

breach it. This was effected by a six gun battery within six hundred yards, and though it was exposed to a very superior fire from the enemy, which had been incessant during the whole of the siege, a breach was reported practicable on the 2d instant. Many reasons induced me not to delay the assault, though I was aware the troops would be exposed to a very heavy fire in approaching and mounting the breach. Orders were issued for the attack an hour before day break the ensuing morning, and a summons was sent to the governor in the evening to surrender the town. To this message no answer was returned.

The troops destined for the assault consisted of the Rifle Corps under Major Gardner, the Light Infantry under Lieut.-Colonel Brownrigg and Major Trotter, the grenadiers under Majors Campbell and Tucker, and the 38th regiment under Lieutenant-Colonel Vassal and Major Nugent.

They were supported by the 40th regiment under Major Dalrymple, and the 87th under Lieutenant-Colonel Butler and Major Miller. The whole were commanded by Colonel Browne. The remainder of my Force, consisting of the 17th light dragoons, detachments of the 20th and 21st light dragoons, the 47th regiment, a company of the 71st, and a corps of 700 marines and seamen, were encamped under Brigadier-General Lumley, to protect our rear.

At the appointed hour the troops marched to the assault. They approached near the breach before they were discovered, when a destructive fire from every gun that could bear upon it, and from the musketry of the garrison, opened upon them. Heavy as it was, our loss would have been comparatively trifling if the breach had been open, but during the night, and under our fire, the enemy had barricaded it with hides, so as to render it nearly impracticable. The night was extremely dark. The head of the column missed the breach, and when it was approached it was so shut up, that it was mistaken for the untouched wall. In this situation the troops remained under a heavy fire for a quarter of an hour, when the breach was discerned by Captain Renny of the 40th light infantry, who pointed it out, and gloriously fell as he mounted it. Our gallant soldiers rushed to it, and, difficult as it was of access, forced their way into the town. Cannon were placed at the head of the principal streets, and their fire, for a short time, was destructive: but the troops advanced in all directions, clearing the streets and batteries with their bayonets, and overturning their cannon. The 40th regiment, with Colonel Browne, followed. They also missed the breach, and twice passed through the fire of the batteries, before they found it.

The 87th regiment was posted near the north gate, which the troops who entered at the breach were to open for them, but their ardour was so great that they could not wait. They scaled the walls and entered the town as the troops within approached it. At day-light every thing was in our possession except the citadel which made a show of resistance, but soon surrendered, and early in the morning the town was quiet, and the women were peaceably walking the streets.

The gallantry displayed by the troops during the assault, and their forbearance and orderly behaviour in the town speak so fully in their praise, that it is unnecessary for me to say how highly I am pleased with their conduct. The service they have been engaged in since we landed, has been uncommonly severe and laborious, but not a murmur has escaped them; every thing I wished has been effected with order and cheerfulness.

Our loss during the siege was trifling, particularly as we were not sheltered by approaches, and the enemy's fire of shot and shell was incessant. But it is painful for me to add, that it was great at the assault. Many most valuable officers are among the killed and wounded. Major Dalrymple of the 40th was the only field officer killed. Lieutenant-Colonels Vassal and Brownrigg and Major Tucker are among the wounded. I am deeply concerned to say that the two former are severely so. The enemy's loss was very great, about eight hundred killed, five hundred wounded, and the Governor Don Pasquál Ruis Huidobro, with upwards of two thousand officers and men are prisoners. About fifteen hundred escaped in boats or secreted themselves in the town.

From Brigadier-General the Honourable W. Lumley and from Colonel Browne, I have received the most able and the most zealous assistance and support. The former protected the line from the enemy during our March, and covered our rear during the siege. The latter conducted it with great judgment and determined bravery.

The established reputation of the Royal Artillery has been firmly supported by the company under my orders, and I consider myself much indebted to Captains Watson, Dickson, Carmichael, and Willgress, for their zealous and able exertions. Captain Fanshaw of the engineers was equally zealous, and though young in the service, conducted himself with such propriety that I have no doubt of his proving a valuable officer. Owing to great fatigue he was taken ill in the midst of our operations, and Captain Dickson readily undertook his office, and executed it with the greatest judgment.

From the heads of corps and departments, from the general staff of the army, from the medical, and from my own personal staff, I have received the most prompt and cheerful assistance.

It is insufficient to say, that the utmost cordiality has subsisted between Rear-Admiral Stirling and myself; I have received from him the most friendly attention, and every thing in his power to grant.

The captains and officers of the Navy have been equally zealous to assist us; but I feel particularly indebted to Captains Donnelly and Palmer for their great exertions. They commanded a corps of marines and seamen that were landed, and were essentially useful to us with the guns, and in the batteries, as well as in bringing up the ordnance and stores.

This dispatch will be delivered to you by Major Tucker, who was wounded at the assault; and as he has long been in my confidence, I beg leave to refer you to him for further particulars.

I have the honour to be, &c.

S. AUCHMUTY,

Brigadier-General Commanding.

To the Right Hon. William Windham,
&c. &c. &c.

