

SIR,

Isle, under sail, in line of battle, Aug. 30.

I desire you will immediately hoist the flag of his serene highness the prince of Orange. If you do, you will immediately be considered as friends of the king of Great Britain, my most gracious sovereign; otherwise, take the consequences. Painful it will be to me for the loss of blood it may occasion; but the guilt will be on your own head.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

ANDREW MITCHEL,

Vice-admiral and commander in chief of his majesty's ships employed on the present expedition.

*To Rear-admiral Story, or the Commander
in Chief of the Dutch Squadron.*

On board the Washington, anchored under the Vlieter,
30th August, 1799.

ADMIRAL,

NEITHER your superiority, nor the threat that the spilling of human blood should be laid to my account, could prevent my showing you to the last moment what I could do for my sovereign, whom I acknowledge to be no other than the Batavian people, and its representatives, when your prince's and the Orange flags have obtained their end. The traitors whom I commanded refused to fight; and nothing remains to me, and my brave officers, but vain rage, and the dreadful reflection of our present situation:—therefore deliver over to you the fleet which I commanded. From this moment it is your obligation to provide for the safety of my officers, and the few brave men who are on board the Batavian ships—as I declare myself and my officers prisoners of war, and remain to be considered as such.

I am, with respect,

S. STORY.

*To Admiral Mitchel, commanding his Britannic
Majesty's Squadron in the Texel.*

*A List of the Dutch Squadron taken Possession of in the Texel by Vice-
Admiral Mitchel, Aug. 30.*

| | Guns. |
|--|-------|
| Washington—rear-admiral Story, captain Capelle . . . | 74 |
| Guelderland—captain Waldeck | 68 |
| Admiral de Ruyter—captain Huijs | 68 |
| Utrecht—captain Kolf | 68 |

| | Guns |
|---|------|
| Cerberus—captain de Yong - - - - | 68 |
| Leyden—captain Van Braam - - - - | 68 |
| Bechermer—captain Eilbracht - - - - | 54 |
| Batavier—captain Van Senden under the Vlieter. - - - - | 54 |
| Amphitrite—captain Schutter under the Vlieter. - - - - | 44 |
| Mars—captain de Beck, - - - - | 44 |
| Ambuscade—captain Riverij - - - - | 32 |
| Galatea—captain Droop - - - - | 16 |

Isis, Aug. 30, 1799.

THE undersigned, vice-admiral in the service of his majesty the King of Great Britain, charged with the execution of the naval part of the expedition to restore the Stadtholder, and the old and lawful constitution of the Seven United Provinces, guaranteed by his majesty, having agreed that, in consequence of the summons to rear-admiral Story, the ships, after hoisting the ancient colours, will be considered as in the service of the allies of the British crown, and under the orders of his serene highness the hereditary Stadtholder, captain and admiral-general of the Seven United Provinces, has thought it proper to give an account of this agreement to the brave crews of the different ships, and to summon them by the same to behave in a peaceable and orderly manner, so that no complaints may be represented by the officer the undersigned will send on board each of the ships to keep proper order, until the intentions of his majesty, and his serene highness the prince of Orange, as admiral-general, shall be known, for the farther destination of these ships, on account of which dispatches will be immediately sent off. And to make them aware, that in case their conduct should not be so as may be expected from the known loyalty and attachment of the Dutch navy to the illustrious House of Orange on this occasion, any excess or irregularity will be punished with the severity which the disorders may have been committed merit.

ANDREW MITCHEL.

Isis, at anchor at the Red Buoy, near the Vlieter,
Aug. 31, 1799.

SIR,

SINCE my letter of the 29th by captain Oughton, I received a letter.

from captain Winthorp, of the *Circe*, containing a more particular account of the men of war, &c. taken possession of in the *Nieuve Diep*, than I had then in my power to send, of which you will receive a copy herewith for the information of my lords commissioners of the Admiralty.

I have the honour, &c.

A. MITCHEL.

SIR,

Helder, Aug. 28, 1799.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I this morning took possession of the *Nieuve Diep*, with the ships and vessels under-mentioned, and also of the naval arsenal, containing ninety-five pieces of ordnance. A copy of the naval stores I will transmit you as soon as it can be made out.

I have the honour, &c.

R. WINTHROP.

| | Guns. | | Guns. |
|----------------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| Urwachten - - - - - | 66 | Unie - - - - - | 44 |
| Broederschop - - - - - | 54 | Helder - - - - - | 32 |
| Hector - - - - - | 44 | Follock - - - - - | 24 |
| Diuffee - - - - - | 44 | Minerva - - - - - | 24 |
| Expedition - - - - - | 44 | Venus - - - - - | 24 |
| Constitutie - - - - - | 44 | Alarm - - - - - | 24 |
| Belle Antionette - - - - - | 44 | | |

Dreishlerlahn, Howda, Vreedelust, Indiamen; and a sheer hulk.

DOWNING-STREET, SEPT. 9.

A dispatch, of which the following is an extract, has been received from lieutenant-general Sir Ralph Abercrombie, by the right honourable Henry Dundas, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state.

Head-Quarters, Schagen-brug, Sept. 4.

FROM the 27th of August to the 1st of September, the troops continued to occupy the Sand-Hills on which they fought. On that day the army marched and took post with its right to Petten on the German Ocean, and its left to Oude-Sluis on the *Zuider Zee*, with the canal of the *Zype* in front.

A better country is now open to us. We have found some horses and waggons, and a plentiful supply of fresh provisions.

The troops continue healthy, and behave extremely well.

The 11th regiment of dragoons are arrived, and have begun to disembark. The transports have been ordered to return to the Downs.

I have the honour to inclose herewith a return of the artillery, ammunition, and engineers' stores captured at the Helder.

[Then follows the return of ordnance, &c.]

DOWNING-STREET, SEPT. 16.

A dispatch, of which the following is a copy, was this morning received from lieutenant-general Sir Ralph Abercrombie, K. B. at the office of the right honourable Henry Dundas, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state.

Head-Quarters, Schagen-brug,
Sept. 11. 1799.

SIR,

HAVING fully considered the position which the British troops had occupied on the 1st inst. and having in view the certainty of speedy and powerful reinforcements, I determined to remain until then on the defensive.

From the information which we had received, we were apprised of the enemy's intention to attack us, and we were daily improving the advantages of our situation.

Yesterday morning at day-break the enemy commenced an attack on our centre and right, from St. Maarten's to Petten, in three columns, and apparently with their whole force.

The column on the right, composed of Dutch troops, and under the command of general Daendels, directed its attack on the village of St. Maarten's.

The centre column of the enemy, under the orders of general de Monceau, likewise composed of Dutch troops, marched on to Crabbendam and Zyper-Sluis.

The left column of the enemy, composed of French, directed itself on the position occupied by major-general Burrard, commanding the second brigade of guards.

The enemy advanced, particularly on their left and centre, with great intrepidity, and penetrated with the heads of their columns to within a hundred yards of the post occupied by the British troops. They were, however, every-where repulsed, owing to the strength of our position, and the determined courage of the troops. About ten o'clock the enemy retired towards Alkmaar, leaving behind them many dead and some wounded men, with one piece of cannon, a number of waggons, pontoons, and portable bridges. Colonel Macdonald with the reserve pursued them for some time, and quickened their retreat.

It is impossible for me to do full justice to the good conduct of the troops.

Colonel Spencer, who commanded in the village of St. Maarten's, defended his post with great spirit and judgment.

Major-general Moore, who commanded on his right, and who was wounded, though I am happy to say slightly, was no less judicious in the management of the troops under his command.

The two battalions of the 20th regiment, posted opposite to Crabben-dam and Zyper-Sluys, did credit to the high reputation which that regiment has always borne. Lieutenant-colonel Smyth of that corps, who had the particular charge of that post, received a severe wound in his leg, which will deprive us for a time of his services.

The two brigades of guards repulsed with great vigour the column of French which had advanced to attack them, and where the slaughter of the enemy was great.

I continue to receive every mark of zeal and intelligence from the officers composing the staff of this army.

It is difficult to state with any precision the loss of the enemy, but it cannot be computed at less than 800 or 1000 men; and on our side it does not exceed, in killed, wounded, and missing, 200 men. Exact returns shall be transmitted herewith.

I have the honour to be, &c.

R. ABERCROMBIE.

[Then follows a list of killed and wounded, of which the following is the total:—27 rank and file killed; 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 major, 4 captains, 5 subalterns, 2 serjeants, 131 rank and file, wounded; 1 serjeant, 12 rank and file, missing.]

Return of Officers wounded.

Major-general Moore; captain Halket, of the 76th regiment, aide-de-camp to commander in chief; lieutenant Simpson, of the royal artillery; captain Nevill, of the grenadier battalion of guards; captain Nevill, of the 1st battalion of the 3d regiment of guards; lieutenant Gordon, of the 2d battalion of the royals; captain the honourable John Ramsay, of the 92d regiment of foot.

Lieutenant-colonel George Smyth, major Robert Ross, lieutenants John Colborne, Charles Dervoeux, Christopher Hamilton, lieutenant and adjutant Samuel South, of the 1st battalion of the 20th regiment of foot.

Captain-lieutenant L. Ferdinand Adams, of the 2d battalion of the 20th regiment of foot.

ALEX. HOPE, Assistant Adj. Gen.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, SEPT. 17.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Mitchel to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated on board the Isis, in the Mars Diep, Sept. 4, 1799.

SIR,

BY lieutenant Gibbons, of his majesty's ship Isis, I have the honour to present to my lords commissioners of the Admiralty, admiral Story's flag, and the colours of the Batavian republic, being the first fruits of my endeavours in the discharge of the duties for which their lordships have been pleased to confide in me. Lieutenant Gibbons having been unremittingly employed in the arranging the signals for the convoys, transports, cutters, &c. till the present time, he is most justly entitled to my warmest regard and esteem; I therefore beg leave to recommend him to their lordships' notice. I have been a great deal employed in the disposal of the Dutch officers on their parole, a business in which I had to pay regard to the wishes of many whom I found entitled to some consideration; I have not therefore yet been able to finish that business, which obliges me to defer giving their lordships an account thereof until my next letter.

I have the honour to be, &c.

A. MITCHEL.

DOWNING-STREET, SEPT. 19.

A dispatch, of which the following is a copy, was this morning received from field-marshal his royal highness the duke of York, at the office of the right honourable Henry Dundas, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state.

SIR,

The Helder, North Holland,
Sept. 14.

I HAVE to acquaint you with my arrival at this place yesterday evening, having sailed from Deal on board the Amethyst frigate, on Monday morning the 9th instant.

Upon coming on shore, I had great satisfaction in witnessing the disembarkation of eight battalions of Russian auxiliary troops, consisting of 7000 men, under the command of lieutenant-general D'Hermann, which had arrived from Revel in the course of the preceding day and yesterday morning. I afterwards saw these troops upon their march towards the position occupied by the British near Schagen; and I have great pleasure in assuring you, that, from their appearance in every respect, the most happy consequences may be expected from their co-operation with his majesty's arms in this country: lieutenant-general D'Hermann seems to enter most heartily into our views, and I form very sanguine hopes of receiving essential assistance from his zeal and experience.

I understand that Sir Ralph Abercrombie has made you acquainted with his having repulsed the enemy in an attack made upon him on Tuesday last. I proceed to join him at his quarters at Schagen immediately.

I have had the pleasure to meet the hereditary prince of Orange here. His serene highness is occupied in arranging into corps a large body of deserters from the Batavian army, and volunteers from the crews of the Dutch ships of war which have proceeded to England. Every assistance shall be given to his serene highness, to render these corps an efficient addition to our force.

FREDERICK.

DOWNING-STREET, SEPT. 24.

A dispatch, of which the following is a copy, has been this day received from field-marshal his royal highness the duke of York, by the right honourable Henry Dundas, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state.

SIR,

Head-Quarters, Schagen-brug,
Sept. 20.

IN my dispatch of the 16th inst. I acquainted you with my intention of making an attack upon the whole of the enemy's position, the moment that the reinforcements joined.—Upon the 19th, every necessary arrangement being made, the army moved forward in four principal columns, in the following order :

The left column, under the command of lieutenant-general Sir Ralph Abercrombie, consisting of two squadrons of the 18th light dragoons, major-general the earl of Chatham's brigade, major-general Moore's brigade, major-general the earl of Cavan's brigade, first battalion of British grenadiers of the line, and first battalion of light infantry of the line.

The 23d and 55th regiments, under colonel Macdonald, destined to turn the enemy's right on the *Zuider Zee*, marched at six o'clock on the evening of the 18th.

The columns upon the right, the first commanded by lieutenant-general D'Hermann, consisting of the 7th light dragoons, 12 battalions of Russians, and major-general Manners' brigade.

The second, commanded by lieutenant-general Dundas, consisting of two squadrons of the 11th light dragoons, two brigades of foot guards, and major-general his royal highness prince William's brigade.

The third column, commanded by lieutenant-general Sir James Pulteney, consisting of two squadrons of the 11th light dragoons, major-general Don's brigade, major-general Coote's brigade, marched from the positions they occupied at day-break the morning of the 19th. The object of the first column was, to drive the enemy from the heights of *Camperduyn*, the villages under these heights, and finally to take possession of *Berghen*; the second was to force the enemy's position at *Warmanhuysen* and *Schoreldam*, and to co-operate with the column under lieutenant-general D'Hermann; and the third, to take possession of *Oude-*

Carspel at the head of the Lange-Dyke, a great road leading to Alkmaar.

