

SIR,

Thebes, July 4, 1797.

In obedience to your orders, the Thunderer bomb was placed, by the good management of Lieutenant Gourly, her present Commander, assisted by Mr Jackson, master of the Ville de Paris, who volunteered his able services, within 2500 yards of the walls of Cadiz, and the shells were thrown from her with much precision, under the direction of Lieutenant Baynes of the Royal Artillery; but unfortunately it was soon found that the large mortar was materially injured from its former services; I therefore judged it proper to order her to return under the protection of the Goliath, Terpsichore, and Fox, who were kept under sail for that purpose, and for whose active services I feel much obliged.

The Spaniards having sent out a great number of mortar gun boats and armed launches, I directed a vigorous attack to be made on them, which was done with such gallantry, that they were drove and pursued under the walls of Cadiz, and must have suffered considerable loss; and I have the pleasure to inform you, that two mortar boats and an armed launch remained in our possession.

I feel myself particularly indebted for the successful termination of this contest to the gallantry of Captains Fremantle and Miller, the former of whom accompanied me in my barge, and to my Coxswain, John Sykes, who, in defending my person, is most severely wounded, as was Captain Fremantle slightly, in the attack: And my praises are generally due to every officer and man, some of whom I saw behave in the most noble manner, and I regret it is not in my power to particularize them. I must also beg to be permitted to express my admiration of Don Miguel Tyrason, the Commander of the gun boats, in his barge; he laid my boat alongside, and his resistance was such as to honour a brave officer, 18 of the 26 men being killed, and himself and all the rest wounded. Not having a correct list of the killed and wounded, I can only state, that I believe 6 are killed and 220 wounded.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

HORATIO NELSON.

Sir John Jervis, K. B.

Copy of a Letter from the Earl of St Vincent, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels employed on the coast of Portugal, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated on board his Majesty's ship Ville de Paris, off Cadiz, the 9th of July, 1797.

SIR,

I enclose, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, letters I have lately received from Captain Elphinstone, of his Majesty's ship the Hamadryad, and the Honourable Courtney Boyle, Commander of his Majesty's ship the Kangaroo, relating the capture of some of the enemy's vessels.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that on my passage from Plymouth (with the Boyne transport under my convoy) in his Ma-

jefty's sloop Kangaroo, on the 22d inst. lat. 46 deg. 25 min. N. long. 7 deg. 12 min. W. I fell in with and captured La Surprize French lugger privateer, of 47 tons, 8 guns and 48 men: had been six days out of Crofic (entrance of the Loire) and made no capture.

I have further to inform your Lordship, that on the 3d instant, Cadiz bearing E. by S. distance seventeen leagues, I fell in with and captured La Purissima Conception, a lugger, sent out from Cadiz with a King's Officer and nine men, under orders to cruize for a brig from the Havannah, having dispatches for her.

I am, &c.

BOYLE.

The Right Hon. the Earl
of St Vincent.

Hamadryad, in Gibraltar-Bay, July 3, 1797.

SIR,

In obedience to your orders, I proceeded to sea on the 29th of June, light airs and a strong current set us a little to the eastward. On the 30th I fell in with two Xebecks, one of which we took, and the other, which was a Spanish privateer, we drove on shore, the crew of the former made their escape. After seeing her safe into Gibraltar yesterday morning, I stretched across to Ceuta, and at two A. M. I fell in with and captured L'Acteon French cutter privateer, of six guns, coppered, and thirty men: I have anchored for the sole purpose of putting the prisoners on board the Prison ship, and getting my people out of the prize, and shall weigh again in a few hours.

I have the honour, &c.

THO. ELPHINSTONE.

Admiral Sir John Jervis, K. B.

Copy of another Letter from the Earl of St Vincent, to Mr Nepean, dated Ville de Paris, off Cadiz, the 10th day of July, 1797.

SIR,

I desire you will acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that Rear Admiral Nelson ordered a second bombardment of Cadiz on the night of the 5th, under the direction of Captain Bowen, of the Terpsichore, Captain Miller, of the Thebes, and Captain Waller, of the Emerald; and appointed Mr Jackson, Master of the Ville de Paris, to place the Thunderer, Terror and Strombolo, and that the bombardment produced considerable effect in the town and among the shipping, ten sail of the line, among them the ships carrying the flags of Admirals Mezzaredo and Gravina, having warped out of the range of shell with much precipitation the following morning; and it is with great satisfaction I inform you, that this important service was effected with very little loss on our side, as per enclosed return of killed and wounded. The Rear Admiral meditated another operation on the night of Saturday the 8th, under his own direction, but the wind blew so strong down the bay he could not get his bomb vessels up to the point of attack in time.

Mr Hornsey, Master's Mate of the Seahorse, distinguished himself in a very remarkable manner.