

(Engraving for Ansell's Siege of Gibraltar.)



His Excellency General
SIR GEORGE AUGUSTUS ELIOTT, K.B.
Governor of GIBRALTAR. &c.

Hicks & Co. Engravers n.º 1.º

A

JOURNAL

OF THE LATE AND IMPORTANT

BLOCKADE and SIEGE

OF

GIBRALTAR,

From the Twelfth of September 1779. to the
Third Day of February 1783.

CONTAINING

A minute Detail of the memorable and interesting
TRANSACTIONS, Naval and Military OPERA-
TIONS;

INTERSPERSED

With historical ACCOUNTS of the GARRISON, genuine and
entertaining ANECDOTES, &c. &c.

By SAMUEL ANCELL, Clerk to the 58th Regiment,
In a Series of Letters wrote on the Spot.

THE THIRD EDITION.

EDINBURGH:

Printed for the AUTHOR, and sold by the Booksellers in
Town and Country.

M.DCC.LXXXVI.

Entered in Stationers' Hall, according to Act of Parliament.

None are genuine but what are signed by my hand.

Samuel Daniel



T O
L I E U T E N A N T G E N E R A L
L A N C E L O T B A U G H,

C O L O N E L O F H I S
M A J E S T Y ' s 58th, (*or Rutlandshire*) Regiment of Foot,

A N D T O

T H E O T H E R O F F I C E R S,
(Of that corps who served at the Siege,)

W H O S E S H A R E I N T H E M E M O R A B L E T R A N S A C T I O N S

H E R E R E C O R D E D,

J U S T L Y E N T I T L E T H E M T O T H E P U B L I C E S T E E M;

T H E S E S H E E T S A R E

R E S P E C T F U L L Y A N D G R A T E F U L L Y I N S C R I B E D

B Y T H E I R M O S T H U M B L E

A N D O B E D I E N T S E R V A N T,

S A M U E L A N C E L L

EDINBURGH CASTLE, }
14th January, 1786. }

To the READER.

The great *indulgence* shown to these letters, demand the AUTHOR'S most warm and grateful acknowledgements, who feels himself happy in having the opportunity to *thank* the numerous patronizers of his *labours*. It were needless to offer an apology, after the candid reception the work has been favoured with by a *generous Public*, yet, as many will peruse this Edition, who had not the opportunity of inspecting the former, it is necessary to mention, that at the time of *inditing* they were not intended for the *press*, nor neither would they have been presented to the *Public*, but from repeated solicitation.—*Importunity* prevailed.—The recital of the various occurrences, and *momentous events*, as they were *wrote* and *felt* amidst all the *rage of war*, *burry* and *confusion*, made their appearance at LIVERPOOL in 1784, and experienced a successful and rapid sale, notwithstanding their want of that *elegance of diction*, which works of *labour* and *study* are embellished with. This testimony of *public* approbation has induced the *Author* (the first writer, and who has not borrowed or copied from other publications) to continue them in their original style, and to submit this Edition to the *candour* of his readers, who, it is hoped, will overlook any *inaccuracies* they may meet with, especially when they consider, that a SOLDIER'S business is DISCIPLINE, and not LITERARY FAME.

An Authentic JOURNAL, &c.

LETTER I.

GIBRALTAR, 1779.

Dear BROTHER,

I SHOULD think myself wanting in affection and gratitude did I not favour you with the particulars of every thing deserving notice, during the approaching Siege; but my duty to my Sovereign, being mostly under arms, or with working parties, many matters of a trifling nature, probably may escape my knowledge; you will therefore not expect this Journal to be elaborately filled with trivial daily occurrences, but depend upon receiving a full account of every transaction of a public nature; such as the enemy's motions, firings, vessels engaged, taken, escaped, sailed, arrived, batteries erected, destroyed, &c. &c.

A council of war being held yesterday at the Con- Sept. 12
vent, at which the field officers and naval commanders
assisted, it was resolved unanimously to commence a
cannonade on the Spanish works; and accordingly this
morning,

1779. morning, (having previously withdrawn our advanced
 Sept. guards from *Bay Side*, and *Forbes's*) we opened our
 batteries on the enemy, beginning at *Rock Gun*, down
 to the *Mole Head*, employing every piece of ordnance
 that could possibly bear upon them. An officer's lady,
 whom curiosity had excited to our batteries, was en-
 couraged to discharge the first gun; and having taken a
 lighted match, (with an intrepidity not peculiar to the
 sex) *General Elliott*, pronounced, in a true heroic stile,
 " *Britons strike home,*" and immediately every battery
 and angle bellowed with rage, and vomited forth the
 most tremendous flames.

At the first discharge our shot dropped short, so that
 their advanced guards had time to escape to their lines,
 and their precipitate retreat almost occasioned a general
 laugh, to view the *Dons* tumbling one over another
 as they fled from the showers of shot. When the e-
 nemy had reached their lines, we gave more elevation
 to our guns, and *Fort Barbara* and *St. Philippe* receiv-
 ed a heavy cannonade, nor were any part of the Spa-
 nish lines neglected. As I came up the street, about
 two hours after, from *Waterport*, (having been the
 preceding day and night on duty at that post) I could
 not but remark the timidity and fearful apprehension
 pictured in the countenance of the inhabitants, as they
 minutely expected a furious return from the enemy.
 The Jews and Jewesses exhibited the most descriptive
 amazement, accompanied with significant shrugs, and
 eyes raised to the skies; with nimble steps, they took
 shelter at the southward, leaving their houses and effects,
 &c.

(except

(except such as were of convenient carriage) exposed 1779, to the dangers that must have ensued, had the enemy Sept. opened upon the town. About four in the afternoon, we began to throw shells * into their forts, and the enemy, who had secured some indifferent shelter from our shot, now found themselves most inconveniently annoyed, as we often perceived that their guards and parties were thrown in disorder.

A heavy and incessant fire all night. The enemy 13th appear to be in motion, and our expectations lead us to imagine, that, about noon, they will return the compliment. The fearful inhabitants, who sheltered at the southward, cannot be persuaded to return, but seem happy in their minds that they are out of the reach of the foe. 'Twas observed to day that their forts have received some damage from our firings.

The enemy have not made a return. The uneasiness of the people seems less predominant, and some have ventured to return to their habitations in town. The foe appear very busy; they are encamped at the foot of *Santa Roque*, to a great number, with some squadrons of horse; they appear to be about 16,000 men, including the *Catalan* troops; they are beginning
to

* A round piece of Cast Iron, some of 8 and half, 10 and 13 Inches diameter, hollow in the inside, by which they are charged, and a fuse drove in at the mouth, of different lengths, according to the distance the shell is intended to be discharged. When the fuse burns to the powder, the shell immediately bursts with great fury.

1779. to carry * fascines and † gabions to their lines, so that
 Sept. it is beyond dispute they mean to return the fire. When
 we first received the account, (June 21st) from Gen.
Mendoza, commandant at *Santa Roque*, of the com-
 mence^ment of hostilities between their Catholic and
 Britannic Majesties, it occasioned a general rumour
 in the garrison; the Governor and principal officers
 assembled on the Grand Parade, and every tongue was
 employed in delivering their opinions. Our advanced
 guards and lines were reinforced, and detachments of
 the piquets sent to the weakest places, as we concluded
 that the enemy would endeavour to surprize the place.

Hostilities being thus commenced, General *Elliott*,
 with the advice of the naval commander, issued let-
 ters of marque, to several privateers in this Port, who
 immediately went out and captured some small prizes,
 with wine, brandy, and other necessaries, that proba-
 bly may be much wanted; but, on the 26th of July,
 Admiral *Don Barcello*, with two line of battle ships,
 two frigates, one xebec, and several galleys, anchored
 off *Cabrita Point*, to keep the Port blockaded. Our
 cruizers were under the necessity of returning to the
 bay, and are now laid up, as the enemy are ever watch-
 ful of their motions, and our force is too weak to offer
 an opposition. It is currently reported that *Spain's in-*
 tentio

* Wood cut from trees, and bound in bundles, or hoop sticks
 well soaked in water.

† Pieces of timber, bound with iron hoops, like a cask, and the
 inclosed part, when placed on a battery, is filled with earth.

tention is, by famine, to oblige us to surrender; you 1779.
 may therefore conclude, that while the enemy remain Sept.
 masters of the straits of *Gibraltar*, our situation will
 be exceedingly disagreeable, and we shall be greatly
 necessitated for refreshments.

Our Governor is indefatigable in improving the
 works, particularly those on the heights of the hill,
 most convenient to annoy the enemy, and prevent their
 approaches. The unthinking part reflect upon him
 for being sparing of the provision, and taking part of
 the merchants stores for the king's use.

The enemy are very assiduous; many working par- 20th;
 ties employed, but we cannot form any judgment of
 what they are doing. To day a settee, * that seem-
 ingly stood for the bay, with wind at West, was con-
 ducted by Admiral *Barcello's* cruizers to *Algaziras*:—
 This circumstance makes us rather uneasy, as we fear
 that many more will share the same fate. Deserted, a
 serjeant and a Hanoverian, who, notwithstanding our
 shot, escaped to the Spanish lines.

The enemy are quiet, but continue a sharp look out 30th;
 in the Gut. This day Admiral *Barcello's* ship was
 dressed with variety of colours, and a salvo fired. He
 rides most magnificently, exulting over a people shut
 up like poultry in a coop. He is so vain and so posses-
 sed with the prospect of our capitulating, that he has
 ordered all officers, under his command, to wear the

B

key

* A Market boat.

1779. key of the Straits, tyed with a ribbon upon their bosom.
 Sept. We may expect the next month will furnish more important intelligence. Whatever happens, (if I survive) you may depend upon receiving a minute and circumstantial account, from,

Dear Brother,

Your's affectionately.

L E T T E R II.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1779. F A R distant from every endearing friend, and the
 Oct. social joys of fellowship, I again take my pen to write to you. Nothing material has happened; the enemy are exceedingly assiduous at work, and we are constantly playing upon their parties. Admiral *Barcello*, with the strictest vigilance, watches the Gut, and some of his cruizers are mostly stretching from *Ceuta* to *Cabritta Point*, to guard the Offing. We have not received any supplies or intelligence, nor have we observed a ship, boat, or settee, from East or West, endeavour to make the Port. Every thing is getting at so exorbitant a price, that it is almost impossible for a person of moderate income to purchase what is requisite for sustenance.

9th. This day, a twenty-four pounder was dragged up the face of the Rock to *Midshipman's look-out*, or, *Rock Gun,*

Gun, the labour and danger attending it, is not to be 1779.
conceived, as it was carried over points of rocks, to a Oct.
height of 1357 feet.

The Enemy's force now consists of

At Algaziras.

	<i>guns.</i>	<i>msn.</i>			<i>guns.</i>	<i>men.</i>
1 ship	70	700		1 xebec	32	250
1 frigate	36	300		1 ditto	28	200

At Ceuta.

1 ship	60	600		1 xebec	20	180
1 frigate	26	250		1 ditto	14	80
1 xebec	18	200				

Constantly cruizing.

1 xebec	16	100		6 quarter galleys	450
4 smaller		240		20 armed boats	300
6 half-galleys		1000			

On our side are at anchor.

Panthor	60	400		Gibraltar	12	40
Enterprize	28	200		Fortune	10	30
Childers	14	90				

Last night the enemy were excessively hard at work, 20th.
our batteries poured upon them a liberal distribution of
shells, but notwithstanding, they completed their ope-
rations, and this morning exposed to our view three
new batteries, two of fourteen, and one of seven guns,
constructed for playing upon our lines, *Landport* and
Waterport.

No prospect of relief: We begin to think *Britain* 30th.
has forgot that such people are in existence. The ene-
my are quiet, but exceeding watchful, and labour

1779. much at their approaches: we cannot form any judgment of what they are doing. We keep up a fire upon them.

This day the *Peace and Plenty* privateer, being chased to the eastward by a frigate and two row galleys, wind at S. E. unfortunately run ashore between the *Devil's Tower* and *Fort Barbara*. Our batteries commenced a brisk cannonade on the Fort, and dismounted several of their guns, but notwithstanding, the enemy poured into her a prodigious quantity of round and grape shot. The boatswain had his right thigh shot off, and died soon after. The captain finding it impossible to get her off the bed of sand where she had run aground, and grape shot coming in a continual shower from the enemy's batteries, he and his crew having took out a few things in their hands, abandoned her, and came in at *Landport*. She was detached by General *Murray*, from *Minorca*, to view our situation, and to learn if any supplies were come from *England*. She had taken several prizes to the eastward, and relates that the troops at *Minorca* are in good health, and want nothing but cloathing.

31st. *Fort Barbara* kept all night a fire upon the unfortunate privateer, her hull and rigging is so greatly shattered, that she will never be fit for sea again. The enemy seem to be making preparations for a vigorous attack, they have begun forming several bomb batteries. Our fire is without intermission, which the enemy patiently bear. Several of our howitzer * shells fell
among

* A piece of ordnance mounted on a carriage like a cannon.

among their working parties and killed a great number. 1779.
 General *Elliott* continues to increase the fortifications; Oct,
 and working parties from each regiment in the garrison,
 are employed in erecting traverses † in different parts
 of the streets to shelter the troops, and inhabitants,
 from the enemy's shot, whenever they open their bat-
 teries. We have not received any supplies either from
England, Portugal, Tangier, Tetuan, or Minorca, nor
 has a ship appeared but the *Peace and Plenty* standing
 for the Bay. The Spanish cruizers keep hovering in
 the Offing. We wait the arrival of a fleet with im-
 patience.

Yours, &c.

L E T T E R III.

GIBRALTAR, Nov. 1.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy last night fired a carcass † into the
 privateer which run aground the 30th ult. and
 in a few hours she was consumed. The enemy con-
 tinue to work, and we continue to fire. Provision is
 getting extravagantly dear and scarce: Fish and flour
 are the chief support of the inhabitants. A small string
 of

† Casks filled with earth, placed three deep.

‡ An iron case with four holes in it, to let out the flames,
 about the size of a bomb shell, charged with combustibles for
 setting houses and ships on fire, discharged out of mortar.

1779. of fish, (about the size of a large sprat, eight in num-
Nov. ber) costs upwards of two shillings English.

This day the bakers shut their doors, and delivered their bread thro' a wicket, protected by a guard, as the crowds were so pressing, that they were under the apprehension of their houses being pulled down—the flour they have in hand will not last, according to computation, more than two months. *Antonio Smilie*, a noted *Genoese* baker, assured me, he had only 18 barrels of flour to serve himself, family, and the public. The Governor has ordered them to bake but a stipulated quantity daily.

It is really grievous, to see the fighting of the people for a morsel of bread, at a price not to be credited by those who never knew hardship, or their country's service. Men wrestling, women intreating, and children crying, a jargon of all languages piteously pouring forth their complaints. You would think sensibility would shed a tear; but yet, when we are in equal distress ourselves, our feelings for others rather subside. Compassion is very extensive; but self-preservation shuts out all condolment.

6th. This day arrived a two-decker from the West, and anchored between *Cabritta* and the battery at *Algaziras*. Several small craft also arrived.

Every thing continues quiet—the enemy keep busily at work at their bomb batteries. Sailed a frigate from *Algaziras* to *Ceuta*.

This morning we observed the enemy had recalled
their

their working parties from the lines, and that they were forming fortifications, extending from fort *St. Philippe* to *Point Negro*, as a defence and cover for their camp; this gives us the alluring hopes that they have some intimation of our fleet being at sea. It would be a glorious sight to see them routed and their camp destroyed. Our batteries are not idle, but keep a well directed fire on their forts and late approaches.

The calls of duty prevent my further writing. Excuse all inaccuracies, and believe that I shall always remain.

Affectionately yours, &c.

L E T T E R I V.

GIBRALTAR. Nov. 3.

DEAR BROTHER,

SEVERAL days more elapsed amidst expectation and firing, but no prospect of relief. The merchants are getting money apace, as every article they sell they charge their own price; glad are every one to make a purchase. O ye winds be propitious! and quickly waft our floating castles to our relief. Haste and save us from hunger, misery and death.

The enemy continue their works on the shore, and have forwarded a battery near the guard-house, on the right of *St. Phillippe*. Our fire from the batteries is rather remiss, as the enemy do not appear very numerous in the lines.

Last

1779. Last night came in two deserters from the enemy's
 Nov. 12 • Walloon guards, with their arms, &c. they assert
 that the enemy have 1000 pieces of cannon and mor-
 ters in their lines, and only wait an order from the
 court of *Madrid* to fire, that their magazines are full
 of powder, and that a reinforcement of French troops
 are hourly expected. They are lodged at his Excel-
 lency's house, and I do not doubt but their intelligence
 will prove advantageous to the operations of our works,
 as they were conducted by the Quarter-master Gene-
 ral to *Willis's*, and the upper batteries (from which
 a proper view can be taken of the enemy's works) and
 gave a satisfactory description of their near approaches.

4th. Wind N. W. This morning we were led to be-
 lieve that our fleet was near at hand. The Spanish
 watch-towers hung out signal-colours, and the battery
 at *Cabritta Point* fired a gun for their cruizers to get
 under weigh. A privateer was soon discovered stand-
 ing for the bay, under all the sail she could croud ;
 the gun boats bore down upon, and fired briskly into
 her, which she returned as spiritedly : two frigates
 having slipped anchor stretched across from *Cabritta*
 to intercept her ; having got within long gun shot they
 fired two or three broadsides, the cutter then tacked
 and stood for the *Barbary* shore, the frigates followed,
 and soon drove to the leeward ; she then tacked and
 stood again for the garrison, when a third frigate and
 a xebec pushed out, and likewise dropped to leeward,
 while

• The King of Spain's body guards

while the cutter kept her course; Admiral *Barcello* then 1779.
 hove too under *Cabritta*, with an intent to keep the Nov.
 windward gage—the bravadoing, blustering, and vigi-
 lant *Barcello*, in the *St. Jean Baptiste* of 70 guns, bore
 down upon her, and having got within half cannon
 shot, poured into her his whole broadside, which the
 cutter returned; he then made signal for the gun-boats
 and galleys to board, but when they had rowed pretty
 near, the hardy crew gave them such a liberal distribu-
 tion, that they were compelled to retire. The Spa-
 nish Admiral having fallen to leeward, endeavoured to
 work up again, but not being able, on account of the
 fresh breeze at N. W. was, to his no small mortifica-
 tion, under the necessity of going to the eastward,
 with the remainder of his cruizers. She proves to be
 the *Buck of Folkstone*, Captain *Fagg*, in 19 days from
England. On his dropping anchor at *New Mole*, the
 numerous spectators from the batteries and walls, gave
 him three cheers, and the General on his landing, paid
 him the highest commendation for his bravery and
 manœuvres. What news he brings, is not made pub-
 lic, excepting that we are not to expect a fleet yet.

I cannot close this account without informing you,
 that some leagues to westward he was chased by three
 cutters, and finding they were English, he lay too.
 They asked him where he was bound, and answering
 to *Gibraltar*, they persuaded him to return, adding it
 was impossible to get in safe. In a jocular strain, he
 asked if there was room for a coach and six to get in,
 which being answered in the affirmative, he rolled his

C

quid

17th. Nov. quid (which was none of the smallest) two or three times, and with an audible oath, swore he would get in if Belzebub himself gave chase.

14th. This day we got in a settee, with 38 bullocks from *Tangier*; two others were taken by the enemy's gunboats, one of which had a packet for the garrison; they were kept so long on board before they could get in, that they were nearly perished: their flesh, when killed, was like a jelly, and sold for three rials * and eight quarts per pound.

The wind having shifted, Admiral *Barcello* and his Squadron have returned to their station:—they keep a sharp look out from *Cabritta*, being determined, I dare say, not to be beat again in so shameful a manner.

24th. This day four *Portuguese*, that were privately dispatched by the Governor to fetch a packet from *Faro*, returned safe; they had a small boat which was carried on camels, over rocks and mountains, being permitted by the *Moor*s, and launched it in a creek under *Apes Hill*, and stole over in the night. We flatter ourselves there is good news, as the General and principal officers appeared to be in high spirits.

30th. This morning came in a deserter from the enemy, and this evening another; they both belonged to the *Walloon* guards, and brought their arms with them: the

* A rial is a piece of Spanish coin, Gibraltar currency, eightpence value, equal to four pence three farthings sterling. A quart is a Spanish halfpenny, forty of which is given in change for an English shilling.

the latter was pursued by three horsemen, and would 1772
have been taken, had not our people been very alert at Nov.
Willis's, by pouring grape * shot upon the pursuers.

The enemy are bringing down great quantities of Dec. 1.
facines to the lines, and are again labouring at their
approaches, but do not seem disposed to return the fire.
Last night came in two deserters from the Walloon
guards; they report that the enemy are not to fire,
while they can keep the place blockaded, as General
Alvarez is confident that famine will oblige us to sur-
render. We are certainly greatly distressed for want
of fresh provision and vegetables. Salt meat is scarce
to be purchased, which is sold for two rials, and two
and a half *per* pound. Yesterday a baker was obliged
to shut up, not having flour sufficient for his family
for one month. Appearances are rather dreadful. God
grant that a fleet may soon arrive, or the consequences
are to be feared.

Came in a deserter from the Walloon guards. He 8th.
was closely pursued by two horsemen, but our batteries
made them retreat. He says, that the Spanish army
are much distressed in camp for fresh water, and that a
great many die of the flux, occasioned by drinking of
the salt springs.

This morning we perceived two men run out of the 14th.
Spanish lines, and presently after two horsemen fol-
lowed, and having overtaken the former, they killed

C 2

one

* Shot of a pound and a half, and two pound weight, a num-
ber of them put in a tin case, and fired.

1779. one on the spot, and secured the other, notwithstanding
 Dec. our fire.—Last night deserted two Hanoverians of *De la Mot's* regiment. They escaped to the enemy from *Europa Advance Guard*, by means of a rope ladder, which was accidentally left by the King's workmen.
- 15th. This morning the enemy executed the deserter they took yesterday. All their regiments were under arms.
- 19th. Garrison orders this day were as follow :
 “ *No gun to be fired from any of the batteries at the enemy's ships, when the distance requires more than six degrees elevation, unless such ships are engaging, or in chase. Any Captain of the royal artillery, who may happen to be present on such occasions, will give his advice in the management of the guns, which the officers commanding guards will be justified in following.*”
- 21st. Last night sailed the Buck privateer for *Mabon*, wind S. W.
- 27th. This day the enemy began a fire upon our outward works. They obliged the garrison gardeners, who work on the isthmus, or neck of land (termed the neutral ground) to retire. Several *Genoese* fishermen, who were dragging nets at the sea side, were also under the necessity of retreating, leaving their nets, lines, and tackle, on the beach. A twenty-six pound shot fell at the northmost angle of (our) Prince's lines; the centinal narrowly escaped. The enemy appear very busy—their approaches are in great forwardness, but are all masked; their bomb batteries appear to have no ordnance mounted, nor has it been observed that any number of men have been employed there for some time
 past.

past. We conjecture that this day is only a preface, 1779. or introduction, to the grand display, and that the long Dec. 28 boasted exhibitions are ready for performance.

The enemy last night destroyed great part of our gardens, and, unbecoming the character of warriors, they meanly stole the nets, lines, &c. that our fishermen left when they made their retreat yesterday. Came in a small boat from *Tangier*, with goats, fowls, and eggs: she fortunately ran in under cover of the night. The goats sold for ten * cobbs per head; fowls three † dollars six rials per couple; eggs, six rials per dozen. Also came in three deserters from the Walloon guards; it is currently reported that the intelligence they bring is not altogether favourable to our wishes. God grant that a fleet may shortly arrive, and that we may be enabled to give the enemy a British reception whenever they attack our walls.

The following, lines on the approaching siege, probably will not be unacceptable to you.

The hostile face of war with rage array'd,
 And threat'ning danger mix the black parade;
Iberia arms, and lifts the glitt'ring spear,
 And thro' a sea of blood prepares to steer;
 The British lion views her dire designs,
 While secrecy *Britannia's* council binds;
 Nor dreads their force, nor shakes at war's alarms,
 Nor quakes at cannon, or impetuous storms;
 Their hostile preparations seem to wear;
 And speak their object to be *Gibraltar*. With

* A Spanish dollar, value four shillings and eight-pence sterling at Gibraltar, is called a dollar and a half, or 12 rials, but is of no more value.

† Eight rials each, Gibraltar currency.

With martial courage we our foes defy,
 For *George* we live, and in his cause we'll die!
 Nor fear we their attack upon this place,
 For *Eliott* will the foe courageous face.
 The Dons of proud *Iberia* he will tame,
 And add new lustre to his country's fame.

Ye Dons go arm——ye *Monseurs* them assist,
 The British vet'rans will your pow'r resist;
 Your efforts join'd to take this stubborn rock,
 Will cause a scene that will your courage shock!
 Your boasting heroes with a joy elate,
 Will from our roaring cannon meet their fate:
 The mighty ocean will be ting'd with blood,
 And carcasses lie floating on the flood!
 For ev'ry Briton chearfully will fight.
 And bleed and die for *Albion's* injur'd right.

The enemy are quiet, but keep constantly at work; their parties are very numerous, but we cannot make them desist; they have broken down all their stone guard-houses, and seem to be converting them into works of annoyance. We may expect that the ensuing year will be fertile with intelligence, and that we shall be able to give a more descriptive account of their approaches.

It is really vexing and mortifying to view the Spanish hills and heights, covered with cattle, while we can scarce procure a piece of salt beef, and that at a price, which, when told, carries with it the face of improbability. I trust that God, in his infinite goodness, will relieve us from the impending famine, that
 hourly

hourly awaits us, and restore us to the nourishing necessities of life. 1779.
Dec. 30

I am, dear Brother,
Affectionately, your's, &c.

L E T T E R V.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

I AGAIN take the pen to write, though I assure you, our most sanguine hopes seem entirely lost. Last night came in two deserters of the Walloon guards—from the accounts they bring, we expect to have many more months to suffer—they say that the Spaniards engaged our fleet off *Cape Finister*, that the English were defeated, and a great many captured. Yesterday arrived some fresh troops in their camp, and this afternoon, a small boat that made a push for the garrison, was taken off *Cabritta point*; it is not improbable that she was detached with intelligence for this place, as she did not appear to be deeply laden. 1780.
Jan. 7.

A Neapolitan polacre, laden with barley, having come within the reach of *Europa* guns, we discharged a few shot at her, and obliged her to come in; she will afford us some relief:—Admiral *Barcello* seemed to be very uneasy at her arrival, for he made a signal immediately for a frigate and a xebec to cruize to the eastward—they pass'd by within long gun shot of the garrison. 8th,
Several

1780. Several random shot from the enemy, but no material damage done; they seem to have a great inclination to begin the work.—We keep a moderate fire upon their parties and approaches.

12th. The enemy still continue to fire occasionally: a shot struck the parapet of the *Old Mole*—a 26-pound shot (the first fired into the garrison) went through the roof of Mr *Quartin's* house, and drove a splinter into a lady's heel, who was walking in the street;—another went through a centry-box in *Landport* covered way: A mule belonging to the waggons who go to the *Devil's Tower* to take in stone, was lamed by their fire; and the enemy, in an unprecedented manner, inhumanly fired at a clergyman performing the ceremony over the body of a deceased soldier.

13th. This day the field officers commanding corps assembled at Colonel *Ross's* quarters, to take into consideration the present situation of the garrison provision; when it was ordered, that the soldiers ration should be shortened, viz. half-pound beef, quarter-pound pork, and one pint pease per week, deducted from each man's allowance.

Our situation every day appears more alarming, there being a scarcity of almost every thing in the garrison—fire-wood a cob per hundred; flour five rials per pound; no fresh meat except an old cow, or worn-out ox, (only one perhaps killed in a month) which is sold

at four and a half or five rials per pound; fowls twenty 1780.
to twenty-four rials each; a goose ten dollars; a tur- Jan.
key twenty dollars; eggs a cob the dozen; and every
other necessary in proportion.

This morning a soldier deserted from the back of the 15th;
rock, where he was with a party cutting bushes. He
made an excuse that he had dropped the key of his box,
and being indulged to search for it, he observed the
party busy, and took his route by the eastern shore—
we fired many shot at him, but all ineffectual.

This afternoon, wind S. W. an English brig ap-
peared in the offing; she was chased by a xebec and se-
veral gallies, but fortunately got safe into *New Mole* :
She brings the joyful and happy tidings of a fine fleet,
being within twenty-four hours sail of the garrison,
having parted with them five days before, in a gale of
wind, off *Cape Finister*. Three officers of the artil-
lery, (bound for *Minorca*) who came passengers in her,
were on our Grand Parade this evening, receiving con-
gratulations, and giving information.

You cannot, dear Brother, picture to yourself the
joy of the garrison, nor can the most energetic lan-
guage describe it, looking upon ourselves as people
reprieved from death, or consequences worse—true
British testimonials exhibited among the soldiery, over
their bottle and glass, and the most tender and sympa-
thetic emotions among the long distressed and suffering
inhabitants. Sordid avarice and exorbitancy, I trust,
will now be forgot, and those who made a trade of the
distresses of their fellow brethren, will not enjoy with

1780. tranquility of mind, their ill-got gains. I have not
 Jan. time to write more, the present calls of duty oblige
 me to conclude, subscribing myself,

Your affectionate Brother.

L E T T E R VI.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

Jan. 16th. **A** GROUP of transporting ideas employ my mind,
 and whilst I am reflecting on the prospect of relief, I am equally captivated with the thoughts of information from you, from whom I have not received the least account these many months. The garrison are all on the wing:—the sound of the fleet is all that is to be heard, and every rock and hill re-echoes the blissful tidings. This morning flour sold for six-pence per pound, which was some time past two shillings, and a great favour to obtain it at that price; the shops that were shut up, are now opened, and adorned with bread, biscuit, rusk, &c. The garrison appears in an entire state of transformation, and the people are so busy purchasing eatables, that it brings to my remembrance the festive fairs in Britain—Every perspective is employed, and spy-glasses are mounted like cannon on the walls, directed towards the gut—various reports are circulating: The enemy have hung out signal colours from the watch towers; not a ship nor
 cruizer

cruizer on the opposite side attempts to move. I believe the scene is changed, without as well as within the walls. Poor *Barcello* must feel, with inexpressible pangs, this sudden stroke that robs him of all promis'd honours, that shuts him and his vigilant cruizers up at *Algaziras*, and compels them to view with madden'd rage, the British ensigns that bid defiance to *Adalusia's* shore.

1780.

Jan.

Came in a deserter from the Walloon guards.—Intelligence not publicly known.

Last night arrived (unmolested) a brig laden with flour; she left the British convoy two days since, and brings word, that they have taken a Spanish convoy of one ship of the line, five frigates, and twenty-four sail of transports, bound from *Bilboa* to *Cadiz*.—We hourly wait their arrival. Stopped our ration according to the order of the 13th instant.

17th.

This morning came in the *Appollo* frigate. She brings the intelligence that several Spanish men of war got under sail from *Cadiz*, to engage our fleet, that the British were victorious, and that the enemy had one ship sunk, one blown up, one stranded, and four captured, *Glorious news!*—Received half a pint of rice in lieu of pease.

18th.

Last night two English men of war arrived, and confirm the above engagement. About six this morning came in, the *Pbænix*, a Spanish 80 gun ship, being the one the Admiral commanded. She lost her main-top mast, and other rigging in the engagement: Admiral

19th.

miral

1780. Jan. miral *Don Langara*, who commanded the enemy's squadron, received a wound in his groin. The British fleet having stood too near to the *Barbary* shore, over-shot the bay, and drove to eastward in the night, and it is probable it will be two or three days before they can work up. The Spanish Admiral came ashore this evening, and owing to his wound was carried in a sedan chair. Every guard he passed paid him the honour due to his rank.

21st. Wind E Came in three Spanish 70 gun ships, one a Commodore, also the *Guiposcoana* a 64, taken with the *Buboa* convoy, and a great part of our fleet; they are so thick I cannot number them with any precision. About eleven this forenoon came in the *Prince George*, Admiral *Digby*, with *Prince William Henry* on board. Admirals *Rodney* and *Ross* are standing for the rock. Our shipping have taken to the eastward two xebecs, and a great many fettees bound for the camp of *St. Roque*. *Prince William Henry* landed, accompanied by the Admiral; the Governor received them with the warmest encomiums, and the garrison and shipping performed a salute.

The Spanish squadron, commanded by Admiral *Don Juan de Langara*, *Cefe de Esquadra*, which Admiral *Rodney* fell in with off *Cape St. Mary's* are as follow :

Phoenix,	80 guns.	} Taken and brought in here.	
Diligente,	70 do.		
Monarca,	70 do.		
Princesa,	70 do.		
St. Domingo,	70 do.		blown up.
St. Eugenio,	70 do.		taken then abandoned.
St. Julian,	70 do.		and stranded.

St. Lorenzo,

St. Lorenzo,	70 do.	} Escaped.	1780.
St. Augustin,	70 do.		
Santa Rosalia,	26 do		
Santa Cecilia,	28 do		

Last night, about eleven o'clock, the Terrible man of war, and four other ships, being drove by the rapidity of the current, near the enemy's forts Phillipe and Negro, they beat to arms in their camp, and made a position of defence; they fired 157 shot and 7 shells, but did no other damage than killing a Spanish prisoner on board the Terrible. This day the Spanish Commodore landed. 22d.

Wind W. Took a settee going to Ceuta. 23d.

This day the troops received their beef and pork, stopped last week. All hands at work unloading the shipping—Several cranes have been erected from Southport to the New-mole. 24th.

The enemy this morning fired two shot towards the garrison, one grazed North line-wall guard-house. About eight this morning, a corporal and five private men of the Walloons who made a push for the garrison, were pursued by a party of horse and foot, the corporal was taken, two of the men they knocked down, and run through with their bayonets, they afterwards beat them with the butts of their firelocks, and flashed them with their swords; one of them they carried off in triumph. A shot from the garrison struck one of their horses in the hind leg, in their retreat, who remained on the isthmus or neck of land during the day; three escaped the massacre, owing to the activity of
of

1780. of their heels, and the one whom they left on the sands,
 Jan. a party of our people brought in, so miserably hacked,
 that he was shocking to behold;—two Genoese people
 buried him this afternoon, outside of Forbes's gate.
 Before that our batteries could afford the deserters any
 assistance, the pursuers had got under the direction of
 our cannon, and our musquetry was to very little pur-
 pose employed. Arrived from the East this morning,
 Admiral Sir *George Bridges Rodney*, and several other
 ships. This day we received several flags of truce, re-
 specting the exchange of prisoners.

16th. This morning we perceived the Spanish infantry
 under arms, soon after observed a gibbet erected, and
 a criminal executed. It is beyond dispute, that the un-
 happy sufferer is the corporal they took yesterday on
 the isthmus. This afternoon the *Fortune* cutter, under
 a flag of truce, conveyed the sick and wounded pri-
 soners to the *Orange Grove*, where the enemy received
 them. Came in, and anchored in the Bay, Admiral
Lockhart Ross, with some settee prizes taken to the
 eastward.

This morning arrived from *Tangier*, a small boat
 with lemons and oranges;—a most useful article, as
 they are very salutary in the cure of the scurvy. Came
 in a Spanish brig;—Four Spanish line of battle ships
 and a 64, are at anchor in the Bay, adorned with the
 British ensigns.

Don Barcello, no doubt, is fired with rage at so un-
 expected an alteration; especially to view the shipping
 intended to prevent succours being thrown in here, now
 in

in a situation of being employed against him. How 1780.
 contemptible must he appear at *Aigaziras*, after all his Jan.
 pomp and parade, to be shut up and forced to yield the
 sovereignty of the bay, whete his heavy cannon so
 awfully rattled along the shore.

Arrived a boat from *Tangier*, with a few dozen of 28th.
 fowls. Also a fettee with bullocks and other refresh-
 ments from *Tetuan*. One of our frigates cruizing in
 the Offing, captured a fettee bound for the camp.

This forenoon landed from the ships of war, the 29th.
 second battalion of the 73d regiment of foot, under
 the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *George M'Kenzie*:
 They were under orders for *Minorca*, but our Gover-
 nor, with the advice of the Admirals, and field Of-
 ficers, has detained them here. This afternoon wind
 S. W. Commodore *Eliott* in the *Edgar*, and a frigate,
 gave chase to a ship off *Cabritta*, under *Dutch* colours;
 which, as soon as she perceived, she tacked and stood
 for the land; *Eliott* bore down upon her, and quickly
 got within long gun-shot, when she hoisted *Spanish*
 colours, and run ashore under *Cabritta*: A brisk fire
 ensued on both sides, in which the battery at that place
 took a part, but Admiral *Rodney* perceiving their situa-
 tion rather dangerous, hoisted a signal for them to re-
 turn. It is imagined that she was detached with in-
 structions to *Don Barcello*.

