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From Tuesday February 27, to Saturday March 3, 1759.

Admiralty Office, March 3.

COMMODORE Keppel is returned from the Coast of Africa to Spithead, with His Majesty's Ships
Torbay of 74 Guns.
Naffau — 64
Fougueux — 64
Dunkirk — 60

having parted with the Prince Edward at Sea.

Admiralty Office, March 3.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Samuel Hood, of His Majesty's Ship the Vestal, of 32 Guns and 220 Men, to Mr. Cleveland, Secretary of the Admiralty, dated at Spithead the 2d of March, 1759.

I beg you will be pleased to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that being stationed at Day-light four or five Miles a-head of Admiral Holmes, to look out, on the 21st past, about Seven o'Clock in the Morning, 200 Leagues South West from the Lizard, I saw a Sail bearing S. S. E. directly to Windward, and gave Chace. At Eleven I discovered the Chace to be an Enemy, of which I made the Signal to the Admiral, as I did immediately after, That of being able to speak with her: At Ten Minutes past Two, I begun to engage the Bellona Frigate, commanded by the Count of Beauchonnoir, of 32 Guns, within half Musket Shot, and continued a close Action till near Six, when she struck, having only her Foremast standing, without Yard or Topmast, which soon after went away, being much wounded. The Trent chased at the same Time I did, and then was not more than four Miles to Leeward; and when I began to engage, she was out of Sight from our Top Gallant Mast's Head, tho' she chased the whole Time, and the Weather very clear, and was full four Miles from me when the Enemy struck; the Loss of whom I cannot exactly ascertain, the Accounts of the Prisoners differ so widely; and I can get no proper Roll of Equipage; but it was very great, as the Vestal's Lieutenant found more than 30 dead upon the Decks when he took Possession; and they themselves own, to have thrown overboard 10 or 12, which, with those now living, being 180, make the Number that were on Board, at the Beginning of the Action, upwards of 220, as I have carefully informed myself from the Captain, and other of the Officers. On the Part of His Majesty, were Five killed, and Twenty-two wounded. As soon as I brought to, after the Enemy struck, all the Top Masts fell over the Side, being much shot, and having no Rigging to support them: The lower Masts would likewise have gone, had not the Weather been very fine indeed; and with all the Fishing I could give the Mainmast, it would not bear other than a Jury Yard, which I was likewise under a Necessity of rigging upon the Foremast. In this Situation of His Majesty's Ship, and her Prize, I thought myself obliged to bear up for England, especially as the Wind shifted in the Ac-

tion to the S.W.; which I hope their Lordships will approve. Not being able to put a Boat in the Water, but by launching her over the Side, by which a Cutter was sunk and lost; I desired Captain Lindsay to stay by me, and exchange a Part of the Prisoners, which he did; but having made Room for them on board the Vestal, by Noon next Day Capt. Lindsay took his Leave, in order to rejoin the Admiral. The Bellona sailed from Martinique the 16th of January in some Hurry, accompanied with another Frigate of the same Force, and the Florissant, occasioned by His Majesty's Squadron, under the Command of Commodore Moore, being off the Island. The Commodore did not appear till that Morning, and had all the Troops landed by the Evening near Point Negroe: The three French Ships were chased by some of Mr. Moore's Squadron. The Bellona got clear by Superiority of sailing; but does not know how it fared with her Companions, having never seen either of them since.

Admiralty Office, March 1.

Captain Colby, of His Majesty's Ship the Thames, gives an Account, in his Letter of the 14th of February, of his having, in Company with the Coventry, taken La Mouche, a French Privateer of Havre de Grace, of 8 Six Pounders, and Eighty Men, which Ship is arrived at Kinsale, with the Coventry.

Admiralty-Office, March 2, 1759.

PURsuant to an Act of Parliament passed in the Twenty-sixth Year of His Majesty's Reign, this is to give Notice to the Concerned, that Information hath been sent to this Office, That, on the Fourth Day of January last, the Ship Juffrow Elizabeth Rachael, Benjamin Wolfiam, Master, of the Burden of 300 Tons, bound from Dantzick to Waterford, and laden with Timber, Clapboards, Staves, and Lath Wood, was drove ashore at Wadham in Bigbury Bay in the County of Devon, where the Ship was intirely lost, but the greatest Part of the Cargo saved.

J. Cleveland.

A Letter dated February 10, 1759, and signed A Briton, has been received.

Whitehall, Feb. 23, 1759.

Whereas it has been humbly represented to the King, that divers Robberies, Burglaries and Thefts, have of late Years, been committed within the several Counties of Essex, Hertford, Cambridge, and Suffolk; to the great Injury of the respective Inhabitants of those Counties; and that, by the Care and Vigilance of several Gentlemen in the Commission of the Peace for the County of Essex, aforesaid, A Gang of the said Robbers has been discovered; Seven of whom, being already taken, are committed to Chelmsford Goal; and upon Informations, which have been given, diligent Search is making after the Others; His Majesty, for the better Discovering,