



The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Saturday October 5, to Tuesday October 8, 1799.

Admiralty-Office, October 8, 1799.

Extract of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Mitchell to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated Babet, off Enkhuysen, October 1, 1799.

THIS Morning a Lieutenant of the *Espiegle* brought me the accompanying Letter, which I have sent for their Lordships' Information. Much Zeal and Gallantry has been displayed by Captains Bolton and Boorder, with their Officers and Men.

Wolverene, Lemmer Roads,

Sept. 29, 1799.

SIR,
ON Friday Morning, at Six o'Clock, I came to an Anchor with the *Haughty* and *Piercer*, close to *L'Espiegle*, distant about Six Miles from *Lemmer*; from Captain Boorder I received every Information I could desire. Finding the Enemy had a Thousand Regulars in the Town, and desperately determined to defend it, I immediately gave Directions for completing the Flotilla which Captain Boorder, with his usual Judgment, had begun. He had pressed Two Schoots, on board of each were put Two of *L'Espiegle's* Six-Pounders, which, with the Two Flat-Bottom Boats, and *Isis's* Launch, formed a respectable Armament.

Being willing to spare the Effusion of Human Blood, especially of innocent Victims, on Saturday at Day-Light I sent Captain Boorder on Shore with the following Letter:

Sir,

Resistance on your Part is in vain; I give you One Hour to send away the Women and Children, at the Expiration of that Time, if the Town is not surrendered to the British Arms for the Prince of Orange, your Soldiery shall be buried in its Ruins.

I have the Honor to be,
your obedient Servant,
W. BOLTON, Captain of His Majesty's
Ship *Wolverene*.

To the Commandant of Lemmer.

Soon after Captain Boorder's Departure I weighed and stood in Shore. About Nine A. M. I observed him returning, and soon after a Flag of Truce came out of the Harbour. Before Captain Boorder arrived, I noticed the Gun-Boats which

had been moored across the Harbour, moving towards the Canals; I instantly dispatched Lieutenant Simpson with a Flag of Truce to inform them that I considered their Removal, or any other Military Arrangement, as a Breach of the Armistice, and if persisted in I should instantly bombard the Town: before he returned, the Flag of Truce came on board with the following Letter

To Captain Bolton, Commandant,

I have received your Summons; the Municipality request Twenty-four Hours to send to their proper Authority to accede to your Demands.

Signed P. VAN GROUTTEN, Com-
mandant.

N. B. Please to send an Answer by the Bearer.

I immediately replied as follows:

Sir,

I have received your Letter; and have the Honor to inform you, that if the Prince's Colours are not hoisted in Half an Hour after the Receipt of this I shall bombard the Town.

Your obedient Servant,

W. BOLTON.

*To Myneer P. Van Groulten, Com-
mandant of Lemmer.*

I dispatched the Dutch Officer, and informed him I was coming down into my Disposition before the Town. I found by Captain Boorder, that the North Part of the Pier was considerably reinforced by some Eighteen Pounders, taken from the Gun-Boats, which made a little Alteration in our Disposition necessary; and I was much concerned to find my brave able Dutch Pilot declare, that from the Southerly Winds the Water was so low the *Wolverene* could not get in. Finding it a regular oozy Flat for Two Miles, I pushed through the Mud until within Musquet-Shot of the Shore. The Gun-Brigs passed a-head within Pistol-Shot of the Pier; but both, as well as myself, were, and not in the most favorable Position, completely aground; but Seamen ought never to be at a loss. The Enemy, notwithstanding the Flag of Truce, commenced a heavy Fire, which in an Instant was returned from every Part of the Squadron: the Action continued nearly an Hour, when the Enemy flew from their Quarters, the Soldiers deserted the