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To His Excellency Thos. Johnson Esq. Governor of Maryl.

May it please yr. Excellency

We the Under written with Many other being Concerned in Vessels arrived at the Different Inlets of the Eastern part of Maryl. and Virginia Beg leave to represent to your Excellency, that a Large part of the Trade carried on by this State is by way of those Inlets and from thence down the River Potomacke and thro the Tangier Sound to the Differt. parts of this State; — And that the Carriage that way has of late been very precarious and Dangerous by Reason of the Boats & Tenders of the Enemy Continually Cruising in and about those places, And that we are of opinion that if one or Two of the gallys were Stationed in the Sound and about the Mouth of the River Potomoke that it would Render the Commerce thro that Channel much safer and be of much Advantage to the publick as well as private property. All which is Humbly Submitd. by the under written to yr. Excellency

Dated at Baltimore Febry 17th 1778

Ben Crockett

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

Isaac Webber

Saml Robt Purviance

Henry Sheaff

Charles Gaits

John Phile

Lux & Bowly

Seth Hollingsworth

Woolsey & Salmon.

John McLure

William Wix