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Admiralty-Office, April 6.

A Dispatch, of which the following is a Copy, was this Evening received from Vice-Admiral Hotham, Commander of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Mediterranean.

Britannia, at Sea, March 16, 1795.

SIR,

YOU will be pleased to inform their Lordships, that on the 8th Instant, being then in Leghorn Road, I received an Express from Genoa, that the French Fleet, consisting of Fifteen Sail of the Line and Three Frigates, were seen Two Days before off the Isle of Marguerite, which Intelligence corresponding with a Signal made from the Mozelle, then in the Offing, for a Fleet in the North-West Quarter, I immediately caused the Squadron to be unmoored, and at Day-Break the following Morning we put to Sea with a strong Breeze from the East-North-East.

The Mozelle previously returned to me, with the Information, that the Fleet she had seen were steering to the Southward, and supposed to be the Enemy; in consequence of which I shaped my Course for Corfica, lest their Destination should be against that Island, and dispatched the Tarleton Brig to St. Fiorenzo, with Orders for the Berwick to join me with all possible Expedition off Cape Corse; but, in the Course of the Night, she returned to me with the unwelcome Intelligence of that Ship's having been captured Two Days before by the Enemy's Fleet.

To trespass as little as possible upon their Lordships Time, I shall not enter into a Detail of our

Proceedings until the Two Squadrons got Sight of each other, and the Prospect opened of forcing the Enemy to Action, every Movement which was made being directed to that Object, and that alone.

Although the French Ships were seen by our advanced Frigates daily, yet the Two Squadrons did not get Sight of each other until the 12th, when that of the Enemy was discovered to Windward.

Observing them on the Morning following still in that Direction, without any apparent Intention of coming down, the Signal was made for a general Chace, in the Course of which, the Weather being squally, and blowing very fresh, we discovered one of their Line of Battle Ships to be without her Topmasts, which afforded to Captain Freemantle, of the Inconstant Frigate, (who was then far advanced on the Chace) an Opportunity of shewing a good Proof of British Enterprize, by his attacking, raking, and harrassing her until the coming up of the Agamemnon, when he was most ably seconded by Captain Nelson, who did her so much Damage as to disable her from putting herself again to rights; but they were at this Time so far detached from our own Fleet, that they were obliged to quit her, as other Ships of the Enemy were coming up to her Assistance, by one of which she was soon afterwards taken in tow.

Finding that our heavy Ships did not gain on the Enemy during the Chace, I made the Signal for the Squadron to form upon the Larboard Line of Bearing, in which Order we continued for the Night.

At Day-Light the next Morning (the 14th) being about Six or Seven Leagues to the South-West of

Genoa,

[Price Four-pence Halfpenny.]

Genoa, we observed the Enemy's disabled Ship, with the one that had her in tow, to be so far to Leeward, and separated from their own Squadron, as to afford a probable Chance of our cutting them off. The Opportunity was not lost; all Sail was made to effect that Purpose, which reduced the Enemy to the Alternative of abandoning those Ships, or coming to Battle.

Although the latter did not appear to be their Choice, they yet came down (on the contrary Tack to which we were) with the View of supporting them; but the Captain and Bedford, whose Signals were made to attack the Enemy's disabled Ship and her Companion, were so far advanced, and so closely supported by the other Ships of our Van, as to cut them off effectually from any Assistance that could be given them; the Conflict ended in the Enemy's abandoning them, and firing upon our Line as they passed with a light Air of Wind.

The Two Ships that fell proved to be the Ca-ira (formerly the Couronne,) of 80 Guns, and the Censeur of 74.

Our Van Ships suffered so much by this Attack, particularly the Illustrious and Courageux (having each lost their Main and Mizzen Masts) that it became impossible for any Thing further to be effected.

I have, however, good Reason to hope, from the Enemy's steering to the Westward, after having passed our Fleet, that, whatever might have been their Design, their Intentions are for the present frustrated.

The French Fleet were loaded with Troops; the Ca-ira having Thirteen Hundred Men on Board, and the Censeur One Thousand, of whom, by their obstinate Defence, they lost in Killed and Wounded between Three and Four Hundred Men.

The Efforts of our Squadron to second my Wishes for an immediate and effectual Attack upon the Enemy, were so spirited and unanimous, that I feel peculiar Satisfaction in offering to their Lordships my cordial Commendation of all Ranks collectively. It is difficult to specify particular Desert, where Emulation was common to all, and Zeal for His Majesty's Service the general Description of the Fleet.

It is, however, an Act of Justice to express the Sense I entertain of the Services of Captain Holloway, of the Britannia: During a long Friendship with that Officer I have had repeated Proofs of his personal and professional Talents; and on this recent Demand for Experience and Information, his Zeal afforded me the most beneficial and satisfactory Assistance.

Herewith I transmit a List of the Killed, and Wounded on Board the different Ships of the Squadron, and have to lament the Loss of Captain Littlejohn, of the Berwick (who, I understand, from some of her Men that were retaken in the Ca-ira) was unfortunately killed the Morning of the Ship's being captured; by which Misfortune His Majesty has lost a most valuable and experienced Officer, and I have

only to add that he has left a Widow and Four small Children.

