

2576 A
H I S T O R Y
OF THE LATE
SIEGE of GIBRALTAR.

WITH
A DESCRIPTION and ACCOUNT of that GARRISON,
FROM THE EARLIEST PERIODS.

BY
JOHN DRINKWATER,
CAPTAIN IN THE LATE SEVENTH SECOND REGIMENT, OF ROYAL MANCHESTER VOLUNTEERS, AND AN
HONORARY MEMBER OF THE LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF MANCHESTER.

FOURTH EDITION.

— VOLATILE FERRUM
SPARGITUR; ARVA NOVA NESTUNA CAEDE RUBESCUNT.



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College of Fort William



V.U.25

TO

THE KING.

SIR,

WHEN I solicited the honor of being permitted to place under Your Majesty's protection the following Work, I was not impressed with the idea, that the excellence of the composition, but that the importance of the subject, might in some degree entitle it to that distinction. The History of an Event which reflects so much

A 2

lustre

lustre on Your Majesty's Arms, could not, I apprehended, however feeble the execution, so properly appear under any other auspices.

THAT Your Majesty may never be less faithfully served, nor less successful against the Enemies of Your Crown and People, is the sincere and fervent wish of

YOUR MAJESTY'S

much obliged and most devoted
Subject and Servant,

John Drinkwater.

P R E F A C E.

THE following History (as I have presumed to call it) is compiled from observations daily noted down upon the Spot, for my own satisfaction and improvement ; assisted by the information and remarks of several respectable Characters, who also were Eye-witnesses of the transactions therein recorded.

DISAPPOINTED in my expectations of seeing this subject undertaken by an abler Pen, nothing less than a conviction that an accurate detail of this extraordinary Siege might be useful, both in a military and historical view, could have induced me, at this late period, to publish.

IN the prosecution of this design, one principal difficulty has occurred. The work is addressed to two classes of Readers : those whose principal object in the perusal of it was entertainment, I apprehended, might find the relation too minute and circumstantial ; and that,

that, from the insertion of many particulars, which those of the Military Profession would greatly blame an author for presuming to curtail, or omit.

WITH the former, it is hoped that the necessary connexion of some Events (which at first may appear trivial) with the great business of the History, will be some apology; and I have endeavoured to diversify the narrative, by such Anecdotes and Observations as will occasionally relieve or awaken the attention. To the latter I shall not attempt any apology. The late Siege of Gibraltar afforded many instances of very singular exertions in the Art of Attack and Defence, the minutiae of which cannot be without their utility to those Officers who make a science of their profession; and they must be sensible, that without pointed exactness, this Design could not have been accomplished.—In short, it must be remembered, that the History of this Siege is not that of a *Month*, or of a *Year*, but that it embraces a period of near FOUR YEARS, exhibiting a series of operations perhaps unparalleled.

THE Plans, I presume, will be found tolerably correct; and, with the Views, are such as will be sufficiently illustrative of the narration.

TO MAJOR VALLOTTON, the Governor's First Aide-de-Camp, and Lieut. HOLLOWAY, Aide-de-Camp to the Chief Engineer, I have particular pleasure in this opportunity of returning thanks for the favour of many kind communications; also to other Officers of Rank, whose names I have not their permission to insert. I must also acknowledge having derived considerable assistance, in the two introductory Chapters, from the History of the Herculean Straits. — Great additions have however been introduced; and I flatter myself upon the whole, that those Chapters will not prove an unacceptable part of the Work, since they will render it as complete a GENERAL HISTORY OF GIBRALTAR as most Readers will require.

ADVER-

A D V E R T I S E M E N T

TO THE

S E C O N D E D I T I O N.

IT was my wish to render this Work as complete, at the first, as my abilities and information would permit: I omitted therefore no material circumstance, which, previous to the publication, came within my knowledge. Some improvements, however, have since occurred; and, though the omission of them in the former Edition by no means affects the general object of the History, I thought it my duty to insert them in this.

I AM chiefly indebted to the candid criticism of some respectable Friends, for whatever corrections in the style there may be in the present Volume; nor could I, without disrespect to them, and indeed to my Readers in general, neglect an opportunity of rendering the narrative more perfect and agreeable.

THE

THE kind reception with which this attempt has been favoured by the Public, was, I must confess, beyond my most sanguine expectation. It is in compliance with their judgement, that I have been tempted to venture upon a Second Edition. I send it forth, however, with all that diffidence which a consciousness of my own powers ought to inspire; and, however flattering such success may be to a young Author, I trust, I shall not be found so ignorant of myself, as to be unreasonably elated, or attribute to my own merits what I am certain is rather to be ascribed to the interesting nature of the subject.

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A H I S T O R Y OF THE LATE SIEGE OF GIBRALTAR.

CHAPTER I.

General history of Gibraltar, since it was first noticed.—Fortified under the Saracen empire.—Reduction of the fortress by Ferdinand, of Castile.—Retaken by the Moors.—Finally recovered by the Christians.—Taken by the English.—Besieged by the Spaniards in 1705; afterwards in 1727.—Succession of Governors to the present time.

GIBRALTAR is situated in Andalusia, the most southern province of Spain. The Rock is seven miles in circumference, forming a promontory three miles long; and is joined to the continent by an isthmus of low land: the southern extremity lies in $36^{\circ} 2' 30''$ N. lat. and in $5^{\circ} 15'$ W. long. from the meridian of London.

HISTORIANS, from very early periods, have noticed Gibraltar, or *Mons Calpe*, by a well-known mythological fiction, denominating it, and *Mons Abyla*, on the opposite coast of Africa, the *Pillars of Hercules*. It does not however appear that the hill was ever inhabited by the Phœnicians, Carthaginians, or Romans, who in the first ages of navigation visited the bay, and built cities in its neighbourhood; or that it ever engaged the attention of those intrepid and successful Barbarians who so violently subverted the Roman empire,

empire, and established a new government in Spain. The period when it began to be remarkable for the natural strength of its situation, seems well ascertained to be in the beginning of the eighth century, when the Saracens (then become a powerful nation in the east, and along the coast of Africa) invaded Spain, and soon after made themselves masters of the whole country.

THE Gothic kingdom, which had existed in Spain for 300 years, was, previous to the invasion of the Saracens, distracted with intestine divisions: the nation in general were become effeminate, totally neglecting the military discipline of their ancestors: and their monarch Roderic, a profligate prince, not a little accelerated their ruin, by ravishing the daughter of Count Julian, a nobleman of great wealth and influence, and governor of Ceuta, in Africa. Count Julian, to avenge the dishonour done to his family, combined with other discontented chiefs, who had long complained, and were ripe for a revolt. The tyrant was however too powerful for whatever opposition they alone could raise; the Count therefore secretly retired with his family into Africa, and acquainting Mousa (the Saracen governor of the western provinces) with the divided state of the empire, promised, if he would attempt to dethrone Roderic, to assist him with his own interest, and that of his friends.

MOUSA, cautious and prudent, communicated the project to his sovereign the Caliph Al Walid Ebn Abdalmalic, who agreed to try the practicability of it: and, to inspect more accurately the state of affairs, sent over a small detachment. One hundred horse, and four hundred foot, were accordingly embarked in the year 711, under the command of Tarif Ebn Zarqa, attended by Count Julian, and other Gothic noblemen: this small force soon passed the Herculean Straits, and landed on the coast near the present town of Algeziras, where finding no opposition, and the country almost defenceless, the
Saracen

Saracen general ravaged the neighbouring towns, and returned laden with spoils, to report the success of his first expedition.

MOUSA, elated with the flattering prospect, the following year assembled an army of 12,000 men, and Tarif was appointed to the chief command. Having supplied himself with provisions and stores, Tarif once more embarked on the rapid Strait, and landed on the isthmus between *Mons Calpe* and the continent. The object of this invasion being of a more serious nature than that of the former, he determined to secure an intercourse with Africa, by establishing a post on the coast; and, preferring the strong natural situation of *Mons Calpe*, gave orders to erect a castle on the face of the hill, which might answer the original purpose, and also cover his retreat, in case he should be unfortunate in his future operations. The superior part of this once magnificent pile at present remains; and, from an inscription discovered over the principal gate, before it was pulled down, the period of its being finished is ascertained to be about the year of our Lord 725.

TARIF, leaving a garrison at the foot of *Mons Calpe* (which was now called by the Saracens, in compliment to their general, *Gibel-Tarif*, or the mountain of Tarif, and thence GIBRALTAR) marched into the country, and surprised many towns, amongst which was Heraclea, or Carteia, situated on the coast of the bay, about four miles distant from *Gibel-Tarif*.

KING RODERIC, receiving intelligence of Tarif's approach, assembled a numerous body of troops to oppose his progress. Both armies met, after several skirmishes, near Xeres, in Andalusia, and a bloody conflict ensued. The victory was for a long time doubtful; but the Gothic army being raw and undisciplined, and part disaffected and joining the Saracens, Tarif at length prevailed, and by this victory was left in possession of the whole kingdom.

THE Goths, or Spaniards as we will now call them, were driven by the rapid conquests of the invaders into the provinces of Asturias, Biscay, &c. where, like the ancient Britons, they maintained a strenuous and respectable opposition. By degrees they re-assumed their former discipline and valour, while their conquerors declined into luxury and effeminacy: they made several excursions from the mountains, recovering, after many obstinate actions, great part of the northern provinces. This success encouraged them to attempt the total rejection of the Arabic yoke. Measures were concerted among the chiefs, to act with union and with vigour. The Infidels were attacked and routed in successive engagements; and the kingdoms of Asturias, Galicia, Leon, Navarre, and Castile, erected under different monarchs.

GIBRALTAR, during these transactions, increased in importance, though not in an equal degree with the neighbouring city of Algeziras, which had been built, posterior to Gibraltar, on the opposite shore of the bay, and was then become a fortress of great magnificence and strength. This celebrated city seems totally to have obscured Gibraltar in the histories of those times, since very trifling mention is made of the latter, till the beginning of the fourteenth century, when we learn, that Ferdinand, king of Castile, in the course of his conquests, first took it (with a small detachment) from the Infidels.

GIBRALTAR could not at this period be very strong, as it fell so easy a prey to the Christians, whose army had been, and at that time was employed in the siege of Algeziras. It does not however appear that Ferdinand was equally successful in his operations against that city; for we find, in the year 1316, the Moors of Grenada applying to the Emperor of Fez for succour: and, to facilitate their reception,

reception, Algeziras, and other cities on the coast, were put into the hands of the Africans. We may therefore conclude, that Ferdinand was obliged to withdraw from before Algeziras, and that he afterwards directed his force against the Infidels in a more vulnerable part, which induced them to apply for the assistance just mentioned.

GIBRALTAR continued in the possession of the Spaniards till 1333, when Abomelique, son of the Emperor of Fez, was dispatched with further assistance to the Moorish king of Grenada, and landing at Algeziras, immediately laid siege to Gibraltar, whilst the Grenadians were making diversions elsewhere. Alonzo XI was then on the throne of Castile; and intelligence was immediately sent to inform him of the descent of the Africans. He was, however, prevented from marching to the relief of Gibraltar by a rebellion in his kingdom, and by the approach of Mahomet, king of Grenada, towards his frontiers. Abomelique commenced his attack on the castle with great judgement and bravery, and the Spanish Governor Vasco Perez de Meyra defended it with equal obstinacy; but Perez having embezzled the money which was advanced to victual the garrison, the troops and inhabitants suffered great distress; and no prospect of relief offering, he was compelled, after five months siege, to surrender.

ALONZO having quelled the rebellion, and obliged Mahomet to retire, was then marching to his assistance, and was advanced within a short distance of Gibraltar, when he was informed of the capitulation. He was resolved, nevertheless, to attempt its recovery before the Moors could victual and repair it: he accordingly proceeded on his route, and encamped before the town five days after it had surrendered. Alonzo parted his army into three divisions; the main body occupied the isthmus, the second he sent by boats to the red sands, and the third climbed up the north of the hill above the town. Several serious attacks had been made on the castle, when Mahomet,

king

king of Grenada, joining Abomelique's forces, their combined army encamped in the rear of the Spaniards, extending across the isthmus from the bay to the Mediterranean. This position hemmed in the besiegers, debarred them from foraging, and cut off their communication with the country. Alonzo, though thus critically situated, still maintained the siege; but at length, driven to great difficulties for want of provisions, and hearing that some of his disaffected subjects, taking advantage of his absence, were again in arms, he hearkened to an accommodation, and was permitted to retire with his army.

To be thus disgracefully compelled to raise the siege, did not agree with the ambitious and impatient temper of Alonzo: he secretly meditated a new attack, whenever an opportunity should occur; and this intention was not a little strengthened by his success in the year 1343-4, when Algeziras was taken, after a most memorable siege. In 1349, the tumults and civil wars in Africa afforded him the opportunity he waited for: great preparations were therefore made for this expedition, which was not esteemed of inferior consequence to the preceding siege of Algeziras, as the Moors, since the loss of that city, had paid great attention to the completion of the works, and to the rendering of the place considerably stronger, by additional fortifications: the garrison was also numerous and well provided, and of their choicest troops.

ALONZO encamped before Gibraltar in the beginning of 1349, and immediately laid waste the delightful groves, gardens, and houses of pleasure, which were erected in its neighbourhood. The siege was commenced with great bravery; and though the camp of the Castilians was much harassed by the flying squadrons of Grenadian horse, yet the castle, in the course of several months, was almost reduced to a capitulation. At this critical period, a pestilential disorder

disorder swept away numbers of the besiegers, and, among the rest, Alonzo, who died, much lamented, on the 26th of March, 1350; and the Spaniards immediately afterwards raised the siege.

THE descendants of Abomelique continued in quiet possession of Gibraltar till 1410, when Jusaf III, king of Grenada, availing himself of the intestine divisions which prevailed among the African Moors, took possession of the place. The inhabitants, however, not relishing the government of their new masters, unanimously revolted the following year against the Grenadian Alcaide, drove him with his garrison out of the town, and wrote to the Emperor of Morocco, to be taken again under his protection. The Emperor dispatched his brother Sayd, with 1000 horse and 2000 foot, to their assistance. The King of Grenada, being informed that Sayd had garrisoned the castle, marched with an army, and sending his fleet round to the bay, appeared before the place in 1411. Sayd advanced to meet him, but, being worsted in several skirmishes, was obliged to retreat within the castle, and being closely besieged, and reduced to great distress for want of provisions, was at last compelled to submit.

IN 1435, Henry de Guzman Count de Niebla formed a design of attacking Gibraltar by land and sea; but, imprudently skirmishing with the garrison, from his gallies, before his son John de Guzman arrived with the land-forces, he was defeated, and forced to a precipitate retreat; in which confusion he himself lost his life, and many of his followers were killed and drowned.

IN 1462, a civil war breaking out in Grenada, great part of the garrison of Gibraltar was withdrawn, to assist one of the competitors for the crown: the governor of Tarifa had intelligence of this by a Moor, who had left the town, and embraced the Christian faith.

An

HISTORY OF THE LATE

An army was accordingly assembled from the neighbouring garrisons, and Gibraltar was besieged. The inhabitants defended it with great resolution; but fresh troops joining the besiegers, the garrison surrendered to John de Guzman, Duke de Medina Sidonia, (son of the unfortunate Count de Niebla) who, hearing that the place was reduced to great distress, hastened to the camp, and arrived just in time to be present when the Moors capitulated. From this period it has remained in the hands of the Christians, after having been in the possession of the Mahometans 748 years. The news of this conquest was so acceptable to Henry IV, of Castile and Leon, that he added it to his royal titles, and gave it for arms, * *Gules*, a castle, *proper*, with a key pendent to the gate, *or*, (alluding to its being the key to the Mediterranean); which arms have ever since been continued. Pedro de Porras was appointed governor; but the succeeding year King Henry made a journey to Gibraltar, and superseded him, giving the command to Don Bertrand de la Cueva, Count Lederma, who placed the trust in the hands of Stephano Villacreces: the Duke de Medina Sidonia, however, afterwards recovered, and enjoyed it, till the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella in 1502, when it was annexed to the crown.

IN the year 1540, Piali Hamet, one of Barbarossa's captains, surprised and pillaged Gibraltar, making prisoners many of the principal inhabitants; but being met on his return by some galleys from Sicily, the Corsairs were all killed, or taken, and the prisoners redeemed.

IN the reign of Charles V, the fortifications of the town were modernised, and several additions made by Daniel Speckel, the Emperor's engineer; after which the garrison was thought to be impregnable.—From this time there appears a chasm in the history of

* See the vignette in the title-page.

of the garrison till the year 1704, when Gibraltar was wrested (most probably for ever) from the dominion of Spain, by the English, under Sir George Rooke. This Admiral had been sent into the Mediterranean, with a strong fleet, in the spring of 1704, to assist Charles arch-duke of Austria in obtaining the crown of Spain; but, his instructions being limited, nothing of importance was done. Sensible of the reflexions that would fall on him, for being inactive with so powerful a fleet, he held a council of war, on the 17th of July, 1704, near Tetuan, where several schemes were proposed, particularly a second attack upon Cadiz, which however was found impracticable for want of a sufficient body of land-forces. At length it was resolved to make a sudden and vigorous attempt on Gibraltar.

THE 21st of the same month, the fleet arrived in the Bay; and 1800 men, English and Dutch, commanded by the Prince of Hesse D'Armstadt, were landed on the isthmus. The Prince then summoned the garrison; but the Governor refusing to surrender, preparations were made for the attack. By day-break on the 23d, the ships appointed to cannonade the town, under Admirals Byng and Vanderdussen, with those that were destined to batter the New mole, commanded by Captain Hicks, were at their several stations. The Admiral made the signal to begin the cannonade, which was performed with great vivacity and effect, so that the enemy, in five or six hours, were driven from their guns, especially from the New-mole head. The Admiral, considering that by gaining that fortification the town might sooner be reduced, ordered Captain Whitaker, with the armed boats, to possess himself of it; but Captains Hicks and Jumper, who lay next the mole, pushed ashore with their pinnaces, before the rest came up; whereupon the Spaniards sprung a mine, which blew up the fortifications, killed 2 lieutenants and 40 men, and wounded 60. The assailants nevertheless kept possession

of the work, and being joined by Captain Whitaker, advanced and took a small bastion*, half-way between the mole and the town. The Marquis de Salines, who was governor, being again summoned, thought proper to capitulate: hostages were therefore exchanged, and the Prince of Hesse, on the 24th, took possession of the gates.

NOTWITHSTANDING the works were very strong, mounting 100 pieces of ordnance, well appointed with ammunition and stores; yet the Garrison, at most, consisted only of 150 men, exclusive of the inhabitants. The Marquis marched out with all the honours of war, and the Spaniards who chose to remain were allowed the same privileges they had enjoyed under King Charles II. The loss of the English in this attack was, 2 lieutenants, 1 master, 57 sailors, killed; 1 captain, 7 lieutenants, 1 boatswain, 207 sailors, wounded.

THE Prince of Hesse remained governor; and as many men as could well be spared from the fleet, were left as a garrison. Sir George afterwards sailed for Tetuan, to wood and water. This being performed, he steered up the Mediterranean, and on the 13th of August, off Malaga, engaged the French fleet, under the command of Count de Toulouse. The action was long and warm; but many of the English ships, having expended a great quantity of ammunition in taking Gibraltar, were soon obliged to quit the line, which gave the enemy a decided superiority. The engagement ended in a drawn battle; and Sir George returned to Gibraltar, where he stayed eight days to refit; and then supplying the Prince with what men and provisions he could spare, sailed thence on the 4th of September, N.S. on his way home, leaving 18 men of war, under the command of Sir John Leake, at Lisbon, to be in readiness to succour the garrison, if there should be occasion.

THE

* The present eight-gun battery.

THE Courts of Madrid and Paris were greatly concerned at the loss of so important a fortress as Gibraltar, and, considering its recovery of the last consequence to the cause, the Marquis de Villadarias, a grandee of Spain, was ordered to besiege, and endeavour to retake it. The Prince, apprised of their intentions, and being further informed that they were to be assisted by a naval force from Toulon, sent advice to Sir John Leake, requesting assistance and supplies. Sir John prepared for this duty; but in the mean time a fleet of French ships arrived, and landed six battalions, which joined the Spanish army. After disembarking their reinforcements, the French squadron proceeded to the westward, leaving only six frigates in the Bay.

ON the 11th of October, the Marquis opened his trenches against the town; and soon after, Sir John arrived with 20 sail of English and Dutch ships: hearing, however, that the Enemy were preparing to attack him with a superior force, he thought it most eligible immediately to return and refit, that he might be in a better condition to supply and assist the garrison, in a second expedition, for which he had very prudently directed preparations to be made at Lisbon in his absence. The 25th Sir John again put to sea; and on the 29th unexpectedly entering the Bay, surprised three frigates, a fire-ship, two English prizes, a tartan, and a store-ship. He then landed the reinforcements, and supplied the garrison with six months provisions and ammunition, at the same time detaching on shore a body of 500 sailors to assist in repairing the breaches which had been made by the enemy's fire. The arrival of the Admiral was very opportune and critical; for that very night the Marquis had resolved to attack the place by sea and land at five different points; for which purpose he had assembled 200 boats from Cadiz, &c.

THOUGH disappointed in their designs, the Spaniards still entertained hopes of taking the fortress; and supposing the troops would

be left on their guard while the fleet was in the Bay, they formed the desperate scheme of surprising the garrison, though the British Admiral was before the town. The 31st of October, 500 volunteers took the sacrament, never to return till they had taken Gibraltar. This forlorn party was conducted by a goat-herd to the south side of the rock, near the cave-guard (at that time called the pass of locust-trees). Fortune, in the beginning, so far favoured the enterprise, that they mounted the rock, and lodged themselves unperceived the first night in St. Michael's cave; the succeeding night they scaled Charles the Vth's wall; surprised and put to death the guard at Middle-hill, where afterwards, by ropes and ladders, they got up several hundreds of the party who had been ordered to sustain them; but being discovered, a strong detachment of grenadiers marched up immediately from the town, and attacked them with such spirit, that 160 of them were killed, or driven over the precipice, and a colonel and 30 officers, with the remainder, taken prisoners. These brave, but unfortunate adventurers, were to have been supported by a body of French troops, and some feints were to have been made below to engage the attention of the garrison; but the commanding officers disagreeing, they were left to their fortune.

SIR JOHN LEAKE was not idle whilst he remained in the Bay, but was continually alarming the enemy on their coasts. The 22d of November he had information, by one of his cruisers, that a strong squadron was fitting out at Cadiz, which would be soon ready for sea; and receiving further intelligence, that a convoy, fitted out from Lisbon for the relief of Gibraltar, was on their way, he prepared to join them off Lagos, in order to protect them past Cadiz; but was confined within the Straits by a westerly wind. The Prince, in the mean time, redoubled his exertions to prevent the enemy's designs, who flattered themselves, that on the arrival of their fleet from Cadiz, Sir John would be obliged to retire, and the garrison sur-
render.

render to their united attacks. Their fire was continued with additional vivacity, many cannon in the place were dismounted, and the works were materially injured in different parts.

AFFAIRS were in this situation, when part of the long-wished-for succours arrived on the 7th of September; and two days following, the remainder came in with near 2000 men, with proportionable ammunition and provisions. They sailed from Lisbon under convoy of four frigates, and thought themselves safe on discovering, off Cape Spartel, a fleet of men of war, under English and Dutch colours: expecting to meet Sir John, with the combined fleet, at the entrance of the Straits, they endeavoured to join them, but fortunately were becalmed: they then hoisted out their boats to tow the ships, when, perceiving the men of war extend themselves in form of a half-moon, in order to surround them, they began to suspect some deception, and accordingly made a private signal, which totally frustrated the Enemy's measures, who were thereby discovered, and, striking their false colours, endeavoured to fall upon the transports; but these latter, being lighter vessels, escaped by their oars, and, night coming on, steered for the Bay, with the loss only of two transports. It was now thought no longer necessary to detain the fleet in the Bay, or on the coast; especially when Monsieur Pointis was so near, with a superior force. Sir John accordingly arrived at Lisbon the latter end of the year.

THE Spanish General being reinforced with a considerable body of infantry, on the 11th of January 1705, made an attack with 60 grenadiers on the works at the extremity of the King's lines; but, two officers and several others being killed, the rest retreated. This repulse did not, however, discourage him; for early the succeeding day, the attack was renewed by 5 or 600 grenadiers, French and Walons, supported by 1000 Spaniards, under Lieut. Gen. Tuy.

Their

Their disposition was to storm a breach which had been made in the Round tower, at the extremity of the King's lines, and another in the intrenchment on the hill. The retrenchment which covered the latter breach, with part of the intrenchment joining the precipice of the rock, was defended at night by a captain, three subalterns, and 90 men; but it was customary for the captain to withdraw, with two subalterns and 60 men, at day-break. The Round tower was defended by 180 men, commanded by a lieutenant-colonel. The Marquis, by deserters from the garrison, had obtained intelligence of the strength of these posts, and concerted his attack accordingly. The detachment for the upper breach mounted the rock at dead of night, and concealed themselves in the clefts till the captain had withdrawn. They then advanced to the point of the intrenchment, and, throwing grenades on the subaltern and his party, obliged them to retreat. At the same time 300 men stormed the Round tower, where Lieut. Col. Barr made a vigorous defence, though the enemy, having passed the breach above, annoyed him on the flank with great stones and grenades: observing, however, the Spaniards marching down to cut off his retreat from the town, he retired, and by getting over the parapet of the King's lines, descended into the covert way, where the English guards were posted. By this time the garrison was alarmed; all the regiments assembled at their proper posts; and Captain Fisher endeavoured to stop the progress of the enemy with 17 men, but was repulsed, and himself taken prisoner. Lieut. Col. Moncal, at last, with 4 or 500 men, charged them with such bravery, that they were repulsed, and the tower was retaken after it had been in their possession upwards of an hour. Soon after this attack, six companies of Dutch troops, and 200 English soldiers, were received by the garrison, with provisions and stores.

THE Spaniards and French were still obstinately bent on the recovery of Gibraltar. The Marquis de Villadarias was superseded by the
Marshal

Marshal Tessé, a French general; and Monsieur Pointis was directed to co-operate with the Marshal, in blocking up the port with his fleet: The Marshal joined the army, with four fresh battalions, besides eight companies which had been sent before. The ordnance, which from constant use had been greatly injured, were totally exchanged; and the works, as they then stood, were put in the best repair.

THE English Ministry had been informed of the enemy's new arrangements; and, sensible of the importance of Gibraltar, ordered a reinforcement, under Sir Thomas Dilkes and Sir John Hardy, to join Admiral Sir John Leake at Lisbon. The junction being effected, and his own fleet refitted, Sir John, on the 6th of March, sailed with 28 English, 4 Dutch, and 8 Portuguese men of war, having on board two battalions. Happily for the besieged, the incessant rains about this period had retarded the Marshal's operations, and greatly distressed Monsieur Pointis, eight of whose ships were forced from their anchors by the strong westerly wind, and obliged, on the 9th, to drive aloft. Thus were they situated when the British Admiral entered the Straits, and about half past five, on the morning of the 10th, was almost abreast of Cabrita Point. The few remaining ships of the French fleet on his approach put to sea; and Sir John, discovering five sail making out of the Bay, and a gun fired at them from the garrison, concluded that the town was safe, and immediately gave chase. Three French ships of the line were taken, and the Admiral's ship, and another, run ashore and burnt. Sir John afterwards looked into Malaga, where the ships that had been driven from the harbour had taken shelter; but, hearing the report of the guns, they had made the best of their way to Toulon. Sir John, finding the pursuit of them in vain, returned to Gibraltar, which was now so well supplied, that Marshal Tessé withdrew his troops from the trenches, and formed a blockade; drawing an intrenchment across the isthmus, to prevent the garrison from ravaging the country.

IN the course of this siege, the enemy did not lose fewer than 10,000 men, including those who died of sickness, &c. The garrison lost about 400.

THE Prince of Hesse remained in the place while the batteries were repaired : he made also some additions to the fortifications, and left the garrison much stronger than it was before the siege. The Prince then joined the Arch-duke Charles at Lisbon, where the combined fleet of England and Holland were assembled, to support that Prince in obtaining the crown of Spain.

As the Arch-duke was resolved to try his fortune with the Earl of Peterborough, in Valencia and Catalonia, the Prince of Hesse was sent back to Gibraltar, to prepare part of the garrison to embark, and soon after was followed by the fleet; upon whose arrival, the Arch-duke was received by the garrison as lawful sovereign of Spain. Having taken on board the English guards, and three old regiments, leaving only two new battalions in the town (as there was no danger to be apprehended from the enemy), they proceeded, on the 5th of August, for Valencia. His Majesty then appointed Major-general Ramos, who had been present during the siege, governor of Gibraltar; and sent with him about 400 men for its greater security. General Ramos afterwards resigned his government, and was succeeded by Colonel Roger Elliot; during whose government, Gibraltar was made a free port, by a special order from her Majesty, Queen Anne.

The following was the Governor's Manifesto on the occasion.

“ By the Hon. Roger Elliot, Colonel of one of her Majesty's regiments of foot, and Governor of the city and garrison of Gibraltar.

“ WHEREAS

“ WHEREAS Her Majesty of Great-Britain, &c. hath been graciously pleased, by Her warrant to me, dated 19th February last, to confirm Her former declarations for the freedom of this port, and to regulate and command me, not to permit any duty or imposition whatsoever to be laid or received for any ship or vessel, or for any goods, wares, merchandise, or provisions, imported or exported out of this port; but that the same be free and open for all ships and vessels, goods, wares, merchandise, and provisions: These are to make known and publish Her said Majesty's Royal will and pleasure; and all persons concerned are hereby strictly required to take notice thereof, not presuming to demand or receive any duty or imposition whatsoever for any ship or vessel, or for any goods, wares, merchandise, or provisions, as they will answer the contrary at their peril.

“ GIVEN at Gibraltar, April 1706.”

COLONEL CONGREVE was commandant before 1714. He was succeeded by Colonel Cotton. In 1720 Gibraltar seems to have been threatened by the Spaniards. Ceuta, a Spanish fortress in Barbary, had then been besieged many years by the Moors; and a formidable force, commanded by the Marquis de Leda, was assembled in Gibraltar Bay, under pretence of relieving it, but with a secret intention of first surprising Gibraltar; for which purpose they had procured scaling-ladders, &c. &c. This armament was not fitted out so secretly, but the British Ministry had timely notice, and, suspecting some finess, dispatched orders to Colonel Kane, governor of Minorca, immediately to embark a part of his garrison, and repair to Gibraltar, under convoy of the fleet in the Mediterranean. On his arrival he found Gibraltar in a very critical situation; the garrison consisting only of three weak battalions, commanded by Major Hetherington, who, except Major Batteroux, was the only

field-officer in the place. Many officers were absent, only fourteen days provisions in the stores, and many Spaniards in the town, with a fleet before its walls. Such was the feeble posture of affairs when he opportunely arrived with 500 men, provisions, and ammunition. The British Commodore acted afterwards in so spirited a manner, that the Marquis de Leda was obliged to sail for Ceuta, though he continued of opinion that the garrison might have been ~~been~~ taken by a general assault.

THIS scheme proving abortive, Gibraltar remained unmolested till the latter end of the year 1726, when the Spaniards, who had kept a watchful eye on the garrison, assembled an army in the neighbourhood of Algeziras. The 20th of January following, they encamped on the plain below St. Roque, and began to erect a battery on the beach to protect their camp. Admiral Hopson was then at anchor in the Bay, with a very formidable fleet; but, as he had not received any intelligence of hostilities having commenced between the Courts of Great-Britain and Madrid, he was with reluctance compelled to overlook the transporting of provisions, artillery, and ammunition, from Algeziras, (where they had formed their dépôts,) to the camp. Brigadier Kane, who had been a second time ordered from Minorca to Gibraltar, lay also under similar embarrassments with the Admiral. The operations of the enemy, however, tending towards a direct attack upon the garrison, he thought it prudent to order the Spaniards out of the town, and forbid their gallies anchoring under his guns.

