

in my first opinion, (The Enemy continued to attack <sup>this</sup>  
me at times untill about the period they had arriv<sup>d</sup>  
to effect the arrival of the Trade; on the 26<sup>th</sup> <sup>we</sup> <sup>made</sup>  
the attack on the blockading Squadron and got out, a  
few <sup>days</sup> after brought up Admiral Cockburn with the  
force he effected, (too little for any serious enterprise  
our large Towns) but as during my blockade they had  
tasted the sweets of Plunder of Tobacco Negroes, they were  
then determined to continue that Species of Warfare, in  
the lieu of their disappointment in capturing the flotilla  
and their disgrace in their several defeats, at the same  
time to answer another purpose, for whilst plundering  
& burning, they, and their partizans here & in Washington  
throw the blame of such warfare on the Administration  
and the flotilla, the Admiral himself not wishing  
to risque an attack for fear of his reputation, has