

from thence to the end of the then next session of Parliament, several laws relating to the transportation of felons and other offenders, and to the authorising the removal of offenders to temporary places of confinement in England and Scotland.

An Act for enlarging the term and powers of two Acts of His present Majesty, for repairing the road from the west end of Saint Ives-Lane, in the town of Saint Neots, in the county of Huntingdon, to the pavement at the end of Bell-Lane, in the town of Cambridge.

Admiralty-Office, December 18, 1813.

*Copy of a Letter from Admiral Young, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the North Sea, to John Wilson Croker, Esq. dated on board the Impregnable, off the Scheldt, the 11th instant.*

SIR,

I ENCLOSE, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the copy of a letter from Captain Lord George Stuart, of His Majesty's ship *Horatio*, giving an account of the surrender of the French force on the island of Schowen; and of that island being again under the Dutch Government; in which their Lordships will perceive great promptitude of decision in Lord George to storm the batteries, and very spirited preparation for doing so, if the enemy had not immediately surrendered.

I have the honour to be, &c.

W. YOUNG.

*His Majesty's Ship Horatio, off Zuderie*

SIR, *Zee, Island of Schowen, Dec. 8, 1813.*

YESTERDAY morning some pilots brought off a letter, from a Gentleman who had been in the British service, requesting aid to drive the French from Zuderie Zee. I lost no time in working up, and anchored just out of gun-shot of a heavy battery, which totally commanded the passage. As it was necessary to pass, in execution of your orders, I made the disposition for attacking it. I therefore collected fifty marines and seventy seamen from the *Horatio*, with the same number from the *Amphion*, with a determination of storming it from the rear, as soon as the tide would answer for the boats to leave the ship, which could not be till nine P. M. During the interval a deputation from the principal citizens came on board under a flag of truce, from the French General, requesting that, in order to save the effusion of blood, and prevent the disorders which were likely to ensue in the city, then in a state of insurrection, terms of capitulation should be granted, by which the French, with their baggage, should be allowed to withdraw and be conveyed to Bergen-op-Zoom; this I peremptorily refused, and sent back the terms herewith enclosed. The thickness of the weather did not enable the deputation to quit the ship before ten o'clock at night, which induced me to extend the time till midnight. I had not proceeded any considerable distance from the ship, before the signal, in token of submission, was made. I landed at the battery, which having secured, I went forward to the town,

and found the native French had made their escape. I directed the seamen to remain at the gate, and entered with the marines amidst the acclamations of an immense multitude; proceeding to the town-hall, I was met by the most respectable inhabitants in a body, and then having dissolved the French Municipal Authorities, I directed the ancient Magistrates of the city to resume their functions. This morning, in compliance with my directions, the Magistrates of the town of Browsershaven reported their having driven the French from thence, and they received similar injunctions with respect to their Provisional Government. I took possession of a brig of fourteen guns, formerly His Majesty's brig *Bustler*, which the enemy had attempted to scuttle, also a French gun-boat, and a considerable quantity of powder, and have, in the course of this day, brought in twenty prisoners, and more are expected.

I feel happy in having obtained so important an acquisition as the whole island of Schowen, without bloodshed, and facilitating the means of opening a communication with the allied forces in the South of Holland.

In closing this dispatch, I beg leave to recommend to your particular notice the zeal and activity of Captain Stewart, of the *Amphion*, together with Lieutenant Whyte, First of the *Horatio*, with the rest of the officers, seamen, and marines under my command, in this service. I must here beg leave to express how much I am indebted to Captain Hamilton Smith, of the Quarter-Master-General's Department, for his advice and assistance, who, from his knowledge of the Dutch language, and of the people, has very much facilitated these operations. I also enclose the list of ordnance, &c. taken.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. STUART.

*Admiral Young, &c. &c. &c.*

*Dated on board His Britannic Majesty's Ship Horatio, at half past 7 o'clock,*

SIR, *December 7, 1813.*

WITH a view to spare the effusion of blood, as senior officer in command of His Britannic Majesty's forces, I feel it my duty, after the communication I have received, and the resources which I at present have, to summon you to surrender prisoners of war, with the French officers and troops under your immediate command.

No other conditions will be admitted. I expect a decisive answer by twelve o'clock this night; my authority will not admit of the suspension of hostilities longer than that period.

If accepted, one gun.

If not, three ditto.

(Signed)

G. STUART.

*To the commanding officer of the French troops in the Town of Zuderie Zee, Island of Schowen.*

*A List of Ordnance, &c. taken possession of by His Majesty's Ships Horatio and Amphion, on the Morning of the 8th of December 1813.*

6 iron, thirty-six-pounders, 6 iron twenty-four-