

them. I assure you, that the fight afforded great entertainment, and the army displayed some merit in their performance. They have been practising several days, but none worthy of remark but this. It is evident they mean to familiarize their troops in the nature of an attack, so that they may be more expert in a regular assault.

7th. This day a cartel from Spain brought over upwards of forty British prisoners of war: they confidently assert that fourteen sail of the line, several frigates, and a number of transports with troops, were hourly expected to sail from Cadiz, but their destination was only matter of opinion.

8th. Last night of four deserters, who endeavoured to reach the garrison, only one escaped safe; three were either taken or shot by the Spanish horse patrols—He is one of the Walloons, and says that the Spanish General has received advice from Madrid, to fire, whenever he thinks proper; fifty-two large mortars are mounted in their lines, with an incredible number of cannon. From this intelligence, we may conclude, that a bombardment will shortly take place.

This

This day a soldier was executed for theft. He died with great contrition and penitence, seemingly sensible of his situation and wickedness.

9th. This day the Spaniards executed two men, we suppose them to be those whom they took on the night of the 7th instant.

11th. This day came in a deserter from Spain—he is a native of the place, and the first that we have received since the commencement of hostilities.

12th. Last night came in a boat from Tangier, with fowls, pigeons, and leather—the enemy chased her under the guns.

15th. This day a large Swedish ship having approached Europa, we fired a shot to oblige her to come in; but to our disappointment, found her cargo to consist of salt only.

This morning the Swede sailed, but Barcello's cruizers afterwards brought her into Algaziras, for examination.

A xebec arrived at Algaziras from the eastward, towing two gun-boats.

18th. Two boats arrived from Tangier, with fowls and lemons; they bring word, that the Fly packet-boat, was on the
the

the 17th instant, cut out of that port, by the Spaniards. It appears from this circumstance, that the Moors are inclined to favour the Spanish cruizers, or otherwise they would not have suffered an act of this nature, to be committed under the walls of their town.

.22d. Arrived this day from the west, a schooner, laden with leather, butter, and oil. Nothing extraordinary in the enemy's camp. Our people are sickly--the small-pox rages with violence, and carries off 18 or 20 per week, but mostly children. The enemy seem busy at Al-gaziras; a many boats are every day employed from the Orange-Grove to that place, but cannot observe any thing particular they are doing.

I am, yours, &c.

LETTER IX.

Gibraltar, June 1, 1780.

Hon. Father.

WE still continue our cannonade on the enemy; they are constantly bringing

bringing down stores and ammunition to their lines, and have made great improvement in their approaches. 'Tis somewhat strange, notwithstanding the slaughter our shot and shells occasions among them that they are not disposed to retaliate the compliment.

Wind W. arrived a settee from Tangier with eleven bullocks, thirteen sheep, twenty-four dozen fowls, with a quantity of leather, eggs and lemons. She got in unobserved by the enemy, the wind being excessive fresh, had forced the Spanish cruizers into Algaziras.

4th. Came in two boats with a few fowls from Tetuan.

5th. Last night a soldier deserted from the Mole-head guard. He had not long been planted centry, when he left his firelock in the box, and took his passage, naked, in the water.

6th. Came in a boat with fifteen sheep from Tangier. The master relates that an English brig arrived in that port, in eighteen days from Portsmouth, laden with butter, porter, and flour, and that the Spanish cruizers were watching her closely.

7th. About one this morning, wind
N.W.

N. W. a ship was discovered standing for the New-mole; the Enterprize hailed her, upon which she answered, "A provision ship from England;" the frigate hailed again, and suspecting that she was not a friend, immediately hoisted the signal of an enemy's approach: soon after several more appeared keeping the same course: The Enterprize discharged a shot at the first, and the enemy finding they were discovered, took to their boats, and set them on fire, one after another, being nine in number: The wind now dropped, and a dead calm ensued; the garrison and shipping kept a brisk fire on the boats as they retreated, from which they must have suffered considerably, as they brought the first almost into the New-mole. Our seamen, in an undaunted and gallant manner, rowed along side of the flaming devourers, and having grappled to their burning sides, towed them quietly to the back of the New Mole, among the clefts of the rock, where they burnt to the water's edge, before a number of spectators from our walls, who were returning Almighty God thanks for the great deliverance; for had the wind continued to blow

G. 2

fresh,

fresh, our shipping must have been inevitably consumed. Three of the fire-ships drove to the eastward, two dropped very near the Panther, in Rosia Bay, where she lay at anchor, and the others to Europa and Little Bay. They burned with surprising fierceness for three hours; the masts of some stood to the very last, and appeared as if under sail: The largest was a 40 gun ship, and burnt till this afternoon. The garrison drums beat to arms, and the soldiery immediately repaired to their stations. The terrified inhabitants, together with the women and children, were wringing their hands, weeping with the most bitter and inexpressible anguish, expecting every minute a bombardment from the land side: Such a scene would pierce the most insensible heart, to hear their piteous lamentations—During the transaction, the Rock appeared as bright as if Aurora had just arisen, to bless the creation with her enlivening rays; the stars reclined their head, and the skies and sea, were lost to perception, amidst the bright illumination.

Admiral Barcello, with his Squadron, was under sail, flattering himself, that
if

if our shipping were not burnt, they would cut their cables and push to sea; but his stratagems were frustrated, and this morning he returned to his old station, to study more mischief.

- Some time in the night came in a boat from Tangier, with fowls and leather. It was fortunate she was not fired at from the garrison, as she might reasonably have been suspected for a Spaniard.

