

# MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1801.

NEW-YORK, September 16.

The fast sailing ship *Mercury*, capt. Cottle, arrived at this port last evening, in 37 days from Liverpool. The London papers received by her are to the evening of the SEVENTH of AUGUST, inclusive, and furnish us with an unusual variety of important intelligence.

An expedition against Boulogne, for the purpose of destroying the gun-boats fitting out there for the invasion of England, has been projected, by the English ministry, and effectually carried into execution by lord Nelson. A particular detail of this important event forms one of the principal articles of our selection.

The landing of admiral Gantheaume in France, after having debarked troops on the coast of Egypt, appears to be no longer doubted in the English papers.

Every thing seems quiet in the North.

The destiny of Egypt is still unknown—No official accounts have yet been published from that country.

CONSTANTINOPLE, June 28.

THE whole of the Turkish and English force, which has formed a junction against the French at Cairo, is estimated at 42,000 men. A corps of English, under general Hutchinson, has likewise joined the army of the grand vizier, and the corps of the captain Pacha.

STRASBURG, July 15.

Our journals contain the following article:

"The dispatches which the brig *Lodi* has brought from Egypt, have as yet only been published by extracts. A letter has, however, been received here, from a person belonging to the army, on board the *Lodi*, in the road of Nice, which states, that the affairs in Egypt are not the best possible, of which there are two principal causes; first, the disagreement between the generals, especially between Menou and Regnier; and, secondly, the plague which broke out in Cairo and Upper Egypt, a short time before the attack of the English, and prevented the necessary measures being taken to collect the whole army, and attack the English on every side, before they had time to establish themselves on shore.

"Before the *Lodi* sailed, about 50,000 persons had already fallen victims to this dreadful disease in Cairo; nearly 1000 die daily; many of the French had been carried off by this distemper, which is the more serious a loss, as the number of French troops is now greatly diminished. In Upper Egypt, Marat Bey, five other inferior chiefs, and 1200 Mamelukes, have died of the plague. The disagreement between the French officers was principally occasioned by the plan of operation against the English which Menou proposed, and Regnier decidedly disapproved. The consequence of which was a kind of schism; for Regnier, and some others of the generals, would no longer take a part in the military operations, and at length Regnier embarked for France where he has actually arrived, with general Damas, late chief of the staff of the army of the east under Kleber; the general inspector Dante, and several other persons of distinction."

GENOA, July 18.

A vessel arrived at Leghorn from Tripoli, in 13 days, states, that the French troops of Cairo have attacked the grand vizier, and completely defeated and put him to flight, after a very brisk action.—Letters from Smyrna of the 22d of June say, that the Anglo-Turks had not yet approached Cairo, and that the French had gained some advantage over their enemies. Letters from Naples, of the 7th July, state as follows:

"We expect with impatience, the confirmation of the news from Egypt. They write from several places that the English in consequence of the inundations of the Nile, and a battle in which they had 6000 men taken prisoners, have re-embarked with the remains of their army. It is said that some Turkish and Greek vessels arrived at Tarente, have brought the same news. [Courier de Milan.]

BRUSSELS, July 23.

In the negotiations for peace with England, the first essential it is understood, insists especially on the restoration of the Cape of Good Hope, and of the French ships taken by the English at Toulon.—These points occasion much difficulty on the part of the English government.

CALAIS, July 29.

All communication with England is absolutely shut up, except for M. Otto and government, whose packets are the only ones that go and come freely. Even private letters are not received at this moment. All the passengers who attempted to embark within

these several days past for Dover have been sent back without being permitted to go on board.

LONDON, August 1.

Admiral Cornwallis dashed into the outer road of Brest yesterday tonight with his own ship, the *Ville de Paris*, unsupported by any other ship, and notwithstanding a warm discharge of shot and shells from the batteries, forced two French line of battle ships to cut their cables and take shelter under the forts.

Such of the out-pensioners of Greenwich hospital as are fit for service, will be immediately employed on board the floating batteries and gun-boats that are to be stationed for the defence of the coast.

It appears that *La Chevette* with her consort, which escaped into the inner harbour of Brest, were detained by the French government to accomplish two important purposes—to reinforce the garrison of Senegal with 400 troops, and supply the colony of Guadalupe with naval stores.

On Thursday a privy council was held at Weymouth, at which the right honourable lord Pelham was sworn into office as secretary of state for the home department.

August 3.

We understand that dispatches were received by government this morning, from Egypt; but their contents are not important.

EGYPT.

MINISTRY OF WAR.

Daure, inspector of reviews, to the minister of war.

LEGHORN, July 21.

I set out, citizen minister, from Alexandria, the 21st May. I was taken by the English frigate *la Figue*, off Alexandria. I was brought to Aboukir, where I arrived the 28th June. At that time Egypt was in the following situation:

General Menou was at Alexandria, master of the lake Merotis. He was encamped upon the heights, outside the limit of Alexandria. The English occupied the peninsula of Aboukir with a portion of their army, not having gained a step since their landing. These two bodies were watching each other without fighting. The crews of the ships of war which are in the port of Alexandria formed the garrison of the city and of the forts. The 9th of June, the corvette *Héliopolis*, which admiral Gantheaume had dispatched, entered Alexandria. It was laden with military stores, and carried some troops. It had left admiral Gantheaume moored 25 leagues from Alexandria. General Belliard commanded at Cairo, having under him generals Le Grange, Robin, Donzelat, Bron, &c. His corps of the army was a great deal stronger than that of Alexandria. The chief of brigade, Dupas, commanded in the citadel at Cairo, and the general of brigade, Almeyras, at Gizah. The English army under the command of general Hutchinson was at Terrancee. The captain Pacha with the flotilla, was upon the Nile, off Terrancee, supporting the English army. The grand vizier was at Bilbeys; he was advancing upon Cairo; he had been completely beaten by general Belliard, and driven back as far as Selahieh. General Belliard has been slightly wounded in that engagement. The English themselves estimate their loss in the engagements of the 8th, 13th and 21st of March, at 5000 killed. They are very much afflicted with complaints in the eyes. If general Belliard shall beat the English force which is at Terrancee, the English army may find itself in a difficult position. The chief of brigade, Cavalier, who escorted a convoy of 600 camels, with 500 infantry, cavalry and artillery, has had the misfortune to be surrounded and made prisoner by the English army, between Alkman and Terrancee. The garrisons of Damietta and Burlos, amounting together to between five and six hundred men, have also been made prisoners. Health and respect.

