

ill, and the service is so very unknown to them that the whole Burthen lies upon the few regulars that are here. I went on the Island yesterday morning a little before day with a party of forty men, but could find none of the Enemy there. We waited till eight o'clock but none came on shore, nearly half the Fleet have gone and the rest I suppose will go in a few days.

Whenever they go I shall proceed to Annapolis on my way to the Northward, and shall be extremely obliged to you if you will have the Tents Knapsacks, Havresacks, Camp Kettles and Canteens completed for my company ready at Annapolis. What I want will certainly be finished in that time. If the Tents are large they will hold eight men, so that at that computation I shall want fifteen tents for the whole Company with other things in proportion I beg you will endeavour to procure them for me by the middle of next week by which time I shall I hope be at Annapolis, but I shall necessarily be delayed here a few days to get on board the Cannon, and in procuring vessels to transport us, but not one moment shall be lost. Be pleased to present my compliments to M^r Plater and believe me to be

D^r Sir y^{rs} affect^{ly}
J. A. Thomas.

P. S. I forgot to mention that we yesterday morning opened our Battery which played as 'tis thought with success on the Fowey. Numbers of dead bodies come on shore every day, that we are poisoned with the stench. J. A. T.

[Buchanan to Rumsey.]

Original.

Sir. Upon application of M^r Sewell by the desire of M^r Cowen to him, we agreed if it was agreeable to the Council of Safety to undertake the building of two or three Gunda-leaus to begin upon immediately with a number of hands and finish as soon as possibly. We have an opportunity of engaging what hands we want immediately and will undertake it on the same terms as other Carpenters and will give any bond and security as shall be required. Col Hull and M^r Ristean both promised to wait upon you for a line but I have not heard from them, if tis approved of please write to me and I will begin the work and come down if necessary but if my coming a few days hence to enter into the bond woud do it woud suit me better. I am at present unwell. It woud be necessary for me to hear your determination and shall be much obligd to you for a line.

I am Sir your obed^t Hble Serv^t
Arch^d Buchanan
In Committee of Observation