

70.
You will make use of all or part of the Cannon as you see cause, taking care not to waste powder in vain. Enclosed you have an order, which you must do every thing in your power to enforce. You should be particularly cautious in taking care to secure deserters, some of them you may depend upon it are spies, the negro you mention that escaped from the guard, may have been sent on purpose to seduce the slaves in the neighbourhood.

Be pleased to inform us from time to time of material occurrences as they happen - we have paid the express and are.

To Major Thomas Price.

Yr. most obed^t. serv^t.

Gentlemen. We have ordered Capt. John Greenbys Company to march to Cambridge in your County and to be stationed where you may direct. - we hope that Company will be sufficient to protect your ag^t. Tenders who may attempt to plunder.

To the Committee of Observation for
Dorchester County.

we are yr. most obed^t. serv^t.

Same Letter *mutatis mutandis* to Committee of Somerset County.

Sir.

25th July 1776.

We are very apprehensive that we should incur the censure of the Hon^{ble}. Continental Congress and of the Islanders who have stock should we make the order you request.

1. The resolves of Congress is full and explicit without any exception, should we extend our powers to answer your request others would expect indulgence, and we know not where the exceptions would stop our powers are extensive but not large enough to contravert the orders of Congress.

2. Your application may well lay over till the meeting of the Convention, which will be in a short time, we shall take particular notice of your application for an armed boat, and give direction to our armed vessels as soon as they can be got ready. The Defence is going down the Bay and will be a good security ag^t. Tenders for the present. - perhaps it would be prudent to sell some of your cattle, if you want a market, our contractor will probably take off some of your superfluous numbers. we are with respect & esteem

Matthew Tilghman Esq^r.

Yr. most obed^t. serv^t.

Sir. Before your letter and the papers therein inclosed came to hand we had received a letter from Major Price in which Mr. Wolstenholmes affair was mentioned. the Council of Safety thereupon passed a general order to all the Committees of Observation, and military Commanders not to suffer any person whatever to go out of the Province for the present, a copy of this order was inclosed to Major Price and your Committee, all intercourse with the Enemy has been heretofore expressly forbid by the Convention, besides time are so much altered since Mr. Wolstenholmes passport, and the
(over)