

# The London Gazette.

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From Tuesday March 4, to Saturday March 8, 1766.

*Extract of a Letter from Major General Irwin to Mr. Secretary Conway, dated Gibraltar, February 3, 1766.*

**O**N Thursday Morning the 30th of last Month, about Four o'Clock, it began to thunder, lighten, and rain most violently, and continued without Intermission the whole Day. Sometimes most heavy Showers of Hail succeeded the Rain, the Stones of which were of that immense Size, as to break many of the Windows in the Town. As it grew later in the Day, the Storm increased in every Respect; so that, between eight and nine at Night, the whole Hill and Town seemed to be on Fire, and Spouts of Water poured down from the Clouds. At once there came such a Torrent from the Top of the Rock, with such Heaps of Rubbish and Sand, as carried along with it several Houses on the Side of the Hill; and in a few Minutes the Ground-Floors of all the Houses in the Town were full of Water, the Hail and Rubbish having stopped up the Drains. The Suddenness and Violence of this Accident occasioned the Loss of several Lives. By the Zeal, Activity, and Cheerfulness, of the Officers and Soldiers, I soon got the Drains opened, and prevented further Mischief. I must not, on this Occasion, omit telling you how much I am obliged to the Officers, for the Care and Vigilance they shewed; as also to the private Men, for their Activity and Obedience in such a Time of universal Confusion and Distress. The Storm began to abate about Twelve at Night, but did not go off quite 'till about Eight o'Clock on Friday Morning. Almost every Body in the Town has suffered; the Merchants very considerably; some are totally ruined, the Goods in their Storehouses having been entirely washed away. I thank God the Magazines escaped untouched.

I cannot now send you the Particulars of our Misfortunes, but shall by the first Opportunity. In the mean Time I have given, and shall continue to give, such Orders as I think best for the Service. I do not as yet know the Number of killed; but judge, by the best Accounts, they may be about sixty, five of which are Soldiers. It is scarce possible to describe the melancholy Scene of Parts of Houses, Furniture, Men, Women, Children, and Animals of all Sorts, floating in the Water, or stuck in the Rubbish; and do suppose, that since the Misfortune at Lisbon, so dreadful an Accident hath not happened to any Town; nor could any Thing more resemble that than this, many of the Streets being entirely choked up with the Rubbish, and the Inhabitants obliged to come out at their upper Windows, and some to break their Way through the Tops of their Houses. I fear many of the Houses will come down, some of which are Officers

Quarters. I have had Communications made through all the Streets, and mean to go on clearing away as fast as possible.

*Copenhagen, February 22.* His Serene Highness Prince Charles of Hesse-Cassel is advanced to the Rank of Lieutenant-General of Infantry, and has the Post of Grand Master of the Artillery.

The Castrum Doloris being now finished, the Royal Remains are to be placed under it on Monday next. Every Thing is getting ready, with the utmost Expedition, for the Funeral, which is to be performed, if possible, about the Middle of next Month.

The Disposition of the several Courts is said to be settled in the following Manner: The King, together with the Three Princesses, is to reside at Fridericksberg; the Queen Dowager, with her Son Prince Frederick, at Friedenbourg; and the Queen-Mother, as usual, at Hirschholm.

*Berlin, February 25.* His Prussian Majesty continues at Potzdam. On Saturday last the Prince Royal of Prussia, the Princess his Consort, his Brother Prince Henry, and the two Princes of Brunswick, arrived here from Potzdam.

Last Sunday being the Birth-day of her Royal Highness the Princess, Consort to Prince Henry the King of Prussia's Brother, her Royal Highness received the Compliments of all the Royal Family, Foreign Ministers, and Nobility. In the Evening her Majesty the Queen of Prussia gave, in her Apartments in the Palace, a very elegant Supper; after which there was a Ball in Mask, which lasted till the next Morning.

Yesterday Morning their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess Royal of Prussia, young Prince Henry, and the two Princes of Brunswick, returned to Potzdam.

*Hague, March 4.* The Deputations of the several Provinces are arrived here to administer the Oath to the Prince of Orange, upon his entering upon the Exercise of his eminent Functions. The different Ceremonies his Highness will be obliged to go through, on the 8th of this Month, will take up his Time from Seven in the Morning till Five o'Clock in the Afternoon.

St. James's, February 3, 1766.

*Whereas I have received Information from his Excellency the Earl of Hertford, His Majesty's Lieutenant General and General Governor of the Kingdom of Ireland, That Part of the Cargo and Treasure of the Ship Earl of Sandwich, whereof John Cochran was late Commander, (who in his Voyage in her, from Tenoriff to London, was, together with Captain Glass, his Wife and Daughter, Passengers, and some others belonging to the said Ship, barbarously murdered by Part of the Crew thereof) having been found on the Coast of Ireland, is now properly secured in that Kingdom by his Excellency's Order; I give this Publick Notice thereof,*