

igation which your Subjects enjoy amidst the Troubles, by which Europe is distracted, hath augmented your Commerce much above what it hath been for several Years past. Some Return ought to be made for such a solid Proof of the King's Friendship and Moderation; at least the Merchants who are so ready to complain of England, ought not to be permitted to give into Excesses which would have justified the most rigorous Examination of their Conduct. Accordingly, his Majesty hath no doubt that your High Mightinesses will give all possible Attention to this Matter.

"Permit me, High and Mighty Lords, to recall to your Memories, that, during the Course of the present War, the King hath several Times applied, through me, to your High Mightinesses and to your Ministers, on the Liberty given to carry Stores through the Fortresses of the Republick, for the Use of France, to invade his Dominions, and if his Majesty hath passed over in Silence many of these Instances of Complaisance to his Enemy, his Majesty was not the less sensible of them; but he chose rather to be a Sufferer himself, than to encrease the Embarrassment of his Neighbours, or extend the Flames of War.

"Even the Court of Vienna has, on more than one Occasion, employed its Interest with your High Mightinesses, and lent its Name to get Passage for Provisions for the French Troops, under Pretence of the Barrier Treaty, which it no longer observes; and after having put France in Possession of the Ports of Ostend and Nieuport, in manifest Breach of that Treaty, and without any Regard to the Rights which your High Mightinesses, and the King my Master, have acquired in that Treaty, at the Price of their Treasures, and the Blood of their Subjects. All the World knows that that Treaty was never made to serve France against Great Britain.

"The Undersigned flatters himself, that from the Equity of your High Mightinesses, and the Value you set on the Friendship of the King his Master, you will soon be able to make his Majesty easy by the wise Measures you shall take to prevent any Thing from being done for the Sake of private Interest, that may prejudice the King's Cause, and the Treaties subsisting between his Majesty and You.

Hague, Sept. 28, 1759. JOSEPH YORKE."

Translation of a Letter from M. Lally, to the Governor of Pondicherry.

Camp before Madras, February 14, 1759.

S I R,

"There is a fine Opportunity of striking a Stroke here; a 20 Gun Ship in the Road, laden with all the Riches of Madras, and it is reported she is to lay there until the 20th. The Expedition is just arrived, but M. Gatin is not a Man for the Attack, for they have made him fly once already. On the other Hand, the Bristol scarce vouchsafed to appear at St. Thomas's, for on the vague Report of 13 Vessels being off Porto-Novo, she took Fright, and after having disembarked the Ammunition with which she was laden, would not even give herself Time to take on board the 12 Pieces of Cannon, which she lent us during the Siege.

"If I was to judge of the Point of Honour, in the Company's Officers, I would break them even as I would a Glass, as well as some others. The Fidelle, the Harlim, or even this same Bristol, with the Loss of her 12 Pieces of Cannon, would certainly have taken this English Ship, could they have prevailed on to have gained the Wind of her in the Night. Mangendre and Tremillier are said to be good Men; but had they been employed in transporting 200 wounded Men which we have here, their Service would have been of Importance.

"We remain still in the same Position; a practicable Breach made upwards of ten Days, though none of us dare so much as put our Heads over the Trenches to look at it. I expect, on our Arrival at Pondicherry, we must all look out for other Employments, for that of the Art of War requires too much Patience.

"Of the 1500 Seapoys, that attended our Army, I look upon it, that 300, or thereabouts, are employed to carry Sugar, Pepper, and other Goods to Pondicherry; and as to our Cooleys, they have all been employed on the same Account since the Day of our Arrival here.

"I have this Day taken the Resolution to lay the Black Town in Ashes, and blow up the Powder-mills, &c. Could you ever imagine, that 50 French Deserters, and 100 Swifs, could stop the Career of 2000 of the King's Troops, with other of the Company's, that are here existing?

