

in motion. The troops in all parts are quitting their cantonments to repair to the banks of the Rhine; a circumstance that justifies the presumption that the campaign is about to commence.— Considerable reinforcements are sending to the Mein, where there are 22,000 Austrians, 3000 troops of the line of the Empire, and 6000 peasants of the levy in a mass.

As to the Russian army under the command of General Suwaroff, it is certain it is partly returned to Poland. However, 22,000 Russians are given by Paul I. to the Emperor of Germany, as auxiliaries. This corps will be composed of some chosen regiments of infantry, four regiments of grenadiers, two of chassars, two of dragoons, and two of hussars. They will immediately proceed to Franconia, where they will serve under the orders of the Archduke Charles. The corps of Condé will also form part of the army of Germany.— Such are the new changes announced this morning by the German Gazettes, as well as by many letters from the Interior of Germany.

From the LONDON GAZETTE.

Admiralty-Office, March 8.

Copy of a letter from the Right Hon. Lord Bridport, K. B. Admiral of the White, &c. to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated the 4th instant.

SIR,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from Capt. Fraser, of the *Nymphé*, stating the capture of *La Modeste* French letter of marque, on the 24th February, which is transmitted for their Lordships' information.

I have the honour to be, &c.

BRIDPORT.

*La Nymphé*, Plymouth Sound, March 8, 1800.

MY LORD,

I have the honor to acquaint your Lordship, that I brought into Plymouth this morning *La Modeste*, a French letter of marque, pierced for sixteen guns, and having seventy men on board, which I captured on the 24th February last, in company with the *Amethyst*. She is a fine ship, about 600 tons burthen, and laden with cotton, coffee, tea, sugar, indigo, &c. Had left the Isle of France only 9 weeks, and was bound to Bourdeaux, off which port I captured her.

I have the honour to be, &c.

PERCY FRASER.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

Mr. Sitgreaves, one of the American Commissioners for settling the claims under the treaty between this country and the United States, arrived in England a few days ago, to make representations to our government, and to state and explain the difficulties which have arisen upon the subject.

MARCH 26.

We this morning received Paris papers to the 21st inst. one day later than those which arrived on Saturday. Their contents are unimportant. A Proclamation of the First Consul was delivered to the Legislative Body, by which the sittings of that Body were prorogued from the 22d March to the 1st of April. There is no military intelligence whatever.

This morning also four of the six Hamburg mails due this morning, arrived. They are all of a date prior to the latest of those which arrived on Saturday, and therefore furnish us with nothing new. At the time the Post left Yarmouth, the Express Packet was in fight, which most probably has the two remaining mails on board, and may be expected in the course of the day.

We have great satisfaction in informing our readers that our private letter from Germany, as well as the public accounts, all agree in representing the answer given by the Court of Vienna, to the overtures made by Buonaparte, as conformable in all respects to that which was returned by our Ministers. It appears that on the same day on which a separate peace was proposed to the King of Great-Britain, a separate peace was proposed to the Emperor of Germany. Both have objected to a separate peace, and both have stated, in answer to the communication, that the disposition of the Chief Consul, and his power to act up to that disposition (whatever it might be) must be judged of, not by professions, but by experience.

Rumour, however, states, that fresh overtures have been made to the Court of Vienna by Buonaparte, and we are told, that the British Government is in expectation of another Courier from Paris.

The combined French and Spanish Fleets remained snug in Brest harbor on Thursday last.

The first remittance of the subsidy to the Emperor was made by the Hamburg mail of last night. The arrangements between the Courts of London and Vienna are completed.

Sir Alan Gardner, with seven ships of the line and two frigates, part of the Channel Fleet, has put into Plymouth to refit and revictual.

A letter from Leghorn of February 3, says, "That from the 24th to the 30th of January, 55 merchant vessels have arrived here, among which are three Genoese polacres, captured by *la Mutine* British brig. The American ship *Camilla*, Capt. Holmes, from Boston; the *Bettinia*, Captain White from Philadelphia.

From the 30th of January till yesterday, (Feb. 5.) 58 vessels laden with corn, oil, cotton, wine, &c. are arrived here, besides 11 British vessels, with the manufactures of that country. Our commerce begins to be very brisk, and most bargains are made in hard cash.— The paper of the bank of Naples loses 58 per cent. The British blockade the coast from Genoa to Marfeilles."

