



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1801.

Admiralty-Office, April 15, 1801.

CAPTAIN OTWAY, of His Majesty's Ship the London, arrived in Town this Morning with Dispatches from Admiral Sir Hyde Parker, Commander in Chief of a Squadron of His Majesty's Ships employed on a particular Service, to Evan Nepean. Esq; dated on board the London, in Copenhagen-Roads, the 6th Instant, of which the following are Copies:

SIR,

YOU will be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that since my Letter of the 23d of March, no Opportunity of Wind offered for going up the Sound until the 25th, when the Wind shifted in a most violent Squall from the S. W. to the N. W. and North, and blew with such Violence, and with so great a Sea, as to render it impossible for any Ship to have weighed her Anchor. The Wind and Sea were even so violent as to oblige many Ships to let go a second Anchor to prevent them from driving, notwithstanding they were riding with Two Cables an End; and, by the Morning, the Wind veered again to the Southward of the West.

On the 30th of last Month, the Wind having come to the Northward, we passed into the Sound with the Fleet, but not before I had assured myself of the hostile Intentions of the Danes to oppose our Passage, as the Papers marked No. 1, 2, 3, and 4, will prove; after this Intercourse, there could be no Doubt remaining of their Determination to resist.

After anchoring about Five or Six Miles from the Island of Huin, I reconnoitred, with Vice Admiral Lord Nelson, and Rear-Admiral Graves, the formidable Line of Ships, Radeaus, pontoons, Galleys, Fire-Ships, and Gun-Boats, flanked and supported by extensive Batteries on the Two Islands called

the Crowns; the largest of which was mounted with from Fifty to Seventy Pieces of Cannon; these were again commanded by Two Ships of Seventy Guns, and a large Frigate in the Inner Road of Copenhagen; and Two Sixty-four Gun Ships (without Masts) were moored on the Flat, on the Starboard Side of the Entrance into the Arsenal.

The Day after, the Wind being Southerly, we again examined their Position, and came to the Resolution of attacking them from the Southward.

Vice-Admiral Lord Nelson, having offered his Services for conducting the Attack, had, some Days before we entered the Sound, shifted his Flag to the Elephant; and after having examined and buoyed the Outer Channel of the Middle Ground, his Lordship proceeded with the Twelve Ships of the Line named in the Margin*, all the Frigates, Bombs, Fire-Ships, and all the small Vessels, and that Evening anchored off Draco Point to make his Disposition for the Attack, and wait for the Wind to the Southward.

It was agreed between us, that the remaining Ships with me should weigh at the same Moment his Lordship did, and menace the Crown Batteries, and the Four Ships of the Line that lay at the Entrance of the Arsenal; as also to cover our disabled Ships as they came out of Action.

I have now the Honor to enclose a Copy of Vice Admiral Lord Nelson's Report to me of the Action on the 2d Instant. His Lordship has stated so fully the Whole of his Proceedings on that Day, as only to leave me the Opportunity to testify my entire Acquiescence and Testimony of the Bravery and Intrepidity with which the Action was supported throughout the Line.

* Elephant, Desiance, Monarch, Bellona, Edgar, Russel, Ganges, Glatton, Isis, Agamemnon, Polyphemus, Ardent.



Was it possible for me to add any Thing to the well-earned Renown of Lord Nelson, it would be by asserting, that his Exertions, great as they have heretofore been, never were carried to a higher Pitch of Zeal for his Country's Service.

I have only to lament that the Sort of Attack, confined within an intricate and narrow Passage, excluded the Ships particularly under my Command from the Opportunity of exhibiting their Valour; but I can, with great Truth assert, that the same Spirit and Zeal animated the Whole of the Fleet; and I trust that the Contest in which we are engaged, will, on some future Day, afford them an Occasion of shewing that the Whole were inspired with the same Spirit, had the Field been sufficiently extensive to have brought it into Action.

It is with the deepest Concern I mention the Loss of Captains Mosse and Riou, Two very brave and gallant Officers, and whose Loss, as I am well informed, will be sensibly felt by the Families they have left behind them; the former, a Wife and Children, the latter, an aged Mother.

From the known Gallantry of Sir Thomas Thompson on former Occasions, the Naval Service will have to regret the Loss of the future Exertions of that brave Officer, whose Leg was shot off.

