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Whitehall, December 5.

This Morning arrived at his Grace the Duke of Newcastle's Office, one of his Majesty's Messengers, with Dispatches from Mr. Villette, his Majesty's Minister at the Court of the King of Sardinia, containing the following Advices.

Nice, December 1, N. S.

THE Passage of the Var was attempted and executed with the greatest Success Yesterday Morning. The whole Army marched in six Columns, five of Infantry to the Right, and one of Cavalry to the Left. The Body that was the most to the Right, was design'd to be the Van-guard, and, by passing on the uppermost Part of the River, to take the few Posts of the Enemy in their Flank; upon which, and their making a Signal, the other Columns were to advance, and march thro' the Water, each of them lead by Peasants, who were acquainted with the fording Places.

General Brown seeing broad Day-light coming on apace, before the Body on the Right had passed, ordered the Signal to be given from the Wing on the Left, and began to fire very briskly with his Cannon, which was admirably posted, on the Village of St. Laurent, and a strong Redoute the French had at the Entrance of it.

Upon this, the Croats and Lycanians, with 12 Companies of Grenadiers, in the Column commanded by General Petazzi, entered the River, and bravely waded through it, though very deep and rapid in some Places; in which they were seconded by the Hussars and the Cavalry.

Upon their Approach to the other Side, the French in the Redoute fired some hundred Shot; but upon seeing the Hussars run up the Bank, on their Right, to take them in the Rear, they left the Redoute, and fled with the utmost Precipitation.

Our Grenadiers pushed forward, and not only secured the Redoute, but likewise got on the Mountain, where they took Post, while the Croats, Hussars, and other Irregulars, pursued the Enemy on the Road to Cagne. Upon General Brown's getting over, he disposed of the Head of his Cavalry so as to maintain the Ground he had gained, and then hastened to the Right, in his Way to which, he heard General Noyau had passed and secured all the Posts on that Side, and that the other Columns were passing in good Order, and with little or no Opposition, the Fire being but very inconsiderable. We had about 30 or 40 Men drowned in the Passage, and it is not thought the Number of the Killed and Wounded can amount to so many.

Vice Admiral Medley being arrived on the 29th of November, N. S. in Villa Franca Harbour, and having, in pursuance of a Plan settled between him and the Austrian General, ordered the Phoenix, Terrible Sloop, and the Barcolongo (on board of which a Party of German Soldiers were embarked) with eight Pinnaces, under the Command of Captain Forbes, to take Stations along the Shore to the Westward of the Var; they stationed themselves accordingly, and at Day-break made a very brisk Fire upon the French Post to the Left of the Village of St. Laurent, and did so great Service, that General Brown gave the greatest Encomiums of the Behaviour of the English Seamen, crying out aloud several Times, that they had bravely seconded him, and contributed to his Success, by scouring away every Thing that appeared upon the Shore, and thereby greatly increasing the Disorder and Consternation of the Enemy.

Nice, December 2, N. S. By our Advices this Night from the other Side of the Var, our Army has secured Venice, and was preparing to march to Grassano. The Country hitherto is totally without Inhabitants; and the French burn and destroy all the Subsistence they can, as they retire.

General Brown proposes to march forward as soon as the Bridges are finished for the Passage of the Artillery, &c. which will be perfected with the utmost Expedition.

His Sardinian Majesty, who had the first Appearance of the Small Pox on the 22d past in the Morning, is now, God be thanked, in as good a way as can be wished, the Symptoms continuing to be very favourable, and the Small Pox beginning already to turn.

On Monday the 28th past, an Officer arrived here, dispatched from the Count la Mante, who commanded the Blockade of Tortona, with an Account, That all the Conditions relating to the Surrender of that Place into his Hands, having been finally adjusted and settled with the Spanish Governor, he had retaken Possession of it in the Name of the King of Sardinia.

Stockholm, Nov. 18. On Thursday last General Lubras, the Russian Minister Plenipotentiary, embarked on board of one of his Swedish Majesty's Yachts for Abo, from whence he proceeds by Land on his Return home.

Berlin, Dec. 6. A Part of the Equipage and the Horses of the Russian Minister Baron Keyserling, named to reside at this Court, in the room of Count Czernichew, are already arrived here, and he himself is likewise expected next Week.

Hague, Dec. 9, N. S. According to Letters from Milan of the 22d past, Prince Charles of Lorraine was expected there soon, in Quality of Vicar-General of Lombardy. The French have lately