

Hundred of his best Troops. It is situated on the Main, between Two and Three Miles in the Interior, at the End of an Avenue the same Length from the River; on the Right of which is a thick Wood, and on the Left the Creek Foville. I have also to remark, that there is nothing near appertaining to Government, or for the Defence of the Colony. On the Morning of the 8th I proceeded, accompanied by Lieutenant Mulcafter, Messrs. Savory and Forder, with some Scamen and Marines of the Confidence, and a Party of Portuguese Troops, with a Field-Piece, to take the said Post; but as my only Object was to take the Troops Prisoners, by which the Garrison of Cayenne would be much weakened, I dispatched Lieutenant Mulcafter in my Gig with a Flag of Truce, to acquaint the Officer commanding, that my only Object was to take the Post, for which I had Force sufficient; and though I might lose some Men in taking it, there could be no Doubt as to the Result; I therefore requested, for the Sake of Humanity, he would not attempt to defend a Place not tenable, but that I was determined, if he made a useless Resistance in defending a private Habitation, against which I gave him my Honour no Harm was intended, I should consider it as a Fortress, and would level it to the Ground. The Enemy's Advanced Guard allowed the Flag of Truce to approach them within a Boat's Length, then fired Two Volleys at them, and retreated. I then landed; but reflecting it was possible this Outrage was committed from the Ignorance of an inferior Officer, I sent Lieutenant Mulcafter a second Time, when, on his approaching the House, they fired the Field-Piece at him. Finding all Communication that Way ineffectual, yet wishing to preserve the private Property of a General Officer, who was perhaps ignorant and innocent of his Officer's Conduct, I sent one of the General's Slaves to the Officer with the same Message, who returned with an Answer that any Thing I had to communicate must be in Writing; at the same Instant he fired his Field-Piece as a Signal to his Troops, who were in Ambush on our Right in the Wood, to fire, keeping up a steady and well-directed Fire from his Field-Piece at the House. It was my Intention to have advanced with my Field-Piece; but finding he had made several Fosses in the Road, and the Wood being lined with Musketry, not a Man of whom we could see, and the Field-Piece in Front, I ordered ours to be thrown into a Fosse, when our Men, with Cheers, advanced with Pike and Bayonet, took the Enemy's Gun; they retreated into the House, and kept up a smart Fire from the Windows; but on our entering they flew through the back Premises into the Wood, firing as they retreated. Every Thing was levelled with the Ground except the Habitations of the Slaves. As we received Information that about Four Hundred of the Enemy were about to take Possession of Beauregard Plain, on an Eminence which commands the several Roads to and from Cayenne, it was determined between the Lieutenant-Colonel and myself to be beforehand with the Enemy, and march our whole Force there direct. We gained the Situation on the Enemy of the 9th, and on the 10th Lieutenant Mulcafter and a Portuguese Officer, (Lieutenant Bernardo Mikillis,) were sent into the Town with a Summons (No. 1.) to the General. In the Evening these Officers returned, accompanied by Victor Hugues' Aide-de-Camp, re-

questing an Armistice for 24 Hours to arrange the Articles of Capitulation; this being granted, and Hostages exchanged, on the 11th the Lieutenant-Colonel and myself met the General, and partly arranged the Articles; a second Meeting on the Morning of the 12th finally fixed them, (No. 2) and on the Morning of the 14th, the Portuguese Troops and British Scamen and Marines marched into Cayenne, and took Possession of the Town; the Enemy, amounting to Four Hundred, laid down their Arms on the Parade, and were immediately embarked on board the several Vessels belonging to the Expedition; at the same Time, the Militia, amounting to Six Hundred, together with Two Hundred Blacks, who had been incorporated with the Regular Troops, delivered in their Arms.

It is with Pleasure I observe, that throughout the Expedition the utmost Unanimity has prevailed between the Portuguese and British, and I have myself experienced the most friendly Intercourse with Lieutenant-Colonel Manoel Marques.

The Conduct of Captain Salgado of the Voader in the Post I assigned him was that of a zealous and energetic Officer, and I feel I should do him an Injustice were I to withhold my Testimony of his Merit. I must also acknowledge with Satisfaction the Services of Lieutenant Joze Pedro Schultz, who landed the Voader's Marines, and indeed every Individual belonging to the Portuguese Squadron.

It has always been with the highest Gratification to my Feelings, that I have had to mention the good Conduct of the Officers, Seamen, and Marines of the Ship I have the Honour to command, but during the whole Course of my Service I have never witnessed such persevering Resolution as they have displayed from the Commencement of the Campaign to the Reduction of Cayenne.

To my First Lieutenant Mr. William Howe Mulcafter I feel myself principally indebted for the very able Support I have received from him throughout, though it was no more than I expected from an Officer of his known Merit in the Service.

Lieutenant Samuel Blyth continued his Exertions, notwithstanding his Wounds, and the Assistance I derived from his active Intrepidity can never be forgotten.

I must here pay a Tribute to the Memory of a very zealous and gallant young Officer, the late Lieutenant John Read, of the Royal Marines. His Conduct was always exemplary, and whenever we landed, his Exertions were most strenuous. He was mortally wounded, as before-observed, in leading the Marines into Fort Diamant. His Memory will long be cherished by his Brother Officers.

To Mr. Thomas Savory (the Purser), who has made himself remarkably useful on various Occasions, and who, from my having so few Officers on so detached a Service as this has been, was of the greatest Utility to me, I feel myself much indebted.

Mr. James Larque (Master's Mate), to whom I gave Charge of the Gun-Boat No. 1, conducted her much to my Satisfaction; and James Thompson (Gunner's Mate), who had Charge of the Gun-Boat No. 2, is entitled to an equal Share of Commendation.

To Messrs. William Taylor (Carpenter), George Forder, and David Irvin, Midshipmen, Mr. Thomas Silvester, Assistant-Surgeon, who gave particular Attention to the Wounded, my warmest Thanks are due.