

be taken prisoner; Captain Hamilton, dangerously wounded; Lieut. C. Bird, Ensigns Galbraith and Walton, slightly wounded.

95th Foot—Lieut. Clark, dangerously wounded.
1st Light Battalion of the King's German Legion—Lieut. Frederick Du Fay and Ensign Frederick Hedenan, dangerously wounded.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, AUGUST 12, 1809.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Lord COLLINGWOOD, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Mediterranean, to the Honourable W. W. POLE, dated on board the *Ville de Paris*, off Toulon, 11th June 1809.

SIR,

I have received two letters from Captain Brenton of his Majesty's ship *Spartan*, of date the 27th of April and 5th May, relating the proceedings of the ships therein named with him at Pesaro, on 23d April, and at Ceseratico, on the 2d ultimo; when, on both occasions, all the enemy's vessels in those ports were captured and the forts destroyed. No loss was sustained on our part, and this must be attributed to the well concerted measures which were taken for accomplishing this service.

I have the honour to be, &c.

COLLINGWOOD.

MY LORD, *Spartan, Trieste, April 17, 1809.*

I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that being with the *Amphion* and *Mercury* off the town of Pesaro, on the 23d instant, I observed a number of vessels lying in the mole, and thought it practicable to take possession of them, for which purpose the ships were anchored with springs upon their cables, within half a mile of the town; the boats formed into two divisions; the first consisting of launches with carronades, and other boats carrying field pieces, under the orders of Lieutenant Philott, first of the *Amphion*, took a station to the northward of the town; and the second division, consisting of rocket-boats, under the order of Lieutenant Baumgardt, of the *Spartan*, to the southward; both divisions commanded by Lieutenant Willis, first of the *Spartan*. As soon as these arrangements were made, I sent a flag of truce on shore, to demand the surrender of all the vessels, adding, that should any resistance be made, the governor must be answerable for the consequences. I gave him half an hour to deliberate.

At half past eleven o'clock A. M. the officer returned with a message from the commandant, stating, that in half an hour I should receive his answer.

I waited thirty-five minutes from the time the boat came alongside, when observing no flag of truce flying on shore, but that troops were assembling in considerable numbers in the streets, and on the quays, and that the inhabitants were busily employed in dismantling the vessels, I hauled down the flag of truce, and fired one shot over the town to give warning to the women and children, and shortly after made the signal to commence firing, which was instantly obeyed by the ships and boats. At thirty-two minutes after twelve, observing several flags of truce hung out in the town, I made the signal to cease firing, and Lieutenant Willis pulled into the harbour, where he was informed that the commandant had made his escape with all the military.

I considered the place as surrendered at discretion, and gave orders for all the boats to be

employed in bringing out the vessels, and the marines to be landed to protect them.

Lieutenant Willis made the most judicious arrangements to put these orders into execution; the marines were drawn up on the Marina, under Lieutenant Moore of the royal marines of the *Amphion*; the launches stationed in such a manner as to enfilade the principal streets; and the other boats crews employed in rigging the vessels, and laying out warps to haul them off with, as soon as the tide should flow.

About two P. M. I received a letter from the commandant, dated half past one, demanding another hour for deliberation; I refused him a moment, and told him that in case of resistance I should destroy the town.

By half-past six, thirteen vessels deeply laden, as per inclosed list, were brought off; several others had been scuttled by the inhabitants, and sunk; some were still aground, and dismantled; there were besides a few in ballast, and a number of fishing vessels.

I should have burnt the merchant vessels, but was apprehensive of setting fire to the town, and destroying the fishing-boats; I therefore directed Lieutenant Willis to blow up the castle at the entrance of the harbour, and bring of his people; this he did at seven o'clock.

I am happy to say we did not hear of any lives being lost in the town, although many of the houses were much damaged; one man only was killed by the explosion of the castle; after the match had been lighted, and our people retreated, he approached it; a musket was fired over him to drive him away, but he sought refuge behind the castle, and was buried in its ruins.