It must be understood that Gibraltar had undergone considerable alterations since the siege of 1705: several works had been erected on the heights above the lines, which were distinguished by the name of Willis's batteries; the Prince's lines were also extended to the extremity of the rock; and an inundation was formed out of the morass that was in front of the grand battery.

THE Count de Las Torres commanded the Spanish forces, amounting to near 20,000 men, and soon after his camp was formed, he advanced within reach of the garrison. The Brigadier thereupon dispatched a parley, to desire "That he would withdraw from the range of his guns, otherwise he should do his utmost ~~to force him.~~" The Count answered, "That, as the garrison could command no more than they had power to maintain, he should obey his Catholic Majesty's orders, and encroach as far as he was able." Notwithstanding this insult, the Brigadier waved commencing hostilities, till the Spaniards, by their proceedings, should oblige him, in defence of his command.

IN the beginning of February, Brigadier Clayton, the lieutenant-governor, arrived with reinforcements, on board Sir Charles Wager's fleet; and a council of war was immediately summoned, but the result was a determination not to fire upon the Spaniards. The 10th of February, the enemy brought materials for batteries, to the old wind-mill, on the neutral ground; upon which the Lieutenant-governor again collected the sense of the Admirals and Field-officers; when in the second council it was unanimously agreed, that the Spanish General had made open war, in encroaching so far on the liberties of the garrison. This being their opinion, Brigadier Clayton sent a parley to the Count, to know the reason of his breaking ground: to which the Count replied, that "he was on his Master's ground, and was not answerable to any other person for his conduct." As this answer directly indicated the hostile intentions of the Spaniards, the Lieutenant-governor, in the evening, withdrew the out-guard, and, the succeeding day in the afternoon, opened the Old mole and Willis's batteries on their workmen. They persisted, nevertheless, in carrying on the work; and at night a large party marched down to the Devil's tower, where they immediately broke ground, and began a communication with their other

work. This party were greatly annoyed in marching to their post, but were soon under cover of the rock, where the guns could not be depressed to bear upon them.

NUMBERS of the enemy deserted to the garrison, by whom, on the 17th, the Lieutenant-governor was informed that they were constructing a mine, in a cave under Willis's, with an intention, if possible, to blow up that battery. The engineers, on this intelligence, reconnoitred the cave; which, after some difficulty, they discovered, with a sentry at the entrance; and a party was immediately stationed to annoy the communication with musquetry. On the morning of the 22d, the Count opened on the garrison, with 17 pieces of cannon, besides mortars. The day following, Brigadier Kane left the garrison, to detach a reinforcement from Minorca. In the mean time Sir Charles Wager and Admiral Hopson, with the fleet under their command, were constantly distressing the enemy, by intercepting their homeward-bound ships; and the prizes which were brought into the Bay, greatly benefited the besieged. The 3d of March, the enemy opened a new battery of 22 guns on the Old mole, and town; and on the 8th, another of 15 guns, bearing also upon the Old mole, which, it seems, proved a troublesome battery to the western flank of their approaches.

THE Lieutenant-governor continued a constant and well-directed fire from all the batteries that bore upon their works: but the ordnance in general, being old, were bursting daily on the batteries; by which accidents the garrison experienced more casualties than from all the fire of the enemy. The 27th, Col. Middleton's regiment arrived, also six companies and a half of Col. Hay's, with two engineers, a captain of artillery, and several bombardiers, gunners, and matrosses; with 140 recruits for the other regiments.

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THE Admirals, the 2d of April, formed the design of bombarding Algeziras, whence the enemy were constantly supplied with various articles of ammunition; but the ships, after getting under way, were becalmed, and obliged to come to anchor; after which the navy never gave themselves any further concern about annoying them in that quarter. On the 10th, Colonel Cosby arrived in the *Solebay*, with 500 men, from Minorca; and two days following, the Admirals sailed to the westward, leaving Commodore Davies behind, with six men of war and the sloops. Sir Charles did not return during the siege. The 16th, the Lieutenant-governor ordered two serjeants, with ten men each, to advance from the spur-guard, under the rock, and along the causeway, and alarm the enemy in the trenches; giving them directions to retire when they found their guards sufficiently alarmed, when he intended to salute them with grape, &c. from Willis's, and the lines. These orders were executed, and the enemy instantly beat to arms; but the bombardier appointed to give the signal to the batteries, firing too soon, the enemy saw through the design, and retired without any considerable loss.

LORD PORTMORE, the governor, arrived, the 21st, with a battalion of guards, and another of the line; also Colonel Watson, of the artillery, with several Noblemen as volunteers. The 26th, the Count opened a new battery, against Willis's, and the extremity of Prince's lines. Their batteries now mounted 60 cannon, besides mortars. In the beginning of May, the garrison had intelligence that the enemy designed an assault: precautions were accordingly taken, and the guns on the lower defences loaded with grape. The Spaniards added still to their approaches, and raised various communications to and from their advanced batteries. Towards the 16th and 20th, their firing abated; but their engineers proceeded in advancing their trenches. On the 31st, a vessel arrived with

with 375 barrels of powder from Lisbon. June the 3d, the Solobay came in, with a further supply of 980 barrels of powder, and 500 thirteen-inch shells, from Mahon. The firing continued till the 12th, when, about ten at night, Colonel Fitzgerald, of the Irish brigade, beat a parley, and, being admitted into the garrison, delivered letters to Lord Portmore, from the Dutch Minister, at the Court of Madrid, with a copy of the preliminaries of a general peace; whereupon a suspension of arms took place, and all hostilities ceased on both sides.

THE garrison lost, in the whole, about 300 killed and wounded; and 70 cannon, with 30 mortars, burst during the siege. The enemy's casualties could never be ascertained. In killed, wounded, &c. it was computed they lost near 3000 men.

WHEN Lord Portmore and the Count agreed to a cessation, the Spaniards of course were compelled to forsake the mine under Willis's: their parties, however, taking possession of it a second time, his Lordship considered it as a breach of the articles of cessation, and represented it accordingly. The Count afterwards withdrew: the works were dismantled and levelled, and the troops retreated to their different cantonments.

THE Spaniards during this siege never made the least attempt to cut off the communication by sea; so that the garrison was regularly supplied with provisions and fascines from Barbary, and had a regular correspondence with England.

IN 1728, the Parliament of Great-Britain addressed his Majesty King George II, to take effectual care, in the treaty then pending, to preserve his undoubted right to Gibraltar, and the Island of Minorca. Overtures had been made by his Majesty George I, to restore

restore the former to Spain, if the Parliament would have consented to such restitution; but the Minister, finding an opposition, declined the business. In 1730, Lieut. Gen. Sabine was governor of Gibraltar. The Spaniards during his government erected the forts and lines across the isthmus, about a mile from the garrison, which effectually prevent any communication with the country, and, as we have experienced, are of considerable advantage in case of a siege. The western fort, called St. Philip's, entirely commands the best anchorage on the side of the Bay next the garrison. Lieut. Gen. Columbine succeeded General Sabine, and he was succeeded by Lieut. Gen. Hargrave.

GENERAL BLAND was appointed governor in 1749, at which time a general relief of troops took place. The establishment at that period was, four battalions of infantry, and a company of artillery. Lord George Beauclerk, and the Hon. General Herbert, were severally commandants in the absence of General Bland; and in 1753 Lieut. Gen. Powkes was deputed governor. Lord Tyrawley succeeded him, in whose absence the Earl of Panmure was commandant. Earl Home was afterwards governor, and died there in 1761. During the government of this nobleman, about the year 1760, an incident occurred, which, as it alarmed the garrison very much at that time, is deserving of notice. Two British regiments had been a very considerable time on that station, and, from the continuance of the war, saw little prospect of being relieved. Amongst these a conspiracy was formed, by some disaffected persons, to surprise, plunder, and massacre the officers, and in short all whom they judged to be averse to their designs. After securing the money which was intended for the payment of the troops, they meant to purchase for themselves a secure retreat, by surrendering this so much wished-for fortress into the hands of Spain. The numbers who joined the conspirators were not fewer than 730. An accidental quarrel, in a wine-house,

wine-house, defeated this dangerous project, and produced a discovery. Reed, a private in the seventh regiment, was executed on the grand parade, as the ringleader; and ten others were condemned. After the death of Lord Home, Colonel Tovey and Major-general Parflow were each commandants, till the Hon. Lieutenant-general Cornwallis was appointed governor. During this General's absence from the garrison, Colonel Irwin was commandant; and on General Cornwallis leaving Gibraltar a second time, Major-general Boyd, lieutenant-governor, commanded. In this General's government, the garrison was considerably strengthened with three new bastions on the sea-line, and additional improvements at the southward.

IN 1776, the RIGHT HON. GENERAL GEORGE AUGUSTUS ELLIOTT was appointed Governor of that important fortress, and joined his command in 1777.

IN 1787, General Elliott, who had been honoured in 1783 with the Order of the Bath for his glorious defence of Gibraltar, returned to England; and Major-general O'Hara was appointed commandant during his absence.*

Vide page 345.

CHAP-

CHAPTER II.

Description of the Rock, with the fortifications and town of Gibraltar.—Remains of Moorish architecture.—Natural Curiosities.—Climate.—Vegetation.—Fish; and whence supplied with cattle, &c.—Military establishment.—Description of the Bay.—Algeziras.—Some accounts of the ancient city of Carteia.—St. Roque.—Conclusive remarks.

AS the History which is to be the subject of the following pages, will be more in detail than the preceding narrative, it may on some accounts be necessary, and cannot on any, I flatter myself, be disagreeable, to present the reader with a short description of this celebrated Rock, and the fortifications which have been erected for its defence.

THE Promontory, or rock, at the foot of which stands the town, is upwards of 1300 feet in height; projecting into the sea several miles from the continent, to which it is connected by an isthmus of low sand. This appearance makes it not improbable that *Mons Calpe* has, in former ages, been totally surrounded by the sea. The north front of the peninsula, which presents itself to the main land, is of various heights. The breadth of the isthmus, at the foot of the rock, is about 900 yards; but it grows considerably wider towards the country. Across this Isthmus, (which, with Gibraltar and the opposite coast, forms the bay) the Spaniards have drawn a fortified line at about a mile's distance from the garrison, extending 1700 yards, and embracing both shores: a fort of masonry is erected at each extremity, mounting 23 or 24 guns each; they are of different forms, and are called St. Philip and St. Barbara. The former of

these forts commands the best and the usual anchoring-place of our shipping and small craft, and, by forming a cross-fire with fort St. Barbara on the neutral ground, prevents all communication between the garrison and the country.

THE Rock, as I have mentioned before, is upwards of 1200 feet perpendicular above the level of the sea; and is separated by a ridge from north to south, dividing it into two unequal parts. The western front or division is a gradual slope, interspersed with precipices; but the opposite side, looking to the Mediterranean, and the north front, facing the Spanish lines, are both naturally very steep, and totally inaccessible. It is this peculiar circumstance which forms the chief strength of Gibraltar.

THE Town is built at the foot of the north-west face of the hill, and is fortified in an irregular manner. The communication with it from the isthmus, is by a long narrow causeway (serving as a dam to an inundation), which is defended by a curtain, with two bastions, mounting 26 pieces of cannon, a dry ditch, covered way, and glacis well mined. These, with the causeway are warmly flanked by the King's, Queen's, and Prince's lines; works cut in the rock with immense labour, and scarped to be almost inaccessible. Above the lines are the batteries at Willis's, and others at different heights, until they crown the summit of the rock, where several batteries are erected for cannon and mortars. These batteries, the lowest of which is upwards of 400 feet above the neutral ground, mount between 50 and 60 pieces of heavy ordnance, and entirely command the isthmus below. Exclusive of what are here mentioned, additional works of a singular nature were projected in 1782, which, with others in the lines, on a similar plan, that are (1789) executing under the direction of Major-general O'Hara, will render Gibraltar (almost) impregnable in that quarter. The Old mole, to the west
of

of the Grand battery, forms also a very formidable flank, and, with the lines, a cross-fire on the causeway and neutral ground. This battery has been found so great an annoyance to the besiegers, that, by way of distinction, it has long been known under the appellation of the Devil's tongue. Indeed, the ordnance in the lines, upon the Grand battery, and the Old mole, all together, exhibit so formidable an appearance to a spectator on the causeway, that the entrance into the garrison is called by the Spaniards, the *Mouth of fire*.

FROM the Grand battery, along the sea-line, looking towards the Bay, the town is defended by the North, Montague's*, Prince of Orange's, KING's, and South bastions; the line-wall or curtains between which, mount many cannon and mortars. Montague's, Prince of Orange's, and King's bastions, have been erected lately. The latter is a very complete piece of fortification, commanding the Bay from New to Old mole heads, and mounting twelve thirty-two pounders, and four ten-inch howitzers in front, ten guns and howitzers on its flanks, and has casemates for 800 men, with kitchens and ovens for cooking. Montague's is much smaller, mounts only 12 pieces of cannon, but has a casemate for 200 men, communicating with the Old mole. In 1782 the engineers began a cavalier upon this bastion for two guns; but it was not finished till after the grand attack in September. Another work of this nature was likewise erected in the beginning of the blockade, for five guns, on the north bastion of the Grand battery. The town on the sea-line is not less protected by natural defences, than by fortifications. A shoal of sharp rocks extends along the front far into the Bay, and prevents ships of large burthen from approaching very near the walls.

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FROM

* These bastions and the connecting curtains were so much injured in the last siege, that it was thought necessary to strengthen this part of the town, by an extensive line of new works, projecting some distance into the sea, the foundations of which were laid in 1788. Some additions are also in contemplation for the Grand battery and Land-port.

FROM the South bastion (which is considerably higher than the rest of the works, in order to protect the town from the eminences on the red sands) a curtain extends up the face of the hill, and concludes, at an inaccessible precipice, the works of the town. In this curtain is the South-port gate, before which, and the south bastion, is a dry ditch, with a covered way and glacis. At the east end, on the declivity of the hill, above the gate, is a large flat bastion, connected with the curtain, and mounting 15 guns, bearing on the bay, &c. This work is covered by a demy-bastion that joins the precipice. Above the precipice, an old Moorish wall is continued to the ridge of the rock; in the front of which a curtain with loop-holes and redans (built in the reign of the Emperor Charles V, and called after his name) extends to the top, effectually cutting off all communication in that quarter. Between the Moorish and Charles the Vth's walls, is the signal-house; whence, on a serene and clear day, the guard have almost an unbounded view of the Mediterranean, and can just observe a part of the Atlantic ocean over the Spanish mountains. Signals formerly were made at this post, on the appearance of top-sail vessels from east and west; but soon after the commencement of the late war, we discovered that the Spanish cruizers were more frequently informed of the approach of our friends by our signals, than by their own. The signals were therefore discontinued.

THE above comprehends a general description of the fortifications of the town, avoiding too minute a detail of each work. I shall therefore proceed in describing, in the same general manner, the works to the southward.

FROM the South bastion a line-wall is continued along the beach to the New mole, where an irregular fort is erected, mounting 26 guns. This line-wall is divided by a small bastion of eight guns; and
in

in its rear is a retired work, called the Princess of Wales's lines; in which are several strong batteries for the sea. Near the South bastion, though without the town, is a wharf called Ragged Staff, where the supplies for the garrison are usually landed, being convenient from its vicinity to the victualling-office and stores. The communication to this quay, is by spiral wooden stairs, and a draw-bridge opening into the covert-way; in front of which is a small work of masonry, mounting two guns. At the foot of the stairs is the basin, where shipping take in water. Two tanks are also appropriated to this purpose, near the Eight-gun bastion.

IN the New mole there is depth of water sufficient for a ship of the line to lie along-side the wharf, and heave down. At the mole-head is a circular battery for heavy metal, joined to the New-mole fort by a strong wall, fraised; having a banquet for musquetry, with two embrasures opening towards the Bay. This mole, with the Old mole at Waterport, were built for the accommodation of trading-vessels: the former however is generally occupied by men of war; and the latter, not having more than six feet at low water, only admits small craft to the wharfs: merchantmen of large burthen are obliged therefore to anchor about half or three quarters of a mile from Waterport, in seven or eight fathoms. But in time of war this anchorage is commanded by the Spanish forts: they are consequently, in case of a rupture with Spain, under the necessity of removing to the southward of the New mole, where the ground is so rocky and foul, that they are often in imminent danger during the strong southerly winds. From the New-mole fort, to the north end of Rosia Bay, the rock is difficult of access; nevertheless a parapet is continued, and batteries are erected, as situations dictate. The works at Rosia are strong, and act as flanks to each other. They are close along the beach, which is low, and have a retired battery of eight guns in the rear.

THE Rock continues to ascend from the south point of Rosia Bay, by Parson's Lodge (behind which, upon an eminence, is a new battery, *en barbet*, on traversing carriages), to Camp-guard, and Buena Villa; so called from the beautiful prospect of the Bay, and neighbouring kingdoms of Barbary and Spain, which is there presented to a spectator. A line-wall is raised, notwithstanding the rock being inaccessible, with cannon at different distances. At Buena Vista there are several guns *en barbet*, which have great command; and the hill towards Europa is slightly fortified, which gives it the appearance, at a distance, of an old castle repaired. The rock then descends by the Devil's Bowling-green, so named from the irregularity of its surface, to Little Bay. At this post, which is totally surrounded with precipices, there is a barbet battery, flanking the works to the New mole: thence the rock continues naturally steep for a considerable distance, when the line-wall and batteries recommence, and extend in an irregular manner to Europa Point, the southern extremity of the garrison, though not the southern point of Europe. - The rock from this point is regularly perpendicular to Europa advance, where a few batteries, and a post at the Cave-guard, terminate the works. The fortifications along the sea-line at Europa do not however constitute the principal strength of that part of the garrison. The retired and inaccessible lines of Windmill-hill have great command, and being situated within musquet-shot of the sea, are very formidable, and of great consequence in that quarter.

THE preceding description, it is hoped, will be sufficiently explanatory, with the assistance of the annexed Engravings; which, though the scale of the garrison-plan, for obvious reasons, is very minute, will yet point out the improvements that have been made within these few years. The new bastions on the sea-line were planned, and executed, by and under the direction of the present

Chief

Chief Engineer, Major-general Sir William Green, Bart. Lieut. Gen. Sir Robert Boyd, K.B.* laid the foundation-stone of the King's bastion, in the absence of General Cornwallis, the governor. The garrison also underwent considerable alterations whilst he commanded: Windmill-hill was fortified, and other changes were effected at the southward. The improvements on the northern front were carried on under the direction of Sir George Augustus Eliott, K.B. since he was appointed to the government. The communication, or gallery leading to St. George's Hall, above Farringdon's battery; Queen's-lines battery, and communication; two works of the same nature, which extend under the Queen's battery (Willis's†), and in the rock above Prince of Hesse's bastion; are all so singularly contrived, and of so formidable a nature, that all *direct* attacks by land, henceforward, may be considered as quixotism and insanity.

BEFORE the interior part of the place is described, it will not be improper to conclude the description of its outer works, by inserting an abstract of the guns, howitzers, and mortars, mounted upon the different batteries. The original, from which this was copied, was taken in the beginning of March, 1783.

| Nature of Ordnance. | Cannon. | | | | | | | | Mortars. | | | | Howitzers. | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|------|----------|----|----|----|------------|----|---|----|
| | Prs. | 24 | 18 | 12 | 9 | 6 | 4 | Inch | 13 | 10 | 8 | 5½ | Inch | 10 | 8 | 5½ |
| | 32 | & | 18 | 12 | 9 | 6 | & | 13 | 10 | 8 | 4½ | 10 | 8 | 5½ | | |
| | | 26 | . | | | | 3 | | | | 4 | | | | | |
| Serviceable Ordnance, mounted, | 77 | 122 | 104 | 70 | 16 | 25 | 38 | 29 | 1 | 6 | 34 | 19 | 9 | . | | |
| Field Artillery, | . | . | . | 4 | . | 6 | 8 | . | . | . | . | . | . | 4 | | |
| Serviceable Ordnance, dismounted, | . | 27 | 9 | . | . | . | 15 | . | 2 | 7 | 31 | . | . | . | | |
| | 77 | 149 | 113 | 74 | 16 | 31 | 61 | 29 | 3 | 13 | 65 | 19 | 9 | 4 | | |

Total serviceable in the garrison, 663 pieces of artillery.

THE TOWN is built on a bed of red sand, similar to those eminences without South-port, which originally extended from Land-port

* See page 296.

† The Gallery under the Queen's battery has been continued by General O'Hara, and now communicates with the Prince's lines: it is called the Union Gallery.

port to the foot of the ascent to the south barracks. The buildings, before the town was destroyed in the late siege, were composed of different materials, principally of *tapia* ;* though, since the English have been in possession of Gibraltar, many have been built of the rock-stone, plastered, and blue-washed on the outside, to break the powerful rays of the sun, which otherwise would be too glaring, and prejudicial to the eyes. The modern houses were in general covered with tiles ; but the flat terraced roofs remained in those erected by the Spaniards, and in some, the *mirandas* or towers, whence the inhabitants, without removing from home, had a beautiful and extensive prospect of the neighbouring coasts.

Of the buildings that are most deserving notice, the old Moorish castle is the most conspicuous. This antique structure is situated on the north-west side of the hill, and originally consisted of a triple wall, the outer inclosure descending to the water's edge : but the lower parts have long since been removed, and the Grand battery and Waterport fortifications erected on their ruins ; and the first, or upper wall, would long ago have shared the same fate, had it not been found of service in covering the town from the Isthmus, in case of a siege. The walls standing at present form an oblong square, ascending the hill, at the upper angle of which is the principal tower, where the Governor or *Alcaide* formerly resided. The ruins of a Moorish mosque, or place of worship, can be traced within the walls ; as also a neat *morisque* court, and reservoir for water : but the latter cannot, without great difficulty, be discovered by a stranger. A large tower on the south-east wall has long been converted into a magazine for powder ; and in different places quarters were fitted up, before the late siege, for officers and two companies of soldiers. This castle

* A cement consisting of mortar made of sand, lime, and small pebbles, which being well tempered, and wrought together in a frame, acquires great strength and solidity.

castle was erected, as I have mentioned before, by the Saracens or Moors, on their first invading Spain; and the present venerable remains are incontestable proofs of its magnificence, whilst it continued in their possession.

THE other principal buildings are the Convent, or Governor's quarters; the Lieut. Governor's house, which is a modern structure; the Admiralty-house, formerly a monastery of white friars; the Soldiers barracks, Victualling-office, and Store-house. Besides these, there are the Spanish church, the Atarafana, or galley-house, and some other buildings, formerly of note, but now in ruins from the fire of the Spaniards during the late siege.*

AT the southward, are the South Barracks and the Navy Hospital. The former a stately building, delightfully situated, with a parade in front, and two pavilions detached; the whole capable of quartering 1200 men, and officers proportionate. The latter a capacious pile, well adapted to the purpose for which it was intended: it has an area in the centre, with piazzas and a gallery above, by which the sick may enjoy the sun, or shade, as they think proper: there are apartments for 1000 men, with pavilions at each wing for the accommodation and convenience of the surgeons and their attendants. This hospital was originally erected for the navy, in case a British fleet should be stationed in the Mediterranean; but, on the Spaniards bombarding the town in 1781, the Governor removed into it the sick of the garrison. At some distance, in the front of the barracks, are two powder-magazines, in which the supplies from England are usually deposited, before they are distributed to the other magazines. These last conclude the chief, I might say almost the only buildings remaining on the rock after the late siege; and

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their

* Since the peace of 1783, the greatest part of the town has been rebuilt, and (which is rather to be regretted) on the old foundations.

their preservation was owing to their being kept in constant repair by workmen purposely appointed for that duty.

BESIDES the remains of Moorish architecture which have already been mentioned, the following have been esteemed not unworthy of notice. Within the town we find the Galley-house, and part of the Spanish church; also the Bomb-house, adjoining the line-wall: and at the southward, ruins of Moorish buildings are discernible on Windmill-hill, and at Europa. The former are situated on an eminence, but no antiquarian can determine to what use they were appropriated: some are of opinion they were burying-vaults for persons of rank; others suppose them a prison; whilst, in the garrison, the whole is generally known by the name of the Inquisition. At Europa, opposite the guard-house, may be traced the remains of a building erected by the Moors, but used by the Spaniards as a chapel, and called Nuestra Senora del Europa. Along the water's edge, without the fortification, are also several ruins of Moorish walls; and towards Europa advance is a Moorish bath, called by the garrison, the Nuns well. It is sunk eight feet deep in the rock, is 72 feet long, and 42 feet broad, and, to preserve the water, has an arched roof, supported by pillars. To the left of this bath is a cave, under Windmill-hill, known by the name of Beef-steak cave; which was a common residence for many of the inhabitants, during the late siege.

THE hill abounds in cavities, that serve as receptacles for the rain. None, however, is so singular and worthy of notice as St. Michael's cave, on the side of the hill, in a line with the south barracks, about 1100 feet above the level of the sea. At the entrance are the remains of a strong wall. The mouth is only five feet wide; but on descending a slope of earth, it widens considerably; and, with the assistance of torches, the openings of several smaller caves.

caves are discovered. The outer cave is about 200 feet long, and 90 broad. The top appears to be supported by pillars of vast magnitude, formed by the perpetual droppings of petrifying water, the whole bearing great resemblance to the inside of a gloomy Gothic cathedral.

THE several gradations in the progress of these petrifications are easily discovered. In some may be observed small capitals, descending from the roof, whilst proportionable bases rise underneath: others again are formed of very small diameter; and a third class, immensely large, seem to support the roof of this wonderful cavern. Few strangers visit Gibraltar but are conducted to view this cave; and numbers, with the assistance of ropes and torches, have attempted to explore the depth; however, after descending about 500 feet, they have been obliged to return, by the gross vapours which issued from beneath. It was in this cave that the Spaniards concealed themselves in the siege of 1727, when a party of them, unperceived, got into the garrison, at the Cave-guard, near Europa advance, but afterwards failed in their enterprise.

THERE are several other caves on different parts of the hill, in which the water possesses the same petrifying qualities. One under Middle-hill, called Pocoroca, was fitted up, previous to the bombardment, for the Governor's reception; but was afterwards converted into a powder-magazine, being very convenient for the batteries on the heights.

AMONGST the natural curiosities of Gibraltar, the petrified bones, found in the cavities of the rocks, have greatly attracted the attention of the curious. These bones are not found in one particular part, but have been discovered in various places at a considerable distance from each other. From the rocks

near Rofia Bay, (without the line-wall) great quantities of this curious petrification have been collected, and sent home for the inspection of naturalists. Some of the bones are of large diameter; and, being broken with the rock, the marrow is easily to be distinguished. Colonel James, in his description of Gibraltar, mentions an entire human skeleton being discovered in the solid rock, at the Prince's lines; which the miner blew to pieces: and in the beginning of the late blockade, a party of miners, forming a cave at Upper All's-well, in the lines, produced several bones that were petrified to the rock, and appeared to have belonged to a large bird: being present at the time, I procured several fragments; but in the bombardment of 1781, they were destroyed with other similar curiosities.

THE hill is remarkable for the number of apes about its summit, which are said not to be found in any other part of Spain. They breed in inaccessible places, and frequently appear in large droves with their young on their backs, on the western face of the hill. It is imagined they were originally brought from Barbary by the Moors, as a similar species inhabit *Mons Abyla*, which, on that account, is generally called Ape's-hill. Red-legged partridges are often found in coveys: woodcocks and teal are sometimes seen; and wild rabbits are caught about Europa and Windmill-hill. The garrison-orders forbid officers to shoot on the western side of the rock; parties however often go in boats round Europa Point to kill wild pigeons, which are numerous in the caves.

EAGLES and vultures annually visit Gibraltar from Barbary, in their way to the interior parts of Spain. The former breed in the craggy parts of the rock, and, with the hawk, are often seen towering round its summit. Moschetoes are exceedingly troublesome towards the close of summer; and locusts are sometimes found.

found. The scorpion, centipes, and other venomous reptiles, abound amongst the rocks and old buildings; and the harmless green lizard, and snake, are frequently caught by the soldiers, who, after drawing their teeth, treat them with every mark of fondness.

WITH regard to the climate of Gibraltar, the inhabitants breathe a temperate and wholesome air, for most part of the year. The summer months of June, July, and August, are excessively warm, with a perpetual serene and clear sky: the heat is however allayed, in a great measure, by a constant refreshing breeze from the sea, which usually sets in about ten in the forenoon, continuing till almost sun-set; and, from its invigorating and agreeable coolness, is emphatically called the Doctor. The cold in winter is not so excessive as in the neighbouring parts of the country. Snow falls but seldom, and ice is a rarity: yet the Grenadian mountains in Spain, and the lofty mountains in Africa, have snow lying on them for several months. Heavy rains, high winds, and most tremendous thunder, with dreadfully-vivid lightning, are the attendants on December and January. The rain then pours down in torrents from the hill, and, descending with great rapidity, often choaks up the drains with large stones and rubbish, and sometimes does great injury to the works; but these storms never are of long duration: the sky soon clears up; the heavy clouds disperse; the cheering sun appears, and sufficiently compensates for the horrors of the preceding night. It is during this season that the water that serves the garrison for the ensuing summer is collected. The aqueduct, which conducts it to the Fountain in the centre of the town, is extremely well executed; and was constructed by a Jesuit, when the Spaniards were in possession of Gibraltar. It is erected against the bank of sand, without South port, beginning to the southward of the eight-gun bastion, and, collecting the rain-water that filters through the sand, conducts it to the South port, and thence to the

the Fountain. The water, thus strained and purified, is remarkably clear and wholesome.

THE appearance of the Rock is barren and forbidding; as few trees or shrubs, excepting palmettos, are to be seen on the face of the hill: yet it is not entirely destitute of vegetation; wild herbs, of different kinds, spring up in the interstices of the rocks, when the periodical rains set in, and afford some trifling nourishment to the bullocks, sheep, and goats, that browse upon the hill. The first rains generally fall in September, or October, and continue at intervals to refresh the garrison till April or May. When they cease, and the powerful rays of the sun have withered the little verdure that appeared on the hill, nothing offers to the eye but sharp uncouth rocks, and dried palmetto-bushes. The soil collected in the low ground is however extremely rich and fertile, producing variety of fruits and vegetables. Colonel James, in his elaborate history of Gibraltar, enumerates no less than 300 different herbs, which are to be found on various parts of the rock. Gibraltar consequently must be an excellent field of amusement to a botanist.

THE garrison, before the blockade of 1779, was chiefly supplied with roots and garden-stuff from the gardens on the neutral ground, which, being on a flat, could almost constantly (even in summer) be kept in a state of vegetation. The proprietors of these gardens were obliged totally to relinquish them when the Spaniards erected their advanced works: from that period General Elliott encouraged cultivation within his own limits, by every possible indulgence. Many plots at the southward were inclosed with walls, the ground cleared of stones and rubbish, and soil collected from other parts: so that with assiduity and perseverance, after some time, the produce, during the winter season, was so increased as to be almost equal to the consumption; and probably, in the space of a few years, the
garrison

garrison may be totally independent, in this article, of any assistance from the neighbourhood.

