



# The London Gazette.

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Whitehall, November 6, 1781.

**L**IEUTENANT-COLONEL Conway, who sailed from New York, the 1st of last Month, in the Duke of Cumberland Packet, arrived at this Office on the Evening of the 3d Instant, with Dispatches from Sir Henry Clinton to the Right Honourable Lord George Germain, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, of which the following are Extracts.

*Extract of a Letter from Sir Henry Clinton to Lord George Germain, dated New York, September 7 1781.*

**I**N my Dispatch of the 20th of August, I had the Honor to inform your Lordship, that General Washington had suddenly quitted his Camp at White Plains; I have now That of communicating to you his subsequent Movements.

He passed the Croton on the 19th ultimo, taking a Station within a few Miles of it. On the 23d and 24th he crossed the North River, and, by the Position he took, seemed to threaten Staten Island until the 29th, when he suddenly moved towards the Delaware. At first I judged this to be a Feint; but finding that he passed that River with some of his Avant Guard, and publicly talked of the Count de Grasse's being every Moment expected in the Chesapeak to co-operate with him, I immediately endeavoured, both by Land and Water, to communicate my Suspicions to Lord Cornwallis; at the same Time assuring his Lordship, that I would either reinforce him by every possible Means in my Power, or make the best Diversion I could in his Favor.

As Rear-Admiral Graves sailed from hence with his own and Sir Samuel Hood's Squadron the 31st ultimo, in consequence of the Intelligence received respecting the Rhode Island Fleet, as mentioned to your Lordship in my last Dispatch; and as Lord Cornwallis, in his Letters of the 31st ultimo and 2d instant, which I received on the 4th and Yesterday, informs me, that the Count de Grasse was in the Chesapeak with a considerable Armament, I am in hourly Expectation of hearing that Rear-Admiral Graves has either intercepted Barras, or attacked the Fleet in the Bay, or perhaps both. In the mean Time I have embarked 4000 Troops, with which I shall instantly proceed myself to relieve Lord Cornwallis as soon as I know the Passage to him is open.

*Extract of a Letter from Sir Henry Clinton to Lord George Germain, dated New York, September 12, 1781.*

**I**HAVE the Honor to inform your Lordship, that the Expedition I had sent against New London is returned, after having destroyed all the Shipping there (except about Sixteen, which made their Escape up the River) and an immense Quantity of Naval Stores, European Manufactures, and East and West India Commodities. It gives me Concern, however, that in doing this important Service the Town was unavoidably burnt, occasioned by the Explosions of great Quantities of Gunpowder, which happened to be in the Storehouses that were set Fire to. Brigadier-General Arnold's Report, with a Return of the Killed and Wounded,

are inclosed for your Lordship's Information. And I have the Pleasure to acquaint your Lordship, that the Brigadier speaks to me with the highest Praise of the good Conduct, Discipline and Gallantry of all the Officers and Men who accompanied him on this Service. But as no Words, in my Opinion, can do them full Justice; I shall only observe, that the Assault of Fort Griswold (which is represented to be a Work of very great Strength) and the carrying it by Coup de Main, notwithstanding the very obstinate Resistance of the Garrison; will undoubtedly impress the Enemy with every Apprehension from the Ardor of British Troops, and will be hereafter remembered with the greatest Honor to the 40th and 54th Regiments, and their Leaders; to whose Share that Attack fell; though we at present cannot too much lament the heavy Loss they sustained in the many brave Officers and Men who fell in the Attempt: And I cannot doubt your Lordship will be happy to lay the Merit of their Exertions before the King, for His most gracious Approbation.

*Copy of a Letter from Brigadier-General Arnold to Sir Henry Clinton, dated Sound, off Plum Island, September 8, 1781.*

S I R,

**I**HAVE the Honor to inform your Excellency, that the Transports, with the Detachment of Troops under my Orders, anchored on the Long Island Shore on the 5th Instant, at Two o'Clock P. M. about Ten Leagues from New London; and, having made some necessary Arrangements; weighed Anchor at Seven o'Clock P. M. and stood for New London with a fair Wind. At One o'Clock the next Morning we arrived off the Harbour, when the Wind suddenly shifted to the Northward, and it was Nine o'Clock before the Transports could beat in. At Ten o'Clock the Troops in Two Divisions, and in Four Debarkations, were landed, one on each Side the Harbour, about Three Miles from New London; that on the Groton Side, consisting of the 40th and 54th Regiments, and the 3d Battalion of New Jersey Volunteers, with a Detachment of Yagers and Artillery, were under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre. The Division on the New London Side consisted of the 38th Regiment, the Loyal Americans, the American Legion, Refugees, and a Detachment of 60 Yagers; who were immediately on their Landing put in Motion; and at Eleven o'Clock, being within half a Mile of Fort Trumbull, which commands New London Harbour, I detached Captain Millett, with Four Companies of the 38th Regiment, to attack the Fort, who was joined on his March by Captain Frink, with One Company of the American Legion: About this Time I advanced, with the Remainder of the Division, West of Fort Trumbull, on the Road to the Town, to attack a Redoubt, which had kept up a brisk Fire upon us for some Time, but which the Enemy evacuated upon our Approach. In this Work we found Six Pieces of Cannon mounted, and Two dismounted: Soon after I had the Pleasure to see Captain Millett march into Fort Trumbull, under a Shower of Grape Shot from a Number of Cannon which the Enemy had turned upon him; and I have the Pleasure to inform your Excellency, that by the sudden Attack, and determined Bravery of the Troops, the Fort was carried with the Loss of only Four or Five Men killed and wounded.