The Spanish boats were yesterday afternoon employ- 30th.
 ed in endeavouring to get the ship off, which they did
 not effect till this morning's tide. She must be great-
 ly damaged, as it is a rocky shore where she ran a-
 ground:

1780. ground: They have warped her in among the rest of
 Jan. the laid-up shipping at *Algaziras*. Early this morn-
 ing came in three deserters from the Walloon Guards,
 they were naked, having swam from the foot of the
 fort *St Phillippe*. They report that the Spanish Gene-
 ral holds a position of defence every night, as he ex-
 pects our shipping will fire upon their camp, before
 they leave the bay. The enemy have mounted artillery
 in their fourteen and seven gun batteries, and seem to
 have prepared to act on the defensive at their forts—We
 keep a moderate fire upon them, and often put their
 guards in disorder. Every one is amazed that the ene-
 my do not return it, for a certainty they can have no
 hope of taking this place by famine, since we have re-
 ceived supplies from *Britain*; or, should they still en-
 tertain that idea, I hope a few ships of the line will be
 stationed here to keep open a communication between
Tangier and the Garrison.

I am, dear Brother,
 Affectionately, your's, &c.

L E T T E R VII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

Feb. **T**H E stores and provisions being almost landed,
 the fleet are preparing for sea, and it is confi-
 dently reported, that none of the ships of the line will
 be left here to guard the Bay; we may therefore
 conclude, that in a short time we shall experience a
 situation

situation equally as distressing as that which we have 1780.
lately been relieved from; for while the enemy com- Feb.
mands a superior force in the bay, the nourishing sup-
plies which would otherwise be forwarded from *Tan-*
gier and *Tetuan*, will be cut off: A few days will
leave our situation no mystery.

This day all the Spanish deserters embarked on board 3d.
the men of war, on their passage to *England*. Sailed
the *Childers* sloop, with dispatches.

Came in at *Landport*, two private men and a drum- 5th.
mer, belonging to the enemy's Walloon Guards; they
assert, that the Spanish General has not any orders to
fire, but on the defensive; and that Admiral *Don Bar-*
cello has received advice from *Madrid*; to renew the
blockade, as soon as the British fleet departs, at which
time he is to be reinforced with two ships of the line
and several frigates.

Came in a deserter from the Walloon guards. 10th.

This forenoon wind E. N. E. Admiral *Rodney* made 13th.
signal to weigh: About twelve o'clock, the men of
war, including the five Spanish, viz. *Phœnix*, *Dili-*
gente, *Monarca*, *Princesa*, *Guipescana*, and convoy,
got under sail, on board which many families had em-
barked, who were happy in the prospect of escaping the
difficulties of the place:—The battery at *Cabritta*, fired
a gun to alarm the coast, which was returned at *Ceuta*,
as our shipping stood towards that place in order to clear
the land; in the evening they were all out of sight, but
the enemy continued to fire alarm guns, and threw a
great number of rockets from the watch towers.

E

The

1780. The *Edgar*, under the command of Commodore
 Feb. 14 *Eliott*, the *Panther* of 64 guns, the *Enterpize* and
Porcupine frigates; *Gibraltar* and *Fortune* sloops, re-
 main here. At *Algaziras* are at anchor, one ship of 70
 guns, one ditto 50, one frigate, and a few xebecs. We
 certainly are now able to oppose our foes on the op-
 posite side. Some of the cruizers at *Algaziras* have
 hauled out, and proceeded to the *Orange Grove*.

Yesterday Admiral *Langara*, and the other officers
 of his fleet, were permitted to pass to *Spain* on parole.

15th. Admiral *Barcello* this morning hauled out to the left
 of the battery at *Algaziras*—he appears to be very busy
 in getting up his yards and top-masts; some of his
 galleys passed to the west-ward. On the land side a few
 working parties have again made their appearance.

27th. Nothing material has happened these many days, ex-
 cepting that the Spanish horse and infantry, have been
 performing their evolutions, twice every day: It is
 computed their number fit for actual service is about
 17 or 18,000. Last night came in a small boat with
 lemons and oranges from *Tangier*. The enemy's gun-
 boats chased her under *Europa*, which occasioned a few
 shot to be discharged from that post.

This day arrived at *Algaziras*, from the westward,
 four line of battle ships, two frigates and one xebec.

28th. Wind W. Arrived at *Algaziras*, a frigate and a
 xebec from the westward—The frigate saluted Admiral
Barcello, but not any return was made. It appears as
 if they intended to renew the blockade, and again
 distress us. This

This morning alarm signals were made at *Ceuta*, of 1780. the appearance of an enemy to the eastward. Wind Mar. 4. N. N. E. Admiral *Barcello* immediately loosed his fore-top-sails, as a signal to weigh. A frigate, xebec, and two galleys, made ready, and stretched across for *Ceuta*: soon after he followed, but had not quite cleared *Europa*, when the cruizers discovered the supposed prey to be a xebec. The wind having shifted to the S. E. this evening, the enemy have again anchored at their look-out on the opposite side. Several galleys, and other insect cruizers, that stole away during the continuance of our fleet, have ventured to return.

This day our cartel, under a flag of truce, received 12th. from *Spain* 390 British prisoners of war. They report that *Spain* is determined to have the place, let the consequence be what it will, and that a large body of *French* troops are really embarked for the camp.

This morning the enemy appeared very busy at work. 15th. Our batteries keep showering a constant supply of small shells upon them, so that they were compelled to desist.

Last night a deserter came in from the Walloon 16th. guards. He gives an account that the enemy suffered considerably from our fire yesterday. One shell killed and wounded 25 persons.

The Spanish Squadron this morning were decorated 19th. with variety of colours. In the afternoon their troops in camp were arranged in three lines; the battery at *Fort Negro* made a triple salvo of 12 guns each time, which was answered as often by a running fire from the army. The batteries and shipping at *Algaziras* performed the same. A

1780. A neutral vessel was brought in by the Spanish cruizers for examination, Admiral *Barcello* being determined not to let a ship pass unnoticed. For these three days we have not fired much, being busily employed in strengthening our works, particularly those adjoining the isthmus.

25th. Wind W. This day arrived several polacres and settees at the *Orange Grove*.—We conjecture they are laden with stores for the camp.

29th. At day break this morning, a signal-gun was fired from a xebec near the point; several armed cruizers got under sail, and formed a line from the Point to *Ape's Hill*, where, after firing a shot, they captured a settee, and brought her in, with her colours reversed. It is imagined she had cattle on board for the garrison, which is very much wanted, as very little fresh meat can be purchased. Our provision is chiefly salt beef and pork, and that we use sparingly, not knowing when we may receive another supply. Vegetables are scarce and dear; and what are sold are no better than the rubbish of a dunghill in Britain. Our barren rock yields but little; but as necessity generally finds out a remedy, many have begun to endeavour to convert the solid parts of the rock into kitchen gardens, which some have effected by raising walls one height above another, and filling the inclosed with earth. It will appear a scene of enchantment to Admiral *Barcello*, when he beholds the face of the dry and barren rock in a state of vegetation.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Yours, &c.

L E T T E R V I I I .

G I B R A L T A R .

Dear BROTHER,

TH E enemy are still forwarding their approaches, 1780.
and on our part, I can affirm there is no defici- April.
ency. The Spaniards must sustain considerable losses
in their operations, as we seldom let them rest. Our
fire, of late, does not prevent them working; but judge
what must be their sufferings, when we are hourly pour-
ing upon their parties great quantities of shells and
grape shot.

The sufferings of the British troops, at present, is
from heavy duty, and the scarcity of provision, but we
may expect in a short time another scene to be exhibit-
ed. When the enemy have compleated their approach-
es, I imagine they will retaliate, but we are prepared to
withstand their efforts; and while a round of ball and
powder is left, King GEORGE'S name will be sounded
from our cannon.

Last night a boat was dispatched to *Barbary*, to 7th.
learn if there was a packet, or any intelligence from
Britain.—Several cruizers were discovered in the Gut
this morning, so that many conclude she was taken.

This morning, about three o'clock, came in safe, the 10th.
boat that was sent to *Barbary*. She brought a packet
to the General, but not any intelligence has transpir-
ed. The patron of the boat has refused to answer any
particular questions.

Last

1780. Last night, wind W. arrived the *Hyena* frigate, in 13
Apr. 14. days from *England*. She exchanged several shot in the
Cut with the enemy's xebecs. Admiral *Barcello*, this
morning, (wind having shifted) detached a frigate to
the W. where she keeps tacking and hovering in the
Cut.

20th. Wind E. This morning about nine o'clock, the
Edgar and *Hyena*, got under way suddenly, and stood
to the westward; the Spanish rowers immediately spread
the alarm, and Admiral *Barcello*, with three ships of
the line hove out, but to his no small mortification,
could not weather *Cabritta*, until our shipping were
out of sight, he being obliged to make several tacks in
the Bay, owing to the stiff breeze. They steered to the
West, cursing their inauspicious stars.

This day *Don Barcello* and his Squadron, returned
to their former anchorage, vowing revenge on *St. An-*
tonio, if he deceived them any more.

27th. Last night came in a schooner, from *Malaga*, with
lemons and oranges: They are natives of Spain, but
run in here, knowing it to be a good market.

28th. Some time, in the course of the night, the schooner
slipped out unperceived by the enemy, it being very
thick and hazy.

30th. Came in a boat from *Tetuan*, with 12 dozen of fowls:
They had several cocks on board, which they were
forced to kill, fearing their crowing might alarm the
Spanish cruizers, that cover the Bay.

May. 1. Last night about ten o'clock, a fire broke out in the
enemy's

enemy's camp, which raged with great rapidity, for 1780.
upwards of two hours. May.

Wind E. This day arrived a convoy from the east- 3d.
ward at *Algaziras* and *Orange Grove*. It has been ob-
served that many carts are employed in carrying shot
and shells from the Pier to the *Artillery Park*, where
they are scaling their canon; their troops appear very
busy, and their motions indicate a speedy attack.

The inhabitants are beginning to erect sheds at the
southward, near *Mount Pleasant*, as a retreat, when-
ever the enemy open upon us, which many are of o-
pinion will not be long.

Came in a boat from *Tangier*, with lemons, fowls, 4th.
leather and *Barbary* pumps. The great demand in this
place for shoes, renders leather an article of great emo-
lument.

This afternoon the *Spanish* army were arranged in 6th.
two divisions, and about four o'clock began a sham
fight, similar to an attack on the garrison, as one di-
vision took post on the rising ground under the *Queen's*
chair, (supposed to be the British) while the other di-
vision, in the valley on the common, endeavoured to
dislodge the troops above, and take possession of their
intrenchments: The fire was warmly returned by those
from the height, and briskly supported on both sides for
three hours, when the British forces were entirely
routed;—they had several field pieces, and some can-
non with them. I assure you, that the fight afforded
great entertainment, and the army displayed some me-
rit in their performance. They have been practising
several

1780. several days, but none worthy of remark but this. *17th*
 May. is evident they mean to familiarize their troops in the nature of an attack, so that they may be more expert when they make a regular assault.

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

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

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

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

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

Last night came in a boat from *Tangier*, with fowls, 1780.
pidgeons, and leather—The enemy chased her under May 12
the guns.

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

This morning the *Sweed* sailed from here, but the
Spanish cruizers afterwards brought her into *Algaziras*
for examination.

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

This morning two boats arrived from *Tangier*, with 18th.
fowls and lemons; they bring word, that the *Fly* pack-
et-boat, was on the night of the 17th inst. cut out of
that port, by the *Spaniards*. It appears from this cir-
cumstance, that the *Moors* are inclined to favour the
Spanish cause, or otherwise would not have suffered an
act of this nature, to be committed under the walls of
their town.

Arrived this day from the West, a schooner laden 22d.
with leather, butter and oil. Nothing extraordinary
in the enemy's camp. Our garrison are beginning to
be very sickly—the small pox rages with great violence,
and carries 18 or 20 per week, but mostly children.
The enemy seem busy at *Algaziras*; a great many
boats are every day employed from the *Orange Grove*
to that place, but we cannot observe any thing parti-
cular they are doing.

I am, yours, &c.

F

LETTER

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1780.
June 1. WE still continue our cannonade on the enemy ; they are constantly bringing down stores and ammunition to their lines, and have made great improvement in their approaches. 'Tis somewhat strange, notwithstanding the slaughter our shot and shells occasions among them, that they are not disposed to retaliate the compliment.

Wind W. arrived a fettee from *Tangier* with 11 bullocks, 13 sheep, 24 dozen fowls, with a quantity of leather, eggs and lemons. She got in unobserved by the enemy, the wind being excessive fresh, had forced the *Spanish* cruizers into *Algaziras*.

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

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

6th. Came in a boat with 15 sheep from *Tangier*. The Patron * relates, that an English brig arrived in that port, in 18 days from *Portsmouth*, laden with butter, porter, and flour, and that the *Spanish* cruizers were watching her closely.

7th. About one this morning, wind N. W. a ship was discovered

* The Master, called Patron by the Spaniards.

discovered standing for the *New Mole*; the *Enterprize* 1780, hailed her, upon which she answered, "A provision Junco ship from *England*;" the frigate hailed again, and suspecting that she was not a friend, immediately hoisted the signal of an enemy's approach, soon after several more appeared keeping the same course:—The *Enterprize* discharged a shot at the first, and the enemy finding they were discovered, took to their boats, and set them on fire, one after another, being nine in number: The wind now dropped, and a dead calm ensued; the garrison and shipping kept a brisk fire on the boats as they retreated, from which they must have suffered considerably, as they brought the first almost into the *New Mole*. Our seamen, in an undaunted and gallant manner, rowed along side of the flaming devourers, and having grappled to their burning sides, towed them quietly to the back of the *New Mole*, among the clefts of the rock, where they burnt to the water's edge, before a number of spectators from our walls, who were returning Almighty God thanks for the great deliverance; for had the wind continued to blow fresh, our shipping must have been inevitably consumed. Three of the fire-ships drove to the eastward, two dropped very near the *Panther* in *Rosia Bay*, where she lay at anchor, and the others to *Europa* and *Little Bay*. They burned with surprising fierceness for three hours; the masts of some stood to the very last, and appeared as if under sail: The largest was a 40 gun ship, and burnt till this afternoon. The garrison drums beat to arms, and the soldiery immediately repaired to their stations. The terrified inhabitants, together with the women and children, were wringing

1780. their hands, weeping with the most bitter and inexpressible
 June 7. anguish, expecting every minute a bombardment from the land side: Such a scene would pierce the most insensible heart, to hear their piteous lamentations.— During the transaction, the Rock appeared as bright as if Aurora had just arisen, to bless the creation with her enlivening rays; the stars reclined their head, and the skies and sea, were lost to preception, amidst the bright illumination.

Admiral *Barcello*, with his squadron, was under sail, flattering himself, that if our shipping were not burnt, they would cut their cables and push to sea; but his stratagems were frustrated, and this morning he returned to his old station, to study more mischief.

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

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

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

10th. Arrived with a fine breeze at W. two boats from *Barbary*—they brought 48 sheep and a few fowls. A gun was fired from one of the enemy's galleys, but too late to prevent their getting in. East

Last night a man on duty, at the batteries on the 1780.
 Hill, fell from a precipice of the Rock, and was smash- June 11
 ed to pieces. It is supposed his intention was to desert.

Last night arrived a settee from *Tangier*, with 38 12th.
 bullocks and 80 sheep; also a small boat with oil. These
 frequent supplies will enable the garrison to sustain their
 situation with the utmost spirit. Beef is sold for three
 rials, and mutton four rials per pound.

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

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

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

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

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

Last night our batteries kept a hot and incessant fire 22d.
 upon the enemy's working parties; they laboured un-
 commonly hard at their approaches, as we heard the
 clink of their hammers during the whole course of the
 night. We did not observe any additional work this
 morning,

1780. morning, so that we conclude they were nailing down
 June. platforms in their works. We continue our working parties on the batteries, which are in extreme good condition to annoy the foe.

23d. Wind E. Came in a *Tartan* from *Minorca*, with leather, wine and charcoal. An excellent supply—shoes being much wanted to preserve the feet in our labours on the Rock, (which are sold at 20 and 22 rials per pair) wine to strengthen and revive our spirits, and charcoal to dress our diet, as firing is become a very scarce article; the wrecks of the fireships destroyed on the 7th instant, which furnished a present supply, being almost exhausted, we shall find ourselves very uncomfortably circumstanced, and greatly necessitated in a short time for a sufficiency for cooking. A *Portuguese* fisherman, who had pulled a rib from one of the wrecks, on the morning of their destruction, and towed it to shore with his boat, received nine dollars for the small purchase.

24th. This forenoon a Spanish 70 gun ship from the East, having a British ensign on her fore-top-mast-head, and a yellow flag over it, as a signal of defiance, stretched in close towards *Rosia Bay*, accompanied with two frigates and a xebec, and opened their fire upon the Panther and Enterprize: our shipping and batteries made a brisk return, the 70 gun ship received several shot, the xebec had one of her sails damaged, and her boom carried away: three of the enemy's shot came on shore; one fell at *Europa*, one at the *Devil's Bowling Green*, and one at the *New Mole*. Fifteen men
 were

were wounded on board the *Enterprize* frigate, by some powder taking fire during the action, nine are sent to the Naval Hospital, the others remained in the ship, not being in a dangerous way. 1780. June.

This morning at two o'clock, (it being a dead calm) the enemy began to fire upon the garrison, and the *Panther* lying in *Rosia Bay*. It is conjectured they were gun-boats or floating-batteries, but it being very dark, it was impossible to perceive their form. Several shot, (26lb. weight) came on shore at *South-barracks*, but happily did not do any damage. The shipping and garrison kept up a brisk fire, the picquets of the several regiments were under arms, and the women and children roused, on hearing a general discharge of cannon. It is not improbable to imagine this to be a stratagem of Admiral *Barcello's*, to harass and fatigue us with repeated firings and alarms from the Bay, and then give the decisive stroke; but they have Britons to oppose their machinations, who in time, (I trust) will let them know their hopes are built like fancied castles in the air. The more we feel our enemy, the more ardent are our desires to engage them. Every countenance is chearful, wishing to scourge those vain people. 27th.

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

This day, our Town-Major (Captain *Burke* 58th Regiment,) went out at *Bay-side* and received a * parley 30th.

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

1780 ley from the enemy. Not the least intelligence has
 June transpired—The particulars are kept with the most
 profound secrecy—various are the conjectures of the
 public. The situation of the enemy's works and ap-
 proaches, indicate a bombardment, and some imagine
 that articles of capitulation have been sent in for nego-
 tiation ; but this is only supposition.

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

Dear Brother,

Affectionately, yours, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R X.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

OF the approaching storm, every day adds fresh 1780.
confirmation. Our cartel this forenoon went to July 2.
the bottom of the Bay, and received 100 prisoners
of war, taken in the *Admiral Keppel* privateer. They
bring information that 42 sail of French and Spanish
line of battle ships, and ten bomb-ketches, have ac-
tually sailed from Cadiz for this place, and that 30,000
men are within a short march of the camp of St Roque.
This makes it evident that Spain is determined, if pos-
sible, to take Gibraltar, so that we may shortly expect
material business executed. Some consultations have
been held, but the result is not made public.

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

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

The Spaniards, this forenoon, were very busy in 5th
No. 3. G camp;

1780. camp; several parties practising their mortars. We
 July. kept up a very hot fire last night, upon their parties,
 mostly small shells.

8th. Last night, wind E. sailed four Indiamen from this place: They came with the fleet under the command of Admiral *Rodney*. Our shipping intend (as the nights are now dark) to slip out occasionally. This afternoon came in a deserter from the Walloon Guards: He swam from a battery on this side Fort Negro—the enemy fired two shot at him. He says, the Spaniards are meditating a vigorous storm against this place, and that on 7th of June, when the fireships were sent in, he was an assistant-gunner at the lines, where every thing was in readiness to bombard the town, in case any of those ships had dropped into the New Mole, that the matches were lighted, and only waited for the word “fire.”

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

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

Wind

Wind W. Arrived a boat from *Tangier*, with fowls 1780.
and pigeons.—From the account she brings, we may 11th,
expect no further intercourse with *Barbary*: The Pa-
tron says, two of our garrison boats, were chased on
shore by the *Spaniards*, and captured in that port.
The Emperor of *Morocco* still winks at the hostilities
committed by them, and even countenances their il-
legal proceedings, by permitting the *Spanish* boats to
seize our vessels coming into *Tangier*; several have
been taken under the walls of that place.

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

Between twelve and one o'clock this morning, the 17th,
Spanish gun-boats began an attack upon our shipping:
The fire was returned by us, but it is imagined with-
out any effect, they being imperceptible to the eye in
the night, the flash of their guns being the only object
we have to direct the ordnance by: Several of the ene-
my's shot came on shore, and a gun was dismounted
on board the *Enterprize* frigate.

G A R R I S O N O R D E R S.

“Whenever there is any firing from the garrison or
the enemy, or any appearance of enemy's ships, row
boats, or armed vessels approaching, the commission offi-
cers commanding guards, are to report to the Governor
what they observe, and mention whether all is well on
the guard.”

About two this morning, little wind, the enemy's 19th,
gun-boats again attacked the shipping and garrison,
without doing any particular damage, except rousing
the

1780. the wearied soldiery, and timid inhabitants from their July. nightly slumber.

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

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

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

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

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

Yours, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R X I.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

WIND West. This morning between ten and 1780.
 eleven o'clock, several guns were distinctly Aug. 3.
 heard in the Gut; soon after, we discovered the Spa-
 nish cruizers chasing a small setee, which stood for the
 Bay, but before she could get under the cover of our
 guns, was obliged to strike. It is asserted that she was
 detached from Faro with the mail, the loss of which
 will be much regreted by all persons, not having re-
 ceived any letters of a considerable time past.

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

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

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

This

1780. This day our cartel received the crews of four ves.
 Aug. 16 sels taken on their passage hither, viz. Dolphin Capt Grant, from Lisbon; Sally and Rachael, Captain Hays from London; Polly, Captain Coffin, from ditto; and Bersey, Captain Wilson, from ditto. The three latter were taken in and about Tangier-Bay, within musquet shot of the town.

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

But should great Mars, not deign to bless our cause,
 And proud Iberia, gain a triumph'd conquest,
 If Britons in the battle are o'erpower'd,
 By numbers far superior, full of vigour,
 Not worn out with the heavy toils of war,
 Yet first they'll fight with martial desperation,
 Nor yeild to Spanish arms, the envied fortress,
 Not while a man is spar'd to fire a gun!
 But this is only mere imagination,
 Such valiant officers as bear command,
Boyde, De la Motte, Green, Pickton, Curtis, Cochran,
M^r Kenzie,

M'Kenzie, Gladstones, Horsfall, Lewis, Maxwell;

With many more experienc'd hardy vetrans,

1780.

(To mention all their names, 'twould tedious prove)

Like tygers to their prey the men will lead,

And cheer each valiant soldier doom'd to bleed.

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

I am,

Dear Brother,

Sincerely yours.

L E T T E R XII.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

THIS day several large-lettees arrived from the Sept 3. eastward, with timber and fascines, they anchored off the pier at the Orange Grove. It is conjectured they have other works in contemplation. Part of their cargo was landed this afternoon.

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

9th.

The

1780. The enemy keeps our port blockaded much closer
 Sept. 9. than ever; about ten of their armed cruizers are constantly under Cabritta, some at Tarifa, about eight near Tangier, three or four at Tetuan, some at Cuet and several at the Gut's mouth, so that it is almost impossible for any vessel to escape: The gun-boats and galleys form a chain every night from Cabritta to Europa Point, and in the morning return to their anchorage. On the land side the enemy are quiet, very few working parties employed, their works appear to be complete. We have not received an ox from Barbary since June 12th, and every species of provision is now at a most extravagant price; a turkey cock was sold a few days ago for three guineas and a half, ducks are one guinea per couple, a goose one pound six shillings, a hen twelve shillings, powder sugar two shillings the pound, soap one shilling and four-pence ditto charcoal half a guinea for 25 lb. weight, oil two shillings the pint, pork two shillings and sixpence the pound, fish at the rate of eighteen-pence ditto, fire wood five shillings and sixpence per hundred weight tallow candles two shillings and sixpence per pound and every indifferent, onions eight-pence ditto, and all other articles proportionally dear. From this sketch you may form an idea of our present situation, and the consequences that are to follow, if some supplies are not sent from England.—Arrived a xebec from the westward at Algaziras.

14th. Arrived last night, a small fettee from Minorca with wine, oil, sugar, honey, onions, turkeys, and other necessaries, which are sold at enormous prices; many things

things almost for their weight of silver. It would 1780.
really be much better if we received none of them, as Sept.
their supply is so very small, that it affords but little
relief, and enhances the prices of what few things are
sold in the shops.

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

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

Last night, wind E. failed the *Sally* and *Betsy*, and 25th.
another ship for *England*; we think they are both
discovered, as the enemy threw several rockets from
their watch towers.

H

Last

* A part of fortification between two port-holes.

|| A sloping bank.

1785. Last night sailed the ships *Handelier* and *Nancy*, with
 Sept. several women and children on board, bound for *Eng-*
 26. *land*. A cruizer under the *Barbary* shore fired an alarm
 gun, and this morning we discovered two xebecs had
 pushed to the westward.
- 27th. "Biscuit will be delivered to the regiments in lieu of
 soft bread, from Monday next the 2d of October, until
 further orders."
- 28th. This afternoon a reinforcement of three large xebecs
 from the eastward arrived at *Algaziras*.—Came in a
 deserter from the *Walloon* guards; he was dressed like
 a farmer, and says that he was a serjeant in the *Spanish*
service: he is a *German*, speaks *English* and *French*
 pretty well, seems to be an intelligent man: The man-
 ner of his coming to the garrison occasions a suspicion
 of his being a spy; the Governor has ordered him to
 be stationed at *Windmill-hill*, and not to have the pri-
 vilege of walking the streets, as the other deserters all
 have.
- 29th. This day an additional frigate came to an anchor at
Algaziras.
- 30th. Wind W. The enemy this day brought into *Algazi-*
ras the ship *Sally* and *Betsy*, under her ensign reversed.
 She sailed from here the 25th inst. It is not improba-
 ble but the three other ships have shared the same fate.
- Oct. 1. The *Spaniards* availing themselves of the darkness
 of the night, erected a breast-work on the isthmus,
 between *Landport Gardens* and the *Round Tower*, about
 60 feet in length, being within 800 yards of our lines;
 and

and about three they set fire to our huts in the gardens, 1780.
 and came undiscovered as far as *Bay-side* and *Lower-* Octob.
Forbes's Guard-houses, where they hung several bun-
 dles of combustibles on the palisades to burn them
 down, together with machines, constructed with twelve
 tubes, charged with a ball cartridge ; to each of which
 a fuze led, intended to kill the guards in endeavouring
 to free them from the gates ; the fuze did not burn to
 the powder, and the machines were brought in to our
 laboratory. The centinels posted there did not observe
 them, owing to the darkness of the night, and the
 roaring of the sea and wind ; but as soon as the flame
 burst out, the guards gave them a smart fire of mus-
 quetry, which obliged them to retreat.—Previous to
 the affair the enemy threw a rocket at *Algaziras*,
 which was answered at their lines, when, in an instant
 the gardens appeared in a blaze : They had lain a train
 from our gates to the several huts in the gardens, which
 soon consumed them : Fortunately no material damage
 was done to our gates, nor any person hurt on our side.

This day the enemy brought in, with their ensigns 2d.
 reversed, the *Handeller* and *Nancy*, that sailed the 26th
 of September. Count *D'Estaing*, with several general
 officers from the camp, came down to the lines this
 forenoon. He was saluted at *Fort Negro* with 15 guns
 on his return to the camp, from whence he proceeded,
 accompanied with a great many boats, to *Algaziras*,
 where the shipping saluted him. The deserter who
 came in on the 29th last month reports, that the Count
 was expected in the *Spanish* camp, when he left it; and
 added, that several *French* regiments were preparing to

1780. reinforce the *Spanish* army, next spring, though they
 Octob. flattered themselves at *St Roque*, that the garrison
 would be in their hands much sooner.

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

GARRISON ORDERS.

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

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

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

7th. This day the Town-Major went out to *Spain* with a parley; the centinel at the advanced work, at first opposed his passing, but after some deliberation, accompanied him as far as the *Round Tower*, where an officer came to receive the letter, but looked very sul-
 len,

n, not being pleased with having their works examin- 178d.
 d—It seems they have good covering for their men Octob.
 ere.

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

GARRISON ORDERS.

8th.

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

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

Wind E. This morning early, a small scttee arrived 11th.
 with supplies from *Minorca*, and the Patron having in-
 mated that two others werè standing for the Rock,
 our boats went out with an intention to assist them,
 but no such vessels appeared ; however a *Danish* dogger,
 a company with a *Dutch* convoy, having come pretty
 near *Europa Advance*, which she could not see on ac-
 count of a thick fog—our boats boarded and brought
 her in. She proves to be from *Malaga*, bound to *Co-*
penhagan, laden with lemons, oranges, raisins, &c.
 which articles being deemed very refreshing to the
 troops, especially the sick, the Governor ordered her
 cargo to be landed. An attempt was also made by
 our boats upon a *Dutch* ship, but on account of the
 fire from the frigate of the convoy, was compelled to
 resist.

Last night, a soldier attempting to desert to the ene- 12th.
 my, from *Middle-hill* Guard, fell from the heights,
 and was smashed to pieces at the foot of the Rock.
 One would imagine it to be madness in a person to en-
 deavour

* A great part of it quite rotten, and unentable.

17th. deavour to escape that way, as the precipices of the
Octob. Rock are so steep, that the very idea to a rational man
would deter him from such a proceeding.

16th. Two of the enemy's gun-boats have for these several
mornings appeared at the *Old Mole Head*, (at long
gun shot distance) and row gently along in a line opposite
the *King's Bastion*, as if they were founding—
They prevent our fishing boats from going to their
usual posts. Yesterday and this day, a large body of
the enemy have been busily employed in levelling a
piece of ground on the east side of the first guard-house
near *Fort Philipe*: Our engineers are of opinion they
are going to erect a battery there,

18th. The enemy's gun-boats, yesterday and this day,
fired on our fishing-boats, and obliged them to come
in. It is evident their intention is to cut off the re-
freshing supply of fish, as well as meat. The ord-
nance mounted in these boats, discharge shot 26 lb
weight, and are of great annoyance. They are able
to attack a ship of force in a calm.

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

* Some cast in lead, and some made of strong paper, filled
with a composition, which while it burns gives a sufficient light
to observe the enemy's motions.

the Spanish soldiers often extinguish by covering them with sand. 1780.

Octob.

GARRISON ORDERS.

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

The stoppage of beef will be paid for at the rate of 20 quarts the pound, the oatmeal at 24 quarts the gallon.

OFFICERS per Month.

Bread, seven pound; Beef, six ditto; Pork, four ditto; Pease, four pints; Wheat, six ditto; Flour, three pounds; Raisins, two ditto; Kidney Beans, four pints; Butter, ten ounces; Oatmeal, four pints.

N. B. Four pound beef, and eight pints of oatmeal to be paid for.

HOSPITAL per Week.

Beef, half a pound; Pork, one pound; Oatmeal, three pints; Butter two ounces and half. Wheat, one pint and half; Flour, 3-4ths of a pound, Raisins, half-pound; Rice, ditto; Kidney Beans, one pint; Vinegar, half-pint, in lieu of four pints pease and seven ounces and half butter.

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

MEN per Week.

Beef, one pound; Pork, one ditto; Pease, one pint; Oatmeal, one ditto; Butter, two ounces and half; Wheat, one pint and half, Flour, 3-4ths of a pound; Raisins, half a pound; Kidney Beans, one pint; Vinegar, quarter of a pint, in lieu of three pints pease, and seven ounces butter.

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

Wind

1780. Wind S. E. This morning arrived and anchored
 Octob. under *Europa Advance*, not being able to get round
 21st. the point, a small boat with wine and other necessaries
 from *Algiers*. The *Spaniards* sent in a parley this fore-
 noon, wherein it is ordered no longer to communicate
 by land, the bay being appointed for that purpose.

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

27th. This morning we perceived that the enemy had ex-
 tended their advance work (now termed the *Tower-*
battery,) several yards. We fired many shells, but
 without success, as most of them fell wide of the work;
 the *Spanish* soldiers encouraged by this, came out and
 exhibited tokens of defiance, but a round of well-di-
 rected grape shot from *Willis's*, soon made them forget
 their pastime. The enemy are still employed on the
 work adjacent to *St Philipe*, and have begun to make
 a battery at *Cabritta Point*, either to protect their
 cruizers which anchor there, or to annoy our shipping
 coming in or going out.

31st. We continue to keep up a fire upon the enemy on
 the isthmus, which has greatly prevented their carrying
 on their works,—they have not done any additional
 part since the 26th. Last night two soldiers that were
 centinels at *Upper Forbes's*, got down by means of a

rope, and deserted. If they speak the truth, they can only inform the enemy, that we are prepared to repulse their arms, and that our works are in excellent condition ; this will have a tendency more to perplex and discourage, than animate and please. 1780. Octob.

Their num'rous troops, long train'd to arms and hardships,

Fed up with promises, and expectations

Of great encouragement, and sure reward,

To make them fight more desp'rate in th' attack.

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

I remain

Yours, &c.

I

LETTER .

LETTER XIII.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1780.
Nov. 1. OUR situation still remains the same—the enemy working, and we firing: Admiral *Barcello*, with an unexampled strictness, continues to guard the entrance of the bay; even neutrals are not allowed to pass without examination:—A snow who kept company with a *French* convoy which passed to the eastward, and made a sudden push for *Europa*, was taken to the southward of the point, and carried into *Ceuta*. This day we fired several well-directed shells into the *Tower Battery*, where we heard men at work.

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

GARRISON ORDERS.

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

8th. Last night, between seven and eight o'clock, the enemy's cruizers fired at a vessel standing for the Bay, with the wind at West; the fire was returned by her, and soon after we heard an explosion of powder, so that

that we conclude, either the vessel or a *Spanish* cruizer 1780.
blew up. The enemy labour much at their advanced Nov.
works, and notwithstanding these moon-light nights,
and our frequent fire, they have extended their ap-
proaches towards the western shore. One of the bodies
of the two soldiers that deserted the 2d instant was
found floating under the line wall; another corpse was
seen taken up on the strand near Fort St *Philippe*.

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

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

Wind N. W. This morning early, we discovered 12th.
a small sail under the *Barbary* shore—three of the ene-
my's gun-boats set out from *Cabritta-point*, and as
soon as they came near enough, began a fire of grape-
shot upon her, and often covered her with the discharge;
she returned the fire faintly, but kept standing her
course; the boats aimed to board her, two xebecs
stretched down upon her, and fired a broadside or two
without doing any execution: The boats continued
their fire until she got under the garrison-guns, when
our batteries at *Europa* and *Buena-Vista*, played so
briskly, that they found it prudent to chace her no
longer. She proves to be the *Young Sabine*, Captain
M'Clorg, from *London*, in 18 days, with flour and

1780. other necessary articles, burthen 200 tons and ten men,
Nov. She was greatly damaged, and her sails almost torn to pieces, having received 29 shot which struck her in different parts during the action—She had only one man slightly wounded.

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

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

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

Sale Prices of Provision arrived here with Capt. *McClorg*.

	£.	s.	d.
Flour, per barrel, _____	3	12	0
Cork butter, per pound _____	0	1	9
Gloucester Cheese, ditto, _____	0	1	4
Mustard, ditto, _____	0	2	2
Hams, ditto, _____	0	2	4
Bacon, ditto, _____	0	2	4
			Tongues

G I B R A L T A R.

69

		£.	s.	d.	
Tongues, ditto,	— — —	0	3	0	1780.
Coals, per chaldron,	— — —	14	14	0	Sept.
Herrings, per barrel,	— — —	4	0	0	
Candles, per pound,	— — —	0	1	4	
Porter, per hoghead,	— — —	6	10	0	
Rum, per gallon,	— — —	0	18	0	

This is a specimen of the prices as they sold in lots, but the buyers who retail them again make almost 10 per cent. You may therefore judge how those who are situated who have not money or convenience to purchase a quantity.

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

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

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

1780. rected towards the naval spitfires, they were assiduously
 Nov. employed in strengthening their advanced works and
Tower-battery, for we perceived some thousands of sand
 bags piled up on their approaches, which, as far as we
 can judge, will afford them the greatest cover from the
 fire of our batteries on the height. This politic scheme
 gained them a considerable acquisition, and will much
 forward their ensuing labours.

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

GARRISON ORDERS.

