

LONDON, Sept. 16.

In the annals of our history, an action more glorious for Britain is not to be found than the one fought by our brave Admiral Nelson, with the French fleet off the west mouth of the Nile, the particulars of which were communicated to the public as follows:

Admiralty Office, October 2, 1798.

The Honorable Capt. Capel, of his Majesty's ship Marine, arrived this morning with dispatches from Rear Admiral Sir Horatio Nelson, K. B. to Evan Nepean, Esq. Secretary of the Admiralty, of which the following are copies.

Vanguard, Mouth of the Nile, August 7.

S. I. R.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit you a copy of my letter to the Earl of St. Vincent, together with a line of battle of the British and French squadrons, also a list of killed and wounded. I have the pleasure to inform you that 8 of our ships have already got gallant yards across, and ready for any service; the others, with prizes, will soon be ready for use. In an event of this importance I have thought it right to send Capt. Capel, with a copy of my letter to the Commander in chief, over land, which I hope their Lordships will approve, and beg leave to refer them to Capt. Capel, who is a most excellent officer, and fully able to give every information, and I beg leave to recommend him to their Lordships' notice.

I am, &c.

HORATIO NELSON.

P. S. The island I have taken possession of, and brought off the two 13 inch mortars, all the brass guns, and destroyed the iron ones.

Vanguard, off the Mouth of the Nile, August 3, 1798.

MY LORD,

Almighty God has blessed his Majesty's arms in the late battle, by a great victory over the fleet of the enemy, whom I attacked at sunset on the 1st of August off the Mouth of the Nile. The enemy were moored in a strong line of battle for defending the entrance of the Bay, (of shoals) flanked by numerous gun boats, four frigates, and a battery of guns and mortars on an island in their van; but nothing could withstand the squadron your Lordship did me the honor to place under my command. Their high state of discipline is well known to you, and with the judgment of the Captains, together with their valor, and that of the officers and men of every description, is absolutely irresistible.

Could any thing from my pen add to the characters of the Captains I would write it with great pleasure, but that is impossible.

I have to regret the loss of Capt. Westcott of the Majestic, who was killed early in the action, but the ship was continued to be so well fought by her first Lieutenant, Mr. Cuthbert, that I have given him an order to command her till your Lordships pleasure is known.

The ships of the enemy, all but their two rear ships, are all nearly dismasted, and those two, with two frigates, I am sorry to say, made their escape; nor was it, I assure you, in my power to prevent them. Capt. Hood most handsomely endeavored to do it; but I had no ship in a condition to support the Zealous and I was obliged to call her in.

The support and assistance I have received from Capt. Berry cannot be sufficiently expressed. I was wounded, in the head, and obliged to be carried off the deck; but the service suffered no loss by that event. Capt. Berry was fully equal to the important service then going on, and to him I must beg leave to you for every information relative to the victory. He will present you with the flag of the second in command, that of the Commander in chief being burnt in the L'Orient.

Herewith I transmit you lists of the killed and wounded, and the lines of battle of ourselves and the French.

I have the honor to be, &c.

HORATIO NELSON.

FRENCH ACCOUNT OF NELSON'S VICTORY.

LIBERTY! EQUALITY!
Rosetta in Egypt, 17 Thermidor, 6th of the French Republic, or 3d Aug. '98.

From E. Pousselyue, Comptroller General of the expences of the Eastern Army, and Administrator General of the Finances.

We have just been witnesses, my dear friend, to a naval combat, the most bloody and unfortunate that for many ages have taken place. As yet

we know not all the circumstances, but those which we are already acquainted with are frightful in the extreme. The French squadron consisting of 13 sail of the line out of which was a three decker, of 120 guns, and three 80 gun ships, were anchored in line of battle, in the bay of Abouker or Carosse, the only one that exists on all the coast of Egypt.

For these eight days past several ships and frigates belonging to the English, have at different times been reconnoitering the position of our fleet, so that we have been in momentary expectation of being attacked.

In a direct line from Abouker to Rosetta, the distance is about four leagues and a half: from the height of the latter our fleet is perfectly seen and distinguished.

