



Miniature of Capt. James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. (back labeled “Major Ja<sup>s</sup> Campbell H. M. 42 Regt’”)

Picture Source: Curtesy of *Historical Antique Arms*

## Appendix E

### Capt. James Campbell, Hostage of the Spanish Army

#### Introduction

Ens. James Campbell was the son of Mungo Campbell of Crigans and his wife, Elizabeth Campbell<sup>1</sup> and the nephew of Lt. Col. John Campbell of Strachur, 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. James Campbell was promoted to Lieutenant in the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. in May 1769, while the regiment was stationed in Ireland and in Dec. 1775 his regiment embarked at Cork, Ireland under Lt. Gen. Charles, Earl Cornwallis for the unsuccessful expedition to take Charleston, South Carolina. Lt. Campbell and the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. joined the main army outside New York before the Battle of Long Island in Aug. 1776.

On July 4, 1777 Lt. Col. John Campbell was appointed “*Brigadier General in America*” and ordered “...to take the Command of the Troops that remain on Staten Island.... under the overall command of Lt. Gen. Henry Clinton in New York<sup>2</sup>. Five days later, on July 9, 1777, Lt. James Campbell, was appointed “*Major of Brigade*” to Campbell’s brigade.<sup>3</sup> A “*Major of Brigade*” was the principal staff officer to the commander of the brigade.

Lt. Campbell was promoted to Captain in the 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regt. on Sept. 17, 1778 but did not join the regiment due to his duties in Brig. Gen. Campbell’s brigade.<sup>4</sup>



Gen. John Campbell of Strachur

Picture Source: Wikipedia, from *Hunting*

Brig. Gen. John Campbell, Major of Brigade Campbell and about 1200 men sailed in Nov. 1778 to reinforce the garrison of Pensacola, West Florida and landed there (after spending a month at Jamaica) at the end of Jan. 1779.<sup>5</sup> Within six weeks of his arrival Brig. Gen. Campbell requested to be relieved of his command at Pensacola, writing the Commander-in-Chief, Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, that he had a great aversion to the command and that he found himself unequal to the fatigue and trouble of it. He added that the illness of Brigade Major Campbell greatly added to his misfortune.<sup>6</sup> Clinton did not, however, approve of Campbell's removal.

Maj. Gen. Campbell appointed James Campbell to the additional duty of paymaster for the command in April 1779<sup>7</sup>; a position worth 10 shillings a day to Campbell. This position, however, required the approval of Sir Henry Clinton in New York and was not approved despite Maj. Gen. Campbell's Dec. 15, 1779 letter informing Headquarters of the efficient conduct of Capt. Campbell as paymaster to the staff.<sup>8</sup>

In March 1781 a Spanish force under Spanish Gen. Bernardo de Galvez with 7800 men and 21 warships arrived at Pensacola to place the British fort under siege. Reinforced by 725 French troops in April, Galvez' siege was successful and Maj. Gen. Campbell surrendered on May 10, 1781. As Major of Brigade and Secretary to Maj. Gen. Campbell, James Campbell carried the proposed articles of capitulation to Gen. Galvez and stayed in the Spanish camp to document the final articles. Maj. Gen. Campbell obtained generous terms for his surrender and his army was allowed to return to New York under the condition they did not serve against Spain or her allies until exchanged.

Maj. Gen. Campbell had high praise for Capt. Campbell's conduct during the siege, writing to Lord George Germain on May 12, 1781 that *"...But the infinite obligations I am under to Brigade-Major Campbell for his good conduct, indefatigable zeal, and strict attention to his duty, on this last as well as on every other occasion under my command, I cannot sufficiently express; I therefore most earnestly recommend him through your lordship to His Majesty's notice as an officer whose merit, faithful services, and abilities justly claim any mark of royal favour that can be conferred upon him..."*<sup>9</sup>



Gen. Don Bernardo de Galvez

Picture Source: Wikipedia

Unlike the other officers of the garrison who were released with all the troops on parole, Gen. Galvez held Brigade Major Campbell in Havana, Mobile and New Orleans as a hostage in retaliation for an attempted rebellion in the Natchez District, which had been under the control of British West Florida. Natchez is located on the Mississippi River about 320 miles northwest of Pensacola. This detention was strictly prohibited by the Articles of Capitulation which included a provision for Maj. Gen. Campbell's military staff to be released.<sup>10</sup>

Gen. Galvez explained his justification for the detention of Campbell in a letter to Sir Henry Clinton, dated Dec. 30, 1781.<sup>11</sup> He wrote that because the Pensacola capitulation included Natchez, the commissions issued by Maj. Gen Campbell in May 1781 to Capt. Blomart and others involved in the insurrection at Natchez gave Galvez sufficient authorization for reprisals against the entire Pensacola Garrison. He concluded he was authorized to detain Campbell and Capt. Robert Deans of *HMS Mentor* as hostages.

British General Orders on Aug. 21, 1781 recognized Campbell's detention ordering "*Captain Thompson of the 57<sup>th</sup> Regiment, is appointed to act as Major of Brigade to the Troops arrived from Pensacola, under the Command of Lieutenant General Campbell, 'till the Return of Brigade Major Campbell...*"

A Spanish diplomat, Don Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis, wrote from Havana on Jan. 27, 1782 that one of the two hostages, Capt. Deans of the Navy, was being sent to Spain, but that "*At the same time, Major Campbell, the other hostage, was made to embark for New Orleans, because it appeared that his presence in Havana was prejudicial, and there was even an idea that he was sketching maps, etc...*"<sup>12</sup> De Sangronis' description of Campbell's destination was likely incorrect as Lt. Gen. Alexander Leslie's Dep. Commissary of Prisoners, Robert Ross, later reported "*...That Captain James Campbell of His Majesty's 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment of foot, late Major of Brigade to Major General Campbell in West Florida, being Prisoner of war at the Havana, was about the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January last [1782], at two hours notice, ordered to embark on board of a vessel bound to Mobile, where by order of General Galvez he is confined close prisoner in the fort [Conde], to remain in that condition during the continuation of the present war...*"<sup>13</sup>

Jamaica Gov. Archibald Campbell reported Brig. Maj. Campbell's status in a letter to Lt. Gen. John Campbell on May 21, 1782 concerning the exchange of Spanish prisoners. He wrote that "... *I have heard of late that Capt. James Campbell is still in their hands, and that they have been dancing him about the world at the will of Don Galvez. Of this circumstance be pleased to acquaint me that I may take an early occasion to retaliate upon their Counts and Marquis whatever conduct they shew to him.*"<sup>14</sup>

On July 17, 1782 Lt. Gen. Campbell blasted Galvez' conduct in holding Brig. Maj. Campbell in a letter to the Spanish general writing "*I would wish ... to avoid making any further mention to you of Major Campbell ... I shudder at the accounts of cruelty being added to injustice in his confinement at Mobile, which as being one of the most unhealthy situations on earth, offers a probability he may there perish (and with him the power of that pen you seem so much to dread), and of representing the accumulated injuries that have been vindictively & illiberally heaped on him. Should he survive his maltreatment, his liberty & redress of his sufferings will be sought & expected from other powers than those you possess...*"<sup>15</sup>.

Gov. Campbell, who was likely related to Capt. Campbell, attempted to arrange an exchange for Col. Gilbert-Antoine Saint-Maxent of the New Orleans militia. Col. Saint-Maxent had been captured on a French ship and was the father-in-law of Gen. Galvez. Gov. Campbell tried to make the exchange with Gov. Don Louis de Unzaga, acting Capt. General at Havana and another son-in-law of Col. Saint-Maxent. After Gen. Galvez released several of the Loyalist officers who had been condemned to death for the Natchez revolt, Gov. Campbell sent Col. Saint-Maxent to Havana with the implied condition that Capt. Campbell would be released. Gov. Unzaga, however, refused to release Capt. Campbell due to direction from the colonial ministry that Gen. Galvez must retain Capt. Campbell as a hostage.<sup>16</sup>

In late 1782, Capt. Campbell obtained permission to remain in the Spanish province capitol of New Orleans and likely stayed in a widow's boarding house where English officers on parole were quartered. The widow's facilities "...*consisted of a large house in which at time she lodged and fed as many as twenty persons, supplying them with beds, chairs, linens and silver table-service; that in addition she had two hand some billiard tables and an abundant supply of wine, rum, liqueurs, sugar and coffee*"<sup>17</sup> Capt. Andrew Campbell of the British ship *Dragon*, which left Havana around July 22, 1783, reported "...*Brigade Major Campbell had been enlarged, and sent with seven or eight British officers in a Cartel for Jamaica, a fortnight before Captain Campbell sailed*"<sup>18</sup> This report is, however, in conflict with that of Capt. George Stoney, *HMS Fox*, dated July 21, 1783 which stated that "*Poor Major Campbell (a Relation of our Governor) is not yet released tho a vessel was sent down to New Orleans, for him, and the four Culprits, whose lives, as say the Spaniards, were given to the Young Prince*"<sup>19</sup> Stoney is referring to the gesture Gen. Galvez made to the son of King George III, Midshipman Prince William Henry, whose ship stopped in Havana. The four culprits were Englishmen who attempted the uprising in Natchez and had been sentenced to death.

Gov. Campbell's letter from Jamaica to Sir Henry Clinton dated Jan. 18, 1784 indicated that Capt. Campbell had finally been released and would be sailing from Jamaica to Britain. Gov. Campbell wrote "... *Cap<sup>t</sup>: Campbell will inform you, of his release from the illiberal treatment of Don Bernardo de Galvez; being detained as an hostage to satisfy the caprice of that General, for upwards of two years and a half; contrary to the Capitulation of Pensacola...*" If Gov. Campbell was accurate in his statement, Capt. Campbell was released approximately Nov. 1783.<sup>20</sup>



*"The Town and Harbour of Halifax in Nova Scotia looking down George Street to the opposite shore called Dartmouth," Richard Short, 1759*

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons, from *Nova Scotia Archives*

After a leave of absence in Britain, Capt. Campbell joined the 42nd Regt. in the garrison of Halifax, Nova Scotia between June 9, 1784 went a regimental review report listed him as "*Kept as Hostage with the Spaniards*"<sup>21</sup> and Oct. 16, 1785. By that latter date Capt. Campbell was again working for his uncle, Maj. Gen. John Campbell as Military Secretary and Major of Brigade.

Although Capt. Campbell's leave of absence was approved through Apr. 1, 1785,<sup>22</sup> he may have arrived in Canada as early as Dec. 29, 1784, the date Maj. Gen. Campbell recommended his appointment as Deputy Adjutant General to Secretary of State Lord Sydney.<sup>23</sup>

When the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders departed Halifax on June 4, 1786 to garrison Cape Breton and St. Johns Island (now Prince Edward Island) Campbell remained in Halifax with his uncle, contrary to army policy which required Majors of Brigade to be from a regiment assigned to that command.<sup>24</sup>

While the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was still serving at Cape Breton and St. Johns Island, Capt. Campbell left Nova Scotia for Great Britain with Maj. Gen. Campbell in late May/early June 1787<sup>25</sup> and was a witness at the Maj. Gen. Campbell's wedding at Park, Renfrewshire, Nov. 1, 1787<sup>26</sup>. The next year, Capt. Campbell married Jean Houston in Glasgow on Sept. 16, 1788 and he was still on full pay status in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. when he died in Glasgow on Nov. 14, 1790.<sup>27</sup>

Capt. Campbell's full biography is provided in Appendix A, Biographies of the Officers of the 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regiment During the American War for Independence, 1775-1783

#### Notes to Introduction:

1. *The Scottish Nation*, Vol. III, William Anderson, A. Fullerton & Co., Edinburgh, 1863, p. 695.
2. "*The Kemble Papers*," Vol. I, 1773-1789
3. General Orders July 9, 1777, *Orderly Book, British Headquarters Orders, New York*, kept by Lt. Col. Stephen Kemble, Sept. 11-Oct. 24, 1778, Item 69 of Research Publications Inc. *Early American Orderly Books, 1748-1817*, Woodbridge CT.
4. General Orders, Sept. 17, 1778, *Orderly Book, British Headquarters Orders, New York*, kept by Lt. Col. Stephen Kemble, Sept. 11-Oct. 24, 1778, Item 69 of Research Publications Inc. *Early American Orderly Books, 1748-1817*.
5. "Memoir of Carl Philipp Steurnagel, 3<sup>rd</sup> Waldeck Regiment," Trans. and Ed. Bruce E. Burgoyne, *Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association*, Volume 6, No. 1, 1997, pp. 44-45.



