

transmitted to the Minister. I was led, however, into these hopes, more by the apparent distresses of the enemy than any material successes we had met with.

The plan I had formed for the campaign of 1781, (upon the expectation of a reinforcement

Lordship's operations will have been stopt by the appearance of the French ships. Discontent runs high in Connecticut. In short, my Lord, there seems little wanting to give a mortal stab to rebellion, but a proper reinforcement and a permanent superiority at sea for the next campaign; without which any enterprize depending on water movements must certainly run great risk. Until Colonel Bruce arrives, I am uncertain what reinforcements are intended for this army. The Minister has however assured me, that every possible exertion will be made." — Letter from Sir Henry Clinton to Lord Cornwallis, March 5, 1781.

"I cannot sufficiently express my extreme joy at reading Washington's letter. It is such a description of distress, as may serve to convince, that with a tolerable reinforcement from Europe, to enable your Excellency to determine on an offensive campaign, the year 1781 may