

and difficult, but whilst it lasted, all the rest of the kingdom submitted to the King.

At length the townsmen beginning to be in want of provisions, desired to capitulate; when Elizabeth, Countess of Urgel, went herself, with her husband's leave, and the king's permission, to the camp to supplicate his Majesty in behalf of the Earl her husband; but all she could obtain by her entreaties was, that if he would surrender himself, his life should be spared. The case was desperate, and the Earl was obliged to submit to necessity.

On the last day of October, 1413, the Earl came to the camp, and falling at the King's feet, implored his mercy, promising to behave himself better for the future. The King only answered, that though he had deserved death, he gave him his life, yet made no mention of his liberty or estate, but ordered him to be secured at Lerida. After the town was surrendered, and that earldom restored to peace, the Earl was tried and convicted of high treason; his estate was confiscated, and he condemned to perpetual imprisonment. He had many friends in that kingdom, and therefore was sent to Castile; where he was long confined in the castle of Verna, afterwards in that of Mora, and died a prisoner at Zativa, in the kingdom of Valencia.

**BALANKE.** A Turkish fortress surrendered to the Russians, October 9, 1793. The garrison consisted of 1000 men, who surrendered prisoners on an honourable capitulation. It had sixty pieces of cannon and an immense quantity of military stores in the fort.

**BALLYMORE, OR BALLYMONE, SIEGE OF.** A town of West-Meath, in the province of Leinster in Ireland. A few days proceeding the siege of Athlone, (see **ATHLONE**), General Ginckle marched to this place, possessed by the troops in the service of King James II. When he had raised his batteries, he sent a message to Colonel Bourke, who commanded in the town, "That if he and the garrison would surrender within two hours, he would save their lives, and make them prisoners of war; if not, they were to expect no mercy." The Governor made an evasive answer to this message, in hopes of obtaining better terms; but the cannon and bombs having made two breaches, the pontoons being put into the water, and all things ready for storming the place, it occasioned so great a consternation among the enemy, that the same evening (the 8th of June, 1691), the garrison, which consisted of 780 men, besides four field officers, and 259 volunteers of the native Irish, laid down their arms, and submitted at discretion.

**BAMBERG.** The capital of a bishopric of the same name situated in Franconia, in Germany; before which city the Swedish General Horn, in 1632, was defeated by the Imperialists: but the same year he surprised in the environs of this city two Imperial regiments, which were cut to pieces.

**BAMBURGH CASTLE, SIEGE OF,** in Northumberland. This famous castle is now in ruins. In the year 1094, Robert de Mowbray, who thought himself but ill rewarded by King William II. for the services he had done him against the Scots, resolved to dethrone his sovereign, and set the crown upon the head of Stephen, Count of Albemarle. Mowbray found

means to engage a great number of disaffected noblemen, and their measures were kept so secret, that the King did not receive intimation of the plot till he had entered Wales, whither he went in order to quell an insurrection. The King immediately changed the object of his enterprize, and directed his march against Mowbray, who had fortified the castle of Bamburgh. In a word, he would have fallen into an ambushade prepared by the revolvers, had not Richard of Tunbridge, who was concerned in the plot, repented of his treason, and warned him of the danger. When the King arrived at Bamburgh, he found it impregnable from the nature of its situation, and therefore, turning the siege into a blockade, erected a fortress called Mauvoisin, or bad neighbour, so near it, as to prevent supplies of provisions being carried to the besieged; and having furnished this new fort with a strong garrison, retired with the rest of his army. In the course of this blockade, Mowbray formed a scheme for surprising Newcastle: but his motions were so narrowly watched by the troops in Mauvoisin, that instead of carrying his point, he was forced to fly to the monastery of St. Oswin at Tinnmouth, in which he and all his officers were taken, after a desperate resistance. Morel, his kinsman and confidant, still defended Bamburgh, until Mowbray being brought before the gate, with a message to the governor and his own countess, who was in the place, importing, that his eyes should be put out if they would not immediately surrender, they forthwith complied, and Mowbray was condemned to perpetual imprisonment. Morel saved his life by making a full discovery of the conspiracy; in consequence of which, a great number of the malecontents were punished with great severity.

**BAMPTON, BATTLE AT,** IN 614. The dissensions among the kings of the Heptarchy, and the opposition of the Britons, occasioned several battles, one of which happened here, between the army of Wessex and the Britons, wherein the latter was totally routed; at which time this place was called Beamdune, which some authors suppose to be Pindon in Dorset, and not Bampton in Devon.

**BANBURY CASTLE, BATTLE AT.** Near Marlborough in Oxfordshire. In the year 542, soon after the death of the celebrated Prince Arthur, the Saxons made a rapid progress in their conquests: for the Britons having lost that noble leader, were no longer able to oppose them. Driven to despair, yet glowing with revenge, they collected their forces, and resolved to make a last effort against the invader, who had advanced as far as Banbury Castle, where they lay encamped. The Britons marched thither to give them battle, having their army divided into nine bodies, with the horse and archers upon the wings, in the manner of the Romans. The Saxons, who began the attack, notwithstanding their boasted valour, and the advantage they pretended to have with their swords and maces, over the arrows and javelins of the Britons, could not terminate the battle in their own favour. Night parted the combatants, and left neither of the parties the honour of a victory. But if we judge of the battle from its consequences, we shall find that the



LORD CORNWALLIS.



the Saxons had the advantage, since they marched into Berkshire, and could have conquered it, had not Kenric their prince and general died.

**BANBURY, BATTLE AT, IN 1469.** Among the many battles between the Houses of York and Lancaster, was one fought at this place. The Earl of Warwick formed the project of dethroning Edward IV. and drew the King's brother into the plot, particularly the Duke of Clarence, to whom he married his daughter. In October 1468, Warwick excited an insurrection in Yorkshire, which was dispersed by the Marquis of Montague. The King then ordered troops to be raised by the Earl of Pembroke, who being joined by Lord Stafford, they were sent in pursuit of the malecontents, and were at first defeated; but recovering their loss, pursued the rebels to Banbury, when Lord Stafford quitting the King's army in disgust, the Earl of Pembroke and his brother were defeated, July 26, 1469, and were beheaded at Banbury the next day.

**BANCA, STRAITS OF, ACTION THERE, 1744.** These straits are the sea which lies between the island of Borneo and Sumatra, in the East Indies: and this year the East-India Company, dreading the superior force of the French, got Government to send out Commodore Baret with the Deptford of sixty guns, Medway, Captain Peyton, of sixty, the Preston, Lord Northesk, of fifty, and the Diamond, Captain Moore, of twenty. The squadron separated after being victualled and watered at the island of Madagascar, with orders to rendezvous at Batavia, when the Commodore and Lord Northesk failed for the Straits of Banca, and the other two ships for the Straits of Malacca, with a design to intercept the French Company's ships in their return to Europe, supposed to be without convoy. The Commodore and Lord Northesk disguised their ships to appear like Dutchmen; and arriving in the Straits of Banca the 25th of January, they saw three large ships, and soon discovering them to be French, got under sail to receive them. The British ships were so much disguised like Dutchmen that the Frenchmen bore down within musket shot; upon which the Commodore hoisted his proper colours; but the French ships were as ready for action as the Commodore, and were the Dauphin, Hercules, and Jason, from Canton, belonging to the French Company, of about 700 tons, with 30 guns, and 150 men each. The Commodore ordered Lord Northesk to board one of the ships as soon as possible, and he intended to board another; but the tiller ropes of both ships being shot away as they were steering on board them, they were prevented. In fine, after a gallant resistance, the three ships struck their colours, and proved to be a valuable acquisition: their cargoes in France, according to the supercargoes, would have been worth 100,000*l.* each.

**BANDA ISLE INVADEN.** In the East Indies, the principal and largest of the Nutmeg-Islands. The Dutch invaded it in 1609, when the natives put themselves under the protection of the English; but the natives and their protectors were expelled the island by the invaders, who have kept possession of it ever since. It is 170 miles from Amboyna.

**BANGALORE,** a town upon the coast of Coromandel in the East Indies.

On the 5th of February 1791, Lord Cornwallis marched with his army to Vellore, and reached Vellore on the 11th where he halted two days, for the purpose of drawing from thence a supply of provisions, and an addition which had been prepared to his battering train.

The forts of Colar, and Aulcottah, lay in his route to this place, and surrendered to him without resistance, but as neither of them was in a tenable condition, nor at that time of any value to him, he left them unoccupied, after disarming and dismissing their small garrison.

He arrived before Bangalore on the afternoon of the 5th of March, and on the 6th the engineers were employed in reconnoitring the place, both in the morning and evening; on the latter excursion Lieutenant-Colonel Floyd, who, escorted them with the whole cavalry, discovered the rear of Tippoo's line of march, apparently in great confusion, and unfortunately suffered himself to be tempted by the flattering prospect of striking an important blow, to deviate from the orders he had received from Lord Cornwallis, and to attack the enemy. His success at first was great, but the length and ardour of the pursuit threw his squadron into great confusion. In this state they were charged by Tippoo Saib's cavalry, and, being out of the reach of all support, they were obliged to retire with great precipitation, and with the loss of above 200 men, and near three hundred horses. Lieutenant-Colonel Floyd received a very severe wound in the face.

Upon the ill success of their expedition, Lord Cornwallis was afraid of losing time, for different circumstances, which induced him to determine immediately to attack the fort from the Pettah-side. The Pettah was accordingly assaulted and carried on the morning of the first of April, and the siege of the fort, which was rendered singularly arduous, not only by the scarcity of forage, and strength of its work and garrison, but also by the presence of Tippoo and his whole army, but was happily terminated by an assault on the 21st, in which the Killidar and a great number of his garrison were put to the sword, and Lord Cornwallis's loss, in proportion to the nature of the enterprise, was extremely inconsiderable.

In the garrison which they took possession of was found upwards of one hundred serviceable pieces of cannon, near fifty of which were brass, and an immense quantity of military stores.

Although Tippoo approached Lord Cornwallis's position, and even cannonaded the camp both on the 7th and 17th, yet on these occasions and all others during the siege, he took his measures with so much precaution as to put it effectually out of Lord Cornwallis's power to force him to risk an action; and on the night of the assault he retired, in great haste, from the south side of the fortrefs, where he was then posted, immediately upon his being acquainted with its fall.

After giving some repairs to the breaches, making a number of necessary arrangements, and leaving the train of artillery to be reëstablished during his absence, he moved from Bangalore on the 28th, with the design of securing a safe and speedy junction with a large body

of cavalry that the Nizam had promised him, and of receiving a reinforcement of troops, and a supply of provisions and stores, which he had some time before ordered to be in readiness to join him by the way of Ambor, from the Carnatic. Tippoo having made a movement to the westward on the same day that Lord Cornwallis marched from the neighbourhood of Bangalore, the latter fell in with the former's rear, at the distance of about eight or nine miles from that place, but from the want of a sufficient body of cavalry, it was found impracticable, after a pursuit of considerable length, either to bring Tippoo to an action, or gain any advantage over him, except that of taking one brass gun, which, owing to the carriage breaking down, he was obliged to leave on the road.

Lord Cornwallis having a long time had particular desire to make himself master of the Hill Forts of Rymenghur and Nundy Droog, the former at the distance of forty-five miles, and the latter about thirty miles from Bangalore, about the middle of October 1791, he dispatched Major Gowdie with a quantity of artillery against these forts, which he took possession of, the former with little difficulty, but at the latter he met with a strong opposition, and was under the necessity of having a reinforcement of troops and guns.

Lord Cornwallis likewise thought it necessary to take a position, with the main body of the army to the northward of Bangalore, to deter Tippoo from making any attempt to interrupt the siege.

The steepness and ruggedness of the hill on which the fort was built, and two walls of masonry, at the distance of about eight yards from each other, with cavaliers and towers, with which the only accessible part of the hill was fortified, presented no very encouraging object to the besiegers, and after they had with some loss of men constructed a battery with eight embrasures on the ascent of the hill, within four or five hundred yards of the wall, and brought into it four heavy guns, and four twelve pounders, they continued this position till such time as they could discover some breaches, and they were examined. Lord Cornwallis directed they should be assaulted by the rising of the moon on the following night, in which General Meadows made the most judicious arrangements. And on the 19th the garrison surrendered, which consisted of 700 men, several of whom were killed in the assault, but the greatest number escaped over the precipices at the back of the fort, and the first and second Killidars, and the Buckshey were made prisoners.

The loss of Lord Cornwallis's army in this affair amounted to 4 Europeans killed, 37 wounded; 13 natives killed, 59 wounded.

In December 1791, Lord Cornwallis made himself master of these forts, viz. Servan Droog, Ramghurry, Sheria-ghurry, and Outra Droog, with very little opposition, excepting the first, Servan Droog. And in consequence of the Europeans climbing from rock to rock, and passing the deep ravines of the mountain, the garrison fled with terror and surprise after firing a few muskets, and throwing a small quantity of rockets, which did no execution.

Captain Monson carried the works to the right. He

was sent merely to scour the wall and works, and prevent an enfilading fire, but seeing the confusion of his enemy, he closely pursued them, and entered five different gates immediately; a stand was made, where the Killidar and 200 men were killed. Lord Cornwallis attacked Seringapatam, Tippoo's capital, on the 5th of February 1792. Having encamped about seven miles to the northward of this place, from whence he had information, that Tippoo had taken a position on the north bank of the river with his fronts and flanks covered by a bound-hedge, and a number of ravines, swamps, and watercourses, and likewise fortified by a chain of strong redoubts full of cannon, as well as by the artillery of the fort, and of the works on the island.

Lord Cornwallis conceived it would cost him a great number of men to attack the camp in the day, and perhaps the success might not be certain; he therefore determined to make the attempt in the night, and for this purpose he marched on the 6th, as soon after sunset as the troops could be formed, in three divisions. The right division commanded by General Meadows, and the centre division by himself in person, were destined for the attack of Tippoo Saib's camp, and the left, consisting of four battalions, under Colonel Maxwell, was ordered to attack the works that Tippoo was constructing on the heights above the Karrigat Pagoda.

The officers commanding the leading corps in the right and centre divisions were directed, after driving Tippoo's army from their camp, to endeavour to pursue them through the river, and establish themselves on the island: and it was recommended to Lieutenant Colonel Maxwell to attempt to pass the river, if, after having possessed himself of the heights, he saw that their attack was successful.

The first and centre divisions were so fortunate as to accomplish completely the objects proposed. Lieutenant Colonel Maxwell gained the heights and afterwards passed the river, and the first five corps of the centre division crossed over to the island, leaving Lord Cornwallis in possession of the camp, which was then standing, and all the artillery of Tippoo's right wing. The division of the right, by some accident, approached too near a very strong detached work, which it was not Lord Cornwallis's intention to assault that night, and which would have fallen into their hands, without any trouble, if they succeeded in taking Tippoo's camp.

The advanced guard engaged in the attack of this work, before they could be prevented by the officers in the front of the column, and the latter, who had been used to carry forts with much facility, did not think it necessary or perhaps creditable, to oblige them to desist; but the garrison of this redoubt conducted themselves very differently from those which they had lately met with, and their resistance was so obstinate, that it was not carried without losing Lord Cornwallis several men and a great delay.

By this time the firing at the centre had ceased, and General Meadows concluding from that circumstance that Lord Cornwallis was in possession of the whole camp, and apprehending that a part of his corps might



might be wanted to support the island, wished to communicate with him as soon as possible.

Some guides, who undertook to lead his division to join him by a direct road, conducted him to the Kar-rigat Pagoda without his meeting with him, and daylight coming on, it would not admit of his undertaking any further operations.

These untoward circumstances did not deprive Lord Cornwallis of any solid advantages of the victory, for he was in possession of the redoubts, of all the ground on the north side of the river, and of great part of the island; but as the force with which he remained in Tippoo's camp did not exceed three battalions, and as he found from parties which he sent out that the left wing of Tippoo's army kept their ground all the night, he could not bring off any trophies from the field, except those which were very near to the spot.

In this affair Lord Cornwallis took sixty guns of iron and brass; and his loss amounted to 553 Europeans and natives, killed, wounded, and missing. *See* EAST INDIES, SERINGAPATAM, BOMBAY, &c.

**BANNARES, BATTLE AT.** A town of Castile in Spain. Sancho and Ferdinand, sons to the Emperor Alphonso, shared his dominions as he had ordered: Ferdinand had the kingdom of Leon and Galicia; Sancho, Castile, and all its dependencies. The former neglected taking possession of them immediately; and Sancho, King of Navarre, laid hold of the opportunity, and over-ran all the lands of Castile, as far as Burgos, and with the same celerity returned into his own country. The Moors finding those places they had lost forsaken by the new King, easily recovered them. He found it requisite to check both those enemies, but first the King of Navarre; and for that purpose marched his army into the territory of Rioja, and encamped near the town of Bannares, June 1157, where the Navarrais, under De Haro, were posted, who began the attack, and at the first onset obliged the Castilians to give way; but, recovering from their first disorder, they soon obliged the enemy to fly in their turn, and at length to quit the field of battle. The numbers of both armies are said not to exceed 6000 men, nor the slain 300. Another battle was fought on the same ground, in which the Castilians were again victorious, and this success soon compromised their differences, with which the war terminated.

**BANNOCKBURN, BATTLE AT.** A rivulet near Stirling castle, in Scotland. In the year 1314, Edward II. King of England resolved to march a numerous army into Scotland, as well to destroy the whole country, as to relieve the castle of Stirling, at that time besieged by Robert de Bruce. He entered Scotland at the head of 100,000 fighting men, attended by an incredible number of waggons and persons who followed the camp, so as to cover the whole face of the country. They marched without order, as to an assured victory, and had already parcelled out the lands of the vanquished. They were suffered to advance without molestation from Robert de Bruce, who had resolved to hazard a battle; and for that purpose occupied an advantageous post in the neighbourhood of Stirling, where he did not doubt of being attacked by the Eng-

lish. His army consisted of 30,000 chosen men, trained up to war and hardship, under his own eye, who were determined to conquer or die in the defence of their king and country. With these he took post on a piece of ground bounded on one side by a morass, and on the other by an inaccessible mountain, so that his flanks could not be attacked by the enemy's cavalry. A rivulet, called Bannockburn, ran in his front; and this he had rendered almost impassable, by digging holes in the bed or channel, in which he fixed stakes sharpened, for the destruction of the English horse. Large pits were likewise made between this rivulet and his army, provided with the same instruments of annoyance, and artfully covered with turf and boughs to deceive the English. As the van of Edward's army approached Stirling, under the command of the Earls of Gloucester and Hereford, Henry de Bohun, perceiving a body of Scots at the side of a wood, advanced against them with his Welch followers, and was drawn into an ambush by the wary Scots, who sallied in person upon them from a thicket, and riding up to Bohun, cleft his skull with a battle-axe. The English being reinforced from their rear, a sharp dispute ensued, in which the Earl of Gloucester was dismounted, and the Lord Clifford repulsed with considerable damage. As fresh supplies of men arrived from both armies, in all probability this conflict would have ended in a general engagement, had not night parted the combatants. The soldiers lay upon their arms, and they, as well as the horses, were so fatigued with their march, and the want of repose, that the most experienced officers in the army proposed to defer the attack until the soldiers were refreshed. This advice was rejected by the young nobility, who were eager to signalize their courage; and it was resolved to give battle to the enemy in the morning. June the twenty-fifth, the troops were accordingly drawn up in order of battle; the wings consisting of cavalry, being commanded by the Earls of Gloucester and Hereford, and the King in person, taking his station in the centre. Robert then formed his army into three lines, and a body of reserve, which was commanded by Douglas and the Lord Steward of Scotland. As he had little confidence in his horse, he ordered the troopers to dismount: he placed his brother Edward at the head of the right wing, Randolph conducted the left, and he himself commanded the main body. When the English army was upon the point of charging, a dispute arose about the point of honour, between the Earls of Gloucester and Hereford; and the former, impatient of control, advanced immediately to the charge with great impetuosity; but his career was soon stopped by the hidden pits and trenches, into which the horses tumbled headlong, and were flaked in a miserable manner. This unforeseen disaster produced the utmost confusion; and the Scots taking advantage of their disorder, fell upon them sword in hand, with such fury, that the greatest part of them were cut in pieces. The Earl of Gloucester's horse being killed, he fell to the ground, where he was immediately trodden to death; and Sir Giles d'Argentin seeing him fall, sprung forward to his rescue: but that gallant officer was slain, together with Robert de Clifford, Pay-



en de Tibetot, and William Marechal. While this havoc was making on the right wing of the cavalry, the English archers advanced against the right wing of the enemy, and galled them so effectually with their arrows, that they were upon the point of giving ground, when Douglas and the Lord High Steward wheeled about with their body of reserve, fell upon the flank of the English, and routed them with great slaughter. Mean while the centre, commanded by King Edward, moved on against the main body of the Scots, and met with a very warm reception from Robert de Bruce, who fought with unequalled valour. The English were already dispirited by the destruction of their wings, and the loss of their bravest officers, when the boys and other followers of the Scottish camp, who viewed the battle from a neighbouring hill, perceiving the success of Douglas and the Steward, began to shout aloud, and run towards the field for the sake of plunder, and being startled at their acclamations, and seeing such a multitude in motion, imagined they were succours coming to reinforce the enemy, on this supposition betook themselves to flight with the utmost precipitation. Those who attended the King, hurried him off the field towards the castle of Stirling, into which however the governor would not give him admittance, because he was obliged by his capitulation to surrender the castle to the victor: so that Edward fled to Dunbar, where he was cordially received by Patrick Earl of March, who had always been a faithful adherent to his family. Meanwhile confusion, rout, and consternation prevailed among the English forces, and victory declared for the Scottish King, who improved it to the best advantage. A great number of his enemies were slain upon the spot, as well as in the pursuit; and few or none would have escaped, had not the soldiers been intent upon the booty, which is said to have amounted in value to 200,000*l*. The Earl of Hereford, with John Giffard, John de Wylington, the Earl of Angus, the Lords Mounthermer, Piercy, Nevil, Scroope, Lucy, Acton, Latimer, Segrave, Berkley, Beauchamp, and other barons, to the number of twenty-five, were taken prisoners, together with a great number of bannerets, knights, and esquires, with 20,000 common soldiers; nor was the victory purchased without bloodshed on the side of Bruce, who lost above 4000 of his best men in the field of battle.

Douglas was detached with 400 cavalry to pursue Edward, who with great difficulty reached the castle of Dunbar, in such trepidation, that he made a vow to found a house in Oxford for four and twenty Carmelite divines, in case he should escape the dangers with which he was encompassed. As his pursuers still hovered in the neighbourhood, he would not venture to prosecute his journey by land, but embarked on board a vessel, in which he was carried to Berwick, where he thought himself secure. Robert de Bruce treated the prisoners with great humanity; he expressed unfeigned sorrow for the death of Sir Giles d'Argentin, to whose worth he was no stranger; the bodies of Gloucester and Lord Clifford were sent to the King of England: the Lord Mounthermer, as the ancient friend of Bruce, was dismissed without ransom; the slain were decently in-

terred, the wounded carefully attended, and the prisoners assured of liberty as soon as a reasonable cartel could be established. Robert's moderation was altogether admirable; instead of prosecuting his victory, by marching into England while the whole kingdom was filled with terror and consternation, he proposed reasonable conditions of peace to Edward; and commissioners were appointed by both princes to treat of an accommodation. The conferences were opened at Durham; but the Scottish deputies insisting, as a preliminary, upon the King's recognizing the title of Bruce, and the independence of the Scottish crown, Edward refused to treat upon such terms, and the negotiation proved ineffectual.

There was another battle here June 11, 1488, between James III. of Scotland, and his nobility, who, with the Prince his son at their head, took arms against him for his tyranny, defeated his army, and he himself was killed in flight; the blame of which, in the next parliament that met, was charged on himself and his perverse council.

**BANTON, OR BEANDUNE, BATTLE AT.** A place on the borders of Somersetshire: Camden thinks it is Bampton in Devonshire, or Bindon in Dorsetshire. In the year 519, the Saxons gained a signal victory over the Britons here.

**BANTRY BAY, SEA FIGHT IN.** On the south-west coast of Ireland; at the head of it stands the town of Bantry, in the county of Cork, and province of Munster. After the return of the French fleet, which had conveyed King James II. to Ireland, in the year 1689, Louis sent another strong squadron, commanded by Chateau Renault, as a convoy to some transports laden with arms, ammunition, and a large sum of money for the use of the King. Before they sailed from Brest, King William III. was informed of their destination, and detached Admiral Herbert with a fleet from Spithead, in order to intercept them. He was driven by stress of weather into Milford-haven, from whence he steered his course to Kinsale, on the supposition that the French fleet had sailed from Brest, and that in all probability he would fall in with them on the coast of Ireland. On the 1st of May, 1689, he discovered them at anchor, in Bantry Bay, and stood in to engage them, though they were greatly superior to him in number. They no sooner perceived him at day-break than they weighed, stood out to windward, formed their line, bore down, and began the action. The English had the wind, and might therefore have avoided fighting; but this was by no means agreeable to Admiral Herbert's temper. The first division of the enemy consisted of eight ships, under the command of M. de Gabaret; the second, of the like force, was commanded by the Admiral in person; the third, which was also of eight ships, had for its commander, M. de Forant. The fight was pretty warm for two hours, but then slackened, because a great part of the English fleet could not come up. At length it stood to sea, and maintained a running fight till about five in the afternoon, when Chateau Renault tacked about, and returned into the bay, content with the honour he had gained.



The SIEGE of BARCELONA taken by the EARL of PETERBOROUGH in the Year 1705.



Authors vary pretty much as to the strength of both fleets, which may be rather owing to partiality than any real difficulty of knowing. Burchett says the English were nineteen in all; Bishop Burnet reckons them, with more probability, to be twenty-two, wherein he agrees with all the French relations. 'The enemy's fleet, according to our accounts, consisted of 28, and according to their's, of 24 sail. The loss of men was very inconsiderable on both sides. After the action, Admiral Herbert returned to Portsmouth. King William, in order to appease their discontent, made an excursion to Portsmouth, where he dined with the Admiral on board the ship *Elizabeth*, and created him Earl of Torrington. The Captains, John Ashby, and Cloudesley Shovel, he knighted, and to every private sailor bestowed a donation of ten shillings. It was reported that he said on receiving the news of this sea-fight, "That such an action was necessary in the beginning of a war, but would have been rash in the course of it."

**BARBADOES, ISLAND OF, ATTACKED IN 1662.** This island is one of the chief of the Caribbees, and next in consequence to Jamaica of those that belong to Great Britain, but it was the first settled, and is the mother of all our sugar colonies. The Dutch commanded by De Ruyter attempted to land on this island, the last day of April, but he met with so warm a reception from the forts, and the ships stationed in the bay, that his own ship had her standard shot down, and her sails, standing and running rigging, masts and yards so shattered, that it was with great difficulty he got out to sea again.

**BARCELONA, SIEGES OF.** A city of Spain, the capital of Catalonia, situated in a large plain along the shore of the Mediterranean: it has a mole which communicates with the sea, and in it the small vessels lie secure from hard weather, but the large ones are obliged to lie in the road, in which they are exposed to tempests from every quarter. The town is handsome, but oblong, and divided by a wall and ditch into two parts, to which are given the names of the Old Town and New Town, having in the whole about 15,000 houses. Barcelona was taken in the year 800, by Louis the Debonnaire, (then King of Aquitaine, son of Charlemagne, after an obstinate defence of near twelve months.

In the year 985, the Moors laid siege to it with a numerous army. This siege may be rather called a blockade; for they took it after lying before it only five days, and without having made any breach, or almost the least signs of hostility: but after gaining possession of it they sent the garrison to Cordova. However, the city was soon after retaken by a body of Christians.

Don John of Austria, at his return from Sicily, with a very small army, laid siege to this city in the year 1652. Marechal de la Motte Houdancourt, the governor, surrendered in October, having defended the fortress as long as it was tenable. By this conquest, almost all Catalonia was regained to the Spanish crown, and the French almost entirely driven out of Spain.

The Duke of Vendome, who in the year 1690 com-

manded the French army in Catalonia, consisting of 35,000 men, received orders to besiege Barcelona. He encamped on the 7th of June at Badalona, a village upon the sea-side, within three leagues of the city, where the Count d'Etreces was at anchor with the whole French fleet, to unlade and land such provisions as were necessary for the French troops. The Spaniards who were well informed of the resolution of the French, had sent into the town all their infantry, under the Prince of Hesse d'Armstadt. The besiegers took possession of the suburbs, with the convent of the capuchins, which the besieged had forsaken. On the 16th and 17th, the besieged made an excellent sally with 600 men, but with little success, as the French cavalry obliged them to retreat. Mean while the cannon of the city fired continually on the French, and did good execution. The French still carried on their trenches on the left hand, to attack in front two bastions on the side of the New Gate. On the 18th and 19th the besieged made two resolute sallies, the first with 1000 foot and 400 horse, and the other with 400 foot followed by 800 more: but were forced again to retire after an obstinate fight, wherein many fell on both sides. The next day there was a furious assault made by the French to regain a fort, from whence the Spaniards annoyed them, which the Prince of Brikenfeld, at the head of two battalions of the regiment of Alsace, supported by four squadrons, made himself master of; and the Prince d'Armstadt in vain made several attempts to recover it. Notwithstanding this obstinate resistance, the French advanced their attacks towards the bastion of the New Gate, and the Spaniards made another vigorous sally with 800 foot, backed by 1000 more, with an intent to nail up the French cannon, but were forced again to retire by the bravery of the regiment of Turenne, after a most obstinate and bloody fight. On the 13th of July, the French advanced their works with such vigour, that their batteries were completed, and were ready to fire upon the bastions where the attack was made. The Duke of Vendome understanding that the garrison was to make a general sally, on the 14th and 15th at night, towards the trenches, resolved to prevent and surprise them, by assaulting the camp of the Viceroy of Catalonia; to which end he detached 1000 fusileers, 300 horse, and 200 dragoons, to attack Don Michael, who stood upon three little hills, with 700 horse, 1000 foot, taken out of the regiments in Barcelona, and 8000 miquelets, or militia. In his way he routed some small advanced parties, and entered the enemy's camp, after he had overthrown four or five parties, which he pursued to the village of St. Felion. The Viceroy, who was encamped in this village, being surprised asleep, had not time to put on his clothes, but fled at the first alarm. The French pursued the Spaniards as far as the river Lobregat, into which many were driven in their confusion, and all who resisted were killed or taken prisoners. The camp of St. Felion was plundered, with all the baggage and plate of the generals, besides 22,000 pistoles in money, and 700 mules. The works which the besieged had made behind the bastions they had lost for some time retarded the impetuosity of Vendome; but he caused several



several mines to be blown up, which made a considerable breach, so that all things seemed ready for a general assault; and the Duke of Vendome having summoned the Spaniards to surrender, they capitulated on the 10th of August, on condition that the garrison should march out on the 15th, with their arms, baggage, and thirty pieces of cannon, and six mortar pieces, with an allowance of six charges to each soldier, and of being conducted safe as far as Martorel, in their way to Terragona: on which the garrison, consisting of 600 men, the remains of 12,000, marched out of the city. Thus the French became masters of this important place, after a siege of fifty-three days. This conquest cost the French 12,000 men, by the sword, sickness, or desertion.

When Vendome entered the city, he found that near one-half of the houses had been demolished by the bombs which the French fleet under d'Etrees had thrown into the town. Barcelona was afterwards ceded to the Spaniards by the treaty of Ryswick.

**BARCELONA, CONJUNCT EXPEDITION TO.** In the memorable year 1705, Charles III. King of Spain, dying without issue, the Allies, in support of Charles, the second son to the Emperor Leopold, took this important place from the adherents of Philip of Anjou, who had by the King of Spain's last will been appointed his successor. The celebrated Earl of Peterborough, and Sir Cloudefley Shovel, sailed from St. Helen's in the latter end of May, with the English fleet, having on board a body of 5000 land forces, and on the 20th of June arrived at Lisbon, where they were joined by Sir John Leake, and the Dutch Admiral Allemonde, whose naval force amounted to twenty-nine sail of the line, besides frigates, fire-ships, bomb-vessels, and other small craft. A council of war being held, it was resolved to put to sea with forty-eight ships of the line, English and Dutch, and to dispose them in such manner as might prevent the junction of the French squadrons from Toulon and Brest. The Prince of Hesse d'Armstadt arriving from Gibraltar, assured King Charles that the province of Catalonia, and the kingdom of Valencia, were entirely devoted to his interest; and his Majesty being weary of Portugal, resolved to accompany the fleet to Barcelona. He accordingly embarked with the Admiral and the Earl of Peterborough, on board the Ranelagh; and the fleet sailed on the 28th day of July from Altea Bay, where they had taken in his Majesty, who pressed the Admiral and the Earl to make an immediate descent on Barcelona, where he was assured the people were well affected to him. This being agreed to, they arrived before Barcelona on the 12th of August, 1705, having been previously reinforced by the Earl of Galway, with two regiments of English dragoons. They had also taken in at Gibraltar the English guards, and three old regiments, in lieu of which they left two new raised battalions.

The Earl of Peterborough published a manifesto in the Spanish language, in favour of King Charles, which had so good an effect that all the inhabitants of these places, the neighbouring villages, and the adjacent mountains, acknowledged that Prince as their

lawful sovereign. They seized the town of Denia for his service, and he sent thither a garrison of 400 men, under the command of Major-general Ramos. On the 22d they arrived in the Bay of Barcelona, and the troops were debarked. King Charles landed amidst the acclamations of an infinite multitude of people from the neighbouring towns and villages, who threw themselves at his feet, crying, "Long live the King." The inhabitants of Barcelona were themselves very well affected to the House of Austria, but durst not declare for King Charles, being overawed by a strong garrison of 5000 men, under the Duke de Popoli, Velasco, and other officers devoted to the interest of Philip. From the apparent danger of this design, there arose many disputes whether the siege should be undertaken or not. At length it was carried in the affirmative: and Sir Cloudefley Shovel proposed that the English fleet should land 2500 men, exclusive of the marines, and the Dutch fleet 600, which was agreed to, on condition, however, that on the first certain intelligence of the French fleet's being at sea, both seamen and marines should reembark immediately. On the 3d of September, the Prince of Hesse having formed a scheme for attacking fort Montjuic, it was put in execution. This fort was strongly situated on a hill which commanded the city, and the outworks were taken by storm, with the loss of the gallant Prince of Hesse, who was shot through the thigh in the execution of his own scheme.

The siege was pushed on with vigour, by the bravery of the intrepid Earl of Peterborough, who bombarded the body of the fort, and a shell chancing to fall into the magazine of powder, blew it up, together with the governor, the Duke de Popoli, and some of the best officers. This giving a happy prospect to the reduction of the place, the gunners and carpenters demanded by the Earl of Peterborough, were ordered by Sir Cloudefley Shovel to be in constant readiness to land.

After this, the trenches were opened on the ninth, and batteries raised for fifty guns, and twenty mortars. With the consent of his Catholic Majesty, the bomb-vessels threw 412 bombs into the town in one day; eight English and Dutch vessels, under the command of Sir Stafford Fairborne, were appointed to cannonade it by sea, while the cannon from the batteries and fort continued to do the like on shore. On the 23d the Viceroy desired to capitulate, which was signed on the 28th: the gate and bastion of St. Angelo were delivered up the same day: and in a few days afterwards, the city received King Charles, who entered in great triumph. All the other places in Catalonia declared for him, except Roses. So that the largest and richest province of Spain was conquered with an army scarce double the number of the garrison.

**BARCELONA, SIEGE OF.** In 1706, Philip of Anjou, and all his friends in Castile, were in the greatest consternation imaginable, upon the progress made by the Allies in Catalonia the year before: the court of France, therefore, resolved to use its greatest efforts to reduce the Catalans, and retake Barcelona. King Charles had been left in the city of Barcelona with

with a very small garrison, while the Earl of Peterborough went to conquer the kingdom of Valencia. The French and Spaniards in the mean time, were projecting the destruction of King Charles's affairs at a single blow. Their design was to shut him up in Barcelona; in order to which, Philip of Anjou entered Catalonia about the end of March, with an army composed mostly of French troops, with which he sat down before Barcelona in the beginning of April, after he had been joined by several battalions near that place. The care of the land army in Philip's favour, was committed to Marechal de Tesse; but the Spanish army was in no condition to co-operate with him in forming the siege, so that the place was not invested till the beginning of April. Sir John Leake was at Gibraltar, when he received a letter from his Catholic Majesty, intreating his immediate assistance, in terms which sufficiently discovered the distress he was in, and the apprehensions he was under. The King's fears were far from being ill founded; M. de Tesse came before the place with a numerous army; and the Count de Thoulouse landed ammunition and provisions sufficient for the service of 30,000 men for two months; so that it appeared evident, that the French did all they could by sea, and had their operations been as well seconded on shore, the place would undoubtedly have been lost: but it happened that the principal engineer made a mistake at the beginning, which lost him eight or ten days time, and before he could correct his error he was shot.

On the 3d of April, Commodore Price, with six English, and as many Dutch men of war, joined Sir John Leake, who, in a council of war, held on the 6th, resolved, in obedience to King Charles's letter, to sail immediately to Barcelona. In pursuance of this resolution, he arrived on the 18th in Altea Bay, and the next day had intelligence that Sir George Byng, with a squadron from England, was coming up. Three days after they were joined by Commodore Walker with his squadron, as they had been the day before by Sir George Byng; and then it was determined to sail north to Majorca, and that each ship should make the best of her way without staying for the rest. Upon the 26th, the Earl of Peterborough came down from Terragona, with a squadron of barks, having 1400 land forces on board. His Excellency found that the Council of war had rejected his proposals, and indeed their rejecting them saved the place, since before his arrival Sir George Byng, Sir John Jennings, and Admiral Walsenauer, had anchored in the road of Barcelona, and by the contrivance of Sir George Byng a considerable body of troops had been thrown into the town.

On the 27th in the afternoon, the whole fleet arrived in the harbour of Barcelona, without meeting the least opposition; and the Count de Thoulouse, having received an exact account of the naval force of the Allies, thought fit to sail away with the French fleet to Toulon, which obliged the land army to raise the siege with great precipitation.

The French had been besieging this town thirty-five days. Their army in the beginning of the siege consisted of about 20,000 men, of which they lost 5000,

by the assault, they made on fort Monjouic, by the sallies and fire from the place, by the skirmishes with the miquelets that lay on the hills, by sickness, and lastly by desertion. The garrison, when the enemy sat down before it, was not above 800; the breaches made by the Allies the year before, were not quite repaired; and fort Montjouic was much in the same condition as when they first possessed it. The Earl of Peterborough had thrown in 800 men from Valencia by means of boats. The garrison of Gironne had the good luck to get in, as did great numbers of militia. Lord Peterborough, with those who could get into the place, possessed himself of all the strong posts on the hills about the enemy's camp, and secured all the avenues by which provisions might be brought to the enemy; and this was done so effectually, that most of the letters and carriers, that went and came between the enemy's camp and Madrid, fell into the hands of King Charles; so that at length they were forced to dispatch a frigate to Alicant, with every packet they had occasion to send away. The garrison being thus reinforced now consisted of about 3000 foot, and 500 horse, of which 600 English were put into fort Montjouic. The enemy began by attacking this fort; and thus spent twenty-two days in attempting to take a place, which the Earl of Peterborough had taken in four. During this attack on the fort, the breaches of the town were all fully repaired, the works put in good condition, and a great many cannon were mounted; the garrison and burghers vying with each other in doing every thing that appeared necessary for the defence of the place.

The enemy retired about one o'clock on the 12th of May, leaving behind them 200 brass battering guns, 30 mortars, a great quantity of warlike stores, 1000 sacks of corn, 3000 barrels of gunpowder, and all their sick and wounded, whom the Marechal de Tesse recommended to the Earl of Peterborough's clemency.

Thus ended this great affair at Barcelona, to the unspeakable joy and advantage of King Charles and his friends, and the no less honour of the British flag. Barcelona remained in possession of King Charles till the year 1712, when the citizens, erecting a kind of commonwealth, set up for an independent state.

**BARCELONA, SIEGE OF.** The Catalans were a people who had enjoyed several rights and immunities, while Spain was subject to the House of Austria. As they had a just value for their privileges, they were desirous to secure them for themselves, and transmit them safe to posterity. Accordingly, in the year 1705, having received several assurances from Mr. Crow, Queen Anne's minister, from the Earl of Peterborough, and Sir Cloudefley Shovel, that if they would acknowledge Charles III. as King of Spain, and renounce the House of Bourbon, her British Majesty would use her utmost endeavours to procure the establishment and confirmation of their rights and privileges, and the settlement of them on a lasting foundation; the Catalans acknowledged and received that Prince as their sovereign, raised men and money for his service, and during a war which abounded with extraordinary turns of fortune, gave signal proofs of their



their unshaken fidelity and zeal for the cause they had espoused. After King Charles came to the Imperial crown, and Spain was at length given up to the House of Bourbon, the Catalans far from being guided by a spirit of obstinacy and rebellion were willing to acknowledge King Philip V. for their lawful sovereign. At the same time, as they hoped to be protected by the Emperor, a Prince for whom they had exposed their lives and fortunes, and as they relied on the repeated assurances they had received, that England would never abandon them, they insisted on the enjoyment of their former privileges.

The inhabitants of Barcelona being summoned by the Duke of Popoli to submit to King Philip, answered, "That though they would rather die than be slaves, yet if their ancient liberties were confirmed, they would open their gates, and receive him with joy." But the Catalans being abandoned both by the Emperor and by England, the court of Spain would be absolute. Thus, contrary to faith and honour, they were given up to their enemies. Still they were not wanting to their own defence, but appealing to Heaven, and hanging up at the high altar the Queen's solemn declaration to protect them, underwent the utmost miseries of a siege. And here we cannot forbear lamenting the fate of a brave unfortunate people, who fought and suffered merely for their liberties and privileges, and have immortalized their name by the noble, though unsuccessful stand, they made against usurpation and arbitrary power.

In the year 1714, the command of the Spanish army in Catalonia, was conferred on the Duke of Berwick, who received orders to besiege Barcelona. At the same time, orders were given to the Bailiff of Belle-Fontaine, commander of the French fleet, to block up the harbour. The Duke opened his trenches before the town on the 13th of July; in a few hours after which the besieged made a sally, but were repulsed with loss. Some deserters from the town informed the Duke, that the regular troops were disposed to surrender; but the inhabitants were more obstinate than ever: they were employed in throwing up a multitude of intrenchments, and declared, that they would rather be buried in the ruins of their houses than submit. From this time till the 22d, the besiegers were employed in raising batteries, and making approaches, when all on a sudden an unexpected fire began on the east side of the town, where the besieged did not imagine any attack would be made. The bombs did incredible mischief, and the inhabitants began to be frightened. This occasioned a general assembly, wherein it was resolved to make a vigorous defence, and write a letter to Sir James Wishart, Admiral of the British fleet in the Mediterranean, stating their claim to his protection. Sir James received this affecting letter without any signs of regard: and if we compare his behaviour on this occasion with the Queen's speech in the house of Lords a little before he sailed, we shall be influenced to imagine, he was rather instructed to assist King Philip in the reduction of Barcelona, than to relieve the distressed Catalans. The general assembly of Barcelona, seeing their letter have no effect on the English

Admiral, made a decree, and published it through all the country they had any communication with, setting forth the ruinous condition to which the town was reduced, and the danger with which it was threatened. They commanded all the inhabitants of towns and villages, who were above fourteen years of age, to take up arms for the defence of their liberties, upon pain of being treated as enemies to their country. Berwick, in answer, published a manifesto, forbidding all persons to distribute or pay any regard to that writing, and ordering all who should be found in arms to be hanged on the spot. In consequence of this order, 31 were hanged who were taken prisoners in a skirmish, and about 400 were put to the sword in cool blood.

