



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 1809.

Downing-Street, August 19, 1809.

A DISPATCH of which the following is a Copy, was this Day received at the Office of Viscount Castlereagh, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Lieutenant-General the Earl of Chatham, K. G. dated Head-Quarters, Middleburgh, August 16, 1809.

*Head-Quarters, Middleburgh,
August 16, 1809.*

MY LORD,

I HAVE the Honour of acquainting your Lordship, that on the 13th Instant, the Batteries before Flushing being completed, (and the Frigates, Bombs, and Gun Vessels, having at the same Time taken their Stations) a Fire was opened at about Half-past One P. M. from Fifty-two Pieces of Heavy Ordnance, which was vigorously returned by the Enemy. An additional Battery of Six Twenty-four Pounders was completed the same Night, and the whole continued to play upon the Town with little or no Intermission till late on the following Day.

On the Morning of the 14th Instant, about Ten o'Clock, the Line of Battle Ships at Anchor in the Durloo Passage, led by Rear Admiral Sir Richard Strachan got under weigh, and ranging up along the Sea Line of Defence, kept up as they passed a tremendous Cannonade on the Town for several Hours with the greatest Gallantry and Effect. About Four in the Afternoon, perceiving that the Fire of the Enemy had entirely ceased, and the Town presenting a most awful Scene of Destruction, being on Fire in almost every Quarter, I directed Lieutenant-General Sir Eyre Coote to send in to summons the Place; General Monnet returned for Answer, that he would reply to the Summons as soon as he had consulted a Council of War, an Hour had been allowed him for the Purpose, but a considerable Time beyond it having elapsed without

any Answer being received, Hostilities were ordered to recommence with the utmost vigour, and about Eleven o'Clock at Night, one of the Enemy's Batteries, advanced upon the Sea Dyke in Front of Lieutenant-General Fraser's Position, was most gallantly carried at the Point of the Bayonet, by Detachments from the 36th, 71st, and Light Battalions of the King's German Legion, under Lieutenant-Colonel Pack, opposed to great superiority of Numbers; they took Forty Prisoners, and killed and wounded a great many of the Enemy.

I must not omit to mention, that on the preceding Evening, an Intrenchment in Front of Major-General Graham's Position, was also forced in a Manner equally undaunted, by the 14th Regiment, and Detachments of the King's German Legion, under Lieutenant-Colonel Nicolls, who drove the Enemy from it, and made a Lodgement within Musket-Shot of the Walls of the Town, taking One Gun and Thirty Prisoners.

About Two in the Morning, the Enemy demanded a Suspension of Arms for Forty-eight Hours which was refused, and only Two Hours granted, when he agreed to surrender according to the Summons sent in, on the Basis of the Garrison becoming Prisoners of War.

I have now the Satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship, that these Preliminaries being acceded to; as soon as the Admiral landed in the Morning, Colonel Long, Adjutant-General, and Captain Cockburn of the Royal Navy, were appointed to negotiate the further Articles of Capitulation, which I have now the Honour to enclose. They were ratified about Three this Morning, when Detachments of the Royals on the Right, and of His Majesty's 71st Regiment on the Left, took Possession of the Gates of the Town. The Garrison will march out Tomorrow, and will be embarked as speedily as possible.

I may now congratulate your Lordship on the