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ORIGINAL
LETTERS

TO AN

Honest Sailor.

18. admiral Vernon

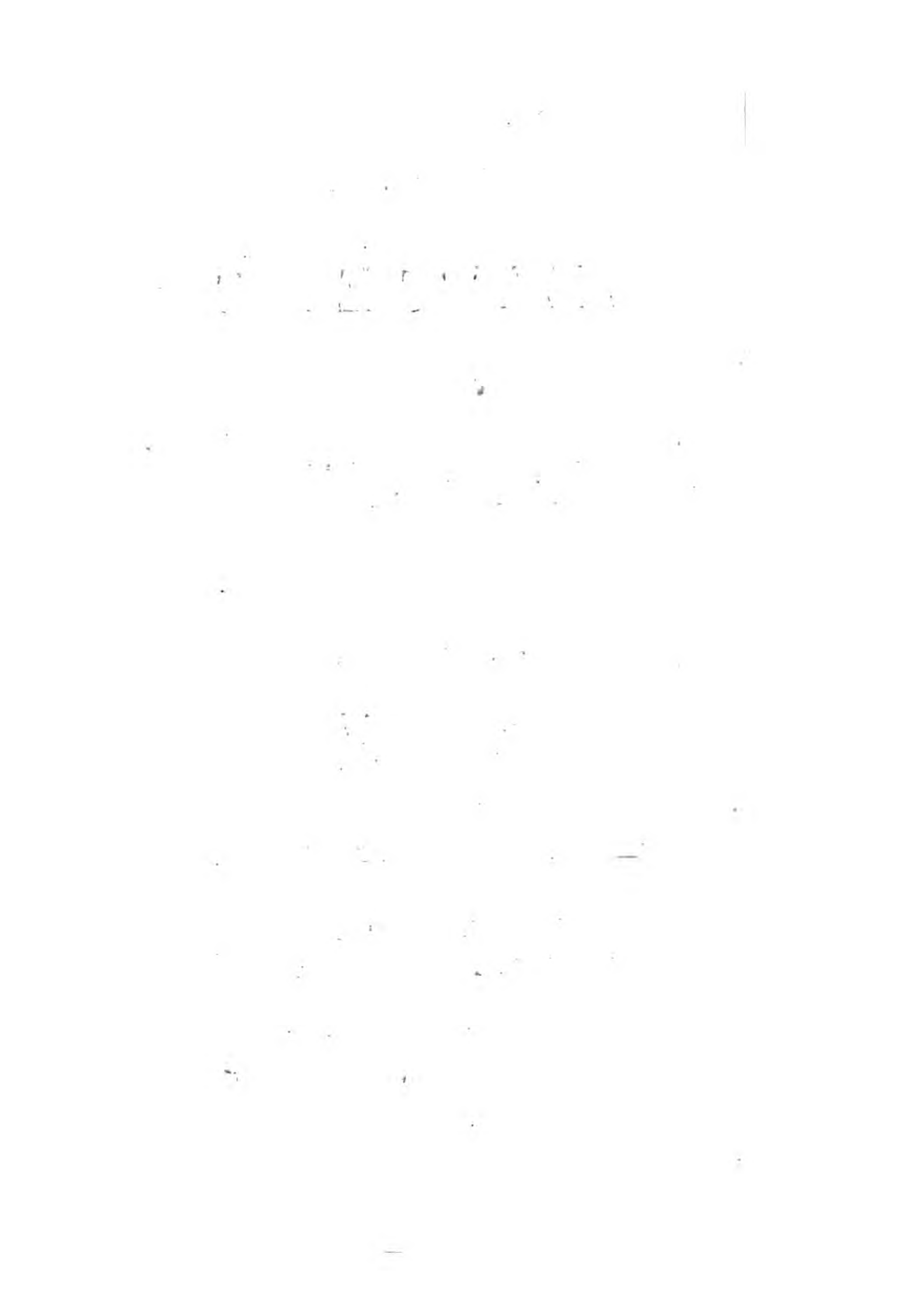


L O N D O N :

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Original Letters, &c.

To Vice Admiral VERNON.

S I R,



Had the Favour of your Letter from *Ma-*
deira; I hope you had a good Passage
from thence to *Jamaica*, but I am afraid
that the Ships were gone from the *Ca-*
raccas before you could come upon that
Coast, or at least the best of them: You know how
impatient People are here to have the *Spaniards* blown
up. You will now have three Fireships and two
Bomb Vessels, besides the *Greenwich*, which Ship not
being sheath'd, will not be proper to keep long with
you, but may be of some Use while she stays. Capt.
Windham is a brisk and gallant Man, and therefore I
recommend him to your Favour: You will, to be
sure, have Occasion to send some Ships home as a Con-
voy perhaps, in two Months or so, after her Arrival,
and then she will be at home in the Spring. The
Ships at *Ferrol* are, I believe, still there, notwith-
standing the Report to the contrary; and if we find
any Ships go from *Spain*, to make those in *Car-*
B *thagena*

thagena superior to you, we shall certainly send Ships after them to reinforce you. What Occasion we may have for Ships at home I don't yet see, but the *French* are fitting out all the Ships they have, at this Time of Year, and therefore it may reasonably be supposed that they have some Design; for it can hardly be supposed that they will be at that Expence only to amuse us and the *Spaniards*: We must do as well as we can, but we find great Difficulty in getting Seamen enough for our Ships, which has been our Case, in all our considerable Sea Armaments, which is the Case of no other Nation but ourselves. You will be perfectly informed of the State and Strength of *Carthagena*, and the Situation of the Ships there, if they are not gone, so that you will be able to judge whether it be practicable to attempt to burn them there: If you can catch them at *Porto Bello*, that Bay, I think, is open, but then nothing can be done but burning their Ships; indeed that may stop the Treasure some Time from coming to *Spain*, which would be good Service; and, it may, perhaps, be brought home by a *French* Squadron at last; but that the *Spaniards* do not like, for Fear they should mistake their Port and go into *France* instead of *Spain*. I am not able to give you any Advice, you are upon the Spot, and well acquainted every where; and I don't doubt but you will do all that can be done for the Honour of the King, and the Interest of this Nation: I heartily wish you good Success in whatever you shall undertake.

I think I should inform you, that Captain *Symonds*, in the *Colchester*, who is well acquainted upon that Coast, is going with Orders to Colonel *Oglethorpe*, to attempt the taking of *St. Augustine*, if he, with the Assistance he can have from *Carolina*, shall judge it practicable, he will be supported by Sea with the *Colchester*; the 40 Gun Ship and Sloop from *Virginia*, three 20 Gun Ships now at *Carolina*, and perhaps the Sloop from *Providence*, if they are not in Danger at that Island, which is very weak. I hope these Ships will

will be sufficient to prevent any Succours from being sent to *St. Augustine* from the *Havannah*, since I do not find there are any Ships left at the *Havannah*, since the *Affogues* came away, which you will hear got safe into *St. Audeo* the Day you sailed from *Plymouth*.

If *St. Augustine* could be taken, it would be very great Service to that Part of our Continent of *America*. Sir, I wish your Health and all the Succets that is possible, being,

S I R,

Your most Humble Servant,

Admiralty-Office,
Oct. 7. 1739.

CHARLES WAGER.

S I R,

HAVING an Opportunity of writing to you by a safe Conveyance, give me Leave, in the first Place, to return you my Thanks for your Letter; and in the next, for your own Honour, and our Country's Service, let me add my Wilhes that you may have performed some Exploit worthy your Character, and our Expectations. I am sure it will please you to hear that all your Friends in Parliament, having taken the Part of joining, with the utmost Zeal, in the Support of the War; nay, we have taken the Lead, and forced (some at least in the Administration) to do, what they were very unwilling to do, tho' the whole Nation seem'd to require it, and though it was the only Step they could take to extricate themselves from the Ignominy of their former long Forbearance and Timidity. God prosper our Arms with Success, and make you the Instrument of retrieving the Honour of your Country. I am confident you will do me the Ju-

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free to believe that no one can possibly wish you better, or is more sincerely than I am,

London, Nov.

Your faithful Friend, and

25, 1739.

Most obedient humble Servant,

WILLIAM PULTENEY.

S I R,

Captain *Renton* arrived here on the 13th Instant with your Dispatches of *October 31, November 5, and December 12, and 17 and 28*, which brought the agreeable News of the Success of his Majesty's Squadron, under your Command, in entering the Port, and demolishing the Forts and Castles at *Porto Bello*: And I have his Majesty's particular Commands to assure you of his entire Approbation of your Conduct and Behaviour, and of his Majesty's Satisfaction in the Courage and Zeal, which you, and the Officers, and Men, under your Command, shewed in this Action; and in the Humanity with which you treated the Inhabitants of *Porto Bello*, after the Reduction of it.

You will see by the enclosed *Gazette*, which was published immediately, upon Captain *Renton's* Arrival, the Account that was thought proper to be given to the Public, of your Success at *Porto Bello*, which was taken from the Relation, contained in your Letter to me, and was received, by all his Majesty's faithful Subjects, with all imaginable Joy and Applause: And you will have the Satisfaction to see the Sentiments of both Houses of Parliament on this Event, by the enclosed Copy of their joint Address to his Majesty, which was unanimously agreed to by both Houses; and which, added to his Majesty's most gracious Approbation, and Acceptance of your Services, will, I am persuaded, be looked upon by you, as the greatest and most honourable Distinction.

His

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His Majesty is so fully persuaded of your Zeal for his Service, and of your Prudence and good Conduct, in taking such Measures as shall the most effectually conduce thereto, that the King does not think it proper to prescribe any particular Service to be undertaken by you, but leaves it entirely to your Direction to act against the *Spaniards*, in such Manner, and in such Places, as shall appear to you, best to answer the Ends proposed by his Majesty's Orders to you, which were to distress and annoy the *Spaniards* in the most effectual Manner, by taking their Ships, and possessing yourself of such of their Places and Settlements, as you should think practicable to attempt, and in convoying and protecting his Majesty Subjects, in carrying on an open and advantageous Trade with the *Spaniards* in those Parts: All which his Majesty doubts not but you will do, in the best Manner you are able.

You will acquaint Commodore *Brown*, and the several Captains of his Majesty's Ships, that served under you at the Attack of *Porto Bello*, that the King was pleased to take particular Notice of their Courage and good Behaviour on that Occasion, which cannot but greatly recommend them to his Majesty's Favour.

I must not conclude this Letter without desiring you to accept my hearty Congratulations upon the great and signal Service which you have done to your King and Country; and assuring you, that none of your Friends can have a truer Pleasure in the Honour, you have so deservedly acquired by it, or can more sincerely wish for a Continuance of the Success, which has hitherto attended you, than,

S I R,

Whitehall, March,
26, 1740.

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

HOLLES NEWCASTLE.

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S I R,

S I R,

I Have your Letters from *Porto Bello* from off *Carthagena* and from *Jamaica*, the last the 3^d of *Feb.* I heartily congratulate you on your Success at *Porto Bello*, it has pleased the whole Nation as well as the King and his Ministers——and I hope the Consequences of it, as I believe, they will be very considerable. I send this by a Merchant Ship that goes without Convoy, so shall say but little here; but we shall very soon send you Captain *Renton*, either in the *Spanish* Prize, or some other Ship, if she should be found defective; and shall also send you a Reinforcement of Ships in a little Time and every Thing you want. You will find that the King has been congratulated on your Success by the whole Nation, and I hope you will have the same Success, whatever you undertake. I suppose the Merchants at *Jamaica*, and other Places, will take Advantage by *Porto Bello* being open; to carry on a Trade there, where I suppose the Money will creep over from *Panama*: I will not say more at present but wish you Health and Success, being very truly,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
27 March 1740.

Your most humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.

S I R,

A MONG the many Congratulations you will receive from hence, on your late glorious Success before *Porto Bello*, give me Leave to mingle those of as sincere a Friend as any you have, and to assure you, that no one can feel a more sensible and real Joy than I do at the Honour you have acquired: It adds greatly to the Glory of your Enterprize, when Mankind are at a Loss to determine, whether your Conduct,
your

your Courage, or your Humanity, is most to be admired.

May you go on with the same Resolution and Success in every Thing you undertake, for the Service of your Country; and now I have said this, let me subjoin the Advice of a sincere Friend: Be not by this Success, nor an over eager Zeal for your Country's Service, drawn into risking any Enterprize that may be too hazardous; consider, though you have many Friends willing and desirous to give you the just Tribute of Praise, for all your brave Actions, you may have some Enemies ready to run down any unsuccessful one; be cautious therefore, but not backward; pursue your Stroke, but venture not losing the Honour of it, by too much Intrepidity. Should you make no further Progress than you have done, no one could blame you, but those Persons only who ought to have sent some Land Forces with you, and did not; nay, did not give you so much as any Command over the few Troops that are dispersed in several Parts of the *West Indies*: To their Slackness therefore, it will be very justly imputed, by all Mankind, should you make no further Progress, 'till Lord *Cathcart* joins you, who is a very brave and worthy Man, and who, I dare say, will have Sense enough to agree with you in every Thing, and live in a perfect Harmony.

S I R,

London, March
27, 1740.

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

WILLIAM PULTENEY.

B 4

S I R,

S I R,

I HAVE received your Letter of the 25th of Feb. two Days since; I am glad to find that you keep your Health and Spirits, but I am afraid you have not been able to do any Thing at *Carthagena*, that Place seems to be too strong to be attacked by the Force you have with you: It is said from *Jamaica*, that it was thought there, that you was gone to *St. Jago de Cuba*, that is a sort of Nest for Pirates, though not so bad as *Porto-Rico*. I wish you good Luck in whatever you undertake, either now or hereafter: The Duke of *Newcastle* has acquainted you with the great Armament we have been making here for some considerable Enterprize in the *West Indies*; the Number of Troops Lord *Catcart* will have under his Command will be strong enough to attempt any Thing; and when he joins you, which will not be before *September*, perhaps the Middle or latter End, (miss *Hurricanes*) you will consider together what Place is most proper and practicable to attack, and go about it immediately, before Sicknes takes hold of the Soldiers; and it was in a great Measure owing to Delays, that our former Expeditions had no better Success; I hope you will succeed better: As to the *Spanish* Squadrons that were at *Ferrol* and *Cadiz*, they are now joined at *Ferrol*. Too many of our Ships having gone up to *Mahone*, and those left at *Gibraltar* being disabled by Sicknes, having been all the Winter at Sea, the *Spaniards* have drawn a great Number of Troops together in *Galicia*, and say, that they will make a Descent upon us, either in *England* or *Ireland*; but I hope we shall be strong enough, both by Sea and Land, to defeat any such Enterprize, if they should venture to undertake it. When we had the first News of the *Spanish* Squadron being sailed from *Cadiz*, it was presently reported, and supposed by many, that they were gone to the *West Indies*, but there were several Circumstances that to me seemed as if they were not intended that

that Way: We shall soon see what they will do at *Ferrol*; we are getting our Ships ready as fast as possible, but an uncommon Sickness has killed a great Number of Seamen, and there are now above two Thousand sick ashore, but we must do as well as we can, though our Way of Pressing is a Way that requires more Time than we have; however, we spare these two Ships to convoy your Stores and the Trade, which must be done. You will know that some of our Ships took, near Cape *Finnisterre*, a *Spanish* Man of War of 68 Guns. For News, I must refer you to your other Friends, and remain,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
May 29, 1740.

Your most humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.

S I R,

I TAKE the Opportunity of Captain *Renton's* Return with the Command of a Twenty Gun Ship, (which has been given him upon your Recommendation for his former Services,) to thank you for your Dispatches of the 5th, 21st, and 25th of *April* last, which I received on the 29th past at Night, by Mr. *Thomas*, Purser of the *Strafford*, and most sincerely to congratulate you upon the Continuance of your great Success against his Majesty's Enemies.

I took the first Opportunity of laying your Letters before the Lords Justices, and their Excellencies were pleased to express the greatest Sense of the Importance of the Service, which you have now a second Time, rendered to your King and Country, and to add their entire Approbation of your Conduct; and they have desired me to return you their Thanks for your Vigilance and Zeal in the Execution of his Majesty's Orders.

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I am also to acquaint you, that their Excellencies have recommended to the King, to grant a Pardon to *Lowther* the Pyrate; and I am persuaded his Majesty will be graciously pleased to comply with this Request; and their Excellencies will take a proper Opportunity of recommending the distressed Family of *Mr. James* to his Majesty's Favour.

You will be so fully informed of the King's Orders for your Conduct, by the Letters that I have lately wrote to you, and now write by this Occasion, that the Lords Justices have nothing to add, but to recommend it to you, in the strongest Manner, to get all your Strength together, and in a Condition to act, pursuant to his Majesty's Orders, upon the Arrival of my Lord *Cathcart* at *Jamaica*.

Give me Leave, Sir, to assure you, that no Man living has greater Pleasure, than I have, in the repeated Success which has attended his Majesty's Arms under your Direction: And it is an additional Satisfaction to me, that these important Services have been done by one, for whom I have so true a Regard and Friendship.

I flatter myself, that these Beginnings will be followed by the most signal Advantages that can be hoped for from so powerful a Fleet and Army, as you will have with you when my Lord *Cathcart* arrives. I am,

S I R,

Whitehall, July
4, 1740.

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

HOLLES NEWCASTLE.

