

Gent^l

Potomouth Oct. 4th 1782 63

The bearer Capt. M^r Gray in a small vessel from
the Eastern Shore, is arrived in this harbour with the
crew of a small privateer of ours, called The Foudroyant
commanded by Capt. Matthews, who had the misfortune
of being taken, and the vessel sent to Halifax, —
Capt. Gray compassionating their distressed circum-
stances, as he has done a great number of others,
w^{ch} will fully appear by papers w^{ch} he will produce
your Honors, has risked himself and vessel to this port,
in order that they might escape the harshness of a
prison and return to their family, — he stands
in need of some order to protect him while here,
from the hands of some persons, who might take the
advantage of his situation, tho his intention of
coming, was benevolent to the prisoners, he has
some Fish &c on board, w^{ch} he begs he may have
liberty^{to} dispose of, and to carry back some of the
produce of this State, to enable him to support
his

This Family, and the numerous American Prisoners
which frequently resort to his house, — recommend
him to the Unity of your Honors. —

We are very respectfully

Yours most Obedt^{ly}
Charles Nichols

Honble Com^{tee} of Safety
Exeter —