

and Two Seamen wounded; the Enemy had Seven killed and Thirteen wounded.

I should have noticed that the Spaniards, irritated at the Opposition their Friends who came to their Support met with, departed in some Measure from the General's Intention, and fired some Shot at them before they struck.

Expedition being deemed of the greatest Importance, I shifted my Flag to the Hound in the Harbour; and as neither of the Three Ships of the Line, from Circumstances of the Weather, could be brought near in, Fifty-seven Sloops or Doggers, found in the Port, were fitted by the Seamen, into which great Part of the Artillery, Baggage, and Stores were embarked that Night and the following Day, and removed to the Point of Slypharn, Four Miles from Nyborg, where the Army was embarked safely, and without Opposition, this Morning, notwithstanding the very unfavourable State of the Weather, and they are now under the Protection of His Majesty's Ships at the Anchorage off the Island of Sproe.

Some Sacrifices of Horses and Stores were conceived necessary by the General; and as I considered it right, under the peculiar Circumstances, to enter into the Views and Wishes of the Marquis de la Romana, every unavoidable Act of Hostility was rigidly abstained from, for I did not consider it any to bring away the Brig and Cutter that rejected our Offer of Security, and forcibly opposed our Entrance into the Port; and I even undertook to liberate the Vessels employed as Transports, provided no Interruption was made by any to the peaceable Embarkation of our Friends.

I should be unjust to the meritorious Exertions of the Officers and Seamen employed on this short but fatiguing Service, if I neglected to represent their Merits on this Occasion to you; Captain Graves's Services were required afloat; Captain McNamara, of the Edgar, undertook the Equipment of the Transports, with the Embarkation of the Stores; the Embarkation of the Troops was made under the Direction of Captain Jackson, of the Superb, and Captain Lockyer, of the Hound; Captain Smith, of the Devastation, and Captain James, of the Kite, were indefatigable in their Exertions in the various Duties I assigned them. Many Circumstances having combined to make an Attack on the Rear probable, great Precaution was necessary.

Such Guns as could be brought against us were spiked, and the Embarkation was covered and most effectually protected by the Minx Gun-Brig and the Two Prizes, and by the very judicious Disposition of the Gun-Boats, under the Command of Captain May, of the Royal Artillery, who volunteered, and whose Services on this and other Occasions were highly useful.

It is not easy to express the Joy and Satisfaction felt by every Class of the Army at this Event; and no Circumstance, I believe, could have afforded more real Pleasure to us all. One, the Regiment of Zamora, made a March of Eighteen Danish Miles in Twenty-one Hours.

I transmit herewith for your further Information, Copies of such Letters as I deemed it requisite to address to His Excellency the Marquis de la Romana and the Governor of Nyborg on this Occasion. The Replies to the former were verbal through

a confidential Officer, and the latter were made personally.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. G. KEATS.

Vice-Admiral Sir James Saumarez, &c. &c. &c.

Note.—Since this Letter was concluded, we entertain some Hopes that Part of the Regiment in Jutland, we thought lost, has escaped to the Post at Langeland by the Western Channel.

SIRS, *Superb, off Langeland, Aug. 5, 1808.*

I HAVE the Honour to inform you, that I have received from my Government the most positive Instructions to endeavour to communicate with the Spanish Officers commanding the Troops of that Nation in the Vicinity of my Command, and to concert with them Measures to secure their Retreat from any Place of Embarkation which they may possess, and for placing them in a State of Security until Transports for their Reception can be provided to convey them to Spain, for which, as well as the necessary Provisions, Measures have already been taken, and indeed of the Arrival of them I am in hourly Expectation. Until that Period shall arrive, they are welcome to share in the Accommodation and Provisions of the Ships under my Command; but as that might not afford ample Means at present, although I am in Expectation of the Commander in Chief, I would suggest under the Pressure of Circumstances, the Removal of the Troops to some of the Islands in the Belt for their perfect Security. But as a Measure of this Magnitude to the Interests of the Spanish Nation would necessarily require a concerted Plan, left by Attention to partial Interests the general one might suffer, I request an unreserved and confidential Communication, either to the Ships off Nyborg, that stationed off Langeland, or any of His Britannic Majesty's Ships in the Belt, and through the Bearer of this, or by any other Means. I propose sending on Sunday, unless I should earlier receive some Person on board, a Flag of Truce under some Pretext to the Spanish Post at Spoyberg, and if this should be safely received, I wish, in token of it, a small Guard might parade in some conspicuous Situation at Noon To-morrow, near the English Ship at Anchor, or under Sail near Spoyberg.

In my present Situation it is impossible, ardently as I enter into the Views of my Government and the Spanish Nation, to attempt to lay down any fixed Plan. My Services, and that of every Englishman under my Command, are devoted to the Cause; but before Measures can be adopted, we must communicate, agree on, and combine as far as it may be possible, the Interests of the Spanish Troops in Jutland and Zealand with those in Funen and Langeland. I shall keep a Ship for some Days off Spoyberg; and every Ship under my Command will be on the look-out to receive any Boats that may approach them.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. G. KEATS.

To the Officers of His Most Catholic Majesty's Troops.

SIR, *Superb, off Langeland, Aug. 7, 1808.*

UNDERSTANDING from the Spanish Officer that the accompanying Paper* is the true State

* Thought unnecessary now to send.