

50
St. Eustatius April 1779

of y^m. Teires — but a Cooper belonging
to y^e Argyle Cap^t Robinson — Seaman
about finishing rigging the Ship —
— a French 2 dectser & 3 Frigates —
came into y^e Road to day — wth y^e sail
^{Drogers}
~~merchantmen~~ from windward —
on Tuesday two sail British men of
War & two frigates past y^e Road to y^e N^o.
They spoke a brig coming round y^e North
end of y^e Island — she afterwards stood
for St Kitts — tis said ashore she is a prize
to y^m.

Friday 23 — To day a fleet of 20 sail —
sailed for windward under convoy the
French Man of War 3 Frigates & a Sloop
Privateer — They were in sight at dark —
— People firing & serving y^e Fore & Aft.

Saturday 24 — I observed a leak in y^e main
deck just forward y^e rise of y^e Quarter deck
on y^e Starboard side — I acquainted Cap^t Maxwell

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of it — Carpenter on board all day about
Hemlocks —

Sunday 25 — about a dozen Vessels from Wind
^{two hours ago}
ward — French & Dutch — about ~~ten~~ 5
5 french Line of Battle Ships appeared to
y^e Sward — They are ^{now} lying to in a Line a little
without the Shipping — ~~There~~ a small schooner
wth y^m — This manouvre causes many
speculations on board y^e Ajax — about 4
o'clock y^m they were joined by a frigate — They
are now — (Sunset) all standing to y^e Sward
under an easy sail

Monday 26 — The French Ships have been
in sight all day laying off & on —
Their design, it is said, by Persons from Marti-
-nique — was to assist the four Ships who were
sent wth y^e Trade — as Count D'Estaing had
been informed that some large English Ships
had been sent this way — — They have
it ashore that Admiral Biron is dead —
that his Cook poisoned him — (Statis News)
for week — it has been added he is to have a pension