

20 May 1797

Dear Brother,

My last letter from Dominique I hope is arrived safe,
 by which you was informed of Mr. Wolfe's request to quit the ship; and though it is
 not quite a month since I wrote last, various and many things have happened.
 I do believe that it is in truth far more of the nature of a cure of life; indeed there
 are very few. I have not forgot you: however to the point; I was your agreement
 - for my passage to Guadalupe, and upon my leaving Dominique, began to
 feel a pain and swelling in my right groin and that my appetite and sleep:
 my Surgeon, I did not recollect many who were that capacity with the
 Duke of Cumberland in the sense, thought it was the rheumatism in first
 - case I am very much subject to it, and usually because I had been in a course
 of mercury to cure a sore. This contracted in a most extraordinary manner
 in my pursuit of the Dame de Pedras. First with one so tight in a certain part
 that begging pardon, that the Pinum or brick ash heat it; we do not understand
 in a clap settled there, and this sore would not heal therefore I took mercury. This inflames

-tion in my right side increased and brought on a fever by the time I arrived at
Grenada: in short, I went about in that island till I suffered so much as to pre-
-vent my walking: it then was visibly the complaint you may remember. I
had in seventy eight which was so near carrying me off, but from Pidgeon's
attention and wisdom to get I was cured and gradually cured: however the swelling
in the groin still continued: it is Pidgeon's and my own opinion that had not my
old complaint attacked me at that time, I should not have had a child: I conceived,
-god it, and was a few days ago cut for it, most distressingly. Pidgeon throughout
this business deserves great credit: so that none, I have perceived that I am and both
in body and mind; I must draw your attention to other things: luckily the only
quiet I have had was during my illness, for from the time Dr. H. was obliged
to quit the ship; till he left her, she was quiet till he left the island but upon
my refusing to sign in the certificate his having complied with the general Court's
instructions he refused to take the certificate on his part: I conceived to be peculiar in
-particular for if she had been to sign the certificate, he had certainly the
power of stopping what in his opinion is best: I have therefore enclosed to
you a copy of my letter to the Admiralty: I am now obliged to you Dr. H. and

Officer of a very troublesome, disrespectful, and violent disposition. And now for those
 who have been ever since the 23rd January under arrest; justice therefore demands that
 he should be ~~therefore~~ ^{therefore} released as soon as possible from this miserable situation if
 he has struck Captain Nelson in the same light, who has in his usual official and
 proper manner suggested to me going down in the *Pegasus* and taking with me the
Rattler in case there should not be ships enough to try Schomberg alone ~~to go~~
 Jamaica. You may easily conceive I embrace this offer with pleasure, for I am now going
 to Commodore Gardner, an officer universally respected in success for his honour, cap-
 tivity and knowledge; besides Captains Raper, Brown and West, as officers of some
 standing in the service are there; besides several Commodore Parker arrived only he
 brings a ship with him. Schomberg would not be tired if Captain Neave were
 after a visit to the Bahama Islands, and by the Admiralty orders I must then
 the coast of North America by the middle of June, so that I must have a prospect
 of bringing matter to an issue: I should be happy if every officer had behaved in the
 respectful manner Mr. Hargood the word *luckless* has been done. Some officers
 being in this situation I have by this opportunity thought proper to relate the same
 to His Majesty, to wit, so many as were, and all other papers requisite to explain

the business by my next. I hope to have brought every thing to a conclusion, and to see
you the proceedings. My last compliments to Edphinstone and show him this
the enclosed. He must easily conceive that my illness and present occupation
have prevented my writing; however, whether I visit to you or not, it is all
one.

God bless you and grant me success for I am this week

going to Jamaica

W. Pitt Rivers, Finsbury Place, 20th May 1787.

H. R. H. Mr. Duke
of Clarence
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