

come up and landed 500 men from a schooner, this  
had from the officer himself Mr. Cortes, such Sir,  
the situation here, the officers worse than the men &  
the moment I leave Nottingham the Inhabitants leave  
It also, they have no confidence in any other defence  
for the place, there is 1000 hogsheads of Tobacco here, it  
will soon go, this will encourage the enemy for further  
enterprise, On the other hand should the enemy come  
up in force by land I must retire, until I meet land  
forces of our own, to cooperate, we then might do much  
and perhaps by a decisive effort put an end to the war  
in this Quarter, by completely beating them, for under  
all circumstances I am led to believe that if they do  
any thing, or attempt any thing of consequence it will  
be in this Quarter, for reasons already given, first,  
for Rich blunder, secondly, if successful, they can