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EXTRAORDINARY.

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Downing-Street, July 21, 1801.

DISPATCHEs, of which the following are Copies; have been this Day received at the Office of the Right Honorable Lord Hawkeſbury, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, from the Earl of Elgin and Major Holloway :

*Imperial Ottoman Camp of the
Grand Vizier, Benalhafſer,
May 20, 1801.*

MY LORD,

IHAD the Honor of addreſſing your Lordſhip on the 2d May from Salahich; which Place His Highneſs the Grand Vizier left the 7th, and the following Day arrived at Belbeis, where the Advanced Corps of his Army had been encamped for ſome Time before.

On the 15th Inſtant, His Highneſs received Intelligence that the Enemy had early that Morning marched a conſiderable Force from Cairo on the Road towards Belbeis, where His Highneſs was then encamped. In the Evening, a further Confirmation of this Intelligence was brought, when the Enemy was in full March. The Vizier after Dark ordered Tahir Pacha with Three Thouſand Cavalry, and Three light Field Pieces, to advance to meet them, and if a favourable Opportunity offered during the Obſcurity of the Night to attack, if not, to impede their Progreſs as much as poſſible. About Ten o'Clock at Night they met, Three Leagues from Camp, when each halted and lay on their Arms during the Night, and until Eight o'Clock in the Morning, at which Time Tahir Pacha commenced an Attack. He was ſoon after reinforced by Fifteen Hundred Cavalry. It was now found the Enemy had come forward with about Fourteen Pieces of Artillery, Six Hundred Cavalry and Four Thouſand Infantry. His Highneſs therefore ordered Mehemmed Pacha to move forward with Five Thouſand Men, Cavalry and Albanian Infantry, and Nine light Field Pieces; the Enemy

had Eight-Pounders in the Field. His Highneſs afterwards advanced himſelf, and took the Command, which was attended with the happieſt Effect.

The Enemy moved into a Wood of Date Trees, where they were attacked by the Cavalry and Infantry with great Spirit for Three Hours, when the Enemy retired from the Wood, taking Poſition on the Plain, their Left to the Wood, and forming a Hollow Square on the Right. The Albanian Infantry advanced to the Edge of the Wood, and in this Situation galled them conſiderably; and upon the Turkiſh Cavalry threatening their Right, they changed Poſition, and attempted to gain the Heights, in which they were prevented by a rapid Movement of Cavalry, who gained the Summit. In this Manœuvre they were annoyed by Two Guns, which were advanced by His Highneſs on the Occaſion. At this Time the French commenced a decided Retreat, and were driven beyond El Hanka, a Diſtance not leſs than Seven Miles from the Place of the Firſt Operations. The Grand Vizier, who had commanded his Troops with great Gallantry and prompt Decision, then gave Orders for them not to purſue any further. The Loſs on either Side for the Time they were engaged was ſmall. The Turks had about Thirty killed and Eighty wounded. The French I think had about Fifty killed and One Priſoner; the Number of their wounded could not be aſcertained, as they took them off the Field.

The Turkiſh Force engaged on this Occaſion did not at any Time exceed Nine Thouſand.

Whilſt I was congratulating his Highneſs in the Field of Battle on the Succeſs of the Day, we received additional Satisfaction by the Arrival of the Intelligence of the Capture of Fort Leſbie at Damietta, and two ſmaller Forts depending on it, by a Detachment from the Vizier's Army. I had the Honor of acquainting your Lordſhip, in my Letter of the 2d May, that His Highneſs intended ſending a Force againſt Damietta. This Intention



he carried into Effect on the 6th, by ordering Ibrahim Pacha, with Two Thousand Five Hundred Men, and Five Pieces of Artillery, to march immediately for that Purpose: and it appears by Ibrahim Pacha's Report to the Vizier, that every Arrangement had been made for the Attack of Fort Lebie on the Morning of the 14th Instant, when it was discovered that the Fort was evacuated, and the Garrison had retired.

I beg Leave to inform your Lordship, that during the Action of the 16th Instant, myself and Major Hope of the Royal Artillery, were in the Field with the Grand Vizier, Captain Lacey of the Royal Engineers with Mchémmed Pacha, and Captain Leake of the Royal Artillery with Tahir Pasha, to render every Assistance in our Power.

The combined Forces under Major-General Hutchinson and the Capitan Pacha, are about Five Hours Distance in the Delta, but are expected here in 2 Day or Two. I received a Letter from the General this Morning, who informs me he has taken a Convoy of Five Hundred and Fifty Camels, and Six Hundred French Prisoners.

