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Captains Letters
Charles Gordon to William Jones
June 29, 1814

Craneys Island 29th June
1814

Sir;

The force of the Enemy now in [the] Bay are so disposed as to render any movement up the Bay impracticable other [?] than in launches - While off Hampton —, I had Launches & Cutters sufficient to operate with 150 men; but there Brigs & Schooners being all up the Bay, no opportunity the most trifling was offer'd me —

ACASTA
LOIRE

After waiting untill Tuesday last I was induced to return owing to the circumstance of Captⁿ Kerr of the Acasta sending a flag with a frivolous excuse of inquiring of me of his Midshipman & two men who were driven on shore in a pinnace upon the coast of North Carolina - He however only saw my 3 Schooners & one Gunboat, the Launches being concealed. - Conceiving a change of position important on those occasions I dropp'd back off Pig Point their old landing near Craneys Island in the night, and left my Launches & one Tender under Old Point to prevent any reconnoitring they might attempt - But finding ultimately that the two Frigates kept their position with their Tender close (under?) their Guns every night, and the men in ^{the} Launches requiring rest, having slept in the Boats & Mess'd upon the beach for a week or 10 days, I returned to the Squadron regretting very much that the inactivity of ~~my~~ (my?) Force together with its importance to the defense of this place) deprives me the satisfaction of assisting Barney in any way at present. - By the time my lookout boat reach'd Smith Point Light house it appears two ships had join'd Adm^l & Cockburn at Tangier; Previous to which, & when Capt. Barrie was defeated by Barney