



# Edinburgh Gazette.

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ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, Oct. 23. 1804.

Copy of a letter from the Hon. WILLIAM CORNWALLIS, Admiral of the White, &c. to WILLIAM MARSHEN, Esq; dated on board the Ville de Paris, in Torbay, the 20th of October 1804.

SIR,  
I have the honour to inclose, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copies of the several communications transmitted to me from Captain Moore, of the Indefatigable, giving an account of his proceedings in the execution of the service he was sent upon, in which he has, in company with the Medusa, Lively, and Amphion, succeeded in detaining the Spanish frigates therein named.

Admiral Montague communicated to me the arrival of the Lively at Spithead, on the 17th, with the Fama.

I have the honour to be, &c.  
W. CORNWALLIS.

SIR, Indefatigable, at sea, Oct. 6. 1804.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that I have executed the service you did me the honour to charge me with:

On the morning of the 29th of September, the Indefatigable got off Cadiz; on the 30th, we fell in with the Medusa; Captain Gore having informed me the Amphion was in the Straits' mouth, and that the Triumph was off Gibraltar, and that Sir Robert Barlow meant to go into Cadiz for the trade there, on his way to England; I thought fit to send the Medusa to apprise Sir Robert Barlow of the nature of my order, that he might then judge whether or not he should go into Cadiz; and I directed Captain Gore to rejoin me with the Amphion as soon as possible off Cape St Mary. On the 2d instant, I was joined by the Lively; and on the 3d, by the Medusa and Amphion; the latter having communicated what I thought necessary to Sir Robert Barlow.

Yesterday morning, Cape St Mary bearing N. E. nine leagues, the Medusa made the signal for four sail W. by S. I made the signal for a general

[Price 6d.]

chase; at eight A. M. discovered them to be four large Spanish frigates, which formed the line of battle ahead on our approach, and continued to steer in for Cadiz, the van ship carrying a broad pendant; and the ship next to her a Rear-Admiral's flag; Captain Gore being the headmost ship, placed the Medusa on the weather beam of the Commodore; the Indefatigable took a similar position alongside the Rear-Admiral; the Amphion and Lively each taking an opponent in the same manner, as they came up: After hailing to make them shorten sail, without effect, I fired a shot across the Rear-Admiral's fore-foot, on which he shortened sail; and I sent Lieutenant Ascott, of the Indefatigable, to inform him, that my orders were to detain his squadron; that it was my earnest wish to execute them without bloodshed; but that his determination must be made instantly. After waiting some time, I made the signal for the boat, and fired a shot a-head of the Admiral. As soon as the officer returned with an unsatisfactory answer, I fired another shot a-head of the Admiral, and bore down close on his weather-bow; at this moment the Admiral's second a-stern fired into the Amphion; the Admiral fired into the Indefatigable; and I made the signal for close battle, which was instantly commenced with all the alacrity and vigour of English sailors. In less than ten minutes, La Mercedes, the Admiral's second a-stern, blew up alongside the Amphion, with a tremendous explosion. Capt. Sutton having, with great judgment, and much to my satisfaction, placed himself to leeward of that ship, the escape of the Spanish Admiral's ship, was rendered almost impossible; in less than half an hour she struck, as did the opponent of the Lively. Perceiving at this moment the Spanish Commodore was making off, and seeming to have the heels of the Medusa, I made the signal for the Lively to join in the chase, having before noticed the superior sailing of that ship. Captain Hammond did not lose an instant; and we had the satisfaction, long before sunset, to see from our

mast-head that the only remaining ship had surrendered to the Medusa and Lively.

As soon as our boats had taken possession of the Rear-Admiral, we made sail for the floating fragments of the unfortunate Spanish frigate which blew up: But except forty taken up by the Amphion's boats, all on board perished. This squadron was commanded by Don Joseph Bustamente, Knight of the Order of St James, and a Rear-Admiral. They are from Monte Video, Rio de la Plata, and; from the information of the Captain of the flag ship, contained about four millions of dollars, eight hundred thousand of which were on board the Mercedes which blew up. Other accounts state the quantity of specie to be much greater, public and private, and there is besides much valuable merchandize on board the captured ships. Our loss has been very trifling. I have not yet had the returns from the other ships, but the Indefatigable did not lose a man. The Spaniards suffered chiefly in their rigging, which was our object. The Captains of the different ships, conducted themselves so ably, that no honour could accrue to me but the fortunate accident of being senior officer.

The zeal, activity, and spirit of the officers, seamen, and marines of the squadron is best evinced by the complete manner in which they performed their work. Lieutenants Gore, Parker, and Ascott, of the Indefatigable, and Lieutenants Haviland and Hole, of the marines, gave me that support which their uniform good conduct formerly taught me to rely on. Mr Griffiths, the master's, conduct has my perfect approbation. I presume to recommend, in the strongest manner, Lieutenant John Gore, of the Indefatigable, to your favour and protection.

I have the honour to be, &c.  
GRAHAM MOORE.

Force of the Spanish Squadron.

La Medee, (flag ship)—forty two guns, eighteen pounders on the main deck; and three hundred men, taken; two men killed and ten wounded.

