

with your contracts with the Province or as much thereof as you possibly can, you will therefore be pleased to send as many of the 18 and 9 pounders to Baltimore as may be in your power.

To Genl. & Genl. Hughes.

Sir,

Captain Nicholson being appointed to the Command of one of the Continental Frigates renders it necessary that some gentleman should be commissioned to fill the department he acted in on board the Ship Defence, the subalterns tho' otherwise very clever want experience, and as we have been advised by Capt. Nicholson you have sailed in a vessel of force and probably would accept the Command of our ship, and as we were well satisfied of your zeal and activity and prudence, we moved and obtained liberty from the Convention to propose it to you to take the Command of the Defence, you will please to favor us with your answer immediately and signify to us whether you will accept it. We wish you to receive the Commission, and leave it to yourself to determine if it will not be better to accept that Command which probably will have continuance, than of Battalion which will be disbanded the first of Decr.

To Capt. La. Kent.

Sir,

6th July 1776.

As Captain Thomas is directed by the Hon^{ble} Convention to march immediately with his Company to the Northward, and as tis proper his men should be as completely armed as possible, we have ordered that you furnish him with such of the guns with Bayonets belonging to your Company as may be sufficient for that purpose; We will leave with you what of his guns have not Bayonets, we desire to have a particular state^{mt} of the arms of your Company after Capt. Thomas may have delivered you his, that we may immediately order you a proper supply from here to make up the deficiency if there should be any wanting.

To Captain R. Beall.

Sir,

Annapolis July 6th 1776.

Enclosed you have Bill of Lading and Invoice of sundries shipped on acct. of this Province in the John, Capt. — and which you will dispose of to the best advantage, Capt. Martin is arrived with the Needful, and your orders in his favor shall be paid at sight. The Brig is immediately to return to you. The articles we most want you have a list of enclosed, woollens for our soldiers we cannot do without. Your letters of May 20th & 16th June we have not time to answer them

(Particularly