

of the united force of our respective sovereigns, in so just and honourable a cause.

My letter of the 25th will have acquainted you of the Russian squadron having appeared off Oro road on the 23d. The arrangements for quitting that anchorage, after his Swedish Majesty's ships from Jungfur sound had joined Rear-Admiral Nauckhoff, were completed on the evening of the 24th. Early the next morning the whole force put to sea; soon after the Russian fleet was discovered of Hango Udd, the wind at N. E. Not a moment was lost in giving pursuit, and every sail pressed by his Swedish Majesty's squadron. From the superior sailing of the Centaur and Implacable they were soon in advance, that at the close of the evening the enemy were not far off, and noticed in the greatest disorder, apparently to avoid a general battle. In the morning of the 26th, about five o'clock, the Implacable was enabled to bring the leewardmost of the enemy's line of battle ships to close action, in a brave and gallant manner; and so decided and judicious was this manœuvre executed, that the Russian admiral, who bore up with the whole of his force, could not prevent that marked superiority of discipline and seamanship being eminently distinguished. Although the enemy's ship fought with the greatest bravery, she was silenced in about twenty minutes; and only the near approach of the enemy's whole fleet could have prevented her then falling, her colours and pendant being both down; but I was obliged to make the signal for the Implacable to close me. Captain Martin's letter, stating the brave and gallant conduct of Lieutenant Baldwin, his other officers and men, I send herewith; and it would be needless for me to add more to you on their meritorious conduct. If words of mine could enhance the merit of this brave, worthy, and excellent officer, Captain Martin, I could do it with the utmost heartfelt gratification, and the high esteem I have for him as an officer and a friend, no language can sufficiently express.

The Russian admiral having sent a frigate to tow the disabled ship, again hauled his wind, and the Implacable being ready to make sail, I immediately gave chase, and soon obliged the frigate to cast off her tow, when the Russian admiral was again under the necessity to support her by several of his line-of-battle ships bearing down, and I had every prospect of this bringing on a general action, to avoid which he availed himself of a favourable slant of wind, and entered the port of Rogerswick.

The line-of-battle ship engaged by the Implacable having fallen to leeward, grounded on a shoal just at the entrance of the port; there being then some swell, I had a hope she must have been destroyed, but the wind moderating towards evening, she appeared to ride at her anchor, and exertions made to repair her damage. At sunset, finding the swell abated, and boats sent from the Russian fleet to tow her into port, I directed Captain Webley to stand in and endeavour to cut her off; this was executed in a manner that must ever reflect the highest honour on Captain Webley, the officers and ship's company of the Centaur, for their valour and perseverance in support of my orders. The boats had made a considerable progress, and the enemy's ship was just entering the port, when we had the good fortune to lay her on board; her bowsprit taking the Centaur's fore-rigging, she swept along with her bow grazing the muzzles of our guns, which was the only signal for their discharge, and the enemy's bows were drove in by

this raking fire: when the bowsprit came to the mizen rigging, I ordered it be lashed; this was performed in a most steady manner by the exertions of Captain Webley, Lieutenant Lawless, Mr. Strode the master, and other brave men, under a very heavy fire from the enemy's musquetry, by which, I am sorry to add, Lieutenant Lawless is severely wounded. The ship being in six fathoms water, I had a hope I should have been able to have towed her out in that position, but an anchor had been let go from her unknown to us, which made it impossible to effect it: at this period much valour was displayed on both sides, and several attempts made to board by her bowsprit, but nothing could withstand the cool and determined fire of the marines under Captain Bayley and the other officers, as well as the fire from our stern-chase guns, that in less than half an hour she was obliged to surrender. On this occasion I again received the greatest aid from Captain Martin, who anchored his ship in a position to heave the Centaur off, after she and the prize had grounded, which was fortunately effected at the moment two of the enemy's ships were seen under sail standing towards us, but retreated as they saw the ships extricated from this difficulty.

The prize proved to be the Sewolod, of seventy-four guns, Captain Roodneff: she had so much water in her, and being fast on shore, after taking out the prisoners and wounded men, I was obliged to give orders for her being burnt, which service was completely effected under the direction of Lieutenant Biddulph, of this ship, by seven o'clock in the morning.

I cannot speak too highly of the brave and gallant conduct of Captain Webley, and every officer and man under his command; and I beg leave to recommend to you, for the notice of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, Lieutenant Lawless, for his exertions and gallant conduct, and who has severely suffered on this occasion; and I also must beg leave to recommend Lieutenant Case, the senior officer of this ship.

Herewith you will receive a list of the killed and wounded on board this ship and the Implacable, and from every information that it was possible to collect, that of the enemy's ship captured.

I have the honour to be, &c.

SAM. HOOD.

Sir James Saumarez, Bart. and K. B. Vice-Admiral of the Blue, &c.

P. S. I send herewith a list of the Swedish and Russian squadrons.

His Majesty's Ship Implacable, off Packerort Light-House, August 26, 1808.