S I R,

S I R,

THOUGH I have writ to you already by the *Defiance*, the Convoys to *Jamaica*, and several other Parts, not being ready, I venture this one Letter more; though the Wind be Northerly we are in daily Expectation of hearing from you, either from the *Spanish* Coast or from *Jamaica*: After your Return from thence, we did not think it was possible for you to do any Thing considerable against *Carthagena*; I suppose you found, however, it makes a considerable Alarm upon their Coast. Two Ships of War with 500 Soldiers, sailed about four Months since from *Ferrol*, we believe to *Carthagena*; it would have been lucky if they had fallen into your Hands but such Things, we know, are very uncertain. When you receive Directions about our grand Expedition, under the Command of Lord *Catcart*, you will wonder, perhaps, at the Rendezvous being appointed at *St. Antonio*, because there is not Room for any Number of Ships at that Place, but as there is a Bay just to Windward of it, where there is a great deal of Room, we thought it might do, if *Port Royal* should not be agreed to as perhaps it will not, for Fear of the Soldiers staying too long there, and getting Sickness, by drinking too much Rum, as has usually been the Case: *Dona Maria* Bay would be better, but there were Objections to that; and as they will stop at *Monferrat*, or *St. Christopher's*, or both, to fill Water, I hope they will be pretty fresh before they come to you. I saw your Letter to the Duke of *Newcastle*, wherein you advise against Land Expeditions to the *West Indies*; but it is thought here, that if you had had 2000 good Soldiers with you, or more, they might have march'd over from *Porto Bello* to *Panama*. I have seen a Letter from *Jamaica*, which says, that one of our Privateers had attack'd *Porto Bello*, with Intent to plunder it, but miscarried in the Attempt, and was taken by the *Spaniards*: Was not this breaking the Capitulation?

tion? besides being, to be sure, a very great Prejudice to the Traders from *Jamaica*, who, no doubt, have a very good Harvest in trading with the *Spaniards*, if not intercepted. I hear besides, that the Friendship between us and the *Darien* Indians is broke off, by some of our Traders abusing their Women, and carrying away some of the Indians, and selling them for Slaves, so that they have made Peace with the *Spaniards*, by which they have a Communication through their Country from *Panama* to *Carthagena*, by which they may carry Money thither without Hazard: I hope this is not true, but it is so like *English* Management, on the like Cases, that I fear it is. I have been told that Sloops have done the same at the *Musquitos*, and that there are now several *Musquito* Indians Slaves at *Jamaica*. If these Stories are true, I should think the Governor should know it, and prevent it, for that will entirely put a Stop to any Advantage we might expect by a Friendship with those Indians, either *Musquitos*, or *Darien* Indians.

I wish you Success in every Thing you undertake, particularly to our grand Expedition, which we have great Hopes of here; you will see when it comes to you what can be done; and drive Nails that will go, and not others. You have always the good Wishes of,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
June 10, 1740.

Your most humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.

S I R,

I Profit of the Opportunity of my worthy Friend Captain *Renton's* going to assure you, that when his Majesty did me the Honour to name me to the Command of the Expedition to the *West Indies*, it afforded me a thorough Satisfaction, that I had a Person
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of your Character to act with. The Spirit, good Conduct, and Disinterestedness with which you have begun this War, and which has so justly procured you the Approbation of our Royal Master, as well as the universal Esteem of your Fellow Subjects, give great Room to hope it will be carried on with the same Spirit and good Management. — Nothing can contribute more to the Success of it than a perfect Understanding between us; towards this, I have promised to myself for you, that I shall meet with that good Disposition, that, you may take my Word for it, you will find in me.

In the Corps of Troops I bring you, there's Spirit, there's Good-Will, which, when properly conducted, will, I hope, produce what the Nation expects from us, and will make us the glorious Instruments of finishing the War, with all the Advantages to the Publick that we can promise from the happy Beginnings of it; and with this distinguishing Circumstance, that those good Effects have been owing to a perfect Agreement between the Land and Sea Officers.

It's with Joy I have it to tell you, That the Ministers here have assured his Majesty we shall sail with the first fair Wind, after the 20th of the next Month: I shall the sooner have an Opportunity to satisfy the Impatience I have being known personally to you, and of giving you convincing Proofs of the Value and Esteem with which I have the Honour to be,

S I R,

London, June

22, 1749.

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant,

CATHCART.

P. S.

P. S. The appointing *Port Royal* in *Jamaica*, for the Place of our Rendezvous, gives no small Uneasiness from the Apprehension I have of what may happen to our Men from an immoderate Use of new Rum, and this leads me to beg you may be so good to be taking Measures for having this Inconvenience prevented.

S I R,

I TAKE this Opportunity, by Captain *Renton*, to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letters and Accounts, by Mr. *Thomas*; and I congratulate you on your Success against the Castle of *Chagre*, I was apprehensive that you had not Strength enough to attempt any Thing at *Carthagena*, but the bombarding of it, I believe, struck some Terror into the Inhabitants, and it was a Sort of insulting of them in your Way down to *Porto Bello* and *Chagre*. The Privateer that fired upon the Town of *Porto Bello*, after you had given them a Protection, was an impudent Thing, and the Captain, or indeed the Crew, did not deserve the Favour you shewed them; and, I am told, that the Trading Sloops, or Privateers, have behaved in such Manner, to the *Darien* Indians, by abusing the Women, and carrying some of the Men to *Jamaica*, and selling them for Slaves, that we have lost their Friendship, and that they have, for that Reason, made Peace with the *Spaniards*, and will join with them against us when they have Opportunity, and that we have done the same to the *Musquitos*; if it be so, it is an abominable Thing, but not unlike that Sort of *Englishmen*, and I wish our Troops may behave better; and the Duke of *Newcastle*, I presumed informs you what is intended to be done in your Parts of the World. I shall write again by Lord *Catcart*, and therefore say no more, at present, but that

that I heartily wish you, and your Squadron, Health
and Success, and am,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office, *Your most humble Servant,*
July 9, 1740.

CHARLES WAGER

S I R,

THIS is to own the Receipt of your Letter by
Captain *Knowles*. The Duke of *Newcastle* is
out of Town, but your Letter to his Grace was read
Yesterday at the Regency, when your Proceedings
are very well approved. The Fleet that is coming
to you will sail with the first Wind, and to that I
refer you for all the News that can be had from
hence. Captain *Knowles* being desirous to return
to you, we have put him into the *Litchfield*, which
Ship is one of the Squadron coming to you, and
I hope he will be of good Service to you, as he is
already by your Account of him.

I find, by a Letter from Captain *Douglafs* to the
Board, brought by *Knowles*, that he had taken a
Dutch Ship from *Cadiz*, bound to *Vera Cruz*, which
had a Vice Roy on board for *Mexico*, which Ship is,
I suppose, at *Jamaica* before now: The *Dutch* will,
to be sure, expect to be released, as being a *Dutch*
Ship, and will also claim the Effects, though *Spanish*,
as the *French* do by the Treaty of Commerce with
them, which makes free Ship, free Goods, except
they be contraband, and the Treaty describe what is
contraband, and what is not, and we have already
had Disputes with the *French* upon that Head; but
as the *Spaniards* have declared, as it is said, that they
will seize all *English* Effects in *Dutch*, or Neutral
Ships, and have actually done so in more Instances
than one; whether we should be fix'd up by the
Treaty, when they are not, I can see no Reason,
tho' to be sure the *Dutch* will claim the Benefit of
the

the Treaty, as the *French* also will; and it's said, that there were at *Cadiz*, besides *French* and *Dutch*, a Ship or two with Imperial Colours loading Goods for *America*. Sir *John Norris* is sailed with above Twenty Men of War of Sixty, Seventy, and Eighty Guns to the Coast of *Galicia*, but I fear he will find it impracticable to enter *Ferrol*, and burn the Ships there, it being so well fortify'd, and the Entrance so narrow, and pretty long, with a Number of Guns on both Sides, and a Boom, or Chain across: The Strength of the *Spanish* Fleet is now there, being eighteen or twenty Ships, with those that went thither from *Cadiz*; they are in a bad Condition, as we are informed, many Men sick and dead, and in want of every Thing; as are also the Troops in those Provinces, tho' intended, when ordered thither, to make a Descent upon us, which they soon found impracticable, for want of all Things necessary for it, tho' we had no Fleet to oppose them; but I believe those Resolutions were taken to amuse the King of *Spain*, who thought he could conquer the World, but finding those Things, and the Taking *Minorca*, but Chimeras, and hearing, at last, when they could keep it no longer from him, of your Success at *Porto Bello*, and since at *Chagre*, has put his Majesty, as I hear by the Bye, into a Fit of Melancholy, that if the Queen did not hinder, in all Probability he would resign: No doubt but he was made to believe, that the *French* would join him, and we having no Allies, which I think is no Wonder, considering how we left them in the Lurch, and forced them into a dishonourable Peace, the *Spaniards* thought, and not without Reason, that with the *French* Assistance, they could be too many for us; how long the *French* will keep out of the War cannot be known, but the Loss of their Commerce in the Galleons and Flota, if it continues, will certainly incline them to come into it at last: I hope we shall find some Allies, if they should, or else such a War would be heavy upon us; tho' it would be a great Prejudice to their Trade, which has prodigiously encreased since the late Wars,
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and is much more advantageous to their Nation than War can be: There are, as usual, great Expectations from this Expedition, if the Soldiers do not fall sick and die, as they used to do formerly, something considerable will, no doubt, be done. I don't know whether the Time of Year will be proper to go first to the *Havannah*, for Fear of the Norths; if not, I see nothing considerable to Windward but *Cartbagena*; but you know, as well as I, that whatever is determined to be put in Execution, must be immediately proceeded upon, for Soldiers, no more than other People, cannot do any thing when they are dead, and that will be their Fate if they stay too long at *Jamaica*: The Health your Squadron have had, has been from your keeping them constantly employ'd. You will be the best Judge, who are upon the Spot, what shall be most advisable to undertake. I wish we had a Squadron now in the South Sea, to have a Communication with you from *Panama*; but the proper Season for that was lost. I am sure you will do what you can, and so I believe will Lord *Catcart*, in Conjunction with you; he is a Man of very good Temper, and a good Soldier, and I hope there will be no Difference possible arise between you. I wish you Health, and all the Success that can reasonably be expected, and shall remain,

Your faithful humble Servant,

Admiralty-Office,
Aug. 6, 1740.

CHARLES WAGER

S I R,

I Have forgot hitherto to advise you to send home the Produce of all Prizes that were taken before the Declaration of War, which I suppose you know was the 19th of *October*, 1739, because, I believe, the King intends to give all Prizes to the Captors, that were taken after that Time, though the Act of Parliament, that give all Prizes to the Captors, does not commence so soon, but those Prizes that were taken by Virtue of the Orders for Reprisals before the Date of

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the Declaration of War: The Merchants were promised that they should be considered out of the Produce of those Prizes; what Part or Share of them that will be is not yet known; but if the Produce of all such Prizes was sent home and lodg'd in the Bank, it would soon be known what the Amount of the Whole would be, and consequently, a Distribution would the more easily be made, because 'till that is done I don't see how a Distribution can be made equally, between the Captors and Merchants, or what Sum the Merchants Part will amount to; for a proper Distribution must be made to them, in Proportion to their just Claims. I find it is the Opinion of some proper Judges, in Relation to the *Dutch Ship*, taken by the *Worcester* and *Falmouth*, that if the *Dutch Ship* was hired by the *Spaniards* she becomes a *Spanish Ship*, till that Time is expired; if she was upon Freight at so much a Ton, it may alter the Case: And you know that in the late Wars with *France* and *Spain*, the Enemies Goods used to be taken out, and the Ships of neutral Nations paid their Freight and dismissed, but by the Treaty of *Utrecht*, of which I suppose you have a Copy from this Office, there is an Article, that a free Ship shall make free Goods, both in the *French* and *Dutch* Treaty; but as the *Spaniards* have already broke that Treaty, by taking *English* Goods out of *Dutch* Ships, there is a *Lex Taliones*, that I should think, would entitle us to do the same by them: But this is only my private Opinion.

The Wind is now strong westerly, which may give the Letter an Opportunity to come Time enough to *Portsmouth*, to come to you in the *Buckingham*, which, with the rest of the Fleet, are all ready to sail, the Troops being all on board. I again wish you all Manner of Success, being

S I R,

Your most humble Servant,

Admiralty-Office,
Aug. 7, 1740.

CHARLES WAGER.
Dear

Dear S I R,

THIS will be delivered to you by Captain *Limeburner*, one whom Sir *Charles Wager* preferred, at my Recommendation: You will find him, I dare say, a very sensible honest Man, and if he be such, I am confident, he will meet with your further Encouragement and Protection. Since I now write to you by him with Safety, I will venture to do it with some Freedom, and give you such Lights into our Way of Acting and Thinking here, as may perhaps be of some Use to you. I take it for granted, that you have been thoroughly informed, by Mr. *Wood*, of every Thing that passed in Parliament here, when we first received the News of the taking of *Porto Bello*, and I hope you had my former Letter likewise. When our Ministers found that they could neither diminish the Glory of your Enterprize, nor lessen the Importance of the Place, both of which they attempted, they thought it most prudent to join in the Cry, and seem as forward as any of us, in the Addresses of Congratulation, assuming, at the same Time, great Merit to themselves, since you acted, they said, by their Orders: Your Friends took the Affair up with as high a Hand as possible; and had the whole Nation to back them in it: The Ministry being thus forced to chime in with us, tho' their Affectation was visible to every one, it furnished us with the Means of driving them further than ever they intended to go. When I say the Ministry, you must understand me to mean only the *Primum Mobile*—there, for I am fully persuaded there are some among them, willing to act with Vigour, and to do the Nation Justice. We shewed them how much Time and how many Opportunities had been lost, and what Ignominy this Nation had suffered by our former Timidity; we urged, that it was now manifest, by what you had done, as well as by what you had formerly said, that this very Thing might have been accomplished long ago, with a much less Force than *Hofier* had. We reproached them for sending no Land Forces with you, to enable

you to push your Conquests farther, and particularly, for their Backwardness in not supporting you from Time to Time with more Ships, and a constant Supply of fresh Stores, Provisions, &c. At the same Time we assured them, that if they would even now be in Earnest in vindicating the Honour of the Nation, and carrying on the War with Vigour, they should find us ready to support them in whatever could in Reason be asked, and that all Animosities should subside, till we had retrieved our lost Reputation: To avoid these Clamours, and urged by these Assurances, they pretended to be as much in Earnest as ourselves, and this begat my Lord *Catbcart's* Expedition. (Perhaps in Time I may explain something further to you on this Head.) We made all our Promises good, and having given them every Thing they asked of Parliament, no one Expence was refused them, tho' many needless ones were demanded, particularly the Increase of our Horse and Dragoons at home, under the ridiculous Pretence of fearing a foreign Invasion. They desired a Body of Marines, which was cheerfully agreed to, but when they came to deliver the Estimate, it was manifestly meant only as an Augmentation of our Land Forces, and an Increase of our home Establishment of Guards and Garrisons, which already gave too much Jealousy. This was shewn, the Ministry was exposed, but the Service was nevertheless voted: After this they came again to Parliament, and desired now really a Body of Marines, which they intended should serve on board the Fleet; we laughed at them for thus exposing their former Conduct, and when we had declared, that all the Foot Regiments in *England* should be looked upon as Marines, and liable to serve on board the Navy, and shewn what they meant by this Jobb, which was to get a Place or two more for some Members of Parliament, we agreed to this likewise, and voted the Establishment. Four Millions of Money have been given. and, I dare say, much more will be expended in siple Camps at home, and idle parading with our Fleets abroad. A vast Fleet is to be sent with Sir *John Norris*, and yet no Body seems

to have any Expectations from it. To ravage the Coasts of *Spain* (supposing we could do it) seems to be with a Desire only of forcing the *Spaniards* into a Peace, before we have secured such Advantages, as we may reasonably hope for in another Place. Every Man of Sense agrees, that the only Place to push them in, is the *West Indies*, and there we can be too hard for them, and may defy the whole World besides. All Pomp and Ostentation in the *European* Seas is useless: Had we, instead of the Expence we have been at, scoured the Seas at home with separate Men of War, and drove away the Privateers, who have prey'd on our Trade, and infested even our very Coasts, keeping, at the same Time, a sufficient Strength against any Attack, our Merchants had been much better satisfied, and we had given less Umbrage and Offence to *France*, whilst we might have done our Business in another Place more effectually. This I hope we shall still do; and I own I have great Confidence in Lord *Cathcart*, because I am sure he comes determined to co-operate with you, and be guided by you, in every Thing that shall be judged for the Honour and Interest of *Great-Britain*: You will find him a very able Man, with great Spirit, Honour and Judgment; and I have formerly heard Lord *Marlborough* commend him extremely as a Soldier. Whilst you two agree, and for the Sake of your Country I hope you always will, what may not this Nation expect? We one and all cry out there is no Dependance on the Faith of Treaties; something must be obtained to keep the *Spaniards* from insulting us again; and we must not no longer rely on bare Promises only, for the Security of our Navigation and Commerce; Take and Hold, is the Cry; this plainly points out *Cuba*, and if the People of *England* were to give you Instructions, I may venture to say, Ninety-nine in a Hundred would be for the attacking that Island. We are told it is left to a Council of War to determine where you are to go; should it be to *Cartagena* first, even that Action (great as it might be) would be a Disappointment of our Hopes; it might be a very sensible Mischief to

