

c. c. manned, we can get neither Cordage or Hands, and therefore believe nothing better can be done with that at Joppa than is already done with her; we shall be obliged to you to continue the Hands to keep her upper Works wet and take Care of her. We had no great Expectation of your Acting as a Judge in the General Court, we shall be at a great Loss to find such as will answer the Public Expectation. M<sup>r</sup> Sprigg accepted the Office of Chancellor, merely for a temporary Purpose if you had been within Reach, so that the Assembly could have known whether you would accept of the Seals or not, we believe, if agreeable to you, you would have been appointed, and we should be glad to know whether you would act in that Honorable Department. Conway is arrived from Martinique, Harrison writes that the English have taken & condemned some French Vessels for having American Produce on Board.

Benj<sup>a</sup> Rumsey Esq<sup>r</sup> We are &<sup>c</sup>

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[Council to Hancock.]

In Council Annapolis 6<sup>th</sup> June 1777

Sir.

The inclosed Petition and Protest were presented to us by Cap<sup>t</sup> Campbell on Behalf of himself and Partners Owners of the Privateer Schooner Buckskin Cap<sup>t</sup> Campbell tells us verbally that, as he has understood, Cap<sup>t</sup> Pearce of the Game Cock of Rhode Island acted much in the same Manner by a Continental Vessel, as he is represented to have done with the Buckskin's Prize, and that the Reason why he did not procure the Depositions of the two men, who were put into the Prize with the Protester William Pool is, their not having returned, they having, as he believes, engaged in some Service to the Eastward. No method occurs to us, by which we can put this Matter into a Way of Examination, and on the Facts alledged being found to be true, to effect that Justice which the Public and the Individuals injured are entitled to. The evil Consequences of such Conduct not being punished, are too certain, and as Cap<sup>t</sup> Pearce held his Commission from the Congress, we beg Leave to lay these Papers before that Honorable Body, that they being apprized of the Complaint may take such Measures as they may judge adequate to the Occasion

Pres<sup>d</sup> of Congress. We are &<sup>ca</sup>

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[Council to Jenifer and Hooe.]

In Council Annapolis 6<sup>th</sup> June 1777Gen<sup>t</sup>

We are glad to hear of Conway's Arrival, though we are apprehensive that his Freight will not make Amends for the