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Admiralty-Office, August 16, 1811.

Copy of a Letter from Admiral Sir Charles Cotton Bart., late Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Mediterranean, to John Wilson Croker Esq; Secretary to the Admiralty, dated San Jofes, off Toulon, 5th July 1811.

SIR,

THE Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty will be informed by my Dispatch No. 108, of the 4th Ultimo, of the State of Affairs in Catalonia up to the 24th May, I have now the Honour to transmit Accounts of the further Events in that Quarter to the 1st Instant, contained in the accompanying Extracts of Communications from Captains Codrington and Adam and Lieutenant-Colonel Green, as set forth in the Margin *, by which their Lordships will regret to see that the last Accounts brought me this Day by the Volontaire state the Town of Tarragona to have been stormed, taken, and set Fire to by the French Force under Suchet, on the 28th June.

I have the Honour to be, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES COTTON.

No. 1.

*Invincible, Tarragona Roads,
June 5, 1811.*

SIR,

ON the 28th in the Morning the Enemy opened his Fire on Fort Olivo from Two Batteries, one of Four Guns and a Mortar, the other of Three Guns and a Howitzer, placed on the Flank of the Fort. About Mid-day of the 29th Colonel Green examined the Works of the Olivo, owing to a Report from an Officer that its Defences were in a bad State, and he found them very much destroyed. At Night it was intended to substitute the Regiment of Almeria for that of Iberia, which had been hitherto in the Fort; and after Dark the former Regiment was marched out of the Town for that Purpose; but I am sorry to say the Enemy found Means to mingle himself with that Regiment, and he got Possession of the Olivo without firing a Shot, making Nine Hundred Men Prisoners.

* Captain Adam, 5th June, No. 1; Lieutenant-Colonel Green, 11th June, No. 2; Captain Codrington, 15th June, No. 4; 23d June, No. 6; 29th June, No. 7.

The Enemy's Force at present is considered to be between Ten and Eleven Thousand Men; he is supposed to have lost Four Thousand since the Commencement of the Siege in Killed and Wounded and Deserters.

The Spaniards, including the Prisoners made at the Olivo, have lost about Three Thousand.

I have the Honour to be, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES ADAM.

Admiral Sir Charles Cotton Bart.,
Esq. Esq. Esq.

No. 2.

SIR,

Tarragona, 13th June 1811.

THE small advanced Work on the Sea Beach, called the Francoli, was destroyed in Four Hours by the Batteries thrown up in the Night of the 6th Instant, but its Situation was such as always to have made its Tenure very uncertain, by being very much detached. On this Occasion the Conduct of the Spanish Troops was particularly gallant, 31 Artillery Men who occupied the Francoli, to the Amount of about One Hundred and Forty-five, being either killed or wounded, and the Officer in Command having left the Fort the last Person. The Enemy has since made several Attempts to carry these Works, which protect the Communication between the Sea and the Town, but by the Vigilance and Bravery of Brigadier Sarsfield, who commands these Defences; they have been repulsed with considerable Loss, and, indeed, in one Instance, though the Enemy had rallied Three Times, he was completely defeated in his Object. But the very hard Work by Day in constructing Works for the Support of the Lines, which becomes necessary in consequence of the radical Defects of the Fortifications, and the constant Alarms and Attacks by Night, causes serious Anxiety for the earliest Relief.

I have the Honour to be, &c.
(Signed) E. R. GREEN.

Admiral Sir Charles Cotton Bart.

No. 4.

SIR, *Blake, off Villa Nueva, 15th June, 1811.*

AS Captain Adam has informed you of the Occurrences at Tarragona, during my Absence, up to