"In Spite of all the Details that every one sends

at Pondicherry, of the Breach that has been made amongst our People, you will be more surprized when I tell you, that had it not been for the two Sallies, the four Engagements, and the two Batteries that were wrong traversed, we should not have lost 50 Men, from the Beginning of the Siege to this Day.

"I have wrote to Monsieur d'Ache, to know if he still persists in not coming here. Let who will drain the Pollygars of Money, I will not; and I declare now, as I did a Month ago, I do not intend to intermeddle, directly or indirectly, with any Thing that may relate to the Administration, either civil or military. I would sooner command the Coffres at Madagascar, than remain in this Sodom, which it is not impossible but the Fire of the English may destroy sooner or later, if that of Heaven does not.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) LALLY.

"P. S. I am obliged to acquaint you, that M. de Soupier has refused to take upon him the Command of the Army, which I have offered him, though I have given him Duplicates of the Orders the Court gave me. You and your Council must take Charge of it yourselves. I will only engage to bring it back to Arcot or Sadras; send there your Orders, or come yourself to take the Command, for I will quit it on my Arrival."

From the LONDON GAZETTE Extraordinary, October 12.

Captain Latham, late of his Majesty's Ship Tyger, arrived at Portsmouth on the 9th Instant in the East-India Company's Ship the Admiral Watson, with Letters from Vice-Admiral Pocock; giving the following Account of the Siege of Madras.

On the 12th of December the French Army moved from the Mount and Mamalon; ours cannonaded them about an Hour as they crossed Choultry Plain and killed about 40, without any Loss on our Side, as the French had little Artillery and ill served. They marched in three Divisions, one directly towards our People, one towards Egmore and the other down St. Thome Road. Colonels Lawrence and Draper were afraid that this last might get Possession of the Island Bridge, and therefore retired to the Island; and the same Morning Part came into the Garrison, and Part took Possession of the Posts in the Black Town. The same Morning the French hoisted their Flag at Egmore and St. Thome. The 13th every Thing was quiet, not a Gun fired on either Side. The 14th in the Morning the Enemy marched their whole Force to attack the Black Town. Our small Parties retreated into Garrison, and about an Hour after, a grand Sally was made, commanded by Col. Draper. The Regiment of Lorraine was surprized, and a very hot Action ensued. Col. Draper made such a Push as would astonish all who do not know him; and if he had been briskly followed by his two Platoons of Grenadiers, he would have brought in 11 Officers, 50 Men and 4 Guns more; but they did not do Justice to their Leader, who received the whole Platoons to himself. He had several Balls thro' his Coat, but was not touched; so had Captain Beaver.

Mr. Lally's Brigade of fresh Men coming up to the Support of the Regiment of Lorraine, Col. Draper returned into the Garrison. On this Occasion, Captains Billbook and Hume were killed, Capt. Pescal and Lieut. Elliot wounded, three or four other Officers taken, and about 150 private killed, wounded, or taken. On the Side of the Enemy (by Mr. Lally's own Account) M. Rubout and another was killed, Major Soubinet and five others wounded, two of them mortally; Count d'Estaine, in Rank a Brigadier General, and said to be the best Officer among them, taken, and 400 private killed or wounded. Deserters make their Loss much greater. After this Sally little was done by the Enemy, till the 6th of January. That Day they opened the Batteries against the Fort, and kept a continual Firing of Shot and Shells, till the 26th, which disabled 26 Pieces of Cannon and 3 Mortars, but had not the Effect of destroying the Defences. Nevertheless they advanced their Trenches, and erected a Battery quite up to the Brest of the Glacis, consisting of 4 Pieces of Cannon, which they opened on the 31st; but after 2 or 3 Hours, were obliged by the superior Fire of the Fort, to close their Embrasures again. The same Thing happened for five Days successively; after which they abandoned it entirely, and began to fire again from their first grand Battery 450 Yards distant. By the Account of Deserters, their Loss of Officers and Men in their

