

C. S. J. to seize the person & papers of Governor Eden & M<sup>r</sup> Alex Ross.

56. Q. Asked again:

A. Recollected he did:

M<sup>r</sup> Purviance acknowledges the Instructions were given by himself & not by the Committee:

Original.

[Purviance to Balto. Deputation.]

Gentlemen:

Baltimore 14 Ap 1776.

Cap<sup>t</sup> James Nicholson having returned yesterday even<sup>s</sup> with his Tender, We have dispatchd her to Annap<sup>s</sup> under the Comm<sup>d</sup> of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Nicholson & Cap<sup>t</sup> Samuel Smith with a number of pickd men well armed, to be at your & the Council's Command in case the Gov<sup>r</sup> should have escaped before you got down. As this Boat can both row & sail, we judgd her much fitter for the Pursuit than any ves<sup>l</sup> that could be found at Annapolis, and we are of opinion that it may still be possible to overtake the Gov<sup>r</sup> before he may leave Col<sup>o</sup> Fitch's where it is probable he may call.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Smith has directions to use every Precaution that no alarm may be given by the boats going down, & we confide in his Prudent Managem<sup>t</sup> of the matter. in case theres no occasion for his Service the ves<sup>l</sup> can instantly return back. This measure has been detm<sup>d</sup> on by General Buch<sup>n</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Lux W<sup>m</sup> Buch<sup>n</sup> Doc<sup>t</sup> Boyd M<sup>r</sup> Harrison & myself, but they being now all gone to Din<sup>r</sup> cant find them to sign this.

I am Gen<sup>t</sup> Your most hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

Sam<sup>l</sup> Purviance Jun<sup>r</sup>

Original  
Copy.

[Instructions to Lieut. Nicholson.]

Sir. You are immediately to proceed with the Defence's Tender off the harbour of Annapolis and there to Land Capt<sup>n</sup> Smyth; while he is ashore, you are to stand off and on the Harbour and examine every Boat, that comes out Annapolis or thereabouts (taking care to distress no<sup>t</sup> Boat unnecessarily) and if you find Governor Eden and Secretary Smyth, or either of them, you are to make them Prisoners. if Captain Smith has Orders to deliver them to the Council of Safety, you'll in that case deliver them up to him for that purpose; if not, bring them on Board the Defence. If upon Capt<sup>n</sup> Smith's return you find they are not at Annapolis you are then to proceed down to Colonel Fitch's and assist Captain Smith if necessary, in examining the Colonel's house in making them Prisoners. Provided they are not to be found in either place, and