The great commercial house of Boyd, Benfield & Co. has at length been declared bankrupt in the Gazette. Previous thereto government last week issued an extent against all the property that could be found. The amount of its debt is 150,000l. of which 100,000l. is for monies which it had advanced for a remittance which the house of Boyd & Co. was to have sent to the Cape of Good Hope; and 50,000l. which was advanced on Mr. Benfield's bills, on persons in India, which came back protested. It is believed that Mr. Benfield's effects in India will be equal to answer this deficiency.

MARCH 31.

Particulars of the Loss of the *Repulse*.

The following are the authentic particulars of the unfortunate loss of his Majesty's ship *Repulse*, of 64 guns, Captain Alms.

The *Repulse* was one of the ships of the Channel fleet, but had been detached by Sir Alan Gardner to cruise off the Penmarks, for the purpose of intercepting provision vessels going to Brest.— On Sunday the 9th instant there came on a sudden and violent gale of wind, and the rolling of the ship occasioned an accident to Capt. Alms, who, while standing near the companion ladder, was thrown down it, by which one of his ribs was broken, and he was disabled from doing any further duty on the ship's deck.

For two or three days the weather had been so thick, that it was not possible to make any observation, and the current had driven the ship so far out of her reckoning, that about twelve o'clock on the night of the 10th the *Repulse* struck on a sunken rock, supposed to be the *Marc*, 25 leagues south-east of Ushant. She was then going about six knots an hour. The ship continued striking on the rock near three quarters of an hour before she could be brought to wear, and the water rushed in so fast, that the lower-deck tier was soon flooded. By great exertions, the ship was kept afloat long enough to be enabled to approach the coast near Quimper, and at half past ten o'clock Capt. Alms and the ship's company quitted her, and made good a landing on one of the Glens Islands, about two miles from the Continent. The peasantry on the Island gave every assistance, and it is supposed the ship's company have been sent prisoners to Quimper.

In the confusion of getting on shore, one of the ship's boats upset with five seamen, who were drowned. Two others were drowned owing to drunkenness; and four more were to drunk, they could not be got out of the ship. We believe these are all that perished.

The 1st and 4th Lieutenants, two Midshipmen, and eight Seamen, preferring the risk of getting safe to England to the horrors of a French prison, betook themselves to the large cutter, and having got a small supply of provisions and bread, steered for Guernsey. They had got within eight leagues of the land on the first day, when a gale of wind came on, which drove them towards the French coast; and it was not until the

fourth day that they reached Guernsey, after having undergone the most severe hardships during three days and nights, the waves breaking over the boat incessantly that four of the seamen were constantly employed in bailing her.— The first Lieutenant was landed at Weymouth on Sunday.

The *Repulse* had on the day preceding the accident re-captured the Princess Royal Packet from the Leeward Islands, on board of which the Third Lieutenant and ten seamen had been sent. Some apprehensions are entertained on account of her, as she is not yet arrived. The French Prize-Master was carrying her into Nantz. The mail had been taken out by the privateer which captured her.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Admiralty Office, March 29.

Copy of a letter from Captain Sir William Sidney Smith, Captain of His Majesty's ship *Tigre*, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated off Jaffa, the 8th of November, 1799.

SIR,

I have the honor to enclose a copy of my letter, to the Right Honorable Lord Nelson, (of this date) for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

I have the honor to be,

Sir, &c. &c. &c.

W. SIDNEY SMITH.

*Tigre*, off Jaffa, 8th Nov. '99.

MY LORD,

I lament to have to inform your Lordship of the melancholy death of Patrona Bey, the Turkish Vice-Admiral, who was assassinated at Cyprus in a mutiny of the Janissaries on the 18th of October; the command devolved on Seid Ali Bey, who had just joined me with the troops from Constantinople, composing the second Maritime Expedition destined for the recovery of Egypt. As soon as our joint exertions had restored order, we proceeded to the Mouth of the Damietta Branch of the Nile, to make an attack thereon, as combined with the Supreme Vizier, in order to draw the attention of the enemy that way, and leave his Highness more at liberty to advance, with the Grand Army on the side of the Desert. The attack begun by the *Tigre*'s boats taking possession of a ruined castle situated on the Eastern side of the Bogsz, or entrance of the channel, which the inundation of the Nile had insulated from the main land, leaving a fordable passage. The Turkish flag displayed on the tower of this castle was at once the signal for the Turkish gun-boats to advance, and for the enemy to open their fire in order to dislodge us; their nearest post being a redoubt on the main land, with two 32-pounders and an 8-pounder field piece mounted thereon, a point blank shot distant.

