

a Breeze soon springing up, I made the Signal for a general Chase; the Enemy at such a Distance that I could not just discover them from the Britannia's Mast-Head at Three o'Clock. At the Close of the Evening Seven of our Ships had got a good Distance a-head of me, the Foudroyant, Captain Jervis, the foremost; and in the Night, it coming to blow strong with hazy Weather, after having lost Sight of his Companions, at Forty-seven Minutes after Twelve, brought the Pegase of 74 Guns and 700 Men to a close Action, which continued Three Quarters of an Hour, when the Foudroyant, having laid her on board on the Larboard Quarter, the Frenchman struck. My Pen is not equal to the Praise that is due to the good Conduct, Bravery and Discipline of Captain Jervis, his Officers and Seamen, on this Occasion: Let his own modest Narrative, which I herewith inclose, speak for itself.

The next Morning soon after Day-break, the Wind then at South blowing strong, it shifted in an Instant to West, and with such Violence that it was with Difficulty I could carry my Courses to clear Ushant and get the Channel open, which being accomplished by Noon, I brought-to and remained so until the Evening of the 2d, to collect the Squadron.

By the Accounts of the Prisoners there was Eighteen Sail, laden with Stores, Provisions, and Ammunition, under the Convoy of the Protecteur of 74, Pegase 74, L'Andromache 32, together with L'Actionnaire, a Two-decker, armée en Flute, all bound for L'Isle de France. They left Breit the 19th Instant.

I cannot pretend to give their Lordships a particular Account of the Number of Prizes taken, but must refer them to that they may receive as they arrive in Port, though I believe there are Ten at least.

Proceedings of His Majesty's Ship under my Command from the 20th Instant.

NEAR Sun-set, on the 20th, I was near enough to discover that the Enemy consisted of Three or Four Ships of War, Two of them at least of the Line, with Seventeen or Eighteen Sail under their Convoy, and that the latter dispersed by Signal. At half past Nine I observed the smallest of the Ships of War to speak with the headmost, and then bear away. At a Quarter past Ten, the sternmost Line of Battle Ship, perceiving we came up with her very fast, bore up also. I pursued her, and at 47 Minutes after Twelve brought her to close Action, which continued Three Quarters of an Hour, when, having laid her aboard on the Larboard Quarter, the French Ship of War Le Pegase, of 74 Guns and 700 Men, commanded by the Chevalier De Cillart, surrendered.

The Discipline and good Conduct of the Officers and Men under my Command will best appear by the State of the Killed and Wounded, and of the Damages sustained in each Ship.

I am happy to inform you that only Two or Three People, with myself, are slightly wounded; but I learn from the Chevalier De Cillart, that Le Pegase suffered a very great Carriage, and was materially damaged in her Masts and Yards, the Mizzen-mast and Foretop mast having gone away soon after the Action ceased.

It blew so strong Yesterday Morning, that I with Difficulty put Eighty Men on board the Prize, but received only Forty Prisoners in Return, in performing which I fear Two of our Boats were lost. The disabled State of the Prize, together with the strong Wind and heavy Sea, induced me to make the Signal for immediate Assistance, which Commodore

Elliot supplied, by making the Queen's Signal to assist the disabled Ship.

At Eight o'Clock last Night they bore S. S. W. Four Miles Distance of us: We lay-to till Ten, in Hopes of their joining, but not perceiving them, we bore up, and ran N. E. Twenty-three Miles till Day-Light, when, seeing nothing of them, we brought-to, and at Half past Eight made Sail to join the Squadron.

By all I can learn from the Prisoners, this small Squadron, composed of Le Protecteur, Monsieur De Soulange, Commodore, Le Pegase, and L'Andromaque Frigate, was making a Second Attempt to proceed on an Expedition to the East Indies, some of the Troops having been before captured under that Destination by the Squadron under the Command of Rear-Admiral Kempenfelt, in the Presence of the above-mentioned Ships of War.

Foudroyant,
April 23, 1782.

J. JERVIS.

N. B. Advice has been received, that the Pegase of 74 Guns is arrived at Spithead, and the following Ships, Part of the above-mentioned Captures, at Plymouth:

La Fidelité, with 178 Troops and Stores.
La Belonne, 147 Troops and Stores.
La Lionne, 180 Troops and Stores.
Duc de Chartres, Stores and Arms.

Extract of a Letter from Rear-Admiral Digby to Mr. Stephens, dated on Board the Centurion, off New York, March 19, 1782.

YOU will herewith receive a List of the Prizes taken by His Majesty's Ships since I have been upon this Station.

List of Prizes taken by His Majesty's Ships employed in North America, from November 11, 1781, to March 23, 1782.

- Nov. 11. 1781. By the *Amphion*. Brig Lexington.
- 13. By Ditto. Schooner Lively Buckskin.
- 16. By Ditto. Ship Juno.
- 20. By the *Centurion*. Schooner Eagle.
- 23. By the *Amphion*. Schooner Young Cromwell.
- 26. By the *Centurion*. Schooner Fox.
- 28. By Ditto. Brig Imprompter.
- Dec 1. By the *Amphion*. Brig Alexander.
- 7. By the *Perseverance*, *Orpheus*, *Garland*, &c. Brig Hope.
- 8. By the *Perseverance*. Cutter Privateer Alert.
- 22. By the *Adamant*. Schooner Degoeste Verwaging.
- 30. By Ditto. Schooner Delaware.
- 31. By the *Chatbam*. Sloop Sally.
- Jan. 4. 1782. By the *Amphion*. Sloop of War Bonetta.
- 5. By Ditto. Sloop Polly.
- By the *Garland*. Brig Privateer Fair American.
- 12. By the *Amphirite*. Schooner Betsy.
- 14. By the *Pandora*. Brig Janie.
- 15. By the *Belisarius*. Brig Venus.
- 22. By the *Pandora* and *Warwick*. Brig Lark.
- 29. By the *St. Margaritta*. Sloop Nancy.
- 31. By the *Chatbam*. Schooner Sally.
- Feb. 1. By the *Lion* and *Grana*. Brig Revolt.
- 6. By the *Lion*. Schooner Dorchester.
- By the *Amphion*. Ship Laperwerante.
- 11. By the *Orpheus*. Ship Nightingale.
- 13. By the *Amphirite*. Brig Sally.
- By Ditto. Ship General Clawson.
- By the *Savage*. Sloop Prudence.

Feb.