

by a degree of good fortune, which I can only ascribe to providential care, on our side there was only one man wounded - at 2 past 8 we were abreast of the lower Fort, and that which we had found dismounted on the preceding evening, guns however had been provided for this fort also during the day, and here they made fruitless and equally ineffectual effort to detain us.

The Boats passed in triumph leaving our enemies to lament their acknowledgement of being provided with a force which they had the leisure of a whole day to collect in one of the most populous parts of America; from which they thought it impossible for us to escape.

Having thus, Sir, detailed the particulars in performing a service, which from the secrecy with which it was decided on, the clear and judicious instructions with which I was furnished, and the effective means with which you put it in my power to execute your orders, I felt the fullest confidence of succeeding in. I should neither do justice to my own feelings or to the characters of the brave officers and men who acted under me, was not to express in the strongest terms the high sense I entertain of their individual merit.

The Zeal and exertions of Lieut. Payne were conspicuous on every occasion, and some of the vessels which he handsomely undertook to destroy were lying in a line above the town, he was the