

30, Portland Place. W.

Feb. 5 / 51

Dear Admiral Byles

You must have been  
 surprised at not seeing  
 from me any acknowledgment  
 of the extreme kindness of  
 your note of the 21<sup>st</sup> ult<sup>o</sup>,  
 in which you said, that  
 you had caused a room

to be prepared for me  
at your house, in case  
I should prefer stopping  
at Putnamville for the  
night.

The letter (of which  
I enclose the cover) did  
not reach me at the  
place to which it was

advised, for the simple  
 reason that I received  
 a message from the lady,  
 that I was not then to  
 come. How it happened,  
 that, not being provided  
 to me at the time, it  
 was <sup>by</sup> afterwards sent to  
 my country - house, and

Hence to London, (which  
 is the cause of my  
 now writing to you, on  
 the eve of my just  
 visit to W. M., which is  
 to come off tomorrow.)

I cannot explain, all  
 I can do is to thank

you, most cordially, for your  
 kindness. Believe me dear  
 your truly

Admiral Boscawen Salborne