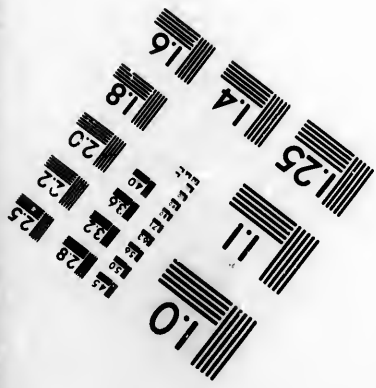
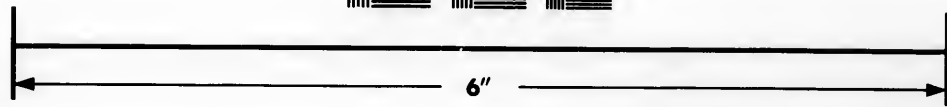
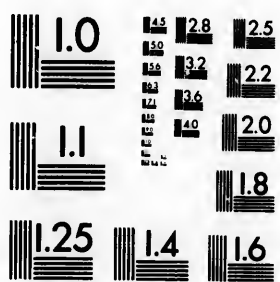


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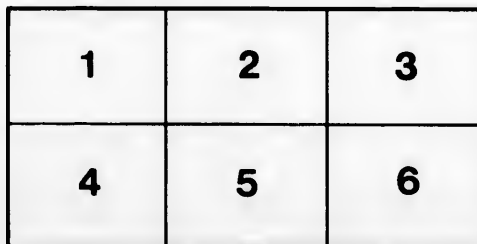
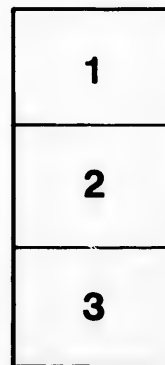
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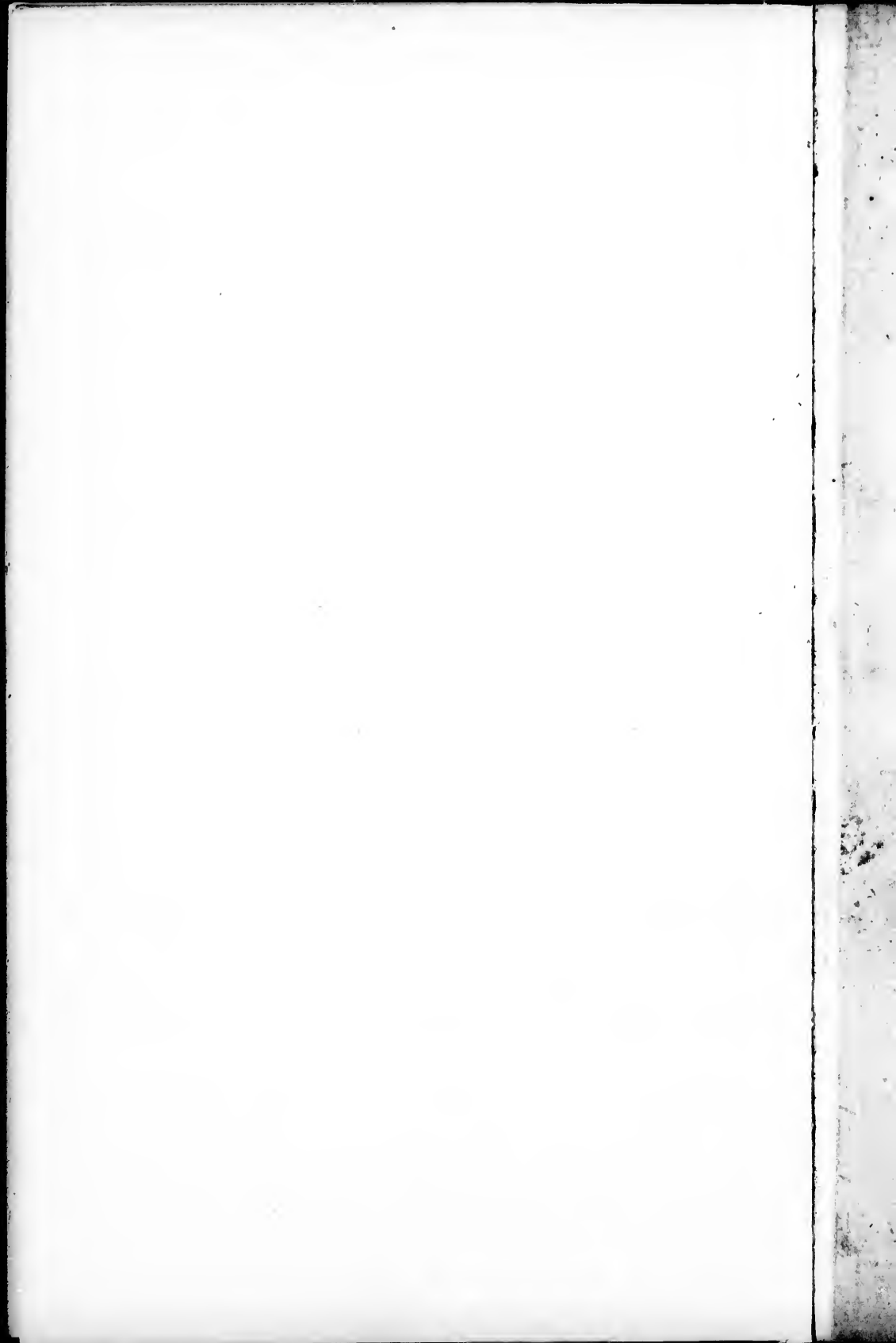
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A
JOURNAL
CONTAINING
Every Transaction of Consequence
OF THE
GUARDS,
AS WELL AS OF
The Rest of HIS MAJESTY'S Troops
IN THE
LATE EXPEDITIONS
ON THE
COAST of FRANCE.
FROM
Their PARADE in HYDE-PARK,
The 9th DAY of MAY,
TO THEIR
Return to their RESPECTIVE QUARTERS,
The 20th of OCTOBER last.
Under the Command of the
Late Duke of MARLBOROUGH,
AND
Lieut. Gen. BLIGH, by Land;
AND THE
Rt. Hon. Ld. Visc. HOWE, by Sea.
WITH THE
Order of SAILING of the WHOLE FLEET.

Sold by GEORGE DOWNING, Stationer,
in Chancery-Lane. 1758.
[Price One Shilling.]

1870

1871

1872

1873

1874

1875

1876

T O

THE HONOURABLE

ROBERT BRUDENELL, Esq;

LIEUTENANT - COLONEL

I N T H E

THIRD REGIMENT OF GUARDS.

S I R,

AS the following pages are merely matter of fact, collected in vacant hours, on the late Expeditions, and on which I had the honour of embarking as a volunteer in your company, with the greatest submission I offer them your Perusal, and sincerely wish 'twere in my power to adorn them with the richest language, worthy of your notice.

Sir, had I eloquence enough to expatiate on your magnanimity, wisdom, and benevolence to all, I then should have infinite satisfaction ; but 'tis out of my sphere, a task too difficult, a task that requires a more skillful pen than mine, therefore I must wave it, and rely on your unbounded goodness to pardon a Soldier's address, and suffer him to take this method
of

DEDICATION.

of shewing his esteem for a gentleman, who is as dear to him as his honor. In testimony of which, I am, and ever shall be, with the utmost gratitude and respect,

Sir,

Your most obliged, and

Obedient humble Servant,

WALTER THOMAS.



A

JOURNAL

OF THE

LATE EXPEDITIONS.

MAY 9, 1758.

THE Brigade of Guards paraded in Hyde Park, London, at five in the morning; were reviewed by the Prince of Wales at six, and at eight by His Majesty, the Prince of Wales, Prince Edward, several of the nobility, and General-Officers, near Kensington-Gardens, and afterwards marched to Esher common, near Kingston, and encamped.

This day one of the 1st, and another of the 2d regiment dyed on the road, chiefly owing to drinking too much water. A very fultry day.

Marched this day - - - - 16 miles

B 10th. Marched

10th. Marched to Ripley, and encamped - - - - - 9 miles

11th. Marched to Godalmin, and encamped - - - - - 9 miles

12th. Marched to Petersfield, and encamped - - - - - 23 miles

A hard day's march, a very rough and sandy road, and several of the men were not able to march.

13th. Marched to Southsea common near Portsmouth, and encamped - 17 miles

Total 74 miles.

14th. Halted this day at Southsea common. --- Three companies of the Train of Artillery encamped on the left of us.

15th. Marched to Portsmouth, embarked at eight in the morning, disembarked at Cowes at eight at night, and arrived at the camp on the King's Forest, near Newport, in the isle of Wight, at ten.

The 1st and 2d regiments (except two companies of the 2d) did not arrive till the next day, being obliged to lye on the water all night. --- Found several regiments encamped here.

16th. Remained in the same camp.

17th, and

17th, and 18th. Remained in the same camp.

19th. The brigade of guards review'd by Lord George Sackville in the front of the camp.

20th. Remained in the same camp.

