

My dear General

15 rue de la Harpe Paris le 10 Mars 1782

Since I had the honor of writing you on the 2^d, I have had the very great & heart-felt pleasure of receiving two very affectionate letters from you of the 12th of Jan^r. & 6th of Feb^r. for which I return my most sincere thanks, and if you knew how much & how sensibly I am flattered & obliged by your friendly and kind attention to me, you will not omit writing me by every Packet, through the Admiralty. I will omit no opportunity, that I know of, of troubling you with a letter, and if I as I have before observed / any dispatch vessel should arrive, and you do not hear from me, I entreat you will be assured, that it has not proceeded from any omission in me - Something was to have sailed several days ago, but I do not find any vessel is yet fixed upon, or any determination taken when one is to go. The weather has been unusually bad ever since we arrived, the ships in Choisy Bay, have had a very unpleasant time of it, rolling their lower deck ports under water constantly,

have

have lost most of their Boats, and after all obliged to go
to my watering place, the Cue de Sac, I went there with
my Division on the 2^d. and returned here on the 6th.
quite compleat.

Thirty one sail of the Line are in
Port Royal May, in a refitting state most of them &
three or four appear in a disastrous one, what is
become of the other five I cannot say, probably they
are gone to the Cape; and I think it not unlikely (which
I have taken the liberty most humbly to suggest to Sir
George) the enemy's ships will steal away two and
three at a time to leeward - They will however be
daily watched - The Spanish Armament from Cadiz
are certainly gone past - It sailed under the Protection
of 36 sail of the Line on the 2^d, 3^d, & 4th. of Jan^r.

The Transports contain 4000 Troops, and were to be
convoysed by the four following ships of the Line - S^t. Philip
S^t. Domingo, S^t. Peter, & the gloriosa - Gnatico is the
 Rendezvous, where they are to be mett. by Solano, with
nine sail of the Line & 5000 Troops - and Count de Grape

is

is to carry with him from 3. to 4000 men. The Armament
from Brest. is said to consist of from 10, to 12000 men
to be escorted to Martinique by 9 Ships of the Line
how far the disasters the latter Ships & troops have
met. may affect the plan of attacking I amaria
is uncertain, but I think it will not be attempted
till de Grasse joins the Spaniards, and probably
he will not move a single man from Martinique
till he is reinforced from Brest. I long now
to be to windward of Martinique, as the French
troops must I imagine be upon their passage
The 15th of last month was the day fixed for
the great convoys sailing -

Sir George has talked for three days past, of my
going off to the Royal, as he also has of my going
to windward, and likewise of my going to retake
Montserrat. S^r Skilts he tells me has been under
consideration to be attempted, but that General

Matthews

Matthews says, he has no troops to garrison Brimstone
hill, could it be retaken, which in my humble
opinion is impossible, without a considerable body
of troops well furnished, with all necessary materials
for a siege. While the Barflens lay at the Cue-
de Sac I had the honor of breakfasting with General
Matthews, at General 1st Lezers upon Morne Fortune
and yesterday I met him on board the formidable
but nothing passed in my hearing upon business of
any sort, and I had but a few minutes private
conversation with him. He returned to the Morne
with General 1st Lezer in the evening, and as I expect
to be at sea soon, I shall not probably have an
opportunity of seeing him for some time, but as
often as one offers, I shall eagerly cultivate his
confidence & friendship, and endeavour to deserve
it. I rejoice most exceedingly you have such
pleasant accounts from Prince William, God grant
you may continue to receive them! A more amiable
and engaging youth never was born, than this

Royal

Royal Highness most truly is

I imagine the French are now about to send both Ships & Troops to North America, if therefore we do not send likewise, I dread what may further happen in that Quarter. What has not England suffered, from a want of unanimity at home! It is truly lamentable to think of, but could the Nation be brought back with heart and hand, I have not a doubt of its recovering every misfortune, and again shining with its wonted Splendor & Glory, nothing but one mind is requisite I am perfectly confident, to accomplish most effectually so great and desirable an end; for I can assure you my dear General from experience that the French have not either more courage or sea knowledge & skill, in the smallest degree than they possessed last war. Continue to honor me with your friendly correspondence, and you will most essentially contribute to my happiness I am with very sincere regard
my dear General your affectionate and
faithfull humble servant
James Oglethorpe