Spain, but what we now immediately want is, Advantage to ourselves. *Cuba* is an Island that may be of such Importance, and the *Havannah* is a Port of such infinite Consequence, that the Conquest of them seems to be preferable to every Thing else. These we may take and hold, and these will give us the Key to the *West Indies*. Thus does every Man in *England* reason, except very few, who may be careful of giving Offence to *France*, and fancy Peace may be rendered more difficult by this Maxim of Taking and Holding. Perhaps likewise the People of *Jamaica* may not be very forward to encourage an Attempt against *Cuba*, imagining it may lessen the Value of their Lands in *Jamaica*; but supposing this were true, of what Weight is such a Consideration when put into the National Scale; surely *Cuba* may be made of infinitely more Importance to the Mother Country; it is a pure, a large, and a healthier Island, and, in all Respects whatsoever, better situated. I make no Question, but that, with a right Conduct, it might soon be peopled, many Persons, with proper Encouragement, and a right Distribution of the Lands, might be brought to settle there from our Continent, and from other Parts of *America*: The Act we passed last Sessions for Naturalizing all foreign Protestants, who shall reside, for seven Years, in any of his Majesty's Colonies in the *West Indies*, will help to people it from *Europe*, and when we are once possessed of it, the whole World will not be able to dispossess us again; we may then make Peace with *Spain*, without the Intervention of *France*, giving them almost any Thing in *Europe* they may desire, but shewing them, at the same Time, they shall, in great Measure, depend upon us, the chief Maritime Power, for the very Possession of their *Indies*, and convincing them of the Truth of their own old Proverb, *Peace with England, and War with the whole World*. The Conquests you have already made, have been great and glorious, but what has raised your Reputation still higher, has been your Temper, Conduct, and great Humanity: To spare the Individuals, when you had forced them

to submit, is the true Spirit of Heroism; destroying the Forts, and laying open their Trade, is acting, at the same Time, with equal Judgment and Good-nature; but when the Trade on the Continent of *New Spain* is open, every Body is equally at Liberty to partake of it, and I doubt *France* and *Holland* would run away with a great Share of the Profit of it; but had we the *Havannah*, this would not be the Case; believe me, every Body here reasons in this Way, and all our Hearts are bent on *Cuba*. I say this to you, that you may be apprised of our real Sentiments, I mean the Sentiments of the City of *London*, and the whole People, and not hear what they say only who may send you your Instructions. *Cartbagena* may follow the Conquest of *Cuba*, but it will be difficult, if not impossible to attack the *Havannah* after *Cartbagena*: In short, (according to our Manner of Reasoning here) nothing can be done, on any Part of the Continent of *New Spain*, half so acceptable to every Merchant in *England*, as taking the *Havannah*. Having said this, which I thought myself in Friendship obliged to do, it must be left to your better Judgment to act as you think proper; and all I will say further is, that your Reputation is now so securely fixed, that you need have very little Regard to any Thing but your own Judgment. You have restored the Honour of your Country, you have established your own, and you may despise all the Efforts of your Enemies, (if you have any) to hurt you. Proceed with the same Success as you began, and be assured, no one wishes it you with more Sincerity and true Friendship, than,

Dear S I R,

London, Aug.
17, 1740.

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

WILLIAM PULTENEY.

C 4

S I R,

S I R,

I H A V E the Favour of your Letter of the 19th of *July*, by Capt. *Windham*, who had a pretty long Passage, but I think is coming to you again in the *Dunkirk*, having changed with Capt. *Baker*: I have also seen your Letter to the Duke of *Newcastle*, which has been read at the Regency, who now, I hope, are depos'd, expecting the King every Day from *Holland*. I believe the Duke of *Newcastle* is very particular in his Letters to you, and the Intelligence he sends you. You will know the Occasion of the Delay of Lord *Catbcart's* Expedition; at first six Ships only were his Convoy, but upon Advice, that the *Ferrol* Squadron was gone from thence, and said to be gone to the *West Indies*, before Sir *John Norris* was able to get there to stop them, more Ships were added, and upon further Advice, that Marquis *D'Antin* was gone from *Brest*, with a *French* Squadron of Twelve great Ships, as the *Spanish* Squadron was, and said also to be gone to the *West Indies*, to secure the Galleons, wherein they are so much concerned, and also to prevent our making any Conquest upon the *Spaniards*, for which, they say, they are Guarantees by the Treaty of *Utrecht*, and so are we; but if the Fair can be held either at *Carthagera* or *Quito*, so as the Money may be all brought to *Carthagera*, and the *French* can have their Money, I suppose they will immediately come away with it, and leave the *Spaniards* to shift for themselves, but I may be mistaken; however, I think that is their chief Point, and therefore, I suppose, that both these Squadrons will go directly to *Carthagera*, and defend that Place, if it should be attacked, and, to be sure, it will be well defended, for they will not care to part neither with their Ships nor Money: But still there is another *French* Squadron from *Toulon*, of Twelve great Ships more, which many think are gone to the *West Indies* too; you will hear of them if they be, before this Letter comes to you, but I cannot imagine, that the *French* would send
all

all the Strength of their Navy to the *West Indies*, and knowing very well how difficult it is to supply such a Number of Ships so far off with Provisions and Stores, though the *Spaniards* don't think of that; we are told, that the *French* depend upon being supply'd from *Ireland* with Beef, and have made very large Contracts there for that Purpose, but we have put a Stop to that by laying an Embargo there upon all Ships; but several *French* Ships have been loaded there and gone, and some are there now; they may be stopped; however, I suppose it will be impossible for the *French* to stay there any Time, but I hope this Squadron will join you before they sail from *Cartagena*. I need not tell you how many Ships come to you, you will see that; they were thirty-three at first, but now much less; but if we find that the *Toulon* Squadron is gone, we may send more, if we can find Men for them, so that though we are very strong by Sea in Ships, we have no Power to make our Seamen go on board of them, even to defend the Nation, if attacked; but I will not mention our Weakness in that Respect, not but that we have Men enough for all our Ships, and I hope this Session the Parliament will think it necessary to compel them to come in.

I have a Man perfectly acquainted, and a good Pilot to *Guatimalla*, where, he says, there are Thousands of *Indians*, and *Creol Spaniards*, that would join any Body that comes: I will send him to you. I am,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Oct. 11, 1740.

Your most humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.

To Vice Admiral VERNON.

S I R,

IN Obedience to the Commands of the House of Commons, I hereby transmit to you a * Resolution the House came to this Day.

It is with a very particular Pleasure to myself, that I obey their Order on this Occasion, by which you so justly receive this publick Acknowledgment of the Services you have done to your King and Country, and am, with all imaginable Respect,

S I R,

Nov. 25,
1740.

Your most humble, and

Most obedient Servant,

A. B. ONSLOW.

*To the Right Honourable ARTHUR
ONSLow, Esq;*

S I R,

THE singular Honour done me in being thought deserving of the unanimous Thanks of the House of Commons, for my Endeavours to discharge my Duty to his Majesty in these Seas, is what I can't find Words sufficiently to express my grateful Sense of; but I shall ever retain a just Acknowledgment of the great Honour done me by the House, in their Approbation of my Services to his Majesty and my Country, and thinking them deserving of their Notice in this publick Manner.

* See the Thanks of the Honourable House of Commons, printed in the Votes, Nov. 25, 1740.

As

As the publick Approbation of so Auguft an Af-
fembly, is the highest Honour a Subject can receive,
I must beg the Favour of you, Sir, to assure the
House, that a grateful Sense of it will never be effaced
out of my Memory; and that I shall endeavour, in all
my future Conduct, by continued Diligence and faith-
ful Discharge of my Duty to his Majesty, in the Exe-
cution of his Orders, for the Honour of the Crown,
and Service of my Country, to study to preserve the
Continuance of their Esteem.

I am, S I R,

Dec. 9.
1741.

Your most obedient, and

Most humble Servant,

E. VERNON.

S I R,

I Believe I have acknowledged the Receipt of your
Letters by the *Greenwich*. The *Blandford* is ar-
rived since Sir *Chaloner* sailed with Lord *Catbcart*,
who, I hope, is arrived, or will be, long before you
receive this, and therefore I shall be the shorter,
supposing that you will have determined what you
shall undertake before you receive this, and possibly
may have begun to put it in Execution. I am sorry
for the Misfortune of the *Buckingham* losing her
Main Mast, and, as the Captain tells us, the *Superb*
lost all her Masts; the *Buckingham* is returned, and,
we suppose, the *Superb* is gone to *Lisbon*. We have
ordered the *Kent* and *Grafton* in the room of those
two, though we hope the *Superb* will go from *Lisbon*
to you as fast as she can, as we have ordered her to
do. I heartily wish you good Success in what ever
you undertake. I will write again in a Day or two,
if the Wind does not come easterly, as it is not
like,

[30]

like, and therefore take Leave To-night, being late.
I am,

S I R,

Admiralty, Nov. *Your most humble Servant,*
27, 1740.

CHARLES WAGER.

To EDWARD VERNON, Esq; *Vice Admiral
of the Blue Squadron of his Majesty's
Fleet, and Commander in Chief of his
Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the West
Indies, at Jamaica.*

S I R,

IN Purfuance of an Order of the House of Lords,
I herewith transmit to you their unanimous Re-
solution of the 1st Instant. It is with the greatest
Pleasure that I obey their Lordships Commands on
this Occasion, as well on Account of the particular
Respect which I bear to you, as of the great Advan-
tages, which the King our Master and our Country
derive from your eminent Services. I desire you will
accept my sincere Congratulations upon the Honour
done you by so August an Assembly, together with
my ardent Wishes, that your Zeal and Diligence, in
executing his Majesty's Commands, may always be
crowned with the most prosperous and glorious Suc-
cess. I am, with the greatest Truth and Regard,

S I R,

London, Dec. 3, *Your most Obedient, and*
1740.

Most humble Servant,

HARDWICKE, C.

Admiral

*Admiral Vernon's Answer to the Thanks of
the Right Honourable the House of Lords.*

SO great an Honour done to my Endeavours to serve his Majesty to the best of my Abilities, by being thought deserving of the Thanks of so Noble and August an Assembly, as the House of Lords, could not but fill my Mind with the sincerest Joy, for being deemed worthy so high an Honour, as to be recommended to Posterity by their Lordships, for having diligently and resolutely served his Majesty and my Country.

I hope the grateful Sense of this Honour, will ever fix so deep an Impression on my Mind, as, on all future Occasions, to animate me to preserve their Lordships good Opinion, and manifest my Inclinations to express my grateful Sense of it, by continuing to exert the utmost of my poor Abilities, in a diligent and faithful Discharge of my Duty to his Majesty and my Country.

S I R,

IB E G Leave to congratulate you on the great Honours you will receive by the same Ships as bring you this Letter. Both Houses of Parliament have voted you their unanimous Thanks for the great and eminent Services you have done your Country, and we are in full Hopes and Expectations, that we shall have new Occasions of repeating them for fresh Conquests, when those Succours (that are sent to you) shall arrive safe, and in good Condition, which God send they may. This Reward, I am confident, will be more pleasing to a generous Mind, like your's than all the Lucre that Conquest can bring: I am sure it will be a greater Satisfaction to you, to have retrieved the Honour of your Country, than ever to have established your own: May you succeed in every Thing you undertake, till you have brought about what the
Nation

Nation expects, and you alone can procure. Having thus expressed the real Sentiments of my Heart to you, give me Leave to add a Word or two in Favour of a Friend. Mr. *Douglafs*, who is a Servant of the Prince of *Wales's*, and one for whom I have a very particular Regard, has desired me to recommend a Kinsman of his to your Protection. His Name is *James Douglafs*, and he is a Lieutenant on board the *Tilbury* Man of War. He assures me, that he is a Man of Sense and Worth, that he has been above Twenty Years in the Service, and more than Eight a Lieutenant. Vacancies, I am afraid, happen but too often in that unhealthy Climate, and the Actions you will lead your Ships into, probably may occasion some more, so that, if any Opportunity should offer of promoting this Gentleman, and that by your own Observation, you find him worthy of it, I should be obliged to you, if, at my Request, you would, in due Time, give him such Advancement as you may judge proper. I am, Sir, with great Truth and Respect,

Your most obedient

London, Dec.

Humble Servant,

7, 1740.

WILLIAM PULTENEY.

S I R,

I AM very much obliged to you for your Letters, and the Copies of the intercepted Letters, and other Papers, that you have sent me, and hope you will continue to do it, though there may be Complaints in them: It is reported here, that you should say, because Ships did not come to you in Time, that you was to be sacrificed, and that your Master was betrayed; imagining, perhaps, as it has been also said, that the Administration here were influenced by *French* Councils; if you have thought any such Thing, you have been deceived, and misguided by some of your Correspondents here, who say any Thing

to

to blacken the Administration, though they know otherwise. When the Squadron sailed from *Cadiz*, I mean the *Spanish* Squadron, every Body believed they were gone directly to the *West Indies*, and Sir *Chaloner Ogle* will tell you, that if he found it so, he had Orders to follow them. When it was found that they came to *Ferrol* to joyn the Squadron there, it was very well known, that the *Spaniards* then intended to make a Descent on *England* and *Ireland*; and great Numbers of Troops were brought into *Galicia*; and the Duke of *Ormond*, &c. sent for for that Purpose, who refused to undertake it; and the Troops remained in that Province 'till they were almost starved; when they found that Project would not do, and what Fleet we could make were fitted out, which could not get out of the Channel in Time, they went away to the *West Indies*, I believe in a very bad Condition, their Ships not having been fitted for such a Voyage, as I hope they will find to their Cost. It was first intended to send Lord *Cathcart* with six Men of War only, but when we found the *French* declared they would not suffer us to make any Conquests in the *Spanish West Indies*, and sent first the *Brest*, and afterwards the *Toulon* Squadron to the *West Indies*, which, for my Part, I never imagined that they would venture to do, and I dare say, they will dearly repent it, we were then obliged to add more Ships, so as to make you at least equal to all those Squadrons. I need not tell you how much Time it necessarily takes up to prepare and victual so large a Squadron for a Voyage to the *West Indies*, nor how difficult it very often is to get them out of the Channel, when they are ready to sail, as this Year, both Winter and Summer, we have experienced: And I thought it would not be amiss for both *French* and *Spaniards* to be a Month or two in the *West Indies* before us, provided the *Treasure* was not ready to embark in that Time, that they might be half dead, and half roasted before our Fleet arrived, as I don't doubt but it has happened to them; and the Government here laying an Embargo upon all Provisions in *Ireland*, where the *French* had fourteen
Ships

Ships there, loading Provisions for the *West Indies*, has no doubt been a great Disappointment to them; and if our Northern Plantations did not supply them (which I am afraid they have) both *French* and *Spanish* Squadrons must, I should think, be in great Distress. I never thought, nor do yet, that the *French* pompous Declaration of protecting the *Spaniards* was intended for more than to amuse the King of *Spain*, and make him believe, that they were in earnest; in order to prevent his resigning, which he was very near doing, and to get his Orders for great Part of the Treasure to be put on board their Ships, many of their Bankers and Merchants being broke for want of it, and if they get that, or any considerable Part of it, they will come away and leave the *Spaniards* to defend themselves in the *West Indies*, as well as they can; Time will shew whether I guess right or no, but I think they will be obliged to come away for Want of Provisions, whether they get the Money, or not; and, I think, they will avoid meeting with you if they can; for it does not seem to me, that they are inclined to have a War with us, and I shall be glad if we have not, we shall deal with the *Spaniards* the better, but if Hostilities are begun in the *West Indies*, the Consequence must be a War in *Europe*. We have now 100 of his Majesty's Ships of all Sorts, small and great, out of *England*, which we cannot recall, and must have a Fleet to defend us at home, as well as to cruize upon our Enemies, and have Convoys for our Trade, which will take up many Ships; we are therefore endeavouring to fit out all we can, and I hope they will be sufficient for all those Purposes: You know how difficult it has always been to get Men, having the worst Way of getting them of any Nation in the World, and we have many wise Men that are willing to take that from us. I find that the Corporation of *Portsmouth* have acquainted you, that you are chosen there a Member of Parliament, in the Room of Vice Admiral *Stewart*, who is dead, and I believe you will have his Flag; you shall have my
Interest

Interest for it, notwithstanding my Friendship for Lord *Granard*.

I have writ part of a Project to Governor *Trelawny*, which I suppose he will shew ; but I hope, with all my Heart, that you will have Success in whatever you undertake. General *Wentworth* has an extreme good Character, and I hope you will agree with him, as I don't doubt you would have done with Lord *Cathcart*, had he lived, but Death is what we must all submit to, when he comes ; I hope he will not visit you, nor as few under you as possible, but that you may come safe home, and reap the Honour you deserve.

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Feb. 24, 1740-1.

Your most humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.

S I R,

I HAVE writ to you already, to which I have nothing to add ; but the inclosed Paper being given me To-night, I send it to you, that if you should have Occasion to make use of the Knowledge and Experience those Gentlemen have, you will take Notice of them. I had a Mind to have given Capt. *Gordon* a Sloop, but one did not happen vacant at that Time, so he went a Volunteer at Lord *Cathcart*'s Request ; his Lordship was very inquisitive for the best Accounts of that Part of the *West Indies*, which he was most like to see, and I believe he had some very good ones ; I hope they are not lost, but you are pretty well acquainted yourself ; however, I send you herewith a Paper Mr. *Dolliffe* gave me, which I desired him to write, being what he had talked with me about, as I believe he had to Lord *Cathcart*, and, I believe, given him an Account in Writing of *La Vera Cruz* and *Mexico*, which he seems to be perfectly acquainted with, having been there several Times. I don't know whether I shall have Time to

D

write

write again, but always wish you Success in whatever you are able to undertake. I am,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
March 2, 1740-1.

