

Ld. Stourmont

3753

N. James, March 21. 1780

The Despatches from Petersburg  
which I lose no time in laying before  
Yr Majesty, tho' they are by no means so  
satisfactory as there was at first Reason  
to hope, are more so than from Yr  
J. Harris last letters was to be  
expected. The ~~equipping~~<sup>a</sup> fleet is a  
favourable circumstance and the  
Interview with the Emperor may  
perhaps produce in the end a  
Connexion between the two Imperial  
Courts; The Point we aimed at  
present seems to be, to endeavour  
to inflame the Empress's Resentment  
and

and if possible engage her in a  
War with Spain for the  
Protection of her own Trade and  
that of the other Neutral Powers.