

To The Honorable Matthew Tilghman Esq. President, and the  
Other Members of the Honorable Convention.

The Memorial of the Council of Safety, sheweth that at last  
December Session it was resolved that the sum of Five thousand Nine hundred  
pounds be appropriated to fortify the City of Annapolis, and place obstructions  
in the Channel of the River, and that the same should be laid out for the purposes  
afo. by the Council of Safety, thereafter to be appointed, if it should appear practicable  
to them to erect such fortifications, and lay such obstructions for that sum, exclusive  
of the Cost of Cannon, powder, and the like, as would prevent Men of War approaching  
the said City.

The Council of Safety have not raised any fortifications, in consequence of  
said resolve, because it was not practicable in their opinion to fortify the City, and  
place obstructions in the Channel of the River, for the sum to which they were limited  
by the resolve. They conceive it could not be done effectually without a much more  
considerable sum. The river Severn between the two points, at the mouth thereof,  
is near fifteen hundred yards over, the Channel, upwards of eight hundred yards,  
in some places the Water twenty feet deep and more, as will appear by a Chart  
thereof, to which your Memorialists beg leave to refer - no obstructions have been  
thought of by them proper to be placed in the Channel of the River but Chiveaux  
de frise, or piles, both these are liable to be soon destroyed by the worm. if large  
piles could be driven down headed with Iron, they would be eaten so much  
with the Worm, in the course of one season, that they would be easily born down  
by Men of War, coming up under full sail with a brisk wind. - all obstructions  
of wood are liable to this objection, and therefore in their opinion not to be depen-  
ded on.

The Council of Safety endeavored soon after their appointment to  
procure Cannon from Philadelphia, or New York but were disappointed,  
Mr. Hughes hath not yet complied with his Contract. the want of heavy Cannon  
was a further reason, why they could not proceed, when they can be procured  
your Memorialists are of Opinion that Batteries may be erected on Green-  
bays point, the Wind-Mill point, Hornpoint, and places adjacent, between  
that and the City on the South side of the River, which may be of service, to  
prevent Landing, altho' they might not fully answer the purpose of preventing  
Men of War approaching the place.

Your Memorialists further observe that at the late  
Convention, it was thought expedient to appropriate part of the Money for  
building three Row Gallies, or Gondoles, so that there will not remain more than  
three thousand pounds Currency, or thereabouts to be applied to the erecting fortifications.

Under these Circumstances your Memorialists submit to the Honorable  
Convention, whether they will direct the Council of Safety to endeavor to procure  
Cannon, and also buy up Materials for erecting Batteries, giving them a  
discretionary power to draw on the Treasury for such expenses, as may be  
necessary, not exceeding a certain sum, or whether your Honors will direct