

Captain Merry, of the Government Brig of Grenada, who passed by here this Afternoon, left Admiral Barrington late the preceding Evening. He informs us, that the French had landed their Troops to the Amount of 5000, who had an Engagement with General Grant, in which they lost 800, and our Loss was only 70. He further says, that they wanted much to re-embark their Troops, but had not been able to accomplish it. A Transport, with 4 Soldiers on board, and a Number of Soldiers' Wives, had fallen into the Hands of the Enemy; and the Ceres Sloop of War was chased off the Coast.

Extract from the St. Vincent Gazette and General Advertiser of Saturday the 26th of December, 1778, referred to in the above Letter. Kingston, December 26, 1778.

SINCE our last two Vessels have arrived from St. Lucie, the last of which left Admiral Barrington on Thursday Evening. They brought no News of any Consequence, nothing having happened since the 18th Instant, on which Day the Attack on Shore (mentioned in our last) was made by the French on our Intrenchments. They marched up in three Columns; the Right led by the Count d'Estaing, and the Left by the Marquis de Bouillé; and were suffered to advance without Opposition so near, that our Front Line only fired once, and received them with their Bayonets. Seventy of the French were killed in our Intrenchments, and their whole Loss, in Killed, Wounded and Prisoners, is estimated at about 1,600. On our Side we had 60 killed, and 100 wounded; among the latter Brigadier General Meadows, who received a Ball in the Flesh of one of his Arms.

Admiral Barrington remains at the Grand Cul de Sac with his Fleet, and is defended by two very strong Batteries. The French Fleet is likewise at an Anchor about a League from him, and consists of Eleven Sail of the Line, and three Fifties, besides a Number of Frigates, &c.

The Ceres Sloop of War was taken by Six French Frigates, with whom she fell in with in a heavy Squall.

An American Ship from Piscataqua, mounting 18 Guns, and a Number of Men, mistook our Fleet for the French, and was taken. She had taken two Prizes, a Sloop and a Schooner.

Copy of a Letter from Rear-Admiral Barrington to Governor Morris, dated Prince of Wales in the Grand Cul de Sac in the Island of St. Lucia, January 2, 1779.

S I R,

I HAVE the Favour of your Excellency's Letter of the 31st past by Mr. Collins, and have the Satisfaction to acquaint you that Count D'Estaing moved off, with his whole Force, the 29th, toward Martinique, leaving us in quiet Possession of the Island, which capitulated whilst his Fleet was in Sight.

I wish your Excellency would be so good as to encourage the mercantile People under your Government to send Supplies of Provisions hither, of every Kind, as they are much wanted for the Army, and will therefore meet with a good Market.

I am, &c.

His Excellency Governor SAM. BARRINGTON.
Morris, St. Vincent.

Whitehall, February 23, 1779.

THIS Morning Colonel Innis, one of Sir Henry Clinton's Aid du Camps, who had arrived at Falmouth in the Lord Hyde Packet from Georgia, came to Town with Dispatches from Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell of the 71st Regiment, and Major-General Prevost, to Lord George Germain, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, of which the following are Copy and Extract:

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell to Lord George Germain, dated Savannah, January 16, 1779.

MY LORD,

IN Consequence of Sir Henry Clinton's Orders to proceed to Georgia, with His Majesty's 71st Regiment of Foot, Two Battalions of Hessians, Four

Battalions of Provincials, and a Detachment of the Royal Artillery, I have the Honour to acquaint your Lordship of our having sailed from the Hook on the 27th of November, 1778, escorted by a Squadron of His Majesty's Ships of War, under the Command of Commodore Parker; and of the Arrival of the whole Fleet off the Island of Tybee on the 23d of December thereafter, Two Horse Sloops excepted.

On the 24th the Commodore, with the greatest Part of the Transports, got over the Bar, and anchored in the Savannah River, within the Light-house of Tybee; on the 27th the rest of the Fleet joined him.

During the Time occupied in bringing the last Division of the Fleet over the Bar, I formed from the Provincial Battalions Two Corps of Light Infantry; the one to be attached to Sir James Baird's Light Company of the 71st Highlanders, the other to Captain Cameron's Company of the same Regiment.

Having no Intelligence that could be depended upon with respect to the Military Force of Georgia, or the Disposition formed for it's Defence, Sir James Baird's Highland Company of Light Infantry, in Two Flat Boats, with Lieutenant Clark of the Navy, was dispatched in the Night of the 25th, to seize any of the Inhabitants they might find on the Banks of Wilmington Creek. Two Men were procured by this Means, by whom we learnt the most satisfactory Intelligence concerning the State of Matters at Savannah, and which settled the Commodore and I in the Resolution of landing the Troops the next Evening, at the Plantation of one Gerridoe, an important Post, Twelve Miles farther up the River than the Light-house of Tybee, and Two Miles short, in a direct Line, from the Town of Savannah, although the Distance was not less than Three along the Road. This Post was the first practicable Landing-place on the Savannah River, the whole Country between it and Tybee being a continued Tract of deep Marsh, intersected by the Creeks of St. Augustine and Tybee, of considerable Extent, and other Cuts of Water impassable for Troops at any Time of the Tide.

The Vigilant Man of War, with the Comet Galley, the Keppel Armed Brig, and the Greenwich Armed Sloop, followed by the Transports in Three Divisions, in the Order established for a Descent, proceeded up the River with the Tide at Noon; about Four o'Clock in the Evening the Vigilant opened the Reach to Gerridoe's Plantation, and was cannonaded by Two Rebel Gallies, who retired before any of their Bullets had reached her; a single Shot from the Vigilant quickened their Retreat.

The Tide and Evening being too far spent, and many of the Transports having grounded at the Distance of Five or Six Miles below Gerridoe's Plantation, the Descent was indispensably delayed till next Morning. The First Division of the Troops, consisting of all the Light Infantry of the Army, the New York Volunteers, and 1st Battalion of the 71st, under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Maitland, were landed at Break of Day on the River-dam, in Front of Gerridoe's Plantation, from whence a narrow Causeway of 600 Yards in length, with a Ditch on each Side, led through a Rice Swamp directly for Gerridoe's House, which stood upon a Bluff of 30 Feet in Height, above the Level of the Rice Swamps.

The Light Infantry under Captain Cameron, having first reached the Shore, were formed and led briskly forward to the Bluff, where a Body of 50 Rebels were posted; and from whom they received a smart Fire of Musquetry; but the Highlanders, rushing on with their usual Impetuosity, gave them no time to repeat it: They drove them instantly to the Woods, and happily secured a Landing for the Rest of the Army. Captain Cameron, a spirited and most valuable Officer, with Two Highlanders, were killed on this Occasion, and Five Highlanders wounded.

Upon reconnoitering the Environs of Geridoe's Plantation, I discovered the Rebel Army under Major-General Robert Howe, drawn up about half a Mile East of the Town of Savannah, with several Pieces of Cannon in their Front. The 1st Division of Troops, together with One Company of the 2d Battalion of the 71st, the 1st Battalion of Delancy's

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