6. John Campbell to Sir Henry Clinton, Mar. 10, 1779, *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain, Vol. I, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1904, Google Books, p. 396.*
7. John Campbell to Sir Henry Clinton, Apr. 7-18, *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain, Vol. I, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1904, Google Books, p. 411.*
8. John Campbell to Sir Henry Clinton, Dec. 15, 1779, *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, p. 72.*
9. John Campbell to Lord George Germain, May 12, 1781, TNA, *Colonial Office Papers, Correspondence, West Florida at CO 5/597, f. 310 as shown in Documents of the American Revolution 1770-1783, Colonial Office Series, Vol. XX, Transcripts 1781, Ed. K.G. Davies, Irish University Press, Dublin, 1777, pp. 138-142.*
10. "The Arkansas Post of Louisiana: Spanish Domination" by Stanley Fay, *Louisiana Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 27, No. 3, July, 1944, pp. 666-667.
11. Don Bernardo Galvez to Sir Henry Clinton, Dec. 30, 1781, *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, p. 372 (Old File System Vol. 23, No. 168. Translation. Vol. 22, No. 103.)*
12. Don Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis Diary Entry, Jan. 27, 1782, *Journal of Don Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis during the commission which he had in his charge from 25 June 1780 until the 20th of the same month of 1783*, Ed. Francisco Morales Padron, Trans. Aileen Moore Topping, University of Florida Press, Gainesville, 1989, p. 279.
13. Report of Robert Ross, July 15, 1782, TNA, *Guy Carleton, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Dorchester: Papers at PRO 30/55/91, p. 9996(1-2), marked p. 119.*
14. Archibald Campbell to John Campbell, May 21, 1782, *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain, Vol. II, Her Majesty's Stationary Office, Dublin, 1906, pp. 493- 494.*
15. John Campbell to Don Bernardo de Galvez, July 17, 1782, *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain, Vol. III, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1907, Google Books, pp. 22-23 (old Ref: Vol. 43, No. 60.)*
16. "The Arkansas Post of Louisiana: Spanish Domination" by Stanley Fay in *Louisiana Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 27, No. 3, July, 1944, pp. 668-670.
17. *The Stewardship of Don Estaban Miro, 1782-1792, A Study of Louisiana Based Largely on the Documents in New Orleans*, Caroline Maude Burson, Ph.D., American Printing Co., New Orleans, 1940, p.20. The author references *Indice...cartes del Capitan General*, Dec. 18, 1782 for this section.
18. *Royal Gazette* (New York), Aug. 9, 1783.
19. Extract of letter from George Stoney, *HMS Fox*, Havana, July 21, 1783 enclosed in Gov. Archibald Campbell to Sir Evan Nepean, Aug. 29, 1783, TNA, *Colonial Office, West Florida Correspondence, Secretary of State, Military, part 2, 1779-1783 at CO 5/598, f. 63.*
20. Gov. Archibald Campbell to Sir Henry Clinton, Jan. 18, 1784, *Sir Henry Clinton Papers* 199: 3, W. L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan.
21. "Report of a General Review of His Majestys Forces that compose the Garrison of Halifax by Major General Campbell Commanding all His Majesty's Troops in Nova Scotia &c &c &c on the 9<sup>th</sup> June 1784," TNA, *Office of the Commander-in-Chief and War Office: Adjutant General and Army Council, Inspection Returns, Foreign, 1783-1784 at WO 27/52, 75124.*
22. George Yonge to John Campbell, Nov. 3, 1784, TNA, *War Office: Secretary-at-War, Out-letters. America at WO 4/276, p. 20.*
23. John Campbell to Lord Sydney, Dec. 29, 1784, *Sessional Papers of the Dominion of Canada*, Volume 28, Issue 6, 1895, Google Books, p. 429.
24. George Yonge to John Campbell, July 23, 1786 in *A Statement Submitted by Colonel Desbarres for Consideration*, Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions Microfiche Series (Monographs), note to p. 89.
25. *Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Aug. 16, 1787, p. 2.
26. *The History of Glasgow, From the earliest to the present time, By Writers of Eminence*, John Tweed, Glasgow, 1873, Google Books p. 566.
27. Pension Application for Jean Campbell, TNA, *War Office: Widows' Pensions and Bounty, Application Papers at WO 25/3092/2, item. 14.*

### **Capt. James Campbell Captivity Timeline:**

Jan. 18, 1779	Maj. of Brigade (and Capt.) James Campbell arrives at Pensacola with Brig. Gen. John Campbell.
Mar. 20, 1781	Spanish Gen. Don Bernardo de Galvez besieges Fort George, Pensacola
May 10, 1781	Maj. Gen. John Campbell surrenders Fort George to Gen. Don Bernardo de Galvez. Maj. of Brigade Campbell is sent to Spanish Headquarters to negotiate

	terms of the capitulation. The officers and men are allowed to return to New York on parole.
June 4, 1781	British garrison sails to Spanish-held Havana, Cuba
June 30, 1781	British garrison sails from Havana to New York without Capt. James Campbell, and Capt. Robert Deans, <i>HMS Mentor</i> , who are held as hostages in response to British Loyalist attack on Fort Panmure, Natchez.
Dec. 30, 1781	Capt. Campbell is mentioned to be in Havana in a letter from Gen. Galvez.
Jan. 10, 1782	Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Robert Ross indicates (by letter dated July 15, 1782) that Capt. Campbell was sent to Mobile with only two hours warning.
Jan. 27, 1782	Don Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis erroneously reports from Havana that Campbell embarked for New Orleans because “...because it appeared that his presence in Havana was prejudicial, and there was even an idea that he was sketching maps...”
Oct. 5, 1782	Lt. Gen. John Campbell reports “ <i>M</i> Galvez persists in detaining Brigade Major Campbell in close confinement in Mobile Fort.”
Nov. 30, 1782	Provisional Articles of Peace, agreed on between Richard Oswald for Great Britain, and John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, and Henry Laurens for the United States Congress.
Dec. 1782	Capt. Campbell receives permission to remain in New Orleans instead of Mobile
July 8, 1783	British Ship Captain from Havana reports Capt. Campbell had freed and travelling to Jamaica with other released prisoners This report conflicts with Capt. Stoney, <i>HMS Fox</i> , which reports on July 21, 1783 that “ <i>Poor Major Campbell (a Relation of our Governor) is not yet released...</i> ”
July 21, 1783	Capt. George Stoney, <i>HMS Fox</i> , reports Spanish refused to release Campbell at New Orleans, as part of prisoner release offered to Prince William Henry by Gen. Galvez.
Aug. 29, 1783	Maj. Gen. Archibald Campbell, Gov. of Jamaica, reports Campbell being held at New Orleans
Jan 14, 1784	Maj. Gen. Archibald Campbell, Gov. of Jamaica, reports James Campbell was recently released by the Spanish army and was to sail shortly from Jamaica for Britain to brief Sir Henry Clinton.

## Documents



Reproduction 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

Picture Source: Roy and Debra Najecki's American Revolutionary War Reproductions at [www.najecki.com](http://www.najecki.com)

### **General Orders Announce Appointment of Lt. James Campbell, 57<sup>th</sup> Regt., as Major of Brigade, New York, July 9, 1777**

Head Quarters New York 9<sup>th</sup> July 1777.

Orders by the Commander in Chief...

Lieut. James Campbell, of 57<sup>th</sup> Regiment, is appointed Major of Brigade...

Source and Note: "The Kemble Papers," Vol. I, 1773-1789 in *Collections of the New-York Historical Society for the Year 1883*, Publication Fund Series, Printed for the Society, New York, 1884, Google Books. This order appoints Lt. Campbell to be the principal staff officer to his uncle, Brig. Gen. John Campbell of Strachur.



Reproduction 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regt. Uniform Button

Picture Source: Roy and Debra Najecki's American Revolutionary War Reproductions at [www.najecki.com](http://www.najecki.com)

### **General Orders for Promotion of Lt. James Campbell, 57<sup>th</sup> Regt., to Capt., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., New York, Sept. 17, 1778**

Head Quarters New York 17<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1778...

The Commander in Chief has been pleased to make the following promotions...

42<sup>nd</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>...

Lieu <sup>t</sup> : James Campbell from the 57 <sup>th</sup> Reg <sup>t</sup> to be Capt <sup>n</sup> : vice Geo: M <sup>c</sup> Kenzie	} [18 <sup>th</sup> Aug <sup>st</sup> 1778]
promoted	}

Source and Note: *Orderly Book, British Headquarters Orders, New York*, kept by Lt. Col. Stephen Kemble, Sept. 11-Oct. 24, 1778, Item 69 of Research Publications Inc. *Early American Orderly Books, 1748-1817*, Woodbridge CT. Although promoted into the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Campbell remained as Major of Brigade to Brig. Gen. John Campbell and did not serve with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in the American War.





Lt. Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, by John Smart, 1777

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

**Summary of Letter from Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, Commander-in-Chief, North America to Brig. Gen. John Campbell, Ordering him to take Command of West Florida, Oct. 27, 1778**

Head Quarters, New York. October 27, 1778

Directing him to proceed with his troops to Pensacola and to take command of H.M. forces in West Florida...

Source and Note: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. I, Her Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1904, Google Books, p. 323. Besides his staff (including Maj. of Brigade James Campbell), Brig. Gen. Campbell had the Pennsylvania Loyalist Bn., the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., Maryland Loyalists and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Waldeck Regt. with him. Although Capt. Campbell was assigned to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders, no other men from that regiment were part of this expedition.

**Journal Account of Brig. Gen. John Campbell's Expedition to Jamaica and Pensacola, West Florida by Corp. Carl Philipp Steuernagel, 3<sup>rd</sup> Waldeck Regt., Oct. 19, 1778 – Jan. 18, 1779**

As the [Waldeck] regiment was ordered by the Commander-in-Chief to go to Jamaica and from there to Florida, Pensacola to be exact, they boarded ships in the harbor between New York and Staten Island on 19 October 1778. As all the ships which were to sail together had not yet assembled, we had to be at anchor until the last of October. Finally, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November, when the ships had met a few miles from the harbor at a place called Place Land Hoock, they sailed here and gathered with us to make a flotilla.

Therefore, we raised our anchor and departed the following morning, the 2<sup>nd</sup>, with this fleet into the ocean.

As we had a favorable wind, the North American coast disappeared and was soon lost from view.

The 9<sup>th</sup>, we parted from the fleet on the Atlantic Ocean. We experienced nothing to hinder our journey toward Jamaica and we continued on our way. We had sailed only a few days, when we already noticed a remarkable difference, of drawing nearer to a warm climate and were enroute to the West Indies. Soon the heat was unbearable, even though it was the end of the month of November, which caused us to remove our woolen clothing and most wore only a shirt...



Port Royal and Kingston Harbour, Jamaica, 1782

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

The 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 1778, was a joyous day for us, on which Jamaica showed itself to us. The same day, we ran into the harbor Port Royal, and dropped our anchor before the city of Kingston.

Kingston consists of about three thousand houses, neat and beautifully built, and is like the entire island, thickly settled...

1779

As we had obtained and loaded new provisions and fresh water here (Jamaica), we set sail on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December (1778), on a New Year's Saturday, in the most terrible summer heat. Initially, we were greeted by sailing by the side of the Island of Cuba, but in a few days entered the Gulf of Mexico. In this Gulf of Mexico we observed not only that the water had a brown color, but also, that in various places the white, sandy bottom could be seen, and that at times the wind was so weak, that, to our great impatience, the ship barely moved from where it sat and had to be soaked down with water daily so that it would not rot. From here, on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 1779, we saw Ross Island and the following day the Pensacola coast. Because of a contrary wind we could not enter the harbor as quickly as we would have wished.

After tacking around for twenty-four hours, our luck finally changed, and on the 18<sup>th</sup> we were able to land at the designated disembarkation point at Pensacola. As the necessary repairs on the barracks were not completed, initially only three companies were put ashore, and the remainder on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February. Pensacola, which has only lain so close to the water for nine years, is still at this time small and scattered, and suffered a great amount of damage from a severe hurricane the previous autumn. The stores-businessmen's houses-which were near the water were completely flattened, and further, the 48 pounder cannon in the fort were carried away by the angry waves.

This land lies very low and flat...

Source: "Memoir of Carl Philipp Steurnagel, 3<sup>rd</sup> Waldeck Regiment," trans. Bruce E. Burgoyne, *Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association*, Volume 6, No. 1, 1997, pp. 44-45.



Pensacola circa 1763

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

**Summary of Letter from Maj. Gen. John Campbell, Commander, West Florida to Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, Commander-in-Chief, North America, Regarding Sickness of Capt. James Campbell, Pensacola, Mar. 10, 1779**

Pensacola, Mar. 10, 1779

Soliciting and entreating to be relieved from the command of West Florida, to which he has so great an aversion and the fatigue and trouble of which he finds himself unequal to.

P.S. The illness of Brigade-Major Campbell adds greatly to his misfortune.

Source: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. I, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1904, Google Books, p. 396.

**Summary of Letter from Brig. Gen. John Campbell, Commander, British Forces, West Florida, to Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, Commander-in-Chief, North America, Appointing Maj. of Brigade James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., as Paymaster, Pensacola, Apr. 7-18, 1779**

Pensacola, April 7-18, 1779



... Has appointed Brigade-Major Campbell paymaster.

Source: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. I, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1904, Google Books, p. 411.

**British General Orders Announcing Brig. Gen. John Campbell's Promotion to Maj. General,  
New York, May 1, 1779**

Head Quarters New York 1<sup>st</sup> May 1779...

A List of promotions received from the War Office:

To be Major Generals...

Colonel John Campbell

ditto [19<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>ry</sup> 1779]...

Source: "Orders, 1778-1782," *Sir Henry Clinton Papers*, William L. Clements Library.



Detail of Map depicting the Southern British Colonies from Pensacola to New Orleans, 1776

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

**Secret Orders to Capture New Orleans, Louisiana from Lord George Germain, Secretary of State  
for the American Department to Maj. Gen. John Campbell, Whitehall, London, June 25, 1779**

Whitehall, 25 June 1779

Sir,

My circular letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> instant, which is enclosed herewith, will inform you of the King's determination in consequence of the hostile declaration of the Court of Spain.

In the consideration of the measures most proper to be adopted for making an impression upon the dominions of Spain an attack upon New Orleans presented itself as an object of great importance and to be executed with the force already prepared in West Florida; for although I am sorry to find by your letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> February to Sir Henry Clinton that force is not so respectable as I had hoped it would have been, yet as our accounts represent the Spanish force at New Orleans to be greatly inferior and the inhabitants generally indisposed to the Spanish government, there is good ground to hope that with the assistance of the Indians and militia of the province the enterprise will be attended with success if it be speedily executed and no reinforcement has lately been thrown in. I have therefore received the King's command to signify to you his royal pleasure that you do take this measure into your immediate

consideration, and if from the information you shall collect of the state of that garrison you shall judge it practicable to reduce it with the forces under your command, assisted by such armed vessels as the commander of His Majesty's ships on the Jamaica station shall think fit to send you and the succour of the militia and neighbouring Indian nations, that you do without delay make every necessary preparation for the attack; and having applied to Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Parker for such a number of armed vessels as shall be sufficient to shut up the communication with New Orleans by the Balize and to cover and protect the navigation of the lakes and transportation and debarkation of the troops, collect all the force you can draw together without exposing Pensacola to the danger of a sudden attack from piratical vessels, and taking with you such a number of faithful Indians as the superintendent can supply, you do endeavour to possess yourself of the town and Island of New Orleans and reduce the same to His Majesty's obedience...

