

The London Gazette.

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From Saturday December 31. to Tuesday January 3. 1721.

AT the Court at St. James's, the 3d of January, 1720.

P R E S E N T,

The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

This Day the Right Honourable John Earl of Sutherland and Sir George Byng were sworn of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, and took their Places at the Board accordingly.

Sheriffs appointed by His Majesty in Council for the Year 1721.

Berks,	Reginald Fellow, of Reading, Esq;
Bedford,	Richard Orlebear, Esq;
Cumbe,	Thomas Ingoldesby, Esq;
Buckland,	Joshua Laithes, Esq;
Cambr' & Hunt,	Edward Partherick, Esq;
Devon,	William Hull, of Exmouth, Esq;
Dorset,	John Meech, Esq;
Derby,	Richard Bagshaw, of Castleton, Esq;
Ebor,	Sir Walter Hawksworth, Bar.
Essex,	Timothy Brand, Esq;
Gloucester,	John Döwle, of Over, Esq;
Hertford,	Sir Charles Buck, Bar.
Hireford,	Edward Witherston, Esq;
Kent,	Jonathan Smith, of Swanscombe, Esq;
Leicester,	Joseph Danvers, Esq;
Monmouth,	Charles Probert, of Monmouth, Esq;
Northumb,	Edward Delavall, Esq;
Northampton,	Egidius Knightley, Esq;
Norfolk,	Nathaniel Life, Esq;
Nottingham,	John Sherwin, Esq;
Oxford,	Daniel Blake, of Coggs, Esq;
Rutland,	Orlando Browne, Esq;
Salop,	John Kinnersley, Esq;
Somerset,	William Applen, Esq;
Stafford,	Robert Bosvile, of Biana, Esq;
Southampton,	Charles Morley, of Droxford, Esq;
Surry,	Wight Woolley, Esq;
Suffex,	William Marckwicke, Esq;
Warwick,	Thomas Bailey, Esq;

Whitehall, January 2.

The Marquess de Pozobueno, his Catholick Majesty's Minister at this Court, has received by an Expres the following Account of another Victory over the Moors, obtained by the Spanish Army at Ceuta, the 21st of December last.

After the Victory obtained on the 9th of December, by his Majesty's Forces, it was concluded that the Infidels, notwithstanding their great Loss, and the terrible Reception they had met with, would again attack us, as well on Account of their natural Obstinacy, as by Reason of the fresh Encouragement they would receive from the Reinforcements sent by their King from the Upper Country, and from the Frontiers to the Southward and to the Eastward towards Tetuan, to strengthen their Army. These Considerations, joined to the Zeal and Prudence of the Marquess de Lede, prevailed with him providently to improve the Fortifications of our Camp, by finishing the Works already begun, adding others, and increasing the Batteries, so that our Army lay encamped behind an Intrenchment that reaches from Sea to Sea, the Front of it extending about half a League, and about a quarter of a League distant from the Town of Ceuta. This Line is drawn answerable to the Unevenness of the Ground, jutting out in some Places, and drawing back in others, as has been requisite to take in the Hills and other Eminences, to which Purpose it has been unavoidable to form some obtuse Angles, by Means whereof, and of some saillant Points made to that Effect, all the Front is flanked, as well by the Musketeers as by several Batteries conveniently disposed.

Besides this Line, some advanced Works were thrown up on the principal Avenues, and more particularly a very large one, called the Tenaille, at 90 Paces Distance before the Center of our Infantry, with a good Communication between it and the Line, to convey along it the necessary Supplies.

This Work was secured by a Ditch five Foot in Depth, and 10 in Breadth, and before it a Parapet,

on which was fixed a Row of Cheveaux de Frize for a farther Check to the advancing of the Moors.

About half a Musket-Shot from this Work is a little Hill with some Brakes or Sloughs behind it, which might serve to cover the Moors that should approach that way, and yet it was not thought convenient to fortify or possess the same, in Regard that it was commanded by other Eminences, and for other sufficient Reasons.

The Openings in our Line left to relieve the Out-Posts, were made good by two Rows of Cheveaux de Frize, and well flanked.

Our Infantry lay encamped in two Lines; but every Battallion, having the particular Place they were to repair to, and make good in Case of an Attack assigned them, they all could and were accordingly to repair immediately to their respective Posts, by this Means drawing the two Lines into one behind the Breast-works, excepting only some Parties and Companies of Grenadiers, that were in the advanced Posts, and others remaining in the Rear as a Reserve, to reinforce such Posts as should have need of them; besides the Regiments of Horse and Dragoons appointed to remain in the Rear of the Infantry, and on their Flanks to sustain them.

All these Precautions were thought requisite, in Regard that his Majesty's Army at that Time, consisted of only 12,000 Foot, divided into 26 Battallions, and 4000 Horse and Dragoons in 32 Squadrons; for though a considerable Reinforcement of Troops lay embarked in the Bay of Gibraltar, they had not been able to cross the Straights by reason of the bad Weather.

Such was the Disposition of the Camp and Army, when on the 18th, some Volleys fired by the Moors in their Camp at Castillejos were heard, which it was known they had done to salute one of their chief Commanders then arrived in their Camp, with a considerable Reinforcement of Troops, and they having the foregoing Days received several Supplies, the Marquess de Lede concluded that they would attack us the next Day, whereupon he gave his Orders to the Troops, that they might be in a Readiness to march upon the first Signal given, to the Posts assigned to every Corps.

The same Day at Eight in the Evening it began to rain, which continued all the next Day in so violent a Manner, that it obliged the Infidels to put off their intended Operations.

On the 20th, at Noon, the great Guards gave Notice, that a considerable Body appeared coming down the Brake de las Canas, intending, as it seemed, to hold on their March along the Bank called Inferno, in order to get into the Road of Tangier, and from thence to extend themselves on the Eminence of the Serraille, before the great Guard of our Center, which accordingly they performed. This Body consisted of between 800 and 1000 Horse, who seemed to be a Guard to several principal Officers that marched at the Head of them, and were distinguishable by their Habit, and the rich Furniture of their Horses. Having continued on that Eminence observing our Camp, and the Posture of our Army, till Four in the Afternoon, they then retired to their own.

This Motion of the Infidels, confirmed the Marquess de Lede in his Opinion, that they would advance as soon as possible with their whole Army, since they could not do it the Day before by reason of the Rain; and accordingly on the 21st at Sun-rising, some Parties of their Horse appeared, and at 8 of the Clock one Column of their Cavalry, directing their March to the Eminence of the Serraille, near the Road of Tangier. Soon after followed two large Columns of Infantry, one of which marched towards the Coast and anchoring Place of Tramaguera, which comes up directly to our Left, and the other to the Brake de las Canas, at the Center of our Left. The Column of their Cavalry at 11 of the Clock counter-marched towards their Left and came down the Brake that is opposite to the Center of our Infantry, but there appeared no other considerable Motion of theirs, till the very Moment of the General Attack.