

As the Capture of the Galleon, and her Treasure, might be well esteemed a National Object, Mr. Cornish proposed sending the Panther and Argo from the Squadron to intercept her, which was consented to; and the Officers of the Navy very generously agreed to our sharing any Prizes that might be taken in this Cruize, as we had before consented to their sharing with us in any Booty that might be taken at Land; and the Distribution to be made according to the Rules His Majesty has fixed for the Sea Service. The Admiral likewise sent on Shore eight 24 Pounders Ship Guns, and two 18 Pounders, for our battering Train; as, to save Time, we brought only the Land Carriages and Platforms from Madras.

28th. The Governor's Nephew was landed. My Secretary, Lieut. Fryar, was ordered to conduct him into the Town with a Flag of Truce. In the mean Time, a large Party of the Garrison, intermixed with Indians, sallied out to attack our second Post N<sup>o</sup> 2, by which Lieutenant Fryar was advancing to the Ravelin Gate. The Barbarians, without respecting his Character, inhumanly murdered him, mangling his Body in a Manner too shocking to mention. In their Fury they mortally wounded the other Gentleman who had endeavoured to save Mr. Fryar. Our Party received their Onset with much Firmness and Bravery, and repulsed them with some Loss on their Side. As it was evident that the Indians alone were guilty of this horrid Piece of Barbarity, our Soldiers shewed them no Mercy.

29th. The Admiral, at my Request, ordered the Elizabeth, Commodore Tiddyman, and the Falmouth, Captain Brereton, to place themselves as near the Town as the Depth of Water would permit, and second our Operations by enfilading the Front we intended to attack; but the Shallows kept them at too great a Distance to answer the Purpose effectually, though their Shot struck much Confusion and Terror into the Inhabitants. We continued our Bombardment Day and Night.

30th. The Engineers traced out Admiral Cornish's Battery for eight 24 Pounders, on the Left of St. Jago's Church; but the Violence of the Rains retarded our Progress; and the Absence of two Ships, that had on board a considerable Quantity of Fascines, and many of our working and intrenching Tools, put us to some Inconveniencies. The Admiral's Goodness supplied these Defects: All the Smiths and Carpenters in the Fleet were employed in making those Instruments; and, by their Industry and Dispatch, we were enabled to proceed. The Elizabeth and Falmouth persevered in their Cannonade upon the Town, which was returned from the Enemy's Sea Line without any Effect.

October 1st and 2d. The Weather grew so very tempestuous, that the whole Squadron was in Danger, and all Communication with it entirely cut off. The Violence of the Storm forced the South Sea Castle Storeship (which was lately arrived) from her Anchors, and drove her on Shore: Even in this Situation the Ship was of great Use. Captain Sherwood enfiladed the whole Sea Beach to the Southward, and kept in Awe a large Body of Indians, who menaced the Polverista, and our Magazines at the Malata. Notwithstanding the Deluge of Rain which accompanied the Wind, by the Perseverance of the Troops and Seamen, we completed the Battery for the 24 Pounders, raised a Mortar Battery for the heavy Shells of 10 and 13 Inches, made a good Parallel and Communication from the Church to the Gun Battery, and established a spacious Place of Arms on the Left of it, near the Sea. The Roaring of the Waves prevented the Enemy from hearing the Noise of our Workmen in the Night. They gave us no Interruption, but seemed to trust entirely to the

Elements. While the Governor (the Archbishop) gave out, that an Angel from the Lord was gone forth to destroy us like the Host of Sennacherib. On the Afternoon of the 2d, the Seamen, with wonderful Activity, brought up and mounted all the Guns in the Battery, which we masked.

3d. The Weather became moderate. At Day-light the Battery was opened against the left Face of the Bastion of St. Diego, towards the Salient Angle. One hundred Seamen were appointed to assist the Corps of Artillery in this Service. Our Cannon, by the most excellent Skill and Management of Major Barker, and the Officers under him, were served with such Justness, Quickness, and Dexterity, that the 12 Pieces on that Face of the Bastion were silenced in a few Hours, and the Spaniards drove from them. We had but two Men killed. At Night we began a Battery for three Guns, on the Left of our Place of Arms, to silence those that were in Barbet upon the Orillon of the Bastion of St. Andrew, which annoyed our Flank. We maintained a brisk Fire of Grape and Musketry all the Night, to prevent the Enemy from repairing their Embrazures and remounting the Cannon. The Mortars (now augmented to seven) were kept constantly playing upon the Gorge of the Bastion, and the contiguous Defences.

4th. About three Hours before Day, 1000 of the Indians attacked the Cantonment of the Seamen. They were encouraged to this Attempt by the incessant Rains, in which they flattered themselves our Fire-Arms would be useless. Their Approach was favoured by a great Number of thick Bushes that grew upon the Side of a Rivulet, which they passed in the Night, and, by keeping close, eluded the Vigilance of the Patroles. Upon the Alarm, Colonel Monson and Captain Fletcher, with the Picquets, were dispatched to the Assistance of the Seamen, who very sensibly kept firm in their Posts, and were contented to repulse them, till Day-break, when a fresh Picquet of the 79th Regiment appearing upon the Indians right Flank, they fled, were pursued and dispersed with the Loss of 300 men. Had their Skill or Weapons been equal to their Strength and Ferocity, it might have cost us dear. Although armed chiefly with Bows, Arrows, and Lances, they advanced up to the very Muzzles of our Pieces, repeated their Assaults, and died like wild Beasts, gnawing the Bayonets. This Attack cost us some few Men, but we lost a most excellent Sea-Officer, Captain Porter, Lieutenant of the Norfolk, sincerely and justly lamented by us all. We had scarce finished this Affair, when another Body of them, with Part of the Spanish Garrison, again attacked the Church N<sup>o</sup> 2, forced the Seapoys from their Post in it, nearest the Town, took Possession of the Top, from whence they killed and wounded several of our People, who were entirely exposed to all their Weapons. Notwithstanding this disadvantageous Situation, the European Soldiers maintained their Post behind the Church with great Firmness and Patience, and at last dislodged the Enemy with the Assistance of some Field-Pieces, and the good Conduct of Major Fell, Field-Officer of the Day, Captain Fletcher, and other brave Officers sent to their Relief. The Spaniards left 70 dead behind them, in and about the Church. On our Side Captain Strahan, of the 79th Regiment, a very good Officer, was mortally wounded, and 40 private Men wounded or killed. This was the Enemy's last Effort: All their Indians, excepting 1800, discouraged by their Losses, returned Home. Our working Parties, and the Fire of our Batteries, which had been a little interrupted by these Attacks, recommenced with greater Spirit than ever. We found likewise