

Sir Edward
Whitaker or-
dered to join
him from I-
taly.

General Stan-
hope comes to
Mahon.

The Works at
Alicant can-
nonaded.

The Castle of
Alicant sur-
rendered to the
Enemy.

General Stan-
hope landed
at Tarrago-
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with Ordnance-Stores came safe into Port, but the *Arrogant* being still missing, in which were the principal part of the Naval Stores, Sir *George Byng* sent some Ships to *Majorca*, and others to *Cagliari*, in quest of her, dispatching Orders at the same to Sir *Edward Whitaker*, on the Coast of *Italy*, to join him with the Ships under his Command, in case the Emperor's Troops intended for *Catalonia* were not ready to embark.

Being in very great want of Stores, through the Loss of the *Arrogant*, he was put to no small Difficulties in putting the Ships into a Condition for Service, and having but a small Strength with him, he proposed that if the Enemy fitted out a Fleet, Sir *John Jennings* might join him from *Lisbon*, for Sir *Edward Whitaker* was still on the Coast of *Italy*, concerning whom, and the Troops he was to bring from thence, General *Stanhope* came to *Mahon* to consult with Sir *George Byng* the 14th of *February*; but on the 19th of *March* he arrived with the said Land-Forces, which were about three thousand five hundred effective Men.

With these Troops, and the General, he put to Sea with eleven Ships of the Line of Battle, designing, if possible, to relieve the Castle of *Alicant*, having left others at *Port Mahon* to clean and refit, and employed some on Services desired by the King of *Spain*, so that he was not able yet to send any additional Strength to Sir *John Jennings*. The 5th of *April* in the Morning he stood into the Bay of *Alicant*, anchoring against the Batteries and Lines which the Enemy had thrown up along the Coast, and while the Cannon were playing against those Works, the General intended to push on shore, but the Wind coming up South-Easterly, and blowing very strong, occasioned a great Sea, which render'd it impracticable, and some of the Ships being in less than four Fathom Water, nay divers of them in little more than three, the *Northumberland* and *Dunkirk* struck several times, so that they were obliged before it was Night to ply farther out into the Road.

The Weather continuing very bad till the 7th, and it being not known what Extremities the Garrison might be under, and the Enemy encreasing considerably in Strength, the General sent a Flag of Truce on shore, with Proposals for surrendering the Castle, which being agreed to, and our Men embarked, the Admiral proceeded with the Troops towards *Barcelona*, having detached some Ships to cruise for the *Turkey Fleet*, others with Transports for Corn to *Barbary*, and the *Suffolk*, *Humber*, and *Ipswich*, which he left to clean at *Port Mahon*, were under Orders to proceed to *Genoa* and *Final*, for transporting the *German Recruits* from those Places to *Catalonia*.

In his way to *Barcelona* he landed General *Stanhope* with the Troops at *Tarragona*, and returning with the Garrison of the Castle of *Alicant* to *Port Mahon*, joined some other Ships to those he first intended for *Genoa* and *Final*, and sent them thither under Command of Sir *Edward Whitaker*, but directed him first to proceed to *Livorne* for a Supply of Provisions, which was at this time very much wanted. The few Ships he had with him at *Port Mahon* he

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