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MMN # 6777

Date: October 16, 1775

Description: Letter from Captain Mowat to the people of Falmouth (now Portland) warning them of what his ships were about to do, and offering refuge for British Loyalists.

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Admiralty Dispatches, No. America, Vol. 6
 {North American}
 {Admiral}
 {Samuel Graves} (Copy)
 {1774 to 1777}

Canceaux Falmouth 16th October 1775.

After many premeditated attacks on the legal Prerogatives of the best of Sovereigns. After repeated Instances you have experienced in Britain's long forbearance of the Rod of Correction; and the Merciful and Paternal extension of her Hands to embrace you, again and again have been regarded as vain and nugatory: And in place of a dutiful and grateful return to your King and Parent state, you have been guilty of the most unpardonable Rebellion, supported by the Ambition of a set of designing men, whose insidious views have cruelly imposed on the credulity of their fellow creatures, and at last have brought the whole into the same Dilemma, which leads me to feel not a little for the Innocent of them, in particular on the present occasion, having it in orders to execute a just Punishment on the Town of Falmouth: In the name of which Authority I previously warn you to remove without delay the Human Species out of the said town, for which purpose I give you the time of two hours, at the period of which, a Red pendant will be hoisted at the Maintop-gallant Masthead with a gun. but should your imprudence lead you to show the least resistance, you will in that case free me of that Humanity, so strongly
 pointed

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pointed out in my orders as well as my own
Inclination. I also observe that all those who
did upon a former occasion fly to the King's
Ship under my Command for protection, that
the same door is now open and ready to
receive them. The Officer who will deliver
this letter I expect to return unmolested.

I am &c.

H. Mowat

To
The People of the Town of Falmouth.

Endorsement

Copy of a letter from
L^t Mowat to the People of
the Town of Falmouth.
16 Oct. 1775

No. 1
In S. A. Graves's Lre
28 Nov^r

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