

Officer wounded.

43d Foot—Lieutenant Edward D'Arcy, severely (both legs amputated).

FRED. STOVIN,
Lieut. Col. Dep. Adj. Gen.

Return of the Ordnance taken from the Enemy by a Detachment of the Army acting on the Right Bank of the Mississippi, under the Command of Colonel Thornton.

*Redoubt, Right Bank of the Mississippi,
January 9, 1815.*

1 brass ten-inch howitzer, 2 brass four-pounder field-pieces, 3 twenty-four-pounders, 3 twelve-pounders, 6 nine-pounders, 1 twelve-pounder cannonade, not mounted.

On the howitzer is inscribed, "Taken at the surrender of York Town, 1781."

(Signed) J. MITCHELL,

Major, Captain Royal Artillery.

To Colonel Thornton, &c. &c. &c.

Admiralty-Office, March 9, 1815.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are copies, addressed by Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Alexander Cochrane, G. C. B., &c. to John Wilson Croker, Esq. were yesterday brought to this Office by the Honourable Captain William Henry Percy, late of His Majesty's ship *Hermes*.

SIR,

Arvide, off Isle au Chat, December 16, 1814.

HAVING arrived at the anchorage off Chaudeur Islands on the 8th instant, Captain Gordon, of the *Seahorse* (which ship, with the *Arvide* and *Sophie*, I had sent on from off Pensacola to the anchorage within Isle au Vaisseau), reported to me that two gun-vessels of the enemy, apparently large size sloops, of very light draught of water, had fired at the *Arvide* upon her way down, from within the chain of small islands that run parallel to the coast from Mobile towards Lac Borgne, and having afterwards joined three others, existing in the Lake, were then visible from his mast head.

The Bayou Catalan (or des Pecheurs) at the head of Lac Borgne, being the contemplated point of disembarkation, the distance from the inner anchorage of the frigates and troop ships to the Bayou full sixty miles, and our principal means of transport open boats, it became impossible that any movement of the troops could take place until this formidable flotilla was either captured or destroyed.

Rear-Admiral Malcolm joined me with the fleet upon the 11th instant; and upon the 12th I placed the launches, barges, and pinnaces of the squadron, with Captain Moutressor, of the *Manly*, and Captain Roberts, of the *Meteor*, under the command of Captain Lockyer, of the *Sophie*, and sent them into Lac Borgne, in pursuit of the enemy, while the frigates, troop-ships, and smaller vessels moved into the inner anchorage, each vessel proceeding on until she took the ground.

After an arduous row of thirty-six hours Cap-

tain Lockyer had the good fortune to close with the flotilla, which he attacked with such judgment and determined bravery, that notwithstanding their formidable force, their advantage of a chosen position, and their studied and deliberate preparation, he succeeded in capturing the whole of these vessels, in so serviceable a state as to afford at once the most essential aid to the expedition.

For the particulars of this brilliant affair I refer their Lordships to the accompanying copy of Captain Lockyer's letter, detailing his proceedings, which, I am fully aware their Lordships will duly appreciate.

Captain Lockyer's conduct on this occasion, in which he has been severely wounded, and his long and active services as a commander justly entitle him to their Lordships' protection, and finding it expedient to place this flotilla collectively upon the establishment of a thirty-six gun frigate, I have appointed him to the command thereof.

Captain Moutressor, whom I have placed in the command of the gun vessels, until Captain Lockyer's wounds will admit of his serving, and Captain Roberts, whom I have before had occasion to mention to their Lordships, together with Lieutenants Tatnell and Roberts of the *Tonnant*, and the whole of the officers mentioned by Captain Lockyer, I trust will not fail to meet their Lordships' notice.

Our loss has been severe, particularly in officers, but considering that this successful enterprise has given us the command of Lac Borgne, and considerably reduced our deficiency of transports, the effort has answered my fullest expectations.

I have the honour to be, &c.

ALEXANDER COCHRANE, Vice-Admiral and Commander in Chief.

John Wilson Croker, Esq.

&c. &c. &c.

His Majesty's Sloop Sophie, Cat Island Roads, Dec. 18, 1814.

SIR,

I BEG leave to inform you, that in pursuance of your orders, the boats of the squadron which you did me the honour to place under my command, were formed into three divisions (the first headed by myself, the second by Captain Moutressor, of the *Manly*, and the third by Captain Roberts, of the *Meteor*), and proceeded on the night of the 12th instant from the frigate's anchorage, in quest of the enemy's flotilla.

After a very tedious row of thirty-six hours, during which the enemy attempted to escape from us, the wind fortunately obliged him to anchor off St. Joseph's Island, and nearing him on the morning of the 14th, I discovered his force to consist of five gun-vessels of the largest dimensions, which were moored in a line abreast, with springs on their cables, and boarding nettings triced up, evidently prepared for our reception.

Observing also, as we approached the flotilla, an armed sloop endeavouring to join them, Captain Roberts, who volunteered to take her with part of his division, succeeded in cutting her off and capturing her without much opposition.

About ten o'clock, having closed to within long gun-shot, I directed the boats to come to a grapnel, and the people to get their breakfasts; and as soon