It is necessary to observe, that the country in which we had to act presented, in every direction, the most formidable obstacles. The enemy, upon their left, occupied to great advantage the high Sand-Hills which extend from the sea in front of Petten to the town of Berghen, and were entrenched in three intermediate villages. The country over which the columns under lieutenant-generals Dundas and Sir James Pulteney had to move for the attack of the fortified posts of Warmanhuysen, Schoreldam, and the Lange-Dyke, is a plain, intersected every three or four hundred yards by broad deep wet ditches and canals. The bridges across the only two or three roads which led to these places were destroyed, and abbatis were laid at different distances.

Lieutenant-general D'Hermann's column commenced its attack, which was conducted with the greatest spirit and gallantry, at half past three o'clock in the morning, and by eight had succeeded in so great a degree as to be in possession of Berghen. In the wooded country which surrounds this village, the principal force of the enemy was placed; and the Russian troops, advancing with an intrepidity which overlooked the formidable resistance with which they were to meet, had not retained that order which was necessary to preserve the advantages they had gained; and they were in consequence, after a most vigorous resistance, obliged to retire from Berghen (where, I am much concerned to state, lieutenant-generals D'Hermann and Tchertchekoff were made prisoners, the latter dangerously wounded), and fell back upon Schorel, which village they were also forced to abandon, but which was immediately retaken by major-general Manners' brigade, notwithstanding the very heavy fire of the enemy. Here this brigade was immediately reinforced by two battalions of Russians, which had co-operated with lieutenant-general Dundas in the attack of Warmanhuysen, by major-general D'Oyley's brigade of guards, and by the 35th regiment, under the command of his highness prince William. The action was renewed by these troops for a considerable time with success; but the entire want of ammunition on the part of the Russians, and the exhausted state of the whole corps engaged in that particular situation, obliged them to retire, which they did in good order, upon Petten and the Zyper-Sluis.

As soon as it was sufficiently light, the attack upon the village of Warmanhuysen, where the enemy was strongly posted with cannon, was made by lieutenant-general Dundas. Three battalions of Russians, who formed a separate corps, destined to co-operate from Krabendam in this attack, commanded by major-general Sedmoratzky, very gallantly stormed the village on its left flank, while, at the same time, it was entered on the right by the 1st regiment of guards. The grenadier battalion of the guards had been previously detached to march upon Schoreldam, on the left of lieutenant-general D'Hermann's column, as was the 3d regiment of guards, and the second battalion of the 5th regiment, to keep up the communication with that under lieutenant-general Sir James Pulteney. The remainder of lieutenant-general Dundas's column, which, after taking possession of Warmanhuysen, had been joined by the 1st battalion of the 5th regiment, marched against Schoreldam, which place they maintained under a very heavy and galling fire, until the troops engaged on their right had retired at the conclusion of the action.

The column under lieutenant-general Sir James Pulteney proceeded to its object of attack at the time appointed, and, after overcoming the greatest difficulties, and the most determined opposition, carried by storm the principal post of Oude-Carspel, at the head of the Lange-Dyke; upon which occasion the 40th regiment, under the command of colonel Spencer, embraced a favourable opportunity which presented itself of highly distinguishing themselves. This point was defended by the chief force of the Batavian army, under the command of general Daendels. The circumstances, however, which occurred on the right rendered it impossible to profit by this brilliant exploit, which will ever reflect the highest credit on the general-officers and troops engaged in it; and made it necessary to withdraw lieutenant-general Sir James Pulteney's column from the position which he had taken within a short distance of Alkmaar. The same circumstances led to the necessity of recalling the corps under lieutenant-general Sir Ralph Abercrombie, who had proceeded without interruption to Hoorn, of which city he had taken possession, together with its garrison. The whole of the army has therefore re-occupied its former position.

The well-grounded hopes I had entertained of complete success in this operation, and which were fully justified by the result of the three,

and by the first successes of the fourth attack upon the right, add to the great disappointment I must naturally feel on this occasion; but the circumstances which have occurred I should have considered of very little general importance, had I not to lament the loss of many brave officers and soldiers, both of his majesty's and the Russian troops, who have fallen. The gallantry displayed by the troops engaged, the spirit with which they overcame every obstacle which nature and art opposed to them, and the cheerfulness with which they maintained the fatigues of an action, which lasted, without intermission, from half past three o'clock in the morning until five in the afternoon, are beyond my powers to describe or to extol. Their exertions fully entitle them to the admiration and gratitude of their king and country.

Having thus faithfully detailed the events of this first attack, and paid the tribute of regret due to the distinguished merit of those who fell, I have much consolation in being enabled to state that the efforts which have been made, although not crowned with immediate success, so far from militating against the general object of the campaign, promise to be highly useful to our future operations. The capture of sixty officers and upwards of 3000 men, and the destruction of sixteen pieces of cannon, with large supplies of ammunition, which the intersected nature of the country did not admit of being withdrawn, are convincing proofs that the loss of the enemy in the field has been far superior to our own; and in addition to this it is material to state, that nearly 15,000 of the allied troops had unavoidably no share in this action.

In viewing the several circumstances which occurred during this arduous day, I cannot avoid expressing the obligations I owe to lieutenant-generals Dundas and Sir James Pulteney, for their able assistance; and also to mention my great satisfaction of the conduct of major-generals his highness prince William, D'Oyley, Manners, Burrard, and Don, to whose spirited exertions the credit gained by the brigades they commanded is greatly to be imputed.

Captain Sir Home Popham, and the several officers of my staff, exerted themselves to the utmost, and rendered me most essential service. I feel also much indebted to the spirited conduct of a detachment of seamen, under the direction of Sir Home Popham and Captain Godfrey of the navy, in the conduct of three gun-boats, each carrying one

12-pound carronade, which acted with considerable effect on the Alkmaar canal; nor must I omit expressing my acknowledgments to the Russian major-generals D'Essen, Sedmoratzky, and Schutorff. I transmit herewith returns of the killed, wounded, and missing.

I am, sir, yours,

FREDERICK.

P. S. Not having yet received returns of the loss sustained by the Russian troops, I can only observe, that I understand their loss, in killed, wounded, and missing, amounts to 1,500 men.

[Then follows a return of killed and wounded, of which the following is the total:—1 lieutenant colonel, 2 captains, 2 subalterns, 1 staff, 2 serjeants, and 109 rank and file, killed; 7 lieutenant-colonels, 6 majors, 15 captains, 15 subalterns, 20 serjeants, 2 drummers, and 345 rank and file, wounded; 22 serjeants, 5 drummers, and 463 rank and file, missing.]

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, SEPT. 20.

Copy of a Letter from Andrew Mitchel, Esq. Vice-Admiral of the Blue, to Evan Nepean, Esq.

SIR,

Babet, Enchuysen Road, Sept. 24.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for their lordships' information, that the weather having moderated on the 21st instant, I shifted my flag to the Babet:—though blowing a gale of wind the day before, captain Mainwaring, by his great exertions, had lightened her sufficiently for the pilot to take charge, and the captains of the bomb-vessels made equal exertions for the same purpose, having lightened their respective ships to twelve feet eight inches: I left the Isis, Melpomene, and Juno, with yards and top-masts struck, having taken all the seamen and marines that could be spared from them, with Sir Charles Hamilton, Captains Dundas and Oughton, and a proper number of officers in large schuyts to assist me in the expedition; about ten we weighed in the Babet, accompanied by the four bombs, l'Espiègle and Speedwell brigs, and Lady Ann lugger, and Prince William armed-ship.

We fortunately had a fair wind, which raised the tide considerably

over the flats, though in many parts we had only twelve feet six inches. On our approaching Medenblic at noon, I made the signals for the ~~Dart~~ and gun-brigs to weigh and join me : and at three P. M. I anchored with the squadron off Enchuysen, and a boat came off with four men wearing orange cockades ; in consequence of which I went on shore, attended by the captains ; we were received by all the inhabitants with every testimony of joy at their deliverance from their former tyrannical government, and in the highest degree expressive of their loyalty and attachment to the House of Orange.

I proceeded to the Stadthouse ; and having summoned all the old and faithful burgomasters, who had not taken the oath to the Batavian republic, I instantly reinstated them, until his highness the hereditary prince of Orange's instructions were received ; to whom, and to his royal highness the duke of York, I immediately sent an express, and at the same moment summoned before me and dissolved the municipality, amidst the joyful acclamations of the inhabitants around the Stadthouse, part of them at the same time cutting down the tree of liberty, which they instantly burned ;—all of which was done in the most loyal, quiet, and regular manner.

I have detached Captain Boorder, in the *Espiègle*, with the *Speedwell*, to scour the coast from Steveren to Lemmer ; but previous to his going on that service, I sent him to Steveren, to bring me intelligence of the disposition of the inhabitants :—he returned yesterday morning with the pleasing information of their having hoisted the Orange colours, and most of the neighbouring towns had done the same, and the inhabitants joyfully complying with the same terms as Enchuysen and Medenblic ; I have likewise detached the *Dart*, with two gun-brigs, to cut off the communication with Amsterdam, and the towns in East-Friezland that have not returned to their allegiance.

Our appearance in the *Zuider Zee* with such an unexpected force has had a most wonderful and happy effect, and given the greatest confidence to those well disposed to the House of Orange.

I shall not lose a moment's time in moving forward, when the wind and tide will permit, to complete, as far as lays in my power, what is finally entrusted to my charge.

I have the honour to be, &c.

A. MITCHEL.

DOWNING-STREET, OCT. 7.

A dispatch, of which the following is a copy, was received late this evening from field-marshal his royal highness the duke of York, by the right honourable Henry Dundas, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state.

SIR,

Head-Quarters, Zyper-Sluis, Oct. 4.

THE inclemency of the weather which prevailed at the time of writing my last dispatch, and which, as I therein explained, alone prevented me from putting the army in motion, having in some measure subsided, and the necessary previous arrangements having been made, the attack was commenced on the whole of the enemy's line on the morning of the 2d; and I have now the happiness to inform you, that after a severe and obstinate action, which lasted from six in the morning until the same hour at night, the distinguished valour of his majesty's and the Russian troops prevailed throughout; and the enemy, being entirely defeated, retired in the night from the positions which he occupied in the Lange-Dyke, the Koe-Dyke at Berghen, and upon the extensive range of sand-hills between the latter place and Egmont-op-Zee. The points where this well-fought battle was principally contested were from the sea shore in front of Egmont, extending along the sandy desert or hills to the heights above Berghen, and it was sustained by the British columns under the command of those highly distinguished officers, general Sir Ralph Abercrombie and lieutenant-general Dundas, whose exertions, as well as the gallantry of the brave troops they led, cannot have been surpassed by any former instance of British valour.

On the night of this memorable day, the army lay upon their arms, and yesterday moved forward and occupied the positions of the Lange-Dyke, Alkmaar, Berghen, Egmont-op-te-Hooff, and Egmont-op-Zee.

The enemy's force, according to the best information I have been able to obtain, consisted of between 25 and 30,000 men, of whom a very small proportion only were Dutch. General Daendels, who commanded the latter, is wounded. The French troops, who have been continually reinforcing themselves, and whose loss has been very great, were commanded by generals Brune, Vandamme, and Bouter.

From the continuance of the action, and the obstinacy with which it

was contested, the victory has not been gained without serious loss. At present I am not in possession of particular returns, but I have the satisfaction to say that no officer of rank has fallen. The British army has to regret major-general Moore's being wounded in two places; and the Russian army, major-general Emme's being also wounded; but I am happy to say that their wounds are not of a nature to lead me to apprehend that I shall long be deprived of the assistance of their abilities and gallantry. It is impossible for me at this moment to do justice to the merits of the other generals and officers of the allied army who distinguished themselves, as I must defer, until to-morrow, paying my tribute of praise to them and to the troops generally, as well as giving the details of the battle of the 2d instant. My attention is seriously engaged in making the arrangements which are necessary for occupying a forward position in front of Beverwyck and Wyck-op-Zee, to which line the enemy has retreated. I entertain no doubt that the extent of country which will now be under the protection of the allied army, and rescued from French tyranny, will afford an opportunity to its loyal inhabitants of declaring themselves. The town of Alkmaar, which is the seat of the states of North Holland, has opened its gates to our troops, and a considerable number of Dutch troops have come over to the prince of Orange's standard.

In order that you may be in possession of such information as want of time will not at present allow me to detail, I charge my aide-de-camp, captain Fitzgerald, with this dispatch. He is entirely in my confidence, and I request leave to recommend him to his majesty as an officer of superior merit and intelligence.

I am, Sir, yours,

FREDERICK.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, OCT. 3.

*Extract of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Mitchel to Evan Nepean, Esq.
dated Babet, off Enchuysen, Oct. 1, 1799.*

THIS morning a lieutenant of the *Espiègle* brought me the accompanying letter, which I have sent for their lordships' information. Much

zeal and gallantry have been displayed by captains Bolton and Boorder, with their officers and men.

SIR,

Wolverene, Lemmer Roads, Sept. 29.

ON Friday morning, at six o'clock, I came to an anchor with the Haughty and Piercer, close to l'Espiègle, distant about six miles from Lemmer: from captain Boorder I received every information I could desire. Finding the enemy had 1000 regulars in the town, and desperately determined to defend it, I immediately gave directions for completing the flotilla, which captain Boorder, with his usual judgment, had begun. He had pressed two schouts; on board of each were put two of l'Espiègle's 6-pounders, which, with the two flat-bottom boats, and Isis's launch, formed a respectable armament. Being willing to spare the effusion of human blood, especially of innocent victims—on Saturday, at day-light, I sent captain Boorder on shore with the following letter:

SIR,

RESISTANCE on your part is in vain; I give you one hour to send away the women and children; at the expiration of that time, if the town is not surrendered to the British arms for the prince of Orange, your soldiery shall be buried in its ruins.

