

derable, though, at present, I am unable to specify to your Lordship the Particulars of it.

Thus disappointed in his Views, General Greene the ensuing Day raised the Siege, and retired with his Army behind the Saluda, to a strong Situation, within Sixteen Miles of Ninety Six, at which Post Lord Rawdon arrived on the 21st.

The essential Service done by the Troops under Colonel Cruger, in this gallant Defence of the Post, which was closely pressed by the Enemy, and the noble Spirit with which they repelled the Assault of all Green's Army, is much too obvious to require any Tribute I could pay to such distinguished Merit.

*Extract of a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Balfour to Lord George Germain, dated Charles Town, July 2, 1781.*

SINCE the Date of my Dispatch of the 27th Ultimo, I have been honored with Two Letters from Lord Rawdon, who pursued General Greene to the Fords of the Ennoree; but, though near, was unable to come up with him, from the uncommon Precipitancy with which the Enemy retreated, and their having so much the Advance on the March. This Circumstance, and the great Fatigue of the Troops in attempting to counteract it, rendering improbable all Hopes of overtaking General Greene's Army, so as to effect any Thing decisive, Lord Rawdon is returned to Ninety-Six; and General Greene having passed the Jyger and Broad Rivers, it would from thence seem that the Object of his March pointed towards Virginia, which, I am the rather inclined to believe from the Intelligence, to which, however, I do not give the fullest Credit, which has reached me, of his being ordered there to join the Force now under Generals La Fayette and Wayne.

*Admiral's-Office, August 11, 1781.*

SINCE the Publication of the Gazette of Saturday last, a Copy of Sir Samuel Hood's Letter to Sir George Brydges Rodney, giving an Account of his Action with the French Fleet under the Command of Mons. De Grasse has been received, of which the following is an Extract.

*Extract of a Letter from Rear-Admiral Sir Samuel Hood, Bart. to Admiral Sir George Brydges Rodney, Bart. Knight of the Bath, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships at the Leeward Islands, dated Barfleur, at Sea, May 4, 1781.*

AT Seven, A. M. on Saturday the 28th of last Month, His Majesty's Ship Amazon being to Windward of Point Salines, discovered a very large Fleet; and at Nine, her Signal of it was repeated to me by the Ruffel, which Ship I had just ordered to St. Lucia, having 130 Sick on Board, and she came back again to me.

I immediately made the Signal for a general Chace to the S. E. in order to bring all the Ships well up to Windward, and at Ten, I formed the Line a-head at Two Cables Length asunder. On opening Rock Diamond saw nothing of the Fleet but from the Mast-head, which were then upon a Wind to the Southward. Captain Finch, very properly, as soon as he saw his Signal repeated, stood back to reconnoitre the Fleet: At Twelve he returned near enough for me to see his Signal for an Enemy of superior Force; and upon my desiring to know how many Ships of the Line there were, he answered Nineteen. A little before Two, Captain Finch came on Board, and informed me, that he saw Nineteen Sail of the Line very distinctly, and Two others of Two Decks, that he thought were armed *en Flute*; the Number of Frigates he could not ascertain, as Three only were drawn out from the Convoy; that the Convoy was very numerous, and the whole standing to the Northward, which was the Situation we saw Part of them in at Sunset from the Mast-head, most of them being to the Northward of Point Salines.

I sent Captain Finch immediately to tell Rear Admiral Drake I desired to see him; upon his coming on Board, I told him I should continue the Line a-head, and get to Windward as much as I could, by carrying all my plain Sail, and be close in with Fort Royal at Day-light, as it was uncertain which Way the Enemy would come;

which he was pleased to say was the best I could do. I ordered Captain Finch to Windward again to endeavour to get Sight of the Enemy; and, upon distinctly seeing them, to make certain Signals I gave him, that I might know whether they were upon the Starboard or Larboard Tack, or coming before the Wind. Just after Sun-set I tacked the Squadron all together, stood to the Northward, and kept close in with Fort Royal all Night.

Saw nothing of the Enemy, or Amazon, at Day-light; a little before Nine the Amazon joined me, the Enemy then in Sight, coming down between Points Salines and the Diamond Rock; made the Signal for a close Line, and to prepare for Action: At Nine the Enemy appeared, forming the Line of Battle; 20 Minutes past Nine the Prince William joined me from Gros Ilet Bay, and as I sent for her but the Night before Captain Douglas's Exertion must have been great, and does him much Credit, to be with me so soon, having the greatest Part of his Crew to collect in the Night: 27 Minutes past Nine hoisted our Colours, as did the French Admiral and his Fleet; at 15 Minutes past Ten made the Shrewsbury's Signal to alter her Course to Windward, she being the leading Ship; but soon perceived the Wind had shifted, and that she was as close to the Wind as she could lay; at 35 Minutes past Ten tacked the Squadron all together, the Van of the Enemy being almost a-breast of our Center, and at Eleven began to fire, which I took no Notice of; at this Time the Ships in Fort Royal Bay flipped their Cabels, and got under Sail: At 20 Minutes past Eleven I tacked the Squadron all together, and repeated the Signal for a close Order of Battle; At 25 Minutes past Eleven finding the Enemy's Shot to go over us, hoisted the Signal for engaging; and, in passing our Van and the Enemy's Rear exchanged some Broad-sides; at 40 Minutes past Eleven the Enemy tacked; at 45 Minutes past Eleven made the Signal for the Rear to close the Center; at 55 Minutes past Eleven, finding it impossible to get up to the Enemy's Fleet, I invited it to come to me, by bringing the Squadron to, under their Top-sails; at Half past Twelve the French Admiral, in the Bretagne, began to fire at the Barfleur, which was immediately returned, and the Action became general, but at too great a Distance; and, I believe, never was more Powder and Shot thrown away in one Day before; but it was with Monsieur de Grasse the Option of Distance lay: It was not possible for me to go nearer: at One I made the Signal for the Van to fill; the French having filled and drawing ahead; at 17 Minutes past One, made the Shrewsbury's Signal (the leading Ship) to make more Sail, and set the Top-gallant Sails; at 34 Minutes past One repeated the Signal for a close Line of Battle; and finding not One in Ten of the Enemy's Shot reach us, I ceased firing; the Enemy did the same soon after; but their Van and our's, being somewhat nearer, continued to engage: And though the French Admiral had Ten Sail astern of him, and Three others to Windward, he did not make a nearer Approach. The Merchant Ships, at this Time, were hauling in close under the Land, attended by Two Ships of Two Decks, supposed to be armed *en Flute*, and Two Frigates: At 18 Minutes past Three the Firing ceased between our Van and that of the Enemy: Made the Shrewsbury's Signal to make more Sail, in order to get to Windward of the Enemy: At 45 Minutes past Four sent Captain Finch to the Shrewsbury, to order Captain Robinson to keep as near the Wind and carry all the Sail he could, so as to preserve the Line of Battle, and to return back along the Line to acquaint every Captain of the same. At 57 Minutes past Five the Pacquet going to Antigua, which had kept Company with the Squadron, came within Hail, to acquaint me, by Order of Rear-Admiral Drake, that the Ruffel was in great Distress, having received several Shot between Wind and Water; that the Water was over the Platform of the Magazine, and gaining upon the Pumps; and that Three of their Guns were dismounted: At 18 Minutes past Six made the Ruffel's Signal to come within Hail, which was answered. The Enemy's Fleet, consist-