

H. C. to H. C. North

Mar. 17 1778

2831

Dear North, I have just seen Lord Amhurst and had a very full conversation with him, the result of which is; that he thinks if we collect the fleet at Halifax and leave the American Coast Open, that the Rebels will instantly fit out a fleet and make an Attack on the Isles. he therefore thinks without loss of time orders should be sent to America to retire the Troops from Philadelphia to New York, giving the General orders to send such part of that Force to the Floridas as he may think necessary to secure them from attacks, and instantly to send home the two Regiments of Light Dragoons keeping the Horses for the Service of the Army, as baggage horses or drawing Cannon.

Get such part of the Frigates as are thought absolutely necessary to be brought home.

Direct the Admiral to appoint New York as his Port of Rendezvous, and employ his fleet in destroying all the Depots in the American Harbours,

Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Canada to be reinforced by some of the new raised Corps.

On the Arrival of the Commissioners if they find America resolved

resolved to join France, then the General to evacuate New York
and Rhode Island, and those Troops to be employed in
attacking the West India's lands.

I have just sent to Lord Weymouth the directions to
Summon Lord Amherst to the Meeting you are to
have this forenoon, where he will be ready to express
his Sentiments.

Levens House

March 17th 1774

Em
25/11. C. M.

Draft to Ld. North
Lucina House, March 17th 1778
No. 25 p. 11. A. 2.
N. 2.

draft of preceding (2031)

rel. to the operation in America

draft (11)

17 Mar 1778

Duplicate

Ld North, I have just seen Lord Amhurst and had a very full conversation with him, the result of which is, that he thinks if we collect the fleet at Halifax and leave the American Coast open, that the Rebels will instantly fit out a fleet and make an attack on the Islands; he therefore thinks without loss of time orders should be sent to America to retire the Troops from Philadelphia to New York, giving the General orders to send such part of that Force to the Floridas as he may think necessary to secure them from attack, and instantly to send home the rest of the Troops keeping the Fleet at such part of the Troops as are thought necessary to be ordered home, the Admiral to make New York his Port of Rendezvous and with the Fleet remaining Fleet destroy the Harbour and vessels of the American Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Canada to be reinforced by with the new raised Corps.

On the Arrival of the Commissioners if they find America resolved to join France, then the General to evacuate New York and Rhode Island, and those Troops to be employed in attacking the West India Islands.

Have ~~sent~~ Lord Weymouth the directions to summon Lord
Amherst to the meeting you are to have this forenoon where he
will be very ready to express his sentiments.

Lewis House

March 27th 1758

on p. 11. A. D. 2.

No 2 (taken from endorsement)

rel to the operators in America (in T. Folescu's note)