

Lord Hood

November 14 1782

Sir

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Barfleur Staten Island New York Nov. 14 1782

After having had the honor & happiness of Prince Williams Company on board the Barfleur near a fortnight, I think it my duty, before I depart from this coast, and by so good an opportunity as Mr. Majendie affords, to assure your Majesty, His Royal Highness is in high health & fine spirits, and to my very great satisfaction and delight, appears most perfectly happy

By the last accounts from Boston the french fleet is getting forward apace, and I imagine will be at sea about the end of this month, or the beginning of next, though some fix a later day. The french Troops are by this at Boston, which makes it very natural to conclude, Vandreuil, will move as soon as he can. I hope he will bend his course towards Hispaniola, as I very much flatter myself in that case, your Majesty's Squadron under my command will effectually stop his voyage

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The accounts lately received from Rear Admiral Rowley,  
and Governor Campbell, speak loudly of the danger  
that again threatens Jamaica, which determined my  
opinion that I ought to move towards Cape Francois  
as expeditiously as possible, as the Spanish Squadron  
from the Havana, will there assemble to join the Troops  
I wish I had been on my passage three weeks or a  
month ago, as I fear Don Solano will have that start of  
me; but if I have the good fortune to meet the French  
Squadron, I shall strenuously endeavour not to forfeit  
the good opinion your Majesty is graciously pleased  
to have of me; and what makes me the more sanguine  
in my hopes, that Vandrenil is bound to the Cape, is, that  
I think the Spaniards have not enterprise enough in  
them, to attack Jamaica alone

I am now at single anchor, and wait  
a wind only, and water upon the bar to put to sea  
His Royal Highnesses impatience is great.

I am Sir with the intmost gratitude  
your Majesty's  
most dutifull servant  
H. R. O.