

Another disadvantage is the extreme badness of the harbor. This is formed merely from the cove which the extremity of the land make with the sea, is very confined in its dimensions. The vessel anchoring in it is liable to driven on the rocks if she drifts but little from her moorings. It is likewise completely exposed to the fury of the winds, the most prevailing & destructive that is felt in the Mediterranean, some benefit might be made if we gained possession by changing the mooring from the northern to the southern side of the Peninsula, but the same objection would operate against it. A sheltering shore from the N. W. winds, yet the ships would be more exposed to the storm Easterly winds. From these causes ~~commerce~~ ^{commerce} can never flourish in this place, nor can industry supply the defects, for the occasional depth of the water & the strength of the current continually flowing would prevent the construction of a dock, it constitutes any mole head or pier that might be sunk for protection of trade. No advantage as a commercial point is ours could be trifling as the supplies of the place would require few vessels, & no intercourse is permitted with the interior, if however Gibraltar ^{is} ~~is~~ regularly besieged its importance will be greatly magnified. Merchants will immediately resort here & transfer their commerce & individuals at the same time have bought up all the vacant houses with the prospect of their event so much in the distance. ~~It appears~~ also the Mediterranean convoys would visit the water here & the men of war be repaired that received any injury by the bombardment of the enemy. As a military station besides the defect already mentioned in the land defences