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Whitehall, April 24, 1781.

EXTRACT of a Letter from the Hon. Major-General Vaughan, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in the Leeward Islands, to Lord George Germain, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, brought by Captain Nicolls, of the Royal Regiment of Foot, who arrived in His Majesty's Ship Venus from St. Eustatius.

St. Eustatius, March 18, 1781.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the Pleasure to inform your Lordship, that since I had the Honour of writing to you on the 5th Instant, the Colony of Demarary and the River Essequibo have, in consequence of a Summons made by Two of His Majesty's Sloops of War, commanded by Captains Day and Pindar, submitted to His Majesty's Arms. The Terms which the Admiral and myself have thought proper to grant them for the present, I have the Honour to inclose your Lordship.

I have the Honour further to inform your Lordship, that having sent Lieutenant-Colonel Ferguson to the Island of St. Bartholomew, that Island immediately surrendered to His Majesty's Protection; a Copy of which, with the Return of the Ordnance found there, I have the Honour to transmit your Lordship.

C O P Y.

Sandwich, St. Eustatius, March 14, 1781.

WE the General Officers and Commanders in Chief of His Britannick Majesty's Forces in the West Indies, do, in His Royal Name, demand an immediate Surrender of the Island of St. Bartholomew, with all its Dependencies.

The Inhabitants of the Island, on taking the Oaths of Allegiance, will be permitted to remain in full Possession of their Property, and be received as Subjects under the Protection of the British Crown, till His Majesty's Pleasure is known.

(Signed.) G. B. RODNEY.
J. VAUGHAN.

(C O P Y.)

St. Bartholomew, March 15, 1781.

WHEREAS Colonel Ferguson and Captain Græme have demanded an immediate Surrender of this Island in the Name of His Britannick Majesty, by Order of their Excellencies Sir George Brydges Rodney, Bart. K. B. and the Honorable General Vaughan, Commanders in Chief of His Majesty's Fleets and Armies in the West-Indies;—
WE, the Governor and principal Inhabitants of the Island of St. Bartholomew, do accordingly deliver up the said Island to the Arms of Great Britain, and do declare ourselves Subjects thereof, relying upon the Justice and Humanity of the Commanders in Chief for Protection.

GOD save King GEORGE.

Return of the Ordnance found on the Island of St. Bartholomew, when taken Possession of the 15th of March, 1781.

(C O P Y.)

One Eighteen-pounder. }
Two Nine-pounders. } All French.
Two Four-pounders. }

And Seven others in different Parts of the Island.
(Signed) D. SANXAY,
Assistant Dep. Adj. General.

[Price Three-Pence Halfpenny.]

Admiralty-Office, April 24, 1781.

CAPTAIN Balfour arrived this Morning with Dispatches from Vice-Admiral Arbuthnot, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships in North America, to Mr. Stephens, of which the following are Copy and Extract.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Arbuthnot to Mr. Stephens, dated Royal Oak, in Lynne-haven Bay, March 20, 1781.

MY Letter of the 15th ult. by the Mercury Pacquet will have acquainted their Lordships with the Loss of the Culloden, and Disfigurement of the Bedford, in a Gale of Wind on the 23d of January, at the East End of Long Island, and of the Absence of the America, which at that Time was driven to Sea, but returned without Damage on the 8th ult.

In the mean while every possible Exertion was made to get the lower Masts out of the Culloden, for the Bedford; but the Weather was so exceedingly severe and tempestuous, that it was not effected until the 1st Instant.

The Enemy deriving Courage and Confidence from these Misfortunes, at one Time, during the Absence of the America, and believing that the Bedford also was lost, meditated an Attack upon us, which however they laid aside, after their Emisaries had reconnoitred our Position in Gardiners Bay.

An Attempt was next made against our Naval Force employed to co-operate with Brigadier-General Arnold in Virginia. I received early Intimation of their Intentions, and accordingly put these Officers upon their Guard. This was to have been executed by the Eveillé, a coppered 64, and Two Frigates which sailed from Rhode Island on the 8th of February; but finding it impossible to succeed in that Quarter, left it on the 10th following.

I had, on the Communication of this Intelligence, dispatched the Charlestown to Carolina, to order the Chatham (of whose Arrival I had been informed) with the Roebuck, Romulus, and some Frigates, to proceed to Virginia, and endeavour to cut off their Return; which, however, was rendered abortive by the Shortness of their Stay. I am sorry to add, that they fell in with and captured the Romulus on their Passage back off the Capes of Virginia, as she was proceeding thither from Charlestown to relieve the Charon; having failed, in consequence of a prior Engagement, before the Charlestown could reach her.

It was now necessary, from the Discontents in the Rebel Army, and among the Minds of the People, to attempt something to revive a drooping Cause; the Danger of Virginia from the enterprising Spirit of Brigadier-General Arnold, had he been strengthened, which was likely to happen, must become imminent; the Plan therefore, adopted by the Rebels and their Allies, was by a combined Operation to attack him, and, by reducing him and his Detachment, to set at Liberty the whole Force of the Southern Provinces, to act against Lord Cornwallis in Carolina. The Parties from Mr. Washington's Army, under the Marquis de Fayette, were to proceed down the Elk by the Way of Maryland; whilst a large Body of Virginian Militia, under a Mr. Nelson in this Colony, were collecting to attack him in Concert with the French Troops commanded by the Count de Rochambault. I had the Honor to give Information of these Designs to Sir Henry Clinton at New York; and as my Intelligence from