

The Opinions of Rear Adm.<sup>e</sup>  
Grove, Rear Adm. Sir Hood  
and Rear Adm.<sup>e</sup> Drake  
upon a consultation on  
board the London Sep<sup>r</sup> 13<sup>th</sup>

1781.

N<sup>o</sup> 52

may now seem

*[Faint, illegible cursive handwriting on aged paper]*



A Council of War held on board His Majesty's Ship London at Sea, the 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1781. upon a report received from Captain Dunbar of His Majesty's Ship Medea, that they had seen the Evening before, the French Fleet at Anchor off the Horse Shoe Shoal in the Chesapeake, that the large Ships appeared more numerous, and to be in Divisions, but that it was too late to get near enough to form a clear Judgment

Upon this state of the position of the Enemy, the present Condition of the British Fleet, the Season of the Year so near the Equinox, and the impracticability of giving any effectual succour to General Earl Cornwallis in the Chesapeake

It was resolved, that the British Squadron under the Command of Thomas Graves Esq. Rear Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Samuel Hood, Bart. and Francis Samuel Drake Esq. Rear Admirals of the Blue should proceed with all possible dispatch to New York, and there use every possible means for putting the Squadron in the best state for service, provided that Cap<sup>n</sup> Dunbar who is gone again to reconnoitre should confirm his report of the position of the Enemy, and that the Fleet should in the meantime facilitate the junction of the Medea

Moxy

(Signed) Tho. Graves  
Sam<sup>l</sup> Hood  
Fra. S. Drake