

newspapers: but he mentions to me nothing more. - It seems the Garrison consisted of upwards of 2000 men, I am surprised then that they would leave the fort at any rate, It appears to me to have been rashness to have left it at such a distance as they did. It required little foresight to know, that as Genl Howe had his whole armament at hand, he would make a vigorous effort, if any at all; and as he was furnished with conveniences for passing Barlow's Creek, was it to be thought that he would confine his attack to one place? However I am undertaking to judge perhaps without having the truth of things - this I think very certain, that it would have taken 5000 instead of 2000 men to have defended against Genl Howe's Army, the lines which it is said our men attempted to defend.

I am now on my way to Camp, where I shall find it God knows: if any thing worth your notice comes within my observation I shall write you with pleasure.

I had the pleasure of seeing two of the Honble Commis^{rs} from this Province, at Philadelphia: Mess^{rs} Hanson and Chamberlaine; but as I had made a resolution before I saw them not to engage again in the service I had little conversation with them on the subject of appointments - I thank you kindly Sir for the favorable opinion you have of me, express'd in your last, I wish it may ever be more in my power than it now is to conform it.

I am, humble Sir,

Your most obed^t Serv^t.

Wm Morris Sr.

Baltimore Nov. 29th 1776.

Sir,

I have this Day, I believe paid all the bills and advanced all the money for both Capt^{ns} and hands on the Schooner Friendship and the Ninety two, the sums are great indeed the all promis the will sail to morrow I wish it may be the case, I have paid Captⁿ Betty 30 pounds - I believe for his own use and by his advise, and the scarcity of hands, I have got the mate of the Prize Snor to ship him self mate of the 92 with one of the hands, and paid him the wages due which was £ 32. 13. 4. Pounds, the bills brought in against every vessel with the sales and Capt^{ns} wages is so very high, that it very scarce meet every day the sums paid and I see no way to shew it nor do I see any chance of it growing better I have Prof^{ly} enuf called and have the promis of powder - But what to do I know not for the people have got to now that I have some salt which is gone, and the are threatening to pull the Lines down, and declare the will have the salt out. I never saw the people so des- perate. I can hardly keep the streets, and you may as well reason

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