I have the honour to be, your obedient servant,

W. BOLTON,

Captain of his majesty's ship *Wolverene*.

To the Commandant of Lemmer.

Soon after captain Boorder's departure, I weighed and stood in shore. About nine A. M. I observed him returning, and soon after a flag of truce came out of the harbour. Before captain Boorder arrived, I noticed the gun-boats, which had been moored across the harbour, moving towards the canals: I instantly dispatched lieutenant Simpson with a flag of truce, to inform them, that I considered their removal, or any other military arrangement, as a breach of the armistice, and if persisted in, I should instantly bombard the town: before he returned, the flag of truce came on board with the following letter:

To Captain Bolton, Commandant.

I HAVE received your summons: the municipality request twenty-four hours, to send to their proper authority, to accede to your demands.

P. VAN GROUTTEN, Commandant.

N. B. Please to send an answer by the bearer.

I immediately replied as follows :

SIR,

I HAVE received your letter ; and have the honour to inform you, that if the prince's colours are not hoisted in half an hour after the receipt of this, I shall bombard the town.

Your obedient servant,

W. BOLTON.

To Mynheer P. Van Grouthen, Commandant of Lemmer.

I dispatched the Dutch officer, and informed him I was coming down into my disposition before the town. I found by captain Boorder, that the north part of the pier was considerably reinforced by some 18-pounders, taken from the gun-boats, which made a little alteration in our disposition necessary ; and I was much concerned to find my brave able Dutch pilot declare, that, from the southerly winds, the water was so low, the *Wolverene* could not get in. Finding it a regular oozy flat for two miles, I pushed through the mud until within a musquet-shot of the shore. The gun-brigs passed a-head within pistol-shot of the pier ; but both, as well as myself, were, and not in the most favourable position, completely a-ground ; but seamen ought never to be at a loss. The enemy, notwithstanding the flag of truce, commenced a heavy fire, which, in an instant, was returned from every part of the squadron : the action continued nearly an hour, when the enemy flew from their quarters, the soldiers deserted the town, and the *Piercer's* boat's crew planted the British standard on the pier. I do not wonder at the strong opposition, as the troops were mostly French.

I cannot too much praise the valour and conduct of the officers and men under my command. Lieutenants Menda and Field led their gun-brigs in with great courage ; the same with the officers who commanded

the schouts and flat-boats. I feel great obligation to captain Boorder for his assistance; but his praise is beyond my commendation. Lieutenant Reddy, of the Speedwell, and lieutenant Simpson, of the Isis, distinguished themselves particularly; the former I sent with a flat-boat to get off the Piercer; the latter the Haughty.—To captain Boorder I confided the arrangement on shore. The gale freshened fast, and it was necessary to preserve the Wolverine: with some difficulty her bow was hove round; the wind fortunately came round to the southward; and by starting all the water, with a heavy press of sail for two miles, I dragged her through the mud, steering by sails only into eleven feet water, where she now lies. All last night it blew excessively hard, the ship struck repeatedly; but using every means to lighten her, she rode it out tolerably well. This morning, at ten o'clock, I observed a body of the enemy advancing against the town along the northern causeway; I immediately sent to captain Boorder to apprise him of the danger: in a little time the town was attacked on all sides, but very soon I had the satisfaction of seeing the enemy retreat. From the mast-head I perceive the town is nearly surrounded by water, so that a few brave men, with a flotilla on the canal, can most effectually defend it. I have no doubt but a well-timed succour to these people would cause the whole province to throw off the French yoke.

I have the honour to be, Sir, &c.

WILLIAM BOLTON.

DOWNING-STREET, OCT. 13.

Dispatches, of which the following are copies, were this afternoon received from field-marshal his royal highness the duke of York, by the right honourable Henry Dundas, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state.

SIR,

Head-Quarters, Alkmaar, Oct. 6.

I dispatched my aide-de-camp, captain Fitzgerald, on the 4th instant, with an account of the success obtained over the enemy on the 2d; and circumstances at that moment not enabling me to give the particulars of that day's action, I shall now enter into a detail of the occurrences which

then took place. The disposition I have already transmitted to you of the intended attack will show that it was determined that a vigorous effort should be made on the left of the enemy, where the French troops were posted and concentrated about Berghen, a large village surrounded by extensive woods, through which passes the great road leading to Haarlem, and between which and the sea lies an extensive region of high Sand-Hills, impassable for artillery or carriages, difficult, and very embarrassing, from their depth and broken surface, for cavalry, and exceedingly forbidding, from all these and other circumstances, to any movements being attempted in them by a large body of infantry. Behind these Sand-Hills, and to the enemy's right, through the whole extent of North Holland, lies a wet and low country, every-where intersected with dykes, canals, and ditches, which it rested with the enemy to occupy and strengthen in whatever manner and in whatever points he pleased, and thereby to prevent our making any successful attempts against his right. His centre was supported by the town of Alkmaar, and water communication gave him in every direction the advantage of drawing from and profiting by the resources of the country. The delays which the unusual severity of the weather at this season, and the whole of our situation, rendered inevitable, enabled him to improve his position by new works, which bore a formidable appearance, and threatened much resistance. Under all circumstances, it was evident, that it was only by a great advantage gained on the enemy's left that we could drive him back, and force him to evacuate North Holland, thereby materially bettering our situation, by opening the sphere of our resources and future exertions. The combined attacks were therefore made in four principal columns: the first on the right, under general Sir Ralph Abercrombie, consisting of major-general D'Oyley's brigade, major-general Moore's ditto, major-general earl of Cavan's ditto, colonel Macdonald's reserve, nine squadrons of light dragoons, commanded by colonel lord Paget, and one troop of horse-artillery, marched by the sea-beach against Egmont-op-Zee, with a view to turn the enemy's left flank. Of the second, consisting of Russian troops, commanded by major-general D'Essen, the greater proportion marched by the Sleiper-Dyke through the villages of Groete and Schorel upon Berghen, by the road which all the way skirts the foot of the Sand-Hills of Camperduyn, about three hundred

feet high, presenting a steep face to the country, much wooded, but from their summit more gradually sloping towards the sea. Part of this column, under major-general Sedmoratzky, debouched from the Zyper-Sluys, and were destined to cover the left flank of the remainder of the Russian troops moving under the Sand-Hills, to co-operate with the brigade under major-general Burrard in the attack of Schoreldam, and to combine their attack upon Berghen, with the troops upon their right. The third column, under the command of lieutenant-general Dundas, consisted of major-general earl Chatham's brigade, major-general Coote's ditto, major-general Burrard's ditto, and one squadron of the 11th light dragoons. Major-general Coote's brigade was ordered to follow the advanced-guard of Sir Ralph Abercrombie's column from Petten, to turn to the left at the village of Campe, and, proceeding under the hills, to take the Sleiper-Dyke in reserve; and clear the road to Groete, and the heights above it, for that part of the Russian column which marched by the Sleiper-Dyke, whose right major-general Coote was to cover, during its progress towards Berghen, by detaching the required number of troops into the Sand-Hills. Major-general lord Chatham's brigade was to follow that part of the Russian column which marched from the Zyper-Sluys, to turn to the right, and, falling into the road in the rear of major-general D'Essen's corps, to join such part of major-general Coote's as moved along that road, to proceed in support of the Russian column, covering its right upon the Sand-Hills, and from them ultimately to combine with that column in its attack upon Berghen; for which purpose these two brigades were to extend as much as possible to the right, and endeavour to connect themselves with the right column. Major-general Burrard's brigade was ordered to move from Tutenhoorn and Klabendam upon the left of the Alkmaar canal, to combine, with the corps under major-general Sedmoratzky, its attack upon Schoreldam, which was further supported by seven gun-boats moving along the above canal. Major-general Burrard was to communicate upon his left with the fourth column under lieutenant-general Sir James Pulteney, consisting of major-general his highness prince William's brigade, major-general Manners' ditto, major-general Don's ditto, two squadrons of the 18th light dragoons, and two battalions of Russians. This column covered the whole of the left of our position to the Zuider Zee, and was destined to

threaten the enemy's right, and to take advantage of every favourable circumstance that should offer. Proportions of artillery of reserve were attached to each column, and to the Russian column about 200 Cossacks and hussars. The force of the enemy was computed at 25,000 men, much the greater proportion of which were French. The state of the tide determined the march of the right column, which proceeded from Petten at half past six o'clock in the morning. Its advanced guard, composed of the reserve under colonel Macdonald, viz. 1st battalion of grenadiers of the line, 1st battalion of light-infantry ditto, 23d regiment of infantry, and 55th ditto, drove the enemy from Campe, and from the Sand-Hills above that village, and continued its march upon the ridge of those hills, inclining a little to the left. Major-general Coote's brigade, which next followed, turned to its left at Campe, and, advancing as far as the extremity of the Sleiper-Dyke and the village of Groete, cleared the road for the Russian column under major-general D'Essen. Part of this brigade, in connexion with colonel Macdonald's corps, drove the enemy from the Sand-Hills to the right and front of the Russian column, and continued moving forward upon the Sand-Hills a little in advance of the Russian troops. Major-general Sedmoratzky's corps had marched from the Zyper-Sluis as soon as the enemy had abandoned Groete, and advanced across the plain between the Alkmaar canal and the road by which major-general D'Essen moved, whose left he joined, whilst his own left was protected by the fire of the gun-boats and the advance of major-general Burrard's corps. The enemy, who had gradually retired from Schorel, were now formed in considerable force from Schorel to Schoreldam, and kept up a very warm fire from the cannon which they had posted at different points of their line. Major-general lord Chatham's brigade moved in the rear of major-general Sedmoratzky's corps, close behind which it was formed in the plain. The column under major-general D'Essen proceeded along the road upon Schorel, whilst major-general Coote's brigade was rapidly driving the enemy from the ridge of Sand-Hills above that village and to its right. Colonel Macdonald's corps had moved considerably to the right, with a view to connect itself with the right column, and continued warmly engaged with the enemy, who were in very considerable force in the Sand-Hills. After some delay, the enemy were driven, about eleven o'clock, by

the Russian troops, and by the gun-boats and major-general Burrard's brigade upon their left, from Schorel and Schoreldam, between which major-generals D'Essen's and Sedmoratzky's corps took post, and continued the remainder of the day engaged in a cannonade with the enemy posted in the village of Berghen, and between it and the Koe-Dyke. Schoreldam was occupied by major-general Burrard, whence he continued his attack (in conjunction with the gun-boats) upon the enemy, who was strongly posted on the Koe-Dyke. In this situation it became necessary to make a great effort to clear the summit of the Sand-Hills of the enemy, who occupied them in great numbers, and for a great visible extent, quite beyond Berghen. The left of major-general Coote's brigade was then above Schorel, and the regiments which composed it were separated by very considerable intervals, and extended a long way into the Sand-Hills. The 85th regiment being on the right, and considerably advanced, was warmly engaged with the enemy, who showed a disposition to come upon the right of the brigade. I therefore directed lieutenant-general Dundas to march major-general lord Chatham's brigade from the plain into the Sand-Hills, to the right of major-general Coote's, leaving one battalion (the 31st), to move close under the hills parallel with the left of major-general Coote's brigade. This movement was admirably executed; and major-general lord Chatham's brigade having arrived at some distance behind the 85th regiment, and outflanking it by about two battalions, the line was formed, and the whole was ordered to advance at a brisk pace, to gain the heights about three-quarters of a mile distant, across a scrubby wood, and then by a gradual ascent to the summit of the Sand-Hills: the 85th regiment at the same time charged, and drove the enemy before them, who, being thus taken in flank and rear, retired precipitately towards the right, and took post on the summit of the heights which hang over Berghen; whilst the remainder of major-general Coote's brigade, having also moved forward, joined the left of major-general lord Chatham's.—The 85th regiment took post in a favourable situation below those heights, so as to block up and command the avenue and great road which lead through Berghen. From the heights the enemy were seen in the village of Berghen, and the woods and plains about it, wavering, and apparently in great uncertainty: but lieutenant-general Dundas's corps not being able to undertake the

attack of the village and woods, or to bring cannon into the Sand-Hills, the enemy re-occupied the village in force, and kept up a brisk fire of cannon and musquetry on the heights occupied by the British, and by which the latter were sheltered. A considerable body of the enemy advanced along the avenue, and made a spirited attack to regain the heights on the post of the 85th, but were driven back with loss, and that regiment gallantly maintained their situation during the rest of the day against other attempts of the enemy. A large body of the enemy having been seen moving to their left, three battalions of major-general Coote's brigade were marched beyond the right of lord Chatham's, to support him, and extend the line. The 27th regiment, posted at the termination of another avenue from Berghen, was attacked by a considerable body issuing from the woods: the regiment having, however, by a spirited charge, driven the enemy into the wood, no farther attempt was made by them from that time (about half past three, P. M.) to dislodge lieutenant-general Dundas's corps.—The extension of his line had now brought its right very near to the reserve under colonel Macdonald, who had been advancing rapidly, notwithstanding the considerable resistance he had experienced, and was now warmly engaged with a body of the enemy, lining a sand-hill ridge, which crosses the Downs in a perpendicular direction, and which body probably had moved from Berghen and Egmont-op-te-Hooff, with the view of turning lieutenant-general Dundas's right flank. Lieutenant-general Dundas, therefore, sent down the 29th regiment on the left of colonel Macdonald, close to the road leading from Berghen to Egmont; and although the enemy's position appeared steep and formidable, a general and rapid attack was made. The advance of the 29th regiment was the signal for the whole on the right of it to move forward briskly, which was done with such spirit, that they were soon at the bottom of the enemy's position; and ascending the hill without stopping, they pursued their advantage with such vigour as to drive the enemy totally from the Sand-Hills.—This was the last event which took place on the side of Berghen; and as the close of the day was fast approaching, colonel Macdonald, with two battalions, was sent to the support of Sir Ralph Abercrombie. The heights of the Sand-Hills, surrounding Berghen for about three miles, remained crowned and possessed by eleven British battalions.—General Sir Ralph Aber-

