

forced (Appendix, No. II.) upon me by Lord Cornwallis's quitting the Carolinas, where I had left him in the command, and marching into Virginia; a measure, I must say, determined upon without my approbation, and very contrary to my wishes and intentions. The Minister directed me to support Lord Cornwallis and solid operation in Virginia; the danger of which, without a covering fleet, I had constantly represented to him. He repeatedly and positively promised me a covering fleet;\* and when the  
Admiral

\* Extracts from Lord George Germain's letters to Sir Henry Clinton:

April 4, 1781. "The lateness of the season will, I imagine, prevent Mons. De Grasse's undertaking any thing against the King's possessions in the West Indies. But it is probable, as soon as he has thrown supplies into the several islands, he will proceed to North America, and join the French forces at Rhode Island, and endeavour to revive the expiring cause of rebellion. But as  
Sir