagine that the Rebels will have Armed Vessels in the River to intercept the Supplies for the Army; when You come off Cape Henlopen, You are not to sail up the River, without being joined by some of His Majesty's Ships; And You are to acquaint them what You have got for the Army at Philadelphia, and follow the Orders they give You. I shall leave the *York* Sloop by the Cape to look out for You.

Given onboard the said Ship in Rhode Island
Harbour 25th: February 1778.

(signed) Ja^s. Ferguson.

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 236–37. Enclosure No. 9 in Vice Adm. Viscount Howe's letter No. 57 to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 23 April 1778. Docketed: "Extract of a Letter from Captain/James Ferguson to the Viscount/Howe/Dated 27th March 1778." Notation in another hand: "In Lord Howe's Letter/No 57—."

1. British Army armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master.
2. Transport ship *Nottingham*, L. Bowden, master, 28 guns.
3. Capt. John Montresor, Corps of Engineers.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[Extract]

The Council met

Lancaster, Friday, March 27, 1778.

... An Order was drawn on the Treasurer, in favor of Shriver, Summers & Lasky, for the Sum of Eight hundred & fourteen Pounds, five Shillings & one Penny, for Provisions furnished to the Fleet & charge the same to Will^m. Crispin, Commissary of the Fleet.

D, PHarH, RG 27, Minute Books of the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council, vol. 6, 238.

JONATHAN HUDSON TO GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON, JR.

Sir

Baltimore March 27th. 1778

This will be Handed to you by Captⁿ. Read of the Continental Brig^t. *Baltimore*,¹ who waits on you, to know, If you Can Supply him with Suitable Guns for the Brig^t he disaproves of those you Sent up, & w^d. Rather have the four Pounders & all of one Size, If you Can favour him with the Number he wants It will be forwarding the dispatch of the Brig^t; there is allso an Anchor Laying at the Point w^{ch}. no Person that we can find Claims, & I Suppose to be One that the State has paid for at the time the Vessels were Sunk at Whetstone Point,² If you Can Spare this Anchor Captⁿ Read will Allso take it, I am [&c.]

Jonⁿ. Hudson

L, MdAA, Maryland State Papers (Executive Papers), S 1004, 6636-10-123.

1. *Baltimore* was a Continental packet brigantine, commanded by Capt. Thomas Read, Continental Navy.

2. The vessels were sunk in response to the appearance of H.M. sloop *Otter*, Comdr. Matthew Squire, commander, in March 1776. *NDAR* 4: 355.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Friday the 27th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt, deliver to Captain Robert Tompkins, one coil of Inch and half rope, two ditto of two and half inch, one ditto of three and half inch, one hundred and fifty pounds of tow, one Coil of twelve thread Ratling, two Bars of Iron, two Barrels of Tar and one of Pitch, three gallons of Lintseed Oil, ten Barrels of Pork, five ditto of Beef, fifteen ditto of Bread, four ditto of flour and twelve skeins of Marline for the Use of the *Henry* Galley.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick Store, deliver to Captain Robert Tompkins one Bolt of thin duck or forty yards of Oznabrigs, one thousand six penny and

eight penny nails, one pounds of Lamp black four paint Brushes two half hour glasses, eight pound of twine half dozen sail Needles one quart sweet Oil, two tierces of Tafia and one lead Line for the use of the *Henry Galley*.—

Ordered that Thomas Ripley a ship carpenter be allowed eight shillings p^r day both wet and dry, sunday excepted, from the time he enters at the Chickahominy shipyard, till Christmas next, who obliges himself to continue there until the expiration of the said time.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt, deliver to Captain William Saunders, ten Barrels of Bread eight ditto of Beef and Pork, three hundred pounds of Bacon, one barrel of tar, and four hundred pounds of square bar iron, for the use of the *Manley Galley*.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 370–71.

CAPTAIN CELEY SAUNDERS TO MIDSHIPMAN BENJAMIN STROTHER AND OTHERS

[*Williamsburg, March 27, 1778*]

I HEREBY give notice to *Benjamin Strother, William Brown, John Pearce, William Roberts*,¹ and *Joseph Brinham, of Westmoreland, and Reuben Tripth and Thomas Mathison of Loudoun county*, that they must be at *Fraser's ferry, on Mattapony*, as soon as possible, in order to go on board the ship *Delegates*.²

C. SAUNDERS, Capt.³

Purdie's *Virginia Gazette* (Williamsburg), Mar. 27, 1778.

1. Benjamin Strother, William Brown, and John Pierce were midshipmen in the Virginia Navy. William Roberts also served in the Virginia Navy. All five would serve in Virginia Navy ship *Tempest*. Robert Armistead Stewart, *The History of Virginia's Navy of the Revolution* (Richmond, Va., 1934), 57, 157, 242.

2. An early name for Virginia Navy ship *Tempest*, building at Frazer's Ferry Shipyard on the Mattaponi River. *Ibid.*, 57.

3. Capt. Celey Saunders, Virginia Navy.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN ONSLOW TO THE VISCOUNT HOWE"

dated *S^t Albans* Hampton Road 27th. March 1778.

I have ordered the *Ariel* to take under Convoy to Sandy Hook, the *Senegal's* prize, the *Louisa Udrique*, A Swedes Ship from Cadiz for Williamsburgh loaded with Cannon: viz Forty eight Six-pounders, and Eighty-nine twelve-pounders.¹ I thought her a Ship of too much consequence to trust without Convoy. The Squadron under my Orders have continued successful, having taken and destroyed the Ships and Vessels as ☿ List, since I transmitted your Lordship the last Account.

"On the 12th: Instant the *Senegal* chased and drove onshore and demolished off Smith's Island, near Cape Charles, the *Tonnere*, a French merchant Ship from Bordeaux and Cape François, of twenty guns and fifty men. The *Senegal* anchored in two Fathoms and a Half Water. Captain Molloy sent his Lieutenant in the Pinnace with a Flag of Truce, to desire the Ship would surrender, or he should warp the *Senegal* closer in. As soon as the Boat approached, they fired seven Guns loaded with Grape Shot at her, which fortunately did not take Effect. Soon after-

wards the *Tonnere's* Mast went by the Board, and she bulged; when Captain Molloy took possession of her and saved the greater part of her Crew. The French Captain says he was sick in Bed, and that the Guns were fired by an American pilot, who got onshore in the Boat.²

"I hope by this Time your Lordship has received the packet containing the Rebel Governor of Virginia's Letters to the Governors of the Havannah and New Orleans;³ As they were sent from hence the 8th. of March by the prize Ship *Comte de Vaux*, to New York.

"I am much concerned to inform your Lordship, that the Scurvy begins to appear very strongly amongst the Crew of the *S^t Albans*, having of late lost several Men by it. I shall not be able to remain here after the Middle of April, but shall proceed to New-York to recruit my People. The Surgeon is of Opinion, that until that Time, we shall be as well here, as going into a colder Climate. I got a Meal of fresh Beef for my people Yesterday, and I am promised more. The Law of the State makes it dangerous for the Adventurers who supply us: It is seven Year's Banishment to the Mines for any Person detected in supplying us with any Sort of Provisions."

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 220–21. Docketed (with extracts of 9 Mar. letter): "Extracts of two Letters from/Cap^t Onslow to the Viscount Howe,/dated the 9th: and 27th: March 1778./In Lord Howe's Letter/N^o 57." This extract is enclosure No. 2 in Vice Admiral Viscount Howe to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 23 Apr. 1778 (No. 57).

1. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Senegal*, 21 and 22 Mar., both above.

2. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Senegal*, 12 Mar., and Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 12 Mar., above.

3. Governor Patrick Henry to Governor of Cuba, 18 Oct. 1777, and Governor Patrick Henry to Governor of New Orleans, 18 Oct. 1777, in *Official Letters of the Governors of the State of Virginia*, vol. 1, *The Letters of Patrick Henry*, edited by H. R. McIlwaine (Richmond, Va.: Virginia State Library, 1926), 195–96.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *CARYSFORT*, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE

March 1778.

Charles Town Lighthouse NW 14 Miles

Friday 27th

At 3 AM Tk^d Ship At 6 Saw 7 Vessels come down from Rebellion Road & Anch^d in 5 fa^m. Hole D^o out all Reefs—At 8 the Lighthouse W $\frac{1}{4}$ N—At 11 Hove too Main tops^l to y^c Mast. Cha^s Town Barr NW $\frac{1}{2}$ W 3 Leagues.

Light Breezes & Hazey Wea^r—At 5 PM Saw thro' the Fog 6 Sail outside the Bar Standing to y^c E^tward. D^o gave Chace—At 6 the[y] hauld the Wind & Stood for the Bar^l At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 lost sight of them—At 11 Tk^d Ship

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/168, part 8, fol. 370.

1. According to Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, on 28 Mar. *Carysfort* chased an unidentified brig "on Shore on Charles Town Bar & there wrecked." Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 487.

BRITISH MERCHANTS AT NEW ORLEANS TO COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N.

Sir

New Orleans 27th. March 1778—

We had the honor to receive your Letter of the 23^d. instant, addressed to His Majesty's Loyal Subjects residing in Louisiana: in their names, we beg leave to return you thanks for your offers of protection. We are sensible, that on this un-

happy occasion, nothing has been left undone on your part, which the honor of your King and Country required, or that might tend to our relief and advantage; yet so critically are we situated, that we find it impossible to take advantage of the protection you generously hold out. Many reason's induce us to decline a removal to Pensacola, The trading part will find it impracticable to wind up their affairs in a short time, and the Slaves of the Planters are Numerous, and scattered about in the Country; and we must take the liberty to add, that the inhospitable barren sands of Pensacola, present us with a prospect, little better than starving with our Families, and should we presume to Judge of the future from the past, we have no right to flatter ourselves with relief from that quarter; our applications to Government there, whether Individuals, or in a Body, have ever been treated with Neglect.

Drove from our Plantations by a handful of Banditti which the concurrence of a small military force might have enabled us to overcome without difficulty; the Alternative least fatal to our interests appears to be that of remaining on the Spanish Territories, untill an opportunity presents itself of disposing of our Effects to some advantage or untill Government by affording us sufficient protection shall enable us to return to our Habitations.

Eighty, or a hundred soldiers properly Stationed upon the River, prior to the descent of the Rebels, would have preserved this valuable Colony to Britain: a small military force with a Ship of war in the River, would be sufficient even now to restore peace to those Loyal Subjects, who wish to return, and prove their attachment to the gracious Sovereign.

These truths, we take the liberty of requesting you to lay before Government, and to add, that tho' we have been reduced to the disagreeable necessity of adopting a plan so different from our wishes, none of us have entertained a thought of changing our Natural Allegiance, our love to our King shall ever remain inviolate, and our attachment and loyalty shall only end with our days

The protection you have been pleased to proffer, we consider as essentially necessary for those Vessels now preparing to leave the River, which will be ready in a very few days—

Should Government correspond so far with our earnest desires, as to order a Ship of War for our protection in the River; permit us to express a wish, that you, Sir may be appointed to the station; from the spirited conduct, and good sense you have displayed since your arrival here, we have reason to flatter ourselves with the most favorable consequences We have the honor to be [&c.]

(signed)

James Mather	alex ^r . Ross	W ^m . Dunbar
David Ross	W ^m . Gardin	J. Campbell
Will. Swanson	John Davies	Rich ^d . Bradley
Don ^d . Campbell	Philip Moore	George Ross
David Williams	W ^m . M ^c . Intosh	

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Endorsed: "In Sir Pet^r Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778." Docketed: "The Merchants of New-Orleans/Letter to Capt^m. Fergusson 27th. March/1778."

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG TO GOVERNOR MARQUIS DE BOUILLÉ

(Copy)
Sir

Antigua 27th. March 1778.—

The Letter of the 10th. Instant, which your Excellency has honoured me with, only came to hand this day, complaining of His Britannic Majesty's, Frigate the *Seaford*, having insulted the Flag of his Most Christian Majesty, "by attacking and taking on the Coast of Martinico: a Vessel bearing a White Flag, that had taken refuge there, and had ran on shore;" I must beg leave to inform your Excellency, that whoever gave you that Account in the manner you mention, hath grossly deceived you in most part of it, for she was an American Privateer;¹ therefore could have no right to French Colours, which if she did shew I think the Insult you complain of, was from her, in degrading the Flag so much, as under it to claim protection, being a Pirate; for your Excellency must look on all Subjects in rebellion against their Lawful Sovereign in that light, and cannot countenance them; that she ran on shore is certain, as did the *Seaford* also, but they both got off again, when she took her, and as to there part of the representation of your Excellency, of the Frigates Boats firing on the People on shore, it is erroneus; for so far from it, she never fired to hinder, many from escaping which she could have done, and notwithstanding being often fired at from the shore, she never returned one Gun. Your Excellency requiring of me to punish the Captain of the Frigate and restore the Pirate, I flatter myself is only matter of form; for I don't doubt but from your own good sense and candour, with the knowledge you must have of Military Service; you would rather commend the behaviour and zeal of an Officer for the honour of his King, than punish him for exerting it; therefore not in the least doubting but your Excellencys Ideas on the Subject coincide with mine it is a very good reason for me to refuse your request in that particular, not that by doing so I would have your Excellency imagine I mean to protect those who shamelessly insult the Rights of other Nations.

All I can say of the bad behaviour of our Privateers in searching your Droguer is, that these sort of Gentry of all Nations are very apt to make bad use of the Priviledge granted them, there is however redress against them by attacking² the Securities, their Owners are obliged to find on having Commissions granted them; they are not under my direction in the Least, but are under the different Governours who give them their Commissions, and who alone have it in their Power to punish them, according to their deserts: I am with the greatest esteem and regard.—Your Excellencys [&c.]

Signed/ James Young

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed below close: "To/His Excellency/The Marquis De Bouilly/His Most Christian Majesty's/Governor, General &c. &c. &c./Martinique." Docketed: "Antigua 27th. March 1778/Letter to The Marquis/De Bouilly, Governor/of Martinique.—/(No: 2:)/In Adm^l Young's Letter/Dated 7th. April 1778." Enclosure no. 2 in Vice Adm. James Young to Philip Stephens (No. 2), 7 Apr., which was received on 22 May 1778 and read.

1. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Hampden*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Seaford*, 28 Feb., and Captain John Colpoys, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 7 Mar., above.

2. Should read "attaching."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *PORTLAND*, CAPTAIN THOMAS DUMARESQ

March 1778.
Friday 27th

At the Pitch Kettle Moorings in English Harbour Antigua AM^d. Got down the Sheers. got over the Fore Top and Cap and rigg'd the Topmast. Came in the *Sandwich* Brigg. having met wth. an American Schooner Privateer which engag'd her some time. but she Beat her off. having some running rigging shot away, and some holes in her Sails. and Expended 6 two Pound round Shot. 18 two Pound grape. D^o. 24 Cartridges.

At the Pitch Kettle Moorings in English Harbour Antigua D^o. Weather [Moderate Breezes and Clear Weather], rigg'd the fore Top Gall^t Mast. William Hall Seaman Received 12 lashes for Absence without leave. 1 PM^d. Came in His Majesty's Sloop *Snake* from a Cruize. Sail'd Our Tender the *Tartar* On a Cruize. Caulkers employ'd caulking y^e Water Ways.

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/711, part 4.

EXTRACT FROM THE JOURNAL OF FRENCH NAVY FRIGATE *TOURTERELLE*,
CAPITAINE DE VAISSEAU FRANÇOIS, CHEVALIER DE LA LAURENCIE

[*Martinique*] Le 27. D'après des avis, qu'il y avait deux frégates Anglaises qui croisaient au vent de la Martinique et y avaient visité deux Bâtimens français venant d'Europe, j'ai appareillé, souvoyé pour monter le canal de St^e. Lucie.¹

[Translation]

[*Martinique*] March 27. Having received information that there were two English frigates that were cruising to the windward of Martinique and that had searched there two French ships coming from Europe, I got under way, intending to sail up to the St. Lucia Channel.¹

Copy, FrPNA, Marine, B⁴ 140, fol. 88. "Extrait du Journal de la campagne La *Tourterelle*."

1. Marginal notation: "Appareillage"; "Getting under way."

GOVERNOR EDWARD HAY TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN

N^o. 22.

Barbados. 27. March. 1778.

My Lord

The Three Victuallers, who went from hence to Tobago, having found a Loading there for England, will not sail from thence until the first week in April. This gives me an opportunity of informing Your Lordship of some occurrences which have happened since my last.

The *Grenville* Packet, Capt. Kempthorne, who was bringing the January Mail, arrived here the 7th. Ins^c. She had a few days before fallen in with an American Privateer, called The *Resistance*, Capt. Chew,¹ who came up with her, & a smart engagement ensued, until the American, (after the loss of their Captain

& Thirty Men killed, as we have since been informed) sheered off. Kempthorne & the Master, & Seven men of the Packet are wounded, & one man Killed. During the Engagement, The Mail, which had been slung out of the Cabin Window, to be ready to be sunk, in case the Packet had been taken, was carried off by a chance Shot from the Enemy. The Packet having therefore no Letters, it became unnecessary for her to take the tour of all the Islands. She is gone from hence to Antigua, & Jamaica, & from this last place will proceed to England.

On Fryday the 13th. His Majesty's Ships The *Ariadne*, & *Ceres* brought in the *Alfred*, an American privateer of 20 guns & 180 Men.² This Ship was in Company with another called The *Raleigh*, Thompson, of 32 Guns & 280 Men,³ but who never engaged and sheered off as soon as the *Alfred* was taken. These Two Ships came from Old France.

On Saturday the 14th. His Majesty's Ship, The *Yarmouth* of 74 Guns, commanded by Capt. Vincent, who on the 7th. chased & came up with Five American Pyrates & a prize Schooner.⁴ The Americans were The *Randolph*, Biddle, of 36 Guns, & 305 Men;⁵ The *General Moutraye* of 20 Guns & 130 Men;⁶ & Three Brigantines called the *Notre Dame de* — of 18. Guns, The *Polly* of 16 Guns, & The *Fair American*, of 16 Guns.⁷ All from South Carolina. The *Yarmouth* came up with them about Nine o'Clock at night; The *Randolph* mistaking the force of the *Yarmouth*, began to fire & killed a few of the *Yarmouths* Men; but the first broadside from the *Yarmouth* sunk the *Randolph*, which as she was sinking, blew up. Capt. Vincent, five days after, took up five of the Men, who had saved themselves upon part of the Wreck. By these Men we came to discover, what these ships were. As soon as the *Randolph* sunk, the other Four Ships dispersed different ways, & soon disappeared. On Sunday the 8th. Inst^t arrived the Fleet from Cork under Convoy of the *Cupid* & *Camel*; consisting of 63. Sail for the different Islands, & last Wednesday the 25th. The Fleet from London under convoy of the *Active* & three other Ships of War, consisting of upwards of 40 Sail arrived in this Bay: Among these are the *Princess Royal*, & the *Mary & Anne*, Two Ships with Provisions for this Island, which compleat the whole number taken up by Government. We are in dayly expectation of the Packet with the February Mail.

I have the honour to be with great respect, My Lord, [&c.]

Edw^d: Hay.

L, UKLPR, C.O. 28/57, fols. 16–17. Addressed below close: "The Right Honourable/Lord George Germain/&c^a &c^a &c^a—." Docketed: "Barbados 27th. March 1778./Hon^{ble}. Gov^r Hay/(N^o. 22.)/R, 22^d May./Ent^d."

1. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*, Capt. Samuel Chew, commander. The engagement took place on 4 Mar. See Journal of H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 6 Mar., above.

2. Continental Navy ship *Alfred*. See Captain Thomas Pringle, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 18 Mar., above.

3. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*.

4. See Captain Nicholas Vincent, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 17 Mar., above.

5. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

6. South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie*.

7. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame* and privateer brigantines *Polly* and *Fair American*.

March 28

PETER THACHER TO ELBRIDGE GERRY

My dear Sir

Malden [*Mass.*] March 28 1778

You remember the journey which I took to Philadelphia to procure the release of Capⁿ Burk,¹ it was unsuccessfull, but he has now made his escape & delivers you this.

I know not that I am influenced by any partial, selfish consideration when I warmly recommend him to your notice & assistance in the application which he is now making to congress;² you have, if I mistake not, some knowledge of his character, but had you none before, methinks his long & tedious captivity, his perseverance in his attachment to the united states & his strenuous resistance of the offers, the great offers, which were made him by the enemy, would plead for him more loudly than any thing else, methinks it would insure him success in his application. If I am not misinformed there are two frigates here which are not commissioned,³ where will you find a better man to command one of them than Capⁿ Burk? he was among the first who were commissioned in the naval service, so that there can be no objection on that score.

I never solicit favors for myself; I can & do solicit them for my friends when I think them worthy, did I not do so, I would scorn such a solicitation; I therefore must earnestly request your influence & assistance in procuring one of these ships for Capⁿ Burk, which will lay me under a very great obligation.

Excuse my freedom in writing & believe me to be [&c.]

Peter Thacher

L, NHpR, Correspondence Regarding Naval-Maritime Matters, 1775–1783, no. 71. Addressed: “Hon^{ble} Elbridge Gerry Esq^r/York Town/Pensilvania.” Docketed: “Malden Letter/M^r Thatcher/March 28 1778.” Reverend Peter Thacher (Thatcher) was a Congregational minister at Malden, Mass. Elbridge Gerry was a delegate from Massachusetts to the Continental Congress.

1. William Burke was appointed captain of Washington’s Fleet schooner *Warren* on 1 Feb. 1776. NDAR 3: 553, 1077.

2. On 30 Apr. 1778 Burke petitioned the Continental Congress for back pay from the date he was appointed to Washington’s Fleet schooner *Warren* until the present, which was granted. Congress then appointed him a captain in the Continental Navy to rank from 1 May. JCC 10: 412.

3. At this time there were two Continental Navy ships under construction in Massachusetts, the frigate *Alliance* (36 guns) at Salisbury and a ship of the line (74 guns) at Boston.

WILLIAM VERNON TO JAMES WARREN

Dear Sir.

Providence 28th. March 1778.

This Morn^g by Leiut. Thaxter,¹ I rec^d. M^r. Story² favors of 24th. and 26th. the last of w^{ch}. Inclosed this States Loan Office certificates amounting to Doll^s. 4,600. I hope this will find you at Boston where I am perswaded your presence is much wanted in despatching the *Warren*, I cou’d wish circumstances wou’d admit of my being with you.

Last Even^g the *Columbus* left this River, passed Warwick Neck about Ten o’clock, the uper Ship Weighed and stood after her. She was at her Station in the Morning, we cannot determine what has been the fate of the *Columbus*, however

she must either be at Newp^t or New London ere this, when known you'll hear from me.³

The *Providence* hath near all her Stores on board, Cap^t Whipple⁴ said last Even^g: he had 130 Men and is determined to push out first Wind after Eight days. Inclosed you have Jn^o Deshons Esq^{rs} last lett^r: to me,⁵ by w^{ch}. you will perceive the Gov^r: & Council of the State of Connecticut hath Employ'd Cap^t: John Cotton to get the *Trumbull* out of the River⁶ to New London. undoubtedly they have authority for the measures they are taking, and hope they will succeed in the undertaking. I can't think it adviseable to Cap^t: Deshon in interposeing in the matter, they must be answerable for their conduct.

This Moment report is made that their is not one Blanket belonging to the *Providence*, nor one to be had in this Town. we must have at least 140 from Boston soon as Possible, I hope Sr. it will be in your power to send them, they may be soon made out of the Welch Cottons that came in Capt. Chews⁷ prize.⁸ I have not Time to enlarge least shou'd lose this conveyance. I am [&c.]

Copy, RNHi, William Vernon Papers, Box 80. Addressed at the foot: "Hb^l John [James] Warren Esq^r"

1. Lt. Adam W. Thaxter, Continental Navy.
2. William Story, clerk of the Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Dept.
3. British marines boarded and burned Continental Navy ship *Columbus* during an engagement while the ship was stranded in the Narragansett or West Passage. See Captain Alan Gardner, R.N., to Captain Walter Griffith, R.N., 28 Mar., below.
4. Capt. Abraham Whipple, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Providence*.
5. See John Deshon to William Vernon, 23 Mar., above.
6. Connecticut River.
7. Capt. Samuel Chew, commanding Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.
8. Ship *Mermaid*, James Cockran, master.

LIEUTENANT'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. MAIDSTONE, CAPTAIN ALAN GARDNER

March 1778
Saturday 28th.

[off Point Judith, R.I.]

at day light saw a Ship on shore, on the Naraganset side about 5 mile from point Judith, observd them Unbend Her Sails & get them on shore, She appeard (by the Description we had of her) to be the *Columbus* of 30 Guns,¹ at 9 it being Calm, Came too with the Stream Anchor, the *Sphinx* also Anchor'd; bent the B^t: B^r: Cable to the Spare Anchor

At Anchor with the Stream Point Judith W ½ N & the Lighthouse² NbE 7 or 8 miles

First & middle mod^t: & Cloudy latter fresh Gales, PM at ½ past Noon Weighd as did the *Sphinx* & run down towards the Enemy's Ship, in order to burn her, at 2 she began to fire on us, as they did from the Shore with Field pieces; Stood off & on & fired occasionally, waiting for the *Spitfire* Galley & some Boats that were coming to us from Rhoad Island, at 5 she Joind us, d^o: our first Lieu^t:³ & two Midⁿ: were sent in the Pinnace to burn the Ship, & the *Sphinx* & Galley were orderd to Cover her, at the same time we stood in as near as possible, & kept a constant fire on the Shore for the same purpose, at 6 our Boat got on board her & set her on fire, & re-

turn'd to the Ship having five Men badly wounded; Stood off from the Shore with the *Sphinx*, Galley, & Boats & made sail for Rhoad Island, at 8 Anch^d. in the Harbour with the sm^l B^r in 11 fm^s. & Veerd to ½ a Cable, the *Sphinx* & Galley likewise came in,

D, UKLNMM, ADM/L/M/27.

1. Continental Navy ship *Columbus* (24 guns).
2. Beaver Tail (or Rhode Island) Lighthouse on Conanicut Island.
3. Lt. James Vashon, R.N.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *SPHYNX*, CAPTAIN ALEXANDER GRAEME

March 1778

Friday 27

At Single Anchor in Rhode Island Harbour—
Fresh Breezes & Cloudy W^r [PM] at ½ p^r 10 the Com^{dore}: made the Sig^l to Slip, hearing y^e Advancd Ship^l firing Guns. d^o Slipt & made Sail in C^o the *Maidstone*, and run off the Narraganset Passage & bro't too,

Saturday 28

D^o. [At Single Anchor in Rhode Island Harbour—]
at 2 AM: saw a Ship² coming out of the Passage. Wore & made Sail. D^o. lost sight of her, she having haul'd in Shore as we supposed, or run aground. D^o. wore again in 8 fathoms & bro't too.—at 5 saw the Ship a shore in a bay on the Narraganset Shore, westrd. the Whale Rock. at 9 Anchord hav^g a strong Tide against us. at Noon Weig'd.

Point Judith N ½ E Distance 3 Miles

Moderate Breezes and Cloudy W^r [PM] run^g along shore (for the Ship a Shore). at 4 Several guns were fired at the *Maidstone* from the Ship & the Hill just above her. The *Maidstone* fired Guns to Scour the Hill. & haul'd off. We received Several guns from the Shore, & Fired at them, TK^d: Occasionally standing off & on & firing as we could bring the Guns to bear. at ½ past 5 a Number of Boats & the *Spitfire* Galley came from Rhode Island Harb^r. D^o. Stood in Shore to Scour the Hill & Cover the Galley & boats. at 6 the Boats set the Ship a Fire, a Continual fire of Great Guns & Musquetry was kept up from the Shore at the Galley & boats. at 7 made Sail for Rhode Island Harbour. at 8 Anchord in D^o. with the B^l B^r in 15 fathoms and Veerd ½ a Cable, got the end of the S^l. B^r Cable that we Slipt on board and weigh'd the Anchor.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/922.

1. H.M. frigate *Lark*.
2. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*, Capt. Hoysteed Hacker, commander, breaking out to sea through the Narragansett or West Passage. See William Vernon to Continental Navy Board of the Eastern Department, 25 Mar., above, and William Vernon to James Warren, 26 and 28 Mar., above.

MASTER'S JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NONSUCH*, CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH

March 1778 at Rhode Island
 Saturday 28th: AM sent the Boats to Assist the *Lord Townsend* Ordinance Ship
 at Rhode Island
 First part Mod^e & cloudy latter fresh Gales & cloudy ½ past
 Noon made Sig^{nl}: for Boats Mann'd and Arm'd D^o: the *Spitfire*
 Galley & Boats went to Assist the *Maidstone* & *Sphynx* to destroy
 a Rebel Frigate¹ who was aground in the Nariganset Passage
 oposite the Light House² at 1 the *Mermaid* Slipt & Sail'd down
 ½ past the *Maidstone* begun to fire & from thence till 6 the
Maidstone & *Sphynx* stood Off & on firing on the Shore & Rebel
 Ship ¼ past 6 the *Maidstones* Boat, Cover'd by the Galley &
 other Boats sett the Rebel Ship onfire & burnt Her at 8 the
 Frigates Galley & boats return'd

D, UKLPR, Adm. 52/1880, fols. 17–18.

1. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*, attempting to break out to sea through the Narragansett or West Passage. See note 2, immediately above.

2. Beaver Tail (or Rhode Island) Lighthouse on Conanicut Point.

CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

(Copy)
 My Lord/

Nonsuch Rhode-Island
 28th: March 1778.

Last Night about Ten oclock the Signal was made by one of our Ships on the out Posts, that “the Enemy’s Vessels attempted to pass,” I immediately sent Orders for the *Maidstone* & *Sphynx* to Slip their Cables & push to Sea, which each Ship did with remarkable expedition.

Soon after a Brisk fire, from the *Somerset*, pointed the Narraganset Channel to be the passage Meditated to escape by; Captain Pownall¹ sending an Officer to inform me, the *Apollo* was ready for going out, I gave him Orders to do so, if there was any firing to the Sea-ward, & This (under an Idea) that more in Number, than Force, was intended to escape, & that another Frigate might be necessary to Chace on a different Quarter.

The *Maidstone* & *Sphynx* arrived at the Entrance of the Narraganset before the Enemy got that Length, the improbability of escaping was now too great, to risque a Second Cannonade, & the Ship² run on Shore short off Point Judeth.

The Inhabitants (in Number and Force) were assembled and employed in getting on Shore the Stores &c^a: and some (of such) they effected, the Morning was nearly Calm which prevented our Ships getting in Shore.

Major General Pigot³ having received intelligence that a Ship of Force was on Shore on the Continent side, near Connonicut Light-House,⁴ was pleased to send me that information & a ready Offer of any assistance from the Troops for the purpose of destroying her,—

Upon this information I Order'd a Party of Marines to Augment the Force of the *Spitfire* Gally, made the Signal for Boats Mann'd & Arm'd; & directed Captain Clayton⁵ (of the *Strombolo* Fire-Ship) to proceed with his Division, sent Orders to Captain Gardner⁶ of the *Maidstone* to Support & Conduct that Service, the *Mermaid*

was likewise Order'd on this Employment as she lay (at this Anchorage) in a Situation the most convenient for getting under Sail.

In the afternoon a commanding Breeze gave the Ships, Gally & Boats a favourable Opportunity of getting to the nearest distance Possible, for their respective Bulks. The High Land immediately above & close to where the Ship lay, was covered with Arm'd Men, and some Artillery, & in the Face of that opposition, joined to a Fire from the Ship (having some lower Deckers in use) with united Zeal and Abilities, all advanced, in due Order and Support to each other.

Captain Gardner employed his first Lieutenant (Vashon)⁷ to execute the Ultimate Service of putting Fire to the Ship, which he did in such a manner as to obtain the united applause of all, present, and the *Columbus* is now in Flames.

I have the Honor to be [&c.]

(Sign'd) Wat: Griffith

P.S. By dusk the Ships, Gally, and Boats, returned to this Anchorage, the loss considerable.—

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/1838, part 9, no. 15. Addressed flush left below signature: "To/The Viscount Howe/&cc: &c: &c:" Docketed: "No. 2." Enclosure no. 2 in Captain Walter Griffith to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 9 Apr. 1778.

1. Capt. Philemon Pownoll, R.N.
2. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*.
3. Maj. Gen. Robert Pigot.
4. Beaver Tail (or Rhode Island) Lighthouse on Conanicut Island.
5. Comdr. Samuel W. Clayton, R.N.
6. Capt. Alan Gardner, R.N.
7. Lt. James Vashon, R.N.

CAPTAIN ALAN GARDNER, R.N., TO CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH, R.N.

(Copy)
Sir/.

Maidstone at Rhode Island
March 28th: 1778.

On the Alarm being given at 10 oClock at Night, by the advanced Ships in Providence River, of the approach of the Enemy, I Slip'd my Cable agreeable to your Orders, and put to Sea in Company with Captain Græme¹ of His Majesty's Ship *Sphinx*, and having got off the Entrance of Narraganset Passage we discovered a Ship of the Enemy's at Half past Eleven, and kept Sight of her till after One oClock this Morning, when the Rebel Ship b[e]ing close under the Land, we suddenly lost Sight of her, the *Maidstone* being at this time in 10 f^m: Water and but little Wind, I imagined the Enemy had come to an Anchor near the Shore, we therefore stood off, & on; till daylight, and I sent Captain Græme off Point Judeth to look out upon that Quarter.

At day break we discovered the Rebel Frigate² on Shore to Windward of us, about Seven Miles from Point Judeth, being little Wind and an Ebb tide, I was obliged to Anchor until Noon, when I got under Weigh, with an intent to get close in Shore with the Ships if practicable and to destroy the Rebel Frigate who appeared to Mount about 36 Guns, some of which she carried on her lower Deck, during the time we lay at Anchor, the Rebels appeared in great Numbers on the Shore, and we observed them to bring down four field Pieces & to be busily employed in getting the Stores out of the Ship.

The *Spitfire* Gally and the Boats of the Squadron under the direction of Captain Clayton³ sent by your Orders to our assistance, having joined us and every thing prepared, for burning the Frigate, I sent my first Lieutenant M^r James Vashon on this Service, under cover of the *Maidstone*, *Sphynx*, & *Spitfire* Gally, with Orders to Board, & set her on Fire, and I have the pleasure to inform you, that he executed this Service, in a very Gallant manner, and much to his Credit, and I must beg leave to recommend him in a particular manner to your Notice, as a brave & deserving Officer, the Spirited behavior of the Petty-Officers (Mess^{rs}: Sotheby & Smith) and Boats-Crew under his Command (five of whom I am sorry to acquaint you are badly wounded) reflect much Honor to them, and I should do them great injustice were I not to mention their bravery and good Conduct on this Occasion.

The Rebel Frigate proves to be the *Columbus*./ I am Sir, [&c.]

(Sign'd) A. Gardner.

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/1838, part 9, no. 16. Addressed flush left below signature: "To/Commodore Griffith." Docketed: "N^o: 3." Enclosure no. 3 in Captain Walter Griffith to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 9 Apr. 1778.

1. Capt. Alexander Graeme, R.N.
2. Continental Navy ship *Columbus*, which mounted from 20 to 28 carriage guns at various times.
3. Comdr. Samuel W. Clayton, R.N.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MACKENZIE

[Newport. Rhode Island]

28th March—Pleasant Weather. Wind N.E. all last night, but S.E. the latter part of this day.

The wood party consisting of 100 men, under the Command of Major Martini of the Hessian troops, embarked on board the fleet going to Shelter Island for wood for the Garrison.

About half after 10 o'clock last night, the *Lark* Frigate Stationed off Greenwich,¹ perceived a vessel coming down, and made the Signal; on which The Commodore² ordered The *Maidstone* & *Sphynx*, which were lying in the harbour, to slip their Cables and put to Sea; soon after which the Rebel vessel came past the *Somerset* lying in the Naraganset passage, who gave her many shot, and by the time she had got to the mouth of the passage, the two Frigates were ready for her, and gave her so warm a reception that she was obliged to run on shore within point Judith. As the wind died away towards morning they could not get near enough to destroy her, which afforded the Rebels an opportunity of getting out part of her stores, and bringing down some guns to protect her. As the *Somerset* sent no report to the Commodore, and nothing could be seen from the ships in the harbour except our two frigates at anchor in the Offing, the Commodore knew nothing of the situation of the Rebel vessel until Gen^l Pigot sent him information of what was seen from the heights; upon which the *Spitfire* Galley was towed out of the harbour by the boats of the fleet, and every necessary preparation made for destroying her. As the wind came in from the S.E. in the afternoon the Frigates worked up and made a disposition for burning her, which was effected about 7 in the Evening, with great gallantry by the boats under the Command of Lieu^t Vashon³ of The *Maidstone*, notwithstanding a severe fire of Cannon & Musquetry from the Rebels.

She proved to be the *Columbus*, a Continental Frigate, pierced for 36 Guns,⁴ Six of which were on a lower deck. She was on her way to New London where she was to have taken in most of her Guns & men. The Rebels saved all the powder she had on board, part of her sails, and some other stores; but the ship was entirely destroyed. Seven Seamen were wounded in boarding her.

Mackenzie, *Diary* 1: 260–61.

1. East Greenwich.
2. Capt. Walter Griffith, acting commodore at Newport.
3. Lt. James Vashon, R.N.
4. *Columbus* was pierced for 18 guns on her gun deck and mounted between 20 and 28 carriage guns at various times.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *KINGSFISHER*, LIEUTENANT HUGH C. CHRISTIAN

Mar 78
Saturday 28

At Single Anchor in the Seaconnett Passage Rhode Island,
At 6 AM Observed a Rebel Brigg¹ at Anchor off Goulds Island²
at 9 Observed her to be a ground off the point of Wantons
Cove³ two Guns were fir'd from Howland's ferry,⁴ And several
from the Rebell Works,
At Single Anchor in the Seaconnett Passage Rhode Island,
Mod^t and Cloudy first part Remd^r Strong Gales and Squalley
Sighted the Anchor and veered to ½ a Cable,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/507.

1. An unnamed brig from Swansea, Mass., David Bowers, master. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/455/1, "A Journal, began, on Board, the Galley *Spitfire*, belonging to the State of Rhode Island, & Commanded, by Cap^t Jos. Crandall." See Lieutenant Hugh C. Christian to Captain Walter Griffith, 29 Mar., below.
2. Gould Island at the northern part of the Sakonnet Passage.
3. Now Nannaquaket Pond.
4. British battery at Howland's Ferry.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *ROSE*, CAPTAIN JAMES REID

March 1778
Saturday 28

In Gardiners Island Sound
AM at 5 Weighed & it coming Calm came too again
In Gardiners Island Sound
Light Breezes & Cloudy ½ past 3 PM Weigh'd & Run through
Plumb Gutt ½ past 4 saw a Ship at the Entrance of Seabrook
Bar, Bore away and found her to be a Rebel Frigate inside of
the Bar,¹ at 10 in 1st R[ee]^f T S^{ls}.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/805.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull*, which was awaiting assistance at Saybrook to get her over the bar at the mouth of the Connecticut River.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO FRANCIS HOPKINSON

Sir

Head Quarters Valley Forge 28th. March 1778

I have been fav^d. with yours of the 16th: and 24th: instants the first inclosing
sundry papers relating to the Case of Cap^t Robinson¹ and Galt² who have been de-

tained after going into Philad: under the sanction of a Flag. I have made a demand of Cap^t Robinson as he was previously named and a passport regularly obtained for him. I have also endeavoured to procure the release of Cap^t Galt who I must needs say has been guilty of a very imprudent action in attempting to pass himself as a private seaman or Boatman, which strictly speaking brings him under the imputation of a Spie, but I am in hopes that the matter may be got over. Gen^l Howe has not yet answered my letter upon the subject.

I am obliged to you for the trouble you have taken in removing the Stores and more so for the Offer of the Rice, Oil and Fish, the two first of which will be particularly useful at this time to the Hospital. The Rice and Oil will be removed immediately, as orders are given to procure Waggons for the purpose. The Comm^r of purchases at Bordentown or Trenton will give proper Receipts for them, by which you may charge them to the Continent. I am, Sir, [&c.]

Df, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Francis Hopkinson Esq^r" Docketed: "28th March 1778/to/Francis Hopkinson Esq^r."

1. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy. For more details on this incident, see Captain Isaiah Robinson to General George Washington, 17 Mar., General Sir William Howe to General George Washington, 19 Mar., and General George Washington to General Sir William Howe, 22 Mar., above.

2. Capt. Nathaniel Galt, Pennsylvania Navy.

ELIAS BOUDINOT TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE

Sir

Camp Valley Forge March 28th 1778

Having lately agreed to the Exchange of Captain Manley¹ for Cap^t Furneaux² late of the *Syren* frigate, I must beg the favour of your giving Orders for his being immediately sent into New Port, which I have engaged shall be done without delay.—

He must previously pay off all arrears due for Board &c Have the Honor to be [&c.]

Elias Boudinot

Com: Gen^l: of Prisoners

L, R-Ar, Letters to the Governor (1778), vol. 12, p. 50. Addressed at foot: "His Exc^t Nicholas Cook Esq^r."

1. Capt. John Manley, Continental Navy.

2. Capt. Tobias Furneaux, R.N.

PENNSYLVANIA PRIVATEER BOND FOR SLIDING GUNTER *PERSEVERENCE*

KNOW all Men by these Presents, that WE, John Macpherson, Joseph Donaldson and Francis Wade all of the State of Pennsylvania are held and firmly bound to The Honorable Henry Laurens Esq^r President of Congress of the united States of America, in Trust for the said United States of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia*, in North-America, in the Penalty of Ten Thousand Dollars—to be paid to the said Honorable Henry Laurens—or to his certain Attorney, Executors, Administrators or Assigns: To which Payment well and truly to be made and done, We do bind Ourselves, our Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by

these Presents. Sealed with our Seals, and dated the twenty eighth Day of March in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seventy eight—

THE Condition of this Obligation is such, That if the above bounden John Macpherson who is Commander of the Sliding Gunter¹ called the Perseverence belonging to the State of Pennsylvania— mounting Two Carriage Guns, and navigated by One hundred & fifty Men, and who hath applied for a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal, to arm, equip, and set forth to Sea, the said Sliding Gunter as a Private Ship of War, and to make Captures of Vessels and Cargoes belonging to the Crown and Subjects of Great-Britain, shall not exceed or transgress the Powers and Authorities which shall be contained in the said Commission, but shall in all Things observe and conduct himself, and govern his Crew, by and according to the same; and shall make Reparation for all Damages sustained by any Misconduct or unwarrantable Proceedings of himself or the Officers or Crew of the said Sliding Gunter—Then this Obligation shall be void, or else remain in Force.

Sealed and Delivered

in the Presence of

Geo Hopes

Jn^o Biers

John Macpherson

Jos Donaldson

Fran^s Wade

D, DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 11, p. 79. Docketed: "Jn^o. M^cPherson's &c/Bond for Sliding/Gunter, or *Perseverence*/dated 28th. March 1778/belong^g to Pennsylvania." Printed form, with manuscript entries. Here, underscoring indicates the manuscript portions.

1. *Sliding gunter*, or *gunter-rigged vessel*: a vessel "in which a triangular-shaped sail is hoisted by sliding a topmast upward along a short lowermast, peak or head of sail being made fast to upper end of topmast and its tack, or lower forward corner to lowermast." W. A. McEwen and A. H. Lewis, *Encyclopedia of Nautical Knowledge* (Cambridge, Md.: Cornell Maritime Press, 1953), s.v. "gunter."

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dear Sir,

Wilmington March 28th. 1778—

I have inclosed you Depositions &c, relative to the Treatment of the British Prisoners Captured in the Brig *Symetry* during their Stay here—shou'd have transmitted them before, but have waited in expectation of obtaining Col^o. Gunbys,¹ Capt^{ns}. Godmans,² & Learmouths³ Depositions, which woud have been very material, as they were privy to the whole transactions from the Time of the Brigs Capture, but they have not yet Returned.—

The Enemy about four Days ago had a Fleet of near 50 Sail standing up the River, which I fancy was from New York. and yesterday their Foraging Fleet went up, without touching on this Side the Delaware, except three or four small Parties about Fort Penn,⁴ who have been constantly drove off by a Party of 100 of our Men, who have been guarding & aiding the removal of the Forage on that Shore—which is at length happily effected—A Gentleman out of Philadelphia on Friday last, informed me he saw Gen^l Lee⁵ in the Coffee House there, but can give no Account whether he came by Land, or with the Fleet—I have the Honor to be

[&c.]

W. Smallwood

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4. Addressed at foot: "Gen^l. Washington." Docketed: "Wilmington 28th. /March 1778 /from /Gen^l. Smallwood."

1. Col. John Gunby, 7th Maryland Continental Regiment.

2. Capt. Samuel Godman, 4th Maryland Continental Regiment.
3. Capt. John Learmouth, Delaware Regiment.
4. Port Penn, Del.
5. Maj. Gen. Charles Lee.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Saturday the 28th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick Magazine, deliver to Lieutenant John Thomas one hundred Pounds of Powder and three quires of Paper for Cartridges, for the use of the *Protector* Galley.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 371.

AN ACT OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE CONCERNING
THE DIVISION OF PRIZE MONEY

No. 1091

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE COMMODORE OF THIS STATE A SHARE IN ALL PRIZES TAKEN BY VESSELS OF WAR FITTED OUT BY AND AT THE EXPENSE OF THIS STATE, AND SAILING UNDER HIS ORDERS; AND TO ALTER AN ACT ENTITLED "*An Act to empower the Court of Admiralty of this State to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of the Ships and other Vessels of the inhabitants and subjects of Great Britain, to establish the trial by jury in the said court in cases of capture, and for other purposes therein mentioned.*"

Preamble.

WHEREAS, by an Act of this State, passed the thirteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, entitled, "An Act to empower the court of admiralty of this State to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of the ships and other vessels of the inhabitants and subjects of Great Britain, to establish the trial by jury in the said court in cases of capture, and for the other purposes therein mentioned," it is among other things enacted, that vessels of war belonging to the King of Great Britain, or privateers fitted out for the purpose of cruising against the subjects of the United States of America, and not for trade, with their guns, tackle, furniture, apparel, and all merchandize found on board, taken by any vessel of war fitted out by and at the expense of the State, shall, after payment of the fees of condemnation, be wholly divided and shared to and amongst the officers, seamen and mariners, or persons acting as such, on board of or belonging to such vessels of war, in the manner by the said Act directed; and whereas, by the appointment of a commodore to command the navy of this State, it is become absolutely necessary to alter the manner of dividing the above mentioned captures, where the same shall be taken by any vessel of war fitted out by and at the expense of this State, and sailing under the commodore's orders;

Division of prizes. I. *Be it enacted* by his Excellency Rawlins Lowndes, Esq., President and Commander-in-chief in and over the State of South Carolina, by the honorable the Legislative Council and General Assembly of the said State, and by the authority of the same, That all vessels of war belonging to the King of Great Britain, or privateers fitted out for the purpose of cruising against the subjects of the United States of America, and not for trade, with their guns, tackle, furniture, apparel and all other merchandize found on board, taken by any vessel of war fitted out by and at the expense of this State, and sailing under the orders of the commodore thereof, shall, after payment of the fees of condemnation, be wholly divided and shared to and amongst the commodore, officers, seamen and marines on board of or belonging to such vessels of war, in the following manner (that is to say) two sixteenths to the commodore, three sixteenths to the captain or captains, two sixteenths to the lieutenants, officers of marines and master, two sixteenths to the warrant officers and pilot, two sixteenths to the petty officers, and five sixteenths to the seamen, mariners or other persons acting as such; any thing in the said Act or any other law contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

II. *And be it further enacted* by the authority aforesaid, That the commodore of this State shall be entitled to one full sixteenth of all ships and vessels, except vessels of war, with their tackle, apparel and furniture, goods, wares and merchandize, belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of Great Britain or any subject or subjects of the King of Great Britain (except the inhabitants of Bermuda and Providence or Bahama Islands) which shall be hereafter taken by any vessel of war fitted out by and at the expense of this State, and sailing under the orders of the commodore thereof, which said sixteenth shall be paid out of the half of such captures to which this State is or shall be entitled.

HUGH RUTLEDGE, *Speaker of the Legislative Council.*

THOMAS BEE, *Speaker of the General Assembly.*

In the Council Chamber, the 28th day of March, 1778.

Assented to: RAWLINS LOWNDES.

Thomas Cooper and David J. McCord, eds., *The Statutes at Large of South Carolina* (Columbia, S.C.: A. S. Johnson, 1836-41), 4: 440-41.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. CARYSFORT, CAPTAIN ROBERT FANSHAWE

March 1778. Cha^s Town Barr NW ½ W 3 Leagues.
 Saturday 28th At 7 AM made Sail
 D^o. Barr NW 8 Leagues.
 First & Latter part Mod^{te} & Clear Middle Strong Gales &
 Clear—At 2 PM Saw a Sail to the ESE D^o made Sail & gave
 Chace D^o Saw 2 more Sail in the same Q^r at 5. fired 4 Shott

at the Chace D^o She br^t too, D^o Shortn'd Sail D^o found her to be a Ship from Charles Town for Cadiz¹ D^o got the Prisoners on Board & sent a Petty Officer & some hands on board to take charge of the Prize—At 9 the Prize parted Company.—

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/168, part 8, fol. 370.

1. Spanish ship *Nuestra Señora del Carmel*, Francisco Bruna, master, owned by Francisco Bruna & Co., laden with rice &c., sent to New York. Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fol. 487.

COLONEL JOHN STUART TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN MCGILLIVRAY

Sir

Pensacola 28th. March 1778.

As you are appointed Lieu^t. Col^o. Commandant of a regiment to be raised for the defence of this Province by His Excellency Governor Chester, you will of course act in your military capacity under the Governors orders and instructions. At the same time as the assistance of the Chactaw & Chickasaw Indians appears to be absolutely necessary for the effectual service of His Majesty in the protection and defence of the settlements at the Natchez and elsewhere upon the Mississippi, against the incursions and ravages of the Rebels. And as by your great knowledge of said Indians and particular acquaintance with their Chiefs you are every way qualified for managing and conducting them,—I therefore think it necessary for the good of His Majestys Service, to invest you with power and authority, and I do hereby Authorise you to Collect as many of the Chactaws and Chickasaw Indians as you can with the assistance of my Deputies and Commissarys in said Nations, and to lead and employ said Indians in annoying His Majestys Enemies, and assisting and protecting His faithful subjects, For which purpose you are hereby fully deputed and invested with my full power and Authority.

The protection and defence of the Inhabitants of the Natchez District appears to me to be the first object of attention but in this you will be directed by such instructions as you shall receive from His Excellency the Governor, and by your own judgment upon learning the situation of the Enemy and the posture of affairs.

For the better carrying on the Service jointly with M^r Bethune who has before now set out for the Natchez District in consequence of orders from me, I furnish you with a Copy of my instructions to him. And I now send him further Orders to Co-operate with you and give you every Aid and assistance in his power, and that you may require of him

As His Excellency the Governor points Out to you the mode of defraying the expences which shall arise in your military Department, so I must request of you to appoint some person to keep separate and distinct Accounts of the expences which shall arise by furnishing provisions for the Indians which may accompany you, and other Contingencies in the Indian Department, and upon sending me your Accounts, your bill for the same shall be duly Honoured.

Upon the whole I have the greatest confidence in your own good sense and judgment to which I must principally refer you,—I have only to add that I think Cap^t. Colbert¹ ought to be immediately sent to the Chickasaw Nation to collect and lead as many of said Indians as he can, under the direction and with the assistance of John M^cIntosh Esq^r my Commissary in said Nation, to whom I write upon the Occasion, and that he will have your instructions how said Indians are to be employed.

In case the enemy should be in force to attempt penetrating through the Chactaw Nation I hope they will meet with a spirited resistance from said Indians, who with the Chickasaws in my opinion can frustrate such an attempt.

I am to inform you according to your desire that the Officers of the Corps already raised by me have British pay, and the private Men 40s Serling per Month, Serjants £3— 4 Month Corporals 50s with rations.

Orders are herewith sent to Charles Stuart Esq^r to furnish you with such proportion of presents as you may judge necessary, and if the quantity of Amunition now sent be insufficient, I will thankfully replace whatever the Gentlemen in trade will lend upon this Occasion.

I have no further to add at present but to request of you to give me punctual and early intelligence of every material Occurrence by expresses hired for that purpose, so wishing you all success I remain [&c.]

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 5/79, fols. 85–86. Addressed at foot of the first page: "Lieu^t Col^o. John M^cGillivray." Docketed: "Pensacola 28th. March 1778./Copy of a letter from the/Superintendant to/Lieu^t Col^o. M^cGillivray/In M^c Stuart's (N^o. 23)/of 13th. April 1778./(1.)."

1. Capt. James Colbert, Indian Deputy, Southern District.

P. MORGAN AND ROBERT ROSS TO COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N.

Sir

New Orleans 28th. March 1778

It is with great concern and regret that particular circumstances attending our situation here have prevented us from having the honor to wait on you in person to acknowledge the obligations we owe you for your offers of protection to our properties and persons, and for that generous and spirited conduct, by which you have attempted to redress the Grievences of His Majty's. Loyal Subjects in the Country.

On former occasions the desire of being useful in cases, where we conceiv'd the interest of our country to be concerned, exposed us to the jealousy of the Spanish Government, and had well nigh proved fatal to our property, and that of our Friends in England in our hands. Indeed the danger was most eminent, for Copies of our Letters on a Public affair had, by some means, been procured at Pensacola and brought hither. Even now we find ourselves particularly pointed at, and the suspicions of the Public and of the Government on all occasions fall upon us. In such a situation we are obliged to act with the greatest circumspection, as the only means of finally securing the large property we have owing to us in the Country; those reason, we hope, will appear to you, a sufficient excuse for a conduct, which might otherwise be deemed a want of that respect, which we owe you. Permit us, Sir, thus to express our sentiments of regard, and that pleasure which every loyal Subject attached to the honor of his Country must feel from a view of your conduct, since your arrival in this River.

The Ship *Live Oak*, which is laden with our Peltries and Indigo for London, will be ready to sail on Tuesday next, we request the favor, that you will (till then) defer your departure and take her under your Convoy to Pensacola—We have the honor to be [&c.]

(Signed) P. Morgan
Robert Ross

Copy, UkLPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed below the close: "To/Captain Fergusson." Docketed: "Mess^{rs}. Morgan & Ross, Merch^{ts}./at New-Orleans, Letter to/Captain Fergusson 28 March/1778—/In Sir Pet^r Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778—."

BRITISH MERCHANTS ON THE MISSISSIPPI TO GOVERNOR PETER CHESTER

[New Orleans, 28 March 1778]

Sir

Unfortunate as we have been in falling a Prey to a small Party of Rebels, for want of Protection, which was repeatedly Solicited, We beg leave thro' you, to Assure our Gracious Sovereign, of our unshaken Allegiance and Warmest Attachment to his Person and Crown. We have been driven from our Plantations and despoiled of a great part of our property, and must have lost our all, had not His Excellency Don Galvez, Governor of this Province, with much kindness and humanity, in the Name of his Catholic Majesty, afforded Protection to our Persons and the remaining part of Our Effects.—A Copy of our address of thanks, & of the Governor's answer we have the honor to inclose You.

Two Months since, we numbered within the district of Manchac about 200 Inhabitants, many of whom were possessed of considerable property.—At Present the whole district is Abandoned, and the Inhabitants, very few excepted, have taken Shelter in the Province of Lousiana.—Nothing but protection was wanting, to make the Country bordering on the Mississippi a Valuable and flourishing part of His Majty's Dominions.—Perhaps it is not yet too late.—Encouraged as we were by His Majty's Royal Proclamation to settle this Province under Your Command; and particularly of late invited to seek an Asylum from the Violences committed in the Northern Colonies, we conceive we have a Right to look to you for Protection, & we beg to know if it will be afforded us, that we may Return and Cultivate our Lands.—We would not Presume to Point out the Mode to You, Sir; but as we Suppose about 200 Regular Troops and a Vessel of War with some armed Boats properly Stationed and a Militia Established among ourselves would Answer the Purpose.

We beg your Answer by the Return of this Express that we may take some Measures before the planting Season be past, to secure a Subsistance.—We have the honor to be [&c.]

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241. Docketed: "Copy of a Letter from the/ Merchants. British/Settlement on Mississippi/to Governor Chester/In Sir P^r Parker's Letter/Dated 27th. July 1778."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

March 1778. Mount Christi SW $\frac{1}{2}$ W Point Isabella SE dist. 4 or 5
Saturday 28th: Leag^s.

At 5 [AM] Saw a Sail in the Offing bearing N^o. D^o. Sailed hence the *Badgers* Tender in Chace. At 12 the Barge ret^d with the *Washington* Sloop from North Carolina Bound to Cape Francois Loaden'd with Tobacco Staves Bees Wax &^c. Brought the Captⁿ. 4 Hands & a Boy out of her. the above Prize Engaged the Barge before she Struck.¹

Light Winds & fair W^r. [PM] Employed taking the Sloops Cargo out & stowing it away on b^d. of us

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. Sloop *Washington*, master unknown, from South Carolina to Cape François, with tobacco and staves. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

MARCH 29 (SUNDAY)

DISBURSEMENTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *HAZARD*Disbursements of the Brigantine *Hazard* Simeon Samson Esq^r: Commander Viz^t:—

1778		S. ¹ D ²	# ³	
Feb ^r	24	To Cash paid for 27 ^{lb} . Sugar	@17.. 6	£23..12.. 6
	26	1 Hh ^{ds} : Rum 107 Gallons	@3#..10 & hh ^d : 50#	424..10.. 0
	28	To 5 ^{lb} . Nails		5.. 0.. 0
March	5 th .	To 1 barrel Tallow 250 ^{lb} N ^t .	@20 Sols	250..—..—
		37 ^{lb} Coffee	@16 d ^o .	29..12..—
		59 ^{lb} Sugar	@17 ^s .. 6 ^D	<u>51..12.. 6</u>
				784.. 7..—
			#	
		To Cash paid for 2 barrels Flour		£220..—..—
		Ditto paid for Sundries for the Armourer		42..—..—
		Ditto paid for a Side Leather		36..—..—
			Sols d	
		Ditto paid for 80 ^{lb} Sugar	@17.. 6	<u>70..—..—</u>
				368..—..—
		To Cash paid the Pilot		£33..—..—
		Ditto paid 2 Hydes		33..—..—
		Ditto paid Soldiers guarding Sailors		31..10..—
	12 th	To 3 Keggs Vinager	@20#	60..—..—
		154 feet Boards	@5 Sols	38..10..—
		344 feet Boards	@ d ^o .	86..—..—
		21 Bush ^{ls} . Potatoes	@16#..10	<u>346..10..—</u>
				628..10..—
	17 th	To 10 barrels Flour	@110#	£1100..—..—
		4 Boxes Candles 258 ½ N ^t .	@22 ^s ./6 ^D .	290..16.. 3
		6 barrels Pork	@132#	<u>792..—..—</u>

				2182..16.. 3
18	To 2 barrels Rice	@82#..10 ^s	£165..—..—	
	To 5 Hh ^{ds} . Rum 463 Gallons	@3.. 5	1504..15..—	
	5 Hh ^d for ditto	@54 [#]	270..—..—	
	8 Firkins Butter	@95 [#]	760..—..—	
	3 Hh ^{ds} . Rum q ^t . 326 Gallons	@3#..10	1291..—..—	
	3 Hh ^{ds} . for ditto	@50 [#]	<u>000..—..—</u>	
				3,990..15..—
19 th	To 3 Tierces Pork	@198 [#]	594..—..—	
	To Cash paid for 259 ^{lb} Coffee	@15 Sols	194.. 5..—	
	13 Twine	@3 [#]	39..—..—	
20 th	To 8000 ^{lb} Bread	@75 [#]	6000..—..—	
	25 feet 2½ Inch Plank	@50 Sols	62..10..—	
	To 2 Spars	@16 [#] 10 Sols	33..—..—	
	1 Hand Trumpit		8.. 5..—	
	2 Showles		<u>12..—..—</u>	
				<u>6943..—..—</u>
		Carried forward—		14897.. 8.. 3
		Amount Brought forward		14897.. 8.. 3
1778			# S. D	
March	To Cash paid for 24 Brooms		£4..10..—	
	Ditto for 24 ditto		6..—..—	
	Ditto for 57½ lb Sugar	@17 ^s .. 6 ^D	50.. 6..—	
	Ditto for French Colours		90..—..—	
	Ditto for Carpenters Tools		<u>43.. 1..—</u>	
				193..17..—
	To Cash paid for a Spy Glass		£363..—..—	
	Ditto for mending Windows		30..15..—	

DISBURSEMENTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *HAZARD*—Continued

Disbursements of the Brigantine *Hazard* Simeon Samson Esq^r Commander Viz^t—

1778

	S. D	#
Ditto for 13 ^{lb} Twine	@2 ^s .. 5	29.. 5..—
Ditto for 3 Padlocks	@7 ^s .. 6 ^D	22..10..—
Ditto for 1 Tierce Vinager		150..—..—
Ditto for mending Trumpit & handpump		10..10..—
Ditto for 2 barrels for Sugar		4.. 3..—
Ditto paid for pump Leather		47.. 5..—
Ditto paid for a Spar for a Tiller		22..15..—
Ditto for 2 Brushes thrums & Brooms		<u>21..—..—</u>

701.. 3..—

To Cash paid for the Hire of the Hulk £440..—..—

To 32^{lb} Sugar @17^s.. 6^D 28..—..—

To 1 Tierce Mollasses 76 Gallons @30 Sols 114..—..—

1 Tierce for ditto 24..15..—

To Cash paid for 654^{lb} N^t Sugar @46/ 300..16..—

23 To 2 Keggs Varnish @ 20..—..—

1½ Ells Greene Cloth @30[#] 45..—..—

6 P^s Duck @108 648..—..—

24th To 2 Blunderbusses @ 264..—..—

188.. 4..11

20 Shackles @ 165..—..—

18 barrels Pork @132[#] 2376..—..—

25 To 2 barrels Pease @50[#] 100..—..—

To the Amount of Blacksmiths Bill 624..—..—

To 1419^{lb} Rigging @70[#] 993.. 6..—

To an old Main Sail		110..—..—	
			4368.. 6..—
To Cash paid for 2 barrels for Sugar		00..—..—	
To 23 barrels Beef	@100#	2300..—..—	
8 half barrels Pork	@66#	528..—..—	
50 ^{lb} Lyn Fish		50..—..—	
To M ^r La Font Ship Chandlers Bill		321.. 7.. 6	
To Cash paid for Wire thread & Whetstone		7..10..—	
To Boutin Fil & Comp ^a Ship Chandler Bill		745..—..—	
			<u>3951..17.. 6</u>
	Carried forward		£25.997.. 2.. 9
	Amount Bro ^t over		£25.997.. 2.. 9

1778
March

To Cash paid for Brooms		£ 3..—..—
To 930 ^{lb} Junk	@50	465..—..—
To Amount of Sam ^l Brentons Bill		1102..10..—
To M ^r Froment Apothacarys Bill		684..—..—
To 36 Bushils Coal		40..—..—
To 12 Sheets tin .. 12# ... 2 ^{lb} Pistol Balls 2#		14..—..—
To Cash paid the Linguster		66..—..—
To ditto paid at the Admaralty Office		40.. 5..—
To Cash paid Hospital Bill		265..10..—
To the Amo ^t of Cap ^t Samsons Acc ^t		861.. 3..—
To 3 Lancets		22..10..—
To 1 Case of Wine for the Use of the Surgeon		66..—..—
To Cash Advanced the Surgeon Sam ^l Guild		396..—..—
To the Amount of Rations paid Cap ^t Samson for the Officers of the Brig ^a <i>Hazard</i> to 14 March 1778		3982..—..—

29 MARCH 1778

829

DISBURSEMENTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *HAZARD*—*Continued*Disbursements of the Brigantine *Hazard* Simeon Samson Esq^r Commander Viz^t—

1778

S. D

#

To 20^{lb} White Led . . 20[#] . . . 1 Jar Oil 15[#]35..—..—

8042..18.. 0

34,040.. 0.. 9

1702..—..—

35,742.. 0.. 9

Commissⁿ: @ 5 [⌘] CentSt^r Pierre M/Que March 28th. 1778

Errors Excepted

W^m. & G Hutchinson

DS, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 157 (Maritime Miscellaneous, 1777–1782), 120–22. Docketed: “Copy of M^r Godfrey/Hutchinson Disburst^s/for the Brig^a
Hazard/at St^r Pierre M/Que/28 March 1778/Livers 35,742.. 0.. 9.”
 # S. D

1. Symbol for *sols*.2. Symbol for *deniers*.3. Symbol for *livres tournois*.ACCOUNTS OF MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *HAZARD*The Brigantine *Hazard* to Simeon Samson

1778

D^rFeb^y 28th To Cash paid for 57^{lb} Fresh Beef @ 1/3

£3..11.. 3

March 1 To Ditto paid for Potatoes & Yams

£0..7.. 1½

To ditto paid for 2 Hh^{ds}. Water1.. 6

.. 8.. 7½

3^d To Cash paid for 2½ Cords Wood @ 36/

4..10..—

5 To Cash paid for Water

3..—..—

7th To ditto paid for a Tureen 3 Tumblers & half Doz^a. Plates

0..10.. 6½

8 To ditto paid for 2 Doz^a. Brooms

£0.. 4.. 6

	To ditto paid for 26 ^{lb} Fresh Pork @1/3	<u>1..12.. 6</u>	1..17..—
11	To ditto paid for Charcoal	£0.. 2.. 3	
	To ditto paid for Potatoes from 1 to 11 March 1778	<u>2.. 8.. 4½</u>	2..10.. 7½
	To Cash paid Masson Repairing the Gally		..16.. 6.
	To ditto paid for Potatoes	£0..12..—	
	To ditto for Tumblers & Muggs	<u>..10.. 6</u>	1.. 2.. 6
	To ditto paid for ½ Doz ^a Napkins paid for Potatoes	£0..15..—	
		<u>.. 8..</u>	1.. 3..—
23 ^d	To Cash paid for the Hire of a Store to mend the Sails		5.. 8..—
24 th	To Cash paid for 1 Doz ^a Plates 6/ Punch Bowl 3/		.. 9..—
	To Cash paid for 1/Doz ^a Glasses ..7/6.. 1 Soop Spoon 4/6		..12..—
	To d ^o . p ^d . for 1 Doz ^a Spoons 7/.. 97½ ^{lb} Fresh Beef @1/6	£7.. 6.. 3	7..13.. 3
	To Cash paid for 500 Yams @16/6		4.. 2.. 6.
	To Cash paid for 134 ^{lb} Pork @9 ^d		5.. 0.. 6
	To a Table Cloth		<u>.. 6..—</u>
			<u>£43.. 1.. 2½</u>
			#. ¹ S. ² D. ³
	Equal to.....		861.. 3.. 0

St Pierre M/Que March 28th. 1778

Received the Above of Mess^{rs}. W^m. & Godfrey Hutchinson

Simⁿ Samson

D, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 157 (Maritime Miscellaneous, 1777–1782), 123.

1. Symbol for *livres tournois*.

2. Symbol for *sols*.

3. Symbol for *deniers*.

LIEUTENANT HUGH C. CHRISTIAN, R.N., TO CAPTAIN WALTER GRIFFITH, R.N.

(Copy)
Sir/

Kingsfisher in the Seakonnet
Passage 29th: March 1778.

The Rebel Brig of which you did me the Honor to advise me,¹ made an attempt last Night, to push past, but by some accident grounded on the Reef, which you will observe marked near Wantons Cove;² I went up this Morning with hopes that there was some possibility of annoying her with the Gally;³ which I meant to have done by taking shelter under the NW point of Golds-Island,⁴ but upon consulting more particularly with the Pilot, I found reason to fear that the depth of Water on that Flat would not prove sufficient, and finding the Brig so well protected by their Batteries, I conceived it prudent not to make any movement, she is extremely well fitted with Sails, a Stout Brig, but does not wear the Appearance of a Vessel of much Force, altho' I am informed that she Mounts 14—4. Pounders, and has 85 Men.

They were employed Lightening the Vessel Yesterday, and I perceive have got her off the last Tide: She will in all probability make another attempt, when the Wind is favourable:⁵ and I hope I shall then have an Opportunity to convey you a more satisfactory account of Her; I have the Honor to be with respect.
Sir/ [&c.]

(Sign'd) Hugh C. Christian

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/1838, part 9, no. 20. Addressed flush left below signature: "To Commodore Griffith &c^a. &c^a/Rhode-Island." Docketed: "N^o. 7." Enclosure no. 7 in Captain Walter Griffith to Secretary of the Admiralty Philip Stephens, 9 Apr. 1778.

1. An unnamed brig from Swansea, Mass., David Bowers, master. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/455/1, "A Journal, began, on Board, the Galley *Spitfire*, belonging to the State of Rhode Island, & Commanded, by Cap^t: Jos. Crandall."

2. Now Nannaquaket Pond.

3. H.M. galley *Alarm*.

4. Gould I. at the northern part of the Sakonnet Passage.

5. *Kingsfisher's* Journal notes on 30 Mar.: "at 8 AM Observed the Rebel Brigg had got off and Moved into Wantons Cove." UKLPR, Adm. 51/507. The brig remained in the Sakonnet Passage between Gould Island and Wanton's Cove, awaiting a chance to evade the *Kingsfisher*, until she disappeared on 6 Apr. Ibid.

A LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA, DATED 29TH MARCH 1778

PHILADELPHIA, July 25.

The melancholy fate of the late worthy Captain BIDDLE¹ of the *Randolph* Frigate, being as yet but little known, we give the following account of this unfortunate event, received in a letter from Charlestown in South Carolina, dated the 29th of March last.

"Captain Blake² of this place yesterday received a letter from Captain Hall³ of the *Notre Dame*, one of the vessels in the fleet commanded by Captain Biddle, informing him that on the evening of the 8th of March,⁴ to the windward of Barbados, the fleet fell in with an English ship of 50 or 64 guns;⁵ that about 8 o'clock the next morning the *Randolph* engaged, and handled her so roughly for 12 or 15 minutes, that the British ship must shortly have struck, having lost her bowsprit and top-masts, and being otherwise greatly shattered while the *Randolph*

had suffered very little; but in this moment of glory, as the *Randolph* was wearing to get on her quarter, she unfortunately blew up, and the whole crew perished.

“One Fenning⁶ of this place, who arrived prize master of a sloop taken by the *Randolph*, and which was converted [*converted*] into a tender for her, brought the letter, and confirms the account.

“Never was a man here more sincerely esteemed or lamented than Captain Biddle. His conduct both as an officer and a gentleman had procured general respect. He died in the midst of glory, fighting for his country against a very superior force, with all the gallantry of the bravest officer, and with every prospect of success.”

Pennsylvania Packet, 25 July 1778.

1. Capt. Nicholas Biddle, of Philadelphia.
2. Capt. Edward Blake, First Commissioner, Board of Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina.
3. Capt. William Hall, South Carolina Navy. Capt. Fenning, prize master of a schooner taken by the *Randolph*, brought the original letter to Charleston on 27 Mar. *The Connecticut Journal*, 13 May 1778, printed an extract of Hall's letter, dated 9 Mar., above. Also see President Rawlins Lowndes of South Carolina to President of Congress, 30 Mar., below.
4. The version printed in *The Connecticut Journal*, 13 May 1778, gives the date as 7 Mar.
5. H.M.S. *Yarmouth*.
6. Midn. Simeon Fanning.

COMMANDER JOHN FERGUSSON, R.N., TO GOVERNOR DON BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

on board His Britannic Majesty's Sloop of War
the *Sylph*, in the River Mississippi

Sir

29th March 1778—

Tho' I have not succeeded in the application's I have already made to your Excellency, in favor of His Britannic Majesty's Loyal Subjects, now in your province, I cannot help mentioning a circumstance, that has come to my knowledge and is of a very serious nature. I am well informed, that several British Seamen have lately been made Prisoners in the Town of New-Orleans, carried off in chains, & put on board the ship *Rebecca* (now under the protection of the Spanish Government) where they are still confined, and in the greatest distress.

I cannot conceive, that such enormities have been committed with your Excellency's sanction, as they are totally repugnant to the desire you profess of maintaining the Peace, that subsists between our Nations, and of observing a strict neutrality in the present contest between Great Britain & her Colonies. I am now to request, that your Excellency would cause an enquirey to be made into this affair, and you would exercise your authority in ordering that all the British Subjects, who have been made Prisoners on the Spanish Territory, to be immediately set at liberty, and that ample satisfaction be given for what they have suffered. I have taken the freedom, to enclose for your Excellency's perusal, two Articles of the Treaty concluded between England and Spain, at Cambray, 5th August 1529, which I conceive to have been ratified in all subsequent Treaties. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Copy, UklPR, Adm. 1/241. Addressed below the close: "His Excellency Don Barnardo de Galvez Gov^t of Louisiana." Docketed: "Captⁿ Fergusson's Letter/to Governor Galvez/29th March 1778/In S^r Peter Parker's Letter/Dated 27th July 1778."

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

March 1778
 Sunday 29th:

[Anchored in Cabo Isabela Bay, Santo Domingo]
 AM D^o. W^r [Light Winds & fair] Employed getting on b^d. the
 Rem^r of the Sloops Cargo. D^o. Sent on b^d. of her 4 Puncheons
 of Water Rum & Provision for a Petty officer & 13 Men for
 one Month, Arms & Amunition &^c. For a Tender¹ at 10. our
 1st. Lieu^t² took Command of her & went on board 1 Man
 more

[Anchored in Cabo Isabela Bay, Santo Domingo]
 D^o. W^r [PM] at 3 Saw a Sail to N^o.ward Sent the Tender in
 Chace

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. Sloop *Washington*. See Journal of H.M.S. *Niger*, Captain Robert Lambert, 28 Mar., above.
2. Lt. John Pakenham, R.N.

LOG OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *TYRANNICIDE*
 CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN

[*St. Pierre, Martinique*]

Remarks for Sunday March 29th. 1778—

These 24 Hours begins with a Fresh Breeze and pleasant Weather—
 at 7 AM weighed Anchor and Came to Sail at 9 AM the Cap^t came on Board at
 12 Went on Shore again in Cap^t Sampsons Barge our Vessell laying on & off the
 Harbour in Company with the Ship *Cumberland* Cap^t Collins¹ the Brig^t *Hazard* Cap^t
 S Sampson² and the Brig^t *Fairplay* Cap^t ——— Soames³

D, MSaE, Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide* (November 1777–May 1778).

1. Massachusetts privateer ship *Cumberland*, Capt. James Collins, commander.
2. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Hazard*, Capt. Simeon Samson, commander.
3. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Fair Play*, Capt. Isaac Somes, commander, of Gloucester, mounting 12 guns with a crew of 60 seamen, was commissioned on 17 July 1777 and was owned by Tristram Dalton, of Newburyport. DNA, PCC, item 196, vol. 4, p. 113.

March 30

THE BOSTON-GAZETTE, AND COUNTRY JOURNAL, MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1778

BOSTON, March 30.

. . . The Privateer Boat *Lively*,¹ mounting 6 Swivels, arrived safe in Port, from a
 Cruize, last Tuesday, and has taken two Prizes, a Brig and a Schooner, both of
 which are also arrived. The Invoice of the Brig's Cargo in Shoes, Hose and
 Cloathing, amounts to £.13,000 Sterling. . . .

Thursday last arrived safe in Port, the Prize Ship ——— Capt. ———, of 10 Guns
 and 20 Men. She was bound from New York for the West Indies, for a Cargo of
 Rum for Howe's Troops at New York; but taken by the Privateer Sloop
*Independence*² of this Port, Capt. Peter Pollard, after an obstinate Engagement of

five Glasses. The Captain of the Ship is badly wounded in two Places; and the brave Captain Pollard had Five of his Hands wounded, though not dangerous. . . .

1. Possibly Massachusetts privateer schooner *Lively*, Thomas Simmons, commander, mounting 2 carriage guns and 14 swivel guns, a crew of 30 men, owned by Samuel Page and Walter Price Bartlett, of Salem, which was commissioned on 22 Dec. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, pp. 193, 195.

2. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Independence*, mounting 10 carriage guns, a crew of 55 men, owned by Isaac Sears and Paschal Nelson Smith, of Boston, was commissioned on 31 Dec. 1777. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, pp. 131, 134.

THE NEW-YORK GAZETTE: AND THE WEEKLY MERCURY,

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1778

NEW-YORK, March 30.

. . . About a month since the rebel privateer *Rattle-Snake*, of 22 brass 6 pounders,¹ lay at anchor in Statia Road,² where one of his Majesty's sloops of war of 14 guns arrived accidentally,³ and finding the rebel ship there, sent a message to the Governor to know whether he meant to protect her; and if he did not, to order her directly to sea. The Dutch Governor acquainted the English Captain, that the *Rattle-Snake* came there in distress, but that she should depart in 48 hours: In the interim 8 sail of vessels appeared in the offing, when the English sloop of war stood out and took five of them, the other three escaping, when the *Rattle-Snake* took the favourable opportunity, and made her escape. . . .

The Rebels are now building 4 Gun Boats at Poughkeepsie, of 36 Feet Keel and 14 Feet Beam, to carry an 18 Pounder in their Bow, and for the Protection of the North River.—The Fort at West Point⁴ 6 Miles above Fort Montgomery, and on heights [*illegible*], and a large Chain and Booms, are providing for Hudson's River. . . .

One of the Frigates lately burnt at Fort Montgomery, the *Congress*,⁵ was 116 Feet Keel and 35 Feet Beam, and was pierced for 36 Guns; the other named the *Montgomery*,⁶ was 106 Feet Keel, and 32 and 1/2 Feet Beam, and was pierced for 32 Guns.

Since our last the following Prizes have been sent into this Port, viz.

The Ship *Hector*,⁷ from St. Maloes, for Virginia, with Salt and Dry Goods, taken the 11th of March, by the *Senegal*, Capt. Molloy.⁸

Ship *Jean, Andre*,⁹ from Bourdeaux, for Virginia, taken the 13th of the same Month, by his Majesty's Ship the *St. Albans*, Richard Onslow, Esq; Commander, laden with Salt, Cordage, and Dry Goods.

Snow *Le Noir*,¹⁰ from Bourdeaux, for Carolina, with Dry Goods, Brandy and Wine, by the *Carrysfort*, Richard Fanshaw,¹¹ Esq; Commander. And

The Schooner *Portsmouth*,¹² from Statia, for Virginia, with Rum and Dry Goods, taken the 13th of March, by the *Solebay*, Thomas Simmons, Esq; Commander.

Besides the above prizes, a large ship of 20 guns is run ashore and burnt in the Chesepeak by his Majesty's ships of war on that station.¹³

1. Pennsylvania privateer ship *Rattlesnake*, David McCulloch, commander. See NDAR 10: 373, 462, 463, 732, 733n, 737, 738n, 748, 810.

2. St. Eustatius roadstead.

3. See Lieutenant's Journal of H.M. Sloop *Ceres*, 31 Jan., and 2 Feb., above.
4. Fort Clinton.
5. Continental Navy frigate *Congress* (28 guns).
6. Continental Navy frigate *Montgomery* (24 guns).
7. French ship *Hector*, P. Parrie, master. Her prize papers give the master's name as Charles Porée. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/351/9. See Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 12 and 13 Mar., and Journal of H.M. Sloop *Senegal*, 13 Mar., above.
8. Comdr. Anthony James Pye Molloy, R.N.
9. French ship *Jean André*, Guillaume Coronet, master. Her prize papers give the master's name as Pierre Couronnet. UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/365/10. See Journal of H.M.S. *St. Albans*, 12 Mar., above.
10. French snow *Lanoir*, Louis Drouet, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Carysfort*, 2 Feb., above.
11. Capt. Robert Fanshawe, R.N.
12. Schooner *Portsmouth*, Richard Talbot, master. See Journal of H.M.S. *Solebay*, 13 Mar., above.
13. French ship *Tonnere*, L. Dessau, master, mounting 20 guns from Cape François to Chesapeake Bay. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Senegal*, 12 Mar., and Journal of H.M.S. *Richmond*, 12 Mar., above.

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD

[*Williamsburg*] Monday the 30th day of March 1778.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick store, deliver to Robert Hall ten quires of Cannon cartridge and five of musket paper, and two hundred and fifty pump Tacks for the use of the *Henry Galley*.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public magazine, deliver to Robert Hall two hundred gun flints seven pound of Lead, and one iron pot for the use of the *Henry Galley*.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick store, deliver to Captain William Saunders, one two hour glass, five hundred spike nails, five hundred double tens, half dozen gimblets and ten quire of cannon cartridge paper for the use of the *Manley Galley*.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt, deliver to Captain William Saunders ensign and pendant halyards, ten skeins of marline, one seven inch cable, one coil of spun-yarn three barrels of flour, three gallons of Lintseed oil, and one hundred gallons of rum for the use of the *Manley Galley*.—

Ordered that Mr James Southall, deliver to Captain William Saunders fifteen pounds of match Rope for the use of the *Manley Galley*.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the publick Magazine, deliver to Captain William Saunders one hundred pound of powder for the use of the *Manley Galley*.—

Ordered that Mr Jn^o. Rollinson, deliver to Mr Isaac Mercer two hundred eighteen pound Ball, and six hundred six pound ditto, for the use of the ship *Casewell*.—¹

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 372.

1. Virginia Navy galley *Casewell*.

PRESIDENT RAWLINS LOWNDES OF SOUTH CAROLINA TO
PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

[Extract]

Dr Sir

As this Man has been so kind of his own accord to call upon me to know if I had any letter for York, being to set off early to morrow morning express from Mr Livingston—I take the liberty to Inclose you a printed Copy of our Constitution,² this instant come from the Press

The Melancholy news of the loss of the *Randolph* has reached us by the prize Master of a small Schooner from New York which was captured by poor Biddle³ he was witness to the dreadful scene when the *Randolph* Blew up in the Engagement, which a Letter from Capt Wm Hall in a Brig in the service of our State⁴ and under the Command of the *Randolph* thus describes “Lat 17°.. 54' N “Long 55° 18 W 8th. March⁵ made a Sail to Windward bearing E.N.E. 9 Leagues, gave Chace at 5 she proved to be very large,⁶ she bore down to us and at 7 pm. fired a Gun to bring us to and then haled the *Moultrie*⁷ who answered them, I being under the *Moultrie*'s lee quarter the *Randolph* upon the *Moultries* Weather Bow, the *Polley*⁸ to Windward of the two, and the *Fair American*⁹ to Leeward of me—the Enemy shot by the *Moultrie* and continued towards the *Randolph*, the *Randolph* hove out no Signal for hauling in a Line of Battle, but laid her Mizen Top Sail to the Mast and got in readiness for engagem^t—the *General Moultrie* being to Windward of me I could not get to Windward to get up in the *Randolph*'s wake, with that I laid my Main top sail to the mast for the *General Moultrie* to shoot ahead, we being then with our Starboard tack on board, by this time the Enemy got so near the *Randolph* as to hail her,¹⁰ and that the *Randolph* luffed up in the Wind and brought her Quarter & Quarter deck Guns to bear upon the Enemy and discharged them—with that I immediately gave the Enemy a broad side, the Enemy took the advantage of the *Randolph* & Shot up to windward of her and gave her a broadside and so continued for 12 minutes the *General Moultrie* & myself being within 100 Yards of the Enemy began to engage when I exchanged the broadsides at her; by this time the *Randolph* Blew up, and I thought it was best for me to make the best of my way clear of her, as soon as the *Randolph* blew up she immediately gave chace to the *General Moultrie* and myself so I stood away to the Westward, & the *General Moultrie* to the Southward to get clear of her—I found before she engaged that she had a flag hoisted at her fore topmast head & a high poop which I take to be a 40 or 50 Gun Ship—the *Randolph* disabled the Enemy much she shot away the Mizen top mast and Boltsprit—I could not Sir help giving you the particulars of this really distressing and Affecting affair as the Letter lies on my desk before me from whence I have extracted the article—50 of the best Men in the first Regiment were on board of her¹¹ and Several very promising Youths of this Country who have thus immaturely fallen in their Countrys Service the four Vessels in Company with the *Randolph* above alluded to, were those fitted out by this Country and put under the sole direction of Biddle for the Express purpose of clearing our Coast, which has been for several Months annoyed by one, two and sometimes 3 Vessels—her taking so large a circuit was incompatible in my opinion with his destination, and the Views of Governm^t and has left us now without any Recourse from the Evil, which we every day feel the effects of. . .

About three days ago a Flag of Truce was despatched to St Augustine with 45 prisoners of War, to exchange as many of our unfortunate people as we can procure for them

I wish some means could be devised to obtain the enlargement of Pickering¹² and his Men who suffer rigorously at New York—I saw a Letter lately from one of his Officers complaining in very affecting terms of their treatment

You will Excuse this hasty indigested Epistle by Candle light which I meant only to cover you the Constitution

I am with Respect Sir [&c.]

Raw^s Lowndes

30 March 1778

Chas Town

LB, Schi, Henry Laurens Papers, Copy Book, 1777–1785, pp. 167–68 (SCHS No. 16, roll 9).

1. Abraham Livingston, Continental Agent for South Carolina.
2. On 6 Mar. 1778 the South Carolina Legislative Council and General Assembly adopted a new constitution, which, among other provisions, disestablished the Church of England, created a publicly elected senate in place of the legislative council, and removed the president's veto power. Believing his retaining the presidency incompatible with having sworn to uphold the "temporary" Constitution of 26 Mar. 1776, John Rutledge had resigned the previous day. After Arthur Middleton declined the position, the legislature chose Rawlins Lowndes president. Edward McCrady, *The History of South Carolina in the Revolution, 1775–1780* (New York: Macmillan, 1901; reprint ed. New York: Russell & Russell, 1969), 235–41.
3. The prize schooner, Midn. Simeon Fanning, prize master, was taken on 28 Feb. by Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*, and arrived at Charleston on 27 Mar. *Connecticut Journal*, 13 May 1778.
4. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame* (16 guns).
5. A version of Capt. William Hall's letter, dated 9 Mar., was printed by *The Connecticut Journal*, 13 May 1778, and gives the date of the engagement as 7 Mar. See "Extract of a Letter from on board the State Brig *Notre Dame*, dated Lat. 13 Long. 57. March 9, 1778," above.
6. H.M.S. *Yarmouth* (64 guns), Capt. Nicholas Vincent, commander.
7. South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie* (18 guns), Capt. Philip Sullivan, commander.
8. South Carolina privateer brigantine *Polly* (16 guns), Capt. Hezekiah Anthony, commander.
9. South Carolina privateer brigantine *Fair American* (14 guns), Capt. Charles Morgan, commander.
10. According to a crewman of the *Notre Dame*, H.M.S. *Yarmouth* hailed the *Randolph* as "The *Portland*." *Connecticut Journal*, 13 May 1778.
11. Capt. Joseph Ioor and his company from the 1st South Carolina Continental Regiment who were serving as marines on the *Randolph*. McCrady, op. cit., 1: 235.
12. Capt. Thomas Pickering, who commanded South Carolina Navy brigantine *Defence*, which was captured by H.M.S. *Roebuck* on 2 Apr. 1777. See NDAR 8: 256, 257, 330–31, 366–67, 1056.

LOG OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *TYRANNICIDE*,
CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN

[*St. Pierre, Martinique*]

Remarks on Monday March 30th. 1778—

These 24 Hours begins with a Moderate Breeze & pleasant Weather the Brig^t continuing to lay off & on at 6 PM the *Cumberland* & *Fairplay*¹ made Sail and left us Latter Part a Fresh Breeze of Wind Spoke with Cap^t Hallet² in the Brig^t *America*³ ~~from~~ belonging to Boston from a Cruize and not taken any Thing

D, MSaE, Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide* (November 1777–May 1778).

1. Massachusetts privateers. See Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide*, 29 Mar., above.
2. Capt. John Allen Hallet, of Boston.
3. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *America*, mounting 16 guns with a crew of 80 seamen, was commissioned on 24 Dec. 1777 and was owned by Thomas Harris and David Devens, of Boston. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 5, pp. 14, 15.

GOVERNOR MARQUIS DE BOUILLÉ TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

N^o. 163.à la martinique le 30. mars 1778.Dup^a

Monseigneur

J'ai l'honneur de vous instruire que le 20. de ce mois une frégate angloise poursuivit un Bâtiment ameriquain sur la côte de la martinique; au nord de st. Pierre. ce Bâtiment vint se réfugier sous les Batteries situées dans cette partie qui tirèrent un grand nombre de coups de canon sur la frégate angloise qui ne S'éloignat que quand quelques boulets eurent porté à son bord et qu'elle vit la frégate l'*Etourdie* commandée par M. de Montbas,¹ qui, au bruit du canon, avoit appareillé de st. Pierre et qui la chassa jusques sur les côtes de la Dominique.²

ce bâtiment américain, chargé de denrée de la nouvelle angleterre, est entré à st. Pierre.

un Bâtiment nantois nommé la *Jeune hébé*, expédié de ce port pour Nantes, a été arrêté hors des débouquemens jusqu'où il avoit été convoyé par une frégate³ commandée par M. de Jassaud,⁴ par un corsaire anglois et conduit à antigue[.] l'Equipage a été mise aux fers, la cargaison dans laquelle Il se trouve quelques boucauts de Tabac, débarquée, et la procédure intentée contre le navire que le anglois prétendent être une prise faite sur les américains et achetée à nantes. J'ai écrit au Gouverneur⁵ une lettre tr[es] forte à ce sujet, où Je le menace d'arrêter les Batiments anglois, ainsi que les particuliers de cette nation qui sont ici.

depuis quinze Jours les anglois ont enlevés sur nos côtes et même dans nos anses, huit ou dix bâtimens américains et fouillent tous les françois et caboteurs. les frégates françoises ne croisent pas assez, et l'ordre établi par les Instructions ne pas exactement suivi: Je l'ai représenté à M. de Dampierre⁶ mais c'est tout ce que Je peux faire. Je Suis avec respect Monseigneur [&c.]

Boüillé

[Translation]

N^o. 163.

at Martinique the 30th March 1778.

Duplicate.

My Lord

I have the honor to inform you that on the 20th of this month an English frigate pursued an American Ship to the coast of Martinique, to the north of St. Pierre. This Ship came to take refuge under the Batteries situated at that place which fired a large number of cannon shots at the English frigate, which only withdrew after several cannon balls struck on board, and when she saw the frigate the *Etourdie*, commanded by M. de Montbas,¹ who, upon the sound of cannon shots, had got under way from St. Pierre and chased her to the coasts of Dominica.²

this American ship, loaded with provisions from New England, has come into St. Pierre.

a Ship from Nantes named the *Jeune Hébé*, cleared from this port for Nantes, has been stopped outside of St. Pierre Channel, to which she had been convoyed by a frigate³ commmanded by M. de Jassaud,⁴ by an English privateer and taken to Antigua. The Crew had been put in irons, the cargo in which was found some casks of tobacco has been landed, and proceedings have been brought against the ship, which the English pretend to be a prize, taken by the Americans, and pur-

chased at Nantes. I have written to the Governor⁵ a very strong letter on this subject, in which I threatened to detain English Ships, as well as individuals of that nation who are here.

for fifteen Days the English have seized and carried off from our coasts and even our small bays, eight or ten American ships and have ransacked all French ships and coasting vessels. The French frigates do not cruize enough, and the order established by the Instructions is not followed precisely. I have pointed this out to M. de Dampierre⁶ but that is all that I can do. I am with respect, My Lord
[&c.]

Boüillé

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fol. 232. Notation: "mettre à M. de fleurieu"; "R le 21 aout du B^{am}. du M. de la frenay"; "*Jeune Hebé*".

1. Lieutenant de Vaisseau Gabriel-François-Xavier Barthon, Marquis de Montbas.
2. See Journal of H.M. Sloop *Grasshopper*, 19 Mar., and Journal of French Navy Frigate *Etourdie*, 19–20 Mar., above.
3. French Navy frigate *Amphitrite* (30 guns), stationed at Saint-Domingue.
4. Lieutenant de vaisseau André-Charles, Chevalier de Jassaud de Thorame.
5. William Mathew Burt, governor of the British Leeward Islands.
6. Capitaine de vaisseau Charles Picot, Chevalier de Dampierre, commanding the naval squadron at Martinique.

EXTRACT FROM THE JOURNAL OF FRENCH NAVY FRIGATE *TOURTERELLE*,
CAPITAINE DE VAISSEAU FRANÇOIS, CHEVALIER DE LA LAURENCIE

[*Canal de Ste. Lucie*] Le 30. Vû un Bâtiment de l'avant à nous qui avait apparence d'être bâtiment de guerre, ordonné le branle bas et couru à la rencontre. C'était la Frégate la *Blanche* qui m'a annoncé, que le Vaisseau le *Prothée* croisait avec elle—l'avant apperçu j'ai été prendre les ordres de M. le Ch^{ev} Dampierre qui ma prescrit d'aller prendre un Convoi à S^t Pierre, J'ai fait route aussitôt pour me rendre au mouillage.

[Translation]

[*St. Lucia Channel*] March 30. Having seen a ship before us that had the appearance of a ship of war, I ordered the decks cleared for action and sailed to meet it. It was the frigate *Blanche*, which informed me that the ship of the line *Protée* cruised with her; I learned that I had been given orders by the Chevalier de Dampierre which instructed me to go pick up a convoy at St. Pierre; I sailed immediately for the anchorage.

Copy, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 140, fol. 88. "Extrait du Journal de la campagne La *Tourterelle*."

March 31

RETURN OF CARPENTERS AND LABORERS WHO WORKED
ON THE SHIP OF THE LINE *AMERICA*

A Return of Carpenters & Labourers Work Building
the Continentall Ship of Seventy four Guns
at the Hon^{ble}. John Langdon's Island
from Oct^r 4th. 1777 untill March 31st. 1778

Joseph Ham	139	@9/	£62..11.. 0
W ^m Hackett	25½	@9/	11.. 9.. 6
W ^m Badger	22½	@6/6	7..06.. 3
Jacob Persons	22½	6/6	7..06.. 3
Walter Shute	21½	6/6	6..19.. 9
Joseph Dearen	114	6/6	37.. 1.. 0
Jonath ⁿ Nelson	00	—	0.. 0.. 0
Gabriel Hale	151	6/	45.. 6.. 0
John Bond	111½	5/6	30..13.. 3
Joshua Jones	150	6/6	48..15.. 0
James Jones	127	6/6	41.. 5.. 6
Josiah Beal	0	—	<u>0.. 0.. 0</u>

298..13.. 6

Roger Rackley	16½	6/6	5.. 7.. 3
Tho ^s . Preist	45	5/	11.. 5.. 0
W ^m Waldron	0	—	0.. 0.. 0
Joseph Shaw	74	7/	25..18.. 0
Joseph Shaw	95	5/	23..15.. 0
Tho ^s . Flawd	148½	5	37.. 2.. 6
Thomas Sherburne	24	4/	4..16.. 0
John Frost	32	4/	6.. 8.. 0
John Spinney J ^r	3	3/6	0..10.. 6
Cesar Gerritt	20	4/	4.. 0.. 0
Paid Joseph Dearen for Board for 16 Sundays			0..16.. 0
To my Supertending from May 10 th . untill March 31 st . 1778			261.. 0.. 0
290 days @ 18/—			
To 41 Weeks Board @48/			<u>98.. 8.. 0</u>
			479.. 6.. 3
			<u>298..13.. 6</u>
			£777..19.. 9

D, PHi, John Langdon Papers. John Langdon was the Continental Agent at Portsmouth, N.H., and was therefore responsible for superintending the construction of the 74-gun ship of the line building there.

JOHN BRADFORD TO ROBERT MORRIS

Dear Sir,

Boston 31st March 1778

I beg leave to acquaint you that Cap^t Lewis a few Days since applied for one thousand pounds which compleats the Sum you mention I may advance, that poor Gentleman has been confin'd all Winter with a Dissentry, & I am fearful he is not out of Danger yet. I inclose you his first Bill for that Sum, which I've debited your Acc^t with. We are in this Town in a most melancholly Situation, a number of large Ships, Briggs & other smaller Vessells fitting out as Cruizers & scarcely a man to be found to go on Board either. The town a second time made an innoculating Hospital, the illiberal Spirit of the Farmers is beyond Belief, loosing even first principles they extort from us from two to three Shillings P^r pound for mutton & Veal and other Articles in proportion, the Labourer we are obliged to compassionate & give him 20/ P^r Day, the Tradesmen Stock bears a Proportion, & they charge accordingly, in short such is the Situation of things here, that Procrastination, which I always thought would save us, I now begin to fear will loose our Cause—We are not without favourable Events—The *Warren* Frigate got safe out of Port & after a short Cruise return'd here, with the Plunder of one or two prizes she took, which afforded Supplies of a Number of Articles much Wanted, neither of her Prizes¹ are yet got in; that fine Frigate is now laying at the Wharf with not a Soul on Board, excepting a few Prisoners taken out off the Prizes, & a very few Officers—When the Frenchmen here are glutted with Ships we may expect to buy them at par; but they stick at no Price, and truly while they sell their Goods at such an exorbitant advance they may afford to give double the Value of a Vessel, one of that Class of Men the other Day gave £6100 for the Ship *Lady Gage*² formerly employ'd between London & [New] York, however such is the Parsimony of our Farmers that those french Adventurers now find it difficult to vend their Goods, & will soon be obliged to be more cautious of gaming too high, I am not unmindful of your orders to purchase a Vessel, & hope I shall accomplish it to your Satisfaction Cap^t Hopkins³ tells me the Snow he took sails fast, and we are hourly expecting her. I've at last got away the *Dispatch*⁴ after being long detain'd by contrary Winds I hope soon to write you again yours &c

J B

LB, DLC, John Bradford Letter Books, vol. 2, pp. 120–21. Addressed at top: "Hon^{ble} Rob^t Morris Esq^r"

1. *Warren's* prizes were the ship *Neptune*, J. Smallwood, master, from Whitehaven to Philadelphia, with salt and dry goods, which H.M.S. *Orpheus* recaptured on Mar. 26 (Howe's Prize List, 30 Oct. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 486–87), and an unidentified snow, — Smith, master, from St. Eustatius to Bristol or Ireland, with flax seed and fustic, which arrived safe at Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.

2. Ship *Lady Gage*, Joseph Royal Loring, master, with wine, port and brandy, taken by Massachusetts privateer ship *Cumberland*, James Collins, commander, in early Jan. and sent into Falmouth, Me. See libel in *The Boston-Gazette, and Country Journal*, 19 Jan., above.

3. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, Continental Navy.

4. Continental packet brigantine, Lt. John Brown, Continental Navy, commander.

JAMES ADAMSON TO GOVERNOR NICHOLAS COOKE

Sir.

Providence March 31st 1778.

The Subscriber¹ in behalf of M^r Jonathan Waldron of Taunton in the State of Massachusetts Bay Merchant requests your Excellency to grant a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal to him as Commander of the Schooner *Congress*, of

which the said Jonathan together with M^r George House² are Owners. She is burthened about Fifteen Tons carries Eight Swivel Guns, manned with Twenty Men, and fitted with a suitable Quantity of Muskets Blunderbusses Cutlasses Pistols, Blunderbusses, Powder Ball and other Military Stores. She hath on board Two bbls Beef and Pork Three barrels Bread and one barrel of Flour. John Scranton³ is First Lieutenant and Alexander Adamson is Master of said Schooner. I am with great Respect [&c.]

James Adamson

L, R-Ar, Maritime Papers, Letters of Marque (1776–1780), Petitions and Instructions, p. 68. Addressed at bottom: “His Excellency Nicholas Cooke Esqr.” The commission with instructions precedes the petition.

1. Midshipman in Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
2. Acting third lieutenant of Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.
3. Midshipman in Continental Navy sloop *Providence*.

JOHN DESHON TO JOSHUA HUNTINGTON

Dear Sir

New London March 31st 1778.

I Rec'd your Favour yesterday and Note the Contents I have had great dependance on having the Guns from Salsbury furnis. I now wish we had the Mold back again, you will pleas to order it back as Soon as posable. I send you a quantity of Cordige Suitable for the Frigate you are now Carying on:¹ it is time to look out for men to fix her Riging this Cordige falling in, will be a Very Great Saving to the publick as Carting is Costly and Difficult to be got. the men that fixed Mr. Shaws Ships Rigging² will be Suitable me[*n*] to fix ours.

I wish you would take particular acco't of the Cordige as you Rec'e it into Store. if any more Riging Comes to your hand Store it. the *Trumbull* lay at Seabrook yesterday last Evening was a Very high tide hope She is over the barr. the Ship *Callombus* run a ground by which means She is lost Excepting her Cables anchors small arms Running Riging Sails etc., hull and Standing Riging Burnt.

I should have gone to Seabrook Monday but was much not well, besides Capt'n Cotton³ does not want me, I am told. I am your Friend and Humble Servant

John Deshon

Connecticut Historical Society *Collections* 20: 84–85.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Confederacy*.
2. Refers to the riggers of Nathaniel Shaw, Jr.'s, privateer ship *General Putnam*, fitting out at New London.
3. Capt. John Cotton, supervisor of getting Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull* over Saybrook Bar.

BRIGADIER GENERAL EDWARD HAND TO COLONEL GEORGE MORGAN

Sir

Fort Pitt 31st March 1778.

The Hon^{ble}. Commissioners appointed by Congress to repair to this place for various purposes have recommended the building Six Boats to carry one four Pounder each, & otherwise calculated for War, to secure the navigation of the Ohio River from Port to Port. as you have had the Direction of the Boats already built here I beg you may take the necessary Steps towards the Speedy building of

these Armed Boats—The Demensions & Construction I must leave to your self who are a better Judge than I can possibly be. I am [&c.]

Edward Hand
(Copy)

Copy, ScHi, Henry Laurens Papers, Letters to Henry Laurens chiefly concerning official business, 1778, 17 (SCHS No. 17). Docketed: "Edward Hand to/George Morgan/31st. March 1778."

COLONEL GEORGE MORGAN TO COLONEL WILLIAM BUCHANAN

Sir, [Fort Pitt] March 31st. 1778—

Since writing the foregoing¹ I have received an unexpected Requisition from General Hand a Copy of which I inclose to you. I therefore take the liberty to request you will do me the favour to contract with & send to this place four Boat or Ship Carpenters & the articles mention'd below as early as possible.

Tomorrow I shall give directions respecting the Crooked Timber & Plank—And as we have every necessary Tool here the Carpenters need wait for nothing, nor to bring more with them than their Cloaths & Blankets. I hope you will excuse my troubling you on this business & that you will be so good as to advance the necessary money until I come down.

M^r [blank] Stewart (Father to Major Stewart taken on Staten Island)² proposed to me the building of arm'd Boats on the Ohio & I believe would undertake the six Boats now order'd that he might acquire a more perfect knowledge of the Country & for a better Judgment of his proposed private undertaking.

As he has a number of his own Workmen I think it would be well to send an Express to him on this business, requesting his attendance at York if he inclines to undertake the business.

A considerable number of other Boats will be wanted as I formerly wrote to you but I have received no orders respecting them. I am with respect &c.—

[P.S.] For your information I inclose to you the Contract of the Carpenters who built the last thirty Boats. I could wish the article of Rum to be left out if possible in the new Contract but I would not let this delay the Business—The Workmen & Materials may be directed in case of my absence to M^r Joseph Skelton.

The Materials wanted will be

Rudder Irons & Pintles

Six Pump Spears & Boxes,

Six large Ring Bolts

12 Iron Potts for Cabouses—

1 large d^o: to boil Pitch in & two Ladles—

Two thousand weight of Deck Nails & Spikes assorted—

Canvas & Blocks necessary: for Sails—

Cordage for d^o:—& for Cables.—

12 Barrels of Pitch—

2 d^o: Turpentine—

600 lb Oakum

Sail Twine

Sail Needles

500 lb largest Rod Iron—

6 Rheams of Paper—	}	for the Commissary's Department
2 doz: Ink Powder—		
4 hundred Quills—		
1 lb Sealing Wax—		
1 lb Wafers—		
2 good Penknives—		

at Beaver Creek I doubt not Congress are fully inform'd of by General Hand to whose Letters I beg leave to refer & remain with the greatest respect &c—

Sir,

Since writing the foregoing I have received an unexpected Requisition from General Hand, a Copy of which I inclose³

I am taking the necessary measures to comply with the General's order—to enable me to do this Business I must beg the favour of Congress to send to me by the Bearer James M^cClelland who goes Express for the Commissioners four thousand Dollars. I am with great Respect &c.

LB, PPI, George Morgan Letter Book, vol. 3, pp. 32–35. Addressed at top: "To Colonel William Buchanan/Commissary General of Purchases." Buchanan resigned his command on 23 Mar. and was succeeded by Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth on 9 Apr. 1778.

1. Col. George Morgan to Col. William Buchanan, 31 Mar., *ibid.* This letter is not printed.
2. Maj. John Stewart, taken prisoner on Staten Island, 22 Aug. 1777. He was later awarded a medal by Congress for leading an assault on Stony Point.
3. Immediately above.

CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD OF THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT
TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Continental Navy Board
Borden Town 31 Mar: 1778—

Sir/

M. Morton¹ having engaged a Brigade of Waggons to convey some Indian meal to Camp and not having Employ for all the Waggons we take the Opportunity of forwarding 13 Hogsheads of Salt Fish, being part of the Supplies we mentioned to your Excellency in our last,² intended for the Use of the Army. The Remainder consisting of Rice, Oil, Beef, Pork, Salt Vinegar &c &c should be forwarded as soon as this Brigade returns or another can be procured.

We wish to know to whom we shall address these Supplies, in Order that proper Receipts may be obtained for our Vindication We have the Honour to be [&c.]

Fras Hopkinson
John Wharton

P: S: It would give us great Satisfaction to hear there was any Probability of Cap^t Robinsons³ Release, so unjustly imprisoned at Philad^a

L, DLC, George Washington Papers, Series 4.

1. Probably George Morton, assistant commissary of issues at Bordentown. DNA, PCC, item 192, p. 457 (M247, roll 199).

2. See Continental Navy Board of the Middle Department to General George Washington, 24 Mar., above.

3. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy.

MINUTES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

[Extract]

The Council met

Lancaster, Tuesday, March 31, 1778.

... And the following Orders were drawn on the Treasurer. Viz. . . . In favor of Will^m. C. Bradford, for the Sum of Two thousand Pounds, for paying the Fleet, for which he is to account. . . .

D, PHarH, RG 27, Minute Books of the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council, vol. 6, 240.

JOURNAL OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

[York, Pa.] Tuesday, March 31, 1778

A letter of 26 February, from D. Cottineau,¹ captain of the ship *Ferdinand*, at Cape Lookout, North Carolina, with an invoice of her cargo, was read:

Resolved, That the Committee of Commerce be authorized, after a conference with the Board of War and the Marine Committee, to purchase such articles of the cargo as they shall deem expedient for the public service.

Ordered, That the letter be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. Duer, Mr. Chase, and Mr. F L Lee.

The Committee of Commerce, to whom was referred the letter from Mr. Gillon,² brought in a report; Whereupon,

Resolved, That, as Mr. Gillon hath accepted of an appointment to command the navy of the State of South Carolina, and Congress have empowered their commissioner at Paris to appoint agents to transact the commercial affairs of these states, it is inexpedient to proceed upon his contract.³

JCC 10: 297–98.

1. See Denis Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen to General George Washington, 26 Feb., above.

2. See *NDAR* 10: 550–51. For the contract offered by Congress, see *NDAR* 10: 626–27.

3. *Commo*. Alexander Gillon anticipated the conflict between his contractual obligations and his naval duties. For his views, see Alexander Gillon to President of Congress, 4 Mar., above.

NARRATIVE OF LIEUTENANT LUKE MATTHEWMAN

[Extract]

[Delaware River, 1 January to 31 March 1778]

... On my arrival at Bordentown, I was made Commissary for the seamen of the late fleet, and with Captain Robinson,¹ had the conducting of the famous battle of the Kegs, after which Captain Barry and myself, in two barges, passed Philadelphia through the ice, where we captured a British schooner of eight guns,² and two ships,³ one of six guns, after a running fight of three hours. Those vessels we were obliged to destroy, being shortly after pursued by two frigates.⁴ In those barges we cruised until the middle of April, preventing any communication from the country with the enemy by water, and was greatly accessary in the preservation of General Wayne and his party, with near one thousand head of cattle, which he had collected in the Jersies near Salem. The enemy having intelligence of Gen. Wayne, landed near 1500 men in the Jersies; in consequence of which, Gen. Wayne consulted Captain J. Barry and myself, being then at Salem. It was judged

necessary to fire all the forage on the Jersey side of the river, which would naturally draw the enemy that way, whilst he (General Wayne) by heading the creeks, might march around to the back of them. This plan was put in immediate execution, and effected to our wish; the enemy making their appearance, as we had nearly finished our work.⁵ Gen. Wayne having saved all his stock, returned, collected the Militia, and galled their retreat.⁶ After laying up the barges, we went to Senepuxent on business. . . .

"Narrative of Lieut. Luke Matthewman of the Revolutionary Navy From the *New York Packet*, 1787." *The Magazine of American History, with Notes and Queries* (New York and Chicago: A. S. Barnes & Company, 1878), 2, part 1, 178.

1. Capt. Isaiah Robinson, Continental Navy.
2. British Army armed schooner *Alert*, Daniel Moore, master.
3. Transport ship *Kitty*, J. Mallet, master, and transport ship *Mermaid*, J. Youart, master, mounting six 4-pounders.
4. H.M.S. *Experiment* (50 guns) and H.M. frigate *Brune*.
5. See Brigadier General Anthony Wayne to Captain John Barry, 23 Feb., Brigadier General Anthony Wayne to General George Washington, 25 Feb., and Captain John Barry to General George Washington, 26 Feb., above.
6. See Brigadier General Anthony Wayne to General George Washington, 26 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF THE MARYLAND COUNCIL

[Annapolis] Tuesday 31st March 1778.

George Piercy of Saint Marys County, George Turnbull of Baltimore County Richard Goodwin, John Reynolds, Thomas Robinson son of Ch^s of Ann Arundel County John Cox, James Boyle, John Crapper, Thomas Howard, John Chevear of the *Baltimore* Galley and John Hanson of the *Independence* Galley took the Oath of Fidelity and Support to this State according to the late Act & Certificates given. . . .

It appearing to this Board from the Evidence of John Cox, John Crapper and others given on Oath that John Green lately of the *Baltimore* Galley did at several Times and on Several Occasions on board the said Galley Damn the Congress and the Governor and Council that he declared he had rather drink the Kings Health in Water than the Health of the Congress in Punch and that he huzza'd for King George—This Board adjudge that it may be dangerous to this State to suffer him the said John Green to go at large wherefore it is Ordered that he give Bond with good Security payable to this State in the Penalty of two hundred & fifty Pounds Current Money Conditioned for his behaving himself as a good true and faithful Subject of this State but for want of such Security he is committed to the Custody of the Sheriff of Ann Arundel County there to remain til duly discharged there from Bond was afterwards given and the said John Green is thereupon Discharged—

D, MdAA, Governor and Council (Proceedings) 1777–1779, SM 123-22, M 3156-3.

"VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND"

[Annapolis] Tuesday, March 31, 1778.

Ordered, That capt. John David appear before this house to-morrow morning, to give information respecting the capture of the ship *Lydia*.¹ Ordered, That the sergeant at arms serve capt. David with a copy of the above order.

Votes and Proceedings of the House of Delegates of the State of Maryland, March Session, 1778 [Annapolis, 1778], p. 83.

1. *Lydia* was captured on 9 Feb. 1778 by H.M.S. *Richmond* and H.M.S. *Solebay*. For accounts of her capture see *Journal of H.M.S. Richmond*, 9 Feb.; *Journal of H.M.S. Solebay*, 9 Feb.; Colonel Richard Barnes to Governor Thomas Johnson, Jr., 10 Feb.; and Colonel Vernon Hebb to Colonel Richard Barnes, 10 Feb., above.

CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL, R.N., TO CAPTAIN RICHARD ONSLOW, R.N.

Emerald off the Tail of Horse Shoe 31st March 1778.

My Dear Sir.

I have great pleasure to inform you, of our having taking the *Virginia* this Morning;¹ she left Annapolis yestherday, and got upon the middle Ground in the Night, and knocked Her Rudder of[*f*], which is lost; the Captain² went on Shore in the Barge; She has from 140 to 170 Men on board, makes much water, but expect to be able, to get Her into Lynn Haven Bay, and keep her afloat. The *Solebay* slipt in the Night, and hope She is gone after a Ten Gun Brig,³ that came down with her;—The *Otter* could not ride, and was obliged to Slip on Sunday Evening.

The *Richmond* has joined me this morning, and our Friend Gidoin, brings an account, that he saw a large Ship Yestherday Evening, close in with the Land, and working into York River; thinks from Her size, that it is not unlikely to be the Ship, that we heard of, had 500 Hogsheads of Tobacco on board; that as soon as it was dark, he directed the *Dunmoor* to work close in Shore, so as to watch her motions, but did not see any thing of her this morning, therefore concludes that She got into York River, or out; the officers of the *Virginia*, denies its being their Ship, or knowing any thing of any other; I wish the *Senegal* to join me as soon as possible, and if you approve of it, She with the *Richmond*, may go up the Bay and look after her.

Captain Gidoin has brought 99 men for General Howe, and there are 300 more ready, when a Ship goes for them.⁴ I am [&c.]

B. C.

LB, UKLNMM, Benjamin Caldwell Papers, CAL/110, p. 18. Addressed at the foot: "To/Captⁿ Onslow/S^r Albans."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*. See *Journal of H.M.S. Emerald*, 31 Mar., immediately below.
2. Capt. James Nicholson, Continental Navy.
3. Unidentified brig.
4. Caldwell is referring to Loyalist recruits.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *EMERALD*, CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CALDWELL

March 1778
Tuesday 31st

[Cape Henry SSE. Cape Charles ENE. Willoby's Point WSW] at ½ past One AM saw the *Solebay* slip, and supposed to be in Chace of a Vessel runing out, at 5 AM saw a Sail at Anchor with her Sails loose to the Eastward of us, clear'd Ship for Action; at 8 AM upon the Floods Making, weigh'd and stood towards her; she hoisted Rebel Colours, at 9 AM fired a Six pounder at her, upon which She struck her Colours, sent a Boat onboard her; which found her to be the Rebel Frigate *Virginia* of 30 Guns,

and 159 Men; who had knocked her Rudder of[*f*] upon the Middle Ground,¹ at 10 AM the *Richmond* Joined us, at Noon employed bringing the Prisoners onboard.

[Cape Henry SSE. Cape Charles ENE. Willoby's Point WSW] Moderate and Cloudy Weather, [*PM*] employed bringing the prisoners on board; punished Bartholomew Kelly with 12 Lashes, for quarreling and fighting; weigh'd and made Sail with the Prize.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/311.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Capt. James Nicholson, commander, owned by the Continental Congress, mounting 30 guns, a crew of 170 men, from Baltimore, on a cruise, taken in Chesapeake Bay. Howe's Prize List, 23 Apr. 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 240-41. *Virginia* was sent to New York City, was libelled on 6 May in the Vice Admiralty Court of New York, and was condemned as a lawful prize of *Emerald* on 29 May 1778. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fols. 91, 127-29. Because *St. Albans*, *Richmond*, *Senegal*, and *Ariel* were in sight at the time of the capture, her prize shares were divided with those ships. UKLPR, H.C.A. 49/94, fol. 129. Her prize papers are in UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/475/14.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *RICHMOND*, CAPTAIN JOHN LEWIS GIDOIN

March 1778
Tuesday 31

Cape Charles East

AM one of the Ships below m^d pte Sig^{ll} which we ans^d. & weigh^d. as did the *Dunmore*, & came to Sail, perceived a Ship near the *Emerald* with Rebel Colours, which proved to be the *Virginia*, rebel Frigate.² at ½ p^t. 11 An^d. w^h. B^t. B^r.³ in 5 f^m. Cape Henry SSE 6 or 8 miles—

Cape Henry SSE 6 or 8 Miles

Mod^t. W^r. [*PM*] Boats Emp^d. bringing prisoners from the *Virginia* Departed this Life, W^m Stubbs Carpenter,

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/784.

1. I.e., made private Signal.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Capt. James Nicholson, commander. See note to Journal of H.M.S. *Emerald*, immediately above.

3. I.e., anchored with best bower.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *SENEGAL*, COMMANDER ANTHONY J. P. MOLLOY

March 1778
Tuesday 31

At anchor in Hampton road, [*Old*] Point Comfort NNE. 3 Miles.—

At 10 AM the *Emerald* Anchored in Lynnhaven bay with the *Virginia* Frigate from Baltimore who struck on the Middle ground & lost her Rudder.¹ Released the Boatswain upon promise of future Amendment

At anchor in Hampton road, [*Old*] Point Comfort NNE. 3 Miles.—

Light winds & clear wea^r P.M. emp^d. on Sundrys.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/885.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Capt. James Nicholson, commander. See note to Journal of H.M.S. *Emerald* for 31 Mar., above.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM MOULTRIE ON THE FITTING OUT OF THE
RANDOLPH'S SQUADRON AND HER LOSS

[*Charleston, January to March 1778*]

In conversation with the president,¹ respecting the naval armament; he assured me, that there were a number of vessels expected in, every day, with military stores, and other articles which we were very much in want of; that unless the men-of-war were driven from our coast, they could not possibly get in; and also, by our vessel[s] taking a short cruize, they might pick up a prize or two of some English ships out-ward bound to the West-Indies, loaded with such stores as we wanted.

These reasons induced me to alter my opinion from the council of war.²

Our little fleet consisted of the *Randolph* frigate, of 36 guns, Capt. Biddle;³ the ship *General Moultrie*, 18 guns, Capt. Sullivan;⁴ the *Notre-Dame* brig, Capt. Hall,⁵ 16 guns; the *Polly* brig, Capt. Anthony,⁶ 16 guns; and the *Fair American*, Capt. Morgan,⁷ of 14 guns: The troops were put on board, on 27th of January, and in a few days the fleet sailed: They were gone about 10 weeks, when they fell in with the *Yarmouth*, a British 64 gun ship, which the *Randolph* immediately engaged, and in a short time after the action began, she blew up, and every soul on board perished, except 2 or 3 who were picked up on some of the wreck, by the *Yarmouth's* crew.⁸

The first regiment lost a fine company of fifty men, that were put on board as marines:⁹ The remainder of our fleet made the best of their way home;* and thus ended the expedition from which the president and privy council expected so much.

When the captains of the British men-of-war *Carrisford*, &c. were informed of our preparations to attack them they quitted our coast, while they continued on it, some apprehensions were entertained of their going to Beaufort to take off our cannon and stores; upon which a company of Col. Robert's artillery,¹⁰ were ordered to take post in the battery at that place.

*Some of them on their return home, picked up a few prizes.

William Moultrie, *Memoirs of the American Revolution*, 2 vols. (New York: David Longworth, 1802; reprint ed. New York: Arno Press, 1968), 1: 198–99.

1. John Rutledge.

2. Moultrie, who had originally opposed sending troops of the South Carolina line on board the squadron as marines, changed his mind on 23 Dec. See *NDAR* 10: 741, 788, 803.

3. Capt. Nicholas Biddle.

4. Capt. Philip Sullivan.

5. Capt. William Hall.

6. Capt. Hezekiah Anthony.

7. Capt. Charles Morgan.

8. For other accounts of this engagement, see "Extract of a Letter from on board the State Brig *Notre Dame*, dated Lat. 13 Long. 57. March 9, 1778," A Letter from Charlestown, South Carolina, dated 29th March 1778, and President Rawlins Lowndes of South Carolina to President of Congress, 30 Mar., above.

9. Capt. Joseph Ioor and his company from the 1st South Carolina Continental Regiment.

10. Col. Owen Roberts, commanding the 4th South Carolina Continental Regiment (Artillery).

BILL OF LADING OF BATEAU *LA PROVIDENCE*

Shipped in good Order and well conditioned by Oliver Pollock in and upon the good Bateau called the *La Providence et La Fortune* whereof is Master for this

present Voyage Eugene Pourrée and now riding at Anchor in the River Mississippi and bound for Illinois To say

Ten Trunks Merchandise, Twenty One Cases Ten Barrels Wine Ten Ancre Brandy & One Hundred & Thirty Nine Bales

Being marked and numbered as in the Margin,¹ and are to be delivered in the like good Order and well conditioned, at the aforesaid Port of Illinois (the Danger of the Seas only excepted) unto Robert George or to his Assigns, Freight for the said Goods, being paid with Primage and Average accustomed. *In Witness whereof* the Master or Purser of the said Bateaus hath affirmed to three Bills of Lading, all of this Tenor and Date, the one of which being accomplished, the other Two stand void. Dated in ~~Philadelphia~~ New Orleans 31st March 1778—²

NB. 1 Bale omitted in filling up Bill of Lading is 140 Bales if found.

D, DNA, PCC, item 50, p. 224 (M247, roll 64). Document is a printed form with blanks filled in with writing. In this transcription underlined portions appear as handwritten in the original. An illegible notation of about five words, possibly in French, appears at the end, following the date.

1. In the margin: "10 Trunks/21 Cases/10 Barrels/10 Ancres/139 Bales/as p^t Invoices."

2. A complete invoice of the goods shipped in the bateau, dated 1 Apr., is in *ibid.*, pp. 149–57.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *NIGER*, CAPTAIN ROBERT LAMBERT

March 1778.
Tuesday 31st:

High Land of Porto Platt¹ SEbE Isabella Point SWbW
off shore 2 or 3 Miles.

AM D^o. W^r: [Light Winds & fair] at 7 Saw a small sail Close in shore standing to the W^tward the Tender² on the W^r: Beam well in with the Land at 8 Porto Platt SW 3 or 4 Leag^s. At ½ past 11 Saw 2 Sail to the W^tward Made Sail & Gave Chace.

Old Cape Francois ESE 9 or 10 Leag^s off shore 2 or 3 Leag^s.

Light Breezes & fair W^r: [PM] At Sun set Saw a Sail bearing EbN TK^d. Ship & Gave Chace Cape Leroach EbS dist. 7 or 8 Leag^s. at 9 imagined that the Chace was not far from us³
Bore away to the W^tward

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/637.

1. Puerto Plata, Santo Domingo.

2. H.M.S. *Niger's* tender, sloop *Washington*.

3. Schooner *Angelina*, master unknown, from South Carolina to Cape François, with tobacco, rice and indigo, taken by *Niger* on 1 Apr. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UKLPR, Adm. 1/241.

JOURNAL OF H.M. SLOOP *BADGER*, LIEUTENANT MICHAEL J. EVERITT

March 1778
Tuesday 31st

Cape Francois SSW 5 or 6 Leagues & Mounte Christe SEbE
6 or 7 Leag^s:

[at ½] past 5 AM Saw 4 Sail in y^c: NE Quart^r: Gave Chace. Saw two [in] y^c: NW,¹ [at] 7 Fir'd 10: 4 Pound^r: & Bro^c: her too. she proved to be a Brig from Cape Francois. Bound to Boston, sent an Officer and Boat and Took Possession of y^c: Brig *Dartmouth*;² Gave Chace to a Sail in y^c: SW Quart^r: Saw two Sail in y^c: NE Quart^r: Prize in Company:—

Mounte Christ SSE 5 or 6 Leagues.—

P.M: Mod^r: Weath^r: Saw 2 Sail in y^c: NE & 1 in y^c: NW Gave Chace the Prize in Company, [at] 6 Fir'd 2: 4 Pound^r: & Bro^r: y^c: Chace too, she proved to be a Schooner from Turks Island Bound to Cape Francois. Mounte Christ SSW 2 or 3 Leag^s: Shorten'd Sail. Light Winds and Cloudy Weath^r:

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/78, part 2.

1. H.M.S. *Niger* and tender, sloop *Washington*, chasing the schooners *Angelina* and *Adventure*, which were taken on 1 Apr., and H.M.S. *Southampton's* tender, chasing the sloop *John & Milsey*, which was taken on 1 Apr. See Journal of H.M.S. *Niger*, 31 Mar., above, and 1 Apr. UklPR, Adm. 51/637; and Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/241.

2. Brig *Dartmouth*, William Haydon, master, 90 tons burthen, crew of 9 men, owned by Joseph Russell & Co., New Bedford, Mass., from Cape François to Boston, with rum and coffee. Parker's Prize List, 21 June 1778, UklPR, Adm. 1/241.

CAPTAIN JOHN COLPOYS, R.N., TO VICE ADMIRAL JAMES YOUNG

(Copy)

Seaford S^c: Johns [*Antigua*] March 31st: 1778.

Sir

In pursuance of your Orders dated the 23^d: Instant, I have been at the Island of S^c: Eustatia; and herewith transmit you the best Acco^t: I was able to collect of the Dutch Squadron lately arrived in these Seas;¹ under the Command of the Commodore Comte De Bylan.—² before I proceeded to S^c: Eustatia, I was induced to Anchor at Old Road S^c: Christophers, seeing three of the above Squadron lying there, since which finding that, the Intelligence I collected there, has been corroborated by what I learnt at S^c: Eustatia, I flatter myself that you'll find the Acco^t: I now transmit you, to be pretty correct.—

The people of S^c: Eustatia in general pretend to be, or really are ignorant, of the reason why so large a Squadron should be out here in time of Peace; The diff^r: Officers of the Ships seemed to be equally so—but from the diff^r: conversations I had with the Comte De Bylan, I think I may venture to say—that the cause of his coming here is, to protect the Dutch Trade in General; which in future is to be convoyed home; he expressed himself in very warm terms, against the conduct of our Privateers, and did not seem very well pleased, with that of our Men of War; He said many irregularities had been committed before his Arrival at S^c: Eustatia, as well as some since; and that by the Peace, made with the Emperror of Morocco, the Dutch would in future be better able, to protect the dignity of their Flag.—

The Comte de Bylan was sent out so suddenly, that he was not allowed to wait for his own Ship, tho' she Sailed five days after, this matter, many lay much stress on—but the cause of which was—that the States³ were apprehensive if they detained him any Longer for his own Ship—that it was very possible the whole Squadron would have been Froze up for the Winter in Zealand. Previous to his Sailing, an Express had been sent to Lisbon for three of his Squadron, to Join him at S^c: Eustatia tho' they had been out more than Eighteen Months, and some of 'em had then, and still have Sprung Masts,—nor do I find that they will be able to replace 'em out here, the Comte de Bylan wished to know, whether you could give him any Assistance in that way—& which I answered in the negative.—His Squadron are very Short of Officers and poorly Maned,—each of 'em is said to have Ten Months Provisions on board, and its currently reported that the Comte

de Bylan expects towards June a further reinforcement of one 74. & a 64.— but this I have much reason to doubt.—

The Comte de Bylan seemed to me to be disposed to favour the American Cause, I was willing to try his Pulse on that head, therefore waited on him to request the enlargement of four English Men, that were detained in Irons, on board an American Armed Brig then lying in the Road.—his first Answer was, “that as we and the Americans were at War, he did not wish to meddle in our Quarrel”—I then took the Liberty of reminding him that, if he allowed Statia to be a Free Port—I could not help thinking it a little extraordinary, that he should allow any body to be detained a Prisoner there and that such conduct must frequently subject the Dutch Flag to the inconveniencys which he had complained of to me in a former conversation, and for my own part, if my request was not complied with I must consider his refusal, as a mark of this approbation of the Americans conduct.—after some hesitation, “he told me his Captain should go on board the Vessel & enquire into the matter;” which he did, & the men were accordingly released, I did not receive any of ‘em on board here, as they were unfit for His Majesty’s Service.—

I shall immediately apply for our Provisions, and hold the Ship in constant readiness for your further orders.—

The Bread at S^c Christophers of which I took but little, owing to its badness I shall (if I can better myself) return to the Contractors.—I am Sir [&c.]

(Signed) John Colpoys.

Lieutenant Whitworth⁴ sailed from S^c Christophers the 29th: and has with him a counterpart of the Intelligence I send you, by Lieut: Byron.—⁵

Copy, UkLPR, Adm. 1/310. Addressed at foot of first page: “Vice Admiral Young.” Docketed: “N^o: 1: 31st: March 1778./Seaford S^c Johns road Antigua/Copy of a Lre from Capt^m: J Colpoys/with Intelligence of a Dutch/Squadron lately arrived at/S^c Eustatia—/In Adm^l Young’s Letter/Dated 7th: April 1778.—” Enclosure no. 1 in Vice Adm. James Young to Philip Stephens (No. 1), 7 Apr., which was received on 22 May and read.

1. Enclosure not printed.
2. Vice Adm. Count van Bylandt.
3. States General of the United Provinces of the Netherlands.
4. Lt. Richard Whitworth, commanding H.M. armed brigantine *Stanley*.
5. Lt. George A. Byron [1].

MUSTER TABLE OF H.M.S. *YARMOUTH*

[Extract]

Muster-Table of His Majesty’s Ship the *Yarmouth* between the First day of Feb^r 1778 and the 31 day of March following.

N ^o	Year	Appear -ance.	Whence and whether Prest or not.	MENS NAMES.
18	78	12 Mar ^h :	Taken off the Wreck ¹	Hantz Wortman John Kerry Alex ^r Robinson Barth ^w Bourdeau R ^d . Cochran
		14	<i>Fly</i> <i>Alfred</i>	

N: Vincent. Captain
R^d: Brown Purser

James Corey Master
John Gadderer Boatswⁿⁿ:

D, UKLPR, Adm. 36/8072. Columns left blank are omitted. On 9 Apr. Hantz Wortman, John Kerry and Alexander Robinson were transferred to H.M.S. *Yarmouth's* supernumerary list as American prisoners with the qualities of able seamen. Ibid.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

LOG OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NAVY BRIGANTINE *TYRANNICIDE*,
CAPTAIN JONATHAN HARADEN

[*St. Pierre, Martinique*]

Remarks on Teusday March 31st 1778—

These 24 Hours begins with a Fresh Breeze & pleasant Weather at 6 PM the Capt went on Board the *Hazard*¹ at 10 PM the Cap^t came on Board Cap^t Gray in the Brig^t *Polly*² in company with us at 10 AM Cap^t Warren³ in the Brig^t *Lyon*⁴ came out of the Harbour to us—Latter part a Small Breeze

D, MSaE, Log of the Brigantine *Tyrannicide* (November 1777–May 1778).