21st. Thisday a spy was taken up, who, upon examination, had several plans, the exact number of forces encamped here, and other papers of consequence found upon him. --- He was known to lodge at the Boar's Head, near St. Margaret's Westminster:

22d. The brigade of guards reviewed by the duke of Marlborough and other general-officers in the front of the camp.

23d, and 24th, Remained in the same camp.

25th. Struck our tents at two in the morning, marched to Cowes, and embarked at eight. --- Sailed to Spithead, and joined the grand fleet. --- All the regiments of the line embarked on this and the day following. --- Found the light-horse (being nine troops) and Train of artillery, had joined the fleet.

A LIST of the several regiments, as they lay in camp at the isle of Wight, from right to left, all of which (except Talbot's) went on the expedition.

The first Regiment of Foot guards.

The Third ditto.

The Second ditto.

Lord Bentick's.

Lord Robert Manners's.

Colonel Talbot's.
 Earl of Hume's.
 General Huske's (Welch Fuzileers)
 Colonel Lambton's.
 Lord Charles Hay's.
 Lord Effingham Howard's.
 Duke of Richmond's.
 Colonel Cornwallis's.
 Lord Loudon's.
 Colonel Wolfe's.
 Colonel Kingfley's, and
 The Train of artillery.

[N. B. The place of our encampment was very healthy, but hot in the day, and cold at night. --- Near to it is Newport a very pleasant market-town, where we bought all our provisions.

At some small distance lies the castle of Carisbrook, which formerly was strongly fortified, but now is of little or no force, having but few small pieces of cannon. --- Here is a very curious well, dug through a great rock, in circumference 18 feet, and in depth 210 feet; it is esteemed excellent water.]

26th, and 27th. Remained at Spithead.

28th. Sailed all the men of war and transports to St. Helen's.

29th. Remained at St. Helen's.

30th. Remained at St. Helen's --- Signal for the commanding-officers, on board each of the transports, to go on board the Commodore's ship.

ship, to receive orders from the duke of Marl-
brough.

31st. Remained at St. Helen's.

- JUNE 1.

All the men of war of Lord Anson's squadron
failed at four in the morning.

At ten failed Commodore How's squadron and
transports in the following order, viz.

B 3

ORDER

ORDER OF SAILING.

[Diligence 14 Guns]

[Swallow 14 Guns]

[ESSEX, 64 Guns, Com. How]

[Maidstone 28 Guns]

[Active 28 Guns]

TRANSPORTS of the FIRST DIVISION.

[1st Reg. of Guards]

[2d Reg. of Guards]

[3d Reg. of Guards]

[Kingley's]

[Cornwallis's]

[Lord Hume's]

[Loudon's]

[Hay's]

[Richmond 36 Guns]

[Pallas 36 Guns]

[Fireships, Bombs, and their Tenders]

[Ordnance Transports]

[Baggage and Transport-Horse Ships]

[Rose 22
Guns]

[Brilliant 34 Guns]

[Flambro
20 Guns]

TRANSPORTS of the SECOND DIVISION.

Welch Fuzileers

Bentick's

Duke of Richmond's

Wolfe's

Lambton's

Ld. Ed. Howard's

Ld. Robt. Manners

Tartar 28 Guns

Succes 22 Guns

Light horse

Speedwell 10 Guns

Saltath 16 Guns

ROCHESTER 54 Guns

N. B. The Jason joined the fleet off Jerfey,
and the Isis after we came from Cancalle.

We soon lost sight of Lord Anson's squadron, as it was destined to block up the French fleet in Brest. --- But some of Lord Anson's appeared before St. Malo, when the ships in that harbour were destroyed.

A very stormy night, one of the transports lost her masts, another her bowsprit, but being towed by a man of war, it was of little or no consequence.

2d. Came in sight of part of France. --- Anchored near the isle of Alderney --- Broke one of our anchors. --- Another transport was near running us down.

3d. Anchored near the isle of Shark. --- Sailed by the isles of Guernsey and Jersey --- This day (being quite calm) the Ward transport, wherein were five companies of the 1st regiment, struck upon a rock near Shark, sprung a leak, and fired guns of distress. --- Several of the men jumped overboard, and in the confusion, many, both men and women, lost their cloaths, linnen, &c. but happily no man was lost.

4th. One of the cutters took a French fishing boat.

5th. Arrived at ten in the morning at Cancale bay, near the province of BRETAGNE. --- Two of the cutters were fired upon by a battery of 4 guns without effect. In the mean time another of 7 guns fired at the Swallow sloop, which was returned, but no damage was done on either side --- It being low water, all the fleet anchored, till seven, near the shore, when the Success,

cess, *Rose*, *Tartar*, and *Flambrough*, bore up to the battery of 4 guns, which fired at the *Success* several times, killed her boatwain, his mate, and another man; but, when she came within musket-shot, and began to fire, the battery was soon silenced. --- The three other ships proceeded successively, and tore the battery to pieces, killed the captain of it, and several of his men --- In the mean time the ten companies of grenadiers landed, and the brigade of guards soon after, at Lower Cancalle, without loss (except a grenadier-corporal of one of the regiments of the line, who accidentally shot himself in one of the boats). The grenadiers commanded by Lord Downe were fired upon from near a windmill, whereon the enemy's colours were hung, but they soon made them fly, leaving several dead behind. --- A sentinel posted at Upper Cancalle challenged two horse-men, one of them fired at him, but some of the grenadiers coming up in the interim, soon brought both men and horses to the ground. --- One of them proved to be an officer, and by his commission it appeared that his name was Lowendahl, and that he was to have a command in the army that was to be in those parts by the 12th instant. --- Before we landed, we could see a great number of men at some distance from Upper Cancalle, with colours flying, who, as we were afterwards informed, were a regiment of regulars, which marched this night near St. Malo. --- Had those disputed our landing with well-served artillery, they might have annoyed us greatly, as the Pass, through which we marched was very stony and watery, and so narrow, that two men could scarcely march abreast. --- Some of our Piquets and advanced Guards continued firing all night, killed some, and took others of the militia prisoners, who behaved

haved very audaciously or rather imprudently ; for if there were only two or three of them in company, they generally resisted, notwithstanding they knew they must either be killed, or taken prisoners. Their military law is very strict, which I apprehend makes them prefer dying by the enemy's sword rather than by a halter, which they know must be their fate, if they are convicted of cowardice. --- We marched, counter-marched, and lay upon our arms all night, for fear of being surprized near Lower Cancalle. --- Some houses were burnt.

6th. Marched and counter-marched most part of this morning, and encamped near Upper Cancalle. --- The remainder of the troops landed. Several men punished for marauding, and a grenadier of Lord Loudon's hanged for the same crime. --- He was an old soldier, and bore a good character in the regiment to which he belonged.

7th. Marched from Upper Cancalle to Chatou Rouchie, about 3 miles, leaving a brigade behind us to make Breastworks, &c. to cover our retreat in case of a surprize. --- Chatou Rouchie is on the direct road from Paris to St. Malo. --- Some of the militia fired at one of our advanced guards, wounded some, and killed one of the horses of our light-horse ; but most of the militia were taken prisoners. At this place we expected to have met with a warm reception, as some regular forces were posted here, but on our marching up, they made a precipitate retreat, and the brigade of guards encamped here to secure this post, which seemed to be a very advantageous one for us, and the road the enemy must march to relieve St. Malo. --- The rest of the army, the light-horse, the Guards-pi-
quets,

quets, their Camp colour-men, and the Train, marched towards St. Malo. --- Great lights in the night towards that place. --- One of the light horse shot in the thigh, and died in great agony.

The regiment that retired from near Cancele, were encamped by a village called St. John's, near St. Malo, which, when part of the army approached, struck their tents, upon the ringing of a bell, and fled with great speed, into the Citadel.

8th. Part of the army appeared before St. Malo, and took a strong battery, which we made use of against the enemy. Their cannon fired furiously against us, but with little or no effect. --- The Train returned, and encamped near the Brigade of Guards, because they could not bring up their cannon and mortars to play upon the Citadel, --- The Piquets set on fire upwards of 90 sail of ships, some of which were merchantmen, several men of war, and the greatest part of them privateers, and a vast number of small craft were entirely destroyed, besides a great row of houses which were burnt, but not designedly. --- All the yards, docks, rope-walks, arsenals, &c. were also destroyed. Part of the army were in the town last night. --- The enemy blowed up several roads near the Citadel, which is at some distance from the town, and commands both sea and land, and above 20,000 of the inhabitants retired into it with their effects. --- Part of Lord Anson's squadron appeared before the harbour, but could not bring their guns to bear on the Citadel.

This

This port sends out more privateers than any one in France, which have annoyed the English trade greatly, it being but few leagues from Guernsey and Jersey.--- A stormy night, with violent rain, and vast claps of thunder and lightning.

