

mended to His Majesty's clemency, who restored him to his rank.

On the 30th of September, Captain George Montagu in His Majesty's ship the *Pearl*, of 32 guns, and 260 men, being off Bermudas on his passage to America, fell in with, and after a close action of two hours, and a running fight of two more, captured *L'Esperance* French frigate, loaded by the merchants from Cape Francois, bound to Bourdeaux, mounting 26 twelve-pounders and 2 six-pounders, manned with 173 men, twenty of whom were killed, and twenty-four wounded. The loss the *Pearl* sustained was Lieutenant Foulke of the marines, and five seamen killed, Mr. Dunbar, the master, and nine wounded. *L'Esperance* was taken into the service, and called the *Clinton*.

Vice-admiral Edwards still continued the command of His Majesty's squadron at Newfoundland. The cruisers were very active, and picked up many American privateers.

On the 12th of September, the *Vestal*, of 28 guns, and 200 men, commanded by Captain George Keppel, and *Fairy*, took the *Phœnix* American privateer, of 16 guns, and 60 men; and soon after they fell in with and captured the *Mercury*, an American packet from Philadelphia, on board of which was Henry Laurens, Esq. late president of the congress, bound on an embassy to Holland.

On the 27th of March, Sir George Rodney joined Rear-admiral Hyde Parker in Gros-islet Bay, St. Lucia, from whom he learnt that the enemy's fleet, consisting of twenty-five sail of the line and eight frigates, had for several days been parading in sight of the island, and had only a few hours previous to his arrival retired