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[July 16 1786 - June 6 1787]

A copy of all Orders issued out, from the 16.th July 1786,
to the date hereof.

Pegasus, Placentia Harbour, 16, July 1786.

It is my directions that whenever the Hands are turned up
on any occasion, the Officers are expected to remain in their
respective Stations, until either the Watch is turned up, or
the duty required is performed and the people dismissed.

Pegasus, Placentia Harbour, 26, July 1786.

Whenever the uniform Cloathing may be delivered out, it is
ordered, that each Man is exact in returning every part of it
to the Mate or Midshipman of his division, who is to take care
and see it put into the Chest: and they are strictly forbid to
keep any of their cloathing, without permission from the
Officer of their division.

Pegasus, Placentia Harbour, 14, August 1786.

Whenever the Signal is made from the Commanding Officer's Ship
for a Lieutenant, a Midshipman is to go in the Boat, and remain in
Her, until the Officer has received the Orders:— and when for
a Midshipman, two are to go, one to remain in the Boat while the
other

other is answering the Signal, taking care not to quit the Boat, but upon the most pressing Occasion.--

Pegasus at Sea, 11. November 1786.

It is my positive Orders and directions that the Officers and Midshipmen belonging to His Majesty's Ship under my Command, be not prevented when at Sea, from spreading abaft the Mizen mast or hanging up in the Mizen rigging their Cloaths, so long as the things hung up do not impede His Majesty's Service, and it is expected that these things are taken down as soon as they are dry.

Pegasus, at Sea, 5. November 1786.

In order to keep the lower deck perfectly cool and clean, it is my directions that while the Pegasus remains either in warm weather or in the West Indies, that the Foremast men do dine on deck, except in rainy or bad weather, for which purpose one Man from each Mess is to have permission to go down at six Bells to bring up their Bread, Bowls, &c. -- And on the Hands being turned up or the Watch called, they are to carry them down in the same Form. -- The lower deck is to be constantly every morning, except on the days appointed for washing it, cleaned with wet Swabs, and no Person suffered to go below until it is perfectly dry.

Pegasus, at Sea, 11th December 1786.

From my having seen the Ship's Company laying about a Sleep at Night on the Decks, and on the Rooms, out of their Hammacoes in their cloaths, It is my positive Orders, that the Seamen and Marines do not
lay

lay about in that shameful and scandalous Manner, as they have been indulged in this warm weather to hang up their Hammacoes under the Fore-Castle, Half Deck, Booms, and Gangways, and they may depend upon being most severely punished, if they are caught asleep in the open air with their cloaths on, unless they have the Watch on Deck.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 10th January 1787.

In order to prevent mistakes in future, it is my positive orders and directions, that the bargemen belonging to His Majesty's ship under my command, are never sent on any other Service in any boats but the Barge, or the Boat that is sent for the Captain; except on the most urgent necessity, and then only when no other men are to be found.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 15 January 1787.

That for the future, the Order Book of His Majesty's ship Pegasus, is kept in the first Lieutenant's Cabin, and that whenever, I think it necessary to give out fresh Orders, that the first Lieutenant will send the Book by the day Mate to the Commissioned Officers, that He will then deliver this Book to the Quarter Master of the Watch, who will carry it to the Starboard Berth where the Gentlemen Mess, and after having been copied by the Midshipmen in the Berth, the Quarter Master is to take this Book over to the Larboard side, from whence he will return it to the day Mate, who will carry it into the first Lieutenant's Cabin. — The first Lieutenant is then to acquaint me of the Officers and Midshipmen having seen and copied the orders.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 15, January 1787.

It is expected that the first Lieutenant sees by this day Ten night, that the Midshipmen's Order Books and Lists are complete. The Officers of the divisions will likewise see that their respective Midshipmen comply with this Order.

Pegasus, in English Harbour, Antigua, 21, January 1787.

My Clerk having wrote up the Order Books for the Gentlemen, Mr. Sact is to have charge of the Book in the Starboard Birth, and Mr. Mainwarring in the Larboard one. All Orders I may from time to time give out, are for the future to be copied by Mr. Rowley in the Starboard Birth, and by Mr. Dilson in the Larboard one. Every Sunday morning the day Mate is to carry these books to the first Lieutenant, who is to see that they are properly wrote and cleanly kept, and then to report to me.

