

Copy of a Letter from Captain Macnamara, of His Majesty's Ship Southampton, to Sir John Jervis, K. B. dated Porto Ferrajo, December 8, 1796.

S I R,

CRUIZING off Cape Dell Melle, pursuant to an Order from Captain Freemantle, at Six o'Clock P. M. of the 2d Instant, I discovered a Sail to the Westward. I made Sail, and after a Chace of Six Hours and a Half came up with her close under Monaco, making in for the Land, with an Intention to run her on Shore. To obviate their Purpose there were no other Means left. but to lay her on Board, as it blew a hard Gale of Wind to the S. E. Our first Attempt failed in consequence of a heavy Sea and the Darknes of the Night; however, the second was more successful, as I threw Men on Board of her, and brought her off without any Damage done to either Vessel: The Badness of the Weather prevented our changing Prisoners or having any Communication for Forty-eight Hours after we took Possession of her. She proved to be the Corso, a fine Spanish Man of War Brig, of Eighteen Guns, Six-Pounders, and One Hundred and Thirty-six Men, bound from Genoa to Barcelona, and commanded by Don Antonio Ocaro. She is a remarkable fast-sailing Vessel, quite new, well fitted, and armed at all Points.

I have the Honor to remain, &c.

J. MACNAMARA.

Admiralty-Office, February 28, 1797.

Copy of a Letter from Commodore Nelson to Mr. Nepean, dated on Board the Minerve, at Porto Ferrajo, December 29, 1796.

S I R,

Herewith I send you Captain Preston's Letter to me, of his Action on the 19th of December, at Night, and I have the Honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,
(Signed) HORATIO NELSON.

Blanche, at Sea, December 20, 1796.

S I R,

I Have to acquaint you, that last Night, after having hailed the Minerve, immediately as her hauling her Wind across me to attack the larger Ship would permit the Blanche to wear, I bore up, and in Three or Four Minutes after the Minerve's first Broadside brought the Frigate to Leeward to close Action, the Two Ships just clear of each other; the Enemy made but a trifling Resistance, and Eight or Nine Broadfides compleatly silenced her, when they called for Quarter, and their Colours were hauled down. I am sorry to add, that the very near Approach of Three fresh Ships (Two of which we discovered nearly within Gun-Shot before we went into Action) rendered my taking Possession of her impracticable, when I wore to join the Minerve; but finding the Ships did not then close with the Frigate I had left much damaged in her Sails and Rigging, I again stood after her, but she had by this Time got her Fore-Sail, Fore-Top-Sail, and Fore-Top-Gallant-Sail set, and not only outtailed the Blanche before the Wind, but was joined by another Ship standing from the Land. Nothing could exceed the Steadiness and good Conduct of the First Lieutenant, Mr. Cowan, the Whole of the Officers and Ship's

Company I have the Honor to command; and I have great Pleasure in informing you not one Person was hurt, or the Rigging the least damaged.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) D'ARCY PRESTON.

P. S. I beg Leave to add how much obliged I am to Captain Maitland, who is on Board a Passenger to join his Ship, for his very great Assistance on the Quarter-Deck during the Action.

D. P.

*Commodore Nelson,
Es. Es. Es.*

Admiralty-Office, February 25, 1797.

Extract of a Letter from Richard Onslow, Esq; Vice-Admiral of the Red, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated on Board His Majesty's Ship Nassau, Yarmouth Roads, February 23, 1797.

I Inclose, for their Lordships Information, a Letter from Captain Hargood, of His Majesty's Ship Leopard, acquainting me with the Capture of Le Victorieux, French Privateer, of Four Guns and Thirty Men, by the Squadron under his Orders: She had been Six Days out from Dunkirk, but had taken nothing.

*Leopard, off Scarborough,
February 18, 1797.*

S I R,

I Beg Leave to acquaint you, that the Squadron under my Command this Day captured a Privateer, named the Victorieux, of Dunkirk, mounting Four Guns and Thirty Men; out Six Days, and had taken nothing: She has painted on her Stern, The Hope of Huli.

I am, Sir, &c. &c. &c.

WM. HARGOOD.

Vice-Admiral Onslow.

Downing-Street, February 28, 1797.

A LETTER, of which the following is a Copy, has been received from Robert Craufurd, Esq; by the Right Honorable Lord Grenville, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

*Head Quarters of the Austrian Army,
Mantzeim, February 7, 1797.*

My Lord,

I Have the Honor to inform your Lordship, that in consequence of a Capitulation concluded on the 2d Instant, between Lieutenant-General the Prince of Furstenburg and the French General commanding the Works of the Tête-de-Pont of Huningen, and of the Island called the Shuster Insel, the said Works and Island have been evacuated by the Enemy and taken Possession of by the Troops of His Imperial Majesty.

The French had bestowed very considerable Labour on this Post during the Time that their Armies were advanced into Germany. The Tête-de-Pont itself was supported and outflanked by the extensive Horn-Work on the Shuster Island, as were both by the Fire of the Fortress of Huningen, as well as of several temporary Batteries on the Left Bank of the Rhine. But a considerable Quantity of heavy Artillery having been sent to the Upper Brisgaw immediately after the Reduction of Kehl, the Attack, after it's Arrival, was carried on with Effect, and by

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