Source and Note: *Documents of the American Revolution, Volume XVII, Transcripts 1779*, Ed. K. G. Davies, Irish University Press, Dublin, 1977, pp. 153-154 from TNA, *Colonial Office: West Florida Military Correspondence at CO 5/597*, f. 142. The requested expedition to seize New Orleans did not take place.



Francis, Lord Rawdon, circa 1789, by Joshua Reynolds

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons, from the Web Gallery of Art

**Letter from Maj. of Brigade and Capt. James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., to Adj. Gen. Francis, Lord Rawdon, Discussing Campbell's Recovery from Sickness, Pensacola, July 18, 1779**

Pensacola the 18<sup>th</sup> July 1779

My Lord

Having in some Degree recovered from a Fit of Sickness I brought with me hither from Jamaica, & thereby being enabled to examine the monthly Returns that had been forwarded during my Illness; I easily discovered a surprising Incorrectness in the Returns of the Corps of Maryland Loyalists. I therefore now trouble Your Lordship with an accurate Return of that Batt<sup>n</sup>. for the four months that have already been forwarded to Head Quarters, whence (I presume) the Errors of the former Returns can be discovered & amended.

In the Casualties of the 4<sup>th</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup>. 60<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. for the Month of May, it was omitted to mention two men returned from Desertion. This comprehended all the mistakes worthy of Remark, I could possibly

find out, for the Time past; and hope to convince Your Lordship that for the future Errors shall be avoided.

I have the Honor to be with Gratitude & Respect,  
My Lord Your Lordship's most obed<sup>t</sup>. & most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.  
James Campbell M.B.

To the Right Honble  
Lord Rawdon Adj<sup>t</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>. &ca.

Source and Notes: *Sir Henry Clinton Papers*, 63:18, William L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan. Transcribed by Todd Braisted. This was a lengthy illness as the expedition had sailed from Jamaica on Dec. 31, 1778.

**Excerpt of Letter from Maj. Gen. John Campbell, Commander, British Forces, West Florida, to Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, Commander-in-Chief, North America, Providing Reason for Not Attacking New Orleans, Pensacola, Sept. 11, 1779**

Red Cliffs at the Entrance of the Harbour of Pensacola, September 11. 1779

[News of Spanish campaign against British posts on the Mississippi River] disappointed all my Hopes and ardent desire of fulfilling his Majesty's expectations and converted my attention from that of attacking [New Orleans] to making Preparations for Defence of Mobile and Pensacola...

Source: "Major-General John Campbell in British West Florida," George C. Osborn, in *Florida Historical Quarterly*, Vol. XXVII, No. 4, April; 1949, p. 327. Letter is also summarized in *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, p. 30. Maj. Gen. Campbell had assembled 500 men for an expedition against New Orleans when he learned of Spanish Gen. Galvez' campaign against British posts on the Mississippi.

**Summary of Letter from Maj. Gen. John Campbell, Commander, British Forces, West Florida, to Gen. Sir Henry Clinton Commander-in-Chief, North America, Dec. 15, 1779**

Head Quarters, Pensacola, December 15, 1779

Informing him of the efficient conduct of Brigade Major James Campbell as pay-master to the staff and of contingent expenses in West Florida. Transmits the Major's accounts from his (the Major General's) arrival to the 30<sup>th</sup> June; also from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1779, together with vouchers for those amounts.

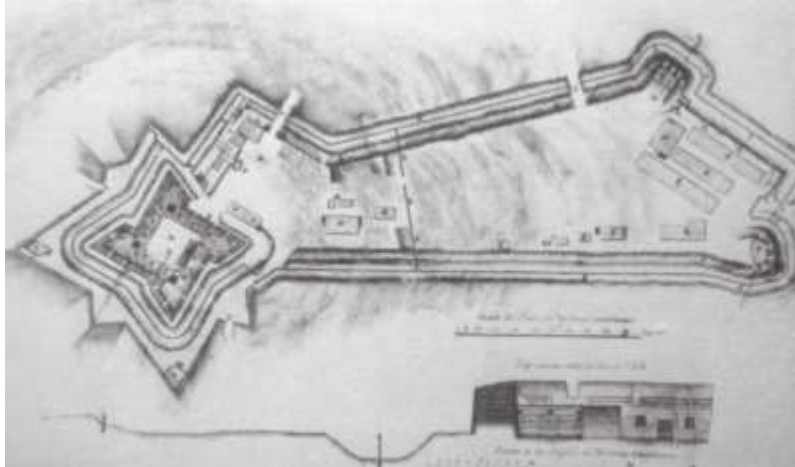
Source: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, p. 72.

**Journal Account of Moving Troops from Town of Pensacola to Fort George, Above the Town, by Corp. Carl Philipp Steurnagel, 3<sup>rd</sup> Waldeck Regt. Pensacola, Mar. 28, 1780**

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of March 1780, all the troops from Pensacola were moved to the camp at the nearby constructed Fort George, and Colonel [Johann Ludwig Wilhelm] von Hanxleden was given command of the fortification and the troops...

Source: "Memoir of Carl Philipp Steurnagel, 3<sup>rd</sup> Waldeck Regiment," trans. by Bruce E. Burgoyne, *Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association*, Volume 6, Number 1, 1997, p. 47.





Plan of Fort George, circa 1778

Picture Source: "*A plan of Pensacola and its environs in its present state, from an actual survey in 1778,*" Joseph Purcell, *Lib. of Congress, Maps of North America, 1750-1789*.

**Summary of Letter from Maj. Gen. John Campbell, Commander, British Forces, West Florida, to Gen. Sir Henry Clinton Commander-in-Chief, North America, Complaining of Denial of Pay Master Position for Maj. Campbell, Pensacola, May 13, 1780**

Head Quarters, Pensacola, May 13, 1780

Contrary to expectations, Pensacola remains still unattacked... Is sorry to learn his disapprobation of the appointment of a paymaster. It is not trifling; the yearly accounts will not fall short of £36,000; thinks Major Campbell not only capable but worthy of confidence and justly merited 10/- a day...

Source and Note: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, pp. 121-122. This letter reflects Maj. Gen. Campbell's disappointment that Major of Brigade James Campbell was not approved for an additional payment of 10 shillings a day as paymaster for the Garrison of Pensacola.

**Summary of Letter from Gen. Sir Henry Clinton Commander-in-Chief, North America, to Maj. Gen. John Campbell, Commander, British Forces, West Florida, Denying Approval for Pay Master, New York, Oct. 21, 1780**

New York, October 21, 1780

Receipt of dispatches...Withholds consent to the union of the Pennsylvania and Maryland Loyalists on account of injury done to the commanding "and other officers"...

Suggests application to Mr. Rigby for a Deputy Pay Master to the troops in West Florida, and has no doubt his recommendation of Maj. Campbell will have due weight ...Appointment of Maj. [John] McDonald is right. ..

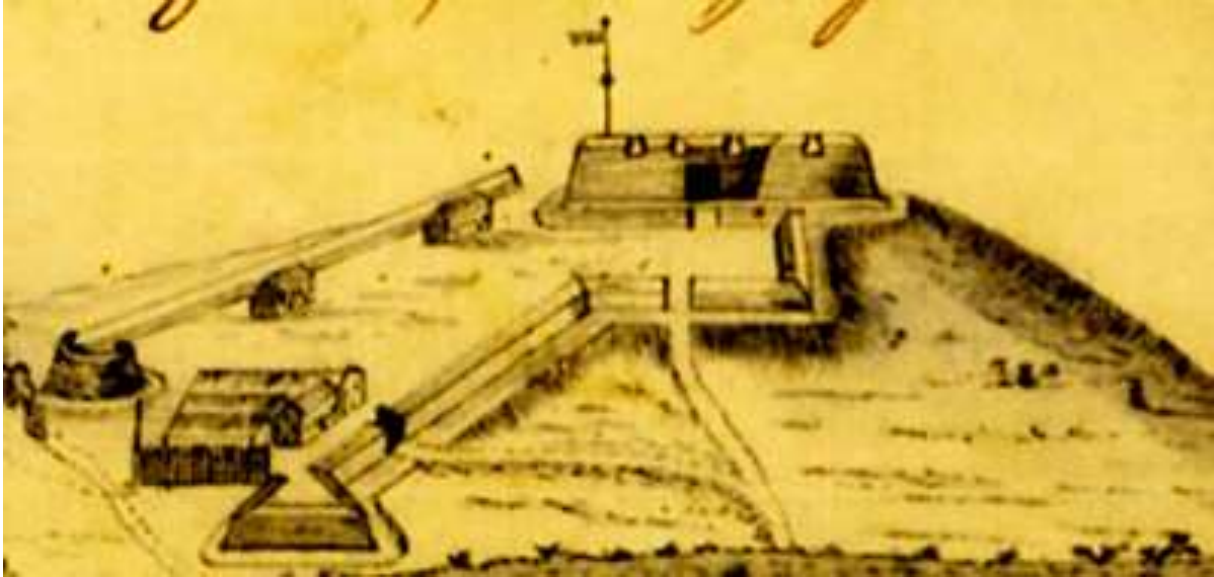
Source and Notes: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, p. 193. This summary is somewhat contradictory, but appears practical for the defense of Pensacola. Gen. Clinton officially is disapproving the joining of the two Loyalist battalions into one command, while approving of Maj. John Macdonald (Former Lt., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.) as its commander. "*Mr. Rigby*" is Paymaster General of the Army, Hon. Richard Rigby.

**Summary of Letter from Maj. Gen. John Campbell, Commander, British Forces, West Florida, to Gen. Sir Henry Clinton Commander-in-Chief, North America, Reflecting Disappointment with Disapproval of Campbell Appointment, Feb. 15, 1781**

Head Quarters, Pensacola February 15. 1781

Will follow his pleasure with regard to the Pennsylvania and Maryland Loyalist corps. Plan for vacancies, etc., therein. Would not have appointed a paymaster had he not thought it requisite...

Source and Notes: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, pp. 246-247. Maj. Gen. Campbell was the commander of British West Florida at Pensacola, Florida. Gen. Sir Henry Clinton had refused to approve Campbell's plan to combine two under strength Loyalist battalions. In addition he documents his displeasure of Clinton's refusal to approve additional pay for his nephew Capt. James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., who was serving as his Maj. of Brigade and acting as paymaster to Campbell's command.



*Plan of the Town of Pensacola in West Florida, of Fort George, and the Works Adjacent, Newly Erected for the Necessary Defense and Security of Said Place by Order of Major General John Campbell...*

Picture Source: U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, File F-206-1836, Box 42A 9W2A, 15/3/1

### **Excerpts of Journal of Ens. Robert Adolphus Farmar, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt., Siege of Pensacola, Mar. 9 – May 10, 1781**

A Journal of the Siege of Pensacola from the time the Enemy's fleet first appeared to the 10<sup>th</sup> of May the day we surrendered to the arms of Spain.

1781 *Friday March 9<sup>th</sup>*. Appeared in sight a Spanish fleet consisting of 32 sail of vessels. The same night they landed a number of men on St. Rose Island...

*Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>*. The enemy erected batteries on Rose Island which obliged the [HMS] Mentor and [HMS] Port Royal to quit their station. Some of their vessels attempted to come over the bar but put back. One of their men of war was struck as she was coming over, but got off again in about 20 minutes...

*Monday 19<sup>th</sup>*. About 2 o'clock P.M. 22 sail of the enemy's vessels came over the bar and passed the fort at the Clifts without receiving any damage.

*Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>*...About 5 o'clock P. M. Gen. [Don Bernardo de] Galvez sent a flag of truce to Gen<sup>l</sup>. [John] Campbell, to the same purpose as Lord Albemarle sent at the siege of the Havana; which was not to burn the shipping, king's buildings, or town & threatened very much. Gen. Campbell's answer to which was that the threats of an enemy was not to be minded...

*Saturday 31<sup>st</sup>*. The enemy encamped in Neil's Meadow...

*Sunday April 1<sup>st</sup>*. The enemy was seen reconnoitering all round us...

*Tuesday 3d.* About 2 o'clock p.m. the enemy disembarked their grenadiers and dragoons...

*Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>.* The enemy was seen reconnoitering upon the opposite Hills...

*Friday 13th.* The enemy encamped upon the opposite hills and seen throwing up a breast work before their camp...

*Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>.* A very heavy rain fell. Last night, which washed in a great quantity of sand from the barme and ditch of the fort and the redoubts. The enemy threw up a work in a plain about 1 ½ miles from hence – supposed as a cover for their convoys of artillery and provisions...

*Sunday 22<sup>d</sup>...* About 12 o'clock we observed about 5 or 600 of the enemy on a hill within the distance of 300 yards from the advanced Redoubt and fire five guns at them... As Mr. [Lt. Hugh Mackay] Gordon aid-de-camp to General Campbell was reconnoitering' he got from one Lyman's people, who found it, the plan of the enemy's works and the manner they mean to attack us. The advanced redoubt is their chief object...

*Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>.* We are informed by Mr. Stephenson, who went as a flag truce from the yesterday from the Governor to the Gen. Galvez, that the fleet on the outside consists of 11 Spanish and 4 French line-of-battle ships, and a few frigates...

*Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>.* The enemy, early this morning, was seen throwing up an entrenchment which they had begun last night. It is in length about 2 miles. About 1 o'clock p.m. our advanced picquet was obliged to retire near the advanced redoubt, as the enemy had got some 9 and 12 pounders upon their flanks. Fired from the fort and the two redoubts several shot and shells, during the day & night at the enemy's works.

*Monday 30<sup>th</sup>.* About 2 o'clock this morning the enemy drove in our advanced picquet...

*Wednesday 2<sup>d</sup>.* [May]. About 9 o'clock, this morning, the enemy hoisted their flag & open batteries of 6 24-lb<sup>s</sup> and 2 mortars...