I have the Honor to be, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES HOLLOWAY,
Major-Commandant, &c.

MY LORD, *Constantinople, June 21, 1801.*

I have the most sincere Satisfaction in forwarding to your Lordship the inclosed Dispatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Holloway.

The modest and unassuming Manner in which this deserving Officer has mentioned himself and the British under his Orders, imposes upon me the Obligation of stating to your Lordship, what I had learnt by their private Communications to me from Jassa and Gaza; that as soon as the Determination was formed for the Vizier to advance into Egypt, Lieutenant-Colonel Holloway proposed that Distribution of the Turkish Army, and that Order of March, which have effectually ensured this unlooked-for Success over the French. The Advanced Guard was composed of a select Body of Cavalry under Tahir Pacha, and of Albanian Infantry under Mchémmed Pacha; the First, accompanied by Captain Leake, the Second, by Captain Lacey, each receiving their Orders from Colonel Holloway, who remained near the Person of the Vizier.

It is by this well-combined Disposition, by the Endeavours which were strenuously exercised to prevail upon this Corps to disembarass themselves of their superfluous Attendants, and by giving Confidence to the Turks in their own Means, that Colonel Holloway has been enabled to bring these Troops to keep in Check, during many Hours, a French Army of superior Force—to counteract its Plans—to attack it—to seize every Advantage of its Positions and of Ground, and, after manœuvring with Science, during Seven Hours, to repulse it with Loss, and gain a complete Victory. In the Account which the Vizier has sent of this Action to the Porte, His Highness speaks in the highest Terms of the Service done by the Artillery, which Major Hope is well known to be so very capable of directing.

(Signed) ELGIN.
Right Honorable Lord Hawkebury,
Sc. Sc. Sc.

Dorington Street, July 21, 1801.

A DISPATCH, of which the following is a Copy, has been this Day received at the Office of the Right Honorable Lord Hobart, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Lieutenant-General the Honorable Sir John Hely Hutchinson, K. B. commanding His Majesty's Forces in Egypt.

*Head-Quarters, Camp, near Alkam,
June 1, 1801.*

MY LORD,

I Have the Honor to inform your Lordship, that the French abandoned the Position of El-Ast, on the 7th of May, which we occupied the same Evening, and on the 9th, we advanced to Rahmanich, where the French were posted with upwards of Three Thousand Infantry and Eight Hundred Cavalry. We at first imagined that they might have endeavoured to have maintained that Position, but our Corps on the Eastern Bank of the Nile having got into their Rear, took the Fort of Rahmanich in reverse, which probably induced the Enemy to retire in the Night between the 9th and 10th, leaving a Garrison in the Fort, which surrendered in the Morning, amounting to One Hundred and Ten Men, commanded by a Chef de Brigade; we also took the same Day, about Fifty Cavalry and Three Officers coming from Alexandria.

As the Enemy retired towards Cairo, it became necessary to follow them, in order to cover the Army of the Grand Vizier, and to secure a Junction with the expected Reinforcement from India.

Nothing happened of any Importance until the 14th, when we fell in with a valuable Convoy of Germs on the Nile. They had come from Cairo down the Canal of Menouff, which joins the Damietta and Rosetta Branches of the River. From this Circumstance, they knew nothing of the Retreat of General La Grange from Rahmanich. About One Hundred and Fifty Prisoners fell into our Hands, and several heavy Guns, some of them intended for the Defence of Alexandria. The Convoy in itself was very valuable, and is a great Loss to the Enemy. We found on board all Kinds of Clothing, Wine, Spirits, &c. &c. and about Five Thousand Pounds in Money.

On the 17th, when encamped at Alkam, we were informed by the Arabs that a considerable Body of French, coming from Alexandria, were advancing towards the Nile, near the Spot where the Boats of the Capitan Pacha then were. The Cavalry were immediately ordered out, with Two Pieces of Cannon, under the Command of Brigadier-General Doyle, supported by his Brigade of Infantry. Colonel Cavalier, who commanded the French Convoy, as soon as he perceived the Boats of the Capitan Pacha, suspected that our Army must be near, and therefore retired into the Desert, where we followed him. The Cavalry came up with him, after a March of about Three Hours. A Flag of Truce was sent in to them, by Major Wilson of the Hompesch, requiring them to surrender, on Condition that their Private Property should be respected, and that they should be sent to France by the first convenient Opportunity. With these Terms they complied, and laid down their Arms. They amounted, in all, to about Six Hundred Men, Infantry, Cavalry, and Artillery, to-

gether with a considerable Portion of the Dromedary Corps, One Four-Pounder, and Five Hundred and Fifty Camels. The Prisoners taken are all Frenchmen, and of the best Troops they had in Egypt.

