



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

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Admiralty-Office, October 16, 1797.

CAPTAIN Fairfax, of the Venerable, arrived early this Morning with Dispatches from Adam Duncan, Esq; Admiral of the Blue, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships, &c. employed in the North Sea, to Evan Nepean, Esq; Secretary of the Admiralty, of which the following are Copies.

*Venerable, at Sea, 13th October, 1797,
off the Coast of Holland.*

SIR,

BE pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that, judging it of Consequence their Lordships should have as early Information as possible of the Defeat of the Dutch Fleet under the Command of Admiral De Winter, I dispatched the Rose Cutter at Three P. M. on the 12th (11th) Instant, with a short Letter to you immediately after the Action was ended. I have now farther to acquaint you, for their Lordships Information, that in the Night of the 10th Instant, after I had sent away my Letter to you, of that Date, I placed my Squadron in such Situation as to prevent the Enemy from returning to the Texel without my falling in with them. At Nine o'Clock in the Morning of the 11th I got Sight of Captain Trollope's Squadron, with Signals flying for an Enemy to Leeward; I immediately bore up, and made the Signal for a general Chace, and soon got Sight of them, forming in a Line on the Larboard Tack to receive us, the Wind at N. W. As we approached near I made the Signal for the Squadron to shorten Sail, in order to connect them; soon after I saw the Land between Camperdown and Egmont, about

Nine Miles to Leeward of the Enemy, and finding there was no Time to be lost in making the Attack, I made the Signal to bear up, break the Enemy's Line, and engage them to Leeward, each Ship her Opponent, by which I got between them and the Land, whither they were fast approaching. My Signals were obeyed with great Promptitude, and Vice-Admiral Onslow, in the Monarch, bore down on the Enemy's Rear in the most gallant Manner, his Division following his Example, and the Action commenced about Forty Minutes past Twelve o'Clock. The Venerable soon got through the Enemy's Line, and I began a close Action, with my Division on their Van, which lasted near Two Hours and a Half, when I observed all the Masts of the Dutch Admiral's Ship to go by the Board; she was, however, defended for some Time in a most gallant Manner; but being overpressed by Numbers, her Colours were struck, and Admiral De Winter was soon brought on Board the Venerable. On looking around me I observed the Ship bearing the Vice-Admiral's Flag was also dismasted, and had surrendered to Vice-Admiral Onslow; and that many others had likewise struck. Finding we were in Nine Fathoms Water, and not farther than Five Miles from the Land, my Attention was so much taken up in getting the Heads of the disabled Ships off Shore, that I was not able to distinguish the Number of Ships captured; and the Wind having been constantly on the Land since, we have unavoidably been much dispersed, so that I have not been able to gain an exact Account of them, but we have taken Possession of Eight or Nine; more of them had struck, but taking Advantage of the Night,

and

and being so near their own Coast, they succeeded in getting off, and some of them were seen going into the Texel the next Morning.

It is with the greatest Pleasure and Satisfaction I make known to their Lordships the very gallant Behaviour of Vice-Admiral Onslow, the Captains, Officers, Seamen and Marines of the Squadron, who all appeared actuated with the truly British Spirit, at least those that I had an Opportunity of seeing.

One of the Enemy's Ships caught Fire in the Action, and drove very near the Venerable; but I have the Pleasure to say it was extinguished, and she is one of the Ships in our Possession. The Squadron has suffered much in their Masts, Yards, and Rigging, and many of them have lost a Number of Men; however, in no Proportion to that of the Enemy. The Carnage on Board the Two Ships that bore the Admirals Flags has been beyond all Description; they have had no less than Two Hundred and Fifty Men killed and wounded on Board of each Ship; and here I have to lament the Loss of Captain Burgess, of His Majesty's Ship the Ardent, who brought that Ship into Action in the most gallant and masterly Manner, but was unfortunately killed soon after. However, the Ship continued the Action close, until quite disabled. The Public have lost a good and gallant Officer in Captain Burgess, and I, with others, a sincere Friend.

Captain Trollope's Exertions and active good Conduct in keeping Sight of the Enemy's Fleet until I came up, have been truly meritorious, and, I trust, will meet a just Reward.

I send this by Captain Fairfax, by whose able Advice I profited much during the Action, and who will give their Lordships any further Particulars they may wish to know.

As most of the Ships of the Squadron are much disabled, and several of the Prizes dismasted, I shall make the best of my Way with them to the Nore.

I herewith transmit you a List of Killed and Wounded on Board such of the Squadron as I have been able to collect; a List of the Enemy's Fleet opposed to my Squadron, and my Line of Battle on the Day of Action.

I am SIR,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

ADAM DUNCAN.

