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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1793.

Whitehall, October 23.

THE Dispatches, of which the following are Extract and Copies, were received, on Sunday last, at the Office of the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Toulon, September 26, 1793.

ON the Morning of the 18th of this Month the Enemy opened Two masked Batteries, One of Three, the other of Two Guns, at the Head of the Inner Harbour, at la Petite Garenne. An incessant Fire was kept up during the Whole of the Day between the Batteries of the Enemy and a Gun-Boat and French Frigate manned by English Seamen, which had been placed near the Poudrière for the Defence of the Head of the Harbour, and to cover the Fort of Malbousquet towards the Water; that Fort fired occasionally at the Enemy's Batteries with some Effect, although they were covered on that Side by a Grove of Pine Trees. On the 19th the Enemy opened a fresh Battery, to the Left of the others, at Les Gaux, and His Majesty's Ship St. George, with a second Gun-Boat, being brought into the Petite Rade, a Cannonade continued during the whole Day, and towards Evening the Batteries of the Enemy were silenced; but One of the Gun-Boats had suffered so much that she was towed off, and she sunk the next Morning, the Officers and Men having been taken out of her.

It became necessary to collect a Force to occupy La Grasse; I took, therefore, Fifty Men from Fort

De la Malue, the strongest and least exposed of our Posts, and, by leaving but One Relief for the Duties of Toulon, we were enabled to collect 350 Spaniards and 150 British, exclusive of Officers and Non-commissioned Officers, the Spanish under the Command of Colonel Don Rafael Echavuru, and the British Troops under the Command of Captain Brereton of the 30th Regiment. The Detachment embarked from Toulon on the 20th, at Twelve o'Clock at Night, Admiral Gravina and myself, with all the Spanish Colonels of the Garrison, and some French Engineers, attending, to place the Troops in the Post they were to occupy. We proceeded across the Harbour, and landed, at about Two o'Clock in the Morning of the 21st, at Fort Balaguier, and marched immediately forward to reconnoitre the Heights De La Grasse, which consist of a Ridge, divided at the Top by Three distinct Knolls, covered with Wood, with small Dips or Vallies between each, the Whole rising very considerably inland, the Ridge terminating with a rapid Descent at the Western Extremity, which commands a complete View of the whole Extent of the Enemy's Position to the Westward of Toulon.

It was determined to take Possession of the lowest and Easternmost Knoll, which is about Five Hundred Yards from the Landing-Place. Having distributed the Troops into the best Position the Post would admit of, Admiral Gravina returned with me before Noon to Toulon, to order the necessary Supplies for the Troops, and some Guns for the Defence of the Post. Colonel Don Rafael Chavuru remaining with

the Command of the Post, and Captain Brereton with the Command of the British Troops, under him. At about Five o'Clock in the Afternoon the Enemy advanced along the Upper Knolls of the Hauteur de Grasse, to the Number, as we have since learnt, of about Seven Hundred Men; and, having driven in the Piquets, began an Attack under Cover of the Woods, forming themselves upon a steep Ascent, in Front of the Post, in Three Lines, so as to have the Advantage of a triple Fire; from which our Troops were, in some Degree, protected by Trunks of Trees, which had been felled, and placed to serve as a Breast-Work. The Firing continued for an Hour, when the Enemy were repulsed, with the Loss, on the Part of the British, of One Rank and File killed, One Captain and Three Rank and File wounded, (I am happy to say none of them dangerously) and of the Spaniards One Rank and File killed, and Seven wounded. The Enemy, by Accounts we have since received from Deserters, lost Twelve killed, and One Colonel and Twenty-three wounded. This Attempt of the Enemy served to convince the Spanish and French Officers of the Necessity of occupying the Advanced Position at the Western Extremity of La Hauteur de Grasse; a Spanish Colonel was sent, at Day-Break, to take Possession of it.

I went with Lord Hood and Admiral Gravina to trace out the Line of Entrenchments, and to place a Battery of Three Twenty-four Pounders on a Spot which commands every Point within their Range. This Post compleatly covers the Outward Roadsted; the Two Knolls in the Rear of it being occupied by small Detachments, to communicate with the Landing-Place at Fort Balaguier. A Reinforcement of One Hundred Spaniards from the Ships, and of Eighty British Marines, (who had been posted at Les Sablettes to cover the Naval Hospital, which is protected now by the Occupation of the Hauteur de Grasse) render that Post sufficiently strong to resist any future Attempts the Enemy can make on that Side. It is owing to the active Zeal and great Exertions of Captain Tyler and Lieutenants Sereold and Bribane, of the Navy, with the Seamen under their Command, that heavy Cannon have been dragged, with infinite Labour and extraordinary Expedition, up a very steep Ascent, and that this most important Post has been put, in a short Time, into a State of Defence.

