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EXTRAORDINARY.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 1794.

Whitehall, January 15, 1794.

CAPTAIN Hill, Aide de Camp to Major-General Dundas, arrived, on the 13th Instant, at the Office of the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, with Dispatches from Vice-Admiral Lord Hood and the Major-General, of which the following are Copies and Extracts.

Victory, Toulon Road, December 13, 1793.

S I R,

Nothing very material has happened here since the 30th of last Month, when I had the Honour of writing to you, except that the Enemy has made Approaches nearer to us by some new-erected Batteries; one against Malbousquet, another against Le Brun, and a third against the Hauteur de Graffe. The Shells from Two of them did us some Mischief on the 9th and 10th, since which they have been perfectly silent.

The Enemy is reported to be 50,000, but I cannot credit their being much beyond Half that Number. By various Deserters that have come in, which in this Respect perfectly agree, we are soon to be attacked on all Sides at once. From the numerous and important Posts we have to occupy the Troops are at very hard Duty, and without Relief some Way or other, we shall soon have more Men in the Hospital than are fit for Service.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

H O O D.

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

Toulon, December 12, 1793.

S I R,

SINCE the Affair of the 30th Ult. no considerable Event has taken Place. By the repeated Accounts of Deserters the Enemy are very much increased in

Numbers: None state them lower than 30 or 40,000 Men.

They have fired of late little from the Battery we were in Possession of. Four of it's Guns were certainly disabled. They have increased the Number of their Mortars, which have much annoyed our Two Posts of Cape Brun and Fort Mulgrave, on the Heights of Balaguier. We have lost some Men at each, from the Effect of Shells, which, in such temporary exposed Situations, cannot be sufficiently guarded from. Against each of these Posts they have opened a new Battery of Cannon and Mortars, but at the other Points they have worked little. We continue strengthening our Position, though we cannot expect to give it any much more substantial Form.

We have in all near 11,000 Men bearing Musquets, and 4000 Sick. Deserters all report the Intention of a speedy general Attack.

This will be delivered by Captain Hill, a very deserving young Man, who has been Aide de Camp to Lord Mulgrave, Lieutenant General O'Hara, and myself. The Opportunity of his Departure is sudden, and therefore I am to beg you will excuse the Shortness of this Letter.

I am, &c.

DAVID DUNDAS.

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

Whitehall, January 15, 1794.

THIS Morning Sir Sydney Smith and Major Moncrief arrived at the Office of the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, with Dis-

patches from Vice-Admiral Lord Hood and Major-General David Dundas, of which the following are Copies and Extracts.

Victory, Hères Bay, December 20, 1793.

IT is my Duty to acquaint you, that I have been obliged to evacuate Toulon, and to retire from the Harbour to this Anchorage.

It became unavoidably necessary that the Retreat should not be deferred, as the Enemy commanded the Town and Ships by their Shot and Shells; I therefore, agreeable to the Governor's Plan, directed the Boats of the Fleet to assemble by Eleven o'Clock, near Fort la Malgue, and am happy to say the Whole of the Troops were brought off to the Number of near 8,000, without the Loss of a Man; and in the Execution of this Service I have infinite Pleasure in acknowledging my very great Obligations to Captain Elphinstone for his unremitting Zeal and Exertion, who saw the last Man off; and it is a very comfortable Satisfaction to me that several Thousands of the meritorious Inhabitants of Toulon were sheltered in His Majesty's Ships.

I propose sending the Vice-Admirals Hotham and Colby, with some other Ships, to Leghorn or Porto Ferrara, to complete their Wine and Provisions, which run very short, having many Mouths to feed, and to remain with the Rest to block up the Ports of Toulon and Marseilles. Circumstances which had taken Place made the Retreat absolutely necessary to be effected as soon as possible, and prevented the Execution of a settled Arrangement for destroying the French Ships and Arsenal. I ordered the Vulcan Fireship to be primed, and Sir Sydney Smith, who joined me from Smyrna about a Fortnight ago, having offered his Services to burn the Ships, I put Captain Hare under his Orders, with the Lieutenants Tupper and Gore, of the Victory, Lieutenant Pater, of the Britannia, and Lieutenant R. W. Miller, of the Windsor Castle. Ten of the Enemy's Ships of the Line in the Arsenal, with the Mast-House, Great Store-House, Hemp-House, and other Buildings, were totally destroyed, and before Day-Light all His Majesty's Ships, with those of Spain and the Two Sicilies, were out of the Reach of the Enemy's Shot and Shells, except the Robust, which was to receive Captain Elphinstone, and he followed very soon after, without a Shot striking her. I have under my Orders Rear-Admiral Trogoft, in the Commerce de Marseilles, Puissant and Pompée, of the Line, the Pearl, Aréthusa and Topaze Frigates, and several large Corvettes, which I have manned, and employed in collecting Wine and Provisions from the different Ports in Spain and Italy, having been constant, in Want of one Species or another, and am now at short Allowance.

