

## Royal Gazette, and Miscellany of the Island of Saint John.

CHARLOTTE TOWN: PRINTED BY WILLIAM A. RIND, PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

FROM THE

## London Gazette Extraordinary.

WHITEHALL, DECEMBER 25

The dispatches of which the following are copies and an extract were yesterday received from Major General David Dundas, Vice Admiral Lord Hood, and Sir Gilbert Elliot, Baronet, by the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, dated Toulon, November 30, and December 1, 1793.

Toulon, Nov. 30, 1793.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that the enemy, having opened a battery on the height of Arenas, which much annoyed one of our principal outposts, (Malbouquet) it became necessary to attack it. Dispositions for that purpose were made, and this morning, at five o'clock, a corps of 400 British, 300 Sardinians, 600 Neapolitans, 600 Spaniards, and 300 French under my command, marched from the town. Notwithstanding the whole was obliged to cross the New River on one bridge only, to divide into four columns, to march across olive grounds, intersected by stone walls, and to ascend a very considerable height, cut into vine terraces, yet we succeeded in surprising and forcing the enemy, and were soon in full possession of the battery and height. But, I am sorry to say, that, instead of forming upon and occupying the long and narrow summit of the hill, agreeable to orders and military prudence, the impetuosity of the troops led them to follow the enemy, to descend the height, to ascend other distant heights, and, at last, in disorder, to encounter such superior advancing numbers, as obliged them precipitately to retire, and relinquish the advantages we at first gained.

It is with much concern, I must add, that Lieut. Gen. O'Hara, who had arrived at the battery on our first success, was involved in the consequence of this sudden reverse, was wounded, and made prisoner.

We have to regret, that so many gallant officers and men have suffered on this occasion. The loss of the British I have the honour to inclose; that of the other nations is not in proportion great.

From General O'Hara's absence, the command devolves on me. I shall endeavour to discharge it to the best of my ability and health, till his Majesty's further pleasure is signified.

With great respect, I have the honour to be, &c.

D. DUNDAS, Major Gen.

Right Hon. Henry Dundas,

&amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

Total of killed, wounded, and missing.

1 Lieutenant, 2 serjeants, and 23 rank and file killed; 4 Captains, 4 Lieutenants, 2 serjeants, 2 drummers, 78 rank and file wounded; 1 major, 7 serjeants, 2 drummers, 88 rank and file missing.

Lt. General O'Hara wounded and taken prisoner.

Toulon, Nov. 30, 1793.

SIR, The enemy having erected and opened a battery against the post of Malbouquet, and from which shells would reach the town and arsenal, Governor O'Hara signified to me yesterday his intention to attempt to destroy it, and bring off the guns; and requested some seamen to be sent to a post he proposed to withdraw the British soldiers from. The Governor promised not to go himself, but unfortunately did not keep his word. A most clear, distinct, and regular plan was settled, and the Commanding Officer of the troops of each nation had a copy of it. The troops moved at four o'clock this morning, and surprized the redoubt most completely: never was a service performed with more regularity and exactness; but the audacity and impetuosity of the troops (instead of forming on the height where the battery was raised, as they were particularly ordered to do) led them to rush after the enemy, near a mile on the other side, in a very scattered and irregular manner. The consequence of which was, the enemy collected in very great force; and, in the retreat of our troops, they suffered extremely. I herewith transmit an account of the loss of the British in killed, wounded, and missing: But Major General Dundas will give you more particulars. The Governor most unfortunately was wounded and taken prisoner. A surgeon was sent to him immediately (by permission of General Du Gommier, Commander in Chief of the Eastern Army at the siege of Toulon) who reports that the Governor's wound is a flesh one only in the arm; but being faint by the loss of blood, he was obliged to sit down under a wall, and was there made prisoner. I have the honour to be, &c.

HOOD.

Right Hon. Henry Dundas,

&amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

Extract of a letter from Sir Gilbert Elliot, Bart. to the Rt. Hon. Henry Dundas.

Toulon, Dec. 1, 1793.

Knowing that General Dundas has sent you an official account of the unfortunate action of yesterday, and that Lord Hood has also written on the same subject, you must not expect a relation of it from me. I cannot, however,

lose the opportunity, which the messenger affords, of saying, that, by the unanimous testimony of those who either witnessed the action, or were acquainted with the plan, there never was an occasion on which the disposition were made with greater ability and judgment, or executed as long as the orders were complied with in a more gallant or spirited manner for the troops. It is a real consolation to know that the courage of the British was conspicuous from the beginning of the action to the end, and that an excess in that good quality was the true and only cause of the miscarriage. It is much to be regretted that General O'Hara was, on every occasion, so prodigal of his person; but the misfortune which has befallen him, and the severe loss which his service sustains by his capture, cannot be ascribed even to this honourable fault; for he did not himself ascend the battery till it was possessed by our troops, and there was reason to suppose the object of the day had been obtained. The reverse was so sudden, and his presence must have appeared so material towards restoring order, and retrieving the error which had been committed by the troops, that it is not to be wondered at, if, with his spirit, he became exposed to personal hazard. His wound, though not dangerous or serious, had bed much, and, added to the exertions he had before made, weakened him so much, that he could not retire many paces with the troops, but insisted on being left by two soldiers who were conducting him, and whom he ordered to proceed and save themselves.

MADRID, JANUARY 7.

The following letter from his Excellency Don Juan de Langara, Admiral of the Spanish squadron, to his Excellency Baylis Don Antonis de Baldes, has been received:

"I am anxious to give your Excellency notice of the setting on fire of the arsenal and the French ships of Toulon, on the 18th of the present month, Dec. 1793, according to the account given by the Lieutenant of the ship Don Pedro Cortiella and Don Francisco Riquelme, whom I have commissioned for this object.

"At nine o'clock in the morning, Captain Sydney Smith, of an English ship, informed him that Admiral Hood had commissioned him for the setting on fire the arsenal and the French ships, and that he came to join the officers, whom I should elect on my part, to proceed, without delay, to this operation, and that he had two boats, with guns, to place in the entry of the arsenal, and ours were destined to fire at Mal-