

— you must be the best judge from local circumstances, but it strikes me that a Line of Battle Ship, a Frigate and a Sloop of War ought to be stationed south of the Seal Islands as most of the American ships homeward bound, make Cape Sable. I am also of opinion that from Grand Manan Island to Cape Anne there ought to be a force of at least three frigates, and three Sloops of War. and in Boston Bay a line of Battle Ship, a Frigate, and two Sloops, which in point of Frigates is more than my limited force can admit of, but as soon as I am re-inforced, your number of that Class will be increased to six, or more if I can spare them. Captain Lee in the Sophie will go direct from this to Boston Bay, where he will put himself under the orders of the Senior Officer. I trust much to your arrangements in keeping the Ships complete with provisions and stores during the summer months by means of Transports or other Vessels to be hired for this purpose, if your find the Ships going to the Stations cannot take out a sufficient quantity to supply the others: this will be the more necessary for the next three months, as I have assured Government, that the most strict block out, will be kept upon the Blockaded Ports by the Ships of the Squadron, until they can be relieved by others from England, and I have sent the same home with the account. I have victualled the ship off Block Island for at least three months. The Saturn goes off New York with four months provisions, and the ships off the Delaware will be attended to by Rear Admiral Lockburn. ^{except Rear} Except ^{Admiral} Rear for the ships off Block Island, which I beg you will send from Halifax, they will be perfectly complete, I think the quantity required will be about three months for ^{thousand} two thousand men.

I have the honor to be &c

Sy. H. Mordaunt

Rear Admiral Griffiths

per J. J. per Halifax