

eline of the S. W. Monsoon making it of the utmost Importance. To promote this End, I completed the Elizabeth, Grafton, Lenox, Weymouth and Argo, with such of the Troops, and military Stores, as they were to take on board, and on the 29th sent them away under the Command of Commodore Tiddeman, to proceed to Mallaca, with a View that they might compleat their Water there by the Time I should arrive with the Remainder of the Squadron.

Having accomplished the Embarkation of every Thing designed for the Expedition, with a Dispatch much beyond my Expectation, as we had from the whole Time of my being there a violent Surf to contend with, I sailed the 1st of August with the Ships undermentioned, viz. Norfolk, Panther, America, Seaford; South-Sea Castle Store Ship, Admiral Stevens's Store Ship, Otterly Company's Ship, leaving the Falmouth, at the Request of the President and Council, to convoy the Effex India Ship, who was not ready to sail, having the Treasure to take on board for the China Cargoes, and to bring to Manila such of the Company's Servants, as were to be put in Possession of that Government, if the Expedition succeeded.

The 19th, I arrived at Mallaca, and was disappointed in not finding Mr. Tiddeman there, who did not join till the 21st, having met with long Calms: The Difficulty of watering the Squadron at this Place made it the 27th before I could leave the Road.

On the 2d of September, I arrived off Pulo Temean, and was joined by Captain Grant in the Seahorse, whom I had detached, upon my first Arrival at Madras, to cruise between this Island and the Streights of Sincapore, to stop any Vessels he might suspect going to Manila.

On the 19th, I made the Coast of Luconia, but was drove off again by a strong N. S. Wind, which separated some of the Squadron. The 22d, the Gale broke up, and the Wind shifting to the S. W. the 23d we recovered the Land again; the next Day entered the Bay of Manila, and, in the Close of the Evening, anchored off the Port of Cavite, with the whole Squadron, except the South-Sea Castle and Admiral Steevens, the Falmouth and Effex having joined me off the Coast. In the Night I sent the Masters to sound about the Fortifications of Cavite, and, by their Report, found that it might be attacked by Ships.

The 25th in the Morning, the Wind not being favourable to attack the Cavite, I took two of the Frigates, and with General Draper, and some other Officers, reconnoitred the Shore about Manila, and observed some Churches and other Buildings to stand near the Works on the South Side of the Town, particularly towards the S. W. Bastion. We had some Design of attacking Cavite first, to have had the Conveniency of that Port for the Shipping, but considered that though the Attack should be attended with all the Success we could hope, yet it would cause a Delay at least of two Days before we could Land at Manila, which Time would afford Opportunity to the Enemy to demolish these Buildings near their Works, and to prepare many Obstacles to our Landing, and perhaps recover from that Consternation our unexpected Arrival had thrown them in; and farther, Manila being the Capital, if that fell, Cavite would in Consequence.

From those Considerations, I joined in Opinion with the General to take Advantage of Circumstances, so favourable for a Descent, and land the Troops with all Dispatch, and endeavour to get Possession of some Posts near their Works, which,

if effected, would greatly facilitate the Reduction of the City.

In Consequence of these Resolutions, I immediately made the Signal on Board the Seahorse for the Squadron to join me, and for the Troops to prepare to land. About Seven in the Evening, the 79th Regiment with the Marines in the Boats under the Direction of the Captains Parker, Kempenfelt and Brereton, pushed for the Shore; and under the Fire of the three Frigates, effected the Landing at a Church called the Moratta, about a Mile and half from the Walls. We had no Opposition from the Enemy, but some Difficulty from the Surf which run high, and bilged all the Long Boats, but happily lost no Men.

The next Morning the General took an advanced Post about 200 Yards from the Glacis, and there, under Cover of a Blind, intended his Battery against the Face of the South West Bastion. The Number of Troops being small, I landed a Battalion of Seamen, consisting of about 700 Men, under the Command of the Captains Collins, Pitchford, and George Ourry.

The 25th, I dispatched three armed Boats after a Galley coming up the Bay to Manila; they came up with her, resolutely boarded her, and took her, notwithstanding she kept up a smart Fire with Patteraroes and Muskets; she mounted two Carriage and seventeen Brass Swivel Guns, and had eighty Men. By Letters found in her, we discovered she was dispatched from the Galleon St. Phillipina, from Acapulco; and whom she had left the 10th of September at Cajayagan, between the Embocadero and Cape Spiritu Santa. Upon this Discovery I came to a Resolution to send the Panther and Argo in quest of her, but it was the 4th of October before the Weather permitted their sailing.

The 28th of September the General acquainted me that he was beginning to work on the Battery, and that if some Ships could get near enough to throw Shot on the Works of the Town opposed to it, it might take off some of the Enemy's Fire and Attention, and thereby facilitate its Construction. In consequence of this, I ordered Commodore Tiddeman, with the Elizabeth and Falmouth, towards the Town, as near as the Depth of Water would permit, and to place the Ships in such a Position as would best answer the Purpose intended, which was accordingly done the next Day, and their Fire had a very good Effect.

On the 30th, the South Sea Castle arrived with Stores, which were much wanted, particularly the entrenching Tools, for want of which the Army had been so greatly distressed, that I was obliged to employ all the Forges in making Spades, Pickaxes, &c. for them. The 1st of October it began to blow fresh, and in the Night increased to a hard Gale, which drove the South-Sea Castle ashore near the Pulverista, a little to the Southward of our Camp. This accident however had some considerable Advantages attending it, as the Situation she lay in made her Cannon a Protection for the Rear of our Camp: It was likewise the means that all her Military Stores were got on Shore with Safety and Dispatch, and the Army supplied with the Provisions she had on board, both which were Articles they stood in immediate Need of, and which could not have been supplied by Boats, as it continued blowing very high on the Beach. This Gale was from the W. S. W. directly on the Shore, which gave me much Concern for the Safety of the Squadron, particularly for the Elizabeth and Falmouth, who were only in four Fathom Water, and, as I have since