

Action, and that the Three Corvettes had escaped, from all the Line of Battle Ships having anxiously pressed after the French Admiral. I have the Honor to enclose a Copy of Lord Nelson's Letter.

His Lordship has on this Occasion, as on all others, conducted himself with Skill and great Address in comprehending my Signals, which the State of the Weather led me greatly to suspect. Captain Peard has evinced excellent Management from the Moment he first discovered the Enemy off the South-West End of Sicily until the Period of the Capture; and Lieutenant William Harrington, commanding the Alexander in the Absence of Captain Ball, has shewn great Merit in so ably conducting that Ship in Preference of so superior a Force previously to the Appearance of Lord Nelson; I beg Leave to recommend him to their Lordships' Consideration.

I have detached Ships in all Directions to endeavour to pick up the Stragglers.

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

KEITH.

Foudroyant, at Sea, off Cape di Corvo, Eight Leagues West of Cape Passaro, off Shore about Four Miles, 18th February 1800.

MY LORD,

THIS Morning at Daylight, being in Company with the Ships named in the Margin*, I saw the Alexander in Chace of a Line of Battle Ship, Three Frigates, and a Corvette. At about Eight o'Clock she fired several Shot at One of the Enemy's Frigates, which struck her Colours, and leaving her to be secured by the Ships astern, continued the Chace. I directed Captain Gould, of the Audacious, and the El Corvo Brig to take Charge of this Prize.

At Half past One P. M. the Frigates and Corvette tacked to the Westward, but the Line of Battle Ship not being able to Tack without coming to Action with the Alexander, bore up. The Success being to Leeward, Captain Peard, with great Judgment and Gallantry, lay across his Hawse, and raked him with several Broadfides: in passing the French Ship's Broadside, several Shot struck the Success, by which One Man was killed, and the Master and Eight Men wounded.

At Half past Four, the Foudroyant and Northumberland coming up, the former fired Two Shot, when the French Ship fired her Broadside and struck her Colours. She proved to be the Genereux, of Seventy-four Guns, bearing the Flag of Rear-Admiral Perrée, Commander in Chief of the French Naval Force in the Mediterranean, having a Number of Troops on board from Toulon, bound for the Relief of Malta. I attribute our Success this Day to be principally owing to the extreme good Management of Lieutenant William Harrington, who commands the Alexander in the Absence of Captain Ball; and I am much pleased with the gallant Behaviour of Captain Peard, of the Success, as also with the Alacrity and good Conduct of Captain Martin and Sir Edward Berry.

I have sent Lieutenant Andrew Thompson, First Lieutenant of the Foudroyant, to take Charge of the Genereux, whom I beg Leave to recommend to your Lordship for Promotion; and have sent her

* Northumberland, Audacious, and El Corvo Brig.

under Care of the Northumberland and Alexander to Syracuse, to wait your Lordship's Orders.

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

BRONTE NELSON.

Admiralty-Office, March 29, 1800.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Lord Keith, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Mediterranean, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated at Syracuse, the 26th of February 1800.

SIR,

I Have the Honor to enclose to you, for the Information of their Lordships, an Extract of a Letter received by me from Captain Bowen, of His Majesty's Ship the Caroline, acquainting me with the Capture of a French Privateer: and another from Captain Ballard, of the Pearl, reporting his having driven a Genoese Armed Vessel ashore off Narbonne.

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

KEITH.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Bowen, of His Majesty's Ship Caroline, to Lord Keith, dated at Sea, 16th January 1800.

MY LORD,

I Have the Pleasure to inform your Lordship on the 15th Instant, at Eleven A. M., in Latitude 37 Deg. 45 Min., Longitude 13 Deg. 8 Min. W. I perceived a Vessel, which suspecting to be a Cruiser, I chased, and by eight in the Evening, being alongside, she struck without firing a Gun; she proves to be La Vulture, a French Privateer Ship of Nantz, out Thirty-eight Days, commanded by Citizen Bazill Aug. Ené Laray; she is a remarkably fast Sailer, pierced for Twenty-two Guns, and mounting Four Twelve-Pounders, Two Thirty-six Pound Carronades (Brass), Sixteen Six-Pounders (Iron), Two of which she threw overboard during the Chase; had on board when captured One Hundred and Thirty-seven Men.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Ballard, of His Majesty's Ship Pearl, to Lord Keith, dated Port Mahon, 15th February, 1800.

MY LORD,

ON the 9th Instant, being drove by contrary Winds to the Westward of Marfeilles, I chased and forced on Shore off Narbonne a Genoese Ship Polacre, of Fourteen Guns, where she was totally lost; her Crew stepped from the Vessel on Shore, and the few Settees she had under Convoy got into Adge.

Admiralty-Office, March 29, 1800.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Viscount Duncan, Admiral of the White, and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the North Sea, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated at Yarmouth the 26th Instant.

ARRIVED here this Morning the French Cutter Privateer Perfeverant, mounting Fourteen Guns, and Forty-nine Men, taken by the Cruiser on the Brown Bank the 23d Instant, belonging to Dunkirk, had been out Twenty Days, last from the Texel, where she had been Two Days, but had not captured any Thing. I have received