GIBRALTAR, by being nearly furrounded by the sea, is exceedingly well supplied with fish: the John-doree, turbot, foal, salmon, hake, rock-cod, mullet, and ranger, with great variety of less note, are caught along the Spanish shore, and in different parts of the Bay. Mackarel are also taken in vast numbers during the season, and shell-fish are sometimes brought from the neighbouring parts.—The Moors, in time of peace, supply the garrison with ox-beef, mutton, veal, and poultry, on moderate terms; and from Spain they procure pork, which is remarkable for its sweetness and flavour. Fruits of all kinds, such as melons, oranges, green figs, grapes, pomegranates, &c. are brought in abundance from Barbary and Portugal: and the best wines are drank at very reasonable prices.

THE present military establishment* of Gibraltar consists of six companies of artillery, nine regiments of the line, and a company of artificers, commanded by engineers; composing an army of upwards of 4000 men, officers included. Before the late bombardment, the troops were quartered in the barracks at the southward, and in quarters fitted up out of the old Spanish buildings in town. The officers were distributed in the same manner; but in case of reinforcements, and that government quarters were not sufficient for their accommodation, billet-money was allowed in proportion to rank, and the officers hired lodgings from the inhabitants.

THE regiments, on their arrival in the garrison, are entitled to salt provisions from the stores, in the following proportion. One ration for each serjeant, corporal, drummer, and private, consisting

of

of 7 lb. of bread, delivered twice a week, beef 2 lb. 8 oz. pork 1 lb. butter 10 oz. pease half a gallon, and groats 3 pints: every commissioned and warrant officer, under a Captain, receives two rations, a Captain three, a Major and Lieutenant-Colonel four, a Colonel six. In times of profound peace, officers generally receive a compensation in money for their provisions, or dispose of them to the Jews, of whom there are great numbers in the garrison, who are always ready to purchase, or take them in barter. The troops are paid in currency, which, let the exchange of the garrison be above or below *par*, never varies to the non-commissioned and privates. A serjeant receives weekly, as full garrison-pay, one dollar, six reals, equal to nine-pence sterling, *per diem*; a corporal, and drummer, one dollar, one real, and five quartils, in sterling about six-pence, *per diem*; and a private, seven reals, or four-pence half-penny sterling, *per diem*. Officers receive their subsistence according to the currency: thirty-six pence *per* dollar is *par*. During the late bombardment, the exchange, for a considerable time, was as high as forty-two pence, by which those gentlemen who were under the necessity of drawing for their pay, lost six-pence in every three shillings; and it seldom was lower than forty pence whilst the siege continued. The coins current in Gibraltar are those used in Spain. All accounts are kept in dollars, reals, and quartils: the two former, like the pound sterling, are imaginary; the latter is a copper coin.

THE Bay of Gibraltar, formed by the headlands of Cabrita and Europa Points, is commodious, and seems intended by nature to command the Straits: there are opportunities, however, when a fleet may pass unobserved by the garrison; for such is the impenetrable thickness of the mists, which usually prevail during the easterly winds, that many ships have baffled the vigilance of the cruisers, and gone through unnoticed: the south-westerly winds, particularly

particularly at the equinox, are also often attended with such thick and rainy weather, that vessels have passed through and got into the Bay without being seen.

SINCE Gibraltar has been in the possession of the English, the Spaniards have erected, in different parts of the Bay, several batteries and forts for the protection of their small craft in war, and to prevent their coast from being annoyed. At Cabrita, which is a bold rocky point, are a barbet-battery and watch-tower, whence, during the blockade, signals of flags by day, and lights at night, were made to inform the Spanish cruisers at Algeziras, &c. of the approach of any vessel towards the Bay. These watch-towers are distributed, at short distances, along the coast for a considerable extent, to alarm the country, in case of a visit from the Algerines, or when any other extraordinary circumstance happens. To the northward of Cabrita are two others, with a fort at the northernmost tower, which is called San Garcia: the point on which the latter are erected, projects, with a long reef of dangerous shoals and rocks, considerably into the Bay. The town and island of Algeziras, with their batteries, then appear in view.

ALGEZIRAS lies opposite to Gibraltar, about 5½ miles across the Bay; and, since the late siege, has greatly increased in consequence and wealth. The town was built and fortified by the Saracens about the year 714, two years after their establishment at Gibraltar. It is remarkable for being the place where those invaders first disembarked, when they so rapidly overturned the Gothic empire in Spain; and, as well as Gibraltar, was erected to preserve a communication with Africa. Whilst the Moors maintained their conquests, it consequently became a city of great importance and strength. We find, during the successive wars which took place between the Moors and the Spaniards, Algeziras was frequently

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besieged

besieged by the Kings of Castile; and, when Gibraltar so easily fell into the hands of the Christians in 1310, this city resisted all their efforts. At length, after a most obstinate siege in 1344, Algeziras was compelled to surrender to the victorious arms of Alonzo XI. The siege continued twenty months, and most of the Potentates in Europe interested themselves in the event, by sending succours to the Christian besiegers. The English, under the Duke of Lancaster, the Earls of Derby, Leicester, Salisbury, and Lincoln, particularly distinguished themselves by their gallantry and conduct during this memorable contest. It is worthy of remark, that cannon are said to have been first made use of in this siege, by the Moors against the assailants; and the English, profiting by the knowledge gained on this occasion, afterwards used them at the glorious battle of Cressy. The Spaniards continued masters of the town till 1369, when the Moors of Grenada surprised the city; but being unable to retain it, they demolished the works, and carried away the inhabitants captives.

WHILST the Moors kept possession of Gibraltar, which was now in its turn become a city of importance, the Spaniards never attempted to rebuild Algeziras; and still less did they esteem it an object worthy their attention, after Gibraltar fell into their hands. The town, therefore, remained in ruins and desolate, excepting a few fishermen's huts, till the Spaniards, in the beginning of the present century, thought proper, after the cession of Gibraltar to Great-Britain, to repeople and secure it by a few batteries towards the sea, which also might occasionally protect their cruisers in time of war. Since that period, from the constant intercourse and trade which subsisted between it and Gibraltar before the war of 1779, Algeziras is become a town of some consequence and wealth; and, as a late writer has justly expressed, "like a phoenix, has risen "out of its own ashes, after being for ages in ruins."

THE

THE New Town is built to the northward of the old city (whose venerable ruins still remain), and is defended to the southward by a battery of nine or ten guns, erected on an island some distance from the shore. To the northward of the town is another battery of six guns, and a little farther, on an eminence, one of 22, which was raised by Admiral Barcelo, when he was apprehensive of an attack from Sir George Rodney in 1780. Between the island and the town, small craft find tolerable shelter; but ships of war, or of large burthen, anchor to the northward. The lands round the town are of late much cultivated, and, with the shipping, form, in the spring, a pleasantly-variegated and beautiful prospect to a spectator at Gibraltar. A detachment or regiment of infantry is constantly on duty here, who, with those of the Spanish lines and neighbourhood, are under the command of the commandant at St. Roque.

TO THE northward of Algeziras are the rivers Palmones and Guadaranque: the former is the broader and deeper of the two, and was the principal retreat of the Spanish gun and mortar boats, when they wanted repairs, after bombarding the garrison. Admiral Barcelo in this river also prepared the fire-ships he sent over in June 1780. On the east banks of the Guadaranque, near Rocabillo Point, where there is a small fort or tower, are the venerable ruins of the once famous city of CARTEIA. This celebrated place, scarcely a stone of which is now left to inform posterity where it stood, is reported to have been built by the Phenicians, in the first ages of navigation, when those adventurers visited the extreme parts of the then known world. Historians mention it under the names of Carteia, Heraclia, and Calpe Carteia. When the Carthaginians became a powerful nation, and aimed at the sovereignty of Spain, Carteia maintained its independence for some time, till Hannibal, according to Livy, stormed the city, and demolished most of its

works. When Scipio obliged the Carthaginians to quit Spain, Carteia was a place of little importance; but the Romans finding it a convenient station for their navy, the city was increased with a Roman colony, and once more began to rise into splendor and magnificence. After the memorable battle of Munda, Cneius Pompey fled to Carteia, but, being pursued, was obliged to leave it precipitately. As the Roman Empire declined, so did Carteia; and probably, soon after the irruption of the Goths and Vandals, it became almost desolate and waste. On the invasion of Spain by the Saracens, that nation undoubtedly dismantled the buildings of this famous city for materials to erect Gibraltar and Algeziras. The remains of a quay are still visible, with some few ruins of public buildings, apparently Roman; and the country peasants, in tilling the ground, often find various antique coins, which curious antiquarians have not thought unworthy of a place in their cabinets.

HALF way between the Guadarranque and the garrison, is another fort and tower, called Point Mala, or Negro Point, to the northward of which is the inland village of St. Roque. This is a small insignificant town, though delightfully situated, at about five miles distance from Gibraltar. It was built by the Spaniards, in the beginning of the present century, when the garrison of Gibraltar surrendered to Sir George Rooke. The Spanish Commandant of the Lines generally makes it his residence; and during the late siege, under the Duke de Crillon, the Count d'Artois, and the Duke de Bourbon, had apartments in the town. Previous to the war of 1779 it was often frequented by the officers from Gibraltar; and in the spring and summer seasons, British families resided there for several months, some for the benefit of their health, others for pleasure. The combined army, during the late siege, encamped on the plains below St Roque, and landed all their ordnance, and military stores, a little to the westward of Point Mala, near the Orange-grove.

I CANNOT help remarking in this place, that, among the evils of the late siege, the Garrison have to regret the interruption of that friendly intercourse which before subsisted between them and the neighbourhood, and which is now prohibited by the Spanish government. When the communication was free and unlimited (except in point of introducing a contraband traffic in Spain), the strictest intimacy subsisted between the British military, and the Spaniards resident in the adjacent villages. Parties were reciprocally visiting each other, and the officers constantly making excursions into the country. These excursions, with others to the coast of Barbary (which in the season superabounds with various species of game), were pleasing relaxations from the duties of the garrison, and rendered Gibraltar as eligible a station as any to which a soldier could be ordered.

ON the whole—Whether we consider Gibraltar as commanding the entrance of the Mediterranean, and consequently as capable of controuling the commerce of the Europeans with the Levant; or whether we consider it as almost impregnable by nature, and consequently as most susceptible of the improvements of art,; its situation is, perhaps, more singular and curious than that of any fortress in the world. These circumstances, and the degree of consequence which it confers on its possessor, in the opinion of the Barbary states, have not failed to excite the attention, and alarm the interests of most maritime nations in Europe; and, with the multitude at least, it has always been an object of political importance. Politicians, however, there have been, of no inferior rank, who have thought very differently of its value and utility. On this delicate subject, I will frankly confess my inability to decide. I shall therefore, without further apology, leave these speculations to men of more leisure and experience; and proceed to matters better adapted to my capacity and information.

CHAPTER III.

Commencement of the war in 1779, between Great-Britain and Spain.

—State of the garrison of Gibraltar at that period.—Ambiguous conduct of the Spaniards.—Enemy encamp before the garrison.—Form a blockade.—Many inhabitants leave the place.—Motions of the enemy.—Erect additional batteries in their lines.—Fired upon from the garrison.—Continue their operations.—Loss of the Peace and Plenty privateer.—Provisions extremely scarce in the garrison.—Spirited behaviour of the Buck cutter privateer.—Description of the Straits.—Fidelity of a Moor.—Great distress in the garrison.—Relieved by some fortunate occurrences.—Arrival of Sir George Rodney, and the British fleet.—Tetuan.—Anecdote of Prince William-Henry.—Ceuta.—Departure of the fleet.

ALTHOUGH the Spaniards had been thrice defeated in their attempts to recover Gibraltar, they continued to view that garrison with a jealous eye, determined, if we may judge from their late conduct, to seize the first eligible opportunity of wresting it, if possible, from the dominion of Great-Britain.

THE war of 1762 was too unexpected on the part of Spain, and conducted with too great success by the British Minister, to admit of such an enterprise as the siege of Gibraltar. The period was not however far distant, when the contest between Great-Britain and her Colonies seemed to promise as favourable an opportunity as their warmest wishes could have anticipated; particularly when, in addition to the civil war, they found hostilities taking place between Great-Britain and France. The close of the year 1777, when the
news

news of the convention of Saratoga first arrived in Europe, was the period which they embraced, to introduce themselves into the dispute. Hostilities had then been carried on for near six months between Great-Britain and France: Spain therefore judged the opportunity favourable to offer her mediation, proposing such an arrangement as she must be assured would not be agreeable to the principal belligerent powers. Great-Britain had no sooner refused her acquiescence, than the Court of Madrid espoused the part of France; and, on the 16th of June, 1779, the Spanish Ambassador, the Marquis d'Almodovar, presented to the Court of London his hostile manifesto.

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June.

THE principal design of the Court of Madrid, in entering into this war, was evidently the recovery of Gibraltar. Before any reply was given by the British Ministry to their proposals for a pacification, overtures had been privately made to the Emperor of Morocco, to farm the ports of Tetuan, Tangier, and Larache; by which means Gibraltar might be cut off from its principal supplies. This conduct seemed to argue a confidence that her terms in the mediation would be refused; and the considerable dépôts of military stores which were collected in her arsenals, undoubtedly pointed out, that the siege of that garrison was her first and immediate object. On the 21st of June, 1779, the communication between Spain and Gibraltar was closed, by an order from Madrid.

Two days previous to this event, General ELLIOTT, the Governor, accompanied by many Field-officers of the garrison, paid a visit to General Mendoza, the Commandant of the Spanish lines, to congratulate him on his promotion. Their reception at St. Roque was far from agreeable; and it was remarked that the Spanish General appeared embarrassed during their stay, which might proceed from his knowledge of what was to follow. The visit was short,

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short ; and the Governor had scarcely returned to the garrison, when Mr. Logie, his Majesty's Consul in Barbary, arrived from Tangier, in a Swedish frigate, with certain intelligence of the intended rupture between Great-Britain and Spain. Mr. Logie's information proceeded from a Swedish brig, which on her passage to Tangier had fallen in with the French fleet, of about 28 sail of the line, off Cape Finisterre, when the master being ordered on board the Admiral, M. d'Orvilliers, he learned that they had been cruising for some time in that latitude, expecting the junction of the Spanish fleet from Cadiz. From the amicable assurances held out by the Spaniards, we could not persuade ourselves in the garrison that a rupture was so near ; but the mail from the garrison being refused on the 21st of June, and being acquainted at the same time that the intercourse between Gibraltar and the neighbourhood was no longer to be permitted, we had sufficient confirmation of Mr. Logie's intelligence. We afterwards learned, that the courier who brought from Madrid the order to shut up the communication, had been detained by accidents on the road ; otherwise it was not impossible that he might have arrived during General Elliott's visit at St. Roque.

As THE Fortress of Gibraltar after this event became a little world of itself, it may not be unacceptable, to commence the History of the Siege with a state of the troops in garrison at that period, and the commanding officers of the different corps.

General

SIEGE OF GIBRALTAR.

49

General G. A. ELLIOTT, Governor.

Lieutenant-General R. BOYD, Lieutenant-Governor.

Major-General DE LA MOTTE, commanding the Hanoverian Brigade.

1770,
June.

| | Off. | Staff. | S. | D. | Rank & File | | |
|---|---------------|--------|-----|-----|-------------------|--|---|
| Artillery | 25 | 0 | 17 | 15 | 428 | Col. Godwin, Commandant of Artillery. | |
| 12th Regiment | 26 | 3 | 29 | 22 | 519 | Lieutenant-Colonel Trigge. | |
| 39th ————— | 25 | 4 | 29 | 22 | 506 | Lieutenant-General Boyd, Major Kellet. | |
| 56th ————— | 23 | 4 | 30 | 22 | 508 | Major Pancourt. | |
| 58th ————— | 25 | 3 | 29 | 22 | 526 | Lieutenant-Colonel Cochrane. | |
| 72d, or R. M. V. | 29 | 4 | 47 | 22 | 944 | Lieutenant-Colonel Gleditsanes. | |
| Hano- verians { | Hardenberg's | 16 | 13 | 42 | 14 | 367 | Lieutenant-Colonel Hugo. |
| | Reden's | 15 | 12 | 42 | 14 | 361 | Lieutenant-Colonel Dachenhausen. |
| | De La Motte's | 17 | 16 | 42 | 14 | 367 | M. G. De La Motte, L. Col. Schlippergill. |
| Engineers with a Company of Artificers } | 8 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 106 | Colonel Green, Chief Engineer. | |
| <hr/> | | | | | | | |
| Total | 209 | 59 | 313 | 169 | 4632 | | |

Making an army of 5382 men.

ON the communication being closed, a council of war was immediately summoned, to advise concerning the measures to be pursued on the occasion. Preparations had been privately made for the defence of the garrison, when intelligence was first received of the probability of a war: the objects therefore at this time to be considered were, how to procure constant supplies of provisions from Barbary, and in what manner the correspondence between England and Gibraltar was to be conducted. Mr. Logie's presence in Barbary was very essential to both these points: he consequently returned to Tangier on the 22d, having concerted with the Governor proper signals, by which he might communicate intelligence across the Straits. Admiral Duff also, on the 22d, removed the men of war under his command from their usual anchorage, off Waterport (where they were liable to be annoyed by the enemy's forts), to the southward, off the New mole. His force at that time consisted of the Panther, of 60 guns, Capt. Harvey, on board of which was

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the flag; three frigates, two of which were on a cruise; and a sloop of war.

It is natural to suppose that the garrison were not a little alarmed at this unexpected procedure of the Spaniards. The Northern guards were reinforced, and the picquets cautioned to be alert, in case of alarm. Landport barriers were shut; and an artillery officer ordered to Willis's batteries, to observe the movements of the *Enemy*, and protect the Devil's-tower guard, which was ordered to be very circumspect and vigilant.

WHILST the friendly intercourse subsisted between the garrison and the neighbourhood, several British families and officers had permission to reside at St. Roque, Los Varios, and other small villages a few miles distant; but immediately on the communication being closed, General Mendoza sent them peremptory orders to remove; and the time limited for their departure was so short, that some of them were obliged to leave most of their effects behind. Those officers whose curiosity had led them into the interior parts of the country, were positively refused liberty to return to the garrison; they were therefore conducted to Cadiz, and had passports granted them to leave the kingdom by other routes. Col. Ross and Capt. Vignoles, of the 39th, with Capt. Lefanue, of the 56th, nevertheless contrived to join their corps, by assuming disguises, and risking the passage in a row-boat from Faro (a port in Portugal) to Gibraltar: others also attempted, but unfortunately were intercepted in their voyage.

THE Childers sloop of war, on the 24th, brought in two prizes from the West, one of which (an American) Capt. Peacock captured in the midst of the Spanish fleet, then at sea. The conduct of the Spaniards on this occasion was extremely ambiguous. Every circumstance

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cumstance that fell under our own immediate observation, convinced us that they now intended hostilities against Great-Britain; and from Mr. Logie's intelligence we had every cause to think, that this fleet was out to join the French Admiral. Their permitting our cruisers, therefore, to capture a friend (as they might then call the Americans), under the protection of their fleet, we must either consider as a finesse, or suppose that they had not received orders to act offensively.—The Childers left two of our frigates watching the motions of the Spanish fleet. It was somewhat singular, that a Mr. Suasé (an American Major, who had been prisoner in the garrison a little time before, along with others of his countrymen, but had made his escape), and two deserters from Gibraltar, should be recognised through their disguises, on board the American prize: the Major was remanded to his old confinement, in the Navy-hospital, and the latter were punished according to their deserts.

THOUGH the motions of the Enemy did not indicate any immediate design of attacking the garrison, and the closing of the communication might be only in consequence of hostilities having commenced between Great-Britain and Spain; yet our intelligence, and their late deceitful conduct, gave us great reason to suppose that they intended some attempt on Gibraltar. Dépôts of earth, &c. were therefore collected, in various places; empty hogheads and casks were bought from the inhabitants, for the purpose of filling them with earth, to strengthen and repair the fortifications; and other precautions were taken for the defence of the place. On the other hand, the Enemy employed what troops they had then on duty, in the lines and neighbourhood, in drawing down cannon from St. Roque, &c. to *animate* the forts (in which few ordnance were mounted during the peace), and in arranging matters to strengthen and support their posts.

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IN the beginning of July, the *Enterprise* frigate, Sir Thomas Rich, Bart. returned with a fleet of small craft, laden with live stock and fruit, from Tangier; in consequence of which, fourteen days fresh provisions were issued to the troops. The engineers continued preparing materials in their departments, towards completing the works of the garrison; for which purpose strong parties from the line were granted them daily, under the command of overseers. About 300 Jews and Genoese were also employed in levelling heaps of sand, near the gardens, on the neutral ground, in order that, if the Enemy should approach, they might not receive any protection and cover from our lower batteries. The picquets of the garrison were ready, on the Grand parade, to support these parties in case they had been molested; but though they were at work within half musket-shot of the Enemy's advanced guards in the *Micquelet-huts*, yet not the least attempt was made to disturb them.

THE 3d of July, a detachment of about 180 men from the British line was ordered to join the artillery, to be taught the practice of the great guns. The artillery in garrison were only five companies; a number not adequate to the different duties in case of a siege: this reinforcement was therefore added, and proved afterwards of great service in that department. Three English sailors came in an open boat, on the 4th, from Cadiz, and brought intelligence that an embargo was laid on all English vessels in that port. In the evening we observed the Spaniards relieve the guards in their lines.

THE Spaniards, in time of peace, always stationed a regiment of cavalry at St. Roque, with another regiment, or detachment of infantry, at Algeziras; parties from which did duty at their lines; and no additional body of troops, or ships of war, had yet appeared near the garrison. On the 5th, however, in the afternoon, a Spanish squadron of two seventy-fours, five frigates, and other vessels, to the
number

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number of eleven, hove in sight from the west, and lay-to some time off the garrison. Whilst they remained in this situation, the Governor thought it prudent to make some new disposition of the ordnance at the southward, and to caution the regiments in the South barracks, the 12th, and 72d, to be alert. The Captain of Europa guard, who before usually joined at retreat-beating, was also ordered to his command. In the afternoon, three privateer cutters arrived from the westward. A schooner, under Portuguese colours, stood across from the Enemy to reconnoitre the first that came in, and on her return was fired upon from Europa batteries, which was the first hostile shot from the garrison. The Enemy's squadron in the evening drove to the eastward; and at night the Enterprize frigate arrived from Tetuan with Mr. Logie, the consul. In the interval of this Gentleman's departure from the garrison, a ship of the Emperor's had arrived at Gibraltar to be repaired; but Admiral Duff being backward in granting the stores, the Governor thought proper to send for Mr. Logie to explain to the Admiral the necessity there was of complying with the Emperor's request. To refuse such trifling assistance at that important time, he considered, might be productive of serious consequences to the garrison. The Enterprize frigate accordingly sailed to Tetuan to bring over the Consul. About sun-set, the evening of the 5th, the frigate left Tetuan to return, and was discovered by the Enemy's squadron, part of which immediately gave chase. Sir Thomas, however, from his superior knowledge of the tides, escaped, though the wind was contrary. When he arrived within view of the garrison, not making the concerted night-signals, for fear of being discovered by the pursuers, the officer at Europa saluted him with several shot; but fortunately they did not take effect.

The following day, the 6th of July, a packet was received from England, by way of Lisbon and Faro, informing the Governor that hostilities had commenced between Great-Britain and Spain. A proclamation

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proclamation in consequence was published in the evening, for capturing all Spanish vessels, &c. and letters of marque were granted for that purpose to the privateers in the Bay. Early on the morning of the 8th, a foldier of Reden's deserted from the Devil's-tower guard, and some time afterwards was followed by a serjeant of the 39th, who was one of the overseers attending the inhabitants employed beyond the Gardens. In the evening, General Mendoza, with several officers, advanced from the lines, as far as the Micquelet-huts, and, after reconnoitring about an hour, returned.

THE Spanish Commodore continued cruising in our neighbourhood till the 8th, when he stood, under an easy sail, for the westward. Before they quitted the Mediterranean, they brought-to a Portuguese schooner, bound from Tetuan to the garrison, and made very earnest enquiries concerning the state of our provisions. The 9th, the American prisoners were distributed amongst the privateers; and the following day, in company with the Childers sloop of war, they brought in four small prizes.

ADMIRAL DUFF having received intelligence that a large fleet of small vessels was to sail from Malaga, with wine and provisions for the Spanish grand fleet, the Childers was ordered, on the 11th, to cruise to the eastward, and give information, by signal, when they appeared, with the strength of their convoy. Whilst she was on the look-out, her boat gave chase to a settee, and was fired at from Fort St. Barbara, which was the first hostile shot from the Enemy. About eleven o'clock, the signals were made of the expected Spanish convoy being in sight, and soon after, of their force. Our Admiral, however, only cautioned the Navy to be ready, and went to Windmill-hill to reconnoitre them personally. About four in the afternoon, the convoy, consisting of about sixty sail of different burthens, under charge of five xebèques, from twenty to thirty guns

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guns, were abreast of Europa Point. The privateers, which had accompanied the Childers in the morning, were then towing in a prize taken from the midst of their fleet; and they, as well as the Childers, kept up a smart running fire on the Spanish Commodore; which was seconded at the same time from the garrison batteries at Europa point and Europa advance. The Panther (the Admiral's ship, with the flag on board), and the Enterprize, were still at anchor; but at sun-set Sir Thomas Rich had permission to slip, and the Panther soon after got under way. On the appearance of the frigate, the Enemy were confused, and instantly steered for Ceuta. The Childers and privateers pursued, followed by the frigate, and soon after by the Panther. Night was now advancing apace, and in a short time we lost sight of the ships. A few broadsides, now and then, gave us hopes that our friends had come up with them; and we could not help flattering ourselves, from the inferior force of the convoy, that day-light would exhibit the majority of them in our possession. In the morning, however, we discovered the Admiral, standing towards the Bay with five or six small prizes, and not one other of the Enemy in sight: whence we concluded that they had worked back to their own coast, or escaped through the Straits in the night, whilst our ships were off Ceuta. We afterwards learned, that the squadron which appeared on the 5th, was sent to convoy this valuable fleet past Gibraltar, lest the British Admiral should intercept them, and prevent their grand fleet from receiving these much-wanted supplies; but the convoy being by some unforeseen delays detained, the Spanish Commodore quitted the station on the 8th.

Two line-of-battle ships were observed cruising behind the rock on the 13th, and at night they went into Ceuta. The 16th, the Enemy blocked up the port with a squadron of men of war, consisting of two seventy-fours, two frigates, five xebecs, and a
number

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number of gallies, half-gallies, and armed fettees : they anchored in the Bay, off Algeziras, and being judiciously arranged, and keeping a vigilant look-out, the garrison became closely blockaded. This was the first motion of the Enemy, that discovered any direct intentions of distressing, or attacking Gibraltar. At night, Waterport-guard was reinforced with a Captain and ten privates. Till the 18th of this month, nothing material occurred, when a small convoy of fettees, &c. arrived at the Orange-grove, laden with military stores, which the Enemy began soon afterwards to disembark.

MR. LOGIE having prevailed on the Admiral to grant the stores necessary for repairing the Emperor's ship, and his presence in Barbary being absolutely necessary, as well to procure provisions as to conduct the correspondence between Great-Britain and the garrison; he returned on the 19th, on board a Moorish row-galley, which had arrived from the Emperor with dispatches relative to the ship under repair. The galley was interrupted in her return, by the Enemy's cruisers, and detained from seven in the morning till five in the afternoon, when she was permitted to proceed to Tangier. During the embargo, Mr. Logie was concealed in a small skuttle, down the run of the galley, having previously made up the Governor's dispatches, and concerted signals, in a loaf, which was entrusted to a Moor, to be delivered at Mr. Logie's house in Tangier, in case he himself should be discovered, with an order for the Moor to receive a gratuity if he delivered it safe.

EARLY in the morning of the 20th, a Portuguese boat arrived with fowls and charcoal from Tangier. Another, attempting to come in, was taken by a half-galley, and carried to Algeziras. Sixty pounds of fresh beef were delivered, the same day, to each regiment, for the use of the officers: the artillery and engineers received in proportion, and the navy were included in this distribution. The following

Following day, orders were issued for the troops to mount guard with their hair unpowdered; a circumstance trifling in appearance, but which our situation afterwards proved to be of great importance, and which evinced our Governor's great attention and prudent foresight in the management of the stores.

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SO SUPERIOR a naval force as the Enemy now had in our neighbourhood, alarmed Admiral Duff, who was apprehensive that they would make some attempts on the King's ships. Signals were therefore agreed upon between the fleet and the garrison, that, in case the Enemy should make an attack in the night, the latter might afford the ships every assistance and protection. Three lights in a triangle were fixed upon by the navy, to distinguish them from the Enemy. The 22d, the navy manned their boats, and captured a settee, within a short distance of the Enemy's xebeques: she proved of little value, but the exploit reflected great credit on the party employed. The same day arrived a boat, with cattle, &c. from Tangier. In the course of the 22d, several officers, attended by a party of men, were observed tracing out ground on the plain below St. Roque, apparently for a camp; and it was remarked, that the Micquelets in the advanced huts on the neutral ground, were relieved by regular troops. These Micquelets are of the same description with our revenue-officers, and were stationed to prevent the smuggling of tobacco from the garrison into Spain.

A PORTUGUESE boat, with letters, arrived early in the morning of the 24th; also a schooner, with charcoal and fruit from Tangier. Between 2 and 300 men landed, the same day, at the Orange-grove, with an intention, as we conjectured, of taking charge of the stores which the Enemy were disembarking there. The 25th, they pitched a tent on the plain, for the working party employed in clearing the ground. I should have mentioned, that on the 12th an Hanoverian

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foldier deserted, and this day two of the same brigade followed the example. The Enemy, the 26th, began to form a camp on the plain below St Roque, about half a mile from Point Mala, and three miles from the garrison. Fifty tents were pitched, and a detachment of cavalry and infantry soon after took possession. The same day the Illerim, a Swedish frigate, which had been in the Bay some weeks before, arrived, though opposed by the Enemy. The Swedish captain politely brought to on their firing a gun; but being told he must not anchor under the walls of the garrison, he resumed his course, telling them he must go to Gibraltar, and they should not prevent him. Some shots were exchanged, but none took place.

THE Spanish camp being daily reinforced with additional regiments of cavalry and infantry, and large parties being still employed in landing ordnance and military stores at Point Mala, the Governor thought proper, on the 29th, to establish the following staff officers; namely, Captains, Vallotton, of the 56th regiment,—Patterson, of the artillery,—Forch, of the 12th regiment, and Eveleigh, of the engineers, to be Aide-de-camps to himself, as Commander in Chief; Captain Wilson and Lieutenant Buckeridge, of the 39th regiment, Aide-de-camps to Lieutenant-general Boyd; Lieutenant Weinzey, of the Hanoverian Brigade, Aide-de-camp to Major-general De La Motte; Major Hardy, of the 56th regiment, Quarter-Master general; Captain Horsburgh, of the 39th regiment, who was Town-Major, Adjutant-General; Captain Burke, of the 58th regiment, Town-Major; and Lieutenant S. Wood, of the 56th regiment, Assistant Town-Major. At the same time all the horses, except those belonging to field and staff officers, were ordered to be turned out of the garrison, unless the owners, on inspection, had 1000 lb. of feed for each horse; and, to enforce the latter order by example, the Governor directed that one of his own horses should be shot.

In the afternoon of the 30th, one of the Enemy's xebèques manned her yards, and fired a salute. Immediately afterwards we observed she had hoisted a flag at the mizen top-mast head, instead of a broad pendant; from which ceremony we concluded that the naval commandant had been promoted, or that he was superseded by an admiral.

