

PC 1/4110/0014  
Law Officers to P.C.  
July 15, 1817 (cont)

Authority over the Matters connected with these Proceedings, It seems to be ~~decided~~<sup>mis</sup> by Colonel Napier that there is any Officer superior to himself entitled to be considered as Military Commander in Chief. — Sir J. B. Warren states, that he is authorized by Sir Sydney Beclwith to claim in his behalf, from which it may be inferred, that he considers Sir Sydney Beclwith as Commander in Chief of the Military Forces — But no specific claim is made by Sir Sydney Beclwith himself. A claim is asserted by Sir J. B. Warren for certain Ships under his Command which were not present at the Capture. There is no special ground stated, on which that claim is advanced, and it would not be sustained by the general Principles of Law: — As a Warrant was issued on the original Memorial before any Opposition was signified, and the terms of it are so general as to include all Persons who can prove that they were serving in the Expedition, either in Person, or constructively, where that species of Service is admitted, the form of the Warrant which has been issued will comprehend all Claims: — But We think that the name of Sir J. B. Warren should be inserted as Naval Commander in Chief, and as Trustee in the place of Sir George Cockburn; and that the present Warrant should be revoked, and a new Warrant issued for that purpose.

All which is humbly submitted to Your Lordships  
Wisdom.

Christ<sup>s</sup> Robinson  
J. Shepherd  
R. Gifford

Doctors Commons  
July 15, 1817

P.S. Before the new warrant issues it may be ascertained whether S<sup>r</sup> S. Beclwith means to assert a specific claim. If he does, ~~it~~ it may be proper to make a reservation of the Question as to the Military Commander in Chief. G.R.