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantine *Hazard*, Capt. Simeon Samson, commander.

2. For more on brigantine *Polly*, see William and Godfrey Hutchinson to the President of the Massachusetts Board of War, immediately below.

3. Capt. Benjamin Warren.

4. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Lion*, mounting 16 guns with a crew of 100 seamen, was commissioned on 28 Nov. 1777 and was owned by Jonathan Peele, Jr., John Fisk, and others, of Salem. M-Ar, Revolutionary Rolls Collection, vol. 6, pp. 197, 198.

WILLIAM AND GODFREY HUTCHINSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

(Dupl^a.)

Sir./

St. Pierre's M/Que 31st March 1778.

Original ☞ Cap^t Barnard.—

The foregoing is Copy of ours ☞ The Continental Brig: *Resistance*.—We have the pleasure to acquaint you The *Hazard* & *Tyrannicide*¹ sailed yesterday in Company with The Brig *Lion* of Salem mounting 16 Guns;² Cap^t Sampson has undoubtedly mentioned to you that the *Hazard* answers every Purpose she was intended for & may justly be Called the finest vessel of her Burthen ever built.—We now inclose you Acc^t: Sales of The Prize Brig *Polly's* Cargo, Acc^t: Disbursements for the *Hazard* & *Tyrannicide*, Cap^{ts}: Sampson & Haraden's rec^s: for what paid them on Acc^t: of Rations due to them till the 14th. inst: likewise rec^ts for £1000 #³ to each of them which they Demanded by virtue of y^r: Letter of 17th: Nov^r: Empowering them to Draw for £100 Sterling, this Affair of rations was entirely new to us & we were at a loss how to Conduct ourselves in it, hav^g: never been favoured wth. y^r: Orders on that head, w^{ch}: we hope we shall Shortly receive, as likewise y^r: instructions on every other Occasion.—Inclosed also is y^r: Acc^t: Curr^t: Ball^a: due us 33,431.14.4 Livres #, which we hope on Examination you will find right; The Hospital Bill for The *Tyrannicide* is not included as there are now many sick remaining (as ☞ Inclosed List.) We imagine the Am^t will be four or five thousand Livres.—We refer you to the foregoing Letter concerning the Disadvantage we labour under, in advancing

our money & we shall be particularly obliged to you, if you wo^d: Converse wth: our father on this Subject, who will Acquaint you with all particulars.—

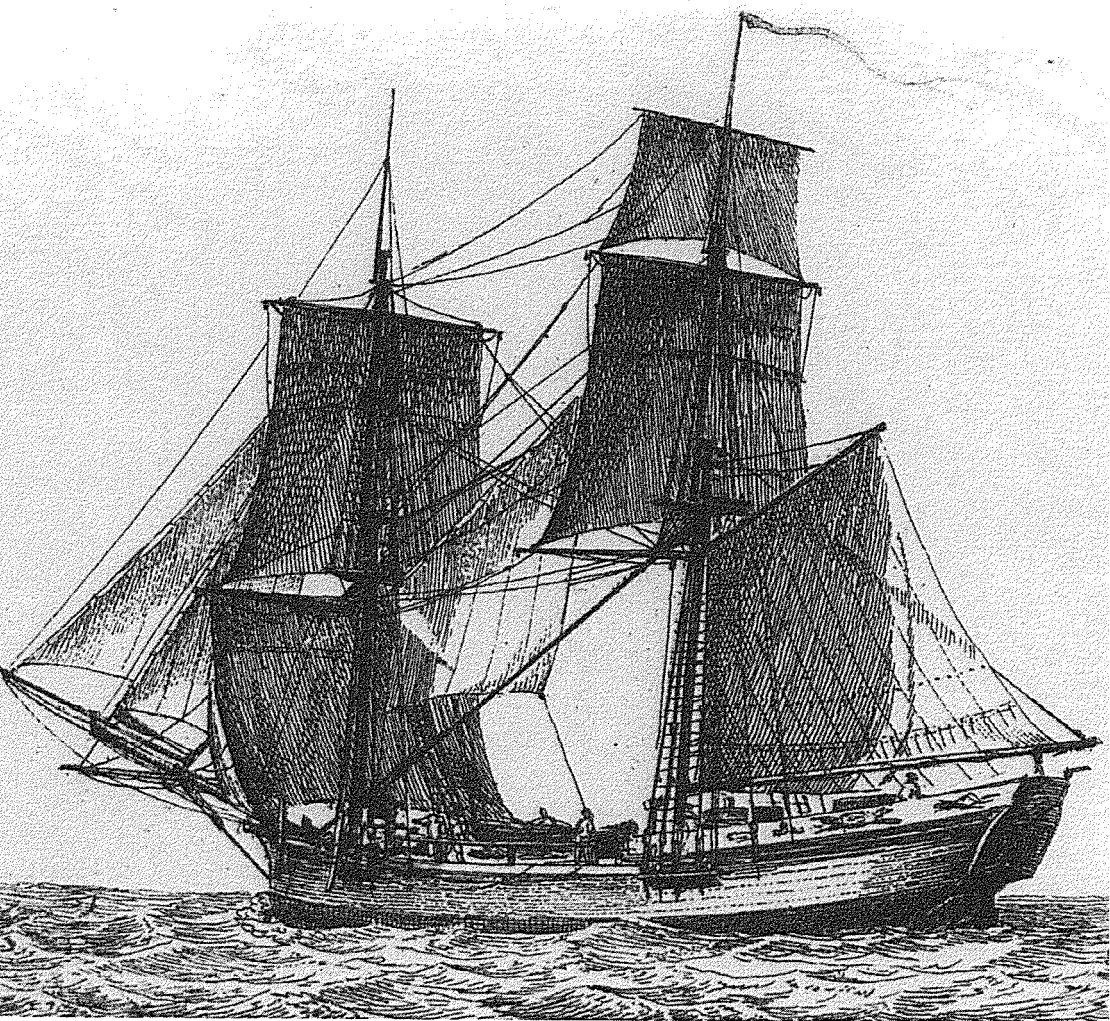
We are most respectfully, Sir./[&c.]

W^m & G Hutchinson

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 205 (2d. ser., Revolution Letters, 1775–1783), 322–23. Addressed below close: “Samuel P: Savage Esq./President of The Honorable Board/of War.— Boston—.”

1. Massachusetts Navy brigantines *Hazard* and *Tyrannicide*.
2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Lion*, Benjamin Warren, commander.
3. The symbol for the *livre tournois*.

EUROPEAN THEATER
From January 1 to March 31, 1778



EUROPEAN THEATER
From January 1 to March 31, 1778

SUMMARY

From all appearances as the year 1778 began, it would not be long before France entered the American War of Independence. British movements toward reconciliation with their rebellious colonies acted as a goad to the French to hasten their entering an alliance with the United States; naval preparations at Brest and Toulon proceeded apace; and the French ministry had promised a naval escort to convoy safely to sea a number of ships laden with munitions for America, assembling at Nantes. British intelligence of the convoy increased the likelihood of a confrontation between British Navy cruisers and the French warships providing the protection.

The British ministry early in the year determined that the damage done to the British cause by shipments of war supplies from Europe to the Continental Army outweighed the danger of pushing the French into a declaration of war. The Admiralty issued secret orders that all vessels suspected of carrying aid to the rebels were to be stopped, even if escorted by French naval ships. At the end of January, H.M.S. *Hector* seized the French merchant ship *Thomas Koulikan* in the Bay of Biscay on suspicion of carrying munitions intended for the rebels in America.

John Thornton, whom the American Commissioners in France commissioned late in 1777 to investigate the conditions of captured American sailors held as prisoners in Britain, visited the prisons of Forton and Mill and made a report. In the meantime, under the patronage of Lord Abingdon, philanthropic Britons raised a subscription to improve the prisoners' living conditions. British officials allowed the visits of the American agent and the delivery of private aid, but still refused to negotiate a prisoner exchange.

In mid-February Parliament adopted conciliatory bills proposed by Lord North by which Parliament offered to forsake its right to tax the American colonies. A new commission, eventually to be known as the Carlisle Commission, was to be sent to America to negotiate peace on the basis of that offer. In early March, in the wake of a parliamentary inquiry into the damage the American war was causing to seaborne trade, Lord George Germain sent orders for the coming season's campaign to Sir Henry Clinton, who took over Sir William Howe's command in America on the latter's resignation. Barring the likelihood of a decisive engagement with the Continental Army, the British Army was to forego offensive operations on land and engage in amphibious operations along the northern seacoast. Clinton's objective would be destruction of the rebellious Americans' capacity for "raising a Marine, or continuing their Depredations upon the Trade of this Kingdom, which has been already so much annoyed by their Ships of War and Privateers." In the autumn, British operations were to move to the south, with the goal of taking possession of Georgia and South Carolina.

On 6 February an event took place at Versailles that pressed the seal of futility on British efforts at reconciliation and required a complete revision of British campaign plans. On that day the American Commissioners and representatives of the French King signed two treaties, a commercial treaty to last for thirty years, and a military alliance. A week following the signing, Captain John Paul Jones of the Continental Navy ship *Ranger* exchanged gun salutes with a French squadron in Quiberon Bay, France's first formal public recognition of the American flag.

The American munitions convoy finally departed Quiberon Bay on 26 February. With them sailed the new Continental Navy frigate *Deane* and the purchased Continental Navy frigate *Queen of France*. A French squadron under Chef d'Escadre La Motte-Picquet escorted the convoy well into the Atlantic before returning to Brest without incident.

At Nantes, John Paul Jones changed *Ranger's* ballast and reduced the ship's masts and spars to improve her sailing qualities, while he lobbied for a larger and faster ship. He planned some bold exploit under cruising orders from the American Commissioners that gave him wide discretion in his choice of means to harass the British.

American privateering activity off the Spanish coast declined sharply during the winter of 1777–1778. The taking of neutral vessels by Americans incurred the displeasure of the Spanish crown, and, along with strong British diplomatic protests, led to the expulsion of many privateers. With the growing presence of British warships, most American privateers left Spanish waters looking for a safer way to make a profit.

Captain Gustavus Conyngham, in command of the Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*, remained active on the Spanish coast, capturing six vessels during the first three months of 1778. Although Conyngham received aid from officials and merchants in El Ferrol and Bilbao, two festering issues made it increasingly difficult for him to operate out of the northern ports. First, Spanish officials continued the imprisonment of the prize crew of the *Britannia*, prize to Massachusetts privateer *Hawke*, because of the prize master's false declaration concerning *Britannia's* ownership. Second, when Conyngham seized British goods on board a French ship destined for the Spanish market, Spanish protests moved the American Ministers in France to reprimand the *Revenge's* captain and declare support for the continental European policy that "free ships make free goods." As their government was not yet ready to join France in a war with Britain, Spanish officials bowed to British diplomatic pressure by expelling Conyngham from their ports. Leaving northern Spain in early March, Conyngham quickly took five prizes and put into Cadiz for repairs and provisions, receiving a warm welcome despite official policy.

After the signing of the Franco-American treaties, Louis XVI ordered completion of the fitting out and manning of the fleets at Brest, under Comte d'Orvilliers, and Toulon, under Comte d'Estaing. First Lord of the British Admiralty Lord Sandwich feared a junction of the Toulon squadron with that at Brest that would portend an invasion of Great Britain, while Lord Stormont, the British ambassador in Paris, surmised that the Toulon squadron was to be ordered to the East Indies. D'Estaing's true destination was the coast of North America. The French ministry believed that a French naval squadron operating in North American waters would bolster American will to continue the struggle with Britain as well as support French war aims, especially the protection of their West Indian possessions.

The break of relations between Great Britain and France finally came on 13 March when the Marquis de Noailles, the French ambassador in London, informed the British ministry of French recognition of American independence. At once both Stormont and Noailles were recalled from their respective posts.

George III's cabinet responded to the impending entry of France into the war by issuing Sir Henry Clinton new instructions. Reconquest of the rebellious colonies on the continent of North America was now to be of subsidiary importance to the protection of the Crown's Caribbean possessions. The British Army was to abandon Philadelphia and to seize St. Lucia, in the French West Indies. Vice Admiral Viscount Howe also received new instructions. He was to detach a squadron to support the army's conquest of St. Lucia and to return some twenty frigates and sloops to assist in the defense of the British Isles.

The composition of the American Commissioners in France changed in March. Silas Deane boarded a French warship for America, and to take his place John Adams arrived at Bordeaux on the last day of the month, having crossed the Atlantic on board the Continental Navy frigate *Boston*.

Events in Europe during the first three months of 1778 brought about a fundamental change in the nature of the American war. French recognition of the independence of the United States pointed the way ineluctably to the merging of the War of Independence with a world war.

January 1

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth*]

Janu^y 1st. 1778 Thursday raw cold w^r. Rec^d. for New Years day for Each Mess a plum Pudding & a Six penny Loaf as a Present from M^r Heath & his Parish & by him we Learn that there is a Subscription raising for the relief of the American Prisoners confined in England. Blessed News to a Starving People.¹

Our Friends in London have Employ'd a Gent^{l^m}. to Come down in Order to see & Inspect into Our treatment & Provisions, & Cap^t. H^y Johnson & M^r Shoemaker² went into offices to Inform him of the particulars

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. On the subscription for the relief of the American prisoners, see Almon's *Remembrances*, at 8 Jan., below, and Cohen, *Yankee Sailors*, 83–84. Deacon Robert Heath (1741–1800), merchant of Plymouth Dock and deacon at the Calvinist Methodist Plymouth Tabernacle, had begun visiting and dispensing aid to the prisoners at Mill Prison by the autumn of 1777. Cohen, *Yankee Sailors*, 79–83, and Sheldon S. Cohen, "The Preachers and the Prisoners," *Essex Institute Historical Collections* 126 (Jan. 1990, No. 1): 1–26.

2. Capt. Henry Johnson, Continental Navy, and Anthony Shoemaker.

SILAS DEANE TO CONRAD-ALEXANDRE GÉRARD

[*Paris, ca. 1 Jan. 1778*]

Sir,

You did me the honor to promise a Letter to M^r Chaumont as soon as a determination should be taken, respecting the Convoy.¹ as no Letter has been received

conclude that it is still undetermined. M^r Chaumont has authentic Advice, that Four or Five sail of English Men of War, are actually at Anchor, in the Road of Belle Isle, waiting undoubtedly to intercept Our Vessels, in this Situation of Affairs it is impossible to put to Sea, without being taken, unless protected by the French Flag—We have therefore prayed M^r Chaumont, to wait on You, and to learn what is the final determination, on this Subject, as it is certain, very wrong information has been giv'n. I have the honor of inclosing to you a Copy of Our Commission Authenticated, on the other Subject it may be more proper, that We should explain Ourselves in a personal Conference than by Letter, which we wish to have an Opportunity of doing as early as may be agreeable—I most sincerely wish you a happy New Year & have the honor to remain [&c.]

Silas Deane

Stevens's Facsimiles, vol. 8, no. 767. Endorsed: "Sr Deane"; "Sans date. de la fin de 1777 ou du commencement de 1778." Translation: "Mr. Deane. Without date. From the end of 1777 or the beginning of 1778."

1. For the French court's promise to provide a convoy for the American supply ships, see the American Commissioners in France to the Continental Foreign Affairs Committee, 18 Dec. 1777, *NDAR* 10: 1117. Gérard was the senior official in the French foreign ministry involved with negotiating treaties with the United States.

January 2

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO CAPTAIN SAMUEL HOOD, R.N.

By &c.

Whereas we have receiv'd Intelligence to be depended on, (a Copy of which you will receive in this, in addition to the Intelligence transmitted in our Order of the 18th. of last Month)¹ that several French Ships have sailed; and that others are soon intended to sail from different Ports in France, having on board Cargoes of Warlike Stores, and other Supplies for the use of the Rebels in N^o. America: All which Ships it is reported from good Authority are to be convoy'd off the Coast of France by Ships of War belonging to that Nation; And whereas it is of the utmost importance to His Maj^{ty}s. Service that the aforesaid Ships should be intercepted; We do therefore hereby require and direct you to use your utmost diligence in the Ship you command² (directing the several Captains under you³ to do the like) in looking out for the said Ships, and in case of falling in with, to examine them, notwithstanding any remonstrance from the Officer commanding the Convoy to the contrary; And being satisfied the Ships you so examine are those pointed out to be employ'd as above described, to seize and bring them into One of His Maj^{ty}s. Ports; taking care the several Articles on board are effectually secured from loss or embezzlement: and sending our Secretary a minute Account of your proceedings.

In complying with these Orders, you are to conduct yourself in respect to the Officers commanding the Convoy (the same being to be enjoin'd to the Captains under you) so far as is consistent with the execution thereof, in such terms of civility, that, if any remonstrance is made on the part of France, there may not be any ground to alledge a Charge of failure therein.

For the more effectually performing this Service, you are not to allow your Ships to be less than two in Company: And you are to continue on your Station fourteen days longer than you are directed to do by your former Orders.

In the Orders you issue to the Captains under you, you are to enjoin them to the strictest secrecy and to observe the same yourself. Given &c. the 2^d. January 1778.⁴

Sandwich
J. Buller
H. Palliser

By &c.

G. Jackson D.S.

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/1334 (Secret), fols. 34, 39. Addressed below close: "Cap^t Sam^l Hood, *Courageux*." Notation: "By the *Porcupine*—Return'd & Cancelled." Docketed: "ORD. 2 January 1778./Sir Samuel Hood—*Courageux*." The orders were actually entrusted to Capt. Evelyn Sutton of the *Proserpine*, not of the *Porcupine*, to deliver to Hood, who was cruising north of Cape Ortegal. *Proserpine* sprung a leak and the mission to carry the orders was transferred to Capt. George Balfour, of H.M.S. *Culloden*. Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to Sutton, 2 Jan., and to Balfour, 4 Jan., *ibid.*, 40–41, 47.

1. For the enclosures see "Intelligence lately receivd from good Authority," immediately below, and "Extract of Secret Intelligence with respect to ships fitting out for the Americans," UKLPR, Adm. 2/1334 (Secret), fols. 37–38. Concerning Hood's orders of 18 Dec. 1777, see Philip Stephens to Captain Thomas Graves, R.N., and Admiral Sir Thomas Pye, 18 Dec. 1777, in *NDAR* 10: 1116.

2. H.M.S. *Courageux* (74 guns).

3. Capt. Sir John Hamilton, H.M.S. *Hector*; Capt. Sir Richard Bickerton, H.M.S. *Terrible*; and Capt. Mark Robinson, H.M.S. *Worcester*.

4. The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty issued similarly worded orders to search for enemy arms convoys as follows: On 2 Jan. instructing Captain Richard Hughes in H.M.S. *Centaur* to cruise for five weeks north of Cape Finisterre, in company with H.M.S. *Trident*, Capt. John Elliot; and on 9 Jan. instructing Captain John Brookes of H.M.S. *Belle Isle* to cruise for five weeks off Cape Finisterre, in company with H.M.S. *Bienfaisant*, Capt. John Macbride. UKLPR, Adm. 2/1334 (Secret), fols. 45–46, 49–50. See also Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to Captain Robert Digby, R.N., 26 Jan., below.

[Enclosure]

"INTELLIGENCE LATELY RECEIVD FROM GOOD AUTHORITY"

13th. Dec^r. 1777.

The *Le Brune* of 5 or 600 tons & the *Le Sage* of 3 or 350 tons saild from L'Orient, or rather from a Village near the Mouth of the River. They are navigated with French Men, & loaded with common salt; the former hath 46 Cannon in her hold coverd with Salt; the number of Cannon the other carries cannot be ascertaind: they are bound to America.

The *Anonime* of 450 or 500 tons is loading at L'Orient for the same destination.

The American Frigates, the *Raleigh* & *Alfred*, and another, a small Vessel, it is confidently said were to sail from L'Orient the 19th. Dec^r. It is said they were to steer towards Nantz to join the *Randolph* another Frigate¹ with three Merchant Ships that are loaded there, & all sail in Company.

The *Le Brune* is probably Commanded by One Mallet & the *La Sage* by One Michell. If they meet our Cruizers they will pretend they are bound to S^t Pierre or Miquillon; and the salt will give colour to it

The *Beaumont*, an old India Ship of 1000 tons at L'Orient had been declar'd during her lading to be for Cadiz but on the 19 Dec^r When the Men were to receive their Advance wages, Boston was declar'd to be their destination
18 Dec^r—

One Nicholson is set out for Nantz to command the *Lyon* an American Frigate of 36 Guns.² He is to sail with the fleet, and it is supposed carries despatches for the Congress. A M^r Carmichel goes with Him.³

Several People lately pick'd up who escaped from Prison in England are going out in the fleet as Pilots for the coast of America. Their Rendezvous is about Nantz; L'orient; Perhaps Belle Isle.

M^r Deane's Brother is going with despatches, and embarks on board a Frigate of 36 Guns, which has been sometime laying in the River of Bourdeaux.⁴

D, UKLPR, Adm. 2/1334 (Secret), fols. 35–36. Enclosure to Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to Captain Samuel Hood, R.N., 2 Jan., above. Docketed: "Intelligence/lately received from/good Authority/respecting Ships fitting/out for the Americans."

1. For the mistaken British intelligence that the *Randolph* was at Nantes, see Lord Stormont to Comte de Vergennes, 25 Dec. 1777, *NDAR* 10: 1146–48, and especially note 1.

2. Samuel Nicholson commanded the Continental Navy frigate *Deane*, formerly the *Lyon*.

3. William Carmichael.

4. Simeon Deane.

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO
CAPTAIN ROBERT BIGGS, R.N.

By &c.

Whereas we have receiv'd Intelligence that an American Privatier of 20. Guns, called the *America* and commanded by one Johnson, was in Dunkirk Roads a few days ago, waiting to complete her Provisions and Water, And whereas we intend that the Ship you command¹ together with one of His Maj^{ty}s. Sloops named in the Margin² shall proceed immediately to the Northward of Dunkirk to endeavor to intercept the abovemention'd Privatier should she attempt to put to Sea & shape her course that way; You are hereby required & directed to take such one of the two Sloops before named under your command as Rear Admiral Roddam³ shall direct, and having receiv'd on board a Pilot properly qualified for the North Sea, & the Commander of the Sloop having done so likewise (we having ordered two to be sent immediately down to Sheerness for that purpose) and put to Sea with the very first opportunity of Wind and Weather & proceeding down the Swin⁴ stretch over to the Coast of Flanders and endeavor to fall in with it to the Northward of Dunkirk where you are very diligently to cruize, on such Station as shall appear to you to be most likely for answering the abovemention'd purpose for the space of fourteen days using your best endeavors to take or destroy the abovemention'd, or any other Privatiers or Ships or Vessels belonging to the Rebellious Colonies of N^o. America which you may be able to come up with, and then repair to the Downs and remain there until you receive further Order, sending to our Secretary an Account of your arrival and proceedings

But whereas Vice Adm^l Buckle is directed to send two Cutters off Dunkirk in order to discover what may be doing there, and to gain Intelligence of the Motions of the abovemention'd Privatier, ordering one of them to repair afterwards to your

station to communicate the same to you, You are in case you shall through that or any other Channel receive Information which can be depended upon, that the abovemention'd Privatier hath left Dunkirk & sailed to the N^oward to proceed in quest of her so long as there shall appear any probability of your being able to come up with her, and to use your best endeavors to take or destroy her, repairing afterwards to the Downes as before directed. Or if she shall not have left that Port but remains there in apparent readiness to push out, you are at liberty to extend the time of your cruize as much longer as you shall see any probability of her coming out, And then having taken, destroy'd or driven her away, or being satisfied that it is to no purpose to remain on the abovemention'd Station any longer in expectation of her repair to the Downes as above directed.

In case from the Intelligence which shall be bro^t to you by one of the Cutters beforemention'd, or which you shall otherwise receive you shall judge it necessary to continue on the Station assign'd you longer than the time before limited, you are to send the said Cutter to the Downes, with a Letter to be transmitted to our Secretary, acquainting him therewith, and with the reasons for such longer continuance; and if the Cutter shall join you before the expiration of the time so limited you are at liberty during that time to send her back off Dunkirk if you judge it necessary to make further Observations and collect further Intelligence and then to return to you with an Account thereof, that you may regulate your proceedings as above directed accordingly. Given &c. 2^d. January 1778.

Sandwich
J. Buller
H. Palliser

By &c.

G. Jackson D.S.

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/1334 (Secret), fols. 42–44. Addressed below close: "Cap^t. Biggs—*Lively*—Nore." Docketed: "ORD, 2^d. January 1778./Cap^t. Biggs—*Lively*"; "Q/If not ent^d. already?"

1. H.M. frigate *Lively* (24 guns).
2. *Hawke* and *Speedwell*.
3. Robert Roddam's promotion to rear admiral dates from 23 Jan. 1778.
4. The Swynne, a channel in the mouth of the Thames River.

COMMISSIONERS FOR SICK AND HURT SEAMEN TO PHILIP STEPHENS

Copy

Office for Sick & Hurt Seamen
the 2^d. January 1777 [1778]—

S^r

We desire you will acquaint the R^t Hon^{ble}. the Lords Comm^{rs}. of the Admty, that the Keeper & Agent of Forton Prison has informed Us, by his Letter of the 31st. past, that, "A M^r. Thornton was at the Prison yesterday and desired to speak with some of the Prisoners, the Agents Clerk attended him, when he told the Prisoners that he had Orders to supply them with Cloathing and Necessaries at the expence of the Congress, he sent in 56^{lb}. Tobacco and said he should send 100 Great Coats, he desired he might have leave to send a Joint of Meat occasionally to the Officers, and to Glaze the Windows of their Apartments."¹ And we beg leave to observe that the Agent has Orders to permit the Prisoners to be supplied with any Articles not improper for them to receive & that in consequence of your Letter of

the 15th last Month, he was told that the Prisoners were not to be prevented from receiving Cloathing provided by Subscription, and we should not therefore have troubled their Lordships upon this Business were it not for the particular expression; that M^r Thornton did it at the expence of the Congress: and we beg leave to add that the Prisons for Prisoners of War were not Glazed. We are &c^e

J Bel
Walter Farquharson
Vin Corbett

Copy, UKLPR, S.P. (Naval) 42/52, fols. 5–6. Addressed at foot of first page: “Hon^{bl}. Philip Stephens Esq^r” Docketed: “In the Lords of the Admiralty, / January 3^d: 1778.” Enclosed in Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to the Earl of Suffolk, of 3 Jan., *ibid.*, fols. 3–4.

1. For John Thornton and his instructions from the American Commissioners in France, see *NDAR* 10: 1086.

CAPTAIN JOHN JERVIS, R.N., TO PHILIP STEPHENS

Sir, *Foudroyant* in Hamoze the 2^d. January 1778

In reply to your letter of the 29th of Dece^r¹ I desire you will report to my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that I had not the smallest suspicion that the Nine Men describ'd in my letter of the 16th of the same Month, or any one of them, intended to desert, the first four, as they are plac'd in the Margin² were taken in the *Lynch* Schooner,³ and serv'd under the restraining Bill, the two next were turn'd over from other Ships, and the three last were Volunteers; Rich^d. Griffith who enter'd two years ago with Lieu^t Duckworth at Bristol, had receiv'd such marks of favor and generosity from the Officers and myself, that I had the most unreserv'd confidence in him—the instant discovery was made, that part of them had absconded from the rigging House, and the others did not return to the Ship, when their leave expir'd, which they had always done before, with the most exact precision, the strictest inquiry was made after them, and upon receiving intelligence, that they had been seen on the Road to Kingsbridge, two Officers with partys were detach'd through Kingsbridge, to Salcombe, and a deck'd Longboat armd, sent off the Mouth of that little Port, and descriptions were dispatch'd to the Collector of the Customs, to the Commanding Officer of the Marines, and of the 13th Regiment; and the Regulating Captains were written to, from one end of the Coast, to the other.

I offer'd five Guineas reward for the apprehending each Man, and I have had two Men in Pay ever since, to look out for them; from these Men, whose Names, I am under a promise not to discover, I learn that they were harbour'd and conceal'd by one or more People of Opulence in the Town of Plymouth, but they cannot, or will not, ascertain them; and the Officers have discover'd from amongst the Ships Company, that a £50 Bank Note was seen in the possession of Joseph Kent, a little time before his going off, this circumstance will explain to their Lordships, the grounds of my suspicion, that they would hire a Vessel to go over to France, they will also see, that no pains or expence have been wanting on my part to intercept them; and I have a conscious Pride in observing to their Lordships that the *Foudroyant* has not only been Mann'd by the industry of her own Officers, but that her Complement has been constantly kept up without the Assistance of a Man from any commanding Officer, or by indirect Means. I am [&c.]

Jervis

L, UkLPR, Adm. 1/1987. Docketed: "6 Jan/send a Copy within [] to L^d Suffolk in answer to his/Lordships Letter of 27th. past."

1. In response to an inquiry by Lord Suffolk, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty were investigating the desertion of eight Americans and one Irishman from the *Foudroyant*. See Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to Lord Suffolk, 7 Jan., in *ibid.*, S.P. (Naval), 42/52, fols. 7–8.

2. "Joseph Kent/Jn^o Shea/Sam^l Vaughan/Jos^h. Mounteford/Geo^c. Phillips/Lathan Case/Eph^m. Hanson/Rich^d. Griffith/Tho^s. Morrison."

In his letter of 16 Dec. 1777, in which he reported the men missing, Jervis gave the following descriptions: "Richard Griffith, Age 42 years, Stature 5^{ft.}.6 3/4ⁱⁿ brown Complexion, Dark brown Hair, a Cut on his Nose, Born at Philadelphia. Ephraim Hanson, Aged 24 years, Stature 6^{ft.}.1 1/2ⁱⁿ Sallow Complexion, Dark brown Hair, born at Piscataqua North America. George Phillips, Aged 22 years, Stature 5^{ft.}.5 1/4ⁱⁿ Fair Complexion, light brown Hair, a Scar over the right Eye. Born at Rhode Island N^o. America. Lathan Case, Aged 23 years, Stature 5^{ft.}.8 1/2ⁱⁿ Brown Complexion, long black Hair[.] Born at Rhode Island N^o. America. Joseph Kent, Aged 30 years, Stature 5^{ft.}.6ⁱⁿ Fair Complexion, light brown Hair generally worn in a queue. Born in Boston N^o. America[.] John Shea, Aged 29 years, Stature 5^{ft.}.7 1/4ⁱⁿ Dark Complexion, dark brown Hair, mark'd J:S on the left hand, born in Boston N^o. America. Samuel Vaughan, Aged 31 Years, Stature 5^{ft.}.5 1/4ⁱⁿ fair Complexion, Dark brown Hair, has a Wen on his left Shoulder, born in Boston N^o. America[.] Joseph Mounteford, Aged 27 Years, Stature 5^{ft.}.4ⁱⁿ Ruddy Complexion, Dark brown Hair, Born at Boston, North America. Thomas Morrison, Aged 27 Years, Stature 5^{ft.}.5ⁱⁿ Fair Complexion, San[dy] Hair, little pock'd Mark'd. born at Londonderry, Ireland." John Jervis to Philip Stephens, UkLPR, Adm. 1/1987.

3. *Foudroyant* captured Massachusetts schooner packet *Lynch*, Capt. John Adams, on 9 May 1777. NDAR9: 390–91.

January 3

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO VICE ADMIRAL LORD SHULDHAM

By &c.

Whereas we have received Intelligence that the *Raleigh* of 32. Guns, & three other Privatiers from 20 to 24 Guns, are now cruising between Scilly & the Ramhead; that they have taken one Ship & sent her into France; & that they give out that they intend to intercept the West India homeward bound Fleet; your Lordship is hereby required and directed, in case His Maj^{ty}s. Ship the *Boyne* should return to Plymouth before the expiration of her present Cruize, to order Captⁿ. Drake, who is appointed her Commander, to proceed with her to Sea again, without a moment's loss of time, and to cruise between Scilly & Ushant, looking out very diligently for, and using his best endeavours to take, or destroy, the before-mentioned, or any other Privatiers or Ships or Vessels belonging to the Rebellious Colonies of North America which he may be able to come up with; and to return, at the expiration of one Month after his first arrival upon the aforesaid Station, to Plymouth for further Orders; sending Us an Account of his arrival & proceedings. Given &c. the 3^d. Jan^y. 1778.

Sandwich
J Buller
H. Palliser

By &c

G. J. D.S.

LB, UkLPR, Adm. 2/104, pp. 9–10. Addressed at foot: "To/The R^c Hble Lord Shuldham/Vice Adm^l of the Blue &c &c./Plymouth." Notation: "By Express at 1/2 past 8. P.M."

THE LONDON CHRONICLE, THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, TO SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1778

Saturday, Jan. 3. London.

The *Flying American*, from Georgia to a port in France, with a valuable cargo of rice, tobacco, &c. is taken by one of his Majesty's frigates, and carried into Lisbon.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

3^d. Saturday rainy & Blowing w^e This Gentleman (whose Name is Lyon & is an Attorney at Law) has Provided two Hundred & fifty Blanketts & the said Lyon was sent by regular Committee Chosen by the Doners for Our relief; by him we Learn that Ticonderoga is retaken by Gen^l Starks & Col. Warner at the Head of an Army for that purpose

Likewise Sir H^y Clinton is return'd from up the N. River to New York Again.

Rec^d. 100 lb of Tobacco, 72 Cakes of sope. It Appears that there is Quite a Different S[*p*]irit r[*e*]igns in this Country from what there was before, Since the Capture of Gen^l Burgoyne

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE TO LIEUTENANT BOUX

Sir

Paris 3^d. Jan^y 1778

We have wrote Capt. Nicholson who will procure you a Passage to America & we hope it may be such a one as will be agreeable. Inclosed you have a Letter for the Hon'ble the Marine Board which you will send to them & attend their future Orders. Capt. Nicholson will give you notice where to meet him, or the Ship in which you can have a passage. We are wishing you much Success Sir. Y^{rs}. &c.

LB, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. Addressed at foot: "L^t Boux."

SILAS DEANE TO JOHN ROSS

D^r Sir

Paris 3^d. Jan^y 1778

Y^r favours of the 23^d. & 27 Ult.^l I duely rec^d. & should have replied sooner but from the dailey expectation that a Courier express would set out. He is still delayed & for aught I know may be a day or two longer. I approve much of y^r sentiments as to Vessels of War expressed in yours of the 27th. & most sincerely hope it may be soon in our Power to put something of consequence in Execution—for some time past and even at present I find difficulties on every side: want of independent Funds, want of Bold Spirited Protection with many other Items of the kind Clog & weigh us down whenever we would attempt any thing of consequence. I have the highest Opinion of the merits of Capt. Jones & of his active Zeal for the service believe me Sir he shall not trifle away a moments time at Paris on my acc^t But tho' my whole time is Devoted to Business at the same time I must necessarily give attendance to that which first & most immediately presses, especially in proportion to its importance. I am glad to find that Capt. Green will be ready with the other Vessels & depend you will make the necessary regulations on that subject.

Capt. Nicholson will be ordered for Boston or Portsmouth in New England, the Com^{rs}. Judging those to be the most certain Ports under the present situation of Affairs. I am very sorry to find that M^r Hodge has been ill, but hope it is only some sudden turn which the News of the taking of Philadelphia may have had on his Spirits[.] He is a worthy honest plain young man & I really Love & esteem him. I shewed your Letter² on the Subject of Cunninghams Cutter to M^r Lee but as yet have no Answer. I thank you most sincerely for y^r Kind hints and Cautions—they are just, they are Seasonable & come I am sure from a heart which wishes me well and is anxious for my present situation. I have not been regardless of the gathering Clouds & have long since Known that what can be done will be done ag^t me; yet should it so happen that these men should be victorious rest assured that their Victory will finally prove their ruin, & public Disgrace—at least I will never take measures to Counteract them which would make me appear little in my own Eyes, & little I must be, when put on their Level. I send you inclosed a Letter for M^r Hodge, if you Know his direction send it to him. My last Letters from Spain mention that Cunningham had taken several Prizes & Sold them in the Ports of Spain without difficulty. The Com^{rs}. may or may not agree to the proposal I made you & M^r Hodge; it is for them to determine immediatly. The Subject is properly laid before them & of Course I am clear of any blame in it; let it be delayed or not.³ We are in hopes dailey of receiving news that the troops & militia to the South have exerted themselves & put Gen^l Howe on a footing with Gen^l Burgoyne, but at this moment we are really destitute of News of almost any Kind that may be relied on you must excuse my not answering y^r several Letters earlier & accept of the present if not as a payment in full at least as being on acc^t I am &c.

S. D.

LB, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. Addressed at foot: "M^r Ross."

1. The former letter is extracted in *NDAR* 10: 1142. For the latter letter, which urges the obtaining of a larger ship of war for John Paul Jones, see *Deane Papers* 2: 289–91.

2. Probably John Ross to Silas Deane, 16 Dec. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 1106–8.

3. Deane proposed that William Hodge and Ross either purchase the United States' half interest in the cutter *Revenge* or act as agents for Congress in management of the vessel. Deane to Ross, 2 Dec. 1777, *Deane Papers* 2: 263–64.

HERMAN KATENCAMP TO LORD WEYMOUTH

N^o: 74Corunna 3^d: January 1778.

My Lord

I most humbly beg leave to refer to my last of the 15th. Past.¹

Cunningham has sent in no other Prizes since those mention'd in my Letter N^o. 72.² both which have been sold. The repeated Remonstrances I have made on these Occasions to the Captain General, and the Censure given him by Count Floridablanca in consequence of My Lord Grantham's Representations of his Partiality to the American Privateers, have only served to exasperate him, and thereby to render my Situation extremely unpleasant and hazardous, he still continues to favor them to the utmost of his Power—

The *Gallardo* of 74 Guns is fitting out in Ferrol.

By the inclosed Letter³ which I humbly intreat may be sent to the Navy Office Your Lordship will be pleased to observe the great Loss sustained by the

Newfoundland Trade for want of Convoy to the Ports of their Destination. I have the Honor to be [&c.]

H Katencamp.

L, UklPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fols. 26–27. Addressed at the foot of the first page: “The R^t Hon^{ble}: Lord Viscount Weymouth.” Docketed: “Coruña 3 Jan^{ry} 1778/Consul Katenkamp/N^o 74/R. 31^a.”

1. NDAR 10: 1104–5.

2. Brig *Syren*, James Renolls, and brig *Dispatch*, Emanuel Le Gete. NDAR 10: 1065.

3. Herman Katencamp to the British Navy Board, 3 Jan., immediately below.

HERMAN KATENCAMP TO THE BRITISH NAVY BOARD

Copy.

Corunna 3^d. January 1778

Gentlemen,

I have the Honor to acquaint You of the arrival here of the Brig *Flora*, John Robins Master of Topsham with 61 Seamen belonging to the Vessels hereafter mentioned, who were put on board of her off Santander by James Babson and Jeremiah Hilbert, Masters of the Rebel Privateers the *General Mercer*, and *Hawke*. Babson also took the *Flora*, but restored it to the master, in order to convey these Seamen to England, but he supplied them so sparingly with Provisions, that They were obliged to make the first Port, and arrived here in extream great Distress, having had nothing to eat for a considerable time before their Arrival.¹

I sent them immediate Relief, and am providing them with a Month's provisions to carry them to the first Port in England, an account of which I shall take the Liberty to send You. Meanwhile I beg leave to observe, that as the master of the *Flora* had his vessel restored on Condition of conveying these men home, and that the Provisions have been supplied by me, he cannot expect any further Reward for their Passage. I have the honor &c^a.

H Katencamp.

The Brig, *Minehead*, John Mathews of Teinmouth from Newfoundland to Bilbao, taken the 29th. of November, by the Privateer *General Mercer*.

The Brig, *Mary*, William Pearce of Exeter from Newfoundland to Bilbao, taken the 30th. November, by the *General Mercer*.

The Snow, *Mary*, William Ashweek of Dartmouth, from the Coast of Labrador to Santander, taken the 15th November by the *Hawke*, Privateer.²

The Brig, *George* David Elsworthy of Poole from Newfoundland to Bilbao,³ taken the 28th November, by the *General Mercer*.

The Brig, *Hawke*, George Best of Poole, from Newfoundland to Bilbao, taken the 1st of December, by the *General Mercer*.

The Brig, *Active*, David Mauger of Jersey, taken the 2^d. November, by the *Hawke*.

Copy, UklPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fols. 28–29. Addressed at foot of first page: “The Hon^{ble}./Commissioners of the Navy.” Docketed: “Copy of a Letter from/Consul Katenkamp/to the Hon^{ble}. Commiss^{rs}./of the Navy./Corunna, 3^d January/1778.” Enclosed in Herman Katencamp to Lord Weymouth, 3 Jan., above.

1. For a general account of these captures see James Gardoqui to Arthur Lee, 10 Dec. 1777, NDAR 10: 1085.

2. NDAR 10: 1094.

3. NDAR 10: 869.



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Captain Gustavus Conyngham

January 4 (Sunday)

CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Gentlemen

S^t sebastian Janry. 4th. 1778

Since I wrote you last I went on A Cruze and fell in With the Brig *Gracieux* M^r Augustin Letournois from London Bound to Spain with A Cargoe of Dry Goods the most of the Bills of Lading Consignd to Order.¹ On my Asking the Cap^t If he new that his Cargoe was British property or not he made Answer, I seen where he Loaded and that I had A Good prize On this Answer I askd him if he was Willing to proceed to America he said his Vessell was not in condition but would Agree to Go to any port in the Bay I propos^d What port he said Nants I Object^d, he then Mention^d. Bilboa I agreed he then demanded one hundred pounds his Vessell ensured and the ten p^r Cent primage this I agreed too And Oblig^d. to Give him from Under my hand in Writing before he would proceed, When Going Away he Desired I should Assist him with Some hands as he Was only seven in Number And the Vessell Made much Watter that the sand had Got to the pumps and the[y] often got choalkd that if a Gale of Wind Should happen he would Lose his Vessell and we our Cargoe on this I let him heave five men with Orders to Obey the french man as he was still master of the Vessell And had Agreed to Deliver the Cargoe to me in Bilboa, that it Can not be Said we Offerd any insult to the french flag that for A sufficient proof he Brought his Vessell to S^t sebastian instead of Bilboa that he might as well have Gone to his first desird port,² the Cargoe is taken into the hands of the Admiralty What will be the Result I know not. I have Claimd the Cargoe that is Consing^d. to Order the rest is but little And Addressd to Spaniards I have not, Altho by A British Act of parliment All America produce Or any Nation trading with them Only On Suspicion if they can be brought into their ports the[y] are Condemned, Gentlemen I must beg of you to make strickt enquiry And find out Any foreign Vessell the english has took for havng Americane produce On board Or the[y] have took On Suspicion of Going or Coming from America or prizes that has been sold by the Americans to french or Spaniards And Afterwards taking by the english On Suspicion that they had been prizes, I do beg you will find Some of them or the most pallelle Circumstance with Our Case And have it Drawn in form and sent imeadly Under Cover to m^r Leraldo³ in S^t. Sebastian's, Who is the Gentlemen M^r Gardoqui Recommended me to And I find is Verry Deligent in business I am [&c.]

G. Conyngham

L, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 48, no. 149. Addressed: "To/M^r Sileas Dean/Paris." Docketed: "S^t Sebastians/1776/4th. Jany Letter/from Cap^t G Cunningham."

1. Conyngham captured the *Gracieux* on 21 Dec. 1777.

2. Conyngham appears to have concluded that American interests were not so well served at San Sebastián as they were at Bilbao. Floridablanca wrote that the merchants of the former area constantly appealed to the government for help in solving problems created by American privateers and their prizes. Conde de Floridablanca to Conde de Aranda, 13 Jan. 1778, SpVAS, Estado, libro 183, fols. 24–25.

3. Larralde, Diusteguy et fils, merchants at Bilbao.

January 5

WILLIAM KNOX TO PHILIP STEPHENS

Philip Stephens Esq^r
Sir,

Whitehall 5th: Jan^y 1778.

It being judged expedient to strengthen the *Leviathan* Navy Transport appointed to convey Stores to North America, for the use of the Fleet under the Command of Lord Viscount Howe, with a Party of His Majesty's Troops; I am directed by Lord George Germain to desire you will acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that a Party, consisting of a Commissioned Officer & Non Commissioned Officer & 20 Privates, is ordered to embark on board the said Ship; and you will be pleased to move their Lordships to give the necessary Orders, that suitable Accomodation be provided for the said Party, and also for their being victualled during the Voyage. I am &c^a

W^m. Knox.

LB, UKLPR, C.O. 5/254, pp. 190–91.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

5th. Munday Pleas^t w^r this Day served With Oatmeal & Leeks to put into our Pot Liquor to make broth, also with Potatoes & some Turnips. Now we Live Like fighting Cocks.

NB. this Extra is from the Subscription Aforesaid

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

January 6

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO CAPTAIN HENRY ST. JOHN, R.N.

By &c.

Whereas His Majesty's Ship & Sloop named in the Margin¹ are appointed Convoy to the Trade bound to the West Indies which was to have been ready to sail from Cork about the middle of last Month; And whereas we intend that the Ship you command² shall accompany the said Convoy as far as the Latitude of 40°..00" N^o. for their greater security; You are hereby required & directed in case they are not sailed when this comes to your hands, to put to Sea with them the Moment Wind & Weather will permit, & to see them in safety til' they get into that Latitude accordingly (the Commanders of the abovemention'd Ship & Sloop being directed to obey your Orders during the time you and they shall continue together); And then leaving them to pursue their Voyage, make the best of your way in the Ship you command to Plymouth sound, and remain there until you receive further Order; sending Us an Account of your arrival and proceedings.

You are to be particularly careful to the Ships & Vessels of the abovemention'd Convoy; using your best endeavours to secure them from the Privatiers belonging to the Rebellious Colonies of North America, and to take or destroy any such Privatiers, or other Ships or Vessels belonging to those Colonies, which you may fall in, or be able to come up with, without exposing the said Convoy to danger by chasing too far from them. Given &c the 6th. January 1778.

Sandwich
J Buller
H Palliser

By &c. G. J.³

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/104, fols. 77-78. Addressed at foot: "Hble Captⁿ. Stⁿ John, *Torbay*, Cork."

1. *Camel* and *Cupid*.
2. H.M.S. *Torbay*.
3. George Jackson, deputy secretary of the Admiralty.

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO EDWARD THURLOW

By &c

Whereas the King hath thought it for His Service that another Commissioner or Principal Officer of the Navy should be established for the better superintendance & dispatch of His Naval Affairs in North America, His Majesty's Will & pleasure is that you do forthwith prepare a Bill for His Royal Signature to pass the Great Seal of Great Britain constituting & appointing Edward Le Cras Esq^r One of the Commiss^{rs} in quality of a Principal Officer of His Majestys Navy to reside at such Place in North America as shall be hereafter directed with full power & Authority to the said Edward Le Cras Esq^r to sign Contracts, Bills & Orders and to do all other things appertaining to the Duty of a Principal Officer & Commissioner of His Majestys Navy & particularly that he be a Commissioner for the Naval Affairs in North America & that he doth constantly reside at such Place as shall be appointed for his residence there. To see to and take care of the faithful vigorous & frugal management of all Matters & Things relating to His Maj^{ty} Naval Service in North America and to observe such Instructions relating to the said Office & Duty as he shall at any time receive from the Lord High Admiral or Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain for the time being. The said Commission to continue during His Majestys Pleasure only, with the Salary & Allowance of Five Hundred Pounds ꝯ Ann^m, to be paid, Quarterly, by the Treasurer of His Majesty's Navy & to commence from the date hereof; together with such a number of Clerks, at such Salaries & Allowances to them, as shall be allowed by the Lord High Admiral or Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral for the time being. For which this shall be your Warrant. Given &c & the Seal &c 6th Jan^y 1778¹

Sandwich
J Buller
H Palliser

By &c PS

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/104, fols. 78-79. Addressed at foot: "To/Edward Thurlow Esq^r/His Maj^{ty}. Attorney General."

1. Members of the Navy Board were referred to as Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy and were appointed during pleasure by letters patent under the Great Seal. Edward Le Cras, a Royal Navy captain as of 4 Feb. 1755, following his appointment as Commissioner resident in North America referred to in this document, would serve as an Extra Commissioner from 10 April 1778 until 11 Feb. 1793, and as Deputy Controller from the latter date until his death, 20 Dec. 1793. *Navy Board Officials 1660-1832*, compiled by J. M. Collinge, Volume VII of *Officer-Holders in Modern Britain* (London: University of London, Institute of Historical Research, 1978), 18-21, 118.

PHILIP STEPHENS TO VICE ADMIRAL LORD SHULDHAM

My Lord.

[*Admiralty Office*] 6th. January 1778.

My Lords Commiss^{rs}: of the Admiralty having appointed His Majesty's Ship the *Boston*, Captain Dudingstone,¹ to lay in Kingroad to be ready at all times to proceed to Sea when he shall receive Information of any American Privatiers being in Bristol or S^t George's Channel; I am commanded to signify their Lordships direction, if you should at any time receive Intelligence of Privatiers in those Parts, or bound thither, that you acquaint him therewith, sending at the same time the like Information to Cap^t: Hamilton,² the Regulating Captain at Bristol, that in case of the Absence of the said Ship from that Port, he may convey it to her Commander. I am &c^a:

PS:

LB, UklPR, Adm. 2/556, fols. 289-90. Addressed at foot: "Vice Admiral Lord Shuldham/at Plymouth." In the margin: "To send any Information he may recive of Rebel Privatiers to the Comm^r of the *Boston* in KingRoad or Regulating Captain at Bristol."

1. Capt. William Dudington, R.N.

2. Probably Capt. William Hamilton, R.N.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

6th. Tuesday Clody weath^r: Here is No regulations with regard to Our Extra Allowance as yet—to Day served with a white Loaf Extra. The Rev^d. M^r: Heath made us a Present of 7 lb Sugar 1 lb tea a Bible 1 Sermon Book & two Psalm Books.

According to Our Petition we've Peas Allowed in Lieu of Cabbage which was served this Day

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR., TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Hon^{ble}. Gentlemen

(N^o 119)

Nantes Jan. 6. 1778.

I am just returned from Painbeuf where I have been with Cap^t: Nicholson to quiet a Discord between the french & american Sailors, which we have in a great measure effected; and I hope the Steps agreed on between the Commissary at Pain beuf, the Commander of a french Vessell of War, and ourselves, will soon put an end to it. We have offered free Liberty to every french Sailor that does not like the Voyage to go on shore, provided he will return the money he has recv^d, declaring that we only wanted willing Fellows & at the same Time giving them proper encouragement to stay: In addition to this the french Officer tells them that when

they leave the Ship he shall have occasion to take them for the King; This I imagine will have the desired Effect.

I must however observe to you that the Commissary & the Sea Officer above-mentioned have such orders that the Ship cannot go from Painbeuf without a permission from the ministry; else she would have been now at St Nazare. I therefore hope Cap^t Nicholsons assurances will soon be followed with a particular Permission, for us to do as we please.

I have to inform you that the *Dolphin* is seized by the Officers of the Admiralty at the Suit of one Tannay¹ a french Sailor who makes an impudent Demand of Wages & Prize money after forfeiting all by Deserting the Service.—The Fact is this. This Tannay shipped as Sailor in the Service of the united States one year. Cap^t Nicholson gave him the Command of a Prize and ordered him to bring her into France. He carried his Prize into Liverpool & declared her french Property, their being only Frenchmen on board. He drew a Bill on M^r Morris for £147 Sterling which was accepted & which if not already, must at all events be paid. Cap^t Wickes after hearing that the Vessell was arrived in England released the English Captain² supposing the Ship to be from that time lost to us. The Cap^t knew where to find her & nobody can suppose he has been so foolish as to let her alone.—Tannay then came to France and refused to give any acc^t of his proceedings 'till his Wages & prize money should be paid, which of course was refused him. He then sued Cap^t Nicholson & I employed a Lawyer to defend the Cause—Tannay was at last obliged to shew Acco^t to the Admiralty by which he makes 12 Guineas to be due to him over above the £147 Sterling which is so much dead Loss, and then (when too late) he offer'ed to transfer the Property which I suppose has been long since in possession of its former english owners, upon Condition however that his Wages for the whole time shall be paid & his prize money secured.—The admiralty have thought proper to give a Judgment in favour of this man, which is the more extraordinary as it is the first Instance in which they have thought themselves authorised to judge & condemn our prizes, for by according to this Tannay his proportion, they in fact approve of the whole. They have however termed it the profits of the Navigation of the said Vessell, which I suppose is a term to cover themselves by.—³

Cap^t Nicholson will not on any acco^t consent to a Sol being paid. His Reasons are 1st. That as he was engaged for a Year he is now to all intents & purposes a deserter from the Service & therefore not intitled to anything. 2^d He had no right to carry the Vessell into Liverpool as his orders were to come to France whither he should have come at all risques & by breaking his orders he deserves rather punishment than reward 3^d That his Conduct has already subjected us to the Loss of £147 Sterling and his refusing to acco^t for anything till the affair is irretrivable proves that he would not have accounted at all had he succeeded.—I think it my duty to lay this matter before you as it is come to an extremity which I imagine you only can properly decide upon. In the mean Time the *Dolphin* remains seized.

M^r Grand observes to me by this post that you have not established an augmentation of Credit for me as I requested. I beg you will do it as delay may occasion a want of that Confidence so necessary in all commercial Concerns.

I have with Cap^t Nicholson agreed that our French Captain⁴ shall wear the Congress uniform when the Ship goes out, agreeable to his Title of supernumer-

ary Liut. according to the articles made with him & approved by you, thereby to show to all his Crew that as he himself is in our Service under Cap^t Nicholson they must be so also, which will tend to preserve good harmony aboard.—I beg leave to recommend this Young Gentleman to your notice as a very worthy active & intelligent man who has given me great satisfaction—I have the honour to be [&c.]

J Williams

L, ViU, Lee Family Papers. Addressed at the foot: "The Hon. The Commrs/of the United States." Docketed: "J. Williams to Commrs: U.S. 6 Jan^y 1778." Notations: at top of first page, "Seizure of the *Dolphin*"; at top of last page, "Seizure of *Dolphin* &c &c January 6th 1778—D."

1. Jean-Baptiste Tanaÿs fils, prize master of the brig *Betsy*, taken by *Reprisal*, *Lexington*, and *Dolphin*. NDAR 9: 408.

2. John Montgomery.

3. On 31 July 1777 Tanaÿs showed up at the French embassy in London, where he told the Marquis de Noailles his version of the story. He signed on the Continental Navy cutter *Dolphin*, Capt. Samuel Nicholson, in the capacity of a prize master, with the promise of a promotion once they reached Philadelphia. The cutter sailed on a cruise in company with the *Reprisal* and *Lexington* on 4 June 1777. On 18 June, in St. George's Channel, Tanaÿs was given command of the prize brig *Betsy*, with orders for Nantes. His prize crew consisted entirely of Frenchmen. The mate of *Betsy's* original crew, however, had been left on board long enough to allow him to tamper with the brig's compass. Misled by the faulty compass, after two days' sailing Tanaÿs found himself at the entrance of the port of Liverpool. Surrounded by English vessels, and fearing to be lost on the coast or being captured, he entered the port. There, lacking money to pay port expenses, he arranged to freight salt to Ostend on the account of the merchant firm of Marwade and Nissen. But now his crew deserted him and signed on board a vessel that sailed for the Guinea coast. Left only with his mate, and unable to engage an English crew—he spoke no English—he could not sail. Sounding out the sentiments of the merchants, he finally explained his predicament to one of them, a German speaking passable French who believed merchants should trade with all nations. The merchant promised Tanaÿs secrecy, and Tanaÿs left the ship in Marwade and Nissen's hands to send it to France or Holland, while he travelled to London where he was to attempt to contact Thomas Morris, the American agent in Nantes. Marwade and Nissen paid the debts Tanaÿs had accumulated in port for himself and the brig, and he gave them a draft on Morris amounting to £147. Tanaÿs arrived in London on 15 July, where he attempted to draw additional sums using a letter of credit from Marwade and Nissen. Those merchants, however, wrote their agent in London informing him that the customs collector at Liverpool had placed a guard on the brig and in consequence directing against giving Tanaÿs any money. On hearing Tanaÿs's tale, Noailles reprimanded him for imprudence, gave him some expense money, and advised him to return to France as quickly as possible. Marquis de Noailles to Comte de Vergennes, 1 Aug. 1777, with enclosures, FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 526, fols. 138–42. Back in Nantes, Tanaÿs had the *Dolphin* arrested in an attempt to recover his expenses not covered by sums he had been able to draw in England. In December, the Nantes Admiralty Court found in favor of Tanaÿs and in addition released him of responsibility for repaying the bill of exchange for £147 drawn on Thomas Morris. The court reserved to Nicholson the right to recover the *Betsy*, "on demand of the deed of ownership" which Tanaÿs produced and offered to resign. On 21 Jan., the court gave Nicholson two weeks to pay Tanaÿs's claim. Extracts of the Nantes Admiralty Court, enclosed in Williams to Franklin, 21 Mar., below.

4. Lt. Boux.

SUPPLEMENTARY ACCOUNT OF CONTINENTAL NAVY CUTTER *DOLPHIN*

[*Nantes, 6 January 1778*]

N^o. 11
Supplement to Sloop *Dolphin*

1777—				
	May 15 To	Francois Spunyarn om ^d .		20.. 2..—
	Oct ^r 19	Cap ⁿ . Brown, ¹ Expences going to S ^t Malo	56..—..—	
		Boathire	<u>21.. 4..—</u>	77.. 4..—
	Nov ^r 24	Unspiking a Cannon . . 3 [#] Bread at Painbœuf	16 ^s . 4	19.. 4..—
		Paid Cap ⁿ . Thomson expences to S ^t Malo by Order	}	240..—..—
		W ^m . Lee Esq ^r . (see his Letter 2 Nov ^r .) ²		
		Paid for 50 ^{lb} . Tobacco		150..—..—
		Paid for a Mast		<u>250..—..—</u>
		Carried Over—		756 10..—
		Supplement to Sloop <i>Dolphin</i> bro ^t Over		756..10..—
		Paid the Marechause securing the Sailors		18..—..—
	Dec ^r 27.	Paid Honoré Carpenter		50..16..—
	Jan ^s 6	Paid Ravilly Pilot		<u>27..—..—</u>
		Commission 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ C ^t .		852.. 6..—
				<u>17..11..—</u>
				<u>£869.. 6..11^s</u>

Copy, CtY, Jonathan Williams Account Books. Number 11 in "Accounts and Vouchers Refer'd to in the Account Current between Jonathan Williams Jun^r and the Hon^{ble}. The Commissioners of the United States of America."

1. Capt. Francis Brown.

2. Letter not found.

3. Notation: "Compared Nantes 17th. Aug^{ts} 1779/(Signed) J—J— J—N— J—C— J—G—." The initials are those of Joshua Johnson, Jonathan Nesbitt, James Cuming, and Joseph Gridley. They were merchants who, in the summer of 1779, at the request of Benjamin Franklin, audited Williams's accounts with the American Commissioners in France.

MARSTON WATSON TO BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

May it please your Honour

I had the honour of Addressing you the 9th: Ult^o.¹ on the Affair of M^r: Allen in the Schoo^r *Hawk's* prize Brigg *Britannia*, w^{ch} has been seiz'd by the Marquiss Basecourt Gen^l of S^t: Sebastian; the Vessell unrigg'd, the Cargo unloaded & dispos'd of, & the Crew confin'd in Prison, with a design of Confiscation, on a specious pretence of Piracy. However valid their pretence, & how far warrantable their process, on the premises transmitted to you, your honour must be a Competent Judge:—but to all concern'd it is perfectly mysterious how the s^d Gen^l can justify his Conduct without any other pretence than her being a pirate; for since I wrote your honour I procur'd the fullest evidence of the legality of the Capture, both from the Coasting pilots, & the former master & his Crew, w^{ch} together with Cap^t Hibbert's commission has been translated into Spanish & the whole regularly Authenticated by a Notary & Attested by several principal Merchants, before a Magistrate:—these Sir, with a second & third petition have been laid before his Ex^{cy} the s^d Gen^l but to no other purpose than his bare acknowledging “he had been petition'd:”—& to the great damage of our Voyage our men are Still detain'd prisoners on the Scanty allowance of 6^d Sterling per Day.—

Upon our finding that our fate would finally Issue from Madrid,² we made application to our friend & Agent at Madrid M^r: James Gardoqui, with a full representation of the Case; such as the Authority of Cap^t Hibbert; positive evidence of the legality of the Capture; the process of M^r: Allen y^e master; that of the Gen^l & his Serv^t:; my application & the event; & the present situation of our Interest & people at S^t: Sebastian.—As it is necessary for us Sir, to be on our passage homewards, we must entreat your Intercession for the restoration of our Intrest & people; more particularly the latter, who suffer on a suspicion, w^{ch} in a Court of Justice would long since been dispel'd by our full evidence.

If your honour, may have occasion to direct a reply to our remonstrances, please to direct to M^r: Jno: Emery in y^e house of Mes^s: Jos. Gardoqui & Sons at Bilbao. mean time I have the honour to be [&c.]³

“Bilbao Jan^y 6th. 1778”

Marston Watson

L, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 20. Addressed: “The Hon'bl Benj^a Franklin Esq^r/Paris.—” Docketed: “Marston Watson/ab' a Prize at St./Sebastian.”

1. Not found. For background on the incident see *NDAR* 10: 1145–46 and 1157.

2. American and Spanish documents on the matter were forwarded to Madrid for judgment. Marques de Bassecourt to Conde de Floridablanca, 16 Feb., below.

3. The Spanish government released Capt. John Allen and his prize crew by July 1778. John Emery to Arthur Lee, 29 July 1778, *Benjamin Franklin Papers*, 27: 180.

January 7

PHILIP STEPHENS TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

My Lord..

[*Admiralty Office*] 7th: Jan^y: 1778..

I had the honor to receive on the 1st: of December, by Major Cuylor,¹ your Lordships several Dispatches from N^o: 38 to 43 inclusive, giving accounts of the proceedings of His Maj^{ty}: Ships left in Hudson's River under the Command of

Commodore Hotham as well as those more immediately under your Lordships Eye up to the 23rd: of October last, & inclosing a List of the appointment of Officers since the 13th: of Feb^r: minutes & sentences of Courts Martial; List of Vessels seized as Prizes since the 28th: of May with the State & Condition and Disposition of the Fleet under your Lordships command; And having communicated the said dispatches with their several Inclosures to my Lords Commiss^{rs}: of the Admiralty, I am to acquaint your Lordship that Copies of such of them as were necessary to be laid before His Majesty were without loss of time transmitted to Lord George Germain for that purpose.¹

After expressing their Lords^{ps}: concern for the loss of the *Augusta & Merlin* Sloop in the Delaware; I have it in command from them to inform your Lordship that what you have represented as to the want of Slops, was immediately transmitted to the Navy Board with directions to send out by the first opportunity such Supplies as may prevent the Seamen from suffering in their Healths by the want thereof.² Their Lordships hope your Apprehensions on that head will have been removed by the arrival of the additional Supplies which they understood were sent out in the *Grampus* Storeship to New York, & the *Dunmore* to Halifax (after the departure of the *Buffalo*) both of which sailed from England the 28th: of August. The further Supply which is now ordered to be sent out, Your Lordship may expect to receive by the *Leviathan*, late *Northumberland*, reduced to a Storeship, which has already fallen down to Blackstakes & will sail with the first Convoy from England, laden with a large Assortment of Naval Stores for the use of the Fleet under your Lordships command.

My Lords approve of the Commissions your Lordship have given to Lieu^{ts}: Pakenham & D'auvergne the former to continue in the command of the *Viper* Schooner, the latter to command a Vessel fitted out at Rhode Island as a Galley and called the *Alarm*.³

Their Lordships have no doubt of your having been e'er now informed that the *Fox* could not be got ready to proceed from Halifax to Newfoundland under the protection of the *Bienfaisant* which was sent to Halifax by Vice Adm^l: Montagu partly for that purpose. They nevertheless hope that she may be put into a proper Condition for Service in America, & that your Lordship will in such Case employ her as a part of your Squadron conformable to the directions contained in my Letter of the 23th: of August last;⁴ or on the other hand, if she cannot be fitted for such Service at Halifax, that you will find the means of sending her safely to England; But their Lordships are of opinion that in either case it will be improper for Capⁿ: Fotheringham to have the charge or command of her, until an Enquiry has been made into his Conduct by a Court Martial, which they have no doubt will be done with all proper Dispatch as recommended by my Letter beforementioned.⁵ I have the honor to be [&c.]

PS:

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/556: fols. 299–300. Addressed at foot: "R^t: Hon^{ble}: Lord Viscount Howe." Notation: "Duplicate sent by the Packet 5th February 1778."

1. Marginal note: "Our Rec^d & acq^d that Copies of such parts of his Dispatches as were thought necessary are laid before His Majesty." Lt. Col. Cornelius Cuyler, Sir William Howe's aide-de-camp, carrying dispatches, sailed from the Delaware on board the *Harriot* packet, at the beginning of November 1777. *NDAR* 10: 779. For dispatch No. 38, see *ibid.*, pp. 75–76; No. 39, p. 226; No. 43, pp. 287–93.

2. Marginal note: "Acq^d with a Supply of Slops being sent out."

3. Marginal note: "Approve of the Commissions given to Lieu^s. Pakenham & D'Auvergne." For Pakenham's and d'Auvergne's appointments, see *NDAR* 10: 226.

4. *NDAR* 9: 596–97.

5. Marginal note: "Directions respecting the *Fox* & recommend not to suffer Cap^t Fotheringham to have the charge or Command of her till an Enquiry has been made into his Conduct by a C^t Martial."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER OF H.M.S. *PANTHER*

Tuesday, February 3. London.

A letter from an Officer on board the *Panther*,¹ to his Friend at Portsmouth, dated at Sea, Jan. 7, says, "On the 4th inst. at day-break, we discovered two ships and a brig, and presently saw them bearing down to us. The admiral,² judging them to be Americans, ordered the ship to be cleared; they brought up within gun shot, and began firing upon us, which we briskly returned; the Admiral ordered us to work for the nearest of them, who on our approach, judging her situation would be too warm, began making off, but a shot of our's taking away her maintopmast, she immediately struck. We sent a boat to her, and luffed for the other two, and in passing them received a smart broadside from each, when they directly stood off, and we after them, but as we soon found they were our superiors in sailing, and our convoy being nearly out of sight, we tacked and joined our companions. The vessel we have taken is the *Spider* privateer, Capt. Budd, of eight carriage guns and ten swivels, with 60 men, from Charles Town; those which escaped were the *Argus*, of 20 guns, Capt. Mullins, and *Congress's Delight*, of 22 guns, Capt. Ward. In this action we had seven men wounded, but none dangerously; the *Spider* had a Midshipman killed, and three Seamen wounded. She had taken two brigs with fish, and sent them to Spain. The Admiral intends taking her into the service, as she sails extremely well, and is in appearance like a yacht."

Lloyd's Evening Post, and British Chronicle (London), 2–4 Feb. 1778.

1. H.M.S. *Panther*, of 60 guns, was put into commission on 16 Sept. 1777 and sailed with a convoy for the Mediterranean on 29 Dec.

2. Vice Adm. Robert Duff.

JAMES MOYLAN TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Honorable Gentlemen

L'Orient 7th. Janua^r 1778

I beg leave to refer you to my letter of the 2^d. instant, and altho' I am not yet in the situation you prescribed for me to transact your Bussiness here, I am nevertheless induced, as well from the season of the year, as the reports of Captains Thompson & Green, to inform you, that the Ship *Durass* of near Eight hundred Tons Burthen, w^{ch}. is here for sale, wou'd be a cheap purchass at 50 to Fifty five thousand Livers, w^{ch}. sum I think she may be procured for. those Gentlemen told me, they gave you a particular discription of this Vessel in writing,¹ w^{ch}. leaves me only to add, that she may be fitted ready for the sea in the next month, was she to be put in hands soon, and that from the temper of the people's minds here, a sufficient number of seamen may be had in this port to navigate her &^{ca}, in case of no new obstacle

was such a speculation to take place, I wou'd beg leave to recommend the purchass of cordage from the Kings stores in Brest; it may be had cheap, on acc^t. of

it's being already used by Ships of War, and from the samples I have seen here of it, I am persuaded it wou'd be a necessary article at the other side of the Water operations of this Kind may be conducted in this Port with facility, even under the common circumstances, from it's vicinity to the sea and it's exports to the East Indias

the Captain of the Ship *Berrier*² who arrived here a few days ago from India, tells me, that he spoke with Captain Butler of the Privateer Brig *Molly* of fourteen guns belonging to Boston, the 21st ult^o off of Bordeaux, who inform'd him, that he left said port of Boston about the 15th. November, that he had taken four prizes, one of w^{ch}. a Ship of three hundred Tons in company with him from Oporto with Wine &^{ca} and that he intended for some port of Spain

the Captain got no other news from him I have the Honor to be [&c.]

James Moylan

L, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 22. Addressed: "The Honorable The Commissioners/of the United States of America." Docketed: "Jan^y 7th 1778/Letter from M^r Moylan/L'Oreint."

1. Captain Thomas Thompson to the American Commissioners in France, 20 Dec. 1777, in *NDAR* 10: 1129–30, assesses the ship *Duc de Duras*, which would become the Continental Navy ship *Bonhomme Richard*. Captain Green is John Green, master of the ship *Brune*.

2. Possibly the 900-ton ship *Berryer*, carrying 20 guns, formerly of the disbanded *Companie des Indes*. René Estienne, *Les armements au long cours de la deuxième Companie des Indes (1717-1773)*, Archives du port de Lorient (Paris: Service historique de la Marine, 1996), 75.

January 8

GABRIEL DE SARTINE TO COMTE DE VERGENNES

A Versailles, le 8. Janvier, 1778.

J'ai fait prendre des éclaircissements, Monsieur, sur ce qui concernoit la Corvette Américaine nommée le *Dauphin*, qu'on disoit être à Painbeuf, et sur laquelle on prétendoit qu'il y avoit eu entrepôt soixante dix Matelots et des Officiers de tous grades, destinés à former l'Équipage d'un Bâtiment de 24. Canons, et sur ce qui concernoit les Matelots qu'on prétendoit avoit été mis en prison à Nantes à la réquisition du Capitaine Anglo-Américain; parcequ'ils avoient voulu quitter ce Bâtiment, et quoiqu'ils fussent Anglois et eussent déclaré que leur intention étoit de s'en retourner chez eux; et il résulte de ce qui m'a été mandé, que les allégations faites sur ces différents objets sont entierement dénnées de fondement, et qu'on n'a absolument connoissance à Painbeuf d'aucune chose qui ait pu donner lieu à ce qui a été avancé à ce sujet.¹

À l'égard du Navire l'*Indépendance*, il paroît que ce Bâtiment n'est connu que pour Bâtiment du Commerce; au surplus suivant ce qui m'a été marqué, il a eu ordre de partir et doit l'être actuellement.²

Je vous ai marqué le 28. du mois dernier que j'écrivi à l'Orient pour qu'on tint la main à ce que le *Raleigh* et l'*Alfred* ne différassent pas davantage leur départ, s'ils étoient encore à l'Orient, et qu'il est fût usé de même pour le *Randolph*, s'il étoit en ce Port; suivant ce qui m'a été mandé du dit lieu par une lettre du 29., le *Raleigh* et l'*Alfred* en étoient partis le même jour, et par une autre lettre du 2. de ce mois, que je reçois, on me mande qu'on n'a pas connoissance qu'il y ait en à

l'Orient un Corsaire Américain nommé le *Randolph* et à l'égard des armes et munitions de Guerre qu'on disoit avoit été embarquées sur ces Bâtimens, et leur avoit été fournies de nos Ports, je vois par cette d^{re}. lettre que ce qui a pu donner lieu à ce qui avoit été dit à ce sujet, c'est que le rembarquement des Canons et des munitions d'Armement du *Raleigh* et de l'*Alfred* n'a été fait que depuis leur mise en rade, mais on m'assure qu'on n'a aucune connoissance qu'il y en ait eu d'autres, et qu'il avoit veillé avec la plus grande attention à ce qu'il n'y en fut pas embarqué.³ J'ai l'honneur d'être [&c.]

de sartine

[Translation]

Versailles, 8th. January 1778.

I have caused inquiries to be made, My Lord, concerning the American corvette named the "*Dauphin*", which was said to be at Painbeuf, and on which it was asserted there were seventy sailors and officers of all ranks, intended to form the crew of a vessel of 24 guns, and also concerning the sailors, who were stated to have been put in prison at Nantes on the requisition of the Anglo-American Captain, because they had wished to leave this vessel, although they were English and had declared their intention of returning home. I gather from what has been told me that the allegations made on these different points are entirely void of foundation, and that absolutely nothing is known at Painbeuf which could have given rise to what has been alleged on this subject.¹

With regard to the vessel *Independence*, it appears that it is only known as a trader; moreover, according to what has been pointed out to me, it has received orders to depart, and must now be gone.²

I informed you on the 28th. of last month that I wrote to L'Orient requesting that the departure of the "*Raleigh*" and the "*Alfred*" should be delayed no longer, if they were still at L'Orient, and that the same action should be taken towards the "*Randolph*," if it was in that port. According to information sent me from that place by a letter of the 29th., the "*Raleigh*" and "*Alfred*" had left the same day; and by another letter of the 2nd. of this month, which I have just received, I am informed that they are not aware that an American privateer named the "*Randolph*" has been at L'Orient, and with regard to the arms and ammunition which were said to have been embarked on these vessels, and supplied to them from our ports, I learn by this last letter that what gave rise to what has been said on this point is, that the re-shipping of the guns and ammunition of the "*Raleigh*" and "*Alfred*" did not take place until after they were in the road, but I am assured that there is no knowledge of any other shipments, and that the greatest attention had been paid to see that none was embarked.³

I have the honour to be [&c.]

De Sartine

L, FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 521, fol. 30. Addressed at foot of first page: "M. Le C^{te}. De Vergennes." The translation is from *Stevens's Facsimiles*, vol. 21, no. 1826.

1. Marginal notation: "nul fondement à l'allegation au Sujet du Batiment le *Dauphin* qu'on disoit etre a Painbeuf l'entrepot de 70 matelots"; "no foundation to the allegation respecting the ship *Dauphin* which was said to be at Painbeuf, and on which were seventy sailors." In fact, Jonathan Williams, Jr., Continental agent in Nantes, was using the cutter *Dolphin* to lodge seamen intended to man Continental Navy frigate *Deane*. On the imprisonment of reluctant seamen, see the notation of a payment to the maréchausee for "securing the sailors," in the Supplementary Account of Continental

Navy Cutter *Dolphin*, at 6 Jan., above. For the British complaint, see Lord Stormont to Lord Weymouth, 10 Dec. 1777, *NDAR* 10: 1081–82.

2. Marginal notation: “depart du Batiment americain l’*Independance*”; “Departure of the American vessel *Independence*.”

3. Marginal notation: “certitude du depart de l’orient des Vaux americains le *Raleigh* et l’*Alfred*, on n’a point connoissance du Vau le *Randolph*”; “Certainty of the departure from L’Orient of the American vessels *Raleigh* and *Alfred*, there is no knowledge of the vessel *Randolph*.” For the mistaken British intelligence that the *Randolph* was at Nantes, see Lord Stormont to Comte de Vergennes, 25 Dec. 1777, *NDAR* 10: 1146–48, and especially note 1.

WILLIAM LEE TO THOMAS MORRIS

Thomas Morris esq^r—Nantes

Sir,

Chaillot 8 Jan^r 1778

I had y^c. pleasure of writing to you the 4th. Instant by M^r Stevenson¹ a countryman of yours & a Gentleman that I trust you will find very deserving of y^r. civilities & who I think you may safely trust any letters to, as he carries several dispatches to Congress w^{ch}. he is to deliver himself & consequently will go in Cap^t Nicholson.² I understand y^t. Cap^{ts}. Thompson & Hyndman refused to let you have any thing to do with the prizes they bro^t. into L’Orient—that they have accounted, or say they will account, with the Gentlemen at Passi for the Congress share of the prizes, & y^t. to y^m. only have they applied & been directed Since they came to L’Orient. Judge yⁿ. what must be my Surprize to have y^c. other day presented for payment bills to y^c. am^t. of near Seventy thousand Livres drawn by these cap^{ts}., on you & me. I saw these cap^{ts}. twice while they were up here, but they never communicated to me one Syllable of their affairs & I only know f^m. Common report that they are in the Continental Service. There is something very odd in this transaction & I c^d. wish you w^d. find out by whose orders they drew so largely on us at y^c. moment they were about to sail. As you are much in the way & will frequently have opportunities of recommending consignments f^m. y^s. country to y^r. Brothers house in America, you will excuse me for hinting that I sh^d. think you ought not to neglect any opportunity of that Sort. I hear y^t. M^r Deane’s Brother, M^r Simeon Deane is just sent out to America to settle a House in Virginia, as Mess^{rs}. Simeon Deane & C^o. and y^t. he is promised most of the Consignments from y^s. Country and Holland. Who compose y^s. Com^y. you know as well as I do, for I have not heard that. M^r Williams will not I suppose hesitate to tell you who Signed the letter to him, directing him to undertake the sale of prizes made by Continental armed vessels, this letter I have repeatedly endeavor’d to get recalled, & was solemnly promised it sh^d. be done, but I am informed it never.³

LB, ViHi, William Lee Folders, Letter Book (August 1777–June 1778), 158–59.

1. William Stevenson was a merchant in Maryland before the mid-1760s, when he moved to Bristol, England. In early January 1778 the American Commissioners decided to send duplicate official dispatches to Congress by his hands but then decided to send them by William Carmichael instead. Stevenson ended up carrying only private letters. *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 25: 406–7.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Deane*.

3. For Morris’s and Williams’s accommodation of the question of authority over Continental prizes, see Jonathan Williams, Jr., to the American Commissioners in France, 6 Dec. 1777, *NDAR* 10: 1072. For the background of the dispute, see *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 24: lii–liii, 245–47, 248–49, 263–64, 305–7, 313, 328–29, 451–53; 25: 337–38.

JOHN THORNTON'S MEMORANDUM FOR THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Memorandum

[Between 5 and 8 Jan. 1778]

In Company with some American Gentlemen, it was dropped in conversation that it was surprising the Commissioners at Paris Knowing the deplorable situation of the American prisoners confined in the several prisons in England, that they had not sent them any relief; this induced me to wait no longer for an answer from Lord North,¹ to run all risks and to set off that Evening for Portsmouth in order to visit and relieve if possible such of the prisoners as were in want, before either Government or the Committee at the Kings Arms had sent them any relief.² so far I succeeded that I provided them with necessaries, Tobacco and money, on the 30th: Dec^r: when I came away from Forton, nothing had been delivered to them, but what I had sent.

I arrived at Forton the 28th: Dec^r: did all I could to speak to some of the American Officers, was permitted to do it thro' the Rails only, and that in the presence of two Officers of Marines and one of the Goalers. I informed the prisoners that I was sent by the Commissioners at Paris to administer to them every relief possible, the Conversation was very short, as I was desired by the Officers to go away; M^{rs}: Harrison³ whom I was told by some of the prisoners had been very good to them, I called upon, she informed me that by the means of one of the Goaler I might convey to any of the prisoners letters or any thing Else, I sent for the Goaler, and with the never failing argument, he carried a letter to Cap^t: Nicholson,⁴ this Goaler with some of the Invalids had carried several letters for them, altho' Expressly forbidden, without their first being open by the Agent.⁵ I desired in my letter that some of the Officers would be at a certain place of the prison at 4 o'Clock that afternoon to speak to me, I [*to*] to bribe the Invalid Centries to per[mit me] to speak to the prisoners without their hearing the conversation, or disturbed by any body Else. so far I succeeded beyond my expectations, as I got a full and concise account from Cap^t: Harris, Doct^r: Smith, Dowler⁶ and many more of the officers of their situations and the numbers confined. on Monday the 29th: I demanded admittance from the Agent, and leave to visit and be permitted to get into the Prison, to converse with the prisoners, which was granted me on the following conditions, that his Clerk, (a M^r: Douglas) should be present and that my visit should be short. on my entering the Yard of the Prison, I was surrounded by every one of them, enquiring if there was any likelihood of their misery ceasing. I informed them, that I had been sent to England by the Commissioners at Paris, to inspect into the treatment they had received, and to supply them with every necessaries they might be in want, that application had been made for the Exchange of prisoners, and that I hoped their imprisonment would be, but of a [short] duration, that, if they had not been re[*to*] before now, it was Not the fault of [the] Commissioners, that they had long ago endeavored to find means to do it; they Seem'd happy and they expressed their thanks to the Commissioners. many of the officers had not a Shilling, to pay for their Washing and some of them only a Shirt, a p^r: of Stockings and bad Shoes, I took the Names of such as were in that condition, and immediatly provided them with it. the Officers complained to me of the small quantity of provisions allowed them by the Agent, which lead me to offer that every other day, they should have a joint of meat such as they liked to each Mess and that M^{rs}: Harrison under the inspection of the Reverend M^r: Wren⁷ would provide them with it.

they express their thanks and seemed much happier of my visit. I should have distributed a greater quantity of Cloathing but I was informed by the Agent's clerk, that Govern^{mt}: had ordered Jackets, Stockings [and] Breeches to be served out to them, [and] had also ordered all sort of necessaries sent down.

By the Account I had from Plymouth, there were in Milles Prison^s 289 of which 40 were Officers.

Lord North told M^r: Hartley last Saturday the 3^d: of Jan^{ry} 1778 that he Knew of Several persons that had come to London from Mess^{rs}: Franklin, Deane & Lee & that Doctor Bancroft had been in London, and was informed had been sent by those Gentlemen from Paris on Stock Jobbing business.

An Exact Account of the treatment of the American Prisoners taken from their own mouths & from the Reverend M^r: Wren to the 29th: of Dec^r: 1777 that I visited them at Forton Prison.

at this time there are 119 American Prisoners in Forton Prison near Gosport, their imprisonment is of a truth exceedingly rigorous owing partly to the severity of the Orders given in charge to the Agent, and partly owing to the weakness of the Prison itself, which is a perpetual temptation to them to brake out, for on their being detected in attempting to escape or retaken after having got out, they are punished with an unexampled severity for such an Offence and tho' many things that have appeared in the papers concerning the cruelty of [*torn*] Keepers have been exaggerated, yet, there [*torn*] many capricious and vexatious [*acts?*] arising [*fro*]m this quarter, which add greatly to the weight of their misery. there is not the least distinction made between the Officers and common Sailors, and the prison having no Glazed windows, they can not have any light without having the Northern and Westerly Winds; their provisions are but scanty at best, generally good of the quality, they are divided into Messes 4 in each, and each mess's allowance for the four is 3^{lb} of meat, 1^{lb} of bread & 1 Quart of Beare for each man for the 24 hours, as there is not any thing delivered to them from the Agent but at noon.⁹ there are now in the Infirmary 20, and few days' ago 27 in the black hole which is nearly filled makes it a dreadful punishment, some of them had not Cloaths nor other necessaries to Keep themselves clean so that the Air doth not only become foul, but the stench some time insupportable, the 27 were confined the 2^d: December, and till lately they were not let out at all, how-ever they are now let out 3 hours every other day the time of their confinement for attemp[ting] to Escape is 40 days. Captain [*torn*] are at this present time [*torn*] sometime so delirious at [*torn*] detriment of the others. during [*torn*] these men have only the half allowance of provisions and indeed hardly half, for each man has for the 24 hours 1/2 lb of bread, 1 pint of beare, and what should be 6 ounces of meat, but the bones makes it seldom exceed 4 Ounces. the Agent declares that it's the orders of the Sick and Hurt, that during the time of confinement these men shall not be permitted to have either money, or victuals from any person whatever but their half allowance. tho' lately means have been found out to send in some small quantity of provisions to them, the prisoners have been and were when I arrived there extremely bare of Cloaths. the Agent had distributed few necessaries such as 40 pairs of Shoes, 50 Shirts & upwards leaving still great many wanting. there are many of the prisoners that have been confined 18 & 20 Months. Captain Nicholson of the *Hornet* was 7 months in Irons in the West-Indies, some French prisoners of Ranks [*torn*] amongst them.¹⁰ Their whole bedding [*torn*] Hamock, a Pillow filled with Straw & [*torn*].

[Mr. Wr]en a Presbiterien Clergyman at Portsmouth has been of the greatest service, and has behaved with great Humanity to the American prisoners providing

some with the means of making their Escapes, and assisting those that were unable or prevented from getting away. the first comittement at Forton was on the 13th of June 1777, at which time he got acquainted with the officers of the *rising states*, assisted them, and gave them Cash for their Congress Notes, the only mode of assisting them, the Agent would allow of. from the 13th of June to 13th Oct, there has been about 7 Comittements to which he has always attended, last Sept^r at his repeated Sollicitations the Agent allowed him to distribute to the necessitous 2 Shill^s to each man, shortly after that he was permitted to advance them, as far as one Dollar ^{per} man. from the 12th Ju [torn] to the Midle of Decem^r the prisoners were very inhumanly treated by the Agent & Goalers. but upon Lord Abington speech in the House of Lords¹¹ the Keepers begun to abate goodeal of their Severity M^r Wren soon after the Advertisement of the Committee at the Kings Arms appeared in the Papers, received Letters from London, Bristol, Liverpool & several other places [torn] Know the situation of the pr [torn] M^r Wallace of Liverpool [torn] time a note of £30 to be [torn] should think proper amongst the prisoners [torn] Worthy Clergyman has visited every other day the Prison, and has supplied them from time to time with triflying sums, and those in the black hole with provisions.

L, MH-H, Arthur Lee Papers. By permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University. Docketed: "Original Letter from M^r Thornton/to the Commissioners at Paris." The date is conjectural, suggested by the internal reference to "last Saturday the 3^d of Jan^r 1778," and the date of Thornton's return to Paris, 8 Jan. See Richard Henry Lee, *Life of Arthur Lee* (Boston, 1829; reprint ed. Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries Press, 1969), 2 vols., 2: 374-75. Tears on the edges of several sheets have removed several words of the original text. For the enclosure, see "List of the American Prisoners confined in Forton Prison," which follows, below.

1. For Thornton's commission from the American Commissioners, see NDAR 10: 1086. For the American Commissioners' letter to Lord North, see *ibid.*, 1095-6. Lord North granted Thornton an interview on 19 Dec. but gave no answer to the Commissioners' letter. Cohen, *Yankee Sailors*, 87.

2. On 24 Dec. 1777 a public meeting for raising a subscription "for the purpose of relieving the distress of the American prisoners" was held at the King's Arms Tavern, in Cornhill, London. Cohen, *Yankee Sailors*, 83-84. See also Almon's *Remembrancer*, the first document following the enclosure, below.

3. Mrs. Elizabeth Harrison, the prison's chief cook. Cohen, *Yankee Sailors*, 88.

4. Continental Navy sloop *Hornet*, Capt. John Nicholson, commander, was captured on 27 Apr. 1777 off Florida. Her officers were in prison in England by September. NDAR 8: 454; 9: 124-25.

5. John Newsham, keeper of Forton Prison, agent of the Commissioners for Sick and Hurt Seamen and the Exchange of Prisoners.

6. Virginia Navy Captain John Harris, captured in brig *Musquetto* off Barbados in June 1777 (NDAR 9: 46); Clement Smith, Surgeon, Continental Navy brig *Lexington* ("List of the American Prisoners Confined at Forton," below); and Eliphalet Downer, "Surgeon and Passenger" in *Lexington* (*ibid.*).

7. Thomas Wren (ca. 1725-1787), minister of the Presbyterian Chapel in Portsmouth. Sheldon S. Cohen, "The Preachers and the Prisoners," *Essex Institute Historical Collections* 126 (Jan. 1990, No. 1): 1-26. See also Cohen, *Yankee Sailors*, *passim*.

8. Mill Prison, Plymouth, England.

9. In the margin: "One Man's allow^{ce}: for 24 Hours. 1 Pint of Beare 1 lb of Bread 12 Ounces of meat."

10. See the last two entries in the "List of the American Prisoners confined in Forton Prison," immediately below.

11. Willoughby Bertie, 4th Earl of Abingdon, a member of the Parliamentary opposition, had spoken against passage of the act suspending the Habeas Corpus Act under whose authority Americans were held prisoner. On 11 Dec. he moved in the House of Lords that the government provide accounts relative to the treatment of American prisoners held in England and announced his intention to promote a subscription for the relief of those prisoners. *Rebellion in America: A Contemporary British Viewpoint, 1765-1783*, [extracts from the *Annual Register*] edited by David H. Murdoch (Santa Barbara, Calif., and Oxford, England: Clio Books, 1979), 453, 545-46; Abingdon's speech is reported in *The Parliamentary History of England* 14: 592-95.

"LIST OF THE AMERICAN PRISONERS CONFINED IN FORTON PRISON DEC^R: 29TH: 1777"

[Enclosure]

Men's Names	Stations	Where born	Places of Residence in America.
Taken in a Prize belonging to the <i>Warren</i> Privateer 20 th . Nov ^r . 1776			
Jn ^o : Palmer	Prize Master		
Sam ^l . Blasdel	Sailor		
Sam ^l . Brown	D ^o		
Fran ^s . Jones	D ^o :		
Taken in the <i>General Montgomery</i> . ¹			
Jam ^s . Bryant	first Lieutenant	Boston	Massachusetts's Bay
Tho ^s . White	2 ^d : D ^o :	Salem	Ditto
Geo: Segar	Surgeon's Mate	Queen Ann's County	Maryland
Will ^m : Baxter	Master's Mate	Nantucket	Massachusetts's Bay
Jam ^s . Lee	Prize Master	Manchester	D ^o :
Moses Bigar	Serj ^t : of Marines		Pensylvania
Jam ^s . M ^c Mahan	D ^o :	Ireland	D ^o :
Jo ^s : White Jun ^r : ²	Sailor	Salem	Massachusetts's Bay
David Cross	D ^o :	Marble Head	D ^o :
Jn ^o : Carries	D ^o :	Beverley	D ^o :
Dan ^l . Stewart	D ^o :	Ireland	D ^o :
W ^m . Murphy	D ^o :	D ^o :	D ^o :
Jerem: Evans	D ^o :	Pensylvania	Pensylvania
Rob ^t . White	D ^o :	Philadelphia	D ^o :
Ja ^s . Berkley	D ^o :	D ^o .	D ^o :
Ja ^s . Redman	D ^o :	Norwich England	Philadelphia
Jn ^o . Murray	D ^o :	Ireland	D ^o :
Cha ^s : Blee	D ^o :	D ^o :	D ^o :
Cha ^s . Cainney	D ^o :	D ^o :	D ^o :
Pat: Read	D ^o :	D ^o :	D ^o :
Ge ^o : Wilson	D ^o :	D ^o :	D ^o :
Ja ^s . Gentle	D ^o :	Sheetland	D ^o :
Jn ^o Cooper	D ^o :	Norfolk	Virginia
Jn ^o . Bounet	D ^o :	France	Nova Scotia
Ja ^s . Grammar	D ^o :	Mount Holly	New Jersey
Crew of the <i>Rotterdam</i> Brig ³ taken in a Prize 8 th : Feb ^r y 1777/			
W ^m . Tryon	Lieutenant	Weatherfield	Connecticut
Jn ^o Leonard	Passenger	France	
Jn ^o Bap: Ferrez	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Joseph Lapara	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Pet: Andrian	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Tu: Avenar	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Lewis Burrevan	D ^o :	D ^o :	
The Brig the <i>Rising States</i> taken the 15 th of April 1777 from Boston ⁴			
Joseph Lunt	Second Lieutenant		Massachusetts's Bay

Christ: Clark	Carpenter	D ^o :
Ja ^s . Woodward	Gunner	Boston
Eliz: Bowen	Master at Arms	D ^o :
Jn ^o Rogers	Chief Cook	D ^o :
Jos: Lunt Jun ^r :	Gunner's Mate	D ^o :
Edward Manning	Carpenter's Mate	D ^o :
Will ^m . Humber	Sailor	D ^o :
Oliver Johannet	D ^o :	D ^o :
Ge ^o : Pease	D ^o :	D ^o :
Rub: Lock	D ^o :	D ^o :
Aug st . Coolidge	D ^o :	D ^o :
Tho ^s . Burges	D ^o :	D ^o :
David Carnes	D ^o :	D ^o :
Ja ^s . Holtan	D ^o :	D ^o :
Eliab: Allen	D ^o :	D ^o :
W ^m . Jasper	D ^o :	D ^o :
Jos: Martin	D ^o :	D ^o :
W ^m . Graves	D ^o :	D ^o :
Orlando Denny	D ^o :	D ^o :
Benj: Lambert	D ^o :	D ^o :
Tim ^o : Connor	D ^o :	D ^o :
Benj: Oates	D ^o :	D ^o :
Johnson Lunt	D ^o :	D ^o :
W ^m . Stevens	D ^o :	D ^o :
Boston Ruddock	D ^o :	D ^o :

Sloop *Hornet* taken 27th: April 1777/⁵

Jn ^o Nicholson	Captain	Charles Town	Maryland
Edw ^d : Legar 2 ^d :	Lieutenant	D ^o :	South Carolina
W ^m . Radford	Lieu ^t of Marines	Frederick's County	Maryland
Ja ^s . Brehon	Surgeon	Ireland	D ^o :

The *Jenny* Schooner belonging to the Comon Wealth Virginia taken 6th: May 1777/⁶

Jn ^o Author	Lieutenant	England	New London
Mich ^l : Smith	Cap ^t : Clerk	Ireland	Maryland
Jn ^o Dormont	Sailor	England	Virginia

Oliver Cromwell Private Ship taken 20th: May 1777⁷

Jn ^o . Crow	Boatswain	Italy	Philadelphia
W ^m . M ^c Cray	Sailor	Philadelphia	D ^o :
W ^m . Green	D ^o :	D ^o :	D ^o :
George Gettell	D ^o :	D ^o :	D ^o :
W ^m . Base a Boy	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Jn ^o Connor	Sailor	Ireland	D ^o :
Rob ^t : Cameron	D ^o :	D ^o :	D ^o :
Ja ^s . Thompson	D ^o :	England	Maryland
Dan ^l : Pryor	D ^o :	Nantucket	Massachusetts's Bay
W ^m . M ^c Culloh	D ^o :	Ireland	Pensylvania

Musketo Brig belonging to Virginia Comon Wealth taken June 25th. 1777/⁸

Jn ^o : Harris ⁹	Captain	Italy	Virginia
Alex ^r : Dick	Cap ^t : of Marines	Virginia	D ^o :
Alex ^r : Moore	Midshipman	Scotland	D ^o :
Jn ^o : Smith	Boatswain	England	D ^o :

Taken in a Prize Belonging to the *Yankee* Privateer in June 1777¹⁰

David Hall	Sailor	Barbadoes	Connecticut
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The Continental Ship *Reprisal* taken 4th. July 1777/¹¹

Eben: Newcombe	Sailor	Cape Cod	Massachuset's
Jos: Wheeler	D ^o :	New Castle	Pensylvania
Ja ^s : Mullen	D ^o :	New York	New York
Rob ^t : Owen	D ^o :	Ireland	Philadelphia
Arch: Reonalds	D ^o :	Scotland	D ^o :
Jos: Bonny	D ^o :	Ireland	D ^o :
Jn ^o : Harding	D ^o :	England	D ^o :
Dan ^l : Townshend	D ^o :	D ^o :	Maryland

Taken on board the *Percilla* Brig, retaken 19th. July 1777¹²

Epha: Wall	Sailor	Boston	Boston
Tho ^s : McKenzey	D ^o :	D ^o :	D ^o :

Taken on board a Prize 30th Sept^r: 1777 belonging to the *Independence* Sloop¹³

W ^m : Small	Sailor	New York
Jn ^o : Ogden	D ^o :	D ^o :
Pat: Quin	D ^o :	D ^o :
Fran ^s : Braham ¹⁴	D ^o :	Boston

a Prize of the Sloop *Revenge* taken 26th. July 1777/¹⁵

Benj: Bailley	Prize Master	Wallingford	Connecticut
Ja ^s : Ashley	Sailor	England	
Red: Anderson	D ^o :	Philadelphia	Philadelphia
Fran ^s : Vernell	D ^o :	France	
Amiable Tilloy	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Cha ^s : Chamelle	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Jn ^o : Richards	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Lewis Le Counte	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Fran ^s : Rouslin ¹⁶	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Savoy Bowin	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Nicolas Blanche	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Mich ^l : Covin	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Jos: Verbal	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Pet: Magonin	D ^o :	D ^o :	
Hen: Till	D ^o :	D ^o :	

of the *Lexington* Privateer¹⁷

Clem ^t : Smith	Surgeon	Roxbury	Baltimore
Eliz: Downer	Surgeon & Passenger	D ^o :	D ^o :

Mons^r Viebert¹⁸ L^t Co^l & Engineer France taken at Fort Washington
 Mons^r Baubetrang¹⁹ L^t Co^l acting as Aid de Camp to Gen^l Lee & taken with him

D, PHI, Benjamin Franklin Papers. Docketed: "List of American Prisoners, in/Forton." Enclosure to "John Thornton's Memorandum for the American Commissioners in France," between 5 and 8 Jan., above. A nearly identical version, differing chiefly only in the order of the names and a few of the spellings, is in MH-H, Arthur Lee Papers, with Thornton's Memorandum. The text of the latter manuscript, however, is marred by heavy wear on one long edge.

1. Pennsylvania privateer brigantine, Capt. Benjamin Hill, captured by H.M.S. *Levant*, 7 Mar. 1777. NDAR 8: 343-44.

2. "Tho^s White Jun^r" in the copy in MH-H, Arthur Lee Papers.

3. A mistake for South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame*.

4. Massachusetts privateer brigantine, Capt. James Thompson, captured by H.M.S. *Terrible*. NDAR 8: 768-69.

5. Continental Navy sloop, Capt. John Nicholson, commander, captured by H.M. sloop *Porcupine*. NDAR 8: 454.

6. Virginia privateer schooner, Capt. George Ralls, commander, captured by H.M.S. *Seaford*, 24 May 1777. NDAR 9: 102, 123.

7. Pennsylvania privateer ship, Capt. Harmon Courter, commander, captured by H.M. sloop *Beaver*. NDAR 8: 999.

8. Virginia Navy brig *Musquetto*, Capt. John Harris, commander, captured by H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 4 June 1777. NDAR 9: 19-20.

9. Harris was "said to have been born in Wales." Robert Armistead Stewart, *Virginia's Navy of the Revolution* [Richmond, Va., 1933], 198.

10. Massachusetts privateer sloop, Capt. Henry Johnson, commander.

11. Taken, presumably, in a prize of Continental Navy ship *Reprisal*, Capt. Lambert Wickes, commander, probably the ship *Grace*. See NDAR 9: 472, 521-22.

12. *Priscilla*, brig, captured by Massachusetts privateer ship *General Mifflin*, Capt. William Day, 6 July 1777, and recaptured by British letter of marque ship *Union*, Capt. Stop, commander. NDAR 9: 593.

13. Probably Continental Navy sloop *Independence*, Capt. John Young, commander.

14. "Branham" in MH-H, Arthur Lee Papers.

15. Brig *Northampton*, taken by Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*, Capt. Gustavus Conyngham, 21 July 1777, and recaptured by H.M. tender *Kitty*, Lt. John Moore, commander. NDAR 9: 517-19, 534-36.

16. "Brouslin" in MH-H, Arthur Lee Papers.

17. Continental Navy brigantine *Lexington*, Capt. Henry Johnson, commander, captured by H.M. cutter *Alert*, 19 Sept. 1777. NDAR 10: 855-57.

18. Antoine-Felix Wuibert de Méziers, Lt. Col. of Engineers, Continental Army.

19. René-Etienne-Henry Gaiault de Boisbertrand was a Lt. Col. in the French calvary and volunteer with the Continental Army. He had been with Maj. Gen. Charles Lee only three days when, on 13 Dec. 1776, Lee and his entourage were captured by surprise at Basking Ridge, N.J. For more on Boisbertrand, see *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 27: 356-57.

ALMON'S REMEMBRANCER

In the course of the war, several Americans had been made prisoners, and brought to England, who were chiefly confined in gaols at Portsmouth, Plymouth, &c. These were mostly sailors. A temporary law had been made from year to year suspending the Habeas Corpus Act, in their particular case. The treatment they met with was in general harsh, and in some instances exceedingly cruel. Their peculiar situation, and the miseries they underwent, excited some humane gentlemen, in the city of London, to call a public meeting on the 24th of December, 1777, of such persons as thought the sufferers objects of compassion. They opened a public subscription for money, to buy blankets, shoes, linen, coats, &c. &c. for the prisoners; the number of whom was between five and six hundred. The sum of £4657 was collected in a few weeks; when the managers thought proper to close the subscription, to the great disappointment of many persons, in every part of the

kingdom, who wished to shew their humanity by adding to this subscription, and their disapprobation of those measures which had made this bounty necessary.

The following is a copy of a petition, sent to certain noble Lords, from some of the prisoners at Portsmouth:

We the subscribers, natives of America, being at this time prisoners of war, and closely confined in his Majesty's prison at Portsmouth, do most earnestly entreat your Lordship, in behalf of ourselves and others, our companions in gaol, who are not able to sign with us, to permit us to state to your Lordship our present most pitiable case and situation. We beg pardon of your Lordship for the great liberty we are taking, and for the mode we have adopted to make our sufferings known; which, though it may not be thought strictly regular or according to forms, they humbly hope will be excused, when our very distressed state and condition is considered, and when we assure your Lordship, that petitions presented to the Admiralty *last year*, in behalf of certain sick prisoners then in severe confinement, were utterly disregarded. And after having done this, we will entertain a hope, through your Lordship's merciful interposition, and the influence of other compassionate rulers of the land, that we shall not be suffered to perish in a Christian country (*for the body of which we still retain an affection*) and in the midst of plenty. More especially do we hope for relief, on account of those of us who have left *large families* at home, which must sink or swim with us.

In number we are at Portsmouth about one hundred and forty; all of us in want of warm cloathing, so necessary at this severe season, as well as of almost every other comfort; and many are actually without a *shoe or stocking to their feet*. And to add to these hardships, we have for an overseer, a man, who seems to be totally void of humanity.¹ He detains every charitable supply sent us by humane neighbours, or *sells it*, (as lately in the case of some wine sent for our refreshment) and *retails the money at his pleasure*, and in so parsimonious a manner, as to render it of little or no use. He has denied us the common supplies of *milk*, by prohibiting persons ordered to our relief with that necessary refreshment, from entering the prison yard. We are not allowed *candle or fire* in this extreme season, which must prove fatal to many in a cold and exposed prison. Our allowance is only eight ounces of meat each man per day, including the bone, (which is sometimes full one half) and *beer* that is very *small* indeed.

Captains and other officers, who have ever been used to very different treatment, and are blessed with education, who have feelings and sentiments, which upon this occasion they shall suppress, are penned up all together like cattle, with the *common sailors*, and with their *own servants*.

We are at a loss to conceive the reason of these severities, when we know how very different the treatment of English prisoners is in every part of America. We again beg your Lordship's pardon and pray for redress.

Given under our hands in the prison at Portsmouth, the 1st day of December, 1777.

Harman Courter, Commander of the *Oliver Cromwell*.

Byrd Chamberlayne, First Lieutenant of the *Muschetto*.

Robert M'Caver, Prize-master belonging to Captain Weekes.

George Chamberlayne, Second Lieutenant of the *Muschetto*.

William Williams, Master of the brig *General Montgomery*.

John M'Nikal, Surgeon of the *Muschetto*.

John Cochran, Boatswain of the *Yankee*, in prison 18 months.

Joseph Smith,

Thomas Clark,

James Gideon Worth,

James Motry.²

} Sailors.

A subscription was opened in Bristol for the purpose of relieving the American prisoners, where near 400 l. was collected in a short time. Other subscriptions were begun in different parts, as Yorkshire, Norwich, &c. but upon the subscription being closed in London, those in the country were closed likewise.

The Remembrancer; or, Impartial Repository of Public Events. For the Year 1778. (London: John Almon, 1778), 102-3.

1. John Newsham.

2. Capt. Harmon Courter, commander of the Pennsylvania privateer ship *Oliver Cromwell*, captured by H.M. sloop *Beaver*, 19 May 1777, committed to Forton 13 Oct. 1777; Byrd Chamberlayne, first lieutenant of the Virginia Navy brig *Muschetto*, captured by H.M.S. *Ariadne*, 4 June 1777, committed to Forton 8 Aug. 1777; Robert M'Caver, or McCarver, master's mate, Continental Navy, captured in *Reprisal's* prize *Grace*, committed to Forton 9 Aug. 1777 (see *NDAR* 9: 472, 521-22); George Chamberlayne, second lieutenant of Virginia Navy brig *Muschetto*, committed to Forton 8 Aug. 1777, escaped and recaptured 12 Oct., and sent to the Black Hole; William Williams, master of the Pennsylvania privateer brigantine *General Montgomery*, Capt. Benjamin Hill, commander, captured by H.M.S. *Levant* 7 Mar. 1777, committed to Forton 8 Aug. 1777; Archibald McNickle, surgeon of Virginia Navy brig *Muschetto*, committed to Forton 8 Aug. 1777 (Robert Armistead Stewart, *The History of Virginia's Navy of the Revolution* [Richmond, Va., 1933], 39, 219, 276); John Cochran, boatswain of Massachusetts privateer sloop *Yankee*, Capt. Henry Johnson, commander, captured 3 July 1776 by its prisoners and brought into London, committed to Forton 14 or 26 June 1777, escaped and recaptured, put in the Black Hole 30 July, escaped Dec. 1777 (see *NDAR* 6: 516-18, 538-39, 554); Joseph Smith, of *General Montgomery*, committed to Forton 8 Aug. 1777; Thomas Clark, of Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Rising States*, Capt. James Thompson, commander, committed to Forton, 14 June 1777; James Gideon Worth (not identified); James Motry or Mootry, of *Oliver Cromwell*, committed to Forton 13 Oct. 1777. Dates of commitment to Forton are based on Marion Kaminkow and Jack Kaminkow, comps., *Mariners of the American Revolution* (Baltimore, Md.: Magna Carta Book Co., 1967).

INVOICE OF GOODS SHIPPED IN CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *DEANE*

Invoice of Sundry Merchandize received by Jon^a. Williams from various Places & Shipped by order of the Hon^{ble}. the Comm^{rs}. of the United States on board the Continental Frigate *Deane* Sam^l Nicholson Esq^r Commander bound for North America on Account & Risque of Congress and Consigned to their Order.

vizt

FD. ¹	8 Casks said to contain 2000 ☿ Shoes. Contents of each Cask not received by Jon ^a Williams.
N ^o . 1 a 14	14 Hhds Said to contain 2000 Suits of Soldiers Cloaths
1 a 40.	40 Casks Compleat Contents of each Hhds & Cask not received by Jon ^a Williams.
313 a 357	45 Casks said to contain 1276 Suits of Soldiers Cloaths
a 336	Containing each 54 Coats except N ^o . 318. 329. 330. 336. which contain only 49 Making together 1276 Coats.
337 a 346	Containing each 128 Waistcoats except N ^o . 346. which

		contain only 124 making together 1276 Waistcoats.	
347 a 357		Containing 116 P Breeches making together 1276 P Breaches	
JAO 1 a 30	30 Piggs of Pewter said to weigh		10120 lb
DMT 18 a 28	11 Cases of Copper in Sheets		6215
	616 Sheets of Ditto	Loose	8939
29 a 41	13 Bbbs of Ditto	Nails	3625
MAR 11 a 14	4 Bbbs of Ditto	ditto	2300
MG	32 Casks of Ditto	Ore	36606
R.			

Nantes January 8th. 1778.
Errors Excepted.

Jon^a Williams J

DS, ViU, Lee Family Papers.

1. Bolded figures in the left hand column correspond to markings on the casks, barrels, or other packaging, indicating the owner or consignee.

INVOICE OF GOODS SHIPPED IN THE SHIP *DUC DE CHOISEUL*

Invoice of Sundry Merchandize received by Jon^a. Williams from Various Places & Shipped by order of the Hon^{ble}. the Comm^{rs}. of the United States on board the Ship *Duc de Chiseul*. Heraud Commander bound to North America on Account and Risque of Congress and Consigned to their Order vizt

FD

N ^o . 41 a 114.	74 Casks said to contain 2000 Suits of Soldiers Cloaths Compleat
41 a 80.	Containing each 51 Coats except N ^o . 50. 69. 70. 80. which Contain only 41 each making together 2000 Coats.
81 a 98.	Containing each 111 P Breeches except N ^o . 97. 98. which Contain 112 P making together 2000 P Breeches
99 a 114.	Containing each 126 Waistcoats except N ^o . 111. 112. 113. 114 which Contain only 122 each making together 2000 Waistcoats.
115 a 188	74 Casks said to contain Soldiers Cloaths Contents not received by Jon ^a . Williams.
C	27 Bails Said to Contain together 1000 Suits
CP	13 Casks of new invented Soldiers Cloaths with Quatres Casques & ^c & ^c . Compleat Contents of each Bale & Cask not Received by Jon ^a . Williams.
	12 Brass Six Pound Cannon.
CMO.	34 Cases Containing each 30 Stands of Arms except N ^o . 34 which contains only 10 making together 1000 Stands of Arms with Bayonets & ^c . Compleat.

Mem^o. N^o. 1 a 26 marked **CMO**: Were sunk in the River
before their Reception at Nantes and have all been
repacked, by this accident the Varnish is taken
of but the Arms otherwise not hurt.¹

Nantes January 8th. 1778.
Errors Excepted

Jon^a Williams J

DS, ViU, Lee Family Papers.

1. For the sinking of the fusils, see Jonathan Williams, Jr., to the American Commissioners in France, 16 Oct. 1777, in *NDAR* 10: 917.

INVOICE OF GOODS SHIPPED IN THE SHIP *DUCHESS DE GRAMMONT*

Invoice of Sundry Merchandize received by Jon^a. Williams from various places &
shipped by order of the Hon^{ble}. the Comm^{rs}. of the United States on board the
Ship *Duchesse de Grammont* Poidras—Commander bound for North America on
Account and Risque of Congress & Consigned to their order. vizt

FD.

N^o. 1 a 110 110 Bales Containing 5520 Coats. 6000 Waistcoats and 6000 P
Breeches.
15 a 54. 40 Hhds said to q^t 2709 Suits of Soldiers Cloaths. Contents not
received by Jon^a Williams
55 a 78. 24 Hhds said to q^t 2500 Soldiers Coats, Contents not received by
Jon^a Williams.
189 a 225. 37 Casks said to q^t . . . Suits of Soldiers Cloaths Contents not
received by Jon^a Williams.
226 a 267. 42 Casks Containing 2500 Soldiers Waistcoats & Breeches
268 a 312. 45 Casks 1224 Suits of Soldiers Cloaths

C 16 Cases Containing each 50 P Pistoles making together 800 P^r
Numbers as follows. vizt

N ^o .	42	68	184
	43	69	185
	44	70	186
	65	71	<u>187</u>
	66	182	
	<u>67</u>	<u>183</u>	

31 Cases Containing each 25 Carbines making together 775
Stands. Numbers as follows.

N ^o .	45	50	55	61	188	193
	46	51	56	62	189	194
	47	52	57	63	190	195
	48	53	58	64	191	211
	<u>49</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>192</u>	<u>212</u>
						<u>213</u>

54 Cases Containing each 25 Rampart Fuzils¹ making together
1500 Stands Numbers as follows.

N ^o .	143	179	202	280	289	298
------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

146	180	203	281	290	299
147	181	204	282	291	300
158	196	205	283	292	301
159	197	206	284	293	302
160	198	207	285	294	303
176	199	208	286	295	304
177	200	209	287	296	309
<u>178</u>	<u>201</u>	<u>210</u>	<u>288</u>	<u>297</u>	<u>310</u>

Invoice Continued.

WM.N^o. 1 a 23.23 Cases Containing 1400 [♠] Holsters.

N ^o . 1.	60	N ^o . 7.	54	N ^o . 13.	55	N ^o . 19.	50
2.	60	8.	55	14.	54	20.	50
3.	58	9.	54	15.	55	21.	100
4.	54	10.	55	16.	56	22.	100
5.	56	11.	54	17.	55	23.	<u>100</u>
6.	<u>55</u>	12.	<u>56</u>	18.	<u>54</u>		400
	343		328		329		329
							328
							<u>343</u>

1400 [♠] Holsters.24.
25 & 26.

1 Cask of Straps.

2 Cask q^t 5051

101 Cartouch Boxes.

27 a 34.

8 Cases q^t

N ^o .	27.	13	N ^o .	31.	13
	28.	13		32.	12
	29.	13		33.	11
	30.	<u>13</u>		34.	<u>12</u>
		<u>52</u>			48
					<u>52</u>

100 Saddles.

In N^o. 33. there are 102 Belts & 11 Packs Buckles there are also distributed, with the Arms & Saddles 176,200 Corks

Nantes January 8. 1778.

16 Cases Cont ^s	800 [♠] Pistoles	@ 8 [#]	6400.-.-	
	16 Cases	@ 10 [#]	<u>160.-.-</u>	6560.-.-
31 Cases Cont ^s	775 Stands of	9 [#]	6775.-.-	
	Carbines.			
	31 Cases	10 [#]	<u>310.-.-</u>	7085.-.-
54 Cases Cont ^s	1500 Stands of Fuzils	8 [#]	12000.-.-	
	54 Cases	10 [#]	<u>540.-.-</u>	12540.-.-
24 Cases Cont ^s	1400 [♠] Holsters &	7.15	10850.-.-	
	Straps			

	24 Cases	10 [#]	<u>240.-</u>	11090 .. -
8 Cases Cont ^s	100 Saddles	26 [#]	2600.-	
	8 Cases	10 [#]	<u>80.-</u>	2680 .. -
2 Cases Cont ^s	101 Cartouch Boxes	5 [#]	505.-	
	2 Cases	10 [#]	20.-	525 .. -
102 Belts & 11 Packs Buckles		8 [#] .5 ^s		841..10.-
176200. Corks distributed with the Arms & Saddles				<u>792..18.-</u>
Nantes Jan ^y 8. 1778				42114.. 8.-
	Commissions @ 2 [¶] Ct			<u>842.. 7.-</u>
Errors Excepted.				<u>42956..15.-</u>

N.B.² In Cask N^o 33 there are 203 Belts instead of 102 as expressed in the Invoice above @ 8.5 101 is 833.. 5
 Commissions @ 2 [¶] Ct 16..15
 850 .. -
 Amount of the within Invoice 42956..15.-
 43806..15.-

Nantes May 28. 1778

Errors Excepted Jon^a Williams J

DS, ViU, Lee Family Papers.

1. A rampart fusil, also called a wall gun, is a heavy musket, designed to be fired from a fortress wall while resting on a stud under the barrel or on a swivel fork on the forestock, sometimes employed as mobile light artillery.

2. The text from this point on is written sideways in the left-hand column.

LORD GRANTHAM TO LORD WEYMOUTH

N^o2.

Madrid 8th. Jan^{ry} 1778.

My Lord,

In a Conversation which I have had with M. Floridablanca since I had the Honour of writing last to your Lordship,¹ he Shewed me a Letter which he had just received from Don Felix O'Neile, now Commandant at Coruña. It appeared from this Letter that M. O'Neile had received fresh Orders to prevent the Sale of Prizes, or at least to have the Value of their Cargoes, if sold, deposited; that he had likewise received the Instructions, mentioned in mine, N^o 67 of the last year,² to your Lordship to forbid Cunningham's Entrance into any Port of Spain,³ and to do Justice to such Sailors as might claim to be released.—With regard to what had passed M. O'Neile offered the most trivial Excuses, pretending an Ignorance of the Facts, which is as improbable as it was unsatisfactory to me, and I may add, to the Minister to whom they were addressed. All the Documents relative to Prizes at the Ferrol and at Coruña, as well as at other Ports on the northern Coasts of Spain are ordered to be sent here, and M. Floridablanca has promised to give the fullest Attention to them.

I took occasion to mention to him the Notification, which the House of Guadoqui had given to their Correspondent in America;⁴ He repeated to me the Terms of the Licence which had been granted to that House. I know a Person who has seen the Licence itself and confirms its being grounded upon, and confined to the Expectation of some Remittance in Tobacco. So that the Minister at the same Time that he was obliged to allow the artfull Use made of it by the Guadoquis, ab-

solutely disavowed the Extent to which, they pretend, the Licence was granted, and the Formality with which they have drawn up their Communication of it.

In the Course of this Conference, I took occasion to mention, as from myself, the Subject of an Ambassador to our Court. M. Floridablanca assured me that I should have the earliest notice of the Resolution which should be taken, and that the appointment not being yet made was owing to Reasons which he would likewise explain to me. I believe the Marquis d'Almadovar will be appointed, but that he will not be called from Lisbon 'till notice arrives in Europe of the respective Governors in South America having received the treaty between this Court, and that of Portugal.⁵—I have the Honour to be [&c.]

Grantham.

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fols. 12–13. Addressed at the foot of the first page: "The Lord Viscount Weymouth; /&c^a &c^a &c^a." Docketed: "Madrid 8 Jan^y 1778/Lord Grantham/(N2)/R. 28th."

1. 1 Jan. 1778. UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fols. 5–6.

2. This policy is confirmed in Conde de Floridablanca to Francisco Escarano, 16 Feb., FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol. Angleterre, vol. 528, fol. 354.

3. NDAR 10: 1140.

4. NDAR 8: 797–98. Reference to this correspondence is found in a letter from Elbridge Gerry to Joseph Gardoqui and Sons, 1 Sept. 1777, taken by the British from on board an American ship, NDAR 10: 1044–45. For Gerry's letter see *Letters of the Delegates*, 7: 582–84.

5. This sentence is in cipher in the original.

JOHN HORT TO LORD WEYMOUTH

N^o. one

Lisbon th^y 8 Janu^y 1778

My Lord

I did myself the honour of writing to your Lordship on the 25th. past: Since which his majesty's expected ship *Pelican* captain Goodall, is arrived in this river.

The intended convoy by the *Egmont* has been diverted, by intelligence received of two rebel privateers cruising off the island of Madeira: in pursuit of whom, captain Elphinstone¹ sailed from hence on the first instant: previous to his departure, he acquainted me with his expectation of returning from that service in about ten days; and of then convoying such British vessels as may be ready to sail for Great Britain.

I have the honour of directing under your Lordship's cover a packet for the board of Admiralty; containing several denials of Mediterranean passes; and a letter from captain Elphinstone. I am [&c.]

John Hort

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 89/85, fol. 12. Addressed at foot of first page: "Lord Viscount Weymouth."

1. Capt. John Elphinston, commanding H.M.S. *Egmont*.

January 9

PHILIP STEPHENS TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

My Lord..

[Admiralty Office] 9th. Jan^y 1778

I had scarce closed my Dispatches of the 7th. Instant,¹ when I had the honor to receive your Lordships Letter N^o 44 dated from the Delaware, the 23th. Nov^r. last,²

giving an Account of the Preparations made on the part of the Fleet, & the Success which attended them in reducing the Works which the Rebels has constructed to prevent an open communication with Philadelphia, I lost no time in communicating the same to my Lords Commiss^{rs}: of the Admiralty who were pleased immediately to transmit a Copy thereof to Lord George Germain for the Kings Information.³ My Lords received great satisfaction in the testimony your Lordship, as well as General Sir William Howe, has given of the spirited behaviour and conduct of the Officers & Seamen of the Ships under your command upon the Services aforementioned.

Their Lordships approve of the proposition you have made of purchas^g: the *Delaware* Prize; and as, on comparing her dimentions with those of the 20 & 24 Gunships, she seems nearly of a Size with them, consequently capable of serving as a Port Ship,⁴ My Lords therefore leave it to you, if you agree with them in opinion, to establish her as such, & to appoint Lieu^t: Watt, (whose conduct has so highly merited your Lordships recommendation) to the command of the Sloop whose Captain shall be promoted into the *Delawar*, but if you think her unfit for a Port Ship, they recommend it to your Lordship to use her as a Sloop & appoint M^r: Watt to be her Commander.

With respect to your Lordships request for an additional Number of Flag Officers to be sent out to you, I am directed by their Lordships to acquaint that they will take the same into immediate consideration, & that the result thereof shall be communicated to your Lordship by the next conveyance.

I have only to add that with your Letter abovementioned I received your Letter N^o 45 dated the 2nd: of Dec^r: giving an Account of the arrival of the *Venus* with Convoy at Sandy Hook, and that I have the honor to be &c^a:

PS:

LB, UklPR, Adm. 2/566, fols. 301–2. Addressed at foot: “R^t Hon^{ble}: Lord Viscount Howe./Duplicate sent by the Packet 5th Febr’y 1778.”

1. See 7 Jan., above.

2. NDAR 10: 583–87.

3. Marginal notation: “Our Rec^t have sent a Copy to L^d G. Germaine.”

4. That is, a post ship. Marginal notation: “Approve of purchasing the *Delaware* Prize & directions thereon to appoint L^t Watt to command her.”

PHILIP STEPHENS TO WILLIAM KNOX

Sir

Admty Office 9th Jan^y 1778.

Having laid before my Lords Commiss^{rs}: of the Admiralty your Letter of the 2^d: instant, enclosing Extracts of two Letters from W^m Mathew Burt Esq^r: Gov^r: of the Leeward Islands dated the 17th of Sep^t: last, giving an acco^t: of the Steps he had taken (& the success with which they had been attended) for accommodating the Disputes which had arisen between certain of the Inhabitants of Antigua & the Commanders of His Majesty’s Ships on that Station, in consequence of the Directions he had received from Lord Geo. Germaine;¹ I am commanded by their Lordships to acquaint you, for Lord George’s information, that as it appears that the Disputes abovemention’d are entirely accommodated, the Earl of Sandwich has signified to the Board of Admiralty His Majestys pleasure that the produce of the American Vessels taken by non-commissiond Ships fitted out by the

Inhabitants of Antigua & the other Leew^d. Islands & condemned as Droits of Admiralty, be paid to the owners of such Non-Commiss^d. Ships; & that the necessary Orders for that purpose will be dispatched from hence so soon as their Lordships have received from the Judges of the Admiralty Courts the requisite materials to ground such Orders upon, & which have been called for, some time since. I am [&c.]

Ph^r. Stephens

L, UkLPR, C.O. 5/128, fols. 9–10. Addressed at foot of first page: “W^m. Knox Esq.” Docketed: “Admiralty Office 9th Jan^y 1778/M^r. Stephens./ W.K./R, 10th”; “(1”; “In/Ent^d.”

1. For the accommodation reached between the British authorities and owners of the non-commissioned armed vessels from Antigua, see Vice Admiral James Young to Philip Stephens, 27 Oct. 1777, in *NDAR* 10: 326.

THE LONDON PACKET; OR NEW LLOYD'S EVENING POST
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, TO FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 1778

Friday, January 9. London.

An American privateer, called the *Pennsylvania*, mounting ten carriage guns and six swivels, was stranded the 23^d ult. on the rocks of Magilligan,¹ on the northern coast of Ireland, and all the crew (save the mate and a boy) consisting of forty-seven men, were drowned.

1. Magilligan Point, cape on east side of entrance to Lough Foyle.

January 10

LORD GEORGE GERMAIN TO BRITISH COLONIAL GOVERNORS IN AMERICA

(Copy.)

Circular.

Whitehall, 10th. Jan^y. 1778

Sir,

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having authorized you to grant Commissions of Marque against the Rebels, it is to be expected that Vessels bearing such Commissions will bring their Prizes into the Ports within your Government, and you may be under some Embarrassment in respect to the Disposal of the Prisoners, I have therefore received the King's Commands to signify to You His Majesty's Pleasure, that when any Prisoners taken in any Rebel Privateer or armed Cruiser shall be brought into any of the Ports within your Government, you do commit them to the common Goal or other Place of safe Custody and apply to the Assembly for an Allowance for their Maintenance and other Expences attending their Confinement, and in case the Assembly shall not think fit to take upon themselves the providing for such Expences, you are to draw upon the Lords Commiss[ioners] of the Treasury for the Amount, taking care that every thing be done in the most frugal and careful manner, and accompanying your Bills with the proper Vouchers; and when any Opportunity offers of putting them on board any of His Majesty's Ships, you will deliver them to the Commanders, in such Numbers as they can be received, in order to their being sent to England, under the Admiral's Direction and in case you cannot so dispose

of the whole, you may agree with the Masters of different Merchant Ships, to take the Remain[der] in small Numbers and carry them to England as Prisoners, their Passage to be paid here upon Certificates of their Delivery on board any of His Majesty's Ships at Plymouth, Portsmouth, in the Downs, or at the Nore; and you are at the same time to transmit to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty one or more Affidavits properly authenticated that such Prisoners were taken in an armed Vessel commissioned by the Rebels. In regard to the Crews of any trading Vessels belonging to the Rebels, such of them, as the Commanders of His Majesty's Ships do not think fit to press into the King's Service, must be left at Liberty. I am, &c.

Geo. Germain.

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/488, fols. 254–55. Addressed at foot of first page: "Governor of New York." Docketed: "Copy of circular Letter/from Lord Geo. Germain/to the Governor of New/York, &c. dated/Whitehall, 10th. Jan^{ry}. 1778"; "N^o. 2/In Lord Howes N^o. 59."

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO LIEUTENANT PHILIP WALSH, R.N.

By &c.

Whereas we have received Information that several Privatiers belonging to the Rebellious Colonies of North America are cruizing between Cape Pinas & Bilboa in order to intercept the Newfoundland Ships and other Trade of His Maj^{ty}'s Subjects bound that way. (Which Privatiers are of very inconsiderable Force) and that there was lately, in that Port, a Ship called the *Rambler* laden with a large quantity of Rigging, Harpoons and other Goods bound, as it is said, to Hudsons Straits to Whale and trade with the Esquimaux Indians and furnished with English, French, Spanish and American Papers & Colours as more particularly mentioned in the inclosed Extract of the said Intelligence. You are hereby required & directed to put to Sea in the Cutter you command with the very first opportunity of Wind and Weather, and proceed & cruize between the abovementioned Cape and Cape Machacaca for the protection of the Trade of His Maj^{ty}'s Subjects & to use your best endeavour to take or destroy the abovementioned or any other Privatiers, or Ships or Vessels belonging to the Rebellious Colonies abovementioned which you may be able to come up with.—

You are to continue upon the above Station, for the space of one Month after your arrival thereupon and then make the best of your way back to England, repairing into Plymouth Sound, where you are to remain until you receive further Order; and sending Us an account of your arrival & Proceedings.

You are to keep a good look out for the abovementioned Ship the *Rambler*. If she should put to Sea and in case you shall be convinced that She belongs to any of the Colonies abovementioned, to use your best endeavours to seize her and bring her into Port. Given &c. 10th. Jan^{ry}. 1778.

Sandwich
J Buller
H Palliser

By &c P:S:

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/104, fols. 83–84. Addressed at the foot of the letter: "Lieu^t. Walsh—*Rattlesnake* Cutter/upon her arrival in the Downes."

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO CAPTAIN JOHN GELL, R.N.

By &c.

Whereas we have received intelligence that the *Revenge*, an American Privatier mounting 14 Carriage and 20 Swivel Guns manned with 50 Men and commanded by one Cunningham hath lately taken several Newfoundland and other Ships within sight of Corunna, and that, between the said place and Bilboa, not less than 18 Sail of the said privatiers were then cruising. You are therefore the moment the provisions & stores of the Ship you command¹ are completed (for which we have given directions to Vice Admiral Lord Shuldhham), and wind and weather will permit, hereby required & directed to put to Sea in the Ship you command and to proceed with all possible dispatch off Corunna, and upon your arrival, to send your Boat in with a Letter to the British Vice Consul for Intelligence and if you find that any Privatiers are in that neighbourhood, you are to proceed in quest of them, and to use your best endeavours to take or destroy them, cruising very diligently for that purpose on such Stations as from the Intelligence you may receive shall be most likely to fall in with them; and having so done for the space of one Month after your arrival off Corunna make the best of your way back to Plymouth and remain there until you receive further Order, sending Us an account of your arrival & proceedings.

But if on your arrival off Corunna you shall learn that there are not any Privatiers in that or the neighbouring Ports, or on the adjacent Coast you are to proceed and cruize for the like purpose, and for the like time, off St^c Andero, and then make the best of your way back to Plymouth as above directed. Given &c. 10th. Jan^y 1778.

Sandwich
J Buller
H Palliser

By &c P.S:

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/104, fols. 84–85. Addressed at the foot: "Capt. Gell—*Thetis*—Plymouth."
1. H.M. frigate *Thetis* (32 guns).

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, 1778*]

Jan^y 10th. Sat'day Cloudy weath^r. By a Gent^l from the Subscription Committ^e, at Bristol, we Learn the Subscription there raised for Our relief Amounted to £ 260 & at London to 2660 £. the Bristol Com^{tee}. have Assess'd to Each Prisoner 1 penny Per^d day. Rec^d. 300 red herring with a 3^d Loaf Extra to a mess—

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PLYMOUTH, JAN. 10"

"Arrived the *Hannah*, Capt. Bray, from South Carolina to Nantz, with rice, indigo, and tobacco, which was taken by his Majesty's ship *Bedford*, on a cruise."

