

suffered much. Captain Bolton speaks much in praise of Lieutenant Mather, who is wounded.

Several of the schooners and schuyts immediately under the fire of the ships were driven on shore in like manner, and recovered by the army. At eight, the tide falling, and leaving us in little more water than we drew, we were reluctantly obliged to haul off into deeper water to keep afloat, and the enemy's vessels that were not on shore, or too much shattered, were thus able to reach Ostend; these and the Ostend division have hauled into the basin. I have anchored in such a position as to keep an eye on them; and I shall endeavour to close with them again if they move into deeper water. I have to regret that, from the depth of the water in which these vessels move, gun-boats alone can act against them with effect. Four have joined me, and I have sent them in to see what they can do with the Praam that is on shore.

I have great satisfaction in bearing testimony to your Lordship of the gallant and steady conduct of the captains, commanders, officers, seamen, and marines under my orders. Captains Hancock and Mafon bore the brunt of the attack, and continued it for six hours against a great superiority of fire, particularly from the army on shore, the howitzer shells annoying them much. These officers deserve the highest praise I can give them. They speak of the conduct of their Lieutenants, officers, and crews, in terms of warm panegyric. Messrs. Budd and Dalzell from the Antelope acted in the absence of two lieutenants of those ships. Lieutenants Garrety and Patful, commanding the favourite and Stag cutters, did their best with their small guns against greater numbers of greater calibre. Lieutenant Hillier, of the Antelope, gave me all the assistance and support on her quarter-deck his ill state of health would permit. Lieutenant Stokes and Mr Skiffer, acting lieutenant, directed the fire on the lower and main decks with coolness and precision. It would be the highest injustice if I omitted to mention the intrepid conduct of Mr Lewis, the master, Mr Nunn, and Mr Webb, pilots, to whose steadiness, skill, and attention, particularly the former, I shall ever feel myself indebted, for having brought the Antelope into action within the Sands, where certainly the enemy could not expect to be met by a ship of her size; and for having allowed her to continue engaged with Commodore Verhuel to the last minute it was possible to remain in such shoal water with a falling tide. It is but justice to say, the enemy's Commodore pursued a steady course, notwithstanding our fire, and returned it with spirit to the last.

I could not detach open boats into the enemy's line, to pick up those vessels which had struck, and were deserted, mixed as they were with the still firing. Captain Hancock sent me one schuyt that had hauled out of the line and surrendered. She had a Lieutenant and twenty-three soldiers of the 48th regiment, with five Dutch seamen on board. She is so useful here, I cannot part with her yet. Enclosed is a list of our losses, which, though great, is less than might have been expected, owing to the enemy's directing their fire at our masts. The Rattler and the Cruiser have of course suffered most in the latter respect, but are nearly ready for service again. The smoke would not allow us to see the effect of our shot on the enemy; but their

loss, considering the number of them under our guns for so long, must be great in proportion. We see the mast heads above water of three of the schooners, and one of the schuyts, which were sunk. I have the honour to be, &c.

W. SIDNEY SMITH.

The Right Honourable Lord Keith, K. B.
Commander in Chief, &c.

Return of Killed and Wounded on board his Majesty's ships and vessels under the orders of Commodore Sir William Sidney Smith, Knt. &c. in action with the enemy's flotilla on its passage from Flushing to Ostend, 16th May 1804.

Antelope—2 seamen and 1 private marine, wounded.

Penelope—3 seamen, killed, and 4 seamen, wounded.

Amiable—Mr Christie, master mate, Mr Johnson, midshipman, 4 seamen, and 1 boy, killed; Lieutenant W. Mather, Mr Shawell, purser, Mr Conner, midshipman, and 11 seamen, wounded.

Cruiser—1 seaman, killed; Mr George Ellis, clerk, and 3 seamen, wounded.

Rattler—2 seamen, killed, and 5 seamen, wounded.

Total—2 petty officers, 10 seamen, and 1 boy, killed; 1 Lieutenant, 1 purser, 4 petty officers, 25 seamen, and 1 private marine, wounded.

W. SIDNEY SMITH.

WESTMINSTER, May 16.

This day the Lords being met, and the Commons having come, the Royal Assent was given, in virtue of a Commission from his Majesty, to—
an Act for raising the sum of fourteen millions five hundred thousand pounds by way of annuities—an Act for raising a certain sum of money by way of annuities or debentures for Ireland—an Act for granting to his Majesty, until twelve months after the ratification of a Definitive Treaty of Peace, additional duties of Excise on Wine imported into Great Britain—an Act to revive and continue, until the ratification of a Definitive Treaty of Peace, an Act for the more speedy completion of the establishment of Officers in the Militia of Great Britain—an Act for making allowances in certain cases to Subaltern Officers of the Militia—an Act to continue and render more effectual two Acts, for laying a duty of Two Pennies, Scots, on every Scots pint of Ale or Beer brewed for sale, in the town and parish of Dalkeith; for paving, cleansing, and lighting the streets of the said town; and for erecting a new public market therein—and to several English road Acts, and seven private Acts.

