



# The London Gazette

## EXTRAORDINARY.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1799.

EVENING.

*Admiralty-Office, September 3, 1799.*

**L**IEUTENANT 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.*

**I**HAVE 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.*

**I**T 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, *Ratvian* 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, a 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.