

The Duke of Gloucester
Aug^r 21. 1771.

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Sir,

Every contrary wind has persecuted us ever since we left Spithead on Tuesday the 13th we have now been at Portland ever since Sunday and not much chance of sailing now. I think poor Desaguliers is the only ^{one} that has been ill; tho' we all are very impatient being still in England, and confined to our ship, not getting any ground in our Voyage. It is the more unlucky as, we may by this means most likely meet with the rains at Gibraltar. I thought it my Duty Sir, to acquaint you of our being detained here.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your Majesty most Dutiful
Subject
William Henry.

On board the Venus
off Portland
August 21 - 1771.

Handwritten text on a piece of aged, yellowed paper, possibly a letter or document, with a vertical crease down the center. The text is faint and mostly illegible due to fading and the texture of the paper. Some words are difficult to discern but appear to be arranged in several lines. The paper is mounted on a larger, lighter-colored sheet.