Provisions from 20th November to 17th December.

OFFICERS per Month.

*Beef, six pounds ; Pork, four ditto ; Pease, four pints,
 Oatmeal, four ditto ; Wheat, four ditto ; Flour, three
 pounds ; Butter, three ounces ; Raisins, two pounds ;
 Rice, two pints. To be paid for, four pound beef ; eight
 pints of oatmeal ; two pints of wheat.*

HOSPITAL per Week.

*Beef, pound and half ; Pork, one pound ; Butter, two
 ounces and half ; Wheat, one pint ; Oatmeal, three pints
 Flour, 3-4ths of a pound ; Raisins, half ditto ; Rice
 one pint ; Vinegar, half a pint ; one pound beef to be
 paid for—the wheat paid for as usual.*

MEN per Week.

1780.

Beef, pound and half, Pork, one ditto ; Pease one pint ;
 Oatmeal, one ditto ; Wheat, one ditto ; Flour, 3-4ths
 pound ; Raisins, half ditto ; Rice, half pint ; Butter, two
 ounces and half ; Vinegar, 1-4th pint. To be paid for,
 Beef, one pound ; Oatmeal, two pints ; Wheat, half a
 pint.

Nov.

N. B. Seven pound Bread served weekly to officers and men.

The enemy, last night, again saluted us with a li- 19th.
 beral discharge of twenty-six pounders, directed to our
 shipping—The *New-Mole*, *South*, *King's*, *Montague's*
 bastions, and saluting battery, opened upon them with
 the greatest fury, and continued firing upwards of an
 hour : During the action, a gun unfortunately burst
 upon the *King's* bastion, which killed the bombardier of
 the detachment, and wounded another man—The head
 and thigh of the former was tore off—several pieces of
 the gun flew into the centre of the town, but happily
 did not effect any damage.

G A R R I S O N O R D E R S.

“ No lights to appear towards the bay, in any house, 20th.
 barrack, guardhouse, or other building, after seven o'clock
 at night.”

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

The enemy's gun-boats, last night, again visited us 24th.
 with their usual generosity ; but most of their shot fell
 short,

1780. short, so that the garrison and shipping made no re-
Nov. turn. The enemy, it is imagined, misjudged the distance, not seeing any lights on shore, agreeable to the orders of the 20th inst.

The enemy continue their regular approaches, several parties employed in bringing down to their lines fascines, gabions, empty casks, &c. They have begun a passage towards the garrison, and made a fort between the seven and fourteen gun-batteries:—We annoy them as much as possible, with our small shells, during their nightly labours, but in the day time they don't carry on any visible work. In searching after a soldier, who has been missing these several days, (supposed to have deserted) the skeletons of two men were found behind the rock.

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

It appears to be about 12 or 14 feet high and, according to opinion, well executed.

26th. The enemy's gun-boats generously gave us a few rounds; they fired several of their shot into the tower without doing any mischief.—one fell into the *Produit*

Master

Master's quarters, behind *King's* bastion. Our ship- 1780.
ping, yesterday, hauled into *New Mole*;—many are Nov.
of opinion they have some intimation of a speedy at-
tack, and others, that it is to prevent being so much
exposed to the enemy's gun-boats. The *Spanish* ap-
proaches were much forwarded last night. The cen-
tinels at the *Tower*-battery fired yesterday several
musquet-shot at our gardeners, outside of *Landport*:
they have plundered the gardens every night of late,
but now, in a daring and audacious manner, they come
forward in the day time to gather the vegetables re-
maining there—we occasionally fire wall-pieces, grape-
shot, and small shells, but they seem so resolute, that
all our efforts to make them desist cannot intimidate
them. Several men have been seen to fall at the *Tower*
battery, but we have not been fortunate enough to hit
one of those that come forward—the walls of the wells
in the gardens afford them excellent shelter.

The *Danish* dogger that our boats brought in on the 29th.
11th of October sailed last night for *St Ubes*:—the
Spanish cruizers have picked her up, and carried her
into *Algaziras*. The enemy's approaches are for-
warded with an incredible rapidity. General *Alvarez*,
who commands in the camp, visits the lines and forts
once or twice a week—we know him by his uniform
and suite, on which occasion we never fire into the
Spanish lines—this is being politically complimentary.

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

1780. Yesterday the remaining *Spanish* frigates, that were at
 Nov. *Algaziras*, sailed to the west, so that the only ship of
 30th. force which occupies that place is *Barcello's* xebec. —
 Two fire-ships have been brought out of *Guadara-*
que river, and anchored at the *Orange Grove*; several
 more are getting ready in the rivers, and, I believe,
 some at *Algaziras*. It is rather probable that the ene-
 my have received an account of our fleet coming here,
 and are preparing for their destruction, they must
 therefore keep a sharp look-out on their arrival, or
 change the scene, and rush furiously on the foe,—

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

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

I remain,

Yours, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R X I V.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

A MIDST promised dangers, heavy labours, harassing alarms, constant watchings, lively hopes and expectations, I snatch a few moments to devote to your service. The period for the celebration of immortal VICTORY OF DEATH, hourly awaits us, and the glories and pomp of battle, in solemn steps approach: martial honours excite to valour, and the consideration of *Britain's* cause invigorates each bosom to repulse the combined arms of imperious *Gaul*, and proud *Iberia*, which glitter and adorn the *Spanish* plains.—

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

This forenoon signals were made at the *Spanish* watch-towers of an enemy being to the eastward—a ship appeared standing for the rock, chased by two xebecs;—two gun-boats pushed out from *Algaziras*, and soon got near her—a fire immediately commenced between them, and continued till she came under *Europa* guns, without doing each other much damage. She proves to be the *Anglicano* letter of marque, of 26

1780. guns and 80 men, from *Smyrna*, laden with silk. A
 Dec. small xebec was carried into *Algaziras*, with a *Spanish*
 ensign above the *English*; many are of opinion that
 she was a *Minorca* vessel bound for this place.

3d. Yesterday evening we had a violent storm of hail,
 rain, lightning, and thunder—the storm did not reach
 the *Spanish* camp, or they must have suffered consider-
 ably. Arrived a frigate at *Algaziras*.

4th. Wind E. Last night, with a stiff breeze, the
Anglicana sailed from hence, on her passage to *Eng-
 land*:—A Lieutenant embarked on board her with an
 express.

5th. The weather having proved rainy and boisterous these
 three days past, the enemy have not been able to exe-
 cute any work on the isthmus, nor has any of their
 cruizers made their appearance in the Bay. The Go-
 vernor has ordered the pavement of the streets to be
 dug up as far as *Southport*: one hundred and ten inha-
 bitants, (besides the soldiery) are employed in this
 work, viz. sixty Roman Catholics, thirty Jews, and
 twenty British; the stones are thrown over the line
 wall. The intention of this, is to prevent the havock
 that would ensue from the explosion of the enemy's
 shells, whenever they open from their batteries, as the
 great weight they fall with buries them under the surface
 of the ground, and when they burst, they scatter what-
 ever is near them for seventy or eighty yards around.

8th. The enemy worked very hard last night, and great-
 ly forwarded their approaches:—This morning they
 fired

ired very brisk on our gardeners, who were forced to 1780.
retire. A frigate from the West has anchored on the Dec.
other side.

We fired this morning by way of experiment, from 9th.
Old Mole Head, six ten-inch shells out of howitzers,
one of which penetrated into the centre of the *Tower*
battery, and apparently set fire to it, which they soon
extinguished.

The wind blowing strong E. and the sea too rough
for the gun-boats, three settees arrived from *Minorca*,
and a brig from *Leghorn*, with wine and other neces-
saries. None of the *Spanish* cruizers attempted to stir.

The enemy's covered-way is greatly extended, a
few nights more will bring it home to the *Tower* bat-
tery.

The enemy's covered-way is not yet completed, 14th.
owing to the rough and rainy weather ; they have ex-
tended it very near the East line of their advanced work.
This morning six pieces of cannon were laid in the
sand behind the *Old-Mole*. They have an elevation of
45 degrees, and it is imagined they will send shot (red
hot) into the enemy's encampment and artillery park.

Last night the enemy completed their covered-way : 15th.
they have brought it close home to the East angle of
the *Tower* battery—The weather having proved calm.
the *Spanish* cruizers again cover the face of the Bay.

The enemy last night began another line of approach,
extending

1780. extending from the left of the *Tower* battery, toward
Dec. the *Centre-Stone* Guard-house.

GARRISON ORDERS.

“ *The issues of provision for the next month, to be the same as last, except that only one week’s oatmeal, at a pint each ration, can be spared, to leave the usual supply for the hospitals.*”

- 17th. The enemy extended their approaches some yards last night, and we, with our usual liberality of shot and shells, repaid their labours. Several settees, and polacres arrived from the East at *Algaziras*.
- 21st. Wind W. Last night a firing was heard from the offing for near an hour, which proved to be the *Speedwell* cutter, with dispatches from *England*, engaging a xebec, which was under the necessity of putting into *Centa* to repair her damages; she got safe into *New-Mele*, but the intelligence brought by her is at present kept secret.
- 23d. Arrived the *Hannah* privateer, from *England*, with cheese, beef, pork, butter, &c.—a very good supply. It must sensibly aggravate Admiral *Barcello*, notwithstanding the attention and alertness of his armed boats and cruizers, that vessels so frequently drop in here.
- 25th. This day the deserter that came in the 28th of September was sent to the *Provost*, he being, from indubitable facts, proved a spy. Several writings were found in his possession, inscribed to a *Spanish* officer, together with a plan of the garrison sewed up in a coarse cloth.

cloth. Among other passages he says, that, "Between 1780.
the *Advance* and *Dead-man's hole*, the shore is so bold, Dec.
that they may bring their shipping close to the Rocks, 25th.
and land the men from off the yards; and, after this
is done, to take possession of the travelling pieces of
cannon on *Wind-mill-bill*, draw them to the *South pa-*
rade, and cannonade the town." Came in last night,
the snow *Kitty* and *Polly* from *Liverpool*, with butter,
flour, cheese, and potatoes; the latter sells at one
rial and a half per pound. Deserted, a soldier in the
night.

This day two *Moorish* vessels were carried into *M.* 29th.
gaziras; it is conjectured they were destined for this
place.

This forenoon a settee belonging to the enemy was 30th.
becalmed off *Europa*, and our boats went out and
boarded her—the crew escaped.—She had two pigs
and some empty casks on board. It is some time since
we had the satisfaction to hoist the *English* colours o-
ver the *Spanish*.

This morning a *Tartan*, laden with brandy and su- 31st.
gar, came in from *Minorca*. She brings no particu-
lar intelligence. Last night a serjeant deserted from
the back of the rock.

The enemy keep attentively at work, and forward
their approaches and covered retreats with the utmost
spirit; their heavy loss of men does not discourage
their operations—they seem intent and determined to
capture

1780. capture *Gibraltar*. Probably the next year will decide
 Dec. the contest : if they should be successful, and take the
 31st. garrison, it will be an expedition worthy of record ;
 but we have not the least idea of this nature, our bat-
 teries are so well mounted with heavy ordnance, and
 manned with *Britons*, that the name of being conquer-
 ed is laughed at as an absurdity.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately Yours.

L E T T E R X V .

GIBRALTAR

DEAR BROTHER,

1781. **O**UR prospect is but gloomy ; the enemy are very
 Jan. busy, and are still forwarding works of annoy-
 10th. ance. It is conjectured as soon as the bomb-battery
 is completed, that the pastime will begin ; but I hope
 this year will terminate with victory to Great Britain.

This day, under flag of truce, the two *Moorish* gal-
 leys, that arrived the 29th of last month, were con-
 ducted from *Algaziras* to this place ; they have brought
 Consul *Logie*, and the *British* families and Jews from
Tangier.

Tangier. We learn that hostilities are commenced by 1781.
 the *Barbarians* against us, and that the Emperor of Jan.
Morocco has sold the ports of *Tangier* and *Tetuan* to
 His Catholic Majesty ; by this means the enemy con-
 clude *Gibraltar* their own, and that famine will com-
 pel us to capitulate. I hope their expectations will
 be frustrated, and that, in spite of the united efforts
 of our foes, the *British* ensigns will be kept flying here.

GARRISON ORDERS.

“ *The centries on the sea-line are not to suffer 14th.*
 any person to land under any part of the line-wall,
 or upon the rocks towards the southward, or to re-
 main on shore there after first gun-fire, but to fire up-
 on whoever they may discover, either on shore, or at-
 tempting to land after that time.”

Last night a *Spanish* frigate was drove by a storm 15th;
 under our walls, the garrison took her for an *English*
 vessel, therefore did not fire upon her ; a heavy rain
 coming on, and a thick haze upon the water, she es-
 caped unperceived till this morning. The two *Moor-*
ish galleys sailed from hence to the west.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Ration of provisions from the 15th January till the 11th
 February.

OFFICERS per Month.

Bread, twenty-eight pounds ; *Pork*, four ditto ;
Beef, four ditto ; *Pease*. four pints ; *Butter*, ten un-
 ces ; *Cheese*, one pound and a half, in lieu of two
 pounds of *Beef*.

L

Kidney-

1781. *Kidney-beans, four pints ; Wheat, four ditto ;
Jan. Flour, three pounds ; Raisins, two ditto, in lieu of
twelve pints of Pease, and thirty ounces of Butter.*

HOSPITAL per Week.

*Bread, seven pounds ; Beef, one ditto ; Pork,
one ditto ; Butter, two ounces and a half ; Cheese,
six ditto, in lieu of half a pound of Beef.*

*Wheat, one pint ; Flour, 3-4ths of a pound ; Rice,
one pound ; Raisins, half a pound ; Oatmeal, three
pints ; Vinegar, half a pint, in lieu of four pints of
Pease, and seven ounces and a half of Butter.*

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

MEN per Week.

*Bread, seven pounds ; Beef, one ditto ; Pork,
one ditto ; Pease, one pint ; Butter, two ounces and
a half ; Cheese, six ounces, in lieu of half a pound of
Beef.*

*Flour, 3-4ths of a pound ; Wheat, one pint ;
Kidney beans, one ditto ; Raisins, half a pound ;
Vinegar, 1 4th of a pint, in lieu of three pints of
Pease, and seven ounces and a half of Butter.*

*N. B. One pound of Beef, and three pints of
Oatmeal to be paid for.*

16th. Wind W. This morning arrived a brig from the
Madeira Islands with 80 pipes of wine. She was
drove from her moorings in a storm, with only six
hands on board—Her cargo will prove a refreshing
supply.

Wind

Wind W. S. W. Last night came in the *Tartar* 1781. privateer, from *England*, with dispatches from Go- Jan. 18. vernment—she had a passage of sixteen days, and brings the intelligence that hostilities are commenced against the *Dutch*. She had the good fortune to capture four *Dutch* vessels on her passage, and carried them into *Portugal*. Our frigate lying in *New Mole* fired several shot at her, suspecting her to be an enemy, as she stood towards the bottom of the Bay, our former anchorage.

General *Eliott* has ordered letters of marque to be issued against the *Dutch*, the same as granted against *France* and *Spain*. The garrison received the above account with universal eclat ; the officers and every individual seemingly felt a sensible pleasure upon the occasion. Whether from it being the anniversary of Her Majesty's birth-day, or from this piece of information, the royal standard was hoisted, and a rejoicing observed by the garrison, shipping, boats, &c. by a discharge of cannon at one o'clock—the seamen manned and cheered, and the land-batteries saluted the enemy's works with ball.

This morning, soon after day-break, the serjeant 20th. commanding the *Bay side* (a detached guard) jumped over the pallisadoes, and walked gently on towards the enemy's works, seemingly undetermined, whether to go forward, or return to the garrison. It is reported, that being greatly in debt, (having kept a mess for
L 2 officers)

1781. officers) excited him to this deplorable act—the cen-
 Jan. tinels discharged their musquetry, but it is uncertain
 whether any of their shot took effect.
- 23d. Last night, with a stiff breeze at N. W. the *Young Sabine* and the *Hannab* privateers sailed for *Minorca*.—Admiral *Barcello* having missed them this morning, detached a frigate to the east, under all the sail she could croud, but it is probable she will not be able to come up with them, they having near twelve hours sail ahead.
- 25th. Yesterday evening, a soldier deserted, supposed from the heights of the rock.
- 28th. Wind S. E. Arrived the *Tartar*, a French prize, of 26 guns, from *Leghorn*, with wine, oil, brandy, &c. She picked up at sea the *Brilliant's* long-boat, which makes us imagine that frigate was forced to the eastward, with the strong northerly wind.
- 29th. Wind E. Last night sailed the *Tartar* privateer, that arrived here on the 18th inst. The enemy threw several rockets from their towers, and this morning we observed a xebec returning from the gut without her prey. On the land-side the enemy continue their labours. nor are we remiss in annoying them. Three soldiers are missing, supposed to have deserted.
- 30th. Wind S. E. Arrived a large fettee and a *Tartan* from *Minorca*, with wine. &c. They bring word of the *Brilliant's* safe arrival in that port.

Wind

Wind S. W. Yesterday evening sailed a brig from hence, bound to *Mahon* with supplies. The enemy extended their approaches about five yards last night, and threw up several heaps of sand—Some infantry, have marched into their camp, reported to have landed at *Cadiz*. Admiral *Barcello* remains at anchor, but his cruizers frequently come over to peep at our works, and observe the situation of our navy.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Yours, &c.

L E T T E R X V I.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

NOwithstanding every effort, and the most studious inventions of annoyance, that possibly could be adopted or executed, we have hitherto found ourselves inadequate to retard the progress of the enemy's operations. History has partially recorded, that cowardice generally characterized their conduct; but here give me leave to do justice to our assailants, who have invariably, from the period of their first labours,

to

1781. to the present forwardness of their approaches, shewn
Feb. a martial spirit, and undaunted resolution.

From eve to morn their heavy works go on,
And threat'ning bat'ries rise, 'midst show'rs of shot;
Our Rock, like burning *Ætna*, red with flames,
Whole volleys of destruction vomits forth;
While Death, with horrid grimace, hovers round
'em,

And scenes of blood besmear their operations,
Strew'd o'er with mangled limbs, and heaps of slain,
With steadfast valour, fix'd determination,
They labour and bring forward their approaches.

I shall endeavour in the series of letters, according to my feeble abilities, to give every transaction, circumstance, and event, during the Siege, a true description and illustration, to array martial merit in fullest splendor, and to crown each distinguished hero with deserving laurels.

The enemy extended another branch of their approaches last night, composed of fascines and sand-bags. We fired in the course of an hour 300 rounds of shot and shells. This morning a soldier deserted from the garrison.

2d. Our men of war's boats went round to the back of the rock this forenoon, where they found the bodies of the soldier (missing yesterday) and the serjeant mentioned 31st of December last, both in a shattered condition. It is astonishing, notwithstanding the tremendous

dous instances so frequently exhibited, they have not sufficient terror, to prevent men from endeavouring to escape to the enemy; even if conscience was bereft of feeling, and the regard for king, country, relatives, and friends obliterated, one would imagine the consideration of self preservation would alone effect it.

1781.

Feb.

This morning at day-break, came in a deserter from the enemy: He says, "That the *Spanish* General has received an order to recall the working-parties, in consequence of a proposition made to the Court of *Great Britain*, of six millions of money, and a free trade for the garrison." There is not the greatest reliance placed upon his intelligence, but looked upon as a stratagem of *General Alvarez*, to gain more liberty in the execution of his further projections.

8th.

Wind E. Arrived the *Salisbury* privateer, from *Minorca*—A large x-bee, and several galleys endeavoured to slip between her and the land.

11th.

The enemy appear to be in agitation on the opposite side: Several signals hung out from their watch towers, and their cruizers returning to the bay. We are in hopes that the *British* fleet is within a few leagues.

14th.

Wind N. W. Passed by about thirty sail of neutrals; there being a thick haze, could not perceive whether they were ships of force. We suppose the signals made yesterday was occasioned by their appearance off the coast.

15th.

GARRISON

GARRISON ORDERS.

1781. *Rations of Provisions from Feb. 12, to March 11, 1781.*

Feb. OFFICERS per Month.

Bread, twenty-eight pounds; Beef, four ditto; Pork, four ditto; Butter, ten ounces; Oil, one pint; Cheese, pound and half; Pease, four pints; Beans, four ditto; Wheat, four ditto; Rice, pound and half; Raisins, ditto. To be paid for Beef, four pounds; Oatmeal, twelve pints.

MEN per Week.

Bread, seven pounds; Beef, one ditto; Pork, one ditto; Butter two ounces and half; Oil, 1-4th pint; Cheese, six ounces; Pease, one pint; Beans, one ditto; Wheat, one ditto; Rice, six ounces; Raisins, six ounces. To be paid for, Beef, one pound; Oatmeal, three pints.

HOSPITAL per Week.

Bread, seven pounds; Beef, one ditto; Pork, one ditto; Butter, two ounces and half; Oil, 1-4th pint; Cheese, six ounces; Wheat, one pint; Rice, twelve ounces; Raisins, eight ditto; Oatmeal, three pints; Flour, twelve ounces. To be paid for, Beef, one pound

Soft Bread the first Week, Biscuit afterwards till further orders.

18th. Wind strong E. About eleven o'clock last night, the *Salisbury* got under sail:—None of the enemy's cruizers were out on account of the stiff breeze.

This

This afternoon a brig arrived from *Minorca*, in four 1781.
 days and a half, with flour, wine, sugar, and brandy : Feb.
 Two xebecs in vain stretched, across, but could not 19.
 get near her, the wind blowing very strong. She
 brings intelligence that the *French* have blockaded
Minorca.

Last night came in another brig from *Minorca*.—It 21st.
 must greatly chagrin Admiral *Barcello*, to view the
 shipping drop in so providentially, and he incapable of
 detaching his cruizers to the east.—Very stiff breezes
 have continued since the 18th inst.

Last night a *Genoese* brig, (as reported) with four 27th.
 hands, slipped over from *Algaziras*, having a few
 trifling articles on board. The manner of her coming,
 and the smallness of her cargo, rather excites a suspi-
 cion. The Governor, ever attentive to the preservation
 and safety of the garrison, and dubious of the legality
 of the crew's intention, has ordered a guard to mount
 on board her daily, until the affair is more thoroughly
 investigated.

Last night, under a very brisk fire, the enemy 28th.
 threw up a great quantity of sand upon their fascine
 works. It is supposed their approaches are about
 twenty feet high. We this day directed our fire to
 the west entrance of the lines, as many covered carts
 have been observed passing there.

M

This

1781. This month has finished, without being productive
 Feb. of the desired success; it is to be hoped that the next will conduce to the gratification of our wishes, in the extirpation of our foes.

I remain,

Your affectionate Brother

LETTER XVII.

GIBRALTAR

DEAR BROTHER,

1781. **E**XPERIMENTS of every contrivance are now
 Mar. 5. in agitation. ART and INGENUITY, which
 have been long employed for the preservation and
 knowledge of mankind, are now studying their anni-
 hilation. QUADRANTS, SPIRIT-LEVELS, and in-
 struments of various forms and machinery, adorn the
 batteries, for the more exact and certain method of
 KILLING. Every one seems anxious to find out the
 safest, quickest, and surest method of dispatch, in the
 elevation and depression of the ordnance. I suppose in
 a few weeks more practice, they will be so expert in
 levelling a gun, that should a *Spaniard* raise his head
 above

above the *epaulement, it will be immediately severed 1781.
 from his shoulders! The gamester, with stedfast eyes March
 fixed on the cast of the dice, never depended more on
 the goddess FORTUNE, than the several artists do
 for the success and approbation of their several inven-
 tions.

Now *Elliot's* heroes, zealous to destroy,
 Against the foe their ARTS and ARMS employ!
 Led on by hope, the *Spanish* forts to gain,
 And drive those num'rous legions from yon plain.

Wind E. Last night arrived a letter from *Minorca*,
 with sundry useful articles for the garrison; the Patron
 relates, that three *French* frigates are constantly cruiz-
 ing off the harbour to prevent succours going in or
 coming out of that place.

This morning, a little before the new guard came to 7th.
 relieve the old *Landport* guard, a soldier on duty there
 jumped over the pallisades near the gate, and ran off.
 The several guards fired 1143 musquet shot at him,
 beside grape, but could not ascertain his being wound-
 ed. He entered the *Spanish* lines in triumph, yet
 there is not any doubt he received several shot.

Yesterday and this day we had several hours ar- 9th.
 tillery-practice on the batteries at the enemy's works;

* A breast-work made of earth thrown up, or, of gabions, fa-
 scines, &c. &c.

1781. —the ordnance was well directed—much success in March promised from the merit of the several instruments under consideration. The enemy, with great earnestness, became spectators from forts *St Philipe* and *Barbary*, as our guns only played upon the advanced works of the isthmus.

GARRISON ORDERS.

11th. “The rations of provisions from the 12th of March to the 8th of April, the same as last month, except that no wheat will be delivered, but one pint of pease will be paid for.”

16th. Wind E. Came in a polacre and a *Tartan*, from *Minorca*, with wine and brandy—the latter received several shot from one of the enemy’s galleys that endeavoured to cut her off.

The enemy, on the land-side, are very attentive to their employ—we fire pretty hot upon them, as we are of opinion they are mounting ordnance in their advanced works. Yesterday a soldier deserted from the garrison.

18th. Arrived a *Tuscan* polacre, and the *Tartar* cutter from *Minorca*, with brandy and carravances.—A xebec stood over from *Ceuta*, but too late to prevent their entrance.

22d. Yesterday evening, the *Tuscan* polacre failed on her passage to *Lisbon*, but the enemy took her in the night, and this morning carried her into *Algaziras*.

Came

Came in a half-xebec, (a prize) taken by one of 1781.
 the *Minorca* privateers. She says, the *French* frigates Mar.
 so closely watch the entrance into the harbour, that it 26th.
 is almost impossible for a vessel coming in or going out,
 to escape,

Last night, (Wind W. N. W.) the *Enterprize* fri- 29th.
 gate sailed from hence, on her passage to *Minorca*. The
 repeated intelligence of the *French* having blockaded
 that port, occasioned her departure, and we flatter our-
 selves, when she arrives there, our force will be equal
 to theirs; the *Brilliant* and *Minorca* frigates being already
 on that station.—This forenoon a brig, half-bay
 over, was taken by the enemy's cruizers—the crew,
 being nine in number, escaped in a boat—they men-
 tion, "That the *British* fleet had twice put to sea,
 but was forced to return, owing to bad weather and
 contrary winds." They brought some poultry in their
 boat, which will afford them a present supply—the
 fowls sold for four dollars each, equal to twelve shil-
 lings and nine-pence; pigeons, three dollars per couple,
 equal to nine shillings and seven-pence; ducks, eight
 dollars four rials per couple, equal to one pound six
 shillings and six-pence. Every species of provision is
 sold at the same rate, and most of their salt meat is quite
 rotten, the very smell of it is sufficient for a meal.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER

LETTER XVIII.

GIBRALTAR,

DEAR BROTHER,

1781. **T**HE garrison are noisy with tumultuous joy, occasioned by the arrival of a cutter last night from the West, who brings the captivating and enlivening intelligence of our fleet being on their passage for the *Mediterranean*. We seem to be another people—the very atmosphere is changed—no depression of spirits—every countenance is adorned with satisfactory smiles—a social greeting of friends and acquaintances, with overwhelming extacy, they accost each other, “Dear friend, all our wants will shortly be supplied.”

This morning two fire-ships were removed from *Algaziras* towards *Cabritta-point*, intended by the enemy to run in among our fleet: Three others are at *Orange-Grove*, and several ready in the rivers. We are rather apprehensive of their being a great annoyance to our shipping.

4th. Last night sailed the *St Firmin* sloop, the *Brilliant's* tender, and a settee, for *Minorca*. Two xebecs immediately put to sea in pursuit of them, with a fine breeze at West.—The enemy are very busy on the opposite side, in getting their fire-ships out of the rivers.

6th. This evening four armed boats, composed of a detachment

achment of five men from each regiment, under the 1781.
 command of a naval officer, proceeded from the *New-* April
Mole, on an expedition, to cut out the two fire-ships
 that lay at anchor under *Cabritta*. It continued rainy
 and cloudy till they had got within a mile of them,
 when, on a sudden, the clouds dispersed, and Luna
 reflected so great a light, that they were under the ne-
 cessity of returning without accomplishing the business,
 the enemy having discovered the boats, and made a
 position of defence.

Rations of provisions from 9th of April to the 6th of May.

OFFICERS per Month.

*Beef, three pounds four ounces ; Pork, four ditto eight
 ditto ; Butter, ten ounces ; Raisins, three pounds ; Pease,
 two pints ; Beans, four ditto ; Wheat, four ditto ; Rice,
 one ditto ; Oil, one ditto ;—To be paid for, Beef, five
 pounds ; Pease, four pints ; Oatmeal, twelve ditto.*

MEN per Week.

*Beef, thirteen ounces ; Pork, eighteen ditto ; Butter,
 two ounces and half ; Raisins, twelve ounces ; Pease, half
 pint ; Beans, one ditto ; Wheat, one ditto ; Rice, four
 ounces ; Oil, 1-4th pint ;—To be paid for, Beef, one
 pound and quarter ; Pease one pint ; Oatmeal, three ditto.*

HOSPITAL per Week.

*Beef, thirteen ounces ; Pork, eighteen ditto ; Butter,
 two ounces and half ; Raisins, twelve ditto ; Beans, one
 pint ; Wheat, one ditto ; Rice, eight ounces ; Oil, 1-4th
 pint ;—To be paid for, Beef, one pound and quarter.*

Bread

1781. Bread issued to officers and men one pound and half every April. two days.

8th. Wind W. About eleven this forenoon we discovered a small sail under the *Barbary* shore. About two o'clock, the enemy's squadron weighed and stood for her, consisting of one xebec, one galley, one cutter, and fifteen large gun-boats, (mounting twenty-six pounds) as soon as they had reached her, they opened furiously, both with round and grape-shot, which she as briskly and heroically returned—broadside for broadside continued until she got under cover of the guns, when she received repeated and loud huzzas from the garrison. It is remarkable, notwithstanding the heavy cannonade, not a man was killed, and only a few wounded. She proves to be the *Eagle* cutter from *Port-Glasgow*, but brings no account about the fleet.

12th. Last night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, came in the *Kite* cutter; she being challenged by the officer of the *Mole* guard, loudly answered, "from the fleet," which immediately spread like wild-fire throughout the garrison; Morpheus resigned his sovereignty, and slumber was forgotten; each found sufficient employ and satisfaction in conversing on the interesting subject—We conjectured in the evening the *British* fleet was near at hand, as the enemy's towers and coast were greatly illuminated, and a number of rockets thrown up at *Cabritta*—At six this morning the fleet appeared as thick as a wood, standing for the garrison, with a gentle breeze at S. W. A shout of joy instantly ensued

fired from every corner, battery, and height, on the 1781.
 discovery.—About nine, eighteen of the enemy's gun- April.
 boats sailed out from *Algaziras*, but kept pretty well
 under the land; at ten they began a brisk fire from
 the boats and battery at the point, upon our shipping;
 two frigates bore down upon them, and played so
 warmly, that the enemy made to land. The battery
 at *Sand-bay*, and the Island at *Algaziras* (mounted with
 42-pounders) endeavoured to annoy our shipping, but
 to little purpose, as most of their shot fell wide. One
 ship has just dropt anchor.—A call to arms prevents
 my further writing, the enemy have opened all their
 batteries on the town; confusion and consternation are
 every where to be seen!—Adieu, dear brother, I must
 hasten to the alarm post.

* * * * * * *
 * * * * * * *

Six o'clock in the Evening.

The necessary dispositions having been made by the
 General, for the defence of the place, I again re-
 sume the subject, on the several transactions of the day:
 The few moments I have unemployed from duty, I

N shall

1781. shall endeavour, as far as the noise of rattling cannon
 April. and exploding shells will permit, to give you a description. The *British* fleet are safe arrived, with *England's* banners triumphantly flying. Admirals *Darby*, *Digby*, and *Ross*, are in the Bay, and the *Spanish* batteries blazing like a volcano.—About a quarter before twelve, the enemy opened from their forts, lines, and advanced works upon the town, with shot and shells; some of them nearly came into the *New Mole*; a sloop lying near the *Tanks*, was sunk by one, providentially the hands were saved.—Accounts are just received, that a shell which exploded in *Prince's-lines* wounded an officer, and tore the serjeant's hand off on duty there—three men killed in *King's-lines*; one killed at *South-port*, by a piece of a shell that burst in the air. Several houses are on fire—the enemy are endeavouring to burn the transports and merchants shipping, but our men of war keep cruising off *Europa*. A shell which entered a house in *South-port-street*, in the explosion, blew a *Genoise* woman out of the window, but fortunately she did not receive any other damage than a bruise by the fall. The inhabitants exhibit the most impetuous grief and apprehension, precipitately retreating to the southward of the rock for shelter, crowding upon each other like flocks of sheep destined for the slaughter-house, with dread and ghastly amazement pictured on their countenances. The Romans count their beads, and worship their idols, and with a fervency of devotion, supplicate their molten deaf images for protection and safety.

An incessant fire all night from the enemy's works; 1781. —showers of shot and shells as thick as hail—two soldiers, and a boy of a wine-house, not two minutes ago, were killed by the bursting of a shell near *Southport*. The inhabitants are terrified to the utmost, and destitute of every place of shelter. I cannot authentically learn the number already fallen, but in a town situate like this, it cannot be inconsiderable. We retaliate with equal warmth upon the foe, who consequently are not exempt from a share in the direful slaughter. The town is deserted by all but the soldiery, who now are left to commence merchants, wine-men, butchers, bakers, &c. Here a shell blows off the roof of a wine-house, the troops haste to partake of the consuming spoil; regardless of life or limb, they drink briskly round, "Destruction to the enemy." Here are parties boiling, baking, roasting, frying, &c. Turkeys, ducks, geese, and fowls, become the diet of those, who some days ago were eagerly soliciting a hard crust of bread—Every pig they meet, receives a ball or bayonet, and this is performed with an unconcern and calmness scarce to be credited, amidst a heavy fire, disregarding the supreme jurisdiction of the mighty God of War. Thus they roll in plenty at the hazard of their lives, nor can the precautions and vigilance of the officers, prevent them from profusely enjoying the varieties of a town once flourishing and peopled, brilliant in commercial and military affairs: From *Waterport* to *Southport* houses are blazing, and shot battering down those that will not burn. The element appears in a conflagration, as if JEHOVAH had

1781. summoned the guilty world to appear in his awful pre-
 April. sence, darting his angry thunder-bolts to send them
 to swift destruction, flashing of guns, mortars, how-
 itzers, and exploding shells. One minute a shot bat-
 ters a house about your ears, and the next a shell drops
 at your feet ; here you lay prostrate, waiting the mer-
 cy of the explosion :—If you escape unhurt, you are
 perfectly stunned, and almost suffocated with an intol-
 erable stench of powder and composition :—On every
 hand slaughtered objects lay before you, harrowing up
 the tender feelings of the soul ; one loses an arm or
 leg, another cut through the body, a third has his head
 smashed, and a fourth is blown to pieces with the
 bursting of a shell. Thus in a moment do they launch
 into eternity, probably without time to utter the ejacu-
 lation, “God, be merciful to me.” Blood, cries, groans,
 wounds, and contusions, in every part are to be seen
 and heard !—Indulgent parents lamenting the loss of
 sons, and women and children for husbands and fathers.
 Here we behold passions unfeigned, grief without
 mockery, and distress without a veil !

A detachment is ordered to march, to re-inforce a
 part of the works considered too weak for a strong at-
 tack, or to relieve another who have stood twenty-four
 hours facing an inveterate foe ; probably before they
 reach the post, my comrade falls by my side, and with
 a tender regret gazes on me, while I push forward to
 the battery or guard, and leave him to groan out his
 last accents weltering in blood ! My acquaintance re-
 ceives a wound, and my best of friends loses the arm
 that

that was ever ready to cherish and supply. Sympathe- 1781.
 tic feeling melts my soul! I dare not weep, but assum- April.
 ing the aspect of a ferocious savage, I trip it away, mi-
 nutely expecting nature's dissolution. Pangs, suffer-
 ings, and bleeding spectacles, with a military man, is
 denied operation. Probably with a bosom overloaded
 with the most poignant grief and anguish, a heart
 pierced with excruciating woes, you sally forth to meet
 the daring foe. You receive a wound—you are left to
 bleed—the foe pursues—your detachment retreats—you
 find Death busy—the lamp of life faintly burns—your
 friends are absent—the foe shews no tenderness—you
 sigh, weep, groan, pray, beg, intreat, and in the bit-
 ter agonies implore Almighty God, to be merciful to a
 poor sinner—life hangs on a hair—the cordage of your
 heart cracks, and you drop into an unknown world,
 where the secrets of all hearts are disclosed. Your
 body, which once was coddly arrayed in fashionable
 attire, is denied the form of christian burial. Rich and
 poor, without discrimination, are tumbled into a hole
 or ditch, a prey for worms and crawling insects.

