

the 7th Light Dragoons, who acted as Aids-de-Camp to Major-General Burrard.

In my Letter of the 13th Instant, I had the Honor to inform you of my having accepted the Services of Mr. Jarvis, a Surgeon of Margate. His great Attention was unremitting, and his Conduct upon this Occasion is highly praiseworthy.

To Colonel Twiss I shall ever feel great Obligation for the able Assistance he gave me at Dover, in preparing the necessary Instruments for destroying the Sluice-Gates, as well as for the Instruction he was so kind to give Lieutenant Brownrigg for this Service.

As a Feint to cover the Operation of bringing up the Materials, and of destroying the Sluices, Captain Popham and myself sent a Summons to the Commandant of Ostend, to surrender the Town and its Dependencies to His Majesty's Forces under our Command, which had the desired Effect. I have the Honor to inclose you a Copy of the Summons, with the Commandant's Answer.

By an unavoidable Accident, the Four Light Companies of the 1st Guards, under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonels Warde and Boone, were not landed in the Morning; I think it however but Justice to declare, that every Thing that brave Men then could attempt was done at the imminent Risk of their Lives to accomplish it; and I am conscious the Zeal and Courage they manifested to partake in the Dangers of their Brother Soldiers, would have made them ample Sharers in any Honor to be acquired, or Danger to be encountered on Shore; had they been able to reach it.

I have sent a Dispatch to Sir Charles Grey by his Aid-de-Camp, Captain Visscher; and Captain Williamson, my Aid-de-Camp, will have the Honor to deliver you this. Both these Gentlemen are well qualified to give you any farther Information, and I beg Leave to recommend them to your Notice and Protection.

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

EYRE COOTE, Major-General.

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

Copy of the Summons sent for the Town of Ostend, &c. to surrender. Dated East of the Harbour of Ostend, May 19, 1798.

SIR,

WE the Officers commanding the Sea and Land Forces of His Majesty the King of Great Britain, think it necessary to apprise you, that we shall be obliged to bombard and cannonade the Town of Ostend, unless you, as Commandant, shall immediately surrender the same, with its Dependencies, Troops, and Military Stores belonging to the Republic, to the Arms of our Sovereign.

We leave to you to take into your serious Consideration the very formidable Force now lying before the Town and Port of Ostend, as you cannot but be responsible for the Consequences of a vain and fruitless Resistance.

We are willing to grant Half an Hour for your full Consideration of the above Terms, and are convinced that your Humanity and good Sense will point out the necessary Steps to be taken to accede to our Proposals, as, in Default thereof, we shall be

under the Necessity of immediately commencing Hostilities.

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

EYRE COOTE, Major-General.
HOME POPHAM, Capt. R. N.

To His Excellency the
Commandant of Ostend.

Translation of the Commandant of Ostend's Answer to the Summons.

LIBERTY.

EQUALITY.

Garrison of Ostend, 30th Floreal,
6th Year of the Republic.

Muscar, Commandant of the Garrison of Ostend, to the Commander in Chief of the Troops of His Britannic Majesty.

GENERAL,

THE Council of War was sitting when I received the Honor of your Letter; we have unanimously resolved not to surrender this Place until we shall have been buried under its Ruins.

(Signed) MUSCAR,
Commandant of the Garrison.

SIR,

Ostend, May 20, 1798.

MAJOR-General Coote, in his Dispatch Yesterday, had the Honor to inform you of the brilliant Success of the Enterprize, of which he had the Command, as far as related to the Destruction of the Gates and Sluices of the Canal of Bruges.

The General having been severely wounded this Morning, I have the painful Task of detailing our unavoidable Surrender soon after.

On our Return Yesterday to the Beach at Eleven o'Clock A.M. where we had disembarked, we found that, from an Increase of Wind and Surf, our Communication with the Fleet was nearly cut off, and that it was impossible to re-embark the troops. The General, well aware of the Risk we ran in staying in an Enemy's Country, naturally exasperated against us for the Damage we had recently done them, attempted to get off some Companies, but the Boats soon filled with Water, and it was with extreme Difficulty the Lives of the Men were saved. It then became necessary to examine carefully the Ground we were likely to fight upon; and such a Choice was made as might have insured us Success, had any thing like an equal Force presented itself.

Major-General Coote took every Precaution the Evening and the Night afforded to make our Post among the Sand Hills upon the Shore as tenable as possible, by directing Lieutenant Brownrigg, of the Royal Engineers, to make small Entrenchments where it was necessary, and, by planting the few Field Pieces and the Howitzer we had on the most favorable Spots, to annoy the Enemy in their Approach to attack us.

In momentary Expectation of them, we impatiently looked for a favourable Opportunity to get into our Boats, but unfortunately it never presented itself.

About Four o'Clock this Morning, (the Wind and Surf having increased during the Night,) we perceived plainly Two strong Columns of the Enemy advancing on our Front, and soon after we found several other Columns upon our Flanks.