Pegasus, in English Harbour, Antigua, 22, January 1787.

Whenever the Barge or any other Boat is ordered to be manned for the Captain, or a Commissioned Officer, or for any other purpose, the Boat is not to be reported ready till the Gentleman who is to take care of the Men is in the Boat.

Pegasus, in English Harbour, Antigua, 22, January 1787.

For the future, when a Captain comes on board, or goes out of the Ship, the Boatswain is to Pipe the side, and for a Commissioned Officer one of his Mates.

Pegasus, in English Harbour, Antigua, 23, January 1787.

It is my positive orders and directions that for the future, no boats whatsoever leave the Ship on any account without my being acquainted,
and

and if any are sent whilst I am absent from the Ship, upon my return I am to be acquainted immediately.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 23 January 1787.

From Mr. Schomberg's neglecting to inform me yesterday of his sending a Boat on Shore, and Mr. Smollet's doing the same, I think proper to recommend the reading over of these orders with attention to the Officers and Gentlemen, as for the future I shall make them accountable for their conduct in disobeying my commands, or orders, I may from time to time give out.

Pegasus, English Harbour Antigua, 24 January 1787.

Until such time as the Barge is fit to be used, I consider the Cutter as my Boat, but to prevent any inconveniences arising from the want of boats, the Cutter is to be sent on His Majesty's Service, but on no other account, and then with a proper crew, not with the barge men. And in order to explain my Order of yesterday's date, concerning the boats; - when I return the first Lieutenant or Commanding Officer, is to give me a written account signed by himself of all boats sent in my absence, and on what account.

Pegasus, English Harbour Antigua, 25 January 1787.

The new canvas jackets of the Ship's Company, are to be kept by each man in his bag, and never to be worn without orders from the Quarter Deck; the Officers and Gentlemen are to see that their respective men comply with this Order.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 25 January 1787.

For the future, when His Majesty's Ship Pegasus is in Port, the cloaths of the Ship's Company are to be mustered every Sunday, and at Sea,
the

The first Sunday in every Month, as were formerly mustered in Order
the 15th

Pegasus, English Harbour Antigua, 27th January 1787.

To prevent future abuse when watering, two Gentlemen are to go in the Launch, one to attend the filling, and the other the rolling the Cask into the Boat, and they are both to pay particular attention, to prevent the people straggling - The Gentlemen when ordered to take care of boats crews, are on no account whatever to allow a man to move out of a Boat, but in case of Rain, when the Gentlemen are to see the men do not straggle.

Pegasus, English Harbour Antigua, 29th January 1787.

The Gentlemen ordered to attend in the Barge, are to be particularly attentive to see that the Bargesmen pull together and strong, and that they do by no means move their Heads from side to side, but look steady, and the bargemen may depend on being most severely punished if they do not follow this Order.

Pegasus, English Harbour Antigua, 30th January 1787.

No petty Officers or Foremast Men are to go on Liberty, either on Shore or on board other Ships, till after they have dined.

Pegasus, English Harbour Antigua, 4th February 1787.

It is my positive orders and directions, that no Person either man or boy, be allowed to go overboard to swim, without my leave first obtained, and it is expected that the Officers and Gentlemen, see this Order, so beneficial to the Ship's Company's Health, and so essential for their preservation most rigidly observed.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 5th February 1787.

No Petty Officer or Seaman to go on Shore, or on board other Ships on leave, but in jackets and Trowsers.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 5th February 1787.

Whenever there are sixteen Inches of Water in the Hold, the first Lieutenant, at anchor, and the Officer of the Watch at Sea, are to have the Ship pumped out, and the Carpenter and his Mate, are to be attentive in reporting the State of the Well.

It is my positive orders and directions, that the Master always works the Ship, whether it is All Hands, or the Watch only on deck, and the Officer of the Watch is to have the Master called in the Night to put the Ship about, and the Officers are not to give any directions in Staying or Wearing, but only to see that the people work with silence and alertness.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 5th February 1787.

When the Hands are turned up, the youngest or acting Lieutenant and the day Mate, and Boatswain's Mate go down between decks and see every body up. The Lieutenant is then to report to me.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 5th February 1787.