*Friday 4<sup>th</sup>.* About 4 o'clock we began to fire upon the enemy from the advanced redoubt at their battery and the people at work in front. 12 o'clock 94 Provincials under the command of Major [John] McDonald [Maryland Loyalists, and former Lt., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.] and Waldecks under the command of Lt. Col. [Albrecht] De Horn to support them, stormed the works in front of the advanced redoubt, burnt their works and spiked 6 pieces of cannon – 8 & 4 pounders...

*Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>...* N.B. The enemy kept up a very heavy fire which hurt our advanced redoubt very much and dismounted three pieces of cannon – 12 & 9 pounders. The works we repaired at night and shut up the 2 embrasure fronting the enemy's flank battery.

*Monday 7<sup>th</sup>.* About 6 o'clock a.m. a shell from the enemy's flank battery fell in a tent at the advance redoubt in which some men of the artillery were making fuses for the shells, – a number of loaded shells & loose powder laying about; it blew up a box of powder & burst a shell which killed one man of the Waldeck train & wounded another... *Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May.* About 9 o'clock a.m., a shell from the enemy's front battery was thrown in at the door of the Magazine, at the advanced redoubt, (as the men were receiving powder) which blew it up and killed forty seamen belonging to H.M.'s ships the Mentor & Port Royal & forty-five men of the Pennsylvania Loyalists were killed by the same explosion; there were a number of men wounded besides. Capt. [Thomas Taylor] Byrd with seventy men of the 60<sup>th</sup> Regiment immediately went up to the advanced redoubt & brought off 2 field-pieces & one howitzer & a number of the wounded men, but was obliged to retired as a great quantity of shell was laying about the filled.



Modern depiction of Spanish troops seizing the advanced redoubt.

Picture Source: Military History Center, US Army

10 o'clock the enemy took possession of the remains of the advanced redoubt & kept up from it a very heavy fire of small arms, & cannon from their flank battery upon the centre redoubt...

About 2 o'clock p.m., hoisted a flag of truce from Fort George, & offered to surrender upon capitulation. Lieu<sup>t</sup>. [George] Meggs of the 60<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> went as a hostage from us, & we received Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Kenny of the Reg<sup>t</sup> of Hibernians from the enemy.

*Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May.* All day settling terms

*Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>.* About 5 o'clock p.m. we surrendered to the arms of Spain. The Spanish grenadiers under the command of Don Bernard de Galvez took possession of Fort George & the lines, & sixty French chasseurs of the center redoubt.

Source: "Robert Farmar's Journal of Siege of Pensacola" in *The Historical Magazine*, Vol. IV, No. 6, June 1860, Google Books, pp. 166-172.



Detail of Portrait of Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis by Goya

Picture Source: Wikipedia

**Dairy Entry of Don Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis, Official, Fourth Grade, of the Secretariat of the Ministry of the Indies, Describing Maj. of Brigade Campbell's Role in Drawing up Capitulation Terms, Pensacola, May 8, 1781**

...at three o'clock in the afternoon Fort George raised a white flag, and an aide sent by [Gen. John] Campbell came to where the general was, proposing a cessation of hostilities until the following day, when the capitulation would be made. The general [Galvez] refused to accede to the truce unless the capitulation was begun. [Maj. Gen. John] Campbell immediately sent a nephew [Maj. of Brigade James Campbell] of his, a sergeant major of the same name, with full powers for this purpose. He proposed several articles, some of which were accepted and others denied, in a long conference that took place at eleven o'clock in the evening, and the articles of capitulation were issued and signed on the following day...

Source and Note: *Journal of Don Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis during the commission which he had in his charge from 25 June 1780 until the 20th of the same month of 1783*, Ed. Francisco Morales Padron, Trans. Aileen Moore Topping, University of Florida Press, Gainesville, 1989, pp. xxiv, and 170-172. The "nephew" mentioned above is Maj. of Brigade James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., nephew of Maj. Gen. John Campbell of Strachur. Sangronis also confuses the rank of Major of Brigade with Sergeant Major.

**British Surrender Ceremony Described by Spanish Field Marshall Don Bernardo de Galvez, Pensacola, May 8-10, 1781**

[May 8] At 2:30 P.M. a white flag was seen over Fort George. This was a surprise. At this time an officer on horseback appeared accompanied by a servant carrying a white flag. He advanced to be met on the left of the fort by the Major General and Major Decois, Officer of the French Navy, assistant to the artillery [commander], and from the right by the Quarter Master with his aide Don Franco del Rey, who were in the works just described. Upon meeting our men the English officer presented an open letter that General Cambel had sent. Because it was written in English the General ordered that it be translated to French. The letter asked for 24 hours suspension of hostilities to deal with the capitulation, but the General answered Senor Cambel that only three hours would be considered in which to arrange the suspension of hostilities. The English officer returned to the fort with assurance that all hostility and work would cease. A group of our men formed and advanced to the tree that the English indicated as the boundary. The

General waited there for the results of the first letter, [which was] followed by three [more] letters written by each general. Our general remained at this spot, sending to the Plaza as hostage the Lieutenant of Iberria Don Cornalio, bringing another English officer to the camp.

9 . . . The reciprocal exchange of letters continues in order to agree on articles. Some things were found unacceptable about the capitulation. But nevertheless, our general accepted the offer of Senor Cambel to go to the Town of Pensacola: accompanying him were the Field Marshal Don Juan Manuel Cagigal and two companies of the King's Grenadiers for his guard.

10 . . . From very early [the troops] have been getting together a great deal of their equipment and continued [to do] so all day. At 3:30 four companies of grenadiers and one of French chasseurs departed for the ceremony of delivering the zone. At 5:45 the ceremony took place as planned. General Cambel left Fort George at the head of his troops accompanied by five aides-de-camp, and one person dressed in black. Following were detachments from the 16th regiment. Another two detachments from several regiments followed them. The captain of the frigate, Mr. Duis, with his sailors and a 3-pounder cannon on which was displayed the flag of the frigate. The political governor [of Pensacola] Piter Chestre [Peter Chester] with a town council then followed the Commander of Artillery, Mr. Thomson with all of his troops: another two detachments followed, supplying a rearguard for two covered carts and the Regiment of Waldeck with its two flags and two artillery pieces, all this troop turning to align with the breastworks of Fort George from which it emerged, with the 10 Companies of Grenadiers in battle formation before this. The generals advanced and after greeting each other, ours went with the first [commanding officer] of the King's Regiment to where the flags of Cambel were surrendered, and the captains of the Navy Don Felipe Lopez de Carrisola and Mr. Bolderic of the French Navy conducted them to our troops. Then the General remained with the same group [while] the Commander of the Navy surrendered the frigate to the General, who in turn gave it to the Baron de Quesel to add it to [the] others. Concluding the ceremony, the English Major ordered his troop to lay down their arms and giving a half turn to the right passed by a Cordon of Sentinels of our troops which took over the guard in the forts and raised the colors of Spain. At dawn the English troops withdrew from the fort and the naval forces fired a general salute with their cannons.

Source: "Bernardo de Galvez's Combat Diary for the Battle of Pensacola, 1781," Ed. Maury Baker and Margaret Bissler Haas in *The Florida Historical Quarterly*, Vol. LVI, 56 No. 2, Florida Historical Society, 1997, pp. 194-195.

### **Excerpts of Articles of Capitulation, Pensacola, West Florida, May 9, 1781**

ARTICLES OF CAPITULATION CONCERTED and agreed to between Sr. D. Bernardo de Galvez, Pensioned Knight of the Royal and distinguished Order of Charles the III, Field Marshal of the Royal Armies of H. Catholic M., Inspector, Superintendent and Governor General of the Province of Louisiana and Commandant General of the Expedition; and the Most Excellent Sirs Peter Chester, Esquire, Governor-Commandant in Chief, Chancellor and Vice-Admiral for H. Britannic M. in the Province of Western Florida, and John Campbell, Field Marshal and Commandant General of the Troops of H. Britannic M. in the said Province.

#### **ARTICLE I**

All the Forts and posts at present occupied by the Troops of H. B. M. [His Britannic Majesty] will be (within the specified time) delivered to those of H. C. M. [His Catholic Majesty i.e. the King of Spain] The English soldiers and sailors will go out with all the honors of war, arms shouldered, drums beating, flags flying, two field guns with six cartridges, and the same number for each soldier, to within 500 yards of their different posts, where they will give up their arms, and the officers shall retain their swords, following which they will be embarked as promptly as possible in well conditioned ships provided for at the expense of H. C. M. to be conducted to any of the ports of Great Britain that General Campbell may select. The troops and sailors are to be under the immediate direction of their respective officers, and will



not be able to serve against Spain or her allies until an exchange is verified for an equal number of Spanish prisoners or those of her allies, in accordance with the established custom in equality of rank and other equivalent things...

#### Article IX

Another commodious and well provisioned ship will be furnished with all necessary equipment at the expense of H. C. M. to transport Major-General John Campbell, his suite and family and all his goods and effects to Great Britain, or any other port of H. B. M. in North America, if he should so elect; and whilst he remains in the Province he shall receive decent lodgings for himself, his suite and family, and shall be protected as also his papers, goods and effects, which shall not be searched before nor at the time of his departure.

Source and Note: "Bernardo de Galvez Diary," *The Louisiana Historical Quarterly*, Vol. I, No. 1, Jan. 8, 1917, Google Books, pp. 75-83. Note that Article IX specifically calls out for the transport of Maj. Gen. Campbell and his "*family*" which is a period term for his personal staff. This would specifically include Maj. of Brigade Campbell.

#### **Letter from Maj. Gen. John Campbell, British Commander, West Florida, to Lord George Germain, Secretary of State for the American Department, Reporting the Loss of Pensacola and Praise for Maj. of Brigade James Campbell, Pensacola, May 12, 1781**

Pensacola, 12 May

My Lord, when I wrote your lordship on the 7<sup>th</sup> instant, although I then foresaw the probable fate of Pensacola, yet I did not apprehend that the decision of the contest was quite so near at hand as it has since proved to have been. An unfortunate shell from the enemy on the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup> precipitated its destiny and occasioned its falling under the dominion of Spain at least some days sooner than it would otherwise have happened. On the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup> a shell that accidentally burst by the door of the magazine of the advanced redoubt set fire to the powder within and in an instant the body of the redoubt was a heap of rubbish, depriving no less than 43 military, 27 seamen and one Negro of life by the explosion, besides 24 men wounded, most of them dangerously. Two flank works that had been added to the redoubt since the commencement of the siege still remained entire the fire from which ...repulsed the enemy in their first attempt to advance to the lines and gave time to carry off the wounded, two 5 ½ - howitzers, and three field pieces. But the enemy having by this time brought up the whole army, there was a necessity of abandoning these works after first spiking up the pieces of artillery in the flank works...The enemy at this time assumed a countenance as if they intended to storm our remaining works. However, on finding us prepared for their attack and in readiness to receive them, they dropped their design but kept up so heavy and incessant a fire from their small arms under cover of the remaining works of the advanced redoubt that the seamen could not stand to the guns in the middle redoubt and several...were wounded in that redoubt. In this situation, not having the smallest hope of relief, sensible that I could only hold out a few days longer and that many lives that may hereafter be more usefully employed in the service of their King and country would be lost in prolonging the defense without any visible advantage in return, I judged this the time to endeavor procuring an honourable and advantageous capitulation. I accordingly, a little before 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the 8<sup>th</sup>, displayed a flag of truce on Fort George and proposed by letter a suspension of hostilities in order to draw up articles of capitulation, which being verbally granted articles were accordingly prepared between His Excellency Governor Chester and me and sent out by 7 o'clock that evening...The cessation being thereby continued, I early next morning prepared a new draft of articles of capitulation in which the stipulations of the preceding day were attended to, and some new clauses that occurred to be necessary in addition to those of the preceding day inserted, to which Governor Chester consenting, they were on the morning of the 9<sup>th</sup> May sent out to General Galvez by Brigade Major Campbell, who being fully informed of my sentiments upon them collectively and separately was empowered to clear up and discuss them with His Excellency.

Accordingly, General Galvez upon an investigation and discussion of them article by article agreed to them verbally with some insignificant reservations, whereupon he was permitted to take possession of the garrison of Pensacola that evening with a guard for his person, he being indisposed and Major Campbell left in his camp with General Espeleta and General Galvez's secretary to put down the answers in writing...Since the capitulation is has been procured from the best authority that the combined regular land troops on shore did not consist of fewer than seven thousand eight hundred men, besides seamen and marines, to which being added the consideration of 15 ships of the line and six frigates, King's snows, sloops etc., being so long employed on this service...from the whole I hope that a handful of men yielding to such a force will not surprise, and that our fleets and armies in other parts will have been enabled by a diversion of such a powerful armament of France and Spain to have acquired conquests and victories that will more than compensate and counterbalance the loss of Pensacola...the infinite obligations I am under to Brigade-Major Campbell for his good conduct, indefatigable zeal, and strict attention to his duty in this last as well as on every other occasion under my command, I cannot sufficiently express. I therefore most earnestly recommend him through your lordship to His Majesty's notice as an officer whose merit, faithful services, and abilities justly claim any mark of royal favour that can be conferred upon him...

Source: TNA, *Colonial Office: Correspondence West Florida* at CO 5/597, f. 310 as shown in *Documents of the American Revolution 1770-1783, Colonial Office Series, Vol. XX, Transcripts 1781*, Ed. K.G. Davies, Irish University Press, Dublin, 1777, pp. 138-142.

**Excerpt of London Newspaper Publication of Maj. of Brigade James Campbell's Listing of Captured Officers and Men at Fort George, Pensacola, West Florida, May 10, 1781**

*General State of the Forces composing the Garrison of Fort George, and its adjoining works, on their surrender by Capitulation to the Arms of Spain, the 10<sup>th</sup> of May 1781*

ROYAL ARTILLERY...

