



# Edinburgh Gazette.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

FROM FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, to TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1809.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, August 26, 1809.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Sir JAMES SAUMAREZ, Bart. K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Baltic, to the Honourable W. W. POLE, dated on board the Victory, off Nargen Island, 31st July 1809.

(Concluded from last Gazette.)

SIR, *Princess Carolina, Aspo, July 26, 1809.*  
Having been informed that the enemy had at this place several gun boats to protect their coasting trade, which is of the greatest consequence in supplying their army, &c. in all parts of Finland, and it having been represented to me by Captain Forrest the probability of their being destroyed, himself having offered in the most handsome manner to command the expedition, which I immediately accepted, and having directed all the boats of his Majesty's ships *Princess Carolina, Minotaur, Cerberus, and Prometheus*, (in all seventeen), armed in the best possible way, to put themselves under the command of Captain Forrest, and to assemble on board the *Prometheus* at six o'clock yesterday evening, I have now the happiness to inform you of a successful attack he made last night about half-past ten o'clock, on four gun boats, three of which he has captured, and a new brig laden with provisions: the gun boats had on board in all one hundred and thirty-seven men, besides twenty-three in the brig. They are very complete, and well found, which I intend sending to you by the *Minotaur*.

Inclosed I have the honour to transmit Captain Forrest's letter on this subject, wherein he speaks in the highest terms of the spirited conduct of all the officers and men employed on this occasion. Were it possible for me to say any thing which could add to the meritorious conduct of so gallant and good an officer as Captain Forrest, I should most willingly do it; but

I trust the success of this brilliant action will do more justice to the intrepidity of every officer and man employed on this service than any language I can possibly use.

I also beg to inclose, for your information, a list of killed and wounded.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CHA. DUDLEY PATER.

*Sir James Saumarez, Bart. Vice-Admiral of the Blue, &c.*

*His Majesty's Sloop Prometheus, Aspo Roads, July 26, 1809.*

SIR,

I am happy to acquaint you, that the endeavours of the boats of the squadron, which you did me the honour to place under my command, for the purpose of capturing or destroying the enemy's gun-boat force of convoys in the neighbourhood, have been crowned with the most complete success. Three gun vessels of large dimensions, of a new construction, being captured, after a sanguinary contest, together with a new armed brig, with soldiers on board, laden with provisions, destined for Abo.

Our loss is severe indeed, as might be expected from the nature of the force, and the extreme obstinacy with which the enemy defended their charge; the crew of one gun boat, No. 62. being to a man killed or dangerously wounded, as you will see by the returns. I cannot find words to express to you the zeal and intrepidity exhibited upon this occasion by all, and the manifest superiority of our seamen when it came to the cutlass. I must leave the circumstance itself to speak the eulogy of the following officers employed under my command, viz.

James Bashford, first Lieutenant of the *Princess Carolina*; — Pette, first Lieutenant, and — Simpson, third Lieutenant, of the *Cerberus*; Cawen Forster, first Lieutenant, and Thomas Finemore, acting lieutenant, of the *Prometheus*: as more adequate to their merits

than any thing I can say in their favour. I cannot too much admire the conduct of Mr. Charles Chambers, Surgeon of the *Prometheus*, who very handsomely accompanied the expedition, with a view, should he escape, to be professionally useful. I sincerely lament, with the country, the under-mentioned gallant and most valuable officers.

*Minotaur*—Lieutenant John James Callanan, killed; Lieutenant William Wilkins, of the royal marines, ditto; George Elvey, midshipman, wounded.

*Prometheus*—Matthew Vezey, boatswain, mortally wounded; Thomas Humble, clerk, killed.

*Princess Carolina*—James Carrington, master's mate, killed.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS FORREST, Captain.

*Captain Charles Dudley Pater, Princess Carolina, Senior Officer of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels in Aspo Harbour.*

[Here follows a return of officers and men killed and wounded on board his Majesty's ships *Princess Carolina, Minotaur, Cerberus, and Prometheus*.]

DOWNING STREET, SEPTEMBER 2, 1809.

A dispatch, of which the following is a copy, was, on the 30th ultimo, received at the office of Lord Viscount Castlereagh, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Lieutenant-General Lord Viscount Wellington, dated Deleytosa, 8th August 1809.

Mr LORD, *Deleytosa, Aug. 8, 1809.*

I apprized your Lordship on the 1st instant, of the advance of a French corps towards the Puerto de Banós, and of the probable embarrassments to the operations of the army, which its arrival at Plasencia would occasion; and these embarrassments having since existed to a

Price Sixpence Halfpenny.