Don Langara undertook to destroy the Ships in the Basin, but, I am informed, found it not practicable; and as the Spanish Troops had the guarding the Powder Vessels, which contained the Powder of the Ships I ordered into the Basin and Arsenal on my coming here, as well as that from the distant Magazines, within the Enemy's Reach, I requested the Spanish Admiral would be pleased to give Orders for their being scuttled and sunk; but, instead of doing that, the Officer to whom that Duty was entrusted, blew them up, by which Two fine Gun Boats, which I had ordered to attend Sir Sydney Smith, were shook to Pieces. The Lieutenant commanding One of them was killed, and several Seamen badly wounded. I am sorry to add, that Lieutenant God-

dard, of the Victory, who commanded the Seamen upon the Heights of Grasse, was wounded, but I hope and trust not dangerously.

I beg to refer you for further Particulars to General Dundas respecting the Evacuation of Toulon, and to Sir Sydney Smith as to the burning the Enemy's Ships, &c. on which Service he very much distinguished himself; and he gives great Praise to Captain Hare, of the Fireship, as well as to all the Lieutenants employed under him.

It is with very peculiar Satisfaction I have the Honor to acquaint you, that the utmost Harmony, and most cordial Understanding, has happily subsisted in His Majesty's Army and Fleet, not only between the Officers of all Ranks, but between the Seamen and Soldiers also.

I herewith transmit a Copy of Sir Sydney Smith's Letter to me, with a List of the Officers employed under him, and also a Return of Officers and Seamen killed and wounded at Fort Mulgrave on the 17th.

I have the Honor, &c.

H O O D.

P. S. The List of the Ships at Toulon that were burnt, and those remaining, has been received since writing my Letter.

Right Hon. Henry Dundas.

Toulon, December 18, 1793.

MY LORD,

AGREEABLE to your Lordship's Order, I proceeded with the Swallow Tender, Three English and Three Spanish Gun-Boats, to the Arsenal, and immediately began making the necessary Preparations for burning the French Ships and Stores therein. We found the Dock-Gates well secured by the judicious Arrangements of the Governor, although the Dock-Yard People had already substituted the Three-coloured Cockade for the White one. I did not think it safe to attempt the Securing any of them, considering the small Force I had with me, and considering that Contest of any Kind would occupy our whole Attention, and prevent us from accomplishing our Purpose.

The Galley Slaves, to the Number of at least 600, shewed themselves jealous Spectators of our Operations: Their Disposition to oppose us was evident; and being unchained, which was unusual, rendered it necessary to keep a watchful Eye on them on Board the Galleys, by pointing the Guns of the Swallow Tender and One of the Gun-Boats on them, in such a Manner as to enfilade the Quay on which they must have landed to come to us, assuring them, at the same Time, that no Harm should happen to them if they remained quiet. The Enemy kept up a cross Fire of Shot and Shells on the Spot from Malbousquet, and the neighbouring Hills, which contributed to keep the Galley Slaves in Subjection, and operated, in every Respect, favourably for us, by keeping the Republican Party in the Town within their Houses, while it occasioned little Interruption to our Work of preparing and placing combustible Matter in the different Store-Houses, and on Board the Ships; such was the Steadiness of the few brave Seamen I had under my Command. A great Multitude of the Enemy continued to draw down the Hill towards the Dock-Yard Wall, and as the Night closed in they came near enough to pour in an irreg-

