

under the Direction of Lieutenant Pine, in a Manner that does them infinite Credit, and him every Honour, as a brave Man and an able Officer. The Enemy's Troops occupied the high projecting Rocks all round the Vessels, from whence they kept up an incessant Fire of Musquetry; and the utmost that could be effected at the Moment was to set Fire to the Corvette, (named L'Etourdie, of 16 Guns, Twelve-Pounders, on the Main Deck) and one of the Merchant Brigs, since as the Tide fell the Enemy pressed down on the Sands, close to the Vessels; Lieutenant Pine therefore returned on Board, having received a severe Contusion on the Breast from a Musquet Ball. As the Tide rose again it became practicable to make a second Attempt to burn the remaining Vessels. Lieutenant Pearson was accordingly detached for that Purpose with the Boats, and I am happy to add, his gallant Exertions succeeded to the utmost of my Hopes, notwithstanding the renewed and heavy Fire of Musquetry from the Shore. This Fire was returned with great Spirit and evident good Effect; and I was much pleased with the Conduct of Lieutenant Gosset, in the hired Lagger, and Mr. Knight, in the Diamond's Launch, who covered the Approach and Retreat of the Boats. The Vessels were all burnt except an Armed Lagger, which kept up her Fire to the last.

The Wind and Tide suiting at Ten at Night to come out of the Harbour again, we weighed, and repassed the Point of Herqui, from which we received a few Shot, the Enemy having found Means to restore one of the Guns to Activity: Our Loss, as appears by the enclosed Return, is trifling, considering the Nature of the Enterprize, and the Length of Time we were exposed to the Enemy's Fire. Their's, I am persuaded, must have been great, from the Numbers within the Range of our Shot and Shells. The Conduct of every Officer and Man under my Command meets with my warmest Approbation; it would be superfluous to particularize any others than those I have named; suffice it to say, the characteristic Bravery and Activity of British Seamen never was more conspicuous.

Lieutenant Pine will have the Honour to present their Lordships with the Colours which he struck on the Battery; and I beg Leave to recommend him particularly to their Lordships as a most meritorious Officer.

I have the Honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient humble Servant,
W. SIDNEY SMITH.

Ewan Nepean, Esq; Secretary to the Admiralty.

A Return of the Killed and Wounded belonging to His Majesty's Ship Diamond, in the Three Attacks of the Enemy's Batteries and Shipping in Herqui, the 17th of March, 1796.

Killed, 2 Seamen.

Wounded, First Lieutenant Horace Pine, Lieutenant Carter of the Marines, and 5 Seamen.

W. SIDNEY SMITH.

Lord Chamberlain's Office, March 21, 1796.

Notice is hereby given, that there will be no Drawing-Room at St. James's till Thursday the 7th of April next.

York-House, March 10.

HIS Royal Highness Field-Marshal the Duke of York will have his next Military Levee on Thursday the 7th of April; which will be the last this Season:

Whitehall, March 21.

The King has been pleased to grant the Dignity of a Baronet of the Kingdom of Great Britain to William Bellingham, Esq; and the Heirs Male of his Body lawfully begotten; and in Default of such Issue to the Heirs Male lawfully begotten of the Body of his late Father, Alan Bellingham, of Castle Bellingham, in the County of Louth, in the Kingdom of Ireland; Esq; deceased.

The King has been pleased to grant unto Ann Williams, of Doddlipool in the County of Chester, Spinster, eldest of the Four Daughters and Coheirs of James Williams, late of Nantwich in the County of Chester, Gent. by Ann his Wife, Daughter and sole Heir of Roger Wilbraham, of Dorfold in the County of Chester, Esq; and of Mary his Wife, only Daughter and Heir of Samuel Alfager, Clerk, Rector of Standon in the County of Stafford, His Royal Licence and Authority to assume and use the Surname of Alfager only, pursuant to the Will of Judith Alfager, late of Congleton in the County of Chester, Spinster, deceased, whose Grandfather Ralph Alfager, of the same Place, was elder Brother of Samuel Alfager above named: And also to order that this His Majesty's Concession and Declaration be registered in His College of Arms.

War-Office, March 22, 1796.

Royal Regiment of Horse Guards, Charles Slingsby, Gent. to be Cornet, by Purchase, vice Elley, promoted.

5th Regiment of Dragoon Guards, Lieutenant Dennis Pack, of the 14th Regiment of Dragoons, to be Captain of a Troop, by Purchase.

1st Regiment of Dragoons, Lieutenant L. Fletcher, from the Gloucester Militia, to be Cornet, without Purchase; vice Alexander, promoted.

12th Regiment of Light Dragoons, Major Merryn Archdall to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

Captain Robert Browne to be Major, vice Archdall. Captain James Hare, from the 10th Light Dragoons, to be Major.

To be Captains of Troops,

Lieutenant Pierce Butler, vice Brown.

Captain-Lieutenant Michael Head.

Lieutenant Dunbar Barton, from the 7th Dragoon Guards.

To be Captain-Lieutenant,

Captain ——— Grimstone, from the 27th Foot, vice Head.

To be Lieutenants,

Cornet William Johnstone Harte, vice Butler.

Cornet William Wheeler.

To be Cornet,

Justinian Allton, Gent. without Purchase, vice Harte, promoted.

25th Regiment of Light Dragoons,

To be Lieutenants,

Lieutenant J. H. Dawes, from the Half-Pay of Elford's, vice Stephenson, who exchanges.

Cornet Robert Jenkins, by Purchase, vice Flood, who retires.