crombie had marched, according to the disposition, along the beach, with major-general D'Oyley's, major-general Moore's, and major-general lord Cavan's brigades, the cavalry and horse-artillery (the reserve, under colonel Macdonald, not having been able, owing to the great extent of the Sand-Hills, to rejoin him, after turning to the left at Campe). The main body of Sir Ralph Abercrombie's column had proceeded without meeting with much resistance in the early part of the day, but was nevertheless much inconvenienced, and his troops harassed, by the necessity of detaching continually into the Sand-Hills to his left, to cover that flank against the troops whom the enemy had placed in the Sand-Hills. The admirable disposition, however, which he made of his troops, and their determined spirit and gallantry, enabled him to arrive within a mile of Egmont. Here he was seriously opposed by a very considerable corps of French infantry, which occupied Egmont-op-Zee and the high Sand-Hills in its front, and who had formed a very strong corps of cavalry and artillery to their left upon the beach. The engagement was maintained, during several hours, with the greatest obstinacy; and in no instance were the abilities of a commander, or the heroic perseverance of troops in so difficult and trying a situation, more highly conspicuous. Animated by the example of general Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the general and other officers under him, the troops sustained every effort made upon them by an enemy then superior in number, and much favoured by the strength of his position. Late in the evening the enemy's cavalry, having been defeated in an attempt which they made upon the British horse-artillery on the beach, and having been charged by the cavalry under colonel lord Paget, was driven, with considerable loss, nearly to Egmont-op-Zee: his efforts then relaxed considerably upon the right: and general Sir Ralph Abercrombie having soon after been joined by the reinforcements under colonel Macdonald, took post upon the Sand-Hills and the beach, within a very short distance of Egmont-op-Zee, where the troops lay upon their arms during the night.—Lieutenant-general Sir James Pulteney had assembled the greater part of his corps in front of Drixhoorn, whence he threatened an attack on Oude-Carspel, in and near which was placed the principal force of the enemy's right, and could at the same time have supported any part of the line which might be attempted. Lieutenant-general Sir James Pulteney, seconded by the active exertions of the general-officers and troops under his command,

executed, with his usual ability, that part of the disposition with which he was entrusted, and effectually prevented the enemy from sending any detachments to his left. On the 3d, at day-break, the enemy evacuated their strongly fortified posts at Oude-Carspel and the Lange-Dyke, retiring upon St. Pancras and Alkmaar: the above posts were very soon after occupied by lieutenant-general Sir James Pulteney. The enemy still continued in the woods and town of Berghen, and appeared with cannon and in some force on that side of it next to the Koe-Dyke. They had, however, withdrawn the greater part of their force during the night, and before mid-day the village was taken possession of by the 85th regiment. About one, general Sir Ralph Abercrombie entered Egmont-op-Zee; and in the evening the Russians, under major-general D'Essen, advanced from the ground where (as I have already stated) they had halted the preceding day, to Egmont-op-te-Hooff. Major-general Burrard, who, when the enemy retired from Berghen, had advanced to Koe-Dyke, was ordered in the evening to occupy, with a detachment from his brigade, the town of Alkmaar, which had been abandoned by the enemy, and had been entered nearly at the same time by patrols from his and lieutenant-general Sir James Pulteney's corps.—The exhausted state of the troops, from the almost unparalleled difficulties and fatigues which they had to encounter, prevented me from taking that advantage of the enemy's retreat to Beverwyck and Wyck-op-Zee, which, in any other country, and under any other circumstances, would have been the consequences of the operations of the army upon the 2d.—Of the loss sustained by the enemy, the reports are so various, that I cannot venture to say any thing decisive; but, from all circumstances, I have reason to think it must have exceeded 4000 men. Seven pieces of cannon, and a great proportion of tumbrils, were taken. The prisoners having been immediately sent to the Helder, I cannot at present give any statement of their number, but I do not believe it exceeds a few hundred men.—Under divine Providence, this signal victory obtained over the enemy is to be attributed to the animating and persevering exertions which have at all times been the characteristics of the British soldier, and which on no occasion were ever more eminently displayed; nor has it often fallen to the lot of any general to have such just cause of acknowledgment for the distinguished support he that day experienced from the officers under his command.—I cannot in sufficient terms express the

obligations I owe to general Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and lieutenant-general Dundas, for the able manner in which they conducted their respective columns, whose successes are, in no small degree, to be attributed to their personal exertions and example. The former had two horses shot under him.—I must also state my warm acknowledgments to lieutenant-general Hulse, major-generals lord Chatham, Coote, D'Oyley, Burrard, and Moore, for their spirited efforts upon this occasion, and the abilities which they showed in the conduct of their respective brigades. The latter, by his ability and personal exertion, very materially contributed to the success of his column; and, although severely wounded through the thigh, continued in action for near two hours, until a second wound in the face obliged him to quit the field. Much praise is due to major-general Hutchinson, for the manner in which he led the 5th or lord Cavan's brigade; and I hope it will not be considered as an improper intrusion, if I take this occasion to express my sincere regret that an unfortunate blow from a horse, in going into action, by fracturing his leg, should have deprived me of his lordship's services. Colonel Macdonald distinguished himself by his usual spirit and ability in the command of the reserve, as did lord Paget, who commanded the cavalry upon the beach, and whose exertions are deserving of every praise. Nor must I omit expressing my thanks to lieutenant-colonels Whitworth and Smyth, who commanded the artillery of reserve, and to major Judson, of the horse-artillery. The detachment of seamen, under the command of captains Goddard and Jourcoing, were upon this, as upon a former occasion, of the most essential service, in the direction of the gun-boats. The conduct of major-general Knox, who was attached to the column of the Russian troops, was such as to afford me the greatest satisfaction.—I inclose the returns of the loss of the British and Russian troops, and must repeat my sincere regret that the advantages we have obtained (however brilliant) have been so dearly bought.—In closing this dispatch, I cannot deny myself the pleasure of expressing my approbation of the staff of my army, and in particular of the exertions and abilities shown by lieutenant-colonel Anstruther, deputy quarter-master-general.

I am, &c.

FREDERICK.

The Right Honourable Henry Dundas, &c. &c.

Return of the killed and wounded in the action of the 2d, of which the following is the total:

1 major, 5 captains, 5 subalterns, 11 serjeants, 215 rank and file, 44 horses, killed; 2 colonels, 2 lieutenant-colonels, 3 majors, 22 captains, 39 subalterns, 1 staff, 46 serjeants, 7 drummers, 980 rank and file, 78 horses, wounded; 1 captain, 4 subalterns, 7 serjeants, 3 drummers, 178 rank and file, 3 horses, missing.

SIR,

Head-Quarters, Alkmaar, Oct. 7.

THE enemy, after the action of the 2d, having taken up the position between Beverwyck and Wyck-op-Zee, I determined to endeavour to force him thence before he had an opportunity of strengthening by works the short and very defensible line which he occupied, and to oblige him still further to retire before he could be joined by the reinforcements which I had information were upon their march.

Preparatory, therefore, to a general forward movement, I ordered the advanced posts which the army took up on the 3d inst. in front of this place, of Egmont-op-te-Hooff and Egmont-op-Zee, to be pushed forward, which operation took place yesterday morning. At first little opposition was shown, and we succeeded in taking possession of the villages of Schermerhoorn, Acher Sloot, Limmen, Baccum, and of a position on the Sand-Hills near Wyck-op-Zee: the column of Russian troops under the command of major-general D'Essen, in endeavouring to gain a height in front of their intended advanced post at Baccum (which was material to the security of that point), was vigorously opposed and afterwards attacked by a strong body of the enemy, which obliged general Sir Ralph Abercrombie to move up in support with the reserve of his corps.

The enemy on their part advanced their whole force; the action became general along the whole line from Limmen to the sea, and was maintained with great obstinacy on both sides until night, when the enemy retired, leaving us masters of the field of battle. The conflict however has, I am concerned to state, been so severe, and has been attended with as serious a loss (in proportion to the numbers engaged) as any of those which have been fought by the brave troops composing this army since their arrival in Holland. The gallantry they displayed, and the perseverance with which they supported the fatigues of this day, rival their former exertions.

The corps engaged were :

Major-general D'Oyley's brigade of guards.

Major-general Burrard's brigade.

Major-general earl Chatham's brigade.

Major-general Coote's brigade.

Major-general the earl of Cavan's brigade, commanded by major-general Hutchinson.

The reserve under the command of colonel Macdonald.

Part of the 7th and 11th dragoons.

And seven battalions of Russians.

To general Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the other general-officers in command of the brigades before-mentioned, as also to colonel Macdonald, my warmest acknowledgments are due, for their spirited and judicious exertions during this affair; nor ought I to omit the praise due to colonel Clephane, commanding four companies of the 3d and one of the Coldstream regiments of guards, who, by a spirited charge, drove two battalions of the enemy from the post of Acher Sloop, making two hundred prisoners. I have sincerely to regret, that, in the course of the action, major-general Hutchinson received a musquet-shot wound in the thigh, which, however, is not serious.

I have not yet received any reports of the killed and wounded, but I am apprehensive that the number of British is not less than five hundred, and that the loss of the Russian troops, as far as I can understand, amounts to twelve hundred men. I shall, as early as circumstances possibly admit, transmit particular returns.

The loss of the enemy upon this occasion has been very great; and, in addition to their killed and wounded, five hundred prisoners fell into our hands.

I am, &c.

The Right Hon. Henry Dundas, &c.

FREDERICK.

SIR,

Head-Quarters, Schagen-brug, Oct. 9.

I HAVE already acquainted you with the result of the action of the 6th inst. which terminated successfully to the allied arms, and at the same time pointed out the necessity of the movement which produced this affair.

From the prisoners taken upon the 6th. inst. I learnt the certainty of

the enemy having been reinforced since the action of the 2d by two demi brigades, amounting to about six thousand infantry, and of their having strengthened the position of Beverwyck, and fortified strongly in the rear of its point, which it would still be necessary to carry before Haarlem could be attacked.

It ought also to be stated, that the enemy had retired a large force upon Purmerend, in an almost inaccessible position, covered by an inundated country, and the débouches from which were strongly fortified and in the hands of the enemy: and further, that as our army advanced, this corps was placed in our rear.

But such obstacles would have been overcome, had not the state of the weather, the ruined condition of the roads, and total want of the necessary supplies arising from the above causes, presented difficulties which required the most serious consideration.

Having maturely weighed the circumstances in which the army was thus placed, and having felt it my duty, on a point of so much importance, to consult with general Sir Ralph Abercrombie and the lieutenant-generals of this army, I could not but consider (and their opinion was unanimous on the subject) that it would be for the benefit of the general cause to withdraw the troops from their advanced position, in order to wait his majesty's further instructions.

I must request you will again represent to his majesty the distinguished conduct of his army, which, while acting under the pressure of uncommon difficulties, never for a moment ceased to be actuated by the noblest feelings for the success of the public cause, and the honour of the British arms.

As there are many points resulting from our present situation upon which you may require particular information, and such details as cannot be brought within the compass of a letter, I have thought it necessary to charge my secretary, colonel Brownrigg, with this dispatch, who will be able to explain fully all matters relating to this army.

I transmit a return of killed, wounded, and missing, of his majesty's and the Russian troops in the action of the 6th instant. I most heartily lament that it has again been so serious, and that so many brave and valuable men have fallen.

I am, yours,

FREDERICK.

[Then follows a list of killed and wounded, of which the following is the total:]

2 lieutenant-colonels, 2 subalterns, 3 serjeants, 1 drummer, 83 rank and file, 7 horses, killed; 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant-colonel, 3 majors, 7 captains, 23 subalterns, 1 staff, 23 serjeants, 666 rank and file, 13 horses, wounded; 2 lieutenant-colonels, 1 major, 5 captains, 11 subalterns, 13 serjeants, 2 drummers, 569 rank and file, missing.

Names of Officers killed.

Lieutenant-colonel Philip Bainbridge, and ensign M'Carris, of the 1st battalion of the 20th regiment of foot.

Lieutenant-colonel Dickson, of the 2d battalion of the 4th ditto.

Lieutenant Forster, of the 3d battalion of the 4th ditto.

Names of Officers wounded.

Grenadier battalion line.—Lieutenant Dunn, of the 1st battalion of the 4th regiment of foot; lieutenant Hamilton, of the 1st battalion of the 5th ditto.

Light-infantry battalion.—Lieutenant Alexander, of the 3d battalion of the 4th foot; lieutenant Nicholson, of the 2d battalion of the 35th ditto; ensign Parsons, and volunteer J. M'Innis, of the 1st battalion of the 9th ditto.

Colonel Maitland, and ensign Burke, of the 3d battalion of the 1st guards.

Surgeon Babington, of the 1st battalion of the 3d ditto.

Major Campbell, captain Newman, lieutenant Stevens, and ensigns Fevel and Humphries, of the 1st battalion of the 20th regiment of foot.

Captains Masters, Wallace, and Torrence, and ensign Drurie, of the 2d battalion of the 20th ditto.

Captain-lieutenant John Wardlaw; lieutenants Bonnet, Puscill, Sankey, and M'Intosh; of the 63d regiment of foot.