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gular though quick Fire of Musquetry on us from the Boulogne, and of Cannon from the Heights which overlook it. We kept them at bay by Discharges of Grape Shot from Time to Time, which prevented their coming so near as to discover the Insufficiency of our Force to repel a closer Attack. A Gun-Boat was stationed to flank the Wall on the Outside, and Two Field Pieces were placed within against the Wicket usually frequented by the Workmen, of whom we were particularly apprehensive. About Eight o'Clock I had the Satisfaction of seeing Lieutenant Gore towing in the Vulcan Fireship. Captain Hare, the Commander, placed her, agreeably to my Directions, in a most manly Manner, across the Tier of Men of War, and the additional Force of her Guns and Men diminished my Apprehensions of the Galley Slaves rising on us, as their Manner and occasional tumultuous Debates ceased entirely on her Appearance. The only Noise heard among them was the Hammer knocking off their Fetters, which Humanity forbade my opposing, as they might thereby be more at Liberty to save themselves on the Conflagration taking Place around them. In this Situation we continued to wait most anxiously for the Hour concerted with the Governor for the Inflammation of the Trains. The Moment the Signal was made, we had the Satisfaction to see the Flames rise in every Quarter. Lieutenant Tupper was charged with the Burning of the General Magazine, the Pitch, Tar, Tallow and Oil Store-Houses, and succeeded most perfectly; the Hemp Magazine was included in this Blaze: Its being nearly calm was unfortunate to the Spreading of the Flames, but 250 Barrels of Tar divided among the Deals and other Timber, insured the rapid Ignition of that whole Quarter which Lieutenant Tupper had undertaken.

The Mast-House was equally well set on Fire by Lieutenant Middleton, of the Britannia. Lieutenant Pater, of the Britannia, continued in a most daring Manner to brave the Flames, in order to complete the Work where the Fire seemed to have caught imperfectly. I was obliged to call him off, lest his Retreat should become impracticable: His Situation was the more perilous, as the Enemy's Fire redoubled as soon as the amazing Blaze of Light rendered us distinct Objects of their Aim: Lieutenant Ironmonger, of the Royals, remained with the Guard at the Gate till the last, long after the Spanish Guard was withdrawn, and was brought safely off by Captain Edge of the Alert, to whom I had confided the important Service of closing our Retreat, and bringing off our detached Parties, which were saved to a Man. I was sorry to find myself deprived of the further Services of Captain Hare: He had performed that of placing his Fireship to Admirable, but was blown into the Water, and much scorched, by the Explosion of her Priming, when in the Act of putting the Match to it. Lieutenant Gore was also much burnt, and I was consequently deprived of him also, which I regretted the more, from the Recollection of his Bravery and Activity in the warm Service of Fort Mulgrave. Mr. Eales, Midshipman, who was also with him on this Occasion, deserves my Praise for his Conduct throughout this Service. The Guns of the Fireship going off on both Sides as they heated, in the Direction that was given them, towards those Quarters from whence we were most apprehensive of the Enemy forcing their Way in upon us, checked their Career. Their Shouts and Republican Songs, which we could hear distinctly, continued till they, as

well as ourselves, were in a Manner thunderstruck by the Explosion of some Thousand Barrels of Powder on Board the Iris Frigate, lying in the Inner Road, without us, and which had been injudiciously set on Fire by the Spanish Boats, in going off, instead of being sunk, as ordered. The Concussion of Air, and the Shower of falling Timber on Fire, was such as nearly to destroy the Whole of us. Lieutenant Patey, of the Terrible, with his whole Boat's Crew, nearly perished; the Boat was blown to Pieces, but the Men were picked up alive. The Union Gun-Boat, which was nearest to the Iris, suffered considerably. Mr. Young being killed, with Three Men, and the Vessel shaken to Pieces. I had given it in Charge to the Spanish Officers to fire the Ships in the Balcon before the Town, but they returned, and reported that various Obstacles had prevented their entering it. We attempted it together, as soon as we had completed the Business in the Arsenal, but were repulsed in our Attempt to cut the Boom, by repeated Volleys of Musquetry from the Flag Ship and the Wall of the Battery Royale. The Cannon of this Battery had been spiked by the judicious Precaution taken by the Governor, previously to the Evacuation of the Town.

The Failure of our Attempt of the Ships in the Balcon before the Town, owing to the Insufficiency of our Force, made me regret that the Spanish Gun-Boats had been withdrawn from me to perform other Service. The Adjutant Don Pedro Cotiella, Don Francisco Riguelme, and Don Francisco Trufello remained with me to the last; and I feel bound to bear Testimony of the Zeal and Activity with which they performed the most essential Services during the Whole of this Business, as far as the Insufficiency of their Force allowed it, being reduced, by the Retreat of the Gun-Boats, to a single Fellucca, and a Mortar-Boat which had expended its Ammunition, but contained 30 Men with Cutlasses.

