

take the proper steps therefore to secure their persons and have them brought to a regular trial. At the same time we must press you to an exertion of your Authority to prevent all irregularities and disorders, tending in their consequences to prejudice the common cause. For our steadiness and perseverance we depend ourselves for success whereas the conduct of the Whig Club if truly represented to us will manifestly introduce anarchy and a total end of all regular Government.

We are Sir

Committee of Ab. for Balt. County.

Your obedient &c.

December 14th 1776

Sir, There is a man on board Capt. Conways Schoop who has the small pox. He belongs to St. Mary's County, and has a desire to return there, but lest he may spread the infection the greatest care should be taken which we are desirous of doing. It is said that you are considering in the House - we beg you will take him in he has it favorably and will soon be well. This we hope will not be inconvenient for you and perhaps will prevent the disorder from being communicated by him in crowds as not been infected. Any expence or trouble you may be at on the occasion shall be amply recompensate you. If you are not inoculating in your House as we are informed be soon as good as to get him into some House that has the small pox.

We are Sir

To Capt. Taylor.

With respect yours &c.

December 14th 1776

Sir, You know we have certain information that Lord Howe has joined Lord Cornwallis; and that the main army of the Enemy is near the City of Philadelphia with intention to thwart that important plan. They are still on the East Side of the Delaware. Assistance will be most wanted, and we request you would give the necessary orders to your Brigade to hold themselves in Readiness to march to Philadelphia. Col. Cwing tells us that they have passed Congress for the Mistake at Baltimore Harford, Frederick Cecil's Counties to march and that he was desired by the President of that honorable Board to give us notice thereof, we wish not to lose a moment's Time. As soon as we hear further Intelligence we will write you by express &c.

We are Sir

Brig. General Johnson

with respect &c.

Tuesday 10th Dec. 1776

Sir, The assistance of the men belonging to the defence may be of service to the common cause at Philadelphia. We request you therefore to march immediately ~~without~~ ^{without} loss of time with all the men that can be spared from the necessary care of the Ships whilst in harbour. When at Philadelphia you are to obey Congress.