

c. s. c. tho she certainly sails fast now. I will be off on Friday, and go to Baltimore for you or the Eastern Shore tho your business requires my being in the yard. I will do what you think most advantages for the Province. I think to get Capt. Kilty to go to the Eastern Shore and will git him to come up with me for that purpos. I se the most of those Vessels you send a list off must be in Nanticoke and Wicomico as these two Rivers are block't up how are you to get them out if they shuld sute your purpose. John Ball has aplyed to me for to get the building one of the Row galleys which I have no objection to. If you think well off it. The more of them that are a building, in one yard the more hands will be employed, tharefore wee shall bee beter abel to protect them from the enemy tho I should be glad M<sup>r</sup> Ball and every honest man should have part of the Province business.

I am Gentelmen your most obedient  
humb<sup>l</sup> Sv<sup>t</sup> Stephen Steward.

[Rumley's Deposition.]

John Rumley deposeth and saith that he was taken by a Tenders boat on the Shore of Spring Island, that while he was on board the Tender he saw a Boat standing out of Hoopers straights directly for the Tenders in Company with that which this deponent was on board of, that the said boat continued her course directly on board one of those Tenders and that it appeared to this Deponent to be the voluntary act of those on board said Boat to go to the Tenders, as there was not a gun fired at them, or any measures taken by the Tenders of sending a Boat, or using any other means to bring said Boat to them; that the s<sup>d</sup> boat getting alongside of one of the Tenders, he knew it to be Bazil Clarkson's boat, and that s<sup>d</sup> Clarkson and three other persons were in her. all of whom got on board the Tender; that soon after Clarkson and his Company boarded the Tender, this deponent heard men on board the several Tenders hail each other, and say that the Defence was laying off Hoopers Island, and that Bazil Clarkson and a certain John Baptist told them so, which s<sup>d</sup> Baptist and two others who went on board the Tender when Clarkson came off from them in his boat about one hour & a half after his going on board, and further saith not.

Taken before the Committee of Observation for Dorchester County this ninth day of July Anno. Dom. 1776.

Signed p order. Jn<sup>o</sup> C. Harrison Clk.