

Ed. Stourmont.

4069

St Jamesi Jan<sup>3</sup>. 10. 1781

Your Majesty's strong and just Reasoning is further confirmed by the Nature of the Papers which Mr. Simolin has delivered. We executed his orders in the politest and most friendly Manner, but the Verbal Declaration framed by Panin is very unfriendly and peevish and purposely made so as I believe, to draw an angry answer. This I apprehend it will I think be wise to disappoint, and not to give our Enemies at Petersburg a Pretence for catching at words.

As the Despatches from Sr J. Keitt which could not be deciphered till yesterday

afternoon seemed to require immediate answer  
and I thought I could venture to send them  
by last night's mail, as they turn wholly  
upon points on which I have already  
received your Majesty's pleasure.