

Admiralty-Office, July 4, 1796.

DISPATCHEs, of which the following are Copies, have been received at this Office by Evan Nepean, Esq;

Copy of a Letter from Captain Parr, of His Majesty's Ship Malabar, to Rear-Admiral Sir H. C. Christian, K. B. dated off Demerary, May 13, 1796; transmitted by the Rear-Admiral to Mr. Nepean.

S I R,

IHAVE the Pleasure to inform you, that the Colony of Berbice accepted the same Terms granted to Demerary on the 2d Instant, which I inclose to you, and have the Honor to remain, with great Respect, &c. &c. &c.

THO. PARR.

*Thunderer, Cbot Bay, St. Lucia,
June 1, 1796.*

S I R,

IAM to communicate to you, for the Information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the Island of St. Lucia and it's Dependencies surrendered by Capitulation on the 25th of May, and that the Morne was taken Possession of by His Majesty's Troops on the 26th at Noon; the Terms of Capitulation are herewith transmitted. *

In the Progress of the Siege great Difficulties were to be surmounted, and much Service of Fatigue undertaken. The more effectually to assist the Operations of the Army, I directed Eight Hundred Seamen to land, under the Command of Captain Lane, of the *Astrea*, and Captain Ryves, of the *Bulldog*: The Merit of their Services will be better reported by the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Troops; but I feel it an indispensable Duty to acquaint their Lordships, that the Conduct of the Officers and Seamen equalled my most sanguine Expectations, and that it has been in every Instance highly meritorious.

Captain Lane, of the *Astrea*, is charged with my Dispatches; that Officer having served at St. Lucia from the Moment of my Arrival, will be enabled to afford their Lordships correct Information of the Naval Occurrences connected with the Siege.

The State of the *Astrea*, by Captain Lane's Report to me, is such, that her proceeding to England became a necessary Measure.

Captain Ryves, of the *Bulldog*, will proceed immediately to join his Ship; but I should be unjust to the Merits of his Exertion were I to omit recom-

* Referred to in the Dispatch from Sir Ralph Abercromby.

mending him to their Lordships Notice and Protection.

I stated to their Lordships, in my Letter of the 4th Instant, the Services of Captain Searle, of the *Pelican*, on the first Landing; since that Period he has with unremitting Diligence and Ability effectually blocked the Ports of the Carenage.

The Madras, under the Command of Captain Dilkes, had been, in the first Arrangements, detached to land, and co-operate with a Division of Troops on the Left Wing of the Army anchored for that Purpose at Marrigot des Rosseaux, where his Exertion and Assiduity has been highly commendable: He took Possession of a Point at the Southern Entrance of the Grand Cul de Sac, with great Labour and Perseverance, placed upon the Pinnacle of the Hill Two Eighteen-Pounders and Two Caronades, from which he considerably annoyed the Batteries of Sisseron and Agille. The General wishing to establish Batteries on the Southern Side of the Grand Cul de Sac, Captain Wolley, of the *Arethusa*, was detached to join Captain Dilkes, and directed to land a Proportion of Seamen to assist this Service, which was very speedily and cheerfully executed: More Exertion has not been evinced, and I believe there never has occurred an Instance of more cordial Co-operation than has subsisted between the Army and Navy during this Siege. Great have been the Services of Fatigue, considering the Nature of the Country and the Situation of the Morne, and very rapidly have they been brought to effect the Reduction of the Island.

On the Morning of the Enemy's Attack on the 24th Instant, with a View to repossess themselves of the Advanced Post from the Morne, it became necessary to detach the 14th Regiment to the Support of the Troops employed at that Post, in consequence of which 320 Marines were landed to take the Ground occupied by the 14th. The Conduct of the Marines upon this as upon all other Occasions, was most perfectly correct.

The General's Opinion of the Conduct of the Seamen and Marines will be best understood by the Sentiments expressed in his public Orders, an Extract of which is herewith transmitted.

I transmit a List of the small Vessels found at this Anchorage,

And have the Honor to be,

S I R,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) HUGH C. CHRISTIAN.

Evan Nepean, Esq;