

Papers of Alexander Cochrane MS 2348

Cochrane to Croker

3 October 1814

(1)

To John Wilson Croker, Esquire

Townsend Halifax
3rd Oct^r, 1814

Sir

Your duplicate of the 10th August has arrived by the _____ informing me of the receipt of my Letter No. 48 relative to the expediency of undertaking an Expedition against the Enemy's Settlements in the Gulf of Mexico which had been laid before His Majesty's Government.

In consequence of the former Orders when it was proposed that Lord Hill would have commanded the Expedition against New Orleans, every arrangement was made agreeable to what I communicated by the Rover; the change that has taken place as to the magnitude of the Force has not in any shape altered those arrangements and it is my intention to proceed direct from hence to the West Indies upon the 10th of this month by which time the Towns will have received some necessary repairs. —

I have every prospect of the fullest success attending the Expedition and unless the United States have sent very great reinforcements to New Orleans I consider the Force to be employed as perfectly adequate without the assistance of the Marines which I wish to employ on Service of equal consequence, as it is a most material object to occupy the attention of the States of South Carolina and Georgia before the Expedition leaving Jamaica in order to draw off the Force they have in the interior now employed against the Indians for the defence of their Sea Coast.

I have directed R^{td} Col^l Cockburn to take with him the 2^d and 3^d Battalions of Marines consisting of about one thousand Men and about the 10th of November to make a landing upon the South Frontier of Georgia taking Post upon Cumberland Island and there throwing up temporary works for the protection of the Negroes that seek refuge under the British Flag, when two hundred men will be sufficient for the security of this post where they will be daily gaining strength, with the two