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ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, Nov. 6.

Copy of a letter from Admiral Lord Viscount DUNCAN, to EVAN NEPEAN, Esq. dated on board the Kent, Yarmouth Roads, Nov. 6. 1798.

I have the satisfaction to inclose you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a letter I received last night from Captain King, of his Majesty's ship Sirius, acquainting me of his having captured two Dutch frigates, in which he has displayed equal spirit and address.

I am, &c. DUNCAN.

My Lord, Sirius, Grimsby Roads, Nov. 1.

I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that in pursuance of orders I received from Vice-Admiral Sir Richard Onslow, Bart. I parted company with the fleet on the evening of the 23d inst. to reconnoitre the force of the enemy in the Texel. At eight A. M. on the following morning, the Texel bearing S. by E. ten leagues, I fell in with the two Dutch frigates named in the margin*, at that time about ten miles distant from each other.

Passing within gun-shot of the leewardmost of them, I stood on until I could (upon tacking) nearly fetch the weathermost (the Waakzaamheid), my object being to prevent their junction; and by this means, that being accomplished, I had the satisfaction to cut off the latter, and bring her to about nine o'clock, when she hauled down her colours, and fired a gun to lee-

* Waakzaamheid, Captain Neirrop, Senior, Captain, mounting 26 guns, 24 nine-pounders on the main-deck, 2 six-pounders on the fore-castle, having 100 Dutch seamen, and 122 French troops (total 222) on board, also 2000 stand of arms, besides other ordnance stores.

Furie, Captain Pletz, of 36 guns, 26 twelve-pounders on the main-deck, and 10 six-pounders on her quarter-deck and fore-castle, with 153 Dutch seamen, and 165 French troops (total 318) on board, also 4000 stand of arms, besides other ordnance stores.

ward. As soon as the prisoners were exchanged, I made sail after the other, and although nearly out of fight, I had the good fortune, before 5 P. M. to bring her to a kind of running action, which continued about half an hour, within musquet shot at times, during which she kept up a smart but ill-directed discharge of cannon and musquetry, when she struck to his Majesty's ship. She is called the Furie, and under the orders of the Captain of the Waakzaamheid, and had the commandant of the troops and a number of officers on board. I am happy to add, there was only one man wounded by a musquet ball, and that his Majesty's ship suffered but little, one shot through her bow-sprit; her rigging, &c. but little cut. The loss on board the Furie was 8 killed and 14 wounded: Her hull, masts, &c. have suffered much.

I should be wanting in gratitude were I not to express my acknowledgments of the spirited conduct manifested by all my officers and ship's company on this occasion; particularly so on account of the reduction of numbers, by manning the other prize (in which I sent Mr Goffet, my senior Lieutenant), and in securing the officers, troops, &c. taken out of her.

This expedition has been waiting an opportunity of sailing since the 21st July last. They left the Texel at eleven o'clock the preceding night.

I have the honour to be, &c.

RICHARD KING.

DOWNING-STREET, Nov. 6.

The King has been pleased to appoint Charles Lock, Esq. to be his Majesty's Consul-General at Naples.

The King has also been pleased to appoint Lewis Drufina, Esq. to be his Majesty's Consul at Memel.

(R.)

[Price 6d.]