N. B. There were twenty sail of shipping in the New Mole, at the time the fireships were sent over.

8th. This morning came in a privateer and a large settee from Portugal, with sheep, wine, oil and lemons. This must be an additional mortification to Don Barcello, notwithstanding the vigilance of his numerous cruizers to distress us, that we are so seasonably favoured by providence.

10th. Arrived with a fine breeze at west two boats from Barbary—they brought forty-eight sheep and a few fowls. A gun was fired from one of the enemy's gallies, but too late to prevent their getting in.

11th. Last night a man on duty, at the batteries on the hill, fell from a precipice

cipice of the Rock, and was smashed to pieces. It is supposed his intention was to desert.

12th. Last night arrived a settee from Tangier, with thirty-eight bullocks and eighty sheep; also a small boat with oil. These frequent supplies will enable the garrison to sustain their situation with the utmost spirit. Beef is sold for three rials, and mutton four rials per pound.

14th. The enemy's line of battle ships and frigates sailed from Algaziras to the East. Admiral Barcello has hoisted his flag on board a xebec—We cannot conjecture what this manœuvre will demonstrate.

15th. Last night sailed from the New Mole, a 20 gun ship for England, with dispatches. Wind N. E. Came in a small settee from the eastward, with fruit.

18th. Arrived in the night from Algaziras, a boat with six deserters belonging to the naval and marine service of the enemy:—They say that our opponents are heartily tired of their situation.

19th. Wind W. This day arrived at Algaziras, a frigate and three large xebecs, accompanied by a Moorish corsair.

20th.

20th. Came in a small boat, with a few sheep and fowl.

20th. Last night our batteries kept a hot and incessant fire upon the enemy's working parties; they laboured uncommonly hard at their approaches, as we heard the clink of their hammers during the whole course of the night. We did not observe any additional work this morning, so that we conclude they were nailing down platforms in their works. We continue our working parties on the batteries, which are in extreme good condition to annoy the foe.

23d. Wind E. came in a Tartan from Minorca, with leather, wine, and charcoal. An excellent supply—shoes being much wanted to preserve the feet in our labours on the Rock, which are sold at twenty and twenty-two rials per pair, wine to strengthen and revive our spirits, and charcoal to dress our diet, as firing is become a very scarce article; the wrecks of the fireships destroyed on the 7th instant, which furnished a present supply, being almost exhausted, we shall find ourselves very uncomfortably circumstanced, and greatly necessitated in a short time for a sufficiency for cooking.

A Portuguese fisherman who had pulled a rib from one of the wrecks, on the morning of their destruction, and towed it to shore with his boat, received nine dollars for the small purchase.

24th. This forenoon a Spanish 70 gun ship from the East, having an English ensign on her fore-top-mast-head, and a yellow flag over it, as a signal of defiance, stretched in close towards Rosia Bay, accompanied with two frigates and a xebec, and opened their fire upon the Panther and Enterprize: our shipping and batteries made a brisk return, the 70 gun ship received several shot, the xebec had one of her sails damaged, and her boom carried away: three of the enemies shot came on shore; one fell at Europa, one at the Devil's Bowling-green, and one at the New Mole. Fifteen men were wounded on board the Enterprize frigate by some powder taking fire during the action, nine are sent to the Naval Hospital, the others remained in the ship, not being in a dangerous way.

27th. This morning at two o'clock, it being a dead calm, the enemy began to fire upon the garrison, and the Panther lying in Rosia Bay. It is conjectured

tured they were gun-boats or floating-batteries, but it being very dark, it was impossible to perceive their form. Several shot, 26 pound weight, came on shore at South Barracks, but happily did not do any damage. The shipping and garrison kept up a brisk fire, the picquets of the several regiments were under arms, and the women and children roused, on hearing a general discharge of cannon. It is not improbable to imagine this to be a stratagem of Admiral Barcello's, to harrafs and fatigue us with repeated firings and alarms from the Bay, and then give the decisive stroke; but they have Britons to oppose their machinations, who in time, I trust, will let them know their hopes are built like fancied castles in the air. The more we feel our enemy, the more ardent are our desires to engage them. Every countenance is cheerful, wishing to scourge those vain people.

29th. Wind W, Arrived a boat, with fundry small articles from Tangier.

30th. This day our Town Major, Captain Burke, of the 58th regiment, went out at Bay-side, and received a

H

* parley

* parley from the enemy. Not the least intelligence has transpired—The particulars are kept with the most profound secrecy—various are the conjectures of the public. The situation of the enemy's works and approaches, indicate a bombardment, and some imagine that articles of capitulation have been sent in for negociation; but this is only supposition.

•The enemy have for these several days been carrying stores in covered waggons to their lines: they keep strengthening and advancing their approaches; their horse and infantry still continue exercising daily, and a great many men are employed in and about their Artillery Park,—we can plainly perceive they have a great quantity of shot and shells piled there. Next month may probably be the appointed time for the performance of the tragic scenes, and for the offering sacrifices to the God of War, among which, should I become an oblation in my country's cause, let me intreat you not to repine at the unalterable decrees of the allwise Creator of the universe.

* An officer advancing with a drummer beating, for the purpose of conveying or receiving conditions.

verse.—With fervent wishes for your health and welfare, I remain,

Hon. Father,
Affectionately yours. &c.

LETTER X.

Gibraltar, July 2, 1780.

