

c. s. c. also not fail to give orders to the ship, that she shall commit no hostilities at Annapolis whilst on that service, but as no officer in his Majestys service can be supposed to suffer patiently the smallest insult to be offered to the British colours, it will be necessary for you to inform the Persons that assume the Government of the People, that if the peace, is not as strictly observed on the part of the Provincials, both with regard to the Boats, as well as the ship, during the time it may be necessary for her to stay on the coasts of Maryland, that any orders which I may think proper to issue for the purpose, will not restrain the Captain of the ship from acting as he shall think proper and necessary upon the occasion: Had I not received your letter, you would certainly have heard from me in a few days, to have acquainted you, that His Excellency the Earl of Dunmore & myself, with the joint forces under our command left Norfolk on the 23^d Ins^t and put into this Harbour on the 28th in order to compleat our wood & water, where we at present remain. I have the honor to be Dear Sir your most obedient humble servant,

A. S. Hamond.

To Rob^t Eden Esq^r Gov^r of Maryland:

No. 9.

[Council to Baltimore Committee.]

To the Committee of Obsⁿ for Balt^o Cot^y

Gentⁿ We received intelligence this morning by the Governor's Secretary who is just returned from the Roebuck off Gwinn's Island that the whole fleet which left Norfolk, consisting of about 90 sail was arrived at Gwins Island, that they had land their men and were intrenching themselves; that they found a large supply of fresh provisions on the said Island, that no ships of war were coming up the Bay only the one for the Governor which may be expected in five or six days. I am Gentⁿ

June 2^d 1776

[Nicholson to Council.]

Ship Defence off Annapolis June 1st 1776.

Gentⁿ I Received yours this morning p^r Middleton, and ordered him down on the Lookout, I have not discovered any thing of the ships since I left them off Windmill point but apprehend should they intend up the Bay you will certainly hear of them this Evening; I am now proceeding with the Ship up to Baltimore, where shall expect your further orders,

I am Gentlemen, Y^r most obliged Hum^l Serv^t

Gen^l James Nicholson