

Admiralty-Office, July 27, 1799.

Copy of a Letter from the Earl of Saint Vincent, K. B. Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Mediterranean, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated at Port Mahon, June 14, 1799.

SIR,

I enclose a Letter from Captain Peard, of His Majesty's Ship the Success, recounting a very gallant Exploit performed by the First and Third Lieutenants of that Ship, the Lieutenant of Marines, and the Crews of Three Boats, which appears to me equal to any Enterprize recorded in the Naval History of Great Britain, and will, I am fully persuaded, merit the Approbation of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

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

ST. VINCENT.

Success, Port Mahon, June 13, 1799.

MY LORD,

THE 9th Instant standing towards Cape Creaux, in pursuance of Instructions I had received from Lord Keith, I discovered a Polacca in the N. W. to whom I gave Chace, but in consequence of her being near the Land, I could not prevent her getting into the Harbour of La Selva, a small Port Two Leagues to the Northward of the Cape; however, as she had shewn Spanish Colours, and there being no Appearance of Batteries to protect her, and the Weather very favourable, I was induced to send the Ship's Boats to try to bring her out, with Instructions to Lieutenant Facey, who commanded, to return, should he find any Opposition of Consequence: At Four in the Afternoon, Lieutenant Facey in the Barge, Lieutenant Stupart in the Launch, and Lieutenant Davison of the Marines in the Cutter, all Volunteers on this Occasion, put off from the Ship, and at Eight, after a good Deal of Firing, I had the Satisfaction of seeing the Polacca coming out round a Point, which had kept them from our Sight for more than an Hour. During the Time the Boats were engaged, several of the Enemy's Gun-Boats endeavoured to get in, but were prevented by our Shot. The captured Vessel proved to be the *Bella Aurora*, from Genoa, bound to Barcelona, laden with Cotton, Silk, Rice, &c. mounting Ten Carriage Guns, Nine and Six-Pounders, and having on board when attacked, One Hundred and Thirteen Men: she was surrounded by a Netting, and supported by a small Battery, and a large Body of Musquetry from the Shore.

I am sorry to inform your Lordship that our Loss has been great, Three of those gallant Fellows having been killed on the Spot; and Lieutenant Stupart, an Officer inferior to none in His Majesty's Service for Zeal, Courage, and Ability, with Nine others badly wounded; One of whom died this Morning. The Conduct of Lieutenant Facey, my Lord, who commanded, does him, in my Opinion, great Honour; he appears to have been the First on board, and to have shewn throughout the Whole, great Firmness and good Example.

The Attack, my Lord, was made in the Face of Day by Forty-two Men, in Three Boats, against a Ship armed with One Hundred and Thirteen Men, secured with a Boarding Netting, and supported by a Battery, and a large Body of Men at small Arms on the Shore. I trust, my Lord; this

fair Statement of Facts will be a sufficient Recommendation of Lieutenants Facey and Stupart, and Lieutenant Davison of the Marines, together with the Petty Officers and Men who acted with them.

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

S. PEARD.

Admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, K. B.

Es. Es. Es.

List of Killed and Wounded on board the Boats of His Majesty's Ship Success on the 9th of June, 1799.

Barge.— John Grey, killed.
John Londres, ditto.
James Shaw, (2d) wounded
Thomas Edwards, ditto.
John Hughes, ditto.
William Robinfon, ditto.

Launch.— William Orr, killed.
Lieutenant G. Stupart, wounded.
Richard Hornsby, ditto.
William Madden, ditto.
James Shaw, (2d) ditto.

Cutter.— Thomas Needham, wounded.
William Lamb, ditto.

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Extract of another Letter from Admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, K. B. to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated at Port Mahon, June 17, 1799.

HERewith I enclose the Copy of a Letter from Captain Young, of His Majesty's Ship Ethalion, who has been cruising off the Bay of Palma, the West-End of the Island of Majorca, where he captured and sent into this Port, Seven Vessels; laden with Wheat, Sheep, and other Articles of Provisions; and Three others this Day.

I likewise enclose the Copy of a Letter from Captain Cockburn, of *La Minerva*, giving an Account of his having captured, in Company with the *Emerald*, off the S. E. End of Sardinia, *La Caroline* French Privateer Ship, of Sixteen Guns and Ninety Men, which he has sent into this Port.

His Majesty's Ship Ethalion, off Palma Bay, June 11, 1799.

MY LORD,

IN pursuance of Orders from Captain Halted, of His Majesty's Ship Phoenix, I proceeded off Palma Bay with the Ethalion under my Command. On the Morning of the 10th Instant we discovered a Number of Vessels standing into the Bay, with a light Air at East. The Ethalion being becalmed, I hoisted the Boats out, and sent them, under the Direction of Lieutenant Pym and Jauncey, to endeavour to cut them off from Palma Bay. After a long and fatiguing Row they took Possession of Two Brigs and Five Tartans, from Barcelona, laden with Wheat and Sheep for Majorca.

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

JAMES YOUNG.

To the Rt. Hon. the Earl of St. Vincent, Commander in Chief, Es. Es. Es.

La Minerve, at Sea, June 2, 1799.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the Honor to inform your Lordship that the *Emerald* and *Minerve* captured this Morning, off the S. E. End of Sardinia, *La Caroline*