

that the boats might attend, the same evening, to bring off the troops, as soon as the moon was up: That the commodore having found the above proposal impossible, until the west part of the fort should be silenced by the batteries, raised by the troops on shore, made an offer not only of landing the heavy artillery at Negre Point, where the troops then were, but also of transporting the same, wherever the general pleased, by the seamen belonging to the men of war, without any assistance from the land forces: That the troops were, however, reimbarbed that night.

That, the next day, the general acquainted the commodore, that the council of war was of opinion, it would be most for his majesty's service to proceed to fort St. Pierre with the troops, in order to make an attack upon that place, and that no time should be lost.

It appears accordingly, that, on the 19th in the morning, his majesty's fleet entered the bay of St. Pierre, when the commodore, having examined the coast, represented to the general, that he made no doubt of destroying the town of St. Pierre, and putting the troops in possession of the same; yet, as the ships might, in the attack, be so much disabled, as not to be in a condition to proceed immediately on any other material service; and as the troops, if it should be practicable to keep possession of the above town, would also be much reduced in their numbers for future attacks; and, being of opinion, that the destroying the town and fortress of Basseterre in the island of Guadalupe, and keeping possession of it, and, by all possible means, endeavouring to reduce the said island, would be of great benefit to the sugar colonies, as that island is the chief nest of French privateers, constantly infesting the British islands, and destroying the trade from North America, with supplies of provisions, &c. the commodore submitted it to