Your most humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.

S I R,

YOU will receive from the Duke of Newcastle, all the Intelligence that his Majesty has received of the Motion of the *Spanish Squadron*, so that I need say nothing of that; his Grace will also inform you what you may expect from hence. I heartily congratulate you for your Success at *Porto Bello*: I think you was not in Condition after that to attempt any Thing upon *Carthagen*, that Place seems too strong, but I have thought that *St. Jago de Cuba* was not strong, as it has been represented to me, but you will judge better than I can, whether it be practicable, without much Hazard, to attempt the demolishing, or taking that Place, with the Help of Governor *Trelawny's* Independent Companies, and his Approbation; but I say this only that you may think of it; but you will see by the Duke of Newcastle's Letters, that it will not be proper for you to undertake any Thing that may disable your Ships. I am,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
March 18, 1740-1.

Your most humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.

S I R,

S I R,

YOUR Letters of the 1st of *April* from *Cartagena* Harbour, by Captain *Laws*, were very agreeable here to every Body but the Family of *Beauclerk*; other Families, no doubt, are sorry for the Loss of their Relations: But for the Success at *Cartagena*, I heartily congratulate you upon it. I think you have done great Honour to our Corps, and by giving them so inconsiderable a Share in the Action, have given no Cause for those in the Land Service to complain, which has often been the Case, though for the most part unreasonable. You was certainly right in pressing on the Enterprize, Delays being very dangerous in such Cases, especially in the *West Indies*, and I doubt not but you did push on the Attack of the Town, and what remained, before the *Spaniards* had Time to cool; but as we cannot judge whether the Town put you to that Trouble, or agreed to a reasonable Capitulation, we cannot guess whether you and the Land Officers thought it adviseable to keep and garrison that Place, or demolish the Fortifications, and leave it as you did *Porto Bello*. The Letters I sent you by the *Kent* found fault with the Complaints I was informed you made, of being forsaken, and abandoned by the Administration here at home; I doubt not but you was soon convinced, that you was mistaken, and cannot but believe, that the Government here have the Interest of the Nation as much at Heart as you have. I always said, when People were so impatient for our Ships to be gone, before there was a sufficient Number, or Men and Provisions, &c. be provided, that it would be better for us, knowing the Treasure could not be ready for them, that both *French* and *Spaniards* should be in the *West Indies* two Months before us, because in that Time, they would be half dead, half roasted, and half starved, as it really happened, for I had a Letter t'other Day, from *Cadiz*, from one that was in

D'Antin's Squadron, which said, that they bury'd above three Thousand Men, and that in their Passage home they were reduced to three Ounces of Bread a Day, for a Man, and that half Worms and Dirt; God preterve you from any of these Misfortunes! We have sent so many Ships to the *West Indies*, and to the *Mediterranean*, &c. that you will see we must consequently have the fewer at home, and no Body knows how soon we may have a stronger Enemy than the *Spaniards* come upon us, who have now all their Ships at home, and are fitting them for the Sea as soon as possible; therefore, as you have so many Ships as would, (after the taking of *Cartagena*) be an Incumbrance to you, I doubt not but you have sent a good Number home to our Assistance. It would be too tedious to give you an Account in what Manner the Elections have been carried on here; I found, that as you are very popular here, partly upon a Supposition that you are of the Party of the Patriots, against the present Administration, with whom the Tories join, you was set up at *Ipswich*; at *Rocheſter*, against *Polbill*, and at *Penryn*, for which three Places you are returned; you was afterwards set up for the City of *London*; and two Days before the Election, for *Westminster*; when Lord *Sundon* and I dreamed of no Opposition, you and Mr. *Edwin* were set up for the City of *Westminster*, and, at the Election, a Poll demanded for you both, which continued six Days, with such Mobs and Riots as never were seen before, tho' there have been considerable ones, I believe, within your Memory. I had the good Fortune to be obliged to attend the King to *Holland* the three last Days, and returned in five Days, when the Poll was closed, and Lord *Sundon* and I declared to be duly elected, upon which the Mob, (who had no Votes) were so outrageous, that Lord *Sundon* narrowly escap'd with his Life, Stones, Bricks, &c. being thrown into his Coach all the Way from *Covent-Garden* to his House, to which he was forced to drive a Gallop, and had his Coach broke down, he would certainly have been

been murdered, so that he was in more Danger than those that stormed the Breach at *Bocachica*: There has been very great Struggles all over *England* to get a Parliament against the Administration, and a great deal of Money spent for that Purpose; a round Sum it is supposed from *France*, in order to choose a good Parliament for us, which you will know more of when you come home; but in the whole, the House of Commons is like to be of the same Complexion as the last, or rather more Whigs, of which, I doubt not, you will be one. Upon hearing that you was intended to be set up at the three first Places mentioned, I thought it would be better for you to be chose at *Portsmouth*, which I thought a proper Place for you, and that it would incline the other Corporations to think it the properest Place for you, which would have been a quiet and not expensive Election, I therefore, upon the Death of Vice Admiral *Stewart*, recommended you to that Corporation, and they unanimously chose you, and would have done so again, but when I found you was set up at so many Places, I thought it would be Madness to choose a Man at half a Dozen Places who was absent, and could not declare for which Place he would serve, till he comes into the House, so Admiral *Cavendish* and Colonel *Blanden* were recommended, and are returned. I will tell you, when I see you, why the latter was recommended, but when such a violent Struggle was making all over *England* and *Scotland*, to get, what I call, a Tory Parliament, it was necessary for us to endeavour to get a good Majority on the other Side, and not want any such that could be had. So much for Parliamentteering.

I sent Governor *Trelawny*, by the last Ships, some Accounts I had from one Captain *Lee*, who was some Time a Factor to the South Sea Company, at *Guatemala*, of the particular Situation, Riches, and Trade of that Part of the Continent, which is much more than I imagined: The Governor's *Don Quixotte*, Mr. *Hodgson*, seemed to want this Captain *Lee* with him,

and I could have seen him, had it not been for some Difficulties; but I had his Scheme in Writing, and sent it to *Plymouth*, but the Ships were gone before it came there: I will send it with this, if I can come at it in Time, but this is the first quiet Day I have had this Month, and am therefore at *Parsons Green*, and shall send this by To-night's Post to Captain *Long* of the *Chester*, though he is not the Commodore, but is my Godson: *Herbert*, Cousin of little *Herbert*, is in the *Tyger*, both young Captains. I cannot judge about your being called home, till we know whether you keep or demolish *Carthagena*, and what is proposed, or done afterwards. People here go some Times much faster than it is possible for Fleets and Armies to move; some are for taking the *Havannah*, others for *La Vera Cruz*, from whence all the *Mexico* Money is brought, and which they say, is of much more Consequence than *Carthagena*, there being three Times as much Money in *Mexico* as there is in *Peru*; but we talk in the Dark till we know what Strength you have left, and what Resolution you have come to, and, perhaps, are prosecuting. *St. Jago de Cuba* and *Baracco* are Thorns in the Sides of *Jamaica*, and the Trade going and coming through the Windward Passage. I hope I shall have Time to write to the Governor, but if I have not, you will do me the Favour to say, that I am sincerely his, as well as,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
May 23, 1741.

Your most humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.

S I R,

S I R,

CAPTAIN *Laws* arrived on the 17th Instant and brought me your welcome Dispatches of *April* the 1st, with an Account of the glorious Success of his Majesty's Arms, in taking the Fortifications and Outworks which defended the Harbour of *Carthagena*, and possessing themselves of that Harbour.

This News was of such Importance, that I immediately dispatched a Messenger to my Lord *Harrington*, who attends the King at *Hanover*, (where we have the Satisfaction to hear that his Majesty arrived in good Health, on the 12th Instant) with Copies of your Letters to be laid before the King, to whom they will give the greatest Satisfaction; and who, I am persuaded, will have the justest Sense of the Conduct and Bravery, that have been shewn on this Occasion.

I also took the first Opportunity to communicate your Letters to the Lords Justices; and am desired by their Excellencies to send you their Thanks and Congratulations, upon the great and important Service which you have again done to his Majesty and your Country; and their Excellencies promise themselves, from your known Abilities, and unwearied Zeal and Activity, and from the tried Courage of his Majesty's Forces, by Sea and Land, that we shall soon receive an Account of the Town of *Carthagena* being in our Possession.

It is impossible to express to you the Joy that has universally spread itself throughout the whole Nation upon this great Event; upon which I have also received the Congratulations of most of the Foreign Ministers, residing here, who seem to have the justest Impression of the great Credit and Reputation, which his Majesty's Arms have acquired by this Success.

I hope you will believe, that no one can take a more sincere Part in the Honour you have gained by it, than myself; and I heartily wish you a Continuance of the same good Success, in any further Attempts, that shall be thought proper to be made, in

Consequence of his Majesty's Instructions to you, and the Commander in Chief of his Land Forces.

I have just now had Notice sent me, at this Place, from Sir *Charles Wager*, that the Convoy, with some Victuallers and a Store Ship, are ready to sail; and as the Wind is now fair, and I would not, on any Account, delay their sailing, I shall send this Letter immediately, by a Messenger, to *Portsmouth*: I hope soon to have an Opportunity of writing more fully to you. I beg you would make my Compliments and Congratulations to Mr. *Wentworth*, to whom I have not Time to write at present, as I am not without Apprehensions that the Ships may be sailed, even before this can reach *Portsmouth*.

May I wish, for the Honour of my Country, for the Success of his Majesty's Arms, and for the perfecting the great Work, you have so gloriously begun, of reducing the *Spaniards* in the *West Indies*, that you would not think of coming home, and leaving your Command there; which, without the least Imputation upon any Body, cannot be supplied by any one, on whom his Majesty, the Nation, and all the King's Friends and Servants, can have an equal Dependence. I am, with great Truth and Regard,

S I R,

Claremont, May

24, 1741.

Your most obedient,

Humble Servant,

HOLLES NEWCASTLE.

Dear S I R,

THE World here, and especially your Friends, are waiting with great Impatience for a second Express from you, with the News of the Surrender of the Town of *Carthagena*, where we hope you will all get great Riches, to add to the many Honours you have already acquired. I write to you but seldom, because

cause I know you have but little Leisure to read use-
less Letters, much less to answer them; but yet it is
right you should some Time hear from your particu-
lar Friends and Well-wishers, to know a little more
Truth than you are likely to hear from the Ministers
alone. The great Things you have done for your
Country, greater almost than ever Man did, has met,
I assure you, with a very grateful Return from the
Generality of your Countrymen. You are certainly, at
this Time, the most popular and best beloved Man in
England: All Places that send Members to Parliament
have been struggling to have you for their Representa-
tive, and, I dare say, you might have been chosen
in twenty more Places than you are at present.

The Ministry, (but when I use that general Term)
I mean the leading Men among them, has, as far as
they could, or durst, opposed you every where, and set
you at last up in the City themselves, with no other
View than to create Confusion and Distraction there.
This made the Citizens, who saw their Drift, nomi-
nate you as a Candidate for *Westminster*, where you
would most certainly have carried it for one, but for
the most scandalous Practices, and violent Acts of
Power that ever were made use of. Your Friend, Sir
Charles Wager, had nothing to do in this, which I am
heartily glad of, because I esteem him much, and
know him to be a very valuable Man, extremely ami-
ble in his Character of private Life, and a Well wisher
to his Country in his public Capacity: But as I under-
stand a full Account of their whole Proceeding has
been sent to you, I will trouble you no further upon it;
upon the whole, I can tell you, that we have a good
Parliament chosen, and I can assure you, by the justest
Calculation, the Ministry cannot brag of a sure Major-
ity of ten Members in it; I mean, to do their dirty
Work; but I hope to see a perfect Unanimity in every
Measure that shall be judged necessary for the Support
of his Majesty, and the Honour and Interest of our
Country. We are told, that two Thousand Men are
forthwith to be sent to you, with all proper Stores,
Provisions, &c. these will, I hope, enable you to take
the

the *Havannah*, and if we once get the Island of *Cuba*, I hope we shall have Sense and Spirit enough to keep it, notwithstanding any Remonstrances, and even the Combination of the whole World to force us to yield it back again. The Possession of that Island must be of vast Utility to us, and make this Country for ever Masters at Sea, in that Part of the World, from whence all the Riches flows to *Europe*. *Peru* and *Mexico* might be the Property of the *Spaniards*, under our Protection, whilst they suffered us to enjoy a reasonable Proportion of the Trade, which the *French* have almost engrossed for many Years past; but if ever they pretended to use us again, as they formerly did, you have shewn them, that even those Kingdoms may be taken from them likewise. God Almighty send you Success in whatever you undertake; and may you finish your Career with the same Glory to yourself, and Advantage to your Country, that you have begun it. I am, with the greatest Truth and Respect,

S I R,

London, June
16, 1741.

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

WILLIAM PULTENEY.

S I R,

I Received, by Captain *Wimbleton*, your Letter of the 26th of *April* from *Carthagena*, with the Copy of the Council of War, &c. for which I am much obliged to you. I am very sorry, and very much disappointed to find that so good a Beginning, as was made at that Place, should have so unfortunate an End, which has put a Damp upon every Body here, and will be a Pleasure to all our Enemies to hear, and especially as there seems no Probability of attempting any Thing else, after so great an Expence to the Nation, except you should have Strength enough left to take

take *St. Jago de Cuba*, which I dare say the Governor of *Jamaica*, and all the Island, would be very glad to have done, and it would be a Place for our small Cruizers; and I think there is no *Spanish* Settlement near it, except *Baracco*, which is a Nest of Pyrates, that I suppose might easily be destroyed, if we were in Possession of *St. Jago*. We talk of sending out more Troops, and perhaps it will be so, but I fear, that will still increase the vast Expence; it may be also throwing good Money after bad, as the Saying is. I put on board one of the Convoys coming to you, a Scheme of one Captain *Lee*, who is a Seaman, has been Master of several Ships and Sloops in the *West-Indies* and Northern Colonies, and was also employed by the *South Sea Company* some Years at *Guatimala*, where he seems to me to be particularly acquainted, as well as with all the Coast to *Honduras* and *Camppeachy*, where he has often been upon the *Logwood Trade*, and commanded a Ship of 30 Guns; I have had an Acquaintance with this Man, and should, before now, have thought of sending him over; and I should make no Scruple, tho' he has not been in the Navy, of making him Captain of a Sloop, but while Enterprizes of seemingly much more Consequence, were continually talk'd on here, the Mention of a Scheme for the River *Dulce*, and Lake of *Micaraqua*, would look like such a Trifle, that it would not be heard of, to divert our Forces from pursuing those great Projects, that have been recommended; though 1000 Men, and one Ship with Sloops, would possibly do great Matters in that Part of the Continent, which is certainly very rich, and have never been disturbed; but the Scheme will explain it to you better than I can write it. I do not mean by taking or plundering Towns, but by taking their small Fortifications on those Rivers, and then having a Communication with the native *Spaniards* and *Indians*, and a very advantageous Trade with them, who are as much Enemies to the Governors, and *European Spaniards*, as we are; for they tyrannize over the Natives, both *Creol Spaniards* and *Indians*, that Captain *Lee* says, that when
he

he resided at *Guatimalla* 30,000 *Indians*, who inhabited near *La Vera Paz*, revolted from the *Spaniards*, and he believes are still in the Revolt: It is less than four Years ago that he was there; and says, that if we would send but 1000 Men, commanded by a discrete Officer, and carry them Arms, which they would pay for, they would immediately join us and defy the *Spanish* Government. One of the Reasons of my being backward in proposing this, is, that I am always afraid of our *English* Conduct, and the Behaviour of Soldiers, when they come into a Country of Plenty, who being under little or no Order or Discipline, would be for robbing and abusing the *Indians*, that should come over to them, and perhaps abusing their Women, which might provoke the *Indians* to leave them, and reconcile themselves to the *Spaniards*, as I am told the *Darien Indians* have done. I wrote to the Governor about this before, upon his sending me the Expedition of Mr. *Hodgson*, with the *Musquito Indians*, who wanted the Knowledge and Experience of Captain *Lee*; and the Troops seem to be in no Condition to undertake any considerable Enterprize: Perhaps such a Thing, when you come to know it perfectly may be thought of, it may be with the *Americans* only, if they should be proper for such Service; but I am much afraid that the Soldiers in general, will not recover at *Jamaica*, especially if they can get Rum. We talk of sending 2000 or more regular Troops, but I wish it may not be, as I said before, to little or no Purpose; but People here have set their Hearts so much upon Conquests in the *West Indies*, that we had not only taken *Carthagena* for you, but was gone down to *La Vera Cruz*, which has no Strength, they say, but the Castle, and so stopp'd the two Sources from whence the Treasure is brought, both from *Peru* and *Mexico*, and then nothing could hinder our Troops from marching to *Mexico*, which they say, is the richest Town in the World. Thus you see what had been projected for you till this fatal News came of leaving *Carthagena* in the Hands of the *Spaniards*, but now begin to doubt whether the Army will

will think themselves strong enough to take *St. Jago de Cuba*, though that would be much better Quarters of Refreshment than *Jamaica*; but whether any thing more be done, or like to be done, we shall know by the Ships you send home, which I hope will come before the Summer is over. We have so many Third Rates and 60 Gun Ships with you and *Haddock*, that we have been forced to fit out several of our great Ships, to make a strong Squadron to defend us at home. Sir *John Norris* is gone to *Portsmouth*, and will sail, very soon, with 20 Ships, six or eight of which will be 90 and 100 Gun Ships; I wish that he or *Haddock*, may meet with *Las Torres* before he gets into *Cadiz* or *Ferrol*. I suppose your other Friends gave you an Account of our home News, Elections, &c. I would have recommended you again to *Portsmouth*, which I thought the properest Place for you; but you being chose and returned for *Rocheſter*, *Ipswich*, and *Penryn*, I recommended Colonel *Blanden* there, who was shut out at *Maldon*, where he was chosen for last Parliament, having no other Sea Officer proper to set up there. I hope you are convinced that the present Ministry are not governed by *French* Councils, so that perhaps I need not have said so much to you in my Letter by the *Kent*. I think you cannot be recalled, till it is determined what can be done more by you in the *West Indies*, or in your Way home; for whatever may be done, it is thought by every Body that none can do it so well as you, which is also the Opinion of,

S I R,

Your most humble Servant,

Admiralty-Office,
June 21, 1741.

