party in as few hours to any object on or near the water, to which the object of Interest or Enterprise may direct.

The Tobacco in the Public Store house, the Corn wheat, Pork and Lumber of which there is a considerable quantity, are all articles of value with the Enemy and of course strong objects of temptations to plunder. The Craft that has been lately built and those that are now on the stocks will restore the trade of the Rivers to its former state, which was in a great measure destroyed in the course of the last Summer by Cruizers. The necessity many are under by the sale of Corn Lumber &c to discharge the public Taxes renders the navigation of this River an object of public importance. Already, from the difficulty of procuring craft and the dangers of conveying produce to Market, has the price of flour risen to one eight more Dollar.

These additional circumstances added to the necessary weight of Taxes renders the condition of some inhospitable and disagreeable. The petitioners in the lower parts of Dorset and those of their friends still below them are in Somerset and Worcester, require in this respect the attention of Government more immediately than those members of the State who are placed remote from danger and within the range of public markets.

When therefore the naval force which was directed by the Legislature to be equipt for the defence of the Bay, is ready, they hope and most earnestly request that the defence and protection of the Trade of the Rivers in the lower Counties may be a particular object with the Executive. The ease and satisfaction it will give to individuals and the influence to be produced by it on the price of many articles necessary for the Fall, the intelligent Eye of the Executive will easily discover.

At a time when the petitioners are calling for the Aid of Government, it may be expected that every exertion within their Power, should be made for their safety. But they are willing and ready to do. They only want the means to do it accomplish it. It is for this which is the immediate object of the petition, that they pray to be assisted by a few pieces of Cannon. Two 9ds two 4ds and two Sixes are such as are desired. From the readiness which both Sides to arms and defended their Persons and property in the last Assault of the Enemy up the River, with this aid, it is not doubted, but they will either drive or be sufficiently able to exhibit any attempt