



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1799.

EVENING.

Admiralty-Office, September 3, 1799.

LIEUTENANT COLLIER, of His Majesty's Ship *Ifis*, arrived this Day with Dispatches from Vice-Admiral Mitchell to Evan Nepean, Esq. Secretary of the Admiralty, of which the following are Copies :

Ifis, at Anchor at the Red Buoy, near the Vleiter, August 30, 1799, Two P. M.

IHAVE the very great Satisfaction to acquaint you, for the Information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the Whole of the Dutch Fleet near the Vleiter surrendered to the Squadron under my Command without firing a Gun, agreeable to a Summons I sent this Morning. The Dutch Squadron was to be held for the Orders of His Serene Highness the Prince of Orange, and the Orders I may receive from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for my farther Proceedings.

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

(Signed) A. MITCHELL.

Evan Nepean, Esq.

Ifis, at Anchor at the Red Buoy near the Vleiter, August 31, 1799.

IT blowing strong from the South West, and also the Flood Tide, I could not send away my short Letter of last Night ; I therefore have, in Addition, to request you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that on the Morning of Yesterday I got the Squadron under Weigh at Five

o'Clock, and immediately formed the Line of Battle, and to prepare for Battle.

In running in, Two of the Line of Battle Ships, *Ratvifan* and *America*, and the *Latona* Frigate took the Ground. We passed the *Helder Point* and *Mars Diep*; and continued our Course along the *Texel* in the Channel that leads to the *Vleiter*, the Dutch Squadron laying at Anchor in a Line at the Red Buoy in the East-South-East Course.

The *Latona* Frigate got off and joined me ; but as the Two Line of Battle Ships did not, I closed the Line. About Half Past Ten I sent Captain *Rennie* of the *Victor* with a Summons to the Dutch Admiral, as it was Lord *Duncan's* Wish that I should do so ; and in her Way she picked up a Flag of Truce with Two Dutch Captains from the Dutch Admiral to me. Captain *Rennie* very properly brought them on Board ; and from a Conversation of a few Minutes I was induced to anchor in a Line, at short Distance from the Dutch Squadron, at their earnest Request. They returned with my positive Orders not to alter the Position of the Ships, nor do any Thing whatsoever to them, and in One Hour to submit, or take the Consequences.

In less than the Time they returned with a verbal Answer, that they submitted according to the Summons, and should consider themselves (the Officers) on Parole, until I heard from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and the Prince of Orange, for my farther Proceedings.

I have now the Honor to enclose you herewith the Line of Battle in which the Squadron advanced, a Copy of my Summons to the Dutch Admiral, and also a List of the Dutch Fleet.

Admiral Story's Flag is down, and I have sent an Officer on board each of his Ships to have an Eye over and the Charge of them, as they themselves requested that it should be so.

I have also furnished them with the Prince of Orange's Standard, many of them not having had it before, and they are now all under these Colours.

To maintain Quiet among their Crews, I issued a short Manifesto, of which I also enclose a Copy herewith.

The animated Exertions and Conduct of the whole Squadron are far above any Praise I can bestow on them; but I shall ever feel most sensibly impressed on my Heart their spirited Conduct during the whole of this Business. We have all felt the same Zeal for the Honor of our Sovereign and our Country; and although the Conclusion has not turned out as we expected, yet the Merit I may say, in some Measure, is still not the less due to my Squadron; and, if I had brought them to Action, I trust it would have added another Laurel to the Navy of England in this present War. The Dutch were astonished and thunderstruck at the Approach of our Squadron, never believing it possible that we could so soon have laid down the Buoys and led down to them in Line of Battle in a Channel where they themselves go through but with One or Two Ships at a Time.

I have sent Lieutenant Collier with these Dispatches, who will give their Lordships every Information, as he has been employed in the Whole of the Communication with the Dutch Squadron and was also on Shore with me as my Aide-du-Camp on the Day of Landing.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

A. MITCHELL.

P. S. Since writing the above I received the Dutch Admiral's Answer in Writing, which I enclose herewith.

LINE OF BATTLE,

at Noon, August 30, 1799.

Glatton, Captain Charles Cobb, 54 Guns, 343 Men.
Romney, Captain John Lawford, 50 Guns, 343 Men.
Jfir, Vice-Admiral Mitchell, Captain James Oughton, 50 Guns, 343 Men.
Veteran, Captain A. C. Dickson, 64 Guns, 491 Men.

Ardent, Captain T. Bertie, 64 Guns, 491 Men.
Belliqueux, Captain R. Bulteel, 64 Guns, 491 Men.
Monmouth, Captain George Hart, 64 Guns, 491 Men.

Overijssel, Captain J. Bazeley, 64 Guns, 491 Men.
Mistifloss, Captain A. Moller, 66, 672 Men.

Melpomene, *Latona*, *Shannon*, *Juno*, and *Lutine*, Frigates.

Given on Board the *Isis* in the Vleider Channel, August 30, 1799.

A. MITCHELL

To ——— Captain of His Majesty's Ship the ——— by Command of the Vice-Admiral.

