

Admiralty-Office, February 7, 1807.

Copy of another Letter from Vice-Admiral Dacres, to William Marsden, Esq; dated at Port Royal, December 10, 1806.

SIR,

I HAVE the Honour to inclose you, for the Information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the Copy of a Letter I have received from Captain Briggs, of the Orpheus, acquainting me of his having captured the Spanish Schooner Sufanna, of Four Guns, from Campeche to the Havannah, with Merchandize.

I am, &c. J. R. DACRES.

*Orpheus, in the Gulf of Mexico,
13th November, 1806.*

SIR,

I BEG to acquaint you, that on the 12th Instant, I fell in with, and after a short Chace, captured the Spanish Schooner Sufanna, of Four Guns, (Two Eights and Two Sixes.) from Campeche to the Havannah, with Merchandize.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. BRIGGS.

To J. R. Dacres, Esq; Vice-Admiral of the White, &c. &c. &c.

Admiralty-Office, February 7, 1807.

Copy of another Letter from Vice-Admiral Dacres, to William Marsden, Esq; dated at Port Royal, December 12, 1806.

SIR,

THEIR Lordships will be concerned to learn, that the inclosed Copy of a Letter from Captain Ayscough, of His Majesty's Ship Success, acquainting me of the Destruction of the Vengeur Felucca-rigged Privateer, of One Gun, and about Fifty Men, by the Boats of that Ship, reports of great a Loss of Killed and Wounded, though great Intrepidity and Perseverance were displayed, very creditable to the Party engaged in it.

I am, &c. J. R. DACRES.

*His Majesty's Ship Success, Luca,
6th December 1805.*

SIR,

I BEG Leave to inform you, that, on the Morning of the 20th of last Month, standing in for the Land to the Eastward of Cumberland Harbour, I observed a small Felucca running into Hidden Port. Mr. W. Duke, the First Lieutenant, volunteered his Services, with Lieut. Charles Spence and Acting Lieut. Dowell O'Reilly. The Barge and Yawl were armed, and instantly dispatched. On their Approach they found her Crew had landed (about Fifty in Number) with their small Arms, and the only long Gun; had lashed the Vessel to the Trees; posted themselves on a Hill close to the Beach, and fired down on our Boats with Grape and Musketry in the most determined Manner. (I am very sorry to say Lieutenant Duke was killed the first Volley.) Lieutenant Spence, who took the Command, informs me it was impossible to stand the continual Fire kept up from our Boats for One Hour and Twenty Minutes, (several of the Enemy having fallen during that Time.) From the Barge being shot through in many Places, Seven wounded Men in the Boats, Lieutenant Spence very properly judged it would be only sacrificing the Lives of the brave Party to attempt the Hill, he therefore ordered the Vessel to be

towed out, which was done from under a very heavy Fire of Grape. By her Journal she appears to be the Vengeur French Privateer, and sailed from the City of St. Domingo the 1st of October, which, from being leaky, owing to Shot-Holes, &c. sunk aftern of the Ship.

Lieutenant Spence speaks in the highest Terms of the Acting Lieutenant O'Reilly, (who has been in that Situation with me above Eight Months,) the Petty Officers, Seamen, and Marines under his Orders.

I cannot omit recommending to your Notice Mr. William Rand Hughes, Master's-Mate, who passed for a Lieutenant, and conducted himself in a very spirited Manner.

With Concern I inclose you a List of the killed, wounded, and missing; and have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) JOHN AYSCOUGH.

To Vice-Admiral Dacres, Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c. Jamaica.

A Return of killed, wounded, and missing in the Boats commanded by Lieutenant Charles Spence, of His Majesty's Ship Success, John Ayscough, Esq; Captain, in Action with the Vengeur French Felucca Privateer, of One Gun and about Fifty Men, on the 20th of November 1806, in Hidden Port, on the Coast of Cuba.

William Duke, First Lieutenant, killed.

Dowell O'Reilly, Acting Lieutenant, wounded in the Leg.

John Frederick, Ordinary, badly wounded in the Thigh.

James Clewer, Able, badly wounded in the Knee-Joint.

Henry Bibby, Ordinary, badly wounded through the Body.

John Hornsby, Able, badly wounded through the Lungs.

Daniel Burns, Landman, slightly wounded in the Fingers.

Jasper Wheeler, Marine, slightly wounded in the Hand.

Anthony Pascall, Able, missing, supposed to have deserted.

Total—1 killed, 7 wounded, and 1 missing.

(Signed) JOHN AYSCOUGH, Captain.
THOMAS DEAR, Surgeon.

Admiralty-Office, February 7, 1807.

Copy of a Letter from the Earl of St. Vincent, K. B. Admiral and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Fleet employed in the Channel, Soundings, &c. to William Marsden, Esq; dated in Town, the 3d Instant.

SIR,

I INCLOSE, for the Information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, Copy of a Letter which I have this Day received from Captain Sir Thomas Lavin, of His Majesty's Ship the Blanche.

I am, &c. ST. VINCENT.

His Majesty's Ship Blanche, off Bourdeaux, January 15, 1807.

MY LORD, I HAVE the Honour to transmit, for your Lordship's Information, a Copy of a Letter I have addressed to Captain Keats, Commander of a Squadron of His Majesty's Ships off Rochfort.

With my accustomed good Fortune I have intercepted the George Washington, and found Cap-