A husband is called upon for duty, the service de-
 mands his immediate presence, nor dare he stay to take
 his farewell, by imprinting an affectionate kiss; the
 thundering Mars, envious of his felicity, raises the
 javelin for destruction, and levels his commiserating
 partner, while he is absent; not satisfied with lopping
 off so material a branch of happiness, but extends his
 decisive commands over their tender offspring. On
 his return (O sensibility) what a ravaging scene is pre-
 sented

1781. sented to his view! let imagination conceive; a wife
 April. that soothed his every uneasiness, and softened the rigours of his fate, alas! no more—His dear beloved children, that prattled with a thousand innocent and engaging smiles, and lisped forth their duteous accents; that tended to dissipate the heart-corroding cares of life, and promising to be a comfort in his aged days, are now reduced to a lifeless lump of clay. Will not his heart break forth in exclamation, “*Oh! my beloved wife—my charming Harry, my amiable Polly; not suffered to kiss those lips while warm, nor to press you to a bosom to which you was ever dear.*”

What inexpressible anguish must the performers feel in the trying scenes and tragical exhibitions, delineated with the most descriptive wretchedness and misery. This must move pity in every heart, if not steeled against every humanizing principle; nor will imagination allow the suggestion, that those who reside at home, enjoying the delicioussness of life, encompassed with every agreeable variety, and blest with sweets untasted, can refuse their Mite, either of coin or friendship, to the soldier who returns from the wars to his native shore, ennobled with scars, and festering sores, or amputated members, the grand ensigns of martial honors.

14th. The enemy continue the bombardment. Many soldiers killed and wounded: It is computed they fire about 3000 shot and shells every 24 hours. Many houses are blown to pieces with the shells, and others burnt

burnt down. This forenoon eleven gun-boats began 1781.
 a fire upon our shipping, and carried away the fore- April.
 top-mast of one of the men of war. These insect-
 swarm of gun-boats contribute their quota to render
 our days and nights infinitely miserable and alarming;
 seizing on our retired hours like nightly robbers, who
 fill the mind with the most agonizing apprehension, a-
 wakening us from the repose wearied nature requires,
 and before you can scarce open your eyes, or inquire
 the cause of the alarm, you behold horror staring you
 in the face, or feel a precious limb miserably mangled,
 or hastily torn away.

How distressing this! no place of safety! not one
 spot, but these furies, claiming pre-eminence with the
 infernal powers, discharge volleys of shocking misery.
 Overpowered with fatigue, you must watch, for if you
 close your eyes, you may probably awake in the arms
 of the *grim King of Terrors*.

What horrors are productive from the wars;
 And miseries the most acute, are found!
 A husband hastily torn from his wife,
 And innocents bereft of their protectors;
 The ties of friendship in a twinkling broke——
 Where troubles were appeas'd, and sorrows lost,
 Where joys were shar'd, and crosses were exchang'd,
 Where pleasures were imparted, pains were eas'd;
 Where all the joys of sentiment and union,
 Connubial happiness and social blifs,
 Upon the basis of content resided——

Shook

1781. Shook into atoms by the angry God!

April. Like to an earthquake, when her jaws doth ope,
Whole towns and cities swallow in an instant!

Thus warriors for *fame* and *glory* fight,
And for their country forfeit each delight.

15th. The fleet have not come to an anchor yet;—the enemy's fire is kept up with great spirit, and has done considerable damage to the upper batteries— we fire in return. It is distressing to humanity to view the situation of the inhabitants, who have fled from the town to seek shelter upon the heights of the rock, with only a thin piece of canvas or sail-cloth to screen them from the scorching heat by day, and excessive dews at night, not any conveniency of dressing their diet, and the inexpressible anguish of viewing their houses and property in flames: Many of them, in endeavouring to save part of their effects, have lost their lives, and others maimed. A corporal had his head shot off as he was calling from a window to a man in the street. A soldier was so miserably torn by a shell, that he could not be known only by his dress. A *Genoese* youth, endowed with every grace and amiable qualification, on the point of nuptial celebration, was unfortunately killed, to the irremovable grief of his enamourato. A shot killed two soldiers, one of whom was brushing his shoes for guard. Our people are assiduously unloading the shipping, as the fleet is not intended to remain long here. We work day and night to get the provision landed: one party works from sun-rise to sun-set and another from sun-set till sun-rise. The town is

laid in a state of desolation, the greatest part burnt down to the ground.

1781.

April.

I cannot, dear Brother, omit penning an entertaining conversation I had with a soldier in *Irish-Town* yesterday. I met *Jack Careless* * in the street, singing with uncommon glee, (notwithstanding the enemy were firing with prodigious warmth) part of the old song,

“ *A soldier’s life’s a merry life,
From care and trouble free.*”

He ran to me with eagerness, and presenting his bottle, cry’d, *D--n me, if I don’t like fighting: I’d like to be ever tanning the Dons:—Plenty of good liquor for carrying away—never was the price so cheap—fine stuff—enough to make a miser quit his gold*” Why *Jack*, says I, what have you been about? With an arch grin, he replied, “ *That would puzzle a Heathen philosopher, or yearly almanack-maker, to unriddle—I scarce know myself. I have been constantly on foot and watch, half starv’d, and without money, facing a parcel of pitiful Spaniards. I have been fighting, wheeling, marching, and counter-marching; sometimes with a fire-lock, then a handspike, and now my bottle (brandishing it in the air.) I am so pleased with the melody of great guns, that I consider myself as a Roman General, gloriously*

O

ously

* A soldier well-known in the Garrison by that name.

1781. *ously fighting for my country's honor and liberty."* A
 April. shell that instant burst, a piece of which knocked the
 bottle out of his hand : With the greatest composure,
 he replied, (having first graced it with an oath) "*This
 is not any loss, I have found a whole cask, by good luck,*"
 and brought me to view his treasure. But Jack, says
 I, are you not thankful to God for your preservation?
 "*How do you mean? (he answered) fine talking of God
 with a soldier, whose trade and occupation is cutting
 throats : Divinity and slaughter sound very well together,
 they gingle like a crack'd bell in the hand of a noisy crier :
 Our king is answerable to God for us ; I fight for him.
 My religion consists in a firelock, open touch-hole, good
 flint, well-rammed charge, and seventy rounds of powder
 and ball : This is the military creed. Come, comrade, drink
 Success to the British arms."* On my asking him for a
 glass, he seemed surpris'd, "*Why (says he) you may well
 know there is not any but broken glasses to be had, but
 here is something that will do as well, (and he took up a
 piece of a shell ;) here is a cup fit for a monarch ; this
 was not purchased with gold or friendship, but with the
 streams of our countrymen's blood."* Having filled the
 piece of shell, he gave it to me to drink. Come Jack,
 (said I) Here is King George and Victory! "*And he
 that would not drink the same, (replied he) I'd give him
 an ounce of lead to pay Charon to ferry him over the river
 Styx."* I left him enjoying the spoil, and really felt a
 sensible pleasure in the recollection.

I am,

Dear brother,

Affectionately yours

 GARRISON ORDERS.

1781.

April,

“ Full allowance of Beef and Pork, five ounces of Butter, quarter of a pint Oil, one pint Pease, one ditto Kidney Beans, two pints of Wheat, twelve ounces of Raisins, to be served to-morrow. 15th.

L E T T E R X I X.

GIBRALTAR, 19th.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy keep up a vigorous bombardment upon us. Our town is almost become a heap of ruins, and what few houses are left standing, the walls are so shattered, that it is not safe to go into them. The inhabitants are constructing temporary shades, some in the gullies between *Buena Vista* and *Europa*, others on *Windmill-hill*; nor is there scarce any part of the Rock out of reach of the enemy's fire by land, but what is covered over either with marquees, tents, or huts. The regiments (whose quarters in town were destroyed,) are now encamped at the Southward; a reinforcement of officers and men are every night de-

1781. tached to town, exclusive of the daily guards, as we
 April. are held in expectation of a speedy visit from the foe; General *Elliot* is prepared to receive them with military politeness, nor has he sparingly provided for their reception, an excellent repast of shells, of different sizes;—round and grape-shot, hand-granades, * car-cases, &c. are ready to be served up at the shortest notice, for the entertainment of General *Alvarez*, and his hectoring troops.

Last night a man deserted from *Prince's Lines*, where he was on guard.

20th. This forenoon arrived a ship from the West. Admiral *Barcello* is very quiet on the opposite side, nor has he endeavoured to run in any of the fireships among our fleet. Our men of war continue in motion, which very much disconcerts the enemy, in the plans they had adopted for their destruction. The fireships which lay at *Cabritta* are removed to *Algaziras*, where the *Spanish* Squadron have hauled close under the land: The fire from their lines and isthmus continues without intermission, excepting from twelve to two o'clock at noon; when they rather slacken to cool their ordnance, at which time General *Elliot* takes the opportunity of relieving all the town-guards.

21st. Wind N. E. This forenoon Admiral *Darby* made
 signal

* A small hollow globe of iron, filled with powder and fired by fuze—these are thrown by the hand, and are of great annoyance in the field of battle.

signal for sail;—several vessels got under weigh from 1781.
Rosia, and in the evening they were all out of sight: April.
 The *Spanish* towers, as usual, spread the alarm; the
 enemy discharged their ordnance with great fury, in-
 forming, that now our floating castles were departed,
 they had nothing to obstruct the exercise of their ma-
 gnant rage. They have damaged our works in se-
 veral parts, which we as carefully repair during the
 course of the night. We have not, as yet, lost many
 men in the execution of our operations.

The enemy continue their brisk fire on the garrison, 23d.
 and this day Lieutenant *Cunmyngham* of the 39th regi-
 ment was much wounded; it is imagined, by the facul-
 ty, it will prove mortal. The following officers have
 been wounded since the enemy opened upon us:

Lieutenant *Boag*, Royal Artillery,

Ensign *Martin*, 39th,

Lieutenant *Budworth*, 72d,

Surgeon *Chisholm*, 56th,

And Surgeon's Mate *Kruger*, of *De la Mott's* Regts.

They are all in a fair way of recovery, except Sur-
 geon *Chisholm*, who has had a leg amputated.

This day a thirteen-inch shell, fired from the enemy's 24th.
 works, dropped in the *King's Bastion*, and wounded
 seven men; three of them in a very bad condition.—
 Our batteries are rather remiss in returning the fire,
 reserving the ammunition for other purposes.

Wind E, Arrived from *Minorca*, the *Brilliant*, 27th.
Porcupine,

1781. *Porcupine*, *Enterprize*, and *Minorca* frigates, two small
 April. xebecs prizes, and sixteen sail of *Tartans* and settees,
 with a supply of wine, biscuit, caravances, * &c. for
 government account. Admiral *Barcello*, no doubt,
 was desperately enraged at the arrival of this unex-
 pected convoy: After having loosed his sails, and made
 every appearance of putting to sea, he fired a gun;
 which was answered at *Ceuta*, as a signal for them to
 keep a more sharp look-out to the Eastward—his sails
 were then nimbly turl'd again.

Came in two deserters from the enemy's Walloon
 Guards. They bring the intelligence, that the *Spaniards*
 are expeditiously getting in readiness scaling lad-
 ders, and all necessary equipments for an attack, and
 that in a few months we may depend upon being vigo-
 rously stormed, both by land and sea. This is looked
 upon as contemptible presumption; for *Britons*, whilst
 led on by veteran chiefs, and gallant heroes, will ever
 defend these envied battlements and walls from Spain's
 approaches, and compel them to return, after all their
 pomp and parade, amidst disgust, and disappointment
 of the desired glory. The enemy's gun and mortar-
 boats came over last night, and fired upon the inhabi-
 tants retreats, and troops encampments; on this oc-
 casion, a soldier's wife was killed, as she was hastily
 dressing herself in the tent, in order to seek some place
 of refuge. Some others were slightly wounded.

This

* A small bean, about the size of a kidney-bean.

This morning, there being a calm sea, the gun and mortar-boats gave us a pretty brisk fire. The garrison and shipping kept up a brisk cannonade upon them, but unfortunately they killed one soldier, and wounded six others, of different regiments. They fired between two and three hundred rounds.

At ten o'clock this forenoon, a party assembled at the lower extremity of the *Old Mole-Head* (or *Devil's tongue*) to make an experiment of reaching the Spanish camp, from two sea-mortars planted there. The first shell we threw fell within a few yards of the East angle of their grand magazine, which seemed to fill the enemy with consternation; not imagining it was practicable to have annoyed them in that part from the garrison, the distance being 3056 yards. We threw several, which fell in different parts of their encampment—one burst in the air about half way, the splinters which were seen to fall near the shore, above the battery, (now called the *Black Battery*) on the right of *St Phillip*. It is reported, the intention of this is, to convince the enemy, that we shall be able to repay the compliment upon their encampment, whenever their boats visit ours.

The southward heights of the garrison were lined with a number of the inhabitants, who willingly became spectators (out of the reach of danger) of the experimental exhibition, impatiently waiting the discharge; but when they perceived the shell fall upon Spanish land, they repeatedly gave loud acclamations,

1781. tions, happy in their minds that we had found out
April. means of annoying the enemy's camp.

29th. Wind E. Last night sailed the *Enterprize* and *Morca* frigates, for *England*, with several other ships under convoy: The enemy have not detached any of their shipping from *Algazira* in pursuit of them, a signal was observed this morning on the tower at *Cabrilla*, which we imagine was intended to alarm the cruizers at *Cadiz*. Admiral *Barcello* seems less attentive in watching the port, as very few of his cruizers are out. From the land side we are plentifully supplied with shot and shells; their batteries continue raging nearly the whole twenty-four hours of each day. The enemy are profusely liberal, and, with an unexampled generosity, repay the cannonade.

Yours, &c.

LETTER XX.

GIBRALTAR

DEAR BROTHER,

1781. **A** MIDST the clamour of war, shells bursting
May 1. shot flying, and houses burning, a continued scene of sulphur, smoke, and fire; whenever I have any hours unemployed from duty, I dedicate them to your service. Death stares me in the face every minute, and therefore what I write you may look upon as the sincere sentiments of my heart. The streets

the town are like a desert, and almost every house 1781.
 burnt, or torn with shot and shells: In some parts the May.
 shot and broken pieces of shells are so thick, that in
 walking your feet does not touch the ground. The
 enemy have kept up a fire these twenty days past, and
 it is believed, before they cease, our small arms will be
 usefully employed. The enemy's gun and mortar-boats
 are firing from the bay. A shell, which now burst, forced
 me to run with my papers in my hand, to avoid dan-
 ger—The groans of one in misery has reached my
 ears—I must haste to his assistance. On my going to
 the other side of a traverse, I found a soldier, with both
 legs broke by a piece of the shell which occasioned
 my retreat!—a miserable spectacle. The gun-boats
 are gone, having fired about three hundred rounds at
 the southward. I don't hear of any particular damage
 done.

This forenoon a soldier was executed for plunder, at 5th.
 the place where the fact was committed, with a label
 upon his breast denoting the same. He was left hang-
 ing till sun-set.

The gun and mortar-boats paid us a general salute; 8th.
 the garrison and shipping made a return:—happily
 not any damage was done on our side.

This day the enemy made a shameful sea-attack: 12th.
 after near two hours discharge of their ordnance, they
 triumphantly retreated to spread their great exploits
 and bold achievements along their coast, without ha-

1781. ving thrown a shot or shell on shore. We imagine that
 May. they must have suffered considerably on the 8th from
 our fire.

13th. The gun and mortar-boats last night again disturbed
 us with their firing, but only damaged a few huts in
 our encampment. These nocturnal expeditions are of
 great annoyance to the garrison, as the duty of the
 soldiery is very fatiguing, being constantly on foot for
 six or seven days and nights together; and probably
 when it comes to their turn to have a night to rest, and
 these common disturbers make their appearance. It is
 really lamentable, that we cannot adopt a means of de-
 stroying them,

20th. Last night, a man was discovered advancing in slow
 steps towards the garrison, on the road leading from
Bay-side to *Landport*; but when he came pretty near
 the advanced guard, he crawled upon his hands and
 knees: a *Hanoverian* serjeant, on duty there, challenged
 him before he came as far as the work, upon which he
 made a retreat. Lieutenant *Whetham*, of the 58th regi-
 ment, immediately made a sally, and being pretty num-
 ble, soon came up with him; but just as he was going
 to make a blow, he unfortunately fell into a shell-hole
 which gave the other time to push through *Bay-side*.
 A gold-laced hat was picked up on the road, which
 makes us imagine that he was an officer in the enemy's
 service, who had come to view the situation of the
 place, and how far a detachment might advance in the
 night before they would be discovered. Our guards i

the lines fired pretty briskly, and was very near kil- 1781.
ling the officer that sallied out. May.

The gun and mortar-boats came over last night, and 26th.
gave the camp a very brisk salute. Several people
were killed and wounded. The *New Mole, Parson's
Lodge, Buena Vista,* and *South Bastion,* fired remark-
ably warm upon them, but could not make them desist :
When their ammunition was all expended, they then
took their leave. A shell from the *Mill-Tower Battery*
fell into a house at the back of *South-Shed Guard,* by
which a child was killed, and a man and two women
wounded :—The man is in so dangerous a way, that
his life is despaired of. I cannot close this account,
without informing you, that the mother of the above
child was killed, on the 28th of April, by the fire of
the gun-boats, and that the husband is almost discon-
solate for their loss.

This day two soldiers were executed at the *White* 29th.
Convent for plunder. The town-guards, by order of
the Governor, marched past while they were hanging.

This day another soldier was executed for the same 30th.
crime. The General is a very humane man, but can-
not overlook so great an infringement of martial law.
It is amazing that men should sport away their exist-
ence, for the gratification of their sensual appetites, as
the crimes for which they all suffered were for plun-
dering the King's stores of provisions and liquor. I
hope that these examples will be sufficient to deter the
unthinking part from committing the same acts.

1781. The enemy's fire is not so brisk as at the first; they
 May. are pretty moderate during the day, but at night play
 very freely. It is asserted they don't fire above sixteen
 or eighteen hundred rounds *per diem*. Since my last,
 the following officers have been wounded:

Lieutenant *Willington*, Royal Artillery,
 Lieutenants *Lowe* and *Thorton*, of the 12th,
 And Captain *Foulis*, of the 73d regiments.

N. B. Lieutenant *Cunyngham*, 39th regiment, died
 of his wounds the 6th instant.

We are in continual expectation of being stormed
 by the enemy, but we begin to be so inured to dangers,
 that the sound of it is no more regarded than an old
 tale. Wishing you every joy, peace, and content-
 ment, I subscribe myself

Your affectionate Brother.

LETTER XXI.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

June 1. IT is all the pleasure I have to write to you, and re-
 ceive your answers. The enemy keep their usual
 warm fire on the garrison, and we are hourly waiting
 their assault. You are far out of the reach of danger.
 You may sleep contented, nor dread a vigorous fire of
 thirteen

thirteen-inch shells, and twenty-six pound shot, which 1781.
 here we are continually supplied and entertained with, June.
 I assure you the Dons, in this respect, evince a martial
 taste, and are beyond belief liberal.

Yesterday evening we made a prize of a *Neapolitan*
 brig. Our batteries fired at her, which obliged her to
 come in, she having received several shot. She is la-
 den with flour, consigned to the enemy: We brought
 her into the *New Mole*.

This morning, at two o'clock, the *Spanish* gun and
 mortar-boats came over, and fired upwards of three
 hundred rounds, and then retired; two soldiers were
 wounded, but not dangerously; they damaged several
 of the huts: We fired a number of shells, which burst
 in the air over them. It is conjectured they must have
 suffered considerably. On the land side, the enemy
 fired excessive hard all the night, such repeated volleys
 that it was impossible distinctly to tell how many guns
 were discharged each time; they have greatly shattered
 our works, but they cannot abate our spirits. *Cou-*
rage is the Briton's Prerogative.

GARRISON ORDERS.

*Provisions as usual, except that for one pound of beef
 three quarters of a pound of cheese will be issued weekly.*

This morning the royal standard was hoisted on the 4th.
 flag-staff, and at noon we gave the enemy a ROYAL
 SALUTE with shot, in honour of his Majesty's birth-
 day. The *Spanish* working-parties were busily employ-
 ed

1781. ed on the isthmus, strengthening and repairing their
June. works,

9th. This morning a magazine, belonging to the enemy on the rising ground under the *Queen's Chair*, took fire, consisting of ready prepared shells : There was a great explosion, and it is computed near five thousand shells were destroyed, besides many lives lost. It is incredible to believe the joy and transport exhibited by the *British* soldiery, while death mingled with the enemy.

11th. This morning a boat, under flag of truce, came over from *Algaziras*, to inquire the cause of our firing at a neutral vessel yesterday. It is currently reported, that the General returned a *British* answer, " That
" they must either keep out of the reach of his guns
" or bring to, if required." The enemy made another sea-attack with their gun and mortar-boats, but received a smart repulse. I believe they did not relish our play, as we gave them a plentiful distribution of shells, which burst over their heads. Not any damage done on shore.

13th. This forenoon a flag of truce brought over the women and children that were taken by the enemy, the ships that failed from hence the 29th April. They have detained the crews, in order that they may have the less opposition when they make their attack.

GARRISON ORDERS.

1781.

“Provisions from Monday next the 18th of June, till further orders.

June

15th.

Seven pound of Bread, four ditto of which will be soft, and three ditto of Biscuit; one pound and half Beef, one pound Pork, twelve ounces Cheese, six ounces Butter, quarter pint of Oil, four pints of Pease, and three pints of Oatmeal, per week.

This morning the enemy's gun and mortar-boats discharged about two hundred and fifty rounds, without effecting any other damage, than blowing up several huts and tents. The batteries, most convenient to annoy them, played very briskly. 25th.

Wind E. Last night sailed a ship with several invalids, under the care of Captain *Colt*, 12th regiment, for *England*. The enemy, it is imagined, did not perceive her going out. 26th.

The *Neapolitan*, mentioned the first of June, was condemned here as a lawful prize, and agents are accordingly appointed until his Majesty's pleasure is known.

GARRISON ORDERS.

30th.

“The same quantity and species of provision, to be issued next month as last.”

The enemy keep at work—they seem to be extending a branch towards the West shore. They continue the Siege by land with as much fury as ever. Admiral *Barcello* occupies his old station, and views with pleasure

1781. pleasure the excursions of his gun-boats. We are
 June. very busily employed every night repairing the damages
 done by their shot and shells. We have not had an
 officer wounded this month, but several non-commis-
 sioned officers and men killed and wounded.

I am,

Dear brother,

Affectionately yours

LETTER XXII.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

July 3. **T**HE enemy continue vigorously to bombard the
 garrison—They are making some additional for-
 tification on the isthmus, either to shelter themselves,
 or to annoy us in a greater degree. Their military
 force does not appear to have received any reinforce-
 ment—We observe every night several detachments
 marching down to the lines, which we conjecture are
 to relieve the different guards and artillery parties.

Yesterday afterneon, about fifteen or sixteen sail of
 small craft arrived from the Westward at *Orange Grove*.
 We

We kept up a very hot fire last night upon the ene- 1781.
my's mill-battery, chiefly small shells. Several carts, July.
and a large body of men, having been observed passing
the West angle of *St Phillip*, just at the close of the
evening, which we apprehended were for the execution
of some work on the isthmus.

The enemy's gun and mortar-boats came over, and 9th.
discharged very briskly several rounds of shot and shell.
They did not stay near their usual time, which makes
us imagine they have suffered from our bursting the
shells over their heads.

Wind W. Arrived a xebec at *Algaziras*. The 13th:
smallcraft that anchored at *Orange Grove* the 3d instant
have been landing either stores or provisions ever since:
This morning they removed to *Algaziras*.

Last night we had several men killed and wounded
by the enemy's land-fire.

This morning a xebec and several galleys stood to 15th.
the East, two small sail having been observed there,
waiting the change of the wind. It is not improba-
ble but they are vessels with supplies, bound from *Te-
tuan* to the garrison.

Wind E. The xebec and cruizers have returned, 17th:
without success, to *Cabritta*, where they have anchor-
ed to keep a look-out to the East.

Last night a vessel sailed from here, bound to *Eng-
land* with dispatches, mentioning all is well. The

Q

enemy's

1781. enemy's land-fire is very slack, only now and then a July. few shot in the day—at night their discharge is mostly shells.

20th. This morning two galleys brought into *Algazira* a large fettee.—*Aicki Hamet*, a *Moorish* butcher, says, she is laden with cattle from *Faro*. This will be a great loss to the garrison, as we have not received a supply of fresh meat for some time, and there being very few cattle at present in the place. The fresh provision, which is sold now, is pork, and that is very indifferent and scarce, being fed on the fish of the place, eight rials per pound, about three shillings and threepence sterling.

23d. Very little fire from the enemy by land, these six days—they seem to be repairing their works, and we are as attentively employed upon our own.—Towards the bay all is quiet.

28th. The enemy have again roused—Yesterday and to-day they fired incessantly. Our batteries made but a trifling return; as it is almost madness to fire at their works, they being so thickly covered with sand, that our shot finds very little penetration.

30th. The enemy continue firing, and seem determined, if possible, to batter down all our works—their gun and mortar-boats again visited us, without effecting any damage. We are really in a dismal situation—between the land and sea-fire, we scarce dare close our eyes. On your part, you must not expect correct letters; th

hur

hurry of the times, the noise of mortars, howitzers, 1781.
 cannon, and the bursting of shells, render the mind so July,
 confused that it would be a task : let it suffice that I
 am alive ; that shot and shells are my near compa-
 nions ; that smoke, and wounded brother-soldiers are
 constantly in view ; that we have heavy duty, hard
 watchings, and little rest : That our comforts are groans ;
 that our nightly repose is turned to harrassing alarms ;
 that our pastimes are destruction ; that every hour, we
 or the enemy are inventing some horrid stratagem ; and
 that the next we behold each other plunged thereby
 into the most excruciating anguish.

Such, dear Brother, are *Gibraltar* exhibitions ; and
 perhaps while you are reading this, and feel a sensible
 pang at your heart for my situation, I may be perform-
 ing a part in this tragical scene, on a stage where cri-
 ticism blushes to appear.

You will think I indulge a brood of melancholy re-
 flections, but believe me, I am as chearful as the god
 of mirth! Amidst camps, martial sounds, and all the
 din of war, I find complacency in a resignation to
 the will of God. If Death attends, I hope to receive
 my fate with a christian fortitude, and meet honour
 with expanded arms. With the fullest sense of bro-
 therly affection, I subscribe myself,

Sincerely yours.

LETTER XXIII.

GIBRALTAR,

DEAR BROTHER,

1781.
Aug. 1. **N**OTHING material has taken place on the isthmus ;—the enemy are very attentive to the Siege, and keep up a well-directed and regular fire. We lost several men yesterday afternoon, by the fire from the *Black Battery*.

Gentle breezes at W. Last night the gun and mortar-boats arranged in two separate divisions, and briskly poured into the garrison about two hundred rounds of shot and shells. Our batteries, together with the *Repulse* and *Van-Guard* (which are anchored off the *New Mole Head*) gave them a generous return :—So brisk was the fire, that the bay appeared like a blaze during the whole time.

3d. Wind W. This morning a boat standing for the rock, was taken by the enemy's cruizers, and conducted over the way. We could not give her any assistance, she being near two leagues distance.

5th. The enemy keep busy at work during the intervals our firing ceases, and have greatly strengthened their advanced approaches. From their proceedings we are almost

most positive they have other works in contemplation. 1781.
On our side we have begun forming some additional August.
embrasures on the hills.

G A R R I S O N O R D E R S.

*"The ration of provisions as last week, except that no
bread will be issued till further orders, and half a pound of
cheese will be delivered for the four ounces of Butter, in
stead of the quarter of a pint of Oil.*

The ration now stands thus per Week.

*Bread as usual, one pound and half of Beef, one ditto
Pork, six ounces of Butter, ten ounces of Cheese, four
of Pease, three ditto Oatmeal."*

This forenoon a sail appeared in the offing, with 6th.
the wind at West. The Spanish watch-towers hung
out the signal of an enemy's appearance—Eighteen
gun-boats rowed out from *Algeziras*, and when
they had come within two leagues of the garrison, it
was a dead calm, and the enemy raked her fore and aft,
pouring grape both upon her starboard and larboard
quarter. She plied her guns briskly, and I believe
she would have been inevitably taken, had not Captain
Parris, naval commander, ordered the two gun-boats,
the *Van Guard* and *Repulse*, the former of six,
and the latter of five guns, to be towed by the
fleet of war's boats, towards the enemy, which they
performed

Holes in a battery through which the cannon are pointed.

1781. performed in a gallant and undaunted manner, not
 Aug. withstanding the *Spanish* gun-boats directed their fire
 among them—When they had got within reach, the
Repulse discharged her guns, and as soon as the *Van-*
Guard came up, she did the same, which prevented the
 enemy from boarding the vessel—A xebec, cutter, and
 several double galleys co-operated, and poured in a
 heavy fire, but could not cut her off from the garrison.
 Her sails, we could plainly perceive, were so greatly
 torn with grape, that when the breeze sprang up, she
 could make but little way, but our boats having got a
 rope from her, they towed her under the walls. She
 proves to be the *Helena* sloop, in sixteen days from
Portsmouth. Her main-mast was shot through with a
 twenty-six pound ball; the boatswain was killed, and
 one of the crew wounded: Such a warm engagement
 was never known in sight of the garrison, and we con-
 cluded that every soul on board must have been killed
 or wounded:—But *Britons* are ever brave, nor could
 the numerous swarm of cruizers the least dishearten the
 Captain, nor dispirit the noble crew, who were deter-
 mined, rather than yield to *Spanish* power, to perish
 every man. When she had come near enough for the
 garrison to cheer (who in crowds had taken possession
 of the walls and heights as spectators) an incessant
 shouting ensued, and buzzas, that re-echoed from the
 rock and skies.

Such instances as these must convince the enemy
 that the spirit of *Britons* is unparalleled, and that no
 superiority of power will make them yield. It must
 greatly

greatly cool their courage, and dispossess them of all
hope of taking *Gibraltar*. 1781.
Aug.

Thus *Albion's* sons defy the hostile foe—
Dare ever to free and spurn all danger :
From shore to shore they steer with conqu'ring arms !
With *Britain's* royal ensigns spread abroad,
On whom the wond'ring nations gaze with pleasure,
While *George's* enemies are struck with dread—
Ye hectoring *Dons*, the *British* standard view,
That bids defiance to your fleets and armies ;
Nor let ambition lead you on to wo,
But stop ! before we work your overthrow.

Wind E. Last night a settee from *Minorca* bound to 10th.
the garrison, with supplies, was taken off *Euro:a*. by
the *Spanish* cruizers: The crew had just time, before
he was boarded, to make their escape. The enemy
keep a tolerable brisk fire, and we continue to annoy
them from our batteries on the hill.

Last night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, the 16th.
enemy's gun and mortar-boats made an attack upon
the southward—The garrison and shipping returned
the fire, but unfortunately, during the action, we had
the loss of one man killed and three wounded.

Wind W. During the course of the night, a schoon- 17th.
er got safe in from *Faro*, with sundry supplies. They
bring an account that the enemy are busy at *Cadiz*, in
equipping an armament to act against this place, and
are hourly in expectation of being reinforced with a
French Squadron.

Last

1781. Last night several guns were distinctly heard in the
 Aug. gut, from nine to eleven o'clock, which proved to be
 19. the enemy in chase of the *Kite* cutter, from *Gravesend*, arrived here safe this morning. She has brought dispatches for our Governor.
- 23d. The enemy are diligently employed in lengthening their approaches on the isthmus. Several strong parties frequently appear, which we as regularly fire upon—From their *Black Battery*, *Forts St Phillippe*, *Barbury*, and lines, they keep a hot and severe cannonade and bombardment—two soldiers killed this day.
- 28th. Last night, there being a smooth sea, the *Spanish* gun and mortar-boats came over from *Algaziras*, and fired very briskly for the space of two hours and upwards. The garrison, shipping, and two advanced gun-boats or prams, made a very good return, but all ineffectual to prevent their annoyance.—A shell unfortunately fell into the artillery-ward at Naval Hospital, and killed a matross, who was incapable of getting out of bed, owing to having his leg and thigh broke by the enemy's fire from some time past, of which he daily languished. The shell dropped by the side of his cradle, spitting forth its sulphureous venom, and in that tormenting situation he was compelled to remain and wait the mercy of the explosion. You may judge what must be his feeling in that predicament, without friends, help, or strength to make his escape from so irresistible a foe. The inexpressible agonies he must have experienced during the short interval of life, certainly were beyond the power of utterance, or the delineations

inventions of a pen to give a just description: After 1781. having uttered a few ejaculations to heaven, the un-merciful demon burst in pieces, and extinguished those sparks of life that were unexpired in the wounded man. August

Nothing extraordinary this month from the land or sea; every thing is perfectly quiet in respect to storming us. The *Spanish* batteries continue their usual fire, both from their lines and isthmus. We expect, every westerly wind, to behold the grand armament appear in the offing from *Cadiz*, to give the decisive blow.—General *Elliot* has made every possible arrangement of ordnance, for a determined opposition; and, I hope, whenever the trial comes, that our arms will be crowned with victorious success.

I am,

Dear brother,

Affectionately yours.

L E T T E R XXIV.

GIBRALTAR, Septem.

DEAR BROTHER,

DEATH and Slaughter continue to be our visitants—on every hand impending ruin hourly awaits. The *Spaniards* keep up their usual fire upon us, seemingly studiously meditating our overthrow;

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178. not only the garrison of *Gibraltar*, but also the island
 Sept. of *Minorca*, has excited their attention. From this it
 is evident they are aiming at clearing the *Mediterranean* of His Britannic Majesty's land and sea-forces
 but it is hoped that their endeavours to effect these purposes will fall short of the desired success. .

5th. This forenoon a *Spanish* cartel brought over the
 Patron of the boat taken the third of August last, from
 whom we learn, that the *French* have landed an army
 on the island of *Minorca*, with an intent to work the
 reduction of that place, and it is currently reported in
Spain, that the *Duc de Crillon* had commenced a bombardment there. Several wounded invalids were embarked on ship-board by order of the Governor, on
 their passage for *England*, the 3d instant.

The enemy are very busy on the isthmus employed
 at work, forwarding their labours—The tracts of several
 carts have been discovered on the sand, between
 the lines and *Mill-Battery*, so that we imagine they
 were either bringing ordnance or materials for their
 batteries.

7th. Arrived from the eastward a xebec and two galleys
 they have anchored on the opposite side. The enemy's
 fire continues. Three men wounded this afternoon
 by the explosion of a shell.

12th. This morning the *Spanish* Squadron was dressed out
 with variety of colours, and at noon the forts, lines
 and *Black Battery*, gave us a salute of twenty-seven
 gun

guns with shot : The troops in camp were arranged 1781.
in line, and fired a *feu de joye*, which they repeated Sept:
three times, together with the shipping at *Algaziras*.
We cannot imagine the cause of this rejoicing, as it
is not one of their saint's days.

Wind E. The invalids that were embarked under 16th.
the care of Lieutenant *Lowe* of the 12th regiment,
sailed last night to the Westward.

The enemy continue a brisk cannonade—We return
the fire but moderately.

Last night the *Spanish* gun and mortar-boats stole 18th.
over, and fired upwards of three hundred rounds of
shot and shell—The garrison and shipping kept up an
incessant discharge of ordnance, but unluckily, during
the action we had four men wounded.

Some time in the course of the night, a carcass, fired
from *Willis's*, upon the works on the isthmus, set them
on fire, which burnt for near an hour—We took this
opportunity of making a furious cannonade, which the
enemy particularly acknowledged.

We discovered this morning a new work, West
side of *St Carlos*, extended towards the shore. It is
not sufficiently executed to form a judgment of the
construction.