I am, SIR,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

W. HOTHAM.

P. S. Enclosed are Lists of the Ships that composed the Two Squadrons on the 14th Instant.

I am now on the Way with the Prizes to St. Fiorenzo, but doubt much whether it will be possible to get them in, as they are disabled, greatly shattered, and very leaky, particularly the Ca-ira.

Return of the Officers and Men killed and wounded on Board the different Ships of the Squadron under Vice-Admiral Hotham's Command, in an Action with the French Fleet off Genoa, the 14th of March, 1795.

Britannia, Captain Holloway.—1 Seaman killed, 18 ditto wounded.

Princess Royal, Captain Purvis.—3 Seamen killed, 7 ditto wounded, 1 Marine or Soldier wounded.

St. George, Captain Foley.—Third Lieutenant Rt. Honeyman wounded, 4 Seamen killed, 12 ditto wounded.

Windfor Castle, Captain Gore.—First Lieutenant Thomas Hawker wounded, 5 Seamen killed, 28 ditto wounded, 1 Marine or Soldier killed; 2 ditto wounded.

Captain, Captain Reeve.—Mr. William Hunter (Master) and First Lieutenant Wilson Rathbone, wounded, 3 Seamen killed, 17 ditto wounded.

Fortitude, Captain Young.—1 Seaman killed, 4 ditto wounded.

Illustrious, Captain Frederick.—Mr. Samuel Moore (Midshipman) wounded, 15 Seamen killed, 68 ditto wounded, 5 Marines or Soldiers killed, 1 ditto wounded.

Egmont, Captain Sutton.—7 Seamen killed, 21 ditto wounded.

Terrible, Captain Campbell.—6 Seamen wounded.

Courageux, Captain Montgomery.—Mr. William Coleman (Midshipman) killed, Mr. John Blackburn (Master) wounded, 8 Seamen killed, 21 ditto wounded, 6 Marines or Soldiers killed, 11 ditto wounded.

Bedford, Captain Gould.—First Lieutenant Miles wounded, 6 Seamen killed, 14 ditto wounded, 1 Marine or Soldier killed, 3 ditto wounded.

Agamemnon, Captain Nelson.—Mr. John Wilson (Master) and 12 Seamen wounded.

Diadem, Captain Tyler.—3 Seamen killed, 7 ditto wounded.

Inconstant, Captain Freemantle.—3 Seamen killed, 14 ditto wounded.

Tancredi, Le Chevalier Caraccioli.—1 Seaman killed, 5 ditto wounded.

Total.—75 killed, 280 wounded.

W. HOTHAM.

ORDER of BATTLE, the 14th of March, 1795.

Frigates, &c.	No.	Ships.	Commanders.	Guns.	Men.	Division.
Lowcrosse, repeating Frigate. Tarleton, Palade, Poulerte and Minerva. Van Squadron, under the Commander in the 2d Post.	1.	Captain,	Capt. Reeve,	74	590	Starboard or Weather Division. Vice-Admiral Goodall.
	2.	Bedford,	Capt. Gould,	74	590	
	3.	Tancredi,	{ Capt. Le Chevalier Caraccioli, }	74	600	
	4.	Princes Royal,	Capt. Purvis,	90	760	
	5.	Agamemnon,	Capt. Nelson,	64	491	
Inconstant, McLinger, to repeat Signals. Centre Squadron, under the Commander in Chief.	6.	Illustrious,	Capt. Frederick,	74	590	Vice-Admiral Hotham. Rear-Admiral Linzee.
	7.	Courageux,	Capt. Montgomery,	74	640	
	8.	Britannia,	Capt. Holloway,	100	859	
	9.	Egmont,	Capt. Sutton,	74	590	
	10.	Windfor Castle,	Capt. Gore,	90	755	
Romulus, repeating Frigate. Fox Cutter. Rear Squadron, under the Commander in the 3d Post.	11.	Diadem,	Capt. Tyler,	64	491	Larboard or Lee Division. Vice-Admiral Sir H. Parkes.
	12.	St. George,	Capt. Foley,	90	760	
	13.	Terrible,	Capt. Campbell,	74	590	
	14.	Fortitude,	Capt. Young,	74	590	

W. HOTHAM.

Names of the Ships which composed the French Fleet on the 14th Day of March, 1795.

NAMES.	Guns.	Complement of Men.	On Board at the Time of Action.
Le Sans Culotte, — — — — —	120	1200	2000
Le Victoire, (late Languedoc) — — — — —	80	950	1300
Le Tonnant, — — — — —	80	950	1300
Le Guerrier, — — — — —	74	730	1000
Le Conquerant, — — — — —	74	730	1000
Le Mereure, — — — — —	74	730	1000
Le Barras, — — — — —	74	730	1000
Le Genereaux, — — — — —	74	730	1000
Le Heureux, — — — — —	74	730	1000
Le Dequesne, — — — — —	74	730	1000
Le Timoleon, (late Commerce de Bourdeaux) — — — — —	74	730	1000
Le Ca-ira, (taken) — — — — —	80	950	1300
Le Censeur, (taken) — — — — —	74	930	1000
L'Alcide, — — — — —	74	930	1000
Le Souverain, — — — — —	74	930	1000
La Vestal, — — — — —	32	250	250
La Minerve, — — — — —	40	300	300
La Thamife, — — — — —	40	300	300
L'Alceste, — — — — —	32	250	250
Scout, — — — — —	18	120	120
La Hazard, — — — — —	20	120	120

W. HOTHAM.

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