

Batavia Newyork Novr. 13th 1782

My dear General

By a vessel which arrived here from Jamaica on the 10th we had an account that the Gray Tronin sailed two days before with dispatches from the commanders in chief by sea & Land, to those in that character here, and that Martial Law was about to be proclaimed

I immediately wrote Rear Admiral Digby the letter you will herewith receive. On the 11th the Gray Tronin arrived, and so soon as I had opened and read the dispatch addressed to Adm^l. Pigot a copy of which I now send, I waited upon Sir Guy Carlton and the Rear Admiral, signified my intention of putting to sea, with the Squadron under my command, the moment there was water to pass the Bar, unless Admiral Digby gave me orders to the contrary, which he does not care to do, though he will not speak out upon the propriety of my sailing, and suggests danger to this port from Vandrenil's Ships, after I am gone

though

though they cannot be in condition to put to sea before the middle of next month, if so soon, according to very recent intelligence Admiral Digby sent me, which he said was to be depended on.

Sir Guy Carlton said not a word against my going and very candidly observed, that even admitting danger to be evident here, he could not think it should stand in competition with that, which threatened so valuable an Island as Jamaica; but he cannot part with a soldier from hence, whether the Carolina Troops that can serve in the West Indies, for some cannot agreeably to the agreement made at the hire of them, will be ordered as I suggested in my letter to Admiral Digby above mentioned, I cannot say; but if the whole could be sent to Jamaica, I should apprehend the near approach of winter, and the danger the transports will run, in coming upon this coast the next month, for they cannot be here, before the middle of it, of being dispersed and driven to various places, would be a very sufficient reason, for their going altogether immediately, as any
part

part can be sent back in the spring. I go to the
Hook tomorrow, and hope & trust to be over the
bar the 16th. as I think I shall then find water
enough to cross it without risque

His Royal Highness is perfectly well, in high
spirits, and appears to be perfectly happy

I have the honor to be
my dear General

your ever affectionate and
faithfull humble servant

Goody

I never knew good come
from procrastination, had half
the Kings Fleet I agreeably to what I suggested
to Admiral Pigot, which sent you gone
and taken a stand in the fair way from
the Havana to Cape Francois; the Spanish Squadron
would most likely have been intercepted; as it is -
it will probably have the start of me a fortnight
but I hope otherwise, and shall push to the southward
as fast as possible. But I am well aware I shall be
over matched not only in line of battle ships, but in
frigates also; which I have represented to Adm^l Digby

and

sent him the exact state of the Squadron, which is more than seven hundred shot in eleven ships of the Line, for the Prince George being then in the North River with Admiral Digby's Flag on board I had no return from her.

But in case of accident which may possibly happen; I herewith trouble you with copies of ^{Letters} I have written upon the state of the Squadron in consequence of the information that has been received, without producing the smallest addition either of men or ships - and upon my desiring one of two frigates which came in yesterday from Quebec, not appertaining to this Station; Admiral Digby desired me to send one of my frigates to Charles Town to strengthen the Convoy with Troops to Jamaica, which I have done - I have I trust acquitted myself with propriety in my duty, in humbly representing what appeared to me to be right for the King's Service, so that no blame can fall upon me justly if disaster arising from want of sufficient force only should happen.