Total – 32

*Civil branch of the Ordnance...*

Total – 73

ROYAL NAVY...

Total 149

STAFF

Major-General John Campbell

Captain John Peter Addenbrooke, 54th Regiment of Foot, Aid de Camp

Lieutenant Hugh Mackay Gordon, 16th Regiment of Foot

} Extra ditto

Captain-Lieutenant Henry Fielding, 3d Regiment of Waldeck

}

Captain James Campbell, 42d Regiment of Foot, Major of Brigade...

HOSPITAL STAFF...

APPENDAGES TO THE STAFF...

*State of the Infantry Corps and dismounted Dragoons, composing the Garrison of Fort George, and its adjoining Works, on the Surrender by Capitulation to the Arms of Spain, the 10th of May, 1781.*

Fit for Duty...

Total, Commissioned Officers, 30 – Staff. 20 – Officers Servants, not Soldiers, 7 Royal Artillery 10 – Serjeants, 43 – Corporals, 38 – Drummers and Fifers, 31 – Privates 466.

Total Wounded. 1 Captain – 1 Lieutenant – 3 Corporals 1 Drummer and Fifer; 1 Sergeant, 21 Privates.

Total Sick and Invalids; 1 Serjeant, 21 privates.

JAMES CAMPBELL, Major of Brigade

Source: *Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Oct. 15, 1781, p. 2.

**Extract of Letter from Spanish Gen. Bernardo de Galvez to Maj. Gen. John Campbell,  
British Commander, West Florida, Placing Him and Maj. of Brigade James Campbell on House  
Arrest, Pensacola, May 29, 1781**

...When you sought safety for your own person you thought nothing of leaving others in extremity, as may happen to Bloomart. I give you all these reasons in order that you may understand that in deciding that your person and that of your brigade major shall be held for exchange I have in view no end but that never shall the innocent pay in place of the guilty. Therefore all the officers to whom the order has been given shall begin the voyage, only you and your general [brigade] major shall not leave your house.

Source: Legajo 2359 as quoted in "The Arkansas Post of Louisiana: Spanish Domination" by Stanley Faye, in *The Louisiana Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 27, No. 3, July 1944, pp. 666-667. "Bloomart" was Jacob Blomart, the leader of the imprisoned British Loyalists who took part in capture of Fort Panmure at Natchez on Apr. 30, 1781.

**Summary of Letter from Maj. Gen. John Campbell, British Commander, West Florida, to  
Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, Commander-in-Chief, North America,  
Complaining of Gen. Galvez' Conduct, May 31, 1781**

Pensacola, May 31, 1781

Sending correspondence with Gov. Galvez, apparently with reference to a demand for the restitution of Fort Panmure supposed under the terms of the capitulation of Fort George, and alluding to the "ignoble conduct of the Spanish General."

Source: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, p. 285. Fort Panmure was located at Natchez, Mississippi.



Detail from Portrait of Adm. Mariot Arbuthnot, by Charles Howard Hodges, Late 18<sup>th</sup> Century

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons, from UK Nat. Maritime Museum

**Letter from Capt. Robert Deans, HMS Mentor, to Vice Adm. Mariot Arbuthnot,  
Explaining his Hostage Status, Pensacola, June 1, 1781**

Pensacola the 1<sup>st</sup>. of June 1781.

Sir:

After being embark<sup>d</sup>. in Flags of Truce [ships] with the remains of the Crews of His Majestys Ship Mentor, and Port Royal Sloop agreeable to the Capitulation at the Surrender of the Province of West Florida the 10<sup>th</sup> of May 1781 I am order<sup>d</sup>. to remain here, or to be carried I don't know where, no reason

being given other than the disputes between the Spanish General [Bernardo de] Galvez and Major Gen<sup>l</sup> [John] Campbell. I send this to acquaint you that the Flag of Truce brings to your command Two Hundred and Ten effective Men, besides Officers under the direction of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Kelly of the Port Royal Sloop and Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Miller of the late Mentor both these Gentlemen are furnished with a copy of the articles of the capitulation and to them I beg leave to refer you. I have the Honor to be with the greatest respect Sir

Your most Obedient and most Humble Servant

Rob<sup>t</sup>. Deans Cap<sup>t</sup>. of the  
Roy<sup>l</sup>. Navy

To Vice Admiral Arbuthnot  
or the Commander in Chief of  
His Majestys Ships & Vessells &ca. &ca.  
North America

Source and Notes: *The Graves Papers*, French Ensor Chadwick, Naval Historical Society, New York, 1916, pp. 28-29. Galvez selected the senior Army Officer, Capt. Campbell, and the senior Naval Officer, Capt. Deans, to remain as hostages due to an attack by Loyalists on the capitulation of the Spanish Fort Panmure at Natchez, Mississippi to British Loyalists on May 5, 1781. Galvez claimed Natchez was included in the boundary of the Pensacola capitulation.



Morro Castle, Havana, Cuba, 2002 by Michael Todd Schmidt

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

**Account of Departure from Pensacola by Corp. Carl Philipp Steuernagel,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Waldeck Regt., Pensacola to Havana, Cuba, May 10 – 15, 1781**

Our weak force gained true honor, because the enemy, since the 9<sup>th</sup> of March, with 22,000 men besieged six hundred men and still on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May we marched out of our fort with flags flying and with martial music, and Spain paid the costs when we were transported free to North America, specifically to New York...

I could say a great deal at this point about our captivity, but for brevity let me only say, that on the 4<sup>th</sup> of June 1781, which was also the King of England's birthday, we sailed with eleven ships from West Florida to the Island of Havana and Dominica...

The 15<sup>th</sup>, in the afternoon we entered the harbor of Havanna in the West Indian island Dominica, and lay at anchor...

Source: "Memoir of Carl Philipp Steuernagel, 3<sup>rd</sup> Waldeck Regiment," trans. by Bruce E. Burgoyne, *Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association*, Volume 6, Number 1, 1997, pp. 49-50.

**Excerpt of Letter from West Florida Gov. Peter Chester to Lord George Germain,  
Secretary of State for the American Department, Reporting on Maj. James Campbell's Hostage  
Status, Charleston, July 2, 1781**

Charlestown, July 2, 1781

My Lord,

I had not an opportunity before I left Pensacola, of writing to your Lordship, to acquaint you of the entire surrender of the province of West Florida to the arms of Spain...We were obliged to capitulate the 8th of May...General Campbell, with Captain Deans of the navy, are sent to the Havannah; and Major of brigade Campbell is ordered to New Orleans. The rest of the prisoners of war are gone for New-York, but were first to go to the Havannah for provisions.

I have the honour to be, &c  
Peter Chester

Source and Note: *Naval and Military Memoirs of Great Britain, from 1727 to 1783*, by Robert Beatson, Vol. VI, Longman, Hurst, Rees and Orme, London, 1804, Google Books, p. 274. Chester is likely incorrect on the timing of Campbell's trip to New Orleans. As shown below the dairy entry of Don Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis at Havana on Jan. 27, 1782, indicates Campbell was just leaving for New Orleans.

**British General Orders Announcing Return of Pensacola Garrison, New York, July 6, 1781**

Head Qrs New York 6<sup>th</sup> July 1781...

The Troops arrived from Pensacola in the Cartel Ships are to be landed tomorrow Morning at Daybreak at Brooklyn Ferry from whence they will march to Newtown...

Source: "Orders, 1778-1782," *Sir Henry Clinton Papers*, William L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan.

**Summary of Letter from Maj. Gen. John Campbell, Former Commander, West Florida to Gen. Sir  
Henry Clinton, Commander-in-Chief, North America, Complaining About Detention of  
Capt. Campbell, New York, July 17, 1781**

New York, July 17, 1781

Explaining that he had allowed the Inhabitants of the Natchez (a district already ceded to Spain) commissions to captains or leaders, and directions to make a diversion in his favour. Fifteen days after the surrender the not delivering up the fort at the Natchez is brought up as a principal accusation. Lays before him the correspondence with Gen. Galvez. Hopes the detention of his secretary Maj. Campbell and Capt. [Robert] Deans [Royal Navy] will be considered a stretch of power and violation of the laws of nations, and requests some steps may be taken for their release.

Source: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, pp. 300-301.

**Excerpt of Letter from Maj. Gen. John Campbell, Late Commander, British Forces in West  
Florida, to Lord George Germain, Secretary of State for the American Department, Describing  
Detention of Capt. James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., New York, July 21, 1781**

New York 21 July 1781

My Lord,

The want of opportunity prevented my dispatches being transmitted to your Lordship as soon as I could have wished, and my arrival here on the 14<sup>th</sup> instant affords me sufficient time to report the arrival

of all the cartel vessels except one (for which I am under some apprehension) and the particular transactions which happened since the period of my last letter.

From the frequent representations of the inhabitants of the Natchez of the tyranny and oppression of the Spanish government and their ardent wish to be restored to their former constitution, I thought it my duty to keep them in temper by a constant correspondence and that in case of my being enabled to act offensively against the province of Louisiana a powerful diversion might be made from that quarter. About the beginning of April last a M<sup>r</sup> Marr came in behalf of the inhabitants once to request my authority to act, as they were determined to attempt the reduction of that place or abandon the settlement. At this time, my Lord, seeing myself invaded by a large armament of Spain, I consented to their proposal and sent five blank commissions, besides one filled up in the name of M<sup>r</sup> Marr, as captains and leaders of all such volunteer inhabitants as should join in acting against the enemies of Great Britain, together with an order for some ammunition in the Choctaw nation and directions for them to immediately act. From this time till the 24<sup>th</sup> May I had not the least intimation of their operations, as will appear in my correspondence General Galvez and report to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief which will by him be transmitted by this opportunity to your Lordship and the capitulation of Fort Panmure at the Natchez which surrendered to His Majesty's arms the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May.

His Excellency Sir Henry Clinton having been pleased to honour me with his approbation of my conduct, should it meet with that of my Royal Master, it will be to me sufficient consolation for misfortune. And your Lordship's exertion to effect a speedy exchange, that I may be restored and remain here in the service of my King and country is my most ardent wish, will ever be gratefully acknowledged.

The attack of the fort at the Natchez being the principal reason assigned by General Galvez for the detention of Captain [Robert] Deans of the Royal Navy and Major Campbell, my secretary, who since the commencement of my command in West Florida has had the adjusting of all public accounts and papers; and as his detention will prevent the final settlement of my accounts, I beg leave to request your Lordship's interference in demanding the immediate releasement of these gentlemen, in particular Major Campbell to whom I am much indebted for his abilities and unremitting attention to the good of His Majesty's service...

*Signed*

Source: *Documents of the American Revolution 1770-1783 R, Volume XX, Transcripts 1781*, Ed. K. G. Davies, Irish University Press, Dublin, 1977, pp. 194-195 from TNA, *Colonial Office: Correspondence, West Florida* at CO 5/597, f. 375.

**Excerpt of Letter No. 135 from Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, Commander-in-Chief, North America, to Lord George Germain, Secretary of State for the American Department, Concerning the Spanish Army Holding Maj. James Campbell. 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., as a Hostage Following the Surrender of Pensacola, New York, July 25, 1781**

N<sup>o</sup>. 135

New York 25<sup>th</sup> July 1781

My Lord...

As Lieutenant General [John] Campbell's Aid de Camp, Lieutenant [Hugh Mackay] Gordon of the 16<sup>th</sup> regiment of Foot, goes to England in the Packet, and will have the Honor to deliver to your Lordship from that General Officer a full Account of the Surrender of Pensacola & the British Possessions in West Florida to the Arms of Spain, I shall have no Occasion to trouble you any further on that Subject, than to lament that I had it not in my Power to prevent this Misfortune, and that [Adm.] Sir Peter Parker & General [John] Dalling [Col. Commandant, 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 60<sup>th</sup> Regt.] did not find it expedient to Succor that Post. It will also be unnecessary for me to say any thing in Praise of the very gallant Defence made by General Campbell with his small Garrison against so formidable an Armament; as I should thereby only anticipate the just Sense I am persuaded Your Lordship will entertain of it, when you read his Dispatches. It may be, however proper to observe, that I think Major of Brigade Campbell has been very improperly detained as a Hostage by the Spanish General Galvez: And as General Campbell has



mentioned to me, that he is exceedingly anxious to be joined by that Officer, without whose Assistance he cannot adjust his Papers and Accounts, being Secretary to himself and Paymaster to the troops in West Florida. I beg leave to request Your Lordship will endeavor to procure his Releasement and Exchange as soon as possible...

I have the Honor to be With the greatest Respect

Your Lordships Most obedient & most humble Servant

Right Honorable  
Lord George Germain

H Clinton

*Records of the British Colonial Office Class 5, Part 5: The American Revolution, 1772-1784*, Ed. by Randolph Boehm, University Publications Inc., Frederick, MD, 1972, Reel 7, pp. 607-613 from CO 5/103, pp. 42-56

**British General Orders Replace Capt. James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., as Lt. Gen. John Campbell's  
Maj. of Brigade due to his Captivity, New York, Aug. 21, 1781**

Head Qrs New York 21<sup>st</sup> Aug 1781

Captain [Thomas] Thompson of the 57<sup>th</sup> Regiment, is appointed to act as Major of Brigade to the Troops arrived from Pensacola, under the Command of Lieutenant General Campbell, 'till the Return of Brigade Major Campbell ...

Source: "Orders, 1778-1782," Sir Henry Clinton Papers, William L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan.

**Letter from Lt. Gen. John Campbell, Former Commander, West Florida, to Lord George Germain,  
Secretary of State for the American Department, Complaining About Detention of  
Maj. of Brigade James Campbell and Capt. Robert Deans, Royal Navy, New York, Dec. 24, 1781**

New York 24<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1781

My Lord,

The mortifying disappointment of not being honored with a Letter from your Lordship by the October Packet, which arrived here the 8<sup>th</sup> Instant, gives me great pain and trouble, for I am very impatient and anxious to learn from your Lordship, His Majesty's Will and Pleasure regarding my Conduct in West Florida, as the only consolation I have in my present unfortunate Situation here, is the pleasing and flattering hopes of being honored with my Sovereign's Approbation of my Conduct and Defense during the Siege of Pensacola, against so formidable an Armament, as opposed me.