On the 17th of May the Enemy retired from the Fort of Lisbét, on the Damietta Branch, and formed a Junction with about Two Hundred Men which they had at Burlos: this Fort they also evacuated, and embarked in Five small Vessels, Four of which have been taken and carried into Aboukir Bay; the Fifth endeavoured to escape towards Cyprus, but a Turkish Frigate was left in chase of her, so that it is more than probable she has shared the same Fate.

The Garrisons of the Two Forts consisted of about Seven Hundred Men; so that in all we have taken, from the 9th to the 20th, near Sixty Hundred Men, which makes a considerable Diminution of the Enemy's Force in this Country.

The French made a most extraordinary rapid March from Rahmanich to Gizah, where they arrived on the 13th, and immediately crossed the River to Boulac.

On the 15th, they marched to attack the Grand Vizir's Army. His Highness anticipated their Intention, and made a forward Movement with a considerable Body of Cavalry on the Night between the 15th and 16th. The Armies remained for some Hours in Presence of each other, when the Ottoman Troops attacked at about Eight o'Clock in the Morning, and after an Action of Seven Hours, the French retired, having lost between Three and Four Hundred Men killed and wounded. They were nearly the same People who had retreated from Rahmanich, and were about Four Thousand or Four Thousand Five Hundred Men.

I congratulate your Lordship upon the Event of this very important Action; I have also much Pleasure in informing you, that the Mamalukes, under the Orders of Osman Bey, (Successor of Murad Bey,) have joined us, to the Amount of about Fifteen Hundred Cavalry, inferior, certainly, to none in the World. I am sanguine enough to hope, that the most serious good Effects will arise from this Junction, as they have a most intimate Knowledge of the Country, and the greatest Influence amongst the Inhabitants.

I enclose you the Capitulation of the Fort of Rahmanich, and also a Return of the Killed and Wounded on the 9th of May, which I rejoice has been so very inconsiderable.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

(Signed) J. HELY HUTCHINSON.

To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart.

Fort of Rhamanich, May 10, 1801.

THE Garrison of the Fort of Rhamanich will surrender to the Ottoman and British Forces on the following Conditions:

I. The Officers shall wear their Swords and retain their Effects. They, as well as the Soldiers, shall be Prisoners of War.—Granted.

II. The Garrison shall be sent back to France, and shall not serve against the King of England, nor against his Allies, until exchanged conformably to the Cartel between the two Nations.—Granted.

III. The Wounded are placed under the Protection of British Humanity.

(Signed) LA CROIX, Chef de Brigade.

CAPITAN PACHA.

J. HELY HUTCHINSON, Major-General, commanding in Chief.

JAMES STEVENSON, Capt. Royal Navy.

Rhamanich, May 9, 1801.

Return of the Killed and Wounded of the Army under the Command of the Honorable Major-General Hutchinson.

11th Light Dragoons.—1 Horse, killed; 1 Serjeant, 1 Rank and File, 4 Horses, wounded.

12th Ditto.—6 Horses, killed.

26th Ditto.—2 Horses, killed; 1 Officer, wounded.

Royal Artillery.—1 Horse, killed; 2 Officers, 3 Rank and File, 1 Horse, wounded.

Royals.—3 Rank and File, wounded.

8th Foot.—2 Rank and File, wounded.

58th Foot.—1 Rank and File, wounded.

79th Foot.—1 Officer, 1 Rank and File, wounded.

89th Foot.—1 Drummer, 4 Rank and File, killed; 1 Drummer, 7 Rank and File, wounded.

Total.—1 Drummer, 4 Rank and File, 10 Horses, killed; 4 Officers, 1 Serjeant, 1 Drummer, 18 Rank and File, 5 Horses, wounded.

NAMES OF OFFICERS WOUNDED.

26th Light Dragoons.—Captain King.

Royal Artillery.—Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson; Captain Adye.

79th Foot.—Captain Macdouall.

(Signed) JOHN ABERCROMBY, Dep. Adjutant-General.

P. S. A Letter has just reached me from Lieutenant-Colonel Murray, dated Cossire, the 14th of May, informing me of his Arrival with the First Division of the Bombay Detachment of Troops, and that he was in daily Expectation of General Baird with the Remainder.

