

who had now assembled a very considerable force, consisting of the 3d Neapolitan regiment of the line, commanded by Colonel Patris, a troop of cavalry and Polish lancers, the legionaries of Palmi, and all the armed peasantry of the vicinity; independent of the crews of the armed vessels, each of which had two heavy guns in her bow, which they fired, hoisting French colours on our approach. Two batteries of three thirty-six pounders commanded the beach within a few yards. The quick and well directed fire of the gun-boats soon silenced the fire of the batteries, and under the cover of grape and musketry, I put on shore the small-armed men, and about thirty of the foreign corps of marine artillery, who advanced in an admirable style against the enemy's line, and beat them up the hill, destroying a number, and making others prisoners; at this time another division of seamen disembarked, and in a few minutes eleven large vessels laden with silk, &c. &c. were in flames, or blown up; and the guns in both batteries spiked and disabled.

From the different reports of the prisoners, there could not be less than twelve hundred men assembled at Pietra Nero to protect their vessels, and the French General, Manbé, having had intimation of our intention, had himself, on the day previous to the attack, visited the defences of Pietro Nero, made the officer commanding there acquainted with our object, and was himself on the spot during the attack. Your Lordship will therefore be able to form a judgment of the ardour and gallantry of our men, so very inferior in numbers, and having to act against a regularly organized body, no men could behave better than the seamen of the flotilla and the marine artillery on this occasion. Of the former I regret to say that three have been killed and seven wounded; of the latter, two killed and seven wounded. Four officers and thirty-six privates have been made prisoners belonging to the enemy's artillery and 3d regiment; three others deserted to us from the enemy's ranks, and joined our men in the pursuit.

Lieutenant-Colonel Lucchesi and Captain Natoli were very active, and Colonel Robinson played off Congreve's rockets to good effect among the cavalry. No damage has been received by the boats of the flotilla.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) ROB. HALL,
Captain and Brigadier.

To the Right Hon. Lord Wm. Bentinck,
Capt. Gen. Com. in Chief.

Admiralty-Office, October 6, 1812.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR EDWARD PELLEW has transmitted to John Wilson Croker, Esq. a letter from Captain Chamberlayne, of His Majesty's ship *Unité*, giving an account of the capture of three vessels of from eighty to one hundred tons, on the 16th of June, in the small port of Badisca, near Otranto, by the boats of the *Unité*, *Orlando*, and *Cerberus*, under the directions of Lieutenant M'Dougall.

A letter from Captain Hollis, of the *Achille*, stating, that on the 17th of July, the boats of that ship and the *Cerberus* captured or destroyed, off Venice, twelve sail of the enemy's trabaccoloes;

And also a letter from Captain Rowley, of the *Eagle*, reporting the capture by storm, on the 20th July, and subsequent destruction of the battery of Cape Ceste, in the Adriatic, by a detachment from the 35th regiment and a party of marines, under Captain Rutherford, of the 35th, embarked in the boats of the *Eagle*, under Lieutenant Cannon; and the capture by the latter of an enemy's gun-boat on the 22d.

Admiralty-Office, October 6, 1812.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR EDWARD PELLEW has transmitted to John Wilson Croker, Esq. two letters from Captain Sir Peter Parker, of His Majesty's ship *Menelaus*, one giving an account of the boats of that ship having on the 2d of September, under the direction of Lieutenant Mainwaring, brought out from the river Mignone, near Civita Vecchia, the *St. Esprit*, French letter of marque, pierced for twelve guns, but only two mounted:

The other stating that on the 4th two of the boats under Mr. James Saunderson, master's mate, brought out from the entrance of the Orbitello Lake, *La Fidelle*, a government transport, loading with ship timber:

And also a letter from Captain Shaw, of His Majesty's sloop *Philomel*, giving an account of his having, on the 24th of August, run on shore a French *Polacré* privateer, near Valencia, where she was burnt by the crew on abandoning her.

Admiralty-Office, October 6, 1812.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR EDWARD PELLEW has transmitted to John Wilson Croker, Esq. returns received from Captain Bathurst, of the *Fame*, and Captain Hamilton, of the *Termagant*, of seven towers or batteries destroyed on the coast of Valencia, between the 14th and 29th of August, mounting together twenty-one pieces of ordnance:

And a report from Captain Hamilton of his having, on the 16th, captured two French privateers, one of four and the other of three guns.

Admiralty-Office, October 6, 1812.

REAR-ADMIRAL LAUGHARNE has transmitted to John Wilson Croker, Esq. a letter from Captain Sir Peter Parker, of His Majesty's ship the *Menelaus*, addressed to Captain Sir Robert Laurie of the *Ajax*, giving an account of an attack made by him on a small convoy of the enemy, in the port of St. Stefano, in the Bay of Orbitello, on the