London Chronicle, 13–15 Jan. 1778.

AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE TO JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR.

Sir

We desire you would advance to Capt. Paul Jones, of the *Ranger*, five hundred Loudores, for which your draught upon us will be paid. We are Sir [&c.]

Passy, Jan^r 10.
1778—

(Signed) B. Franklin
Silas Deane
Arthur Lee

(A True Copy taken at L'Orient in August 1780 by Tho: Hutchins)

Copy, DLC, Peter Force Collection, Papers of John Paul Jones, no. 6685-86. Addressed at foot: "Jonathan Williams Esq^r/Nantes." Docketing: "From the American Commissioners/—Letter of Credit—/Passy January 10th 1778—/rec^d. passy January 10th. 1778—/X/En^d. /Cop^d."

PAUL WENTWORTH TO WILLIAM EDEN

[Extract]

Dear Sir

Paris the 10 January 1778.¹

. . . The instructions to Cap^t Nicholson of the *Lion* Frigate,² are that He shall regulate the Signals with the Captains of the other Ships But, in Case M. La Motte shall order a Convoy all the way to America, He is to take His Signals & Instructions from this Commander—His Orders are to proceed to Boston or the first safe port in N England. The other Captains have Orders to keep with the Commander of the fleet, & in Case of seperation to make the first safe port in N England. Be pleased to attend to the stations off Isle of Shoals, Cape Ann, & Cape Cod as given some time ago—The Light House lays between, in Boston Bay; may not the ships unite, surprize & destroy the Light House—so as to Confound this fleet who would be ignorant of it, & be engaged to seek for it & so delay, or change their route on the Coast. The next great guide on this Coast is Cape Ann. . . . M. dumas³ writes to 72 & 51⁴ that three prussian ships have sailed from Embden with woollens, Linnen & Tea, for America, as He had been informed. No news from America had reached the Commissioners at 5 o'Clock the 9. Inst. When I speak of the fleet going to N England, I mean that with Stores for war—Other Ships are moving, ♁haps in fleets to both Ends of the Continent—I am Confident one will go towards N London in Connecticut—loaded with Salt Chiefly—for Provisions—another will go to Virginia & Maryland for this purpose also. . . .

P. Wentworth.

Stevens's Facsimiles, vol. 3, no. 335. Portions not printed here relate to Silas Deane's waging on French recognition of American independence, the climate of various parts of North America in relation to the preparation of salted beef and pork, and a list of the state of the French fleet, among other matters.

1. In a portion not printed here, Wentworth states that he actually wrote the letter the night of 9 Jan.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Deane*, Capt. Samuel Nicholson, commander.

3. Charles-Guillaume-Frédéric Dumas was a Swiss man of letters residing in Holland whom Benjamin Franklin enlisted in 1775 as American agent and correspondent at the Hague.

4. Written above the line, in Eden's hand: "Franklin & Deane."

JOHN ROSS TO SILAS DEANE

[Extract]

The Hon^{ble} Silas Deane Esq^r

Nantes 10 January 1778

Dear Sir—

I received your favour of 3^d Instant. being now before me, do note its contents.¹ Green's Ship will be ready as soon as Nicholson's² am in hopes, unless the Ice Retard our operations, which at present float abundantly. . . .

If nothing can be done for Captain Jones³ in Europe, in Consequence of the Order from the Navy Board, proper he keep by the *Ranger*, permitting him at same time, to pursue his own Inclination's for the Service of his Country, after seeing the Convoy to be joined, at a certain Longitude, Clear of the European Sea's—Thus I take the Liberty to mention, concludeing his Cruize may be attended with more Advantage, by the full freedom of exercising his own Judgement.—Excuse the liberty I take in writing you so freely—& I am [&c.]

J: R

L, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. In the portions not printed, Ross recommends patience in negotiating for foreign assistance, and requests the sentiments of the American Commissioners in France on Ross's and Deane's proposals relating to the Continental Navy cutters *Dolphin* and *Revenge*.

1. Silas Deane to John Ross, 3 Jan., above.

2. Ship *Brune*, John Green, master, and Continental Navy frigate *Deane*, Capt. Samuel Nicholson, commander.

3. Continental Navy Captain John Paul Jones.

JAMES GARDOQUI TO ARTHUR LEE

Arthur Lee Esq^r

Honour'd Sir

Bilbao the 10th Janry 1778—

We Crave your kind Referance to what had the pleasure of salutting you last with on the 31st ult^o: wherein informed you Cap^t Cuninghams Resolution of setting out for S^t Sebastians in order to Release if Posable the prize he made of valuable Bale goods on Board of a French Brigg¹ & tho' we suppose that he will have informed either yourgoodself or M^r Dean of his Proceedings as have advice that he has the affair on a very good disposition flatter ourselves that it will be accommodated fully to his wishes.

We have now to Acknowledge ourselves Indebtted to your very Esteem'd & agreable favour of the 28th: ult^o: in Repply whereof have to informe you that Cap^t James Babson haveing determined to dispatch if posible this weeke direct for Boston or Newburryport on account of the owners of his Privateer the *Generall Mercer* loaden with salt his prize Schooner the *Nancey*; having prevailed on him to spare us as much Room as he posibly can to fullfill part of your dispositions, have now to informe you that we are now bussy in packing up as many Blanketts & Stockings as are ready in hopes that our next will hand you Invoice thereof, & as this Vessell is destined to the Northren ports the goods will be consigned on account of Congress to the Honourable Elbridge Gerry Esq^r with directions to Major Generall James Warren Esq^r at Boston to Receive them: it is apitty that your orders for Blanketts had not Reached us Two months sooner, as in that case even 20,000 might have been ready, butt unluckly at present the contractors of our Troops & those of the Caracas—Company are collecting them, however depend on our

Excerting ourselves. For the purpose & hope shall be able to procure the quantity wanted, at foott you'l find the weight & size of them taken with an English yard for your goverment—

As we suppose that it will be greatly eassier for you & more adventadgeous the Exchange to gett bills on this place & Madrid prefering allways those payable in this Towne would advise you to Remmitt us the 50000 livers you are pleased to mentione assured of our most particular atention to place them to your Credit—

As we have apretty frequent communication wth. Hamborough we must informe you that our Correspondents there are Mess^{rs} Anthony Sampelaio & C^o on whose Integrity & Care you may allways confy'd in.

English & Dutch woolen goods are allways to be mett in plenty with us & on Reasonable Terms; butt as have three of the finest Roape-walkes we Can have any quantity of Rigging made at a very short space of time; there is also a fine assortment of Russia Duck & small Duck in Towne all for your Goverment—We must sincerely present you the Complements of the season & Remmain with perfect Esteem—[&c.]

J: G: & C^o

English dementions of one our Blanketts—

It weighes 5 pounds 11 ounces—

Length 7 feitt 5 ½ Inches—

broad 5 d^o 6 Inches—

L, MH-H, Arthur Lee Papers.

1. *Gracieux*, Emanuel de Tournois, master.

January 11 (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

11th. Sunday Pleas^t weath^r We are Serv'd with 1/2 pint of Peas 4 Days in the week to Each Man Viz & broth the three Other Days

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *HECTOR*, CAPTAIN JOHN HAMILTON

Jan^y 1778

Sund^y 11

D^o [Cape Ortegal] S^o 2 E^t Dis^t 45 Lg's

Light Airs hauld down y^e Steering Sails still in Chace At 7 AM 5 Sail in sight sett all Sail alow & Aloft. punishd 5 marines for selling their Cloaths at Noon y^e Chace bore SW saw another Sail to y^e Southw^d.

Cape Ortegal S^o 27 W^t D^t 35 Lg's

Light Winds & pleasant W^t at 4 in Chace of a large Ship¹ to y^e S.W at 8 y^e Ship WbS at 9 blowing strong with heavy Squalls still in Chace of y^e Ship hand^d & set y^e Top Gall^t sails between y^e Squalls at 11 pm Came up with y^e Chace fired 2 Guns & she

hoisted French Colours sent y^e boat but Could not board her
it blowing very hard hoisted in y^e Boat

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/466.

1. French merchant ship *Thomas Koulikan*, Noël Le Peru, master.

January 12

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO CAPTAIN RODDAM, R.N.

By &C

Whereas the Three Transports named in the Margin,¹ the former having on board British, & the others Hessian, Recruits for the army under the command of Sr William Howe in N^o. America are now at Spithead under Orders to proceed to Cork where the said Troops are to be distributed amongst the Storeships taking in Provisions for the said army; And whereas we intend that they shall proceed to that place under Convoy of the Ship you command,² You are hereby required & directed to take them under your Convoy & putting to Sea with the very first opportunity of Wind & Weather proceed with them to Cork accordingly, And having seen them in safety to that Place, You are to open the enclosed Sealed Pacquet & carry into execution the Orders³ you will find contained therein for your further proceedings. Given &C 12th Jan^y 1778

Sandwich
H Penton
H Palliser

By &c PS

LB, UklPR, Adm. 2/104, fols. 86–87. Addressed at foot: “Cap^t Roddam—*Cornwall*—Spithead.”

1. “*W^m & Mary Preston Resolution*.”

2. H.M.S. *Cornwall* (74 guns).

3. Not identified, but on 14 Jan., the Lords Commissioners instructed Roddam, as senior captain at Portsmouth, to convene several courts-martial. *Ibid.*, fol. 89.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

12th. Munday Very rainy to Day rec^d. 1 penny Each Man of the Bristol Donation which is the first we've Rec^d.

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

JOSEPH GARDOQUI AND SONS TO CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM

Capt G. Cuningham

Bilbao 12th. Janr^y—78

Dear Sir

We duelly observe by your agreable & Estemed favour of the 8th. & 10th. Instant the disposition the Affaire you went upon stands in¹ & yet hope the disposition the Affaire you went upon stands in & yet hope thro the Assistance of the friends you are recommended to that you will come out as you wish in which case should you want the advance you require we wrote In this opportunity to Mess^{rs}. Larralde² that we will willingly discharge those Bills to the Amount you desire We have also

Acquainted M^r Beach not only to prepare the Cutter^s but desired him to call for money in Order to keep the people content on board & to fulfill your Orders which he has promised us that he will do & Accordingly expect him Tommorow in the Compting house to receive Money for the purpose. five Sailors have come in from Nantz for the Cutter of which have apprized M^r Beach & as there is time for no more we Only wish to see M^r hodge safe in towne along With you^d & Cordially Remmaine [&c.]

Coppy

Joseph Gardoqui & sons

Copy, ScHi, Henry Laurens Papers, SCHS No. 31.

1. Conyngham traveled to San Sebastián to obtain release of the cargo he had taken from the *Gracieux*. James Gardoqui to Arthur Lee, 10 Jan., above.

2. Larralde, Diusteguy, et fils, merchants at Bilbao.

3. Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*.

4. John Beach, first lieut. of *Revenge*, and merchant William Hodge.

JOURNAL OF H.M.S. *HECTOR*, CAPTAIN JOHN HAMILTON

Jan^y 1778

Cape Ortegat S^o 27 W^t D^t 35 Lg^s

Mond^y 12

at 8 AM hand^d F & Mⁿ. Top Sails sent down y^e Top Gall^t Yards at 7 AM y^e Chace¹ bore down under our Stern sent y^e boat on b^d her & found she was a French Ship loaded w^h. Cannon &c^t sent a Lieu^t a Mate & Midshipⁿ w^h. 20 Men on b^d her to take Charge of her D^o S^o. 45 E^t

Fresh Breezes & Squally W^r a heavy Sea from y^e W^d. Emp^d in bringing on board y^e prisoners Cloaths at 4 pm made Sail w^h. y^e prize in Company²

D, UklPR, Adm. 51/466.

1. French merchant ship *Thamas Koulikan*, Noël Le Peru, master.

2. On 13 Jan., Hamilton sent a corporal and four marines on board the French ship and removed her officers and passengers. *Ibid*.

January 13

PHILIP STEPHENS TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR SICK AND HURT SEAMEN

Gentⁿ.

Admiralty Office 13 Jan^y 1778

I have communicated to my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your Letter of the 12. instant giving an account of the Escape of two of the Prisoners part of the Crew of the *Lexington* Privatier who were sick in the Hospital,¹ and proposing if they shall be retaken to apply to the Commanding Officer of His Majesty's Ships in the Downes to receive them on board; and I am commanded by their Lordships to acquaint you that they approve thereof, and if any other of the Crew of the said Privatier are still on shore for Cure, it is also their Lordships direction that they be sent on board when they shall be fit to be removed. I am [&c.]

Ph^p Stephens

L, UklNMM, Adm./M/404. Addressed at foot of first page: "Commiss^{rs} for Sick & Hurt." Docketed: "Recd—14." Notations: "M^r Peck to be wrote to"; "Wrote M^r Peck in consequence same day."

1. Two wounded seamen, James Bearn and another man, taken in the *Lexington* had escaped from the hospital at Deal and arrived in Dunkirk by 15 Jan. Francis Coffyn to the American Commissioners in France, 20 Jan. and 18 June, in *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 25: 495, and 26: 656.

PHILIP STEPHENS TO THE SENIOR OFFICER IN THE DOWNS

S^r[Admiralty Office] 13th. Jan^y. 1778

The Commiss^{rs}. for Sick &. Hurt having acquainted my Lords Commiss^{rs}. of the Admiralty with the Escape [*Escape*] of two of the Rebel Prisoners late belonging to the *Lexington* Privatier from the Hospital at Deal;¹ And their Lordships having directed, in Case they should be retaken, that they be sent on board some of the Ships in the Downes,² I am commanded by their Lordships to signify their direction to you to receive the said Men, as also such other Prisoners from the Hospital as the Commiss^{rs}. for Sick &. Hurt may send on board. (they having directions to apply to you to take them when fit to be removed from the Hospital.) And you are to send them by the first Opportunity that may Offer to Portsmouth to be committed to Forton Prison I am &c.

P.S.

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/556, fol. 307. Addressed at foot: "Senior Officer—Downes."

1. Marginal notation: "To receive Prisoners from the Hospital at Deal and send them to Forton Prison."

2. See Philip Stephens to the Commissioners for Sick and Hurt Seamen, 13 Jan., immediately above.

BRITISH NAVY BOARD TO PHILIP STEPHENS

Sir

Navy Office 13 January 1778.

The R^t Honorable the Lords Comm^{rs}. of the Admiralty having by their order of the 23^d. past directed us to propose and transmit to them for their approbation a proper plan for forming an Establishment for a Naval Yard at Rhode Island, New York, Philadelphia, or such other place as upon a consultation with Lord Howe shall be agreed upon for refitting the Ships under his Lordships command in North America, in addition to the Port of Hallifax, and having informed us that they judged it expedient that a Commissioner of the Navy with proper Assistants should go over in the first Ships for N^o America to form such Establishment We desire you will acquaint their Lordships that correspondent with their Intentions we have revised the several Establishments that have heretofore been settled for different Foreign Yards, & are of opinion that in order to carry on this Service it will be proper to appoint the following officers to act under the direction of a Commissioner. Viz^t

A Master Attendant

Master Shipwright

Clerk of the Checque & Clerk of the Survey in one.

Storekeeper.

With the same Salary of £200 [⌘] Annum to each and allowances of Clerks, & H^o. Rent as are now made to the Officers of the Yard at Hallifax. Two Officers in the first mentioned Stations are acting at New York by orders from Vice Adm^l Lord Visc^t. Howe with an Allowance of 5s [⌘] day in addition to their pay as master & Carpenter of the *Eagle*, and a Naval Officer and Storekeeper attends the Fleet under their Lordships appointment.

With respect to Artificers we send inclosed for their Lordships information the Establishment of the Yard at Hallifax, which we have communicated to Captⁿ.

LeCras,¹ and in the present uncertain state of this undertaking, we cannot propose to their Lordships what N^o. of Artificers and Workmen may be necessary to carry it into execution, as it must depend in a great measure upon the situation of the place fixed upon, and many circumstances that may arise upon the spot, therefore we would propose giving this Establishment to him for his guidance, and to recommend him to govern himself thereby according to the best of his discretion consistently with the tenor of his Instructions, which will be very full and explicit, and the nature of the Service.

But as it will be necessary that a certain N^o. of the following Classes of artificers should be sent out from hence, in order to begin the Establishment we would propose that the N^o. expressed against each Class should be procured from such of his Maj^{ty}s. Yards here from whence they can be spared with least inconvenience; under the usual encouragement given to Artificers serving in the Foreign Yards. Viz^t

Shipwrights	12 N ^o .
Caulkers	8
Smiths	4
Sailmakers	2
N ^o . Carpenters	4

which N^o. we must depend upon increasing hereafter by the best means that offer, as the present State of the Workmen in his Maj^{ty}s. Yards at home does not admit of our drafting a further N^o. from thence without distressing the Service.

We have ordered proper Careening Geer to be provided, together with such Materials & Stores as appear to be necessary for the use of a Foreign Yard, in order for their being dispatched by the first opportunity, & shall recommend it to Capt^m Le Cras to let us know as soon after his arrival as possible whether it will be necessary to send on a Hulk or whatever else may appear to him to be proper for carrying on the Service with the most convenience & dispatch. We are &c^t.

Copy, MiU-C, Shelburne Papers. Addressed at foot: "Philip Stephens Esq^r"

1. Capt. Edward Le Cras, R.N., had just been appointed Commissioner of the Navy resident in North America. See Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to Edward Thurlow, 6 Jan., above.

THE LONDON CHRONICLE, SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, TO TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1778

Postscript. London.

The *Hancock and Adams*, a ship of 300 tons, bound from Nantz to America, is taken by the *Swallow* privateer, and carried into Falmouth.

JOURNAL OF TIMOTHY CONNOR

[Forton Prison, Portsmouth, 1778]

January the 13th M^r Wrenn and M^r Duckett came and told us that the Officers was to receive 5 Shilling and the men 2 pe^r week and we were to have such cloths (Pussers) as we stand in need of from Government likewise from donations both officers and men,¹

D, DLC, Forton Prison, England, American Prisoner's Journal, 1777-79, collection 2272.

1. Thomas Wren (ca. 1725-1787), was minister of the Presbyterian Chapel in Portsmouth; Mr. Duckett was an almoner from Gosport. Cohen, *Yankee Sailors*, 79. For the subscription for the relief of the American prisoners, see Almon's *Remembrancer*, at 8 Jan., above, and Cohen, *Yankee Sailors*, 83-84.

January 14

THOMAS ERSKINE TO EARL OF SUFFOLK

[Extract]

N^o. 1.Gothenburg 14th. Jan^y. 1778.

My Lord,

The 20th. ult^o. I had the honour of writing your Lordship, advising of Cap^t. Woodhouse Sailing,¹ since I have a Report of him being in an out harbour near to Arendahl on Coast of Norway, where he received the Powder from the Swedish Sloop.

I am honour'd with your Lordships favour N^o. 5—The two American schooners remain still in Marstrand, I am at a loss to guess what has detain'd them so long. I suppose they were affraid to Venture to Sea on such a Voyage at so late a Season, now they are detain'd by the Ice, and not likely to get away for a month or six Weeks at soonest—the largest one is about 60 Tons Burden Will^m. Ripley master, the other is only about 40 Tons T. Didget master—they appear both to be Vessells that has been employ'd in the Fishing, they have no particular marks or painting to distinguish them, only black, poorly fitted out & weakly mann'd—at first they got on board only a parcell of Teas to the Value of 900 to £1000—lately they got from hence circa 8,000 yards of an inferior Sort of Sail-Cloth, some Nankine Cloth, and a trifle of Steell—I suppose them to be destined for one Quarter, some of the Southern provinces. . . .

Tho^s. Erskine

L, UkLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 95/128. Addressed at foot: "R^t Hon^{bl} Earl of Suffolk." The portion not printed here relates to Benjamin Franklin's correspondence with Henry Grieg, merchant at Göteborg.

1. See NDAR 10: 1033, note. Marginal notation: "Extract sent to the Admiralty." Woodhouse was the master of the American brigantine *Molly*, which he had renamed *Syrene* under Swedish colors.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

14th. Wednesday Rainy w^t. The Rev^d. M^r. Heath is Appointed Superintendent here for the Donation & M^r. Sorrey a Merch^t his Assistant¹—By whome we Learn that the Officers ar Allowed five Shillings P^r. Weeks & the people two Shillings, also a Quantity of Clothes was to be serv'd to us

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. Miles Saurey, a Plymouth linen draper. Cohen, *Yankee Sailors*, 117.

DESEGRAY BEAUGEARD, FILS, & CIE. TO SILAS DEANE

[Extract]

Sir

S^t. Malo'es 14th. Jan^y. 1778.

. . . . Here is, sir, the Note you ask of the money we have paid to several American seamen that Came this way, amounting to £ [*blank*] which we begg you'll pay for our account at your leasure to our M^r. Beaugeard Jun^r if you think it proper, to which Note is Joined another of Several sums advanced likewise by us to American, of which the Reimbursement is promised to us.—

We'll take Care for the future to advise other Americans That may Come this way to embark Directly from here to the United states of America, when Occasion offers (there is but one ship now here for that Country, all the others being gone) & otherwise to go to Nantz or L'orient for a speedy shipping to avoid Expences as much as possible, & we'll take a proper Note of what state they belong to, their names &c^a—

. . . John Risdall of the *Reprisal* (whom we mentioned formerly) is still here, in a pretty good health, & is Kept up by a very Rich good natured Lady, who pays for his being instructed in french, Religion &c^a.

It would not be amiss indeed to send some person from time to time to the different Ports to Examine into the state of American Prisoners, & to appoint proper Agents there &c^a, chiefly if there is (as it is strongly reported & we wish it may be a fact) a treaty signed betwixt you & the hon^{ble}. Commissioners of the Congress in Paris, & our Governement. We think that such examination Would serve to lett you Know the Better who are the best & Usefullest friends to the American Welfare, & that we should not be obmitted in the List.—We have the honour to be [&c.]

Desegray Beugeard Jun^r

L, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. Addressed: "A Monsieur/Monsieur Silas Dean/Rue Royale Place de Louis Quinze/à Paris.—" Docketed: "S^t. Malo's Jan^y 14th/1778 Desegray Beugeard/& C^e Lett^r." Notation on cover: "Salt Petre." Portions not printed here relate to the shipment of saltpeter and aid to a Capt. and Mrs. Baker. This letter responds to two of Deane's, dated 25 Nov. and 28 Dec. 1777. See *Deane Papers* 2: 241, 291.

January 15

PHILIP STEPHENS TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

My Lord

[*Admiralty Office*] 15th Jan^{ry} 1778

I had the honor to receive on the 18th. Ult^o. by Cap^{tn}. Reynolds your Lordships Dispatches of the 6th. &. 10th. of Dec^r Numbered 47 and 48 giving an account of your proceedings and of the Arrangement you had made of the Squadron under your Command^l All which were immediatly laid before my Lords Commiss^{rs}. of the Admiralty and Copies thereof transmitted to Lord George Germaine for His Majesty's Information.

With respect to the Extra Supply of Medicines mentioned in your N^o. 48. I have it in command from their Lordships to acq^t you that they understand from the Navy Board that the necessary directions are given for sending out such supply thereof as may be judged sufficient, &. with respect to supplying the Ships of the higher Rates² which may be sent to your Lordship with additional Stores to the establish'd Allowance, I am to acquaint you that orders will be given to the Navy Board as well as to the Captains of the Ships for that purpose.

My Lords command me to desire your Lordship will not understand the tenor of the Letter which I had the honor to write to you by their Orders on the 20th. of August³ was meant to convey any idea that the service committed to your care had not been adequately performed or that they disapprove of the arrangement You had made of Your Squadron;⁴ On the contrary I have it in command to acquaint

your Lordship that they have seen no Cause to disapprove of the disposition which has been made of the Ships under your command.

In one of my Letters of the 7th. Ult^o. I informed your Lordship that the Navy Board were directed to prepare a Plan for the Establim^t of a Naval Yard in North America in addition to the Yard at Halifax. I have it now in command from my Lords to send Your Lordship a Copy of that plan which has been approv'd of^s and to acquaint you that in consequence thereof the Master and Carpenter of the *Eagle* who are now doing the Duty of Master Caulker & Master Shipwright by your Lordships orders will have firm appointments to those employments, that M^r Fowler the present Storekeeper will be appointed Clerk of the Checque and Clerk of the Survey and that a Storekeeper will be sent from hence with Commiss^r Le Cras⁶ for the New intended Yard.

My Lords have resumed the consideration of your Lordships request of an additional number of Flag Officers to serve under your Command and in consequence thereof have appointed Vice Admiral Byron and Rear Adm^l Gambier to hoist their Flags,⁷ the former on board the *Europe*, the latter on board the *Ardent* who will be ordered to join your Lordship without delay.

I have the honor to send your Lordship a continuation of the Secret intelligence⁸ transmitted to you in My Letter of the 7th. Ult^o. and to repeat the assurances of my being with great consideration My Lord &c.

PS.

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/556, fols. 315–16. Addressed at foot: "Vice Adm^l Lord Vis^t Howe/North America—By the Pacquet/Duplicate by the *Andromeda*."

1. NDAR 10: 675–76, 700–702. Notation in margin: "Our Rec^t"

2. Notation in the margin: "Acq^d that an Extra Supply of Medicines are ordered And, an additional Supply of Stores for the Ships of the higher Rates."

3. *Ibid.*, 9: 577–79.

4. Notation in the margin: "Explain the tenor of a former Letter respecting the arrangement of his Squadron."

5. See British Navy Board to Philip Stephens, 13 Jan., above. Notation in the margin: "Send a Plan for the Establishment of a Naval Yard, and acq^d with the Appointment of the Officers."

6. Capt. Edward Le Cras, R.N., appointed Commissioner of the Navy resident in North America.

7. Notation in the margin: "Acq^d with the appointm^t of Vice Adm^l Byron & Rear Adm^l Gambier to serve under his Command."

8. Notation in the margin: "Send a continuation of Secret Intelligence."

PHILIP STEPHENS TO CAPTAIN ROBERT RODDAM, R.N.

Sir

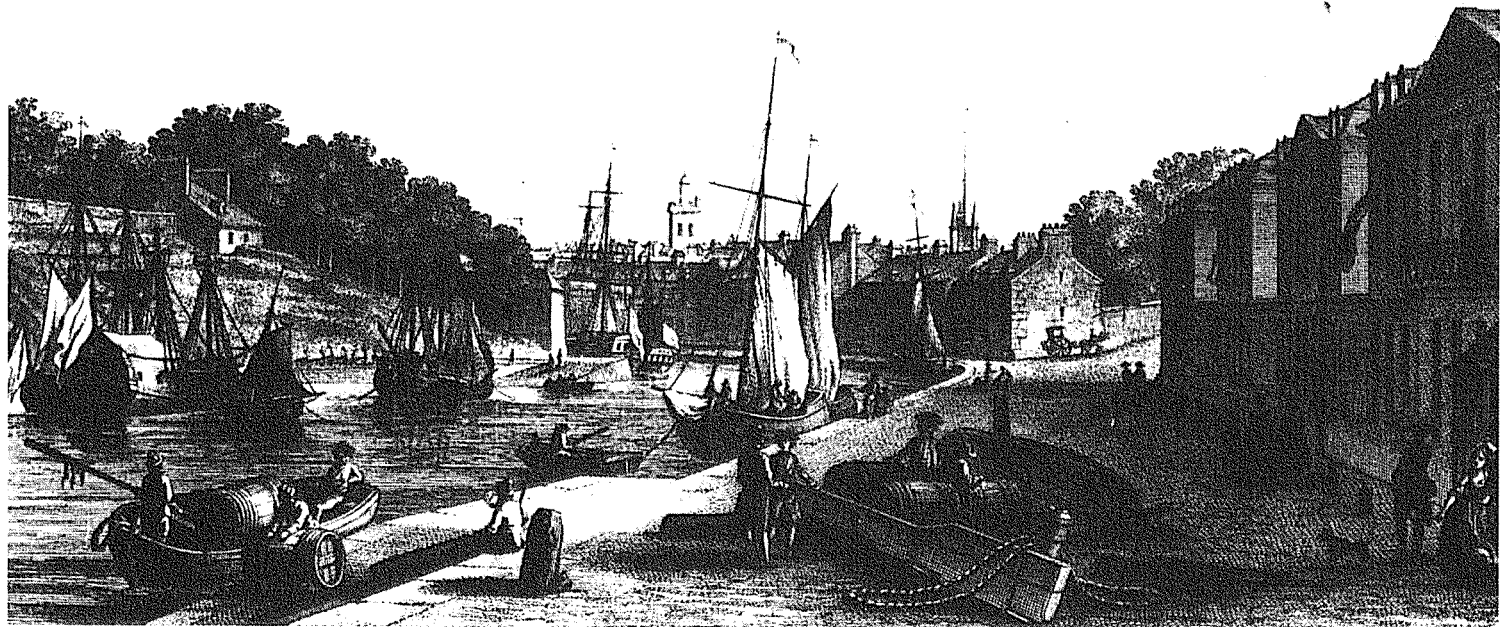
[Admiralty Office] 15 Jan^y 1778

I have communicated to my Lords Commiss^{rs} of the Admiralty your Letter of Yesterdays date giving an account of the arrival of the *Bedford* & *Proserpine*.

Their Lordships observing by the State and Condition of the former that there are on board her ten Rebel Prisoners who belonged to the *Sturdy Beggar* Privatier; It is their direction that you take the proper measures to have them committed to Forton Prison I am &c.

P.S.

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/556, fol. 317. Addressed at foot: "Cap^m. Roddam, Senior Officer, Portsmouth." Notation in the margin: "Our Rec^t & directed to cause some Rebel Prisoners to be committed to Forton Prison."



Collection of the New-York Historical Society

The port of Morlaix

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

15th. Thursday Very Showery W^r Several Gentlemen to see us; One who was a Quaker Offer'd to be at the Expence of Glassing two Windows that we should be Better Accomodated with light

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Paris, Jan. 15 1778

Whereas we understand that Capt. Jones has in View to strike a Stroke upon the Enemy that may be greatly to their Damage, but in its nature not probably profitable to his Ship's Company, unless some Reward be received from the Congress adequate to the Service done. And we being of Opinion that Rewards in such Cases are not only necessary for Encouragement, but are really Acts of Justice: do hereby promise that in Case of the good & gallant Behaviour of the People under his Command and their punctual Obedience to Orders, so as to obtain Success in the Undertaking as far as depends on them, we will warmly recommend them to the Congress for a generous Gratification proportion'd to their Merit.

B Franklin
Silas Deane
Arthur Lee

DS, DNA, PCC, item 168, vol. 1, pp. 23–25 (M247, roll 185). Docketed: "from the American Commissioner[s]/—Passy—/Paris Jany 15th. 16th. 17th. & 18th. 1778/Rec^d. Paris Jan^y 16th. & 19th. 1778." The docketing refers, in addition to this document, to the Commissioners' letter of 16–18 Jan., and Lee's demurer of 17 Jan., both below.

SILAS DEANE TO JOHN ROSS

Dear Sir

Paris 15 Jan^y 1778

I have convers'd with D^r Franklin on the Subject of yours of the 3^d, who is of Opinion that the giving Protection or Encouragem^t to the Importation of British Manufactures into America will be in direct Opposition to the Resolution of Congress & at a time when the Advantages of the American Commerce are held out as one principal Enducement to other Nations to afford us Aid would be to the last Degree impolitic as well as inconsistent & Dangerous. on Reflection I doubt not you'l subscribe to the Justice of this Opinion in which I am fully with the Doctor—Yours of the 10th. I rec^d last Evening^l & am very sensible of the Importance of your Observations on the present Situation of our Affairs, & assure you that neither the Honor or Dignity of our Country shall suffer in the least by any Engagem^{ts} of ours. I wrote M^r Hodge & am very uneasy about his Health, but a large Share of Exercise may do him good, he loves Action & hates thinking that is in a studious contemplative way. his Confinem^t in the Bastile affected him in his Health & the Distress w^{ch}. he must be in for the Fate of his Family affects him & Action may divert him. Cunningham had on the 20th Dec^r carried in two prizes to Carogne, one of which sold for 6000 p^s 8 & the other for 4500. & was gone out on

a second Cruize. Cap^t Nicholson writes that he fears your Vessels will not be ready to go out with him, which I hope will not be the Case as I wish he may not be detain'd after being ready for Sea. I am very sorry that Cap^t Jones is disappointed in the Frigate he expected,² I have the same Opinion of him as you have & wish we could get him a stronger Force than meerly the *Ranger*, he will set out for Nantes in a few days & I shall improve the oppor^o: writing to you again by him By the last Acco^s from London Stocks have fell prodigiously the News of taking Mud Island raised them a little, but actual Hostilities between the two Kingdoms would sink them to nothing I am [&c.]

LB, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. Addressed at foot: "John Ross Esq^r"

1. John Ross to Silas Deane, 10 Jan., above.

2. *Indien*.

January 16

DEPOSITION OF PETER LIEGE

London (to wit) Peter Leige of London Merchant, maketh Oath That in the month of September last he went from London to Nantes in the Kingdom of France on the behalf of and as Agent for divers Merchants and others all leige Subjects of his Britannick Majesty and the Owners and Proprietors of the Ships called the *Clarendon* (whereof Thomas Cowell was Master) and the *Hanover Planter* (whereof Thomas Luny was Master) and the Cargoes on board both the said Ships, which had been taken and seized by one or more Ship, or Ships Vessell or Vessels belonging to or fitted out by some of his Britannick Majesty's Rebellious Subjects in North America and acting under a pretended Commission or Commissions from the pretended States of America, as this Deponent hath been informed apprehends and believes, and this Deponent so went to Nantes in order to Claim the said Ships *Clarendon* and *Hanover Planter* and their respective Cargoes in the Name and on the behalf of the several Owners and Proprietors thereof and did accordingly obtain Restitution of both the said Ships and their Cargoes to be made to him for the use of his Constituents And he further maketh Oath That whilst he was at Nantes (to wit) in or about the month of October last, he was there informed and believes That the Ship *Ann Susanna* (whereof John Taylor was Master) the Ship *Jamaica* (whereof David Watt was Master) and the Ship *Manning* (whereof John Brewer was Master) and their respective Cargoes consisting of Rum Sugar and other things, and all the property of his Britannick Majesty's Leige Subjects as he hath been informed and verily believes had been taken by some Ships or Vessels belonging to or fitted out by some of his Britannick Majesty's Rebellious Subjects in North America and acting under pretended Commissions from the pretended States of America, that the said Ship *Manning* was brought into, or near the mouth of the River of Nantes, and that the Ships *Ann Susanna* and *Jamaica* were carried into or near Port L'Orient in the Kingdom of France that thereupon the Deponent as Agent for the West India Merchants frequently made diligent enquiry concerning the said Ships *Ann Susanna* *Jamaica* and *Manning* and their Cargoes of several Persons most likely to give the Deponent Information

about the said Ships and their Cargoes And the Deponent was informed at Nantes by some Person or Persons but whom the Deponent cannot now particularly recollect, and he believes that the said Ships *Ann Susanna*, *Jamaica*, and *Manning* had been unladen or partly unladen that the greatest part of their Cargoes had been taken out of the said Ships and put on Board Dutch Ships hired for the purpose of conveying the said Sugars to Holland, That the Brokers who procured the said Dutch Ships were Monsieur Odiette de la Bouche and Monsieur Boudet sworn Interpreters and Brokers for foreign Ships resident at Nantes That the Deponent during the time he was at Nantes had frequent Occasions to and did converse with the said Monsieur Odiette de la Bouche concerning the said Ship *Hanover Planter* and her Cargoe and with the said Monsieur Boudet concerning the said Ship *Clarendon* and her Cargoe, that the said Monsieur Odiette de la Bouche frequently at such times discoursed also of the Captures of the said ships *Ann Susanna*, *Jamaica* and *Manning* by the Americans and at one of such times but the particular day the Deponent cannot now set forth, the said Monsieur Odiette de la Bouche with great seeming Satisfaction told the Deponent that he had had an Account by Letter that some of the Sugars from on Board the *Ann Susanna*, *Jamaica* and *Manning* were already safely arrived at Rotterdam in Holland And the said Monsieur Odiette de la Bouche at the same time observed That he did not know how soon some of them might be stopped in the Channel, thereby meaning as this Deponent then understood and now believes, he did not know how soon some of the Dutch Ships carrying the said Sugars might be stopped by English Cruizers in the British Channel on their Voyage from France to Holland And he further maketh Oath That while he was so at Nantes he received intelligence that some Sugars had been arrested at Amsterdam, and soon after the Deponent having occasion to be with one of the Principal Persons employed in the Counting House of the said Monsieur Boudet whose Name the Deponent cannot now recollect, the Deponent observed to him that he understood the Cargoes or part of the Cargoes of the said Ships *Ann Susanna* *Jamaica* and *Manning* or some of them had been carried to Amsterdam by three Dutch Ships and arrested there, to which he replied that it would be a difficult matter to prove the Sugars to belong to th[ose] Ships as they had their Clearances from Nantes or to that effect¹ And he further made Oath That on or about the eleventh day of December last he saw the said Ship *Ann Susanna* lying at a place called Pelring in the River of Nantes and about ten Miles below Nantes, that she was then a light Ship and without any Cargoe on board, and unrigged, that he had several times before seen the said Ship *Ann Susanna* and well knew her and is very sure that the said Ship which he so saw lying at Pelring and the Ship *Ann Susanna*, hereinbefore mentioned was the same Ship—
Sworn the Sixteenth day of

P. Liege

January in the Year 1778—

Before me at Guildhall

James Esdail Mayor²

DS, FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 521, fols. 255–57. Notation at head: “avec la lettre de M. de Sartine du 11. fev^{er} 1778.”

1. For a Dutch Admiralty court’s investigation of British complaints that American prize masters were transferring prize cargoes to Dutch ships at sea, see “Interrogation of Captain Ary Kunst.” *NDAR* 10: 1034–37.

2. Notarized attestations to the affidavit’s authenticity follow.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

16th. Friday rainy but warm w^{ch} M^r Heath has Order'd 4 penny Loaf to Each Mess Extra. This Day year I've cause to Lament which was the Day the *Charming Salley* was taken¹

Arived from Philedelphia Express Lieu^t Gen^l Cornwallis, his Aid-de-Camp & have set out for London. No news come to hand as Yet, but is Generally tho^t to be upon business of Importance We Long to know the particulars that L—d Cornwallis has bro^t home, as Our fate is Depending. Tis said L—d North is going to Make a Motion for an Exchange (when Parliament meets) to take Place in the Spring, & is tho^t will be Complied with—

D, McHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. Rhode Island privateer sloop *Charming Sally*, Francis Brown, commander, captured on 16 Jan. 1777 by H.M.S. *Nonsuch*. NDAR 8: 527–28.

AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Capt. Jones.
Sir,

Paris Jan^y 16th. 1778.

As it is not in our Power to procure you such a Ship as you expected, we advise you after equipping the *Ranger* in the best manner, for the Cruise you propose, you proceed with her in the manner you shall judge best, for distressing the Enemies of the United States, by Sea or otherwise, consistent with the Laws of War, and the Terms of your Commission. If you take Prizes on the Coast of France or Spain, send them into Bilboa, or Corogne, unless you should apprehend the Danger too great in which Case, we advise you to send them either into L'Orient, or Bordeaux, directing the Officers who may have them in charge to apply at L'Orient to M^r Moylan or M^r Goulade, and at Bordeaux to Mess^{rs}. Sam & J H. Delaps, and inform us immediately, of their arrival and Situation; if you send to Spain, or should put into the Ports of that Kingdom apply at Bilboa to Mess^{rs}. Gadroqui, et fils, at Courogne to Mess^{rs}. Leoganieri & C^o if you make an Attempt on the Coasts of Great Britain, we advise you not to return immediately into the Ports of France, unless forced by stress of weather, or the pursuit of the Enemy, and in such Case, you can make the proper Representation to the Officers of the Port and acquaint us with your Situation; We rely on your Ability, as well as your Zeal, to serve the United States, and therefore do not give particular Instructions, as to your Operations. We must caution you, against giving any cause for complaint, to the Subjects of France, or Spain, or of other Neutral Powers, and recommend it to you, to shew them every proper mark of Respect, and real Civility, which may be in your Power. You will communicate to your Officers and Seamen the encouragement we have given them,¹ and explain to them that tho' it was not in our Power to be particular as to the Rewards they should be intituled to, yet they may safely Rely on the Justice of the Congress. Before you sail it will be proper to settle with M^r Williams the Account of your Disbursements and send the Account up to us. We most heartily wish you Success and are with much Esteem Sir [&c.]

B Franklin
Silas Deane

L, DNA, PCC, item 168, vol. 1, pp. 19–22 (M247, roll 185).

1. See American Commissioners in France to Captain John Paul Jones, 15 Jan., above.

ARTHUR LEE TO CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM

Sir

Rue de Battaile at Challiot pres paris

Mess^{rs} Gardoques have informed Me of your putting in at Bilboa and that he is giving you the necessary Assistances for the Repairs of your Vessell, As the public is Concerned only in half your Ship¹ you should pay Mess^{rs} Gardoques half of the expence of her Repairs, And for the Rest he will draw on the Commissioners here—A proposal has been made to Me for my Consent to making over the public share to a private person, upon Condition of his Reimbursing the public Expence—You are best able to judge how far that proposal is eligible by the prospects you have of making prizes—I therefore desire your Opinion upon the subject—²

It is proper to inform you that in what Concerns the public business in France, you should Addressed your Letters to Doctor Franklin M^r Deane and Myself, who are joint Commissioners for France, unless you had particular Orders to the Contrary, And in what Concerns the public in Spain you are to apply to Me as sole Commissioner for that Country—It is a disputed point whether the Enemy Goods in a Neutral Vessell Can be made a prize of, unless they are Contraband, The Attempting therefore to make Captures of their ships gives great Offence to our friends, and should be desisted from in future—³

Mess^{rs} Gardoquies will shew you my Address to the American Captains, And the Same has been sent by Us all to the ports of France, for the future therefore you will endeavour to shew particular Respect to all French and Spanish ships to Remove the Offence that has been given—I am [&c.]

Paris Jan^y 16th 1778—

(Signed) A Lee

Copy, DLC, Benjamin Franklin Papers. Addressed at the foot: "To Cap^t Conyngham." Docketed: "Copy of a Letter from/A. Lee Esq^r to Capt. Cun—/ningham 16 Jan. 78—."

1. Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*.

2. For arrangements regarding the sale of the public's share of *Revenge*, see NDAR 10: 1040–41, 1064, 1107, and 1108.

3. Lee is refering to Conyngham's capture of the French brig *Gracieux*.

WILLIAM HODGE TO CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM

Dear Sir/

Bilboa Jan 16th. 1778

I received your Letter this Morning and am pleased that you have reason to believe that both you and your People will be released in a few Days.¹ Lieutenant Beach² with a Copy of your Commision saild last tuesday, having on board one hundred and ten Men from the other armed vessels he received upwards of forty, he has already taken a ship³ which is valuable & is at Present in pursuit of the Tobacco Brigg⁴ which was taken near this Place by a Small Schooner.⁵ I have not the least doubt but the expedition will meet your approbation, I think it is Probable that I shall spend some weeks here, as I have got a Letter from M^r Ross at Nants which came by five American Seamen which he sent me, He informes me the Cutter⁶ will not sail for some time yet. Nothing new besides from your obedient and Hum^{ble} Serv^t

A Copy

W^m Hodge

Copy, ScHi, Henry Laurens Papers, SCHS No. 31.

1. Conyngham had traveled to San Sebastián to obtain release of the cargo he had taken from the French brig *Gracieux*. James Gardoqui to Arthur Lee, 10 Jan., above.
2. Lt. John Beach, Continental Navy.
3. Ship *Hope*, William Butler.
4. *Hooper*, William Knapp.
5. Guernsey privateer schooner *Active*, Peter Agnew, commander.
6. Continental Navy cutter *Dolphin*.

January 17

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

17th. Saturday rainy w^r. We are Advis'd by our friends Not to Attempt to make Our Escape, as they are trying to bring about an Exchange for us—

By Mr. [*Robert Heath?*] & Sorrey [*Miles Saurey*], We've Rec^d. our Donation Clothes

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

ARTHUR LEE TO BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AND SILAS DEANE

Gentlemen

I am sorry that the things to which I objected having been continued in the Instructions for Cap^t. Jones prevent me from giving my signature to them except in the manner which I have the honor to send you. I am [&c]

Challiot

Arthur Lee

Jan^y. 17th. 1778

N.B. I shall go to Versailles to-day; if there is any thing I can do there, be so good as to send me a Note of it.

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 42. Addressed at foot: "Benjamin Franklin & Silas Deane Esq^s." Docketed: "A. Lee to/BF. & SD."

ARTHUR LEE TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES, WITH POSTSCRIPT FROM BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AND SILAS DEANE

To Cap^t. Jones.

Paris Jan^y. 17th. 1778

Tho I approve in general of the precedeing Instructions,¹ yet I cannot sign them because they contain an order to put the sale of prizes into other hands than those of the commercial Agents, which I have always thought unjust; & recommend M^r. Goulard, tho' that Gentleman & his Company, have forfeited our confidence in the business already entrusted to them.

Arthur Lee

As M^r. William Lee, one of the Commercial Agents in whom we could have placed a Confidence, has quitted that Service, (and we can have none in the prudent Conduct of the other, M^r. Thomas Morris,) we did not think it convenient to recommend your consigning your Prizes to their Care[;] And as we know of nothing done by M^r. Goulard, whereby he ought to forfeit our Confidence, we see no reason to change the Advice within given. Paris Jan. 18. 1778

B Franklin
Silas Deane

L, DNA, PCC, item 168, vol. 1, p. 22 (M247, roll 185). Addressed at foot: "To Cap^t. Jones."

1. American Commissioners in France to Captain John Paul Jones, 16 Jan., above.

JOSEPH GARDOQUI AND SONS TO CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM

Cap^t Gustavus Cunningham
Sir

Bilboa the 17th Jany 1778—

By your very agreeable & Esteem'd favour of the 14th Instant¹ are glad to see the fair disposition your affair stands in, thro the assistance of the Gentleman you are recommended to, & flatter ourselves that they will be able to compleat the same to your Intire Satisfaction—We suppose you are already informed that the Cutter² departed hence on Tuesday last in order to retake if posible a Tobacco Brigg,³ that was given up by the forgery of the Spanish Pilott to a Jersey Privateer⁴ not further than a Muskett Shott from the Spanish land, which resolution we had the Pleasure to be approved of by our worthy Friend M^r Hodge who arrived safe in Town the day before yestarday, as such doubt not your being pleased therewith, Expecially when have to informe you that the same day she went out, she fell in and took a ship from the Land⁵ bound to this port with 2373 Quintales of Fish & 59 Ton of oyl on board of whom Cap^t Beach⁶ putt in as a prize-Master Jeremiah Hibbert Master of one the american Privateers in the river who went as a volunteer in the Cutter; the Ship tho' believe bound to this Place has not yet made her appearance with us, butt when does; depend on our giving you punctual advice, mean while remain with sincere reggards—[&c.]

Joseph Gardoqui & sons—

NB We are just this Instant inform'd that the Ship is safe in our river aGourno
A Copy

Copy, ScHi, Henry Laurens Papers, SCHS No. 31.

1. Not found.
2. Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*.
3. *Hooper*, William Knapp.
4. Guernsey privateer schooner *Active*, Peter Agnew, commander.
5. Ship *Hope*, William Butler, master, from Newfoundland.
6. Lt. John Beach, Continental Navy.

HERMAN KATENCAMP TO LORD WEYMOUTH

N^o: 75.

Corunna 17th: January 1778.

My Lord.

Nothing material has happen'd in this neighbourhood since I had the Honor to address your Lordship my last Letter,¹ but Letters from Biscay by this Post inform us that the *Gracieux*, Emanuel le Tournois, the french vessel which in N^o: 72 I took the Liberty to mention² was expected here with a valuable Cargoe of woollen Goods from London, was taken by the famous Cunningham in Sight of S^t: Sebastions and carried into that Port the 21st: of last month. I flatter myself however that very little Benefit will accrue to him by this Capture the Comander in

Chief of that Province having immediately put an Embargo on the Ship and Cargoe, and the merchants of this Town being determined to reclaim their Property.

A few Days after, Cunningham put into Bilboa, where he still was repairing his vessel when the Post came away.

A strong Rumour prevails that the Army will soon be reduced, and the navy proportionably augmented by the Incorporation of the Regiments which are to be reformed. The Prencipe Regiment was added to the marine of this Department some Time ago as I had then the Honor to acquaint your Lordship, and the Regiment of Cantabria is now on its march in the Depth of winter for Ferrol, and it is conjectured for the same Purpose. I have the Honor to be [&c.]

H Katencamp.

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fol. 34. Addressed at the foot of the first page: "The R^h Hon^{ble}. Lord Viscount Weymouth." Docketed: "Coruña 17 Jan^y 1778/Consul Katencamp/(N^o 75)/R. 13 Feb^y."

1. Herman Katencamp to Lord Weymouth, 3 Jan., above.
2. *NDAR* 10: 1065.

January 18 (Sunday)

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

[*Paris, between 15 and 18 Jan. 1778*]

I ask the Commissioners

Whither they do or do not mean that the *Ranger* should depart before her Prizes are Realized.

Whither the advance paid to the Seamen must be deducted from their Prize Money, and at what Rate?—

And Whither it is not inexpedient for a Ship that is Crank—that Sails Slow—and that is of a trifling force, to pursue a tract where there is almost a Certainty of Meeting with the Enemies fast Sailing Ships of Superiour Force.

D, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 56(i), no. 75. Docketed: "Capt Jones's/Questions."

January 19

PHILIP STEPHENS TO SENIOR OFFICER, PORTSMOUTH

Sir [*Admiralty Office*] 19th. Jan^y 1778

Captain Cotton of His Majesty's Ship the *Pallas* which is arrived from Jamaica having transmitted to my Lords Commiss^{rs}. of the Admiralty the enclosed List of Rebel Prisoners on board that Ship: I am commanded by their Lordships to signify their direction to you to take the proper measures for having John Murphy & the others who were taken in Arms committed to Forton Prison; to distribute such of those who were taken in Trading Vess^{ls}. as well French Men as English as are fit for His Majesty's Service on board such Ships at Spithead as are in want of Men & to discharge the rest, if any shall then remain, letting me know their Names I am &c.

PS

[Enclosure]

A List of Prisoners brought home in the *Pallas*

Taken in Arms	Taken in Trading Vessels	Frenchmen Taken in American Traders
John Murphy Cap ^{m1}	Silas Baseum	Pierre Berrichon
David Gray ²	D ^l . Leadbeater	Jean Casseau
Rob ^t . Wilcocks ³	John Holyday	Jean Bap ^t . Verdeleh
Mat. Cox	Jos ^h . Smith	Jean Bourdie
Sam ^l . Haywood ⁴	Bar ^w . Reardon	Jean Biberon
Phil ^p . Corey ⁵	Peter Evernie	And ^w . Lafond
Sion. Arnold ⁶	John Watson	Esprit Figure
Rob ^t . Upham ⁷	Tho ^s . Melton	Peter Le Bon
Thad ^s . Manchester ⁸	Will Lewis	Jerom Bange
Jos ^h . Haywood ⁹	Reubin Folger	Fran ^s . Capdecon
Benj ⁿ . Hicks ¹⁰	Tho ^s . Snow	Mich ^l . Martine
Jon ⁿ . Lillibridge ¹¹	Enoch Bulls	
Cha ^s . Lascell	Arch ^d . Fisher	
James Tew ¹²	Will ^m . Green	
Elijah Perkins ¹³	John Stewart	
Geo. Smith ¹⁴	Tho ^s . Cave	
Rich. Ryland ¹⁵	Dav ^d . Birch	
Rob ^t . Webb ¹⁶	Ja ^s . Prudden	
	Ja ^s . Rob	
	Peter Kirgill	
	And ^w . James	
	And ^w . Morehead	
	John Collins	
	Cha ^s . Curtis	
	Cha ^s . Lewis	

The whole of the above Prisoners were received from the different Ships at Portroyal, Jamaica.

Row^d. Cotton

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/556, fols. 326–27. Addressed at foot of letter: “Senior Officer Portsmouth.”

1. Captain of Rhode Island letter of marque sloop *Swallow*, captured by H.M.S. *Aeolus*, 12 Sept. 1777. *NDAR* 9: 921. Murphy and his crew listed below were committed to Forton Prison on 23 Jan. Marion Kaminkow and Jack Kaminkow, *Mariners of the American Revolution* (Baltimore, Md.: Magna Carta Book Co., 1967), 137.

2. Lieutenant of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 78.

3. Master of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 207.

4. Samuel Hayward, gunner of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 87.

5. Seaman of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 44.

6. *Ibid.*, 6.

7. Boy of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 195.

8. Seaman of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 126.

9. Joseph Hayward, seaman of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 87.

10. Master's mate of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 89.

11. Seaman of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 117.

12. Captain of marines of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 187.

13. Surgeon of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 150.

14. Prize master of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 174.

15. Seaman of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 160.

16. Seaman of the *Swallow*. *Ibid.*, 202.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

19th. Munday Thunder & showers—Rec^d. 1/4 lb Beef to a man Extra. M^r Rowe the Master Maison Here to Contrive about building two Chimneys, One for the Officers, & the other for the people; but is Not Agreeable to the Officers as there is No Distinction made between the Officers & People's Apartments. therefore not According to the plan Proposed by Our friends who was at the Cost. I understand that all these favours, was Granted in & thr^o. the Humane L—d Abington's Influence

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR., TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

[*Nantes*]

Jan^y 19th. 1778 Extract, On my arrival at Brest I went to the Commandant of marine to ask permission for the Ship¹ to go to S^t Nazare to which I rec^d. a refusal for want of orders. I represented to the Commodore² (at Quiberon) the inefficacy of the Convoy if we had not liberty to go to S^t Nazare that he said he could not help as the Commander at Paimbuef was not under him & I must wait the decision of the minister,³ On my return to Nantes I find that orders are come from the minister to clear out the *Lion* permitting the Americans to be entered on the Roll as Passengers which we are now doing and Then she will go down to S^t Nazare, but this will not be possible 'till the next spring tides—when I was pressing for this permission the Tides were at the highest & the Ship could have gone down, now I have got it the tides prevent & this natural obsticale cannot be surmounted these 6 or 8 Days.

Extract, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 37, no. 131. Enclosed in Jonathan Williams, Jr., to Benjamin Franklin, 5 Mar., below. Docketed: "Extracts of Letters from/M^r J Williams from/Decem^r to 19 Jan^y—"; "Extracts of Letters from J Williams/to Comm^{rs}. to 19 Jan^y 78."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Deane*, formerly called *Lyon*.
2. Chef d'Escadre Toussaint-Guillaume, Chevalier de La Motte-Picquet.
3. Gabriel de Sartine.

LORD GRANTHAM TO LORD WEYMOUTH

N^o. 4Madrid. 19th. Jan^y. 1778.

My Lord,

An Appeal relative to the Prize, *Syren*, taken by Cunningham is laid before the Council of War, notwithstanding all the Attempts made by General O'Neil to prevent it.¹

I have taken all the Steps, which I can with propriety, to have this Matter represented to that Tribunal in its true Light. The Decision of it will be of consequence, as it will determine the Sense, in which such Captures will be finally considered.

His Majesty's Consul at Coruña² has been applied to concerning the Ransom of some Prizes, and has very properly demurred upon giving his Opinion. As, al-

lowing them to take place is certainly acquiescing in the legality of the Capture. He will of course be glad to receive your Lordship's Directions upon that Head.

Advices are received, by way of Portugal, of great Hardships exercised by the Spaniards against the Portuguese at the Nova Colonias, but I do not conceive it will be much taken notice of here.

Don Joseph Galvez is on the Point, as I am well informed, of executing his plan for laying the Trade from this Kingdom to America open to all the Ports. A Measure very problematical, and contrary to the old & first Principles adopted here, since the Discovery of the new World. It bids, however, as fair as anything can do for exciting a more general Industry, than has hitherto prevailed, excepting in Cataluña, which is by many Degrees the most active part of this Kingdom.

The News of the Elector of Bavaria's Death arrived here in the end of last Week. Whether this Event is likely to have any other Consequences besides a regular Succession, is a Subject upon which from this Court nothing as yet can be said.

Count Aguilar, Ambassador from this Court at Turin, is thought most likely to succeed to the Embassy to Vienna, now vacant by the Death of Count Mahoni; and the same Arrangement relative to the Embassies to London and Lisbon, which I have already communicated to your Lordship, seems still likely to take place. I have the Honour to be [&c.]

Grantham

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fol. 40. Addressed at the foot of the first page: "The Lord Viscount Weymouth; /&c^a. &c^a &c^a." Docketed: "Madrid 19 Jan^{ry} 1778/Lord Grantham/(N^o 4)/R. 6 Feb^{ry}."

1. NDAR 10: 1065.

2. Herman Katencamp.

January 20

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

20th of Jan^{ry} Tuesday rainy w^c M^r Heath & Sorrey & Cap^t Ralls¹ are Serving out Clothes to the people; a Disagreeable Jobb, as it is Impossible to please Everyone this Day Parliament meets this Day Rec^d. Oat meal & Greens to put into Our Pot Liquor

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. Capt. George Ralls, commander of privateer schooner *Jenny*.

JOURNAL OF TIMOTHY CONNOR

[*Forton Prison, Portsmouth, 1778*]

January 20th this day Parliament setts after Christmas holidays the same day the Officers moved from our Prison to their new apartment and in leaves us more room—

D, DLC, Forton Prison, England, American Prisoner's Journal, 1777–79, collection 2272.

JOHN ROSS TO SILAS DEANE

the Hon^{ble} Siles Deane Esq^r
Dear Sir,

Nantes 20th. January 1778

I am indebted to your Respected favour of 15th. Instant.¹ In Answer, Am persuaded Your Reasons are weighty & Sufficient, for Refusing your Countenance & protection to English Adventurer's in the lines proposed by me, As Such, I have no right to urge my Opinion Contrary to that of Doctor Franklins and yours—I had only in view to hint at what I thought might be usefull to the Country, did it command the concurrance & approbation of the Hon^{ble}. Commissioner's, and I presume you have conceived it so.—At same time being informed when at Paris, a friend or two of mine had been indulgd with passports for Vessels under English Collours dispatched with Salt Cargoes If it is agreeable to the Hon^{ble}. Commissioner's to grant me a similar protection on same plan, they may be assured I shall make no improper use of it, I have at present a ship in England, which I think may be employed in that line to be of Service to the Country.—therefore hope to obtain your approbation & the Countenance of the Commissioner's by obliging me with a permit for Security on one Side.—

I am glad the observation I took the liberty to make to you has not given offence, & happie in the assurance's You give me.—The American Trade can bear no Restraint, a free & open intercourse with all the world has been the great object of America in our present Contest, And Shou'd any restriction's on the produce of this or that State be extorted by treaties, it must be considered partial and create unavoidable discontent.—The Strength of England being so considerably Reduced by a declaration of our Independancey, More than Ballance's every aid & assistance we can Receive from all the Power's in Europe, And if we are but Acknowledged as Such, Let us enjoy our freedom equally independant of all Europian treaties, as the most certain to preserve a lasting Peace undisturbed.

Nicholson's fear's are groundless—Am of opinion he know's as litle of his own forwardness for Sea, as that of Greens² tho he writes on the Subject—I wish he may be ready a[s] soon as my Concern's, the Cursed method of Conducting business interfiered not a little with my views in the dispatch expected but I shall overcome it now in a short time am in hopes.—& proceed as soon as the Captain.—Unlucky something Coud not be done for Capt: Jones in the line Recommended by the Navy board—Shoud any more new Ships however, be fited out in this Kingdom, beg You adopt different plans. Nicholson's (on seeing the Accounts) will, am confident lead You to see the necessity of it.—I shall only add further today, that I am [&c.]

Jn^o Ross

L, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers.

1. Silas Deane to John Ross, 15 Jan., above.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Deane*, Capt. Samuel Nicholson, commander, and ship *Brune*, John Green, master.

January 21

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

21st. Wednesday rainy weather Finished serving the Donation Clothes; & we return'd a Letter of thanks to the Doners for Our Relief—

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE
TO GOURLADE, BÉRARD FRÈRES & MONPLAISIR

Gentlemen

Paris 21 Jan^y 1778

We wrote you the 12 inst.¹ on the Subject of the Letter returned to M^r Beaumarchais since which we are without any of your favours, except of the 12 ins^t which relates to the Sales of the Cargo of the *Amphitrite*, the acc^t of which sales you will please to favour us with a Copy of for our Settlement with that Gentleman. It is a little surprizing that Capt. Thompson should count on the Cargo of the *Amphitrite* to make good his disbursements, as he really had no Conversation with us on the Subject, nor ever gave us reason to suspect that the disbursements of the Frigates² would exceed the prize money due the Public. However you were before this informed of our having accepted the Bills and of their being paid. I have nothing material to add but in behalf of self & Colleagues have the honor to remain [&c.]

S. Deane

LB, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. Addressed at foot: "Mess^{rs}. Berard freres Gourllade & Montplaisir."

1. *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 25: 467.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*, Capt. Thomas Thompson, commander, and Continental Navy ship *Alfred*, Capt. Elisha Hinman, commander.

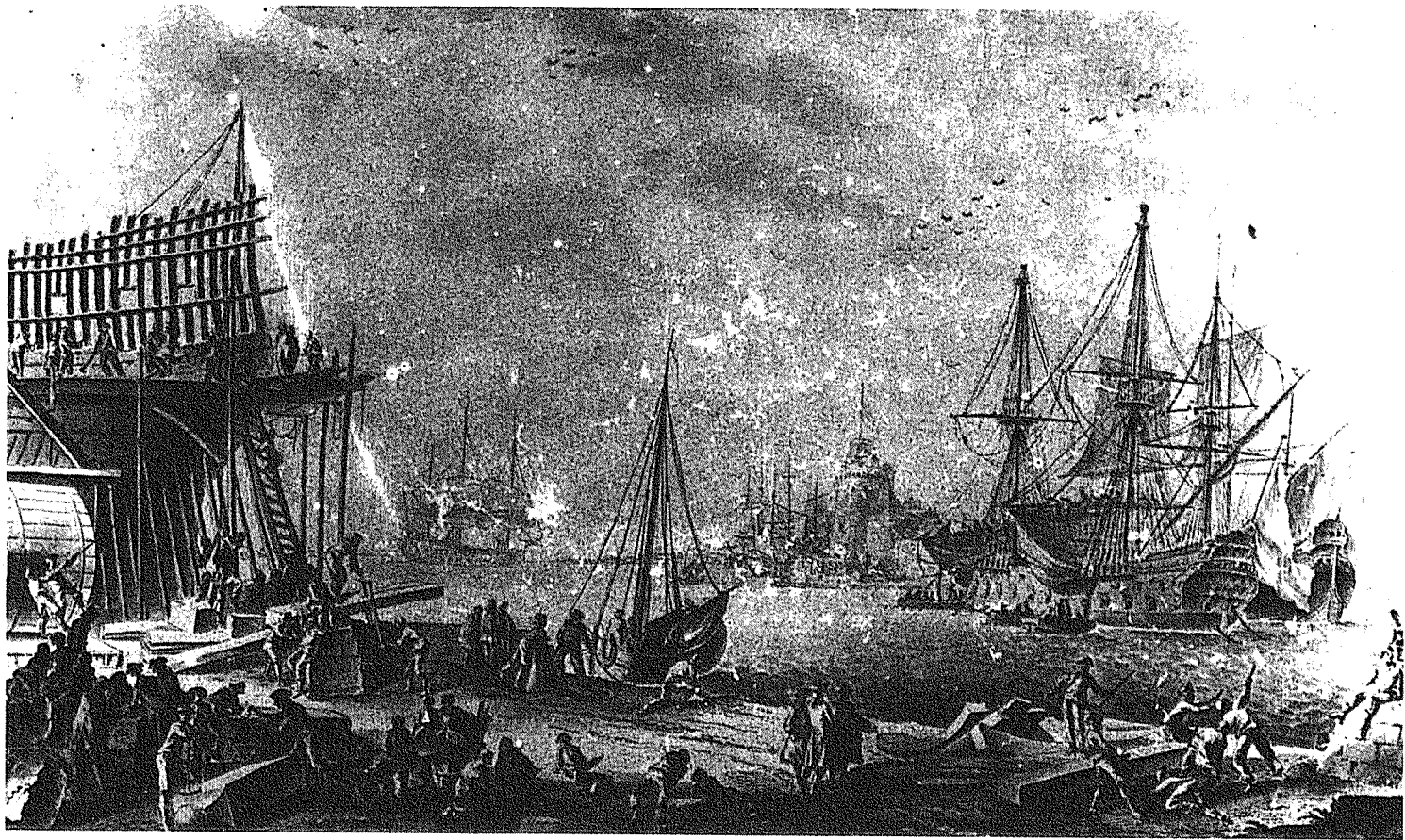
SILAS DEANE TO CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM

Capt Cunningham

Paris 21st Jan^y 1778

Sir—

I have received your letter of the 4th. ins^t and consulted on the Contents with my Colleagues. it is very unlucky that you fell in with that Vessel,¹ every such Adventure gives our Enemies an Advantage against us by representing of us as Persons who regard not the Laws of Nations. Your Idea that you are at Liberty to seize English Property, on board of French or other Neutral Vessels is wrong; it is contrary to the established Laws among the maritime Powers in Europe, though it is true that the English in the last War, paid little or no regard to this Law, but their superiority at Sea carried them thro', they have practiced the same this war but their Situation, and ours is very different in point of Force, tho' not so, in point of right. You will, therefore, represent the case to the Admiralty just as it was conducted, as you have represented in your Letter to us, & drop your claim, and in future let French, Spanish, and other Neutral Vessels pass, without detaining of them, unless you find them loaded with warlike Stores, and bound to the Ports of



Building warships in France

our Enemys, in which Case only, they may be detain'd agreeable to the Laws, and Treaties between the Maritime States in Europe, I hope M^r: Hodge is with you by this Time who can give you particulars than is proper for me to write, Wishing you Success I am [&c.]

Silas Deane

PS. over Leaf

I have not as yet received the Ransom money nor have I any Answer to my last Letter on the Subject² in which I sent forward the Letter of the Hostage & Copy of yours to me—

L, ScHi, Henry Laurens Papers, SCHS No. 31.

1. French brig *Gracieux*, Emanuel de Tournois, master.

2. To Rodolphe-Ferdinand Grand. NDAR 10: 1153.

GOURLADE, BÉRARD FRÈRES & MONPLAISIR
TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Gentlemen

L'orient 21st: Jan^y: 1778

In Consequence of your letter of 12th: Inst^{nt}l we have acquainted M^r: Beaumarchais we were ready to account with him for the whole Proceeds of the Cargoe of the *amphitrite* of which we have already remitted to him part of the amount and Shall continue. If our accounts of disbursments for the two frigattes² have exceeded your expectations you cannot with any Justice lay any blame on us for it. we have Suplied your Captains in every thing they wanted and of the [*torn*] best materials according to their demands, they [*torn*] examined with Care all said accounts and aproved of them, if you think any article charged at too high a Price we desire you will point them to us who will give you proper Satisfaction. your expressions on said transactions are disagreeable. little did we expect such would have been the reward of the Care good management, and honour with which We have transacted your affairs. you have appointed here M^r: Moylan³ we desire you will Send him all our accounts that he may examine the same from the Vouchers will Serve him and clear your doubts; if any errors appears you may depend it shall be rectified:

The Circumstances that have attended the *amphitrite's* Consignment M^r: Beaumarchais whom we Know to be connected with you laying an attachment on said [*torn*] in our hands in a very Strange manner, [*torn*] Gentlemen ordering us to account with him for said Proceeds without any deduction of our advances, giving us no reimbursement nor any assurances on said Advances appointing here an Agent M^r: Moylan without giving us any information of it, naturally must have alarmed a confidence which at any time you could have Commanded, had we given you any reason of Complaint we should ever regret the loss of your Correspondence, but Since attention Zeal and candour could not assure us that Satisfaction and inspire you greater Confidence, it would have been better never to have existed at all, and if we have not been able to Captivate your Confidence, we hope to have deserved your esteem We are [&c.]

Gourlade
Berard freres & Cie
demonplaisir

L, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 52. Addressed below close: "To Mess^{rs}. Franklyn Dean & Lee deputed for/the united States of America." Docketed: "Monplaisir Goulard &c./Letter Jan^r 21st 1778."

1. *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 25: 467.
2. Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*, Capt. Thomas Thompson, commander, and Continental Navy ship *Alfred*, Capt. Elisha Hinman, commander.
3. James Moylan.

ABRAHAM-MARIE BERTIN TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

Extrait de la lettre de M. Bertin, datée de Marseille, le 21 Janvier, 1778

Le Navire la *Céres*, de 90. Tonneaux, équipé de 10. hommes, et commandé par le Capitaine Icard, est parti de la Martinique le 1^{er} 8^{bre}. dernier.

Le lendemain de son départ de la Colonie, près de la Dominique, à deux lieues de distance du Roseau, il a été assailli par trois Chaloupes Angloises Royalistes, équipées de quarante hommes, parmi lesquels il y avoit trois Officiers armés comme des Forbans qui ont commencé par s'emparer du Bâtiment où ils ont exercés de mauvais traitements contre les Gens de l'Equipage qui ont essuyé plusieurs coups de sabre. On a saisi et arraché des mains du Capitaine tous ses papiers, il a été enfermé dans sa Chambre et gardé par deux Fusiliers, le Bâtiment a été visité en entier, on a enfoncé des Barriques, endommagé des marchandises, coupé beaucoup de cordages, ce qui a duré environ trois heures après lesquelles on s'est retiré. Je suis &c^a/.

[Translation]

Extract of the letter from M. Bertin, dated Marseilles 21 January 1778

The ship la *Ceres*, of 90 tons, with a crew of 10 men, and commanded by Captain Icard, left from Martinique last October 1.

The day after her departure from the Colony, she was attacked near Dominica, two leagues from Roseau, by three Royalist English sloops, manned by forty men, including three Officers armed like Pirates who after taking possession of the Ship, abused the Crew, who submitted to several sabre blows: They seized all the Captain's papers right from his hands, then locked him in his Cabin and kept him guarded by two Fusiliers; they searched the Ship from bow to stern, punched holes in Barrels, damaged merchandise, and cut a great deal of rigging; this lasted about three hours and then they left. I am &c^a/.

Copy, FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 528, fol. 180. Docketed: "dans la lettre de M. de Sartine du 28"; "a M. de Sartine." Enclosure in Gabriel de Sartine to Comte de Vergennes, 28 Jan. 1778, *ibid.*, fol. 177.

January 23

LLOYD'S EVENING POST, AND BRITISH CHRONICLE (LONDON),
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, TO FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1778

Friday, January 23. London.

The *Count of Provence*, Sheal, was taken by the *General Washington* privateer,¹ and after being plundered was sent for Boston; but on her passage was retaken by

the *Revenge* letter of marque, and carried to Barbadoes, from whence she is arrived at Cork, after having received considerable damage in bad weather.

1. Brig *Countess of Province*, Thomas Sheal, master, from Cork to Newfoundland (*Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*), and possibly Massachusetts privateer brigantine *General Washington*, William Rogers, commander.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

23^d. Friday rainy weather Our Established Allowance from the Donation is 4^d Loaf 1 lb of beef 1 penny worth of Tobacco to a mess Every Day but saturday then Pork in Lieu of Beef besides Oat meal & greans to put into our Broth & sope to was wash Our Clothes—this Evening Indulged with a Candle light Upon our own Cost. which is the first I've Seen since I've been in Prison; a Great Indulgence

D, McHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

JOURNAL OF TIMOTHY CONNOR

[*Forton Prison, Portsmouth, 1778*]

January 23^d this day 48 more prisoners came on shore for of them was French men and 13 Officers with them Cap^t Murphy, Cap^t Oakman, Cap^t Chew, Cap^t Slocom, &c &c.¹

D, DLC, Forton Prison, England, American Prisoner's Journal, 1777–79, collection 2272.

1. John Murphy, captain of Rhode Island letter of marque sloop *Swallow*; Tobias Oakman, prize master of Massachusetts privateer ship *General Mifflin's* prize ship *Rebecca*; Benjamin Chew, sailing master, Maryland privateer brig *Sturdy Beggar*; and Gabriel Slocom or Slacom, prize master, *Sturdy Beggar*.

JAMES MOYLAN TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

[Extract]

Honorable Gentlemen

L'Orient 23^d. Jan^y 1778

. . . the Ship *Duras*,¹ (I mention'd to you in my last letter to be for Sale here) I find on enquiry to be too old for any proffitable purpose.—the expences that wou'd attend her repair, wou'd be more than adequate to her value when properly fitted, altho' her Rigging & Cannon are in tolerable good order. . .

James Moylan

L, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 57. Addressed: "To/The Honorable Commissioners/of the United States of/America." Docketed: "M^r Moylans Lettr/23^d. Jan^y 1778/L'Orient." Portions not printed here relate rumors of American recapture of New York and Rhode Island.

1. *Duc de Duras*, the future Continental Navy ship *Bonhomme Richard*.

January 24

THE LONDON CHRONICLE, THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, TO SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1778

Saturday, Jan. 24. London.

The *Hannah*, Capt. Castleton, from South Carolina for Nantz, with rice, indigo, and tobacco, is taken by a letter of marque, and sent to Falmouth.

January 25 (Sunday)

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PORTSMOUTH, JAN. 25."

"Arrived and came into Harbour the *Thamas Koulikan*, Capt. Le Pierre,¹ a French ship, frigate built, with a tier of guns, twelve pounders, laden with cloathing, cannon, &c. and an American Gentleman, with several French passengers on board. The Captain says, he took in his cargo at Croisic, and was bound for St. Domingo. She was taken in the Bay by the *Hector* man of war, Capt. Hamilton, who sent her into this Port."

Lloyd's Evening Post, and British Chronicle (London), 23–26 Jan. 1778.

1. Noël Le Peru, master.

January 26

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO CAPTAIN ROBERT DIGBY, R.N.

By &c^a.

Whereas we have received Intelligence, upon which great reliance may be had, and of which You will herewith receive three Extracts,^{*1} that a great number of ships, as well French as American, have been loaded in the different Ports of France with Cargoes of Warlike Stores and other Supplies for the use of the Rebels in North America, that several of them are assembling, particularly from the Ports of Nantz, Rochelle & Bourdeaux, in order to sail in company; and that they are to be convoyed a considerable distance from the Coast of France by a Squadron of French Men of War; And Whereas it is of the greatest importance to His Majesty's Service that the Ships laden with the Cargoes beforementioned should be intercepted; You are therefore, in pursuance of His Majesty's pleasure signified by the Earl of Sandwich, hereby required and directed to proceed with the Ship You command,² and the several Ships named in the Margin³ (whose Captains are directed to follow your orders) and cruize on the Meridian of Cape Finisterre between the Latitude of 47°.00' North and the said Cape for the time hereafter mentioned, most diligently looking out for the Ships above described; And in case of falling in with them, You are to examine them, notwithstanding any remonstrance that may be made against it by the Commanding Officer of the Convoy, and if you shall be satisfied that the Ships you so examine are the Ships pointed out by the enclosed Intelligence, and that they are laden with Cargoes for the purpose thereinmentioned, You are to seize them, and to bring or send them, under the charge of proper Officers, into one of His Maj^{ty}'s Ports; taking care that the several Articles on board be effectually secured until His Majesty's farther pleasure shall be known, and that notice of their arrival, with the grounds & circumstances of their seizure, be sent to our Secretary, by Express, for our information.—But in the execution of those Orders you will take care that the intercourse you may have with the Commanding Officer of the Convoy be (so far as is consistent with the proper discharge of your duty) conducted in such terms of civility on your part that, if any remonstrance shall be made from the Court of France there be no ground to charge you with any failure therein.

You are, while employed on this Service, to use your endeavours to take or destroy any Armed Vessels or others belonging to the Rebellious Colonies that you may meet with; And you are to give such protection to the Trade of His Majesty's Subjects that may fall in your way, as they may stand in need of, and may be consistent with your attention to the main Object of these Instructions.

You are to continue upon this Service for five weeks after you arrive upon your Station, and then return with the Squadron under your command to Spithead, sending Us an account of your arrival, & proceedings, and waiting there until you receive our further orders.

In the Orders you issue to the Captains of the Ships under your Command, while employed on the forementioned Service, you are to enjoy them to the strictest secrecy, and you are to observe the same Yourself. Given & C^a. 26th. January 1778.

Sandwich
H. Palliser
Mulgrave

By &c. PS.

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/1334 (Secret), fols. 51-53. Addressed at foot: "To/Captain Digby/Commander of His Majesty's/Ship *Ramillies*." Notation at the foot: "Not to be opened til off Portland." Docketed: "26 January 1778./Cap^t Digby—*Ramillies*"; "ORD."

1. In the margin "* Same as to Cap^t Hughes of the *Centaur* mark'd N^o 2 N^o 3. Secret Advices rec^d 15 & 17 January."

2. H.M.S. *Ramillies* (74 guns).

3. *Resolution, Culloden, Cornwall, Bedford, Asia, Proserpine.*

LLOYD'S EVENING POST, AND BRITISH CHRONICLE (LONDON),
SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, TO MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1778

Monday, January 26. London.

The *Lady Elizabeth*, Scott, from Guadaloupe to South Carolina, with cloathing, and 1000 stand of arms, &c. on board, is taken and carried into Quebec.

JOHN ROSS TO SILAS DEANE

The Hon^{ble} Siles Deane Esq^r
Dear Sir/

L'Orient 26 January 1778

I came here two days ago in consequence of a most inconsistent ungenteel Piece of Treatement of my famous factors Mess^{rs}. Berrard & C^o. Such indeed as no house of reputation could possibly think of in my situation with them—My acco^{ts} was furnished to me at Nantes accompanying his bills for the ball^a. & instructions to stope the *La brune*^d in case I refused Acceptance without assigning me a single day to examine my acco^{ts}.

The mans character who Supperintends the business of this house is much injured if they deserve that confidence of answering their demands, previous to a fair Examination & Settlement, as such I determined to see my accounts here, & the vouchers in support of them.—they were exhibited in Such irregularity & confusion as no person could admit many of them as prooffe, and I therefore desired Copy's of the Several bills which am determined to have fully examined & brought to reference if not satisfied in every particular charge.—I have retained a ballance

of £12000 open in the Account received untill I have the necessary prooffe's, and to remove every ground of complaint against me, as to the impropriety of conduct in the refusal thereof have tendered him Security for any such ballance as are found to be due on a fair Settlement.—

This House threatned me not only to stop the Ship, but to represent me to the Minister, unless I submitted to their term's, had I acted inconsistent or unjust, such threats might have had some weight, therefore shall convince Berrard & C^o that I am not to be bullyed in to an unfair compliance

I depart for Nantes in a few hour's, and hope to find every thing in that forwardness which will permit the *La Brune* to proceed to take the goods on board without any detention, consequently expect I shall be in readiness notwithstanding this unexpected trouble & plague given me by those Gentlemen here;—With advanced Wages which you know comes heavy in outfits on our plan as French Property, I find the *La Brune*, Six months provisions for Eighty Men, Guns &c^a &c^a &c^a will cost above £100'000.—Yet far cheaper then any Vessel of hir size fitted out hitherto in this Kingdom. Nevertheless—the provisions Watter, Guns &c^a on board as a Ship of War, will interfere greatly with the Room allotted for the goods intended to be shipped, in so much, that I am Realy affraid she can't take in that quantity of goods which will entitle the Owners to a freight Adequate to the expences incurred in fitting out the *La Brune* as a ship of Force in the manner already done—I shoud regrave to be suspected of making a charge against the Public in the line of a Freight or any thing else, too favourable for my Self, it being my invariable rule to consult their Interest as much as my own at least, in the business committed to me.—That being the case, and to gaurd against every Reflection which the most invious can possibly Suggest, I have come to the resolution of consulting you on this business as part owner, that we may join to act with every consistency for the benefite of the American States—If therefore you view the matter in the light I do, woud it not be best to assign this Ship intyrelly to the Public at first cost,? and give them every Advantage, the Cargo being their property & of course the Risque of the whole.—By this assignation the States have in readiness a good ship well fitted, intyrelly under the immadiate direction of the Commissioners to proceed with Nicholson in Concert.—I shall get Green² to submit to what you and I may approve of, but don't chuse to make the proposal to the Commissioners, untill I am favoured with Your Opinion—Am largely in Advance for the States already my disbursements for the *La Brune* if assigned to the Public will add to the Charge, and must reimburse your Advances so soon as I receive the first funds.—Our motives for these engagements you know, was Principally to get home some Tobacco and I think my Representation to the Committee³ may engage their attention to employ the Ship even in that Line,

Private Adventurers be assured cant get money in a Ship fitted so expensively as the *La Brune*, and unless properly Manned, hir force will be of no Service—this youl please Consider of, being inclined to consult Your Interest as well as my own.—The *La Brune* carrys a compleate Battery of Twenty double Fortified Six's on her Gun deck, and as convenient as any Frigate in England—You may from this Suppose hir a cheap Vessel for the Public, or Private Adventurer's who might employ hir in a Proper Line.—If you concurr with me in the Assignation proposed

Captain Green must have a Continental Commission. I shall pledge my honour, he will not discredit the truste in the Service of his Country.

Since my arrival here had several litle confabes with M^r. Moylan, who communicated your correspondence with him, to me, & that of his answers—You must permit me to Recommend every precaution in the choice of connections here and if my opinion merit any attention from you, I shoud Rather approve to form no manner of connection with french houses as by no means to be depended on in point of Regularitty, nor even confidence with some.—If the Commissioners have any speculative plans to prosecute, or a desire of collecting from other Nations Articles Suitable for the outfits of any American Ships of War, let them advise me, and I shall get it done for them through my Correspondents with every Security and on the first terms furnishing me with that liberty to take a reimbursement by bills on Paris—I have as good a correspondence over all Europe as any in France, and that you may gaurd against those impositions too much experienced by You, I offer my service to the Commissioner's—This I mention to you, that you may do in it as you see Proper, shoud circumstances Require a collection of certain Articles for public use.—Brass Gun's in Particulare ought to be provided in Sweden. However, as you must know best what is wanting, not necessary to ennumerate the markets for certain Articles—

When I return to Nantes shall communicate some further occurances in the meantime hope to hear from You in Course, and with Respect I am [&c.]

Jn^o. Ross

L, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. Addressed: "To/The Hon^{ble}./Siles Deane Esq^r/Paris—." Docketed: "M^r Jn^o Ross/Letter 26th Jan^y/—1778—."

1. The future Continental Navy frigate *Queen of France*.
2. John Green.
3. Perhaps the Continental Commerce Committee, although Ross may mean the American Commissioners in France. See his letter to the Commissioners of 6 Feb., below.

January 27

LLOYD'S EVENING POST AND BRITISH CHRONICLE (LONDON),
MONDAY, JANUARY 26, TO WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1778

Tuesday, January 27. London.

The *Hooper*, Capt. Knapp, from James's River, in America, to Bilboa, with 200 hogheads of tobacco, &c. is taken by the *Active* letter of marque, of Guernsey, Capt. Peter Agnew, after the following manner: Agnew lying off a port in the Bay of Biscay, (under the 13 stripes) where Knapp had put in to repair some damage his ship had sustained by bad weather, a Pilot came off and asked Agnew if he wanted any thing; on which he told him he would be glad to have some fresh provisions, and gave the Pilot English and French money to pay for the same. Agnew at the same time enquiring if there were any ships in port, the Pilot answered there were none, but that there was an American brig with tobacco, for Bilboa, ready to sail, and doubted not but the Master of her would be glad the privateer would take her under convoy, if he was going that way. Being told that he was, the Pilot mentioned it on going ashore, and Knapp soon came out; but on drawing near the privateer,

he perceived his mistake, and he and his crew immediately left the brig, and rowed on shore. Soon after Agnew boarded the vessel, and found no living creature on board, except a cat and dog; they retreated so precipitately, that they left all their papers on board. Agnew brought the vessel safe into Guernsey the 16th instant; her cargo is thought to be worth 10,000l.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Gentlemen

Nantes 27th. Jan^y 1777

I have the honor to inform you that from Paris I reached this place in 56 hours.—As I have in my possession repeated Orders from Congress to Afford Aid & protection to the American Commerce.—I conceive it to be my duty to give my best protection and Safe conduct to the Squadron with Supplies now nearly in readiness to Sail from hence, until they are at some distance from the Coast of Europe—I can then leave the Ships to proceed under the care and protection of the next Officer in Command.

This will afford me an Opportunity of proving the Sailing and best Trim of the *Ranger* Whereof I am at present in great suspense—and as I find it I will regulate my conduct after leaving the Squadron[.]

It is my Duty to communicate these my intentions to you—not doubting but that they will meet with Your entire Approbation, especially as my present purpose will not impede my first intentions.—I shall therefore Order the Captains &^{ca}. to put themselves under my command by Virtue of my Seniority and of my instructions from Congress.

I submit to your superior wisdom whither it will not be expedient, in case of taking Prizes containing Cloathing, Warlike or Naval Stores, that such Prizes be Ordered to America instead of being sent into any Port in Europe? I have the honor to be [&c.]

Jn^o P Jones

L, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 5, no. 35. Addressed: "The Honorable/Benja. Franklin, Silas Deane and/Arthur Lee—American Commissioners/&^{ca}. &^{ca}. &^{ca}/Paris." Docketed: "Captⁿ. Jones. 27 Jan^y./1777." The dateline and docketing both mistake the year, which was 1778.

RECEIPTS FOR THE VIRGINIA NAVY BRIGANTINE *MOSQUITO*

Nantes Jan^y 27 1778

Received of Jonathan Williams thirty Guineas on Acc^t of the Commonwealth of Virginia for the use of myself George Chamberlayne & John McNickle Officers of the *Moschetto* Armed Brig^t John Harris late Commander belonging to the said Commonwealth which Sum I promise to Acc^t with the Commonwealth for & for which I have signed three Receipts of this Tenor & date to serve as one

£31..10 Sterl^s

Byrd Chamberlayne John McNikl
George Chamberlaine

[on verso]

[Nantes] Feb. 5. 1778 Rece^d six Louis [in a]ddition to the within on the same acco^t & to acco^t for in the same manner being two Louis for each

£144 Livres

Byrd Chamberlayne
George Chamberlaine
John McNikal

D, DNA, PCC, item 90, p. 638 (M247, roll 118). Docketed: "Chamberlayn's & McNickal £31.10/Sterling & 144 Livres."

January 28

LLOYD'S EVENING POST, AND BRITISH CHRONICLE (LONDON),
MONDAY, JANUARY 26, TO WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1778

Postscript. London.

The Master of a West-Indiaman, taken by an American privateer, and set on shore at Nantes, since arrived in London, gives the following account of the *Thomas Koulikan*, taken by the *Hector* man of war, Capt. Sir John Hamilton, and brought into Portsmouth: He says, that whilst he was at Nantes, waiting for remittances from England, the above ship was loading there with bale goods, hardware, stores of all kinds, and a quantity of gunpowder and shot. She is about 450 or 500 tons burthen, frigate-built, and had ports for 32 guns, 24 twelve pounders on the main deck, 6 pounders on the quarter-deck, and two on the fore-castle; she then had no guns mounted, and he was told they were to be stowed in the hold till she arrived whither she was bound. A number of American Gentlemen were waiting to go out in her; among the rest an American supercargo, who had the care of her loading, and a Mr. Nicholson,¹ who was to be Captain of her when they arrived in America: The manner of sending her out was only to avoid the French ordinance concerning military stores being sent to America, for which reason she was laid out for St. Domingo, and which Port they were to declare for if met with any King's ship, but as soon as opportunity offered make for any part of the Continent of America, in the hands of the Congress.—The above Nicholson has a brother at Baltimore, Commander of a large privateer,² which has been blocked up some time by our frigates, cruising off the Capes of Virginia; this Nicholson is called Commodore among the Provincials.

1. Capt. Samuel Nicholson, commander of the Continental Navy frigate *Deane*. The report that he was to command *Thomas Koulikan* was in error.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Virginia*, Capt. James Nicholson, commander.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

28th. Wednesday fair weather M^r Rowe Superintendant of Mill Prison¹ has been here to see About firing Our Apartment Agreeable to the Requisition of L—d Abington, & the Maisons set to work. M^r Heath has this Day serv'd Our Cash as Usual. Besides the Rearage Due to the whole Viz 6 pence to Each Man

One Todd from Newhaven has this Day been here who Informs me he's been from home two Years, & Now belongs to the *Foudroyant*.

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. The master mason. See Journal of Dr. Jonathan Haskins, 19 Jan., above.

January 30

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

30th. Friday Cloudy w^c two Maisons Employed in plastering the Roof of our Prison

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

HENRI-MAXIMILIEN GRAND TO RODOLPHE-FERDINAND GRAND

[*Portsmouth, England, 29 and 30 January 1778*]

Copie de la lettre de M^r Henry Grand à bord du Navire le *Thamas-Koulikan*, à Portsmouth le 29. Janvier 1778.

J'embrasse avec empressement l'occasion que me procure un ami pour vous entretenir plus amplement du sujet dont vous informait mes précédentes, qui auront été sûrement interceptées.

Le 11. de ce mois nous apperçumes sur les 10. heures du matin, un vaisseau que nous ne pumes reconnaître pour être de Guerre que dans l'après-midy, sur le 4. heures. Nous nous apperçumes bientôt qu'il nous donnait la chasse, et n'ayant rien à craindre, nous ne fimes pas plus de voile que nous n'en avions fait dès le moment que nous l'apperçumes. Ver les 11. heures du soir, à l'aide d'un grand vent, il eut l'avantage sur route, et dès qu'il fut à portée du Canon, il nous fit amener à l'aide de 2 coups à boulets qu'il nous tira. L'impossibilité où le grand vent et la nuit le mettait de mettre son Canot à la mer pour venir nous visiter, lui fit différer cette formalité jusqu'au lendemain. Le vent avait été si considerable qu'il y avait près de 3. pieds d'eau sur le premier pont qui tenaient le Vaisseau couché d'un coté, au point de préjudicier considerablement à notre marche, il ne releva que lorsque le vaisseau de guerre nous eut fait amener, sur les 10. heures du matin, deux officiers vinrent nous visiter, et parurent extrêmement murmurer de nos Canons, dans le calibre, selon eux, n'était pas pour le Vaisseau. Les cent louis de sel ensuite à bord ne leur plurent pas d'avantage; et après avoir été examiné la quantité de poudre avec une chandelle, et nous avoir causé les plus grandes alarmes pour cette imprudence, ils remonterent sur le pont et demanderent si nous avions des Anglais à bord, sur quoi Baylord leur dit qu'il était Américain et passager pour S^t Domingue, d'où il espérait trouver à s'embarquer pour l'Amérique; n'ayant rien à dire à cela, ils demanderent s'il y en avait d'autres; Boyd la dessus fut demandé, et la peur qu'il avait d'etre fait prisonnier une seconde fois, malgré l'impossibilité vù notre destination, et la paix qui regne entre la France et l'Angleterre, le fit trébucher, mentir &c. ce que voyant les deux officiers, ils l'emmenerent à bord de leur Vaisseau, d'où nous vimes venir ensuite un 20^m. de Matelots, et leur bagage, ce qui nous fit voir suffisamment qu'ils voulaient nous prendre; et comme le plus faible cède toujours au plus fort, nous ne témoignames même pas la moindre humeur. Six heures se passerent dans cette confusion qui ressembloit parfaitement à un place abandonné au pillage d'un ennemi plus fort, qui se prévalait de ses avantages.

Je ne dois pas vous cacher que je suis actuellement en bonne santé, mais que pendant ces entrefaites, j'étais entre la vie & la mort. Pour combler la mesure, le Capitaine ordonna que Baylor, l'Etat majeur et moi, excepte le Capitaine le Peru fussions transporté à bord, pour y être plus scrupuleusement examiné. Je ne saurais mieux vous dépeindre le danger que nous courumes dans cette traversée, qu'en vous disant qu'on fut généralement étonné de notre bonheur. Ce n'est pas tout, à peine fumes nous arrivés, que nous apprimes indirectement que leur vaisseau était encore pour 2. mois en mer. La crainte de passer ce temps là à croiser, me fit solliciter de parler au Capitaine, ce qui ne me fut permis que quelque temps après. Je le priai donc en grace vu mon état languissant et mes affaires de ne me pas retenir prisonnier, tandis que j'avais une occasion de me rendre en Angleterre par notre Navire qu'il y envoyait là-dessus, il eut la bêtise, après m'avoir examiné, ainsi que toutes mes hardes et mes papiers, de me dire que si je voulais avoir quelque chose, il m'accorderais ma demande; je n'ai pas besoin de vous dire qu'elle fut ma reponse; quoi qu'il en soit elle ne fut pas telle qu'il la voulait pour justifier sa demarche inique et impérieuse. Trois jours furent à peine écoulés et voyant qu'il ne pouvait rien tirer de moi, qu'il jugea à propos de ne nous pas retenir plus longtems, mais de nous laisser profiter de l'occasion de notre Navire. Nous partimes donc en laissant Boyd et nos Matelots à l'exception de 4 ou 5.

Arrivés ici le Capitaine envoya à Londres pour avoir des ordres à notre égard; nous sommes encore à les attendre. C'est ce cruel état d'incertitude qui m'a fait prendre le parti d'écrire à Milord Holderness,¹ et j'espère que ma lettre fera l'effet désiré.

J'apprends que l'on présume ici que notre Navire nous sera rendu; je n'en ai jamais douté d'un seul instant, pourvu que la Guerre ne nous soit pas déclarée. Mais pour raisons que je ne puis pas vous dire veuillez ne pas perdre un instant pour faire reclamer ce Navire. Si vous pouvez obtenir, même un exprès cela ne serait que mieux. Enfin je serais tenté de croire que plus de célérité vous apporterés dans cette affaire et mieux cela sera.

Nous avons pour nous:

- 1°. Tous les papiers du Capitaine qui sont parfaitement en regle pour S^t Domingue, et qu'on nous a oté.
- 2°. Tout l'état major qui prêtera serment de cette destination
- 3°. Une lettre de Baylor de Nantes, qui, ayant appris que j'allais à S^t Domingue me demande un passage, c'est par hasard que je l'ai gardée.
- 4°. Ma reponse en conséquence
- 5°. Ses lettres de Crédit pour cet endroit

On me dit; mais d'où vient que vous n'avez point de sac de lettres, Comme il est ordinaire pour les Vaisseaux qui vont aux Isles? Je reponds a cela qu'au Croisic, nous n'étions pas à même d'en recevoir.

On me reproche ensuite le Sel qui est a meilleur marché là bas qu'icy. Je reponds 1°. que je ne le crois pas, et qu'en suite si au cas que vous vous étiez trompé dans le choix des articles de la Cargaison les consequences n'en retomberent que sur vous mais que a qui vous a fait présumer que cet article rendrait bien au cap, c'est sa proximité avec l'Amérique Septentrionale où il est porté a un prix fou.

Ils me disent que nos canons sont trop forts pour notre navire étant de 18. Je leur reponds 1°. qu'ils se trompent et qu'ils ne sont que de 12. qu'ensuite les 14.

sabords que nous avons à bord et qui ne sont pas neufs, grande circonstance contre eux; prouvent suffisamment que nos 14. Canons sont destinés pour notre usage en cas de Guerre, et qu'ils ne sont point un article de Cargaison.

Tout ce que je crains c'est qu'ils ne gagnent quelqu'un de nos matelots qui sont à bord du *Hector*, et qu'un d'eux en se parjurant ne fasse condamner notre Navire. Ce serait pour lors une volerie impardonnable; et Comme le traitement que j'ai essuyé n'est pas propre à me rassurer à cet égard, je voudrais prévenir le retour de *Hector* par notre célérité à faire rendre le Navire comme prise illégale.

Imaginé que nos voiles toutes neuves, comme vous savez sont en loges par l'excellente manœuvre de ces Messieurs, un cable de 50. louis en pièces, un Canot de perdu, je ne parle pas de la petite différence que leurs matelots ont apporté dans nos vivres et dans notre eau de vie; mais une de mes grandes récréations à bord est de leur entendre répéter à chaque instant que jamais ils n'ont été à pareille fête.

Je ne doute nullement que vous ne sentiez comme moi la nécessité de ne pas différer un moment de prendre les mesures que je viens de mentionner, et dont le Capitaine Anglais sent si bien le mauvais effet pour lui qu'il a défendu à M^r Le Peru notre Capitaine, d'écrire.

Dès que j'aurai ma liberté, j'irai adresser mes plaintes à Monsieur de Noailles, notre Ambassadeur, à Londres et j'attendrai vos ordres avant de rien faire.² J'ai chargé M^r Le Peru, notre Capitaine, de ne s'occuper que de ce qui serait nécessaire pour se mettre en règle afin que rien ne periclite. C'est sa précaution d'avance, car il n'en est pas encore là. A suivre le cours ordinaire des choses, nous serions 6. mois avant de savoir si nous avons raison ou tort.

Je sais des choses que je n'ose pas confier ici, ainsi je me tairai.

Autre du 30. qui a été ouverte et dont on n'a laissé que ce qui suit.

L'indignation qui me fait naître ce procédé injuste et tyrannique me fait désirer on ne peut plus ardemment de mettre un clou rivé à pareille liberté, par les dédommagers considérables que je suis déterminé à réclamer, si vous ne le trouvez pas mauvais, tant pour vous que pour moi. Mon intérêt ne s'y trouverait pas, que je croirais de mon devoir de servir mon pays en agissant ainsi. Ce procédé est si revoltant, qu'il y a peu d'Anglais qui ne comte, et qui n'espere, que ce Navire nous sera rendu, vû, disent ils fort bien, que pareilles actions ne sont faites que pour indisposer les nations étrangères contr'eux. J'apprends qu'un Navire Hollandais a été dans le même cas; ils en ont été quitte pour en rembourser la Valeur. J'espere et je souhaite que cette second repetition les rendent un peu moins hardis.

Une autre cruauté, c'est de retenir ce Navire ici, et nous tous prisonniers à bord depuis 12 jours passé, sans s'en embarasser en aucune façon, mais en requerant la parole d'honneur du Capitaine, longue pour besoin il obtient la permission d'aller à terre pour une couple d'heures, qu'il n'écrira pas, vous voyez par là qu'ils craignent qu'il ne se justifiait de qu'on ne les trouve en défaut. J'ai désiré que M^r Le Peru me donne ses plaintes par écrit, que je redigerai s'il est nécessaire et que je présenterai avec les miennes, sans perte de temps, en arrivant à Londres.

Il m'a dit avoir déjà été traité de même dans la précédente Guerre, et qu'il finit par subir un interrogatoire d'un nombre infini de questions. On apperçoit facilement la subtilité de pareil procédé; mais je lui ai dit que c'était à lui à questionner et à demander pourquoi on l'a pris. Il ne doit pas avoir peur d'être pris

une seconde fois, et bien loin de subir un interrogatoire, il n'a qu'à se referer 1°. à ses papiers, qui disent où il va, et d'où il vient, et enfin à satisfaire à toutes les questions qu'on peut lui faire. 2°. à sa Cargaison pour les demandes à ce sujet mais sur toutes choses, de ne point s'envisager comme prisonnier mais plutôt comme un opprimé, qui a non seulement droit de se plaindre, mais droit encore de se faire rendre la justice qui est dur. Dès que l'Etat major aura permission de descendre à terre je lui ai recommandé d'aller affirmer par devant Notaire et par acte, notre vraie destination. C'est la le plan que je me propose d'adopter pour suivre cette affaire. J'y ai beaucoup réfléchi, mais j'y changerai telle partie qu'il vous plaira et je ne manquerai pas de suivre les bons conseils que vous voudrez bien me donner soit par vous même, soit par les amis qu'il vous plaira de m'indiquer.³

Ce Paragraphe de la Gazette du 29. Courant ne vous réjouira pas moins que moi.

“La Cour d'Amirauté vient de faire un Protest, contre le Capitaine du Vaisseau de Guerre qui a envoyé un Vaisseau Français à Portsmouth sous prétexte qu'il contenait propriété, c'est à dire, de Marchandises Américaines. On craint qu'on ne puisse pas trouver de preuves pour le démontrer quoi qu'on n'en doute pas un instant.”

[Translation]

Copy of the letter from M. Henry Grand aboard the ship *Thamas Koulikan*, at Portsmouth, 29 January 1778

I eagerly seize this opportunity offered me by a friend to give you more details on the subject I was discussing in preceding letters, which will surely have been intercepted.

On the 11th of this month around 10 a.m., we saw a vessel that we were unable to identify as a warship until afternoon, around 4 p.m. We soon realized that she was giving chase, but since we had no reason to fear, we sailed no faster than when we first spotted her. Around 11 p.m., with the help of a strong wind, she caught up to us, and as soon as she was within cannon range, she forced us to haul down our sails by firing 2 shots at us. However, the wind and the darkness made it impossible for them to send their launch over to us, so this formality was postponed to the next day. The wind had been so strong that there was almost 3 feet of water on the first deck, which kept the ship listing to one side and severely impeded our progress. She only righted when the warship forced us to hoist on board two of their officers at 10 a.m. These officers seemed to object vehemently to the caliber of our cannon, which, according to them, was inappropriate for our ship. The 100 louis of salt on board did not please them either, and after having examined our stores of gunpowder with a candle (an act that alarmed us a great deal in its imprudence), they went back up on deck and asked us whether we had any Englishmen on board, to which Baylord responded that he was American en route to Saint-Domingue, where he hoped to find a ship bound for America. Having nothing to say to this, they asked if there were any others. Boyd was brought up from below, and his fear over possibly being taken prisoner a second time¹ (albeit it an unfounded fear given our destination and the current peaceful situation between France and England) made him stumble and lie. Seeing this, the two officers took him on board their ship, and sent back a score of sailors and

their baggage, at which point we realized they intended to seize our ship. And since the weak always yield to the strong, we tried to be gracious about it. Six hours went by in the type of chaos that results when a town is abandoned to pillage by a stronger enemy who takes full advantage of its superior force.

I should point out that I am currently in good health, but that during these goings-on I hovered between life and death. To make matters worse, the captain ordered that Baylor, the officers (with the exception of Captain Le Peru), and myself be brought over to their ship for closer examination. The fact that they were surprised to see us in good spirits on our arrival should indicate to you the danger we were in during the crossing. But that is not the whole of it; hardly had we arrived when we found out indirectly that their ship was to remain at sea two more months. My fear at spending this amount of time at sea prompted me to request a meeting with the captain, a request only granted to me much later. I begged him—in view of my deteriorating condition and the business I needed to conduct—not to hold me prisoner while I had an opportunity to go to England via our ship that he was sending there. After having examined me, along with all my clothes and my papers, he had the stupidity to tell me that if I wanted anything, he would grant my request. I need not tell you what my answer was, but whatever it may have been, it certainly did not justify his vile, arrogant behavior. In any case, seeing he would get nothing out of me, and deeming it proper not to hold us any longer, he allowed us to take advantage of our ship bound to England three days later. We then departed, leaving behind Boyd and all but 4 or five of our sailors.

When we arrived here, the captain sent to London for orders as to what to do with us; we are still awaiting them at this time. It is this cruel and uncertain predicament that led me to write to My Lord Holderness,² and I hope that my letter will have the desired effect.

I have learned that it is generally presumed here that our ship will be returned to us; I too am of this opinion so long as England does not declare war on us. But for reasons that I cannot divulge, please do not lose one second in reclaiming this Ship. If you are able to procure an express messenger, so much the better. Finally, I am of the persuasion that the faster you proceed in this affair, the better.

In our defense we have:

- 1) All the captain's papers, in perfect order for Saint-Domingue, that were taken from us.
- 2) All the ship's officers, who will swear as to this destination.
- 3) A letter from Baylor from Nantes, who, on learning that I was going to Saint-Domingue, asked to be taken along as a passenger; It just so happens I still have it.
- 4) My response to the above-mentioned letter.
- 5) His letters of credit for that place.

They say to me: how is it that you have no bag of mail, as is customary for vessels going to the Islands? My reply is that while at Croisic we did not receive any.

Then they rebuke me for the salt which fetches a better price there than here. To that I respond, first of all, I do not believe it, and second, in the event you were mistaken as to the choice of a cargo, the consequences would be your own to bear, since that which led you to believe that this article would do well at the Cape

[François] was the Cape's proximity to America, where salt sells for absurdly high prices.

They tell me that our 18-pounder cannon are too powerful for our ship. To this I inform them, first, they are mistaken, that our cannon are only 12-pounders; and second, the 14 gun ports we have on board, which are not new (and so support further our case against their charge), are sufficient proof that our 14 guns are intended for self-defense in case of war and are absolutely not items of cargo.

My remaining fear is that they will win over one of our sailors who are on board the *Hector*, and that one of them will perjure himself and in so doing get our ship condemned. As this would be an unpardonable theft, and since the treatment to which I was subjected does not reassure me in this regard, I would like to have the *Hector* recalled as soon as possible so that we can have the Ship surrendered as an illegal seizure.

Imagine our sails, brand new as you know, in rags thanks to the excellent maneuvering of these gentlemen, a cable costing 50-louis in pieces, and a launch lost, not to mention the small difference their sailors made in our victuals and brandy; but one of the great amusements on board is to hear them exclaiming over and over that they had never been to a better party.

I do not doubt for one minute that you feel as I do the necessity of taking as quickly as possible the measures I have just mentioned; it is clear the English captain understands well the bad effect these measures would have for him, for he forbade M. Le Peru, our captain, to write.

As soon as I am free, I will address my complaints to M. de Noailles, our ambassador, in London, and will await your orders before taking any action.³ I directed M. Le Peru, our captain, to worry only about what he had to do to put things in order so that nothing will jeopardize our case. This is his advance precaution, since he has not yet done this. If things proceed ordinarily, it may take 6 months to find out whether we are in the right or the wrong.

I know some things that I dare not reveal here, so I shall keep silent.

Another letter dated the 30th, which had been opened and left only the following:

The indignation I feel at this unjust, tyrannical conduct instills in me an intense desire to curtail such liberties by means of the considerable damages I am determined to claim, if you are not averse, for you as much as for myself. My interest in doing so is only to serve my country. This procedure is so abhorrent that few Englishmen consider or hope that this ship will be returned to us, since, they assert, actions such as these are perpetrated for the sole purpose of antagonizing foreign countries. I have learned that when a Dutch ship was in the same situation, they got off by providing reimbursement for its value. I hope and pray that this second repetition would make them less brazen.

Another cruelty lies in keeping this Ship here with all of us prisoners on board for the last 12 days, not bothering with us in any way, but requiring that the captain give his word of honor not to write, in order that he may obtain permission to go on shore for a couple of hours; this makes it quite obvious that they fear he can only prove his case by revealing the flaws in their own. I wanted M. Le Peru

to give me his complaints in writing, which I will edit if necessary and present along with my own, as quickly as possible, upon our arrival in London.

He told me he had been treated the same way in the last war, and he ended up being subjected to an endless barrage of questions. The underhandedness of such a procedure is quite obvious, but I told him it was up to him to ask questions and demand to know why he had been seized. He must not be afraid of being seized a second time, and does not have to submit to an interrogation. He has only to refer to: first, his papers, which say where he is going, where he is coming from, and which finally answer all the questions there could be. and second, his cargo, for all questions on that subject. But most important, he must not see himself as a prisoner but rather as an oppressed person who not only has the right to complain, but the right to see exacting justice served. As soon as the officers have permission to go on shore, I recommended that he go to declare before a notary public and affirm by document our true destination. That is the plan I am proposing to adopt in this affair. I have thought much about it, but I shall change any part of it you wish, and I shall not fail to follow the good advice you will kindly pass on, either from yourself or through friends, if you would be so kind as to identify them to me.⁴

This Paragraph, from the Gazette dated the 29th Instant, will please you no less than it did me.

“The Court of Admiralty has just lodged a protest against the captain of a warship that sent a French ship to Portsmouth under the pretext that it contained property—that is, American merchandise. They fear that not enough proof will be found to demonstrate it, although they do not doubt it for an instant.”

Copy, FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 528, fols. 179–81. Henri-Maximilien (Henry) was son of Rodolphe-Ferdinand (Ferdinand) Grand.

1. Alexander Boyd, probably the same Captain Boyd to whom Silas Deane wrote on 10 Sept. 1777, congratulating him on his “escape from the Enemy.” *Deane Papers* 2: 133.

2. Robert D’Arcy, fourth Earl of Holderness (1718–1778), died on 16 May.

3. Henri-Maximilien Grand to the Marquis de Noailles, 29 Jan. *Ibid.*, fol. 178.

4. Rodolphe-Ferdinand Grand wrote to the Comte de Vergennes on 5 Feb., to protest the taking of his ship as an infringement of international law. He enclosed a statement regarding the *Thamas Koulikan*’s fitting out, sailing, cargo, and destination, and a crew list, showing forty men and five officers, all French. *Ibid.*, fols. 232–34.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ON BOARD THE *WILLIAM AND SARAH*, BOUND
FROM CORK TO THE WEST-INDIES, WITH PROVISIONS.”

“We left Cork with a fine wind, which continued till we got into the lat. 38. 10, when we fell in with an American privateer, a brig mounting ten guns, and we suppose upwards of 60 men, she hailed us, and bade us strike to the congress, we saw what she was at a distance, and therefore prepared to receive her; our not answering, brought a shot, which we returned with our broadside, which seemed to do some execution amongst them, the engagement now began on both sides, and she being a low vessel, was thereby exposed to our small arms, which were however but few, our great guns (of which we had sixteen six pounders) we kept well-manned and served: the privateers guns were but ill-worked, for out of fifty shot, scarcely one hulled us, we continued engaging near an hour, and pretty closely, when a shot from us carried away her fore-top-mast, which falling on the deck, occasioned

a good deal of confusion, when if we had been so minded, we might easily have run along-side of her and taken her, but the number of hands on board her prevented our taking this step; we therefore hauled off and left her, when she paid no attention to us, but seemed wholly taken up in repairing the damage we had done her. What is very remarkable we had not a man killed or wounded, except one by a splinter in the calf of his leg, which is likely to do very well. We spoke with a Dutchman at sea, who brings you this."

London Packet; or New Lloyd's Evening Post, 28–30 Jan. 1778.

JAMES MOYLAN TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Honorable Gentlemen

L'Orient 30th Jan^y 1778

I am not honor'd with the receipt of any of your favors since my last to you of the 23^d. current.¹

I am this day informed, that Government has order'd 2,000 Seamen to be raised in Nantes & 2,500 more in S^t Malo, besides a number of Bakers of this Town, w^{ch}. are all to proceed immediately to Brest; likewise, that there are positive directions in all the Sea Ports, not to admit the Fishing Vessels (as usual) to go to New found Land.—I do not know whether you will find this information fresh, but I think it nevertheless my duty to acquaint you of it

The unsettled State I am yet in here, obliges me once more, to request your answer to my letter of the 2^d. Instant.² I have the honor to be [&c.]

James Moylan

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 77. Addressed: "To/The Honorable Commissioners/of the United States of/America." Docketed: "30th. January 1778/J Moylans Lett"

1. See James Moylan to the American Commissioners in France, 23 Jan., above.

2. *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 25: 396–97.

JOHN EMERY TO THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Sir

Bilbao 30 Jan^y 1778—

Inclosd you have bills Lading & Invoice of 35 Bb^s Gunn powder Shipd you on different Bottoms and also account Sales of the 378 Quintals of fish ꝑ Cap^t Fletcher,¹ I had orderd the Amount of the fish Shipd in Soldiers Blanketts from another quarter in the month of August last for this place but last week Recievd Advise that the Vessell they were Ship'd in was Cast away on Ushant & the Cargo Intirely lost but as I had taken the precaution to Insure them here I hope the Loss will be Trifling—as it would be very late before they could be Reshipd & got here I was loth to Loose this Opportunity of Shipping at this Season & in armd Vessells & have therefore advanced the money for the Powder in Order that you might have it in good Season without waiting to make up the Insurance which was made where the Goods were Shipd Should there be any Loss on making up the Same Shall place it to the debitt of the Board of Warr—as I had no Orders from you to Insure the goods from hence home they are not Insured.

Wishing these Safe to hand & that the Ill success of the small adventure may not discourage the Board of Warr from making me Serviceable to them while here I am [&c.]

J Emery

[Enclosure]

	The Hon ^{ble} . Board of Warr in Boston to John Emery—	Dr.
1778	29 To 26 Barrells Gunn Powder	11,700.
Jan ^y	shipd them onboard the Armd Brig <i>General Mercer</i> James Babson Commander for Cape Ann on their acc ^t & Risque as ₪ Bill Lading Inclosed @ 450 Reals ₪ Bbl	
	30 To 4 Barrells ditto ₪ the Armd Schooner <i>Hawke</i> Jerimiah Hibbert Com ^r for Newbury Port @ 450	1,800
	30 To 5 Barrells ditto ₪ the Armd Schooner <i>Lively</i> Mich ^l Dupre Com ^r for Newbury Port ... @ 450	<u>2,250</u>
		15,750
	Commission thereon 5 ₪ C ^t	<u>787.17</u>
		16,537.17
	To my Commission on 27,993 [R ^s . Vellon] being the Gross Sales of 378 Quintals fish English W ^t . J Fletcher } 5 ₪ C ^t	<u>1,399.[03]</u>
		17,937—
Supra C ^r		
1777		
June	16 By Nett proceeds of 378 Qu ^s . Fish Rec ^d . ₪ the <i>Success</i> John Fletcher Master & Sold at 4 on C ^r as ₪ acc ^t Sales of Joseph Gardoqui & Sons Inclosed	
		18,692.20
		Bilbao Jan ^y 30 1778
		Except Errors—
		J Emery

L, M-Ar, Mass. Archives Collection, vol. 198, 408. Addressed: "Hon^{bl}. Samuel Phillips Savage Esq^r/President of the Board of Warr/Boston/ ₪ Babson." Docketed: "Letter from John Emery/inclosing Bills Lading &/Invoice of Gun Powder/Bilboa, Jan^y 30th 1778."

1. Capt. John Fletcher, commanding Massachusetts privateer schooner *Success*.

HERMAN KATENCAMP TO LORD WEYMOUTH

N^o. 76.Corunna 30th: Jan^y: 1778.

My Lord.

I most humbly beg leave to refer to my last Letter of the 17th. Instant.

His majesty's Ship the *Thetis* Captain Bell¹ arrived here the Day before yesterday. 11. ofk, blewppbrwlyw.² and having recieved the best I could give sailed again this morning.

The Captain General sent for me to know the Reason of his coming into this harbour, to which I answer'd with M^r Gells Consent that a small Leak had been discover'd in the Ship's Bows which could not be stopt at Sea on Account of the bad weather which then prevailed, but that the Ship would remain here only a few Hours as the People were already at work upon the Leak, and had nearly stopped it. On coming on Shore Captain Gell went to pay his Compliments to the General but was not received. I do not know the Reason, if it was not that the Frigate did not salute the Town because an equal number of Guns was refused to be returned.

The *Revenge* Privateer Capt: Cunningham is still in Bilboa, and since he took the French Brig³ of which I had the Honor to make some mention in my last Letter, has taken another Newfoundland Ship⁴ with three thousand Quintals of Codfish and carried her into that Port.

The *Gallardo* of 74 Guns and two *Snows* of twenty Guns each which have been fitted out in great Haste are ready to sail from Ferrol to Cadiz. The *San Pedro* of 74 Guns is arming, and Orders are said to have been received for the imediate Equipment of two other Ships of the Line.

I most humbly beg leave to recommend myself to the Continuance of Your Lordship's powerful Protection, and have the Honor to be with the highest Respect and Veneration [&c.]

H Katencamp

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fol. 62. Addressed at the foot of the first page: "The R^t Hon^{ble} Lord Viscount Weymouth." Docketed: "Coruña 30 Jan^{ry} 1778/Consul Katenkamp/(N^o 76)/R. 23 Feb^{ry}."

1. Capt. John Gell, R.N.

2. An interlineation above these letters reads "for Intelligence."

3. *Gracieux*, Emanuel de Tournois, master.

4. *Hope*, William Butler, master.

January 31

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO LORD WEYMOUTH

My Lord

Admiralty Office 31st Jany^{ry} 1778

Having, since our letter to your Lordship of the 19th. instant upon the subject of the Ship *Thomas Koulikan*, which has been seized and sent to Portsmouth by Sir John Hamilton Captain of His Majesty's Ship the *Hector*, directed our Procurator to lay the Case before the King's Advocate and the Advocate for the Admiralty and to take their opinion whether it may be proper for the said Ship to be brought before the High Court of Admiralty for Adjudication; And having this day received their opinion thereon; We send your Lordship herewith copies thereof for His Majesty's information, and are to desire your Lordship will receive and signify to us His Majesty's pleasure respecting the said Ship as soon as conveniently may be. We are My Lord [&c.]

Sandwich

Lisburne

H Palliser

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Naval) 42/52, fols. 54–55. Addressed at foot of first page: "Lord Viscount Weymouth." Docketed: "Admiralty Office/31 Jan^{ry} 1778/Lords of Admiralty/R. D^o at midnight./2 Inclosures."

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO GEORGE HARRIS, WITH HIS OPINION

[Enclosure]

Copy.

[London, 31 January 1778]

You are desired to peruse the several Papers left herewith respecting the Seizure of the Ship *Thomas Koulickan*, Noel Le Verr¹ Ma^r the same consisting of

A Letter from Sir John Hamilton Commander of His Majesty's Ship *Hector* to M^r Secretary Stephens dated Jan^y 11th 1778 inclosing a Declaration made & signed by Alex^r Boyd one of the Persons on board the *Thomas Koulickan* at the time of the Seizure.

Copy of said Declaration dat^d. said 11 Jan^y 1778.

A further Letter from D^o. to D^o. dated 14 Jan^y

A Letter from Lieu^t M^cCleverty to M^r Secretary Stephens dated Spithead 18th Jan^y

And to give Your Opinion whether you think it proper for the said Ship to be brought before the Court for Adjudication And upon the whole what you think most adviseable to be done.

I have read the Case and the Papers annexed to it, by which it is evident if Credit is given to Boyd, that the *Koulickan* was not only going to Trade at Carolina; but also that great part of her Cargo consists of Warlike Stores and is American Property.

If it should appear when the Witnesses are examined that Papers have been thrown overboard, this circumstance will give great Credit to Boyd and others of the Crew who may be questioned about the Ships destination.

There seems on the whole to be a very sufficient Foundation to detain the Ship, and to proceed to the examination of the Captain, the Passengers, and particularly of the Person, who is said to be the Supercargo, and when those and other proper Witnesses have been examined, and the papers, if there are any have been inspected, it will then, I apprehend, be the time [to] form an Opinion, whether the Captor ought to permit the Ship to sail, or to lay the Evidence before the Court for an Adjudication.

Geo. Harris

Drs Commons 31 Jan^y 1778

Copy, UKLPR, S.P. (Naval) 42/52, fols. 56–57. Docketed: "Case for the Opinion of/the Admiralty's Advocate/D^r Harris, & copy of his/Opinion 31st Jan^y 1778"; "In Lords of Admiralty's/31 Jan^y 1778."

1. French merchant ship *Thomas Koulickan*, Noël Le Peru, master.

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO JAMES MARRIOTT, WITH HIS OPINION

[Enclosure]

Copy.

[London, 31 January 1778]

You are desired to peruse the several Papers left herewith, respecting the Seizure of the ship *Thomas Koulickan* Noel Le Vera Master,¹ the same consisting of

1. A Letter from Sir John Hamilton Comm^{rs} of His Majesty's Ship *Hector* to M^r Sec^r Stephen's dated Jan^y 11th. 1778 inclosing Declaration made and signed by Alex^r Boyd one of the Persons on board the *Thomas Koulickan* at the time of the seizure.

2. Copy of said Declaration dated said 11th Jan^y

3. A further Letter from D^o. to D^o. dated 14th Jan^y

4. A Letter from Lieu^t. M^c.Cleverty to M^r. Sec^y. Stephens dated Spithead 18th Jan^y

And to give your Opinion whether you think it proper for the said Ship to be brought before the Court for Adjudication, and upon the whole what you think most adviseable to be done.

I have considered the several Papers annexed to this case and am of Opinion that there is a sufficient ground to Justify the Captor for proceeding to examine, without delay, the persons found on board, upon the standing Interrogatories, which are in preparatory to a farther Proceeding to an Adjudication. These Interrogatories are in the hands of the Commissioners of the Judge of the High Court of Admiralty at the Outports, before whom the persons are to be examined: and the Examinations are to be transmitted together with all the Ships Papers found on board at the time of the Capture to the Office of the Registry of the High Court of Admiralty: after which a more solid Opinion may be formed for proceeding farther or not to a final hearing, by taking out a Monition in the usual Course of Admiralty proceedings affixed to the Royal Exchange "against all persons having interest in such a Ship &c. &c. to appear and shew cause why the same should be condemned as lawful Prize forfeited to His Majesty &c. &c."

So far as the Captor is concerned in his eventual Interest dependent upon His Majestys it will be right for him to pursue such Steps as are strictly agreeable to the 4 and 5th Articles of His Majestys Instructions by Order in Council and the Act of Parliament of the 16. of his present Majesty whereby the Judge is bound to certain forms of proceeding in Prize causes without variation; His Majesty having only power reserved by that Act to make such farther additional Rules as His Majesty in Council shall judge proper:

This Act extends not only to the Ships & Goods of the enumerated Rebellious Colonies but to all other Ships with their Cargoes &c. which shall be found going to Trade or coming from Trading in any such port or place which are declared to be become forfeited to His Majesty as the Ships and Goods of open Enemies. At the same time must be taken into consideration the modes of proceeding prescribed by Treaty particularly the XXV Art. of the Treaty of Navigation & Commerce of Utrecht March 31. 1713 also the law and usage of Nations respecting the exclusive Commerce of their own Colonies and the principles of adoption. All which is most humbly submitted to superior Wisdom.

James Marriott

College of Advocates

Doctors Commons Jan^y 31st. 78.

Copy, UKLPR, S.P. (Naval) 42/52, fols. 58–59. Docketed: "Case for the Opinion of/The King's Advocate/Gen^l. & copy of D^r. Marriot's/Opinion. 31 Jan. 1778"; "In Lords of the Admty's/ 31st. Jan^y 1778."

1. French merchant ship *Thomas Koulikan*, Noël Le Peru, master.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, January 1778*]

31st. Saturday Cloudy w^r. About 2 Minutes past 9 P.M. Cap^{ts}. Henry & Johnson Boardman Dale & Treadwell,¹ Eloped from from this Prison & took two Centinals

with them, who were Discover'd before they got 10 Rods off A Great Stir to no purpose

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. Capt. Henry Johnson, Continental Navy; Eleazer Johnson, Jr., commander of Massachusetts privateer brig *Dalton*; Offin Boardman; Master's Mate Richard Dale, Continental Navy; Samuel Treadwell.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PLYMOUTH.”

“The prisoners with us,¹ being 289, live now (in a comparative sense) like gentlemen, having every necessary, and have no longer cause to complain, as in time past, of hunger and nakedness; and we hear of no attempts now to break prison.”

London Chronicle, 29–31 Jan. 1778.

1. American sailors held at Mill Prison.

PIERRE-AUGUSTIN CARON DE BEAUMARCHAIS TO
JEAN-BAPTISTE-LAZARE THEVENEAU DE FRANCY

[Extract]

M de Francy.

Paris 20 X^{bre}. 1777.

Je Profite, Mon cher Francy, de toutes les occasions pour vous donner de mes Nouvelles, qu'il en soit ainsi de Vous je Vous prie.

Quoi qu'il Soit aujourd'hui Le 20 X^{bre} 1777, Mon Grand Vaisseau¹ n'est pas encore parti, Mais c'est un Sort a peu près commun à tous Les Vaisseaux Marchands destinés pour L'Amérique. Le Ministere² a craint que le Commerce n'enlevat à la fois trop de matelots dans un tems où Il peut en avoir besoin d'un moment à l'autre. les ordres les plus rigoureux ont été donnés dans tous les ports, Mais surtout dans celui où J'arme.

Il paraît que la Capacité de mon Navire a fait faire au Lord Stormont quelques levées de boucliers sur les quelles le Ministere a craint qu'on ne le Soupçonat de Favoriser une opération qui, dans le vrai se fait sans lui et meme malgré lui. pret à mettre à la voile mon artillerie ma été enlevée, et l'embarras de la ravoir ou d'en fournir une autre est cequi me retient au Port. Je lutte contre des obstacles de toute nature, mais Je lutte de toutes mes forces, et j'espere de vaincre avec de la patience du Courage et de l'argent. Les pertes énormes que tout cela me cause ne paraissent toucher personne. Le Ministre est inflexible il ny a pas jusqu'a MM. les deputés de Passy qui ne pretendent aussi à L'honneur de me contrarier; moi le meilleur ami de leur Pays! à l'arrivée de L'*Amphitrite* qui enfin a débarqué à l'orient un faible chargement de ris et d'indigo; ils ont eu L'injustice de S'emparer de la Cargaison en disant quelle leur était adressée et non à moi. Mais comme dit fort bien M. De Voltaire:

“L'injustice a la fin produit L'indépendance.

On avait apparemment pris ma patience pour de la faiblesse et ma Générosité pour de la sotise. Mais autant je suis attaché aux interets de l'Amérique autant je me suis tenu offense des libertés peu honnêtes que les députés de Passy ont voulu prendre avec moi.

je leur ai écrit la lettre³ dont Je vous envoie Copie et qu'ils ont laissé sans réponse jusqu'à ce moment, en l'attendant J'ai fait arrêter la Cargaison entre les mains de MM. Berard Freres de L'Orient, et en cela je n'ai point cru déroger à ma conduite Franche, et genereuse enver le Congrès, mais seulement user du droit le plus légitime sur le premier et très faible retour d'une avance énorme. Cette Cargaison ne vaut que 150 m. L. vous voyez qu'il y a bien loin de Cette Goute d'Eau à l'Ocean de mes Créances.

Quant à vous, mon Cher, je vous crois arrivé.⁴ Je Crois que vous avez obtenu du Congrès un acompte raisonnable et tel que la Situation des affaires d'Amerique a permis qu'on vous le donnat. Je crois suivant mes instructions que vous avez acquis et acquerez encore tous les jours des tabacs avec les Fonds remis par le Congrès, et Je Crois que mon ou mes Vaisseaux trouveront leurs retour prêts a embarquer aussitot qu'ils arriveront où vous êtes. J'espere encore que si les evenemens Les retardaient ici plus que je ne le crois vous aurez suivi le Conseil de notre ami Montieu,⁵ et que Vous m'enverrez au moins par le *Flamand* et tel autre adjoint que vous pourrez lui donner, en usant du Superflu de l'armement dont Landais⁶ a Surchargé ce Vaisseau, une Cargaison qui me tire un peu de la presse horrible où je Suis.

Je vous enverrai Giroud⁷ que vous m'avez demandé, par Mon Grand Navire, mais en attendant, Cette Lettre Vous Sera remise ou par L'estargette⁸ qui part par Charles Town ou par notre ami Carmikael⁹ qui part pour Boston ou par quelqu'autre navire qui sera plus heureux que moi dans ces premiers momens Car je l'ecris par quatuplicata. Je ne sais si Je me flatte mais Je Compte Sur L'honnéteté Sur L'Equité du Congrès Comme Sur la Mienne & la v^{re}. Les députés ici ne sont pas a leur aise Et le besoin rend Souvent les hommes peu delicats: Voila Comment J'explique L'injustice qu'ils ont essayé de me faire. Je ne désespere pas meme de les ramener à mon Sens par la douceur de mes representations et la fermeté de ma Conduite. Il est bien malheureux, Mon ami, pour cette Cause que Ses interets en France ayent été confiés a plusieurs personnes à la fois. un seul eut bien mieux réussi, et Sur ce qui me regarde, je dois a M. Deane¹⁰ la Justice qu'il est honteux et Chagrin tout a la fois de la Conduit de ses Collegues avec moi.¹¹

J'éprouve aussi des desagremens de la part du Congrès Provincial de la South-Caroline Et Jecris par Lestargette a M. Le President Rutlidge pour demander Justice de lui même à lui même. Lestargette, qui Correspondra avec vous vous apprendra quel Succès aura ma Juste representation.

A travers tous ces desagremens, les nouvelles D'Amerique me Comblent de Joye. Brave Brave Peuple! dont la Conduite Militaire Justifie mon estime Et le bel enthousiasme que l'on a pour lui en France.

Enfin Mon ami, je ne veux des retours que pour être en Etat de le Servir de Nouveau, pour faire face a mes engagemens de Façon a pouvoir en Contracter d'autres en sa faveur.

Il me Semble Si J'en Crois les Nouvelles que nos Français ont fait des Merveilles dans toutes les Batailles de Pensilvanie. Il eut été bien honteux, pour moi pour mon Pays, Pour le Nom Français, que leur Conduite n'eût pas répondu à la Noblesse de la Cause qu'ils ont épousée, aux efforts que Jai fait pour procurer de L'employ à la plus part d'entre eux, enfin a la réputation des Corps militaires dont ils ont été tiré.

La Ville de Londres est dans une Combustion épouvantable. Le Ministère Est aux abois—L'opposition triomphe et meme avec dureté. Et le roi de France Comme un Aigle puissant qui plane Sur tous ces evenemens, se reserve encore un Moment le plaisir de Voir les deux partis Flottant entre la Crainte Et l'esperance de sa décision qui doit être d'un si grand poids dans la querelle des deux hemispheres.