When the commander in Chief makes either a general Signal to the Fleet, or the particular Signal of His Majesty's Ship under my command, the Officer of the Watch is to make me acquainted with the colour of the flags, and the place where they are hoisted, and not to hoist the answering Flag, till they have received my Orders for that purpose.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 5. February 1787.

The Officers and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Ship Pegasus, are for the future to be at Watch and Watch at Sea, and at an Anchor at three watches. —

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 5. February 1787.

Whenever a Man is entered, He is to be put in some persons vacancy, He is to have that person's number of His Hammock and Bag, his birth and mess, he is to be quartered and stationed in the different parts of the Ship, where the man his predecessor was.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 7. February 1787.

To prevent mistakes in future, concerning the authority of the day mate, He is of course when the Hands are turned up, stationed on the Main deck, except when the Ship is either mooring or unmooring, He is to be with the Divers in the Piers, or when the rigging is setting up, He is to be an assistant to the Master, in seeing the tackles properly clapped on the Shrouds, and the lanyards racked and made fast: — in all other duties, except when employed in the Hold, and on the provisions, He is entirely with the day Boatswain's Mate, under the immediate command of the first Lieutenant or the Officer carrying on the duty.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 7. February 1787.

From Mr. Hope's neglecting to inform me of his returning on board when I sent him on duty this morning, both Officers and Gentlemen are for the future, whether they return from duty or leave, to inform me in person, if I am on board at the time, if not, they are to write their names down in a Book for that purpose, as will in future the first

Lieutenant

Lieutenant, or Commanding Officer, the names of those that are sent on duty, or have his leave to go on Shore during my absence...

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 10th February 1787.

Captain Nelson, the senior Captain of His Majesty's ships and Vessels employed and to be employed in these Seas, having thought proper to establish a Guard, in order to put into force two Acts of Parliament, passed in the twenty-sixth year of His present Majesty, an Act for the increase of Navigation, and an Act for the further preventing illicit commerce in His Majesty's dominions. It is my positive orders and directions, that during the time His Majesty's Ship under my command, has only two Lieutenants, from Mr. Schomberg's being under Arrest, Mr. Hope is to board Vessels coming into the different Roadsteads of the West India Islands, from Sunrise to Sunset. When it is the Pegasus Guard, He is to board Ships, Brigs, Schooners, Sloops, and Brougers, and of other days, Ships Brigs and Schooners only: at all times a Gentleman, not a youngster is to go with Him.

Pegasus, at Sea, 14. February 1787.

From my observing the negligence with which the Gentlemen's Hammocks are got up and carried down, I expect for the future, that when the Hammocks are piped up, they are all on deck in fifteen minutes, at the end of which time, the day mate is to report at an anchor to the first Lieutenant, and at Sea to the officer of the Watch; the names of those, whose Hammocks are not up, when piped down they are all to be off the Deck in seven minutes, and the day mate is to report in the same manner.

Pegasus, Charles Town Road, Nevis, 15, February 1787.

Captain Nelson the Senior Officer of His Majesty's Ships in these Seas, having appointed Mr. Church to act in Lieutenant Schomberg's room, the Officers and Gentlemen, to be at Sea at three watches, at an anchor the Gentlemen only to keep watch in Port the first Lieutenant to carry on the duty of the Ship, the second and third to row Guard, as specified in Order 112, alternately, two commissioned Officers to be constantly on board, the other may be absent on leave. — At Sea there is to be no day officer, but the Officer of the morning Watch, when the between decks is washing or cleaning is to attend in Person with the day Mate, and then report to me. — Twothirds of the Gentlemen to be always on board at an anchor.

Pegasus, Charles Town Road, Nevis, 19th February 1787.

From Lieutenants Hope and Winter neglecting being on board at Gunfire yesterday evening, it is my positive orders and directions, that no officer is out of His Majesty's Ship under my command, after Gunfire, and no Gentleman after sunset, but with my most particular leave.

Pegasus, Basseterre Road S^t. Christopher's, 24th February 1787.

For the future when an Officer boards a Merchant Ship, to inform the Master that his presence is required on board His Majesty's Ship under my command, the Officer is to acquaint the Master, they are to bring not only their Registers, but their Mediterranean Papers and Seamen's articles.

Pegasus, Old Road S^t. Christopher's, 4. March 1787.

