

six months after the ratification of a definitive treaty of peace; His Royal Highness the Prince Regent is thereupon pleased, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, and by and with the advice of His Majesty's Privy Council, to allow, and doth hereby allow, for the space of six months, to commence from the twenty-fifth day of this instant March, the importation from any port or place whatsoever into any port or place of Great Britain, of any beans, called kidney or French beans, tares, lentiles, calavancies, and all other sorts of pulse; and also of bulls, cows, oxen, calves, sheep, lambs, and swine; and of beef, pork, mutton, veal, and lamb (except salted beef and pork); and of bacon, hams, tongues, butter, cheese, potatoes, rice, sago, sago powder, tapioca, vermicelli, millet seed, poultry, fowls, eggs, game, and sour crout, in any British ship or vessel, or in any other ship or vessel belonging to persons of any kingdom or state in amity with His Majesty, and navigated in any manner whatever, without payment of any duty whatsoever, except in respect to the article of rice, which, when imported, shall be subject to such duties as may by law be payable thereon; provided that a due entry shall be made of all such articles as aforesaid that shall be imported, with the proper officers of the Customs at the port where the same shall be imported, under the penalties and forfeitures mentioned and referred to in the said above-recited Act, passed in the thirty-ninth year of His present Majesty: And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

Chetwynd.

Admiralty-Office, April 2, 1814.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Hayes, of His Majesty's Ship Majestic, addressed to Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren, and a Duplicate transmitted to John Wilson Croker, Esq.

Majestic, at Sea, February 5, 1814.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that in my way from St. Michael's to Madeira, in the execution of your orders, at daylight in the morning of the 3d instant, in latitude 37, and longitude 20, being then in chase of a ship in the N. E. supposed to be one of the enemy's cruisers, three ships and a brig were discovered about three leagues off in the S. S. E. of very suspicious appearance, and not answering the private signal, I gave over the pursuit of the ship to the northward and eastward, hoisted my colours, and proceeded to reconnoitre the southern squadron, when two of the ships immediately gave chase to me; on closing within four miles, I discovered them to be two forty-four gun frigates, a ship mounting twenty guns, and a brig, which I could not perceive to be armed. I determined on forcing them to shew their colours (which they appeared to wish to avoid), and for that purpose stood directly for the headmost frigate, when she shortened sail, and brought to, for the other to close. I now made all sail, in the hope of being able to get along side of her before it could be effected, but in this I was foiled, by her wearing, making sail, and joining the other, and taking a

station a-head and a-stern, with the twenty gun ship and brig on their weather bow; they stood to the S. S. E. with larboard studding sails, and all the sail that could be carried; the sternmost hoisting French colours, at a quarter of an hour past two o'clock, she opened a fire from the aftermost guns upon us; at three o'clock, being in a good position (going ten knots an hour), I commenced firing with considerable effect, the shot going either through, or just over the starboard quarter to the fore-castle, over the larboard bow; when at forty-nine minutes past four, she struck her colours to His Majesty's ship Majestic, under my command. The wind increasing, the prize in a state of great confusion, and night fast approaching, obliged me to stay by her; and to suffer the other frigate, with the ship and brig, to escape; the sea got up very fast, so that only one hundred of the prisoners could be exchanged, and even in effecting that, one boat was lost, and two prisoners drowned: this I hope, Sir, will plead my apology for not bringing you the whole of them. The captured ship is the *Terpsichore*, of forty-four guns, eighteen and twenty-four-pounders, and three hundred and twenty men, Breton Francois de Sire, Capitaine de Frigate; the other was the *Atalante*, sister ship, exactly of the same force; they sailed from the Scheldt on the 20th October, and went to L'Orient, from whence they sailed again on the 8th January, in company with *La Yade*, a similar ship, which parted from them in latitude 45. and longitude 16. 40. The enemy had only three men killed, six wounded, and two drowned; the *Majestic* none.

The officers and men I have the honour to command conducted themselves on this occasion as I expected they would do.

Admiralty-Office, April 2, 1814.

Copy of a Letter from Admiral Sir Richard Bickerton, Bart. to John Wilson Croker, Esq. dated at Portsmouth, the 31st March 1814.

SIR,

I FEEL peculiar satisfaction in transmitting, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a letter I have received from Captain Sir Michael Seymour, of the *Hannibal*, enclosing one addressed to him by Captain Palmer, of His Majesty's ship the *Hebrus*, detailing the capture of the French frigate *L'Etoile*, on the morning of the 27th instant, after an arduous chase of one hundred and twenty miles, and a well fought action of two hours and a quarter, in eight fathoms water, under Cape La Hague.

I entirely concur with Sir Michael Seymour in the opinion he has expressed, and very heartily congratulate their Lordships on an event which will stand amongst the most brilliant of the frigate actions in the records of our country, and does the highest honour to Captain Palmer, the officers and ship's company of the *Hebrus*.

I am, Sir, &c.

R. BICKERTON.

His Majesty's Ship Hannibal, Spithead, March 31, 1814.

SIR,

ENCLOSED I transmit, with the utmost gratification, the letter of the Captain of the *Hebrus*,