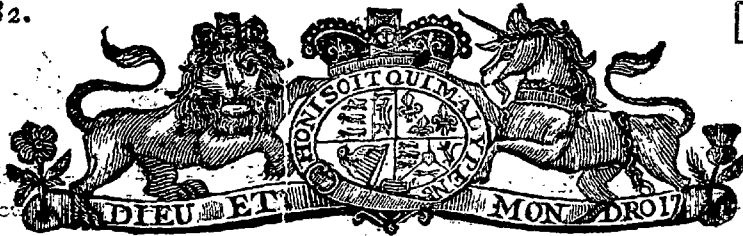


1799



# The London Gazette

## EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1799.

*Downing-Street, September 16, 1799.*

**A** DISPATCH, of which the following is a Copy, was this Morning received from Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. at the Office of the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

*Head-Quarters, Schager Brug,  
September 11, 1799.*

SIR,

**H**AVING fully considered the Position which the British Troops had occupied on the 1st Instant, and having in View the Certainty of speedy and powerful Reinforcements, I determined to remain until then on the defensive.

From the Information which we had received, we were apprized of the Enemy's Intention to attack us, and we were daily improving the Advantages of our Situation.

Yesterday Morning at Daybreak the Enemy commenced an Attack on our Centre and Right, from Saint Martin's to Petten, in Three Columns, and apparently with their whole Force.

The Column on the Right, composed of Dutch Troops, and under the Command of General Dandaels, directed its Attack on the Village of Saint Martin's.

The Centre Column of the Enemy, under the Orders of General de Mouceau, likewise composed

of Dutch Troops, marched on to Crabbendam and Zyper Sluys.

The Left Column of the Enemy, composed of French, directed itself on the Position occupied by Major-General Burrard, commanding the Second Brigade of Guards.

The Enemy advanced, particularly on their Left and Centre, with great Intrepidity, and penetrated with the Heads of their Columns to within a Hundred Yards of the Post occupied by the British Troops. They were, however, everywhere repulsed, owing to the Strength of our Position, and the determined Courage of the Troops. About Ten o'Clock the Enemy retired towards Alkmaar, leaving behind them many dead and some wounded Men, with One Piece of Cannon, a Number of Waggons, pontoons, and portable Bridges. Colonel M'Donald with the Reserve pursued them for some Time and quickened their Retreat.

It is impossible for me to do full Justice to the good Conduct of the Troops.

Colonel Spencer, who commanded in the Village of St. Martin's, defended his Post with great Spirit and Judgment.

Major-General Moore, who commanded on his Right, and who was wounded, though I am happy to say slightly, was no less judicious in the Management of the Troops under his Command.