

I met Lord Amherst, with whom I had a long conversation about the times. He is groaning with all honest men over the evils which the opposition appeared to expose. The King having recommended in his speech that attention should be paid to the fleet, was the cause of Admiral Barrington being made Admiral of the fleet (?) which gives him an income of £1,600 or £1,700 sterling a year, an office which had been refused to Lord Rodney and to Admiral Payne, as it had been resolved for the sake of economy, to abolish the office.

Visited Sir George Pocock; dined at Lord Sydney's with Lord Morton, Sir W. Hoskin and General Torin (Torrens?), Lady Sydney was very polite towards me. Lady Brudenell and Lady Stopford came after dinner with Lady Chatham, whom I found very pretty. Lady Stopford thanked me for the politeness I had shown to her son when he was at Québec. Lord Morton showed much politeness towards me, and Sir W. Hoskin great friendship. Mr. Townshend handed me, before dinner, a letter from Napier respecting Freeman's promotion, who will have the company in the 24th Regiment, which is very fortunate.

31. *Tuesday.* Visited General and Mrs. Carpenter and Major Mulcaster. I met Sir John Dick, who was going to the office. He told me on what footing he was entrusted with the direction of the accounts, that is, he warned Mr. Pitt he would make many enemies; however, that in this respect he would do all that was required of him, but that he would not receive any salary or recompense whatever. He told me I must keep my tally, which I would be obliged to produce when asked for, or when my turn came for the examination of my vouchers; that Sir Guy Carleton, as he was going to Canada, had asked that his account should be examined, which was done. He told me, I do not know for what reason, that there was no reward to be hoped for in this country, and that one must be content with the satisfaction of having served as an honest man.

Returned home at half past one. Mr. and Mrs. Prevost came a moment after, to tell me that they had resolved to send their son James to Halifax with Commander Gordon. I found the General a little better. He told me that, to satisfy his wife, he would take a trip to Henod in Burgandy to his father-in-law's, but would return to pass the winter in this country. He complained greatly of the insolence of the agents and especially about his money they have in their hands. They make him pay interest for what he owes for clothing, as these gentlemen, seeing themselves supported by Lord Amherst, take advantage of it.

After the death of his brother, he entrusted Mr. Grant, [Gran] his father-in-law, to close the account with his sister-in-law, and to avoid difficulties, he relinquished one-third of what should come to him. He said his brother had always managed to get hold of all that belonged to him as well as to his brother Mark.

I must, however, try to get paid what belonged to Bouquet of what was saved from the unfortunate speculation in Carolina, which I believe comes to £500 sterling.

The American Club began to day. I went at five o'clock precisely and found every one at table, which made me hope that in future the old fashion would be followed, of having dinner served precisely at five and finished at eight. Every one was cheerful; nothing remarkable passed; paid 17s. and 5s. for not being at the last club. Home at a quarter past nine.

February.

1. *Wednesday.* Visited Lord Adam Gordon. Clark and his son dined with me. Wrote to Geneva and Mr. Fairchild.

2. *Thursday.* Was at Mr. Pitt's levée, which was numerously attended. Was at Court, also numerously attended. Dined at Mr. Desrolles with Budé, Mr. de Salis, Madre, Mr. Blasset, Mrs. Salis. There was an assembly then in the evening, well attended. Played a rubber with Lady Albemarle, Lady Essex and Budé; won two guineas. Returned home at 11. Lord Amherst told me that a half pay captain of the second battalion had been put into mine instead of Kelly who died in Jamaica. I told him they did not give up ill using us. He acknowledged it, but will never do anything in our favour. Returned home at half past one, very tired.