

MS 2346 to Sir Geo Prevost
Oct 5, 1814

Truro, Halifax 5th Oct. 1814

Sir

I have the honor to inform your Excellency that in consequence of a proposal made by me some time ago H. M. Government have lately announced to me their intention of making an attack on the City & Territory of New Orleans and Louisiana. For this purpose it was decided to send a large force under the command of Lord Hill to meet me in the West Indies. But by a subsequent dispatch which reached me since my arrival here I find that circumstances have arisen which limit the force deemed proper for the occasion to one third of the original number - Such however is the importance of the object that I have determined on carrying it into execution so far as the means will admit of - and as the success of the Expedition entirely depends upon the power of calling off the attention of the force now acting against the Indians in the interior by attacking the sea board of the enemy in Georgia and South Carolina, for which purpose I had destined the Marine, your Excellency will see the absolute necessity of sending me the first battalion unbroken and - Upon the whole of that Corps high in strength and reputation being sent to join me long ago the Lords Com^{rs} of the Admir^y taught me to place full reliance and in stating to their Lordships what they might expect from my operations I was guided by a confidence that I should be put into possession of the full means which they informed me should be placed at my disposal.

Your Exc^y will see that an attack in that quarter will operate most favorably to H. M. Province of Upper Canada by calling the people of Kentucky etc to the defense of their more immediate territory. And I trust in this your Exc^y will find another reason in addition to those which I have already expressed for enabling me by every means in your power to carry into complete execution the intention of H. M. Government. I have sir

cc to John Wilson Croker Admiralty - London
A. Cockrane