

Not to be  
filmed

[May 26 - June 6 1787]

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*Pegasus, in Port Royal Harbour Jamaica, 26. May 1787.*

Sir,

Captain Nelson, being the Senior Officer of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the Leeward Island Station, during an affair that has happened on board the *Pegasus*, thought proper to put under arrest Lieutenant Isaac Schomberg, first Lieutenant of His Majesty's Ship under my command. I beg leave Sir to refer you to the enclosed narrative of the business for the particulars: the short of the matter is, that I put Mr. Schomberg under arrest for disrespect to me, his commanding Officer and neglect of duty in disobeying my positive Orders; he made me an apology and said how sensible he was of his past misconduct and errors: I forgave and reinstated him in his command, and was in hopes he would by his future minute attention to his duty prove himself worthy of the lenity I had shown him; his conduct was diametrically opposite to what it ought to have been, for in the course of a few days after his enlargement he disobeyed my positive commands, and upon my reprimanding him in the publick Order Book of His Majesty's Ship under my command, he made use of the most mutinous language and wrote to Captain Nelson the Commanding Officer of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels without previously acquainting me his Captain, and without his Letter going through my Hands for a Court Martial as he terms it, to enquire into the justness of the accusation; as he did not consider himself guilty of the Charge. In the evening of the same day upon my being informed of the steps taken by Lieutenant Schomberg, I sent for him into the Cabin and represented to him his errors and impropriety of conduct, upon which he again made use of language highly improper and disrespectful as the narrative circumstantially relates.

Now Sir that I have laid before you the facts of this

extraordinary



extraordinary conduct, from an officer who has had the honour of serving His Majesty ten years in the capacity of Lieutenant, I must beg leave to observe that I stand in the most singular predicament relative to this business, for I am the only witness to support the narrative, no person having been present; but at Mr. Schomberg's behaviour when I read the Order of reprimand: the persons present were the Purser of His Majesty's Ship Pegasus and my clerk.

I am

Sir

Your most obedient Servant  
William.

Alan Gardner Esq.

Commodore and Commander in Chief  
of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels  
employed and to be employed at  
Jamaica, the Bahama Islands and  
Seas adjacent.

Pegasus, in Port Royal Harbour Jamaica, 5<sup>th</sup> June 1787.

Sir

Lieutenant Isaac Schomberg, first Lieutenant of His Majesty's Ship Pegasus under my command, having made such apology for his past misconduct in the presence of Captains Brown and Vashon as has appeared to me sufficient; I am therefore to signify to you, that I have no objections to his requesting your permission



permission to withdraw his Letter to Captain Nelson for a Court Martial. But from the differences that have so frequently arisen between myself and Mr. Schomberg, I am of opinion that the King's Service must suffer, if the said Officer should be continued as first Lieutenant; and therefore, I must request you will be pleased to let him be removed. I have the honour to be,

Sir

Your most obedient Servant,

William.

Alan Gardner Esq.

&c.

Europa, Port Royal Harbour Jamaica, 6<sup>th</sup> June 1787.

Sir,

I have had the honour of receiving your Royal Highness's Letter of yesterday's date, acquainting me that Lieutenant Isaac Schomberg, first Lieutenant of His Majesty's Ship Pegasus under your Command has made such apology for his past misconduct in the presence of Captain's Brown and Vashow as has appeared to you sufficient; and Lieutenant Schomberg having also by Letter of yesterday's date acquainted me that the late unfortunate disagreement between your Royal Highness and himself has been happily adjusted through the kind interference of the abovenamed Officers, and has requested that I would permit him to withdraw the Letter he had written for a Court Martial to Captain Horatio Nelson of His Majesty's Ship Pegasus, and Senior Officer at the Leeward Islands.

I am to inform your Royal Highness that I have complied with Lieutenant Schomberg's request.

And



And as your Royal Highness is of opinion, from the differences  
that have so frequently arisen between your Royal Highness and  
Lieutenant Schomberg, that His Majesty's Service must suffer if the  
said Officer should be continued as first Lieutenant, and as your  
Royal Highness in your aforesaid Letter has requested to have  
Lieutenant Schomberg removed, I have thought it best for His  
Majesty's Service to allow of Lieutenant Schomberg's quitting  
the Pegasus.

I have the honour to be, with great respect  
and consideration

Your Royal Highness's  
most obedient and most  
humble Servant  
A. Gardner.

His Royal Highness Prince  
William Henry.

W. Marsh