

rapidity of the river or what other cause I know not) the enemy had not, as it was supposed he would have done, constructed any pontoon bridges in the rear of his centre or left.

From the above mentioned circumstances of the enemy's situation, it was evident that, if the Zurich-berg was forced, it must have brought on the defeat of their army; whose retreat through the town, just at the foot of this hill, would have been attended with the greatest difficulty.

Early in the morning of the 5th instant the army marched to attack the enemy. General Hotze's corps marched off to the left, crossed the Glat, formed on the enemy's right flank, and began the attack of the Zurich-berg. The enemy defended this post with the greatest obstinacy, and although a considerable part of Prince Reuss's column was afterwards sent to assist in the attack, it was found impossible to force it. The enemy was driven indeed from some of the abbatis and entrenchments, but maintained his principal position on the Zurich-berg, till night put an end to the action.

During the night and the whole of the next day, both parties remained exactly where they had stood at the end of the affair, the Austrian infantry of the left wing being in many places almost within musket-shot of the enemy's abbatis and works. The great fatigue which the troops had undergone on the 4th, determined the Archduke to defer to the 6th the renewal of the attack. But the enemy, whose loss in the affair of the 4th had been very great, and who foresaw the total ruin of his army if the Zurich-berg should be forced, retired in the night from the 5th to the 6th, leaving in his entrenchments 35 pieces of cannon, three howitzers, and a great number of ammunition waggons. In the afternoon of the 6th, the Austrians occupied the town.

In the attack of the 4th inst. the Austrian infantry suffered a considerable loss in killed and wounded; among the latter were Gen. Wallis, Lieut.-Gen. Hotze, and Major-Gen. Hiller. Gen. Hotze received a musket-shot in the arm early in the affair, but it did not hurt the bone, and fortunately does not prevent his continuing to command his corps. His absence at this moment would have been sensibly felt and sincerely regretted.

Cherin (General of Division and Chief of the Staff), together with two other French Generals, were severely wounded, and two Adjutant-Generals are among the prisoners, of which there are a considerable number.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ROBT. CRAUFURD.

LONDON GAZETTE—June 22.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, June 22. 1799.

Extract of a letter from Captain Sir WILLIAM SYDNEY SMITH, to Mr NEPEAN, dated Tigre, off Tripoly, in Syria, the 2d. of April 1799.

I BEG leave to transmit, for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of my report to the Right Hon. Earl of St Vincent, of late events in this quarter.

MY LORD,

Tigre, off St John d'Acre, the 23d March 1799.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, in consequence of intelligence from Gezar Pacha, Governor of Syria, of the incursion of General Buonaparte's army into that province, and his approach to its capital, Acre, I hastened with a portion of the naval force under my orders to its relief, and had the satisfaction to arrive there two days before the enemy made his appearance.

Much was done in this interval under the direction of Captain Miller, of the Thefeus, and Colonel Phelypeaux, towards putting the place in a better state of defence, to resist the attack of an European army; and

the presence of a British naval force appeared to encourage and decide the Pacha and his troops to make a vigorous resistance.

The enemy's advanced guard was discovered at the foot of Mount Carmel, in the night of the 17th, by the Tigre's guard-boats: These troops, not expecting to find a naval force of any description in Syria, took up their ground close to the water side, and were consequently exposed to the fire of grape shot from the boats, which put them to the rout the instant it opened upon them, and obliged them to retire precipitately up the side of the mount. The main body of the army, finding the road between the sea and Mount Carmel thus exposed, came in by that of Nazareth, and invested the town of Acre to the east, but not without being much harassed by the Samaritan Arabs, who are even more inimical to the French than the Egyptians, and better armed. As the enemy returned our fire by musketry only, it was evident they had not brought cannon with them, which were therefore to be expected by sea, and measures were taken accordingly for intercepting them; the Thefeus was already detached off Jaffa (Joppa). The enemy's flotilla, which came in from sea, fell in with and captured the Torride, and was coming round Mount Carmel, when it was discovered from the Tigre, consisting of a corvette and nine sail of gun-vessels; on seeing us they hauled off. The alacrity of the ship's company in making sail after them was highly praiseworthy; our guns soon reached them, and seven, as per inclosed list, struck; the corvette, containing Buonaparte's private property, and two small vessels, escaped, since it became an object to secure the prizes without chasing further; their cargoes, consisting of the battering train of artillery, ammunition, platforms, &c. destined for the siege of Acre, being much wanted for its defence. The prizes were accordingly anchored off the town, manned from the ships, and immediately employed in harassing the enemy's posts, impeding his approaches, and covering the ship's boats sent further in shore to cut off his supplies of provisions conveyed coastwise. They have been constantly occupied in these services for these five days and nights past; and such has been the zeal of their crews, that they requested not to be relieved, after many hours excessive labour at their guns and oars. I am sorry to say that we have met with some loss, as per inclosed list, which, however, is balanced by greater on the part of the enemy, by the encouragement given to the Turkish troops from our example, and by the time that is gained for the arrival of a sufficient force to render Buonaparte's whole project abortive. I have had reason to be perfectly satisfied with the gallantry and perseverance of Lieutenants Bushby, Inglefield, Knight, Stokes, and Lieutenant Burton, of the marines, and of the petty-officers and men under their orders.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. SYDNEY SMITH.

Right Hon. Earl of St Vincent,
Commander in Chief.

List of the Gun Vessels composing the French Flotilla, bound from Alexandria and Damietta to St John d'Acre, taken off Cape Carmel by his Majesty's ship Tigre, Commodore Sir SYDNEY SMITH, K. S. the 18th March 1799, at eight o'clock P. M. after a chase of three hours.

La Negresse, of 6 guns and 53 men.
La Fondre, of 8 guns and 52 men.
La Dangereuse, of 6 guns and 23 men.
La Maria Rose, of 4 guns and 22 men.
La Dame de Grace, of 4 guns and 35 men.
Les Deux Flores, of 4 guns and 23 men.
La Torride (taken in the morning of that day and retaken), of 2 guns and 30 men.
Total.—7 gun-boats, 34 guns, and 238 men.

These gun boats were loaded, besides their own complements, with battering-cannon, ammunition, and every