

[Steward to Wallace.]

Original.

D^r Charles.

Saturday the 20 of January

I have long been thinking of a mashen of sum sort to save your town I think I have now fell on one that shall with stand against any ship in the navey that they can trust before your town the mashen must float and carey 20 18 pounders it must be about 108 feet long 32 feet or less broad 5 ½ feet deep the sides and ends to be glasaded so that the men shall fight under cover and the sides and ends canon profe, this mashen I think may be completed in two months at the expense of 2500[£] or less the friendship I have from yourself & Tome Hide and Tome Herwood has partly emloyd my mind this six weeks past. If the commetey of safety thinks well of this mater there is no time to be lost and you must come down to me to morrow morning as I cant wait neather on you nor the comitey in all next week, if this mashen or floating batrey can be got redey in time I think it will save your town from any thing that can be dun to it by sea. Every man of you must atend to this matter as one hundred men may be emloyd.

I am Charles with sencer

Respect yours S. Steward

You must get John Saverson to rede this for I Cant. this mashen may allways keep a Propeatill fier on the enemy as there must be two canon in each end and 8 on each side she may carey 52 swivels on her sides and ends to prevent her being boarded. My friend I think ill used both Congress and convention the congress gave them ships to build to men that nose nothing of the business Jack Steward you no has been used ill by convention but still I am ready to serve my country in every degree that lys in my power.

If any oppportunity send Tome Johnson a copy of this to day as he desired I would think of this sort to save the town.

To Charles Wallace.

Tuesday 23^d Jan^{ry} 1776.

C. S. J.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday.

Ordered, That one Barrell of Gunpowder and 400 pounds Weight of Lead be sent by the Committee of Observation for Kent County under the Care of a commissioned Officer of Militia to the Committee of Observation for Queen Ann's County or to such Person or Persons in the same County as they shall order and direct.

Ordered, That one Barrel of Gunpowder and 400 pounds weight of Lead be sent in the same Manner to the Committee