

Lib. H. D. within this month I have Received certain Acco^{ts} from Curaco, S^t Thomas and Providence that s^d ffrench ffleet are past by us and were Safe Arriv'd at Petit Guavers on Hispaniola its said with design to attack the City of S^t Domingo on that Island by Sea and Land, and if possible to make themselves intire masters of that Island, they having in Ord^r thereto kept many hundred Negroes for severall Months past, cutting a path for their fforces to march over Land to the Spanish side of the Island; Others Say, they only design to surprize the Spanish Plate ffleet designed Home from the Indies this year, Their ffleet Consists of 18: men of Warr, 2 Bomb Ketches, some ffire Ships and Tenders, under the Com^d of one Mons^r Pontee. However I'm well assured they have noe design against any the English Colony's they having not touched at Martinico or any of our other Neighbouring ffrench Islands in their passage by Us, which was about two months since, For about that time a New York Brigantine bound to Nevis fell into their ffleet ab^t 70 Leagues to the Eastward of this Island.

And since yo^r Sloop Arrived here Yesterday about an hour after from Barbadoes his Ma^{ty} Ship Colchester, attending this Governm^t who gives me Acco^t That Vice Adm^{ll} Nevill was arrived there with 14: men of Warr. 4: ffire Ships and Tenders and expected 4 great Dutch men of Warr hourly to Arrive of 60: & 70: Guns each part of his ffleet and to whom the New Castle attending Barbadoes and this Colchester is to Joyn to make his Squadron up 20 Compleat Ships of Warr for the line of Battle and who I expect will be here to morrow with s^d ffleet a list of whom (all but the Dutch) I inclose you, They are bound as the Adm^{ll} writes me himself in Search of the s^d mons^r Pontee and the ffrench ffleet under his Com^d wherever they be to be found in the Indies, and to prevent his Designes, and then Convoy the Spanish Plate ffleet home Their stay will be very short here, knowing how long the Enemy are past by before them. But by this I presume you may depend they have no more design against you, than I am well Satisfyed they have against us. And if they had, you find our gracious master is not unmindful of not only us, but of his Allies in sending a squadron of good Ships qualified to ffustrate their designs It's farther said that on the Success
 p. 102 of these ffleets, a Peace will ensue, for that the ffrench King was in great hopes of taking the Spanish plate ffleet this Attempt, and which would enable him to hold out the Warr for two or three years longer and of which if he be prevented (as there's not any doubt but he will) the Spaniards in these parts having had timely notice both of his design's and of our Kings assisting him with this ffleet, to prevent him, Then its