

Constellation 11
Saturday evening Sept 3rd 1814

Sir

Many occurrences of late has thrown information in my way to justify the belief, that the Navy Yard Gosport, will be the principal object of the Enemy, and will be their first point of approach, leaving all the Forts unprotected. Untill the destruction of the yard is effected, & the Powder and the provisions (which they contemplate finding there) is in their possession - they certainly expect to possess themselves of every barrel and more than probable may be induced to proceed up the Canal in pursuit of it.

As the Genl has not force to spare sufficient to throw up his contemplated breast work for the protection of the yard; I will undertake to do it in due time if you and Capt. Swift will assist me with such force as you may have - & in the event of the advance of the enemy on that point alone, part of my force would of course be unoccupied, which would enable me to man any guns planted there. — The express of yesterday from Mr. Munroe, officially announced the Departure of the British Army from Maryland, supposing Baltimore, Richmond, or Norfolk to be their next object, consequently we have no time to loose; If therefore