Lieutenant-colonel Hodgson; ensigns Johnston, Carruther, and John Nicholls; of the 1st battalion of the 4th ditto.

Captains Gilman and Palman; lieutenants Deare and Wilson; ensigns Highmore and Archibald; of the 2d battalion of the 4th ditto.

Majors Wyuch and Horndon, of the 3d battalion of the 4th ditto.

Ensigns Williams, Johnston, and King, of the 31st regiment of foot.

Names of Officers missing.

Lieutenant-colonel Lake, of the 3d battalion of the 1st guards.

Lieutenant-colonel Cholmondeley; major Pringle; captains Archdail, Brodie, Gilmore, Chaplin; lieutenants Gasley, Wilson, Deare, Wilbraham; ensigns Brown, Ellis, Hill, Anderson, M'Pherson, Tryor; of the 2d battalion of the 4th foot.

Captain Williamson, and ensign Algeo, of the 3d battalion of ditto.

ALEX. HOPE.

Assistant Adjutant-General.

[The Russians lost 382 killed or taken prisoners, and 735 wounded.]

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, OCT. 22.

Extract of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Mitchel to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated on board his Majesty's Ship Isis, near the Vlieter, dated the 15th inst.

I INCLOSE a copy of a letter from captain Campbell, giving an account of the capture of four gun-boats in the *Zuider Zee*, and a copy of a letter from captain Boorder, containing an account of two unsuccessful attacks made by the enemy on Lemmer; by all which their lordships will perceive that I cannot too highly extol the gallantry and good conduct of these captains, and of the officers and men under their command.

SIR,

His Majesty's Gun-brig *Hasty*,
off Marken, Oct. 7, 1799.

I BEG to inform you, that I yesterday sailed from *Usk*, with the *Hasty*, *Defender*, and *Cracker* brigs, and *Isis* schuyt; and having reached this place by four A. M. I proceeded with the boats to attempt cutting out the Dutch gun-boats lying on or near the *Pampus*, and, am happy to say, succeeded in getting possession of four without the loss of a man. They each mount four long guns or carronades, and have between twenty and thirty men; one of them built on purpose for a gun-vessel, and quite new, carrying two long eighteen-pounders in her bow, and two eighteen-pounder carronades on her broadside; the rest are schuyts.

I beg to recommend to your notice Messrs. Hall and Winter, mid-

shipmen, for their spirited behaviour on this occasion, as also all the seamen engaged, for their alacrity in boarding, and good conduct after having gained possession. I have sent the Defender with charge of the gun-boats, and have the honour to be, &c.

PATRICK CAMPBELL,
Commander of his Majesty's sloop Dart.

Vice-Admiral Mitchel, Enchuysen.

SIR,

Lemmer Town, West-Friesland,
Oct. 11, 1799.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that at five o'clock this morning the enemy made a general attack on this town in four different parts. Their advanced party attempted to storm the north battery. We soon got them between two fires; our tars, with pikes, surrounded them, and they immediately laid down their arms. Their force was one officer one serjeant, one corporal, and 28 men, two of the latter killed. We had no sooner secured our prisoners, than they attacked us with the remainder of their force, 670 in number. Our little army did wonders; for with sailors and marines our force was only 157. We fought them for four hours and a half, when the enemy gave way in all directions: I immediately ordered the marines to pursue them. Their breaking down a bridge prevented their colours and two field-pieces from falling into our hands; but before this was effected, the heavy fire from the marines had killed 18 of the enemy, and wounded about 20, and in their general attack they had 5 men killed and 9 wounded.

It is impossible for me to speak too highly of the officers and men under my command. Lieutenant Wyburn of the marines, as also lieutenants Howel, Higginson, and Gardner, behaved with honour to themselves and credit to their country. Lieutenant Norman of the navy, as also Mr. Lane, Mr. Iron, Mr. Wheatly, Mr. Travers, and Mr. Petty, distinguished themselves in a most gallant manner, as did likewise the whole of the sailors and marines.

It affords me great satisfaction to inform you we had not a man hurt.

I am, &c.

JAMES BOORDER

Vice-Admiral Mitchel to the Regency and Inhabitants of Enchuysen, on leaving that Place.

PREVIOUS to my quitting this place, I wish to express my feelings, to convince you that it is entirely owing to the smallness of my forces that I do not remain to make a needless defence against superior numbers. Convinced of your agreeing with me in this point, I have thought proper, after the tidings received from Hoorne and Medenblic, rather to evacuate the town, than expose it to the vengeance of our enemies.

It is with great concern I state, that the laws of war oblige me to destroy your armed shipping in this port, &c. yet I find consolation that none of the buildings of your city will receive the least injury, &c. I hope that the members of your provisional regency, established by my express orders, will not suffer the least molestation; but should I hear that any of them have been injured, I shall return with my fleet to bombard the town, until not one stone remains on another,

MITCHEL, Vice-Admiral.

*On board his Majesty's Ship Babet,
October 12.*

DOWNING-STREET, OCT. 26.

Lieutenant-colonel Clinton, aide-de-camp to his royal highness the duke of York, arrived this morning at the office of the right honourable Henry Dundas, with dispatches, of which the following are copies.

SIR,

Head-Quarters, Schagen-brug, Oct. 20.

IN my late communications I have represented to you the circumstances under which I found it expedient to withdraw the army from its forward position in front of Alkmaar, within that which it at present occupies, and which I trust will have appeared to his majesty sufficient to warrant the measure. The season of the year, which has already assumed here the aspect of winter, gave me, from day to day, additional reason to apprehend that any attempt towards a prosecution of the campaign in this country could not be attended with decisive advantages, whilst the impossibility of covering the troops in the narrow district of the country in our possession during the winter, and the precarious state of supplies to be expected in that season, added to the conviction I felt that the

most adviseable measure to be pursued was to remove with the army to England, an operation which, although it might have exposed the army to some loss in its execution, I judged in my mind preferable to any other which could be adopted. Under this impression, and considering that serious loss might ensue from delay, I have been induced to conclude an armistice, in conjunction with vice-admiral Mitchel, with general Brune, commanding the French and Batavian armies, of which the conditions are inclosed, and which, although they provide for delivering up a large number of prisoners of war, now in our hands, yet I trust will not be thought by his majesty an inadequate compensation for many valuable lives which must have been lost, after the object which has hitherto directed them no longer promised success; and when the only means which presented themselves of ensuring a secure retreat were those of resorting to the destructive measure of inundation from the sea, which, as it would have involved the inhabitants in the northern parts of this province in ruin for a series of years, must have been highly repugnant to the feelings, as well as contrary to the character and practice of the British nation. I rest confident that the motives which I have here detailed will excuse me to his majesty for having acted without waiting for previous instructions from home, and that I shall have the satisfaction of knowing that my conduct in this respect has met with his majesty's gracious approbation.

I am, &c.

FREDERICK.

ARTICLES agreed upon between major-general KNOX, duly authorised by his royal highness the duke of York, commander in chief of the combined English and Russian army, and citizen ROSOLLANT, general of brigade and adjutant-general, duly authorised by citizen Brune, general and commander in chief of the French and Batavian army.

Art. I. From the date of this convention all hostilities shall cease between the two armies.

Art. II. The line of demarcation between the said armies shall be the line of their respective out-posts, as they now exist.

Art. III. The continuation of all works, offensive and defensive, shall be suspended on both sides, and no new ones shall be undertaken.

Art. IV. The mounted batteries taken possession of at the Helder, or at other positions within the line, now occupied by the combined English and Russian army, shall be restored in the state in which they were taken, or (in case of improvement) in their present state, and all the Dutch artillery taken therein shall be preserved.

Art. V. The combined English and Russian army shall embark as soon as possible, and shall evacuate the territory, coasts, islands, and internal navigation of the Dutch republic, by the 30th of November, 1799, without committing any devastation, by inundations, cutting the dykes, or otherways injuring the sources of navigation.

Art. VI. Any ships of war, or other vessels, which may arrive with reinforcements for the combined British and Russian army, shall not land the same, and shall be sent away as soon as possible.

Art. VII. General Brune shall be at liberty to send an officer within the lines of the Zype and to the Helder, to report to him the state of the batteries and the progress of the embarkation. His royal highness the duke of York shall be equally at liberty to send an officer within the French and Batavian lines, to satisfy himself that no new works are carried on on their side. An officer of rank and distinction shall be sent from each army respectively, to guarantee the execution of this convention.

Art. VIII. Eight thousand prisoners of war, French and Batavians, taken before the present campaign, and now detained in England, shall be restored, without conditions, to their respective countries. The proportion and choice of such prisoners for each to be determined between the two republics. Major-general Knox shall remain with the French army to guarantee the execution of this article.

Art. IX. The cartel agreed upon between the two armies, for the exchange of the prisoners taken during the present campaign, shall continue in full force till it shall be carried into complete execution; and it is further agreed that the Dutch admiral De Winter shall be considered as exchanged.

Concluded at Alkmaar, the 18th of October, 1799, by the undersigned general-officers, furnished with full powers to this effect.

KNOX, Major-general.
ROSTOLLANT.

[Then follows a return of the killed, wounded, and missing, between the 6th and 10th of October, of which the following is the total:]

15 horses killed: 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 captain, 4 horses, wounded; 1 subaltern, 1 staff, 3 serjeants, 33 rank and file, 1 horse, missing.

Return of Officers wounded and missing.

* 18th light dragoons.—Honourable lieutenant-colonel Stewart, captain Hay, wounded; quarter-master, Mr. Kelly, missing.

2d battalion royals.—Lieutenant Lyster missing.

ALEX. HOPE,

Deputy Adjutant-General.

DOWNING-STREET, NOV. 23.

A Letter, of which the following is a copy, has been received by lieutenant-colonel the honourable Alexander Hope, deputy adjutant-general to the army lately serving in Holland, from lieutenant-general Sir James Pulteney, baronet, and, by order of his royal highness the commander in chief, transmitted by him to the right honourable Henry Dundas, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state.

SIR,

Swan Cutter, at Sea, Nov. 20.

I HAVE from time to time reported to you, for the information of his royal highness the commander in chief, the progress which had been made in the embarkation and departure of the British and Russian troops which were left under my command in the province of North Holland; and I am now happy to acquaint you, that the last of them embarked yesterday morning, when, the wind being fair, the whole of the ships of war and transports remaining in the Texel left that port.

Every thing belonging to the army was brought off, excepting a small proportion of damaged provisions, a few waggons, and above 300 draft horses of little value, for which there was no tonnage; of these the latter alone were saleable; but they bore so small a price, that I thought it better to distribute the whole to the magistrates of the different villages in and near which the army had been cantoned, to be delivered to any of the inhabitants who might have suffered from the inevitable consequences of war.

Several large Dutch Indiamen, and other ships, which it was impossible for us to remove in their present state, but which might have been fitted out as ships of war by the enemy, were completely disabled and rendered useless for any further purpose, through the exertions of a detachment of seamen, under the direction of captain Bovar. The desire of complying most strictly with the articles of the agreement entered into between his royal highness and general Brune prevented their being blown up, which could not have been done without endangering the navigation of the Nieuve Diep.

Vice-admiral Dickson, as well as myself, made it our study to comply in this, as in every other instance, with the articles of the agreement; and I must do the French general the justice to say, that he seemed actuated by the same spirit.

Previous to quitting the Helder, I had, in obedience to his royal highness's instructions, discharged every just demand of the inhabitants of the country which has been occupied by the army; and I was happy to find that very few claims were brought forward beyond those which it was in my power to satisfy.

The embarkation of the troops, difficult from the multiplicity of the arrangements required, and sometimes arduous from the state of the weather, was carried on with the utmost zeal and activity by vice-admiral Dickson, and the officers and seamen under his command. I feel particularly indebted to captain Lawford, of his majesty's ship Romney, who was left on shore, and had the immediate direction of the embarkation, for his exertions and his attention to every branch of his majesty's service, and to captain Woodriffe, principal agent of the transport service, for his great zeal in the execution of the duties of that situation.

I have the honour to be, &c.

JAMES PULTENEY.

The Hon. Col. Hope, Adj. Gen. &c

P. S. The three armed vessels have been left to cruise off the Texel, to give warning to any British ships of our having evacuated the port.

It was agreed by the French general, that if any should arrive previous to the expiration of the month, they should, as a matter of course, be allowed to depart.

Supplement to the Account of the Armistice concluded between his Royal Highness the Duke of York and Gen. Brune, published in the Gazette of the 26th ult.

GENERAL,

Head-Quarters, Schagen-brug, Oct. 13.

THE late hour at which your letter reached me last night prevented my sending sooner to Alkmaar major-general Knox, the officer alluded to in my letter of yesterday's date. He is entirely in my confidence, and is fully authorised to treat and conclude with you on the subject respecting which he has received my instructions.

FREDERICK, Duke of York,

Commander in Chief of the combined English and Russian Army.

To Gen. Brune, Commander in Chief, &c.

Head-Quarters, Schagen-brug, Oct. 13.

BY virtue of the authority, and in obedience to the order of his royal highness the duke of York, commander in chief of the combined English and Russian army, major-general Knox will have the honour of communicating with general Brune, commander in chief of the French and Batavian army, and of stating to him,

That in consequence of the difficulties arising from the very unfavourable and unusual state of the weather at this season, we have judged it expedient to re-occupy the position of the Zype.

That in this situation, with cantonments amply adequate to the amount of our forces, having an uninterrupted and certain means of keeping up our communication with England, and masters as we are of the Helder, the Texel, the Zuider Zee, and the Ocean, it depends upon us either to await the period when a favourable change of weather and of circumstances may enable us to renew offensive operations, or to withdraw our army by degrees, and without risk from this country, retaining possession of such detached points as might be judged most favourable for annoying the enemy, or for securing real advantages to ourselves.