CHARLES WAGER.

S I R,

S I R,

I AM very much obliged to you for your Letters and the Copies of those Papers, that are so material, by which Means I have the Advantage to consider them without being obliged to other Officers. We have been in great Expectation of the *Torrington*, ever since the *Kennington* arrived, which was the 23d of *July*, and begin to fear that she has met with some Accident, therefore the Duke of *Newcastle* could no longer omit sending away the *Bonetta* Sloop, which has lain this Month at *Plymouth* ready to sail. You will know what Condition we are in at home, and how necessary it is to have a good Sea Force at home, since the *French* and *Spaniards* have all their Ships home, except those at the *Havannah*, if not come away, which I believe, by the Accounts we have had of them are but in a bad Condition: All the Ships both *French* and *Spanish*, at *Brest*, *Toulon* and *Cadiz*, as well as smaller Ports, are now fitting for the Sea, and say they will join. *Haddock* is off *Cadiz* with 12 Ships, but several of them are of 50 Guns: The *Spaniards* are 17 at *Cadiz*, which they can see rigg'd, and they threaten to come out, but have not yet ventured it. Sir *John Norris* is at Sea with about 15 Ships, which, I believe, has hindered the *French* at *Brest* from coming out with 9 Sail, which have been in the Road this Month, perhaps to go to *Cadiz*, where it is supposed, the Squadron from *Toulon* of 12 Sail, are said to be coming to join them. The *French* have ten Ships more at *Brest* almost ready, and the *Spaniards* have 3 at *Carthagena*, in the *Mediterranean*. As you will receive Orders to send home the Ships that are not sheath'd, we hope they will be here Time enough to be fitted out in the Spring, if the *French* will let us alone so long; but you will see by all Accounts, that the *French* are already over-running all *Germany*, having Four-score Thousand Men there, and join'd by several of the *German* Princes, as the Electors of *Bavaria*, *Cologne*, *Palatine*, and, we fear, the King of *Prussia*: They are able to dispose of all *Germany*

many as they think fit, and will make the Elector of *Bavaria* Emperor, or Vice-Roy, under *France*, so that instead of having a general War, there will be no Body able to oppose them; for the *French* have drawn in *Sweden* to make War upon *Russia*, from whence Help was expected, and they now call upon us to help them with a Squadron, according to Treaty, which we are not able to supply them with, though *Peterburgh* is blocked up by the *Swedish* Fleet, but I hope they will not be able to hurt them; we shall soon hear whether they do or no, for Winter is not far off, especially in that Country. I am sorry for our Defect at Fort *Lazar*, and the Sickneſs and Death that followed; but as the Harbour is open, they must necessarily be in Distress, and I shall hope, to such a Degree, as to desire your Favour and Protection. I hope you have had the desired Success at St. *Jago de Cuba*, I think you was not able to undertake any Thing else. I have writ to the Governor about his dissenting from the Rest of the Council of War. Had you been able to march from *Chagre* to *Panama*, it was then the rainy Season, and therefore impracticable, even though *Anson* had been upon the Coast, which, I hope, he has been long before now, for besides what you had heard of his being at *Arica*, we have a certain Account from *Buenos Ayres*, that he was plentifully supplied with Provisions by the *Portuguese* Governor at St. *Catherina*, and that *Pizarro* had met with a Storm, near Streight *Le Mair*, and was come back to *Buenos Ayres* with his own Ship, and one more, having lost his Mast and half his Men, and that he was in Pain for the other three, so that *Anson* has the *South Sea* open to himself, and I have great Hopes, that he will do good Service, as well as make a good Voyage for himself and Squadron. I sent you by the last Ships, a Scheme of Captain *Lee*, for a proper Number of Soldiers, when they can be spared, or can do nothing more considerable, to go down to the *Musquitos*, and with, or without them, to make Attempt on the *Spaniards* up the River *Dulce*, where Captain *Lee* seems

seem perfectly acquainted ; but as we have made him Captain of the *Bonetta* Sloop, purely for the Sake of this Scheme only, I refer you to him for a clear Explication of the whole Scheme, which, in its Consequences, may be much more considerable than it appears at first Sight ; for if we can procure a sufficient Number of Arms for the *Indians*, who are able and willing, as he says, to pay for them, tho' that is not material, they would soon make themselves their own Masters, and drive all the *Spaniards* out of the Country, or change Conditions with them, and make them the Hewers of Wood and Drawers of Water ; and this I think they may do, if supplied with Arms, and all Things necessary, more easily than the *Spaniards* conquered them ; for if once there was a considerable Inturrection of the *Indians* about *Guatimalla*, and that Country, in which the *Musquito* Men may perhaps be persuaded to join with them, there would soon be an Inturrection, both in *Mexico* and *Peru* ; of which the *Spanish* Court has been very much afraid, especially in *Peru* and *Chili*, where it is not improbable but the *Creol Spaniards* would soon join with them, and set up a King of their own. I wish you Success in whatever shall be undertaken, being,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Aug. 18, 1741.

Your most humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.

P. S. I send you an Account of the *Carraccas* ; I am sorry you did not go thither yourself.

S I R,

I Writ to you three or four Days ago, which was to go by the Duke of *Newcastle's* Messenger to *Plymouth* ; but, upon a Rumour of the *Torrington* being arrived, which has been long expected, the Messenger was stopp'd, for a few Days only I suppose : As
no

no Letter from Mr. *Wentworth* came by the *Kennington*, which Ship has been arrived this Month; his Letters are expected by the *Torrington*, by which it is supposed there will be a certain Account of what Number of Officers and Soldiers are remaining; by which it will be judg'd what more can be done against the *Spaniards*, with the Addition of the 3000 Men, now preparing to be sent to *Jamaica*. The Scheme of Captain *Lée*, who is in the *Bonetta*, of joining the *Musquito Indians*, and going up the River *Dulce* to *Guatimalla*, requires but few Ships; and if the *American Troops* are remaining, sufficient to go upon such an Expedition, it is thought that those only, with the *Musquito Men*, would be sufficient, especially if the *Spanish Indians* that are in Revolt, or may be willing to join them, can be supplied with Arms: But I think there will be no Instructions, by this Express, to recommend this particular Project, which, in my Opinion, might be of more Prejudice to the *Spaniards*, than any other Enterprize whatsoever; and I think it is not unlikely but may make a general Revolt of the *Indians*, both in *Peru* and *Mexico*, which I have been often told, and believe they are much inclined to, and want nothing but Arms, which, if they could have, I verily believe they would drive all the *Spaniards* out of that Country, in much less Time than the *Spaniards* conquered them: And, as I believe, I have said, in my other Letter, that the *Creol Spaniards* would probably join with them *Indians*, as well by Inclination, as to save themselves. I have shewn this Scheme to the Ministers, tho' it has not been laid before the Regency; but perhaps may, before the Convoy goes away; the greatest Difficulty, that I apprehend is, the Want of Arms to supply the *Indians*; and I fear, as I believe I have said, in my other Letter, that the Arms of the four Regiments, that are to be reduced, are embezzled, or lost, which I prevented from being sent for home, purely upon this Scheme, must not be depended on; therefore I have enquired how to get Arms, which I

E could

could do, if many were not wanting; which I find is very difficult to be had, and, for want of that, the whole may prove Chimerical; but I will do what I can that it may not. I wish you Health and Prosperity, being,

S I R,

Parsons-Green,
Aug. 20, 1741.

Your most humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.

To Vice Admiral VERNON.

S I R,

I Received your Letter of the 28th of *May* last, by the *Kennington*, in which you express so just and becoming a Sense of the singular Honour done you by the House of Lords, in Return for your eminent Services, to your King and Country. The great Addition which you have since made to them, by what you perform'd before *Cartagena*, tho' not attended with all that Success, which your Zeal and Diligence, and our Wishes, induced us to hope, is a further Evidence how judiciously that Honour was plac'd. I will not fail to lay your Acknowledgments, on this Occasion, before the House, at their next Meeting, in the best Manner I am able.

As the sincere Professions I made in my last, fell much short of the high Regard and Esteem, which I truly bear you, so the obliging Terms, in which you are pleas'd to express yourself on that Head, greatly exceed the Merit of those Professions. Permit me now to repeat them, as well as my most ardent Wishes, that all your Undertakings may be blessed with the most prosperous Success, for the Honour and Interest of his Majesty and his Kingdoms, and your
own

own lasting Glory. I am, with the utmost Truth
and Respect,

S I R,

London, Aug.
20, 1741.

Your most obedient, and

Most humble Servant,

HARDWICKE, C.

S I R,

I AM waiting here for the King, who is expected the 13th or 14th of this Month, when I shall be glad to have a fair Wind and fair Weather; my being here hinders my saying as much as I should do, were I at the Admiralty, but I am sensible how much Fatigue and Trouble you have to go through, and that you would be glad to be relieved, but I do not see how that can be yet. I hope the Convoy with the 3000 Men, as we call them, will come safe to you; what you will be able to do with them, you can guess better than I. Captain *Lee*, whose Scheme I sent you about the *Musquito*, and other *Indians*, will be able to tell you in Person, his Knowledge of that Part of the Country: I have endeavoured to have Arms sent to furnish the *Indians*, that are, or may be, in Revolt against the *Spaniards*, and I think, that if the *Indians* could be furnished with Arms and Ammunition, &c. there might possibly be a general Revolt, and they would drive all the *Spaniards* (except the *Creols*, who would probably join with them) out of all the *Spanish West Indies* of *Peru* and *Mexico*, with greater Ease than the *Spaniards* conquered them. You will know, better than I can guess at this Distance, what you will be able to do with your Ships, or Troops; I have thought, and believe mentioned to you more than once, the Consequence of *La Vera Cruz*, from which Place only Money is now brought to *France* and *Spain*; could that be stopped, they are

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both

both undone, for ought I know, but *Spain* particularly; *France* would do better, but it would be a great Blow to them, as the destroying the Galleons has been, and if those two Sources could be stopped, the *Havannah* would be nothing, but a good Harbour, that Place being only as an Inn for the Galleons, Flota, and new Register Ships to bait at. I hear you have sent some Ships to the *Carraccas*, which, I think, by the Intelligence I have had, may come there very seasonably: The Behaviour of Captain *Waterhouse* there was extream bad, as I have had an Account from one, that was in the Town at the same Time, who were ready to capitulate: I am sorry you did not go down that Way yourself, and so was you, I dare say.

This Summer has spun out without a War with *France*, but you will see by the News-Papers, and Letters from your Friends, that they have been, and still are, otherwise employ'd, having about 80,000 Men, in several Camps in *Germany*, without being at War with any Body; and though they are Guarantees for the Support of the Pragmatick Sanction, are joined with the Elector of *Bavaria*, as Auxiliary, they call it, and have already taken *Upper Austria*, and will probably take all the Rest before the Campaign is over, and all the *German* Princes sit still and look on, not knowing which of them are to be swallowed next; but I have great Hopes, that the Cardinal's Schemes may miscarry; if they do not, they say, they will humble us next Summer, but threaten'd Folks live long. I am interrupted, and can say no more, therefore please to excuse me to Governor *Trelawny*. I am,

S I R,

Katherine Yacht,
Oct. 7, 1741, at
Helvoet Sluys.

Your most Humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.

S I R,

S I R,

WE have been in long Expectation of hearing from you, and was very glad to receive, this Day, your Letters of the 2d of *September*, with the Duplicates of those you sent, by a Sloop, which is not arrived. I wonder we have never before had any particular Description of so fine a Harbour as you are got into, but am very glad you find it so convenient for your Squadron and Transports. I have not yet seen General *Wentworth's* Letters to the Duke of *Newcastle*, but, I suppose, he gives some Reasons, why, with 4000 Men, he does not venture to look upon *St. Jago*, which, I suppose too, are supported by a Council of War.

The 3000 Soldiers, now at *Cork*, that are going to *Jamaica*, were not sailed, by the last Letters we have from thence, but I believe they will before this comes thither; however, I venture to send it thither, it will be but a short Letter lost, for I have not Time to be more particular, being just arrived from *Holland* with his Majesty. The Duke of *Newcastle*, I understand has writ to you, his Grace having sent me a Copy of the Letter, and further Orders, which, I hope, will come safe. We have a certain Account, that the *French* Squadron sailed from *Toulon* the 30th of *September*, our Stile, with 13 Ships; it is thought they are to come to *Cadiz*, to convoy the *Spanish* Squadron up to *Barceloua*, to go upon their *Italian* Expedition, so long projected, and to be begun so late in the Year: We have sent four Ships to reinforce *Haddock*, one of 90 Guns, and three of 70, which, we hope, will make him a Match for either the *Spaniards* or *French*, if they think fit to begin a War, which they seem willing to avoid: The *Spaniards* are said to be 14 Ships, or thereabouts, in the Bay of *Cadiz*, as they say, ready to put to Sea, and threaten to drive *Haddock* out of those Parts, who has been cruising upon them all this Summer, and, by our last Letters, was gone to *Gibraltar*, having

left three or four Ships to cruize off *Cadiz*, which the *Spaniards* call *Haddock's Squadron*.

I think the *French Squadron* cannot be going to the *West Indies*, because they had but five Months Provision when they put to Sea, and a Month's of that may be expended before they got out of the *Streights*: The *Spaniards* give out, that they are to take *Gibraltar*, but I think there is no Probability of that; they may go to *Italy*, but it is late in the Year to do that; however they may venture it. You will hear what work the *French* make in *Germany*, where they say, they have 80,000 Men as Auxiliaries to the Elector of *Bavaria*, and support his Claim to the *Austrian Dominions*, tho' Guarantees of the Pragmatick Sanction, and all the *German Princes* seem to have been intimidated and infatuated, so as there is not any two of them would joyn together, but rather submit to be eaten up one after another; the Elector of *Bavaria* has already taken Possession of the greatest Part of *Austria*, and is near *Vienna*, and the Queen of *Hungary*, as we call her, dare not return thither from *Presburgh*, where she went to be crowned Queen of that Kingdom, but it is thought will return to *Buda*, the strongest Place in that Kingdom, not being able to withstand the *Bavarians*, and their Auxiliaries, the *French*, who seem to think, that they can join *Spain*, as Auxiliaries against us, without making War.

I have said more than I intended, being late: I think you need not doubt your having the White Flag, in Preference to Lord *Granard*, which will very like be soon done, now the King is come over. I heartily wish you your Health, and good Success in whatever you shall find proper to undertake, being, with great Truth,

Your faithful Friend, and

Most Humble Servant,

Admiralty-Office,
Oct. 24, 1741.

CHARLES WAGER.

S I R,

S I R,

I W R I T to you on *Saturday* last, and sent it to *Cork* in *Ireland*, where the *Greenwich*, *St. Albans*, and *Foye*, are to convoy about three thousand Soldiers to reinforce and recruit Mr. *Wentworth's* little Army, which, I suppose, are still encamped upon the River *Augusta*, which he calls *Humber*, and before this Reinforcement arrives, if he stays there till then, will have been there near six Months from your Arrival there, on the 18th of *July*, before which Time the *Spaniards*, at *St. Jago*, will be so strengthened, as well by Fortifications, as Reinforcements, that Mr. *Wentworth* cannot be so well able to attack that Place, as he was with those he had when he first landed, therefore I take it for granted, that *St. Jago* will not be taken, and that some Enterprize must be thought on, that may have better Success: As to the *Havannah*, to be sure, it is not to be taken, because Ships will be of no use there, but I have had in my Mind, all along, an Attempt on *La Vera Cruz*, which must be done chiefly by Ships, but at a proper Time of Year, and I look upon that to be of more Consequence than the *Havannah*, because it is the only Place now from whence the *Spaniards* can have any considerable Quantity of Treasure, all that from *Mexico*, which is much more than that of *Peru*, being shipp'd off at *La Vera Cruz*; the Castle is the chief Strength on which they depend, but you have People with you that are well acquainted with that Place. As for Captain *Lee's* Scheme of *Guatimalla*, as he, I hope, is with you, he will give you a more particular Account than I can of the Condition of that Part of the *Spanish* Continent, which is very rich, and a considerable Trade is carry'd on there. and in other Places near the Bay of *Honduras*, and also *Campeachy*, which few People regard, not being acquainted with it: If the *Indians*, which, Captain *Lee* says, were in Revolt when he was there, are so still, the furnishing them with Arms, which, he says, they are willing and able to pay for, would drive, for ought I know, all the *Spaniards*

niards out of that Country, except the *Creols*, which are not much more regarded than the *Indians*: I believe I have said all this before, but I keep no Copies of my Letters, so cannot remember what I have said before. Governor *Trelawny's* *Hodgson*, that has been amongst the *Musquito Indians*, will be much improved by Captain *Lee's* Knowledge of that Country; and a Revolt of the *Indians*, may encourage the Rest, both in *Mexico* and *Peru*, to do the same, and it is the *Indians*, not the *Spaniards*, that cultivate the Country, work in the Mines, and make all their Manufactures of all Sorts, which they would do as well, and better, if there was not a *Spaniard* in the Country, which I have a Notion the *Indians* may drive out, had they Arms, easier than the *Spaniards* conquered them, and they have a Prophecy amongst them, *That a Nation would, one Time or other, come and assist them to drive out the Spaniards*, which I should be glad to hear they had done, and that Nation that assists them in it, would, of Consequence, be the favourite Nation with them, at least for some Time. Two Regiments being to be reduced, and the Officers come home to raise a new, the Arms of those two Regiments were designed to be ordered home, but I desired, that if these Arms were not lost, or spoiled, they might be kept with a View to supply the *Indians* with them; but I have not been able to get any Number of Arms to be bought and sent over for that Purpose, some imagining it to be a chimerical Scheme; but as it requires very few small Ships and Sloops, and no great Number of Men, perhaps *Americans* only, it may not interrupt any other Design, and be of much more Consequence than those imagine, that have not considered it half so much as I have. I wish you Health, and Success in whatever you undertake, being,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Oct. 29, 1741.