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In the beginning of August, the corps in garrison were ordered to give in returns of their best marksmen, and also of those men who had ever been employed in making fascines. Those officers unmarried, or without families, who drew double rations for two commissions, were ordered at the same time to draw rations only for one commission. Two Dutchmen came in, the 2d, unperceived by the Enemy's cruisers, laden with rice and dried fruits: the rice, and a part of the fruit, the Governor purchased, for the use of the troops. The Enemy's camp by this time was considerably increased, and we numbered 26 cannon behind the fort at Point Mala.

August.

A VENETIAN arrived on the 5th, though fired at by the Enemy. She (with the Dutchmen) remained no longer than was necessary to take on board some of the inhabitants, who, apprehensive that the garrison would be besieged, thought it eligible to seek an asylum in time. Indeed about this time scarcely a boat or vessel left the port without being crowded with Jews or Genoese, who preferred a residence in Barbary, or Portugal, to remaining in Gibraltar, where the necessaries of life became every day more scarce. Early on the 6th came in a Portuguese schooner, from Tangier, with 44 bullocks, 27 sheep, and a few fowls; and two days following, another arrived with onions, fruit, and eggs: the latter brought letters for the Governor, but no news from England. From this day, nothing material occurred till the 10th, when the Enemy's cruisers captured a boat belonging to the garrison.

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AS AFFAIRS began to wear a more serious aspect, a general activity reigned throughout the garrison, promoted not a little by the example of the Governor, who was usually present when the workmen paraded at dawn of day. The engineers were busily employed in putting the works at Willis's in the best repair, and in erecting new batteries on the heights of the North front. A considerable extent of ground above the Town was cleared and levelled, to encamp the different regiments, in case the Enemy should fire upon the Town. Parties were likewise detached to collect shrubs, &c. from the face of the hill, for fascines; and the artillery were daily engaged in completing the expence magazines with powder, ranging the different ordnance, and preparing every thing for immediate use in their department. The navy were not less diligent. A new battery for 22 guns was begun in the Navy-yard, as a resource in case the Enemy's operations should make it necessary to lay up the ships; and the stores were removed from the New mole to the Navy hospital.

TOWARDS the middle of August, the motions of the Enemy were no longer mysterious; every succeeding day confirmed us in the opinion, that their object was to distress the garrison as much as possible. The blockade became more strict and severe, their army was in force before the place, and their present plan seemed to be to reduce Gibraltar by famine. Our stock of provisions, they concluded, was small; and their squadron under Admiral Barcelo, who commanded in the Bay, could prevent succours being thrown in by neutral vessels; whilst their grand fleet, united with that of France, would be superior to any which Great-Britain could equip, in her then critical situation. This scheme, every circumstance considered, was specious; and, had not the garrison fortunately received a supply of provisions, &c. in April, 1779, the troops undoubtedly would have been reduced to the greatest distress, and the place might probably have

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have been in imminent danger, before the Ministry could dispatch a fleet to its relief. The situation of the garrison was becoming every day more interesting: only forty head of cattle were now in the place; and from the vigilance of the Enemy, there was little prospect of constant supplies from Barbary: two bullocks were ordered, therefore, to be killed daily for the use of the sick. The inhabitants had been warned in time to provide against the calamities which now impended: the standing orders of the garrison specified, that every inhabitant, even in time of peace, should have in store six months provisions; yet by far the greater number had neglected this precaution. These unfortunate people, as they could not expect to be supplied from the garrison stores, were in general compelled to seek subsistence by quitting the place: some, however, were induced to weather out the storm, by the property they had in the garrison, which was probably their all, and which they could not remove with themselves. Those of this description, on application, obtained leave to erect wooden huts and sheds at the southward, above the Navy hospital, whither they began to remove their valuable effects, &c. that they might be secure from the annoyance of the Enemy, in case the town should be bombarded.

FIFTEEN or sixteen covered carts, on the 15th, arrived at the Enemy's camp, and unloaded timber, planks, &c. at their laboratory-tents. They continued landing stores on the beach, which employed a great number of carts to convey them to their dépôts; and at night we generally observed a number of lights, and frequently heard a noise like that of men employed on some laborious duty: this might proceed from dragging cannon, as we observed, on the 17th, they had *animated* all the embrasures in Fort St. Philip.

EARLY on the 17th, the Enemy attempted to cut out a polacre, which was anchored off the Old mole; but retired on a gun being fired

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fired at them from the garrison. The small craft, after this circumstance, removed to the New mole, as the men of war had done some time before. The 18th, in the morning, two parties of workmen came from the camp, and were employed at Forts St. Philip and St. Barbara: covered carts continued constantly going from Point Mala to the laboratory-tents, supposed to be laden with shot. The following morning, a Spaniard came in an open boat to Waterport, with onions and fruit, having a pass for Ceuta: he was examined by the quarter-master general, and allowed to sell his cargo, and purchase tobacco, but was not permitted to land: at night he was ordered to return, which he did about eight o'clock. He informed us the camp consisted of between 5 and 6000 men, which were to be immediately completed to 15,000. The 20th, the Enemy formed a new camp, to the left of the stone quarry, under the Queen of Spain's chair: we imagined it to be intended for the Catalonian troops, as they are usually encamped separate from the rest of the Spanish forces. The same day, our marksmen were embodied into a company of two non-commissioned officers, and 64 men; and the command was given to Lieutenant Barleigh, of the 39th regiment.

THE Enemy, on the 21st, had more men than usual employed in making fascines: they likewise were very busy in piling shot, and had a party at work in the covert-way of Fort St. Philip. A number of carts daily brought shot (as we imagined) to the lines, particularly to Fort St. Barbara. The 23d, the corps of engineers were formed into three divisions, and several officers of the line appointed to join them as assistant engineers and overseers. The same day some experiments were made with *red-hot shot*: this practice was continued on the 25th, when some carcasses were also thrown, and much approved. The 27th, we observed a fascine-work begun upon the glacis, north of Fort St. Philip, which afterwards proved

to

~~to be~~ a mortar-battery. A great number of carts continued to be employed in the Enemy's camp, and vast quantities of stores were constantly landing beyond Point Mala. In the course of the 30th, the Childers, and an armed schooner, attempted to cut off two half-gallies becalmed in the Bay; but the Enemy's xebèques, getting under way, obliged them to desist. At night upwards of 80 covered carts came down to the Enemy's lines.

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August.

FROM the time the Enemy first appeared encamped before the garrison, troops had been continually joining them from all quarters. Their camp consisted of two lines (independent of the Catalonians), extending from Point Mala, in an oblique direction, into the country, towards the Queen of Spain's chair. The streets were in a direction nearly parallel to the bottom of the Bay. The guards in their lines and advanced posts were, as the camp increased, proportionably reinforced; but no act of hostility had yet taken place in that quarter, though the Governor continued the garrison-guard at the Devil's tower. Their forts were repaired, and put in the best order of defence. Laboratory-tents for the artillery were pitched in front of their camp, and magazines erected for military stores, which were frequently brought by fleets of small craft, convoyed by men of war from Cadiz, Malaga, and other ports in the neighbourhood.

ON the 5th of September, a foldier of Hardenberg's deserted from a working party employed in scarping the rock, under the lines. He was fired upon from Willis's, but got off. Besides the party engaged in rendering the lines inaccessible, our engineers were daily strengthening them with palisades, &c. Traverses were also erected along the covered way, grand battery, and line-wall above Waterport, where a strong boom of masts was laid, from Old-mole head, to the foot of Landport glacis. About this time

Sept.

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Sept.

time the regiments began to practise grenade exercise. ~~The day~~ on which the Hanoverian deserted, a Moorish galley came over from Algeziras, where she had been detained ten days. The crew reported that the Spanish camp was very sickly. It is supposed this vessel came to order home the ship which had been some time repairing in the New mole, as the following day both of them left the garrison for Tangier: a xebeque however speaking them off Cabrita Point, the Moors were conducted to the Spanish Admiral.

THE Enemy's workmen in the lines appeared at this time to be about 500. They were principally engaged in filling up with sand the north part of the ditch of Fort St. Philip, completing the mortar-battery before mentioned, and raising the crest of the glacis of their lines in different places. From the noise often heard during the night, and the number of lights seen, we judged that they worked without intermission. Two waggons, drawn each by twelve mules or horses, arrived at the lines on the 8th, which we conjectured brought fixed ammunition. The 11th, we observed that they had begun several fascine-works on the crest of their lines, apparently for mortar-batteries; and had raised several traverses for the protection of their guard-houses. Waggon and carts continued bringing fascines and other materials to the lines from the camp. The same day, a row-boat, fitted out by the Jews, brought in a Dutch dogger laden with wheat; a very valuable supply in our situation.

THE operations of the Enemy now began to engage our attention. They had been permitted to pass and repass unmolested for some time; but the Governor did not think it prudent to allow them to proceed any longer with impunity. A council of war was consequently summoned on the 11th, to confer on the measures to be pursued. The council consisted of the following officers: the Governor;

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Governor; the Lieutenant-governor; Vice-admiral Duff; Major-general De la Motte; Colonels, Ross, Green, and Godwin; with Sir Thomas Rich, Bart. In the evening it was reported that their opinion was, not to open on the Enemy, whilst they continued within their lines: but this rumour was only propagated to deceive the Garrison; for on the succeeding morning, being Sunday the 12th of September, the artillery officers were ordered to the batteries on the heights; and the Devil's-tower guard being withdrawn, the Governor opened on the Enemy from Green's lodge (a battery made since the blockade commenced), Willis's, and Queen Charlotte's batteries. Their advanced guards in the Micquelet-huts, and in the stone guard-houses, were in a short time compelled to retire, and the workmen assembled in the lines obliged to disperse. The covered waggons returned to the camp without depositing their ladings; and so general a panic seized the Enemy at this unexpected attack, that their cavalry galloped off towards the camp, and for some hours scarce a person was to be seen within the range of our guns. The forts were too distant to be materially damaged; and the Governor's intention being only to disturb their workmen, the firing after a few hours slackened, and a shot was only discharged as the Enemy presented themselves. A brass gun in the Queen's battery (Willis's) run with eight rounds.

THE mortar-batteries that had been discovered in the Enemy's lines, some few days previous to our firing, had caused no small alarm amongst the inhabitants: those, therefore, who had huts in Hardy town at the southward, immediately removed their most valuable effects, fully convinced that the Spaniards at night would return the fire.

THAT the duty of the batteries might be performed with spirit, in case the Enemy persisted in carrying on their works, a Captain,

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three subalterns, and 52 men of the artillery, were ordered to take in charge Green's lodge, Willis's, and other batteries on the heights. The firing was continued the subsequent days, as circumstances directed. The 16th, our artillery made three attempts to reach the Enemy's laboratory-tents, or artillery-park (as henceforward they will be called), from a sea-mortar at Willis's. The first and second shell burst immediately on leaving the mortar: the third went its range, but fell a little short of the *fascine*-park. The artillery at this period used the old shells, the fuses of which were in general faulty; and this was the cause that the experiment did not answer on the first and second trials. We observed, the same day, that the Spaniards had pitched some additional tents a little beyond Point Mala: they also began to erect a pier, or wharf, for the convenience of landing their stores and supplies.

WHILST the Governor kept a watchful eye on the Enemy's operations, molesting their workmen as much as possible from Willis's; proper precautions were taken in the town, to render a bombardment less distressing, in case they retaliated, which, indeed, their preparations gave us reason to think, would not be long deferred. The pavement of the streets, in the north part of the town, was ploughed up; the towers of the most conspicuous buildings were taken down, and traverses raised in different places, to render the communications more secure. The Enemy appeared to bear our fire very patiently in their lines: their parties continued working on the mortar-batteries: the stone sentry-boxes were pulled down, and the guard-houses unroofed: a boyau, or covered way, was likewise begun, to make a safe communication from the lines to their camp.

Our firing was still continued; but their parties were at too considerable a distance (being near a mile) to be materially annoyed by our shot; and the works being surrounded with sand, the large shells.

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shells sunk so deep, that the splinters seldom rose to the surface. An experiment was therefore recommended by Captain (now Major) Mercier, of the 39th regiment; namely, to fire out of guns, 5- $\frac{1}{2}$ inch shells, with short fuses; which were tried on the 25th, and found to answer extremely well. These small shells, according to Capt. Mercier's method, were dispatched with such precision, and the fuses calculated to such exactness, that the shell often burst over their heads, and wounded them before they could get under cover. This mode* of annoyance was eligible on several other accounts. Less powder was used, and the Enemy were more seriously molested: the former was an advantage of no small consequence, since it enabled the Governor to reserve, at this period, what might be probably expended to the greater benefit of the service on some future occasion. It will also account for the extraordinary number of shells which, the reader will observe in the Appendix, were discharged from the garrison.

In the afternoon of the 26th, a foldier of the 72d regiment deserted from a working party out at Landport. He took refuge behind one of the Micquelet-huts, and, notwithstanding our endeavours to dislodge him, remained there till night, when it is imagined he proceeded to the lines. Our firing was now very trifling. The Enemy continued making additions to their boyau, and the works in the lines; but the latter were chiefly done in the night. Indeed, since our firing, their operations within our reach had been principally carried on during the night, at which time, or very late in the evening, they also relieved their guards.

In the beginning of October, the Enemy's army, according to our intelligence, consisted of sixteen battalions of infantry, and twelve squadrons of horse, which, if the regiments were complete, would

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* The Enemy, we were informed, attempted this practice, but never could bring it to perfection.

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amount to about 14,000 men. Lieutenant-general Don Martin Alvarez de Sota Mayor was commander in chief. We continued our fire, varying as objects presented themselves.

THE great command we had over the Enemy's operations from Green's lodge, induced the engineers to mount still higher, and endeavour to erect a battery on the summit of the northern front: a place therefore was levelled, and a road for wheeled carriages begun at Middle-hill. The 4th, a soldier of the 58th attempted to desert from Middle-hill guard, but was dashed to pieces in his descent. The artillery were too impatient to have a gun mounted on the summit of the rock, to wait till the new road was finished: they accordingly determined to drag a twenty-four-pounder up the steep craggy face of the rock; and in a few days, with great difficulty and prodigious exertions, they were so successful as to get it to the top. The 9th, a party of the Navy attempted to cut off two Spanish polacres, becalmed between Algeziras and their camp. Our seamen spiritedly boarded one, and were on their return with the other, when two gallies from Point Mala gave chase, maintaining a smart and well-directed fire as they advanced; and gained so considerably on the prizes, that the captors were reluctantly obliged to quit them, and betake themselves to their boats. The Childers sloop of war was ordered out, to protect them, and fortunately was in time to stop the progress of the gallies. The tiller of one of our barges was carried away by a shot, but no other damage was received.

THE platform on the summit of the rock was completed on the 12th; and, the gun being mounted, the succeeding day we saluted the Enemy's forts with a few rounds of shot and shells. This gun was mounted on a traversing carriage, and was distinguished by the name of the Rock-gun. From that post we had nearly a bird's-eye view

view of the Enemy's lines, and, with the assistance of glasses, could distinctly observe every operation in their camp. In the afternoon of the 16th, a servant of Mr. Davies (the agent-victualler of the Garrison), under pretence of looking for a strayed goat, obtained leave to pass Landport barrier, and immediately went over to the Enemy. The desertion of this man gave us some concern, as probably, to ensure a favourable reception, he might have taken with him some memorandums of the state of our provisions.

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THE Enemy's parties had not been remarkably active in the beginning of the month; but about the 17th and 18th, their workmen in the lines were more numerous than usual, which produced a more animated fire from our batteries. As our artillery by this time were accustomed to fire from heights, the small shot did considerable execution amongst their workmen, many of whom we observed were carried off. On the evening of the 19th, the Governor was at Willis's, to see an experiment of a light ball, invented by Lieut. Whitham, of the artillery. It was made of lead, and, when filled with composition, weighed 14 lb. 10 oz. This ball, with 4 lb. of powder, was fired, at six degrees of elevation, out of a thirty-two-pounder, upon the glacis of their lines: it burnt well; and the experiment would have been repeated, had not a thick fog suddenly arisen. The Governor was at Willis's the succeeding morning, to see a second; when, the fog being totally dispersed, the light ball answered his expectation. The Enemy, during the night, had been uncommonly noisy; but when the light balls were fired, no parties were discovered at work. Nevertheless, at day-break, to our great surprise, we observed 35 embrasures opened in their lines, forming three batteries; two of 14 each, bearing on our lines and Willis's, and one of seven, apparently for the Town and Waterport. They were cut through the parapet of their glacis, and situated between the barrier of the lines and Fort St. Philip.

The

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The embrasures were all masked, and many of the merlons were in an unfinished state: the Governor ordered the artillery to direct their fire on these works, and on the seven-gun battery in particular, where they had a party finishing what was left imperfect in the night.* In the afternoon, a Venetian was brought to by a gun from Europa, and came in: two galleys attempted to cut her off, but in vain.

OUR workmen now became exceedingly diligent; new communications and works were raised in the lines, which were reinforced at night, with a subaltern and 43 men; the alarm-posts of the regiments were also changed, and other arrangements took place. On the night of the 20th, we imagined, from the noise in the Enemy's lines, that their carpenters were platforming the new batteries, the merlons of which they had cased and capped with fascines. Their boyau now extended from the fascine-park, almost to the barrier of the lines. The 23d, a prize settee, laden with rice, was sent in from the eastward: she was taken by a privateer belonging to Mr. Anderson, of the garrison, the Captain of which thought the cargo would be useful to the inhabitants; and indeed this supply was truly seasonable. No vessel or boat had arrived for six weeks (excepting the Venetian, on the 20th instant), and every article in the garrison began to sell at a most exorbitant price: this trifling addition of provisions was therefore well received by the miserable Jews and Genoese, though the rice sold for 21 dollars 6 reals per cwt. which, at 40d. sterling the dollar, is 3l. 12s. 6d.

THE Enemy's artillery, on the 26th, decamped from their old ground, before the right wing of their front line, and took post near the Catalonians, where they were reinforced with a detachment that

* From the distance of these batteries, we did not imagine they would ever materially injure the garrison: but the cannonade and bombardment of 1781, convinced us of our error.

that had lately joined. The following night, the Dutch dogger, which had brought us the supply of wheat some weeks before, failed for Malaga: she took 73 Genoese and Spanish passengers. The next day our artillery got up to Middle-hill two twenty-four-pounders, to be in readiness for a new battery, which was erecting below the rock-gun. Another twenty-four-pounder was taken to the same place, on the morning of the 25th. Our firing still continued, as the Enemy's parties were daily bringing down timber and other materials for their new batteries.

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THE 30th, an English privateer, called the Peace and Plenty, 18 six-pounders, — M'Kenzie master, attempting to get in from the eastward, ran ashore, half-way between Fort Barbara and the Devil's tower. Some of the crew came on shore on the neutral ground; the remainder, with the master, were brought off by the Admiral's boats: and on the night of the 31st, she was burnt. As there was something extraordinary and unaccountable in the circumstances attending the loss of this vessel, I cannot resist the temptation of relating them more at large. In the morning, she was bearing down, under a fine sail and leading wind, for Europa advance-guard, as two xebèques were cruising off Europa Point. One of the xebèques, about nine, got within shot of her: a few rounds were exchanged, and the privateer was apparently resolved to fight her way in; but on a sudden she altered her course, and ran ashore under the Enemy's guns, about 4 or 500 yards from the garrison. The boatswain was killed, and several others wounded from the fort, before our boats arrived to their relief.

TOWARDS the conclusion of the month, the small-pox was discovered in the garrison, amongst the Jews. The Governor, apprehensive that it might spread amongst the troops, and be attended with dangerous consequences, ordered those who had never been affected

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affected with that disorder, to be quartered at the southward^l till the infection should disappear; and every precaution was taken to prevent its communicating. In the evening of the 31st, the new battery below the rock-gun was finished: it mounted four twenty-four-pounders, and was called the Royal battery.

Nov.

NOVEMBER was not introduced by any remarkable event. The fire from our batteries was variable, as their workmen were employed. Considerable deposits of fascines, with planks and pieces of timber, were formed in the Spanish lines; and other parts of their glacis were raised with fascines and sand for additional mortar-batteries. The 3^d, the Enemy began to form merlons at Fort Tonara, on the eastern shore, which, joined with the circumstances of their erecting two fascine-batteries on the beach, between Fort St. Philip and Point Mala, and one near the magazine at the Orange-grove, gave us reason to suppose that they expected a fleet in their neighbourhood. Few workmen were at this time to be seen in their lines; a party was trimming up the boyau; and numbers were employed about the landing-place in disembarking stores; which appeared to be their chief employment.

PROVISIONS of every kind were now becoming very scarce and exorbitantly dear in the garrison; mutton 3s. and 3s. 6d. per pound; veal 4s. pork 2s. and 2s. 6d. a pig's head 19s. ducks from 14s. to 18s. a couple; and a goose, a guinea. Fish was equally high, and vegetables were with difficulty to be got for any money; but bread, the great essential of life and health, was the article most wanted. It was about this period, that the Governor made trial what quantity of rice would suffice a single person for twenty-four hours, and actually lived himself eight days on four ounces of rice per day. Sir George is remarkable for an abstemious mode of living, seldom tasting any thing but vegetables, simple puddings, and water; and yet

yet is very hale, and uses constant exercise: but the small portion just mentioned would be far from sufficient for a working man kept continually employed, and in a climate where the heat necessarily demands very refreshing nourishment to support nature under fatigue.

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Two deserters came in, with their arms, on the night of the 11th. They belonged to the Walon guards, a corps in the Spanish service, composed principally, if not entirely, of foreigners. The following morning they were conducted to Willis's, whence they had a view of the Enemy's works, which they described to the Governor. The Spanish army were under arms on the 12th, in the front of their camp, and were dismissed by corps as the General passed.

THE 14th, arrived the Buck cutter privateer, Captain Fagg, carrying twenty-four nine-pounders. The abilities and bravery of a British Sailor were so eminently conspicuous in the Captain's conduct previous to his arrival, that even our Enemies could not help bestowing on him the encomiums to which his merit entitled him. About eight in the morning, the privateer was discovered in the Gut, with a westerly breeze. The usual signal for seeing an enemy was made by the Spaniards at Cabrita Point; and Admiral Barcelo, with a ship of the line, one of fifty guns, a frigate of forty, two xebèques, a fettee of fourteen guns, with half-gallies, &c. &c. to the number of twenty-one, got under way to intercept her. On the first alarm a xebèque at anchor off Cabrita had weighed, and stood out into the Straits: the cutter nevertheless continued her course; but observing the whole Spanish Squadron turning the Point, she suddenly tacked, and stood towards the Barbary shore: the xebèques, frigate, and lighter vessels pursued; but were carried down to leeward by the insupportable rapidity of the current, whilst the cutter in a great degree maintained her station. As it may appear

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very extraordinary to readers unacquainted with nautical affairs, that the privateer should not be equally affected by the current, it may be necessary to inform them, that a cutter, or any vessel rigged in the same manner, from the formation of her sails can go some points nearer the wind than a square-rigged vessel; which advantage, on this occasion, enabled Captain Fagg to turn better to windward, by stemming the current, whilst the Spaniards, by opposing their broadsides, were carried away to the eastward. But, to resume the narrative; Barcelo, who had his flag on board the seventy-four, was the last in the chase, and, perceiving his squadron driving to leeward, prudently returned to the Point, to be in readiness to intercept her in the Bay. The fifty-gun ship also laid her head to the current, and keeping that position, drove very little in comparison with her friends. Affairs were thus situated when Captain Fagg, persuaded that the danger was over, boldly steered for the garrison. The fifty-gun ship endeavoured to cut her off from the eastward, but was compelled to retire by our batteries at Europa: and Barcelo got under way to intercept her from the Point; but finding his efforts ineffectual, he was obliged to haul his wind, and giving her two irregular broadsides, of grape and round, followed his unsuccessful squadron to the eastward. The Cutter insultingly returned the Spanish Admiral's fire with her stern-chace, and soon after anchored under our guns.

THE expectations of the troops and inhabitants, who were spectators of the action, had been raised to the highest pitch: few doubted but she was a King's vessel; and as no intelligence had been received from England for many weeks, their flattering fancies painted her the messenger of good news; probably, the forerunner of a fleet to their relief. But what was their despondency and disappointment, when they were informed that she was only a privateer, had been a considerable time at sea, and put in for provisions?

Though

Though our condition in the victualling-office became weekly more and more serious, yet the Governor generously promised Captain Fagg assistance. What indeed could be refused to a man by whose manoeuvres the Port was once more open, and the Bay and Straits again under the command of a British Admiral? Only two or three half-gallies returned to Cabrita Point; the rest of their squadron were driven far to leeward of the rock.

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ASSUMING the liberty of a short digression in this place, it may be necessary to inform the Reader of the extent and breadth of the Straits of Gibraltar, and acquaint him, at the same time, with the opinions of different writers concerning the perpetual current that sets into the Mediterranean Sea, from the great Atlantic Ocean, which has so long engaged the attention of many celebrated natural philosophers.

THE Straits of Gibraltar (formerly known by the name of the Herculean Straits) are about twelve leagues in extent, from Cape Spartel to Ceuta Point, on the African coast; and from Cape Trafalgar to Europa Point, on the coast of Spain. At the western entrance, they are in breadth about eight leagues, but diminish considerably about the middle, opposite Tarifa (a small fishing-town on the Spanish coast, originally a place of great consequence and strength), though they widen again between Gibraltar and Ceuta, where they are about five leagues broad.

PHILOSOPHERS, who have communicated their sentiments on the extraordinary phenomenon of a constant current, differ widely in accounting for the disposition of that continual influx of waters, which, it is natural to suppose, would, without some consumption or return, soon overflow the boundaries of the Mediterranean Sea. The late ingenious Dr. Halley was of opinion, that this perpetual

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supply of water from the vast Atlantic Ocean was intended by nature to recruit what was daily exhaled in vapour : others again think, the waters that roll in with the centre current are returned, by two counter-streams, along the African and Spanish shores. That there are two counter-streams is without doubt ; but their rapidity and breadth bear little proportion to the principal current. A third class suppose a ~~centre~~ current beneath, and of equal strength with the upper stream ; and this opinion appears confirmed by a circumstance related by Colonel James, in his description of the Herculean Straits, of a Dutch ship being sunk in action by a French privateer off Tarifa, which some time afterwards was cast up near Tangier, four leagues to the *westward* of the place where she disappeared, and directly against the upper current. This hypothesis receives also additional support from the repeated disappointments which have been experienced by many naval officers, in attempting to sound the depth of the Straits with the longest lines : for the opposition between the currents might carry the line in such directions as to defeat the intention of this experiment.

THESE facts seem strongly to indicate a recurrency to the westward ; which, though it may not be so rapid as the upper stream, yet, with the assistance of the currents along the Spanish and Barbary shores, and the necessary exhalations, may account for the Mediterranean Sea never increasing by the constant supply received from the Atlantic Ocean. The rapidity of the superior current renders the passage from the Mediterranean to the westward very precarious and uncertain, as ships never can stem the stream without a brisk Levanter, or easterly wind. Vessels, therefore, are often detained weeks, and sometimes months, waiting for a favourable breeze ; in which case they find a comfortable birth in the Bay of Gibraltar.—
To return to my narrative

Two

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Two frigates, on the night, of the 14th, joined the Enemy's small craft in the Bay, from the west: It was thought, from some preparations that were made on board our men of war the succeeding evening, that Admiral Duff intended an attempt to cut out or destroy these ships: a council was held in the Navy, and the practicability of such an enterprise debated; but nothing was done.

THE Bay being again open, the night of the 19th, a Moorish fettee came in, with 39 bullocks and a few sheep: the former were so weak and poor, that many of them died on the beach as soon as they were landed: they were, however, a most acceptable supply. The patron informed us, that a vessel had sailed, the preceding night, for the Garrison, with 40 bullocks, 50 sheep, and 30 goats; which we imagined was taken by the gallics at the Point. The following day, a Swede stood in for the Garrison, with a signal at her fore-top-gallant mast-head, by which she was known to be laden with provisions, and consigned to an inhabitant. Off the Point she was boarded by a row-boat, and conducted immediately to Algeziras. The 23d, the Governor proportioned the fuel to the officers. This article was now become scarce and important. The coals in the Garrison were few: what fuel, therefore, was issued at this period, was wood from ships bought by Government, and broken up for that purpose, but which had so strongly imbibed the salt water, that it was with the utmost difficulty we could make it take fire.

A SMALL boat arrived on the 24th, with a packet from Mr. Logie: this packet was landed at Mogadore in South Barbary, by the Fortune sloop of war, Captain Squires. If I rightly recollect, it was upon this occasion that the following successful stratagem was effected, through the fidelity of a Moor entrusted by Mr. Logie to carry the dispatches to that part of the coast, whence,

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to prevent interception, he thought it prudent to send them to Gibraltar. The Spaniards, acquainted with the importance of these dispatches, wished to prevent them coming to our hands; and accordingly offered a thousand Cobs (about 225l. sterl.) to the Moor, to induce him to betray his trust, and pretend he had been robbed on his way to the coast. The faithful Moor immediately acquainted the Consul with the offer, who directed him to promise that he would comply. In the interval Mr. Logie prepared false dispatches, in cyphers, signed and dated them St. James's, and affixed a seal from the cover of a letter of Lord Hillsborough's to himself: these were inclosed as usual, and directed to General Eliott. The Moor received part of the bribe, and delivered up the fictitious packet: Mr. Logie on his return appeared much distressed by the accident, and the next evening sent the real dispatches to Gibraltar.

THE wind veering round to the southward, on the 26th Admiral Barcelo returned from Ceuta to his old anchorage off Algeziras, and the port again became closely blockaded. A deserter came in, the morning of the 30th, from the lines; he belonged to the Walon guards: and about five in the afternoon, another Walon deserted to us. They fired several musquets at the latter, and he turned about and returned the shot: three horsemen then pursued him, but were driven back by our artillery. After first gun-fire, two more came in, of the same corps.

THE Enemy's operations continued to be confined to the completion of their batteries, and the finishing of their boyau. In their camp we observed them busily employed in erecting huts for the accommodation of their troops against the winter rains, which now had begun to set in. On the other hand, the Governor made every necessary addition to the works. Waterport covert-way was doubly

doubly palisaded, and a battery for three guns erected on the Quay; a work of masonry, to mount two guns, was built at Ragged-staff; and traverses of casks and earth were raised on the different roads, on the north front, to secure the communications. Some improvements were also made in the batteries and works at Europa..

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DÉCEMBER commenced with the capture of a Genoese polacre, becalmed off Europa. Our sailors found about £. 220 in money on board, with some letters, from which we learned that the Enemy sustained some loss in the lines from our fire. The 4th, the Enemy beat a parley, and sent in a mule (belonging to Colonel Green, the chief engineer) which had strayed to their lines; an instance of politeness which we did not expect. The 8th, another deserter came in; he was pursued, but we protected him. The subsequent day we observed several men about the western and eastern advanced stone guard-houses, which we imagined were posted there to prevent desertion. Our artillery endeavoured to dislodge them with round shot, but did not succeed. The 10th, the Enemy fired several rounds, from Fort St. Philip, at our fishing-boats in the Bay. Four soldiers of De la Motte's regiment, quartered on Windmill-hill, attempted, on the 13th, to desert: search was however immediately made for them, and two were retaken. Those who escaped were supposed to have got down by a rope-ladder, left by the party employed in cutting brush-wood for fascines. The next day another of the Enemy endeavoured to come over to us, but, being pursued by two horsemen, was cut down and secured. One of the horses belonging to the pursuers was killed by our fire, and the rider much bruised with the fall. The succeeding day, this unfortunate man was executed on a new gallows, erected near their artillery-park, and the body, according to custom, hung till sun-set.

