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LORD HOOD  
AND THE  
DEFENCE OF TOULON

BY

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## PREFACE

THE events at Toulon in 1793 have often been described from the side of Bonaparte, whose career they so brilliantly inaugurated. But they have not been recounted adequately from the standpoint of the defenders. To do so, especially as regards Lord Hood and the British naval forces, is the purpose of this volume, which aims at exhibiting the defence of Toulon as an outcome of British policy in the Mediterranean and as an important episode of the Revolutionary War. The interest of the theme is enhanced by the fact that Nelson, Elphinstone (Lord Keith), Linzee, Tyler, Byam Martin, and other eminent naval officers, together with Thomas Graham of Balgowan (Lord Lynedoch), Lord Mulgrave, Generals O'Hara and David Dundas, took part in the operations; while our ambassadors and envoys, Lord St Helens at Madrid, Sir Morton Eden at Vienna, Sir William Hamilton at Naples, John Hampden Trevor at Turin and Francis Drake at Genoa, worked strenuously to assure the despatch of troops or supplies to Hood's hard pressed force.

Their efforts are set forth in the numerous despatches published in the Appendices; and their failure throws up in lurid light the selfishness and slackness which were the bane of the First Coalition. In general I have printed in full only new materials. Some other despatches have been published by M. Cottin in his works, *Toulon et les Anglais* and *Toulon et les Princes*. These I have either described in the text, with due acknowledgment, or have summarized in the Appendices. I have also omitted or summarized the long despatches of Lord Mulgrave which appeared in the *London Gazette*, and others of a more general character published in the *Annual Register* (1793), the *Naval Chronicle* (1799), *The Life and*

*Letters of Sir Gilbert Elliot, the Life of Sir Sidney Smith, and The Dropmore Papers.*

My thanks are due to Viscount Hood for very kindly permitting me to publish many new letters of the first Viscount Hood, which are in his possession, also to reproduce the engraving which appears as frontispiece. I am greatly indebted to Mr A. B. Hinds, M.A., formerly Student of Christchurch, Oxford, for valued help both in the collection of materials, especially at the archives of Turin and Venice, and in advice and criticism while the work was in progress. I also cordially thank M. Arthur Chuquet, and his publisher, M. Armand Colin, for permission to adapt the plan of Toulon in his work *La Jeunesse de Napoléon* (Toulon). It may be stated here that the account of events at Toulon given by Moreau de Jonnés in his *Mémoires*, recently translated by Brigadier-General A. J. Abdy (J. Murray, 1920), abounds in inaccuracies, some of which are noted at the end of Chapter V of this work.

J. H. R.

CAMBRIDGE,  
*December, 1921.*

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### PLATE

THE FIRST VISCOUNT HOOD . . . . .	FRONTISPIECE
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### MAP

*THE DEFENCE OF TOULON . . . . .	AT END
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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- Adm. Med. = Admiralty Despatches relating to the Mediterranean.  
*Ann. Reg.* = *Annual Register*.  
*Auckland Journal* = *Journal and Correspondence of Lord Auckland*, vol. II (1861).  
 Chevalier = E. Chevalier, *Hist. de la Marine française sous la première République* (Paris, 1888).  
 Chuquet = A. Chuquet, *La Jeunesse de Napoléon* (Toulon), Paris, 1899.  
 Cottin = P. Cottin, *Toulon et les Anglais en 1793* (Paris, 1898).  
*Dropmore P.* = *The MSS. of J. B. Fortescue Esq. preserved at Dropmore* (Historical MSS. Commission, 1894).  
*Elliot, Life* = *Life and Letters of Sir Gilbert Elliot, first Earl of Minto* (1874).  
 F.O. Austria, etc. = Foreign Office despatches relating to Austria, etc.  
 Fortescue = Hon. J. W. Fortescue, *History of the British Army* (esp. vol. IV, Pt. 1), (1915).  
 Fox = C. J. Fox, *Napoleon and the Siege of Toulon* (Washington, 1902).  
 H.O. = Home Office despatches relating to military and naval affairs in the Mediterranean.  
 James = W. James, *The Naval History of Great Britain* (1793–1830), vol. I.  
 Jomini = Jomini, *Guerres de la Révolution*, 15 vols. (Paris, 1820).  
 Mahan = A. T. Mahan, *Influence of Sea Power upon the Fr. Rev. and Empire* (2 vols., London, 1893).  
 Nicolas = Sir N. Harris Nicolas, *Letters and Despatches of Lord Nelson*, vol. I (1845).  
 N.R.S. = Navy Records Society.  
 Pons = Pons, *Mémoires... de Toulon* (Paris, 1825).  
 Revel = Thacon de Revel, *Méms. sur la Guerre des Alpes* (Turin, 1871).  
 Sorel = A. Sorel, *L'Europe et la Révolution française*, Pt. III (Paris, 1897).