

1117 Leaving Island 20th June
122 1844

The force of the enemy was in
such a state as to render any
movement of the Bay impracticable other
than in Laureates - While off Hamp
I had Laureates & Cutters sufficient to
operate with 150 men; but these Briggs &
Loomers being all of the Bay, no opportunity
to the most trifling was offered me -
After waiting until Tuesday last I was
ordered to return owing to the circum-
stance of Capt. Thos. of the Acosta sending
a flag with a frivolous excuse of enquiry
one of his Midshipmen & two men who
were driven on shore in a pinnace for the
port of North Carolina - He however only
saw my 3 Schooners & one Gun Boat, the Laureates
being concealed - Conceiving a charge of force
to be important on those occasions I wrote
off by point their old landing near
my Island in the night, and left my Laureates
one landed under Old point to prevent any
contingency they might attempt - But
being ultimately that the two Brigades kept
their position with their landed close and