

opinion of four principle Inhabitants regarding them (which I November
 inclosed in my last) in order that no time might be lost or un-²⁵
 necessary Expence in keeping the Horses (gone into) after taking
 their opinions I thought it most adviseable to advertise them
 for Sale at public Auction with the Boilers belonging to the Salt
 Petre works, and some old waggon Iron and other matters unfit for
 Service belonging to the United States, which has been fully done
 and this is the day of Sale, as it is very wett and bad, fear the
 sale cant go on, in which case I shall send them off on monday with
 what waggons and Teams there are (for your City) according to
 your resolution of the 14th as the detaining them here, untill they
 could be properly advertised again, would be prolonging the time
 and Expence much, I am the more hastened in this matter as the
 Horses are in the public Stables, which have more then once been
 demanded of me by Col^o Yeates for the Continental Horses should
 the day clear up so that the People come in I shall Expose them
 to Sale, if otherways must send them to your Excell^y and Honours,
 the cattle are yet on hand, though on showing Col^o Yeates a copy
 of your letter he promised to receive them the next day and has put
 it of from day to day, ever since, tis now to be put off untill Monday,
 when if they are not received I shall give the matter up, and write
 to your Excellency and Honours on it, their Expence here is great
 and the Cattle considerably worse of the delay, as tis impossible to
 properly feed so many Cattle together when I left Annapolis I
 flattered myself of returning ere now and haveing my papers laid
 before the Judges for their determination regarding the supposed
 Forgery, as the delay occasioned by the Public business, and not by
 my own, or any choice of mine, I flatter myself this will not be con-
 strued to any disadvantage, and will thank your Excellency to
 inform them the Judges the cause of the delay, and that the earliest
 hour in my power shall be embraced to lay the papers before them,
 which I flatter myself will be within two weeks from this date or
 sooner if in my power, when I have no doubt of giving both them
 and your Excellency and Honours full satisfaction regarding my
 conduct in General (and that matter in particular)

P. S. What Teams are not received by Col^o Yeates and are fit
 for service shall be sent on as soon as possible

Friday November 25th 1780

O[f]f Tangier Island

November
25

On Board the Brigg Cato at a Board of enquiry held this Day
 between the Officers of said Brigg and the Schooner Nautules
 whether it should be thought proper, after recieving Inteligence from
 on Board a Brigg Comanded by one Capt. Keel that he had been
 chased as high as the lower Tangiers last night by a Ship, 3 Briggs
 & Two Schooners and at the time of the Assignment of this, a Vessell