6

[Intercepted] St Augustine Augst 17 1776 ⑥

ARCHIVES
OF THE STATE OF
MARYLAND.

Dear Sir,

I wrote you some time ago by a vessel bound to Bristol, which I hope came safe to hand as it informed you of our safe arrival at this place and of our detention here, for want of a proper & good opportunity, but my Mother having applied to the Governor, he intends to send us in a vessel of his own, part of the way, which will facilitate our journey very much; so by the Politeness of the Governor, we may be able to get away in a few Days. Since I wrote you, I must tell you that the Fleet destined to subdue No. Carolina has been totally defeated in the following manner the Bristol & Experiment each of 50 Guns, the Active Acteon, Syren, Solebay & Ardent each of 20 and a Bomb — were ordered to attack a fort on Sullivants Island about 4 Miles from Charles Town, the first fort they had to pass — Accordingly the Pilot Sampson brought them too 800 Yards from the Fort, a heavy fire commenced on both sides for 9 Hours, when at length the Bristol (P. Peter Parker's Ship) having lost two of Masts, her Captain & 60 men killed & many wounded; the Experiment lost her Captain & 40 men killed, and many wounded — the many men in the other Vessels killed & wounded they thought proper to draw off with the Ebb Tide in the Evening in