

of Captain Huck turned out of less Consequence than it appeared at first: The Captain and three Men of the Legion were killed, and seven Men of the New-York Volunteers taken. On the Eastern Part of the Province, Major M<sup>r</sup>Arthur, seeing the great Importance of the Post at Chiraw Hill, and finding himself perfectly secure from any Attack of the Enemy, desired to continue there longer than it was intended he should, when I had the Honour of writing to you on the 15th. At last, however, the 71st Regiment grew so exceedingly sickly, that he found it absolutely necessary to move; and marched on the 24th to the East Branch of Linche's Creek. Gates, who has taken the Command of de Kalbe's Corps, was still on Deep River; and Rutherford no farther advanced than Rocky River, Pedee. Knowing of no Enemy within many Miles, he ventured to send about 100 Sick in Boats down the Pedee to George Town. Colonel Mills, who commanded the Militia of the Chiraw District, though a very good Man, had not complied with my Instructions in forming his Corps; but had placed more Faith in Oaths and Professions, and attended less to the former Conduct of those he admitted. The Instant this Militia found that M<sup>r</sup>Arthur had left his Post, and were assured that Gates would come there the next Day, they seized their own Officers, and the Hundred Sick, and carried them all Prisoners into North Carolina. Colonel Mills with Difficulty made his Escape to George-Town. The Wheat Harvest in North Carolina is now over; but the Weather is still excessively hot; and, notwithstanding our utmost Exertions, a great Part of the Rum, Salt, Cloathing, and Necessaries for the Soldiers, and the Arms for the Provincials, and Ammunition for the Troops, are not very far advanced on their Way to Camden. However, if no material Interruption happens, this Business will be nearly accomplished in a fortnight or three Weeks.

Our Assurances of Attachment from our distressed Friends in North Carolina are as strong as ever. And the Patience and Fortitude with which those unhappy People bear the most oppressive and cruel Tyranny that ever was exercised over any Country, deserve our greatest Admiration.

*Admiralty-Office, September 30, 1780.*

CAPTAIN Orde, of His Majesty's Ship the Virginia, arrived at this Office the 25th Instant from North America, with Dispatches from Vice-Admiral Arbuthnot, of which the following are Extracts.

*Europe, Gardiner's Island Bay, August 9, 1780.*

IN my Letter of the 3d of July last, I had the Honour to inform you of the Arrival of the Robust and Pearl from Halifax, and that Dispositions were made to receive the French Fleet should it arrive before Rear Admiral Graves; if otherwise, to put his Reinforcement in immediate Order for Service, to enable me to meet or pursue it.

On the 8th, the Triton and Guadalupe, which had been on the Look-out, returned with Intelligence that they had fallen in with the Enemy's Squadron on the 5th; that its Force consisted of Eight Ships of the Line and Frigates, and that it appeared to be steering to the Delaware.

On the 13th following Rear-Admiral Graves arrived at Sandy Hook with Six Ships of the Line, having left the Amphitrite with a French East Indiaman he had captured in his Way; and having landed the Sick, which were immediately replaced by Volunteers from the Ships in the Harbour, and their Water and Provisions being soon compleated, I passed the Bar with the Europe, Robust, Reasonable and Renown, on the 17th, and having received Intelligence that the Enemy had arrived at Rhode Island, I lost no Time in proceeding with the Squadron off that Place, and arrived there on the 22d. The Enemy appeared to have several considerable Encampments on the Shore, and had moored the Ships and Frigates in a Line extending from Rose Island to the Conanicut Shore.

In the mean Time the Blonde and Galatea were left with Orders to bring the Transports under their Convoy from New York, should the General judge an Attempt on Rhode Island to be warrantable. I remained at Anchor off Block Island until the 4th, when the Troops, which had embarked at Huntington Bay, being ordered on Shore, I proceeded to this Bay on the 6th, to procure Refreshments and to compleat our Water; and the Moment this is done, I shall resume my Station off Newport. Even here I am ready, at an Instant, eventually to co-operate with the Army, or to pursue the Enemy, as Opportunity and Occasion may offer or require.

The Coast is in the mean Time lined with Cruizers, every Frigate and Sloop I have being at Sea.

As their Lordships will undoubtedly be anxious to be informed, respecting our Situation, I dispatch the Virginia with this; and I desire to mention Captain Orde to their Lordships as an Officer of great Merit.

*Europe, off Martha's Vineyard, August 25, 1780:*

I Have been induced to detain the Virginia some Days longer than I at first intended, in the Hope that I might have some decisive Event to communicate to their Lordships.

But the Enemy still continue at Newport; the Report of an expected Reinforcement is yet current, and their Determination appears to remain inactive until they shall be strengthened.

I left Gardiner's Island Bay the 17th Instant; and having cruized with the Squadron for eight Days between Nantucket Shoals and the East End of Long Island, I anchored here Yesterday, and am ready to act as Events may point out. Every Wind that enables the Enemy to sail from Rhode Island, is fair to me: They cannot move, but I must have instant Notice of it.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, SEPTEMBER 26, 1780.

THIS Day, in pursuance of the King's Pleasure, the following Flag Officers of His Majesty's Fleet were promoted.

Mathew Buckle, Esq;

Robert Man, Esq;

Hugh Pigot, Esq;

Right Honourable Molyneux Lord Shuldham,

John Vaughan, Esq;

Robert Duff, Esq;

John Reynolds, Esq;

Sir Hugh Palliser, Bart.

Honourable John Byron,

Mathew Barton, Esq;

Sir Peter Parker, Knt.

Honourable Samuel Barrington,

Mariot Arbuthnot, Esq;

Robert Roddam, Esq;

George Darby, Esq;

John Campbell, Esq;

} Vice-Admirals of the Red, — To be Admirals of the Blue.

} Vice-Admirals of the White, } To be Vice-Admirals of the Red.

} Vice-Admiral of the Blue, }

} Vice-Admirals of the Blue, — To be Vice-Admirals of the White.

James