

Capt Harrow
Commandy Troop
at Portsmouth

Sir:

We believe the Gun Barge will come off, on High Water, this evening — only needing a sergeant's Guard — say a sergeant & 10 men — to pump the Barge, & prevent her sinking on the way to Macm.

They might to be victualled for several days, & will be returned to you by the Propeller Soper, whose orders are to stop at Beacon Island, on her return.

If you approve of this, (as I hope you may) please dispatch your detail with Capt Phillips of the Soper, immediately, so that he may not lose the tide.

We got too late to the Barge this morning, but drew her off about 50 feet, nevertheless.

I would recommend you sending a note, with your men, addressed to the Commandy Officer, at Fort Macm., re-

requesting him to take care of, & return
your men by the propeller.

It will also be necessary to
employ a pilot, (one of the Malays
or Cape Seemins) who is perfectly fam-
iliar with Cove Sound, so that the
Queen Barge may go safely, I will
settle his Bill very truly Yours

E. D.

Heaven
Portbury
June 21.
1861.

You Sergeant should be instructed
- to see that the crew of
the barge & of the propeller
take their fair share of
work, along with their
men, & own part of
it if
necessary.

Col^l Ross