

vine Aid, under the Auspices of one to whom our Native Country had the Credit of giving Birth.

We are ready, in common with your Majesty's other loyal Subjects, to stand or fall in the Support of our Liberties, our Laws, and our Religion; but conclude with breathing a Hope, in the true Spirit of Masonry, that Peace may soon be restored to these Realms, on a solid and permanent Basis, honorable to your Majesty, and to the Nation.

Signed in Name, by Appointment, and in Presence of the Brethren, within the Grand Lodge, this 30th Day of November, 1797, being the Anniversary of the Festival of St. Andrew.

Thomas Hay,

Substitute Grand Master of Scotland, and Grand Master pro Tempore.

To the KING.

WE, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful Subjects, the Free Masons of the ancient Lodge of St. Andrew, in the Town of Dumfries (assembled to celebrate the Anniversary of our Tutelar Saint) most humbly ask Permission to approach your Throne to offer our sincere Congratulations on the late glorious Naval Victory, obtained over your Enemies by the Fleet under the Command of our worthy Countryman Lord Viscount Duncan, and to express the heartfelt Satisfaction we enjoy on that great Event.

We feel ourselves more particularly actuated to do so, at present, as we have heard and read, with infinite Regret, that Persons disaffected to our present happy Constitution and Government, have, under the Pretext of Masonic Meetings, assembled together for the Purpose of hatching Designs, inimical to this Nation, and which, if carried into Effect, would be productive of the most fatal Consequences.

We beg Leave to assure your Majesty that we are at all Times ready to protect you, our Sovereign, to support the Constitution, Religion and Laws of our Country, and to defend them, to the utmost of our Power, against all Enemies Foreign or Domestic. And that your Majesty may long be preserved under the Care of Almighty God, to reign over a faithful and affectionate People, and that Treason and Sedition may ever be crushed in the Bud, is our most fervent Wish and Prayer.

Signed in the Name, and by Appointment of the Brethren of St. Andrew's Lodge, at Dumfries, the 30th Day of November, 1797.

Cha. Sharpe, Master.

To the KING's Most Excellent Majesty,

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Provost, Magistrates and Council of your Majesty's ancient Town of Stirling, beg Leave to offer our sincere Congratulations to your Majesty on the late glorious and important Victory obtained over the Navy of Holland by your Majesty's Fleet under the Command of Admiral Lord Duncan, whose Gallantry and good Conduct on that memorable Occasion reflect the highest Honour upon himself, and cannot fail to be the Admiration of future Ages.

So signal an Interposition of Providence impressed us with the deepest Sense of Gratitude to the Most High, for thus graciously defeating the Machinations of our Enemies, while preparing to invade us, for the avowed Purpose of subverting our Religion, our Laws, and our Liberties.

For the Sake of these invaluable Blessings our brave and virtuous Forefathers have often shed their Blood; and we trust, that, at the present important Crisis, they will not be lightly abandoned by their Descendants, but that all Ranks will co-operate in using their best Endeavours to defend them from the Infidelity, Anarchy, and Tyranny of our infatuated and deluded Foes.

We embrace with Pleasure every Opportunity of expressing our Affection for your Majesty, and our sincere Wishes for your Majesty's long and prosperous Reign.

Signed in our Names, and by our Appointment, this 18th Day of November, 1797 Years.

John Glas, Provost.

Admiralty-Office, December 9, 1797.

Copy of a Letter from the Earl of St. Vincent, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the Coast of Portugal, to Ewan Nepean, Esq; dated on Board the Ville de Paris, in the Tagus, November 12, 1797.

SIR,

I Enclose a List of Captures made by Captain Retalick, in His Majesty's Sloop Le Bonne Citoyenne, during her Cruize in the Mediterranean the last Summer.

I am, SIR, &c. &c. &c.

St. VINCENT.

Le Pleuvier French Privateer, of 9 Guns and 43 Men, Eight Days from Carthagina, having taken nothing; sent to Algiers. Captured between Carthagina and Oran.

Le Canarde French Privateer, of 10 Guns and 64 Men, from Marseilles; out Three Months; captured One Prussian, One Russian, and One Vessel under Turkish Colours. Sent to Malta.

Two Spanish Brigs in Ballast, from Catalonia to Trieste, with 8,900 Dollars.

Jengin del Rosario, Spanish Tartan, from Barcelona to Minorca, with 20 Recruits; the Wind being to the Southward, and scarce of Water, sent all the Prisoners on Board of her.

With Eight other Spanish Merchantmen of small Value.

Admiralty-Office, December 9, 1797.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Stirling, Commander of His Majesty's Ship Jason, to Ewan Nepean, Esq; dated Fulmouth, the 5th of December, 1797.

S I R,

ON the 21st Ult. off Belleisle, His Majesty's Ship under my Command took La Marie, a French Privateer Brig, carrying 14 Guns and 60 Men.

I have, &c. &c. &c.

CHA. STIRLING.