Having experienced your Lordships favor and Notice ever since I had the Honor of Commanding His Majesty's Forces in West Florida, makes me now presume to solicit your firm Support and Interest in my present inactive and unhappy State. At the same time permit me earnestly to request your Lordships kind and good Offices, to hasten my Exchange, which desirable Event I most ardently wish for, and be truly restored to the Service of my King and Country, and the Satisfaction of acting against His Majesty's Enemies the ensuing Spring.

I feel much for the unmerited Sufference of Brigade Major Campbell and Captain Deans, who are still detained at the Havannah, may I therefore hope for your Lordships powerful Influence and Mediation, for their enlargement.

The Sick and Wounded left behind at Pensacola I conclude are likewise detained by General Galvez at the Havannah, as I had every reason to expect their arrival here two months ago, agreeable to the Articles of Capitulation, which unprecedented Act I hope will appear to your Lordship an unjustifiable Stretch of power.

I have the Honor &c

John Campbell – L<sup>t</sup> G.

Source and Note: TNA, *Colonial Office Papers, Military Dispatches* at CO 5/240, ff. 6-7. Maj. Gen. Campbell received no blame for his defeat at Pensacola. He was seen as successful in pinning down a large enemy force from other

operations by his determined defense with his smaller force. Campbell was named a lieutenant general "in America" on September 28, 1781.

**Summary of Letter from Spanish Gen. Don Bernardo de Galvez to Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, Commander-in-Chief, North America, Disapproving the Separate Convention made Between Maj. Gen. John Campbell and the Governor of Havana, Cuba, Dec. 30, 1781**

Havanna December 30, 1781

This will be delivered by Baron Winterfield, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Irish Infantry who goes with the English families left sick at Pensacola, which was the reason of their detention.

He will inform of the proceedings with Gen. Campbell and of the motives for not acceding to the convention made between Gen Campbell and the Gov. of Havannah "that the prisoners sh<sup>d</sup>. be sent to New York in exchange for the Spaniards who might be at Jamaica." His reasons for suspending it are that they had no powers to make it, the governor of this place not being empowered and Gen. Campbell as a prisoner being disqualified. The French had made bitter complaints that the prisoners going there would reinforce the British army to their prejudice. "Their complaints would have been better founded if the prisoners from the foregoing settlements of the Mississippi, who had no right to expect it as they were not included in the capitulation of Pensacola, had taken the same route, wherefore I am in treaty to send them another way that will be less inconvenient on our part and they in a short time will enjoy the liberty I wish them." Again recommends the officer who bears this.

Source: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, p. 372 (Old File System Vol. 23, No. 168. Translation. Vol. 22, No. 103.)

**Translation of a Letter from Spanish Gen. Don Bernardo De Galvez to Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, Commander-in-Chief, North America, Justifying the Detention of Capt. James Campbell, Havana, Cuba, Dec. 30, 1781**

Havannah Dec<sup>r</sup> 30<sup>th</sup>, 1781

May it please your Excellency!

I have the honor to write your Excellency this letter not with the view of obtaining a decision or Satisfaction on the Subject I shall relate to you, as it is a matter that appertains to our Courts, but as I find your Excellency Commander in Chief of your Sovereign's Army in America, and I enjoy the same Confidence from mine, I think it necessary to take Notice of every Thing, that may maintain in its full force the good Faith subsisting between the two Nations, such as honor, Reputation, and the Words of their respective Commanders, upon the Supposition I must inform your Excellency of the request M<sup>r</sup> James Campbell Major of Brigade made me, to send, whether to your Excellency or to his former General John Campbell the Correspondence that commenced between him and me at Pensacola since his detention, which I granted him. But being added to said request that I would permit him to add an Explanation that would elucidate the matter I have refused the second part of his request, as I know the abuse of his Pen, always employed in obscuring the Truth; and as I have desired his sending any Commentaries upon our Letters I think I ought not to it either, as it would be taking an Advantage I have denied him. I shall therefore be obliged to recite the papers that will prove the Truth or Falsehood of our respective Proceedings, as well as those of General Campbell. I despise every thing that respects his Secretary, notwithstanding I know him to be the Promoter of all the Infractions made. From this Information, your Excellency will please to compare \* and see if the Capitulation of Baton Rouge and the Fort and District of Natchez, belonging to W. Florida, was not included in the Capitulation of Pensacola, which only included that Place, but also the whole Province, as will appear from the 1<sup>st</sup>., 10<sup>th</sup>., 12<sup>th</sup>, and other Articles of the Capitulation, with my Question in a letter dated the 25<sup>th</sup> May, and his Answer of the same date, \* with my Repetition of the Question in a letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> May; his deceitful Proof [above box around "Proof" is "vindication"] of it in his Letters of the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of the same Month; and the

Commissions given to the Captains Blomart, Windfrey, and Alston, whom I have Prisoners: It would be injustice to your Excell<sup>ys</sup> Penetration, if after making the above declarations [above box around “declarations” is “quotations”] I should add a tedious explanation to shew who has been wanting in honor, word, truth, and the most solemn and sacred engagements that ought to be binding on Men: For my part I shall only add, that they having so manifestly broke the Capitulation, I find myself sufficiently authorized to make reprisals of the whole English Garrison and not permit them to preceed to New York, til they made me full Satisfaction; but I did not avail myself of any other advantage than the Campaign gave me, I have only detained as Hostages the Major Brigade Campbell and Captain Robert Dean of the Navy, that I might secure to my Court a responsibility for the satisfaction they may think adequate, and that I may acquit myself of not having put it out of their power to demand it. This act of caution so important resulting from the order of things and the rights of War, has made both Gentlemen Campbell’s break out in invectives which till the present Time I despised, as their allegations were all false or ill founded, the only and principal one that has the appearance of a probability of a promise from me, was in my letter dated 3<sup>d</sup> of June, which says, “except your Excellency’s Person and Family who from this day are allowed to go where they please” without attending to that this condition was answered to the offer, that even when &c they were always to leave sufficient hostages till the stipulation was complied with” and when Mess<sup>rs</sup> Campbells, General & Secretary had put it out of their power, by making use of the low Strategem of sending me a list of Officers to choose of, who had actually sailed by making jest of my just demands and cancelling [above box around “and cancelling” is “they disengaged me from”] my Word, left it out of my power [above box around “left it out of my power” is “& freed me from y obligation”] to fulfill it, notwithstanding I shewed an unremitted attention in permitting the said General with all his Family to embark except his Secretary Campbell, to whom it was I ought to attribute a forgetfulness or premeditated malice.

God preserve your Excell<sup>y</sup> &c &c:

P.S. Almost the instant that this Flag of Truce was ready to sail, M<sup>r</sup> James Campbell sent me to forward to New York, not the Correspondence he held with his General as I expected, but it is what he had with me, and as this relates to the first, and is full of false quotations, which may be taken for granted if the Papers already mentioned should be wanting; I have told him, if he does not send the first Correspondence neither shall the last go, which I acquaint your Excel<sup>y</sup> with in case you should not have received them, at that your Excel<sup>y</sup> may know my reasons, I have the honor of sending you enclosed, the last Paragraph of the last letter he wrote to my Major General D<sup>n</sup> Joseph Espeleta dated the 18<sup>th</sup> instant, that you will be pleased to compare it with that wrote by Governor Chester of Pensacola to Lord George Germain, inclosing the one in our Madrid Gazette mentioned by Campbell, and you will see by examining of it if you can meet with any thing in it to give room for the quotation which makes, of foundation to accuse or suspect M<sup>r</sup> Chester withholding a Correspondence with me or an expression which shews that he was my Panegyrist, or that even my Name is mentioned in it.

(Signed) Galvez

M<sup>r</sup> Rose’s Interpretation \* the following Things one with the other. 1<sup>st</sup> The Baton Rouge Capitulation Where you will find that the Fort & district of Natchez belonged to W. Florida. Next. The Capitulation of Pensacola, wherein not only that Garrison but the whole Province is surrendered to the Arms of Spain, as appears by Articles 1<sup>st</sup>., 10<sup>th</sup>., 12<sup>th</sup> & others then my demand by Letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> May with the Answer of said date.

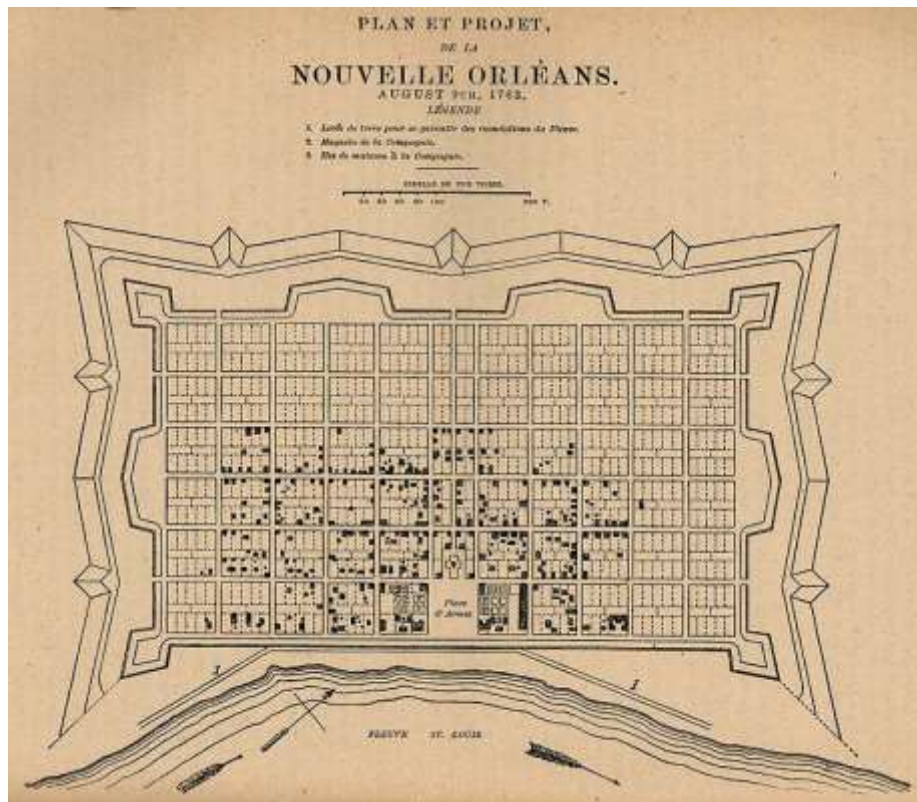
Source and Note: TNA, *Papers of Guy Carleton, 1st Baron Dorchester* at PRO 30/55/34 f. 107258. See the summary of Capt. Campbell’s letter immediately below.

**Summary of Translated Letter from Major of Brigade James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., to Spanish Gen. Jose de Ezpeleta, Complaining About his Detention, Dec. 18, 1781**

Not Dated [but from the covering letter appears to be "18 de corriente" or Dec.18, 1781.]

To the effect that he has seen Governor [Peter] Chester's letter from Charlestown to Lord George Germain as it is printed in the New York Gazette, and from that, and the remembrance that the Governor had a long conference with general Galvez, does not doubt but that his own detention was predetermined before the time General Galvez professes, and can guess what was further concerted at that conference vizt., the recommending to Governor Chester (in return for the protection, &c., granted) to be the panegyrist of General Galvez.

Source: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Her Majesty's Stationary Office, Dublin, 1906, p. 375, also summarized in *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, p. 365. Enclosed in letter from Gen. de Galvez to Gen. Sir H. Clinton, Dec. 30, 1781. A "panegyrist" is defined as one who gives enthusiastic praise.



Map of New Orleans and its Fortifications, 1763

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

**Dairy Entry of Don Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis, Official, Fourth Grade, of the Secretariat of the Ministry of the Indies, Havana, Cuba, Reporting on Maj. of Brigade James Campbell's Removal to New Orleans, Jan. 27, 1782**

27 January 1782...On the mail-packet went [Capt. Robert] Deans the English frigate [*HMS Mentor*], captain, who had been a hostage since the capitulation of Pensacola and urgently begged to go to Spain. At the same time, Major Campbell, the other hostage, was made to embark for New Orleans, because it appeared that his presence in Havana was prejudicial, and there was even an idea that he was sketching maps, etc...

Source and Note: *Journal of Don Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis during the commission which he had in his charge from 25 June 1780 until the 20th of the same month of 1783*, Ed. Francisco Morales Padron, Trans. Aileen Moore Topping, University of Florida Press, Gainesville, 1989, p. 279. Don Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis was a government official and later Spanish Minister of State. Campbell's destination of New Orleans is inconsistent with Robert Ross letter of July 15, 1782 who wrote Campbell was sent to Mobile Alabama.

**New York Pay Document Lists Maj. of Brigade and Capt. James Campbell at Havana Cuba, Apr. 1 through June 30, 1782**

Abstract of Pay due the Staff of the late Garrison of Pensacola, prisoners of war to Spain, New York, 30 Jun 1782:

James Campbell, Esquire, Major of Brigade, detained at Havannah, 1 Apr 1782 to 30 Jun 1782, 91 days... Attest: [Maj. Gen.] John Campbell

Source and Note: *Loyalists in the Southern Campaign of the Revolutionary War: Official rolls of Loyalists recruited from North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, and Louisiana*, Murtie June Clark, Genealogical Publishing Com, 1981, App. D., from TNA, *Guy Carleton, 1st Baron Dorchester: Papers* at PRO 30/55/43, p. 4949. This document is in conflict with the journal of Don Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis, dated Jan. 27, 1782 which indicates Campbell had embarked for New Orleans about this time. Such a discrepancy is easily explained by communication time delays.