P. S. I am extremely concerned to add, that Lieutenant-Colonels Vassal and Brownrigg both died yesterday of their wounds. I had flattered myself with hopes of their recovery; but a rapid mortification has deprived his Majesty of two most able and gallant officers.

Return of the killed, wounded, and missing of the forces under the command of Brigadier General Sir Samuel Auchmuty, between the 16th of January, the day of landing at the Punta de Caretas, to the 20th of January inclusive.

Between the 16th and 20th ult.

1 Lieutenant, 1 drummer, 18 rank and file, killed; 2 Majors, 3 Captains, 1 Lieutenant, 2 serjeants, 1 drummer, 119 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file, missing.

During the Siege.

1 Captain, 3 rank and file, killed; 1 Lieutenant, 1 Ensign, 12 rank and file, wounded; 7 rank and file, missing.

At the Assault.

1 Major, 3 Captains, 2 Lieutenants, 2 serjeants, 5 drummers, 105 rank and file, killed; 2 Lieutenant-Colonels, 3 Captains, 8 Lieutenants, 4 Ensigns, 4 Staff, 18 serjeants, 5 Drummers, 235 rank and file, wounded.

Total—1 Major, 4 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 2 serjeants, 6 drummers, 126 rank and file, killed; 2 Lieutenant-Colonels, 2 Majors, 6 Captains, 10 Lieutenants, 5 Ensigns, 4 Staff, 20 serjeants, 6 drummers, 366 rank and file, wounded; 8 rank and file, missing.

Captains Willgress and Crookshanks, and 31 rank and file, included in the above, have since returned to their duty.

J. BRADFORD, Dep. Adj. Gen.

Officers killed and wounded.

Killed upon Landing.

Lieutenant Fitzpatrick, of the 40th.

Slightly wounded upon Landing.

Major Trotter, of the 83d; Major Campbell, of the 40th; Captain Willgress, of the royal artillery; Captain Crookshanks, of the 38th; Captain Rogers, of the 40th; Lieutenant Chawner, of the 95th.

Killed during the Siege.

Captain Beaumont, of the 87th.

Wounded during the Siege.

Lieutenant O'Brien, of the 87th; the Honourable C. Irby, midshipman.

Killed in the Assault.

Major Dalrymple, of the 40th; Captain Rennie, of ditto; Lieutenant Alston, of ditto; Captain Mason, of the 38th; Lieutenant Irwine, of the 87th; Captain Dickenson, of the 95th.

Wounded in the Assault.

Lieutenant-Colonel Brownrigg, of the 11th, since dead; Lieutenant Smith, of the 40th; Ensign Concern, of ditto; Lieutenant Evans, of the 87th, severely; Lieutenant M'Rae, of ditto, severely; Lieutenant-Colonel Vassal, of the 38th, since dead; Captain Shipton, of ditto, severely; Lieutenant Brownson, of ditto, dangerously; Ensign White, of ditto, severely; Ensign Willshire, of ditto, slightly; Ensign Fraser, of ditto, since dead; Paymaster Willshire, of ditto, severely; Adjutant Heywill, of ditto, dangerously; Assistant-Surgeon Garrat, of ditto, slightly; Captain Whetham, of the 40th, severely; Lieutenant Wallace, of ditto, dangerously; Lieutenant Johnson, of ditto, severely; Lieutenant Ramus, of ditto, severely; Major Tucker, of the 72d, slightly; Assistant-Surgeon Wildair, of the 87th, severely; Lieutenant Scanlan, of the 95th, slightly; Lieutenant M'Namara, of ditto, slightly.

Return of Ordnance, Ammunition, Arms, &c. taken from the Enemy at Monte Video, Feb. 3. 1807.

Ratones Island.

Iron guns—5 twenty-four-pounders; 2 eighteen-pounders; 2 twelve-pounders.

Round shot—540 twenty-four-pounders; 200 eighteen-pounders; 80 twelve-pounders.

Grape shot—70 twenty-four pounders; 28 eighteen-pounders; 16 twelve-pounders.

Bar shot—24 twenty-four-pounders; 14 twelve-pounders.

Double headed shot—12 twenty-four pounders.

Total of guns—51 twenty-four-pounders; 68 eighteen-pounders; 31 twelve-pounders; 25 nine-pounders; 57 six-pounders; 38 four-pounders; 32 three-pounders; 2 two-pounders; 8 one-pounders—312.

Total of mortars—4 twelve-inch; 3 nine-inch; 2 eight-inch, and 4 six-inch—13.

Total of coronades—2 thirty-two-pounders; 2 twenty four-pounders, and 6 twelve pounders—10.

Total of Howitzers—10 six and half-inch.

A. WATSON,

Capt. Commanding Royal Artillery.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, April 12, 1807.

Captain Donne y, of His Majesty's ship Ardent, arrived this morning with dispatches from Rear Admiral Stirling, commanding a squadron of His Majesty's ships in the Rio de la Plata, of which the following are copies:

Diadem, off Monte Video,
8th Feb. 1807.

SIR—I have peculiar satisfaction in congratulating my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty on the capture of Monte Video, as well from the importance of the conquest, as from the honour which has thereby been acquired by His Majesty's arms.

Immediately on the arrival of Brigadier-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty, at Maldonado, it was determined to invest this place, and having