

to believe his conduct would have required a strict examination, and, perhaps, the *amende honorable*.

With regard to the attempt on Louisiana, might not the troops, under colonel Byrd and major Hamilton, with the assistance of the other provincial troops, act with vigour the ensuing campaign against the Indians, who would, upon hearing such a force was coming against them, very probably submit to any terms; and then, by the assistance of our Indian allies, might not the army march against the French settlements about Kappa; or, if that should not be thought practicable, by reason of the length of the march to it, might they not move to the westward, and retake our long lost fort of Alabama? The troops from Canada (which would certainly form an army of five or six thousand men) might, with the assistance of the squadron at Jamaica, in the mean time, make an attack on the French forts in the Gulph of Mexico; and, though ships of burden might meet with difficulty in getting up the Mississippi to New Orleans (which they certainly will, if they do not go before the freshes come down the river;) yet the army might, in a day or two, march up by land, and would, no doubt, soon make a conquest of it, as the fort, tho' formed upon a regular plan, is weak, and built on a bad foundation: and, as frigates of thirty and forty guns can get up the channel, they would, no doubt, greatly contribute to the success of the land attack. Balize, Mobile, and a few other forts might, during this time, be reduced by the large ships, and, in this case, the interior country must submit.

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