**Summary of Letter from Lt. Gen. John Campbell, Former Commander, West Florida, to Gen. Sir Guy Carleton, Commander-in-Chief, North America, Regarding Detention of Maj. of Brigade James Campbell and Capt. Robert Deans, Royal Navy, New York, May 15, 1782**

New York, May 15, 1782.

Respecting statements in his letter of 17 July, 1781, and requesting his intercession with General [Don Bernardo de] Galvez for enlargement of Maj. Campbell and Capt. Deans.

Source: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, p. 489.



Detail of Gen. Archibald Campbell, circa 1790, by George Romney

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

**Excerpt of Letter from Jamaica Gov. Archibald Campbell to Lt. Gen. John Campbell, Former Commander, West Florida, Regarding Detention of Maj. Campbell, Jamaica, May 21, 1782**

Jamaica, May 21, 1782.

Dear Sir,

The Spaniards have acted so extremely unjust in the article of your exchange and that of your late garrison by receiving from me an equivalent of officers and men without returning these six months a ratification of that agreement that I consider it my duty to acquaint you of it...[Adds list of the 15 names actually exchanged at this island] As the Spaniards of late have had a greater object than the mere exchange of prisoners of war, and seemed to have the ball completely before their feet, they have had the assurance to treat our cartels and agreements with disrespect, but I hope 'ere long to have it in my power to extort from them what at present their arrogance denies. Don [Bernardo de] Galvez's first aide-de-camp, Colo<sup>l</sup>. Senor Don Roderigues, and two other officers, were actually exchanged for you, and others in the same manner; but I have heard of late that Capt. James Campbell is still in their hands, and that they have been dancing him about the world at the will of Don Galvez. Of this circumstance be pleased to acquaint me that I may take an early occasion to retaliate upon their Counts and Marquis what ever conduct they shew to him...

Source and Note: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Her Majesty's Stationary Office, Dublin, 1906, pp. 493- 494. Gov. Archibald Campbell began the American War as Lt. Col., 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.



Gen. Sir Guy Carleton

Portrait Source: Wikipedia

**Letter from Lt. Gen. Guy Sir Carleton, Commander-in-Chief, North America,  
to Spanish Gen. Don Bernardo de Galvez, Complaining of the Detention of  
Capt. James Campbell, New York, June 3, 1782**

New York 3<sup>d</sup> June 1782

Sir,

Your Excellency's letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> of December last did not reach New York till the 10<sup>th</sup> of May, a few days after my arrival to take the command on this Coast, and to succeed Sir Henry Clinton in all his Power. I am much concerned to find that Discontent should have arisen between your Excellency and any British Officers and that they still existed at the time of your writing. There is certainly no national prejudice on your part, against a People, who have produced so many Characters, illustratious for their generosity, valour, high honor and invisable Truth. I flatter myself therefore, that few Dissatisfactions could have arisen, if the Sentiments of each had been conveyed in a common Language, and without being subject to the mistakes of Interpreters, possibly on points of delicacy which they could not



comprehend. – On this however Your Excellency may depend, that in all such Business as I may have to transmit, the proper Allowance shall be made for possible Misunderstandings likely to arise from this Source or any other, and that the Subjects of Spain shall be considered by me on all occasions, with the most favorable and benevolent regard; in particular, I shall always entertain that respect toward Your Excellency, which your own Character and elevated Rank and Command so justly intitles you to receive.

As to Captain [Robert] Deans of the Navy, and Major of Brigade Campbell, who were detained in consequence of an Insurrection at the Natchez and the capture of Panmure, I think it unnecessary to enter into any Discussion thereon. The Fort, as I understand, has been for some time in your own power, and therefore trust that these Officers will be liberated of course, if it has not already taken place; but if from Causes which I cannot foresee, and temporary Delay should have arisen, I very earnestly recommend them to Your Excellency's protection, and entertain no doubt but that they will be sent off with the most convenient Speed.

With respect to the Convention made between the Governor of the Havannah and Major of Brigade Campbell, for the Exchange of the English Prisoners under the Capitulation of Baton Rouge against those of Spain, at that time in Jamaica, I have considered the reasons assigned for not carrying it into Execution, and must beg Your Excellency to consider, that the condition of Major of Brigade Campbell as a Prisoner was known at the time of making the Convention, and therefore cannot be urged as a reason for setting it aside, and that in all public Transactions between the Subjects of different States, there is a Confidence placed in men in high Stations, and with all others entrusted with Command. It is upon this confidence, Sir, that Conventions of the Sort in Question & many others are made, and unless this Confidence is upheld by a due Execution of them, all Conventions may be rendered void by some Subtlety of argument, and public faith much impaired. How far French Influence ought to prevail in setting aside a Convention made by a person in a Station so exalted as the Governor of the Island of Cuba, or by a Spanish Officer of any Rank, I freely submit to the feelings of your own Breast; and indeed I refer myself in all things with great Confidence to your Excellency, persuaded that nothing more has been necessary for one than to recall your attention to certain Considerations, which in the Multiplicity of Affairs may have escaped Your Notice.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect & regard, Sir  
Your Excellency's &c  
(Signed) Guy Carleton

Source and Note: TNA, *Papers of Guy Carleton, 1st Baron Dorchester* at PRO 30/55/42 f. 107304. See Maj. Gen. John Campbell's response to the same letter dated July 17, 1782, below.

### **Summary of Pay Abstract, Pensacola Garrison, June 30, 1782**

June 30, 1782,

Abstract of pay and disbursements due to James Campbell, Brigade Major, detained at the Havannah...Signed by Lt. Gen. John Campbell.

Source: *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Her Majesty's Stationary Office, Dublin, 1906. p. 550.

### **Letter from Lt. Gen. Sir Guy Carleton, Commander-in-Chief, North America, to Don Juan Manuel de Cagigal, Acting Spanish Captain General, Havana, Cuba, Regarding Maj. of Brigade James Campbell and Capt. Robert Deans, New York, July 3, 1782**

New York July 3<sup>d</sup> 1782

Sir,

Your Excellency's Letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> April 1782, by the Flag of Truce Joseph Basques Master, addressed to Gen<sup>l</sup> [John] Campbell has been placed in my Hands...

Upon the Subject of Exchange, and of the Detention of Major Campbell and Capt<sup>n</sup> Deans of the Navy, as Hostages, I had received in May last a Letter from His Excellency Gen<sup>l</sup> [Don Bernardo de] Galvez, dated 30<sup>th</sup> December 1781. In his Opinions on these Subjects I can not concur, but I referred the whole to that Generosity by which your National Character has always been marked, assuring him, as I now assure your Excellency, of every Attention on my part towards the Subjects of Spain, and as far as it depends on me, I shall preserve that Intercourse of good will & Regard between the Subjects of two Nations, which no course of open War has hitherto been able to destroy...

I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's Most Obedient and Most humble Servant

His Excellency

Don Juan Manuel de Cagigal

Source: TNA, *Papers of Guy Carleton, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Dorchester: July 1-19, 1782* at PRO 30/55/44, pp. 17, 4990 (1-3).

**Letter from Lt. Gen. John Campbell, Former Commander, West Florida, to Spanish Gen. Don Bernardo De Galvez, Complaining of Cruel Treatment of Maj. Campbell, New York, July 17, 1782**

New York 17<sup>th</sup> July 1782

Sir,

By the condescending Goodness of His Excellency the Commander in Chief of His Britanick Majesty's Armys in North America, I have this Day been indulged with the perusal of a letter from You dated the 30<sup>th</sup> December last at the Havannah, and addressed to Sir Henry Clinton, at that time visited with the supreme Command which His Excellency Sir Guy Carleton now possesses...

I fondly formed & cherished a hope, Sir, that our Correspondence had been for ever closed – a Correspondence that has been irksome & painfull to me indeed, but I console myself in considering, that those I have the Honor of being intimately known to, would spurn at the Idea of permitting my impression to be made in their Minds, by the Language You have indecently presumed to express, with respect to myself & Major Campbell my Military Secretary...

It is with unexpressible Satisfaction Sir, I now announce to You, that I am now no longer in Your Power, nor Subject to the haughty & wanton Caprices of Your Temper. By recent Letters from Havannah & Jamaica, I have with real Joy received Authentick, & unequivocal Intelligence, that conformable to the Laws of Nations, & of War, as well as to the first Article of the Capitulation, signed & ratified with You (on the Surrender of the Garrison of Pensacola) on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 1781 The Officers & Soldiers, together with myself, the Publick & Staff officers composing that Garrison, have been fairly & actually exchanged, by an equivalent of Officers & Men in the Service of Spain (that had been captured and detained as Prisoners of War to the British Arms) being sent by the Governor & Commander in Chief of the Island of Jamaica, to the Havannah, & there received for the purpose of said Exchange, by the Governor & Captain General &c of the Island of Cuba, and that Transaction stamped with every necessary & conclusive Sanction, agreeable to the Honourable and Liberal Cartel settled & interchanged between their Excellencies the Governors of said Islands on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 1781...

I would wish (as I cannot immediately avert the undue sufferings, & ungenerous detention of the Hostages) to avoid making any further mention to You of Major Campbell the cruel Confinement of whom as a Publick Officer, I cannot [illegible word] viewing as a Violation of the Laws of War, & a direct National Insult to the Power I serve.

I shudder at the Accounts of Cruelty being added to Injustice in his Confinement at Mobile, which as being one of the most unhealthy Situations on Earth, offers a Probability he may there perish (and with him the Power of that Pen You seem so much to dread), And of representing the accumulated Injuries that have been vindictively & illiberally heaped on him. Should he survive his Maltreatment, his Liberty & redress of his Sufferings will be sought & expected from other Powers than those you possess...

*John Campbell*  
*L' Gen<sup>l</sup>*

Bernardo de Galvez

&c. &c. &c.

Source: TNA, *Papers of Guy Carleton, 1st Baron Dorchester, July 1 – 19, 1782* at PRO 30/55/44 p. 60.



*The Hon. Alexander Leslie, by John Kay*

Picture Source: *A Series of Original Portraits and Caricature Etchings*, Vol. II, Part I, John Kay, Edinburgh, 1837, Google Books, Plate No. XXVII

**Letter from Lt. Gen. Alexander Leslie to Gen. Sir Guy Carleton, Commander-in-Chief, North America, Forwarding Dep. Commissary of Prisoners Robert Ross' Report on Maj. of Brigade James Campbell, Charleston, July 17, 1782**

Charles Town 17 July 1782

N<sup>o</sup>. 3.

Sir

Five Spanish Officers and about seventy men, having been captured by one of our Privateers and brought into this Port in the Month of March, I was induced from motives of various consideration to adopt the measure of sending them immediately to the Havana, in the number of which the expectation of being able to obtain some consequential intelligence of the strength and situation of the Enemy's Force at that Place had much weight with me, which, the then critical state of our affairs in that part of the world, and the invasion which threatened Jamaica had rendered an object of considerable importance.

In this view I made choice of M<sup>r</sup> Robert Ross, who embarked in the Flag-of-Truce which conveyed the Spaniards, with the temporary appointment of a Commissary of Prisoners for the purpose of adjusting the exchange. This Gentleman readily engaged in a design which from his connections with the Spaniards during his former residence on the Mississippi he was well qualified to execute, The uncommon ability with which this service has been performed, will in the perusal of the extensive and correct information, which I have the honor herewith to enclose be manifest to Your Excellency, and render my praise superfluous, I embraced the opportunity of the Zebra Sloop of War sailing from this Port to the West Indies to transmit a copy of it to Sir George Rodney.

The relation which I also enclose of the situation of Captain James Campbell, I thought it my duty to procure, and to lay before Your Excellency, I have every confidence that a proceeding of so extraordinary a nature, thus coming Sir to your knowledge will not remain unredressed, and the pain with which I represent the unmerited sufferings of a British Officer is alleviated when I reflect that I address myself to Your Excellency.

I have

His Ex:

Sir G. C. [Guy Carleton]

AL

Source: New York Public Library, *Thomas Addis Emmet Collection 1483-1876*, Series XXVI. Gen. Leslie's Letter Book at EM15480-15704. A copy of this letter is also filed at TNA, *Colonial Office Papers, Military Dispatches*, Aug. - Nov. 1782 at CO 5/107, f. 183 (pp. 365, 368).



Reconstructed Fort Condé in Mobile, Alabama, 2008

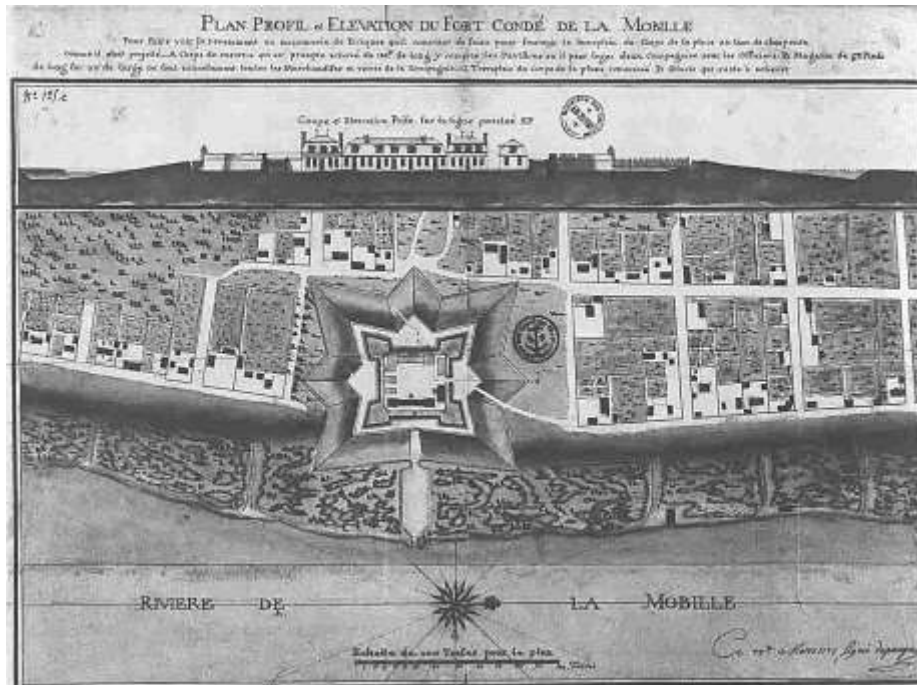
Picture Source and Note: Wikimedia Commons, by Altairisfar. Reconstruction conducted at 4/5 scale.