We now proceeded to burn the Hero and Themistocles, Two Seventy-four Gun Ships, laying in the Inner Road. Our Approach to them had hitherto been impracticable in Boats, as the French Prisoners who had been left in the latter Ship were still in Possession of her, and had shown a Determination to resist our Attempt to come on Board. The Scene of Conflagration around them, heightened by the late tremendous Explosion, had however awakened their Fears for their Lives. Thinking this to be the Case, I addressed them, expressing my Readiness to laud them in a Place of Safety, if they would submit; and they thankfully accepted the Offer, shewing themselves to be completely intimidated, and very grateful for our humane Intentions towards them, in not attempting to burn them with the Ship. It was necessary to proceed with Precaution, as they were more numerous than ourselves. We at length completed their Disembarkation, and then set her on Fire. On this Occasion I had nearly lost my valuable Friend and Assistant, Lieutenant Miller, of the Windsor-Castle, who had staid so long on Board to insure the Fire taking, that it gained on him suddenly, and it was not without being very much scorched, and the Risk of being suffocated, that we could approach the Ship to take him in. The Loss to the Service would have been very great, had we not succeeded in our Endeavours to save him. Mr. Knight, Midshipman of the Windsor Castle, who was in the Boat with me, shewed much Activity and Address on this Occasion, as well as Firmness throughout the Day.

The

The Explosion of a Second Powder Vessel, equally unexpected, and with a Shock even greater than the first, again put us in the most imminent Danger of perishing; and when it is considered that we were within the Sphere of the falling Timber, it is next to miraculous that no one Piece, of the mavy which made the Water foam round us, happened to touch either the Swallow or the Three Boats with me.

Having now set Fire to every Thing within our Reach, exhausted our combustible Preparations and our Strength to such a Degree that the Men absolutely dropped on the Oars, we directed our Course to join the Fleet, running the Gauntlet under a few ill-directed Shot from the Forts of Balaguier and Aiguillette, now occupied by the Enemy; but fortunately, without Loss of any Kind, we proceeded to the Place appointed for the Embarkation of the Troops, and took off as many as we could carry. It would be Injustice to those Officers whom I have omitted to name, for their not having been so immediately under my Eye, if I did not acknowledge myself indebted to them all for their extraordinary Exertions in the Execution of this great National Object. The Quickness with which the Inflammation took Effect, on my Signal, its Extent and Duration, are the best Evidences that every Officer and Man was ready at his Post, and firm under most perilous Circumstances; I therefore subjoin a List of the whole who were employed on this Service.

We can ascertain that the Fire extended to at least Ten Sail of the Line, how much further we cannot say. The Loss of the General Magazine, and of the Quantity of Pitch, Tar, Rosin, Hemp, Timber, Cordage and Gunpowder, must considerably impede the Equipment of the few Ships that remain. I am sorry to have been obliged to leave any, but I hope your Lordship will be satisfied that we did as much as our circumscribed Means enabled us to do, in a limited Time, preiled as we were by a Force so much superior to us.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

W. SYDNEY SMITH.

Right-Hon. Lord Hood, &c. &c. &c.

A List of the Officers employed under the Orders of Sir Sydney Smith, Commander, Grand Cross of the Royal Military Order of the Sword, in the Service of burning the French Ships and Arsenal of Toulon, in the Night of the 18th of December, 1793.

Captain Hare, Vulcan Fireship.
 Captain Edge, Alert Sloop.
 Don Pedro de Cotiella, Adjutant, and Don Francisco Riguielme, Lieutenants, Spanish Navy.
 Don Francisco Truxillo, commanding a Mortar Boat.
 Lieutenants C. Tupper, John Gore, Mr. Eales, Midshipman, Victory's Boats.
 Lieutenants Melhuish and Holloway, Alert Sloop.
 Lieutenants Mathew Wrench and Thomas F. Richmond, Mr. Andrews, Master, Mr. Jones, Surgeon, and Mr. Mather, Gunner, Vulcan Fireship.
 Lieutenants Ralph W. Miller and John Stiles, Mr. Richard Hawkins, Mr. Thomas Cowan, and Mr. William Knight, Windsor Castle's Boats.
 Lieutenants Pater and Middleton, Mr. Matson and Mr. Vallant, Midshipmen, Britannia.
 Lieutenant Hill, Swallow Tender.
 Lieutenant Inist, Wasp Gun-Boat.
 Lieutenant Morgan, Petite Victoire Gun-Boat.

