

This object our Engineers might obviate by a few
 salient angles ² thrown out at proper intervals. The sides
 of the hill are covered with vines & prickly pear
 which constitute the chief food of the inhabitants in
 summer. The latter plant is laid out in regular rows
 & cultivated as in a garden. An observatory is fixed at
 top from which all motions of vessels can be observed
 & after those passing & repassing the straits
 be easily discerned in almost all weather. From hence
 we returned by the opposite side of the promontory to the
 town & then proceeded to examine the lines & the
 outermost posts. The land defence of this town are incom-
 monly beautiful, & exhibit that attention to grandeur as well
 as strength which is seen in the land gate of Cadix. They
 are equally lofty & substantial & have the additional ad-
 vantage of the ditch between 2 of the walls being filled
 with the sea which considerably adds to the defence. On
 leaving the main street ~~approached~~ a small bridge which might
 be divided in case the enemy had forced the outwork the depth is
 sufficient for small craft to pass nearly through & might easily
 be deepened & form a barrier ^{for reception of our vessels} in tempestuous weather. Passing
 over there we found a few houses scattered in the suburbs &
 the principal church in the place, & immediately opposite
 the original line wall. This exceedingly strong & resisted all
 the efforts of the Moors in their grand & continued attacks
 the marks of which are still visible in many places very little
 impression was made by continued bombardment & the
 security not the least endangered by it, at present this is
 protected by lines in front. The under part of this forms
 bomb-proof barracks. From this point to the outer gate are
 continued range of batteries on the most scientific & present-
 ing a most tremendous front to its assailant, it appears
 even more formidable than the land gate ~~either~~ of Cadix
 & Gibraltar, tho' it was deficient in the simplicity which
 constitutes the excellence of both these places. Within this
 are 2 most excellent springs of water which supply the whole