

rick her after a stout Resistance of Ten Minutes from the Crew, consisting, when boarded, of Forty-nine Men, well prepared to receive them, and obliged afterwards to tow and sweep her out in a dead Calm, under a heavy Fire from the Enemy's Batteries, as also the Musketry from the Shore: The Master assures me that the very gallant Conduct of the Men, together with the Assistance of the Surgeon, in Opposition to all Difficulties, enabled him to execute this Service. She proves to be Le Rose Schooner Privateer, carrying Fifty Men, well armed, and One long Brass Nine-Pounder; sails extremely fast, well found, and victualled complete for Three Months for Fifty Men; just going on a Cruise.

I am happy to add that no Loss has been sustained on the Part of the Boat. On the Part of the Enemy Five Men killed and Ten wounded, Four of whom jumped overboard, including the Captain, who was wounded on the first of the Attack.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

W. CARR.

To Samuel Hood, Esq; Commodore and-Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.

*Centaur, Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes,  
March 28, 1804.*

SIR,

I BEG leave to enclose you, for the Information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a Letter I have received from Captain Younghusband, of His Majesty's Sloop Osprey, giving an Account of a most spirited Action he fought with the Egyptienne, a French Frigate of Thirty-six Guns and Two Hundred and Sixty Men, which must certainly have fallen to his superior Skill and Bravery, had not she availed herself of her sailing, to get away. Captain Younghusband's gallant Conduct, with that of his Officers and Men, against such superior Force, merits my warmest Applause.

This Ship was formerly the Railleure, and given to the Merchants of Bourdeaux, to fit out as a private Ship of War; she had made several Captures, one of which has been retaken by the Hippomenes,

I have the Honor to be, &c.

W. Marsden, Esq.

SAM. HOOD.

*His Majesty's Sloop Osprey, Barbadoes,  
March 28, 1804.*

SIR,

I BEG leave to inform you, that on the 23d Instant, I discovered Four Sail on the S. W. Quarter; I immediately chased, and upon nearing them, I found them to be a large Frigate and Three Merchant Ships; upon coming within Hail of the Frigate, she hoisted French Colours, and fired her Broadside, which was instantly returned, and the Two Ships continued in close Action for an Hour and Twenty Minutes, when the Enemy ceased firing, and began to make off, and her Convoy to separate on different Courses; I then found with Regret, that she out-sailed the Osprey under her Top-sails upon the Cap; I however continued the Chase firing our Bow Chasers as long as they could reach, but we lost Sight of her during the Night.

The French Ship's Sails, Rigging, and Hull were very much cut; the Osprey has also suffered very much in her Sails and Rigging; and I am sorry to add, that we have one Man killed and Sixteen wounded.

Lieut. Collier, the Officers, and Ship's Company behaved with the greatest Bravery and Activity.

I have further to inform you, that on the 25th, the Osprey and Hippomenes retook the Ship Reliance, and I am informed from the French Prize-Master, that the Ship the Osprey engaged, was the Frigate Egyptienne, fitted out as a Privateer by the Merchants of Bourdeaux, mounting Thirty-six Guns, and having on board Two Hundred and Fifty-five Men.

I am, Sir, &c.

G. YOUNGHUSBAND.

To Samuel Hood, Esq; Commodore and-Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.

*Centaur, Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes,*

SIR,

*March 29, 1804.*

I HAVE the Satisfaction to send you Copy of a Letter I have received from Captain Shipley, of His Majesty's Sloop Hippomenes, giving an Account of the Capture of the Egyptienne French Frigate, of Thirty-six Guns, by that Sloop. The Firmness and Perseverance of Captain Shipley in the Pursuit of a Ship of such Force, does him, the Officers, and Sloop's Company, the highest Credit; and being well marked with Judgment and Decision he so surprised the Enemy that he struck the Moment the Hippomenes came alongside, after Three Hours running Fight. No doubt the spirited Action of the Osprey contributed; of which Captain Shipley speaks in the handsomest Terms.

I am, &c. &c. &c. - SAM. HOOD.

William Marsden, Esq.

*His Majesty's Sloop Hippomenes,  
March 29, 1804.*

SIR,

I HAVE the Honor to acquaint you with the Capture of L'Egyptienne French Privateer (formerly a Republican Frigate), mounting Thirty-six Guns, Twelves and Nines, commanded by M. Placiard, and having Two Hundred and Forty Men on board; on the Evening of the 27th, after an arduous Chase of Fifty-four Hours, and a running Fight of Three Hours and Twenty Minutes, by His Majesty's Sloop under my Command, for she struck the Moment we fairly got alongside of her. I feel much Pleasure in saying the Officers and Men behaved with that Coolness and Intrepidity inherent in Englishmen; and had the Enemy allowed them a Trial alongside I am convinced her superior Force would not have availed them much. However, I cannot forbear recommending to your Protection my First Lieutenant, for his good Conduct on this as on all former Occasions. The slight Resistance she made I can only attribute to the Fear of being as severely beat as she had been Four Days previous by the Osprey, who killed Eight of her Men and wounded Nineteen, and whose Gallantry astonished them. Mr. John Lloyd, Master's Mate, is the only Person hurt on this Occasion, and he slightly.

I have further to inform you of the Recapture of the Reliance of London, taken by the above Frigate.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

CONWAY SHIPLEY.

Commodore Hood, &c. &c. &c.

*Centaur, Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes,*

SIR,

*March 31, 1804.*

I HEREWITH enclose Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant King, of this Ship, acting in Command of His Majesty's Sloop Drake, giving an