On the 30th in the evening, the covered way was attacked, and after some resistance, a lodgment was made on it. All the prisoners made in this attack were put to the sword without distinction. The besieged came in great numbers to recover the covered way; but their attempts were all baffled by the vigilance of Berwick's grenadiers, whose batteries were now firing in breach upon two bastions; and next day he set his miners to work under them, when some women appeared on the breach, and planted a standard there, in the middle of which was painted a death's head, intimating, that they would rather die than surrender. On the 3d, the besieged made two sallies, to interrupt the works of the miners, but without success, being repulsed in both; though they afterwards found means to surprise a redoubt, in which near 100 of the besiegers were killed; but it was retaken the same evening, with the same loss to the besieged. Next day, Berwick made some new dispositions in his batteries, and brought them nearer the town, which he effected so as to employ them in ruining a bastion, and making a passage over the ditch. This continued till the 12th, when he sprung his mines with tolerable success, and ordering six companies to mount the breach, drove away all who defended it; but the besieged made a terrible fire, and killed the whole six companies, except about twenty men, who had descended to the bottom of the breach. Six companies more were sent, who nearly underwent the same fate. There now became a more hot fire on both sides than had been made hitherto, which lasted the remainder of the day, and all night. About ten o'clock at night, Berwick, at the head of twenty companies of grenadiers, made an assault, in order to hinder the besieged from repairing the breaches: the Barcelonians were prepared to receive him, and an obstinate engagement ensued, which lasted till six next morning, when the besieged gave way, having eight times endeavoured to regain the advantages lost in the beginning of the action, which did not consist in anything more than the ground. Berwick gained this point; but not without a considerable loss; for several monks, and other ecclesiastics of the besieged, fought with bayonets fixed to their muskets against his grenadiers.

In these engagements at the breach, Berwick is said to have lost at least 1500 men, among whom were several officers. On the night between the 18th and 19th, four barks, laden with provisions, slipped by the



the French fleet, and entered the harbour. Thus the besieged received refreshments from time to time, owing to the indolence of the French Admiral; and the more easily, as the Majorcans, in concert with the Catalans, had a magazine near the coast, beyond the Lobregat, in an old tower near Castel de Felo, where the vessels of Majorca, unloaded in the night, and those of Barcelona went afterwards to take the provisions which had been brought thither. This intercourse continued six weeks without the Duke's knowledge, because that tower had been uninhabited for above a century, and had neither doors nor windows: but when it was discovered, the magazine was plundered, and all the houses in its neighbourhood burned; and thirty barks were armed and stationed at the mouth of the harbour, to prevent any more from going in. The miquelets, commanded by the Chevalier del Poel, and the Sieur Armengol, having collected a body of 9000 men, formed a design of throwing succours into Barcelona, by forcing one of the quarters of Berwick's camp: the garrison too were to favour this operation by a sally at the same time: but he having notice of their design, kept on his guard. On the 30th, the detachment commanded by the Duke of Montemar, defeated another body of miquelets near Piera. Thus their design was rendered abortive, and there were no longer any attempts to disturb the siege. On the 6th of September, Don Joseph Pelz, serjeant-general of the town, appeared on the top of the breach with a white flag, and desired to speak with the commanding officer upon duty in the trenches. This was to answer a summons which the Duke had sent him some days before to surrender. The Chevalier d'Arsfield advancing to the foot of the breach, Pelz told him, that the inhabitants of Barcelona had deliberated on the Duke's proposal, and that they were resolved not to listen to it, without he would ensure them their liberties, choosing rather to perish in the desolation of the city. This answer not a little chagrined Berwick, as he had promised the King he would make a conquest of Barcelona before the 1st of September; and therefore he determined to storm the town, without ever waiting the effect of several new mines which he had ordered to be made. For this purpose he made such dispositions as he thought would secure the success of his enterprise, being conscious it would be attended with difficulty, and even be hazardous. The army was divided into three bodies, to which he gave the names of right, left, and reserve. The command of the right he gave to Lieutenant-general Dillon, that of the left to the Marquis de Silly, and he himself commanded the reserve. The besieged did not expect an assault till the mines should be sprung, which he knew, and therefore hastened his preparations.

On the 11th, at four in the morning, the signal was given, and the whole army marched with the grenadiers at their head. The bastions were carried one after another, and all the defendants who were taken put to the sword. Dillon, with seven battalions, mounted the breach of the bastion Santa Clara, and after some resistance gained possession of it: all the troops

or inhabitants who were found in it, or in the adjacent places, were put to the sword without distinction; in this he was assisted by a detachment from Silly, who was at this time employed in ruining all the houses he could. After this rapid progress, the assailants became on a sudden inactive; and the besieged gaining time to recollect their staggered senses, took courage, and began to make preparations for their last effort to repulse the enemy. Several times they attempted to recover the bastion and monastery of St. Peter, but in vain; in these they were as unsuccessful as those made on Santa Clara. These efforts brought on another engagement with Dillon, who was now supported by Berwick's body of reserve. The sharpest of the action was at the bastion of St. Peter, which was this day taken and retaken eleven times with considerable loss, especially on the side of the besiegers, because they had not taken the precaution to secure the abbey of St. Peter when it had been abandoned. The fire from the abbey galled Dillon's troops on all sides, and killed them in heaps; but Berwick's numbers still supplied the defect, and after an obstinate engagement of thirteen hours, the besieged were driven into the town, having displayed the most extraordinary proofs of valour. About 9 o'clock in the evening they offered to surrender, and Berwick considering the consequence of forcing the rest of the town, agreed to a capitulation, on condition that the inhabitants owned Philip for their lawful king, by whose pleasure the lives of all, without exception, should be saved, and the town should not be plundered. But when he gained possession of it, he seized all the persons who had acted as officers during the siege, among whom were several of the nobility, and those he thought proper he ordered to be hanged, while others were dispersed in Spanish prisons, and ended their days in dungeons.

BARCELONA, December 8, 1793. On the 6th, the Marquis de Castrillo, with his Spanish troops, and those of Valspir, continued to chase the French from the defiles of Banuls. They took two pieces of cannon, six patareroes, and made many prisoners.

On the 7th, at six in the morning, in consequence of an order from the general commandant, the left wing made a false attack upon the enemy, which was directed upon the battery of the Hermitage and the adjoining camp. The object was, to draw the attention of the French to that side, while the other batteries and camp, situated to the right, should be attacked with vigour. The whole was executed with the greatest success under General Curtin. At nine o'clock the Spaniards were masters of all the ground which the French had occupied, of their camp, and twelve pieces of cannon, with an immense quantity of ammunition, &c. The enemy lost upon this occasion a great number, of whom many fell beneath the swords of our troops, and many were drowned in attempting to cross the river. We made six hundred prisoners.

A battalion of the Portuguese, which came up during the action, contributed much to the victory. Our loss in killed and wounded amounts only to two hundred men.

The following important particulars are given of the victory gained by our troops, on the 7th inst. over the French.

The French had twenty times attacked our camp, but were always repulsed with loss. The Spaniards at length resolved to have their revenge, and threw themselves with so much courage and good conduct upon the enemy, that they made an immense slaughter of them, and took their camp, and so much booty, that four days were required to carry it away. Some thousands are said to have been taken prisoners, among whom is the wife of General Dagobert, dressed in men's cloaths. The enemy was so dispersed, that the Spanish army took possession of the country as far as Masden, at the distance of six miles from Perpignan. The number of the French killed in the action is said to exceed three thousand.

January 25, 1794. We have particular intelligence, that a Spanish post of fifty men had been surrounded by 500 republicans: they laid down their arms, and begged for quarter; but they were all put to death by order of the French commanders. Admiral Gravina, informed of such an event, gave orders for the disembarkation of 1200 men beyond Rosas. These troops surrounded and stormed the post, and put to the sword the whole of the 500 men, 27 only excepted, in which number were the two French commanders. Their twenty-five comrades having affirmed it was by their orders the Spaniards had been murdered, Admiral Gravina held a council of war, which condemned the two French officers to be shot, who were executed on the quarter deck of the ship.

May 18. General Urrutia commenced his operations on the morning of the 5th of May, when a column composed of 6 or 7000 men, mostly Catalonians, made a vigorous attack upon the enemy's right, near Sutella. The enemy's camp was given up to plunder, and burnt. The false attack made upon the enemy's centre at the same time, was much to our advantage. About day-break on the 6th, the enemy, with a view of avenging the disgrace of the preceding day, attacked our front with their whole force, at three points at once, but were every where repulsed.

June 20. On the 14th inst. the French attacked the Spaniards towards Rivas, and on the 7th near Besalu, but were repulsed with considerable loss. On the 14th, upon the appearance of some considerable bodies of the enemy, the whole Spanish line was got under arms, and quickly after General Urrutia, seeing the advanced posts to the right and left engaged, passed the river with the whole centre, except a reserve, on the bridge just finished at Biscara. This passage was opposed by a very smart fire of cannon and howitzers, placed in advantageous situations, but the enemy were nevertheless driven from all the posts they occupied in about two hours, during a violent storm, and pursued to within musket-shot of their camps. The whole of the Spanish line was formed beyond the hermitage of Pontos, and then repassed the river, after having taken all the artillery, viz. one eight-pounder, one four, and one republican two-pounder, two six-pound howitzers, and

the ammunition carts; the camp kettles and messes, and a quantity of blankets and hand-barrows. When the greater part of the Spanish troops had repassed the river, the enemy attacked those that were yet on the other side; upon which a second action took place, and was still more obstinately disputed than the former. This second action began about one o'clock; at three the French retreated precipitately, but the Spanish light troops pursued them till six, when the whole army retired across the Fluvia.

Though no correct statement has been received of the loss, on the side of the Spaniards, in the action of the 14th, it may be computed, according to the different accounts, to amount to 26 officers, and about 700 men killed and wounded. The regiment Fijo de Malaga suffered much, having borne, with great firmness, the fire of two of the enemy's batteries for a considerable time. The most considerable loss, on the part of the French, was on the right, where the Spanish cavalry passed the river, and attacked the division of the enemy, commanded by General Soret, encamped at Castillon, consisting of near 6000 men: they were thrown into confusion, and killed in great numbers by the Spanish horse, who made no prisoners: they left a number of their dead on the roads, but carried off the greater part of their wounded. All the spies and deserters agree in the report that the enemy lost about 2000 men.

BARCELONETTE, a valley and territory of Provence, in France.

On the 8th of July, 1793, the Piedmontese attacked the French in the valleys, and other routs leading to Savoy, in which the former forced their intrenchments, and took the French artillery and baggage. At the same time the Piedmontese attacked the French army consisting of 16,000 men entrenched at Angentere, in the valley of this place, and forced their posts, killed 4000 men, and took possession of their artillery. In this affair the Piedmontese lost 1500 men; they pursued the enemy into the province of Dauphiny.

BARKAN, BATTLE AT, AND STORM OF. A fort which covers the bridge of Gran over the Danube in Lower Hungary, thirty miles north-west of Buda. In the year 1683, the Polish and Imperial armies, after obliging the Turks to raise the siege of Vienna, pursued the fugitives: near Barkan they came up with about 14,000 of their best troops, who immediately charged the Imperialists, as they led the van, and forced them back upon the Poles, who not relishing a fight at this time, retreated to the main army, which advanced as fast as possible to attack the victorious Turks, who seeing the Christian army approaching, set up a most hideous cry, and thinking to throw the whole army into confusion, charged sword in hand with great impetuosity, but without any regular order. The Imperialists stood close and firm, and received them with their bayonets fixed, while the Polish infantry flanked them as they came down.

This method of fighting did not continue long, for one of their bashas being killed, and another taken prisoner, the whole Turkish army retreated as precipitate-



ly as they had advanced. About 4000 got over the bridge, but while the main body were going over, it broke, by which accident some thousands were drowned; others threw themselves into Barkan, which Count Staremberg immediately attacked by escalade, and entering the fort pell-mell, put all the Turks to the sword, except about 500 Janissaries, who begged for quarter, which was granted.

**BARNET, BATTLE AT.** A market-town in the counties of Middlesex and Hertfordshire, about ten miles north-east from London; but on Gladmore-heath, near a mile from the town, the battle was fought. In the year 1470, Edward IV. beheaded the Lords Willes and Dymock, charging them with being the instigators and leaders of a rebellion in the counties of Warwick and Worcester. The Earl of Warwick who was the principal promoter of it, became instantly enraged at this act of barbarity, and resolved with redoubled vigour to pursue his project of dethroning Edward, whom he had exalted. The following year he had many adherents, and being joined by his son-in-law Clarence, brother to King Edward, and his brother Montacute, he advanced towards London, and on the 13th of April encamped on Gladmore-heath, in the neighbourhood of Barnet; the town itself being possessed by the troops of Edward, who had marched thither from London to give him battle, in consequence of a message he had received from Clarence, importing that he would join him with all his forces. In the night that preceded the action, Richard Duke of Gloucester repaired, without any safeguard, to the tent of Clarence, where the two brothers embraced with all the marks of the most cordial affection; and after some private discourse, they went off together towards Edward's camp, with about 12,000 followers. Immediately after this scandalous desertion, he sent a messenger to Warwick to excuse the part he had acted, and to tell him he had made his peace with Edward, who had promised to pardon him, the Earl of Warwick, upon his submission. But the Earl rejected the proposal with disdain, either believing Edward insincere in his promise, or that he himself was still able to cope with him in the field of battle.

In all probability his brother Montacute had found means to convince him of his fidelity, and was by this time determined to act heartily against Edward; otherwise he would on this occasion have imitated the example of Clarence. Early in the morning of the 14th day of April, the action began with incredible fury on both sides, the leaders being exasperated against each other to the most virulent degree of rancour, that slighted friendship, personal animosity, and civil war could produce. The troops of Warwick, though inferior in number to the enemy, fought with a kind of desperate resolution, foreseeing they should be treated as rebels if vanquished; and the Earl himself was determined to conquer or die. Such was their impetuosity, that Edward's first line was obliged to give ground, and some of his horse riding full speed to London, reported that he was utterly defeated. In this emergency, King Edward ordered his body of

reserve to advance and charge the enemy in flank; and this expedient was the more successful; as the Earl of Oxford had pushed the Yorkists so far, that Warwick's main body was left defenceless. That nobleman, however, no sooner recollected this circumstance, than he wheeled about to resume his station, and that movement occasioned the loss of the battle. The device on his arms and ensigns was a star shooting forth rays; and that of Edward was a sun. The followers of Warwick seeing the star advancing through the medium of a fog, mistook it for Edward's standard, and fell upon their friends with such fury, that they were broken and dispersed before the Earl of Oxford could rectify the fatal error. These last believing themselves betrayed, fled towards the enemy with great precipitation. A part of Warwick's army seeing them fly, imagined they had been attacked in the rear, and of consequence that they themselves were surrounded: they began to be seized with consternation; the panic spread from rank to rank, and universal confusion ensued. Edward taking the advantage of their disorder, charged them with redoubled vigour, and Warwick in vain used his utmost endeavours to rally and re-animate them by his own example. In former battles he had always fought on horseback, that he might at once ride along the line, and perceive the particulars of the action: but on this occasion he had sent away his horse, and determined to fight on foot, that his soldiers might see he was resolved to share their fate in the issue of the day. Even this resolution contributed to his defeat; because he could not be personally present at every place where the men stood in need of his direction and assistance; and they were no longer encouraged by the sight of their commander. After having exerted all his capacity as an officer and hero, in fruitless attempts, he rushed into the hottest part of the battle, and fell covered with wounds; and his brother Montacute, endeavouring to disengage him, met with the same fate. All opposition ended with the lives of the two generals; and about noon Edward obtained a complete victory over his enemies, 5000 of whom were left dead upon the field; though the carnage would not have been so great had not the King forbid his soldiers to give quarter. The Earl of Oxford fled into Wales, where the Earl of Pembroke, by Warwick's desire, was employed in raising forces for the service of Henry VI. The Duke of Exeter was terribly wounded, stripped, and left for dead on the field, where he remained till the evening, when he recovered the use of his senses, and made a shift to crawl to the house of one Rutland, where his wounds were cured; but he was afterwards discovered and imprisoned in the tower: Edward lost the Lord Berners, and had 1500 men slain in the action. Such was the end of the famous Earl of Warwick, who, from his great power, influence, military talents, and fortune, had acquired the epithet of the king-maker.

An obelisk was erected in the northern road through Barnet, in the year 1740, by Sir Jeremy Sambroke, with this inscription;

Here



Here was  
Fought the  
Famous BATTLE  
Between EDWARD  
the 4th and the  
Earl of WARWICK,  
April the 14th,  
Anno 1471.  
In which the Earl  
Was defeated  
And slain.

**BARTHOLOMEW, (ST.) DESCENT UPON.** One of the lesser Caribbee islands in the Atlantic Ocean, twenty miles north of St. Christopher's; it produces tobacco, and is covered with trees, among which are some excellent ones highly valued. The English, under the command of Sir Timothy Thornhill, landed on this island, and plundered it in the year 1689, after having beat the French from their works, and a fortification of the extent of two acres of land, encompassed with a double row of palisades six feet high, the intervals of which were filled with earth, and a wide trench without, well manned. Many of the inhabitants houses were burnt, and near 700 people carried off with their cattle and goods. The English held it till the peace of Ryswick, and then restored it to the French.

**BAS, ISLE OF,** in the bay of Biscay, on the coast of France.—The letters, of which the following are extracts, were received from Rear-Admiral Macbride.

Flora, at Sea, April 24, 1794.

SIR,

In pursuance of your orders, I proceeded with the ships *Arethusa*, *Melampus*, *La Nympe*, and *Concorde*, to cruise on the coast of France; and on the 23d inst. from variable winds being to the westward of Guernsey Rock, Dover bearing E. by S. four or five leagues, the seven islands S. S. W. four or five leagues, Guernsey N. E. half east seven or eight leagues, I discovered at four in the morning four sail, standing out to sea upon the larboard tack, the wind S. S. W. and, as the morning began to break, I saw from their manœuvres and firing of guns they were some of the enemy's ships of war. They soon after appeared in a line of battle on the larboard tack, and as our ships, from having chafed, were not collected, I made the signal to form in succession. We crossed each other on contrary tacks, and the enemy began the action at a considerable distance; their sternmost ship having passed over, they again tacked; but the wind changing two points in our favour, I perceived it was possible to weather them, and therefore made the signal for the ships to engage as they came up, so as to prevent the enemy gaining their own shore, and to oblige them to come to a close action: I am happy to say we succeeded in this object.

The engagement lasted nearly three hours, when two of the ships struck: I then made the signal for those who were coming up to pursue and engage the enemy, as from the situation of this ship, having led the line

into action, she was incapable of continuing the pursuit.

I am much indebted to Sir Edward Pellew in the *Arethusa*, who was my second astern, and to the other officers and ships under my command, who exerted themselves in engaging and pursuing the enemy.

I have since been informed that another of the enemy's ships struck to the *Concorde*, Sir Richard Strachan, in the evening; but, as that ship and the *Nympe* have not yet joined me, I cannot make any return of their state and condition.

The French squadron consisted of *L'Engageante*, 36 guns, 18 pounders, 300 men, Monsieur Desgarceaux Chef D'Escadre; *La Pomone*, 44 guns, 24 pounders, 400 men; *Le Resolue*, 36 guns, 18 pounders, 320 men; *La Babet*, 22 guns, 9 pounders, 200 men: they failed from Concale Bay the evening before we met them.

I owe every obligation and acknowledgment to the officers and crew of this ship for their zeal and exertions upon this and every former occasion in the service of their king and country, and trust you will recommend them to their Lordships notice and protection.

Enclosed are lists of the killed and wounded, and also of the ships taken from the enemy.

I have the honour to remain, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Rear-Admiral Macbride. JOHN BORLASE WARREN.

A list of killed and wounded on board his Majesty's ships *Flora* and *Arethusa*, on the 23d of April, 1794. *Flora*.—1 seaman killed; 1 ditto wounded. *Arethusa*.—1 master's mate killed; 2 seamen killed; 5 seamen wounded.

A list of the killed and wounded on board the Conventional frigates *La Pomone* and *La Babet*, on the 23d of April, 1794. *La Pomone*.—Between 80 and 100 killed and wounded. *La Babet*.—Between 30 and 40 killed and wounded.

JOHN WARREN, Captain.

*La Concorde*, Plymouth-Sound,

April 25, 1794.

SIR,

I have the honour to acquaint you of my arrival here with his Majesty's ship under my command, with a French frigate which we took in the afternoon of the 23d inst. The early transactions of that day have been detailed to you by Sir John Warren, but as the *Flora* was at too great a distance to observe my proceedings in the afternoon, I beg to relate the particulars of my conduct from the time we passed the *Pomona* after she had surrendered. About eleven A. M. we were near enough to receive and return the fire of the enemy's two frigates which were making off. It was my intention to endeavour to disable the sternmost, and leave her for the ships of his Majesty which were following us, and push on to attack the leading ship; but in this I was disappointed, for the leading ship bore down and closed to support his second, and laying herself across our bows, soon disabled us in our sails and rigging so much, that we dropped astern. We soon got our sails on the ship again, and I purposed to keep the enemy's

enemy's two ships in check till ours arrived, as the only means of taking them both; but finding the day far advanced, and little probability of being assisted, as our ships rather dropped, and expecting our main-topmast, which was shot through, to go every minute, knowing that if our masts went, both the ships must escape, I determined to secure the one I was nearest. She was assisted for some time by the second, but, changing sides in the smoke, it prevented him from annoying us. She was defended with the greatest bravery from twelve till a quarter before two P. M. when being silenced, and totally unmanageable, they called they had surrendered. She proved to be L'Engageante, of 36 guns and 4 carronades, with 300 men. The other frigate, Le Resolue, after firing a few shot, stood on, and our ship, much cut in her sails and rigging, was not in a condition to follow her. The mast of the L'Engageante, in the evening, as we attempted to tow her, fell, and expecting our's to go also, I availed myself of seeing the Nymphé and Melampus, returning from the chase of the Resolue, to make the signal for assistance. The Nymphé joined us at night, and we steered for this port.

I must request you will be pleased to inform their Lordships, that the zealous, cool and steady conduct of the officers and ship's company was highly meritorious in the action; and their efforts in refitting the ship, after the fatigue they had experienced, exceeded any exertion I ever saw before. As the first lieutenant, Charles Apthorp, was mostly with me, I had an opportunity of observing the spirit of enterprize which pervaded his conduct, and I must acknowledge the great assistance he was of to me from the able manner in which he performed the various duties I employed him upon; and am convinced also of the good conduct of Lieutenants Boys and Evans, who commanded on the main deck. I enclose a report of the damages and state of the ship. And have the honour to be, &c.

Rear-Admiral Macbride, &c.

R. J. STRACHAN.

*This Gazette also contains a letter from Admiral Macbride enclosing the above dispatches.*

This morning (April 25), arrived here L'Engageante, French frigate of 36 guns, Capt. Le Garthe, towed in by the Nymphé, of 36 guns, Capt. Murray, accompanied by the Concorde, of 36 guns, Capt. Sir Richard Strachan; she was captured off the Isle of Bas, on Wednesday last, about two P. M. by a squadron of frigates that failed from hence under orders from Admiral Macbride, the 14th inst. viz. Flora, 36 guns, Capt. Sir J. B. Warren; Arethusa, 38, Capt. Sir Edward Pellew; Concorde, 36, Capt. Sir R. J. Strachan; La Nymphé, 36, Capt. G. Murray; and Melampus, 36, Capt. T. Wells: L'Engageante failed from Concale the morning of the 23d, about five o'clock, in company with La Pomone, of 40 guns, Resolue, of 40; and La Babet, of 20 guns; and soon after fell in with the above frigates, when an action commenced, and continued a running fight, chasing to the westward as far as the Isle of Bas, until two P. M. when the Engageante, Pomone, and Babet, struck their colours, but the Resolue escaped, and got into

Morlaix: L'Engageante is a mere wreck, she has not any thing standing but her bowsprit, and a short stump of the foremast and mizen mast; her stern is beat in, and she has several shot holes between wind and water. Capt. Le Garthe was killed the second broadside, 12 men were also killed, and about 40 wounded: the Concorde had 1 boy killed in the main-top, and 5 men wounded; Capt. Strachan received a blow just above his right eye with a splinter, which caused the skin to turn black, but fortunately did him no other injury. The Babet and L'Engageante both struck to the Concorde; Sir R. Strachan first ranged along side the Babet, and poured his broadsides into her so quick, that her colours were soon down; he did not board her, but left her for the sternmost frigate to pick her up, and then crowded sail after the L'Engageante, fearing she might make her escape; he soon got along side this ship also, and by his excellent management, had the pleasure of seeing her masts, one by one, drop over the side, and the French colours hauled down. The prisoners from the frigate, to the number of 260, were landed this afternoon, and put into the prison here, the wounded men are not yet landed. The Concorde is very much disabled in her masts and rigging, but the hull is not much injured; she is gone up Hamoaze with her prize to refit: the Nymphé is also gone up Hamoaze, to have her copper inspected, as she fails very bad: La Pomone and La Babet, with the Flora, Arethusa, and Melampus, English frigates, are supposed to be gone for Portsmouth.

*Copy of a Letter from Sir J. Borlase Warren, K. B. to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated on board his Majesty's ship Canada, off Isle Dieu, March 8, 1798.*

SIR,

I take the liberty of acquainting you, that this morning a convoy of the enemy was discovered within Isle Dieu, to whom I immediately gave chase with his Majesty's ships under my orders; but the breeze dying away, I made the signal for the boats of my squadron to chase, and I have the satisfaction to inform you, the vessels mentioned in the enclosed list were captured by them. A schooner gun vessel and an armed lugger escaped into the Fromentine Passage near the island off Normentier.

Two of the prizes are numbered and laden with naval stores for the armament equipping at Brest, for the intended expedition against England; the rest have wine and brandy for their cargoes, and were bound from Rochefort to the above port.

I have the honour to remain, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN WARREN.

A list of vessels captured by the squadron under the orders of Sir John Borlase Warren, Bart. K. B.—A brig from Rochefort bound to Brest. A brig from ditto, to ditto, both numbered, and laden with naval stores as transports. A brig from ditto to ditto. A brig from ditto to ditto. A brig from ditto to ditto. A brig from ditto to ditto. A brig from ditto to ditto, laden with wine and brandy. A chasse marée, from ditto to ditto. A chasse marée from ditto to ditto. A chasse



chasse marée from ditto, laden with wine and brandy. A chasse marée from ditto to ditto, laden with wine and brandy, burnt, being on shore.

(Signed)

JOHN WARREN.

**BASAN OR BACAIM.** A strong fort on the coast of Malabar, belonging to the Mahrattas, East-Indies. It having been resolved to lay siege to Basan, General Goddard, with the forces under his command, with great difficulty completed his march from Surat, so as to arrive before the place on the 13th of November, 1780, where he was joined by re-inforcements and stores from Bombay. The General finding it very strong, and defended by a numerous garrison, under the command of Visagee Punt, determined to carry on his operations with regularity and precaution. On the 28th in the morning, he had completed a battery of six guns and six mortars, within 900 yards of the place, and, under cover of the fire, carried on his approaches to the spot, where he erected a grand battery of nine twenty-four pounders, which was opened the 9th of December in the morning, within 500 yards of the wall; besides which, a battery of twenty mortars, of different sizes, was opened upon one of the flanks of the parapet. These were served with such effect, that on the 10th in the morning, a practicable breach being nearly completed, a message was sent from the fort, offering to surrender; and after some demur on the part of the enemy, which obliged the General to renew the fire from the batteries, the place surrendered the next day at discretion. The garrison marched out, and laid down their arms in front of the fort, being allowed only to carry away their own private effects. It adds greatly to the satisfaction which this important acquisition gives, that the loss we sustained is very small, one officer only, Lieutenant Sir John James Gordon, who, having been wounded, is since dead, and about twelve men killed and wounded, of whom four only were Europeans. A considerable quantity of ammunition was found in the fort, 220 pieces of cannon, and ten brass mortars, of which nineteen pieces of brass cannon, several of a very large calibre; 128 pieces of the iron ordnance, and all the mortars, have been reported serviceable.

**BASSANO**, in Italy, 1796. General Baron Alvinzi, on the 6th of November, defeated the French General Bonaparte, near Bassano, in which action the enemy lost upwards of 4000 men. The army continued in pursuit of the enemy, who, however, made no stand, but quitted their new position near Vicenza, and retreated towards Montebello, whither the commander in chief intended to follow them on the 9th. The city of Vicenza and other places were taken possession of by our troops. The like good fortune also attended our troops under General Davidovich, who, on the 7th, drove the enemy from the castles Bassano and la Pietra, in Tirol, when the French lost upwards of 3000 men, including 1000 prisoners, five pieces of cannon, and eight ammunition waggons. After this, our troops took possession of Roveredo.

November 22. On the 12th, at eight in the morning, our position was attacked on all the points with so much impetuosity and effect, that we must of necessity

have been repulsed, if our troops had not displayed the most heroic courage in opposing the attack. The action was bloody, and continued till late at night. The enemy then finding themselves on the point of being attacked in flank, retreated with much precipitation.

**BASIL, BATTLE NEAR.** A city in Switzerland, situated on the confines of Alsace and on the Rhine. The battle here alluded to was fought in 1444, when 1600 Swiss fought 30,000 French, commanded by the Dauphin, for ten hours, and being quite overpowered by numbers, were all killed but sixteen, who were only left to carry home the news of the fate of the rest of their gallant countrymen. It is remarkable that 6000 of the French were left on the field of battle, besides a great number wounded.

**BASIL.** This place was greatly alarmed on the morning of the 17th of September 1793. The cause was, an attempt of the French at Huningen to cross the Rhine upon rafts. About eight in the morning, 500 Frenchmen embarked on three rafts, and pushed off in great spirits. These were however soon damped, by one of their rafts running on a sand bank, adjoining a small islet upon the Swiss territory, on which was an officer's guard. The French were obliged to betake themselves to the water, and, as they waded on shore, were taken prisoners to the number of 120. Another of the rafts parted and went to pieces in the middle of the Rhine, and every man on it perished, and the fate of the third was not much better. Such of those on it as were not drowned were cut down by the Austrian cavalry as they landed, and nineteen were made prisoners. The French at the same time attempted landing in two or three different places, but were received in the same manner, with the loss of 800 men killed and taken.

**BASSAC, BATTLE AT.** A village of Poitiers in France. During the wars of the Huguenots, a battle was fought here on the 13th of March 1569. The Royalists were commanded by Henry de Valois, Duke of Anjou, and amounted to the number of about 3000. They attacked the Prince of Conde at the head of about 4000 Huguenots, and after an engagement of two hours, the Prince was taken prisoner, having his leg broke; but as the enemy were conveying him to their General's guards, Captain Montequieu who had known the Prince formerly, shot him dead with a pistol. Upon which the Huguenots retreated, leaving about 800 of their slain on the field of battle. The Royalists are said to have lost nearly the same number, but the action is only memorable for the death of the Prince of Conde.

**BASSETTERRE.** See GUADALOUPE.

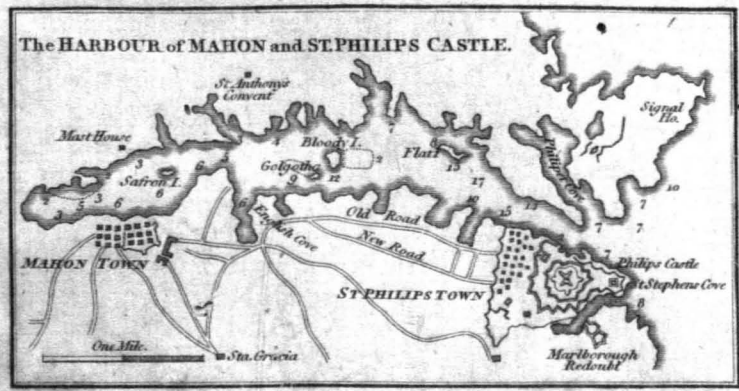
**BASTIA.** Capital of the Island of Corsica, situated in the Mediterranean. In the year 1745, the English Admiral Rowley bombarded this city, and having damaged it pretty much, gave it to the malecontents; but the inhabitants drove them out in the year following. In 1748 it was besieged without success by the Austrians. The malecontents have made several attempts upon it, for which reason it is provided with a strong French garrison.

**BASTIA, SURRENDER OF, TO THE BRITISH FORCES.**

The

THE  
ISLAND  
of  
MINORCA  
*from the best  
Authorities.*

THE  
MEDITERRANEAN



British Statute Miles 69 to a degree  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

5° Long. East from 5° London.



*The Dispatch of which the following is a Copy, was received from Admiral Lord Hood, dated Victory, off Bastia, May 24, 1794.*

Victory, off Bastia, May 24.

SIR,

I have the honour to acquaint you, that the town and citadel of Bastia, with the several posts upon the heights, surrendered to the arms of his Majesty on the 22d. On the 19th I received a message, that the garrison was desirous of capitulating upon honourable terms; in consequence of which I sent the enclosed note on shore. This brought on board the Victory three officers, who informed me that Gentili, the commandant, would assemble the officers of the several corps, and of the municipality, if a truce took place, which I agreed to, a little before sun-set. The next day I received a note from Gentili, which I also enclose, and sent Captain Young on shore, on the morning of the 21st, who soon returned to the Victory, with two officers and two of the administrative bodies, which, with Vice-Admiral Goodall, Captain Young, Captain Inglefield, and my secretary, Mr. M'Arthur, settled the articles of capitulation, which were signed the following morning, when his Majesty's troops took possession of all the posts above the town, the troops in each retiring to the citadel, from whence they marched to the Mole Head, where they grounded their arms, and were embarked. You will receive herewith the articles of capitulation, which I hope his Majesty will approve.

I am unable to give due praise to the unremitting zeal, exertion, and judicious conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Villetes, who had the honour of commanding his Majesty's troops: never was either more conspicuous. Major Brereton, and every officer and soldier under the lieutenant-colonel's orders, are justly entitled to my warmest acknowledgments: their persevering ardour and desire to distinguish themselves cannot be too highly spoken of, and which it will be my pride to remember to the latest period of my life.

Captain Nelson of his Majesty's ship Agamemnon, who had the command and directions of the seamen, in landing the guns, mortars, and stores; and Captain Hunt, who commanded at the batteries, very ably assisted by Captain Buller and Captain Serocold, and the Lieutenants Gore, Hotham, Stiles, Andrews and Brisbane, have an equal claim to my gratitude, as the seamen under their management worked the guns with great judgment and alacrity. Never was an higher spirit or greater perseverance exhibited, and I am happy to say, that no other contention was at any time known, than who should be most forward and indefatigable for promoting his Majesty's service; for although the difficulties they had to struggle with were many and various, the perfect harmony and good humour that universally prevailed throughout the siege overcame them all.

I cannot but express, in the strongest terms, the meritorious conduct of Captain Duncan and Lieutenant Alexander Duncan, of the Royal Artillery, and Lieutenant de Butts, of the Royal Engineers; but my obligation is particularly great to Captain Duncan, as more zeal, ability and judgment, was never shewn by any

officer, than were displayed by him; and I take the liberty of mentioning him as an officer highly entitled to his Majesty's notice.

I feel myself very much indebted to the vigilance and attention of Captain Wolfeley, of the Imperieuse, and of Captain Hallowell, who became a volunteer wherever he could be useful, after being superseded in the command of the Courageux by Captain Waldegrave. The former kept a diligent watch upon the Island of Capraia, where the enemy had magazines of provisions and stores, and the latter did the same, by guarding the harbour's mouth of Bastia with gunboats and launches, well armed, the whole of every night, whilst the smaller boats were very judiciously placed in the intervals between, and rather without the ships (which were moored in a crescent just out of the reach of the enemy's guns) by Captain Young, of the Fortitude, the centre ship, on board of which every boat assembled at sun-set for orders; and the cheerfulness with which the officers and men performed this nightly duty is very much to be admired, and afforded me the most heartfelt satisfaction and pleasure.

The very great and effectual assistance I received from Vice-Admiral Goodall, Captain Inglefield and Captain Knight, as well as from every captain and officer of his Majesty's ships under my command, have a just claim to my most particular thanks, not only in carrying into execution my orders afloat, but in attending to and supplying the wants of the little army on shore: it is to the very cordial and decided support alone I had the honour to receive from the whole, that the innumerable difficulties we had to contend with were so happily surmounted.

Major Smith and Ensign Vigoreux, of the 25th regiment, and Captain Radsdale and Lieutenant St. George of the 11th, not embarking with their respective regiments, having civil employments on shore; it is to their honour I mention that they relinquished those employments, and joined their corps soon after the troops were landed.

It is very much my duty to inform you, that I am extremely obliged to General Petrecono, Mr. Frediani, and all the officers of the Corsicans, serving with the army, for their great zeal, ardour, and attention, in forwarding the reduction of Bastia by every means in their power, who were of infinite service by preserving good order in the troops.

I transmit an account of the loss on the part of his Majesty, in killed and wounded, which, I am happy to say, is inconsiderable; but the enemy suffered much, their hospitals being full.

At the commencement of the siege, the number of the enemy bearing arms was 3000.

By the first ship that sails for England I shall have the honour of sending, to be laid at his Majesty's feet, the several stand of colours taken at Bastia.

Captain Hunt, who was on shore in the command of the batteries from the hour the troops landed to the surrender of the town, will be the bearer of this dispatch,

I have the honour to be, &c.

Hood.  
Victory,

Victory, off Bastia, May 19, 1794.

In consideration of the very gallant defence the garrison of Bastia has made, and from the principles of humanity which ever govern British officers, I am disposed to give you terms; and if you will send on board two or three officers, properly authorized to treat, I trust a capitulation will be soon settled, as honourable to the inhabitants as can in any reason be expected.

(Signed)

Hood.

To the Commandant of the garrison of Bastia.

Bastia, the 2d Prairial, 2d year of the French Republic, one and indivisible.

*The General of Division, Commander in Chief of the Army of the French Republic in Corsica, to Admiral Hood, Commander in Chief of the Squadron of the King of Great Britain, before Bastia.*

MY LORD,

In consequence of the proposal which you did me the honour of making in your dispatch of the 18th of May (old style), I have the honour of sending to you two adjutant-generals of the army and two members of the administrative corps of this town, who are commissioned to present to you the plan of a capitulation between the garrison and inhabitants of Bastia, and you, my Lord, in the name of the King of Great Britain.

These four commissioners, who equally possess my confidence, and that of the garrison and of the citizens, have instructions to arrange with you the settlement of all matters relative to this capitulation. I hope that you will be satisfied, and that they will enable you to fulfil the views you have signified to me, of putting an end to the unavoidable consequences of the calamities of war. Captain Young has had a long conference with me: I was of opinion that a reciprocal understanding might co-operate in the success of the negotiation which occupied our attention, and I have requested him to acquaint you with my ingenuous and loyal intentions.

Greeting or Health.

(Signed)

GENTILI,

Commander in Chief.

#### Articles of Capitulation.

Art. I. The garrison shall march out with all the honours of war, together with all those attached to the army.—Answer. Granted.

Art. II. The garrison shall embark as soon as possible after signing these articles at the Great Mole of the Port, preceded by the field artillery, with arms, baggage, drums beating, matches lighted at both ends, colours flying. To be transported immediately to the Port of the Mountain (Toulon) and no where else.—Answer. In consideration of the gallant defence made, the garrison shall march to the Molehead, preceded by two field pieces, with their arms, baggage, &c. and shall lay down their arms at the place appointed for their embarkation; they shall, as soon as possible, be transported to the Port of the Mountain (Toulon).

Art. III. All ammunition, artillery, military stores, and every thing which composes and makes a part of

the army, both by sea and land, shall also be transported to the Port of the Mountain.—Answer. Refused.

Art. IV. The Corvette La Fleche shall be fitted out as a transport to carry the garrison and citizens who wish to follow it, together with the Pink La Marie Victoire; and that loaded with ship timber, which are now at the disposal of the administrator of the marine, shall be employed for this transport; but this not being sufficient, the necessary number shall be furnished by the Admiral, four of which shall not be visited. The above-mentioned corvette and pink, loaded with timber, shall be kept by the Republic.—Answer. The troops of the garrison and citizens who wish to depart shall be conveyed to Toulon, the Port of the Mountain, by vessels appointed by his Excellency the commander in chief. The French corvette La Fleche, and all vessels in the harbour, must be delivered up to his Britannic Majesty's officers. Such fishing boats as are necessary to the subsistence of the inhabitants, proving their property, shall remain in their possession. The rest of this article is inadmissible.

Art. V. The sick, who are not able to bear the voyage, shall remain in the hospitals which they occupy at present, at the expence of the Republic, by officers of health, who shall be appointed under the superintendence of a commissary of war, and, when they are able to support the voyage, vessels shall be furnished to transport them by the English commander.—Answer. Granted.

Art. VI. The members of the Constituent Bodies and all persons attached to the service of the Republic of any denomination whatever, or pensioners, shall participate in this capitulation with the military, and shall enjoy the same conditions.—Answer. Granted.

Art. VII. All papers concerning public accounts, those of the artillery, engineers, marine, military tribunal, military chest, both of this place and of all others, shall be transported to France; the same shall be done with all papers and plans of the country, as well of the old as new administration, as the civil and military, and those belonging to the communities.—Answer. Granted, except such as are necessary for the security of property; the archives, and other public papers and plans of the island shall remain, but copies of them shall be allowed to be taken.

Art. VIII. The inhabitants of both sexes, which are now in the town, or that have taken refuge there, shall have their lives, their honour, and their property saved and guaranteed, with liberty to retire when and whither they please, with their families and servants, furniture, effects, and merchandize; and the power of disposing of whatever effects they may chuse to leave behind, or to receive their rents by agents.—Answer. Granted.

Art. IX. No troops nor armed men, except those of the British government, shall on any account be brought into the town.—Answer. The British government will take care that no armed men shall be brought into the town, in any manner that may give the inhabitants any cause of uneasiness or apprehension.

Art. X. The community in general, nor any individual



vidual in particular, shall be subjected to any tax or contribution whatever, on account of the events which have preceded or accompanied the siege.—Answer. Granted.

Art. XI. No person shall be troubled on account of his religion or political opinions, nor for any thing he may have said before or during the siege.—Answer. Granted.

Art. XII. The inhabitants shall not be subject to have soldiers billeted in their houses; they shall not be forced to any military service or work.—Answer. Soldiers shall never be billeted on the inhabitants, except in cases of absolute necessity.

Art. XIII. The present money of the Republic, particularly assignats, shall continue to pass current.—Answer. The French money and assignats shall be allowed to pass; but no person shall be compelled to take them.

Art. XIV. The national domains, sold agreeable to the existing laws, shall be kept by the purchasers; the leases of national property not sold, which have been granted to this time, shall remain in force.—Answer. We do not feel ourselves authorized to decide on this article; it must be left to the decision of his Britannic Majesty, the purchasers enjoying the possession of the national domains, till his Majesty's pleasure shall be known; and all leases granted before the arrival of the British fleet at St. Florenzo shall remain in force.