Whenever His Majesty's Ship under my Command is at an anchor, the Starboard Watch and Idlers are to wash their cloaths on the

Tuesday

Tuesday, the Starboard Watch and the Boys on the Saturday, and the Bargesmen both those days, the things always to be hung up upon lines from the Starboard, to the Starboard Fore Shrouds, and are to be taken down as soon as dry, at other times nothing to be allowed to hang up, but with leave from the Officer on the Quarter deck, at Sea, and never from the Gentlemen.

Pegasus, Charles Town Road, Nevis, 11th March 1787.

From my observing yesterday evening, that many of the Gentlemen were not on deck in their stations, at furling sails, - it is my positive orders and directions, that at an anchor, both Officers and Gentlemen are in their Stations when the Topgallant yards are got up and down, and when the Boats are hoisting in, - as at an anchor I may be absent from the Ship at those times, I expect the first Lieutenant, or commanding Officer in his absence, to pay the most particular attention to see that the Officers and Gentlemen comply with this order, and report the names of those that are on these occasions absent from their Stations, unless they have my leave for being on shore. - When topgallant yards are got up or down, the Gentlemen stationed in the Tops are of course to be there, at the hoisting in of the Boats they are to attend with their respective Topmen.

Pegasus, Charlestown Road, Nevis, the 17th March 1787.

The young Gentleman whose turn it is to go with me in the Barge, is to be perfectly clean and ready by seven bells in the morning, and is to attend the getting up of the Topgallant yards on the Quarter Deck. - the rest of the young Gentlemen are to be more alert and attentive to the Order 118. -

Pegasus, Charles Town Road, Nevis, 18th March 1787.

It is my positive orders and directions, that for the future, those Officers and Gentlemen belonging to His Majesty's Fleet, that are visiting on board His Majesty's Ship, under my command, do leave the Pegasus at Gunfire, and that they are to be informed of this order; so that they may have their own Ships Boats to carry them on board, as no boat belonging to His Majesty's Ship under my command, is for the future on any account whatsoever, to put Officers on board their respective Ships, but with my most particular leave obtained for that purpose, and not the commanding Officers in my absence.

Pegasus, Charles Town Road, Nevis, 18th March 1787.

For the future a Gentleman always to go in the Jolly-boat.

Pegasus, at Sea, 29th March 1787.

Upon examination I have found one of my Cotts, not in charge of the Boatwain, but which was in the Store-room, missing, and from every circumstance I have reason to believe it has been cut up, and made improper use of, by some person in His Majesty's Ship under my command. I do therefore think proper to inform the Officers and Gentlemen in this publick manner, that I consider this as one of the greatest marks of disrespect that can be shown to me as the commanding Officer, and for which, I am most extremely angry with the person who has been guilty of this insult, and I expect Mr. Hargood to make a full and thorough investigation into the business.

In order to prevent abuses of this sort in future, it is my positive orders, that no Officer or Gentleman do apply for any purpose whatsoever for Cotts or Hammocks, without my most particular
leave

leave first obtained, and the Boatswain of His Majesty's Ship under my command is to pay the strictest attention to this Order - in disobedience of which, He may depend upon being tried by a Court Martial.

Pegasus, at Sea, 5. April 1787.

It is my positive orders and directions, that an Officer attends both the fetching on board, and returning the Stores of His Majesty's Ship under my Command.

Pegasus, at Sea, 5. April 1787.

Whenever the Hands are turned up, the Officers are in Person to report to me, after the work is over, the part of the Ship where they are Stationed cleared up.

Pegasus, at Sea, 5. April 1787.

No person whatsoever to sit or sleep in the Boats when upon the Booms, and the Officer of the Watch at Sea, and the Mate of the Watch at an Anchor to see this Order complied with.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 15. April 1787.

From the shameful inattention and remissness of the young Gentlemen, it is my positive orders and directions, that whenever His Majesty's Ship under my command, is at an Anchor, that three of the young Gentlemen are to be on Deck from Gunfire to sunset, and that in the night watches, the mates are to be particularly attentive, to see that the two young Gentlemen who have the Watch are upon Deck, and report to the first Lieutenant, or the Officer carrying on the duty those that are inattentive or negligent - The young Gentlemen after having been so frequently

admonished

admonished both by myself and W. Hargood, and after this publick reproof, are to be most particularly attentive to their duty, otherwise they may depend on being after this day punished most severely for every fault. I think proper to observe at the same time, that Order 115, with respect to the Officers being on board at Gunfire, and the Gentlemen at Sunset, has been observed by the Officers of His Majesty's Ship Pegasus in the most exemplary manner, but by no means by the Gentlemen. I now therefore repeat in this publick manner, my entire disapprobation of the Gentlemen asking for leave till Gunfire, as for the future it shall be positively refused.

