

Plymouth
May 7. 1788.

Dear Brother,

I have hitherto delayed writing
in hopes of sharing some of my reasons to the letter I program
sent you at my request. I now therefore take my pen
to give you my ideas on the subject of resigning my ship.
Every thing I have said has been reported either by word of
or by the King through his Majesty's investigation and
to communicate them to the Philadelphian I applied for my first
Lieutenant to be made a Captain the acting Lieutenant
to be confirmed, the Channel Station or the Providence
and all which has uniformly been reported. The Gunner
belonging to my ship, who came out of a short notice I should
might be appointed to a first rate to him or to your order.

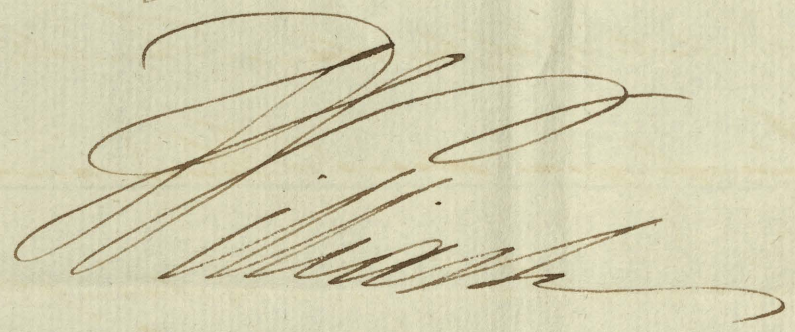
Mr. Vintor the Marine Officer applied to me to be appointed
with the Adjutant, Quarter Master or any other Post. And
Harris was the more eligible candidate.
But to crown all, after my having received my orders and
the most positive assurance that I was to return near the
End of a winter with some officers together with this fleet
for the summer, an order arrived that after that Parrot
to be a subaltern abroad. I was surprised that it is too
much. They only in two years give up in the misera-
ble state of dependence I am kept in. when to go it
I give up you know. There is always a possibility
blood would arise in a certain quarter which would do
you no good. Therefore I am afraid we have to do with
Lord Howe, the worse it will be. I am in request by your opi-
-nion whether I am to go abroad or give up. I shall be
to satisfy your desire. With a most Obedient Son

answer me immediately.

44833

I have lastly received a most important letter from the
 same, a copy of which I have enclosed, and in consequence
 of which I have written to him to pay quarterly
 my allowance into the agents hands. Give to him when
 you see him. The only news I have to give is that my
 outfit has cost £1000 instead of £800.

Yours



The signature is written in a highly decorative, cursive hand. It begins with a large, ornate 'W' followed by 'Pitt Rivers' in a similar style, ending with a long, sweeping flourish.

H. R. N. M. Duke
of Clarence

May 2nd 1790.