

Sec Nav to Barney - Confidential  
July 17, 1814

Joshua Barney  
Commanding U.S. Flotilla  
Nottingham

Navy Department  
July 27<sup>th</sup> 1814

Sir,

Accounts have been received here this morning that the whole of the enemy's forces on the Potomac have gone down below Blackiston's Islands, and probably up the Bay again. You will therefore consider my letter of yesterday by express as countermanded and continue with your present command.

As the temptation for plunder is nearly exhausted on the Potomac, it is to be presumed that the enemy may be content to blockade you in that River and employ his disposable force elsewhere. Should this be the case, it will be advisable to proceed with the flotilla to Queen Anne's, from whence to South river I believe is but 8 or 9 miles over a good road.

The Scorpion has divested of her heavy stores, and I believe ascended nearly to Queen Anne's. If arrangements can be made with due privacy, until the moment of operation, the Barges may be transported to South river, but if this project shall fail, I still think that Queen Anne's will be the place of greatest safety, from whence the Crews can be transferred to Baltimore, Annapolis, or this place, as occasion may require, with more facility, and the position is, I believe, the most salubrious of any on the upper part of the Potomac.

I shall be glad of your opinion on this subject. A waggon will start this afternoon with a very light, fast gig, ours etc. for Nottingham to your order.

I am respectfully  
Your Obedt Serv<sup>t</sup>  
W. Jones