

Sir George Collier favoured the Expedition with the Assistance of the Gallies and Gun Boats of the Fleet under his own Direction; these exchanged some Shot with Fort la Fayette, a small but compleat Work on the East Side of the River; whilst the Troops were possessing themselves of the Heights of Stoy Point which commanded it.

In the Night the Artillery, which I found necessary, was landed, and Major General Patton assumed the Command. His Exertions and good Arrangements, seconded by the chearful Labour of the Troops, gave me the Satisfaction of seeing a Battery of Cannon and Mortars opened at Five the next Morning on the Summit of this difficult Rock. Their Effect was soon perceived, as well as that of the Gallies. General Vaughan appearing at this Time in the Rear of the Fort, prevented the Retreat which the Enemy were concerting. Under these Circumstances they delivered themselves into our Hands upon the Terms of humane Treatment, which I promised them.

The Fort mounted Four Pieces of Artillery, and the Garrison consisted of 1 Captain, 3 Lieutenants, a Surgeon's Mate, and 70 Privates.

I have much Satisfaction in acquainting your Lordship that this little Success was effected without the Loss of a single Man, and that only One Yager was wounded on the Occasion.

*Copy of a Letter from Major-General Matherw to Sir Henry Clinton, dated on Board the Rainbow in Elizabeth River, May 24, 1779.*

S I R,

SINCE my last of the 16th Instant, we have continued to collect Stores of all Sorts to a very great Amount, Military, Naval, and Provisions; the last have been daily distributed to the numerous Inhabitants of Portsmouth and its Neighbourhood.

Having been informed on the 16th that some Parties of the Enemy were sculking about the Great Bridge, Seven Miles in Front of Lieutenant-Colonel Doyle's Post, I ordered him to march suddenly to surprize them, having sent to me some Dragoons under the Command of Captain Deimar for that Purpose. The Enemy was dispersed, and Colonel Doyle took Post at the Bridge. Intelligence was received, that there were many Public Stores at Kempe's Landing in Princess Ann County, and some considerable Vessels in the East Branch of Elizabeth River, and on the Stocks: A strong Detachment from the 42d Regiment was ordered to pass the River to Norfolk, and march to Kempe's Landing, 9 Miles: A Gun Boat and some Flats went up the Branch. Colonel Stirling was pleased to go with this Detachment; their Success was complete, as will appear by the Returns.

The Troops returned to their Camp the same Day, May the 17th. From this Time to the 22d little more occurred than embarking the Enemy's Stores that have fallen into our Hands. The Engineer has been employed for many Days, with near One Hundred Blacks, to destroy the Fort, which was so substantially constructed, as to give us a great Deal of Trouble in the Demolition.

May the 22d, a Party of the 42d, in Two Flat Boats, fell down the River to Tanner's Creek, and destroyed Six Vessels on the Stocks, One of which nearly completed, for 16 Guns. I determined to reembark the 24th, to return to York, according to your Excellency's Orders, by the First of June.

The Out-Posts were this Day withdrawn, without being incommoded in the least by the Enemy;

and the whole Embarkation was completed before Noon.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

EDW. MATHEW.

The General Return not being completed, I have enclosed Colonel Stirling's particular one.

*Invoice of Stores found at Kempe's by the 42d or Royal Highland Regiment, May 17, 1779.*

8 Cannon, 2 Cohorns, 1 Swivel, 4 Ladies and Worms, 2 Rammers, 15 Carriages, 4 Anchors, (2 large and 2 small) 2 Camboues, (1 large and 1 small) 164 Barrels of Tar, 19 Hogheads of Tobacco, a small Hauser, 17 Grindstones, a few Sheets of Lead, and a Beam and Weights.

Gentlemen,

YOU are hereby ordered and required to send the above Stores to Portsmouth within Forty-eight Hours from the Date hereof, under Pain of Military Execution.

(Signed) T. Stirling, Colonel.

*To the Inhabitants of Kempe's Landing.*

N. B. Seven Vessels burnt, one to be sent down by the Owner Tomorrow, one protected by the Commodore.

Five Swivels and some Rope brought in Boats.

*Extract of a Letter from General Sir Henry Clinton Knight of the Bath, to Lord George Germain, dated Head Quarters, Philipsburgh, June 18, 1779.*

NOT having received any Accounts whatever from Major-General Prevost, since his Letter of the 16th of April, I can only inclose, for your Lordship's Information, Copies of Reports and Intelligence lately received from Georgia.

These Reports mention that General Prevost had advanced to South-Carolina; that the Enemy had deserted and destroyed Fort Johnson; that the British Troops were in Possession of James Island; that Preparations were making to attack Sullivan's Island; and that General Prevost had said, in a Letter written to Savannah, that he hoped soon to be in Possession of Charles-Town: That they had offered to capitulate, on Condition of their remaining neuter, which the General would not grant them, or any other Terms but their surrendering Prisoners of War. That at Beaufort, Port Royal, the General had had a Skirmish with the Rebels; that he then proceeded, having been joined by great Numbers of Carolinians; and that many of the Inhabitants on the North Side of the Savannah had come into the Out-Posts, and were forming into a Body, naming themselves the Carolina Volunteers. The Troops were uncommonly healthy, and Provisions were plentiful and very cheap. The Rose and another Man of War with the Convoy were arrived, without losing a Vessel, at Savannah, from New-York; and 17 Sail of Ships had also arrived from Great-Britain and Ireland at Tybee: That great Numbers of Refugees were preparing to return from East-Florida and Georgia to South-Carolina, induced thereto by the Successes the British Troops had met with in those Provinces.

These Reports were received from Captain Symonds of His Majesty's Ship the Solebay, which arrived at New-York the 17th of June, from Savannah, in 15 Days.—From Mr. Paumier, Deputy Commissary of the Army in North-America, in a Letter dated Savannah, 23d of May.—And from Mr. James M'Alpine, Commander of a Schooner, who arrived at New-York on Wednesday the 16th of June, from St. John's in East Florida; and left from