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# Edinburgh Gazette.

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FROM FRIDAY, AUGUST 17. TO TUESDAY, AUGUST 21. 1804.

### ADMIRALTY-OFFICE—August 18. 1804.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Lord Viscount Nelson, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels in the Mediterranean, to William Marden, Esq. dated on board the Victory, off Toulon, June 8. 1804.

SIR—I herewith transmit you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copy of a letter, dated the 3d ultimo, from Captain Corbet, of his Majesty's sloop Bittern, to Captain Schomberg, senior officer at Malta, giving an account of his having, on the 28th of April last, captured the French privateer L'Hirondille, and recaptured the two English merchant ships named in the margin\*, her prizes. The conduct of Captain Corbet, the officers and company of the Bittern, entitles them to my warmest thanks for their very great perseverance and exertions in the capture of the above privateer, which, I understand, is a remarkable fine vessel, and had greatly annoyed our trade in these seas. I am, &c. NELSON & BRONTE.

His Majesty's Ship Bittern, off Cape Passaro, 3d May 1804.

SIR—In execution of your orders of the 27th ultimo, I have great satisfaction in informing you, that on the morning of the 28th, Cape Passaro bearing N. E. eight leagues, I got sight of the privateer you alluded to, then apparently taking possession of two brigs. On our appearance they separated. Thinking the appearance of the weather favourable, I dispatched a boat in chase of each brig, and followed the privateer.

On the evening of the 29th, after a chase of thirty-six hours in a perfect calm, and six hours

\* Mentor and Catharine.

PRICE 6d.

incessant fire from his stern and our bow chasers, he struck, finding the vessel filling fast from a shot hole under water, which we, however, stopped.

She proves to be the L'Hirondille, a very fine cutter, fitted out from Cete, mounting fourteen twelve-pounders, his complement eighty men (many of whom were with prizes), coppered bottom, and just launched.

On the evening of the 27th he had taken (after an action) the King George, Malta Government brig. At the time I had the luck to see him, he had captured the above mentioned brigs, and was in chase of a sloop, which we prevented him boarding.

We received no damage from his fire, (chiefly aimed at our masts), save a twelve-pound shot through our starboard bow, between wind and water, and a few ropes cut.

On hearing of the capture of the King George, (as it still remained calm), I dispatched Lieutenant Nicholas in the launch to Syracuse, hoping to intercept her; but after rowing fifteen leagues, he had the disappointment to find her a few hours arrived. Lieutenant Pettet joined me here yesterday with the boats, having taken the recaptures to Malta. They prove to be the Mentor, of London, and the Catharine, of Liverpool, from Messina to Malta to join convoy, with valuable cargoes.

The persevering exertions of the ship's company deserve mention. They were at the sweeps (to which purpose I had converted all the small spars) for thirty-six hours without intermission, even to meals, in which time they swept the ship sixty miles, without an air of wind. Their con-

duct gives me much reason to regret the disparity of the enemy's force.—I am, &c.

ROBERT CORBET.

C. M. Schomberg, Esq. his Majesty's Ship Madras. Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Sir John Thomas Duckworth, K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels at Jamaica, to William Marden, Esq. dated at Jamaica, the 16th June 1804.

SIR—Herewith you will receive a letter from Captain Inglefield, of his Majesty's brig Hunter, reciting the capture of a small privateer off the east end of this island, which I transmit for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.—I am, &c.

J. T. DUCKWORTH.

His Majesty's sloop Hunter, off the S. E. end of Jamaica, 10th June 1804.

SIR—I have the honour to inform you, his Majesty's sloop Hunter, under my command, fell in with, off the east end of Jamaica, at nine o'clock this morning, and captured, after five hours chase, La Liberté, French privateer schooner, Etienne Rodney, captain, armed with one four-pounder, two swivels, and twenty-five stand of small arms, with thirty-seven men, out fourteen days from St Jago de Cuba, and, I am happy to add, has not captured any vessel since she came out.—I am, &c.

S. H. INGLEFIELD.

Rear-Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth, Commander in Chief, &c. &c. Jamaica.

### WAR-OFFICE—August 18.

GARRISONS.

Major-General Donald McDonald, of the 55th foot, to be Lieutenant-Governor of Fort William, vice Lord Forbes, deceased.

Brigadier-General John Blake, of the 24th foot, to be Lieutenant-Governor of Landguard Fort, vice Singleton, deceased.