9th. The 2d regiment and some of the light-horse marched towards the town of Dole, about 12 miles from Chatou Rouchie; as soon as they advanced near it, three regiments of the French regular forces retired on the other side of it, and soon after the Heads of the place met our Commander, agreed to pay a contribution, and gave hostages for that purpose. --- The light-horse took two French horsemen belonging to the Swiss guards, who were the only prisoners brought with us. --- One of our light-horse unfortunately shot himself. --- One of the militia (a stout fellow) being taken prisoner by a corporal of our light-horse, attempted afterwards to dismount him, and to snatch his sword, but was overpowered.--- The sutler of the 2d regiment was found missing, he was taken prisoner by the militia, but returned after we embarked with a flag of truce.--- The 1st regiment marched towards St. Malo, to the Head Quarters of the Duke of Marlborough. ----- Remained at Chatou Rouchie the 3d regiment only, which made breastworks, cut down trees, &c.

The light-horse behaved well always, and were of singular service to us from their activity.

It was surprizing to see (considering the fatigue at sea) what a noble spirit prevailed amongst the troops in general, and I dare say, that, if we had come to a general engagement, every man would have shewn a true English spirit. --- Part of Kingfley's engaged a large Body of militia, defeated them, took several prisoners, and one of their standards.

10th. The 1st regiment from the Head Quarters and the 2d regiment from Dole, joined the main Body at Chatou Rouchie, and the whole army marched, and encamped near Upper Cancalle.

11th. The brigade of guards, and the regiments of the line remained in this camp. --- The light-horse and the train re-embarked. --- A stormy night, with rain and lightning.

The enemy were upon full march towards us, but the badness of this night prevented them from coming up with us. --- They were reported to be 30,000 strong, coming from all quarters.

12th. The remainder of the army re-embarked without the loss of a man. --- Several houses were burnt, but not intentionally. It was thought to be occasioned by some fires being lighted for the conveniency of both officers and men, on account of the heavy rains.

[N. B. ST. MALO is in the province of Bretagne --- The country is very fertile, and affords a pleasing prospect; its situation is delightful, and, in short, it is as fruitful as
any

any part of England. --- Here we were obliged to encamp in fields of wheat and pease; there was not much wine, but cyder we had in great plenty, large casks, of 7 or 800 gallons, being continually on draught, which was very acceptable to us all. There were scarcely any persons to be seen but some old women, but had the country-people continued in their habitations it would have been better for them, for no troops in the world could behave better than ours, owing to the strict discipline observed, no man being suffered to plunder. --- Many of the houses were very magnificently and genteely furnished, some of which were destroyed, in particular, one belonging to a captain of a French privateer.

13th. Remained at anchor in Cancele bay; we saw a large body of French horse on the sea side, and it is thought the army was near at hand, and encamped by Cancele, out of sight of us, but they came too late, which I confess I was sorry for, and I believe all were so, as we wished for nothing more than to come to a general engagement with them, but they found employ for themselves in setting their corrimills to work.

14th. Remained in the same bay, which is a very fine one, for all our fleet, being above an hundred sail, lay safe at anchor. It is a wonder that this place is not better fortified, considering its situation, but their coast being very extensive, they have a chain of forts all along it, at proper distances from each other, that at the appearance of an enemy before any one, the
firing

firing of a gun communicates the alarm to the whole coast, by each neighbouring fort answering in discharge of a gun. --- They have also guard-houses, at a small distance from each other; where some of the militia are always upon duty.

15th. Remained in the same bay. --- A flag of truce came on account of the hostages that were on board the fleet till the contribution was paid from Dole. --- During our stay on shore, two Hanoverians, Lear and Lutgins, who belonged to the 3d regiment, went over to the enemy, being the only persons who deserted us.

16th. All the fleet sailed at four in the morning --- A cutter took a French fishing- vessel off St. Malo, supposed to be a spy. --- Anchored in sight of that port. --- A stormy night, with a very rough sea. --- All the fleet obliged to ride with two cables. --- A transport near being lost.

17th. All the fleet obliged to put back to Cancele bay, it being too stormy at sea.

18th. Remained in the same bay, and nothing happened worthy of observation.

19th. Remained in Cancele bay.

20th. Remained in the same bay. --- The wind was all this time against us. --- Granville fort, at the mouth of the bay, on the opposite shore (at seven in the evening) fired several times at some of our cutters which went to reconnoitre it, but no damage was done.

21st. Sailed

21st. Sailed at nine in the morning from Cancele bay, and anchored again near St. Malo. --- A flag of truce came out of St. Malo, and was ordered back again, by one of the cutters into port. --- Some ships of war joined us. Sailed at seven in the evening.

22d. Anchored again at two in the morning (in a great calm) on the French coast. --- Sailed at nine, and passed by two batteries, one of 14 guns, and another of smaller force, about 4 Leagues S. W. from St. Malo. --- Anchored near Jersey.

23d. Sailed at eight in the morning, and anchored near Guernsey at twelve. --- Orders were read that one of Lambton's regiment, and another of a regiment of the line, were to suffer death, the former for attempting to ravish a French woman, and the latter for marauding. --- The Commodore fired a ball at our ship for being out of the line, and the captain was greatly reprimanded for it. --- The first ball the captain pays 6 s. 8 d. and so double that sum for every other gun upon the same offence.

It was a glorious sight to see the fleet under full sail, with a fresh gale of wind, our van and rear being some leagues from each other, and certainly such a fleet must damp the spirits of the enemy, as none of their ships durst stir out of their ports, for fear of falling into our hands.

24th. Two Dutch ships brought to at eleven in the morning. --- Came in sight of English coast at seven in the evening. --- Continued sailing to the N. E. all this night.

25th. Sailed

25th. Sailed by us four Dutch Ships. --- A man of war and cutter chased a French ship, which got clear off. --- Continued sailing all the night to the S. W. when we heard the report of several guns fired from the French shore, intended, as we imagined, to alarm the country.

26th. A frigate arrived from England, at three in the morning, with dispatches for the Commanders. --- At ten signal made for all the troops to get ready to land. --- Came within two leagues of Havre de Grace before we saw it (being very foggy weather). Some of the cutters went near the shore, and were fired at several times. --- The enemy's cannon seemed to be of considerable weight. --- It being very rough, we tacked about to sea.

27th. Stood again for Havre de Grace, and continued near it all day. --- A cutter went near the harbour, and found the enemy had sunk five of their ships in the mouth of it, to prevent our ships from getting in. --- 'Tis said the Duke of Marlborough, the Commodore, and other General-Officers, went on shore in a cutter last night, and found they could easily land the troops; but, in case of an opposition from the enemy, were exposed to imminent danger, for which reason the design against this place was laid aside, and all the fleet sailed to the west.

[HAVRE DE GRACE is in the province of PICARDY, and from this place the enemy fit out a great number of privateers, who greatly interrupt the English in their trade, therefore its destruction is much wished for, and hope we shall reduce it accordingly. ---

Near the mouth of the harbour is a strong castle abounding with small forts, and no more than one ship can get into it at a time, by reason of two great piers projecting into the sea, with a draw-bridge at its entrance.]

28th. Continued sailing all this day and night on the French coast.

29th. Came before CHERBOURG, in the province of NORMANDY. --- All the troops ordered to get ready for landing. --- The enemy fired at some of the cutters, about two in the afternoon. Several of the fleet brought to at seven within a league of the shore, and were fired at by nine different batteries, but their balls fell short of us.--- All the men of war, and four bombs, went a-head, and came to in the van, when every-thing was prepared for an attack. --- The ten companies of grenadiers and brigade of guards were ordered to land at eleven at night, and surprize 4 forts, in the mean time the bombs were to bombard the town. --- The expected period came, and most of the troops were in the boats, ready for the descent, but no orders were received for that purpose. --- The troops were ordered on board again, their landing at that juncture being postponed.

The enemy hoisted colours in three distinct places. --- The 1st on the left of the bay. --- The 2d at the top of a hill, on the left of the town; --- and the 3d on the right of the bay, where was a strong battery of heavy pieces of cannon. --- We could see a great number of ships in the harbour, and it seems to be a nest of privateers, as well as St. Malo and Havre de Grace.

30th. Some

30th. Some of the cutters went near the shore early this morning unmolested. --- Dispatches arrived to the Commanders from England. --- At eight three batteries fired at one of the transports; a few of their balls went over her. --- She cut her cable, and made the best of her way to the rear, without feeling the weight of the enemy's metal. --- Some of the men of war were as near as the transport, but were not fired at. --- Signal for all the fleet to sail.

JULY 1.

At eight in the morning came in sight of the isle of Wight, and anchored at seven in the evening at St. Helen's, being out from this place one calendar month. --- During this short voyage, we had but few sick of our regiment, and only one dyed since we marched from London.

2d. Remained at St. Helen's:

3d. Remained at St. Helen's. --- Sailed a large fleet under convoy, early this morning, from Spithead.

4th. Remained at St. Helen's. --- The Duke of Marlborough pardoned the two prisoners under sentence of death. --- Sailed at eight at night to Spithead.

5th. Remained at Spithead. --- During the time we continued here, and at St. Helen's, we had some provisions brought us by the mercenaries of Portsmouth, but they made us pay dear for every-thing, near double its value. We paid a shilling for a sixpenny loaf, and for every-thing

ry-thing else in the same extortionate manner. However six weeks short allowance and salt provisions made us contented with it at any rate.