For all other Particulars I beg Leave to refer their Lordships to Captain Otway, who was with Lord Nelson in the latter Part of the Action, and able to answer any Questions that may be thought necessary to put to him. A Return of the Killed and Wounded you will receive herewith.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

H. PARKER.

P. S. The Promotions and Appointments that have taken Place on this Occasion will be sent by the next Opportunity that offers; but I cannot close this without acquainting their Lordships, that Captain Mosse being killed very early in the Action, Lieutenant John Yelland continued it with the greatest Spirit and good Conduct; I must therefore, in Justice to his Merit, beg Leave to recommend him to their Lordships' Favour.

No. I.

London, in the Categat, 27th March 1801.

FROM the hostile Transaction of the Court of Denmark, sending away His Britannic Majesty's Charge d'Affaires, the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Fleet is anxious to know what the Determination of the Danish Court is, and whether the Commanding Officer of Cronenberg Castle has received Orders to fire upon the British Fleet as they pass into the Sound, as he must deem the firing of the first Gun a Declaration of War on the Part of Denmark.

(Signed) HYDE PARKER.

TRANSLATION, No. II.

ANSWER.

Cronberg, March 28.

IN Answer to the Admiral's honoured Letter, I have to inform him, that no Orders are given to fire on the English Fleet; an Express is gone to Copenhagen, and should any Orders be sent, I shall immediately send an Officer on board to inform the Admiral.

(Signed) STRICKER, Governor.

TRANSLATION, No. III.

Cronberg Castle, 28th March, 1801.

IN Answer to your Excellency's Letter, which I did not receive till the following Day, at Half past Eight, I have the Honor to inform you, that His Majesty the King of Denmark did not send away the Charge d'Affaires, but that upon his own Demand he obtained a Passport.

As a Soldier I cannot meddle with Politicks, but I am not at Liberty to suffer a Fleet, whose Intention is not yet known, to approach the Guns of the Castle which I have the Honour to command.

In case your Excellency should think proper to make any Proposals to His Majesty the King of Denmark, I wish to be informed thereof, before the Fleet approaches nearer to the Castle. An explicit Answer is desired.

(Signed) STRICKER.

ANSWER.

On board the London, 29th March 1801. One A. M.

SIR,

IN Answer to your Excellency's Note just now received, the Undersigned has only to reply, that, finding the Intentions of the Court of Denmark to be hostile against His Britannic Majesty, he regards the Answer as a Declaration of War, and therefore, agreeable to his Instructions, can no longer refrain from Hostilities, however reluctant it may be to his Feelings; but, at the same Time, will be ready to attend to any Proposals of the Court of Denmark for restoring the former Amity and Friendship which had for so many Years subsisted between the Two Courts.

(Signed) H. PARKER.

*His Excellency the Governor of
Cronberg-Castle.*

*Elephant, off Copenhagen,
3d April, 1801.*

SIR,

IN Obedience to your Directions to report the Proceedings of the Squadron named in the Margin*, which you did me the Honor to place under my Command; I beg Leave to inform you that having, by the Assistance of that able Officer, Captain Riou, and the unremitting Exertions of Captain Brisbane, and the Masters of the Amazon and Cruizer, in particular, buoyed the Channel of the Outer Deep, and the Position of the Middle Ground, the Squadron passed in Safety, and anchored off Draco the Evening of the First; and that Yesterday Morning I made the Signal for the Squadron to weigh, and to engage the Danish Line, consisting of Six Sail of the Line, Eleven Floating Batteries, mounting from Twenty-six Twenty-four Pounders, to Eighteen Eighteen Pounders, and one Bomb-Ship, besides Schooner Gun-Vessels.

These were supported by the Crown Islands mounting Eighty-eight Cannon, and Four Sail of the Line moored in the Harbour's Mouth, and some Batteries on the Island of Amak.

The Bomb-Ship and Schooner Gun-Vessels made their Escape, the other Seventeen Sail are sunk,

* Elephant, Defiance, Monarch, Bellona, Edgar, Ruffel, Ganges, Glatton, Isis, Agamemnon Polyphemus, Ardent Amazon, Desirée, Blanche, Alcmenc; Sloops Dart, Arrow, Cruizer, and Harpy; Fire-Ships Zephyr and Otter; Bombs Discovery, Sulphur, Hecla, Explosion, Zebra, Terror, and Volcano.

burnt, or taken, being the Whole of the Danish Line to the Southward of the Crown Islands, after a Battle of Four Hours.