THE

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THE Governor, on the 19th, ordered that no guns should be fired from the garrison at the Enemy's shipping, if the distance required more than 6° elevation; except when ships were chasing, or engaged. On the 20th, the Buck, having refitted, sailed on a cruise to the eastward. We were afterwards informed that she unfortunately fell in with a French frigate, which, after a few broadsides, captured the Buck; but before she could be got into port, she sunk from the damage received in the action. On the night of the 26th, we had a most violent storm of rain, with dreadful thunder and lightning. The succeeding morning a vast quantity of wood, cork, &c. was floating under our walls: the rain had washed it from the banks of the Palmones and Guadارانque, and it was wafted by the wind over to our side of the Bay. Fuel had long been a scarce article: this supply was therefore considered as a miraculous interference of Providence in our favour.

THE Enemy, the 27th, fired four guns from Fort St. Philip: one of the shot struck the extremity of Prince's lines. Whether these were fired to frighten our fishermen, who were dragging their nets near the farther gardens, without Landport, or only as an experiment, we could not say, as they immediately ceased on our returning the fire from Willis's. The day following, came in three deserters; and the same morning the Fly packet-boat arrived from Tangier, with 40 goats, fowls and eggs, but no mail: this cargo, though trifling, was highly acceptable. The deserters informed us that the Enemy were almost overflowed in their lines, from the late excessive rains: in some places, particularly near the new batteries, the water was two and three feet deep; and their efforts to drain it off had hitherto been ineffectual. The 28th, a soldier of Hardenberg's deserted down the back of the rock.

JANUARY,

JANUARY, 1780, did not commence with any very interesting events. A squadron of men of war passed through to the west on the 2d: it being hazy, we could not distinguish of what nation they were; but many thought them Spaniards from Carthage. On the evening of the 5th, a fire broke out in the Enemy's camp, which, we afterwards learned, destroyed four officers' marquees, and six or seven huts. The following day, after gun-fire, two Walons deserted to us: they brought information that upwards of forty mortars were mounted in the lines, and that all their batteries were completed with cannon.

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Jan.

A NEAPOLITAN polacre was luckily driven under our guns on the 8th, and obliged to come in. On board we found about 6000 bushels of barley, a cargo (circumstanced as we were) of inestimable value. The bakers had long been limited to the quantity of bread daily to be issued to the inhabitants, and sentries were placed at the wickets where it was delivered, to prevent confusion and riot. The strongest nevertheless had the advantage; so that numbers of women, children, and infirm persons, returned to their miserable habitations, frequently without tasting, for some days, that chief, and perhaps necessary support of life. The inhabitants were not the only sufferers in this scene of distress; many officers and soldiers had families to support out of the pittance received from the victualling-office. A soldier, with his wife and three children, would inevitably have been starved to death, had not the generous contribution of his corps relieved his family: one woman actually died through want; and many were so enfeebled, that it was not without great attention they recovered: thistles, dandelion, wild leeks, &c. were for some time the daily nourishment of numbers. Few supplies arriving from Barbary, and there appearing little prospect of relief from England, famine began to present itself with its attendant horrors: had there been a glimmering hope of

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assistance from home, it would have enabled many to support themselves under this accumulation of distress; but, alas! we seemed entirely abandoned to our fortune.

Not only bread, but every article necessary to the support of life, was hard to be procured, and only to be purchased at exorbitant prices. Veal, mutton, and beef, sold from two shillings and six-pence, to four shillings per pound; fresh pork, from two to three shillings; salt beef and pork, one shilling and three-pence per pound: fowls, eighteen shillings per couple; ducks, a guinea; fire-wood, five shillings per hundred weight; a pint of milk and water, one shilling and three-pence. Vegetables were extremely scarce: a small cabbage cost one shilling and six-pence, and a small bunch of the outward leaves sold for five-pence; Irish butter, two shillings and six-pence per pound; eggs, six-pence each; and candles, two shillings and six-pence per pound. The best fish was most exorbitantly dear, considering on what terms the garrison had been formerly supplied. It is natural to suppose, from the rock being almost surrounded with the sea, that we should have a constant resource in this article; the contrary was however the case: our fishermen were foreigners, and being under no regulation, they exacted, by degrees, most extravagant sums for what some months before we should have refused with disgust.

THIS extreme scarcity of provisions, it may well be imagined, could not fail to exercise the invention of individuals. A singular mode of hatching chickens was about this time successfully practised by the Hanoverians; and, as it may be acceptable to some readers, the process, as communicated by a friend, is here inserted. The eggs were placed, with some cotton, wool, or other warm substance, in a tin case of such construction as to be heated either by a lamp or hot water; and, by a proper attention to the temperature

ture of heat, the eggs were commonly hatched in the usual time of a hen's sitting. A capon (however strange it may appear) was then taught to rear them: to reconcile him to this trust, the feathers were plucked from his breast and belly; he was then gently scourged with a bunch of nettles, and placed upon the young hatch, whose downy warmth afforded such comfort to the bared and smarting parts, that he, from that period, reared them up with the care and tenderness of a mother.

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EARLY in the morning of the 10th, a squadron of ships was seen to the east, which had passed through in the night; five were of the line, and one under jury-masts: supposed to be Count D'Estaing's fleet from the West-Indies. The same day a soldier of the 58th regiment was executed for stealing: he was the first man who had suffered since General Elliott had been Governor. The day following, the Enemy fired, from Fort St. Barbara, on a clergyman performing the last office over the corpse of a soldier of the 72d regiment, at the burial-ground near the Governor's meadow. The party immediately retired, though not before they had deposited their charge. As this conduct convinced us that the Enemy would not permit us to bury our dead without the garrison, a part of the red sands behind the Princess of Wales's lines was appropriated to that purpose.

THE 12th, they surprised us again with ten shot from Fort St. Philip: several came into town, and did some trifling damage amongst the buildings. The inhabitants, whose alarms had not totally subsided since the middle of September, when the Governor opened upon the Enemy, were now perfectly convinced they meant to return our fire; and accordingly began, on the first report of their guns, to remove themselves to the southward. Some in the greatest confusion endeavoured to secure their valuables in

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town; but the firing ceasing, the fugitives, before night, summoned up sufficient courage to return. A woman, passing near one of the houses, was slightly hurt. It was singular that a female should be the first person wounded at this remarkable siege. In the evening, the commanding officers had orders to inform their corps, that the Governor was under the necessity of curtailing the weekly allowance of provisions. Disagreeable as this intelligence was, and particularly when we consider the distress which many experienced, even with the full allowance, the men received it without the smallest appearance of discontent. Convinced of the necessity, they acquiesced with cheerfulness: indeed, to do them justice, in all the vicissitudes of this trying period, the garrison submitted, without murmuring, to every necessary regulation, however unpleasing. It was fortunate for many, that this subtraction of provisions did not continue long: nay, it remains a doubt with some, whether, at the time, the Governor was not apprised of a relief being near; and did not enact this regulation, solely to make trial of the disposition of his troops. If so, how satisfactory a circumstance must it have been, to find the army under his command accord, with so much good-humour, to what might be considered as a real hardship, however indispensable!

ADMIRAL DUFF, on the 13th, gave orders to the men of war and armed vessels, to be prepared, in case a convoy was near, to afford every protection to any straggling ships that might attempt the Port before the main body arrived. This caution confirmed us in the opinion of a convoy being expected; and a general joy was diffused throughout the garrison, at the flattering, though probably distant prospect. Two days after, an ordnance-brig, which with other vessels seemed to be going through to the east, suddenly altered her course, and, notwithstanding she was opposed by the Enemy, anchored under our walls. A ship with the British flag, entering

entering the Bay, was so uncommon a sight, that almost the whole garrison were assembled at the southward to welcome her in; but words are insufficient to describe their transports on being informed that she was one of a large convoy which had sailed the latter end of the preceding month for our relief. The distressed Jews, and other inhabitants, were frantic with joy; and the repeated huzzas from all quarters, for some time prevented further enquiries. We afterwards learned, that she had parted company with the convoy in the Bay of Biscay, and off Cadiz had discovered nine sail of large ships, which the master concluded were Spaniards stationed there to oppose their entrance. The latter part of their information gave us much uneasiness. The Enemy, we concluded, would have good intelligence of the force of the British convoy. If, therefore, any opposition was intended, a superior squadron would consequently be stationed at the entrance of the Straits. These reflections damped, in a great degree, the pleasure we before experienced, and made us apprehensive that the relief was not so near as we at first expected. The prospect of it had however a very visible effect on the price of provisions, which immediately fell more than two thirds.

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SINCE it was probable that straggling ships might attempt the Port before the body of the convoy approached, the Childers sloop of war, and armed vessels, were ordered to cruise in the Bay, to protect them from the Enemy's small-craft. Previous to the arrival of the brig, a soldier of the 58th regiment deserted from a party employed behind the Rock in gathering shrubs, &c. for fascines. The 16th, a Walon deserted to us, by whom we were informed, that the Enemy had every thing prepared in their lines to bombard the Town. At another time we should have been greatly alarmed at this intelligence; but our thoughts were too much engaged with the pleasing, though uncertain hopes of relief, to reflect on the consequences

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consequences of a bombardment. In the evening, our apprehensions concerning the convoy were totally dispelled, by the arrival of a brig laden with flour, which communicated the joyful news that Admiral Sir George Brydges Rodney had captured, off the coast of Portugal, a Spanish 64-gun ship, five of 32 and 28 guns, with seventeen merchantmen, belonging to the Caracca Company, going from Bilboa to Cadiz; and that, with a FLEET of TWENTY-ONE sail of the line, and a large convoy of merchant-ships and transports, he was proceeding to our relief. Every idea of opposition at this information immediately vanished; and we anticipated the flattering prospect of seeing the British flag once more triumphantly displayed in the Mediterranean.

THE weather, on the 17th, was very hazy; but clearing up the succeeding day, one of the prizes arrived, without any opposition from the Enemy. The midshipman who brought her in informed us, that when he parted with the fleet on the 16th, Sir George was engaged with a Spanish squadron off Cape St. Mary's; and that, just before they lost sight of them, a ship of the line blew up; but he was at too great a distance to distinguish whether she was friend or foe. In the evening, one of the armed Caracca prizes came in, but no further particulars of the engagement could be learned. Our anxiety concerning the event of the action was however removed, a few hours afterwards, by the appearance of the convoy itself off Europa. The wind, at that critical time, unfortunately failed them; and the vivid flashes of lightning, by which we had discovered the fleet at the first, only served to exhibit them to us, driving with the current to the eastward of the Rock. The Apollo frigate, Capt. Pownall, with one or two merchantmen, nevertheless got in about eleven; and by the former, the Governor and Garrison were acquainted with the agreeable tidings of a complete VICTORY over the Spanish Admiral, who, with three others of his squadron,

was

was taken ; one was run ashore, another blown up in the engagement, and the rest dispersed.

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WE now found, that the plan for relieving Gibraltar had been conducted at home with such secrecy and prudence, that the Enemy never suspected that Sir George meant to convoy the transports to the Straits, with so strong a fleet. By their intelligence from Brest, they understood he was to separate in a certain latitude, and proceed with the main body of the men of war, to the West-Indies. Thus deceived, they concluded that the transports with their convoy would fall an easy prey to their squadron, which consisted of eleven men of war, all chosen ships from their grand fleet.

AT day-break, on the morning of the 19th, the Enemy unmasked one of their fourteen-gun batteries. The guns, with those in the fort, were all elevated, and the lines reinforced with two regiments of infantry. The Governor, notwithstanding these appearances, ordered a royal salute to be fired at six o'clock from Willis's. The Panther man of war was decorated, and also fired a salute on account of this victory. About seven the Edgar arrived, with the Phoenix prize of 80 guns, having on board the Spanish Admiral, Don Juan de Langara y Huarte. This ship had lost her mizen and main top-masts, but seemed little injured in the hull. The Admiral, who was wounded in the engagement, was conducted on shore in the evening to lodgings in town, and had every attention and compliment paid him which were due to his rank. At night, Admiral Digby, in the Prince George, worked round Europa with eleven or twelve ships ; but Sir George remained with the crippled prizes, and with the main body of the fleet, off Marbella, a Spanish town, formerly of note, sixteen leagues to the eastward of Gibraltar.

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THE 20th, being the anniversary of the King of Spain's birthday, Admiral Barcelo's ships were decorated according to custom. When the colours were struck in the evening, the flag-ship, with her consort of 50 guns, was hauled close in land; and the next day a large party began to erect a battery on the shore for their protection; being apprehensive, probably, of an attack from the British fleet. The night of the 21st, the Enemy unmasked the other batteries in the lines, which again caused a general disturbance amongst the inhabitants. Every thing seemed now prepared to fire upon the town. The convoy continued beating up; but the prizes were so damaged in their rigging, that they could not be expected to make the Bay till the wind veered round to the east. Early on the 22d, several men of war, in coming into the Bay, were carried down under the Enemy's batteries, near Point Mala, which occasioned a general alarm in their camp. Drums beat to arms, and their artillery opened in an instant. The boats of the fleet, however, were ordered to their assistance, and the ships were towed back without receiving much damage. One man was killed, and two wounded, on board the Terrible; all of them Spanish prisoners.

SIR GEORGE, on his arrival off the coast of Barbary, had sent intelligence to Mr. Logie, to prepare supplies for the Garrison. Three vessels, therefore, sailed in the course of the 22d for Tetuan, to bring over what was at hand. The Consul had provided cattle, fascines, pickets, &c. in readiness for the ships when they arrived; but, to his surprise, the ships sent in the hurry of business, under convoy of the Bedford, were transports, fitted up for the reception of troops, with many weeks provisions on board; and before the births could be removed to admit the supplies, the wind came easterly, and the ships were obliged to return without them. This oversight was of great detriment to the Garrison, as at this period we might have procured fresh provisions, which with economy would have served

served for some months. The garrison vessels were afterwards sent for these articles; but after Sir George Rodney's departure, most of them were detained by the vigilance of the Enemy's cruisers.

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WE learned by the Childers, on the 23d, that Sir George was at anchor, with the prizes, in Tetuan Road; and waited only a favourable wind to join the remainder of the fleet in the Bay. As the town of Tetuan has frequently been mentioned in the preceding pages, and probably will as often occur in the course of the subsequent; the reader will perhaps not be displeased to find in this place a short description of it. Tetuan is a very ancient town in Barbary, situated to the south-east of Ceuta, about six miles from the sea, on a river which meanders beautifully through a pleasant country; but which has a bar at the entrance, that renders it unnavigable for large ships. Small vessels get up about two miles, as far as Marteen, which is the quay and port of Tetuan. The town is walled round with square towers at different distances, to flank the curtains. It is built on the gentle slope of a hill; and the houses being white, with flat roofs, have the appearance at a distance of an encampment. The buildings are so contrived, that a person may go from one end of the town to the other, without descending into the streets; and in this manner their women, by occupying the upper stories, visit each other without being exposed to the sight of the male sex in the streets below.

THE Town has a manufactory, and carries on a considerable trade, principally in barter: the road is, however, so exposed towards the east, that ships cannot remain there during the Levant winds. The Moors exchange cattle, poultry, and fruit, for other articles; and when there is a truce between the powers, supply several parts of Spain with provisions. The oranges of Tetuan are esteemed the largest and best-flavoured of any in that part of the globe.

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THE Enemy, we imagined, were not a little alarmed by the casual appearance of our ships on the morning of the 22d; as, for several days after, they were busy in removing cannon from their artillery-park to the different batteries along the coast. At Algeziras, the top-masts and yards of the men of war were struck, and the ships hauled as close in land, under the protection of the new battery, as the depth of water would admit. Several Spanish officers were now permitted to return on their parole to Spain. The 24th, the Childers sailed back to Tetuan; and soon after arrived a British letter of marque from Newfoundland, laden with salt-fish.

WHILST the fleet remained in the Bay, the Governor and Garrison were often honoured with the presence of the Royal Midshipman, Prince William-Henry; and when that youthful hero, on his return, laid his early laurels at the feet of his Royal Father, he presented, at the same time, a plan of the garrison, in the relief of which he had made his first naval essay. In that plan were delineated the improvements which the place had undergone, and the new batteries erected on the heights since the commencement of the blockade.

THE mention of his Royal Highness brings to my recollection an anecdote of him, which occurred whilst the fleet was in the Bay. The Spanish Admiral, Don Juan Langara, one morning visited Admiral Digby, to whose charge the Prince was intrusted; and Don Langara was of course introduced to his Royal Highness. During the conference between the Admirals, Prince William retired; and when it was intimated that Don Juan wished to return, His Royal Highness appeared in his character of midshipman, and respectfully informed the Admiral, that the boat was ready. The Spaniard,

Spaniard, astonished to see the son of a Monarch acting as a petty officer, immediately exclaimed, "Well does Great-Britain merit the empire of the sea, when the humblest stations in her Navy are supported by Princes of the Blood."

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THREE of the Enemy, on the 25th, deserted to the Garrison; a fourth, attempting to desert, was retaken, and another was shot by the pursuers within musket-shot of our lines. We fired from Willis's at the horsemen who followed them, and wounded two of their horses. The deserters said it was reported, that the Enemy intended bombarding the town the succeeding day. For several preceding months we had reason, from their operations, to think such an event not improbable. Seven or eight mortar-batteries had been distributed along their lines, in which, according to our intelligence, were upwards of forty mortars: these, with the cannon bearing on the garrison from their gun-batteries, amounted in all to upwards of 100 pieces of ordnance. They therefore were not unprepared for such service; but whether the circumstance of the Spanish Admiral and officers being lodged in town might not at that time in some degree influence their conduct, or whether they were over-awed by the strong naval force in their neighbourhood, they deferred the bombardment to a more distant period.

SIR GEORGE arrived in the Sandwich from Tetuan on the 25th; and the following day, the prizes, and remaining men of war, were all at anchor in the Bay. A council of war was immediately held on the Admiral's arrival; but the subject of their debates was not made public. Late in the evening of the same day, a Newfoundland vessel with fish, coming in, approached so close to the Enemy's coast, that our guard-boats were obliged to bring her to her proper birth.

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THE Fortune sloop carried over to Point Mala, on the 26th, the Spanish wounded prisoners: Admiral Langara, with his suite, still remained in town. Admiral Sir George Brydges Rodney landed on the 27th at Ragged-staff, and, after visiting the Spanish Admiral, dined with the Governor. Prince William, with Admiral Digby, &c. likewise dined at the Convent. The same day, the Governor ordered those soldiers wives and children, who were not provided with twelve months provisions, to prepare to leave the garrison with the fleet: 250 lb. of flour, or 360 lb. of biscuit, was stated as sufficient for one person. By this regulation many useless hands were sent home, which would have been a vast burthen on the garrison, circumstanced as we afterwards were. The evening of the 28th, the Childers sailed for England with dispatches from the Admiral; but meeting with a gale of wind at west, she was compelled to return, after losing her fore-yard, and throwing four guns over-board. At night came in a deserter from the Walon guards.

ABOUT noon, on the 29th, a large ship appeared from the westward: on doubling Cabrita Point she was discovered to be an enemy. Signals were instantly made for the Edgar and two frigates to attack her. In the mean time the Spaniard seemed greatly confused, but at last worked close in land, between two barbet batteries at the Point. Several broadsides were exchanged between her and the Edgar, whilst the frigates attacked the batteries. They were however after some time recalled, the Admiral being apprehensive that they might sustain greater damage from the land, than the object in action would excuse. The same day the second battalion of the 73d regiment, or Lord M'Leod's Highlanders, commanded by Lieut. Col. George M'Kenzie, disembarked from on board the fleet at the New mole, and took possession of the casemates in the King's bastion, &c. This regiment was intended for Minorca; but General Elliott thought proper, with the advice of

of the Admirals, &c. to detain them. Their strength at this time was 30 officers, 6 staff officers, 50 serjeants, 22 drummers, and 944 rank and file: an excellent reinforcement in our situation, since the scurvy had already begun to appear among us. Colonels Picton and Mawhood, with many other officers, joined their corps also by this fleet. On the night of the 29th, came in three more Walons. The Minorca convoy sailed on the 31st, under the Marlborough, Invincible, &c. The wind changing to the east in the evening, the Childers made another attempt to pass the Straits; which she effected, and carried home dispatches giving authentic accounts of the preceding victory.

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SIR GEORGE, when he captured the Caracca fleet, judged that the cargoes of several would be useful to the Garrison: he therefore brought with him what ships he thought would be servicable, and landed their freights along with the supplies which Government had sent out. A great number of guns of heavy metal, and some hundred barrels of powder, were also purchased from the Spanish prizes by the Governor, notwithstanding he had received a large supply of the latter by the convoy. The artillery (whose constant practice it was to try the strength of powder on the batteries) afterwards compared the quality and strength of the British and Spanish powder, and found the former greatly superior.

IN the beginning of February, the wind from the S.W. blew a strong gale, which, from the foulness of the anchorage off Rosia Bay, &c. involved the fleet in great distress. Some of them were in very imminent danger of being forced upon the rocks, particularly one of the Spanish prizes, which without doubt would have experienced that fate, if seasonable assistance had not been sent her, and the wind had not abated. The 3d, Admiral Barcelo again hoisted his flag and ensign, having secured his ships by a strong boom, and completed the battery on the land, which mounted

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22 guns.

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22 guns. Merlons were also added to the Fort on the Island, which before was *en barbet*.

THREE deserters came in on the 5th: they were immediately sent on board the fleet, where the others had been ordered the preceding day, to take their passage for England. These men gave dismal accounts of the Enemy's sufferings in camp, where universal discontent prevailed on account of the great scarcity and dearth of provisions. We little doubted the truth of this intelligence: the neighbourhood of their camp, from our own knowledge of the country, was not capable of subsisting so large an army; consequently they were obliged to be supplied with provisions, &c. from places at a distance; and these resources, since Admiral Rodney's arrival, had been cut off. Our cruisers, in truth, not only obstructed these supplies, but also prevented the garrison of Ceuta from receiving the refreshments from Spain which their situation made necessary; and our intelligence from Barbary mentioned that that garrison was in a similar, if not worse condition than their opposite friends. If Sir George therefore had continued some time longer in the Mediterranean, our enemies probably would have been reduced to greater difficulties than we ourselves had experienced.

As THIS fortress is in some degree connected with the subject of the present narrative, it may not be improper to relieve the reader's attention by a brief description of it. The town of Ceuta is situated on the coast of Barbary, about 15 miles to the southward of Gibraltar. In the æra of the Romans it was a town of some note, but on the decline of that empire fell, like others, to the dominion of the Goths and Moors. Ceuta remained in the possession of the latter till the year 1414, when John I. King of Portugal, with a formidable force, surpris'd and took it. The Moors afterwards made many attempts to recover it, but in vain; and ever since, it has

has remained in the possession of the Christians. Upon the demise of Henry of Portugal, in 1578, that crown was seized upon by the Spaniards; Ceuta consequently became a Spanish garrison: and when the Portuguese revolted, under John Duke of Braganza, in 1640, and again established themselves into a distinct kingdom, Ceuta did not, with the rest of the Empire, return to its natural allegiance, but continued in the hands of the Spaniards, by whom it has been held ever since.

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BEING a promontory projecting into the sea, the situation of Ceuta is not much different from that of Gibraltar. The town, which is built on the neck of land that joins it to the Continent, is strongly fortified in the modern manner. The suburbs are at some distance, in order to be more out of reach of the shells, in case of an attack from the land; and they extend to the foot of a mountain, at the extremity of the peninsula, on which are erected a watch-tower and castle, surrounded with a fortified wall, about a league in circumference. The fortifications are kept in good repair by slaves, who are sentenced to this punishment from the different prisons in Spain; and a strong garrison is kept in the fortress, to prevent a surprise from the Moors, who, like the Spaniards with respect to Gibraltar, have a watchful eye over it. The city is regularly furnished with provisions from the opposite ports in Spain; and being destitute of water, which was formerly conducted by an aqueduct from the neighbourhood, is supplied with that article from Estepona, a small Spanish fishing-town about nine leagues to the eastward of Gibraltar.

ANOTHER deserter came in on the 10th of February. The day following, the invalids and women embarked on board the fleet. By the 12th the supplies were all landed, and the rigging of the Spanish prizes being repaired, the fleet prepared to return. The same day a flag of truce brought over some English prisoners: one
of

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of them, the master of a merchantman, which had been taken in her voyage to the Garrison, informed us that the boom at Algeziras was a twenty-two-inch cable-ropes, buoyed up by casks, to prevent our sending fire-ships among their shipping.

THE Spanish Admiral, having regulated, with Sir George Rodney every thing concerning the exchange and release of prisoners, was ~~permitted~~, on the 13th, to return upon his parole into Spain. He was conducted, with part of his suite, in the Governor's carriage, to the Spanish lines, where he was received by his friends, and with them proceeded on to the camp. The succeeding day, the remainder of the Spanish officers were taken by the Fortune sloop, and landed at the Orange-grove. Lieut. Williams, of the navy, (who, after taking possession of one of the Spanish prizes in the action off St. Mary's, was obliged to run her ashore near Cadiz, and surrender himself prisoner) returned, with another officer, on board the sloop, to the Garrison. The liberal and polite behaviour of the Navy and the Governor to Don Langara and his countrymen, made a sensible and lasting impression on their minds, and was, confessedly, of great advantage to the English prisoners in Spain; particularly to those taken in our neighbourhood, who ever afterwards were treated with great attention and humanity.

IN the evening of the 13th, the British fleet got under way, excepting the Edgar and the Panther ships of the line, the Enterprise and Porcupine frigates, which were left behind, as great part of their crews had been removed to man the prizes. The Enemy, on their appearing in motion, immediately gave the alarm, which was communicated by signals from their towers along the coasts towards Cadiz. At dusk, few of our ships were in sight from the upper part of the hill.

CHAPTER IV.

The Spaniards renew the blockade.—Attempt to burn our shipping by nine fire-ships, but miscarry.—Gun-boats.—Garrison again distressed.—Enemy effectually cut off the supplies from Barbary.—Break ground in advance from their lines.—Scurvy very prevalent.—Grossly relieved by the use of lemons.—Mode of using this vegetable acid.—Garrison obtain a few supplies from Minorca.—Enemy retarded in their operations.—Spirited action between the Enemy and an English polacre.—Garrison obliged to quit the gardens on the neutral ground.—Tangier.—Speedwell cutter arrives after a spirited engagement.—A spy discovered.—Mr. Logie, the British Consul in Barbary, expelled the Emperor's dominions.—Cruel treatment which he and the other British subjects experienced.—Cause of this event.—A memorial from the Officers of the Garrison.—Great distress of the troops.—The Kite cutter, Captain Trollop, arrives with intelligence that the British fleet is at the entrance of the Straits.

THE Garrison might now be considered in a very perfect state of defence. The scurvy indeed had begun to affect many, and threatened to become more general; but we flattered ourselves that the Enemy would give up their intention of starving us to a surrender, and, by relaxing in their vigilance at sea, might afford us an opportunity of receiving constant supplies of those articles most essential to health. Our stores and magazines were full; a reinforcement had joined the garrison; and new spirits were infused into the troops, since they were convinced, from the powerful force sent to their relief, that they were not forgotten in the multiplicity of objects which necessarily engaged the attention of our friends at home.

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ADMIRAL DUFF having returned on board the fleet to England, the command of the Squadron that remained in the Bay, consequently devolved on Captain Elliott of the *Edgar*, who, on the 14th of February, hoisted his broad pendant as Commodore.

THE 16th of the same month, Admiral Barcelo removed the boom at Algeziras, and warped out to his former anchorage, immediately detaching his small craft to Cabrita Point, to intercept any ships that might attempt coming in. In the afternoon, the Enemy executed two men in camp, who, it was imagined, had been retaken in attempting to desert: their bodies were not cut down until the 20th. This punishment seemed however to have little effect; for at night three others came in, having swum round Fort Barbara. The multitude of deserters from the Spanish lines during the whole of the siege, is one of the circumstances least capable of a satisfactory explanation. What could these unhappy men expect in a confined and blockaded garrison, and even at a time when they could not fail to be acquainted with the distress and difficulties under which we laboured? The very act of escaping was attended with innumerable dangers; and, should the Garrison afterwards fall into the hands of the Enemy, they were certain to meet with the severest punishment. There is, however, a kind of heroism in the passions: disgust, or resentment, will prompt men to overlook dangers and difficulties, which, in the line of their duty, would be esteemed insurmountable.

A VENETIAN came in from the west, on the 21st: she spoke the British fleet all well to the west of Cape St. Vincent. The subsequent day, a Dutch prize, laden with flour, was sent in by the Maidstone privateer, which arrived herself on the 23d. Several other vessels came in during the intermediate time to the 27th: when a Spanish Squadron of four line-of-battle ships, two frigates, and

and a xebecque, joined Admiral Barcelo from the west, and again blocked up the port. From the patched and disorderly appearance of their sails and rigging, it was conjectured that they were fitted up in haste, and solely for the duty of the blockade: it gave us however some uneasiness to find them again likely to adopt their former system.

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At day-break, on the preceding day, we discovered a vessel at anchor off Waterport, which we fired upon, supposing her to be a Spaniard: she immediately sent her boat to Ragged-staff, and informed us that she was of Naples, and bound to London; that she had touched at Minorca, and had on board two English discharged soldiers, and two women passengers. The boat returned, and soon after went on shore at Fort St. Philip, where it remained about half an hour. In the evening the Enemy fired a shot at the vessel; upon which she sent her boat a second time ashore: we answered the shot from Willis's: nevertheless at night she went over unperceived to Algeziras.

March.

In the beginning of March, three regiments decamped from the Enemy's army, and took different routes. On the night of the 2d, two Genoese sailors, who had formerly belonged to a privateer of the Garrison, came over to us in a small boat from Algeziras. The following day a Spanish convoy under a Commodore arrived in the Bay, from the west. The Governor, on the 11th, ordered the Garrison to be victualled monthly (bread excepted) in the following proportion: for a soldier, each first and third week, 1 lb. of pork, 2½ lb. of salt fish, which had been purchased from the Newfoundland ship; 2 pints of pease; 1 lb. of flour; ¼ lb. of raisins; 1 lb. of rice; 5 oz. of butter; 1½ pint of oatmeal. Second and fourth week, 1½ lb. of beef, 2 lb. of fish, 2 pints of pease, 1 lb. of rice, 5 oz. of butter, 1½ lb. of wheat, ¼ lb. of raisins: The salt cod

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March.

being indifferent of its kind, and the soldiers not having proper vegetables to dress with it, proved very pernicious. This article continued to be delivered for near seven months; and undoubtedly, in a great degree, promoted that dreadful disorder, the scurvy, which, before Sir George Rodney arrived, had made its appearance, and afterwards became very general and fatal. The Governor, however, in this new distribution, considered the hospital, whose proportion of salt meat was less, and more nourishing articles issued in stead.

NOTWITHSTANDING the repeated assurances from the Spaniards, that the English prisoners in our neighbourhood should be exchanged for those taken with Admiral Langara, none were yet sent in agreeably to that Admiral's promise: Commodore Eliott was therefore under the necessity of making a formal demand, and to enforce it told them, if they did not comply, he should expect the Spanish Admiral would return with the officers then upon their parole. This convinced them the Commodore was no longer to be trifled with: accordingly, on the 12th, about 390 British seamen were received on board the Fortune sloop, and distributed amongst the men of war, whose crews, as I have mentioned before, were sent to man the Spanish prizes. The same day a Moorish sloop came in from Malaga, and brought intelligence that the Enemy had fitted up several fire-ships in the Bay. In the evening, three of the 72d absented themselves from their corps: search was made the succeeding day, and two of them were discovered asleep in a cave, behind the Sugar-Loaf Point. They had cut up their working-dresses into shreds, which were tied together to favour their descent down the rock; and it is imagined the following night they would have repeated their attempt to get off. One of these men was afterwards executed, but the other was pardoned.