In the event of our recurring to this last-mentioned measure, it will become our duty to neglect no means which can contribute to the preservation of the brave troops entrusted to our care; and for this purpose (however distressing, however ruinous to the inhabitants and to the country, the alternative may be) we shall be compelled to avail our-

selves of those dreadful expedients which it is in our power to adopt. Having perfectly at our disposal the sea-dykes, both towards the Ocean and the Zuider Zee, as well as the interior dykes, we should in that case be reduced to the terrible necessity of inundating the whole country of North Holland, and of adding to this calamity every destructive evil which must necessarily result from an attempt to force or interrupt our retreat. We should, under such circumstances, also be constrained to make use of the ample means we possess, of rendering the navigation of the Zuider Zee henceforth impracticable, by obstructing the Mars Diep, and destroying the Nieuwe Diep,—works upon which so many years' labour, and such immense sums, have been expended.

Our system of carrying on war having on all occasions been governed by the most liberal principles, necessity, and the strongest sense of duty, could alone induce us to adopt a system repugnant to the sentiments which have ever directed the conduct of the English nation. From these considerations, and from our persuasion that general Brune and the Dutch people must be actuated by similar motives, and equally desirous to prevent an useless effusion of blood by the amicable arrangement of a point which is perhaps the object of both parties, and from our anxiety, in case of a different result, to stand justified to the whole universe, from whatever destruction may in consequence devolve upon this country, we propose and offer to general Brune, and to the Batavian republic, That the English and Russian troops shall evacuate, before the end of November next, all the coasts, the islands, and the interior navigation of Holland, without committing any act detrimental to the great sources of its navigation, or laying the country under any inundations :—for this purpose, we propose that a suspension of hostilities shall take place until the period above specified ; that during this interval we shall remain in full possession of all the points, and of the whole extent of country we occupy at this moment, and that the line of the respective advanced posts shall also be that of separation between the two armies ; and that this line shall not, under any pretence, be passed by the troops of either, even in the event of our chusing to retire from any part of our present position, or of our quitting it altogether ;—that during the above-mentioned interval no interference shall be allowed, nor any objections be started, with respect to the conduct of either of the parties within the limits of their respective possessions ; and that all the rights of war (every act of hosti-

lity excepted) shall continue mutually in force ;—that we will grant to the persons and property of the inhabitants of the country occupied by us every protection consistent with discipline, in the circumstances under which we are placed, and all the advantages which the conduct generally observed by British troops entitles them to expect on such an occasion. If these proposals accord with the wishes, and are conformable to the intentions of general Brune, there can be no difficulty whatever in carrying them into execution in three days from the date hereof. By order of his royal highness the commander in chief,

H. TAYLOR, Sec.

The FRENCH and BATAVIAN ARMIES.

EQUALITY.

LIBERTY.

Head-Quarters at Alkmaar, the 15th Oct. 1799,
the 8th Year of the French Republic.

*Brune, General in Chief, to the Duke of York, Commander in Chief of the
combined English and Russian Army.*

GENERAL,

Major-general Knox, who was instructed to confer with me on your part, upon the subject of a Note which he has delivered, signed by your secretary, will communicate my answer, contained in the explanatory Note.

CITIZEN BRUNE,

General in Chief of the combined French and Batavian Army.

Head-Quarters at Alkmaar, the 15th Oct. 1799,
the 8th Year of the French Republic.

THE duke of York, commander in chief of the English army, proposes that a cessation of hostilities shall take place, in consequence of the approach of the inclement season. He promises to withdraw from the Batavian territory, between the present period and the end of November next, the whole army under his command ; and consents that no damage shall be committed, no sluices opened, or dykes broken up, on condition of his retreat not being molested by the French and Batavian army.

These motives would not have been brought forward by the duke of York, if he had considered himself possessed of means sufficient for advancing into the country; for, in that case, he would have had the facility of extending his quarters, of procuring subsistence, and, in short, of placing himself beyond the reach of the inconveniences arising from the unfavourable season. We ought consequently to look to advantages in an arrangement, proportionate to the insufficiency of the forces under his command. The terms proposed by the duke of York contain nothing but what would be the necessary result of a cessation of hostilities. It can scarcely be supposed that the duke of York will cause the dykes to be destroyed, the country to be inundated, and the villages to be burnt, for the mere purpose of committing such acts of violence,—as such conduct would be contrary to the laws of war, and must draw upon him the reprobation of all Europe, and of his own nation. It appears therefore evident, that the duke of York would confine himself to such measures as might be useful to his own army, or detrimental to ours; but we look upon such accidents as inseparable from a state of war. No object of advantage to us appears therefore to result from the proposals which have been made. Since, however, the sufferings of humanity come under the consideration of the duke of York, general Brune is ready to meet this honourable feeling, and, in doing so, declares that the following stipulations, on which he offers to consent to a suspension of hostilities, are so obviously just, that he cannot depart from them.

ART. I. The Batavian fleet, which was surrendered to admiral Mitchell by admiral Story, shall be restored to the Batavian republic, with its stores and crews. In case the duke of York shall not be invested with sufficient powers to comply with this article, his royal highness shall engage to obtain from his court an equivalent compensation.

ART. II. Fifteen thousand prisoners of war, French and Batavians, detained in England, shall be conditionally released and sent home. The mode of selection, and the proportion for each country, to be settled between the governments of the two republics. The Batavian admiral De Winter shall be considered as exchanged. This article shall in no degree prejudice or interfere with the cartel of exchange at present established.

ART. III. The batteries and fort of the Helder shall be restored in the condition in which they were found, at the period of the invasion of the

English and Russian army. An officer of artillery shall be sent to the Helder by general Brune, to see that this article is complied with.

Art. IV. The army under the command of the duke of York shall within forty-eight hours evacuate the position of the Zype; its advanced posts shall be withdrawn to the height of Callants-Oge. The French and Batavian army shall preserve the positions it occupies at present, taking up however its advanced posts at Petten, Krabendam, Schagen-brug, and Colhorn. It shall have merely a vidette at the height of Callants-Oge.

Art. V. The troops composing the English and Russian army shall be embarked successively, and as speedily as possible. All the British shipping shall quit the Texel, and all the English and Russian troops be withdrawn from the seas, coasts, and islands of the Batavian republic, before the 20th of November next, and shall not damage the great sources of navigation, or occasion any inundation in the country.

Art. VI. All ships of war or other vessels, having on board reinforcements for the combined English and Russian army, shall put to sea as soon as possible, without landing the same.

Art. VII. To guarantee the execution of these articles, hostages shall be given by the duke of York, to be selected amongst the officers of rank in his army.

By order of general Brune, commander in chief of the combined French and Batavian army.

VEVRY, Sec.

GENERAL,

Head-Quarters, Schagen-brug, Oct. 17.

I SEND back major-general Knox with my answers to the explanatory note which he has delivered to me in your name. He is fully authorised to conclude, on my part, upon every point which relates to the subject of his mission.

FREDERICK, Duke of York,

Commander in Chief of the combined English and Russian Army.

To Genl Brune, Commander in Chief, &c.

Head-Quarters, Schagen-brug, Oct. 17.

HIS royal highness the duke of York, commander in chief of the combined English and Russian army, proposed to general Brune, com-

mander in chief of the French and Batavian army, an arrangement, equally to the advantage of both parties, originating in his desire to prevent the farther effusion of blood, and to preserve this country from the terrible effects of an inundation, as also from the destruction of the best of its ports, involving the total ruin of the principal channel of its interior navigation and commerce.—In answer to which general Brune observes, that he cannot imagine his royal highness will recur to measures not less revolting to humanity than repugnant to the character of the British nation, and to the general feeling of all Europe.—Devastation or destruction is certainly inoompatible with the character and with the uniform conduct of the English nation; and as little do either accord with the disposition of his royal highness the commander in chief; but there are duties peremptorily prescribed by the nature of particular situations, the odium of which must fall, not on those who execute, but on such as render the measures necessary, by rejecting the conditions of a just and honourable agreement. Deeply impressed with what is due to his country on the one hand, and to the claims of humanity on the other,—persuaded, likewise, that general Brune is equally guided by these sentiments, his royal highness has taken his proposals into consideration, and consents to abide by the agreement as it stands in the answers annexed to the different articles.

Major-general Knox, who is charged therewith, is authorised to sign and conclude this agreement, as well as to arrange any points of detail which may arise out of it. It being the duty of every officer commanding his Britannic Majesty's troops to make an exact report of whatever relates to his command, his royal highness the duke of York will, of course, lay before the British government every communication which has taken place between his royal highness and general Brune.

Articles proposed in the Explanatory Note from General Brune.

Answer to Art. I.—His royal highness will on no account treat upon this article, the execution of which, it must be evident to both parties, is impossible.

Answer to Art. II.—This demand appears to rest upon a supposed loss the combined army must sustain should its embarkation be retarded upon. It is by no means admitted that such would be the result, but as,

in the event of the army's carrying on the campaign during the winter, the loss of a certain number of men must naturally be expected, his royal highness, influenced by this consideration, agrees to promise, in the name of the British government, that 5000 French and Batavian prisoners, the proportion of each to be regulated according to the terms of the article, shall be unconditionally released and sent home. Nothing further in this article can be agreed to.

Answer to Art. III.—The fort and batteries of the Helder will be left, generally considered, in an improved state. None of the Dutch artillery shall be carried away.

Answer to Art. IV.—On no account will it be consented that the army shall be withdrawn from the position of Zype, until every preparation requisite to render its embarkation easy and complete can be arranged at the Helder. It must be evident, that it cannot be desirable that any delay should take place in this respect. No addition shall be made to the works at the Zype, and persons properly authorised shall be admitted from time to time to ascertain and report upon this point for the satisfaction of general Brune; but no armed detachment will be permitted to approach, or to take post, nearer than they already are to our position. It must be further understood, that, on his part, general Brune will not allow any approaches or offensive preparations to be carried on, and that the French and Batavian army shall remain in the line of advanced posts which it occupies at present, which shall also be the line of separation between the two armies respectively.

Answer to Art. V.—The embarkation of the English and Russian troops will take place with all possible expedition; and at this season of the year any unnecessary delay will naturally be avoided as much as possible; but to prevent any difficulty or future discussion upon this point, it is proposed, that the suspension of hostilities shall be limited to the end of the month of November next, in order to secure sufficient time for the complete evacuation of the country, which, however, shall be effected sooner if practicable.

Answer to Art. VI.—The ships of war, or other vessels immediately expected with reinforcements for the combined English and Russian army, or which may hereafter be sent, shall not land their troops, but shall put to sea again as soon as possible.

Answer to Art. VII.—Hostages shall be reciprocally given, to be selected among the officers of rank of the two armies, to guarantee the execution of this agreement.

By order of his royal highness the duke of York, commander in chief of the combined English and Russian army.

H. TAYLOR, Sec.

SIR,

Alkmaar, Oct. 17.

I HAVE seen general Brune, and have talked over with him fully all the articles on which I have received his royal highness's instructions. I have found the greatest disposition on the part of general Brune to enter fairly on the subject. In respect to the essential article of the fleet, general Brune has already received a letter from the Dutch directory, to make the delivery of it a *sine qua non*; and I much doubt whether there is any chance of his being brought to give way on this point, at least without some assurance that his royal highness would forward the demand to his court. In respect to the other very essential article of the prisoners, after much conversation, I brought the general to lower his demands to 8000 men, beyond which he cannot recede. Every other point can be amicably settled. I beg his royal highness's orders on these points; and I hope to receive them by noon to-morrow.

I have the honour to be, &c.

J. KNOX.

To the Hon. Col. Hope, Adj. Gen. &c.

SIR,

Head-Quarters, Schagen-brug, Oct. 18.

HIS royal highness the commander in chief, in his instructions to you of yesterday's date, having declared that every paper or proposal from general Brune, and consequently *that* relative to the whole Dutch fleet, will of course be regularly transmitted to England, can give no other answer than what you are already empowered to make: viz. "His royal highness will, on no account, treat upon this article, the execution of which, it must be evident to both parties, is impossible." If general Brune expects any thing further to pass on that subject, the sooner the negotiation is put an end to the better. In regard to the number of prisoners, if every other point is clearly and immediately decided upon, his royal high-

ness may be induced to relax; *if not*, it is unnecessary to enter further into the subject, and he directs you to finish the negotiation.

I have the honour to be, &c.

ALEX. HOPE,

The Hon. Major Gen. Knox, &c.

Dep. Adj. Gen.

SIR,

Alkmaar, Oct. 18, 3 P. M.

I HAVE received your letter, and have the pleasure to inform you that every thing is settled to his royal highness's satisfaction; in consequence of which general Brune has given immediate orders to all his posts that hostilities shall cease, and that no further work of any kind shall be carried on: he requests that his royal highness will be pleased to give similar orders without loss of time, as a report has just been made that some houses have been set on fire on the road leading to Herenhuisen.

I have the honour to be, &c.

J. KNOX.

To the Hon. Col. Hope, Adj. Gen. &c.

P. S. General Brune has sent off to Amsterdam, to direct that nothing hostile shall be attempted on the part of the flotilla there fitted out; and he begs that similar notice may be sent to admiral Mitchel.

OFFICIAL DUTCH ACCOUNTS,

RELATIVE TO THE BATAVIAN FLEET.

Hague, 23d Fructidor.

