

has arrived. I have examined a good deal of it and find it in such a state as will not admit of its being stored any length of time in expectation of a sale. I shall thereupon endeavour to sell or ship it without delay. If I cannot do better, I must have the schooner John examined and valued, and send her off with it, for it will soon perish here, and there is a good chance of selling it very high, if it can be expeditiously pushed to market. The Brig^e will sail in 12 days by w^{ch} time Capt. Martin has engaged to return, if he does not I must send her without him, as it is not in my power to attend here longer. The 2 chests of Arms and 9 Bales of Sail Cloth the Capt. has delivered since the Committee of Worcester wrote you of the deficiency. The Powder yet remains, 12 whole Barr^{ls} short, 4½ barrels of which he says was put on board for vessells use. Capt. Martin appears very anxious to be commission'd, of this I can say nothing as he is a stranger to me, except that the men enter and act more cheerfully where they have a chance of shareing a Prize, but how proper it may be to grant Commissions to vessells carrying Cargoes must be submitted to you.

I have the honor to be y^r honor's most obed^t Serv^t
R. Hooe

Original.

[Dames to Council.]

Queen Anns County July 26th 1776.

Gentⁿ M^r Jackson waits on you with two copies of my muster roll, agreeably to the Resolve of Convention. I cant say but I am a good deal distressd at the uneasiness of our people, they thrown themselves out of business by entering into the Service and many of them have not holes to put their heads in, and are perpetually teasing me about it; they are prodigiously anxious to be provided for with arms. they really labour under great disadvantages at present.

If possible I make no doubt but you will soon supply us. It certainly would be vastly agreeable to.

Gentⁿ Your very ready Hble Serv^t
John Dames

Original.

[Barnes to Council.]

Camp at Cherry Fields 26th July 1776.

Gentⁿ I am informed Col^o Kent that was approved by the Convention to command the Defence, declines the acceptance of the Command. I shall therefore take the liberty to recommend Captⁿ George Cooke as a proper person to command the Defence, knowing that Capt. Richardson's opinion was that neither of the Gentⁿ on board the Defence was sufficiently