

My dear General

Barbours Samarra July 8th 1752

I have troubled you with several very barren Letters lately, the last by a Pacquet, which has been sailed a fortnight, but was not out of sight three days ago, owing to the strong easterly winds and Lee current, which have prevailed for a long while

The Kings Fleet has been perfectly refitted some days, and I have been taught to expect, I should see this have been at Sea, with a part of it, but am still moored here, and perhaps shall here remain some time longer, as Sir George Rodney seems to be at a loss what to do, and is whiling away the time in hopes of a dispatch from England

The Convoy was appointed to sail, the 24th of last month but put off to the 10th of this, and we have worked night and day, to get the French Ships ready to make a part of it, but am now told, the Convoy will not sail before the end of the month, though I speak from common report only, and not from any authority

Sir George Rodney called upon me on the 2^d in the evening / for owing to a sad broken skin, which I
got

I got in the naval yard, I have been obliged to keep my
Leg in a horizontal posture, and must continue to do so,
some days longer, though it is now in a fair way to be
well, if I am not imprudent by putting it to the ground
too soon previous to his going ashore, to be ready for
dining with the merchants and Planters at Kingston, who
have been soliciting subscriptions for several weeks, and
have raised upwards of fifteen hundred pounds sterling
for a grand entertainment for Sir George: I feel some
consolation, in my lameness, by its preventing my being
of the party, without giving the shadow of offence; though
I believe I should not have gone, had not the misfortune
happened to me, for I have no notion of heating
myself into a fever, at a dinner with 300 persons, in
a burning dusty Town, as I am told Kingston is; but
I made a point, that my Captain, Secretary, and two
of my Lieutenants should go, to stop the Tongue of
Envy - I find my name was very particularly
distinguished, by the whole company; notwithstanding

I told Sir George, as well as one or two of the principal Gentlemen, that it would be much more to the credit of both parties, to have the subscription money laid out in necessaries for the poor Seamen, who stood much in need of such assistance and attention - but the mistake or vanity of the one, and the insatiable passion for feasting of the other, would not allow the advice I took the liberty of giving to take effect. There is to be another entertainment on the 10th at Spanish Town, and a Ball the next night at the Kings house. The dinner I hear is to be very superbe and in a different stile to the one given at Kingston - Spanish Town is the metropolis of the Island, where all the courts are held and I understand the inhabitants hold those of Kingston in a contemptible light. I have not had my foot on shore, but in the Naval yard, except for a few hours, that I went to return the Governours visit at his Country house nor shall I now attempt it, in my present situation, though I am a little inclined to go to Spanish Town, to wait upon a few persons, who have politely marked me with attention. I am much vexed we have not yet got our Letters from Barbadoes, by the May Paquet, for though they could
bear

bear no later date, than the first of the month, yet I think they would contain interesting information, beyond what the Preston brought, as no letter I received by Cap^t. Leslie, was written after the middle of April, except from my wife, who is out of the way of knowing how the world goes.

Sir George Rodney is just returned to the Formidable and having sent my Captain, with a string of memorandums for Sir George's information, and to say I am perfectly ready for sea whenever he pleases, I shall drop my pen till he comes back.

Cap^t. Knight is returned & Sir George Rodney has honored me with a visit - he still talks of my going to sea in a day or two, as he has done for several past - but I perceive his mind is embarrassed and that he will not leave this Island, till he hears from England - The Kamillies I find is to go with the Trade to Pinefields tomorrow, where I conclude, she will remain till the end of the month, but really, this is mere conjecture of mine - The Paquet is coming down, I can therefore only add the repeated assurances of my being, with great respect & esteem

my dear General

your ever affectionate and
faithfull

Jasms Roddy