

Capt. J. Cook

Sir, The assistance of the men belonging to the ship
Defiance may be of service to the common cause at
Philadelphia. — We request you therefore to march imme-
diately without loss of time with all the men, that can be
spared from the necessary care of the ship, whilst in
harbour. — When in Philadelphia you are to obey the
direction of the Hon^{ble} Congress. —

Mr. Chase having mentioned
nothing of great guns in his letter to Capt. Nicholson, we
think none ought to be removed till further orders. — Let the
men take their small arms &c, no time must be lost
Dec^r 15th 1776. We are &c

The Delegates in Congress.

1007. Gent^{le}. In consequence of a verbal message from the
President of Congress delivered to us by Col^l Ingham, we instantly
gave the necessary orders to the Commanding Officers of the
Baltimore, Blanford and Calvert Counties to call together the
militias of those Counties, to be in readiness to march to
the assistance of Philadelphia, expecting that we should
every moment receive orders from Congress — but no such
Orders have yet come to hand — It is true Mr. Chase
wrote to Mr. Ligon to apply to the Council of

Supplies