Vous prescrire pédantiquement Votre Conduite a 2. mille Lieues de moi, Mon Cher ami, serait imiter la Sottise du Ministre Anglais qui a voulu faire la Guerre et dessiner la Campagne de son Cabinet. Je mets a proffit Sa leçon. Servez moi de Votre mieux, C'est le Seul moyen de vous rendre utile à moi, à Vous, Et de devenir interessant à l'Amerique Elle même.

Faite Comme moi meprisez les petites Considerations, les petites mesures et les Petits ressentimens. Je Vous ai affilié à une Cause magnifique, vous êtes l'agent d'un homme Juste et Genereux. Souvenez vous que les Succès Sont à la fortune, Que l'argent qui m'est dû est au hazard d'un Grand Concours d'evenemens, Mais que ma reputation est a moi Comme Vous êtes aujourd'huiy L'artisan de la votre, quelle soit toujours bonne, Mon ami, et tous ne sera pas perdu quand tous le reste le Serait.

Je vous Salut Comme Je vous estime et vous aime.

Roderique Hortalez & comp^e

P.S.

Je vienes d'acquérir La Triste Certitude Que Mon Grand Vaisseau N'ira pas au Continent. Et Cela par une parole donnée au lord Stormont pendant mon absence. J'ai fait L'impossible pour l'obtenir sans pouvoir y réussir quoiqu'on ait paru assez touché de mes raisons et des pertes enormes que cette defense me ferai Supporter, ainsi pour Servir L'amerique de ma personne et de mon argent. J'ai à lutter Contre la Mer, L'Angleterre, La France et même l'Amerique. Croiriez vous qu'independament de l'injustice de MM. de Passy qui m'ont voulu retenir la Cargaison de l'*Amphitrite* pendant que je suis prêt a perir ici de besoin pour avoir trop Comté sur leur parolle dhonneur et Sur les retours qu'on m'avait promis. J'apprends de S^t Domingue que M. Dorsier¹² agent du Congrès General a Charlestown en recevant plusieurs petits Vaisseaux Chargés pour moi a S^t Domingue au lieu de m'envoyer des retours raisonnables a Chargé sur mes Vaisseux de lapare du Congrès de l'indigo pour un Négociant de S^t Domingue, et n'y a mis que quelque peu de riz, une Misere pour mon Compte. Je suis donc destiné a être le Jouet de tout le monde. Je vous recommande en faisant prendre lecture de Cette Lettre a MM. du Comité Secret de leur porter mes plaintes les plus Graves de tout ce qui M'arrive.

Je vous ai Chargé de Solliciter et de recevoir du Congres 50. ou 60. M. L. S^{gs}. Si Je Pouvais croire qu'on vous eut fait le moindre difficulté la dessus Je me Croirais ruiné Sans ressource, Mais Je ne me repais point d'une aussi funeste idée, Elle me tuerait.

Voice Ce que Je pense relativement à mon Grand Vaisseau. Je ne puis manquer à la Parole que j'ai donnée a M. de Maurepas¹³ que mon vaisseau ne servirait qu'à porter à S^t Domingues 7. à 800. hommes de Milice, et que Je m'en reviendrais sans toucher au Continent. Cependant la Cargaison de ce vaisseau est

très interessante pour le Congrès et pour moi Elle Consiste en habits de soldats tous faits, en draps, Couvertures &^a.

Il Porte une Artillerie de 66. Canons de Bronze dont 4 Pieces de 33.^L 21. pieces de 24.^L 20. Pieces de 16. L. 10 de 12.^L & 9. de 8. Livres de Balles plus 33. pieces d'Artillerie de 4. L. de Balles. Ce qui fait en tout 100. Canons de Bronze et beaucoup d'autres Marchés.

À Force d'y rêver J'ai pensé que vous pourriez vous arranger Secrettement avec la Comité pour qu'on envoie un ou deux Corsairs Americains sur le Champ à la hauteur de S^t Domingues. L'un d'eux enverrait Sa Chaloupe au Cap Français ou bien Il fera le Signal Convenu depuis Longtems pour tous les Navire Americains qui Viendront au Cap de Mettre une Flame blanche, d'arborer Pavillon hollandais au Grand mâ, en de tirer 3. Coups de Canon alors M. Carrabasse¹⁴ ira abord avec M. De Montant¹⁵ Capitaine de mon vaisseau Le *Fier Rodrique*. Ils S'arrangeront pour Que la Sortie de Mon vaisseau le Corsaire S'en emparre Sous quelque pretexte que ce soit, et qu'il L'emmene. Mon Capitaine protestera de Violence et fera un Procès Verbal avec Menace de Ses plaintes au Congrès. Le vaisseau Sera Conduit ou vous êtes. Alors le Congrès desavouera hautement le brutal Corsaire rendra la liberté au vaisseau avec des excuses obligantes pour le Pavillon Français pendant ce temps vous ferez mettre à terre la Cargaison Vous emplirez Le Navire de tabac, et vous me le renverrez bien vite avec tous Ceux que vous aurez pu y joindre. Comme M. Carmikael Va fort vite, vous avez le tems de Faire cette Manœuvre soit avec le Congrès, soit avec un Corsaire ami discret par ce moyen M. de Maurepas se voit dégagé de sa Parole avec Ceux à qui il l'a donnée, et moi de la mienne envers lui, car nul ne peut s'opposer à la Violence, et mon operation aura eu Son succès malgré tous les obstacles dont mes travaux sont semés.

Voila Sur quel fond d'idées Je vous prie, Mon Cher ami, de Travailler Fructueusement et Vite, Car Mon Vaisseau Partira avant le 15. de Janvier. Il aura ordre d'Attendre de Vos Nouvelles au Cap français.

D'Après tout Ce que je fais le Congrès ne doutera plus Jespere, que Le plus Zelé Partisan de la Republique en France ne Soit Votre ami. . . .¹⁶

20 J^{er} 1778

Depuis ma lettre écrite M^{rs} Les Deputés a qui j'ai porté vivement mes réclamations ont enfin donnée l'ordre a Lorient de compter avec moi du modique produit de la vente de ce qu'apporte l'*amphitrite* cela nira pas a 150 m. L.¹⁷

Mon grand vaisseau n'est pas parti ce Sont de nouveaux fonds considérables arretés. De promesses en Esperances J'attens toujours une levée de son Embargo. Mais Je pérís au milieu de tout cela faute de pouvoir acquiter mes engagements qui Saccumulent sans cesse. . . .¹⁸

31 J^{er} 1778

J'apprens dans linstant par un vaisseau arrivé de Boston en espagne que vous Etes enfin a bon port a Portsmouth. Dieu soit loué. J'aurais eu grand plaisir a recevoir de vos nouvelles personnelles Je suppose que vous ne l'avez pas pu Et que vous Saisirés toutes les occasions de m'en donner. Cest M^r Carmikael qui vous porte cette lettre Il y a plus d'un mois qu'il est a Nantes, ce qui fait que Je ne puis confirer avec lui a son départ. mais Il ny a de nouveau ici que la rentrée du

parlement d'angleterre qui etait en vacance depuis la mi de^{bre} Jusquau 20 J^{er}. Et les débats les plus furieux entre le royalisme et l'opposition.

Tout le monde chez moi se porte bien. Je vous salue et vous aime.

C. De B.

[Translation]

M. de Francy.

Paris the 20 December 1777—

I make use my Dear Francy of every opportunity to write you, and I desire you will do the same to me.

Altho it is now the 20th. of December 1777. My large ship¹ is not yet dispatch'd but that is a fate common to all Vessells bound to North America, the Minister² is apprehensive that Commerce may employ too many seamen at once, at a time when he may want them most, the most rigorous Orders have been given in every Port and particularly in that where my Ship is.

It seems that the size of my ship has occasioned some uneasiness in Lord Stormont, on which the Minister has feared he should be suspected of favouring my operations, which in truth is carried on without his assistance and even against his will, ready to go to sea, her Guns were taken away and the trouble of getting them back or procuring another sett, keeps her yet in Port; I struggle against obstacles of all kinds, but I struggle with all my strength and with patience, courage, and Money, I hope to Conquer; the enormous losses this occasions me, seems to be indifferent to everyone; the Minister is inflexible, Even the Deputys at Passy pretend to oppose me who am the best Freind to their Country. On the arrival of the *Amphitrite*, who at last has landed at Lorient a small Cargo of Rice and Indigo, they have had the injustice to take hold of it pretending it was consigned to them and not to me, but as M. Voltaire Observes.

Injustice at last produces Independance.

They probably considered my Patience as a mark of weakness, and my Generosity as folly, but as much as I am attached to the Libertys of America, as much as I was offended at the uncivil Libertys with which those Gentlemen treated me, I wrote them the Letter³ of which I send you cobby, to which I have received no answer yet, untill I do I have seized the Cargo in the hands of M^{rs}. Berard brothers at L'orient, and by so doing I think I do not derogate from my free and generous conduct towards the Congress, I only claim a just right to the first and weak return of an enormous advance, this cargo will amount to 150 thousand livers, which will be but as a drop of water to the Ocean of my demand.

As to you my Dear I hope you are arrived,⁴ and believe you have obtained from Congress a reasonable payment on account, and such as the situation of American affairs could permit, and I hope you will or have employed the money receivd from Congress in tabacco, and that my Vessell or Vessells at their arrival where you are, will find their Cargos ready; I further hope, that if the delays he be longer than I imagine you will follow the advice of our Freind Montteu,⁵ and that you will send me at least by le *Flamand* and any other associate you may give him, making use of what Landay⁶ has over loaded in that ship, a Cargo which may relieve me from the horrible uneasiness in which I now am.

I will send you Giroud⁷ as you desire by my large ship, but this Letter will be deliverd to you by Lestargette⁸ who goes Via Charles town, or by our Freind Carmikael⁹ who goes Via Boston, or by some other Ship more lucky than I am at

present, for I write four of them, I do not know if I flatter my self or us, but I depend on the honour and Equity of Congress as on my own and yours. their Deputys here are not in Easy circumstances, and necessity often render men less delicate. this is the way I judge of the injustice with which they endeavour'd to treat me, and I do not despair of bringing them to my way of thinking, by the mildness of my representations, and the firmness of my Conduct. it is unhappy my Freind that its concerns has been intrusted into several hands at the same time in France, one only would have succeeded better, and as to what concerns me, I must do M. Dean¹⁰ the Justice to say, that he is both sorry and ashamed at the behaviour of his Colleague¹¹ towards me.

I also experience some disagreement from the Provincial Congress of South Carolina, I write by Lestargette to President Rutledge, to demand of him Justice against himself; Lestargette who will correspond with you, will inform you of the success of my just demand.

Notwithstanding all those disagreeable matters, I am overjoy'd at the American News. Brave, Glorious, People whose Military conduct justifies my Esteem, and the Enthusiasm the French Nation have for them.

In short my Freind, I want remittance, only to be in a condition of serving them again, to answer my Engagements, so as to Contract others for their service.

It appears to me if I may credit the News, that our French Men have done wonders in all the Battles in Pennsylvania, it would be shamefull for me, for my Country, and for the French Name, if their conduct had not answerd the Glory of the cause they espoused, the pains I took to place most of them, and the reputation of the Military Corps to which they formerly belong'd.

The City of London is in a horrible confusion, the Ministry in despair, the Minority triumph, even in a haughty manner, and the King of France like a Powerful Eagle, hovers in the Air, and considering those Events, observes with pleasure both parties actuated by fear and hope of his determination, which must be of so great a Weight to those two parts of the Globe.

To direct your conduct in a Pedantic manner, at two thousand Leagues distance, my Dear Freind, would be to imitate the Folly of the English Minister, who undertook to carry on the Warr, and Plan the Campaign in his closet; I shall profit by his example, Serve me in the best manner you can, it is the only means of being usefull to me, to yourself, and necessary to America.

Do as I do, despise trifling considerations, measures and resentments, I have introduced you into a Magnificent cause, you are the Agent of a just and generous Man, remember that succes depends on Fortune, that the Money due to me must run thro many hazardous Events, but that my reputation is my own, as you are the Author of yours, let it be a good one my Freind and all will not be lost, tho all the rest should.

I salute you as I esteem and Love you

Roderigue Hortalez & Comp.

P.S. I have just received the sad and certain information that my large Ship can not go to the Continent, and that by a promiss to Lord Stormont during my absence; I have done impossibilities to succeed without being able to obtain redress, my reasons have been felt; and the prodigious losses this detention exposes me to have been conceived, thus, to serve America in my Person and with my Money. I have to

struggle against the sea, England, France and America; for besides the injustice of the Gentlemen at Passy, who endeavoured to deprive me of the Cargo of the *Amphitrite*, whilst I am here perishing for want, by having laid too great a dependance on their word of honour, and the remittances they promised me, I am informed from hispagnola that M Dorsier¹² the Congress's Agent at Charlestown, instead of making me reasonable remittances by several small Vessells loaded for me at hispagnola and sent to him, had shiped on the said Vessells for account of Congress, Indigo to a merchant of hispagnola, and remitted me only a trifling pacell of Rice on my account; I am thus become the sport of every one. I charge you when you communicate this Letter to the Secret Committy to make the most earnest complaints of all that happens to me.

I recommended you would sollicit and receive from Congress 50 or 60 thousand pounds sterl^g, if I could imagine they could make the least difficulty on that head, I should think myself ruined without ressource, but I can not form so fatal an Idea, it would kill me.

What I think in regard to my large ship is as follows, I will not avoid fulfilling my promiss to M de Maurepas,¹³ that my Ship shall only go to Hispagnola to carry 7 or 800 Militia Men, and would return without going to the Continent, however this ships Cargo is very interesting for the Congress and myself, it consents in soldiers clothing ready made, Wollen cloth, Blankets &ca.

She carries an Artillery of 66 brass Cannon of which 4 of 33^{lb}. 21 of 24^{lb} 20 of 16^{lb}. 10 of 12^{lb}. 9 of 8^{lb}. and 33 more of 4^{lb}. shott, which amounts to 100 Brass Cannon, and many other Goods.

After numerous reflexions, it has occured to me, that you might secretly agree with the Committy, to send immediatly one or two American Privateers to hispagnola, one of them should send his barge into the Cape or make the signal heretofore agreed upon for all American Vessells who come to the Cape, which is, to hoist a French pendant and a Dutch Flag at his main top mast head, and fire three Guns. On this M Carabasse¹⁴ and M de Montant¹⁵ the Capⁿ. of my Ship the *Fier Rodrigue*, will go on board, they will agree that on my Ship going out of the harbour, on some pretext or other they will take her, and carry her away. my Capⁿ. will protest against this Act of violence, and threaten to complain to Congress, the Ship will be conducted where you are, Congress will disavow the behavior of the Privateer, give liberty to the ship, and make an obliging excuse for the insult committed against the French Flag; during this you will land the Cargo. fill her with Tobacco, and send her to me with all dispatch, and with whatever others may be got ready. as M Carmikael goes immediatly, youll have time to settle this affair either with Congress or some freindly and discreet commander of a Privateer. by this means, M de Maurepas will be discharged of his promiss towards those to whom he has given it, and I of mine to him. for no one can oppose an Act of violence, and my scheme will have its success, in spite of all the obstacles which obstruct my endeavours.

This is on what ideas my Dear freind I beg you will act Advantageously and quickly, for my Ship will sail before the 15 of January, and will have Orders to wait for your directions at Cape François.

After all I have done, I hope Congress will no more doubt, but that your Freind is the most zealous Partizan their Republic has in France.¹⁶

January 20. 1778.

My large ship is not yet sailed, which occasions a fresh stoppage of a considerable capital, from promisses, I have hopes to have the embargo which she lays under taken off, but notwithstanding I am distracted, not being able to fulfill my engagements, which accumulate every day.¹⁸

Since my Letter wrote, Mess^{rs}. The Deputies to whom I made heavy complaints, have at last given orders to remit me the moderate amount of the *Amphitrite's* Cargo, which will not be 150 thousand Livres.—¹⁷

January 31—1778.

I am this instant informed, by a Vessell arrived from Boston to Spain, that at last you landed safe at Portsmouth, God be praised. I should with great pleasure have received a Letter from you, but I suppose you could not then, but will take every opportunity to write to me. M. Carmikael will deliver you this Letter, he has been above a month at Nants, for which reason I cant confer with him before he goes; there is nothing new here, the English Parliament are now met, which had Adjourned from the middle of December to the 20 January, and the debates are very violent, between the Royalists and the opposition.

Every one are well here they Salute you and Love you.

C de B.

Copy, with contemporary translation, ScHi, Henry Laurens Papers, SCHS No. 9. Docketed: "Roderique Hortalez and Co. to/Mons^r de Francy—Paris 20th Xbr./1777"; translation docketed: "M. de Beaumarchais to/M. de Francy—Paris 20th/Dec^r 1777."; "A Scheme to impose on/the British Court."

1. *Fier Rodrique*.
2. Antoine-Raymond-Jean-Gualbert-Gabriel de Sartine, Secretary of State for Marine and Colonies.
3. Beaumarchais to the American Commissioners in France, 6 Dec. 1777, *Benjamin Franklin Papers*, 25: 251–52.
4. Francy arrived on board *Flamand* in Portsmouth, N.H., 1 Dec. 1777.
5. Jean-Joseph Carié de Montieu owned the *Amphitrite*, whereas Beaumarchais claimed the cargo.
6. Capt. Pierre Landais, Continental Navy.
7. — Giraud, an employee in Beaumarchais's firm. *Beaumarchais Correspondance*, edited by Brian N. Morton and Donald C. Spinelli (Paris: Editions A.-G. Nizet, 1969–), 4: 126.
8. Louis Lestarjette, French-born merchant, settled in Charleston, S.C. *Benjamin Franklin Papers*, 23: 37–38.
9. William Carmichael.
10. Silas Deane.
11. Obliterated, but printed in the version published in *Beaumarchais Correspondance*, 3: 233: "dont le tort appartient tout entier à M. Lec"; "of which the wrong belongs entirely to Mr. Lee."
12. John Dorsius, merchant and Continental Agent at Charleston, S.C.
13. In the original French, the "aurepas" of "Maurepas" is interlined above suspension points.
14. — Carabasse, Continental Commercial Agent at Cape François.
15. De Montault, Capitaine de Vaisseau, French Navy.
16. A paragraph relating to money that Baron Von Steuben owed Beaumarchais and which the contemporary translator marked as pointless to translate is omitted here.
17. American Commissioners in France to Bérard frères, 24 Dec. 1777, *Benjamin Franklin Papers*, 25: 342. Note that the English translation reverses the order of this and the succeeding paragraph in the French version.
18. A paragraph relating to Montieu's having won his case and his wife's having given birth to a child, and which the contemporary translator marked as pointless to translate, is omitted here.

CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM TO ARTHUR LEE

Si^r

St. Anthoneys Jn^{ry} 31st 78

I received your estem^d favour of the 16th. Instant Wherein you have mentiond that the publick is Only Concerned for half and in Consequence the Other half

being private property I shall Obey your Orders in Reimbursing messr^s. Guaadoqui, I must Oserve that you have made a mistake in the Vessell as you Call her A Ship.¹ Wheras she is Only A Sloop Mounting at preasant eight Guns Which is too small to Cruze as the most of merchantmen Goes Armd. in Consequence it Can not be expected that many prizes can be made with her—in Respect of the Crew I have had to deal With, Verry little Could be expected for I do Assure you Such trouble I never experienced before, had it not been for the preasant Dispute, I should not have taken such pains to have kept them together—I shall Observe your Directions as I do Assure you I never had any Directions One way or Other, but I was Rather at a Loss how to Act as I never had any particular Orders ~~how to Act~~ and in Consequence Oblidged to Act my-self²—you have made mentione that its Disputed Whether the enemies Goods in a Neutral bottom Can be made A prize of. do not An Act of the British parliament expresly Say all America produce be it taken in Whatsoever Bottom to be all a Legall prize, And we all well know the[y] have put it in execution, have we not a write to retaliate. In this pointe as in every Other, it may be Observed We brought Our prize into A foreigne port. we are not in Alliance neither is england. in Consequence the[y] ought to stand Neutar or Otherwise the[y] Give a National Offence. We make no claime to the Vessell nor ever put the french Cap^t. Out of Command. I should have been Verry Glad you had been at madrid When the papers went up as no doubt you Could have Seen that Justice Should been done us I now must beg of you that this Cargoe may not be Given up to the former Owners As beyond Any doubt the[y] will try to make it Appeare to be spanish property. I am [&c.]

GC—

LB, UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/441/7, pt. 1.

1. Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*.

2. Conyngham is referring to his capture of the French brig *Gracieux*, Emanuel de Tournois, master, on 21 Dec. 1777, carrying a British-owned cargo.

MEMOIR ON FRENCH NAVAL STRATEGY

[à Versailles] Janvier 1778.

mémoire sur les operations auxquelles on pourroit employer nos forces navales contre l'ang^{re}.

Suivant l'Etat de la marine remis par M. de Sartine le Roi a actuellement 50 v^x. de ligne; Savoir 17. a Toulon et 33. a Brest. de Ce departement 2. sont stationnés l'un a la martinique et lautre aux indes. Restent donc a Brest 31. v^x. et 17. a toulon en tout 48.¹ Sa M^{te}. aiant offert de faire passer de Ce dernier departement 10. v^x. a Cadix pour y etre aux ordres du roi dEsp^e et aiant promis de tenir a Brest 25. v^x. bien armés p^r occuper les Anglois jusqua Ce que les deux flottes du mexique et de Buenos aires soient rentrées en Esp^e,² il resulte que Ce qui restera dans lun et lautre departement de forces oisives Seroit insuffisant pris séparément pour rien entreprendre de remarquable. dailleurs il faut veillér a la defense interieure de la Meditterannée; se menagér en cas de besoin des Remplacemens et se tenir en mesure detablir des croisieres pour favorisé notre commerce et interceptér Celui de nos ennemis.

La guerre survenant il paroît indispensable d'armér 3. ou 4. v^x de ligne a Toulon pour apuyér les fregates qui auront ordre de croiser dans la mediterrannée et p^r tenir net le Canal qui separe la Corse de la France. Si les anglois n'en voient pas une Escadre de quelque Consideration dans la mediterrannée, les v^x de Toulon pourroient en automne avoir ordre de passer le detroit d'ou se rendant sur la cote d'afrique ils pourroient si on le jugeoit utile tenter de recouvrér le senegal, ou au moins den ruiner le fort, ainsi que Celui de la riviere de Gambie ainsi que les autres Etablissemens que les Anglois peuvent avoir le long de cette Cote. peu de troupes suffiroient pour Cette opération; suiv^t les avis qu'on a pû se procurér les anglois sont tres foibles dans Cette partie.

des Six v^x desarmés a Brest on pourroit en destinér un ou deux avec un pareil nombre de fregates pour Etablir dans Le Courant de L'Été une croisiere au nord du Canal d'Allemagne afin d'interceptér Les navires Anglois qui reviendroient d'Arcangel et de la Balthique avec des munitions navales. cest de ces parage que l'Angleterre les tire tous maintenant depuis que l'amerique septentrionale lui est fermée; il ne faut pas setendre en Raisonnemens pour rendre sensible L'Embarras ou se trouveroit Cette puissance si les approvisionnement de Ce genre lui estoient rendus difficiles.

nos Vaisseaux aiant Lazile dans la mer du nord des ports de Gothembourg et de Marstrand qui appartiennent a la suede auroient une Retraite assurée dans le Cas ou lang^{re} enverroit une force superieure Contre Eux.

L'inquietude de LEsp^e par raport au Retour de ses Gaillons du mexique et de sa flotte de Buenos aires aiant engagé le Roi a faire une disposition de ses forces navales qui occupe une portion Considerable de Celles d'Angleterre, il semble d'une bonne politique de ne negligér aucune demonstration qui en excitant et nourrissant L'inquietude de cette puissance loblige a un plus grand partage de ses efforts.

Les troupes qu'on fait passer en Bretagne y sont necessaires pour la sureté de Cette province et p^r la conservation si pretieuse de Brest, mais il ne faut pas se flatter qu'elles donnent une vive allarme a l'Angleterre. La flotte destinée a Contenir nos escadres Eloigne toute idée de débarquement et d'invasion de Cette part. des demonstrations sur les cotes de normandie et de Flandres seront dun tout autre effet. elles peuvent sexecuté avec ou sans le Concours d'une force navale si Les anglois n'en ont pas toujours une pour y faire obstacle. c'est dans Cette Vue qu'on proposeroit d'assembler un Camp en normandie et un autre entre Dunkerque et Boulogne. ils devroient Etre chacun de 30 bataillons et munis de tout Ce qui est necessaire pour acreditér le dessein d'une expedition. on pourroit a cet effet mettre un Embargo sur tous les batimens du canal qu'on jugeroit propres a un transport. Cette demonstration qui ne seroit nullement dispendieuse forceroit Les anglois a tenir une Escadre en Croisiere dans l'interieur de la manche Sans Les dispensér den avoir une beaucoup plus forte a l'ouverture d'ouessant. on ne parle pas ici de L'emploi des fregates et d'autres batimens inferieurs que le Roi tient armés ainsi que de l'encouragement a donner a la course. on a vû Ce que les americains malgré LEloignement ou ils sont de l'Angleterre sont venus faire sur les Cotes. L'example qu'ils ont donné doit faire naître Lemulation de le suivre.

apres avoir proposé ce qu'on estime praticable dans un moment ou toutes les vûes doivent se portér a rassurer LEsp^e Contre les allarmes quelle Conçoit p^r ses

flottes, il semble necessaire d'avisér a un plan plus actif pour le moment ou le Roi degagé des Entraves qui le circonscrivent pourra donnér plus d'Etendue a ses vûes. Sa M^{te}. ne semble avoir que deux interets essentials dans La guerre qui menace de sallumér, Celui de Conservér ses possession en amerique et Celles de l'Esp^e et Celui de pretér une main assés secourable aux americains pour les aidér a secoüer la dependance de langleterre et a assurér Leur independance Civile sur les fondemens inalterables. il est donc important de Combinér les mesures a prendre de maniere a servir Ces deux interets. on estime en consequence que rien ne conduiroit plus directement a Ce but que lenvoi dune escadre francoise sur les cotes de lamerique septentrionale. Si La Guerre, Co^e il est a desirér Continue dans Cette Contrée elle ne trouvera point les forces navales des anglois en masse; une partie sera employée a apuyér les operations de terre pend^t que lautre dispersée sur l'immensité de Cette Cote veillera a interceptér La Course et Le Commerce des americains. Cest Le Cas ou un chef intelligent pourroit frapér un coup bien avantageux en Se portant directement vers Le théâtre des operations pour y attaquer les forces de mer angloises, et tachér de detruire avec Leurs v^x. de Guerre Ceux de transport qui seroient sous leur abry. Ce Coup frapé avec succès, La sureté de nos isles seroit pleinement Etablie puis que les anglois seroient sans moiens pour allér les inquietér. On ne fait pas mention ici de la Reconnoissance q'un service de Cette Consideration imprimeroit chez Les americains. Cette premiere operation consommée Lescadre, n'ayant plus de force majeure a Craindre pourroit se divisér. La moitié cinglér vers Le Sud en netoiant la mer de tous Les Croiseurs quelle pourroit y rencontrér, et termineroit par allér hivernér a Saint Domingue. Autre division remonteroit vers Le nord et pourroit se porter sur terre neuve et y detruire la peche et Les Etablissemens de peche des anglois. on pourroit si La chose Etoit jugée plus utile laissér au Command^t La Liberté de se portér a Boston et de pretér secours aux nouveaux angleterriens pour secondér L'Entreprise quils pourroient vouloir formér sur halifax et La nouvelle Ecosse.

on ne peut que presentér Lapercû des mesures auxquelles on peut se fixér, Cest aux gens de lart a les detaillér et a en preparér Les moiens. Si L'Envoi dune escadre au nord de lamerique n'Etoit pas agrée, il seroit alors necessaire den destinér une pour Les antilles. Sa station La plus naturelle seroit a la martinique par Ceque de la elle veilleroit sur tous les Etablissemens du Roi sous le Vent. on pourroit encore sen servir pour Reprendre la dominique et la grenade, mais Ces avantages seroient bien foibles p^r Compenser ceux quon pourroit se promettre dune diversion dans le nord, dont Leffet sil Etoit Couronné du Succès abregeroit infailliblement la guerre.

on doit encore Considerér que Cette diversion seroit tres utile a l'Espagne en ce qu'attirant dans le nord et y concetrant une grande partie des forces angloises, elle auroit plus de facilité p^r faire reussir Les Entreprises quelle jugeroit devoir formér.

de pareils projets ne pouvant reussir qu'autant quon est en mesure de prevenir L'Ennemi, Ce nest quen menageant scrupuleusem^t le secret, et quen ne negligeant aucun moien p^r Lui donnér Le Change quon peut avoir un espoir fondé de succès.

quoiqu'il ne puisse Etre question dune grande expedition aux indes orientales peut être ne seroit il pas inutile den faire germér Lopinion et meme de l'accred-

itér par quelques demonstrations. Cepend^t co^e il nest pas possible d'abandonner nos Etablissemens dans Cette Contrée p^rpalem^t les iles de France et de Bourbon³ dont la conservation est tres interessante si la france ne Veut etre a jamais Exclue de linde, on pourroit formér une flotille de 3. fregates qu'on construit en Hollande auxquelles on joindroit La *Consolante*. Ces quatre fregates qui ont beaucoup de creux, pourroient porter facilement et Sans genér LEquipage un renfort de mille a douze Cent hommes quon juge devoir etre suffisant p^r mettre Ces deux isles a labri de toute insulte. La force de lartillerie de Ces fregates et La Legereté de leur marche ne peuvent Leurs faire Craindre la rencontre d'aucune force Superieure.

[Translation]

[Versailles] January 1778

Report on operations in which our naval forces could be employed against England

According to the state of the navy submitted by M. de Sartine, the King currently has 50 ships of the line, as follows: 17 at Toulon and 33 at Brest. Of the latter group, one is stationed in Martinique and the other in the Indies, which leaves 48 total ships remaining: 31 at Brest and 17 at Toulon.¹ His Majesty having offered to release 10 of these 48 ships to Cadiz where they would be under the orders of the king of Spain,² and having promised to keep 25 well-armed ships at Brest to occupy the English until the two fleets from Mexico and Buenos Aires return to Spain, it results that the forces remaining on hand in each of the two departments would be insufficient taken separately to undertake any significant action. Moreover, it is essential that the internal defense of the Mediterranean be looked to as far as supplying needed replacements and in being prepared to deploy cruisers that would favor our commerce and intercept that of our enemies.

The war arriving suddenly, it seems paramount to fit out 3 or 4 ships from Toulon in order to provide back-up support for the frigates that will be patrolling in the Mediterranean and to keep the channel between Corsica and France clear. Provided the English do not send a squadron of considerable force into the Mediterranean, the Toulon ships could be ordered in autumn to pass the strait, an act that would place them on the African coast. From there, they could, if judged useful, attempt to recapture Senegal or at least to destroy the forts there and on the Gambia River, in addition to any other settlements the English may have along that coast. According to the information that we have been able to procure, the English are very weak in that region; thus a few troops alone would suffice for this operation. One or two of the six unarmed ships at Brest, with an equal number of frigates, could be designated for the establishment (over the course of the summer) of a cruising station to the north of the North Sea, which would allow for the interception of English merchantmen returning with naval munitions from Archangel and the Baltic. The English currently draw all of their naval stores from these waters since North America is closed to them. No further elaboration should be needed to convey the embarrassment in which this power would find itself if supplies of this sort were made difficult to procure.

With refuge available in the Swedish ports of Göteborg and Marstrand in the North Sea, our ships would have an assured retreat should England send out a superior force against them. Spain's concern over the return of its galleons from

Mexico and its fleet from Buenos Aires having engaged the King to put at its disposal his own naval forces currently occupying a considerable portion of England's forces, it seems a good policy not to overlook any demonstration that, while exciting and feeding England's anxiety, may require a larger share of its efforts.

The troops sent to Brittany are needed there for that province's security and for the preservation, so essential, of Brest, but one need not be deluded into thinking that their presence alarms the English. The fleet intended to sustain our squadrons dismisses any possibility of disembarkation and invasion from this quarter. Demonstrations on the Normandy and Flanders coasts will have an entirely different effect. They can be executed with or without the participation of a naval force provided the English still do not have their own force there creating an obstacle. In view of these facts, we propose that one camp be assembled in Normandy and another between Dunkerque and Boulogne. Each camp ought to be of 30 battalions and furnished with everything necessary to substantiate the expedition's mission. To this end, an embargo could be placed on every Channel ship judged appropriate to use as a transport. This demonstration, which would be not at all expensive, would force the English to keep a squadron cruising in the English Channel without relieving them of the need for a much stronger one at the mouth of Ushant. We do not speak here of using frigates and other lesser ships that the King keeps armed, nor of the encouragement to be given privateering. We have seen what the Americans, despite their distance from the English, have been able to do on their coasts. We should all follow their example.

After proposing what we deem feasible during a time when all views should aim to reassure the Spanish regarding their concern over their fleets, it seems necessary also to recommend a more active plan for the future, when the King, freed from the fetters that bind him, will be able to give greater reign to his views. His Majesty appears to have but two essential interests in the war that threatens to ignite: preserving his and Spain's possessions in America and sufficiently aiding the Americans in breaking free from their dependence on England such that their civil independence established on a firm foundation will be assured. It is therefore important to act in such a manner as to serve these two interests. Seemingly, nothing would lead more directly to this goal than the installation of a French squadron on the coasts of North America. If the war continues in that region, as is to be desired, finding the English naval forces en masse would be unlikely as some of their forces would be supporting ground operations while the rest, scattered along the immensity of that coast, would be working to intercept the commerce and cruising ships of the Americans. This being the case, an intelligent leader could strike a very advantageous blow by going directly to the theater of operations to attack the English sea forces there, and to try to destroy the English warships and the transport vessels under their protection. Once accomplished, the security of our islands would be fully assured since the English would then be without the means to disturb them. Perhaps it is worth mentioning here the extent to which a service of this magnitude would impress the Americans. This first operation completed, the squadron, no longer having a major force to fear, could be divided with half its contingent moving southward to winter at Saint-Domingue while clearing the sea of all cruisers encountered in its path; the other division heading back northward to Newfoundland and destroying the fishery and English

fishing settlements there. Or, if judged more useful, the commander could be allowed the discretion to head for Boston to assist the New Englanders in any undertakings they might want to form against Halifax and Nova Scotia.

Presented here is just a conceptual notion of the operations to which we could commit ourselves; we leave it to the experts to flesh out the details and arrive at the means to execute them. If sending a squadron to North America is not agreed upon, it would then be necessary to send one to the Antilles. The most logical station for this squadron would be at Martinique because from there it could watch over all the King's windward settlements. It could also be used to recapture Dominica and Grenada but any advantages gained there would not be so great as those sustained from a diversion in the north, a move which, if successful, would undoubtedly shorten the war.

It is also worth taking into account that this diversion would be very helpful to Spain in that it would keep the English forces occupied in the north thereby making it easier for Spain to succeed in its undertakings.

Given that such projects can only be successful inasmuch as one is in a position to forestall the enemy, it is only in carefully protecting the secrecy of our strategy and in assuring all means of throwing the enemy off the scent that one can hope for success. While there is no possibility of sending a large expedition to the East Indies, it might be useful at least to consider the idea and even lend it credibility by engaging in some demonstrations. However, as it is not possible to abandon our settlements in that region, particularly Ile de France and Ile de Bourbon³ whose preservation is vital if France does not want to be forever excluded from India, a squadron comprised of three frigates (currently being built in Holland) and the *Consolante* could be formed. These four frigates with their great depths of hold could easily carry, without inconveniencing the crew, a reinforcement of between a thousand and twelve hundred men which should be sufficient to protect the two islands against any insult. The artillery force and sailing speed of these frigates render them virtually fearless of an encounter with a superior force.

D, FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Espagne, vol. 588, no. 78, fols. 212–15. Internal evidence indicates that this memoir, intended for the edification of the Spanish government, was prepared at the end of January 1778. See note 2, below. Doniol attributes this memoir to Vergennes. Henri Doniol, *Histoire de la participation de la France à l'établissement des Etats-Unis d'Amérique*, 5 vols. in 6 (Paris: Imprimerie nationale, 1886–99), 3: 31.

1. On 18 Jan., Louis XVI approved fitting out twelve of the ships of the line at Brest and ten of those at Toulon. Jonathan R. Dull, *The French Navy and American Independence: A Study of Arms and Diplomacy, 1774–1787* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1975), 101.

2. On 28 Jan., Louis XVI approved the offer to send ten ships of the line to Cadiz to protect the expected Spanish treasure fleets and the promise to keep twenty-five ships of the line fitted out at Brest. Spain declined the offer of the ten ships on 16 Feb., and confirmed the refusal in March. *Ibid.*, 100, 110.

3. Former names of Mauritius and Réunion Islands, Indian Ocean.

February 1 (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth*]

1st of Feb^r 1778. Sunday Cloudy wth this Morning M^r Cawderey¹ Not being Satisfied with taking Cap^t Hy Johnsons Chest. but has made a General Search for

Clothes Belonging to the Elopers; & took all they could find of theirs; also Geo. Thayer's Clothes which they return'd again²

D, McHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. William Cowdry, keeper of Mill Prison.
2. George Thayer, Master's Mate, Continental Navy, had been captured in Continental Navy brig *Lexington* with Capt. Henry Johnson.

JOURNAL OF CHARLES HERBERT

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth*]

February 1. Sunday [1778]. Last evening, between seven and nine o'clock, five of the officers in a separate prison, who had agreed with the sentry to let them go, made their escape and took two sentries with them. The five officers were Captain Henry Johnston,¹ Captain Eleazer Johnston,² Offin Boardman, Samuel Treadwell and one Mr. Deal.³ Captain Henry Johnston having several suits of good clothes, he gave each sentry one, which they put on, and left their regimentals at their posts, with their firelocks, and made off; they were soon discovered by the guard, and pursued, but not taken.

Charles Herbert, *A Relic of the Revolution* (Boston, 1847), 94.

1. Capt. Henry Johnson, Continental Navy.
2. Eleazer Johnson, Jr., captain of Massachusetts privateer brig *Dalton*.
3. Master's Mate Richard Dale, Continental Navy.

February 2

THE LONDON CHRONICLE, SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, TO TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1778

Monday, February 2. London.

The *Hero*, Stirling,¹ from London, for Antigua and Jamaica, fell in with a rebel schooner, near Antigua, and in the engagement blew up, and only the Mate and ten of the people saved.

1. A ship of 350 tons, S. Starling, master, armed with twelve six-pounders and built in 1766. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, February, 1778*]

2^d. Munday Cloudy & rainy w^c Since the Departure of our friends¹ it seems as tho some were Deceas'd from our family—The pursuers have taken up several persons upon Suspicion of they being the Deserters; but to no purpose at Present

D, McHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. See Journal of Dr. Jonathan Haskins for 31 Jan., above.

CAPTAIN HENRY JOHNSON TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Hon'ble Gent^{rs}:

Rotterdam Feb^r 2 1778

Yesterday I arrived here, from England after effecting my escape from Mill Prison. I have in Company Cap^t Eleazer Johnson of the *Dalton*. I am going on to Dunkirk as fast as

possible Shall be Obliged to your Honours if you'd let me Know whether it will be necessary for me to come to Paris. I shall wait at Dunkirk for your answer—I shall not now endeavour to give you the particulars of the Loss of the *Lexington*, neither of the shocking Treatment of our bretheren in Mill Prison till I have the pleasure to see or hear from your Honours.—I am with wishing your honours every valuable blessing [&c.]

Henry Johnson

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 53, no. 61. Addressed: "To/The Hon'ble Silas Deane Esq'/a/Paris." Docketed: "H. Johnson Rotterdam/Feb. 2. 1778."

SALES OF THE PRIZE BRIG *MARY* AND CARGO

Sales of the Prize Brig *Mary* & Cargo sold by Mess^{rs}. Thomas Morris & Jonathan Williams on Account of the Hon^{ble}. the [C]ontinental Congress & Captors

1777

Decem ^r 15 th .	By Bridon de la Mallasdiese Vessell & Cargo sold him		12500.. ..
	Charges		
Decem ^r 10 th	Paid M ^r Green	24 ^s	
20 th .	Brokers Account	159..17..9	
	Pilotage to Noirmoutier	36.. ..	
	Commis ^s . on £12500 at 5 [⁄] Ct	625.. ..	<u>844..17..9</u>
	Neat Proceeds, half to the Credit of T Morris for Congress & half to the Captors.		£11655.. 2..3

Nantes Feb. 2. 1778

Errors Excepted for T Morris & self.

Jon^a Williams J^l

DS, DNA, PCC, item 193, pp. 45–46 (M247, roll 200). Docketed: "Account Sales of the *Rangers*/Prize the Brig *Mary*/By T Morris & J. Williams Esq^s/Nantes 2^d Feb^r 1778/N^o. 3."; and, in the hand of John Paul Jones, "The Only Account of Sales I ever/have received from any Agent."

1. A copy book transcript, DNA, PCC, item 132, pp. 15–16 (M247, roll 144), contains the following written below the signature:

- 1 Share to the deserving in the Top
 - 2 to the deserving on the forecastle
 - 2 to the Quarter Masters
 - 1 to the Quarter Gunners
 - 1 to Palmer
 - 1 to Gale
 - to Palmer
 - 1 Gale
 - Meeds
 - 9.
- One share remains unbestowed.

February 3

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, 1778*]

3^d. of Feb^r. Tuesday Cloudy w^r. By M^r. Sorrey we're Inform'd that the Agent has forbid any more Gold coming in for the Officers

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR., TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Hon^{ble} Gentlemen

Nantes Feb. 3. 1778.—

I have been for several Days down to the Ship¹ & left her at S^t Nazare. I have done with both the French Ships.²—I beg you will please to apply for an order to wait in Quiberon 'till all the ships join else I am afraid the *Brune* will be left. Poor M^r Morris³ has finished his affairs in this world. I am much concerned at being absent, but every care was taken of him & all possible Respect paid to his Remains.—I am [&c.]

J Williams J

L, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 37, no. 128. Addressed: "The Hon^{ble}/The Commissioners of/The/United States." Docketed: "Jon^a Williams Nantes/Feby 3. 1778."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Deane*.
2. *Duc de Choiseul* and *Duchesse de Grammont*.
3. Thomas Morris died on 31 Jan.

February 4

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, February 1778*]

4th. Cap^t Lee¹ Very Ill with the Gout; but Can't get any relief from the Doct^r who say Nothing Ails him

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. Capt. John Lee, commander of Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Fancy*.

February 5

PHILIP STEPHENS TO VICE ADMIRAL LORD SHULDHAM

My Lord,

[*Admiralty Office*] 5 Feb^r: 1778

I have communicated to my Lords Commiss^{rs}. of the Admiralty your Letter of the 1st: Instant, inclosing the Information given by William Atwell who was taken out of the *William Zelanders* a Dutch Ship at Falmouth, and acquainting them you had received Information from Lieu^t: Governor Blackett that five Rebel Prisoners made their Escape from Mill Prison on the 31st: of last Month among whom are Johnson late Master of the *Lexington*, & Burnell late Master of another Privatier¹ also two Soldiers of the 13th: Regiment who were Centinels had deserted with them, also of the *Centaur's* arrival in the Sound & that her Maintopmast had been carried away & inclosing her State & Condition. I am &c^{ca}:

PS.

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/556, fol. 364. Addressed at foot: "R^t: Hon^{ble}: L^d. Shuldham} Plymouth." Marginal notation: "Our Rec^t."

1. Capt. John Burnell, commander of Maryland privateer schooner *Montgomery*.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, February 1778*]

5th. Thursday thick Dirty weath^r Cap^t Lee has with Much Difficulty obtain'd Liberty to go to the Hosp^t: three Maisons At work a plastering M^r Cawderey¹ Allows coals in pot to burn to Dry our New plaster'd Roof (when he is in good Humour, but Don't Allow people to stand by it; to take the Benefit of the fire

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. William Cowdry, keeper of Mill Prison.

ACCOUNT OF ARMS DELIVERED TO THE CONTINENTAL SHIPS *RANGER* AND *DEANE*

[*Nantes, February 5, 1778*]

N^o. 27

Account of Arms, taken from the Magazine and deliver'd to the Continental Ships *Ranger* and *Deane* which being charg'd in their Outfits are carried to the Credit of the Commissioners—

Feb ^r 5	Cha to <i>Ranger</i>	20 p ^r pistols	200.	
		30 Cutlasses	<u>90.</u>	
				290..—..—
	Cha. to <i>Deane</i> in M ^r Peltiers Acco ^t Outfits			
		100 Musketts	800.	
		6 d ^o . with Bayon ^{ts} .	<u>60.</u>	
	Carried Over		860	290..—..—
	Account of Arms taken from the Magazine bro ^t over			290..—..—
	Char. to <i>Dean</i> bro ^t over		860..—	
	100 p ^r of Pistolls		1000..—	
	200. Cutlasses		800..—	
	50. Boarding spears		150..—	
	6. Blunderbusses		108..—	
	400. Flints and 2 M[oul]ds		<u>50..—</u>	
				2968..—..—
	Received of John Ross f[or r]epairing Arms			<u>43..16..—</u>
				3301..16..— ¹

Copy, CtY, Jonathan Williams Account Books. Number 27 in "Accounts and Vouchers Refer'd to in the Account Current between Jonathan Williams Jun^r and the Hon^{ble}. The Commissioners of the United States of America."

1. Notation: "Compared and approved Nan[tz 17th Au]g^t 1779 (Signed) J. J.—J. N. J. C.—J. G." The initials are those of Joshua Johnson, Jonathan Nesbitt, James Cuming, and Joseph Gridley. They were merchants who, in the summer of 1779, at the request of Benjamin Franklin, audited Williams's accounts with the American Commissioners in France. Presumably the amounts are reckoned in pounds.

CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM TO SILAS DEANE

Sir

Bilboa, 5th. february 78

I received your letter of the 21st. Janr^y.¹ I am Sorry to find that this french Vessell² Should be the means of Giving Our enemies Any Advantage Over us, it Appears Verry Odd to me What the[y] every day Committ themselves that the[y] should even make the least Complaint off. I should imagine the[y] Ought Rather hide it as Undoubtly the[y] gave the example as every power of Europe is well acquainted with. you have mentioned that my Idea is wrong in seizing english property on board neutral Vessells Sir At my Arrivall in S^t. sebastians had the[re] not been A precedent of the same nature On Record And the most Ablest men of the place Declaring and Assuring the prize Good, I Should not have made Any Claime Could I have Withdrawn, but as I am Situated and every thing Carryd on to such Lengths. I must intirly leave this matter to be Desided by the Gentleman at S^t. sebastians how [*i.e.*, *who*] took it first into his hands. I will Desire of him to Drop the claime as you have Requested of me and shall take particular Notice for the future As by you Directed, m^r. hodge is been heare for Some time past and is putting the Vessell³ Under new regulations When the Vessell is ready for Sea he can enforme you more particular than I can at preasant I am [&c.]

G C—

LB, UklPR, H.C.A. 32/441/7, pt. 1.

1. Above.

2. French brig *Gracieux*, Emanuel de Tournois, master, taken by *Revenge* on 21 Dec. 1777.3. Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*.

February 6

“PROCEEDINGS IN THE LORDS RESPECTING THE COMMERCIAL
LOSSES OCCASIONED BY THE AMERICAN WAR”

Feb. 6. In the Committee on the State of the Nation, the duke of Richmond desired Mr. Alderman Wooldridge might be called to the bar, and examined.

Mr. *Wooldridge* was accordingly called in. He stated the number of ships lost by capture, or destroyed by American privateers, since the commencement of the war, to be 733, of which, after deducting for those retaken and restored, there remained 559; the value of which, including the ships, cargoes, &c. amounted, upon a very moderate calculation, to 1,800,633*l.* 18*s.* Of these ships, 247 were ships trading to the West Indies and the island of Jamaica. In proof of the correctness of this statement, he produced an account, which he declared he had made out, with the assistance of Mr. Hake, secretary to the subscribers to Lloyd’s coffee-house, where a book, containing a faithful register of all the ships that sailed outward, or were entered inward, from and at all the ports in Great Britain and Ireland, with the names of the owners and captains, the account of their last voyage, tonnage, state of repair, and quality, was kept, with the most minute correctness; and from which book his account was taken. The alderman further stated, that the average value of a ship and cargo, trading to Jamaica, was 8,000*l.* on her outward, 10,000*l.* on her homeward voyage. That the average value of a ship and cargo, trading to the other

West India islands, was 6,060*l.* outward, and 8,000*l.* homeward. That insurance before the war was 2 per cent. to America, and 2 1/2 per cent. to North Carolina, Jamaica, &c. That insurance to America, Africa, and the West Indies, was now more than double, even with the convoy, and without convoy, unless the ship was a ship of force, 15 per cent.¹ That seamen's wages were now raised from 25 and 28, to 55, and in some instances up as high as 65 shillings, per month. That the increased value of sugars, &c. paid the merchants sufficiently for the increased price of insurance, but the weight fell on the consumer of the commodities exported and imported. That the various articles formerly imported from America, were now considerably advanced in price. Tobacco from 7*d.* 1/2 a pound to 2*s.* 4*d.* Pitch from 8*s.* a barrel to 35*s.* Tar, turpentine, oil and pig iron had risen in the same proportion. Indigo, and some other articles, had increased in price, but not quite so much as the articles above-mentioned.² That there had been upon the seas during the war 173 sail of American privateers; the first of which, that the merchants heard of, was the *Yankee* privateer,³ taken in May 1776. That about 34 of the 173 had been taken and destroyed by our men of war, cruizers, armed ships, &c. That in the said 173 American privateers, there were at least 13,000 and odd seamen, and 2,000 and odd carriage guns, exclusive of swivels and cohorns. In proof of the correctness of these accounts of the number of American privateers, seamen and guns, the alderman declared, that he made out his list from the letters received by the owners of English ships (which had been taken) from the captains of such ships, who always stated in their letters where they were, where they were taken, the names of the captors, the size and tonnage of their ships, the number of their guns, and the number of their men, and also from the Admiralty office account of captures by the King's ships, published in the London Gazette. That he had averaged the men at 80 in each ship, which was a calculation of a very moderate nature, since he believed the number of seamen in the 173 American privateers were nearer 20,000, than 13,000.⁴ The alderman gave his opinion, that the manufactories of this kingdom, especially that of iron, were not increased in point of export since the war began; that the American war had been the cause of many bankruptcies; that when the Prohibitory Act passed, there might be about two millions due to the merchants of Great Britain from America; that in the six months allowed by the Act for the continuance of an intercourse between the two countries, the Americans had transmitted about 500,000*l.* worth of goods, in part of payment of their debts to their creditors at home; that those 500,000*l.* worth of goods, were they now on hand, would be worth two millions, from the increased price of the various articles; that at present, there was due from America to the merchants of Great Britain, at least 1,500,000*l.*; that upon an average, the debt was not worth 5*s.* in the pound; that it was more or less valuable, according to the provinces in which the debtors resided; that in North and South Carolina, and such parts as had not been the seat of war, where the persons of the inhabitants and their property had not been destroyed by fire and sword, the merchants thought their money tolerably safe, should an intercourse be again brought about between Great Britain and America; but that in the province of New York and Pennsylvania, the debts due to English merchants were of little worth; that there was a debt of 72,000*l.* due in particular to the house in which he had lately been a partner; that, to speak for one, he would gladly sell it for 10*s.* in the pound. He further stated,

that the trade to America and the West India islands, previous to the commencement of the war, might amount to about eleven millions annually. After answering of other questions of a less important nature, the evidence was desired to withdraw.

Beeston Long, esq. was next called. The answers given by Mr. Long to the few questions put to him, confirmed what Mr. Wooldridge had stated, relative to the careful manner in which the register of ships was kept at Lloyd's coffee-house, and the general idea of its authenticity which prevailed with the merchants, insurers, underwriters, &c.

Mr. *Abraham Hake* also corroborated the testimony of Mr. Wooldridge, declaring that he was secretary to the society of merchants at Lloyd's, and that he kept the register books. Mr. Hake also gave proof of the pains that were taken to preserve it from error, and render its authenticity indisputable.

William Creighton, esq. not only corroborated the alderman in the most material points, but added many new facts which had fallen within his own knowledge. He stated the losses suffered by the merchants, in consequence of the captures made by the American privateers, to have amounted to at least two millions in October last, and that by this time they could not be less than 2,200,000*l.* That the first losses of the merchants were occasioned by the prohibition of their sending out a single pound of powder in their ships, which was strictly enforced previous to the merchants being stimulated to petition the privy council, and obtain licenses to arm their ships. That letters of marque were hardly worth taking out, as they were of little service, unless those who had them fell in with an American tobacco ship, and that was as much a matter of chance as the obtainment of a 10 or 20,000*l.* prize in the lottery. That the windward islands had been most exposed to the depredations of the Americans, from having an insufficient number of ships to guard and protect them. That the island of Tobago, in particular, had for a long time no man of war near it, and that in consequence the Americans had landed and ravaged the plantations, carrying fifty negroes at a time off one estate. That at length he, with other merchants, had applied in form to the lords of the Admiralty, and desired that two ships might be sent there; that the greatest attention had been paid them at the Admiralty office, and the prayer of their petition had been instantly complied with. That he foresaw that Tobago would share the fate it did, long before it happened from viewing its situation in the charts, and knowing that the ships on the West India station were inadequate to the protection of so many islands. That the prohibition of the merchants having gunpowder on board their ships, merely to prevent powder and ball being conveyed to the rebels, was ill founded, because that as long as America found money, there could be no doubt of her obtaining ammunition, &c.

G. Olive, esq. proved the damage done the Newfoundland traders; fifty of whose ships he declared had been taken, of about the average value of 2,000*l.* each, beside a great many small vessels, of about 2 or 300*l.* value upon the banks.—Upon his cross-examination, he declared that the trade was much improved of late, and that in consequence of the Americans being deprived of the means of pursuing it, we sent more fish to Bilboa and the foreign markets than ever, and that if men and ships could be procured, it would turn out a very benefi-

inor if ponible).
 Au faith where of the respective
 Plenipotentiaries, leuit on their
 part of the most Christian King
 Alexander Cordes were in the
 of the King's Majesty's Council of State
 of his Majesty's Council of State
 and on the part of the United
 States Benjamin Franklin
 Deputy to the General Congress
 from the State of Pennsylvania
 and President of the Convention
 of the same State; John Deane
 first Deputy from the State
 of Connecticut & Arthur Lee
 Esq. at Law have signed the
 above Articles both in the French
 and English Languages Declaring
 Nevertheless that the present
 Treaty was originally composed
 and concluded in the French
 Language; and they have
 hereunto affixed their Seals
 Done at Paris, this sixth Day of
 February one thousand seven hun-
 dred and seventy eight.

J. G. Cordes
 B. Franklin

Siy moir ou plutôt, si faire se peut.
 En foi de quoi les Plenipotentiaires
 respectifs Savoit de la part du Roi
 Pierre Christian le M^r Conrad, Alexandre
 Gerard. Secrétaire royal de la ville de
 Strasbourg et Secrétaire du Conseil d'Etat
 de Sa Majesté; et de la part de ces
 Etats unis les M^{rs} Benjamin Franklin
 Député au Congrès général de la part
 de l'Etat de Pensylvanie et Président
 de la Convention du même Etat; John
 Deane Cy devant Député de l'Etat de
 Connecticut et Arthur Lee, Conseiller
 en loix ont signé les articles ci
 dessus, tant en langue française qu'en
 langue Angloise; déclarant néanmoins
 que le présent traité a été originairement
 rédigé et arrêté en langue française,
 et il a les ont munis de cachets
 armés.

Fait à Paris le sixième jour du mois
 de Février mil sept cent soixante huit.

John Deane
 Arthur Lee

Signature page of the treaty of alliance between
 France and the United States of America

cial branch of commerce; but that the fishermen's price was increased from 8 to 14*l.* a voyage, and the seamen's wages from 35 to 70*s.* a month.⁵

John Shoolbred, esq. of Mark-lane, declared himself an African merchant and an under-writer. He confirmed the accounts of the book at Lloyd's, and stated that the African trade had been materially injured in consequence of the American war: that upwards of 200 sail were generally engaged in that trade, previous to the war: that not a fourth of that number, not above 40 ships, were now sent out: that 15 of the ships and cargoes had been taken by the Americans: that the average value of the cargo of a ship to Africa, outwards, was about 7,000*l.* and her homeward freight of slaves worth about 9,000*l.*: that each slave was worth at least 35*l.*: that the value of the ships lost was 140,000*l.* upon a very moderate calculation: that the first ship was taken in March, 1777: the Americans not having before that time any market to carry the cargo of African ships to; and that all the ships were taken near, and most of them in sight of Barbadoes, after having got over every natural risk of the voyage.⁶—Upon his cross-examination, he allowed, that those who carried on the African slave trade formerly, had lately sent ships to fish on the coast of Africa; that the whale trade there promised to turn out exceedingly advantageous, and that this trade was formerly enjoyed by the Americans.

Edward Payne, esq. of Cornhill, proved little new; he chiefly corroborating what the other witnesses had said.

The lords who principally concerned themselves in the examination of these witnesses were the dukes of Richmond, Bolton and Manchester; the marquis of Rockingham, lords Effingham and Camden. The Lord President, and lords Sandwich, Dunmore, Sondes, Lyttelton, and Derby.⁷

The Parliamentary History of England 19: 708–13.

1. "Insurance to America and the West Indies was risen from two to five per cent; and to the Streights, Portugal, and Spain, from one to three." *London Chronicle*, 5–7 Feb. 1778.

2. "The price of tar and turpentine [was risen], from 6 and 8 to 30*s.* per barrel. Sugar from 30*s.* to 3*l.* per cwt. Oil nearly in the same proportion; pearl and pot ashes likewise; iron and indigo considerably; tobacco from 7½*d.* to 2*s.* per pound." *Ibid.*

3. Massachusetts privateer sloop *Yankee*, Captain Henry Johnson, commander, was commissioned on 23 May 1776. On 3 July prisoners taken out of prizes rose and took the sloop. They subsequently took her into England. George Ross and James Hodges to Philip Stephens, 31 July 1776, *NDAR* 6: 516. On 6 June, H.M.S. *Milford* captured Massachusetts privateer brig *Yankee Hero*, Captain James Tracy, which received its commission on 20 Feb. 1776. Master's Log of H.M.S. *Milford*, 6 June 1776, *NDAR* 5: 391–92.

4. "He stated the number of prisoners, taken aboard the 34 privateers, to be about 3000." *London Chronicle*, 5–7 Feb. 1778.

5. "Being asked whether since the prohibitory act, a new trade, adequate to the former, was not followed by fishing on the coasts of Africa? He granted there was, which perhaps may employ as many ships as before, but the great difficulty lay in manning them, which reduced their number considerably. The ships upon this trade proved not to be above sixty before the war, and their cargoes generally not worth above 2000*l.* each." *Ibid.*

6. He "said, that most of the African vessels that had been taken, were made prizes of within sight of the islands, by American ships that had not been out but a few hours." *Ibid.*

7. For the continuation and conclusion of this debate, see "Proceedings in the Lords Respecting the Commercial Losses occasioned by the American War;" at 9 and 11 Feb., below.

MARQUIS DE NOAILLES TO COMTE DE VERGENNES

[Extract]

N^o. 7.

A Londres le 6 fevrier 1778.

J'ai reçu, Monsieur le comte, la lettre N^o. 4 que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 31 du mois passé, et à laquelle j'ai trouvé joint un nouveau rapport re-

latif à des excès commis par trois Chaloupes angloises dans les Parages de la Martinique contre un Bâtiment françois nommé la *Cerès*.¹ La connaissance de ce grief ne m'étoit point encore parvenue, quand j'ai été chez le Lord Weymouth. Mais je ne manquerai pas de l'en informer à la première occasion. En attendant, je crois m'être expliqué clairement avec lui sur ce qui fait le sujet continuel de nos plaintes et de notre juste mécontentement.

J'ai pris mon texte d'une lettre que je venois de recevoir de Portsmouth d'un nommé Henry Grand qui me prioit de lui faire avoir sa liberté.² J'ai laissé l'original entre les mains du Secetaire d'Etat et j'ai l'honneur de vous en envoyer la copie.³ Vous verrez, Monsieur le Comte, qu'il s'agit du Bâtiment françois le *Thamas Koulikan* qui a été arrêté dans le Golfe de Gascogne et regardé comme prise américaine, quoiqu'il partit de nos Ports et qu'il fut expédié pour St. Domingue.

L'interprétation dont la lettre en question m'a paru susceptible a été, ainsi que je n'ai pu m'empêcher de l'observer au Lord Weymouth,⁴ que tout tendoit visiblement à la guerre, lui ajoutant qu'il étoit difficile de croire désormais qu'on eut ici tant d'envie de l'éloigner, lorsque les actions contredisoient constamment et habituellement les assurances de Paix et d'amitié qu'on se contentoit de répéter sans en faire connoître la Réalité qu'il n'étoit pas juste que la guerre que l'Angleterre faisoit aujourd'hui en Amérique entraînat des mesures oppressives pour le Commerce a la navigation des Puissances neutres; qu'on ne conviendroit jamais de rien d'utile et qui prévint les difficultés, si l'on s'écartoit de l'unique principe: que tout Bâtiment françois devoit être respecté sans aucune restriction lorsqu'il se trouvoit en pleine mer, et qu'à l'exception de la representation des Lettres de mer, il ne pourvoit être soumis aux recherches et à la visite des vaisseaux Anglois, qu'autant qu'il approchoit de trop près les Côtes de L'Angleterre ou les Côtes de L'Amérique: que si on laissoit les soupçons et la méfiance s'exercer librement, les abus les plus intolérables et qui se sont infiniment multipliés depuis l'établissement des Lettres de marque, continueroient de se manifester de la manière la plus fâcheuse pour nous, et que ce seroit là le prix de la modération de Sa Majesté et des efforts de son Ministère pour conserver la tranquillité générale.

Milord Weymouth me repliqua que les Ministres du Roi mon maître n'arrivent jamais prétendre justifier les Particuliers,⁵ qui entreprendroient de faire passer aux Américains des munitions de guerre et des approvisionnements de toute espece; que vous, Monsieur le Comte, et M. le Comte de Maurepas aviez dit au Lord Stormont, que s'il se commettoit des abus à l'insçu de notre Gouvernement, c'étoit à l'Angleterre à se faire justice et à faire arrêter, quand elle le pourroit, les Bâtiments qui seroient soupçonnés d'être chargés en fraude pour l'Amérique. Il m'ajoutoit que la visite et les recherches dont je me plaignoit devenoient tous les jours plus nécessaires, attendu que les Américains prénoient souvent le Pavillon françois; que communément au moment où se faisoit la reconnoissance en mer, on jettoit les vrais papiers pour ne produire que des Expéditions simulées; qu'enfin il regnoit tant de collusion dans les Entreprises particulières qui étoient faites pour le compte des Américains, qu'on ne pouvoit découvrir la verité sans prendre beaucoup de précautions. La dernière observation du Lord Weymouth fut qu'il falloit considérer l'intention; qu'elle seule faisoit l'insulte de Cour à Cour; qu'il me répondoit à cet égard de tout ce que nous pouvions attendre de la sienne pour le desir de conserver la Paix et de nous procurer le redresse-

ment de nos Plaintes lorsqu'elles se trouveroient fondée en justice. Il me promet de m'envoyer incessamment une réponse, qui me prouveroit que le Bâtiment que j'avois réclamé en dernier lieu nommé l'*aimable Reine* étoit un Bâtiment hollandois acheté à Dunkerque au mois de novembre 1776, et destiné à porter des marchandises à la Caroline.⁶ Je lui répondis que le Roi mon maître verroit sans peine, lorsque ses sujets servoient en faute, qu'ils fussent punis; mais lorsqu'ils seroient innocents, que Sa Majesté ne souffriroit pas qu'ils restassent dans l'oppression. J'ai toujours conclu en faveur de mon premier principe, objectant au Lord Weymouth, que d'après les raisons mêmes qu'il venoit de me donner, on ne sauroit plus à quels signes distinguer, si un Bâtiment devoit être respecté comme françois ou jugé de bonne prise comme Américain. Loin de retracter les Sentimens que je lui avoit exprimés, je l'ai fort assuré que ces Sentimens étoient entierement conformes à la façon de penser de tous les Ministres de Sa Majesté.

Je lui representai aussi par forme de conversation, et non ministeriellement,⁷ que s'il y avoit quelque fondement à certains avis que je pourroit lui citer, ce seroit bien une autre imprudence que de laisser les Vaisseaux de guerre Anglois établir leur croisière trop près des Côtes de France. Le Lord Weymouth m'interrompit pour me prier de ne pas ajouter foi à tout ce qui étoit dit lundi dernier dans la chambre des Pairs, où le Lord Cambden avoit avancé que les Ports de France étoient bloqués, la guerre inévitable avant un mois, et qu'il n'y avoit aucun lieu de douter que nous ne fussions entrés en négociation avec les Américains.⁸

Je ne fus pas embarrassé de lui persuader que je ne m'attachois en aucune façon au discours du Lord Cambden; qu'ayant vu une lettre de Nantes écrite par un des principaux Négotiant de cette Ville, j'avois lû qu'on s'y regardoit comme bloqué par des Vaisseaux Anglois; que c'étoit la crainte que ce récit n'eut quelque apparence de verité qui m'avoit engagé à lui en parler, parceque ma Cour n'en seroit pas plutôt informée qu'elle enverroit promptement les ordres les plus précis, pour qu'on fit retirer les Vaisseaux Anglois, et qu'on les obligeât de se tenir à une distance convenable de nos Côtes.

Passant ensuite de lui même aux affaires d'Allemagne . . . ; j'écoutai le Lord Weymouth et je finis par lui dire que dans la position où je me trouvois il me permettroit de lui avouer qu'il n'y avoit point de nouvelles auxquelles je prisse plus l'intérêt qu'à celle qui m'apprendroit ici la restitution d'un Bâtiment françois. Ce furent les dernier mots de notre entretien. Qu'ai-je obtenu du Lord Weymouth, et que puis-je vous laisser esperer, Monsieur le Comte, pour la Saison qui va rétablir l'activité du Commerce et de la Navigation, ou plutôt fournir à ce Pays-ci des occasions plus fréquentes de troubler l'un et l'autre à notre préjudice? . . . J'ai l'honneur d'être [&c.]

Le M^{is} de Noailles

[Translation]

No. 7

London 6 February 1778

Your Lordship, I have received letter No. 4 which you were kind enough to write me on the 31st of last month, to which you attached the latest report relating to the abuses perpetrated by three English sloops near Martinique against a French ship called the *Ceres*.¹ Knowledge of this unfortunate incident had not yet reached me when I was visiting Lord Weymouth. But at the first opportunity, I will most certainly inform him. While waiting, I believe I explained myself

clearly to him with regard to the source of our continual complaints and justifiable displeasure.

I took my text from a letter which I had just received from Portsmouth from a man named Henry Grand who begged me to procure him his freedom.² I left the original with the Secretary of State and I am pleased to send you a copy of it.³ You will see, Your Lordship, that it concerns the French ship *Thamas Koulikan*, which was stopped in the Bay of Biscay and considered an American capture, although it had left from our ports and was headed for Dominica.

The interpretation suggested by the letter was—just as I could not help observing to Lord Weymouth⁴—that things were obviously leaning toward war, and I added to him that from now on it would be difficult to believe that people here were eager not to get involved in one, since their actions continually and regularly contradicted the assurances of peace and friendship they kept blithely repeating, while ignoring the reality, which is that it is unfair for England's war in America to entail oppressive measures taken against the commerce and shipping activities of neutral powers; it would serve no good purpose and has created difficulties to diverge from the principle that any French ship has to be respected without restrictions when at sea, and—with the exception of showing ship's papers—that a French ship could be searched and boarded by English ships only if it came too close to the coast of America or the coast of England; that if we allowed suspicions and mistrust to run rampant, the most intolerable abuses, which multiplied several times over following the establishment of letters of marque, would continue to occur, angering us considerably, and that this would be the price of His Majesty's moderation and the efforts of his Minister to preserve the general peace.

My Lord Weymouth replied to me that the Ministers of my master the King have never managed to prove the innocence of the individuals who were trying to pass war munitions and supplies of all kinds to the Americans;⁵ that you, My Lord, and My Lord the Comte de Maurepas had said to Lord Stormont that if abuses were being perpetrated without the knowledge of our government, then it was England's responsibility to see justice served and to stop when possible the ships suspected of smuggling goods to America. He added to me that the boarding and searches about which I was complaining were becoming more and more necessary, since the Americans often hid behind the French flag; that usually as soon as an inspection at sea was imminent, they tossed their real papers overboard in order to produce only fake papers; that finally, there was so much collusion among the various private enterprises that have thrown their lot in with the Americans, the truth could not be discovered without taking a good many precautions. Lord Weymouth's last remark was that the intent had to be taken into consideration; that the intent alone was enough to serve as an insult from one Royal Court to another; that his answer to me in this regard was the only thing we could expect from his Royal Court in the interests of preserving the peace and obtaining redress for our complaints, if in fact they were justified. He promises me a response that will prove that the ship I had claimed most recently, called *l'Aimable Reine*, was a Dutch ship purchased in Dunkirk in November 1776, and was intended for carrying merchandise to Carolina.⁶ I answered him that my master the King was not averse to his subjects being punished if in fact they were at fault, but when they were innocent, His Majesty would not tolerate their continued oppression. I continued to

uphold my first principle, objecting to Lord Weymouth that by the criteria he had just given me, it would be impossible for anyone to distinguish whether a ship should be respected as French or judged a lawful American prize. I did not retract the sentiments I had just expressed to him, but rather assured him firmly that these sentiments reflected the opinion of all His Majesty's Ministers.

I told him also, by way of conversation and not of ministerial business,⁷ that if there were any foundation to certain opinions which I could cite, it would be rather unwise to allow English warships to sail too close to the coast of France. Lord Weymouth interrupted me, saying I should not take seriously what was said last Monday in the House of Lords, where Lord Camden had suggested that the ports of France were blockaded, that war was inevitable within one month, and that there was no reason to doubt that we had begun to negotiate with the Americans.⁸

I was quick to assure him that I placed no faith in Lord Camden's speech, that having seen a letter from Nantes written by one of the leading merchants in that city, I had read that they considered themselves blockaded by English vessels; that it was their fear which had led me to speak to him of it, since no sooner would my Court have been informed of it, then very specific orders would be issued to require the English vessels to withdraw and keep them at a proper distance from our coast.

He switched to the subject of Germany . . . ; I listened to Lord Weymouth, and concluded by telling him that the best news I could hear would be that a French ship had been returned. These words ended the conversation. What did I get out of Lord Weymouth, and what hope can I give you, My Lordship, for the coming season to reestablish commercial activity and shipping, or rather to provide this country more frequent opportunities to harass our commerce and shipping to our detriment? . . . I have the honor to be [&c.]

The Marquis de Noailles

L, FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 528, fols. 260–66. Endorsed: "M de Rayneval"; "Reçu le 10."; "Rep le 14 N. 6."; translation: "Monsieur de Rayneval"; "Received the 10th"; "Replied the 14th, No. 6." Portions of the letter not printed here report on debates in Parliament over troop levies and the number of prizes made by the Americans and its effect on British commerce; other portions report on Royal Navy deployments and officer appointments.

1. For the *Cérés*, see Abraham-Marie Bertin to Gabriel de Sartine, dated 21 Jan., above. In the margin: "Relation qui Sera faite à M^d. Weymouth du excès commis contre le bâtiment la *Cérés*"; "Account that will be made to My Lord Weymouth concerning the excesses committed against the ship *Cérés*."

2. In the margin: "Remise faite à M^d. Weymouth d'une lettre d'un nommé Henry Grand au sujet du vaisseau le *Thamas Koulikan* pris dans le Golfe de Gascogne." "Delivery made to My Lord Weymouth of a letter from one named Henry Grand regarding the ship *Thamas Koulikan* seized in the Bay of Biscay."

3. Henri-Maximilien Grand to the Marquis de Noailles, 29 Jan. Ibid., fol. 178. In the margin: "au 29. Jan^{er}"

4. In the margin: "Divers representatives faites à M^d. Weymouth à l'occasion de la prise du vaisseau le *Thamas Koulikan* sur les hostilités continuelles de l'ang^{cois} contre les vaisseaux françois même en pleine mer." "Various representations made to My Lord Weymouth on the occasion of the taking of the ship *Thamas Koulikan*, concerning the continual hostile acts committed by the English against French ships, even on the high seas."

5. In the margin: "M^d. Weymouth soutient que nous avons autorisé les précautions qu l'ang^{cois} prend pour empecher le transport de munitions aux américains par des V^o françois." "My Lord Weymouth maintains that we authorized the precautions the English are taking to obstruct transport of munitions to the Americans by French ships."

6. In the margin: "M^d. Weymouth promet de donner la preuve que le navire l'*aimable Reine* étoit un Bâtiment hollandois adapté pour porter des marchandises à la *Caroline*." "My Lord Weymouth

promises to give proof that the ship *aimable Reine* was a Dutch ship fitted to carry merchandise to the Carolinas." For *l'Aimable Reine*, see Ruste de Rezeville Frères to Comte de Vergennes [on or before 6 Feb.], below.

7. In the margin: "M^d. Weymouth prie M. de Noailles de ne point ajouter foi aux propos du Lord Cambden lui avoit dit que les ports de France étoient bloqués par des Vaisseaux Anglois." "My Lord Weymouth begs M. de Noailles to give no credit in relation to Lord Camden's having said to him that the ports of France are blockaded by English ships."

8. In the margin: "M de Noailles cite à M^d. Weymouth une lettre de Nantes qui annonçoit qu'on s'y regardoit comme bloqué par les anglois." "M. de Noailles quotes to My Lord Weymouth a letter from Nantes that said that people perceived the city as being blockaded by the British."

On 2 Feb., during debate in the Committee on the State of the Nation, Lord Camden said: "Notwithstanding the pacific assurances, and the delusive private promises and public acts, which had been boasted of with so much parade, it is now known that the ports of L'Orient and Nantz are blocked up by a British naval force. Three frigates are now cruising off those ports, to intercept succours going to America, and to put a stop to that very commerce which the French king, in his public edicts, pretends to prohibit. If ministers should carry their threats into execution, and, from remonstrating, resort to open force, he had not a doubt but a war must be the consequence." *The Parliamentary History of England* 19: 665.

PHILIP STEPHENS TO VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON

Sir

[*Admiralty Office*] 6th Feb^{ry}. 1778

I have receiv'd &. communicated to my Lords Commiss^{rs}: of the Admty your Letter of the 7th Sep^r informing them of the arrival of the *Badger* &. that you had remov'd Cap^m Everitt her Commander into the *Antelope* Capt^m. Judd having been oblig'd to quit her on account of his ill state of health & appointed Lieu^t Mich^l Everitt to succeed to the Command of the *Badger* &. M^r Manley Dixon Lieu^t of that Sloop in his room which I am to acq^t you meets with their Lordships approbation &. it is their direction that you give them firm Commiss^{ns}: conformably thereto.¹

I have likewise receiv'd your Letter of the 25th. Oct^r &. laid the same before their Lordships who approve of your sending the *Porpoise*, at the request of the Governor of Jamaica, to remove Troops from one Part of that Island to another &. of your giving the like assistance in future, when the Governor shall apply for it, &. does not interfere with other more essential services.²

Their Lordships likewise approve of the Orders you have given, upon the *Badgers* arrival in so bad a Condition, for repairing her if possible &. if that could not be done of your purchasing another armed Vess^l as you intend to serve in her room.³

I am also to signify their approbation of your having ordered a Vess^l to be purchased for the men expeditiously watering the Ships as the Sloop *Flying Fish* is not of herself sufficient for that purpose.⁴

Their Lordships are very much pleas'd with the account you give of the Gallant behaviour of M^r Jordan who you appointed to act as Lieu^t in the comm^d of the *Racehorse* Armed Sloop (during the Indisposition of Lieu^t M^cNamara) in taking a Rebel Privatier of 12 Guns &. also with that of his Officers &. People &. they approve of your intention of giving him a Commissⁿ. appointing him a Lieut^t⁵

Your Letter of the 17th Nov^r by the Packet has likewise been receiv'd in which you give an account that it having been found impracticable to refit the *Badger* &. she had upon survey been condemned You had ordered a Brig to be purchased into which you had remov'd her Officers &. People &. directed the Naval Storekeeper to draw upon the Navy Board for the Amount of her purchase, &. the

Master Shipwright to refit her as an Armed Vessel which I am to acq^t you their Lordships approve of.⁶

They also approve of your stationing an Armed Vess^l constantly in the Bay of Honduras during the Present Rebellion as the Inhabitants of those parts had represented to you that an American Privatier had been there &. cut out three of their Vess^{ls} &. of your having always an Armed Vess^l at Turkey Island to prevent the Rebels having an Intercourse with the Inhabitants of those Islands if the Ships &. Vess^{ls} under your command will enable you to do it consistantly with other Services.⁷

You have their Lordships approbation of purchasing an Armed Vessel in Lieu of the *Ostrich* (which you had sent home with a Convoy) & of your giving M^r Jordan the Command of her with a Lieu^{ts}. Commission.⁸

My Lords approve of the assistance you order'd to the Ship laden with Provisions for the Government Service bound to Pensacola which had put into Jamaica, with His Maj^{ty}. Ship the *Daphne*, with the loss of her foremaster. . . .⁹ I am &c.

P.S.

P.S

Their Lordship have acq^d. the Comittee of West India Merchants with what you mention in your Letter of the 17th Nov^r respecting the sending Convoys thro' the Gulph at that Season of the Year.

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/556, fols. 367–69. Addressed after the close: “Vice Adm^l Gayton Jamaica/By the Active.]”

1. In the margin: “Approve of several appointments.” For Gayton’s letter of 7 Sept. 1777, see *NDAR* 9: 894.

2. In the margin: “Approve of employing the *Porpoise* as requested by the Governor.” For Gayton’s letter of 25 Oct. 1777, see *NDAR* 10: 294–96.

3. In the margin: “Approve of the orders given for the repair of the *Badger*.”

4. In the margin: “Approve of the purchase of a Vessel for Watering the Squadron.”

5. In the margin: “The Board are much pleased with the gallant behaviour of M^r Jordan in the *Racehorse*, and approve of his intention to appoint him a Lieutenant.” The vessel Jordan captured was the letter of marque sloop *Guest*, Edward Kaller, commander. *NDAR* 10: 217.

6. In the margin: “Approve of a y^e purchase of a vessel in the room of the *Badger* &c.” For Gayton’s letter of 17 Nov. 1777, see *NDAR* 10: 523–25.

7. In the margin: “Approve of stationing an armed vessel in the Bay of Honduras, and one at Turks Island.”

8. In the margin: “Permitted to purchase a Vessel in lieu of the *Ostrich*.”

9. In the margin: “Approve of assistance given to a Storeship.” A paragraph relating to a complaint of the master shipwright of Jamaica against a Royal Navy officer is omitted here.

LORD STORMONT TO LORD WEYMOUTH

Most Confidential

Paris friday night feb. 6 1778

My Lord—

as I cannot alter the falsehood and perfidy of this court my principal object must be to disclose it more and more and to this essential Part of my Duty I direct my constant attention.

I have just rec^d. the following important information from such a Quarter as I must say leaves me no doubt of the Truth of it.

M. La Motte Piquet who is now lying off Bellisle with three Ships of the Line and four frigates will by positive orders from this Court convoy the following

american and french Ships which will sail from Nantz on Tuesday or Wednesday next. viz

a Frigate pierced for 36 Guns but mounting only 28 Nine Pounders, laden with stores and goods for the Congress and commanded by Capt Nicholson He has with him a french captain and french officers, his crew too is french except seventy English and Irish Sailers. He is but badly manned.¹

a Ship mounting Eighteen Guns, commanded by Capt Young, richly laden for the Congress.²

The Brune a french East India Man purchased by one Ross agent for america Her Cargo which is for the account of the Congress is valued at Fifty thousand Pound Sterling The whole Crew is french except a M^r Brown³ an american super-cargo.

Two other ships laden on account of the Congress by M^r Williams the Rebel Agent at Nantz.⁴

Two french Ships laden also for Ditto, but fitted out on private french account.⁵

a french Ship very richly laden belonging to M. Pennet a Merchant at Nantz This Ship has all french Papers for S^t Domingo & will not sail with the Rest. She is bound to South Carolina. All the others are bound to Boston.

The amphitrite, now called the Ranger,⁶ commanded by Capt Jones mounting 18 Guns is to join in convoying the abovementioned ships to a certain Latitude and is then to proceed upon a Cruize I have read Jones' General cruising orders in which he is enjoined to carry his Prizes to Bilboa or the Corunna.⁷

M. La Motte Piquet is to convoy these ships to a certain Latitude only My informer could not tell me the exact Latitude but says the Convoy is to sail with them about two hundred and fifty Leagues. He, La Motte, has been hovering about the Coast for some time waiting for these ships and complains of delays. He is at this moment as I have already said in the Road of Bellisle. on application from the Rebel agents who rec^d a Courier from Nantz on wednesday morning orders were sent Him that Night to wait for the ships from Nantz which are certainly to sail the middle of next week

I think I am now able to speak to Your Lordship with some Precision with regard to the Treaty between this Court and the Rebels. My Informer assures me it is actually signed. but D^r Franklin not thinking himself authorized to grant all the Demands made by France has signed sub spe Rati.⁸

It is a Commercial Treaty for thirty Years. What the Conditions are I do not yet know. They are probably highly advantageous to France and in return for these advantages She agrees to support the Independency of the Colonies and assist them with Ships of War What Number of ships my Informer could not tell me, but is positive there is such a Stipulation in the Treaty. I questioned him upon that Point again and again & his answers were Uniform.

The original of this Treaty was as Yr Lordship knows sent by Deanes Brother⁹ a Duplicate is now sent by Capt Nicholson who has given a Receipt for it. Carmichael refused to take charge of it as he found himself suspected and the particulars of the Treaty concealed from Him.

The french Ministers have desired the Rebel agents to avoid any thing that could tend to bring on any disagreeable Discussion between England and France

till such Time as the Ratification of the Treaty arrives from america after its arrival France promises to take an open and decided Part.

Franklin is authorized to open a Loan of Two Million Sterling on account of the United States as they call themselves. I have read his Instructions upon that Head He says the Loan fills very fast.

Tho my Informer is positive that M La Motte Piquet has at present only three Ships of the Line and four frigates Yet He may soon collect a larger Force as there are certainly several Ships at Brest that are quite ready to put to Sea. I have no Doubt that he has orders to protect the Ships under his Convoy at Every Hazard and as I am persuaded our Rivals do us the Justice to believe that if these Ships fall in our way we shall not let them pass, it is very natural they should expect immediate war. so much depends upon Celerity in such Times as these that I certainly should have dispatched an extraordinary Messenger on this occasion if it had not happened that General Smith¹⁰ who is so good as to take charge of this Dispatch sets out tomorrow Morning and will I dare say travel as fast as any Messenger. I am [&c.]

Stormont.

Stevens's Facsimiles, vol. 21, no. 1857. Addressed at foot of first page: "Lord Visct Weymouth." Docketed: "Paris 6th. Feb. 1778/Lord Stormont/(most confidential)/R. 12th Feb./by Gen^l Smith."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Deane*.
2. Continental Navy sloop *Independence*.
3. John Green. The captain of John Ross's other vessel, the *Henrietta*, was Patrick Brown.
4. *Duc de Choiseul* and *Duchesse de Grammont*.
5. *Henrietta* and *Trois Amis*.
6. Stormont was misinformed about the identity of the *Ranger*.
7. American Commissioners in France to Captain John Paul Jones, 16 Jan., above.
8. "In the hope of a decision."
9. Simeon Deane did not leave Brest until 8 Mar. on board the French frigate *Sensible*.
10. Probably Lt. Col. Edward Smith, British Army.

RUSTE DE REZEVILLE FRÈRES TO COMTE DE VERGENNES

A Monseigneur Le Comte De Vergennes
Ministre & Secretaire d'Etat au
Departement des Affaires Etrangeres./

[Paris, on or before 6 Feb. 1778]

Les Sieurs Ruste de Rezeville frères, Negociants a la Martinique ont l'honneur de mettre sous Vos yeux les Pieces relatives a la Prise de leur Navire l'*Aimable Reine* au Sujet de laquelle Monsieur De Sartine a bien Voulu Vous ecrire au mois de Janvier d^{er} sur les representations de la Chambre de Commerce de Dunkerque & de M^{rs}. Emery pere & fils neg^{ts} et leurs Commettants au dit lieu./¹

Ce Batiment expedié de Dunkerque en 8^{bre} 1776 pour la Martinique a fait sa traite a S^c Pierre d'où il est reparti le 16 Juillet 1777 avec un Chargement de Sucre, Caffé, Rhum, Indigo & Tabac.

Il approchoit des Côtes de France sans avoir fait aucune Escale, lorsqu'il a été arreté par une flotte de Onze Navires Marchands Anglois qui portoient des Vivres a l'armée Royale dans le Continent de l'Amerique./—

Le S^c Paul Berthelot Capitaine du Navire l'*aimable Reine* Cedant a la force fut obligé d'Essuyer la Visite de sa Cargaison par le S^c William Madeows capitaine du Navire Le *Cigne*² et Commandant de la flotte Angloise. On luy declara que la Tabac

& l'Indigo qu'il avoit a bord estoient des objets de Contravention Comme Productions de l'amerique Septentrionale: Malgré Ses representations, on saisit son Brigantin et Ses Papiers, et on le Conduisoit a New-Yorck, ou il arriva le 1^{er} 8^{bre}. /—

Le Cap^{ne}. Berthelot essaya les traitements les plus durs dans Ce pays là où la Guerre suscitoit alors la plus grande disette des choses les plus necessaires a la Vie. Ce fut avec la plus grande peine qu'il parvint a deffendre sa Cause par une procedure reglée. elle eut enfin lieu et par Jugement de l'Amirauté de Neuw-Yorck du 2. Decembre, On prononca la Confiscation de 45 Boucauds de Tabac et 23 futailles d'Indigo. Le Cap^{ne} Berthelot eut ensuite la liberté de remontre son Batiment. apres s'etre reparé et avituallé, il mit a la Voile le 19. X^{bre}. & arriva a Dunkerque le 20. Janvier 1778. Cependant il avoit fait des Protestations pardevant un Notaire de Neuw-Yorck, tant Contre la Saisie, la Procedure, & la Confiscation, que contre le refus qui lui a été fait de lui remettre l'acquit a Caution qui Justifioit de son Chargement regulierement operé á la Martinique. /—

Les S^{rs}. Ruste de Rezeville Freres Joignent icy cette Protestation avec La procedure Angloise et les Connoisements ainsi que les factures legalisés à Dunkerque pour supplier l'acquit a Caution retenu a Neuw-Yorck, & dont il peut etre demandé au besoin une 2^{eme} Expedition a la Martinique.

Tel a été le Procedé des Anglois contre l'Injustice desquelles S^{rs}. Ruste de Rezeville Freres reclament Votre Protection, Monseigneur, pour qu'il vous plaise en Ecrire a Monsieur l'Ambassadeur de France a Londres où les lenteurs et le Subtilité de la Justice Angloise ne leur presentent, sans ce Secours, qu'une perspective affligeante. Il s'agit en effet de poursuivre contre les Armateurs du Navire *Le Cigne* comme garanti des Excès de leur Capitaine le Recouvrement tant du prix des Denrées Confisquées, que des Dispenses excessives faites a Neuw-Yorck pour la Procedure, la Subsistence de l'Equipage, & les Reparations et avituaillements du Navire, Independamment des Dedommagements resultant du Retard dans l'expédition et du deperissement tant du Batiment qui est hors d'état de Navigue que de la Cargaison qui est entierement avariée et par consequent est pure perte. Les Circonstances presentes ne peuvent qu'augmenter les Allarmes des supliants qui traitoient en toutes Confiance d'après les assurances données par le Ministere François d'accord avec le Ministere Britanique que l'on pourvoit en toute Sureté charger aux Isles Françaises, même les Denrées du Crû de l'amerique Angloise sans egard pour les moyens par lesquels elles y auroient été importées. /—

L'un des f^{ts}. Rustes de Rezeville, actuellement a Paris, Vous supplie, Monseigneur, de Vouloir bien le rendre porteur de Votre Depêche pour M. l'Ambassadeur. Il se propose de passer incessamment a Londres pour y suivre son action suivant les Loix du Royaume et les Principes de la Politique envers lesquels il n'a Commis aucune infraction. /³

[Translation]

To Comte de Vergennes
Minister and Secretary of
State for Foreign Affairs
[Paris, on or before Feb. 6, 1778]

Messrs. Ruste de Rezeville Brothers, merchants from Martinique, have the honor to show you items relating to the seizure of their ship *L'Aimable Reine*, a sub-

ject about which M. de Sartine was kind enough to write you last January, including statements from the Chamber of Commerce of Dunkerque and from Messrs. Emery, father and son, merchants and their principals from the said place.¹

This ship left from Dunkerque in October 1776 for Martinique and did her trading at St. Pierre, from which she departed again on 16 July 1777 with a lading of sugar, coffee, rum, indigo, and tobacco.

She was heading for the coast of France without having put into any port, when she was stopped by a fleet of 11 English merchant ships which were carrying provisions to the Royal Army on the Continent of America.

M. Paul Berthelot, Captain of the ship *L'Aimable Reine*, was forced to submit to an inspection of his cargo by Mr. William Madeows, captain of a ship called the *Swan*² and commander of the English fleet. They told him that the tobacco and indigo he had on board were contraband, since they were products of North America: in spite of his explanations, they seized his brigantine and his papers and escorted her to New York, where she arrived on 1 October.

Captain Berthelot was subjected to very rough treatment in that country, where the war was creating the greatest scarcity of vital necessities. It was with the utmost difficulty that he managed to present his case through established procedure. The trial finally took place, and by judgment of the Admiralty Court of New York on 2 December, they pronounced the confiscation of 45 casks of tobacco and 23 casks of indigo. Captain Berthelot was then released to return to his ship, and after making repairs and obtaining fresh supplies, he set sail on 19 December and arrived in Dunkerque on 20 January 1778. However, he had lodged some protests through a notary in New York against the seizure of his ship, his trial, and the confiscation of his cargo, as well as their refusal to return to him his custom-house bond which was proof of his lading according to regulations at Martinique.

Messrs. Ruste de Rezeville Brothers attach to this formal protest the English trial record and shipping papers, as well as the invoices authorized in Dunkerque for obtaining the custom-house bond retained in New York and which will require a second journey to Martinique.

Such was the English trial against justice, from which the Ruste de Rezeville Brothers seek your protection. Sir, if you would be kind enough, please write to the French ambassador in London, where the slowness and underhandedness of the English justice system presents them, without this aid, only a vexing outlook. What needs to be done is to sue the outfitters of the ship the *Swan*, as they are responsible for the excesses of their captain, and for reimbursing the price of the confiscated goods, as well as the excessive expenses incurred in New York for the trial, subsistence for the crew, and the repairs and fresh supplies for the ship, apart from damages resulting from the delay in the voyage and the deterioration of the ship, which is not seaworthy, and of the cargo, which is completely spoiled, and in consequence a sheer loss. The present circumstances can only increase the fears of the petitioners, who were trading in full confidence because of the assurances given by the French Minister in agreement with the British Minister that they could in complete safety ship goods to the French islands—even raw materials from English America—without regard for the means by which they might have been imported there.

One of the Rustes de Rezeville Brothers, currently in Paris, begs you, Sir, to please allow him to carry your express dispatch to the ambassador. He proposes to go straight to London to follow up on his suit according to the laws of the kingdom and the principles of policy which he has never violated in any way.³

Copy, FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 528, fols. 256–57. Notation below the date line: “6 fev. 1778.” Notations in the margin: “ecrit à M^{ls} de Noailles le 6 fev. 1778”; “Le V^{au}. l’*aimable Reine* reclamation de Tabac et Indigo Saisis Sur ce navire”; “6 Feb. 1778”; “wrote Marquis de Noailles on 6 February 1778”; “The ship l’*Aimable Reine*, reclamation of Tobacco and Indigo taken on this ship.”

1. Sartine forwarded to Vergennes the claim of Emmerly, Father and Son, to the goods seized from l’*Aimable Reine* on 11 Jan. Ibid., fol. 83. Vergennes passed the claim on to the Marquis de Noailles, the French ambassador in London, who brought it to the attention of Lord Weymouth. Noailles to Weymouth, 27 Jan. Ibid., fols. 169–70. Weymouth referred the matter to the Admiralty, and they referred it to Commodore William Hotham to investigate at New York. Weymouth to Noailles, 28 Jan., ibid., fol. 171; Philip Stephens to William Hotham, 4 Feb., UKLPR, Adm. 2/556, fol. 365.

2. Ship *Swan*, William Meadows, master, 500 tons, built in Virginia in 1767, rebuilt and lengthened to carry 18 guns in 1776. *Lloyd’s Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

3. Having received a copy of this letter, Noailles wrote Weymouth again to protest the seizure of l’*Aimable Reine’s* cargo. Noailles asserted that the North American produce became neutral French property on its transfer at Martinique. Marquis de Noailles to Lord Weymouth, 24 Feb., NDAR 8: 608–9, where it is misdated 1777.

JOHN ROSS TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

The Hon^{ble}. the Commissioners.

Nantes 6 February 1778.

Hon^{ble}. Gentlemen

I had the honour to address you on the 29 Ult^o. on the business of M^r Thomas Morris late Commercial Agent now deceased, and tho not as yet favoured with Your answer, doubt not Your attention to those measures, Proper to command possession & a liberty of Inspection into those Books & papers now under Seals.—

The Ship *La Brune* under the direction & command of Captain John Green of Philadelphia, being now I trust at Noirmoutier, takeing the goods on board for his intended Voyage, will barring Accidents be in readiness to proceed in a few days as Soon as any of them, and Compleatly fitted as a Ship of Force with Twenty double fortified Sixes on his Gun Dack, which with Stores, Six months provisions & Watter for Seventy to Eighty men, take up much Stowage.—

I have purchased the *La Brune* last Sept^r on Private Acco^t allotting the present Cargo, to make an outward Freight for her, but finding now, that she may not probably, (with Stores provisions &c^a already on board,) Carry so much goods as will entitle the Owners to a Freight adequate to the expences incurred in those outfitts as a ship of force. At the same time, from that desire which I hope ever to make my invariable Rule, of gaurding against every reflection and Cause of even suspition, as being too Interested in any Part of my management in the Concerns of the Public.—I have come to the Resolution Hon^{ble}. Gentlemen, to Propose to you, to assign and make over with your approbation, the *La Brune* to the American united States at first Cost, and As such to Proceed intyrelly on their Account & Risque, the Cargo now shipping being the property of the Public.—Am pretty Considerably in Advance already for the United States, and tho this adds to the Account, hope soon to Receive my Reimbursement by one means or other—By this Proposed Arrangement Gentlemen the Stipulation of Freight prove’s unnecessary, and the Public will have a good Ship, exceedingly Cheap, & fitted with much

greater Economy, then any of hir Size & goodness, hitherto fitted of equal force in either Europe or America for the States—

Your Opinion therefore on this subject hope to Receive in Course, to govern me in the necessary dispatches for Captain Green. Meantime should you approve and accept of my Proposal for the benefite of the Public, I must take the liberty to Solicite a Continental Commission favour of Capt: Green, which if agreed to, I shall venture to pledge my honour he will not discredit the truste Reposed in him in the Service of his Country. In which case he will also Proceed under the Particulare instructions of the Hon^{ble} Commissioners, in Concert with Nicholson,¹ should it appear to them necessary.

I should wish to know, whether this fleet is destined for the Northern or Southern States.—that the Small Vessels may keep by them, if approved of likewise—I have the honour to be [&c.]

Jn^o Ross

N:B—Should the Public Accept of the *La Brune* in Consequence of this—it is necessary the Commission to Capt: Green be filled up under your own directions—Accordingly beg you May be pleased to give any other Name to this Ship, you judge Proper—Burthen about 450 Tons or thereabouts—mounting Twenty Cariage Guns, and Navigated by [*blank*] Men. All my dispatches will be in readiness before I can Receive Your answer, & hope the Ship at Quiberon bay with the fleet preparing to take the first fair wind—So soon therefore as your answer to this reach me, am to forward my Letters by express.—J:R.

L, CtY, Mason-Franklin Collection. Addressed at foot of last page: "To the Hon^{ble}. Benjamin Frankline/Siles Deane and Arthur Lee Esq^{rs}/Commissioners of the American States at Paris." Docketed: "Jn^o Ross Esq^r Lett^r/Feb^y 6th. 1778—" and "Feb^y 6. 1778."

1. Captain Samuel Nicholson, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Deane*.

February 7

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY
TO COMMMANDER ALEXANDER AGNEW, R.N.

By &c

You are hereby required & directed to put to Sea in the Sloop you command¹ with the very first opportunity of Wind & Weather & proceed & Cruize between S^t Abbs-head & Cromarty for the protection of the Trade of His Majestys Subjects and diligently to look out for and to use your best endeavours to take or destroy any Privatiers or other ships or Vessels belonging to the Rebellious Colonies of N^o. America which you may be able to come up with And also to intercept Seize & bring into Port agreeable to the Printed Instructions for that purpose which you will receive herewith any Ships or Vessels having Wool Brandy or other Prohibited Goods on board or which may be carrying on any unlawful Clandestine Trade

And in case you should receive Intelligence which may be depended upon of any such Ships or Vessels being in parts contiguous to, tho not within the Station hereby assigned You, You are at Liberty to proceed in quest of them; taking care to return to the said Station when you shall have taken or destroyed them, driven them away or be well convinced that none such are there

You are to avail yourself of all opportunities of procuring Men for His Majestys Fleet & after completing your own Complement, to bear the remainder on a Supernumerary List for Victuals until you shall have an opportunity of putting them on board one of the Tenders employed under the direction of the Hon^{ble} Cap^t Napier² who superintends & Regulates the Service of raising Men for His Majestys Fleet at Edinburgh & Leith; taking care to Deliver with them a List of their Names with the times they respectively enter'd or were Pressed into the Service that they may be borne for Wages accordingly on the Books of the Ships wherein they may be appointed to serve; and to send to our Secretary from time to time an Account of the number you may procure & how you dispose of them.

During your continuance on the above mentioned Station & Service you are to call at Leith as often as you conveniently can to enquire for Orders & not finding any to the contrary to return and Cruize & call there again in like manner until you receive further order. Given &c 7th Feby. 1778

Sandwich
J Buller
H. Palliser

By &c PS

Two Press Warrants (same as in Vol. P.)
Two Printed Instructions (same as in Vol. P.)

signd Sandwich
S Spencer
H. Palliser

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/104, fols. 126–27. Addressed at foot: “Cap^t Agnew—*Hazard* Sl^o. Nore.”

1. H.M. sloop *Hazard* (8 guns).
2. Hon. Capt. Charles Napier, R.N.

JAMES SUTTON AND COMPANY TO LORD WEYMOUTH

My Lord

We beg leave to lay before your Lordship the following Extract of a letter received by us this day from Mess^{rs}. Lynch Killikelly & Morony of Bilbao, informing us of the Capture of the ship *Hope* Cap^t William Butler & her Cargo, bound from Newfoundland to a market the property of M^r Robert Eustace & C^o. of Waterford, by a Cutter¹ belonging to the Rebel Privateer—commanded by Cunningham.

James Sutton & C^o

Bilbao 21 Janu^r 1778

“By ours of the 31st. Ult^o. we advised how the storm had drove in here Cap^{ts}. Cunningham, Babson, & Hibbert, & are now sorry to tell you that a Virginia man with Tobacco coming to Mess^{rs}. Gardoquis from San Ander being taken by a Guernsey Privateer near S^t. Oña they dispatched immediately Cunninghams Cutter as a prime Sailor double mann’d in quest of her & the same day he sailed which was the 10th. he fell in with the *Hope* Capⁿ. William Butler, took Her & the 16th. sent her in here but Capⁿ. & Crew remain on board the privateer, we immediately presented a petition to our Consulado to have the bar pilot of the prize sworn to declare the distance the Ship was from Soare when taken but to no Effect for he deposed it was the day after she was taken he got on board & that about four Leagues from Castro, our B P Killikelly is gone to Castro & S^t. Oña to see if he can get any

Insight of the distance, but we fear our diligences will prove ineffectual—the Cutter continued her course towards Guernsey & its probable, Butler & Crew will be put on Shore far from hence—we know not as yet if our Court will permitt the landing here of this cargoe but of what occurs shall advise you—all this please to impart to M^r Eustace for whose Loss are very sorry & wish him better luck hence forw^d.”

By the above your Lordship will be sensible of the manner in which M^r Eustace has been deprived of his Property, we therefore humbly hope your Lorship will be pleased to order such Measures to be taken as your Lordship may judge conducive to the recovery thereof. We are [&c.]

James Sutton & Compy²

Dyers Court Aldermanburry
the 7 February 1778

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fol. 54. Docketed: “Dyers Court Aldermanburry/7 feb^y 1778/M^r James Sutton & C^o/R. D^o.”

1. Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*, Capt. Gustavus Conyngham, commander.
2. Enclosed in Lord Weymouth to Lord Grantham, 20 Feb., below.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, February 1778*]

7th. Saturday Pleas^t w^r Finished Plastering our Roof M^r Rowe has again Rec^d orders from the Board Relative to our Chimneys

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

SILAS DEANE TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Dear Sir

Paris Feb^y 7th 1778

Before y^e Rec^t of yours proposing to take the Shipp^s under Convoy that are bound for America the Commiss^{rs} had taken a diff^t Arrangement which they cannot alter. They are sensible of your Zeal and Attention to the Interest of the United States & must leave it to Your Own Judgment whither or not to accompany these Shipp^s off the Coast, you may probably be of mutual service to each other and you will soon if not already acquainted with the reason for our not Complying literally with Your proposal I have the honor to be &c &c— SD

LB, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. Addressed at foot: “J. P. Jones Esq^r”

February 9 (Monday)

“PROCEEDINGS IN THE LORDS RESPECTING THE COMMERCIAL LOSSES OCCASIONED BY THE AMERICAN WAR”

[Extract]

Feb.9. The order of the day being read, for taking into further consideration the State of the Nation, the House went into a Committee.

The Earl of *Sandwich* said, that the noble duke (of Richmond) had brought a number of persons to prove certain facts relative to the commerce of this country; that in order to prevent an *ex parte* evidence from going abroad, without having the other side enquired into, such as what losses the rebellious colonies had sustained, to balance our loss, he would beg permission to call Mr. George Gostling. . . .

Mr. *George Gostling* was ordered to the bar, who, upon several questions put to him, answered substantially as follows: That he was a proctor in the court of Admiralty. [Here lord Sandwich delivered him in a list of prizes taken from the Americans, to the number of 38, and asked him whether he could swear to the condemnation of these ships? Mr. Gostling answered, he could, except two out of the list, which were then under condemnation. Aye, says my lord, that is the same thing.] Mr. Gostling then said, there were eleven more to be added to this list which were considered as Droits of Admiralty. Being cross-examined by the duke of Richmond, whether ships under condemnation were the same as ships absolutely condemned? He answered not, however probable it was they would be so. In respect to the value and appropriation of the cargoes, he answered, he could not exactly state the former, but the general appropriation of them were two-thirds to the captors, upon lawful prizes, and one-third when they were Droits of Admiralty. Being asked how the residue of the money was applied, and whether it was not given to discharge arrears of several of the officers of the Admiralty? He replied he had heard so. And being further asked by what law, or precedent the judges disposed of that money, and whether he, as a practitioner, could recollect any precedent for it being disposed of thus optionally? He said, he could not; but that he believed there were some precedents for it in queen Anne's wars.

Mr. *Samuel Enderby* deposed substantially as follows: That since the Prohibitory-Act, a new trade had been carried on in the southern fisheries of America, in which he was a considerable adventurer; that there were 15 ships then on the trade, and that their average tonnage was 170 ton each, and that the spermaceti whale was much more considerable in value than the common whale formerly taken. [Here lord Sandwich made a calculation, that supposing these ships brought but 100 tons each, the calculation would be 105,000*l*.] Being examined by the duke of Richmond and lord Camden, he said, that the general freight back run from 40 to 50 ton only, that he could not tell what might be their success this year, as the ships were not expected until about June; but he hoped it would be still increasing. He likewise spoke of two other fisheries, one on the coast of Africa, and the other on the banks of Newfoundland, which promised to turn out very considerable: that the ships that went on these voyages were manned generally with British sailors (except four Americans to each ship, who instructed the rest in harpooning) and that the profits of the outset of those ships, &c. centered with Great Britain, which formerly, as well as the profits of the fishery, were engrossed by New England men. Being asked, supposing this war at an end, whether the Americans, who he allowed to be more expert in this business than our people, would not be able to conduct this fishery to greater advantage, and undersell us at foreign markets? He believed they might. Being likewise asked what the price of insurance was upon this new trade? He answered 15 per cent. Being further asked, whether the very increased price of spermaceti whale, though it may be profitable

to individuals, did not hurt the general trade, so as to fall heavy on the consumers? He candidly replied, he could not speak precisely to the former part of that question: all he had to say upon it was, that his endeavours were to get as much by it as he could.

Mr. *George Davis* said he was 26 years concerned in the whale and cod fishery. In respect to the former he tried to take whales with men from England, but though they could strike them, and had struck several of late, he had not as yet taken one; but he was in hopes of succeeding better in a little time. In respect to the cod fishery, it was not decreased, but they wanted men for that service, and he had no doubt, if the lords of the Admiralty would discontinue pressing, there might be enough found for that service.—Adjourned.

The Parliamentary History of England 19: 714–15. For the beginning of these proceedings, see above at 6 Feb.; for their conclusion, see below at 11 Feb.

PHILIP STEPHENS TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR SICK AND HURT SEAMEN

Gentlemen

Admiralty Office 9 Febr'y 1778.

Having laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your Letter of the 6th instant, with the Extract of one from your Surgeon and Agent at Liverpoole, relative to the American Prisoners brought in there; I am to acquaint you that their Lordships have sent the same to the Earl of Suffolk in order to receive His Majesty's Pleasure upon the Subject; and in the mean time it is their Lordships direction that you signify to your Agent that he is not to prevent the Prisoners receiving any Supplies that may be offer'd by the Committee of Subscribers for the Relief of American Prisoners, mentioned in the said Extract, or by any other Persons. I am [&c.]

Php Stephens

L, UKLNMM, Adm./M/404. Addressed at foot of first page: "Commiss^s for Sick & Hurt." Notation at top of first page: "Recd—10th: & wrote to the Agent at Liverpool the same day."

GABRIEL DE SARTINE TO THE MARQUIS DE LA PRÉVALAYE
AND JEAN-FRANÇOIS-XAVIER FAISSOLE DE VILLEBLANCHE

[à Versailles]

Copie de la lettre du Ministre de la Marine à M^{rs}. de la Prevalaye et de Faissolle, en datte du 9. Fevrier 1778.

J'ai prevenue M^{rs}. M. de la Prevalaye par ma Lettre particuliere du 7. de ce mois que le Roi m'a adressé Les ordres pour faire armer à Brest une Escadre de 18. Vaisseaux. Je joins ici la Liste de ceux que Sa Majesté a choisis et je fais Savoir à M. de la Prevalaye par une autre de mes Lettres quels Sont les Officiers auxquels elle en a confié le Commandement.

Comme la Carene du V^{au} La *Couronne* est fraiche, ainsi que celle de l'*Artesien* et du *S^t Michel*, que le *Solitaire* a déjà reçu la Sienne, et que Sans doute vous vous ferez occupés de faire executer dans les Bassins celles du *Zodiaque* et de l'*Alexandre*, et à flot celles du *Glorieux* et du *Palmier*, du *Bienaimé* et du *Dauphin Royal*, j'ai fort assuré Sa Majesté que l'exécution de Ses ordres Souffrira d'autant moins de retardement qu'il est à presumer que l'*Orient*, le *Conquerant* et le *Magnifique* n'ont

pas besoin de Carenne et qu'ainsi il ne Sera plus question que est pourvoir à celle des Vaux. le *S^t Esprit*, le *Robuste*, le *Fendant*, l'*Intrepide* et l'*Actif*.

J'ai à vous observer par raport à l'*Intrepide* qui doit être rentré dans le Port, quil faut S'occuper tout de Suite de Sa Carenne et de son Rearmement.

A l'égard du *Reflechi* et de l'*Eveillé* l'intention du Roi est quil's restent en Rade jusqu'à nouvel ordre.

Le *Fendant* rentrera dans le Port aussi après Son arrivée et Sera Carenné et rearmé.

Le *Robuste*, l'*Actif* le Seront Successivement, et quoique le *Rolland* et le *Bizarre* ne fassent pas partie de la nouvelle Escadre, il faudra lorsqu'ils Seront de retour les laisser armés jusqu'à ce que le nombre des 18. Vaisseaux Soit [*illeg.*] completés en rade où ils représenteront *Robuste* et l'*Actif* qui ne pourront S'y rendre qu'après avoir été Carennés et armés.

En exeptant le *S^t Esprit* et la *Couronne*, tous les Vaisseaux pourront entrer en armement; les autres y entreront à mesure que leurs Carences Seront achevées.

Tous prendront 6. mois de vivres et quatre mois d'eau.

Les ordres pour les Levées ont été donnés de maniere à faire accelerer le plus quil Sera possible leur arrivée dans le Port.

Je vous recommande de m'informer des progrès de l'Armement et de demandes et ordres pour la mise en rade des Vaisseaux qui Se trouverront prête.

Je suis bien persuadé au Surplus que vous ne négligerez rien pour que les ordres du Roi Soient executés aussi promptement que la multiplicité des operations et les circonstances pourront le permettre.¹

J'ai lh. d'être &^{ce}. Signé de Sartine.

Pour Copie.

[Enclosure]

Liste des Vaisseaux qui doivent composer l'Escadre dont le Roi a ordonné l'armement.

Savoir.

Le <i>S^t Esprit</i> de	80. Canons.
La <i>Couronne</i>	id.
L' <i>Orient</i>	74.
le <i>Robuste</i>	id.
le <i>Glorieux</i>	id.
Le <i>Conquerant</i>	id.
le <i>Fendant</i>	id.
le <i>Magnifique</i>	id.
le <i>Palmier</i>	id.
l' <i>Intrepide</i>	id.
l' <i>Actif</i>	id.
le <i>Zodiaque</i>	id.
le <i>Bienaimé</i>	id.
le <i>Dauphin royal</i>	id.
L' <i>Artesien</i> de	64.
le <i>Solitaire</i>	id.
l' <i>Alexandre</i>	id.
le <i>S^t Michel</i> de	60.

[Translation]

[Versailles]

Copy of the letter from the Minister of the Marine to Messrs. de La Prévalaye and de Faissolle, dated 9 February 1778.

I informed M. M. de La Prévalaye by my private letter of the 7th of this month that the King had given me orders to have fitted out at Brest a squadron of 18 ships of the line. I enclose forthwith the list of those ships His Majesty has chosen and I have made known to M. de La Prévalaye in another of my letters the officers to whom he has entrusted their command.

As the careening of the ship the *Couronne* is recent, as well as those of the *Artésien* and the *S^t Michel*, and as the *Solitaire* had already been completed, and given that you are undoubtedly in the process of drydocking both the *Zodiaque* and the *Alexandre*, and making repairs while afloat of the *Glorieux*, the *Palmier*, the *Bienaimé*, and the *Dauphin royal*, I have strongly assured His Majesty that the execution of his orders will not be delayed, as it is presumed that the *Orient*, the *Conquérant*, and the *Magnifique* do not require careening nor will there be any longer the matter of providing it for the ships of the line the *S^t Esprit*, the *Robuste*, the *Fendant*, the *Intrépide*, and the *Actif*.

Regarding the *Intrépide* specifically, which ought to be returned to port, I must point out that it should be careened and refitted immediately.

In regard to the *Réfléchi* and the *Eveillé*, the King's intention is that they remain in the Roads until further orders.

Also after its arrival, the *Fendant* will be returned to port to be careened and refitted there.

The *Robuste*, the *Actif* will do so successively, and although the *Roland* and the *Bizarre* do not make up part of the new squadron, on their return they must be left armed until 18 ships of the line are readied in the Roads. Until such time, the *Roland* and *Bizarre* will stand in for the *Robuste* and the *Actif*, which will not be able to arrive there until they have been careened and fitted out.

With the exception of the *S^t Esprit* and the *Couronne* all the ships of the line will be able to enter while fitting out; the others will enter there as their careening is completed.

Each ship will carry six months' supply of provisions and four months' of water.

The orders for the raising of men have been given in a fashion to speed as much as possible their arrival in port.

I recommend that you inform me of the progress of the fitting out and of any requests or orders for sending the ships into the Roads as they become ready.

I am well persuaded, moreover, that you will overlook nothing so that the King's orders may be executed as promptly as the multiplicity of the operations and the circumstances may permit.¹

I have the honor to be etc. Signed de Sartine.

Copy.

[Enclosure]

List of Ships of the Line that should constitute the Squadron that the King has ordered fitted out.

Viz.

Le <i>S^t Esprit</i> of	80. Guns.
La <i>Couronne</i>	do.
L' <i>Orient</i>	74.
le <i>Robuste</i>	do.
le <i>Glorieux</i>	do.
Le <i>Conquérant</i>	do.
le <i>Fendant</i>	do.
le <i>Magnifique</i>	do.
le <i>Palmier</i>	do.
l' <i>Intrépide</i>	do.
l' <i>Actif</i>	do.
le <i>Zodiaque</i>	do.
le <i>Bienaimé</i>	do.
le <i>Dauphin royal</i>	do.
L' <i>Artésien</i> of	64.
le <i>Solitaire</i>	do.
l' <i>Alexandre</i>	do.
le <i>S^t Michel</i> of	60.

Copy, FrBAPM, série 1E 190, fols. 273–75. De La Prévalaye was chef d'escadre and directeur de l'arsenal at Brest and Faissolle de Villeblanche was commissaire général.

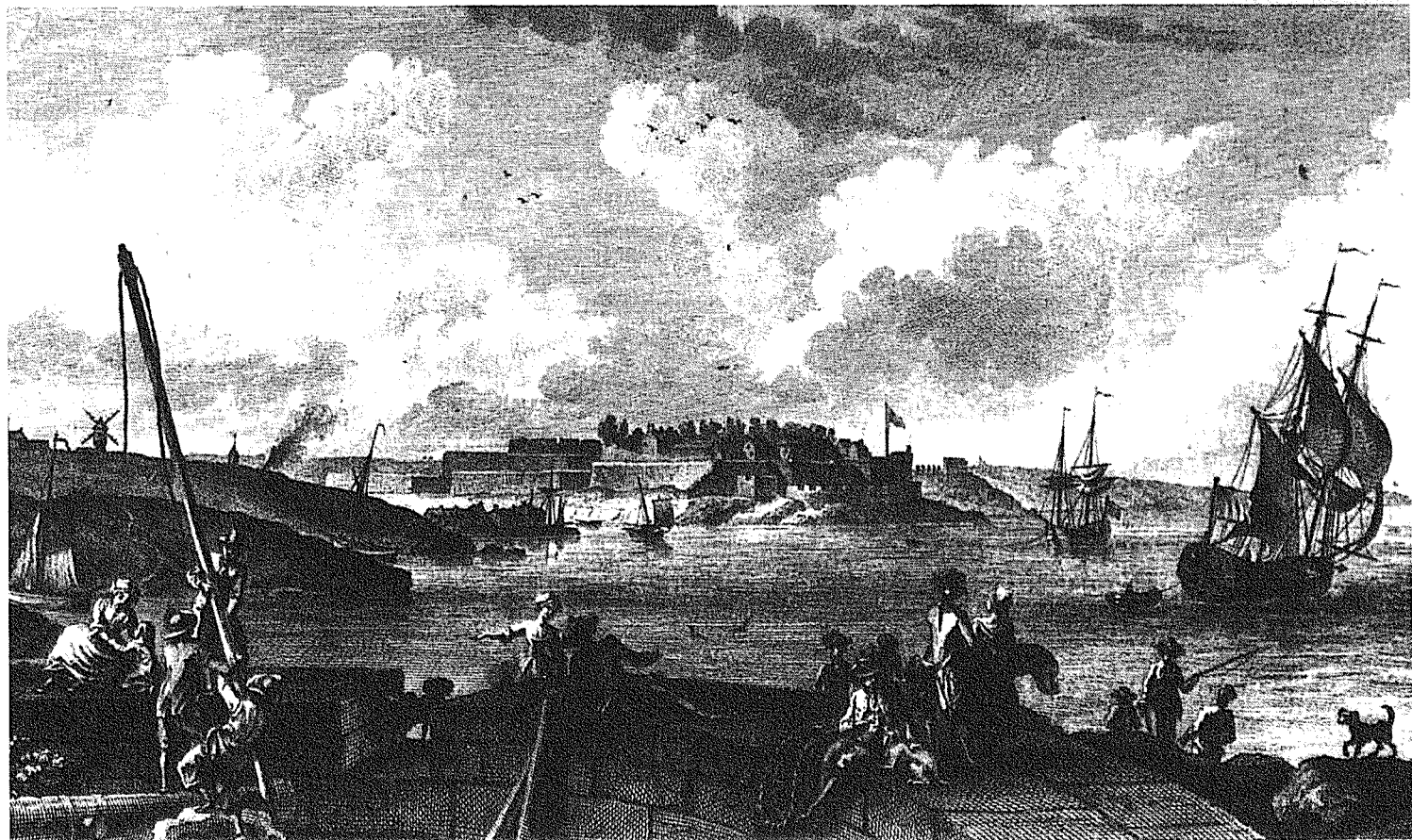
1. A month later, Sartine ordered seven more ships of the line at Brest fitted out: *Bretagne* (110), *Ville de Paris* (100), *Duc de Bourgogne* (80), *Réfléchi* (64), *Éveillé* (64), *Roland* (64), and *Bizarre* (64). He also ordered the remaining seven ships of the line at Toulon added to the first ten fitting out there. Sartine to de La Porte, 8 Mar., *ibid.*, fol. 521; Sartine to St. Aignan, 9 Mar. (the latter cited in Jonathan R. Dull, *The French Navy and American Independence: A Study of Arms and Diplomacy, 1774–1787* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1975), 105.

LIEUTENANT BOUX TO CAPITAINE DE VAISSEAU JACQUES BOUX

[Translation]

[Nantes, after 9 Feb. 1778]

You'll be perhaps Surprised to hear that I am Still at Nants & that I am not at S^t Nazere on board the *Lion*¹ which is the fregate I was destined for but I Shall tell you the whole of it & in the most minute details then you will See it is not my fault & how disagreeable it is to live with the Officers of this marine—Sunday last 8th. Inst^d I went on board, I was bearer of a Letter for the Cap. M^r Nickelson,² at first this man Received me politely enough for a Seafaring man & An American, but Some time after he told me he could not give me a passage for want of place on board his Ship & that he did not know how to lodge me, that M^r Dean³ had wrote to him to give me a Cabbin but there was none, I Answerd him that I did not want one & that in time of war there should be none on board but that I had My Hammock & requested he would give me a place to hang it, he told me there was none, after some pause, he told me all & that I can do for you is to put you over the Powder Room, If that can Suit you I'll get a couple of planks put there to divide it in two, I accepted it & Spent the night in this place it was impossible for me to Stay there, it having but 4 feet 6 Inchs length & 14 Inches breadth, it is impossible to move or breath in so Small a Space & the least one can have is one's length & breadth, the Next day Monday the 9th. I told him I could not Stay any longer in that place & that there was not Room enough, well Says he go on Shore & take your passage on board another Vessel if you chuse, for I cant do any thing



The entrance to Quiberon Bay

better for you, I begd he would give orders to lodge my chests Or have them put where they would not exposed to the injurys of the Air or to being Rummaged, he grew Angry & said, those foutu frenchmen what have they to do with us, certainly they're without any Ressources in their Own Country Since they Strive to Come to ours, to better their fortune & occupy places that are due to the Natives. when I heard that I lookd out for an opportunity to get up to Nants he gave me letter for M^r Williams⁴ & engaged him to procure me a passage on board another Vessel, this Gentleman told me that my passage onboard Another Vassel would Cost 20 Guineas & that he had orders to put me on board the *Lyon* because it belongd to the States. & for that reason he could not take upon him to put me elsewhere & Since M^r Nickelson Could not take me, I must Remain & wait another opportunity—

You know, my dear Uncle, that I Conceal Nothing from you, I know your tenderness for me, it encourages me to open my mind to you on the Subject of those people & to tell you the little I know of them, it is somewhat late, but however Soon enough to be on our gaurds, all the Frenchmen who go there with any rank is very ill Received, especially amonst the Seamen & I have Seen enough to be Convinced of the truth of what had been told me, the Small Stay I made on board has been made as Mortifying and Disagreeable as possible both by the Captain & officers there are eight Lieutenants on board, who if they had not an Uniform you would take them to be hired Coach Drivers & when the Captain Says any thing to them its only in Swearing & treating them like Slaves All those who Command do the Same So that I See if I go & embark according to my rank on board Any Vessel I'll be no More Spared than the others & Still lose as a frenchman, all the officers lookd on me with an air of Contempt & when I Spoke to any of them they turnd their backs in saying foutu frenchman.

I can assure you my dear Uncle that all this has given Me an Utter dislike to my project, & I rather be a great deal inferior than be exposed to be illtreated by animals of that kind—I can't say that I will not go there as I have no will of my own & that I shall always Submit to what ever You please. I wait with impatience Your Answer & Shall rule my Conduct according to the orders it will contain.⁵

Translation, PU, Annenberg Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Benjamin Franklin Papers. Docketed: "5./Translation of Boux's/Letter." The original letter has not been found.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Deane*, formerly *Lyon*.
2. Captain Samuel Nicholson, Continental Navy.
3. Silas Deane.
4. Jonathan Williams, Jr.

5. See Jonathan Williams, Jr., to the American Commissioners in France, 24 Feb., and Lieutenant Boux to the American Commissioners in France, 26 Feb., below.

February 10

*LLOYD'S EVENING POST, AND BRITISH CHRONICLE (LONDON),
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, TO WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1778*

Tuesday, February 10. London.

The *Alfred*, and *Raleigh* American privateers, the former of 32 guns, and the latter of 30, having not been heard of for some months past, it was supposed they

were gone to intercept some of the homeward bound East Indiamen before their arrival at the Island of St. Helena, where in future they mean to wait for a convoy; but the late news received from France on Friday last, which gives an account of a French East Indiaman having touched at the above Island, and brought the disagreeable news, that two American privateers had attacked the *Duke of Grafton* East Indiamen,¹ homeward-bound, which was lying there for convoy, leaves no room to doubt but that the *Raleigh* and *Alfred* privateers, were those who cut the above ship out. Accounts received by yesterday's Holland Mail say, that she sailed from the Cape of Good Hope the 27th of October. We do not find these reports authenticated at the India House.

1. An East Indiaman, S. Bull, master, 804 tons, built in 1768, J. Durand, owner. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Gentlemen,

Ranger Paimboeuf 10th Feb^y 1778.

I had the honor of writeing to you from Nantes the 27th Ult^o the affair of Quiberon¹ (which I did not then know of) is now in every Brokers mouth.—Strange! that nothing can remain Secret.—should I find that Force likely to depart within a few days I will Avail myself of its protection, especially as it is the general Opinion, that I can be of Service to the supply Ships, however unless something is determined very soon I shall depart alone. I heartily Congratulate you on the pleasing News, contained in the within paper² which I believe may be entirely depended upon as the informant appears to me to be very intelligent and well Affected to America.

Were any Continental Marine power in Europe disposed to Avail of the present Situation of Affairs in America, and willing to deserve our Friendship, a single Blow well directed would now do the needful.—Ten or Twelve Sail of the Line with Frigates well Equipped and provided would give a good Account of the Fleet under Lord How, for as that Force would be superiour to any One of How's divisions, the strongest being once taken—the Victorious Squadron might sail in quest of the next in Strength and reach it before Advice.—I know the genius of the English Seamen, haveing lived long on Salt provision would induce them to enter on the strongest Side where they would find better fare—the American Seamen would enter of course and in all probability many of the Officers would pull off the mask, and declare in favor of Heaven and America, Small squadrons might then be formed to scour the Coast and cut off the Enemies supplies while our Army settled the Account current.

However extravagant this calculation may appear on a slight View, it will not be found so in reality Had Lord How or any Commander in the Enemies Fleet an Idea or expectation of such a Visit—it is certain that the Attempt would be Folly and Madness, but as our Enemies ride in perfect Security—that Security would prove their ruin and insure our Success.—Whoever can surprize well must Conquer. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Jn^o P Jones

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 103. Addressed: "The Honorable B. Franklin/S. Deane, and A Lee Esq^s." Docketed: "Captⁿ. Jones/10 Feb. 1778."

1. John Paul Jones to the American Commissioners in France, 27 Jan., above. The affair of Quiberon was the plan for a number of merchant ships laden with munitions for the revolutionary forces in America to sail together under a French naval convoy.

2. See "Franklin's Copy of News Brought by Captain Jenkins," *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 25: 673-74.

February 11

"PROCEEDINGS IN THE LORDS RESPECTING THE COMMERCIAL
LOSSES OCCASIONED BY THE AMERICAN WAR"

Feb. 11. The Duke of *Richmond* rose, and after a short speech, wherein he recapitulated the evidence which had been given, acquainted their lordships that he had a few motions to make in consequence of that evidence, which were plain matters of fact, and which would be grounds for their lordships' farther deliberation. His motions were; 1. "That it appears to this House, that in the course of trade, a very considerable balance was always due from the merchants in North America, to the merchants of Great Britain, towards the discharge of which remittances were made in goods to a great amount, since the commencement of the present troubles, and whilst the trade between this kingdom and the colonies were suffered to remain open. 2. That since the passing the several Acts for prohibiting the fisheries of the colonies in North America, their mutual intercourse with each other, and all trade and commerce between them and this kingdom, and for making prize of their ships, and distributing the value of the same, as if they were the effects of our enemies, amongst the seamen of his Majesty's navy, the number of vessels belonging to Great Britain and Ireland, taken by ships of war and privateers, belonging to the said colonies, amount to 733. 3. That of the said 733 vessels, it appears that 47 have been released, and 127 retaken; but that the loss on the latter, for salvage, interest on the value of the cargo, and loss of a market, must have been very considerable. 4. That the loss of the remaining 559 vessels, which have been carried into port, appears from the examination of merchants, to amount to at least 2,600,000*l*. 5. That of 200 ships annually employed in the African trade, before the commencement of the present civil war, whose value, upon an average, was about 9,000*l* each, there are not now 40 of the said ships employed in the said trade, whereby there is a diminution in this branch of commerce of 160 ships, which at 9,000*l* each, amount to a loss of 1,440,000*l* per annum. 6. That the price of insurance to the West Indies and North America, is increased from 2, and 2 1/2, to 5 per cent. with convoy, but without convoy, and unarmed, the said insurance has been made at 15 per cent. but generally ships in such circumstances cannot be insured at all. 7. That the price of seamen's wages is raised from 30 to 65*s*. per month. 8. That the price of pot-ash is increased from 8 to 70*s*. per cwt. 9. That the price of spermaceti oil has increased from 35*l*. to 70*l*. per ton. 10. That the price of tar is raised from 7 and 8*s*. to 30*s*. per barrel. 11. That the price of sugars, and all commodities from the West Indies, and divers sorts of naval stores from North America, is greatly enhanced. 12. That the present diminution of the African trade, the interruption of the North American trade to the West Indies, and the captures made of the West India ships, have greatly distressed the British colonies in the West Indies. 13. That the numbers of American privateers, of which authentic accounts have been received, amount to 173; and that they carried 2,556 guns, and at least 13,540 seamen, reckoning 80 men in each ship. 14. That of the above privateers, 34 have been taken, which carried 3,217 men, which is more than 94 men to each vessel."

The Earl of *Sandwich* said, he all along, from the moment this enquiry into the state of the nation began, dreaded it; not on his own account, but on account of the general hurt it may produce, that of laying open difficulties and embarrassments (which he confessed this country was under) and which should not be laid open. If the noble duke who began this enquiry had calculated the losses of the country by capture of vessels, &c. before that should be admitted, there should be deducted the value of all the prizes taken by the English from the Americans, which, setting the number of prizes at 904, and each prize worth 2,000*l.* amounted to 1,808,000*l.* His lordship said, great advantages were gained by the new fisheries, and concluded, that though nobody wished an end to the war more than he did, yet the continuance of it was, in many respects, advantageous to this country, and would be more so.

The Duke of *Richmond* said, he was surprised to hear his lordships' detail urged as an argument for not deciding on this motion, as it did not mix with any other matter, but resulted from facts proved at their lordship's bar. He was, however, more surprised at the conclusion drawn from that detail, "that because a number of vessels had been taken, they were to be balanced by another number of vessels taken, on the other side, and consequently no loss to the nation upon the whole." I do not mean, said his grace, to be particularly pointed to individuals; and I hope the noble lord will permit me to separate at present the man from the office. I therefore say, speaking to be so understood, I do not wonder at all the distresses which have overwhelmed this country, when a noble lord at the head of the marine department of this nation, betrays such ignorance. What, my lords, when the merchants of this country have lost 733 ships, valued at above two millions of money; to say that the commerce of this country is not affected by such a loss, because an equal number of ships have been taken from the enemy, and the prizes distributed to British seamen! This is so far from being a balance in our favour, it adds to our loss, for if we were not at war with America, the value of all these cargoes in the circuitous course of trade must center with Great Britain. His grace then adverted to his question, which was no more than for the committee to allow, as a resolution, part of what had been already evidenced at the bar, and which would enable their lordships the better to see the grounds they stood on in respect to America, and consequently know what line to take.