A xebec and several cruizers sailed this morning
from *Algaziras* to the Eastward, where they are ob-
served cruizing backwards and forwards, in expecta-
tion of meeting some prey. Between

1781. Between nine and ten o'clock last night, a shell fired Sept. from *St Carlos*, entered a house, leading down from 19. *South-line-wall Guard*, where Majors *Mercier* and *Vignoles*, of the 39th regiment, and Captain *Burke* of the 58th regiment, (Town-Major of the Garrison) were sitting at a table, which fell upon the latter's thighs, and smashed them. The rubbish which dropped from the ceiling wounded the two Majors, and extinguished the candle, so that all the light they had was from the fuze of the shell. Major *Vignoles*, having put his hand over the table, found Captain *Burke* in a gore of blood, upon which he exclaimed to the other, "Oh! *Burke's killed!*" They then, as hastily as they could, owing to their wounds, and being in the dark, retreated to the door, which they had scarce accomplished, when the shell burst, and tossed the Town-Major from the place where he had fallen, to another part of the room; a few pieces of his flesh was blown up to the ceiling, and the walls besprinkled with his blood. In this mangled situation he was taken up and carried to the Naval Hospital, where he shortly after expired. As the men were carrying him, he intreated in a languid tone, (which indicated a speedy dissolution,) that they would do him a kindness to put an end to his misery.

You will pardon me, if I just draw the outlines of so worthy a character.

As an officer, he was bold and vigilant—enterprising and well-disciplined. In his station he was active and severe; ever attentive to the good of the service, he

Strictly

strictly took cognizance of all neglects and irregularities that came to his knowledge, and brought several to condign punishment, as public examples. To do justice to his eminent abilities, my talents are far inadequate, I shall therefore leave it to some more able pen, who were intimate with him, and knew his private as well as public virtues. All I have to remark is, that he is a loss to society, to his country in general, and to this garrison in particular.

1781.

Sept.

While the attendants strove to bind his wounds,
 He patient gaz'd around, with quiv'ring eyes,
 'Till wearied Nature, sinking with her load,
 Resisted—struggled—worn out with th' encounter,
 Resign'd her charge unto the tyrant Death;
 His soul unfetter'd, unincumber'd fled,
 To the blest mansions of eternal peace.

The enemy kept up a brisk fire, which was as spiritedly returned by our batteries, and when the above intelligence had reached the several posts, revenge operated so powerfully, that our cannonade continued till the morning, very hot. We had several men wounded, during the night.

Sailed the *Helena* sloop, and *Kite* cutter to the Westward.

This day, between eleven and one o'clock, a soldier was executed for theft. He died seemingly insensible of his situation.

GARRISON

1781.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Sept. 20. "Captain James Foulis of the 73d regiment, is appointed Town-Major, vice Major Burke deceased."

This day we had several men killed from the land-fire—the enemy continue briskly at work on the West side of *St Carlos*.

21st.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"The ration of provisions from Monday the 24th inst. seven pounds of Bread, and half ditto Beef, one ditto Pork, six ounces Butter, twelve ditto Cheese, (in lieu of one pound Beef) three pints of Oatmeal, three ditto Pease, one and quarter ditto of Wheat, in lieu of one pint of Pease."

24th.

Last night the enemy's gun and mortar-boats came over, and fired near three hundred rounds, but mostly shells—they did not do any considerable damage to the southward. Our prams discovered them pretty early, and made a very free return;—the firing from the garrison at them was chiefly from the *New Mole* and *South Bastion*—We took the advantage to fire during their stay, into their camp, from the bottom of the *Devil's Tongue*. The enemy from the land-side keep up the bombardment and cannonade, and are attentively employed at work on the isthmus, in strengthening and advancing their lines of approach.

25th.

Wind W. Arrived the *Flying Fish* cutter, from *England*. A xebec chased her under the garrison guns, and exchanged several shot with her, but could not prevent her from entering the port. During the course

of

of the night, the merlons (that have been heightened) of Fort-*Barbara*, took fire, which occasioned the garrison to pour in a great quantity of shot and shells. 1781. Sept.

A few small vessels arrived at the *Orange Grove*—It is likely they have brought provision for the *Spanish* camp, as their army must cause a great consumption in the province of *Andalusia*, which at best is but poor, and badly supplied with cattle.

The enemy have not ceased firing these five days, but have kept up a regular and determined cannonade: They have not killed and wounded many, though a person would think it impossible for a bird to escape, amidst such showers of shot. On the sea-side all is quiet, nor has any shipping of force appeared, either from East or West to molest us. The enemy are very tedious in commencing the storm, and really our expectation begins to tire. They have bombarded us now near six months, and General *Alvarez* is as far from taking possession of the garrison as he was at first, altho' they have discharged from their batteries, according to the nearest calculation, between thirty and forty thousand rounds of shot and shells. He may view the rock with his perspective, from the camp of *St Roque*, but if he wishes to examine the workmanship of the walls, and the strength of the fortification, he must come much nearer, or return without the gratification of his curiosity. 30th.

I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER

LETTER XXV.

GIBRALTAR

DEAR BROTHER,

1781. **E**VERY thing remains much in the same situation
 Oct. 5. as when I finished my last letter. Admiral *Barcello* and his Squadron occupy the port of *Algeziras* from whence now and then a *zebec* or galley will occasionally pass out, merely to command respect. We have not observed a signal on the *Spanish* towers at *Cabritta* a long time, but we expect, whenever the naval armament sails from *Cadiz* harbour, it will be immediately nosed along the coast. The common salutation of each morning, is "*Which way doth the wind blow?*" so anxious is every one to receive the foe.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"Full allowance of Beef will be issued. The Governor allows each man a quarter of a pint of Vinegar per Week, till further orders, those in the hospital not included, as they are supplied with the quantity necessary by the Director; eight ounces of Cheese in lieu of four ounces of Butter as usual.

7th. Very little wind at W. Last night the gun and mortar-boats came over, and fired excessive brisk upon the

the southward: the garrison and shipping returned the 1781.
 same, but the enemy did not do any damage on shore. Oct.
 We fired several shells into their camp from *Old Mole-
 Head*. The enemy keep working on the isthmus, and
 maintain the cannonade with fury.

This day the enemy fired upon us with great warmth, 10th.
 which was freely returned by the batteries upon the
 hill. Unfortunately during the time, a shell, which
 burst, killed *Ensign Stevens* of the 39th regiment—
 Several men were wounded by the splinters of shells.

The *Flying Fish* cutter, which arrived here the 25th
 of September, sailed, unperceived by the enemy.

This day the enemy's line of battle ships sailed to 11th.
 the westward. From this circumstance, we conclude
 that the fleet equipping at *Cadiz* is destined to act a-
 gainst some other place, or there could not be any ne-
 cessity to remove those ships from this station. On the
 land-side the enemy keep up the fire, and this day it is
 reported an additional mortar was mounted in *St
 Carlos*. We fired very hot on their advanced works.

The enemy, yesterday afternoon, had some artillery- 17th.
 practice in their camp, but we could not particularly
 make out the meaning, as we only observed some
 smoke, and heard the report of the ordnance. On the
 isthmus several working-parties have appeared, which
 we continue to fire upon.

This day a hot cannonade was kept up on both sides 20th.
 S for

1781. for many hours—Lieutenant *Tindin*, Assistant-Engi.
 Octob. neer, and four soldiers, were wounded thereby. Our
 fire apparently put the enemy frequently in confusion,
 and several men were seen carrying on bearers along
 the shore, toward their camp.

21st. This day there was a general change of quarters
 with the soldiery—Those regiments quartered in town
 marched and took possession of the southward encamp-
 ments, and the others marched for the town-district.
 Arrived a xebec from the West at *Algaziras*. The e-
 nemy as usual keep up the fire.

22d. This morning we discovered the enemy had finished
 a battery of six embrasures from *Mill-Tower*, towards
 the West strand; which they began on the 18th Sep-
 tember. It faces the *Old Mole* and *Water-Port*, and is
 constructed on purpose for the annoyance of those posts.
 We fired very warm upon it from *Montague's* bastion,
 and the upper batteries.

23d. Last night two soldiers deserted from us to the ene-
 my; they cannot carry any intelligence that will prove
 prejudicial to the welfare of the garrison.

About two this afternoon, a great firing was heard
 in the gut—the *Spanish* towers had a red flag hoisted,
 and several gallees pushed from *Algaziras* to the west-
 ward.—We fear some unfortunate vessel, destined for
 this place, has fallen into the enemy's clutches.

24th. This day we had the pleasure to set the enemy's new
 work on fire, by howitzer-shells from *Montague's* bas-
 tion,

tion, which occasioned the enemy to redouble their 1781.
 cannonade from their forts and lines—With much dif- Oct.
 ficulty, danger, and loss, they got the fire extinguish-
 ed. On our side we had some few wounded.

Last night the enemy covered the embrasures of their 25th.
 new battery with sand and fascines; from this it is e-
 vident that the platforms for the cannon are not laid;
 it will therefore be some days before they can have
 them mounted for action. We give them a plentiful
 discharge of small shells, which must prove very disad-
 vantageous to them in their proceedings.

A report is now received from the batteries, that a
Spanish officer (as they could plainly perceive his uni-
 form) was knocked off the *Mill-Battery* as he was stand-
 ing upon the glacis, taking an observation of our works.
 There is not any doubt but he was an engineer, which
 will be a loss to the enemy, as they have some of the
 most celebrated for fortification now in their service.

A heavy fire all night from the *Black Battery*, forts, 26th.
 and lines. This day Lieutenant *Vicars*, of the 56th
 regiment, received a wound. The gallees that sailed
 to the west the 22d instant have returned to their old
 station.

Wind W. About eleven this forenoon a sail ap- 30th.
 peared standing for the bay.. Two *Spanish* cruizers
 under *Ape's Hill* fired a signal gun, upon which eleven
 gun-boats sallied out from *Algaziras*. When they
 came up with her, she opened her ports, and dischar-

1781. Oa. ged several rounds of grape, and continued firing till she came pretty near *Europa*, where the enemy boarded her, and carried her off in triumph. She was an *English* cutter, and fought well, nor, according to opinion, would she have been captured had not the wind dropped. The enemy keep up a spirited fire from the land-side.

31st. Last night arrived, with a fresh breeze at West, the *Unicorn* cutter, and four other vessels, from *Faro*, laden with fruit and poultry, a very seasonable and excellent supply, as the garrison are very much necessitated for vegetables, fruit, and fresh diet. The *New Mole* wharf, this morning, was quite crowded, every one being anxious to buy something, although the articles sold at an exorbitant rate; onions sold for six rials per pound, (two shillings and five pence farthing,) oranges and lemons one rial eight quarts each, (seven pence halfpenny sterling,) the poultry at the usual prices viz. three dollars and an half for a hen. Common green tea, brought by the *Unicorn*, sold for fourteen dollars per pound, (two pounds five shillings and six pence,) and a loaf of sugar five dollars, nearly seventeen shillings per pound. This is rare traffic! We hope these times will not last long, and a communication will be opened, so that supplies may be brought in and sold at a moderate price; or, should they continue the garrison will, of course, be exhausted of all cash to support nature.

The enemy keep up a constant fire——Their work

the isthmus are going forward, and their naval and military force remains much the same. 1781. Oct.

This month is finished without any great exploits, or coming to close quarters.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

L E T T E R XXVI.

GIBRALTAR, Nov. 3.

DEAR BROTHER,

THREE days more elapsed without any particular circumstance intervening, nor has the enemy appeared to be so attentive to their labours. The Siege is continued by our opponents, who adopt every measure to distress us, notwithstanding which, the *British* troops apparently disregard the threatening foe, who thunder forth their vengeance every hour.

The soldiery are very much afflicted with the scurvy, owing to the salt diet, and some of them so bad, that they have lost the entire use of their limbs, and represent the picture of decrepid old age. Our Governor has humanely ordered the Director of the hospital, to serve out daily to the surgeons of the several corps, one pound

1781. pound of onions for every ten men, and two lemons or
Nov. oranges for every man in the scurvy. This, it is
hoped, will contribute greatly to their cure.

4th. The gun and mortar-boats came over, and discharged
all their ammunition upon the garrison, while the land-
batteries took part in the cannonade. An incessant
fire on every side continued for upwards of two hours,
during which time Ensign *Edgar* of the 56th, and
Lieutenant *John Frazer* of the 73d regiments, were
wounded—The latter lost a leg by a shot from the
Black Battery; several soldiers also were wounded.

Nine settees came from the West, and anchored at
the *Orange Grove*—We suppose them to be market
boats.

9th. Yesterday we fired from the garrison at a *Danish* dog-
ger, that came nearly under the guns, but could not
make her stand in. On the land-side the enemy fired
excessively warm, which was answered from *Willis's*,
and the upper batteries. This morning we discovered
that the enemy had erected another battery on the isth-
mus, seemingly fronting our lines—They are deter-
mined to have a sufficient number of pieces of ordnance
mounted for battering our walls, whereas now they
have so many, that an alternate discharge keeps up a
successive cannonade.

13th. Wind W. Arrived at *New Mole* the *Phoenix* ord-
nance cutter, with Brigadier-General *Ross*, passenger.
She had a brush with a cruizer at the entrance of the
bay,

...y, but not of any consequence—Her intelligence is
 ...pt very secret. 1781.
 Nov. 13.

This forenoon a cutter from the westward was chased
 by a frigate and three galleys, but before she could
 reach the garrison she was becalmed and boarded:
 she plyed her guns in a spirited manner, but the supe-
 riority of power obliged her to yield. The enemy
 brought her into *Algaziras*, under her ensign reversed.

A very heavy fire from the land-batteries, directed
 towards the hills and town, during which we had the
 loss of two men killed, and three wounded.

A brisk fire from the lines and forts—The enemy 14th.
 worked very hard last night on the isthmus, and com-
 menced the battery they began on the 9th instant. We
 fired several thirteen-inch shells upon them this morn-
 ing.

This day a shell, fired from *St Carlos*, fell near 16th.
George Picardo's vineyard, where it burst, but did not
 do any damage. A splinter of another, which explod-
 ed in the air, struck the south end of the naval hospi-
 tal, which is near four thousand yards; a most incre-
 dible distance for pieces of ordnance to reach. The
 enemy fired very brisk upon our works from all the
 ordnance they have mounted; they did much damage
 to *Willis's Battery*, and wounded Lieutenant *Evans*,
 an assistant-engineer, though not dangerously.

The

1781. The enemy continue their long-range shells upon the
 Nov. southward, which is of great annoyance. Last night
 18th. shell fell under the platform of a tent where two corporals were asleep, when the intolerable fume and stench of the burning composition awakened them, nor could they imagine from whence the smoke proceeded. The shell lay burning under the boards, when they opened the tent-door to let in the air, to prevent being suffocated, at that instant it exploded, and blew them some yards, without receiving any injury; they shortly recovered from their surprize, and turned their eyes to the place where the tent had stood, but the bedding, blankets, tent poles, &c. could not be seen, they being torn to pieces, and scattered in many places. In this naked situation they began a search for their wearing apparel, but only found the coif of a coat in one place, part of a sleeve in another, and their shoes parched to a cinder. Thus forlorn they began to console each other, when Corporal *R—bdf—n* exclaimed “D—n it, I don’t care for the loss of my cloathes, but all my money is gone.” He had about fourteen rials in his pocket when he went to bed.

You probably will imagine that a man who has escaped such imminent danger would not have let his mind be employed about the consideration of worldly self; but the military gentlemen being constantly exposed to danger, and exposed to an incessant fire, they have very little of preservation; for should a man keep death constantly in view, it would dispossess him of every spark of heroism, and incapacitate him for the business of fighting.

Came in two deserters from the enemy's *Walloon-* 17th.
guards, one of them is a corporal, and seems to be an Nov.
 intelligent man. He says there are twenty-one thou- 21.
 sand men in the camp, waiting the arrival of the na-
 ral power, to storm this place. He has given the Ge-
 neral a clear and exact description of the works on the
 isthmus, and the construction of *St Carlos*, together
 with an account of the strength of their guards and
 working-parties, that are employed daily.

The enemy continue to throw their long * rangers.
 Last night a shell fell at the door of the barrack on the
Mole-Parade, where it burst, forced the door open,
 and broke all the windows—The hand of Providence
 was visible in the discharge of this shell, for, had it
 been a yard more to the left, it must have fallen into
 the barracks, where two companies of soldiers are
 quartered.

The long rangers still visit the South—One fell in 23^d.
 Colonel *Cochrane's* quarters on *Scud-hill*, but did not
 do any damage: Another near the magazine on the
Mole-Parade, and several into the *Mole-yard* and, within
 the boom. We keep a constant fire upon their works,
 but they are so well intrenched that we cannot silence
 them.

The enemy keep rattling away with guns and mor- 26th.
 tars, and seemingly take a pleasure in reaching the
 T southward.

* A phrase made use of by the soldiery, for the incredible
 length the enemy throw their shells.

1781. southward. Several shells have fallen this forenoon about *South-Shed*, and *Princess of Wales's* lines—They cannot reach further on, y when there is a strong northerly wind, which forces the shell with a greater velocity—We fired several times at their working-parties on the isthmus.

This evening the garrison were highly delighted with the general orders—It is whispered, that the information given by the corporal that came in the 21st instant, has induced the Governor to make a trial of *British* valour.

EVENING GARRISON ORDERS.

“ All the grenadiers and light-infantry, and all the men of the 12th, and Hardenberg's regiments, officers and non-commissioned officers, now on duty, to be immediately called in and join their regiments, to form a detachment, consisting of the 12th, and Hardenberg's regiments, compleat—The grenadiers and light companies of all the other regiments (who are to be completed to their full establishment from the battalion companies) one captain three lieutenants, ten non-commissioned officers, and one hundred artillery, three engineers, seven officer overseers, twelve non-commissioned overseers, and one hundred and sixty workmen from the line, excepting from the 12th and Hardenberg's regiments, and forty workmen from the artificer company—Each man to carry thirty-nine rounds or more, a good flint in his piece, and another in his pocket—No drums, except two with the 12th, and two with Hardenberg's—No swords—The whole to assemble on the Red Sands at twelve o'clock this night—The wine-houses to be

shed

sent up at six o'clock, and all the soldiers to repair to their quarters—Brigadier Ross to command the detachment—No. volunteers will be allowed—Lieutenant-Colonels Dackenhausen, Hugo, Trigge, and Major Maxwell, to meet the Governor at the Field-Officers room, at the South, as soon as possible. The troops intended for the Sortee to be formed as follows :

RIGHT. Lieutenant-Colonel Hugo, Grenadiers of Redens and La Mott's, Workmen, Artillery, Hardenberg's Regiment, Light Company 56th Regiment.

CENTRE. Lieutenant-Colonel Dackenhausen, Grenadiers and Light Company 39th and 73d Regiments, Workmen, Artillery, Grenadiers of the 56th and 58th Regiments, Major Maxwell.

LEFT. Lieutenant-Colonel Trigge, Grenadiers and Light Infantry 72d Regiment; Seamen, Artillery, 12th Regiment; Light Company of 58th Regiment.

This morning at two o'clock, the detachment of 27th officers, non-commissioned officers and men, under the command of Brigadier Ross, marched from the Red Sands, where they had assembled, through Bay-side and lower Forber's, to storm the enemy's advanced works—The word *steady*, was the countersign. The Spanish sentinels, posted in the gardens, soon discovered the English troops advancing, upon which they fired their musquets to spread the alarm, and then retreated to St Carlos. The British army, in a spirited and intrepid manner, rushed on, and, after some opposition, gained

1781. possession of the *Spanish* works, which struck such a
 Nov. panic to the enemy, that the greatest part stationed to defend the place fled with consternation to the lines, to make a position of defence, not apprehending so unexpected a visit, while the others fell from the fire of our musquetry. The business now commenced, the workmen and seamen began with their tomahawks,* devils †, and warlike combustibles, to set the batteries on fire, while the artillery spiked up ten mortars, and eighteen pieces of cannon, during which one of the former happened to go off, and sent a shell to the southward; in a few minutes the isthmus appeared an entire blaze, and the reflection of the light was so great, that a person might have perused a book upon our batteries. Thus successful, the whole body gave three buzzas, which consequently must sensibly aggravate and vex the foe. We kept up a hot cannonade from the garrison, upon their two forts and *Barrier-gate*, to cover our men, and prevent their falling out. A regiment of horse appeared near *Fort Barbary*, but after they had made several feints to come on, they thought prudent to retire. The enemy fired upon the detachment with round and grape, but their cannon, for want of being sufficiently depressed, had not the desired effect, as most of the shot flew over our people's heads. Our gallant and veteran Governor, accompanied by Captain *Curtis*, went out to be an eye-witness of the transaction:

* Small hatchets, having a sharp point on the back.

† An inflammable composition bound in small bundles, which, after the bands of the fascines are cut, are struck in between the openings.

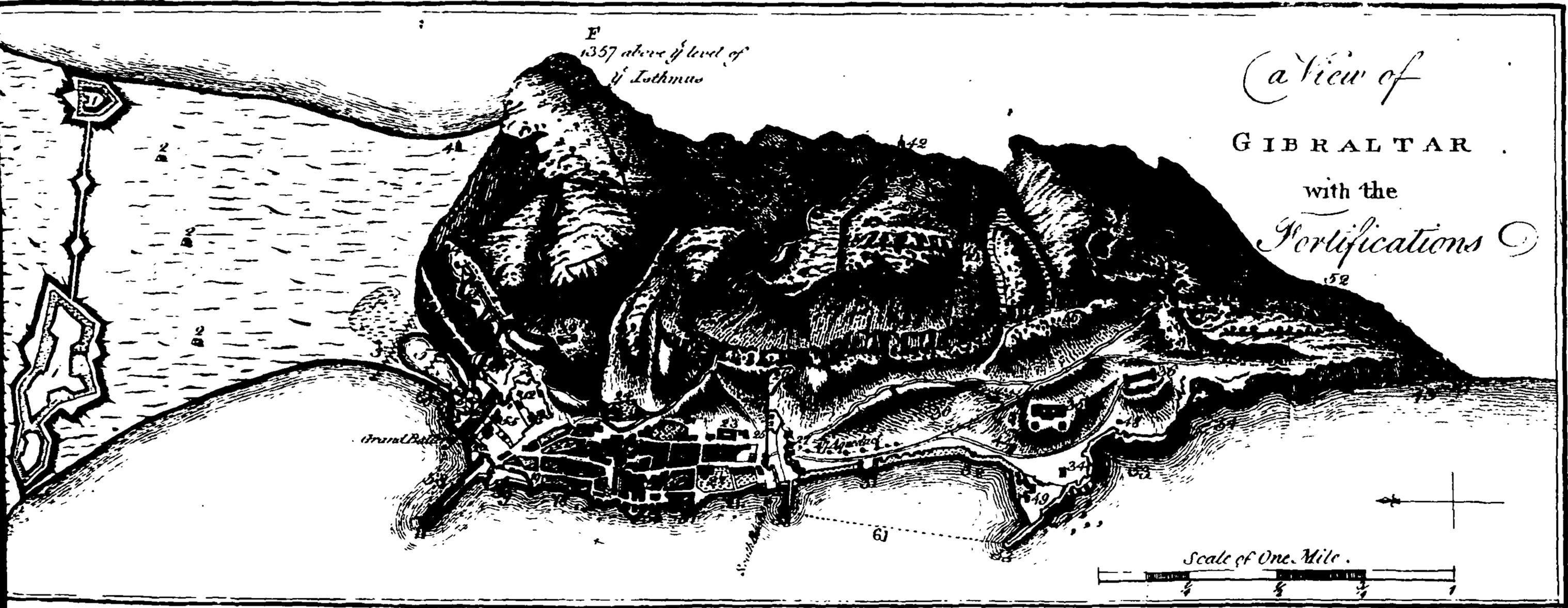
*Explanation of the Plan of the Sortie, shewing the Attack
Disposition of the Detachment which sallied, on the 27th
November 1781, from Gibraltar, under the Command of BRADIER
GENERAL ROSS, and destroyed the Batteries before
Place.*

To face page 1

- A Mortar Batteries in the Spanish Lines
B Cannon Batteries
C 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Branches of Approach, to the Advance Works, and
Traverses
D The Parallel, or Eastern Branch
E St Martin's Battery, mounting 12 twenty-six pounders
F St Paschal's Battery, mounting two 13 inch mortars, and six 26 pound
elevated on Frames, to annoy our camp
G St Carlos, (or Mill Battery,) mounting eight 13 inch mortars, and
two Places de Armes in its Flanks
H The Position of the 72d Flank Companies, after taking possession
of the Gun-Batteries
I The 39th Flank Companies, after storming the St Carlos Battery
K The Position of the 73d Granadiers and Light Infantry, when the
former had driven the enemy from the Center-Guardhouse, and
the latter obliged them to evacuate the St Carlos Battery
L The division of Hardenberg's Regiment, which mistook their Route
and entered the Enemy's Works
M Reden, and de la Motte's Grenadiers form'd, after taking possession
of the Eastern Parallel
N The Reserve, consisting of the 58th and 56th Grenadiers and Light
Infantry, under the command of Major Maxwell
O La Motte and Reden's Grenadiers
P Hardenberg's Regiment
Q The 12th Regiment, with its Flank Companies
R The Center-Guardhouse
S A Body of Spanish Cavalry
T The Route of the Various Regiments on the Attack
U The Western Guardhouse
X The Eastern ditto

(a View of
GIBRALTAR
with the
Fortifications)

F
1357 above *if level of*
if Isthmus



Scale of One Mile.



tion :—He had a sword sling over his shoulder, and 1781.
 when the business was fully accomplished, he smiled, Nov.
 and said to the men, “ *Look round, my boys, and view
 how beautiful the rock appears, by the light of this glo-
 rious fire.*” Captain *Whetham* of the Artillery, then
 came to him, and, with all the gracefulness of a war-
 rior, presented him the keys of the *Spanish* magazines,
 which had been taken from the officer commanding
Carlos. The detachment having done all that men
 could do, retreated to the garrison, with the satisfac-
 tion of destroying, in fifteen minutes, a work estima-
 ted at one million of dollars, bringing with them pri-
 soners, one sub-lieutenant of Walloon Guards, (Baron
Wolfsat) one sub-lieutenant of Artillery, and ten men :
 with the small loss on our side of four men killed, one
 officer, (Lieutenant *Tweedie* of the 12th regiment,
 who received a grape-shot in his thigh) two serjeants,
 and twenty-two men wounded ; and one man missing.
 The enemy had only recovered their surprize, and beat
 to arms, when the detachment was repassing of *Land-
 port-gate*, so that you will say we were expeditious in
 destruction.

The General expressed the greatest approbation of
 the officers and men, which you will perceive by the
 following

GARRISON ORDERS.

“ *The bravery and conduct of the whole detachment,
 officers, seamen, and soldiers, on this glorious occasion,
 surpasses the Governor's utmost acknowledgment.*”

Strength

**STRENGTH OF THE DETACHMENT
THAT MADE THE SORTEE.**

		Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers.	Drummers.	Rank and File.
RIGHT. Lt. Colonel <i>Hugo.</i>	<i>Reden's Grenadiers.</i>	5	7	0	71
	<i>La Mott's ditto.</i>	3	7	0	71
	Workmen and Artillery	5	4	0	50
	<i>Hardenberg's Regiment</i>	16	34	2	206
	56th Light Infantry.	3	9	0	57
CENTRE. Lt. Col. <i>Dackenhausen,</i> Major <i>Maxwell.</i>	39th Grenadiers.	3	3	0	57
	39th Light Infantry.	3	3	0	57
	Workmen and Artillery.	6	8	0	150
	73d Grenadiers.	4	6	0	101
	73d Light Infantry.	4	5	0	101
	56th Grenadiers.	3	3	0	57
	58th ditto.	3	3	0	57
LEFT. Lieut. Col. <i>Trigge.</i>	72d Grenadiers.	4	5	0	101
	72d Light Infantry.	4	5	0	101
	Seamen.	3	10	0	107
	12th Regiment.	20	28	2	40
	58th Light Infantry.	3	3	0	57
Total		68	136		42014

STATE of the GARRISON at the time of the SORTEE.

	Colonels.	Lt. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplain.	Adjutants.	Quar. Masters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Serjeants.	Drummers and Fifers.	Rank and File.
Detachment composed the SORTEE.	1	3	323	5814	0	3	0	0	0	2	136	4	2014	
Sick and wounded.	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	28	6	557	
Remained.	5	5	548	7331	3	7	8	9	14	277	179	2451		
Total of the Garrison.	6	8	872	13246	3	10	8	9	16	441	189	5022		

N. B. Brevet Majors are included as Captains; non-commissioned officers of Artillery as Serjeants. Forty-one Drummers, and fifty-one private, of what remained in the Garrison were boys.

CASUALS in the different Corps in the before-mentioned SORTEE.

CORPS.	Killed.				Wounded.				Missing.
	Officers.	Serjeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Officers.	Serjeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	
R. Artillery.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12th Regiment.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
39th —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
56th —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
58th —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
72d —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
73d —	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Hardenberg's	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
Reden's —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
La Motte's —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Artificer camp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seamen.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	4	1	2	0	22	1

The enemy's works burnt very furiously all yesterday afternoon and evening, and are still on fire. They last night fired very warm, with grape-shot on the trenches, supposing we were again advancing, until a shell discharged from the upper batteries on *St Carlos* convinced them that we had not any men there. A large body of men yesterday evening marched from their camp to the lines, to reinforce the different posts, apprehending we should pay them a visit in that quarter.

1781.

Nov.

28th.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"The Adjutant General having laid before the Governor the following note from Brigadier General Ross, he is pleased to direct that the same shall be inserted in the orders of the day.

"Brigadier Ross begs of the Adjutant-General, that he would mention to the Governor his most humble request, that his Excellency would be pleased to accept of the Brigadier's warmest acknowledgment of the great honor conferred on him, by commanding the detachment that formed the Sertee. To the Officers, and every one of whom, he would wish to make the most public avowal of their firm and good behaviour upon this occasion.

The enemy yesterday and to-day have been viewing the ashes of their late works, and with penitential tears, moaning their irretrievable loss, and endless disgrace. We keep up a smart fire at present, and it is asserted, that it will be continued, to prevent the enemy from repairing the damage their batteries have received. General *Alvarez*, there is not any doubt,

30th.

1781. will study mischief in retaliation, and exert all his in-
 Nov. tellectual faculties in the promotion of plans, projects,
 30th. stratagems and inventions, to gain revenge; but while
 success smiles upon our arms, and glory sounds from
 shore to shore, the transporting melody inspires with
 desperate animation, and invigorates the warrior's zeal
 to such a degree, that fleets, armies, camps, garrisons,
 forts, batteries, and intrenchments, with all the hostile
 pomp and threatnings of the foe, are disregarded, and
 stamped with contempt.

I am,

Dear Brother,

With the greatest affection,

Yours, &c.

LETTER XXVII.

GIBRALTAR

DEAR BROTHER,

1781. **T**HE enemy have not begun repairing their late
 Dec. approaches, but seemingly intend it, as several
 parties unarmed frequently make their appearance. —
 They return a spirited fire from their lines and forts
 but their isthmus bombardment, *alas!* is over.

7th Wind S. W. This day, an *English* cutter was
 captured by the enemy's gun-boats, after an hour's
 spirited fire on both sides. She crowded all the sail she
 possibly could, but the wind having dropped almost to
 a calm, the garrison and shipping were incapable of
 assisting her.

Wind

Wind E. This forenoon two frigates (one *French* 1781. and one *Spanish*) arrived from the Eastward at *Algariras*; and this afternoon about a dozen large settees arrived at the *Orange-Grove*. The enemy have done nothing particular on the isthmus. Dec. 9.

This morning we perceived the *Spaniards* had begun repairing the ruins of *St. Carlos*, and that several parties were busily employed. We accordingly discharged a considerable quantity of grape-shot and small shells upon them, which made them desist from their labour. 11th.

A small sloop was this forenoon taken off *Tarifa*, by a galley and three gun-boats. It is likely that she was bound for this place.

Wind N. E. Yesterday morning sailed from hence, the *Phœnix* and *Unicorn* cutters, bound for *England*—The enemy either did not observe them, or otherwise did not think them worth the pursuit. 16th.

The *Spaniards* occasionally labour at repairing their works, but as soon as they observe the flash of our ordnance, they immediately get under cover, but we endeavour to annoy them with our small shells, which drop into their works, and then burst.—These consequently must be fatal to them, as their traverses were all consumed, together with the gabions and fascines of all their advanced works. 17th.

Wind W. During the course of the night, two vessels arrived with supplies of butter, potatoes, and 20th.

1781. beef from *Portsmouth*, having had a passage of twenty
 Dec. days. They bring intelligence, that the day before
 20th. they left *Faro*, they heard the accounts of the victori-
 ous sally from the garrison, papers having been re-
 ceived there upon the interesting subj. &c.

Several bundles of fascines were brought from the
 lines to the isthmus last night, and the sand thrown up
 in many places. The enemy apparently have forgot
 their defeat, and that they ever had erected advanced
 works; or surely the recollection would prevent them
 from any further attempt to construct others in their
 place.

21st. Last night, it being a brisk lavender, Major Ge-
 neral *Ross* (appointed to that rank by His Majesty's
 command, and declared in the Garrison orders of yes-
 terday) sailed from hence on his passage to *Portugal*,
 from whence he will take shipping for *England*, where
 there is not the least doubt but he will be received
 with eclat, and every mark of approbation, from a re-
 warding nation, for his bravery and singular service
 on the 27th of last *November*.

The *Spaniards* are very busy on the isthmus, and
 have repaired a great part of the ruins of their late
 works:—They seem determined on their re-con-
 struction, notwithstanding our heavy and spirited fire
 from *Willis's* and the upper batteries. The *Black Bat-
 tery* and *Fort St Phillipe* kept up an incessant can-
 nonade all this morning upon the garrison.

Wind

Wind E. Arrived a frigate, sloop, cutter, and several xebecs from the eastward, and anchored between *Orange-Grove* and *Algaziras*. A settee was taken off *Castro* point, by a galley, and carried in there. 1781. Dec. 22d.

Wind W. N. W. Passed by a convoy of neutrals, all about 30 sail.—The enemy hoisted a signal at *Libritta*, not knowing who they were, upon which a xebec went out and spoke to them. 24th.

This morning early, died in the naval hospital, *Barraca*, *Helmstat*, taken prisoner at *St. Carlos*, on the 27th of the month, and who since had a leg amputated, owing to a wound he received by a musquet-ball in that action. The corps was dressed in full uniform, according to the *Spanish* custom, and the General and principal officers, walked in solemn procession to the *New-Mole*, where a flag of truce waited to convey the body to the *Orange-Grove*: A band of music playing dirge, and a company of grenadiers, escorted the decorated bier to the water's edge, and upon the corps being lowered into the boat, the latter fired three volleys in honor of the deceased. The coffin had all that art and ingenuity could invent, to render it elegant, which must sensibly please the enemy, when they consider the respect paid by the Governor to this fallen hero. He was young, handsome, and on the point of a nuptial celebration with a beautiful lady, born in the province of *Andalusia*, and who, during his sickness, furnished him (by flags of truce) with wine and other refreshing diet, which this garrison could not afford;

1781. afford; but the day before his departure, she came hal
 Dec. bay over, (hearing of his dangerous situation) to visi
 29^h. him, and take her last adieu! but the Adjutant-Gener
 ral, who went out to receive the flag of truce, assured
 her, she could not be permitted to land until the Go
 vernor's pleasure was known, and that the next day
 he would wait upon her with his Excellency's com
 mand; instead of which, she received the lifeless trunk
 of him on whom her every wish and happiness wa
 founded.

30th. The enemy are diligently repairing the works o
 the isthmus.—a shell fired from *Willis's*, this day, fe
 among a party of their workmen, about 50 or 60 i
 number, which we have the greatest reason to believ
 did considerable mischief. The *Spanish* forts and line
 continue the cannonade and bombardment. One so
 dier killed and two wounded this day, by the explosio
 of a shell.

31st. A brisk fire on both sides continues, and the ene
 keep constantly at work.—A strong party are emplo
 ed near the centre stone Guard-house, erecting a b
 tery. The naval force remains quiet, nor have
 been troubled with the gun and mortar-boats fo
 time past.

This year has finished without giving the decis
 stroke, though it has been successful on our part,
 crowned our arms with glory and conquest. I h

that in the next we shall be equally victorious, and convince the enemy, that *Britons* scorn controul.