THE

THE Fly packet arrived the 14th, with an English mail. In the afternoon the Maidstone came in, with a settee prize, which the Captain had cut out of Malaga road. A privateer, called the Alert, beat in from the west on the 15th, notwithstanding an easterly wind. A prize following her was taken off Cabrita Point. The 17th, the Enemy sent in 41 British seamen, who were distributed as before.

1786,
March.

THE Enemy at this time were not particularly employed. Some new arrangements were made in their artillery-park; and in their camp they were busy, collecting brush-wood for fascines, which caused various conjectures in the Garrison concerning their future operations. A salute and feu-de-joie were fired in their camp on the 19th, supposed to be occasioned by the birth of a son to the Princess of Asturias. The night of the 23d, the Alert sailed with dispatches for England; and on the 29th we received from the Enemy more English prisoners. In the course of the month the Garrison lost four men by desertion.

APRIL was not remarkable for any events of moment. On the 2d, the Porcupine frigate, Sir Charles Knowles, Bart. sailed to the eastward on a cruise. The 5th, arrived the Fly packet: she reported that a merchantman, bound to the Garrison, had been obliged by a north wind, when she was almost arrived in the Bay, to pass to the eastward, and put into Tetuan, where she waited a favourable opportunity to renew her attempt. The Fortune sloop, on the 6th, took over to the Enemy 300 Spaniards, who had been confined as prisoners for some time in our Navy-hospital. She returned with nine British, and two days after took over 280 prisoners. The night of the 12th a sloop, with two settees, came in from Tangier: the former brought a packet from Mr. Logie; and the latter, cattle, and other acceptable articles. The following day

April.

1810. April. we observed the Enemy forming a bridge of pontons across the mouth of the river Guadarranque. At night, the Hyena frigate, Capt. Thompson, arrived in thirteen days from England. She was chased by the Enemy's cruisers, and fired at, but received very little damage. The 20th, the Edgar, Commodore Elliott, and the Hyena, with a privateer, sailed to the west, notwithstanding the Enemy's superiority in the Bay. Admiral Barcelo seemed to suspect their intention; for instantly on their appearing under sail, he made a signal for his squadron to pursue. The Edgar and her consort were, however, out of fight before the Spaniards got abreast of Cabrita Point.

TOWARDS the conclusion of the month, the Enemy were more active in their camp, and sometimes in the lines; to which place they brought down a great quantity of fascines. They were chiefly employed in raising the boyau, and making repairs, which were however so trifling, that our artillery did not disturb them. Besides the arrivals already noted, we received supplies by two or three boats from the Barbary coast; and in the course of the month, three deserters came over from the Enemy, one of whom swam from Teflé's battery to Landport.

May. MAY was not less barren of interesting occurrences than the preceding month. Several deserters attempted to get in, but some were so unfortunate as to be overtaken by their pursuers. These wretches were generally executed the succeeding day, but the example did not deter others from similar attempts.

THE 4th, the Fly returned with fowls, leather, and fruit. Two days following, the Enemy's army were under arms in two divisions, and performed a sharp engagement. One division took post on the eminence above the Stone-quarry, under the Queen of Spain's chair, and was attacked by the other from below. After a smart cannonade,
and

and brisk discharge of musquetry, the party above gave way; but the night prevented our observing the conclusion. The succeeding day, the *Fortune* received from a Spanish flag of truce 47 prisoners, very few of whom were British. At night small arms were discharged on the neutral ground, supposed to be at some deserters who were coming off. One Walon reached the barrier, and informed us that several of his comrades agreed to follow him. The 10th, two men were executed in the Spanish camp; probably, the same who were retaken.

1780.
May.

ANOTHER deserter, belonging to the regiment of *Estremadura*, came in on the 11th, and was remarkable for being the first native of Spain who deserted. The Spanish infantry in general is raised upon a local establishment. Each district is required, by an ancient law called the *Quinta*, to furnish a certain proportion of troops; and the men are enrolled for about seven or eight years service, after which time they are permitted to return to their respective provinces: and, as the Spaniards are all strongly attached to their native spot, desertion is consequently less common with them than with any other troops. Most of the men who deserted to us, came from those regiments in their service which are composed of foreigners.

A SWEDEN was brought-to from *Europa*, the 15th, and obliged to come in. We were much disappointed in her lading, which was salt. We had a few days before received some supplies from *Tangier*; and on the 18th two boats arrived from *Tetuan*, with fowls and oil: the latter reported that the *Fly* packet, which had left us on the 11th, was driven ashore on the Barbary coast by the Enemy's cruisers, who, after the crew had quitted her, took possession. We were much concerned at this intelligence; for the *Fly* was a fast sailer, and had been very fortunate in frequently passing

1780.
April

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passing in and out unobserved. The 20th, came in a Moorish sloop from Malaga, with butter, raisins, and leather: the latter article was much wanted; indeed, so scarce was it become in the garrison, that several officers, and, most of the men, had been necessitated to wear shoes made of canvas, with soles of spun yarn.

A LETTER OF MARQUE arrived on the 25th from Leghorn, with wine, oil, and other articles: a very valuable cargo to the Garrison. On the 30th the Enemy's army were again under arms. Their manœuvres on that day, were the attack and defence of a convoy. Their parties, as in the last month, continued arranging the ordnance in their artillery-park, and bringing down to the lines, materials for the repair of their works. Our artillery, however, took little notice of them.

June.

IN the beginning of June we received some seasonable supplies, by the arrival of three boats from Tetuan, and one from Tangier. By the latter we had intelligence, that the Fox packet, from Faro, and a sloop, were at that place, waiting an opportunity to get in; and by this, or one of the former vessels, Mr. Logie gave information that the Enemy had prepared several fire-ships, to burn our shipping in the Bay. Two months before, he had intimated to Commodore Elliott, that the Spaniards had five fire-ships in readiness for immediate use; and that they had once made an attempt to send them over, but the wind failed. Repeating the intelligence, therefore, at this time, was peculiarly fortunate, as the next night they attempted to put in execution their design. The same day, a Spanish ship of the line sailed from Algeziras, to the eastward.

Our naval force, at this period, consisted of the Panther of 60 guns, Capt. Harvey, (who, since Commodore Elliott's departure, commanded

1780,
June.

commanded in the Mediterranean); the *Enterprise* frigate, Captain Lesley; two armed vessels commanded by lieutenants, with several armed transports; and other ships, belonging to merchants. On the morning of the 7th, a little after midnight, the *Enterprise*, which was anchored to the northward, off the New-mole head, discovered several sail approaching her from the opposite side of the Bay: they were hailed; but before satisfactory answers could be received, several fire-works and inflammable substances were thrown on board, and six fire-ships suddenly appeared in the form of a crescent, bearing down upon her, and the ordnance-ships in the New mole. Captain Lesley, with immediate presence of mind, instantly fired three guns to alarm his friends, and cutting his cable, drove closer in shore. The *Panther* and shipping, on the appearance of the Enemy, immediately commenced a brisk cannonade to retard their progress; and, manning their boats, the officers and seamen, with their usual intrepidity, grappled the ships; and, notwithstanding the fierceness of the flames, towed them clear of our vessels under the walls, where they were afterwards extinguished. Besides these six, which were intended for the New mole, three others were lighted, and directed towards the *Panther*, at anchor off Buena-Vista: but one was towed off by the boats, and the other two were at so great a distance that they drove out to sea to the eastward.

THE Garrison was as early alarmed as the Navy. The drums beat to arms; the guards were all upon their defence; and the picquets, with the different regiments, assembled at their posts, and continued under arms till day-break. The artillery from the batteries seconded the fire from the ships; but the darkness of the night prevented any certain knowledge of the effect. The wind, which was favourable for their purpose in the beginning of the night, fortunately grew still when they were most in need of it. The largest of them, nevertheless, would certainly have got into the New mole amongst

1780.
June.

the ordnance-transports, had not a few bar-shot, from a thirty-two-pounder at the Mole-head, turned her round, and the current carried her into Rofia Bay.

THE Navy, on this occasion, cannot be too highly commended for their courage, conduct, and alertness. Their intrepidity overcame every obstacle; and though three of the ships were linked, with chains and strong cables, and every precaution was taken to render them successful, yet, with uncommon resolution and activity, the British seamen separated, and towed ashore the vessels, with no other injury to themselves than a few bruises. The design all together, to do justice to the ingenuity of Don Barcelo, was well projected; and his squadron judiciously stationed at the entrance of the Bay, to intercept our men of war in case they had attempted to escape from the fire-ships*. We afterwards were informed, that Admiral Barcelo proposed to Don Alvarez, to draw off our attention from the southward by opening his land-batteries on the Town. Without doubt such a proceeding would have diverted the attention of the Garrison in some measure from the shipping: but, as the Navy had the principal, nay, I may say the sole honour of opposing the fire-ships, their endeavours would not have been less strenuous, nor of course less successful.

THE hulls of the fire-ships were soon after broke up and sold to the inhabitants for fuel, and proved a most seasonable relief. Firing was become a more important article than before; which may appear very extraordinary to the reader, when he looks back to the short time which had elapsed since the departure of Sir George Rodney's fleet; but it is necessary to inform him, that the colliers intended for the Garrison were too late, in coming round from the Downs,

* This occurrence is introduced in the Chart of the Bay.

Downs, to join at Spithead: Sir George Rodney therefore failed without them.

1780.
June.

THE morning of the 8th, arrived the Fox packet, and another vessel from Faro; and in the course of the 10th and 12th, four boats came in from Tetuan and Tangier, with various cargoes: the *Patrons* reported it was current at Tangier, that we killed 14 or 15 men in the attack of the fire-ships, and that the Spaniards had several more fire-ships ready in the Bay, with which it was not improbable they might make a second attempt. Our Navy were consequently very vigilant, and kept a good look-out. For some weeks past we had been remarkably successful in receiving these small, and very acceptable supplies. Their cruisers, however, now began to be more alert, and appeared to be stationed with better judgement. On the 15th, a boat was taken coming in, but her consort escaped; and on the 20th, another arrived from Tangier, which brought intelligence, that a large ship, with coals and butter, bound to the Garrison, was captured by the Spaniards, two days before, under the guns of Tangier. The 24th, several broadsides were exchanged between four of the Enemy's ships, passing to Algeziras, and our shipping, and batteries at the southward. Some few shot came ashore, but no particular damage was received. The *Enterprize* had eighteen sailors burnt by the explosion of some powder.

EARLY on the 27th, four Spanish gun-boats, with a xebec and two gallies, approached under cover of the night, and fired upon the *Panther*. A brisk discharge was however returned, and they soon retired. One shot struck the south pavilion, and three were fired through the *Panther*. This mode of annoyance the Enemy afterwards greatly improved upon. These boats were strongly built, but ill finished: they had a small mast inclining forward from the center of the boat, almost over the bow; upon which was

1780,
June,


hoisted a latine yard and sail, which, at anchor, served as an awning to the men on board. They rowed astonishingly swift, and each carried a twenty-six-pounder in the bow. We never had a good opportunity of making any satisfactory observations on them, but, judged from their size, that they were about 70 feet long, and 20 broad.*

July.

At the beginning of July, the Panther man of war receiving upwards of 100 English prisoners from the Enemy, Captain Harvey sailed for England. Some alterations and additions took place the same day in the garrison detail. The 4th, the Fortune brought over more British prisoners. We had received some supplies in the course of a few days by two Moorish boats; and they were followed on the 11th of July, by one from Tangier, which informed us of a fleet having been seen off that coast, and that two boats had been taken, coming into the Bay. The fleet here mentioned was the combined fleet of France and Spain, which soon after captured our outward-bound East and West India fleets, and carried them into Cadiz.

THE recent attempt of the Enemy to burn the shipping and store-houses at the southward, added to the intelligence which the Governor had received of the Enemy's fleet being off Cadiz, caused him to direct particular attention towards that quarter of the Garrison. Batteries for heavy metal were made on the rock above Parson's Lodge, at Rosia; and directions were given for the New mole to be cleared of shipping, that the ordnance might have more liberty to play. Other alterations also took place in that neighbourhood. Early on the morning of the 17th, five gun-boats and four galleys fired upon the Enterprize, and shipping in the New mole.

* A representation of them is introduced in the West View of Gibraltar.

mole. One of the frigate's fore-castle guns was dismounted, and her fore-stay cut : some shot came also on shore.

1780.
July.

DURING the remainder of the month, our firing, which had been continued at intervals, was broken on their parties, who were principally employed in forming considerable dépôts of fascines, casks, and timber, in the lines, and in collecting brush-wood from the country : they were likewise very busy in disembarking stores which had lately arrived. Several empty transport-vessels, in the course of this month, left the Garrison for England. A man of the 58th regiment deserted to the Enemy : one also came in from the lines.

IN August few incidents occurred on either side. Our provisions began to be bad, and extremely offensive. What few supplies we received, were rather luxuries than substantials : wine, sugar, oil, honey, onions, and articles of the like kind, composed chiefly the cargoes of those craft which arrived. Sugar was risen to two shillings and six-pence per pound, and every thing else sold in proportion.

August.

ABOUT ten in the forenoon of the 3d, a fettee, coming in from the west, was chased by the Enemy, and taken into Algeziras. We imagined it was the Fox packet, which we then anxiously expected with an English mail ; and our conjectures afterwards were confirmed. The 10th, we observed the Enemy laying a bridge of boats across the river Palmones. Two days following, a brig was boarded almost under our guns, and conducted to Algeziras. It was thought to be the same, of which we had intelligence some time before, and was laden with variety of articles much wanted : her capture was therefore greatly lamented. The night of the 15th, six sailors deserted, in a boat, from the New mole. The succeeding

1780.
August.

ing day, the Fortune sloop received from the Enemy 64 prisoners. Ensign Bradshaw, of the 56th regiment, and several who were passengers in the brig taken on the 12th, were of the number. At night, five more sailors who were rowing guard, went over to the Enemy. In the night of the 25th, a Minorquin boat came in with wine, tea, and sugar, in eight days. The 27th and 29th, a soldier and four sailors deserted to the Enemy. It was imagined the sailors forced with them the midshipman who commanded the boat. Colonel Mawhood, of the 72d regiment, died on the 29th.

A SMALL boat arrived from Barbary on the 30th, with information that the Moors permitted the Spaniards to capture every English vessel which took refuge under the protection of their guns; that the Spaniards would not allow any boats to leave the Bay of Tangier, and only waited for orders from Admiral Barcelo to burn and destroy what remained. This intelligence very sensibly affected us. To be cut off from what we had always considered our domestic market, was a stroke we little expected. We waited, however, more authentic proofs of this extraordinary conduct, before we could implicitly believe the defection of those whom during the present contest we had considered as our firm friends.

Sept.

SEPTEMBER was as barren with respect to material incidents, as the preceding months. The Enemy finished their ponton bridge over the river Palmones on the 2d. About a week afterwards, two soldiers of the 56th deserted. On the 23d, a flag of truce brought over the midshipman carried off by the sailors who deserted the latter end of August. The 29th, a deserter came in, in the habit of a peasant: he spoke several languages fluently, and said he had been a serjeant in their service. Some suspicions arising, he was charged to remain with part of the 58th regiment at Windmill-hill. The following day we remarked, that the Enemy's
guards

guards in the lines, at the hour of relieving, amounted to about 300 infantry, and 70 artillery, besides cavalry.

1780.
Sept.

THE situation of the Garrison by this time was again become very interesting. The blockade was, if possible, more strict and vigilant than before. Chains of small cruizers were stationed across the Straits, at the entrance of the Bay, and on every side of the Rock; and the late disagreeable intelligence from Tangier seemed now confirmed, by our never having heard from that quarter during the month. What little assistance we therefore received, came from Minorca; but the supplies from that place were so trifling, and sold at such enormous prices, that few were able to purchase them. We had not been favoured with a cargo of cattle for a long period; and the scurvy began to gain considerable ascendancy over the efforts of our surgeons. Our distresses, in short, promised to be more acute and fatal than those we had already experienced.

THE Enemy's operations on the land side had been for many months so unimportant, as scarcely to merit our attention. However, on the morning of the 1st of October, we observed they had raised an epaulement, about 6 or 700 yards advanced from their lines. The preceding night, our out-guards had been alarmed with an unusual noise on the neutral ground, like that of men at work: several large fires also appeared, and some attempts were made to burn our advanced barriers with devils, and other combustibles, which were soon thrown off without taking effect; and notice was given to the Lines, Landport, and other guards. This alarm, however, was not general in the Garrison. As the morning advanced, the noise ceased; and we discovered that they had set fire to the fishermen's huts in the gardens: but when the day permitted us to examine further, we observed the above-mentioned work.

Octob.

1780,
Oct.

THE epaulement was about thirty yards in extent, of a simple construction, composed of chandeliers, fascines, and a few sand-bags; and was erected near the windmill or tower on the neutral ground, distant about 1100 yards from our grand battery. The Enemy's guns were elevated, and batteries manned; which, with other preparations in the lines, seemed to argue that they expected we should fire, and were determined to oppose it. These appearances, probably, induced the Governor not to take any particular notice of their work in the day: but at night, orders were sent to throw a few light balls, to discover if they were making any addition. The inhabitants immediately took the alarm, upon being told that the Enemy had thrown up an advanced work, and that their batteries were manned; and at night very few remained at the north end of the town.

IT now seemed evident, the Enemy had determined on a more serious attack, in case the second blockade was unsuccessful: but we were at a loss to imagine what motives could influence them to act so opposite to the established mode of approaching a besieged garrison, by erecting a work so distant, and which had no connexion with their established lines.

THE Enemy's batteries continued to be manned till the 2d; and in the afternoon of that day, Don Alvarez, accompanied by an officer, supposed to be the Count d'Estaing, who was expected in the Spanish camp when the last deserter came in, visited the lines. They remained three quarters of an hour at Fort St. Barbara, viewing the rock with glasses. On their return they were saluted from Point Mala; and as they passed the front line of the camp, the regiments turned out without arms. On the night of the 3d, a smart engagement was heard off Cabrita Point, supposed to be between some vessel attempting to come in, and the Enemy's cruisers;

cruisers; and the next morning, a sloop, with English colours reversed, was observed at Algeziras.

1782,
Oct.

EARLY on the 4th, our advanced guards discovered the Enemy endeavouring, a second time, to fix fire-faggots on our barriers. A smart discharge of musquetry was immediately directed from these posts, and from the Queen's lines; on which they retired. At day-break we observed they had carried away vast quantities of vegetables from the gardens, and trampled others under foot: but little, if any, addition was made to the epaulement. A parley came in on the 5th; and soon after, the Fortune sloop received upwards of forty British prisoners, many of whom had been taken going from the Garrison. In the evening of the 6th, the Spanish General came to the lines, at the head of the relieving guards. Soon after he arrived, the guns were again elevated, and every preparation made, as if they had resolved to open on the Garrison. The 8th, the Town-Major, Captain Burke, went out with a parley, intending to proceed to the Tower, the place appointed by custom for the officers to give and receive packets. When he got abreast of the new work, the sentries by motions informed him he must not advance. He pointed to the Tower; but they continued inflexible: on his turning round however to return, one of them came up with his arms, and proceeded with him to the Tower, whilst another ran to acquaint the officer in the lines. The messenger after some time came back, and both remained apparently as a guard over Major Burke, till the officer arrived; when, delivering his packet, the Major returned to the Garrison.

THE Enemy did not appear very anxious to complete the epaulement; their parties were employed in raising and finishing the merlons of the batteries in the lines, raising the merlons of Fort St. Philip with fascines, and erecting a new battery near the guard-house on

1780,
Oct.

the beach. The 11th, a small settee arrived from Minorca: the patron informing us that two others were standing for the Rock, the Navy manned their boats to assist them, in case the Enemy opposed their entrance; but on getting round Europa Point, no such vessels appeared. A Dutch convey was however passing: the boats therefore boldly advanced, and boarded a dogger which had got, during the fog, pretty near the Rock. She was a Dane from Malaga, laden with lemons and oranges, which the Governor immediately purchased, and distributed to the Garrison.

FEW articles ever arrived more seasonably than this cargo of fruit. The scurvy had made dreadful ravages in our hospitals, and more were daily confined: many, however, unwilling to yield to the first attacks, persevered in their duty to its more advanced stages. It was therefore not uncommon, at this period, to see men, who some months before were hale, and equal to any fatigue, supporting themselves to their posts upon crutches, and even with that assistance scarcely able to move along. The most fatal consequences, in short, to the Garrison, were to be apprehended from this terrible disorder, when this Dane was happily directed to our relief. The lemons were immediately administered to the sick, who devoured them with the greatest avidity. The salutary effects were almost instantaneous: in a few days, men who had been considered as irrecoverable, left their beds to congratulate their comrades on the prospect of once more becoming useful to their country.

MR. CAIRNCROSS, a surgeon of great eminence, who was present at this time and the remaining part of the siege, has favoured me with the following information relative to the scurvy, and the mode of using this vegetable acid; which, with his permission, I insert for the benefit of those who may hereafter be under similar circumstances.

“ THE

1780.
Oct.

“ THE Scurvy which attacked the Garrison of Gibraltar, differed
 “ in no respect from that disease usually contracted by sailors in long
 “ voyages; and of which the immediate cause seemed to be the
 “ subsisting for a length of time upon salted provisions only, without
 “ a sufficient quantity of vegetables, or other acescent foods. The
 “ circumstance related in the Voyage of that celebrated circum-
 “ navigator, the late Lord Anson, of consolidated fractures disuniting,
 “ and the callosity of the bone being perfectly dissolved, occurred
 “ frequently in our hospitals: and old sores and wounds opened anew
 “ from the nature of the disorder.

“ VARIOUS antiscorbutics were used without success, such as acid
 “ of vitriol, sour crout, extract of malt, essence of spruce, &c. but
 “ the only specific was fresh lemons and oranges, given liberally;
 “ or when they could not be procured, the preserved juice in such
 “ quantities, from one, to four ounces *per diem*, as the patient
 “ could bear. Whilst the lemons were found, from one to three
 “ were administered each day as circumstances directed. The juice
 “ given to those in the most malignant state, was sometimes diluted
 “ with sugar, wine, or spirits; but the convalescents took it
 “ without dilution. Women and children were equally affected;
 “ nor were the officers exempted from this alarming distemper. It
 “ became almost general at the commencement of the winter season,
 “ owing to the cold and moisture; and in the beginning of spring,
 “ when vegetables were scarce.

“ THE juice was preserved by adding to sixty gallons of expressed
 “ liquor, about five or ten gallons of brandy, which kept it in so
 “ wholesome a state, that several casks were opened in good con-
 “ dition at the close of the siege. The old juice was not however
 “ so speedily efficacious as the fruit, though, by persevering longer
 “ in its use, it seldom failed.”

1780.
Oa.

THE same day that the dogger was brought in, a parley came from Don Alvarez, to inform the Governor that all intercourse or correspondence betwixt them, in future, was to be conducted by flags of truce in the Bay; which regulation continued till the peace was notified in 1783. The 14th, two gun-boats, from the Orange-grove, ranged along the front of the Garrison, and drove in our fishing-boats; and on the 16th they again ranged off the Mackarel-Bank, and forced our fishermen to retire. We did not much approve of this conduct, as the boats, by this means, were prevented from bringing any fish to our market. They continued, however, this practice at intervals for some time.

THE 21st, the gun-boats fired upon the Enterprize and town. Captain Lesley, not choosing to remain the object of their fire, withdrew the frigate into the New mole; where the Navy, under the direction of the engineers, had begun to lay a boom of masts from the New-mole head to the watering-tank. This boom, though it was considered a difficult operation on account of the swell of the sea, was soon completed.

IT was not till the night of the 21st, that the Enemy threw sand in the front of their epaulment, to cover it against our fire-balls and carcasses; and on the 26th they lengthened it to the west about 30 yards, and strengthened it in front with sand. The night of the 28th, they erected two large traverses in the rear for magazines. It now presented a very compact appearance; whence we concluded that it was intended for a mortar-battery.

THOUGH it was generally imagined in England, that the Garrison had been amply provided with every article and necessary of life, when Sir George Rodney arrived with the transports and relief from England, our wants, in reality, were far from being supplied.

In

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In the articles of ammunition and salt provisions, the Garrison had probably as much as they could dispense with; but of fresh provisions, wine, spirits, sugar, &c. we began to find a great scarcity; and the price of what remained, was consequently much enhanced. The assistance we received formerly from Barbary had now been suspended for several months; the Enemy seemed determined to prevent our deriving support from the element that almost surrounded us; and their cruisers were too numerous and vigilant to expect any thing from the west. Thus situated, the Garrison turned their eyes on the island of Minorca, whence we had already received some very acceptable supplies, and whose situation, from the great scope of sea-room, afforded a flattering probability of the boats being oftener able to escape the Enemy's cruisers. The productions of that island are various; and those articles which it did not afford, could be purchased from the prizes that were daily carried thither by the privateers. Several garrison-boats were therefore sent to Minorca, some of which returned, in the course of October, laden with the wine of that island, sugar (an article become exceedingly scarce), and cheese; with sometimes a few live stock. These articles were all sold by auction, according to a regulation established by the Governor; and, though they seldom were purchased by the lower ranks, yet afforded upon the whole a partial relief to the Garrison.

THE 30th, we observed that the Enemy had posted an officer's guard in the Mill-battery, which was the name we gave to the new work. Montague's bastion was therefore opened on it in the evening, and, by forming a cross-fire with the batteries on the heights, considerably annoyed them, and much retarded their operations. The same night, two soldiers of the 56th and 72d deserted from Upper All's-well, in the lines: they were sentries at the same post, and got down by means of a rope; but, previous to their descent,

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descent, had the precaution to wet the priming of their firelocks. We also lost another man by desertion in the course of the month.

THE Governor, in the beginning of November, made an arrangement of the troops, that in case the Enemy bombarded the Garrison, each regiment might know the quarters and stations which they were to take up. The 1st of the month was rather unpropitious to us: an English snow was taken to the east of the Rock: at night, a soldier of the 56th regiment deserted, during a heavy shower of rain; and the following evening, two others, of the 12th and 56th, attempted to get off by swimming round the Old-mole head; but a few days afterwards the body of the former was washed ashore near the King's bastion: we therefore concluded his comrade had shared the same fate. In the evening of the 7th, a smart cannonade was heard in the Straits: after it had continued for some time, a sudden flash appeared, and a report was heard, like the blowing-up of powder. The next morning, we observed that the Enemy had captured an English vessel, and were at that time towing in a gun-boat; which accounted for the firing and explosion.

OUR fire, about the 7th and 8th, became more animated; yet the Enemy, almost every night, made some interior additions. We had observed, for several preceding mornings, deep ruts in the sand, leading from the principal barrier to the Mill-battery; which led us to imagine that they brought at night heavy timber, and other materials, from their dépôts in the lines. The artillery were therefore ordered to direct a *ricochetting* fire of small shells along this track. In the evening of the 10th, a large party, followed by a number of carts and mules, laden with different materials, advanced along the beach, from the Sally-port of the ditch of Fort St. Philip, to the Mill-battery. They were perceived by the artillery at Willis's, before they had proceeded half-way; and a brisk
fire

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fire was directed towards their route, which threw the mules into confusion, and obliged some to return, after having left their ~~burthens~~ on the beach. The batteries being reinforced, the firing was continued with great vivacity the whole night. The subsequent evening our artillery were prepared, and, immediately on the party's appearing, saluted them with a warm discharge of shot and shells, which seemed to have greater effect than the fire of the preceding evening. This circumstance convinced us of the effect of the *ricochetting* fire from the lower batteries, along the track from the barrier: but the Enemy were not so soon driven from the new track as from the former; and continued, notwithstanding our fire (which must have killed and wounded many of them), to bring materials in this exposed manner, till a line of communication was finished from the lines.

AN English armed polacre, called the Young Sabine, arrived on the 12th, after a spirited engagement in the Bay with several armed vessels and three gun-boats. The Enemy attempted to board her, but were as often repulsed by musquetry: at length she beat them off, and anchored under our guns. Her cargo was cheese, hams, and potatoes; the latter of which sold at forty-three dollars per cwt. which, according to forty-two pence per dollar (the exchange at that time), are equal to 7l. 10s. 6d. sterling. Other articles sold in proportion. In the afternoon, a Minorquin settee arrived with the usual cargo: a Spanish gun-boat boarded her on her passage; but the patron showing papers from Majorca to the camp, the Spaniard took no further notice than keeping her company as a convoy. The Minorquin afterwards seized a convenient opportunity, and slipped in.

IN the course of the 14th, a Minorquin tartan, bound for the Garrison, was taken by the Enemy: the crew however quitted her,
and

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and got ashore. The Enemy the same day mounted twelve guns *en barbet*, in the battery near the Guard-house, in the vicinity of Fort St. Philip; which we had supposed was intended for mortars; and about a week afterwards they erected merlons to this work, admitting the embrasures to open upon the Garrison. Two nights following, the gun-boats, which were now increased in number, fired upon the town and shipping. Three, that directed their fire on the former, were stationed off the Old-mole head, and threw several shots into the town. Several men were wounded in the *Enterprize* frigate.

THE night of the 17th, the Enemy threw up two *places d'armes* for musquetry, on the flanks of the Mill-battery: the parapets formed semicircles joining the battery, but afterwards extended in an oblique direction towards the lines. These additions appeared very slight, being only a row of casks or gabions, strengthened with half-chandeliers, and sand in front; covered on the top with sand-bags. The 18th, we were visited again by the gun-boats: in returning their cannonade one of the thirty-two-pounders on the King's bastion burst, killed an artillery-man on the spot, and wounded three others. The man who fired the gun escaped, but was a little scorched with the powder.

A GREAT number of mules were employed on the 22d, bringing forward casks, chandeliers, and other materials, from the camp. The night of the 23d, the Enemy began an approach from the lines, to the Mill-battery: it consisted of fascines, with sand banked up in front, and commenced near the west angle of the western fourteen-gun battery, extending about 120 feet towards the advanced Guard-house in front of Fort St. Philip: the following night, notwithstanding our fire, they lengthened it about 100 feet, with chandeliers placed in a trench and filled with fascines. The Enemy endeavoured

endeavoured to draw our attention from this quarter by another salute from the gun-boats, but in vain. As it was not improbable ~~that~~ the gun-boats were directed in their firing by the lights in the houses along the line-wall, and those looking towards the Bay; orders were issued "that no lights in future should appear in any "house, barrack, or guard-house, towards the Bay, after seven "o'clock in the evening."

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WE had hitherto derived occasional assistance from the gardens on the neutral ground, though vast quantities of vegetables had been removed from thence by the Enemy. On the 25th, however, they determined to expel our people altogether from the gardens; which in the course of a few days they accomplished, notwithstanding the marksmen under Lieut. Burleigh were stationed at Willis's, and in the Lines, in order to prevent them.

FROM this period, our resources in respect to vegetables depended entirely upon our own attention to cultivation; which, happily for the Garrison, was crowned with tolerable success, especially during the winter months, at which time the produce was increased to be *almost* equal to the consumption. The supplies from the gardens had indeed begun to fail for some time before; and we soon had little reason to regret their loss. We had, besides, the additional satisfaction of reflecting that the Enemy were now cut off from a channel, through which it was not improbable they had been informed of every occurrence which happened in the Garrison.

THE 26th, a Frenchman, one of the crew of the *Young Sabine*, deserted in a boat to the Enemy. The night of the 27th, the Danish dogger, which brought us the cargo of lemons, failed; and the next morning we observed her at anchor off Algeziras. By the 29th, the Enemy had finished the second branch of the line of approach, and begun the return for the third towards the western

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beach.

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beach. Our fire, as they advanced, became more spirited than ever, and must have been severely felt by the Enemy in this exposed duty. The 30th was only distinguished by the arrival of a ~~posacre~~ ^{posacre} from Algiers with soap, oil, wine, and candles—a very valuable cargo.