The action this morning between the Implacable and the rear ship of the Russian line, was so immediately under your own observation, that it would be superfluous to trouble you with any statement upon that point; but in transmitting a list of killed and wounded, I trust I may be allowed the opportunity to express my thankfulness to the officers and ship's company of the Implacable, for their eager and active exertions to close with the enemy, and the truly noble and splendid conduct which they displayed during the engagement; but it is my duty to acknowledge, in a more particular manner, the great assistance I derived from Mr. Baldwin, the first-lieutenant, and Mr. Moore, the master; and if the fact of our opponent being completely silenced, and his colours (both ensign and pendant) down, when the approach of the whole Russian fleet occasioned your recalling me, can

tend to make the affair worthy of being distinguished by any mark of approval from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, it is impossible their patronage can be bestowed upon a more thoroughly deserving officer than Mr. Baldwin.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) T. B. MARTIN.

To Sir Samuel Hood, K. B. Rear-Admiral of the White, &c.

A Return of the Men killed and wounded on board His Majesty's Ship Centaur, August 26, 1808.

Killed—Peter Jackson, landman. Hendrick Brass, private of Marines. James Hawksford, ditto.

Wounded—Officers—Mr Paul Lawless, first lieutenant, severely. Mr. Morton, boatswain, badly on the thigh and breast.

Petty Officer—John Robinson, yeoman of the sheets, slightly on the back and arm.

Seamen—Thomas Moxey, quarter-gunner, badly in the belly. John Bowden, captain of the fore-castle, severely on the leg. Joseph Daniels, ordinary, severely on the arm. Richard Strangram, ditto, severely on the arm and breast. John Kenny, ditto, slightly on the face and arm. Thomas M'Donald, ditto, severely. Adam Bossey, ditto, slightly on the thigh. John Conway, ditto, badly on the head. John Jefferies, ditto, slightly on the leg. Timothy O'Brien, ditto, slightly on the hand. Thomas Burk, landman, slightly. Michael Canavy, ditto, slightly on the leg. Richard Williams, ditto, slightly on the thigh. John Hudson, ditto, slightly on the neck. Edward Fletcher, ditto, slightly on the buttock. James Smith, ditto, slightly on the hand.

Marines—John Shores, private, badly on the arm. William M'Kendrick, ditto, badly on both thighs. John Gumbleton, ditto, dangerously. Samuel Leach, ditto, severely on the leg. Benjamin Gilbert, ditto, slightly. Duncan M'Donald, ditto, slightly on the leg. James Gaynor, ditto, slightly on the head. William M'Cor-mick, ditto, slightly on the belly.

Total—3 killed and 27 wounded.

(Signed) W. H. WEBLEY, Captain.

A List of Men killed and wounded on board His Majesty's Ship Implacable, August 26, 1808.

Killed—David Coming, ordinary. Robert Miller, quarter-gunner. William Chugg, ditto. Lewis Grouville, ditto. George Quinton, boy of 3d class. Titus Netherwood, Marine.

Wounded—Mr C. rtis Eastmore, severely; thigh since amputated. William Harris, quarter-gunner; arm since amputated. Daniel Morrison, able; arm since amputated. Mat. Johnson, ordinary; amputated finger and thumb. John Dunleavy, landman; fractured leg. John Beck, ditto; contused foot. James Armstrong, marine, slightly. Robert Quayle, ordinary, slightly. Charles Shaw, able, in the head, not severely. Charles Banks, landman; contused thigh. Jos. Pinchett, ordinary; contused thigh. William Everson, landman; rather severely. Mr Thomas Pickerwell, master's-mate, slightly. John Webster, able, slightly in the thigh. Robert Hodges, able, slightly. Val Sutherland, quarter-gunner, not severely. William Alcock, landman; fractured leg. John Edgcombe, able, slightly. John Barbell, ordinary, not severely. Mr Nich. Drew, captain's-clerk, slightly. Thomas Quarm, landman, slightly on the head. Patrick King, ordinary, slightly on the head. Edward Williams, quarter-gunner, in the hand. John Williams (2), ditto; contusion. William Randle, quarter-master's-mate, very dangerously, and not likely to recover. Patrick Brugile, ordinary; badly fractured skull, and not likely to recover.

Total—6 killed and 26 wounded.

(Signed) T. B. Martin, Captain.

A List of the killed and wounded on board His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia's late Ship of War Sewolod, captured by His Majesty's Ship Centaur, on the 26th August 1808, after having been engaged in the Morning of the same Day by His Majesty's Ship Implacable, and afterwards, on her anchoring near the Entrance of the Port of Rogerswick, and apparently on Shore, had One Hundred Sailors and Soldiers put on board her from the said Port, to supply the place of those killed and wounded in the Action by the Implacable.

43 killed and 80 wounded in action with the Implacable.

180 killed and missing in action with the Centaur.

Total—303 killed, wounded, and missing.

(Signed) SAM. HOOD. Centaur, off Rogerswick, August 27, 1808.