[Enclosure from Mr. Robert Ross, July 15, 1782]

To His Excellency The Honorable Lieutenant General [Alexander] Leslie  
Commanding His Majesty's Troops in the Southern District of  
N. America &ca. &ca.

Robert Ross Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners and lately returned from the Havana in the flag of Truce [ship] four Sisters, begs leave to represent

That Captain James Campbell of His Majesty's 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment of foot, late Major of Brigade to Major General [John] Campbell in West Florida, being Prisoner of war at the Havana, was about the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January last, at two hours notice, ordered to embark on board of a vessel bound to Mobile, where by order of General [Don Bernardo de] Galvez he is confined close prisoner in the fort, to remain in that condition during the continuation of the present war



Plan of Fort Conde, by Adrien de Pauger, Mobile, circa 1725

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons.

The reason assigned for this harsh proceeding is said to be, some expressions in letters wrote by Captain Campbell to General Galvez, which have been deemed disrespectful.

To every person acquainted with the unwholesome Climate of Mobile, and the distress of the Spanish Garrison for good water, the communication with the Rivulet from which the fort was usually Supplied being cut off by the Indians, the above order regarding Captain Campbell must appear as equivalent to a death warrant.

Charles Town 15<sup>th</sup> July 1782

*Robert Ross*  
*Dep<sup>y</sup> Commissary, Prisoners*

Source: TNA, *Guy Carleton, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Dorchester: Papers* at PRO 30/55/91, p. 9996(1-2), marked p. 119. Another copy of same document is filed as Enclosure xvi in Letter No. 28 from Gen. Sir Guy Carleton to Sec. of State for Southern Department, New York, Oct. 6, 1782 at *Colonial Office, Military Dispatches*, Aug. – Nov. 1782 at CO 5/107, ff. 147-208.

**Letter from Lieut. General John Campbell to Gen. Sir Guy Carleton, Commander-in-Chief, North America, Regarding Detention of Maj. of Brigade James Campbell at Mobile, Alabama, New York, Oct. 5, 1782**

York Island Encampment 5 Oct<sup>r</sup> 1782

Sir

I have the honor to represent for your Excellency's information the futile frivolous reasons, assigned by General [Don Bernardo de] Galvez, for his undue Detention of Captain [Robert] Deans of the Royal Navy and Brigade Major [James] Campbell at the time, I Lieu<sup>t</sup> General Campbell and the late Garrison of Pensacola, departed from West Florida on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1781. Viz<sup>t</sup>

General Galvez received Intelligence from New Orleans about eight or ten days after the surrender of Pensacola (by Capitulation) to the arms of Spain. That Fort Panmure (on the River Mississippi) had been attacked and obliged to surrender to a party comprised of the inhabitants of Natchez

district – and that two Officers of the vanquished Garrison was actually detained by the Conquerors, as Hostages, for some interesting views of their own.

Therefore M<sup>r</sup> Galvez without the least hesitation gave orders to detain Capt<sup>n</sup> [Robert] Deans [Royal Navy] & Brigade Major Campbell as Hostages until those detained by the Natchez assailants were returned safe to him.

And notwithstanding the said Fort Panmure (a short time thereafter) delivered up to the arms of Spain without any opposition whatever, and their hostages restored in perfect safety, yet M<sup>r</sup> Galvez persists in detaining Brigade Major Campbell in close confinement in Mobile Fort, well known to be the most unhealthy situation in all West Florida: and has ordered Captain Deans to Madrid.

This unwarranted conduct of Don Galvez, I can view in no other light, but as a direct National Insult.

I have the honor to be with the highest respect – Sir – Your Excellency's  
Most Obit humble Servant  
(Signed) John Campbell, Lieu<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup>

Source: TNA, *Colonial Office Papers, Military Dispatches*, Aug. - Nov. 1782 at CO 5/107, f. 205.

**News Account of Court Martial of Recently Released Capt. Robert Deans,  
Former Commander of HMS Mentor, Portsmouth, July 1783**

Last week a court-martial was held on board his majesty's ship Triumph, at Portsmouth, to enquire into the conduct of Capt. Deans, who commanded the seamen at Pensacola, when that place was taken by the Spaniards two years ago, and for burning his Majesty's ship the Mentor at the same place. The court unanimously approved of his conduct. Capt. Deans has been detained at the Havannah and in Spain, ever since the capitulation of Pensacola, and only arrived in England last June.

Source: *The European Magazine, and London Review*; for July, 1783, p. 75.

**Inaccurate Ship Captain's Account of Release of Maj. of Brigade James Campbell,  
Havana, Cuba, July 8, 1783**

NEW-YORK, AUGUST 9.

Last night arrived the Ship Dragon, Captain Andrew Campbell, in eighteen days from Havana by whom we learn... Brigade Major Campbell had been enlarged, and sent with seven or eight British officers in a Cartel for Jamaica, a fortnight before Captain Campbell sailed.

Source: *The Royal Gazette* (New York), Aug. 9, 1783. This report conflicts with Capt. Stoney, *HMS Fox*, which reports on July 21, 1783 that "*Poor Major Campbell (a Relation of our Governor) is not yet released...*" This report also is inconsistent with the date of arrival in Jamaica of Aug. 16 shown in the *Gentleman's Magazine* article below of that date.

**Letter from Gov. of Jamaica and Maj. Gen Archibald Campbell to Sir Evan Nepean, Bart.,  
Under Secretary of State for the Home Department, Requesting Intervention to Obtain  
Release of Maj. Campbell, London, Aug. 29, 1783**

Sir,

I beg leave to lay before you the case of Capt<sup>n</sup> James Campbell of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment – who was Brigade Major to General John Campbell during the time he commanded in West Florida. And I cannot give you a higher idea of his character as an Officer than by referring you to General Campbell's letter to the Secretary of State dated 12<sup>th</sup> May 1781 and published in the Gazette of 13<sup>th</sup> October 1781 wherein General Campbell mentions him an Officer to whom he was under the highest Obligation. Major Campbell has been cruelly detained as Prisoner war since the Capitulation at Pensacola, without any



reason being assigned for his detention; and to show you the hardship of his case. I beg leave to state the following particulars.

By the Articles of Capitulation at Pensacola published in the Gazette of the 11<sup>th</sup> August 1781, it is expressly stipulated, that all Officers, particularly the Generals Staff & Suite shall be immediately furnished with Ships to carry them to any Port of His Majesty's Dominions. Vide, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Articles of the Capitulation published in the Gazette of the 11<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 1781.

Instead of Major Campbell's being allowed to come home agreeable to the Articles of Capitulation above granted, He was ordered on shore by Don Galvez after he had embarked with General Campbell previous to his departure for New York: and General Campbell was refused any explanation of this extraordinary measure.

Major Campbell was afterwards sent to Mobile, and then to New Orleans where he has since been detained notwithstanding repeated applications from the Governor of Jamaica, who entered into serious correspondence with Don Galvez on Major Campbells situation, and the hardships that seemed so unjustly put upon him. But Don Galvez persisted in refusing Major Campbells exchange, until one of his own Aides de Camp, Lieu<sup>t</sup> Colonel Rodericas De la Baurier was carried Prisoner to Jamaica, when Don Galvez wrote to Governor Campbell, begging he would return His Aid de Camp, and Major Campbell would be immediately Exchanged for him. This offer, Governor Campbell, (trusting to the good faith of Don Galvez) complied with. But instead of Major Campbell being released another Gentleman was sent to Jamaica.

Some time after this breach of good faith on the part of Don Galvez, his father in Law Monsieur Macsaint, Governor of New Orleans, was carried Prisoner to Jamaica. Don Galvez solicited the release of his Father in Law in the most earnest manner, which was positively refused by General Campbell, untill Major Campbell was exchanged and sent in. At length Don Galvez declared that a ship was sent from the Havannah to New Orleans for Major Campbell, and that Governor Campbell might depend on his speedy arrival at Jamaica, If Mon<sup>r</sup> Macsaint was permitted to go to his Government.

Governor Campbell having by this time received accounts of the Peace consented to Monsieur Macsaints departure, taking a parole from him, that he would immediately return a Prisoner to Jamaica if Major Campbell was not sent in.

Notwithstanding all these circumstances, poor Major Campbell continues to be persecuted, & is still a Prisoner, which is strongly pointed out in a letter from Captain Stoney of the Fox to a Friend of his in Town, dated Havannah 21<sup>st</sup> July last, and as Captain Stoney was sent on purpose to bring away the prisoners at the Havannah, I am persuaded the upmost regard will be paid to what he states.

I think Sir, I have said enough to convince you how hardly, nay how cruelly, Major Campbell has been treated for more than two years. Permit me therefore to entreat that you will be pleased to lay the matter before His Majestys Ministers, who I am persuaded will make such representations of it, as will procure redress to a British Officer, even if his merit and high pretenses were much less conspicuous than Major Campbell's.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect & Esteem

Sir Your most faithful and Obedient Humble Servant

(Signed) Archibald Campbell

Parliament Street  
29<sup>th</sup> August 1783.

Extract of a Letter from Cap<sup>t</sup>. [George] Stoney of the Fox Frigate dated Havannah 21<sup>st</sup> July 1783

"Poor Major Campbell (a Relation of our Governor) is not yet released tho a vessel was sent down to New Orleans, for him, and the four Culprits, whose lives, as say the Spaniards, were given to the Young Prince. And, I am sorry to say there appears to me a particular stretch of persecution towards him owing to some personal picque that Don Galvez took against him; but that matter having been represented at home, I suppose you are better acquainted with it than I am. However I intend to make a formal demand

of the reasons for his detention both from the Commander in Chief Brigadier General James Espelete a very gentlemanly man with whom I dined yesterday at the Intendants.

I have already had a little chat with the General on the subject, who speaks a little French, &c I find Don Galvez has left no orders with him on that subject. He therefore says it is not in his power to take upon him the release without Orders from his Court, before whom the matter has been laid. I believe Galvez has acted an unhandsome part in that affair. I have particular to you on it, as I know General Campbell has been very much interested himself therein, and will I am sure be thankful to you for any assistance you may give him in procuring his release.”

Source and Notes: TNA, *Colonial Office, West Florida Correspondence, Secretary of State, Military, part 2, 1779-1783* at CO 5/598, f. 63. Capt. George Stoney commanded *HMS Fox*, a 32-gun frigate. Gov. Campbell began the war as the Lt. Colonel of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.

**Letter from Gov. of Jamaica and Maj. Gen Archibald Campbell, to Gen. Sir Henry Clinton,  
Regarding Release of Spanish Hostage, Capt. James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Spanish Town, Jamaica,  
Jan. 18, 1784**

Spanish town Jamaica 18<sup>th</sup>. Jan<sup>ry</sup>: 1784

Dear Sir

Your favour of the 6<sup>th</sup>: of Sept<sup>r</sup>: only reached me last Evening, and was the first of your letters received on the subject of Richmond Estate. —

By Cap<sup>t</sup>: James Campbell of the 42<sup>d</sup>: Reg<sup>t</sup>. I am happy to have it in my power to forward the enclosed information regarding that property; part of which has been extracted from the records of the Secretary Office of this Island, and part collected from the best authorities I could procure: I wish they may prove satisfactory.

Cap<sup>t</sup>: Campbell will inform you, of his release from the illiberal treatment of Don Bernardo de Galvez; being detained as an hostage to satisfy the caprice of that General, for upwards of two years and a half; contrary to the Capitulation of Pensacola. —

By this misfortune he was secluded from every military exertion; suffered much in rank, and greatly in his private fortune. — I am however in hopes that an officer who has discharged his duty for 22 years with Zeal and fidelity, will not pass unnoticed in the herd of Officers, aspiring to the Rank of Major.

—  
It gave me infinite satisfaction to learn from Admiral [James] Gambier, the most favourable intelligence of your health; That you may long Continue to enjoy that Blessing, is the ardent wish of

Dear Sir

Your Most Faithful and Most Obed<sup>t</sup>: Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>:

Sir Henry Clinton K: B:  
&c &c &c

Arch<sup>d</sup>: Campbell

Source and Notes: *Sir Henry Clinton Papers* 199:3, W. L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan. By Sept. 1783, Sir Henry Clinton had returned to England indicating that was the destination of Capt. Campbell.

**Capt. James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Listed as Spanish Hostage in Regimental Review,  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, June 9, 1784**

General Return of the Country, Size, Age & Time of Service of the Men of His Majestys 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot, Commanded by General Lord John Murray Including Serjeants, Corporals, and Drummers. Reviewed by Major General John Campbell Halifax 9<sup>th</sup> June 1784...

Absent Officers

Captains...James Campbell

Kept as Hostage with the Spaniards...

Source and Note: TNA, *War Office: Adjutant General and Army Council: Inspection Returns, Foreign, 1783-1784*, WO 27/52. As shown in the letter from Gov. Archibald Campbell, above, dated Jan. 14, 1784, Capt. Campbell had been released and sailed to Britain by the date of the subject review, unknown to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. commanders.

**Payment by Parliament for Expenses Sustained by Capt. James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.,  
While Held Hostage by Spanish Army, London, Apr. 7, 1785**

7 Aprilis A. 1785

Army Extras Dates of Warrants

1784

August 28.

...To Captain James Campbell, for the Expenses  
he incurred by having been detained as a Hostage  
by Spain after the Surrender of Pensacola

793[£] 9[s]...

Source: *Journals of the House of Commons, From May the 18th, 1784, In the Twenty-fourth Year of the Reign of King George the Third, to December the 1st, 1785*, Reprinted by Order of the House of Commons, 1803, Google Books, p. 789.