

and after some previous Steps, they have formally declared War against France, and have appealed to the Spanish Nation to support them; and their Supremacy has been acknowledged by the Councils of several other Provinces

In Andalusia they collected from Fifteen to Twenty Thousand Regular Troops, and have put Arms in the Hands of upwards of Sixty Thousand Peasants. General Castaneos is appointed Commander in Chief; and I understand they propose, out of the first Levies, to augment the Establishment of the old Regiments, to double their present Numbers.

Provincial Assemblies are also forming in most of the large Towns, and different Depôts fixed upon for raising Volunteers.

They have a Proportion of near Four Thousand Cavalry, and a large Quantity of Artillery; as Seville is a Foundry, and one of the largest Depôts in Spain.

All Accounts agree, that in every Part of Spain the Insurrections have commenced almost at the same Period; many small Detachments of the Enemy, and many Officers, have been cut off.

General Dupont was on his March to Seville, and had already passed the Morena Mountains when the Insurrection took Place. He has pushed on to Cordova, and, by the intercepted Dispatches, we learn he is strengthening himself there, and proposes to wait for Reinforcements. In the mean Time the Morena Passes in his Rear have been occupied by Five Thousand Spaniards, the Road has been broken up; and, I trust, all Communication has been cut off.

General D'Alril had received Orders to join him at Seville with Four Thousand Men, who were to assemble at Alcorentin, but our Arrival off Ayamonte, and the arming of all Spain, and the Alarms in Portugal, having prevented this Movement, I trust that General Junot will not now be able to detach any Troops from Portugal, though we understand a French Corps has been collected at Elvas, but I do not think it can exceed Four Thousand Men, though the Reports of its Strength are very various.

At Faro the Portuguese have already risen, have taken or destroyed a Detachment of about Two Hundred Men, have seized the Arms and Ammunition of the Province, which the French had collected in a Depôt, and also about Forty Thousand Dollars in Gold, which the French General had amassed.

Admiralty-Office, July 12, 1808.

*Extract of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Lord Collingwood, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Mediterranean, to the Honourable W. W. Pole, dated Ocean, off Cadiz, June 14, 1808.*

SIR,

IN my Letter of the 12th Instant, by the Alpheia, I informed you that Application had been made for a Ship to carry to England Commissioners appointed by the Supreme Council of Seville, to treat with His Majesty's Ministers on such Matters as are important to the Interest of both Countries. The Admiral who commands in the Port of Cadiz being one of the deputed, they did not choose he should depart until the Surrender of the French Ships, which took place this Morning.

The Spaniards having constructed an additional Battery of Thirty heavy Guns, and numerous Gun and Bomb-Vessels having taken their Stations,

the French Ships struck their Colours at Seven o'Clock this Morning, and soon after the Spaniards were hoisted on board them. The French Ships, I understand, are not at all injured, as the Spaniards wanted them for their own Use; nor has there been much Loss of Men on either Side.

The Governor some Days since (and before I came here) requested of Major-General Spencer to proceed to Ayamante, to oppose a Detachment of the French Army, which was said to be marching from Portugal by the Coast; and Yesterday the Transports proceeded, under the Protection of the Zealous, to that Quarter, where the Windsor Castle had conducted a Detachment the Day before.

June 15.

The Governor of Cadiz has notified to me, that the Commissioners will be ready to embark in Two Days. As the Revenge has been stationed near the Town, where Sir John Gore has had much Intercourse with the Governor and Chiefs in Command during the late Operations, and witnessed the Temper and Disposition of the People, I have ordered that Ship to receive them, that he may give to His Majesty's Ministers the Information they may desire of what has come within his Observation as to the present State of this Part of Spain.

Application has been made to me this Evening by the Supreme Council at Seville and the Governor of Cadiz, to give a Passport to a Spanish Frigate and Four Dispatch Vessels, to carry to the several Governments and Presidencies in the West Indies, Information of the Events which have happened in Spain, and their Instructions to the Governors; and also that a Sloop of War may take out Officers to that Country, whose Presence there is important; this they urge in Preference to their going in a Spanish Vessel, as it will convey a Proof of their Connexion with Great Britain.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) COLLINGWOOD,

Admiralty-Office, July 12, 1808.

*Extract of a Letter from Sir Charles Cotton, Bart. Admiral of the Blue, &c. to the Hon. William Wellesley Pole, dated on board His Majesty's Ship the Hibernia, off the Tagus, the 22d June 1808.*

SIR,

ENCLOSED I transmit, for the Information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the Copy of a Letter received by me from Captain Creyke, of His Majesty's Sloop Eclipse, detailing the State of Affairs at Oporto.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

C. COTTON.

*His Majesty's Sloop Eclipse, off the Bar of Oporto, June 20, 1808.*

SIR,

SINCE the Account I had the Honour of delivering to you on the 10th June, Oporto has undergone Two Revolutions, and has been successively in the Hands of the French and the Subjects of the Prince Regent.

After the Spaniards had delivered the Forts into the Custody of the Portuguese, and the National Colours were every where hoisted, the French were again able to establish their Authority, in consequence of the weak and undetermined Measures of the Governor, Louis D'Oliveira, who is now confined as a Traitor, and maintained it till the 16th,