

Sec Nav to Barney - Confidential
August 28, 1814

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Joshua Barney, Esq:
Commanding the U S Flotilla
Nottingham

Navy Department
August 28th 1814 11 1/2 pm.

Sir,

I have this instant received yours of 7 am this day. I am informed by Gentlemen who have frequently travelled from this to Benedict that there is a very good and direct road of 35 miles.

Should the enemy dash for this place, he will probably take this road, unless he should follow the Bank of the river to Nottingham with his advance guard to drive back the flotilla and bring up his main body by water.

This will have been decided before you receive this, and you will immediately send the flotilla up to Queen Anne with as few men as possible and a trusty Officer to remain there, and in the event of the enemy advancing upon the flotilla in force to destroy the whole effectually and proceed with his men to this place. Having given these directions, you will retire before the enemy toward this place, opposing his progress as well by your arms as by felling trees across the road, removing Bridges and presenting every other possible obstacle to his march.

Tomorrow morning the detachment of Marines with three 12^s and two long light 18 pounders with everything complete will march to join you and will be placed under your command. When combined your men will man the guns, and the Marines under the command of Captain Miller will act as Infantry under your command.

I enclose for your government, the joint regulations of the Navy & War Departments for the government of their respective commanders when acting in concert.

And you will with the most perfect harmony and promptness afford all the cooperation in your power with the view you will communicate freely with Brigadier General Winder on the subject.