

liams, captured the 9th Ultimo, off Demerary, River de Este Ondenening Dutch Privateer Schooner, belonging to Surinam, of Eight Guns and Thirty-eight Men, which he sent to Demerary; she was upon a Three Months Cruise, had been out Nineteen Days, but made no Captures.

I have the Honor to be, &c. &c. &c.

HENRY HARVEY.

Admiralty-Office, October 9, 1798.

*Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Sir Hyde Parker, Knt. Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels at Jamaica, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated in Port Royal Harbour, the 27th July, 1798.*

SIR,

HAVING received a Letter from Captain Lane, of the Acasta, giving an Account of the Proceedings and Success of that Ship, and the Ceres, Captain Otway; and having also received a Letter from Captain Eyre, of His Majesty's Ship Regulus, acquainting me with the Capture of the Vessels thereinmentioned, (Copies of which you will receive herewith,) I am to desire you will be pleased to lay the same before the Right Honorable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for their Information.

I have the Honor to be, &c. &c. &c.

H. PARKER.

*Acasta at Sea, Zacheo S. W. distant Seven Leagues, 13th July, 1798.*

SIR,

I Have the Pleasure to inform you, that since my Letter of the 9th May, the Acasta and Ceres have taken, burnt, and destroyed, the following Vessels; viz.

*By the Acasta.*

May 1, The St. Mary, of Four Guns, and Twenty-eight Men; pierced for Four Guns.

May 12, St. Antonio; pierced for Fourteen Guns.

May 20, La Vengeance, Six Guns, Seventy-one Men; pierced for Ten Guns.

June 30, La Trump, Two Guns, Ten Men; pierced for Ten Guns.

July 2, St. Josef de Victorio, Eight Guns, Fifty Men; pierced for Sixteen Guns. Burnt.

July 13, St. Michael Acandoa, Six Guns, Twenty-eight Men; pierced for Six Guns.

*By the Ceres.*

May 12, Sally, Seven Men.

May 18, Goulette, Eleven Men.

May 30, L'Avanture, Fourteen Men.

June 1, La Mutinie, Eighteen Guns, One Hundred and Fifty Men; pierced for Eighteen Guns. Burnt.

June 8, Cargo, Two Guns, Five Men; pierced for Four Guns.

June 20, Two small Schooners. Scuttled.

June 20, Two small Sloops. Scuttled.

The Ceres chased on the 1st June La Mutinie French Privateer Brig, of Eighteen Guns and One Hundred and Fifty Men, to Windward of St. Juan; but, from the State of the Weather and Shoal-Water, was unable, for some Days, to take Possession of her; the Crew, in the Interim, had warped her close in Shore for the Purpose of defending her from the Beach; Captain Otway however sent his Boats the

first Moment the Weather permitted, (covering them with the Ceres,) under the Command of Lieutenant Wooldridge. The Enemy having set Fire to her, quitted, and formed in great Numbers on the Beach, keeping up a very heavy Fire on the Boats; while taking Possession of her, and striking the Colours, some of the Ceres' Shot having taken Place below her Water Line, she filled, which making it impracticable to bring her off, the Fire was permitted to take Effect. The St. Josef de Victorio, of Eight Guns (but pierced for 16) and 50 Men, from Europe, was chased on Shore by the Acasta, Six Leagues to Windward of St. Juan; the Boats of which Ship being sent to take Possession, and finding it impossible to bring her off, set Fire to and completely destroyed her. The Ceres chased to Windward on the Morning of the 6th of May a Sail to the Eastward into the Mona Passage. Intelligence was received, upon which was placed great Dependence, that the French Privateers were doing incredible Mischiefs off the N. E. End of Porto Rico, and of Two Spanish Frigates being daily expected at St. Juan; we immediately proceeded thither, and made all the above Captures off that Port, but both Ships being extremely short of Provisions and Water, the Ceres not having more than Two Days of all Species on board, I thought it most advisable, under the existing Circumstances, to recruit at St. Thomas's; to which Island we made the best of our Way, and returned in Four Days from the Time we left our former Station to it again. I am sorry to add that the Day previous to our Arrival at St. Thomas's, one of the Enemy's Frigates (the Venus) got into St. Juan, the other we are anxiously looking for, and you may rely upon our remaining out until the last Moment, in Hopes of falling in with her; having this Instant captured a Polacre Ship from St. Juan, bound to Vera Cruz, under Creek Colours, affords me the Opportunity of sending this Letter, which ought to have gone by the last Prize, but by some Accident was left behind.

Lieutenant Denman will be able to give you every Information respecting both Ships you may wish for. The Ceres is now in Chace, and has made the Signal for an Enemy which we take to be a Privateer Brig.

I have the Honor to be, &c. &c.

RICHARD LANE.

*Vice-Admiral Sir Hyde Parker, Knt.*

*Regulus, Cape Nichola Mole, July 17, 1798.*

SIR,

I Have the Honor to inform you, that on the 11th Instant, having discovered Five Vessels at Anchor in Aguada Bay, at the North-West End of the Island of Porto Rico, I manned La Poulinc, a French Schooner, of Four Guns, and Thirty-two Men, which I had captured a few Days before, and sent her, together with the Boats of the Regulus, under the Command of Lieutenant Good, to endeavour to cut them out, proceeding in with the Ship for their Protection and Support; the Wind unfortunately failing, neither the Regulus or Schooner could get in near enough to be of any material Service, the whole Effort consequently fell upon the Boats; and it is with great Satisfaction I have to add, that through the judicious Arrange-