

intention to the Genl. he immediately urged
successfully, and requested I would solicit of your
permission to procure & equip two or three
Vessels for that service.

It being well ascertained that no heavy ships
enter the Potomac without lightening more
usual in such cases, we have nothing to ap-
hend from any force except the approach of
or Bomb Vessels, which if attempted could be
felled with our Landers well fitted & manned.
I confess I do not myself apprehend an attack
this place, still I believe the Enemy may with
much difficulty disturb our affairs.

There are now lying at Fort M. Henry, re-
for sea, two or three very fine Privateers like
which I am of opinion are well adapted to
Bay cruising & capable of contending with any
the Landers & boats of the Enemy. I know
if the owners of those Vessels would agree to
serving the United States on the present occasion.
But with your permission I would suggest
them the idea of their loaning those vessels
armaments & crews to the United States for
or 2 months or during the Blockade; the U.S.
States agreeing to return them in the same
condition we receive them, and to pay