

body of British marines and French small-arm men, for five hours, while immense stores of grain were destroyed.

5. The grain, plank, and other stores considered as contraband of war, being effectually destroyed, the whole party re-embarked without the slightest accident.

6. Lieutenant Mackenzie conducted this service with excellent judgment; and he speaks in high terms of the judicious manner in which First Lieutenant Macnamara, Royal Marine Artillery, posted the Royal Marines and Royal Marine Artillery under his orders, in presence of a superior force, who were thus deterred from venturing to molest them.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. M. LYONS,
Captain.

*Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons,
Bart., G.C.B.*

No. 2 Enclosure.

*Her Majesty's ship, Miranda,
off the town of Gheisk, June 6, 1855.*

SIR, I HAVE the honour to inform you, that on my arrival here this morning with the vessels under my orders, and the launches of the line of battle ships, accompanied by four French steamers, I sent Lieutenant Commander Horton, of the Ardent, with whom was associated a French Officer, to demand the surrender of the place on the same terms as those offered by us at Taganrog and Maranopol. These terms having been wisely acceded to by Colonel Borsikoff, the Military Governor, whose small force was quite inadequate to defend the town, the marines of this ship, under First Lieutenant Macnamara, R.M.A., and a French party, landed and destroyed a vast quantity of hay, stacked on the beach, ready for conveyance to the Crimea, and several thousand quarters of wheat, &c., &c. During this time Lieutenant Horton and the French officer went through the town, and had all the store-houses and magazines thrown open for their inspection, in order to see that no evasion of the terms was attempted, and that all contraband of war was destroyed.

6. On this as well as on the two former similar occasions, Lieutenant Horton conducted the interview with much judgment and firmness.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. M. LYONS,
Captain.

*Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons,
Bart., G.C.B.*

No. 3 Enclosure.

*Her Majesty's ship Miranda,
off Kiten Bay, Sea of Azof,
June 10, 1855.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose a letter from Lieutenant Horton, commanding Her Majesty's ship Ardent, which I received on my arrival here this morning, informing me that he, yesterday, set fire to and destroyed 30,000 sacks of flour, stacked on the beach in Kiten Bay; this flour was the property of the Russian government, and evidently destined for the Russian army in the Crimea.

Lieutenant Horton has performed this service judiciously and effectively.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. LYONS, Captain.

*Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons,
Bart., K.C.B.*

Sub-Enclosure

*Her Majesty's ship Ardent, Kiten Bay,
June 10, 1855.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that, on my arrival here yesterday, having failed of setting fire to the stores of flour by means of shells and carcasses, I took advantage of a favourable state of weather in the evening, to drop the Ardent's bow close in shore, and to veer Mr. Roberts, the gunner, ashore in the dingy, with two men, under cover of musketry from aloft. I had previously ascertained that no ambuscade was there, and had cleared to a distance the 30 or 40 Cossacks who were watching, by firing round shot in their direction.

Mr. Roberts and his party very quickly and effectually fired all the stacks, and I anchored the Ardent off to watch the fires.

The whole stores are now consumed, estimated by the Lynx at 30,000 sacks.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) W. HORTON,
Lieutenant and Commander.

*Captain Lyons,
Her Majesty's ship Miranda.*

No 4 Enclosure.

*Her Majesty's ship Miranda,
off Temrwich, June 9, 1855.*

SIR,

I CANNOT allow the launches of the line-of-battle ships to return to their ships without requesting permission to bring to your notice the zeal and intelligence of the officers in command, and the excellent conduct and good discipline of all employed in them, which has enabled them to render such important service in the Sea of Azof, and which, if I may be permitted to say so without presumption, reflects so much credit on the ships they belong to.

I should also beg leave to bear similar testimony to the merit of the Commanding Officers of the Danube and Sulina, and those under their command, as well as to that of the Officers of Royal Marine Artillery who have been lent to this squadron during the same period.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. M. LYONS,
Captain.

*Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund
Lyons, Bart., G.C.B.,
Commander-in-Chief.*

Royal Albert.—

1st Launch—

Lieutenant J. D. Curtis.

Mr. R. M. Blomfield, Acting Mate.

2nd Launch—

Lieutenant T. M. S. Pasley.

Mr. H. C. Lees, Mate.