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ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, Oct. 30.

Copy of a letter from Captain DURHAM, Commander of his Majesty's ship Anson, to EVAN NEPEAN, Esq. dated in Plymouth Sound.

I BEG leave to inclose you copy of a letter, sent by this post, to the Right Hon. Admiral Lord Bridport.

Anson, in Plymouth Sound,
Oct. 27. 1798.

From the disabled state of his Majesty's ship under my command in the action of the 13th inst. and the wind remaining to the S. W. I was unavoidably separated from the squadron under the command of Sir John Borlase Warren, Bart. K. B. and drove considerably to the N. W. of Ireland.

I have great satisfaction in informing your Lordship, that on the 18th, at day-light in the morning, I discovered a large ship to leeward; fortunately for me with the loss of her fore and main-top-masts (the Anson being by no means in a situation to chase), her mizen-mast gone, main-yard and main-crossrees; the bowsprit and fore-yard shot through in several places.

I immediately bore up, and got alongside of her, and after an action of one hour and quarter, most gallantly disputed, which does the highest honour to Citizen Joseph Andrien Segone, her Commander, she struck; proved to be La Loire, one of the largest and finest frigates belonging to the Republic, presented by the city of Nantz, quite new and never before at sea, pierced for 50 guns, mounting 46 (eighteen-pounders), having on board 664 men (troops included), among whom are a number of artillery, Etat-Major for three regiments. La Loire had 48 men killed and 75 wounded, was one of the four frigates which the Anson engaged the 13th, and was making her escape from the coast.

[Price 6d.]

I beg leave particularly to acknowledge the steady and good behaviour of my officers and petty officers; cannot avoid recommending to your Lordship's notice my First Lieutenant Mr John Hinton, whose conduct, not only upon this occasion, but many others, has met with my fullest approbation; not derogating from the behaviour of Lieutenants Meager, Manderfon, and Mr William Christop the Master.

I have also to acknowledge the services of Lieutenants Bell and Derring of the marines, who commanded the carronades: As to my ship's company, they have been my faithful companions during four years in pretty active service, and whose conduct upon all occasions merits my warm approbation.

Having fallen in, the night before the action, with his Majesty's brig Kangaroo, I ordered Captain Bracc, from the Anson's disabled state, to continue in company, and am much indebted to him for the services he has rendered me in taking possession of La Loire.

Herewith I send a list of the killed and wounded.

Killed.—Alexander Duncan, Quarter-master; Mathew Birch, seaman.

Wounded.—Mr W. Abell, First Lieutenant of Marines; Mr William Robilliard, Mr Francis R. Payler, Midshipmen; Henry Wilson, James Davis, John Adams, John Houston, William Shaw, Peter Willman, William Thomas (Second), Patrick Kelly, seamen; James Cummings, Robert Dillon, marines.

Inclosed is a list of the stores, &c. found on board La Loire Republican frigate.

Cloathing complete for 3000 men.
1020 muskets in cases.
200 sabres.
360 pouches
25 cases of musket ball cartridges.
1 brass field piece, with a great quantity of ammunition of different kinds.
Intrenching tools, &c.

I have the honour, &c.

H. DURHAM.

(R.)