Your most humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.
S I R,

S I R,

IT has been printed in our Ministerial News Papers, that you are to be called home, at your own Request; but I hope the Report is without Foundation: Methinks I would willingly have you stay some Time longer where you are, and succeed in some farther Enterprize before your Return, for the Good of your Country, and to compleat your own Glory. My Heart, I own, has always been set upon the Conquest of *Cuba*. Take and Hold has been the Maxim I have ever maintained; and had we once Possession of that Island, we might, I am confident, hold it, in Spite and in Defiance of all the Powers of *Europe*. It would have been a perpetual Cheque on the *Spaniards*, in as much as the *Havannab* commands the Gulph of *Florida*: There was a Time before it was strengthen'd and reinforced, that I fancy you might have taken it, had you been rightly authorized, and properly supported; but I fear it is now too late to flatter ourselves with any such Hopes: But could we take *St. Jago*, and make a Settlement in that Part of the Island, so as to hold it, it might be of the utmost Importance; and this, I hope, may be yet done, when the Succours that are coming to you shall arrive. Whether some People here mean, or design any farther Conquests, in the *West Indies*, I own seems very doubtful: God send they may be under no unhappy Engagements to the contrary! The 3000 Men from *Ireland* are at length sailed, but they have been unaccountably delayed; and I fear their Number is too small, considering the Mortality in that Climate, to attempt any great Matters, farther than the taking *St. Jago*; I hope they may be sufficient to settle and protect that Part of the Island, if they take *St. Jago*, against any Attempt the *Spaniards* can make to dispossess them. The surest Sign that our Ministry mean to do nothing, seems to me, the leaving the Command of the Army to that Person who has done so ill, and between whom and you, they tell us, there is
such

such an irreconcilable Difference : Surely they ought to have recall'd him long ago, instead of sending him a superior Commission, if the Fact be true ; and that it is so, I am afraid is too evident and certain. I take it for granted, that you have Intelligence from hence of every Thing that pass'es here, which may regard or affect yourself ; but lest you should not, I will venture in general, to give you some few Hints, which may be of Use to you ; and which, a sincere Friend of your's, as I profess myself, ought to do. Our great Men are endeavouring, I fear, all they can to abate of your Popularity here, and are attempting to make the Disputes, between you and the Land Forces, in the *West Indies*, a Party Quarrel between Land and Sea-Officers here ; wherein they think they have this evident Advantage, as the Land Officers are much more numerous. They are trying to represent you as a warm, impracticable Man ; and, tho' they own you have done great Service in what is pass'd, yet they say very little is to be expected from you, for the Time to come, since no one can agree with you : But in Spite of all they can say or do, you still are, and I hope will continue to be the Favourite, I may say, the Idol of the People in general, and no Man ever was more beloved than yourself. I am very confident you may get the better of all these vain Attempts and Designs of your Enemies, by a steady Perseverance, that nothing can move in the true Interest of your Country ; let no Accident, or even Design, ruffle or alter your Temper, so as to give those, who mean to hurt you, any Advantage over you ; pursue what you have at Heart, the Glory of your Country, with that Vigour and Zeal you have ever done ; but do it with that calm Sedateness and Complaisance, even to your false Friends, as shall make it impossible for them to prejudice you. When I have said this, from the Sincerity of a Heart, meaning you well, I cannot but pity the Situation you are in, to receive your Support, from those only, who intend you no Good ; to have those who should co-operate with you, tardy in every Thing you can propose for the Country's Service : To
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see you surrounded by Multitudes Abroad, and many likewise at Home, who have, in all they do, no other View, but their own sordid Interest, and pursuing of private Gain, whilst you are bravely and disinterestedly pursuing, singly, the Interest and Honour of your Country: To see you, I say, in this Predicament, must make one truly concerned for you; But yet I beg you to support all these Things, and even more, with Temper, and make no improper Complaints Abroad, but reserve whatever you have to say, 'till you get home, and can support them with your own Evidence and Authority, and the Assistance of those honest Friends, who will stand by you. Let nothing that can be said, or done, or writ to you, in the least Degree, slacken your Zeal for the publick Service; but in Spite of all Restraints, Impediments or Differences whatsoever, go on in the glorious Cause of your King and Country, with all the Shew of Friendship and Unanimity that is possible, even with those very Persons, you may privately have Reason to differ with, and, perhaps, have the meanest Opinion of their Abilities: Consider, it is the same good Master who authorizes you to act in one Capacity so gloriously, for the Good of your Country, that has given a Commission to another Person to act likewise in his Station; and, for God's Sake, let not your Master's Cause suffer, from any Differences between you; at least take Care to keep yourself always in the Right, by the coolest and most temperate Conduct. I have great Obligations to you, for having always shewn so much Regard for my Recommendation; and must thank you, in a particular Manner, for the kind Answer you made to Mr. *Douglas*, whom I recommended to you. I assure you, that I have resisted many Applications for Letters to you; and I flatter myself, that those whom you have been so good as to prefer, at my Request, appear to be such, as yourself, upon Experience, have found worthy of your Favour; among these, Captains *Limeburner* and *Boyce*, are two remarkable Instances: I have seen them both since their Return, and I can promise you, that they are
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very zealously attached to you and your Interest: They are both of them Men of Sense and Capacity; and, I think Captain *Limeburner*, has as clear a Head, as good an Understanding, and as much Judgment, as any Man I ever met with in my Life: They both of them said to me what you gave them Orders to say. I need explain no farther.

I must conclude my Letter with wishing you, with a sincere Heart, and cordial Affection, all possible Happiness, Glory and Success, and that you may return, tho' not yet, to your own Country again, beloved by every Body, as truly and affectionately as you, are by

Your most obedient

London, Nov.
17, 1741.

Humble Servant,

WILLIAM PULTENEY,

S I R,

I Received your Letter by the *Chester*, and since by the Fireship: I find that you had heard, that I was out of the Admiralty, by your directing the last Letter to me, or to the first Commissioner of the Admiralty, which went accordingly to Lord *Winchelsea*, however he did me the Favour to send them to me, which I returned, and had given him before, the Letters that were directed to me, as more properly belonging to him.

I find that some Blame is laid upon you, in this last Expedition to *Porto Bello*, for not stopping to put 500 Men ashore at *Nombre de Dois*, according to *Lowther's* Scheme; but had that been done there would have been so many less to land at *Chagre* or *Porto Bello*; and by their Resolution, at a Council of War, they seem not to have enough to land there, several Transports not being arrived, amongst them a Ship with Negroes: But they seem to me to have lost so much Time, before they embarked, that the Rains were sufficient to lay aside that Enterprize, to which there did

did not seem any strong Inclination. You are sensible what a vast Expence, of Men and Money, this Expedition to the *West Indies*, has cost the Nation: But it is always expected, by this Nation, that we should have Success in every Thing we undertake; and when we have not, some Body is to be blamed. I suppose you will receive Orders now to come home; but I fear your Passage will be in the Winter; however, I believe, you had rather take your Chance for that, than stay any longer. I am afraid you will be too late to stop at *Augustine*, tho' if that could have been done it would have been of very great Service to our Plantations on the Continent, especially to *Carolina*, where, 'till that Place can be taken, they will be in continual Danger, from the *Spaniards*, as well by Sea as Land. I take it for granted, that your Brother gives you an Account how Things go here, and what Alterations and Amendments are made, or like to be made, and therefore I say nothing of them, but heartily wish you a good Passage home. If I live to see you, I may possibly say more: In the mean Time, I am,

Your Faithful Friend, and

Parsons-Green,
Aug. 4, 1742.

Most Humble Servant,

CHARLES WAGER.

S I R,

AS I imagine you would be glad to know a little of our Situation here, and the Reasons for detaching four Ships from you, I must begin by acquainting you, that the Rebels, which we are told are now about 3000, have slipt by Sir *John Cope*, and are march'd down into the Low Lands; and if they bend their Course to *Edinburgh*, may soon be in Possession of that City, there being no Force to resist them; upon which it has been this Day ordered, by his Majesty, that ten Regiments should be sent for over from *Flanders*, besides the six thousand *Dutch*

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Part of which were embarked, we hope, on this Day, and may sail To-morrow. The Government has also certain Information that the *French* have quartered all their *Irisb* Troops along the Coast, from *Ostend* to *Dunkirk*; in which last Place you observe, that the Number of Ships have encreased considerably within a Week. Vice Admiral *Martin* is ordered not to cruize farther Westward than the *Lizard*, except he has a good Opportunity of looking into *Brest*, from whence we learnt nothing by our last Messenger, the Weather not favouring. We have ordered Admiral *Stewart* to send the *Tilbury* to you, with all possible Dispatch; and, I hope, Lord *George Graham*, in the *Nottingham*, may be with you the Beginning of next Week: In short, I hope they will all follow the laudable Example you give them, and exert themselves for their Country; which, for ought I know, never wanted it more. It is great Comfort to me, as well as many others, that you are in perfect Health, which I heartily wish may continue, attended with all possible Success, being, ever, most truly,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Sept. 3, 1745.

Your most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

I Have the Favour of your Letter; and as I am very sure of myself, so I really believe may answer for others, not being in the least displeas'd with your offering your Advice; and which I am sure, would always have great Weight with them. We have very different Intelligence from *St. Malo's*, one that there are 150 Sail of Vessels there, bound up the Channel; another, that there is only a few Privateers fitting out; which last I hope, and am rather inclined to believe,

lieve, is the trueſt. We have had nothing very material from *Scotland* theſe two Days; they reckon the Number of the Rebels are encreaſed to near 2000, but can't learn that any one of Condition, or Eſtate, has joined them. *Edinburgh* has raiſed 1000 Men, for its own Defence; and ſome of the Northern Lords are preparing to raiſe Regiments in their ſeveral Counties. The *Nottingham* is got to the *Nore*, and, I hope, will join you ſoon: The *Tilbury* only waits for a Wind to get out of *Portsmouth* Harbour, ſo ſhe will alſo ſoon be with you, I hope. I moſt heartily wiſh you all poſſible Health and Succels, and am, with ſincere Eſteem,

S I R,

Your moſt Obedient, and

Admiralty-Office,
Sept. 7, 1745.

Moſt Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

To EDWARD VERNON, *Eſq;*

S I R,

THIS Morning about Five o'Clock I joined the *Norwich*, *Poole*, *Suceſs*, and Captain *Gregory*, who I have ſent back to you according to your Directions, delivered to me by Captain *Hariſon*.

Captain *Smith* has not met with any Intelligence, relating to the *French* Men of War, and other Ships, ſaid to be in *Dunkirk* Road: And as you have given me Directions to ſend one of my Squadron to ſee whether the *French* Man of War, reported to you, by Captain *Gregory*, to be run on Shore, near *West Caple*, be there, to deſtroy her, if it is not already effected. I have ſent in Captain *Falkner*, of the *Vulture* Sloop, and Lieutenant *Lucas*, in the *Three Brothers* Cutter, on that Service; and have writ to his Maſtey's Conſul, at *Flyſing*, who is a very intelligible Perſon, to
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beg he would send me all the Information, he possibly can, relating to the Embarkation at *Dunkirk*; and if I can, by any Means, learn that they are failed to the Northward, or elsewhere, I will immediately fail after them, and put your Orders in Execution.

We are now at an Anchor becalmed, *Dunkirk* Steeple South Easterly about six Leagues: I shall be in great Hopes, if we have Wind, to see Captain *Falkner* and Lieutenant *Lucas* before To-morrow Night, when I hope to have some Intelligence that may guide me for my Proceeding. I wish you perfect Health, and do assure you, I am, with great Truth,

S I R,

Glocester, off New- . . . Your most obedient,
port, Sept. 11, 1745.

Humble Servant,

J. B Y N G.

S I R,

I CAN'T forbear troubling you with my Thanks for your obliging Letter, nor at the same Time assuring you how extreamly pleased every Body is with the Disposition you have made of your Cruizers, as it will be impossible for any Number of Vessels to stir from that Coast without being met with or heard of. I must also beg Leave to inform you of a Piece of News, that, I dare say, will give you great Pleasure, and that is, the King's having made Peace with the King of *Prussia*; indeed he has not as yet been able to prevail with the Queen of *Hungary* to come into it, but, I hope, when the Hurry of Joy for the Grand Duke's being chosen Emperor is a little over, they will a little consider, that our Advice ought, after all we have done for her, to have some Weight, and indeed, if that happy Event was brought about, I should hope such an Impression might be made upon
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our great Enemy *France*, as would make them glad to desist against any Projects against us. Lord *George Graham* sailed from the *Nore* on *Thursday*, and as the Weather has been very moderate and fine, I reckon may be with you as soon as this Letter: The *Defiance* from *Plymouth*, has also Orders to join you; and the *Pearl* from the *Nore*, and the *Ludlow Castle* from *Holland*, in a Day or two. Our *Lisbon* Convoy, which consists of five Men of War, was seen the 2d Instant in the Lat. 42 : 30 : so we may hope to see them every Day. The *Gibraltar* is also ordered to join you from the *Nore*, as will the *Eltham*, if she is in proper Condition. One Regiment of the *Dutch* Troops is, to be sure, sailed from *Holland* to *Scotland*, and we expect the others, as well as our own, every Day. We have had nothing particular from the Rebels these two Days, nor do I recollect any thing else, so will only add, my being ever, with all possible Truth and Esteem,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Sept. 18, 1745.

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

I Have the Favour of your Letter, which I immediately carried to the Duke of *Newcastle*, who is pretty much of Opinion, with Admiral *Anson* and myself, that as yet no Troops are embarked from *Dunkirk*; and one very strong Reason his Grace gives is, that by the Letters from *Holland*, which came Yesterday, we have an Account of the two Men of War sailing which lay in the Road, but not one Word of any Troops, which they could not have failed of knowing, as there is an open Intercourse and Correspondence constantly with *Holland*; however, Rear Admiral *Byng's* sailing is, to be sure, a very right Measure, provided

vided he does not proceed to the Northward, but upon the most certain Intelligence of any Troops being gone to that Part of his Majesty's Dominions. I believe I informed you in my last, that a great Part of our *English* Troops are sent for from *Flanders*; and I am informed this Day, that most of the 6000 *Dutch*, if not all, will be ordered to *Scotland*; of Course a Convoy must go with them, so that all these Services must be provided for, and a sufficient Force kept with you still, to guard against Attempts, there is but too much Reason to imagine is designed; when I say a sufficient Force, I should also have said a proper Force, for small Ships and Frigates may be of more Use than the Capital Ships. The Rebels are come to *Perth*, are about 5000, but in want of Arms. The two rich Prizes are arrived safe at *Bristol*, and the *Augusta*, *Falkland*, and *Saphire*, that convoy'd them, we have ordered into this Channel, to cruize off *St. Malo's*, as we hear that a considerable Number of Privateers are fitting out at that Port. The *Tilbury* got to *Spithead* Yesterday, so I hope will be with you as soon as this Letter: And by the Account from Lord *George Graham*, I think he will be moving from the *Nore* To-morrow: Orders are also gone for the *Milford* to join you from *Plymouth*, which, I think, is all I have at present to inform you of, except the *West India* Convoy being put into *Ireland*. I am, with all possible Esteem,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Sept. 16, 1745.

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCHEER.

S I R,

S I R,

I Have the Favour of your Letter, and find by those from Rear Admiral *Byng*, that he intends going to the Northward, where, tho' I am persuaded his Presence is not absolutely wanted, yet it may give Life and Spirits to those who are in the King's Interest. A Regiment of *Dutch* Soldiers we reckon landed there on *Sunday* or *Monday*, and two more are to go there, either from hence or *Holland*: And, to be sure, by this Time, Sir *John Cope* is returned to *Edinburgh* with his Forces, which will not only secure that City, but if our last Accounts are true, will drive away the Rebels from that Part, and send them back to the Highlands from whence they came. I wish they may be able to save *Glasgow*, which, at present, seems to be in the greatest Danger of being plundered by those Vagabonds and Thieves, A Council is now sitting at *Kensington*, for the Meeting of the Parliament the 17th of next Month, to do Business, which is sooner than has been for some Years. We have just now an Account of the Arrival, off the *Lizard*, of the *Lisbon* Fleet, under the Convoy of five Men of War, out of which, I hope, you will be able to pick up some good Mens The *Defiance*, by Mistake, is docking at *Plymouth*. which will retard her joining you for some few Days longer than I hoped. It is with the greatest Pleasure I assure you, that your Conduct gives general Satisfaction, which I hope you will believe no one feels more sensibly than,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Sept. 18, 1745.