Isis, under Sail in Line of Battle, August 30, 1799.

SIR,

I DESIRE you will instantly hoist the Flag of His Serene Highness the Prince of Orange. If you do, you will be immediately considered as Friends of the King of Great Britain, my most gracious Sovereign, otherwise take the Consequences. Painful it will be to me for the Loss of Blood it may occasion, but the Guilt will be on your own Head.

I have the Honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) ANDREW MITCHELL,

Vice-Admiral and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships employed on the present Expedition.

To Rear Admiral Story, or the Commander in Chief of the Dutch Squadron.

A List of the Dutch Squadron taken Possession of in the Texel by Vice-Admiral Mitchell, August 30, 1799.

Washington, Rear-Admiral Story, Captain Capelle, 74 Guns.

Gelderland, Captain Waldeck, 68 Guns.

Admiral de Ruyter, Captain Huijs, 68 Guns.

Utrecht, Captain Kolf, 68 Guns.

Cerberus, Captain De Jong, 68 Guns.

Leyden, Captain Van Braam, 68 Guns.

Beschermer, Captain Eilbracht, 54 Guns.

Batavier, Captain Van Senden, 54 Guns; under the Vleiter.

Amphitrite, Captain Schutter, 44 Guns; under the Vleiter.

Mars, Captain De Bock, 44 Guns.

Ambuscade, Captain Riverij, 32 Guns.

Galathea, Captain Droop, 16 Guns.

A. MITCHELL.

Isis, August 30, 1799.

THE Underfigned, Vice-Admiral in the Service of His Majesty the King of Great Britain, charged with the Execution of the Naval Part of the Expedition to restore the Stadtholder and the old and lawful Constitution of the Seven United Provinces guaranteed by His Majesty, having agreed that in consequence of the Summons to Rear Admiral Story, the Ships, after hoisting the Antient Colours, will be considered as in the Service of the Allies of the British Crown, and under the Orders of His Serene Highness the Hereditary Stadtholder, Captain and Admiral General of the Seven United Provinces, has thought it proper to give an Account of this Agreement to the brave Crews of the different Ships, and to summons them by the same to behave in a peaceable and orderly Manner, so that no Complaints may be represented by the Officer the Underfigned will send on board of each of the Ships to keep proper Order, until the Intentions of His Majesty, and His Serene Highness the Prince of Orange, as Admiral General, shall be known, for the farther Destination of these Ships, on Account of which Dispatches will be immediately sent off. And to make them aware, that in case their Conduct should not be so as may be expected from the known Loyalty and Attachment of the Dutch Navy to the Illustrious House of Orange on this Occasion, any Excess or Irregularity will be punished with the Severity which the Disorders may have been committed merit.

(Signed) ANDREW MITCHELL.

On board the Washington, anchored under the Vleiter, 30th August, 1799.

ADMIRAL,

NEITHER your Superiority nor the Threat that the spilling of Human Blood should be laid to my Account, could prevent my shewing you to the last Moment what I could do for my Sovereign, whom I acknowledge to be no other than the Batavian People and its Representatives, when your Prince's and the Orange Flags have obtained their End. The Traitors whom I commanded refused to fight; and nothing remains to me and my brave Officers but vain Rage and the dreadful Reflection of our present Situation: I therefore deliver over to you the Fleet which I commanded. From this Moment it is your Obligation to provide for the

Safety of my Officers, and the few brave Men who are on board the Batavian Ships, as I declare myself and my Officers Prisoners of War, and remain to be considered as such.

I am with Respect,

S. STORY.

To Admiral Mitchell, commanding His Britannic Majesty's Squadron in the Texel.

Isis, at Anchor at the Red Buoy, near S I R, the Vleiter, August 31, 1799.

SINCE my Letter of the 29th by Captain Oughton, I received a Letter from Captain Winthrop of the Circe, containing a more particular Account of the Men of War, &c. taken Possession of in the New Diep than I had then in my Power to send, of which you will receive a Copy herewith for the Information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

I have the Honor, &c.

A. MITCHELL.

Evian Nepean, Esq.

S I R, *Helder, August 28, 1799.*

I Have the Honor to inform you that I this Morning took Possession of the New Diep, with the Ships and Vessels undermentioned, and also of the Naval Arsenal containing Ninety-five Pieces of Ordnance. A Copy of the Naval Stores I will transmit you as soon as it can be made out.

I have the Honor, &c.

R. WINTHROP.

Urwachten,	66 Guns.
Broederschop,	54 Guns.
Hector,	44 Guns.
Diuffec,	44 Guns.
Expedition,	44 Guns.
Constitutie,	44 Guns.
Bell Antionette,	44 Guns.
Unie,	44 Guns.
Helder,	32 Guns.
Follock,	24 Guns.
Minerva,	24 Guns.
Venus,	24 Guns.
Alarm,	24 Guns.
Dreighlerlahn, Howda, Vreedelust, India- men: And a Sheer Hulk.	

Andrew Mitchell, Esq.

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