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Downing-Street, October 15, 1799.

DISPATCHEs, of which the following are Copies, have been received by the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Lieutenant-General Trigge and Vice-Admiral the Right Honorable Lord Hugh Seymour, Commanders in Chief of His Majesty's Land and Sea Forces in the Leeward and Windward Charibbee Islands.

*Head-Quarters, Paramaribo,
August 23, 1799.*

SIR,

IT affords me very particular Satisfaction to have the Honor of acquainting you, that the Colony of Surinam surrendered to His Majesty the 20th Instant; and that the British Troops took Possession of Fort New Amsterdam, the principal Forts, on the following Day.

On receiving your Instructions of the 14th of June by Lord Hugh Seymour, I lost no Time in making such Arrangements as were necessary for collecting Troops from Grenada and St. Lucia, which, with those I proposed taking from Martinique, would complete the Number directed to be employed in the Reduction of this Settlement.

The Admiral conceiving it advisable to dispatch Captain Ekins in the Amphitrite to examine this Coast and prevent any Vessels getting in with Intelligence, it afforded me an Opportunity of sending Lieutenant-Colonel Shipley, Commanding Engineer, to make such Observations as might be useful on the Occasion.

The Troops being assembled at Fort Royal, embarked the 30th of last Month on board the different Ships appointed to receive them, and the Squadron, consisting of Two Line of Battle Ships and Five Frigates, with some small Craft carrying Stores and Provisions, put to Sea on the 31st Ultimo.

On the 11th of this Month we made the Coast to Windward of the River Surinam, and fell in with the Amphitrite Frigate, which had been sent forward from Martinique for the Purposes I have already mentioned. She was afterwards on the 12th and again on the 14th ordered to reconnoitre the Coast, and ascertain with Precision the Strength of the Post at Blam's Point, which defends the Entrance of the River. This Service was executed by Lieutenant-Colonel Shipley with great Zeal and

Judgment; and, had it been necessary to effect a Landing, his Observations would have proved of the most essential Service.

Captain Ekins of the Amphitrite, and Lieutenant Senhoute commanding the Requin, were generally employed as Parties of Observation, and have great Merit for the Zeal and Activity which they evinced in the Execution of the fatiguing and arduous Duty entrusted to them.

The Squadron stood in towards Surinam on the 16th Instant, and came to Anchor off the Mouth of the River that Afternoon, when it was agreed between Lord Hugh Seymour and myself to summon the Colony to surrender, which was accordingly done in the Evening. But, as the Governor requested Forty-eight Hours to consider the Proposals, his Answer was not received till the 18th, which was delivered by a Deputation from the Colony, composed of some Military Officers and Gentlemen, Inhabitants of the Settlement, who were empowered to treat with us generally on the Terms proposed, but not authorized to conclude the Capitulation finally, the Ratification of the several Articles being reserved for the Governor.

It being impossible, from the Shallowness of the Water, to proceed up the River with the Line of Battle Ships, a Disposition was made on the Morning of the 19th to remove the Troops from the Prince of Wales and Invincible to the small Craft, which was immediately effected; when they, with Four Frigates, (the Admiral and myself being in One of them,) got under Weigh, and in the Afternoon anchored Two Miles above the Entrance of the River. A Detachment of the 60th Regiment was then landed, and took Possession of the Redoubts and Battery at Bram's Point, called Petit Keyn, which had been previously abandoned.

In the Situation now described, the Squadron continued till the Night of the 20th Instant, when the Capitulation was returned finally ratified and confirmed by the Governor, which enabled us to proceed on the following Day with the Ships and small Craft lying within the River, to Fort New Amsterdam, which was then taken Possession of by Four Hundred Men of the 5th Battalion of the 60th, under the Command of Major Dorfner, the Acting Adjutant-General, Major Thomas having also landed with this Detachment.