

cot, before the Engagement commenced, who seized the Post in the Rear, left the Enemy might get there before our Light Infantry, which had, however, reduced our Force on Mascot at the Time of it's being attacked; but Major Ross, with the 2d Light Infantry, reaching the Post in the Rear soon after Major Irving, the latter instantly returned to Mascot with the Four Companies of Grenadiers, and having rejoined when the Engagement had lasted for some Time, the Enemy were charged with Bayonets, and driven from the Height with still greater Slaughter than on their former Attack. During the first Day's Engagement Lieutenant-Colonel Fisher was struck with Grape Shot, occasioning Contusions only, and on the last his Horse was killed under him. During this Time Major Ross, with the 2d Light Infantry, was also engaged with the Enemy, and repulsed them with Loss on their Side. The rainy Season being already set in, and this being the last Month for acting before the Hurricane Season, at the same Time that the Troops were exposed alternately to heavy Rains and a vertical Sun, together with the Circumstances of the great Slaughter recently suffered by the Enemy in the Two Attacks they made on Morne Mascot, determined me to make an Effort for finishing the Campaign at once; and I concerted Measures accordingly, ordering Brigadier General Symes to march in the Evening of the 1st Instant from Morne Mascot, with the 1st Battalion of Grenadiers, the 1st and 2d Battalions of Light Infantry, and the 1st Battalion of Seamen, commanded by Captain Robertson, who attacked the Town of Point à Petre before Day of the 2d Instant; but being misled by our Guides, the Troops entered the Town at the Part where they were most exposed to the Enemy's Cannon and small Arms, and where it was not possible to scale the Walls of the Fort; in consequence of which they suffered considerably from Round and Grape Shot, together with small Arms fired from the Houses, &c. and a Retreat became unavoidable, the more so, as the Troops are entirely worn out by Fatigue and the Climate, so as to be quite exhausted, and totally incapable of further Exertion at present. It gives me great Concern to add, that Brigadier-General Symes was wounded; Lieutenant-Colonel Gomm (an excellent Officer) and some other meritorious Officers were killed on this Attack; as was also Captain Robertson of the Navy, a valuable Officer, and a great Loss to the Service. Enclosed is Brigadier-General Symes's Report, accounting for the Failure of that Enterprize. I had every Thing in Readiness at the Post of Morne Mascot for an Attack upon Fort Fleur d'Épée, by Storm, with the 2d Battalion of Grenadiers, 65th Regiment, Six Companies of Grande Terre, and the 2d Battalion of Seamen, commanded by Captain Sawyer; waiting, as concerted, until I should hear whether Brigadier-General Symes, with his Division, succeeded, or had taken Post near the Town of Point à Petre; but his Failure obliged me to relinquish the meditated Attack upon Fort Fleur d'Épée, by laying me under the Necessity of detaching the 2d Battalion of Grenadiers, to cover the Retreat of Brigadier-General Symes's Division.

The Season for Action in the Field being past, and the Troops debilitated by the Fatigue of a long Campaign and the Climate, so as to become unable for further Contest, without Shelter from the scorching Heat of a vertical Sun, or the heavy Rains now so frequent, there remained no Choice but to retreat, and I brought the Troops, with every Thing we had at Morne Mascot, back to Gozier, on the Night of the 2d Instant, detaching the 2d Battalion of Light

Infantry and Loyalists, by Petit Bourge, to Berville, &c. on the 3d following, to secure Basse Terre; and embarking the Remainder of the Troops during the ensuing Night.

I have now occupied the Ground with my whole Force between St. John's Pointe and Bay Mahault, having erected Batteries with Twenty-four Pounders, and Mortar Batteries, at Pointe Saron and Pointe St. John, opposite to the Town of Pointe à Petre and the Shipping, both of which I shall endeavour to destroy; and which Situation gives perfect Security to Basse Terre.

As the Harbour is also perfectly blocked up by the Admiral, the Enemy must suffer every Distress.

I transmit a Return of our Killed and Wounded.

I have appointed Colonel Colin Graham, of the 21st Regiment, Brigadier-General, and to command the Troops in Basse Terre, Guadeloupe, of which I hope His Majesty will approve.

When the Intelligence was received that Grand Terre had been retaken by the French, Lieutenant-Colonels Cooté and Craddock were both at St. Christopher's, so far on their Way to England, for the Recovery of their Health, having had my Leave of Absence after the Close of our first Campaign; and although they were most dangerously ill of a Fever, from which they were then only recovering, they rejoined me, and have been very essentially useful and serviceable on this Occasion, when Officers were so much wanted, and especially Officers of their Merit and Ability.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cooté will have the Honor to deliver this Dispatch, an Officer of infinite Merit, who returns Home for the Re-establishment of his Health; and he is well qualified to give you any further Information that may be required.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES GREY.

P. S. I cannot sufficiently acknowledge the great Assistance I have received from every Officer and Seaman in the Navy. The Unanimity which has prevailed between them and the Army upon this, as upon every other Occasion during the Course of the Campaign, could not be exceeded; nor can I omit once more to express my warmest Approbation of the gallant Zeal and good Conduct of every Officer and Soldier of this brave Army, who have, through a Campaign in the worst of Climates, endured Hardships unparralleled.

C. G.

*Return of Killed, Wounded and Missing in the Army, commanded by His Excellency General Sir Charles Grey, K. B. &c. &c. from June 10 to July 30, 1794. Grande Terre, Guadeloupe.*

Royal Artillery. 1 Serjeant, 2 Rank and File, killed; 10 Rank and File wounded.

1st Battalion of Grenadiers. 1 Lieutenant, 1 Serjeant, 35 Rank and File, killed; 1 Captain, 4 Lieutenants, 5 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 90 Rank and File, wounded; 1 Serjeant, 1 Drummer, 21 Rank and File, missing.

2d Battalion of Grenadiers. 1 Drummer, 3 Rank and File killed; 1 Captain, 1 Drummer, 15 Rank and File, wounded; 1 Rank and File, missing.

3d Battalion of Light Infantry. 1 Lieutenant-Colonel, 2 Captains, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Serjeant, 1 Drummer, 21 Rank and File, killed; 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 5 Serjeants, 4 Drummers, 94 Rank and File, wounded; 1 Drummer, 27 Rank and File, missing.