



THE

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ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, OCT. 20.

Copy of a letter from Vice Admiral Gambier, commander in chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels at Newfoundland, to Sir Evan Nepean, Bart. dated on board the Isis, at St John's, the 20th August 1803.

SIR,

I send herewith an extract of a letter from Captain Malbon, of his Majesty's ship Aurora, giving an account of his having taken possession of the islands of St Pierre and Miquelon, which you will be pleased to lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

I have the honour to be, &c.

J. GAMBIER.

Extract of a letter from Captain Malbon, commanding his Majesty's ship Aurora, to Vice-Admiral Gambier, commander in chief at Newfoundland. &c.

On the 30th June, about four in the morning, I made the island of Peters; and at 5 sent the large cutter and launch, manned and armed with a 12-pound carronade, under the command of Lieut. Richard Longfield Davies, and Lieut. Baillie, of the Marines, to oblige the town to surrender, or begin the attack; between 6 and 7 o'clock they entered the harbour, under a thick fog, and perceiving a boat crossing from one side to the other, brought her to, in which they found the Commissary, who acted as Governor. The confusion that the place was thrown into from the sudden attack prevented the inhabitants from assembling together, and at half past 7 the Commissary surrendered the island by delivering the colours to Lieutenant Davies. From what has been since learned there is no doubt, that, if the inhabitants could have had time to have collected themselves from their different situations, they would have made a strong resistance, having since discovered upwards of one hundred

land of arms among them. Knowing the small force in the boats, I used my utmost efforts to get his Majesty's ship into the harbour, but was as frequently prevented by thick fogs. About eleven, it being somewhat clear, I entered under a heavy press of sail between the rocks, which were not a cable's length across, and at two P.M. brought to with the best bower in fifteen fathom. Found here a French merchant brig (Le Reines des Anges) and a schooner (Le Provoyier), with eleven small schooners, and upwards of one hundred battoes. The island contained fish, stores, salt, and merchant duff of various descriptions, and, upon a rough survey, about 220 men were upon the island and in the boats; but they being so detached several got away in the small craft, one of which, I have since been informed, was taken off Liverpool in Nova Scotia, and another at St Lawrence, in Newfoundland.

On every thing being secured, I ordered one of the fishing schooners to be fitted as a tender, and having her manned and armed with a 12-pound carronade, gave the command to Lieut. Davies, with directions to scour the coast, and take possession of the islands of Great and Little Miquelon, which he did; but no inhabitants or stores were found at either of these places.

J. GAMBIER.

Extract of a letter from Admiral Sir John Colpoys K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's ships at Plymouth, to Sir Evan Nepean, Bart. dated on board the Salvador del Mundo, Hamoze, 18th October 1803.

I acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that L'Aventure, French privateer of 20 guns, and 150 men, captured by the Acacia, is just arrived. The prize-master reports, that the Acacia had also retaken the ship Royal Edward of London, and the St Mary's Planter of Liverpool, both from Jamaica, whose late Commanders are arrived in L'Aventure.

Extract of a letter from Captain Wolfe, of his Majesty's ship L'Aigle, to Sir Evan Nepean, Bart. dated Downs, Oct. 18 1803.

I have to beg you will acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that on the 27th ult. being off Vigo, I captured, after several hours chase, LAerte French brig privateer, of 14 guns, French crew and four powder, and 84 men, some of whom by Bernard Berghman, the crew, on her return from a cruise, having been 65 days from Bourdeaux. The masts, sails, and rigging are much torn by our shot, and the man at the helm (the only man suffered on deck) dangerously wounded. I have sent five-wounded prisoners on shore, to the care of the French Consul at Oporto.

WAR-OFFICE, OCT. 20. 1803.

3d Dragoon Guards—Edmund Richard Storey, to be Cornet, by purchase, vice Gwynne promoted, 10th Light Dragoons—George Millbanke, to be Cornet without purchase.

12th—Surgeon Benjamin Robertson, from the 36th foot, to be Surgeon, vice Coffins, promoted on the staff.

14th—Daniel Chapel, to be Cornet, without purchase.

1st Foot Guards—William Bryan Cooke, to be Ensign, by purchase.

3d Foot—Assistant Surgeon Somers Higgins, from the 59th foot, to be Surgeon, vice Evans, appointed to the 72d foot.

5th—Bartholomew Clarke, to be Ensign, without purchase, vice Craig, promoted.

9th—Richard Croad Wade, to be Ensign, by purchase, vice Cooper, promoted.

15th—Cornelius Carlton, to be Ensign, without purchase, vice Barrington, who resigns.

21st—Assistant Surgeon Alexander Robertson to be Surgeon, vice Crofton, promoted.

25th—Charles Stewart to be Assistant Surgeon.

26th—Serjeant Major — Hopkins to be Adjutant, with the rank of Ensign.

28th—Lieut. Gerard Forster, from half pay of the 27th foot to be Lieutenant.

30th—Lieut. Samuel Bircham to be Captain of a Company, without purchase. Robert Ellis to be Ensign.

36th—Lieut. Richard Morgan, from half pay of

[Price Sixpence.]

