"If the next packet does not fatisfy me in — I shall probably retire and leave the command to Lord Cornwallis; to whom it will be my advice to try the only experiment that in my opinion can operate, if the one in Carolina has failed. For as to Virginia, I know none which can reduce that province in one campaign.

"As you feemed to think, before you received Lord Cornwallis's letter that all direct operation in favour of his Lordship would cease by the end of May, &c. pray let me receive General Arnold's, and your opinion as soon as possible; I confess, I am not sanguine, but if the experiment can be tried without any other risk than from the enemy's superiority at sea I should wish to do it.

"Sould Lord Cornwallis determine on a defensive in the Carolinas, he surely cannot want any of the European reinforcement, and will of course, send it to you, and all such other as shall arrive; thus reinforced, if after

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