

R. L.

Embemb

3434

Paris July 11th 1779.

The preparations for Embarkation from St. Malo, ^{and} Havre are in such forwardness that if any unfortunate event should attend Sir Charles Cordier's Fleet, an invasion will certainly be attempted 26,000 chiefly Infantry is the strength of the Army, if successful, a Camp is forming under M^r. de Chabot of 16 Batt^{ns} of Cavalry and 2000 Dragoons to reinforce them. They take care for the Breaches and Ovens to draw the Artillery; the number of Irish Brigades a Division in Ireland might be expected; but the principal Object is on Portsmouth and Plymouth. As soon as the Ships are ready at Foulon an Expedition will take place under M^r. d'Estaing; three Frigates are going with a Convoy from l'Orient to North America. The 4 Ships from Ferrol have joined M^r. d'Orville's; but the Cadix Fleet detained by contrary Winds.

Lawrence is gone or going to Jersey and Guernsey if he succeeds at the first. All the Dutch Ships are ordered from St. Malo and Havre.

[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]