From the very intricate Navigation, the Bellona and Ruffel unfortunately grounded, but although not in the Situation assigned them, yet so placed as to be of great Service. The Agamemnon could not weather the Shoal of the Middle, and was obliged to anchor; but not the smallest Blame can be attached to Captain Fancourt; it was an Event to which all the Ships were liable. These Accidents prevented the Extension of our Line by the Three Ships before mentioned, who would, I am confident, have silenced the Crown Islands, the Two outer Ships in the Harbour's Mouth, and prevented the heavy Loss in the Defiance and Monarch, and which unhappily threw the gallant and good Captain Riou, (to whom I had given the Command of the Frigates and Sloops named in the Margin *, to assist in the Attack of the Ships at the Harbour's Mouth) under a very heavy Fire; the Consequence has been the Death of Captain Riou, and many brave Officers and Men in the Frigates and Sloops.

The Bombs were directed and took their Stations abreast of the Elephant, and threw some Shells into the Arsenal.

Capt. Rose, who volunteered his Services to direct the Gun Brigs, did every Thing that was possible to get them forward, but the Current was too strong for them to be of Service during the Action; but not the less Merit is due to Captain Rose; and, I believe, all the Officers and Crews of the Gun Brigs for their Exertions.

The Boats of those Ships of the Fleet, who were not ordered on the Attack, afforded us every Assistance; and the Officers and Men who were in them, merit my warmest Approbation.

The Desirée took her Station in raking the Southermost Danish Ship of the Line, and performed the greatest Service.

The Action began at Five Minutes past Ten. The Van, led by Captain George Murray of the Edgar, who set a noble Example of Intrepidity, which was as well followed up by every Captain, Officer, and Man in the Squadron.

It is my Duty to state to you the high and distinguished Merit and Gallantry of Rear Admiral Graves.

To Captain Foley, who permitted me the Honor of hoisting my Flag in the Elephant, I feel under the greatest Obligations; his Advice was necessary on many and important Occasions, during the Battle.

I beg Leave to express how much I feel indebted to every Captain, Officer, and Man, for their Zeal and distinguished Bravery on this Occasion. The Honorable Colonel Stewart did me the Favor to be on board the Elephant, and himself, with every Officer and Soldier under his Orders, shared with Pleasure the Toils and Dangers of the Day.

The Loss in such a Battle has naturally been very heavy. Amongst many other brave Officers and Men who were killed, I have with Sorrow to place the Name of Captain Mosse, of the Monarch, who has left a Wife and Six Children to lament his Loss; and, among the Wounded, that of Captain Sir Thomas B. Thompson of the Bellona.

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

NELSON and BRONTE.

* Blanche, Alceme, Dart, Arrow, Zephyr, and Otter.

List of the Killed and Wounded in the Attack on the Enemy's Line of Defence, Batteries, &c. on the 2d of April 1801.

Edgar.—24 Seamen, 2 Marines, 3 Soldiers of the 49th Regiment, killed; 79 Seamen, 17 Marines, 8 Soldiers of the 49th Regiment, wounded. Total 133.

Monarch.—35 Seamen, 12 Marines, 8 Soldiers of the 49th Regiment, killed; 101 Seamen, 34 Marines, 20 Soldiers of the 49th Regiment, wounded. Total 210.

Bellona.—9 Seamen, 2 Marines, killed; 48 Seamen, 10 Marines, 5 Soldiers, Wounded. Total 74.

Defiance.—17 Seamen, 3 Marines, 2 Soldiers, killed; 35 Seamen, 5 Marines, 7 Soldiers, wounded. Total 69.

Isis.—22 Seamen, 4 Marines, 2 Soldiers of the Rifle Corps, killed; 69 Seamen, 13 Marines, 2 Soldiers of the Rifle Corps, wounded. Total 112.

Amazon.—10 Seamen, 1 Marine, killed; 16 Seamen, 5 Marines, wounded. Total 32.

Glatton.—17 killed, 34 wounded. Total 51.

Desirée.—3 wounded.

Blanche.—6 Seamen, 1 Marine, killed; 7 Seamen, 2 Marines, wounded. Total 16.