*The Executive Directory of the Batavian Republic to the First Chamber
of the Representative Body of the Batavian People.*

CITIZEN Representatives, After having last night informed your president, and this morning early your assembly, of the appearance of an English fleet off the Texel Roads, we have deliberated more maturely on the reply which the commander in chief of the republican fleet shall give to the letter and the summons of admiral Duncan, to which he has merely sent a provisional reply; in consequence of which we have commissioned the agent of marine to reply to the said letter and summons in the manner which you will see by the extract of our resolutions, which we join to this message, not being willing to fail in giving information.

Health and respect,

E. EMERINS.

By order of the Directory,
HUTMAN.

On board his Britannic Majesty's ship Kent,
20th August.

SIR,

MORE than 20,000 men being at this moment debarked at the Helder, who will be followed by many others, you have now a favourable opportunity of manifesting your zeal for your legitimate sovereign the prince of Orange, by declaring for him, together with all the ships which may choose to follow your example. All those who shall declare for him in like manner, hoisting the Orange flag, shall be considered as allies and friends. As soon as I shall have made Sir Ralph Abercrombie, commander in chief of the British land forces, and admiral Mitchel, who commands the naval part of the expedition under me, acquainted with

this declaration, all the ships which are desirous of so doing may come out and join me; they will be treated with the most sincere friendship as allies, and will be received in the bosom of the English fleet, with which they may remain until they shall receive the commands of the prince of Orange, with respect to the conduct which they are to pursue.

I have the honour to be, &c.

DUNCAN.

The bearer of this letter, captain ———, is commissioned to assure the officers of the Batavian fleet of my esteem for them.

DUNCAN.

The Commander in Chief of the Batavian Fleet to Admiral Duncan, Commander of the English Fleet in the North Sea.

ADMIRAL,

On board the Washington, Texel Road,
August 22, 1799.

I SHOULD be unworthy of lord Duncan, and should forfeit the esteem of every honest man, were I to accept the proposal you make me. I know the duty which I owe the flag I obey, and to my country: were your force double, my sentiments would still remain the same. Your lordship may therefore expect from me a defence worthy of my nation, and of my honour. I shall, however, immediately send your summons to my government; and, if you please, to await its determination, I will inform you of the result.

Be assured, my lord,

That I am, with esteem,

STORY.

Extract of the Register of the Deliberations of the Executive Directory of the Batavian Republic, 23d August, five o'clock in the morning.

THE executive directory, having read an address written by the minister of the marine this morning at a quarter before three o'clock in

which he states the appearance of the English fleet before the Texel, and the summons of admiral Duncan, decree, that the agent of the marine shall be commanded to make, in the name of the chief of the fleet, the following answer to admiral Duncan.

“ That the English admiral had formed an erroneous supposition in his letter of the 20th of this month, which he addressed to him, in which he states that general Abercrombie had disembarked with 20,000 men at the Helder ; that dispositions had been made to make him repent of his enterprise ; and that even if the disembarkation had succeeded, that would not induce the brave and faithful commanders of the Batavian ships to surrender to a hostile power, as they are disposed to put in force every means of defence to protect the Batavian flag, and from which they expect the happiest result. The answer already given by the commander of the Batavian fleet, and from which lord Duncan might have anticipated the present, with which it agrees in substance, would have been deemed sufficient, if the conduct of one of the officers who brought the summons did not deserve to be reported to lord Duncan, in the persuasion that it will not only be disavowed by him, but severely punished—that officer having taken advantage of the opportunity to put into the hands of one of the Batavian officers, who fell in his way, a pretended proclamation in Dutch and English, the object of which was to seduce and alienate, if possible, the minds of the inhabitants of the Batavian republic from the confidence which they repose in their constituted authorities ; that this perfidious conduct having been discovered after the departure of the English officer, it was not possible to seize him as a seducer of the military ; that it was expected no such proceedings in future should take place, as otherwise those who should behave in a manner so inconsistent with the laws of war must be answerable for the fatal consequences ; that henceforth no flags of truce could be received, the object of which was merely to bring summonses and messages, which patriotism requires should be rejected. In future, therefore, those who bring these proclamations will be considered not as the bearers of a flag of truce, but as prisoners of war.”

Letter from Rear-Admiral Story to the Minister of Marine of the Batavian Republic.

Washington, at Anchor under the Vlieter, Aug. 31.

PENETRATED by the most oppressing sensations of despair and contempt, I take up my pen to give you an account of the most fatal event that ever will appear in the annals of history. In my letter of the 27th instant, I informed you that the evacuation of the Helder and its batteries would oblige me to effect the last retreat that was left, and which you had pointed out in your letter of the 23d. Not before the English had appeared on the batteries of Revolution and Union, I made the signal for weighing anchor, and for sailing, which was effected on the 28th, in the morning. At that instant the Orange flag was flying from all the steeples of the Texel, the Helder, and from the batteries. This extraordinary circumstance effected very critical sensations on board of several ships; but, notwithstanding this, our retreat was effected, and at eleven o'clock in the morning we cast anchor before the Vlieter, the wind preventing us to enter it, and to take the intended station. On the 29th, at day-break, we discovered, that already a great part of the enemy's frigates and transports had cast anchor in the roads of the Texel; the wind was then north, which led me to conclude that the enemy's men of war were not yet able to sail up the Texel. I resolved, therefore, to return with my whole force to the roads of the Texel, to drive from thence, or to destroy, all the enemy's ships which I should find there; but the wind blowing strong from the north, my plan became impracticable; I ordered the fleet to cast anchor again, and resolved to sail to the roads with the next tide. On the evening of the same day a spirit of insubordination and mutiny appeared amongst the crews of several ships. At nine o'clock I was informed that the people of the Washington refused, in a mass, to go to their birth, saying, 'They were sure that ship would be blown up in the night. Some of the mutineers, armed with sabres and pistols, made themselves masters of the powder-magazine, and would not suffer any one to approach it. Others prevented the few well-disposed to go to their birth. Captain Van De Cappelle, with all his officers, immediately went between decks, and endeavoured to bring the mutineers back to their duty, with resolute courage.

nances, and using every means of persuasion. I ordered all the subaltern officers to appear before me, and reminded them of their duty, and of the oath they had sworn to the republic. They all assured me they were unacquainted with the causes of this mutiny, and saw no possibility of opposing it. Captain Van-De Capelle succeeded so far between decks, that the whole of the crew went to the cabin, those excepted who guarded the powder-magazine. At that moment I would have employed force, had I not been persuaded that it would be in vain to oppose the whole mass. The same afternoon I also received several accounts, that on board most of the largest vessels disturbances had broke out. Captains Van Braam and De Yong assured me, that for some hours they had found the spirit of mutiny increasing so much in their respective crews, that little or nothing could be expected of them, should an engagement take place. On board the *Ruiter* it was the same: captain Huis had already been compelled to confine two of his quarter-masters on account of their mutinous conversation. Captain Kolf freely declared that his crew were so disposed, that not a single shot could be expected to be fired from his ship. Thus elapsed the first day, and the night of the 29th. On the morning of the 30th, we saw the English appearing in the roads of the Texel, partly directing their course towards the Vlieter. This division consisted of eleven ships of the line, five or six large frigates, and four corvettes: they carried what is called the prince's flag. On the approach of this fleet, mutinous movements took place on board the *Washington*, and, as I afterwards learned, on board several other ships. This moment was the most painful to me that ever I experienced. A hostile fleet, nearly double the strength of my own, sailed against me before the wind, and at a time when I was uncertain whether one of my ships would fire a shot. Forced by this disagreeable circumstance, I resolved to send captains Van De Capelle and De Yong, in a sloop, to meet the English admiral, to represent to him in substance—that we were at our last retreat, and were determined to defend our ships to the utmost; that he would, therefore, not gain any thing by his attack, but the destruction of a fleet, which, according to his own declaration, he wished to spare, and to treat in the most friendly manner; that we proposed to him to cast anchor at a sufficient distance from our fleet, to enable us to wait the resolution of our government, concerning our present situation. My

object in sending this message was to gain time. I made signal to our ships to prepare for an engagement, but this moment perfectly convinced me of what I might expect. When the alarm was beaten on board the *Washington*, the whole of the crew, the officers, and a few of the men excepted, instead of instantly repairing to their guns, went to different parts of the ship, loudly exclaiming, That not one of them would fight for a moment, nor make the least preparation for it. Accompanied by captain Van Blaam, who happened to be on board the *Washington* at that time, I went among them; we first used persuasions, and afterwards the severest threats, to induce the mutineers to go to their guns; but in vain. All at once, with repeated huzzas, &c. they ran to the guns, extracted the balls, and threw them overboard, and also a great number of cartridges. A few brave men, who had taken possession of two guns in the hold; were driven away by force, and orders were given under the severest threats, not to undertake any thing for the defence of the ship. From some of the other ships I also heard, at different times, the cries of mutiny. At that moment captains Van De Capelle and De Yong had approached the English fleet, which had cast anchor at some distance. On their return, the two admirals brought me a letter from the English admiral (the summons, which we have already laid before our readers), telling me, at the same time, that, with great difficulty, they had obtained an hour for me to consider about an answer, and that two English officers had come with them to carry it. Previous to this, I had ordered all the commanding officers of our fleet on board of my ship, to consult upon our situation, and what we were to do. I was convinced that not a single shot would be fired from the *Washington*; captain Kolf declared that the same was the case with the *Utrecht*; captains Van Blaam and De Yong stated, that their crews refused to fight; all the other captains complained more or less, excepting captain Van Senden, who said that his crew were, at the present moment, in the best order, but that he could not expect any thing from them if the admiral's ship made no defence. The *Batavier*, the ship which he commanded, was next to the admiral's. Under these circumstances, and convinced that we could, at the utmost, only fire a few shots upon the enemy, who was our superior in point of number, it was soon determined what resolution we should take. We agreed unanimously to strike the Batavian flag, and to declare

myself, and all the officers, prisoners of war, without going into detail, upon the assurances of friendship made to us, or hoisting any other flag. I then sent an answer to the English admiral (which we have likewise already given). The two English officers, who had arrived along with captains Van De Capelle and De Yong, remained on board the Washington from that moment to this day. In the evening, at their desire, the *ci-devant* prince's flag was hoisted. To-day they demanded that we should salute the fleet, by firing some guns; but this I refused, declaring that we could not be considered otherwise than as prisoners of war, and therefore could not be obliged to any service.—What will become of us, with this extraordinary manner of carrying on war, and of taking of ships, I cannot conceive. We must wait the result of this, as well as of the whole business. Meanwhile you can have no idea of the disagreeable situation of myself and my officers. The spirit of mutiny on board the fleet is not yet quelled. This morning, among other circumstances, we were informed that the crew of the Ambuscade frigate had proceeded to the most unexampled excesses, and were not ashamed to commit the barbarous action of throwing a man overboard, who was known as an advocate of the cause of liberty, and that the officers were not able to do any thing for the safety of this unfortunate man. Once more, judge from all this how little I could expect to be able to do with this traitorous and inhuman set! Judge what must be my present situation!—I shall endeavour to give you still more circumstantial accounts.

Health and respect.

S. STORY, Rear-Admiral.

PROCLAMATIONS

ADDRESSED TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED NETHERLANDS.

Proclamation by his Excellency Sir Ralph Abercrombie, K. B. &c.

LIEUTENANT-general Sir Ralph Abercrombie, being intrusted by his majesty the king of Great Britain, the ancient and good ally of the United Provinces, with the command of a body of British troops to be employed in delivering these provinces from the degrading tyranny of the French republic, has received his majesty's commands to make this public and explicit declaration of the intentions of his majesty, and of the august sovereigns who are united with him in this great work. It is not as enemies, but as friends and deliverers, that the British troops enter into the territory of the United Provinces. It is to rescue the inhabitants of this once free and happy country from the oppression under which they now groan ; to protect their religion from the intolerant and persecuting spirit of infidelity and atheism ; to deliver their civil government from the despotism of a rapacious anarchy ; and to re-establish their ancient liberty and independence, by restoring to them the benefits of that constitution, for which, under the auspices of the illustrious House of Orange, their ancestors fought and conquered, and in the enjoyment of which they so long flourished, in friendship and alliance with Great Britain. For this object, and under the same auspices, his majesty doubts not that the ancient valour and energy of the Dutch nation will be now exerted with the same spirit and success. The hand of Providence has already shown itself in the deliverance of a great part of Europe from those miseries in which the arms and principles of French republicanism have for a time been permitted to involve it. The forces which his majesty has confided to lieutenant-general Abercrombie, and those which his majesty's allies have destined to the same object, are abundantly sufficient for the protection of those who shall stand forth in the cause of their country. It is principally by the efforts of the Dutch nation that these sovereigns wish the deliverance of the republic to be accomplished. In the steps which are to lead to this salutary end, his majesty earnestly recommends

to all the inhabitants of these provinces union and concord, forgiveness of the past, and a determined resolution to protect, against every tumultuous or vindictive excess, the lives and properties of their fellow-citizens, even of those whose errors or misconduct have contributed to the calamities of their country, but whom the irresistible conviction of experience shall now unite in this great cause. On these principles, and in this spirit, the British army will conduct itself amongst a people whom Englishmen have long been accustomed to regard as their friends and allies: but if from henceforth there shall be found any Dutchmen, who, by their adherence to the oppressors of their country, at the moment when, by the blessing of God, its deliverance is at hand, shall show themselves unworthy of the blessings of tranquillity, of lawful government, and of religious and civil liberty, those, and those alone, his majesty's troops will consider and treat as decided and irreconcilable enemies, not only to his majesty and to his allies, but to the prosperity of their own country, and to the general interests and safety of Europe.

