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Foreign News.

LONDON, November 26.

Admiralty Office, November 24.

Copy of a letter from captain Thompson, late commander of his Majesty's ship Leander, to rear admiral Sir Horatio Nelson, K. B. dated Trieste, the 13th of October.

It is with extreme pain I have to relate to you, the capture of his Majesty's ship late under my command, by a French 74 gun ship, after a close action of six hours and an half. On the 18th of August last, being within five or six miles of the west end of Goza, near the island of Candia, we discovered at day break a large sail on the S. E. quarter, standing directly for the Leander; we were then becalmed, but the stranger bringing up a fine breeze from the southward, we soon made him to be a large ship of the line. As the Leander was in officers and men upwards of 80 short of complement, and had on board a number which were wounded on the 1st, I did not consider myself justified in seeking an action with a ship that appeared of such considerable superiority in point of size; I therefore took every means in my power to avoid it; I however soon found that our inferiority in sailing made it inevitable, and therefore with all sail set, steered the Leander a course which I judged would receive our adversary to the best advantage, should he bring us to battle.

At 8 o'clock the strange ship (still continuing to have the good fortune of the wind) had approached us within a long random shot, and had Neapolitan colors hoisted, which he now changed to Turkish; but this deception was of no avail, as I plainly made him to be French. At 9 he had ranged up within half gun shot of our weather quarter; I therefore hauled the Leander up sufficiently to bring the broadside to bear, and immediately commenced a vigorous cannonade on him, which he instantly returned. The ships continued nearing each other until half past 10, keeping up a constant and heavy firing. At this time I perceived the enemy intending to run us on board and the Leander being very much cut up in rigging, sails, and yards, I was unable with the light air that blew, to prevent it. He ran us on board on the larboard bow, and continued along side us for some time: A most spirited and well directed fire, however, from our small party of marines, (commanded by the sergeant) on the poop and from the quarter deck, prevented the enemy from taking advantage of his good fortune, and he was repelled in all his efforts to make an impression on us.—The firing from the great guns was all this time kept up with the same vigor, and a light breeze giving the ships way, I was enabled to steer clear of the enemy, and soon afterwards had the satisfaction to lust under his stern, and passing him within ten yards, distinctly discharged every gun from the Leander into him.

As from henceforward there was nothing but a continued series of heavy firing within pistol shot, without any wind, and the sea smooth as glass, I feel it unnecessary to give you the detail of the effects of every shot, which must be obvious from our situation; I shall therefore content myself with assuring you, that a most vigorous cannonade was kept up from the Leander, without the smallest intermission, until half past three in the afternoon. At this time the enemy having passed our bows with a light breeze, and brought himself on our starboard side, we found that our guns on that side were nearly all disabled by the wreck of our own spars that had fallen on this side. This produced a cessation of fire, and the enemy took this time to ask us, if we had surrendered? The Leander was now totally ungovernable, not

having a thing standing but the shattered remains of the fore and main masts, and the bowsprit, her hull cut to pieces, and the decks full of killed and wounded—and perceiving the enemy, who had only lost his mizen topmast, approaching to place himself athwart our stern; in this defenceless situation, I asked capt. Berry if he thought we could do more? He coinciding with me that further resistance was vain and impracticable, and, indeed, all hope of success having for some time vanished, I therefore now directed an answer to be given in the affirmative, and the enemy soon after took possession of his Majesty's ship.

The enemy proved to be the Genereux, of 74 guns, commanded by M. Lejoille, chief de vifion, who had escaped from the action of the first of August, and, being the rearmost of the French line, had received little or no share of it, having on board 900 men, about 100 of whom we found had been killed in the present contest, and 188 wounded.

THOMAS THOMPSON.

A return of officers and men killed and wounded on board his Majesty's ship Leander, on the 18th of August, 1798.

Officers killed—Mr. Peter Downs, midshipman.

Mr. Gibson, midshipman of the Caroline.

Mr. Edward Haddon, midshipman.

24 seamen killed.

Marines killed—Sergeant Dair, and seven privates.

Total—3 officers, 24 seamen, 1 sergeant, 7 marines killed.

Officers wounded—Captain Thompson, badly; lieutenant Taylor; lieutenant Swiney; Mr. Lee, master; Mr. Matthias, boatswain, badly; Mr. Lacky, master's mate; Mr. Nailor, midshipman.

41 seamen.

9 marines.

Total—7 officers—41 seamen—9 marines wounded.

ITALY, November 14.

On the 14th anniversary of the French republic, Buonaparte issued a proclamation to his army at Cairo, in which he recounts their exploits during the last 5 years, and tells them, that those which they have actually begun to execute are more remarkable than all the preceding ones, and that all nations now direct their eyes towards them. "Warriors!" says he, "your destination is elevated.—You will fall with renown, like the heroes whose names are engraven on this pyramid: or, you will return into your mother country covered with wreaths of laurels. This day 40 million of citizens think of you."

BASIL, November 21.

The king of Spain has acknowledged the Helvetic republic, and appointed the chevalier Comano as his minister plenipotentiary to it, who had his first audience from our directory at Lucern on the 15th instant.

The enrollment of the young men and the taxes, have occasioned disturbances in several parts of the canton of Berne. The liberty-trees were cut down, public officers expelled their offices, &c. French troops are now quartered in those places.

Many young men enroll themselves among foreign troops or emigrate.

TRIEST, November 16.

Vessels which arrived here, from Messina, bring intelligence, that admiral Nelson, after his departure from Naples, had appeared off Malta, with four ships of the line and five frigates; and having met there some transports with troops from Gibraltar, had ordered them on shore, supplied the Maltese with arms, ammunition, &c. gave orders for the further blockade of Valletta by sea, and for batteries to be constructed on shore; after which, he sailed for the island of Gozo.

