

His Majesty's Sloop *Atalante*
 Chesapeake Bay June 15th 1813

Sir

In obedience to your orders I have
 closely reconnoitred the Coast fifteen Miles
 Southward of Cape Henry, and am of opinion
 that in moderate weather, with the wind
 off shore, Boats may safely land upon any
 part of it, although with the wind on shore
 there is a considerable Surf.

The Country appears thickly
 studded with Trees and no Roads were
 perceptible from this Ship except a main
 Road along the Beach communicating from
 one Farm House to another.

The Soundings are regular to five fathoms
 and in most places there are three fathoms
 within Pistol shot of the shore. Enclosed
 I have the honor to transmit the Sketch
 of an Anchoring Position taken up by
 His Majesty's Sloop under my Command
 within half Gun shot of the shore with the
 soundings annexed and which I consider the
 safest part of the Coast for Boats to land on this
 part of the Country appears also to be plentifully

J. Cockburn Esq
 Rear Admiral of the Blue
 &c

supplied with Cattle and Stock of every kind
 I have the honor to be
 (I am)
 J. Hickey, Commander