

R Adams
Sam.
Wood
Aug.
9
1778

Pardon most gracious Sovereign my presumption
in addressing your Majesty, and condescend to hear
the complaint of a faithfull Servant

During my residence, when I had the honor of
commanding your Majesty's Squadron in North
America, at Boston, where ferment & party rage
ran high, I expended above fifteen hundred pounds
beyond my pay, from zeal for your Majesty's
Service, and in order to act up to the spirit and
fulnefs of my Instructions, which were to use every
means in my power to pacify & conciliate
Mr. Gambier succeeded me in that command,
and for following the example I set him, his
Expences were paid him to the amount of fifteen
hundred pounds, though his stay at Boston was
shorter than mine. I made frequent applications
to Lord North upon the subject, who always
acknowledged the justness of my pretensions
and encouraged me to hope for some mark of
favour in the line of my profession to make
me amends, which I was very willing to accept
and named to his Lordship two Things, a Marine
Division

Division, and the Newfoundland Command.
 In the winter of 1773, the latter became vacant,
 I solicited his Lordship's interest in my behalf, and
 flattered myself I should succeed, by a letter I recd
 from Sir Grey Cooper. But I failed. I then renewed
 in person, my application for a reimbursement
 of my expences, when his Lordship said, why you
 have another object Captain Hood, & Marine Division
 I replied, it was my primary object, and if
 his Lordship would assure me of being a Colonel
 of Marines, whenever a promotion of flag officers
 took place, be it ever so distant, I should be most
 perfectly satisfied - his Lordship's answer was,
 I could not fail. Though not long after two
 Divisions became vacant, but neither fell to my
 lot. Since which I have not been able to get
 Lord North to see me, which led me to trouble
 his Lordship, with the two letters, I most humbly
 take the liberty of offering to your Majesty's sight
 not having recd a word in answer to either.
 When Lord Sandwich was pleased to make me an
 offer

offer of this yard: my answer to his Lordship, was,
 that my wish most certainly went to a marine
 Division, but if my being the Commissioner here
 would accommodate any arrangement his
 Lordship might wish to make, I would readily
 accept the office, as my well known bodily
 infirmities would justify me in it, in the
 busiest times

A zeal & ardour for your Majesty's service has
 ever guided all my actions, and I have had the
 strictest regard to truth in what I say, and from
 your Majesty's condescending goodness to me, I am
 led to entertain a hope you will be graciously
 pleased to forgive my boldness, in most humbly
 submitting my case to your royal consideration
 and will suffer me to subscribe myself in
 all humility

your Majesty's
 most Dutifull Servant

Portsmouth Dockyard
 9th August 1778

J. Hood

[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Commissaries Samuel Wood
Postmaster to Dock Yard
August 9. 1778.