(Signed)

DAURE.

August 7.

ATTACK ON BOULOGNE.

Dover, Thursday, 1 P. M.

You ask me for the particulars of the attack made on the enemy's ships at Boulogne on Tuesday. I perceive your London news-papers are very inaccurate. On the following account you may rely, as I was an eye-witness:

On Saturday, lord Nelson sailed from Deal, and the same evening took the command of the squadron of small ships of war cruising off Boulogne, under the command of captain Somerville of the *Eugenia*. His lordship ordered all ships of war to join, and several did on Sunday, till at last they amounted to 37 sail, including gun-boats, brigs, &c. His lordship brought them all up before Boulogne, and made signal for them to divide into two squadrons;—one squadron to be to windward.

On Monday lord Nelson stood close into Boulogne with some of the bomb vessels, and threw several bombs to try how they would reach the enemy. Finding they reached the shore, he made signal of

recall, and they anchored about four miles from the land.

The shore at Boulogne stretches nearly east and west. Towards the east a point of land runs out forming a bay. The mouth of the harbour is in the middle of this, and looks out to the north. The enemy's vessels, consisting of 6 brigs, 2 schooners, and about 20 or 30 gun-boats, were arranged in a line along the beach, not half a mile from shore, one half east but the largest half west of the harbour's mouth, in front of which was the largest brig. On the beach west of the harbour was a strong battery, which kept up a very heavy fire. The battery on the pier head, east of the harbour, did not fire much, but tried a shell now and then.

On Monday night, lord Nelson went under cover of the dark, in four oared gig, a long swift boat, and reconnoitred the enemy's position, and found it as above described. He then issued orders to begin the attack at break of day next morning. At four o'clock, he himself stationed the bombs, 5 in number, in an oblique line, stretching from the west end of the enemy's line. They came to anchor, and began throwing bombs about 4 o'clock; the other ships of war being stationed under weigh, in another line, behind the bombs, ready to render assistance. His lordship's own flag was placed in front of the harbour, having cut two lines, one of bombs, another of small ships of war, stretching from his right; behind these lines were the *Leiden* of 64 guns. His lordship's intention was to attack the enemy's vessels with bombs only; as they reach much farther than shot, and would prove effectual, while the enemy's shot could not reach us. At 6 o'clock, however, it being then high water, lord Nelson, desirous of convincing the enemy what a heavy fire he could play upon them, and, at the same time, to induce them to disclose their strongest points, it being difficult to discover their batteries, the cliffs being of a brown clay, sent our ships of war close to the shore in face of the batteries, where they first fired one broadside, and tacking round, fired the other; then sailing away loaded for another such attack.

This produced a most tremendous fire on both sides, and it was this that first gave the town of Dover notice of the engagement. When the water fell it was necessarily given over; but it had the desired effect of convincing lord Nelson that he had guessed the nature of the enemy's strength, and that he had judiciously placed the gun-boats. While the ships were firing their broadsides as above mentioned, at seven in the morning his lordship was in his barge, moving about, making observations and minutes, which may be useful in a future attack. He visited the bombs separately and rowed along the whole line, amidst a shower of shot and shells from the enemy, attended by the King and Queen cutters; and by the cool and intrepid conduct displayed in all the actions of this great man, giving his orders, and animating by example. The French batteries on each side of the harbour, could only fire straight out, or nearly so, while our bombs were stationed so much to the left, that the batteries could not bear upon them. Add to this, that the bombs being placed to the westward, obliquely from the enemy's line of vessels, every bomb thrown had the advantage of raking the whole line, as it were. For instance, if a bomb were thrown for the farthest French ship, and fell short, it had a great chance of hitting one in the line nearer; or, if thrown for the nearest and going beyond her, it had a chance of hitting another farther off. The French soon discovered the inutility of their batteries, and found that lord Nelson had not been so polite as to attack them in the manner they expected. They therefore set a number of men on to throw up batteries on the hill in the eastern turn of the bay, which flanks the whole line of coast. This covered the mouth of the harbour tolerably well; but it could not reach our bombs, which were at the extremity of the westward, and the enemy threw only a few shells from it.—The disposition and objects of our vessels were to force all the French ships to retreat towards the mouth of the harbour, that, having them in a cluster, their destruction might effectually be made at night. In this we partly succeeded. The enemy's fire continued very heavy till about one o'clock, when it wholly ceased from the hills and batteries, seeing, no doubt, that it was utterly ineffectual, but our fire of bombs continued with unabated vigour. One vessel threw two hundred bombs. At this time three of the enemy's vessels had been sunk and bilged. In the course of the afternoon two others shared the same fate, and five others were rendered useless, but were drawn by ropes on the shore. The fire of the English also slackened during the afternoon. The enemy sometimes fired a shot, or threw a shell. Towards dusk the fire was renewed with a little warmth, but without much meaning. It was lord Nelson's intention, in the dark, to have sent three bombs close upon the enemy, each bomb towed by 10 boats, the bombs were to attack the enemy in a way that could