Art. XV. The community shall be maintained in the possession of the moveables and immoveables belonging to it: the same shall be done with the town hospitals.—Answer. Granted.

Art. XVI. Deserters shall not be demanded on one side or the other.—Answer. Granted.

Art. XVII. The prisoners that have been taken during the siege, shall be set at liberty, and shall be allowed to retire to Bastia or to France; those which have been taken since the beginning of the war, and have been given up to the Corsicans, shall be joined to those who were taken at Fornelli, to be changed when an opportunity offers.—Answer. Granted.

Art. XVIII. Necessary passports shall be furnished to two feluccas, to go immediately after signing of this capitulation, one to Calvi, and the other to the Port of the Mountain, to carry the dispatches of the General of division.—Answer. Granted, with regard to Toulon, (Port of the Mountain). Refused, with regard to Calvi.

Art. XIX. If any difficulty should arise respecting the terms or conditions of the capitulation, they shall be in all cases interpreted in favour of the garrison, the inhabitants of Bastia, and the refugees.—Answer. If any difficulty shall at any time arise in the interpretation of this capitulation, it shall be decided with the strictest justice to both parties.

Art. XX. The British government shall be the only guarantee of the present capitulation.—Answer. Granted.

#### ADDITIONAL ARTICLES.

Art. I. All the out-posts and forts, and the gate of the citadel, shall be put in possession of his Britannic

Majesty's troops at twelve o'clock to-morrow. The troops in the forts and out-posts are to retire to the citadel, from whence they are to march at ten o'clock the next morning, to the place appointed for each corps by the commissioners who have managed the present capitulation; and they are to lay down their arms at the place of their embarkation. Commissaries of artillery and stores will remain in the citadel, to take inventories of all the artillery, ammunition, and stores; and proper officers are to be appointed to shew the mines, magazines, and stores of every description.

Art. II. The town of Bastia, the citadel, and all the forts, out-works, and posts, and every thing contained in them, that is not the private property of the garrison or inhabitants, together with the ships of war, and all vessels lying in the port, shall be delivered up to his Britannic Majesty in their present state, without any deterioration of the batteries, artillery, mines, magazines of ammunition, provisions, or any sort of stores.

(Signed)

Tienne Monty, Presid. du

Departement,

J. B. Franchesei, Adj. Gen.

C. F. E. Couthaud, Adj. Gen.

Galeazzini, Mayor of Bastia.

Approuvé par moi,

GENTILI.

S. Goodall.

Wm Young.

J. N. Inglefield.

J. M. Arthur.

Approved by me,

HOOD.

Return of killed, wounded, missing, and dead of their wounds, of the troops encamped before Bastia, from the 4th of April to the 21st of May, 1794.

Artillery. 4 rank and file wounded.—11th regiment, 1 rank and file killed; 1 captain, 3 rank and file wounded.—25th regiment. 1 rank and file killed, and 2 wounded.—30th regiment. 1 rank and file wounded, 1 dead of his wounds, and 1 missing.—99th regiment. 1 captain, 3 rank and file wounded; and 1 rank and file dead of his wounds.—Marines. 3 rank and file wounded, and 1 dead of his wounds.—Chasseurs. 1 rank and file killed, 3 wounded, 1 dead of his wounds, and 5 missing.

Total. 3 rank and file killed, 2 captains, and 19 rank and file wounded, 4 rank and file dead of their wounds, and 6 missing.

Captain Rusdale, of 11th regiment, wounded.

Captain Clarke, of 60th regiment, wounded.

WM. BATLEY, acting B. Major.

Killed and wounded seamen between the 11th of April and the 19th of May, 1794.

Victory. 11 killed, and 1 wounded.—Windor Castle. 2 killed, 4 wounded, and 1 missing.—Fortitude. 1 killed, 1 wounded, and 1 missing.—Agamemnon. 3 killed and 7 wounded.

Total. 7 killed, 13 wounded, and 2 missing.

Lieutenant Tupper, of the Victory, killed.

George Andrews, of the Agamemnon, wounded.

HOOD. (Signed). HORATIO NELSON.

BATAN ROUGE. A fort near the River Mississippi, in the province of West Florida, North America. See the following letters.

*Extract of a Letter from Major-General Campbell to Lord George Germaine, dated Pensacola, December 5th, 1779.*

What a grievous mortification must it be to me to have to relate to your lordship for my sovereign's information, the conquest of the western part of this province, by the arms of Spain, in consequence of their early intelligence of the commencement of hostilities.

I cannot help observing, that facts have demonstrated, that Spain had predetermined on a rupture with Great Britain long before the declaration made on the 16th day of June last by their ambassador at the court of London; had laid their plans, and prepared all their governors abroad for such an event; and it would appear had even fixed on the day, or at least nearly the time on which it was to take place; for we are here informed, that war was declared at Porto-Rico in a few days after the 16th of June. English vessels are known to have been carried into the Havannah as prizes in the beginning of August last. And from New Orleans I have the Governor's own acknowledgment of his being apprised of the commencement of hostilities on the 9th day of August last; but how much earlier his intelligence of that event really was, is uncertain. However that may be, it is now incontrovertibly known, that he has long ago been secretly preparing for war. That having previously collected the whole force of the province of Louisiana, the independency of America was publicly recognized by beat of drum, at New Orleans on the 19th day of August; and every thing being in readiness for that purpose, he immediately marched against our forces on the Mississippi; and he so effectually succeeded by the capture, by stratagem, of a King's sloop in lake Pontchartrain, by the seizure of a schooner in the River Mississippi on her way with rum and provisions for Manchack, and of six other small vessels on the lakes and in the River Amite (one of these last with troops of the regiment of Waldeck, and another with provisions,) and by preventive precautions in stopping any communication of intelligence of his movements, being sent to this place, that he had nearly effected the reduction of the western part of this province, before we at Pensacola were apprised, or had the smallest communication of his having commenced hostilities; the information of that event having only reached me on the 14th of September, and Lieutenant-Colonel Dixon, it appears, was forced to capitulate on the 21st day of that same month.

*Copy of Lieutenant-Colonel Dixon's Reasons for removing to Batan Rouge.*

Batan Rouge Redoubt, Sept. 22, 1779.

The various reports, seemingly well founded, that the rebels were in force above, and meditated in a short time an invasion of this part of the country, made it necessary without delay to fix upon some spot where works might be thrown up and fortifications erected, so as to prevent, if possible, the troops under my command, and the country I was sent to protect, from falling into the hands of the enemy. The situa-

tion of Manchack was unanimously condemned, and the fort there considered as indefensible against cannon. Accordingly, on the 30th day of July 1779, agreeable to my own sentiments, and those of the engineer and other officers I consulted on the occasion, it was determined to take post at Messieurs Watts and Flowers's plantation at Batan Rouge, the situation of which, and large quantity of cleared ground, pointing it out as the only place where I could have a reasonable prospect of accomplishing the intent of my command. I accordingly sent Engineer Graham with a letter addressed to the inhabitants, requesting them to co-operate with me in throwing up a redoubt on that place, with which they cheerfully complied.

Having intelligence which I could depend upon on the 3d day of September, that his Excellency Don Bernardo de Galvez was approaching in force to attack me, and that the redoubt at this place was in pretty good forwardness, it was determined in a council of war to remove the troops, artillery, and stores to the redoubt, which was accordingly done. On the 12th of September the redoubt was invested, and early in the morning of the 21st a battery of heavy cannon was opened against it; and after an incessant fire on both sides for more than three hours, I found myself obliged to yield to the great superiority of his artillery, and to surrender the redoubt to his Excellency Don Bernardo de Galvez, who commanded the troops of his Catholic Majesty.

I am confident I should not have been able to have made so good a defence at Manchack, and of course to have procured such favourable terms for the troops under my command, and the country I was sent to protect.

On account of the redoubt's being erected thereon, Governor Galvez, considering the plantation of Messieurs Watts and Flowers as belonging to the King, has accordingly taken it; and unless government shall make them a recompence, by reason of their loyalty and readiness to promote the protection of the country, they will lose a very valuable property; I therefore most strongly recommend them to government for a generous satisfaction.

(Signed)

ALEX. DIXON,

Lieut. Col. 16th Reg. of Foot.

**BATH, SIEGES OF, AND BATTLE AT.** A city of Somersetshire, situated on the river Avon, twelve miles east of Bristol, ninety west of London. The Saxon Prince Cerdic spread his conquests with amazing rapidity, till the famous Prince Arthur was vested with the command of the Britons; then his career seemed to stop; Arthur's heroic genius gave him a considerable check. The principal action between these accomplished generals, was, according to Rapin, the battle of Badon-hill near Bath, in the year 511. The Saxons having laid siege to Bath, by means of a reinforcement from the Continent, the Britons marched to its relief agreeable to Cerdic's wish, who thought himself too strong for his enemy. Arthur, far from being discouraged at his superiority, gave him battle, which proved the bloodiest that had been fought between the two



two nations. It lasted from noon till night without any visible advantage to either side. Both armies kept the field, waiting for the day to renew the fight. The Saxons during the night, posted themselves on a little hill called Bannestown, which was of great importance, though the day before it had been neglected by both sides. As soon as it was light Arthur perceived the advantage the Saxons had gained by seizing that part, and was resolved to dislodge them, which he effected after a long and obstinate fight. The Britons, animated by the presence and valour of their king, perceiving that the Saxons in their retreat down the hill had put themselves in some disorder, pressed them still more vigorously, and at last entirely routed them. William of Malmesbury says, Arthur slew 400 of the enemy with his own hand, and Huntingdon makes it more, exaggerating the number to 440. However, the victory was complete, and the Saxons were obliged to be quiet for some years, notwithstanding the weakness of the Britons. Usher says this battle was fought in the year 520. Smollet places it in the year 519, and says it was Caerbadan in Berks. that was besieged, in the neighbourhood of which is the hill of Bardon, where the battle was fought. Rapin confesses that some place this fact sooner and some later, and adds that he has followed Langhorne's opinion, because it seemed to him to be the best supported.

**BATTLE ABBEY.** See HASTINGS.

**BATTLE BRIDGE.** See STANFORD BRIDGE.

**BATURIN, CITY OF, TAKEN IN 1708.** It is situated in the Ukraine; and during the war between Charles XII. of Sweden, and Peter the Great of Russia, Mazepa, Prince of the Cossacks, siding with the Swedes, opened a rout to the troops of that nation, by the Ukraine to Moscow. The Czar sent Prince Menzikoff with 20,000 men into the Ukraine, to observe the motions of Mazepa, where he took Baturin, and delivered it up to the pillage of his soldiers. Many who were thought to favour Mazepa, were executed along with the effigy of that Prince, who was deposed, and his whole domains ravaged.

**BAVAY,** situated on the French part in Hainault in the government of French Flanders.

On August 3d 1792, the Austrians took possession of this place, and raised the siege of the camp of Malplaquet, but it was not effected without a very serious action, which took place in the night.

The Austrians had two captains of grenadiers, an Hungarian captain, two first lieutenants, in all fifteen officers, and a considerable number of privates, killed.

**BAUGE, BATTLE OF, IN 1421.** This town is situated in the province of Anjou, in France; which province, Henry V. of England, had sent the Duke of Clarence, his brother, with 10,000 men to reduce. Whilst he was employed on this expedition, he heard that the Earl of Buchan, with 7000 Scots, had entered the province, and was encamped at Baugé. At the same time he was led to believe, that the van-guard of the Scottish army was so far from the main body, that he might easily rout them, provided they were immediately attacked; upon which information, he hastily

headed his horse, leaving the Earl of Salisbury orders to follow him with the rest of the army. When he came to Baugé, finding some Scotch troops intrenched in the church-yard, he charged them, and dismounted in order to head his troops. But he was so long forcing this post, that the Earl of Buchan had time to come to their relief. The Duke remounting, furiously attacked the Earl's troops, notwithstanding the inequality of his forces, and gave on this occasion astonishing proofs of valour. But at length, being overpowered by numbers, and disdaining to fly, he was singled out by a Scotch Knight, named Sir John Swinton, who wounded him in the face, and was afterwards killed by the Earl of Buchan. His death caused an entire defeat of the English horse, 1500 of whom were slain, and many taken prisoners. Among the slain, were the Earl of Kent, the Lords Grey and Rofs, and several other officers of distinction. The Earl of Salisbury, though he could not advance time enough to assist the Duke, rescued his remains, and sending them to England, they were interred at Canterbury.

**BAUSCH.** A city situated at Courland; was taken in 1701, by Charles XII. king of Sweden: and the same year, 3000 Swedes were attacked near this city by 10,000 Russians, against whom they made a gallant resistance; but receiving a reinforcement of 1800 men, defeated, and killed more than 3000 of them, and took eight pieces of cannon.

**BAUSKE, CASTLE OF, TAKEN.** See MITTAW.

**BAUTZEN.** The capital of the Marquisate of Lusatia, in the circle of Upper Saxony; was taken by Boleslaus Chrobi, King of Poland, in 1008, during his war with the Emperor.

**BAXAYA, in St. Domingo, July 3, 1799.** On the 8th ult. 2000 Spaniards marched from this place to attack the French posts between Zacquesi and Guarico; the train of artillery was small. On the 9th, passing a river, they were surprized by 4000 French, entrenched in a wood, with a smart fire of cannon and small arms; notwithstanding this, they forded the river breast high, and formed on the opposite shore. The enemy, after sustaining about seven discharges, fled, leaving upwards of fifty dead, two pieces of cannon, three caissons, several muskets, &c. They were pursued by our grenadiers, and the army being flushed with victory, marched to attack Zacquesi, when they were divided into three columns to make three different attacks at once; but they had scarcely arrived within sight of the fort, when the enemy commenced a tremendous fire with twenty-four pounders and case shot, which, as their guns were pointed too high, did us but little damage.

The courage of our people was so much increased, that they were determined to advance without preparing any defence, or opening any intrenchment. Accordingly our left column arriving within half a gun shot of the fort, would have dislodged one of the enemy's posts, if the latter had not began to redouble the fire of their artillery with so good a direction, that after losing a number of men, our General ordered a retreat; but while the necessary dispositions were making for this purpose, he sent a flag to the French commandant,

mandant, commanding the surrender of the place, who answered that he had a sufficient number of cannon to defend it.

The whole attack continued two hours, and as we had left another body of French well fortified in a place called la Mortillere, a retreat was found to be so much the more necessary to prevent our being placed between two fires; however, the General would have attempted another attack on the 11th, but for the arrival of two couriers one after the other, informing him of a dangerous insurrection among the inhabitants of the Spanish territories, in the south of the Island of St. Domingo; and that those of Baxava were upon the point of following their example. The General then abandoning the expedition against the French, returned to this place, and immediately proceeded to apprehend the chiefs of the malcontents, to the number of forty, so that tranquillity is perfectly restored.

**BAYEUX, CITY OF, TAKEN IN 900.** It is situated in the province of Normandy in France, and was taken this year by Rollo, the noble Danish adventurer, who afterwards was created Duke of Normandy by Charles III. surnamed the Simple, King of France.

**BAYONNE, SIEGE OF.** A large city of Gascony in France, situated near the mouth of the river Adour, which forms a good harbour, and a little below discharges itself into the Bay of Biscay. In the year 1374, John, Duke of Lancaster, landed with an army at Calais, and being joined by the Duke of Brittany, marched across the country to Bourdeaux, with a design to conquer Castile in Spain. But this expedition was laid aside by the English troops, who did not amount to above 600 men, and had consumed all their provisions. Louis, Duke of Anjou, thinking this a good opportunity to drive the English away, proposed to the King of France the siege of Bayonne: the monarch agreed to the proposal, and the place was invested. But the besiegers being greatly incommoded by heavy rains, and distressed by the want of provisions, they, after being before it a short time, thought fit to raise the siege.

March 19, 1794, the Spaniards made an attack on us on the 17th instant, at six o'clock in the morning. Their force, consisting of 16,000 men, was divided into five columns. As the attack was unexpected, the Spaniards were at first successful. They obliged our troops to abandon the post of Rocher on the left, and to retreat from the post of La Croix des Bonquets. Already had they begun to exclaim—Victory! Victory! and to think that the Republicans would make no more resistance—but, at the redoubt of La Liberté, the patriots rallied and received the slaves with such resolution, that they were soon dispersed, and driven back with prodigious slaughter. In the short space of an hour, all the posts were re-taken, and the enemy lost at least 1200 men.

**BAY OF BISCAY.** On June 25, 1782, the combined fleet took sixteen of the English merchantmen, which were under the escort of the Portland of 50 guns, the Oiseau of 32, the Diana of 24, and the Merlin sloop. The fleet were destined for Canada and

Newfoundland. After the enemy had taken the ships they attempted to take their convoy, but failed in their design.

On the 12th of December 1782, near this place, an engagement happened between the Mediator, an English man of war, James Luttrell, Esq. commander, and five ships belonging to the combined powers. At seven A. M. he discovered five sail on his lee-beam, made sail and gave chase; at eight their hulls were above water; they were forming in a close line of battle, and shortened sail to their topsails to wait for him; the headmost was L'Eugene, frigate built, of 36 guns, 130 men, commanded by Mons. le Capitaine Baudin, laden for the French King, and bound to Port au Prince, she lay with a French pendant and ensign flying; next to her was an American brig, of 14 guns, and 70 men, with American colours; next to her a two-decked ship, the length of a 64, armed en flute, called the Menagere, French pendant and ensign flying, commanded by Mons. de Foligne, Capitaine de Brutot, of the department of Rochfort, mounting on her main deck twenty-six long twelve pounders, and four six pounders on her quarter deck and fore-castle, with a complement of 212 men, laden with gunpowder, naval stores, and bale goods, for the French King's service at Port au Prince; next to her lay the Alexander of twenty-four nine pounders, and 102 men, with a French pendant, and an American ensign flying, commanded by a Captain Gregory, who appeared to have been an Irishman, but had a Congress commission, laden with stores, provisions, &c. for the French King's use, at Port au Prince; next to her lay the Dauphin Royal, 28 guns, 120 men, bound to the East Indies, having a French pendant and ensign flying; and having determined, without losing a moment's time, to endeavour to throw their squadron into confusion, and, if possible, to take advantage of some of them; and relying on the good sailing of the Mediator to bring her off, if they could not see a probability of success after a few broadsides, they continued bearing down, with all sail set, on the enemy, except such sails as might be in the way of quick manoeuvres, at ten received a few shot from the Menagere's upper deck, which convinced them she had no lower deck guns, though she had all the ports complete to the eye; continued to approach the enemy, and receive fire from their line, and employed occasionally in attacking, wearing, bearing down, &c. At half past ten, having very much approached the rear of their line, it broke, the brig and Dauphin Royal crowding sail away from the rest; upon which the Menagere, Eugene, and Alexander, went under an easy sail. At eleven the Mediator bore down, and cut off the Alexander from her consorts, employed fighting on both sides occasionally; and the first broadside, when very close to the Alexander, made her strike her American colours, and let fly her sheets; the Menagere and Eugene, after firing at them for some time, crowded all sail, and went away before the wind, they boarded the prize, and laid her head towards the enemy, under an easy sail, to permit them to take out 100 prisoners, and meaning to chase the Menagere. At half past



twelve made all sail in chase, leaving the prize to follow or bear away for England, if they ran her hull-down. At three the *Eugene* hauled her wind away from the *Menagere*. At five began firing at the *Menagere*. To prevent our aiming at their masts they covered themselves with smoke. At half past five they had gained very considerably on the *Menagere*, and occasionally fired broadsides at each other; at six a sudden squall caught the *Mediator*, with three of her lower deck guns run out, and obliged them to haul the wind, the water rushing in till knee deep on the deck; but with the chain pumps they soon cleared out the ship, and as soon as she was safe, they hauled towards the enemy, crowding sail to regain her. At seven began again to fire at each other, and the *Mediator* had her main top-gallant-mast and fore top-gallant-yard shot away; continued constantly firing at each other till nine, when they had got within pistol shot of the *Menagere's* quarter, and put their helm a-weather to pour in a broadside of round and grape-shot from all their guns, which she being aware of, threw up in the wind, hauled down her colours, and hailed that she had struck. The *Mediator* instantly desisted firing, shortened their sails, and judging themselves to be within five miles of the entrance of Ferrol, they hastened to get both ships from off the land. At eleven P. M. the prize *Alexander* joined them. The fore-shrouds and a great deal of running rigging being shot away detained them, but in two hours they received 200 prisoners more, and were able to make a little sail together, to westward off the shore. At day break they saw the Island of Pisargo, distant about five or six leagues, and in the offing the *Dauphin Royal*, with her main top-mast gone, and otherwise disabled; and the brig with all her masts gone, except part of her lower mast: they thought it however, improper to risk the *Mediator* by leaving themselves with fewer men, for having sent fifty on board the large ship, and twenty on board the *Alexander*, besides manning the Spanish prize, they had only 190 remaining, half of whom slept at night, and the rest were too few to work the ship and guard 340 prisoners.

On the 14th December, at ten P. M. Captain Stephen Gregory of the *Alexander*, laid a plot to occasion the prisoners to rise, and hoped to have taken the *Mediator*, but through the proper precautions that were taken, and the good conduct of their officers, he was deprived of his success in the attempt. See BELLEISLE, CAPE FINISTERRE, AIX ISLE, QUIBERON, BAS ISLE, &c.

**BARD**, a fortress near Chatillon, on the borders of Italy, where the French on May 26, 1800, gained an advantage over the Austrians, who occupied the heights which commanded the village of Chatillon.

**BAY OF SHOALS**, at the Mouth of the Nile. See EGYPT.

**BEACHY-HEAD, ENGAGEMENT OFF.** A cape or promontory on the coast of Sussex, between Hastings and Shoreham. In 1699, the French put to sea with seventy-eight men of war, &c. and on the 20th June they arrived off the Lizard. The French Admiral the next day took some English fishing boats, and after

having paid the people who were on board for the fish, set them at liberty again; and these people (such was our neglect) brought the first account of the arrival of the French fleet upon our coast, while ours was lying idle, and scarce in a condition to put to sea.

The Earl of Torrington, who was with the fleet at St. Helen's, was not a little surprised when he received advice from Weymouth, that the French were in the Channel: for so far was he from believing them (according to his intelligence) in such forwardness, that there were not at that time any scouts westward, to observe and bring an account of their motions. This news being confirmed from many other places, it was therefore judged high time to get together all the ships that were within reach, both English and Dutch, and to put them into the best condition possible.

His Lordship sailed the 24th of June, early in the morning, with the wind at E. N. E. and stood to the S. E. towards the French fleet, which had been seen the day before by the scouts lately sent out, off the Isle of Wight; but the wind falling short, he came to an anchor off Dungeness, within five leagues of the enemy. The next day our fleet being reinforced by the *Lion*, a third rate, and several Dutch men of war, were with a N. E. wind, within sight of the enemy at Compton Bay. The next morning, about four o'clock, the Admiral advanced towards the French, who were about three leagues distant from him; and though, when the wind shifted to the S. E. and S. E. by S. he tacked and stood eastward, yet, at three in the afternoon, the whole fleet went about, and stood westward again. The French took several people from the shore, and when they had punished them for magnifying our strength, they were pleased to discharge them, with a letter to the Admiral (as it has been said) from Sir William Jennings (who commanded an English ship of war at the revolution, and now served in no better post than that of third captain to the French Admiral) by which he presumed to promise pardon to all captains who would adhere to the interest of King James.

About this time arrived another reinforcement of seven Dutch ships, under the command of Admiral Evertzen, and another flag officer. The two fleets, however, continued looking at each other, without entering upon action, till the 30th, for the Admiral was not willing to hazard an engagement, before the ships which he expected from the east had joined him. In the mean time, notwithstanding the enemy were so much superior to us in strength, and that their ships were in general larger, the Admiral received positive orders from court to give them battle. Upon receipt of these orders, the signal was displayed as soon as it was light for the ships to draw into a line; and this being done, the whole fleet bore down upon the enemy, while they were upon the wind, with heads northward off Beachy-Head.

About eight o'clock in the morning another signal was given, which was for battle, and then the French laying their head sails to the mast, lay by. About an hour after this, the Dutch squadron which led the van under Evertzen, began the engagement with part of the van of the French; and half an hour after, our blue squadron

squadron encountered their rear. The greatest part of our red squadron, which was in the centre, could not come to action till it was near ten; and as they were then at a considerable distance from the enemy, so was there a great opening between them and the Dutch.

Mr. Secretary Burchett seems here willing to excuse, or rather pass over in silence, the pretended misconduct of Earl Torrington. Kennet, who speaks plainer, says the Dutch began the fight, as did also some of the English, but not being seconded by the rest of the English fleet, which unexpectedly stood away, several of the Dutch ships, (after they had fought gallantly) were either burnt, sunk, or disabled; and the English that engaged were very much shattered.

It was remarkable, that as our ships bore down upon the French, they stretched away; but that, probably, might be only to close their line. After this, several of their ships towed round with boats, till they were out of gun-shot, which gave us reason to hope the advantage would have fallen on our side; but it was not long before we plainly perceived the Dutch had suffered very much in the battle. This happened chiefly by their being (for want of a necessary precaution) weathered and surrounded by those French ships, which they left a-head of them when they began to engage.

Our Admiral no sooner perceived their condition, than he sent them orders to come to an anchor where they lay, at some distance from the French, without any sail, and ranged in order of battle; the only expedient, says M. Fourbin, the French Admiral, which could have saved them. With his own ship, and several others, he drove between them and the enemy, and anchored about five in the afternoon, at which time it was calm, and the French fleet was driving away with the tide. However, judging it not safe to renew the fight at so great a disadvantage, he weighed at nine in the evening, and retreated to the eastward, taking advantage of the flood tide.

The Admiral thought it requisite to call a council of war the 1st of July, in the afternoon, and there it was resolved, to endeavour to preserve the fleet by retreating; and rather to destroy the disabled ships, should they be pressed by the enemy, than to hazard another engagement by protecting them. The French very indiscreetly neglected coming to an anchor when the English did, to prevent their driving at too great a distance, and thereby to improve the advantage they had obtained, and then with as little foresight, pursued in a formal line of battle. Whereas, had they come to an anchor, they would have continued near us; and had they made a general chase, they would undoubtedly have obtained a far greater advantage. On the contrary, each ship of ours shifting for herself, and taking advantage of the tides, got ground considerably of the French. This M. Fourbin, who knew the Channel, says he foresaw, and was anchoring when the English did, but was over-ruled by his officers. However, they pursued as far as Rye Bay, but with little success: and the Ann of seventy-four guns, running ashore near Winchelsea, having lost all her masts, two French ships attempted to burn her, but the Cap-

tain saved them that trouble. M. Fourbin says two of the English ships drove ashore, and burnt one another, and one that drove among the French fleet was taken.

Our loss in this action was not so great as might have been expected; not above two ships, two sea captains, two captains of marines, and 350 men. The Dutch were much more unfortunate; for besides three ships sunk in the engagement, they were obliged to fire three more, which were ashore on the coast of Sussex. They lost likewise abundance of gallant officers, among whom were their two Rear-Admirals, Dick and Brakel, and Captain Nordel, and also a great number of inferior officers and private men.

Torrington retreated without farther interruption, into the mouth of the Thames, and having taken proper precautions against any attempts of the enemy, returned to London, where the inhabitants were struck with consternation. The government was infected with the same panic. The ministry pretended to believe that the French acted in concert with the malcontents of the nation; that insurrections in different parts of the kingdom had been projected by the Jacobites, and that there would be a general revolt in Scotland. These insinuations were circulated by the court agents, in order to justify, in the opinion of the public, the measures that were deemed necessary at that juncture, and they produced the desired effect. The apprehensions of the people thus artfully raised, heightened their aversion to the nonjurors and Jacobites. Addresses were presented to the Queen by the Cornish tinnners, the lieutenancy of Middlesex, and by the Mayor, Aldermen, and lieutenancy of London, filled with professions of loyalty, and promises of supporting their Majesties, as their lawful sovereigns, against all opposition. The Queen, at this crisis, exhibited remarkable proofs of courage, activity, and discretion. She issued out proper orders and directions for putting the nation in a posture of defence, as well as for resisting and augmenting the fleet. She took measures for appeasing the resentment of the people, who exclaimed against the Earl of Torrington for his behaviour in the late action. He was deprived of his command, and sent prisoner to the Tower, and commissioners were appointed to examine the particular circumstances of his conduct. He continued prisoner till the next session of parliament, when he was brought to his trial, and permitted to make a speech in the House of Commons in defence of himself, in which he insisted on these three things, that the preparations for the fleet were very late; that the fleet itself was much inferior to the French, that it was ill manned, and that he laboured under great want of intelligence. He excused his fighting, by alledging the orders he had received; and said that it was against his judgment, and the judgment of the council of war. In order to explain and illustrate the arguments he used in justification of his conduct, he gave the House a draught of the line of battle, and desired leave to deliver what he had to say in writing; which was granted. He reflected upon the council; and hinted that the Earl of Nottingham had suppressed some intelligence, or had delayed sending it to him.



The Earl of Torrington's affair was long discussed in the House of Lords. The form of his commitment was judged to be illegal; and the martial law, to which, by statute, all who served in the fleet were obliged to submit, being lodged in the Lord High Admiral, it was doubted whether, on that high office being held by commission, so great a power was lodged with the commissioners. The judges were of opinion that it was: yet since the power of life and death was too sacred a thing to pass only by a construction of law, it was thought the safest course to pass an act, declaring that the power of the Lord High Admiral was vested in the commissioners. The secret enemies of the government, and who intended to embroil matters, moved that the Earl should be impeached in parliament; because proceedings in that way are always slow, and some incidents might create disputes between the two houses that might end in a rupture. This the King was apprehensive of, and though he was much incensed against the Earl, and had reason to believe that a council of war would treat him very favourably, yet he chose to have him take his trial. The commissioners of the admiralty named a court to try the Earl, in which Sir Ralph Delaval presided, who had acted as Vice-Admiral of the blue in the engagement. The Earl is said to have been tried with so gross a partiality, that it reflected much on the justice of the nation. So that if it had not been for the King's interest with the States General, it might have occasioned a breach of the alliance between them and England. The Earl escaped with his life and estate, but suffered much in his reputation; some charging him with want of courage; while others imputed his ill conduct to an haughty fullness of temper, which made him, since orders were sent him contrary to the advice he had given, to obey them, but in such a manner, as should cast the blame on those who sent him those orders, and give them cause to repent it.

**BEAULIEU, NEAR CONDE.** The French troops were defeated at this place, October 29, 1792, when they retreated to Conde.

**BEAUSEJOUR FORT, TAKEN IN 1755.** This place is situated in Nova-Scotia; and the following account of its being reduced, is from a letter in the Gazette, from Governor Lawrence, at the time. The Fort at Beausejour, notwithstanding it had twenty-six pieces of cannon mounted, surrendered after four days bombardment, even before we had mounted a single cannon on our batteries. Our loss upon this occasion is very inconsiderable; not above twenty killed, and as many wounded. Major Prebble, of the irregulars, is slightly wounded in the shoulder. Ensign Tonge, of Major General Warburton's regiment, acting as sub-engineer, received a shot in the thigh, as he was taking a survey of the ground for the trenches and batteries to be raised against the fort: and Ensign Hay, of Colonel Hopson's, who had been taken prisoner by the Indians, in going along from the fort to the camp, was killed by one of our shells in the French fort, which fell through a sort of casemate; and also killed three French officers, and wounded two more.

At Colonel Monckton's first arrival, the French had a large number of inhabitants and Indians, 450 of which were posted at a block-house, which they had on their side of the river Messaguash, to defend the pass of that river. Here they had thrown up a strong breast-work of timber for covering their men, and had cannon mounted in the block-house. At this place they made a stand for about an hour, but were forced by our troops with some loss, leaving the block-house, and the pass of the river, clear for our people, who marched without further interruption, to the ground intended for their encampment. As we had not men enough to invest the fort entirely, several got away: and when the fort surrendered, there remained 150 regulars, and about 300 inhabitants, several of whom, with their officers, were wounded. We do not know exactly, yet, the number that were killed in the fort, but we believe their loss has not been trifling, as several lay half buried upon the parade. Colonel Monckton has now named the fort, and called it Fort Cumberland. He gives the troops under his command great praise, for their good behaviour, and the spirit and resolution they acted with on this occasion.

Colonel Monckton is proceeding to the fort at St. John's River, which can give him but little trouble, the main strength of the enemy lying at Beausejour. A garrison is to be left in this fort, as it is a much better one than ours, both for situation and strength. The French inhabitants are giving up their arms, and must be drove out of the country at all events: though should he want any assistance in putting the troops under cover, (as the barracks in Beausejour were demolished) he may first make them do all the service in their power. Our possession of the isthmus, it is to be hoped, will bring over the Mickmack Indians to our interest.

I cannot close my letter to you, Sir, without taking notice how much I am obliged to Colonel Monckton's military skill and good conduct in reducing the fort of Beausejour; Capt. Rous, who commanded the naval part of the expedition, has been of the greatest service to it, and I have reason to believe our succeeding so soon, and with so little loss, is much owing to the good conduct of Mr. Brewse, who acted there as chief engineer.

#### Proposals for the Capitulation of Beausejour.

The commanding officers, and staff officers, employed for the King and garrison of Beausejour, shall march out with arms and baggage by beat of drum, and with lighted matches.

The commander shall have at the head of his garrison six pieces of the largest cannon, one mortar, and fifty charges of powder for every piece.

They shall be provided with necessary carriages to carry them to Bay Verte, from whence the garrison shall embark in their vessels to go where they think proper.

The garrison shall carry with them 200 quarters of flour, and one hundred quarters of bacon.

The

The garrison shall be allowed the necessary time to go from this port to Bay Verte, and from Bay Verte to the place of their destination.

The Arcadians shall not be molested on account of their having taken arms; shall be permitted to continue in their religion, and be allowed priests.

Such of the Arcadians as are so disposed, may withdraw to the territories of the French King with their moveable effects, and shall have that liberty during the space of one year, to commence from the day of the capitulation, and the French shall be allowed to furnish them with ships for that purpose during the course of the year.

With regard to such articles of this capitulation as may be expressed in an obscure manner, they shall be interpreted to the advantage of the French, and executed *bona fide*.

Terms of the Capitulation granted to the Commander and Garrison of Beaufejour.

The commanding officers, staff officers, and others employed for the King and the garrison of Beaufejour, shall march out with their arms and baggage, and drums beating.

The garrison shall be sent directly by sea to Louisbourg, at the expence of the King of Great Britain.

The garrison shall be provided with sufficient provisions for their passage to Louisbourg.

With regard to the Arcadians, as they have been forced to take up arms on the pain of death, they shall be pardoned for the part they have been taking.

Lastly, the garrison shall not bear arms in America for the space of six months.

The terms above mentioned are granted upon condition that the garrison shall be delivered up to the troops of the King of Great Britain, at seven o'clock this afternoon.

**BEBRACHENSKO, CASTLE OF,** ATTEMPTED in 1689. It is situated near Moscow, the capital of Russia, and while inhabited by Peter the Great, his sister-in-law Sophia, who was regent during his brother John's minority, formed a design to assassinate him and all his party, and with that view, this Princess and her favourite Prince Gallitzin, consulted Tekelavitaw, chief of the Strelitz, a man devoted to their interests, and who undertook to commit this horrible massacre. He assembled in the middle of the night 600 of the most resolute of his followers, and making them agree to transact this business by his bribes, and his wrong representations of the Czar, led them to the castle, but happily two of his men finding means to leave him in his march towards the castle, and reaching it before him, informed the Czar of his danger. The Czar and his whole court had but just time to leave the castle, and to retire into the Monastery of the Trinity, before Tekelavitaw arrived before it, under pretence of relieving the guard; but he was soon obliged to retire, and the whole plot being discovered, he was executed with many of his accomplices, and the Princess Sophia was shut up in the monastery of Dewitz,

which ended her regency. Gallitzin and his family were exiled to Karpagal, and their estates confiscated.

**BEDFORD, BATTLE AT.** A town of Bedfordshire, situated on the Ouse, forty-four miles north-west of London. The Britons, after their defeat at Banbury, were still unfortunate, the Saxon forces under the command of Cutha, or Cutholf, coming up with the Britons near Bedford, gave them a total defeat, in the year 571, which decided the fate of Mercia; for the Britons had no other alternative, but that of submitting quietly, or abandoning their country. Cutha soon after seized on Leighton Buzzard in Bedfordshire, Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire, and Bensington and Eynsham in Oxfordshire.

After the Norman conquest, Pagan de Beauchamp, the third Baron of Bedford, built a castle here so strong, that King John during his contest with the Empress Maud, was obliged to grant the garrison honourable terms to get possession. In the Barons wars it was again besieged, and no relief coming to its assistance, was taken by King John's forces commanded by Fulk de Brent, to whom the King gave it as a reward, but he took it away from him again and had it demolished.

**BEDFORD, TOWN OF, ATTACKED IN 1778.** It is situated in the Province of New England in North America. On April 5, Major General Grey, with a detachment from New York, landed here, and destroyed the vessels, to the amount of seventy, and all stores in the whole extent of Accushnet River, extending six miles; particularly at Bedford and Fair Haven, at which places most of the houses were burnt. The only fort the Americans had was on Fair Haven side of the river, which had eleven pieces of cannon mounted, but those were effectually demolished, and the magazine blown up by Capt. Scott, commanding officer of the artillery.

**BEDWIN, BATTLE AT,** in 682. This place is situated in Wilts, and was by the Saxons called Bedenheafde, where Eusewin, King of Wessex, was attacked by Wulpher, King of Mercia, who defeated him with considerable loss.

**BELGARD, CITY OF,** situated in Pomerania, was taken by Boleslaus VI. King of Poland, in 1106, on account of the Pomeranians siding with the Bohemians and Prussians, during a war he had with that people.

**BELGRADE, SIEGE OF.** Capital of Seria in Turkey, situated on the south side of the Danube, at its confluence with the Saave, 340 miles south-east of Vienna, and sixty south of Temeswaer. This city is large and has been very beautiful and well fortified, being defended by one of the strongest castles in Europe. In the year 1436, the Sultan Amurath, grandson to the famous Bajazet, took the opportunity of some civil dissensions in Hungary, to invade that kingdom, and with a numerous army laid siege to Belgrade; but the city was secured with a garrison of near 10,000 men, who made a vigorous defence, and though the Turks attacked it with great fury, both by land and water, the garrison made several well-concerted sallies, in all of which



which the besiegers had the worst, which determined them, at length, to raise the siege.

In the year 1521, the Sultan Solymán, surnamed the Magnificent, from the motive of extending his dominions, assembled a powerful army and laid siege to Belgrade, which made but weak resistance; the garrison surrendered prisoners of war on the 29th of August. Louis, King of Hungary, was at that time an infant, and his ministers being very negligent of his affairs, never attempted to relieve the garrison, who seeing themselves abandoned, thought it more prudent to capitulate for their lives, than to exasperate the enemy by a vigorous defence.

In the year 1688, the Imperial army, commanded by Maximilian Emanuel, Elector of Bavaria, laid siege to Belgrade on the 11th of August, in which was a Turkish garrison of 12,000 men, and a basha governor. The approaches were made with great alacrity, and in a few days the trenches were opened within musquet shot of the walls, notwithstanding many brave sallies of the garrison. The enemy fired at the castle very furiously; many breaches were made, and the fortification in many parts beat down. The besieged again made several sallies, in some of which they were repulsed by the Imperialists; but in others they had the advantage; particularly in one, when there was an obstinate engagement for near two hours, wherein the Imperialists were driven back twenty paces; but the Elector and Prince Eugene, now only a lieutenant-general, with a body of reserve, lying at a small distance, flew to their succour, and repulsed the Turks in turn, who were now obliged to re-enter the town. Prince Eugene's bravery was remarkable on this occasion; he was at the head of a body of volunteers and choice soldiers, with whom he followed them to the very gates of the city, and was the first who mounted the breach. He was wounded by a sabre, which cleft his head-piece; but he immediately ran his sword through the Janissary who gave the blow. The Elector was also wounded in the cheek by an arrow. The same day he sent a captain with an interpreter, who was a Greek, to summon the Governor to surrender, who was so enraged, that he imprisoned the former and hanged the latter. This exasperated the Elector; he renewed the attack with redoubled vigour, and having made several other breaches, was determined to storm the town; and with a resolution that seemed inspired more by frenzy than courage, his soldiers mounted the breaches, from whence they were twice beaten, but being timely supported, they made another vigorous effort, when an obstinate engagement ensued, which at length terminated in favour of the Imperialists, who entered the town pell-mell, and put all they met to the sword, without even sparing the women or little children. When the Bashá saw this, he had recourse to a stratagem in order to save the lives of the garrison. He caused 300 Christian slaves, who were confined in the castle, to be chained together, and brought through a back street to the scene of action, where they were placed so as to receive the shot of the Imperial troops while the Turks retired. The Elector now gave quarters, and the Bashá governor, and two other bashas, with about 500 Turks, being all that remained of the garrison,

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submitted and were made prisoners on the 6th of September. The Governor at first entreated that he might not be made a prisoner, but the Elector told him, "He should experience that the Christians used their prisoners better than the Turks did theirs; and that he should be sent to the Emperor," which dissipated his fears. The Imperialists lost in this siege and storm, at least 500 men, among whom was the brave General Scharffenberg, and had about 250 wounded. The consequence of this conquest was no more than a temporary possession; for Louis XV. making war against the Emperor, the Elector was recalled out of Hungary to command on the Rhine; therefore the fine inroad he had made into the Turkish dominions, which had cost so much blood and treasure, by a turn in politics effected by Louis, was rendered of no utility, since no advantages could be reaped from it.

Prince Louis of Baden commanded in Hungary, during the Elector's absence; but his army was too small to oppose the progress which the Ottoman troops were now every where making; on the 1st of October, 1690, they invested Belgrade with a determined resolution to retake it. The garrison consisted of 6000 German veterans, commanded by Count d'Aspremont, well provided with all sorts of ammunition and provisions. But the breaches which the Elector had made were not fully repaired, so that they were forced to defend them with a double rank of pallisades. On the other hand the Grand Vizier, after he had ordered the foremost regiments of his van to take their posts, began his approaches within musquet-shot, under the cover of the ruined houses, which the besieged had not taken care to level with the ground: but the Count made such a terrible fire, that they found it difficult to keep their post, and at night he made a furious sally, which obliged them to retire. But this did not damp the ardour of the Turks: the besiegers made other attacks, on the same side on which the Elector entered the town: they assaulted some of the redoubts, but were repulsed with loss, which so greatly mortified the Grand Vizier, that he returned with his whole force, and made another vigorous assault, and at length, with the loss of near 3000 men, carried his point, and advanced to the very pallisades: but the besieged loading their cannon with chain shot and cartouches, made a prodigious slaughter, so that he was again necessitated to retire, or stay and sacrifice his whole army. This elated the garrison with the hopes that they should tire the enemy, when an accident happened which blasted all their prospects: a bomb from the Turks, unhappily fell upon a great tower where the magazine of powder lay; the whole was blown up, and with it above 1200 of the brave garrison, and many of the rest were wounded. The explosion was felt like an earthquake; the walls of the city were thrown down; several hundreds of the houses were laid in ruins; the town was instantly in a blaze; and many of the other magazines shared the same fate as the former. The confusion and desolation among the inhabitants, may be better imagined than described, especially if we reflect on the sad spectacle which every street presented. The Turks perceiving the effects their bombs had produced, and encouraged by the accident, were so

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wife as not to let slip so favourable an opportunity for making a general assault; therefore, on the morning of the 8th of October, they advanced. The besieged had some notion of their intention, were prepared to receive them, and a sharp engagement began, in which the Turks were twice repulsed: but at length their numbers overpowered the besieged, and obliged them to retire. The Turks, as the Imperialists had done, then entered the town pell-mell, and put all to the sword without distinction. Six thousand brave men perished in two hours, nobly defending their governor, who, with the Duke of Croy, Count d'Archinto, and a few more officers, escaped through the Fisher's-gate, and got over the Danube in saicks; but unfortunately one of the saicks, which was overloaded, sunk, and all who were in it perished. The Turks are said to have lost in this siege near 15,000 men. The consequence was no more than possession; for though the western towns were alarmed, their fears abated, when it was found that the Turks did not make those approaches all Europe expected, nor pursue those advantages their conquests so fairly offered.