Lieutenant Cox, Jean Bart Gun-Boat.
 Mr. Young, Union Gun-Boat, killed.
 Ensign Ironmonger, of the Royal.
 John Skrimger, Boatwain's Mate, James Young, Gunner's Mate, Thomas Knight, Quarter-Master, and Thomas Clarke, Carpenter's Mate, of the Swallow Tender, and who performed the Service of preparing Combustibles.
 John Wilson, Advanced Centinel.

An Abstract of the Return of Officers and Seamen belonging to the Ships undermentioned, who were Killed, Wounded and Missing on the 17th Day of December, 1793, at Fort Mulgrave.

Victory. 1 Lieutenant, 1 Midshipman, 2 Seamen, wounded; 8 Seamen missing.
 Britannia. 8 Seamen killed.
 Windsor Castle. 2 Seamen killed; 2 Seamen wounded; 2 Seamen missing.
 Princess Royal. 1 Midshipman, 8 Seamen, missing.
 Lieutenant Goddard, of the Victory, wounded.
 Mr. J. W. Loring, Midshipman of the Victory, wounded.
 Mr. A. Wilkie, Midshipman of the Princess Royal, missing.

List of Ships of the Line, Frigates and Sloops of the Department of Toulon.

In the Road where the English Fleet entered Toulon:

SHIPS of the LINE.
 Now with the English Fleet.

Le Commerce de Marseille 120 Guns.
 Le Pompée — — 74

Burnt at Toulon.

Le Tonnant — — 80
 L'Heureux — — 74
 Le Centaur — — 74
 Le Commerce de Bordeaux 74
 Le Destin — — 74
 Le Lys — — 74
 Le Heros — — 74
 Le Thémistocle — — 74
 Le Dugay trouin — — 74

Sent into the French Ports on the Atlantic, with French Seamen, &c.

Le Patriote — — 74
 L'Apollon — — 74
 L'Orion — — 74
 L'Entreprenant — — 74

Burnt at Leghorn.

Le Scipion — — 74

Remaining at Toulon.

Le Genereux — — 74

FRIGATES.

Now with the English Fleet.

Le Perle — — 40
 L'Arethuse — — 40

Fitted out by the English.

L'Aurora — — 32

Put into Commission, by Order of Lord Hood.

La Topaze — — 32 Guns.

Remaining in the Power of the Sardinians.

L'Alceste — — 32

S L O O P S.

Now with the English Fleet.

La Poulette — — 26

Le Tarleton — — 14

Burnt at Toulon.

La Caroline — — 20

L'Auguste — — 20

Fitted out by the English.

La Bellette — — 26

La Profelitte — — 24

La Sincere — — 20

Le Mulet — — 20

La Mozelle — — 20

Fitted out by the Neapolitans.

L'Emproye — — 20

Fitted out by the Spaniards.

La Petite Aurore — 18

Sent to Bourdeaux.

Le Pluvier — — 20

Fitting out when the English Fleet entered Toulon :

S H I P S of the L I N E.

Burnt at Toulon.

Le Triomphant — 80

Le Suffisant — — 74

Now with the English Fleet.

Le Puissant — — 74

Remaining at Toulon.

Le Dauphin Royal — 120

F R I G A T E.

Burnt at Toulon.

La Scieuse — — 32

In the Harbour, in Want of Repair :

S H I P S.

Burnt at Toulon.

Le Mercure — — 74

La Couronne — — 80

Le Conquerant — — 74

Le Dictateur — — 74

Remaining at Toulon.

Le Languedoc — 80

Le Censeur — — 74

Le Guerrier — — 74

Le Souverain — — 74

Unfit for Service.

L'Alcide — — 74

F R I G A T E S.

Burnt at Toulon.

Le Courageux — 32

L'Iphigene — — 32

L'Alerte — — 16

Having on Board the Powder Magazines, burnt at Toulon.

L'Iris — — 32

Le Montreal — — 32

Fitted out by the English as a Bomb-Ketch.

La Lutine — — 32

Remaining at Toulon.

La Bretoane — — 18

In Commission before the English Fleet entered Toulon :

S H I P.

In the Levant.