Honor'd Father,

OF the adproaching storm, every day adds fresh confirmation. Our cartel this forenoon went to the bottom of the Bay, and received 100 prisoners of war, taken in the Admiral Keppel privateer, They bring information that forty-two sail of French and Spanish line of battle ships, and ten bomb-ketches, have actually sailed from Cadiz for this place, and that 30,000 men are within a short march of the camp of St. Roque. This makes it evident that Spain is determined, if possible to take Gibraltar, so that we may shortly expect material business executed. Some consultations have been held, but the result is not made public.

3d. Last night, wind E. N. E. the Panther, Captain Harvey; got under way with a shoring breeze—some affirm she is gone to Tangier for the preservation of the ship, others, that she has sailed for England. The report made by the prisoners received from Spain yesterday occasioned her departure. Our force now is very formidable, viz. the Enterprize and Porcupine frigates, St. Firmin sloop, the Gibraltar and Fortune cutters.

An armed boat having come near our ships this forenoon, was fired at several times to make her sheer off. It is imagined that Don Barcello had come over in her, to see what had become of the Panther.

5th. The Spaniards this forenoon were very busy in camp; several parties practising their mortars. We kept up a very hot fire last night, upon their parties, mostly small shells.

8th. Last night, Wind E. sailed four Indiamen from this place: They came with the fleet under the command of Admiral Rodney. Our shipping intend, as the nights are now dark, to slip out occasionally. This afternoon came in a deserter from the Walloon Guards:

Ne

He swam from a battery on this side Fort Negro—the enemy fired two shot at him. He says the Spaniards are meditating a vigorous storm against this place, and that on the 7th of June, when the fire-ships were sent in, he was an assistant-gunner at the lines, where every thing was in readiness to bombard the town, in case any of those ships had dropped into the New Mole, that the matches were lighted, and only waited for the word “ fire.”

10th Wind W. Came in a packet-boat from Faro,—She lay eight days in the creeks of the Barbary shore, before she could find an opportunity of getting in. The Portuguese Captain says, that it was currently reported, that the British fleet had defeated the French, on their passage to join the Spaniards at Cadiz. How far this is true, time will discover.

The prisoners of war brought in here the 2d instant assert, that several more fire-ships are preparing at Algaziras and the rivers—The naval Commander on this intelligence, has removed all vessels from the New Mole into the Bay.

11th. Wind W. Arrived a boat from Tangier with fowls and pigeons—From
the

the account she brings, we may expect no further intercourse with Barbary : The master says, two of our garrison boats were chased on shore by the Spaniards, and captured in that port. The Emperor of Morocco still winks at the hostilities committed by them, and even countenances their illegal proceedings, by permitting the Spanish boats to seize our vessels coming into Tangier; several have been taken under the walls of that place.

Several Spanish frigates and xebecs keep cruizing in the Gut, and to the eastward of the Rock.

17th. Between twelve and one o'clock this morning, the Spanish gun-boats began an attack upon our shipping: The fire was returned by us, but it is imagined without any effect, they being imperceptible to the eye in the night, the flash of their guns being the only object we have to direct the ordnance by: Several of the enemy's shot came on shore, and a gun was dismounted on board the Enterprize frigate.

GARRISON ORDERS.

“ Whenever there is any firing from the garrison or the enemy, or any appearance of the enemy's

enemy's ships, row boats, or armed vessels approaching, the commission officers commanding guards, are to report to the Governors what they observe, and mention whether all is well on the guard."

19th. About two this morning, little wind, the enemy's gun-boats again attacked the shipping and garrison, without doing any particular damage, except rousing the wearied soldiery, and timed inhabitants, from their nightly slumber.

This day a soldier deserted from upper Forbes's, where he was at work—He got down by a scaling ladder undiscovered. It is not improbable to imagine that hereafter we shall be more frequently troubled with the gun-boats, as there is not the least doubt but he will inform them how far their shot reached.

23d. Wind W. Arrived a Spanish ship of the line at Algaziras—and also came in here a small boat from Faro, with lemons and onions.

24th. This day our cartel received from Spain, five British prisoners of war, who were sick when the last cartel arrived.

31st. Wind E. Last night sailed four empty transports from 'here, on their passage to England:—It is imagined the enemy did not perceive them. About noon a vessel arrived from Minorca, with wine, leather, and onions; she narrowly escaped being taken behind the Rock. A half galley that came out to intercept her, was fired at by our batteries and shipping, to make her keep off.

Nothing very material has taken place this month; the enemy still continue their working parties, and are forwarding some additional works: From their present operations we suppose that they are not in readiness for the attack. Admiral Barcello's gallies and gun-boats are constantly cruizing. These squadrons of small craft take day about to watch the east and west entrances of the Bay.

Yours, &c.

LETTER XI.

Gibraltar, Aug. 3, 1780.

Hon. Father.

WIND West.. This morning between ten and eleven o'clock, several guns were

were distinctly heard in the Gut ; soon after, we discovered the Spanish cruizers chasing a small settee, which stood for the Bay, but before she could get under the cover of our guns, was obliged to strike. It is asserted that she was detached from Faro with the mail, the loss of which will be much regretted by all persons, not having received any letters of a considerable time past.

5th. Several vessels arrived from the westward at Algaziras, supposed to be laden with ordnance and military stores.

12th. We have kept almost a constant fire upon the enemy this week past, but cannot make them desist from their labours, which they diligently execute.

Wind W. Early this morning the Spanish gallies and gun-boats sallied out from Algaziras—a small brig appeared standing for this place ; the enemy began a fire upon her, both of round and grape shot, which she run through, till she got nearly within the cover of the guns of Europa, when it fell a dead calm, and to our great mortification, she was boarded and towed off by the enemy, nor could we afford her any assistance. This ves-

fel was known to be the *Dolphin*, with supplies from Lisbon.

