

Linn. Soc. Soc.
 (Signed) *Steph. Broome*

Armeda 22 May 1944

1871

Dr.

Dep. Sec. of State

Sci adant

I have the honor to be Sir
Signed Arthur

Sir
His Majesty's ship Gloucester having yesterday anchored off Bermuda, Captain Williams handed me your letter of the 14th instant requesting that I would permit one of the Ships of the Line under my command to protect the Transports under the Gloucester's convoy to Halifax. As it is not in my power to comply with your request I beg to let me send you one of the Battle Ships here which bears my flag & is in hourly expectation of the arrival of Forces from England with which I am to proceed in a few days on immediate service.

There is but one Frigate at Meruam ready for service
do not deem adequate to the protection of the Islands
Therefore your High Excellency

And I am sorry