The House of Austria could not reflect on the taking of Belgrade with indifference: this acquisition was too important to neglect all attempts to regain it. The command of the army in Hungary was conferred on the Duke of Croy, who had orders to lay siege to Belgrade. He appeared before it on the 13th of August, 1693, and by the 17th, made several formidable attacks, when the garrison making a well concerted sally, did him considerable mischief, and obliged him to alter his dispositions; notwithstanding which, he carried on his operations with great alacrity, and seemed wholly bent on taking this town, or perishing in the attempt: but still he was repulsed in his attacks; and when he was on the point of making a general assault, he received intelligence that the Grand Vizier, at the head of 80,000 men, were on their march to relieve the city. Upon which, he thought proper to raise the siege, having lost near 1000 men. The garrison made a sally as soon as they knew it was done; and a detachment from the Grand Vizier's army, several times attempted to harass and attack him; but finding him always ready to receive them, they thought it more prudent to let it alone. By the treaty of Carlowitz, made in 1699, the Turks were left in possession of Belgrade. But in 1715, pretending that the Venetians had infringed the articles of peace, they declared war, which was followed by the Emperor's making a declaration of war against the Porte.

In May 1717, Prince Eugene marched at the head of a fine army, consisting of 100,000 men, to besiege Belgrade. The Turks foresaw his design, and therefore reinforced the garrison to 30,000 men, and in other respects made it, as they thought, impregnable. However, he did not recede from his resolution; but approached the town, and threw up his lines of circumvallation, notwithstanding a terrible fire made by the besieged. His lines occupied a vast tract of ground, and have left around those eminences sufficient evidence, what great designs his elevated genius was capable of forming, in order to accomplish his enterprizes. He

having by this means fixed a barrier to oppose that furious torrent, which otherwise might have overwhelmed his army, and occasioned irreparable desolations, Count Palfi was chosen to direct the siege, and his Highness undertook to cover it against any attempts of the Turkish army which lay in the neighbourhood, consisting of 150,000 men, commanded by the Grand Vizier. As Prince Eugene, accompanied by the Prince of Wirtemberg and some other officers, with a small party, were going to reconnoitre the enemy's camp, they were attacked by 1200 Turkish horse that lay in ambuscade, one of whose officers knowing Prince Eugene personally, fought his way to where he was, and was just going to end his life with a pistol, when he received several shots in his own body. Count Palfi pressed the town very hard; his batteries continued an unremitting fire night and day; and his bombs afterwards, set the city on fire in different places. Still the garrison maintained an obstinate defence, and made several sallies, but were always repulsed, and sometimes with considerable loss. At length the besiegers made a breach, on that side the town next the river, where sixty Hessians distinguished themselves in bravely defending a post against three vigorous attacks of 700 of the garrison, and obliged them to retire. But though this advantage was gained, an unfortunate circumstance happened, which more than counterbalanced it. The Marquis de Marette, with a body of troops, was sent on the other side of the Saave, to throw up intrenchments: but a party of the garrison sallying out, defeated the project, by attacking and killing the Marquis with most of his men. As Prince Eugene and Count Palfi were prosecuting this great and important undertaking, the Ottoman army began to feel compassion for the garrison of Belgrade; and the Grand Vizier, in order to shew he intended to relieve the place, approached the Prince's camp with his whole army, and surrounding all the eminences, inclosed the Imperial forces between himself and the town. The besiegers were now reduced to the hard condition of being besieged, and that between two fires. This critical situation seemed to portend inevitable destruction, threatening not only the loss of the army, but of Transilvania and Hungary. When the Imperial court received an account of this proceeding, it was seized with horror and confusion: Prince Eugene was censured by many, for suffering himself to be pent up, and rashly hazarding the putting chains on his sovereign, his country, their liberty and religion. The city of Vienna was as much alarmed, as if it had been actually besieged; and the inhabitants, by the command, and after the example of the Emperor, were constant in acts of devotion and humiliation, to implore the assistance of Heaven, for the preservation of Eugene and his army. The Turks, it was thought, would have no occasion to continue their fire, though it annoyed the Prince greatly, and even obliged him to change his quarters, because a contagious and mortal disease was fiercely fighting for them against the Imperialists. Prince Eugene, though he changed his quarters, kept upon the defensive, and let the enraged adversaries vent their fury, and entangle themselves, in attacking his lines. At length an opportunity offered to charge the Ottoman army. The Grand



Grand Vizier imagined that under favour of a thick mist, which at this time happened, he could, undiscernedly and unexpectedly, attack the Prince's camp; but Eugene had notice of his design; and he was coming down the eminences towards him, he advanced, and the Turks themselves were unexpectedly attacked. The Infidels were at first put into some disorder, but they rallied, and Eugene in his turn was obliged to give way, owing to an inconvenience he could not immediately remedy, which was the separation of his right wing from the centre: but he did not labour under it long; for seeing the Turks as fast as possible filling the space, he threw in his second line of infantry, on which the enemy made several vigorous attacks, but with no success; the line was impenetrable, and at length obliged the Turks to retreat. Victory now began to declare in his favour, which had been doubtful near four hours. At this juncture the right wing joined the army, and Eugene, with his whole front, resolved to make an effort that should decide the action. The whole army advanced, and with great fury charged the retreating enemy, who, unable to stand the shock, fell into confusion, and began to fly with precipitation; and each soldier thought only of saving his life. The Bavarian infantry fought with irresistible fury; having spent their ammunition, they made a terrible carnage with their bayonets, which they pushed with surprising ardour. His Highness only pursued them a few miles beyond the eminence. Three thousand were slain in the pursuit, and upwards of 10,000 on the field of battle; about 5000 were wounded, and near the same number made prisoners. The Turks left behind them 131 brass cannon, thirty mortars, fifty-two colours, nine horse-tails; with balls, bombs, powder, and bullets, in proportion; also great numbers of camels, and an incredible quantity of riches. The Imperialists had near 3000 killed, and about 4500 wounded, many of whom died after the battle. The next day Prince Eugene summoned the Bashaw governor of Belgrade to surrender, threatening him with no quarter in case of his refusal: on which the garrison mutinied, and obliged him to submit; but much against his inclination, as the place was still in a tolerable state of defence, and, as he thought, tenable against all the efforts of the enemy. He obtained honourable conditions; the garrison were conducted to Nizza, and the Prince entered the town, after having besieged it two months. The consequence of this important conquest was the evacuation of Ram, Semendria, Meadia, Sabatz, and Orsova, by the enemy: nor did it end here; for the check the Ottoman forces received, obliged them only to act on the defensive till the treaty of Passowitz, concluded the year following, at the request of the Sultan. Therefore this action may with propriety be said to have purchased the peace. But in 1738, the war broke out again, which has been by some attributed to the intrigues of France.

In August 1739, the Ottoman army laid siege to Belgrade; upon which Count de Wallis, commander of the Imperial army, detached the Prince of Saxe Hildburghausen, with seven regiments of cavalry, and nine of infantry to its relief, who made such excellent dispo-

sitions on his arrival, that the Turks began to despair of being able to accomplish their design, and therefore raised the siege with great precipitation, leaving all their works and batteries undemolished, and immediately crossed the river, dreading a total defeat. The Prince was not less surprised to find his presence have such an effect, than the Turks were to hear of his approach: they had besieged the town some days, but with very little success.

A peace was concluded the same year between the Austrians and Turks, by the mediation of the French: at whose request, or rather direction, Belgrade was yielded to the Turks; but its fine fortifications were entirely demolished, in pursuance of that treaty.

**BELGRADE, IN HUNGARY.** In 1788 there was an engagement near it by water; the Turks approached our shore with ten large boats and some small ones. General Magdebourg had stationed five of our boats on the left shore of the Danube to watch for them. These let the Turks approach without returning their fire till they were near enough, when our boats played thirty cannon at once upon them, which disconcerted the enemy so much that they fired no more but in retiring and advancing alternately. Three saicks and as many barks which came to our succour, obliged the Turks at length to retire quickly to Belgrade.

**BELLEGARDE IN FRANCE,** on the borders of Spain. It had a bombardment that commenced June 1, 1793. Fort Tain, which forms part of it, was damaged very much. The Spaniards threw above 200 bombs into the place daily, and their heavy artillery played against the ramparts. The Spanish army commanded by General Ventura Caro, consisted of 20,000 men, and was distributed in the adjacent district of Ceret, 9000 before Bellegarde, as many at the camp of Ergoli, and 2000 cantoned between Ceret, Arles, St. Lament, Salles and Prats de Mold. On the 25th of July, it surrendered, when the fortress, which consisted of 1000 men, were made prisoners. It was soon after taken by the French. There was a defeat of the French before Bellegarde, August 26. General La Union writes from his camp near that city, that on the 13th, he divided his army into seven parts, six of which, composed of 6000 men each, had orders to make feigned attacks upon the French on all sides, while himself, with a choice body of 11,000 men, made a grand movement, when he completely routed them, driving them from all their redoubts, thirty-seven in number, and killed their General. He also possessed himself of all their camp equipage, twenty pieces of the heaviest artillery, six howitzers, and a great number of small artillery. The number killed on the part of the enemy was not known, but considered, from appearances, not less than 4000. The French had retreated ten leagues beyond Bellegarde. The Spanish loss, including the Portuguese auxiliaries, is put down at 515 killed. Such is briefly the Madrid account: that laid before the Convention by Barrere, must be grossly erroneous.

**BELLEISLE, ENGAGEMENT OFF.** Anciently Colonus; an island on the coast of Brittany in France, and in the diocese of Vannes, and Bay of Biscay. It lies

about six leagues from the main land, and is also six leagues in length, two in breadth, and is almost entirely surrounded with steep rocks.

It was necessary, after the ill success of the French during the year 1758, to make a vigorous effort in 1759, that they might be on a footing to dictate the conditions of peace. This vigorous effort was evidently calculated to make us feel in the most sensible manner, and could be aimed at no other place than these kingdoms. They adopted our system, and determined in 1759 to return on our coast the depredations we had made on theirs in 1758. Had their design, which was that of landing 20,000 men on this island, been effected, the consequences would have been the most favourable to them: for it is easy to see that the landing of such an armed force, would have thrown the kingdom into confusion. Which part of our coast was destined to receive the first insult is not known; but from probability, it may be conjectured it was that of Sussex or Kent. The project had this peculiar circumstance in its favour; while they were equipping their fleet at Brest, a considerable detachment of the Allies was defeated at Bergen; and the allied army being thus weakened, Contades was able to act on the offensive, without the reinforcement from France that was designed for him. With these men, or at least part of them, it was thought proper to make a diversion that should favour the operations of the grand armament. For this purpose, M. Thurot, a Frenchman, who has rendered himself famous by his uncommon vigilance in taking the English merchantmen, was sent to Dunkirk to equip three frigates and two cutters in a manner fit to take on board 2000 land forces, and a small train of artillery. But to divert the attention of the English, and to divide their arms, it was necessary to equip another fleet that might act as exigencies should require, which was done at Toulon, and the command given to M. de la Clue, who soon after his first order, received a second, in positive terms, bidding him to proceed to North America with the utmost dispatch. However, before he was ready to sail, the French court received advice of the surrender of Guadaloupe; and that the English Admirals, Saunders and Holmes, had entered the river St. Lawrence; therefore they countermanded his former order by another, directing him into the Channel. This service could not be performed without the greatest difficulty and risk, because Admiral Boscawen blocked up the harbour of Toulon, and even ventured to insult the forts at its mouth. When de la Clue came out, his fleet was in part taken, sunk, and burnt, and the rest dispersed. (See the particulars under the article LAGOS.) But Thurot had better fortune: he escaped the English Squadron, commanded by Commodore Boys, appointed to block him up in Dunkirk, and got safe into Gottenburgh in Sweden. Whether he was sent to make a descent in Scotland or Ireland, is not certainly known; yet by his having two Capuchin friars with him, we are led to suppose the latter; as the Capuchins, no doubt, would be favourably received by the Irish catholics, and that might be the means of introducing the rest.

The equipping of the grand fleet at Brest was at length accomplished, after redoubled vigilance; but its putting

to sea was altogether impracticable; for Admiral Hawke had stationed his ships in such a position round the mouth of the harbour, that not a boat could escape his notice. Four Swedish vessels loaded with iron, timber, &c. for the use of the French fleet, and that had got into the harbour, were afterwards cut out by the English Admiral, though they were moored under the cannon of four forts and a battery in sight of the grand fleet. The flat-bottomed boats that were destined to take on board the troops were built at Havre de Grace. As soon as it was thought they were ready, the British ministry sent Admiral Rodney, with a fleet of ships and bombs, to destroy them. The account of his operations will be best seen by his own letter.

*Extract of a letter from Rear-admiral Rodney to Mr. Cleveland, dated on board his Majesty's ship the Achilles, off Havre de Grace, the 6th of July, 1759.*

His Majesty's ships and bombs under my command, sailed from St. Helen's in the morning of the 2d inst. and with a favourable wind and moderate weather, anchored the following day in the great road of Havre, where having made a disposition to put their Lordship's orders in execution, the bombs proceeded to place themselves in the narrow channel of the river leading to Harfleur, it being the most proper and only place to do execution from. About seven in the evening two of the bombs were stationed, as were all the rest early the next morning, and continued to bombard for fifty-two hours without intermission, with such success that the town was several times in flames, and their magazines of stores for the flat-bottom boats burnt with great fury for upwards of six hours, notwithstanding the continual efforts of several hundred men to extinguish it. Many of the boats were overturned and damaged by the explosion of the shells.

During the attack, the enemy's troops appeared very numerous, were continually erecting new batteries, and throwing up intrenchments: their consternation was so great, that all the inhabitants forsook the town.

Notwithstanding this smart bombardment, I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that the damage done us by the enemy has been very inconsiderable, though great numbers of their shot and shells fell and burst among the bombs and boats.

The number said to be destroyed amounted to 6 finished, 42 half-planked, and 83 ribbed; in all 131: but the French deny this, and say there were only 2 damaged. The bomb vessels threw 19,000 shells and 1150 carcasses, from mortars of 12 inches bore.

Captain Hervey, with some frigates under his command, often came to an anchor in Brest water; and on the 2d of July had nearly brought on a general action; for having the day before attacked some ships under Fort Conquet, four men of war of seventy-four guns each came out of the harbour to drive him off that station, and all the French fleet seemed in motion. Hervey, with only two ships, the Monmouth and Montague, attacked the four French men of war, and drove them back again; when the French Admiral thought it bet-



ter to defer a general engagement, and submit to the indignity of seeing four of his large ships retire before two of lesser force. Hervey kept his station, and often insulted them, and even cut out of the harbour several vessels and barks. On the 15th of September, at daylight, he landed with some of his sailors on the island of Molines, carried off some live cattle and other fresh provisions, and laid the island under contribution. When the Governor begged him to desist, in charity to the poor inhabitants, Hervey replied, "That he was sorry if what he had done had distressed the inhabitants, but he meant it only as an insult to the French fleet, and to shew them they could not protect their own people in their fight, much less dare to attempt the invasion of England."

At length the important moment arrived: a strong westerly wind drove Sir Edward Hawke from his station into Torbay. Marechal Conflans seized the favourable opportunity, left his fortified asylum, and steered for the bay of Quiberon, hoping to demolish the small squadron of Commodore Duff, at anchor in that bay, watching their transports assembled there to take on board the troops encamped in that neighbourhood. The Venus frigate, Captain Harrison, brought the Admiral advice, that the Brest fleet had failed; upon which he that evening, the 14th of September, put out to sea. Two days after he was informed that the French fleet had been discovered the day before twenty-four leagues to the north-west of Belleisle; this revived the spirits of the British sailors. At first the wind was favourable, and the fleet went under all the sail they could carry; but this advantage was but of short continuance, for the wind turning about, they were driven considerably to the westward. Under this anxiety they continued three days, struggling against the gale; at length the wind proved again favourable, and at sun-rising on the 20th of November, 1759, the Admiral made a signal for a line a-head, and the Mag-nanime to lead towards the land. She had not got above two miles before the fleet, when she made a signal that she had discovered the enemy, and soon after the headmost ships of the squadron were in sight of them.

The Admiral observing their ships to go faster than his, thought the best way would be to retard their speed with a small force, till the whole squadron could come up; for this purpose the six ships which lay nearest to them, viz. the Namur, Warspite, Resolution, Revenge, Essex, and Montague, had the signal to chase, and form a line of battle at two o'clock in the afternoon.

The French Admirals, M. Conflans, M. Beaurmont, and M. St. André du Verger, still kept aloof; and went at a prodigious rate: there was not a sail their ships would bear which was not spread. The English ships followed their example, and such was the eagerness of some of them a-head, that they began to fire before their shot could do execution. It was near an hour after the first firing, that Admiral Hawke made the signal for a general engagement. In the mean time the French Admiral's ship got about half a-head of his fleet, and having the rear, which was now

forced to defend itself, led round these rocks, called the Cardinals, lying to the southward of Belleisle.

The engagement now grew extremely warm; the Formidable, a French ship of 80 guns, and 1000 men, on board of which was one of the French Admirals, M. de St. André du Verger, was engaged near two hours by the Resolution, only 74 guns and 600 men, Captain Speke; by all accounts both ships behaved very gallantly; but about four o'clock, the Chichester, Capt. Willet, coming up to the assistance of the Resolution, the Formidable struck to the Royal George as she passed, going down to the French Admiral, for it was Sir Edward Hawke's particular direction to his Captain to bring her along side the Soleil Royal. The Resolution however, very justly had the honour of taking her.

But the fate of the Thesee and Superbe was much more shocking. About half an hour after four o'clock, the Royal George engaged both. The Superbe gave the first broad-side, but while she was preparing for another, the Royal George pouring one into the Thesee, her lee ports filling she went down immediately, without firing a gun: a more horrid spectacle perhaps was never seen. She had 815 souls on board, every one of whom perished. When she went down the decks were crowded, but the poor creatures had only just time enough to give one scream as they found themselves sinking, and were never heard more. The Admiral expressed great concern at this; and had it not been in the heat of action, the boats would have been sent to their relief. The Thesee was a beautiful ship and quite new.

This terrible accident, which happened in sight of their whole fleet, and almost by the side of the Superbe, threw them into great confusion, yet the last-mentioned ship received in her turn several broadsides; but did not do the English Admiral at whom she fired, the least damage. At length finding herself nearly surrounded, she endeavoured to get off; but not being more than 100 hundred yards distant from the Royal George, she gave her another broadside, the smoke of which being dissipated, the ship was gone; and had not the turbulency of the water shown where she went down, for it boiled up in a foaming eddy, it would have been impossible to conjecture what was become of her: thus perished two fine ships and 1615 men in a moment.

The commanders in chief at length came within reach of their guns, and after exchanging a few shot, the French Marechal thought proper to sheer off, as did his Vice-admiral, and several of his ships, having all received the same compliments. The situation of the Royal George might have been lamentable, had the enemy preserved any degree of composure, or fired with any sort of direction; for she was as it were wrapped in the French fleet; but so great was their confusion, that of a thousand bullets, perhaps not twenty struck the ship.

Captain Keppel, in the Torbay, did great execution amongst the enemy. He was twice engaged with three ships at once, two of which he obliged to sheer off, and the other struck to him: but under favour of the night,  
and

and a high sea, which rendered it impossible for any of the boats to be sent on board her, she did not at last fall into his hands. Lord Howe, in the *Magnanime*, kept an incessant fire, as did Captain Dennis in the *Dorsetshire*. And the Admiral told them afterwards, in the warmth of his gratitude, that they had behaved like angels.

The English Vice-Admiral, with the *Mars*, *Hero*, and several other ships, were crowding to the assistance of the *Royal George*, as she appeared to be in danger, when the obscurity of the evening put an end to the fight: a happy circumstance for the enemy, as one hour's day-light more would have brought on their total ruin.

This was near six o'clock, when the squadron being on a part of the coast, among islands and shoals, of which they were totally ignorant, the greater part of the ships too being without a pilot; at the same time blowing hard on the lee-shore, the Admiral made a signal to come to anchor, the island of Dumet bearing east by north, between two and three miles, the Cardinals west half south, and the steeples of Crozie south-east, as they found next morning.

During the night-time, several guns of distress were fired, but as the wind blew so hard it was impossible to send any relief. The next morning an horrid spectacle presented itself: the sea seemed covered with the unfortunate crews of the *Thesee* and *Superbe*, and some of the bodies had been miserably mangled by the fish. No sooner had the victors turned their eyes from this shocking scene, than they saw the gallant *Resolution*, whose signals of distress they had heard in the night, in a most shattered condition, her masts and rigging entirely cut away, her upper deck beat in, and her guns thrown over board, and the wreck ashore on a sand bank; part of the wretched crew stood on the sides, crying for assistance, and 110 men had before day-light got upon a raft, contrary to the advice of the Captain, and arrived safe on the French coast. At this time too the *Soleil Royal* was observed to have cast anchor in the middle of the British squadron, which was supposed to have been done during the dreadful hurricane, and another French ship, called the *Heros*, had done the same; but as soon as they perceived their mistake, they cut their cables, and hurried with all speed to the shore. The *Essex* being the nearest ship, was ordered to pursue, which she did, but unhappily struck on the same bank with the *Resolution*. This gave the French crews time to escape, and that of the *Heros* to burn their own ship; but Sir Edward Hawke saved the *Soleil Royal* that trouble, by ordering the *Chatham*, *Portland*, and *Vengeance* to do it. Mean while the *Essex* received all possible assistance, and every thing was got out of her that was valuable; afterwards she was burned, as well as the remains of the *Resolution*. Eight French men of war got into Villaine river, by throwing their guns overboard; and the rest, except what were sunk, burnt, or taken, put to sea, and got up the river Charente, near Rochfort.

Their squadron consisted, according to the accompanying list, of four ships of eighty, six of seventy-four,

three of seventy, eight of sixty-four, one frigate of thirty-six, one of thirty-four, and one of sixteen guns, with a small vessel to look out.

List of ships with Sir Edward Hawke, November 20, 1759.

Ships	Guns	Men	Commanders
<i>Royal George</i>	100	880	Sir Edw. Hawke Capt. Campbell
<i>Union</i>	90	770	Sir C. Hardy Capt. Evans
<i>Duke</i>	90	750	Capt. Graves
<i>Namur</i>	90	780	Capt. Buckle
<i>Mars</i>	74	600	J. Young, Esq. Commodore
<i>Warspite</i>	74	600	Sir J. Bentley
<i>Hercules</i>	74	600	Capt. Fortescue
<i>Torbay</i>	74	700	H. Capt. Keppel
<i>Magnanime</i>	74	700	R. H. Lord Howe
<i>Resolution</i>	74	600	Capt. Speke
<i>Hero</i>	74	600	Hon. Capt. Edg- cumbe
<i>Swiftsure</i>	70	520	Sir T. Stanhope
<i>Dorsetshire</i>	70	520	Capt. Dennis
<i>Burford</i>	70	520	Capt. Gambier
<i>Chichester</i>	70	520	Capt. Winett
<i>Temple</i>	70	520	Capt. W. Shirley
<i>Revenge</i>	64	480	Capt. Storr
<i>Essex</i>	64	480	Capt. O'Bryen
<i>Kingston</i>	60	400	Capt. Shirley
<i>Intrepid</i>	60	420	Capt. Mapleiden
<i>Montague</i>	60	420	Capt. Rowley
<i>Dunkirk</i>	60	420	Capt. Digby
<i>Defiance</i>	60	420	Capt. Baird

The following frigates joined Sir Edward between Ushant and Belleisle.

<i>Rocheſter</i>	50	350	Capt. Duff
<i>Portland</i>	50	350	Capt. Arbuthnot
<i>Faulkland</i>	50	350	Sir F. S. Drake
<i>Chatham</i>	50	350	Capt. J. Lockart
<i>Minerva</i>	32	220	Capt. Hood
<i>Venus</i>	36	240	Capt. Harrison
<i>Vengeance</i>	28	200	Capt. Nightingale
<i>Coventry</i>	28	200	Capt. Burslem
<i>Maidstone</i>	28	200	Capt. Digges
<i>Saphire</i>	32	200	Capt. Strachan

List of the French squadron which came out of Brest, November 14, 1759.

Ships	Guns	Men	Commanders
<i>Le Soleil Royal</i>	80	1200	M. Conflans Adm.
<i>Le Tonnant</i>	80	1000	M. Beaufremant, Vice Adm.
<i>Le Formidable</i>	80	1000	M. de St. Andre du Verger, Rear Adm.
<i>L'Orient</i>	80	1000	M. Guebriant, Chef d'Escadre
<i>L'Intrepide</i>	74	815	



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Ships	Guns	Men	Commanders
La Glorieux	74	815	
La Thesee	74	815	
L'Heros	74	815	
Le Robuste	74	815	
Le Magnifique	74	815	
La Juste	70	800	
La Superbe	70	800	
Le Dauphin	70	800	
Le Dragon	64	750	
Le Northumberland	64	750	
Le Sphinx	64	750	
La Solitaire	64	750	
La Brillante	64	750	
L'Eveille	64	750	
Le Bizarre	64	750	
L'Inflexible	64	700	
L'Hebe	40	612	
La Vestale	34	500	
L'Aigrette	30	500	
La Calypso	16	80	
Le Prince Noir	—	a small vessel to look out.	

The above ships were all in company when the action began, except the Hebe frigate.

BELLEISLE, EXPEDITION AGAINST, IN 1761. On Sunday the 29th of March, a fleet sailed from Spithead, and next day from St. Helen's. On Tuesday in the afternoon, it was known to be destined for Belleisle. Monday following, about twelve o'clock, the whole fleet came to an anchor, and the afternoon was spent in making dispositions for landing. By four o'clock on Tuesday morning, the troops were ordered to be in the flat-bottomed boats. The wind blew fresh, and the troops continued in the boats, without the ships or boats moving, till twelve o'clock. At that time the Sandwich and another ship made a feint as if going to the citadel; while the Dragon and Achilles fell down to the southernmost part of the island, and were followed by the boats. The Achilles anchored with her broadside within musquet-shot of the place intended to land at. A bomb-vessel immediately began to fire, which the French only returned with one single cannon which was fired but seldom. This gave them courage, and the boats pushed for shore; but much too soon, as some of them were above a mile behind. No sooner were the men got out of the three boats which first came to land, than the French shewed their heads above the intrenchments, and gave them three fires, which did great execution, and threw them into confusion. About 200 of the Scots fusiliers were ashore with Major Purcell, when one boat of Erskine's grenadiers, commanded by Captain Osborne, landed at a point, and drew up undiscovered. His situation was such, that he flanked the enemy; but no other boat followed him. A few paces brought him on the high ground. The French immediately came out, and the captain advanced with intrepidity to meet them. In landing he lost his fusce, therefore he drew his sword, when a shot brought him down: he immediately got up and advanced, when a second made him fall again; this he recovered and still advanced. He was now so close to the enemy, that he exchanged several

thrusts with their officer: the men fired, and then pushed their bayonets. The commanders on both sides were killed; when the English, (about sixty, landed at this place) having nobody to head them, and seeing no succours, threw down their arms: a few of them took to their heels, and not being perceived, they were taken into a boat, and carried to the ships. The boats were now retreating as fast as possible. A number of men were killed and wounded in the boats: among the latter was Brigadier Carlton, but not dangerously. The English lost, in killed and prisoners, about 400. In the night and next day, the wind blew very hard, which damaged the boats, and drove some of the transports to sea.

Since the time of the unfortunate attack, the English were employed in throwing a bomb or two daily into the citadel, in mending boats, and preparing to make a second attack. The general officers, engineers, &c. failed in the Prince of Orange round the island, to discover a good place to land at. They reported it was very impracticable to make any attempt on the other side of the island. There was no place from the citadel to Point de la Pierre, that above four or five boats could land a-breast, and those were all well defended, except the Bay of Sauzon, which is very fine and sandy, and where 2 or 3000 men may land at once: but there is a wall that runs from one end to the other, at about thirty yards distance from the shore, defended at the north end by a small battery of six guns adjoining the rock, three in front, and three which flank the outside of the wall; near the middle of which is a square battery, mounting in front nine guns, and three on each side.

The wind not proving favourable the 19th, nothing was done save calling a council of war; where it was determined to make the attack on either the south end of the island, at Port Locmaria, or else at the north end, as the wind should best suit. And, in order the better to favour our landing, or retreat, they cut down two transports, and mounted them with eighteen guns each, which, if occasion should require, were to be run a-ground. The attack was made the 21st. At day-break, the Commodore made the signal for the Achilles, Dragon, and Sandwich, to weigh anchor; and the former, about eight o'clock, made Point de la Pierre, and immediately came to an anchor in the Bay of Port Locmaria; the Dragon and Sandwich followed, when they began a brisk fire, which the French returned, but were soon silenced, and their guns dismounted. The intrenchments here were three deep, the outward breast-work eighteen feet thick; and, to prevent our men getting over it, as well as to defend their heads, they fixed palisades on the top of it, drove full of iron spikes, and placed at such a distance, as just to admit the mouth of their musquets to go between them. But here they were much galled by the Sandwich's lower deckers. By this time the whole fleet was in motion. The Swiftsure, Torbay, Essex, and Lynn, followed by a bomb-ketch and a few transports, went close in shore, as if going to attack the Bay of Sauzon. The enemy began to fire on them from a battery a little above the north end of the Bay, as also from a bomb battery, which, till then,

then, was not discovered by the English. None of these, however, touched the ships: one of the shells came between the Essex's masts. They continued their course close in along shore without firing a gun. The English discovered twenty-four strange ships coming round the north end of the island: they proved to be the Buckingham and Nassau, convoying twenty-two sail of transports with a regiment of light horse, about 300 troops that were left behind, and the artillery stores. They came to an anchor a little above the citadel. It was now about ten o'clock, when all the men of war and transports had brought to, forming a semi-circle round the point: the Swiftsure, Hampton-Court, Essex, and Lynn, were employed in clearing this side of the point (the north). The whole fleet now began and kept up a continual fire till the troops were landed. About two o'clock, Sir Thomas Stanhope, in the Swiftsure, made the signal for all the men of war's long-boats, pinnaces, cutters, transports, boats, &c. to attend him. They took on board some marines, part of Stewart's and Crauford's regiments, Loudon's grenadiers, &c. and rendezvoused at Sir Thomas Stanhope's stern. At three, the signal was made for the boats to push on shore. Those in Sir Thomas's division, pushed forward towards the Bay, till, coming to the extremity of the point, instead of joining Commodore Barton, they turned and rowed close under the rocks, till they came to a small bay, over which the rocks were almost perpendicular (in the mean time, Mr. Barton was making a feint with his squadron). Here the three headmost boats lay on their oars, waiting for the others, who were at some distance a-stern. At length one boat's crew landed in the Bay, the Lynn and Hampton-Court keeping a smart fire on this part, and began to ascend the rock. Another party landed to the left, the commander of whom ordered that no man should stir, himself climbing the rock. When he got to the top, he continued there some minutes on his hands and knees, to discover the position of the enemy: he then made the signal for his men to advance upon the rocks, and had just time to draw them up, when the French began to fire from behind a breast-work; the English returned it every time, squatting themselves on their backsides to reload, which saved them from the enemy's shot. The fire was now pretty brisk on both sides, when the French came over their breast-work, advanced, and the English made a sort of retreat, by firing in platoons, and filing off to the left; that is, towards the high ground that commands the Bay of Port Loemaria. In the mean time, Commodore Keppel in his barge, accompanied by the General, was putting the English troops on shore on the rocks, from the little bay where the men began to land, quite southward to the point; so that the first body that landed, retreating towards the left, not only covered the others that were landing, but were themselves continually reinforced and supported. The French in their turn now gave way, recrossed their breast-work, and retired to the main body that defended the Bay of Port Loemaria, who now appeared on the heights that defended the bay, and the two bodies joining, they advanced on the English. The breast-

work, or rather wall, they had drove the French from, was now used by them; and, as the men were now pouring on shore from all sides, the French began to retire very precipitately, after a smart fire on both sides, which lasted but a few minutes. Their rear-guard fired five field-pieces, which they spiked up and abandoned, as also all their forts and batteries along the shore, after destroying the powder, nailing up the cannon, breaking the carriages, &c. and blowing up two magazines, when they made a signal, by a large fire on the top of a hill in the middle of the island, which our prisoners informed us, was for all the inhabitants to repair to the citadel. The troops marched forward to a small village, where they remained under arms all night. The 23d in the morning, they marched very briskly towards the citadel, which surrendered to the British troops on June the 8th following.

#### BELLEISLE, ENGAGEMENT NEAR.

*Copy of a letter from the Hon. Vice-Admiral Cornwallis, dated on board his Majesty's ship, Royal Sovereign, June 11, 1795.*

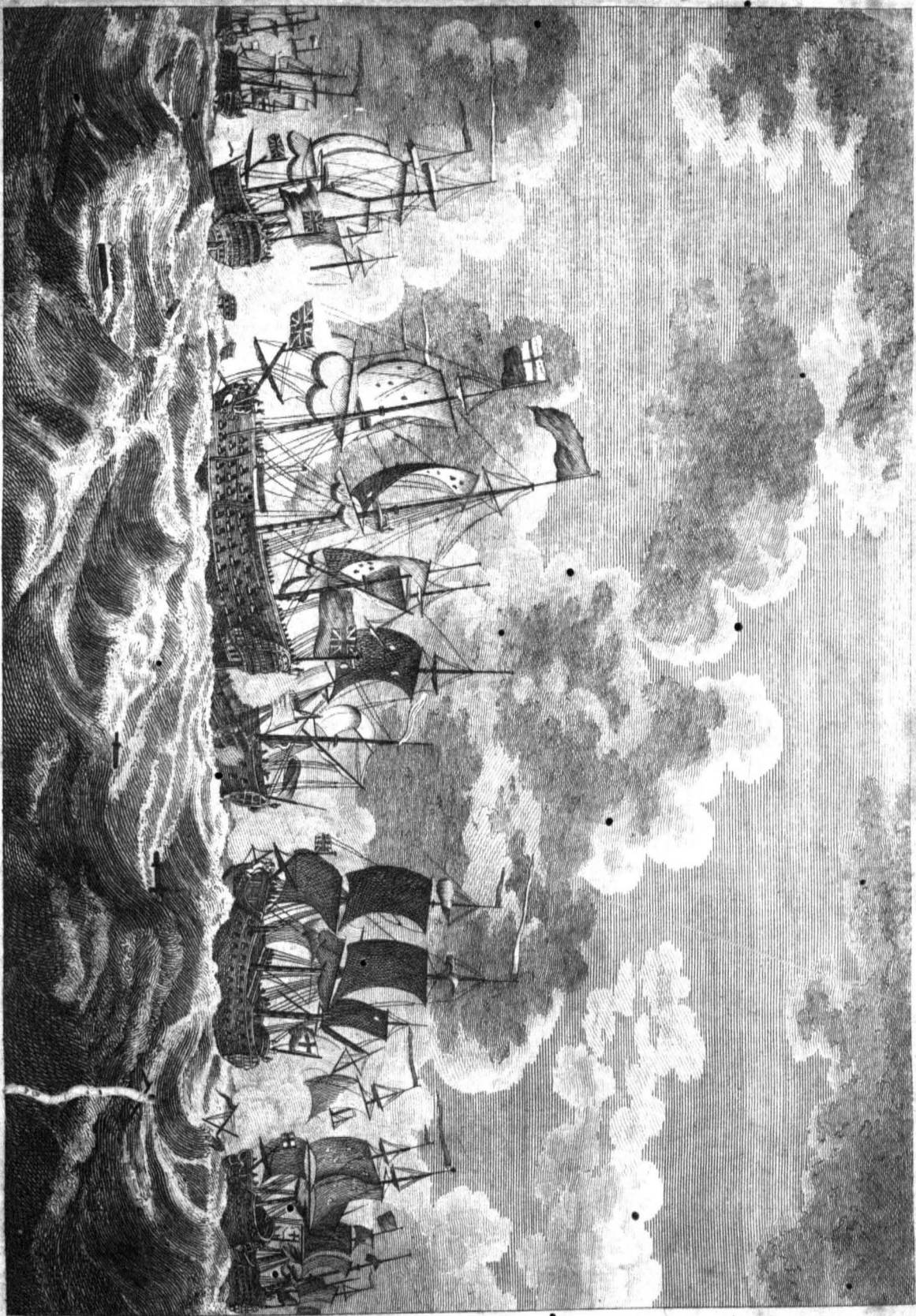
SIR,

I request that you will be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that on the 5th inst. a ship having been chased by the squadron, a signal was made to me from the Phaeton, that it was an enemy's frigate; but in the evening Captain Stopford made me a signal that he could not come up with the chase, upon which I called him in, and brought to for the night, being then in lat. 47. 28. long. 5. 57. In the morning of the 7th a sail was seen again to the eastward. I made the signal for the Phaeton, Pallas, and Kingfisher to chase, and follow them with the line of battle ships: It was blowing fresh from the north. As we came in with the land several large ships were under sail, which proved to be a French squadron, consisting of three line of battle ships, six frigates, a brig, a sloop, and cutter. Some of them were at first standing off shore, but unfortunately the wind was fair for them to get in to Belleisle-road, where I saw several large ships at anchor. We had got very near the enemy's ships, and I had hopes at first we should have got up with them before they would have reached their port; and I made the signal for the ships to form for their mutual support, and engage the enemy as they came up. The Phaeton fired several shot, which the line of battle ships returned from their sterns. I followed as far as I thought it prudent, and then hauled the wind. Soon after I saw three sail standing in, I made the signal to chase. They were two French frigates, and a large Dutch-built ship in tow of one of them. They stood round the south end of Belleisle. The headmost ship got within gun-shot, and several were exchanged. The Kingfisher fired several broadsides at the frigates. They were obliged to cast off the ship in tow; and rounding the point of the island we came upon a convoy, chiefly brigs. Eight of them were taken; but the frigates running in shore among shoals, the Triumph and Phaeton having made signals to me of danger, were obliged to give over the pursuit.

By what I can learn the convoy came from Bourdeaux, laden with wine, and under the charge of the three line of battle



*Defeat of the French Fleet Commanded by Marshal Combaux the 26<sup>th</sup> November 1759 by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir Edward Hawke, Admiral of the Blue.*

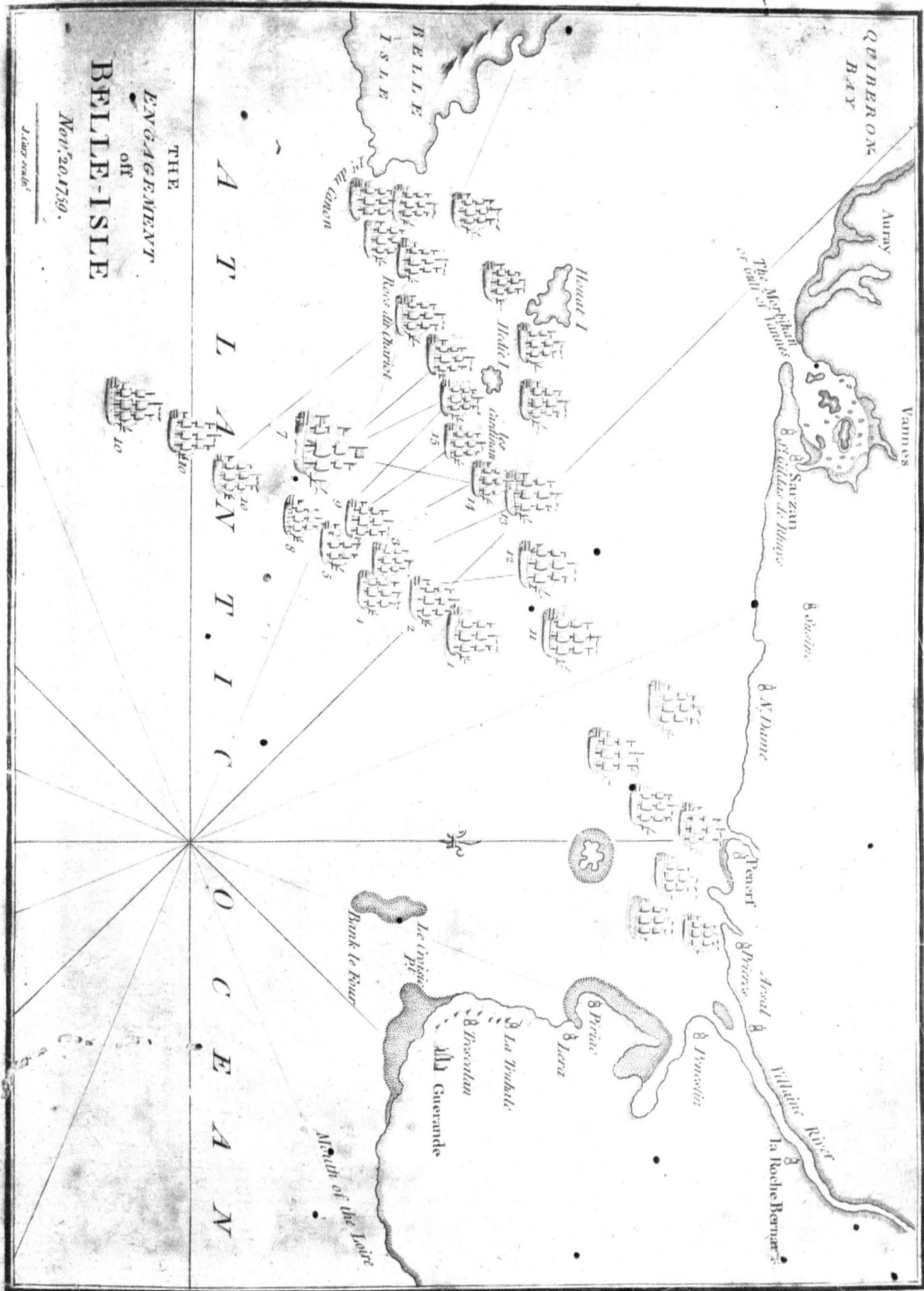


# QUIBERON BAY

## THE ENGAGEMENT OFF BELLE-ISLE

Nov<sup>r</sup> 20, 1759.

