



SUPPLEMENT to  
**The London Gazette**  
 EXTRAORDINARY,  
*Of Tuesday, the 24th of January.*

**Published by Authority.**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1809.**

Admiralty-Office, January 24, 1809.

*Copy of a Letter from the Honourable Michael De Courcy, Rear-Admiral of the White, to the Hon. William Wellesley Pole, dated on board His Majesty's Ship the Tonnant, at Corunna, the 17th and 18th Instant.*

SIR,

January 17, 1809.

**H**AVING it in Design to detach the Cossack to England as soon as her Boats shall cease to be essential to the Embarkation of Troops, I seize a Moment to acquaint you, for the Information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the Ships of War, as per Margin\*, and Transports, under the Orders of Rear-Admiral Sir Samuel Hood and Commissioner Bowen, arrived at this Anchorage from Vigo on the 14th and 15th Instant; the Alfred and Hindostan, with some Transports, were left at Vigo to receive a Brigade of Three Thousand Five Hundred Men, that had taken that Route under the Generals Alten and Crawford.

\* Ville de Paris, Victory, Barfleur, Zealous, Implacable, Elizabeth, Norge, Plantagenet, Resolution, Audacious, Endymion, Mediator.

In the Vicinity of Corunna the Enemy have pressed upon the British in great Force. The Embarkation of the Sick, the Cavalry, and the Stores went on. The Night of the 16th was appointed for the general Embarkation of the Infantry; and, mean Time, the Enemy prepared for Attack. At Three P. M. an Action commenced; the Enemy, which had been posted on a lofty Hill, endeavouring to force the British on another Hill of inferior Height, and nearer the Town.

The Enemy were driven back with great Slaughter; but very sorry am I to add, that the British, though triumphant, have suffered severe Losses. I am unable to communicate further Particulars, than that Sir John Moore received a mortal Wound, of which he died at Night; that Sir David Baird lost an Arm; that several Officers and many Men have been killed and wounded; and that the Ships of War have received all such of the latter as they could accommodate, the Remainder being sent to Transports.

The Weather is now tempestuous, and the Difficulties of Embarkation are great. All except the Rear-Guard are embarked; consisting perhaps at the present Moment of Two Thousand Six Hun-

ired Men. The Enemy having brought Cannon to a Hill overhanging the Beach, have forced a Majority of the Transports to cut or slip. Embarkation being no longer practicable at the Town, the Boats have been ordered to a sandy Beach near the Light-House; and it is hoped that the greater Part, if not all, will still be embarked, the Ships of War having dropped out to facilitate Embarkation.

January 18.

The Embarkation of the Troops having occupied greater Part of last Night, it has not been in my Power to detach the Coffack before this Day; and it is with Satisfaction I am able to add, that, in consequence of the good Order maintained by the Troops, and the unwearied Exertions of Commissioner Bowen, the Captains and other Officers of the Navy, the Agents, as well as the Boats' Crews, many of whom were for Two Days without Food and without Repose, the Army have been embarked to the last Man, and the Ships are now in the Offing, preparatory to steering for England. The great Body of the Transports having lost their Anchors,

ran to Sea without the Troops they were ordered to receive, in consequence of which there are some Thousands on board the Ships of War. Several Transports, through Mismanagement, ran on Shore. The Seamen appeared to have abandoned them, Two being brought out by the Boats' Crews of the Men of War, Two were burnt, and Five were bilged.

I cannot conclude this hasty Statement without expressing my great Obligation to Rear-Admiral Sir Samuel Hood, whose Eye was every where, and whose Exertions were unremitting.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

M. DE COURCY.

Hazy Weather rendering the Coffack obscure, I detach the Gleaner with this Dispatch.

ERRATUM.

In some few Copies of the Extraordinary Gazette of this Day, Page 91, Col. 2, Line 12,

For Major *Wilkins*, 81st Regiment,  
Read Major *Williams*, 81st Regiment,

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