Dec.

DECEMBER was introduced with bad weather. The 1st, arrived the Anglicana privateer from Smyrna; and two nights after, she continued her voyage towards England: Lieutenant Gage, of the *Enterprise*, went home passenger with dispatches. The 2d was particularly stormy, with thunder and lightning, which happily did not continue long, or the works of the Garrison might have materially suffered. The rain poured down with such violence from the heights, forcing with it vast quantities of rubbish, stones, and loose earth, that the streets leading from the hill were instantly choaked up, and considerable damage was done to the buildings. The Enemy, notwithstanding the storm, completed their third branch, and raised the return towards the east. Though the storm did not retard their finishing what they had begun in the evening, yet the chandeliers were very much sunk in many places, which employed their parties five or six of the following evenings to repair. They also made some alterations in the direction of the second branch, and repaired the batteries in the lines. A brig arrived from Leghorn on the 10th; also three settees from Minorca.

FROM the 10th, the Enemy added every night so considerably to the fourth branch of the approach, that on the 14th at night they joined the extremity of the eastern *place d'armes*; and two nights following, began a fifth branch, which on the 19th was extended to the east flank of the Mill-battery. Their operations had not been wholly confined to completing this line of communication: a mortar-battery for the sea was erected to the north of Fort St. Barbara; and large and small traverses were raised within both forts, to protect their men from our upper batteries.

ABOUT

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Dec.

ABOUT noon on the 17th, a cannonade was heard towards the west. A cloud of smoke was observed near Tangier, and we afterwards learned that the Moors were firing a salute on account of the arrival of their Emperor. Three hundred and ninety rounds were numbered, and it was repeated the next day. The reader will probably recollect, that the Garrison of Tangier is to us an object of some curiosity, as having formerly been in the possession of the English. It was ceded by the Portuguese (who had been masters of it for some time) to King Charles II. as part of the dowry of the Princess Catharine of Portugal, and remained under the English dominion till 1684, when, the nation refusing to pay the heavy expence attending its maintenance against the repeated attacks of the Moors, the fortifications and mole were blown up, and the Garrison ordered to abandon the Town. The Moors, after the place was deserted, returned; and it has ever since continued in their possession. When the English were masters of Tangier, the works on the land side were considered as almost impregnable; and, for the accommodation of shipping, a mole of considerable extent was advanced into the sea.

THE present town is built at the entrance of a bay, on the side of a hill, overlooking the sea. The Moors have endeavoured to restore the city to its former importance; but their efforts go slowly on towards accomplishing that work. Tangier is the residence of several European Consuls, and, in conjunction with Tetuan, in times of peace, supplies Gibraltar, Cadiz, Lisbon, and other ports of on the coast of Spain and Portugal, with fowls, beef, mutton, and fruit: it was about this time the scene of some interesting transactions, which will shortly be related.

THE Enemy, on the 20th, began to erect small traverses in the rear of their approach. On the 21st, the Speedwell cutter, Lieutenant

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Gibson,

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Gibson, arrived with Government dispatches, after a warm engagement with the Enemy off Ceuta, in which the Spaniards attempted to board the cutter, but were repulsed. Lieutenant Gibson was dangerously wounded in the action; which was the only casualty on board. The 23d, arrived a privateer brig, called the Hannah, Captain Venture, last from Lisbon. She brought some excellent supplies; and the day following, two other vessels from Liverpool got in with variety of provisions: the cargoes of these ships were sold by auction for 300 *per cent.* profit.

It was about this period, some letters of a curious tenor were discovered in the possession of the deserter who came in, the 29th of September, in the dress of a peasant, and said he was a serjeant. They were directed to Colonel Nugent, of the Hibernian corps, in the Spanish service; and the purport of them was, "that Europa was the most eligible place to attack the Garrison: acknowledging having received several sums of money, and concluding with expressing his fears lest he should be discovered; therefore desired the Colonel would concert some measures for his escape." The man was immediately ordered into close confinement, and remained a prisoner for some time, till, an opportunity offering, he was sent away from the Garrison. We were afterwards informed by other deserters, that he was sent in as a spy, and liberally rewarded for this hazardous service.

THE Enemy, having completed their approach to the Mill-battery, were employed in dressing the communication, and raising fascine-traverses in the rear, for their greater protection. The 26th, and following nights, their carpenters braced with head-rails the chandeliers, which, owing to the late rains, had given way in several places. They were so very noisy in this duty, as to induce a brisk fire from our batteries. The 30th, a settee, going from Algeziras to

to the eastward, was becalmed off Europa, and was boarded and brought in by our boats. Many private letters were found on board, which mentioned the considerable loss the Enemy had sustained from our fire. There were also a quantity of clothes, and some money. The next day a fettee got in from Minorca.

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Dec.

OUR carpenters, in the beginning of January, were very busy in erecting stages and temporary cranes, in Camp and Rosia Bays, and upon the Line-wall, above the Navy-yard; which led us to imagine, that the Governor had received intelligence by the Speedwell, that a convoy might soon be expected. The reason for erecting these machines so far to the south, and at such a distance from the Garrison store-houses, was the apprehension of being annoyed in disembarking the provisions at Ragged-staff, &c. from the Enemy's advanced battery, which was now finished, and reported to mount eight thirteen-inch mortars. These precautions will appear to be very prudent and essential, when the reader, on a farther perusal, is informed of the range and effect of the Enemy's fire. Some alterations were also made in the works at the New mole.

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THE 11th, a Spanish flag of truce, with two Moorish galleys, came over from the Orange-grove, having on board Consul Logie, his Lady, and all the British subjects who had been resident in Barbary. We had long complained of a neglect in that quarter, but were now convinced, to our sorrow, that such accusations were premature and ungenerous. The mercenary and avaricious disposition of the Emperor had been bribed by the Spanish Ministry, with a present of one hundred thousand cobs (about £.7500 sterling), and a promise of the same sum annually, with the redemption of a hundred African prisoners; on condition that he should deliver up, for a certain period, the ports of Tangier and Tetuan, and banish from his dominions the Consul and subjects of Great-

1781.
Jan.


Great-Britain. Besides the present of money, and the redemption of a hundred prisoners, the Emperor had permission to import from Spain, grain, which was so remarkably scarce in Barbary that a famine was apprehended. Without this circumstance to urge as a palliative for entering into a treaty with this avowed and natural enemy, the Emperor would probably have found it a difficult task to persuade his subjects to desert their old Allies.

As THIS defection of the Moorish Monarch was of much importance to the Garrison, and was in itself an object not undeserving political remark, I shall subjoin a short relation of some transactions previous to this event; with an account of the injurious treatment which Mr. Logie and the British subjects experienced before they quitted that country.

I HAD formerly occasion to mention, that in the early part of 1779, overtures were made by the Spaniards to the Moors, to farm the ports of Tangier, Tetuan, and Larache. Of this General Eliott received immediate information, by a confidential message from the Emperor of Morocco. It did not appear that the Emperor, in this instance, was actuated by any other impulse than friendship. But since, by refusing to accede to their offers, he might subject his coasts to be insulted, it would of consequence be prudent to arm his cruisers, in order to enable him to act on the defensive: he therefore requested that the English would supply him with naval stores for three new vessels which he had lately built, the value of which, on calculation, did not amount to fifteen hundred pounds.

SUCH apparent disinterestedness, and so modest a demand, had a proper effect with the Governor, who, considering the Emperor's alliance of the first consequence to the welfare of the Garrison, recommended to Government to double the quantity of stores,
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that they might secure his friendship. Ministers at home, however, did not consider his alliance in the same light with the Governor and Consul, as Sir George Rodney arrived the January following without stores, or as much as an answer : and the Spaniards (having then declared war) increasing in their proposals, the Emperor, after repeated applications to Mr. Logie, to know when he might expect the supplies he had given him to understand were coming from England, at length, by degrees, permitted the Spaniards to capture all British vessels under the protection of his guns. The Consul remonstrated against such proceedings, but in vain : the answer generally received was, that the Spaniards had the Emperor's leave ; and if they chose to take *him* from his own house, the Emperor would not oppose them.

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THESE indignities Mr. Logie was necessitated to overlook. He found the Spanish influence daily gaining ground : he had therefore no alternative, but tacitly to submit to the evils of his situation. He contrived, nevertheless, to acquaint General Eliott with this change in their affairs.

THOUGH there appeared little prospect of doing further service to the Garrison of Gibraltar by remaining in Barbary, Mr. Logie still continued to reside at Tangier. The natives were partial to the English, and personally attached to him ; and these circumstances he imagined might probably be improved to some advantage.

THUS matters proceeded till the beginning of October, 1780, when a party of the Emperor's black troops, which were quartered in the neighbourhood of Tangier, came to Mr. Logie's house, and, being introduced, informed him they had orders from their Master to abuse and insult him in the grossest manner ; which they immediately

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diately put in execution, by spitting in his face, seizing him by the collar, and threatening to stab him with their daggers.

Two days after this transaction, Mr. Logie was ordered to attend the Emperor near Sallee. The 13th, he began his journey, guarded by one of the Emperor's chamberlains, and a party of horse. They arrived at the camp on the 20th; and the same evening Mr. Logie was ordered into the Emperor's presence. After various questions relative to Gibraltar, to which such answers were given as were least likely to please, the Emperor addressed himself to his troops, and a great mob that were assembled on the occasion, saying, "the English were an avaricious, proud, and headstrong people; they always attacked the head: but when people came to beg, they ought to crawl up by the feet. He had however deprived them of every benefit they formerly derived from his country;" concluding with ordering the Consul to be taken to Sallee. Mr. Logie objected to this mandate, informing the Emperor he was ready to attend his camp, but that his Sovereign's service did not permit his trifling away his time in visiting towns.

THE Emperor, after this interview, seemed to relax in his severity to the Consul; allowing him to return to Tangier, and consoling him with the promise that the British subjects should not be molested by the Spaniards. The 26th of October, Mr. Logie arrived at Tangier, and found the Emperor had not deceived him.

AFFAIRS remained quiet till the 26th of November, when an order came to fit up all the British boats, at the Emperor's expence, as he was determined to send the English away satisfied. The Consul however anticipated his intention, by getting them completed himself by the succeeding evening. The night of the 28th, the Spaniards, informed of the Emperor's resolution, sent a party on shore

shore to burn the boats. They were discovered by the guards, and confined; but in consideration of a sum of money, they were the next day liberated. Two days following, the Consuls attended to hear the Emperor's orders, which were brought by two of his secretaries: they expressed, that the Emperor had sold the port of Tangier to the King of Spain; in consequence of which, every Christian, except of that nation, was to quit the Town and Bay; awarding slavery as the punishment of those who remained after the 1st of January, 1781.

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MR. LOGIE was no sooner acquainted with this order, than he departed for the Emperor's camp, then near Tetuan, in order to represent the impossibility of removing their property on so short a notice. He arrived on the 2d of December, but could not procure an audience. The 4th, he had intelligence from Tangier, that a second order had compelled the British subjects instantly to remove to Marteen. Mr. Logie made several attempts to have this cruel order reversed, but in vain. He at length procured a friend to mention this delicate point to the Emperor, who apparently relented, saying, the English should have permission to remain twenty days to collect their effects; and so far flattered them, as to make them believe they were not to be removed till the British fleet arrived, if it might be expected soon. Mr. Logie was however afterwards convinced, that the Emperor at this time was informed his orders had been executed, as the British subjects, amounting to 109, arrived at Marteen, a few miles from Tetuan, the subsequent evening; having been forced to abandon their vessels, houses, and all their property; and compelled to submit to the greatest imposition, for the use of camels and mules, to remove their bedding and wearing-apparel. The value of the effects left behind, Mr. Logie computed to amount to upwards of sixty thousand pounds.

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THE heavy expence attending their removal from Tangier, with their stay at Marteen, to their arrival at Gibraltar, Mr. Logie was obliged to disburse; the Emperor's order on the 26th of November having so much imposed upon them, that they had laid out what money they were possessed of, in purchasing such articles as they judged would be useful at Gibraltar, imagining they were to be conducted immediately to that Garrison.

THE Emperor removed on the 17th of December to Tangier; whence he usually sent, once or twice every week, some insulting message to the Consul, charging the English with having cheated his Ambassador, and being indebted to him several thousand cobs for maintaining the garrison of Gibraltar; with others equally false and abusive.

MR. LOGIE, on the 26th of December, was informed that the Emperor had given up all the British subjects as prisoners to the Spaniards, and that the succeeding day they were to be removed to Algeziras. Being assured of the truth of this intelligence by one of the Emperor's servants, he burnt all his public papers, to prevent their falling into the Enemy's hands. The 28th, the Consul embarked with Mrs. Logie (who had attended him through all these troubles), and about twenty more, on board a schooner, without being allowed time to take in any refreshment for their voyage. Others, under similar circumstances, were put on board other vessels. They were guarded by two Spanish cruisers, and for the first night put into Ceuta Bay: the next morning they proceeded across the Straits, and about noon anchored off the Orange-grove, but soon after were ordered by Admiral Barcelo to moor at the entrance of the river Palmones. Here the Consul was detained till the 11th of January following, by which time an answer arrived from Madrid concerning their future destination.

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DURING this period, no offer was made to supply them with provisions or necessaries, though the Moors were permitted to purchase whatever they wanted.. Mr. Logie therefore applied to the French *Chargé des Affaires* at Algeziras, who very generously dispatched such articles as he judged would be most acceptable. The 11th, they were conducted to Gibraltar.

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Jan.

THE removal, or rather expulsion, of the British subjects from Barbary, was attended with other unfortunate consequences besides depriving us of provisions: our connexion with Portugal became afterwards more precarious; and the Governor was cut off from a source of information, by which he was acquainted with the Enemy's operations both in camp and at Cadiz. Mr. Logie had always contrived to procure pretty certain intelligence of the Enemy's motions, by those Moors who were in his interest; for, the Spaniards allowing them to bring various articles to the army before Gibraltar, and the fleet at Cadiz, and Mr. Logie lending them money to carry on this advantageous trade, they faithfully communicated to him whatever came to their knowledge. The last information Mr. Logie himself was the bearer of to the Governor, which was, that the Enemy had a great number of fire-ships in the rivers, ready for immediate use.

THE 16th of January, a brig came in from Madeira, in four days, with seventy butts of wine. The master had left London with a cargo to exchange at Madeira; but a violent gale of wind had driven him to sea with his cargo incomplete, and half his crew ashore. The same day, the Moorish vessels which brought over Consul Logie, returned to Algeziras. Two days following, the Tartar privateer arrived with various articles from England: she brought His Majesty's manifesto for commencing hostilities against the Dutch.

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ON the 19th, some experiments were made at Algeziras, from two new Spanish boats, with mortars on board. We had some time before learned that they were preparing such vessels, and that they intended soon to try them against the Garrison. Their construction was upon a plan similar to that of the gun-boats: the mortars were fixed in a solid bed of timber, in the centre of the boat; and the only apparent distinction was, that they had long prows, and braced their yards more athwart the boat when they fired.

THE 21st, the serjeant commanding one of our out-guards, deserted to the Enemy: he went towards the Devil's tower, and once stopped, as if undetermined to proceed or not. He belonged to the 56th regiment, and left a wife and family behind: he had always been esteemed of good character, and was much confided in by his officers. Some pecuniary matters were supposed to be the reason of his deserting. This was the fourth man which we had lost in this way within the course of a month. The 28th, a ship arrived from Leghorn with various articles. In her passage she picked up at sea the long-boat of the Brilliant frigate, Captain Curtis, which we had been anxiously expecting for some time with dispatches from England. On the 25th and 27th, three of Hardenberg's brigade had deserted; and this day a rope was found near the Signal-house, by which we imagined the last two of them had escaped. The 29th and 30th, two or three settees arrived, from aloft, with the produce of Minorca. By them we were informed that the Brilliant was got safe into Mahon, having been chased through the Straits by the Enemy's cruisers in the night.

THE Enemy's working parties had for several weeks been less numerous: their occupation was principally confined to repairing the damages done by the weather; securing themselves against the effects

effects of our firing, by splinter-proofs and traverses; and collecting dépôts of different materials, in various parts of their lines. Their advanced patrols frequently approached very near our out-posts, but seldom waited a second discharge from the sentries. On our side, the engineers were indefatigable in putting every thing in the best state of defence. The Enemy, it must be confessed, dealt openly in warning us, so long before-hand, of their intentions; and the Governor was exceedingly active and diligent in preparing against whatever circumstances might occur.

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THE 1st of February we found, behind the rock, the bodies of two deserters, who, in attempting to escape from the Garrison, had been dashed to pieces. One of them was a man of the 56th, who was missing the day preceding; the other, a serjeant of the 73d, who had deserted some months before. The 3d, we observed the Enemy's artillery examining the ordnance in their lines. The morning of the 8th, a deserter from a Catalonian regiment came in, and reported, that the Enemy posted every night a chain of sentries along the skirts of the Governor's meadow, which were constantly visited by patrols of cavalry, to keep them alert; and that a captain's guard, besides artillery, mounted in the St. Carlos's battery, as they called the advanced work. He said the camp was well supplied with provisions, &c. but that the men were sickly, and numbers of them deserted.

Feb.

It was about this period, that the Officers in Gibraltar presented a memorial, through the commanding officers of the different regiments, to the Governor, requesting His Excellency, as he must be convinced of the truth of the contents, to support it with his approbation and interest.

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THE memorial stated, "That the Officers of his Majesty's several regiments of foot, serving under His Excellency's command, had been necessarily exposed to a great variety of inconveniences since the commencement of the blockade, independent of the additional duties which they had been required to discharge: That, in particular, their pay, which constituted their chief, if not their sole support, had, at different times, suffered a great diminution by the exorbitant rate of exchange;" which they stated to have fluctuated, during a certain period, between 40 and 42 pence per dollar, Gibraltar currency: "That every article of clothing, and still more, those essential to life and health, were so advanced in price, that, with the strictest economy, their pay was totally inadequate to the expences absolutely indispensable in their present situation; a situation which, they apprehended, precluded them, in a great measure, from participating with the officers at home in the extensive promotions which had of late taken place in the army. They therefore appealed to the paternal feelings, the justice, and the humanity of His Excellency; trusting that, through his recommendation and intercession, such assistance and protection might be granted them, as their situation and services deserved:" Concluding with a request, "that His Excellency would be pleased to lay their prayer, with all humility on their part, at His Majesty's feet." This memorial was seconded by another of a similar import; but no official answer was received to either.

It must be confessed, that under these circumstances, the situation of the officers was by no means flattering. Whatever obstacles might be in the way of their promotion, they could not help feeling the peculiar hardship of their situation: nor was the inactive and tedious service of a blockaded Garrison at all calculated

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to divert their minds, or to soothe them into an acquiescence with their fortune. They reflected, with no very agreeable sensations, upon the preferment which had been liberally bestowed upon young officers in England; while many subalterns in Gibraltar had ten or twelve years, or upwards, of strict duty and services to plead. Nay, the situation of some of them was peculiarly discouraging: for their friends had repeatedly offered to raise companies to secure their rank; but of such consequence was the safety of Gibraltar esteemed by the Ministry, that orders were sent to forbid any officers leaving the Garrison, unless replaced by others from England. It is but justice to them, however, to observe, that they in general submitted to the evils of their situation without murmur or repining; and that, preferring their country's good to every partial consideration, they never publicly testified their discontent, except in the two respectful memorials which they presented to their Governor.

1781,
Feb.

A PRIVATEER, on the 9th of February, arrived from Mahon: she ran through ten cruisers, besides six gun-boats, and was chased by a xebecque, but escaped them all. The 17th, she continued her course for England. Mr. Logie, who carried home dispatches, was a passenger, with several others. The 19th, and 20th, arrived two polacre ships from aloft.

OUR supplies from the eastward were now pretty regular, and the boats and vessels in general very successful in their voyages. When the reader considers the variety of difficulties and dangers attending this intercourse, he cannot but admire the perseverance of these foreigners. Their vessels were generally of light burthen, and open, excepting a small scuttle abaft, which, with the other parts of the vessel, was usually filled with part of their cargo. Their passage

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was seldom performed in less than five days; and sometimes it exceeded ten, and fourteen. Their course was all the way along the Enemy's coast; and even when, arrived within sight of the Port, the danger was greater than before, from the number and vigilance of the Enemy's cruisers: the horrors of a Spanish gaol stared them in the face, with the chance of losing probably their ALL. One circumstance indeed was in their favour; their vessels, in the rigging, resembled those of the Enemy. To the chance of deceiving them they were nevertheless unwilling entirely to trust: it was their custom therefore to make the Rock, if possible, about sun-set; then strike sail, and lie-to, and at night push for the Bay. By manœuvring in this manner they frequently arrived safe; and in that case, it must be confessed, they were amply recompensed.

THE 26th, the regiments in Garrison began to be reviewed: after the review, each regiment marched to its alarm-post, and discharged several rounds of *parapet* firing. The 28th, a brig under Genoese colours came over from Algeziras: the crew reported, they had injured their mast, and put into Algeziras for another, but that the Spaniards had ill-treated them; they therefore came over to remedy their loss. To this story the Governor did not give implicit credit: a guard of a subaltern and twelve men was sent on board; and after being for some time detained, her cargo, which was fruit, was sold.

March.

THE want of bread in the beginning of March began again to be severely felt: many families had not tasted any for several days. The poor soldiers, and still more the inhabitants, whose finances would not allow them to purchase articles from the Minorquin vessels (the cargoes of which, by the way, were chiefly luxuries), were in intolerable distress. Biscuit-crums sold for 10d. and 1s. *per lb.*

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The allowance of the troops was also curtailed, and many Portuguese fishermen left the Garrison for want of this article. Towards the conclusion of the month, the invalids of the Garrison embarked on board the *Enterprise* frigate, and *St. Fermin* armed ship. The 27th, the former, with the *Fortune* sloop, sailed for Minorca; and the *St. Fermin* was to have accompanied them, but in getting out of the New mole some accident befell her, by which she was detained. In the course of the month several small craft arrived from Minorca; and we lost two men by desertion.

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March.

THE beginning of April, the Spanish Admiral called in all his cruisers, and some movements took place in their disposition, which seemed to indicate the expectation of a superior force. The 2d, we observed their artillery arranging the mortars in the Mill-battery; which confirmed us in the conjecture. The succeeding day, a British cutter, called the *Resolution*, arrived with rum, coals, and sugar, in twenty-nine days, from Plymouth. The master informed us that he left A FLEET, which was coming to our relief, at anchor in Torbay. Our joy at this news was greater, if possible, than when we were told of our former relief. The exigencies of the Garrison, since Admiral Rodney's departure, had been as severe, if not more so than before. Since the soldier, for himself, only received weekly 5½ lb. of bread; 13 oz. of salt beef, 18 oz. of pork, both of them almost in a state of putrescence; 2½ oz. of butter, which was little better than rancid congealed oil; 12 oz. of raisins; ½ a pint of pease; 1 pint of Spanish beans; 1 pint of wheat, which they ground into flour for puddings; 4 oz. of rice, and ¼ of a pint of oil: what then must be the sufferings of those who had a family of small children to support out of this pittance! or what must be the distress of the inhabitants, who had no assistance from the stores!

April.

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April.

THE night of the 3d, the St. Fermin, with the Brilliant's tender, which had been forced by a gale of wind to put into Gibraltar, failed for Mahon : two xebèques immediately gave chase, and, we afterwards learned, captured the former.

IT being observed that the Enemy had stationed at Cabrita Point, (though at some distance from the land) a sloop and two light brigs, supposed to be fire-ships, the Captains of the privateers in the Bay proposed cutting out the sloop, and burning the other vessels : the plan was mentioned to the Governor by an officer of the Garrison, who had permission to take with him a party of volunteers from the different corps, and join in the expedition. About eleven o'clock on the night of the 4th, they proceeded in four boats. When they set out, the night was very favourable for the enterprize ; but before they reached the vessels, the moon suddenly shone forth, and they reluctantly returned. Whether the Spaniards discovered the boats or not, is a matter of doubt ; it is probable they did, as the next morning four gun-boats joined them from Algeziras, and the sloop removed farther to the southward.

THE Enemy, on the 5th, scaled several of their ordnance in the batteries round the Bay ; two frigates were also placed in front of eight vessels, supposed to be fire-ships : these motions convinced us that the Enemy were aware of the fleet which was expected. The evening of the 7th, the Eagle privateer, of fourteen guns, arrived in fourteen days from Glasgow : a xebèque, a sloop of fourteen guns, a galliot, and eleven gun-boats, engaged her in the Bay ; but by warm fighting, and good seamanship, she escaped. The Captain informed us that the FLEET had failed, and he was much surprised in not finding them arrived. The following day, the Spanish General visited the lines and advanced works. The 9th, only two xebèques and the gun-boats were at Algeziras, the rest of their
cruisers

cruisers having left the station. The 11th, a felucca came round Cabrita, with oars, and with a press of sail : immediately upon entering the Bay, she made a signal, which was answered at Algeziras by an English ensign at the main-top-gallant mast-head. Soon after, a boat went over to Ceuta, and the xebeque which was stationed at the Point was called in with the gun-boats. In the evening many signals were made from the west ; and about midnight arrived the Kite cutter, Captain Trollop, with the joyful news that the Convoy was at the entrance of the Straits, under charge of ADMIRAL DARBY, with the BRITISH GRAND FLEET.

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CHAPTER V.

Admiral Darby relieves Gibraltar.—Spaniards bombard the Town.—Soldiers guilty of irregularities.—Town frequently on fire, and greatly injured.—Gun and mortar boats very troublesome to the Navy.—Admiral Darby returns to England.—Captain Curtis arrives with a convoy of victuallers.—Town in ruins.—Gun-boats renew their attacks on the Garrison: fatal effects.—Inhabitants much alarmed by their attacks.—One of the Enemy's magazines blown up.—General Elliott adopts a mode of annoying the Enemy's camp, and constructs frames to oppose the gun-boats.—Bombardment abates.—The Helena sloop of war arrives, after a warm action with the Enemy.—Singular system of firing, from the Enemy.—Melancholy fate of a matross.—Enemy make additions to their works.—Firing increases on both sides.—Death of Major Burke.—Gallant behaviour of a working party.—A conspiracy discovered in the Navy.—Enemy, by their operations, demonstrate their intention of besieging the Garrison in form.—Ineffectual attempt to destroy their batteries.—Several cutters taken.—Enemy finish their batteries.—General Elliott projects a sally, which proves successful.

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AT day-break, on the 12th of April, the much-expected fleet, under the command of Admiral Darby, was in sight from our signal-house, but was not discernible from below, being obscured by a thick mist in the Gut. As the sun, however, became more powerful, the fog gradually rose, like the curtain of a vast theatre, discovering to the anxious Garrison one of the most beautiful and pleasing scenes it is possible to conceive. The Convoy, consisting of near a hundred vessels, were in a compact body, led by several men
of

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of war: their sails just enough filled for steerage, whilst the majority of the line-of-battle ships lay to under the Barbara shore, having orders not to enter the Bay, lest the Enemy should molest them with their fire-ships.* The ecstasies of the inhabitants at this grand and exhilarating sight are not to be described. Their expressions of joy far exceeded their former exultations. But, alas! they little dreamed of the tremendous blow that impended, which was to annihilate their property, and reduce many of them to indigence and beggary.

As THE convoy approached the Bay, fifteen gun-boats advanced from Algezirias, and forming in regular order under the batteries at Cabrita Point, began a smart cannonade on the nearest ships, seconded by the gun and mortar batteries on the land. A line-of-battle ship and two frigates, however, soon obliged them to a precipitate retreat; and, continuing to pursue them, the crews of several deserted their boats, and took refuge amongst the rocks. Had our ships advanced at this critical juncture, and manned their boats, the whole might probably have been destroyed, and the Garrison by that means been rid of those disagreeable visitors which afterwards so harassed and annoyed us; but the frigates, having dispersed them, thought no more of the *bum-boats*, as some Naval officers contemptuously called them, and left them to be repossessed by the fugitives.

THE Enemy, on the land side, were far from being idle spectators of this relief. On the first intimation of Admiral Darby's approach, preparations, it is imagined, were made in the lines, and a reinforcement of artillery ordered down from the camp; as at day-break, before the fleet was well in sight, we remarked that their cannon were elevated, and the sponges and rammers reared against the merlons.

* The disposition of the whole is introduced in the annexed View of the Straits.

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merlons. These, with other appearances, indicated an intention of opening on the Garrison.

OUR private letters had, for some time before, mentioned that the Spaniards proposed to bombard Gibraltar, if the Garrison was a second time relieved: but the truth of this intelligence was doubted, it being conceived that no beneficial consequences could arise to them from such a cruel proceeding. We however overlooked the predominant characteristic of the nation, which, particularly in this instance, seems to have influenced them more than any other motive, and even to have carried them beyond that line of prudence and caution, which in military affairs ought to be strictly attended to.

ABOUT three quarters past ten o'clock, the van of the convoy came to an anchor off the New mole, and Rosia Bay; and, as if this were the signal for the Enemy to open, a smart fire immediately commenced from Fort St. Philip, followed by all the batteries which bore upon the Garrison. The number of ordnance bearing on the place was as follows: the King's, or Black battery (mounting 14 guns), 12 bearing on the Garrison; Fort St. Philip (27 guns), 11 bearing on the Garrison; Infanta's battery, of 7 guns; Prince's and Princess's batteries, of 14 guns each; Fort St. Barbara (23 guns), 6 bearing on the Garrison: these, with about 50 mortars, distributed along their lines, and in St. Carlos's battery, amount to 114 pieces of artillery; all of heavy metal, being twenty-six-pounders, and thirteen-inch mortars.

THE Enemy's cannonade was instantly returned from the Garrison; but our artillery had orders to disregard their lines, and notice only the St. Carlos's battery, which consequently soon slackened its fire. The miserable and terrified inhabitants, who just before were congratulating each other on the arrival of the fleet,
now

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now changed their exultation to sorrow, and flocked, old and young, men, women, and children, in the greatest confusion, to the southward, leaving their property, unsecured, to the mercy of the soldiers. The shells from the St. Carlos's battery were directed towards the New mole; the Convoy, however, had been warned not to anchor within the range of their fire: the shipping, therefore, were not in the least molested. A fettee was sunk near the watering-tank, and numbers of shells fell on the red-sands, and in the neighbourhood of Southport, which added no little to the alarm of the fugitives from town. The Enemy's other batteries were chiefly directed to Willis's, the Lines, and particularly the ground upon which the troops were intended to have been encamped. Between one and two o'clock their firing abated, and in a short time ceased. Of this favourable cessation the Inhabitants availed themselves, to secure such valuable property as could be expeditiously removed; but the heavier articles, which the avaricious and hard-hearted hucksters had kept concealed in their stores, to bring forth in small quantities when the prices suited, were all destroyed in the course of the bombardment.

ABOUT five o'clock, the batteries of the Enemy again opened, and the firing continued, without intermission, the remainder of the day, and the succeeding night. It did not, however, interrupt the disembarkation of the supplies. Five hundred men, with a proportion of officers, were ordered for that duty: they were afterwards considerably augmented; and such was the labour and diligence of the Garrison, that the stores were landed, with the assistance of the Navy, in nine or ten days. Our casualties, on the 12th, were but few: Lieut. Boag, of the artillery, was wounded; also several non-commissioned officers and privates.