Chart made





battle ships, and eight frigates. A brig corvette had anchored close in with the south end of the island in the evening, whilst the frigates were chased. At night I directed Capt. Stopford, in the Phaeton, to work in shore, and if he did not perceive any works to protect the corvette, to endeavour to bring her out. He attempted it in the morning, but they opened a battery upon the ship which he had not seen; and the brig having been hauled very close in shore during the night, Capt. Stopford very properly thought it was not an object of consequence enough to balance the loss the ship was likely to sustain, and therefore returned, having had one man killed, seven wounded, and two of his guns dismounted. I find the vessels have naval stores as well as wine. The ship has cannon, and I understand is laden with naval and ordnance stores.

Two American vessels, laden with provisions of different kinds, have been detained by the squadron; I send them in by the King-fisher. I have ordered Capt. Gosselin to join me again immediately.

*Copy of a letter from Captain Gosselin, of his Majesty's sloop King-fisher, dated Falmouth, June 24, 1795, to Evan Nepean, Esq. Secretary of the Admiralty.*

SIR,

You will be pleased to inform my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty of the arrival of his Majesty's sloop under my command, off this port, and of having seen the large ships (captured by Vice-Admiral Cornwallis's squadron on the 7th inst.) in safety; all the rest of the convoy parted company with me on the 19th in a severe gale of wind.

I am &c.

(Signed)

T. L. M. GOSSELIN.

*Extract of a letter from Vice-Admiral Cornwallis, to Evan Nepean, Esq. Secretary to the Admiralty.*

Royal Sovereign at Sea, June 19.

I have the honour of acquainting you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that on the 16th in the morning, standing in with the land, near the Penmarks, I sent the Phaeton a-head to look out for any of the enemy's ships upon the coast. I stood after her with the rest of the ships [Mars, Triumph, Brunswick, Bellerophon, Phaeton and Pallas.] At ten she made a signal for seeing a fleet a-head, and afterwards, that they were of superior force. Upon her bringing too, I made the signal to haul to the wind upon the starboard tack. At this time I could not see the hulls of the strange sails. Thirty were counted, and some of them had all their sails out upon a wind, being directly to leeward of us. I stood upon the starboard tack with all our sail, keeping the ships collected. Upon enquiring by signal the enemy's force, Capt. Stopford answered, thirteen line-of-battle ships, fourteen frigates, two brigs, and a cutter; in all thirty-sail. Near half of them tacked in shore in the afternoon; the wind fell very much, and came round to the northward, off the land, and of course brought those ships of the enemy (which had tacked) to windward, and the others laid up for us. They were seen in the morning before it was day-light, upon both quarters of the squadron.

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At nine in the morning one of the front line-of-battle ships began to fire upon the Mars. Their frigates were ranged up abreast of us to windward, except one, which kept to leeward, and run up upon the larboard quarter of the Mars, then yawed and fired, which was frequently repeated. This was the only frigate that attempted any thing. The line-of-battle ships came up in succession, and a teasing fire, with intervals, was kept up during the whole day. In the evening they made a show of a more serious attack upon the Mars, (which had gone a little to leeward) and obliged me to bear up for her support. This was their last effort, if any thing they did can deserve that appellation. Several shot were fired for two hours after, but they appeared to be drawing off, and before sun-set the whole fleet had tacked, and were standing from us. The Mars and Triumph being the sternmost ships, were of course more exposed to the enemy's fire; and I cannot too much commend the spirited conduct of Sir Charles Cotton and Sir Erasmus Gower, the Captains of those ships. Lord Charles Fitzgerald also in the Brunswick kept up a very good fire from the after-guns, but that ship was the whole time obliged to carry every sail. The Bellerophon being nearly under the same circumstances, I was glad to keep in some measure as a reserve, having reason at first to suppose there would be full occasion for the utmost exertions of us all, and being rather a-head of me was not able to fire much. I considered that ship as a treasure in store, having heard of her former achievements, and observing the spirit manifested by all on board when she passed me, joined to the activity and zeal showed by Lord Cranston during the whole cruise. I am also much indebted to Capt. Whitby for his activity and unremitted diligence on board the Royal Sovereign. The frigates showed the greatest attention and alertness. I kept the Pallas near me to repeat signals, which Capt. Curzon performed very much to my satisfaction. Indeed, I shall ever feel the impression which the good conduct of the captains, officers, seamen, marines, and soldiers in the squadron has made on my mind: and it was the greatest pleasure I ever received to see the spirit manifested by the men, who, instead of being cast down at seeing thirty sail of the enemy's ships attacking our little squadron, were in the highest spirits imaginable. I do not mean the Royal Sovereign alone, the same spirit was shewn in all the ships as they came near me; and although (circumstanced as we were) we had no great reason to complain of the conduct of the enemy, yet our men could not help repeatedly expressing their contempt of them. Could common prudence have allowed me to let loose their valour, I hardly know what might not have been accomplished by such men.

Little damage has been received by the ships in general, except the sterns having been very much shook by firing the guns. The Mars reports twelve men wounded, but none killed; the main-mast, fore and top-sail yard wounded, and her rigging and sails cut a good deal. The Triumph has shifted and repaired some of her sails, but any damage she has received is so trifling, at least in her captain's eye, that Sir Erasmus Gower has not thought it worth reporting; indeed, the

cool and firm conduct of that ship was such, that it appeared to me the enemy's ships dared not to come near her.

It has blown hard from the north-east since I parted from the French fleet. See COAST OF FRANCE

**BELLESME.** A city in the territory of Perche, now belonging to France, and was taken from Peter de Dreux, Count of Bretagne, in 1226, by Louis XI. king of France, called St. Louis.

**BELZ, CITY OF, TAKEN IN 1704.** It is the capital of a province of the same name situated in Poland, and was taken by Charles XII. King of Sweden, during his war with Augustus, King of Poland. And in 1349, the province was conquered by Cassimir, King of Poland, from the Lithuanians.

**BENDER, SKIRMISH AT.** A town of Bessaradia, or Budjack Tartary, in European Turkey, is a fortress commanded by a basha. Bender is the name given it by the Turks; but it was anciently called Tigine. It lies 390 miles north from Constantinople. This skirmish, which was not productive of any great consequences, as a military manoeuvre, is nevertheless a remarkable incident in history, and may deserve a particular relation, which we shall introduce, by giving some anecdotes from Voltaire. Charles XII. King of Sweden, soon after his unfortunate defeat at Pultowa, in 1709, asked some of his officers what was become of Count Piper? they answered, that he was taken, with all the officers of chancery: and General Renchild, and the Duke of Wirtemberg, added the King? they are prisoners too, says Poniatofky. Prisoners to the Muscovites! replies Charles, shrugging up his shoulders, Come on then, let us rather go to the Turks. His retreat to Bender, was attended with the most painful hardships, the particulars of which, the reader will find under the Article PULTOWA.

The Swedish army, which had struck terror into all the powers of Europe, was now no more. One half of them perished by want, and the other half were made slaves or massacred. Charles XII. had lost in one day, the fruit of nine years pains, and almost an hundred battles. He fled in a wretched calish, having Major General Hoord by his side, dangerously wounded. The rest of his troops followed, some on foot, others on horseback, and some in waggons, across a desert, where they found neither huts, tents, men, animals, nor roads; every thing was wanting there, even water itself. It was then the beginning of July; the country situated in the forty-seventh degree; the dry sand of the desert rendered the heat of the sun the more insupportable; the horses fell by the way, and the men were ready to die with thirst. Count Poniatofky, who was a little better mounted than the rest, advanced before them into the plain, and having spied a willow, he judged there must be water nigh, and sought about till he found a spring. This happy discovery saved the lives of the King of Sweden's little troop. After five days' march, he found himself on the banks of the river Hippanis, now called the Bogh by the barbarians, who have spoiled, and even robbed of their names, the countries which the Grecian colonies formerly made to flourish.

Beyond the Bogh, towards the south, lies the little

town of Oczakow, a frontier of the Turkish empire. The inhabitants seeing a troop of soldiers coming towards them, to whose dress and language they were strangers, refused to carry them over to Oczakow, without an order from Mahomet Basha, the governor of the town. The King sent an express to the Governor, to ask a passage: but the Turks not knowing what to do in a country, where a false step very often costs a man his life, durst take nothing upon himself, without having first permission from the Basha of the province, who resided at Bender. The permission came, with orders to pay the King all the honours due to a monarch allied to the Porte, and to furnish him with all necessary provisions. During these delays, the Muscovites, having passed the Boristhenes, pursued the King with all possible speed, and if they had come up an hour sooner, they must have taken him. He had scarce passed the Bogh in the Turkish boats, before his enemies appeared, to the number of almost 6000 horse. And his Majesty had the misfortune of seeing 500 of his little troop, who had not been able to get over time enough, seized by the Muscovites, on the other side of the river. The Basha of Oczakow asked his pardon by an interpreter, for the delays which had occasioned the taking those 500 men prisoners, and besought him not to complain of it to the Grand Signior. Charles promised him he would not; but gave him a severe reprimand, as if he had been one of his own subjects.

The commander of Bender, who was also a Serafquier, a title which answers to that of general, and the Basha of the province, which signifies governor and intendant, sent presently an Aga to compliment the King, and offer him a magnificent tent, with the provisions, baggage, waggons, and all the conveniences, officers and attendants, requisite to conduct him handsomely to Bender. For it is customary for the Turks, not only to defray the charges of ambassadors to the place of their residence, but plentifully to supply the necessity of such princes as take refuge amongst them, as long as they stay in their dominions.

The King chose to encamp near Bender, rather than lodge in the town. Some time after, the King built a house in this place, and his officers did the same, after his example: the soldiers also raised barracks; so that the camp by degrees became a little town. The King, being not yet cured of his wound, was obliged to have a carious bone taken out of his foot: but as soon as he was able to mount a horse, he renewed his usual fatigues, rising always before the sun, tiring three horses a-day, and exercising his soldiers.

At Bender he found plenty of every thing about him; a happiness very rarely attained to by a vanquished and fugitive Prince. For besides provisions more than sufficient, and the 500 dollars a-day, which he received from the Ottoman munificence, he drew money also from France, and borrowed of the merchants at Constantinople. Part of this money was employed in carrying on intrigues in the seraglio, in purchasing the favours of the Viziers, or procuring their ruin. The rest he distributed profusely among his officers, and the Janissaries of Bender.

Thus was Charles XII. employed at Bender, where he waited



waited till an army of Turks should come to his assistance. To dispose the Ottoman Porte to this war, he detached about 800 Poles and Cossacks of his retinue, with orders to pass the Neister, that runs by Bender, and to go and observe what passed upon the frontiers of Poland.

The Muscovite troops that were dispersed in those quarters, fell immediately upon this little company, and pursued them even to the territories of the Grand Signior. This was what the King of Sweden wanted. His ministers and emissaries at the Porte made a great clamour against this eruption, and excited the Turks to vengeance: but the Czar's money removed all difficulties.

King Charles abandoned by the Grand Vizier, and conquered by the Czar's money in Turkey, as he had been by his arms in Ukrania, found himself deluded, scorned by the Porte, and in a manner a prisoner among the Tartars.

Charles however found means to continue in the favour of the Sultan, and by his intrigues got Couprougly his favourite Vizier turned out, and Baltagi Mahomet, Bashaw of Syria, to be raised to the post of Grand Vizier in his stead. The King of Sweden's interest prevailed, and almost all the Seraglio was for a war against the Czar. The Cham of Tartary was ordered to march 40,000 Tartars to join the Turkish army. The Muscovite ambassador was imprisoned, as it is the custom of the Turks to begin with seizing the minister of those princes, against whom they declare war.

The Czar, in all appearance, must have vanquished Baltagi Mahomet, but he committed the same fault in regard to the Turks, that the King of Sweden was guilty of in his case; that is, he too much despised his enemy. Upon the news of the Turkish preparations, he left Moscow, and having given orders to turn the siege of Riga into a blockade, he drew up his army, to the number of 80,000 men, upon the frontiers of Poland. With this army he marched to Moldavia and Walachia, formerly the country of the Daci, but now inhabited by Greek Christians, tributaries to the Grand Signior.

A Greek, named Cantemir, made Prince of Moldavia by the Turks, joined the Czar, whom he already looked upon as conqueror, and made no scruple to betray the Sultan, of whom he held his principality, for the sake of a Christian Prince, from whom he expected much greater advantages. The Czar entered into a secret alliance with him, received him into his army, and marching up the country, arrived in June 1711, at the northern side of the river Hierafus, now Pruth, near Jazy, the capital of Moldavia.

As soon as the Grand Vizier received the news that Peter Alexiowirz was come thither, he immediately left the camp at Belgrade, and following the course of the Danube, proposed to pass that river on a bridge of boats, near Saccia, in the very same place where Darius formerly built a bridge that bore his name. The Turkish army marched with so much expedition, that they soon came in sight of the Muscovites, the river Pruth being between them.

The Czar, sure of the Prince of Moldavia, little

thought his subjects would fail him. But the Moldavians are often in a different interest from that of their master. They liked the Turkish government, which is never fatal to any but the grandees, and affects a lenity to people who are its tributaries. They feared the Christians, especially the Muscovites, who had upon all occasions used them barbarously. They brought all their provisions to the Ottoman army. The undertakers, who had engaged to furnish the Muscovites with provisions, performed their promise to the Grand Vizier, though it was made to the Czar. The Walachians, whose country joins that of Moldavia, shewed the same regard to the Turks. To such a degree had the remembrance of former cruelties alienated their minds from the Muscovites.

The Czar, thus frustrated of his hopes, which perhaps he had inconsiderately entertained, found his army on a sudden destitute of provisions, and without forage. In the mean time, the Turks passed the river that separated them from the enemy. All the Tartars, according to custom, swam over it, holding by the tails of their horses. The Spahis, which are the Turkish horse, did the same, because the bridges were not ready time enough.

At length the whole army being got over, the Vizier pitched a camp, and fortified it with trenches. It is strange the Czar should not dispute the passage of the river, or at least repair this fault, by engaging the Turks immediately, instead of giving them time to tire out his army with fatigue and famine. But that Prince seems, in this campaign, to have taken all the steps that could lead to his ruin. He found himself without provisions, with the river Pruth behind him, and near 150,000 Turks before him, and about 40,000 Tartars continually harassing him on the right hand and the left. Reduced to this extremity, he said publicly, "I am at least in as bad a case as my brother Charles was at Pultowa."

The indefatigable Count Poniatofsky, agent to the King of Sweden, was in the Grand Vizier's army with some Poles and Swedes, who all thought the Czar's ruin inevitable.

As soon as Poniatofsky saw that the armies must infallibly engage, he sent an express to the King of Sweden, who set out that moment from Bender, followed by forty officers, and enjoying by anticipation the pleasure of fighting the Emperor of Muscovy. After many a loss, and several destructive marches, the Czar was driven back upon the Pruth, and had no cover left but some chevaux-de-frise, and some waggons. A party of the Janissaries and Spahis fell immediately upon his army in that defenceless condition, but they did it in a tumultuous and disorderly manner; and were received by the Muscovites with a resolution, which nothing but despair and the presence of their Prince could inspire.

The Turks were twice repulsed. But the day following, M. Poniatofsky, advised the Grand Vizier to starve out the Muscovite army, who, being destitute of all provision, would, in a day's time, be obliged, together with their Emperor, to surrender at discretion.

The Czar, since that time, more than once acknowledged, that in all his life he never felt so much uneasiness as he did that night. He revolved in his mind all that he had been doing for so many years, for the glory and good of his nation; that so many great designs, perpetually interrupted by successive wars, were now in all probability going to perish with him, before they were brought to perfection; that he must either die with hunger, or engage near 200,000 men, with feeble troops, less by half the number than when they first set out; a cavalry almost dismounted, and the foot worn out with famine and fatigue.

About the beginning of the night he called General Czeremetof to him, and gave him a peremptory order to get every thing ready by break of day, to charge the Turks with bayonets at the muzzle of their muskets.

He gave express orders also to burn all the baggage, and that no officer should keep above one waggon; that in case of a defeat, the enemy, however, might not get the booty they expected.

Having settled every thing with the General, in order to the battle, he retired into his tent full of grief, and seized with convulsions, a distemper he was often troubled with, and which came upon him with double the violence when he was under any great uneasiness. He forbid all persons to enter his tent in the night, upon any pretence whatsoever, not caring to have any remonstrances made to him against a desperate but necessary resolution, and much less that any one should be a witness of the melancholy condition he was in.

In the mean time the greatest part of his baggage was burnt according to his order, and all the army followed the example, though with much regret; but some buried such of their things as were most valuable. The general officers had already given orders for the march, and endeavoured to inspire the army with a courage, which themselves wanted: but the soldiers, quite exhausted with fatigue and hunger, marched without spirit, and without hope; and yet, to enervate their courage still more, had their ears filled with the shrieks and cries of women, of whom there was too great a number in the army. Every one expected death or slavery to be their portion.

There was at that time in the Muscovite camp a woman, as extraordinary perhaps as the Czar himself. She was then only known by the name of Catherine. Her mother was a poor country woman, named Erb-Magden, of the village of Ringen in Estonia, a province where the people hold by villanage, and which was at that time under the dominion of Sweden. She never knew her father, but was baptized by the name of Martha, and registered among the bastard children. The Vicar of the parish, out of pure charity, brought her up till she was fourteen years of age, and then she went to service at Mariembourg, where she lived with a Lutheran minister, whose name was Gluk.

At the age of eighteen she married a Swedish dragoon, in 1702. The day after her marriage, a party of the Swedish troops were beat by the Muscovites, and the dragoon who was in the action, never appeared afterwards, nor could she learn whether he was taken prisoner, nor ever after get any account of him.

Some days after she was taken prisoner herself, and became a servant to General Czeremetof, who gave her to Menzicof, a man who had experienced the vicissitudes of fortune in both extremes, being from a pastry-cook's boy made a general and a prince, and after that deprived of all, and banished to Siberia, where he died overwhelmed with misery and despair.

The Czar was at supper with Prince Menzicof when he first saw her, and fell in love with her. In 1707, he married her privately, not that she used any artifice to delude him, but because he found in her an astonishing capacity, and a greatness of soul capable of forwarding his designs, and even of continuing them after him. He had long since put away his first wife Ottekefa, daughter of a Boiard, upon a charge of adultery, and also of opposing the changes he had made in the empire; which last was the greater crime of the two in the eyes of the Czar. He would have nobody in his family that thought differently from himself. In this foreign slave he expected to meet with all the qualities of a sovereign, though she wanted every virtue of her sex. For her sake he scorned the common prejudices, by which none but little souls are influenced, and caused her to be crowned Empress. The same great capacity, which made her Peter's wife, gave her the empire after the death of her husband; and Europe has seen with surprise, a bold woman, who could neither write nor read, supply the want of strength and education by spirit and bravery, and fill with glory the throne of a legislator.

Upon her marriage with the Czar, she renounced the Lutheran religion, in which she was born, for that of Muscovy, and was baptized according to the rites of the Russian church, instead of Martha assuming the name of Catherine, by which she has been known ever since. This woman being in the camp at Pruth, held a private council with the general officers, and Shaffirof the Vice-chancellor, while the Czar was in his tent.

They agreed that it was necessary to sue for peace to the Turks, and that the Czar must be persuaded into the proposal. The Vice-chancellor wrote a letter to the Grand Vizier, in the name of his master, which the Czarina, notwithstanding the Emperor's prohibition, carried into the tent to him; and after much dispute, having prevailed upon him by her prayers and tears to sign it, she took all her money and jewels, and every thing of value that she had about her, together with what she could borrow of the general officers, which in all amounted to a considerable present, and sent it with the Czar's letter, to Osman Aga, Lieutenant to the Grand Vizier. Baltagi Mahomer answered haughtily with the air of a Vizier and a conqueror, "Let the Czar send me his first minister, and I shall see what is to be done." The Vice-chancellor Shaffirof came immediately with a present in his hand, which he offered publicly to the Grand Vizier. It was considerable enough to let him see they stood in need of him, but too little for a bribe.

The Grand Vizier's first demand was, That the Czar, with all his army should surrender at discretion. The Vice-chancellor made answer, that his master designed to give him battle within a quarter of an hour, and that the Muscovites would all be cut in pieces, rather than



than submit to such dishonourable conditions. Osman seconded Shaffirof with fresh remonstrances.

Baltagi Mahomet was no soldier. He knew the Janissaries had been repulsed the day before, and was easily persuaded by Osman not to part with certain advantages for the hazard of a battle. He immediately granted a suspension of arms for six hours, and in that time the terms of the treaty were agreed upon and settled.

The Cham of Tartary opposed the conclusion of a treaty, which took from him all hopes of pillage. Poniatosky seconded him with very urgent and pressing reasons, but Osman carried his point, notwithstanding the impatience of the Tartar, and the insinuations of Poniatosky.

The Vizier thought it enough for his master, the Grand Signior, to conclude an advantageous peace. He insisted that the Muscovites should give up Afoph, burn the galleys that lay in that port, and demolish the important citadels upon the Palus Mæotis; that the Grand Signior should have all the cannon and ammunition of these fortresses; that the Czar should draw off his troops from Poland, and give no further disturbance to the few Cossacks that were under the protection of the Poles, nor to those that were subject to Turkey; and that for the future he should pay the Tartars a subsidy of 40,000 sequins per annum, an odious tribute long since imposed, but from which the Czar had delivered his country.

At length the treaty was going to be signed, without so much as mentioning the King of Sweden: and all that Poniatosky could obtain from the Vizier was to insert an article, by which the Muscovite should promise not to obstruct or incommode the return of Charles XII. and which is pretty remarkable, it was stipulated in this article, that a peace should be concluded between the Czar and the King of Sweden, if they were so disposed, and could agree upon the terms of it.

On these conditions the Czar had liberty to retreat with his army, cannon, artillery, colours, and baggage. The Turks furnished him with provisions, and there was plenty of every thing in his camp within two hours after the signing of the treaty, which was begun, concluded, and signed the 21st of July, 1711.

Just as the Czar, rescued from the difficulty he was under, was drawing off with drums beating, and ensigns displayed, came the King of Sweden, impatient of fighting, and eager to see his enemy in his hands. He had rid post above fifty leagues, from Bender to Jazy, and lighting at Count Poniatosky's tent, the Count came up to him with a sorrowful countenance, and acquainted him by what means he had lost an opportunity, which perhaps he would never recover.

The King enraged, went directly to the Grand Vizier, and with an air of indignation upbraided him with the treaty he had concluded. I have authority, says the Grand Vizier, with a calm aspect, to wage war and to make peace. But, replies the King, have not you the whole Muscovite army in your power? Our law, says the Vizier, with great gravity, commands us to grant our enemies peace, when they implore our mercy. Ah! replies the King in a violent emotion, does it order you

to clap up a bad treaty when you are in a capacity to make what terms you please? Was it not in your power to carry the Czar prisoner to Constantinople?

The Turk finding himself so briskly attacked, answered very coldly, and who shall govern his empire in his absence? It is not fit that all kings should be out of their kingdoms. Charles replied with a smile full of indignation, and then threw himself down upon a sofa, and looking upon the Vizier with an air of resentment and contempt, he stretched out his leg towards him, and entangling his spur in his robe, which he did by design, tore it; then rose up immediately, mounted his horse, and returned to Bender full of despair.

Poniatosky continued some time longer with the Grand Vizier, to try if he could not prevail upon him, by softer methods, to make some better terms with the Czar; but it being then prayer-time, the Turk, without giving him one word of answer, went to wash and attend his devotions.

Fortune, which before had been so favourable to Charles, now began to bear hard upon him. Baltagi Mahomet became his avowed enemy: the intrigues of the Ottoman court were turned against him; and three bashas were sent to acquaint him, that he must leave the Turkish territories. Charles answered, that he would not; saying, that their order was a piece of forgery: upon which, Baltagi Mahomet prepared to invest his house with some Turkish forces. Upon this, Charles, with the utmost calmness, appointed his 300 Swedes to make regular fortifications, and worked at them himself, with all his officers and domestics. Some barricaded the windows, and others fastened beams behind the doors, in the form of buttresses. When the house was well barricaded, and the King had taken a view of his supposed fortifications, he sat down unconcerned to chess, with his favourite Grothusen, having dispatched M. Fabricius, the envoy of Holstein, to acquaint the Turks with what he had done.

At length the Grand Signior's order being come, to put to the sword all the Swedes that should make the least resistance, and not to spare the life of the King; the Basha had the civility to shew Fabricius the order, to the intent that he might try his utmost to prevail upon Charles. Fabricius went immediately to acquaint him with this bad news. Have you seen the order you speak of? says the King. I have, replies Fabricius. Tell them then, said the King, that this order is a second forgery of theirs, and that I will not go. Fabricius fell at his feet, put himself in a passion, and reproached him with his obstinacy; but all was to no purpose. Go back to your Turks, says the King to him smiling: if they attack me, I know how to defend myself.

The King's chaplains also fell upon their knees before him, conjuring him not to expose the wretched remains of Pultowa, and, above all, his own sacred person to certain death; adding besides, that resistance in this was a most unwarrantable action, and that it was a violation of the laws of hospitality, to resolve to continue with strangers against their will, who had so long and generously supported him. The King, who had shewed no resentment against Fabricius, grew warm upon this occasion.

occasion, and told his priests, that he took them to pray for him, and not to give him advice.

General Hoord and General Dardoff, whose opinion it had always been not to venture a battle, which in the consequence must prove fatal, shewed the King their breasts, covered with wounds they received in his service; and assuring him that they were ready to die for him, begged that it might at least be upon a more necessary occasion. I know, says the King, by your wounds and my own, that we have fought valiantly together. You have hitherto done your duty: do it again now. There was nothing more to be said: they must obey. Every one was ashamed not to court death with the King. His Majesty, being prepared for the assault, entertained himself in secret with the pleasure and honour of sustaining the shock of a whole army with 300 Swedes. He appointed every man to his post. His Chancellor Mullern, the Secretary Empreus, and his clerks, were to defend the chancery-house. Baron Fief, at the head of the officers of the kitchen, was at another post. The grooms of the stables, and the cooks, had another place to guard; for with him, every man was a soldier. He rode from his fortifications to his house, promising rewards to every body, creating officers, and declaring, that he would make the lowest of his servants captains, if they behaved with courage in the engagement.

It was not long before they saw the Turks and Tartars, advancing in order of battle to attack the little fortresses, with ten pieces of ordnance, and two mortar-pieces. The horse-tails waved in the air, the clarions sounded, the cries of Alla, Alla, were heard on all sides. Baron Grothufen took notice that the Turks did not mix any abusive language against the King in their cries, but only called him *Demir-Bash*, which signifies head of iron, and resolved that moment to go alone and unarmed, out of the fortifications. He advanced up to the line of the Janissaries, who had almost all of them received money from him. "Ah, what, my friends!" says he to them, in their own language, "are you come to massacre three hundred defenceless Swedes? You brave Janissaries, who have pardoned a hundred thousand Muscovites, upon their crying *Amman* (i. e. pardon) to you; have you forgot the kindness you have received from us? and would you assassinate that great King of Sweden, whom you loved so much, and who has been so generous to you? My friends, he asks but three days; and the Sultan's orders are not so strict as you are made to believe."

These words produced an effect which Grothufen himself did not expect. The Janissaries swore upon their beards they would not attack the King, and that they would give him the three days he demanded. In vain was the signal given for the assault. The Janissaries, far from obeying, threatened to fall upon their leaders, if three days were not granted to the King of Sweden. They came to the Basha of Bender's tent in a body, crying out that the Sultan's orders were forged. To this unexpected insurrection, the Basha had nothing to oppose but patience.

He made as if he was pleased with the generous resolution of the Janissaries, and ordered them to retreat to

Bender. The Cham of Tartary, who was a hot, forward man, would have given the assault immediately with his troops; but the Basha who did not design the Tartars alone should have the honour of taking the King, when he perhaps might be punished for the disobedience of his Janissaries, persuaded the Cham to wait till the next day.

The Basha returning to Bender, assembled all the officers of the Janissaries, and the oldest soldiers, and both read to them, and shewed them the positive order of the Sultan, and the Musti's setfa.

Sixty of the oldest of them, with venerable grey beards, who had received a thousand presents from the King's hand, offered to go in person to him, and intreat him to put himself into their hands, and permit them to serve him as guards.

The Basha consented to it; for there was no expedient he would not try, rather than be forced to kill the King. Accordingly these sixty old soldiers went the next morning to Varnitza, having nothing in their hands but long white staves, the only arms of the Janissaries when they are not going to fight. For the Turks look upon it as a barbarous custom among the Christians, to wear swords in time of peace, and enter armed into their churches, and the houses of their friends.

They addressed themselves to Baron Grothufen and Chancellor Mullern: they told them they were come with a design to serve as faithful guards to the King; and that, if he pleased, they would conduct him to Adrianople, where he might speak to the Grand Signior in person. While they were making this proposal, the King read the letters that were brought from Constantinople, and which Fabricius, who could not see him any more, had conveyed privately to him by a Janissary. These letters were written by Count Poniatosky, who could neither serve him at Bender nor Adrianople, having been detained at Constantinople by order of the Porte, from the time of the imprudent demand of the thousand purses. He told the King, that the Sultan's orders to seize or massacre his royal person, in case of resistance, were but too true: that the Sultan indeed was imposed upon by his ministers; but the more he was imposed upon in this affair, the more he would be obeyed: that he must submit to the times, and yield to necessity: that he took the liberty to advise him to try, if it were possible, to prevail upon the ministers by way of negotiation; and not to be inflexible in a case where the softest methods were required; and to expect from time and good management, the cure of an evil, which, by rough and violent handling, would be increased beyond the hopes of a recovery.

But neither the proposal of the old Janissaries, nor Poniatosky's letters, could in the least convince the King, that it was possible for him to give way without injuring his honour. He chose rather to die by the hand of the Turks, than be in any manner their prisoner. He dismissed the Janissaries without seeing them, and sent them word, that if they did not go about their business, he would shave their beards for them; which in the east is reckoned the most provoking affront that can be offered.

These old soldiers, fired with resentment, returned home,



home, crying as they went, Ah this head of iron! since he's resolved to perish, let him perish. They gave the Bascha an account of their commission, and acquainted their comrades at Bender with the strange reception they had met with. Upon this, every one swore to obey the Bascha's orders without further delay: and they were now as impatient of going to the assault, as they had been averse to it the day before.

The word was given that moment. They marched up to the intrenchments. The Tartars were already waiting for them, and the cannon began to play.

The Janissaries on one side, and the Tartars on the other, forced this little camp in an instant. Twenty Swedes had scarce time to draw their swords, before the whole 300 were surrounded and taken prisoners without resistance. The King was then on horseback between his house and camp, with the Generals Hoord, Dardoff, and Sparre; and seeing that all his soldiers had suffered themselves to be taken before his eyes, he said in cool blood to those three officers, Let us go and defend the house; *We will fight*, adds he with a smile, *pro aris et focis*.

Immediately he gallops up to the house with them, where he had placed about forty domestics as sentinels, and which they had fortified in the best manner they could.

These generals, however, accustomed to the obstinate intrepidity of their master, could not help being surprized, that in cool blood, and with a jesting air, he should resolve to stand out against ten pieces of cannon and a whole army. They followed him with some guards and domestics, to the number of twenty persons.

But when they came to the door, they found it beset with Janissaries. Besides, near 200 Turks or Tartars, had already got in at a window, and made themselves masters of all the apartments, except a great hall, whither the King's domestics had retired. It happened luckily that this hall was near the door, at which the King purposed to enter with his little troop of twenty persons. He threw himself off his horse with pistol and sword in hand, and his followers did the same.

The Janissaries fell upon him on all sides, being encouraged by the Bascha's promise of eight ducats of gold, to each man that should but touch his cloaths, in case they could take him. He wounded and killed all who came near him. A Janissary, whom he had wounded, clapped his blunderbuss to his face: and if the arm of a Turk had not jostled him, occasioned by the crowd, that moved backwards and forwards like waves, the King had been killed. The ball grazed upon his nose, and took off a piece of his ear, and then broke General Hoord's arm, whose fate it was to be always wounded by his master's side.

The King struck his sword into the Janissary's breast, and at the same time his domestics, who were shut up in the great hall, opened the door to him. He entered as swift as an arrow with his little troop, and in an instant they shut the door again, and barricaded it with all they could find.

Thus was Charles XII. shut up in this hall with all his attendants, amounting to about threescore men, officers, guards, secretaries, valet-de-chambres, and domestics of all kinds.

The Janissaries and Tartars pillaged the rest of the house, and filled the apartments. Come, says the King, let us go and drive out these barbarians! And putting himself at the head of his men, he, with his own hands, opened the door of the hall which faced his bed-chamber, went into it, and fired upon the plunderers.

The Turks, loaded with booty, being terrified at the sudden appearance of the King, whom they had been used to reverence, threw down their arms, and leapt out of the window, or fled into the cellars. The King taking advantage of the confusion they were in, and his own men being animated with this piece of success, they pursued the Turks from chamber to chamber, killed or wounded those who had not made their escape, and in a quarter of an hour cleared the house of the enemy.

The King, in the heat of the fight, perceived two Janissaries who had hid themselves under his bed: he thrust his sword through one of them, and killed him; but the other asked pardon, crying, Amman. I grant you your life, says the King, upon condition that you go and give the Bascha a faithful account of what you have seen. Grothufan explained the words in Turkish to him. The Turk easily promised to do as he was bid. Upon which, he was allowed to leap out of the window, as the rest had done.

The Swedes at length became masters of the house, shut the windows again, and barricaded them. In this situation they had no want of arms, a ground-chamber, full of musquets and powder, having escaped the tumultuous search of the Janissaries. These they made a very seasonable use of, firing close upon the Turks through the windows, and killing 200 of them in less than half a quarter of an hour.

The cannon played against the house; but the stones being very soft, it only made holes in the wall, but demolished nothing.

The Kam of Tartary and the Bascha, who were desirous of taking the King alive, being ashamed to lose time and men, and employ an entire army against sixty persons, thought it proper to set fire to the house, in order to oblige the King to surrender. For this purpose, they ordered some arrows, twisted about with lighted matches, to be shot upon the roof, and against the doors and windows; by which means the house was immediately in a flame. The roof, all on fire, was ready to tumble upon the Swedes. The King, with a very sedate air, gave orders to extinguish the fire; and finding a little barrel full of liquor, he laid hold of it himself, and, with the assistance of two Swedes, threw it upon the place where the fire was most violent. Then he discovered that it was full of brandy: but the hurry, which is inseparable from such a state of confusion, hindered him from thinking of it before. Upon this it burnt more furiously than ever. The King's apartment was consumed, and the great hall, where the Swedes then were, was filled with a terrible smoke, mixed with gusts of fire, that came in through the doors of the neighbouring apartments. One half of the roof fell in, and the other tumbled down without the house, cracking among the flames.

A centinel, named Walberg, ventured in this extremity to cry, that there was a necessity for surrendering.

What

What a strange man, says the King, is this, to imagine that it is not more glorious to be burned than taken prisoner! Another centinel, named Rosen, had the thought to say, that the Chancery-house, which was but fifty paces off, had a stone roof, and was proof against fire; that it would do well to sally out and gain that house, and there stand upon their defence. A true Swede, cries the King; then he embraced him, and made him a Colonel upon the spot. Come on, my friends, says he, take all the powder and ball you can carry, and let us gain the Chancery sword in hand.

The Turks, who all this while encompassed the house, were struck with fear and admiration, to see that the Swedes continued in it, notwithstanding it was all in flames. But they were much more surprised when they saw them open the doors, and the King and his men fall upon them in a desperate manner. Charles, and his principal officers were armed with sword and pistol: every one fired two pistols at a time in the instant that the door opened; and in the twinkling of an eye throwing away their pistols, and drawing their swords, they drove the Turks back the distance of fifty paces; but the moment after this little troop was surrounded. The King, being booted according to custom, threw himself down with his spurs: immediately twenty-one Janissaries fell upon him, disarmed him, and bore him away to the Basha's quarters, some taking hold of his legs, as the manner is to carry a sick person for fear of incommoding him.

As soon as the King saw himself in their hands, the violence of his temper, and the fury which so long and desperate a fight would naturally inspire, gave place to a gentle and calm behaviour. Not one impatient word fell from him; not a frown was to be seen: on the contrary, he looked upon the Janissaries with a smiling countenance, as they carried him, crying *Alla*, with a mixture of anger and respect in their faces. His officers were taken at the same time, and stripped by the Turks and Tartars. It was on the 12th of February, 1713, that this strange adventure happened.

Charles having now lost all hopes of assistance from the Turks, was as desirous as they of being gone. He obtained leave to pass through Germany, and arrived at Stralsund, after much pain and fatigue, on the 21st of November, 1714.

**BENDER, SIEGE OF, in 1770.** General Panin having invested this place, the trenches were opened before it on the 30th of July, by Lieutenant-General Rennenkamp's division; that General commanded in person: besides whom, Lieutenant-General Elmt, Major-General Gerbel, Major-General Wulf of the artillery were there. In a word, all the generals who were not commanded piqued themselves on being present and sharing the danger together, and by their example to encourage the common men to exert themselves on so singular an occasion. In the night the appointed trenches were prepared, and twenty-five pieces of heavy cannon brought upon two batteries: but the commanding general only fired on those Turks who were roaming about in such places as might damage the intrenchments, as his intention was to begin the cannonading and bombarding on all sides of the town at once. The 31st, the

enemy set fire to their suburbs, after which they doubled their cannonading. The Russian General examined the intrenchments and employed 2500 men on them that day. All the batteries and mortars were prepared in the intrenchments on the other side of the Niester. About 400 fathoms of the fortification being finished, the General gave orders to begin the cannonading and bombarding on all sides, which was instantly done in his presence with great violence. The enemy answered the same with great spirit, and though the town was on fire twice, it was extinguished, and they seemed determined to hold out as long as possible. The siege continued with various success till September, when on the 27th, the globe of compression being ready, and advice being received that a detachment from the chief army of Count Romanzow had orders to join the second near Bender, General Panin resolved immediately to clear the covered way by storm the same night, and to make a lodgment behind the glacis. He likewise determined, in case the event should prove favourable, to undertake a general assault. For which purpose he made the following dispositions.

The division of the troops was made in three columns. The first had orders to enter the covered way, through the antenoir, which was to be blown up, and to attack the enemy on the right; then directing their march on that side of the covered way, to make their utmost efforts to force open the gates of the town with the petard; and, if by any means they should find it practicable to gain the chief fortress, to enter it with all possible expedition. The battalions of musqueteers who were a corps-de-reserve, were ordered during the march of this column to occupy a large space of ground, and to make a false attack before the glacis, in order to draw the attention and fire of the enemy from the principal wall, and to divert them from those places, which were most convenient for assaulting the town. Afterwards, as soon as they should be apprized by a signal that the troops had made an entrance into the chief fort, these battalions were to hasten thither and second the assault.

The second column had likewise orders to enter the covered way through the antenoir, and to act in the same manner above described; excepting only, that after having advanced upon the covered way, they were to file off to the left.

The operations of the third column were to enter through the antenoir, and to cover by their situation and defence, those intrenchments which were at the same time to be made behind them upon the glacis.

These intrenchments were to secure a lodgment for them in case they should be obliged to continue the siege. But if by the fall of the counterscarp, or by the damage done to the bastions by the artillery, there should be a possibility of entering over the chief wall by means of ladders contrived for that purpose or otherwise, this column was to improve those circumstances, and to hasten thither.

A body of troops, consisting of twenty-two companies, who were stationed that night in the trenches, were destined to sustain this middle column, and were posted upon the foremost parallel.

The rest of the army was ranged on the wings of the first



first parallel, and none but the sick and the wounded were left in the camp. The ladders prepared for the assault lay ready at hand as near the town as possible.

It being justly apprehended that the globe of compression would extend over a vast space of ground, it was judged necessary not only to remove those troops who were posted for the assault, but also the others who were lodged in the trenches, and to form them in the second parallel; and as the firing the globe of compression was likewise to serve for a signal, orders were given, that the above troops upon hearing it should immediately resume their former positions: and the artillery had orders to throw bombs and grenades with the utmost force and expedition, after having passed the foremost batteries.

All things being thus disposed, at ten in the evening, the globe of compression (filled with 400 pud of gunpowder) was blown up, and with a horrible concussion shook all the circumjacent country. This signal was taken by the Russians, and as soon as ever it was known from the direction of the fire, and the cries of the soldiers, that the troops had began to enter upon the principal wall, the commander in chief dispatched several distinguished officers (who had desired leave to have an equal share with the rest in the honour and danger of the action) at the head of four companies of grenadiers, to join those troops who were engaged the foremost. This succour was so well timed, and advanced with such impetuosity, that neither the double ditches at the foot of the glacis, nor the double palisades before the covered way, nor the great ditch with a couvette two fathoms deep and six wide, nor even the wall of the fortress could stop their career. From thence they forced their way upon the principal wall, over against the antenoir, mounting upon their ladders as well as those of the enemy, and in this manner advanced over the gates on the left side; for none of the petards could have any effect upon them, because they were so closely and so firmly covered with iron, that they were incapable of receiving the least impression.

It is but doing justice to the enemy to declare, that the bravery of the Russian troops were equalled by the resolute and desperate valour of the besieged. After the Russians had gained the principal wall, the enemy obstinately disputed every inch of ground, not without great bloodshed, and the Russians were obliged to drive them from every quarter by dint of fire and bayonet; and though forced to fly, they continually faced about, and in this manner the battle lasted till eight in the morning. At that moment when the Russian soldiers began to cry out victory, a select body of the enemy, consisting of 1500 cavalry and 500 infantry, made a furious sally from the town towards the river, and began to open their way. Colonel Deering who belonged to the corps-de-reserve, and who was fortunately at hand with a few squadrons at this juncture, immediately met them, broke their impetuosity, and forced them to the left. Of this they endeavoured to take advantage, by hastening to the eminences towards the camp among the sick and wounded. Count Panin instantly perceived the danger, and dispatched Lieute-

nant-Generals Rennenkamp and Elmt to ward the blow; who put themselves at the head of as many troops as could be spared from the assault. Colonel Felkerfamen also left the wall and joined them with his hunters. At the same time the Cossacks who were spread in the suburbs hastened to their assistance and surrounded the enemy, who nevertheless defended themselves with the greatest bravery; but the Russian artillery being brought up from the hindmost parallel, and directed against them, their defeat was inevitable. All their infantry were either killed or taken prisoners, and the remainder of their cavalry who endeavoured to escape towards Akerman, were all slain to a man by the Russian cavalry. This advantage was followed by the reduction of the fortress and the citadel. Count Panin returning from this engagement to the walls, was met by a deputy from the Seraskier, who demanded a capitulation, but was refused. The Seraskier then surrendered with all his attendants as prisoners of war.

Thus after a continued fight of ten hours, for the most part in the dead of the night, the fortress of Bender was subdued by the arms of her Imperial Majesty. On the day of assault the garrison amounted to 15,000 men; their artillery consisted of 262 pieces of cannon, 203 of which were brads, and twenty-eight mortars. At the opening of the trenches the Russians had fourteen regiments; on the day of assault only 11,000 men, fifty-six pieces of cannon, and seven mortars. Notwithstanding the inferiority in point of number and cannon, every thing that resisted was destroyed by fire and sword.

Five thousand five hundred and fifty-four men (Janissaries and Spahis) with their commanders, besides the Seraskier and two bashas, were made prisoners of war: Count Panin was obliged to send them immediately to the camp, to save them from the fire that ravaged all the buildings in the town and castle. The fire began just when the fortress was assaulted. For the Russian General in order to strike a terror into the numerous enemy, to keep them employed in saving their habitations, and to drive out those who had barricaded themselves in their houses, from whence they molested the troops, was under a necessity of ordering the houses to be fired by throwing grenades into them. And as the fire soon broke out in three different quarters, and was not extinguished during the fight, it increased to such a degree that it could not be got under till the third day; so that the famous town of Bender was quite reduced to ashes.

