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EXTRAORDINARY.

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Admiralty-Office, August 3, 1801.

I LEUTENANT PHILIP DUMARESO, of His Majesty's Ship *Cæsar*, arrived last Night with Dispatches from Rear-Admiral Sir James Saumarez, Bart. of which the following are Copies :

Cæsar, off Cape Trafalgar, July 13, 1801.

SIR,

IT has pleased the Almighty to crown the Exertions of this Squadron with the most decisive Success over the Enemies of their Country.

The Three French Line of Battle Ships disabled in the Action of the 6th Instant, off Algeziras, were, on the 8th, reinforced by a Squadron of Five Spanish Line of Battle Ships under the Command of Don Juan Joaquin de Moreno, and a French Ship of Seventy-four Guns, wearing a Broad Pendant, besides Three Frigates, and an incredible Number of Gun-boats and other Vessels, and got under Sail Yesterday Morning, together with His Majesty's late Ship *Hannibal*, which they had succeeded in getting off the Shoal on which she struck.

I almost despaired of having a sufficient Force in Readiness to oppose to such Numbers, but, through the great Exertions of Captain Brenton, the Officers and Men belonging to the *Cæsar*, the Ship was in Readiness to warp out of the Mole Yesterday Morning, and got under Weigh immediately after with all the Squadron, except the *Pompée*, which Ship had not had Time to get in her Masts.

Confiding in the Zeal and Intrepidity of the Officers and Men I had the Happiness to serve with, I determined, if possible, to obstruct the Passage of this very powerful Force to Cadiz. Late in the Evening I observed the Enemy's Ships to have cleared Cabareta Point, and at Eight I bore up with the Squadron to stand after them. His Ma-

jefty's Ship *Superb* being stationed a-head of the *Cæsar*, I directed Captain Keats to make Sail and attack the Sternmost Ships in the Enemy's Rear, using his Endeavours to keep in shore of them. At Eleven the *Superb* opened her Fire close to the Enemy's Ships, and on the *Cæsar's* coming up and preparing to engage a Three Decker that had hauled her Wind, she was perceived to have taken Fire, and the Flames having communicated to a Ship to Leeward of her, both were seen in a Blaze, and presented a most awful Sight. No Possibility existing of offering the least Assistance in so distressing a Situation, the *Cæsar* passed to close with the Ship engaged by the *Superb*, but by the cool and determined Fire kept upon her, which must ever reflect the highest Credit on that Ship, the Enemy's Ship was completely silenced, and soon after hauled down her Colours.

The *Venerable* and *Spencer* having at this Time come up, I bore up after the Enemy, who were carrying a Press of Sail standing out of the Straits, and lost Sight of them during the Night. It blew excessively hard till Day-light, and in the Morning the only Ships in Company were the *Venerable* and *Thames* ahead of the *Cæsar*, and one of the French Ships at some Distance from them, standing towards the Shoals of Conil, besides the *Spencer* astern coming up.

All the Ships immediately made Sail with a fresh Breeze, but, as we approached, the Wind suddenly failing, the *Venerable* was alone able to bring her to Action, which Captain Hood did in the most gallant Manner, and had nearly silenced the French Ship, when his Main Mast (which had been before wounded) was unfortunately shot away, and it coming nearly calm, the Enemy's Ship was enabled to get off without any Possibility of following her.