La Duquesne — 74

F R I G A T E S and S L O O P S.

In the Levant.

La Sibille — — 40

La Senable — — 32

La Melpomene — — 40

La Minerve — — 40

La Fortunée — — 32

La Flèche — — 24

La Fauvette — — 24

Taken by the English.

L'Imperieuse — — 40

La Modeste — — 32

L'Eclair — — 20

At Ville Franche.

La Vestale — — 36

La Badine — — 24

Le Hazard — — 30

At Corsica.

La Mignone — — 32

At Cette.

La Brune — — 24

In Ordinary at Toulon.

La Junon — — 40

Building.

One Ship of — — 74

Two Frigates — — 40

On Board the Victory, Hieres Bay, Dec. 21, 1793.

S I R,

IN my Letter of the 12th Instant I had the Honor to acquaint you, that from the 30th of November to that Time no particular Event had taken Place, and that the Fire of the Enemy was less frequent. During this Period they were daily receiving Reinforcements from every Quarter, and both Sides were busily employed, we in strengthening our Posts, and the Enemy in establishing new Batteries against Cape Brun and Malbousquet, but principally against Fort Mulgrave, on the Heights of Balaguier.

From all concurring Accounts of Deserters, and others, the Enemy's Army was now between 30,000 and 40,000 Men, and an Attack upon our Posts was to be daily expected. These, from their essential though detached Situations, had been severally strengthened, in the Proportion their Circumstances required, having such central Force in the Town as was deemed necessary for it's immediate Guard, and

for

for affording a Degree of Succour to any Point that might be more particularly attacked.

For the complete Defence of the Town and it's extensive Harbour, we had long been obliged to occupy a Circumference of at least Fifteen Miles, by eight principal Posts, with their several intermediate dependent ones; the greatest Part of these were merely of a temporary Nature, such as our Means allowed us to construct; and, of our Force, which never exceeded 12,000 Men bearing Firelocks, and composed of Five different Nations and Languages, near 9000 were placed in or supporting those Posts, and about 3000 remained in the Town.

On the 16th, at Half past Two o'Clock in the Morning, the Enemy, who had before fired from Three Batteries on Fort Malgrave, now opened Two new ones, and continued a very heavy Cannonade and Bombardment on that Post till next Morning. The Works suffered much. The Number of Men killed and disabled was considerable. The Weather was rainy, and the consequent Fatigue great.

At Two o'Clock on the Morning of the 17th the Enemy, who had every Advantage in assembling and suddenly advancing, attacked the Fort in great Force. Although no Part of this temporary Post was such as could well resist determined Troops, yet, for a considerable Time, it was defended; but, on the Enemy entering on the Spanish Side, the British Quarter, commanded by Captain Conolly of the 18th Regiment, could not be much longer maintained, notwithstanding several gallant Efforts were made for that Purpose. It was therefore, at last, carried, and the Remains of the Garrison of 700 Men retired towards the Shore of Balaguier, under the Protection of the other Posts established on those Heights, and which continued to be faintly attacked by the Enemy. As this Position of Balaguier was a most essential one for the Preservation of the Harbour, and as we had no Communication with it but by Water, 2200 Men had been placed there for some Time past. On the Night preceding the Attack 300 more Men had been sent over, and on the Morning of the 17th 400 were embarked still farther to support it.

When the Firing at Balaguier ceased, we remained in anxious Suspence as to the Event till a little before Day-Light, when a new Scene opened, by an Attack on all our Posts, on the Mountain of Pharon. The Enemy were repelled on the East Side, where was our principal Force of about 700 Men, commanded by a most distinguished Officer, the Piedmontese Colonel de Jermagan, whose Loss we deeply lament; but on the Back of the Mountain, near 1800 Feet high, steep, rocky, deemed almost inaccessible, and which we had laboured much to make so, they found Means, once more, to penetrate between our Posts, which occupied an Extent of above Two Miles, guarded by about 450 Men, and, in a very short Space of Time, we saw, that with great Numbers of Men, they crowded all that Side of the Mountain which overlooks Toulon. The Particulars of this Event I am not yet enabled to ascertain, but I have every Reason to think that they did not enter at a British Post.

