



THE
Edinburgh Gazette.

Published by Authority.

FROM FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10. TO TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14. 1800.

DOWNING-STREET, OCTOBER 11. 1800.

A dispatch, of which the following is a copy, has been this day received by the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Major-General Pigot, commanding his Majesty's troops in the island of Malta.

SIR, Malta, September 6. 1800.

Conceiving that it may be of the utmost consequence that his Majesty's ministers should be acquainted, as soon as possible, with the surrender of the important fortrefs of La Valette, I have desired Mr. Paget to dispatch a messenger to England with a copy of my letter to General Sir. Ralph Abercromby on the subject, and the articles of capitulation, which are herewith sent you.

We yesterday took possession of some of the works, and our ships entered the harbour, and I am in hopes the whole will be evacuated by the enemy to-morrow, except the island of Manuel, where, agreeable to the capitulation, such are to remain as cannot be immediately sent to France for want of ships to take them.

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

H. PIGOT, Major-General.

To the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, &c. &c. &c.

SIR, Malta, September 5, 1800.

I have great satisfaction in acquainting you with the surrender of the fortrefs of La Valette, with all its dependencies, after sustaining a blockade of two years. The capitulation has been signed this day.

I had every reason to suppose that this most formidable fortrefs was likely soon to fall, from the circumstance of the two French frigates, La Justice and La Diane, going out of the harbour a few nights ago; one of which, La Diane, by the vigilance of the blockading squadron, was soon captured, and there are still some hopes that the other may have shared the same fate.

Price Sixpence.

Judging of how much consequence it may be that you should have the earliest intimation of this important capture, I have delayed, till another opportunity, sending returns of the stores, &c. found in the place, which could not yet be made up.

During the short time you were here, you must have been sensible of the great exertions which Brigadier-General Graham must have made with the limited force he had, previous to my arrival with a reinforcement: he has ever since continued these exertions; and I consider that the surrender of the place has been accelerated by the decision of his conduct, in preventing any more inhabitants from coming out of the fortrefs a short time before I came here. He was sent to negotiate the terms of the capitulation with General Vaubois, and I am much indebted to him for his assistance in that business.

I am happy to say, that I have experienced every support from Brigadier-General Moncrieff, and the officers of the British and Allied troops, whose conduct in every respect has been most exemplary. The service of the Engineer Department, under Captain Gordon, has been carried on with great zeal and perseverance.

I think it right to mention to you, that Lieutenant Vivion of the Royal Artillery, the Assistant Quarter-Master-General, has been of considerable service. He was landed here with his party from the Strombolo bomb at the commencement of the blockade; and for a long time did duty with these few men without any other British or regular troops of any description.

I have great pleasure in acknowledging the constant and ready assistance and co-operation I have received from Captain Ball of his Majesty's ship the Alexander, who has been employed on shore during the greater part of the blockade:—his name and services are already well known to his Majesty's Ministers, and I am sure I need not say more than that those he has performed here do credit to his former character.

I herewith transmit you the terms of the capitulation.

I have derived great assistance from my Aide-de-Camp Captain Dalrymple, who has for some time been doing duty as Assistant Adjutant-General.

I have the honour to be, &c. H. PIGOT, Major-General in R. Abercromby, K. B. &c. &c. &c.

[The articles of capitulation will appear in our next.]