



# Edinburgh Gazette.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

FROM FRIDAY, APRIL 29, to TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1808.

## ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, APRIL 26, 1808.

Copy of a Letter from PETER RAINIER, Esq. Captain of his Majesty's Ship the *Caroline*, addressed to Rear-Admiral Sir THOMAS TROUBRIDGE, Bart. dated the 19th of October 1806, a Duplicate of which has been transmitted by Captain RAINIER to the Honourable W. W. POLE.

*His Majesty's Ship Caroline, off Batavia, October 19, 1806.*

SIR, After putting the former part of your orders in execution, I proceeded to Anjer point, where I obtained information that the enemy's line of battle ships were all to the eastward.

On the morning of the 18th instant, I captured a small brig from Bantam, from whom I learned that the *Phoenix*, a Dutch frigate of thirty-six guns, was undergoing repairs at Omust; it appearing to me that she might be brought out, I was making the best of my way there, when between Middlebey and Ansterdam islands, I discovered two men of war brigs at anchor, one of which I captured, the other made her escape by being too close in shore for us to pursue her; the captured brig was the *Zeerop* of fourteen guns, commanded by Captain Groot. Whilst taking possession of her, I observed the *Phoenix* slip from Omust and run for Batavia road. From the officers of the *Zeerop* we gained intelligence, that the *Maria*, a Dutch frigate, was lying in the roads, manned from the shore; being aware of our approach. A short time after I observed her, and likewise the *William* sloop of war, with the brig that before escaped us.

As I distinctly made out the frigate to be the largest ship in the road, I ran for her with springs on both cables; the enemy commenced firing at us as soon as we were within gun-shot, which was not returned till we came as close as the wind would allow us,

which was within half pistol-shot, when we opened our fire. The action continued about half an hour, when the enemy hauled down their colours; on boarding she proved to be the Dutch Republican frigate *Maria Reygersbergen*, of thirty-six guns, eighteen-pounders on the main-deck, and two hundred and seventy men, commanded by Captain Jäger (second in command). The *Maria* was launched in 1800, and is a fast sailing ship. We had to encounter besides the frigate, the *William* of twenty guns, *Patriot* of eighteen, and *Zeeplong* of fourteen guns, with several gun-boats, and there were thirty gun-boats lying in shore, which did not attempt to come out. I beg leave to state, that when the action commenced we had short of complement by men away in prizes, sick at hospitals, &c. fifty-seven in number.

I am sorry to say it was not in my power to capture either the *Phoenix*, *William*, *Patriot*, or *Zeeplong* brig, as his Majesty's ship *Caroline* and the *Maria* were after the action in four fathoms water, and surrounded by many dangerous shoals.

I anchored both ships in the offing to repair damages. Whilst running out of the road, I observed the *Phoenix*, with the vessels above mentioned, and all the Dutch merchant ships, run on shore.

As the first brig I captured was of little value, and the crew very sickly, I put as many of the prisoners on board of her as she could carry, and most of the officers, and sent them to Batavia on their parole, after running without the islands.

I have sent Mr. Lémage, my first Lieutenant, in charge of the *Maria*, whose conduct during the action I was fully satisfied with. And when the superior force is considered that was opposed to us, and the great loss the enemy have sustained; I trust I may be permitted to recom-

mend Lieutenant Cressy, who commanded on the main-deck, with acting Lieutenants Shink and Pedder, their conduct meeting my highest approbation.

I cannot speak too highly of Mr. Bain, the master, in laying me alongside the *Maria*, and whose accurate knowledge of the seas enabled me to take the ship into Batavia. The conduct of the warrant and petty officers was much to my satisfaction, as was the brave and steady behaviour of the seamen and marines.

I herewith inclose a list of our killed and wounded, with the disposition of the enemy's squadron in these seas, and a list of ships taken and run on shore by his Majesty's ship under my command.

I have the honour to be, &c.

P. RAINIER.

To his Excellency Rear-Admiral Sir Thomas Troubridge, Bart. &c. East Indies.

P. S. I have not been able to get a correct account of the killed and wounded on board the prize but from the surgeon's report they had fifty killed and wounded.

P. R.

### List of Killed and Wounded.

*Killed*—John Lawson, seaman; William Williams, seaman; William Rickets, seaman; four Dutch prisoners, who were in the hold.

*Wounded dangerously, since dead*—Lieut. Williams, Royal Marines; William Gibbs, seaman; William Longmore, seaman; John Terry, seaman; Daniel Sullivan, seaman; Edward Barnes, marine.

*Wounded slightly*—Thomas Pearson, seaman; W. M. Thomas, seaman; Jasper Howe, seaman; Barnard Maxwell, seaman; John Lance, seaman; Michael McCormick, seaman; John Morrison, seaman; Alexander Creighton, seaman; Thomas Robinson, seaman; Richard Brownsden, seaman; William Isby, seaman; John Lattie, seaman.

P. RAINIER.

List of Dutch Ships taken and run on shore at Batavia, on the 18th of October 1806, by his Majesty's Ship *Caroline*.

*Zeerop*, 14 guns, Captain Groot, taken.

Price Sixpence.