As the enemy made no active resistance, I can only express my admiration of the zeal and promptitude with which Captain Hoste and the Honourable Henry Duncan executed the orders they received, and the manner in which they placed their ships. Lieutenant Willis upon this, as upon every other occasion, displayed the greatest energy, skill, and judgment; the arrangements he made for the defence of his party, whilst in the harbour, and the expedition used in sending out the prizes, do him the highest credit.

Lieutenant Philott and Lieutenant Baumgardt, in the command of their respective divisions, and Lieutenant Moore in that of the marines, was also exemplary.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. BRENTON.

List of Enemy's Vessels captured in the Port of Pesaro, by his Majesty's Ships Spartan, Amphion, and Mercury, on the 23d of April 1809.

St Nicholas, of 138 tons, laden with oil and almonds.
Il Practico, of 90 tons, laden with oil.
L'Azzardo Fortunato, of 54 tons, laden with oil.
A vessel, name unknown, of 130 tons, laden with oil, hides, and almonds.
A vessel, name unknown, of 90 tons, laden with oil and hemp.
St Antonio, of 220 tons, laden with oil.
St Antonio, of 100 tons, laden with plank and spars.
San Nio, of 56 tons, laden with morocco leather, hides, bees-wax, and plank.
Name unknown, of 30 tons, laden with oil and hides.
Charlotte Fortunato, of 56 tons, laden with oil.
Name unknown, of 50 tons, laden with oil.
Ditto, of 60 tons, oil, almonds, figs, candles.
Providenza, of 30 tons, laden with oil.
Total—13 vessels.

MY LORD, *Spartan, off Rovigo, May 5, 1809.*

On the 2d instant, the *Spartan* and *Mercury* chased two vessels into the port of Ceseratico, the entrance of which is very narrow, and was

defended by a battery of two guns (twenty-four pounders) and a castle; observing at the same time several other vessels lying there, I determined to take possession of them if possible. This coast is so shoal, that we had only four fathoms considerably out of gun-shot of the town; I was therefore under the necessity of sending the boats a head, and on each bow to lead us in, with directions to make a signal when in three fathoms.

We were by this means enabled to anchor at noon in a quarter three, within range of grape of the battery, and very soon silenced it, when the boats under the command of Lieutenant Willis 1st of the *Spartan* pushed in, and took possession of it, turning the guns upon the castle and town, which were soon after deserted. We captured in the port twelve vessels, some laden with corn for Venice, and the others being in ballast. We filled them with hemp and iron out of the magazines for those articles that were on the quay, and in which the sails and rudders of some of the vessels were concealed.

Another large vessel laden with iron, which lay at the entrance of the harbour scuttled, we burnt, and after blowing up the castle and magazine, destroying the battery, and spiking the guns, the boats came off, I am happy to say, without the loss of a man, or any person being wounded, although much exposed to the fire of the battery, as well as musketry, nor was any damage done to the ships.

The *Mercury*, from Captain Duncan's anxiety to place her as near the town as possible, took the ground, but in so favourable a position as gave the fullest effect to her fire. She was however hove off by six P. M. without having sustained any injury. I never witnessed more zeal and energy than was evinced by Captain Duncan upon this occasion. Lieutenant Willis displayed great gallantry in taking possession of the battery the moment the ships had ceased firing; in the expedition with which he turned the guns against the place; his exertions also in bringing out the vessels were very great. Much credit is also due to the officers and men of both ships for their activity.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) JAH. BRENTON.

WHITEHALL, AUGUST 12, 1809.

The King has been pleased to order a Congé d'Elire to pass the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, empowering the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Bangor to elect a Bishop of that see, the same being void by the translation of the Right Reverend Father in God John, late Bishop thereof, to the see of London; and his Majesty has also been pleased, by his royal sign manual, to recommend to the said Dean and Chapter the Right Reverend Father in God Henry William Bishop of Chester, to be by them chosen Bishop of the said see of Bangor.

CARLTON-HOUSE, AUGUST 8, 1809.

The Prince of Wales has been pleased to appoint the Reverend Houlton Hartwell, of New College, Oxford, A. M. to be one of his Royal Highness's Chaplains in Ordinary,

WAR-OFFICE, AUGUST 12, 1809.

2d Regiment of Dragoon Guards—Surgeon James Alardyce, from the 62d foot, to be Surgeon, vice Strahan, promoted on the staff.