

Head Quarters of the British

Sir

There being a great deficiency in the quantity of Bread & Rum you are to proceed on the Majesty's Ship Dictator to Havanna and there purchase on account of the Victual Board a proportion of Biscuit or Flour, but Biscuit in preference, and Rum for the Men for two Months, which you are to keep in the Dictator and whose Captain is directed hereupon and return with it to the Anchorage off Chandelour Island but in the event of your going in with Convoy having on board three Months Rum and Rum for the before mentioned No. of Men you are to take forthwith, should it have on board a less quantity, enquire what is on board and limit your purchase accordingly.

You are to carry with you such sum of money as you conceive may be required for this purchase, should you find any difficulty in negotiating Bills, but you will draw Bills upon

I understand there is a quantity of cheap Wine to be had at Havanna should you not be able to procure Rum, and the Wine is of strong body and does not exceed the relative proportion of five gallons you may substitute in part Wine for Rum.

In the above Service you will be particularly careful to obtain the vouchers your Instructions require you to produce for the settlements of your accounts with the Victual Board.

I am

Robert Gamble
Agent Vict^l Board
North America Station

Sir your obed^tble Serv^t
A Cochrane