

eram's meritorious Conduct to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty in the strongest Point of View; when I hope their Lordships will be induced, in Consideration of his very gallant Behaviour, and a most severe Wound he has received, to consider him worthy of that Reward which in our Service has ever been looked up to as the certain Consequence of distinguished Bravery. Mr. Mildridge, Master's-Mate, a young Man who has served the whole of his Time with me, and whose Gallantry has been represented to me by Lieutenants Bertram and William Smith as highly exemplary, I hope your Lordship will be induced to mention also as deserving of Promotion. The Conduct of Lieutenant Bertram and his Party, as well as that of Lieutenant William Smith, renders it unnecessary for me to say any Thing further on the Subject. I shall therefore only add, that Mr. John Smith, the Second Lieutenant, who I kept on board to assist me, as well as Mr. Brokensher the Master, and the whole of the Officers and Ship's Company that remained in the Ship, have my warmest Thanks for their cool and steady Conduct during an Action that lasted, with Intervals, for more than Six Hours. The Ship's Damages are trifling to what might have been expected, which I account for by the Enemy not being able to distinguish where the Shot fell, and having taken a bad Elevation, most of them passed over her. When the Boats had returned, after firing the Schooner we weighed, and had the good Fortune to obtain a light Air of Wind, that sent us just out of the Shot of the Batteries, when we were obliged again to anchor, otherwise our Situation this Morning would have been by no Means pleasant, as the Spaniards must by that Time have unspiked the Guns in the outer Fort, and at Daylight Six Gun-Boats were seen pulling from the Westward. About Eight A. M. a light Breeze springing up, we weighed and made sail towards them; when within about Two Gunshots of the Enemy, it fell again perfectly calm, and they had the Temerity still to row for us; finding the Ship's Broadside could not be kept towards them by the Boats, I ordered the Anchor to be let go with a Spring, and when within good Reach of Grape, opened a Fire, which they received and returned with tolerable Spirit for about Half an Hour, when they made the best of their Way into Veres Bay; and as several Shots were seen to strike them, I have no Doubt considerably damaged them. The total Want of Wind prevented me from following and destroying them.

I cannot conclude this Letter, my Lord, without once more expressing how highly I appreciate the Behaviour of every Officer and Man in the Ship I have the Honour to command, during a most arduous and fatiguing Service, that lasted for Eighteen Hours, the whole of which Time they were either at their Guns or expecting every Instant to be called to them. Our Loss, I am extremely sorry to say, is very great in killed and wounded, and most of them the best Men in the Ship. What the Enemy's may be, from the Nature of the Service it is impossible to ascertain, though we know it to be very considerable. I inclose a List of Killed and Wounded belonging to the Emerald.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) F. L. MAITLAND.

The Right Hon. Lord Gardner, &c. &c. &c.

Jan. 16 1808.

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A List of Killed and Wounded on board His Majesty's Ship Emerald, in Vivero Harbour, on the 13th of March 1808.

Killed.

John Lyons, Boatswain's-Mate.
William Johnson, Yeoman of the Sheets.
John Davis (2,) Captain's Coxswain.
Isaac Hurtt, Ship's Corporal.
Frederick Weatheral, Seaman.
Thomas Brown, Seaman.
Gregory Yowel, Serjeant of Marines.
Jof. Dawson, Private of Marines.
John Gugg Porter, Private of Marines.

Wounded.

Lieutenant Charles Bertram, severely.
Lieutenant Giles Meek, of the Marines, slightly.
Lieutenant John Husband, of ditto, slightly.
Mr. Mathew Mildridge, Master's-Mate, slightly.
Michael Gleeson, Quarter-Master, dangerously.
William Riley, Seaman, ditto.
George M'Allister, Seaman, severely.
William Moore, Seaman, ditto.
John West, Captain's Steward, ditto.
John Lloyd, Private of Marines, ditto.
John Baylis, Seaman, slightly.
James Connor, Seaman, ditto.
Richard Caulfield, Private of Marines, ditto.
James Dale, Private of Marines, ditto.
William Mariner, Private of Marines, ditto.
John Pettiper, Boy, ditto.

Total—9 killed and 16 wounded.

(Signed) F. L. MAITLAND.

Admiralty-Office, March 26, 1808.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Cotton, Bart. Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels off the Tagus, to the Hon. W. W. Pole, dated on board the Hibernia, Feb. 17, 1808.

S I R,

I REQUEST you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the inclosed Copy of a Letter I have received from Captain Yeo, of His Majesty's Ship the Constance, detailing a very gallant Exploit performed in Two Boats, commanded by Messrs. Trist and Largue, Masters' Mates of that Ship; the former of whom having passed for a Lieutenant, and being strongly recommended by Captain Yeo for his general good Conduct, I have appointed to act as Lieutenant on board His Majesty's Ship Alfred (in the room of another absent in a Prize), in order to mark my Approbation of his Conduct on this particular Occasion; and which, I have no Doubt, their Lordships will also duly appreciate, by promoting Mr. Trist to that Rank he appears, in my Opinion, justly to deserve.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) C. COTTON.

His Majesty's Ship Constance, at Anchor off the Tagus, Feb. 14, 1808.

S I R,

HAVING been informed of a Report at Lisbon that the Russian Squadron were about to sail, I last Night sent the Cutter and Jolly Boat under the Orders of Mr. Robert Trist, Master's-Mate, accompanied by Mr. Largue, Master's Mate, to row Guard in the Mouth of the Tagus, when Mr. Trist perceiving a French Gun-Vessel at Anchor under Fort St. Pedro, between Forts Belem and St. Julien; he instantly boarded in a most gallant Manner, and,