

At Lord North's
 Saturday January 17th 1778.

Present	
Earl of Suffolk	Earl of Sandwich
Lord North	Lord Amherst

Lord Amherst's opinion was decided upon the most eligible Mode of carrying on the War next Campaign in America.

Lord Amherst gave his opinion that it was not possible to reduce the Colonies by an Offensive War without an addition of 30,000 Men to the Force already in America — that in order our present circumstances the future Operation must be principally Naval, to distress their Trade, and prevent their Supplies from Europe — that Canada, Nova Scotia, Rhode Island, New York, and the Floridas should be secured, and if possible Philadelphia — that the Force in Canada should not be less than 9, or 10,000. Men — at Halifax 4,000. — Rhode Island 2,500.

New

New York 12,000 — East Florida 4,000. — Philadelphia
(if kept) 12,000. That the Reinforcement for Canada
and Halifax should be directly from home; for
St. Augustine, to the General for his disposition.

It was also apprehended that it would be
absolutely necessary to send 3, or 4000 Men from
home as early as possible to Newfoundland
and perhaps a Company to Bermudas.