

this happy Country with the justest Confidence in their beloved Sovereign.

That it may please Almighty God to watch over and preserve a Sovereign endeared to us by so many Ties, is the earnest Prayer of, May it please your Majesty, your Majesty's most faithful and loyal Subjects, the Freeholders, Justices of the Peace, and Commissioners of Supply of the County of Cromarty.

Signed by our Preses, in our Name, and by our Appointment. *R. B. Æneas Macleod*, Preses. Cromarty, June 3, 1807.

[Transmitted by the Preses.]

To the KING's Most Excellent Majesty.

WE, your Majesty's very dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgeses of your Majesty's Burgh of Kirkby in Kendal, in the County of Westmorland, beg Leave humbly to offer to your Majesty our warmest Thanks for your Majesty's paternal Care in watching over and protecting the British Constitution, and to assure your Majesty that we shall at all Times, to the utmost of our Power, support your Majesty in the Exercise of the just Prerogatives of your Crown.

Given under the Common Seal of the said Burgh the 4th Day of June 1807.

*Smith Wilson*, Mayor.

[Transmitted by *Richard Howard, Esq; Recorder of Kendal*]

*Whitehall, June 9, 1807.*

The King has been pleased to grant unto William Thornton, of Old Broad-Street, London, and of Everton House, in the Parish of Everton cum Tetworth, in the Counties of Huntingdon and Bedford, Esq; one of the Directors of the Honourable the East India Company, and of the East India Dock Company, Lieutenant-Colonel of the First Regiment of Royal East India Volunteers, and one of the Representatives in Parliament for the ancient Borough of Bridgwater, His Royal Licence and Authority, that he and his Issue may (in Compliance with an Injunction contained in a Codicil to the last Will and Testament of Hannah Pownall, Widow, and Relict of Thomas Pownall, of Everton House aforesaid, Esq; and formerly the Wife of Richard Astell, of the same Place, Esq; maternal Great Uncle of the said William Thornton), take and use the Surname of Astell only, and also bear the Arms of Astell quarterly with those of Thornton; such Arms being first duly exemplified according to the Laws of Arms, and recorded in the Herald's Office:

And also to order, that this His Majesty's Concession and Declaration be registered in His College of Arms.

Admiralty-Office, June 13, 1807.

Copy of a Letter from *Vice-Admiral Dacres*, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels at Jamaica, to *William Marsden, Esq;* dated at Port Royal, March 25, 1807.

SIR,

I ENCLOSE to you, for the Information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the Copy of a Letter I have received from Captain Ni-

colas, of the Lark, detailing the Particulars of the Destruction of some Gun-Boats and small Craft when on a Cruise on the Spanish Main.

I am, &c.

J. R. DACRES.

*His Majesty's Sloop Lark, at Sea,*  
March 10, 1807.

SIR,

I HAVE the Honour to report you the Proceedings of His Majesty's Sloop I command during her late Cruise.

On the 19th of January we fell in with and chased an Enemy's Schooner, which carrying a very heavy press of Sail to escape from us, was overlet in a Squall, when the Whole of her Crew perished before the Lark reached the Spot.

On the 26th, late in the Evening, we discovered Two Guarda Costa Schooners under the Land, and by steering a suitable Course to cut them off from Porto Bello, we, after Fourteen Hours chasing, on the 27th captured them both; they were El Postillon, of One Twelve-Pounder, Two Six-Pounders, and Seventy six Men, and El Carmen, of One Twelve-Pounder, Four Six-Pounders, and Seventy-two Men, both commanded by Lieutenants of the Spanish Navy, and were from Carthagena bound to Porto Bello.

With these Vessels in Company, on the 1st of February, a Convoy of Market-Boats, protected by Two Gun-Boats and an armed Schooner, were fallen in with; the former were driven on Shore, but the latter took Refuge in a Creek of Zispata Bay, protected by a Four Gun Battery. I followed them into the Bay, and in a short Time silenced the Fort; but not being able to get at the Gun-Boats with the Ship, the Lark was anchored at a convenient Distance, and with the Whole of our Crew, (Twenty Men excepted, on board the Prizes,) I proceeded to attack them.

The Spaniards rowed out to meet us, and keeping up a resolute Fire, approached until we closed, when they fled; this Moment was seized to board the Sternmost of the Enemy, carrying a long Twenty-four Pounder and Two Six-Pounders; she ran on Shore, but was carried after a desperate Resistance, in which, of Sixteen Men, Three were disabled, and myself wounded. But here our Success ended, for in following the others up the Creek, the Pilot missed the Channel, and ran the Schooners on Shore, without any Prospect of getting them off; the Action was therefore continued in this Situation until Five o'Clock, when Mr. Pound (the Purser), and Two more Men, being added to the List of Wounded, I gave up the Attempt, directing Lieutenant Bull to set the Schooners on Fire, and to cover the Retreat. The Carmen blew up, and the Postillon was in Flames, and otherwise so much disabled, that she must be lost to the Enemy.

The good Conduct of the Lark's Officers and Crew entitle them to my Thanks, and I trust their Exertions may be rewarded by better Fortune on a future Occasion.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT NICHOLAS.

To *James Richard Dacres, Esq;* Vice-Admiral of the White, &c. &c. &c.

War-Office, June 13, 1807.

7th Regiment of Light Dragoons, Lieutenant Lewis William Buck, from the Royal African Corps, to be Lieutenant, vice Probyn, who exchanges.