

their field officers but a quarrel ensued which prevented that business being accomplished. In short the Militia in my District had rather battle at home than abroad. I see but little probability of their marching. There are a few in in several Battalions, that offer themselves but only on condition that the whole are compelled. a great majority in each Battalion against marching so that there is not strength enough in any one to carry the whole. What measures to fall upon I am greatly at a loss, and must submit the matter to the Council of Safety and the Legislature. I am quite your most Obedt Servt.
The Honble Council of Safety Annapolis — — — — — **And Buchanan.**
Gentlemen.

Tuesday Morning the 11 of July 1777.

I send you two fine Boats to carry the soldiers over the Bay in order to man them I am obliged to put in two sailor negroes. Without is the least danger of losing them I shall be obliged to you to send them back again, as I would not take less than two hundred ^{each of} round for them. They are as fine fellows as ever cross the sea. If you should not want the boats please to order them back till I can get proper pumps for to fix in them. Mr. Sam Dorsey has promised to let me have 20 Sails the beginning of next week. I wish you would indulge me as far as to write to him not to let any body have any till I get as money as will fix out the galley and the largest armed boat. I am Gentlemen your most obedient servt.

The Honorable Council of Safety — — — — — **Stephen Steward.**
Gentle men.

Thursday the 13th of July 1777.

I have your by express and would have come to you this day but am launching the galley without a name. She is all fitted and will be with you the first fair wind after Sunday. I will be with you tomorrow by twelve o'clock. I am your most Obedt humble Servt.

The Honorable Council of Safety — — — — — **Stephen Steward.**

Sir.

Pharosburg July 13th 1777.

I am favoured with yours of the 5th inst. and observe what you say about Cordage. My letter of the 27th ult. was not wrote from any supposition that a misunderstanding about the price of rigging might arise between us, it was only to make you acquainted with the expected price of hemp and that you might determine from this circumstance, whether you would take cordage at a price in proportion to the cost of hemp. Some price for cordage I suppose will be established at Baltimore, and more I presume I am not to ask. However I do not apprehend a third person will be want'd to interpose between us, being fully persuaded every matter relating to this business, will without difficulty be adjusted between ourselves. I am, Sir your most Obedt Servt.

The Honble John Hull Esq at Annapolis } **Chas. Townsend**

Sir.

Baltimore February 16th 1777.

I should now be glad to know what I am to do with the Ship ^{the}

(The)