

greatest ornaments. I enclose returns of killed and wounded. And if conceived to have trespassed on their Lordships time by this very long letter, hope it will kindly be ascribed to the right cause—an earnest wish that merit may meet its due reward.

I have the honour to be, &c.

JAMES HILLYAR.

P. S. There has not been found a ships book or paper of any description (charts excepted), on board the Essex, or any document relative to the number serving in her previous to the action. Captain Porter informs me, that he had upwards of two hundred and sixty victualled; our prisoners, including forty two wounded, amount to one hundred and sixty one; twenty three were found dead on her decks, three wounded were taken away by Captain Downes of the Essex, jun. a few minutes before the colours were struck, and I believe twenty or thirty reached the shore; the remainder were killed or drowned.

List of Killed and Wounded in His Majesty's Ships undermentioned, in Action with the United States Frigate Essex, on the 28th March 1814.

PHOEBE.

4 killed, 7 wounded.

CHERUB.

1 killed, 3 wounded.

Total—5 killed, 10 wounded.

Names of Officers and Men killed.

PHOEBE.

William Ingram, First Lieutenant.

Thomas Griffiths, able seaman.

Dennis Murphy, able seaman.

William Knowles, able seaman.

CHERUB.

William Derbyshire, marine.

Names of Officers and Men wounded.

CHERUB.

Thomas T. Tucker, Esq. Captain, severely.

John Edwards, corporal of marines, slightly.

Christopher Rafferty, marine, slightly.

PHOEBE.

Robert Bruce, able seaman, severely.

Humphry Jamerson, yeoman of powder room, severely.

Thomas Warren, ordinary seaman, severely.

Thomas Millery, sail-maker, slightly.

George Fieldhouse, marine, severely.

James Evans, marine, slightly.

James Madden, sail-makers's-mate.

JAS. HILLYAR, Captain.

Admiralty-Office, July 23, 1814.

VICE-ADMIRAL Sir Alexander Cochrane has transmitted to John Wilson Croker, Esq. a letter

from the Honourable Captain Capel, of His Majesty's ship La Hogue, with one from Captain Coote, of His Majesty's sloop Borer, reporting the successful result of an attack made on the 8th of April, upon the vessels lying in the Connecticut River, by a detachment of seamen and marines from the ships named in the margin*, under the direction of Captain Coote.

The boats proceeded up the river in the night of the 7th, and arrived at Pettipague Point early in the morning of the 8th, where, after a slight opposition from some militia, they destroyed all the vessels afloat or on the stocks within three miles of the place (an account of which was included in the list of vessels taken or destroyed, inserted in the Gazette of the 12th instant), twenty-seven in number, their united burthen exceeding five thousand tons, and three of them large privateers, completely equipped and ready to put to sea. In addition to which were destroyed a number of boats, and a large quantity of naval stores.

Having completed the service, the detachments re-embarked in the boats with the most perfect order and regularity, and after maintaining (as admitted in the American accounts of this affair) the most unexceptionable conduct towards the inhabitants.

The enemy had in the mean time collected a considerable force of troops and militia on the banks of the river, to prevent the return of the boats; and the American commanding officer sent a letter to Captain Coote, summoning him to surrender, to which he returned a verbal answer, expressing surprize at such a summons, and setting the enemy's power to detain him at defiance.

It was accordingly determined to wait until dark before the retreat should be commenced; and the boats then dropping down the river with the stream (without rowing), succeeded in passing the enemy's troops, batteries and armed boats, with the loss of only two men killed and two wounded, notwithstanding a brisk fire kept up on both sides of the river, and returned in triumph to their ships.

The Vice-Admiral, as well as Captain Capel, bestows the highest encomiums on Captain Coote, and all the officers and men employed under him, for the steady valour and great good conduct displayed in the performance, with so small a loss, of service so injurious to the enemy.

Admiralty-Office, July 23, 1814.

REAR-ADMIRAL Griffith has transmitted to John Wilson Croker, Esq. a letter from Captain Pym, of His Majesty's ship Niemen, dated off the River Delaware, the 25th May, stating that, on the 23d, the boats of that ship, under the directions of Lieutenant Tindal, cut out from Little Egg Harbour, in a very gallant manner, three American letter of marque schooners, the Quiz, pierced for fourteen guns, and the Clara and Model, each pierced for twelve.

Four men in the boats were wounded, but were doing well.

* La Hogue, Maidstone, Endymion, Borer.