

Letter dated 22<sup>d</sup> April 1782. Addressed to Mons<sup>r</sup> P. F.  
ancel Gauvel & Son Merchants at Haver de  
Graue —

My Dear Uncle

I do my duty in sending you an  
account of the Action we have had with the  
English, the 9<sup>th</sup> of April, we were assured  
that they consisted of 45 Ships, and we were  
but 29, we were however Thirty four when  
we sailed — Two of which went with the  
Convoy to Guadaloupe, we had Thirty in  
the first Action against forty five — The  
Auguste and another of ours were Two leagues  
to Windward of us during the Action, said  
to be becalmed — we should not certainly have  
sought a Second Action, after knowing how  
much superior they were to us, had it not  
been for the Zele & the Jason who were disabled  
and by endeavouring to preserve them we  
were obliged to bear up before the Wind —  
which lead us to an action, which for this  
very long time has been unparalled, and  
our poor Glorieux has paid the Tribute —  
Tho we flatter our selves, our Enemies have  
likewise felt the Effects of the Battle — on the

14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> the English Fleet were distinctly seen  
from Guadaloupe to be but 39 in number,  
tho they were once 50 including Frigates -  
which makes us believe they have likewise  
lost some - Their Manoeuvres makes us hope  
that they have been roughly handled since they  
did not pursue us - we have therefore Reason to  
hope that our Expedition will not yet fail;  
we have 16 Spanish Ships at S<sup>t</sup> Domingo -  
with 8000 Men, and we think it is intended  
for Jamaica -

I am well, and have only time to  
assure you that I am during life with all  
possible respect -  
Your very humble <sup>& obedient</sup> Servant  
& Nephew -  
M. B. f.

tuc.

