

Adm^t: House

New York.

March 28th 1782. -

Sir,

I was with the greatest
Pleasure I received Your Majesty's Letter by Cap^l Edwards.
We had not heard from England, before the Nancy was arrived,
about 23 weeks. She made her passage in 63 days, with the loss of
her Mizen Mast & all the rest of her rigging cut to pieces by the
violence of the weather. Her Ship's Company were all ill of the
scurvy.

As I was finishing the Letter I intended for Your Majesty
we heard of the capture by the French of St. Kitts on the 29th Feb-
-ruary, & having mentioned several circumstances, which were
intended to show that the capture would not take place or soon,
I have been obliged to alter my opinion.

Ad: Krompenfeldt's dispersing that French Fleet will be the
means of St. George Rodney's arriving first in the West Indies,
& of making our fleet superior to theirs: we have 24 Sail of the Line
the French have 29; I understand St. George is to bring with him
12 Sail of the Line which will make us superior to the French,
& I make no doubt of Your Majesty's receiving a very good
account of those gentry.

Gen: Elliot's sortie at Gibraltar must have been very decisive in
our favour. The affairs in the East Indies promise very well
for a successful campaign next summer, Gen: Murray at Mo-
-rocco does not seem to be at all uneasy or afraid of the Spa-
-niards taking St. Philips. Neither the Dutch or the Spani-
-ards have great reasons to be pleased with the success they have
had this war: it is only the French. We shall still do very well,
if we succeed this summer.

Our privateers this winter have not been very successful: there have
been some rich Prizes sent in. Cap: Borely has retaken the Bo-
-netta Schoop of War. Lost with the privateer sent in there or four
ships, pursued for 20 Guns. The privateers have been more suc-
-cessful than the Men of War.

There is an Expedition on foot: for the following Regiments are ordered to embark at a n hours warning (the 2^d, 3^d, 4th, 5th, British Legion & Queen's Rangers). They are to be under the command either of Gen: O'Hara or Gen: Abercrombie. Some people say they are going to the West Indies because the Grenadier Companies of each Regiment are to join them. In short it is a secret wherever they are going to.

As to my own private life I regret very much the loss of this whole winter without going to Sea. I have continued my studies with Mr. Wadington every Morning from ten to twelve in the forenoon. With Mr. Majordie I am writing an extract, that he has collected from different people, relative to the present state of affairs in this continent.

The French have lost a frigate of 32 Guns, called the Diligente. They agree very indifferently with the Americans, who begin to grow jealous of them. At Philadelphia there has been a riot about the heavy taxes, of which the whole nation complain most grievously.

I hope the Queen is in perfect health: Adieu my Duty to Her Majesty & my love to my Brothers & Sisters &

over leave,

Sir, I

Your Majesty's most Dutiful
and Affectionate Son,
William. I