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FROM FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23. TO TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27. 1803.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE,—Sept. 24.

Copy of a letter from Sir James Saumarez, K. B. Rear Admiral of the Blue, to Sir Evan Nepean, Bart. dated on board his Majesty's ship Cerberus, off Granville, the 15th instant.

SIR,

I BEG you will please to inform my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that, having been joined by the Terror bomb on the 8th, and the Sulphur on the 12th instant, I embarked on board his Majesty's ship Cerberus, and sailed from Guernsey roads the following morning, with the Charwell and Carteret cutter in company.

It blowing a strong breeze from the eastward, it was not until Tuesday evening I was enabled to get off Granville, when, having had an opportunity to reconnoitre the enemy's gun vessels and other craft within the pier, and the different batteries by which they were protected, I anchored in the Cerberus as near shore as the tide would admit, having only sixteen feet at low water: at eleven the Terror came up, but having also grounded, it was not until two o'clock that CAPTAIN HARDING was enabled to place his ship in the position assigned to her, which he did in a most judicious manner, and opened a brisk fire from his two mortars, which was returned from the mortar and gun batteries on the heights near the town, and also from some guns on the pier, and the gun vessels placed in the entrance.

From the number of well directed shells thrown from the Terror into the pier, and parts of the town, I am persuaded they must have done very considerable damage. The fire was kept up till after five o'clock, when I thought it advisable to recall the Terror, and anchored with this ship and the Charwell a short distance further from the town.

The Sulphur bomb, whose bad sailing prevented her from beating up, joined shortly after, and also anchored. The loss on this occasion was two men wounded by splinters on board the Terror.

A few shells were thrown in the evening, but the tide prevented the ships getting sufficiently near to be attended with much effect.

This morning the squadron were under sail before dawn of day, and all circumstances concurred to enable them to take their respective stations with the utmost precision; the two mortar-vessels opened a brisk and well directed fire soon after five o'clock, which was unremittingly kept up until half past ten, when the falling tide rendered it necessary to withdraw from the attack. Twenty-two gun vessels, that had hauled out of the pier, drew up in a regular line, and kept up a heavy fire, jointly with the batteries around the port, without doing much execution.

The Cerberus, after getting under sail, grounded on one of the sand banks, and remained above three hours before she floated; nine of the gun-boats, perceiving her situation, endeavoured to annoy her, and kept up a heavy fire upon her for some time, but were silenced by the Charwell and Kite, and also by the fire from the Sulphur and Terror bombs, and by the carronade launch of the Cerberus, under the command of LIEUTENANT MANSELL, assisted by the Eling and Carteret, which obliged them to take shelter in their port.

In the performance of this intricate service I cannot too highly applaud the zeal and persevering exertions of all the officers and men under my orders; and I should not do justice to the merits of CAPTAIN SELBY, was I not to acknowledge the able assistance I have received from him since I have had the honor of being in his ship. The steadiness and good conduct of all the officers and men in the Cerberus, during the

time the ship was aground, also do them infinite credit.

The various services on which CAPTAIN McLEOD, of the Sulphur, and CAPTAIN HARDINGE, of the Terror, have been employed this war, are already sufficiently known, but I will venture to assert that in no instance can they have displayed greater zeal and gallantry than on the present occasion; and great praise is also due to LIEUTENANT MACARTNEY and LIEUTENANT SMITH, and the parties of artillery embarked on board the respective bomb-vessels. It is not possible to ascertain the damages the enemy have sustained on this occasion, but as, during the bombardment, very few (if any) of the shells missed taking effect, they must have been very considerable.

I am, &c. JAS. SAUMAREZ.

Copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Montagu to Sir Evan Nepean, Bart. dated on board his Majesty's ship the Utrecht, in the Downs, the 20th inst.

SIR,

Enclosed I have the honour to transmit a duplicate of intelligence received from CAPTAIN OWEN, of his Majesty's ship the Immortalite, the original being sent to the Commander in Chief.

I am, &c.

ROBERT MONTAGU.

His Majesty's ship Immortalite, off St Vallery en Caux, 14th September, 1803.

MY LORD,

In obedience to the order of REAR-ADMIRAL MONTAGU, I, at eight o'clock this morning, in company with the Perseus and Explosion bombs, commenced an attack on the batteries which protect the town of Dieppe, and vessels building there, in number seventeen.

The firing was continued on both sides till past eleven, when the low tide making strong, and the town having taken fire badly in one place, an

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