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

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S I R,

S I R,

THE Duke of *Bedford* being out of Town Yesterday, I was obliged to be almost all the Morning at *Kensington*, which prevented my acknowledging the Favour of your Letter sooner, and assuring you, what a sensible Pleasure it is to me, that my Letters can be of the least Use or Entertainment to you. By the Express sent Yesterday, you will know of the Arrival of the *East India* Company's Ships in *Ireland*: And at the same Time, Orders went to Vice Admiral *Martin* to extend his Cruize as far Westward as *Cape Clear*, in order to meet and protect them into the Channel; not that I apprehend there is much to be feared from the Enemy; for by our last Accounts from *Brest*, which were dated on this Day Se'nnight, there was but three Men of War of the Line there, and three Frigates, so that the rest have certainly join'd the Convoy gone to *America*; and I think we remain in doubt of nothing but the *Ferrol* Squadron, who I should think would hardly venture hither, unless join'd by the *French*; and yet it is certain that the Pretender's second Son is come to *Paris*. All this Town are convinced, that it is owing to the Treachery of * * * * * that that City is in the Hands of the Rebels; and, indeed, it will put it out of doubt, if they don't assist in driving them out again, when Sir *John Cope* appears before the Walls, which we reckon he might do about *Saturday* last, so expect to hear of something material from thence every Moment. Our *English* Troops, to the Number of 7000, are come over in perfect good Health, and To-morrow the *Dutch* begin their March towards different Parts of the North, which, I hope, will relieve our Friends from the Consternation they seem to be in, and deter others from stirring, if there are any who have it in their Inclinations. If Mr. *Corbet* has not sent you the last Intelligence from *Brest*, it is owing to the Duke of *Newcastle*'s not having sent it him back again; but I have told you all that is material

in it, except that one of the three Ships is the *Elizabeth*, who was engaged with the *Lion*. The first Westerly Wind will forward several Ships from the River, as well as bring in our Trade, which makes me heartily wish for a Change. I am, with all possible Esteem and Truth,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Sept. 25, 1745.

Your most obedient,

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLEEK.

S I R,

I Am very sorry to acquaint you, that since I writ to you this Morning, News is come from *Scotland*, of the Rebels having defeated Sir *John Cope*; they marched six Miles out of *Edinburgh* to meet him, and attacked him at Day-light; he had with him two Regiments of Dragoons, who both run away upon the first Attack; their Flight put the Foot into Confusion, and all the Officers could do, could not rally them, and only 400 have escaped, who are retiring into Safety. It has been thought proper, upon this, to send Orders to Rear Admiral *Byng*, to return to you to the *Downs*, leaving one Ship off *Newcastle*. As to the 28 Sail that were seen last *Saturday* in the Afternoon, by Lieutenant *Gregory*, in the Cutter, I find, by talking with Mr. *Wallace*, the Agent of the Transports, it was our Troops coming from *Flanders*, who, at that Time, or *Saturday*, were in the Station he mentions; and I conclude it was one of the *Dutch Men of War* he was so near. I hope they will send for the rest of our Troops from thence, as I fear those we have here, who have seen no Service, can't be looked upon as much better than Militia. I hear the City are greatly alarmed; but as there is no Embarkation preparing from the other Side of the Water, we surely can manage these People yet. The *Lisbon* Convoy are all put into *Plymouth* Sound. I don't recollect any thing else

that's material, so will only add my being ever, with
perfect Esteem,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Sept. 24, 1745.

Your most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

I Have nothing more from *Scotland* to inform you of. The Alarm in the City is very great, and a Run upon the Bank, which to be sure is done by the Disaffected. They talk of making a Representation that more Troops should be sent for from *Flanders*; and we are refitting and repairing the Transports, in Case that Measure should be agreed upon. 2000 Men are coming from *Ireland* to be landed at *Chester*: And *Marshal Wade* is to make up 10,000 Men in that Part of *England*. By your Account, To-day, I reckon *Rear Admiral Byng* may have got to the *Firth* about *Sunday* or *Monday*, so hope you will soon see him again; for to be sure, when *France* hears of the Defeat of the King's Troops, if ever they make an Attempt to land any Troops, it would be now. When the *East India* Ships were coming into *Galway* Bay, the People ashore, who are all Papists, made Bonfires and Rejoicings, imagining it was either the *French* or *Spanish* Squadrons with Troops. I am very sorry I am so melancholy a Correspondent, and heartily wish I may be able to send you better News soon; being ever, with the truest Esteem,

S I R,

Your most Obedient,

Admiralty-Office,
Sept. 25, 1745.

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

S I R,

I Have the Favour of your Letter, and heartily wish that every Body in the King's Service had the same Zeal you express. Our present melancholly and dangerous Situation, proceeds chiefly from a Disbelief that any thing of this sort could or would be attempted; but they are now convinced they are more than Rabble, and that reading the Proclamation to them will not disperse them. The Accounts from *Scotland* Yesterday were, that the Rebels were increased, it's judged, to 10,000, that they were still encamped in and about *Edinburgh*, and made no Morions of leaving that City. The King has ordered eight more Regiments of Foot, and three of Horse, to be sent for from *Flanders*: And as the Wind is Easterly, we have sent Mr. *Wallace*, the Agent for Transports, to *Holland*, in the Packet Boat, with Orders to him to hire the Transports there upon the Spot, that if possible, we may make use of this Wind, and relieve the Castle of *Edinburgh*, which, if we could bring about, would be a very happy Event, upon all Accounts, but chiefly upon Account of the Money and Ammunition they would find in it. We have had, for two Days, a Run upon the Bank, but the substantial Merchants in the City, have put a Stop to it, by engaging to receive all Notes in Payment that should be brought to them; and at first was certainly done by the Disaffected, to damp the public Credit. All the Foot Guards are to encamp in *Hyde Park*, next Week, in order to have them ready to march to any Part where they may be wanted. In the North they are very active, and, amongst other Steps, are raising a Troop, which is to consist chiefly of Gentlemen, are to be commanded by General *Oglethorpe*, and stile themselves the *Royal Hunters*. Nineteen thousand Pounds was subscribed the first Night of the Meeting at *York*, and a great Spirit shewn amongst the Gentlemen. The Duke of *Bedford* sets out next *Monday* for *Bedfordshire*, in order to raise his Regiment; and all the other great

Lords, in their several Counties, so that we hope, we shall soon convince our Enemies, that this Country can, and will, defend its Religion and Liberties. As the Weather is moderate and fine again, I hope we shall hear from Rear Admiral *Byng* soon, as we must in a short Time, what is become of the *Ferrol* Squadron, which I am the more impatient for, as I don't love Ninety Gun Ships in the *Downs*, at this Time of the Year. I most heartily wish you all possible Health and Success, and am most truly,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Sept. 28, 1745.

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

I Have the Favour of your Letter of Yesterday, and return you my Thanks for the Accounts you have sent us from *Ostend* and *Dunkirk*, having been a little alarmed by that sent from *Flushing*; and, I can, with great Pleasure, assure you, that his Majesty express'd his Satisfaction of them to me this Morning. We had Letters from Vice Admiral *Martin*, who was for three Days, the 18th, 19th, and 20th of last Month, cruising in Sight of the Harbour of *Brest*, and off the Port took a small Sloop of War, of eight Guns; there was nothing in Sight but the *Elizabeth* ready for the Sea, and two very small Frigates; but in the Harbour there was nine Men of War of seventy Guns and upwards, tho' to be sure in no great Forwardness for the Sea, as they were not in Sight: This being the Situation there, it is our Intentions, to offer it as our Advice, that the Three-deck Ships may be all ordered to *Spithead*, and to have a proper Number of Ships for a Squadron in the *Downs*, to watch the Enemies Motions, and secure us from any Invasion from the other Side;

Side ; and as we can't but look upon this as a Service of the greatest Consequence at this Juncture, so I conclude we shall be unwilling to put it into any other Hands, than it is at present ; but at the same Time I can answer for all of us, being desirous to have it as commodiously, and as little fatiguing to you as 'tis possible ; so that as the Squadron will only consist of, at most, a 60 Gun Ship or two, and the rest smaller, I should be glad to know your Inclinations, whether your residing ashore, at *Deal*, and only going a Float now and then, occasionally, would be what you should like, that I may, to the utmost of my Power, obey your Commands. Orders are gone this Night to *Holland*, for the rest of the *English* Troops, which will be about 6000 more, to be all sent home ; and I hope, we shall be able to get the Transports for them all over in *Holland*, by the Beginning of next Week. I am, with Truth and Esteem,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Oct. 1, 1745.

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

I HAVE the Favour of your Letter, and do assure you, am greatly pleased when any of mine give you the least Satisfaction. I writ you Word in my last, that the *French* was gone away from before *Acth*, and the Uncertainty we were in what might be their Designs upon that, since which two *Dutch* Mails are wanting, and by all Accounts, have great Reason to fear the Letters may be fallen into the Enemies Hands, for as they were coming by a *Dutch* Fishing Boat, it's doubted whether the common Precaution was taken to have them ready to sink with a Weight, which is a most unpardonable Carelessness. The
City

City of *Edinburgh* now refuse to give the *Castle Provisions*, upon which *General Guest* threatens to beat it down, and has only given them seven Days to apply here, to know what he must do: It was Yesterday under Consideration, but how determined, I have not yet heard: The Rebels continue there, which looks as if they waited for Succours from Abroad; some Accounts say they are very quiet and pay for every Thing; others that they rob, murder, and plunder every Body ten Miles round. The Troops from *Ireland* are landed, and those in *Berwick* are marched for *Newcastle*. I think *Marshal Wade* sets out To-day, so I should hope might be at the Head of his Army in about ten Days, so that, unless they behave as ill as those under *Sir John Cope*, which God forbid, we may hope for some Turn in our Favour. *Drummond*, the great *Scotch* Banker at *Charing-Cross*, has stopp'd Payment, but the Run upon the Bank is pretty well over, by the seasonable Precautions taken by the chief Merchants in the City, who are indeed most extremely active, and upon their Guard against every Attempt of our domestic Enemies. I can't finish this without answering one Part of your's, wherein indeed I differ extremely with you; I mean, that the oldest Officers should be in the least Command, and, I dare say, no one in this Town, but thinks with us, that the Command of Consequence to this Nation, is, at present, under you; I am sure, as such we all mean it. Had our Accounts from *Brest* confirmed the Report of the *Ferrol* Squadron being there, joined to the *French*, you would have been ordered to the Westward with all the large Ships; the two under *Mr. Martin*, will soon be at *Spithead*, where the two *Dutch* are already arrived, leaky and sickly. Upon the whole, I can answer for one, as I dare say, I may for all, that we only mean the Defence and Preservation of this Country, that it can't be in better Hands, and that we wish to make it as little fatiguing, and as agreeable to you, as the Nature of the Service will admit of; and, in the performing of

of which, may all possible Success attend you, is the sincere and hearty Wish of,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Oct. 5, 1745,

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

I HAVE the Favour of your Letters, and am extremely glad to hear you are in so perfect Health. I am now to acquaint you, that the Board has proposed to his Majesty, the sending the three *Dutch Ships* from the *Downs*, as the Season of the Year begins to make it unsafe for them in that open Road, and, I hope, when they are gone, you will have a sufficient Number left, and proper for the Service expected; for if I reason right, by my Head, there will be above 20 Men of War, of all Sorts, employed to the Northward of the *South Foreland*, and yet I wish all may be able to prevent Supplies being sent to *Scotland* to the Rebels; there was three Privateers, laden with Arms and Ammunition, most certainly failed from *Dunkirk* but *Sunday* was Se'nnight, and this Day we had an Account of the *Tryal* Privateer's having taken a *Spanish* Vessel of 12 Guns, with 2500 Arms, 100 Barrels of Powder, and about 6000 *l.* in Money aboard; she was taken in the Latitude of 48 Deg. 00 Min. and, by the Course she was steering, might either be bound to *Ireland* or *Scotland*. I heartily wish you the Continuance of your Health, and all possible Success, as I am most truly,

S I R,

London, June
22, 1749.

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

S I R,

AS Orders went to you last Night for sending the Three-deck Ships to *Spithead*, I think I have but very little to trouble you with: Above half of Vice Admiral *Martin's* Squadron are come in disabled, having been in almost a constant Storm of Wind from all Quarters of the Compaſs, for above a Fort-night; he is, however, ordered to continue cruizing with thoſe that can keep the Sea, chiefly with a View to the *East India* Company's Ships, whoſe going into *Galway*, the moſt diſaffected Part of all *Ireland*, was, to be ſure, a very ill-judged Meaſure. By our Accounts laſt Night from *Holland*, the Troops deſigned for *Newcaſtle* would be ready to ſail this Morning, if the Wind would permit, and, I ſhould hope, next Week we may ſee thoſe that are to come here. The *Freuch* Army is certainly going into Winter Quarters, and one of the Yatchs ſails To-morrow for the Duke of *Cumberland*. By not having heard ſo long of Rear Admiral *Byng*, I can't help thinking he has been carried away by ſome Chate, and, indeed, if thoſe three Veſſels from *Dunkirk* had not met with ſome Interruption, I ſhould imagine we ſhould have heard of their Arrival at *Leith*, and that the Rebels would have taken Pains to publiſh any Supplies ſent them. The *Ludlow Caſtle* and *Saltaſh* Sloop, both juſt clean, ſail for *Scotland* this Morning, and we propoſe to add another 40 Gun Ship, when we can get one, which will make them two 40 Gun Ships, two 20, and three or four ſtout Sloops. I have ſo great a Cold, I can hardly ſee to write; you muſt excuſe all Miſtakes in,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Oct. 12, 1745.

Your moſt obedient

Humble Servant

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

S I R,

I HAVE the Favour of your Letter, and am quite of your Opinion, that your Endeavours to prevent any Succours being sent to the Rebels have succeeded, as I can't think they would remain so inactive at *Edinburgh*, were they compleatly arm'd. We have a very good Account of their Situation and Numbers from the Mayor of *Liverpool*, and, he says, they are certainly not above 6000; *Marshall Wade* will be at *Dun-caster* this Day with more than that Number, and I was in Hopes, last Night, the Wind would have come about and brought us the Transports from *Holland*. I am very sorry Mr. *Byng's* Ships are so leaky, but conclude it is only their upper Works, which will always happen from their Working at Sea. I have nothing material to communicate to you at present, so will only add, my being ever,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Oct. 15, 1745.

Your most obedient,

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

WE were Yesterday agreeably surpris'd with the Arrival of the Duke of *Cumberland*; he sail'd from *Holland* on *Wednesday* Morning, as did the Transports, with the seven Regiments of Foot, commanded by Lord *Albemarle*, bound to *Newcastle*, and, as the Wind was pretty far Southerly when they parted from them, we may hope they landed there last Night, or this Morning; seven Regiments of Foot more, besides the Horse, are embarked and ready to sail with the first Wind, so hope, in God, all this Strength will restore us to our usual Peace and Tranquility.

quility. The Young Pretender has published another Declaration, (the first you know was forbidding the Members to obey the Summons to Parliament) wherein he says, "That as the Usurper had called in the Aid of foreign Troops, and that he finds his Subjects in *England* will not rise in his Favour; he has also sent to his Allies for the Aid and Support they are obliged to supply him with;" all which I think looks as if their Affairs did not mend. The Bill for suspending the *Habeas Corpus* passed both Houses Yesterday, so, I hope, we shall make them repent this rash Insult. I am, with the truest Esteem,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Oct. 19, 1745.

*Your most obedient**Humble Servant,*

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

SINCE I writ to you, I have seen the Duke of *Newcastle*, who informed me, he had just had a Letter from *Flushing*, acquainting him, that an Order was come to stop all the *Dutch* Vessels that might be in any of the Ports of *France*, till further Order, but what was the View of this Order was not explained. I can't say your Intelligence from *Flushing* has hitherto been very good, which makes me doubtful of the Truth of this, however, thought it was proper you should know it, as I would, in all in my Power, assure you how truly I am,

S I R,

Your most obedient

St. James's Square,
Saturday Night.

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

S I R,

I AM favour'd with your's of Yesterday's Date, by Mr. How, and am truly sorry the Business I am engaged in here, prevents my having the Satisfaction of presenting to his Majesty, in my own Person, the Loyal and Seasonable Address you have now forwarded to me: Nothing but my being actually employ'd at this present, in his Majesty's Service, should have prevented my carrying the Address up myself, but the Task I have undertaken, of raising a Regiment in this Country, requiring my immediate Presence here, I am necessitated to send it up to Lord *Sandwich*, who as second in the Board of Admiralty, is look'd upon as the proper Person, (in the Absence of the First) to present this Address to his Majesty. I am, with great Truth and Esteem,

S I R,

Woburn-Abbey,
Oct. 19, 1745.

Your most faithful

Humble Servant,

BEDFORD.

