

Jan^y 21st 1778.

Having received the Board's Orders to give directions to the Artificers at Your post to cut out & prepare Carriages for the Ships that will be ready in the course of 2 or 3 Years in Order for their being season'd before they are bound off; I am to acquaint You that the Board have agreed that the Carriages shall be prepared in the following manner. --- The Sides to be plan'd up & down'd together, the Stops cutt, the Rattles to be plan'd & the Irons turn'd, but not fram'd, the Transoms likewise to be plan'd but not fram'd, Moulds, Coirns & Trunks to be finish'd. --- I am also to inform You that the Storehouses where the Carriages in this State are to be deposited, should be very dry, and have Windows sufficient for a free circulation of Air, pieces of dry Wood, at least 1/2 Inch thick should be put between each Side to keep them apart at a proper distance. --- If the Carriages should be Water Wet or very fresh from the Saw, they should stand singly about the Storehouse some time before they are stack'd, otherwise they will be liable to damage by the pieces that lay between them. --- I am likewise to acquaint You that the Carriages that have been stack'd in the Winter or Autumn must be taken down in the Spring & fresh Stack'd, to wipe off the Mildew, & shift the pieces, & those that have been put up in the Summer must be taken down in the Autumn & treated as above.

I have writ to M^r Wheeler to send Me an Account of what Ship Carriages, Molds He has, and as soon as I receive his Answer, shall send him directions for cutting out the Carriage Sides, &c.

Towce 21st Jan^y 1778.

1778.

I am Gentlemen

Your most Obed^t Serv^t

The^s Butcher

Respective officers
of the Ordnance
Plymouth
Portsmouth

Date stamped 31/JA

Gentⁿ

Having received the Board's orders to give directions to the Artificers at your port to cut out & repair Carriages for the Ships that will be ready in the Course of 2 or 3 Years in Order for their being Seasoned before they are bound off; I am to acquaint you that the Board have agreed that the Carriages shall be prepared in the following manner: The sides to be planed up & dowelled together, the Steps cut, the Axtrees to be planed & their Arms turn'd but not framed, the transoms likewise to be planed but not framed, Stoolbeds Cains & Trucks to be finished. I am also to inform you that the storehouses where the Carriages in this State are to be depainted should be very dry and have Windows sufficient for a free Circulation of Air. Pieces of dry wood at least 1 ¼ inch thick should be put between each, Side to keep them apart at a proper distance. If the carriages should be Water Wet or very fresh from the saw, they should stand singly about the Storehouse some time before they are stacked. Other ways they will be liable to damage by the pieces that lay between them. I am likewise to acquaint you that the Carriages that have been stacked in the Winter or Autumn must be taken down in the Spring & fresh Stacked to wipe off the Mildew & shift the pieces & those that have been put up in the Summer must be taken down in the Autumn & treated as above.

I have wrote to Mr Wheeler to send Me an Account of what Ship Carriage Notes He has, and as soon as I receive his answer, I shall send him directions for Cutting out the Carriage

Sides &c

I am

Tower Jan^{ry} 31st

Gentlemen

1778

your most hum^{bl} serv,

Tho^s Butler

Ent^d