For the more regular and convenient Conduct of the Service, I found it necessary to divide the small Detachments of different British Corps under my Command into Two Battalions. I have put the First Battalion under the Orders of Captain Moncrief, of the 11th Regiment, the Second under Captain Brereton, of the 30th Regiment, the Two eldest Captains on this

Service. I cannot do sufficient Justice to the Zeal, Intelligence and Activity of those Officers, from whose Exertions I have found the greatest Assistance; in the constant Attention which I am obliged to give to Posts, occupied by very inadequate Numbers; and at Distances which render my daily Attendance at each of them utterly impossible. Any Mark of His Majesty's Favor shewa to those Two old and deserving Officers, I can venture to assure you, will not be bestowed on Persons deficient, either in Zeal or Ability: Indeed I should not render the Justice which I owe to the small Body of British Troops under my Command, if I did not represent the Cheerfulness and Alacrity, with which they suffer incessant Fatigue in Posts in which they must be considered as being constantly on Duty, and every Hour liable to Attack; I can, however, venture to repeat my former Assurance, that (unless Sickness should be the Consequence of this Fatigue) our present State of Defence is such as may give reasonable Grounds to be confident of the Security of the Place.

The constant Fire kept up by the Enemy for the last Four Days, has wounded One Lieutenant of the Navy, One Seaman, and Four Rank and File. I have to regret that Lieutenant Newnham, of the Navy, who commanded in Fort Pomet, and whose Vigilance, Activity and Resources, supplied almost every local Defect of his Posts, is necessarily removed for a Time from the Command, on Account of the Wound which he Yesterday received in the Thigh. Lieutenant Tupper, of His Majesty's Ship Windsor Castle, is sent to take the Command.

Return of British killed and wounded, on September 21, 1793.

30th Regiment. 1 Rank and File killed; 1 Rank and File wounded.

25th Regiment. 1 Captain wounded.

69th Regiment. 2 Rank and File wounded.

IN FORT POMET.

Royal Navy. 1 Lieutenant, 1 Seaman, wounded.

69th Regiment. 2 Rank and File wounded.

Marines. 2 Rank and File wounded.

Total. 1 Rank and File killed; 2 Officers, 1 Seaman, 7 Rank and File, wounded.

Captain Smith of the 25th Regiment, and Lieutenant Newnham of the Royal Navy, wounded.

MULGRAVE,
Acting Brigadier-General.

Toulon, September 27, 1793.

S I R,

SINCE I closed my Dispatch to you this Day, the First Division of Neapolitan Troops came into the Harbour, consisting of 2000 Men, all in perfect Health, convoyed by Two Ships of Seventy-four.

ty-four Guns each, Two Frigates and Two Sloops: They have been Eleven Days on their Passage. 2000 more Troops were to sail in Three Days after that of their Departure, and a Third Division also of 2000 Men were to sail in Twenty Days from the Day on which the First Division failed. After the confident Manner in which I have ventured to assure you that no Impression was likely to be made on our Posts, inadequately garrisoned as they were by our original small Body, I need hardly express the comfortable Security I feel with our last Reinforcements.

I have the Honor to be,

With great Respect,

S I R,

Your most obedient,

and most humble Servant,

M U L G R A V E.

Toulon, September 30, 1793.

S I R,

THE Squadron under Admiral Gell having been delayed by contrary Winds, I have the Opportunity of informing you, in Addition to my last Dispatches, that, on the 28th Instant, the First Division of the Neapolitan Troops disembarked under the Command of Brigadier-General Pignatelli. The

Troops are in perfect Health, and are a very fine Body of Men, and well appointed.

The Detachment of the King of Sardinia's Troops, consists entirely of Grenadiers and Chasseurs, and are of the best of His Sardinian Majesty's Troops. I have great Confidence in the Zeal and Willingness expressed, both by the Officers and Soldiers of this Corps.

It is with extreme Concern that I have to inform you of the Loss which the Service has sustained, by the Death of Lieutenant Newnham of the Navy; to whose private and professional Merits the sincere and marked Regret of the Spanish as well as English Officers, who were Witnesses of his able and active Conduct, bears the most honorable Testimony. His Wound, which was not at first judged to be dangerous, took an unfavourable Turn, which proved fatal in a very short Period.

I have the Honor to be, with great Respect,

S I R,

Your most obedient,

and most humble Servant,

M U L G R A V E,

Acting Brigadier-General.

Right Hon. Henry Dundas,

Es. Es. Es.

Whitehall, October 22.

LAST Night the Right Honorable Lord George Conway arrived at the Office of the Right Honorable Lord Grenville, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with a Dispatch from the Earl of Yarmouth, of which the following is an Extract:

Weiffembourg, October 14, 1793.

Austrian Head Quarters.

