

His Majesty's Ship *Thetis*
off Curacao Feb^r 26th 1804.

Sir,

Having obtained certain information of the Enemy's receiving a reinforcement on the 23rd Instant. and seeing no probability that the Island would surrender by the 4th of March, the day I had proposed for raising the Siege, I determined to reembark the people without loss of time, which was done in good order on the 25th. By 9 o'clock P.M. having the Guns and Fort of Piscadoris to be spiked and blown up by Lieutenant Aile of the *Hercule*, who executed that service with his usual ability by 11 o'clock that night —

In the last dispatch which I had the honour of transmitting to you, I mentioned the cause that would have prevented me from continuing the Attack beyond the 4th of March; the necessity which has since obliged the King to bear away for Jamaica, and thereby lessening our force and rendering our operations to be more on the defensive, has been an additional reason with me for not protracting the Siege until that time. —

Shaw.

I have completed the *Manchester* with provisions for six weeks, and given Captain Mudge orders to continue the blockade of port Amsterdam in the strictest manner, so as to prevent as far as possible any supplies being thrown into it, as well as the escape of the ships that are in the Harbour.

The sentiments of approbation which I testified in my last, of the good conduct of every one engaged in the expedition I now with pleasure repeat; I only regret it has not met with the success it deserved.

In scouring the country with the view of destroying the Granaries and cutting off the enemy's supplies we have had the misfortune to lose a few men by their sharpshooters, a list of whom is annexed.

I have the honour to be.

Si,

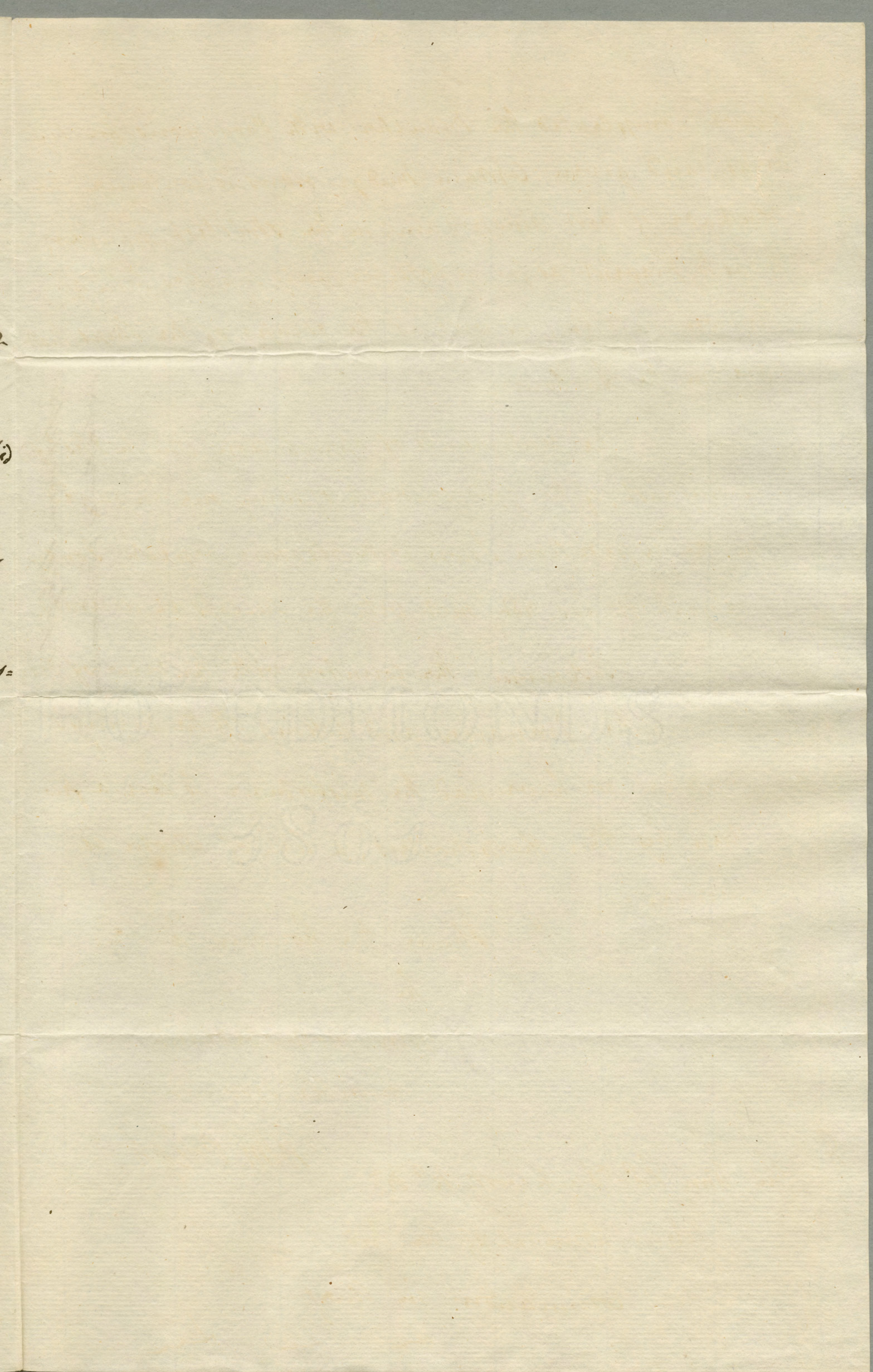
Your most obedient
humble servant

To
Si Hon^{ble} Ad^{miral}: Duckworth R^{et}: Br^{igade}: *John Poligh.*

Dear Admiral of the Red

Commander in Chief

Se Se Se



M425

Capitaine: Whipple
relatives to Brown