

doubt not will prove a valuable Acquisition to our own Dock Yards.

The Boats of the Ships under that active and valuable Officer Lieutenant Hawkey (of whose enterprising Spirit I had occasion to speak so highly when off Dantzic) have looked into every Creek along the South Coast of the Gulph, without finding any Vessels whatever, and he is now on the opposite with the same View.

P. S. Since writing the above, Lieutenant Hawkey has returned with Three Vessels, captured by the Boats of the Implacable, Melpomene, and Prometheus under his Command, and he reports Eight Sail of Gun-Boats protecting some Ships in Shore, and is very desirous of attacking them, which shall be done, if there is a reasonable Hope of Success.

His Majesty's Ship Implacable, off Percola Point, July 8, 1809.

SIR,

THE Position taken by the Russian Flotilla under Percola Point, seemed so much like a Defiance, that I considered something was necessary to be done, in order to impress these Strangers with that Sense of Respect and Fear, which His Majesty's other Enemies are accustomed to show to the British Flag; I therefore determined to gratify the anxious Wish of Lieutenant Hawkey to lead the Boats of the Ships named in the Margin,* which were assembled by Nine o'Clock last Night, and proceeded with an irresistible Zeal and Intrepidity towards the Enemy, who had the Advantage of local Knowledge, to take a Position of extraordinary Strength within Two Rocks, serving as a Cover to their Wings, and from whence they could pour a destructive Fire of Grape upon our Boats, which, notwithstanding, advanced with perfect Coolness, and never fired a Gun till actually touching the Enemy, when they boarded sword in Hand, and carried all before them.

I believe a more brilliant Achievement does not grace the Records of our Naval History; each Officer was impatient to be the Leader in the Attack, and each Man zealous to emulate their noble Example, and the most complete Success has been the consequence of such determined Bravery; of Eight Gun-Boats, each mounting a Thirty-two, and Twenty-four Pounder, and Forty-six Men; Six have been brought out, and One sunk; and the whole of the Ships and Vessels (Twelve in Number), under their Protection, laden with Powder and Provisions for the Russian Army, brought out, and a large Armed-Ship taken and burnt; I have deeply to lament the Loss of many Men killed and wounded, and especially that most valuable Officer Lieutenant Hawkey, who after taking One Gun-Boat, was killed by a Grape-Shot, in the act of boarding the Second. No Praise from my Pen can do adequate Justice to this lamented young Man; as an Officer, he was active, correct, and zealous, to the highest Degree; the Leader in every Kind of Enterprize, and regardless of Danger; he delighted in whatever could tend to promote the Glory of his Country; his last Words were, "Huzza! push on! England for ever!"

Mr. Hawkey had been away in the Boats on different Services, since last Monday, accompanied by Lieutenant Vernon, whose Conduct in this Affair has been highly exemplary, and shewn him worthy

* Implacable, Bellerophon, Melpomene, and Prometheus.

to be the Companion of so heroic a Man; but while I am induced to mention the Name of Mr. Vernon, from his constant Services with Mr. Hawkey, I feel that every Officer, Seaman, and Marine, has a claim to my warmest Praises, and will, I trust, obtain your favourable Recommendation to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty. Lieutenant Charles Allen of the Bellerophon was the Senior Officer after Mr. Hawkey's Death.

I have just been informed, that Lieutenant Stirling of the Prometheus, who was severely wounded, is since dead; his Conduct in this Affair was very conspicuous, and Captain Forrest speaks highly in praise of the Zeal and Activity of his Services on every Occasion. I am sure you will readily believe that Captain Forrest did not witness the Preparation for this Attack, without feeling an ardent Desire to command it, but I was obliged to resist his pressing Importunity, as a Matter of Justice to Mr. Hawkey.

The Russians have suffered severely in this Conflict, the most moderate Statement makes it appear that Two-thirds of them have been killed and wounded, or jumped overboard. Enclosed is a List of killed and wounded, the Names of the Officers employed, an Account of Vessels captured, and Number of Prisoners.

I have the Honour to be, &c

T. B. MARTIN.

To Vice-Admiral Sir James Saumarez,
Bart. K. B. &c. &c. &c.

A List of Killed and Wounded in the Boats employed under Lieutenant Hawkey, of His Majesty's Ship Implacable, in attacking the Russian Flotilla under Percola Point, 7th July 1809, and also of Officers employed.

IMPLACABLE.

Killed.

Lieutenant Joseph Hawkey.
William Oliver, Ordinary Seaman.
John White, Able Seaman.
Thomas Veryser, Landman.
John Tapscott, Private of Marines.
Joseph Graham, Able Seaman.

Wounded.

Joseph Truman, Quarter-Master.
John Burd, Landman.
William Carr, ditto.
Thomas Reilly, Able Seaman.
Alexander Hutchinson, ditto.
Christopher Banks, Landman.
P. Burn, ditto.
Richard Johnson, Able Seaman.
Richard Jones, ditto.
Edward Flynn, Ordinary Seaman.
Edward Carey, Landman.
Henry Baufield, Private of Marines.
Joseph Taylor, ditto.
Joseph Carr, ditto.
Henry McCubey, ditto.
John Hookins, ditto.
Nath. Evans, ditto.

BELLEROPHON.

Killed.

William Thomas, Landman.
Thomas Chambers, Private of Marines.
John Moreton, ditto.

