



THE

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FROM FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26. TO TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30. 1800.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE

ADMIRAL'S OFFICE—Dec. 27 1800.

Copy of a Letter from the Earl of ST VINCENT, K. B. Admiral of the White, &c. to EVAN NEPEAN, Esq. dated in Torbay, the 21st instant.

HEREWITH transmit a letter which I have received from Captain King, of his Majesty's ship Sirius, giving an account of his having captured a Spanish brig from Corunna bound to Monte Video.

His Majesty's ship Sirius, at Sea, December 12. 1800.

MY LORD, I BEG leave to acquaint you, that his Majesty's ship Sirius, under my command, captured on the 11th instant (Sifarga bearing W. by N. three miles) the Spanish merchant brig Melchura, from Corunna bound to Monte Video, out of port only twenty-four hours. It may be some satisfaction to your Lordship in hearing it is the only Spanish vessel that has failed from Corunna since the ship taken by his Majesty's ship Boadicea in August last.

I have the honour to be, &c.

RICHARD KING.

The Right Hon. Earl St Vincent, K. B. &c.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant MATTHEW SMITH, commanding his Majesty's schooner Milbrook, to EVAN NEPEAN, Esq. dated Oporto, 14th November 1800.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for their Lordships information, a copy of a letter I have this day written to the Right Hon. Lord Keith.

I am, &c. MATTHEW SMITH.

His Majesty's schooner Milbrook, off Oporto, My LORD, Nov. 14. 1800.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship, that being off Oporto, in his Majesty's schooner Milbrook, under my command, early on the morning of the 13th inst. we fell in with a French ship wearing a pendant, apparently a brigate, mounting thirty-six guns; and as I had at that time two brigs of the Newfoundland convoy under my protection, and several vessels appearing in the offing, which I have every reason to suppose part of that convoy also, I determined, as the only means of preserving them, to give her battle, and made sail to close with her accordingly; at the same time with a view of increasing our distance from the convoy.

It was nearly calm when the action commenced at eight A. M. and continued till near ten, when the enemy's colours came down; but the Milbrook at this time having her masts, yards, sails, and rigging very much cut, and ten of her guns disabled, I could not prevent his taking advantage of a light breeze springing up, assisted by his sweeps, to get away from us.

The bravery and steady conduct of the officers and seamen under my command against such superior force, in the disabled state of the Milbrook, for a long time with only three guns opposed to the enemy's broadside, and their activity in changing her position with the oars (not a sail set) whilst exposed to his raking us for 15 minutes, merits my highest commendation, and does them the highest credit; but I should fail in my duty if I did not in the strongest manner recommend to your Lordship's notice Mr Thomas Fletcher the master, who, wounded in the

beginning of the action, continued on deck, exerting himself with the greatest bravery; as did also Mr Thomas Groves the clerk, and Mr Joseph da Sa, the Portuguese pilot.

I enclose a list of wounded; and have the honour to be, &c. MATTHEW SMITH. Right Hon. Lord Keith, K. B. &c.

List of Wounded.

Light seamen and one marine (severely.) Mr Thomas Fletcher, Master; Mr J. Parster, Surgeon's Mate; and one seaman (slightly.) Total.—Two petty officers and ten seamen.

MATTHEW SMITH.

Copy of a Letter from Mr RICHARD LE GALLAIS, Commander of the Comus private ship of war, to EVAN NEPEAN, Esq. dated at Jersey, the 20th instant.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that being on a cruize in the Comus privateer, I captured the 7th inst. a French chasse maree, mounting three 3-pounders, laden with hides; and the next day, 8th inst. after a chase of seven hours, boarded and took possession of the French brig letter of marque Rocou, pierced for 14 guns, and had on board twelve six and two 2-pounders, but only four 6-pounders mounted, from Cayenne bound to Bourdeaux, laden with cotton and rice. I am happy to add the brig is safely arrived in Guernsey, and the chasse maree in this island.

I have the honour to be, &c. RICH. LE GALLAIS.

DUBLIN CASTLE—Dec. 16, 1800.

His Majesty, by his Royal Letters Patent, having appointed his Grace the Most Reverend Father in God William Lord Archbishop of Ar-

[Price Sixpence.]

(A.)

