

the 5th June, I have only to add, that although the French have advanced their Works to within half Pistol Shot of the Lines of the Puerto, besides having entirely destroyed the Battery of Francoli, and formed a Post under the Position of its Ruins, they have been beaten off with very serious Loss on their part in some desperate Attempts to storm the Orleans and Saint Joseph Batteries; and that the Spaniards under General Sarsfield have made several successful Sorties with the few Troops that could be spared for the Purpose. My last Letter to you, dated 15th May, will have informed you of my Intention of proceeding to Valencia and Alicant with General Doyle, and I have now to make known to you the successful Result of our Visit to those Places.

Leaving Tarragona on the 16th we reached Peniscola on the Forenoon of the 17th, where finding the Invincible with Four empty Transports bound to Carthagena, I directed Captain Adam to remain until he heard further from me. From thence General Doyle wrote to General O'Donnell an Account of the Situation of Tarragona, and of my detaining Captain Adam at Peniscola in Readiness to receive any Reinforcements which he might be pleased to send to that Garrison. Upon our Arrival at Murviedra we found General O'Donnell had already ordered the Embarkation of Two Thousand Three Hundred Infantry, and Two Hundred and Eleven Artillery Men, &c. &c. which, by the Zeal and Execution of Captain Adam, who received Seven Hundred of them on board the Invincible, were safely landed at Tarragona on the 22d.

Delivering to General O'Donnell Two Thousand Stand of Arms, Accoutrements, and Clothing, to enable him to bring into the Field as many of the Recruits already trained as would supply the Place of the regular Soldiers thus detached from his Army, we proceeded to Valencia, and landed the Remainder of our Cargo; by which means the Troops of General Villa Campa, then dispersed as Peasantry for Want of Arms, were enabled again to take the Field, and the Corps of Mina, Empecinado completed in all the Requisites for active Warfare, and the Army of Aragon thus brought forward to act in concert with the Movements of that of Valencia.

At Alicant we procured as many necessary Materials for Tarragona as the Ship would actually stow, besides Eighty Artillery Men, and a considerable Quantity of Powder, Ball Cartridge, Lead, &c. &c. sent in the Paloma Spanish Corvette from Carthagena, in company with a Spanish Transport from Cadiz, deeply laden with similar Supplies. As it was impossible to receive these Stores on board the Blake, they were conveyed at my Request in the Paloma, with the Ship under Convoy, directly to Tarragona.

After returning to Valencia, where we landed the additional Arms, &c. for the Aragonese Army, we moved on to Murviedro; where the Count of Bisbal proceeded from Valencia to join us in a Consultation with his Brother, although, on account of his Wound, he was very unfit for such a Journey. The Result of this Conference was a Determination on the part of General O'Donnell to commit to my Protection, for the Succour of Tarragona, another Division of his best Troops, under Major-General Miranda, consisting of Four Thousand Men, whilst he himself would move forward with the Remainder

of his Army to the Banks of the Ebro; where, in concert with the Aragonese Division, he might threaten, and perhaps destroy the different Depôts of General Suchet.

I therefore hastened to Tarragona, to collect the necessary Shipping, for the Purpose of giving Action to these liberal and patriotic Intentions. Again, fortunately meeting the Invincible on the Night of the 6th, I directed Captain Adam to anchor at Peniscola, and wait my Return to that Rendezvous in Company with Captain Pringle, whom I ordered to do the same with the Sparrowhawk and the Transport William, whenever he should have landed the Mortars, &c. at Valencia, with which he was charged.

On the Morning of the 7th we reached Tarragona, landed the whole of our Cargo in the course of the Night; and, after a Consultation with General Contreras, again left that Anchorage at Ten o'clock in the Forenoon of the 8th, taking the Paloma along with us.

We reached Peniscola on the Noon of the 9th, where the Invincible had already anchored with the Four Transports, and were joined on the 10th by the Centaur, Sparrowhawk, and William Transport.

From the critical Situation of Tarragona I left Orders with Captain Bullen, that whatever Ships of War might arrive before my Return, should join me immediately; and to Captain White's Promptness in obeying this Order and consenting in common with Captain Adam and myself to receive each a Battalion of Eight Hundred Troops, with the proper Proportion of Officers, I am indebted for the Power of embarking the whole Four Thousand on the Forenoon of the 11th, and landing them at the Garrison of Tarragona during the Night of the 12th.

As soon as the Troops were ready for Embarkation at Peniscola, I sent the Sparrowhawk forward to prepare the Garrison and also the Marquis of Campo Verde for our Arrival, and in consequence of the Marquis's Letter in answer to General Miranda requested I would again embark his Division for the Purpose of joining the Marquis in the Neighbourhood of Villa Nueva de Sitges, in order to threaten the Flank of the besieging Army. And this further Service was so speedily executed by means of the Boats of the Squadron, that the whole Division was again safely landed at this Place on the Evening of Yesterday, from whence it marched this Morning for Villa Franca, intending to join the Marquis of Campo Verde, To-morrow, at Igualada.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CODRINGTON.

Admiral Sir Charles Cotton, &c. &c. &c.

No. 6.

Blake, in Tarragona Roads,

June 23, 1811.

SIR,
BESIDES employing the Gun-Boats and Launches during the whole of every Night in annoying the Enemy's working Parties, I have supplied the Garrison with above Three Thousand Sand Bags made by the Squadron, and sent all the Women, Children, and wounded People by the Transports to Villa Nueva, added to which the Boats of the Squadron under the particular Directions of Captain Adam, but assisted by Captain White and myself, took off above Two Hundred Men who