



# The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

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*Downing-Street, May 3, 1801.*

THE following Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. to the Earl of Elgin, together with Dispatches from His Lordship to His Royal Highness the Duke of York and Lord Hawkesbury, and a Letter from Colonel Anstruther to Colonel Brownrigg, of which the following are Extracts, have been this Day received.

*Copy of a Letter from Sir Ralph Abercromby to the Earl of Elgin, dated Camp before Alexandria, 16th March 1801.*

MY LORD,

ON the 1st Instant the Fleet arrived in Sight of Alexandria; on the 2d it anchored in Aboukir Bay; the Weather did not permit any Debarkation before the 8th; on that Day it was happily effected, under the most trying Circumstances. The Boats had near a Mile to row, and were for some Time under the Fire of Fifteen Pieces of Artillery, and the Musquetry of Two Thousand Five Hundred Men; still the Intrepidity of the Troops overcame every Difficulty. We took Eight Pieces of Cannon.

On the 9th, the Remainder of the Army was landed. On the 12th, we marched forwards to within Two Leagues of Alexandria, and One League of the Enemy, who were advantageously posted on a Ridge, with their Right to the Canal of Alexandria, and their Left to the Sea. On the 13th, we moved forwards to attack the Enemy, and to turn their Left. They did not, however, wait, but came down and attacked us. The Action was warm; but the Enemy were everywhere forced under the Walls of Alexandria. Our Loss is considerable. Although Colonel Erskine is wounded, he is doing well. He has lost a Leg. His Regiment gained great Credit, but suffered severely. No Officer of Rank is killed or dangerously wounded. Excuse this Scrawl, written on my Kneec.

R. ABERCROMBY.

*Extract of a Letter from the Earl of Elgin to His Royal Highness the Duke of York, dated Constantinople, April 4, 1801.*

AS Colonel Anstruther's Letter to me, which accompanied that to Colonel Brownrigg, was written on the 16th of March, It ake the Liberty of adding to your Royal Highness, that Menou having with 2000 Cavalry joined the Corps at Alexandria, attacked Sir Ralph Abercromby on the 21st. The Assault was vigorous; but the Enemy were entirely repulled with great Loss, not however before Sir Ralph Abercromby, General Moore, General Hope, and Sir Sidney Smith, had been wounded slightly, and Colonel Abercromby had lost a Limb. Colonel Paget appears to have had a slight Wound.

Lord Keith's last Letter says all the wounded are surprisngly well, considering they are all by Cannon or Grape Shot. I may add, that my Janissary, who left Rhodes on the 27th, mentions, that some of the Troops who came there first, or had been left sick, were already so well as to have failed from thence to join.

Nothing could have been more brilliant than our Operations appear to have been.

*Extract of a Letter from Lord Elgin to Lord Hawkesbury, dated Constantinople, April 14, 1801.*

I Have the Happiness of informing your Lordship, that I have this Moment received an Exprefs from Rhodes, dated 27th March, with a Series of private Accounts, of the successful Progress of Sir Ralph Abercromby's Army.

It appears that Menou must have set out from Cairo, on the First Intelligence of Sir Ralph Abercromby's Landing. Meanwhile our Army had advanced (under Circumstances far too honourable for the British Arms, for me to attempt relating on the imperfect Details I possess), and had taken Post within Three Miles of Alexandria, where they had prepared against an Attack from Menou, who, with