

tion; the Proposal was thankfully agreed to. I did not, however, think it advisable to allow the People to remain long enough to embark the Guns, there being a large Body of Troops in the Vicinity. A great many small Vessels are in the Bay and hauled up on the Beach, none of them having Cargoes of any Value, I conceive it an Act of Inhumanity to deprive the poorer Inhabitants of the Means of gaining their Livelihood, and shall not molest them. On inspecting the Brig, as she had only the lower Rigging over Head, and was not in a State of Forwardness, I found it impracticable to bring her away, and therefore set Fire to her: She is now burnt to the Water's Edge. I cannot conclude my Letter without giving the Portion of Credit that is their due to the Officers and Men on board the Ship. They conducted themselves with the greatest Steadiness and Coolness; and, although under a heavy Fire, pointed their Guns with the utmost Precision: there being hardly a Shot that did not take Effect. To Lieutenants Lawe and Bertram I feel much indebted, as well as to Mr. Shea the Purser, (who volunteered his Services, and to whom I gave the Charge of the Quarter Deck Carronades in Mr. Yeo's Absence,) for the Precision and Coolness displayed by the Men under their Command in pointing the Guns, as well as the exact Attention paid to my Orders, and ceasing Fire the Instant the Union Jack made its Appearance on the Walls, by which, in all Probability, the Lives of several of our Men were saved. Mr. Cleverly, the Master, brought the Broadside to bear with much Quickness and Nicety, by Means of the Spring. I send you herewith a List of our Wounded on board, and on Shore, with One of the Enemy's Killed and Wounded; and an Account of their Force at the Commencement of the Action.

I have been under the Necessity of being more detailed than I could wish, but it is out of my Power, in a smaller Compass, to do Justice to the Exertions and Conduct of the Officers and Men employed on the different Services. It is but fair at the same Time to state that, much to the Credit of the Ship's Company, the Bishop and One of the principal Inhabitants of the Town came off to express their Gratitude for the orderly Behaviour of the People (there not being One Instance of Pillage,) and to make Offer of every Refreshment the Place affords.

I am now waiting for the Land Breeze to carry us out, having already recalled the Officers and Men from the Fort, the Guns being spiked and thrown over the Parapet, the Carriages rendered unserviceable, and the Embrazures, with Part of the Fort, blown up.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

FRED. MAITLAND.

Rear-Admiral Drury, &c. &c. &c. Cove.

*His Majesty's Ship Loire, Muros,*  
June 4, 1805.

SIR,  
I HAVE the Pleasure to acquaint you, that I proceeded on Shore with the Party you did me the Honor to place under my Command, for the Purpose of storming the Fort on the Point agreeable to your Orders, which, on our Approach, the Soldiers quitted. On my Arrival, I observed a strong Fort at the Entrance of the Town, opening a heavy Fire on the Ship; and, judging it practicable to carry it by Storm, from a thorough Knowledge I had of the determined Bravery of all the Officers and Men, I ordered them

to follow me for that Purpose, which was obeyed with all that Energy and Gallantry which British Seamen and Marines are so well known to possess on such an Occasion, and, in a very short Time, reached the Outer Gate, when the French Centinel fired, and retreated into the Fort, which we instantly entered, and was met by the Governor and all the Garrison, &c., when, after a dreadful Slaughter on the Part of the Enemy, the Remainder surrendered, and I instantly ordered the British Colours to be hoisted.

I feel it my Duty, as well as the greatest Pleasure, to mention the great Support I received from Lieutenant Mallock, of the Royal Marines, and Mr. Charles Clinch, Master's-Mate, as, from their being near me all the Time of the Action, I was enabled to observe their very cool and gallant Behaviour, as also of Lieutenant Douglas, of the Royal Marines, who, though engaged at different Parts of the Fort, I have no less Reason to be highly pleased with.

I must now beg Leave to say how much I am indebted to every Seaman and Marine of the Party, who behaved so unanimously brave nothing could withstand them, and to their Credit as Englishmen as well as their Profession; the Instant the Fort was in our Possession, they seemed to try who could be the first to relieve and assist the poor wounded Prisoners, who were lying in Numbers in different Parts of the Fort; and I had the Pleasure to see their Humanity amply repaid by the Gratitude the unfortunate Men's Friends expressed when they came to take them away.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

JAMES LUCAS YEO.

To Captain Frederick Maitland, &c. &c. &c.

*A List of Wounded on Shore belonging to His Majesty's Ship Loire, at Muros, the 4th of June 1805.*

Lieutenant J. L. Yeo, slightly.

Mr. Clinch, Master's-Mate, ditto.

Henry Gray, Seaman, ditto,

Martin Hendrickson, Seaman, ditto.

John Payne, Seaman, ditto.

John Leonard, Marine, ditto.

*On board.*

James Caldwell, Seaman, dangerously.

Magnus Johnson, Seaman, lost his Right Leg above the Knee.

Christian Willson, Seaman, Calf of his Leg shot off.

John Whitecomb, Seaman, severely.

John Plummer, Seaman, slightly.

Mark Archer, Seaman, ditto.

Thomas Lloyd, Seaman, ditto.

John Moulds, Seaman, ditto.

James Gillett, Seaman, ditto.

Total.—2 Officers, 12 Seamen, and 1 Marine.

*Spaniards killed and wounded.*

The Governor of the Fort, and a Spanish Gentleman who had volunteered; the Second Captain of the Confiance, and Nine others, killed.

Thirty, amongst which were most of the Officers of the Confiance, wounded.

Total.—12 killed and 30 wounded.

(Signed) FRED. L. MAITLAND.

*Enemy's Force at the Commencement of the Action when opposed to His Majesty's Ship Loire, in Muros-Bay, the 4th of June 1805.*

A Fort of 12 Spanish Eighteen-Pounders, mounted