

rior, Cyane, and Espoir; and the same Day I detached the Philomel with Four Transports, containing Two Regiments of Infantry, which Sir John Stuart wished to be landed on the Coast of Calabria, for the Purpose of Destroying the Enemy's Batteries, and of undertaking the Siege of Scylla, should it be found practicable. I proceeded with the Remainder of the Transports, Gun-Boats, &c. amounting in the whole to One Hundred and Thirty-Three Sail, into the Gulf of St. Eufemia, and close along the Coast of Calabria, in the Hope of diverting the Attention of the Enemy from Lower Calabria, and of enabling the Two Regiments detached by the General, to effect the Purpose for which they were sent. For Four or Five Days it was nearly calm; and the whole Expedition continued in Sight of Calabria. On the 15th, the Ships and Transports from Palermo, amounting to nearly One Hundred Sail, accompanied by Two Sicilian Frigates and the Alceste, joined us; His Royal Highness Prince Leopold was on board one of His Sicilian Majesty's Frigates, and Lieutenant-General Bourcard, appointed to command the Sicilian Troops employed on this Expedition, in the other. Sir John Stuart, upon being joined by this Force, expressed a Desire that General Bourcard should continue, with his Division, on the Coast of Calabria, and actually put some Men on Shore to effect a Diversion, and that in the mean Time we should proceed with the British and Sicilian Troops which had sailed with us from Milazzo, to make an Attack on the Islands of Ischia and Procida. On the 24th, I anchored with the whole of the Ships to the Northward of the said Islands; and on the Morning of the 25th, a Landing was effected on the Island of Ischia, under Cover of His Majesty's Ships Warrior and Success, and His Sicilian Majesty's Sloop Leone, with several Sicilian and English Gun-Boats, without the Loss of a single Man, and the whole taken Possession of, except a strong insulated Castle off the South-East Part of the Island, which did not surrender till the 1st Instant, after Batteries had been erected and opened against it. The Island of Procida capitulated on the Evening of the 25th: and that Night I received Information that a Flotilla of Gun-Boats, &c. was coming from Gaeta along Shore; in consequence of which, the few Gun-Boats near us were detached in that Direction, and at Daylight of the 26th, the Flotilla, amounting to Forty-seven Sail, was seen, and a Signal made to Captain Staines, of the Cyane, (whom I had before detached to the Southward of Ischia and Procida, with the Espoir and some of the Sicilian Gun-Boats to endeavour to hinder Reinforcements and Supplies being thrown into those Islands,) to prevent the Gun-Boats from entering the Bay of Naples. Captain Staines executed that Service with the same Ability and Judgment, which he has shewn upon every other Occasion; and by turning the Gun-Boats, and preventing their rounding the Point of Baize, they were brought to Action by the Sicilian and English Gun-Boats, supported by the Cyane and Espoir, and Eighteen of them (Gun-Boats) taken and Four destroyed. No Language which I am Matter of, can convey to your Lordship an adequate Idea of the Gallantry, Judgment, and good Conduct displayed by Captain Staines. From the Time of our Arrival before the Bay of Naples, he was frequently engaged with the Batteries and Gun-Boats near Baize; captured a Polacca from thence

with Troops destined for Procida; landed himself, supported by some Sicilian Gun-Boats, and destroyed a Battery, with which he had been for some Time engaged, of Four Forty-two-Pounders and a Ten Inch Mortar: and on the 27th of June, Captains Staines and Mitford attacked the Enemy's Frigate and Corvette, which, with a Number of Gun-Boats, were mooring from Baize to the Mole of Naples. The Action lasted from Seven till Half-past Eight P. M. with the Frigate, (the Corvette out-sailing her much, soon made the best of her Way to Naples,) during the greater Part of the Time, the Cyane was within Half Pistol-Shot of the Enemy's Frigate, but from her being so near the Shore, and supported by a Number of Gun-Boats and Batteries, was not able to continue the Action. It is with sincere Concern I have to inform your Lordship, that during the Action Captain Staines, and both the Lieutenants of the Cyane, were wounded; but the Ship was fought, the latter Part of the Action, by Mr Joseph Miller, the Master, of whom Captain Staines speaks in the highest Terms, and begs to recommend to your Lordship. The Captain speaks also very highly of the Conduct of Lieutenant James Hall, First of the Cyane, and of every Officer and Man under his Command.

I have the Honour to transmit, under another Cover, a List of the Killed and Wounded on board the Cyane on the 26th and 27th of June. Captain Staines has lost his left Arm out of the Socket at his Shoulder, and is wounded also in the Side, but is in a fair Way of Recovery. Lieutenant Hall is also severely wounded in the Thigh and Arm, but there is every Reason to hope he will do well.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GEO. MARTIN.

P. S. In Addition to the Gun-Boats captured or destroyed, Eleven smaller Armed Vessels were taken, and Four destroyed the same day.

I will do myself the Honour of transmitting to your Lordship, by the next Opportunity, a Copy of the Articles of the Capitulation of the Islands of Ischia and Procida.

(Signed) GEO. MARTIN.

Vice-Admiral Lord Collingwood, Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.

A List of Officers, Seamen, and Marines killed and wounded on board His Majesty's Ship Cyane, in Action with the Enemy's Gun-Boats and Batteries in the Bay of Naples, on the 26th June 1809.

Killed.

Daniel Young, Captain of the Maintop.
John Evans, Boy 3d Class.

Wounded.

David Jones, Master's-Mate, dangerously.
John Phillips, Ordinary Seaman, slightly.
Alexander Lawson, Ordinary Seaman, ditto.
Thomas Wilton, Landman, ditto.
John Swcney, Ordinary Seaman, ditto.
James Matthews, Able Seaman, ditto.
John Rutherford, Able Seaman, ditto.

List of Officers, Seamen, and Marines killed and wounded on board His Majesty's Ship Cyane, Thomas Staines, Esq; Captain, in Action with an