

London, at Sandy Hook 2^d July
1781

Sir,

The Admiral Arbuthnot having
obtained leave to return to England,
leaving me in the Command of the
Naval force in this Country - I have
the honor to forward by Lieu^t. Delancey
in the Active Brig His Excellency
General Clinton's Dispatches, also
my Dispatches containing the latest
intelligence obtained here, as well as
that from Europe. The importance
of that obtained here, which was
taken from an intercepted Post,
will shew you the apprehensions of
a considerable force expected from
the French Commander in Chief
in the West Indies, in concert with
Admiral Sir George Rodney &c. &c. whom

whom Mons.^r De Barras seems to act,
and will demonstrate how much the
fate of this Country, must depend
upon the early intelligence and
detachment which may be sent by
You hither upon the first movement
of the Enemy. — I shall most
certainly keep the Squadron under
my Command as collected as possible,
and so placed as to secure a retreat
to New York where our Stand must
be made, and will keep Cruizers to the
Southward. We are strong at
Charles Town and in the Chesapeake
Virginia — The French have the
addition of a Ship of 54 Guns — We are
for the present weaker by the absence
of the Royal Oak now heaving down
at Halifax in lieu of which the
Warwick has arrived, sickly and

not

not yet fit for Service

The Duc' Admiral goes home
in the Probusk.

Copy
Sam. Hardy

I have the honor to be Sir,

Your most Obedient
and most humble Servant

(Signed) Thos. Groves;

Copy of letter from
D. S. G. of the 2. June
1781.

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