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

Navy Department
June 18th 1814.

Sir

I have this moment received your official letter of the 16th Inst. together with Copies of your Notes to Col: Carberry and his notes to you under the same envelope, and at the same time your private letter of the same date.

I regret to observe the want of Cordial Cooperation and of harmony which you describe, for without the most perfect Union and energy, we can hope to make but little impression on the enemy. Indeed the result of such a state of things must necessarily encourage the advances of the enemy, and may ultimately prove disastrous.—

It is difficult to account for the retrograde movement of Colonel Carberry, as the alleged motive of seeking quarters in a Barne for the repose of his men, appears to convey but an indifferent idea of the discipline and energy of that Corps. I shall lay the Papers before the proper authority, and hope that a remedy may be applied.—

Col: Wadsworth the Commissary General of Ordnance will be in your vicinity with two long 18 Pounders, before this reaches you.—

This morning, a volunteer Company of Riflemen, and a very fine Company of volunteer Artillery, I understand have marched for the Scene of action, and I think it probable that a detachment of volunteers may march from Baltimore.—

The plan of transporting the Barges overland to the Bay, was suggested without a view to the possible difficulties you have stated, but my local knowledge was not sufficiently distinct to determine the nature & degree of the obstacles.—

It is for you to determine the practicability of rearming and equipping the Barges on the Bay side in the face of the enemy.—

If the heavy Ships can approach the beach within a point blank shot, I should deem it impracticable. The transportation can certainly be effected with great facility and reasonable expedition, and I think it will be well to order from Baltimore, two sets of wheels, eight in each set, viz: four Wheels geared as close together as they will work, with a bolster and Check to receive the Barge



at about one third from each, and thus the boat will be sustained by eight wheels, say of the size and full strength of dray Wheels, and would be drawn by fourteen yoke of oxen allowing the weight of the heaviest Barge and 500 lb for each Ox, but in the short portage of 2½ Miles the force of your men would supersede the necessity of so many Oxen.—

When you have the wheels purchased &c. prepared, you will be the better able to determine upon the expediency of using them upon the plan suggested, but whether or not, they may be converted to another very useful purpose, viz: to transport a few of your heavy Guns to any eligible point for a temporary battery, there to be mounted on truck Carriages which can be sent from this place or Baltimore, or by securing two rough Checks on the bolsters of those wheels, the Guns might be mounted on them for service.—

I wish to know how many Barges you have left in Baltimore of each kind, and in what state of preparation they are. We have one of the large and two of the smaller size Barges at this place ready for service.—

The enemy appear to attach great importance to the Blockade of the flotilla, and Mr Barclay their Agent has been heard to say, that if you had double your force, the blockade would not be raised. Should the enemy increase his force in the Bay, it may be necessary ultimately to secure your flotilla if practicable, and transfer your men to the Barges at Baltimore and this place, and endeavour to raise the Blockade outside.—

Captain Gordon is now making a diversion in your favour, and has sent I believe an Officer to St. Mary's, to cross over and communicate with you upon the best plan of cooperation, as in collecting their force to blockade you, they raise the blockade of Norfolk, and Captain Gordon has now 23 Gunboats and two or three Schooners &c. with between 600 & 700 men.—

I am respectfully &c
W Jones.—

152.155.

Joshua Barney Esqr.
Commanding U.S. Flotilla
St Leonards Creek.

Navy Department
June 20th 1814.

Sir

The force of the enemy, present & accumulating in and near the Patuxent, either for the real or ostensible purpose of destroying, or blockading the flotilla under your Command, calls for a deliberate view of the motives

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