

perhaps, yet such is the state and limit of these means
place has been utterly neglected) that I do not think
ought to flatter ourselves that it will be effectually
aid. Our dependance on the local forces for manning
gun boats, which is the only active force we have on
waters, has proved abortive; indeeds some of the ships
have already deserted from an apprehension of being
into them. Many of the inhabitants have moved for
Norfolk with their effects and many more are preparing
to go. Four black ships have been sunk in the channel
off Lambeth point, but that I fear will present
little opposition. One of their frigates passed up
near to day.

I have the honor to be

Respectfully Sir

Your obedient Servant

C. L. Stew art



P. S. I am getting out of the ship all the strong sails
se. and sending them up the Delaware river, as it is
now to a certainty that this ship will not have a
portunity of getting to sea.