Polyphemus.—4 Seamen, 1 Marine, killed; 20 Seamen, 4 Marines, wounded. Total 29.

Elephant.—4 Seamen, 3 Marines, 1 Soldier of the Rifle Corps, killed; 8 Seamen, 1 Marine, 2 Soldiers of the Rifle Corps, wounded. Total 19.

Alceme.—5 Seamen, killed; 12 Seamen, 2 Marines, wounded. Total 19.

Dart.—2 killed; 1 wounded. Total 3.

Ganges.—5 killed; 1 missing. Total 6.

Ruffel.—5 Seamen, 1 Marine, wounded. Total 6.

Ardent.—29 Seamen and Marines, killed; 64 Seamen and Marines, wounded. Total 93.

OFFICERS KILLED.

Edgar.—Edmund Johnson, First Lieutenant; Lieutenant Benjamin Spencer, Marines.

Defiance.—George Gray, Lieutenant; Matthew Cobb, Pilot.

Elephant.—Captain James Bawden, of the Cornish Miners, Volunteer in the Rifle Corps; Mr. Henry Yaulden, Master's Mate.

Polyphemus.—Mr. James Bell, Midshipman.

Isis.—Mr. Daniel Lamond, Master; Mr. Henry Long, Lieutenant of the Marines; Mr. George M'Kinlay, Mr. Thomas Ram, Midshipman; Mr. Grant, Lieutenant of the Rifle Corps.

Ganges.—Mr. Robert Stewart, Master.

Dart.—Mr. Edwin Sandys, Lieutenant.

Glatton.—Mr. Alexander Nicholson, Pilot.

Monarch.—Captain Robert Mosse.

Amazon.—Captain Edward Riou; Hon. George Tucket, Midshipman; Mr. Jos. Rose, Captain's Clerk.

Ardent.—Mr. George Hoare, Midshipman.

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

Edgar.—Joshua Johnson, Second Lieutenant; William Goldfinch, Fifth Lieutenant; Mr. Cahagan,

Mr. Whimper, Mr. Ridge, Mr. Proctor, Mr. Domett, Midshipmen, slightly.

Defiance.—Mr. Paterfon, Boatwain; Mr. Gallaway, Midshipman; Mr. Niblet, Captain's Clerk; Mr. Stephenfon, Pilot.

Elephant.—Mr. Robert Gill, Midshipman of the Saint George; Mr. Hugh Mitchel, Midshipman.

Alcmene.—Mr. Henry Baker, Acting Third Lieutenant; Mr. Charles Meredith, Lieutenant of the Marines; Mr. Charles Church, Boatwain; Mr. G. A. Spearing, Master's-Mate; Mr. Pratt, Pilot.

Polyphemus.—Mr. Edward Burr, Boatwain.

Defirée.—Mr. King, Lieutenant, slightly.

Idis.—Mr. Richard Cormack, Lieutenant; Mr. Reuben Pain, Mr. Simon Frazer, Mr. Charles Jones, Midshipmen.

Ganges.—Mr. Isaac Davis, Pilot, badly.

Glatton.—Mr. Tindall, Lieutenant; Mr. Robert Thompson, Master's-Mate; Mr. John Williams, Midshipman.

Monarch.—Mr. William Minchin, Lieutenant; Mr. James Marrie, Lieutenant of Marines; Mr.

James Dennis, Lieutenant of the 49th Regiment; Mr. Henry Swymmer, Mr. W. J. Bowes, Mr. Thomas Harlowe, Mr. George Morgan, Mr. Philip Le Vesconte, Midshipmen; Mr. William Joy, Boatwain.

Bellona.—Sir T. B. Thompson, Bart. Captain, lost his Leg; Mr. Thomas Southey, Lieutenant; Mr. Thomas Wilks, Lieutenant, slightly; Capt. Alexander Sharp, of the 49th Regiment, badly; Mr. James Emmerton, Master's-Mate; Mr. ——— Anderson, Mr. Edward Daubenny, Mr. William Sitford, Mr. Fig, Midshipmen.

Amazon.—Mr. James Harry, Mr. Philip Horn, Master's Mates.

KILLED.		
Officers,	20	
Seamen, Marines, and Soldiers,	234	254
WOUNDED.		
Officers,	48	
Seamen, Marines, and Soldiers,	641	689
Total Killed and Wounded,		943

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