

sider the Efficacy of a Resistance with the Force under your Command.

Humanity is an incumbent Duty on all Men; therefore, to spare an Effusion of Human Blood, I request a Surrender of the Ships under your Command, otherwise it will be my Duty to embrace the earliest Moment of making a serious Attack on them, the Issue of which is not difficult for you to guess.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) G. K. ELPHINSTONE.

His Majesty's Ship Monarch,
Saldanha Bay, August, 16,
1796.

(No. 4.)

To his Excellency the Rear-Admiral, Commander in Chief of the Dutch Ships lying in Saldanha Bay.
S I R.

I AM this Instant honoured with your verbal Answer to my Letter of this Date, and delivered to me by Lieutenant Coffin, of the Monarch. If I understand him right, it is, that a Flag of Truce subsists between your Excellency, on the Part of the States General, and myself, on Behalf of His Britannick Majesty, and as was demonstrated by my displaying a Flag of Truce before I dispatched the first Letter delivered to you by Lieutenant Coffin, and which Truce is to continue until Day-Light in the Morning. It is, therefore, my Duty to require a positive Assurance, that no Damage shall be done to any of the Ships or Vessels of War, Public Stores, or Effects, that may be placed under your Command, otherwise I shall not consider myself in Duty bound to restrain an immediate Attack, or to treat such Prisoners as may fall into my Hands in a Manner suitable to my general Inclination or His Majesty's Orders in similar Cases.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

(Signed) G. K. ELPHINSTONE.

His Majesty's Ship Monarch,
Saldanha Bay, August 16,
1796.

(No. 5.)

To his Excellency Admiral G. K. Elphinstone, Commander in Chief of His Britannick Majesty's Squadron.

EXCELLENCY,

THE Two Letters delivered to me by your Officer, from Want of an Interpreter, have taken a long Time to translate.

Your Excellency may rest assured of receiving a positive Answer To-morrow Morning, and that during this Time no Damage whatever shall be done to the Vessels of my Squadron, which I promise you upon my Honour.

This Time is necessary to call to my Aid the Captains of the Frigates detached at the Bottom of the Bay, in order to hold a Council of War, whom I am obliged to assemble on Account of Responsibility.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) ENGELBERTUS LUCAS.

On Board the Dortrecht,
August 16, 1796.

To his Excellency Vice-Admiral Sir G. K. Elphinstone, &c. &c. &c.

EXCELLENCY,

A Greeable to my Promise, I send you Copy of Terms of Capitulation, which I doubt not you will grant. In this Hope I am

Your Excellency's obedient Servant,

(Signed) ENGELBERTUS LUCAS.

Dortrecht, at Anchor in Saldanha Bay, August 17, 1796, second Year of the Batavian Republican Liberty.

ARTICLES of CAPITULATION agreed upon in Saldanha Bay this 17th of August, 1796, between his Excellency Rear-Admiral Engelbertus Lucas, Commander in Chief of the Squadron of Ships of the United States now lying in Saldanha Bay, and the Hon. Sir George Keith Elphinstone, Knight of the Most Honorable and Military Order of the Bath, Vice-Admiral of the Blue, and Commander in Chief of His Britannick Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Indian Seas, at the Cape of Good Hope, and of those now lying in Saldanha Bay.

Article I.

REAR-Admiral Lucas will deliver up to Vice-Admiral Elphinstone the Squadron under his Command, upon the Conditions of the Capitulation underwritten.

Answer.—The Vice-Admiral is actuated by Principles of Humanity to prevent the Effusion of Human Blood, and considers the Surrender of the Dutch Squadron as a Matter of Necessity and not of Choice.