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Head Quarters Boston 3^d Sept^r 1778

Sir

I am this moment honored with yours of yesterday.

The French Fleet under the Command of Vice Admiral Count D'Estaing, having received considerable damage in several of the Ships, were obliged to leave Rhode Island & come to this place to refit where he still remains with his whole Squadron, not choosing to put to sea until he can do it with the whole. He made an offer to march the Troops which he has on board to reinforce General Sullivan, but as this without the Ships was thought to be insufficient for the purpose of reducing the Island, it appeared not advisable for them to march.

After the Fleet left Rhode Island Gen Sullivan made every necessary disposition
with

with great secrecy for a retreat which he has effected with great regularity and without the loss of either cannon or stores.

On Saturday last there was a pretty brisk action between part of the Enemy's Army and part of our own — our Troops behaved with great bravery and repulsed the Enemy. It is said, between two three hundred men on our side are killed, wounded & missing — The Enemy's loss unknown.

General Sullivan having made good his retreat from the Island on Sunday Night has taken post at Providence extending his right towards Kingston & left towards Exeter. The Enemy have rec'd a considerable Reinforcement at Rhode Island, and Lord Howe's Fleet is in our Bay; what their intentions our time must discover.

I have requested of General Sullivan
his

^{& expectation}
his desire respecting your finding him
a reinforcement - expect to receive his
answer to morrow - will forward it with
pleasure to you immediately on my
receiving it —

I have the honor to be

With great respect

Your Obed. Serv^t

Wheaty

Hon^d. Nich^l. Gillman Esq^r

Letter from Gen. Heath
of the 3^d of Septem^r. 1778

Let^r from Gen. Am. Heath
at the Head of the Troop
at Rhode Island, and
requesting a reinforcement
for Gen. Sullivan.
Sept. 9, 1778.

Letter from G