6th. Sailed at noon, and anchored at Cowes at five in the afternoon.

7th. Disembarked at eight in the morning. Marched and encamped on our former ground; when we came here we wanted refreshment, and a great deal of cleansing, for the want of sweet air and clean linnen, made us abound with the reptile race, which we shook off without the least reluctance.

8th. Remained in the same camp, and found Talbot's regiment (left behind us) had been joined by draughts from other regiments, and in readiness to embark for Jamaica.

9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th. Remained in the same camp.

14th. Remained in the same camp. --- The Brigade of Guards began their field days.

15th. Remained in the same camp. --- Very windy and rainy weather ever since we landed. Talbot's regiment marched for Cowes, to embark for Jamaica.

16th. Remained in the same camp.

17th. Remained in the same camp. --- Most of the army had a field day.

18th. Remained in the same camp.

19th. Re-

19th. Remained in the same camp. --- The Brigade of Guards reviewed by General Dury.

20th. Remained in the same camp. --- A field day. --- A battalion of the Welch Fuzileers, Hume's and Kingsley's regiments marched to Cowes, to embark for Germany. --- One of Bentick's drummed out for thieving. --- The same regiment reviewed by General Mostyn.

21st. Remained in the same camp. --- Orders to be in readiness to embark again the 23d.

22d. Remained in the same camp.



THE
SECOND EXPEDITION

COMMANDED

By Lieut. Gen. BLYGH, by Land;

AND

The same Commodore by Sea:

JULY the 23d,

STRUCK our tents at eight in the morning, and the respective corps, who marched and embarked at Cowes, were as follows;

The First Regiment of Guards.
The Third ditto.
The Second ditto.
Lord Bentick's.
Lord Robert Manners's.
Colonel Lambton's.
Lord Charles Hay's.
Lord Effingham Howard's,
Duke of Richmond's.
Colonel Cornwallis's.
Lord Loudon's.
Colonel Wolfe's, and
The Train of Artillery.

24th. At

24th. At eight in the morning sailed from Cowes to Spithead, and joined the fleet.

25th. Remained at Spithead. --- The light-horse (being only six troops) embarked early this morning from Southsea common. --- His Royal Highness Prince Edward came on board the Effex (the Commodore's ship) and was saluted by every one of his Majesty's ships with three cheers, each ship's crew standing on their yards, stays, &c. which was a very pleasing sight.

26th. Remained at Spithead.

27th. Sailed at eight in the morning four frigates. --- All the fleet sailed to St. Helen's.

28th. Remained at St. Helen's. --- A very stormy day, with a great deal of hail.

29th. Remained at St. Helen's.

30th. Arrived at Spithead at eight in the morning a large fleet of coasters under convoy. At noon all the fleet sailed. --- Our ship, the Magnanimity, struck several times upon a sand bank near the Invincible, and another ship had her mast split, but no great damage was done. Signal at three in the afternoon for all the fleet to tack about, and at five anchored between Spithead and Cowes.

31st. Sailed again, and anchored at St. Helen's this morning; at six in the afternoon all the fleet sailed, much in the same order as on the first Expedition, but with this difference, that

our forces by sea were augmented, and by land diminished; the Earl of Hume's, Gen. Hulke's, and Kingsley's Regiments being gone to Germany, and three troops of the light-horse having been left behind us. --- One of the transports ran foul of our stern, but no great damage was done. Continued sailing all night, and the next morning were only seven leagues off the South-East of the isle of Wight.

AUGUST 1.

Continued sailing all day, and were but eight leagues at seven in the evening off the South of the isle of Wight, --- Continued sailing all night,

2d. A very foggy morning. --- At ten came within seven leagues of Cherbourg, and could observe fires on the shore to alarm the country. Sailed westerly, and at five in the evening anchored (being very calm) in 46 fathom water, out of sight of any land. --- A sloop under Spanish colours sailed through the fleet, was brought to, examined, and dismissed. --- Sailed at ten at night.

3d. Anchored at four in the morning in the channel; weighed anchor at ten. --- A great calm. --- Anchored again at three in the afternoon, no breeze. --- Sailed again at five, and came near Guernsey and Jersey. --- Tacked about, and sailed to the North East.

4th. Came early this morning in sight of Portland Road, at noon of the isle of Wight. --- A calm this afternoon, but the wind shifting about,
we

we were enabled to sail towards the evening, and all this night.

5th. A great fog all this morning. --- The drums in every ship were ordered to beat at one to prevent our running foul of each other. --- Anchored at six on the West of the isle of Alderney. --- Sailed at noon, and anchored at two in the afternoon on the North East side of that island. --- Several fires on the French shore to alarm the country. --- At four a ship under Dutch colours brought to, examined, and detained. --- Sailed at seven to the East.

6th. Several guns fired on the French shore, to alarm the country on the West of Cherbourg. At two in the afternoon the enemy fired several cannon at our van, which did us no damage. --- All the fleet anchored before the town.

7th. The bombs began to play at three in the morning, and fired 13 shells, or upwards, which did not reach the enemy, who also fired some cannon which did not hurt us --- At eight the enemy drew their forces of horse and foot, and some pieces of cannon to the West of the town, while the Grenadiers were in the boats, and making towards the landing-place --- The frigates and bomb-ketches brought to in the bay des Marees, better than two leagues westward of Cherbourg, under whose cover the Grenadiers, and part of the Guards, landed, in the face of a large body of the enemy prepared to receive them. The bombs and frigates destroyed numbers of the enemy, both horse and foot. --- Major M'Cartney of the Irish Brigades was killed by a cannon ball. --- 'Tis said there was found in his pocket a letter from his wife in London, which mention-
ed

ed they need not be afraid of the English, for they only intended to cruize on the French coast to prevent the French forces from going into Germany. --- The enemy would not believe such a presumption (as they termed it) notwithstanding they saw us in our boats; but this man (who was of great esteem) informed them of the contrary. --- That his countrymen would fight, and they would soon feel the effects of our landing. --- We had several skirmishes with them, but they firing from behind hedges, and in woods, killed and wounded several of our men, before we could drive them from their skulking-places, which we always did very effectually. --- Ensign Cox, of the 1st regiment, received a ball in one of his shoulders. --- At three in the afternoon, most of the Foot landed, and encamped near Urville, a small village about ten miles to the West of Cherbourg. --- Prince Edward and the Commodore were on shore with the General as soon as we landed. --- This young Hero distinguished himself greatly on this occasion; for, when the Commodore went into his barge from the Essex, in order to go on board of the Pallas, he jumped in after him, and would by no means stay behind, notwithstanding the Commodore solicited him greatly; and his expressions were, "NOW I AM IN THE BOAT, GET ME OUT IF YOU CAN." --- And when he was on board the Pallas, he fired off 30 pieces of cannon against the enemy. --- Several of the Irish Brigades came to us with their arms and accoutrements, one of them was a deserter from the 1st regiment, and said to be an officer in the French service, who informed us that most of the Brigades wanted greatly to desert. --- Another belonging to the same regiment deserted them in the night, and when he came near us, he

he ran into the sea (conceiving us to be the enemy) but fortunately he was taken up by one of our boats, though almost drowned. --- These deserters were of singular service to us, by discovering the strength of the enemy, their mines, fortifications, &c. --- They were reported to be near 4000 of horse and foot, and about 4000 of the militia, who were worse to encounter with than the Regulars, for they generally (according to their ancient custom) lay in ambuscade, and would never fight us in a fair field. --- The Richmond man of war ran upon a rock, and several of her guns were put into a cutter, before she could be weighed. --- We were very fortunate to have fine weather, for our landing-place was very rocky. --- The General summoned the town to surrender, but the Governor answered in the negative, and that his orders were to defend it to the last, "which he would do, so long as a house was left standing."

8th. Several Prussians came in with their arms, who were taken prisoners by the prince of Soubise's army in Germany, and compelled to serve by the French. --- A standard brought in by one of the Welch Fuzileers. --- The Light-horse and Train of Artillery disembarked last night and this morning. --- At ten, the whole marched towards Cherbourg, and some of our troops took possession of a fort and battery, which the enemy had evacuated with great precipitation, and soon after we found they had also deserted the town, and retired about 4 miles to the South-East side of it. --- Now Monsieur had changed his language, "left themselves to our mercy, "and hoped we would use them well." --- At seven in the evening, we marched through their intrenchments, which were about 2 miles long, and

and would contain upwards of 60,000 of horse and foot, had three different batteries, one of 5, and the other two of 6 guns each, which guns they had taken out of the Tartar privateer of Bristol, brought into this port; the outsides of the Breastworks were naturally strong, and difficult to ascend, it being very rocky on the sea-side, and here the enemy lay last night. --- It is said the Duke of Marlborough intended to land us here on the last Expedition, but the Commodore objected to it. --- It was fortunate for us that we did not; for, on our reconnoitring the place, after our landing (which without doubt we were then better judges of) we found we must have been repulsed, with infinite loss; another instance of the worthy Commodore's judgment, whose conduct through the whole must be revered by every Briton, by every lover of his country, in preferring Urville, the contiguous shore from the bay des Marecs, the place where we landed, to that proposed on the former Expedition. --- When we disembarked, we were reported to be 30,000 men, headed by a British prince (in the interim being no more than 8000) which report they readily gave credit to, as it was a powerful argument for their retreating towards the interior parts of the country; but had we formed that number, they might have annoyed us greatly, considering their strong works, forts, batteries, &c. --- This afternoon the Grenadiers took possession of the town, and at nine the remainder of the army encamped on the West of it, after having possessed ourselves of their fortifications.

