



# The London Gazette

## EXTRAORDINARY.

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 1794.

*Admiralty-Office, June 10.*

**S**IR Roger Curtis, First Captain to the Admiral Earl Howe, arrived this Evening with a Dispatch from his Lordship to Mr. Stephens, of which the following is a Copy.

*Queen Charlotte at Sea, June 2, 1794,  
Uphant, E. Half N. 140 Leagues.*

**S I R,**  
**T**HINKING it may not be necessary to make a more particular Report of my Proceedings with the Fleet, for the present Information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, I confine my Communications chiefly, in this Dispatch, to the Occurrences when in Presence of the Enemy Yesterday.

Finding, on my Return off of Brest on the 19th past, that the French Fleet had, a few Days before, put to Sea; and receiving, on the same Evening, Advices from Rear-Admiral Montagu, I deemed it requisite to endeavour to form a Junction with the Rear-Admiral as soon as possible, and proceeded immediately for the Station on which he meant to wait for the Return of the Venus.

But, having gained very credible Intelligence, on the 21st of the same Month, whereby I had Reason to suppose the French Fleet was then but a few Leagues farther to the Westward, the Course before steered was altered accordingly.

On the Morning of the 28th the Enemy were discovered far to Windward, and partial Actions were engaged with them that Evening and the next Day.

The Weather Gage having been obtained, in the Progress of the last mentioned Day, and the Fleet being in a Situation for bringing the Enemy to close Action the 1st Instant, the Ships bore up together for that Purpose, between Seven and Eight o'Clock in the Morning.

The French, their Force consisting of Twenty-six Ships of the Line, opposed to His Majesty's Fleet of Twenty-five (the Audacious having parted Company with the sternmost Ship of the Enemy's Line, captured in the Night of the 28th) waited for the Action, and sustained the Attack with their customary Resolution.

In less than an Hour after the close Action commenced in the Centre, the French Admiral, engaged by the Queen Charlotte, crowded off, and was followed by most of the Ships of his Van in Condition to carry Sail after him, leaving with us about Ten or Twelve of his crippled or totally dismasted Ships, exclusive of One sunk in the Engagement. The Queen Charlotte had then lost her Fore Topmast, and the Main Topmast fell over the Side very soon after.

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