1774 Oct. 20 Samuel Galloway Incoming letters MS 1994

Copy of letter from Thos Ringgold, Jr to his father-in-law Saml Galloway

Chester Town Maryland. 25th Oct. 1774

Dear Sir:

I have the pleasure to tell you that we reached home yesterday very well and found all so here. You'l have no doubt an Annapolis Paper giving an Acct. of the Burning of Anthony Stewart's Vessel as the account does not satisfactorily justify the violence I will shortly tell you how it happened as I have it from People at Annapolis. Upon the Arrival of the Vessel it was made known that the Tea was on board. Tom Williams who is now in England had it put up (

was in the Vessel until his
put into his hands at Gravesend. Mr. Stewart had it seems no Interest in the Tea nor had he any Goods as was reported and the people would have been satisfied even with the Tea's being stored without paying the Duty. But Ant^{o} Steuart obstinately went and paid it without being able to assign a good reason for it & contrary to the Advice of all his Friends. This incensed the people and a great number come in from all parts of the County and nothing less than tarring & feathering would satisfy them. This they were diverted from by the Influence of Barrister Carrol & others in pity to Mrs. Stewart who was then in labor. Anty. then proposed to attone for his Offence by having the Tea burnt on his own Loss. This was not thought sufficient and it was put to vote whether or not the Ship should not be burnt. A Majority determined she should not but many appearing discontented old Mr. Dick insisted that in order to give general Satisfaction which he thought was due to the people that the Vessel too should be burnt. She was accordingly committed to the Flames. From the whole of Mr. Steuart's Conduct I have no doubt but he has premeditated the Exploit to endear himself to the Ministry and I am glad the people have shown so much Spirit. We shall be glad to hear from you by the post and with our best Loves, I am Dear Sir

Yrs. most affect^{o}

Thos. Ringgold