



THE

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FROM TUESDAY, DEC. 5. TO FRIDAY, DEC. 8. 1797.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, Dec. 5.

Copy of a letter from the Earl of ST VINCENT, K.B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels on the coast of Portugal, to EVAN NEPEAN, Esq. dated on board the Ville de Paris, River Tagus, Nov. 21.

SIR,

Herewith I transmit a letter I have received from Captain Digby, of his Majesty's ship the Aurora, giving an account of captures lately made by that ship.
I am, &c. ST VINCENT.

MY LORD, His Majesty's ship Aurora, Nov. 1797.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that I captured, on the 28th of October, a French ship named L'Aimable Sophie (in ballast), and sent her to Lisbon. On the 29th I took, off Cape Ortegal, three Spanish coasters, which, from their condition, I did not think proper to risk my people on board; I therefore sunk one, made a cartel of another, and sent the third conditionally to Corunna.

On the 16th I captured two Spanish brigs, loaded with hemp, arms, and iron (names unknown); their crews had left them before my boats had got on board. On the 18th one of them was so unfit to equal the weather, that I took my people out and sunk her; at this time lost sight of the other, which I had ordered to make for Lisbon in case of separation.

After a chase of nine hours, I captured yesterday, about six leagues from Cape Roxent, L'Aventure French privateer schooner, nineteen days from Rochelle, mounting 8 four-pounders and 43 men, commanded by Augustin Vildieu. I have the honour to be, &c.

H. DIGBY.

Earl St Vincent, &c.

BY THE KING—A PROCLAMATION,

For a Public Thanksgiving for the many signal and important Naval Victories obtained in the present War.

GEORGE R.

WE, taking into our most serious consideration the indispensable duty which we owe to Almighty God for the manifold and inestimable blessings which these kingdoms have received at his hands, and desiring to manifest to our faithful and loving subjects, and to the whole world, the deep and devout sense which we entertain of his great mercies vouchsafed unto us, by prostrating ourselves before his Divine Majesty, and offering up, in the most public and solemn manner; our praise and thanksgiving for the interposition of his good Providence, in the many signal and important victories obtained by our navy in the course of the present war, have thought fit, by the advice of our Privy Council, to issue this our royal proclamation, hereby appointing and commanding, that a public thanksgiving to Almighty God, for these his mercies, be observed throughout that part of our kingdom of Great Britain called Scotland; upon Tuesday the nineteenth day of December next: And we do strictly charge and command, that the said public thanksgiving be reverently and decently observed by all our loving subjects in Scotland on the said nineteenth day of December next, at they tender the favour of Almighty God, and would avoid his wrath and indignation, and upon pain of such punishment as we may justly inflict on all such as contemn or neglect the performance of so religious a duty. Our will and pleasure is therefore, and we charge, that this our proclamation seen, ye forthwith pass to the Market Cross of Edinburgh, and all other places needful, and there, in our

(R.)

[Price 6d.]

