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Admiralty-Office, March 24, 1806.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are Copies, from Vice-Admiral Sir John Thomas Duckworth, K. B. commanding a Squadron of His Majesty's Ships, addressed to William Marsden, Esq; and brought to England by Captain Nathaniel Day Cochrane, were Yesterday received at the Admiralty:

Superb, to Leeward of the Town of St. Domingue, about 12 Leagues, Feb. 7, 1806.

AS I feel it highly momentous for His Majesty's Service, that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty should have the earliest Information of the Movements of the Squadron under my Command, and as I have no other Vessel than the Kingfisher that I feel justified in dispatching, I hope neither their Lordships or Vice-Admiral Lord Collingwood will deem me defective in my Duty towards his Lordship by addressing you on the happy Event of Yesterday; and as you will receive my Letter of the 3d Instant herewith, I shall only say, I lost not a Moment in getting through the Mona Passage, and on the 5th in the Afternoon was joined by the Magicienne, with a further Corroboration from various Vessels spoken, of an Enemy's Force of Ten sail of the Line, with as many Frigates and Corvettes, being in these Seas; I therefore continued under easy Sail for the Night, in my Approach off the Town of St. Domingue, having given Orders to Captain Dunn of the Acasta, whose Zeal and Activity I have experienced for a Series of Years, to make Sail with the Magicienne, Captain M'Kenzie, Two Hours before Day-light, to reconnoitre, when

at Six o'Clock the Acasta, to our great Joy, made the Signal for Two of the Enemy's Frigates; and before Seven, for Nine Sail at an Anchor: at Half past, that they were getting under Weigh; the Squadron under my Command then in close Order with all Sail set, and the Superb, bearing my Flag, leading, and approaching fast, so as to discover before Eight o'Clock that the Enemy were in a compact Line, under all Sail, going before the Wind for Cape Nisao, to Windward of Ocoa Bay; and as they consisted of only Five Sail of the Line, Two Frigates, and a Corvette, (which hereafter will be named,) I concluded, from the Information I was in Possession of, that they were endeavouring to form a Junction with their remaining Force, and in consequence shaped my Course to render abortive such Intention, which was completely effected by a little after Nine, so as to make an Action certain. I therefore telegraphed the Squadron, that the principal Object of Attack would be the Admiral and his Seconds; and at Three Quarters past Nine, for the Ships to take Stations for their mutual Support, and engage the Enemy as they got up, and a few Minutes after, to engage as close as possible, when, at a short Period after Ten, the Superb closed upon the Bow of the Alexander, the leading Ship, and commenced the Action; but after three Broadsides, she steered off: the Signal was now made for closer Action, and we were enabled to attack the Admiral in the Imperial, (formerly Le Vengeur,) the Fire of which had been heavy on the Northumberland, bearing the Hon. Rear-Admiral Cochrane's Flag. By this Time, the