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Whitehall, August 7, 1781.

*Extract of a Letter from the Honourable Major-General Vaughan to Lord George Germain, dated Barbados, June 16, 1781. Received by the Childers Sloop.*

MY LORD,

ON the 10th of May, the French Fleet, consisting of 24 Ships of the Line and Frigates, landed Troops at St. Lucia, and summoned Pidgeon Island to surrender; but on viewing the Vigie and Morne, with the other Parts of that Island under Military Government, they judged it prudent to re-embark their Troops, and quitted St. Lucia very quickly.

On this Occasion I beg Leave to observe, for your Lordship's kind Representation to His Majesty, the very great Exertions and Attention shewn by Brigadier-General St. Leger; who commands in that Island, to its Strength and Security, and the great Ardour and Chearfulness with which the Troops in that important Post have executed their Duty; and permit me, my Lord, to add, that I consider myself and the Service much indebted to the Alacrity and Aid given by Captain Robert Linzee and Captain Rodney, and the other Officers and Seamen of His Majesty's Frigates, posted at the Vigie and Pidgeon Island at the Time the Enemy made their Landing.

Nor can I omit taking Notice of the very spirited and meritorious Part of the Merchants, who embodied themselves for the Defence of His Majesty's Island.

On this Expedition of the Enemy to St. Lucia, the only Loss on our Part, that I have heard, is a few Sick Men of the 46th Regiment, which, with their Comforts and Necessaries, they carried off.

Upon the 27th, hearing that a flying Squadron of the Enemy had appeared near Tobago, Sir George Rodney dispatched Rear-Admiral Drake, with six Sail of the Line, and some Frigates, in which I had the 60th Regiment, a Flank Company of the 60th, and a Volunteer Company under the Command of Brigadier-General Skeene, to succour and relieve that Island: On the Rear-Admiral's Approach, finding the whole French Fleet had invested the Island, he apprized Sir George Rodney of it, and returned with his Squadron to form a Junction with the Rest of the Fleet: On receiving this Information the 2d current, I immediately embarked with Admiral Rodney, who sailed on the 3d, with the whole Fleet, to the Relief of Tobago. Arriving on the 4th near the Island, we sent on Shore an Officer to procure the necessary Intelligence, and Guides to conduct the Troops to relieve the Garrison. On his Return I was informed that the Island had capitulated, a Circumstance I learned with much Concern; but not having received any Accounts as yet from that Quarter, prevents my giving your Lordship the Particulars.

*Copy of a Letter from Brigadier-General St. Leger to the Honourable Major-General Vaughan, dated St. Lucia, May 14, 1781.*

S I R,

FROM what I could observe of the Motions of the Enemy at Martinique, I was convinced they meant an Attack on this Island, which made me very diligent in preparing for them. On Thursday the 10th Instant they embarked at St. Ann's, and that Evening landed at L'Esperance and Port Dauphin. They had Twenty-five Sail of the Line and some Frigates, which kept a-bread and to Windward of Pidgeon Island. The next Morning

early, the 11th, they took Possession of Gros-Islet, and summoned Pidgeon Island to surrender, which was rejected with proper Contempt. They advanced Detachments to take Possession of the Heights opposite the Morne Fortune, where we discovered them at Day-break on the 12th, after a tiresome March. About One o'Clock P M. their Fleet came to an Anchor in Chocque Bay; their Windward Ships just within Reach of Pidgeon Island Battery, which struck several of them, and made them weigh, and come to an Anchor out of Shot. I was much pleased to see that Battery so effectual against every Ship that came within Reach of it's Guns. This Movement of their Fleet induced me to think, they either intended to land their Marines, or take on Board their advanced Detachments; it proved the latter, which they did that Night; the rest re-embarked to the Windward of Gros Islet; their Numbers I have not yet been able to learn; they were commanded by the Marquis de Bouille and a Major-General. Their Design was to cut off the 46th Regiment, and make a Push at the Morne Fortune; being disappointed in that, and having reconnoitred this Hill (from a neighbouring Plantation) which they found very well prepared for them, they thought proper to retreat. Just as the Enemy was preparing to land, the Thetis, Santa Monica, and Sybil, Frigates, with the Scourge Sloop, were off the Carenage; Captain Linzee, of the Santa Monica, came up to the Morne, to consult what was best to be done for the Good of the Service. I strongly recommended their coming into the Carenage, which they did, and afforded a great Strength to the Garrison: The Thetis unfortunately struck on a Rock, and is now sunk near the Cornwall. Captain Robert Linzee made every Effort to save his Ship; that being impossible, he came up with his Men to Morne Fortune, where he was of essential Service. Captain Linzee of the Santa Monica commanded in the Carenage, and had the Direction of the Vigie, which was well manned, as well as all the Batteries, with the Captains of Merchantmen and their Sailors. Upon the Enemy's first appearing I formed all the English in Carenage into a Corps of Militia, who shewed a great Deal of Spirit. I assure your Excellency the Troops and Sailors have gone through a great Deal of Fatigue, in preparing for the Enemy, with more Chearfulness than I am able to describe. Though I have every Reason to believe all their Troops are re-embarked, I shall be very much upon my Guard against any Coup they may hereafter meditate. Captain Linzee and I have thought it right to dispatch the Scourge in Search of Sir George Rodney, to let him and you know how Matters stand, and have dispatched a Schooner to Barbados, to put them on their Guard.

On the Approach of the Enemy, on the 10th, a Sloop went off for Barbados, by which I wrote to General Cuninghame; as I firmly believed, if they did not attack me, they would go there.

I have the Honour, &c.

(Signed) A. ST. LÉGER.

*Lord Chamberlain's Office, August 7, 1781.*

NOTICE is hereby given, that there will not be a Drawing-Room at St. James's on Thursday next the 9th Instant.

WE, whose Hands are hereunto set, Commissioners nominated amongst others in His Majesty's Commission, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain, bearing Date at Westminster the 26th Day of August

