

and intrepidity towards the enemy, who had the advantage of local knowledge, to take a position of extraordinary strength within two rocks, serving as a cover to their wings, and from whence they could pour a destructive fire of grape upon our boats, which, notwithstanding, advanced with perfect coolness, and never fired a gun till actually touching the enemy, when they boarded sword in hand, and carried all before them.

I believe a more brilliant achievement does not grace the records of our naval history; each officer was impatient to be the leader in the attack, and each man zealous to emulate their noble example, and the most complete success has been the consequence of such determined bravery; of eight gun boats, each mounting a thirty-two and twenty-four pounder, and forty-six men, six have been brought out, and one sunk; and the whole of the ships and vessels (twelve in number) under their protection, laden with powder and provisions for the Russian army, brought out, and a large armed ship taken and burnt. I have deeply to lament the loss of many men killed and wounded, and especially that most valuable officer Lieutenant Hawkey, who, after taking one gun-boat, was killed by a grape-shot, in the act of boarding the second. No praise from my pen can do adequate justice to this lamented young man; as an officer, he was active, correct, and zealous, to the highest degree; the leader in every kind of enterprise, and regardless of danger; he delighted in whatever could tend to promote the glory of his country; his last words were, "huzza! push on! England for ever!"

Mr Hawkey had been away in the boats on different services, since last Monday, accompanied by Lieutenant Vernon, whose conduct in this affair has been highly exemplary, and shewn him worthy to be the companion of so heroic a man; but while I am induced to mention the name of Mr Vernon, from his constant services with Mr Hawkey, I feel that every officer, seaman, and marine, has a claim to my warmest praises, and will, I trust, obtain your favourable recommendation to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty. Lieutenant Charles Allen of the Bellerophon was the senior officer after Mr Hawkey's death.

I have just been informed, that Lieutenant Stirling of the Prometheus, who was severely wounded, is since dead; his conduct in this affair was very conspicuous, and Captain Forrest speaks highly in praise of the zeal and activity of his services on every occasion. I am sure you will readily believe that Captain Forrest did not witness the preparation for this attack, without feeling an ardent desire to command it; but I was obliged to resist his pressing importunity, as a matter of justice to Mr Hawkey.

The Russians have suffered severely in this conflict; the most moderate statement makes it appear that two-thirds of them have been killed and wounded, or jumped overboard. Inclosed is a list of killed and wounded, the names of the officers employed, an account of vessels captured, and number of prisoners.

I have the honour to be, &c.

T. B. MARTIN.

To Vice-Admiral Sir James Saumarez,
Bart. K. B. &c.

A List of Killed and Wounded in the Boats employed under Lieutenant Hawkey, of his Majesty's ship Implacable, in attacking the Russian Flotilla under Percola Point, 7th July 1809, and also of Officers employed.

IMPLACABLE.

Killed—Lieutenant Joseph Hawkey. William Oliver,

ordinary seaman. John White, able seaman. Thomas Veryfer, landman. John Tapscott, private of marines. Joseph Graham, able seaman.

Wounded—Joseph Truman, quartermaster. John Burd, landman. William Carr, ditto. Thomas Reilly, able seaman. Alexander Hutchinson, ditto. Christopher Banks, landman. P. Burn, ditto. Richard Johnson, able seaman. Richard Jones, ditto. Edward Flynn, ordinary seaman. Edward Carey, landman. Henry Baufield, private of marines. Joseph Taylor, ditto. Joseph Carr, ditto. Henry M'Cube, ditto. John Hookins, ditto. Nath. Evans, ditto.

BELLEROPHON.

Killed—William Thomas, landman. Thomas Chambers, private of marines. John Moreton, ditto.

Wounded—Thomas Elliott, boatswain's-mate. William Howell, able seaman. Edward Ryalls, ditto. Pat. Smith, ordinary seaman. James Kendall, ditto. Neil Asmans, ditto. William Lakeman, sergeant of marines. William West, ditto. Pat. Funnell, private of marines. John Rust, ditto. William Wampy, ditto.

MELPOMENE.

Killed—Mr J. B. Mounteney, midshipman. Elijah Melkin, gunner's-mate. George Matthews, able seaman. Benjamin Crandon, second master. John Cole, private of marines.

Wounded—Henry Sherwin, able seaman. James Hayes, landman. John Pritchard, able seaman. William Davidson, ordinary seaman. George Abell, able seaman. Thomas Alston, ordinary seaman.

PROMETHEUS.

Killed—Lieutenant Stirling. Walker Williams, able seaman. Peter Turner, private of marines.

Wounded—Matthew Vezev, boatswain. Francis La Roche, able seaman. Henry Trawland, ditto.

Total Killed and Wounded.

Implacable—6 killed, 17 wounded.

Bellerophon—3 killed, 11 wounded.

Melpomene—5 killed, 6 wounded.

Prometheus—3 killed, 3 wounded.

Total—17 killed, 37 wounded.

Names of Officers employed.

Implacable—Lieutenant Hawkey. Lieutenant Houghton. Lieutenant Vernon. Lieutenant Cracknell, of the marines. Lieutenant Clarke, ditto.

