



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1798.

Admiralty-Office, October 2, 1798.

THE Honorable Captain Capel, of His Majesty's Sloop Mutine, arrived this Morning with Dispatches from Rear-Admiral Sir Horatio Nelson, K. B. to Evan Nepean, Esq. Secretary of the Admiralty, of which the following are Copies :

*Vanguard, Mouth of the Nile,
August 7, 1798.*

SIR,

HEREWITH I have the Honor to transmit you a Copy of my Letter to the Earl of St. Vincent, together with a Line of Battle of the English and French Squadrons, also a List of Killed and Wounded. I have the Pleasure to inform you, that Eight of our Ships have already Top-Gallant Yards across, and ready for any Service ; the others, with the Prizes, will soon be ready for Sea. In an Event of this Importance, I have thought it right to send Captain Capel with a Copy of my Letter (to the Commander in Chief) over Land, which I hope their Lordships will approve ; and beg Leave to refer them to Captain Capel, who is a most excellent Officer, and fully able to give every Information ; and I beg Leave to recommend him to their Lordships' Notice.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

HORATIO NELSON.

P. S. The Island I have taken Possession of, and brought off the Two Thirteen-Inch Mortars, all the Brass Guns, and destroyed the Iron ones.

Evan Nepean, Esq.

Vanguard, off the Mouth of the Nile, August 3, 1798.

MY LORD,

Almighty God has blessed His Majesty's Arms in the late Battle, by a great Victory over the Fleet of the Enemy, whom I attacked at Sun-set on the 1st of August off the Mouth of the Nile. The Enemy were moored in a strong Line of Battle for defending the Entrance of the Bay (of Shoals), flanked by numerous Gun-Boats, Four Frigates, and a Battery of Guns and Mortars on an Island in their Van ; but nothing could withstand the Squadron your Lordship did me the Honour to place under my Command. Their high State of Discipline is well known to you, and with the Judgment of the Captains, together with their Valour and that of the Officers and Men of every Description, it was absolutely irresistible.

Could any Thing from my Pen add to the Characters of the Captains, I would write it with Pleasure, but that is impossible.

I have to regret the Loss of Captain Westcott of the Majestic, who was killed early in the Action ; but the Ship was continued to be so well fought by her First Lieutenant, Mr. Cuthbert, that I have given him an Order to command her till your Lordship's Pleasure is known.

The Ships of the Enemy, all but their Two Rear Ships, are nearly dismasted ; and those Two, with Two Frigates, I am sorry to say, made their Escape ; nor was it, I assure you, in my Power to prevent them. Captain Hood most handsomely endeavoured