

Ld. Stourmont

4216

St James's May 21. 1781

I submit to your Majesty the Lot of an answer to Mr. Simolin. The general Idea was proposed at the last Meeting of the Cabinet and approved but the Lot was not then drawn.

Your Majesty will find in this Box an important Letter from Genl. Hawcut. and one that from the Nature of the Business seems to require an immediate answer. But I cannot presume to prepare ~~the~~ answer, nor have any Communication with the Chairman & Deputy Chairman of the India Company upon the Subject till I have received your Majesty's Commands.

a Person has been with me this morning who has a Project of cutting some Dutch

Subst ships out of the Harbour or consequence
of a secret understanding he has with two
smugglers on board of one of these ships.
He did not explain to me this project
but has communicated it to Mr Stephens
who as this man tells me approves the
idea. His business with me was to
apply for a Pardon or at least the
reviver of a Pardon for the two smugglers.
There certainly would be great objection to
a Pardon granted now, but if your Majesty
should think proper to authorize me to
promise a Pardon in case of essential service
performed that would answer the purpose