In this scene of horror and bloodshed, the field, the fortress, the streets, the houses reeked with blood, and were covered with the dead bodies. The loss of the enemy at a moderate computation was not less than 5000; that of the Russians was not so great as might have been expected, having had only 687 killed, and 1872 wounded. The total number of prisoners was 11,794.

The trophies which were taken were four horse tails, fourteen batons of command, and forty pair of colours. There were taken besides, eighty-five brads mortars, 348 bombs, 30,000 grenades and bullets, and 21,000 pud of gunpowder. There was found also in

the arsenals a great number of arms, and other military stores, with a very considerable quantity of provisions.

In January 1789, there was an engagement near this place, between the Tartars and the Russians, the former were entirely defeated, and obliged to fly with the loss of 1500 men killed. The Russians took two pieces of cannon and 800 prisoners, among whom were four Chans. It was surrendered to the Russians in November 1789, the garrison of the fortress, and as many of the inhabitants as were disposed to follow, were escorted to Ismail.

**BENGAL.** *Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Company at Bengal, August 1, 1793.*

On the 11th of June we received from the Governor in Council at Fort St. George, a detail of intelligence from Europe, notifying, in positive terms, that the French had declared war against England and Holland on the 1st of February 1793. We therefore issued orders, which were effected without resistance, for the taking possession of Chandernagore and the several French factories in this country, and seizing the vessels here that carried the French flag.

The Government of Madras immediately commenced the necessary preparation for the siege of Pondicherry, where Colonel Floyd with a detachment arrived on the 11th of July, to blockade it on the land side, while the Commodore, with his Majesty's frigate the *Minerva*, and three of our China ships, the *Triton*, *Warly*, and *Royal Chastotte*, were employed to prevent supplies from being imported by sea; and the French factories of Karikal and Yanam have been taken possession of by the officers of the Madras government.

*Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Council at Bombay, in their Political Department, to the Court of Directors, dated Bombay, September 3, 1793.*

Having authentic intelligence, by the *Drane* cruiser from Suez, that hostilities had actually commenced between Great Britain and France, we issued the necessary orders for reducing the Fort of Mahe and taking possession of their factory at Surat, which we have the pleasure to acquaint you have been effected without resistance. See MONTERRAT, EAST INDIES, &c.

**BENNINGTON, BATTLE AT, in 1777.** It is situated near Saratoga, upon Hudson's River, and during the contest between Great Britain and her colonies, General Burgoyne, being encamped near Saratoga, and hearing that the enemies supplies in live cattle from a large tract of land passed by the route of Manchester, Arlington, and other parts of the Hampshire Grants to Bennington, in order to be occasionally conveyed from thence to the main army (a large depot of corn and wheel carriages was also formed at the same place and the usual guard was militia, though it varied in number from day to day); a scheme was formed to surprise that place, as the possession of the live cattle and carriages would certainly have enabled the army to leave their distant magazines, and to have acted with energy and dispatch. Success also would have answered many secondary purposes.

Lieutenant-Colonel Baum, an officer well qualified for the undertaking, was fixed upon to command. He had under him 200 dismounted dragoons of the regiment of Reiskeel, Captain Frazer's marksmen, which were the only British, all the Canadian volunteers, a party of the Provincials who perfectly knew the country, 100 Indians, and two light pieces of cannon. The whole detachment amounted to about 500 men. The instructions were positively to keep the regular corps posted while the light troops felt their way, and not to incur the danger of being surrounded, or having a retreat cut off.

In order to facilitate this operation, and to be ready to take advantage of its success, the army moved up the east shore of Hudson's River; on the 24th a bridge was formed of rafts, over which the advanced corps passed, and encamped at Saratoga; Lieutenant-Colonel Breyman's corps was posted near Barton Kill, and, upon intelligence from Lieutenant-Colonel Baum that the enemy was stronger at Bennington than expected, and were aware of his attack, that corps consisting of the Brunswick grenadiers, light infantry, and chaffeurs, was sent forward to sustain him.

It since appears that Lieutenant-Colonel Baum, not having been able to complete his march undiscovered, was joined at a place called Santeeck-Mills, about four miles short of Bennington, by many people professing themselves to be Loyalists. A Provincial gentleman of confidence who had been sent with the detachment, as knowing the country and the character of the inhabitants, was so incautious as to leave at liberty such as took the oath of allegiance. His credulity and their treachery, caused the first misfortune. Colonel Baum was induced to proceed without sufficient knowledge of the country; his design was betrayed: the men who had taken the oaths, were the first to fire on him. He was attacked on all sides; he shewed great personal courage, but was overpowered by numbers.

During this time, Lieutenant-Colonel Breyman was upon the march through a heavy rain: and such were the other impediments stated in that officer's report, of bad roads, tired horses, difficulties in passing artillery, carriages, &c. that he was from eight in the morning of the 15th, to four in the afternoon the following day, marching about twenty-four miles. He engaged, fought gallantly, and drove the enemy from three several heights; but was too late to succour Colonel Baum, who was made prisoner, and a considerable part of his dragoons were killed or taken. The failure of ammunition, from the accidental breaking to pieces of a tumbril, unfortunately obliged Colonel Breyman to retire with his conquering troops, and to leave behind two pieces of cannon, besides two which had been left by Lieutenant-Colonel Baum. The Indians made good their retreat from the first affair, as did Captain Frazer, with part of his company, and many of the Provincials and Canadians.

The loss, as it then appeared, amounted to about 400 men killed and taken in both actions, and twenty-six officers mostly prisoners; but men who were dispersed in the woods, dropped in daily.

BEQUIERES,



**BENSINTON, BATTLE AT**, in 778. This place is in Oxfordshire, where a battle was fought between Cenulph, King of Wessex, and Offa, King of Mercia, where the former gained a complete victory.

**BEQUIERES**, at the mouth of the Nile, where admiral Nelson destroyed the French fleet, August 1, 1798. See EGYPT.

**BEREZAN**, situated near the Black Sea. It was taken from the Turks by the Russians on November 10, 1788. The garrison consisted of 400 select troops, and a Pacha of two tails, who surrendered prisoners of war. In the garrison were found twenty pieces of cannon, besides provisions and ammunition.

According to a private letter from Oczakow, of the 22d of November, the Captain Pacha left that Gulph the 15th, after supplying the city with the necessary quantity of ammunition and provisions. The Admiral left 400 Turks in the island of Berezan, under the command of a Pacha of the second rank, but notwithstanding this precaution, and thirty-six pieces of cannon, the Russians took it on the 18th of the same month, and made the Pacha and his troops prisoners of war.

**BEREZINE, CITY OF**, TAKEN in 1708. It is situated on a river of the same name in Russia, and during the war between the Swedes and Russians it was taken by the former.

**BERGEN, BATTLE AT**. A village situated on the river Mayne in Germany, between Hanau and Frankfurt, about three miles from the latter. This unfortunate stroke, which disconcerted the whole plan of operations formed for the campaign of 1758, seemed in itself of no moment. One would have thought it too trifling to have had so much influence: but experience has taught us otherwise. The plan of operations, as laid down by the King of Prussia, we shall present to the reader in the words of an Austrian officer, who, though an enemy, has nevertheless told the truth, as time has verified.

The advantage of the campaign in 1759, seemed certain to that power, which should prevent the other in its operations. This was his Prussian Majesty's opinion: and his plan was to strike the first blow on every side. Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, to whom the King left the French, was to have shut up Broglie's army beyond the Mayne, and even on the further side of the Rhine, and to keep every thing disposed on his right to fall upon Marechal de Contade's quarters, to carry off some of them, disperse the others, and return to the frontiers of the United Provinces, to compel the States-General to declare themselves. The delivering up of Nimeguen as a deposit, was to be the preliminary of the capitulation offered to the Republic: an union of forces and interest, was to have been stipulated in the capitulation itself. It was not doubted in the Prussian armies but that Prince Ferdinand would execute the part of the plan assigned to him: and it was upon this supposition, that Prince Henry of Prussia was to enter Bohemia, take possession of that kingdom, and from thence send detachments to Franconia. These first advantages were to enable his Prussian Majesty to take post in Poland, to be beforehand with

the Russians there, and to intercept their march to Silesia.

Had fortune avowed this plan, the Austrian, Russian, and French armies, reduced to act defensively with great disadvantage, must continually have retreated to avoid risking battles, of which the loss would be irreparable; whereas Prince Ferdinand having been beaten at Bergen, Prince Henry was able to make incursions only into Bohemia and Franconia; and the irruption into Poland was not carried far nor supported. His Prussian Majesty resolved to suffer his enemies to come upon him, to barricade himself in Silesia as his strong hold, and to wait till lassitude or impatience should lead the enemy's generals into some false step, of which he might avail himself to change the nature of the war.

The Duke de Broglie, who commanded a detachment of the French army, being informed that a detachment of the allied army, under the command of the Prince d'Isenburg, was marching towards him, posted himself, on the 12th of March, 1759, near the village of Bergen, which he made the right of his army, and at the same time secured his flanks and centre in such a manner, that the enemy might be obliged to make their attacks by that village. They came in fight on the 13th, at ten in the morning, when they made their dispositions under cover of a rising ground, over which they marched, and attacked the village with the utmost vivacity. Eight German battalions had been posted in it the preceding night by the Duke de Broglie, who had also placed behind it several brigades of French foot. The Prince made three attacks in the space of two hours and a half, and was each time repulsed; then returned, and remained some time behind the rising ground that covered his disposition. He then separated his infantry into two bodies, and posted one on the right, and the other on the left, whilst his cavalry formed in the centre, with a small column of infantry before it. The French imagined, from this disposition, that he intended to attack, at the same time, both the village of Bergen, and the wood on their left, where the whole body of the Saxons were placed; and supposed, that if one of those attacks should succeed, he would afterwards fall on their centre. This was the more probable, as he had brought up a number of cannon against the village, and cannonaded it briskly; and as he had also several pieces on their right, with which he commanded the head of the wood where the volunteers were posted. Nevertheless, the Allies did not return to the charge; and nothing happened during the rest of the day, but a very brisk cannonading that lasted till night, which they waited for, to make their retreat; and this they effected, without the knowledge of the Duke de Broglie.

Had this detachment of the Allies succeeded in forcing this advanced post of the French army, for it was nothing more, a general engagement would have been the consequence, when, according to all the appearances of probability, victory would have declared for the Allies, who, from this unfortunate repulse, were obliged to retreat; and those excellent dispositions of Prince Ferdinand, were now turned from the offensive

to the defensive. In this state that Prince continued to act, till he gained the battle of Minden. *See* MINDEN.

The loss of the Allies in this action amounted to about 4000 men killed, wounded, and taken prisoners, and five pieces of cannon, which they left behind them in the village; but their principal misfortune was their losing the brave Prince d'Hemburg, whose undaunted resolution, intrepidity, and heroism, have imprinted his name on the records of immortality. He was killed at the head of his grenadiers, in the third and last attack on the village: and it is probable, that had not his death discouraged the troops the post would have been forced. The French are said to have lost near as many men as the Allies, and their numbers before the action were pretty equal, each army amounting to about 12,000 men.

**BERGEN-OP-ZOOM, SURPRISE OF.** A fortified town of Dutch Brabant, situated near the eastern shore of the river Scheldt, twenty miles north-west from Antwerp. In April 1572, Ferdinand Duke of Alva, Governor of the Netherlands, took it for Philip II. King of Spain, by surprise in the night, with very little bloodshed, the town being then open, and the inhabitants asleep. The Duke afterwards fortified it, and from him it became a place of strength. However, Admiral Boyfot took it in January the following year, for the Prince of Orange.

In the year 1588, the Duke of Parma, in order to clear his character from some aspersions thrown upon it concerning the failure of the Spanish Armada, resolved to reduce Bergen-op-Zoom, in which was an English garrison, commanded by Lord Willoughby. With this view he appeared before it, and began to besiege it; when, with a chosen corps of 400 men, he attempted to force the isle Tor-tole, but was repulsed with great loss. Finding himself thus disappointed, he altered his resolution and turned the siege into a blockade. The besieged were so far from being dismayed at the sight of his army, that they encamped most of their force without the walls, and harassed the enemy with continual skirmishes. There were two forts between the town and the river Scheldt, one of which lying to the north side, the Duke of Parma had endeavoured in vain to cut off its communication with the city. At last two Spaniards, who were made prisoners there, solicited their host, and an English soldier, to betray the fort to the Duke of Parma; to which they seemingly consented; but at the same time, gave notice of the whole design to the Governor. However being conducted to the Duke of Parma, he engaged them with great presents, and greater promises, to conduct his troops to a gate, through which they designed to enter the fort. The pretended conspirators having taken an oath as a pledge of their fidelity, were each of them fettered, and put between two soldiers, armed with drawn daggers, who were to dispatch them immediately, in case they found them fail in the performance of their promise. Matters being thus prepared, about 3000 of their choicest soldiers, mostly gentlemen, were selected for this enterprise; who being conducted by the guides, found the gate open; into

which 500 of the Spaniards were no sooner entered, than the besieged, pulling up the draw-bridge, cut them to pieces, except a few that called out for quarter: among these were those that had the guard of the pretended traitors, who did not think fit to make use of their daggers upon so dangerous an occasion. Those without, being at the same time severely galled by the enemy's fire, and not being in a condition to retreat without great confusion, from their being under the walls, resolved to make a virtue of necessity, and to open their way through the walls. Accordingly they passed the ditch, (then without water, by reason of the ebbing tide) and pulling down the palisades, mounted the walls sword in hand; but were so courageously received by the besieged, that most of them were killed upon the spot, and the rest drowned or suffocated in the water and mud, the tide being coming in at that time. This unexpected repulse so dispirited the Spaniards, that they laid aside all attempts of reducing the place, and immediately abandoned it, having lost great part of their army.

In the year 1605, the Spanish Governor of Hulst, by order of the Marquis de Spinola, with 1500 foot, and 300 horse, attempted the reduction of this place. He found means in the night, when it was low water, to surprise two forts, one before the gate, the other defending the harbour; and had he immediately forced his way from the harbour, on which side the town was weakest, he had succeeded in his design; for the inhabitants were thrown into such confusion and consternation, that instead of going out to repel the enemy, they began to bewail each other's misfortune. But he stopping his career, gave them time to recollect themselves; and they quickly made the aggressors abandon their conquest with some loss, which so dispirited the Spaniards that they raised the siege.

The ill success which the Spaniards had in besieging Bergen-op-Zoom in the year 1605, did not discourage their making another attempt with a larger force: they only retired till they obtained a reinforcement, and returned to besiege it in about a month after. Having sat down before it a few days, they prepared to make a general assault at midnight. This was put in execution; and the Spaniards were inspired with such incredible resolution, that many of them climbed up to the top of the walls, from whence they were thrown down headlong, from their not being properly supported. Near the gate of Steenberg, they blew up two gates, by which they opened themselves a way into the town, which was only obstructed by a very slender intrenchment made of waggons, carts, and trunks of trees: but while the Spaniards were endeavouring to remove these obstacles, they were so terribly galled by the grape-shot from the ramparts, that in a little time they were glad to fight their way back, and make the best retreat they could, which was not effected without considerable loss.

In the year 1622, the Infanta Isabella concerted measures with her generals for besieging Bergen-op-Zoom, which being soon resolved upon, the Marquis de Spinola ordered Don Velasco to join Borgia, with 6000 foot, and 2000 horse, and to invest it immediately;





ly; with which orders he accordingly complied, but could not prevent the Dutch from augmenting the garrison with 600 foot, and 400 horse: so that most of the Spaniards began to be doubtful of the success of an enterprize in itself so unpromising. Velasco, nevertheless, proceeded in the plan of operation enjoined him by the Marquis de Spinola; and commanded Major-General Baglioni to commence his attack on the south side towards Antwerp, while Borgia should make his on the north. He arrived in the camp on the 19th of July, and began to cannonade the place on the side towards the harbour. On the 23d, Spinola, being informed of the posture of affairs there, thought fit to leave the Count of Bergen with 8000 foot, and 1500 horse, to observe the motions of Prince Frederick Henry, near the Rhine, and to march with the rest to Bergen-op-Zoom, where he arrived in the camp on the 28th.

On the 2d of August, the Duke de Candale, the Count of Bathuni, and fifteen other French officers of note, having found means to get into the place, signalized themselves in the defence of a certain half-moon, called the Cut-throat, with a great slaughter of the Spaniards, and not without a considerable loss on their own side, as the half-moon was several times taken and retaken on both sides, from ten o'clock at night till five in the morning. On the 20th, the besiegers made a second assault upon the same, but with no better success than before, being repulsed with a great slaughter, by the Swifs, who defended the out-works. On the 26th, seven companies of foot, under the conduct of William of Nassau, Prince of Hesse, and Colonel Morgan, an Englishman, having made their way into the place, and joining the garrison and the armed inhabitants, to the amount of 9000 in all, supported the defence, by being continually supplied with provisions and other necessities by means of the harbour, and gave Spinola no small inquietude, by burning all the fascines and other works prepared to assault the great horn-work. This obliged him to form a new attack, on the 1st of September, on the side of Conigsburg, to be carried on towards the canal, and thereby to cut off from the town all succours by sea, because the Spanish ships intended for that service, were as yet at a considerable distance: but this attack proved as unsuccessful as the former. He then began to raise several new batteries, as also a small fort, the better to keep a free communication open with Antwerp. These batteries played incessantly till the 27th: mines were sprung, and Spinola gained more and more upon the besieged; having destroyed their works, and filled up their trenches fifty rods on the north side, and sixty on the south. Spinola now found his army much diminished by so long a siege, and not being supplied with fresh recruits, or disciplined men, was greatly alarmed at the intelligence he received of the Prince of Orange's being joined by Prince Frederick Henry, and of their marching at the head of an army of 20,000 foot and 7000 horse, to the relief of the town. News was also brought him, that the Dutch had made a vigorous irruption between Ghent and Bruges. The Prince of Orange made such expedition to the relief of the place, that Spinola, not being able to join Bergen, and some German troops,

he was forced to his great mortification to raise the siege, and this was the first time of his being unsuccessful in an enterprize of that nature.

He retired from before the town on the 2d of October, after the loss of 10,000 men, but the besieged are said to have lost more, during the siege, which had lasted ten weeks.

A sharp engagement happened between the Dutch, commanded by the Prince of Orange, and the Spaniards, on the 24th of June, 1638. The Spaniards had been lately victorious over the Dutch, near Callo; and being elated with their success, they advanced with their army as far as Uliet, whence they detached Sfondrato with twenty-four troops of horse, to surprize the Prince of Orange in his camp. Sfondrato, the Spanish General, charged the outguards with good success; but these having given the alarm, the whole army of the Dutch returned to the charge with such intrepidity, that Sfondrato was obliged to retire with loss; to revenge which, he two days after attacked the Dutch cavalry with 3000 horse, and 2000 foot, near the village of Wourne. Having divided this party into two bodies, the one began the attack, while the other lay in ambush to fall on the enemy's rear. The Dutch outguards behaved themselves with such bravery, that they gave the cavalry time to mount, when a most furious engagement ensued, wherein the Spaniards were repulsed a second time with loss, owing to their being more busied in plundering those they had killed, than in opposing the living, or defending themselves. To support this advantage, the Dutch cavalry advanced apace against the party that lay in ambush, who made a kind of running fight, till being joined by some at Ostendrecht, they jointly charged the Dutch with uncommon fury. The fight was maintained with great obstinacy by both sides till dark, when they drew off, and the victory remained uncertain, though both armies claimed it; the Dutch, because they had killed most men, and the Spaniards, because they had taken 1200 horse, with Count Strium's baggage. But the consequence shews, that the advantage was on the side of the Dutch, who retired to Bergen-op-Zoom, the place which the Spaniards were attempting to conquer, but who were now necessitated to abandon their enterprize, and therefore retreated towards Antwerp.

When the Confederates lost the victory at Val, Bergen-op-Zoom fell a sacrifice; for while they were endeavouring to secure Maestricht, Marechal Saxe detached Count Lowendahl with 36,000 men, to invest this place, the fortifications of which had been the favourite work of the famous engineer Cohorn. It had a garrison of 3000 men, and was well provided with artillery, ammunition, and magazines. The enemy appeared before it on the 12th day of July, 1746, and summoned the Governor to surrender; but he replied, that he was determined to defend the place to the last extremity. The Prince of Saxe-Hildburghausen was sent to its relief, with twenty battalions, and fourteen squadrons of the troops that could be most conveniently assembled. He entered the lines of Bergen-op-Zoom, where he remained in expectation of a strong reinforcement from the Confederate army; and the famous old

Baron



Baron Croonstom, whom the Stadtholder had appointed Governor of Brabant, assumed the command of the garrison. The French spent nine days in making their approaches, yet carried on their operations with great vivacity, and the troops in the town defended it with equal vigour. The eyes of all Europe were turned upon this important siege. Count Lowendahl received several reinforcements, and a considerable body of troops was detached from the Allied army, under the command of Baron Schwartzberg, to co-operate with the Prince of Saxe-Hildbourghausen. The French lost a great number of men by the close and continual fire of the besieged, while they in their turn opened such a number of batteries, and plied them so warmly, that the defences began to give way. From the 16th of July to the 16th of September, the siege produced an uninterrupted scene of horror and destruction; desperate sallies were made, mines sprung with the most dreadful effects, the works were shattered, the town was laid in ashes, and the trenches filled with carnage. Nothing was seen but fire and smoke; nothing heard but one continued roar of bombs and cannon. But still the damage fell chiefly on the besiegers, who were slain in heaps, the stretch of which obliged Count Lowendahl to send a message to Baron Croonstom, desiring a suspension of arms, that he might have an opportunity of burying his dead, and removing so many shocking and pernicious sights from the trenches; but the Governor told the messenger, "That it was the business of a general to take towns, not wilfully to destroy them, such acts shewing more of the fury and brutality of the Tartar, than the courage and gallantry of the soldier; that Count Lowendahl, instead of obtaining a conquest in a brave and noble manner, was endeavouring to spread around an universal desolation, and therefore it was the inflexible resolution of the Governor, the Council of war, and the garrison in general, that they would not allow a suspension of arms, and neither give nor receive that or any other favour." This redoubled the fury of the French, and Count Lowendahl was determined to make an attempt upon Steenbergen, to destroy the communication of the town and country; but the place was reinforced by a detachment from the lines, and the French repulsed with considerable loss. A scarcity of provisions prevailed greatly in the camp, till they received fresh supplies.

The besiegers were now employing their miners to advance by sap, towards the outworks of the town, directing their aim to the polygon of Cohorn, while a strong detachment opened the trenches against the forts Rover and Pilsen, in the front of the lines, where the Prince of Saxe-Hildbourghausen commanded; but the British regiment of Highlanders, under the command of Lord John Murray, made a sally from fort Rover, killed 400 of the besiegers, burnt their batteries, and drove them from their trenches, to which they returned, and after making three unsuccessful attacks against the forts, entirely abandoned the attempt. The besiegers now directed all their attention to make a lodgement before the town. Several sallies were made by the garrison, and three of the French batteries destroyed: notwithstanding which, on the 10th of August, the besiegers

sprung a mine in the night, under the salient angle of the bastion of Cohorn, which making some way for them, they resolutely forced themselves up to the covered way, where they proposed to make a lodgement; but the garrison being apprised of their intentions, fell upon them with such fierceness and resolution, that in a little time the French were repulsed with a dreadful slaughter. During the time of this assault, the garrison sprung a mine, which did terrible execution, instantly blowing up two companies of grenadiers of the regiment of Normandy, which obliged the French to retreat from their lodgement, with the loss of 1500 men. Baron Schwartzberg proposed to the Prince of Saxe-Hildbourghausen a general sally both from the town and the lines. The attempt was begun on the 11th of August, about seven in the morning, by the village of Wourne; but they found the besiegers so strongly intrenched that it was impossible to fall on them to any advantage, which made them retire. The same evening the besiegers formed a lodgement near the bastion of Zealand. Several engineers arrived from England for the defence of the town, and a terrible fire was maintained by the garrison and the besiegers. Both suffered by mining and countermining; and on the 15th, the French attacked the lunette of Zealand; but had 200 men blown up, and a great part of their works ruined by a mine: they advanced, however, to the assault, but were twice repulsed: the action lasted two hours, with a continual fire from the cannon and musquetry. The next morning the besiegers returned to the charge, and after several repulses, took post on the lunette; the besieged keeping possession of the jambour, from whence they in vain endeavoured to dislodge the besiegers, though they blew up 300 of them. The mining continued incessantly with dreadful execution, and the besiegers set several of the streets in flames; but on the 25th of August, being the feast of St. Louis, upon which day Count Lowendahl had promised the French Monarch to make him a present of Bergen-op-Zoom, the French threw an incredible number of red-hot balls into the town, and made three attacks on the lunette of Utrecht, where they were repulsed with considerable loss. Sallies, mines, and countermines were made with equal loss on both sides, till the 10th of September, when the besiegers played violently from six batteries against the lines and the town, particularly against the bastions of Cohorn and Pucelle, and the ravelin of Dedem, which they battered in breach: but the fire was vigorously returned by the garrison. By the 15th, the besiegers had made a considerable breach in the ravelin, and four breaches in the two bastions, which encouraged Count Lowendahl to take the resolution to storm the breaches, though the Governor so little apprehended such an attempt, that he had not taken a single precaution against it. Count Lowendahl in the evening of the 15th, made the necessary dispositions to mount to the assault; he committed the care of the trenches to fourteen companies of grenadiers, thirteen battalions, 100 volunteers, and 900 labourers, that they might be ready to open at break of day. Six companies of grenadiers, sustained by as many battalions, with 300 labourers, three brigades of sappers, each brigade consisting of eight men, twenty cannoneers,

cannoneers, and twenty workmen, were nominated at the same time for the attack of the bastion of Pucelle; a like number were disposed for that of Cohorn, and two companies, preceded by 200 volunteers, and sustained by one battalion, two auxiliary companies, with 300 labourers, were destined for the attack on the ravelin of Dedem. All these troops had a signal appointed by four o'clock in the morning of the 16th, by two falcons from their mortars, which poured a great quantity of bombs all at once into the ravelin of Dedem; and as soon as these had their effect, the besiegers threw themselves into the fosse, coming on with the greatest impetuosity to make the assault at the breach; two companies, who were a reserve at the gorge of the ravelin, mounted immediately, to assist the troops that were in the ravelin. The first of these companies were soon put into disorder, the second made its utmost efforts; but being overpowered with numbers, was obliged to retire. The French immediately forced open the Sally port of Pallenius, mounted the four breaches in the bastions of Pucelle and Cohorn, where they forced the intrenchments, drove the garrison from their posts, spread themselves from right to left upon the curtains, formed in order of battle, and came down into the town before the body of the garrison could be assembled. Croonstom was asleep, and the soldiers upon duty had been surpris'd by the suddenness and impetuosity of the attack. Though the French had taken possession of the ramparts, they did not gain the town without opposition. Two battalions of the Scottish troops, commanded by Lord John Murray, in the pay of the States-general, were assembled in the market-place, and attacked them with such fury, that they were driven from street to street, till fresh reinforcements arriving, compelled the Scots to retreat in their turn; yet they disputed every inch of ground, and fought till two-thirds of them were killed on the spot, through the want of the support the Dutch ought to have given them; they brought off the old Governor, abandoning the town to the enemy, which they were no sooner masters of, than a general plunder ensued, and most of the assailants were amply rewarded for their bravery, by the plunder which fell into their hands. The military chests of the regiments, the baggage of the officers, and the valuable effects of the inhabitants, fell a prize to the victors, who also pillaged the Prince of Saxe-Hildbourghausen's camp, which he abandoned with great precipitation. The French lost above 300 men in this assault, though they killed 400, and took 1600 men prisoners in the town, among whom was Major-general Lewé, who was indisposed, and could not join in the flight. The Dutch lost about 3000 men in the town and in the lines, from the commencement of the siege, which cost the French upwards of 20,000 men.

**BERGHEN ATTACKED IN 1665.** This town is situated in Norway, and during the war between the English and Dutch, a rich fleet belonging to the latter from the Levant and another from the East-Indies took shelter in this port, both valued at several millions. The king of Denmark, who had several complaints against the Dutch, opened himself freely to Talbot, then resident at the Danish court; when Talbot told him

he might take revenge by seizing the rich fleets that lay at Berghen, only waiting for a convoy. The King of Denmark answered he had not force enough to execute such a design, when Talbot replied, the King his master would send a force to effect it; but it was reasonable he should have half the spoil. To which the King of Denmark readily agreed, and ordered him to transmit the proposals to his master.

This conference reaching England, the King approved of it, and promised to send a fleet to put it in execution. The ministers of Denmark were appointed to concert the matter with Talbot, but nothing was put in writing, the King of Denmark being ashamed to treat of such an affair but by word of mouth.

The Earl of Sandwich was then in the seas, to whom Talbot sent a vessel express with the news, but that vessel fell into the hands of the Dutch fleet, and was sent to Holland.

The King of Denmark wrote to the Viceroy of Norway, and to the Governor of Berghen, ordering them to use fair means to keep the Dutch still in their harbour, promising to send them particular instructions in a few days how to proceed. Talbot sent letters with these to be delivered secretly to the commanders of the English frigates, to let them know they might attack the Dutch in the port of Berghen, for the Danes would make no resistance, pretending fear that the English would destroy the town; but that an account was to be kept of their prizes, as the King of Denmark was to have a just half of all. They were not to be surpris'd if the Danes seem'd at first to talk high, that being to be done for show only; but they would grow calmer when they came to engage.

The Earl of Sandwich sent his secretary to Talbot to know the particulars of this agreement with the King of Denmark, but the vessel that carried him was ordered back directly after he was landed, so that it was impossible to send the accounts by that vessel, and no other ship could be got to carry back the Secretary. And thus the Earl of Sandwich went to attack the Dutch fleet, without staying for an answer from Talbot, or knowing what orders the Governor of Berghen had received. For though the orders were sent, yet the distance being ten or twelve days journey, it could not reach the place till after the attack.

The Viceroy of Norway, who resided at Christiana, had his orders sooner, and sent out two galleys to communicate them to the Earl of Sandwich, but missed him, for he was then before Berghen. The Governor of Berghen, not having yet the orders that the former express promised him, sent a gentleman to the English fleet, desiring they would make no attack for two or three days; for by that time, he expected his orders. Clifford was sent to the Governor, who insisted that till he had orders, he must defend the port. Upon Clifford's returning to the fleet, a council of war was called, in which the officers, animated with the hopes of a rich booty, resolv'd, without further delay, to attack the port; either doubting the sincerity of the Danish court, or unwilling to give them so large a share of what was reckon'd already their prize.

Upon this, Tiddyman began the attack, which ended fatally.



fatally. Many frigates were disabled, and many officers and seamen were killed. The squadron was thus ruined; and Tiddyman being ready to sink, was obliged to slip his cables, and retire to the fleet, which lay without the rocks. The action was on the 3d of August, and on the 4th, the Governor received his orders, when he sent for Clifford; but as the English fleet had, by their precipitation, forced him to do what he had done, he could not execute those orders, till he sent an account of what had happened to the Court of Denmark, and had the King's further orders. But if the whole English fleet would not stay in those seas so long, he desired they would leave six frigates before the harbour, and he would engage the Dutch should not go to sea in the mean time. But the English were sullen at their disappointment, and failed away. The King of Denmark was unspeakably troubled at the loss of the greatest treasure he was ever like to have in his hands. This design was well laid, and would have been as fatal to the Dutch, as ignominious to the King of Denmark; but was by the impatience of the English lost without possibility of recovery.

**BERGSHEIM, CITY OF, TAKEN IN 1631.** It is situated on the Upper Rhine, in Germany; and was taken by Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, during his contest against the Empire.

**BERGUÉS.** See DUNKIRK.

**BERGZABERN.** On the afternoon of October 17, 1796, this unfortunate city witnessed a scene which excited in the inhabitants the liveliest sensations of alarm. At half after five o'clock an Austrian patrol entered the place, and took three hostages, who were led to the detachment, consisting of 200 men, which continued in the suburbs. The Imperialists then ordered that a supper should be provided for 150 men and four officers, together with rations for the same number of horses. The Bourgeoise strictly complied with this military order; but when all was completed, they exacted a contribution of 200 louis d'ors for the desert; and this sum was to be provided in half an hour. Upon this being made known, the terror became general, in consequence of the inability of the inhabitants to procure a sum, which was so large, when compared with the smallness of the place.

The half hour being elapsed, the Austrians lighted torches, every third man holding one of these in his hand, and the others being supplied with bundles of straw. One hundred and seventy-five louis only could be collected, and these were carried to the officers, who persisted in having the other twenty-five louis, and granted a quarter of an hour. This time being elapsed, and the money not being to be had, they prepared to set fire to the place at every point. It was now ten o'clock, the wind was high, and the darkness of the night favoured their enterprize. The streets were filled with people, men, women, and children, making the air resound with their lamentable cries. Another half hour was demanded, and consented to; and fortunately the twenty-five louis were mustered together, and immediately delivered to the officers. The three hostages were released; but the young man who carried the money was obliged to stay with the officers.

One of them shewing him an handful of crowns, asked him how many of these were required to make a louis d'or? On the other replying four, the officer told him he was at liberty to return home. At midnight the Austrians retreated towards Windes.

**BERLIN, ATTACKED IN 1757.** This city is the capital of Prussia, and the residence of its kings. On the 16th of October, General Haddick, taking advantage of the king's absence, appeared before the gates of this city. The troops he commanded, consisted of regular foot cuirassiers and hussars, to the amount of 8000 men, who had with them a large train of artillery. About eleven o'clock he summoned the city to surrender, and at the same time he attacked the Silesia and Cotsbus gates, which he forced after a weak resistance, having demolished with his cannon the pallisades which joined the Silesia gate. It is well known that Berlin has no rampart, that only a small part of the city is defended, and that by a weak wall, the rest being surrounded with pallisades only. Besides, it was impossible to defend so large a city, open on all sides, with a garrison of five weak battalions, partly militia, which were properly designed only for guards to the royal family.

In this situation, the Queen, the Princes, and Princesses, and all their attendants, escorted by the garrison, set out for Spandau, a fort situated about two miles from the city.

All that could be done to oppose the enemy, who were making their utmost efforts to advance, was to detach 400 men to the gates, of which the Austrians had made themselves masters, where they behaved so well, that they wounded and killed many of the enemy. The Austrian General Baboczy, who was wounded, died a few minutes after the action. There were fifty of the Prussians killed, and some were taken prisoners. The rest, who could no longer withstand the superior number of the enemy, who attacked them with their infantry and cavalry, and a terrible fire of cartridge shot, retired into the city.

When the royal family were gone, the magistrates, at the request of the burghers, sent deputies to General Haddick, to treat with him. That General sent on his part, two officers to the town-house; and it was agreed, that they should pay a contribution of 200,000 crowns. On the 17th, at five in the morning, as soon as he had received the money, he precipitately marched away with his troops, having probably received intelligence of the approach of Prince Maurice. The Austrians did not enter into the body of the town, but only the suburbs, the bridges of the river, as well as those of the canals, that separate the body of the town from the suburbs being drawn up. They did not pass the night in the houses of the inhabitants, but in the open air. They committed great disorders, both before and after the capitulation, pillaging many houses, and massacring several innocent persons, among whom was the Privy Counsellor Stosch, an old man of eighty years of age. The King was no sooner informed of the march of this body, than he ordered Prince Maurice to go directly with the troops under his command to the assistance of the capital. The Prince did all in his power to arrive in time, setting out from Torgau on

on the 15th, and arriving at Berlin on the 18th; but it was not possible to get before, or come up with the enemy, who had gained three days march. However, some prisoners were taken, and part of the contribution.

**BERLIN, BOMBARDED IN 1760.** The Russian Generals Tottleben and Czernichef, were detached with 20,000 men, and General Lassey with 14,000 from the Austrian army, marched against Berlin. The whole Russian army followed at a distance to sustain the grand enterprize. But each wanting to get before the other, General Tottleben, without waiting for the arrival of the large corps of troops, appeared on the 3d of October before this city, with 2000 light troops and some foot. He immediately summoned it, and upon its refusing to surrender, he threw into the town some hundreds of royal grenades, bombs, and red-hot balls, in hopes of obtaining by fire and terror, what he could not promise himself from his forces. The three assaults made on Halle gate, were repelled; and the flames which had broke out in five different parts, were happily extinguished. The prudent measures taken by the Prussian Generals, who were at Berlin, at last obliged the Russian General to retire without effecting his purpose. Meanwhile, Prince Eugene of Wurtemberg, and Lieutenant-General Hulfen, had come to the assistance of the capital, and for some time put a stop to the enemy's enterprizes. They would probably have obliged them wholly to drop their design, had not Count Czernichef on one side, and General Lassey on the other, come up with their troops. At the same time, the grand Russian army arrived at Franckfort upon the Oder, and General Panin, with seven regiments, was detached towards Berlin, to sustain General Czernichef; and he could be followed every day by fresh detachments.

The two Prussian Generals abovementioned, seeing the great superiority of the enemy, would not expose the city to the precarious issue of a battle, and resolved to give it time to capitulate, in order to prevent the calamities to which it might be exposed. Accordingly they withdrew on the 6th, before day-break, to Spandau; and the Governor and the magistrates, made separate capitulations with General Tottleben. It was agreed, that the town should be delivered up to the Russians: that the garrison, consisting of two battalions of Itzenplitz's regiment, and one battalion of Ludenitz's militia, should be prisoners of war: and that on paying a contribution of 1,500,000 crowns, and 200,000 as a gratuity to the troops, for which the town was obliged to become bound, it should enjoy full liberty, protection, and safety, while the enemy staid in it. The prisoners, who, at the most, amounted to 1200 men, and no more, were carried off; and the cadets, who could not be comprehended in the capitulation, which mentioned only generals, officers, subalterns, and soldiers, were carried away with the rest on foot. Though scarce more than ten or twelve years old, their tender years could not secure them from this hard usage, which put an end to many of their lives.

This capitulation was no better observed than that made in the year 1757, with General Haddick. For

both the Austrians and Russians immediately broke it. By the third article of the two capitulations for the garrison and the town, it was settled, that no soldier should be quartered in the city or suburbs; that the light troops should not be permitted even to enter the place; and that both the royal palaces and private houses should be entirely safe, and not be exposed to pillage. Nevertheless, several Austrian regiments took up their quarters in the town, as hath just been mentioned. They even lived at discretion; and not content with eating and drinking at the expence of their landlords, they compelled them to give them money and goods, and whatever they asked. There were few inhabitants of Berlin, whom the guests did not cost great sums, according to their rank in life. The town was in a manner overrun with cossacks, hussars, and other light troops, who robbed in the streets as well as houses; nor were the regular troops wholly free from this reproach: the Austrians particularly distinguishing themselves in these exploits. On a careful inquiry, it was found that 282 private houses were broke open and plundered; and the inhabitants compelled, by the most barbarous acts of violence, to part with money, watches, and whatever the soldiers had a mind to. A great number of persons were cut with swords, and abused in a cruel manner. A woman named Schack, was found murdered on the quay of Collen. People scarce dared to appear in the streets, for fear of being robbed: and most of those whose business obliged them to be abroad in the evening, or at night, were stripped of every thing. The King's stables, which, by capitulation, were not to be meddled with, were a principal object of the enemy's ravage; though the Russian commander, had placed there a guard of twenty-four men. All his Majesty's coaches, which surely could not be reckoned implements of war, were broke to pieces, after being stripped of the velvet embroidery and lace: and the apartments of Marechal Schwerin, one of the King's equeries, which were over the stables, were plundered. The hospital for invalids, and the hospital called La Charité, those retreats of the unhappy, the infirm, and the indigent, which one would imagine the most cruel enemy would have respected, were not spared, but pillaged, and exposed to other excesses of different kinds. In the church of Jerusalem, the Austrians robbed the vestry and the poor's box, and opened some graves to strip the dead. It must be acknowledged, that General Tottleben, and Brigadier Bachmen, who was appointed Vice Governor, endeavoured to maintain order and discipline in the city, and that they even put a stop to some excesses of the troops; but most of the disorders were suffered to pass unpunished: and by the excesses committed in breach of the capitulation, the city sustained the loss of some hundred thousands of crowns, besides the enormous contributions exacted from it.

Nevertheless, what happened at Berlin was nothing, compared to what was done in the small towns and the flat country; the whole, from the gates of Berlin to the distance of several miles, being totally desolated. In particular, the Austrian, Russian, and Saxon troops, joined to leave the most detestable marks of their rage and,



and inhumanity, at the castle of Charlottenburg. Esterhazy's Austrian hussars, and the Saxon uilans, distinguished themselves in this exploit; and their officers looked on unconcerned. Whole squadrons entered the castle on the 9th of October, and plundered it for four days successively, without receiving the least check from either of their generals. All the tapestry was torn down, looking-glasses, pictures, tables, chairs, china, in short, all that was of any value, was broke or spoiled; except a large quantity of effects, which some greedy officers took for themselves, and sent away in covered waggons. Even the King's chapel, that sacred place, which most savage nations would have respected, was ravaged, and profaned by their nastiness, and the organs broke. In the apartments of the castle, the pictures of the royal family were defaced; and several statues of the celebrated cabinet of Cardinal Polignae, valuable monuments of antiquity, were mutilated or damaged. In short, such havoc was made at this country seat, that scarce any more than the walls could properly be said to be left. Nevertheless, the plunder got here did not satisfy the enemy's greediness, nor secure the inhabitants of the town from being plundered, though they had ransomed themselves, by the payment of 15,000 crowns in ready money. Every thing was taken from them; and what could not be carried away, was destroyed. Several inhabitants were horse-whipped, and cut with sabres, of which two died. Even the women without distinction of age, were exposed to the rage of the enemy, and made the victims of their brutality.

Schoenhaufen, the Queen's country-house, shared much the same fate. A Russian subaltern arrived there on the 8th of October, with eight hussars, and demanded with grievous threats, her Majesty's plate. In vain he was told that it had been carried long before to a place of safety: they searched the castle, and not finding what they wanted, pulled down and destroyed the tapestry and curtains, and taking what they liked, went to the house of the keeper of the castle, stripped him and his wife, beat them with rods and whips, and even pinched them with red hot pincers in a cruel manner. The Generals Czernichef and Totleben, being informed of these cruelties, promised to put a stop to them; but instead thereof, the castle was entirely desolated between the 9th and 12th. All the tapestry and curtains left at the former visit, were torn, and the chairs, china, and pictures, broke to pieces. In short, Schoenhaufen was made a desert: nor did the offices belonging to it, or the village of Pankow, which adjoins it, fare better. A servant belonging to the castle, was laid on the fire in his own apartment; and the minister's footman was hacked to death with sabres. The women were dishonoured in the most barbarous manner. All the cattle were driven away, and every house and barn emptied.

**BERNARD'S-HEATH.** See ST. ALBAN'S.

**BERNBURG, FORTRESS OF, TAKEN IN 1644.** It is situated in Anhalt, Saxony; and was taken by the Swedish General Torstenfon, who at the same time defeated General Gallas, at the head of the Imperial army near the same place.