I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

L E T T E R XXVIII.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

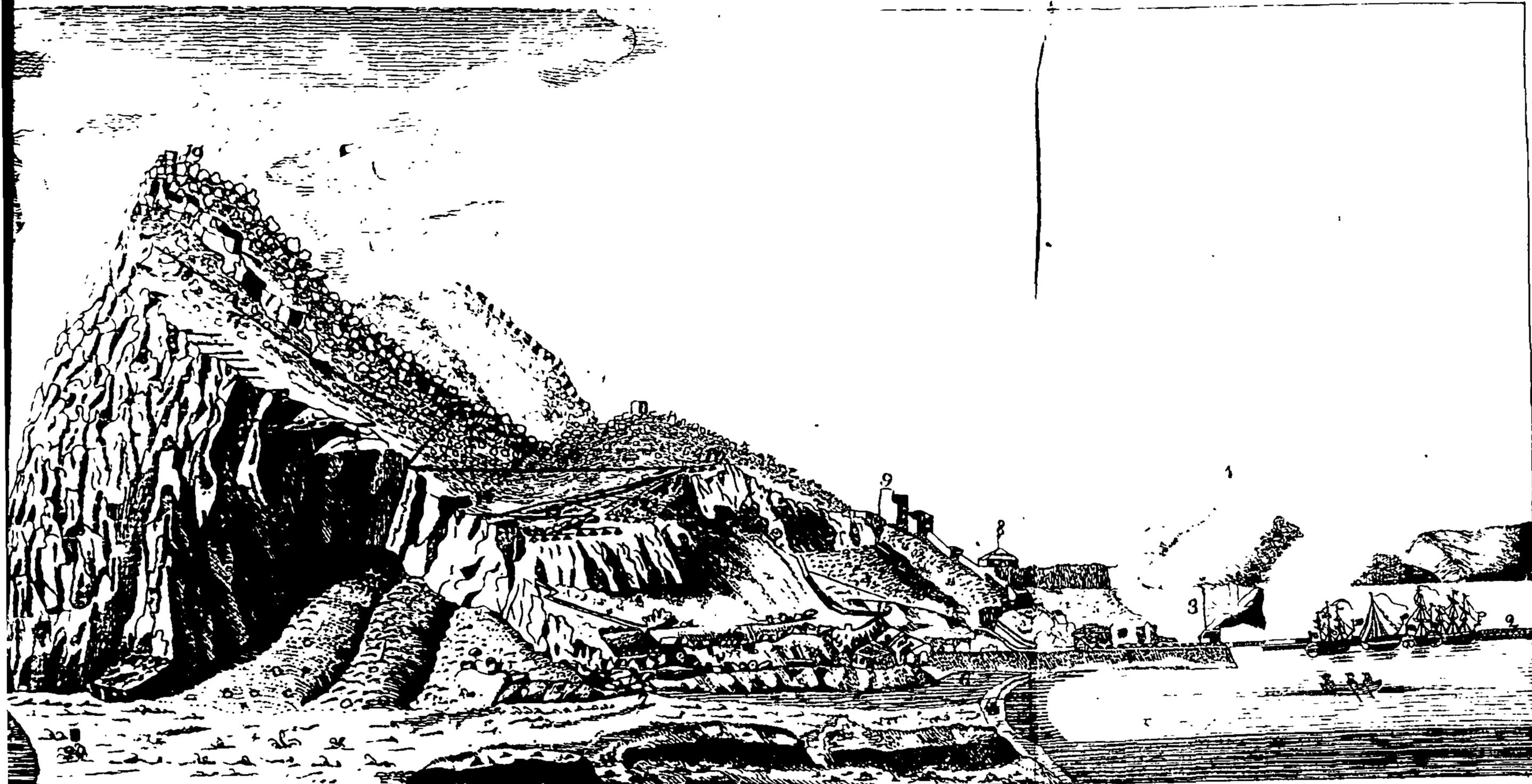
AS all my letters are intended for your information, I shall endeavour, as far as I am able, to give you a description of this envied and battered Rock, which has excited the whole attention of *Spain* and *France*. 1782. Jan. 1st.

GIBRALTAR is in 36 degrees and 7 min. north latitude, it projects into the sea, and is in length near a league from north to south, in breadth irregular from half to 3 quarters of a mile, its head is frequently hid in the clouds. The summit of the rock is about 1400 feet perpendicular above the sea. It is joined to the continent by a neck of low and deep sand of the same breadth as the rock itself, but which widens considerably towards the *Spanish* lines. This isthmus is near a league in length, and, with the opposite coast of *Spain*, forms a noble and safe bay eight miles over. The hill is of such an irregular form, that when you are near it you cannot view the whole from any one part. Its head

1782. head clearly faces the East, from thence to the *Moorish*.
 Jan. 1. *Castle* it fronts the North, forward as far as the *Signal*.
House, the North-west, it then takes a turn and conti-
 nues to *Europa Point* due South. On account of this
 oblique situation, when you approach the town from the
 inundation, you can see no further off the rock than the
Moorish Castle, and even in town your sight is bounded
 by the old *Moorish wall* [called by some *Charles the*
fifth's] After you have passed *Southport gate*, and got
 upon the red sands, the town is hid from you, and all
 the hill to the North of the *Signal-house*. The back
 of the hill is scalped and inaccessible, and this particu-
 lar circumstance forms its chief strength. The head
 of the rock is almost perpendicular, and composed of
 white stone which is burnt for lime. The batteries fa-
 cing the isthmus are very strong and snug, which are
 carried on from the summit of the rock, to the water's
 edge at the *Old Mole*, the extremity of which the *Spa-*
niards term *Una Bocca de Fuego*. The remains of
 the *Moorish castle* are close to the batteries, at which
 place is the entrance into the lines; above the lines is
Willis's and the upper batteries. Under the castle are
 two batteries near *Croucbett's* house and garden, lower
 down, and almost level with the water, is the *Grand Bat-*
tery, under which is *Land-port*. Above the ruins of the
 town appears the walls of the army-hospital, from
 which you have a view of the remains of *Bethlehem*.
 barracks, formerly a Nunnery, the *White Cloister*
 where the commissioners of the navy used to reside,
 formerly a monastery, and *St Francis* where the Gover-
 nor resides: The building, before the enemy fired, was
 plain

Explanation of the North View. — To face page

- 1 Ape's Hill, on the Barbary Shore
- 2 Old Mole-head, or Devil's Tongue
- 3 Flag-Staff
- 4 Land-Port-Glaciis
- 5 Bay-Side Barrier
- 6 The Inundation
- 7 Forbes's Barrier
- 8 The Grand Magazine
- 9 Heights of the Moorish Castle, with places to discharge ~~are~~
- 10 Princess Caroline's Battery
- 11 Princess Amelia's ditto
- 12 Princess Ann's ditto
- 13 Queen's or Willis's ditto
- 14 Farrington's Battery
- 15 King's Lines
- 16 Princess Lines
- 17 Green's Lodge, with the Terrace Batteries below
- 18 Royal Battery
- 19 Rock Mortar, and Levant Battery
- 20 Devil's Tower



A North View of Gibraltar

was plain; more convenient than elegant, but pleasantly situated near the bay; with a garden adjoining. The *British* church is adjacent to this building, but now divine service is performed on the *South Parade*, on account of the enemy's cannonade. The *Spanish* church for the performance of the Roman Catholic Religion was near the *Grand Parade* in the *Green Market*, the walls of which are yet standing. The inhabitants and soldiers repair to church by the beat of a drum. Near *South-port* stands the King's yard, Grand store, and Victualing-office, which, notwithstanding the enemy's bombardment; has not sustained any considerable injury. Above *South-port*, on the outside of the gate, is the citadel. The garrison is bounded by strong walls, and several well-executed batteries, particularly the *King's*, *South*, *Montague's Bastion*, and *Grand Battery*. The *King's Bastion* is able to contain one thousand men, being bomb-proof, and is of a noble construction, planned by General *Bojde*, when Governor of the garrison.

The entrance to the garrison from the isthmus, is so narrow, that it is impossible to march an army more than six men abreast; and which passage is * undermined, so that, if necessity should require it, to be charged with barrels of powder, and sprung, the besiegers would suffer considerably, and be thrown into

X

the

* A mine is a hole dug, to be filled with powder to blow it up, but this is built of brick, and arched over, so that the explosion would be the greater.

1782. the greatest confusion. There are several pieces
 Jan. cannon directed upon this path, loaded with grape-shot
 which would scour the whole length, and cut off the
 assailants as fast as they advanced. The cannon placed
 at the *Old Mole-Head*, being level with the water,
 would sweep the whole isthmus; besides other pieces
 of ordnance placed in advantageous situations for the
 purpose of flanking*.

The principal buildings to the southward are, the
Naval Hospital, now occupied by the sick soldiery and
 seamen; the *Barracks* for the troops, and two *Pavilions*
 for the officers; they are chiefly built of stone, and
 extremely well suited for convenience; the rooms are
 large and airy, and have a very handsome appearance
 from the bay.

Near the *New-Mole* are two magazines for powder,
 where it is lodged when landed from the ships, and as
 it is wanted, removed from thence to the *Grand Magazine*
 in the *Moorish Castle*. Near them is a pleasant
 vineyard, of a small length, which yields a great quantity
 of vegetables, but not sufficient to supply a sixteenth
 part of the garrison. It is supposed that the
 owner clears five thousand dollars per annum by it.—
 There are several houses on the heights, that have
 been built by the officers and inhabitants, which command
 a delightful prospect of the bay and the gut; in
 short, most of the southward is covered with small and
 convenient dwellings. I

* In military affairs, is the side of an army or battalion.

I cannot close this description, without informing you that the water, which is drank by the garrison, is the rain which descends from the heights of the rock, through a body of sand and lime-stone, into a reservoir; this contains the annual supply till the rains again come on, which is towards the latter end of the year. The shipping are supplied from this reservoir, by the means of pipes, which communicate near the sea, where there is a small cistern with spouts. The Faculty agree in opinion that it is good wholesome water.

1782.
Jan.

The following is the STATE of the STRENGTH of the several CORPS now here.

CORPS.	Strength	CORPS.	Strength
Royal Artillery	480	73d	811
12th	469	Hardenberg's	345
39th	348	Reden's	347
56th	450	La Mott's	356
58th	450	Artificer's Company	89
72d	811		
		Total 5056	

Wind East. This morning early the *St Philip's Castle* arrived here from *Mahon* with dispatches, having twenty-two *Spanish* prisoners on board, taken by the *English* in a sally made from that place. They say that General *Murray* is very closely besieged, and that the forces under his command, make the most stubborn opposition against both the *French* and *Spanish* who lay before the castle.

4th.

The enemy on the isthmus keep repairing their works, and have got a great part rebuilt. The fire on each side

1782. side briskly continues, but most spirited from the close
Jan. of the evening until the dawn of the morning, as the chief part of their labours are executed during the night-season.

8th. A xebec arrived from the eastward this forenoon, and anchored opposite *Sandy Bay*. The working-parties on the isthmus have not done any thing particular since the 4th instant.

10th. Last night the *St Philip's Castle* sailed to the eastward, and a small boat for *Tetuan*, in order to fetch supplies. All quiet in the Bay: We cannot imagine the reason that the enemy are not so alert and attentive as they were.

13th. Wind E. Sailed the *Henry* and *Mercury* privateers to the west. None of the *Spanish* cruizers went in chase of them. The enemy threw up a branch of sand-bag work last night upon the isthmus.

16th. This day two cutters made their appearance in the Gul. Wind N. E. The tower at *Cabritta* let fly a signal, upon which the *Spanish* Squadron got in motion, consisting of a frigate, one large xebec, one smaller ditto, and several gun-boats, who stood across to intercept them. The gun-boats got a-head, and discharged several shot at them, which the cutters returned, and kept their course, standing for the eastward, it being impracticable to work into the port, as the wind blew right against them. The *Spanish* cruizers went in chase, and are now all out of sight. The works on the isthmus are going forward. *Antonio*

Antonio Juanica a *Minorguen*, convicted of being a 1782
 spy, is ordered for execution on the 4th of February Jan. 17.
 being.

The enemy fire upon us with great fury, to prevent
 our annoying their working-parties. Several wounded
 in forenoon.

This day being the anniversary of Her Majesty's 18th.
 birth-day, the Royal standard was hoisted on the flag-
 staff, and a salute of shot and shell fired on the enemy.

The town and southward regiments exchanged quar- 20th.
 ters this morning, to continue three months, before
 another exchange takes place, unless circumstances
 should make it necessary.

The isthmus parties are laboriously employed in for- 23d.
 warding their works, and an incessant fire is kept up
 from the Spanish lines and forts, upon our works and
 batteries on the hill, as we are repairing the breaches
 made, and constructing some additional fortification,
 to shelter our men, and to destroy, if possible, the ene-
 my's approaches.

Pleasant weather. The enemy appears to be busy 26th.
 at *Algaziras*, and in the rivers. We imagine they
 are constructing additional gun-boats there, to co-
 operate with those they already have. Isthmus work-
 ing-parties continue nightly to be employed.

Wind

1782. Wind S. E. The two cutters chased to the east-
 Jan. ward by the enemy on the 16th instant, got in earl
 29. this morning : They prove to be the *Viper* and *Lively*
 laden with ordnance stores ; also arrived the *Dartmouth*
Tartar cutter, last from *Lisbon* in three days with dis-
 patches. A frigate, xebec, and some gun-boats have
 returned from their vain pursuit in chase of the *Viper*
 and *Lively*, mortified with having missed their eager
 prey, and anchored at their old station, watching every
 sail that appears in sight. The enemy are preparing
 several fireships at the mouth of the rivers between *Al-*
gaziras and *Orange Grove* but for what purpose we
 really cannot conjecture, without it is for pastime, and
 the recreation of their naval and land-forces, by re-
 minding them that they are inclinable to do mischief
 though incapable of effecting it. Our shipping are
 all boom'd in, and without they intend to burn the
 clefts of the rock, and set our sandy beach on fire
 they had better keep their present distance, nor un-
 thinkingly rush on, where certain ruin must be the
 inevitable consequence. Our garrison is pretty healthy
 considering the hardships, dangers, and scarcity of
 fresh diet, which at present prevails ; but of late, they
 have been very much afflicted with the most inveterate
 scurvy, which deprived a great many of the use of
 their limbs, by rendering them stiff and swelled—The
 flesh of the sufferers, I assure you, was almost black
 and you would pity, (were you a spectator) to view
 them limping to their post, to partake of a share with
 their comrades in opposing the foe. With every good
 wish, permit me to subscribe myself

Your loving Brother

L E T T E R XXIX.

GIBRALTAR. 1782.

Feb. 1.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE besiegers spurred on by hope and expectation, to work the reduction of the fortrefs, are indefatigably employed in forwarding the re-construction of *St Carlos*, and the adjacents. From their batteries they continue a plentiful discharge of ordnance, by which we now and then lose a man. We anxiously long for the day of attack, as our situation is rather deplorable in respect of provision, and the harrassing duties of guards, picquets, working detachments, and parties, forwards the general wish for engagement.— The constant duty with the soldiery is ten and eleven days and nights up, and probably when it comes to your turn to have a night to sleep in your tent, the enemy from the sea-line disturbs you from that repose, but, thank God, we have not been much interrupted from that quarter of late.

Prices of provision brought by the Viper and Live-ly cutters, on the 29th of last month.

Common Green Tea per lb.	£. 1	1	0
Hams per ditto,	0	3	2
Corn'd Beef ditto	0	1	8
Port Wine per dozen	1	14	5
A Sheep	14	1	0
Cheese per lb.	0	4	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Butter ditto	0	4	10 $\frac{1}{2}$

The

1782. The enemy carry on their works in a rapid manner
 Feb. 4 They last night erected a battery of five embrasures on
 the west side of the *Mill-Tower*; *St Carlos*, by what we
 can discern from the heights of the rock, appears to
 have received a complete repair. Our batteries en-
 deavour, as much as possible, to prevent the executing
 of their labours on the isthmus.

Antonio Judico, ordered for execution this day, is
 respited. Arrived from the westward two small ves-
 sels from *Portugal*; laden with lemons and oranges
 a very refreshing supply.

A small boat, that appeared off *Cabrita-point*, was
 fired at several times from the battery at that place
 but without effect; upon this a *Spanish* lugger got under
 sail; endeavouring to cut her off, but to very little pur-
 pose, as the boat had nearly anchored before she had
 got half bay over. She proves to be the *Portuguese*
 laden with fruit and oranges.

The enemy's cruizers have been particularly busied
 all this day, running in and out alternately. We
 imagine they have received intimation of some vessel
 bound for this place. They on the land-side keep
 working and firing.

Arrived safe, the *Young Sabine*; with porter, wine
 and potatoes. Our men of war's boats towed her
 round *Europa*. It is confidently asserted, that she has
 brought intelligence to the Governor of a very inter-
 esting nature, but we cannot learn the particulars.
 The *Spanish* cruizers were disappointed in missing the
 capture

capture of this vessel, as all their attempts to effect it were rendered ineffectual. 1782.

Feb. 15.

Arrived the brig *Eliza*, with sundry articles on board, for the use of the garrison. The *Spanish* cruiser, who returned yesterday evening to *Algaziras*, made a signal too late, to do themselves any service; but to convince the world how valiant and daring they are, they keep cruising in the bay with all the pomp of line-of-battle ships, and came very near the guns of *Europa*, but thought prudent to keep at a distance, lest an unfortunate shot should dispossess them of all their imaginary glory.

The *Spanish* works are briskly forwarded, the isthmus almost is become a scene of enchantment—the army certainly must employ a considerable number of men, or otherwise they could not make such a rapid execution.

Wind N. W. This morning a sail appeared standing from the westward; the *Spanish* towers let fly a volley of an enemy's appearance—a frigate, xebec, and several gun-boats, immediately got under way, and the battery at *Cabritta point* fired several rounds. The xebec bore down, when the *English* vessel opened fire on her, and made her haul her wind, and soon afterwards she dropped astern, the frigate and gun-boats stood a cross to intercept her, which she as spiritedly engaged, receiving two broad-sides from the frigate, and several rounds of grape from the gun-boats. After having engaged a considerable time,

Y

such

1782. such a superior force, she had the good fortune to go
 Feb. in without much damage, and proves to be the *Flying*
 17. *Fish* cutter, in eight days from *England*, laden with
 ordnance stores.—Some of the enemy's boats have
 been drove very near the garrison, the batteries at *Es-*
ropa discharged a few shot at them, but plying the
 oars briskly, they got off without any injury, as we
 could observe.

18th. Wind S. W. Last night a brig from the westward
 entered the bay, and observing the lights in the *Spanish*
 camp, steered for that place, imagining it was the
 town of *Gibraltar*. The captain continued his course
 until he came opposite to *Prince Orange's* battery, where
 the officer on duty there challenged the ship, who an-
 swered "From *Corke*." The captain discovered his
 error, and finding he was running under the enemy's
 batteries, put about, and run aground at the back of
 the *Old Mole*, where *Fort Philippe* and the *Elect* *Bat-*
tery kept up a fire upon her. The *Hibernian* Captain
 when he landed, in a jocular manner endeavoured
 to apologize for his misconduct, by saying, "By J—
 he intended to run his ship up to his merchant's sto-
 rehouse, having heard, when at *Corke*, that we had burnt
 all the *Spanish* batteries, and spiked up their guns, and
 that he imagined he might anchor in any part of the
 bay with safety." This was alluding to the sally made
 27th of *November* 1781, which was so much noticed
 throughout *Britain* and *Ireland*, and by way of re-
 minding us, that we had not done as much as we
 boasted in the papers. She has brought a supply
 but

butter, pork, and potatoes, which is intended to be 1782.
 landed, if possible, this night. Her name is the *Go-* Feb.
vernor Elliot, Samuel Seldon, Master. 18.

This morning we observed a battery of 12 embra- 20th.
 ces constructed on the isthmus, and in other parts
 the land was thrown up as a cover. The enemy fired
 very warmly on the *Governor Elliot* brig, and have
 greatly damaged her—part of her cargo has been
 landed—a brisk fire continues on both sides.

A *Portuguese* schooner from the west was taken be-
 tween *Tarifa* and *Cabritta point*, and brought into *Al-*
giziras, where there is not any doubt she will be con-
 demned. The wind having sprung up easterly, a *Tar-*
tar arrived from *Leghorn*, with a cargo of wine and
 useful necessaries. Several gun-boats also arrived from
 the east, we imagine them to be the remainder that
 sailed the two Cutters on the 16th of *January*.

Wind E. Sailed last night from hence the *Viper,* 21st.
Lucy, and *Dartmouth Tartar* cutters. About an hour
 afterwards the *Spanish* towers were illuminated, and a
 number of rockets thrown up. The enemy keep hard
 and constantly at work on the isthmus.

Wind W. This morning the shipping at *Algaziras* 23d.
 was dress'd with full colours, and at noon a *feu de joye*
 was fired on both land and sea, and repeated three
 times.

A ship appeared in the offing, standing for this
 place,

1782. place, when a frigate and xebec made ready. She
Feb. continued her course, and received their fire with great
23d. intrepidity, plying her guns in an heroic manner. After
about an hour's fire she got in, and proves to be the
Mercury transport, from *Lisbon*, with wine, poultry
and fruit.

24th. Wind W. Arrived at *Algaziras* from the westward
two xebecs, and two cutters, as a reinforcement to the
Spanish Squadron on that station. The *Spanish* work-
ing-parties are busily employed.

25th. Wind W. Arrived the *St Ann* of 28 guns, in 11
days from *London*, with ordnance stores. Not any
particular intelligence received, except that she was
chased some leagues to the westward, and escaped dur-
ing the night.

28th. Wind E. Arrived the *Indian King*, from *Leghorn*
with timber and liquors, a brisk fire on both sides was
kept up. The enemy continue laboriously working
on the isthmus, forwarding, with all possible expedi-
tion, their new approaches. The tedious Siege fami-
liarizes more and more every day, and our eager and
anxious expectations no longer impatiently excite to
battle, as the foe discovers not any inclination to at-
tack our walls only with 26 pounders, and 13 inch
shells, from which, probably, they hope to effect
capitulation; but while they remain at that distance
all their efforts will prove but impotency, and unless
they can level by their fire the heights of the hard and
solid rock, they never will accomplish the capture of

the garrison. You may perceive, by the following lines, which I penned behind a traverse at Willis's yesterday, how contented we are in our situation.

1782.

Feb.

28.

*While peaceful flocks in verdant meadows graze,
Supply their wants, and slumber at their ease ;
Now skip and sport, and each contented feed,
And one by one are destined to bleed.
But here—'midst hardships, soldiers ne'er repine,
But with the pomp of war sit down to dine ;
To feast upon an ounce of salted beef,
Which at the most affords but small relief ;
No sparkling wine to animate and cheer,
No pint. nor pot of British home brew'd beer,
But pickled beef and water is our fare ;
Coop'd up like pastur'd sheep, within the walls,
And one by one cut off by shells and balls.*

*Here two or three together meet for mirth,
And set themselves behind * a bank of earth ;
Here bread and water chearfully go round,
And grass, got on the rock, for sallad found ;
Sometimes brown toast, and vinegar, supplies
The place of punch, and crowns our festive joys.*

*Thus happy in our sports, each other cheer,
In God we place our trust, nor danger fear :
With heart and hand, the war : and batt'ries man,
Live hard, fight, watch, do all that Britons can !*

I remain yours &c.

* The meaning of the expression " a bank of earth," is large casks, placed 3 deep, and filled with earth and stones, which is called a traverse, and is a shelter from cannon-balls.

LETTER XXX.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1782. **T**HE fortune of war, and the casuals of life are
 Mar. 1. equally changeable ; the victors of one day are
 often defeated another, and lose those laurels that were
 carried in triumph from the field of slaughter. The
 fate of *Minorca* was announced here this morning, by
 a flag of truce from the *Orange Grove*, who brought
 the intelligence of that fortress having surrendered to
 His Catholic Majesty's forces, and that the *feu de joye*,
 fired on the 23d of *February*, was in celebration of the
 conquest. It is not improbable but the enemy enter-
 tain lively not ons of this place, and imagine that this
 piece of information may tend to depress our spirits,
 and facilitate their future operations against us.

We kept up a very hot fire all the forenoon, and set
 the enemy's works in a blaze, which they extinguish-
 ed shortly afterwards.

2d. This morning our batteries directed their fire upon
 the enemy's advanced works on the isthmus, when a
 heavy and incessant cannonade was spiritedly maintained
 between the enemy and the garrison, 'till 9 o'clock,
 during which time we had the fortune to set their
 works on fire again. The foe manifested a valour,
 and in an intrepid manner jumped upon the glacis,
 pouring

pouring baskets of sand upon the flames, when, after 1782.
much difficulty and danger, they got it put out. Mar. 2.

Wind E. Last night the *Flying-Fish* cutter, sailed 4th.
to the westward with dispatches. The enemy keep
advancing their approaches towards the garrison. The
cannonade but slack these two days.

Arrived *Patron Prats* from *Algiers*, with sheep and 5th.
wine, the former sells at a most enormous and exorbi-
tant price. The enemy's parties on the isthmus work
excessively hard, and bring forward their approaches
with dispatch—they have almost reached into our late
gardens.

GARRISON ORDERS.

“*The town-guards to mount at half past six, and the
South-guards at seven o'clock, till further orders.*”

The enemy having been very remiss in cannonading 6th.
the town, it is imagined was the occasion of the Go-
vernor altering the hour of relieving the guards.

The enemy keep working and moderately firing, by 9th.
which Lieutenant *Cuppige*, of the Royal Artillery,
was this day wounded: all quiet on the sea-side.

The enemy indicate fresh preparation for the ensu- 10th.
ing storm, several parties being employed this morn-
ing in clearing ground for a reinforcement of troops.
A number of tents are already pitched. A xebec,
which came near the garrison, had several rounds fired
at

1782. at her, which compelled her to sheer off. We dis-
 March charged a number of carcases upon the enemy's isth-
 10th. mus works, with an intent to burn them, but did not
 meet with the completion of our wishes.

16th. The enemy work most assiduously, and have raised
 a very high and well-planned breast work, supposed
 by our Engineers and Artillerists to be intended for a
 mortar-battery.

This day arrived at *Algaziras* a frigate from the
 westward, but not any salute was given.

The enemy's fire these three days has been particu-
 larly spirited, by which we have had some few wound-
 ed, among whom is Lieutenant *White*, of the 56th
 regiment. Our batteries are now bravely playing up-
 on the foe.

17th. Southerly wind. Two frigates having come with-
 in the reach of our prams, anchored off *New-Mole*.—
 they began a well-directed and furious fire upon them.
 One of the frigates, it was observed, received several
 shot.

18th. Our fishing-boats were drove out of the bay this
 morning by a xebec, who kept a gentle sail, until, by
 her repeated firings, she made them all retreat to the
 shore. The inhumanity of this act is better to be
 conceived than expressed. Few instances are to be
 found that bear any similitude to such an unprecedent-
 ed proceeding. The *Spaniards* are forwarding their
 works, and discharging their ordnance upon us.

The

The Governor has ordered the bridge at *Landport* 1782. to be pulled down, and the communication to that March 19. port will be through the sallyport in the ditch *, where there is to be a temporary stage made, for the purpose of detachments passing and repassing from the covered way, and out-guards. Also one of the slopes, by which the guards and centinels now ascend to their posts, is to be levelled. An encampment was began this morning on the west of the *Orange Grove*. We expect the Siege will quickly come to an issue, from the preparations making by the foe.

Last night, about eleven o'clock, a mill, on *Windmill-hill*, 22d. constructed for the purpose of grinding the wheat sent over from *Britain*, by some means took fire, and was consumed. The enemy are very busy with some shipping, which is imagined are intended for *fire-floats*.

Wind W. Last night arrived the *Vernon* store-ship, with materials for gun-boats, what we have long wished for. The *Success* frigate escorted her to latitude 36. when she left her, and returned to *England*. The *Success*, on her passage took the *St Catalina*, a *Spanish* frigate, who afterwards was burnt on the appearance of the *Cerberus* and *Apollo* frigates, (suspecting them to be enemies) and four transports, that came in also during the night, having on board the 97th regiment, as a reinforcement to the garrison.

Z

Three

* A door in a Battalion or Battery, for the purpose of making a sally; unexpectedly, on the besiegers.

1782. Three very large ships, and four xebecs, arrived March *Algaziras*, imagined to be laden with stores and provision.
- 25th. This day our flag of truce carried to *Orange Gro*, some officers and men, put on board the *Vernon*, belonging to the *Catalina* frigate. The enemy continued their usual working-parties. From ten o'clock last night, till day-break this morning, a brisk fire was maintained, with determined resolution, between fort *Barbary*, *Philipe*, and the batteries on the heights of the hill.
- 30th. The enemy's ships and forts fired several rounds alternately. It is supposed the rejoicing is (on account of this being Passion-Saturday) in celebration of our Saviour's resurrection. The *Spanish* working-parties have not done any quantity of work to-day.
- 31st. This morning the batteries at *Willis's* and *Montague's bastion*, opened with martial rage upon the isthmus works. Wind N. W. a very fresh breeze. Shot and shells were incessantly discharged, when one of the latter having penetrated into the fascines, immediately set that part in a flame, which continued burning until about thirty yards was consumed. The flames spread in a rapid manner, and the enemy did all they could to prevent the progress of the fire, nor could they extinguish it by any means, but was under the necessity of cutting an opening, as the only remedy to secure their approaches from being again destroyed.

The

The troops in the camp of *Santa Roque* came out of their tents to view the spirited action, while only the flash of guns, and exploding shells were to be seen; the isthmus, and northernmost part of the rock being hid with the clouds of smoke.

Yours, &c.

L E T T E R XXXI.

"Who like the Cur barks at the croud that passes?"

GIBRALTAR, April 1.

DEAR BROTHER,

SUCH is the disposition of our inveterate and malignant foes, every ship, sloop, or bark that appears, immediately a gun is discharged, and a cruizer sent out to interrogate, "*From whence come ye, or Where are you bound?"* A Swedish vessel was brought into *Algaziras* yesterday evening for not bringing to, upon a gun being fired from a double galley off the Point.

Arrived a vessel from *Portugal*, with ninety sheep, during the course of the night.

1782. This morning a soldier deserted from *Landport* guard
 April. and received the fire of the musquetry of all the centi-
 nels, but without effect. The *Spanisb* working-parties
 are diligently employed.

2d. Last night a *Spanisb* deserter came in, and reports
 that the soldier that deserted yesterday was wounded
 by our fire, and died in the greatest agony, in the *Mil*
Battery, (or *St Carlos*.) This forenoon a great many
 tents was pitched east side of the *Horse Barracks*, and
 some squadrons of infantry marched in.

9th. The encampment west of the *Orange Grove* is taken
 possession of by troops; but they do not appear very
 numerous, or perhaps they are tired with their march
 over the mountains, and keep their tents as a relaxation
 from their fatigue. The enemy cannonade the garrison
 excessively warm, three men and a boy wounded at
Willis's.

10th. The encampment pitched yesterday is hourly in-
 creasing in the number of tents, but not any consider-
 able body of troops appear. The enemy fired very
 hot this morning, and a shell which fell in *Landport*
Ditch, just as the new guard came to relieve the old
 one, killed Lieutenant *Whetbam*, of the 12th Regiment,
 wounded his servant who was on the right of the guard
 and blew the drummer's drum in pieces. He was an
 amiable officer, and well respected; the loss of him is
 much regretted by all ranks in the garrison.

Six lug-sail boats arrived from the westward; from
 the:

their form and construction we apprehend they are intended for landing of troops. Every thing now indicates a speedy and vigorous assault. Our enemies are seemingly prepared for immediate battle, their isthmus works being almost completed. 1782. April

Wind W. Arrived a boat from *Portugal* with goats, fowls, &c. The Patron brings intelligence, that ships and floating-batteries are fitting up in the port of *Cadiz*, lined with cork and oakum, whose strength are to turn a cannon-ball, and that when *Duke de Crillon* arrives with his conquering, valiant, and successful troops, from the glorious expedition at *Minsorca*, he is to take the command of the forces, and head the army in their attack upon this place. He says, that from the accounts received in *Portugal*, the people of *Spain* look upon the Duke's conduct with admiration, and expect that those who join him will be invulnerable. 11th.

Arrived a large cutter at *Algaziras*, from the west. The enemy have brought forward their approaches considerably towards the garrison. A general discharge of ordnance prevails. 15th.

Wind S. W. Two large xebecs arrived this forenoon on the opposite side, and several small fettes, all from the westward. 16th.

The enemy's force now consists of three frigates, four large xebecs, one cutter, one bomb-ketch, at *Algaziras*; one large xebec, one cutter, one lugger, one bomb-ketch, at *Orange Grove*; one large xebec, one small

1782. Small ditto, one sloop of war at *Cabritta*; fifteen gun-boats, eight mortar boats, ten or twelve fireships in the rivers, besides what shipping they have at *Ceuta*, and cruizing to the eastward.

Landport-bridge is taken down, and it is reported that both the slopes are to be levelled, and only a timber ascent made, that in case of any emergence may be set on fire, to prevent the enemy's entrance into the ditch under the *Grand Battery*.

Our working-parties are employed in erecting splinter proofs upon the batteries on the hill, as a cover from the bomb shells when they explode in the air, which the *Spaniards* have practised of late.

20th. Wind N. W. This morning, upon a ship being discovered by the enemy in the offing, they hoisted a signal on the tower at *Cabritta*, which not being answered, a xebec and sloop, that lay at the Point, slipped out, and bore down under a pressure of sail. — The xebec having got a-head, fired a broadside at her, which was directly returned by the ship; the sloop now came up, and fired a few guns, notwithstanding which, she continued her course, and got safe in, without any loss. She proves to be the *Antigallican* store-ship, in eight days from *Falmouth*. The enemy, apparently, are not so attentively employed on the isthmus as formerly.

21st. The regiments in the town and southward exchanged quarters this forenoon.

Very little work done by the enemy—The gun-boats brought over by the *Vernon*, are getting in great forwardness in the *New-Mole-yard*. 1782. April

Several parties employed daily in bringing fascines into the *Spanish* camp. We suppose that the want of these materials has been the occasion of their ceasing from work these three days. Forts *Barbary* and *Philippe*, the *Black Battery* and lines, fired this afternoon minute guns, with shot, upon the Garrison. 22d.

This forenoon an experimental trial was made with one of our gun-boats, mounted with an eighteen pounder. The first and second shot fired horizontally reached three or four times; the third had a degree of elevation, and went a distance in the bay. The Naval Commander promises great success from them, when the twelve is finished. All hands busy at work upon them. 24th.

This morning early a deserter from the Volunteers of *Argon* came in, and confirms a former account of ships being preparing for the purpose of attacking this Garrison, lined with cork and junk to prevent the penetration of our shot. A few working-parties again appear on the isthmus, but their labours are executed under cover. 25th.

This day one of our long boats going from *Ragged Staff* to the *New-Mole* with iron, sprung a leak, and went to the bottom, unfortunately a man and a boy were drowned. 27th.

Wind

1782. Wind W. S. W. This morning two ships, brig-
 April rigged, appeared in the gut, with their heads standing
 28th. to the east.—The *Spanish* towers made a signal of an
 enemy being at hand, upon which two xebecs, and
 eight gun-boats went out in order to secure them, but
 were unexpectedly disappointed, they proving to belong
 to the *French*. The rapidity of the current, and the
 wind having shifted to the N. W. the xebecs and gun-
 boats drove to the eastward.

30th. The enemy's works appear to be executed according
 to their wishes, for notwithstanding we only now and
 then discharge a few rounds of shot and shells, they
 have not taken the opportunity of doing any work.
 In the *Spanish* camp, a numerous army are seen—the
 whole common at the foot of *Santa Roque*, is become
 a town and place of habitation, where a grand display
 of slaughtering instruments is exhibited, and the most
 renowned engineers, experienced artilleryists, and ap-
 proved soldiers and seamen, are bent upon our extirpa-
 tion from this heart-galling rock. That their views
 and intentions may be frustrated, is the sincere and
 hearty wish of

Your affectionate Brother

LETTER

L E T T E R XXXII.

GIBRALTAR. 1782.

May 3.

DEAR BROTHER,

EVERY opportunity that offers of writing to you, I readily embrace, and find an infinite satisfaction in the employ. The reciprocal affection that has long subsisted between us, pleasingly excites the hours of my pen, and conscious that your bosom feels my absence and situation, I should consider myself pardonable in any omission.

The enemy continue the Siege; and are getting inwardness the most studious preparations for an attack: it is beyond dispute that the contention will shortly be fully adjusted.

Last night, Wind E. sailed the *Cerberus* and *Apollo* frigates, *St Ann*; *Vernon*, *Mercury*, and *Antigallican* ships; the *Betsy*; *Thomson*, *Loyal Briton*, and *Juliant* transports, at which time two Spanish frigates and three xebecs were cruising in the gut. They had not been long under sail, when rockets were thrown up at *Algaziras*, and answered at *Cabritta point*. About an hour after a cannonading was heard in the gut, and continued for some time tolerably brisk; and this morning we had the mortification to view the enemy re-
A a turning.

1782. turning with the three last named transports, being the
 May 8. only defenceless vessels that failed from hence. Their
 sails were very much torn, and it is supposed the enemy
 alone directed their fire upon them, not liking to at-
 tack the storeships, they having a formidable appear-
 ance in the night. Thus victorious they entered the
 bay in triumph, and conducted their prizes (manned
 only with about twenty-one men) to the port of *Al-*
gaziras, there to recount the dangers of the battle, and
 to regale themselves with the spoil.