A List of Killed and Wounded on Board the Ships of Admiral Duncan's Squadron in an Action with the Dutch on the 11th of October, 1797.

Venerable.—13 Seamen, 2 Marines, killed; 6 Officers, 52 Seamen, 4 Marines, wounded.—Total 77.

Monarch.—2 Officers, 34 Seamen, killed; 9 Officers, 79 Seamen, 12 Marines, wounded.—Total 136.

Bedford.—2 Midshipmen, 26 Seamen, 2 Marines, killed; 1 Lieutenant, 37 Seamen, 3 Marines, wounded.—Total 71.

Powerful.—8 Seamen, 2 Marines, killed; 4 Officers, 74 Seamen and Marines, wounded.—Total 88.

Ifis.—1 Seaman, 1 Marine, killed; 3 Officers, 18 Seamen, wounded.—Total 23.

Ardent.—2 Officers, 33 Seamen, 6 Marines, killed; 8 Officers, 85 Seamen, 11 Marines, 3 Boys, wounded.—Total 148.

Agincourt.—None killed or wounded.

Belliqueux.—2 Officers, 20 Seamen, 3 Marines, killed; 3 Officers, 63 Seamen, 12 Marines, wounded.—Total 103.

Lancaster.—3 Seamen killed; 2 Officers, 13 Seamen, 3 Marines, wounded.—Total 21.

Triumph.—25 Seamen, 3 Marines, 1 Boy, killed; 5 Officers, 50 Seamen and Marines, wounded.—Total 84.

OFFICERS KILLED.

Monarch.—Mr. J. P. Tindall and Mr. Moyle Finlay, Midshipmen.

Ardent.—Captain Burgess, Mr. Michael Dunn, Master.

Belliqueux.—Lieutenant Robert Webster, Mr. James Milne, Master's Mate.

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

Venerable.—Lieutenants Clay and Douglas, Lieutenant Chambers of the Marines, Mr. Stewart, Midshipman, Mr. Brown, Pilot.

Monarch.—Lieutenant Retalick, Lieutenant Smith of the Marines, Mr. George Massie, Mr. Benjamin Clement, Mr. Daniel Sherwin, Mr. Charles Slade, Midshipmen, Mr. John Chimley, Master's Mate.

Bedford.—Lieutenant Keenor.

Powerful.—Lieutenant Jennings, Mr. Mel. Jones, Boatwain, Mr. Daniel Rogers, Midshipman, Lieutenant Walker of the Marines.

Ifis.—Lieutenant Charles Rea of the Marines, Mr. Simon Frazer and Mr. John Walker, Midshipmen.

Ardent.—Lieutenant James Rose, Lieutenant John Sobriell, Captain Cuthbert of Marines, Mr. John Tracy, Master's Mate, Mr. John Airey, Master's Mate, Mr. Thomas Leopard, Midshipman, Mr. John Taylor, Captain's Clerk, slightly, Mr. George Killiar, Midshipman, slightly.

Belliqueux.—Lieutenant Robert England, slightly, Captain James Cassel of Marines, slightly, Mr. James Scott, Midshipman.

Lancaster.—Lieutenant Morgan, Lieutenant Sandys of the Marines.

Triumph.—Captain Effington, slightly in the Arm; Mr. Chapman, First Lieutenant, slightly in the Head; Mr. Trollope, Third Lieutenant, slightly in the Foot; Mr. Read, Master, slightly bruised; Mr. Jones, Midshipman, slightly in the Face.

ADAM DUNCAN.

List and Disposition of the Dutch Fleet on the 11th of October, 1797.

V A N.

Vice-Admiral Reyntjes, Commander.

Cerberus, Captain Jacobson, 68 Guns, 450 Men.
Delft, Captain Verdoorn, 56 Guns, 375 Men.—Taken.

Jupiter, Vice-Admiral Reyntjes and Rear-Admiral Meufes, 74 Guns, 550 Men.—Taken.

Alkmaar, Captain Kraat, 56 Guns, 350 Men.—Taken.

Haerlem, Captain Wiggerts, 68 Guns, 450 Men.—Taken.
Munnikkendam, Captain Lancaster, 44 Guns, 270 Men.—Taken.
Heldin, Captain Dumifnilde L'Eeftrille, 32 Guns, 230 Men.
Daphne Brig, Lieutenant Fredericks, 18 Guns, 98 Men.

C E N T E R.

