

the Staff-Surgeon, who was ordered to Oſtend by His Royal Highneſs the Commander in Chief.

I have the Honor to be, &c. &c. &c.

EYRE COOTE, Maj. Gen.

Right Hon. Henry Dundas,

Esq. &c. &c.

*On a Ridge of Sand-Hills, three Miles to the Eaſt of Oſtend, May 19, 1798.*

SIR,

I Have the moſt ſincere Satisfaction to acquaint you of the complete and brilliant Succeſs attending the Expedition entrusted by His Maſteſty to the Care of Captain Popham, of the Royal Navy, and myſelf. The Squadron reached Oſtend about One o'Clock this Morning.

The able and judicious Arrangements of Captain Popham, and great Exertions of himſelf, the Officers and Seamen under his Command, enabled us to diſembark the Troops at the Place from which I have the Honor of dating this Diſpatch; and from Captain Popham's local Knowledge, I gained ſuch Information as very much removed the Difficulties we had to encounter on Shore, and contributed greatly to the Succeſs of the Enterprize.

General Sir Charles Grey ſent you, Sir, an Outline of the Diſpoſition of the Troops, and of the Plans, previous to our ſailing from Margate; theſe were carried into Execution, with a little Alteration, which I was obliged to make, in conſequence of the whole of the Troops not having landed.

Soon after we diſembarked, I detached Major-General Burrard, with Four Companies of Light Infantry of the Guards, the 23d and 49th Grenadiers, and Two Six-Pounders, to take Poſſeſſion of the different Poſts and Paſſes that it was neceſſary to occupy to enable us to carry our Plans into Execution. In effecting this he met with ſtrong Oppoſition from a conſiderable Body of Sharp Shooters, who were gallantly repulſed with ſome Loſs, and by a rapid March cut off from the Town of Oſtend.

During the Time Lieutenant Brownrigg, of the Engineers, was employed in bringing up the Powder and other Materials to effect the Deſtruction of the Sluices of the Bruges Canal, the Troops were poſted as follows: The Grenadiers of the 11th and 23d Regiments with Cannon, &c. at the Lower Ferry, to prevent the Enemy croſſing from Oſtend. A Detachment of Colonel Campbell's Company of the Guards, under the Command of Captain Duff, and the Grenadiers of the 49th Regiment, under the Command of Captain Lord Aylmer, at the Upper Ferry for the ſame Purpoſe. The Remainder of Colonel Campbell's, with three other Companies of the Guards, under the Command of Colonel Calcraft, at the Sluices and Country around, to cover the Operation.

The 11th Regiment on the South Eaſt Front, to ſecure a ſafe Retreat for the Troops, if preſſed.

The Light Infantry Companies of the 11th and 23d Regiments, under Major Donkin, to cover the Village of Bredin, and extend to the Blankenburg Road near the Sea, as well as to co-operate with the 11th Regiment.

The greater Part of the 23d Regiment remained on board the Ships of War, ſtationed to the Weſtward of the Town, as well to divert the Enemy's Attention to that Point, as to land and ſpike the Cannon, ſhould an Opportunity offer.

By the Time the Troops were properly poſted, the neceſſary Materials were brought up to the Sluices, by the indefatigable Exertions and extraordinary good Conduct of Captains Winthrop, Bradby, and M'Kellar, and Lieutenant Bradby, of the Royal Navy, whoſe Services on Shore cannot be too highly praiſed.

Lieutenant Brownrigg, of the Royal Engineers, in about Four Hours made all his Arrangements, and completely deſtroyed the Sluices; his Mines having in every Particular the deſired Effect; and the Object of the Expedition thereby attained; and which, I have the Satisfaction to add, was accompliſhed with the trifling Loſs of only Five Men killed and wounded. Several Veſſels of conſiderable Burthen were alſo deſtroyed in the Canal near the Sluices.

No Danger even for an Inſtant abated the Ardor of the Seamen and Soldiers.—To their Unanimity His Maſteſty and the Country are indebted for our Succeſs.

No Language of mine can do Juſtice to the Forces employed upon this Occaſion; and, as it is impoſſible to name each Individual, I beg Leave to ſtate the great Exertions of a few.

To that excellent Officer, Major-General Burrard, I ſhall feel everlaſting Obligation: To his Council, Exertions, and Ability, I am in a great Measure to attribute the Succeſs of the Enterprize.

His Maſteſty's Guards, conſpicuous upon all Occaſions, on this Service have added to their former Laurels. To Colonel Calcraft, who commanded them; Colonels Cunningham and Campbell, of the ſame Corps; Major Skinner, of the 23d Regiment, commanding the Grenadiers; Major Donkin, of the 44th Regiment, commanding the Light Infantry; and Captain Walker, commanding the Royal Artillery; I feel myſelf much indebted for their good Conduct in the various Services in which I employed them.

In Lieutenant Brownrigg, of the Royal Engineers, I found infinite Ability and Reſource. His Zeal and Attention were eminently conſpicuous; and in my opinion this Gentleman bids fair to be of great future Service to his Country.

I ſhould not do Juſtice to the Zeal and Spirit of Lieutenant Gilham, of the Suffex Militia, if I did not ſtate to you that, anxious to be employed in the Service of his Country, and to learn his Profeſſion, he applied to his Commanding Officer at Dover, the Night before we ſailed, for Permiſſion to join our Force. He left Dover in a violent Gale of Wind and came on board the Morning we got under Weigh. I attached him to Colonel Campbell's Company of the Battalion of Guards, where he acquitted himſelf much to his Honor.

Captain Viſſcher, Sir Charles Grey's Aid-de-Camp, Captain Williamſon, my Aid-de-Camp, and Major of Brigade Thorley, I ſent to attend the Guards, Light Infantry, and Grenadiers, in their different Poſitions, as well to give their Aſſiſtance to the reſpective Commanding Officers, as to appriſe me of any Circumſtance that might occur, ſo as to require my immediate Information, they being thoroughly acquainted with the Nature of the Expedition. They conducted themſelves to my moſt perfect Satisfaction, as did Lieutenant Clifton, of the Royal Artillery, who attended me, Captain Cumberland of the 83d Regiment, and Cornet Nixen of