16th. This day our cartel received the crews of four vessels taken on their passage hither, viz. *Dolphin*, Captain Grant, from Lisbon; *Sally* and *Rachael*, Captain Hays, from London; *Polly*, Captain Coffin, from ditto; and *Betsey*, Captain Wilson, from ditto. The three latter were taken in and about *Tangier-Bay*, within musquet shot of the town.

26th. Last night the enemy threw up a great quantity of sand upon their works, to prevent the penetration of our shot; their approaches are forwarded with an astonishing assiduity and valour; their camp appears a scene of glittering lustre—we can plainly perceive that they have received a reinforcement of troops. From the progress of their operations, it is imagined by those experienced in war, that a short period will open the grand and long-expected display, wherein Britons are to become resolute performers, and I trust, will maintain with firm intrepidity, the same and glory of *Britannia*, and add new lustre to our sovereign's arms.

But

But should great Mars, not deign to bless our cause,
 And proud Iberia gain a triumph'd conquest,
 If Britons in the battle are o'erpower'd,
 By numbers far superior, full of vigour,
 Not worn out with the heavy toils of war,
 Yet first they'll fight with martial desperation,
 Nor yield to Spanish arms the envied fortress,
 Not while a man is spar'd to fire a gun!
 But this is only mere imagination,
 Such valiant officers as bear command,
 Boyde, De la Motte, Green, Pickton, Hugo,
 Curtis,
 M'Kenzie, Gledstanes, Horsfall, Lewis, Maxwell;
 With many more experienc'd hard vet'rans,
 (To mention all their names, 'twould tedious
 prove)
 Like tygers to their prey the men will lead,
 And cheer each valiant soldier doom'd to bleed.

Our Governor has made great additions to our fortifications; several new batteries have been erected upon the hill, and others planned out. Should the enemy not open till these are completed, we shall sing to the Dons the old song of Defiance, and laugh at their approaches.

I am, honor'd Father,

Sincerely yours.

L E T T E R X I I .

*Gibraltar, Sept. 3, 1780.**Hon. Father,*

THIS day several large settees arrived from the eastward, with timber and fascines, they anchored off the pier at the Orange Grove. It is conjectured they have other works in contemplation. Part of their cargo was landed this afternoon.

7th. Last night two soldiers deserted from Middle-hill guard; they got down the back of the Rock, which is almost an entire precipice.

The enemy keep our port blockaded much closer than ever; about ten of their armed cruizers are constantly under Cabritta, some at Tarifa, about eight near Tangier, three or four at Tetuan, some at Ceuta, and several at the Gut's mouth, so that it is almost impossible for any vessel to escape: The gun-boats and gallies form a chain every night from Cabritta to Europa Point, and in the morning return to their anchorage.—On the land side the enemy are quiet, very few working parties employed, their
works

works appear to be complete. We have not received an ox from Barbary since June 12th, and every species of provision is now at a most extravagant price; a turkey cock was sold a few days ago for three guineas and a half, ducks are one guinea per couple, a goose one pound six shillings, a hen twelve shillings, powder sugar two shillings the pound, soap one shilling and four-pence ditto, charcoal half a guinea for 25lb. weight, oil two shillings the pint, pork two shillings and six-pence the pound, fish at the rate of eighteen-pence ditto, fire-wood five shillings and sixpence per hundred weight, tallow candles two shillings and sixpence per pound, made very indifferent, onions eight-pence ditto, and all other articles proportionate dear. From this sketch you may form an idea of our present situation, and the consequences that are to follow, if some supplies are not sent from England.—Arrived a xebec from the westward at Algaziras.

14th. Arrived last night, a small settee from Minorca with wine, oil, sugar, honey, onions, turkies, and other necessities, which are sold at enormous prices; many things almost for their weight of silver.

silver. It would really be much better if we received none of them, as their supply is so very small, that it affords but little relief, and enhances the prices of what few things are sold in the shops.

16th. This day a company of marksmen were formed out of the several regiments; they are to practice twice a day, and be under the command of Lieutenant Burleigh, of the 39th regiment.

23d. Our cartel this day received a midshipman from Spain, a prisoner of war. It is confidently asserted, that the combined fleet have taken, off the Madeiras, fifty or sixty sail of outward bound West Indiamen, and some East India ships, many of them already arrived at Cadiz; if the account is matter of fact, the loss will be sensibly felt in England. The enemy are busily employed in raising the merlons of all their batteries at the lines, with fascines and sand bags, and work openly upon their glacis: We do not fire upon them now, as we are forwarding some additional fortifications, and probably they might return the fire, as they are prepared for the attack, which would greatly annoy us in our labours.

25th. Last night, wind E. sailed the
Sally

Sally and Betsey, and another ship for England; we think they were, both discovered, as the enemy threw several rockets from their watch towers.

26th. Last night sailed the ships Handelier and Nancy, with several women and children on board, bound for England. A cruizer under the Barbary shore fired an alarm gun, and this morning we discovered two xebecs had pushed to the westward.

27th. *"Biscuit will be delivered to the regiments in lieu of soft bread, from Monday next the 2d of October, until further orders."*

28th. This afternoon a reinforcement of three large xebecs from the eastward arrived at Algaziras.—Came in a deserter from the Walloon guards, he was dressed like a farmer, and says that he was a serjeant in the Spanish service; he is a German, speaks English and French pretty well, seems to be an intelligent man: The manner of his coming to the garrison occasions a suspicion of his being a spy; the Governor has ordered him to be stationed at Windmill Hill, and not to have the privilege of walking the

the streets, as the other deserters all have.