9th. Continued quietly in our camp for the greatest part of this day; the more we viewed the fortifications, the more we were amazed the

the enemy should desert them: in the narrow lanes near the town, where hardly two men could march a-breast, they had thrown up Breast-works which would cover a platoon of men, to fire and retreat with safety, also ponds of water, in those lanes, which made it inaccessible; however desirous, yet the enemy abandoned this situation. --- At five in the afternoon we marched and encamped in two lines, within a mile of the town. --- Four of Lord Loudon's regiment killed by the country-people, by going a marauding. --- Bentick's regiment encamped on the top of the hill, East of the town, where was a battery of 7 pieces of cannon, behind it a large convent, near it a great wood of several miles in length, and on the other side the enemy lay encamped. In the harbour there were upwards of 35 sail of ships, which were afterwards destroyed, except the Tartar privateer of Bristol, a large ship wherein were shipped the brass guns, trophies, mortars, stores, and ammunition, &c. for England, and another ship that was begged by an English lady. --- The harbour was very commodious, formed a basin, and would contain a great number of ships; at the mouth of it there were two large piers projecting out into the sea, with fine walks on them, of about 400 yards in length, at the extremity of which they had sunk a ship. --- The piers were built with very fine stone, and a remarkable strong cement. At the entrance of the harbour was a draw-bridge. --- On the West of it a fine quay, and every-thing commodious for a sea-port that the art of man could invent. --- The town has but very ordinary buildings, and is as large as Portsmouth; but I think the housewives in France are rather fluttish. --- There is a grand church, with five good musical bells, said to be taken from

from Carisbrook in the isle of Wight. --- From the inscriptions on them, they appear to be made in the reign of one of the Edwards, and are intended to be brought to England by an EDWARD. --- Near to the church is a fine parade, where there is a cross, with a shield and sponge on it, a spear, a hammer, nails, pincers, &c. in imitation of the cross whereon our Saviour was crucified. There were four strong forts mined all round, three of which were named, Quourqueville, Homet, la Galette, and another the name of which I cannot recollect, besides several batteries of 5, 6, and 7 guns each, with great numbers of balls, heaps of stones, and other combustibles, from which one might suppose that they intended giving us a warm reception. --- There were also two large magazines for powder, &c. in one of which there was 2000 lb. weight of powder, which was applicable enough, as it served to blow up their own works. --- Several storehouses, which contained great quantities of wheat, flour, anchors, cables, ropes, and other implements for shipping, were taken care of, for the use of our fleet. --- The masters of the transports had the liberty of taking what was necessary.

We took in the different forts and batteries as follows;

- 25 Large brass cannon of 18 and 24 pounders.
- 103 Iron ditto.
- 70 Of 9, 12, and 14 pounders, some of which were brass.
- 10 Fine mortars, of a large diameter.
- 3500 Small arms, and other warlike stores.

Most

Most of which were shipped on board the fleet (except the iron cannon and some of the brass ones which were destroyed or rendered useless).--- All the brass cannon had the arms of France on them, and other ornaments, and are thought to be as fine pieces as any in Europe.--- At some distance West of the town was a foundery for brass cannon, where were a great number not quite finished, which, with the foundery, were entirely destroyed.--- There were also large storehouses for wine, brandy, rum, and cyder of an excellent quality; but the men making too free with it, it was ordered to be flaved, for fear of the bad consequences of enervating our Soldiery in an enemy's country.--- We had several necessaries in the town which we paid for, brandy at 6 d. and wine at 5 d. English per quart.--- The exchange of a shilling puzzled us much, by reason of the number and smallness of their coin. --- Tobacco and salt is very dear all over the kingdom, being saddled with high duties. --- Provisions were brought us from the ships, which saved our enemy's beef, &c. The country produces plenty of wheat, rye, and barley, and is very fertile, but is not so fine a country as Bretainne. --- We encamped in corn-fields, which being fit for reaping, our people cut it for them, but fear would not permit them to come and carry it home, notwithstanding orders were given for that purpose without molestation. --- Within a mile of the town is another large convent, wherein were a great number of the devout fair sex, which, to the honor of the British soldiery, received not the least injury, but remained unmolested, and indeed untouched.

10th. Several more of the Irish Brigades came in with their arms and accoutrements, who informed

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formed us, that the enemy were reinforced by 4 battalions of foot, and 5 squadrons of horse. — Prince Edward came on shore every day with the Commodore, and was highly delighted at the taking of this place. — The French had been many years in fortifying and strengthening this harbour, but in particular the present Louis XV. has paid great attention, finding it of such consequence; and which, if they had compleated, agreeable to the plan laid down, in process of time (as Colonel Cunningham our engineer declared) would greatly annoy the English trade in time of war, by reason of its being so contiguous to the British channel, where the French privateers could fall out when they pleased; in the destruction whereof great numbers of our miners, sailors, marines, and others, were employed night and day. — Two serjeants and 24 men of the Brigades came in with their arms and accoutrements. — An officer of Bentick's, and some men upon a foraging party, taken prisoners by the enemy. — Several of our men went a marauding (without arms) near the French camp. Seven of our regiment, at three this morning, were so near, that one of their sentinels fired upon them, and soon after they were saluted with the fire of two platoons, but luckily our men escaped, and returned to camp unhurt. — It is thought more lives were lost by their daring dispositions, than in all our skirmishes with the enemy. — Several more of the Irish Brigades came in, with arms and accoutrements and a brass drum, who informed us, that all or most of the Brigades would desert on the first opportunity, their pay being small, and that, at the same time very badly paid, An officer and his guard that were upon duty at a fort West of Urville (our landing-place) wished for us to come near him, that he and his whole
guard

guard might desert to us. — At last, the enemy would not suffer any of the Brigades upon duty, by reason of their desertion, their provision and water being brought them, and in fact, they were on that account confined as prisoners. — Two of Lord Loudon's shot by the country-people. — A fine feat of the duke of Normandy's was entirely destroyed, situated within three miles of Cherbourg.

11th. The 1st régiment marched to relieve Bentick's, near the battery on the rock (being a very dangerous post) which returned and encamped on the left of us. --- The 2d regiment took the 1st regiment's ground. --- Some of the Train encamped on the flanks with several pieces of ordnance, to cover us, in case of an attack from the enemy, who were by this time reported to be 13000 strong, being daily reinforced. --- This day contribution was paid, or agreed to be paid, reported to be 4,000000 livres, or 175000 l. sterling. But there was an old contribution due to us from this place (having been heretofore taken) and whether this debt is comprehended in the above I cannot say. --- There was a skirmish between our Light-horse and a party of the enemy, in which the latter were routed with loss; we lost only 2 men, and 1 horse. --- The enemy's horse would shew themselves in parties of 40 or 50; but when ours advanced (not being half their number) they ran away, and took the same method of secreting themselves as heretofore. --- A serjeant, and twelve men of the Brigades, surrendered to the Light-horse. --- At ten this night the whole camp was alarmed, were all under arms, and formed battalions in less than four minutes time, thinking the enemy were approaching

proaching ; [a false alarm.] ---One of the Light-horse, belonging to captain Linsey, broke loose, dragging his furniture, and on full gallop towards the camp, made a great noise, and the challenge not being answered, the sentinel fired, and soon after three half files of the Piquet did the like ; no other damage was done, than the killing of an exceeding fine beast. [I only mention this circumstance to shew the alertness of our men.] Many ships were burnt this night in the harbour.

12th. Several works, and part of the piers blown up, whereby a French gentleman was killed, and one of our soldiers dangerously wounded, but great caution was taken to prevent such accidents for the future, a drum being ordered to beat, that all persons might retire to a proper distance, when any works were to be blown up. — Some of our Light-horse often advanced this day near the French, who were in large parties, but when ours came near them, they retreated (as usual) into the woods ; and indeed, 'tis plain they will never fight, without a superiority of numbers on their side.

13th. Some more of the piers and quay blown up ; it was surprizing to see with what velocity and height large stones of great weight would fly in the air, the return of which must destroy every-thing they light upon. --- A small party of the Light-horse, under captain Linsey's command, advancing too near the enemy (who lay in ambuscade) were fired upon from different quarters, killed some of our men, and those who were wounded and fell, notwithstanding they begged for quarters, the enemy inhumanly dispatched. --- The captain

is wounded, and we are afraid mortally, [is since dead] but had the good fortune to escape their hands; when a party of our grenadiers advanced, the dastardly runaways took to cover again, but the Duke of Richmond, with a party under his command, fell upon the enemy before they could screen themselves, killed and wounded many, and took several of them prisoners. A serjeant major, and several more of the Brigades came over to us; by this time we had upwards of 250, who, together with the prisoners, were sent on board the fleet as soon as they came in.