The Earl of *Suffolk* opposed the motions on the impropriety of acknowledging what ought not to be acknowledged at so critical a period, the weakness of the nation: he said, the best way of going on in this business would be, to let all the papers lie on their lordships' table for general information, and do the best they could either to remedy defects, or otherwise, but by no means to resolve upon the national imbecility.

The Duke of *Grafton* called upon their lordships to consider the question they were to decide upon, which was a fact already established, and which their lordships could not refuse their assent to: he said, he did not know, nor was it material to know, what the noble duke afterwards meant to go into; so much was clear ground, and would be a very proper one for their lordships to form some resolutions upon respecting the present war with America.

A debate ensued about the mode of disposing of the question. Some were for putting it affirmatively or negatively, others a previous question; but as the latter

could not be adopted in the committee, a motion was made for lord Scarsdale quitting the chair, and the House divided: Contents 80; Non-contents 32. The committee being dissolved, the Lord Chancellor¹ resumed the woolpack, when the previous question, "That this motion be now put," being put separately, on the duke's Resolutions, they all passed in the negative, without a division.

The Parliamentary History of England 19: 715–18. For the beginning of these proceedings, see above at 6 and 9 Feb.

1. Henry Bathurst, 2d Earl Bathurst.

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO THE
COMMISSIONERS FOR SICK AND HURT SEAMEN

By the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain & Ireland &c.

In addition to what was signified to you by our Secretary's Letter of the 9th instant relative to the American Prisoners lately taken & brought into Liverpool;¹ you are hereby required and directed to cause the said Prisoners to be victualled, and supplied with Cloths and necessaries in the same manner as the Prisoners who are confined in the Prisons at Portsmouth & Plymouth, until you receive further Order concerning them. Given under our hands the 11th. of Feb^r. 1778.

By command of their Lordships
Ph^p. Stephens

J Buller.
Lisburne
Mulgrave

L, UKLNMM, Adm./M/404. Addressed at foot: "To/The Commissioners for taking/care of Sick and Hurt Seamen." Docketed: "Rec^d. 13th. Feb^r 1778/And wrote to the Admty & to Liverpool."

1. Philip Stephens to the Commissioners for Sick and Hurt Seamen, 9 Feb., above.

PHILIP STEPHENS TO VICE ADMIRAL CLARK GAYTON

Sir

[*Admiralty Office*] 11th. Feb^r. 1778.

The Committee of West India Merchants & Gentlemen of considerable Property in the Island of Jamaica, having upon their late attendance on my Lords Commiss^{rs}: of the Admiralty represented to their Lordships that some Rebel Privatiers had landed Men on the Northern Side of that Island, and had greatly alarmed, as well as done some Injury to the Inhabitants upon that part of the Island; I have it in command from their Lordships to signify their direction to you to station such part of the Squadron and your Command upon the Northern Coast of the Island of Jamaica, as may be proper for the protection & Security thereof, it falling as much within the principal Object of their Lordships Instructions to you as other parts of the said Island.¹ I am &c^a:

PS:

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/557, fol. 17. Addressed at foot: "Vice Admiral Gayton/or the Commander in chief of/His Majesty's Ships/at Jamaica." Notations: "Enclosed to S^r Tho^s: Pye, Vide Letter to him"; "By the *Active*/Duplicate by the Pacquet 10 Mar."

1. See Proceedings of Jamaica House of Assembly, 19 Nov. 1777, *NDAR* 10: 544–48, for a detailed account of privateer activity at Jamaica and complaints against Gayton for failure to provide sufficient protection.

AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE TO JOHN ROSS

M^r Ross
Sir

Paris Feb^y 11 1778

Yours of the 6th came to hand in Course;¹ as M^r W Lee will be with you before the receipt of this we refer you to him for what has been done as to the Late M^r Morris's Papers &c. In regard to the Ship purchased by you, Commanded by Capt. J. Green² which you Offer to Assign over to the Public account we are Content that you do it & Charge the amount to their Debit, either in part of the Sum advanced you through us or against the Sums you may have received from them. We depend that you will see every thing that relates to the equipping of this Ship Settled and adjusted in the best manner for the intrest of the Public, that so she may turn out to them, what you assure us of, the cheapest Vessel they have either purchased or equipped—Inclosed is a Blank Commission for Capt. Green³ which you will fill up & Deliver him—As he has a Cargo on board he must Act only on the Defensive on his Passage out—after his arrival he will attend such Orders as he may receive. If he sail in Company with Capt. Nicholson, let him do all in his Power to Keep with him thro: his whole Passage & for that Purpose he is to apply to Capt. Nicholson for his Signals, & orders on that Subject before he sails—Our Orders to Capt. Nicholson are to get into Boston or Portsmouth if he can, as we Consider those Ports as being the safest of any on the Continent at this Season we have nothing to add but are with Esteem Sir &c. &c.

S.D. in behalf of Com^{rs}.

Tell Capt. Nicholson his Brother has escaped from Prison & is arrived at Dunkirk & will be here in a day or two.⁴

LB, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers.

1. John Ross to the American Commissioners in France, 6 Feb., above.
2. *Brune*, John Green, master.
3. Immediately below.
4. Capt. John Nicholson, Continental Navy, the brother of Capt. Samuel Nicholson, Continental Navy, had been held in Forton Prison.

JOHN GREEN'S COMMISSION AS CAPTAIN IN THE CONTINENTAL NAVY

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 Green Esq^{re} of Philadelphia*

WE, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct and Fidelity, DO, by these Presents, constitute and appoint you to be Captain & Commander of the armed Frigate called the Queen of France in the Service 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 Commander & Capt. 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 Commander. 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.

DATED at Paris 11th. Februaury 1778—

By Order of the CONGRESS,

ATTEST. Cha^s Thomson sec^y

John Hancock PRESIDENT.

D, DNA, PCC, item 137, vol. 2, p. 31 (M247, roll 149). Printed document with blanks filled up. Underlining indicates handwritten portions. This commission was part of the supply the American Commissioners in France kept of blank commissions signed by the president of Congress.

GABRIEL DE SARTINE TO COMTE DE VERGENNES

A Versailles, le 11 Février, 1778

J'ai reçu, Monsieur, la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire et les deux pieces qui y étoient jointes, et qui vous ont été remises par M. le V^{te}. De Stormont, relativement à la propriété de l'*Ann Suzanna*¹ par l'examen que j'ai fait de ces pieces, j'ai vu que ce Bâtiment est le même que celui que cet Ambassadeur à réclamé au mois de Décembre dernier, par une note qu'il vous avait remise, et suivant laquelle, en prétendoit que ce Bâtiment étoit au Pellerin près Nantes, où on travailloit à le défigurer pour lui faire porter le nom de la *Mignon*.² Vous vous rappelleriez sans doute que dans le temps, j'ai fait prendre à ce sujet des renseignements du résultat desquels j'ai eu l'honneur de vous faire part le 28. du même mois, et d'après lesquelles, sur les représentations des Armateurs, j'ai permis l'expédition de ce Navire, qui étoit destiné pour S^t Domingue; les nouvelles pieces produites constatent bien que les S^{rs}. Breston Long,³ George Drake, Samuel Long, et autres cointéressé, étoient propriétaires d'un Bâtiment nommé l'*Ann Suzanna*, pris au mois d'Octobre dernier par un Corsaire Américain nommé le *Raleigh*, mais pour que leur reclamation put mériter quelques égards, il faudroit qu'ils pussent également prouver que ce Navire a été amené dans un Port de France, et qu'il est le même que celui qui sous le nom de *Samuel* a été vendu à Vannes par le S^r Crémelan au S^r De Coesne, Négociant à Nantes qui après l'avoit fait venir au Péllerin, l'a vendu aux S^{rs}. Gallssay, autres Négociants de Nantes qui lui ont donné le nom de la *Mignone* et l'ont expédié pour S^t Domingue; c'est ce qu'ils ne font pas. Je ne vois en conséquence aucun nouveau moyen de revenir sur cette affaire. Je vous remets cy joint les pieces que vous m'aviéz fait passer. J'ai l'honneur d'être

[&c.]⁴

de Sartine

[Translation]

Versailles, February 11, 1778

I received, My Lord, the letter you were kind enough to send me, and the two items you included which were sent to you by His Lordship the Viscount Stormont, relating to the ownership of the *Ann Suzanna*.¹ In examining these items, I saw that this ship is the same one this ambassador claimed last December, in a note he had

sent you, in which it was asserted that this ship was in Pellerin near Nantes, where it was being altered to carry the name the *Mignone*.² You no doubt remember that at the time I made some inquiries on this subject, the results of which I shared with you on the 28th of that same month, according to which, on the basis of the shipowners' statements, I authorized this ship to sail to St. Domingue. The new items submitted show clearly that Messrs. Breston Long,³ George Drake, Samuel Long, and other interested parties were owners of a ship called the *Ann Suzanna*, taken last October by an American privateer called the *Raleigh*. In order for their claim to merit any regard, they must also prove that this ship was brought into a French port and that it is the same as the one that was sold at Vannes under the name of *Samuel* by M. Cremelan to M. De Coesne, merchant at Nantes, who after bringing it to Pellerin, sold it to Messrs. Gallssay, other merchants of Nantes, who gave it the name the *Mignone* and sent it to St. Domingue. This is what they are not doing. Consequently, I see no other way to resurrect this matter. I am sending back with this letter the items you passed along to me. I have the honor to be [&c.]⁴

de Sartine

L, FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 521, fol. 249.

1. *Ann Susanna*, 250 tons, from London to Jamaica, owned by Long & Co., built in 1773 on the Thames River, mounting eight guns, 6-pounders and 4-pounders. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

2. Lord Stormont to Comte de Vergennes, 2 Dec. 1777, in *NDAR* 10: 1060-61.

3. Beeston Long.

4. In the margin: "[*illeg.*] qui empêchent de revenir sur la question de la propriété du navire *l'ann-Suzanne* qu'on dit avoir été défiguré sous le nom de la *Mignone*." "[Factors] that prevent returning to the question of the ownership of the ship *Ann Suzanne* which they say was disguised under the name the *Mignone*."

February 12

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM DUBLIN, FEB. 12"

"The *Martin*, a brig, laden with tobacco and flax-seed, a prize to the *Cochran* letter of marque,¹ belonging to Glasgow, was driven into our bay by a hard gale of wind at N. E and brought up in shallow water under the South Bull, where on the ebb tide she must have gone to pieces, and all the crew, consisting of ten persons, been drowned, but the Dunleary pilots, at the hazard of their lives, brought her into safe riding."

London Chronicle, 21-24 Feb. 1778.

1. Ship of 200 tons, T. Bolton, master, built at Whitby, England in 1770, belonging to Cunningham & Co. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1776*.

LORD STORMONT TO LORD WEYMOUTH

Most Confidential

Paris Thursday Morning
feb. 12 1778

I have this Moment learnt and my Intelligence comes from a Person often well informed that the Real Reason of assembling so many Troops at Brest and arming so many Ships there is either to send them to North America or to make a

sudden attack upon our West India Islands in Case the Congress accepts the Conditions proposed by France.

I can by no Means Warrant this Intelligence. The Hurry and Trepidation that for some days were so apparent both here and at Versailles & the extreme Celerity with which the orders were carried into Execution seem to indicate a sudden alarm which I still believe was the immediate but not the only Cause of the Resolution taken.

I am more and more convinced, My Lord, that there never was a Moment that called louder for instant Vigilance than the present. M. de Maurepas' manifest Reserve in his Yesterday's Conversation with a Friend of Mine and the Silence the french Ministers observe with regard to the seizure of their ships in Europe, (which Measures I know they highly resent) are additional Proofs to me that they are meditating some treacherous Design. Notwithstanding all this all the Difficulties of our situation I am persuaded that firm steady and spirited Measures will carry Us through with Dignity and Honor and if our Rivals see that we are prepared and ready to meet them they will think twice before they strike the first blow I am [&c.]

Stormont.

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 78/306, fols. 204-5. Addressed at foot of first page: "Lord Visct Weymouth."

CAPTAIN SAMUEL NICHOLSON TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

On Board the *Deane* Quiberone Bay Feb^{ry}. 12th. 1778

Honorable Gentⁿ.

This will informe You of my Arrival here this Day with only the *Duke DeShasell* & Brigg *two Friends* of our Convoy,¹ the other ships not being ready, but I am in hopes the greatest part of them will Joyn us here in the course of this Week; on my Joyning the Fleet I Salluted the Commedore² and Imediately Waited on him with my French Captⁿ.³ to Whome he gave his signals, he has been very Impatiently wait^s for us upwards of 4 Weeks & Would have sailed Imediately on my Joyning him had it not been for the representation of M^r Carmichael,⁴ the French Fleet Consists of 5 Ships of the Line 3 Frigates & 2 luggers as tenders,—by the Orders of the M^r Lees⁵ I have M^r Stevenson⁶ Passenger on board who I am Convinced with the Assistance of M^r Loyd⁷ at Nantes as been very busey in endeavouring to find out all your Transactions that they can make turn to the Prejudice of You and Doct^r Franklin in America, I believe M^r R—⁸ is A Corespondant of Yours, if so You may depend he is A Snake in the Grass & not Your Friend—I am well Pleased with the sailing of the *Deane*, I have had A Tryal of her Come^s here in Comp^y with the *Duke deShasell* who is no Match for us, my Crew Consists of about 80 Americans & 80 raw French Men four fifths of them being Landsmen, Shall do all in my Power to train them while under the Convoy of the French Fleet I assure You I have A deal of Trouble & Vexation with them. the Commedore says he possatively will wait no longer than Sunday, in Consequence of w^{ch}. I shall dispatch A Sashmarie⁹ with one of my Officers the Morrow to hurry the other Ships, as I am in hope if the Commedore dont receive possative Orders for his Sailing by Sundays Post, he may be Prevailed on to wait two or three Days longer—

My Ship is very full, Scarce Roome for my People, I have been Obliged to take out 50, odd Hhds of Goods in Order to make roome for my Water & Provisions, & have Scant allowance for my passage to America—I expect M^r Williams¹⁰ with us too Morrow or next Day I am [&c.]

Samuel Nicholson

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 108. Addressed: "To/The Honorable Silas Deane Esquire/Paris." Docketed: "Capt. Nicholson 12th Jan^y 1778."

1. *Duc de Choiseul* and *Trois Amis*.
2. Chef d'Escadre Toussaint-Guillaume, Chevalier de La Motte-Picquet.
3. Capt. "Corvisen." See Captain Samuel Nicholson to the American Commissioners in France, 18 Feb., below.
4. William Carmichael.
5. Arthur and William Lee.
6. William Stevenson.
7. John Lloyd.
8. John Ross.
9. A chasse-marée, a swift, three-masted coasting vessel.
10. Jonathan Williams, Jr.

February 13

SILAS DEANE TO CONRAD ALEXANDRE GÉRARD

Sir

Passy 13 Feb^y 1778

I have met with an American Captain of approved Fidelity & Courage who is a good Pilot on the American Coast, particularly on New England. He Lately commanded a Privateer out of New England, & was taken after an Engagement with an English Frigate in which he lost 31 Killed & more than 20 wounded.¹ He was afterwards put into Prison & escaped—This man I think will answer our Purpose exceeding well & will be ready with our Dispatches on Sunday or monday next at Farthest²—He will want to take a Companion or waiter with him who escaped with him from Prison. Please to say if this man cannot embark at Brest—It will be much more Convenient, & as neither He nor his Companion Speak French He will be able to do it with as much & more Secrecy than can be done by his going to Corogne by Land with a guide which he must necessarily have—From hence he can go to Brest and embark without the danger of being Suspected, as he is not Known in France; but this is Submitted to your Judgment, & waiting your determination I have the honor to remain with much respect Sir &c

S.D

LB, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. Addressed at foot: "Mons^r Gerard."

1. Harmon Courter, of Philadelphia, captured by H.M.S. *Beaver* 19 May 1777 in Pennsylvania privateer ship *Oliver Cromwell*. NDAR 8: 999, 1029.

2. The American Commissioners in France appointed Courter to carry their dispatches to America on board the French Navy frigate *Nymphe*. American Commissioners in France to Harmon Courter, 17 Feb., below.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO WILLIAM CARMICHAEL

My dear Sir

Ranger 13th Feb^y 1778 off Quibron

You will confer a singular obligation upon me by presenting my respects to the French Admiral¹ Whom I mean to salute with thirteen Guns Under American

Colours—provided he will Accept the Compliment and return Gun for Gun.—this proposal I hope will be the more Acceptable to him as it may be a prelude to future amity between the United States and his Court.

I shall be happy to see you here as soon as possible after you have the Admiral's Answer Mean time pray excuse this trouble—I am [&c.]

Jn^o P Jones

L, CSmH, Charles T. Harbeck Collection, no. HR 204. Addressed: "William Carmichael Esquire." Docketed: "Paul Jones Esq^r/*Ranger* Quiberon Bay/13th. Feby 1778."

1. Chef d'Escadre Toussaint-Guillaume, Chevalier de La Motte-Picquet.

WILLIAM CARMICHAEL TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Dear Sir

[*Quiberon, 13 February 1778*]

I receivd yours by Captn Hill, Having din'd on board the Admiral & having left Him indisposd I did not wait on Him but wrote to Him, His answer to your request, you have inclosd.¹ I would have deliverd it in person, had I not been afraid that your ship was too far from us, for I have the greatest desire to take My Friend Williams by the hand & to assure you How much I am your Very Humble Ser^t

W^m. Carmichael

P.S.

I am no Judge of the etiquett amongst you Gentlemen of the marine, but I think it would be best to accept his return. M^r Du Chaffault gave that Number or seven I forget which to the *Mifflin* at Brest.² We wait M^r Williams arrivel with impatience & as the interval is so short I do not write Him—

L, DLC, Peter Force Collection, Papers of John Paul Jones, no. 6692. Addressed: "John Paul Jones Esq^r" Docketed: "Quiberon Feby 13th/1778/N^o 3/from W^m. Carmichael Esq^r/inclosing a letter from Mons^r/La Motte Picquet."

1. Immediately below.

2. On entering the roadstead of Brest in late July 1777, the Massachusetts privateer ship *General Mifflin* saluted the French king's flag with thirteen guns, and Admiral Duchaffault returned three. NDAR 9: 525–26, 613.

CHEF D'ESCADRE TOUSSAINT-GUILLAUME, CHEVALIER DE LA MOTTE-PICQUET
TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Monsieur

[*Baie de Quiberon*]

Si la fregatte la *ranger* et le brigue l'*independance* saluent le pavillon du roy de 13 coups de canon en cas quils soient commandés par des officiers du congrés je leur rendray neuf coups ils sont au surplus très fort les maitres de ne point saluer. j'ay lhonneur de vous assurer des Sentimens respectueux avec lesquels je Suis [&c] ce 13^e f^{er}

la motte picquet

je seray enchanté de voir mr villiams voulés vous bien monsieur luy faire mes remercimens et a mr carmichael jay lhonneur de souhaitter le bon Soir a mr le marquis de vienne.

[Translation]

Sir

[*Quiberon Bay*]

If the frigate the *Ranger* and the brig the *Independence* salute the King's colors with thirteen guns, in case they are commanded by officers of the Congress, I shall

return nine guns. They are, moreover, quite free to choose not to salute at all. I have the honor to assure you of my respectful sentiments, with which I am [&c.]

13 February 1778

la motte picquet

I shall be delighted to see Mr. Williams. Will you, sir, convey my thanks to him and to Mr. Carmichael. I have the honor to bid the Marquis de Vienne good evening.

L, DLC, Peter Force Collection, Papers of John Paul Jones, no. 6694. Enclosed in William Carmichael to John Paul Jones, 13 Feb., immediately above.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*

[*Ranger, Quiberon Bay, France*]

Friday, 13 Feb.—Set sail for Quiberon Bay M^r Williams & Brother on board,¹ in company with us Brig *Independence*, anchored in the Bay about six in the Evening, 4 Ships of the Line besides Frigates in the Bay.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

1. Jonathan Williams, Jr., and John Williams.

February 14

PHILLIP STEPHENS TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

My Lord

[*Admiralty Office*] 14th Feb^{ry} 1778

Lord George Germain having transmitted to my Lords Commiss^{rs} of the Admiralty a Letter from His Maj^{ty} Postmaster General desiring that Ships¹ may be taken to obtain the Exchange or Release of the Captain's Flynn & Nicholls late Comm^{rs} of Pacquets² in the Service of their Office who have been made Prisoners by the Rebels; I am commanded to send a Copy thereof to your Lordship, and to recommend it to you to take the proper measures for getting them released or Exchanged I am &c.

PS.

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/557, fol. 34. Addressed at foot: "Vice Adm^l Lord Howe/North America} By the *Andromeda*/Duplicate by the *Ardent* 12th March."

1. That is, "steps."

2. Paul Flyn, H.M. packet sloop *Weymouth*, and — Nichols, H.M. packet boat *Eagle*.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, February 1778*]

14th Saturday a Report is Circulating that those two Centinals who Deserted with Our Officers a taken by being in Liquor¹

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. See Journal of Dr. Jonathan Haskins for 31 Jan., above.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO WILLIAM CARMICHAEL

Ranger in the entrance of Quberon

Feb^{ry} 14th 1778—

Dear Sir

I am extremely sorry to give you fresh trouble but I think the Admiral's Answer of yesterday requires an explanation. the haughty English return Gun for

Gun to foreign Officers of equal Rank and two less only to Captains by flag Officers.

It is true my Command at present is not important Yet as the Senior American Officer at present in Europe it is my duty to claim an equal return of respect to the Flag of the United States that would be shewn to any other Flag whatever.

I therefore take the liberty of inclosing an appointment perhaps as respectable as any which the French Admiral can produce besides which I have others in my possession. If however he persists in refusing to return an equal Salute I will Accept of two Guns less as I have not the Rank of Admiral.

it is my Opinion that he would return four less to a privateer or a Merchant Ship therefore as I have been honored oftener than once with a Chief Command of Ships of War—I cannot in honor Accept of the Same terms of Respect.

You will Singularly oblige me by waiting upon the Admiral—and I ardently hope You will Succeed in the Application—else I shall be under a necessity of departing without comming into the Bay. I have the honor to be [&c.]

NB. the thirteen Guns your greatest Salute America yet if the French Admiral should prefer a greater number he has his choice on condition.

Df, DNA, PCC, item 168, vol. 1, pp. 27–29 (M247, roll 185). Addressed below the close: “W^m Carmichael Esq^r” Docketed: “William Carmichael Esq^r on board/the *Deane/Ranger* off Quiberon Bay Feb^y 14th. 1778/ N^o. 2”; “Rel. To Saluting the/French Admiral”; “*Ranger* in the entrance of/Quiberon Bay Feb^y 14th. 1778/To William Carmichael Esq^r/on board the *Deane*.”

WILLIAM CARMICHAEL TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Dear Sir

Quiberon 14th Feby 1778

I should have been extremely happy to be able to contribute to your satisfaction & to the honor of our Country which in this early period of our Empire you so nobly assert, but from the Conversations which I have had the honor to hold with the Admiral & the other Commanding Officers here I am perswaded a farther application will be fruitless. The Admiral says he has no orders to render any other than the common salute which is 3 guns for 21, but that to shew his respect for the flag of the congress, he is willing to return three times the ordinary number. I could wish, that this could be accepted, if it does not too much differ from your own opinion. Captⁿ Jones character & the different commands on which he has acted for His Countrys service were well known to the Admiral & Others. He is therefore expected with much impatience by all the Fleet

There are many reasons which might be urg'd of a Political nature & which I would do in person were I not indispensably ingagd to dine on board the *Bizarre*, where we must go at 12 oClock. Those of the danger from the Enemies cruizers I do not mention to you, altho' we have acc^{ts} of many very near us, because I trust much to your prudence. If You should not come into the road this day, I will endeavor in the afternoon to pay My respects on board the *ranger*, Happy at all times to assure you How much I am [&c.]

Wm. Carmichael

You must excuse the innaccuracies of my Letters for I write Surrounded by 20 different Officers

L, DLC, Peter Force Collection, Papers of John Paul Jones, no. 6698. Docketed: “Quiberon Feb^y 14th. 1778/N^o 4/from W^m. Carmichael Esq^r.”

LIEUTENANTS IN *RANGER* TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Sir,

Ranger Feb^y 14th 1778

We beg leave to inform you, that at the time of our departure from Portsmouth in America, it was thought by us, that Captain Matthew Parke of the Marine department, embarked on board the *Ranger*, with a view of acting according to his Rank, in a Frigate which you were to take the command of, on our arrival in France.

As we humbly conceive and are also inform'd, that no Captain of marines is allow'd to any Ship or Vessell, under twenty Guns, we take it as a hardship peculiar to us, that a person in his Capacity, should remain in the Ship, to take the fourth part of the Three twentieths which are the Shares belonging solely to us (as Lieutenants and Master of the Ship) of any Prize money to be divided for her Officers and Men.

We therefore request the favour of you, (as our Commander,) to dispose of Captain Parke in such a manner, that he may not interfere with us, in any future division, a late instance of that kind has been very disagreeable. Confiding in your good intentions, and wishes for the Satisfaction of every Person under your Command, We are Sir— [&c.]

Thom Simpson
Elijah Hall
David Cullam

L, MdAN, Rosenbach Collection. Addressed below close: "To John Paul Jones Esquire/Commander of the/American Continental Ship of War./*Ranger*."

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*[*Ranger, Quiberon Bay, France*]

Saturday, 14th Feby.—Very Squally weather, came to Sail at 4 o'clock P.M. saluted the french Admiral & rec'd nine guns in return this is the first salute ever pay'd the American flagg.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

February 15 (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, February 1778*]

15th. Sunday squally weath^r. The Steward of the Royal Hospital¹ Came here to Inquire into the Quality of our Beer we are served with in Order to make report Accord'y

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. The Royal Naval Hospital in Plymouth.

JOURNAL OF TIMOTHY CONNOR

[Forton Prison, Portsmouth]

Feb^y 15th this day William Humber and George Pease¹ made their escape over the Peals and got clear off

D, DLC, Forton Prison, England, American Prisoner's Journal, 1777-79, collection 2272.

1. Both of Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Rising States*.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR.

Dear Sir

Ranger Quiberon 15th Feb^y 1778.

As I purpose to sail thro the Fleet in the *Independance* this forenoon I am for the present prevented from having the Pleasure of seeing yourself and my friend M^r Carmichael. I purpose to salute the Admiral in open day that no Evasion may afterwards be made. The *Ranger* wants Ballast, instead of 45 Tons, the quantity of Lead which I at first ordered for Ballast, I find there hath been only 31 Tons put on board this mistake, or Omission must be immediately remedied—perhaps Captain Nicholson will be so obligeing as to spare me 15 or 20 Tons of Lead as he has more than sufficient on board the *Deane*—if he will not that quantity must be had from some other quarter.—I understand that M^r Ross has Lead at Normontier. I will see you in the afternoon—unless you will call on board the *Ranger* after the *Independance* has anchored.

My respects await Captⁿ Nicholson & the Gentlemen on board the *Deane* and I am [&c.]

Df, DNA, PCC, item 168, vol. 1, p. 31 (M247, roll 185). Addressed below the close: "Jon^a Williams Esq^r" Docketed: "Jonathan Williams Esq^r on board/*Deane*/*Ranger* Quiberon Feb^y 15th 1778/N^o 2."; "Rel^t to saluting the French/Admiral"; "*Ranger* Quiberon Bay 15th Feb^y/1778/Jon^a Williams Esq^r"

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*[*Ranger*, Quiberon Bay, France]

Sunday, 15th Feb'y.—Brig *Independence* saluted the french Flagg which was return'd.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

February 16

EDMUND BURKE TO LORD WEYMOUTH

My Lord,

I have the honour to enclose to your Lordship some important papers transmitted to me by a respectable House in Bristol. They contain an account with the proper Vouchers of the Capture, by American Privateers, of two Newfoundland Ships, in a great part the property of my constituents. One of these Vessels has been taken into Bilboa, the other into S^t Andero. I am desired by the owners & Insurers to request that your Lordship will make a requisition to the Court of Madrid that these Vessels & their Cargoes, or their Value may be restored to the

proprietors. I am authorised to inform your Lordship that if any further information or explanation should be wanting, it will, as far as possible, be procured.

The Gentlemen, from whom I recieved these papers express, in very strong Terms their apprehensions, that if the American privateers continue to receive countenance & assistance in the Spanish Ports, the Trade of our City, already overloaded with high Insurances, & the exorbitant wages paid to Seamen, maybe totally ruined; & particularly that valuable Branch to Newfoundland. I have representations of the same kind from other Gentlemen concerned in the Fisheries. I have the honour to be [&c.]

Westm^{er} Feb. 16. 1778.

Edm Burke

[Enclosure]

Memorandum of the Papers transmitted in M^r Burke's Letter to Lord Viscount Weymouth of the 16th Feb^{ry} 1778. and sent in original on the 20th of that Month to Lord Grantham at Madrid

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- (N^o. 1.) Letter from Mess^{rs}. Lynch Killikelly & Morony to Mess^{rs}. James Rogers & C^o: at Bristol. dated Bilbao. 31st. Dec^r. 1777 concerning the *Nancy* Cap^t Underhill.
- (N^o. 2.) Letter from D^o. to D^o. dated Bilbao. 7th. Jan^{ry} 1778.
- (N^o. 3) Certificate of the proper Hand writing & Firm of the House of Mess^{rs}. Lynch Killikelly & Morony. Sworn at Bristol the 12th. Day of Feb^{ry} 1778. Before a Master Ext^{ry}: in Chancery by James Rogers.
- (N^o. 4) *Nancy's* Protest Cap^t Underhill.
- (N^o. 5) Letter from Mess^{rs}. Lynch Killikelly & Morony to M^r James Bonbonous dated Bilbao. 21 Jan^{ry} 1778.
- (N^o. 6.) Certificate of the proper Hand writing & Firm of the House of Mess^{rs}. Lynch Killikelly and Morony. Sworn at Bristol the 12th. Day of Feb^{ry} 1778 before a master Extraordinary in Chancery by James Bonbonous.

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fols. 59–60. Docketed: "Westminster 16 feb^{ry} 1778/M^r Burke/R, D^o"

CAPTAIN PATRICK FOTHERINGHAM, R.N., TO PHILIP STEPHENS

Sir,

Fox Spithead Febry 16th. 1778

You will please to Acquaint the Right Honble the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that I Sailed from Hallifax the 27th. of January in Company with his Majestys Ship *Milford*, the *Dunmore* Store Ship, two Briggs and a Schooner; the Briggs and Schooner tho' under my Convoy I parted Company with the 2^d. of February in the Afternoon, from Sir William Burnabys hailing me, and Acquainting me, that his Ship was Leaky and without carrying more Sail than it was possible for them to do to keep up with us he thought the Ship was in danger; the next day we Saw a strange Sail to the Eastward and it being but very little out of our Course I gave chace to her as did the *Milford* and the Store Ship, but by Steering different Courses in order to cut her off we parted Company and tho' I saw the *Milfords* Lights that Night, made Signals, and lay too 'till next day at twelve OClock, I never afterwards could join her or the Store Ship, I therefore made Sail for this Port where I Arrived this day: I inclose you Lord Viscount Howes Letter for

my Resuming the Command of the Ship and a Copy of Sir George Colliers Order for my proceeding to this Port¹

I hope their Lordships will please to give Orders for the Ship's being Refitted as in particular the Rigging is extreemly bad, And likewise give an Order for my Conduct being inquired into by a Court Martial for the loss of his Majestys Ship *Fox* on the Banks of Newfoundland 1777.² I am [&c.]

Pat^k: Fotheringham

L, UKLPR, Adm. 1/1790, fol. 357. Addressed: "On his Majestys Service/To./Philip Stephens Esq^c/Admiralty Office./Whitehall." Docketed: "*Fox* at Spithead/16 February 1778/Cap^t Fotheringham/inclosing Copy of a/Letter from L^d Howe, of an/order from Sir George/Collier, and the said/ship's state & condition."

1. Vice Adm. Viscount Howe to Fotheringham, 20 Aug. 1777, *ibid.*, fol. 359; Capt. Sir George Collier, R.N., to Fotheringham, Jan. 1778, *ibid.*, fol. 358.

2. For the capture of H.M.S. *Fox*, 7 June 1777, by Continental Navy frigates *Boston* and *Hancock*, see *NDAR* 9: 47, 85–88, 304–6, 361. On 21 Feb., the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty ordered Adm. Sir Thomas Pye to assemble a court-martial to inquire into the cause of the loss of the *Fox*. UKLPR, Adm. 2/104, fols. 149–50.

MARQUÉS DE BASSECOURT TO CONDE DE FLORIDABLANCA

Ex^{mo}. Sor.

Mui Sor^o mio: En Cumplimiento de lo que se sirve V.E. Ordenarme con fecha de 7 del corriente, dirijo a sus manos el adjunto extracto de todo lo ocurrido y providenciado acerca del Navio Ingles nombrado la *Bretaña*, mandado por Juan Allen, y apresado a la altura de Santander por Geremias Hilbert Capitan del Buque Corsario Anglo Americano nombrado el *Hawke* O *Gavilan* subsistiendo en arresto la Marineria no como procedente del referido Corsario (pues este nunca se ha presentado ni aun a la vista de este Puerto) sino como Capitan y Tripulacion del Navio la *Bretaña* que vino a este Puerto sin legitimos Documentos para navegar, y con tanto cumulo de papeles fingidos, de que participe a V.E. con fecha de 5 de Diciembre ultimo, y en cuya vista se sirvio prevenirme en Orden de 15 del mismo, que S.M. aprobava lo practicado por mi en este caso, y que queria la determinaba segun justicia con arreglo a las Ordenanzas de Corso, y libre apelacion al Supremo Consejo de Guerra.

Juan Emeri no es Capitan de embarcacion alguna como me indica VE en su citada orden de 7 de este, sino un Apoderado o Factor de los Anglo Americanos residente en la villa de Bilbao, segun la relacion, que de el me han hecho.

Fuedo a las Ordenes de V.E. y ruego a Dios Guarde su vida en toda felicidad^d. m^s. a^s. Sⁿ. Sevastⁿ. 16 de Febr^{ro}. de 1778. Ex^{mo} Señor [&c.]

el Marq^s De Bassecourt

[Enclosure]

Extracto de todo lo ocurrido y providenciado acerca del Navio que se supuso Anglo Americano nombrado la *Bretaña* mandado por Juan Allen de la misma Nacion.

En 2 de Diziembre prox^o. pasado entro en el Puerto de Sⁿ. Sebastian con Vandera Anglo Americana y carga de Bacalao el Navio nombr^o. la *Bretaña* su Capitan Juan Allen, y fue admitido a Platica y Comercio en virtud de la Patente de Sanid^d. y demas Documentos que presentó como procedente de uno de los Puertos de las colonias Anglo Americanas, y ser su Carga de licito Comercio.

El Comand^{te}. Gen^l tubo secreto aviso de que era falso quanto el referido Capitan Allen relaraba, y fingida los Papeles que presentaba, por lo que providenci^ó inmediate^{te}. que de le tomare su Declaracion jurada, y en su vista se procediera a lo demas a que huviere lugar, y con efecto haviendose egecutado y prestado su juramento segun el estilo de su crehencia y Nacion declaro, Que el 25 de Octubre havia salido mandando dho Buque con nueve hombres de Tripulacion del Puerto de Newrahy distante 75 leguas del de Boston con Carga de Bacalao y Grasa, y destino p^a. alguno de los Puertos de España o Francia: Que havia venido al de Sⁿ. Sevastian a consignacion de Dⁿ Ricardo Bermingham de Nacion Irlandes a quien havia envyado los Conscimientos de la Carga (y el que anterior a esta diligencia se havia presentado al Comand^{te}. Gen^l manifestandole los conscim^{tes}. y Carta de consignacion) y cuya carta de consignacion [*illeg.*] Que no tenia Patente o Pasaporte para navegar, Despachos de Aduana, Carta Partida, Contrato de Fletamento, Lista de Equipage ni otro Documento, que lo autorinase a la Navigacion mas que la Patente de Sanidad, que havia ya presentado a su entrada, la citada carta de consignacion y Conscimienta, la orden de los Dueños del Buque, que lo eran los S^{rs}. Thracey et Tracey para seguir su viaje una letra librada por estos sobre el Importe de la Carga y el Diario de su Navegacion, y que la falta de los demas Documentos indispenablos para navegar derivaba de las Turbulencias de su Pays, con otras muchas responcias falsas a las preguntas y Cargos que en su declaracion se le hiaeron.

En su consecuencia con arreglo a los Articulos 4^o. y 72^o. Titulo 5^o. trad^o. 6^o parte primera de las ordenanzas du Marina al Artic^o. 707 de la orden^{zas} de 7^o. de enero de 1757, y posteriores R^s. Resolucionas providencio el Gen^l con Acuerdo de so Avesor el Arresta del mencion^o. Juan Allen y su Tripulacion y Secuestro del Buque y Carga, y que se tomasen sus confesiones a los nueve Marineros.

Estos declararon sin discrepancia lo mismo que su capitan, y haviendo pasado al Embargo en prevado se hallo en la Camara y Baul del Capitan una carta en fecha el 29 de Noviembre firmada por Geremias Hilbert, Capitan de la escora o Galeta Corsaria nombr^a. el *Hawke* o *Gavilan*, en que previene a Juan Allen “que aquella Presa de se dirigiere a Sⁿ Sevastian en donde de seguir las instrucciones que le diesen los Comerciantes a quienes benia consignado: Que hiciera un Diario procurando evitar Errores, principiandolo desde 25 du Octubre, y disponiendo lo con toda la arte y maña que fuese posible, que cuidase que toda su gente fuese de una palabra (esto es que todos respondieren una misma cosa) Que alli le remidia una carta de Sanidad, y algunas cartas que cuidase hacerlas or ponerlas tan viejas como su Diario, y que este parezca como si fuese a la Mar desde el 25 du Octubre: Que como Baiton havia escrito aquella Renglones se lo imbiaba para instruirte como queria qe se governase” y por Post Data: “Procure VM de no dejar a su gente de dar sopro a descubrir el Viage”

Ya puestos en prision, sea temerosos de su suerte si se descubria la verdad, o (lo mas cierto) noticiosos de haverse hallado la mencionada Carta, prrieron el Capitan Allen, y cuasi todos los Marineros, que querian hacer segunda declaracion, y haviendose presentado el SS^{rs} de la Causa e Yinterprete, depusieron, Fue quanto havian testificado en sus primeras confesiones era falso: Que la Verdad era que ellos eran parte de la Tripulacion de la Goleta o Scora Corsaria Anglo Americana el *Hawke* del mando de Geremias Hilbert, Que el Navio la *Bretaña* era

Presa que havian hecho a los Yngleses 3 leguas distante de Santander: Que havian venido a este Puerto siguiendo las ordenas del citado Hilbert su Capitan, sin reflexionar los riesgos a que se exponian.

Como la Carga es genero que no puedo conservarse se ha vendido en publica subasta con arreglo a lo que previene el Citado Titulo 5º y tratº de Presas, y por que por las mismas Ordenanzas debe ser confiscada como tambien el Buque, aunque un emite con prevencia de loque previene el Articº 53 del mismo Titulo.

En este Estado se presento Juan Emery, que dijo ser Anglo Americano y residente en Bilbao, presentando Poder del expresado Capitan Geremias Hilbert para reclamar la Presa, pero se declaro a Emery por no parte atenta la cualid^d de la causa por la criminalidad que tan manifestam^{te} resulta contra Hilbert, Fautor de tantos falsos Papeles, y entre ellos de una Carta o Patente de Sanidad, por que a ningun criminal ausente se le oye por Poderes si el mismo no se presenta.

Posteriormente se presento Jon Wohod Capitan Apresado del Navio la *Bretaña* pidiendo el Buque y su Carga por haver sido injustamente apresado con bulneracion del territorio de España a las inmediateciones del Puerto de Santander sobre cuya demande se han presentado en Autos hasta ahora considerable porcion de Scritos y probanzas tanto por parte del referido Wohod apresado como por la de Allen Cabo de Presa arrestado.

En el Curso de la Causa ha presentado Dⁿ Franciso Larralde Diurequi del Comercio de esta Ciudad de Sⁿ Sevastⁿ. Otra peticion pidiendo la Soltura de Juan Allen y su tripulacion, a que se [*two words illeg.*] de que presentase scriptura Guarentigia haciendo causa propria del Negocio Ageno, pero hasta la fecha de esta no lo ha egecutado.

Con fecha de oy se ha provisto Auto Asesorado mandando recibir la Causa a prueba con mutuas Citaciones de ambas partes, para que prueban lo que a sus derechos combenga con termino de 15 dias, y que se ratifiquen los hechos que sin citacion de partes, se hallan presentados en Autos; Y es el Estado en que se halla la Causa.

San Sevastian 16 de Febrero de 1778.

De Bassecourt

[Translation]

Most Excellent Sir

My Dear Sir: In compliance with your orders dated the 7th instant, I am sending you the attached extract of all that occurred and was decided concerning the English ship named the *Britannia*, commanded by John Allen, and seized off Santander by Jeremiah Hilbert, captain of the Anglo-American privateer named the *Hawke*, or *Gavilan*; still in custody is the ship's company, not of the aforementioned privateer (since the latter has never appeared in, or even within sight of, this port), but the captain and crew of the ship *Britannia*, which came to this port without proper documents for sailing, and with a great many false documents, of which I informed your Excellency on 5 December last, and in consideration of which you saw fit to advise me in an order of the 15th of the same month that His Majesty approved what I did in this case, and that he wanted the matter resolved with justice in accordance with the privateering ordinances and with free recourse to the Supreme Council of War.

John Emeri is not captain of any vessel, as Your Excellency indicates to me in your aforementioned order of the 7th of this month, but a representative or agent of the Anglo-Americans residing in the town of Bilbao, according to the report that they have given me concerning him.

I remain at Your Excellency's service, and may God keep your life in complete happiness for many years. San Sebastian, 16 February 1778. Most Excellent Sir [&c.]

The Marqués de Bassecourt

[Enclosure]

Extract of everything that has happened respecting the Ship *Bretagne*^d supposed to be English American property, commanded by John Allen of the same nation.

The ship called the *Bretagne*, Captain John Allen carrying an English American Flag, laden with Codfish, entered the port of S^t Sebastian the 2^d Decem^r last. On examination of his Bills of Health & other documents which showed that he came from the Colonies, he was admitted to trade, his Commodities being in other respects admissible.

The Commandant General having been secretly informed that all what Captain Allen had related was false, & his sea papers were forged, directly ordered him to make his declaration under oath in order to act accordingly. He therefore declared that he sailed the 25th. Octo^r Master of the said vessel with a Crew of Nine Men from the port of Newberry 15 Leagues from Boston with a cargo of Codfish & Hog Lard for some Spanish or French port: That he came to S^t Sebastian Consigned to M^r Richard Bermingham an Irishman to whom he delivered Bills of Lading of his Cargo, similar to that he had presented to the Commandant General, & the letter of consignment: That he was furnished with neither a Register nor permit for sailing nor with a Custom House clearance, Charter party, Bill of Freight, Shipping paper nor any other document authorizing him to navigate excepting the Bill of Health presented at his Arrival, the aforementioned letter of Consignment & bill Lading, the order of Mess^{rs} Jyhacey & Fracey owners of the vessel to pursue his voyage, a Bill of Exchange from them for the amount of the Cargo & the journal of his voyage—that the want of the other papers was owing to the troubles of his country: & to the questions put to him he made many false answers.

Therefore according to the 4 & 72 Articles title 5th. of the 6th. Treaty the first part of the Ordinances of the Marine Art. 101 of that of the 1st. Janu^y 1756 & other positive decisions of the King, The Commandant General ordered with the consent of his council, that the said John Allen & his Crew should be seized the vessel & cargo sequestred & that the nine Sailors should be examined.

The latter made the same declaration as the captain. The Embargo was executed. A letter was found in the Captain's Trunk in the Cabbin dated 29th. Novem^r signed Jeremiah Hilbert Captain of the Privateer called the *Hawke*, by which John Allen is ordered "to go with this prize to S^t Sebastian where he was to follow the instructions of the merchants to whom he was consigned; that he sh^d. make out a journal without committing any mistkes, beginning it the 25th Octo^r & to use every art & address in framing it: that he should be careful that all his people should tell the same story, that is to say that they sh^d. answer to the same questions; that he would find a Bill of Health & some other papers which he sh^d. endeavour to make

appear as old as his journal, as if he had been at sea ever since the 25th Octo^r that as Baiton had written on the subject in question, he referred him to him for his instructions that he might know how to govern himself." he added in the Postscript, Endeavour to prevent your people from blowing or discovering your voyage.

Being in prison & apprehensive off their fate should the truth be known, or what is more probable, being certain that the aforementioned letter was discovered, the Captain & almost all the Sailors demanded to be heard in order to make a second declaration. The Clerk & Interpreter having presented themselves for the purpose they acknowledged all that they had advanced was False, that they really were part of the crew of the English American privateer the *Hawk* Cap^t Jeremiah Hilbert the ship *Bretagne* was a prize taken from the English 3 Leagues from Saint André that they came to this port agreeable to the orders of their Cap^t Hilbert, without attending to the risk they run.

As the Cargo could not be kept it was sold to the highest bidder agreeable to the 5th title of the Treaty of prizes, as it was subject to confiscation agreeable to the same ordonnances as well as the vessel according to what is said in the 53 Article of the same treaty title.

In this state of Affairs John Emery presented himself calling himself an English American residing at Bilboa, & furnished with a power of Attorney from Cap^t Jeremiah Hilbert to claim the prize: but he was informed that he could not be accepted as a party from the nature of the cause which rendered M^r Hilbert Criminal on account of so many false papers, amongst which was found the Bill of Health & that no criminal could be heard by Attorney unless he presented himself.

Lastly John Wood, captain of the ship *Bretagne*, came to claim his vessel & Cargo as having been unjustly seized, as an infraction on the territory of Spain being near the port of S^t André, of which many witnesses & proofs have appeared at the trial on the part of Wohod & Allen under arrest.

During the Trial Don Francis Larralde Diustequi trading at S^t Sebastian demanded the enlargement of John Allen & his crew; on which it was ordered that he should present a writing as guaranty for taking the affair of another on himself; but he has not as yet done that.

It has this Day been ordered, with the citation of the two parties, that each of them shall prove within the term of a fortnight whatever they may judge fit in support of their rights by certifying the facts which without the concurrence of parties are found in the process. This is the state of the cause. St Sebastian 16th. Feb^y. 1778

(signed) de Bassecourt

Faithfully translated from the Original by John Pintard.

L, SpMAH, Estado, legajo 3884, expediente 2, document 7; contemporary translation of enclosure: DNA, PCC, item 83, vol. 1, pp. 199–214 (M247, roll 110). This translation is of a copy of the letter in French enclosed in a letter from Arthur Lee to the Continental Congress, dated 8 Apr. The successive translations from Spanish to French to English resulted in some corruption of the text. For instance, the original Spanish report names the pretended owners of the *Britannia* as "Trhacey et Tracey," the French version has "Jrhacey et Fracey," and the English, "Jyhacey et Fracey." In naming the owner, Prize Master John Allen apparently meant the prominent Newburyport mercantile firm of Nathaniel Tracy and John Tracy, owners of the Massachusetts privateer schooner *Hawke*, Capt. Jeremiah Hibbert. Arthur Lee most probably obtained his copy of the enclosure from Conde de Aranda, to whom Conde de Floridablanca sent it in response to Arthur Lee's inquiry about the case of John Allen and his crew. Floridablanca to Aranda, 2 Mar., SpVAS, Estado, libro 183, fol. 86.

1. Note that the contemporary English translation is from a French version and uses a French spelling for the name of the *Britannia*.

CONDE DE FLORIDABLANCA TO FRANCISCO DE ESCARANO

au Pardo le 16. fev^{er} 1778

J'accuse la réception de vos dépêches des 23 Janvier. Vous m'y rendés compte de la conversation que vous aviés eus la veille avec le Lord Weymouth, et de celle qu'avoit eus avec lui l'ambassadeur de france, qui toutes deux ont eu pour objet principal de sa plaindre des insultes commites par la marine angloise. Nous avons été étonnés du langage du Lord Weymouth, lorsqu'il vous a parlé du Corsaire Cunningham, langage contraire et opposé aux faits que l'ambassadeur Grantham ne peut ignorer, et qu'il doit avoir communiqué à Sa Cour, puisqu'indépendamment de la neutralité qu'on observe ici en général relativement aux Corsaires Américains, il y a pour Cunningham cette particularité, qu'on ne lui permet d'entrer dans aucun des ports du Royaume, depuis qu'on s'est apperçu qu'il vouloit en abuser. Il est bon que vous le tachiés pour le dire aux Ministres, quand vous en trouverés l'occasion, et il sera bon que vous insistiés sur la satisfaction et les restitutions qu'on nous doit. Du reste je puis vous assurer que votre conduite et votre zele ont l'approbation de Sa M^{te}.

[Translation]

The Pardo, 16 Feb. 1778

I acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches of 23 January. In them, you give me an account of the conversation that you had the previous day with Lord Weymouth, and of the conversation the ambassador of France had with him, both of which had for their principal object the complaints against the insults committed by the English navy. We were astonished at the language of Lord Weymouth when he spoke to you of the Privateersman Cunningham, language contrary and opposed to the facts, of which Ambassador Grantham could not be ignorant and which he must have communicated to His Court, since, independent of the neutrality observed here in general relative to American Privateers, there is for Cunningham this particularity, that he is not permitted to enter any of the ports of the Kingdom, after it was perceived that he wished to abuse them. It would be good for you to try to tell this to the Ministers, when you find the occasion for it, and it would be good for you to insist on the satisfaction and restitutions owed us. For the rest, I can assure you that your conduct and your zeal have the approval of His Majesty.

Copy, FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 528, fol. 354. Notation: "C^e de Floridablanca/[à] Escarano/[*illeg.*] de l'Espanol."

February 17

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, February 1778*]

17th. Tuesday fair but Cold—the 9th. Ult. we were served with Candles in Our ward from Mr.— the Bristol Donation Annulled or have in with the London D.—

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE TO
THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WAR

Gentlemen

Paris Feb^r 17 1778

This will be handed you by Capt Courter who goes express with our Dispatches to Congress & is to inform you that we have wrote by the Cap^t of the Frigate in which Cap^t Courter takes Passage,¹ for you to Pay the Cap^t of s^d. Frigate the Sum of 15000 Liv^{es}. money of France which Letter of ours we are Confident will meet with due honor; & we have further to ask you to furnish Capt Courter with every thing necessary for his making the greatest Dispatch on his way to Congress—We most Cordially Congratulate you on the very favourable turn w^h. American affairs have lately taken & have the honor to remain with great Esteem Gent^o Your &c.

B.F.
S.D.

LB, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. Addressed below close: "Hon'ble the Committee of War/at Boston."

1. French Navy frigate *Nymphé*, Lieutenant Commandant Nicolas-Antoine, Chevalier de Beaudot de Sainneville, commander.

AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE TO CAPTAIN HARMON COURTER

Sir,

Paris Feb^r 17 1778.

We Deliver you herewith our Letters & Dispatches for Congress which you will take Care of, & on no acc^t Let them go out of your Possession until you deliver them up to the Hon'ble Committe of Foreign Affairs. On your embarking secure them in a Proper manner for being Sunk, in Case of being actually taken by the Enemy. We give you 100 Louis D'ors for your expences, of which you will Keep an acc^t & render the same to the Congress, to whom we have recommended you, for such further Consideration as shall be judged adequate to the Services you will render them & the Public, by delivering these dispatches in Safety

We wish you a good Voyage & with recommending the strictest Prudence & Economy remain Sir Your &c.

B.F.
S.D.
A.L.

LB, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. Addressed at foot: "Capt. Courter."

JOSEF DE LA VILLA TO CONDE DE FLORIDABLANCA

Ex^{mo} Señor.

Señor.

Hallandome exerciendo el empleo onorifico De Alcalde maior x^a. R^l y hord^a. De esta Villa Del puerto De Santoña por S. M. (q^e. Dios gue.) y como tal y en su R^l. nre., Alcalde, y Castellano De los Castillos De los Castillos De Sⁿ. Martin, y Sⁿ. Carlos De ella; faltaria al Cumplim^{to}. De mi Obligaz^{on}, si omitiese poner en Noticia De V.E. el ynsulto acaecido en esta Costa el día Onze De Enero prox^{mo}. pasado; y hes que aviendo Salido De la Zuidad De Santander (donde estubo De arribada) el Bergantin nombrado *Hooper* su Capitan Guillermo Knapp Cargado De Tavaco De

Oxa con destino para la Ciudad De San Sebastian, llego hasta las Zercanias De este puerto Junto del Arenal De Noxa, en donde obserbo el Capⁿ. q^c. un Barquichuelo a manera De Pescador sin Bandera ni Devisa De su Nazion le Venia Seguiendo y Reconociendo ser Corsario Garnesi armado en Cache Marin¹ se arrimo a dho Arenal con animo De Barar, lo q^c. no pudo Conseguir por haberle acosado al Remo, y haziendo fuego hallandose a Distancia De tiro De fusil Del mismo Arenal, p^r. loque dho Knapp con su Jente hecharon el Vote a la Agua y Salieron todos a tierra llebandose el Corsario el Bergantin apresado y acosendose a mi dho Capⁿ. me hizo Relaz^{on}. De el hecho como a Juez De Fuerra por me díó [*illeg.*] un Pedim^{to}. solicitando le Recibiese ynformazíon a su tenor q^c. se executo asi, con diez y seis testigos, los quatro De la Tripulacíon, y los doze, q^c. hallaron presentes, y todos dan contestes en sus Deposiz^{es}. seg. Resulta Del testimonio q^c. acompaña. Y como el Capⁿ. tiene yntroduzidas sus protestas, y solicita se proceda contra dho Cache Marin su Capⁿ. y Jente, siempre q^c. se verifique arribar a este puerto o qualqa. de sus Zercanias, y estos dias sea dexado ver a corta distancia De este puerto, lo participo a V.E. para q^c. siendo de su agrado me Ordene lo q^c. Devo hazer p^a. Obedezer los preceptos De V.E. a quien deseo prospere el Zielo de la todos años: Santoña y febrero 17 de 1778.

Ex^{mo}. Señor Conde de Florida Blanca
A. L. P. de V. Ex^a.

Josef De la Villa

[Translation]

Your Excellency:

Finding myself exercising the honorific position of high mayor for His Majesty (whom may God keep), for this town of the port of Santoña, and as such and in his royal name, mayor, and governor of the castles of San Martin and San Carlos; I would fail in doing my duty if I omitted giving notice to Your Excellency of the insult that took place on this coast last January 11. Having departed the city of Santander, where it had just arrived, the brigantine named *Hooper*, navigated by Captain William Knapp, laden with leaf tobacco intended for the city of San Sebastian, arrived at the outskirts of this port adjacent the beach of Noxa, where the captain observed a small boat with the appearance of a fishing craft without flag or sign of its nationality, approaching and recognizing it to be an armed Guernsey privateer cachemarin,¹ he drew himself near to the beach with the intent of running aground, but he was unsuccessful because he was being closely pursued and fired on when at a distance of musket shot from the same beach. Therefore, the said Knapp and his people put the boat in the water and went on shore, leaving the privateer to take the brigantine prize. And approaching me the said captain made a formal report of the deed as to a judge, for he gave me a petition seeking information to this effect, which was thus executed, with sixteen witnesses, four of the crew and twelve persons who happened to be present. All gave answers in their depositions according to the testimony that is attached. And as the captain insists on introducing his protests, and solicits proceedings against the said cachemarin, its captain and people, whenever it is verified to arrive in this port or any of its neighborhood, and these days it has been seen a short distance from this port, I inform Your Excellency of it so that you may give me orders of what I must

do to obey the precepts of Your Excellency, whom I wish heaven to favor all the years: Santoña February 17, 1778

Most Excellent Lord Conde de Florida Blanca
At the feet of Your Excellency

Josef De la Villa

L, SpMAH, Estado, legajo 3884, expediente 2, document 8.

1. A cachemarin is a small two-masted craft used in Brittany and on the coast of northern Spain. Another account describes the privateer as a small boat, from Jersey, carrying eight cannon and a crew of forty. Diego de Gardoqui to Bernardo del Campo, 20 Jan. 1778, SpMAH, Estado, legajo 3884, expediente 2, document 4.

February 18

MINUTE OF CABINET

[London] February 18th 1778.

Present:

Lord President¹
Lord Privy Seal²
Lord Suffolk
Lord Sandwich
Lord George Germain
Lord Weymouth
Lord North

It was at this meeting unanimously agreed to send orders to the commanders-in-chief on the foreign stations to search and take American ships, or ships loaded for the American colonies now in rebellion, though under convoy of other powers, if they meet them in the open sea.

Sandwich Papers 1: 270.

1. Earl Gower.
2. Earl of Dartmouth.

LORD GEORGE GERMAIN TO GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE

(N^o. 26)

Whitehall 18th Feby 1778.

The Hon^{ble}: Sir William Howe.

Sir,

The inclosed Duplicate of my Letter to you of the 4th. instant,¹ by the Packet, will inform you that His Majesty has been graciously pleased to acquiesce in your Request of Leave to quit your Command, and return to England, provided Sir Henry Clinton shall not have left America before that Letter reaches your hands. I now avail myself of the Opportunity of a Ship of War, dispatched express for the purpose of conveying to you and Lord Howe, in the speediest manner, Advice of the salutary measure under the consideration of Parliament, of which you will be fully informed by my separate Letter of this day's Date,² to add, to what I have expressed in my former Letter, that His Majesty, from the Experience He has had of your Zeal and Attachment, to His Service, has the fullest Confidence that whilst

you continue in the Command, you will lay hold of every Opportunity of putting an End to the Rebellion, & inducing a Submission to legal Government, by a due Exertion of the Force under your Orders.—Every means will be employed to augment that Force, and I have the Satisfaction to acquaint you that His Majesty has received the most uncommon Testimonies of Affection and Support in the Prosecution of the War, if the Obstinacy of the Colonies, in rejecting the generous Terms now held out to them, shall make it necessary to continue it, not only from Parliament, but from the People in general.

Several Noblemen & Gentlemen of extensive Influence, and some great Cities, have undertaken to raise new Corps, and in London, Bristol, & many other Towns, considerable Sums have been subscribed to be given in Bounties to Recruits for the old Regiments; nevertheless as the Season must be far advanced before so large Reinforcement can be sent out as might be sufficient to enable you to act at any distance from the Sea Coast His Majesty's Intentions are that you should begin your Operation as early as possible by detaching such a number of Troops as can be spared, consistent with the defensive Plan you have proposed, and, in Conjunction with the Fleet, may be sufficient to attack the Sea Ports in the Province of Massachuset's Bay, Connecticut, and New Hampshire, for the purpose of destroying their Ships of War and Privateers, by which the Trade of this Kingdom has been so greatly annoyed, and incapacitating them from fitting out others with the like Intent.

You will therefore lose no time in concerting with the Admiral the best means of effecting this very essential Service. I am &c^a.

Geo: Germain

Copy, UKLPR, C.O. 5/95, fols. 30–32.

1. *Documents of the American Revolution 1770–1783 (Colonial Office Series)*, edited by K. G. Davies (Dublin, Ireland: Irish University Press, 1976), vol. 15, *Transcripts 1778*, 37–38.

2. Circular Letter from Lord George Germain to Commissioners for Restoring Peace, General Sir William Howe, Governor William Tryon, Lieut-General Sir Henry Clinton, Commanding Officer at Rhode Island, Governor Patrick Tynyn. *Ibid.*, 48. "The salutary measure[s] under the consideration of Parliament" were conciliatory bills proposed by Lord North in his speech in Parliament on 12 Feb. On the basis of the terms of those bills, which included the renunciation of Parliament's right to tax the American colonies, a new commission, eventually to be known as the Carlisle Commission, was to be sent to America to negotiate peace. Charles R. Ritcheson, *British Politics and the American Revolution* (Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1954; reprint ed., Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1981), 258–71.

REGULATING CAPTAINS TO PHILIP STEPHENS

Extract of a Letter from the
regulating Captains to M^r Stephens
dated Tower Hill 18th. February 1778

Please to inform their Lordships y^t Yesterday we received Information of two Americans being on board the *Kent*; lying at Dukes Shore; a Sloop bound to Dunkirk upon which we directed Lieutenant Drew to go on board the *Kent* & secure them, which he immediately affected, (about an hour before the Sloop sailed) on examining them this day we find that one of them, John Carr, was born at Newberry Port, in the Province of Massachusets Bay, that he sailed from thence in the *Dolphin*¹ an Armed Vessel, and was bound to Nantz in France, was taken on her Passage by His Majesty's Ship *Raisable*, and on her arrival he was sent to Mill

Prison at Plymouth, from whence he made his escape, with Johnson² who commanded the *Lexington*.

the other John Sutherland, was born in Norfolk County Virginia, was taken in the *Lexington* Privatier, & made his escape from Mill Prison with the abovementiond Carr, Johnson and others: we have ordered them into close Confinement & beg their Lordships directions how they are to be disposed of.³

Copy, UknMM, Adm./M/404. Docketed: "Recd in M^r Stephens Letter of 23^d Feb^r 1778."

1. An error for *Dalton*, a Massachusetts privateer brigantine that sailed out of Newburyport on 15 Nov. 1776 and which H.M.S. *Raisnable* captured on 24 Dec. the same year. *NDAR* 7: 802.

2. Capt. Henry Johnson, commander of Continental Navy brigantine *Lexington*.

3. In his letter to the Commissioners for Sick and Hurt in which he enclosed this extract, Philip Stephens conveyed the instructions of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the prisoners be recommitted to Mill Prison. *Ibid*.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, 1778*]

18th of Feb^r. Wednesday fair w^r The Governor of Plymouth with his Lady here to Look upon us who says it is Expected that the Americans will be soon Discharged from Prison; but I'm afraid, not true.

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL NICHOLSON TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Honorable Gent^l

Quiberone Bay Feb^r. 18th. 1778

I wrote you the 12th. Ins^t from this Place at w^{ch} time I thought we were all Happy on board,¹ but fortunately I believe I may Venture to say, Capt Corvisen & my self had some small difference, on acc^t of w^{ch}. he and his Officers have done all in their Power to throw every thing into Confusion, but very fortunately M^r Williams² Came on board the next Day, who with the Unprejudiced part our worthy Commedore³ Acted; has setteled the Matter to my satisfaction, & I am convinced will turn out for the Publick Good, Matters at first were related I make no doubt much to my Prejudice, but as things has, & allways will speak for them selves; I believe every Officer in the Fleet, by this time are well Convinced I have been very Ill treated; & nothing but the Good of my Country cou'd have made me put up with; I will say no more on the subject but leave the whole of my Conduct from the first of this affair, to M^r Williams, who I make no doubt will give you A true & Impartial Acc^t of the whole—all is well now on board & there is only 18 French men left us Officers Included & the greatest part of them I refused to take, they being encapubale of any kind of duty I am [&c.]

Samuel Nicholson

L, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 118. Addressed: "To/The Honorable Silas Deane/Esq/Paris." Docketed: "Capt. Nicholson Feb. 18 1778."

1. See above.

2. Jonathan Williams, Jr.

3. Chef d'Escadre Toussaint-Guillaume, Chevalier de La Motte-Picquet.

AGREEMENTS CONCERNING WAGES AND PRIZE MONEY
OF CONTINENTAL NAVY CUTTER *REVENGE'S* CREW

[*Bilbao, Spain, 14-18 February 1778*]

[1.]

En la Ville De Bilbao le seize fevrier mil sept Cent soixante dix huit, sont comparus anthoine Joseph Chartrelt, Dominique Marchon, andré de Dua, Pierre françois de Niept, marc Joseph Vidor, Joseph Marin, Et Jean françois Robert qui ont Dit quavec Joseph alexandre, Jean Bagner, Jean Jorge Soltner, vincent Sandar, anthoine Puch, françois de la Seca, Beessÿ [,] Blondiiÿ, Pierre Escanett, Pierre leshon, philippe ferbor, et leclerc, avoir navigué en Course, Contre la nation Britanique, Dans la Chaloupe De guerre nomméé la *Benganza*, Capitaine Gustave Cuningham, americain avec laquelle ils ont fait plusieurs prises, et entré en cette ville, lesquels Desirant regler avec leur d. Capitaine, et attendre quil nest pas possible de liquider au Juste ce qui Peut leur revenir, attendre quon ne Sçait point si quelqu'unes de leurs prises ont été reprises ou non, et que dautres ne sont point encore Vendües, pour quoy le Sieur Guilhem hodge agent De la d. Chaloupe auroit offert aux d. comparans lesquels ont reçu pour toutes leurs pretentions dans les d. prises, et chacun Deux huit pieces faisant cent soixante Dix Reaux comme Il Paroit par la carte de Payement ou Ils ont Declaré se tenir contens et satisfaits, et a laquelle se sont Conformés les d. Joseph alexandre, Jean Bagner Et Consorts, Contre laquelle les sus d. Comparans Declarent que quoyquils ayant convenus des d. propositions se reserver leurs droits leurs Droits en cas quil leur revienne meilleure Part aux sus d. prises, faisant la presente protestation pour quils puissent Demander et repetter tous leurs Droits, sans que les Conditions quils ont fait, puissent leurs prejudicier, laquelle reserve et protestation faite par les sus d. sept Comparans a Celles fins que la carte de Payement ne puisse leur prejudicier, contre laquelle ils protestent tout ce quon peut protester, et ce en presence de Mathieu Martin delongaray leur procureur, lequel a pretté le serment requis pour les d. comparans, le d. Jour et an que Dessus, signés chartrel, J. marin, Pierre de Nieppe, et comme leur procureur Mathieu Martin delongaray

En presence de SS^m. de Vesine de cette noble Ville de Bilbao, a Comparu personelement le Sieur quiery, pratique de la langue françoise qui a dit que Joseph Marin, et michel Marchon, de la meme nation, qui aussi presens, ont requis que pour que la protestation par eux faite par Devant m^c. delongaray leur pro^{eur} Valide Et ait sa force, soit Verifiéé et par nous scelléé et aprouvéé en notre office de notaire setenir contents et Satisfaits, reconnoissant etre finanelement payés par cette Deliberation par laquelle ils ont obligé comme ils obligent en leurs personnes tous leurs Biens, Se desistant et desistent de tous droits qui peuvent leurs correspondre, ainsy a Eté conclu et arreté en presence du d. longaray interprete, et Ecrivain: Joseph alexandre, Jean Wangner, Jean Sorge Soltner: Vizante Sandar: Recler, Blandin, pierre leciums: chartrel, Marin Manuel Mahmaon, mathieu martin delongaray presence de Dominique de Vgartte, et du N^{re}. public en la possession duquel et en Son office aresté la presente occupé par manuel anthoine de aranguren No^{re}. public du Sa majesté de cette ditte noble ville de Bilbao, laquelle a été affirméé et Signéé par Son Secretaire, fait et passé au d. Bilbao le 17. f^{er}. 1778. pour temoin lecler Manuel anthoine de aranguren

Delivré la presente Exp^{on}. a Joseph
Marin. lequel a payé 16 Reaux de veillon

[2.]

Mathieu Martin de longaray, acompagné d'anthoine Chartral, anthoine lamberto, andré Marran, joseph Vidor Et consorts, ont comparu et dit que Desirant traiter avec leur Capitaine americain pour quil leur soit payé a chacun ce qui peut leur appartenir et Eviter toutes procedures ils ont pris lavoye amiable et choisy un Interprete pour Expliquer leurs Raisons, qui competent a chacun des dits comparans, et ce en presence du d. capitaine, qui a celles fins consent payer aux d. representans ce qui Peut leur revenir, et declarent que se quils fairont par le present Ecrit aura la meme force et valeur quen justice, &^a le d. longaray a la tete de la presente repetition, a déclaré que pour la part qui revient Separement a ramon Naulan, comme il paroît Et resulte par le precedent verbal du capitaine, ainsy que par les attestations qua presenté le d. Ramon, a Eté choisy pour mediateur le Reverend Pere, vicaire de Cahadas, en consequence le d. interprete a demandé que les pretentions du d. Raimon fussent liquidéé, comme celles de tous les interessés, et a faute de ce que le d. Raimon se pourvoiroit comme il aviseroit Bon Etre ou pour quil ni eut pas derreur ni illusion sa part Et portion fut quittéé a Son cousin, en vertu de quoy nous arretons par cet Ecrit dapeler et requerir son d. cousin a celles fins en donner avis au pilote major lequel a eté mandé par M^{rs} prier et consuls de cette université de cette ville de Bilbao, fait au d. Endroit le 14 fevrier 1778. Signés arechaga: Gonzalo: Mena: anttemy Manuel anttonio de aranguren, certiffié veritable: Manuel anttonio de Aranguren.¹

En la ville de Bilbao le 16. f^{er} 1778. en presence du mediateur et pour Se conformer a ce qui a eté convenu a l'Ecrit precedent, le S^r com^r Guillermo hoogue agent de la chaloupe de guerre nommée *Benganza* Capitaine Gustave coningam, lequel a comparu pour manuel Ramon, et requis apeller les nommés, Joseph alexandre, jean Bagner, jean jorge Solrrer, Vizantte Sandar, anthoine Such, François delaseca, Berly, Blandyn, Pierre Escarent pierre leshon, philipe ferbor, lecler, anthoine joseph chantele, Dominique marchoin, andrè de dua, pierre françois de miet, marc joseph Vidor, joseph Marin, et Jean françois Robert, qui ont dit que par la mediation de leur interprete, ils confessent et Declarent que pour toutes leurs pretentions qui peuvent leur competer des prises et du tems quils ont navigué avec la d. chaloupe de Guerre, avec le d. capitaine Gustave, et ce au tribunal de M^{rs} les prier et consuls de luniversité de cette d. ville et après avoir Expliqué leurs raisons avoir reconnu et arretté quil revenoit a chacun deux pour tout reste de toutes pretentions cent soixante dix Reaux, de quoy ils Se Sont contentés totalement et demis de tout recours contre le d. capitaine ou autres, et en consequence confessent en presence du d. seigneur Ess^{no}. et de mathieu Martin de longaray leur procureur avoir Recu En Monnaye Dargent les d. cent Soixante dix Reaux, chacun Deux, au nombre de dix neuf, Denommés en tete du present, De quoy ils confessent apostolique, et procureur du N^o. de cette, M. N^o. y. M. L. Seigneur de Viscaya, lequel a affirmé et signé au pied de la d. protestation De sa main propre et acoutuméé, et Pour quelle sorte son plein et entier Effet en tout ce quelle Contient, Jay certiffié en ce Papier Commun, le timbre netant pas usité que foy Doit etre ajoutéé en tout son Contenu En foy de quoy Jay signé la presente et Passé En la d. ville de Bilbao le 17. f^{er} 1778.

Signés, [?]ntes [?]im P^a. clerc. Jean Bapⁿ. de Basarsilbaso. S^o. R^l. P^{co}.

Nous Deputé de la nation françoise Residant dans cette ville de Bilbao Certiffions a qui il apartiendra que Jⁿ. Bapⁿ. de Basarsilbaso dont la signature est cy Dessus est no^{re}. Royal et quen cette qualité toute foy doit estre ajoutée aux actes passés par Devant luy tant en Jugement que Dehors, en foy de quoy et pour quil Courte ou Besoin sera, nous donnons le present auquel avons opposé le Scel de Sa majesté a Bilbao ou le papier timbré nest point en usage le 18. fevrier 1778. signé Dabadie./.

[Translation]

[1.]

In the city of Bilbao, the 16th February 1778, appeared Anthoine Joseph Chartrelt, Dominique Marchon, André de Dua, Pierre François de Niept, Marc Joseph Vidor, Joseph Marin, and Jean François Robert, who said that, with Joseph Alexandre, Jean Bagner, Jean Jorge Soltner, Vincent Sandar, Anthoine Puch, François de la Seca, Beesdÿ [,] Blondiiÿ, Pierre Escanett, Pierre Leshon, Philippe Ferbor, and Leclerc, they had sailed on a cruise against the British nation in the sloop of war called the *Revenge*, Captain Gustavus Conyngnam, American, with which they made several prizes; and having come into this city, they wish to settle with their said captain, with the understanding that it is presently impossible to determine exactly what could come due to them, it being not yet known whether any of their prizes have been recaptured, and others being not yet sold. In payment for all their claims in the said prizes, each of the said parties here appearing has received eight pieces, amounting to 170 reales, as it is shown on the payroll, a sum with which they have declared themselves content and satisfied, and to which the said Joseph Alexander, Jean Bagner, and associates have agreed; and although the above mentioned persons here appearing have agreed to the said propositions, they declare that they reserve to themselves their rights in the event there a better share in the above mentioned prizes comes due them, which would thereby render the present protest contestable, such that the parties be permitted to request and reclaim all their rights and not be held bound to the conditions that they have currently accepted. Both this stipulation and the protest made by the above mentioned seven persons here appearing are made so that the payroll might not be able to prejudice them, against which they protest all that can be protested, and this in the presence of Mathieu Martin de Longaray, their attorney, who has sworn the required oath on behalf of the said persons here appearing, the said day and year as stated above, signed Chartrel, J. Marin, Pierre de Nieppe, and as their attorney, Mathieu Martin de Longaray.

In the presence of M. de Vesine of this noble city of Bilbao has appeared in person M. Quiery, practitioner of the French language, who said that Joseph Marin and Michel Marchon, also present and of the same nation, require that the protest made by them through their attorney M. de Longaray be verified and by us sealed and approved in our notary office in order to be valid and in effect; and declaring themselves content and satisfied, acknowledge receipt of payment resultant from this deliberation by which they have obligated as they have obligated all their goods, and relinquish all rights that can pertain to them. Thus has been concluded and resolved in the presence of the said Longaray, translator and scribe: Joseph Alexandre, Jean Wangner, Jean Sorge Soltner: Vizante Sandar: Recler, Blandin, Pierre Leciums: Chartrel, Marin[,] Manuel Mahmaon, Mathieu Martin

deLongaray in the presence of Dominique de Vgartte, and of the notary public (the post being presently occupied by Manuel Anthoine de Aranguren, notary public of His Majesty of this said noble city of Bilbao), and affirmed and signed by his secretary, done and passed in the said Bilbao, the 17th February 1778. Witness the clerk Manuel Anthoine de Aranguren
 Delivered the present copy to Joseph Marin,
 who paid 16 reales de vellon.

[2.]

Mathieu Martin de Longaray, accompanied by Anthoine Chartral, Anthoine Lamberto, André Marran, Joseph Vidor, and associates, have appeared and said that, desiring to negotiate with their American captain for payment of what is due each man, and to avoid all legal procedures, they have decided on an amicable settlement and chosen a translator to represent their interests to the said captain, as far as what is due each of them. To this end, the captain, has consented to pay to the said representatives what is due, and they declare that what is decided in the present agreement will have the same force and effect as if done in a court of justice; and the said Longaray, at the head of the present claim, declared that in the matter of deciding that which is due separately to Ramon Naulan, as it appears and results by the preceding statement of the captain, as well as in the attestations presented by the said Ramon, the Reverend Father, vicar of Cahadas, has been chosen as mediator; in consequence, the said translator has requested that the claims of the said Raimon may be dispensed in the same manner as those of all other interested parties, and failing this, the said Ramon proceed as he deems best or so that he may have neither error nor illusion, his share and portion be dispensed to his cousin, by virtue of which we delay as of this writing, in order to summon and request his said cousin to these ends in giving notice to the chief pilot who has been sent by the Messrs. prior and consuls of this university of this city of Bilbao. Done in the said place, the 14th February 1778. Signed Arechaga: Gonzalo: Mena: Anttemy, Manuel Anttonio de Aranguren, certified accurate: Manuel Anttonio de Aranguren.¹

In the city of Bilbao the 16th February 1778, in the presence of the mediator and in order to conform to that which has been agreed to in the preceding document, Commander William Hodge, agent of the sloop of war called *Revenge*, Captain Gustavus Conyngham, who has appeared for Manuel Ramon, and requested to summon the named, Joseph Alexander, Jean Bagner, Jean Jorge Solrrer, Vizantte Sandar, Anthoine Such, François Delaseca, Berly, Blandyn, Pierre Escarent, Pierre Leshon, Philipe Ferbor, Lecler, Anthoine Joseph Chantele, Dominique Marchoin, Andrè Dua, Pierre François de Miet, Marc Joseph Vidor, Joseph Marin, and Jean François Robert, who said through the mediation of their translator that they confess and declare that for all the claims that can be due them from the prizes and from the time that they sailed with the said sloop of war, with the said Captain Gustavus, and this in the tribunal of the Messrs. prior and consuls of the university of this said city, and after explaining their reasons, have acknowledged and determined that there will come due to each of them 170 reales in payment for all outstanding claims, a sum with which they are totally content, and resign all recourse against the said captain or others; in consequence each of the nineteen parties named at the head of the present document confess

in the presence of the said lord and of Mathieu Martin de Longaray, their attorney, and swear on the Apostles to have received in silver coin the said 170 reales; attorney of the notary of this, Lord de Viscaya, who has affirmed and signed at the foot of the said protest in his own hand and has confirmed, so that it bears its full and entire effect in all that it contains; I have certified on the ordinary paper, the stamp not being used, that full credit may be given to all its contents, in faith of which I have signed the present and passed in the said city of Bilbao, the 17th February 1778.

Signed, [*illegible*] clerk. Jean Bapⁿ. de Basarsilbaso. S^o. R^l. P^{co}.

We, representing the French people resident in this city of Bilbao, certify to whom it may concern that Jⁿ. Bapⁿ. de Basarsilbaso, whose signature appears above, is Royal notary and therefore full faith ought to be given to the acts passed before him as much in judgment as outside, in faith of which and for whatever need will be, we owe the present to which we have attached the Seal of His Majesty at Bilbao, where stamped paper is not used, the 18th February 1778. Signed Dabadie.

Copy, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 57, no. 13. Docketed: "affaire/de Cuningham."

1. In the margin: "Ecrit de payement"; "Agreement of payment."

HERMAN KATENCAMP TO LORD WEYMOUTH

N^o: 78.

Corunna 18th. Febr 1778—

My Lord

This Day sennight I had the Honor to address to your Lordship my last Letter.

I have lately received from M^r Edmund Elsdon of Lynn a Letter acquainting me that Application had been made to your Lordship in order to procure the Release of James Grice¹ (Ransomer to the Brig *Patty*) now Prisoner on board the Rebel Cutter commanded by Gustaf Cunningham.² I am therein desired, in case his Liberty cannot be obtained unconditionally, to pay Cunningham or his Agents the Ransom. I have had similar Directions from the Owners of other vessels which have been taken and sent into the Ports of my Department, but having some Doubt respecting the Propriety of ransoming them as it can only tend to encourage the American Privateers to continue in these Seas, and appears inconsistent with the Application made to the Court of Spain not to permit the Disposal of such Prizes in its Dominions. I did not think to undertake it without express Orders from Lord Grantham. His Excellency has just wrote me that he had applied to the Spanish minister for the Release of James Grice unconditionally, but seems to be of my Opinion respecting the Propriety of paying the Ransom, hence before I take any Steps therein I most humbly beg to be honor'd with your Lordship's respected Commands for the Rule of my Conduct.

This Port has received no visits from American Privateers since Cunningham's Departure who is said to be still in Bilbao where his last Prize was permitted to be sold publicly without the least Interruption—

I most humbly beg leave to recommend myself to the Continuance of your Lordship's Favor and Protection thro' which I flatter myself to be removed to a better Consulship when a vacancy will admit of it, and have the Honor to be with the greatest veneration. [&c.]

H Katencamp

L, UklPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fols. 88–89. Addressed at the foot of the first page: “The R^h Hon^{ble}. Lord Viscount Weymouth.” Docketed: “Coruña 18 Feb^r 1778/Consul Katenkamp/(N^o 78)/R. 12 March.”

1. NDAR 10: 901–2.

2. Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*, Captain Gustavus Conyngham, commander.

February 19

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, February 1778*]

19th. Thursday fair weath^r Mr. Heath & Sorrey bro^r Each of the Prisoners a Linnen Handkerchief—Also left Money 3s. for Each of the Commission'd Officers, which is the first they have Rec^d. since the Elopement of our Officers, which is all in Silver. This Day finished y^e. Chimney which has been all Winter in Agitation; the Maisons are Now Employed in the Itchy ward.¹

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. The “itchy ward” was a portion of the prison hospital set aside for sufferers from mange.

CAPTAIN MATTHEW PARKE TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Sir,

Ranger Feb^r 19th 1778

I have before me a Copy of a petition from the Lieutenants and Master to you, requesting you would dispose of me that I might not interfere with them in the division of prize money, as the Three twentieths belongs solely to them, that no person of my Rank is allowed on board any Ship under Twenty Guns.¹ I know of no such Resolves however, the two Prizes taken on our Passage,² I have an undoubted right to my part of, according to Resolves of Congress. On our arrival in France I expected to have the Happiness of going on board the Frigate you was to have had the command of,³ this has failed, and these officers are very much dissatisfied at my continuing on board any longer in my Station.

Sir, considering my future happiness and the welfare of the service, I do request a discharge from this Ship (tho' very disagreeable) that I may return in the Frigate *Deane* to America. I am [&c.]

M. Parke

L, DLC, Peter Force Collection, Papers of John Paul Jones, no. 6700. Addressed on cover: “John Paul Jones Esq^r/Commander of the Continental Ship of War”; addressed below the close: “John Paul Jones Esq^r/Commander of the American Continental Ship of War/*Ranger*.”

1. Lieutenants in *Ranger* to Captain John Paul Jones, 14 Feb., above.

2. Brigantines *George* and *Mary*.

3. *Indien*.

WILLIAM HODGE TO JOHN ROSS

M^r John Ross

Dear Sir—

Bilboa Feb^r 19th 1778—

You will probably think that I have been very Neglectfull in not writing to you oftener, And the only Apology that I Can offer is, that I have been engaged in the

most troublesome affair that ever I undertook And had I expected that I Should have had half the trouble to Encounter with, the Cutter¹ might have Remained years in Bilboa, before I would have taken the Management of her, but as I engaged with you and M^r Deane that I would take Charge of her, I am determined that Nothing Shall be wanting on my part—All Our Seamen had left the Cutter before my Arrival at Bilboa, but the New England Seamen going on board to pursue the Tobacco Brig, Occasioned our people to go on board likewise, but as Soon as She Returned to S^t Anthonys Our people again left the Vessell—I Immediately went up to S^t Anthonys, and when I went on board, there were a greater [*number*] of prisoners than of Our Men, and its being an Open port, I Wonder that they did not take the Vessell from our people—After my going on board with Six Men as a Reinforcement, there was Still danger, but thank God, we brought her Safe into Bilboa, and I have had nothing but trouble with Our people ever Since—I have been obliged to Settle with them for their Wages and prize Money, and after all One half have left the Vessell. The Wages and disbursements upon the Cutter Am^{ts} to R^s. of Vellon 109284 and the Share of prize Money to the Officers & Crew Amounts to 137750 R^s. of V. Besides their Share of prize Money of the Ship *Hope* and Cargo (which was brought into this port Since my Arrival) in which they Shared one Third and forty two Volunteers who Shared at the Rate of One half, The Ship *Hope* N^r R^s. of V 239..458..24 which Money together with Some More I have been Obliged to take up to discharge the demands against the Cutter—A Letter from the Hon^l Arthur Lee Esq^r To Cap^t Conyngham has been of Considerable detriment to Me and has puzzled Me to know how to Act in Regard to the Accounts, it appears very Artfull and Wicked—As well as a Letter he wrote to Corrunna, likewise One Wrote to the Gardoquies,² who he desires to furnish the Cutter with a Credit only for One half of her disbursements and Charges, Or only half he Says belongs to the Congress—I Shall Enclose you a Copy of the Letter to M^r Ligoniere at Corunna and likewise a Copy of the letter to Captain Conyngham—I hope you will employ Your pen with this Gentleman and Send the Copys to M^r Deane—

The Vessell is very indifferently Manned, Nevertheless I Shall Set Sail to Morrow for Martinique, to which place I hope you will Write Me And inform Me what Answer you have from Arthur Lee Esq^r—M^r Beach³ our first Lieutenant has left Us and will be with you in a few Weeks, he will be a proper person to take Charge of the Cutter that is with you,⁴ if She is not disposed off, I would Recommend that you would Send her to Martinique if She is delivered up to Us—Cap^t Conyngham's unfortunately taking the French Brig,⁵ has been the Occasion of Upwards of Ten Thousand dollars being Stopped in Our friends hands at Corunna, and how the Affair will End I know not—I Shall leave Cap^t Conynghams Accounts of wages and disbursements upon the Cutter to be forwarded you by Mess^{rs}. Gardoques—I am Obliged to hurry out of the port as it is possible that an Order may Come against the Cutter, in Consequence of her taking the French Brig—Cap^t Conyngham Request me to inform you that there is a ballance due him And in Case any Accident Should happen, that you would take Care that his Wife might Receive it—My Compliments to all friends—And Accept the Same from your friend—& humble Serv^t—

Signed W: Hodge

L, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. Docketed: "M^r Hodge to M^r Ross/Bilboa 19 feb. 1778"; "M^r Jn^o. Ross Lett^r. 12th March 1778."

1. Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*.
2. Probably the letter written on 15 Nov. 1777, NDAR 10: 996.
3. Lt. John Beach, Continental Navy.
4. Continental Navy cutter *Dolphin*.
5. French brig *Gracieux*, Emanuel de Tournois, master, taken on 21 Dec. 1777.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP
PELICAN, DATED LISBON, FEB. 19."

"We have taken two American vessels, which we sent for England under convoy of the *Sprightly* cutter, but have since heard they were lost in bad weather.¹ We have since put to sea on a cruize, and sprung our bowsprit, and carried away our mizen-topsail-yard and gib-boom in a gale of wind, which has obliged us to return to the Tagus to refit."

London Chronicle, 24–26 Mar. 1778.

1. *Sprightly* capsized off Guernsey in December 1777.

February 20

LORD WEYMOUTH TO LORD GRANTHAM

N^o. 4/

My Lord,

St. James's 20th February 1778.

The Letters from Your Excellency to N^o. 6¹ have been received and laid before The King.

His Majesty approves of Your Excy's having given proper Attention That the Appeal of the Prize *Syren* taken by Cunningham should be represented in it's true Light to the Council of War; and I am to recommend to you this important Object.

His Majesty learns with great Satisfaction That M. d'Almodovar is appointed Ambassador from His Cath^k. Majesty to this Court, and That he would be instructed to use his best Means to preserve good Harmony between the two Courts. Your Excy will please to signify This to M. de Florida Blanca and renew the Assurances so often & so sincerely made of His Majesty's earnest Desire to remove every Cause of mistrust.

I very much hope That I shall shortly receive a Confirmation of the Report mentioned in your's N^o. 5² That Cunningham had been sent from Ferrol, and had received orders not to return to any Spanish Port. The assistance that has been so long & so frequently given to this Pirate does not agree with the Assurances so often renewed by His Catholick Majesty's ministers of his Desire of avoiding every real Cause of Complaint from this Court.

I transmit to your Excy Copy of a Letter³ I have received from Mess^{rs}. James Sutton & C^o. relative to the *Nancy* Schooner; also Copy of a Letter⁴ from Edm^d Burke Esq^r; one of the Representatives of the City of Bristol, with several original Papers inclosed in his Letter, containing an Account of the *Hope* & the said *Nancy* Schooner being taken by American Privateers and carried into the Ports of Spain. I am to direct your Excy to pay all Attention to the matter contained in these several Papers, and use your best Endeavours to recover the Property for the owners.

I also inclose to your Excy Copy of a Letter⁵ from Lord Macartney to Lord George Germain with five Inclosures. You will represent the Matter therein complained of to M. de Florida Blanca, and represent to that Minister how essential it is That Instructions should be sent to the Governor of Trinidade to use his Endeavour to suppress such Piracies and Robberies as are there stated, and to cause proper Compensation to be made to the Sufferers. I am &c.

Weymouth

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fols. 56–58. Addressed: “20, Feb^{ry} 1778/To His Excellency/Lord Grantham/N^o 4.”

1. Lord Grantham to Lord Weymouth, 29 Jan., UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fols. 48–50.
2. Lord Grantham to Lord Weymouth, 22 Jan., UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fols. 36–37.
3. A note in the margin reads: “7 feb^{ry}.” Printed above at 7 Feb.
4. A note in the margin reads: “16 feb^{ry}.” Edmund Burke to Lord Weymouth, 16 Feb., above.
5. A note in the margin reads: “24 Oct^r 1777.” *NDAR* 10: 277–78.

HENRI-MAXIMILIEN GRAND TO RODOLPHE-FERDINAND GRAND

Extrait de la lettre de M^r Henry Grand.

Londres le 20. fevrier 1778

Je profite, Mon cher Papa, de l'occasion qui s'offre par M^r Barchmann, pour vous entretenir plus ouvertement de nos affaires.

Je suis ici depuis huit jours. Mes premières démarches ont été d'aller voir M. L'Ambassadeur; après l'avoir mis au fait de notre affaire,¹ il m'a fait espérer que le Navire serais reclamé, mais qu'il n'avait point eut d'ordres. Il est encore je crois à les attendre. Il m'a remis à dimanche pour savoir si j'entamerais un procès pour reclamer le Navire par voye juridique, ou s'il en ferait son affaire. Pour moi je suis grandement d'avis que si les ordres ne sont point encore venus, ils ne viendront jamais, et si tant est cela deviendra une très mauvaise affaire.

J'ai entendu dire que le Gouvernement français se proposait de ne point reclamer les navires pris en dernier lieu, mais qu'il se contenterait de les faire es-corter. Je crois qu'on aurait bien tort de mettre celle nouvelle entrave à notre commerce; je l'envisage telle, par ce que je conclus de là qu'on ne reclamera pas plus les navires qui sont encore à prendre, et je puis vous assurer qu'ils ne seront pas en petit nombre si l'on montre une pareille faiblesse.

Je ne sais si nous devons à pareil motif, un ordre très rigoureux, que l'Amirauté vient de donner à tous les Capitaines de Vaisseaux du Roi, de s'em-parer de tous les vaisseaux français, n'importe où, l'orsqu'ils leur trouveraient l'ombre de munitions à bord. Ceci n'est point une nouvelle en l'air; je la tiens de M^r Nesbitt, membre du Parlement, à qui elle a été dite par le Second Lord de l'amirauté.² Ceci joint à un grand bruit qui court, que la france vient de signer un traité de Commerce avec les Amériquains, et un Emprunt de 200. millions de Livres tournois qui va s'ouvrir ici, me fait croire que le Public n'a pas tort de croire la Guerre très prochaine.

J'ai été aujourd'huy à l'amirauté, pour obtenir ma liberté; j'y ai laisse une re-quête que notre Ambassadeur a goûtée, et je dois demain avoir une réponse du secrétaire.

J'ai reçu depuis mon arrivé ici, deux lettres de notre Capitaine;³ il me marque qu'on a presque tous déchargé le navire, qu'on lui a offert de lui rendre toute sa

pacotille s'il voulait avouer quelque chose et par contre menacé d'une étrange manière. Il a fait dresser, ainsi que je l'en avais chargé, un acte par le quel, lui et ses Lieutenants, déclarent leur vraye destination. Il a ensuite un acte par le quel un matelot déclare lui avoir été offert de l'argent pour dire que nous allions à l'Amérique Septentrionale, et en même tems, qu'il serait exempté de la prison, qui sera la punition infaillible du reste de l'équipage, à ce que lui disait l'officier qui commande à bord, et que le Capitaine serait pendu. Je ne conçois pas comment ce pauvre Diable à pû résister à tout cela.⁴

[Translation]

Extract of the letter from M. Henry Grand.

London 20 February 1778

I make use, my dear Father, of the occasion offered by M. Barchmann to apologise you more openly about our affairs.

I have been here eight days. My first steps have been to visit the ambassador; after bringing him up to date about our affair,¹ he gave me hope that the vessel would be reclaimed, but he had not yet had any orders. I believe he is still expecting them. He sent to me on Sunday to inquire if I would begin a process to reclaim the vessel through legal means, or if he should make it his affair. For myself, I am largely of the opinion that if the orders have not yet come, they will never come, and if such is the case, the affair will turn out very badly.

I have heard said that the French government has decided not to reclaim the most recently seized vessels, but that it will content itself with having its ships escorted. I believe that it would be a mistake to put this new impediment on our commerce. I foresee such, because I conclude from it that the ships that are yet to be taken will not be reclaimed, and I can assure you that there will not be a small number of them if one displays such weakness.

Perhaps attributable to a similar cause a very rigorous order that the Admiralty has just given to all the captains of the king's ships, to seize all French vessels, anywhere, when there is found the slightest trace of munitions on board them. This is not merely rumor—the information comes from Mr. Nesbitt, a member of Parliament, to whom it was told by the Second Lord of the Admiralty.² This combined with the rumor that France has just signed a commercial treaty with the Americans, as well as a loan of 200 million livres tournois that is going to be opened here, leads me to believe that the public is correct in its belief that war is imminent.

I went today to the Admiralty to obtain my liberty. While there I left a request that our Ambassador has approved, and to which I should have a response from the secretary by tomorrow.

Since my arrival here, I have received two letters from our captain;³ he tells me that the ship has been almost completely unloaded, that he has been offered his private venture if he would swear to something and, if not, threatened in a strange manner. As I had directed him to do, he had a document drawn up in which he and his lieutenants declare their true destination. There followed a document by which a sailor certifies that he was offered money to say that we were going to North America, and at the same time, that he would be exempted from prison, which would be the certain punishment of the rest of the crew, as the offi-

cer who commanded on board said to him, and that the captain would be hanged. I cannot conceive how this poor devil was able to resist all that.⁴

Copy, FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 528, fols. 292–93. Docketed: “joint à la lettre du M^r Grand du 24 Fev^r 1778”; “enclosed with the letter from Mr. Grand of 24 Feb. 1778.”

1. The affair was that of the British seizure of the French merchantman *Thamas Koulikan*.

2. See Minute of Cabinet, 18 Feb., above. The second lord of the admiralty was John Buller.

3. Noël Le Peru.

4. Louis Teissier, whom Rodolphe-Ferdinand Grand employed to represent his claim to the *Thamas Koulikan* in the British courts, wrote that “it is said publicly in the quarter of the court that an officer or passenger of the *Thamas Koulikan* had declared under oath that he had received a gratuity for taking the ship into some port in the possession of the rebels.” Teissier to Rodolphe-Ferdinand Grand, 10 Feb. FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 528, fol. 294.

LLOYD'S EVENING POST, AND BRITISH CHRONICLE (LONDON),
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, TO FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1778

Friday, February 20. London.

The *George* privateer, Hasmore,¹ has taken and sent into St. Augustine, two Carolina ships, and retaken a large ship, the *Neptune*, Wallace, from Quebec to Canso, which had been taken on the 15th of October by two privateer schooners, commanded by Leech and Smith, both belonging to Salem,² and, it is supposed, she was sent for that place.

1. East Florida armed ship *George*, John Hosmer, commander.

2. Massachusetts privateer schooners *Dolphin*, John Leach, commander, and *Cutter*, Silas Smith, commander.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, February 1778*]

20th. of Feb^r Friday Cloudy w^c M^r Cawdrey has Order'd the Officers that are in the Long P.¹ Down here All that were Committed as such the Others he would Not suffer to come

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. The Long Prison, a two-story, windowless structure along the north side of Mill Prison. Cohen, *Yankee Sailors*, 36.

ARTHUR LEE TO CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM

Cap^t Cunningham,
Sir

Chaillot Feb^r 20th. 1778

I have received your Letter,¹ and I am sorry for the Difficulty you have met with. I have done all I could to extricate you, however the Court of Spain is determined not to allow any Prizes ta[ken] in the manner you have yours,² to be regarded as good P[rizes] you must not however let the present Difficulties discourage you, as I think you may be sastify'd they will not last long. M^r Lagonere of Corogne ment[ioned] that you have left your Prizes at the sole disposal & order of M^r Deane. Where there is no commercial agent what ever concerns the Public of this Kind, should be left under the Direction of the Commisioners or Commisioner of Congress, for that Country. To single out one of the Commisioners, when there is Three it is not right & may be attended with Inconveniences, If

this was done by mistake, I have nothing more to Say concerning it, but if by a particular order, I desire you will send me a Copy of that Order I am [&c.]

A Copy

Arthur Lee

Copy, ScHi, Henry Laurens Papers, SCHS No. 31.

1. Probably Captain Gustavus Conyngham to Arthur Lee, 31 Jan., above.

2. Lee is referring to Conyngham's capture of the French brig *Gracieux*, Emanuel de Tournois, master, on 21 Dec. 1777.

LORD STORMONT TO LORD WEYMOUTH

Most Confidential

Paris friday night [20 Feb. 1778]

My Lord

The Importance of the Crisis occasions, and will I hope justify the Constant Trouble I give your Lordship. I avail myself of the opportunity of a safe conveyance to inform you, my Lord, that this Court seem now to be ashamed of the strange precipitate Measures they took upon the idle Report of our intended attack upon Brest. The Colonels will have Leave to return to Paris and two of the Regiments that were orderd to march out of Normandy are countermanded. But the Naval Preparations are carrying on both at Brest and Toulon with the utmost Diligence and Vigour. La *Bretagne* now at Brest a first Rate man of war of 110 Guns and reckoned the finest Ship in the french Navy is put in Commission. Great Numbers of men are constantly at work building new ships and arming and equipping every ship that is fit for Service. The Intelligence I had some time ago of orders sent to the Toulon Squadron to join that at Brest has been confirmed to me from several Quarters. I am likewise assured that fourteen or fifteen Frigates have sailed lately from Toulon, that is have stolen out one by one, but what their Destination is I have not yet been able to learn.

There seems the greatest Reason to believe that M. de la Motte Piquet who is now at Brest has received orders to sail immediately with Seven Ships of the Line Three of 74 and four of 64 Guns, and five or six frigates, to convoy all the Ships that are ready to sail for North America. Nommément four pretty large Ships from St Maloes laden with arms, warlike Stores, and various Goods for the use of the Rebels, and some thousand uniforms for the Rebel army. as these uniforms are ready made and totally different from any the French Soldiers wear, they will afford an irrefragable Proof of the Real Destination of these Ships.

M. de La Motte Piquets orders are express not to let these ships be Searched much less seized by us. as the Public in general do us the Justice to believe that we shall not depart from the just and wise Resolution we have taken to stop every foreign ship bound for North America Those who know the orders given to M. la Motte think that Hostilities are now inevitable. indeed My Lord, Should we suffer these ships so protected to pass unmolested, the Consequence is clear, Numbers will follow in the same Manner and the Rebels be amply supplied from hence with Every thing they can want. After all I know all I have seen, it is impossible for me, My Lord, to doubt an Instant that this Court is determined to give them every sort of secret succour is resolved, in a word to do us Every Injury we will endure.

one Informer tells me that M. La Motte is to sail with exactly the same ships he had in his last Cruze, but I am inclined to credit the larger Number. I am positively assured that a Company of Merchants at St. Maloes are going to send out no

less than Twenty Ships laden with Stores and diff't Merchandise for the Use of the Rebels. These ships are probably bound for one of the southern Provinces as they are to bring back Tobacco.

Count Clonard's Second Son¹ who is just returned from England and who it seems has visited all our Ports endeavours to ingratiate himself here by giving a Bad account of our Navy. He says it is far from being in the flourishing State in which we represent it and that many of our Ships are worm eaten and much decayed. The Time is perhaps drawing near when our Rivals who greedily swallow this Intelligence will learn the contrary to their Cost. I am [&c.]

Stormont

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 78/306, fols. 228–29. Addressed at foot of first page: "Lord Visct Weymouth." Docketed: "Paris friday night 20 feb. 1778/Lord Stormont/most confidential/R. 26th by M^r Wilbraham."

1. Thomas Sutton, Comte de Clonard, an officer in the Irish Brigade, had four sons. Two, John and Richard, also became officers in the Irish Brigade. The other two sons, Robert and Thomas, entered French naval service. Richard Hayes, ed., *Biographical Dictionary of Irishmen in France* (Dublin: M. H. Gill and Son, 1949), 292; Christian de La Jonquière, *Les Marins Français sous Louis XVI Guerre d'Indépendance Américaine* (Issy-les-Moulineaux, France: Muller Édition, 1996), 66.

February 21

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PLYMOUTH, FEB, 21."

"The American prisoners here¹ have received a share of the bounty of the subscribers to their relief, which, I suppose, with cloating, and some little money given them, may amount to about 3*l*. per man; they seem very happy now, and particularly in the notice that has been taken of them. Our dock yard is all hurry and bustle, and will remain so, I suppose, till the end of spring, when the ships will all be fitted for sea."

London Chronicle, 28 Feb.–3 Mar. 1778.

1. American sailors held at Mill Prison.

MICHEL LAGOANERE & CIE. TO WILLIAM HODGE

Monsieur

La Corognele 21 fevrier 1778

Nous avons reçu la lettre que vous nous avés fait lhonneur de nous ecrire le 4 du courant.¹ Le courrier est arrivé fort tard et nous n'avons que le temps de repondre a une partie de votre lettre nous reservant de le faire plus amplement le courrier prochain en vous remettant les comptes que vous nous demandés. Par la lettre que nous avons ecrire au Cap^e Conyngham² & quil vous aura sans doute communiquee vous aurés vu que par une Suit malheureuse de la prise du navire Français³ nous ne pouvons plus disposer librement des fonds que nous avons a lui dans nos mains. Des nouveaux recours des negociants de cette place appuyés d'un requisitoire du Capitaine General de S^t Sebastian ont forcé nôtre commandant a faire saisir enfin judiciairem^t dans nos mains ces mêmes fonds et nous attendons a tous moments quon nous en ensignifie l'acte. Il nous a eté impossible malgré tous nos efforts & toutes nos sollicitations de prevenir ce coup qui nous met dans limpuissance de nous conformer a vos desirs et decreditter pour le present MM

Gardoque du solde de N/C avec le Cap^e Conyngham. Cependant Ce cap^e nous ayant fait entendre qu'il auroit a Se prevaloir sur nous d'une Somme qui lui estoit necessaire pour l'equipement de son navire nous lui avions promis d'accepter ses traites et malgré ce nouvel incident nous sommes disposés a tenir nôtre promesse et dans la Crainte demure au bien de ses affaires en retardant son expedition nous accepterons ses traites ou les vôtres Jusqu'a la Concurrence de six a Sept mille pistres fortes en attendant qu'un obstacle aussi desagreable soit levé & que nous puissions suivant vos ordres disposer de la totalité de la Somme que Se trouve dans nos mains. Cest bien sincerement que nous vous assurons de tout le desagrement qu'un pareil contretemps nous fait eprouver dans cette occasion.

Par la Coppie de la lettre de M. Arthur Lee que nous avons remise au Cap^e Conyngham⁴ vous aurés vu egalement qu'en Sa qualité de Commissionaire du Congres il nous somme de retenir dans nos mains et a sa disposition La moitié du produit net des prises qui appartient selon lui au Congrès, nous ne doutons point que vous ne vous entendies avec lui pour faire, où lever, ou Confirmer une disposition que nous lui egalement les mains

Nous ne pouvons que regrettons egalement levenement qui nous a privé du plaisir de vous vois ici de vous temoigner combien nous sommes sensibles a vos obligeants expressions & avec quel zèle nous saiserons toutes les occasions de vous enmarques nôtre reconnoissance & la parfaite Consideratⁿ avec laquelle nous avons lhonneur d'être [&c.]

Lagoanere & Comp.

[Notation]

Monsieur Franklyn à bien voulu promitter d'envoyer a mess^{rs}. de lagoanere et compagnie une Lettre ostensible qui leur servirois de temoignage de sa confiance et Les autoriserois en même tems a prevenir Les v^{aux}. ameriquains qui relacheroint soit a la Corogne soit dans quelque mer des ports du royaume de galice de s'adresser a eux.⁵

[Translation]

Sir

La Corunna 21 February 1778

We received the letter that you did us the honor of writing us on the 4th of the current month.¹ The mail arrived very late and we have time only to respond to a part of your letter, reserving for the next mail a fuller reply, with which we shall send the accounts that you asked of us. By the letter that we wrote to Capt. Conyngham,² and which he will no doubt have communicated to you, you will have seen that by an unhappy result of the taking of the French ship³ we can no longer dispose freely of the funds that we have of his in our hands. New appeals of the merchants of this place bearing on a requisition of the Captain General of St. Sebastian have forced our commandant at last judicially to have seized in our hands those very funds and we expect any moment that we will be informed of the act. It has been impossible for us, despite all our efforts and all our solicitations, to prevent the blow that puts it out of our power to conform to your desires and discharge for the present Messrs. Gardoqui's account with Capt. Conyngham. However, the captain having made us understand that he will have to ask us for a sum that he needs to equip his ship, we have promised him to accept his drafts, and despite this new incident we are disposed to keep our promise, and in fear of

delaying his sailing we will accept his drafts or yours up to the amount of six to seven thousand hard piasters, expecting that an obstacle as disagreeable may be raised and that we may be able, following your orders, to dispose of the totality of the sum that is in our hands. It is very sincerely that we assure you of all the displeasure that such a mishap makes us feel on this occasion.

By the copy of Mr. Arthur Lee's letter that we have sent to Capt. Conyngham,⁴ you will have seen as well that in his station as Commissioner of Congress he has summoned us to keep in our hands and at his disposition half the net proceeds of the prizes that belong, according to him, to the Congress; we do not at all doubt that you have come to an arrangement with him concerning what to do, either to remove or to confirm a disposition that also binds our hands.

We can only regret, as well, the occurrence that has deprived us of the pleasure of seeing you here and of testifying how much we are sensible of your obliging expressions and with what zeal we shall seize every occasion of showing you our gratitude and the perfect consideration with which we have the honor to be [&c.]

Lagoanere & Comp.

[Notation]

Mr. Franklin has kindly promised to send to Messrs. Lagoanere and Company an open letter that would serve them as a testimony of his confidence and would authorize them at the same time to alert the American vessels that may put into either Corunna or some of the seaports of the kingdom of Galicia to address themselves to them.⁵

Copy, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, part 1, no. 127. Addressed at foot of first page: "M^r Guillaume Hodges." Docketed: "Lagoanere/Feb^r: 21st: 1778/Rec^d. open from/D^r: Franklin/to answer/April 6th/A. L." The "A. L." refers to Arthur Lee.

1. Not found.

2. Not found.

3. French brig *Gracieux*, Emanuel de Tournois, master, taken by *Revenge* on 21 Dec. 1777.

4. Arthur Lee to Lagoanere & Cie., undated, DLC, Papers of Benjamin Franklin, no. 2668.

5. This notation, in a hand different from that of the letter itself, appears on the verso of the page containing Arthur Lee's endorsement.

February 22 (Sunday)

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO THE CONTINENTAL MARINE COMMITTEE

Gentlemen

Ranger Quiberon Bay 22^d. Feb^r: 1778

The within papers N^o. 1 a 4 will best speak for themselves¹ and will I hope account to you for my proceedings since the 22^d of Dec^r: when I last had the honor of addressing you.²—the propriety or impropriety of these papers it is not my province to determine—deeply sensible of the Honor which Congress hath conferred on me, communicated in the Orders of the Secret Committee to the Commissioners,³ I can bear the disappointment with Philosophy yet I confess I was rather hurt When, at Paris, I understood that the New Frigate at Amsterdam⁴ had never been intended for me before my appearance but for the Constructor.⁵—

I am happy in having it in my power to Congratulate you on my having seen the American Flag for the first time recognised in the fullest and amplest manner by the Flag of France.—the Brigantine *Independence* Accepted of my convoy from

Nantes to this place—I was off this Bay the 13th. and Sent my Boat in to know if the Admiral⁶ would return my Salute—he Answered that he would return to me, as the Senior American Continental Officer in Europe, the same Salute which he was Authorized by his Court to return to an Admiral of Holland or of any other Republic—which was 4 Guns less than the Salute given.—I hesitated at this, for I had demanded Gun for Gun—therefore Anchored in the entrance of the Bay at a distance from the French Fleet.—but after a very particular enquiry, on the 14th. finding that he had really told the truth—I was induced to Accept of his Offer—the more so as it was in fact an Acknowledgement of American Independence—the Wind being contrary and Blowing hard it was after Sunset before the *Ranger* got near enough to Salute La Motte Picquet with 13 Guns—which he returned with 9—however to put the Matter past a doubt I did not suffer the *Independence* to Salute till next morning when I sent the Admiral word that I should Sail thro' his Fleet in the Brig and would Salute him in open Day—he was exceedingly pleased and returned this compliment also with 9 Guns.

This Squadron consisting of Five ships of the line and three Frigates is Officered by a very well Bred Set of Men they have all Visited the *Ranger* and expressed great satisfaction allowing her un parfait Bijou—When M^r Carmichael and myself Visited their Ships we were received with every mark of respect and Gladness and Saluted with a Feu de Joie.—So much have they endeavoured to Prepossess us in their favor by their constant attention and Civilities that if they are not Serious they are the greatest of all Dissemblers.

I have in contemplation several enterprizes of some importance—the Commissioners do not even promise to Justify me should I fail in any bold attempt—I will not however, under this discouragement, alter my designs.—When an Enemy think a design against them improbable they can always be Surprised and Attacked with Advantage.—it is true I must run great risque—but no Gallant action was ever performed without danger—therefore, tho' I cannot insure Success I will endeavour to deserve it. I have the honor to be [&c.]

NB. The Fleet which I chased off Ushant on my way from America to Nantes was from Giberalter under Convoy of the *Invincible*.

Df, DNA, PCC, item 58, pp. 143–46 (M247, roll 71). Addressed at foot: “The Honorable the Marine Committee.” Docketed: “N^o. 35/*Ranger*, Quiberon Bay/22^d. Feb^r. 1777—/The honorable/The Marine Committee.”

1. The enclosures were probably copies of two letters from Jones to William Carmichael, of 13 and 14 February, and of two from Carmichael to Jones, of the same dates, printed above.

2. NDAR 10: 1135.

3. Secret Committee of the Continental Congress to the American Commissioners in France, 9 May 1777, in NDAR 8: 941.

4. *Indien*.

5. Jacques Boux.

6. Chef d'Escadre Toussaint-Guillaume, Chevalier de La Motte-Picquet.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO THE CONTINENTAL SECRET COMMITTEE

[Extract]

Gentlemen

Ranger, Quiberon Bay 22^d. Feb^r. 1778

Accept my unfeigned and most grateful thanks for the very singular honor conferred upon me by your Orders of 9th. May last, in my behalf, to the

Commissioners in Paris.¹ The preference which Congress then gave me, without my knowledge or solicitation,—and which you have expressed in terms so much to my honor, hath made the deepest and most lasting impression on my Heart.—but I want words to express my sense of the reasons which you have given for showing me such preference, when I find among them mention made of my “Zeal” and “Signal Services” which it is the intention of Congress to “reward”—I can only say that I beg of you Gentlemen to Assure Congress it shall be the Ambition of my life to merit the continuance of their Approbation which I shall always esteem as the greatest honor and the most ample “Reward.” . . .²

Df, DNA, PCC, item 58, p. 147 (M247, roll 71). Addressed at foot: “The Honorable The Secret Committee.” Docketed: “N^o. 36/*Ranger*, Quiberon Bay/22^d. Feb^r. 1778/The Honorable/The Secret Committee.” On 5 July 1777, the Continental Congress replaced the *Secret Committee* with the *Committee of Commerce*.

1. Secret Committee of the Continental Congress to the American Commissioners in France, 9 May 1777, in *NDAR* 8: 941.

2. The paragraph not printed refers to an ode Jones enclosed.

February 23

LLOYD'S EVENING POST, AND BRITISH CHRONICLE, (LONDON),
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, TO MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1778

Postscript. London.

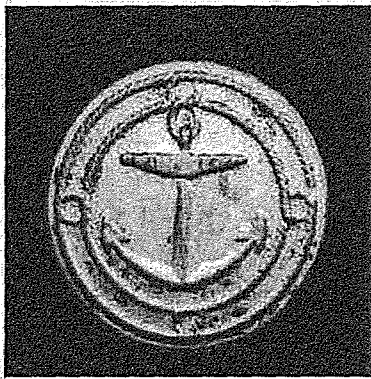
Letters from Dublin by the last Mail mention, that Capt. Wilson, of the *Hibernia* snow, from the Cape de Verde Islands for Corke, had been taken the 29th of December last by an American privateer, of 16 guns, called the *Alligator*, which had made prizes of an English ship from the Coast of Guinea, and a brig bound from Corke to the Madeiras; that several of the crew belonging to the Rebel privateer being English and Irish, a plan was laid by them, and the prisoners, to seize the ship, which was accordingly put in execution in the night of the 2d of last month, upon changing of the watch. The conflict lasted several hours, in consequence of the Lieutenant of the *Alligator* having secured himself, and several of his people, in the great cabin. They at length, however, capitulated, and the British Sailors carried their prize into the Bay of Fonchal. Seven of the Americans were killed upon this occasion, and five of the Insurgents, amongst which were Capt. Wilson, and Mr. Lucas, a young Gentleman who had considerable property on board the *Hibernia*.

INTELLIGENCE FROM PARIS

[Extract]

Paris le 23 Fevrier 1778.

M^e de la Mothe-Piquet, qui commande Cinq Vaisseaux, et Trois Frégates, a mis à la Voile de Quiberon, pour convoyer au loin Quinze gros Navires sortis de Nantes, et richement chargés pour Boston; c'est M^e Franklin qui a fait charger ces Batimens de 25 Mille Habits Uniformes, et autres Provisions de Guerre: M^e de la



*Seal on letter of Captain John Paul Jones to Captain Hector McNeill, 23 February 1778,
and uniform button belonging to John Paul Jones*

Mothe-Piquet a deffense de les laisser visiter; on peut s'en raporter à Lui pour cela. Il est parti avant hier 150 Chirurgiens et Cent pour Toulon. . . .

[Translation]

Paris, 23 February 1778

M. de La Mothe-Piquet, who commands five ships of the line and three frigates, sailed from Quiberon to convoy out to sea fifteen large merchant vessels departing from Nantes and richly laden for Boston. It is Mr. Franklin who had these ships freighted with 25 thousand uniforms and other materials of war. M. de La Mothe-Piquet has forbidden access to these ships and his judgment in this matter will be respected. The day before yesterday 150 surgeons departed, one hundred of them for Toulon.

D, UKLPR, Adm. 1/3965, fol. 62.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY
BOARD OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

Gentlemen

Ranger, Quiberon Bay 23^d. Feb^y 1778

The inclosed papers¹ will I hope Justify me in having allowed Captain Parke of the Marines to return to America in the Frigate *Deane*—it is certain that such an Officer is unnecessary in this Ship—Yet I cannot applaud the Motive which hath been urged for removing him.

My reason for complying with the desire of the Lieutenants and Master is that peace and Unanimity may prevail when I command

I am now single and alone in Europe—Surrounded with Enemies—and having several enterprizes in Contemplation—any Misunderstanding among my little Crew might prove fatal to my designs as well to my reputation in the Service These considerations will, I am sure, have their due weight with you—they are submitted with due respect by Gentlemen [&c.]

NB. I beg leave to refer you to Captain Parke for the particulars of my situation and Proceedings since I left Portsmouth.

Copy, DNA, PCC, item 168, vol. 1, pp. 35–36 (M247, roll 185). Addressed at foot: “The Honorable Eastern Navy Board Boston.” Docketed: “*Ranger*, Quiberon Bay/23^d. Feb^y 1778/The hon^{ble}./The Eastern Navy Board/Boston”; “The Hon^{ble}. The Eastern Navy Board/Boston/*Ranger*, Quiberon Bay Feb^y 23^d. 1778./N^o 2.”

1. Probably copies of Lieutenants in *Ranger* to Captain John Paul Jones, 14 Feb., and Captain Matthew Parke to Captain John Paul Jones, 19 Feb., printed above.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO CAPTAIN HECTOR MCNEILL

My dear Sir,

Ranger, Quiberon bay 23^d Feb^y 1778

I promised myself the pleasure of seeing you in France before this time. A War is kindling up in Europe—with which I am afraid America will be but too nearly connected and too much involved.—I anticipate this connection with real pain at a time when America is in fact Independent; for our Enemies have no more Troops to send out and those now in America must soon be swallowed up.—Since no power in Europe hath fought our Battles I can see no reason why we should fight theirs.

For the particulars of my peregrinations since I left Portsmouth I must refer you to Captain Parke who returns to Boston in the Frigate *Deane*.—I have sent in a Box to Gen^l Whipple¹ 2 P^r Satin Slippers for your young Ladies of which I beg their Acceptance,—when I am to return from Europe to Boston I will hope to procure some more worthy of their Acceptance—for the present tho' bespoke, are not at all to my liking. My best Compliments and wishes await M^{rs}. M^cNiell and the Family, and I am with Sentiments of real Esteem [&c.]

Jn^o P Jones

L, MdAN, Manuscripts Collection, No. 211. Addressed: "Hector M^cNeill Esquire/Boston." Docketed: "Jn^o Paul Jones/Feb 23^d/1778."

1. William Whipple.

CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM TO LIEUTENANT JOHN BEACH

D^r Sir,

portegalt¹ [*Spain*] Feb^y, 23^d. 1778.

Since I left you I have nothing but trouble from one thing to Another When you Arrive heare and receive this letter Apply to Mess^{rs}. Guardoqui Who I left Orders to supply you with What is Nessary And I beg of you to take Care of Tom. I should Advise you to Go from heare to Bordeaux And Apply theare for a passage to Martinique, As I leave this port with the intention of Going to martinique if possible, and theare try our luck for nothing is to be done in Europe At Burdeaux Apply to Mess^r Delap and make use of the Vessels Name you belong^d too And he may be of Service to you. if you should Go to Nants M^r John Ross will Assiste you, What ever expence you will be at for the Boy Tom you may Depend on being thankfully paid. I remaine [&c.]

G. C.

LB, UklPR, H.C.A. 32/441/7, pt. 1. The addressee was first lieutenant of the Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*.

1. Portugalete.

February 24

PHILIP STEPHENS TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

My Lord

[*Admiralty Office*] 24th. Feb^y. 1778

Your Lordship having in Your Letter of the 23^d. of Nov^r. last¹ expressed wishes that my Lords Commiss^{rs} of the Admiralty would take into their consideration the particular Officers in whom they will permit you to vest the authority with which you are intrusted, in case of your inability to execute the various duties of the very complicated Service committed to your care, which you seem to be apprehensive your impaired constitution will not allow you to attend with the punctuality that the nature & impotence of it requires; & the Earl of Sandwich having signified to the Board that from some information he has received there is a possibility that Your Lordship may wish to return to England.

I have it in comm^d. from their Lordships to acq^t you that Vice Adm^l. Byron will be sent to join your Lordship with the utmost dispatch, &. that if upon his arrival your Lordship should from the ill state of your health or from any other motive

wish to return to England they are pleased to permit you to do so in the *Eagle* or any other Ship of your Squadron you may make choice of leaving in such case the Command of the Squadron with Vice Adm^l Byron, with such Instructions as your Lordship shall Judge proper to give him for carrying into execution the various important Services which have been committed to your care; But their Lordships command me at the same time to express their most sanguine hopes that you will find no occasion to avail Yourself of this Leave but that you will continue in the Command which you have hitherto executed so much to their satisfaction, so much to the credit and advantage of His Majesty's Service. I have the honor to be with great consideration My Lord &c.

P S.

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/557, fols. 93–94. Addressed at foot: "Vice Adm^l Lord Howe &c. &c./N^o America." Notation at foot: "By the *Andromeda*—Returned being too late, and sent by the *Ardent*. Duplicate sent by the *Lowestoffe's Prize* 23rd. March 1778."

1. NDAR 10: 583–87.

LORD STORMONT TO LORD WEYMOUTH

Most Confidential
My Lord,

Paris Monday Night
feb. 23. 1778

It begins now to be pretty generally known that M. de La Motte Piquet has orders to sail immediately (if he is not actually sailed) either with five or Seven Ships of the Line. The accounts vary but as I have already told Your Lordship I am inclined to credit the larger Number. It is likewise known that He is to take several Merchant Men under his convoy according to the best Information I have been able to collect He will convoy all the Ships that are ready to sail for North America. They amount to Eighteen or Twenty, perhaps More and will join Him from Different Ports, from St Maloes, Nantz, L'orient, La Rochelle, &c. These Ships whatever Clearances they may take out are certainly bound ultimately for North America, and are laden with arms, ammunition, Regimentals and various Sorts of Merchandise for the use of the Rebels. Several of them have I believe, american as well as french Captains and will carry occasionally either French or american Colours.

This Measure which as Your Lordship well knows has been in agitation for some time and which is a direct Violation of all Friendship, all Good Faith, has, I am told, been pushed on by M de Sartine and M. de Vergennes who are now secretly connected and have of late taken the french Kings orders upon several Points, unknown to M. de Maurepas. I do not however, My Lord, mean to say that M. de Maurepas was a stranger to the whole of this Measure, on the contrary he certainly was privy to the original Project, but from that Irresolution which is habitual to Him, sometimes approvd it, sometimes dreaded the Consequences, and whilst he was in this State of Suspence, Mess^{rs} Sartine & Vergennes, as I have some Reason to believe, got the french King to authorize the giving the order to M. La Motte Piquet. Be this anecdote true or false, the order is certainly gone and has reached M. La Motte who will take the first opportunity of carrying it into Execution. My opinion is that he is actually sailed. however, My Lord, he will prob-

ably hover about the Coast of France for some days to give the different Ships that He is to convoy time to join Him.

Your Lordship sees that this Measure coincides exactly with the Rest of the insidious Policy of France, which as I have repeatedly said is to give the Rebels every secret assistance, and endeavour to avoid the odium of appearing the aggressor by forcing us to strike the first Blow. They have now carried their Mean and insidious Policy to its utmost Verge and have brought Things to a short decided Point by leaving us but one and that a very disagreeable alternative. If we attack La Mottes Squadron and seize the ships he convoys war is inevitable, if we suffer them to pass unmolested an almost open Trade will be carried on between France and America and the Rebels be fully supplied with Every thing they can possibly want. I am sensible, My Lord, that I am repeating in Effect what I have said more than once, but such Repetitions are I hope excusable upon a Point which I am free to own engrosses my whole Thoughts, and upon which so much depends.

I shall not, My Lord, seek an opportunity tomorrow of speaking upon the Subject either to M. de Maurepas or M. de Vergennes. It seems to me that by sending such orders which I have the best Reason to believe M. de Maurepas will not revoke, France has on her Part thrown the Die, all that I should get from the french Ministers would be a Round assertion that the Ships M La Motte is to convoy are french Merchantmen bound to some of the french West India Islands, and a trite observation perhaps that Every Nation has a Right to protect her Trade.

It appears to me My Lord that this is a Crisis in which few Words are to be used. The Tongue of an angel would not charm the Serpent, and cure France of her Perfidy. It remains then with Us to disclose that Perfidy and instantly avenge it, or dissemble and be silent till the Day of Retribution comes, if his Majestys Wisdom shall determine that the present is Not that Day.

M de Maurepas is throughly apprized of the Secret Connexion formed between M. de Sartines and M. de Vergennes, is highly displeas'd with the latter whom he considered as his Creature, and will probably be too strong for them both. He has already got the french King to forbid his Ministers taking any one Step without M. de Maurepas previous Knowledge and approbation.

I saw yesterday a Letter from Rouen which says that there is a total stagnation of Trade occasioned by a Sort of Embargo laid upon their shipping. It is not an Embargo properly so called but as No Sailors are granted to navigate Merchantmen they are all necessarily stopt for want of Hands. Most of the Sea Port Towns of France complain of the same Inconvenience Your Lordship knows that None of the Registerd Seamen can enter on board a Merchant Man without a positive Permission. I am [&c.]

Stormont

PS. Tuesday Night feb 24

I was assured this day that M. la Motte Piquet is sailed with five Ships of the Line and three frigates, but that he is gone only upon a Cruize, and is not to convoy any ships whatever. I mention this Intelligence to your Lordship tho I consider it as of very doubtful authority.

The Duke of Chartres¹ who had promis'd to return to Paris for Thursdays seennight² on which day the Duchess will give the Queen a Ball, remains at Brest.

M. de Sartines has given orders to purchase all the Hemp that is to be found in any of the Sea Port Towns of France

S.

Stevens's Facsimiles, vol. 22, no. 1869. Addressed at foot of first page: "Lord Visct Weymouth." Docketed: "Paris 23 Feb^{ry} 1778/Lord Stormont/most confidential/R. 1st March, at night/by a private hand."

1. Louis-Philippe-Joseph, Duc de Chartres, lieutenant général des armées navales.
2. In the margin: "next thursday."

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR LIEUTENANT DE VAISSEAU
CHARLES-MARIE TROLONG, CHEVALIER DU RUMAIN

Instruction pour M. le Ch^{er} du rumain lieutenant de
vaisseau commandant la corvette du Roy la *curieuse*

M. du Romain commandant la *curieuse* appareillera de la rade de Brest sitôt que le vent le lui permettra et il fera route pour établir sa croisiere depuis Brehat a plimouth.

le but de Sa mission est de prendre connoissance de toutes les Escadres, flottes et convois considerables qu'il pourroit rencontrer, de la route qu'elles feront, de l'objet qu'elles pourroient avoir, de la quantité des Vaisseaux et fregattes de guerre et du nombre des batimens de transport dont elles sont compôsees.

pour s'assurer les moiens de remplir [plus?] surement sa mission M. le ch^{er} du rumain ne s'occupera point de chasser les batimens qu'il pourra rencontrer pendant Sa croisiere a moins qu'il ne les jugeat des mouches ou decouvertes des Escadres ou flottes dont il lui est prescrit de surveiller les operations; il ne se livrera même a aucune chasse qui puisse lui faire abandonner sa croisiere au point de ne pouvoir la reprendre dans la journée ne perdant point de vüe l'importance dont il est qu'il la tienne tant que les circonstances de la navigation le lui permettront, affin que la correspondance qu'il doit entretenir avec les autres batimens placés en differents points de la manche soit la plus active qu'il sera possible et les avis a donner a Brest le moins interrompus: s'il en avoit d'importants a donner et que les vents ne permissent pas a M. le Ch^{er} du rumain de les faire passer promptement a Brest par mer, il enverra a terre a l'endroit qui lui paroistra le plus susceptible de les faire arriver sans retardement en s'adressant a la personne qui se trouvera revetüe de l'autorité du Roy dans le dit lieu pour qu'elle procure sur le champ tous les moyens qui pourront en acclerer le depart, et le double de ces mêmes avis quand ils seront importants, Seront adressés par la poste au Ministre de la Marine.

M. le Ch^{er} du rumain tiendra sa croisiere pendant vingt deux jours au bout desquels il sera relevé, s'il ne l'etoit pas après avoir attendu deux jours il fera route pour Brest.

il portera ses bordées de la côte de france a celle d'Angleterre en evitant de se trouver assés affalé a cette derniere pour être obligé d'y chercher un port; si les mauvais têmes le forcoient a relâcher il le feroit dans le port de france le plus a sa portée ou il croira trouver plus de facilité a sortir pour reprendre sa Station, en ne restant absolument dans les ports et rades que le moins qu'il pourra.

il se servira des signaux de reconnoissance et de correspondance qui lui ont été remis pour les avis qu'il pourroit donner a Oüessant ou aux batteries de Brest,

il se servira de même de ceux qui y sont joints pour la reconnoissance entre les batimens qu'on va Etablir par Echelon depuis ouëssant jusqu'au Cap la hague.

si un des batimens francois en station jugeoit qu'un de ceux qu'il aura reconnu pour être ainsi que lui destiné au même objet, qu'il seroit plus propre a faire parvenir promptement des avis a Brest, soit par sa position ou par sa marche, après que le dernier auroit bien repondu aux Signaux des reconnoissances il lui feroit le Signal de correspondance qui Enonce les avis qu'il auroit a donner, pour lors. ils manœuvreroient l'un et l'autre de la maniere la plus convenable pour que les avis parviennent promptement a Brest Soit par mer ou par terre.

il ne recherchera point l'ap proche des batimens croiseurs de Sa Majesté britannique qu'il pourroit rencontrer, il ne cherchera point non plus a les Eviter avec precipitation, il manœuvrera de maniere a ne donner aucun soupçon sur sa conduite et a faire voir qu'il est dans toute la securité de la paix et le desir de la maintenir, sans pour cela negliger aucunes des precautions avec lesquelles les vaisseaux de guerre doivent se communiquer; ses reponses aux questions qu'on pourroit lui faire seront fermes et precises comme elles doivent l'être Emanant de tous les droits que lui donne partout le pavillon du Roy.

M. le Ch^{er} du rumain ne negligera point de faire raisonner les barques du commerce qui par leurs reponses a ses questions peuvent lui donner des avis interessants; il enverra tous les huit jours a la poste a Brehat pour donner des avis et prendre les ordres qui pourroient lui être adressés.

M. le ch^{er} du rumain rentrant en rade donnant des avis que les ennemis viennent a Brest, il ira mouiller un peu en terre de l'isle longue de maniere a être protégé des batteries de plougastel et de l'isle longue et s'opposer par son feu aux batimens a rames qui voudroient tourner ces batteries.

a Brest le 24. fevrier 1778.¹

[Translation]

Instructions for Chevalier du Romain lieutenant de
vaisseau commanding His Majesty's corvette the *Curieuse*

M. du Romain, commanding the *Curieuse*, will set sail from the roadstead of Brest as soon as the wind permits, and will set a course for his cruise from Bréhat to Plymouth.

