

Cochrane Papers MS2326
Cochrane to Melville
29 December 1815 (cont.)

(4)

upon that occasion, and I think I had fully as much right to consider myself aggrieved as had Sir Philip Durham: the orders I gave him were absolutely necessary for the service I was going upon, and authorized by my instructions.

Upon my arrival at Jamaica I found that Rear Admiral Browne had died early in October, leaving in command Captain Fothergill, who had altogether disregarded the instructions to the Rear Admiral respecting the expedition and had made known its destination and returned to England; upon his leaving Jamaica the command fell upon my senior officer that happened casually to arrive at or be in the Port, none of whom were at all interested in seeing the arrangements ordered for the expedition carried into effect. Rear Admiral Sir Pulteney Malcolm upon his arrival at Jamaica seeing the confusion that existed at Port Royal and knowing that I had sent orders to Rear Admiral Browne to put himself under my command directed Sir Thomas Hardy to conduct the Port duties until my arrival there, where I found him.

The Admiralty are aware that while I remained within the vicinity of that command I ~~performed~~ its duties agreeably to the instructions which were sent the late Rear Admiral Browne. Indeed the stations became blended together, from the scene of action ~~being~~ lying in the Gulf of Mexico, that they were, in a manner, inseparable while that service lasted.

Your Lordship has here a correct detail of my proceedings, in which I am confident that I have been borne out by my instructions. It is with extreme concern however, I find that after all my exertions for the good of the service