

Admiralty-Office, October 23, 1798.

Copy of a Letter from the Earl of St. Vincent, K. B. Admiral of the Blue, &c. to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated off Cadix, the 30th September, 1798.

SIR,

I Enclose Two Letters, representing eminent Services performed by Officers and Part of the Crew of His Majesty's Ships the Goliath and Alcmena.

I am, Sir, &c. &c. &c.

ST. VINCENT.

Goliath, off the Mouth of the Nile, the 25th August, 1798.

SIR,

I Have great Pleasure in informing you, that at Half after One this Morning, the Boats of His Majesty's Ship Goliath, under the Direction of Lieutenant William Debusk, attacked and carried, after an obstinate Action of Fifteen Minutes, the French National Armed Ketch Torride, of Seventy Men, commanded by Mr. Martin Bedat, Lieutenant de Vaisseaux, mounting Three long Eighteen-Pounders, Four Swivels, and well appointed in Small Arms: The Castle of Berquier, under the Guns of which the Torride was moored, also fired for her Support, but the Skill and Courage of Lieutenant Debusk, and those under his Command, was such as to baffle every Attempt to save her. The French Captain is badly wounded, I have therefore sent him on Shore with a Flag of Truce. Lieutenant Debusk is slightly wounded, and One of his People likely to suffer Amputation of his Left Arm; the Prize had Three killed and Ten wounded; several of the Prisoners escaped to the Shore by swimming.

I have, &c. &c. &c.

THO. FOLEY.

To Captain Hood, Zealous.

Alcmena, off Alexandria, Aug. 22, 1798.

SIR,

I Beg Leave to inform you that La Legere French Gun Boat, mounting Two Six Pounders, some Swivels, and Sixty-one Men, was captured this Day by His Majesty's Ship under my Command.

Though every Preparation was made for running alongside and boarding her, to save any Dispatches she might have for Buonaparte, we could not prevent their being thrown overboard, which was however perceived by John Taylor and James Harding, belonging to the Alcmena, who, at the Risk of their Lives, (the Ship then going between Five and Six Knots,) dashed overboard, and saved the whole of them.

Both Men were most fortunately picked up by the Boat that was sent after them, and I conceive it my Duty to make known the very spirited Conduct they shewed on this Occasion, for the good of the Service. I am,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,
GEORGE HOPE.

To Samuel Hood, Esq.
Captain of His Majesty's Ship Zealous.

La Legere is Forty Days from Toulon, bound to Alexandria with Dispatches for General Buonaparte.

Extract of another Letter from the Earl of St. Vincent, K. B. to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated off Cadix, the 28th September, 1798.

Herewith I enclose Copies of Two Letters from Captain Digby, of His Majesty's Ship the Aurora, relating to Captures lately made by that Ship.

His Majesty's Ship Aurora, Lisbon,

My Lord, 19 September, 1798.

I Have the Honor to acquaint you of my Arrival in the Tagus with La Velos Aragonesa, Spanish-built Frigate (Lettre de Marque) of Thirty Guns and Ninety Men, Jafé Eloy Sanchez, Commander, with a Cargo from La Guayra; she sails very fast. A Defect in her Rudder, and Fore-Top-Mast being reefed, prevented her Escape. Many of her Guns were thrown overboard during the Chace on the 16th Instant, Twenty Leagues to the Westward of the Bayones.

I have the Honor to be, &c. &c.

H. DIGBY.

His Majesty's Ship Auroras, River Tagus.

My Lord,

I Have enclosed a List of Vessels taken during my last Cruize*.

La Velos Aragonesa is a very complete Ship, as large as our Four-and-Twenties; left Old Spain the 10th of April last in Company with a Ship of the Line and Two Frigates, that went to Cuba; her Cargo by Register consists of 3702 Fanegas, 87lb. Cocoa, 98466 lb. Coffee, 3381 lb. Indigo. Though very deep, she sails well: the Petterel in Sight at the Commencement of the Chace.

I have the Honor to be, &c. &c.

H. DIGBY.

Earl of St. Vincent, K. B.

&c. &c. &c.

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Copy of a Letter from Captain Graham Moore, Commander of His Majesty's Ship McLampus, to Sir John Borlase Warren, dated at Sea off Lough Swilly, the 16th Instant.

SIR,

I Have the Honor to inform you, that on the 13th Instant, at Midnight, being well up towards St. John's Point, we discovered Two large Ships close to us on our Weather-Beam; on seeing us they hauled up on the opposite Tack; as I had not the least Doubt of their being Two of the Enemy's Frigates, we tacked and closed with the nearest in an Hour, going Ten Knots. After hailing and ordering her to bring-to without Effect, she trying to get away athwart our Stern, we opened such a Fire upon her as completely unrigged her in about Twenty-five Minutes, and forced her to bring-to, and surrender; she proved to be La Resolue French Frigate, commanded by Jean Pierre Barqueau, mounting Forty Guns and Five Hundred Seamen and Troops on board, the other Frigate was L'Immortalité, of Forty-four Guns, Twenty-four Pounders on the Main Deck, and Six Hundred Seamen and Soldiers, she made several Signals whilst we were occupied with her Consort, but gave us no Disturbance.

Both on this Occasion, and during the Action of the 12th, the Officers, Seamen, and Marines, of His

* Omitted to be sent-