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May Ward Report
February 16th 1812 -

Take the liberty of suggesting to you
the necessity of increasing our force on board the Gunboats
on this station, as very little dependance can be relied on the
Volunteers at this place -

The complement allowed these boats
is eight men making in all seventeen in number, it will
require from 9 to 12 men to work the Gun, it is also necessary
- say that the oars should be manned, which would require
10 to 15 men, without musketry - There has been two drafts
made from the boats amounting to sixty six men
including all my Seamen for the Frigate Constellation,
which has rendered my force very weak, I opened Revo-
lvers on the 18th of December by instructions from
the Department & has only entered ten men for the
Gunboats, & forty for the Adams, was those men taken
from me at this moment, the boats might as well be
laid up -

Yesterday two hundred men landed here from