Bellerophon—Lieutenant Allen. Lieutenant Sheridan. Lieutenant Shekel. Lieutenant Kendall, of the marines. Lieutenant Carrington, ditto.

Melpomene—Lieutenant George Rennie. Lieutenant Robert Gilbert, of the marines. Mr J. B. Mounteney, midshipman.

Prometheus—Lieutenant Stirling.

A List of Vessels captured by his Majesty's ship Implacable, Thomas Byam Austin, Esq. Captain.

Two galliots, names unknown, of 3 men and 90 tons each, from St Petersburg, bound to Revel, laden with naval stores; captured June 30, 1809.

San Simeon, of 6 men and 200 tons, from St Petersburg, bound to Narva, laden with naval stores; captured July 2, 1809.

A vessel, name unknown, of 6 men and 200 tons, from St Petersburg, bound to Narva, laden with naval stores; captured same date.

San Michaelz, Antoni Martinetz, master, of 6 men and 120 tons, from St Petersburg, bound to Narva, laden with naval stores; captured same date.

San Nicholey, Dementz Fenenoff, master, of 6 men and 120 tons, from St Petersburg, bound to Narva, laden with naval stores; captured same date.

A vessel, name unknown, of 6 men and 200 tons, from St Petersburg, bound to Narva, laden with naval stores; captured same date.

San Pietre, Pawell Osprey, master, of 6 men and 200 tons, from St Petersburg, bound to Narva, laden with naval stores; captured same date.

A vessel, name unknown, of 3 men and 50 tons, from Helsingfors, bound to Percola, laden with empty casks; captured July 6, 1809.

A vessel, name unknown, laden with wood; captured July 7, 1809.

Six gun-boats; captured same date.

Two light brigs; captured same date.

Two galliots, one laden with flour and hemp, the other unknown; captured same date.

Four schuyts, one laden with fire-wood, one light, the others unknown; captured same date.

Two galliots, laden with provisions and powder; captured July 8, 1809.

Report of Russian Prisoners of War captured by the Boats of his Majesty's ships Implacable, Bellerophon, Melpomene, and Prometheus, 8th July 1809, in Percola Sound.

Implacable—3 seamen, 1 serjeant, 10 privates, (3 wounded).

Bellerophon—1 captain in the army, 1 midshipman, 9 seamen (3 wounded), 8 serjeants (3 wounded), 1 drummer, 87 privates (42 wounded), of the 21st regiment, or regiment of St Peter.

Melpomene—16 soldiers.

Total—127 prisoners, of whom 51 are wounded. The Russian officer reports 63 killed; and the number drowned is very great.

(Signed) T. B. MARTIN.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Lord GEORGE STUART, of his Majesty's ship the Amiable, addressed to Rear-Admiral Sir RICHARD STRACHAN, and a Duplicate of which has been transmitted to the Honourable WILLIAM WELLESLEY POLE.

His Majesty's Ship L' Amiable, off Cuxhaven,
July 29, 1809.

SIR,
The French troops in Hanover, not content with frequent predatory and piratical incursions in the neighbourhood of Cuxhaven, had the audacity to enter the village of Ritzbuttle with a body of horse at mid-day, on Wednesday the 26th instant, and very narrowly missed making several officers of the squadron prisoners. In consequence I was induced to land a detachment of seamen and marines from the vessels composing the squadron under my orders, for the purpose, if possible, of intercepting them. In the ardour of pursuit we advanced until we got sight of the town of Bremerleke, into which we learnt they had retreated. The information was correct. On entering the town we were assured that the enemy, to the number of about two hundred and fifty, occupied the town of Gessendorf, two miles distant, and further, that it contained a depot of confiscated merchandise. It was resolved instantly to attack it. For this purpose Captain Goate of the Mosquito, advanced with a detachment, while I directed Captain Pettet of the Briseis to take a circuitous route, and take a well constructed battery of four twelve pounders, commanding the river Weser, in flank, while the remainder, under my own immediate directions, headed by Captain Watts, of the Ephira, advanced to attack it in front. The road we had to pass subjected us all to a galling fire of round and grape from the battery, the guns of which were all pointed inwards, and which in return we could only answer by discharges of musketry. Gessendorf, though certainly tenable with the numbers the enemy had opposed to ours, was on the approach of Captain Goate precipitately evacuated. The enemy being previously informed of our approach, had put into requisition a number of light waggons for the transportation of the foot, in the rear of which sixty well mounted cavalry drew up.

The enemy in the battery, seeing us determined, notwithstanding their fire, to carry our point, and that we were making preparations for fording a deep and wide creek in their front, abandoned it, and embarked in boats on the Weser ready for their reception, under a severe fire of musketry from our detachment, with the loss on their part of several killed and wounded. From a fore-knowledge of our intentions on the part of the enemy, we made but four prisoners, the commandant of the battery, Monsieur Le Murche, a Lieutenant, and two inferior officers. The battery guns were burst in pieces, the embrasures demolished, the gun-carriages burnt, together with the magazine,