with what men I had left. he did not approve of it, but signified what did not return to advertise, I shall at my return give you a list of those who are gone and those who returns with me—I confess had I known we was to have had a winter's campaign, I would have provided cloths for them, all that I expected was to have done what was in my power for the present occasion and to have return'd to the ship in a short time; agreeable to your Instructions I wait the pleasure of the Congress, or Marine Board to return, or your orders for that purpose, yesterday there was 950 Hessens come to this Town Prisoners, exclusive commissioned officers and it is reported since there being taken, there is about 300 more with a Hessian Brig^r Gen¹ made Prisoners.

I am Honord Gent, Your Hble Servt Geo. Cook.

[Lux and Bowly to Jenifer.]

Original.

Sir, Baltimore 31st December 1776.

We made the cable agreable to your order and had it down upon the wharf, but the Congress having taken Hammond's schooner for some dispatches, seized upon the cable for him, as she is to sail immediately and we cannot make another for some days. Dont blame us for this. We really cannot help it. We have sent the other Riging you ordered, and will make the cable as soon as we possibly can and forward it to Annapolis.

We are Sir your obedient Servants, Lux & Bowly.