29th. This day an additional frigate came in to anchor at Algaziras.

30th. Wind W. The enemy this day brought into Algaziras the ship Sally and Betsey, with her ensign reversed. She sailed from here the 25th. It is not improbable but the three other ships have shared the same fate.

Oct. 1st. The Spaniards availing themselves of the darkness of the night, erected a breast-work on the isthmus, between Landport Gardens and the Round Tower, about sixty feet in length, being within 800 yards of our lines; and about three, they set fire to our huts in the gardens, and came undiscovered as far as Bay-side and Lower Forbes's guard houses, where they hung several bundles of combustibles on the pallisades to burn them down, together with machines constructed with twelve tubes, charged with a ball cartridge; to each of which a fuze led, intended to kill the guards in endeavouring to free them from the gates: the fuze did not burn to the powder, and the machines were brought in to our laboratory. The centinels
posted

posted there did not observe them, owing to the darkness of the night, and the roaring of the sea and wind; but as soon as the flame burst out, the guards gave them a smart musquetry, which obliged them to retreat—Previous to the affair, the enemy threw a rocket at Algaziras, which was answered at their lines, when, in an instant, the gardens appeared in a blaze: They had laid a train from our gates to the several huts in the gardens, which soon consumed them: Fortunately no material damage was done to our gates, nor any person hurt on our side.

2d. This day the enemy brought in with their ensigns reversed, the Handelier and Nancy, that sailed the 26th of September, Count D'Estaing, with several general officers from the camp, came down to the lines this forenoon. He was saluted at Fort Negro with fifteen guns, on his return to the camp, from whence he proceeded, accompanied with a great many boats, to Algaziras, where the shipping saluted him. The deserter who came in on the 29th of last month, gave the account of the Count being expected in the camp that day, and added,

ded, that several French regiments were preparing to reinforce the Spanish army next spring, though they flattered themselves at St. Roque, that the garrison would be in their hands much sooner.

3d. Last night we fired at the enemy's breastwork, an incredible number of small shells, and several fire balls, but we don't perceive any particular damage done.

GARRISON ORDERS.

" If the enemy approach towards any of the posts, and at all times where there is any firing, or any thing extraordinary happens in the night, reports are immediately to be sent to the Governor, and the Field Officer of the day, and notice given to the adjacent posts. In case of a sudden attack, upon any of the posts, the officer commanding there, will make such a disposition for the defence of his post, as the nature of the attack may seem to him to require."

4th. About eleven last night, there was a great deal of firing at the entrance of the Bay, and this morning we perceived the enemy in possession of an English cutter, with a Spanish ensign above the English.

6th.

6th. Our cartel went out this day for prisoners of war, but they only received the women, children, and invalids—the seamen were detained. What the Spaniards mean by this is not known here.

7th. This day the Town Major went out to Spain with a parley; the centinel at the advanced work, at first opposed his passing, but after some deliberation, accompanied him as far as the Round Tower, where an officer came to receive the letter, but looked very fullen, not being pleased with having their works examined—It seems they have good covering for their men there.

Last night the enemy raised the merlons of their batteries at the lines, about five feet higher.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"The men to receive to-morrow, two pound of salt fish, one ditto of pork, and half a pound of beef."

N. B. This is for the week's allowance.

11th. Wind E. This morning early a small fettee arrived with supplies from

Minorca, and the patron having intimated that two others were standing for the Rock, our boats went out with an intention to assist them, but no such vessels appeared; however, a Danish dogger, in company with a Dutch convoy, having come pretty near Europa Advance, which she could not see on account of a thick fog—our boats boarded and brought her in. She proves to be from Malaga, bound to Copenhagen, laden with lemons, oranges, raisins, &c. which articles being deemed very refreshing to the troops, especially the sick, the Governor ordered her cargo to be landed. An attempt was also made by our boats upon a Dutch ship, but on account of the fire from the frigate of the convoy, was compelled to desist.

12th. Last night a soldier attempting to desert to the enemy, from Middle-hill guard, fell from the heights, and was smashed to pieces at the foot of the rock. One would imagine it to be madness in a person to endeavour to escape that way, as the precipices of the rock are so steep that the very idea to a rational man, would deter him from such a proceeding.

16th. Two of the enemy's gun-boats have

have for these several mornings, appeared at the Old-mole Head, at long gun-shot distance, and row gently along in a line opposite the King's Bastion, as if they were sounding—They prevent our fishing boats from going to their usual posts. Yesterday, and this day, a large body of the enemy have been busily employed in levelling a piece of ground on the east side of the first guard-house near Fort Phillipe: Our engineers are of opinion they are going to erect a battery there.

18th. The enemy's gun-boats yesterday, and this day, fired upon our fishing boats, and obliged them to come in. It is evident their intention is to cut off the refreshing supply of fish, as well as meat. The ordnance mounted in these boats, discharge shot twenty-six pounds weight, and are of great annoyance. They are able to attack a ship of force in a calm.

19th. Wind E. Came in a small vessel from Mahon (with variety of articles: The gun-boats fired several shot at the St. Firmin sloop, which she returned, without any damage on either side. We have, these several nights, at intervals, discharged light balls on the isthmus, to discover

discover if the enemy's parties were working, which the Spanish soldiers often extinguish by covering them with sand.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Issues of provision for the next month, commencing 23d of October and ending 19th of November, 1780.