Yesterday Morning, at Three o'Clock, General Wurmer made his projected Attack upon the Lines of the Lautre, on various Points at the same Time. I have the Satisfaction to say that he is in Possession of every Part of them. Lautrebourg surrendered, without any Conditions, between Three and Four in the Evening, after being evacuated by the Enemy, who, from the prodigious Number of Redoubts of which they were in Possession, and the natural Strength of the Position, might have held out a Siege of several Days.

This Town resisted some Time longer. It is surrounded by a large Ditch, and was defended by Redoubts, from which the French cannonaded the Austrians for several Hours. It is also connected with the Geilsberg, a Mountain which so entirely commands the Place, that if the French had determined

on deriving every Advantage from their Situation, the Austrians could not have entered into Possession of it, without further Successes in the Mountains. A Part of the Town was burnt in the Course of the Struggle; and the French, before they retreated, set Fire to their Magazines, both here and at Alstadt. In other Parts of this very complicated Operation, in which Six different Columns had distinct Plans to execute, great Success attended the Austrians. They successively carried by Assault all the different Redoubts which had been constructed in the Front of the French Camps, of which the principal one fell into their Hands, with all their Tents standing, several Caissons, Nine Standards, and Twenty-six Cannons of very great Calibre. As these different Actions are but just over, and the Austrian Corps are very remote from each other, it is impossible for me to transmit to your Lordship any Account of the killed, wounded or taken on either Side. The Army has been Fourteen Hours under Arms, almost continually engaged in a very active Pursuit, and often exposed to a most tremendous Fire.

We have as yet no distinct Account of the Operations of the Duke of Brunswick's Army Yesterday in the Mountain, but a very great Cannonade was heard on that Side during the whole Day.

Right Hon. Lord Grenville.

Whitehall, October 22.

A Letter from Sir James Murray, Adjutant-General to the Forces under the Command of His Royal Highness the Duke of York, was received this Evening by the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, of which the following is a Copy.

Engel Fontaine, October 18, 1793.

S I R,

I Had the Honour of informing you, in my last Dispatch, that His Royal Highness, at the earnest Request of the Prince of Cobourg, had marched, with a Part of the Troops under his Command, for this Place. They arrived here upon the 16th. The Prince, being acquainted with His Royal Highness's Intention, had been enabled to draw from thence Four Battalions, to strengthen his other Posts; a Fifth Battalion followed those upon His Royal Highness's Arrival.

The Enemy, having collected in extraordinary Numbers, attacked the Corps under the Command of General Clairfayt, which was posted with its Right near Birlmont, and its Left near the Village of Wattigwies, upon the 15th and 16th. Upon the former Day the Left Wing of the Enemy was entirely defeated: Having advanced into the Plain which lay upon that Side between the Two Armies, they were charged by the Imperial Cavalry, and driven back, with great Slaughter and the Loss of Twelve Pieces of Cannon. The Attack which they made upon the Left of the Austrians was more obstinately supported; they were, however, finally repulsed.

Upon the 16th the Enemy having drawn the greatest Part of their Force to the Right, again attacked the Left of General Clairfayt's Corps, and the Village of Wattigwies.

They could upon this Side approach within Cannon Shot of the Austrians, under Cover of an immense Wood called the *Haye d'Avignes*; which,

when they were repulsed, secured their Retreat. They brought a great Quantity of heavy Artillery to the Edge of this Wood, under the Protection of which they attacked the Village. The utmost Firmness and Bravery were displayed by the Austrian Troops upon this Occasion. The Enemy were several Times repulsed with great Loss; they were repeatedly driven from the Village after they had carried it; but being enabled, by great Superiority of Numbers, to bring continually fresh Troops to the Point of Attack, they at last succeeded in maintaining the Possession of that Post.

The Communication between General Clairfayt's Corps and that of General La Tour, which observed the entrenched Camp near Maubeuge, being by this Means cut off, it was judged necessary by the Prince of Cobourg to abandon the Position which had been taken for the Purpose of investing Maubeuge; the Army repassed the Sambre in the Night without the smallest Loss. Lieutenant-General Benzowsky, who commanded a detached Corps upon the Left of the Army, defeated a Corps which was opposed to him, killed a great Number of the Enemy, took Four Hundred Prisoners and Eleven Pieces of Cannon. Count Haddick, who was detached by General La Tour, likewise gained a considerable Advantage, penetrated to *Sorbe Chateau*, and took Three Pieces of Cannon.

In the Two Engagements, the Austrians took Twenty-four Pieces of Cannon and Two Howitzers, without the Loss of One upon their Part. They have had about Two Thousand Men killed and wounded. There can be no Doubt that the Loss of the Enemy has been much more considerable. The Austrians now occupy the Left Bank of the Sambre. No certain Accounts have been yet received of the further Motions of the Enemy.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.