The purpose of his mission is to reconnoiter all the Squadrons, fleets and convoys of substantial size that he may encounter, to find out where they are heading, their objectives, the number of ships of the line and frigates of war, and the number of transport ships of which they are composed.

To ensure that he fulfills his mission, Chevalier du Romain must not chase ships he may encounter during his cruise unless he believes them to be tenders or scouts from Squadrons or fleets whose operations he is ordered to keep under surveillance; nor must he embark on any chase which would cause him to abandon his cruising area to the point of being unable to resume it that day. He must not lose sight of the importance of his mission when the circumstances of navigation permit, so that the communication he keeps up with other ships located at different places in the Channel is kept as active as possible and the reports to be sent to Brest are made with the fewest interruptions. If he has important news to deliver and the winds do not enable Chevalier du Romain to send it promptly to Brest by

sea, then he must send it on shore wherever would most likely ensure prompt delivery of the message, find there someone with authority conferred by the King to summon the means for a hasty departure, double this if the message is especially critical, and send this message by the post to the Minister of the Marine.

Chevalier du Romain must continue his cruise for twenty-two days, after which time he should be relieved; if someone has not arrived to take over for him, he must wait two days and then sail for Brest.

He must tack back and forth between the coast of France and the coast of England, but avoid slipping so close to the latter that he is driven to find a port there; if bad weather forces him to moor, he must do so in the closest French port, one he believes will provide for the easiest return to his station, and remaining as short a time as possible in ports and harbors.

He must use the recognition and communication signals given to him for the purpose of reporting to Ouessant or the batteries at Brest, and likewise use the others included therewith for recognition between ships which will be deployed in echelon between Ouessant and Cape de La Hague.

If one of the French ships on station believes it recognizes another sharing the same destination but which is better able to bring news to Brest, either due to its location or its speed, then after the second ship has responded properly to the recognition signals sent by the first one, the latter must send a communication signal out to announce the report to be given. Both ships must maneuver to a position best enabling the report to be carried in the most convenient and promptest manner to Brest, either by sea or by land.

He must not approach cruisers of His Britannic Majesty which he may encounter, but must not rush to avoid them, either; rather, he must maneuver in such a way as not to arouse suspicion about his conduct and act as if he were under the safety of peacetime and the desire to maintain it, without however ignoring any of the precautions with which warships must communicate; his responses to questions must be firm and precise, as they should be, originating as they do from the rights accorded him everywhere by the King's flag.

Chevalier du Romain must be sure to hail merchant ships, which by their responses to his questions may provide him with interesting news. Every week he must send for the mail at Bréhat, both to give his intelligence and to pick up any orders that may be awaiting him there.

Chevalier du Romain, on returning to the roadstead with information that the enemy is coming to Brest, must anchor a little inshore near the long island in order to be protected by the batteries of Plougastel and the long island, and to be able to fire on oared ships which will try to get round these batteries.

at Brest, 24 February 1778.¹

D, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 286, fols. 30–32.

1. Similar orders were issued as follows: on 26 Feb. to Lieutenant de Vaisseau Guy-Pierre, Chevalier de Coëtnempren de Kersaint, commanding the corvette *Favorite*, to cruise between Île Bréhat and Torbay, reconnoitering Jersey and Guernsey; on 27 Feb. to Lieutenants de Vaisseau Chevalier de Mengaud de La Haye and Jean-François de Galaup, Comte de La Pérouse, commanding the corvettes *Perle* and *Serin*, to cruise between Ouessant and the Lizard; and on 28 Feb. to Enseigne de Vaisseau Ambroise-Bernard Lejar, Vicomte du Clesmeur, commanding the lugger *Espiègle*, to cruise between Cape de La Hague and the Isle of Wight, reporting to Cherbourg. Each of these vessels was assigned an anchorage at Brest from which it could prevent oared vessels from getting round the batteries in case of attack. Other cutters and luggers were to be prepared to relieve those on cruises every twenty to twenty-five days. *Ibid.*

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR., TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Hon^{ble} Gentlemen (N^o 146) Nantes Feb 24. 1778.

M Boux has been on board the *Lion*¹ for a passage, Cap^t Nicholson wished to accomodate him as well as he could, but on acco^t of the many amⁿ [*American*] Passengers who have escaped hither from England he has not been able to make such provision as he desired & as M Boux expected. He therefore returns to Nantes, & seemed rather disgusted with his Reception, telling me at the same time that in consequence he could not go to america at all.²

To Day he informed me, he had recv^d Letters desiring his Departure, & I accordingly tried to get a passage for him on board of one of M Montieus Ships, offering to pay the Expence on your acco^t; but M Peltier says he has absolutely prohibition from M Montieu to take any passenger whatever, M Boux is therefore obliged to remain & all I can do is to get a passage when it is in my power. I have the honour to be [&c.]

Jon^a Williams J

L, ViU, Lee Family Papers. Addressed: "The Hon^{ble}. The/Commissioners of the/United States." Docketed: "Feb^y 24th 1778 J Williams"; "Letter/Boux"; "to Com^{rs}. U.S."; "(N^o. 146)."

1. Continental Navy frigate *Deane*.

2. See Lieutenant Boux to Capitaine de Vaisseau Jacques Boux, after 9 Feb., 1778, above, and Lieutenant Boux to the American Commissioners in France, 26 Feb., below.

JOHN ROSS TO SILAS DEANE

The Hon^{ble} Silas Deane Esq^r. Nantes 24th Feb^{ry} 1778
Dear Sir

I am indebted to one or two of your Letters to which shall reply soon, as I will likewise to one from the Hon^{ble}. Commissioners by next post if possible, when a litle settled & relieved from the hurry & plague I had for some time

Yesterday I returned from Noirmontier, after dispatching Green¹ to Join the Convoy at Quiberon Bay & doubt not his being with them on Sunday morning—haveing sailed on Saterdag—Capt: Brown² of the *Henrietta* was likewise dispatched both with Continental Property of a considerable Vallue but a Ship of M^r William's,³ engaged by me to take in some goods being kept back by his Absence, have not been able to get clear of here, tho every thing has been Ready long since of mine, to be put on board—Several other Vessels are Still in the River not Joined, & cant say whether Ready or not—Some of my purchases will be left behind notwithstanding the shipping prepared by me, however, as a large Property well assorted of Linnuns & Woolens are already dispatched in this fleet, what may be left is of less consequence, intending to get some small Vessels if possible to forward it by, with-out loss of time.—Youl no Doubt have a full detail of M^r Lee's⁴ Adventures stated in his own way—And to finish the business compleately, I have learn't Since my Return he has carryed off, the whole Books & Papers, Public & Private, left by the Deceast M^r T: Morris—Time Permit me only at present to add that I am [&c]

Jn^o. Ross

L, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers.

1. Capt. John Green, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Queen of France*, formerly the ship *Brune*.

2. Patrick Brown.

3. Jonathan Williams, Jr. His ship was the *Trois Amis*.

4. William Lee, joint Continental Commercial Agent at Nantes with Thomas Morris.

February 25

PHILIP STEPHENS TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR SICK AND HURT SEAMEN

Gentlemen,

Admiralty Office 25 Feb^y 1778.

Having laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your three Letters of the 13th, 17th, & 23^d. instant, on the Subject of the American Prisoners carried into Liverpoole, I am to acquaint you that their Lordships have sent directions to Cap^t. Worth¹ the Regulating Captain at that Place to send a Tender with the said Prisoners to Plymouth that they may be committed to Mill Prison, and for that purpose to send with them proper Evidence of their having been taken in Arms; you will therefore give the necessary directions to your Agent at Liverpoole for the removing such of the said Prisoners who are now in a fit State of health to be removed to the Tender accordingly; and for applying to Cap^t. Worth to secure the others when they are fit [to] be removed. I am [&c.]

Ph^p Stephens

L, UKLNMM, Adm/M/404. Addressed below close: "Comiss^{rs} for Sick & Hurt." Notation: "Recd 26 & wrote M^r Shertcliffe in consequence same day."

1. Capt. James Worth, R.N.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, February 1778*]

25th. Wednesday squally wth the Largest snow that has fell this winter about 4 Inches Deep I hear L—d North has proposed to the Parliament to repeal of the Acts pass'd since the Year 1763 (Respecting America) & Acknowledges he's been Disappointed in the Success of his Majesties Arms in America; & it is Agree'd in Parliamint by a Clear Majority to Appoint Commissioners to go to America & to treat with the Congress Or any Other body Person or Persons they think proper in Either of the S^{ts}. But tis tho^t America have Enter'd into a Treaty with the Court of France; these proposals short of Independence will Take No Effect

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GUERNSEY, FEB. 25."

"The *Brigantine*, a prize to the *Active* privateer, belonging to this island, is safe arrived here, has been already condemned, and the vessel and cargo put up to sale: She is a new ship, and was built at Newbury. Her lading consists of 198 ho[g]sheads of tobacco, which reckoning at only 90l. a hogshead, amounts to upwards of 17,000l.—a fine booty for a small privateer, whose outfit was not above 2000l."

London Packet; or New Lloyd's Evening Post, 9–11 Mar. 1778.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*[*Ranger, at sea*]

Wednesday, 25th Feb'y.—Fleet got underway and left us at anchor contrary to Expectations, about 12 O'clock it being very windy we came to sail, ran out of the

Bay without a Pilot, attempted to the Northward of Belisle, but did not succeed, put back hoping to run into the Bay again, but could not weather the Rocks. in the midst of our Trouble having narrowly escap'd over setting the Ship, were alarm'd with the cry of Fire—after all our endeavours to procure a Pilot were in vain, & night coming on, bore away and ran out to the Leward of the Island, very squally still.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

February 26

*THE LONDON CHRONICLE, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, TO THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 26, 1778*

Thursday, Feb. 26. London.

The *Eagle*,¹ Morgan, from Yarmouth to Genoa and Leghorn, was taken the 30th of Dec. by two American privateers,² one of 32 guns, and the other of 20, but by stress of weather and a dark night, the Captain left them and is got safe into port.

1. Brig. J. Morgan, master, 120 tons, built in 1767, repairs in 1775 and 1777, Manning, owner. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778.*

2. Possibly Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh* and ship *Alfred*.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, February 1778*]

26th. Thursday fair weath^r Grand wars at Snow Balling

D, McHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO SILAS DEANE

Honored Sir,

Ranger, Quiberon, 26th February 1778

I duely received your favor of 7th curr^t—I suppose you have already heard of the Interchangeable Salute in this Bay for the first time between Freedoms Flag and that of France.—however as the Account you may have received has not perhaps been particular—you will please to accept of the following.—

The *Independence* accepted of my Convoy from Nantes to this place—I was off here the 13th and sent my Boat in to know if the Admiral would return my Salute—he answered that he would return to me, as the Senior American Continental Officer in Europe, the same salute which he was Authorized by his Court to return to an Admiral of Holland or of any other Republic, which was 4 Guns less than the Salute given. I hesitated at this, for I had demanded Gun for Gun—therefore Anchored in the Entrance of the Bay at a distance from the French Fleet, but after a very particular Enquiry, on the 14th understanding that he had really told the Truth, I was induced to Accept of his Offer—the more so as it was in fact an Acknowledgement of American Independence.—the Wind being contrary and blowing hard, it was after Sunset before the *Ranger* got near enough

to salute La Motte Picquet with 13 Guns, which he returned with 9.—however to put the matter past a doubt I did not suffer the *Independence* to salute till next morning, when I sent the Admiral word that I should sail thro' his Fleet in the Brig and would salute him again in open day.—he was exceedingly pleased and returned this Compliment also with 9 Guns.—this Squadron is Officered by a very well bred set of Men—all of whom have Visited the *Ranger* and expressed great Satisfaction; calling her un parfait Bijou—when we visited their Ships we were received with every mark of Respect and Gladness and saluted with a Feu de Joie—so much indeed have they endeavoured to prepossess us in their favor by their constant Attentions and Civilities, that if they are not Serious they are the greatest of all dissemblers.—Inclosed I now transmit you a Copy of a hand bill¹ which I found necessary to publish when I took this Command and which hath since been fully approved by the Marine Committee—this little publication had the desired effect in America for I found no difficulty in Manning the *Ranger*. I submit to you whither the Publication in the English papers of the Encouragement in our Navy as expressed in the middle of the Bill might not induce English as well as American Seamen to come over to France or to any other part of Europe that might be pointed out where they could meet with a proper reception?—I gave a Copy to M^r Carmichael some time ago, who told me that the middle part would be published in England—if so it will I think make it's appearance before this reaches you—if it does not it remains with you to publish or Suppress it.

As I now understand that this Fleet goes to Rochfort for a reinforcement—I determine to proceed alone as I see that the Supply Ships stand in no further need of my Protection. From the Accounts which I hear I am induced to hope that the New Frigate² will yet be given up.—I have much in Contemplation.—I cannot insure Success—but I will endeavour to deserve it.—If I am fortunate you will soon hear from me again—in the mean time please to present my best Respects to Doctor Franklin, and believe me to be [&c.]

John Paul Jones.

(Copy)

Copy, MH-H, bMS Sparks 49.3 (7). Addressed below the close: "The Hon^{ble}:/Silas Deane." Docketed: "J P Jones. Quiberon/Bay Feb 26. 1778."

1. Recruiting poster, reproduced in *NDAR* 9: 208.
2. *Indien*.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*

[*Ranger, Quiberon Bay, France*]

Thursday, 26.—Arrived in Quiberon-Bay again the Evening after a short but very tedious & unprofitable Cruize.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

LIEUTENANT BOUX TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Messieurs

vous avez appris par mon oncle¹ les raisons qui me font rester à terre et l'impossibilité qu'il y à que Je puisse partir Sur le *lion*, comme vous me l'avez ordonne

par votre derniere. vous avez aussi sçu les petites mortifications que Jai eu avec le Capitaine Nikleson.² Je ne vous cacherai pas que Je Suis aise qu'il ne se soit pas trouvé de place pour m'y loger, car pendant la traversée nous aurions eu peut etre quelques chismes, et Il auroit été assé douloureux pour moi de commenser ma Cariere dans le nouveaux Service ou Jai l'honneur d'entrer par quelques pour parlé, et peut être une affaire.

M^r Williams à eu pour moi toutes sortes d'honnetetes, et cest donné tous les mouvements paussible pour me procurer mon passage sur deux Vaisseaux qui sonts prêts à partir mais l'armateur ne veut pas prendre de pasagers. cette involunté de la part de ce Monsieur m'obligera de rester quelques tems à terre, mais Je ferai tout ce que Je pourrai de mon coté pour me procurer un passage et de profiter de la premiere ocation qui se présentera pour courir à mon devoir; vous trouverez sy inclus une lettre de M^r Williams qui vous ecrit à mon sujet.³

Les préparatif que ai ete obligé de faire pour mon embarquement n'ont pas lessé que de me démunir du peu de fonds que Javois, et m'en trouvant à court, Je m adresse à vous Messieurs pour vous prier de donner vos ordres, pour que Je puisse toucher les apointements qui me sonts due et la pention que Jai payé depuis qui Je Suis isy de même que celle que Je serai oblige de déboursé dans mon séjour à Nantes. ce Sonts les promesses que vous avez donné à mon oncle. Jattend avec une entiere satisfaction l'honneur de votre réponse; Je suis [&c.]

Boux; neveu

a Nantes Le 26 fevrier 1778.

[Translation]

Gentlemen:

You have learned from my uncle¹ my reasons for remaining on shore and how impossible it was for me to leave on the *Lion* as you commanded me to do in your last letter. You have also learned of the petty annoyances I suffered through Captain Nikleson.² I shall not conceal from you the fact that I am glad there was no place for me on board as during the crossing we would perhaps have had some schisms, and it would have been quite painful for me to begin my career in the new service I have the honor to enter by disputes and perhaps a scandal.

Mr. Williams has shown me many civilities and took every possible pains to procure my passage on the two vessels ready to leave port but the ship owner does not wish to take passengers. This unwillingness on the part of that gentleman obliges me to remain for some time on shore but I shall do everything I can on my part to procure a passage and to take advantage of the first opportunity to hasten to my duty. You will find enclosed herewith a letter from Mr. Williams who writes you on this subject.³

The preparations I was obliged to make for my embarkation diminished the small amount of funds in my possession, and finding myself without resources, I am addressing you Gentlemen to request that you will see that I receive my pay which is due and the board which I have paid since I have been here as well as the amount I shall have to expend during my stay in Nantes. This is what you promised my uncle. I await with entire satisfaction the honor of your reply. I am [&c..]

Boux; nephew

Nantes, 26 February 1778.

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 135. Docketed: "Boux, Nantes/26 fev. 78."

1. See Lieutenant Boux to Capitaine de Vaisseau Jacques Boux, after 9 Feb. 1778, above.
2. Capt. Samuel Nicholson, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Deane*, formerly *Lyon*.
3. Jonathan Williams, Jr., to the American Commissioners in France, 24 Feb., above. The ship owner was Jean-Joseph Carié de Montieu.

JOHN ROSS TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Extract of a Letter from John Ross to the Hon^{ble}. Benj^a Franklin Silas Deane & Arthur Lee Esq^{rs} American Com^{rs}. at Paris.

Nantes 26 Feb. 1778

"The Ship *three friends* ownd by M^r Williams & C^o. being detain'd still here owing principally to the want of hands, will am in hopes from the assurances of the Cap^t & owners depart tomorrow." — "I have since advis'd them (the Committee of Congress) of the Change of property in the Ship *La Brune* in Consequence of your accepting of the Ship on public Acc^t agreeable to the proposal made by me for the sole purpose of guarding against every insinuation of being too much attach'd to my Interest in settling a freight unfavorable to the public." — I have accordingly fill'd up Cap^t Greens Commission giving the name of the *Queen of France* to the Ship—and charging the Coast of this Vessel to acc^t of the American United States with me.—*La Brune* is a cheap Ship.—If she shoud not be deem'd such by the navy Board, I shall gladly assume the Ship as my property, charging the Public with the freight of the Goods."

Copy, DNA, PCC, item 83, vol. 2, p. 379 (M247, roll 110). Notation by Arthur Lee: "N.B. If the Ship was lost, She woud be charg'd to the public, if not, M^r Ross woud either sell her or receive the freight. In this manner the public was always sacrific'd."

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR., TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Hon^{ble} Gentlemen.

(N^o. 151)

Nantes Feb. 26. 1778.

All the Vessells have now I imagine join'd the Fleet, the wind therefore will only prevent its immediate Departure which I expect every Day to hear of.—

I cannot find another Vessell on any terms here. I would give as high as 150 Livres, but none are to be had.—I have to day heard of a Ship which is at L'orient I have written about her, If I can get her on Freight I shall do it, but I shall not purchase without, your orders: I therefore request you to say by return of Post whether you will allow me to purchase, if not otherwise to be obtained.—I have remaining 3000 Suits of Cloaths all the Hose & about 400 Cases of arms from the magazine.

Time does not allow me to write so Full as I wish must therefore refer you to a Future post for any particulars I may have ommitted. I have the honour to be
[&c.]

J Williams

L, ViU, Lee Family Papers. Addressed: "The Hon^{ble}. The/ Commissioners of the/United States." Docketed: "(N^o 151"; "Feb^r 26th/Goods remain^g/J. Williams"; "J. Williams/to/Hon^{ble}. U.S. Com^{rs}/(26 Feb^r (1778)."

February 27

EARL OF SANDWICH TO LORD NORTH

Admiralty, 27th February 1778.

My dear Lord—Having received the enclosed extract from Lord Weymouth,¹ I cannot avoid pointing out to your Lordship how necessary it seems to me that further exertions should be made in order to keep pace with the French naval equipments. If they have commissioned a ship of 110 guns, surely it is time to commission the *Victory* and every line of battle ship that can be got fit for service; they will otherwise have the start of us considerably in their preparations; and if it should appear that with the assistance of Spain they have more ships in Europe ready for sea than we have, we shall either be obliged to leave our distant possessions defenceless or remain with an inferior force to guard our own coast.

We are at this office taking what new measures we think advisable for getting more seamen (which is what we chiefly wanted), as far as it can be done without an embargo and the recalling of protections, which I am aware should not be practised but in the certainty of a war; I cannot however refrain from suggesting to your Lordship that every other measure for adding to our naval strength should, I think, be carried into execution, in case credit is given to Lord Stormont's information and to what we receive from France through other channels. I am ever your Lordship's [etc.],

Sandwich

Sandwich Papers 1: 342–43.

1. Probably Lord Stormont to Lord Weymouth, 20 Feb., above.

February 28

JACQUES-DONATIEN LE RAY DE CHAUMONT TO JEAN HOLKER

Copy of a Letter wrote by M^r De Chaumont to M^r Holker dated at Passy the 28 February 1778.—

Sir.

The two American Frigates the *Hancock* & the *Boston* commanded by Cap^{ns} Babson and Hendrick conducted into the Port of Nants the 13th of August last two English Ships loaded with sugar, which they entered as Dutch Ships coming from S^t Eustache, the consequence of this false declaration occasion'd the confiscation of those two ships, and the King after having satisfied his justice listened to the representations made to his goodness, and I am directed Sir to authorise you to pay to the Owners and others concerned in the two American Frigates the *Hancock* and the *Boston* the sum of Four hundred thousand livers French money which the two English ships with their Cargo's conducted to Nants might have been worth.¹ I must confess Sir that I am delighted in giving you so agreeable a Commission which will convince the Americans of the Goodness and justice of our Sovereign. you may draw Bills on me for Four hundred thousand Livers and send me from time to time the vouchers of the payments you shall have made. If since two months I

could have remitted securely a Letter you would sooner have been able to settle this affair I have the honour to be [&c.]

sign'd Le Ray de Chaumont
honorary Intendant of the
Royal Hotel of Invalides—

Copy, DNA, PCC, item 96, pp. 9–10 (M247, roll 124).

1. Chaumont has confused the facts. Massachusetts privateers *Fanny* and *General Mercer* captured the Jamaicamen *Clarendon* and *Hanover Planter*, and entered them as the American ships *Hancock* and *Boston*, bound from St. Eustatius. It was the owners of *Fanny* and *General Mercer* who were to be compensated.

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR., TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Hon Gentlemen

Nantes Feb. 28. 1778.

The Fleet sailed from Quiberon the 25th Instant, but the Winds have since been rather unfavourable.—I am extremely sorry to inform you that the *Duchesse of Grammont* is according to appearance left behind—This Ship sailed three Weeks ago to join the Fleet, but being badly stowed was obliged to put back, she has since been at the mouth of the River altering her Stowage, & was there the 25th in the Morning; therefore unless she joined the Fleet when under Sail she must yet be at Anchor. M^r Peltier has sent an Express down the River, to ascertain this, which is not yet returned, giving orders at the same time that if not able to join the Fleet to remain till further Order: I beg your answer by return of Post to know whether (should the Ship still remain) she is to go at all hazards or not—for this it will be necessary to agree with M^r Montieu that his orders & yours may agree

I find my Credit with M^r Grand is again full I must therefore beg you to authorise a Continuation of my Bills 'till I can furnish you with all my acc^t which I shall now soon do.—

The *Ranger* has cost a great deal of Money her acc^{ts} will also be soon handed to you, but I must beg leave to remind you of the agreement made with the late M^r Morris by which I was to acco^t with him for all Sales & purchases that I should make in consequence of his authority ch[argin]g the Commission of 5 [⌘] Ct allowed by the Committee of Congress, between him & myself;¹ I therefore beg to know whether I am to consider the *Ranger* as part of his Business or whether I am to consider my Conduct as in consequence of your Power only. & I request this Distinction as the Powers you gave me you may remember were disputed and I understood were² [torn] tho' this has not been done [torn] formed here The matter has be [torn] According as your orders may be on this Head. I shall render my Acco^{ts}. I have the honour to be [&c.]

J Williams J

PS. Cap^t Johnson of the *Lexington* is escaped & has drawn on me for £60 Sterling— I have accepted the Bill presuming you will approve of it.—

L, MH-H, Arthur Lee Papers. Addressed below the close: "The Hon^{ble} The Comm^{rs} of the United States."

1. An extract contains the following calculation: "5 p^r C^t Commissⁿ on the *Ranger's* disbursements 3,378.13.3 on the *Independence* 238.9.11." ViU, Lee Family Papers.

2. The preceding two words, missing from the letter, are supplied from a copy. The remainder of sections torn from the letter are also lost from the copy from deterioration of the sheet's bottom edge. ViU, Lee Family Papers.

JOHN ROSS TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

To the Hon^{ble}. Commissioners
Hon^{ble}. Gentlemen

Nantes 28 February 1778

I had the Honour to Address you by last Post,¹ when I flattered my self the *La Brune & Henrietta* had Joined the Convoy.—Yesterday we had certain accounts of the Convoys Sailing last wednesday 25th. in a heavy Severe Storm from North West. and the Wind this two weeks past lieing Such as prevented several ships in Nantes River to Join, they are left behind—of the Number is the *Henrietta* (if my information is to be depended on) and you may believe gives me much uneasiness. the Cargo in the vessels on public account being very Vallueable.

On receiving the intelligence I despatched express to know the certainty of it, advising Captain Brown² of the Convoys Sailing, and that he must Proceed at all Risques under the protection only of his clearance's & privates despatches for Hispaniola to carry him clear of the European Sea's.

He is under Hamburgh Collour's, as such, I conceive the Risque going from hence much less, then those of French Vessels, under this Idea I gave my instructions, and shall be glade of your approbation, havg. acted in every Respect as if the Interest had been my own.—before next post shall know if in the River, & will advise. The Farmers Agent upon a very flimsey Pretence Seized & detained this Ship some days when I was at Noirmoutier—but had her released upon giving Security—And have since Represented circumstances to the Minister & Director of the Farms, through my Friends Mess^{rs}. Gerard S Haller & C^o.—which hopes may have the desired Effect.—The *La Brune* has certainly Joined & Sailed, tho I have had no Letters from Green³

Lord Norths Motion & representation in the House of Commons, being Just come to my hand, breathing the Spirit of Peace. I realy think it may be productive of something favourable in bringing it speedily to an Issue.⁴

Your Sentiments never the less (to be depended on) might Regulate my Measure's with much more Security in my opperations, and in case you realy think we have any Prospect of a treaty & Cecassion of Hostillitys, I woud Judge it adviseable to detain the *Henrietta*, and others with Public property, for some weeks, to be forwarded with much better Security.—Be assured Property in French Vessels runs greater Risque then in those of America if a treaty shoud once be entered into—

This however, I beg leave to mention for your consideration in Particulare from a desire to act in every Respect (as far as I have the truste of Public Property) with your approbation, & as much as Possible by Your Advice.—I have the honour to be [&c.]

Jn^o. Ross

L, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers. Docketed: "Jn^o. Ross^s Lett^r/28th Feb^r. 1778."

1. 26 Feb., above.

2. Patrick Brown, master of the *Henrietta*.

3. John Green.

4. Lord North proposed conciliatory bills in his speech in Parliament on 12 Feb. On the basis of the terms of those bills, which included the renunciation of Parliament's right to tax the American colonies, a new commission, eventually to be known as the Carlisle Commission, was to be sent to America to negotiate peace.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPT. JOHN LOWDEN COLE, BILBOA, FEB. 28.”

“I sailed from St John’s the 11th of Jan. and had a fine passage to Cape Ortegall, where I was boarded by the *Thetis*¹ frigate, who informed me that privateers were about Bilboa; I then resolved to steer for St. Andera,² and on Saturday Feb. 7 at dawn of day, I saw a schooner coming right after us: and at nine o’clock she came up with us, and brought us to by her shot, at about a league distance from the Spanish shore, to the windward of St. Andera: the captain ordered me to follow him into St. Andera road, where he boarded us in the Spanish pilot boats, took me and all the crew on board the privateer, and carried us (and the *Dove* followed) directly to St. Antonio,³ about half way to Bilboa. I found the schooner to be the *Hawke*, Jeremiah Hubbert⁴ commander, of ten carriage guns, and about 30 men: he kept us close prisoners, and sold both vessels and cargo the Spaniards in a lump, and on Saturday the 14th instant convoyed the *Dove* down to this place (having a Spanish crew, and under Spanish colours: he still kept us close prisoners not allowing any boats to come near, nor any person to speak to us; however, a Portuguese of mine eluded their vigilance, and swam ashore in the night after we came in, and applied to all the merchants in Bilboa; but this was of no service to us: on the contrary, we were the more strictly watched. But on the 25th, the prize-money having been paid, and the crew with most of the officers being on shore, at night-fall in a hailstorm, I jumped into the boat, cut the painter, and got out of gunshot before I was missed. Six stout fellows, well armed, came directly after me, and pursued me three miles on the road to Bilboa, and certainly would have caught me; but luckily for me, one broke his thigh, and another his leg in the pursuit, and I having a ferry to cross, was just landed when they hove in sight, and the ferryman nobly refused the fellows a passage; the captain swore if he could catch me I should remain in irons until he got to Boston. I reached Bilboa in a wretched condition, being seven miles from the vessel, and the road along which I travelled being the worst you can form an idea of, I am not able to walk yet: I was in hopes to have recovered my vessel, but find by Mr. Gomez, a considerable merchant here, that I need entertain little hope of that; he says the Americans are favourites here, and thinks nothing can be done in our case. There are now here three American pirates, ready to sail for a cruize,⁵ and they keep close to the shore, so as not to be seen by our cruizers. I shall stay and see what can be done about the *Dove* and cargo. If my efforts should not prove effectual, I shall take my passage in a Spanish vessel for Bristol.”

London Packet, or New Lloyd’s Evening Post, 16–18 March 1778.

1. H.M. frigate *Thetis*, Capt. John Gell, commander.

2. Santander, Spain.

3. Santoña, Spain.

4. Capt. Jeremiah Hibbert, commanding Massachusetts privateer schooner *Hawke*.

5. Most likely a reference to the Massachusetts privateer brigantine *General Mercer*, the Massachusetts privateer schooner *Hawke*, and the Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*.

March 1 (Sunday)

JONATHAN WILLIAMS'S ACCOUNT OF DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BRIG *LEXINGTON*, FROM AUGUST 1777 TO MARCH 1778

[Nantes, 1 March 1778]

			No. 5—			
D ^r Henry Johnson Esq ^r Comm ^r Brig <i>Lexington</i>				with Jon ^a Williams C ^t		
1777—				1777		
Aug st	—	To Capers, Anchovies, & Olives	83.. 3.—	Aug st	20	By the Comm ^{rs} . for an Acc ^t . of Disbursem ^{ts} . furnish'd to that Date for the <i>Lexington</i>
		To 1 m Corks	4..10.—			
		To Cash adv ^{ed} . G. Thayer	96.—..—			
Sept ^r	16.	To his draft to Delap 5 th . Sept ^r	264..17.. 7			} 2372.. 2.. 4
October	6.	To d ^o . to Cornic . . 16 th . Sep ^r	2137.. 2.. 4	1778—		
		To d ^o . . . ditto . . 16 th . Sep ^r	225.—..—	March	1.	} 1809..19.. 2
1778—						
March	1	To d ^o . to Johnson London 19 th Feb ^{ry}	} <u>1371.. 8.. 7</u>			} 4182.. 1.. 6 ¹
		5 d ^s /s ^t . . . £ s ^{lg} . 60		<u>4182.. 1.. 6</u>		

D, CtY, Jonathan Williams Account Books. Number 5 in "Accounts and Vouchers Refer'd to in the Account Current between Jonathan Williams Jun^r and the Hon^{ble}. The Commissioners of the United States of America." For the enclosure, see "State of the Account Furnished by Capn Henry Johnson of his Disbursements against the Brig *Lexington* of which he was Commander," NDAR 9: 584-86.

1. Notation: "Compared and approved Nantes 17th. Augst 1779.—(Signed) J.J. J.N. J.C. J.G." The initials are those of Joshua Johnson, Jonathan Nesbitt, James Cuming, and Joseph Gridley. They were merchants who, in the summer of 1779, at the request of Benjamin Franklin, audited Williams's accounts with the American Commissioners in France.

March 2

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, March 1778*]

2^d. Munday Pleas^t. weath^r. a Nother Beer Celler at the Gate; Now the people Can have beer without going to the Age[n]t for it: Since which Indulgence there has been two, or three Duels fought Every Donation. which keeps the people in the Yard in great Confution. the Most of the Time

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

JONATHAN WILLIAMS'S ACCOUNT OF DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BRIG *INDEPENDENCE*

[Nantes, 2 March 1778]

1056

N^o. 10—

The Continental Arm'd Brig *Independence*
John Young Esq^r Commander To Jon^a. Williams —

D^r

1778—

6

	To Cash	paid Cap ⁿ . Young	600..—..—
	a Bullock, bo ^{te} of a Peasant near Quiberon		94..10..—
Feb ^r	6 Minert & C ^o .	a Table	499.. 8..—
	3 Recottillon	Coulours	44.. 9..—
	6 Duchesne	Barrel Rice	112.. 7.. 6
	ditto Kings Broker, Expedition &c ^a		214..14..—
	Cash . . . Gauche	Files &c ^a .	40..18..—
	7 Belleveau	Plates glasses &c ^a .	18.. 9..—
	5 Gaudin	Cannon Ball	376..18..—
	7 Cassard	Table linnen	64..10..—
	10 Bricaud	Sugar &c ^a .	263.. 2..—
	3 Tea	10 [#]	30..—..—
	Chauriau . . . 29 2/3 velts ¹	Rum	163.. 4..—
	12 Odea	Sundries at Painbœuf	1656.. 9..10
	19 Hallie, Pilot from Painbœuf to Quiberon		113..—..—
Mar 2	Guerin, at Auray	Biscuit &c ^a	369.. 8..—
		Comm	7.. 7.. 9
		1/3 of 60 allow'd	} 20..—..—
		Beutis, for Chaye	
		attend ^g the Ship	
			<u>396..15.. 9</u>

Commissⁿ. 5 [Ⓕ] C^t

4788..15.. 1
239.. 8.. 9
£5028.. 3..10

N3 The Commission is Charged at 5 [Ⓕ] C^t half being carried to the
Credit of the late Tho^s Morris Esq^r.—²

D, CtY, Jonathan Williams Account Books. Number 10 in "Accounts and Vouchers Refer'd to in the Account Current between Jonathan Williams Jun^r and the Hon^{ble}. The Commissioners of the United States of America."

1. *Velte*. A measure of capacity, about seven quarts.

2. Notation: "Compared and approved Nantes 17th. Augst. 1779—(Sign'd) J.J. J.N. J.C. J.G." The initials are those of Joshua Johnson, Jonathan Nesbitt, James Cuming, and Joseph Gridley. They were merchants who, in the summer of 1779, at the request of Benjamin Franklin, audited Williams's accounts with the American Commissioners in France.

EUROPEAN THEATER

FRANCIS COFFYN TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Hon^d Gentlemen

I had the honor of writing to you the 14th. ultimo by M^r Jonathan Nesbitt, to which I take the liberty to refer,¹ being since deprived of your respected favours, this cheafly serves to inform you of the arrival at this place of Capⁿ Henry Johnson, late Commander of the Continental Brigⁿ. *Lexington*, and Eliazad Johnson Capⁿ of the Brigⁿ. *Dolton* Privateer of Newberry.² They both broke out of Plymouth prison with two of their officers, which were since press'd in London; but the former had the good fortune to get a passage on board the *Prince of orange* packett from Harwich to Hellevoet-Sluys, and from thence came over here by land. Capⁿ Henry Johnson is so much fatigued that he is not able to write to you this day; I beg you would communicate to him and to me your intention relating his future destination. he had some thoughts of proceeding to Paris with his fellow traveller, but I advised him to wait your orders which you'll be pleased to give me as Soon as convenient and mention wether I may Suply him with necessarys and money, and to what amount. interim I have also to inform you of the arrival of Capⁿ. John Chandler of the brigⁿ. *Triton* of Newberry, bound to Bilbao with a Cargo of Fish, which was taken off Cape Finistere by the *Tetis*.³ This Capⁿ with John Thompson⁴ (who is almost recov'r'd of his wounds) will be sent to Nantes by the first vessell bound to that port, but the other man call'd James Barnes, has lately by a fall broken his arm, which put me under the necessity to send him to the hospital I am afraid it will be some time before that man will be able to embark.

The Brigⁿ. *L'hyrondelle* Capⁿ. Longuelpée, who sail'd from this port the 16. ult^{mo}, bound to Martinico stranded at Calais, and her Cargo composed of dry goods sutuble for the American Markett, to the amount of Twenty Thousand pounds Sterling, is totally damaged, this loss grieves me the more, as some of your Friends and mine, will suffer considerably by this accident, and the people of America will be deprived of a great quantity of very necessary articles at this Juncture. I have the honor to remain [&c.]

Dunkerque 2^d March 1778.

Fran^s. Coffyn

L. PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 143. Addressed: "To/The Hon^{ble}. Benjⁿ. Franklin, Silas/Dean, and Arthur Lee Esq^s./at Passy." Docketed: "Fr Coffyn. 2. March/1778."

1. The letter has not been found. Nesbitt was an Irishman of Philadelphia who had come to Europe to buy military supplies and established himself in L'Orient. *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 26: 12.

2. Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Dalton*, Capt. Eleazer Johnson, commander.

3. *NDAR* 8: 536.

4. Gunner in *Lexington*. *NDAR* 8: 238, 875; 9: 505. For his being wounded in action with *Alert*, see *ibid.*, 9: 657.

March 3

LORD NORTH TO THE EARL OF SANDWICH

[London] Tuesday, March 3rd 3 P.M.

My dear Lord—I heard on Sunday evening from tolerable authority that one Captain Jones, who has now the command of the *Amphitrite*, which has changed its name and is now called the *Ranger*, will soon insult some part of the coast of Great

Britain. My informer could not say exactly what his destination was, but he apprehended that he was to land at Shields near Newcastle and do all the damage in his power. He was barely to land; and when he had done the mischief intended he was to return with all possible expedition.

Shall your Lordship be soon able to send a shiplot of American prisoners to be exchanged in America? I am [etc.],

N—

Sandwich Papers 1: 270–71.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COWES, MARCH 3.”

“Arrived here the *Sally*, an American schooner, bound from Providence to Charlestown; she was taken the 25th of January last by the *Andrew* armed ship, Capt. Guzer,¹ from New York, from whom she parted in a gale of wind.”

London Chronicle, 3–5 Mar. 1778.

1. Ship, John Geyer, master, 300 tons, built in Philadelphia in 1773, James Mather, owner. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, 1778*]

3^d. of March Hazy Weath^r this Day the two Centinals who Deserted from their posts the 31 Ult. passed by to the Castle to be Tryed by a Court Martial

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*

[*Ranger, Bénodet, France*]

Tuesday, March 3rd.—Weigh'd anchor and came to Sail in fine weather & smooth water, sail'd along the Coast about 25 Leagues and came to anchor in a small Bay near a small village called Benodett,¹ had a curious Adventure with a french Pilot who came on Board to pilot the Ship but would not be compell'd to take charge of her.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

1. Bénodet.

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR., TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Hon^{ble} Gentlemen

Nantes March 3. 1778—

Since my last of the 28 Ult^o I have recv^d advice that the *Duchesse of Grammont* still remains at St Nazarre.—I hear that two Ships of War which were designed to join the Fleet are returned to Rochfort, we have therefore judged proper to detain the *Grammont* 'till further orders, in hopes that you will be able to obtain these Ships for a new Convoy: M^r Ross's Ship the *Henrietta* also remains with the *Grammont*.—

This Day arrived here the Brig. *Nantes* Cap^t Chapman² from Boston, but brought no public Letters: This Brig is from the Board of War at Boston to the ad-

dress of Mess^{rs} Pliarne Penet & C^o. I have the honour to inclose you two Newspapers which were given me by Cap^t Chapman. I have rec^d a Letter from my Father dated Jan. 23. 1778 in which he says he has no News to communicate. I therefore conclude that since the beginning of December, Affairs have remained in the same Situation. I have the honour to be [&c.]

Jon^a Williams J

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 37, no. 132. Addressed below close: "The Hon^{ble}./The Comm^{rs} of the United States." Docketed: "Jon^a Williams/Nantes March 3^d 78."

1. Above.
2. Capt. Joseph Chapman.

CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM TO ARTHUR LEE

S^r portugalett March 3^d 78

I received your letter datt^d Feby 20th,¹ and sorry to find that the court of Spain will not Allow Our prize² to be good. On this Subject A Great deal Could be said, the Only thing I could With a Speedy inpedance Sett^l^d, And fall right on france & Spain, from such usage as we meet with from them I think it must be so, if we are imprisond, or A prize Given up its all policy, theare it ends and those that Bears the Burthen of the day is pay^{'d} With Dam^d. policy—

Such payment may do at Court but will not Answer Sailors, You mentione that m^r Lagoanere has wrote You that I left particular Orders that my prizes was left to the sole Disposall of m^r Deane—which is verry true this I did of myselve, as to I arrived at Bilboa I had Not the honour of knowing that you was A Commissioner or that their Was any Other in Europe but Doctor franklin & m^r Deane and by leaving the prizes at the Disposall of m^r Deane I imagined made know [*no*] difference the[y] being Joint Commissioners—

in Respect of Any Order I do assure you as I wrote before I had none but on the Contrary at a Loss how to proceed, and if I have Commit A fault Or been Neglectfull I am Sorry for it As my endeavours Was to the Contrary I am [&c.]

LB, UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/441/7, pt. 1. Addressed at the top: "Arthur Lee Esq^r"

1. Above.
2. French brig *Gracieux*.

March 4

THE LONDON PACKET; OR, NEW LLOYD'S EVENING POST,
MONDAY, MARCH 2, TO WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1778

Wednesday, March 4. London.

Capt. Jolly, in the *Ellis*,¹ who arrived here on Tuesday last from New York, on the 23^d ult. about one o'clock in the morning fell in with and took the sloop *Endeavour*, captain Potter, from Eddington in N. Carolina, bound to St. Eustatia, burthen about 50 or 60 tons, a fine new sloop, loaded with 43 hogheads of tobacco, and the remainder flour and staves. After taking out the master and four men, leaving only a boy on board, and putting on board his first mate, James Campbell, and three men, he parted with her in about four or five hours, blowing

hard. She had plenty of provisions and water.—On the 26th she fell in with and took the schooner *Nancy*, captain Gross, from Essequeba, in Demeraia, bound to Boston, burthen about 80 tons, loaded with rum, cotton, coffee, &c. say about 115 hogheads, rum, and after taking out the master and three men, leaving one man and a boy, and putting on board his second mate, Richard Brown, and four men, he parted with her the 9th instant, blowing fresh. She had plenty of provisions and water on board.

1. Ship *Ellis*, T. Jolly, master, 350 tons, built at Liverpool in 1775, armed with sixteen 6-pounders, owned by William Boats. *Lloyd's Register of Ships*, 1777–1778.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, March 1778*]

4th. Wednesday Pleas^t w^t. This Day James Dick^l were Bro^t to the barr for the Crime of Profanely Damning of the Honrbl. Continental Congress of the United States of America. for which Crime he was Cobbed 1 Dozⁿ.

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. James Dick, Seaman, Continental Navy brig *Lexington*.

March 5

THE LONDON CHRONICLE, TUESDAY, MARCH 3, TO
THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1778

Thursday, March 5. London.

... The *John*, Casaman, from the Mississippi to London, was taken the 13th of Oct. in the gulph, by a privateer called the *Notre Dame*, Seymour,¹ and afterwards retaken by an armed brig in government's service, and carried into St. John's river, between Georgia and Florida. . . .

The *Active*, a letter of marque, Capt. Agnew, has taken and brought into Guernsey two armed prizes, one a schooner of 130 tons burthen, bound from Nantucket to Nantz, and the other a brig, bound from Boston to Bourdeaux.

1. See *NDAR* 10: 400.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO GOURLADE & MOYLAN

Gentlemen,

Ranger Quimper Bay March 5th: 1778

Having unfortunately discovered symptoms of the Small Pox breaking out on Joseph Ratcliff a Valuable Boy belonging to the American Continental Ship under my Command—to prevent (if possible) its spreading among the Crew a great Part of whom have never been Inoculated—I have sent him on Shore at Point l'Abbé, and as Monsieur Le Roy of that place has had the goodness to undertake that the Boy shall be taken proper care of until he is recovered—the Commissioners at Paris having recommended that I should apply to you in Case of emergency—I do request that you reimburse Monsieur Le Roy for the Contingent expence and also have the Boy taken care of until he can be returned to me or to some other

Commander in the American Navy in case you should not hear further from me within the space of two months.—should you think proper to apply to Jon^a: Williams Esq^r: of Nantes he will repay you.—I am &c^a:—

LB, MdAN, John Paul Jones Letter Book, Mss. No. 236, p. 1. Addressed at foot: "Mess^{rs}:/Mess^{rs}: Gourlade & Moylan/à L'orient."

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*

[*Ranger, Quimper Bay, France*]

Thursday, March 5th.—Went with Joseph Ratcliff to Pontlably¹ and procured good lodgings for Him supposing the Eruption (which came out last night) to be Small Pox—we were treated with great respect as we were Americans, were waited on near half a mile to the Boat and on parting gave them 3 Cheers which was answered with vive Le Congres.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

1. Pont-l'Abbé.

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR., TO BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Dear & hon^d Sir.

Nantes March 5. 1778.

I have recv^d your obliging Favour of the 28 Inst. and am much rejoiced at M^r Chaumonts success;¹ I hope he will retain a Dedomagement for his Trouble and Kindness. If this Money is to be paid in America how am I to be reimbursed my Expences & p^d Commissions? but I suppose the 50,000 Livres will be paid here; I beg Sir you will obtain this for me, for a Reimbursement from America may never reach me, more especialy as the owners of these privateers are numerous and all unknown to me—

I must think a little relative to M^r Lee's Intention before I decide, and it would be of great Service to me in this Decision if I knew whether or not the Commissioners intend to put a period to my doing Business by their Authority; for while they continue to support me, I surely cannot wish for the Authority of M^r Lee.² Besides, I much Doubt his powers, as I have good Information that his Commission makes no mention of a Substitute and therefore obliges him to act himself or leave it to the former agent.³ He is dead, but previous to his Death he vested me with at least as good powers as M^r Lee can give, a Copy of these powers, and the Condition of my accepting them you have inclosed. I entered into this Agreement with M^r Morris by his particular Desire, to prevent any more Difficultys between us, and took Charge of the *Ranger* & hir prize in consequence; M^r M 'tis true did not fullfil his part of the Agreement, for instead of letting the whole prize money come into my hands, he (unknown to me) recv^d 1500 Livres more than the Congress part, & left me to settle with the People with that deficiency (I was obliged to make it good, for not a Man would have staid by the Ship, if their prize money had been kept from them,) and for about 60,000 Livres expended on the *Ranger*, he has not advanced a Sol. I therefore wrote to the Comm^{rs} last post^t to be informed whether I was to look on this Business as done by M^r Morris's Authority or theirs; if they conclude that the Powers from M^r Morris are superiour to theirs, I shall also think them superiour to those of M^r Lee; if they conclude that their

Powers are superiour to those of Mr Morris, Mr Lees must again fall in the lightest Scale. These Circumstances through [*i.e.*, *throw*] me into a Dilemma which I cannot be releived from till I hear from the Commissioners, and it will particularly oblige me if you will favour me with your opinion on the Subject. In the mean Time if Mr Lee throughs any Business in my way as a Factor for him, I will chearfully transact it & endeavour to deserve his Friendship by my Conduct, as I shall to any person who employs me in the Line of my profession.

The Latter part of your Letter is easily answered. The only reason that the *Lion*⁵ did not sail so soon as I wished & as the Commodore expected is that Government had put the Ship under an arrest which was not taken off till after the Fleet had waited many Days in Quiberon, & when it was taken off the Tides would not permit hir to go from Painbeuf and our men had all deserted by her laying along side other Shipping. The Difficulties I have had to encounter have been extremely vexatious & almost innumerable. I should tire you by a repetition but I request you to ask for my Letters to the Comm^{rs} of the 6 Dec^r 16 Dec^r 30 Dec^r 6 Jan. 9th Jan. & 19 January⁶—You will there see Sir that but for Difficulties which I could not surmount & of which Government only are the Cause, the Ship might have left the River the beginning of last Jan^{ry}: When she did get down to S^t Nazare, She was all in disorder, and had many things to do relative to the Police on board, and the Instruction of the Men in their Duty, which it was impossible to do where she lay before, but which as I have said before would have been all compleat by the beginning of Jan^{ry} had I been left to go on my own Way: Nay if I had dared to act openly that Ship should have sailed in November.—

As to the Package of Hatts, I assure you I feel ashamed to defend so silly a Charge, that a Frigate of her Importance should wait for such a Trifle can never be supposed by any person the least acquainted in Business, & those who make this Complaint, if they had no regard to Truth, should at least have paid some attention to probability.—I give you my Word & Honour Sir that there is not to my knowledge, nor did I ever intend there should be a single Hat on board that Ship more than what is designed for the use of the Crew, and these with all the other Goods went on board in the Lighter mentioned in my Letter of the 16 Decem^r, There may indeed be some Hatts among the Uniforms sent from Paris but these I know nothing of as I did not open the Packages, however all these were on board in December.

Upon the whole any Person who knows anything of me in this Business, knows I have been a Slave to it, so much so that for the last month of her Stay I have not allowed myself the smallest relaxation from Business not even for the common enjoyments of Society.—

I beg you will please to inform me how you succeed about the 50,000 Livres, You may remember what I told you when at Paris & if this money is not allowed here by Gov^t I shall be under a Necessity of giving that Reason for so much deficiency in my Acco^t with the Comm^{rs}.—

I have made extracts from my Letters to the Comm^{rs} mentioned on the other side to save you the trouble of turning to them—⁷

I beg my Love to Billy.⁸ My Brother Jack⁹ will sail in a Day or two I imagine too soon to be bearer of any Letters from Paris, but shall be glad if you will send a Line

or two for him which contrary Winds may give time for.—I am ever Your dutifull & affec^t Kinsman

J Williams J

L, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 37, no. 131.

1. In his letter of 28 Feb., Franklin reported that Jacques-Donatien Le Ray de Chaumont had obtained an order for the payment to the owners of the Massachusetts privateers *Fanny* and *General Mercer* of the value of the Jamaicamen *Clarendon* and *Hanover Planter*, which had been taken by the privateers but confiscated by the French government and returned to their British owners. Franklin also inquired about the basis of complaints about the delay of the sailing of American ships under French convoy. *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 25: 731–32.

2. William Lee.

3. Thomas Morris.

4. Jonathan Williams, Jr., to the American Commissioners in France, 28 Feb., above.

5. Continental Navy frigate *Deane*, formerly the *Lyon*, Capt. Samuel Nicholson, commander.

6. For the Dec. 1777 letters, see *NDAR* 10: 1072–73, 1108–9, 1163–64; for the 6 and 19 Jan. letters, see above; for the 9 Jan. letter, see *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 25: 456.

7. One such extract is Jonathan Williams, Jr., to Benjamin Franklin, 19 Jan., above.

8. William Temple Franklin.

9. John Williams.

March 6

MARQUIS DE NOAILLES TO COMTE DE VERGENNES

[Extract]

N^o. 16.

À Londres le 6 mars 1778.

. . . Plus je souhaitois, Monsieur le Comte, de voir hier le Lord Weymouth . . . il se présente un nouvel incident que pourvoit prévoir le Lord Weymouth, s'il a été exactement instruit de ce que j'ai annoncé à son Colleague le Lord Suffolk. Je le prévins, ainsi que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous le mander qu'en faisant la reclamation du *Thamas Koulikan*, je ne me preterois pas à ce que le S^r Henry Grand, un des Passagers de ce Bâtiment, qui se trouvoit actuellement à Londres, subit aucun Interrogatoire, l'affaire ne pouvant être soumise aux formes ordinaires de la Justice du moment que je m'en étois emparé par les ordres de ma Cour. Nonobstant cet avertissement, la Cour de l'amirauté a fait signifier mardi dernier au dit Sieur Henry Grand, l'ordre de comparoitre dans six jours pour être interrogé, sous peine d'emprisonnement. Mes réflexions ont été bientôt faites, et j'ai persisté dans la même résolution.

Si le *Thamas Koulikan* avoit été pris dans quelques Parages de L'angleterre, il y auroit matiere à Discussion judiciaire, et je ne me croiroit pas en droit d'arrêter le cours de l'ordre civil. Il faudroit constater si le Bâtiment s'est trouvé où il ne devoit pas être par un accident de mer ou par mauvaise intention de la part des gens de l'Equipage. Ici le cas est tout á fait différent. C'est une Navire françois, aiant ses Expéditions en regle, qui est saisi en pleine mer, hors des bornes de la Jurisdiction maritime de L'Angleterre. L'offense qui a été commise est donc évidemment contraire au droit des gens, et à la teneur des Traités. Je ne connois dès lors aucun Tribunal particulier, et je dois attendre que Sa Majesté Britannique me fasse Savoir, par la voie de son Secretaire d'Etat, la décision qui auroit été portée, pour la transmettre à ma Cour. Je ne prens point au reste de voies détournées. Car je viens d'envoyer au Lord Weymouth l'ordre qui a été signifié au S^r Henry Grand, et

Copie de la Lettre que j'ai écrite en conséquence. Je vous soumetts aussi les mêmes pièces, Monsieur le Comte;¹ Puisse le zele qui m'anime dans cette occasion vous paroître aussi éclairé qu'il est pur. . . . J'ai l'honneur d'être [&c.]

Le M^{is} de Noailles

[Translation]

No. 16.

London, 6 March 1778.

. . . I was also hoping, M. le Comte, to see Lord Weymouth yesterday. . . . A new incident presented itself, which Lord Weymouth could have foreseen, had he been exactly apprised of what I had announced to his colleague, Lord Suffolk. Just as I had the honor of informing you, I indicated to him that in reclaiming the *Thamas Koulikan* I would not countenance that Sieur Henry Grand, one of the Passengers from this Ship, currently in London, should undergo any Questioning, since the affair, from the very moment I took cognizance of it under orders of my Court, did not fall under the ordinary forms of Law. Despite this notification, the Admiralty Court served the said M. Henry Grand last Tuesday with orders to appear in six days for questioning, under penalty of imprisonment. My opinions on the subject were soon rendered, and I persisted in the same determination.¹

If the *Thamas Koulikan* had been seized in English waters, it would be a matter for judicial discussion, and I would not believe it my right to interfere with the civil order. It would be necessary to prove whether the Ship was where it should not have been by an accident at sea or by malicious intent on the part of the crew. Here the case is entirely different. This is a French Merchantman, with its papers in order, which was seized on the high seas, beyond the boundaries of England's maritime jurisdiction. The offense that has been committed is therefore evidently contrary to the laws of nations and to the terms of treaties. I have not been aware since then of any specific Tribunal, and I should expect that His Britannic Majesty will inform me, through his Secretary of State, of the decision which should have been made, in order to transmit it to my Court. I do not at all go about resolving this with indirect means. For I have just sent to Lord Weymouth the order that was served on M. Henry Grand, and a copy of the letter that I wrote in consequence. I submit to you the same items, M. le Comte;² may the zeal that inspires me on this occasion appear to you as well-informed as it is pure. . . . I have the honor to be [&c.]

The Marquis de Noailles

L, FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 529, fols. 30–38. Addressed at foot of first page: "M. le Comte de Vergennes." Notations: "M De Rayneval"; "Rec le 11" (Received the 11th); "Rep le 14 N. 12" (Replied the 14th, No. 12). In the portions of the letter not printed here, Noailles reports on the establishment of the Carlisle Peace Commission, and on debates in Parliament relating to reconciliation with the American colonies and to rumors of a treaty between France and the United States.

1. For the seizure of *Thamas Koulikan*, see Henri-Maximilien Grand to Rodolphe-Ferdinand Grand, 29 Jan., above. Noailles instructed Henry Grand not to submit to questioning concerning the case, and Grand replied that he would follow Noailles's instructions, despite the certainty of his being imprisoned in consequence. Marquis de Noailles to Henri-Maximilien Grand, 5 Mar., *ibid.*, fols. 26–27; and Henri-Maximilien Grand to Marquis de Noailles, 15 Mar., *ibid.*, fols. 123–24. See also Marquis de Noailles to Lord Weymouth, 6 Feb., above, and Noailles to Weymouth, 24 Feb., in *NDAR* 8: 607–9, where it is misdated 1777. Noailles's arguments parallel Gabriel de Sartine's in his letter to Comte de Vergennes, 9 Feb., FrPMAE, Arch. dipl., Corr. Pol., Angleterre, vol. 528, fols. 292–93.

2. Enclosures were: a copy of an order from the High Court of Admiralty, dated 3 Mar., to the master, mate, and first lieutenant, of the *Thamas Koulikan*, and two passengers, John Baylor and Henry Grand, to appear to undergo examination in six days under penalty of attachment; Noailles to Henri-Maximilien Grand, 5 Mar.; and a copy of a letter from Noailles to Weymouth, dated 6 Mar., transmitting copies of the High Court of Admiralty's order and of the letter from Noailles to Henri-Maximilien Grand. *Ibid.*, vol. 529, fols. 16, 26–27, 39.

EARL OF SANDWICH TO LORD NORTH

Admiralty, 6th March 1778.

My dear Lord—As you say in your letter, with which you have lately honoured me, that you join with me in opinion that our military preparations should be pressed with great diligence, and that you are ready to have our naval situation discussed in the Cabinet without delay, I conclude you mean that that should be part of our business at our dinner tomorrow; I therefore think it proper to lay before your Lordship the fullest information it is in my power to give you of the present state of the Navy, together with my ideas upon this very critical and important subject.

By the accounts this day received from France, it appears that the Duc de Chartres is actually at Brest taking upon him the command of the fleet, which consists of 21 ships of the line and 35 frigates; and that there are at Toulon 12 of the line and 13 frigates, making in all 33 of the line and 48 frigates in commission and ready for service. Spain has also, I believe, 32 of the line and 8 frigates, so that the House of Bourbon have in Europe an actual force of 65 of the line.¹

You will find enclosed a note, seemingly unintelligible, about brandy merchants: that note was brought to me yesterday from my friend at Morlaix, and is his mode of conveying to me that every exertion in point of preparing the fleet at Brest is now going on. Surely there is no longer any fear of our alarming France by our preparations; on the contrary, it seems to me that their preparations ought to be considered as very alarming to this country, and that not a moment should be lost in using every exertion on our part to make ourselves at least equal to our enemies; and this is the more necessary as there is every reason to expect that Captain Digby will fall in with Monsieur de La Motte-Picquet, which must occasion an immediate war. But even if that does not happen, I own I see a French war inevitable at a very little distance.

The present state of our fleet at home is:

41 ships of the line ready for service,

6 others in some forwardness,

3 just commissioned.

50

From these are to be deducted the ships belonging to the three admirals going out² and the *Worcester* of 64 guns under orders for Newfoundland, and also any ship or ships of the line that may be sent to carry out the Commissioners. As to frigates, we are very bare indeed, but we have luckily got eight armed vessels that are stationed for the protection of some of the principal trading towns, which will tend essentially to quiet the alarms we may expect as the spring advances.

Your Lordship will observe that out of the 50 ships which is our whole stock at present, only 41 of them can be said to be in readiness, and some men are wanted even for their equipment; the others cannot be got to sea without some extraordinary measures are used for raising seamen. I therefore think that we should begin to think anxiously of preparing for a general press from protections, to be executed as soon as is thought advisable.

I should also immediately commission every ship that is in any forwardness, whether actually ready to receive men or not, as they will be assembling their offi-

cers and thereby furnish more hands for raising seamen. Of this sort, I think about 12 might be had, some of them quite ready and others not at a great distance.

In the year 1755, when a war was thought to be approaching, 52 ships of the line and 11 of fifty guns were ordered to be fitted between the 10th of January and 26th of April; by this early preparation we were far in advance of the enemy, and fell upon their trade before they had made any arrangement for its defence. Now, if they go on preparing and we stand still, it is evident that the tables will be turned upon us, and that our trade at least will be at their mercy. As the French have commissioned their capital ships, can there be grounds for a moment's hesitation about putting the *Victory* into commission? And when the Duc de Chartres is at Brest, why should not Admiral Keppel be at Portsmouth?

I own I think our situation so alarming, that I cannot avoid unburdening my mind and begging of your Lordship most seriously to revolve this business in your thoughts, and to consider how fatal it may be to this kingdom if another hour be lost in our naval equipments.

I think it should be a matter of consideration whether, if we see a war with France to be inevitable, we should not recall ten or twelve of our frigates from America. I am [etc.],

Sandwich

Sandwich Papers 1: 349–52.

1. "A letter from Admiral Duff to Sandwich, dated *Panther*, Gibraltar Bay, March 5, 1778, gives a list of the Spanish ships at Cadiz on February 16. There were 20 sail of the line, said to be manned and victualled for six months; five more were expected to join from Ferrol and one from Carthagená." *Ibid.*, p. 349.

2. "Gambier and Byron to North America, Barrington to the Leeward Islands; only Gambier actually left England at this time." *Ibid.*, p. 350.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*

[*Ranger, at sea*]

Friday, March 6th.—This morning (being fine weather) came to sail, in the morning went through of Passage Duroi;¹ saw a large Ship to the leward which we thought was a Frigate & the same we saw yesterday: She fail'd in attempting to get through the Passage and stood off.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

1. Passage du Raz, between Pointe du Raz and Île de Sein.

March 7

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM FALMOUTH, MARCH 7."

"This day arrived here the *Lapwing* privateer, of London,¹ and brought in the ship *Union*, of 350 tons burthen, loaded with masts and lumber, bound from Boston to Nantz, in France, consigned by the board of war at Boston to several merchants in Nantz, for sale and returns, signed by Samuel Philips Savage, at Boston."

London Chronicle, 10–12 Mar. 1778.

1. Probably brig *Lapwing*, H. Pearch, master, 120 tons, built at Hull in 1745, thorough repairs in 1763, owned by W. Burstall. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777–1778*.

JOURNAL OF TIMOTHY CONNOR

[Forton Prison, Portsmouth, 1778]

March 7th this day 16 Prisoners broke out but was all taken again, M^r Tryan and Manning¹ was among them and all put into the Black hole but Manning who by hiding escaped the hole for the first night and the next morning had liberty to stay out to dinner after dinner he made another trial and got clear off after he got out he found a friend that both supplied him with Money and cloths and immediately set out for London and jst as he got into the bounds of London the Press-Gang came across him and prest him and carried him on board of the *Nightingale* tender off the Tower I do not expect to see him again as they are in great want of men

D, DLC, Forton Prison, England, American Prisoner's Journal, 1777-79, collection 2272.

1. Lieutenant William Tryon, South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame*, and Edward Manning, Massachusetts privateer brigantine *Rising States*.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*[*Ranger, near Brest, France*]

Saturday, March 7th.—Came to anchor in Baldavids Bay¹ not far from the River of Brest.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

1. Baie de Davie.

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR., TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Hon^{ble} Gentlemen

Nantes March 7 1778.

The *Duchesse of Grammont* is still waiting your permission to proceed to sea.

I have been trying several people to get a Ship to carry out what Goods remain, without success. The Ship at Lorient I mentioned in my last¹ does not turn out to my Satisfaction.

M^r Gruel has a Ship here which is a good Sailor. I know her to be such because she lately came from America & the amⁿ Captain gives her that Reputation; he will not let her under 350 Livres all round the Tonnage to be reckoned on the Ships measurement: this is exorbitant & I have of course refused it. To Day M^r Gruel offers me his Vessell for Sale, his price is 45000 Livres 1/3 Cash the other 1/3 in three months.² I can't purchase without your orders but if you approve I will do the best I can. It will certainly be necessary to have a Ship, for (as I have already often times mentioned to you) I have 400 Cases of Arms 12000 p^r Hose & 3400 Suits of Cloaths besides other articles on hand. I have one other offer for Frieght to pay Cash down before the Ship Sails at a very moderate Price, but as Frieght is not payable unless the Goods arrive safe, this Frieght ought not to be more than if there were no risque at all; the person asks 87[#] on these Conditions, but he ought to come down if you agree to his Terms. This Ship is the famous *Duc de Chartres* that I formerly had so much Trouble about.—³

M^r Grand mentions to me to day that you have not yet given your Approbation of a Continuation of my Drafts, which I beg you to do immediately as Delays in these delicate points affect ones Reputation or if you rather choose the

mode give me an enlarged Credit for a Stipulated Sum. I shall furnish you with the Acco^{ts}. for the *Lion*^d the *Ranger* the Magazine the Cloathing the Shoes &c &c as soon as I can but they are too extensive to be suddenly collected in the mean Time I request your attention to my Credit with M^r Grand.—I have the honour to be [&c.]

Jon^a Williams

L, PPAMP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 37, no. 134. Addressed: "The Hon. The Commissioners/of the United States." Docketed: "Jon^a Williams/Nantes March 7. 78."

1. See 26 Feb., above.

2. Presumably, the second "1/3" should be "2/3."

3. Williams had unsuccessfully sought to purchase the *Duc de Chartres*. *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 24: 246, 268–69, 282–83, 298, 314, 329, 332–33, 343–44, 349–50, 358, 384–87, 397–98.

4. Renamed Continental Navy frigate *Deane*.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

March 7. Saturday.—The Same prosperous Wind, and the Same beautiful Weather continue.—We proceed in our Course at the Rate of about 200 Miles in 24 Hours.—We have passed all the Dangers of the American Coast, Those of the Bay of Biscay, remain.—God grant Us, an happy Passage through them all.—

Yesterday, the Ship was all in an Uproar, with Laughter.—The Boat Swains Mate asked one of his Superiour officers, if they might have a Frolick—The Answer was, Yes.—Jere. accordingly, with the old Sailors, proposed to build a Galley, and all the raw Hands to the Number of 20 or 30 were taken in, and suffered themselves to be tyed together, by their Legs.—When all of a Sudden, Jere. and his knowing ones, were found handing Buckets of Water over the Sides and pouring them upon the poor Dupes, untill they were wet to the Skin.—The Behaviour of the Gullies, their Passions and Speeches and Actions were diverting enough.—So much for Jere's Fun.—This Frolick, I Suppose, according, to the Sailors Reasoning, is to conjure up a Prize.—

This Morning the Captain ordered all Hands upon Deck and took an account of the Number of Souls, on board which amounted to 172—then he ordered the Articles of War to be read to them—after which he, ordered all Hands upon the Forecastle and then all Hands upon the Quarter deck, in order to try Experiments, for determining, whether, any difference was made in the Ships Sailing, by the Weight of the Men being forward or abaft. then all Hands were ordered to their Quarters to exercise them at the Guns.—M^r Barron gave the Words of Command, and they Spent an Hour, perhaps in the Exercise, at which they seemed tolerably expert.—Then the Captain ordered a Dance, upon the Main Deck, and all Hands, Negroes, Boys and Men were obliged to dance. after this the old Sailors Set on Foot another Frolic.—called the Miller, or the Mill. I will not Spend Time to describe this odd Scène: but it ended in a very high frolic, in which almost all the Men were powderd over, with Flour, and wet again to the Skin.—Whether these whimsical Diversions are indulged, in order to make the Men wash themselves, and shift their Cloaths, and to wash away Vermin I dont know.—But there is not in them the least Ray of Elegance, very little Wit, and a humour of the coarsest Kind, it is not Superiour to Negro & Indian Dances.

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), 19–20.

March 8 (Sunday)

LORD GEORGE GERMAIN TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL SIR HENRY CLINTON

(Duplicate)

Whitehall 8th. March 1778.

Most secret

Sir,

In my Letter to you of the 4th. of February¹ I acquainted you that, Sir William Howe having requested His Majesty's Permission to resign his Command, His Majesty had been graciously pleased to acquiesce in his Request, and that I had signified to him His Majesty's Pleasure that he should deliver up the Command to you, and put into your Possession all Orders & Instructions he has received from me, or any other of the King's Servants respecting the Troops, or the Operations in which they have been, or were to be employed. The devolution of so great a Trust would, upon any Occasion, carry with it the highest Proof of the Royal Confidence; but, in the present Circumstances, when the most essential Interests of the British Empire are so deeply engaged, and the Power, Reputation, and future Welfare of this Nation depend, in so great a degree, upon the Successful Employment of the Forces committed to your Command, the Importance of the trust increases with the Immensity of the Object, and is the fullest Manifestation of His Majesty's entire Reliance upon your Zeal & Ability.

My circular Letter of this Day's Date² will inform you of what has been done by the King & Parliament, towards opening the Way for the Return of peace; and if that be true which has been so repeatedly declared by the Colony Assemblies, and is still asserted by many persons, who pretend to be well informed of the Dispositions of the Inhabitants, that the Generality of the People desire nothing more than a full Security for the Enjoyment of all their Rights & Liberties under the British Constitution, there can be no room to doubt that the generous Terms, now held out to them, will be gladly embraced, and that a Negotiation will immediately take place, upon the Arrival of the new Commission, and be so far advanced, before the Season will admit of military Operations, as to supersede the Necessity of another Campaign. So speedy & happy a Termination of the War could not fail to give the greatest pleasure to the King, as the Peace, Prosperity & Happiness of all His Subjects has ever been the most ardent Wish of His Royal Breast. But however desirous His Majesty is of putting an end to this unhappy Contest, by the Way of Negotiation, and notwithstanding the just ground there is to expect such will be the Effect of the present Measure, His Majesty does not think fit to slacken any preparation which has been judged necessary for carrying on the War, it being His Majesty's firm Purpose to prosecute it, with the utmost Vigor, in case the Colonies shall obstinately persist in their Refusal to return to their Allegiance, and pay obedience to the Constitutional Authority of Government. It is, therefore, proper that I should now acquaint you with His Majesty's Intentions respecting the Operations of the next Campaign, should another Campaign become necessary, as far as His Majesty has yet determined upon them. The unfortunate Issue of the Canada Expedition, and the unbroken State of the Rebel Force, would make it necessary to have at least as great an Army in the

Field, to effect anything of Importance the next Campaign, as that which Sir William Howe commanded in the last; at the same time the keeping Possession of Philadelphia, in Addition to the Posts we before occupied, must occasion a considerable Deduction from the Force which was then employed in active Service. Every possible Effort will be made to send out Reinforcements; and it is with great Satisfaction I can inform you that His Majesty has received the most uncommon Testimonies of Affection & Support, in the Prosecution of the War. Several new Corps have been voted by Parliament, and many Noblemen and Gentlemen of extensive Influence, and some great Cities have undertaken to raise them, and in London, Bristol, and many other Towns considerable Sums have been contributed, by voluntary Subscription, to be given in Bounties to Recruits for the old Regiments, so that I am not without Hopes we shall be able to send out, in the Course of the Summer Ten or Twelve Thousand British Soldiers, to which I expect will be added a Regiment or two of Germans. But, considerable as such a Reinforcement, if we can effect it, must be allowed to be, in our present Circumstances, His Majesty is nevertheless of Opinion that the War must be prosecuted upon a different Plan, from that upon which it has hitherto been carried on. Care must be taken to provide for the Security of all our American Possessions. Some additional Force must be sent from hence to Canada, as well to secure that Province, as to annoy the Rebellious Colonies on that Side, and oblige them to keep a considerable Body of their Troops on foot for the Defence of their Frontiers. Newfoundland and Nova Scotia must likewise be strengthened, and the Floridas must not be left exposed to any sudden Attack. The additional Force intended to be sent to Canada will consist of one new raised British Regiment, & two German Regiments, making together about 3,000 Men. A Detachment of Artillery will be sent to Newfoundland; and it is proposed that the Governor should raise a Corps in the Island, to remain there for its Defence. Two of the new raised Regiments, together with the 70th. will be sent to Halifax, and two Others of the new Levies will be sent to S^t Augustine & Pensacola. When these Detachments are made, the Reinforcement, exclusive of Recruits, to be sent to the Army under your immediate Command, will be reduced to five of the new Highland Regiments, and the Edinburgh and Glasgow Regiments of 1,000. each. Three entire Highland Regiments, and five Companies of each of the other two, are under Orders to embark on the 2^d. April in the Clyde; and, if no Change happens in the Situation of Affairs in Europe, the other five Companies of those two Regiments, together with the Edinburgh & Glasgow, will follow as soon as they can be completed. It is therefore recommended to you, if you should find it impracticable to bring M^r Washington to a general and decisive Action early in the Campaign, to relinquish the Idea of carrying on offensive Operations against the Rebels within Land, and, as soon as the Season will permit, to embark such a Body of Troops as can be spared from the Defence of the Posts you may think necessary to maintain, on board of transports under the Conduct of a proper number of the King's Ships, with Orders to attack the Ports on the Coast, from New York to Nova Scotia, and to Seize or destroy every Ship or Vessel in the different Creeks or Harbours, wherever it is found practicable to penetrate; as also to destroy all Wharfs and Stores, and Materials for Ship-building, so as to incapacitate them from raising a Marine, or continuing their Depredations upon the Trade of this Kingdom, which has been

already so much annoyed by their Ships of War and Privateers. This Service, it is imagined, will best be executed by two different Armaments; The principal One to Set out from New York, and the Other from Halifax; that, while the Connecticut Coast is attacked on the one Side, the like Attempts may be made on the Ports in the Province of Maine and New Hampshire on the Other, and both Armaments unite, or act in Concert, for the Attack of Boston, and the other Ports in the Massachuset's Bay: And it may be hoped that the Troops & Ships at Rhode Island will find a favorable Opportunity, while these Operations are carrying on, to destroy the Shipping in Providence River, & those in the other Creeks, which branch out of Rhode Island Harbour. The number of Troops & Ships necessary for this Service must be left to you and the Admiral to determine;³ but I am commanded to say to you, that the Object appears to the King of such Importance, that should you be of Opinion a number of Troops, sufficient to ensure Success in the different Enterprizes, cannot be spared with Safety to Philadelphia, it is His Majesty's Pleasure that you do consult with the Admiral upon the most proper Situation for establishing a Post upon the Delaware River, if you shall think a Post upon that River necessary, capable of being defended by a small Body of Men, and of giving Protection to the Ships, which it may be necessary to station in that River, and that, when you shall have taken such Measures as you and the Admiral shall judge necessary and effectual, for obstructing the Navigation of the River by the Rebels, you do withdraw the Troops from Philadelphia, and, leaving a sufficient Garrison in the Post you may have established, embark the rest, and proceed to New York, with such part as you shall not think necessary for the Service abovementioned. I would not however be understood to convey it to you as His Majesty's Opinion that the Possession of Philadelphia is an Object of small Importance, on the contrary His Majesty conceives the Possession of it may be attended with many Advantages, & that the abandoning it may be productive of some ill Consequences, and therefore it is His Majesty's Wish that you may be able to retain it, and He consents to your withdrawing from it only upon the Supposition that the Service I have been pointing out to you, cannot, in your Opinion, be effected while it is retained. When these Operations on the Sea Coasts of the Northern Provinces are concluded, which it is supposed they will be before the Month of October, it is the King's Intention that an Attack should be made upon the Southern Colonies with a View to the Conquest and Possession of Georgia & South Carolina. The various Accounts we receive from those Provinces concur in representing the distress of the Inhabitants, and their general Disposition to return to their Allegiance; A large Supply of Arms will therefore be sent out for the purpose of arming such of them as shall join the King's Troops, and indeed it is the King's Wish that every means were employed to raise and embody the well affected Inhabitants in all the Provinces where any Posts are maintained or Operations carried on. It cannot be expected that Farmers or men of Property, accustomed to a Life of Ease, will engage in the Military Service for an indefinite time, or expose themselves to be carried away to Places remote from their own Possessions, although they would readily enough take up Arms as an embodied Militia, officered by their own Countrymen, and act with the King's Troops throughout a Campaign, or defend a Post in the Absence of the Army. Such appear to be the

Methods taken by the Rebels for strengthening their Army, and I am commanded to recommend the Experiment to your Consideration, & while I am upon this Subject I think it proper also to suggest to you the great Advantages which must follow from drawing over from the Rebels the Europeans in their Service. Especial Encouragement should be held out to them to desert, and join the King's Forces, whether they bring their Arms, or come without them; And all Apprentices and indented Servants who desert to Us, should be assured that, when the War is over, Attention will be given to their Circumstances, and that their Loyalty will not be suffered to go unrewarded.

The ideas, entertained here of the most effectual Mode of making an Attack upon the Southern Provinces, lead to the taking Possession of Georgia, as soon as the Reinforcements arrive, or the Conclusion of the Expeditions against the Northern Provinces will admit of your making a Detachment for that purpose. A Corps of 2,000. Men it is supposed would be fully sufficient to take and keep Possession of Savannah, & when the time of their Departure is fixed, it will be proper to send Orders to General Prevost at St^t Augustine to march a Detachment of that Garrison with the Florida Rangers, and a Party of Indians, to attack the Southern Frontiers, while M^r Stuart⁴ brings down a large Body of Indians towards Augusta. The Submission of that Province cannot fail to be the immediate Consequence of these Movements, and as great Numbers of the Back-Inhabitants would probably avail themselves of the Communication being opened with Georgia to join the King's Troops there, such a Force might be collected as when the Troops destined for the Attack of Charles Town should arrive, would be capable of penetrating into South Carolina between Mount Pleasant & Purisburg, to take Possession of that Tract of Pine Land which separates the Plantations on the Sea Coast from the Back-Settlements, thereby dividing the Province in the Middle, and Opening an easy Communication with the loyal Inhabitants in North Carolina, and by cutting off all Succour and Retreat from the Planters on the Sea Coast, reduce them to the Necessity of abandoning, or being abandoned by, their Slaves, or submitting to the King's Authority. The number of Troops that it is supposed would be sufficient to reduce Charles Town is about Five Thousand, for although the Entrance of the Harbour, and the Line of the Town which fronts to it, is strongly fortified, yet it is imagined that by landing on James's Island, which is accessible to Ships of a small Draught of Water by Stono Inlet, Fort Johnson might be reduced, and a Passage secured through Wappoo Creek, for the flat bottomed Boats to get into Ashley River without danger, or that the Harbour would be so far opened, that the Ships, by taking Advantage of a fair Wind, might pass the Fort on Sullivan's Island, & the Batteries at White Point, and land the Troops behind the Works, where the Town is entirely open, & no Resistance, to be expected. Could a small Corps be detached at the same time to land at Cape Fear, and make an Impression on North Carolina, it is not doubted that large Numbers of the Inhabitants would flock to the King's Standard, & that His Majesty's Government would be restored in that Province also; But your own Knowledge of those Provinces, and the Information you can collect from the Naval & Military Officers that have been upon Service there, will enable you to give the Officer to whom you may entrust the Command, better Instructions than I can

pretend to point out to you at this distance. I will therefore only further observe to you that the Conquest of these Provinces is considered by the King as an Object of great Importance in the Scale of the War, as their Possession might be Easily maintained, & thereby a very valuable Branch of Commerce would be restored to this Country, and the Rebels deprived of a principal Resource for the Support of their foreign Credit, and of paying for the Supplies they stand in need of, as the Products of those Provinces make a considerable part of their Remittances to Europe.

While these Operations are carrying on, every Diversion should be made in the Provinces of Virginia and Maryland that the remaining Troops, which can be spared for offensive Service, in Conjunction with the Fleet, will admit of. The great number of deep Inlets and navigable Rivers in those Provinces expose them in a peculiar Manner to Naval Attack, and must require a large Force to be kept on foot for their Protection, and disable them from giving any Assistance to the Carolinas. The seizing or destroying their Shipping would also be attended with the important Consequence of preventing the Congress from availing themselves, as they have done, of their Staple Commodity, Tobacco, on which, and the Rice and Indigo of Carolina & Georgia, they intirely depend for making Remittances to Europe.

Should the Success we may reasonably hope for attend these Enterprizes, it might not be too much to expect that all America to the South of the Susquehannah, would return to their Allegiance, and in the Case of so happy an Event, the Northern Provinces might be left to their own Feelings and Distress to bring them back to their Duty, and the Operations against them confined to the cutting off all their Supplies and blocking up their Ports.

I have thus, Sir, fully stated to you His Majesty's Wishes and Intentions respecting the Employment of the Troops under your Command, and, having done so, it is my Duty to acquaint you that the King does not mean that you should consider anything which I have said upon that subject as positive Orders for your Conduct, which you are to follow under all Change of Circumstances, or unforeseen Events; On the contrary, it is His Majesty's Pleasure that you do, in all Cases, use your own Discretion, His Majesty committing to you the Planning, as well as the Execution of all the Operations, which shall appear to be the most likely means of crushing the Rebellion, and restoring the Constitutional Authority of Government in the Colonies. I am [&c.]

Geo: Germain

L, UklPR, PRO 30/55, Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, no. 996. Addressed at foot of first page: "Sir Henry Clinton." Docketed: "Duplicate./Most Secret./Lord Geo: Germain/to/Sir Henry Clinton./8th March 1778."

1. UklPR, C.O. 5/95, fols. 28–29d.

2. Lord George Germain to Commissioners for Restoring Peace, Sir William Howe, Sir Henry Clinton, Governors William Tryon and Patrick Tonyn, Commanding Officer at Rhode Island, dated 11 March. *Ibid.*, C.O. 5/242, fols. 208–10.

3. Germain informed the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the same day of the king's wish that they instruct the admiral in command of the North American station to "co-operate with, and give every Assistance in his Power to the Troops in the Execution of the Plans which shall be concerted between them." *Ibid.*, C.O. 5/128, fols. 84–88.

4. John Stuart, superintendent of Indian affairs, southern district.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*[*Ranger, Camaret Bay, France*]

Sunday, March 8th.—Weigh'd and beat up towards Brest came too in Camaritt's Bay¹ 4 Leagues from Brest.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

1. Camaret Bay.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[Extract]

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

1778. March 8. Sunday. The same Wind and Weather continues, and We go, at 7 & 1/2 and 8 Knots.—We are Supposed to be past the Western Islands.—

M^r Barrons our first Lt. appears to me to be an excellent Officer—very dilligent, and attentive to his Duty.—very thoughtfull and considerate about the Safety of the Ship, and about order, Economy and Regularity, among the officers, and Men—He has great Experience at Sea.—Has used the Trade to London, Lisbon Affrica, West Indies, Southern States &c—

This Morning, the Captain ordered all Hands upon Quarter Deck to Prayers.—The Captains Clerk, M^r W^m. Cooper, had prepared a Composition of his own, which was a very decent, and comprehensive Prayer, which he delivered, in a grave and proper manner. The officers and Men all attended, in clean Cloaths, and behaved very Soberly.

The Weather has been cloudy all Day—towards night it became rainy and windy, and now the Ship rolls, a little in the old Fashion—We are about 2000 Miles from Boston. . . .

Diary, MHI, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), 21.

March 9

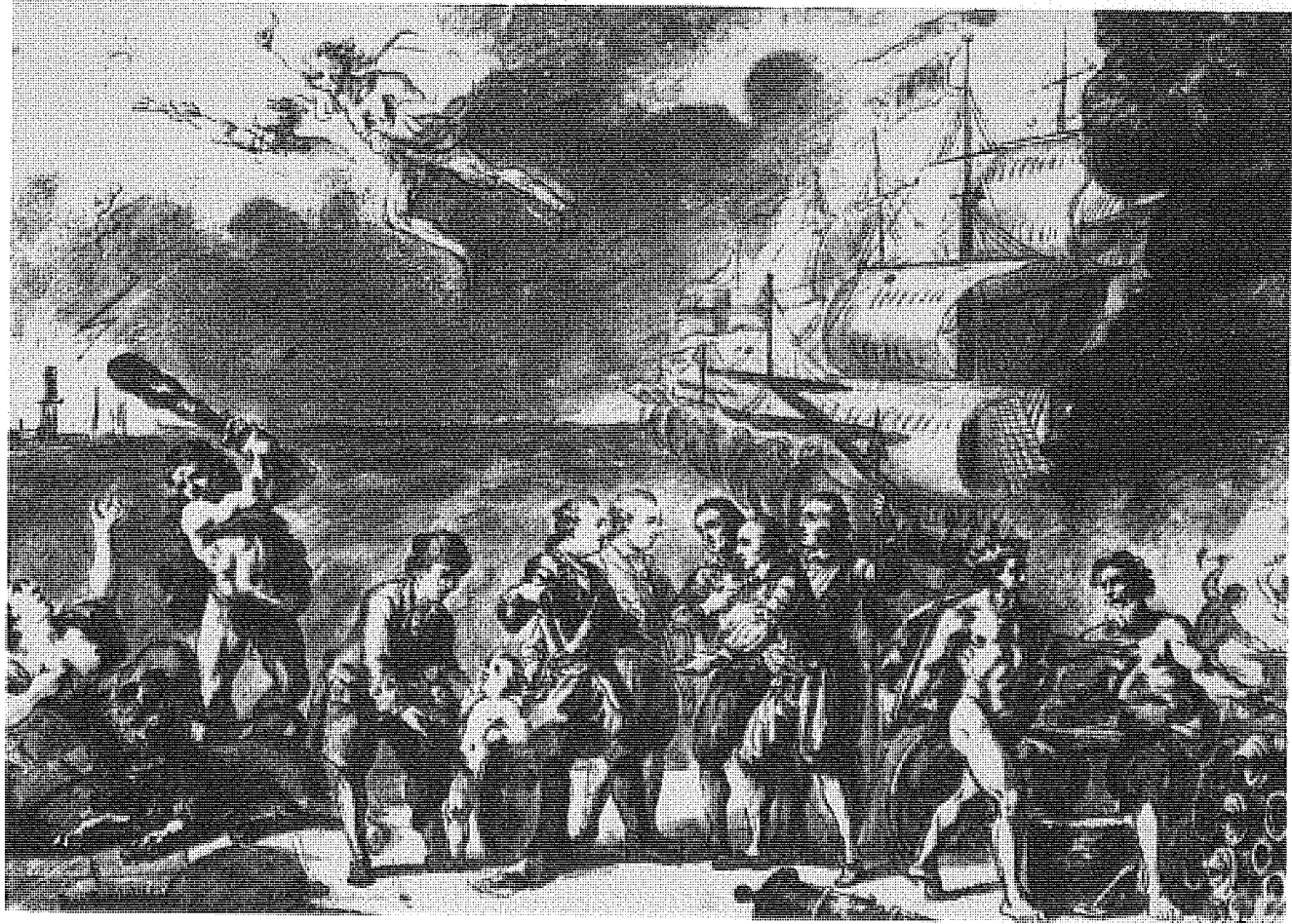
CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO GOURLADE & MOYLAN

Gentlemen,

Brest March 9th: 1778.—

I wrote to you from Quimper Bay the 5th: Curr^t: having discovered the small Pox breaking out on Joseph Ratcliff a Boy belonging to the Ship under my Command—whom I therefore left under the Care of Mons^r: Le Roy of that place.¹—I desired you to reimburse Monsieur Le Roy for the necessary and Contingent expence and to have the Boy taken care of until he could return to the Service.—

I was in hopes that this Malady would have stopped here but am disappointed.—It is now breaking out on others Viz^t: John Brown, Simon Staples, William Furness, & Solomon Hutchings, whom I therefore shall leave here at [blank] under the Care of Monsieur [blank] I desire you to reimburse this Gentleman for the Expence which may be incurred while these unhappy Men are under this disorder; and also to Supply their wants until they Can be restored to the Service.—I earnestly hope that this Calamity will stop here.—I cannot bear the



“Allegory of the Franco-American Alliance”

thought of laying up the Ship tho' the full half of her Compliment have never been inoculated.—

These Expences you will please to carry either to the debit of the Commissioners or of Jon^{as}: Williams Esq^r: of Nantes—and should I have Occasion for any necessaries before the Wind permits my departure myself or my Officer M^r: Simpson who Countersigns this will write you a letter of Advice.—I am [&c.]

LB, MdAN, John Paul Jones Letter Book, Mss. No. 236, pp. 1–2. Addressed at foot: “Mess^{rs}:/Mess^{rs}: Gourlade & Moylan/Negociants/à L'orient.”

1. Above.

March 10

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*

[*Ranger, Brest, France*]

Tuesday, March 10th.—Last night eight of our People took the Cutter and went on shore and ran off leaving the Boat on the Rocks.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

March 11

LORD STORMONT TO LORD WEYMOUTH

Secret

N^o 27

Paris March 11th. 1778

My Lord

The french King did not receive the foreign Ministers Yesterday, neither did M de Vergennes come to Paris.

I have now been a fortnight without seeing either Him or M de Maurepas, but no disadvantage to his Majesty's service can arise from this Circumstance, as nothing I could say would in the present Disposition of this Court be of the Smallest Utility. France has thrown the Die, and must now await the final Event; may it be such as is due to Her Treachery.

As Your Lordship most justly observes in your Letter N^o 10, no Representations with regard to the Destination of M la Motte Piquets Squadron, could be of the least use; any Orders that could have been sent me by the last Messenger would have arrived too late, as it is certain that the Squadron is actually sailed, consisting as I am assured, of Seven Ships of the Line, four Frigates, two American Frigates, which M la Motte allowed to join Him, and from Sixteen to twenty Merchant Vessels, which He is to Convoy, but to what Latitude is not exactly known. It is generally thought that He will convoy them only to Cape Finisterre, but I am persuaded He will go much farther.

Tho' it is pretended that these Merchant Ships are bound to S^t: Domingo, yet every body who is at all informed, knows that that is not their real Destination, knows that they are bound to North America, and laden with Arms, Ammunition,

clothing Regimentals for 25,000 Men, Salt, and every Article the Americans can stand in need of. What advantage the Rebels will draw from such immense supplies if they are suffered to reach America, it is but too easy to see.

On Sunday last it was reported all over Paris, that when the two American Frigates joined M la Motte they saluted Him with fourteen Guns, and He returned the salute with nine. Tho' this is positively asserted, I can by no Means warrant the Truth of it, on the contrary I have been assured that there is a Letter from an Officer on board M la Mottes Fleet, that says positively that He did not return the Salute.¹

I am privately informed that the Congress has recalled M^r Silas Deane on Account of some fraudulent Contracts in which He and Beaumarchais have been concerned, and that M^r George Adams is to be sent hither in his Room.²

M^r Arthur Lee is going immediately to Spain; I wrote Yesterday to L^d Grantham to acquaint his Lordship with M^r Lees Intention, and gave Him my Opinion of the object of this Journey, which I have no doubt is to endeavour to induce Spain openly to espouse the Cause of the Rebels, by joining in all those treacherous Measures which France has taken of late with the Knowledge and secret Approbation of Her Ally.

I have just learnt that two French Officers, who served in Washington's Army are arrived at L'Orient. The Account they give of the Situation of both Armies is very contrary to the belief, and Expectations of this Country; They represent our Troops as being in great Health and Spirits, and abundantly provided with every necessary of Life, and the Rebels as reduced to the greatest Distress for want of Shoes, Blankets, and Cloathing. They say this Distress is so great, that the Rebels must sink under it if they do not receive supplies from Europe. I own, My Lord that this Account, which tho' it may perhaps be exaggerated, has, I am persuaded a strong Foundation in Truth, makes me doubly Anxious that the ships M la Motte convoys may never find their Way to America. I am [&c.]

Stormont.

Stevens's Facsimiles, vol. 22, no. 1890. Addressed at foot of first page: "Lord Weymouth." Docketed: "Paris 11 March 1778/Lord Stormont/(N^o 27)/R. 15th by Roworth from/Dover/one inclosure."

1. Continental Navy ship *Ranger*, Capt. John Paul Jones, commander, and Continental Navy sloop *Independence*, Capt. John Young, commander, exchanged salutes with the French squadron in Quiberon Bay on 14 and 15 Feb., respectively.

2. Congress voted Silas Deane's recall on 21 Nov. 1777, officially so that he could return and report on European affairs, but in reality because of objections to the multitude of Continental military commissions he issued to French officers, and to suspicions aroused by Arthur Lee's insinuations relative to the contracts for supplies sent by Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais. Congress elected John Adams, delegate from Massachusetts, in Deane's stead on 28 Nov. *JCC* 8: 946-47, 975.

Remarks on Wednesday March 11th: 1778. on Board Ship *Boston*.—¹

The first part of this 24 Hours attended with fresh Brezes of Wind and flying Clouds. at 1 PM saw a Ship to the SE. standing to the West, out one Reef of the Top sails & then gave chase, at 3 PM came up with her, I fired a Gun & they returned three and then down Collours, I ordered the Boat hoisted out & sent M^r Barron² & M^r Reed³ on Board who sent on Board us Cap^t M^c Intosh of the Prize Ship & some of the Crew, The Prize is called the *Martha*, & commanded by Peter M^c Intosh, was bound from London to New York, with a Valuable Cargo of Provision & other stores & Merchendize of different sorts.—set M^r Tucker on Board for the Night. The latter part my People employd in bringing Prizoners & their Bagga[g]e from the Ship

The Names of the Prizoners taken in the *Martha* viz^t

1 Peter M ^c Intosh.	Comm ^r	15. Rob ^t Hutchins	27 John Cockran
2 Robert Golch	Passenger	16. Ralpf Prescott	28 Peter Nowlan
3 John Wallace	Ditto	17. John Pratt	29 James Duncan
4 M ^r Bennet	1 st . Mate	18. Andrew Berry	30 Rob ^t Wells.—
5 Andrew Munroe	2 ^d Ditto	19. Dan ^l . Swords	31 Joseph Esther
6 Hector M ^c Kenzie	Passenger	20 Tho ^s . Woodnot	32 Rich ^d . Jones.—
7 Mordecai Isaac	Ditto	21 Archibald Frazier	33 William Jordan
8 Michael Levy	Ditto	22 Peter Mitch	34 J. P. Werner. docter
9 Joseph Staggs	3 ^d Mate	23 David Morey	
10 Alex: Webster	Boatswain	24 Jeremiah Shaw	
11 John Main	Cook	25 James Bushell	
12 John Williams	Capt ^t . Stew ^d .	26 Benj ^a . Bushell	
13 [blank]	Carpenter		
14 John M ^c . Kenzie	D ^o Mate		

Latt^d. P Obs: 43..45.

Course	Dist	X Latt ^d	Depart	Latt ^d . P Obs	X Long ^d in	Long ^d in	Meridian Dis ^t
S ^o 80 ^d ; E	55m	22; South	54m E	43 ^d =45 ^m	1 ^d =15; E	13 ^d =35 ^m W	2506; East

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 10 Mar. to noon of 11 Mar., following sea time.

2. Lt. William Barron, 1st lieutenant of *Boston*.

3. Lt. Benjamin Reed, 2nd lieutenant of *Boston*.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER TO THE CONTINENTAL NAVY BOARD
OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT

Coppy of a Letter sent to the Hon^{ble}. Navy Board East^t. Depert^t. Boston by Lieu^t. Hezekiah Welch, who goes prize Master of the Ship *Martha*, with the Coppy of his Orders.—

Gentⁿ. On Board the *Boston* Frigate at Sea March 11th. 1778.—
In the Latt^d. of 44^d.00^m. N^o. Long: of 16^d..30^m. West.—

These will be handed your Honours by M^r. Welch my 3^d Lieu^t informing your Honours of my present Situation, which is happy, I have met with many Troubles, since left Boston, but providence conducted safe through all—Gods name be praised.—The Prize Ship *Martha*, a Letter marque from London Cap^t. Peter M^c.Intouch¹ I took yesterday afternoon, but could not dispatch her before, the wind so high & Sea was so dangerous. Gentⁿ. I hope to pay for the *Boston*—as I told your Honours before sailing I am but poorly man'd to my Sorrow, I dare not attract a 20 Gun Ship but I hope with Gods Blessing it will not be so during the Cruize.—The Cap^t. of the Ship distroyd his papers, but I have since ascertained the Value of her Cargo, 84000 Sterl[£] Cost. the Cap^t. & Mate tells me of an Article of Tea 142 Chests & a Quantity of Bale Goods, but no Invoice. When I came down to the Ship I desired his Honour² to go below as I saw his Lower Deck Ports open, guns run out, prepared for Action not Discovering what I was coming head to him, but he told me no he would Chuse to stand the Deck, M^r. Vernon likewise. I then up Courses hailed before he could possibly discover me, he then bore away firing a broad side carried away my Mizen yard & done no other Damage. the Gentⁿ. on Deck did not Change their Countenance. by this Time I came close on Board he discovered me, and did not think himself able to get his Colours down soon enough, but horridly Scared, by these means I took her without any more Resistance & better for him it was so, and myself too.—Gentⁿ. pray excuse my sending a Lieu^t. my Prize Master, being so valuable, I thought it a great duty incumbent'd by so doing—This from Your most Obedient Hum^{ble}. Serv^t.

Sam^l. Tucker

Above is the orders.—³

LB, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fms Am 812), Letter Book.

1. Capt. Peter McIntosh.
2. John Adams.
3. See next document.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER TO LIEUTENANT HEZEKIAH WELCH

Orders On Board the *Boston* Frigate March. 11th. 1778
To Hezekiah Welch. Gentⁿ.

You are by me now appointed to the Command of the Ship *Marthey*, I desire you would make the best of your way to Boston, running up your Long: in 37.00 North as far to the Westw^d. as 68.00. West, be carefull to avoid all Vessels you may see, keeping a man at mast head from day brake untill dark at night, and if you should be so unfortunate as to be taken, Distroy my Letters with your Signals.—if you go safe Lodge my signals at the navy board, not showing them to your dearest friend;—be very cautious of your lights by night to show none in no respect; when

you arrive acquaint the Hon^{ble}. Board of every Instance that is happened on my passage, and I desire you would be as attentive to Ship in port as at Sea, keep as Regular Orders as you would do at Sea & men under the same Subjection, other orders are to your self discrestionary in defending the Ship. Your well Wisher

Sam^l. Tucker

P.S.—You are to deliver the Ship to Gaberal Johonnot Esq^r Who Acts as Agent for me and Men.—She being a Commissioned Ship we all repose a special Confidence in him

LB, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fms AM 812), Letter Book.

JOHN EMERY TO BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Sir

Bilbao, 11 March 1778

Capⁿ James Babson of the Privateer Brig^t *General Mercer* saild from hence in company with three other privateers¹ for New England the 7th Inst^t he has left his affairs here in my care & Requested me before his departure to write you on the Subject of his prizes which he took and carried into Nantes which he has been Informd were Restored to the former Proprietors in England²

he thinks and it appears to me with Justice that the Court of France have in that affair acted very arbitrarily & unfriendly in disposing of his Property without his consent & in a manner the most forreign to his wishes—they Undoubtedly have their political Reasons for so doing but I cannot think they have Just Reasons

If they are Inclind to keep peace with England by force of Intrest it would at least be more Generous to purchase it with their own than with the Property of a few Private Armd Vessells therefore if that was their Motive in Restoring the Captured Ships it is but Reasonable they Should make some Compensation to Capⁿ. Babson for the Loss he Sustains—should they Incline to make him aney I have his Instructions for the disposal thereof for the Bennefit of the Concern'd—I have the Honor to be [&c.]

Jn^o Emery

PS. If aney thing can be done in the affair pray direct Dⁿ Juan Emery En Casa de Los Sen^{rs}. Dⁿ. Joseph Gardoqui y Hijox, Bilbao

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 163. Addressed: "Honourable Benjamin Franklin Esq^r/Passi/Parris." Docketed: "J. Emery/11 March 78."

1. Emery is most likely referring to the Massachusetts privateer schooners *Hawke* and *Lively*, and the Continental Navy cutter *Revenge*. Charles Murray to Robert Walpole, 16 Mar., below, and John Emery to Massachusetts Board of War, 30 Jan., above.

2. Jamaicamen *Clarendon* and *Hanover Planter*, captured by Massachusetts privateers *Fanny* and *General Mercer*, and seized at Nantes for false entries.

HERMAN KATENCAMP TO LORD WEYMOUTH

N^o: 79.

Corunna 11th: March 1778

My Lord

I have the Honor to acquaint your Lordship that the *San Pedro* of 74 Guns is ready to sail to Cadiz from Ferrol deeply laden with warlike Stores, and that the *Real* of 114 Guns supposed to be the largest Ship in Europe is preparing to be fitted out.

The 6th Instant La *Nymphé* a French Frigate of 40 Guns commanded by Le Comte de Joinville¹ arrived in this Port and reports that she belongs to a Squadron now cruizing in the Bay of Biscay.

The Rebel Privateer *Hawke*, Jeremiah Hilbert Master has taken and carried into Bilboa a Newfoundland Ship² Capt: Sowder Cole, laden with 2500 Quintels of Codfish and twenty Tons of Oil

Nothing else deserving Your Lordship's Attention has occur'd since my last of the 18th. Past.

I most humbly recommend myself to the Continuance of your Lordships Protection and Favor, having the Honor to be [&c.]

H Katencamp

L, UklPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fol. 114. Addressed at the foot of the first page: "The R^t Hon^{ble}. Lord Viscount Weymouth." Docketed: "Coruña 11 March 1778/Consul Katenkamp/(N^o 79)/R. 6 April."

1. Lieutenant Commandant Nicolas-Antoine, Chevalier de Beaudot de Sainneville, commanded *Nymphé*.

2. *Dove*. See "Extract of a letter from Capt. John Lowden Cole, Bilboa, Feb. 28," above.

March 12

THE LONDON CHRONICLE, TUESDAY, MARCH 10, TO
THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1778

Thursday, March 12. London.

When his Majesty's ship the *Fox* was engaging the two American privateers that took her,¹ the one was on her broad-side, the other on her quarter. In the midst of the action, one of the privateer's men saw a wad in a blaze in the *Fox*'s mizen chains, which probably would soon have consumed the ship; she then called to her comrade to desist firing, which they both did, and hailed the *Fox* to inform them, that their mizen chains were on fire: as soon as that blaze was extinguished, they renewed the fight till the *Fox* struck. This anecdote came out in the course of the evidence on the trial of Captain Fotheringham.

1. Continental Navy frigates *Boston* and *Hancock*. See NDAR 9: 47, 85–87, and *passim*.

JAMES MOYLAN TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Dear Sir

L'Orient 12th. March 1778

Your favors addressed to Mess^{rs}. Goulade & Moylan of the 5th. & 9th. Curr^t. are now before me,¹ I wou'd have reply'd to the former on it's receipt, had I thought it wou'd have met you at Brest. The 7th. ins^t. I wrote M^r. Le Ray at Pont L'Abbé, desiring his care of Joseph Ratcliff the Boy you recommended to me, whose expences I promised to be accountable to him for, and make no Doubt but he will pay proper attention to my recommendation; on his recovery I desired he wou'd send him here, and I will dispose of him as you direct.—M^r. Bersolle² who will hand you this, will supply you with every necessary you may be in want of at Brest, with whom I will account for the same on having your or your officer M^r. Simpson's receipt and charge the same in course to the Hon^{ble}. Commissioners I wish you every success and am [&c.]

James Moylan

P.S. The English papers say that the *Grafton* E. India-man [illeg.] the *Raleigh* & *Al*[*fred.*]—³

L, DLC, Peter Force Collection, Papers of John Paul Jones, no. 6704. Addressed: "Captain John Jones Esq^r/of the Continental Ship/of War *Ranger*/Brest./." Docketed: "from James Moylan Esq^r/L'Orient March 12th. 1778/rec^d. Brest March 17th. 1778."

1. Above.

2. Emmanuel-Yves Bersolle (1750-1812), merchant and postal director at Brest. *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 26: 319.

3. *Duke of Grafton*. *Lloyd's Evening Post, and British Chronicle* (London), Monday, February 9, to Wednesday, February 11, 1778, above.

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[Frigate *Boston* at sea]

Remarks on Thursday March 12th. 1778. on Board Ship *Boston*¹

The first part of this 24 Hours attended with moderate Gales & fair weather at 3 PM. I dismissed Lieu^t. Welch² who I had appointed Prize Master of the *Martha* & Saluted him with seven Guns, my Orders were for him to proceed for Boston. At 5 PM. the *Martha* bore WNW. Distance 2 Leagues.

The latter part flatering Winds & Cloudy.

The People employd as Usual

Latt^d: ☉ Obs: 43..29—

Course	Dist	X Latt ^d	Depart	Latt ^d ☉ Obs	X Long ^d	Long ^d in	Mered ⁿ Dist
So 63 ^d ; E	35m	16m So	31m E	43 ^d =29 N	43m E	12=52 W	2537m E

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 11 Mar. to noon of 12 Mar., following sea time.

2. Lt. Hezekiah Welch, 3rd lieutenant of *Boston*.

March 13

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, March 1778*]

13th. Friday fair Serene weath^r. Yesterday Rec^d. 6^d Each Man for the Rearage of the two Shillings Allow'd by the D. [*Donation*] P^r week—This Day three American Officers were Com^{md}. they belonged to A Privateer Schooner Call'd the *Black Snake* Mounting 8 C. [*Carriage*] Guns W^m. LeCraw Mast^r. out from Martinico; taken by the *Tarter* & *Resolution* Tenders (Jon^s Wheeler & Jn^o Buckley his Lieut^s)¹

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. For the capture of the *Black Snake*, see *NDAR* 9: 801, and 10: 189.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*

[*Ranger, Brest, France*]

Friday, March 13th.—Seven of eight Deserters were bro't back under guard & confined in Irons.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

March 14

"ADVICE GIVEN ABOUT THE CHANGE OF THE WAR IN AMERICA"

[*London, 14 March 1778?*]

If it should be thought advisable to suspend the operations of the Army and Navy in America, it deserves consideration whether Lord Howe should not have immediate orders either to come home with the army and most of the large ships or to send Commodore Hotham with the line of battle and some 50 gun ships and frigates to the Leeward Islands, where the French are very strong in troops and where immediate danger is to be apprehended. Mr Hotham may possibly with those troops be able to take possession of St Lucia, where the fine harbour would be of the utmost use to our fleet, which if we were established there would be a constant check upon Martinique. Lord Howe has with him:

6	ships	of	50	guns
3	"	"	44	"
1	"	"	36	"
14	"	"	32	"
11	"	"	28	"
12	"	"	20	"

amounting in all to 47 capital frigates exclusive of sloops and small craft. Part of these frigates and sloops should be immediately ordered home, and some sent to the Mediterranean. A force should however be left at Halifax, and care taken of Newfoundland.

It will deserve to be remembered that, if troops are sent to the West Indies, care must be taken to victual them from home.

A Mediterranean squadron must be immediately provided and a reinforcement sent to Gibraltar.

Admiral Keppel must be directly ordered to hoist his flag and have a strong fleet for the protection of the home seas; for which purpose all the ships at Chatham and Plymouth must be ordered to Spithead, and a cutter should be sent to look out for Captain Digby and all other cruisers and to order them in, and the cutter may go on to Gibraltar with dispatches to the admiral and governor.

Jamaica and the East Indies must also be attended to, and the homeward-bound East India fleet.

If the American operations by sea and land are stopped, will it be advisable that Admirals Byron and Gambier should sail? If they do, it will be taking their ships from our strength at home; and as probably the same quantity of stores will not be wanted in America as if the operations were to continue, the storeships under Admiral Gambier, or some of them at least, should remain at home.

If the army comes home and does not go to the West Indies, it is to be presumed that none of the stores need be sent.

But if it is thought proper that Admiral Gambier should sail, he will be a very proper person to command a squadron at Halifax for the defence of that place and the River St Lawrence.

Sandwich Papers 1: 359–60. “Unsigned and with no date: a draft in Lord Sandwich’s writing endorsed as above. ? March 1778.” “Captain Digby put to sea on February 4, and Rear-Admiral Gambier sailed for North America on March 16. This paper is probably a note for the Cabinet meeting on March 14.” Ibid.

MINUTE OF CABINET

At Lord Weymouth’s house, March 14th 1778.

Present:

Lord President	Lord Sandwich
Lord Privy Seal	Lord G. Germain
Lord Suffolk	Lord North

Lord Weymouth.

It was agreed most humbly to submit to your Majesty that notice be given in both Houses of Parliament on Monday next that a message from your Majesty will be brought to them on Tuesday; that the message be a communication of the French Ambassador’s declaration and of the recall of Lord Stormont, and that an address be proposed to each House in consequence.¹

That the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland be acquainted with the French Ambassador’s declaration and Lord Stormont’s recall.

That three or four line of battle ships and three other two-decked ships be sent from America for the defence of the Leeward Islands.

That four thousand men be ordered to embark with the line of battle ships for the Leeward Islands.

That ten frigates and six ships [*sloops*] be ordered home from America.

That Admiral Keppel be ordered immediately to hoist his flag.

That a Mediterranean squadron be immediately prepared.

That ten thousand of the Militia be ordered to be embodied.

Sandwich Papers 1: 361.

1. The French ambassador to Great Britain, the Marquis de Noailles, informed the British government of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce of 6 Feb. between France and the United States. Diplomatic relations between France and Great Britain were immediately severed, with the British ambassador to France, Lord Stormont withdrawing from Paris on 16 Mar. and Noailles leaving London on 19 Mar.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, March 1778*]

14th. Saturday Clear weath^r. By som Nantuckett Gent^l. we Learn that Gen^{rl}. Howe is in a bad Situation. I’m Afraid not true Sam^{ll}. Treadwell taken & Com^{td}. to the B. hole

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

JOURNAL OF TIMOTHY CONNOR

[*Forton Prison, Portsmouth, 1778*]

March 14th this day M^r Hartly and M^r Thornton¹ came to see us and told us that we should be exchanged very soon and that he would do all that lay in his power for us and addressed the Officers to write a petition to Lord North and another to

Lord Sandwich which was accordingly done and sent them by M^r Hartly member of Parliament

D, DLC, Forton Prison, England, American Prisoner's Journal, 1777–79, collection 2272.

1. David Hartley and John Thornton. This was Thornton's second mission to England on behalf of the American prisoners. For his first mission, see John Thornton's Memorandum for the American Commissioners in France, [Between 5 and 8 Jan. 1778], above. It was apparently during this second so-journ that he was persuaded to spy for the British. *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 25: 26–28, 692.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*

[*Ranger, Brest, France*]

Saturday, 14th March.—Went to Brest with Capt. Jones & Lt. Simpson; had a slight view of the Fortifications, Shipping, and Dock-Yards—return'd in the Evening.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[Frigate *Boston* at sea]

Remarks on Saturday March 14th 1778. on Board Ship *Boston*.¹

The first part of this 24 Hours attended with moderate Winds & fair Weather at 2 PM. tacked Ship & stood to the Southw^d. & West^d. at 4 Spoke with a french man from Bourdeux. Saw a sail just at this Time standing to the Eastw^d. standing to the Estw^d. & North^d. at 5. tacked & stood to the East, at 12 halled the M S up in the Brails, handed F & M T G. sails.² M^r Barron³ in Dischargeing the 2^d Gun on the Starb^d. Bow, the Gun Bust in several Peices, by which the Worthey M^r Barron had his right Leg broke, and two Men Slightly wounded The Docter & his Mate consulted & thought it necessary to amputate the Legg which was performed in a Masterly manner. at half past 3. Spoke with a French[man] from Santo [*Do*]mingo bound to Nants.

Latt^d. ☉ Obs: 44..47. N^o.—

Course	Dist	X Latt ^d	Depart	Latt ^d ☉ Obs	X Long ^d	Long ^d in	Mered ⁿ Dist
N ^o 40 ^d ; E	70m	53 ^m N	45 ^m ; E	44 ^d =47 ^m N	1 ^d =03 ^m ; E	11 ^d =49 ^m W	2582; E

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 13 Mar. to noon of 14 Mar., following sea time.

2. Fore and main-topgallant sails.

3. Lt. William Barron.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[*Frigate Boston* at sea]

Saturday March 14.

I have omitted inserting the Occurrences of this Week, on Account of the Hurry and Confusion, We have been in. Tuesday We Spied a Sail, and gave her Chase—We soon came up with her, but as We had bore directly down upon her, She had not seen our broadside, and knew not her Force—she was a Letter of Mark with 14 Guns, 8 Nines & 6 sixes—she fired upon Us, and one of her shot, went thro our Mizen Yard.—I happened to be upon the Q^r deck, and in the

Direction from the ship to the Yard so that the Ball went directly over my Head—We, upon this turned our broadside which the instant she saw she struck—Captⁿ Tucker very prudently, ordered his officers not to fire.

The Prize is the Ship *Martha*, Captⁿ M^cIntosh from London to New York, loaded with a Cargo of great Value.—The Captⁿ told me that Seventy thousand Pounds sterling was insured upon her at Lloyds, and that she was worth 80 thousands.

The Captain is very much of a Gentleman,—There are two Gentⁿ with him Passengers the one M^r R. Gault the other M^r Wallace of N. York.—Two young Jews were on board.

That and the next day was Spent in dispatching the Prize, under the Command of the 3^d Lt M^r Welch¹ to Boston.

after that We fell in Chase of another Vessel, and overtaking her found her to be a french Snow, from Bourdeaux to Miquelon—We then saw another Vessel, chased and came up with her which proved to be a French Brig from Marseilles to Nantes.—This last cost Us very dear.—M^r Barrons our 1st Lt. Attempting to fire a Gun,² as a signal to the Brig. the Gun burst, and tore the right Leg of this excellent Officer, in Pieces, so that the D^r was obliged to amputate it, just below the Knee.

I was present at this affecting Scæne and held M^r Barron in my Arms while the D^r put on the Turnequett and cutt off the Limb.

M^r Barrons bore it with great Fortitude and Magnannity.—thought he should die, and frequently intreated me, to take Care of his Family.—He had an helpless Family he Said, and begged that I would take Care of his Children.—I promised him, that by the first Letters I should write to America, I would earnestly recommend his Children to the Care of the Public, as well as of Individuals. I cannot but think the Fall of this officer, a great Loss to the united States.—His Prudence, his Moderation, his Attention his Zeal, were Qualities much wanted in our Navy.—He is by Birth a Virginian—

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), 22–23.

1. Lt. Hezekiah Welch.
2. Lt. William Barron.

March 15 (Sunday)

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, March 1778*]

15th. Sunday fair Weath^r Yesterday three Men for Not going in to Prison when Order'd were Com^{td}. to the B. hole

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*

[*Ranger, Brest, France*]

Sunday, 15th.—I had the pleasure of entertaining the Commissaries¹ Lady & two Sisters on Board the *Ranger*.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

1. Jean-François-Xavier Faissole de Villeblanche, commissaire général of the French Navy.

STATE OF BRITISH NAVAL FORCES IN NORTH AMERICA

Admiralty Office. 15 March 1778.

State of the force under the command of Lord Howe in North America		Proposed to be sent from thence to the Leeward Islands	Proposed to be sent to England	Force that will then remain in North America
Guns	Ships	Ships	Ships	Ships
64 ¹	6	4	—	2
50	5	3	—	2
44	3	—	2	1
36	1	—	—	1
32	14	2	6	6
28	12	—	4	8
24	3	—	1	2
20	8	2	1	5
16 (sloops)	4	—	—	4
14 (do.)	9	—	6	3
10 (do.)	2	—	—	2
Bombs	2	2	—	—
Fireship	1	—	—	1
	70	13	20	37

Besides schooners, armed vessels, galleys, and storeships, and an hospital ship.

Sandwich Papers 1: 362.

1. "In this number is included not only Lord Howe's ship (the *Eagle*), but also the *Ardent*, in which Rear-Admiral Gambier is going to join him. [Note in original.]" *Ibid*.

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER[Frigate *Boston* at sea]

Remarks on Sunday March. 15. 1778. on Board Ship *Boston*¹

The first part of this 24 Hours attended with fresh Brezes & fine Weather. At 8 PM. discovered 2 Sails to Windw^d of us standing to the WSW. set M & F T G. sail² Middle part moderate. At 8 AM. saw 2 Sail on our Weather Bow standing to the Northw^d. & Estw^d. suppose them to be cruising Ships,³ the one a head had a poop Lanthorn out.

Latt^d. ☉ Obs: 46.27 N.—

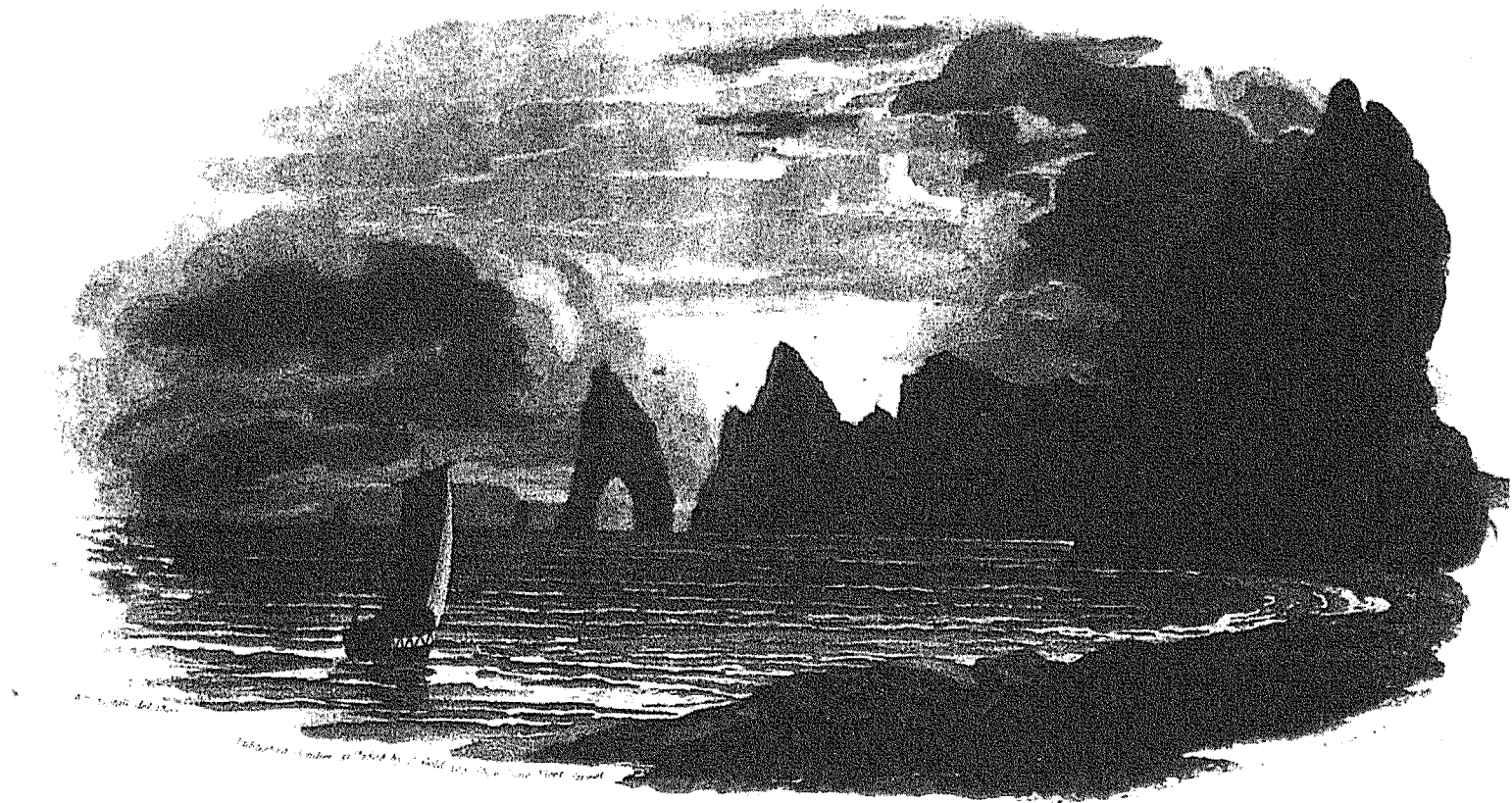
Course	Dist	X Latt ^d	Depart	Latt ^d ☉ Obs	X Long ^d	Long ^d in	M Dis ^t
N 45 ^d ; E	113	80 ^m No	80m E	46=27 N	1 ^d =55 ^m ; E	09 ^d =54 ^m W	2662; E

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 14 Mar. to noon of 15 Mar., following sea time.

2. Main and fore-topgallant sails.

3. Probably British warships.



"View of the east end of Madeira"

CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM TO CASEY & LYNCH

[Off Madeira Islands, Portugal, 15 March 1778]

Mess^{rs}. Casey & Lynch—

this will be handed you by Cap^t Murphy who fell into Our hands A few days Agoe And Cap^t S^t Barbe, Any favour you Can do those Gentl. I shall take as A particular favour¹—The herrings You Sent by me I Was Oblidg^d to leave in S^t atro [*Santander*] As the Markett was so verry bad when I arrived the[y] have been sold since And remitted to Mess^{rs}. Conyngham & Nesbitt as you Order me—I Should be Glad you Would Write to me by the way of Martinique as I shall Continue there for some little time in hopes to pick up a few prizes, the Account Sales of my Venture I Left With you. Should be Glad to know how it was dispos^d. of, I Should be Verry Glad to See you and would Call on you but we have no Admission in to the ports of portugall I am

LB, UKLPR, H.C.A. 32/441/7, pt. 1.

1. *Revenge* captured the brigantine *Betsy*, John Murphy, master, on 10 Mar. and the snow *Fanny*, William St. Barbe, master, on 12 Mar. See Charles Murray to Robert Walpole, 16 Mar., below.

March 16

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM KINSALE, MARCH 16.”

“The *Cochran* Letter of Marque, Bolton Commander, belonging to Glasgow, mounting twenty-two carriage-guns, and twenty swivels, has brought in here an American schooner, called the *Independence*, laden with tobacco from Maryland, bound to France. She was taken in lat. 45. long. 6 30 West, and is reckoned, according to present price of tobacco, a very rich prize.”¹

Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser (London), 6 Apr. 1778.

1. “Last night arrived at Port Glasgow, the schooner *Independence*, Patent, Master, a prize taken the 19th inst. in the Bay of Biscay, by the *Cochran* letter of marque, Thomas Bolton, Master, belonging to this place. The *Independence* was from Baltimore, in Maryland, bound for Bourdeaux, and is laden with tobacco. This is the second prize the *Cochran* has taken in those seas.” “Extract of a Letter from Glasgow, March 30,” in *Lloyd’s Evening Post*, 4 Apr. 1778. See also “Extract of a Letter from Dublin, Feb. 12,” above.

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO
THE BRITISH NAVY BOARDAdmiralty Office.
16th March 1778.

We do hereby desire and direct you to cause the workmen in his Majesty’s several yards to be employed as much extra on all ships fitting, repairing, or building, as they can with advantage to forward the service; and that everything in your power may be done to get the King’s ships in readiness, you are to cause such an additional number of workmen to be entered in the several yards as can be employed for that purpose.

And you are to give orders for hastening the building the several line of battle ships which are building either in the King’s or merchants’ yards, without waiting

for their being seasoned conformable to the late regulation. We are, Your affectionate friends,

Lisburne, H. Penton, Mulgrave.

Sandwich Papers 1: 363.

AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE TO JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR.

M^r Williams

Sir

Paris 16th March 1778

The quantity of Stores you have on hand & the difficulty you find in shipping them induces Us to accept of M^r Monthieus proposal of taking his Goods out of the *Mercury* and loading entirely with the Stores of the public. M^r Montieu has made that offer taking the same rate of Freight for the whole as was agreed for the quantity actually loaded already We shall not be able to see M^r Monthieu before the Post goes to Day but shall be able to write you particularly by Wednesdays post We are &c.¹

BF
SD

LB, CtHi, Silas Deane Papers.

1. Williams's reply is at 21 Mar., below.

LORD STORMONT TO LORD WEYMOUTH

Confidential

Paris March 16. 1778

My Lord

Before this Letter can reach Y^r Lordship, you will probably have received the Dispatch w^{ch} Lord Clermont was so good as to take charge of.

Count Destaing sets out for Toulon this Day or tomorrow. The Fleet which he is to command is to consist of Seventeen Sail. Ten or perhaps Twelve Ships of the Line, the Rest Frigates. The General opinion is that He is to conduct this Fleet to Brest where M La Motte Piquet has also orders to join him at his Return from the Açores. The Intention of this Court being to assemble the whole Naval Force of France in Her Ports on the Ocean, and to give Monsieur Destaing the General command of the whole which is to be divided into different Squadrons as occasions may arise, the Principal Fleet to be commanded by ct Destaing. This is the General opinion at present of those who think themselves well informed and it agrees in substance with the Intelligence I sent your Lordship some time ago. I cannot pretend to form any Judgment as to the Degree of advantage France may draw from the Execution of this plan, but I know that it is considerd here as the most advantageous that can be followed and the most distressful to Us. I own however that the open Manner in which the Destination of the Fleet from Toulon is talked of at present leads me to a suspicion that there is some Secret Design. I suspect this the more as it is difficult to see why Troops should be ordered to Toulon & the Neighbourhood as Y^r Lordship remembers they were some weeks ago, unless an Embarkation is intended. I have no Doubt that the Governors of Minorca and Gibraltar are fully on their Guard

I have this Instant learnt from very good authority that it was whispered yesterday at Versailles that Count Destaing is to go on a Secret Expedition to the East Indies. What I have said of the Intention of this Court to draw the whole Naval Force of France to the Ports on the Ocean must be understood with some allowance there will remain at Toulon five or six Men of War that are not yet fit for actual Service.

I am informed that the Seventh Inst a French Frigate I mean My Lord one of the Frigates in the French Navy sailed from Brest for Boston. I believe she carries copies of the Treaties and other Papers of Importance. Two americans who set out lately from hence for Nantz carried with them an order to all the Post Masters on the Road to expedite them with all possible Diligence.¹ The Expectation of war increases here Every Hour, and the General Petulance and Insolence increase with that Expectation. I am [&c.]

Stormont.

Stevens's Facsimiles, vol. 22, no. 1901. Addressed at foot of first page: "Vsc't Weymouth." Docketed: "Paris March 16, 1778/Lord Stormont/(Confidential)/R. 19th. by M^r Hobart."

1. French Navy frigate *Sensible*, sailed from Brest on 8 Mar. with Simeon Deane on board, carrying the French treaties with the United States.

LORD STORMONT TO LORD WEYMOUTH

Private
My Lord

Paris March 16. 1778

From Information which I have this Moment received I think there is great Reason to believe that the East Indies is the Real Destination of ct Destain's fleet. Your Lordship Knows that Toulon is no improper Place for such an Expedition, and it seems certain that there are to be many Troops on board. Some of the Ships will probably be armed en flute.¹ When they are so armed they can carry a thousand Men on board each ship. M. de Bougainville² goes with ct. Destaing. There are Letters of very good authority from Spain which say that the Spaniards have twenty two ships of the Line compleatly armed and ready to put to sea I am [&c.]

Stormont

Stevens's Facsimiles, vol. 22, no. 1902. Docketed: "Paris, March 16. 1778/Lord Stormont/(Private)/R. 19th. by M^r Hobart."

1. A ship *armed en flute* has a number of guns removed or struck into the hold and is fitted as a transport.

2. The noted explorer Louis-Antoine, Comte de Bougainville (1729–1811) commanded the ship of the line *Guerrier* in d'Estaing's squadron. He led an expedition of two frigates that circumnavigated the globe between 1766 and 1769, about which he published a treatise, *Voyage autour du monde* (1771).

CHARLES MURRAY TO ROBERT WALPOLE

[*Madeira Islands, Portugal*]

Information from George Kennedy, Master of the Brigⁿ: *Peace & Harmony*, belonging to London.

He sailed in His said Brigⁿ: on the 7th: March from Lisbon, bound to London with a Load of Fruit; on the 10th: He was taken by the American Privateer Sloop the *Revenge*, commanded by Gustavus Conyngham, of 20 Guns, (6 of which were in the hold) & 57 Men.

Dito from John Murphy, Master of the Brigⁿ: *Betsy*, belonging to Dublin.

His said Brigⁿ: was loaded with Barilla & dried Fruit, from Sicily; He sailed under Convoy of His Majesty's ship the *Alarm*, from Gibraltar, the 22^d: Febr^y: bound to Newry; lost the Convoy in a Gale of wind a few days thereafter, & on the 11th: March was taken by the above Privateer.

Dito from William S^r: Barbe, Master of the Snow *Fanny*, belonging to London.

His said snow was loaded from the Island of Zant,¹ with Currants, for London; He Sailed with the forementioned Convoy from Gibraltar; and having also lost the Convoy, was taken, the 12th: March by the said Privateer the *Revenge*.

On the 15th: of March, off the East end of this Island, Conyngham put the said three Masters and their respective Mates, George Cranstoun, James Taugh, & John Apsey, into a Portugueeze boat, which brought them on shore here; Conyngham informed them that He had sailed from Bilboa about the beginning of March, in company with two other Privateers, one a Brigⁿ: of 14 Guns, the other a Schooner of 10²—both which were gone for America.

On Board the three Prizes He sent People from the Privateer, takeing out the Crews, whom He kept close in Irons, and would suffer none, not even the apprentices, to come onshore with the Masters and Mates, but promised to let them out of Irons, so soon as the Masters & Mates had left the Privateers, provided they would join Him; which, most or all of them, promised to do; induced thereto, by the desire of obtaining their Liberty.

The foregoing Informations given by the respective Persons, In Madeira this 16th: day of March 1778, before me.

Cha^s. Murray

DS, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 89/85, fols. 272-73.

1. Zákynthos or Zante Island, one of the Ionian Islands.

2. Most likely the Massachusetts privateer brig *General Mercer*, James Babson, and Massachusetts privateer schooner *Hawke*, Jeremiah Hibbert. John Emery to Benjamin Franklin, 11 Mar., above.

March 18

MINUTE OF CABINET

At Lord Weymouth's Office, March 18th: 1778.

Present.

Lord President	Lord North.
Lord Privy Seal	Lord Amherst
Lord Sandwich	Lord Weymouth.
Lord Geo: Germain	

It is humbly submitted to His Majesty, that advice be sent to Lord Howe, that M^r: La Motte Picquet is sailed to convoy some American Ships to a certain Latitude, & by some accounts that he has discretionary powers to convoy them to America with 5 or 7 ships of the Line; and that Lord Howe be directed to collect his whole force & attack him, in case of that event. If Lord Howe has no certain Intelligence of the arrival of this Fleet, which is supposed to have sailed on the 28th of Feb^y., he is then to be directed to send immediately 4 Ships of the Line, 3 of 50 guns, 2, of 32, 2, of 20 & 2 Bomb Vessels, to the Leeward Islands, to convoy 5000 Men in

Transports from Philadelphia, for the protection of those Islands, & to act offensively against the French Settlements. That they take 8 months Provisions, and depend on being supplied afterwards from England.

