

Thomas Langford Butler to David Holmes, February 4, 1815, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO GOVERNOR HOLMES.1

1 The original, written and signed by T. L. Butler, aide, is in the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

Head Quarters 7 My Dist New Orleans February 4. 1815

Sir, I am instructed by Major General Jackson to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 24th Inst. To inform you that Major McHaffie and the Naval officers have arrived. And to request that your Excellency will be pleased to send Captain Kid of the Army with the Seamen (if they have not already been sent) to this place with the utmost expedition.

The Genl has determined to exchange Captain Kid in preference to any other officer on account of his family who are on board of the Fleet.

The enemy is now at Ship and Cat Islands in great distress for provisions and water, and it is presumed he cannot renew his attempts upon this City until reinforced, of which we have no information. He has dispatched vessels to England and Bermuda for provisions and instructions.

No calculations seem to have been made in the instructions to his officers of the possibility of a failure of the enterprise. The Genl. directs me to request that your Excellency cause the most strict watch to be kept over Major Mitchell and to assure you of his personal esteem.

Library of Congress

By command I have the honour to be respectfully yr. obedt servt

P. S. The Genl. wishes Lieuts Knight and Leavock of the prisoners to be sent with Captain Kid.