

patched them back again, allowing them only a few Hours to take their Resolution; and within the Time limited they accepted the Conditions offered them. And before Night on Thursday the said 22d of November, the Admiral sent Captain Newton, who commanded the Detachment of Soldiers from Jamaica, with about 120 of the said Soldiers, who took immediate Possession of Gloria Castle and St. Jeronimo Fort, being the remaining Fortresses that guarded the Harbour of Porto Bello, the Gloria Castle lying just below the Town, and St. Jeronimo Fort just above it.

Articles of Capitulation granted by Edward Vernon, Esq; Vice-Admiral of the Blue, and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the West Indies, and Commodore Brown, to Don Francisco Martines de Retez, Governour of Porto Bello, and Don Francisco de Abaroa, Commandant of the Guarda Costas at the same Place, the 22d of November 1739. O. S.

Article I. That the Garrison be allowed to march out as desired, upon Condition the King of Great Britain's Troops be put into Possession of the Glory Castle, before Four of the Clock this Evening, and the Garrison to march out by Ten of the Clock To-morrow Morning.

That the Inhabitants may either remove, or remain, under a Promise of Security for themselves and their Effects.

II. That the Spanish Soldiers may have a Guard if they think it necessary.

III. That they may carry off two Cannons mounted, with Ten Charges of Powder for each, and their Match lighted.

IV. The Gates of the Glory Castle must absolutely be in Possession of the King our Master's Troops, by Four of the Clock, and the Spanish Garrison shall remain in all Safety for their Persons and Effects, 'till the appointed Time for their marching out, and to carry with them the Provisions and Ammunition necessary for their Safety.

V. That the Ships with their Apparel and Arms, be absolutely delivered up to the Use of his Britannick Majesty, but that all the Officers, Soldiers and Crew, shall have Three Days allowed them to retire with all their personal Effects; only one Officer being admitted on Board each Ship and Vessel, to take Possession for the King our Master, and to see this Article strictly complied with.

VI. That provided the Articles above-mentioned are strictly complied with, and that Possession be given of Castle St. Jeronimo, in the same Manner as is stipulated for the Castle Gloria, then the Clergy, the Churches and Town, shall be protected and preserved in all their Immunities and Properties.

And that all Prisoners already taken shall be set at Liberty before our leaving the Port.

Given under our Hands, on board His Majesty's Ship Burford, in Porto Bello Harbour, this 22d Day of November 1739.

O. S.

E. Vernon.
Cha. Brown.

There were in the Harbour two Spanish Men of War, of 20 Guns each, and a Snow; the Crews of which Ships seeing the regular and bold Attack which was made on the Iron Fort, and despairing of being able to defend themselves, fell to plundering the Town in the Night of the 21st, and committed great Outrages on the Inhabitants.

The Admiral took on board his Ships from the several Fortresses; 40 Pieces of Brass Cannon, 10 Brass Field Pieces, 4 Brass Mortars, and 18 Brass Pattereroes; and render'd unserviceable above 80 Iron Cannon, by knocking off the Trunnions, and spiking them up: He also took on board all their Shot and Ammunition, except 122 Barrels of their Powder, which he expended in springing Mines, by which all the Fortifications of the Forts were blown up, and entirely demolished, and the Harbour left open and defenceless.

Ten thousand Dollars, that were arrived and designed for paying the King of Spain's Troops at Porto Bello, falling into the Admiral's Hands, he distributed them among his Majesty's Forces for their Encouragement.

The Admiral was join'd at Porto Bello on the 27th of November, by his Majesty's Ship the Diamond, Capt. Knowles, and on the 29th by the Windsor, Capt. Berkeley, and the Anglesea, Capt. Reddish; he having left Orders at the Leeward Islands for the said Ships to follow him.

The principal Engineer in the Mining Work was Capt. Knowles of the Diamond, assisted by Capt. Boscawen, (who desired he might serve in this Expedition as a Volunter, his Ship the Shoreham not being fit for the Sea) and by Mr. Barnes, Purser of the Worcester, who having been an Officer in the Army, was very useful on this Occasion. Commodore Brown had the chief Direction of what was necessary to be done at Gloria Castle and St. Jeronimo Fort; and Capt. Watson, Captain of the Admiral's Ship, took Care of the Execution of all that was to be done at the Iron Fort, which was built on a Rock; the Walls of the lower Battery, which consisted of 22 Guns, were nine Foot thick, and of a hard Stone, cemented with such a fine Mortar, that it was a long Work to make any Impression in it to come to Mine at all.

The lower Battery at Gloria Castle consisted of two regular Bastions, and a Curtain between them, mounted with 22 Guns, besides a Line of eight Guns, that pointed to the Mouth of the Harbour; and all the other Guns they had on the Moonish Parts of both Castles, besides their Battery on St. Jeronimo, render'd the Entrance of the Harbour very difficult and dangerous.

In Consideration of the Services perform'd by Capt. Rentone (who acted as a Pilot in this Expedition) the Admiral thought fit to appoint him Commander of the Spanish Snow taken in the Harbour of Porto Bello; and to send his Dispatches by him to England in the said Snow; and the two 20 Gun Ships, which were Spanish Guarda Costas, were by the Admiral's Order fitted up, and taken along with him.