14th. Fort Galette blown up, and the remainder of the ships set on fire. — The miners and other artificers worked night and day to make cavities to blow up the remainder of the forts, batteries, piers, &c. — Several more belonging to the regiments of the line killed by the country-people, by advancing too far into the country.

15th. Completed the destruction of a harbour that cost an immense sum of money; a port so useful to the enemy in time of war, and of course injurious to our trade, is now rendered useless for many years, a blow so fatal, that its consequences are known to the mercantile part of this island, and I need not trouble the reader with my estimate. — Most of the Light-horse and Train of Artillery re-embarked. — We fully expected an attack from the enemy, but not a man was molested. — A grenadier of Lord Charles Hay's tried and hanged for ravishing a French woman. — Some of the regiments of the line re-embarked this night.

16th. At three in the morning, the 2d and 3d regiments struck their tents, and formed battalion before it was light, and all marched and re-embarked in the greatest order imaginable (our advanced parties having joined us) without the least interruption, much to the glory and honour of our king and country, and to the shame and disgrace of our perfidious enemies, whose very strength and safety consists in the number of their troops, every individual being taught the use of arms from his infancy. — The frigates and bombs were drawn up in extreme good order to secure our re-embarkation, in case the enemy had made any attempt to cut off our rear, but they thought proper to lye quiet, having suffered greatly by the ships when we landed. — They were reinforced by this time to 25000, and now we leave them to peep out of their woods to examine what damage a handful of British soldiers have done them. — The General and Commodore are highly applauded for their conduct on this occasion, having lost but few men in destroying so strong a port. — We were informed, that when we went from before this place the last Expedition, great rejoicings were made by the inhabitants, who opened their wine-vaults for their military men, and made merry, calling us English dogs and cowards, for being affrighted at the firing of a few of their guns; however, I hope they will not take the liberty of lampooning and gasconading us now, for instead of breaking their windows with English guineas (as they were pleased to say on our late Expedition into Bretagne) we can now pave some of London streets with French louis-d'ores. — The common cry of the country-people was “ That they were entirely ruined
“ by

“ by the King of Prussia, and the English
 “ Guards.” --- At four in the afternoon a flag
 of truce went on shore for four grenadiers of
 the 2d regiment, and four of the Light-horse,
 left behind us as safe-guards, and were forgot
 to be taken off at our re-embarkation, who all
 returned safe at seven. --- In regard to the valour
 of our little army, the consternation of our ene-
 mies, and the real loss they have sustained from
 our continual alarming and harrasing their
 coasts, in prejudice to their trade, I'll leave to
 the superior judgment of the public; and our
 ferriting their nests, and shaking down their
 strong holds, to the destruction of the hungry
 prey of our trade, I do most readily appeal even
 to the faith of a Frenchman, much more to our
 worthy and honest merchants, whose interest and
 protection never shone more in the annals of
 Great Britain than in the present reign of our
 most illustrious King: blessed also with able and
 upright statesmen, whose happiness seems to con-
 sist in making Majesty and subject truly so;
 great and good! How different is such conduct
 from that of former administrations! --- Most of
 the transports weighed anchor, weathered and
 anchored again at a greater distance from the
 shore to ride with more safety.

17th. Remained before Cherbourg.

18th. All the fleet sailed at eight in the morn-
 ing, and came near Alderney. --- At two in the
 afternoon, saw a sail near that island, which the
 Maidstone came up with at three, and fired 3
 guns to bring her to, which was answered with a
 broadside, and both engaged furiously for a
 quarter of an hour; in the interim two of our
 ships of war sailed between her and the land, to
 prevent

prevent her from running into any port, or ashore (which she seemed desirous of;) at six could see her under tow of one of our men of war, having her main-top-mast shot away, and otherwise greatly damaged; she proved to be one of the French king's ships (a snow) and mounted 24 guns. --- The French behaved very well, and fired very fast, but all the hands (when she was boarded) were found drunk, and accounts for their bravery, or rather fool-hardiness, to fight one of our ships in sight of the fleet. --- This ship was chased yesterday, but got clear (being an excellent sailer) and has been after us (as a. . .) ever since we made our first appearance in the channel, on this Expedition.

19th. Early this morning came in sight of the isle of Wight, and at eight the whole fleet anchored in Portland road, near Weymouth, in Dorsetshire.

20th. Prince Edward went on shore this morning to Weymouth, and was saluted with the firing of several guns from the town; and, when he returned to the barge, to come on board the fleet, the same was repeated. — A man of war sailed with the above prize for Portsmouth. — This evening we received the agreeable news of the taking of the islands of Cape Breton and St. John's, with their appurtenances, by Admiral Boscawen and General Amherst; upon which great rejoicings were made in the whole fleet, and at night several sky-rockets, &c. were played off from the men of war, which gave great satisfaction, and the countenance of each testified the joy of all.

21st. At two in the afternoon, signal made at sea by one of our cruizers, upon which three frigates directly failed, and it is thought some of the enemy's ships were in the channel, but had no further account.

22d. Signal for failing at seven in the morning.---The whole fleet failed, and anchored again at nine near the same place.---At midnight failed to the South West.

23d. This morning we had a confirmation of the taking of Cape Breton; " The garrison surrendered prisoners of war, at the discretion of the admiral; consisting of

- " 5637 men.
- " 218 pieces of cannon.
- " 14 mortars.
- " 7500 muskets.

" With great store of ammunition, and other implements of war; besides 5 ships of the line, and 6 frigates taken and destroyed in the harbour." Vide Gazette.--- Came in sight of Torbay, and kept our course to the West.

24th. Tack about at eight in the morning to the South. — At eleven a frigate arrived with dispatches to the Commanders, which fired several guns, and soon after failed to the East, at four to the South, and at eight to the North-East. — We had a very stormy and dangerous night, several ships separated from the fleet, and many of them received damage. — Our ship, and all on board, narrowly escaped being lost, by the King of Prussia, hospital ship's coming a-

cross within a fathom, and if she had run foul of us, we must inevitably have gone to the deep.

25th. Continued sailing to the North East (it being then very stormy) and to our great joy, at eight at night, anchored in Portland road.

26th. Very stormy weather. — Arrived four transports that had left us in the storm. — At noon signal for chasing a French privateer, which appeared in sight of this place, upon which three frigates sailed immediately, but she got clear; she had chased one of our merchantmen, and drove her on shore on the West of Portland (out of sight of the fleet;) no great damage accrued as she is likely to be got off.

27th. At two in the afternoon arrived four frigates, three cutters, and eight transports, who brought the three Light-horse Troops, left behind after the first Expedition. --- Very stormy.

28th. Continued stormy weather.

29th. Continued so all this morning.

30th. Fine weather.

31st. Sailed the whole fleet, at six in the morning, to the South East. --- Again stormy weather all this day and night.

SEPTEMBER 1.

The same this morning. --- Sailed by the Start Point, near Plymouth. --- Fine weather in the afternoon, and sailed South West.

2d. Fine weather. --- Sailed South West off Guernsey and Jersey at noon. --- Signal made for chasing, upon which two frigates bore away for Jersey, and soon after came up with five sail under convoy, having on board the recovered men we left sick at the isle of Wight.

3d. Early this morning could observe several fires on the French shore; at seven several guns were fired at the Swallow sloop taking the foundings. --- Signal to make ready for landing. --- At seven in the evening, anchored two leagues South West of St. Malo.

4th. At seven in the morning, the grenadiers, Brigade of Guards, and regiments of the line, were in their boats, but the wind blowing fresh, a rough sea, and a rocky coast, retarded our landing till noon. --- We lost eight of Bentick's regiment by a frigate's running down a boat. The enemy fired three balls and some grape-shot from a battery of 4 guns, which did not reach us; we effected our landing, and soon afterwards destroyed that battery. --- Encamped at St. Lunaire, about eight miles from St. Malo, and found our chief objects were to destroy some ships sent from Granville to St. Malo for safety, and receive the contribution agreed to be paid by the town of St. Malo when we landed at Cancalle. The former could not be accomplished, as the enemy had made it impossible for us to march in any short interval, having blown
up

up the bridges, and roads, &c. we must pass; but we destroyed 13 small ships in a creek near St Briaux, within two miles of the right of our camp. --- It grieved us much we could not pass on the Citadel; 'tis perfect strength, environed by the sea, high ramparts round, with batteries on each side, mounting 200 pieces of cannon; guarded again by nature, at some distance are small rocky islands projecting more to the sea, on which are erected several batteries and forts, built uniform, and bomb-proof: one of them is entirely hewn out of a solid rock; these also mount 70 pieces of ordnance from 48 to 52 pounders. --- No wonder their ships riding in safety, an harbour thus situated and fortified! Some of our men were out a marauding and met a party of the militia, who fled, and left a standard behind them. --- In this instance, the Frenchman's valour was truly exemplified; for, according to our military law, it is death (tho' in an enemy's country) to pilfer, for which reason our men had, to pass unnoticed by their officers, left the camp without arms, and a small number of them too.

