

were posted in force with nine pieces of cannon, and determined, as it was understood, on a serious resistance; but the dispositions made by the English general staggered their resolution.

The English army was formed in two lines; and detachments were made from right and left for the purpose of attacking the enemy on both flanks; while the general advanced against their centre with the main body and the artillery. Thus threatened on different sides, they were alarmed by the appearance of three ships, under the command of Commodore Blanket, which the admiral had detached to Table Bay, for the purpose of causing a diversion on that side. This manœuvre completed their confusion: they gave way, before the assailants could gain the top of the hill, from whence they were closely pursued for two miles; when, night coming on, and great part of the men being much fatigued with the badness of the roads, and the weight of their burthens, the general determined to halt, intending to prosecute his march at break of day.

In this situation he received a letter from Governor Sluyskens, who begged a cessation of arms for forty-eight hours, that he might arrange his proposals for surrendering the town. This request was refused; but a truce limited to twenty-four hours was granted, in which time the articles of capitulation were settled. The Dutch regular garrison became prisoners of war, and the British troops were put in full possession of the town and colony.