

the use of this Province, for which we return you our thanks, we hope you will continue your good offices in the case thereof until these articles are removed, which we have given orders to be done as soon as possible.

To Col. Matthews.

Sir.

Captain Montague of the Harvee Ship of War has broke the Tree and we are directed by the Convention, who have information of your being on your passage from Baltimore hither, to apprise you of it, that you may take such measures as you may think prudent and necessary to guard ag<sup>st</sup> falling into his hands.

To Capt. Nicholson.

ordered that Colonel W<sup>m</sup> Smallwood be requested to procure a stamp to be made, on which the word "Maryland" shall be engraved, and that he therewith cause all the guns belonging to this State in the hands of the Regular Troops including the Independent Companies to be stamped, - and Brigadier General Beall, or the commanding officer of the militia of the flying Comp. is requested to cause all the guns in the hands of the said last mentioned troops to be stamped in same manner.

Sir. Captain Montague of the Harvee Ship of War has broke the Tree, and we are directed by the Convention to apprise you of it, and to send you the enclosed resolve which you will conduct yourself agreeable to.

To Captain Nibely.

Sir.

25<sup>th</sup> June 1776.

Captain Montague of the Harvee Ship of War having broke the Tree by receiving a number of servants, belonging to the good people of this Province, and refusing to deliver them on demand made by a Flag sent for that purpose; we are directed by the Convention to order part of your Battalion to keep guard in the most proper places from the mouth of South River to the Mouth of fishing Creek to repel any violence which may be offered by the said vessels or her Tenders as also to prevent servants or slaves making their escape from their masters. You will therefore take care to station at the most convenient places on that Coast, such of your militia well armed and provided with ammunition as can be prudently spared for the said purposes, and that you continue to keep guard on that station until the above vessels shall have sailed down the Bay.

To Col. Beems and Beall.

(Sic)