The stoppage of beef will be paid for at the rate of twenty quarts the pound, the oatmeal at twenty-four quarts the gallon.

Officers per month.

Bread	7lb.	
Beef,	6lb.	
Pork,	4lb.	
Pease,	4 pints	
Wheat,	6 do.	} In lieu of 12 pints pease, and 30 ounces butter.
Flour,	3lb.	
Raisins,	2lb.	
Kidney-beans	4 pints	
Butter,	10 ounces,	
Oatmeal,	4 pints,	

N. B. 4lb. beef and 8 pints of oatmeal to be paid for.

Hospital

Hospital per Week.

Beef,	-	half-lb.	
Pork,	-	1lb.	
Oatmeal,	-	3 pints	
Butter,	-	2 and half ounces	
Wheat,	1 and half pint	In lieu of	
Flour,	3-4ths of a pound	4 pints	
Raisins,	half-pound	pease &	
Rice,	do.	7 and $\frac{1}{2}$	
Kidney-beans	1 pint	ounces	
Vinegar,	half-pint	butter.	

N. B. One pound of beef to be paid for.

Men per Week.

Beef,	-	half-pound	
Pork,	-	1lb.	
Pease,	-	1 pint	
Oatmeal,	-	1 do.	
Butter,	-	2 1-half ounces	
Wheat,	-	1 1-half pint	
Flour,	3-qrs lb.	In lieu of 3 pints	
Raisins,	half lb.	pease, and 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Kidney-beans	1 pint	ounces butter.	
Vinegar,	qr do.		

N. B. One pound of beef and two pints of oatmeal to be paid for.

21st. Wind S. E. This morning arrived and anchored under Europa Advance, not being able to get round the Point, a small boat with wine and other necessaries from Algiers. The Spaniards sent in a parley this forenoon, wherein it is ordered no longer to communicate by land, the Bay being appointed for that purpose.

22d. This morning the weather being more calm, our boats brought round the settee that anchored under the Advance yesterday. About four this afternoon, three of the enemy's gun boats saluted the Enterprize, with their 26 pounders, which she returned:—The battery at the Mole and South bastion fired several rounds at them, which made them take a hasty farewell—Several of their shot came on shore.

26th. This morning we perceived that they enemy had extended their advance work, now termed the Tower battery, about fifty or sixty feet towards the eastward, notwithstanding we gave them a warm and liberal distribution of round and grape shot, and some small shells during the night.

27th. Yesterday and this morning we
fired

fired several shells and shot, at the Tower battery, but without success, as most of them fell wide of the work ; the Spanish soldiers encouraged by this, came out and exhibited tokens of defiance; but a round grape from Willis's, soon made them forget their pastime. The enemy are still employed on the work adjacent to St. Phillipe, and have begun to make a battery at Cabritta Point, either to protect their cruizers which anchor there, or to annoy our shipping coming in or going out.

31st. We continue to keep up a fire upon the enemy on the isthmus, which has greatly prevented their carrying on their works—they have not done any additional part since the 26th. Last night two soldiers that were centinels at Upper Forbes's, got down by means of a rope, and deserted. If they speak the truth, they can only inform the enemy, that we are prepared to repulse their arms, and that our works are in excellent condition ; this will have a tendency more to perplex and discourage, than animate and please.

L

Their

Their num'rous troops, long train'd to arms and
 hardships,
 Fed up with promises and expectations,
 Of great encouragement, and sure reward,
 To make them fight more desp'rate in th' attack.

Within our walls the greatest unanimity and strict adherence to discipline presides, a coincidence of heart and hand to meet the foe, and, I venture to aver, a general wish to scourge the disturbers of the public tranquility; dangers and difficulty apparently are disregarded, and the more exalted ideas of fame and glory reinstated. With resignation to the divine will, and the most dutiful affection,

I remain yours, &c.

LETTER XIII.

Gibraltar, Nov. 1, 1780.

Hon. Father,

OUR situation still remains the same—the enemy working, and we firing: Admiral Barcello, with an unexampled strictness, continues to guard the entrance

entrance of the Bay, even neutrals are not allowed to pass without examination: A snow who kept company with a French convoy which passed to the eastward, and made a sudden push for Europa, was taken to the southward of the Point, and carried to Ceuta. This day we fired several well directed shells into the Tower Battery, where we heard men at work.

2d. Last night two soldiers deserted from the garrison; they got down by a rope at Zoca battery, stripped, and took the water. The enemy worked very hard till near twelve o'clock, when they were forced to leave off, on account of our fire.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"The regiments to be served with soft bread on Monday next."

8th. Last night between seven and eight o'clock the enemy's cruizers fired at a vessel standing for the Bay, with the wind at West, the fire was returned by her, and soon after we heard an explosion of powder, so that we conclude, either the vessel or a Spanish cruizer blew up. The enemy labour much at their
L 2 advanced

advanced works, and notwithstanding these moon-light nights, and our frequent fire, they have extended their approaches towards the western shore. One of the bodies of the two soldiers that deserted the 2d instant, was found floating under the line-wall; another corpse was seen taken up on the strand near Fort St. Phillipe.

10th. Last night arrived a settee, with wine and sundry articles from Faro.

11th. We kept up a heavy cannonade from all the batteries that could bear upon the isthmus and lines, till after midnight. It is reported that several carts and working parties were advancing, but it would be an impossibility for the enemy to execute any business under so brisk a fire.