9th. Wind W. S. W. This forenoon arrived from the
 westward one line-of-battle ship, convoying eight
 large store-ships or Indiamen. From the appearance
 of their rigging and sides, which is dry and shabby,
 and having but a few hands on board, we cannot ima-
 gine from what part they have arrived, or what occasion
 brought them in here. All hands busy about the *Spa-*
nish camp.

10th. Wind S. E. Arrived a *Portuguese* lettee, from *Te-*
tuan, with about 30,000 oranges, and a few pipes of
 oil. She was cleared out for *Cadiz*, but smuggled here-
 self in here, where they will find a good market for
 their cargo — Oranges are sold for a rial each, about
 four-pence three farthings sterling.

13th. The eight large ships that arrived over the way the
 9th instant are hauled close to the shore, and are un-
 rigging, and those that arrived on the 24th March have
 proceeded to the *Orange Grove*. It is currently re-
 ported that they are lined with cork, and are to be
 converted

converted into batteries, but most people think that they are more fit for fire-wood, than attacking a fortress.

1782.

May

13.

The store-ships at *Algaziras* are quite unrigged, and a great many hands employed upon them clearing their decks. The land-fire is maintained with spirit, but very little work seemingly going forward on the isthmus.

15th.

Last night three soldiers, in attempting to desert from the heights of the rock, fell from a precipice, and were found dead under the *Sugar-loaf*, lying near each other. They had procured a rope, and fastened it to a cleft of the rock, but it was not of a sufficient length to reach the bottom.

20th.

Arrived a xebec and a galley, from the westward, at *Algaziras*. The enemy are employed upon two of the store-ships cutting their sides down.

22d.

The enemy continue working on the two store-ships at *Algaziras*, and appear to be thickening, with pieces of timber and other materials, their larboard sides—several ports have been already cut: From this it is evident they are intended for floating batteries. Wind E. The other store ships that lay at the *Orange Grove* sailed from thence to the westward, having discharged their lading, which is supposed to be ordnance stores.

25th.

Arrived the *St George* xebec, with a small supply from *Leghorn*, having on board twelve *Corficans*, including one officer, who have voluntarily come to of-

1782. fer their service in the defence of this place. They
 May mention that several more are preparing to embark on
 the same expedition.

26th. Arrived the *John, Tartan*, from *Leghorn*, with a
 supply of wine and oil. She brings intelligence, that
 we may be assured of a vigorous attack, as soon as the
Spanish ships are ready, which will be made so strong,
 and of such a nature, that they will neither burn nor
 batter.

The *Spanish* hospital last night took fire, and is en-
 tirely consumed.

27th. Wind S. E. Yesterday evening near one hundred
 sail of transports, and a bomb-ketch, arrived and an-
 chored between *Algaziras* and *Orange Grove*, and this
 morning we perceived they were very full of men,
 which are supposed to be troops.

28th. A considerable body of troops were landed from
 the transports this forenoon, and marched into the
Spanish camp. The enemy have hauled two transports
 in, and have began unrigging them. The two large
 ships that the enemy have been working at, have each
 of them fourteen or fifteen port-holes cut in their lar-
 board sides.

A flag of truce was received from *Spain*, but her
 message is mere conjecture with the public. Some
 say, she has brought a demand from the *Spanish* Ge-
 neral, for the surrendering of the Fortress; but this,

I am

an confident, never will be done, while we have an
 piece of bread, and a round of ammunition. 1782.
 May

An *English Tartan* was taken to the eastward and
 rved by the enemy into *Algaziras*, with her colours
 rved. It is asserted that this vessel is the one that
 rron *Pratt's* sailed from this port some time past to
 riers for supplies. 30th.

Our twelve gun-boats in *New-Mole-yard* are nearly
 rved : several are already in the water, and lye very
 rved.—We are very anxious to make trial of them with
 r enemy. A boat went out this day with a flag of
 r into the bay, with the Governor's answer to theirs,
 rived the 28th instant.

The ships at *Algaziras* are getting pretty forward ;
 a number of hands are employed upon them, but most
 of the garrison are of opinion, from their construction,
 that they will be found of very little use when they
 rnk our walls, as they never will be able to row
 r near enough to do any material execution, for
 rld they daringly come on, their boats will be ine-
 rably cut off by grape-shot from the garrison.

We shall have pretty sport soon—I hope to survive
 r send you an account of the particulars, wherein a
 rorious repulse, I trust, will be found ; and proba-
 r before you receive this letter, the battle will have
 r ten place, and the contest be decided.

With a heart glowing with zeal for the honor of my
 King,

1782. King, the welfare of Britain and her Dependencies
 May permit me to conclude, with the most brotherly love
 and esteem,

Yours, &c.

LETTER XXXIII.

GIBRALTAR

DEAR BROTHER,

June 1. **T**HE enemy labour constantly at equipping the stores
 ships for service—from the lights observed at
Algaziras last night, we imagine they were busy at
 work—the masts of most of them are taken out.

This morning died here, Brigadier General *Stanton*
 of the 97th regiment.

3d. Wind E. This day a convoy of near fifty sail
 different sizes, arrived from the eastward at *Algaziras*
 with stores and provision for the use of their army and
 navy. The cannonade continues pretty brisk on both
 sides, but we have had only a few wounded.

GARRISON ORDERS.

“ *The Royal Standard to be hoisted to-morrow—To*
 Govern

Governor desires to meet all the Officers not on duty, on 1782.
 their respective parades, at guard-mounting to-morrow, June
 to congratulate with them on the anniversary of His Ma-
 jesty's birth-day.

"Such ordnance to be fired at the enemy's works, as
 shall be ordered by the Commanding Officer of the Royal
 Artillery, beginning at one o'clock.

The Royal Standard was hoisted this morning on the 4th.
 Flag-staff in town, and on board the *Brilliant* in New
 Mole—at one o'clock the Northernmost batteries fired
 forty-four rounds of shot and shells upon the enemy's
 forts and works, in honor of his Majesty's birth-day.
 The shipping in the *New Mole*, and our twelve gun-
 boats arranged in a line from the *Tanks* to the pier of
 the *New Mole Head*, also performed a salute, and gave
 three cheers. The enemy maintained a brisk fire the
 whole day. The floating-batteries (or cork ships) at
Algaziras, are forwarding with all possible diligence.

A hot fire from the land batteries, upon our works 6th.
 and parties, which is as spiritedly returned from our
 heights.

Captain *Wideburg*, of *Reden's* regiment of Hano-
 verians, was wounded this day.

The Spaniards have a great many hands employed
 upon seven ships at *Algaziras*; most of them have ports
 cut in their sides, but none of them appear to be finished.

This forenoon our Artillery had some red hot shot ex- 7th.
 perimental

1782. perimental practice, at a vessel wrecked off *Prince*
 June *Orange's* battery, which succeeded pretty well. An
 unfortunate accident happened by a gun unexpectedly
 going off, which killed the gunner in the embrasure,
 and wounded three other men. A constant fire from
 the Rock Gun, upon the enemy's works on the isth-
 mus.

GARRISON ORDERS.

*“ One quarter and half of a pint of vinegar to be
 issued to every ration, till further orders.”*

The surgeons of the different corps are of opinion,
 that this will be a great preventative in the sad effects
 of the scurvy.

10th. The men employed upon the seven floating batteries
 work with the greatest assiduity, but as yet we cannot
 form any judgment of their utility or construction.

Early this morning the *Spanish* gun and mortar-boats
 made an excursion in the bay, and discharged their
 ordnance upon the garrison—They fired very warm
 for an hour and three quarters, during which time we
 had several men wounded. A soldier is missing, sup-
 posed to have deserted.

11th. This forenoon a thirteen-inch shell, fired from the
 enemy's works, fell upon a Magazine on *Princess Ann's*
 battery, where there were many men at work and on
 duty; it forced its way through the splinter-proof
 which covered the magazine-door, burst it open, and
 in

in the explosion blew up the magazine. Our loss on this occasion is as follows, viz. fifteen men killed, and twenty-one wounded, some of them in a dangerous way. Scarce had the explosion taken place, when the enemy began a cannonade and bombardment, from every battery they had any ordnance mounted in, particularly directed to the place where the accident had happened: The garrison kept pouring upon them heavy discharges of shot and shells, which they sustained with the firmest resolution.

The man missing the 10th instant, was taken this day by a party of men at the back of the rock, and sent on board the *Provost ship*, a place of safe confinement, as we have not a garrison goal.

The enemy labour excessive hard at their cork ships; their whole intention seems to be engaged in their equipment. It is supposed that in five or six weeks they will be completed and ready for action; but the enemy will never be able to get them off, whenever they cast anchor against the walls, so that if they are not successful in taking the place, they will be compelled to abandon them to our cannonade.

This day a soldier deserted from a guard at *Landport*; the centinels fired at him, but he made his escape.

Wind E. A *French* frigate convoying a number of small craft, arrived on the enemy's side from the eastward. About two this afternoon, a *Spanish* xebec was becalmed near the garrison. The southward batteries

B b

and

1782.
June.

and Prams at *New Mole Head* fired upon her, and Captain *Curtis* of the *Brilliant*, with 12 gun boats rowed out towards her. She perceiving her situation, fired a gun, as a signal for assistance, while our 12 gun boats kept constantly raking her. The enemy sent over several small cruizers to her relief, when unluckily a breeze sprung up, and they towed her out of the reach of our guns. Had it continued a calm much longer, she must have been under the necessity of striking.

15th.

The xebec that we engaged yesterday, is observed to be upon her keel, repairing the damages she received from our fire.

17th.

Wind E. A fettee from the eastward was carried in to *Algaziras* under *English* colours, by a *Spanish* cruizer, in all probability she was laden with cattle for the garrison, which is much wanted, and sells at a great price, beef four shillings and tenpence halfpenny per pound and mutton five shillings, and five shillings and two pence per pound. You may judge the scarcity, when a bullock before he is killed, almost every pound of him is purchased, and the liver sold for one shilling and threepence per pound at the slaughter-house door, where a crowd of women and children mostly are fighting for the same; it being termed by us a dainty dish when fried. A bullock's head, without a tongue, has been sold for seven dollars and a half, which is, according to the exchange of money, one pound three shillings and fourpence halfpenny, and the tongue for eight shillings and three half-pence.

GARRISON ORDERS.

“ When the advanced gun boats discover the approach

of the enemy's gun boats, they will fire a gun, and burn several false fires. If they should observe the approach of boats, which they suppose to contain troops, they will fire a gun, and throw up several rockets, when the men of war will beat to arms; and if the drummers of the guards and garrison have not beat to arms before, they will immediately take it up from the frigates."

Yesterday evening, Wind W. a ship of the line, three large store ships, and eight other vessels arrived at *Algaziras* from the westward. It is the general opinion of the garrison that the three large ships are for the purpose of making floating batteries, to co-operate with those now preparing over the way, as they are hauled under the land.

This afternoon, Wind S. E. three frigates, and between seventy and eighty transports under *French* colours, with troops on board, arrived and anchored on the enemy's side. We conjecture they have brought a reinforcement of near six thousand men. Our Prams fired several shot at four of the enemy's gun boats, that came within reach of the guns—a shot went through the sail of the head-moat, when they made off.

The troops arrived in the *French* transports have begun disembarking, several boats already landed at the pier of the *Orange Grove*. A vessel with a *Spanish* ensign above the *English* was carried into *Algaziras*. The enemy are busy in unrigging the three last store ships, and cutting down their sides. The fire from the land side continues.

1782.
June 21. A boat came over last night from *Algaziras* with two men, taken in the settee on the 17th; they cut the boat adrift and made their escape. They report that the *Spaniards* are in high spirits, and great expectation from ten cork ships which are getting ready with a possible expedition, whose strength and form will be impregnable both against shot and shells. We shall of course find stubborn work with them.

The *French* troops finished landing this day, and are encamped on the left of the *Spanish* army; they take up a considerable tract of ground. From accounts received, the enemy's land forces are now thirty thousand strong.

22d. The *Spaniards* are very busy on their ten cork ships and have cut down the sides of the three latter arrived. The land batteries have not discharged many shot this day, from which we imagine they are contemplating other works.

24th. The enemy have been silent these three days past every thing on the isthmus wears a different appearance. It is imagined that a new arrangement of affairs has taken place, and that *Duke de Crillon* succeeds *General Alvarez* in command. The enemy are still employed on the floating batteries.

27th. All quiet on the isthmus, excepting now and then shot for diversion, which sometimes we return, and sometimes not. Our Governor has taken this oppo-

tunt

unity of repairing and strengthening the works and 1782.
batteries. Several strong working parties employed to June.
the northward.

Little fire from the enemy. The floating batteries 29th.
are forwarded with incredible expedition. The enemy
have begun forming something over the deck of one
of them, intended, we suppose, for a splinter proof; time
will manifest the use of it.

I remain,

Dear brother,

Affectionately yours.

L E T T E R XXXIV.

GIBRALTAR. July 1.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy on the land side observe a great tran-
quillity, but for what reason we cannot deter-
mine, unless they are reserving their ammunition for
the day of attack. On our part we are well satisfied,
as it affords us the opportunity of repairing the works
that were shattered and damaged. This morning we
fired five or six shells upon the enemy's works, which
they answered with one shot.

The

1782. The construction of the cover of one of the floating batteries, is much resembling the roof of a house but at the distance they now are, I cannot pretend to give an exact description. The general opinion of the garrison is, that the enemy will find a great difficulty to bring them on, as they must be very heavy from the quantity of timber. The regiments in the garrison have been practising for several days, the firing of ball from the line wall at a target in the sea.

3d. One wing of the *Spanish* army struck their tents this morning, and removed to another part of the common, for convenience. Some few shot and shells from the enemy.

6th. The floating batteries are not yet complete; they have begun to roof a second, so that we imagine they will be all finished in the same manner. The enemy keep up a moderate cannonade.

GARRISON ORDERS.

“The men will receive six ounces of raisins or currants in lieu of a quarter of a pint of oil, till further orders.”

7th. Wind W. Early this morning a brig from the westward was discovered in the offing—The *Spanish* towers hung out the signal of an enemy, when a xebec and four gun boats pushed out—the boats soon came up with her, and began a fire, which she returned and kept them off—the xebec then bore down and boarded her manfully, and shortly after we observed a *Spanish* ensign hoisted above the *English*. She was conducted

in triumph to *Algaziras*. We feel a sensible uneasiness 1782.
 in not having a force sufficient to protect any vessel July.
 standing for the bay. It must be very distressing, after a
 vessel has escaped crossing the sea, to be taken in sight
 of their destined port, and sometimes almost within
 the reach of the garrison guns.

This afternoon arrived from the westward, and an-
 chored at *Cabritta*, a frigate and a xebec. We expect
 some other vessel is in sight of the coast.

The enemy continue working on the cork ships, 10th.
 roofing them over, which makes them have a very odd
 appearance. A serjeant is missing, supposed to have
 deserted.

This afternoon four men belonging to one of the 11th.
 Prams, went in a boat to the enemy. We fired at
 them, but too late to prevent their escape. The ser-
 jeant missing on the 10th, was found at the back of
 the rock, half way down, but for want of a rope could
 not get any further.

This morning a soldier deserted from *Queen's Lines* 13th.
Guard. A Prophet is taken up, and sent on board the
Provost ship. Like *Jonah* warning the city of *Ni-*
neveh, so he publicly avowed that within six weeks, six
 days, and six hours, from last Saturday at twelve o'clock,
 the garrison would be taken, and the Governor killed.
 He is a soldier belonging to the 73d regiment, and, at
 the expiration of the time, there is not any doubt but
 he will suffer for his folly.

This

1782. This morning came in a deserter from *Spain*: He
 July 14. says that there are forty-four battalions in camp; that
Duke de Crillon has made a thorough survey of all the
 works, and gone to *Madrid* to report to his Catholic
 Majesty. The enemy have not completed any of the
 floating batteries—They have begun this morning forming
 a boom across the harbour at *Algaziras*, for the
 protection of their shipping—We flatter ourselves that
 they are apprehensive of the arrival of our fleet.

16th. Wind W. The *French* convoy sailed to the eastward
 and the men of war are in readiness to weigh. The
 boom at *Algaziras* is lengthening considerably. From
 these circumstances, we conjecture that we shall shortly
 find relief. The floating batteries come on apace.

17th. The boom is lengthened about two thousand yards
 and covers all the floating batteries. The *Spanish*
 cruisers are very alert, and neither trust to colours or
 signals. The enemy have begun a battery near *Tarifa*,
 (from the account the deserter gives that came
 in on the 14th) and that six hundred men are detached
 for that purpose.

18th. Wind E. Six large boats arrived from the eastward
 at *Algaziras*—they appear to be new, and of the construction
 of their gun boats. The enemy keep working
 day and night at the floating batteries; the roof
 of one is quite finished, and is much like the top of a
 house, having a gradual ascent from head and stern.
 Three mortar boats came out of the river, and have
 gone

gone to the *Orange Grove*. On the land side, nothing new appears, and what work is done by the enemy, is within the batteries. A brisk fire from their forts. 1782. July.

The boom at *Algaziras* is extended the length of the town, and all the cruizers are on the inside; the bomb ketch which lay at the *Orange Grove*, weighed anchor, and has taken her station at the same place. The old pastime of shot and shells cannot be forgot, we keep playing away manfully. A sailor who happened to be in town when a shell burst over his head, exclaimed (with the usual oath, for which they are so much distinguished,) "*D—m me but the Spaniards have got a battery in the air.*" 19th.

All hands busy at work on the opposite shore—three of the floating batteries are roofed over. The regiments exchanged quarters this day. 21st.

Wind W. A large xebec arrived and anchored at *Algaziras*. The enemy have nearly roofed another of the floating batteries, and the three last that were taken in hand, are in great forwardness. 23d.

The serjeant taken at the back of the rock on the 11th, was executed for the same, and died with penitence becoming his unhappy situation. 24th.

Wind strong E. Arrived the *St Philip's Castle*, and *General Murray* sloop of war, from *Leghorn*—They have brought provision for the garrison, with five officers and seventy-five *Corficans*. They bring the agree-

1782. able intelligence of Admiral Rodney having defeated
July. the *French*, and taken the *Ville de Paris* of 110 guns, with four other line of battle ships. Our Governor ordered a salvo from the batteries, and a *feu de joye* to be fired, which you will perceive by the

GARRISON ORDERS.

“ Parole RODNEY. *A feu de joye to be fired this day to celebrate the victory gained by his Majesty's fleet under the command of Sir George Rodney, over the French fleet in the West Indies. All the ordnance from the rock guns to Princess Carolina's, inclusive, to be fired at one o'clock, beginning at the rock gun spotted. At six in the evening, the regiments will take post on the line wall, in the following order, drawn up two deep.*

“ *The 72d regiment right to the Prince Hesse's battery: 12th join the left of 72d, the two town companies of artillery on the King's bastion; the 39th on the left of the 12th, Lieutenant-General Reden's left of 39th; Major-General La Motte's left of Reden's; 73d right at Rugged-stuff, 56th on the left of 73d; the three south companies of Royal Artillery, in the New Mole fort—Two rockets will be thrown up on the right, as a signal to begin the first round—Two from the left, when the fire returns from thence for the second round; and two more from the right for the third round. Three cheers when the firing is finished, to begin on the right, and pass along in the same manner as the firing did.*”

The shipping and gun-boats fired and cheered at one
o'clock.

o'clock, and the greatest spirit and satisfactory joy crowned the whole. 1782. July.

I hope this success will contribute to distress and dispirit our foes, who, vaunting of their power, bluster and threaten, and claim victory as their own. Their impregnable floating batteries will shortly be tried, and, though the *Spanish* gazettes boast of unborn achievements, yet there is not the least doubt but our red hot pills will effectually answer our purpose. They must be of an amazing construction, if blazing twenty-four and thirty-two pounders will not burn them. Of this the day of trial will decide.

This being *St James's* day, the enemy's ships were dressed and saluted three times——The enemy roofed over another floating battery.

Wind West. Arrived a small sloop from *Portugal* 26th. with wine and fruit. She has brought a confirmation of the glorious defeat of the *French*. The enemy endeavoured to take her, but were too late in getting out.

The floating batteries come rapidly on, another of them is roofed over. The enemy devote their whole time and study to get them finished, and work day and night. On our part, as we are convinced they are intended to attack the place, we as anxiously wish for their speedy equipment, to give the decisive stroke, and to determine whether *Britannia* or *Gaul* and *Iberia* shall be victorious. It will be hot and stubborn work if they are of the strength that is reported, namely,

1782. *bomb proof* that will resist a shell which weighs two
 July. hundred before it is discharged from the mortar, and
 when it descends, is supposed to fall thirty tons
 weight.

I am, Dear Brother,

Yours, &c.

L E T T E R XXXV.

Their blooming hopes soar high in this delusion,
 To gain possession of this envied place,
 And on the battlements Spain's ensigns spread.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1782. **T**HE foe, ere long, will make their promised
 Aug. 4. storm—their batteries are completed, and their
 junk-ships almost ready. A numerous army encamped,
 and boats for landing their troops are in the rivers. It
 is probable that this month will be the grand decision
 of the combat, and we heartily wish it, as we are almost
 worn out with constant toils, harassing expectations,
 and a severe cannonade.

The enemy have brought several fire-ships out of
 the rivers; the floating batteries have a very ugly and
 odd

appearance: We think they were mounting ord- 1782.
 nance in one to-day, as a great number of boats were August.
 on the long side.

The *Corficans* that arrived here from *Leghorn*, are
 formed into a company, *viz.*

Signor *Antonio Leonettie*, Captain; *Phillippo Mas-*
saio, Captain Lieutenant; *Georgio Alexandria Mi-*
li, First Lieutenant; *Leonardo Monti*, Adjutant,
 with the rank of Lieutenant; *Angelo Raffaelli*, Second
 Lieutenant; *Lugi Cotie*, Chaplain; four Serjeants,
 four Corporals, two Drummers, and 68 private men.
 Total, eighty-four.

A deserter from the enemy came in, and says, that the 7th.
 mounting batteries are almost ready; and that one has
 been tried with ball, and answers their expectation.

Wind West. Arrived two vessels under Imperial 8th.
 colours, from the westward at *Algaziras*, and the line
 of battle ship sailed from that place to the *Orange*
tree, supposed to take in powder and stores. The
 mounting batteries are very near finished. The enemy
 are with spirit from the land side.

Wind E. This day arrived a *French* twenty gun
 ship, on the opposite side. Several parties are employ-
 ed on the strand, beyond the *Spanish* lines, we suppose,
 for the purpose of erecting a battery, they being ap-
 prehensive of a visit in that part, whenever our fleet
 arrives.

The

1782. The ship that came in yesterday, has removed
 Aug. 11. the *Orange Grove*, probably to discharge her cargo.
 The enemy keep labouring at their junk-ships, and have
 taken the masts out of one of them, but most people
 of opinion they will never be able to bring them out
 without sails.

12th. The enemy have put smaller masts into the
 that they dismasted yesterday, and are very busy rigging
 her—From this it is evident they mean to sail to the
 anchorage. From what opinion we can at present form
 we imagine, from their closeness and wanting air, that
 they will find an inconvenience in working their galleys
 with briskness.

13th. Wind W. Sailed the *Eliza* brig for *Leghorn*. Two
 vessels arrived under Imperial colours, sailed to
Orange Grove. The enemy are very busy in rigging
 two of the floating batteries.

14th. Arrived a frigate, under *French* colours, from the
 westward at *Algaziras*—Four gun-boats fired at her
 apprehending she was an enemy, until she displayed her
 colours.

The enemy have taken out the masts of four of the
 batteries, and replaced them with others much smaller
 the two that were rigging have bent their sails—We
 imagine they will shortly all of them be ready.

During the course of last night, the enemy erected
 a work composed of sand bags, extending obliquely
 f:

from the eastern shore, towards the centre of the Spanish lines. It is computed from its length and height, and having so short a space of time to complete it in, only about six hours darkness, that there was not less than ten thousand men employed in the execution of it. — At present it is masked, but there is not the least doubt but the enemy intend it for a battery.

The enemy have hauled out one of their floating batteries, being perfectly finished; she has a very awkward and surprising appearance, and lies very low in the water. — They are very attentive in equipping the others. Wind W. arrived a cutter from the westward, and saluted the Admiral with eleven guns, which he returned with three. A tolerable brisk cannonade from the enemy's forts and li es.

About eleven o'clock this forenoon, the enemy made a grand display in the bay — seven barges, with crimson awnings, proceeded from *Algaziras*, attended by twelve gun-boats to the *Orange Grove* — In half an hour after their arrival, they put off in the same order, upon which the shipping immediately dressed, and the Admiral gave a salute of twenty-one guns — the other shipping also fired, and the gun-boats each of them discharged their ordnance. A frigate got under weigh from *Algaziras*, and under a gentle sail went to meet the barges, which, when she had come half way, she gave a salute of twenty-one guns; the gun-boats fired alternately, until the barges got to *Algaziras*, when another royal salute was given. The barges then went

on

1-82. on board the junk-ship hauled out yesterday, and a discharge of cannon continued while the visitors remained on board—Having gratified their curiosity the examination of the floating battery, they went on board the Admiral's ship to dine, and regale themselves, and drink a hearty bumper in success to the undertaking, where they continued till six o'clock in the evening, when, in the same procession they came in they returned to the pier at the *Orange Grove*, and, on their landing, another salute was given.—Some are of opinion that this rejoicing is occasioned by the arrival of a Prince of the Blood, and others, that it is the Admiral who is to command the floating batteries.

19th. This forenoon a flag of truce from the *Orange Grove* came over, and rowed along pretty near our line until she came opposite *Ragged-staff*, when one of our boats went out with Captain *Vallotin* of the 56th regiment, (chief Aid-de-camp to the Governor) and spoke to her, and soon afterwards returned.—The boat kept very close in with the shore, making a survey of the works, when the *Repulse*, (an advanced gun-boat) fired a shot as a caution for her to keep her proper distance.—Soon after Captain *Vallotin* returned to the flag of truce which brought a handsome present of fruit and game for the Governor, from Count de *Artois*, whose arrival in the *Spanish* camp occasioned yesterday's rejoicing.—The floating batteries are rigging with the utmost expedition. The day of trial is very near at hand, I hope we shall acquit ourselves in the defence of this place with honour and success.

This morning our Governor sent out a flag of truce to the enemy, with a return for the present received yesterday. I am confidently told, it consisted of a cask of beef, pork, and butter, a cheese, a puncheon of rum, a sheep and a goat, some poultry, and a quantity of potatoes, "with the General's compliments to the Count, thanking him for his kindness, and assuring him that he did not want any refreshments." This was policy, and to make the enemy believe that our situation was not so deplorable as they imagined, though I assure you that the boat load we sent out, would have been considered a very valuable acquisition by many opulent families in this place.

1782.

Aug.

Wind E. This morning we observed the *Eliza* brig that sailed from hence on the 13th, returning from the eastward under a *Spanish* ensign, and also thirteen large boats, which we imagine are for the purpose of landing troops; from their size, it is not improbable but each of them may contain five hundred men.—Six of the floating batteries are almost rigged—two completely equipped for battle.

21st.

This afternoon our batteries poured upon the enemy's works a considerable discharge of shot, shells, and carcasses, and had the satisfaction to set the enemy's advanced isthmus work on fire, which burnt most furiously for an hour or better. A brisk fire was maintained on both sides with the firmest spirit and bravery, and the enemy were several times drove off their works, and forced to abandon a battery on the left of *St Carlos*,

22d.

D d

termed

1782. termed the *Mabon* battery. We fired from the garri-
 Aug. son, in the space of an hour, near fourteen hundred
 rounds—the cannonade continued furious till nine o'clock,
 when the enemy rather slackened their fire. We had
 only three men wounded, but judge what loss the foe
 must have sustained, as they had a body of near two
 thousand men employed, in endeavouring to extinguish
 the fire.

23d. The enemy have roofed another floating battery, and
 are rigging those that are already roofed ; one of them
 appears to have about twenty-six ports on one side.
 Our batteries keep playing away upon the isthmus, and
 we have been using every means to fire the enemy's
 works again, but all ineffectually.

24th. The sand-bag work erected on the 16th instant, con-
 sists of four batteries of sixteen guns each. The enemy
 are busy in nailing down their platforms, and getting
 all things in readiness to mount the ordnance—They
 will be able to scour our lines, and advanced posts,
 from this work ; in the rear of which they are forming
 bomb batteries, so resolutely determined are they upon
 the capture of the old rock.

25th. The enemy had a rejoicing to-day on the sea-side—
 In the morning at sun-rise, the ships dressed, and fired,
 as did also the island near *Algaziras*—This was repeated
 again at noon, and at the going down of the sun. The
 floating batteries are almost ready.

The

The *St Philip's Castle*, and the ordnance store ship-
 ping that lay in *Rosia Bay*, hauled in this morning to
 the *New Mole*. The bay on our side is quite clear,
 as all our ships are now within the boom. From the
 situation of the place, it is whispered that the seamen
 are to be landed, and incorporated into a brigade, to
 act as soldiers within the walls, under the command of
 Captain *Curtis*, as Colonel. The enemy have eight of
 their floating batteries roofed—The day of battle is nigh
 at hand.

1782.
 Aug.
 26th.

This morning a deserter came in from *Spain*, and
 brings advice that the enemy have every preparation
 made on the land side for the assault, and that they are
 only waiting for the junk-ships, when they mean to
 attack us in every quarter—He also says that eight line
 of battle ships are expected from *Cadiz*, to act in con-
 junction with the *floatees*. He was taken prisoner at
Minorca, by *Duke de Crillon*, and enlisted into a *French*
 regiment, but not liking to fight against his King and
 country, embraced the first opportunity of making his
 escape.

27th.

Wind W. Arrived at *Algaziras*, six line of battle
 ships, two xebecs and a cutter. The ninth floating
 battery is almost roofed, but is much smaller than the
 others.

28th.

The deserter that came in yesterday, says, that on
 the night of the 16th, he was among the number that
 helped to erect the sand-bag work, and from the ac-
 counts in the *Spanish* camp, there was about eleven

1782. thousand men employed to effect it; that had we fired
 Aug. towards the eastern shore, the greatest part must have
 been cut off.

29th. The crews of the men of war and other shipping in
New Mole are landed, and employed in bringing their
 stores on shore. The seamen are in good spirits, and
 swear bitterly against the Dons.—This little reinforce-
 ment will be of great service to us. The enemy fire
 brisk on the land side.

GARRISON ORDERS.

30th. “*The officers and crews of his Majesty’s ships being
 landed, are to be encamped at Europa, and to form the
 Marine Brigade. Captain Curtis commanding his Ma-
 jesty’s ships in the Mediterranean, is appointed to serve as
 Brigadier General.*”

You would smile to view the tars handling their fire-
 locks, and marching full accoutred; the boatswain’s pipe
 —all hands aloft,—brace the yards, tacks and sheets,
 &c. are no longer heard,—the glittering beauties of
 the parade engage the attention, while whistling winds
 and roaring billows are forgotten. Thus military e-
 quipped, they long for battle, to perform their evolu-
 tions and manœuvres, which on a parade might excite
 laughter, but amidst blazing cannon, and clouds of smoke
 every awkward appearance will be hid—If they prim
 and load expeditiously, it is all that will be required
 nor will they need to rest, shoulder, or poise.

I remain,

Dear brother,

Affectionately yours.

P. S. Inclosed are the copies of two letters, said to be written by the *Duke de Crillon*, and his Excellency *General Elliot*, on the 19th and 20th instant, which I hope will give you the satisfaction they did me.

Camp of Buenavista, August 19. 1782.

S I R,

HIS Royal Highness *Comte d'Artois*, who has received permission from the King, his brother, to assist at the Siege as a Volunteer in the combined Army, of which their most Christian and Catholic Majesties have honoured me with the command, arrived in this camp the 15th instant. This young Prince has been pleased, in passing through *Madrid*, to take charge of some letters which had been sent to that capital from this, and which are addressed to persons belonging to your garrison—His Royal Highness has desired that I would transmit them to you, and that, to this mark of his goodness and attention, I should add the strongest expressions of esteem for your person and character. I feel the greater pleasure in giving this mark of condescension in this august Prince, as it furnishes me with a pretext, which I have been anxiously looking for these two months, that I have been in this camp, to assure you of the high esteem I have conceived for your Excellency, of the immense desire I feel of deserving yours, and of the pleasure to which I look forward, of becoming

becoming

1782. becoming your friend, after I shall have learnt to re-
 Aug. der myself worthy of the honour of facing you as an
 enemy. His Highness the *Duke de Bourbon*, who arrived here twenty-four hours after *Comte d' Artois*, desired also that I should assure you of his particular esteem.

Permit me, dear General, to offer you a few little trifles for your table, of which, I am sure, you must stand in need, as I know you live entirely upon vegetables. I should be glad to know what kind you like best. I shall add a few partridges, for the Gentlemen of your household, and some rye, which I presume will not be disagreeable in the excessive heat of this climate, at this season of the year—I hope you will be obliging enough to accept the small present I send with this letter.

I have the honour to be, &c.

His Excellency General Elliot, &c.

GIBRALTAR, AUG. 20.

S I R,

I FIND myself highly honoured by your obliging letter of yesterday, in which your Excellency was so kind as to inform me of the arrival in your camp, of his Royal Highness the *Comte d' Artois*, and the *Duke de Bourbon*, to serve as volunteers at the siege. These Princes have shewn their judgment in making choice of a master in the Art of War, whose abilities cannot fail to make great Warriors. I am really overwhelmed with the condescension of his Royal Highness, in suffering some letters, for persons in this town, to be conveyec

conveyed from *Madrid* in his Carriages. I flatter myself, that your Excellency will give my most profound respects to his Royal Highness, and the *Duke de Sarbon*, for the expressions of esteem with which they have been pleased to honour so insignificant a person as I am.

I return a thousand thanks to your Excellency for your handsome present of fruits, vegetables, and game; you will excuse me however, I trust, when I assure you, that, in accepting your present, I have broken through a resolution which I had faithfully kept since the beginning of the war; and that was, never to receive, or procure, by any means whatever, any provisions, or other commodity, for my own private use, so that, without any preference, every thing is sold publicly here, and the private soldier (if he has money) can become a purchaser as soon as the Governor. I confess I make it a point of honour to partake both of plenty and scarcity, in common with my brave fellow-soldiers; this furnishes me with an excuse for the liberty I now take of intreating your Excellency not to heap any more favours on me of this kind, as in future I cannot convert your presents to my own private use. Indeed, to explain with your Excellency, though vegetables at this season be scarce with us, every one has got a quantity proportioned to the labour he has bestowed in raising them—The *English* are naturally fond of gardening and cultivation, and here we find our amusement in it, during the intervals of rest from public duty.

The

1782. The promise which the *Duke de Crillon* makes to he
 Aug. nour me, in proper time and place, with his friendship
 lays me under infinite obligations—the interests of our
 Sovereigns being once solidly settled, I shall, with
 eagerness, embrace the first opportunity to avail myself
 of so precious a treasure.

I have the honour to be, &c.

His Excellency Duke de Crillon, &c.

L E T T E R XXXVI.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

Sept. 1. **T**HE action has not yet taken place, though every
 day adds fresh convincing proofs of a speedy
 termination. The enemy strenuously exert themselves
 both by land and sea ; they have hauled out five of the
 floating batteries in a line with the first, having bent
 their sails, and otherwise rigged them. On the isthmus
 is a battery almost within pistol shot, sufficient
 itself

To strike with awe a legion of infernals,

When told they must withstand its mighty foaming

In the camp of *Santa Roque*, is an army of five
 thousand

thousand men, not worn out with the heavy toils of 1782. war, but healthful and vigorous, while our Garrison, Sept. deprived of all nourishment, and almost as feeble as old age for want of succour, can muster very few more than five thousand men and boys, including sick, wounded, and disabled, to repulse the efforts of such a superior force.

But as we're actors—*Europe* the spectators,
I trust we shall perform in this great cause,
As men determin'd to maintain the right
Of *George* our King, and *Briton's* fame and welfare.
Although the foe have made a hec't'ring boast,
That each discharge from land and sea we'll find,
Two thousand shot and shells from guns and mortars;
Will constantly be show'ring on the garrison.

Wind E. Two *French* line of battle ships, which 3d. seemingly stood for the westward, came into *Algaziras*, and a frigate's speaking to them.

The enemy's naval force now stands thus:—Nine ships of the line, three frigates, four xebecs, eight galleys, two cutters, one *French* ship twenty guns, nine floating batteries complete, one ditto almost finished, one bomb-ketch, about one hundred gun and mortar-boats, besides boats for landing troops.

