



# The London Gazette.

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*Downing-Street, July 26, 1803.*

THE King has been pleased to cause it to be signified by the Right Honourable Lord Hawkebury, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to the Ministers of Neutral Powers residing at this Court, that the necessary Measures having been taken by His Majesty's Command, for the Blockade of the Entrance of the River Weser, in consequence of His Majesty having recently received authentic Information of the Occupation of Parts of the Banks of that River by the French Troops, the said River is declared to be in a State of Blockade; and that from this Time, all the Measures authorized by the Law of Nations, and the respective Treaties between His Majesty and the different Neutral Powers, will be adopted and executed with respect to all Vessels which may attempt to violate the said Blockade. Lord Hawkebury has been further commanded by His Majesty to signify to the Ministers of the Neutral Powers, that whenever the French Troops will evacuate the Positions which they now occupy on the Parts of the Banks of the Weser, and will remove to such a Distance from them as to leave the Course of that River perfectly free and secure to the Vessels of His Subjects, as well as of other Nations, His Majesty will immediately direct His Ships of War which may be stationed at the Mouth of the River Weser, for the Purpose of blockading the same, to be withdrawn.

*Downing-Street, July 30, 1803.*

A DISPATCH, of which the following is a Copy, has been this Day received from Lieutenant-General Grinfield, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Troops in the Windward and Leeward Charibbee Islands, by the Right Honorable

Lord Hobart, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department:

MY LORD, *St. Lucia, June 22, 1803.*

IT is with Satisfaction I have the Honor to acquaint your Lordship, that this Day the Fortrefs of Morne Fortunée was carried by Assault, and the Island of St. Lucia is in consequence unconditionally restored to the British Government.

I have to state to your Lordship, that in consequence of His Majesty's Order, signified to me in your Letter, dated the 16th of May, and received on the 14th Instant, which I immediately communicated to Commodore Hood, he arrived at Barbadoes on the 17th; the Troops, Stores, &c. were on board, or embarked on the 19th; sailed on the 20th. On the 21st, at Day-break, they were off the North End of St. Lucia, in the Course of the Day the greatest Part of the Troops were disembarked in Choque-Bay; about Half-past Five, the Out-Posts of the Enemy were driven in, the Town of Castries taken, and a Summons was sent to the Commander of the Troops of the French Republic.

In consequence of the Refusal of Brigade General Nogués to accede to any Terms, and the Expectation of approaching Rains, it became necessary to get Possession of the Morne with as little Delay as possible. It was therefore determined, this Morning, to attack the Fortrefs by Assault, which was done accordingly at four o'Clock, and it was carried in about Half an Hour, and with less Loss, considering the Resistance, than could have been expected; but the Loss has been chiefly among the higher Ranks of Officers, and those the most truly valuable: but it is yet to be hoped most of them will recover, for the real Benefit of His Majesty's Service.

I cannot omit a Circumstance which reflects so much Credit, as well on the British Nation, as on the Conduct of the Soldiers actually employed, that, notwithstanding the severe and spirited Resistance of the French Troops, yet, no sooner were the Works carried by Assault, and the Opposition no longer existed, than every Idea of Animosity appeared to cease, and not a French Soldier was either killed or wounded.

The Return of the Killed and Wounded is herewith inclosed, which, excepting the Number of Officers of high Rank, is not equal to what might have been expected, and, by far, less than it would