

break of day we observed the Rinaldo in chace of the Apelles, which had been got afloat about five miles to the eastward of Etaples, and under jury sails, the enemy navigating her along shore. About nine, A. M. we both came up, and drove her on shore with a few broadsides, under a battery about three miles to the eastward of Etaples. As the tide was falling, I discontinued the attack, in consequence of the advantage the enemy would have in planting his field pieces and small arm men close to her at low water mark.

The Castilian and Phipps joined before the tide served to recommence our operations, and with this addition to our force, at about half-past two, P. M. I renewed the attack, leading in close under the battery, with the wind N. E. by N. the other sloops following, and as they came up giving their broadsides, by which the enemy's troops, embarked in the Apelles, were soon driven out. The boats of the squadron, as had been previously arranged, were then immediately sent in under the command of my First Lieutenant, Saunders, who most gallantly boarded her, and though for a considerable time exposed to a galling fire of shot and shells from the battery, and a collection of field-pieces, she was got afloat, and brought out in safety about four o'clock, during which time the sloops used their utmost endeavours to cover the boats, and prevent as much as possible further annoyance from the enemy.

I feel greatly indebted to Captains Braimer, Wells, and Sir W. Parker, their officers and men, particularly those employed in the boats. I am happy to add an acknowledgment of the merits of my own officers and crew, particularly of my First Lieutenant, Thomas Saunders, and the volunteers acting under him in the boats, who gallantly undertook the service, when the advantageous situation of the enemy led me to expect a much more sanguinary result.

The loss of the enemy it has been impossible for me to determine, but I am happy to state that the service has been performed without even a wound on our part, though at the commencement of the attack the Apelles was full of troops, and the defence from the shore obstinately maintained. I trust this circumstance will not only bespeak our extremely good fortune, but prove more strongly than I can express, that the plan of attack was well laid and judiciously executed by the officers and men under my orders.

The boats gave the soldiers so little time to escape, that four were left on board, calling themselves part of the King of Rome's body guard, and bearing the insignia of their corps. We found the Apelles much cut up from our fire, and she afterwards sustained great damage from the enemy: she has seven guns, and most of her stores and provisions remaining on board. The Skylark was completely destroyed, lying some distance to the eastward, still smoking. I have great satisfaction in stating that the crews of both vessels escaped in their boats, with the exception of Captain Hoffman of the Apelles, and nineteen of his people.

I have the honour to be, &c.

A. CUNNINGHAM, Captain.

Thomas Foley, Esq; Rear-Admiral of the Red, Downs.

No. 16600.

B

Carlton-House, May 8, 1812.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent was this day pleased, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, to confer the honour of Knighthood on Thomas Tyrwhitt, Esq; Member in the present Parliament for the Borough of Plymouth, and Lord Warden of the Stannaries in the Duchy of Cornwall.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent was also pleased, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, to confer the honour of Knighthood on Robert Hugh Kennedy, Esq; Commissary-General to the Forces.

April 13, 1812.

His Grace the Duke of Marlborough, Lord Lieutenant of the county of Oxford, having appointed the Right Honourable Lord Francis Almaric Spencer, one of the Deputy Lieutenants of the said county, to be his Vice Lieutenant for and within the county of Oxford, His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, has been pleased to approve thereof.

April 18, 1812.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, has been pleased to signify his approbation that the Right Honourable Lord Francis Almaric Spencer, Vice Lieutenant of the county of Oxford, should hold the rank of Colonel of the First Regiment of Oxfordshire Local Militia, during the time he shall act as Vice Lieutenant of the said county.

Whitehall, May 9, 1812.

The Lord Chancellor has appointed John North Wilkins, of Bourton in the Water, in the county of Gloucester, Gent. to be a Master Extraordinary in the High Court of Chancery.

Office of Ordnance, May 5, 1812.

Royal Regiment of Artillery.

Brevet-Major Charles C. Bingham to be Major, vice Newhouse, retired upon the Invalid Battalion. Dated March 16, 1812.

Second Captain Peter Wallace to be Captain, vice Bingham. Dated as above.

First Lieutenant Charles Napier to be Second Captain, vice Wallace. Dated as above.

Second Lieutenant Robert Grimes to be First Lieutenant, vice Napier. Dated as above.

Adjutant William Wylde to be Second Captain. Dated as above.

Major-General John Ramsey to be Colonel-Commandant, vice Davies, deceased. Dated March 17, 1812.

Lieutenant-Colonel George Cookson to be Colonel, vice Ramsey. Dated as above.

Major William Dixon to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Cookson. Dated as above.

Brevet-Major John Dyer to be Major, vice Dixon. Dated as above.

Second Captain Richard Jones to be Captain, vice Dyer. Dated as above.

First Lieutenant Charles Gordon to be Second Captain, vice Jones; Dated as above.