The fire was returned from the launch's carronade, mounted in a breach in the castle, and from field pieces in the small boats, which soon obliged the enemy to discontinue working at an intrenchment they were making to oppose a landing. Lieut. Stokes was detached with the boats to check a body of cavalry advancing along the neck of land, in which he succeeded; but I am sorry to say with the loss of one man killed and one wounded. This interchange of shot continued with little intermission during the 29th, 30th and 31st, while the Turkish transports were drawing near to the landing place, our shells from the carronade annoying the enemy in his works and communications; at length the magazine blowing up, and one of their 32-pounders being silenced, a favourable moment offered for disembarkation. Orders were given accordingly; but it was not till the morning of the 1st of November that they could effectuate this operation.

This delay gave time for the enemy to collect a force more than double that of the first division landed, and to be ready to attack it before the return of the boats with the remainder. The French advanced to the charge with bayonets. The Turks completely exculpated themselves from the suspicion of cowardice having been the cause of their delay, for when the enemy were within ten yards of them they rushed on, sabre in hand, and in an instant completely routed the first line of the French infantry. The day was ours for the moment; but the impetuosity of Osman Aga and his troops occasioned them to quit the station assigned

them as a corps of reserve, and to rush forward in pursuit of the fugitive. European tactics were of course advantageously employed by the French at this critical juncture. Their body of reserve came on in perfect order, while a charge of cavalry on the left of the Turks put them completely to the route in their return.—Our flanking fire from the castle and boats, which had been hitherto plied with evident effect, was now necessarily suspended, by the impossibility of pointing clear of the Turks in the confusion. The latter turned a random fire on the boats, to make them take them off, and the sea was in an instant covered with Turbans, while the air was filled with piteous moans, calling to us for assistance; it was (as at Aboukir) a duty of some difficulty to afford it them, without being victims to their impatience, or overwhelmed by numbers; we, however, persevered and saved all, except those which the French took prisoners by wading into the water after them; neither did the enemy interrupt us much in so doing. Major Douglas and Lieutenant Stokes, who were with me on this service, gave additional proofs of their zeal, ability, and bravery; and the boats crews, as usual, behaved admirably.

The loss in killed on our side cannot be ascertained. The French General, in his offer to exchange prisoners on the general account, assures me he has eleven hundred. As to the enemy's loss we have no means of estimating it, but it must have been sufficient to convince them that such victories as these against troops, which, though irregular, will fight hand to hand, with them, must cost them dear in the end.

I have the honor to be,

My Lord, &c. &c.

W. SIDNEY SMITH.

Camp of the Grand Vizier, near El Arish, January 24, 1800.

This day a convention has been signed here, by Moustapha Raschid Effendi and Moustapha Reschid Effendi, Commissioners appointed on the part of the Grand Vizier, and by Gen. Desaix and Mons. Poulliegue, Commissioners appointed on the part of Gen. Kleber, by which it has been agreed, that the French troops now in Egypt should evacuate that country, and should be allowed to return to France.

The Forts of Salahich and Catine are to be surrendered by the French troops within eight days after the Ratification of this Capitulation by the Grand Vizier and General Kleber, and the other places and towns in Egypt at the different periods specified for that purpose.

Admiralty-Office, March 27, 1800.

Major Douglas, late commander of the party of marines serving on board his Majesty's ship the *Tigre*, arrived this morning with dispatches from Sir Sidney Smith, Knight, Captain of that ship, and senior officer of the Squadron employed on the coast of Egypt, containing an account of the capture of the Fort of El Arish, by an advanced body of the army of the Grand Vizier, assisted by a detachment of marines from his Majesty's ships, under the orders of the Major. By this account it appears, that the Grand Vizier moved from Gara to El Arish on the 20th December last, and that the French Commandant having refused to capitulate, the Fort was reconnoitred by Major Douglas, accompanied by Lieut. Colonel Bromley and Captain Winter: that batteries were erected on the 24th, and the following days, the fire of which was attended with complete success; and that on the 29th in the morning, the enemy having ceased firing, Major Douglas ascended the wall of the Fort, by means of a rope which was let down for him, and received the sword of the French Commandant; but, that it having been found impossible in the first moment to restrain the impetuosity of the Turkish troops, three hundred of the French garrison were put to the sword, the remainder were, however, by his exertions and those of the Turkish commanding officers, placed in security, and the sick and wounded taken care of.

The Major acknowledges himself highly indebted to the assistance of Lieut. Col. Bromley, and commends the good conduct of Captains Winter and Trotte, and the gallant behaviour of Mr. Thomas Smith, midshipman, belonging to the *Tigre*, and represents that the cheerful manner in which the whole detachment performed their duty, exposed as they were in the desert without