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From Tuesday February 16, to Saturday February 23, 1802.

At the Court at the *Queen's-House*, the 17th of February 1802,

P R E S E N T,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

His Majesty, in Council, was this Day pleased to appoint the following Sheriffs, viz.

- Herefordshire*, Edward Bolton Clive, of Treville, Esq; in the Room of Thomas Debits, of the Apostles, Esq; deceased.
- Pembrokeshire*, Hugh Stokes, of Hubberston, Esq; instead of David Lewis, of Hen-Llan, Esq.
- Cardiganshire*, David Davies, of Glan yr Occas, Esq.
- Montgomery*, Pryce Jones, of Cofronidd, Esq. instead of David Edward Lewis Lloyd, of Farm, Esq.

St. James's, February 16, 1802.

The King has been pleased to confer the Honor of Knighthood on Alexander Mackenzie, Esq.

Lord Chamberlain's Office, February 19, 1802.

NOTICE is hereby given, that there will be a Levee at St. James's on Wednesday next the 24th Instant.

Admiralty-Office, February 20, 1802.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Rainier, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the East Indies, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated in Madras-Road, the 29th of September 1801.

S I R,

I Have at present nothing very particular to communicate to you, for their Lordships' Information, beyond what may be collected from the Disposition-List of His Majesty's Squadron under my Command, herewith enclosed, except the Capture of the French National Frigate *Chiffonne*, in Mahé-Road, at the Seychelles, on the 19th Ultimo, Force

as per Margin *, by His Majesty's Ship *La Sybille*, Captain Charles Adam, after a short but gallant Action, in which a well-constructed Battery of the Frigate's Forecastle-Guns, furnished with a Furnace for heating Red-Hot Shot, co-operated in her Defence. This Circumstance, added to the Advantage the French Frigate derived from her Position, being at Anchor, while His Majesty's Ship had to steer for her Opponent, at the greatest Hazard, through a winding and intricate Channel, formed by various dangerous Shoals, with no other Guide than as the Water was seen to discolour on them by a Man at the Mast-Head, placed there for that Purpose, may be fairly estimated to overbalance the trifling Difference in the Calibre of the Metal of the Enemy's Ship, and justly entitle Captain Adam, his Officers, and Crew to the distinguished Honor of having taken a Ship of equal Force.

The *Chiffonne* was commanded by a Monsieur Guicyffe, sailed from Nantes 14th April last, is a fine new Ship, had never been at Sea before, completely armed and equipped; her Errand to the Seychelles was to land Thirty-two Persons who had been suspected of being concerned in an Attempt on the Life of the First Consul of the French Republic. As His Majesty's Ship *Suffolk* will proceed shortly with Convoy to Spithead, I shall defer to that Opportunity the forwarding a Copy of Captain Adam's Letter on the Occasion, with other Particulars; but it may be proper to acquaint you that, on the 15th of May, near the Coast of Brazil, the *Chiffonne* took a Portuguese Schooner; and Three Days after a Frigate of that Nation, named *L'Hirondelle*, armée en flûte, with Twenty-four Carronades, Twenty-four-Pouanders, after a short Action, but after throwing her Guns overboard, and taking out her Stores, suffered her to go about her Business, the Captain and Officers giving their Parole for themselves and Crew. On the 16th of June, off the Cape, she captured the English Ship *Bellona*, laden with a very valuable Cargo, from Calcutta bound to England, who got safe into the Mauritius.

I have only to add that I have given Orders for the Purchase of the *Chiffonne* for His Majesty's

- * Main Deck.—28 Twelve-Pouanders.
- Quarter Deck.—5 Eight-Pouanders; 4 Thirty-six-Pound Carronades.
- Forecastle.—4 Eight-Pouanders; with 250 Men.