Our Line of Defence, which, as I have mentioned, occupied a Circumference of at least 15 Miles, and with Points of which we had only a Water Communication, being thus broken in upon, in it's Two most essential Posts; it became necessary to adopt decisive Measures, arising from the Knowledge of the Whole of our actual Situation. A Council of the Flag and General Officers assembled. They deter-

mined on the Impracticability of restoring the Posts we had lost, and on the consequent Propriety of the speediest Evacuation of the Town, evidently, and by the Report of the Engineers and Artillery Officers, declared untenable. Measures of Execution were taken from that Moment. The Troops were withdrawn from the Heights of Balaguier without much Interruption from the Enemy, and in the Evening such Posts as necessarily depended on the Possession of Pharon were successively evacuated, and the Troops drawn in towards Toulon. The Forts D'Artigues and St. Catherine still remained, together with the Posts of Sablettes, Cape Brun, and Malbouquet, from which last the Spaniards withdrew in the Night, in consequence of the supporting Post of Neapolitians, at Micilly, having left the Battery there established, and abandoned it without Orders. Every Attention was also given to ensure the Tranquillity of the Town. In the Night the Combined Fleets took a new Station in the Outer Road.

Early in the Morning of the 18th the Sick and Wounded, and the British Field Artillery, were sent off. In the Course of the Day the Post of Cape Brun was withdrawn into La Malue, the Post of Sablettes was also retired, and the Men were put on Board. Measures were arranged for the final Embarkation, during the Night, of the British, Piedmontese and Spaniards, who occupied the Town, and of the Troops of the same Nations, who were now at La Malue, amounting in all to about 7,000 Men, for the Neapolitians had, by Mid-Day, embarked.

Having determined with Lieutenant-General Gravina, commanding the Spanish Troops, that, instead of embarking at the Quays and in the Arsenal of the Town, our whole Force should assemble near Fort La Malue, and form on the Peninsula which from thence extends into the Harbour, every previous Disposition was made, and every Care taken to conceal our Intention. The Arsenal and Dock-Yard were strictly guarded. The Troops were ranged accordingly on the Ramparts, and the Tranquillity of the Town was much ensured from the Time the Enemy began to throw Shells and Shot into it; which they did from our late Batteries at Micilly and Malbouquet.

About Ten o'Clock at Night Fire was set to the Ships and Arsenal. We immediately began our March, and the Evacuation of the Town, which it was necessary should be made with Secrecy and Expedition. The Fort of St. Catherine having, without Orders, been quitted in the Course of the Day, and possessed by the Enemy. The consequent early Knowledge of our March, had we taken the common Route, through the Gate of Italy, and within Musquet Shot of that Fort, might have produced great Inconvenience; we therefore, by a Sally Post, gained an advanced Part of the Road, and without Accident were enabled to quit the Town, arrive at Fort La Malue, and form on the rising Ground immediately above the Shore. The Boats were ready, the Weather and the Sea in the highest Degree favourable: The Embarkation began about Eleven o'Clock, and by Day-Break on the 19th the Whole, without Interruption, or the Loss of a Man, were on Board Ship.

The great Fire in the Arsenal, the blowing up of the Powder Ships, and other similar Events which took Place in the Night, certainly tended to keep the Enemy in a State of Suspence and Uncertainty.

As the Security of this Operation depended much on the Protection afforded from the happy Situation of Fort La Malue, which so effectually commands the Neck of the Peninsula, and the judicious Use that should

should be made of it's Artillery, this important Service was allotted to Major Koerner, with 200 Men, who, after seeing the last Man off the Shore, and spiking all the Guns, effected, from his Activity and Intelligence, his own Retreat without Loss.

Captains Mainstone, Hollowell and Mitreux superintend the Embarkation, and to their indefatigable Attention and good Dispositions we are indebted for the happy Success of so important an Operation. Captain Dundas, as Governor of Fort La Malgue, has ably afforded me the most essential Assistance, in his Command and Arrangement of the several important Posts included in that District.

It is impossible for me to express, but in general Terms, the Approbation that is due to the Conduct and Merits of the several Commanding Officers, and indeed of every Officer, in every Rank and Situation. Troops have seldom experienced, for so long a Time, a Service more harrassing, distressing and severe; and the Officers and Men of the Regiments and Marines have gone through it with that Exertion, Spirit and Good-Will, which peculiarly distinguish the British Soldier. At Fort Mulgrave, Lieutenant Duncan, sen. of the Royal Artillery, was so essentially useful, that to his Exertions and Abilities that Post was much indebted for its Preservation for so long a Time.

