

But my Inability to the Undertaking and the Present Engagement in the Service Render it out of my Power to Accept of your kind and Honourable Appointment, as I am well Convinced of my Inability and Think it Impossible for me to Render a Greater Service to my Country in any other Station Then the one I have the Honour of Holding at Present under your Excellencys Direction

April 30  
Red Book  
No. 30  
Letter 107

[James Lloyd, Chester Town to The Honorable, The Council for the Eastern Shore of Maryland] (By Favor of Mr. B. Tilghman) April 30

We have this moment intelligence of a number of Vessels being up above E. Neck Island The letter containing the account is defaced by the rain so that we can learn nothing of their number. The servant is of opinion they are the same that were up before. Your Honor may depend on having all the Information worthy of your attention which it is in my power to communicate. General Cadwalader and myself are just going off to take a view of them. He has a Letter by the last post from Col<sup>o</sup> Nixon which mentions that Congress are informed by Gen<sup>l</sup> Washington that a large embarkation is now on foot at New York, Gen<sup>l</sup> Clinton to command

The Militia of this County appear to be spirited. If the Gentlemen will set them a good example I believe they will follow it with Alacrity

[Capt. John Penny, British Prisoner, to His Excellency Thom<sup>s</sup> Sim Lee, Esq.] April 30

Please your Excellency I hope you will pardon the Liberty I have taken in sending these few lines, as I understand there Is one Cap<sup>t</sup> Will<sup>m</sup> Middleton From this place has met with the same Misfortune as my self, and By his Brother I understand he Is at New Yourk, I humbly Intreat the Request of your Excellency To grant me a Parole to proceed to New Yourk And your Excellency may Rely on my Strictest Honour at my Arrival In New Yourk that Cap<sup>t</sup> Will<sup>m</sup> Middleton will be Immediately Exchanged in my place and I will give my word and Honour to Supply him with as much Cash as Is Necessary to Bring him home, In your Excellency's granting this Request Will Ever be Esteemd as a Particular favour granted to your Most Obedient Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

[Parole to Capt John Penny from the Governor and Council] [May] Draft

I John Penny Mariner late Commander of the Brigantine Endeavour do acknowledge myself a Prisoner of War to the State of Maryland & do solemnly promise & engage upon my Honour that I will not directly or indirectly say or do any thing that may prejudice or tend to the Prejudice of the United States of America, or either of them & I do further promise and engage in the most solemn