

against such a Force as the Enemy had brought against him; an Arrangement was in consequence immediately made to withdraw the Garrison. At Daybreak the following Morning, the Enemy opened their Fire, which was returned with Spirit from the Tower; but it was not till near Nine o'Clock, when the Breeze sprung up, that I could proceed in with the Magnificent: I then anchored as close to the Shore as the Situation would admit, and sent out Launch and Pinnace, together with the Gun-Boats, to bring off the Garrison, which consisted of Two Officers and Eighty-five Soldiers, all of whom, I have the Satisfaction to inform you, were, by the Exertion and steady Conduct of the Officers and Boats' Crews, embarked by Ten o'Clock.

The Fire from the Magnificent kept the Battery in check; but the moment the Enemy perceived that the Tower was abandoned, they drew down to the Water-Side, under shelter of a little Point of Land, and amongst the Rocks, in great Numbers, keeping up against the Boats an incessant and heavy fire of Musketry, from which Three of our Men were wounded; One of them I am sorry to say, very dangerously.

The Officers who commanded the Magnificent's Boats upon this Occasion, were Lieutenants Astley and Hiatt, and I have great Pleasure in representing to you, that for every Duty of Danger or Trouble, they have always volunteered their Services, and their Conduct on this as upon every former Occasion, has been very satisfactory to me, and highly creditable to themselves.

From the Launch being obliged to make use of her Carronade, in order to check the increasing Fire of the Enemy, the Pinnace, after taking a Boat full of Spanish Soldiers to One of the Gun Boats, was under the Necessity of going a Second Time to the Shore for those who still remained upon the Rocks; which Service, Lieutenant Hiatt executed with great Spirit and Humanity.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

GEORGE EYRE.

*Sir Edward Pellew, Bart. Vice Admiral
of the Red, &c. &c. &c.*

Officers employed in the Boats.

Lieutenants Astley and Hiatt, and Mr. G. D. Ross,
Midshipman.

Seamen Wounded.

John Lens, Dangerously; Robert Thompson and
Richard James, Slightly.

Blake, off Mataro, 26th of Oct. 1811.

SIR,

I have sent you, by the Request of Mr. Tupper, the Consul at Valencia, the Copy which he permitted me to take of a sort of Journal of the Proceedings in Valencia and that Neighbourhood, and which, I think, you will find very interesting.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

Signed EDWARD CODRINGTON.

*Sir Edward Pellew, Bart. Vice Admiral
of the Red, &c. &c. &c.*

SIR,

Valencia, 13th October, 1811.

I PROCEED to give your Excellency the Parti-

No. 16548.

B

culars of what has passed to this day. On the 19th or 20th ultimo the Enemy began to Advance from Tortosa and Arragon upon Castellon de la Plana, which Place they reached on the 23d; with about Sixteen Thousand Infantry and about Twelve Hundred Horse; commanded by General Suchet.

On the 23d, General Blake made a Movement from Murviedro upon this City, which caused some Confusion among the Inhabitants, but his Army retired in the best Order possible, composed of Thirteen Thousand Infantry, including the Six Thousand Men of his Division from Albucra, besides the united Corps of General Obispo and Villacampa, commanded by Charles O'Donnell, of Four Thousand Men, who occupy Legorbe, Lyria, &c.

General Bassecourt, with near Two Thousand Men from Cuenca, was at Reguena and Utill till the 12th Instant. Besides the above-mentioned Infantry, we have about Sixteen Hundred Cavalry, some of which are the best equipped I have seen.

Suchet's Force is composed of the Army of Catalonia, and the Re-union of the many small Corps and Garrisons of the Interior of Spain, which is almost left to its Fate.

On the 15th ultimo, Colonel Andriol was sworn Governor of Saguntum, and Three Thousand Five Hundred Men, all Volunteers, destined for its Garrison. The Enemy, it seems, intended to take Valencia by a Coup-de-Main; but, arrived in front of Murviedro, they met with a resistance they did not expect; for having got every thing ready for an Assault, on the 28th, at Two o'Clock in the Morning, after three Hours continued Attack upon three Points, they were repulsed with great Loss, and all their Scaling Ladders taken, to the Number of Fifty, and upwards of Four Hundred Killed and Wounded.

The Garrison behaved with great Valour, driving down the Enemy that gained the Ramparts with Pikes and Bayonets. The French continue to occupy the Town of Murviedro, the Castle occasionally opening its Fire on them; but, having broken through the Partition Walls of the Houses, they keep up their Communications with some Degree of Safety, without exposing themselves in the Streets.

On the 2d Instant Charles O'Donnell was attacked by a considerable Force near Benaguaziel; the Object of the Enemy was to cut off his Retreat across the River to Villa Marchante.

The Spaniards repulsed the Charge of the Cavalry with Musketry, and kept the Infantry in Check whilst the Whole of O'Donnell's Force succeeded in passing the River, with the Loss of only Eleven Men killed, Fifty-two wounded, and One Hundred and Eighteen missing.

The Enemy's Loss was much greater; as Three Columns advanced very near the Spaniards, when they were repulsed by a well-directed Fire of Musketry.

On the 8th, from Five o'Clock to Half past Seven in the Evening the Enemy attempted again to assault the Castle of Saguntum, but the Garrison kept up such a constant Fire of Musketry, Cannon, and Hand Grenades, that the Enemy could not succeed in Planting their Ladders, and were repulsed with some Loss. It is said that a French General (Abert) and Two Colonels were buried at Alhaurata

