

[Steward to Council.]

Original.

October 16th 1776.

Gentelman. As Captain Patterson boat is so near redey to sail, I thought it would be as well for him to com up in hir redey to receve your orders which will be tomorrow as the large schooner could be got redey in a few days with six carig guns. If you would consent to swap two field Pises which you have in Anaplis for two hevee Pises that I tuck out of the Resolution. The large schooner is persed for ten three and two pounders but as wee are obliged to put in fore pounders six will be near equal in wait of mettal (the schooner is a fine vesell) there is some vessels on the sea shore to sell. If you want to buy one of them, and load them whare they are the danger would be considrebell less to git them out than giting them out of the Bay. My son will inform you what sitiuation the vessell ar hear in, I hope you will not think me foward in atemting to dictate for you as I raley do not intend it but am redey to oblige you in evrey employmen you can set me about and am your most obed^t Humble Serv^t

Stephen Steward

[Peters and Richardson to Johnson.]

Original.

Geo: Town Oct^r 16th 1776

Sir

We presume to adress you as a member of our Convention on a matter which we think of the utmost importance to the Public in these times when dispatch at Ferrys is so very necessary, Coln^l George Mason is propriator of the Land on the South side of Potowmack and Rents his Ferry over to George Town which in Virg^a is established by Act of Assembly. We have also a Ferry on the Maryland side and our misfortune is that no Ferrys in Maryland are established by Law, this we apprehend occasions the evils we are about to complain of and which we hope our Convention with your assistance will remedy as far as you think it consistant with the Public good, our Ferry man has always been threatened by Coln^l Masons Tennant with a suit in Virginia for presuming to Land in or bring from Virginia any Person, so that we are to Reap no kind of advantage from our situation on Potowmac River it being wholly claimed by the State of Virg^a Yesterday our Ferryman was arrested we suppose at the suit of Coln^l Mason or his Tennant for this offence, tyed by the sherriff because he attempted to make his Escape and dragged to Fairfax Goal in Alexandria, to accomplish which the Sherriff came over to this side got the Maryland Boat to put him over