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ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, October 21.

Lieut WATERHOUSE arrived here late last night with the duplicate of a dispatch from Sir JOHN BORSAGE WARREN, Bart. and K. B. Captain of his Majesty's ship Canada, to Vice-Admiral KINGSMILL, of which the following is a copy:—

Canada, Lough Swilly, Ireland,
16th October 1798.

SIR,

IN pursuance of the orders and instructions I received by the Kangaroo, I proceeded with the ships named in the margin*, off Achill-Head, and, on the 10th instant, I was joined by his Majesty's ships Melampus and Doris, the latter of which I directed to look out for the enemy off Tory Island and the Rosses; in the evening of the same day the Amelia appeared in the offing, when Captain Herbert informed me he had parted with the Ethalion, Anson, and Sylph, who, with great attention, had continued to observe the French squadron since their sailing on the 17th ult.

In the morning of the 11th, however, these two ships also fell in with us, and at noon the enemy were discovered in the N. W. quarter, consisting of one ship of 80 guns, eight frigates, a schooner, and a brig. I immediately made the signal for a general chase, and to form in succession as each ship arrived up with the enemy, who, from their great distance to windward, and a hollow sea, it was impossible to come up with before the 12th.

The chase was continued in very bad and boisterous weather all day of the 11th, and the following night, when at half past five A. M. they were seen at a little distance to windward, the line-of-battle ship having lost her main top mast.

The enemy bore down and formed their line in close order on the starboard tack, and from the length of

* Canada, Robuff, Foudroyant, and Magnanime.

the chase, and our ships being spread, it was impossible to close with them before seven A. M. when I made the Robuff's signal to lead, which was obeyed with much alacrity, and the rest of the ships to form in succession in the rear of the van.

The action commenced at twenty minutes past seven o'clock, A. M. the Rosses bearing S. S. W. five leagues, and at eleven, the Hoche, after a gallant defence, struck; and the frigates made sail from us: The signal to pursue the enemy was made immediately, and in five hours afterwards three of the frigates hauled down their colours also; but they, as well as the Hoche, were obstinately defended, all of them being heavy frigates, and, as well as the ship of the line, entirely new, full of troops and stores, with every necessary for the establishment of their views and plans in Ireland.

I am happy to say, that the efforts and conduct of every officer and man in the squadron seemed to have been actuated by the same spirit, zeal, and unanimity in their King and country's cause; and I feel myself under great obligations to them, as well as the officers and men of this ship, for their exertions upon this occasion; which will, I hope, recommend them to their Lordships favour.

I left Captain Thornborough after the action, with the Magnanime, Ethalion, and Amelia, with the prizes; and am sorry to find he is not arrived; but trust they will soon make their appearance.

I have the honour to remain, &c.

JN. WARREN.

P.S.—The ships with us in the action were, the Canada, Robuff, Foudroyant, Magnanime, Ethalion, Melampus, and Amelia.

The Anson joined us in the latter part of the action, having lost her mizen-mast in chase the day before.

(R.)

[Price 6d.]

