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Admiralty-Office, November 27, 1810.

*Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Drury, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the East-Indies, to John Wilson Croker, Esq. dated on board the Cornelia, in Madras Roads, July 12, 1810.*

SIR,

**I** EXPERIENCE much Pleasure in forwarding to you, for the Information of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, Copies of Two Letters received from Lieutenant Augustus Vere Drury, commanding His Majesty's Cutter Sylvia, detailing the Circumstances attending the Capture of a Dutch National Brig, of Eight Guns, with Two Transports, and the Destruction of Three Piratical Prows; and feel happy in the Opportunity of being able to express my Approbation of the Conduct and distinguished Gallantry of this old and deserving Officer, which reflects on him the highest Credit, and will, I trust, recommend him to their Lordships.

The Echo is the Thirteenth Vessel of Force which has recently been taken from the Enemy on the Coast of Java.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. O'B. DRURY.

*His Majesty's Cutter Sylvia, off Angra Point, April 26, 1810.*

SIR,

**PROCEEDING** through the Straits of Sunda, Three separate Attempts were made, by Armed Prows, to stop the Progress of His Majesty's Cutter under my Command; the Position taken by these Vessels was close to the Isle of Cracatoa, one of whom, on the 6th Instant, swept out to the Sylvia, but was soon drove on shore, taken possession of, and finally destroyed, after taking out One Six-Pounder. On the 7th Instant an Armed Prow, of large Dimensions, advanced so close to His Majesty's Cutter, that I judged it necessary to deviate from my Course and destroy this Pirate which resolutely approached. A Boat, under the Command of an Officer, and a Party of Volunteers, proceeded to harass the Enemy, who now endeavoured to escape, but was prevented by the brisk Fire of Musketry kept up by the detached Party, which took possession without sustaining the smallest Loss.

On the 11th Instant a large Lugger, at Anchor under Cracatoa, was seen to get under Weigh, her Movement indicating an hostile Intention; I therefore equipped the Prize, gave her in Command to Mr. Chelnaye, who resolutely met the Enemy's Approach, compelling him to seek Safety by Flight; an Island intervening caused us to lose Sight of the Enemy, therefore weighed Anchor and stood out for the Purpose of supporting the Volunteers, who, I saw on the Sylvia coming up, were on the Point of boarding; the obstinate Refusal of the Enemy to yield, compelled me to open and continue a destructive Fire until the Lugger sunk.

Herewith I have the Honour to transmit you a List of Killed and Wounded, with a Description of the Vessels attacked.

Armed Prow, of 1 Six-Pounder and 30 Men.

Armed Prow, of 2 Six-Pounders and 30 Men; 2 killed, 1 wounded.

Armed Lugger Prow, of 3 Eighteen-Pounders and 72 Men; killed and wounded unknown.

Sylvia—None killed; 8 badly wounded, 1 since dead.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) A. V. DRURY,  
Lieutenant and Commander.

*His Majesty's Cutter Sylvia, off Middleburg's Island, April 27, 1810.*

SIR,

**I HAVE** the Honour to mention to your Excellency, that on the 26th Instant, at Break of Day, Three Armed Brigs with Two Lug-Sail Vessels were discerned under Sail in the Vicinity of Edam Island, harkening towards Batavia. Measures were instantly taken to intercept the Sternmost Vessels, by bringing to close Action the Dutch National Brig D'Echo, of Eight Six-Pounders and Forty-six Men, commanded by Lieutenant Christian Thaarup, who surrendered to His Majesty's Cutter after a sharp Contest of Twenty Minutes, having Three killed and Seven wounded, ourselves sustaining a Loss of Four Men killed and Three wounded.

The Instant that a Separation between the Sylvia and her Prize could be effected, Pursuit was given to the Headmost Brig, which, aided by a favourable Breeze and intervening Shoals, effected their Escape to the Batteries of Unrust, leaving His Majesty's