**BERSILLY,** a small town in Flanders. Near this place on the 8th of June, 1792, early in the morning, a body of Austrian troops to the number of 5000, attacked a French corps, commanded by M. Gouvion, who encamped near this place, and after destroying all the batteries, carried the camp, and obliged the French to shelter themselves in Maubeuge. The loss on the side of the latter was 200 men, and on the Austrians only thirty.

**BERWICK, SIEGE OF.** A large borough town on the north side of the river Tweed, about fifty-two miles north-west from Newcastle upon Tyne. It is usually placed in the county of Northumberland. In the year 1296, Baliol, who had been raised to the Scottish crown by Edward I. King of England, revolted against that monarch; resolving, if possible, to throw off the English yoke. Edward making him, on the most trifling occasion, come to his parliament and courts of justice to answer for his conduct, which at length filled him with indignation and chagrin, finding he held the state in such a dependency that he was become Edward's slave rather than his vassal. With this view he entered into an alliance with Philip IV. of France, at this time at war with England. Edward received intimation of the league, but willing to be more certified of his intentions, demanded the castles of Berwick, Roxburgh, and Jedburgh, by way of security for his behaviour, so long as the war with France should continue. The proposal was evaded, but the command not rejected. Edward, fully convinced of his disaffection, resolved to attack him without further delay. The Scottish expedition was prepared, and Newcastle appointed to be the rendezvous of the troops, where he received a letter from Baliol, complaining of the repeated injuries he had received at the hands of Edward. At the same time Robert de Bruce, Lord of Werk, revolted to the enemy, though his brother William kept possession of his castle for King Edward. A thousand men being detached to reinforce the garrison, were intercepted in their march by Robert, at the head of some Scottish troops, and entirely defeated. The King was no sooner apprized of this action, than he advanced with his whole army, amounting to 35,000 men, and encamped at Werk, from whence he proposed to march into Scotland after the Easter holidays of the year 1297. Mean while an army of Scots, commanded by the Earls of Muchan, Monteith, and several other noblemen invaded England; and having made an unsuccessful attempt upon Carlisle, returned to Scotland, to oppose the progress of Edward. That Prince passing the Tweed at Coldstream, invested Berwick; and the fleets of the Cinque Ports entering the harbour, were so warmly received by the enemy, that, after an obstinate engagement, they were obliged to retire with the loss of several vessels. The King perceiving the smoke of the burning ships, ordered the assault to be given; and the Scots were so astonished at the valour of the assailants, that they made no defence, but suffered themselves to be slaughtered without opposition. The Scottish historians affirm that Edward was repulsed in several attacks, and at length had recourse to a stratagem: that he withdrew his army, as if he had

had meant to raise the siege : and provided banners and ensigns like those that were displayed by the Scottish kings and nobility ; that he ordered his soldiers to wear St. Andrew's crosses above their armour, a mark by which the Scots distinguished themselves in battle ; then returning suddenly, those who belonged to the faction of Bruce, advanced before the rest, and told their countrymen, an army, headed by Baliol, was come to their relief. The people and garrison crediting this information, ran out in crowds to meet their sovereign ; when a detachment of horse cutting off their retreat, and seizing one of the gates, they were cut in pieces before they could put themselves in a posture of defence. The English army immediately entered the town without opposition, and massacred above 7000 men, women, and children. The English writers agree in the account of this carnage, which was made under the eye of Edward himself, not much to the credit of his humanity.

In consequence of this acquisition Baliol resigned his crown, and Scotland became without a King. It was during this interim, that the famous Wallace took the command of the Scottish army, defeated Edward's troops at Stirling, and laid siege to Berwick in the same year, but was forced to raise it by the Earls of Hereford and Norfolk. Several battles were fought, victory declaring sometimes for one, and at other times for the other. At length Wallace was taken and executed as a traitor, upon which Robert de Bruce aspired to the Scottish throne. He subdued Scotland and expelled the English, which not a little exasperated the new King of England, Edward II. who had ascended the throne on the decease of his father. Bruce took Berwick in the year 1318, after having made all the necessary preparations for a siege, as it was said, by tampering with the Governor.

Edward the following year resolved to retake it, and with this view he, at the head of his army, invested it by land, while the fleet of the Cinque Ports blocked it up in such a manner by sea, that it could not possibly receive any succours or provisions. The operations of the siege were carried on with great vigour and alacrity, and the place was defended with equal courage by the Great Steward of Scotland, son-in-law of Robert de Bruce, who sustained several desperate assaults, in some of which the English had actually mounted the ramparts. They were so advantageously posted, that Robert could not attack them with any prospect of success, and therefore he resolved to make a diversion in favour of the besieged.

Edward's Queen resided at a village near York, little dreaming she was in any danger from the Scots, who were supposed to be too much engrossed by the defence of their own country to spare troops for an expedition into England. Robert formed a plan for surprising this Princess ; and the Lord Douglas being charged with the execution, advanced with a body of chosen men towards the place of his destination : but the design miscarried ; for one of his spies being apprehended at York, was put to the torture, and disclosed his intention ; so that the Queen was removed to York, and from thence conveyed to Nottingham. The Arch-

bishop being determined to surprise the Scots in his turn, assembled his tenants, vassals, and clergy, to the number of 10,000, and marched silently from York, towards Milton on the Swale, where, by the information of the spy, he knew the enemy would be quartered on that day. Douglas, however, was too vigilant an officer to be surprised : his men were already ranged in order of battle ; and, as the English approached with the wind in their faces, he ordered a great quantity of wet straw to be kindled. They were immediately blinded by the smoke ; and while they continued in this cloud, without being able to distinguish the number or posture of the enemy, he fell upon them with such fury, that they were instantly routed, and above 7000 either killed on the spot, or drowned in the Swale. The King, apprised of this disaster, raised the siege of Berwick, and divided his forces into two bodies, with a view to intercept the Scots in their retreat : but Douglas took his measures so well, that he avoided both divisions, and returned to his own country laden with plunder.

The Scots continuing their depredations, Edward descended to conclude a truce with them in the year 1322, for thirteen years, in which, among other articles it was stipulated, that Berwick should remain in their possession, but not the least alteration should be made from its present condition ; and in case either Edward or Robert died, the truce should notwithstanding remain in full force.

In the year 1327, Edward II. was murdered, and he was succeeded by Edward III. his son. A disagreement among the nobles distracted the kingdom at this time, and the Scots resolved to take the advantage of it, without regarding the truce. Soon after this a scandalous peace was patched up, but this was but of short duration ; for Edward having summoned Robert de Bruce to do him homage, received a denial in positive terms ; upon which that monarch denounced war against him as a contumacious vassal, and assisted Edward Baliol, who had been his prisoner in England, in ascending the throne of Scotland. The Bruccians made vigorous efforts to oppose this election, but Edward supported it. The Bruccians continuing rebellious, Baliol joined in league with Edward, to quell the insurrection as it was called ; and they made Newcastle upon Tyne the rendezvous of their troops.

The Bruccians suspecting Edward's design, reinforced the garrison of Berwick, and put in two of their bravest commanders. William de Keith was Governor of the town, and Patrick Dunbar, Earl of March, Guardian of the castle. Edward set out from Newcastle in the beginning of the year 1333, and invested Berwick immediately, fixing his head-quarters at Tweedmouth. The garrison, under the eye of their brave officers, made such a gallant defence, ruining the works of the besiegers in repeated sallies, that Edward, after having made several unsuccessful attacks, resolved to change it into a kind of blockade by sea and land, in order to reduce them by famine ; and in the mean time to penetrate with part of his army into the heart of Scotland, in hopes of bringing the Guardian to a decisive battle. He accordingly left the conduct of the siege to Baliol, and entering that

country,



country, advanced as far as Edinburgh, without any other opposition than that of being incommoded in his march by the detachments of Archibald Douglas, now Guardian of the realm, who wisely avoided a general engagement.

After a tedious and fruitless progress through a barren country, from which the natives had conveyed their most valuable effects to inaccessible fastnesses, he returned to Berwick, the siege of which he now resumed with redoubled vigour; nor could he be diverted from his purpose, although Douglas marched into England, and even invested the castle of Banborough, in which the Queen resided. Edward knew the place was well fortified, and the Scots unprovided with implements for a siege; he therefore considered the attempt as an artifice to draw him from Berwick, which he resolved to reduce at all events. The Scots continued to make an obstinate defence, until their fortifications were almost entirely demolished; and then they demanded a truce of five days, on condition of surrendering the place if it should not be relieved before the expiration of that term. Sir William de Keith was furnished with a safe conduct, by virtue of which he repaired to Banborough, at that time beleaguered by Douglas, whom he persuaded to march to the relief of the place: but the time expiring before he could approach the English army, Edward demanded the immediate surrender of the town and castle; and Seton, the deputy-governor, starting some difficulties, he ordered that officer's two sons, whom he had received as hostages, to be hanged before the walls, in sight of their father. This, at least, is the account given by the Scottish writers, which, however, is denied by all the English historians, who affirm that the Scottish army came in fight before the truce was expired, and therefore Edward could have no pretence for demanding a surrender.

Douglas, with a numerous army, arrived at Bothville, near Halidowne-hill, on Monday the 29th day of July, and drew up his forces in four divisions, commanded by the principal nobility of Scotland. The English were posted upon the hill, drawn up also in four battalions, flanked with archers, for which the kingdom was always famous. In this situation did Edward wait the attack of the enemy, who began to ascend the hill with great impetuosity about the hour of vespers; but they met with such a reception as in a little time checked their career. They were soon out of breath, in consequence of running up the hill in armour; and were terribly galled by the arrows from the English; they suffered severely from the huge stones that were rolled down upon them incessantly; and their General being killed by a spear, they fell into disorder and defection. Edward perceiving them fatigued, broken, and dispirited, ordered John Lord Darcy to attack them in flank with a body of light-armed foot from Ireland, while he himself fell in among them at the head of a choice brigade of men at arms and archers on horseback. The men at arms in the Scottish army had dismounted to begin the attack; and now when they might have made some defence on horseback, they found themselves deprived of their horses by their lacquies, who had fled with them from the field of battle. All resistance was now at an

end; the enemy were surrounded, and an horrible carnage ensued: 20,000 Scots fell in the battle, and in the pursuit; and almost the whole nobility of the kingdom were either killed or taken. This great victory was obtained at the expence of one knight, one esquire, and thirteen foot soldiers, who lost their lives; and the town and castle of Berwick surrendered the next morning.

Edward being now in possession of this barrier, made several incursions into Scotland, and even penetrated to its most northern extremity. The Scots at length, not having an army to oppose him, were fain to make a truce, which subsisted during his reign; but a few months after the succession of his grandson Richard II. to the throne of England, in the year 1378, some Scottish freebooters, who had no commission from the Government of Scotland, found means to surprize the town of Berwick.

The Scottish Earl of March, as soon as he heard of the depredation committed by his countrymen, offered to assist the Earl of Northumberland in reducing Berwick to the English dominion. That nobleman immediately, at the head of 10,000 men, summoned the castle to surrender; but Ramsay, the Governor, answered, that he would defend the place to the last extremity. The defence was but of short duration; for the Earl, without the formality of a siege, assaulted the place, took it by storm, and put every Scot to the sword. Elated with this success, he proposed marching into Scotland, but one of his detachments being defeated, he laid aside the design, and things remained quiet till the year 1384, when the Scots thought proper to commit hostilities, from a motive of aggrandizement. The Duke of Lancaster was sent to chastise them; but he loitered away his time in Northumberland, and this indolence gave them an opportunity to make preparation for his reception, and even to act on the offensive; for they found means to bribe the deputy-governor of Berwick to betray the castle into their hands. This piece of mischief the Duke imputed to the negligence of the Earl of Northumberland, who had undertaken to keep a watchful eye over Berwick and the counties of Northumberland, Westmorland, and Cumberland. He summoned the Earl to answer in parliament the several charges on his conduct; but the earl not thinking it proper to appear, sentence was pronounced against him as a traitor. A few weeks after this, the Scots thought fit to submit to a truce; but notwithstanding this truce, the Earl thought himself at liberty to recover Berwick, as it had been taken during a cessation of arms; with this view he put himself at the head of 16,000 men, and invested it. Having raised his batteries, he gave the garrison to understand, that he would put them all to the sword if they made the least resistance; but if they would surrender the place immediately, they should have the gratification of 2000 marks, and all honours of war. The Governor complied with the proposal, and the Earl by this means retrieved his character, and the sentence was repealed.

In the revolt of the Percys in the year 1405, Henry IV. King of England, took Berwick from that family, after a short resistance. The Scots having afterwards obtained possession of it, the Duke of Gloucester took it

for Edward IV. King of England, in the year 1482; and in the year 1648, during the grand rebellion, General Langdale mastered it for Charles I., but Cromwell appearing before it the same year, the garrison surrendered without committing the least hostility.

**BESANCON, SIEGE OF.** The capital of Franche Comte, situated on the river Doux, fifty-five miles north from Geneva. Here are the ruins of an amphitheatre, and some other Roman antiquities. In the war of 1674, Louis XIV. invaded Franche Comte, at this time possessed by the Spaniards, and in May invested Besancon. Marechal Turenne directed the siege, but the King in person commanded the army, his presence being absolutely necessary to animate the soldiers, who were forced to undergo great hardships during this siege. The great rains that fell without intermission, the high winds, and cold nights, the water that overflowed the trenches and the whole camp, where the soldiers stood knee deep in mud and dirt; all these fatigues would questionless have tired out the patience of the men, if the King, who very much exposed his own person, had not by his example and liberality upheld their drooping courage.

The place was provided with a garrison of 3000 men, one half being of the militia, besides a good number of volunteers, all under the command of the Baron de Soye, an old and brave officer. Notwithstanding this, they made but a slender defence: the citadel itself, which was esteemed impregnable, did not hold out above eight days. This citadel was newly fortified on the point of a rock, very near perpendicular on all sides, having no more than one avenue leading to the top, which was well defended with several intrenchments, strengthened with bastions and half moons. The place however had this disadvantage, that it was commanded by two adjacent hills; but they were of so steep and difficult an ascent, that, in all human appearance, it was impossible to bring any cannon to the tops of them. As they lay on the back side of the citadel, and within full reach of the cannon, the King went in person to view them. The attempt seemed to be the boldest that ever was undertaken: but the King commanded that all the night long, by the light of torches and links, they should work at drawing up the cannon to the top of one of those hills; and he did not stir from thence, till he saw it put in execution. The besieged, surprised at the boldness of the enterprize, however played upon them warmly with their cannon: but in spite of their fire, which played without intermission, they continued their work, and raised a battery, which the next day began to play against the citadel. The inside being all built of stone, the cannon-shot made terrible havoc in a fort which was of no great compass, so that every moment the stones flew about as thick as hail, which did great execution among the garrison, many of whom were slain, and others not daring to appear but in the night-time. Thus the out-works being taken in a few days, the Governor was forced to capitulate, on such conditions as the French King was pleased to offer, which were none of the most honourable.

**BETHUNE, SIEGE OF.** A city of Flanders, in the earldom of Artois, situated on the river Biette, about

eighteen miles north-west from Arras. In the year 1710, the Duke of Marlborough ordered this town to be invested, and detached M. Schulemburg with twenty battalions and eighteen squadrons for that purpose, who summoned the garrison on the 14th of July; but they refusing to surrender, it was besieged; and the Duke, with his army, covered it from any attempts of M. Villars, who said he would fight the Duke the first siege he undertook; but after making some motions, as if he intended to keep his word, he wheeled off, and according to custom, threw up a line of intrenchments. Meantime Schulemburg pushed the siege with all possible vigour, and the garrison made a brave and well-conducted sally on the 24th, which put the whole army into confusion. The dispute was long and bloody; but at length the superiority of numbers prevailed, and the besieged were forced in, leaving near 1500 killed, and above three times that number wounded: nor was it bloodless to the victors, who lost at least as many. Nothing remarkable happened till the 28th of August, when the counterescarp was taken sword in hand; and the besiegers being ready to attack every other opposition in the same manner, M. de Puy Vauban, the Governor, became apprehensive of a general assault, and his ammunition and provisions being expended, he was necessitated to capitulate, having lost near 2000 men: for the remaining part of the garrison, amounting to about 1700, he obtained honourable conditions. The loss on the side of the besiegers, was 3365 men, besides a great number of officers, and a large quantity of ammunition.

**BIALACERKIOW, CITY OF, BESIEGED IN 1711.** It is situated in Red Russia; and while Peter the Great was engaged in a war with the Swedes, Sultan Galga, eldest son of the Khan of the Crimea, with 50,000 Tartars, and 4000 Poles, commanded by Potoski, besieged this city; but the garrison made so good a resistance, as afforded time to Prince Gallitzin to march to their assistance, who obliged the enemy to raise the siege, and retire with precipitation.

**BIBRACK, OR BEBERACH.** A city of Swabia in Germany, and was taken by Gustavus Adolphus, in his war against the Emperor, in 1634, during the contest of the Protestant Princes against the empire. It was again taken in 1702, by the Elector of Bavaria, who was soon obliged to abandon it, when it returned again to the House of Austria.

May 9, 1800. Here the Austrians were defeated with considerable loss. The armies were separated by the river Iller, where the Austrians maintained their position to cover the retreat of the baggage and wounded to Augsburg.

**BICHOW, FORTRESS OF, TAKEN IN 1707.** It is situated in the Palatine of Mscislaw in Poland; and during the contest between Charles XII. of Sweden, and Peter the Great of Russia, for placing a King on the throne of Poland, Sieniki, Grand Master of the artillery of Lithuania, shut himself in this fortress, in favour of Stanislaus, King of Poland, whose cause was espoused by the Swede. But Peter appearing before it, Sieniki surrendered, when he, and many other Polish lords, were sent prisoners to Moscow.



**BICOCA, OR BICOQUE, BATTLE AT.** A village of the Milanese in Upper Italy, situated about three miles from the city of Milan. In the year 1522, Pope Leo X. being desirous of making war against the French monarch, Francis I. only wanted a pretext. Before time had tired his patience, opportunity put into his hands a sword with two edges; for Lautrec, the French Governor of Milan, being too severe upon the inhabitants, caused many exiles, who assembled in a body, and seemed as if they intended to return by force of arms. The Pope openly espoused their cause, declaring the French had broke the peace, and prepared for war. Colonna, his general, took the field at the head of 12,000 men. Lautrec advanced to him at the head of a superior number; and the battle began in the village of Bicoca. The Swiss troops in the French service performed wonders; they were intrepid to a degree of madness; but not being properly supported by the French infantry, they were almost all cut off. The French troops made but a short resistance and fled, owing to the chagrin of their General, who hated the cause he was fighting for. The number of slain on both sides, amounted to about 4500, and the wounded to something more. The consequences were the surrender of Cremona, Milan, and Novara, to the enemy.

**BICOCA, BATTLE OF, IN 1525.** A place situated in the Duchy of Milan, Italy; and the battle here alluded to, was fought during the contest between the Emperor Charles V. and Francis I. King of France, for that dukedom. The Imperialists, commanded by Moroné, owing to the Swiss the French General Lautrec had in his army, was obliged to act upon the defensive, and had chosen an advantageous camp at the place above mentioned. Notwithstanding which, he found means to prevent the escort, which was bringing money to pay the Swiss, from reaching the French army, and which occasioned that body of people to insist upon Lautrec's attacking Moroné, or else they would retire. Lautrec finding all his remonstrances were in vain, was obliged to consent, as their retiring from the army would have been attended with the same bad consequences as a defeat, which he saw was inevitable. However hoping chance might do something, he made the necessary preparations, and the Swiss leading the van, marched with the greatest intrepidity against an enemy deeply intrenched, and surrounded with artillery. As they advanced, they sustained a furious cannonade with great firmness, and without waiting for their own artillery, rushed impetuously upon the intrenchments. But after incredible efforts of valour, both by them and the French, and having lost a great number of men, and many of their best officers, they founded a retreat; leaving the field of battle, in close array, and without receiving any molestation from the enemy.

**BIELFELDT, OR BIELVELT.** Situated in the country of Ravensberg, in Westphalia, Germany, and was formerly a Hans-town, but now subject to Prussia. It stands at the foot of a great hill, defended by the impregnable fortrefs of Sparsenberg, and is remarkable for the brave resistance it made, when attacked by the French from a neighbouring hill, with grenades and

fireballs, the burghers covering their houses with webs of linen, (their chief manufacture) dipped in milk, which preserved the town from being burnt.

**BILES-ISLAND CREEK,** in America. See BORDENTOWN.

**BIMLIPATAM,** July 31, 1794. Having observed with surprise, that all the accounts which have hitherto appeared in the Madras and Bengal papers, of the late fatal catastrophe that has taken place in this Circar, are not only incomplete, but in various parts erroneous, I am induced to submit to the public the following succinct narrative of circumstances attending the action at Pudmanabum, which terminated in the death of the Rajah Viziamam Rauze, and near two hundred of his Rachawar adherents; among whom were most of the principal natives of the district, both for affluence and character.

Government having come to the resolution of removing the person of the Rajah to a distance from the country he had held, the reluctance he shewed to comply with their orders rendered it necessary to enforce them by seizing his person; and for this purpose the detachment marched against him to Pudmanabum, where he had remained for some time in a state of negative disobedience, that argued more of sullen dignity than rebellious contumacy. We quitted the encampment, about six miles distant, early on the 10th instant, consisting of three companies of European infantry, the 20th, and seven or eight companies of the 26th and 27th battalions of native infantry, and half a company of artillery, with three brigades of six pounders. They did not come upon the Rajah's force until day-break, which they found (consisting, with peons and pikemen, of about 6000 men) under arms, and occupying a situation which was rather advantageous; but notwithstanding this hostile appearance, the line was permitted to form, without the least molestation, although from the nature of the ground, this was necessarily done but slowly, and within 150 yards of the enemy. A message was then sent from the Rajah to Colonel Pendergast, commanding the detachment, requesting to know his errand, and declaring, that he did not wish to commence hostilities, nor would do more than defend himself in his home, where he wished to remain quiet. Affairs, however, had gone too far for negociation, and the Colonel could only refer him to his orders. Still, however, in the hope of his followers dispersing without bloodshed, the Colonel ordered his line to advance without firing; they did so, until the right had come within pistol shot, when a single matchlock was discharged, which, from subsequent circumstances, appears to be from accident; the firing then became general, and from the shortness of the distance, was so heavy, that the whole line, excepting the artillery, fell back, and was thrown into some disorder.

By the exertion of the officers, however, they soon rallied; and as the Rajah's sepoys were too undisciplined to pursue their first advantage, they did not long stand the charge, but fled precipitately, after about ten minutes contest from the commencement of the action, which then became a scene of the most dreadful butchery; the brave Rachawars armed only with their lances,

lances, standing with intrepid countenance to share the fate of their master, who had fallen early in the day—the last proof of their reverence and affectionate attachment.

These could, of course, make no resistance against the grape and musquetry of the Europeans, who rushed on, finishing with the bayonet what the ball had not quite effected; and pursuing their way to the village of Padmanabum, in the rear of the enemy's centre, where the thirst of blood, uniting with the thirst of plunder, not a living native, or valuable, was shortly after to be found in any part of it, not excepting the Pagoda, which was ransacked without remorse, of many valuable tokens of Asiatic superstition.

The Rajah had sent off his young son, with the women of his family, the evening before, as he had resolved not to be taken alive, and did not wish to involve them in his ruin. To the very last, however, he had hopes of accommodating matters, without suffering what his nice honour termed degradation; for which purpose he repeatedly gave orders not to fire first; and in all probability, could he have commanded the motions of his numerous rabble, he would not have been under the necessity of sacrificing his existence to his honour, with the lives of so many of his brave attendants.

The casualties on the side of the English amounted to between seventy and eighty killed and wounded, and the loss on the Rajah's must have been at least four or five times as many, as among the Rachawars alone near two hundred fell; and after the heat of the action many natives of all descriptions and cast, among whom were some Bramins, became a prey to the Europeans, whose fury, at once excited by a sense of shame at their first check, and their desire of gain, was too great to be restrained by their officers.

**BINGEN.** In March 1793, the King of Prussia crossed the Rhine, at Buehara, and attacked the French at this place, at Creutzenach and Altkeim took General Neuwingen, fifty officers, 200 non-commissioned officers and privates, fifteen cannons, and a military chest.

**BIRSEN, CITY OF, TAKEN IN 1625.** It is situated in Lithuania, and was taken by Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, from the Poles, when he made an irruption into that province. It was taken again by the Swedes in 1704, under General Lewenhaupt, when the fortifications were destroyed.

**BISCAY.** See BAY of BISCAY.

**BISERTA,** on the coast of Africa, before which place the Venetian fleet was in August 1786, and into which place they had thrown upwards of 100 shells so as to render the town a heap of ruins. Among the Africans, the commandant of the place, and many persons of rank were killed, and the number wounded so numerous, that there were not surgeons enough to dress the wounds, and some were sent from Leghorn for that purpose.

**BITONTO.** A city of Bari, in the kingdom of Naples; and near it the Spaniards obtained a decisive victory over the Austrians in 1734, whereupon the

kingdom of Naples submitted to Don Carlos; and the Spanish General, as a reward for this victory, was created Duke of Bitonto.

**BITSCH,** situated on the borders of France in Lorraine.

On the 16th of November 1793, the Prussian army made an attempt to take this place by assault; the French were informed of their intention by a spy. The Prussians proceeded, but when they came within musket shot, they found themselves suddenly assailed by a shower of balls, and a most terrible fire from the cannon of the fortress. The retreat was not effected without a considerable loss, as the French were disposed to attempt a pursuit. The loss sustained by the Prussians, was about 600 killed and wounded, among the latter was Prince Louis, slightly wounded in the arm.

**BIZZETON,** in St. Domingo, was attacked by three columns of the Brigands, of at least 2000 men. The garrison consisted of not more than 120 men. Captain Grant and his two lieutenants, Lieutenant Clunes of the Royals, and Lieutenant Hamilton, of the 22d regiment, merited every attention that could be shewn them. They were all three severely wounded early in the attack; but tied up their wounds, and continued to defend the post. It was a very gallant defence, and did them great honour.

Captain M'Kiver, of the brig Mary, was of infinite service. Armed vessels were stationed off Bizzeton and Tiberoon, and they contributed essentially to the preservation of these posts.

SIR,

Bizzeton, Dec. 5, 1794.

I have the honour to inform you, that between the hours of four and five this morning, immediately as the moon set, the two posts at this place were attacked by three columns almost at the same moment, commencing by an attempt on the Redan, which was followed by others from the Old Mill House, and on the work constructed on the opposite hill.

The enemy advanced perfectly silent, and in such secrecy, that they were close under the works before they were discovered; but having had the garrison under arms for some hours, as is customary, and the militia being in readiness on their posts, the enemy met with an instant check.

After an ineffectual attack of about three quarters of an hour, and day-light breaking fast upon them, they retreated, carrying with them all their wounded, and (as is supposed) many of their dead, as thirty-seven bodies only were found.

I should not do justice to his Majesty's troops, both officers and men under my command, if I did not acquaint you, Sir, with what cool and determined spirit they conducted themselves on this occasion; to the former, Lieutenants Hamilton and Clunes, I am particularly indebted for their exertions, though I am sorry to say they were both severely wounded.

I must also thank Captain M'Kiver, of the brig Mary, for the constant and steady fire he kept up during the whole of the action.

I have



I have the honour to transmit an account of killed and wounded, and am, &c.

J. GRANT.

Brig. Gen. Horneck.

Return of killed and wounded at Fort Bizzeton, Dec. 5.

Flank corps. 1 rank and file killed; 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 serjeant, 4 rank and file wounded.

1st Royals. 1 lieutenant wounded.

23d Reg. 1 serjeant killed; 1 rank and file wounded.

41st ditto. 1 rank and file killed; 2 rank and file wounded.

Militia. 2 rank and file killed; 6 rank and file wounded.

Total. 1 serjeant, 4 rank and file killed; 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 1 serjeant, 13 rank and file wounded.

Names of Officers wounded,

Flank corps. Captain Grant, of the 13th grenadiers.

Ditto. Lieutenant Hamilton, of the 22d light infantry.

1st Battalion of Royals. Lieutenant Clunes.

**BLACKHEATH, BATTLE ON.** In Kent, near Greenwich. Henry VII. during his war with Scotland, having nearly exhausted his finances, found himself under a necessity to refill his coffers, therefore ordered a large subsidy to be levied in all the counties. But in Cornwall, the collectors met with unexpected opposition; the inhabitants of which loudly complained that they should be saddled with such a grievous imposition, on account of some petty damage done at the other end of the kingdom. These murmurs were encouraged by one Michael Joseph, a popular and factious blacksmith, and Thomas Flammock, a lawyer, of a very turbulent disposition, who assured the common people, that the fiefs depending upon the crown, were the proper funds assigned for the maintenance of war: that the possessors of those fiefs, held them on condition of defending the frontiers; that the King ought to apply to them, in case of an invasion from Scotland, and not pillage the kingdom under the sanction of Parliament. He said it would be shameful to submit to such imposition, which was the work of evil ministers, that made their court to the King at the expence of the poor people: that they ought to take arms in their own defence, without injury to any person whatsoever; go and present a petition to his Majesty, entreating him to ease them of such a burthensome tax, and punish his pernicious counsellors, the chief of whom were Archbishop Morton, and Sir Reginald Bray, the two ministers he consulted in all his many transactions.

The populace being thus inflamed, the Lawyer and the Blacksmith offered to conduct them, until they should be headed by some person of quality, which they were assured would be the case: and they forthwith armed themselves with such weapons as they could procure. Under the direction of these two incendiaries, they marched through the counties of Devon and Somerset, their numbers continually increasing in their route. At Taunton they murdered a collector, who had been very rigorous in the execution of his office;

and this was the only act of violence they committed. At Wells they were joined by the Lord Audley, an unquiet and ambitious nobleman, who being chosen their general, conducted them to Salisbury and Winchester, without allowing them to do the least injury to the places through which they passed. Instead of marching directly to London, according to their original design, they turned off towards Kent, in hopes of being joined by the people of that county, who were said to be very zealous for the liberty of the subject; but they were disappointed in their expectation; the noblemen and freeholders of Kent, had taken such precautions to prevent an insurrection, that the Cornish men were not joined by one person in the county; a circumstance which discouraged a great number of the insurgents to such a degree, that they retired to their own habitations. The rest, however, animated by the backwardness of the King, who had made no attempt to stop their progress, continued their march, boasting that they would either give him battle, or take London under his eye; and with this resolution, they proceeded as far as Blackheath, and encamped between Eltham and Greenwich.

When the King first heard of this insurrection, he had already raised an army for the Scottish war, and given the command of it to the Lord Chamberlain Daubeny; but now he resolved to keep the best part of the troops in the southern part of the kingdom, and sent the Earl of Surrey with a detachment, to guard the northern frontiers. Understanding that the rebels did not waste the country in their march, he continued inactive, that he might judge of the disaffection that prevailed in the counties through which they passed, by the number that would join them in the route. He was not without hopes that they would disperse of themselves, tired of the length and hardships of their march; and should they proceed to the neighbourhood of London, he foresaw that they would be more easily and effectually crushed at such a distance from their own country, than they could have been in the western parts of England.

The citizens of London were overwhelmed with consternation at their approach, until they saw the King exert himself in earnest for their defence, and even place himself between them and the danger. He no sooner understood that they were encamped on Blackheath, than he divided his army into three bodies, one of which commanded by the Earl of Oxford, marched round the hill, in order to cut off their retreat, and attack them in the rear, should it be found necessary to practise that expedient: the second, under the conduct of the Lord Daubeny, was destined to charge them in the front; and Henry himself, with the third division, encamped in St. George's fields, with a view to reinforce the others occasionally, or throw himself into London, in case of mischance. These dispositions being made, he declared that he would give the rebels battle on Monday, though his intention was to engage them on Saturday, which he deemed fortunate in all his enterprizes. By this feint he hoped to find them unprepared; and it succeeded according to his wish.

On

On the 22d day of June, 1497, towards the close of the day, the Lord Daubeny marched towards them in order of battle, having defeated an advanced guard at Deptford-bridge, where they made a vigorous stand. He ascended the hill, and found them pretty far in the heath, drawing up in battalia, not without manifest confusion; for they did not expect to be attacked till Monday, and in that notion suffered themselves to be surprised. Nevertheless, they fought with uncommon courage, though in a tumultuous manner, and killed above 300 of the King's soldiers, with arrows of a very uncommon length. The Lord Daubeny attacked them with such fury and precipitation, that he was taken prisoner in the beginning of the action, but immediately rescued by the valour of his men, who charged with irresistible fury, and the rebels were routed with great slaughter; for when they attempted to fly, they found themselves intercepted by the Earl of Oxford's division. The Lord Audley, Flammock, and the Blacksmith, were taken; and upwards of 16,000 fell in the field of battle. As for the rest, they submitted to the King's pleasure. Audley was beheaded on Tower-hill: Flammock and the Blacksmith suffered at Tyburn, the latter expressing great satisfaction that his name should be famous in after times; and all the rest were pardoned by proclamation.

**BLACK STOCKS.** A place so called, situated on the Tyger River, and on the eastern confines of South Carolina, North America. See the following letter.

*Extract of a Letter from the Earl Cornwallis to Lord George Germaine, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, dated Wynnesborough, December 18, 1780.*

Sumpter having passed the Broad river, and joined those troops that defeated Major Ferguson on King's mountain, I detached Major M'Arthur with the 1st battalion of the 71st, and the 63d Regiment, after having sent my Aid de Camp, Lieutenant Money, to take the command of it, to Brierly's ferry, on Broad-river, in order to cover our mills, and to give some check to the enemy's march to Ninety-Six. At the same time I recalled Lieutenant-Colonel Tarleton from the low country. Tarleton was so fortunate as to pass not only the Wateree, but the Broad-river, without General Sumpter's being apprised of it, who having increased his corps to 1000, had passed the Ennoree, and was on the point of attacking our Hundred militia at William's-house, fifteen miles from Ninety-Six, and where I believe he would not have met with much resistance. Lieutenant-Colonel Tarleton would have surprised him on the south of Ennoree, had not a deserter of the 63d given notice of his march: he, however, cut to pieces his rear-guard in passing that river, and pursued his main body with such rapidity, that he could not safely pass the Tyger, and was obliged to halt on a very strong position, at a place called Black Stocks, close to it. Tarleton had with him only his cavalry, and the 63d mounted, his infantry and a three-pounder being several miles behind. The enemy not being able to retreat with safety, and being informed of Tarleton's approach and want of infantry by a woman

who passed him on the march, and contrived, by a nearer road, to get to them, were encouraged by their great superiority of numbers, and began to fire on the 63d, who were dismounted. Lieutenant-Colonel Tarleton to save them from considerable loss, was obliged to attack although at some hazard, and drove the enemy with loss over the river; Sumpter was dangerously wounded, three of their colonels killed, and about 120 men killed, wounded or taken. On our side about fifty were killed and wounded. Lieutenants Gibson and Cope, of the 63d, were amongst the former, and my Aid de Camp, Lieutenant Money, who was a most promising officer, died of his wounds a few days after. Lieutenant-Colonel Tarleton, as soon as he had taken care of his wounded, pursued and dispersed the remaining part of Sumpter's corps; and then, having assembled some militia under Mr. Cunningham, whom I appointed Brigadier-General of the militia of that district, and who has by far the greatest influence in that country, he returned to the Broad-river, where he at present remains; as well as Major M'Arthur, in the neighbourhood of Brierley's ferry.

It is not easy for Lieutenant-Colonel Tarleton to add to the reputation he has acquired in this province; but the defeating 1000 men, posted on very strong ground, and occupying log-houses, with 190 cavalry and eighty infantry, is a proof of that spirit and those talents, which must render the most essential services to his country. Lieutenant-Colonel Tarleton commends much the good behaviour of the officers and men under his command; and he particularly mentions Lieutenant Skinner, of the 16th regiment of infantry, who does duty with the legion, as having distinguished himself.

**BLAREGNIES, BATTLE AT.** A little town in French Flanders, or, according to some geographers, in Hainault: it lies seven miles south of Mons. This battle is also known by the name of BLANGLIES, BLANGIES, MALPLAQUET, and TANIERS, there being villages of these names near the field of battle. It was expected at the close of the year 1708, that a general peace would have been concluded, as Louis XIV. condescended to offer very favourable concessions; but the Allied Generals, who were made plenipotentiaries, and proud with successes, finding it their interest to continue the war, rejected his proposals, and made such insolent demands, that they knew Louis would never consent to them, nor permit them to be repeated in his hearing, had he not been reduced to the last degree of distress. The Monarch who had given law to all Europe, now felt the complicated pangs of grief, shame, and indignation; he submitted to the conditions he had offered to be published, with the demands of the Allies, and the proceedings of the whole negotiation. His subjects having viewed his conduct, exclaimed against the cruelty and arrogance of his enemies; though impoverished and half-starved by the war, they resolved to spend their whole substance in his support, and rather to fight his battles without pay, than leave him to the dire necessity of making peace on those dishonourable terms; animated by these sentiments, they made such efforts as amazed the whole world.



In June 1709, 120,000 fighting men were ready to take the field; one half of which number it was thought the Monarch could not have raised.

The Allies opened the campaign with the siege of Tournay, and after the reduction of that place they proceeded towards Mons, with an intention to reduce it also. They passed the Scheldt on the third day of September, and detached the Prince of Hesse to attack the French lines from the Haifne to the Sambre, which were abandoned at his approach. On the 7th day of September Marechal de Boufflers arrived in the French camp at Quievrain, content to act in an inferior capacity to Marechal Villars, although his superior in point of seniority. The Duke of Marlborough having received advice, that the French were on their march to attack the advanced body under the command of the Prince of Hesse, decamped from Havre in order to support that detachment. On the 9th the Allies made a motion, by which their left wing came so near the enemy about two o'clock in the afternoon, that they cannonaded each other till evening; but the right wing of the Allies being too far to come up to the place of action in time, there was too little day-light left to attack the enemy. The Duke of Marlborough, Prince Eugene, and the Prince Royal of Prussia, therefore, passed the night with Mr. Gosslinga, one of the field deputies of the States, that they might be ready if the enemy should make any attempt. Villars, though something superior in number of men, was so far from entertaining any design of attacking the Allies, that, on the contrary, he began to fortify his camp, which was by nature very strong and advantageous, with great assiduity. Besides the thick hedges, which like a chain run along his whole camp, he made deep lines to cover his infantry on the left; and on his right he cast up three intrenchments, one behind another, though the access without them was very difficult, because of a marshy ground which lay before them. His centre, which was in a plain, was likewise secured by several intrenchments, defended in convenient places with heavy artillery. And besides all this, he had cut down a great number of trees, and laid them across the ways, to obstruct the passage of the confederate horse: he also cut down the hedges behind the lines, for the more easy march of his cavalry to support the infantry as occasion might require: so that his camp may be called, with some degree of propriety, a regular fortified citadel, situated behind the woods of La Merte and Taniers, in the neighbourhood of Malplaquet.

The confederate army, which amounted to above 100,000 men, encamped with its right near Sart and Bleron, and its left on the edge of the wood of Lagniere, the head quarters being at Blaregnies. Had the confederate generals resolved to attack the enemy on the first day of their approach, the battle would not have been so bloody, and the victory more decisive; for the French at that time had not begun to fortify their camp; but a large detachment of the Allies, which had been employed in the siege of Tournay, had not yet joined the main army; therefore the battle was postponed till the arrival of this reinforcement,

and this gave the French time to cover themselves with intrenchments in such a manner, that they were almost inaccessible. The troops from Tournay joined the Duke of Marlborough on the 11th of September, very early in the morning, at which time the Confederates began to erect batteries. They raised one of twenty-eight pieces of cannon on the left, another of forty in the centre; and the rest of the artillery was distributed on the right. A very thick fog favoured the erecting these batteries, which were completed by half an hour past seven, when the weather clearing up, the two armies had a full view of each other.

At eight o'clock the signal for the attack was given, by a discharge of fifty pieces of cannon; and the cannonading continued very brisk on both sides. Prince Eugene advanced with his left into the wood of Sart; and eighty-six battalions of that wing, commanded by General Schulemburg, the Duke of Argyle, and other generals, and twenty-two battalions under the command of Count Lottum, attacked the enemy with such bravery, that, notwithstanding the barricades of felled trees, and other obstacles they met in their way, after an hour's resistance, they drove the French out of their intrenchments in the woods of Sart and Taniers. The design of this attack was to drive the enemy out of those woods, and then to make an effort on their intrenchments on the plain, all which was happily effected. Thus the infantry of the enemy's left wing became ruined. General Withers, with nineteen battalions, attacked the enemy behind the woods of Great Blaregnies and Taniers, with the same vigour and success. Thirty-six Dutch battalions, commanded by the Prince of Orange, and Baron Fagel, advanced against the enemy's right, posted in the wood of La Merte, and covered with three intrenchments. Here the battle was maintained with the most desperate courage on both sides. The Dutch obliged the French to quit the first intrenchment, but were repulsed from the second with great slaughter. The Prince of Orange still persisted in his efforts with incredible perseverance and intrepidity, even after two horses had been killed under him, and the greatest part of his officers either slain or disabled. He at length forced the second intrenchment, and entered the third; when M. de Artagnan poured in upon him with amazing rapidity such a torrent of men, as might have overwhelmed him; but he avoided the heaviest part of the fire by retreating a few paces, and having recollected himself from his surprise, he took the colours of the regiment of Mey, and with as much unconcernedness as intrepidity, carried them to the intrenchment, and planted them there, calling out to his troops, "Hither, hither, my friends; hither to me!" The men, emulated by this noble example, were quickly rallied and brought again to the charge; but D'Artagnan, who fought with an obstinacy of courage that seemed to border on despair, with a superiority of numbers, obliged him to retire behind the hedges.

In the mean time all things went well on the left, and the Duke of Marlborough finding it hazardous to make a motion towards the right in the heat of action, to recover the repulse there, thought proper to pursue the



*The Battle of Hochstedt, Aug<sup>r</sup> 13. 1704.*



the advantage he had gained. He pressed forward very hard, inasmuch that the enemy were obliged to retire before him. As soon as he perceived them drawing off their cannon, he ordered the Earl of Orkney, with fifteen battalions, to attack, and, if possible, force their intrenchments in the plain between the woods of Sart and Janfart; and if he succeeded, to maintain the post. The Earl's resolution was crowned with success after a short dispute; and the horse of the Confederates now advanced, commanded in person by the Duke of Marlborough, Prince Eugene, and the Prince of Hesse: the French king's household troops at first put them into some disorder; but the Duke quickly rallied them, and made his troops put on so good a face, that the enemy soon fell into disorder, and dispersed. However, they made an excellent retreat towards Bavay, under the conduct of Boufflers, who took post between Quefnoy and Valenciennes.