The enemy have been assiduously employed in mounting 6th. 24 pound guns in their sixty-four gun battery—We have kept up almost an incessant fire from the rock-gun upon it, but it being so thick covered over with sand, the shot makes very little penetration. An additional field officer is

E e

ordered

1782. ordered to take post in the lines, and a reinforcement
 Sept. to the *New-Mole* guard. The *Corfican* company that
 were embodied August 4th are ordered for duty to-
 morrow. Every one that is able to fire a musquet, or
 carry a shot, must take post upon any alarm. The
 tenth floating battery is roofed, and they have begun
 to rig her—a few days more, and then we shall fall to
ding-dong.

7th. Three of the floating-batteries loosed their sails, and
 got under way, they proceeded to the *Orange Grove*, and
 were near three hours in performing their passage, not-
 withstanding they had a favourable wind: They appear
 to be very heavy and ill-going vessels—I suppose there
 was not a perspective in the garrison but what was em-
 ployed in the examination of their form and rigging

GARRISON ORDERS.

“*The marine brigade to take Europa advance, and
 Little-bay guards to-morrow.*”

Reinforcements are ordered likewise to *Prince's-lines*
Landport, Waterport, Main and Ragged-staff guards.

8th. This morning Lieutenant General *Boyc* took post
 on the grand-battery, having command of all the bat-
 teries, and the necessary arrangements being made from
 the rock-gun to the *Old-mole-head*, we began a furious
 cannonade of red-hot-balls upon the enemy's *Mahon*
 battery, (mounted with six pieces of ordnance) and
 other lines of approach, together with a supply of shell
 and carcasses—The most intoxicating joy gained pos-
 session

sion of the soldiery, and every heart and hand was 1782.
 cheerfully employed; and while gazing crowds who had Sept.
 taken post upon *Andalusia's* hills, beheld the volleys of
 destruction that flew in showers, and the sad effects that
 were productive of the red flaming-balls, our men re-
 sisted, and made a pastime of the dire employ. The
 withstood our fire with intrepidity, until most of their
 works and thirteen-gun battery next the bay were
 blazing in several places, and strewed over with mang-
 led limbs and dead bodies. Several parties appeared
 upon their glacis, and in an undaunted manner tore up
 the fascines—Some kept pouring of baskets of sand
 upon the parts that were on fire, and others running to
 the sea for buckets of water. Thus they stood, while
 showers of balls fell on every side, and many were ob-
 served to be knocked off the works. I assure you it
 was a horrid scene of slaughter, and the enemy were
 constrained to cease their cannonade to save the remain-
 der of their men. The fire continued in this spirited
 manner from seven till near one o'clock, during which
 we had several killed and wounded, among whom are
 Lieutenant *Boag* of the Royal Artillery, and Ensign
Gordon, of the 58th regiment, but not mortally. The
 battery which mounted thirteen pieces of cannon was
 entirely consumed.

This morning, between four and five o'clock, the 9th.
 enemy opened their sixty-four and other batteries (a-
 mounting to about one hundred and thirty pieces of
 cannon and eighty mortars) with the greatest spirit
 upon the garrison, which we immediately answered—

1782. Their sixty-four gun battery was an incessant volley
 Sept. the whole time, which lasted most of the day, and the
 distance being so short, their shot reached the wall
 almost as soon as you perceived the flash; the discharge
 was so fast that the balls rolled along the streets by
 dozens; this was by way of retaliation for the unex-
 pected compliment we paid them yesterday. Lieutenant
Wharton of 73d regiment, and several men wounded.
 The enemy remove their floating batteries to the *Orange*
Grove as fast as they get them ready—there are two of
 them that have not got their sails bent.

Wind E. Their line of battle ships, nine in num-
 ber, viz, seven *Spanish* and two *French*, accompanied
 by a xebec and frigate, stretched over in a line from
 the *Orange Grove* this forenoon, and fired upon the
 garrison until they passed *Europa*, when they tacked
 again, and returned firing the same way, they then stood
 to the opposite side, where they lay with their sails loose
 until near sun-set, when they again stretched over and
 under a gentle sail directed their fire on the southward
 in the same manner as before, continuing their course
 to the eastward, at which time their gun-boats came
 over and rowed in a line under the *King's Bastion*, and
 began a fire, but our batteries gave them such a smart
 reception, that they found it convenient to withdraw.
 The 97th regiment, which landed last March, are or-
 dered to do duty.

10th. About one o'clock this morning, the nine line of
 battle ships returned from the eastward, and fired upon
Europa

Europa and the southward encampments : They con- 1782.
 tinued a brisk cannonade until they came near the Sept.
King's Bastion, when they stood over to the *Orange*
Grove and anchored—several seamen at *Europa* and
 others, were wounded thereby. They repeated this
 manœuvre again this forenoon, but they having been
 frequently struck by our shot, they have come to an
 anchor on their own side, where we observe two of
 them repairing. From the land-side, they also maintain
 a brisk cannonade, and their sixty-four gun battery re-
 presents an entire blaze—It is apprehended that we
 shall suffer considerably from this work.

Between nine and ten o'clock this evening, the ene- 11th.
 ny advanced to *Bay-side*, and set fire to the palisadoes
 at that place, which burnt very freely for some time,
 when one of them again advanced, observing it rather
 decaying, and put fresh fire to those that were not
 consumed, notwithstanding the guards in the lines and
 at the advanced posts, discharged their musquetry upon
 him : The gun and mortar boats came over at the same
 time, and poured in a brisk salute of shells and shot for
 above two hours—Some few killed and wounded upon
 the occasion.

This morning we perceived a great part of the pal- 12th.
 lisadoes burnt down, sufficient to admit eight men
 abreast.—From this circumstance we imagine they will
 not be long before they make the assault. From the
 isthmus and forts they keep a constant fire, and this
 morning, as I came off *Landport Guard*, crossing the
Esplanade,

1782. *Esplanade*, I observed a soldier before me, lying on
 Sept. the ground, and his head somewhat raised, and supported on his elbows; I ran to him, (imagining the man had life, and lifted him up, when such a sight was displayed to my view, that I think I never shall forget—a twenty-six pound ball had gone through his body, and his intrails as they hung out from the orifice were of a most disagreeable resemblance; whether it was from the force of the ball, or their natural colour, I cannot pretend to determine—The shot from the enemy was dropping on every side, and as I found his life was gone, I left him on the same spot, and made the best of my way to the southward.—A party of men buried him soon afterwards. The floating batteries at the *Orange Grove* have been taking in stores, &c. yesterday and to-day. The other two have also arrived there.

Several boats have been brought out of the rivers to the *Orange-Grove*; some of them seem to have a kind of a cover, which we suppose is to shelter them from our musquetry, when they come near the shore. The wind being westerly, we shall expect the junk ships to embrace this opportunity. The enemy have erected stands or booths around the shore, lined with crimson or scarlet, where the nobles and grandees will take their seats.

A report is just circulated that a fleet is observed in the gut—we hope it is the *British* coming to our relief—every one seems impatient to discover their colours:

lours : A gentleman who has been taking a view says 1782.
they are *French* and *Spanish* men of war ; if so our fate Sept.
is inevitable.

The fleet are now distinguishable by the naked eye, they are ships of force, under *French* and *Spanish* colours, standing for the bay. The garrison are greatly agitated and disappointed in their expectations. Will you believe me, Brother, there is forty-four sail of the line, exclusive of the nine already on the station, who are now anchoring between *Algaziras* and the *Orange-Grove*. If we can withstand this force we may bid defiance to all the world,

This afternoon the gun and mortar-boats came daringly on, as much as to say, "*Ye dogs. surrender,*" but luckily a shot struck one of them, when she disappeared—the rest soon afterwards retired. Major *Lewis* of the Royal Artillery was wounded this day.

A reinforcement is ordered to *Queen's-lines* and to the different picquets, nine of which are to take post in town.

That our enemies may be defeated, is the sincere and hearty wish of

Your loving Brother.

LETTER,

LETTER XXXVII.

GIBRALTAR,

Seven o'clock in the morning.

DEAR BROTHER,

1782. **T**O Arms! to Arms! is all the cry—the ene-
 Sept. my's floating batteries have weighed anchor, and
 13th. are now under sail with a fine breeze at N. W. Their
 colours wanton in the wind with gaudy decorations
 for the battle, while thousands of spectators from you
 glittering shore, impatient wait to triumph in their
 success. They have now tacked with their heads to-
 wards the garrison, and, what is remarkable, they work
 them without a man being exposed or seen.

• • • • •

Half past Nine o'Clock.

The floating batteries have just brought to, between
 the *Old-Mole* and *South-Bastion*, within eight hundred
 yards

yards of the walls, a very bold manœuvre——adieu! 1782.
 Victory or Death will crown our cause——The gar- Sept.
 nison have begun firing upon them——the bay and
 rock cannot be described by words.



Half past Eleven at Night.

Tired and fatigued, I sit down to let you know that the battle is our own, and that we have set the enemy's ships on fire. When they came on at nine o'clock this morning, they proceeded successively to their different stations, and as they moored began to fire with the utmost vivacity; at the same time we began a discharge of cold shot upon them, but to our great astonishment we found they rebounded from their sides and roofs, even a thirteen inch shell would not penetrate one! however, we were not much disheartened, altho' we had several killed, but with all possible speed we kindled fires in our furnaces, and put in our pills of thirty two pound weight to *roast*. If you could have peeped over the rock, and viewed our several employs, you could not have forbore smiling; some stationed to work the guns like Ethiopians black by rubbing their faces with their hands dirtied with powder—the sons

1782. of Vulcan were blowing and sweating, while others
 Sept. were allotted to carry the blazing balls, on an iron
 instrument made for that purpose, but as these did not
 afford a sufficient supply for the batteries, wheel-barrow
 were procured, fill'd with sand, and half a dozen shot
 thrown into each. The fire was returned on our part
 without intermission, and equally maintained by the
 foe, but the continual discharge of red hot balls, kept
 up by us, was such, as rendered all the precautions
 taken by the enemy in the construction of the *flotantes*
 of no effect, for the balls lodging in their sides, in
 length of time, spread the fire throughout — This we
 found to be the case repeatedly during the day, though
 the foe frequently kept it under, but a continuance of
 the same inconvenience, rendered it impossible at last to
 work their guns. Just at the close of day-light, we
 observed one of the largest to be on fire in several places,
 and soon after another in the same condition. This
 gave the troops additional courage, and the fire was
 redoubled upon the remaining eight. The *Spanish* land
 batteries co-operated with a view of dividing our at-
 tention, and to flank the different parts of the garrison
 that were pouring their discharges on the junk ships,
 but this did not effectually accomplish their designs, as
 the ordnance mounted on the heights of *Willis's*, &c.
 supported a hot cannonade upon their works, which
 tended to abate their fire. We had the inconsolable loss
 of Capt. *Rever* of the Royal Artillery, killed; Capt.
Grove Seward, and Lieut. *Godfrey* of ditto; Lieutenant
Wilham of 58th, and Captain *Alexander M'Kenzie* of
 73d regiments, wounded, beside several non-commis-
 sioned officers and men killed and wounded.

What

What with the heat of the day, the forges, furnaces, ^{1782.} and piles of flaming shot, amidst clouds of smok and ^{Sept. 13.} sulphur, accompanied with heavy toil, you may judge we found ourselves very feeble and thirsty; and in this situation a drink of water, which was all the allowance, could scarce be procured. An * Officer (who commanded a battery) observing the men at the guns almost exhausted with drought, he chearsfully took a keg, (which holds about a pail) went to the fountain, filled it with water, and brought it through the enemy's fire to the men on the battery.

One o'clock in the morning.

The floating batteries have ceased firing, and one of them has just broke out in flames, the hands on board them are throwing rockets as signals for assistance— Captain *Curtis*, with a body of seamen, has just arrived at the *New Mole*, to man our gun boats to prevent the enemy from escaping.——A report is now received, that an officer and eleven men were drove on shore upon a piece of timber, being part of a floating castle that was sunk by a shell from the garrison, as she was steering to co-operate with the *floatees*.

Day break.

Our bay appears a scene of horror and conflagration, ^{14th.} the foe are bewailing their perilous situation, whilst our gun-boats are busily employed in saving the unhappy victims from surrounding flames and threatening death,

F f 2

although

* Lieutenant Galpin of 72d Regiment.

1782. although the enemy from their land batteries inhumanly discharged their ordnance upon our tars to prevent their affording them relief. But never was bravery more conspicuous; for notwithstanding the imminent dangers which were to be apprehended from so daring an enterprize, yet our boats rowed along side of the floating batteries, (though the flames rushed out of their port holes) and dragged the sufferers from their desperate state—the contempt paid by the *British* tars to the enemy's fire, of round and grape shot, and shells, will ever do honour to *Old England*.—Our gun boats have been chasing two of the enemy's small craft, who had left the floating batteries, but have only captured one.

To hear the lamentation of the crews,
 The groans, the cries, that through the flames re-
 sound,
 Imploring our assistance from the danger,
 Of fire and water—ready to devour,
 Words are too weak to give a just description!
 One of their ships blew up with dreadful noise,
 While *Curtis* grappled to her scorching sides,
 The blazing beams, the masts, the yards and car-
 riages
 In the explosion scatter'd in the air,
 And cover'd o'er the sea with foaming wreck.

Seven o'clock.

The enemy's ships are blowing up one after another half full of men, and our boats having staid as long as possible, they are now returning with a body of prisoners

prisoners. A remarkable instance of providence I cannot help mentioning—A young boy on board one of the floating batteries, (which was almost in an entire Maze,) observing our boats making for shore, got upon the head, wept and cry'd, and in the *Spanish* tongue called for help; his intreaties prevailed, and one of our boats, notwithstanding the immense danger which threatened, rowed towards him, which he perceiving, jumped into the sea, and at that very instant the ship exploded, with the greatest part of the hands on board.—The boat soon after took the boy up.

Eight o'Clock.

Captain *Curtis* is arrived at *New Mole* with about four hundred prisoners, including officers, some of them miserably wounded and scorched. The boat that he was in, overfet in the explosion of the first floating battery, by which his coxswain was lost. As the *Spanish* officers came past a furnace at the *New Mole*, in which there was about one hundred red hot balls, and some of them melted with the excessive heat, they shrugged their shoulders, and gave a piteous groan at what their eyes beheld.

Our seamen are bringing the trophies of victory on shore, one has just landed with the Royal Standard of *Spain*, which was intended by the foe to be hoisted on these battlements. The hills and heights were covered with spectators, when the tars began their procession, incessant shouts and repeated acclamations continued from the *Mole* to the *South parade*, where the
Governor

1782. Governor and principal officers were congratulated Sept. 14. each other on the occasion, to whom they carried the colours, which sensibly pleased our gallant chief who joined the croud in three cheers, and presented the tars with some gold as a reward.

Each heart and soul's inflam'd with highest pleasure
 To view *Iberia's* ensigns in our hands ;
 While every *Briton* crowds around the standard,
 To prize the grand display of glorious conquest.
 Some smile——then view——carefs——admire.—
 shake hands,
 And, with a heart felt zeal, recount the battle ;
King George and victory re-echoes round,
 While *Andalusia's* shore weeps at the sound.

Nine o'Clock.

The prisoners, as they land, are escorted to *Wind Mill Hill*, except the wounded, who are conducted to the *Naval Hospital*, where every care and tenderness will be shewn them—some of them really were most horrid spectacles, one in particular I cannot help mentioning, who was carried by four men on a handbarrow.—He had received a wound on his face, so that his nose and eyes seemingly were separated from his head, hanging by a piece of skin, and the motion of the men that carried him occasioned its flapping backwards and forwards much resembling a mask. Though he must have felt the most sensible agony, yet he looked round him with great complacency, as he passed the numerous crowds of People.

Ten o'Clock.

1782.

The floating batteries have not all exploded—One Sept. 14. of them has almost burnt to the waters edge, the crew having thrown the powder overboard. The enemy's land batteries maintain their cannonade upon the garrison, spitting forth their venom'd rage, while on the opposite shore confusion and consternation visibly appears. The Nobles and Grandees who had assembled to view the capture of the place are withdrawing from the *Spanish* camp, to carry the direful news to *Philip's* court, who impatient waits to hear the expected joyful tidings; but what will be his surprize, when they announce that the all *victorious impregnable flotantes* are lost, and that flaming balls effected their ruin.

Our Governor, to please the soldiery and inhabitants, has directed the Spanish standard to be reversed and tied to a gun on the south parade. It must be a galling vexation to our foes to behold their Royal Flag so ignobly displayed, and made the sport of a multitude.

Four o'Clock in the afternoon.

The last battery has just exploded off the *Old Mole Head*; our red hot shot had not fired her, and it being found impracticable to warp her in here, it was judged expedient to detach a boat to set her in flames, which accordingly they effected without any injury from the land batteries. Those formidable machines, the admiration of *Spain*, and in whose achievements centred all their pride, are no longer dreadful, nor appear with threatening aspect.

While

While Princes, Dukes, and Grandees on yon hill
 Behold the sad effects of our hot pills ;
 • *Merena* in convulsion fits was thrown,
 His junk ships burnt—his promis'd honor's flown
 ‖ *Cardova* with his fleet moor'd in the bay,
 Ne'er wish'd against the *British* walls to lay.
 The † *Prince of Nassau*, who was sent to seize,
 And from brave GEN'RAL ELLIOT take the keys
 'Midst disappointment, rage, and dire disgust,
 Renounc'd his glory and the service curst.

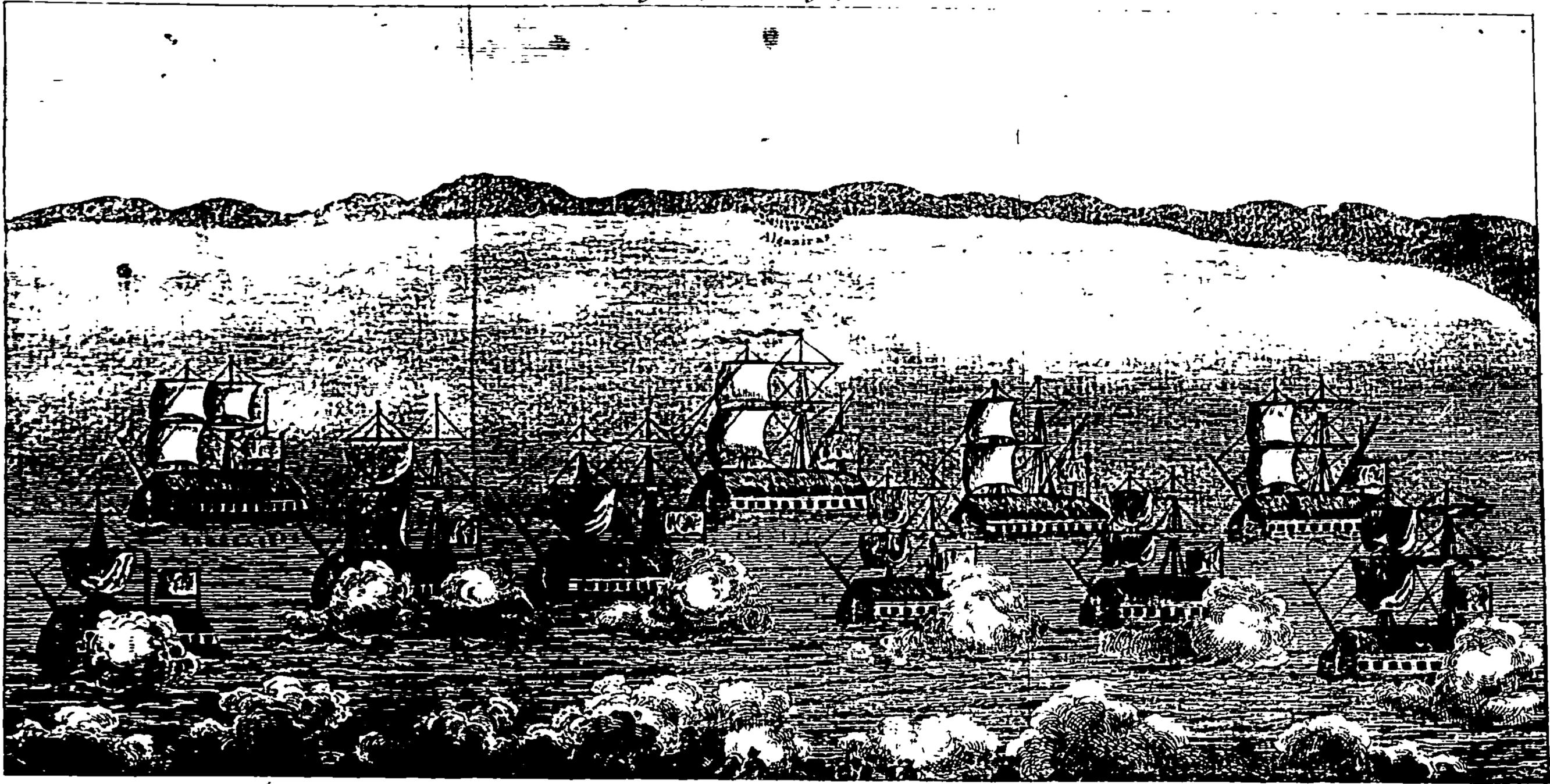
The enemy during the day extinguished the fire, by the assistance of engines, which supplied them with vast quantity of water, but the continual and excessive discharge of red-hot balls entirely frustrated their purpose, and they were constrained to desist from the use of water, as it was found that the battering they had received opened the caulking, and let the water run between their decks, instead of the channels that were made in their sides to receive it, so that they were apprehensive of their powder being damaged. The construction of these machines was excellent; for the enemy being sensible that we should fire red-hot balls (though they did not imagine so fast, nor unless the gun was elevated) had judiciously contrived conveyances in the larboard sides for a continual circulation of water, which was furnished by working of the engines. From the nicest calculation the floating batteries received

• The Admiral commanding the floatanters.

‖ The Spanish Admiral commanding the combined fleet.

† A Prince of the Blood.

Engraved for Anelli's Siege of Gibraltar



Representation of the 10 Floating Batteries commanded by Admiral Don. Merona, attacking Gibraltar, on the 13th of Sep. 1782.

*Explanation of the Plan of the Spanish Works, erected preceding,
and at the Time of the Grand Attack, 13th September 1782.*

To face page 233.

- 1 Forts St Phillipe and St Barbara
- 2 Infanta Battery
- 3 The Old Boyau, or Communication to the Spanish Camp
- 4 The Princess's, or Eastern 14 Gun Battery
- 5 Mortar Batteries, in the Spanish Lines
- 6 The Old Approach, made by Don Alvarez
- 7 St Martin's Battery
- 8 St Paschal's Battery
- 9 St Carlos's Battery, with a Mortar Battery on its Western Flank
- 10 A Battery of 4 Howitzers
- 11 Magazines along the Parallel
- 12 Places de Armes, for Musquetry
- 13 A Facine Ditch in Front of the Works
- 14 The Ruins of the Mahon Redoubt, with a Two Gun Battery, destroyed 8th September 1782
- 15 Mortar Batteries along the Parallel
- 16 The 64 Gun Battery, erected in one night, the first work done after Duc de Crillion took Command
- 17 The New Approach and Communication, made by Duc de Crillion
- 18 Centre Guardhouse, Fortified
- 19 The New Boyau, erected after the Defeat, on the 13th and 14th September 1782
- 20 The Eastern Guardhouse
- 21 Western Guardhouse
- 22 The Devil's Tower
- 23 Bay-Side Barrier
- 24 Forbes's Barrier
- 25 The Inundation
- 26 Land Port, with the Flèche
- 27 Grand Battery
- 28 Water-Port Pier-Head, mounted with 3 Guns
- 29 Old Mole, or Devil's Tongue
- 30 North Bastion, (or Flag-Staff Battery,) and Cavalier
- 31 Anchors sunk in shallow water, with sloping palisades placed upon the beach, to obstruct the enemy's boats from landing.

ceived upwards of five thousand red-hot balls of twenty-four and thirty-two pounds weight. 1782. Sept.

The inclosed are copies of returns, wherein you will find the strength of the garrison, the names of the *stantees* and their strength, with the number of prisoners saved by our boats; and since victory has crowned our arms, with satisfaction I conclude, (being impatient for you to hear the account) and beg leave to subscribe myself,

Your loving Brother.

List of the Battering Ships, destroyed by Red-hot Shot,
September 13th and 14th, 1782.

	Guns.	Men
Pastora, Admiral Don Morena, —	28	700
Talla Piedra, Prince of Nassau, —	28	700
St. Francisco de Paula, 1st. Don Langara,	26	700
Rosario, Don Francisco Munoz, —	26	700
St. Christoval, Don Frederico Gravina,	18	600
St. Francisco de Paula, 2d D. Pablo la Cosa,	9	366
Sta. Ana, Don Joseph Angeler, —	10	350
Sta. Juan, Don Francisco Guicochea,	10	400
Principe Carlos, Don Joseph Topete,	11	400
Declores, Don Antonio Bassorto, —	6	280
Total	172	5196

N. B. These guns were mounted on the larboard side, exclusive of the number on the starboard side.

1782. Prisoners taken by Captain *Curtis* from the Battering
Sept. Ships.

Sea Officers,	—	—	3
Land Officers,	—	—	3
Cadets,	—	—	2
Chaplains,	—	—	3
Surgeon,	—	—	1
Serjeants, Corporals and Privates	—	—	216
Artillerists, Land 2, Sea 5,	—	—	7
Marines,	—	—	30
Seamen,	—	—	81
French Soldiers,	—	—	11
		Total	357

Strength of the Garrison, Rank and File*, 13th Sep-
tember, 1782.

Royal Artillery,	—	494
12th	—	458
39th	—	452
56th	—	457
58th	—	447
72d	—	793
73d	—	778
97th	—	639
Hardenberg's	—	344
Reden's	—	337
La Mott's	—	348
Artificer Company	—	84
Corficans	—	72
	Total	5703

* Including Corporals and Private men.

L E T T E R XXXVIII.

1782.
GIBRALTAR. Sept. 15.

DEAR BROTHER,

YESTERDAY evening the enemy marched down a considerable body of troops to their lines, and the combined fleet having loosed some of their sails, we expected to have another attack, but the Dons did not shew any inclination to renew the sport.

The fleet remains at anchor, and I trust should they come on, we shall cause another illumination in the bay. They keep a fire upon us from the isthmus and other batteries—some few wounded, among whom is Lieutenant M'Namara of the seventy second regiment. We sent a flag of truce to the enemy.

I have inclosed a copy of a poem I wrote on the destruction of the enemy's battering ships, which received the Governor's approbation and acknowledgement.

On

1782. On * *Calpe's* mount where num'rous batt'ries rise,
 Sept. And tow'ring bulwarks seem to reach the skies ;
 Great *Elliott* lices, whom cannon loud proclaim,
 Adorn'd with laurels and with matchless fame :
 Where *Albion's* sons ! immortaliz'd in war,
 Repuls'd the foe and fill'd their host with fear.
 Whom eighteen months against these walls have laid,
 With Hea'ring boast, and pompous proud parade ;
 Whom *Elliott* taught to rev'ence *Britain's* fame,
 And stamp'd with shot and shells *King George's* name

September twelfth, the combin'd fleet appear'd,
 To *Negro-point* and *Algaziras* steer'd.
 With such a pow'rful force they thought to fright,
 But hardy *Britons* gloried in the fight ;
 With longing eyes we view'd them from our walls,
 And wish'd to let them taste our *red hot balls* :

On the thirteenth their batt'ring ships set sail,
 Wind West North West, it blew a pleasant gale ;
 Past nine they moor'd, and then began to play,
 Within half cannon shot—these *boasters* lay ;
 We mann'd our batteries with chearful glee,
 Resolv'd to die or boldly dare be free :
 The *God of war* with aspect mild appear'd,
 He bless'd our cause, and ev'ry soldier chear'd.

Our *vet'ran chief*, took post on *King's Bastion*,
 Amidst the battle chearful and serene ;

Triumphant

* The Rock was so named when the Spaniards had it in possession.

Triumphant led the troops to the contest,
 When smiling—thus the regiments he address'd :
 “ Courage my soldiers—'tis for *Britain's* right,
 “ And for your glorious sov'reign you fight :
 “ Unto your guns and mortars chearful go,
 “ And show'r destruction flaming on the foe.”

1782.

Sept.

Thus animated we their force despis'd,
 Began a stubborn fight, and dangers priz'd :
 Unto their posts, each hasted with delight,
 And strove who should be foremost in the fight ;
 While Gen'ral *Boyde*, *Britannia's* steady friend,
 The *South Bastion* with courage did defend ;
Howitzers, guns, and *mortars* stunn'd their ears,
 Made *Monseurs* tremble, fill'd the *Dons* with fears ;
 Red flaming balls, like bell'wing *Ætna* threw,
 And death in diff'rent shapes unto them flew.
 The sons of *Vulcan* nimbly fires got,
 And soon prepar'd huge piles of *red hot shot* ;
 For fourteen hours they with us did contend,
 At one next morn the battle it did end ;
 A more delightfu' view was ne'er display'd,
 Than when the ships were with bright flames array'd,
 The pride, the haughty boast of *France* and *Spain*,
 With daz'ling light adorn'd the briny main ;

Amidst the melancholy scenes of grief,
 They rockets threw, the signals for relief :
 But *Spain*, inhuman no assistance gave,
 Nor sent a boat the sev'ral crews to save ;
 From fire consuming or a wat'ry grave,

}
 }
 }
 And

1782. And when our * Commodore undaunted steer'd,
 Sept. Through flames and death which all around appear'd ;
 To give the suff'ring foe his tender aid,
 Their land batt'ries began a cannonade :
 Some wrung their hands, some wept with streaming eyes,
 Some rent the cloudy air with dismal cries ;
 While he rush'd on, the scorching heat defy'd,
 And one exploded while he lay 'long side :
 Six thousand men that came on this command,
 Some few—a very few escap'd to land,
 Four hundred only were brought to our shore,
 Who did our pity and our help implore ;
 Those who escap'd unto the *Spanish* coast,
 Their moan'd their ill success and wept their boast,
 While hundreds in the flames and sea were lost,
 And with th' explosion into atoms tost.

Much thanks are due to officers and men,
 Whose merit dictates and commands my pen,
 'Twould tedious be to mark their names and praise,
 Nor dare the muse to touch the pleasing lays.

May valiant *Elliott* ever be renown'd
 With laurels from *Britannia's* hand be crown'd ;
 May *Boyde* the vet'ran and his *red hot shot*,
 By King and country never be forgot :
 From age to age extolled be their fame,
 And wrote in golden characters their name.

The

* Capt. Curtis of the *Brilliant*.

The combined fleet still continue at anchor, and the 1782.
 enemy's batteries on the land side cannot forget their Sept. 18.
 usual employ. This afternoon the grenadier company
 of the thirty-ninth regiment, escorted the body of a
 deceased *Spanish* captain (who died of the wounds he
 received on the thirteenth) to the place of interment,
 and fired three vollies over the grave. Yesterday we
 received a flag of truce from *Spain*.

The enemy are quiet in the bay, and their boats for 20th.
 landing troops still remain at the *Orange Grove*—seve-
 ral men wounded by the land fire.

Wind W. Arrived a cutter at *Algaziras*—several of 23d.
 the *Spanish* officers have been permitted to return to
Spain.

Very hot fire on both sides—a gun was dismounted 26th.
 this forenoon in the *Spanish* sixty-four gun battery, by
 a shot from the garrison. Our loss this day is, one
 man killed and nine wounded—Major *Horsfall* of the
 seventy-second regiment received a wound by the ex-
 plosion of a shell. Yesterday a criminal was execut-
 ed at the usual place for a burglary.

Wind W. The *Spanish* towers this morning display- 30th.
 ed several colours, when the garrison attentively
 watched the gut, expecting the arrival of our fleet, but
 to our regret only some neutrals appeared. Received
 a flag of truce from the *Orange Grove*.

The enemy's gun and mortar boats came over and Oct. 1.
 fired

1782. fired their usual quantity of shot and shells, and then
O&A. 1. retired.—The garrison played very smartly upon
them.

4th. A frigate came over from the opposite side this morning under a flag of truce, and lay opposite the *Old Mole Head*, upon which a boat was detached to receive her—The particulars are not known. The enemy continue their cannonade.

6th. A flag of truce from the enemy. Twelve letters arrived from the East at *Algaziras*.

8th. Two *Spanish* launches, under a white flag, came over for the purpose of taking up an anchor left by the frigate off the *Old Mole Head* on the 4th instant, the Governor having given permission for the same. The combined fleet have not made any signal to sail, but remain spectators of the land cannonade, which is maintained on both sides. All the *Spanish* prisoners are gone to *Spain*.

10th. This afternoon a body of troops embarked from the *Orange Grove* on board the men of war, from which we conjecture they are tired of the expedition, and are going to remove to some more successful part. Several signals on the tower at *Cabrieta*.

11th. Last night wind N. W. A strong breeze sprung up, drove several of the enemy's line of battle ships from their moorings, which occasioned a general confusion among the combined fleet; at day break this
morning

morning, we discovered one nearly under the *King's* 1782.
bastion, and several others within cannon shot. The *King's* Oct.
bastion began a cannonade upon her, when she finding
 it impossible to bear off, struck her colours, and ran
 ashore off *Ragged-staff*, where Captain *Curtis* went,
 and took possession of her, and brought the crew to
 land. She proves to be the *San Miquel* of 70 guns
 and six hundred and fifty men—The others with
 some damage and difficulty got anchorage on the op-
 posite side. The prisoners give an account that our
 fleet is off the coast, and that the troops which em-
 barked yesterday were a reinforcement to the different
 ships, as they lay upon a spring cable, determined to
 obstruct the entrance of the *British* squadron. We
 hope the storm has not been prejudicial to our fleet,
 as they were so near the coast, for our fate will be de-
 termined, if a relief for the place should be obstructed.
 Many are of opinion, that had the storm continued with
 the same violence an hour longer, we should have
 been in possession almost of one half of their fleet.

The tower at *Cabritta* has spread the signal alarm,
 but the combined fleet have not shewn any inclination
 to go out; three of the enemy's ships we fired at this
 morning, have struck their topmasts. Our batteries
 have been firing shells these three hours, upon a ship
 of the line at anchor on this side *Fort Negro*, who
 could not remove from her anchorage, (where neces-
 sity had compelled her to moor) on account of the
 violent breeze. We could not observe to have done any
 damage to her.

No. 11.

H h

Wind

1782. Wind W. An *English* frigate arrived this evening O&A.11. in *Resia bay*, with dispatches for the governor, and gives the account that our fleet consists of thirty-four sail of the line, and a reinforcement of two regiments for the garrison. We rather fear the superiority of our opponents will prove prejudicial to them—God grant they may get safe in.

12th. The *British* fleet under the command of Lord *Howe* have failed to the eastward where they are now lying too. It is supposed this experienced Admiral chooses to have sea room rather than hazard the danger of the *Spanish* fire ships, which they have in readiness to run in. Came in the *Panther* of sixty-four guns, reported to be laden with powder.

The enemy's fleet still occupy the opposite side, seven of their ships are repairing the damages they received in the late storm.

GARRISON ORDERS.

“ *The Governor is extremely happy to communicate to the Garrison the following instructions he has just received from England:—*

“ *Extract of a Letter from the Earl of Shelburne principal Secretary of State.*

“ *St James's, 10th July, 1782.*

I Am honoured with his Majesty's commands to assure you, that not any encouragement shall be wanting to the brave officers and soldiers under your command. His Royal approbation of the past, will no doubt be a powerful
ful

*ful incentive to further exertions, and I have the King's 1782.
authority to assure you, that every distinguished mark of Oct. 12.
emulation and gallantry, which shall be performed in
the course of the siege by any, even of the lowest rank,
shall meet with ample reward from his gracious protec-
tion and favour.*

*“ These, his Majesty's intentions, you will communi-
cate in the most public manner, to every part of your gar-
rison, that they may be perfectly satisfied that their
Royal Master feels for the difficulties they are under, ad-
mires their glorious resistance, and will be happy to re-
ward their merit.”*

Lord Howe's Squadron are still to the eastward, 14th.
within sight of the garrison, and the combined fleet at
anchor at *Algaziras*. The shipping that were dama-
ged in the storm are not yet repaired—The guns and
stores of the *San Miquel* have been taken out, to
make her float.

A vigorous fire kept up on both sides, but all quiet 15th.
in the bay. We had one officer killed, viz. Lieute-
nant *Lumley*, of the royal artillery, and many men
wounded.

This forenoon a frigate came round *Europa Point*, 16th.
with a red flag upon her fore-top-mast head, and fired
a gun to windward, as a signal of defiance; upon
which the combined fleet got under weigh, and went
out, consisting of forty-five sail of the line. The
garrison were greatly delighted; and those whose duty