

Twenty-five Royal Marines; Twenty-five Seamen, under Mr Dobson; and Sixty-seven Non-commissioned Officers and Privates of the 94th Regiment.—Reinforcements were sent in the Evening of the 21st, and Reliefs of the whole were offered, but declined.

SIR, *Cadiz, April 23, 1810.*

I have the Honor to inform you, that at Two o'Clock on the Morning of the 21st, the Enemy opened upon the Seventy-four Gun Ship *St. Paulo*, and Gun-Boats stationed near Fort Matagorda, with hot Shot, and succeeded in forcing them to abandon their Position.

Immediately after this, they opened upon Fort Matagorda a very heavy Cannonade of Guns and Mortars, but as it would have been impossible to direct our Fire with a Certainty, I ordered Lieutenant Brereton, of the Royal Artillery, to delay our Fire until Day-break.

The Morning discovered Three Batteries opposed to us, in the Trocadero of Twenty-one Guns, and from the Flight of their Shells we judged they had Eight Mortars in other Three Batteries. From the Time they commenced firing at the Fort they kept up a most tremendous Cannonade of Shot and Shells with great Effect until Night, when the Enemy and the Fort both discontinued.

That Day's Fire made a very large Breach in the Escarp of the Rampart, on which was the principal Part of our Guns, and completely laying open our Magazine.

We were, from the Manner the Enemy placed his Batteries, and which they had contrived to do under mask of the Houses in the Village of Trocadero, (distant from the Fort about Nine Hundred Yards) only able to bring Seven Guns to bear on them; yet with these we contrived to silence, and, as I conceive, dismount the Guns of one of their Batteries, in which were Six Thirty-two Pounders.

The whole of the Night of the 21st, and Morning of the 22d, I employed in endeavouring to repair the Parapet of the South-East Face, composed of Sand-Bags, and which, from the very heavy Fire of Twenty-one Pieces of Cannon, (most of them Thirty-two Pounders) the Enemy had totally demolished, so that the Men at the Guns were perfectly exposed.

We continued to replace the Sand Bags and fill up the Breach, so as to put ourselves in a tolerable State of Defence, and at Daybreak in the Morning the Enemy opened with a Salvo from all his Batteries. We returned the Fire with the same Spirit and Success as Yesterday, but the Fort soon became a complete Ruin, and no where afforded any Shelter for the Reliefs. The Evacuation, however, only took place in consequence of your Order; we left the Fort at Ten A. M., Captain Stackpole, of the Royal Navy, having been sent by the Admiral to complete its Destruction.

I cannot sufficiently express to you the Gallantry and Coolness with which every individual Officer, Seaman, Marine, and Soldier conducted himself during the two Months we maintained this Post, particularly during the two last Days.

I beg, in a particular Manner, to mention the Services of that most excellent Officer Lieutenant Brereton, of the Royal Artillery, for his unremitting Attention to his Duty, and the masterly Stile in

which he kept up his Fire on the Enemy; as likewise Ensigns Cannon and Scott, of the 94th Grenadiers: And I request, Sir, you will state to the Admiral, how highly sensible I am of the handsome Manner in which Lieutenants Chapman and M'Pherson, of the Royal Navy, and one or two others, whose Names I cannot now recollect, volunteered their Services during the heaviest of the Fire.

Mr. George Dobson, Midshipman of the *Invincible*, had charge of the Seamen under my Command during the whole Time, and I beg you, Sir, to recommend him to the Admiral, as a very excellent and brave Officer.

Herewith I send a List of Killed and Wounded; and among the former I am sorry to return Major Lefebure, of the Royal Engineers; he was killed close to me by a Cannon-Ball; the Loss of such an excellent Officer is deeply to be lamented.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) A. MACLAINE, Captain 94th Regiment, late Commander at Fort Matagorda.  
*To Lieutenant-General Graham,*  
*Esq. &c. &c.*

N. B. Hospital-Mate Bennet, attached to the 94th Regiment, and who was the Surgeon attending the Garrison, I beg to recommend to your Notice, as a most attentive and excellent professional Man; he wishes much to be appointed Assistant-Surgeon of the 94th Regiment. I have omitted to mention Lieutenant Wright, of the Royal Artillery, who succeeded to the Command of the Artillery in the Batteries on the Morning of the 22d, after Lieutenant Brereton was wounded.

A. MACLAINE, Captain 94th Reg.

*List of Killed and Wounded at Fort Matagorda, on the 21st and 22d of April 1810.*

Royal Engineers—1 Major, killed.

Royal Artillery—1 Lieutenant, 1 Serjeant, 8 Privates, wounded.

Royal Marines—2 Privates, killed; 10 wounded.

88th Regiment—2 Privates, killed.

94th ditto—1 Corporal, 3 Privates, killed; 25 wounded.

Seamen—7 Seamen, killed; 2 Midshipmen, 10 Seamen, wounded.

Total—1 Major, 15 Seamen, Marines, and Soldiers, killed; 1 Lieutenant, 2 Midshipmen, 1 Serjeant, 53 Seamen and Privates, wounded.

(Signed) A. MACLAINE, Captain 94th Grenadiers, late Commander of Fort Matagorda.

*Lieutenant-General Graham, commanding British Forces, Cadiz.*

*Foreign-Office, Downing-Street, May 10, 1810.*

The King has been pleased to appoint John Philip Morier, Esq; to be His Majesty's Secretary of Legation to the United States of America.

*Whitehall, May 8, 1810.*

The King has been pleased to give and grant unto Thomas Eccleston, of Scarborough, in the County Palatine of Lancaster, Esq; eldest Son and Heir of Thomas Eccleston, late of the same Place,