12th. Wind N. W. This morning early, we discovered a small sail under the Barbary shore—three of the enemy's gun-boats set out from Cabritta-point, and as soon as they came near enough, began a fire of grape shot upon her, and often covered her with the discharge, she returned the fire faintly, but kept standing her course; the boats afraid to board her, two xebecs stretched down upon her,

her, and fired a broadside or two without doing any execution : The boats continued their fire until she got under the garrison guns, when our batteries at Europa and Buena-Vista, played so briskly, that they found it prudent to chase her no longer. She proves to be the Young Sabine, Captain M'Clorg, from London in eighteen days, with flour and other necessary articles, burthen two hundred tons, and ten men. She was greatly damaged, and her sails almost torn to pieces, having received twenty-nine shot which struck her in different parts during the action—She had only one man slightly wounded.

This afternoon a Minorca settee arrived without any interruption, from among several Spanish cruizers, who took her to be one of their own vessels, till they saw her stand in.

14th. Last night came in a settee from Malaga, with fruit only—the Spanish cruizers convoy'd her almost under our guns, by means of a bribe, as the Patron relates, but people are rather suspicious of her being sent in to view our situation.

This morning a Tartan, a little to the
outward.

eastward of the Rock, made a signal for assistance, but on account of the current, our boats could not weather round: She got almost under Europa guns, where she was boarded by a Spanish lugger's boat, but the crew made their escape in their own boat, and came in—She was from Minorca with supplies. The enemy are working day and night, and we keep firing as briskly.

Sale prices of provision arrived here with Captain M'Clorg.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Flour, per barrel, -	3	12	0
Cork butter, per pound,	0	1	9
Gloucester Cheese, ditto,	0	1	4
Mustard, - ditto,	0	2	2
Hams, - ditto,	0	2	4
Bacon, - ditto,	0	2	4
Tongues, - ditto,	0	3	0
Candles, - ditto,	0	1	4
Coals, per chaldron,	14	14	0
Herrings, per barrel,	4	0	0
Porter, per hoghead,	6	10	0
Rum, per gallon,	0	10	0

This is a specimen of the prices as they sold in lots, but the buyers who retail them again, make almost cent. per cent.

cent. You may therefore judge how those are situated who have not money, or convenience to purchase a quantity.

About eight this evening, the Malaga settee, received an order to leave the harbour, as the General entertains a doubt of her friendship.

15th. Last night between eight and nine o'clock, several guns were briskly fired towards the entrance of the Bay, and continued firing for the space of half an hour; and this morning we perceived the enemy in possession of a brig, which we suppose to be an English vessel from the westward.

The enemy's gun-boats, yesterday evening, arranged themselves in the Bay, who on a signal from Fort Negro, opened their fire towards the Rosia, the shipping off Ragged-staff and saluting-battery, which was as freely returned by the garrison and men of war: Most of their shot came on shore, but did not do any considerable damage. This nocturnal excursion, which the enemy had planned, greatly facilitated their operations on the isthmus, for while our attention was directed towards the naval forces, they were assiduously employed in strengthening

ening their advanced works and Tower-battery, for we perceived some thousands of sand bags piled up on their approaches, which as far as we can judge, will afford them the greatest cover from the fire of our batteries on the height. This politic scheme gained them a considerable acquisition, and will much forward their ensuing labours.

18th. Notwithstanding our heavy fire last night, the enemy extended their approaches considerably. They have begun forming a trench towards the Centre-stone guard house, on the isthmus, to cover their men passing to and from the Tower-battery.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Provisions from 20th November to 17th December.

Officers per Month.

Beef, six pounds ; pork, four ditto ; pease, four pints ; oatmeal, four ditto ; wheat, four ditto ; flour, three pounds ; butter, three ounces ; raisins, two pounds ; rice, two pints. To be paid for, four pounds beef ; eight pints of oatmeal ; two pints of wheat.

Hospital

Hospital per week.

Beef, pound and half; pork, one pound; butter, two ounces and half; wheat, one pint; oatmeal, three pints; flour, 3-qrs of a pound; raisins, half ditto; rice, one pint; vinegar, half a pint; one pound of beef to be paid for—the wheat paid for as usual.

Men per week.

Beef, pound and half; pork, one ditto; pease, one pint; oatmeal, one ditto; wheat, one ditto; flour, 3-qrs of a pound; raisins, half ditto; rice, half pint; butter, two ounces and half; vinegar, 1-qr pint. To be paid for, beef, one pound; oatmeal, two pints; wheat, half a pint.

N. B. Seven pounds of bread served weekly to officers and men.

19th. The enemy, last night, again saluted us with a liberal discharge of twenty-six pounders, directed to our shipping—The New mole, South, King's, Montague's bastions and saluting battery opened upon them with the greatest fury, and continued firing upwards of an hour: During the action, a gun unfortunately burst upon the King's-bastion, which kil-

led the bombardier of the detachment, and wounded another man—The head and thigh of the former were tore off—several pieces of the gun flew into the centre of the town, but happily did not effect any damage.

GARRISON ORDERS.

“ No lights to appear towards the Bay, in any house, barrack, guardhouse, or other building, after seven o'clock at night.”

21st. The enemy's gun-boats continue their nightly exhibitions—they did not injure us much by their fire last night.

24th. The enemy's gun-boats, last night, again visited us with their usual generosity; but most of their shot fell short, so that the garrison and shipping made no return. The enemy, it is imagined, misjudged the distance, not seeing any lights on shore, agreeable to the orders of the 20th instant.

