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Admiralty-Office, April 7, 1801.

Copy of a Letter from Rear-Admiral Duckworth, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels at the Leeward Islands, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated Martinique, 16th February 1801.

SIR,

HAVING learnt, from the Arrival of the Calcutta on the 12th Ultimo, that a Convoy might be soon expected, I dispatched all the Squadron within my reach to cruise to Windward of Barbadoes for its Protection, which has eventually proved fortunate; for the Particulars respecting it I shall refer you to Captain Bradby's Letter of the 6th Instant, herewith transmitted; as also to the Letters of Captain Manby, of the Bourdelois, of the 16th of January and 2d of this Month, on which he writes most fully. I must beg you to call the Attention of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to the meritorious Conduct of Mr. Burrows, Commander of the Ship Jupiter, bound to Jamaica, who, after he had lost Convoy, collected more than Sixty Sail, and made such a Disposition of the largest Ships for the Protection of the Whole, as evidently deterred the small Squadron afterwards brought to Action by the Bourdelois, from attacking them; and by that judicious and public-spirited Step, all but those which branched off for Surinam, &c. arrived safe at Barbadoes.

I am, &c.

J. T. DUCKWORTH.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Bradby, Commander of His Majesty's Ship Andromeda, to Rear-Admiral Duckworth, dated Martinique, the 6th of February 1801.

ENClosed are Two Letters from Captain Manby to me, from which the Service he has rendered to the different Islands, by destroying a Squadron sent out by Victor Hughes, for the Interception of the outward bound Convoy, speaks for itself.

His Majesty's Sloop Bourdelois, January 16, 1801, off Teneriffe.

SIR,

ON the 8th Instant, off Palma, in a Calm, I dispatched Two Boats under the Orders of Lieutenant Barrie, in Pursuit of a strange Sail in the S. E.; after a fatiguing Row of Fourteen Hours, Lieutenant Barrie, at Two P. M. with only one Boat being up with the Chafe, boarded her with

great Gallantry, although opposed by Ten Frenchmen, who kept up a smart Fire from Four Four-Pounders; she proved to be the Adventure of London, one of the Convoy which had parted Company in the first Gale of Wind; the French Prize-Master was wounded by a Cutlass, the only Blood spilt on the Occasion.

Gaining Information from the Adventure, that on the same Day she was captured by the Mouche Privateer, of Bourdeaux; the Mouche likewise captured a valuable Copper-bottomed Ship, bound to Barbadoes, and as both Vessels had Orders to proceed to Santa Cruz, in Teneriffe, I considered it my Duty to push for that Port, and by plying hard with the Sweeps all the 9th, I arrived off Santa Cruz on the Morning of the 10th, when I had the pleasing Satisfaction of rescuing the abovementioned British Ship from the Hands of the Enemy; she proved to be the Aurora of London.

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

Captain Bradby, Andromeda.

T. MANBY.

His Majesty's Ship Bourdelois, Carlisle-Bay,

SIR, Barbadoes, February 1, 1801.

THREE Days ago, being on the Station you ordered me to cruise for the Protection of our scattered Convoy, I acquaint you, for the Information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that at Noon Three Sail were despatched to Windward evidently in chase of us, which I soon discovered to be an Enemy's Squadron, consisting of Two large Brigs and a Schooner:—having shortened Sail, enabled them to be well up with us at Sunset, when I wore round to give them Battle; at Six I had the Honor of bringing the largest Brig to close Action at about Ten Yards Distance, but was not so fortunate with the other Vessels, who fought very shy on the Occasion, on observing we were enabled to fight both Sides at once; Thirty Minutes of close Carronade with my near Opponent completely silenced him, when he hailed that he had struck, and lowered his Topsails, when his Companions made Sail from us: but I think I can safely aver they are sufficiently damaged to spoil their Cruise. My First Lieutenant, Mr. Robert Barrie, on taking Possession of the Prize, found her to be a remarkable fine French National Corvette, called La Curieuse, pierced for Twenty Guns, but

