

as possible - if you find a better chance of getting safe into any of the Inlets between Cape Henlopen and Cape Charles than into our Bay, you may push into one of them and send an express to the Council of Safety, letting them know where you are and what you have got, take care to land your goods as soon as you can under the directions of a Committee, for fear of being followed by Tenders or other armed vessels - in going out you are to take a brisk gale of wind or get out in the night; hope you will conduct yourself with care and industry, in the voyage - if you are chased and find you must be taken, throw all your papers overboard with weights to sink them should Mr. Vanbeber not be at St. Eustatia, or in that neighbourhood, you are to apply to Mr. Harrison at Martinique and deliver your letters for Vanbeber to him and follow his directions.

We are yr. hble serv<sup>ts</sup>

The Council of Safety. Annapolis

June 18<sup>th</sup> 1796

Mr. Abraham Vanbeber.

Sir. You have inclosed an Invoice and Bill of Lading in the Schooner Three Sisters, Capt. Joseph Lundy, Master, which we hope will reach you safe; you will dispose of the cargo to the best advantage for the benefit of the Province according to your general instructions, and the letters heretofore sent you, and be pleased to make our returns by the same vessels in small arms to which you may add a few field pieces if to be had cheap. if these cannot be got you are to send us powder and blankets we designed to send you also two other vessels, the Brig Fortune and Rogers, but these vessels have been long detained by the men of war and tenders, the Brig Fortune had sailed, but was obliged to put back again, we apprehend that we shall be obliged to unload those vessels and send their cargoes to you in smaller vessels. We have recd. yr. letters of 9<sup>th</sup> March and 24<sup>th</sup> ditto, and have also paid yr. Bill dated 24<sup>th</sup> March to Captain John Stork for 800 dollars, and also your drafts to Captain Coffer on Mr. Lucas for £90. P. Surrency and have got in safe the goods you sent us by the Wicked Dick, Capt. Tibbitts, also by the Pilot boat Chatham, and some powder we hear is arrived in North Carolina not yet got to hand, we would caution you against sending any more that way as yet, the coast there is too dangerous at present, full of men of war and tenders, we shall be glad to hear from you by every good opportunity, and are

yr. most obed<sup>t</sup> serv<sup>ts</sup>

P. S. The Brig Nancy Capt. Wise addressed to you, has been unfortunately taken by a Tender in Annasneck Road, in a fog which prevented the Capt. from seeing her approach, until

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