

Excellency will Please to send me an Order for this Purpose for my Voucher and at the same Time will Please to Inclose me an order on Gen^l Buchannan for 10 or £12000

March 14
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 116

[James McHenry, V[oluntere] Aide de camp, Nesbit, to Gov. Lee.]

March 14
½ past
7 o'clock
A. M.
Red Book
No. 32
Letter 51

Cap^t McLane arrived here last night with a letter to the Commodore from the Marquiss, in which he states the force of the enemy at one frigate and a brig, then off St^t Jeromes. Two vessels have come too this morning within five or six miles of the Nesbit, the same it is probable, that gave rise to the Marquiss's intelligence, but which the commodore does not think larger than sloops of war.

The Commodore is not apprehensive of danger from these Vessels, but as their real strength is yet to be discovered, or as they may be supported by others, perhaps your Excellency may judge it expedient to add to the precautions the detachment will necessarily take for its own Safety some which may be derived from the land batteries. These the Marquiss informed me were to be prepared for such an occasion. Capⁿ Nicholson is of opinion that we can receive the greatest support in case the enemy should prove our superior from the wind Mill fort near the town. Of whatever succour the troops can render for its repair or defence will be instantly afforded on your Excellency suggestion to Colonel Vose.

Upon further advising with Commodore Nicholson, I am persuaded we have nothing to apprehend but from disorder or defective arrangement

If a boat or fast sailing boat can be obtained it will be exceedingly useful for reconnoitring the enemy should we find them but little our superior, we shall make an assay of our own strength, as the fleet cannot suffer by our misfortune

[Jas Calhoun, Baltimore, to the Governor and Council.]

March 15

I this Evening had the honour to receive yours of the 7th Inst^t respecting the seizing of Meat and am in great hopes the necessity of making use of that to obtain the supplies is not so pressing as it was when your letter was wrote otherwise it would have been forwarded sooner

Our Markets have been very plentifully supply'd with Beef for some time past and I could have purchased on good terms double the quantity you mention if it were possible to procure money to pay for it but most of our supplies come a considerable distance and great part of it from Pennsylvania therefore the seizing of one Beef at this place would immediately spread the alarm and effectually prevent the coming of any more for some time

I have already purchased & salted up within these few days 7 or 8000th excellent Beef and shall not loose a moment in endeavouring