

Prince George Sep: 3.
A. R. H. G. G.

Sir,

Having been detain-
ed for some time by contrary winds 30 leagues W. S. W.
of Scilly, & in such confusion, I have not been able to write
to Your Majesty; I am therefore very happy to seize this
first opportunity of sending a letter.

Nothing very material happened from the time
I wrote last, till we received information from the South,
supposition of the French & Spanish fleets being in the chan-
nel. We were, as Your Majesty may suppose, very much
surprized, & alarmed, being apprehensive of their invading

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England. We heard at the same time, they had taken several
small vessels, & I am afraid that, M^r. Denoyer, who had letters
for us, was among the number; The wind did not favour us
till the 27th when it changed, & we set sail towards England.
In the afternoon of the 29th the Cumberland, being ahead, & to
windward withal, let fly her Top Gallant sheets as a sig:
for a fleet. In the evening of the 30th we saw some cutters
making signals, as was supposed, to the combined fleets.

Next morning we saw from the mast head upwards of
sixty sail. We were in a very disagreeable situation all
day.

The 1st of this month in the morning off Plymouth Sound,
we counted only 31 sail from the mast head: at noon we an-
chored off the Sound, where we were joined by the Buf-
falo, Blenheim, Isis, Southampton, & 2 other Frigates.

About 5 in the afternoon we weighed, & set sail, coming to
St. Helens, where we dropped anchor this morning, & expect to
be joined by the princeps Amelia, Edgar, Heide, Arrogant,
& some frigates.

I wish that the Queen's health may not have been im-
paired by the anxiety of the mind, occasioned by the sud-
den news of the combined fleets, appearing in the chan-
nel.

I wish Your Majesty & the Queen joy for the birthdays
of my dear brothers Frederick, & the Prince of Wales
who I hope will be an honour to our country, & a com-
fort, & a credit to our family.

We celebrated the Prince of Wales's birthday by firing many
great guns & small arms. We had the captains of our division

to dine aboard.

I have nothing more to add, than to beg Your Majesty to
give my duty to the Queen, & my love to my brothers & sisters
& to assure Your Majesty, that,

I am,

Your Majesty's
most dutiful & affectionate Son,

William

Prince William
November 3. 1744