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Admiralty-Office, December 31, 1805.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Phillips Cosby Handfield, of His Majesty's Ship the *Egyptienne*, to William Marsden, Esq; dated in Cowjand-Bay, the 29th Instant.

SIR,

I HAVE the Honor to enclose, for the Information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a Copy of my Letter to Admiral Cornwallis, respecting the Capture of the French Frigate *La Libre* by His Majesty's Ships *Loire*, Captain F. L. Maitland, and *Egyptienne*, at present under my Command, on the 24th Instant, off Rochefort.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

P. C. HANDFIELD, Lieut.

*His Majesty's Ship Egyptienne,  
off Ushant, Dec. 28, 1805.*

SIR,

I HAVE the Honor to acquaint you, with the Capture of the French Frigate *La Libre*, on the Afternoon of the 24th Instant, off Rochefort, by His Majesty's Ships *La Loire*, Captain F. L. Maitland, and *Egyptienne*, at present under my Command, both coming up at the same Time, and joining in the Attack.

*La Libre*, commanded by Monsieur Descorches, Capitaine de Frigate, mounts Twenty-four Eighteen-Pounder Guns on the Main Deck, Six Thirty-six-Pounder Carronades, and Ten Nine-Pounder Guns on the Quarter Deck and Forecastle, with a Complement of Two Hundred and Eighty Men. She submitted, after an obstinate Defence of Half an Hour, having Twenty Men killed and wounded, and received so much Damage that all her Masts went overboard soon after we took Possession. She sailed from Flushing on the 14th November, in Company with a French Frigate of Forty-eight Guns, from whom she parted in a Gale of Wind, on the 9th Instant, on the Coast of Scotland.

I have much Pleasure in communicating to you the good Conduct of the Officers and Men of the *Egyptienne* in this Affair, and have only to regret that the inferior Force of the Enemy did not give room for the full Extent of their Services. Enclosed is a List of the Wounded, and I am sorry to add that one is since dead.

Captain Maitland, of *La Loire*, has taken Charge

of the Prize, from whom I parted on the 25th, when he had her in tow.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

P. C. HANDFIELD, Lieut.

The Honorable William Cornwallis, Admiral of the Red, and Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.

*A List of the Killed and Wounded on board His Majesty's Ship the-Egyptienne, in the Action with La Libre French Frigate, the 24th of December, 1805.*

None killed.

*Wounded.*

Mr. Thomas Robinson, Boatwain, slightly.  
William Thinn, Seaman, dangerously, (since dead.)  
John Williams, Seaman, badly.  
John Davis, Seaman, slightly.  
Thomas Lucas, Seaman, slightly.  
John Strutton, Quarter-Master, slightly.  
James M'Guire, Royal Marine, badly.  
James Evans, Royal Marine, slightly.

(Signed) P. C. HANDFIELD, Lieut.

*War-Office, December 31, 1805.*

*7th Regiment of Dragoon Guards*, Quarter-Master John Jennings to be Paymaster, vice Patten, deceased.  
*3d Regiment of Dragoons*, Cornet T. B. Walpole to be Lieutenant, without Purchase.  
*15th Regiment of Light Dragoons*, Cornet Arthur Heywood to be Lieutenant, by Purchase, vice Moray, promoted in the 46th Regiment.  
*17th Ditto*, Captain Archibald Ross, from the 38th Foot, to be Captain of a Troop, vice Werge, who exchanges.  
*21st Ditto*, Cornet William Vaudrey to be Lieutenant, without Purchase.  
Cornet James Dunbar to be Lieutenant, without Purchase.  
*1st Regiment of Foot Guards*, Ensign James Gunthorpe, from the 24th Foot, to be Ensign, without Purchase, vice Thompson, who resigns.  
*5th Regiment of Foot*, Richard Weyland, Gent. to be Ensign, by Purchase, vice Lane, promoted in the 3d Foot.  
*15th Ditto*, Lieutenant Edward Davies, from the 11th Foot, to be Captain of a Company, without Purchase.