

The London Gazette

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From Monday October 15. to Thursday October 18. 1705.

From the Camp before Badajos, October 9. N. S.

ON the 30th past the Earl of Galway marched from Elvas to Fonte de Sappateros; and the next day his Lordship was joined near the little River Caya by the Portuguese Forces, under the Command of the Marquis de Minas. The 2d his Lordship passed that River, it being given out that we should encamp near the Xevera; but his Lordship by degrees drew the Army over this last River also, and then passed the Guadiana, and invested the Town of Badajos; which is esteemed one of the finest Marches that has been made, thus to pass 3 Rivers and invest a Town of this Consequence, in one day; all which was performed with great Order, Secrecy and Expedition. Some of the Enemy's Squadrons were in sight when we passed the Guadiana; but they retired before we could come up with them. The 3th at night we broke Ground, and carried our Trenches within 100 Paces of the Works of the Place, with the Loss only of 9 Men. Our heavy Cannon arrived yesterday from Elvas; and to morrow we shall finish a Battery of 40 Twenty four Pounders, and 12 great Mortars, which will be ready to play the next day. They fired but very little from the Town; and we are no doubt of being Masters of it in a short time, which in the Consequence may put us in possession of the whole Province of Andalusia. The Marshal de Telle is encamped within 2 Leagues of us near Talavera, with his Army, which as yet is not above 6000 strong. Our Army consists of 15000 Foot and 5000 Horse, all very good Troops, and well appointed: We have a very good Train of Artillery, and no want of any thing. The Weather is at present very favourable. Our Camp is very advantageous and strong; and we have made all our Fascines, and have got all other things in a readiness for carrying on the Siege with all possible Vigour and Expedition.

London, October 13. Our Letters from the Fron- tier give an Account, That the Confederate Forces being all joined the first Instant near the Caya, the Earl of Galway marched with them the next day, passed that River, the Xevera, and the Guadiana, and encamped before Badajos, where the Forces lay all night upon their Arms. The 3d they took Post before the Town. The 4th at night the Trenches were opened, wherein the Marquis de Montandre, who commanded as Major-General that week, did very good Service; and they are already carried forward within less than 100 Paces of the Wall of the Town, which has no Outworks. The 6 following days were spent in bringing up the heavy Cannon, taking Bridges over the Guadiana, and Redoubts for the Security of our Forces posted on the other side, and in preparing our Batteries, which were finished the 10th, consisting of 42 Pieces of Cannon and 12 Mortars, and began to play the 11th in the morning. There are in the Place two Regiments of

Spanish Horse, making together between 5 and 600 Men, and 13 Regiments of Spanish Foot, but so weak that they do not amount to above 2500: They are said to have been recruited from the Militia; and if this be true, may be near 4000 strong; however we scarce doubt of being Masters of the Place in 8 or 10 days. The Enemy do not seem to be in a Condition to relieve it, the Marshal de Telle, who is encamped at Talavera, about 8 Miles from Badajos, having not yet been able to get together above 9000 Men, among whom there may be about 6500 French. The Weather is very fair, which favours our Designs; and likely to continue so. Letters from Gibraltar of the 27th past say, that the Garrison continued to repair the Fortifications of that Place; and that they perceived the number of the Troops which the Enemy, when they raised the Siege, left at some distance from the Town, to prevent any Excursions the Garrison might make, was lately lessened, part of them being, as was conjectured, marched into Arragon. By the means of a Ship which passed by Gibraltar the 27th, and left there some Letters from the Army before Barcelona, dated the 20th, we have an Account, That it being resolved the 13th to attack the Castle of Montjuich, this Design was put in Execution the next day with great Bravery and good Success; and the Loss would have been inconsiderable, had not the Prince of Darmstad been killed: Prince Henry his Brother narrowly escaped the same fate, having received a Shot in his Hat. All the Outworks were taken, and the Castle itself had been surrendered by the Spaniards who were in Garrison there, if they had not been prevented by the Marquis of Risbourg's getting into it from the Town with a Reinforcement of French Soldiers. Our Troops then endeavoured to cut off the Communication between the Fort and the Town, and succeeded, in which Occasion the Miquelets and Catalans behaved themselves with a great deal of Bravery; but before this could be effected the Marquis de Risbourg was got back into the Town. Our Men who were with the Prince of Darmstad, upon his Highness's being killed, began to give ground; but the Earl of Peterborough came immediately to that Post, and rallied them; and being animated by his Lordship's Presence and Example, they beat the Enemy into the Fort, and lodged themselves in all the Outworks. The 17th one of our Bombs setting fire to their great Magazine, part of the Wall was thereby blown up, and the Governor, with several others, being buried under its Ruins, the rest of the Garrison, consisting of about 300 French Officers and Soldiers, immediately surrendered at Discretion. Our Forces were raising a Battery of 50 Guns, and hoped they should soon make a Breach wide enough to give an Assault, the Fortifications of the Town in that part that is next Fort Montjuich, on which side they make their Attacks, being much weaker than in any other Place: But it was generally believed the Governor would surrender before Matters came to that Extremity.

Whitchurch