Admiral De Winter, Commander in Chief.
Waffenaer, Captain Holland, 64 Guns, 450 Men.—Taken.
Batavier, Captain Souters, 56 Guns, 350 Men.
Vryheid, (the Liberty) Admiral De Winter Van Roffem, 74 Guns, 550 Men.—Taken.
States General, Rear-Admiral Story, 74 Guns, 550 Men.
Leyden, Captain Mufquetier, 68 Guns, 450 Men.
Mars, Captain Kolff, 44 Guns, 400 Men.
Waakzaamheid, Captain-Lieutenant Nicrop, 24 Guns, 150 Men.
Minerva, Captain Eilbracht, 24 Guns, 150 Men.
Galatea Brig, Lieutenant Rivery, 18 Guns, 98 Men.
Atalanta Brig, Lieutenant Plets, 18 Guns, 98 Men.

R E A R.

Rear-Admiral Bloys, Commander.
Admiral Devries, Captain Zegers, 68 Guns, 450 Men.—Taken.
Hercules, Captain Van Ryfoort, 64 Guns, 450 Men.—Taken.
Brutus, Rear-Admiral Bloys, 74 Guns, 550 Men.
Befchermer, Captain Hinxtt, 56 Guns, 350 Men.
Gelykheid, (the Equality) Captain Ruyfen, 68 Guns, 450 Men.—Taken.
Ambuscade, Captain-Lieutenant Huys, 32 Guns, 270 Men.—Taken.
Ajax Brig, Lieutenant Arkenbout, 18 Guns, 98 Men.
Haasje, (Avifo) Lieutenant Hartenfeld, 6 Guns, 35 Men.

ADAM DUNCAN.

N. B. Another Line of Battle Ship, reported to be taken, Name unknown.

Disposition of the Squadron, in the Order of Battle, on the 11th of October, 1797.

STARBOARD, or LEE DIVISION.

Richard Onslow, Esq; Vice-Admiral of the Red, Commander.
 1. Ruffel, Henry Trollope, Captain, 74 Guns, 590 Men.
 2. Director, William Bligh, Captain, 64 Guns, 491 Men.
 3. Montagu, John Knight, Captain, 74 Guns, 590 Men.
 4. Veteran, George Gregory, Captain, 64 Guns, 491 Men.
 5. Monarch, Vice-Admiral Onslow, Edward O'Bryen, Captain, 74 Guns, 599 Men.
 6. Powerful, William O'Bryen Drury, Captain, 74 Guns, 590 Men.
 7. Monmouth, James Walker, Captain, 64 Guns, 491 Men.
 8. Agincourt, John Williamson, Captain, 64 Guns, 491 Men.

REPEATERS.

Beaulieu Frigate—Cutters Rose, King George, Active, Diligent—Speculator Luggar.

STARBOARD, or WEATHER DIVISION.

Adam Duncan, Esq; Admiral of the Blue, and Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.
 9. Triumph, William Henry Essington, Captain, 74 Guns, 640 Men.
 10. Venerable, Admiral Duncan, William George Fairfax, Captain, 74 Guns, 593 Men.
 11. Ardent, Richard R. Burgefs, Captain, 64 Guns, 491 Men.
 12. Bedford, Sir Thomas Byard, Captain, 74 Guns, 590 Men.
 13. Lancaster, John Wells, Captain, 64 Guns, 491 Men.
 14. Belliqueux, John Inglis, Captain, 64 Guns, 491 Men.
 15. Adamant, William Hotham, Captain, 50 Guns, 343 Men.
 16. Isis, William Mitchell, Captain, 50 Guns, 343 Men.

REPEATERS,

Circe Frigate.—Martin Sloop.

ADAM DUNCAN.

Venerable; off Orfordness;

October 15, 1797.

S I R,

IN Addition to my Letter of the 13th Instant, containing the Particulars of the Action of the 11th; and which I have not been able to send away until this Day, I have to acquaint you, for the Information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that, from the Wind continuing to blow on the Dutch Coast, the Ships have had great Difficulty in keeping off the Shore, and that we have unavoidably been separated: On Friday last the Wind blew strong from the W. S. W. to W. N. W. and continued so to do until Saturday Morning; it then shifted to the North, when I made the Signal to wear, stood to the Westward, and fortunately anchored here last Evening, the Venerable being so leaky, that, with all her Pumps going, we could but just keep her free. This Morning I observed the Ships named in the Margin * at Anchor near us, Three near the Kentish Knock, and Three in Hoxley Bay. The Wind is at N. W. and much against the disabled Ships: I have therefore sent the Lancaster and Beaulieu out to render them Assistance.

Sir Thomas Williams, in the Endymion, who joined me the Day after the Action, I also sent in Shore, to keep by and assist the disabled Ships; and I am informed that, in the Course of the Night, he fell in with a Dutch Ship of the Line off the Texel, and had engaged her, but I have not heard the Particulars.

I am, S I R,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

ADAM DUNCAN.

Evan Nepean, Esq;

* Monarch, Powerful, Lancaster, Beaulieu.