The general Service has been carried on with the most perfect Harmony and Zeal of the Navy and Army. From our Deficiency in Artillery-Men, many of our Batteries were worked by Seamen: They, in Part, guarded some of our Posts, and their Aid was peculiarly useful in Duties of Fatigue and Labour. In all these we found the Influence of the superior Activity and Exertions of the British Sailors.

It was the constant Attention of Lord Hood to relieve our Wants and alleviate our Difficulties.

The Sardinian Troops we have always considered as a Part of ourselves. We have experienced their Attachment and good Behaviour, and I have found much Assistance from the Ability and Conduct of the Chevalier de Revel, and from Brigadier-General Richler, who commands them.

Notwithstanding the undefined Situation of Command, I found every Disposition and Acquiescence in Lieutenant-General Gravina, commanding the Spanish Troops, to execute every proposed Measure which the common Cause required.

The Loss of the British on the 17th at Fort Mulgrave, and on the Heights of Pharon, amounts to about 300 Men, of which, during the last Four Days, no exact Account could be procured: And, as the Troops, in embarking, were put on Board the nearest and most convenient Ships, till they are again united in Corps, I cannot have the Honor of transmitting particular Returns, nor even knowing the Detail of Circumstances that attended the Attack of those Posts.

It is now about Three Weeks that, from the unfortunate Accident of General O'Hara being made Prisoner, the Government of Toulon devolved on me; my best Exertions have not been wanting in that Situation, and I humbly hope that His Majesty may be pleased to look upon them in a favorable Light.

I beg Leave to add, that the Battalion of Royal Louis, and Two Independent Companies of French Chasseurs, raised at Toulon, have behaved, on every

Occasion, with Fidelity and Spirit. They embarked at La Malgue, to the Number of about 600 Men, and are now with us.

I have the Honor to be,
With the most profound Respect,
S I R,

Your most faithful and
obedient humble Servant,
DAVID DUNDAS,
Lieut. Gen.

Right Hon. Henry Dundas,
Esq. Esq. Esq.

S I R,

December 21, 1793.

AFTER every Enquiry, the inclosed is the most full & Report that can be obtained of the Loss of the British Troops on the 17th of December; that of the other Troops in the same Posts, who greatly exceeded them in Number, I do not know, but I have Reason to think was infinitely smaller in Proportion.

D. DUNDAS, Lieut. Gen.
Right Hon. Henry Dundas,
Esq. Esq. Esq.

Return of the Missing of the British Forces, on the
Morning of the 17th of December, 1793.

Attack of Fort Mulgrave.

Royal Artificers. 3 Rank and File and Seamen.
Royal Artillery. 25 Rank and File and Seamen.
2d Battalion of Royals. 1 Serjeant, 1 Drummer,
18 Rank and File and Seamen.
18th or Royal Irish Regiment. 1 Ensign, 2 Rank
and File and Seamen.
30th Regiment. 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 5 Ser-
jeants, 3 Drummers, 140 Rank and File and
Seamen.
Marines. 2 Lieutenants, 2 Serjeants, 2 Drummers,
56 Rank and File and Seamen.
Royal Navy. 1 Midshipman, 28 Seamen.

Attack of the Heights of Pharon.

11th Regiment. 1 Lieutenant, 1 Serjeant, 15 Rank
and File and Seamen.
18th or Royal Irish Regiment, 1 Serjeant, 5 Rank
and File and Seamen.
Marines. 1 Lieutenant, 15 Rank and File and Sea-
men.

Officers Names missing.

11th Regiment. Lieutenant Knight.
18th or Royal Irish. Ensign Minchin.
30th Regiment. Captain De Vaumorel, Lieutenant
Cuyler.
Marines. Lieutenants Williams, Barry, and Lynn.
Royal Navy. Mr. Alexander Wilkie, Midshipman.

Officers Names wounded and present.

Royal Artillery. Lieutenant Duncan, sen.
Royal Navy. Lieutenant Goddard, Mr. J. W. Lo-
ring, Midshipman.

(Signed) THO. HISLOP, D. A. G.

The Fate of the above Officers and Men, returned missing, is not nor cannot be known; but, from all the Intelligence that can be gained, it is much to be apprehended that they fell before Day-Break, gallantly defending the Post they were entrusted with, when abandoned by other Troops.

D. DUNDAS, Lieut. Gen.