W. Hargood

A Copy of Captain Nelson's Order concerning Officers writing for Courts-Martial, viz.

By Horatio Nelson Esq. Captain of His Majesty's Ship Porcia, and Senior Officer for the time being in the Command of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels at Barbadoes and the Leeward Islands.

For the better maintaining discipline, and good Government in the King's Squadron under my Command, I think it necessary to inform the Officers, that if any one of them shall presume to write to the Commander of the Squadron, for a Court-Martial to investigate their Conduct on a frivolous pretence, unless there shall be Ships enough present to bring them to immediate Trial, thereby depriving His Majesty of their Services, by obliging the Commander of the Squadron to confine them, that I shall and

do

do consider such conduct, as a direct breach of the Tenth and
of part of the Nineteenth Articles of War, and shall order them
to be tried for the same.

Given under my Hand on board His
Majesty's Ship Pegasus in English Harbour
Antigua the 28th January 1787.
Horatio Nelson.

His Royal Highness's Letter to Captain Nelson the Senior Officer
respecting Lieutenant Isaac Schomberg's Conduct.

Pegasus, in Charles Town Road, Nevis, the 30th March 1787.

Sir,

I beg leave to enclose for your information the
narrative of an affair that has happened since I had the honour
of serving under your command, the Officer is Mr. Schomberg
first Lieutenant of His Majesty's Ship Pegasus. The reason I did
not make you acquainted with his impropriety of conduct and
send you this narration before, was my being in hopes that He
would behave himself in an exemplary manner after I forgave
him, and reinstated him in his command the first time, instead
of which he disobeyed my positive orders and directions within
a few days after his enlargement, and upon my reprimanding
him in the publick Order Book of this Ship, He thought proper
without previously acquainting me, or without sending his
Letter through me to apply to you, Sir, as the commanding Officer
of His Majesty's ships and vessels for a Court Martial as he terms
it, to enquire into the justness of the accusation, as he did not
conceive

conceive himself guilty of the charge.

I am Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

Horatio Nelson Esq.

William.

Extract of Captain Nelson the Senior Officer's letter to His Royal Highness concerning the Pegasus's going to Jamaica to try Lieutenant Schomberg.

"Lieutenant Schomberg there appears no opportunity of his being tried in these Seas, if your Health would permit. I beg leave to submit to your Consideration going to America by way of Jamaica, on which Station a Court Martial can be held, which I believe cannot in America."

His Royal Highness's answer to Captain Nelson on that Subject.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, 11th May 1787.

Sir,

I was yesterday honoured with the receipt of your letter, dated the 8th May at Nevis, brought to me by Captain Wallis of His Majesty's Sloop the Rattler, and the Commission appointing Mr. Stephen George Church third Lieutenant of His Majesty's Ship under my command, for which appointment I beg leave to return you many thanks.

It is highly requisite for His Majesty's Service, that Lieutenant Isaac Schomberg of His Majesty's Ship under my command, should be brought to trial, particularly after having been under suspension rather than confinement for

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His Royal Highness's answer to Captain Nelson, the Senior
Officer of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the Leeward
Islands Station, concerning the Pegasus's going to Jamaica, to try
Lieutenant Schomberg, &c.

Pegasus, English Harbour, Antigua, ¹² 11. May 1787.

Sir,

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your Letter, dated the 8.th May at Nevis, brought to me by Captain
Wallis of His Majesty's Sloop Rattler, and the Commission
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of His Majesty's ship under my command, for which
appointment, I beg leave to return you many thanks.

