

Extract of a letter from General Sir Guy Carleton  
New York 12<sup>th</sup> November 1789, to General Campbell  
Governor of the Island of Jamaica; —

"Yesterday received your Excellency's letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> of October, by His Majesty's Sloop Du Quoy Swain, in consequence of which I dispatch immediate orders to Lieutenant General Leslie, Commanding in South Carolina, to send to Jamaica, the moment the evacuation of Charlestown is completed, the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> Regiments, six Companies of the 87<sup>th</sup>, and two of the 84<sup>th</sup> amounting to 42 Commissioned, and 10 Staff Officers, 133 Serjeants, 70 Drummers, and 1315 Rank and file; which I expect will be ready to sail on the arrival of the dispatch — There are all the British there, except some detachments of Gay in considerable numbers, whose Regiments are in this district, or prisoners.

The relief sent you on this occasion, and so early in the season, exposes the Kings service in other parts to difficulties and danger, which the importance of Jamaica,



together with a full confidence that your  
alarm is not premature, only reasonable,  
excusable;

I trust your Excellency's judgement  
and Zeal for the public welfare, will induce  
you to look first to the safety of your own  
Island, and delay sending detachments to  
the Spanish Main, which may weaken your  
defence, occasion your calling for larger  
reinforcements of Regular troops; and can  
produce no solid advantages to the State, until  
it is more able to extend its possessions, and  
secure such conquests.

I must request that as soon as the  
Kings Service will permit, your Excellency  
will send to the Northward, not only the  
Companies of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, but all the weak  
and sickly Regiments under your Com-  
mand, which may be replaced by others, com-  
plete, in good health, and in other respects  
more fit for service. I should think the  
beginning of the hurricane season, when the  
Kings Fleets come to North America, the  
most proper for this measure. They might  
likewise on their return, take under their protec-  
tion, the Troops destined to replace them;