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My dear Sir

Formidable Tuesday night April 9th 1782

Your public Letter I will answer tomorrow. I can now only say, that after the very great fatigue you have undergone, which I must own has been attended with the greatest honor, I am glad to hear your Health has not suffered. It will never do, without we can always contrive to get the wind of the French, they will always contrive to keep us at arms length.

I am sorry you have lost so many Petty Officers my Wps. the best I had killed, & six men, besides wounded except the two rear Ships, the others fired at such a distance I returned none. I propose from the situation of some Ships of your Division, and the almost impossibility of bringing the Enemy to action, till we get them from under the Islands to lay to, this night, to give time for repairs, and to look into Guadaloupe tomorrow, and if the Enemy are there, to be at their appointed Rendezvous before them. As I have upon all occasions the highest opinion of your judgement, favour me with it at this critical moment, and believe me with real truth

Yours most sincerely

J. Rodney

+ To make know that
Capt. Bayne fell in actionCopy
J. M. Roddy

Sir Samuel Roddy Bart

My dear Sir George

Bathurst at Sea April 10th 1782

You do me great honor in holding my judgement in that estimation, as to request my sentiments, in the present critical moment, which I will give with that sincerity & candor, I have always prided myself in doing, whenever you have condescended to express a wish to know them; and if I have appeared at any time, to have improperly obtruded them, I trust you will believe, that Zeal alone, for the Service of my King & Country led me to do it.

De Grape will certainly woud you all he can, and when you know

know not, where he is, you will in my humble opinion be perfectly right, to push for the enemy's appointed Rendezvous, but while you can keep him in sight, or know that he is not gone to leeward, I think you can on no account quit him, and will I imagine keep your fleet, as much collected as possible, and wait yourself of every opportunity of getting to windward

The Ships the enemy's fleet had under convoy, anchored at S^t. Piers Guadaloupe, with some frigates, which should be closely watched — when you are informed of the state of the Alfred you may probably think it expedient, to send her to Jamaica but if her masts, can be secured, those ships which did not engage yesterday, will be able to supply her with powder & shot.

I did not suffer a gun to be fired from the Barfleur, for near 20 minutes after the Alfred began, and I think Cap^t. Bagnon was exceedingly reprehensible, for presuming to fire, before the signal for battle was hoisted on board the admiral of his Division, and when he was the leeward most ship of it, and at the greatest distance from the enemy

Your very handsome approbation of my conduct is truly flattering to me, and which I shall upon all occasions be studious to merit being with great respect &c &c &c
Sir George Bridges Rodney Bart. M^t. B^t. &c &c &c I am Sir

My dear Sir

Formidable Wednesday night April 10th 1782

Many thanks for your kind advice, you may perceive my opinion coincides with yours, by our endeavours to day, I have ordered M^r. Drake to lead with a plain sail tonight, but I plainly perceive that DeGrave, is unwilling to decide the affair in these seas. I am sorry for Bagnon, but own I was much hurt, at seeing him fire at such a distance, poor fellow he is gone, and as I promised Cap^t. Symons, the first ship that became vacant he must have the Alfred, & Lord Cranston the Formidable Bouchier you may be sure will soon be post, but Vushon must be before him, as I promised in England. It gives me
real

real pleasure to hear by Bourcier, that the very great fatigue
you have undergone, has not injured your health, may you
long continue ^{to enjoy it} is the sincere ^{wish} of my dear Sir

Sir Samuel Hoody Bart.

most affectionately yours
G B Rodney
Copy
Sam: Hoody

My dear Sir

Formidable 11th April 1782

My only reason for desiring you & your Squadron
to change Stations, with Mr Drake & his, was from their having
suffered so much in action on the 9th. and to give you, and
them time, to be put in repair, but depend upon it, the
moment you wish to have those directions altered, it
shall be done. I propose to make moderate sail, this night,
in the order of sailing, we can easily ~~form~~ ~~from~~ that.

Sir Samuel Hoody Bart.

yours &c. G B Rodney
Copy
Sam: Hoody

My dear Sir George

Barfleur 11th April 1782

My first & greatest wish is, to comply with yours
whatever disposition, you think right to make, respecting
my Division, will be most readily & cheerfully acquiesced
in by me. The good of the Kings Service, will always be
a primary consideration with me, no other, can ever
stand in competition with it. I trust we shall do
most effectual business tomorrow

I have the honor to be

se se se

Sir G B Rodney Bart. H. B.
se se se

Sam: Hoody

Formidable April 12^A. 7 o'clock Pm

Many thanks my dear friend for your very kind
congratulations, 'tis with the sincerest truth, that I must
with great justice acknowledge, that I am indebted to your
very gallant behaviour, that we have been so successful
you have a right, and may demand, whatever officers
you chuse, for preferment, either as Captains or Lieut

I had wrote my letter on our first receipt
wherein I had done you every justice, to our gracious
master, today must add greatly to it — and I am sure
there cannot be anything, but you may expect from
his goodness God bless you adieu

Yours most affectionately

Copy

G B Rodney

Sir Samuel Hoop Bart

Sam. Hoop