



# Edinburgh Gazette.

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FROM FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5. TO TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9. 1804.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, Oct. 3. 1804.

Copy of a letter from the Right Hon. Lord KEITH, K. B. Admiral of the Blue, &c. to WILLIAM MARSDEN, Esq. dated on board his Majesty's ship the Monarch, off Boulogne, the 3d instant.

SIR,

Their Lordships are aware that my attention has, for some time past, been directed to the object of ascertaining the most effectual mode for annoying the enemy's flotillas at their anchorages in front of their ports, under protection of their land batteries.

Having, on the afternoon of the 1st instant, arrived at this anchorage, and finding the weather promising to be favourable, and about one hundred and fifty of the flotilla on the outside of the pier, I resolved to make an experiment, on a limited scale, of the means of attack which had been provided.

The final arrangements for this purpose were made on the morning of yesterday. The officers named below \* were put in charge of the principal vessels which at this time were to be used. The armed launches, and other boats of the squadron, were appointed to accompany and protect them. The Castor, Greyhound, and some smaller vessels were directed to take up an advanced and convenient anchorage for covering the retreat, giving protection to men who might be wounded, and boats that might be crippled, and for towing off the boats in gene-

\* Officers in charge of the explosion vessels above referred to—

Captains—Macleod, of the Sulphur.  
Jackson, of the Autumn.  
Edwards, of the Fury.  
Collard, of the Railleur.

Lieutenants—Stewart, of the Monarch.  
Lowry, of the Leopard.  
Payne, of the Immortalite.  
Templer, of the Sulphur.

Midshipman—Mr Bartholomew, of the Inflexible.  
Captains Winthrop, of the Ardent, and Owen, of the Immortalite, most zealously and usefully superintended the operations from the southward, and the Hon. Capt. Blackwood, of the Euryalus, from the northward.

KEITH.

ral, in the event of the wind freshening and blowing upon the coast.

The operation commenced at a quarter past nine o'clock last evening, and terminated at a quarter past four this morning, during which time several vessels, prepared for the purpose, were exploded amongst, or very close to the flotilla; but on account of the very great distance at which they lay from each other, no very extensive injury seems to have been sustained, although it is evident that there has been very considerable confusion among them, and that two of the brigs and several of the smaller vessels appear to be missing since yesterday at the close of day. I have great satisfaction in reporting, that, notwithstanding a very heavy discharge of shells, shot, and musketry was kept up by the enemy throughout the night, no casualty whatever, on our part, has been sustained. The enemy made no attempt to oppose their rowing boats to ours.

Their Lordships will not expect that, at the present moment, I am to enter much into detail; but I think it my duty to state to them my conviction that, in the event of any great accumulation of the enemy's force in their roadsteads, an extensive and combined operation of a similar nature will hold forth a reasonable prospect of a successful result.

The conduct of the officers and men, who have been employed on this occasion, deserves my highest commendation: I cannot more forcibly impress their merits upon their Lordships attention, than by remarking, that the service was undertaken, not only in the face of, but immediately under the whole line of the enemy's land batteries, and their field artillery and musketry upon the coast, but also under that of upwards of one hundred and fifty armed vessels, ranged round the inner side of the bay; and that the officers and men who could so deliberately and resolutely advance into the midst of the flotilla, under such circumstances, must be considered worthy of being entrusted with the performance of any service, however difficult or dangerous it

may appear to be, and consequently to be highly deserving of their Lordships protection.

I have the honour to be &c. KEITH.  
William Marsden, Esq.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, Oct. 6.

Copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Viscount NELSON, K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels in the Mediterranean, to WILLIAM MARSDEN, Esq. dated on board his Majesty's ship Victory, at sea, the 7th August 1804.

SIR

I herewith transmit you a copy of a letter from Lieutenant Harding Shaw, commanding his Majesty's brig the Spider, acquainting me with his having, on the 11th ult. captured La Conception French privateer, mounting two brass guns, and manned with forty-seven men, which you will please to lay before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for their information:

I am, &c. NELSON & BRONTE.

His Majesty's brig Spider, Alicata Roads,  
Mr Lord, 12th July 1804.

I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that I yesterday fell in with and captured La Conception French privateer, mounting two brass guns and forty-seven men, Alicata bearing E. N. E. three leagues; fitted out from Ajacia, in Corfica, and sailed from Girgenti yesterday morning; have sent her into Malta, and sent on shore here thirty-three of the prisoners. She has made no capture since her leaving Corfica, which has been about a month.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) HARDING SHAW.

Right Hon. Lord Viscount Nelson, K. B. &c.

Copy of another letter from the Right Honourable Lord Viscount NELSON, K. B. &c. to WILLIAM MARSDEN, Esq. dated on board his Majesty's ship Victory, at sea, 12th August 1804.

SIR,

Herewith I transmit you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copy of a letter from Captain Donnelly, of his Majesty's ship Narcissus, with copy of one to him from Lieutenant Thomson, of the said ship,

[Price 6d.]