WESTMINSTER, May 18

The Royal Assent was given in virtue of a Commission from his Majesty to an Act for granting to his Majesty, during the present war, and for six months after the expiration thereof, by the ratification of a Definitive Treaty of Peace, additional duties on the importation of certain Goods, Wares and Merchandize, into Great Britain; and on Goods, Wares and Merchandize, brought or carried coastwise within Great Britain.

WAR-OFFICE—May 22.

Berwickshire Gentlemen and Yeomanry Cavalry.
James Anderson to be Captain. Cornet George Brown to be Lieutenant, vice Logan. Thomas Jopland to be Cornet.

Dumfriesshire Gentlemen and Yeomanry Cavalry.
Captain Bruce M'Murdo to be Major Commandant, vice J M'Murdo, deceased. Lieutenant Hugh M'Corneil to be Captain. Francis Short to be Lieutenant. Rev. William M'Mo'rine to be Chaplain.

Kirkcubright Gentlemen and Yeomanry Cavalry.
Rev. William Gillespie to be Chaplain.

Annandale and Eskdale Battalion of Volunteer Infantry.
Lieutenant Alexander Craig to be Quarter-Master.

Berwickshire Volunteer Infantry.

Carr Brodie to be Ensign, vice Thompson, resigned; 2d, or Eastern Battalion of Caithness-shire Volunteers.
Ensign William Sinclair to be Lieutenant, vice Staveley, promoted. Ensign Alexander Campbell to be Lieutenant, vice Mackay, promoted. Malcolm Gun to be Ensign. Benjamin Cormack to be ditto.

Inverness-shire Volunteers.

Isle of Sky Northern Battalion—Kenneth Bethune to be Lieutenant, vice M'Crummy, resigned. Rory M'Lean to be Lieutenant, vice M'Donald, resigned.

Peebles-shire Volunteers.

Thomas Henderson to be Ensign.

BANK OF SCOTLAND,

MAY 22, 1804.

WHEREAS by an act passed in this present Session of Parliament, entitled, "An act for the further encreasing the Capital Stock of the Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland," it is enacted, That within three months after passing of the said act, or as soon after as may be, the Court of Ordinary Directors of the said Bank shall appoint a Book to be opened and kept at the Office of the said Bank, for receiving Subscriptions for an additional Capital or Joint Stock, to the extent of Five Hundred Thousand Pounds sterling; in which book every person or persons possessed of any quantity of the present Capital Stock of the said Bank shall be entitled to subscribe for a quantity of the said new additional Stock, in proportion to what he, she, or they, shall be possessed of of the Old Stock at the time of Subscribing, and no more, or for a smaller quantity, if such person or persons so think proper; and in order that no person or persons may be deprived of the benefit intended for them, it is enacted, that it shall be in the power of every Proprietor of the present Capital Stock of the said Company, by a writing under his, her, or their hands, to authorize any person to subscribe for him, her, or them; and the subscription of the person so authorized shall be equally effectual as if the proprietor, who gives such authority, had subscribed with his, her, or their hands.

And it is further enacted, that the privilege and preference of subscribing, as aforesaid, shall be limited to three months from the time of opening the Subscription Book above mentioned.

Therefore, notice is hereby given, that a Book for receiving Subscriptions, in terms of the said act, will be opened upon the 1st day of June ensuing, and kept at the Office of the Bank of Scotland in Edinburgh.

By order of the Court of Directors,
GEO. NEILSON, Sec.

TO THE CREDITORS OF

M'NAUGHT and WILLIAMS, Merchants in Kirkcudbright, and of JOHN M'NAUGHT, one of the Partners of the said Company, as an Individual.

THE said John M'Naught having made an offer of composition and caution to the satisfaction of nine-tenths in number and value of the creditors assembled at the meeting held upon the seventeenth day of May current, being the day immediately after his second examination before the Steward Substitute of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, the trustee hereby appoints another meeting of the creditors to be held within the house of Anthony M'Kenzie, innkeeper in Kirkcudbright, upon Thursday the fourteenth day of June next, at mid-day, for the purpose of deciding upon the said offer of composition.

JOHN NAPIER, Trustee.

Kirkcudbright, May 18. 1804.

TO THE CREDITORS OF

JAMES FORD, Merchant in Dundee.
AT the Meeting held upon the 17th current, a composition of 7s. per pound of his debts was offered by the bankrupt, and unanimously approved of by the creditors present; and another meeting is to be held on Thursday the 14th of June next, at twelve o'clock noon, in the house of George Lowrie, vintner in Dundee, to consider and finally decide on the offer.

TO THE CREDITORS OF

HUGH CRAIG, Merchant in Greenock.
IN consequence of the death of Samuel Huie, the former trustee, two of the Creditors applied to the Court of Session, who appointed the creditors to meet within the house of John Park, vintner in Greenock, upon Saturday the 9th day of June next, at 12 o'clock noon, for the purpose of choosing a new trustee or trustees in succession, on the said Hugh Craig's sequestrated estate, in place of the deceased Samuel Huie: Of which this intimation is given in terms of the statute and the appointment of the Court.