

40720 Awards, Memo^{rs} Feb. 17. 1811

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Most Humbly submitted to His
Royal Highness The Prince Regent.

It is most humbly sub-
mitted to His Royal Highness,
that in the Month of October
last, a small Expedition was
fitted out at Gibraltar by Lieu-
tenant General Campbell,
with the View of making an
attack upon the Enemy at
Malaga, where He had assem-
bled a number of Privateers
and Gun Boats.

This Expedition was
entrusted to the Command
of Major General Lord
Blayney, and sailed from
Ceuta on the 15th of October,
consisting of about 1,470
Men, composed as per
Margin, and proceeded to
Pianquola, about 30 Miles

	<u>Rank & File</u>
Royal Artillery	65
09 th Foot & 13 th	309
Corps of Deserters	}
from the French Army	} 467
Imperial Regt. of Toledo	} 630
<u>Total 1,471</u>	

West

West of Malaga, with the view of making a demonstration to draw the attention of the Enemy from the real object of the Enterprize.

Lord Blagney however landed his Guns and commenced an attack upon the Castle or Port, with 12 Pounders, in the progress of which He was surprized by an inferior Force by which his Guns were taken, and although they were gallantly recovered by His Lordship at the Head of the 09th Regiment; yet by an unaccountable misconception of the composition and intention of the Enemy's Troops, who subsequently advanced from the Castle, He compelled the Men under His Command to cease offensive measures, and permitted himself to be surrounded and taken Prisoner - His Men upon

this

this, losing their confidence relinquished their honor and the Field, and, throwing away their Arms &c, fled to the Boats in the utmost consternation and confusion.

It is most humbly submitted to His Royal Highness, that a Court of Enquiry was assembled at Gibraltar, by order of Lieutenant General Campbell, to investigate the circumstances attending this disaster: The Proceedings are very voluminous and His Royal Highness will find them compressed, as far as possible in the accompanying *Precis*. This *Precis* however having been extended to an unavoidable detail - His Royal Highness's attention is humbly drawn to the following points in the Proceedings, as materially involving the conduct of Individuals, and the Honor and Character

of

of the Army.

It appears that Lord
Blayney landed His Guns
and commenced and
persevered in a fruitless
attack upon Pranguola,
though He had been informed
that the object of the demon-
stration had succeeded and
that the Enemy had detach-
ed from Malaga.

It appears that His Lord-
ship did not protect His front
and flanks with the proper
Guards or Picquets - that He
permitted almost the whole
of His Force to go to the Shore
for Provisions - and that,
having determined upon
a change of Position, He
moved the remainder of His
Infantry before He moved His
Guns, by which means the
latter were taken by the dally
of a small party of the Enemy
from the Port and turned
against

against the Troops - That Lord Blouney, then on Board a Gun Boat, landed on hearing of the disaster and proceeded to form the 89th, and with this Corps He retook the Guns; But immediately afterwards, conceiving the Enemy to be a party of Deserters, or Spaniards, wishing to join Him - He ceased firing and taking off his Hat approached them and was taken Prisoner.

It appears that a few straggling French Soldiers at this moment approached the 89th - fired into that Corps and even stabbed and wrestled with the Men. Upon which this Regiment and the Foreigners gave way and ran to the Beach in the utmost confusion throwing

throwing away their Arms -
and crying out that they
were betrayed and had no
Officers to command them -
that several Men who could
not get into the Boats, swam
off, and some were drowned
in the attempt.

It appears that the Enemy
did not press the Troops in
their retreat, and that his
Force employed in this attack,
did not consist of more than
50 Men.

It does not appear that
any exertion was made by
the Officers to rally the Troops.

It appears that Major
Grant, the Commanding
Officer of the 99th Regiment,
was killed on the evening
of the 14th October, after the
Troops had landed - and
that the Command of the
Battalion devolved upon
Captain

Captain Annesley who did
not exert the least degree of
zeal in the assumption of
that Command: on the
contrary it appears by the
concurrent testimony of
several witnesses, that he
did not lead his Regiment
to the attack - that he lay
or sat on the side of the Hill
apparently weary - that
upon the retreat of the
Troops from the position
he was seen by a Naval
Officer "lying under a bush
"in the Valley with a few of
"his Men about him" and
that to a question from this
Officer he replied, "it was better
"to be taken quietly than
"shot attempting to escape".

Captain Annesley accor-
dingly remained and
was taken by the Enemy,

in whose hands he continues.

It appears that Captain Barnes, the next in command, did not exert himself in the manner a British Officer ought to have done to restore, or to rouse, the Troops to a sense of their Duty and one of the Evidences (Sergeant M. Muller) states that Captain Barnes "ran away from his Company and that he saw him running away."

Such are the material points which have appeared in the Evidence, in regard to the conduct of Individuals. But a want of Talent and Expertise are apparent in the whole Conduct of this unfortunate Service.

It is Most Humbly

submitted

submitted to His Royal Highness, that the Discipline and Character of the Service would appear to call for an Expression of disapprobation of the misconduct which has so strongly marked the Operations under Lord Blayney: And it is therefore submitted to His Royal Highness, that in consideration of the professional Ignorance and want of arrangement evinced by His Lordship - a mark shall be put against His Name, in order that he may not be employed in any Military Capacity until His Conduct should have been explained in a manner satisfactory to the Character of the high Rank he bears in the British Service.

It

It is further submitted to His Royal Highness, that under the corroborated testimony of the misconduct of Captain H. Ammesley of the 2^d Battⁿ of the 89th Regiment before the Enemy, where, as commanding Officer of that Corps, his Example could not fail to contribute to the disgraceful retreat of that Battalion, it would be expedient, in support of the Discipline and respectability of the Service, to erase that Officer's Name from the List of the Army.

It is also submitted to His Royal Highness, that although the personal misconduct of Captain Barnes, is not corroborated and established by Evidence; Yet under the want of Eviden^{ce} which is proved against Him, and the Charge ^{contains}

contained in the Evidence of Sergeant McMullen of having ran from his Company, it is proposed to His Royal Highness that He should be tried by a General Court Martial, and that Lieut. General Campbell be instructed accordingly.

When this Court Martial shall have been concluded it is submitted to His Royal Highness that the 2^d Battalion 89th shall be recalled from Gibraltar.

In the Name and on the Behalf of His Majesty
Approved

(Signed)

George P. R.

Home Guard 16 July 1911

Memoranda

Relative to the conduct
of certain Officers em-
ployed on the Stations
under the command
of Major General
Lord Blythburgh
Bangalore.