ADM 1/505 31849.
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

to arrive and for which no time ought to be lost in making preparations for the intended Expedition being immediately undertaken.

Their Lordships will see by the enclosed Copy of a Correspondence how ineffectual my endeavours have been: – I owe it to myself to declare that responsibility must not rest with me if from want of due preparations and the means of obtaining the necessary intelligence of the Situation of the Enemy's Ports the Expedition against Portsmouth shall be abandoned, as I can only date the Commencement of my preparations from the day Sir John Warren thinks proper to deliver up to me the direction of the Squadron; Their Lordships may however depend upon