



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1799.

Downing-Street, September 9, 1799.

A DISPATCH, of which the following is a Copy, has been received this Day from the Right Honorable Lord William Bentinck, by the Right Honorable Lord Grenville, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Foreign Department.

MY LORD, *Novi, August 19, 1799.*

THE Column under the Command of General Kray arrived at Alexandria, from Mantua, on the 12th, and on the Day following was to have proceeded to the Place of its Destination, on the Left of the Whole, according to the Plan of Operations which I sent your Lordship some Time ago. On the 12th the Enemy was in Motion in different Points, and it appeared as if he meditated some Attack. General Kray was therefore ordered to remain at Alexandria till further Orders. General Bellegarde, with Eight Thousand Men, was at Serzo, and the Field-Marshal, with Six Hundred Russians, was at Possolo Fomigoio; his Advanced Posts in Front of Seravalle. The Remainder of the Troops was at Rivalta.

On the 13th the Enemy continued to advance in great Numbers. The Marshal had given Orders that no partial Action should be engaged in with the French; in consequence of which, General Bellegarde was directed upon the Approach of the Enemy to march to Ritorta upon the Orba. The Advanced Posts before Seravalle were also driven in, and the French took Possession of Novi. On the 14th General Kray advanced to Tressonara. It was hoped that General Kray might have been able to have cut off a small French Column which had followed General Bellegarde as far as Castelferro, but it had early in the Morning of the 14th turned to its Right, and had marched to Novi,

where the whole French Force was concentrated. The great and extensive Plain of Piedmont is terminated at Novi by a very long Ridge of Hills, which rise so suddenly, and are so steep, that the Ascent is extremely difficult, though the Height is not very great; they extend towards Basaluzzo on one Side, and towards Seravalle on the other, and upon these Heights the Enemy was encamped on the 15th, their Right towards Seravalle, their Centre at Novi, and their Left towards Basaluzzo, overlooking the whole Plain. The Army was commanded by General Joubert, and consisted of Six Divisions amounting to about Thirty Thousand Men; their Object was to raise the Siege of Tortona, and they were to have attacked the Allied Army on the 16th; the Field-Marshal however determined to anticipate them in their Intentions, and Orders were given to General Kray to take under his Command the Corps of General Bellegarde, and to fall upon the Left of the Enemy, and the Russians were to attack the Front of their Position. As it was reported that the Enemy had detached a considerable Corps in the Mountains towards Tortona, General Melas remained at Rivalta with the Remains of the Army in order to cover the Siege of Tortona, or to march to the Support of the Marshal if necessary. The Attack was made by General Kray at Five o'Clock in the Morning of the 15th; it continued with great Violence for several Hours, but the Difficulty of the Ground and the Numbers of the French obliged him to retire. The Russians also engaged the Front of the Enemy, but they were repulsed with very great Loss. About Two o'Clock, General Kray made a second Attempt upon the Enemy's Left, while the Russians at the same Time again endeavoured to penetrate the Centre of the Enemy's Line. Notwithstanding the utmost Bravery of the

Allied Troops, the French maintained their Position. Most fortunately at this Moment, General Melas arrived with Sixteen Battalions of Austrian Infantry, attacked the Enemy's Right, which he beat back without Difficulty. Having turned the Flank of the Enemy, he pursued his Advantage, and got Possession of Novi. The Russians immediately marched through Novi, supported the Attack of General Melas with great Vigour, and the whole French Line was thrown into Confusion, and retreated in the greatest Disorder.—The whole Line pursued.—General Grouchi, commanding a Division, endeavoured to rally his Men, but in vain; he was taken Prisoner. Three other Generals, Colli, Bordonau, and Perignan, Four Thousand Prisoners, Thirty Pieces of Cannon, and Fifty-seven Tumbrils, are the Result of this Victory. I fear the Loss of the Allies must have amounted to near Five Thousand Men.

I forgot to mention that General Joubert was killed, and that Moreau, who was present as a Volunteer, has again taken the Command of the Army.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

W. BENTINCK.

Downing-Street, September 9.

A DISPATCH, of which the following is an Extract, has been received from Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Abercromby, by the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

*Head-Quarters, Schager Brug,
September 4, 1799.*

FROM the 27th of August to the 11th of September, the Troops continued to occupy the Sand Hills on which they fought. On that Day the Army marched and took Post with its Right to Petten on the German Ocean, and its Left to Oude Sluys on the Zuyder Zee, with the Canal of the Zuype in Front.

A better Country is now open to us. We have found some Horses and Waggon and a plentiful Supply of fresh Provisions.

The Troops continue healthy, and behave extremely well.

The 11th Regiment of Dragoons are arrived and have begun to disembark. The Transports have been ordered to return to the Downs.

I have the Honor to inclose herewith a Return of the Artillery, Ammunition, and Engineers Stores captured at the Helder.

*To the Right Hon. Henry Dundas,
&c. &c. &c.*

Helder, August 31, 1799.

Return of Ordnance, Ammunition, and Stores taken on the 28th Instant, at the different Batteries and Magazines at and near this Place, viz.

Brass Ordnance, mounted.—24 Twenty-four-Pounders, 5 Nine-Pounders, 4 Six-Pounders, 1 Three-Pounder; 13 Eight-Inch, and 4 Five-and-Half Inch Howitzers; 5 Ten-Inch Mortars.

Iron Ordnance, mounted.—18 Twenty-four-Pounders.

Ditto dismounted.—41 Twenty-four-Pounders, 56 Nine-Pounders.

Round Shot.—713 Twenty-four-Pounders, 2780 Twelve Pounders, 164 Nine-Pounders, 3492 Six-Pounders.

Cafe Shot.—345 Twenty-four-Pounders, 64 Nine-Pounders; 77 Eight-Inch and 61 Five-and-Half Inch Howitzers.

Fixed Shells.—148 Ten-Inch, 224 Eight-Inch, 394 Five-and-Half Inch.

Empty Shells.—447 Ten-Inch, 920 Eight-Inch.

Round Carcasses.—15 Eight-Inch.

Cartridges (Flannel filled with Powder).—685 Twenty-four-Pounders, 37 Nine-Pounders, 168 Six-Pounders; 530 Five-and-Half Inch Howitzers: (Paper filled with Powder)—11 Twenty-four-Pounders, 620 Nine-Pounders: (Musket-Ball)—77,888; (Fuzee Ball)—1800.

521 Whole Barrels of Corned Powder.

J. WHITWORTH,

Lieutenant-Colonel commanding
Royal Artillery.

*General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B.
&c. &c. &c.*

Helder, August 31, 1799.

Return of Engineers Stores taken Possession of in the different Batteries in the Vicinity of the Helder.

Wheel-Barrows,	20
Hand-Barrows,	6
Baskets,	22
Spades,	30
Wooden Mallets,	10
Pallisades,	2200
Pieces of Scantling,	79
Ditto Timber,	30
Boards,	84
Bricks,	3000
Barrels of Tar,	7

A very large Proportion of Fascines.

Bundles of Sticks and Pickets.

R. H. BRUYERES, Captain Royal
Engineers, commanding.

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