

of the Army, under his, has taken place.

My uniting the Seamen & Marines of my own Ship, to those of the Flotilla and Capt Porter, which are momentarily expected, constitute a Force of between 8 & 9 hundred effective Men, and which, with the assistance of Capt. Porter and Perry and Master Commandant Spence who have volunteered their services to act under my orders I shall have organized on the principle of a Brigade to act either with the Army, or on board the Flotilla at this place, as the pressure of the times may render necessary.

Unfortunately a misunderstanding at present exists between Brig^{ad} Genl. Winder of the United States Army and Lieut Genl. Smith of the Militia, relating to the command of the Land Forces - both claiming the right of priority - this will not, I hope however, retard the service in any essential degree, as Genl. Winder has in a manner much to his honor & convenience, consented to waive his pretensions to rank for the present and assist in the necessary preparations for the defence of this place, and annoyance of the Enemy, until the decision of the Government shall be made known.

We are yet ignorant of the dispositions of the Enemy further than, that he has bent his course either towards Annapolis, or his ships on the Patuxent; from the information obtained