

Formidable at Sea - at 8 A. M.

22<sup>o</sup> March 1782.

Sir

I can by no means think of keeping the Fleet so much to the Northward, and must therefore desire that your Squadron join me, and keep in the Order of Sailing, as we shall thereby more easily and with greater dispatch form Lines of Battle. — We are now off Dominique, a Station I can by no means approve of for intercepting a Convoys bound from Europe to Martinique. — Cruising directly to Windward of that Island, is in my opinion the best method, not only of intercepting the Enemy but of protecting Barbadoes, St. Lucia, and the British Trade. — I must therefore beg that your Division may not stand further to the Northward, without Signal for that purpose, as I cannot by any

Dear Adm. Sir Sam. Hood Bart. —

means

means be induced to think, the Enemy  
will make any of the Northern Islands.  
A small Squadron shall Watch that  
Station, but I am determined to keep  
with the Fleet directly to Windward of  
Martinique, and have only Cruizers  
to the Northward.

I  
Am with real regard &c.  
G. B. Rodney.  
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