

# The London Gazette.

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From Tuesday October 22, to Saturday October 26, 1782.

St. James's, October 26.

**Y**ESTERDAY being the Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne, when His Majesty entered into the Twenty-third Year of His Reign, there was a very numerous and splendid Appearance of the Nobility, Foreign Ministers, and other Persons of Distinction, to compliment His Majesty upon the Occasion. At One o'Clock the Guns in the Park and at the Tower were fired; and in the Evening there were Illuminations, and other public Demonstrations of Joy, in London and Westminster.

Whitehall, October 26.

*Extracts of Letters from the Right Honourable General Eliott, Governor of Gibraltar, dated Gibraltar, September 11 and 12, 1782. and received at the Office of the Right Honourable Thomas Townshend, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, October 24.*

September 11.

**A**N Attempt to try the Effect of a heavy Fire from our Batteries with Carcasses, hot Shot, and Shells, upon the Enemy's first established Advanced-Works and Batteries, seemed so very practicable, that the Commanding Officer of Artillery was immediately directed to take the Lieutenant-General's Orders for that Purpose. In consequence the Arrangement was very judiciously made, and completely executed by the Artillery Officers. The Firing having commenced on the 8th Instant, at Seven o'Clock in the Morning, by Ten o'Clock their Mahon Battery, consisting of Six Pieces of Ordnance, and One adjoining of Two Guns, were set on Fire, and by Five o'Clock P. M. were entirely consumed, with Gun-Carriages, Platforms, and Magazines, Bomb Proof. Part of the Communication to the Eastern Parallel, and the Trenches and Parapet for Mufquetry in Front of the Battery, were also destroyed. The Thirteen Gun Battery, next the Bay, was so much damaged, being on Fire in several Places, that the Enemy were put to the Necessity of taking down One-Half of it, which they have now begun to re-establish. The Success not only much exceeded my Expectations, but had the happiest Effects in other Respects, as it provoked the Enemy to open their new Mortar Batteries, and recommence a Fire from their Forts and Lines, for which they seemed by no Means prepared. The Enemy's Loss in our Sight was very considerable, as their Endeavours to stop the Progress of the Flames laid them open to a very severe and well-directed Fire. Notwithstanding the great Number of the Enemy's Shot and Shells, we suffered no material Loss.

The next Morning by Day-break the Enemy opened their new Sixty-four Gun Battery upon us, with all their Mortars, and continued to fire without Intermission from thence, as well as from their Lines, (their whole Artillery amounting to about 100 Pieces of Cannon, and 60 Mortars) seemingly by Way of Retaliation, it being the general Opinion

their Preparations were not sufficiently compleat to begin this powerful Attack, which, however formidable in Appearance, I will venture to assure, that the Impression upon our Works as yet is scarcely perceptible.

On the same Day the Enemy's Squadron, consisting of Seven Sail of the Line Spanish, and Two French, with a large Frigate and a Xebecque, taking the Advantage of a Levant Wind, got under Sail from the Orange Grove, and one of them passing very slowly within Random Shot fired many Guns upon the South Ballion and Ragged Staff, continuing his Cannonade until he got beyond Europa. The Squadron then went to the Eastward of the Rock, and formed in a Line, (the Admiral leading) came before the Batteries of Europa, and under a very slow Sail commenced a Fire from all their Guns, until the last Ship had passed. They repeated this Manœuvre at Two o'Clock the following Morning, and again in the Forenoon of the same Day. These successive Cannonades did not any Ways damage the Works. Some of the leading Ships came pretty near the Point the first Attack, but having been frequently struck by our Shot they afterwards kept at a greater Distance. Two of the Spanish Ships went early in that Morning to Algaziras, to repair, as we imagine. All the Batteries at Europa were manned by the Marine Brigade, (incamped there) with a small Proportion of Artillerists. The Guns were extremely well laid and pointed; the Whole under the immediate Command of Brigadier Curtis.

About Five in the Afternoon of the same Day Sixteen of the Enemy's Gun Boats came over from Algaziras, formed in a Line, and fired upon the Garrison. Our Batteries obliged them to retire in less than Half an Hour, not without some of them having suffered, as there is Reason to suppose.

September 12.

The Enemy continues his heavy Fire from the Isthmus; last Night the Gun and Mortar Boats repeated their Attack. Nobody hurt by their Fire.

The Wind having come to the Westward, there is all Probability the Enemy will determine upon his final Attack by Sea in a very short Time.

The Enemy has made no further Approach in his Land Attack since Yesterday.

Whitehall, October 26.

**T**HE following Letter has been written, pursuant to His Majesty's express Command, by the Right Honourable Thomas Townshend, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department:

Whitehall, October 22, 1782.

To the Chairman of the Sessions of the Peace for the County of Middlesex.

S I R,

**H**IS Majesty being very much concerned at the frequent Robberies and Disorders of late committed in the Streets of London and Westminster, and