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Admiralty-Office, January 20, 1798.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Sir Edward Pellew, Commander of His Majesty's Ship Indefatigable, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated at Sea, the 11th of January, 1798.

S I R,

I Have the Pleasure to inform you, that I have captured this Day, in Company with the Cambrian and Childers, a French Schooner Privateer, Le Vengeur, of 12 Guns and 72 Men, quite new, Eight Days from Ostend, without having made any Prizes, and have sent her to Falmouth.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

EDW. PELLEW.

Admiralty-Office, January 20, 1798.

Copy of a Letter from Sir Edward Pellew, Bart. Captain of His Majesty's Ship Indefatigable, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated at Sea, the 16th Instant.

S I R,

I Have the Honor to inform you, that this Evening, after a Chace of Four Hours, the Squadron in Company, I had the Pleasure to capture L'Inconceivable French Privateer, from Dunkirk, out Ten Days, taken nothing, armed with 8 Guns, and manned with 50 Men.

I have the Honor to be, &c. &c. &c.

EDW. PELLEW.

Dublin Castle, January 15, 1798.

THIS Day his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant went in State to the House of Peers, and being seated on the Throne with the usual Solemnity, Nicholas Price, Esq; Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a Message from his Excellency to the House of Commons, signifying his Pleasure that they should immediately attend his Excellency in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither according y, his Excellency made the following Speech:

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

I Have His Majesty's Commands to assemble you in Parliament at this important Period, and to resort to your Deliberation and Advice.

When I reflect on the Tranquillity which attended the late General Election, I have just Ground to be-

lieve that the Wisdom and Firmness which were manifested by the late Parliament were felt and approved by the Nation at large, and that your Conduct will be actuated by similar Principles in Defence of our happy Constitution.

It mu't have given you great Concern to learn that His Majesty's Endeavours to restore the Blessings of Peace have been again frustrated by the desperate Ambition of the French Government. I have His Majesty's Commands to lay before you His Royal Declaration, and the various Papers which passed in the Course of the late Negotiation, in which the Magnanimity and Moderation of His Majesty were so eminently displayed, as to leave no Pretext or Colour for the insidious Conduct and falacious Statements of the Enemy.

His Majesty relies with Confidence on the Spirit of His People of Ireland, who are sensible of their Duty to their God, their Sovereign, and their Country. He knows they are incapable of being intimidated by any Threats, or deluded by any Offers; and He implicitly depends on the Valour of His Regular and Militia Forces, the active Loyalty of the District Corps, the Courage of the Nation, and the Prowess of His Fleets and Armies for defeating every hostile Attempt which may be made on this Kingdom.

The late signal Victory of Admiral Lord Duncan over the Dutch Squadron, atchieved upon their own Coasts with such professional Skill and heroic Gallantry, has not only added fresh Luitre to the Glory of His Majesty's Navy. but had given new Strength and Security to all His Majesty's Dominions.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered the Public Accounts and the Estimates for the ensuing Year to be laid before you, I lament that additional Burthens are still necessary, in order to maintain the Honour and Security of the Empire in the present Exigency; and although from the State of Preparation in which this Kingdom stands, some of the Demands of former Years will not recur, yet I fear the general Expence of the ensuing Year will not admit of any considerable Reduction. When you reflect upon all you have to preserve and all you have to expect from the Enemy