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Admiralty-Office, August 27, 1814.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Alexander Cochrane, K. K. to John Wilson Croker, Esq. dated at Bermuda the 18th July 1814.

SIR,

I AM happy in again having an opportunity of calling their Lordships' attention to the zeal and activity of the officers of His Majesty's squadron, stationed off New London, under the orders of the Honourable Captain Paget.

The enclosed copy of a letter from him, will acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, of a very gallant and judicious service, performed by a division of boats of the Superb and Nimrod, under the command of Lieutenant Garland of the Superb, whose ability is most conspicuously displayed in the masterly stratagem he resorted to, for bringing off the whole of his force unhurt, in the face of a numerous militia, after having destroyed upwards of twenty five hundred tons of shipping, and a valuable cotton mill belonging to the enemy, situated at some distance up the country.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) ALEX. COCHRANE, Vice-
Admiral and Commander
in Chief.

P. S. I enclose also a list of the shipping destroyed, and the names of the officers employed upon the occasion.

Superb, Martha's Vineyard Sound,
SIR, June 14, 1814.

HAVING received intelligence that a fine ship and brig, just built, the former for a letter of marque, the other for a privateer, were with several other vessels lying at a place called Wareham, at the head of Buzzard's Bay, I proceeded hence and detached the Nimrod through Quick's Hole, with the boats of this ship and two from the sloop to destroy them, under the direction of Lieutenant James Garland, first of the Superb; and I am happy to add, that the service was perfectly performed without any loss on our part, though it

was achieved under critical circumstances. The extreme intricacy of the navigation, rendered it too hazardous to attempt the enterprize without the assistance of day-light, which however necessarily exposed the boats upon their return down the narrow stream, to a fire of musquetry from a numerous militia, which had collected from the vicinity on the first alarm being given. But the foresight and prompt resolution of Lieutenant Garland, completely succeeded in obviating the danger that was thus to be apprehended, for having first destroyed all the vessels and the valuable cotton manufactory, he then ascertained the principal people of the place, and secured them as hostages for a truce, till the boats were conducted back out of the reach of difficulty: the influence that these persons had over the militia that collected and threatened a cross fire upon the boats from both banks of the river, has been fully proved by their abstaining to molest them, and of course the hostages were afterwards relanded at the first convenient spot.

The cotton manufactory had been lately built at great expense, was full of stores, and belonged to a company of sixty merchants of Boston.

I herewith send a list of the vessels, &c. destroyed; and I cannot in justice omit to report to you, the steady and exemplary conduct of the seamen and marines, who though exposed to incessant temptation of liquor, &c. did not in any single instance fail to spurn the offers made to them, and strictly to hold sacred private property.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CHARLES PAGET.

*The Honourable Sir Alexander Cochrane,
K. B. Vice-Admiral, &c. &c. &c.*

List of Vessels, &c. destroyed at Wareham, Head of Buzzard's Bay, by the Boats of His Majesty's Ship Superb and Nimrod Brig, the 13th June 1814.

Ship Pair Trader, of 444 tons, quit new, built for a letter of marque, and pierced for 18 twelve-pounders.