RASTATT, November 25.

The French ministers have already returned an answer to the last German note. They have adopted the debts, but insist on the former demands and remonstrance respecting Ehrenbreitstein, the island of Buderich, and the toll at Elsfleth.—Otherwise it breathes the most pacific sentiments.

VIENNA, November 24.

Several British frigates have appeared in the Adriatic sea, for the purpose of cutting off the communication between Ancona and the French Venetian islands. The Russian and Turkish fleets consisting of 16 ships of war, are before Corfu, and have already commenced to bombard the city of Lutimto. The French force on the island is 300 men.

November 28.

The latest advices from Italy mention, that a division of the Russian and Turkish fleets appeared off Corfu, and summoned the garrison to surrender; but this being refused and opposition made, they had taken possession of the harbor and the French shipping in it by force, and landed a considerable body of troops, who forced the French troops to retire to their fortresses at Balley Mezzo, which would be immediately bombarded. The Greek inhabitants received the invaders with open arms.

Another division of the above mentioned fleet blockades Ancona, and the British fleet Civita Vecchia and Genoa.

HAMBURG, December 4.

The Paris journals of the 23d November, contain a memorial which the consulate at Rome issued on the 8th November to the commissaries there, which is viewed as the manifesto of the Roman republic against the king of Naples.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 5.

The Porte has notified the ministers of the allied courts the Aila Pacha, governor of Janina (Theffalia) had taken three ex Venetian ports in Albania, from the French, and was about attacking the fourth and only one in their possession. He has taken 150 prisoners, among whom are two generals and several other officers.

There is now a French newspaper published at Cairo, entitled *Courier d'Egypte*, edited by citizen Marc Aure.

BRUSSELS, November 23.

General Collard, with four columns of his troops, has totally defeated the rebels at Campine, where they had collected to the number of 6000. Although they fought bravely they were driven from village to village. They have left 600 dead on the field of battle. Among the prisoners are two of their chiefs, one of whom was a corporal in the Austrian regiment of Ligne. On the 25th, they re-assembled at Campine, and were again beaten. In this combat, they lost 800 muskets, a great quantity of baggage ammunition, and provisions.—There are priests with each of the rebel columns.

DUBLIN, Nov. 20.

PRIVATE LETTERS.

The body of Mr. Tone was yesterday delivered to his father, who keeps a woollen-draper's shop in High-street and has a place under the Paving Board.—Neither military nor civil power interfered on this occasion.

From Newtown-Barry we have the pleasure of hearing, that on Sunday last 30 Rebels, who had for some time past held out in the wood of Killoughran, had surrendered themselves unconditionally, with fifty stand of arms to Brigadier-General Taylor, who commands in that district. The inclement weather, and the utter want of provisions, compelled these wretches to surrender.

A gang of about thirty five Rebels, who escaped from the county of Wicklow to the collieries of Doonane, in the Queen's County, have taken refuge in a coal pit, from which they for the last fortnight had been in vain solicited to come forth; they had previously supplied themselves, with a stock of provisions: the Yeomanry and Clare Military mount guard night and day at the mouth of the pit.

November 26.

Holt, the rapparee leader, instead of being sent as the guide of a military force, to the county of Wicklow, as stated in several of the morning papers, is a close prisoner in the Castle of Dublin.

PARIS, November 25.

Citizen Suard, commander of a French transport, who sailed from Alexandria the 11th of October, and arrived at Naples the 7th of November, informs, that at that time the army in Egypt was in the best condition; that it had provisions in abundance; that the belt under, standing existed between the French and the Egyptians; that both parties were inspired by the same enthusiasm for Buonaparte; that the Mamelukes were far reduced, that there was no more said about them; that from the 4th to the 9th of October, three Beys had joined Buonaparte, among whom was that of Alexandria, and who had furnished him with a considerable sum of money, which he had distributed to his troops and the Egyptians.

Captain Callo writes from Ottante, to a member of the legislature, under date of the 8th of November as follows:

"The island of Goza, near Malta, has surrendered to the British. It was garrisoned by only 100 Frenchmen, commanded by a colonel. They were besieged in a castle by 4000 men, which they defended for the space of 2 months without the necessary means of defence.

"The island of Malta is defended by a sufficient force under the command of Gen. Vaubois, who does not seem to have an inclination to surrender. He has already been twice summoned. To the first he answered: That, without doubt, it was not known or considered, that those who were summoned were Frenchmen. The second summons was brought by a Portuguese ship of 74 guns, upon which gen. Vaubois wrote to the Portuguese, 'that he respected in the ship which had been sent to him, the title of a flag of truce, but should in future, another be sent for that purpose of the same force, he would fire upon her with red hot balls, that, in respect to the summons, he would only reply, that he had provisions, powder and balls, in abundance, and that supported by these, no brave people surrendered themselves.'

From Corfu our papers of the 2d inst. contain the following: "Our island is in the best state of defence.—The country of Sullu, which is part of Turkey, has risen against the Pacha of Junina. The inhabitants have mounted the French cockade and established a national guard. The government of Corfu have sent them arms, powder, cannon, and two casks of pistoles.—Mustapha pacha has effected this, who got to be a French general. The county of Burtine has acted a similar part. From all these quarters Corfu can be furnished with provisions, with which it is already supplied for several years. All the superfluous cannon at Ancona have been sent to the heretofore Venetian Islands. In Greece, 400 mules have been put in requisition to transport ordnance to the highest mountains. Our island alone furnishes 20,000 volunteers."

The council of ancients have agreed to the resolution of the council of 500 for laying a tax on doors and windows.