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Whitehall, October 27, 1778.

THE Dispatches, of which the following are Extracts, from General Sir Henry Clinton, Knight of the Bath, to the Right Honourable Lord George Germain, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, were received on Sunday last, from Lieutenant Grove, of His Majesty's Ship the Apollo, which left New York on the 17th of September, and arrived at Plymouth on the 23d Instant.

New York, September 15, 1778.

IHAD the Honour of receiving your Lordship's Dispatches of the 12th of June and 1st of July, by the Lord Hyde Pacquet, on the 18th of last Month, and a Triplicate of your Letter N^o 7, by the Lioness, on the 7th Instant.

I detached Major General Tryon, some Time ago, to the East End of Long Island, to secure the Cattle on that Part; in which Situation he could either reinforce Rhode Island, or make a Descent on Connecticut, as Circumstances might occur; and Transports for 4,000 Men were laying then in the Sound, and that Number of Troops ready for Embarkation on the shortest Notice.

In this State Things were, when Lord Howe failed for Rhode Island; and it was my Intention to proceed up the Sound, with the Troops above-mentioned, that they might be within his Lordship's Reach, in case we should see an Opportunity for landing them to act with Advantage; but, on the 27th of last Month, at the Instant they were embarked, I received a Letter from Lord Howe, inclosing one from Major-General Pigot, by which I was informed, that the French Fleet had quitted Rhode Island; but that the Rebels were still there in great Force.

I thought it advisable to fail immediately for the Relief of that Place, but contrary Winds detained us till the 31st; and, on our Arrival, we found that the Enemy had evacuated the Island. For Particulars I must beg Leave to refer your Lordship to Sir Robert Pigot's Letter, a Copy of which I have the Honour to inclose. I was not without Hopes, that I should have been able to effect a Landing, in such Manner as to have made the Retreat of the Rebels from Rhode Island very precarious; or that an Opening would have offered for attacking Providence with Advantage: Being thwarted in both these Views by the Retreat of the Rebels, as the Wind was fair I proceeded towards New London, where I had Reason to believe there were many Privateers; but the Wind coming unfavourable just as I arrived off that Port, and continuing so for Twenty-four Hours, I left the Fleet, directing Major-General Grey to proceed to Bedford, a noted Rendezvous for Privateers, &c. and in which there were a Number of captured Ships at that Time. For the Particulars of his Success, which has certainly been very complete, I must beg Leave to refer your Lordship to the inclosed Letter.

I am, &c.

H. CLINTON.

Copy of a Letter from Major-General Pigot to General Sir Henry Clinton, dated Newport, Rhode Island, August 31, 1778.

THough by my several Letters since the 29th of July last, more especially by that I had the Honour of writing by Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart, and the Accuracy of his Intelligence, your Excellency

will have been informed of the State of Affairs here to the 28th Instant; yet, as many of those Letters, from the Uncertainty of the Communication, may not have reached you, a Summary of the Transactions since the 29th of July, when the French Fleet arrived, to the last Period, will not be unnecessary, and may help to explain subsequent Events.

From the first Appearance of the Fleet to the 8th Instant, our utmost Exertions were directed to removing to Places of Security the Provisions, Ammunition, and Military and Naval Stores, which were either on board Ship, or on the Wharfs, preparing a fortified Camp, and disposing every Thing for resisting the combined Attacks of the French and Rebels upon us; and I immediately withdrew from Conanicut Brown's Provincial Corps, and two Regiments of Anspach, which had been stationed there. The next Morning the Guns on the Beaver Tail and Dumplin Batteries, the former of which was directed with some Effect against two Line of Battle Ships that entered the Narraganzet Passage, were rendered unserviceable, as the Fleet entering the Harbour would cut off all Communication with that Island; of which the French Admiral soon after took a temporary Possession, and landed the Marines of his Squadron. During this Period, from the Movements of the French Ships in the Seaconet on the 30th, the King's Fisher and two Gallies were obliged to be set on Fire; and afterwards, on the 5th Instant, the four advanced Frigates, from the Approach of two of the Enemy's Line of Battle Ships from the Narraganzet, were likewise destroyed, after saving some of their Stores, and securing the Landing of the Seamen.

When it was evident the French Fleet were coming into the Harbour, it became necessary to collect our Forces, and withdraw the Troops from the North Parts of the Island, which was accordingly done that Evening. I likewise ordered all the Cattle on the Island to be drove within our Lines, leaving only one Cow with each Family, and every Carriage and Intrenching Tool to be secured, as the only Measures that could be devised to distress the Rebels and impede their Progress.

On the 8th Instant, at Noon, the French Fleet (which from it's first Appearance had continued with little Variation at Anchor about Three Miles from the Mouth of the Harbour) got under Way, and standing in under a light Sail, kept up a warm Fire on Brenton's Point, Goat Island, and the North Batteries, which were manned by Seamen of the destroyed Frigates, and commanded by Captain Christian, Lieutenants Forrest and Otway of the Navy, who returned the Fire with great Spirit, and in a good Direction. The last of these Works had been previously strengthened, and some Transports sunk in it's Front, as an effectual Measure to block up the Passage between it and Rose Island.

The next Morning we had the Pleasure to see the English Fleet, and I immediately sent on Board to communicate to Lord Howe our Situation, and that of the Enemy. By Nine o'Clock the following Day the French Fleet repassed our Batteries, and sailed out of the Harbour, firing on them as before, and having it returned with equal Spirit on our Side. By this Cannonade from the Ships on both Days, very fortunately not One Man was hurt, or any Injury done, except to some Houses in Town.

I shall now proceed to inform your Excellency of the