5th. Remained at St. Lunaire camp. --- Disembarked 2 short pieces of cannon of 6 pounders, and 36 Light-horsemen. --- The enemy still busy in raising obstacles, and blowing up their roads to retard our march against the Citadel. --- A party of the grenadiers marched towards the town, on their return were fired upon by the French ships in the harbour, which did us no damage. --- A great number of houses set on fire near the camp.

6th. Remained in the same camp. --- At ten in the morning a cutter bore to a battery upon
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an island, on the right of our landing-place, from whence the enemy fired, which the cutter returned, and received no damage; a frigate immediately bearing up, silenced and destroyed that fort. --- The whole fleet weathered more out to sea, it being very windy and dangerous to lye near the rocks, when we found we could not re-embark at our landing-place (St. Lunaire) but obliged to march thro' the country, in order to get round to our ships, near St. Cas. --- Last night, four French ships attempted to come out of the harbour, and carry off the transports nearest them, but were prevented by our frigates. --- A transport belonging to the first regiment, and another ship, received some damage against the rocks.

7th. This morning, a French frigate, with colours flying, anchored at the mouth of the harbour, under cover of the ramparts, and we were informed, by good authority, that the French troops from Granville, would certainly be at Cancele on the morrow night.

8th. Four of the 1st regiment of grenadiers were tried this morning by a general court-martial, for forcing a safeguard. --- At nine the whole body marched, and went thro' a small village, where we observed a French gentleman and a priest, standing as the whole line marched by; but the supposed priest in the canonical robe (as we have since been informed) was a general-officer. 'Tis a pity he was not secured, for by this artifice our strength was discovered. --- Encamped where nothing separated us from a small village called St. Gildau, but the flowing of the tide. --- One of our advanced parties and some camp-colourmen, were fired upon by a large body of militia,

militia, who lay intrenched up to their eyes, near the village, by means of a long deep ditch, but not one of our people received the least hurt. --- Some men from Guernsey, who were bringing us provisions and liquor to St. Lunaire, were taken prisoners by the enemy after we had left that place. We had very bad marching this day, being wet weather, and a bad road. --- At ten at night the Piquet belonging to the Guards were alarmed by a small party of the militia, but several of the sentinels firing upon them, they ran away, and the next morning an officer and some men were taken prisoners.

9th. This morning our guns played upon the militia, near St. Gildau, but could not disperse them. --- At three in the afternoon the whole body marched: the Brigade of Guards by the sea-side, where we were obliged to wade through water, and the grenadiers and the remainder of the army towards Gildau, where the militia opposed the grenadiers, but were soon repulsed, by which numbers of them were killed and wounded, notwithstanding we had only two guns on shore. --- On our side, Lord Frederick Cavendish, and captain Daniel Jones were wounded, 4 private men killed, and some wounded. --- We found they had hanged nine grenadiers of one of our regiments of the line, who came here marauding last night, (as they informed us) and that the opposition made by the militia, was to retard our marching, till the junction of the regular forces, as those from St. Malo and other places being on their march, and soon after we left St. Lunaire, learnt their forces joined accordingly, and encamped after us. --- Encamped on the West of Gildau, which, with some adjacent houses, were set on fire, and consumed to ashes,

ashes, on account of their hanging the poor grenadiers.

10th. At seven in the morning, the whole marched, and at ten three battalions of French regulars opposed our grenadiers and some advanced parties, wherein we had some men killed and wounded, but the enemy were soon routed, with considerable loss, upon firing of one of our guns. --- We took one standard.--- An officer and several men (imagined coming to surrender) were shot. --- At three in the afternoon, encamped on the West of a village called St. Matignon, after having taken several prisoners. --- The 2d regiment marched towards St. Cas bay, in order to bring us some provisions from our ships; and, upon their arrival near the sea-side, the proper signal was hung out, when several boats came from the ships, and were fired upon by two batteries, one of three guns of 24 pounders, and the other of two guns, but were soon after both of them destroyed by the 2d regiment. --- A grenadier of the 1st regiment (one of the four men tried by a general court-martial) was hanged, and died very penitent. --- This night our Piquets had frequent skirmishes with parties of the enemy, who were obliged to retire with loss. --- At eleven at night, the Piquet belonging to the Guards was alarmed by a party of the enemy, but upon our sentinels challenging them, they hurried away, without firing a gun; and 'tis imagined that late this night the French forces joined from St. Malo, Morlaix, and Brest, which consisted of several squadrons of dragoons, and about fifteen battalions of Foot; to the amount of 18000, which, with the militia made up near 25000 men, with eighteen pieces of cannon or upwards, and eight mortars.

tars. --- Came to us a French deserter, who proved of singular service, and informed us of the above account of the enemy's strength.

11th. We could hear the French drums beat before day-light this morning. --- At three we beat the general through the whole line, and soon after the enemy did the like. --- Whereupon the whole marched back again through Matignon, in order to retreat to our ships, and we soon observed that our little army was in great danger of being surrounded by the enemy. --- Early this morning the grenadiers beat off a large party of them on the East side of the town, in which skirmish we lost one man. --- At seven, the regiments of the line being in the front, and the grenadiers and Guards in the rear, a numerous body of the enemy attempted to cut off the grenadiers by a perpetual fire of their musquetry for the space of half an hour, which our men received with great composure, and returned with such bravery that the enemy fell back, leaving many of their dead ; on our side, we had only two wounded. --- The whole halted the space of an hour near a village called St. Cas, within a mile of the fleet ; and at eight the regiments of the line, and our few Light-horse began to re-embark ; at nine the remainder of the army was by the sea-side, ready to re-embark. --- In half an hour after the whole and the 2 pieces of cannon were re-embarked (except the grenadiers and Brigade of Guards) ~~then~~ we observed the enemy in great numbers of horse and foot, on the ground where we had halted just before, who soon played several pieces of cannon upon our rear, which killed some men, and that they were marching in 4 different columns, with an intent to cut off those that remained on shore ; but the bomb-shells, cannon-balls, chain-shot,
and

and grape-shot from our ships, prevented their right wing from coming down, there being no hollow ground to favour the enemy; whereby great numbers were destroyed in every quarter, by the incessant fire of our ships. --- But quickly upwards of 8000 foot, composing the other three columns, coming from their center and left wing, marched with full speed into a hollow, and where our ships could not hurt them, a very advantageous post, for we then felt the effects of their artillery, otherwise we might all have re-embarked under cover of our ships. --- The grenadiers, which consisted of four companies of the Guards-grenadiers of 73 men each, and nine companies of grenadiers belonging to the regiments of the line, of 100 men each, were ordered to face them, and in the mean time the 2d and 3d regiments, and part of the 1st re-embarked in the boats, and the remainder of the 1st regiment, being four companies, and part of two companies of 73 men each (no boats being near to take them in) also faced the enemy, when they were soon engaged, and the onset was bloody and even doubtful; for, notwithstanding their vast superiority, advantageous situation, and strength of artillery, (which they chiefly rely upon) the grenadiers intrepidity, and uncommon courage, made them shift, and twice give ground; and it is really imagined they would have retired, had it not been for constant succours from their rear, and for one of their officers (distinguished by his regimentals being red) remarkable in his rallying and coming up to the charge, (supposed to be an Irishman) but it cost him his life. No men in the world sustained the first shock, or maintained their ground better than our grenadiers; they stood like castles, till most of their ammunition

nition was spent, but such a superior force there was no contending with, and the surviving few retreated to the sea-side, even up to their waists in water, yet, in this situation, they rallied in small bodies, and fired several times, but being still over-powered, they offered to surrender; but the cruel Gardes d' Cotes, or peasants, shewed no mercy, notwithstanding my brave countrymen supplicated, no quarter was granted them.--- From all accounts, 8000 of the enemy engaged ours left on shore, whose number were computed 1500 at the utmost, half of which recovered the ships by swimming and getting into boats from a rock on the right of the enemy, so that the great disproportion is easily perceived, for, under such circumstances, it is not to be supposed one half of our people could come to a general engagement.--- The scene was truly melancholy to those who from their situation were obliged to remain inactive spectators; shocking to see such havock amongst our countrymen and brother-soldiers, and could by no means assist them; but the torrent of the enemy being so great, ripe with revenge, and insuring themselves all success over a handful of men, they now gloried, and a short period closed the unhappy catastrophe, staining the Gallic shore with the blood of some of the best troops Great Britain could produce, and which were the flower of our little army; and, had the whole Brigade of Guards been on shore five minutes longer, they must undoubtedly have shared the same fate.--- In the sea service we had 4 captains taken prisoners, 1 lieutenant killed, and 2 midshipmen wounded; besides 8 sailors killed, and 17 wounded.--- Of the army we had, from the best and most authentic accounts I could get, killed and taken prisoners about 700, and several