That Lord Howe be directed to send immediately to England 2 Ships of 44 guns, 6, of 32, 4 of 28, 1 of 24 — 1 of 20 & 6 Sloops of 14 guns. From the Pennsylvania Army 3000 Men are to be sent to the Floridas, the remainder of the Army to New York, & from thence to detach such a number as will be sufficient for the security of Nova Scotia, stating to the Commander the force that is to be sent from hence, and that the Battalion of Marines, which is now there, is to be sent home.

That the Commissioners¹ be immediately sent to New York, if they shall find no prospect of success & that the Commander in Chief should run a risque of having his Retreat cut off, or that the Provinces should raise a very superior force to drive the Troops into the Sea, he should be prepared for securing his Retreat, evacuating New York, taking the Ordnance Stores, & every thing belonging to the Army, and sending to England what shall not be wanted for other Services.

That the Commander of the Newfoundland Station, carry out with him 400 Men for the defence of that Station, & any other purposes for which he shall be directed to employ them.

LB, UKLPR, C.O. 5/263, fols. 6–7. Marginal notation: “Minute of Cabinet. —orig^l rec^d from Lord Visc^t Weymouth’s Office.”

1. The new commission for negotiating peace with the Continental Congress, commonly known as the Carlisle Commission, after Frederick Howard, Earl of Carlisle, appointed to its head on 22 Feb.

THE LONDON CHRONICLE, TUESDAY, MARCH 17, TO
THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1778

Wednesday, March 18. London.

. . . Eighteen frigates are now building in the merchants yards for government, which are ordered to be got ready with all expedition. . . .

The *Dorsetshire*, Westcoate, from the Leeward Islands to Halifax, is taken by the Americans, and carried into Salem.

The *York*, M’Vey, from Glasgow to Barbadoes, is taken and carried into Martinico. . . .

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, March 1778*]

18th. Wednesday Pleas^t w^r We understand there is a Treaty Sign’d Between the French C^t & Our Plenepotentiaries; therefore ‘tis tho^t that the Commissioners¹ Have gone upon a fools Errand ’tis said Chester Castle is fixing for the Reception of the American Prisoners—

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

1. The Carlisle Peace Commission.

JOURNAL OF TIMOTHY CONNOR

[Forton Prison, Portsmouth, 1778]

March 18 this day we received letters from Cap^t Thompson at Nanze in France last Night a very hot Press thro' Portsmouth and Gosport—they Press'd 500 Men and sent on board the guard Ship at Spit-head.

D, DLC, Forton Prison, England, American Prisoner's Journal, 1777-79, collection 2272.

GABRIEL DE SARTINE TO ARNAUD DE LA PORTE, INTENDANT AT BREST

à versailles le 18. mars 1778.

J'écris aux off^{ers}. de l'amirauté, Monsieur, que l'intention du Roi est qu'à la reception de ce lettre, S'il y a des navires anglois dans votre Port, ils les retiennent, jusqu'à nouvel ordre de ma part, ainsy que ceux qui pourront y arriver: vous voudrez bien en mer de même de votre côté, et Vous entendre avec M. Le C^{te}. d'Orvilliers, Si cela devenoit nécessaire. vous ferez prévenir le Commerce darmer avec réserve, et de naviguer avec précaution. J'ay l'honneur [&c.]

de sartine

[Translation]

Versailles, 18 March 1778

I am writing to the officers of the Admiralty, Sir, that the intention of the King is, that on receipt of this letter, *If there are any English ships in your Port, including those that may arrive there, they should be held there pending additional orders from me.* You will, on your part, please send the same orders to sea, and consult with M. Le Comte d'Orvilliers, *If this becomes necessary.* You will advise the Trade to fit out with wariness and to sail with caution. I have the honor to be [&c.]

de sartine

L, FrBAPM, série 1E 190, fol. 631. Addressed at foot: "M. De La Porte à Brest." Notations: "Classes"; "R, le 23—"; "Mariners' Registration"; "Received the 23d."

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*[*Ranger, Camaret Bay, France*]

Wednesday, 18th.—Last night died after a lingering illness for more than three weeks Will^m Reading¹—His remains were decently interr'd about 11 oclock A.M.—P.M. the Ladies came to pay Capt. Jones a visit as he was absent when they pay'd us the first Visit.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

1. Seaman William Redden.

MICHEL LAGOANERE & CIE. TO SILAS DEANE

Monsieur

Nous avons reçu les lettres que vous nous avés fait l'honneur de nous écrire le 2. X^{bre}. 20. janvier, 17 et 20 fevrier dernier.¹ M. Hodge nous a remis la première dans une des Siennes de Bilbao ou nous croyons qu'il est encore.² Vous verrés Monsieur par la coppie Cy inclus des deux lettres que nous lui avons écrit au dit

lieu³ qu'après vos ordres et ceux qu'il nous a donné, nous avons fait remise des 7230 p^{res.} fortes 2 x 28. mrs v^{on.} dont nous vous avons crédité. Vous y verrés également ce que nous lui disons relativement aux prises faits par le Cap^{e.} Conyngham, a quoi nous n'avons rien a ajouter les choses etant encore dans le même etat quelles etoient alors: Cependant nous sommes prêts a lui faire remise (ou à M M Gardoqui père et Fils a qui il nous avoit donné ordre de remettre) des R^{on} 179614 que nous devons pour Solde de nôtre comte avec le dit S^{e.} Conyngham, ou d'en faire remise a vous même, Monsieur, en nos traites sur Paris toutes les fois, que, dans tous les cas, vous voudrés bien nous promettre de nous garantir des événements & de nous faire remise ou de nous permettre de nous prévaloir sur quelque banquier que vous nous indequerier jusqu'a la Concurrence de cette somme si nous sommes obligés de la représenter en totalite ou en partie. Nous nous préterons avec le plus grand plaisir a tout ce qui vous conviendra le mieux a cet égard et nous attendrons vos ordres a moins que dans l'intervalle nous ne venions a nous trouver libres de suivre ceux que nous a donné ous nous donnera M Hodges. S'il vient ici comme il nous l'a fait esperer, vous pouvés compter que nous ferons tout ce qui dependra de nous pour lui prouver le cas distingué que nous faisons, Monsieur, de votre recommandation.

Nous avons remis au Cap^{e.} Courter le paquet que vous nous avés adressé pour lui dans vôtre lettre du 20. du mois d'e^{e.} nous lui avons rendu tous les Services qui ont dependu de nous et nous vous prion d'être persuadé que nous en ferons autant pour toutes les personnes que vous voudres bien nous recommander.

Nous sommes Sans nouvelles directes de M. Hodges ni de M. Conyngham depuis le 13 fevrier dernier. On nous a dit quil y avoit eu une espèce de mutinerie parmi les gens de l'Equipage du dernier, mais le Cap^{e.} dun batiment françois qui a relaché a Bilbao et qui vient d'entre en ce port nous a assurés qu'il avoit mis en mer il y a une douzaine de jours. Si cela est comme nous n'est deutions pas nous esperons de ne pas tarder a le voir paroître par ici. Nous avons lhonneur [&c.]

La Corogne le 18. mars 1778

Lagoanere & Comp.⁵

[Translation]

Sir

We have received the letters that you did us the honor of writing on 2 December, 20 January, 17 and 20 February last.¹ Mr. Hodge dispatched us the first of these in one of his letters from Bilbao, where we believe he still is.² You will note, Sir, by the copies enclosed herein of the two letters we wrote him at the said place,³ that following your orders and those of Mr. Hodge, we had remitted 7,230 hard piastres, 2 reales, and 28 maravedis vellon, with which we have credited you. You will also note what we told him relative to the prizes made by Captain Conyngham; to that we have nothing to add, things being still in the same state they were before. However, we are prepared to render payment of the 179,614 Reales vellon, which we owe to settle our account with the aforementioned Mr. Conyngham, either to him (or to Messrs. Gardoqui, father and son, whom he authorized us to pay), or to yourself, Sir, via our regular drafts on Paris. In any case, kindly provide us some resolution and have sent to us the full amount of the sum, or permit us to avail ourselves of a banker whom you may suggest for the amount, if we are obligated to produce it in full or in part. We are amenable to that which suits you best in this matter and shall await your orders, unless in the interval we

should find ourselves at liberty to follow those given by Mr. Hodge. If he comes here as he has led us to expect, you may rest assured that we shall do what is necessary to prove to him the importance we give to his case, Sir, on your recommendation.

We have sent to Captain Courter the packet that you included for him in your letter of the 20th of last month.⁴ We have rendered him all the services requested of us and we would like to assure you that we shall do as much for anyone else whom you would like to recommend to us.

We have been without direct news of Mr. Hodge or Mr. Conyngham since 13 February last; we have been told that there had been a kind of mutiny among the crew of the latter, but the captain of a French ship that had put into Bilbao and who just entered this port has assured us that Captain Conyngham had put out to sea some twelve days ago. If that is as we have no reason to believe to be otherwise, we expect to see him pass through here before long. We have the honor [&c.]

La Corunna 18 March 1778

Lagoanere & Comp.⁵

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 178. Addressed at foot: "Monsieur S. Deane." Docketed: "Lagoanere/18 March 1778"; "Lagoanere/18 March 1778/recei^d open/from D^r Frank/lin to answer/April 6th/A. L."

1. For the letter of 2 Dec., see *NDAR* 10: 105; for those of 20 Jan., and 17 and 20 Feb., *Deane Papers* 2: 339, 375–76, and 380.

2. Hodge accompanied Conyngham when the *Revenge* departed Bilbao. William Hodge to John Ross, 19 Feb., above.

3. See 21 Feb., above, and 25 Feb., PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 132.

4. See *Deane Papers* 2: 380. For the enclosure to Courter, see "American Commissioners in France to Captain Harmon Courter," 17 Feb., above.

5. The following, in Arthur Lee's hand, appears below the close, with a large "x" drawn through it: "Answer/

Sir, Paris April 6th. 1778

We have received yours of the 18th. ult. M^r Deane being recalld, we desire you will remit from time to time till further orders whatever Monies may be due to the public upon the sale of Prizes taken by Cap^t Cunningham or any other continental Ship & put into your hands. M^r Ferdinand Grand of Paris is our Banker to whom the remittances are to be made & you may depend upon our re-imbursing whatever you are obligd to pay in consequence of the legal process of wth. you speak. We are [&c.]

By another letter he appears to have paid the money to M^r Deane's ord^r"

March 19

THE LONDON CHRONICLE, TUESDAY, MARCH 17, TO
THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1778

Thursday, March 19. London.

. . . The *Portland*, Bailey,¹ from Malaga to London, is taken by an American privateer, and sent for North Carolina.

The schooner *Nancy*, Gross, a prize to the *Ellis*, is put into Youghall.² . . .

There was the hottest press on the Thames on Tuesday night and yesterday morning ever known. The gangs took a great number of sailors, not a vessel escaped them, even those that had protections were carried off.

Several merchant ships which have taken in their lading, were ready to sail, and had got protections for their men, are now detained, all their men, notwith-

standing their protections, being taken away by the press-gangs; even Masters of fishing vessels did not escape them. . . .

Postscript. London.

. . . Last night there was the warmest press all over London and Westminster, that has been known since the last war. About ten o'clock, a gang near Charing Cross, by pretending a fight, gathered a mob about them, when they laid hold of a great many and carried them fairly off. It was somewhat ludicrous to see the sudden change and consternation of the multitude, when the mock engagement converted into actual combat. The effect was so sudden that the surprise was not evaporated to make way for their valour, before part of their number were led off in triumph.

1. Sloop, T. Bailey, master, 100 tons, built at Poole in 1772, Richard Watts, owner. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

2. For the capture of the *Nancy*, see *The London Packet* for 2-4 Mar., above.

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, March 1778*]

19th. Thursd^y: we've been Indulg'd with the Liberty of walking the Yard at Noon time about 10 Days—

D, McHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO ARNAUD DE LA PORTE, INTENDANT AT BREST

Sir, *Ranger* Camarat Mar: 19th. 1778

My unexpected detention here has given and still gives me the Utmost uneasiness and Concern; the more so as it renders my Success, in the project which I communicated to you, very uncertain, because the Ships, which were my principal object depart on or about the 20th Current.¹—I will however, govern myself by the Situation of the Winds, and of Circumstances, when I reach the proper place And if I should then find it expedient to drop my first intention, and to proceed on another project—I must rely on you to procure Orders that the Frigate may accompany me until I am past the Enemy's Ships of Superior force.—

What I communicated to you I had previously mentioned to Monsieur La Motte Picquet in Quiberon Bay, and, agreeable to his Advice, I parted from his Fleet and came here along shore.—to no other person have I said a Word on the Subject; and I have a Perfect Confidence in you both.—But as it is possible that I may be unsuccessful in Consequence of the information of the Enemy's Spies since I came here,—should I be unfortunate, I must entreat you as well as Monsieur La Motte Picquet to defend my reputation, and to do Justice to my Upright and disinterested intentions—particularly by Communicating what you Know, to our American Commissioner at your Coast.²—

And now Sir, permit me to offer you my Cordial & Sincere thanks for the frequent and very polite Attentions which you shewed me during my Stay at Brest.—I am Sir ambitious of your esteem & Friendship:—therefore I am exceedingly sorry that I cannot correspond with you in a language which you yourself Understand.—

I cannot insure Success—but I will endeavour to deserve it.—meantime I have the Honor to be [&c.]

LB, MdAN, John Paul Jones Letter Book, Mss. No. 236, pp. 2-3. Addressed below close: "Monsieur/Monsieur/De la Porte,/Intendant de la Marine/à Brest."

1. Probably an English convoy, which Jones evidently hoped to be able to attack.
2. *I.e.*, court.

March 20

GABRIEL DE SARTINE TO MARIE-ALEXANDRE-LOUIS, PRINCE DE MONTBAREY

A M Le P^{ce} de Montbarey, Secrét^{re} d'Etat au
Département de la/Guerre à La Cour.

V^{les} Le 20 Mars 1778.

J'ai l'honneur, M, de vous prévenir que Le Roi a décidé qu'il seroit embarqué mille hommes d'Infanterie des Troupes de la Guerre sur les Vaissaux qui composent l'Escadre qui est armée à Toulon sous les ordres de M le C^{te} d'Estaing. Je ne pries que m'en rapportes à ce que vous reglerez Sur le choix & la composition de ces Troupes:¹ J'ai donné les orders de mon côté pour que tout fut disposé à l'avance pour ce qui concerne leur embarquement. J'ai l'h^r d'être [&c.]

[Translation]

To M. the Prince de Montbarey, Secretary of
State of the Department of War at the Court.

Versailles, 20 March 1778

I have the honor, My Lord, of informing you that the King has decided that a thousand Soldiers of the Infantry will embark in the Ships of the Line that comprise the Squadron which is fitting out at Toulon under the command of M. the Comte d'Estaing. I ask only that you report back to me what you decide as to the choice and composition of these Troops:¹ For my part, I have given orders that everything having to do with their embarkation may be readied in advance. I have the honor to be [&c.]

LB, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 134, fol. 199.

1. The infantry with d'Estaing's fleet were drawn, 500 men each, from the regiments of Hainault and Foix. Comte d'Estaing to Gabriel de Sartine, 13 Apr., *ibid.*, B⁴ 141, fol. 203.

GABRIEL DE SARTINE TO ARNAUD DE LA PORTE, INTENDANT AT BREST

à Versailles le 20. mars 1778.

Le Roi a chargé son ambassadeur en angleterre, Monsieur, de faire part a la Cour de Londres, que les Etats unis de l'amerique Septentrionale ayant fait proposer a Sa Majesté de consolider par une convention formelle les liaisons qui ont commencé à S'etablir entre les deux nations, les Plenipotentiaires respectifs ont Signé un Traitté de Commerce et d'amitié. Sa Majesté la chargé en même temps de déclarer à la d^e Cour, que les parties contractantes ont eu l'attention de ne Stipuler aucun avantage exclusif en faveur de la nation françoise. cette démarche

ou l'on reconnoit la noblesse, la franchise et la modération de Sa Majesté, n'auroit pas du troubler la bonne intelligence Subsistante entre la France et la grande Bretagne, mais le Roi d'Angleterre ayant donné ordre au Vicomte de Stormont de quitter la France, Sans prendre congé, Sa Majesté a rapellé de Londres le M^{rs} de Noailles. Cette Situation des choses pouvant amener une rupture prochaine entre les deux nations, Sa Majesté vous charge d'en prévenir les nég^t et les navigateurs, et de leur prescrire de se tenir Sur leurs gardes, de naviguer avec précaution, et d'éviter les armemens anglois.

J'en écris aux off^{ers} des Sieges dam^{te} et je leur mande que l'intention de Sa Majesté est que les Batiments des Etats unis de l'Amérique Septentrionale, et les gens de leurs Equipages Soient traités comme ceux des Puissances amies, que Sa Majesté prescrit également de leur rendre tous les Services qui peuvent dépendre d'eux dans les occasions ou ils seront dans le cas de les réclamer et de leur accorder toute assistance, protection et faveur; vous voudres bien en user de même en cequi pourra vous concerner; j'écris aussi pour le même objet aux off^{ers} des classes des Départemens et Quartiers dependants de votre Intendance. J'ay l'honneur d'être [&c.]

de sartine

[Translation]

Versailles 20 March 1778.

The King has ordered his ambassador to England, Sir, to notify the Court of London that, pursuant to a proposal made to His Majesty by the united States of North America to consolidate by formal agreement the relations that have begun to be established between the two nations, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed a Treaty of Commerce and Amity. His Majesty at the same time has ordered him to declare to the said Court that the contracting parties have taken care not to stipulate any exclusive advantage in favor of the French nation. This action, in which one sees the nobility, frankness, and moderation of His Majesty, should not have troubled the good relations that exist between France and Great Britain, but the King of England having ordered the Viscount Stormont to quit France without taking leave, His Majesty has recalled the Marquis de Noailles from London. As this Situation of things could lead next to a rupture between the two nations, His Majesty is ordering you to alert the merchants and navigators, and to advise them to be on guard, to sail with caution, and to avoid English armed ships.

I am also writing to the officers of the Admiralty Courts and I am instructing them that it is His Majesty's intention that the Ships of the united States of North America and the members of their Crews be treated as those of friendly Powers; that His Majesty further orders that they be rendered all the Services on which they may depend during occasions when they will be in a position to require them, and to accord them all aid, protection, and favor. You will please do the same in all that concerns you. I am also writing with the same end to the officers of maritime registration of the Departments and dependent Districts in your Jurisdiction.¹ I have the honor to be [&c.]

de sartine

L, FrBAPM, série 1E 190, fol. 655. Addressed at foot of first page: "M. De La Porte à Brest." Notations: "Classes"; "R, le 6. Avril"; "Mariners' Registration"; "Received 6 April." The addressee was Intendant at Brest.

1. For such a letter, see de Sartine to Charles Pierre Gonet, Commissaire de la Marine at L'Orient, 20 Mar., FrLAL, série 1 E^a 81, fol. 196.

ARNAUD DE LA PORTE, INTENDANT AT BREST,
TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

a Brest le 20 mars 1778.

J'ai, Monsieur, reçu la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire, et dont l'Interprete du Roi m'a fait la traduction.¹ Les vents lents ont empêché M. des Barre de sortir. Il avait appareillé, et il a été obligé de mouiller dans la rade. Je suis persuadé qu'il remettra a les voiles avec premier vent favorable. Je vous souhaite, monsieur, tous ceque vous pouvez desirer de plus heureux; Et je ferai très flatté d'avoir des occasions de vous prouver la consideration avec la quelle j'ai l'honneur d'être [&c.]

la porte

Je me suis entretenu ici avec M de La Motte Piquet de vos projets. Cet officier fait envois que moi des voeux pour vous; et dans tous occasions nous ferons l'un et l'autre prêts à vous rendre les temoignages que vous sont dûs. Je certifierai en mon particulier que vous n'avez pas appareiller plutôt de Camaret.

[Translation]

Brest, 20 March 1778

I have, Sir, received the letter you did me the honor to write to me, and which the King's Interpreter translated for me.¹ Light winds prevented M. des Barre from leaving. He had set sail and was obliged to drop anchor in the roadstead. I am persuaded that he will set sail again with the first favorable wind. I wish you, sir, all that you can desire; And I shall be very proud to have opportunities of proving to you the consideration with which I have the honor to be [&c.]

la porte

I have discussed here with M. de La Motte Piquet your plans. This officer sends, as do I, his best wishes; and on all occasions we both shall provide you with the testimonials due to you. For my part, I shall certify that you did not set sail sooner from Camaret.

L, DLC, Peter Force Collection, Papers of John Paul Jones, no. 6708. Docketed: "N^o 1/From M De la Porte./20th March 1778/N^o 5."

1. Captain John Paul Jones to Arnaud de La Porte, 19 Mar., above.

March 21

GEORGE III TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL SIR HENRY CLINTON

Duplicate

George R.

Secret Instructions for Our Trusty and welbeloved Sir Henry Clinton Knight of Our most honorable Order of the Bath, and General & Commander in chief of Our Forces in North America, Or the Commander in chief of Our Forces for the time being.

Given at Our Court at St James's the 21st day of March 1778 in the 18th year of Our Reign.

Whereas the French King, contrary to the most solemn assurances, and in subversion of the Law of Nations, hath signed a Treaty of Amity & Commerce, with certain Persons employ'd by our revolted Subjects in North America. And it being Our firm purpose & determination to resent so unprovoked, & unjust an aggression on the honor of Our Crown, and the Essential Interest of Our Kingdoms; We have come to the Resolution to make an immediate attack, upon the Island of S^t Lucia in the West Indies.

It is therefore Our Will & Pleasure, that you do with the greatest Secrecy, & Dispatch, make a Detachment of a Body of Five Thousand Men from the Troops under your command, and putting them under the command of such Officer of Rank & Experience, as you shall think most fit, to execute the Service, and adding thereto a proper Corps of Artillery, & such a proportion of Ordnance, & Stores, and a sufficient supply of Provisions. Embark the whole on board of Transports, and so soon as the Commander of Our Fleet in North America, shall appoint a proper number of Our Ships of War, to convoy the said embarkation, you do direct the Commanding Officer of the Troops, to proceed with them to the Island of S^t Lucia, and to Attack, and if practicable Reduce, and take possession of the said Island. And in case of Success, he is to retain such a part of Our Forces, as he shall Judge sufficient, for the Defence thereof, and distribute the remainder of Our Troops among Our West India Islands, in such manner, and such proportions, as from the Information he receives, he shall Judge most proper for their protection, & security, against any attack of the Enemy.

It is most essential to the success of this Enterprize, that that it be carried into immediate execution. You will therefore in concert with the Commander of Our Ships, use all possible diligence, in forwarding the departure of the Fleet, so as that it may arrive at the place of its destination, before the Hurricane Season.

It is also Our Will & Pleasure, that you do likewise detach, another body of Our Troops, under your command, to consist of Three thousand Men, together with a proper proportion of Ordnance, & Stores, and a sufficient number of Artillery Men, to complete the Company of that Corps in the Floridas: And embark the whole on board of Transports, and order them to proceed in two divisions, under proper Convoy. The one Division to consist of such part of the said Three thousand Men as you shall think proper, to go to S^t Augustine, and the other, to consist of the remainder, to go to Pensacola, with which last mentioned Division a General Officer is to proceed, in order to take upon him the command of Our Forces in West Florida.

When these Detachments are made, or at the time of making them, if you shall find it convenient, It is Our Will & Pleasure that you do evacuate Philadelphia, and having embark'd all the Troops, as also the Ordnance, Stores, Provisions, & every thing belonging to Us, or necessary for Our Troops, you are to proceed with the whole to New York, where you are to continue, & wait the issue of the Treaty, which we have authorised Our Commissioners to propose.¹

If that Treaty should prove unsuccessful, and you shall find yourself in danger of being overpowerd, & forced, by the superior numbers of the Enemy, or your retreat likely to be cut off. In either of these cases, it is Our Will & Pleasure, that you withdraw Our Troops from New York, & embarking them on board of Transports, and taking with you all the Ordnance, & Stores, and Provisions, & every thing be-

longing to Us, or useful for Our Troops, proceed with them under Convoy of a sufficient number of Our Ships of War, to Rhode Island, if that Post can be maintained, and leaving there, in such case, as many Men as may be necessary for its defence, proceed with the rest to Halifax, and if you shall have a greater number of Troops there, than you shall judge necessary for the defence of Nova Scotia, you are to detach what you can spare, to Canada, together with such light Ordnance, & Stores, and so many of the Corps of Artillery, as you shall think proper, for the service in that Province.

And in order to facilitate these removals of Our Troops, if such removals shall become necessary, You are upon your arrival at New York, to select, & set apart, such proportions of Our Ordnance & Stores as you shall Judge necessary & useful to the Army in the present circumstances, and also such further Ordnance, & stores, as may be wanted, in case an attack upon New Orleans shall hereafter become expedient, and having so done, you are to take all safe opportunities of sending to Great Britain, all such Ordnance & Stores, as you shall Judge unnecessary to be retained.

As Our Ships of War must now be supplied with their Marines, And We have given Orders that the 70th Regiment and the new raised Regiments, commanded by Colonels Maclean, & Campbell,² making together a body of 2700 Men, should proceed to Halifax from Great Britain, and they are expected to sail from the Clyde early in next Month, You are upon the arrival of the aforesaid Regiments at Halifax, to permit the Battalion of Marines stationed there, consisting of about six hundred Men, to return on board their respective Ships, or be brought to England, as Our Commissioners of the Admiralty shall think fit. But you are with all convenient dispatch, to Send to Halifax a complete Company of Artillery, together with some light Ordnance, & suitable Stores. And in case, from any Intelligence you receive, you shall have reason to apprehend, an Attack is meditated upon Our Province of Nova Scotia, or Our Naval Yard at Halifax, You are without delay, to send there such Reinforcements as you shall Judge necessary for their defence.

G R.

L, UKLPR, PRO 30/55, Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, no. 1032. Docketed: "Duplicate./Secret Instructions/to/Sir Henry Clinton/21st March 1778"; "7. E."

1. The new commission for negotiating peace with the Continental Congress, commonly known as the Carlisle Commission.

2. The 82nd Regiment of Foot, Col. Francis MacLean, raised in Lanarkshire, and the 74th Regiment of Foot (Argyll Highlanders), Col. John Campbell, raised in Scotland. They arrived at Halifax, Nova Scotia, with the 70th Regiment of Foot in August 1778.

LORD GEORGE GERMAIN TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL
SIR HENRY CLINTON

Duplicate
Most Secret
Sir

Whitehall 21st March 1778

Since my Letter to you of the 8th Ins^t by Major Drummond¹ was dispatch'd The French King has by his Ambassador avow'd the having signed a Treaty of Amity & Commerce with the Rebel Agents at Paris.

The inclosed Printed Copies of the Message from His Majesty to Parliament and of the Addresses of both Houses in return² will fully inform you of the just indignation which this most offensive proceeding of the Court of France has excited. And His Majesty in consequence of the advice of His most confidential Servants has taken the resolution to avenge the insulted honor of His Crown and vindicate the injured rights of His People by an immediate attack upon the French possessions in the West Indies

The Orders which His Majesty has thought fit to give for this purpose are contained in the Instructions you will receive herewith,³ as also for the distribution of the Troops which will remain after that Service is supplied.

No more Corps than the Three Regiments I told you were destined for Nova Scotia can be spared from hence, and the measure now adopted will necessarily supercede the operations pointed out to you in my Letter by Major Drummond for the beginning of the Campaign

The Force to be collected at New York is so considerable, that I cannot doubt Your being able to maintain that important Post. The possess[ion] of which will be so necessary to give Dignity & Effect to the Commissioners negotiations; and should the war continue, I will still hope You may find means, in conjunction with the Squadron that will be left in North America, to keep up an alarm on the sea Coasts of the - Rebellious Provinces, and perhaps disable them from materialy annoying our Trade.

The large reinforcements of Troops sent lately from France to the Islands of Martinico and Guadeloupe make it highly necessary, that the Object of our Expedition should be unsuspected; And in order to divert the public attention and conceal our purpose, it has been given out here, that the Troops in America are to return to Great Britain forthwith. Should that opinion be entertained by the French Officers in the West Indies: it will serve to confirm them in it, if you also assign the same reason for the embarkation of the Troops.

It has been found necessary to employ a considerable number of the Recruits raised for the Regiments with You upon a different service. It may therefore be expected that some of those Regiments will in consequence be too much reduced to take the field. If that should be the case, it is His Majestys pleasure that you incorporate the remaining Men into other Corps, and send home the Commissioned and noncommissioned Officers to recruit I am [&c.]

Geo. Germain

L, UkLPR, PRO 30/55, Sir Guy Carleton Papers, vol. 9, no. 1031. Addressed at foot of first page: "Sir Henry Clinton." Docketed: "Duplicate/Most Secret./Lord Geo: Germain/to/Sir Henry Clinton./21st March 1778"; "N^o. 8 E."

1. See above. Major Duncan Drummond, Clinton's aide-de-camp.

2. The texts of the king's message concerning the French alliance with the United States and of the addresses of the two houses in response are found in *The Parliamentary History of England* 19: 912-13, 926-28. Pages 908-52 cover the debates relating to the message and addresses.

3. George III to Lieutenant General Sir Henry Clinton, 21 Mar. 1778, above.

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO
VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

By &c^a.

Secret Instructions for the Lord Viscount Howe, Vice Admiral of the White Squadron of His Maj^s Fleet and Comm^r in Chief of His Majesty's Ships & Vessels employed in North America.

Whereas the French King, contrary to the most solemn Assurances, and in subversion of the Law of Nations, hath signed a Treaty of Amity and Commerce with certain Persons employed by His Majesty's revolted Subjects in North America; And Whereas it is supposed that Mons^r de la Mothe Piquet sailed from Quiberon Bay on the 27th: or 28th: of last Month with a Squadron of five or perhaps seven French Ships of the Line and some Frigates in order to escort fifteen or more large Ships laden with Military Stores, Clothing and other Supplies for his Maj^s: Rebellious Subjects, & that he may possibly convoy them to the Coast or into some of the Ports of North America; And whereas Lord George Germaine, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State hath signified to us that in consequence of such offensive proceedings of the French Court, it is His Majesty's pleasure that in case Mons^r de la Mothe Piquet's Squadron or any part thereof shall arrive on any part of the Coast or in any of the Ports in North America within the Limits of your Lordship's Command, You do use your best endeavours to take or destroy the said Squadron or any part thereof as well as the Ships they may have under their Convoy, And his Lordship having likewise signified to us that His Majesty having thought fit to direct the Commander in Chief of His Army in North America to detach a body of the Troops under his Command under Convoy of a proper number of His Majesty's Ships, to attack and, if practicable, to reduce and take possession of the Island of S^t: Lucia; and also to make a different distribution of the remaining Forces under his Command, and to alter the plan of operations which had before been suggested to him,¹ it is His Majesty's farther pleasure we should instruct the Comm^r in Chief of His Ships to co-operate with and give all the Assistance in his power to the Comm^r in Chief of the Army in carrying the same into execution; Your Lordship is therefore hereby required & directed, in case you shall before these Instructions come to your hands have received certain Information of the Arrival of Mons^r de la Mothe Piquet or any of the Ships of his Squadron on any part of the Coast or in any of the Ports of North America, within the Limits of your Command, to collect such part of your force together as you may judge sufficient and to go in pursuit of him or any of the said Ships of his Squadron and use your best endeavours to take or destroy them as well as all such Ships laden with Supplies for the Rebels as may be under their Convoy. But if you shall not have received any certain advice of the French Squadron abovementioned being within the Limits of your Command at the time you receive these Instructions, Your Lordship is then to co-operate with the Comm^r in Chief of His Maj^s: Troops in embarking on board such Transports as you shall judge necessary & proper for the purpose, the number of Troops and such a proportion of Ordnance and Stores, as he is directed to detach in order to attack, and if practicable to reduce and take possession of the Island of S^t: Lucia. And when the whole shall be embarked, together with such a Number of Flat bottomed Boats as you may judge proper to send with them, You are to put the number of Ships & Frigates mentioned in the Margin² of the Classes against those numbers expressed, under the Command of Commodore Hotham, and all the said Transports under his Convoy and direct him to proceed with all possible dispatch off Carlisle Bay in the Island of Barbadoes, where he may expect to be joined by Rear Admiral Barrington or the Comm^r in Chief for the time being of His Majesty's Ships employed at the Leeward Islands, under whose Command he is, in such case, to put himself with

the Ships and Transports abovementioned, and whose Orders he is to follow for his further proceedings.

But if, contrary to expectation, he shall not meet with the Rear Admiral or Comm^r in Chief when he arrives off Carlisle Bay, You will instruct him in that case to proceed without loss of time to S^t Lucia and, in conjunction with the Troops, attack and if practicable reduce and take possession of the Island as before directed and to co-operate with & assist the Comm^r of the Troops in carrying into execution the Plan which will be more particularly pointed out in his Instructions, acquainting the Rear Admiral or Comm^r in Chief from time to time with his proceedings and considering himself and the Ships with him as a part of the Squadron employed under his Command.

It being essential to the success of this Enterprize that it be carried into immediate execution, Your Lordship will therefore in concert with the Comm^r in Chief of the Troops use all possible diligence in forwarding the departure of the Fleet so as that it may arrive if practicable at the place of it's destination before the Hurricane Season; And in order to facilitate and render more certain it's junction with the Comm^r in Chief of His Majesty's Ships at the Leeward Islands, Your Lordship will dispatch a Frigate as early as possible to give him notice of the time he may probably expect to arrive off Carlisle Bay; And if any unforeseen Accident should prevent the Fleet from sailing from North America so soon as might be expected, Your Lordship will, in like manner give the Comm^r in Chief at the Leeward Islands the earliest Information of it, that he may not be detained unnecessarily at Barbadoes in expectation thereof.

The large Reinforcement of Troops lately sent from France to the Islands of Martinico & Guadaloupe make it highly necessary that the Object of this Expedition should be unsuspected, and in order to divert the public attention and conceal our purpose it has been given out there that the Troops are to return forthwith from N^o. America to Great Britain; and if that opinion should be entertained by the French Officers in the West Indies it will serve to confirm them in it, if your Lordship were also to assign the same reason for the Embarkation.

As the sudden addition of the number of Ships abovementioned to the Squadron stationed at the Leeward Islands may render it necessary to send a Supply of Naval Stores and also a Supply of Provisions along with them; Your Lordship will therefore send with Commodore Hotham such Supplies of each from the Stores in North America, as the State of the Magazines which are now there and the large Supplies going thither under convoy of Rear Adm^l Gambier will enable you to do without distressing in any degree the Ships that will remain under your Command—Your Lordship will also send with Commodore Hotham the *Jersey* Hospital Ship, if She can with any propriety be spared from under your Command, there being great reason to believe from the present State of the Hospitals and Accomodations for the Sick at the Leeward Islands that she may be essentially useful there.

When Provision has been made for the Service beforementioned, the Comm^r in Chief of the Army is instructed to detach another Body of Troops with a proportion of Ordnance & Stores to the Floridas in such Transports & under such Convoy as your Lordship shall think fit to appoint. And when these Detachments are made, or at the time of making them, if it be found convenient, the General is

to evacuate Philadelphia & proceed to New York & wait there the Issue of the Treaty which His Majesty's Commiss^{rs}. are authorized to propose:³ But if that Treaty should prove unsuccessful or the General should find himself in danger of being overpowered or of having his Retreat cut off, he is in either of those cases to withdraw the Troops from New York and proceed to Rhode Island, if that Post can be maintained, and leaving there as many Men as may be necessary for it's defence, proceed with the rest to Halifax; And if he has a greater number of Troops there than shall be judged necessary for the defence of Nova Scotia and the naval yard at Halifax, to detach what can be spared to Canada with such Artillery and Stores as may be proper for the Service in that Province, and in order to facilitate these Removals, if such Removals shall become necessary, He is, on his arrival at New York to set apart such proportions of Ordnance and Stores as are useful and necessary to the Army and take all safe opportunities of sending the remainder to Great Britain. Your Lordship is therefore hereby farther required & directed to concert with the General & to cooperate with & give all the Assistance in your power to the Troops in the several Movements and Operations abovementioned.

And Whereas His Majesty has been pleased, in consideration of His Marine Forces being now wanted to serve on board His Fleet, to direct the General to permit the Battalion of Marines serving on Shore at Halifax, to return to England upon the Arrival of the 70th. Reg^t. and the Regiments commanded by Colonels M^cClean and Campbell,⁴ which Regiments will probably sail from the Clyde the beginning of next Month; Your Lordship will give the necessary directions that upon the Arrival of the said Regiments the Battalion of Marines now serving on Shore in North America be embarked on board such Transports as may be necessary to receive them, and that they be sent to England under proper Convoy as expeditiously as possible.

And whereas there is at present a great want of Frigates for Channel & Home Services, Your Lordship is farther required and directed, immediately on the receipt hereof, to select and send to England as expeditiously as may be the numbers of each Class of Frigates and sloops mentioned in the Margin,⁵ directing their respective Commanders to acquaint us with their arrival and to wait our Orders for their further proceedings.

When this is done and your Lordship has allotted such a number of the other Ships under your Command for the Services before pointed out as you shall judge necessary You are to send the remainder also to England including those which may be in the River S^t. Lawrence when the approach of Winter shall render their Service in that River no longer necessary.

And having by our Secretary's Letter of the 25th. of last Month⁶ prepared your Lordship to expect that Vice Adm^l. Byron would speedily be sent out to join you; and at the same time signified our permission to you to return to England upon his Arrival, if, from the impaired State of your health or from other Motives, you should wish to do so: We are now to acquaint your Lordship that it is judged unnecessary for Vice Adm^l. Byron to proceed to North America; But that nevertheless if your Lordship from the considerations abovementioned should wish to return to England, You are at liberty to do so when you have made the necessary Arrangements for the Services beforementioned, leaving in such case the Command of the Squadron with Rear Adm^l. Gambier, and giving him such

Instructions for his guidance in carrying on the various important services that will be committed to his care, as your Lordship shall judge proper.

Given &c. 21st. March 1778.

Sandwich
H. Palliser
Mulgrave

By &c^a. P.S.

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/1334 (Secret), fols. 54–61. Docketed: "ORD. 21 March 1778/R^c Hble. V. A. Lord Howe/Instructions."

1. George III to Lieutenant General Sir Henry Clinton, 21 Mar., above.

2. In the margin:

<u>Rate</u>	<u>Guns</u>	<u>Ships</u>
3 ^d	— 64	— 4
4 th	— 50	— 3
5 th	— 32	— 2
6 th	— 20	— 2
Bombs if in fit		2
Condition—		—
Total—		<u>13</u>

3. The new commission for negotiating peace with the Continental Congress, commonly known as the Carlisle Commission.

4. The 82nd Regiment of Foot, Col. Francis MacLean, raised in Lanarkshire, and the 74th Regiment of Foot (Argyll Highlanders), Col. John Campbell, raised in Scotland. They arrived at Halifax, Nova Scotia, with the 70th Regiment of Foot in August 1778.

5. In the margin:

Guns	
44	— 2
32	— 6
28	— 4
24	— 1
20	— 1
14 Sloops	<u>— 6</u>
	<u>20</u>

6. Philip Stephens to Vice Admiral Viscount Howe, 24 Feb., above.

JOURNAL OF H.M. STORESHIP *BUFFALO*, COMMANDER HUGH BROMEDGE

March 1778

5^h Mary's N 9.00 E 12 Leag^s Lizard N 54.00 E 18 Leag

Saturday 21st:

At 2 AM Gro^d: 42 f^m: D^o: [Coarse sand & Shells] At 6 AM Spoke his Maj^{ty}: Ship *Thetis* who Inform'd us that 18 days ago they Slip't from Plymouth Sound After a Snow under french Colours who Appeared to be full of men that from y^e Coarse of winds Supposed her to be to y^e Eastward and believd her to be a Rebel privateer At 8 Fir'd 2 Guns & Bro^t too a Snow She prov'd to be y^e *King of Naples* from Naples bound to Hull At 9 made Sail At ½ past D^o: saw a Sail in y^e SE Quart^r: D^o: hauld our wind and Steer'd After her At ½ past 10 perceiv'd her to be a Snow with a Strip't pendant flying At ¾ past 10 fired a Shot a head of her to bring her too' which she Return'd & hoisted a french Ensign & pendant soon After fired another Shot After her which she Likewise Return'd we then fired several Guns at her^l and Continued firing for about 10 minutes when she Bro^t too & sent her Boat Onboard D^o: Hoisted our Cutter and sent an Officer

Onboard her, they told her Name y^e *La Favourite* a French Sloop
of war on a Cruize At Noon Hoisted in y^e Cutter & made Sail
Start NW: 6 Leagues
Fresh Gales with Thick Rainy weather At 5 PM Close Reeft y^e
Topsails & Bro^o: too [with] y^e M^o: Topsail to y^e mast in y^e Night
Ground from 40 to 38 f^m: & 27 D^o:

D, UKLPR, Adm. 51/82.

1. A letter from Portsmouth, dated 23 Mar., reported *Buffalo's* "several guns" as a broadside: "Yesterday arrived the *Buffalo* armed ship, who met with a French sloop of war off Plymouth, at which he fired a gun to bring her to; and the Frenchman returned it. The *Buffalo* fired a second time at her, and monsieur returned it without bringing to; after which the *Buffalo* poured into the French sloop a broadside, which brought her to. Accordingly a boat went on board and rummaged her, and then suffered her to depart. It is reported that the above sloop of war has been out ever since the first instant, cruising about this kingdom, and that she had looked into St. Helen's, Plymouth, and other ports." *London Packet; or New Lloyd's Evening Post*, 23–25 Mar. 1778.

GABRIEL DE SARTINE TO COMTE D'ORVILLIERS, LIEUTENANT-GÉNÉRAL
DES ARMÉES NAVALES, AND ARNAUD DE LA PORTE, INTENDANT AT BREST

[à Versailles]

Copie d'une lettre de M de Sartine a M^{rs}. Le C^{te}.
Dorvilliers et de La Porte du 21 mars 1778.

La Rupture décidée entre la France et l'Angleterre a du Vous faire prévoir, Messieurs, combien le Roi desireroit que l'armement des 25 v^{aux}. qui doivent composer l'escadre fût poussé avec toute la Vivacité possible.¹ pour vous conformer aux intentions de S. M. il est nécessaire que Vous employiez tous les moyens qui se presenteront à Vous pour accélérer les expéditions. le travail ne doit être interrompu ni les fêtes ni les dimanches; et Si les gens de mer qui sont rassemblés à Brest s'y trouvent en assés grand nombre pour que Vous puissiez reserver des Escouades pour travailler les Nuits, l'intention du Roi est que Vous fassiez usage de ce moyen pour accélérer les travaux.

Je Vous préviens que Vous recevrez incessamment l'ordre d'augmenter encore les armemens au delà des 25 v^{aux}. ordonnés. M. de La porte peut prendre dès à present des arrangemens relativement aux nouvelles levées que les nouveaux armem^{ts}. exigeront.

Le Roi attend tous de Notre zèle a des efforts que Vous ferez pour lui en donner dans cette occasion une nouvelle preuve, en apportant dans l'exécution de Ses ordres toute la célérité que les circonstances exigent et qui importes si essentiellement au Succès des Entreprises que S. M. voudroit ordonner. J'ai l'honneur d'être
&c Signé de Sartine

de la Main du Ministre

Regardez cette lettre comme écrite de ma main. M^{rs}. et donnez moi la Satisfaction d'apprendre à S. M. que Ses ordres sont exécutés avec toute la diligence dont il est possible d'user et la plus grande activité.

[Translation]

[Versailles]

Copy of a letter from M. de Sartine to Messieurs the
Comte d'Orvilliers and de La Porte of 21 March 1778.

The decided Break between France and England should have enabled You to foresee, Sirs, how urgently the King wants that the fitting out of the 25 ships of the line that are supposed to constitute the squadron be pushed with all possible Haste.¹ In order for you to follow His Majesty's wishes, it is necessary that You use all the means that present themselves to You to accellerate their preparation. The work must not be interrupted for holidays or Sundays; and If the seamen who Are mustered at Brest may be found in numbers large enough that You can set aside several Gangs to work Nights, the King's wish is that You make use of this means to speed the work along.

I am alerting You that you will receive an immediate order to increase once more the fitting out beyond the 25 ships of the line originally ordered. M. de La Porte may begin making arrangements for the newly raised seamen that the new ships will require.

The King expects that on this occasion you will demonstrate to him renewed evidence of Your zeal in bringing about the execution of His orders with all the urgency that the circumstances require and that is so essential to the Success of the Enterprises that His Majesty wishes ordered. I have the honor to be &c Signed de Sartine

In the Hand of the Minister

Consider this letter as written by my hand, Sirs, and allow me the Satisfaction of informing His Majesty that His orders have been executed with all the alacrity and the greatest dispatch possible.

Copy, FrBAPM, série 1E 190, fol. 665. Notation: "R. le 25—."

1. For the outfitting of the twenty-five ships of the line, see Sartine to the Marquis de La Prévalaye and Jean-François-Xavier Faissolle de Villeblanche, 9 Feb., and notes, above.

WILLIAM LEE TO JEAN-DANIEL SCHWEIGHAUSER

M^r John Daniel Schweighawser, Nantes

Sir,

Paris March 21st. 1778

I was duely honored with your esteemed favor of the 11th Cur^t. & note the Contents.

as the superintendance of the Commer^{al}. concerns of the Secret Committee of Congress has desolved on me solely by the death of the late M^r. Tho^s. Morris, I am happy in pursuing their recommendation by appointing you to take up & dispose of any Vessels or Cargoes that may arrive in the Port of Nantes or any other port in Brittany, on Acc^t. of said Committee, requesting you always to govern yourself in this Agency conformable to such instructions or advice as you may receive with such Vessels or Cargoes whither they are addressed to me solely or to M^r. Morris & myself as joint Commer^{al}. Agents; & that you may be fully informed on that head you are hereby authorized to open any Letters that come to your hands directed to me only as Commer^{al}. Agent or to M^r. Morris & myself as joint Agents for America.

In order to prevent as much as possible any interference with you, or any interruption in this business. I inclose you a certificate, & a Letter from the Chairman of the Com^{tee}. dated Feb^r. 3^d. 1777 to show my authority if any one should entertain a doubt ab^t. it.¹

You will please to give the Com^{tee}. regular advice of your proceedings & also to give the American Com^{rs}. at Paris advice whenever any property arrives in which the Com^{tee}. is interested.

Should any Cargoes arrive in the above mentiond ports addressed to me, being private property, you will be pleased to dispose of the same in the best manner you can for the interest of the concernd & follow their directions in making returns for the same.

Be so good as to forward any Letters that may come to your hands directed for me to M^r. Grand Banquer in Paris.

I have no doubt your conduct in this Agency giving entire satisfaction to all parties concernd & wishing you success therein. I have the Honour to be [&c].

LB, ViHi, William Lee Folder, Letter Book (August 9, 1777–June 24, 1778), 238–39.

1. The Secret Committee appointed William Lee commercial agent for Congress in Europe on 13 Jan. 1777. Secret Committee to Robert Morris, 14 Jan. 1777, in *Letters of Delegates*, 6: 102. On 31 Jan. 1777 Robert Morris wrote Silas Deane that letters authorizing Lee to act in his new capacity “will follow this immediately.” *Ibid.*, 6: 176.

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR., TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Hon^{ble} Gentlemen

Nantes March 21. 1778.

I recv^d your Favour of the 16th Instant¹ too late to answer it by the return of Post.—

I shall observe your Directions relative to shipping on board the *Grammont*. I hope she will be able to take all the Cloaths & Hose that remain, but I shall not get a single Case of arms on board & I have at least 300 in the magazine ready to ship.

Inclosed is the acco^t of Tannay, who occasioned the *Dolphins* Seizure, & the Sentence of the admiralty upon it.²

I beg leave to refer you to my Letter of the 6th January³ for a State of the Fact. The amount of the matter is that a Congress Vessell has been seized & sold to pay a Rascal who had run away with a Prize, drawn £147 Sterlg which he has expended & deserted from the Service. I have the honour to be [&c.]

J Williams J

It gives me the greatest pain to find constant repetitions in M^r. Grands Letters that you have not approved my Bills. I beg you will consider the delicacy of a merchants credit & ease me from the anxiety that this delay occasions.

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 37, no. 139. Addressed: “The Hon^{ble}./The Commissioners/of the/United States./Passy.” Docketed: “Jon Williams/Nantes March 21. 78/Enclosing an Acco^t”

1. Above.

2. See Jonathan Williams, Jr., to the American Commissioners in France, 6 Jan., note 3, above.

3. Above.

HERMAN KATENCAMP TO LORD WEYMOUTH

N^o: 80.

My Lord,

Corunna 21st: March 1778.

I most humbly beg leave to refer to my last Letter of the 11th: Instant in which I had the Honor to acquaint your Lordship of the Arrival in this Harbour of the French Frigate La *Nymphé*, and that it was reported she belonged to a Squadron cruizing in the Bay of Biscay; There is Room however for strong Presumption that

she is bound to some Port in north America, and that two American Gentlemen¹ who arrived here the 10th Instant at night accompanied by a french Courier, embarked in her. Their names and the Nature of their Bussiness was kept a profound Secret, nor did they leave the House of the American Agent² in which they lodged, whilst they remained here, it is equally unknown when and whither they went, but as they were no longer in the Agents House after the 13th Instant when the Frigate sailed, and that I made the strictest Enquiry on the Roads leading from the Town if any such Persons had passed them, and among the muleteers who have Carriages and Horses to let, if they had supplied them with any, also among all the vessels in the Harbour excepting this Frigate, without being able to trace them, there is great Reason to think they embarked on board that vessel, the officers of which supplied themselves whilst here with a much larger Stock of Provisions and necessaries than a Cruize of three or four months requires.

Having nothing further at present deserving Your Lordship's Attention I most humbly beg leave to subscribe myself. My Lord. [&c.]

H Katencamp

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fols. 130–31. Addressed at the foot: "The R^t H^{ble} Lord Viscount Weymouth." Docketed: "Coruña 21 March 1778/Consul Katenkamp/(N^o 80)/R. 13 April."

1. The men were Capt. Harmon Courter and a fellow escapee from a British prison, appointed by the American Commissioners in France to carry dispatches to the Continental Committee of Foreign Affairs. Silas Deane to Conrad Alexandre Gérard, 13 Feb. and the American Commissioners in France to Captain Harmon Courter, 17 Feb., above.

2. Michel Lagoanere. Michel Lagoanere & Cie. to Silas Deane, 18 Mar., above.

March 22 (Sunday)

LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO VICE ADMIRAL VISCOUNT HOWE

By &c^a

Whereas since the signing of our secret Instructions to your Lordship of Yesterday's date,¹ We have received by Captain Cornwallis, your several Dispatches from the 5th of January to the 4th of February inclusive,² giving an account of your proceedings and of the State and condition of the Fleet under your Command; We judge it necessary by this seperate Instruction to acquaint your Lordship that the object of the War being now changed, and the Contest in America being a secondary consideration, the principal object must be the distressing France and defending and securing His Majesty's own Possessions against any Hostile Attempts; and that in order to carry such measures into execution it is hoped your Lordship will have a sufficient number of Ships to enable you to send the Force mentioned in our said Instructions for reducing and taking possession of the Island of St Lucia and securing the West India Islands; But if all the Ships pointed out in the said Instructions cannot be assembled in time, or shall not be in proper condition for executing this important Service, Your Lordship is in either of those cases hereby required & directed to detach from the Fleet under your Command such a number of Ships as you shall judge to be adequate to the intended purpose.³

As the *Nonsuch* will probably be one of the Ships sent on the Service above-mentioned and as from the diminution that will now be made in the American Squadron it is no longer necessary that Cap^t. Griffith should be allowed to have a Captain under him; and as from the circumstance of his being likely to meet several Capt^s. Senior in Rank to himself, it will be improper for him to wear a distinguishing Pendant; Your Lordship will therefore direct him to resume the Command of the said Ship as Captain of her and also to strike the distinguishing Pendant he now wears when he departs from under Your Lordship's Command.

Your Lordship will send back to England with as little delay as possible His Majesty's Ship the *Porcupine* (by whose Commander you will receive this Instruction) giving us an account by that Conveyance of your intended operations and of the state of things in America.

Given &c. 22^d. March 1778.

Sandwich
H. Palliser
Mulgrave

By & P.S.

LB, UKLPR, Adm. 2/1334 (Secret), fols. 62–63. Addressed below close: "To/Lord Viscount Howe/Vice Adm^l. of the White, &/Comm^r in Chief of His Maj^{ty}./Ships & Vessels in/N^o. America." Notation: "By the *Porcupine*/Duplicate sent 12. April 1778/by the *Trident*." Docketed: "ORD. 22 March 1778/R^t Hble V. A. Lord Howe."

1. Above.

2. See 5 Jan., 20 Jan., and 4 Feb., above.

3. For a draft of this much of the instruction, see *Sandwich Papers* 1: 365.

PETER COLLAS TO JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR.

Dear Sir

Plsmouth 22^d March 1778

it is with Regret I acquaint you of my Repeated misfortune Owing to this unhappy warr.¹ I Sail'd from boston 14th. Jan^y 1778 was Taken under bell Isle 14th. February by Cap^t. Agnew of Guernsey,² with a pilot On board for burdeaux, Adressed to Mes^{rs} Moris & lee, unaware of any pravatear out from England, not withstanding I avoided every Vessell, thought my Self Save there but my Pilot Deseaved me telling me that M^r. Agnew was an Amercean Prevatear as he him Self had been on board few Days before for that Reason was taken with a Packett for y^e Honorable Doct^r. Franklin as my Orders was not to Dstroy it untill I was Certain of an Annemy. I have been able to Save these letters Only. One to you, One to your brother³ from your father One to Doct^r. Franklin & three French letters for Paris. I will Inclose you a Newes paper Such as I can gett. People are here very much Divided in Sentimants concerning this warr I have meet with very good frinds to the Amercean Cause & to me in perticuler I am certain to be free in a few Days from y date here of—I Intend to get to france by way of Jersey if youl be So Kind as to wright me there, it will be forwarded to me by my brother Edward Collas, Inclose yours to him I Should be Glad you'd procure me a birth in Some way or other as this unfortunate warr has all most put me at a Stand what to do next, be So Kind as to mantion my name to y worthy Doct^r. Franklin Acquaint him I had a letter to him from m^{rs} Micom⁴ which y^e

uncooth prevateer men took from me not with Standing they beheaved them Selfs as well as they was taught, I was a prisonner in Guernsey 8 days Some time under Guard & Some time from Guard than my frinds endeavouring to help me all they could I am now at Plymouth Expect to be Soon in Jersey eather on a parole or at liberty where I have a number of good frind that has a great influence over y Navall officer, I will Refer you to y^e paper for Intellegence where youl See Some Debates in parliment, tho not So many as I could wish to Send there is a great pres of Seamen at this place am imform they have brak true all Protection Severall Vessell put in Comision & Some Sail this day for portmouth. I have a Thousand thing on my mind but dare not mantion as this my pas Examination, to me unKnown, &c

Please to geave my Compliments to your brother if matters Should be made up with America & old britain I have offers very advantageous from Guernsy to America & Jersey I have Received Severall letters from my frind,—Intimating the Same tho I hope that America will never come to any terms but what are honorable & adventageous to her/for y^e Cruelty, & barbararious usage I have Seen I will never forgett this from your much obliged & humble Servant—

Peter Collas

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol 47, no. 105. Addressed: "M^r Jonathan Williams/Merchant/In Nantes/France." Docketed: "Peter Collas/22 mars 1778."

1. Collas had been captured at sea once before during the war. *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 23: 41n.
2. Peter Agnew, commander of Guernsey privateer schooner *Active*.
3. John Williams.
4. Jane Mecom, sister of Benjamin Franklin and mother of Jane Mecom Collas, Peter Collas's wife.

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PLYMOUTH, MARCH 22."

"This day arrived the *Leopard*, —, from North Carolina for Teneriffe,¹ with staves and bees wax; she was taken by the *Swift* Letter of Marque of this port. Also arrived the *Thetis* frigate, and *Rattle Snake* cutter, from a cruize."

Lloyd's Evening Post, and British Chronicle (London), 23–24 Mar. 1778.

1. Massachusetts merchantman *Leopard*, Capt. Joseph Cornstock.

ANTOINE-HILARION CHEVALIER DE BEAUSSET TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Copie de Lettres Ecrite a M^r John Paul Jones Commandant Le Batiment de Guere *Ranger*.

a Brest Dimanche 22 Mars.

Jay L'honneur de vous prevenir Monsieur, de la part de M^r Le Comte Dorvilliers commandant La Marine en ce Port, que votre Mouillage a Cameret pouvant etre tres Dangereux, Si Les Vents passoint dans La partie du NO. Il Croit que vous Deveriez profiter de la premiere occasion que vous aurez D'apareiller de Cette Rade pour Entrer dans Celle de Brest, ou vous attendriez en toute Sureté que Les Vents et Le Beau temps vous permissent daller a votre Destination. Vous ferez bien Si vous prenez ce party prudent, de vous precautioner d'un Pilote Cotier qui vous fasse appareiller de Camaret quand La Mareé Sera favorable et vous entrer Dans le Goulet En Evitant Les Dangers que Sont a Louvert de ce Passage Jay L'honneur Detre [&c.]

Signé Le Ch^r de Bausset
 Directeur du Port.

[Translation]

Copy of Letters Written to Mr. John Paul Jones, Commanding The Ship of War
Ranger.

Brest, Sunday 22 March.

I have the honor of alerting you, Sir, on behalf of M. the Comte D'Orvilliers, commanding the Navy in this Port, that your Anchorage at Camaret could be very Dangerous, If The Winds were to come from The Northwest. He Believes that you Should Take the first opportunity to sail from That Roadstead to Enter into That of Brest, where you could wait in complete Safety for The Winds and Favorable weather that would allow you to depart for your Destination. You would do well to take the prudent step of taking the precaution of a Coast Pilot, who would have you sail from Camaret when The Tide will be favorable and enter Into the Narrow Entrance [*to Brest*] While Avoiding The Dangers that Are at the Opening of that Passage. I have the honor to be [&c.]

Signed The Chevalier de Bausset
 Director of the Port

Copy, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 47, no. 104b. De Beausset, a capitaine de vaisseau in the French Navy, commanded the ship of the line *Glorieux* (74 guns) in D'Orvilliers' fleet in 1778.

March 23

DIARY OF DR. EZRA GREEN, CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*

[*Ranger, Brest, France*]

Monday, 23rd March.—Got under way and ran up to Brest; saluted the Admiral,¹ rec'd the news of L^d. Stormont's having left Paris on receiving a copy of the Treaty with America.

Diary of Ezra Green, M.D.

1. Louis Guillouet, Comte d'Orvilliers, Lt.-Gén. des Armées Navales, French Navy.

March 24

JOURNAL OF DR. JONATHAN HASKINS

[*Mill Prison, Plymouth, March 1778*]

24th. Tuesday squally weath^r. We hear that the French Ambassador has by order from the King his Master, Informed the English Court that there was a Treaty of Amity & Commerce Sign'd between His most Christian Majesty & the Congress of the United States of America, & Acknowledged their Independence In Consequence of which the English King has Order'd the Emb'dr to Depart—

D, MeHi, Jonathan Haskins Journal.

JAMES MOYLAN TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Cap: John Jones

L'Orient 24th. March 1778

Dear Sir,

M^r Bersolle writes me from Brest the 19th. ins^t that his advances for acc^t of the Ship *Ranger* are heavy, and desires me point out to him a house in Paris on w^{ch}. he may draw for their amount. I write him this post to take your Bills on the Honorable Commissioners, or on me, payable in Paris, but that if he can defer the same untill your acc^{ts}. with him are closed, it wou^d be more agreeable, because by one Bill, them gentlemen will see the am^t of your disbursements in Brest. in either case you will please to comply, as you may depend on due honor being paid your drafts

the Admiralty Officers of this and the adjacent ports have received directions this post, to stop all English Vessels within their district untill further orders and letters from Paris likewise mention that the English Ambassador retir'd from this Court the 16th. Ins^t without taking leave. I wish it may be true.² I remain truly
[&c.]

James Moylan

L, DLC, Peter Force Collection, Papers of John Paul Jones, no. 6712. Addressed: "John Jones Esq^r/Commander of the Ship/*Ranger*/in/Brest." Docketed: "from James Moylan Esq^r/L'Orient March 24th. 1778/rec^d. Brest March 28th. 1778."

1. See Gabriel de Sartine to Arnaud de La Porte, Intendant at Brest, 18 Mar., above.

2. On 13 Mar. the Marquis de Noailles delivered to the British government a copy of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce between France and the United States, and three days later Lord Stormont informed the French ministry that he had been recalled. On 19 Mar., Noailles announced to the British his own recall.

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR., TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

(N^o 159)

Nantes March 24. 1778.

Since my last of 21st Instant I have nothing to inform your Excellencies relative to Business, the weather having been such as to prevent any operation.

The last Post from Brest brings acco^{ts} of the Return of Mons^r la motte Picquet with his Fleet. He left our Ships in Latt. 42 Long^d 17 with a fine wind which continued fifteen Days, after Seperation Mons^r la motte Picquet fell in with 4 English Transports convoyed by a Frigate & a Sloop of war steering for the West Indies.

The *Brune* unfortunately seperated from the Fleet the second Night, not being able to carry sufficient Sail. The other Ships sail well especialy the ~~Lion~~ *Dean* & *Independance*, It gives me great Pleasure to have so good acco^{ts} of the Frigate, & I flatter myself she will be equal to any of her Size in any Navy.

I beg leave to congratulate you on the acknowledgment of our Independance by the Court of France, which I hope will prove beneficial & honourable to both Nations. I have the Honour to be [&c.]

Jon^a Williams J

L, ViU, Lee Family Papers. Addressed below the close: "Their Excellencys/The Ministers Plenipotentiary/of the United States." Docketed: "Nantes 24th. March 1778/J Williams Lett^r"; "(N^o 159)"; "Jonⁿ. Williams/to/The Ministers Plenp U.S."

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, JR., TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Dear Sir.—

Nantes March 24. 1778.

The last post from Brest informs me that you still remain in port, & are getting ready to sail en escorte with the *Zephir*. But I am still ignorant of your Situation, & much fear you are not free from the Small Pox, which I supposed to be the Cause of your putting in. Indeed you would have given me much Satisfaction if you had written to me & knowing the part I take in the welfare of yours, as well as every other congress Ship, I a little wonder at your silence. You have been perhaps too busy either in Engagements of Pleasure or otherwise so I will not complain.

I have not yet recvd^d. anything from Bordeaux when I do you shall be informed as soon as I know where to write to you. Your man William Hart¹ who was left behind has endeavoured to join the Ship, but unfortunately arrived too late at Quiberon the Journey has been attended with some expence which I have paid as well as for other necessarys for this man & the poor Fellow you left at Painbeuf who is since dead. I shall send Hart home in the *Hawke* Cap^t Jenkins for Nantucket.²

M^r Lloyd³ desires me to ask if M^r Stevenson⁴ recvd^d. a Letter which he directed for him under your Care at Painbeuf.

We heard that one or two small Guernsey Privateers are under Belleisle, These paltry Things have carried in two american Ships since you sailed. I wish they may fall in your way. Please to give [*tom*] Yours sincerely

J Williams J

L, DLC, Peter Force Collection, Papers of John Paul Jones, no. 6710–6711. Addressed: “A monsieur/Monsieur Jones./Commandant de la Fregatte/le *Ranger* au Service/des Etats unis/a/Brest.” Docketed: “Letter from/J Williams/24th March 1778.”

1. *Ranger's* log for 12 Feb., see appendix below, reports seaman William Hart as having deserted.

2. Charles Jenkins sailed from Nantucket 6 Jan. and arrived at Nantes, on or about 10 Feb. *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 25: 645n, 649.

3. John Lloyd, merchant at Nantes.

4. William Stevenson.

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER[Frigate *Boston* at sea]Remarks on Board the *Boston* Tuesday March 24th. [1778]¹

The first part of this 24 Hours, fresh Gales & fair Weather, at 4 PM, saw high land bearing from us SW to SE. distance ab^t 8 Leagues, at 11 S^c Antonys head² bore SSW. distance 5 Miles

Latt^d. ☉ Obserⁿ: 43..40 N^o.—D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS AM 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 23 Mar. to noon of 24 Mar., following sea time.

2. Probably Punta del Pescador near Santoña, Spain.

March 25

PETITION OF FOURTEEN AMERICANS IN FORTON PRISON TO
THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY

[*Forton Prison, Portsmouth, ca. 25 March 1778*]

The Humble Petion of Fourteen Persons confined in the inner Prison at Forton To the Honourable The Lords Com^s of his Majestys Court of Admiralty—

My Lords we the Subscribers in behalf of our selves & others To the number of Fourteen in all haveing been put into close confinement for endeavouring To escape and haveing now patiently born that punishment of our folly ever since the 7th of March & being duly sensible of our Error we humbly pray your Lordships To take our case into consideration and permit us again to enjoy The benefit of the Common prison and your Lordships may be assured that we shall remain quiet during the Remainder of our imprisonment at this place And Shall ever retain the Strongest sence of your Lordships lenity and clemency Towards us¹

Will^m Tryon²
William Green
John Crow
John Dorman
Timothy Connor
Franc. Jones
Franc^s Brannan

L, UKLNMM, Adm/M/444. Endorsed: "rec^d in M^r Stephens's Letter of 25 March 1778."

1. The secretary of the Admiralty, Philip Stephens, forwarded this petition to the Commissioners for Sick and Hurt Seamen, with the directions of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty "to shew as much Lenity to these People as the Nature of their Case will with any propriety admit of." The Commissioners endorsed Stephens's letter: "reced. 26th. Wrote to Keeper & Agent at Forton in consequence the 27th." Ibid.

2. William Tryon was lieutenant of South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame*. Committed to Forton on 15 July 1777, he escaped and was recaptured on 30 July and on 7 Mar. 1778. He escaped again on 23 July 1778. Jack Kaminkow and Marion Kaminkow, *Mariners of the American Revolution* (Baltimore, Md.: Magna Carta Book Co., 1967), 192.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO SILAS DEANE

Honored Sir

Ranger, Brest March 25th 1778.

When I wrote you the inclosed from Quiberon Bay¹ I had no Idea of Addressing you at this time from Brest.—As I found Mons^r La Motte Picquet a Man deserving of confidence I communicated to him a project which I have long wished to execute and which met with his entire Approbation. tho' I had other reasons, this was the principal one why I did not accompany him from that Bay.—I found the *Ranger* very crank notwithstanding my having taken in Fifteen Tons of Lead in Quiberon to make up the quantity, 46 Tons, which I had ordered before I went to Paris.—When I reached Quimperbay a disorder prevailed in the Ship which from its Symptoms was universally deemed the Small pox. to prevent if possible the infection of this Calamity I left one person at Pont l'Abbe and proceeded. On my Arrival, here in Camaret Bay, the 8th Current it being necessary to apply for a Pilot I was told by le comte d'Orvilliers, and Mons^r De la Porte the intendant

that if I would wait a day or two a Frigate should accompany me.—I was the more induced to accept of the offer as the Wind was directly contrary—and as I could in the mean time reduce the Yards & Sails—and afterwards proceed with less risque and with a better prospect of Success. I finished the reduction of the Yards & Sails and was again ready within 48 hours.—in the course of this time I received such Attentions from Mons^r De la Porte that I thought it most advisable to communicate my first project to him.—I had a conference with him Tate a Tate for this purpose—he eagerly embraced & commended my intention which at my request he communicated to the Comte and told me afterwards that the Frigate would accompany me as far as I thought proper to lessen the risque as much as possible. I, however, waited in Camaret Bay untill the day before yesterday without being Joined by the Frigate tho' I had the utmost reason to expect her every hour. the Stormy Weather which still continues induced me to comply with the invitation in the within Letter from Mons^r De Bausset²—and as I think it absolutely necessary to reduce also the *Rangers* masts, the Mainmast being 21 Inches diameter—I mean to profit of this favorable Opportunity. You will please to observe that in America necessity Obliged us to make both Steering Sails & TopGallant sails out of duck which is sufficiently heavy for Topsails from perhaps a mistaken principle of Frugality, I did not order others to be made at Nantes—but as they can be made so much sooner here I will give Orders for that purpose. I shall enter the Port to day or to morrow.—I think my own Carpenters, Sailmakers and people will with every little Assistance be able to finish this Business in little more than a Week—so that I shall be perfectly ready to depart when your return becomes due in course of Post, and in all probability the Winds and Weather will not permit it sooner. You will for the present please to excuse my not communicating my first Scheme in this Letter.—Letters may miscarry.—and the consequence might prove fatal to me. If, after the within Letter from Mons^r De la Porte,³ any thing further should be necessary I am persuaded that both that Gentleman and Mons^r La Motte Picquet will at any time do Justice to my upright and disinterested intentions.—Should I think myself too late to pursue my first Project I purpose to substitute others which may answer perhaps equally well if not better.—I had the *Ranger* in disguise at Camaret but I have now pulled off Masque as the face of Affairs are altered. I can assure you that my detention here has given me and still gives me the utmost uneasiness and the deepest concern. Responsible, as I think myself, for consequences it is with the utmost reluctance that I now write to you without being able to inform you of my Success. I wish the more to hear from you because if I meet with much Game I may perhaps continue the Sport Three months and if the Amsterdam Ship⁴ can be had in the present Situation of Affairs you will perhaps find it necessary for me to return much sooner.—You will if you please communicate this Letter with my Respects to the Commissioners. my best compliments await Doctor Bancroft, all my People are again in health.—and I have the honor to be [&c.]

Jn^o P Jones

NB. M^r Williams could not furnish me with his Account against the *Ranger* but he has Receipts for every Article. When I depart from Brest I am to Salute the French Flag being promised Gun for Gun.

L, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 48, no. 160. Addressed below the postscript: "The Honorable/Silas Deane." Docketed: "Cap^t Jones. Mar. 25. 1778."

1. Captain John Paul Jones to Silas Deane, 26 Feb., above.
2. Capitaine de Vaisseau Antoine-Hilarion, Chevalier de Beausset, Director of the Port of Brest, to Captain John Paul Jones, 22 Mar., above.
3. Arnaud de La Porte, Intendant at Brest, to Captain John Paul Jones, 20 Mar., above.
4. *Indien*.

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO JOHN ROSS

Dear Sir,

Ranger Brest March 25th: 1778.

You will no doubt be surprized to receive a Letter of this date from me at Brest—I will Account to you for my detention before I depart. I have endeavoured to Account for it to the Commissioners.—I must inform you that I have desired some of my friends beyond Channel to address letters to your care as follows—À Monsieur, Monsieur Jones à Le soin de Mons^r: Jean Ross Negociant à Nantes—I have settled the matter so that I am to receive Gun for Gun when I salute the French Flag at my departure—this looks like Independence; yet I know not whether I ought or ought not to Congratulate you on our new Alliance: I have not yet seen the Conditions but hope they are liberal and unconfined.—my stay here will admit of a line ☉ return of Post I therefore shall expect it.—If M^r: Williams has any letters for me you will please to forward them with the News of the Day.—If it will be agreeable to you to take into your hands any Prizes that may reach Europe, on Account of my Officers and Men; let me know it and I will endeavour to procure you their letter of Attorney.—If you should decline this you will oblige me by pointing out Persons in whom they may Confide—my best Compliments await M^r: Williams, M^r: Lloyd¹ and all Friends at Nant[es,] I dine with Le Comte D'Orvilliers, therefore must conclude and I am &c:

LB, MdAN, John Paul Jones Letter Book, Mss. 236, pp. 6–7. Addressed at foot: "John Ross Esq^r/Nantes."

1. John Lloyd, merchant at Nantes.

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER[Frigate *Boston* at sea]Remarks on Board the *Boston* Wednesday March 25th. 1778.—¹

The first part of this 24 Hours moderate Gales, at 2 PM. a Pilot came on Board from S^t: Antonys² stood for the Harbour close in with the Land, tacked Ship & stood to the Northw^d: to meet a brig standing Estw^d:

Latt^d. ☉ Obsⁿ: 44..14 N^o.—

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 24 Mar. to noon of 25 Mar., following sea time.
2. Santoña, Spain.

HERMAN KATENCAMP TO LORD WEYMOUTH

N^o: 81.

My Lord

Corunna 25th March 1778.

I had the Honor last Post to acquaint your Lordship with the Arrival in this Town of two American Gentlemen¹ accompanied by a french Courier, and that it was strongly suspected they embarked on board the french frigate *La Nymphe* for

north America, I am well informed since that they came from Paris, but after the most diligent Enquiry I have not been able to learn any further Particulars concerning them, as the American Agent² with whom alone they conversed whilst here, observes strict Silence on this Subject even with his most intimate Friends.

The *San Vincent* of eighty Guns is fitting out in Ferrol, and Orders have been sent to the Intendant of Galicia to prepare for the Reception of a Regiment of Horse, and three Regiments of Foot in this Province. I have the Honor to be [&c.]

H Katencamp

P:S: A Packet which arrived yesterday from the Havanna brings Advice of the safe Arrival in that Harbour of the Flota valued at Forty Millions of Dollars.

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fols. 134–35. Addressed at the foot: "The R^t H^{ble} Lord Viscount Weymouth." Docketed: "Coruña 25 March 1778/Consul Katencamp/(N^o 81)/R. 18 April."

1. The men were Capt. Harmon Courter and a fellow escapee from a British prison, appointed by the American Commissioners in France to carry dispatches to the Continental Committee of Foreign Affairs. Silas Deane to Conrad Alexandre Gérard, 13 Feb. and the American Commissioners in France to Captain Harmon Courter, 17 Feb., above.

2. Michel Lagoanere. Michel Lagoanere & Cie., to Silas Deane, 18 Mar., above.

March 26

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[Frigate *Boston* at sea]

Remarks on Board the *Boston* Thursday March 26th. 1778.—¹

The first part of this 24 Hours attended with fresh Gales & clear weather, at 7 PM, my Worthey 1st Lieu^t: W^m: Barron departed this Life, after enduring the greatest pain, since his having his leg cut off. I sincerely regret the loss of him he being a Worthy & Respectful Officer, at 10 AM the Corps of the deceased was brought on the Quater Deck, & after prayers being read was committed to the Deap, with all the Ceremony that possibly could be, all Hands being on the Quater Deck. all seem'd to lament his Death.—

Latt^d. ☿ Obs: 44..31.—

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 25 Mar. to noon of 26 Mar., following sea time.

March 27

LOUIS XVI TO THE COMTE D'ESTAING

Extrait de mes instructions
du 27 mars 1778

1^{er}. chef départ de Toulon rendés vous conduite pendant la route. atterage par la Delaware. qualité et quantité des forces maritimes des Anglois en Amérique consistant dans six vaisseaux de 64. dans sept de cinquante; dans un de 74 presumé parti: dans quarante et une frégattes depuis 44 canons jusqu'a vingt,

dans 21 corvettes dans quinze goelettes dans treize flutes dans trois brulots et une Galiotte a bombe et il y a un vaisseau de 50 canons et dans trois fregattes destinés pour Terre Neuve.

2^{eme} chef ordre expres et permission positive de faire ce que je croirai le plus convenable dans les differents cas qui pourront se presenter.

3^{eme} chef bruller tous les batiments qui n'augmenteraient pas la force de l'escadre. Indication de débarquer les prisoniers a terre, mais ordre d'exiger des Amériquains la promesse expresse de ne point les relacher a que lorsque le Roy voudrat qu'ils soyent échangés.

4^{eme} chef attaquer les enemis dans l'endroit ou je pourrai leur nuir davantage et qui me paraitrat etre le plus utile aux interets de sa Majesté et a la gloire de ses Armes agir seul ou me combiner avec les etats unis. ne point faire d'établissement sur le continent mais dans quelqu'isle utile au comerce et surtout a la pesche telle que l'isle de Terre neuve ou de S^t jean soit en m'en emparant de force soit en l'obtenant par negociation des etats unis de l'amerique: je mettrai cet isle a labri d'insulte.

5^{eme} chef corespondance avec les etats unis etre instruit de leurs projets hostiles les aider s'ils ont des projets sur la Nouvelle ecosse mais m'assurer auparavant d'une reciprocité de secours pour favoriser l'attaque ou acorder cession des établissements de la Pesche le stipuler avec les dits Etats qui seroient tenus de donner les mêmes facilites a l'Espagne

6^{eme} chef réchauffer dans les Colons de la nouvelle ecosse leur ancien attachement pour sa Majeste non pour y former des établissements mais pour faciliter ceux de la pesche dans les isles les plus avant et pour avoir des matelots pour le service des vaisseaux

7^{eme} chef refus que je dois faire de contribuer a la conquestte du Canada autrement que par une croisiere et par des attaques de postes mais dans le cas où je serai convaincu que les etats réussiroient dans cette attaque autorisation de donner des declarations au nom du Roy pour promettre aux Canadiens et aux Sauvages la protection de S. M. s'ils cessent de reconaitre la suprematie de l'Angletère

8^{eme} chef retirer les matelots francais mais ne point les contraindre n'y demander main forte aux etats unis mais me servir des moyens de persuasion.

9 chef en cas que les Anglais eussent une superiorité maritime actuelle ou anoncée, il m'est ordonne de me retirer a Bostton ou dans nos isles que je trouverais [sûres] je m'ocuperois à me procurer a Boston des vivres et des rafraichissements et il a me serat envoye pour six mois de vivres a la Martinique si j'étois informe qu'il m'arrive un renfort j'agiroy en conséquence. j'employerai dans les isles les forces maritimes et les troupes [qui] seront tenues d'executter ce que je prescrirai je [*devrai*] a attaquer leur cotes [et] leur comerce et je protegerai le notre Je défendrai nos Colonies du vent [et] de dessous le vent leurs gouverneurs se conformeront, dans leur deffensive et pour la partie militaire a ce que je leur prescrirai

10^{eme} chef je dois avertir les gouverneurs Espagnols offrir tous les moyens qui sont a ma disposition pour les deffendre comuniquer avec leurs vaisseaux et regarder les interets des deux couronnes comme les mêmes.

12^{eme} [*i. e.*, 11^{eme}] chef j'employerai les petits batiments américains qui pourront m'être fournis comme decouverttes. je m'en servirai dans les isles et je pourai leur faire porter mes depesches en europe.

12 secret recomandé déffence de laisser porter aucunes lettres sans les plus grandes precautions faire ma partance pour france s'il se peut de la Martinique: escortter jusqu'aux debouquements les marchands francais et Americains.

13^{eme} chef de mes instructions au sujet des aprovisionements considérables en habillements qui seront embarqués sur l'escadre j'interomps cet Article de peur de deplaire a Monsieur Gérard¹ et d'avoir l'air de me faire valloir etcetera

[Translation]

Extract of my instructions of 27 March 1778

First head—Departure from Toulon. Rendezvous. Guidance during the passage. Landing at the Delaware River. Quality and quantity of the maritime forces of the English in America, consisting of six ships of the line of 64; seven of fifty; one of 74 presumed to have departed; of forty-one frigates, from 44 to twenty guns; 21 corvettes; fifteen schooners; thirteen armed transports; three fire ships, and one Bomb Ketch; and there is a ship of the line of fifty cannons, and three frigates destined for Newfoundland.

Second head—Express orders and positive permission to do what I consider to be the most suitable in the different cases that may arise.

Third head—To burn any warships that will not increase the strength of the squadron. An indication to disembark the prisoners, but to extract from the Americans the express promise never to set them at liberty except when the King wishes them to be exchanged.

Fourth head—To attack the enemy in the place where I shall be able to inflict the most damage, and that appears to me to be the most useful to His Majesty's interests and the glory of his arms. Either to act alone or to collaborate with the United States. Not ever to create any establishment on the mainland but on some island which would be useful to the commerce and, above all, to the fishing industry, such as the island of Newfoundland or of Saint John, whether it be by my seizing it by force or in obtaining it through negotiation with the United States of America. I shall have this island protected from insult.

Fifth head—To correspond with the United States to become apprised of their hostile projects. To assist them if they have projects planned for Nova Scotia, but to assure myself previously of a reciprocity of assistance in order to favor the attack in accord with the transfer of the fishing establishments. To stipulate with the aforesaid States that they would agree to give the same facilities to Spain.

Sixth head—To rekindle in the Colonies of Nova Scotia their former attachment to His Majesty, not for the purpose of forming some establishments there but to facilitate the fishery in the remotest islands, and to have some sailors for the service of the ships of the line.

Seventh head—Refusal that I should make a contribution to the conquest of Canada other than by a cruiser and some attacks on posts; but in case I should be convinced that the States would succeed in this attack, an authorization to make declarations in the name of the King promising the Canadians and the savages the protection of His Majesty if they cease recognizing the supremacy of England.

Eighth head—To recover French seamen, but never to compel them or to demand they help the United States, but to serve me by means of persuasion.

Ninth head—In the event the English have a maritime superiority, actual or potential, I am ordered to retire to Boston or to our islands, that I might find safety. I would initially procure provisions and supplies in Boston, and six months of provisions would be sent me later in Martinique. If I were informed of reinforcements on the way, I would act accordingly. I shall employ in the islands maritime forces and troops who will be held to execute my orders. I shall attack their coasts and commerce while protecting ours. I shall defend our windward and leeward colonies. Their governors will conform to what I ordain for their defense and for the military.

Tenth head—I must inform the Spanish governors that I offer them all my available means to defend them; to communicate with their warships and to regard the interests of both crowns as being the same.

Twelfth [*i.e.*, *eleventh*] head—I shall employ the small American ships that might be furnished as scouts. I shall use them in the islands and can have them carry my despatches to Europe.

Twelfth head—Secret Recommendation. Forbid the transport of any letters except under the greatest precautions. To make my departure for France, if it is possible, from Martinique, and escort the French and American merchant ships to the exit of the channel.

Thirteenth head—Concerning my instructions on the subject of considerable provisioning in clothing that will be embarked on the squadron. I interrupt this item for fear of displeasing M. Gérard¹ and of appearing to push myself etcetera.

D, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 143, fols. 9–10.

1. Conrad-Alexandre Gérard was appointed French minister to the United States and was to be transported to America aboard d'Estaing's fleet.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

March 27. Fryday.—on Wednesday Evg. M^r Barons died,¹ and Yesterday was committed to the Deep, from the Quarter Deck.

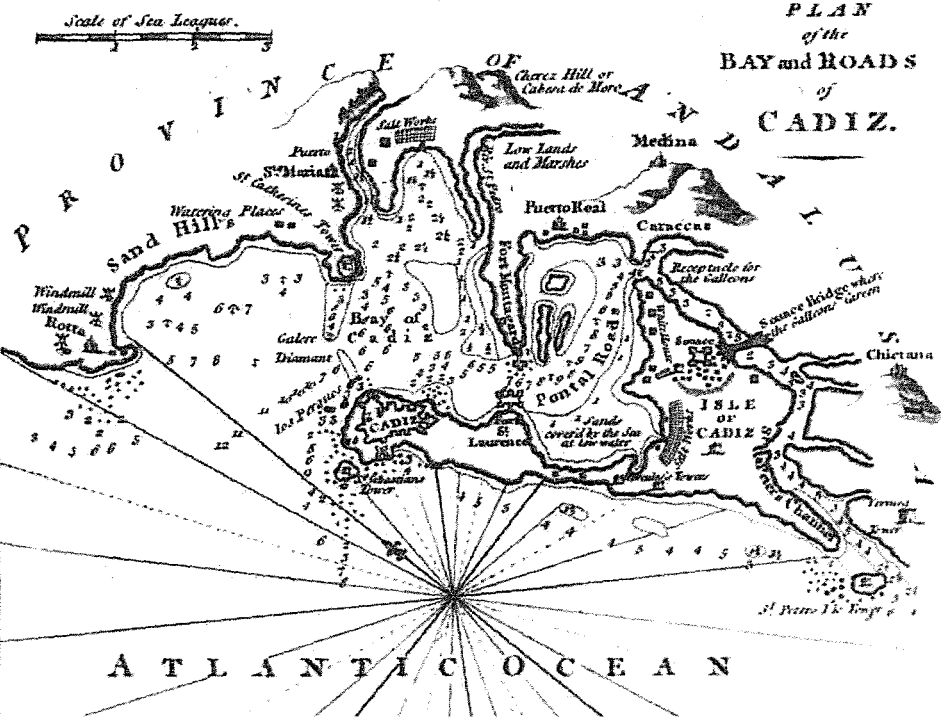
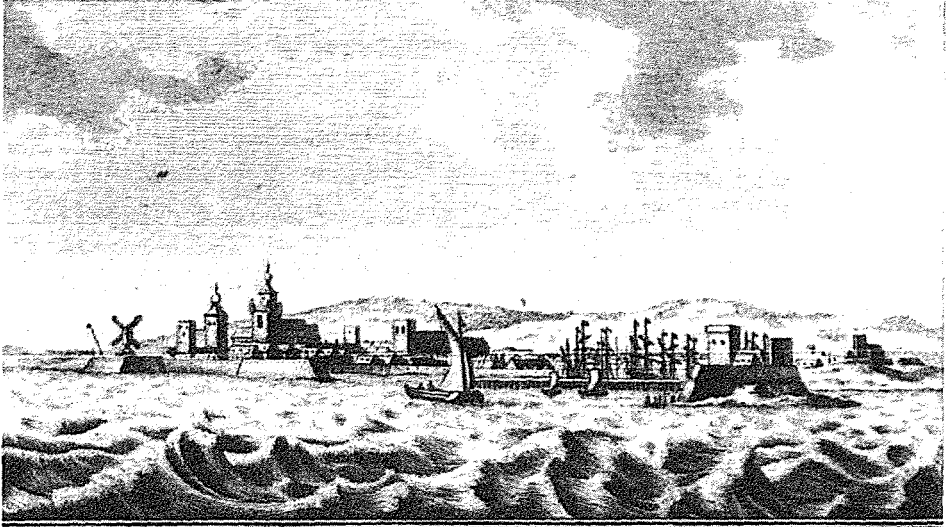
He was put into a Chest, and 10 or 12, twelve Pounds shot put in with him, and then nailed up—the Fragment of the Gun, which destroyed him was lashed on the Chest, and the whole launched overboard through one of the Ports, in Presence of all the Ships Crew.—after the Buryal service was read by M^r Cooper.

In the Course of the last Week We have had some of the Worst Winds, that We have felt yet.—

Monday last We made the Land upon the Coast of Spain.

Tuesday We run into the Bay of St Anthonio. 4 or 5 Boats with 15 or 16 Men in each came to Us—out of which We took a Pilot.

upon Sight of the Spanish shore, which I viewed as minutely as possible through the Glasses, I had a great Curiosity to go on shore—there was a fine Verdure, near the sea, altho the Mountains were covered with Snow.—I saw one Convent—but We did not come in sight of the Town. The Moment we were about turning the Point of the Rock to go into the Harbour, a sail appeared, We put out to



"A View of Cadiz in Spain from the West," combined with
"Plan of the Bay and Roads of Cadiz"

See who she was, found her a Spanish Brig, and after this upon repeated Efforts found it impracticable to get into the Harbour. in the Night the Wind caught us suddenly at N.W. and We were obliged to make all the Sail We could and put to sea.—We steered our Course for Bourdeaux.—

Yesterday was a Calm, the little Wind there was, directly against Us.—This Morning the Wind is a little better. We are supposd to be within 30 Leagues of Bourdeaux River.

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), 25–26.

1. Lt. William Barron, first lieutenant of frigate *Boston*.

JOSEPH HARDY TO LORD WEYMOUTH

N^o. 11)

My Lord.

Cadiz 27th March 1778

In my last N^o. 10. I informed your Lordship that the *Phoenix* and *S^t Leandro* and the Frigate *S^a Monica* were making for this Port. Those Ships are since come in and have joined the Fleet.

Three days ago a very fine Ship of Seventy guns compleatly fitted called the *S^t Pedro Apostol* arrived here from Ferrol She brings a hundred pieces of battering Cannon of different dimensions and a great quantity of Cannon Shot. The *S^t Fransisco de Assis* of Seventy guns is expected here from Ferrol very soon.

Yesterday came into this an American Privateer called the *Revenge* commanded by one Cunningham who I believe is an Outlawed Smuggler. She is a Sloop of Sixteen guns and has on board forty two Men most of them North Britons. She came last from Bilboa, and in her way took five Prizes one of them a Tender to the *Enterprize* fitted out from Gibraltar.

I this morning made a representation to the Governor against her being admitted to Pratick,¹ which I apprehend will not be attended to, however if I find that She is to be admitted, I shall repeat it and at the same time represent to him the indignity shewd to His Majestys Colours by refusing Pratick to the *Monarch* that came hither to convoy the homeward bound Trade, and is now detained by contrary Winds and bad weather. I am [&c.]

Josh Hardy

PS I am sorry to acquaint Your Lordship that contrary to the established rules of this Port the American Privateer is admitted to Pratick this evening. I have in consequence wrote a strong remonstrance to the Governor, and have given information of the whole proceeding to His Majestys Ambassador at Madrid.²

L, UKLPR, S.P. (Foreign) 94/205, fols. 138–39. Addressed at the foot of the first page: “The Right Hon^{ble}. Lord Visc^t. Weymouth.” Docketed: “Cadiz 27 March 1778/Consul Hardy/(N^o 11)/R. 20 April.”

1. *Pratique* is permission to land from a vessel arriving from a foreign port, usually given on compliance with health regulations.

2. Lord Grantham.

J. L. AND L. LE COUTEULX AND COMPANY TO SILAS DEANE

Sir

our Partner m^r Laur^{ce} LeCouteulx has acquainted us with the satisfaction he had lately at Paris in being introduced to the honour of your acquaintance; with

the desire likewise you manifested him of being successively informed of the arrival, imports, sales and exports, with their respective prices, Size and number of men, of the vessels that may happen to come into this port from any of the united colonies of N. America, with the news they might bring; which is a most agreeable task, as it will undoubtedly afford us frequent occasions of corresponding with a Person of your Character.

few indeed, not above half a Dozen in number, have come from those Parts these two preceding years, tho' more apparent than real is the danger arising from the proximity of Gibraltar, Since by making for first Land and Skirting along, the african Shore, unsafe for cruising frigates, these are easily and almost certainly eluded. of Late however they have arrived somewhat more numerous, about a Dozen Since Last Summer, half of them now in the Bay: inclosed we remit you a Summary note of them and their cargoes.¹

the following are the prices of their sales

Rice from	9 to 9 ½ dollars of currency	the hundred weight
tobacco	26 to 28 d°	
tar	10 to 11 d°	
pitch	11 to 12 d°	
		the Barrel of 300 ^{wt} neat
Staves	160 to 180 d°	the 1200 long Staves of 92 to 93 inches: 4½ to 9½ broad 1 ¼ to 2 thick.
		Smaller dimensions mostly from Boston have Sold very ill.

we have given ourselves these prices for the two first articles and obtained them for the three last, in which consisted the cargo of the *Casuel* a Sloop that came to our address

their returns were mostly in Salt, wines, brandy, oil, fruits &^a and some dry goods, found here in the most ample choice, of all the fabricks almost of Europe, whose prices in an average must be computed at about 20 % above the prime cost, on account of King's duties and necessary profits of trade.

but Lately we despatched to the Southern Colonies for our own and Some friends account a french vessel the *Gaston*, Cap^t p^{re} crispin Nicolas, to Sundry Consignments on these coasts, amongst them to that of Mess^{rs} Simon Dean & c^o at Petersburg thro' the information you were pleased to give of that your house to our Saint Laur^{ce} LeCouteulx; another french Vessel, *L'heroine* Cap^t J Pezet we are getting ready and loading for the same Parts and Consignments to Sail in about 20 days; in which expedition is concerned a friend of ours at Lyons, M^r john Terrasson, whose M^r B^{ny} Terrasson goes in her as owner, men of worth and character both father and Son. this Last we Shall take the Liberty of recommending to your Said house at Petersburg, to which he has our direction, getting a free entrance into James River to Consign the Cargo consisting of Salt and dry goods to the amount of 10000. Dollars would you, Sir, grant us Leave and not think it an indiscretion to intreat you, to drop occasionally in your correspondence to your house few words of recommendation in favour of M^r B^y Terrasson

the *Gaston* we chartered here at the rate of £212. *L'heroine* at Marsailles at £290. ⌘ Tun for the whole round about voyage to and from America: we intend

dispatching in this manner as many as we Shall meet on the Same terms of afreightment.

Since the above written Cap^t Gustavus Conyngham commander of the *Revenge* a Sloop of war of the united States of America, having addressed himself to us, we applied immediately to our Governor for an order to the health office to give him entry, which has been instantly granted. m^t Conyngham is come on Shore, this moment and has made us the report about his prizes explained in the adjoining note.² his Sloop wants Some repair and provisions, for all which we will Supply him with readiness and pleasure, as well as out of affection to the cause he Serves in. We have the honour to be [&c.]

cadiz 27 march 1778

J^{es}. L^s & L^t LeCouteulx & c^o

L, PPAmp, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 48, no. 161. Addressed: "To/Silas Dean Esq^r/Paris."

1. "Ships from America Enter'd in the Bay of Cadiz since the 9th. July 1777," the first of two enclosures, below.

2. "Prizes made by the sloop Privateer Cap^t Gust^c Cunningham. from the 6th. to the 20th. March 1778," the second enclosure, below.

"SHIPS FROM AMERICA ENTER'D IN THE BAY OF CADIZ SINCE THE 9TH. JULY 1777."

[Enclosure]
1777

- July 9. the sloop *S^t Mary* Cap^t John Billon from Charlestown in 53 days with Rice Indigo & Tobacco.
10. the sloop the *Minerve* Cap^t Joseph Marchan, french, from Charlestown, in 62 days with Rice & Indigo.
- [Oc]tober 6. the sloop the *Casuel* Cap^t Rainguenoir, french, from Newbern in 45 days with staves, Tar, & Pitch.

1778

- Janry. 11. the Brig, the *Lefer* Cap^t Zacharias Bomcan from Charlestown in 47 days with Rice & Tabacco.
12. the Brig the *Susannah* Cap^t Ja^s. Mockaf from Boston in 30 days with staves.
22. the sloop the *Dolphin* Cap^t Henry Aker from Boston in 24 days with Planks, staves & Rice
- febry. 15. the schooner the *Lovely* Cap^t Peter Doliver from Boston in 32 days with staves.
- [m]arch 13. the sloop the *Maco* Cap^t W^m. Newel from North Carolina in 52 days with staves. (English).
16. the ship the *Robert* Cap^t John Macarthy from Boston with Planks.
25. the Brig the *General Gates* Cap^t James Tilden from Boston in 36 days with Planks & staves.
26. the sloop Privateer the *Revenge* Cap^t Cunningham from Bilbao in 20 days, says having taken on Cap^c. S^t Vincent 3 briggs,¹ one ship mounting 16 Guns² with Commission of war & Marchandizes, & one sloop tender;³ that one of the 3 Briggs was retaken by an English man of war: that he had dispach'd said prizes for America.

D, PHi, Papers of Benjamin Franklin. Enclosed in J. L. and L. Le Couteux and Company to Silas Deane, 27 Mar., above.

1. *Peace & Harmony*, *Betsy*, and *Fanny*. Charles Murray to Robert Walpole, 16 Mar., above.
2. Ship *Hope*.
3. Tender to H.M.S. *Enterprize*.

“PRISES MADE BY THE SLOOP PRIVATEER CAP^T. GUST^V. CUNNINGHAM.
FROM THE 6TH. TO THE 20TH. MARCH 1778.”

[Enclosure]

the Brig the *Peace & Harmony* Cap^t. Kennedy from Lisbon for London with fruits.

the Brig the *Betsy* Cap^t. Murphy from the Streights for Newry with fruits & Barrilla.

the Sloop the *Fanny* Cap^t. Sam^l. Bacb from the Streights for London mounting 8, six pounders, & loaded with Raisins.¹

the Ship the *Hope*, Cap^t. Jones from the Streights for Bristol mounting 16, six pounders, & loaded with Raisins.²

the Sloop tender³ mounting 4 two pounders & 6 suivles, armed by Sir Thomas Rich & commanded by one of his officers.—

an English ship of war for convoy to some merchantmen, and a frigate for repair ride also in the Bay.⁴

D, PHi, Papers of Benjamin Franklin. Docketed: “Account of/Ships/arrivd/at Cadiz.” Enclosed in J. L. and L. Le Couteux and Company to Silas Deane, 27 Mar., above.

1. For more information on the capture of the first three vessels listed, see Charles Murray to Robert Walpole, 16 Mar., above.

2. Ship *Hope*, A. Jones, master, 250 tons, mounting twelve 4-pounders, built in Bristol in 1766, lengthened in 1772 and underwent great repairs in 1777, owned by Champion of Bristol. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

3. Tender to H.M.S. *Enterprize*.

4. This line is in a different hand from that of the list above.

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GIBRALTAR, MARCH 27.”

“On the 26th inst. his Majesty’s frigates the *Levant*, Capt. Murray, and *Enterprize*, Sir Thomas Rich, Bart. sent into this port the *Hope*, an English merchant ship, loaded with currants, &c. she had been taken two days before by an American privateer (a Folkstone cutter of 22 guns, and 24 swivels, commanded by one Cunningham), he had also taken three other vessels, of which you will see the account at the bottom: he also took the *Enterprize* tender, and burnt her on the 22d of March. The day following the *Enterprize* fell in with the privateer, and came up with her very fast, but it falling little wind, she took to her oars, rowed to windward, and escaped through the darkness of the night. On the 24th the *Enterprize* joined the *Levant*, in the evening, who had just rescued a salt loaded vessel, bound to Newfoundland, from the clutches of the privateer, and was near enough to see him take the *Hope*, as above; but little winds, calms, darkness, and his oars, favoured his second escape. In the night the frigates took their separate routs windward and to leeward with every precaution, so as to get sight of the privateer and the *Hope* in the morning, and have them between them, and were lucky enough to take the latter, but neither saw or heard any thing of the former from

any of the vessels they spoke with in the course of the day. The *Hope* appears to be the most valuable amongst the number he has taken. This ship had ten carriage guns, and was every way calculated to defend herself, but it is reported the men would not stand to their quarters. The two frigates were keeping a diligent look out for Mr. Cunningham, when the *Hope* left them, and as the *Alarm* is added to the number, it is more than probable she will be shewn the way to Gibraltar very soon, or driven off the coast.

“Vessels taken by the *Revenge* American privateer, Cunningham, master, since she left Bilboa, about the 4th or 5th inst.

“11th March, a brig, neither master, owner, nor vessel’s name remembered, but sailed in company with the two following.¹

“12th March, the *Betsy*, John Murphy, master, Rich. Godson, owner; a brig belonging to Bristol, lading fruit and barrilla, bound to Newry.

“19th March, the *Fanny*, Wm. Barb, master, a snow, from Zant, bound to London with fruits.²

“The *Enterprise* tender, burnt.

“The *Hope*, retaken by *Enterprise* frigate, and sent to Gibraltar.”

London Chronicle, 25–28 Apr. 1778.

1. Brig *Peace & Harmony*, George Kennedy, master, from Lisbon to London, with fruit.

2. Snow *Fanny*, William St. Barbe, master, 170 tons, mounting six 3-pounders, built at Broadstairs, Kent, in 1767, owned by Modigliani. *Lloyd’s Register of Ships*, 1777–1778.

March 28

JOURNAL OF TIMOTHY CONNOR

[*Forton Prison, Portsmouth, 1778*]

March 28 M^r Ducket came and told us the agreeable news of being sent home which the Government has ordered two ships to be got ready immediately to carry us home—¹

D, DLC, Forton Prison, England, American Prisoner’s Journal, 1777–79, collection 2272.

1. A false report.

LOUIS XVI TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

Très-chers grans Amis et Alliés vous apprendrez Sans doute avec reconnoissance, le parti que la conduite du Roy de la Grande-Bretagne nous a Engagé à prendre, d’Envoyer une Flotte pour Tâcher de detruire les Forces Angloises Sur les costes de L’Amerique Septentrionale. Cette Expedition vous convaincra de l’Empressement et de la Vigueur que Nous Sommes résolu d’apporter à L’Exécution des Engagemens que nous avons contractés avec vous. Nous Sommes bien persuadé que votre fidelité aux obligations que vos Plenipotentiaires ont contractés en votre nom, Animera de plus en plus les Efforts que vous faites avec tant de Courage et de perseverance.

Le S^r C^{te}. d’Estaing, Vice Amiral de France, est chargé de Concerter avec vous les operations dont nous lui avons confié la conduite, a fin que la combination des mesures respectives les rende aussi avantageuses à la cause commune, que les cir-

constances le permettront. Nous vous prions d'ajouter foi et créance à toutes les choses qu'il vous communiquera de notre part et de prendre confiance dans Son Zele et dans Ses Talens.

Sur ce, Nous prions Dieu qu'il vous ait, Très-chers grans Amis et Alliés, en Sa sainte garde. Ecrit à Versailles le vingt huitième jour de Mars de L'année Mil Sept cent Soixante dix-huit.

Signé Louis et plus bas de Sartine.

Pour Copie

Estaing

[Translation]

Very Dear, Great Freinds, and Allies, you will Learn without doubt with Gratitude, the Determination which the Conduct of the King of Great Britain, has induced us to take, and to send a Fleet to endeavour to destroy the English Forces on the Coasts of North America. this Expedition will convince you of the Ardour and Vigour with which we have resolved to Act, in the Execution of the Engagements we have contracted with you. We are fully persuaded that your Fidelity to the Obligations Contracted in your Name by your Plenipotentiaries, will Animate more and more the Efforts which you perform with so much Courage and Perseverance.

M. the Count d'Estaing Vice Admiral of France is directed to consult with you on the Operations, which we have intrusted to his Conduct, in order that the combination of respective measures may be rendered as advantageous to the Common Cause as circumstances will permit. We desire that you will give Faith and Credit to whatever he will communicate to you in Our Name, and to place Confidence in his Zeal and his talents.

We Pray God Very Dear, Great Freinds, and Allies, to take you under his Holy Care, at Versailles the twenty Eighth day of March in the year One thousand seven hundred & seventy Eight.

Sign'd Louis. and lower de Sartine.

Coppy Estaing.

Copy and contemporary translation, DNA, PCC, item 59, pp. 81–85 (M247, roll 72). Addressed below close: "A nos Très-chers Grands Amis/Et Alliés les Président et/Députés au Congrès général/des Etats-Unis de l'Amérique/Septentrionale"; "To our Very Dear Great Friends and Allies the President and Deputies to the general Congress of the United States of North America." Docketed: "Copy of/Count d'Estaing's/Credentials—/Entered.—28 March 1778." Notation in upper left corner: "Plein pouvoir pour le S^c C^{te} d'Estaing—Vice Amiral de France"; "Full Powers for the Count d'Estaing—Vice Admiral of France."

GABRIEL DE SARTINE TO COMTE D'ESTAING

A Versailles 28 Mars 1778

Pour vous Seul

J'espère, Monsieur, que vous aurez fait un heureux voyage, et je recevrai avec beaucoup de plaisir la nouvelle de votre arrivée à Toulon.

Vous avez du trouver en Rade les 9 premiers vaisseaux destinés pour former votre Escadre. Je suis bien persuadé que vous ne négligerez rien pour accélérer

l'armement des trois autres qui doivent la Compléter:¹ Je ne puis que m'en rapporter à votre zele et à votre activité ordinaires.

J'ai l'honneur de vous prévenir que la personne qui doit être Chargée des affaires du Roi auprès des Etats-unis de l'amerique Septentrionale,² Sera rendue au Bourg de la Seine Le 9 du mois prochain: elle aura avec elle Deux Secretaires et quatre Domestiques. Une autre personne dont le nom et la mission vous Sont Connus,³ se rendra au même Bourg, un jour plus tôt: elle n'aura qu'un Seul Domestique.

L'intention du Roi est que vous réserviez sur votre Vaisseau Deux Chambres à l'abri du branlebas, pour les deux personnes et qu'elles soient traitées avec les égards qui sont dus à leur Caractere.

Vous voudrez bien donner vos ordres pour que ces chambres soient disposées à l'avance, et qu'il soit d'ailleurs préparé des Lits complets pour les deux personnes ainsi que pour leur Suite, que vous pourrez faire fournir par le magasin général.

Il vous sera envoyé pareillement 5 ou 6 officiers de la Marine des Etats-unis, que vous répartirez sur les principaux Vaisseaux de votre Escadre,⁴ lorsque vous serez en Mer, en en destinant un pour une des frégates où sa présence pourra vous être utile lors de votre attéragé au lieu de votre destination. Je présume que ces officiers arriveront à la Seine, le 6 ou le 7 avec le Secretaire qui vous a été destiné.

Vous voudrez bien donner des ordres pour qu'il soit préparé des Lits pour ces 6 officiers.

Le Roi vous autorise à ajouter une cinquième frégate aux quatre premieres qui ont été designées pour être attachées à votre Escadre: sa Majesté vous laisse le choix de renvoyer à l'Espagne qui sera fixée, ou la *Flore* Commandée par M. de Castallane Majastre,⁵ ou l'*Alcmene* Commandée par M. Le Ch^r de Bonneval,⁶ Comme vous m'avez paru préférer de garder cette dernière; je ne doute pas qu'en arrivant à Toulon, vous n'avez donné vos ordres pour qu'elle Soit Caronée et mise pour ses Vivres, sur le même pied que le reste de l'Escadre.

Je vous prie de mettre sous double enveloppe avec le pour vous Seul à la Suscription de la première, toutes les Lettres que vous me ferez l'honneur de m'écrire, relativement à la mission dont Sa Majesté vous a chargé. J'ai l'honneur d'être [&c.]

de sartine

[Translation]

For you Only

Versailles 28 March 1778

I hope, Sir, that you have had a pleasant trip, and I shall receive with great pleasure the news of your arrival at Toulon.

You should have found in the Roadstead the first 9 ships of the line designated for your squadron. I am well persuaded that you will do all in your power to hasten the fitting out of the three other ships that are to Complete it.¹ I can do nothing else than attribute it to your zeal and customary activity.

I have the honor to inform you that the person who is to be *Chargé d'affaires* for the King in the United States of North America² will arrive in the Borough of the Seine on the ninth of next month; he will have with him Two Secretaries and

four Servants. One other person whose name and mission Are Known to you³ will arrive at the same Borough one day earlier; he will have with him just one servant.

The intention of the King is that you reserve two chambers in the shelter of your ship's berth deck for the two persons, and that they be treated with all the consideration that is due their character.

You will please issue orders that these chambers be prepared in advance, and that they may be prepared with beds complete for the two persons and their attendants, all of which furnishings may be obtained from the general stores.

You will be sent, similarly, 5 or 6 officers of the Navy of the United States, whom you will distribute among the principal ships of your squadron.⁴ When you are at sea, have one officer sent on board one of the frigates where his presence could be very useful to you on landfall at the point of your destination. I presume that these officers will arrive at the Seine on the sixth or seventh with the Secretary that has been assigned to you.

You will please give orders that beds be prepared for these 6 officers.

The King authorizes you to add a fifth frigate to the four designated to be attached to your Squadron. His Majesty leaves to you the choice of whether to send to Spain the *Flore*, Commanded by M. de Castellane Majastre,⁵ or the *Alcmène*, Commanded by M. Le Chevalier de Bonneval.⁶ As it seems to me you prefer retaining the latter, I am certain that on arriving at Toulon, you gave orders that she be Careened and Provisioned, on the same footing as the rest of the squadron.

I request you to place under double envelope, with the words for you alone at the Address of the first, all the Letters that you will do me the honor of writing relative to the mission with which His Majesty has entrusted you. I have the honor to be [&c.]

de sartine

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 141, fols. 69–70. Addressed at foot of first page: "M. Le C^{te} d'Estaing."

1. D'Estaing's squadron was increased from ten to twelve ships of the line as of 21 Mar. Jonathan R. Dull, *The French Navy and American Independence: A Study of Arms and Diplomacy, 1774–1787* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1975), 110.

2. Conrad-Alexandre Gérard.

3. Silas Deane.

4. Silas Deane selected four Americans to serve as pilots aboard d'Estaing's squadron: Continental Navy Captains Henry Johnson and John Nicholson, Massachusetts privateer Captain Eleazer Johnson, Jr., and Philadelphia merchant Captain Isaac All. *Deane Papers* 3: 184, 407.

5. Capitaine de vaisseau Henri-César, Marquis de Castellane-Majastre.

6. Lieutenant de vaisseau Pierre-René-Bénigne, Comte de Bonneval Ruffo.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[*Frigate Boston at sea*]

March 28. Saturday. Last night and this Morning We were in the thoroughfare of all the Ships from Bourdeaux—We had always a great Number in Sight—By obs. to day, our Lat. is 46^D:3^M. North about 7 Minutes, South of the Middle of the Isle of Rea.—We are therefore about 20 Leagues from the Tower of Cordoan. We have no Wind, and nothing can be more tedious and disagreeable to me, than this idle Life.—

Last Evg. We had, two little Incidents which were disagreeable. one was, the French Barber attempting to go below, contrary to orders, the Centinell cutt off

his great Toe with his Cutlass—which raised at first a little, ill blood in the French People, who are on board, but on Enquiry finding the fellow deserved it, they acquiesced.—The other unpleasant Incident, was that one of our Prisoners of War, a little more elevated than usual grew out of Temper, and was very passionate with M^r Vernon¹ and afterwards, with C. Palmes²—but it has all subsided—

M^r M^cIntosh,³ is of North Britain, and appears, to be very decided v^s America in this Contest, and his Passions are so engaged that [*the*] easily inkindle.—

M^r Gault⁴ is an Irish Gentⁿ. and as decided v^s America, in her Claims of Independence at least, as the other. M^r Wallace,⁵ is more reserved cautious, silent and secret.—

Jealousies arise among our Men, that the Prisoners are plotting with some of our profligate People: but I believe this Jealousy is groundless.

All Day Yesterday, and all the forenoon of this Day We have been looking out for Land—about 4 OClock We found it—the Isles of Rhee and Oleron, between which two is the Entrance into the Harbour of Rochelle, which is abt half Way bet. Bourdeaux and Nantes.—The Land is extremely flat and low.—We see the Tower—The Water is shoal, 25 or 30 Fathoms, the bottom Sand.—the Reverse of the Spanish Coast on the other Side of the Bay of Biscay.—

This afternoon, a clock calm, and M^r Goss played upon his Fiddle the whole afternoon, and the Sailors danced, which Seemed to have a very happy Effect upon their Spirits and good Humour.—

Numbers of small Birds from the shore, came along to day, some of them fatigued, allighted on our Rigging, Yards &c and one of them We caught.—a little Lark he was called.—these Birds loose the shore and get lost, and then they fly untill they are so fatigued y^t y^e instant [*the*] alight upon a Ship the[y] drop to sleep.—

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), 26–27.

1. Midshipman William Vernon, Jr.
2. Richard Palmes, captain of *Boston's* marines.
3. Capt. Peter McIntosh, master of prize *Martha*.
4. Robert Gault (or Golch), of New York City.
5. John Wallace.

March 29 (Sunday)

“EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM DARTMOUTH, MARCH 29.”

“The *Active* Letter of Marque, Captain Agnew, belonging to Guernsey, was totally lost this morning near the Start, and three men drowned.”

Lloyd's Evening Post, and British Chronicle (London), 30 Mar.–1 Apr. 1778.

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[Frigate *Boston* at sea]

Remarks on Sunday March 29th. 1778.—¹

Light Winds & fair Weather, spoke with several Dutchmen from Bourdeaux Bound to Amsterdam, at 6 AM saw the Land bearing NNW. distance 4 Leagues, which we found to be fifteen Leagues to the Westw^d of Bourdeaux.—

Latt^d. ꝑ Ob — 45..52.D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 28 Mar. to noon of 29 Mar., following sea time.

CAPTAIN GUSTAVUS CONYNGHAM TO A PRIZE MASTER

S^r:Cadiz bay 29th. march

I put in heare A few days After parting with you I hope you have got Safe in if so—you had A Verry happy escape the day we parted As no doubt you Observd the motions of the ship to Leeward, if you Can not Sell to Advantage in teneriff Or if you Can not Reship the Cargoe in Spanish or french Bottoms for Martinico Or Otherwise if you Could put the ship¹ undr Spanish Colours and have her Well Man^d. to take your Own men with you And push for I would Advise you But if A Saving price Could be Got I would prefer the Cash to be pay^d. and to lay in safe hands the french Consull I would prefer Or who he would Advise if at tenerif you meet with much Difficulty in selling or manning the Vessell you had best let her Lay for Some time as Verry probable I shall Call theare if you Could sell the Vessell on Condition the [y] would Deliver the Cargoe in Martinico Or Boston it would Answer well in this Case you would not take any the Seamen with you. A Great deal must be leaft to your own prudence for it is imposible to Give you advise in every Circumstance from the Character I have had of you I have no manner of doubt but your Conduct will be approved of by those Concernd with you, if you should Go to Boston you must address your selve to Messrs Jackson & treasey & treasey of Newberryport if to Martinico to M^r David Conyngham those Gent^l will Dispose and the proceeds lay with them—who will pay each man his equal share or shares I am [&c.]

G C—

LB, UklPR, H.C.A. 32/441/7, pt. 1.

1. Ship *Hope*, A. Jones, master. See "Extract of a Letter from Gibraltar, March 27.", above.**March 30**

THE LONDON CHRONICLE, SUNDAY, MARCH 28, TO
TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1778

Monday, March 30. London.

The *Peggy*, from Cadiz to Exeter, Capt. Sweetland,¹ was taken by a vessel from Nantz, bound to America, and after rummaging the ship for cash, &c. and finding that Capt. Sweetland had none, only some salt, fruit, &c. and that he was the owner of the vessel, let him go without taking any thing. The American vessel had 20 guns and 60 men, and only four Americans with the Captain, the rest were Frenchmen.

1. An eighty-ton brig, built in America in 1770, owned by Sweetland and Company. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.

MOSES CORBET, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF JERSEY, TO P. ÆMILIUS
IRVING, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF GUERNSEY

Copy

Sir,

Having undoubted information that our People are kept at Granville St^t Malo &^a. & that not even a boat is allowed to stir, I think it proper to inform You of it, and as there is every reason to imagine an embarkation is intended imediately I have therefore taken the liberty to trouble you with the two inclosed¹ as you may have means to forward them at the same time that you may transmit the information on your own account. I am yours &^a.

M. Corbet L^t Govern.

Jersey 30th. March 1778.

The matter is so pressing that a moment should not be lost in dispatching this intelligence night or day—²

Copy, UKLPR, Adm. 1/806, fol. 449. Addressed at foot: "Lieut^t Gov. Irving." Enclosed in P. Æmilius Irving to Lord Shuldham, 31 Mar., see note 2, below.

1. Enclosures not found.

2. Irving forwarded the intelligence to Vice Adm. Baron Shuldham on 31 Mar.; Shuldham enclosed it in his letter of 10 Apr. to the Admiralty, *Ibid.*, 448.

CHARLES PIERRE GONET, COMMISSARY OF MARINE AT L'ORIENT, TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

Monseigneur

à l'orient le 30 mars 1778

Vous avez été informé avant la réception de cette lettre, que le Corsaire anglais l'*Epervier*¹ a été arrêté dans la Radde de Belle Isle par M de Kergariou de Locmaria Commandant la frégate du Roy l'*Oiseau*, et amené dans la Radde de Pennemanek, ou il a été adressé et remis à la Consignation de M de la Vigne Buisson.² Je Sais que M. de Kergariou a eû l'honneur de vous rendre Compte des Circonstances de la Saissé du Corsaire, et je me dispense de les répéter ici, personne n'ayant mieux que luy, été en état de le faire avec exactitude et précision. Voici, Monseigneur, ce que depuis l'entrée et l'amarrage du Corsaire a été portée a Pennemanek, M de la Vigne Buisson a fait pour le retenir et S'en assurer, après avoir bien voulu de concerter avec moy.

les poudres ont été débarquées; les voiles ont été dégrées; le Gouvernail a été démonté. il a été étably à bord un détachement de 23 bas officiers et Soldats tirés des Compagnies du Port, Sous le Commandement d'un officier.

quant à la police; la Consigne est de ne laisser descendre à terre qui que ce Soit des officiers ou de l'Equipage Sans permission par écrit de M. de la Vigne ou de moy; même consigne pour ny laisser aborder aucun bateau étranger. Jusqu'à nouvel ordre de votre part, Monseigneur, la permission de descendre à terre ne Sera accordée qu'au Capitaine et à un officier parlant très bien français, pour les mettre à portée de se procurer des vivres et rafraichissemens et autres douceurs de cette espece, pour eux et pour l'Equipage. Je les feray accompagner par un archer de la marine, et ils dependrent autant que faire Le parcours, par la Colle orry donnant directement dans la ville, et Sans entrer dans le Port. pour ce qui concerne la police intérieure du V^{au}. elle est conservée au Capitaine, qui a été prié de la Subordonner aux usages français, en ce qui concerne l'extinction des feux au

Coucher du Soleil, et autres précautions contre le feu, que l'on prend avec Soin dans nos vaisseaux, et qui Sont assez négligées par les anglais.

Il a encore été recommandé expressiment à l'officier commandant le détachement français de veiller avec attention à ce qu'il ne Soit pas commite plus léger désordre par le Soldat; et on luy a donné comme principe de sa Conduite àbord, que le Corsaire anglais est, il est vray, arrêté et retenu par ordres du Roy, mais qu'on n'est pas en droit de le regarder comme prise.

Je fais fournir au détachement des vivres par le munitionnaire de la marine; avec les utenciles nécessaires pour leur cuisine. J'ay fait aussi fournir une tente, pour former un Corps de garde àbord qui mette le Soldat à couvert, ce qui luy ôte lors prétexte de molester l'Equipage anglais.

J'ay rendu Compte de tous à M de la Porte,³ mais en luy observant que la lettre dont vous m'avez honoré le 19, portant ordre d'arrêter les batimens anglais, porte en même tems injonction de les retenir jusqu'à nouvel ordre de votre part, J'ay ajouté à cet Intendant, que, S'il juge nécessaire de m'en adresser qu' previennent les votres, Monseigneur, Je Suis disposé à leur exécuter. le Corsaire a été amené à Pennemanek le 28. hier 29. J'ay fait descendre le Capitaine, et telle est la déclaration que j'en ay tirée avec le Secours de l'interprete Plaud.

le Brigantin l'*Epervier* Cap^e le S. Samuel Grible, est armé de 16 Canons dont 14 de 9 et au dessous, et 2 de 12. avec 19 perriers. Il avait abord 94 hommes y compris le Capitaine, mais attendre que M. de Kergariou en a retiré 6 français, il n'y en reste plus que 88 dont 2 officiers, quelques officiers mariniers, et le reste en matelots.

l'*Epervier* appartient aux S. Robert Jonson; Joseph Jonhson; James Margesson; et andré Jonhson, de Londres où il a été armé, et d'ou il est parti le 17. février d^{er} la Commission de l'amirauté, que je me suis fait interpréter, porte permission de l'équiper en guerre, avec destination pour le Portugal, et de là les Cotes et les Ports de l'amérique; de courir sur les vaisseaux des américains Sujets rebelles; de S'en emparer, ainsi que de tous les effets et munitions à eux appartenant, et d'en disposer au profit des armateurs, après toutes fois les formalités remplies, pour faire juger les prises par les officiers de l'amirauté. rien au reste dans cette Commission, n'exprime les permission de courir sur d'autres vaisseaux, que sur ceux des américains Sujets rebelles. la Commission est dattée de Jan^e 1778. l'*Epervier* avait été expédié et couru pendant l'année derniere 1777. il n'a fait aucune prise depuis La nouvelle expédition.

le même jour est entré le petit batiment anglo americain l'*harmonie*^d parti de Charles town le 9 Jan^e 1778. chargé de ris, d'indigo, et de tabac. il n'apporte aucune nouvelle de l'amérique. Je suis [&c.]

Gonet

[Translation]

My Lord

L'orient 30 March 1778

You have been informed prior to the receipt of this letter that the English Privateer the *Hawke*^d was stopped in the Roadstead of Belle Isle by M. de Kergariou de Locmaria, Commanding the King's frigate *Oiseau*, and was brought into the Roadstead of Pennemanek, where it has been handed over to the Direction of M. de la Vigne Buisson.² I Know that M. de Kergariou has had the honor of Reporting to you the Circumstances of the Seizure of the Privateer, and I shall not repeat them here, no one having been in a better position than he to do it with exactness

and precision. Here is, My Lord, what M. de la Vigne Buisson has done, after having consulted with me, since the entry and mooring of the Privateer at Pennemanek, in order to detain and secure her.

The powder has been unloaded; the sails have been unrigged; the Rudder has been unshipped. There has been stationed on board a detachment of 23 non-commissioned officers and Soldiers drawn from the Companies of the Port, under the command of an officer.

As for the police: the Instruction is to allow neither the officers nor the Crew to leave the vessel Without the written permission of M. de la Vigne or myself; it is even ordered that no strange boat be allowed alongside. Until new orders from you, My Lord, permission to go on shore will be accorded only to the Captain and an officer who speaks French very well, so that they may procure provisions and fresh supplies and other comforts of this kind, for themselves and for the Crew. I shall have a naval officer accompany them, and they will be required to go around by way of the [Border road?] which leads directly into the city, and Without entering the Port. The internal policing of the vessel is reserved to the Captain, who has been Requested to follow French practices regarding the extinguishing of fires at Sunset, and taking other precautions against fire, which we Carefully follow in our vessels, but which Are rather neglected by the English.

It has also been expressly recommended to the officer commanding the French detachment to insure that the Soldiers commit no more minor disorders; and it has been given him as the principle of his Conduct on board that, although it is true that the English Privateer was stopped and detained by orders of the King, it is not right to regard her as a prize.

I have had the detachment furnished with provisions by the commissary of the navy, as well as the utensils necessary for their cooking. I have also had an awning supplied, to serve as a Guardhouse on board, which gives a Soldier a cover, except when he presumes to trouble the English Crew.

I have Reported everything to M. de La Porte,³ while observing to him that the letter with which you honored me on the 19th, carrying the order to stop the English ships, carries at the same time the injunction to retain them until a new order from you. I have also informed this Intendant that if he judges it necessary to issue me any orders that anticipate yours, My Lord, I Am disposed to execute them. The Privateer was taken to Pennemanek on the 28th. Yesterday, the 29th, I had the Captain come on shore, and the following is the declaration that I elicited from him with the Aid of the interpreter Plaud.

The Brigantine *Hawke*, Captain Samuel Gribble, is armed with 16 guns, of which 14 are 9-pounders or under, and 2 are 12-pounders, with 19 swivel guns. She had on board 94 men, including the Captain, but expecting that M. de Kergariou has removed 6 Frenchmen from her, only 88 remain, 2 of whom are officers, a few petty officers, and the rest, seamen.

The *Hawke* belongs to Messrs. Robert Johnson, Joseph Johnson, James Margesson, and Andrew Johnson, of London, where she was fitted out, and from which she sailed the 17th of February last. The Commission from the Admiralty, which I have had translated, gives permission to fit her out for war, with her destination for Portugal, and from there the Coasts and Ports of America; to cruise against the vessels of the rebellious American Subjects; to seize them, as well as all

the goods and munitions belonging to them, and to dispose of them to the profit of the owners, and after all the formalities have been fulfilled, to have them judged as prizes by the officers of the Admiralty. Nothing in the rest of this Commission gives permission to cruise against any other vessels, other than those of the rebellious American Subjects. The Commission is dated January 1778. The *Hawke* had been sent on a cruise during last year, 1777. She had not taken any prize on her new cruise.

The same day the small Anglo-American ship the *Harmonie*,⁴ sailing from Charlestown the 9th of January 1778, arrived laden with rice, indigo, and tobacco. She brings no news from America. I am [&c.]

Gonet

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 137, fols. 298–300. Docketed: “Classes/M. Gonet/arrêt dans la Radde de Pennemanek du Corsaire anglais l’*Epervier* de 16. Canons, Conduit de Belle Isle par la frégate du Roy l’*Oiseau*, Commandée par M. Kergariou de Locmaria L^e de V^{au}.”; “M Gonet”; “Rep. Le 6. avril 1778”; “V Recif. du 18. avril 1778.” “Mariners’ Registration/M. Gonet/arrest in the roadstead of Pennemanek of the English privateer *Epervier* of 16 guns, brought from Belle Isle by the King’s frigate *Oiseau*, commanded by Lieutenant de Vaisseau M. Kergariou de Locmaria”; “M. Gonet”; “replied 6 April 1778”; “[?] of the 18th April 1778.”

1. British privateer snow *Hawke*, Samuel Gribble, master, 220 tons, built on the Thames River, owned by Calvert & Co. *Lloyd’s Register of Ships, 1777–1778*. *Epervier* is French for *sparrow-hawk*.

2. Capitaine de vaisseau Jacques-Pierre Guillaume de la Vigne-Buisson, Commandant de la Marine at the Port of L’Orient.

3. Arnaud de la Porte, Intendant at Brest.

4. *Harmony Hall*, — Alderson, master.

JAMES MOYLAN TO THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE

Honorable Gentlemen

L’Orient 30th March 1778

I beg leave to refer you to my last¹ of the 23^d. ins^t since w^{ch}. I am without any of your favors.

The Frigate *Oiseau* brought into this port a privateer Brig of 16 Guns belonging to London² w^{ch}. she had taken a few days since at Belle Isle, very fortunate for the Ship *Harmony Hall* Cap: Alderson loaded with 112 Hhds Tobacco 100 Barrels of Turpentine 15 Casks of Rice & some staves belonging to Newbern in N^o. Carolina, who arrived here yesterday from thence in 38 days. She is come to my address and brings no other news than the arrival of four french vessels in the port he came from. I have the honor to be [&c.]

James Moylan

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 207. Addressed: “a Messieurs/Messieurs Les Ministars Pleni-/potentiairs des Etats Unis de/L’Amerique.” Docketed: “Jas. Moylan. Mar: 30. 1778”; “Moylan/March 30th. 1778/Rece^d. open from/D^e Franklin/to answer Ap^l 5th./A L.”

1. Not found.

2. British privateer snow *Hawke*, Samuel Gribble, commander.

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[Frigate *Boston* at sea]

Monday March 30th. 1778¹

Light Gales & fair Weather, a Pilot came on Board at 8 AM. saw the Light House of Bourdeaux Cordoan² Bearing EbN. Distance 3 Leagues.—

No Ob. this Day—

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 29 Mar. to noon of 30 Mar., following sea time.
2. Cordouan lighthouse at the entrance to the Gironde estuary.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[Extract]

[*Frigate Boston off Bordeaux lighthouse*]

March 30. Monday. This Morning at 5, the officer came down and told the Captain that a lofty Ship was close by Us, and had fired two heavy Guns—All Hands called—She proved to be an heavy loaded Snow.—

The Weather cloudy, but no Wind.—Still—except a small Swell.

The Tour of Cordouan, or in other Words Bourdeaux Lighthouse in Sight, over our larbord Bow.—

The Captⁿ is now cleaning Ship and removing his Warlike Appearances.

This Day has been hitherto fortunate and happy.—our Pilot has brought us, Safely into the River, and We have run up, with Wind and Tide as far as Pouliac,¹ where We have anchored for the Night, and have taken in another Pilot.

This forenoon a Fisherman came along Side, with Hakes, Skates and Jennetts—We bought a few, and had an high Regale.—

... The Water in the River is very foul to all Appearance, looking all the Way like a Mud Puddle.—The Tide setts in 5 Knots.—We outrun every Thing in Sailing up the River.—

... a great Number of Vessells lay in the River.—

The Pleasure resulting from the Sight of Land, Cattle, Houses, &c after so long, so tedious, and dangerous a Voyage, is very great: It gives me a pleasing Melancholly to see this Country, an Honour which a few Months ago I never expected to arrive at.—Europe thou great Theatre of Arts Sciences, Commerce, War, am I at last permitted to visit thy Territories.—May the Design of my Voyage be answered.—

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), 29–30.

1. Pauillac.

March 31

CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES TO GABRIEL DE SARTINE

Honored Sir

Ranger, Brest March 31st 1778.

As I have not the honor of being known to you I hope you will pardon the Liberty I take of inclosing the Copy of a Letter from the Secret Committee of Congress to the American Commissioners in Europe.¹ I must however Acknowledge that the generous praise which is therein bestowed on me by Congress far exceeds the Merit of my Services.

My reason for laying this Letter before you is, because I was destined by Congress to command a Frigate of a very large construction, lately built at

Amsterdam²—and as political reasons made it necessary for that Frigate to become French property—I am now induced to hope that on her Arrival in France she will again become the property of America, and of course be put under my command.

The within Extract of a Letter which I had the honor to write to the American Commissioners,³ will I hope prove to you the real Satisfaction with which I have anticipated the happy Alliance between France and America.—I am Sir, convinced that the Capture of Lord How's light ships and Frigates in America and the destruction of the Enemies Fishery at Newfoundland—both of which might be easily effected this Summer—would effectually destroy the Sinews of their Marine:—for they would not afterwards be able to man their Fleet.—as to their Army in America,—that must fall of course.

I should be ungrateful did I forget to Acknowledge the polite Attentions and favors, which I receive from Comte d'Orvilliers, Mons^e De La Porte, Mons^e La Motte Picquet, and every Officer in this place.