THE bombardment was continued the 13th, and several soldiers were killed and wounded in their quarters. In the course of the day, a hundred and fifty men were ordered to remove ammunition to the magazines

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magazines on the hill, and an additional number to join the party employed in landing the supplies. The 14th, the gun and mortar boats fired upon the shipping, but were soon obliged to retire. Several barges attended, having officers in them, who seemed to give directions how to point their cannon. Our batteries ceased firing this day, but the Enemy's ordnance were kept going with great vivacity. They appeared to have got the exact range of the heights; even the Royal battery did not escape their shells. Ensign Martin was slightly wounded with splinters of stones. No arrangement of the troops was yet known; and the former distribution, given out in November, was totally overthrown by the extensive range of the Enemy's fire. Officers, however, whose quarters were damaged, received marquees from the public stores, to encamp at the southward; and the distressed inhabitants were accommodated with tents.

It being remarked that the Enemy's fire considerably abated about noon, the Governor ordered the town-guards to assemble at twelve o'clock; by which regulation less danger was apprehended in relieving the men on duty. The night picquets were likewise ordered to occupy the casemates under the Grand battery, that they might be at hand to reinforce the northern guards, in case of alarm. The total strength of the picquets, at this period, was two captains, nine subalterns, nine serjeants, nine drummers, and three hundred and ninety-one rank and file. The cause of the cessation in the Enemy's fire at noon, arose from a custom, pretty general in Spain, and common, I believe, in most warm climates, that of indulging themselves with a meridian nap. This luxury the Spaniards could not refuse themselves, even in war; and it was invariably attended to during their future operations against Gibraltar.*

VICE-

* This will not appear so extraordinary when the Reader is informed that, during the insurrection of Madrid, in 1766, the insurgents, as mentioned by Major Dalrymple, in his Travels through Spain, regularly indulged themselves with their *siesta*, and then returned to their different places of rendezvous. Government did the same; so that there seemed to be a sleepy convention, for a few hours, every day, between administration and the mob.

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VICE-ADMIRAL DARBY, with the ships of war, continued cruising in sight of the Rock: the service however requiring dispatch in landing the supplies, he detached Rear-Admiral Sir John Lockart Ross to superintend that duty in the Bay; and the Garrison party was augmented to upwards of a thousand men, besides officers. The evening of the 14th, the Enemy's shells were very profusely distributed: some that did not burst we examined, and on drawing the fuse, found inflammable matter mixed with the powder: these combustibles set fire to a wine-house in the green-market, near the Spanish church; and before the fire could be extinguished, four or five houses were burnt to the ground. Detachments from the regiments and guards in town were immediately ordered to quench the flames; but the Enemy's cannonade became so brisk, that great confusion ensued. From this moment, we may date the commencement of the irregularities into which, through resentment and intoxication, the soldiers were betrayed. Some died of immediate intoxication, and several were with difficulty recovered, by oils, and tobacco water, from a dangerous state of ebriety.

THOUGH riot and violence are most contrary to that spirit of regular discipline which should always prevail in military affairs, something may yet be urged in extenuation of the conduct of the troops, which has been so much the subject of reprehension amongst the people interested. The extreme distress to which the soldiers had been reduced by the mercenary conduct of the hucksters and liquor-dealers, in hoarding, or rather concealing their stocks, to enhance the price of what was exposed for sale, raised amongst the troops (when they discovered the great quantities of various articles in the private stores) a spirit of revenge. The first and second days, they conducted themselves with great propriety; but on the eve of the third day, their discipline was overpowered by their inebriation; and from that instant, regardless of punishment, or the intreaties of
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their officers, they were guilty of many, and great excesses. The Enemy's shells soon forced open the secret recesses of the merchants; and the soldiers instantly availed themselves of the opportunity to seize upon the liquors, which they conveyed to haunts of their own. Here, in parties, they barricaded their quarters against all opposers, and, insensible of their danger, regaled themselves with the spoils. Several skirmishes occurred amongst them, which, if not seasonably put a stop to by the interference of officers, might have ended in serious consequences.

It did not appear, through all their intemperance, that these irregularities arose from any cause so much as a spirit of revenge against the merchants. A great quantity of liquor, &c. was wantonly destroyed; and, in some cases, incredible profusion prevailed. Among other instances of caprice and extravagance, I recollect that of roasting a pig by a fire made of cinnamon. The offenders were at first confined and reprimanded, which the Governor judged would have a greater effect than punishment; but relapsing a second time, he was convinced his lenity was disregarded; and he was therefore compelled to use more rigorous measures.

I HAVE thought proper to digress a little upon this subject, not in justification of the soldiers, but to acquaint the world with the truth; as some, who have related the occurrences of this period to their friends, have omitted doing the Garrison the justice to annex the account of their former hardships. Besides, had the troops been in the highest degree abstemious, the Enemy's fire would soon have destroyed what was only the sooner consumed by their extravagance; for the inhabitants were too much alarmed for the safety of their own persons, to attend to the security of their effects.

I FORGOT to mention in its place, that, previous to the bombardment, the sick in town had received orders to remove when the firing

firing commenced: on the 13th, therefore, the men were conveyed to the Naval hospital at the southward.

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THE 15th, the bombardment was continued with greater vivacity. Not content with discharging their ordnance regularly, they saluted us almost every instant with a volley of eight or ten cannon, besides mortars. Our batteries remained silent, and the guns at Willis's were drawn behind the merlons, to secure them against the Enemy's shot. It was observed, they directed a great number of shells towards the Working-parade, and about the Victualling-office. In the morning, the gun-boats again attacked the ships of war and transports; and the Navy returned a smart fire. About noon, Lieut. Budworth, of the 72d regiment, and Surgeon Chesholme, of the 56th, were wounded by a splinter of a shell at the door of a northern casemate in the King's bastion. The former was dangerously scalped, and the latter had one foot taken off, and the other leg broken, besides a wound in the knee. The troops in town, in the afternoon began to encamp at the southward, and to be regularly distributed amongst the casemates in town. The following was the arrangement. To the Hanoverians were allotted the bomb-proofs under the Grand battery, occupied by the picquets, which in consequence removed to Landport gateway, and Prince of Hesse's casemate. The 12th, 39th, and 56th regiments, were ordered to possess Montague's casemate, with the Galley-house, and Waterport gateway: those who could not be accommodated in these quarters, encamped above the South barracks and Navy hospital, on the declivity of the hill: the 72d regiment totally withdrew into the King's bastion, and the 58th and 73d regiments remained in the South barracks: the artillery and engineers were disposed of on the same plan. Several days elapsed before the troops were properly settled. The ground on which they encamped, was very steep and rugged: it was necessary therefore to level it into terraces, for

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the men to pitch their tents. The regimental stores were also to be removed, and other duties of a similar nature executed, before the troops could be considered as properly established.

THE gun-boats attacked the shipping on the 16th, and endeavoured to molest the parties employed in landing the provisions: but a line-of-battle ship, and two frigates, soon obliged them to retire. In the course of the day, the women and children who had taken refuge with their husbands and friends in the casemates in town, were ordered to remove and encamp at the southward. Though this order, from motives of humanity, was not strictly enforced, yet it greatly relieved the men, and in a measure removed our apprehensions of some infectious disorder being generated from their crowded and confined situation. The officers were under the necessity of participating with the men in these unpleasant accommodations: their presence, however, produced this beneficial consequence, that they often prevented the men from indulging in those excesses, into which, otherwise, they undoubtedly would have entered. The same day, the Queen's-lines, Main, New-mole, and Rofia guards, were ordered to be Captain's guards.

THE Enemy, on the 17th, first reached the Rock-gun with shot from the seven-gun battery. Colonels Ross, Green, and Picton, were appointed the same day to rank as Brigadiers; and Captain Wilson of the 72d regiment, Lieutenant Holloway of the engineers, and Captain Picton of the 12th regiment, were appointed their brigade-majors. Two field-officers, with a captain from each regiment, and one subaltern for every fifty men, were ordered also to superintend the disembarkation of provisions. In the afternoon, the shells of the besiegers set fire to the stores in the Spanish church. Parties were instantly detached from the main guard, 72d regiment, and other corps in town, to remove the provisions. The Lieutenant-Governor

Governor with his Aide-de-camps was present, encouraging the men to perform this duty with expedition. The Enemy's fire at this time was remarkably spirited; nevertheless, the greater part was saved by the activity of the parties. Many casks of flour were brought into the King's bastion, and piled as temporary traverses before the doors of the southern casemates, in which several persons had been killed and wounded in bed. These traverses, however, did not continue long; for the men, when the spoils in the town became scarce, considered those barrels which the Enemy's shot had pierced, as lawful prizes. The contents were soon scooped out and fried into pancakes, a dish which they were very expert in cooking; and the upper casks, wanting support from below, gave way, and the whole came to the ground. Though the flour by this means was in a great measure lost to Government, yet the number of accidents which these traverses prevented, greatly overbalanced the value of the article. Traverses of another nature were afterwards erected in their room.

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THE gun-boats, on the 18th, fired again upon the shipping and men of war cruising in the Bay. The Minerva and Monsieur, frigates, had several men dangerously wounded; and the Nonsuch had a mast crippled. The Navy, after this attack, no longer considered these boats in the same despicable light as on their first entrance into the Bay. In the course of the day, a shell fell through the arch of the Galley-house, where part of the 39th, and some of the 12th regiments, were quartered: it killed two, and wounded four privates. In consequence of this unexpected casualty, the troops removed thence, and joined their regiments at the southward.

OUR batteries, especially at Willis's, by this time exhibited a very disorderly and ruinous appearance. The ordnance had been withdrawn

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withdrawn when the artillery ceased to fire: but the merlons were now considerably damaged, and some of the cannon dismounted and injured. The Lines were also nearly choaked up with loose stones and rubbish, brought down by the shot from the rock above; the traverses along the line-wall were greatly injured; and the town, particularly at the northward, approached every day towards a final demolition. The engineers, however, were ordered to prepare materials for repairing the Queen's battery at Willis's; and parties of workmen were employed in carrying up, from below, sand-bags, and other requisites for that purpose. New traverses were likewise begun along the different communications, higher, stronger, and at shorter distances, than the old ones.

THE gun-boats renewed their attack, the 19th, on the shipping, but were soon obliged to retreat. In the course of the day, the terrace store-house was set on fire. The camp-equipage of the Garrison being in an adjacent house, parties from the regiments in town were ordered to remove them with the greatest expedition. The men generally received some gratuity from the Governor for these hazardous duties. The following day, the supplies being landed, the Fleet in the evening prepared to return to the westward. Before they weighed, their good friends the gun-boats gave them a parting salute, and did some damage. By six o'clock the whole were under way. Many merchantmen, freighted with merchandize, and articles much wanted in the Garrison, returned with their cargoes; the merchants refusing to take them, on account of the bombardment. Great numbers of the inhabitants, and officers ladies, likewise embraced this opportunity of leaving the Garrison.

THE impatience of the British Admiral to disembark the supplies, that he might not lose the opportunity of the easterly wind to return from the Mediterranean, had prevented the Garrison from unloading.

unloading the colliers that had arrived with the fleet: these ships were therefore skuttled in the New mole, to be discharged at leisure. The ordnance-transports were also ordered within the boom for the same purpose. In the course of the 20th, the Victualling-office was on fire for a short time; and at night, the Town was on fire in four different places; but the public stores being safe, no attempts were made to extinguish the flames.

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THE Enemy's cannonade and bombardment continued still very brisk. The 21st, forty-two rounds were numbered in two minutes, between six and eight o'clock. The Garrison flag-staff on the Grand battery was so much injured by their fire, that the upper part was obliged to be cut off; and the colours, or rather the glorious remains, were *nailed* to the stump. The evening of the 22d, the combustible matter in their shells setting fire to some fascines at Waterport, Lieut. Cunningham, of the 39th regiment, was wounded in extinguishing them. The fate of this young gentleman may be considered as extraordinary. On examining the wound, which was in the head, it appeared so trifling, that the surgeon judged his skull unhurt; and his seeming recovery confirmed the opinion. Something more than a fortnight elapsed, when he complained of a pain in his head: he immediately took to his bed, and in a short time expired. After his decease, a considerable fracture was discovered, with a quantity of extravasated blood encircling the brain.

THE gun and mortar boats, on the 23d, fired upon our parties ranging the provisions at the southward. Two hundred and sixty shot and forty shells were discharged, several of which fell about the camp, and powder-magazines. The wife of a soldier of the 58th regiment was killed behind the South barracks, and several men wounded. The bombardment from the lines was now in some degree

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degree abated, in consequence of their batteries being shaken and injured by their own constant cannonade. We observed, during this day, a number of mules, with carts, bringing materials to the line to repair them. Our artillery, at night, annoyed them with a few rounds from the batteries above Willis's.

THE 24th, a shell fell at the door of a casemate, under the south flank of the King's bastion, and wounded four men within the bomb-proof. This casemate had been appropriated as a magazine for the bastion, and the powder had only been removed to the opposite casemate a few days previous to this accident. In the afternoon, a soldier of the 12th regiment deserted from Landport guard; in consequence of which, the town-guards were ordered to assemble, the subsequent day, at two o'clock P.M. The Enemy, however, not increasing their fire as was expected, the guards afterwards mounted as before.

THE Garrison-orders of the 26th expressed, that any soldier, convicted of being drunk or asleep upon his post, or found marauding, should be *immediately* executed. These measures, rigorous as they may appear, were become absolutely necessary, and, in reality, had been too long deferred. The soldiers were now arrived at so high a pitch of licentiousness, that no respect was paid to their officers, and scarcely obedience to them even when on duty. Such behaviour, if not curbed in time, too commonly induces very serious consequences. At the same time that this order was issued, the regiments quartered at the southward were commanded, in case of alarm, to assemble, in two lines, on the Red sands, the British in front, and the Hanoverian brigade in the rear. The troops in town had their stations likewise allotted them.

IN the afternoon of the 27th, a convoy of twenty victuallers, under charge of four frigates and the Fortune sloop, arrived in thirteen days

days from Minorca. It now appeared that the Governor did not entirely depend on receiving succours from England, but thought it prudent to obtain supplies from other quarters, lest any accident should prevent the British fleet arriving in time to his relief. Thus determined to provide against fortuitous events, he had secretly ordered provisions to be purchased from the prizes taken aloft, and shipped on board vessels that were hired for that purpose. Captain Curtis, of the Brilliant frigate, had the charge of this valuable Convoy; and the success attending the enterprise demonstrates with what secrecy it had been conducted. They were ignorant of Admiral Darby having been in the Mediterranean, and were agreeably surprised to find from the Enemy no opposition to their entrance.

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THE provisions thrown in by the British Admiral were not yet stored; nor had they any further protection against the weather, than a covering of canvas, formed from the sails of the colliers that were run ashore in the New mole. Under these unavoidable circumstances, it was peculiarly unfortunate, that the rains at this period should be unusually heavy, and of long continuance. The troops also were very material sufferers from this inclemency of the weather. The rain, that poured down in torrents from the face of the hill, soon broke down the loose banks of earth raised to cover their tents, which, being pitched on the declivity of the hill, were swept away by the force of the stream; and thus the fatigued soldier, who scarcely was one night out of three in bed, was frequently exposed, at midnight, to a deluge of rain. These misfortunes, however, taught them to provide against such future accidents; and in a few months, after some labour and attention, their quarters were more comfortable and secure.

THE remainder of the month was remarkable for excessive rains, attended with most dreadful thunder and lightning, which, during

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the night, in addition to the fire from the Enemy, had an awful and tremendous effect. The bombardment continued warm and well supported; but the Enemy did not appear to have any particular object. In the early part of the day, they in general fired pretty smartly: about noon their batteries slackened, and from twelve till two o'clock almost totally ceased: after two they recommenced, and persevered till the succeeding meridian. During the night they directed their fire principally to the heights and lines, as probably they had information, by the last deserter, that we employed, every night, parties to clear and repair those works.

THE morning of the 30th, we discovered the gun and mortar boats approaching the Garrison: they took their stations off the town, to avoid the fire from the frigates, and varied very little from their former attacks. Five shot landed on Windmill-hill, which was esteemed a remarkable long range. We returned a brisk and well-directed fire; and they retired. It was remarked that the land-batteries were in a measure silent during their stay. In the evening, an Hanoverian, with some others, was detected marauding in a store: the party was given in charge to a sentry, but the former attempted to escape: the sentry called to him to stop, otherwise he would fire; which he not complying with, the sentry shot him dead on the spot. A general return of casualties, &c. for every month, is inserted at the conclusion.

May.

EARLY on the 2d of May, two-settees arrived from Algiers, laden with sheep, wine, and brandy. The Enemy now seemed to have given up the idea of blockading us to a surrender. No cruisers had been observed out since the departure of Admiral Darby. In the evening a shell from the Garrison fell upon the eastern traverse, in the St. Carlos's battery, under which was their magazine, and, communicating with the powder, blew it up. The explosion

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was not loud; but the damage was so very considerable, that the ordnance were silent for several days. Our artillery annoyed the Enemy greatly during their confusion, though they kept up a brisk discharge from the lines, at the rate of two hundred and fifty rounds an hour. The day following, Lieut. Willington, of the artillery, was wounded at Willis's. The 5th, a soldier of the 58th regiment was executed on the Grand parade, at the door of the store where he was detected plundering. His body hung till sun-set, as an example to other offenders.

THE Enemy's cannonade and bombardment continued to be wide and scattered, apparently having no particular object. Shells were yet lavishly expended; and, what was very singular, many of those which fell blind, contained, on examination, a vast quantity of sand mixed with the powder. We could not otherwise account for this unusual circumstance, than by supposing the powder was stolen by their people in the laboratories. Other shells still diffused, on their explosion, combustible matter, which, setting fire to the loose timber and wood dispersed amongst the ruins of the town, greatly endangered the King's stores and magazines. This induced the Governor, on the 6th, to publish a placart, signifying to the inhabitants, that such materials, of this nature, as were not removed out of the reach of the Enemy's fire, would be converted to the King's use. The morning of the 7th, the gun and mortar boats fired upon the Town and the New mole: they stayed about an hour, and then retired. We returned upwards of four hundred rounds with great vivacity; which greatly displeased the Governor: "There would be no end," he said, "of expending ammunition, if we fired every time they came, and while they were at so great a distance: in future," he ordered, "no notice to be taken of the gun-boats, unless they approached within the distance of grape." The 8th, Captain Fowles, of the 73d, was wounded in the lines.

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THE Enemy's fire was now more regular: we no longer experienced the sudden fits that had induced them to discharge a whole battery at a volley: it amounted, about this time, upon an average, to fifteen hundred rounds in the twenty-four hours. The 9th, Lieut. Lowe, of the 12th regiment, a superintendant of the working-parties, lost his leg by a shot, on the slope of the hill under the Castle. He saw the shot before the fatal effect, but was fascinated to the spot. This sudden arrest of the faculties was not uncommon: several instances occurred to my own observation, where men, totally free, have had their senses so engaged by a shell in its descent, that, though sensible of their danger, even so far as to cry for assistance, they have been immediately fixed to the place. But what is more remarkable, these men have so instantaneously recovered themselves on its fall to the ground, as to remove to a place of safety before the shell burst. The gun and mortar boats repeated their visit on the 11th, but fired from so respectful a distance, that scarcely a shot came ashore. Our batteries were manned; nevertheless, not a gun was returned. Lieutenant Thornton, of the 12th regiment, was wounded the same day with splinters of stones, thrown up by a shot which grazed betwixt his legs.

THE buildings in town, at this time, exhibited a most dreadful picture of the effects of so animated a bombardment. Scarce a house, north of the Grand parade, was tenatable; all of them were deserted. Some few, near Southport, continued to be inhabited by soldiers families; but, in general, the floors and roofs were destroyed, and the bare shell only was left standing. The Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, however, maintained their quarters, having parties constantly employed in repairing the damage. Both had bomb-proofs; and the former afterwards had a large tent, pitched on a rising situation south of the Red sands, where, with his suite, he generally remained during the day, returning at night to town; but

but the Lieutenant-Governor constantly resided in town, having accommodations in the King's bastion.

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THE evening of the 12th, the gun and mortar boats fired upon the Garrison from off the Old mole, seconded by a very warm fire from their land-batteries. Several shells from the former ranged as high as the Signal-house, and some fell over the rock. They discharged a hundred and eighty shot and forty-six shells, and then retired, throwing up the usual signal of a rocket from each boat. Though our batteries were manned, the Garrison remained silent. About the 13th, and for a few succeeding days, the Enemy's shells were directed for an unusual long range. One fell on the fore-castle of a collier in the New mole, and pierced both decks, but did not burst. Two fell amongst the provisions on the New-mole parade, and another in the middle yard of the South barracks: a splinter of the latter flew to the Navy-hospital. The 14th, a shell fell into the Small armoury, near Southport, but fortunately did little injury. The 17th, the Jews synagogue and other buildings were burnt down. The following day, a shell from our upper batteries blew up the Guard-room in the *place d'armes* of Fort Barbara. Our engineers were at this time employed every night in clearing the works, filling up shell-holes, and repairing the glacis and traverses at Waterport. The Enemy's fire at this period seldom exceeded a thousand rounds in the course of twenty-four hours: their batteries were much shaken with the firing, and parties were constantly bringing supplies of ammunition to the lines, and different materials for the repair of their works.

AN attempt was made by the Navy, on the 19th, to cut off a polacre becalmed near Europa Point; but, a breeze springing up, she escaped. The gun-boats soon after came out, apparently with
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an intention of avenging this affront; but, the wind freshening, they returned. The cannonade from the Enemy was now principally directed at our upper batteries. The rock-gun, mounted on the summit of the northern front, was become as warm, if not warmer than any other battery; and scarcely a day passed without some casualties at that post. The gun and mortar boats, early in the morning of the 20th, repeated their attack on the Garrison and shipping. They were arranged in two divisions, those to the northward directing their fire towards the King's bastion and Southport, but most of their shells broke on the face of the rock; whilst the southward division annoyed the shipping and camp. Their usual signal for retiring was made about a quarter past three o'clock. On this occasion we returned a few shots from the town-batteries.

At the commencement of the bombardment, the out-guards of Bay-side and Lower Forbes's had been withdrawn from those barriers, and an officer's guard stationed every night in the Flèche, a work erected near the Inundation at the foot of Landport glacis. On the morning of the 21st, the sentries at this post observed a man advancing, with great circumspection, along the causeway: instead of answering when challenged, he immediately dropped. Lieut. Wetham, of the 58th regiment, the officer on duty, suspecting he came to reconnoitre, instantly, with the serjeant, went out to seize him; but the man rising, he pursued, and was within a very short distance of securing him, when he fell into a shell-hole near Bay-side, and the man escaped. It was imagined that curiosity had prompted him to make trial of the alertness of our sentries. His hat, which fell off in his retreat, his firelock with bayonet, and pouch filled with twenty-nine rounds of ammunition, were hung on the palisades of the barrier, and were afterwards brought in.

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EARLY on the morning of the 22d, a splinter of a shell, which fell and burst on the Church-battery, ranged upwards of two hundred yards, and cutting the apron of the *morning-gun* on the South bastion, fired it off. This singular circumstance, happening some hours before day-break, not a little surprised those who heard the report, and were ignorant of the cause. Our fire was now increased to about a hundred and fifty rounds in the twenty-four hours, the Enemy's parties being repairing the lines of approach. Their cannonade, on the contrary, was reduced, upon an average, to six hundred and fifty rounds.

THE night of the 23d, the gun and mortar boats renewed their attack upon the camp, which, in its consequences, was more dreadful than any we had hitherto experienced. The silence observed by the Garrison during their preceding visits, emboldened them, on this occasion, to advance so near, that we could distinctly hear their officers give orders to the men, who frequently cried out to us, in Spanish, to "take care." During the first and second rounds, the shells fell over Windmill-hill into the sea; but this mistake they soon rectified, and the attack became excessively smart. Two shells fell within the Hospital-wall, and a shot passed through the roof of one of the pavilions. A shell fell in a house in Hardy-town, and killed Mr. Israel, a very respectable Jew, with Mrs. Tourale, a female relation, and his clerk. Another, from the St. Carlos's battery, fell into a house near South shed, in which were fifteen or sixteen persons: the shell burst; but all escaped, except a child, whose mother had experienced a similar fate some time before. A soldier of the 72d regiment was killed in his bed by a shot; and a Jew butcher was equally unfortunate. In all, seven were killed, and twelve or thirteen wounded. A splinter of the shell which was so fatal amongst Mr. Israel's family, is now exhibited, as a curiosity worthy of notice, in Sir Ashton Lever's valuable museum, where this affecting

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affecting story is also related. The silence of the Garrison, when the destructive effects of this attack were publicly known, caused great secret discontent amongst the soldiers; and such representations were made to the Governor, that he ordered the artillery to return their fire when they repeated their visit.

THE evening of the 27th, the engineers, with a strong party, repaired the Queen's battery (Willis's). The new merlons were raised with sand-bags on the base of the old ones, and the whole was completed before morning gun-fire. The following day, a squadron of Russian men of war passed through the Straits to the west. Whilst they remained in sight, the Enemy increased their fire upon the Garrison. The same day arrived the General Murray privateer and a polacre from Minorca, with wine, brandy, lemons, and salt; and in the evening, the Enterprize frigate, with seventeen ordnance-ships and transports, sailed for England. The Enemy discovered them before they quitted the Bay, and repeated their signals towards Cadiz. The Garrison flag-staff, on the Grand battery, was now so mutilated, and the flag so much torn by the Enemy's shot, that it became necessary to erect a new one, which was done the night of the 28th; and it served to engage the attention of the Enemy in the succeeding day's firing.

THE morning of the 29th, two British frigates, the Flora and Crescent, which had conveyed the Minorca ordnance-ships to Mahon, appeared from the east. Captain Peere Williams, in the former, stood towards the Bay; and being informed by Captain Curtis, that the Enterprize had sailed the preceding evening, put about, and followed his consort, the Crescent, which was then chasing two vessels, apparently Dutchmen, under the Barbara shore: and soon after they disappeared, we heard a cannonade to the west; which

which most likely proceeded from the ensuing engagement, as we afterwards learned that the ships ~~chased~~ were Dutch frigates.* At noon the same day, two artificers were executed at the White Convent in Irish Town for marauding; and the following day, one of the 58th suffered for the same offence. The 31st, in the evening, a ship under Ragusan colours, attempting to get round Europa Point to proceed to Algeziras, was driven under our guns, and obliged to come in. She was laden with wheat and barley, bound from ~~Barcelona to Cadiz~~; and her cargo was condemned as a lawful prize.

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THE Enemy's bombardment was considerably abated towards the close of the month. Their objects for some time were the upper batteries, and particularly the Royal battery, whence they were greatly incommoded. They often attempted to reach Landport and the lines with grape from the advanced mortars; but it seldom ranged farther than the Inundation. Our engineers, notwithstanding their fire, continued making such repairs as their cannonade rendered necessary.

ABOUT two o'clock, on the morning of the 1st of June, the gun and mortar boats saluted us as usual, and wounded three or four men: they were in three divisions. We returned the fire from different batteries between King's bastion and Buena-Vista. During this attack, an incident happened, which I will beg leave to insert. A soldier, rambling about the town, accidentally found, in the ruins of a house, several watches and other articles of value, which he immediately made prize of; but how to secrete them afterwards, was a subject that required the utmost reach of his

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* Captain Williams, in this action, took his opponent; but the Crescent, from some unfortunate accidents, was compelled to surrender to her adversary. The Crescent was however retaken by the Flora; but being greatly damaged, both she and the Flora's prize afterwards fell a prey to some French cruisers.

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invention. He was sensible he could not secure them in his quarters, as every foldier of his regiment was examined on his return to his bomb-proof from duty. He resolved, therefore, on a singular expedient. Taking out the wad which served as a tampion to a gun on the King's bastion, he lodged his prize, which was tied in his handkerchief, as far as he could reach within the gun, and put the wad in its former place. In times of peace, he could not have devised a better repository; but unfortunately the gun-boats coming the same evening (~~while he was~~ fast asleep in his casemate, not apprehending any danger to his secreted treasure), this richly-loaded gun was one of the first that was discharged at the Enemy, and the foundation of his future greatness was dispersed in an instant.

THE Enemy's cannonade, in the beginning of June, decreased to about five hundred rounds in the twenty-four hours: the King's, or Black battery (as it was called by the Garrison), with the two fourteen-gun batteries in their lines, were now silent.

THE morning of the 3d, the gun-boats repeated their visit about the same time as before. In this attack two serjeants, of the 12th and 58th regiments, were killed, and two privates wounded: many shells fell among the tents of the different regiments, and two shot in the hospital-yard. A corporal, going with the relief at Landport, had the muzzle of his firelock closed, and the barrel twisted like a french-horn, by a shell, without injury to his person. We returned the fire from the town-batteries, hoping by that means to engage their attention from our camp. The 4th, the Governor commemorated the anniversary of His Majesty's birth-day, by a salute at noon of twenty-three cannon, and forty-three mortars, being the number of ordnance that bore on the St. Carlos's battery. The fire began at the Rock-mortar, seconded by the Old mole, and

and so on from right to left till the whole were discharged : the Enemy, indulging themselves as usual with a *fiesta*, did not immediately return our fire ; but in the early part of the day, they had made the town pretty warm, and fired twice or thrice through the royal standard.

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IN the course of the 4th, a tartan was taken coming in from the east : the crew, however, escaped to the Garrison in their boat. A Spanish Squadron of two line-of-battle ships, three xebèques, and two bomb-ketches, also arrived the same day at Algeziras, from aloft. With this reinforcement, their naval force before Gibraltar amounted to two ships of the line, five xebèques, two ketches, several half-gallies and armed vessels, with fifteen or sixteen gun and mortar boats. These latter were become so active, that we could never promise ourselves a night's repose without being disturbed by a cannonade ; and their attacks were more vexatious from the impossibility of being able to retaliate, because they presented to us so minute an object. Whenever the alarm was given of their approach, which was generally a little after midnight, the southern part of the rock was in immediate commotion. Their effects had been found so destructive, that all were upon the look-out : the troops were ordered from their tents, to places where they were covered from the shot ; but the shells were directed into the most sequestered recesses. Such was the terror of the miserable inhabitants, that many of them fled nearly naked to the remote parts of the rock ; and even here they could scarcely deem themselves secure : in short, no scene could be more deplorable than their distress on these occasions.

THE Enemy's bombardment from the land was still continued with little variation : they appeared indeed to have no other object than the expenditure of ammunition. In their camp, large parties

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were constantly bringing brush-wood for fascines from the country ; and others were employed in disembarking stores, from small vessels which were daily arriving from all quarters.

THE 9th, we were alarmed with the blowing-up of one of the Enemy's magazines, situated at a small distance from the Catalonian camp to the west of the Queen of Spain's chair. The different explosions that succeeded the first, resembled a continual roll of fire, like repeated volleys of musquetry from which circumstance we conjectured, that it was their repository for live shells, and fixed ammunition. Their drums immediately beat to arms ; and the whole army, consisting of thirteen battalions besides cavalry, assembled in front of the camp. Parties were instantly detached ; but the splinters of the shells kept them for some time at a considerable distance. The shells however at length ceased to displode : they advanced, and removed powder, &c. from a neighbouring magazine to a place southward of the fire ; where meeting afterwards in great numbers, our artillery endeavoured to reach them with a large shell from Willis's ; but the distance was beyond the range of a sea-mortar. From the long continuance and successive loud reports, it was thought they must have sustained great loss, not only of ammunition, but of men ; as the splinters were seen, with glasses, to range much farther than the spot where the detachment first assembled : and remarkable economy was afterwards observed in the article of shells.

THE following day, a line-of-battle ship, proceeding from Point Mala to the eastward, was fired upon from the Garrison, and obliged to put about and anchor at Algeziras. A flag of truce came the day after to the New mole, to know the cause of our firing upon her, being a Neapolitan man of war. The Governor answered, that the first shot was to bring her to ; which she not obeying,