ral flat-bottom boats sunk by the enemy's cannon, but few men were lost in them; the 1st regiment suffered greatly, the King's company having but few men left; and it really was out of their power to do much execution, for, on their advancing, the enemy killed numbers of them before they could come to action: And here let it be remembered, that unless a Frenchman can be covered with a proportionate train of artillery, he will not fight (infinite superiority excepted) he cannot endure, nay he abhors the bayonet, which is sufficiently exemplified to the reader from the account of the various skirmishes I have given in the course of this journal; that depending either upon their train, or vast superiority is equally serviceable to them as our people must fall ere within reach of that defence, tho' they always had that recourse, shewing such a noble spirit, that must at all times elevate the soldier, and prove satisfactory to the whole. — General Dury of the Guards was killed; in the heat of the action, he was observed to take the ammunition out of the pouches of the killed and wounded, to supply the fighting men; such an apparent instance of his true courage requires no other to perpetuate his memory in the mind of a soldier, as well as every lover of his country; and this moment, with regret and utter concern, I lament his fall, for in him we lost a brave man, and an excellent commander; we lost several other officers whose behaviour was gallant, a list of whom is given hereafter. The enemy acknowledge the loss of 1800 men, but it is imagined they lost double that number, considering the terrible slaughter made amongst them by our grenadiers, and the multitude who fell by the continual fire from the ships' bomb-shells, cannon-balls, chain-shot, and

grape-shot, whereby they dropt by dozens. --- Had our whole force come to an engagement, notwithstanding the enemy's superiority of near four to our one, we don't doubt but we should have behaved like Britons, and made them pay dear for it, in case they had attacked us; but the dastardly cowards have nothing to boast of, and can only say that they cut off part of our rear guard, and by so doing lost near six times the number. --- During the last four days, most of the troops were continually wet, had a bad country to march through, and a great scarcity of provisions, having received none from our ships since we left St. Lunaire, whereby we greatly suffered. --- At noon the whole sailed from St. Cas bay, more out to sea, the bay being very rocky. --- This afternoon a flag of truce went on shore, and returned, which brought from the French General, the duke de Aiguillon, the following account of officers taken prisoners by the enemy.

A L I S T

A LIST of Officers taken Prisoners by
the Enemy.

GRENADIERS of
the GUARDS. { Captain Bridgeman.
Captain Mathews.
Captain Caswell, wounded.

GUARDS. { Lord Frederick Cavendish.
Lieut. Colonel Pearson.
Captain Dickens.
Captain Hyde, wounded.
Lieut. Colonel Lambert.
Ensign Sr. Alex. Gilmour.
Captain Pownal.

Lord GEO. BEN-
TICK'S. { Captain Heathcote.
Lieut. Shearing.

CORNWALLIS'S. Lieut. Thompson.

LOUDON'S. Lieut. Price.

EFFINGHAM'S.

EFFINGHAM'S. { Captain Bromhead.
Lieut. Whyly.
Lieut. Denshire.

MANNERS'S. { Captain Napier.

WOLFE'S. { Captain Myers.
Lieut. Rose.

LAMBTON'S. { Captain Revel,
Lieutenant Grant.

RICHMOND'S. { Lieut. Price.
Lieut. Lambourn.

A LIST of Officers Killed.

GUARDS. { Major General Dury.
Captain Walker.
Ensign Cox.

GRENADIER
GUARDS. { Captain Rolt.

LOUDON'S.

LOUDON'S.

Lieut. Williamson.

HAY'S.

Captain Edmonstone.

EFFINGHAM'S.

Lieut. Sandys.

MANNERS'S.

Lieut. Col. Wilkinfon.

Lieut. Moore.

Lieut. Wells.

RICHMOND'S.

Lieut. Drummond.

His Royal Highness Prince Edward was on shore from the beginning of the embarkation to the very last, and was in the utmost danger; he shewed a great bravery, notwithstanding the enemy's shot flew about him on every side, and greatly encouraged the sailors, begging of them to do their duty; he could hardly be persuaded to get into the boat (which was waiting for him, being desirous to see the issue) although the Commodore often solicited him to go on board, frequently reminding him of the danger he was in, and the sailors who were diligent in their duty in re-embarking of the troops, he rewarded. His presence on this occasion, I make no doubt, saved many of the mens' lives.

12th. Remained at anchor before the place of action, and could see the enemy stripping and burying

rying the dead on both sides. --- This morning they fired several cannon at some of our ships from the rocks, but did us no damage. — A flag of truce went on shore, and returned.

13th. Remained at anchor in the same place. — A third flag of truce went on shore, and returned.

14th. Sailed at six in the morning, and at night passed by the isles of Guernsey and Jersey.

15th. The whole anchored in Plymouth Sound at midnight, and found here several of his Majesty's ships and transports, which had brought to England the garrison of Louisbourg, and other prisoners.

16th. Remained in Plymouth Sound, and most of our sick and wounded went on shore.

17th. Sailed at eight in the morning. — Came near us (to the West) several sail of ships, which proved to be part of Lord Anson's squadron. — Very fine weather, and sailed by Portland Road this night.

18th. At noon our whole fleet sailed through the Needles, West of the isle of Wight, and passed by Limington, Yarmouth, and Southampton. — At five in the afternoon anchored at Spithead, and found here several ships under the command of admiral Holburn. — At six the prince went on shore, and was saluted with the firing of some guns from the admiral's ship, each ship's crew standing on the yards, stays, &c.

19th. At

19th. At nine in the morning the transports (wherein were the Foot) sailed, and at three in the afternoon anchored at Cowes.

20th. Disembarked at seven, and encamped on our former ground on the King's Forest.

21st. Remained in the same camp.

22d, 23d, and 24th. Remained in the same camp.

25th. Remained in the same camp (except the 1st regiment, which marched for London this morning).

26th and 27th. Remained in the same camp.

28th. Remained in the same camp. — Some of our men left behind us in France as safeguards returned this day, and brought an account that the enemy lost, in the action at St. Cas, upwards of 4000 men.

29th, and 30th. Remained in the same camp.

OCTOBER 1.

Remained in the same camp.

2d. Remained in the same camp. — Lord Robert Manner's, Lambton's, Cornwallis's, and Loudon's regiments marched early this morning for Blackheath in Kent.

3d. Remained in the same camp.

4th. Re-

4th. Remained in the same camp. — Lord Bentick's and the Duke of Richmond's regiments marched, in order to go to winter quarters.

5th, and 6th. Remained in the same camp.

7th. Remained in the same camp. — The Train marched this evening.

8th. Remained in the same camp. — This night was very stormy. — Several marquees and tents blown down.

9th and 10th. Remained in the same camp.

11th. Remained in the same camp. — This morning the 2d regiment marched for the Metropolis.

12th. Remained in the same camp. — A very stormy morning. — At ten struck our tents, and marched for Cowes, leaving behind us Ld. Charles Hay's and Colonel Wolfe's. — At one in the afternoon embarked on board cutters, which landed us at Southampton at six, where we were quartered that night.

13th. At eight in the morning marched, and at two in the afternoon, arrived at the city of Winchester, being 18 miles. — Here, and at Southampton, we had but bad lying, particularly at the latter, the city having already 4 troops of Lord Ancram's Dragoons, 4 companies of Elliot's, and 3 companies of General Boscawen's, besides others; so that the town was very much crowded with men, most of whom were obliged to lye upon straw.

14th. Halted

14th. Halted at this place. — Came in four companies of Arniger's.

15th. Remained here, where are upwards of 1700 French prisoners, who live extremely well.

16th. Marched and quartered at Alton, where lay two companies of Elliot's. Marched this day 12 miles.

17th. Marched and quartered at Farnham, 9 miles.

18th. Marched and quartered at Bagshot, 13 miles.

19th. Marched and quartered at Staines, 9 miles.

20th. Marched and arrived on the Parade in St. James's Park, 17 miles. — This day our whole battalion went to quarters.

Which concludes every daily occurrence worth observing of His Majesty's fleet and troops, particularly those of the Guards, from their parade in Hyde-Park, May the 9th, to their return October the 20th following; the perusal of which, I flatter myself, will be satisfactory to the public, as well as pleasing to my brother-foldier, as probably it may appear to every individual, even from my unskilful journalizing, the advantages gained, by a handful of Englishmen, over our perfidious and most inveterate enemies. — A nation whose very strength and existence consists in the number of their troops, and those well disciplined; dependant thus, their barrier-towns are filled, and their whole coast lined with horse and foot

foot (not to mention a continued chain of forts;) yet, in defiance, and in the face of great numbers of the enemy, prepared for an attack, the enterprising Britons, (no more comparatively than a colonel's guard) landed, marched, drove the Gallic forces before them, and encamped on their ground. — As to the affair at St. Cas, impossibilities could not be performed by a few, tho' they did more than might be expected from men, which action I have given a fair and candid relation of, and with the same justice and exactness, every other circumstance thro' the whole Journal, as I am capable of: and intreat the reader to forgive this attempt, and pass over little errors and impropriety in language, while he does so, I shall retain a due sense of his candor, be happy, and think he honors me greatly in killing an idle hour over the fruits of some of mine; and am, with much esteem, his obliged humble servant,

A SOLDIER.

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