S I R,

I HAVE the Favour of your obliging Letter, and was in Hopes I should have been able to have informed you of all our Troops being arrived; but by Accounts from *Newcastle* Yesterday, there was only five of the eleven Transports got in there; however, I hope this Wind will not only carry the Rest in, but also bring us the other eleven Regiments of Foot, which are embarked, and were ready to sail from *Holland*; for I own, I shall not be easy till this detestable Rebellion is put an End to. Marshal *Wade* was got to *Pontefract* last Saturday, and was in perfect Health, and, I reckon, will be in great Spirits when

when joined by Lord *Albemarle's* Forces. I can't help observing, that the Number of Lug Sail Boats is considerably increased on the other Side of the Water, and are more than I should think only designed for their Fishery, and therefore hope you will, as Weather will permit, as usual, watch their Motions: I am glad this Easterly Wind will deliver you from the Uneasiness of the great Ships. We have this Day directed a clean Sloop, at *Portsmouth*, to proceed directly off *Brest*, and, as the Captain is well acquainted with that Coast, and is a thorough Seaman, we hope he will perform this Service to Satisfaction. I am, with all possible Esteem and Truth,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Oct. 24, 1745.

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

THE last Letters from *Scotland* confirm the Account, that the Rebels are only marched to *Dalkeith*, which is about five Miles from *Edinburgh*; they have there pitched upon a strong Spot of Ground to encamp upon, a River running in their Front and Rear, which looks as if they intended to make their Stand there, at least to try their Fortune before they retreat to the Highlands: It is reported, but I know it from no Authority, that another Ship has brought them Cannon, and even Mortars, but I should think that would have enabled them to have tryed again at the Castle. I am credibly informed, that the King of *Prussia* has repeated his Assurances to the King, that he keeps a Body of Troops ready to march for the Assistance of *Great-Britain*, when, and wherever he will please to direct them; the first Letter was taken in the Mails that were coming in the *Dutch* Boar, which,

which, with his first Declaration to *France*, I can't help concluding, has kept them from openly assisting this detestable Attempt. I wish I could say I had heard of any one Step taken, or Offer made, by the Queen of *Hungary* in our Favour, after all we have done for her. I am very sorry to acquaint you with our Fears, that the *York* is lost upon the Coast of *France*; somewhere near our Islands she chased a *French* Convoy of about ten Sail, with two Men of War; this carried her, we imagine, too near in Shore and in the Night the Wind came at W. N. W. and drove them all ashore, and, they say, not a Soul has escaped. Marshal *Wade* will be at *Newcastle*, as I hear To-morrow, and, of Course, be joined by the Troops from *Flanders*. This Wind will, I hope, bring us To-morrow the seven Regiments of Foot, and the next Day the Transports, that came last, will be ready to go back for the Remainder of the Horse, as I hope those from *Newcastle* are already gone. The Regiment of Horse, consisting of Gentlemen of *Yorkshire*, and commanded by General *Oglethorpe*, I am told, are march'd in order to join Marshal *Wade*; and, I think, their Spirit and Example must be of infinite Use. We hear, that Lord *Lewis Gordon*, who is a Lieutenant in the Navy, is gone to the Rebels, and, as I dare say, he will be the only Renegado we shall have amongst us, so I believe he is no great Loss to our Service. I most heartily wish you the Continuance of your Health for all our Sakes, and in particular, as I am, with the truest Esteem,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Oct. 29, 1745.

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

G

S I R,

S I R,

I Think I have not much to inform you of, except our having Letters this Day from Rear Admiral Byng, dated the 30th of last Month, off *Newcastle*, when he had received our Orders to return to you to the *Downs*, so, if the Weather continues moderate, may be with you before this Letter. The *French* have left the Siege of *Aeth*, before which Place they had been some Days, and, of Course, have something of greater Consequence in View, and, it's thought here, must either be to attack our Army, or bend their whole Force against us, by attempting to land both here and in *Scotland*; to be sure there is nothing in their Ports, at present, to transport any Number of Men; and, as your small Craft are increased, and shall be more, as soon as it's in our Power, I hope we may be able to defeat any such Attempts. We have had nothing from *Scotland* that's particular these two Days, but it's thought the Rebels are, before now, march'd from *Edinburgh* Southward, and, I doubt, it will be a Fortnight yet before Marshal *Wade* will have assembled his Army. I am, with all possible Truth and Esteem,

S I R,

Your most Obedient

Admiralty Office,
Oct. 30, 1745.

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

I HAD so violent a Fit of the Head-ach on *Satur-*
day, occasioned by the late Day in the House of
Commons the Day before, that I could not see out
of my Eyes enough to return you my Thanks for
your obliging Letter. I was in Hopes, before now, I
should

should be able to acquaint you of the Arrival of the Rest of our Troops from *Flanders*, and what detains them, I can't conceive, as all the Transports for the Foot were there last *Monday*; that I live in perpetual Apprehension of their losing this fine Wind. Marshal *Wade* marches from *Newcastle* this Day, and by *Saturday* next will be at *Berwick*; we shall then see whether the Rebels will think of staying for him, or whether they will try to march by him into *Lancashire*. *Keily* was at *Flushing* last Week, and might have been taken, if the *Dutch* Magistrates would have consented, or even permitted the Packet Boat to have followed him, which they attempted to do, but were prevented. I doubt we shall have another long Day upon the New Regiments raised by the Duke of *Bedford*, and others, which People are now extremely divided in Opinion, though at the Time they were ordered, which was when we had few or no Troops here, I believe no one but thought it a prudent Measure, and that when the Names of so many great Men were of Use to the Cause of this Country; I hope to God we shall never want them, but I think we are equally obliged to those who so readily engaged to defend us. I heartily wish you the Continuance of your Health, as I am, with the truest Esteem,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Nov. 4, 1745.

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

I Return you many Thanks for your obliging Letter and Concern about my Health, which is now, thank God, perfectly well again, and, as you judged very rightly, my Mind more at Ease: The Troops from *Holland* being arrived, as are all the *East* Coun-
try

try Ships; so that, in the Commercial Way, I have nothing to wish for now but the *East India* Men, who, I hope, we shall see with the first westerly Wind. We have now certain Accounts of the Rebels being marched from *Edinburgh*, the Body of their Army was got to *Peebles*, but their advanced Guards to *Moffat*, which, I am told, is fifteen Miles from *Edinburgh*: In this Situation, it seems, they may either march on to *Carlisle*, and so into *England* that Way, or they may return to the Highlands again through *Dumbartonshire*, which last Alternative I should imagine they would choose; however Marshal *Wade* has halted at *Morpeth* till he sees what Course they will steer, and Sir *John Legonier* is soon to march from this Part of the World with seven old *Flanders* Regiments, and four new ones, which are to be the Duke of *Bedford's*, the Duke of *Montagu's*, my Lord *Halifax's*, and my Lord *Gower's*, and are to go into *Staffordshire*, and to on to *Lancaire*, should there be Occasion. By Mr. *Corbet's* Letters you will find the first westerly Wind will bring you a considerable Increase of Ships, so that, upon the whole, I hope we are ready to receive the *French*, should they dare openly to attempt us. I am, with all possible Esteem,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Nov. 8, 1745.

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

I Believe you will not be sorry to hear the Rebels are certainly marched within a few Miles of *Carlisle*, a Party of about 60 having come so near as to be fired at from the Castle; but, notwithstanding this, I am one of those who still doubt whether they will not return by this Way again into the Highlands.

lands. All the Letters from Abroad, indeed affirm, that *France* has resolv'd to support them; so it may be from their Assurances, that they venture to march forward: They have now above 200 Waggon's and Carriages with them, and of Course will not be able to out march us so much, as they did at first. I can't but say I long to hear from *Ostend*; as by what may be observ'd from thence, we may better judge what the Ships in *Dunkirk* Road may be design'd for. The *Tilbury* and *Princess's Louisa* are got safe to *Galway*, and, to be sure, are now at Sea, with the *East India* Ships, and most probably join'd by Vice Admiral *Martin*, as he sail'd from *Plymouth* the 4th. We remain in great Pain for the *Defiance*. I am, with all possible Esteem,

S I R,

Admiralty Office,

Nov. 13, 1745.

*Your most Obedient**Humble Servant,*

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

SINCE I writ to you in the Morning, an Account is come that the Rebels are actually come so far Southward as *Appleby*, so have pass'd by *Carlisle*; and by this it looks as if they intended to march, even hither, if not stopp'd by the Way: That they should take so desperate a Resolution, when they must know we have so great a Force to oppose them, seems very extraordinary, unless they are assur'd of being supported from Abroad, which I can't say, I think there is an Appearance of, from either *Dunkirk*, or *Ostend*, at present. The Provision for the *Dutch* Ships is come to *Portsmouth*, so you may expect three of those

G 3

Ships

Ships from thence, the first westerly Wind. I am,
with all possible Esteem,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Nov. 13, 1745.

Your most obedient,

Humble Servant,

VERE BEAUCLERK.

S I R,

I AM extremely obliged to you for the Regard you have been so good as to shew to my Recommendation of Lieutenant *Prettie*: I hope he is one not undeserving the Character I have heard of him; I am sure it will give me the utmost Concern if it should prove that I have recommended a Person, void of the Qualifications, I know you will expect in every Officer you intend to promote.

I hope you are convinced that I am not the only Person at the Board, uneasy to see one of your Character and Rank in the Service, in a Command, which to be sure seems not properly consistent with the Dignity of your Station; but such are the Difficulties of the Times, and so many are the Services required to be executed by us, with an insufficient Force, that tho' our Inclination would be to see you at the Head of the whole Fleet of this Kingdom, the Circumstances of our Affairs, at present, are such, and the Services required from us so various, and distant, that we have been obliged to act contrary to our Intentions, in this, as well as in many other Destinations of the Force, under our Directions. I am, . . .

S I R,

London, Nov. 14,
1745.

Your most obedient, and

Most humble Servant,

SANDWICH.

S I R,

S I R,

YOU will believe how uneasy the bad Weather of this Night has made me, though as it began here at S. E. I hope your Cruizers had Time to get off the Shore. I was, indeed, in hopes the Frost would have lasted, as it would greatly have facilitated Marshal Wade's March to *Carlisle*: He left *Newcastle* last *Saturday* Morning; and, it's said, that on *Friday* the Rebels took *Carlisle*; but that the Castle held out still, and most probably would, till our Army could come to its Relief: The Roads there are excessive bad, so of Course quite uncertain how long they will be in the March; the Distance but 48 Miles; but in a Day or two, we must know whether they will dare to stay for them, or only do this to harrass our Troops. The Accounts from Abroad will have it, that the *French* Court have determined to assist them, and that the Fleet at *Brest* are ready for that Purpose; this will occasion us to collect some Part of Vice Admiral *Martin's* Squadron at *Spithead*, which will at least refresh his Men, who have been so constantly at Sea this whole Summer. The *Tryal* Sloop is drove ashore in *Holy Island* Harbour, and I doubt will never get off again, but not from extreme bad Weather, which makes it the more vexatious. I am, with all possible Truth and Esteem,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
Nov. 19, 1745.

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant,

VERE BRAUCLERK.

S I R,

To the Right Honourable Lord V E R E
B E A U C L E R K.

My LORD,

I HAVE the Favour of your Lordship's of the 19th, and for the Relief of your natural Compassionate Temper, I am glad I can acquaint you, I am out of Pain for Captain *Gregory*, by his Arrival here, and the Duke of *Bedford* private Ship of War; from his Account of her, I am persuaded, she is only driven to the Northward, which makes her return here a Cruize against any Running Vessels stealing to the Northward. The *Success*, I remain still in Pain for her, and particularly, as I know she is very complaining and leaky in her upper Works.

I can't say I was very sorry to hear the Rebels had attach'd themselves to any Thing that would give them a Halt for Marshal *Wate*'s coming up with them, and, I hope, they have been able to hold out the Castle of *Carlisle* long enough to enable him to come to its Relief, and then, however nimble the Rebels may be in their Retreat, they will at least be obliged to leave their Cannon and Carriages behind them.

If the *French* are assembling their Forces to the Westward, I should think that a strong Reason against drawing any Ships away from the Westward of *Spithead*, which I have always looked upon, in our Channel, as a *Cull du Sac*, which gives the Enemy to the Westward of them a fair Occasion to do what they will with a westerly Wind, and would give any Squadron from *Ostend*, or *Dunkirk*, the same fair Opportunity of doing what they would for them to the Eastward, with an easterly Wind.

I am sorry for the Accident of the *Tryal* Sloop, but as we have no Magazine to the Northward, probably bad Cables might be some Part of the Occasion of it.

And

And whenever the *French* get a Squadron to *Ostend*, which I imagine they will not be long first, I conceive it will be absolutely necessary to form Magazines, and have an established Yard at *Harwich*. I am,

My LORD,

Deal, Nov. 21, 1745. Your Lordship's most obedient, and

Most humble Servant,

E. VERNON.

S I R,

I WROTE to you on the 25th of last Month by Direction of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to know, whether you had any Hand in publishing two very extraordinary Pamphlets therein mentioned, containing Extracts of your Correspondence with the Board, whilst you commanded his Majesty's Squadron in the *Downs*; or whether you knew by what Means they were communicated to the Press? Their Lordships, after having made the strictest Enquiry, had the strongest Reason to believe, that they could proceed from no other Channel but your's, notwithstanding which, out of Regard to the Rank you hold in his Majesty's Service, they were unwilling to think you capable of handing those Papers into the World without Name, and more especially in so imperfect and disingenuous a Manner, that they appear to be calculated to mislead and deceive, rather than inform the Reader; and for this Reason they have given you an Opportunity of justifying yourself, if you are able, or think proper to do it: But not having received any Answer from you, upon this Subject, I am directed to acquaint you, that if they do not hear from you in a Week, from the Date, either by a Letter, or by your attending at the Board, to give them a satisfactory Account, at least with Regard to your own Behaviour in this Transaction, they must

must take it for granted, by your not denying it, that you are the Publisher of both those Pamphlets, and must proceed accordingly. I am,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
April 4, 1746.

Your most humble Servant,

T. C.

S I R,

UPON my Return to my House, on *Monday* Night late, from the Country, soon after, one of your Messengers brought me a Letter of your's, of the 4th Instant, which, on Perusal, I can't conceive, even your long Experience can ever have furnished any Precedent for a Letter of so extraordinary a Nature. Whenever their Lordships think my Attendance on them necessary, for his Majesty's Service, as I know it is my Duty to pay a ready Attendance on their Orders for my doing so, I shall not fail to do it whenever they appoint it.

I thank God I have hitherto discharged my Duty to the Crown, in every Station I have been called to serve in, with a diligent Care and Attention to his Majesty's Service, as was my Duty, and as I have ever looked upon it, of every one in his Majesty's Service, in their respective Stations, and hope I have carefully kept clear of intermixing any private Passions of mine with the public Service. I am,

S I R,

April 8, 1746.

Your most humble Servant,

E. V.

Upon A——V——'s coming from the House of Commons, a Messenger met him at the Door, and told him, he had a Message to him from the Admiralty

ralty Board, to attend them at their Office, at Seven o'Clock, which he said he would not fail to do.

Upon his coming in, when sent for, after having waited without a considerable Time, the first Commissioner told him, " That they were the Admiralty Board, that in them was vested the full Power of the Lord High Admiral; and that he, as the first in the Commission, was the Head of that Board, and the Mouth of it; and that what he should say to him, was the Sense of the whole Board, and, therefore, desired he would give diligent Attention to it; and that they would have him give a direct Answer to what they should require of him; and that he should attentively hear what he had to say, and not interrupt him. His Discourse then rolled upon two Pamphlets he had upon the Table; before him, which he read the Titles of, being, *A Specimen of Naked Truth, &c. And Some Seasonable Advice, &c.* and exclaimed much against them; and mentioned two Letters their Secretary had wrote to him, by their Order, to know from him, Whether he was the Author or Publisher of them, and express'd himself surpriz'd and dissatisfied with a Letter of A—— V——'s he had before him, in Answer to the Secretary; the Stile of which, he said, was very extraordinary, and no Answer to the Question, they had directed to be asked; but that they expected now a categorical Answer, and that he should say, *Aye*, or *No*, whether he was the Author or Publisher of those Pamphlets."

When he was called upon to answer, he said, " He was very well apprized, that in them was veiled the full Authority of the Lord High Admiral; and that, as a military Officer under them, he owed all Obedience to all their Orders, as he should always think it his Duty to do all their military Orders, while he continued an Officer in the publick Service; and that he thought he was right, in hinting in his Letter to the Secretary, that he believed no Military Officer, of his Rank, had ever been treated in the Manner he had been, within the

" Term

“ Term of his long Experience: That for all Questions that should be asked, relative to his Duty, or Experience, as an Officer, he should answer to the best of his Judgment, but as to the Question now asked, as he looked upon it to be of a private Nature, that he apprehended they had no Right to ask him that Question, and that he was under no Obligations of answering it; but had the common Privilege that was due to every *British* Subject; and that if his continuing an Officer in the Service, was an Eye-sore to any one, that he was now grown to be an old Man, and had Reason to be tired with being treated in so contemptuous a Manner.

Upon which, the first Commissioner said, “ If he would give them no other Answer to the Question, he might withdraw, and they knew what they had to do.” Which, with his Obeifance, he did accordingly.

S I R,

I AM commanded, by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to inform you, that the several Matters which have passed between their Lordships and yourself, with relation to two Pamphlets, lately published, entituled, *A Specimen of Naked Truth, from a British Sailor*; and, *Some Seasonable Advice from an Honest Sailor, to whom it might have concerned, for the Service of the C——n and C——y*, having been laid, by his Grace the Duke of Bedford, before the King, his Majesty has been pleased to direct their Lordships to strike your Name out of the List of Flag Officers. I am,

S I R,

Admiralty-Office,
April 11, 1746.

Your most humble Servant,

T. C.

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