

Ld. Egmont to Duke of Richmond

June 26 1766

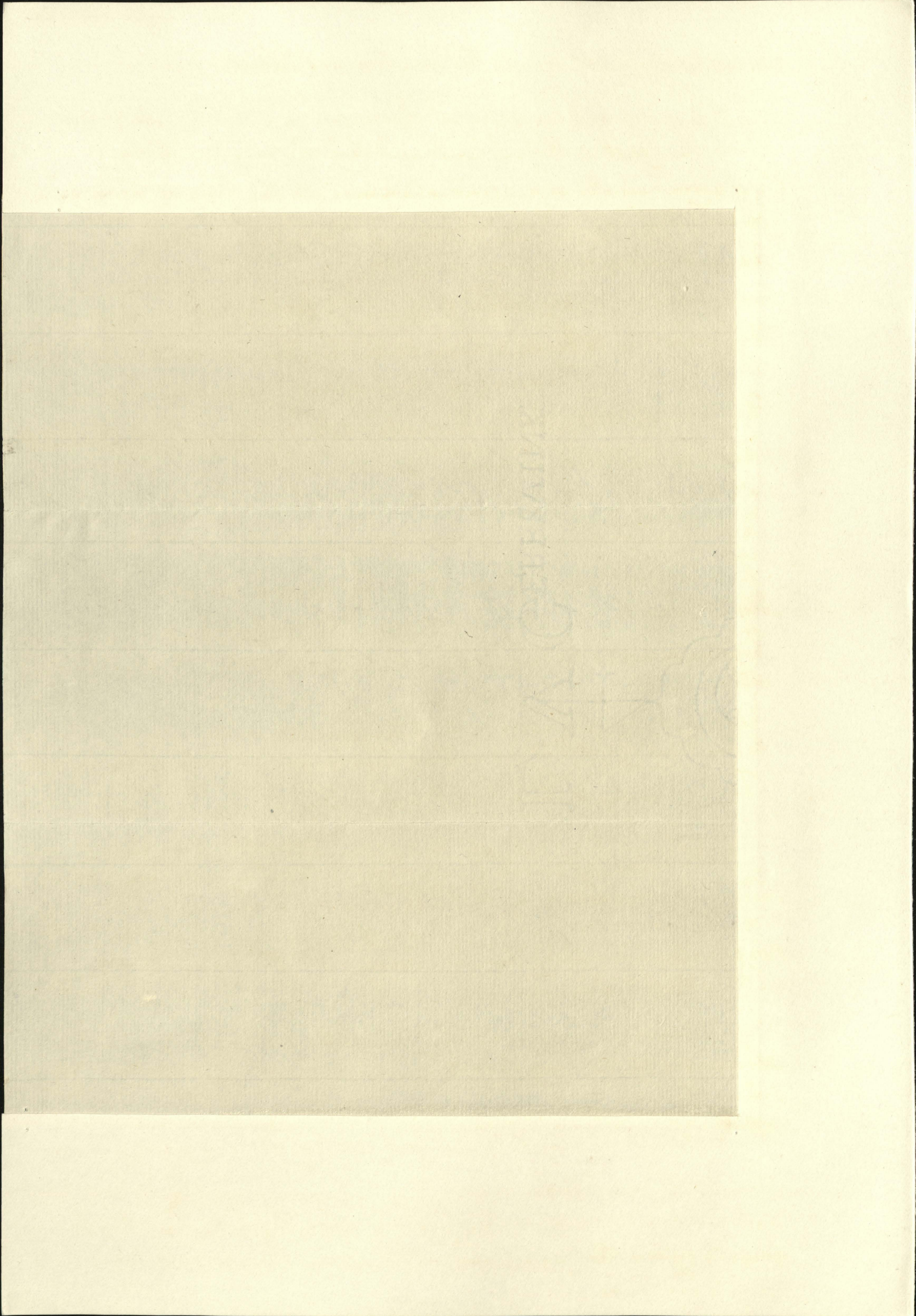
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The Earl of Egmont presents his compliments
to the Duke of Richmond, and sends him
inclosed some intelligence that he has just
received, for His Graces perusal, which
when he has circulated he will be so good
as to return.

Admiralty

26th June 1766.



Recd 26 June 1766.

Intelligencies concerning the Malouines Islands. — — — — —

They take vast quantities of Basins, otherwise Louys Marins in french, upon the Coast of those Islands, and they make oil of them. It is a company that has undertaken, with the King of France — consent and protection, to send a colony there.

The said Islands are very healthy. — — — — —

Two vessels have lately sailed from Nantes for the said Isles. — — — — —

They are going to begin a trade from the said Isles with Rio de la Platte, with the mutual consent of the Kings of Spain and France.

The Climate of the said Isles is about the same as that of St. Malo.

They have already discovered 30 Leagues of the Coast of those Islands, but the rest is not yet discovered.

The places discovered are Mountainous.

The Voyages from France to the said Islands and from the said Isles to France, are of seven or eight Months, or there about.

They are in hopes to discover from the Isles Malouines, Les Terres australes, otherwise the austral lands.

The Coast of Magellan opposite to the said Isles is very woody, and it is from that Coast they have their Timber and wood for those Islands.

The Ships going to those Islands, very often put in Rio de la Platte River. About a year or two years ago, two English Men of war with two vessels under their Convoy anchored in Sight of the Bay de Caron which caused much uneasiness to the french vessels and inhabitants of those Islands, who were of opinion that our Men of war and the two vessels under their Convoy were going to make a Settlement in the Strait of Magellan.

They take Sea Lions upon the Coast of those Islands of 36 feet Length, and as big as the long Boats of our Men of war, and they make oil of them.

