

Ld. Stourmont

4319

St James's Sept 22. 1781  
4 o'clock P.M.

I was determined not to trouble your Majesty with Business upon this day and therefore kept back the Flanders Mail, but Mr Fitzherbert's Letter just received by the inland Post has made me alter my Resolution.

altho the combined fleet have made a most disagreeable Campaign yet I am sorry that they are yet back without admiral Barks meeting them. It struck me upon reading Mr Fitzherbert's Letter that this would be the moment to success Minorca by calling back five or six of the swiftest ships on admiral Barks fleet. I have  
in a



a note W.D. Sanbich mentioned this as a  
crude idea that has occurred to me.  
The success of the attempt must in a  
great measure depend upon extreme  
promptitude and absolute secrecy.