

and that of an unprincipled Renegado. This Letter had all the Effect that I could desire. They immediately sent me Two Ambassadors, professing not only Friendship but Obedience; assuring me that in Proof of the latter they had sent out Parties to arrest such of the Mountaineers as should be found carrying Wine and Gunpowder to the French Camp, and placing Eighty Prisoners of this Description at my Disposal. I had thus the Satisfaction to find Buonaparte's Career further Northward effectually stopped by a warlike People inhabiting an impenetrable Country. General Kleber's Division had been sent Eastward towards the Fords of the Jordan, to oppose the Damascus Army; it was recalled from thence to take its Turn in the daily Efforts to mount the Breach at Acre, in which every other Division in Succession had failed, with the Loss of their bravest Men, and above Three-fourths of their Officers. It seems much was hoped from this Division, as it had by its Firmness, and the steady Front it opposed in the Form of a Hollow-Square, kept upwards of Ten Thousand Men in check during a whole Day in the Plain between Nazareth and Mount Tabor, till Buonaparte came with his Horse-Artillery and extricated these Troops, dispersing the Multitude of irregular Cavalry, by which they were completely surrounded.

The Turkish Chiffick Regiment having been censured for the ill Success of their Sally, and their Unsteadiness in the Attack of the Garden, made a fresh Sally the next Night, Soliman Aga the Lieutenant-Colonel, being determined to retrieve the Honour of the Regiment by the punctual Execution of the Orders I had given him to make himself Master of the Enemy's Third Parallel, and this he did most effectually; but the Impetuosity of a few carried them on to the Second Trench, where they lost some of their Standards, though they spiked Four Guns before their Retreat. Kleber's Division, instead of mounting the Breach according to Buonaparte's Intention, was thus obliged to spend its Time and its Strength in recovering these Works, in which it succeeded after a Conflict of Three Hours, leaving every Thing in statu quo except the Loss of Men, which was very considerable on both Sides. After this Failure the French Grenadiers absolutely refused to mount the Breach any more over the putrid Bodies of their unburied Companions, sacrificed in former Attacks by Buonaparte's Impatience and Precipitation, which led him to commit such palpable Errors as even Seamen could take Advantage of. He seemed to have no Principle of Action but that of pressing forward, and appeared to stick at nothing to obtain the Object of his Ambition, although it must be evident to every Body else that even if he succeeded to take the Town, the Fire of the Shipping must drive him out of it again in a short Time; however, the Knowledge the Garrison had of the inhuman Massacre at Jaffa, rendered them desperate in their personal Defence. Two Attempts to assassinate me in the Town having failed, recourse was had to a most flagrant Breach of every Law of Honour and of War. A Flag of Truce was sent into the Town by the Hand of an Arab Dervise with a Letter to the Pacha, proposing a Cessation of Arms for the Purpose of burying the dead Bodies, the Stench from which became intolerable, and threatened the

Existence of every one of us on both Sides, many having died delirious within a few Hours after being seized with the first Symptoms of Infection. It was natural that we should gladly listen to this Proposition, and that we should consequently be off our Guard during the Conference. While the Answer was under Consideration, a Volley of Shot and Shells on a sudden announced an Assault, which, however, the Garrison was ready to receive, and the Assaultants only contributed to increase the Number of the dead Bodies in question, to the eternal Disgrace of the General, who thus disloyally sacrificed them. I saved the Life of the Arab from the Effect of the Indignation of the Turks, and took him off to the Tigre with me, from whence I sent him back to the General, with a Message, which made the Army ashamed of having been exposed to such a merited Reproof. Subordination was now at an End, and all Hopes of Success having vanished, the Enemy had no Alternative left but a precipitate Retreat, which was put in Execution in the Night between the 20th and 21st Instant. I had above said, that the Battering Train of Artillery (except the Carriages, which were burnt) is now in our Hands, amounting to Twenty-three Pieces. The Howitzers and medium Twelve-Pounders, originally conveyed by Land with much Difficulty, and successfully employed to make the first Breach, were embarked in the Country Vessels at Jaffa, to be conveyed coastwise, together with the worst among the Two Thousand wounded, which embarrassed the March of the Army. This Operation was to be expected. I took care, therefore, to be between Jaffa and Damietta before the French Army could get as far as the former Place. The Vessels being hurried to Sea, without Seamen to navigate them, and the Wounded being in Want of every Necessary, even Water and Provisions, they steered straight to his Majesty's Ships, in full Confidence of receiving the Succours of Humanity, in which they were not disappointed. I have sent them on to Damietta, where they will receive such further Aid as their Situation requires, and which it was out of my Power to give so many. Their Expressions of Gratitude to us were mingled with Execrations on the Name of their General, who had, as they said, thus exposed them to Peril rather than fairly and honorably renew the Intercourse with the English, which he had broken off by a false and malicious Assertion, that I had intentionally exposed the former Prisoners to the Infection of the Plague. To the Honor of the French Army, be it said, this Assertion was not believed by them, and it thus recoiled on its Author. The Intention of it was evidently to do away the Effect which the Proclamation of the Porte began to make on the Soldiers, whose eager Hands were held above the Parapet of their Works to receive them when thrown from the Breach. He cannot plead Mis-information as his Excuse; his Aid de-Camp Mr. Lallemand having had free Intercourse with these Prisoners on board the Tigre when he came to treat about them; and having been ordered, though too late, not to repeat their Expressions of Contentment at the Prospect of going Home. It was evident to both Sides, that when a General had Recourse to such a shallow, and at the same Time to such a mean Artifice as a mali-