RALPH ABERCROMBIE, Lieutenant-General.

FREDERIC MAITLAND,

Secretary to the Commander in Chief.

The Prince of Orange's Proclamation.

DEAR COUNTRYMEN,

THE long wished-for moment, when you are at last to be delivered from so many calamities, under which you have suffered for more than four years past, is, we hope, arrived; and we now enjoy the satisfaction again to address you under that pleasing prospect. It would be superfluous to enumerate the different hardships under which you have groaned ever since the violence you have suffered in consequence of the French invasion, and the events which have followed it. If cruel experience has made you feel them but too severely, and if our ardent wishes could have been sooner fulfilled, you would have been relieved long ago from that intolerable burden. We have been but too long obliged to confine ourselves to the deploring your fate in silence, without having it in our power to alter it. At last that time is come. His majesty, the

King of Great Britain, moved by his affection and friendship towards the republic of the United Provinces, and pitying your misfortunes, has taken the generous resolution, as soon as the general circumstances of Europe have allowed it, to employ, in concert with his allies, vigorous measures for your deliverance. The military force which is now sent for that purpose is to be followed by still more numerous troops. The object of this expedition is made known to you, in the name of his Britannic majesty, by the commander in chief of the first body of troops which is to open this glorious career. Those troops do not come to you as enemies, but as friends and deliverers, in order to rescue you from the odious oppression under which you are held by the French government, and by the French troops, and to restore you to the enjoyment of your religion and liberty, those invaluable blessings for which, with the Divine assistance, you and our own ancestors fought and conquered. Hesitate not, therefore, brave inhabitants of the United Provinces, to meet and to assist your deliverers. Receive them among you as friends and protectors of the happiness and welfare of your country. Let every difference of political sentiments and opinions vanish before this great object. Do not suffer the spirit of party, nor even the sense of the wrongs you may have suffered, to induce you to commit any acts of revenge or persecution. Let your hands and your hearts be united in order to repel the common enemy, and to re-establish the liberty and independence of our common country. Let your deliverance be as much as possible your own work. You see already, and you will experience it still more in future, that you may depend upon being vigorously and powerfully assisted. As soon as the first efforts which are making towards your delivery shall have acquired some consistency, our dearly beloved son, the hereditary prince of Orange, who is in possession of our entire confidence, and is deserving of yours, and who is perfectly well acquainted with our intentions, will join you, put himself at your head, and, following the steps of our illustrious ancestors, spare neither his property nor his life, in order to assist with you, and for your sake, in bringing this great undertaking to a successful issue. We ourselves also will then, as soon as circumstances shall allow it, proceed to join you. And as we have always considered our own happiness and welfare as in-

separably connected with that of our dear country, we will then, after having seen your laws and privileges restored, and yourselves re-established in the possession of those benefits which belong to a free people under a lawful government, make our greatest and most heart-felt satisfaction consist (under the Divine blessing) in the advancement of the public good, and of that prosperity and welfare which formerly made our once happy country an object of admiration to the surrounding nations.

Done in the palace of Hampton-Court, the 28th of July, 1799.

W. PRINCE OF ORANGE.

THE HEREDITARY PRINCE OF ORANGE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE
UNITED NETHERLANDS.

We William Frederick, Hereditary Prince of Orange, Nassau, &c.

PROVIDENCE having crowned with the happiest success the endeavours of the allied powers who have taken up arms in defence of their religion and independence; the moment being at last arrived, when, with the powerful assistance of his Britannic majesty, and of his allies, our country will at length be liberated from the yoke under which it has groaned for four years; and his highness the prince of Nassau Orange, hereditary stadtholder, governor, captain-general, and admiral of the United Netherlands, as well as hereditary captain and admiral-general of the Union, &c. our father, having, in a proclamation, dated at Hampton-Court the 28th of July, 1799, already declared his sentiments and intentions with which he is animated towards the good inhabitants of the state:—We invite you, empowered and ordered by our father, by a decree dated December 19, 1798, and agreeably to his intentions, to assist us in gaining the object by which we are animated, namely, the re-establishment of religion and liberty, according to the principles of our legal constitution. Instead of the long slavery which has hitherto oppressed you, that true liberty is again offered to you which alone is able to promote your happiness. You may rest assured that you have to expect the protection of the laws, and freedom of persons and ~~pro-~~

erty, if you offer no resistance to your deliverers, but assist them as much as lies in your power. Be therefore united, lay aside all discord and party spirit, abstain from revenge, endeavour to maintain tranquillity and order, and be persuaded, that, on our parts, we are animated by the same sentiments, and that it is our most ardent desire to awaken peace and harmony among the inhabitants, to establish which we shall do every thing in our power. We promise to all those who shall return to their duty, and assist in liberating our dear country, that their sentiments and actions during the revolution shall be forgotten, and that they shall receive protection; those, in particular, who have been in any official capacity, have nothing to fear upon that head, except they have neglected their duty, or been guilty of crimes which are considered as such in every country, and are punishable before every impartial judge. All inhabitants may therefore rely upon perfect security, and we expect that no opposition will be made to our endeavours. Should, unexpectedly, the contrary be the case, every one will have to ascribe the disagreeable consequence to his own conduct, as such persons will experience the rigour of the laws. We caution likewise all present rulers, and public functionaries, not to offend any one belonging to the ancient legal government, or who shall be known as a partisan of the house of Orange, as they will have to answer for their safety with their persons and property.

It being also necessary, to prevent anarchy, immediately to establish a government, we invite and request all those, who, before the invasion of the seven provinces and of the country of Drenthe by the French, have been employed in the departments of police, finance, and justice, immediately to take upon themselves the provisional administration of those departments, till a government shall be properly re-established; and also to put again into activity the administration of government of towns and villages, with exception of those who have had a share in the revolution, or who have made any declaration for supporting that illegal form of government, or given evident proofs of their attachment to it.

We likewise order all public functionaries of the present illegal government to continue in the exercise of their duties till the provisional government shall be established; enjoining them, however, not to em-

bezzle any money, or secrete documents or papers. We particularly forbid all receivers to make any payments to them whatever, and they shall be answerable with their property.

Concerning the United States in general, we have thought proper, till the proper government shall be re-established, to appoint a provisional government, consisting of able persons from the respective provinces, which we shall appoint by letters, to represent the states of the United Netherlands.

Lastly, we order the army and navy to contribute to the re-establishment of the legal government, to maintain order and tranquillity, and to obey the commands of the officers nominated by his highness. The officers in the service of the illegal government, who shall assist in effecting this, shall be particularly remembered.

WILLIAM FREDERICK, Hereditary Prince of Orange.

OFFICIAL RUSSIAN ACCOUNTS.

Major-General D'Essen, from his Head-Quarters at Zyper-Sluis.

(From the PETERSBURGH GAZETTE of Oct. 22.)

I HUMBLY acquaint your imperial majesty, that, on the 4th of September, I arrived from Yarmouth with the first division of troops before the Texel. We disembarked immediately in row-boats, and landed all our troops on the 6th at the Helder, though in a violent gale of wind. General D'Hermann was arrived before me, and was at the distance of 35 wersts from the Helder towards Alkmaar. By his orders I joined him on the 7th; and on the 8th, in the morning, at four o'clock, we proceeded in three columns, and attacked the enemy with a bravery only characteristic to your majesty's subjects. We drove him from three strong intrenchments, took all the batteries with the bayonet, and entered three strong villages, with the town of Berghen. We had already taken fourteen pieces of cannon, about 1000 prisoners, and killed upwards of 2000 of the enemy. However, all our ammunition being exhausted, we could no longer carry on offensive operations against a numerous enemy, who employed all his forces against us, who forced the right wing of our allies who intended to attack at the same time, but who, for causes unknown to me, were two hours too late, which considerably injured the victory which we had already gained. Lieutenant-general D'Hermann was made prisoner.—I cannot conceal from you, most gracious sovereign, that the troops of your majesty are in want of the most necessary articles. I will not, however, pretend to say that this is owing to the want of care of our allies, but rather to their late arrangements, when, contrary to the first plan, they landed all the troops, their own as well as ours, in a crowd, so

that it was impossible the small tract of ground which we occupied could furnish us with provisions, and we are under the necessity to wait for supplies from England. We were in want of sufficient artillery and horses, and the troops were not yet recovered from a violent sea-sickness. Our ammunition being exhausted, we had no means of attack and defence but the bayonet; but through the extreme fatigue of our troops, their retreat began in confusion. The commander in chief being a prisoner, lieutenant-general Sherebzw killed, and major-general Suthof wounded, the chief command devolved on me. I strove to collect our troops, and retired to our first advantageous position in such a manner that the enemy found it impossible to follow. Our whole loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, amounts to about 3000 men; but the enemy has lost many more, the prisoners taken by the English and ourselves amounting to above 3000 men, &c.

Report from the General of Infantry, Count Woronzow.

(From the PETERSBURGH GAZETTE of Feb. 21.)

London, January 11, O. S.

FINDING that lieutenant-general D'Essen, in his relation of the unfortunate battle on the 19th of October, has not named to your imperial majesty the regiments which were then in confusion; and as you, most gracious master, have been pleased to deprive several of them of the grenadiers' march, which has driven them to despair; I am induced to believe that he has made a particular report to your majesty, or that, perhaps, he has charged a person, sent by him to St. Petersburg, verbally to inform your majesty of it, and that in those reports all the regiments and battalions, without exception, are stated to have been in confusion. The commanders of them have made remonstrances to me on that account, particularly major-general Sedmoratzky, whose regiment, as well as the battalion of Erichsen, have not only remained in proper order, but have, on the contrary, greatly distinguished themselves; and colonel Baklonowski, as commander of the regiment of Fersen, which, on that

occasion, was not with our troops, but with the right wing of the English, where that regiment fought with manly courage, and observed the strictest order and discipline.—The regiment of major-general Emme, and the united battalions of Ogarew and Mituschin were not at all present in this unfortunate affair, but having been disembarked at the Helder at a later period, only joined the army three or four days afterwards. However, as I had not been an eye-witness, I thought it necessary to make every possible inquiry, previously to my informing your majesty of it; on which account I asked the duke of York, who confirmed the statements of the above-mentioned chiefs. His royal highness added, that these officers deserved the greatest pity, knowing that they were driven to despair, on seeing their regiments punished in consequence of the unjust report of their leader; that he, as commander in chief, had thought it his duty to convince your majesty of the innocence of the troops; and that immediately after having been informed of the concern and grief of their commanders, he had written to me officially, which letter I should find on returning home, and which he would have delivered to me in person, had he known that I had intended to come to him. That letter I actually found, as the duke had informed me; and being obliged to dispatch the chasseur Trosin, I inclose that letter in original, expecting your imperial majesty's most gracious resolution. On this occasion, I cannot omit to represent to your imperial majesty, that the regiment Sawalishin, then Benkendorf, in the battle of the 19th of September, attempted to make up for the loss of one of its colours, by taking one of the enemy's, which is yet retained in the regiment. The circumstances attending that loss, according to the reports and general orders, were as follow: In the battle of the 8th (19th), that regiment was stationed at the most dangerous point, and suffered considerably more than all the others; but it only lost them when the ensign Schtschegolowitz, during the severest and desperate attack of the enemy, saw that it would be impossible to save them. Encouraged by ensign Bagogewut, who was with the colours, he tore them off the pole, wrapped them round his body, and thus remained, together with ensign Bagogewut, on the field of battle. The remaining nine stand of colours belonging to the regiment are all full of holes.

*Letter of his Royal Highness the Duke of York to the Ambassador of his
Imperial Majesty of Russia, Count Woronzow, in London,
dated Jan. 14, 1800.*

HAVING learnt, with the greatest concern, that his imperial majesty, in consequence of inaccurate and uncertain reports, has signified his displeasure to the whole of the Russian troops who had been in Holland, I think it my duty, and it gives me pleasure, to do justice to several regiments, who, in different actions with the enemy, have evinced as much order as bravery. The musqueteers of general Sedmoratzky, and the battalion of Erichsen grenadiers, in the battle of the 19th of September, took possession of the village of Warmanhuysen, made 700 prisoners, and took three pieces of cannon. On the 2d of October the same three battalions made themselves masters of two batteries near the canal of Alkmaar, forcing the enemy to retreat; and in the last action, on the 6th of October, they took the village of Baccum, again making some prisoners. In the battle of the 19th of October, the whole regiment of Ferson musqueteers was with the right wing of the English, and its discipline and bravery merit the highest praise. The battalions of grenadiers of majors Ogarew and Mituschin were not disembarked before all the other troops had landed, on which account they could not join the army till after the unfortunate battle of the 19th, but in the actions of the 2d and 6th they distinguished themselves, as did also the regiment of Emme, by order and bravery.—I have been an eye-witness of the order and bravery with which all these corps fought against the enemy, and have always testified to them my satisfaction; it was, therefore, with regret I observed that they had incurred his imperial majesty's displeasure, which would not have been the case, had their praise-worthy behaviour been properly represented. I should certainly not have omitted to write myself to his imperial majesty, had I not been afraid to discommode him: but since I know how much his imperial majesty is attached to his army, and with what satisfaction he administers justice to every individual, I think it my duty to apply to your excellency, as commander in chief of the Russian

troops in England, persuaded that you will feel with me how painful it must be to these brave soldiers to have done their duty, and nevertheless to be loaded with the displeasure of his imperial majesty, and that you will omit nothing in your reports to his imperial majesty, to do justice to those who have rendered themselves deserving of it.

[In consideration of the above statements, the regiment of grenadiers, Sawalischin, is to have new colours, on which their bravery is to be inscribed.]

FINIS.