

will move we conjecture up the River Potowmack, or our Bay. c. s. c. We should be exceedingly glad to have our military stores particularly Cannon and small arms lent the Congress for fitting out the Wasp and Hornet—inclosed we send you copy of the particulars, and wish you would apply when there is probability of succeeding.

M^r Smith informs that a vessel under Spanish colours was lately taken in Delaware Bay with 14000 Dollars on board, the boxes that contained them are marked W. M. from whence he thinks they belong to Willing & Morris, and that there may be more money on board—he confirms the report of Stock on the Island and says a Commissary is appointed to see that the people are paid. M^r Smith also says that Commodore Hamond and Lord Dunmore both assured him that they had certain Intelligence that Commissioners were coming over and that he inferred from their conversation, they were to treat with the Congress, he also says that they told him a very powerful fleet was expected with the troops from England, that Hudson's Ship was with the fleet now at Gwins Island, that she was not yet condemned a witness being wanting that was on board the Liverpool Frigate, whom Dunmore told M^r Smith, could prove that the Congress had papers on board concealed in a Log of wood which probably would condemn her. We wish to hear from you by every good opportunity.

[Commodore Hamond to Eden.]

Roebuck at Gwin's Island 30th May 1776.

Dear Sir. I have received your letter of the 26th Instant by M^r Smith, who arrived here yesterday and am sorry (tho' not surprized) to learn that you think it necessary to leave Annapolis. The Province of Maryland has hitherto been looked upon, as having acted with a degree of moderation in the present unnatural Rebellion subsisting in the Colonies, and I had some expectation from your continuing in your Government, that you might have been able to have convinced the people of the impossibility of their succeeding in the plan that America is now pursuing (which is the only motive, I fear, that will have any weight in bringing them back to their allegiance) but as you have certainly now given this a very fair trial, and it is become apparent that the matter can only be settled by force of arms, I confess, that I think your remaining longer among them would only be exposing yourself to insults, and would answer no good purpose to his Majesty's service; I shall therefore very soon send one of the Kings Ships to receive you on board, until a passage can be provided for you to England, which I beleive will happen very shortly; I shall