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FROM *FRIDAY*, AUG. 10. TO *TUESDAY*, AUG. 14. 1798

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, *August 11.*

Copy of a letter from Capt. ROBERT HALL, Commander of his Majesty's sloop Lynx, to EVAN NEPEAN, Esq. dated at sea the 11th of July 1798.

SIR,

Be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that on the 13th of last month, in lat. 28 deg. N. long. 72 deg. W. I captured a small French schooner privateer, called L'Isabelle, of two guns and 30 men; and on the 27th of the same month, in lat. 30½ deg. N. long. 71 deg. W. a French brig privateer, called Le Mentor, of 14 six pounders (six of which she threw overboard in the chase) and 79 men; they were both from Porto Rico, bound to the coast of America on a cruise. Yesterday also recaptured the American ship Liberty, from Philadelphia, bound to Liverpool, which had been taken six days before, a few hours after her getting out of the Delaware.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, *August 11.*

Copy of a letter from Admiral Lord BRIDPORT to EVAN NEPEAN, Esq. dated the 9th August 1798.

I transmit a copy of a letter from Sir Charles Hamilton, Captain of his Majesty's ship Melpomene, on the taking of L'Avanturier corvette brig, for their Lordships information, and which appears to do so much credit to the officers and men employed in the execution of this service.

My LORD, Melpomene, August 4. 1798, off Aberack.

Having determined to make an attack with the boats on the port of Corigiou, where a national brig and several vessels under protection were at anchor, on the

evening of the 3d instant I ordered the boats of his Majesty's ship Melpomene and Childers sloop to be manned and armed, and at 10 P. M. dispatched them, under command of Lieutenant Shortland, who proceeded in the most judicious manner to the attack, which took place about 3 A. M. The badness of the night, from heavy rain, vivid lightning, and frequent squalls, very much favoured the execution of the design. They boarded the brig in different places nearly at the same moment, and carried her, though not without more resistance than such a surprize gave reason to expect. The forts which command this inlet being now alarmed, and the wind having unfortunately veered round to the N. N. W. and blowing fresh directly into the passage, the merchant vessels no longer became an object of acquisition, and the intricacy of the Channel made it doubtful whether the corvette even could be got out: The attempt, however, was made; and after working to windward under a heavy fire from the batteries for upwards of two hours, it was at length with great perseverance effected. The brig appears to be the *Avanturier*, carrying 12 four pounders and 79 men, commanded by Citizen Raffy, Lieutenant de Vaisseau. As no merit can redound to me from this enterprize, I do not hesitate to announce it to your Lordship as one of the most gallant nature, and on which no encomiums of mine can do sufficient justice to the conduct of Lieutenant Shortland, the officers and the men who performed it. Lieutenant Ross of the marines, Mr Boomley, purser of the Childers, and Mess. Morgan, Palmer, and Erskine, particularly distinguished themselves.

Captain O'Bryen, whom I had appointed to cover the boats, gave all the assistance that the circumstances could possibly admit of, and not without great risk, from the badness of the night, and the dangers on the coast.

(R.)

[Price 6d.]

