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*Admiralty-Office, November 14, 1778.*

**E**XTRACTS of Dispatches from Vice-Admiral Montagu, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels at Newfoundland, to Mr. Stephens, received by the Hawke Sloop, lately arrived from that Island at Spithead.

*Extract of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Montagu to Mr. Stephens, dated at St. John's, Newfoundland, October 5, 1778.*

**F**OR the Information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, I beg to acquaint you, that as soon as I received certain Intelligence that Hostilities were commenced by Count D'Estaing in North America, I dispatched Commodore Evans in the Romney, with the Pallas, Surprise, Martin, and Bonavista Armed Sloop, under his Command, with 2 Field-Pieces, a Party of Artillery, and 200 Marines under the Command of Major Wemys, to put in Execution His Majesty's Commands to me (under His Sign Manual) to attack, reduce, and take Possession of the Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon; which Service, I have the Honour to acquaint their Lordships, he has performed; and enclosed I transmit you a Copy of the Commodore's Letter to me of the 17th ult. since which I have not heard from him, owing to the very thick Fogs and Easterly Winds, which have prevailed these Three Weeks past. As soon as I can get a particular Account from the Commodore I will dispatch the Hawke with it.

Captain Linzee, of the Surprise, returned from the Coast of Labrador on the 9th ult. He was too late on the Coast for the Privateer he went after, but on his Way back took a Schooner Privateer of 10 Three-pounders, 8 Swivels, and 40 Men, in Trinity Bay, called the Harlequin, belonging to Salem, which I have bought into the Service.

*Extract of a Letter from Commodore Evans to Vice-Admiral Montagu, dated St. Peter's Roar, September 17, 1778.*

**I** ARRIVED here the 14th Instant, with His Majesty's Ships under my Command, and immediately sent Captain Montagu to the Governor, to acquaint him, that as the French had committed Hostilities in America, I came here to demand a Surrender of the Island of St. Peter's, Miquelon, and its Dependencies, to His Britannic Majesty, and demanded an Answer in Half an Hour.

The Governor sent the inclosed Proposals, to which I returned the Answer also inclosed, and sent Captain King of the Pallas, and Major Wemys, with 117 Marines and a Party of Artillery, to take Possession of the Place, which was immediately delivered up to them.

I have not yet been able to get an exact Return of the Arms and Ammunition in the Islands; but the Number of Inhabitants is said to be about 3000, the greater Part of them capable of bearing Arms.

I have dispatched the Bonavista Sloop to Halifax, agreeable to your Order, to desire a Number of Transports may be sent here to carry the Inhabitants to France, there being here only two Brigs; one Snow, and a few small Schooners; and the Scarcity of Provisions in the Islands will not admit of victualling properly even the few Inhabitants they can contain, neither are there any Water Casks here fit to hold Water in: However, I propose to send away the Governor, his Council, Troops, and principal Inhabitants, in the Vessels that are here, as soon as possible; but to accomplish that will require more Time than was expected.

I shall destroy all the Fishing-Stages, Store-Houses and Shallops, and the Houses in the Town, as the Inhabitants embark from them.

I shall send Captain Chamberlayne, of His Majesty's Sloop Martin, to Miquelon To-night,