

That, in consequence of the above, I did receive orders from their Lordships to attend the Victualling Board, to fix with them what quantity it would be necessary to allow each ship according to the number of men, and length of the voyage; that, in consequence of such their Lordship's orders, the Commissioners of Victualling did make the following report.

Victualling Office, October 8, 1779.

SIR,

We received your letter of the 20th of September last, inclosing a Memorial which the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty had received from Thomas Bridge, representing that he had discovered a process for extracting and reducing the properties of the Spruce tree into an Essence, from which, with molasses, a wholesome Beer may be made, which may be of great use in preventing the Scurvy, and desiring that it may be introduced into the Navy; and acquainting us of their Lordships having directed the Commissioners for Sick and Hurt to consider and report their opinion what may be proper to be done thereupon; and they having informed their Lordships that they are of opinion it may be very properly introduced into the Navy in ships going long voyages or on long cruizes; and as the process of fermentation can be carried on at sea in any climate, have proposed that the simple ingredients should be provided by our board, and delivered to the pursers as part of the victualling stores; also signifying their Lordships directions to us, to propose what quantities of the said ingredients it may be proper to supply to a ship of each class on the services therein mentioned. Agreeable to their Lordships directions, we have made the following calculations