

The Admiral with the whole Fleet is now at an Anchor near our Rice Ships, and by our last Accounts Mons. Suffren was seen by him to the Southward, with Fifteen Ships of the Line and Two Frigates.

I have written to Major General Burgoyne to give Orders (with the previous Information to Government) that 200 Hanoverians, with all the recovered Men and Recruits belonging to His Majesty's Troops, now at or near the Presidency, be sent with the utmost Dispatch to us by Sea; and I have recommended to order the same, regarding the Recruits and recovered Men of the Company's Europeans.

The Army lay upon their Arms for Twenty Hours, after the Business of the 13th was over, and until I had the Means to bring our Camp further in Advance, now that we had silenced the Guns planted on the Enemy's Out-Posts. Our Right is now within a Mile of Cuddalore; but as I had the Honor in a former Letter to represent to the Select Committee, and having nearly a Brigade to cover our Rear and Landing Place, and so large a Circuit of Posts to occupy in Front, added to our Loss in Action, and Sickness incident to Fatigue, I repeat that unless the Force under Colonel Fullarton does come nearer to co-operate and to take off some Part of the heavy Duty that now falls to our Share, this Army will, in a very short Time, be melted to nothing through Sickness and other Accidents.

*Camp, S. of Cuddalore,
June 15, 1783.*

Letter to the Select Committee at Madras, containing the Particulars of the Repulse of the French, on the 25th of June, 1783.

It is with great additional Satisfaction that I give you the Account of the Repulse the Enemy met with in a Sortie they made early this Morning. We have taken their Commanding Officer, Chevalier de Damas, Colonel (Maitre de Camp) of the Regiment of Aquitaine; likewise a Captain and a Lieutenant. There is a Major, a Captain, and 2 Subalterns killed. The Prisoners are about 150. I don't know how many of the Enemy have been killed or carried off wounded; but this I know that it was a most complete Route. Our Loss is Major Cotgrove, Lieut. Grueber of the Bengal Detachment, and Lieut. Ochterloney missing, Capt. Williamson wounded, and about 20 Rank and File killed or wounded.

Upon the Return of the French Fleet, and our's not appearing, I was sure that they would take every Occasion to annoy us: We were prepared for it, as they have found to their Experience. From what I can collect of the Prisoners, the Troops engaged were of their best Sort, the Regiment of Aquitaine and other old Corps, besides Volunteers from all the other Corps, and Two Battalions of Sepoys. Their principal Impression seems to have been directed to the Right of our Parallel; but they had no Idea of our having completed a Redoubt there, which, with the Two Guns galled them very severely. Our People behaved wonderfully well, and the Sepoys mixed their's with the French Bayonets: Nothing could exceed their Steadiness. Colonel Gordon commanded in the Trenches with Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart and Major Cotgrove; only one half of the Grenadiers were with the out-laying Pickets, but Major Moore with the other half was instantly on the Ground from their Advanced Camp, and they proved an excellent Support to the Parallel on the Right.

From the Character of Mons. Suffren, and the infinite Superiority of the present Means on the Part of the French now that we are left to ourselves, I expect a daily Visit of this Sort from them, and shall be prepared to give them a similar Reception; but I cannot too often repeat, that the Severity of the present Duty both on Officers and Men is become almost insupportable.

As to my own Uneasiness of Mind, considering many Things which I need not detail to you, and that it is now Nine Days since our Fleet and Provision Ships left us, and having no Certainty of Colonel Fullarton's Movements towards me, in Consequence of my Order of the 16th Instant; I say that, on the Whole of these Considerations, my Mind is upon the Rack without a Moment's Rest.

The steady undaunted Valour of this Army is my present Resource in the Middle of surrounding Difficulties, if the Admiral does not soon appear.

The high Idea I entertain of the Merit of the Army has led me to express my Sentiments at some Length in this Day's General Orders, both of their Conduct on the 13th, and in the Action of this Day. I shall have the Honor of transmitting to your Lordship, &c. a Copy, together with every Paper of any Consequence which you have not hitherto been furnished with, owing to the Uncertainty of Conveyance since we lost sight of the Admiral.

I pray your Lordship, &c. to forward the Means of Conveyance by Sea to us for the Detachment of 200 Hanoverians, with the Recruits and recovered Men of His Majesty's and the Company's Troops, together with Money, Rice and Flour Grain, our only Dependence for all those Things being upon you.

*Camp before Cuddalore,
June 25, 1783.*

Return of Ordnance taken from the Enemy in the Posts near Cuddalore, June 13, 1783.

On the Bandypallam Hill.

Brass Guns serviceable mounted, and may be used on the Posts, 2 Four and half Pounds.

In the Intrenchments from Bandypallam Hill and Brickmires Post, Iron Guns serviceable, the Carriages damaged, and cannot be used, 1 Nine Pounder, 1 Four Pounder.

Brass Guns serviceable mounted, and may be used, 1 Four and half Pounder, 2 Two and half ditto.

In Brickmires Post.

Iron Guns serviceable mounted, and may be used against the Fort, 2 Eighteen Pounders; 1 Nine ditto, 1 Five ditto.

Brass Guns serviceable mounted, and may be used, 1 Nine Pounder.

Ditto cannot be used, 1 Twelve Pounder.

Between Brickmires Post and Cuddalore.

Brass Guns serviceable mounted, and may be used, 3 Three Pounders.

Ammunition Tumbrils, 8.

Carts for Shot, 4.

(Signed)

*W. Elliot, Lieut. Col.
Commanding the Artillery.*

June 14.

Return of the Killed, Wounded and Missing in the Attack of the French advanced Redoubts and Redoubts before Cuddalore, on the 13th of June, 1783, of the Army under his Excellency Major General James Stuart, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's and the Company's Troops.

His Majesty's Troops.

1st Battalion, 73d Regiment. Killed Capt. Alex. Mackenzie, 5 Serjeants, and 20 Rank and File. Wounded and Prisoners, the Hon. Capt. James Lindsay, Lieut. Simon Mackenzie, Jun. and Lieut. James Trail. Wounded, Capt. John Hamilton, Lieutenants Charles Gorry, David Rannier, John Sinclair, James Duncan, and George Sutherland, 5 Serjeants, 2 Drummers, and 75 Rank and File. Missing 6 Rank and File.

78th Regiment. Killed, Capt. George Mackenzie and 9 Rank and File. Wounded, Lieutenants Patrick Grant and Malcolm Macpheron, 2 Serjeants, and 28 Rank and File. Missing, 1 Serjeant, and 1 Rank and File.

101st Regiment. Killed, Lieutenants W. R. Ellden, John Moore, John Branthwayte, and Charles Ross,