

River a Bout a mile, the depth of water (as I imagine) about three fathom. The Island lays from the main about a hundred yards. The water at low tide about knee deep where we threw up a small Intrenchment. There is three pieces of Cannon on Cherry field point (about a mile from the Fowey) one a nine pounder one a four the other three I have another on the South West side the river, the narrowest water between the land and main, is a four pounder. I have about four hundred men (half of which is well armed, the other but poorly) placed on each side St. George's River. I have good reason to think that with the force I have I can prevent the Enemy's landing or plundering the Inhabitants. I yesterday morning sent one hundred on the Island about half after two o'clock. They marched silently through the Island 'till day appear'd and then lay hid 'till they came from the ships to water, the advanced party being rather eager was too soon discovered and the whole Enemy ran to their boats, my people then pursuing them with all speed and firing on them as they were geting into their boats when our people say that they killed three or four that they saw fall and several Wounded and one taken prisoner. The Fowey then fired on them and compelled them to retire after destroying their water casks and filling up a well, the best on the Island (for they have no springs) they returned to the main without loss. By the best advice I can get from the Prisoners and many deserters the whole fleet does not intend to stay here longer than those up Potowmack comes down which they expect every day. Capt Beal who was wounded in the first engagement is recovering fast.

I am &c

Tho^s Price

N. B. I yesterday sent under a small guard for Annapolis one Prisoner taken yesterday and three deserters one of them an officer of Dunmores who made his escape with an old man who is very sick and not able to travel. I believe they are well pleased they have made their Escape. One of them went from Annapolis who says Caton was Privey to his and others going on board the Fowey while she lay there. Please to pay this Express.

[Hooe to Council.]

Original.

Chingateague July 26th 1776.

Gent. I did myself the honor of writing you on the 17th Inst by M^r Crockett. Some days after that time I purchased about one hundred hhds of Tob^o, 60 of w^{ch} I have actually recei^d and since making the Purchase the whole of the Flour