The Admiral has, I doubt not, communicated to you a Project of mine with which I made him Acquainted.—I am Sir, Ambitious of being employed in Active and enterprising Services—but my Ship is of too small a Force and does not sail so fast as I would wish. If I am successful, I will return to France and hope for your countenance and protection.

I have written to you Sir, with the same Freedom which has always marked my Correspondence with Congress.—the Interests of France and America are now mutual—and as I hope to see the common Enemy humbled—I shall be happy if I can furnish any hint whereby that wished event can be effected.—Meantime I have the honor to be [&c.]

Jn^o P Jones

L, FrPNA, Marine B⁴ 459, fol. 23. Addressed below close: "A Monsieur/Monsieur De Sartine/Ministre et Secrétaire D'Etat/au département de la Marine/à la Cour."

1. Secret Committee of the Continental Congress to the American Commissioners in France, 9 May 1777, in *NDAR* 8: 941.

2. *Indien*.

3. Captain John Paul Jones to the American Commissioners in France, 10 Feb., above.

INVOICE OF GOODS SHIPPED IN THE *DUCHESS DE GRAMMONT*

Invoice of Sundry Merchandise received by Jon^a. Williams from various places & shipped by order of the Hon^{ble} the Comm^{rs}. of the United States on board the Ship *Duchesse de Grammont*, Poidras Commander bound for North America on Account and Risque of Congress and Consigned to their Order. Vizt

LP	N ^o . 1 a	60 Casks Copper		
	60	20 Sheets Ditto		
M		32 Casks Flints		
FLD	1 a 26	26 Bales Hose ¹		
C	41 a 45	5 Hhds Containing vizt		
		N ^o .	41	300
			42	300
			43	<u>163</u>
				763 [Ⓕ] Breeches

44 400
 45 363
 763 Waistcoats

C

15 Bales Containing vizt					
N ^o .	29	51	N ^o .	119	51
	31	51		129	51
	32	51		132	51
	61	51		153	51
	63	51		151	51
	64	51		162	51
	84	51		163	<u>51</u>
	99	<u>51</u>			357
		408			<u>408</u>
					765 Coats

Nantes March 31st. 1778

Errors Excepted

Jon^a Williams J²

Duplicate

Original ¶ *Duchesse de Grammont*.

D, DNA, Miscellaneous Papers of the Continental Congress, Microcopy 332, roll 5, fol. 446.

1. A separate invoice of the same date lists the number of pairs of worsted hose, received from Paris, contained in each of the barrels, to the total of 15,002 pairs. *Ibid.*, 449.

2. In his letter to the American Commissioners in France of 31 Mar., Williams reported that the gabarre that was to carry the goods on board the *Duchesse de Grammont* was loaded and was scheduled to set off that day. Even after removing 921 pounds of salt, he would still not have enough room for all the freight. "I shall have about 2600 Suits of Cloaths remaining, besides the arms and 55 Cases of Sabres." *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 26: 205–6.

JOURNAL OF CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *BOSTON*, CAPTAIN SAMUEL TUCKER

[Frigate *Boston* at sea]

Remarks Tuesday March 31st. 1778—¹

Fine pleasant Weather, came into the River of Bourdeaux² at 6 PM: came to Anchor at Poliack,³ another Pilot came on Board, the Latter part Dark & Rainey

D, MH-H, Samuel Tucker Papers (fMS Am 812), vol. 6 (Log of *Boston*).

1. This entry runs from noon of 30 Mar. to noon of 31 Mar., following sea time.

2. Gironde River.

3. Pauillac.

DIARY OF JOHN ADAMS

[Frigate *Boston*, *Gironde River*]

March 31. Tuesday. Lying in the River of Bourdeaux, near Pouliac.—a 24 Gun Ship close by Us, under French Colours, bound to St. Domingue.—
 a dark, misty Morning.—

My first Enquiry should be, who is Agent for the united States of America at Bourdeaux, at Blaye &c—who are the principal Merchants on this River concerned in the American Trade? what Vessells French or American, have Sailed, or are about Sailing for America what their Cargoes, and for what Ports? whether on

Account of the united States, of any particular State, or of private Merchants french or American?—

This Morning the Captain and a Passenger, came on board the *Boston*, from the *Julie*, a large Ship bound to St Domingue to make Us a Visit.—They invited Us on Board to dine. Captⁿ. Palmes, M^{rs} Jesse and Johnny¹ and myself, went. We found half a Dozen genteel Persons on Board, and found a pretty ship, an elegant Cabin, and every Accommodation. The white Stone Plates were laid, and a clean Napkin placed in each, and a Cut of fine Bread.—The Cloth, Plates Servants every Thing was as clean, as in any Gentlemans House.—The first Dish was a fine french Soup, which I confess I liked very much.—Then a Dish of boiled Meat.—Then the Lights of a Calf, dressed one Way and the Liver another.—Then roasted Mutton then fricaseed Mutton.—a fine Sallad and Something very like Asparagus, but not it.—The Bread was very fine, and it was baked on board.—We had then Prunes Almonds, and the most delicate Raisins I ever Saw.—Dutch Cheese then a Dish of Coffee—then a french Cordial—& Wine and Water, excellent Claret with our Dinner.—None of Us understood French—none of them English: so y^t D^r Noel,² stood Interpreter. While at Dinner We saw a Pinnacle go on bord the *Boston* with several, half a Dozen, genteel People on board.—

on the Q^r Deck, I was Struck with the Hens, Capons, and Cocks in their Coops.—the largest I ever saw.—

After a genteel Entertainment, M^r Griffin,³ one of our petty officers came with the Pinnacle, and C. Tuckers Compts desiring to see me—We took Leave and returned where We found, very genteel Company consisting of the Captⁿ of another Ship bound to Matinique and several Kings Officers, bound out.—One was the Commandt.

C. Palmes was sent forward to Blaye, in the Pinnacle to the officer at the Castle in order to produce our Commission and procure an Entry, and pass to Bourdeaux—Palmes came back full of the Compliments of the Broker to the Captⁿ and to me—I shall not repeat the Compliments Sent to me—but he earnestly requested y^t C. Tucker, would salute the Fort with 13 Guns—&c—w^h y^e Captⁿ did—

all the Gentn We have seen to day agree y^t D^r Franklin has been rec^d by y^e K. [King] in great Pomp and y^t a Treaty is concluded—and [the]y all expect War, every Moment.—

This is a most beautifull River, the Villages, and Country Seats appear upon each Side all the Way.—We have got up this afternoon within 3 Leagues of the Town—

Diary, MHi, Adams Family Papers, Diary of John Adams (D/JA/47), 30–32.

1. Capt. Richard Palmes, Continental Marines; Jesse Deane; and John Quincy Adams.

2. Nicholas Noël, chirurgien-major in the French army, a passenger in the *Boston*.

3. Midshipman in the *Boston*.

WILLIAM HODGE TO SILAS DEANE

Honord Sir,

Cadiz March 31st 1778

Little did I think when I left Bilboa, that my first letter would have been dated at this place but so uncertain is the the situation of a Person on board an arm'd Vessel, that he knows not the place he is destin'd for. When we left Bilboa our in-

tention was to proceed immediately for Martinique, but fortunately we met with the following mentioned Vessels which we made Prizes of. viz:

Peace & Harmony—Capt, Kenedy from Lisbon to London with four hundred & Eighty Boxes of Oranges.

Betsy Cap^t Murphy from the Streights, to Newry with Eight hundred Barrels of Raisons & upwards of an hundred tuns of Barilla an Article made use of to make sope.

Fanny—Capt S^t Barb from Zant to London with One hundred & Eighty tuns of Currans & some return'd dry goods, which three Vessels we sent to Jackson Tracy & Tracy of Newberry Port. the Prisoners we put ashore on the Island of Madeira & then steerd for the streights Mouth with an intention of cruizing in the Streights, but about West S^o. West off Cadiz; we fell in with the *Enterprize* Tender to the *Enterprize* Frigate (mounting four carriage Guns & Six Swivels,) which we took & made a blaze of. this together with taking the Ship *Hope* Capt. Jones, a letter of Marque Mounting Sixteen, Six & four Pounders, loaded with near three hundred tuns of Currans from Zant to Bristol, obliged us to put into this port. We likewise took a large Brig loaded with Salt, but it being so near an English Frigate that we were oblig'd to leave her. At the time we took the Letter of Marque Ship we had no more than ten Guns upon deck. She gave us Chase thinking that we were an American Merchant Man & fir'd at us near two Miles distance, but We never returnd it till we could put our Hands upon the Muzzle of her Guns, we then gave it to her warmly wounded their Cap^t slightly & likewise one Boy. She struck after receiving our two broad Sides, the Cap^t perceiving that [*we*] were just going to rake him fore & aft. We took this Ship in sight of a Frigate¹ & we were in hopes that by the darkeness of the Night, She had got off clear, but I am sorry to inform you that there are letters in Town from Gibraltar, which mention that she was retaken & carried into that place.

We were chased by two English Frigates² during our Cruize but we out sail'd them, from the time we left Bilboa till we arrivd here was just twenty days, we were two days of Madeira & several off the Streights Mouth. to these two places we sent our Prisoners. I would be glad you would tell my good Friends Mess^{rs}. Holkers & Co. that I am no further on my way to Martinque than here. The Cutter is now cleaning & I shall send her on a Cruize in a few days, I shall remain here myself untill I receive a letter from you & Should be glad of your Advice & Orders, as soon as possible. My Compliments to Doctor Franklin & to all friends in general & Accept the Same from Honor'd Sir, Your friend [&c.]

W^m. Hodge

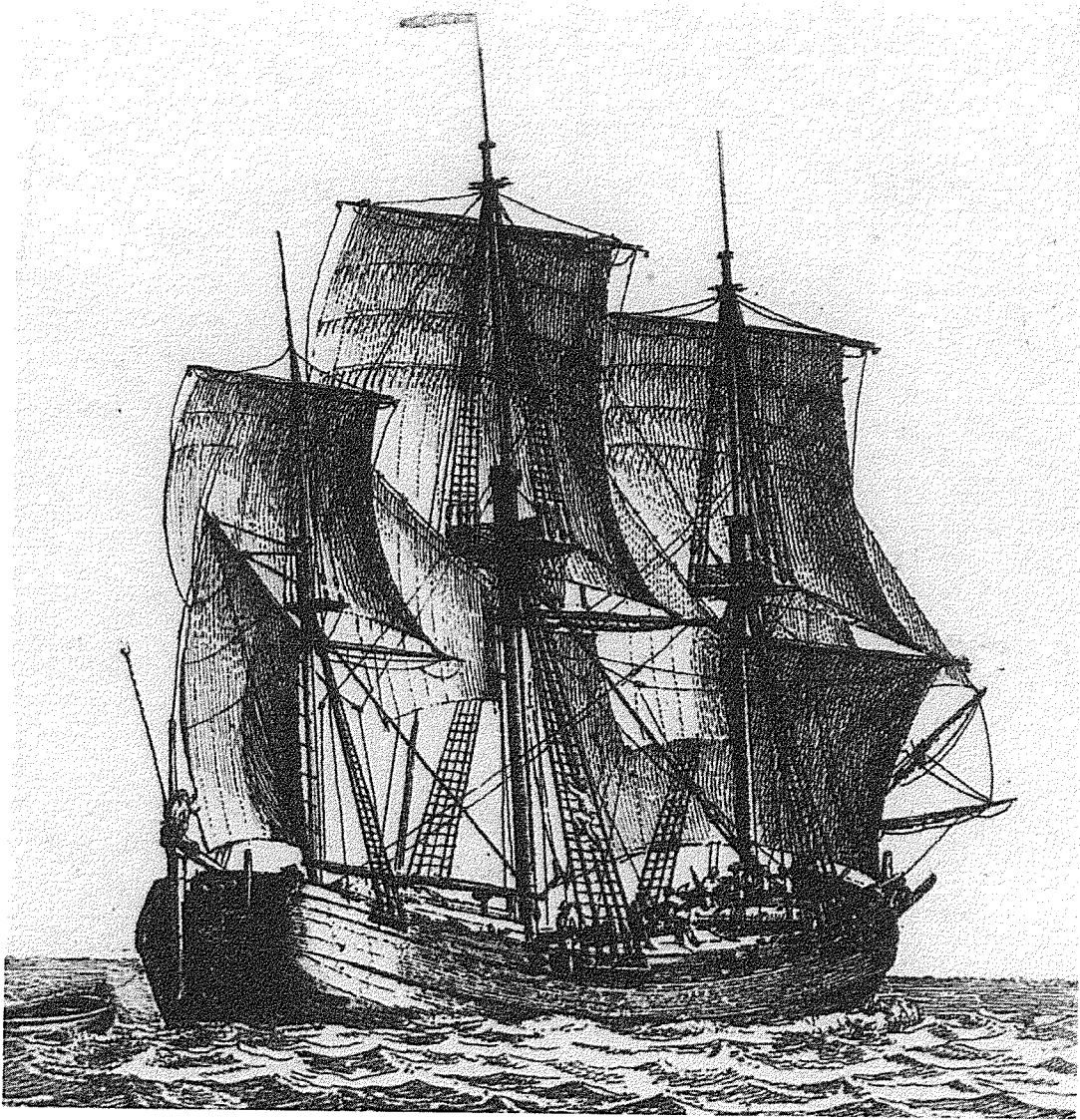
[P.S.] There are at present seven small American Vessels in this Port & are narrowly watch'd.

L, PPAmP, Benjamin Franklin Papers, vol. 8, no. 215. Docketed: "W. Hodge, March/31. 1778.—" Note (in Hodge's hand): "Direct to me to the Care/of Mess^{rs}. Le Couteulx & C^o./at Cadiz." For the identity of the addressee, see William Hodge to Benjamin Franklin, 15 May 1778, in *Benjamin Franklin Papers* 26: 466–67.

1. H.M.S. *Levant*.

2. H.M.S. *Enterprize* and H.M.S. *Levant*.

APPENDICES



APPENDIX A

*Correspondence between Robert Morris and William Whipple, between
6 July and 25 August 1777*

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO ROBERT MORRIS

Portsmouth 6th July 1777

Dear Sir

In my way through Connecticut I had an opportunity of seeing the *Trumbell*,¹ and am sorry to say that her scituation is such that in my opinion, she can be of no use to the Public this Year, if ever, Cap^t Saltonstall² is doing every thing in his Power to get her out of the River,³ he has Lifted her with four sloops about two feet and says she must be raised one foot more, before she can be got over the Bar which is about four miles distant, from where she now lays, if she sho^d be so fortunate as to get over the Bar she must lay one day, & perhaps two or three in a defenceless scituation exposed to the Enemies ships (which are continually Cruising in the Sound) before she can possibly be got ready to proceed to a place of safety she has now on bord about 100 men & if she was at New London I am in no doubt wo^d soon be ready for sea but I think the chance is at least 20 to one against her ever gitg there. I am much surprized that any Person knowg the situation of the Place sho^d advise the Building of ships there, But it seems another ship somthg larger, consequently of a greater d[r]aught of water is to [be] built in the same place,⁴ I know not what forwardness this ship is in, but even if she was half Built, was she my property, I wo^d go no farther but content myself with the first loss for sure I am that the Expence of geting such a ship from that place will be ~~more than~~ half the cost of the Hull and the risque while the Enemy have the Command of the Sound is more then Equal to the other half But if two Ships must be Built in Connecticut, the materials prepared for that which is ordered to be Built in River might be transported to New London or Norwich at less then a quarter of the Expence ~~that~~ then the Ship can be moov'd at, and the ~~whole~~ risque saved—as I passed through New London I had an opportunity of seeing the Brig:⁵ which is to be Commandd by Cap^t Chew⁶ & am confirmed in my opinion that if she would have answered the private views for which she was first intended the Public would not have had the offer of her,⁷ if she proves a fast Sailor I ~~shall am be very agreeably disappointed, if she is not a very Costly vessel I shall with great Pleasure acknowledge my mistake be exceedingly mistaken, as I shall also be, if she is not a very Costly Vessel~~ M^r Shaw⁸ ~~told me~~ says she may be got away in a very short time, I had some conversation with that Gentleman about the Money he has in the west Indies. he declined ~~making~~ entering into a perticular agreement with me, but says the Committee may have all he has ~~in the West Indies~~ there at the same Exchange they have given others and Promised to write you particularly ~~respecting it~~ on the Subject he has 3 or 4000 Sterling at Dominica but Knows not how much he has at Martinique,—

at Providence The *Warren*, *Providence*, & *Camden*⁹ are still Laying in Providence River nor do I see any Prospect of their getting from thence ~~while the Enemies ships remain there~~ at present, Cap^t Hopkins¹⁰ says he is determined to make a trial but I can not see a possibility of his escaping the Enemies ships while they remain in their Present scituation The *Alfred* is ready to sail waiting only for orders the Captain¹¹ tells me his last orders refers to others which was to be lodged with the agent, the first of July but have not been sent he has 150 men on Board which in my opinion is 30 more then he ought to have however they may be well disposed of for the other ships can find room for all he has to spare.—The *Raleigh* has her Guns on Board at last, 'tho 6 of them are 9 Pounders all she now waits for is men, she wo^d be compleatly maned in a very few days were it not for the Privateers of which there are a great number fitting out in this, and the Neighbouring Ports I hear 60 seamen have marched from hence for Newbury this day to go on Board Privateers however, I flatter myself the *Raleigh* will soon be got to sea & that the *Ranger* will shortly follow her. I saw Cap^t Jones¹² in Boston he Promised to follow me immedeately but is not yet arrived here, every possible means will be used for his dispatch

Df, Private Collection, Remember When Auctions, Inc., Wells, Me., 1998. The addressee is conjectured by the content of this report. Whipple had been a member of the Continental Marine Committee of which Robert Morris was chairman and vice president.

1. Continental Navy frigate *Trumbull*.
2. Capt. Dudley Saltonstall.
3. Connecticut River.
4. Continental Navy frigate *Bourbon* (28 guns), which was building at Chatham on the Connecticut River and was never completed.
5. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance* (10 guns).
6. Capt. Samuel Chew.
7. Whipple means that *Resistance* was not suited for a swift-sailing privateer.
8. Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., Continental Agent for Connecticut.
9. Continental Navy brigantine *Hampden*, Capt. Ezekiel Burroughs, commander.
10. Capt. John Burroughs Hopkins, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Warren*.
11. Capt. Elisha Hinman, commanding Continental Navy ship *Alfred*.
12. Capt. John Paul Jones, commanding Continental Navy ship *Ranger*.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO ROBERT MORRIS

Portsm^o 4th aug^t 1777

Dear Sir

~~The *Raleigh* remains much in the scituation as when I wrote you last she still wants a number of men The *Alfred* is come from Boston to join~~ Marine Matters, this way remain much as when I wrote you last,¹ The *Boston*, is at Casco Bay, no certain acco^t of the *Hancock*, but the Presumption is much against her,² not less then nine sail of the Enemies ships are Crusing between Cape Cod & Cape Sable ~~one of them of 32 Guns chased~~ a prize ship loaded chiefly with rum, was chas'd on shore by one of them of 32 Guns a few days ago about 7 miles from this town but as the tide was rising they soon ~~got her off~~ had her afloat and carried her off, The *Raliegh* still wants a considerable number of men, in every other respect she is ready ~~to go to-for~~ to go to sea, which Cap^t T——³ is very anxious for but I must confess I think is too hazaarous to go ~~to sea~~ out weakly mand when its almost certain he'll have to fight his way thro a number of the Enemies ships however as the *Alfred* has late-ly join'd him I believe they will try their fortunes very soon unless they have orders

to the contrary, I Heartily wish they had orders to Cross the Atlantic as I think the Probability is in favor of their making a much more advantage[ous] Cruise on the Coast of Europe then in these seas ~~for Havens sake let the Navy Board be put in motion~~ ~~The Ranger I expect will be ready in two or three weeks~~ The *Ranger* is about half man'd, & geting ready with all possible dispatch I expect she will be ready to sail in two or three weeks The Officers are not all appointed, when they are, I shall transmit their names, with the dates of their Commissions and warrants. those that are appointed are good men, the First Lieu^t in perticular, (as to Knowledge of Naval Matters,) has not many if any superiors in the service & ~~I have no reason to doubt his fighting faculties but believe he has never been Try'd I have heard nothing of the Boston Navy Board since I left Phila^a~~ For Havens sake let that Board be put in motion You cannot conceive how the service Suffers for want of in this department beyond description for want of ~~their being in motion~~ a navy Board which I have heard nothing of since I left Phi^a for Havens sake let that Board be put in motion—if ~~any more vessels are wanted~~ by the secret Committee ~~as they~~ want any more Vessels for Virginia or Carolina they may be either purchas'd or Chartered on much better terms this way, then with you if proper persons were applied to to procure them I ~~don't mean~~ wo^d not be understood by any means to insinuate any thing to the disadvantage of the Agents, but they have too much Business on their hands to ~~attend~~ do this to so good effect as some other persons who might be found in the different Maritime Towns I believe ~~some~~ two or three vessels may be purchas'd or charter'd on good terms, here ~~that wo^d do very well for Carolina,~~ but M^r Langdon⁵ tels me he has no orders to Charter any if they are wanted it will be well to give orders immediately least they shod be other ways dispos'd of—

Df, Private Collection, Remember When Auctions, Inc., Wells, Me., 1998. Addressed at foot of third page: "R Morris Esq^r." Docketed: "R. Morris Esq^r/aug^t 4th."

1. See William Whipple to Robert Morris, 6 July 1777, above.
2. Continental Navy frigate *Hancock* was captured by H.M. frigate *Rainbow* on 7 July 1777. See *NDAR* 9: 239, 272, 279–80, 280, 309, 349, 361, 989, 990–99.
3. Capt. Thomas Thompson, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*.
4. Lt. Thomas Simpson.
5. John Langdon, Continental Agent for New Hampshire.

ROBERT MORRIS TO WILLIAM WHIPPLE

Philad^a. August 5th. 1777

My D^r Sir

I have had the pleasure to receive your obliging favours of the 8thl & 21st July.² as I lately introduced a Motion in Congress to Authorize the Marine Committee to stop the building of such of the Ships of War ordered by Congress as they shou'd think improper to be carried on at the present [period.] I read that part of your first letter relative to the Ships in Connecticut River.³ The Gentⁿ of that Country did not seem to relish it much but the motion was carried and I suppose we shall soon put a stop to the building the Ship now on the Stocks in that River.⁴ M^r Shaw⁵ as wrote respecting his Money and I shall reply but wish you had made a bargain with him for it. I fancy he wants a high advance on it. I note what you say of Cap Chews⁶ intended Brig^t and doubt not one word of it. I hope the *Alfred* is gone on a Cruise the orders he waited for were those intended for the first

Expedition which being totally baffled by one accident or other, they were never sent, & the Eastern Navy board will I hope Send all the Ships Cruizing when there is not special orders for other purposes. I like well your Idea of sending the *Ranger* & *Raliegh* to Europe you know it has always been my opinion that our Ships shou'd go where the Enemy are Weak & not Cruise on our own Coasts to expose our Weakness and them to be constantly taken from us. Jones⁸ has orders to go for Europe I will try for similar orders for the *Raliegh* and send them to You but in the mean time pray let Cap^t Thompson⁹ go & take some prizes out of the Jamaica Fleet. Gen^l Howe with 230 Sail of Ships appeared at our Capes a few days ago, but suddenly they put about & steered a N.N.E. Course with a fair [*wind*] went out of sight and we have neither seen or heard of them since, pray take care of yourselves they meditate a heavy blow somewhere. with much esteem & regard I remain D^r Sir [*&c.*]

Rob^t Morris

My Comp^{ts} to Cap^t Jones &
Cap^t Thompson & wish them
much success—

L, Private Collection, Remember When Auctions, Inc., Wells, Me., 1998. Addressed at foot of last page: "W^m Whipple Esq^r Portsmouth."

1. See William Whipple to Robert Morris, 6 July 1777, above.
2. Not found.
3. Continental Navy frigates *Trumbull* and *Bourbon*.
4. Continental Navy frigate *Bourbon* (28 guns). See NDAR 7: 1028, 1221–22, 1222n, 1228, 1244, 1244n; 8: 21.
5. Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., Continental Agent for Connecticut.
6. Capt. Samuel Chew.
7. Continental Navy brigantine *Resistance*.
8. Capt. John Paul Jones.
9. Capt. Thomas Thompson.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO ROBERT MORRIS.

Portsm^o 25th aug^t 1777

My D^r Sir/

Your highly Esteem'd favor of 5th Aug^t was handed me late last Evening of I am sorry the Connecticut Gent^l are sho^d be displeas'd at my representation of the ships in their River² ~~I cannot help it~~, sure no one can say it is inconsistent with truth, and surely it cannot be suppos'd I had any thing in view but the public good, for I do most sincerely wish we had as many ships Afloat as can possibly be fitted for sea, but what purpose can it answer to build ships in places from whence they can not be got to sea—I sho^d have made a bargain with M^r Shaw³ for his money in the west Indies had it been in my power but he totally declin'd till he had time to consider the matter I therefore could do no otherwise then desire him to make his proposals to you when he had made up his mind on the ~~matter~~ subject—The *Raliegh* after waiting a fortnig^t for a wind sail'd the 22^d ~~with a fine wind~~ accompanied by the *Alfred*. she seem'd to go very fast through the water & I have been inform'd by some Fisherman that saw her 7 or 8 Leagues off that she could spare the *Alfred* her small sails & some of her Courses—Cap^t Thompson⁴ was greatly at loss what to do, his ship Barely man'd for defence and no probability of ~~getting more~~ increasing the Number, the Enemies ships so exceeding thick on the Coast that

there is the greatest chance of faling in with a number of them on the other hand the time spending and the ~~People~~ crews of both ships growing uneasy, being this scituated and no one here authorized to direct him what to do he had a consultation with the Officers of the two ships, the result he transmitted to the President⁵ and I hope it will be approv'd of, for tho' I did not presume to advise him I must confess I fully approv'd in my own mind, his determination as the best method in his scituation that could be persued for the Public Good, ~~while the Alfred lay here I had an opportunity of some acquaintance with Cap^t Hinman⁶ from which I have form'd very favorable sentiments of this Officer — I was [invited and entertained?] on board his ship so well as I was able to judge from those vissits he appears to be a very industrious Officer an excellant disciplenarian & seems to be have the intire Confidence & even the affections of his Officers & Crew. I never had an opportunity of knowing Cap^t Hinman 'till he came here and as had form'd an opinion of him not the most favorable and that without any just cause or indeed any cause except the general Prejudice I had taken to Commo^{dre} Hopkins's⁷ officers) judicious I think myself in justice bound at the same time ~~tho I have a very good opinion of some of the Officers who have heretofore commandd the Alfred perticularly one,⁸ I am fully convinced she was never better Commanded then at this time~~ I most sincerely congratulate you on the signal advantage gain'd over the Enemy at or near Bennington.~~

Df, Private Collection, Remember When Auctions, Inc., Wells, Me., 1998.

1. See Robert Morris to William Whipple, 5 Aug. 1777, above.
2. Connecticut River. See William Whipple to Robert Morris, 6 July 1777, above.
3. Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., Continental Agent for Connecticut.
4. Capt. Thomas Thompson, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Raleigh*.
5. John Hancock, President of Congress.
6. Capt. Elisha Hinman.
7. Commodore Esek Hopkins.
8. Capt. John Paul Jones, who commandd *Alfred* from 22 Oct. 1776 until 14 Jan. 1777.

APPENDIX B

VIRGINIA NAVY BOARD JOURNAL

EXCERPTS, OCTOBER 1–DECEMBER 31, 1777

[*Williamsburg*] Wednesday 1st October 1777.—

Ordered that M^r William Holt deliver to Cap^t George Elliott four Barrells of Pork, two Barrells Beef, four Barrells Bread, two Barrells Flour, for the use of the *Safeguard* Galley.—

Cap^t Celey Saunders of the *Lewis* Galley received orders to repair with his Vessel the first fair wind or as soon as he conveniently can to the mouth of Rappahanock River, there to Remain for the protection of the Trade and Inhabitants against the Depradations of the Enemies Tenders and other armed Vessels which he may be able to repel and to be careful and Vigilant in discharging this Duty as well as in preserving good Order and regularity among his officers & men.—

Ordered that a Warrant Issue to Cap^t Celey Saunders for Forty pounds upon Account to furnish Necessaries for the use of the *Lewis* Galley.—

Lieutenant Joseph Speake received Orders to proceed with the Boat *Nicholson* to Petersburg, there wait on M^r John Holloway who will deliver him fifteen saws which he is to take on Board, from thence to proceed to the Rope-Walk at Warwick and apply to Cap^t Thomas who will deliver him such Cordage as he may want for the use of the *Nicholson* and also what he has ready for the use of the Navy which he is to take on Board and bring to James Town and when he arrives there wait on the Board for further Orders.—

Thursday 2^d Oct^r 1777.—

Ordered that the keeper of the Public Store deliver three hundred Pump tacks to Lieutenant Jones for the use of the *Protector* Galley.—

Tuesday 7th Oct^r 1777.—

Ordered that M^r William Holt deliver to Lieutenant Tompkins five Barrells Pork, three Barrells Bread, five Barrells Flour, five Barrells Bread and two Barrells Spirits for the use of the *Henry* Galley.—

Ordered that M^r William Holt deliver to Lieutenant Sturdivant two Barrells of Spirits & one Box of Candles for the use of the *Manley* Galley.—

Ordered that the keeper of the Public Store deliver to Lieutenant Sturdivant fifty Flints for the use of the *Manley* Galley.—

Ordered that a Warrant Issue to M^r William Holt for One thousand pounds, upon Account, to furnish Necessaries for the use of the Navy.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store deliver ten Yards of Sheeting, twenty one and a half Yards Linen, four & a half Yards Cloth & four Hatts for the use of the Sailors on Board the *Manley* Galley.—

Ordered that M^r William Holt deliver one Bushell of Salt to Lieutenant Jones for the use of the *Protector* Galley.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Magazine, deliver four square feet of Sheet Lead to Lieutenant Jones for the use of the *Protector* Galley.—

Ordered that M^r Southall deliver six fathom Match Rope to Lieutenant Jones for the use of the *Protector* Galley.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store two hundred Scupper and five hundred Pump Nails for the use of the *Henry* Galley Cap^t Tompkins.—

A Bond from Mess^{rs}. Hewes, Smith & Curry to the Commissioners of the Navy in the Penalty of Ten thousand Pounds Conditioned for due discharging of an Agreement made by the said Hughes & Smith with James Maxwell on behalf of this Board, To supply the Ship *Casewell* with Provisions & was returned to the Board and Ordered to be filed.—

Wednesday 8th Oct^r 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store deliver to M^r Richard Herbert for the use of the Chickahomany Shipyard seventy five pounds of Twine.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Magazine deliver to M^r Richard Herbert for the use of the Chickahomany Shipyard fifty pounds of Lead.—

Ordered that M^r William Holt deliver to Cap^t Richardson Henley six Barrells of Spirits for the use of the Chickahomany Shipyard.—

Thursday October 9th 1777.—

Ordered that Doct^r M^cClurg be desired to furnish Doct^r Brown of the *Dragon* Galley with such Medicines as he may think necessary for the use of the said Galley.—

John Lurty is recommended to his excellency the Governor and the honourable the Council as a proper person to be appointed first Lieutenant of the *Dragon* Captain Callender.—

Captain Eliezer Callender is recommended to his excellency the Governor and the honourable the Council as a proper person to take the Command of the Ship *Dragon*.—

Friday October 10th 1777.—

The Complaint exhibited by Jesse Muse a Midshipman on Board the *Page* Galley against Lieutenant Henry Lightburn of the said Galley set for hearing on the thirtieth of last Month was this day heard & fully enquired into, the Witnesses on both sides being sworn & examined. On Considering the same It is the Opinion of the Board that the said Complaint is trifling & frivolous being wholly unsupported by Evidence, but it appearing in the course of this enquiry that the Captain & officers of the *Page* Galley have been greatly remiss in keeping proper Watches on Board and otherwise Guilty of exceptionable Conduct, the preceding member is Ordered to reprimand them for the same.—

Ordered that M^r William Holt deliver to Cap^t Markham for the use of the *Page* Galley, five Barrells Pork, one Barrell Brandy & one Box of Candles.—

Ordered that the keeper of the Public Store deliver to Cap^t Markham six pounds of twine & twenty Yards of Canvas for the use of the *Page* Galley.—

Saturday October 11th 1777.—

Orders Issued to the Commanding Officer on Board the *Protector* Galley to proceed with the said Galley on a station to great Wicomico till further Orders (see Letter Book).—

Same Orders as above. Issued to Captain Markham of the *Page* Galley to proceed on the same Station, (see Letter Book).—

Doctor M^r Clurg is desired to furnish Captain Markham of the *Page* Galley with such medicines as he may think necessary for the said Galley.—

M^r John Herbert is desired to furnish eight good hands, Corkers and Carpenters with a Quarter man, to finish Captain Taylors Ship. A Letter Written the said Herbert accordingly.—

Ordered that M^r William Holt deliver to Lieutenant Joseph Speake, six Barrells Brandy for the use of the Chickahomany Shipyard.—

Lieutenant Joseph Speake received Orders to proceed with the Boat *Nicholson* to the Chickahomany Shipyard and deliver fifteen Saws and six Barrells of Brandy to M^r John Herbert at that place; then to return to the mouth of the College Creek and wait on the Board for further Orders.—

Ordered that a Warrant Issue to Lieutenant John Barrett for Thirty pounds, upon Account, for the purpose of furnishing Necessaries for his Family.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store deliver to M^r John Richards twenty one Yards of Flannell, six Shirts and two & an half Yards Cloth for the Sailors on Board the *Page* Galley on paying for the same.—

Thursday October 16th 1777.—

William Underhill is recommended to his excellency the Governor and the honourable the Council as a proper Person to be appointed to the Command of the *Accomack* Galley.—

Robert Millen is recommended to his excellency the Governor and the honourable the Council as a proper person to be appointed first Lieutenant of the *Accomack* Galley.—

Ishmael Andrews is recommended to his excellency the Governor and the honourable the Council as a proper person to be appointed second Lieutenant of the *Accomack* Galley.—

Johannes Watson is recommended to his excellency the Governor & the honourable the Council as a proper person to be appointed to the Command of the *Diligence* Galley. Richard Parker first Lieutenant & Jesse Cannon second Lieuts of the said Galley.—

Ordered that M^r William Holt deliver to Cap^t Thomas Lilly for the use of the Ship *Gloucester*, as much Iron as he may want, four Barrells of Flour, ten Barrells of Bread, One hundred and fifty pounds of Bacon, four Bolts of Canvas, twelve Gallons Linseed Oil & sixty Gallons Brandy.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store deliver to Cap^t Thomas Lilly for the use of the Ship *Gloucester* three thousand ten penny nails, three thousand twenty penny Ditto, two thousand Brads, three thousand Scupper Nails & two thousand Pump Nails.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store deliver to Lieutenant Joseph Speake twenty Yards of Coarse cloth for the use of the people on Board the Boat *Nicholson*.—

Ordered that M^r William Holt deliver Lieutenant Joseph Speake twenty Barrells of Bread, six Barrells of Spirits and one Box of Candles for the use of the Gallies at present stationed at Hampton.—

Friday October 17th 1777.—

Ordered that M^r John Herbert deliver to Lieutenant Joseph Speake five hundred weight of flat Barr Iron for the use of the Gallies Building on the Eastern Shore.—

Monday 20th Oct^r 1777.—

Ordered that M^r William Holt deliver unto Cap^t Taylor the Cordage which hath been lodged with him for the use of the *Tarter*, also an Anchor, a Barrell of Brandy and such Pikes, Pole Axes and Iron Crows as he may want for the use of the said Ship.—

Ordered that the keeper of the Public Store deliver to Cap^t Taylor thirty pounds Sail Twine and eighteen sail Needles for the use of the *Tarter*.—

Ordered that M^r Reubin Herbert Master Workman at the South Quay Shipyard be allowed ten shillings per day for working in the said yard.—

Tuesday 21st day of October 1777.—

Ordered that Mr Pierce the purchasing Commissary for this State provide and lay in for the use of the Navy the following provisions VIZ one thousand two hundred Barrels of pork two hundred Barrels of Beef and one hundred thousand weight of Bacon, which said provisions are to be delivered at Cobham and Cabin Point.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Store deliver to Captain Richard Taylor for the use of the people on Board the *Tartar* twenty seven Jackets, thirty yards of Linen one shirt & Cloth to make a pair of Breeches upon his paying for the same.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Maximilian Etheridge and Minor Dison carpenters at the Chickahominy shipyard one Bushel of salt each upon their paying two pounds a Bushel for it.—

Wednesday 22nd day of October 1777.—

Ordered that a warrant issue to Captain Christopher Calvert for three hundred pounds on account for the purpose of furnishing Necessaries for the use of the Shipyard at South Quay.—

Ordered that Colo William Aylett deliver to Captain Christopher Calvert five Bushels of Salt for the Use of the Shipyard at South Quay.—

Ordered that a warrant issue to Mr James Davis for two hundred pounds on Account For the purpose of furnishing Necessaries for Building the *Gloucester*.—

Thursday 23rd day of October 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Store, deliver to Captain James Barron for the use of the people belonging to the Boat *Liberty* sixteen Sailors Jackets, thirty pair of Stockings, and one peice of Fearnought Cloth upon his paying for the same.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public store deliver to Cap James Barron five hundred pump Nails for the Use of the Boat *Liberty*.—

Ordered that Mr Charles Taliaferro deliver to Colo William Finnie two of the flat-bottom'd Boats in his possession belonging to the Country with such oars as he may want for them.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Mr Caleb Herbert for the use of the Chickahominy shipyard thirty eight and a quarter yards of blue Coating, seventeen yards blue Stroud, four peices napt blue Penniston, three peices of Kendal Cotton, two Gross coat Buttons one ditto Vest two and quarter ditto horn, a quarter pound coloured Thread five pair men's Shoes upon his paying for the same.—

Friday the 24th day of October 1777.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Abraham Smith for the use of William Savage for one thousand pounds upon account For necessaries furnished the *Casewell* Galley by Mess^{rs} Hews and Smith as will appear by their Draft on the Board in favour of the said Savage.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Store deliver to Captⁿ. Johannes Watson thirty pound Twine four dozen sail Needles, one thousand pump Nails, twelve palm Irons, two hammers and two Bolts sail Cloth for the use of the Gallies building on the Eastern Shore.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Captⁿ. James Barron two dozen Tongues for the use of the Boat *Liberty* and two dozen for the use of the Boat *Patriot*.—

Ordered that Mr Charles Taliaferro deliver to Captⁿ. Johannes Watson two Cables for the use of the Gallies building on the Eastern Shore.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Captⁿ. Johannes Watson Eighteen Bolts of Canvas for the Use of the Gallies building on the Eastern Shore.—

Ordered that Mr Benjamin Powell deliver to John Jones one thousand scupper Nails for the Use of the Gallies building on the Eastern Shore.—

Saturday the 25th day of October 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Store deliver to Captⁿ. Francis Bright seven Sailors Jackets, thirty pair stockings, four and quarter yards white Cloth, twelve hanks Thread some Twist nineteen yards half thick, two yards Shalloon, one peice Linen, fifty yards brown Honleys and fifteen and half yards flannel for the use of the people on Board the Brigantine *Northampton*.—

Wednesday the 29th day of October 1777.—

Captain Richard Barron received orders to proceed immediately to the eastern shore, and when he arrives there, to deliver the Letters which he has from this Board to Cap^t. James Barron, and Lieutenant Joseph Speake, and also to deliver such Letters or Instructions as he may receive from Colo: William Aylett to the said Barron and Speake, and then to return to his Station at Hampton as soon as possible.—

Friday the 31st Day of October 1777.—

Mr Richardson Henley is appointed Clerk and paymaster to the Chickahominy Shipyard, who appear'd and engaged to perform the duties thereof by disbursing all sums of money he may receive for the service of the said Yard, to purchase fresh Provisions and issue the same with all other provisions to the Workmen and others, to receive expend and account for any other Articles that may come to his hands respecting his Business as Clerk as aforesaid, to muster the People twice a day and keep regular Accounts of his Disbursements and Expenditures in the service of the said yard, and to execute any Orders or Instructions of this Board from time to time concerning the same; for which services he is allowed six shillings pr day.

Whereupon the said Henley entered into and acknowledged his Bond with Security for his faithfully complying with this agreement and performing the Duties thereof.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Lieutenant Christopher Tompkins ten Barrels of Pork, six Barrels of Bread, six Barrels of Flour, two Barrels of Spirits and one Box of Candles for the Use of the *Henry Galley*.—

Saturday the 1st day of November 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Store, deliver to Lieutenant Christopher Tompkins for the Use of the Officers and Sailors on Board the *Henry Galley* the following Articles VIZ for Custis Harman one and three quarter yards Cloth with trimings one pair shoes and seven yards of Stripes. for John Fitzhugh three quarter of a yard of Cloth with trimings, one pair shoes and one pair stockings. for Aires Darby three quarters of a yard Cloth with Trimmings, one pair shoes and seven yards of Stripes—for William Brumby three yards of Cloth with trimmings; for Frederick Byrd one and three quarter yards Cloth with trimmings; for Richard Saunders three quarters of a yard Cloth with trimmings Francis Hern one yard of Cloth, William Williams one pair of shoes, James Minter one and quarter yards of Cloth and one Cap; Francis Moss one and half yards Linen, one and half yards Cloth, and one pair Shoes John Bander one and three quarter yards of Cloth, with trimmings one cap and seven yards of Oznabrigs. Newcomb Dodd three and half yards of Stripes, seven yards of Linen, one Hat, and one pair hose, Henry Donohoo one and quarter yards Cloth with trimings one pair shoes and a Cap. Stephen Wilkinson twelve yards of Oxnabrigs. Nicholas Scarborough one pair of Shoes one cap one yard Cloth and two shirts. Samuel Caverone one yard of Cloth & trimings one pair shoes, two and half yards oznabrigs and one Cap. James Williams one pair stockings.— two and half yards of Oznabrigs and three and half yards of stripes. Jn^o. Wilson one yard of Cloth and trimmings and one Cap. Spencer Hall one yard of Cloth and trimings and a Cap. Philip Brumby one Cap. James Peters one Cap. Dunford Moore one Cap. William Pipen three yards of Cloth and trimmings and one pair of Shoes. Robert Dobson six yards of flannel. Starkey Moss one pair of stockings. Hugh Bingham seven yards Stripes and one pair shoes. Michael Danover two and yards Oznabrigs, three and half yards Checks, three quarters of a yard Cloth and one Hat.—Jeremiah Malone one and a quarter yards cloth, one Hat, and one pair of stockings. Jn^o. Clarke three and half yards of Stripes, one pair of shoes and a waistcoat. Robert Tompkins three and quarter yards Cloth and one piece of Stripes. Christopher Tompkins two and half yds. Coating one peice stripes and for James Peters one and three quarters of a yard Cloth, seven yards of oznabrigs one pair shoes and one pair of Stockings on his paying for the same.—

This Board doth recommend to his Excellency the Governour and the Honourable the Council Mr John Ross as a proper person to be appointed second Lieutenant of the *Norfolk Revenge*.—

Monday the 3rd day of November 1777.—

Ordered that a warrant issue to William Drew for the use of Thomas Whiting esq^r for seventy three pounds five shillings, for the use of Jn^o. Hutchings esqr. for forty

six pounds fifteen shillings for the Use of Champion Travis esqr. for ninety three pounds, for the use of Edward Archer esqr. for sixty six pounds seventeen shillings and sixpence; and for the Use of Warner Lewis esqr. twenty three pounds two shillings and sixpence for their Attendance as Members of the Navy Board from the third day of August to the second day of November inclusive.—

Tuesday the 4th day of November 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public store deliver to Captain Philip Chamberlyne for the Use of the People on Board of the *Hero* Galley the following Articles VIZ, to John Kautzman a Jacket or as much Cloth as will make one, two pair of stockings seven and half yards Linen and one pair shoes to Christopher Morris, Michael Jennings, William Tarpley Thomas Tarpley each the same Articles to Jn^o. Salkie one Jacket or as much Cloth as will make one, two pair Stockings seven & half yards coarse Linen one pair shoes and as much coarse Cloth as will make a pair of Trousers.—to John M^cCroudy, Timothy Hough, Rowland Lewis, Charles Hay, John Williams, John Gurton, Meredith Williams, Charles M^cIntire, Jn^o. Walker, Jn^o. Bassford Jn^o. Jackson, John Pend, Joseph Brown, Michael Hart, Jn^o. Fleming, Jn^o. Mason, William Cornelius, James Nicholas, Richard Nichols, Thomas Purcley, James Webb, Nathan Nichols, Nathan Sprigs, Jn^o. Hill, Zedick Davis, Jn^o. Tapore, Earl Dockett, negro Pluto, Jack, Bachus, Boston, Will, and George, each the same articles; and to Philip Chamberlyne three and half yards blue and white Cloth and twenty Blankets on his paying for the same.—

Ordered that a warrant issue to Captain Philip Chamberlyne for One hundred Pounds upon Account for the purpose of furnishing Necessaries for the Use of the *Hero* Galley.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Captain William Saunders six Barrels of Bread—four ditto flour, nine ditto Pork one ditto Spirits, one Box Candles, and two Bushels of Salt for the Use of the *Manley* Galley.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Store, deliver to Captain Thomas Lilly for the use of the people on Board the ship *Gloucester* the following articles VIZ. for Anthony Morrison one outside Jacket one inside ditto, two shirts, one pair of drawers, two pair of trousers, two pair of stockings, one pair of shoes, one Hat, and a Blanket, also the same Articles for the following men Edward Nicken, James Nicken, James Bateman, Peter Hawes, Robert Jones, Samuel George, Lawrence Dorney, Thomas Gill, Samuel Partridge, John Dowling, Hezekiah Nicken, William Hawes & James Hubbard, on their paying for the same.—

Friday the 7th day of November 1777.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Captain William Saunders, one shroud hawser 4½ Inch forty fathom long for shrouds, one Coil of two and half Inch Rope for takle falls, one ditto two inch for gun Takles, one ditto fifteen thread for Brails, one ditto twelve thread for ditto, two ditto nine thread, and one Barrel of tar for the use of the *Manley* Galley.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public store deliver to Cap^t: William Saunders for the use of the people on Board the *Manley* Galley the following articles VIZ. for Jn^o: Harford one and half yards of coarse Cloth, for William Maynes, John Burton, Isaac Pomeroy, Jn^o: Jett, William Smith, and John Scott each one and half yards coarse Cloth on his paying for the same.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public store deliver to Captain William Saunders ten pounds of Twine for the use of the *Manley* Galley.—

Ordered that a warrant issue to Mr William Holt for one thousand pounds upon account for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the use of the navy.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public store deliver to Captain William Saunders five hundred tenpenny nails for the use of the *Manley* Galley.—

Ordered that a warrant issue to Captain William Saunders for one hundred pounds upon Account for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for the use of the *Manley* Galley.—

Monday the 10th day of November 1777.—

Ordered that Doct. James M^c:Clurg deliver to Doct. Thomas Kempe, Ung: Merc: IV Pulv-Ipecac oz ditto Jallap ozij and some Manna and Salts for the use of the *Hero* Galley.—

Tuesday the 11th day of November 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store deliver to Captain Charles Thomas as much proper wollens as will make Cloths for thirty negroes belonging to the Public Rope Walk at Warwick.—

Ordered that a warrant issue to Captain Charles Thomas for one thousand pounds upon account for the purpose of furnishing necessaries and Building Houses at the Public Rope Walk at Warwick—

Wednesday the 12th day of November 1777.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Captain Wright Westcott one Coil of 2½ Inch Cordage, 1 ditto two inch, 1 ditto 1½ inch, 1 ditto 12 thread Ratline, 1 ditto 2½ inch bolt Rope, 15 Barrels of Bread, 5 Barrels of flour, 10 Barrels of Pork; 2 Barrels of Spirits, 1 Box Candles and 5 Bolts sail Cloth for the use of the *Norfolk Revenge*.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Store, deliver to Captⁿ: Wright Westcott 500 pump nails—18 sail Needles 6 palm Irons, 500-10^d. Nails, 250-20^d. ditto, 2 augers, 2 Chisells, 6 Gimblets, one Gouge, 2 hammers and 40 yards of Bunting for the Use of the *Norfolk Revenge* Galley—

Ordered that Mr Benjamin Powell deliver to Capt. Wright Westcott two hundred and fifty scupper Nails for the use of the *Norfolk Revenge* Galley.—

Thursday the 13th day of November 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Magazine, deliver to Captain Wright Westcott one hundred pounds of Gunpowder for the use of the *Norfolk Revenge* Galley.—

Friday the 14th day of November 1777.—

Ordered that Messieurs Frazier and Roane, sell at public Sale for ready Money the Bacon in their Possession belonging to the Navy and which they received from Messieurs Smith and Roane.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Messieurs Frazier and Roane for One thousand Pounds upon Account for the purpose of furnishing Necessaries for the Use of the Navy.—

Ordered that Colo Richard Adams deliver to Messieurs Frazier and Roane twenty Barrels of Irish Pork for the use of the Navy.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain Wright Westcott for fifty pounds upon account for the Purpose of furnishing Necessaries for the use of the *Norfolk Revenge* Galley.—

Ordered that Doct. James M^cClurg deliver to Doct. Christie 2 lb Glaub salts, Sal Tart, 4 Oz. [,] Gum Opii 2 Oz., 1 lb Ung^e Basilicon, 1 lb Lapid Calin, and 2 doz Phials and Gallipots for the use of the ship *Gloucester*.—

Tuesday the 18th day of November 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to Captain James Barron for the use of the sailors on Board the Boats *Liberty* and *Patriot* twenty four shirts on his paying for them.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Captain James Barron ten Barrels of Pork, ten ditto Bread, and one hundred pounds of Tallow for the use of the Boats *Liberty* and *Patriot*.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Lieutenant Joseph Speake two Barrels of Pork, two ditto Bread, twenty pounds of tallow and ten gallons Spirits for the use of the Boat *Nicholson*.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Store deliver to Lieutenant Joseph Speake eight ready made shirts for the use of the People on Board the Boat *Nicholson* on his paying for the same.—

Wednesday the 19th day of November 1777.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to John Jones for twenty three pounds fifteen shillings on acco^t for his allowance as doorkeeper to the Board from the 15th of July last to this day.—

Thursday the 20th day of November 1777.—

Ordered that Ephraim Hall and William Willson who enlisted as Marines in the Naval service of this Commonwealth, be discharged from the same, they being infirm and unable to do duty.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Mr James Davis for two hundred and fifty pounds upon Account for the purpose of furnishing Necessaries and Building the Ship *Gloucester*.—

Friday the 21st day of November 1777.—

Ordered that Mr Caleb Herbert be appointed Master Builder at the Chickahominy shipyard, & that he be allowed fifteen shillings per diem in full for his Services and Expences.—

Saturday the 22nd day of November 1777.—

An Estimate of the probable Expence of the Navy for the ensuing Year agreeable to a Resolution of the House of Delegates being prepared, Ordered that the same be inclosed to the Speaker to be laid before the House.—

Thursday the 27th day of November 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to Captain Richard Taylor for the use of the Ship *Tartar* sixty five yards of Red and white Bunting, six yards of blue ditto, half pound Thread, six Knots of Logline, one thousand five hundred tenpeny nails and 112 lb of Roping Twine.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to Cap^t Richard Taylor for the Use of the Men on Board the *Tartar* the following articles to wit thirteen pair of stockings, sixty seven yards of cloth, forty nine yards of Linnen, sixty three shirts, six hats and twelve pair of shoes upon his paying for the same.—

Friday the 28th day of November 1777—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to Lieutenant John Thomas for the Use of the men on Board the *Protector* Galley the following articles VIZ one hundred and forty three and half yds Linnen, one hundred and fifty seven and quarter yards of Cloth, fifteen pair of Shoes, twenty eight pair of stockings thirty three Hats and fifteen shirts upon his paying for the same.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Lieutenant John Thomas for fifty pounds upon Account for the disbursements on Board the *Protector* Galley.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain James Markham for Fifty Pounds upon account for the disbursements on Board the *Page* Galley.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Captain James Markham for the Use of Captain Celey Saunders for Fifty Pounds upon Account for disbursements on Board the *Lewis* Galley.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to Captain James Markham for the use of the people on Board the *Page Galley* one hundred and twenty six yards of Linen, one hundred and three yards of Cloth twenty four hats, twelve pair of Stockings, fourteen pair of shoes and twenty one shirts upon his paying for the same.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt, deliver to Captain Richard Taylor or order the Camboose on Board the Sloop *Scorpion*, for the Use of the ship *Tartar*.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Mr Charles Smallwood five Tons of Iron for the use of the Chickahominy shipyard.—

Ordered that Mr Charles Taliaferro, deliver to Captain James Baron a Cable for the Use of the Boat *Liberty*.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Captain James Barron one Box of Candles for the Use of the Boats *Liberty* and *Patriot*.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt deliver to Lieutenant Joshua Singleton ten Barrels of Pork, six ditto flour, eight ditto Bread, two ditto Spirits, one Box Candles and one Barrel of tar for the use of the *Henry Galley*.—

Ordered that Mr William Holt, deliver to Captain Elliot, six Barrels of Pork, six ditto of Bread, three ditto of flour and two Barrels of Spirits for the use of the *Safe Guard Galley*.—

Saturday the 29th day of November 1777.—

Ordered that Doct M^cClurg, deliver to Lieutenant Singleton the following articles Cort Peru: lbss. Sal: Nitre lbj, Ol Olivar lbij, Melt Opt lbij, Sal Tart ozj: Sperma Ceti lbi, Sal Diuretic ozere and two Lancets for the use of the *Henry Galley*.—

Mr Isaac Mercer of the Boat *Nicholson* received Orders to apply to Mr W^m. Holt for two hundred Bushl of salt which he is to take on Board the said Boat and proceed with the same up James River to the Public Rope walk at Warwick where he is to deliver his Salt to Cap^t. Charles Thomas and take on Board such Coal and cordage as may be delivered him by the said Thomas and bring the same down to James Town, and when he arrives there, to wait on the Board for further Orders.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to Lieutenant Singleton forty five yards of Cloth, thirty five yards Linen, six shirts, two pair of stockings, and two hats for the use of the people on Board the *Henry Galley* upon his paying for the same.—

Monday the 1st day of December 1777.—

Ordered that Mr Charles Smallwood deliver to Mr Isaac Mercer three Tons of bar Iron for the Use of the Shipyard at South Quay.—

Wednesday the 3rd day of December 1777.

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to Captain George Elliot for the use of the People on Board the *Safe Guard* Galley the following Articles VIZ five and three quarters yards of coarse Cloth, twenty hats, twenty eight pair shoes, One yard Linnen, thirty two pair stockings, fifty one shirts, seventeen pair of trowsers, fifteen yards and half of Flannel, and forty two Jackets on his paying for the same.—

Ordered that Doct. M^cClurg deliver to Doct. Joseph Simon Pell such Medicines as may be Necessary for the Use of the People on Board the *Norfolk Revenge* Galley.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to Doct Joseph Simon Pell for the People on Board the *Norfolk Revenge* Galley the following Articles VIZ ninety five yards Linen, sixty shirts, thirty four pair of Shoes, four pair of Stockings and Cloth sufficient to make thirty nine Waistcoats & Breeches, upon his Paying for the same.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to Doct Joseph S. Pell five Bolts Sail Duck N^o 1, two ditto light Duck, six pound of Roping Twine, one and half pound of Brimstone, five hundred double ten Nails, two axes one Lanthorn, one frying Pan and one speaking Trumpet for the Use of the *Norfolk Revenge* Galley.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Magazine, deliver to D^r Joseph S. Pell, twelve quire Cartridge paper, for Cannon and six ditto of Musket for the use of the *Norfolk Revenge* Galley.—

Lieutenant James Gray received Orders to proceed to Mr Roanes in Essex, and there examine the provisions he hath belonging to the Navy, marking such as may be good, and direct Mr Roane to sell what he refuses. On his way down, to call on Mr William Frazier and inform him of the Quantity who is to send up for the same.—

Thursday the 4th day of December 1777.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Colo: Fielding Lewis for two thousand Pounds upon Account for the Purpose of furnishing Necessaries for the Use of the Ship *Dragon*.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to David Henderson for the Use of the People on Board the Ship *Dragon*, sixty six Hats or Caps, fifty Eight Pair of Shoes, one hundred and sixteen pair of Trowsers, sixty five Pair of stockings, sixty under Jackets and one hundred and thirty six shirts or Linen sufficient to make them upon his paying for the same.—

Mr James Maxwell personally appeared before the Board, and agreed to live at the Chickahominy Ship Yard, and superintend it, and the other Yards belonging to the Navy, also the Building Rigging and Equipping for Sea the Vessels belonging to the same, to inspect into such Vessels that may from Time to Time be repaired, to inform the Board the State and situation of the said Vessels and other Matters

belonging to the Navy under his direction, and to follow such Instructions as he may receive from time to time from the Board respecting the Navy. For all which services and expences the Board doth agree to give the said Maxwell the sum of five hundred pounds per annum, to be paid him in quarterly Payments, and allow him to draw one Ration per diem.—

Friday the 5th day of December 1777.—

Captain Philip Chamberlyne of the *Hero* Galley personally appeared before the Board and resigned his Commission.—

Lieutenant James Gray received Orders to proceed to Hampton and take the Command of the *Hero* Galley during the Absence of Lieutenant Stratton, and furnish such Provisions as may be wanting for the said Galley with the Money put into his Hands.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to Captain Richard Taylor for the Use of the Officers and Sailors on Board the ship *Tartar* the following Articles VIZ thirty nine pair of stockings, thirty one yards of Cloth, fifteen Jackets, nineteen shirts, fourteen and half Yards Linnen, forty one Blankets, seven Hats, seven and half yards Blue Cloth, one and three quarters of a yard Buff ditto, three yds brown ditto, three quarters of a yard Red ditto, one and half yard of white ditto, thirty six yards of white Linen, three Hats and five yards Flannel, on his Paying for the same.—

the forty one Blankets are for the Use of the People, as belonging to Navy & not their private propty.—

Saturday the 6th day of December 1777.—

Ordered that a Warrant issue to Colo Isaac Lane for two thousand Pounds upon Account for the purpose of furnishing Military Stores for the Use of the Navy.—

Ordered that Colo Isaac Lane send to Williamsburg six pipe Stoves for the use of the Navy.—

Wednesday the 10th day of December 1777—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to Lieutenant Christopher Tompkins six Gimblets, one drawing knife, two pounds of Brimstone, twenty five Blankets and sixty yards Canvas for Hammacks for the Use of the *Henry* Galley.—

Captain George Elliot this day produced to the Board Orders from his Excellency the Governour and the Honble the Council directing him to proceed with the *Safeguard* Galley up Potowmack River in order to protect and defend the Inhabitants in that Part of the Country, and to take with him of Y^e *Protector* Galley L^t [John] Thomas Commander to aid and assist him if necessity required it.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Store, deliver to Lieutenant Robert Bolling for the Use of the People on Board the *Manley* Galley forty nine yards Linen, twen-

ty four pair of Shoes. 24 hats—126 yds Chex, 51 yds Cloth, 10 yds Corderoy, 4 yds muslin, and 11 handkerchiefs upon his paying for the same.—

Thursday the 11th day of December 1777.—

Richard Simmons appeared before the Board and agreed to work as a Carver in the Naval Service for six months at the Rate of six shillings and sixpence per day sun-days and to receive Rations and other Advantage as the Carpenters do, he also further agrees that if he should at the expiration of the six months be about Carving a Piece of Work on any Vessell that he will not quit the Service until he finishes what he is about.—

Friday the 12th day of December 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Magazine, deliver to Lieutenant Robert Bolling one hundred Pounds of Powder for the use of the *Manley* Galley.—

This Board doth recommend to his excellency the Governour and the Honourable the Council, Lieutenant John Barret as a proper Person to be appointed Captain to the *Hero* Galley.—

Ordered that Mr Jonathan Prosser deliver to Mr Hobday one of the Anchors and Cables belonging to the flat bottomed Boats.—

Tuesday the 16th day of December 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the Public Magazine, deliver to Lieutenant John Thomas twelve pound of Bar Lead, one hundred pounds of Gunpowder, and twelve pound Buck Shot for the Use of the *Protector* Galley.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Store deliver to Mr Dawes one hundred Pump Tacks for the Use of the Schooner *Peace and Plenty*.—

Wednesday the 17th day of December 1777.—

Lieutenant Thomas Pollard of the *Norfolk Revenge* Galley resigned his Commission as will appear by his Letter to this Board bearing date the 10th instant inclosing the said Commission.—

Friday the 19th day of December 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Store, deliver to Captain Francis Bright for the use of the people on Board the Brigantine *Northampton* the following articles VIZ sixty five yards of Linen, thirty five Jackets, three pieces of stript Stuff, twenty five pair of shoes, three yards brown Cloth, one and half yards of scarlet ditto and ten pair of stockings upon his paying for them.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public Store, deliver to Captain Richard Barron for the use of the people on Board the Boat *Patriot* sixteen Jackets, sixteen pair Shoes, sixteen shirts, one piece Fearnought & sixteen pair of stockings, upon his paying for them.—

Ordered that Mr Hunter be desired to send two Anchors of five hundred weight each to Chesanessex or Anancock directed to the Care of Colo: Southy Simpson on the Eastern Shore for the Use of the Gallies Building there under the direction of the said Simpson, and that he acquaint the Board thereof as soon as he has sent them, and that he be also desired to sell all the provisions in his Possession belonging to the Navy to the highest Bidder for ready Money, and send down by the first convenient opportunity such dry Goods as he has in his possession belonging to the Navy.—

Saturday the 20th day of December 1777.—

Ordered that Mr Isaac Mercer deliver to Captain Richard Barron one Coil of three inch Rope, one ditto two inch, one ditto one and half inch, for the use of the Boat *Patriot*.—

Ordered that Mr Charles Taliaferro deliver to Captain Richard Barron forty fathom of four inch Cable for the use of the Boat *Patriot*.—

Mr Isaac Mercer of the Boat *Nicolson* received Orders after delivering Captain Richard Barron the Cordage he has an order for, and landed the Remainder he has on Board with Mr W. Holt to proceed immediately with his Vessel to the Chickahominy shipyard and apply to Mr Richard Herbert for three tuns of bar Iron which he is to take on Board and come down to James Town, there to apply to Colo. Travis for a parcel of Junk which he is also to take on Board and then proceed to Suffolk and Land his Cargo in the care of Mr Wills Cowper.—

Wednesday the 31st day of December 1777.—

Ordered that the Keeper of the public store, deliver for the use of the ship *Dragon* thirty four Blankets, two, two hour Glasses and two half hour ditto.—

DS, Vi, Navy Board Journal, 291-335.

APPENDIX C

JOURNAL OF MARINE CAPTAIN JOHN TREVETT NOVEMBER–DECEMBER 1777

[*Sloop Providence, Bedford in Dartmouth, Mass.*]
[*November–December 1777*]

Now beginen to Recrute for a New Cruse with the same Commander John Peck Rathbun Esq^r Now itt is Nov^m. 1777. All Redy for Sailing, intending for a Short Cruse, we Anker a Way Standing for Block Island, a Light Wind At North East, Att Night began to Snow, the Next Day Blowing A Gale Sprung our Bolsplit,¹ Hove Tew, one Night Bloing Hard, the Next Day put Away Standing to the S. West, intending for South Carolina, Nothing Material Hapening, untill we Arrived of[*f*] Charlestown Bar, we Run in for the Bar, & Goot near to itt in fife [*five*] Farthum Warter, Night Coming on, Saw no Pilot boat off[*f*], we Staning of[*f*] and on, Waiting for Day Light, our Guns All in, and Ports All Secured, a Very Plesent Mone Light Night, About Tew Aclock in the Morning, Saw a Sail in Shore, we took her to be a Droger, Going from Charlestown to Georgetown, but Shortly Arfter, one of our Officer's Came Down and Informd Cap^t Rothbon that She was Standing for us, and Very Near, Cap^t Rathbun & My Self went on Deck, and She Shortly Arfter Hailed us, and orderd the Dam Yanke Bugers to Hall Down the Cullers. You must [*k*]now We had a foule Wether Jack att Masthead, She in a few Minets Run under our Lee Quarter, and Gave us a Broard Side, and Run a head of us, Cap^t Rothbun informd the Botswen² to Call and Gett All Hands to Quarters, as Still as he Could, and Not Make any use of His Coale,³ as this Privatear Bore Away, and Coming up Again, As He informed us Arfter wards, he was Sune A Long Side, we ware All Redey, as Sune as he Made the first flash we Gave him A handsome Brard Side he up helm And Run to the Eastward we never had a Singal Man hert of Any Conequence we Made Sail Arfter her our Riggin Sailes was So Much Cutt Away itt was Sume Time before we could Gett under full Sail She Emeadetly Histed a Lanthon att Mast head but Such a buteful Mone Light Morning itt Coul[*d*] not be Seen any Consederebel Distance but by thare Heving out that Signel we [*k*]new thare Must be an Enemy not A Grate Distance of[*f*] we fired no More of our Cannon att Her and found we Ganed A Littel Every Hour Day Made her Apperence the Man Crys out a Large Ship under the Land Standing Close on a Wind to the Souttward & East Ward the Wind Being S. West About Sun Rise we Neard the Privatear So as thare Lieu^t Goot on thare Round House and fired Severul Times All the Balls went a Long way bee End us I informd Cap^t Rathbun we had I Did not dout as Good Muskets as tha had I Spoke to M^r Mickel Molton⁴ and one M^r Baylee of Boston and Dezired them to go forward With My Self and take a Shot Att him as he was a fine Mark to Shute att he Standing on thare Round House You Must note this Vesel Steard With a Wheal we had not fired More then thre Shot before we Saw him fall & Emeadetly the Privatear Gott in the Wind an[*d*] we ware A Long Side in

a few Minets When we Boarded her we found itt was the Lieu^t we had Shot and he fell on the Man Stering with the Wheail This Lieu^t was a Man belonged in the State of Virginea and he Expect^d to be punished If he was taken by the Americans and he was Determind to fight as Long as he could he had a pair of Hansom pistels to his Side As he Lay Dead on Deck tha found 5 Hands bad Woun^d on board of her 3 of them ware Blacks our Short went into one Quarter & threw the Other and we Shaterd her well we found this Ship we Saw to Windard was a Freget that tha was on Board the Day before and tha ware to Meait her the Next Day of [f] Charlestown Bar we Got So far to the Eastward that we Stered for Georgetown we had taken 6 Negros that tha had Taken the Day before that ware out of Charleston a fishing Come to Examen the Blacks we found tha ware Pilots belonging to Some of the Citersens of Charlestown The Cap^t officers and Crew All as one Consented to Deliver them up to Mrs^{rs} Harcott and Tucker Merch^t at Geortown to be Sent to thare oners Clair of Expençe a Day or Tew Arfter we Arrived att George Town we put All the Priseners in Gaile but the Cap^t I Escorted him to Charlestown an [d] Delev^d him to the Commisare of Prisners . . .⁵ and thare I Saw My Old frind Commadore Biddel⁶ he Had Thre Ships⁷ under his Command All Redey for Sea Att that time thare was an Embarg[o] threw the State of South Carolina Commadore Beddel Perswaded Me Very hard to Go with him I informed him that I had Made An a Grement with Cap^t Rothbun to go and Take New Providence as one Cap^t Newton⁸ had Lately Arrivd from New Providence and Gave us an Acct of the Ship *Marry*⁹ from Jamaca had put into New Providence in Distres and Cap^t Newton Said we Could Gett thare before She would be Redey for See and as this Ship had Kiled our Sailing Master About Six Month before of [f] New York M^r George Sinkens and Gave us a go[o]d Ban[g]ing we ware now Determind to Take Fort Nassaw and then we Could Have Command of the Town and Harber and take What we Pleased Cap^t Rathbun was Present att the Corfea House Att Charlestown Commadore & My Self went from M^r Dorshes¹⁰ than Continental Agent to the Corfea House as I Said If Cap^t Rathbun would Consent I would go with him and All this Time telling Me that itt Was Presumiton to Make Such an Atemt And A Luded to the Scot[c]h Ship¹¹ that was taken from Lieu^t Macdugel¹² & My Self but finerly I told him tha ware all well Landed Att Virginea he Pled Likewise with Cap^t Rathbun but Anserd no Perperse for Sase Cap^t Rothbun I have Made the Agreement with Cap^t Trevett I will not Give itt up So this Ended All this Conversation we Shuk Hands and the Comadore Says I am Very Sorre for I never Shall See You More; Cap^t Rathbun & My Self Sett out Emeadetly for Georgetown in South Carolina So End this Short Cruse—

Journal, RNHi, John Trevett Papers, No. 44–18.

1. Bowsprit.

2. James Kennedy.

3. Boatswain's call.

4. Lt. Michael Moulton, Continental Marines.

5. Ellipsis in manuscript.

6. Capt. Nicholas Biddle, commanding the Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.

7. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame* and South Carolina letter of marque ships *General Moultrie* and *Volunteer* and brigantines *Fair American* and *Polly*.

8. Capt. Downham Newton, commanding the South Carolina letter of marque sloop *Vixen*.

9. Jamaica letter of marque ship *Mary*, Henry Johnson, master.

10. John Dorsius, Continental Agent for South Carolina.

11. British transport ship *Oxford*, John Stewart, master, carrying a company of the 42d Foot (Royal Highland Regiment), which was captured by the Continental Navy brigantine *Andrew Doria*, retaken by the Scottish soldiers and crew and later recaptured by the Virginia Navy boats *Liberty* and *Patriot*. See NDAR 5: 293, 294, 294n, 564, 565n, 585n, 586n, 670, 671n, 686, 686n, 687-88, 699, 1085, 1085n, 1195, 1195n; 6: 79n, 166, 539, 540n, 601, 626.

12. Lt. John McDougall, Continental Navy, formerly third lieutenant of the brigantine *Andrew Doria* and presently second lieutenant of the frigate *Randolph*. Trevett served as lieutenant of marines with McDougall on the brigantine *Andrew Doria* from May to September 1776.

APPENDIX D

Captain Nicholas Biddle and Continental Navy Frigate Randolph

CAPTAIN NICHOLAS BIDDLE TO JAMES BIDDLE

Charles Town November the 22nd 1777

My Dear Brother

If you could form any Idea of the unhappiness I feel at not haveing a single line from home during the Many months that I have staid here You will I am sure favoir me with on[e.]

If an express or Gentleman comes in from Pennsylvania My friends here tell me they hope all my Friends at home are well. And I am sick of Repeating that I do not get a line from any one there. They Naturally conclude I am a Person very little Esteem'd or some one or other would surely take notice of me - These considerations together with an ardent desire I have of doing My duty made me on the first of Sep^r when the Pilot wishd Me joy on being safe over the Bar of Charles Town burst into tears and cry God Bless You, Altho we struck twice in going over and (as I have since found) knocked off 11½ feet of the false keel.

On the fourth We came up with two Ships two Brigs and a small armed Sloop - They fired on us for about an Hour as we run down before the wind upon them one Ship had 20¹ the other 8 Guns² - Both Ships and one Brig Struck³ after giving them a few Broad sides. The other Brig and Sloop steerd different Courses. The Brig I Chased and took⁴ - but the Sloop got off - One of the Brigs was a Frenchman I let Her go - But they Came here under My Convoy - The Eighth of Sep^r I got My Prizes safe in Port - Their was not a Man Killd on either side and but three or four wounded - My Ship being very full of Barnacles and oysters which grow Amazingly fast here in the Sunshine thrive on Vessels Bottoms - I came in to Clean I wrote to Neddy⁵ but find the letter was mislaid and not sent by express

The Prizes altogether sold for about [tom]ty⁶ Thousand Pounds Sterling - Agents⁷ Commission and expences attending the Sales will amount to 12 or 15 thousand sterling The half of the rest will be divided among My self officers & Crew - I think it a dam'd Shame that an Agent should have nearly as much as Myself and all the Commisⁿ officers on Board for doing no Business and Running no Risk either of Property or Person For he employs a Gentleman who for one and half per C^t does the Business, Runs all Risks of bad debts Bad money &c -

Since I wrote the foregoing I have received a letter from You by Major Butler.⁸ It is the only one from any of the Family (Nancy & C Biddle,⁹ excepted) Since I left You I have had a very narrow escape from a Fever that laid Violent hands on me soon after I came in to Port. - And to Comfort Me in my distress the *Randolph* was Sunk in Careening and lay under water two Weeks before they could get Her up. I need not tell you that I felt much more concern on account of the Ship than for My own Safety - I am now well and hope Soon to Sail - But as it [tom] on getting Men in

place of those wh[*torn*] while the Ship was Sunk I cannot certainly say how soon it May be. -

Andrew Robeson has My Power of Atorney I wish it could be instrumental in getting You What Prize Money May be due to Me from the Northward - I wish You to get it and Make use of it for the Family

I will write to Neddy by the next oppertunity - Give my Love to the Family and believe me to be Most Affectionatly Yours

Nicholas Biddle

Typescript, Captain Nicholas Biddle Papers, 1771-1778, on loan to PHi, 1948-1993. Private Collection, Nicholas Biddle, Jr., Narberth, Pa., 1996. Addressed: "To James Biddle Esq^r/To the care of the Hon^{ble}./Robert Morris Esq^r" Endorsed by James Biddle: "Lre/Bro^r Nicholas/Cha^r Town Nov. 1777."

1. Ship *True Briton* (20 guns), Thomas Venture, commander, from Jamaica to New York City, with rum.
2. Ship *Severn* (8 guns), James Henderson, master, from Jamaica to London, 200 tons burthen, built in Newfoundland and rebuilt in 1773, owned by McTaggart of Bristol. *Lloyd's Register of Ships, 1777-1778*.
3. French brig *Assumption*, Andrew Laffont, master, from Martinique to Charleston, with salt.
4. Brigantine *Charming Peggy*, Philip Lyon, master, from Jamaica to New York City, with rum.
5. Edward Biddle, elder brother of Nicholas Biddle.
6. Probably about £60,000. See John Dorsius to Continental Marine Committee, 12 Sept. 1777. *NDAR* 9: 920.
7. John Dorsius and Levinus Clarkson, Joint Continental Agents for South Carolina.
8. Maj. Pierce Butler, South Carolina Militia.
9. Nancy Biddle, cousin, and Charles Biddle, younger brother of Nicholas Biddle.

CAPTAIN NICHOLAS BIDDLE TO ROBERT MORRIS

Charles Town November the 23rd 1777

Sir

I enclose to You a letter I have received from the Navy Board.¹ and My Answer,² for your Perusal—

As the Answer contains the intelligence I should have sent to You, a Repetition I suppose needless.

I have not Received any instructions from the Hon^{ble}: the Marine Committee Since My Cruize altho the Board of Commerce³ writes M^r Dorsius⁴ word, that letters have been sent to me⁵—

The *Randolph* is Rigged, with Her Guns & most of Her Stores on Board. I have Recruiting Parties out and A Prospect of getting from Here in two or three weeks. I am Sir with the greatest Respect [&c.]

Nicholas Biddle

To the Hon^{ble}:

Robert Morris Esq^r

L, NHpR, Correspondence Regarding Naval-Maritime Matters, 1775-1783, no. 59. Addressed: "The Honorable/Robert Morris Esq^r" Docketed: "Charles Town/23^d Nov^r 1777/Nich^s Biddle Esq^r/390."

1. Continental Navy Board of the Middle Dept.
2. Both letters not found.
3. Continental Committee of Commerce.
4. John Dorsius, Continental Agent for South Carolina.
5. See Continental Marine Committee to Captain Nicholas Biddle, 24 Oct. 1777. *NDAR* 10: 266.

EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT OF ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN CONTINENTAL NAVY
FRIGATE *RANDOLPH* AND H.M.S. *YARMOUTH*

"I, John Davis, at present keeper of the Red Springs, Botetourt County, Virginia, do hereby certify, that in February, 1778, I sailed in the ship *General Moultrie*¹ from Charleston in company with the *Randolph*, Captain Biddle.² That, on the 7th of March following, at one P.M., we discovered a sail standing for us, when the *Randolph* made a signal to heave to. About four P.M., Captain Biddle hove out a signal to make sail. We then spoke him, and Captain Biddle told us that one of his crew had deserted from the British ship *Yarmouth* of 74 guns, and he knew the ship to windward to be her—and from her appearance he had no doubt it was her; notwithstanding which, Sullivan³ did not make sail, and the *Randolph* was obliged to engage the *Yarmouth* or sacrifice our ship. The *Yarmouth* hailed us as he passed. We answered, "the *Polly*, from Charleston," and that our convoy was ahead. They then hailed the *Randolph*; and immediately after engaged. The *Randolph* appeared to fire four or five broadsides to the *Yarmouth's* one, until she blew up,⁴ when Sullivan hauled down his colors, and we should have been taken but for Captain Blake,⁵ who commanded the marines. He insisted upon our making sail, and such was the confusion on board the *Yarmouth*, or she was so much injured during the engagement, that they took no note of us. To the truth of the above I am ready at any time to make oath.

(Signed) J. Davis

We, the subscribers, lodgers in the house of Mr. Davis, heard him declare the above account of the engagement between the *Randolph* and the *Yarmouth*, and of the conduct of Sullivan, to be true.

(Signed) Richard Myncreeff,
Robert C. Latimer.

Aug. 21, 1801."

Autobiography of Charles Biddle, Vice-President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania. 1745–1821. (Philadelphia: E. Claxton and Company, 1883), 108–9.

1. South Carolina privateer *General Moultrie*.
2. Capt. Nicholas Biddle, commanding Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*.
3. Capt. Philip Sullivan, commanding South Carolina privateer *General Moultrie*.
4. Five days after the battle, H.M.S. *Yarmouth* rescued four seamen who survived *Randolph's* explosion. See *Journal of H.M.S. Yarmouth*, 12 Mar., and Captain Nicholas Vincent, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 17 Mar., above. One of the men gave the following account to Charles Biddle, brother of Nicholas Biddle: "He told me he was stationed at one of the quarter-deck guns near Capt. Biddle, who early in the action was wounded in the thigh. He fell, but immediately sitting up again, and encouraging his crew, told them it was only a slight touch he had received. He ordered a chair, and one of the surgeon's mates was dressing him at the time of the explosion. None of the men saved could tell by what means the accident happened." *Ibid.*, 107–8.
5. Capt. John Blake, Second South Carolina Continental Regiment. See *Order Book of 1st South Carolina Continental Regiment*, 27 Jan., above.

ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN CONTINENTAL NAVY FRIGATE *RANDOLPH*
AND H.M.S. *YARMOUTH*

A remarkable instance of the lives of four
men being providentially saved.

On the 7th of March, 1778, between five and six o'clock in the afternoon, his Majesty's ship *Yarmouth* (Captain, now Admiral Vincent¹) being in the latitude of

the island of Barbadoes, and about sixty leagues to the eastward of it, the man at the mast-head called out that he saw several sail to leeward, near each other. Soon after, there were discovered from the quarter-deck six sail—two ships, three brigs and a schooner,² on the starboard tack, all sails set, and close to the wind, then about N.E. The captain and officers of the *Yarmouth* had not the least doubt of their being American privateers. For even a single merchant-ship, which had not a letter of marque, was, perhaps, never seen upon a wind in the latitude of Barbadoes, and forty or fifty leagues to the eastward of it, and the wind easterly. The *Yarmouth* accordingly bore down upon them, and about nine o'clock got very near to the largest of the two ships, which begun to fire on the *Yarmouth*, before the *Yarmouth* did on her.³ In about a quarter of an hour she blew up; being then on the *Yarmouth*'s lee-beam, and not above three or four ship's length distant. The rest of their squadron immediately dispersed.⁴ The damage the *Yarmouth* received in her masts, sails and rigging was prodigious, and she had five men killed and twelve wounded. A great variety of articles were thrown into her—one, an entire American ensign, which was not even singed or torn.⁵

This happened between nine and ten o'clock Saturday night. On the Thursday following, the *Yarmouth* being in chace of a ship, steering about West, (the wind in the N.E. quarter), the man at the mast-head called down to the officer on the quarter-deck, that he saw something on the water, abaft the beam (the starboard), but could not tell what to make of it. A question immediately arose, what was to be done? If the *Yarmouth* hauled up to see what it was, there would be little or no chance of coming up with her before dark. Humanity, however pleaded for it and prevailed. Accordingly she hauled her wind, and by the help of a spy-glass, discovered four men, that seemed to be standing on the water; for what supported them was not at first visible. In two or three hours she got up to the little float on which they stood, and brought them on board. The captain and officers were greatly surprised to find they belonged to the ship that was blown up the preceding Saturday. So that, they had been five whole nights, and nearly as many days, floating on the waves, and buried alive, as it were, under the vault of heaven. Being young and hardy, they did not appear much discomposed when they came upon the quarter-deck. They said they were not hungry, although they had not eaten any thing, but thirsty and very sleepy. A bason of tea, however, and a hammock to each, perfectly restored them in a few hours. When they arose, the only complaint they had, was that of their feet being greatly swoln, by having been so long in the water.

The account they gave of themselves was only this—that they were quartered in the captain's cabin, and thrown into the water without receiving any hurt. But they could give no account by what accident the ship blew up.

Being good swimmers, they got hold of some spars and rope, with which they made the raft, on which they were found. And, providentially for them, they picked up a blanket, which served them as a reservoir of water; for during the time they were on the raft, there fell a few showers of rain, which they saved as much as they could in their blanket, sucking it from time to time; which, no doubt preserved all their lives. On the arrival of the *Yarmouth* two days after, at Barbadoes, proper officers came on board, in order to take the depositions of those four men, respecting the blowing up of the ship, &c. and particularly, as to the number of men on board her when the action began. For without a certificate to this purpose, the Treasurer

of the navy has no authority to pay the head-money, allowed by Government, which is five pounds a head; and which, on this occasion, came to five hundred and seventy-five pounds.⁶ Thus this little act of humanity seems to have been rewarded. §

They deposed, that the ship which blew up was called the *Randolph*, of thirty-six guns, twenty-six of which were twelve-pounders, and her complement of men three hundred and fifteen. The other ship was called the *General Moutray*,⁷ but the number of her guns, or her complement of men, or of the force of the three brigs,⁸ Admiral Vincent told the writer of this account, he could not precisely ascertain. The schooner was a prize.

The captain of the *Randolph* was the commodore of this little squadron which had sailed just a month from Charles-town, South Carolina, where it was fitted out, with the design of attacking the island of Tobago, for which they were steering when they first saw the *Yarmouth*.

§ No prize was lost. The ship the *Yarmouth* hauled off from, was a West-India merchant-man, bound to Barbadoes. The master of her came on board the *Yarmouth* after her arrival there: she had a letter of marque, and was upon a wind when the *Yarmouth* first saw her.

Broadside, NN, Rare Books Division, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations.

1. Capt. Nicholas Vincent was promoted to Rear Adm. of the White on 19 Mar. 1779.

2. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*, South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie*, South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame*, South Carolina privateer brigantine *Polly*, South Carolina privateer brigantine *Fair American*, and a prize schooner.

3. Continental Navy frigate *Randolph*, Capt. Nicholas Biddle, commander.

4. For other accounts of the action and its aftermath, see Journal of H.M.S. *Yarmouth*, 7 and 8 Mar., "Extract of a Letter from on board the State Brig *Notre Dame*, dated Lat. 13 Long. 57, March 9, 1778," Captain Nicholas Vincent, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 17 Mar., and President Rawlins Lowndes of South Carolina to President of Congress, 30 Mar., all above.

5. For the damage received by *Yarmouth*, see Journal of H.M.S. *Yarmouth*, 7 and 8 Mar., and Captain Nicholas Vincent, R.N., to Vice Admiral James Young, 17 Mar., all above.

6. See Deposition of Alexander Robinson, Hans Workman and John Carew, 16 Mar., above.

7. South Carolina privateer ship *General Moultrie* mounted 18 to 20 guns and had a crew of 118 men.

8. South Carolina Navy brigantine *Notre Dame* mounted 18 guns, South Carolina privateer brigantine *Fair American* mounted 14 guns, and South Carolina privateer brigantine *Polly* mounted 14 guns.

APPENDIX E

LOG OF THE CONTINENTAL NAVY SHIP *RANGER*, CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES

Thursday JANU'RY
FIRST 1778.

this Morning fair and pleasant Employ'd Clearing Up the Decks Got on board 30 pigs of Lead Run out the small Bower astarn & Got up the the Strum Anchor Run the Strim Cable ashore for an In Shore fast. Got of from the Shore two planks for the Shot Locker.

Friday 2nd

this Morning fair and pleasant one of our Craft Came alongside Took from on board her 283 pigs of Lead Landed all the Dirt out of the Ship Got in the Small Hasser. the Cooper Employ'd Triming the Water Cask Got of from the Shore Sum Brums Sum of the people Employ'd Making pointes. Capt. Riches¹ a prisoner Run away In the Night.

Saturday 3rd
Discharged the
first Craft.

The Morning fair and pleasant Employ'd Giting Things out of the Craft. Took on board 50 Water Cask & 14 Barels of Beef & three tarces and Six Ships Oars and 87 pigs of Lead one Spair Topsail Yard, one Jebb Boom, one Lou Steering Sail Boom, one Four top Gallant Yard, one Spare Topmast Steering Sail Boom, one Royal Yard, one top Gallant Staring Sail Boom, one Boats Windless, one Spare Lower Yard and 29 Sails and 2 Arnings, the four Castle men & top men Employ'd in Macking points, John Shannon Enterd. On Board Delivered the Craft.

Sunday 4th

This Morning fogey Dirty Weather Employ's Cleaning the Decks All the people Came on Board but one that Run away and two prisoners which Escapt^d. from the Ship.

1778

SHIP *RANGER* JANUARY

Monday 5th

This Morning fogy Dirty Weather the Second Craft came alongside Employ'd giting the Things out of her 13 punchions 2 Gin Casks and 67 Barls of Beef & 5 Barels of Pork and Sum fire Wood, 23 Boats Oars 3 top gallant Steering Sails Booms 15 yards for the Small Sails, one Lower Stering Boom and 4 topmast Stering Sail Booms, 2 Spare Lower do. 10 Ships Oars one Mn. Top Gallant

Yard, 2 top gallant masts, 1 Cask of heading, 2 Barel of Tar and 2 Barel of Turpentine, one Cask of Sluck, 56 Coils of Riggan Employ'd stowing the hole, the Latter part of the Day fogey and Dirty Weather.

RIVER LOIRE

Tuesday 6th

This Morning fair & Cold the people Employ'd gitting the things out of the Craft. Took from in board of her 2 top Chanes, one Coile of large Rope, sum Iron hoops, two Winter Top Gallant Mast, one Ships Fitter Driver Boom, two Barrels of Coal, 18 Coils of Riggan Shacks 13 Bundles put on board the Craft, 81 Cask to be filled with Fresh Water. Sent the Craft from along Side the Carpenters² Employ'd Altering the Sail Room and Boarding the Quarters.

Wednesday 7th

The Morning Fair & Cold the Carpenters Employ'd Boarding the Quarters and filling it with Cork the people Employ'd about Sundry Things hawld. of further. The Carpenters finishd the Sail Room Took the Sails out of the Cabin and Stowed them in the Sail Room. Got of from the Shore two Coard of fire Wood, the Cooper employ' in setting up the Shuck Cask, one of the french men Run away.

Thursday 8th

This Morning Fair & Cold the Carpenters Employ'd Calking the Decks and boarding up the Quarters. the people Employ'd making points Quiled the Cables in the hole, the Latter part of the Day Cloudy & Cold a Grate Deal of Ice Came Down the River.

1778

RIVER LOIRE JANUARY

Friday 9th

This Morning fair & Very Cold the Carpenters Employ'd Boarding up the Quarters Got of from the Shore 4 Bundles of hoops for preventing the Ice from Cutting the Cables Got up on the Cables the two top Chanes, one forward and the other aft to Braik of the Ice from the Ship the Brig *Independance*³ Came Along Side Cared away the four tye and the four yard Came Down on our four Castle and Badly Wounded one of our people in the head, three or 4 Ships run Ashore out of the way of the Ice. Run a 7 Inch Harser ashore ahead.

Saturday 10th

this Morning Cloudy the River full of Ice the Carpenters Employ'd about Boarding the Quarters & Calking under the four Castle, the people Employ'd

About Overhauling Blocks Got of from the Shore Sum Boards for Cabin Sides Betwixt Decks & Sum Sheet Lead for the Carpenters and Sum small Nails Sent on Shore three topsails and four Sail & Main Sail and four topmast Staysail to Be midle Sticht, one of our hands very Bad.

Sunday 11th

This Morning Cloudy Dark Weather Employ'd Cleaning Ship. The River full of Ice, the Later Part of the Day Cloudy with Spits of Small Rain. One of Our Hands Very Bad.

Monday 12th

This Morning fair & pleasant Sum of the people Employ'd About Blacking Yard & Mast the Carpenters Employ'd About the Quarters & Calking the Deck, the plumer Came on board With the head pump, the people Came aboard from the prize at Boadaux. Charls Ward, Edward Shapley, Amos Abbot, John Wheller, Saml. hole-bruke⁴ Brought of from the Shore three Planks for the Quarters. One of our Hands Very Bad. Dirty Weather all Night. The Sailmaker to work ashore about the Ts

Tuesday 13th

This Morning Fair & Pleasant Got from the Brigtn. *Independance* 2 Buts And two Gin Casks, the Carpenter Employ'd about the Quarters & the people Employ'd Making Points. The Later Part of this Day Cloudy, in the Evening Small Rain. One of Our Hands Very Bad. The Sail Maker to work ashore about the Sails.

1778

SHIP RANGER JANUARY

Wednesday 14th

This Morning Squarly With Rain the Sail Maker to work ashore upon the Sails, the people Employ'd about Making points the Carpenters Employ'd about the Quarters. The Latter part of the Day Squarly With Showers of Rain. In the Evening Clear'd up, the Wind at West one of Our Hands very Bad. The Sail Maker to work ashore about the Sails.

Thursday 15th

This Morning Squarls of Winds and Rain the people Employ'd about making Points, the Carpenters Employ'd about the Quarters Got off from the Shore one Coard of fire Wood In the afternoon Sent the Armour⁵ ashore with 18 Crane Irons to be altered for the Quarters, the Latter part of the Day Squarly With Rain. One of our hands Very Bad. Sent 8 of our people up the River after fresh Water. Joel Huchins John Recher, Edward Shapley, John Varney, Wm. Smith, Mark Staples,

paul Recker, Ruben Recker, the Sail Maker to work ashore on the Sails.

Friday 16th

This Morning fair & pleasant the Carpenters Employ'd about the Quarters, the people Employ'd about Sundry things, the Latter part of this Day fair and pleasant. Several Vesals arived here finished our head pump, one of our hands Very Bad, the Sail Maker to Work ashore about the Sails.

Saturday 17th

This Morning Fair & pleasant, the Carpenters finishd the Quarters. The people Employ'd about Sundry Things A boat Came along side from Nantes with some Slops & 15 hoghd. of Brandy and four Barrels of Old Brandey and three Barrels of Flower, one tarce of Rice Got of from the Shore a hoghd. of Brandy, one of our hands Very Bad. Took on board 1 Barrel of Tobacco. Blowing hard and full of Rain. the Sail Maker to Work ashore on the Sails.

Sunday 18th

This Morning Blowing hard & full of Rain. at 12 o'clock the Craft Came Along Side With Water, the Latter Part of the Day Blowing Very Hard and full of Rain. In the Evening Cleard up. One of our hands Very Bad.

1778

SHIP *RANGER* - JANUARY

Monday 19th

This Morning fair & pleasant Weather. The people Employ'd Discharging the Craft of Water: Took out of the Craft 55 Casks Large & Small Started it in the hole filled 30 Buts and 10 punchions, the Latter part of the Day Cloudy Weather: Put the Emtey Cask on board the Craft: One of Our Hands Very Bad. The Sail Maker to work ashore on the Sails.

Tuesday 20th

This Morning fair & Pleasant. Employ'd about Getting out the Cask out of the Craft: Took out of the Craft 25 Cask, Grate & Small, filled up In the hole 16 Cask, Set up the Lower Riggan, put on Board the Craft the Emty Water Cask and sent her away for Water. James Smith, Abraham Nights, David Woodhouse, the Cooper, Mr Recker, paul Recker, Wm. English, Mark Staples Got from the Shore three Cord of Fire Wood. The Sail Maker to work ashore about the Sails.

Wednesday 21st

This Morning C'oudy Got of from the Rope Makers 1 Coil 2 Inch, Do. 2 1/2, one Do. 1 3/4, two Do. 12 thred,

two Do. 9 thread, two Do 6 Thred, 36 fathom 5 1/2 inch, 45 fathom 3 1/4, the whole 11 Coils Containing 706 pound. Rove new Top Ropes. Blowing hard with Hard Showers of Rain. Got of from the Shore one Cord of fire Wood, One of our Hands Very Bad. The Sail Maker to work ashore on the Sails.

Thursday 22nd

This Morning Blowing Very hard. The Wind at WbN: the people Employ'd about Sundry Things. Fixtd. the Starn Neting. Rove the Mizen topsail Riggan: the Latter Part of this Day Blowing Very Strong. One of our Hands Very Bad.

Friday 23rd

RIVER LOIRE

This Morning Begins With Little Wind and Small Rain Got up Yards & topmast. Rove the Runing Riggan In the Afternoon the Craft Came Alongside With the Water & all the people in her that went away In her, the latter Part of the Day Blowing hard & full of Rain. Sent the Mizen Staysail & mizen topmast Staysail ashore for the Sail Maker to Alter In the Eveing 1 of our Prisners Run away with the Small Boat that Belong to the Craft along Side Capt. Bulflinch⁶ sent the Cutter after him, found the Boat Brought her Along Side. One of our hands Very Bad. Blowing Hard and full of Rain all night.

Saturday 24th

This Morning Cloudy with Small Rain Employ'd Gitting out the Water Out of the Craft Along Side Took onboard of her 45 Casks Grate & Small. The Latter Part of this Day Raining Very fast. Took on board Sum Sliding Shot & Sum Star Shot & Sum Round Shot and Swevil Shot Got of from the Shore one Cord of Fire Wood. One of our Hands Very Bad. Joseph Trepethen deserted from the Cutter.

Sunday 25th

Discharged the first Craft we had in pay, having been Employ'd from 10th Decem. till this day, 46 days.

This Morning Begins Cloudy with Shour of Rain Employ'd Discharging the Craft of Water Got all the Water out of the Craft two Boats Came alongside With Shot and 11 Barrels of Pork finishd. Stowing the Cask in the hole the Latter Part of the day Cloudy Weather. One of our Hands Very Bad. took on board one Both of thin Canvis Att 8 In the Evening the Wind Came to the Nothward and Blow'd Very hard all Night.

Monday 26th

This Morning Begins With a Hard Gail At NE & Squarls of Snow a Ship a starn of us part her head Cable and Whint Ashore. We got down Yards and topmasts At 2

P.M. the Ship got foul of our InShore Cable aStarn. Brought home Our of Shore Anchor and Sent us ashore Got All the Guns on one Side to List our Ship in Shore: the Later part of the Day Blowing Very Hard. At low Water the Ship Was almost Drye, at 8 in the Evening two of our hands run away from the Ship sent one midshipman and the Boatswains Mate⁷ ashore after the people. Got one Thoms. Low and Brought him on Board. Put him in Irones. The Other John Shannon Got of Clear. Joseph Trefethen retd. on board.

Tuesday 27th

This Morning fair & moderate Employ'd in Giting Ready for heav'g. of the Ship Got on the 7 Inch Harsor & Bent it to the Stream Anchor Car'd it out astarn at 2 P.M. hove her off from the Shore & moard. him, the Later Part of the Day Cloudy, One of our Hands Very Bad.

1778.

RIVER LOIRE - JANUARY

Wednesday 28th

This Morning fair & Cold the Piolat & 2 Men Came of With a Anchor Boat hove up the Starn Anchor Boat & Cared it further Out Got up the Stream Anchor Unbent the harsor and Haul'd it in. The Capt. Came from Nantes. A Boat Cam alongside With Slops & 6 Bundles of Hoops Iron Employ'd painting the Quarter & Yards: The Sail Maker to work Ashore. Got of from the Shore the Mizzen & Four Top mast Staysail & Bent them.

Thursday 29th

SHIP *RANGER* - JANUARY

This Morning fair & pleasant Employ'd about Giting Ready for hauling out In the Rode the piolat Came on board With two Boats & 3 Hands Got up the Anchor Car'ed out the Stream Anchor the whole length of the Cable at two hove of In the Stream Moard With the two Bowers the Latter part of this day fair and Pleasant Employ'd Clearing up the Decks. Several Vesals Came up the River.

Friday 30th

This Morning Cloudy and full of Fogg the people Employ'd About Sundry things Got up the top Gallant Mast, Set up the topmast Riggan and top Gallant Riggan the Cooper Shuck four Water Casks 91 - 64, 91, 118:63 Galns. The Latter part of this Day Cloudy & full of Fogg Run out the Guns Got from on Board the *Independance* a Cask of Rum.

Saturday 31st

This Morning Cloudy Weather and full of Foog Got up the Arm Chests In the tops Got off from the Shore one

Cord of Fire Wood: the latter part of the day Cloudy and full of Fogg Got over the Starn Laders. One of our hands Very Bad.

Sunday
February the first.

This Morning Cloudy & full of fogg Employ'd Cleaning Ship In the afternoon the Captn. Whent to Nantze. In the Cutter The Latter part of the Day Cloudy & full of Fogg fir'd thirten Minet Guns for Death of Mr Moris, the Continantal Agent,^s one of Our Hands Very Bad.

1778

SHIP *RANGER* - FEBRUARY

Monday 2nd

This Morning Cloudy Weather & full fogg the People Employ'd About Sundry Things. Got up the Steering Sail Booms the Carpenters Employ'd About Shorting the Oars for the Ship In the Night one of Our people Run away, John Vance.

Tuesday 3rd

This Morning Cloudy and full of Fogg the people Employ'd About Sundry Things. Set up the Top mast Riggan and top Gallant Rigan Got of from the Shore half a Cord of fire Wood & 3 Swiffels and 40 pound of twine and 100 of Sowing Nedles, half a dozen of marking Nedles and 32 Barls of Powder and two Cags of Powder and 5 Chests of Carterages of powder and four Sids of Pump Leather Sent the Boat after 13 Cask of Water.

Wednesday 4th

This Morning Cloudy and full of Fog Employ' about Sundry Things Got of from the Shore for the Use of the Ship Sum Boards and Sheet Lead and Sum Nails and Brums Took on Board 4 Cord and a half of fire Wood The Latter part of this Day Clear.

Thursday 5th

This Morning fair & pleasant Got of from the Shore 3 Cord of Fire Wood & 6 Irons for the Starn Netings 2 Rims of Carterage paper, 3 Bundls. of Match Stuf and Sum Thumbles. Got up the Cables, Got of from the Shore 4000 pound of Ship Bread and a Driver Boom the Later part of the Day fair and pleasant Quil'd the Cables in the hole.

Friday 6th

This Morning Cloudy with Small Rain Got of from the Shore the Sails Bent the Courses and Topsails & Staysails. Got of from the Shore 6 Log Lines and 6 Cod Lines and 40 pound of Marline, 300 pound of Spurnyarn and 115 pound of Rope and a Shot of Deep Sey Line the Later part of this Day Cloudy Weather with small Rain. Sent the Sick Man ashore.

1778.

RIVER LOIRE - FEBUARY - SHIP *RANGER*

Saturday 7th

This Morning fair and pleasant Loos'd Sails to Dry In the Afternoon handed them painted the Insides of Quarters In the Eveing a Boat Came Alongside With Sundry Things for the Ships Use Sum Grate Coats Sum Shoes and Boots and 50 Bushels of Patotoes and 1000 pounds of Chese a hogHd. of Wine and a Barrel of Wine the Whole

200 pairs of Shoes

30 pair Boot

6 hampers Chese

1 Bbb of Table Oil

5 hampers Bourdea Wine

1 Cask Do

6 Baskets of Potatoes

3 Dozen of Plats

2 Dozen Tumblers

2 Small Basketts of Cups & Sausers

2 Bbb of Sugar

4 Pr Light Canvas

5 pr. of Topsl. Duck

20 pound Sail Twine

3 Coils of Boat Rope

1 English, 1 Duch, 1 French Ensign

2 Babbn Powder

100 Great Coats

200 Small Bottles

100 Common do.

60 pound of Buckshot

18 Cases of Candles

6 jairs of Figgs

2 pots of Butter

40 Loafs of Sugar

4 Cannisters of Tea

1 Cask of Wine

1 pacquet of table Clouths

1 Do. Towels

6 Blunderbusses

20 pairs of Pistoles

30 Cutlasses

3 dozen Chest Locks

1 Bundle Coffe

1 Do of Peper

2 Candlesticks

1 Small Box of Instruments

1 Boatswains Call

1 Baskett Medicines

1 Cask do.

Sunday 8th

This Morning Cloudy Employ'd Stowing the the Things away and Clearing our Decks. The Latter part of the Day Blowing hard from the Southward. The Capt. Came from Nantze and a french Barber.

Monday 9th

This Morning Fair Loosed Sails to Dry Employ'd about Sundry Things. In the After Noon sent a Craft after 11 Casks of Water Handed the Sails had Company on board from the Shore the Later Part of the Day Fair The Wind att NE Sent Sum Emtey hampers ashore.

Tuesday 10th

This Morning Cloudy all hands Employed on the Ships duty hoisted out the Small Boat Capt. Jenkns arived hear from Nantucket after 35 days pasage.⁹ Mr Simpson

& Mr Cullum¹⁰ set out for Nantz Resived on Board 11 Casks water & 5 dozen fowles fixed our Driver boom The latter part of this Day Cloudey.

RIVER LOIRE - FEBUARY - SHIP *RANGER*

Wednesday 11

This day Cloudy the wind at NNe the Carpenters Employ'd in Cutting out Bowports took on board 2 Casks of pees too Bags & one hamper two casks of Ginn 2 casks of Buckwheat Mr Williams¹¹ came down from Nantz & paid of the prize mony for the Brige *mary*¹² the small Boat arived from nantz the Sail Maker Cut out a Driver an finished the top

Thursday 12th

Brocht a Cask of Water in the hole.
No. 100 - 111
Galns.

this Morning fair and a fine Brize from the NE the people Employ'd about Sundry Things the Carpenters Employ'd about Cuting out Bowports In the Four noon Mr Simpson & Mr Cullam Came on board at 3 oclock the piolat Came on board Got up one of Anchors two of our people run away Richard Nolan Wm. hart.

Friday 13th

Brocht a Cash of Water Galns.
No. 112 - 113

This Morning fair & pleasant at 5 in the morning hove up and Came to Sail for Cuibroone Bay¹³ at 4 In the afternoon saw the Ships in the Bay the Brigtn *Independance* was about 2 Leagues ahead. at 7 P.M. Came to Anchor in Caburoon Bay In 12 fathom Water Sent the Cuter on board the *Lion* fregat.¹⁴ Capt. Young Came on board a Light are of Wind from the SW at 8 in the Evening the Cuter Came along side Bell Isle bears SW by the Compass and Caburoon town NW.

QUIBERON - FEBUARY - 1778 - SHIP *RANGER*

Saturday 14th

Brocht 2 Barls of Beef Brocht Cask of Water Gn.
No. 49 - 80

This Morning Blowing hard Got down the top Gallant Yards Employ'd about Sundry things Mr Williams Whent ashore at 3 in the afternoon hove up and Whint further in the Bay The Wind Being at NW at 6 Came under the Admirals Stern Fir'd a salute of thirteen Guns the Admiral¹⁵ Return'd 9 Guns at 7 Came to Anchor in 12 fathom Water & the Brigtn. *Independance* Boat Capt. Young Came on Board Blowing hard histed his Boat In Got all clear for Stricking Yards and topmast at half past One Blowing very hard In Squarls found our Ship to Drift Let Go the Sheet Anchor Gave her Bouth the Cables out all to 4 sacks Struck the lower yards histed in the Cuter Blowing Very Hard and a Sea a going the Wind hawled in to the Nothward the Cooper Shuck 8 punchions.

QUIBERON - FEBURY 1778 - SHIP *RANGER*

- Sunday 15th
 Brocht a Cask of
 Water Gal.
 No. 106 - 66
 This Morning Blowing hard & Squarly at 8 in the Morning hove up the Sheet Anchor. Att 9 histed Out Capt. Youngs Boat and our Cuter the Capt. Whent on board the *Independence* at One hove Short the Capt. Came on board hove Up and Came to Sail to Beat further on the Bay at half past 5 Came to Anchor In 8 fathom Water With Our Sheet Anchor Gave the Ship 70 fathom of Cable Bel Isle Boar SW Dist. three Leagues and Hautbon Boar ESE Dist. 8 mils.
- Monday 16th
 Brocht a Cask of
 Water
 No. 102 - 118
 Gals.
 This Morning Blowing hard from the Nothward Lowered Doun the Lower Yards the Carpenters Employ'd About Sundry things took all the Sails out of the Sail Room and Stow'd them In the Boatswains Stoar Room the Latter part of the Day Cloudy & full of Snow. Blowing hard and Squarly all Night. Condemned 8 Water Casks.
- Tuesday 17th
 Brocht a Cask
 of Water
 No 46 - 120
 Gallons
 This Morning Blowing hard the Wind at NNE Sent the Cuter on board the *Dean* With three Coils of Riggan, at half past 10 had Company Came on Board at half past 12 the Compny Whent from on board Swaid up the Lower yards At Sunset Down Lower Yards Blowing hard in Squarls and Sum Snow. Histed in the Cuter Blowing hard all Night With Snow.
- Wednesday 18th
 Brocht a Cask
 of Water
 No. 43 - 112
 Galsns.
 This Morning Blowing Hard The Carpenter Employ'd mending the Cuter Swaid up the Lower Yards histed Out the Cuter Loosed the Sails to Dry In the Afternoon handed the Sails the Later part of this Day Blowing hard the Wind at NNE. a fresh Brize all Night and Cloudy.
- Thursday 19th
 Brocht a of Cask
 Water.
 This Morning Blowing Fresh & Snowing at 7 Cleard up the Brigtn. *Independance* hove up and Whent Up in the Head of the Bay In the Afternoon the Officers of the Admirall Came on Board Man'd Ship the Latter part of the Day the Wind at NNE. Cold weather a fresh Brize all Night.

QUIBERON - FEBURY 1778 SHIP *RANGER*

- Frieday 20th
 Brocht a Cask of
 Water
 No. 94 - 112
 This Morning very little Wind at WSW hove up and shifted our Birth further in the Bay at 9 Came to Anchor Quiberon Boar W 1/4 N the Latter part of the Day dirty Weather. at Sundown struck the Lower Yards Got top Rope Rove on the top gallant mast

- Gallons. Looking Dirty to the SW At 8 the Wind Came in at NWBN a Light Brize all Night.
- Saturday 21st This Morning Cloudy Employ'd about Sundry things the Wind at NNE. At 11 had Compny Came on Board from the Admarall Maned ship at 12 the Compny Whent away the Compny part of the Day Employ'd making Nipers Got from on board the *Deane* Sum Oak Planks
- Brocht 2 Cask of Water
No. 88 - 63
Galln. 107 - 69 "
- Sunday 22nd This Morning fair and pleasant Got up the Lower yards Get the top Galn. Yards a Crost the Admaral fired a Gun and Loosd his four topsail. In the afternoon the Brig *Independance* Came from Crack took out of her two Oxen and three Calfs at 4 In the afternoon Saw a schooner of In Chase of another hove short the Capt. Whent on board the Adaremall the Schooner fired Severall Guns and then hawl'd of from the Shore Veared away the Cable to the Servis Got up the Cables Upon Deck and took out 5 Cask out of the Ground tear Ready for taking In 05 Tons of Lead at Half past 10 the Craft Came alongSide took from on board of her 614 pigs of Lead Stowed them In the Body of the Ship Stowd away Sum of the Water Cask on the Lead.
- Brocht a Cask of Water
No 48 - 60
Gallns.
- Monday 23rd This Morning Cloudy with Small Rain the Wind at West A Ship arived hear and a snow Employ'd giting Down Our Booms on the Crospart of the Bits Stowed all the Large Oars Stowed the Small Oars In the hole the Carpenters Employ'd about Sundry things kill'd a bulock and a Calf Quil'd a harser In the hole.
- Brocht a Cask of Water
No. 97 - 118
Galns.
- Tuesday 24th This Morning Blowing hard & Squarly with hail the people Employ'd Puting the Booms on the Gallos and Bellfrea put all the Large Oars On the Seids put the Spare Steering Sail Booms In the Chans the Latter part of the day Squarly with hail The Cooper Shuck 4 punchins and 3 Gan Cask Condemned one hoghd. Blowing hard Lowered Down the Lower Yards.
- Brocht a Cask of Water
No. 111 - 66
Gallons
59 - 63
- QUIBERON - FEBY.- SHIP OF WAR *RANGER* 1778
- Wednesday 25th This Morning Blowing hard at Noth the Admaral hove out a Signall for giting Under way all the fleet hove up and Came to Sail at half past 10 We hove up took of Reefs in the topsail Blowing very hard at half past
- Brocht a HogHd.
Water two

No 28 - 122
Gallons.

11 Got clear of the Rocks Hawl'd to the Westward thinking to Weather Bell Isle the Wind Blowing so hard and a large Sea a-going we was obligd to Close Rif the topsail handed the four topsail Got Close in with Bell Isle fired a Gun for a Piolat None Came of.

H	K	F	Courses	Winds	Var	LWay	THURSDAY FEBY. 26, 1778
1				NBE			This 24 Hours Begins with a Strong gail at 3 p.m. handd. the topsails fired a Gun for a piolat at 4 Tkt. Ship to the Estward Blowing very hard in Squarls at 5 wore too Under the four Sail at 6 Made Sail Could not Git a Piolat of from Bell Isle at 7 the South end of Bell Isle Boar SSW at 8 hawl'd Close up Under the Land att 10 Tkt to the Estward at half past one Ship Stood to the Westwd at Daylight Set Close Ref top-sails at 7 Tkt. Ship to the Estward Saw Severall Sail at 10 Tkt to the Westward Blowing Very Hard In Squarls the Latter part of the Day Squarly with hail. Brocht a Hoghd. of Water No. 91—114 Gallons and a Butt No. 46—120
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
1				Noth			
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12							

H	K	F	Courses	Winds	Varition	Lway	FRIEDAY 27th of FEBRUARY
1							This 24 hours Begins with a Strong Gail at 2 p.m. more Modrate Lett one Rif out of the topsails Set Mn. Top mast Stay Sail at 3 Blowing hard in Squarls hand the mizen topsail And Staysails at 8 Came to Anchor in Quberon Bay In 9 fathom Quberon town Bears WBN and the Rocks SWbW Several small vessels Sailed from hear to-day At 10 in the Forenoon the Wind Came to
2				Noth			
3							
4							
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7							
8							
9							
10				Verable			
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12							
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12

the Southwd. And Began to
Rain and Blow hard Lower'd
Down the Lower Yards
pointed the Lower topsail
Yard to the Wind Veared
away the Cable all but two
shacks to freshening harser
at 5 In the Afternoon Got a
piolat of from the Shore hist-
ed in the Cutter and Stow'd her
Down on the Gratens kill'd an
Ox and a Calf the Carpenter
Employ'd leathering the
Scuppers Cut up our Spare
Mn top Mast Brocht a Cask of
Water No. 71—119 Gallons.

H K F Courses Winds LWay Vari

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12

SATURDAY 28th, 1778 -
QUBERON BAY

This Morning Cloudy with
Small Rain and Blowing hard
at WNW Employ'd about
Sundry things Shortned all
our Ship's Oars Swaid up the
Lower Yards a Ship and a
Snow arived hear the Latter
part of this Day Blowing hard
with Small Rain Brocht a
Cask of Water No. 94—119
Gallons Blowing a fresh to
the WSW

QUBERON BAY - MARCH. SHIP *RANGER*

SUNDAY FIRST
1778

Brocht a Hoghd
No. 34 - 121 G.
Ye Whole of ye
Water Expend'd
till to-day 1915
Gallons.

This Morning Cloudy with Rain Got out the Boats
Got up the Cables and part of the Ground tear of Water
so as to Stow the Lead Close Down to Sein In the after-
noon Stow'd the Ground tear and the fire Wood
Stow'd the Cables and Harsors upon it Got in the Boats
the Latter part of the Day fresh Brize and Fine Weather
the Wind at WBN two Vesals arived hear and two Sail'd
from hear Bound to Nantze.

MONDAY 2nd

Brocht a Cask of
Water

This Morning Light Breeze at NWN histed out the
Small Boat and whint on board a Snow Bound to Nantz
The People Employ'd about fixing a Splinter Neting on
the Ensid of the Quarters Tared the Sides the Sail

No. 19 - 116
105 - 116

Maker Employ'd about making a Driver In the afternoon hove up our Anchor and run further In Shore the Wind Veirable at 4 Came to Anchor h'd. the Sails Histed in the Small Boat at 8 Gave the Ship Cable to the Servis A Light Breze all night.

QUIBERON BAY - MARCH. SHIP RANGER

TUESDAY 3rd

Brocht a Cask of
Water.

This Morning fair and pleasant the Wind at ESE at half past 6 this morning hove up and Came to Sail at half past 7 hawl'd Round the Rocks Hawl'd up NW Got up the top gallant Yards Set Top Gallant Sails at 10 Set the Topmast Stearing Sails and Top Gallant do at 4 in the afternoon got of a Piolat from Gloyland at 6 Came to Anchor in Benodett In 7 fathom hand'd all Our Sails the Wind at NE a fresh Breze the River mouth Boar NEbN Dist 4 mils

WEDNESDAY 4th

Brocht a Cask of
Water
No. 103 - 118

This Morning Blowing hard the Wind at NEbN histed out the Small Boat and the ft. Leutenant¹⁶ Whent ashore after a piolat at 2 in the Afternoon the Boat Came alongside Got no Piolat at 3 sent the boat ashore to Other town to the Westward at 7 the Boat Came alongside with a piolat histed in the Boats Little wind all night.

THURSDAY 5th

Joseph Rackley¹⁷ put
on Shore at Pont
Laibbe under the
care of Mons. Le Roy.

This Morning fair and almost Calm at 6 a breze Sprung up at SEbS hove Short one of our hands broek out with Smallpox Histed out the Cutter sent him ashore Bent the New Driver the Sail Maker Employ'd about altering the Staysails. at 6 the Boat Came along side histed in the Boats the Wind at ESE.

FRIEDAY 6th

This Morning fair and pleasant at 3 O'clk this Morning hove up and Came to Sail from Benodett the Wind at NNE Several sails in sight. At Noon Taikd Ship Stood in for the Land.

SATURDAY 7th

Brocht a Cask of
Water
No. 36 - 127 g.
3 of our hands
taken Down With
the Small pox.
John Brown.

This 24 hours Begins with a fresh Brez 7 fine Weather at 3 p.m. Taik'd Ship to the Nothward at half past 5 tack'd Ship to the Estward the Wind at NE the Nothermost point of Land that we could se boar N1/2W Dist 3 Leagues. at half past 7 Tack'd Ship to the Nothward the Wind at EbN at 10 was well in with the Land at 11 Hawl'd up the Mn Course hawl'd down the Staysails at 12 Hawl'd up the four Course tack'd Ship to the Estward. At 2 Tack'd to the Nothward At Daylight Set the Staysails and four Sail at Sunrise the

Saints Boar N1/2W Dist. 2 or 3 Leagues. Sett the top gallant Sails & Stay sails at 8 A.M. was in the pasage Du Ras the Wind Blowing fresh at Est at 12 was off Brest Saw a Large Ship Standing after us.

1778.

TRANSACTIONS ON BOARD THE SHIP *RANGER* from *BENODETT* to *BREST*

- SUNDAY March 8th
1778.
This 24 hours begins with a fresh Gail & Squarly Weather at 2 p.m. H'd. the top Gallant Sail at 4 Blowing hard in Squarls and the Wind Verable Could not Beat up to Brest at 7 Came to Anchor In Boldavid's Bay in 4 fathoms at 6 in the Morning hove up and Came to Sail at 12 Noon Came to Anchor In Camarit Bay Close in with Brest In 10 fathoms Several Vesals Beating In to Brest.
- The Wind at EbN.
Brocht a Cask of Water.
No. 76 - 126
- MONDAY 9th
This Morning Cloudy the Wind at EbN the people Employ'd about Sundry things the Sail Maker Employ'd about Making hammaks hist'd out the Cuter a Boat Came from the Shore Mr Simpson and a Piolat When up to Brest at 8 In the Eveing Mr. Simpson Came on Board Soloman Huchins taken Down with the Small pox.
Brocht a Cask of Water
No. 45 - 122
- TUESDAY 10th
This Morning Fair & pleasant Mr Simson Whint up to Brest in the Cutter hist'd out the Boat and put the piolats on Shore at in the Evening the Cuter Came Alongside with a small Cask of Sugar and a Barell of Rice & sum Nails for the Carpenter and 11 Scrubing Brushes and 8 Quarters of Beef and two Calfs at 10 o'clock 8 of our people run away with the Cuter Wm. Jones, Edward Mires, Edmund Boyention Thoms. Low, Peter Sangrate, Leplants, Charles Goodro, Joseph Methew hist'd out the Small Boat and Whint ashore after them. Brought the Cuter of Could not find the people the Small Boat Came of hist'd In Bouth Boats.
Brocht 2 Cask of Water
No. 93 - 110
No. 98 - 76
- WEDNESDAY 11th
This Morning fair and pleasant Employ'd about Sundry things hist'd out the Small Boat Mr Gran & Mr Windell¹⁸ Whent after the people that Run away Cleaned our Botm the Capt. Whent to Brest at 7 o'clock the Capt. Came on board histed in the Small Boat a Light Brize all night.
Brocht a Cask of Water
No. 22 - 116
Gals.

1778

TRANSACTIONS ON BOARD THE SHIP *RANGER* from *BENODETT* to *BREST*

<p>THURSDAY 12th</p> <p>Brocht two Cask of Water No. 20 - 130 Gals. No. 80 - 130</p>	<p>This Morning fair the Wind at ENE Shifted our yard took the four Yard for a Main Yard and four topsail Yard for a Mn. topsail Yard. The Carpenter Employ'd altering the Mn. Topsail Yard for a four top-sail Yard Sent the Mn Yard ashore the Sail Maker Employ'd altering the Mn Topsail Cut of the Main yard 12 ft. and made a four Yard Cut of the Topsl. Yard 6 foot 4 inches took out of the Mn. Sail 18 yards of Canvis and out of the Mn. Topsail 12 Yards and a half and Out of the T.S. 15 Yards and the four TopSail 11 yds.</p>														
<p>FRIEDAY 13th</p> <p>Brocht a Cask of Water No. 26 - 129 G.</p>	<p>This Morning fair the Wind at ESE the Carpenter Employ'd about altering the Yard Mr Green Returned on board, Bent the Mn. Sail and Mn Topsail Got up the four Topsail Yard and Black'd it, the Capt. Whent to Brest at 2 o'clock Seven of the people was Brought on board that Deserted Edward Miers, Thos. Low, Edmund Boyenton, peter Sangrate, Charls Goodrew, Joseph Methew, Wm. Jones Got of from the Shore 398 Gallons of Water. Put the Desarters in Irons.</p>														
<p>SATURDAY 14th</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 2em;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: right;">Yds.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Out ye Mn Sail</td> <td style="text-align: right;">18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mn</td> <td style="text-align: right;">12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Four Sail</td> <td style="text-align: right;">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F</td> <td style="text-align: right;">11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Four Top G.S.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mn do</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: 0;"/> <p>Yards Total 69</p>		Yds.	Out ye Mn Sail	18	Mn	12	Four Sail	15	F	11	Four Top G.S.	6	Mn do	7	<p>This Morning fair and pleasant the Wind at ESE the Carpenters Employ'd Making of our Yard the Captn. and Mr Simpson Whent to Brest In the Cuter the Sailmaker finished the Sails Bent the Mn top Gallant Sail In the Afternoon Got the four Yard of from the Shore Got it aCrost Got of from the Shore 4 Hoghd. of Water took out of the four top Galant Sail 6 yards and out of the Mn. one 7 Yards.</p>
	Yds.														
Out ye Mn Sail	18														
Mn	12														
Four Sail	15														
F	11														
Four Top G.S.	6														
Mn do	7														

TRANSACTIONS ON BOARD THE SHIP OF WAR *RANGER*, Camant Bay

<p>SUNDAY 15th</p>	<p>This Morning fair the Wind at ENE the Carpenter Employ'd Making a four top Gallant Yard the Cuter Whent to Brest. Black'd the four yard the Carpenter finished the top gallant Yard Black'd it the Latter part of the Day fair and pleasant. At 7 the Cuter Came from Brest.</p>
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1778.

TRANSACTIONS ON BOARD THE SHIP OF WAR *RANGER* - CAMARIT BAY.

MARCH

- Monday 16th This Morning fair the Wind at SE the Cutter Whent to Brest Brought of from the Shore five Cask of Water Bent the four topsail, the Later part of the Day the Wind Verable In the Evening the Cutter Came from Brest with 8 Quarters of Beef and 20 pound of twine 5 1/2 Dozen of Brums and 4 Dark Lanthorns and 5 Bolts of Small Canvis.
- TUESDAY 17th This Morning fair and pleasant the Sail Maker Employ'd fixing the New Sails fixed the Courses Bent the four sail, the Later part of the Day fair the Wind at SBW In the Eveing the Captn. Came from Brest.
- WEDNESDAY 18th This Morning fair, one of our hands died after three Weeks Sickness, Wm Redden of Portsmouth at 11 O'clock Cared him ashore to be Buri'd Got up the top Gallant Yards Got of from the Shore three Cask of Water, the Later part of the Day fair and pleasant the Sailmaker Employ'd Making Top Gallant Steering Sails the fleet arived hear from Quiberon.
- THURSDAY 19th This Morning fair and pleasant the Wind at SE the Sailmaker Employ'd Making top gallant Steering Sails the people Employ'd about Sundry things the Latter part of the Day Cloudy. The Cutter Whent to Brest and Mr Simpson In her at 9 O'clock In the Evening Mr Simpson Came from Brest.
- FRIEDAY 20th This Morning fair and Pleasant the people Came on board hove Short the Wind at WSW the Sailmaker Employ'd Making top Gallant Steering Sails at 4 In the afternoon Saw Nothing of the frigate that Was Bound out with Us Veared out the Cable to the Servis. The People Employ'd about Sundry things the topman Employ'd Exsercising the fire Graplins Got out the Cutter Mr Simpson Whent to Brest at 12 M'night Mr Simpson Came on board.
- Got in the Boats.

1778.

TRANSACTIONS ON BOARD THE SHIP OF WAR *RANGER* - CAMARIT BAY.

MARCH

- SATURDAY 21 This Morning the Wind at SSW Blowing hard and full of Rain Got Down the top Gallant Yards the Later part of the Day Blowing hard a full of Rain Got In the Cutter.

- SUNDAY 22nd This Morning Blowing fresh at SW and full of Rain Got up the top Gallant Yards the Later part of the Day Blowing Hard and Dirty Weather all Night. Got down top G. Yard.
- MONDAY 23rd This Morning Blowing Very hard the Wind at SW Got Down Ye Top Gallant Mast Lower'd Down the fore and Main Yard at 8 the Wind Came to the NW Veared the Cable to the Long Servis at 10 Got out the Cuters Mr Simpson Whint to Brest Got up the Lower Yard More Moderate In the Afternoon Got up the top Gallant Mast at 3 hove up and Whent up to Brest Seluted the Admerall With 13 Guns he Returned the Compliment At 6 Came to Anchor in 6 fathom Water Sevrall Boats Came alongside.

TRANSACTIONS ON BOARD THE SHIP OF WAR *RANGER* - BREST

- TUESDAY 24th¹⁹ This Morning Blowing Very hard at 3 this Morning Lowered Down the four & Main Yard Gave the Ship More Cable at 10 a Very heavy Squarl Drag'd the Anchor Let Go the Other Anchor. More Moderate Got up the Lower Yards and hove up the small at 2 had a very heavy Squarl Let Got the Small Anchor Struck topmast at 4 a boat Came of from Brest with a Harser Made to one of the Moaring Boys Got up Yards and topmast On the harser Got up the Small Anchor the Cuter Came With Eight Quarters of Beef and 200 lbs of Candle at 9 Got Down the TGMn Struck topmast the Carpenters About Cutting a hole 6 feet further aft to Set the Mizen.

1778

TRANSACTIONS ON BOARD THE SHIP OF WAR *RANGER* - BREST

- WEDNESDAY 25th
MARCH This Morning Blowing hard in Squarls With Showers of Rain. Unbent the Mn Sail Got the Mn Yard four and aft Stript the Mizn Mast and histed it out Set it 5 foot 9 Inch further aft Got the Rigan over head Got the Mn Yard a Crost Bent the Mn Sail Unstowed the Run to Step the Mzn mast. In the Afternoon Stowed it again two Man of War Came In the Rode. Moderate all NIGHT.
- THURSDAY 26th This Morning fair and pleasant Got up the Mizen top mast the Carpenters Employ'd about sundry things two ships of War Came out in the Rode Loosed Sails to

Dry hove up our Anchor and rode by the Moarings
In the afternoon Batted Down the Mizen Shroud handed
the Sails the Sailmaker Employ'd Altering and
Making Top Gallant Steiring Sails.

FRIEDAY 27th

This Morning fair and pleasant Moared Ship with the
two Bowers The Carpenters Employ'd planking the
Quarter Deck where the Mizen mast Came out the
Sailmaker Employ'd altering the Mizen Staysail the
Later part of this Day fair and pleasant the piolat Came
and took the harsers ashore that Was made fast to the
Moaring Chane.

SATURDAY 28th

This Morning Cloudy the Wind at SSW the people
Employ'd about sundry things The Carpenters
Employ'd about the Decks the Latter part of this Day
Cloudy. Cloudy Weather all Night.

SUNDAY 29th

This Morning Cloudy the Carpenter Employ'd
Caulking the Cabin Deck the Latter part of this Day
Cloudy took off the shore 10 bags of hard Bread and 15
Bushels of peas Cloudy all night.

1778.

TRANSACTIONS ON BOARD THE SHIP OF WAR *RANGER* - BREST

MONDAY 30th March

This Morning Cloudy and full of fog Took of from the
Shore in one of the Water Boats Belonging to the King
4,018 Gallons of fresh Water. Got up the four Top mast
and four top gallant Mast Unrig'd the Mn. top mast
the Carpenter put on the after Crost tree Rig'd the Mn.
Top M. Got up the Mn. top mast and Lower Yards took
of the Shore 27 Bags of Bread and four Cord of Fire
Wood. Cloudy and full of Fog all Night.

TUESDAY 31st March

This Morning Cloudy and full of fogg the Carpenters
Employ'd to work in the Cabin the people Employ'd
Cleaning Ship too[k] of the Shore 8 Quarters of Beef
and 8 Bags of Bread the whole of the Bread 4500
pound and 4 Barrels of pork and three Cord of Fire
Wood and Sum Red Cloth to Cover the Side the Later
part of the Day Cloudy and full of fog all Night.

Transcript (typed), DNA, RG 45, entry 392. The typescript in the National Archives was transcribed from the original, which was destroyed in a fire at the Earl of Selkirk's mansion on St. Mary's Isle, Scotland, in 1940.

1. Thomas Riches, master of brigantine *Mary*, *Ranger's* prize.
2. Thomas Walden, Carpenter, and Edward Gale, Carpenter's Mate.
3. Continental Navy sloop *Independence*, Capt. John Young.
4. The prize crew of brigantine *George*, Richard Bulfinch, master. See *NDAR* 10: 1169.

5. Jonathan Young, Armorer.
6. Richard Bulfinch, master of brigantine *George*, *Ranger's* prize.
7. Either Edward Myer or William Evers, Boatswain's Mates.
8. Thomas Morris, Continental Commercial Agent at Nantes, died on 31 Jan.
9. Charles Jenkins, master of brigantine *Hawke*.
10. Lts. Thomas Simpson and David Cullam.
11. Jonathan Williams, Jr., Continental Navy Agent at Nantes.
12. Brigantine *Mary*, Thomas Riches, master.
13. Quiberon Bay.
14. Continental Navy frigate *Deane* (formerly *Lyon*), Capt. Samuel Nicholson.
15. Chef d'escadre Toussaint-Guillaume de La Motte-Picquet.
16. Thomas Simpson, first lieutenant in *Ranger*.
17. Joseph Ratcliff.
18. Midshipmen Joseph Green and Daniel Wentworth Wendell.
19. The following appears in the transcription: "NOTE. Part of this page in the Original Log Book is mutilated which accounts for words missing in the Log for Tuesday 24th."

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Personal names of obscure individuals are spelled as they appear in the documents. Brackets enclosing proper nouns indicate other names by which the entity was known, alternative spellings found in the documents, spellings used in previous indexes in this series, educated guesses as to the correct spelling, or, in the case of geographic locations, variant spellings or the modern name. Bracketed numerals after the names of officers in the Royal Navy are numerals employed in the Navy Records Society's *The Commissioned Sea Officers of the Royal Navy 1660-1815*, edited by David Syrett and R. L. DiNardo (Aldershot, England: Scolar Press, 1994) to distinguish among naval officers of the same name. Names beginning with *Mc* and *M'* are alphabetized as if spelled *Mac*, and the abbreviation *St.* as if spelled *Saint*. The name of a vessel's captain, when known, appears at the end of the vessel's entry, and the name of the vessel commanded appears at the end of each ship captain's entry.

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