



# The London Gazette

## EXTRAORDINARY.

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1793.

*Whitehall, December 25.*

THE Dispatches, of which the following are Copies and an Extract, were Yesterday received from Major-General David Dundas, Vice-Admiral Lord Hood, and Sir-Gilbert Elliot, Baronet, by the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, dated Toulon, November 30, and December 1, 1793.

*Toulon, November 30, 1793.*

S I R,

I Have the Honor to acquaint you, that the Enemy, having opened a considerable Battery on the Height of Arenes, which much annoyed One of our principal Out-Posts, (Malbousquet) it became necessary to attack it. Dispositions for that Purpose were made, and this Morning, at Five o'Clock, a Corps of Four

Hundred British, Three Hundred Sardinians, Six Hundred Neapolitans, Six Hundred Spaniards, and Four Hundred French, under my Command, marched from the Town. Notwithstanding the Whole was obliged to cross the New River on One Bridge only, to divide into Four Columns, to march across Olive Grounds, intersected by Stone Walls, and to ascend a very considerable Height, cut into Vine Terrasses, yet we succeeded in surprizing and forcing the Enemy, and were soon in full Possession of the Battery and Height: But, I am sorry to say, that, instead of forming upon and occupying the long and narrow Summit of the Hill, agreeable to Orders and military Prudence, the Impetuosity of the Troops led them to follow the Enemy, to descend the Height, to ascend other distant Heights, and, at last, in Disorder, to encounter such superior advancing Numbers,

[ Price Four-Pence. ]

Numbers, as obliged them precipitately to retire, and to relinquish the Advantages we at first gained.

It is with much Concern, I must add, that Lieutenant-General O'Hara, who had arrived at the Battery on our first Success, was involved in the Consequence of this sudden Reverse, was wounded in the Arm, and made Prisoner.

We have to regret that so many gallant Officers and Men have suffered on this Occasion. The Loss of the British I have the Honor to inclose; that of the other Nations is not in Proportion great.

From General O'Hara's Absence the Command devolves on me. I shall endeavour to discharge it to the best of my Ability and Health, till His Majesty's further Pleasure is signified.

With great Respect,

I have the Honor to be, &c.

(Signed) D. DUNDAS,  
Major-General.

Right Hon. Henry Dundas,  
&c. &c. &c.

*Return of the Killed, Wounded and Missing of the British Troops on the 30th of November, 1793. at Toulon.*

- Royal Artillery. 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Drummer, 5 Rank and File, wounded.
- 2d Battalion Royals. 1 Lieutenant, 1 Serjeant, 9 Rank and File, killed; 2 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 2 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 32 Rank and File, wounded; 2 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 57 Rank and File, missing.
- 11th Regiment. 4 Rank and File wounded.
- Royal Irish. 7 Rank and File killed; 24 Rank and File wounded; 4 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 29 Rank and File, missing.
- 25th Regiment. 1 Rank and File killed; 1 Captain wounded.
- 30th Regiment. 3 Rank and File wounded.
- 69th Regiment. 1 Rank and File killed; 5 Rank and File wounded; 1 Major, 1 Serjeant, missing.

Marines. 5 Rank and File wounded; 2 Rank and File missing.

Total. 1 Lieutenant, 1 Serjeant, 18 Rank and File, killed; 4 Captains, 4 Lieutenants, 2 Serjeants, 2 Drummers, 78 Rank and File, wounded; 1 Major, 7 Serjeants, 2 Drummers, 88 Rank and File, missing.

*Officers killed, wounded, and taken Prisoners.*

Lieutenant-General O'Hara wounded and taken Prisoner.

Captain Snow, Deputy Quarter-Master-General, killed.

Captain Smith, 25th Regiment, Major of Brigade, wounded.

Royals. Captain Reeves wounded and taken Prisoner.

Ditto. Captain Finney wounded and taken Prisoner.

Ditto. Lieutenant-Colonel M'Donald wounded.

Ditto. Lieutenant Mackenzie wounded.

Ditto. Lieutenant Bird wounded and missing.

Ditto. Lieutenant M'Kellar killed.

69th Regiment. Major Campbell taken Prisoner.

Royal Artillery. Captain Stephens wounded.

Ditto. Lieutenant Bradie wounded.

*George Smith, Major of Brigade.*

*Victory, Toulon Road,*

*November 30, 1793.*

S I R,  
T H E Enemy having erected and opened a Battery against the Post of Malbousquet, and from which Shells would reach the Town and Arsenal, Governor O'Hara signified to me Yesterday his Intention to attempt to destroy it, and bring off the Guns; and requested some Seamen to be sent to a Post he proposed to withdraw the British Soldiers from. The Governor promised not to go out himself, but unfortunately did not keep his Word. A most clear, distinct and regular Plan was settled, and the Commanding Officer of the Troops of each Nation had a Copy of it. The Troops moved at Four o'Clock this Morning, and surprized the Redoubt most completely: Never was a Service performed with more Regularity and Exactness; but the

the Ardour and Impetuosity of the Troops (instead of forming on the Height where the Battery was raised, as they were particularly ordered to do) led them to rout after the Enemy, near a Mile on the other Side, in a very scattered and irregular Manner. The Consequence of which was, the Enemy collected in very great Force; and, in the Retreat of our Troops, they suffered extremely. I herewith transmit an Account of the Loss of the British in killed, wounded and missing: But Major-General Dundas will give you more Particulars. The Governor most unfortunately was wounded and taken Prisoner. A Surgeon was sent to him immediately, (by Permission of General Du Gommier, Commander in Chief of the Eastern Army at the Siege of Toulon) who reports that the Governor's Wound is a Flesh-one only in the Arm; but being faint by the Loss of Blood, he was obliged to sit down under a Wall, and there made Prisoner of.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

H O O D.

*Right Hon. Henry Dundas,  
&c. &c. &c.*

*Extract of a Letter from Sir Gilbert Elliot, Bart. to the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department.*

*Toulon, December 1, 1793.*

**K**Nowing that General Dundas has sent you an official Account of the unfortunate Action of Yesterday, and that Lord Hood has also written on the same Subject, you will not expect a Relation of it from me. I cannot, however,

lose the Opportunity which the Messenger affords, of saying, that, by the unanimous Testimony of those who either witnessed the Action, or were acquainted with the Plan, there never was an Occasion on which the Dispositions were made with greater Ability and Judgment, or executed, as long as the Orders were complied with, in a more gallant or spirited Manner by the Troops. It is a real Consolation to know that the Courage of the British was conspicuous from the Beginning of the Action to the End, and that an Excess in that good Quality was the true and only Cause of the Miscarriage. It is much to be regretted that General O'Hara was, on every Occasion, so prodigal of his Person; but the Misfortune which has befallen him, and the severe Loss which the Service sustains by his Capture, cannot be ascribed even to this honorable Fault; for he did not himself ascend the Battery till it was possessed by our Troops, and there was Reason to suppose the Object of the Day had been obtained. The Reverse was so sudden, and his Presence must have appeared so material towards restoring Order, and retrieving the Error which had been committed by the Troops, that it is not to be wondered at if, with his Spirit, he became exposed to personal Hazard. His Wound, though not dangerous or serious, had bled much, and, added to the Exertion he had before made, weakened him so much that he could not retire many Paces with the Troops, but insisted on being left by Two Soldiers who were conducting him, and whom he ordered to proceed and save themselves.

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