Edward Johnson Esq.
Chairman of the Committee
of Vigilance and Safety
Baltimore.

Navy Department
Novem. 8th. 1814.

Sir

The Honorable, Mess.rs Smith, Moore, and McKim did me the favor to present your letter of yesterday, with the sentiments and objects of which I most perfectly accord. Indeed the work would have now been in operation, but for the embarrassments of the Treasury, by the interruption in the transmission of public monies through the Agency of the Banks, and suspension of specie payments.

I am now enabled to say, that if One hundred and fifty thousand Dollars, (the estimated Cost of the floating Battery) shall be placed at the Credit of the Treasurer of the United States, in any Bank in the City of Baltimore, the same shall be applied to the building and equipping of a Steam floating Battery, such as the U.S. Vessel the Fulton at New York. The individual or body loaning the said Sum, (will be entitled to receive) for the reimbursement of said loan, Six per Cent Stock of the United States, to be created under existing or future authorities to raise Money by loans either at a rate to be now agreed upon, between the Treasury and the lenders respectively, or to be fixed by the rate of any general loan hereafter to be obtained, and to bear interest, from the day the said loans shall be placed to the Credit of the Treasurer of the United States.

I am very respectfully
Your Obed.t Servt
W Jones.

George Harrison Esq.re
Navy Agent
Philadelphia.

Navy Department
Novem.r 8th 1814.

Sir,

The annexed is Copy of my letter of this day, to the Committee of Vigilance and safety of the City of Baltimore, in answer to an earnest application from that Committee for a steam floating Battery, such as the one just launched at New York, to be constructed and equipped at Baltimore. My earnest solicitude for the security of the shores of the Delaware, and of the City of Philadelphia in particular, prompts me to offer the same means of protection, to the wealth, industry, and population of that flourishing City, provided the conditions are speedily accepted. There is not

a moment to be lost, and as the sum appropriated will cover only one more such Battery, you will order the mixture through such Channels, as you may deem expedient, and let me know the result without delay. Having examined the subject minutely, divested of its theoretic attractions, I am most perfectly satisfied of the substantial advantages it has over every other species of force for harbour defence, and particularly in the economy in seamen, of all others the most important to us. A single Vessel of this kind together with the defences and obstructions now I understand in operation at the River Patch, would render the Delaware perfectly secure, and supersede the immense expenditure, loss, and anxiety which the inhabitants of its shores must otherwise sustain.

I am respectfully
Your Obed.t Servt
W Jones.

3

Commodore Isaac Chauncey
Sacketts Harbour

Navy Department
Novem.r 16th 1814.

Sir,

I received last evening your letter of the 5th Inst. (No. 193) and in order to arrange and facilitate the important operations in contemplation, you will proceed immediately to New York, provided your presence can be dispensed with at the harbour, without inconvenience to the service, where you will receive further instructions, and where you will examine the U.S. Steam floating Battery Fulton, with a view to determine, whether one, two, or three of them may not be substituted for the whole or a part of the frame proposed to be created at Sacketts Harbour, in consequence the materials for the latter, and the transportation to Albany will progress without delay.

I am very respectfully
Your Obed.t Servt
W Jones.

187
223.

Captain Arthur Sinclair
Commanding U.S. Naval Force
on Lake Erie

Navy Department
Novem.r 17th 1814.

Sir

I have received your letter of the 11th and do not perceive the misconstruction which you attribute to the observations contained in my letter of the 4th instant; but, be that as it may, the meaning I intended to convey was, that the Squadron under your Command would remain on the Lake as long as the Season would admit, (which you were to be the judge) in order to render whatever co operation with the Army