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EXTRAORDINARY.

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Horſe-Guards, September 21.

A Diſpatch, of which the following is a Copy, was this Morning received from His Royal Highneſs the Duke of York by the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, One of His Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State.

*Head Quarters, at Grave,
September 17, 1794.*

S I R,

IN my laſt Letter of the 13th Inſtant I acquainted you, for His Majeſty's Information, with a Report, which I had juſt received, of the Enemy's having made a Movement towards Ooſterwyck. It appeared, however, by the Account of the next Day, that this Corps had fallen back in the Night. The ſame Accounts, confirmed by the Reports of Deſerters, aſſured us, that a very conſiderable Detachment, amounting to Fifteen Thouſand Men, had been made towards Maeftricht.

On Sunday Afternoon a ſudden Attack, in which it appeared that the Enemy were in great Force, was made upon all my Poſts of the Right; and that of Boxtel, which was the moſt advanced, was forced, with conſiderable Loſs to the Heſſe Darmſtadt Troops, who occupied it.

As the Line of my Out-Poſts upon the Donnel could not be maintained, while the Enemy were in Poſſeſſion of Boxtel, it appeared neceſſary to regain it; at the ſame Time the Degree of Reſiſtance which the Enemy would make, would ſerve to aſcertain whether this Attack was ſupported by their Army, with a View to a general Attack, or was merely an Affair of Out-Poſts.

I therefore ordered Lieutenant-General Abercromby to march with the Reſerve during the Night, with Directions to reconnoitre the Poſt at Day-Light, and to act as he ſhould judge beſt, from what he ſhould diſcover of the Force of the Enemy.

Lieutenant-General Abercromby having advanced as directed, found the Enemy in ſuch Strength as left little Room to doubt of the Proximity of their Army, and he accordingly retired, but in ſuch good Order as prevented the Enemy from making any Impreſſion, although they followed him for ſome Diſtance.

About this Time I received private Information, upon which I could rely, and which was confirmed by the Obſervation of my Patroles, and the Reports of Deſerters, that the Enemy had been reinforced by the

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the Corps which had hitherto been acting in West Flanders, as well as by a Column of the Army which had been employed before Valenciennes and Condé. The same Information assured me, also, that the Column, which had been marching towards Maestricht, had suddenly returned towards us.

From these Accounts, and what I knew of the previous Strength of the Enemy, it appeared that the actual Force now advancing against me, and whose Object could only be an Attack upon my Army, could scarcely be less than Eighty Thousand Men.

The Hazard of an Action with such a very great Disparity of Numbers, could not but become a Matter of the most serious Consideration; and, after the most mature Deliberation, I did not think myself at Liberty to risk, in so unequal a Contest, His Majesty's Troops, or those of His Allies serving with them. I had the utmost Reliance on their Courage and Discipline, and I had no Doubt but that these would have enabled me to resist the first Efforts of the Enemy; but it could scarcely be expected that even by the utmost Exertion of these Qualities they would be able to withstand the reiterated Attacks, which the vast Superiority of the Enemy would enable them to make, and which we know, from Experience, is a general Principle upon which they act.

Actuated by these Reasons, and the further Information, which I received about Noon, that the Enemy were marching considerable Columns towards my Left, in which Part my Position was most vulnerable, I determined on retreating across the Meuse. The Army accordingly marched at Three o'Clock, and, without any Loss whatever, took up a Position, which had been previously reconnoitred, about Three Miles in Front of this Place, from which they crossed the River Yesterday Morning.

The Loss in the Attack upon the Out-Posts has fallen chiefly upon the Hesse Darmstadt Troops, with

some of the Foreign Troops newly raised for His Majesty's Service. I have not as yet, however, received the Returns.

Enclosed I send that of the British.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK.

Return of the Killed, Wounded and Missing of the Army under the Command of His Royal Highness the Duke of York, the 15th of September, 1794.

King's Dragoon Guards. 1 Rank and File wounded.
 8th Light Dragoons. 1 Rank and File missing.
 14th Ditto. 2 Rank and File wounded.
 12th Foot. 1 Rank and File killed, 1 Rank and File wounded; 1 Officer, 3 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 44 Rank and File, missing.
 33d Ditto. 1 Serjeant, 1 Rank and File, missing.
 44th Ditto. 4 Rank and File missing.
 Grenadiers of the Guards. 2 Serjeants, 5 Rank and File, wounded.
 Light Infantry of the Guards. 2 Rank and File wounded.
 1st Regiment of Guards. 5 Rank and File killed; 1 Rank and File wounded; 1 Officer, 14 Rank and File, missing.
 TOTAL.—6 Rank and File killed; 2 Serjeants, 12 Rank and File, wounded; 2 Officers, 4 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 64 Rank and File, missing.
 Captain Bristow, of the 1st Guards, taken Prisoner.
 Lieutenant Eustace, of the 12th Foot, missing.
 Captain Rutherford, of the Royal Engineers, Assistant Deputy Quarter-Master General, taken Prisoner.
 The Light Cavalry being on the advanced Posts, their Return has not yet been received, but their Loss is very inconsiderable.
 The 89th Regiment was engaged, and lost several Men. Their Return has not yet been received.
 (Signed) J. H. Craig, Adj. Gen.