The enemy continue their regular approaches, several parties employed in bringing down to their lines, fascines, gabions, empty casks, &c. They have begun a passage towards the garrison, and
made

made a sortie between the seven and fourteen gun batteries :—We annoy them as much as possible, with our small shells, during their nightly labours, but in the day time, they do not carry on any visible work. In searching after a soldier, who has been missing these several days (supposed to have deserted) the skeletons of two men were found behind the rock.

25th. The gun-boats attacked us again last night—the Enterprize returned a few shot, but the garrison was silent, except towards the isthmus, where a general discharge of ordnance continued during the time and the remainder of the night. We set fire to part of their works, but not effectually ; the enemy, however, extended their approaches some yards. The work on the strand, near Fort Phillipe, is now completely finished, being a battery of 12 guns, constructed for the annoyance of our shipping at New-mole.—It appears to be about 12 or 14 feet high, and according to opinion, well executed.

29th. The enemy's gun-boats generously gave us a few rounds ; they fired several of their shot into the town without doing any mischief—one fell into the

Product-master's quarters, behind King's bastion. Our shipping, yesterday, hauled into New-mole; many are of opinion they have some intimation of a speedy attack, and others, that it is to prevent being so much exposed to the enemy's gun-boats. The Spanish approaches were much forwarded last night. The centinels at the Tower-battery, fired yesterday several musquet shot at our gardeners, outside of Landport: they have plundered the gardens every night of late, but now in a daring and outrageous manner, they come forward in the day time to gather the vegetables remaining there—we occasionally fire wall-pieces, grape shot, and small shells, but they seem so resolute, that all our efforts to make them desist cannot intimidate them. Several men have been seen to sail at the Tower-battery, but we have not been fortunate enough to hit one of those that come forward--the walls of the wells in the gardens afford them excellent shelter.

29th. The Danish dogger that our boats brought in on the 11th of October, failed last night for St. Ube's: the Spanish cruizers have picked her up, and
carried

carried her into Algaziras. The enemy's approaches are forwarded with an incredible rapidity. General Alvarez, who commands in the camp, visits the lines and forts once or twice a week--we know him by his uniform and suite, on which occasion we never fire into the Spanish lines; this being politically complimentary.

30th. This morning came in a Spanish polacre, with shoes, leather, silk, &c. on board--she was taken to the eastward by the Anglica privateer, who is expected to arrive here hourly.

Yesterday the remaining Spanish frigates, that were at Algaziras, sailed to the west, so that the only ship of force which occupies that place is Barcello's xebec. Two fire-ships have been brought out of Gaudaranque river, and anchored at the Orange Grove; several more are getting ready in the rivers, and, I believe, some at Algaziras. It is rather probable that the enemy have received an account of our fleet coming here, and are preparing for their destruction, they must therefore keep a sharp look-out on

their

their arrival, or change the scene, and
rush furiously on the foe ;

Root up their works, disperse their vaunting camp,
Sink ev'ry boat and ship---their forts destroy,
Set Algaziras and Santa Roque in flames,
Strike terror and dismay to all the coast,
On Andalusia's province hurl destruction,
And devastation spread throughout the country !

O ! how should we triumph to sweep
their camp of men, and coast of cruizers,
that have so long prevented our receiv-
ing refreshing and agreeable supplies—
We long to visit the common at the foot
of St. Roque, to clear the ground of
marquees, tents, huts and sheds, and to
let nothing remain but the herbage for
the cattle.

I remain yours, &c,

LETTER XIV.

Gibraltar, Dec. 1st, 1780.

Hon. Father,

AMIDST promised dangers, heavy la-
bours, harrasing alarms, constant
watchings, lively hopes and expectations,
I snatch a few moments to devote to your
service,

service. The period for the celebration of immortal victory or death, hourly awaits us, and the glories and pomp of battle, in solemn steps approach: martial honours excite to valour, and the consideration of Britain's cause invigorates each bosom to repulse the combined arms of imperious Gaul, and proud Iberia, which glitter and adorn the Spanish plains.

Although the god of war, with aspect grim,
Exulting, strides around our stubborn rock,
And slaughter, with voracious jaws extended,
Impatient waits to seize the fallen prey.

This forenoon signals were made at the Spanish watch-towers, of an enemy being to the eastward---a ship appeared standing for the rock, chased by two xebecs; two gun-boats pushed out from Algaziras, and soon got near her-- a fire immediately commenced between them, and continued till she came under Europa guns, without doing each other much damage. She proves to be the Anglicana letter of marque of 26 guns, and eighty men, from Smyrna, laden with silk. A small xebec was carried into Algaziras, with a Spanish ensign above the English; many are of opinion that she

There was a Minorca vessel bound for this place.

3d. Yesterday evening we had a violent storm of hail, rain, lightening and thunder; the storm did not reach the Spanish camp, or they must have suffered considerably. Arrived a frigate at Al-gaziras.

4th. Wind E. Last night, with a stiff breeze, the Anglica sailed from hence, on her passage to England: A Lieutenant embarked on board her with an express.

5th. The weather having proved rainy and boisterous these three days past, the enemy have not been able to execute any work on the isthmus, nor have any of their cruizers made their appearance in the Bay. The Governor has ordered the pavement of the streets to be dug up as far as South-port: one hundred and ten inhabitants, beside the soldiery, are employed in this work, viz. sixty Roman Catholics, thirty Jews, and twenty British; the stones are thrown over the line-wall. The intention of this, is to prevent the havock that would ensue from the explosion of the enemy's shells, whenever they open from their batteries,