It is highly requisite for His Majesty's
Service that Lieutenant Isaac Schomberg of His Majesty's
ship under my command, should be brought to trial,
particularly after having been under suspension rather than
confinement for One hundred and seven days. — Justice calls
forth loudly for a man so long in his situation, to be as soon
delivered from his captivity as possible, the only means to effect that,
must be a Court Martial; you Sir, are thoroughly acquainted
with all the proceedings, and know the uneasiness of mind I have
suffered, and the vast desire I must have to see the affair of this
unhappy and deluded men settled, and as you have mentioned
to me in your Letter that His Majesty's Ship Maidstone is gone
down to the Bahama Islands in search of that Piratical Vessel,
and as no official accounts are yet come out, concerning the
approaching arrival of a Commanding Officer to His Majesty's
Ships and Vessels on this Station, and as the time is now almost

come

come for His Majesty's Ship under my Command to return to the
Coast of North America, where it is likely that there will not be
during the ensuing Summer a sufficient number of His Majesty's
Ships and Vessels to try the said Lieutenant Schomberg; I entirely
coincide in opinion with you Sir, that it is not only for the
advantage of His Majesty's Service, but that justice requires that
His Majesty's Ship Pegasus should proceed in Her way to North
America to Jamaica, and to prevent farther delay, that His
Majesty's Sloop Rattler should likewise proceed to Jamaica,
for fear there should not be Ships enough to assemble
a Court Martial upon our arrival, for which purpose I am using
the utmost dispatch, and am confident I shall have the honour
of paying my respects to you at Nevis in person on the 20th instant
at farthest, my Health being so perfectly reinstated, that I am
able to conduct the duty of His Majesty's Ship under my Command.

Enclosed is the State and Condition of the
Ship, and am

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant
William.

Horatio Nelson Esq.

A Copy of His Royal Highness's Letter to the Admiralty,
concerning Mr Hope, Third Lieutenant of the Pegasus, refusing
the Certificate. He, as Captain of the Pegasus thought fit to give
him.

Pegasus, English Harbour Antigua, 17. May 1787.

Sir,

My reason for addressing you is to represent to
their Lordships the Conduct of Mr Hope, late Third Lieutenant
of His Majesty's Ship Pegasus under my Command, in refusing
to

One hundred and seven days. — Justice calls forth loudly for
 a man so long in his situation, to be as soon delivered from his
 captivity as possible, the only means to effect that, must be
 a Court-Martial, you Sir, are thoroughly acquainted with all
 the proceedings, and know the uneasiness of mind I have
 suffered, and the vast desire I must have to see the affair of
 this unhappy and deluded man settled, and as you have
 mentioned to me in your Letter that His Majesty's Ship
 Maidstone is gone down to the Bahama Islands in search
 of that Piratical Vessel, and as no official accounts are yet
 come out, concerning the approaching arrival of a commanding
 Officer to His Majesty's Ships and Vessels on this Station,
 and as the time is now almost come for His Majesty's Ship under
 my Command to return to the Coast of North America, where it is
 likely that there will not be during the ensuing Summer
 a sufficient number of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels to try
 the said Lieutenant Schomberg; I entirely coincide in
 opinion with you Sir, that it is not only for the advantage
 of His Majesty's Service but that justice requires, that His
 Majesty's Ship Pegasus should proceed in her way to North
 America to Jamaica, and to prevent farther delay, that His
 Majesty's Sloop Rattler should likewise proceed to Jamaica
 for fear there should not be Ships enough to assemble
 a Court-Martial upon our arrival, for which purpose I am
 using the utmost dispatch, and am confident I shall have
 the honour of paying my respects to you at Nevis in person
 on the 20th instant at farthest, my Health being so perfectly
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Your most obedient Servant,
William.

A Copy of His Royal Highness's Letter to the Admiralty,
concerning Mr. Hope, third Lieutenant of the Pegasus, refusing
the Certificate. He, as Captain of the Ship thought fit to give
him.

Pegasus, English Harbour Antigua, 17. May 1787.

Sir,

My reason for addressing you is to represent
to their Lordships the conduct of Mr. Hope, late third
Lieutenant of His Majesty's Ship Pegasus under my
command, in refusing to take a Certificate signed by me
for him:— the matter is briefly thus, I had every reason to be
dissatisfied with Mr. Hope's conduct as an Officer in carrying
on the duty of the Ship, and as their Lordships must be sensible
that it is not in the power of every Captain, to bring every
Officer before a Court-Martial who deserve it, either for want
of Evidence or from other motives, such as Humanity,
particularly to people so young and inexperienced in His
Majesty's Service as Mr. Hope. I did not think proper to push
the matter to an extremity, but Mr. Hope perceiving from my
conduct that I was dissatisfied with his, and as he either
would