They reckon those Islands to be about 300 Leagues circumference — — — — —

There sailed in October last a Ship formerly a fire Ship or a Bomb-Ketch taken upon the English from Rochelle, and the french frigate called the Eagle sailed at the same Time from St. Malo with people for those Islands.

The winter of these Islands is very cold and exposed to high winds on
grands Coups de vent.

There is no such things to get a Journal of the voyage to those Islands,
at St Malo, there being none in that place.

There is no cattle to be found upon those Islands, except those they carry
from France, which drive well, all the Ships that sail from France
for the said Islands carry with them, horses, Bulls, cows, Sheep and other
animals and sheperds to take care of them.

Ships from France bound to the said Islands are 3 or 4 months upon
their passages.

They are going to build at Saint Malo 2 frigates, in order to send them
to the said Isles in october next.

There is 60 or 70 houses built and inhabited at the Settlements of those
Islands.

There is water enough upon the places of the said Islands, already
discovered.

There is wolves and Bears and other wild Beasts upon those Islands.

The best time of sailing for the said Island is in the months of
September and october, their winter being our Summer.

They have commonly fresh Land Breeses from morning to evening
upon the coasts of those Islands.

The Neighbourhood of the Settlement of the Isles Malouines, is
pretty mountainous.

They expect a vessel in the month of August next at Saint Malo,
from the said Islands.

Mr de Boucainville who has the Chief Command of the Isles Malouines,
sailed about March last from France for those Islands.

There is a Gentleman of Paris arrived lately at St Servant, in order
to dispatch the building and fitting out the two frigates already
mentioned

The St Malo's People have a great hope, that those Islands will succeed
and flourish in time.

The Trees growing upon the coast opposite the said Islands, are of a
prodigious size and they make Canoes of them.

Last year the french lost one man ashore in that coast, they did not know what
became of him

But I have heard since that the two frigates that went

They have fitted out St Malo this year 130 vessels, out of Grandville 80⁰⁰, out of Biny and St Brieu 30⁰⁰, and out of Morlain 20⁰⁰ of different Burdens for Newfoundland, the Bank, St Peter and Miquelons Islands.

They have built at St Malo, The Tallard, Trichet and Solidor, these last 15 Months, above 100 vessels from 30 to 600 Tuns.

They are actually building at St Malo 2 vessels, 4⁰⁰ at the Tallard, 1⁰⁰ at Trichet and 1⁰⁰ at Solidor. At the Tallard, Trichet and Solidor are within half mile of St Malo, and the vessels building from 40 to 250 tuns.

They expect at Lorient this Summer 4 ships from China loaded with their Spice August last Mr Peter Drake of St Malo, my Intimate friend, and agent at St Malo for the french east India's Company, has paid £500000 tournois, french money for the use of the said Company in the Department of St Malo.

The said Company is at present upon a good footing and promise well.

The Island of Cayenne a french Settlement upon the coast of south America have been very unhealthy of late, and most part of the Inhabitants died there last year.

The Brestin a french east India ship is arrived at Lorient in March last, coming from India, they expect at Lorient 4 other ships from India, besides the 4 ships from China, which will make 9 ships in all.

Mr Peter Drake has assured me, that the said Company will make a sale of the cargo of the said 9 ships, which will produce about £2,000,000, tournois, french money, in September next.

They have fitted out of St Malo ten ships this year for the coast of Guinea.

They are fitting out of St Malo 5 ships for the coast of Guinea.

The french having lost so many men upon the Island of Cayenne, since last war, and vast Sums of money upon the ships and cargoes they have sent thence, are tired of that Settlement, and ready to abandon it intirely.

The french Regret the loss of Canada and the Islands in the Gulf of St Laurence and Lebed, and are sensible of the great consequences they were to them formerly.

They discharge all their Soldiers in France that are about 50 years of age and enlist young men from 15 to 20 years of age, and exercise them every Day in order to make good Soldiers of them, whenever they shall want them.

If there was another war, they should soon build flat Bottom Boats, in order to invade England, being fit for such undertaking.

The latter end of May last ^{Royal} M^r who has thought to my Son the art of drawing almost a year, had a Chart of the Coast of Newfoundland an original to copy got to be sent to Monsieur Croisnil Ministre de la Marine at Paris, where there was several Remarks of the best places for fishing from the Canada's point to the Strait of Belle Isle, all written in English taking care to hid some part of it, when he shewed the Remainder to my Son. N^o 3: I presume that it was a Map they had got from some English man, who had put his name upon it, and which my Son drawing master was concealing.

The French last Judies Stock at Paris are at £1955.

Out of the 74000 Militia Men risen lately in France they recruit their Regiments of Regular Troops, when they want Recruits.

All Slaves brought from the Coast of Guinea as to the Islands and Settlements belonging to the French, pay £29:--: - ten pour french Money to the French East India's Company, vizt £10:--: - that belongs to that Company, and £13:--: - belonging to the french King of which he make a present to the said Company.

Spain has given to France in exchange for the Louisiana 100. Leagues of the Coast of the Nord East part of the Island of St. Domingo extending as far as Cap Raphael.

They have 15 Ships upon the Coast of Guinea belonging to St. Malo, carrying from 300 to 700 Slaves.

The Intention of the french when they were resolved last winter to invade the Islands of Jersey, Guernsey, &c. was to carry all the People of the said Islands to France in order to exchange them with their Sailors, then prisoners in England of which they were in great want to man their fleets.

All this Intelligence gathered and collected from the 12th of May to the 3rd Day of June 1766, by

John Cemeruier

the late Deans Son