Prince Eugene's share of this victory was very considerable, as he commanded a separate army from the Duke of Marlborough. The Prince's left wing attacked the enemy immediately after the signal of attack was given; of the wood of Sart, Villars and he were masters alternately several hours. Prince Eugene may be truly said to have waded through blood to the enemy's intrenchments. In this obstinate fight some battalions having expended all their ammunition, and lost their bayonets, fought several minutes with the butts of their muskets. A furious fight of five hours was maintained with the utmost bravery, at the head of the intrenchments, in which both French and Imperialists were vanquished and victorious by turns. At length victory declared for the latter, but not till almost all their infantry were cut to pieces: the cavalry then came in, and sustained several severe shocks; but the Duke of Marlborough making at this time a vigorous effort, greatly favoured Prince Eugene, who seconded the operation in the best manner possible, by making a furious onset. These attacks decided the contest; for the enemy's lines were pushed one upon another, and all opposition seemed at an end. Prince Eugene received a slight wound in his head, but it did not oblige him to retire. When he was persuaded to have it dressed, he calmly answered, "To what purpose if we are to die here? If we live, there will be time enough in the evening."

The allies had not many trophies to boast of their victory; only sixteen pieces of artillery, and about forty colours and standards were taken, with a good number of prisoners. The loss of the enemy was never exactly known; it was computed by the most modest accounts, at 15,000 men. They lost no officer of note. Among their wounded was the Chevalier de St. George, who charged twelve times at the head of the household troops; his hurt was in the arm by a sword, in his last attack; and the Marechal de Villars was wounded in the knee, which obliged him to be carried off the field of battle. Afterwards he confidently asserted, that if he himself had not been wounded, the Confederates would certainly have been defeated.

Considering the situation of the French, the number of their troops, and the manner in which they were for-

tified, nothing could be more rash and imprudent than the attack which cost the lives of so many brave men, and was attended with so little advantage to the conquerors (the siege and surrender of Mons). Perhaps the Duke of Marlborough thought a victory absolutely necessary to support his sinking interest at the court of Great Britain. His intention was to have given battle before the enemy had intrenched themselves; but Prince Eugene insisted upon delaying the action until the reinforcement should arrive from Tournay: and the extraordinary carnage is imputed to the impetuosity of the Prince of Orange, whose aim through this whole war was to raise himself into consideration with the States-general, by signal acts of military prowess.

This battle was the more remarkable, as it was in reality an engagement between two separate armies on each side. Prince Eugene commanded a complete body of 50,000 men, with wings of horse on the right and left; and the Duke of Marlborough another entire army, of which the English made the right, and the Dutch the left. On the other side, the Marechal Duke de Villars commanded a separate army of the French on the left, drawn up against Prince Eugene; and the Marechal de Boufflers another on the right with that under the command of the Duke of Marlborough.

In commemoration of this bloody battle, two medals were struck.

**BLEKING, PROVINCE OF, RAVAGED IN 1505.** It now belongs to Sweden, but during the continual wars between that kingdom and Denmark, it often changed masters. The Swedes ravaged this year the whole province in a dreadful manner, sparing neither age nor sex, and in 1523, Gustavus Vasa, being called to the throne of Sweden, sent a detachment who reduced the whole province.

**BLLENHEIM, BATTLE AT.** A village in Germany, in the circle of Bavaria, upon the confines of Suabia. It stands on the north side of the Danube, and has on the north side of it, a very small rivulet, called the Muelweyer. It is three miles almost east from Hochstet, nine west-south-west from Donawert, thirty north-east from Ulm, and thirty-one north-west from Augsburg. (See the Plate.) Nothing could be more deplorable than the situation to which the Emperor Leopold was reduced, in the beginning of the year 1704. The siege of Vienna, his capital, was on the one side threatened by the French and Bavarians, and on the other, by the Prince Ragotsky, at the head of the Hungarians, fighting for their liberty, and supported by the treasure of France as well as Turkey. In this dreadful emergency, by the advice of Prince Eugene, the Emperor implored the assistance of her Britannic Majesty; and the Duke of Marlborough explained to her the necessity of undertaking his relief. The plan was approved of by the British ministry, and if the English general had not marched to the relief of the Emperor, it is probable the House of Austria would have been entirely ruined. An account of his rapid and glorious march into Germany, the reader will find under Donawert. He forced his way through the enemy's lines, after a bloody contest; but the number of slain is but of little consequence to a general, provided

he gains his point. Marlborough took Donawert, passed the Danube, and laid all Bavaria under contribution. Marechal Villeroi, who attempted to follow him when he begun his march, presently lost sight of him, and did not learn where he was, till he heard of the victory at Donawert. Marlborough resolved that Prince Louis of Baden, who was with him at Donawert, should undertake the siege of Ingolstadt, whilst Prince Eugene and himself should observe the Elector of Bavaria, who had actually crossed the Danube at Lawingen. In the evening of the 11th day of August, 1704, the Duke joined the forces of the Prince at the camp of Munster.

It will be highly necessary here, in order to give the reader a better idea of what follows, to give a particular account of the situation and circumstances of the spot of ground which was then between the two armies, and upon which the two armies were encamped. It is a plain of near two leagues long, but of an unequal breadth, the entrance into it not being above the breadth of a cannon-shot, but widening soon after to the breadth of about a league. It is bordered on one side by the wood of Schellenberg, and on the other, by the Danube, and three or four rivulets cross this plain, in their course to the Danube. This, with the inconvenience of several marshes, together with the villages and hamlets, which are scattered here and there in this plain to the number of above twenty, rendered the march of the Confederate army, to attack the enemy, very troublesome. The little town of Hochstet is situated at the other extremity of the plain, opposite to the Confederate army, on the north side of the Danube, and at the mouth of a rivulet, which, running by the village of Oberwemingen, there falls into this river. Here it was the Confederate generals intended to have formed their camp, but the enemy was beforehand with them, and had taken possession of the whole space between Bleinheim and Lutzingen, and had placed their advanced guard on the other side of the rivulet, which was on the front of their camp.

So soon as the generals returned to the army, they ordered the necessary passages to be made; and the pioneers were sent near Thiffingen, to make bridges of communication on a rivulet, which indeed was narrow, but had high banks. They were hardly got to their works, when the advanced guards of the enemy came so near as between Schweiningen and Thiffingen, and their hussars, obliging the pioneers to retire, as far as the advanced guards of the Confederate army, gave a sort of alarm to the whole camp.

The Duke of Marlborough returned that way with the whole piquet, seven squadrons of dragoons, which were encamped before the quarters-general, and five English battalions of Row's brigade, with the battalions of English guards, which were followed by a brigade of Hesse, and a good part of the army: but being come to the rivulet where the pioneers had been repulsed, they found that the enemy not only retired, but returned full gallop to their main army. The Confederate advanced Guard was reinforced, and left under the command of a major-general; and the two brigades of foot, which were in the village of Thiffin-

gen, were also left under the command of a like officer, who posted his men in the hedges thereabouts.

At four in the afternoon they plainly discovered, from the tower of Thiffingen, the enemy's camp, their tents being set up; and saw that they were possessed of a very advantageous post on a hill; that their right flank was covered by the Danube, and the village of Bleinheim, and their left by the village of Lutzingen; and that they had before them a rivulet, whose banks were high, and the bottom marshy; so that it was believed at first to be impassable, as indeed it was afterwards found to be in several places. They had, besides, the village of Oberklau in the center of their army, and the village of Unterklau, on the opposite side of the rivulet; and two mills towards the mouth of the rivulet, which secured the passage on that side, and served as redoubts for the defence of the river of Bleinheim.

In these circumstances, it was thought a very hazardous enterprize, to attack so numerous an army, in so advantageous a post, which the Confederates could not approach but by filing off, and by passing, in view of the enemy, a marshy rivulet, which could not be done in good order. But, on the other hand, there seemed to be an indispensable necessity of falling immediately upon the enemy, before they had time to fortify themselves in that post: for not only the Confederate army would have wanted forage much sooner than Ingolstadt could have been taken, but the generals had very good information from intercepted letters, that the Marechal de Villeroi had orders to leave M. de Coigni, in the camp near Offenburg, with a body of troops, sufficient to keep those of the Allies within the lines of Biehl, and was ready with the remainder of the army, to make an irruption into the country of Wurtemberg. That army might then have acted in concert with the Elector of Bavaria, and have been reinforced by detachments from that Prince's army, to fall afterwards on the rear of the lines of Biehl; so that thereby, the French armies would have established a free communication from the Rhine to the Danube, and have forced all to submit to them as far as the Mayne. In the mean time the Elector, from his camp at Hochstet, might have ruined a great part of the circle of Franconia, and have brought things to that pass, that the auxiliaries, under the Duke of Marlborough, would not have been able to find either subsistence or winter quarters on the Danube, and in the Upper Germany: though, on the other hand, that great and seasonable supply, could not have left the Empire in the winter, without exposing it to the brink of ruin, from which they had so lately, and so happily retrieved it, and without leaving a very great superiority to the enemy. Some alledge another reason, viz. That in case of a victory, of which his Grace was pretty confident, he was now out of all danger of any part of the honour of it being attributed to Prince Louis's conduct; that of the victory of Donawert having been (though unjustly) almost ascribed to him, by some who made it their business to lessen the Duke's merit, where the least pretence was to be found, though never so far stretched.



These (without considering the last mentioned) were prevalent arguments to engage the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene to hazard a battle, though under greater disadvantages: yet there were not wanting those, who accused these two great generals of rashness in the attempt, and insinuated that they would not have been sufficient to have excused them, had success been wanting. The English (say they in particular) would not have pardoned the Duke for hazarding the lives of their countrymen, in favour of the Imperialists. But here these remarkers seem to be under an undeniable mistake; for we certainly were in an humour at that time, to have sacrificed more in favour of that court, which, in the opinion of many, has not since shewn the greatest marks of gratitude in return. It is indeed true, that success generally covers a rash action; and on the contrary, a miscarriage is as often the cause that temerity is not forgiven. The grounds, however, upon which these arguments were founded, seem incontestible; and they had their due weight with our generals. For that very night, all the necessary dispositions were made for the attack, and the baggage was sent to Rietlingen, a village between Munster and Donawert.

In the mean time, several general officers came, and represented to the Duke of Marlborough the difficulties of the design in their most lively colours; but they had no effect on his steady resolution, which he had not fixed without weighing every circumstance, and the consequences which might, or could possibly attend them. He knew that the post which the enemy possessed, was capable of being put, in a very short time, out of all danger of future attacks. He duly considered, that even a defeat itself, could hardly be more fatal than lying still and doing nothing. On the other hand, the glory of a victory, which he had in view, and which, from the experience of the bravery of the troops under his command, led by officers of the most consummate judgment and valour, was alone capable to dispel those clouds of diffidence, however just, in the minds of men of a less enlightened genius and understanding. He therefore only told them, he was sensible of all these difficulties, but the attempt was absolutely necessary: upon which, the orders which were distributed throughout the whole army, were received with such alacrity and cheerfulness, as gave a happy presage of the glorious success that followed.

It plainly appeared, by every circumstance of the Duke's behaviour, antecedent to this glorious action, that he was resolved either to conquer or die in the attempt: and (to his eternal honour be it said) *a little before the battle, he devoted himself to the ALMIGHTY LORD and RULER of HOSTS, in presence of his chaplain, and received the sacrament.* And no less memorable and praise-worthy is what his Grace is reported to have said after the battle, viz. "That he believed he had prayed more that day, than all the chaplains of the army."

The Confederate army had 52 pieces of cannon, and consisted of 66 battalions and 178 squadrons, which might amount to 50 or 52,000 men. That of the enemy was near 60,000 strong, consisting of 82 battalions,

and 160 squadrons, with 90 (or as some say 100) pieces of cannon, eight whereof were twenty-four pounders. Their right wing was commanded by the Marechal de Tallard, and made up of the army he had brought to the Elector's assistance, consisting of sixty squadrons and forty battalions of the best troops of France. On the left was the Elector, with the Bavarians, and the Marechal de Marfin, with the French troops under his command.

This bloody and decisive battle, merits a particular attention, and we shall be as minute as possible. The French generals have been censured for many blunders, the principal of which was, the bringing their army under the necessity of fighting, instead of suffering the enemy to be consumed for want of forage, and giving Marechal Villeroi time to fall upon the unguarded Netherlands, or march into Germany. But in answer to this reproach, we must consider, that the French being more numerous than the Confederate army, they had some reason to expect the victory, and had they obtained this, the Emperor must have been dethroned. But Tallard's great misfortune was, that of being short-sighted, which is extremely dangerous for a general.

About half an hour after midnight, the Confederate drums beat the general, the assembly at half an hour after one, the march at two, upon which the whole army was in motion, and by three, they began to pass the rivulet called Kessel, on several bridges, which had been prepared the night before. They filed off in about eight columns, of which, two of Imperial foot marched quite to the right of all, towards the height, along the wood, having two columns of Imperial cavalry to their left: the left wing, which was composed of the auxiliaries, marched likewise in four columns, viz. two of foot, on the left of the Imperial horse, and two of horse, on the left of all. Thus the whole army advanced as far as the rivulet, near Thiffingen, where the advanced guards were ordered to return to their respective bodies, and the two brigades of Hessian infantry, which had been left in that village, under the command of Major-general Wilks, with fifteen squadrons, which the Duke of Marlborough commanded out, formed, on the left of all, a ninth column, and thus they marched towards Schweiningen.

As soon as the nine columns were arrived between that village and the wood, they made a halt to observe the enemy, who seemed unconcerned, and did not make any great motion. About six o'clock, (the 13th of August) the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene, who had posted themselves on a rising ground, called to them all the generals, to give them the necessary directions for the attack, and then the army advanced to the plain, where they were drawn up in order of battle. The left wing, which was under the immediate care of the Duke of Marlborough, consisted of 48 battalions and 86 squadrons, whereof 14 battalions and 13 squadrons, were English troops: 22 squadrons Danish; 14 battalions and 19 squadrons Dutch; 13 battalions and 25 squadrons of the forces of Lunenburg; 7 squadrons of the troops of Hesse, and some troops of Wurtemberg.

About

About seven, before the Confederate army was quite drawn up in battalia, the enemy at the approach of their vanguard gave a signal, by firing two pieces of cannon, to call in their foragers. They also set fire to the villages of Unterklau, Wolperstette, Weiler, Berghausen, and Schweinenbach, and their whole army was perceived to be in motion. They then beat the general, afterwards the assembly, and the Confederates saw them in arms before their camp, their generals, with their aids-de-camp, galloping to and fro, to put all things in order.

The Marechal de Tallard, in particular, having made all his dispositions on his enemy's right, where he commanded, gave orders to M. de Surlauben, who commanded the right of the cavalry, to have a watchful eye on the motions of the Confederates, and that as soon as a certain number of them had passed the rivulet, he should charge them. M. de Clerambault had orders to remain in the village of Blenheim, and there to withstand the enemy's attack with all his might. This done, the Marechal galloped to the centre, where he found the Elector and the Marechal de Marfin, who had just been making the necessary dispositions on their left, and were ranging their infantry in the best posture they could, to withstand the attack of the Allies. M. de Tallard gave his Electoral Highness an account of what dispositions he had made, with which he seemed perfectly satisfied, and embracing him, told him he hoped he should do it with a yet greater satisfaction in the evening. The Marechal staid in the centre to observe the disposition of the Confederates, and took that time to dine with three or four general officers who were with him. He was prevailed upon (as M. de Quincy says, much against his will, and in a very wrong time) to go to the left, that he might be the better judge of the dispositions made there.

On the Confederate side, two brigades of foot, commanded by the Lord Cutts, Lieutenant-general, the Major-generals St. Paul and Wilks, and the Brigadiers Row and Ferguson, and supported by fifteen squadrons, under the command of Major-general Wood, were ordered on the left, to possess themselves of the two water-mills, near Blenheim, which the enemy immediately set on fire.

The Confederate army in the mean time advanced into the plain; four columns marched to the left, towards the village of Greynheim, and four of the Imperial troops took the right, towards the village of Schweinenbach, leaving Wolperstette and Berghausen to the left. Being come to the rivulet, they found it difficult for the cavalry to pass, the banks being on each side high, the water standing, and, besides, it was marshy to the right of Oberklau, as also between Unterklau and the mills; it was therefore resolved to facilitate the passage, by means of the planks of their pontoons.

About eleven o'clock, the whole army being in battalia, in two lines, except some squadrons which made a body of reserve, and the morass being found marshy, and unpassable for the infantry, they quickly made five bridges with the planks of their pontoons, and repaired the bridge on the high road, which the enemy had

destroyed. At the same time, Prince Eugene caused the right wing to march along the wood, to fall on the flank of the Elector, who extended his left in proportion, to prevent Prince Eugene's gaining his flank, and in order to face him. The enemy fearing also, lest the Confederates should gain the flank of their right wing, by possessing themselves of the village of Blenheim, sent several detachments of foot that way, and posted twenty-eight battalions, and twelve squadrons of dragoons, in the place: they also posted some infantry in the villages of Oberklau and Lutzeningen, which extremely weakened their main battalia, and was one of the principal causes of their defeat.

To favour the passage of the left wing, the two brigades of foot, commanded by the Lord Cutts, were ordered to go over the rivulet (which had been sounded by the Duke's order) first: which done, they posted themselves in a bottom near the village of Blenheim, and for several hours stood the fire of six pieces of cannon, planted on the eminence near the village, with wonderful resolution. At the same time the enemy fired very briskly on the bridges that were laid for the passage of the Confederates infantry, but they soon returned the compliment from two of their batteries, one English, and the other Dutch, and the execution was considerable on both sides.

The French, who own that they had ninety pieces of cannon advantageously placed in a line, before the whole front of the army, pretend they did great execution from their batteries, and that the Allies lost 2000 men before the battle began: but if it had been so, it redounds to their own shame, to be so totally routed as they were in the end, after so advantageous a beginning.

About noon every thing was ready on the left wing for the attack; and it being found that in several places the horse would want salcines to pass the morass, orders were given that the horse of the second line should provide themselves, each squadron with twenty. By this time a good part of the infantry of the main battalia of the Confederate army had posted themselves in and about the village of Unterklau, and the Prince of Holstein-Beck possessed himself of that of Weiler or Schonbach, and caused a counter battery to be erected there.

These preparations being all made, the Duke of Marlborough gave orders for a general attack, which was begun on the left a quarter before one. Major-general Wilks made the first onset, with the five English battalions of How, Ingoldsbey, Marlborough, Row, and North and Gray, and four battalions of Hessians, supported by the Lord Cutts and Major-general St. Paul, with eleven other battalions; and the fifteen squadrons under the command of Major-general Wood. The five English battalions, led on by Brigadier Row, who charged on foot at the head of his own regiment with an unparalleled intrepidity, assaulted the village of Blenheim, advancing to the very muzzles of the enemy's muskets, and some of the officers exchanging thrusts of swords with the French through the pallisades; but being exposed to a fire much superior to theirs, they were soon forced to retire,



retire, leaving behind them near one-third part of their men either killed or mortally wounded, and amongst the latter Brigadier Row himself.

In this retreat they were pursued by thirteen squadrons of the French gendarmerie and carabiniers, who would have entirely cut them in pieces, had not the Hessian infantry stopped their career, by the great fire they made upon them. The French being repulsed, and forced to fly in their turn, were chased by five squadrons of English horse, who by this time had passed the rivulet: but whilst they rallied themselves, some fresh brigades of the enemy, superior in number, charged the English horse with great vigour, and obliged many of them to repass the rivulet with precipitation. Here the Hessians again performed notable service, putting the enemy to the rout by their continual fire, and regaining a pair of colours which they had taken from Row's regiment. Whilst Row's brigade rallied themselves, that of Ferguson, commanded by himself, attacked the village of Blenheim on the left, but with no better success; and though both returned three or four times to the charge with equal vigour, yet they were both still repulsed with like disadvantage; so that it was found impossible to force the enemy in that post, without entirely sacrificing the infantry.

The English foot having thus began the engagement on the left, the horse of the same wing passed the rivulet pell-mell; overagainst the centre or main battalia of the enemy. The horse of the right wing likewise passed the rivulet, having made several passages with divers pieces of wood, which they found at hand, and a good number of fascines. In a word, all passed and drew up in order of battle, as well as the ground would permit, on the other side of the rivulet. The enemy gave them all the time they could desire for that purpose, keeping themselves very quiet on the hill they were possessed of, without descending into the meadow towards the rivulet, inasmuch, that even the second line of their horse had time to form themselves: and to this capital fault of the French, some principally ascribe the victory which ensued.

It has been said, but with what truth or grounds we shall leave undetermined, that this neglect proceeded from an ill-timed haughtiness and presumption of the Marechal de Tallard, who being informed that the Allies were laying bridges on the rivulet, used this expression; "If they have not bridges enough, I will lend them some." And when they told him that our troops were actually coming over the rivulet, is reported vainly to have said, "Let them pass; the more there comes over, the more we shall have to kill and take prisoners." But others, who make it their business to excuse that general, assure us, on the contrary, that he had given positive orders not to let the enemy pass the rivulet, but to charge them as they passed; which orders were not executed. M. de Quincy says, orders were given to M. de Surlauben, (as we have observed before) to charge when a certain number of them were passed, and that M. de Clerambault should remain in Blenheim, which seems in some measure to favour the report of the Marechal's presumption.

At length the cavalry of the Confederates left wing

marching up towards the hill, that of the enemy began to move, and charged them with a great deal of fury. The French infantry, which was in the village of Blenheim, made at the same time a terrible fire from behind some hedges of that village, on the flank of the Confederate cavalry, which were advanced too near; so that the first line of horse of their left, from the head of the line to the three regiments of the troops of Hanover, viz. the electoral regiment, that of Voigt, and that of Noyelles, was put into such disorder, that part of them retired even beyond the rivulet. Hereupon Lieutenant-General Bulau, commander in chief of the troops of Lunenburg, brought up his own regiment of dragoons, and two of the troops of Zell, viz. that of Major-General Villiers, and that of Brigadier Bothmar, from the second line, which charged the enemy's horse with so much vigour, that they broke them, and drove them beyond the second rivulet, called Meulwayer, and from thence to the very hedges of the village of Blenheim. This gave time to those who had given ground to repass the rivulet, and to form a second line behind those regiments of dragoons, and some others that had joined them: so that those dragoons remained in the first line all the remaining time of the action.

The cavalry of the Confederates left wing, having by this success gained the advantage of forming themselves entirely in order of battle, advanced leisurely to the top of the hill, and charged several times the enemy's horse, who were always routed; but who, nevertheless, rallied every time, though at a considerable distance, and thereby gave the Allies an opportunity of gaining ground. The latter preparing to make a fresh attack, the Marechal de Tallard caused ten of his battalions to advance, to fill the intervals of his cavalry, in order to make a last effort; which the Prince of Hesse-Cassel, general of the horse, and the Lieutenant-Generals Lumley, Bulau, Hompefeh, and Ingoldsfy, perceiving, they caused three battalions of the troops of Zell, to come up to sustain the horse: they then returned to the charge; but the superior fire of the enemy's infantry put their line into some disorder, so that it shrunk back, and remained for some time, at or about sixty paces distant from the enemy, neither party advancing against the other.

At length the allies renewed the charge, and they did it with so much vigour and success, that having broke and routed the enemy's horse, the ten battalions, who found themselves abandoned by them, were entirely cut to pieces, none escaping but a very few soldiers, who threw themselves on the ground as dead, to save their lives.

Marechal de Tallard rallied his broken cavalry behind some tents, which were still standing in his camp, but seeing things in this desperate condition, he resolved to draw off his dragoons and infantry out of the village of Blenheim. He thereupon sent one of his aid-de-camps to the Marechal de Marfin, to desire him to face the enemy with some troops on the right of the village of Oberklau, to keep them in play, and favour the retreat of the infantry that was in Blenheim: but M. de Marfin informed this messenger, that he had too much

on his hands in the front of his village (where he had to deal with the Duke of Marlborough in person) and the rest of the line, to spare any troops; for he was so far from being victorious, that all he could do was to maintain his ground.

In the mean time Lieutenant-general Ingoldsby made the Prince of Hesse, and the Lieutenant-generals Lumley and Hompesch sensible, how easy it would be to entirely defeat the French cavalry, by charging them on the right flank; which advice being put in execution with a great deal of vigour, the enemy were soon put into disorder, and driven to flight, and their rout was entire: part of them endeavoured to gain the bridge they had on the Danube, between Blenheim and Hochstet; the other part, among whom were the gens d'armes, were closely pursued by the dragoons of Bothmar, and those who escaped the slaughter threw themselves into the Danube, where most of them were drowned.

Those who fled towards Hochstet rallied once more, and made a shew as if they designed to succour the rest; but the regiment of Bothmar faced them, and kept them in awe for some time, till being at length joined by some other regiments, the enemy fled full gallop to Hochstet.

The Marechal de Tallard was surrounded by the fugitives, and taken near a mill, behind the village of Sonderin, not far from the Danube, by M. de Boinenburg, a Lieutenant-colonel of the troop of Hesse, and aid-de-camp to the Prince of Hesse Cassel. He chose rather to surrender than to run the hazard of drowning, as had been the fate of most of his cavalry which had taken to the Danube to escape from the pursuit of the victorious Confederate troops: he was taken in sight of the Prince of Hesse Cassel, as his Highness himself observed in a letter written to the States-General the night after the battle. The Marquis de Montperoux, General of horse, de Sepeville, de Silly, and de la Valiere, Major-generals; M. de la Messiliere, St. Pouange, de Ligondais, and several other officers of note, were likewise made prisoners in this defeat.

During these transactions at the village of Blenheim, and in the centre, the Duke of Marlborough caused the village of Oberklau, which was Marechal de Marfin's quarters, to be attacked by the brigade Barendsdrff, consisting of 10 battalions. The Prince of Holstein-Beck, who commanded them as Major-General, and who came to the army but the day before, passed the rivulet at the head of two battalions with great resolution; but as the Imperial cavalry, which was to have supported him, were wanting in their duty, and kept musket-shot from him; he was hardly got over, when 7 or 8 of the enemy's battalions fell upon him with great fury, before he could form his two battalions, so that one of them, that of Goor, was almost entirely cut in pieces, and the Prince himself desperately wounded, and taken prisoner. They put the Prince, wounded as he was, upon a waggon, in order to carry him away; but fortune afterwards shifting hands, he was retaken in that condition, with three or four bleeding wounds on him, of which he afterwards died.

Notwithstanding this first shock, these battalions were no sooner supported by some Danish and Hanoverian

cavalry, than they charged a second time, but with no better success; till upon the third charge, the Duke of Marlborough having himself brought up some squadrons, which were supported by others of the body of reserve, made them advance, with some battalions, beyond the rivulet, whereupon the enemy began to retire.

His Grace now thought it time to repair towards the attack of the horse, where he indeed found the action already decided in his favour, as we have seen above; yet he came time enough to have his share of pushing the 30 squadrons of French horse, and among them most of the gens d'armes, into the Danube.

As soon as the Duke had performed these considerable services, the action in the centre being now decided in favour of the Confederates, his Grace caused part of his victorious cavalry to halt, to observe the motion of that part of the enemy, which by this time was drawn up beyond the morafs of Hochstet. During this halt, the Elector of Bavaria was perceived making his retreat from the village of Luttingen; upon which a messenger was dispatched to General Hompesch (who, with several squadrons, was pursuing the enemy towards Morfelingen, and who had already overtaken two of their battalions, and forced them to lay down their arms) with orders to face about, and march to join those who halted; as well to prevent the Elector's falling upon Hompesch's rear, as to form a body, in order to charge that Prince, who marched in great haste, but in pretty good order, with his squadrons on the left, and his battalions on the right.

Before General Hompesch returned from his chase, the right wing of the Confederate army was perceived at some distance behind the Elector; and appearing to be part of his army, marching in such a manner as might easily have flanked them, had the Duke of Marlborough immediately charged him, but his Grace, with great prudence, sent out a party to view them. During this time the Elector continued marching off with great precipitation, till he reached the morafs of Morfelingen.

The French horse being entirely defeated, and the Confederates masters of all the ground which was between the enemy's left and the village of Blenheim, the 28 battalions, and 12 squadrons of dragoons, which were in that village, found themselves cut off from the rest of their army, and despairing of being able to make their escape, after a weak attempt to repulse the whole infantry which surrounded the village, they at length capitulated about 8 in the evening, laid down their arms, delivered their colours and standards, and surrendered themselves prisoners of war, on condition that the officers should not be searched. The Duke, who upon all occasions shewed a generous and tender disposition to his prisoners, not only granted this condition, but, as an additional favour, suffered the officers to wear their swords: and night coming on, the English troops, to whom this little army had surrendered, formed a line at Blenheim, in which the prisoners were inclosed, while they continued on their arms all night to secure them.

By this it appears that of the whole French infantry, which the Marechal de Tallard had brought to the assistance



fistance of the Elector of Bavaria, consisting of 40 battalions, all veterans, and the very choice of the French infantry, only two battalions escaped; since 28 were here made prisoners, and 10 were entirely cut in pieces, as we have seen above.

Having given an account of the success of the Confederates on the left wing, we are now to give an account of what passed on the right, under the command of Prince Eugene, who laboured under great difficulties, having to deal with the Elector of Bavaria and the Marechal de Marfin, both old generals, of great courage, conduct, and experience, especially the former, who had commanded in all the wars of Flanders in King William's time, and had before that commanded the Imperial army in Hungary, and particularly in the year 1688, took the famous city of Belgrade from the Turks. Such were the generals Prince Eugene had to deal with. The infantry of this wing consisted only of seven battalions of Danish, and eleven of Prussian forces; but his cavalry was 92 squadrons of the troops of the Emperor, the King of Prussia, the circle of Swabia, Wurtemberg, and other Princes of the States of the Empire; though his foot in the end proved most victorious, as we shall see below. The enemy, on their side, had in their left wing 30 battalions; and though we do not any where find the precise number of squadrons they had in this wing, yet by the number we find Marechal de Tallard had in the other wing, and the general account we have of their whole force, their number on this side must have been about 70 or 80; and they had posted 14 battalions in the village of Oberklau, the attack of which the Duke of Marlborough had taken upon him with his infantry.

The horse of the right wing of the Confederates were posted most of them over against Oberklau; but the 18 battalions who were to the right of all, had a great way to march before they could get up the hill; and, besides, the passage of the rivulet being very difficult, the attack could not begin on that side so soon as Prince Eugene could have wished: moreover the troops of the right, which posted themselves in a bottom not far from Lutzingen, were obliged to remain exposed, during three hours, to the cannonading of the enemy, without being able to use their artillery, till at length a counter-battery was raised near the wood.

Though the right could not charge till half an hour after the left had begun the attack, yet they were pretty successful at first: for the infantry, notwithstanding they were much inferior to that of the enemy, stood their ground against them with great firmness and resolution, and the cavalry broke that of the enemy's first line; but they were so vigorously repulsed by that of their second line, that part of them were driven in great confusion beyond the rivulet; and the infantry having no more horse to sustain them were obliged, notwithstanding the great resistance they made, to retreat 300 or 400 paces with considerable loss, especially the two battalions which were in the flank, inasmuch, that things were at that time in a very bad condition on that side. The infantry stood firm near the wood, and Prince Eugene having rallied the horse, brought them up again to the charge; but they were repulsed a second time.

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They were rallied once more, and for near three quarters of an hour they stood within sixty paces of the enemy, neither side making any motion. The Confederates made use of that time to post the troops advantageously, and put them in order, after which they charged a third time. The cavalry had at first some advantage over that of the enemy, but were afterwards repulsed by them; whereas their infantry broke and overthrew that with which they were engaged, though they could not march up to them, but through a most difficult ground, where a smaller number of troops was sufficient to stop a greater. Upon this Prince Eugene left his cavalry, seeing little probability of being able to rally them again, and put himself at the head of the infantry, who improving the disorder into which they had put that of the enemy, pursued them over hills, dales, rocks, and woods, and having charged them again, entirely routed them, and continued the chase for above an hour's march, as far as the village of Lutzingen. Here Prince Eugene caused his victorious foot to make a stand, to give time to his cavalry, which had rallied a great way behind, to rejoin them.

It is very remarkable, that at this last charge, when Prince Eugene's infantry defeated with so much vigour that of the enemy, but two of their squadrons stood by them; notwithstanding which they pursued their advantage, and gave the enemy no time to recover themselves. The French horse, daunted by their ill success, retired leisurely. Prince Eugene's horse followed them at the same pace, till having joined their foot, the whole wing continued the chase for the space of an hour, with all the cheerfulness which could be expected from troops wearied with an action of above five hours, after a march of ten hours, in an extreme hot day, and followed the enemy as far as the villages of Morselingen and Teiffenhoven, where they made a shew as if they would stand their ground, that they might gain time to pass a great morass, and reach Dillingen and Lawingen.

As soon as the action on the left wing was decided, the Duke of Marlborough disposed himself to march with part of that wing towards the village of Oberklau, to charge the left of the enemy on their flank, and to succour the right under Prince Eugene; but he was informed by the way, by one of the Prince's aid-de-camps, that there was no further occasion for it; that all was recovered on his Highness's side, and that the enemy had abandoned the villages of Oberklau and Lutzingen, after having set them on fire.

Thus this stupendous battle, which during near five hours was fought with dubious fortune, ended at last in a most complete victory on that side which before the engagement had a visible disadvantage: and the success of this great day, under the blessing of the all-ruling Providence, may justly be attributed to the invincible courage and intrepidity of the confederate troops, and to the conduct and bravery of their generals; though the enemy were, indeed, guilty of some oversights, which did not a little facilitate their overthrow.

Such was the celebrated battle, known in England by the name of Blenheim, of Hochstet in France, and of Pleynheim in Germany. The conquerors lost

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about 4500 men killed, and near 8000 were wounded; the greatest part in that wing commanded by Prince Eugene. The army of the vanquished was almost entirely destroyed; of 60,000 men, who had been so long victorious, there remained not more than 20,000: 12,000 were left dead on the field of battle; the greatest part of 30 squadrons of horse perished in the Danube;—13,000 were made prisoners; 100 pieces of cannon were taken, with 24 mortars, 129 colours, 171 standards, 17 pair of kettle drums, 3600 tents, 34 coaches, 300 laden mules, two bridges of boats, 15 pontoons, 15 barrels, and eight casks filled with silver.

The loss of the battle was imputed to two capital errors committed by Marechal de Tallard; namely, his weakening the centre, by detaching such a number of troops to the village of Blenheim, and his suffering the Confederates to pass the rivulet, and form unmolested.

Those who fled were dispersed different ways. Never was victory more complete on the field of battle, nor in its consequences; in less than a month, the enemy lost 300 miles of territory. Bavaria too, being now subjected to the Emperor, felt at once, all the enraged rigour of the Austrian government. On a sudden, how strangely was the scene changed! The Elector of Bavaria, who but a few days ago, had entertained the most sanguine expectations of being raised to the Imperial dignity, had taken possession of Passau, and had opened all the passes to Vienna, was now a fugitive. In his flight to Bruffels he met his brother, the Elector of Cologne, who was likewise driven from his dominions; they embraced each other, and shed tears. The court of Versailles, hitherto accustomed to prosperity, was now filled with amazement and consternation. No body durst tell the King so cruel a truth. Madame Maintenon was at last obliged to take upon herself the office, to inform his Majesty that he was no longer invincible.

The Duke of Marlborough, at his first appearance in the house of peers, after his return to England, was honoured with a very extraordinary eulogium, pronounced by the Lord Keeper the 15th of December, 1704.

A compliment of the same nature was presented to the Duke by a committee of the house of commons. That house took into consideration his great services, and in an address to the Queen, besought her Majesty to consider of some proper means to perpetuate the memory of such noble actions. In a few days she gave them to understand by a message, that she was inclined to grant the interest of the crown in the honour and manor of Woodstock, and hundred of Wooton, to the Duke of Marlborough and his heirs; and that, as the lieutenancy and rangerhip of the parks, with the rents and profits of the manors and hundreds, were granted for two lives, she wished that incumbrance could be removed. A bill was immediately brought in, enabling the Queen to bestow those honours and manors on the Duke of Marlborough and his heirs; and the Queen was desired to advance the sum for clearing the incumbrances. She not only complied with this address, but likewise ordered the comptroller of her works, to build in Woodstock park, a magnificent palace for the Duke

and his heirs, upon a plan much more solid than beautiful. This noble pile is decorated with exquisite paintings of the battle, &c. and is known by the name of Blenheim House. And medals were not wanting to perpetuate the memory of this great battle.

On the 3d day of January, 1705, the colours and standards taken at Blenheim, were set up in Westminster-hall; and three days after, the Duke of Marlborough was entertained by the city of London. Marechal de Tallard, with the other French generals made prisoners in the battle, were immediately after their arrival in England, conducted by the royal regiment of horse guards to Nottingham and Litchfield, where they were treated with great respect, and allowed the privilege of riding ten miles around the places of their confinement. Tallard remained at Nottingham till the year 1712.

The Emperor was not wanting on his part to perpetuate the memory of this glorious victory; he caused a stately pillar to be erected on the field of battle, with an inscription on it concluding with these words,

Exercitui victori, cum immortalī gloria, imperavit  
JOHANNES, DUX DE MARLBOROUGH, ANGLUS.

*The French defeated the Austrians under the Prince de Reuss, at Blenheim, June 18, 1800. The Bridges had been destroyed, but the French troops swam across the River, as is related by the Letter from General Moreau, Commander in Chief of the Army of the Rhine to the Minister at War.*

Neresheim, June 24.

I send you a copy of my dispatches to the Chief Consul, respecting the battle of Hochstet.—This success is of the highest importance; but it was an arduous task to obtain it. Represent to yourself a river passed without boats, without bridges, in a word, only by swimming and courage.

MOREAU.  
CARNOT.

(A true copy.)

*Copy of a Letter to the Chief Consul, by General Moreau.*

Head-quarters, Dillingen, June 22, 1800.

At length we shall compel General Kray to abandon Ulm, his chief support. A decisive success has just procured us the double advantage of almost deciding on the fate of Germany, and of vindicating French honour from a defeat at the beginning of this century.

Observing that the Austrian army kept close to its camp at Ulm, which gave it the advantage of easily debouching on both banks of the Danube, while it consequently prevented us from making any material progress in Germany; and not being inclined to give battle at Blaubeuren, lest the enemy should avail himself of any movement, in order to advance upon Memmingen, connect himself with the Tyrol, and send down into Italy a corps of troops that might have much embarrassed you, I determined to make General Lecourbe execute several manœuvres upon the Lech, in the hopes that I should thereby force General Kray to march, to protect Bavaria, but he continued to manœuvre in our rear. The battle of the 5th of June, which he lost, obliged him to repass the Danube.

I then



I then formed the project of passing that river below Ulm, that I might thus separate him from his magazines at Donawert and Ratibon, and, by this means, compel him to withdraw, or to come to a battle.

This movement was both difficult and dangerous, as we had neither bridges nor boats, the enemy having destroyed the former and sunk the latter.

I reinforced General Lecourbe's corps with five battalions and five regiments of cavalry; and I charged him to take possession of one of the bridges on the Danube, between Dillingen and Donawert.

Lecourbe executed this movement with an intrepidity worthy of the highest praises. After having secured the posts of Landsberg and of Augsbouurg, and left in them a sufficient force to protect his rear against the corps of the Prince de Reufs, stationed in the Tyrol, and whom Generals Nanfoult and Molitor have defeated every time he attempted to debouche, he advanced towards Dillingen, Blenheim, and Hochstet.

I advanced the right wing of General Grenier's corps to the Danube, at Guntzburg, and the left to Kisen-dorff. General Richepanse, placed upon the two banks of the Iller, covered the road from Ulm to Memmingen, and protected our communications with Switzerland, which were much threatened by detachments of the enemy.

The three divisions of reserve, under my immediate command, were between the Kamlac and the Mindal, destined to support the attacks of General Lecourbe, in case it should succeed, and the attack which General Grenier was to make upon Guntzburg, in case the former should fail.

The army was thus situated on the 18th of June. After several actions, in which the enemy was compelled to fall back upon Ulm, General Lecourbe, on that day, made some demonstrations on the bridge of Dillingen, and in consequence of the report made by his reconnoitring parties, he determined seriously to attempt the bridges of Grensheim, Blenheim, and Hochstet.

Eighty naked swimmers, armed with muskets and knapacks, which were sent over after them, in two very small boats, took possession of the villages of Grensheim and Blenheim, and made themselves masters of some pieces of cannon, which were manned by artillery-men, who had passed over on ladders placed upon the wrecks of the bridge; all of them maintained their positions with extraordinary courage, while a number of miners and bridge builders were employed, under the enemy's fire, in repairing the bridges, over which a force was passed to oppose the reinforcements which the enemy were marching towards the points, where the object of the attack could be no longer doubtful.

The 94th demi-brigade passed over after the swimmers, and boldly maintained themselves in the villages of Grensheim, of Blenheim, Langenan, and Schavingen, where General Marigni was slightly wounded: but this demi-brigade would have found it extremely difficult to maintain these positions, notwithstanding the exertions of the most heroic courage, were it not for a very vigorous attack of two squadrons of the 1st regiment of carabineers, conducted by Grimblot. They had just passed, one by one, over the bridge of Grensheim; they were joined by some hussars, belonging to General Le-

courbe's escort; they overpowered a body of the enemy's cavalry three times their number, took 6 pieces of cannon, 250 horses, and several stand of colours; 4 pieces of artillery, which the enemy sent as a reinforcement, were also carried away; the whole of the corps that came from Donawert was almost destroyed. The brigade of General Laval set out in pursuit of them; it remained to make head against the corps that was coming from Hochstet, Dillingen, and Lavingen. After several charges, in which the carabineers, the cuirassiers, the 9th and 6th of the cavalry, and the 9th of the hussars, distinguished themselves, we took 2000 prisoners, several pieces of cannon, and stand of colours. The enemy's forces had been considerably encouraged; the troops from Ulm began to arrive, but the bridges of Dillingen and Lavingen being re-established, the divisions of Decaen and Grandjean were enabled to join with their cavalry, and to concur in a last charge of about 4000 horse, which drove the enemy beyond the Drenz, and made us masters of the position of Gundel-fingen.

The 6th of the chasseurs, the 13th cavalry, the 4th hussars, and the 11th chasseurs, particularly distinguished themselves in that affair. The rest of these divisions, and that of General Leclerc, rapidly crossed the Danube, and on their arrival formed themselves so as to be able to repulse the attack which we presumed the enemy would attempt the next day. General Grenier had likewise prepared himself to pass the Danube at Guntzburg; but the enemy, who had antecedently cut down some arches of the bridge, had covered the part which remained on his side with straw, tar, and other combustible materials, that were to consume it at the moment of our attack. This the enemy did not fail to execute the moment they saw our swimmers plunge into the water. Some of the latter had the hardihood to attempt extinguishing the fire, but it was impossible. The next day the corps of General Grenier advanced to Lavingen. General Richepanse made preparations for investing Ulm, as soon as the hostile army should abandon it.

These battles took place on the too famous theatre of Hochstet. General Lecourbe, who displayed upon this occasion the most distinguished courage and talents, was perfectly well seconded by Generals Gudin, Montrichard, Despaigne, Laval, Schiner, and Putod. The corps of cavalry, conducted by Generals Hautpoult and Devigne, have done prodigies of courage. The conduct of the swimmers, commanded by Citizens Degrometri, is a trait of intrepidity of which there are few examples. Caban and Galbori superintended the operations of the artillery and the engineers, and displayed equal skill and bravery.

The loss of the enemy, without including the killed and wounded, is about 5000 prisoners, 20 pieces of cannon, and five stand of colours.

The following day, the 6th regiment of chasseurs took a convoy of waggons loaded with corn. Kray has just quitted Ulm, and is reported to be advancing to attack us. We intend to save him half the way.

(A true copy.)

MOREAU.  
CARNOT.  
BLIES