to take a Certificate signed by me for him. - the matter is briefly thus. I had every reason to be dissatisfied with Mr. Hope's conduct as an Officer in carrying on the duty of the Ship, and as their Lordships must be sensible that it is not in the power of every Captain, to bring every Officer before a Court-Martial who deserve it, either for want of Evidence or from other motives, such as Humanity, particularly to people so young and inexperienced in His Majesty's Service as Mr. Hope. I did not think proper to push the matter to an extremity, but Mr. Hope perceiving from my conduct that I was dissatisfied with His, and as He either would not or could not pay more attention to his duty, He very wisely thought proper to apply to be appointed into the vacancy of second Lieutenant on board His Majesty's Ship Boreas, occasioned by the death of Captain Collingwood of His Majesty's Sloop Rattler, which Captain Nelson the Senior Officer on this Station thought proper to comply with, from his knowledge of the circumstances. - Mr. Hope upon the receipt of His Commission for His Majesty's Ship Boreas, desired me to sign his certificate, I accordingly signed the following one, "These are to certify the principal Officers and Commissioners of His Majesty's Navy, that Mr. William Hope served as third Lieutenant on board His Majesty's ship under my command, from the 15 April 1786, until the date hereof, and was never six weeks absent from the Ship. Given under my Hand on board His Majesty's Ship Pegasus, in English Harbour Antigua the 10th May 1787." - He objected to it, because I had not inserted his complying with the General Printed Instructions, I told him he must be sensible he had not complied with these Instructions, and as I considered my affixing my Name to any thing, was acknowledging it to be true, that I

could

could not assert he did, when I was conscious in my own mind
he had not; upon which he refused to take the certificate.

I beg leave to observe that it was not my intention
to have made known to their Lordships Mr. Hope's misconduct
during the time he served as Lieutenant on board the Ship I have
the honour to command, but upon his refusing the Certificate, I thought
it incumbent on me to inform their Lordships of my motives for not
giving Mr. Hope the usual certificate. I am

Sir

Your most obedient servant:

Philip Stephens Esq.

William

L^d St. John

H. R. H. the Duke
of Clarence
11th May 1707.

would not or could not pay more attention to his duty, He very wisely thought proper to apply to be appointed into the vacancy of second Lieutenant on board His Majesty's Ship *Boreas*, occasioned by the death of Captain Collingwood of His Majesty's Sloop *Rattler*, which Captain Nelson the Senior Officer on this Station, thought proper to comply with, from his knowledge of the circumstances. Mr. Hope upon the receipt of his Commission for His Majesty's Ship *Boreas*, desired me to sign his Certificate, I accordingly signed the following one, "These are to certify the Principal Officers and Commissioners of His Majesty's Navy, that Mr. William Hope, served as third Lieutenant on board His Majesty's Ship under my Command, from the 15. April 1786 until the date hereof, and was never six weeks absent from the Ship. Given under my Hand on board His Majesty's Ship *Pegasus*, in English Harbour Antigua the 10.th May 1787." He objected to it, because I had not inserted his complying with the General Printed Instructions, I told him he must be sensible he had not complied with these Instructions, and as I considered my affixing my Name to any thing, was acknowledging it to be true, that I could not assert he did, when I was conscious in my own mind he had not, upon which he refused to take the Certificate.

I beg leave to observe that it was not my intention to have made known to their Lordships Mr. Hope's misconduct during the time he served as Lieutenant on board the Ship I have the honour to command, but upon his refusing the Certificate, I thought it incumbent on me to inform their

Lordships

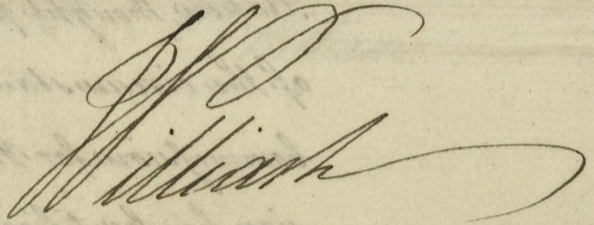
Lordships of my motives for not giving Mr. Hope the usual
certificate. I am

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Philip Stephens Esq.

William.

A large, elegant handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'W. William'.

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