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DOWNING-STREET, July 21. 1801.

Dispatches, of which the following are copies, have been this day received at the office of the Right Hon. Lord HAWKESBURY, his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, from the Earl of ELGIN and Major HOLLOWAY:

Imperial Ottoman camp of the Grand Vizier, Benalbasfer, May 20. 1801.

MY LORD,

I had the honour of addressing your Lordship on the 2d of May from Salahich, which place his Highness the Grand Vizier left the 7th, and the following day arrived at Belbeis, where the advanced corps of his army had been encamped for some time before.

On the 15th instant, his Highness received intelligence that the enemy had early that morning marched a considerable force from Cairo, on the road towards Belbeis, where his Highness was then encamped. In the evening, a further confirmation of this intelligence was brought, when the enemy was in full march. The Vizier, after dark, ordered Tahir Pacha, with 3000 cavalry and three light field-pieces, to advance to meet them, and, if a favourable opportunity offered during the obscurity of the night, to attack, if not, to impede their progress as much as possible. About ten o'clock at night they met, three leagues from camp, when each halted and lay on their arms during the night, and until eight o'clock in the morning, at which time Tahir Pacha commenced an attack.—He was soon after reinforced by 1500 cavalry. It was now found the enemy had come forward with about 14 pieces of artillery, 600 cavalry, and 4000 infantry. His Highness therefore ordered Mehemed Pacha to move forward with 5000 men,

cavalry and Albanian infantry, and nine light field-pieces; the enemy had eight-pounders in the field. His Highness afterwards advanced himself, and took the command, which had the happiest effect.

The enemy moved into a wood of date trees, where they were attacked by the cavalry and infantry with great spirit for three hours, when the enemy retired from the wood, taking position on the plain, their left to the wood, and forming a hollow square on the right. The Albanian infantry advanced to the edge of the wood, and, in this situation, galled them considerably; and upon the Turkish cavalry threatening their right, they changed position, and attempted to gain the heights, in which they were prevented by a rapid movement of cavalry, who gained the summit. In this manœuvre they were annoyed by two guns, which were advanced by his Highness on the occasion. At this time the French commenced a decided retreat, and were driven beyond El Hanka, a distance not less than seven miles from the place of the first operations. The Grand Vizier, who had commanded his troops with great gallantry and prompt decision, then gave orders for them not to pursue any further. The loss on either side for the time they were engaged was small. The Turks had about thirty killed and eighty wounded. The French I think had about fifty killed and one prisoner; the number of their wounded could not be ascertained, as they took them off the field.

The Turkish forces engaged on this occasion did not at any time exceed 9000 men.

Whilst I was congratulating his Highness in the field of battle on the success of the day, we received additional satisfaction by the arrival of the intelligence of the capture of Fort Lesbie, at

Damietta, and two smaller forts depending on it, by a detachment from the Vizier's army. I had the honour of acquainting your Lordship, in my letter of the 2d of May, that his Highness intended sending a force against Damietta. This intention he carried into effect on the 6th, by ordering Ibrahim Pacha, with 2500 men, and five pieces of artillery to march immediately for that purpose; and it appears by Ibrahim Pacha's report to the Vizier, that every arrangement had been made for the attack of Fort Lesbie on the morning of the 14th inst. when it was discovered that the fort was evacuated, and the garrison had retired.

I beg leave to inform your Lordship, that during the action of the 16th instant, myself and Major Hope of the Royal Artillery were in the field with the Grand Vizier, Captain Lacey of the Royal Engineers with Mehemed Pacha, and Captain Leake of the Royal Artillery with Tahir Pacha, to render every assistance in our power.

The combined forces under Major-General Hutchinson and the Captain Pacha are about five hours distance in the Delta, but are expected here in a day or two. I received a letter from the General this morning, who informs me he has taken a convoy of 550 camels, and 600 French prisoners.

I have the honour to be, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES HOLLOWAY.

MY LORD,
Constantinople, June 21.
I have the most sincere satisfaction in forwarding to your Lordship the inclosed dispatch from Lieut. Col. Holloway.

The modest and unassuming manner in which this deserving officer has mentioned himself and the British under his orders, imposes upon me

[Price 6d.]

