Naval Constructor's directions to the Builder.

I presume you will have a few spare Guns or Carronades towards their armament, and the Secretary of War will furnish the residue from the Ordnance stores, until required for separate service. You will find these Barges a valuable auxiliary to your Squadron in any enterprise where that species of force may be necessary; both ends are alike and they are equally well either way. —

I am respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
W Jones.

146-151.

Joshua Barney, Esqr
Captain Commanding the U.S. Flotilla
St Leonards Creek

Navy Department
June 10th 1814.

Sir,

I have this moment received your letter of the 9th and notice the detail of the attempt made by the enemy upon your force in St Leonards Creek. Relying with great confidence upon your judgement I have no doubt that the motives which induced you to enter that Creek in preference to ascending the Patuxent will be found to have been justified by the occasion though the former in my present view could have had the effect of leading them further into the Country, and of multiplying the chances of annoying & obstructing them in their descent. I shall instantly apply to the Secretary of War for the order to Major Stewart, and I have no doubt he will order such other reinforcements, as will secure you against any reinforcement the enemy may receive. If properly and vigorously pursued, the opportunity appears to me to be such as ought to be desired, and may enable us to punish the temerity of the enemy.

In anticipation of some such service, I had four light twelve pounders mounted on field Carriages, and attached to the Marine Corps, a detachment of which amounting perhaps to 100, as good troops as can be found, will be immediately ordered to your assistance, with two or three twelve pounders and a howitzer.

Be pleased to describe the nature of the Banks of the Creek and River, and point out such positions as may afford the best points of annoyance, either with light or heavy Artillery or Musketry.

Is there any prominent point upon which a Breastwork could be thrown up below the enemy, and the Guns from the Gunboats mounted thereon. Pray send you two or three truck Carriages, if travelling Carriages are not to be had. What means does the Country afford of transporting the Guns without Carriages to the desired point? —

I shall order your Purser and Provisions in due time. —

I am respectfully
your Obedt Servt
W Jones.

Joshua Barney, Esqr
Captain Commanding the U.S. Flotilla
St Leonard's Creek.

Navy Department
June 12th 1814.

Sir,

I have this moment received yours of yesterday and mark with pleasure the result of the renewed attack made by the enemy on your flotilla on the 9th and 10th. —

It is evident you must have done them great damage, particularly the Schooner.

They will no doubt collect all the disposable force within the Chesapeake, but as our forces will doubtless collect at least as fast as that of the enemy, and as no force that he can bring against you in Boats can endanger the flotilla, so long as the Banks of the Creek are protected by our Military, the position appears to me as favorable as any in which we may expect to attack him. I shall be mistaken if ultimately he is not made to suffer extremely for his temerity. —

Lieutenant Miller with a detachment of about 110 Marines, with three light 12 Pounders in complete order, set out this morning at day dawn to join you. — They will go by the way of Queen Ann's, as there are no means of passing the Artillery over the river lower down. — He will send an Officer ahead in order to consult you on the best position for his cooperation. All that may be expected from excellent Officers and Men, you will derive from their services.

I have not seen the Secretary of War since Friday, but it is said that the 18 Pounders are dispatched from this place yesterday morning, and some infantry to day. Should you erect a Battery at any point on the Creek or River, that may