advanced Battery was very considerable, and they

had several Pieces of Cannon disabled. After they were obliged to quit it, their Fire continually decreased from 23 Pieces of Cannon, which they had at one Time, to only six Pieces; however, they advanced their Sap along the Sea Side, so far as to embrace entirely the N. E. Angle of the covered Way, from whence their Musquetry obliged the Besieged to retire: In this Situation Things remained for several Days: The Enemy endeavoured to open a Passage into the Ditch, by a Mine, but they sprung it so injudiciously (being open to the Fire of several of the Cannon from the Fort) they could make no Advantage of it. Major Caillaud having taken the Command of the Body of Seapoys, and Country Horse, with a few Europeans, collected from the Garrisons of Trichenopoly and Chingleput, commanded before by Captain Preston, was in the mean Time of great Service, by keeping at a few Miles distance, and stopping the Roads which obliged the Enemy four several Times to march large Detachments to oppose them, and cost them, on each of these Occasions, several Men. On the Evening of the 16th of February, his Majesty's Ship the Queenborough, commanded by Capt. Cempenselt, and the Company's Ship Revenge, arrived with the Detachment of Col. Draper's Regiment, consisting of 600 Men, under the Command of Major Monson, and immediately disembarked Part of them. The Besiegers fired very smart upon the Town the first Part of the Night; but before Day-light they raised the Siege, and marched off; and taking their Rout by Egmore, destroyed the Powder-mills. After their Departure, were found in the Batteries and Places adjacent, upwards of 40 Pieces of Cannon, but very few of them serviceable, no less than 33 of them having been destroyed by our Artillery. By the last Advice received at Madras of the Enemy, they were in the Neighbourhood of Arcot, to which our Troops were preparing to follow them with all possible Expedition. By an intercepted Letter, from M. Lally to Mr. de Leyrit, it appears he despaired of succeeding, and had determined to put in Flames the Houses of the Black Town, had he not been prevented by the timely Arrival of the Ships. Captain Cempenselt in his Letter to Vice Admiral Pocock, says, the gallant Defence made by the Garrison was owing to the indefatigable Diligence and Bravery of Col. Draper and Major Brereton, together with the Prudence, Resolution, and Generosity, of Mr. Pigot, who disposed of the Management of all Stores and Provisions in such a Manner, that every Thing was, from the Regularity of it, speedily supplied; and at the same Time, all Waste prevented. He frequently visited the Works every Day, and was liberal to all who signalized themselves.

Vice Admiral Pocock, in his Letter dated the 22d of March last in Bombay, gives an Account that Col. Ford, with the Bengal Detachment, had obtained a Victory, near Mussulipatam, over the Marquis de Conflans, whom M. Buffly left with the Command of the Troops to the Northward, and that it was expected he would soon be in Possession of that Place.

The Admiral also mentions, that an Expedition, undertaken by the Gentlemen of the Settlement at Bombay, against the governing Power of Surat, had succeeded, without great Loss of Men killed and wounded.

Extract of a Letter from Hanover, Sept. 25.

"Six Hundred Waggons, laden with Provision and Forage, went a few Days ago from Corbach for Prince Ferdinand's Army. At Hamelen they are working Night and Day to get ready a large Train of Artillery, which is to be conducted to the Army, and a numerous Transport of English Troops, from Embden, are marching by Diepnau, to join it. Letters from Hesse advise, that they are making, throughout the Landgraviate, without excepting the Capital, a Levy of young Men, proper to bear Arms, whereby they propose to augment the Corps of Hessians in the Service of the Allies with 8000 Men."

October 2. The Number of French Prisoners in this Kingdom is said to amount to about 23,500 Men, Officers included.

We hear that Admiral Rodney returned in Person to England to give Information of some Intelligence he had obtained during his Cruize off Havre, and to lay before the Lords of the Admiralty, a Plan for his future Operations; which was agreed to, and he was ordered to attempt the Execution of it as soon as possible.

The Coventry Frigate has sent into Plymouth a small Schooner bound to Brest with Earthen Ware for Mons. Conflans's Fleet, which was divided on board Sir Edward Hawke's Fleet.

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