The 14th of this month, at half past 5 o'clock in the evening, we heard the firing of cannon: this was the commencement of the battle. We immediately got upon the terraces, the tops of the highest houses, and the little eminences from which we plainly distinguished 10 English ships of the line, others we could not see. The cannonading was very heavy until about a quarter of 9 o'clock, when, favoured by the night, we perceived an immense light, which announced to us, that some ship was on fire. The thunder of the cannon was now heard with redoubled fury, and the ship on fire blew up with the most dreadful explosion, which was heard at Rosetta in the same manner as the explosion of the Gunelle was heard at Paris. When this accident happened the most profound silence took place for the space of about 5 minutes.—From the moment of the explosion till our hearing it might take up about two minutes. The firing commenced again, and continued without intermission till 10 o'clock in the morning, when it ceased almost entirely, until 5, when it commenced again with as much vivacity as ever. I placed myself on a tower which is about a cannon shot from Rosetta, and which is called Aboul Maudour, from thence I could plainly see the whole battle.—At 8 o'clock I perceived a ship on fire, and in about half an hour she blew up similar to that last night. Another ship which till the moment of her explosion (apparently dismasted) was not perceived on fire, blew up also. During this time the cannonading redoubled. A large ship entirely dismasted was on shore on the coast; perceiving others among the fleet in similar manner dismasted, but the two squadrons so mingled among each other, that it was impossible to distinguish French from English, nor on whose side the advantage was. The firing continued with unremitting vivacity until about 2 o'clock after midday of the 15th. At this hour we perceived 2 sail of the line and 2 frigates under a pretis of sail, on a wind, standing to the eastward. We perceived the whole were under French colours. No other vessel made any movement, and the firing ceased entirely.

Towards 6 o'clock in the evening I returned to the tower of Aboul Maudour to reconnoitre the position of the two fleets. It was the same as at 2 o'clock. The four ships were abreast the mouth of the Nile.—We knew not what to think or conjecture. Twenty four hours passed without having any person to give us any detail, and in our situation it was impossible for us to procure any by land, on account of the Arabs who were assembled between Rosetta and Abouker; and by sea on account of the difficulty of getting out of the opening of the branch of the Nile.—You may judge of our impatience and perplexity; nothing good could be acquired from this silence; however, we were obliged to pass the whole of this night in uncertainty; at last, on the morning of the 16th, a boat which left Alexandria in the night gave us some detail, though little tending to our comfort.—They told us the officers of the French fleet who had escaped in a boat to Alexandria had reported, that in the commencement of the battle, Admiral Bruceys had re-

ceived three severe wounds, one in the head and two in the body; that notwithstanding he persisted in keeping his station on the arm chest; and that a fourth shot took him in the body, and cut him in two. At the same moment a shot took off the captain of the ship (Casablanca); that at this time they perceived the ship on fire in such a manner as not to be able to extinguish, and at last that the ship had blown up about 10 o'clock at night; they added that our fleet was totally destroyed and lost, with the exception of the four ships escaped; but that the remainder were entirely ruined. I returned to the tower where I found things entirely in the same situation as yesterday; they were even so last night, and this morning I have now to say how they appeared from the castle of Abouker; on the left sweeping the horizon to the right 4 ships were without masts and under English colours; the 2d and 3d are in good state, but cannot distinguish their colours; 4th has lost her mainmast; this morning she hoisted her fore top mast fly, and set some of her sails; 7th is without top gallant masts; 8th is dismasted; 9th is dismasted, with the exception of her bowsprit: the 12th and 13th form a kind of group having on y seven masts between them, the 14th has lost her top masts; the 15th has lost her fore and main top gallant masts; the 16th is entirely dismasted; the 17th lost her main top gallant masts; the 18th was only her foremast standing; the 19th, 20th, and 21st, form a groupe, having only four masts between them; the 22d is dismasted and on shore, with English colours flying; the people on board are trying to get her on float and raise her masts; the 23d is in good state with English colours flying; the 24th is also in good state: This is all I can distinguish, from which results, that altho' the English have had the advantage, they have been very roughly handled, since they could not follow the vessels who went away on the 19th. For the two days their ships have been perfectly inactive, and seemingly destroyed. This morning news has arrived from Alexandria which confirms our losses. Rear Admiral Deuceit is killed, as is Vice Admiral Blanguet Dacosta. Five ships have struck their colours. The Tonant was the last ship in action; Dupretur, who commanded her, has lost his two legs by a cannon shot. The ships escaped are Guillaume Tell and Genereau, with the frigates L'Eclair and L'Justice. They say it was the Artameta which blew up yesterday morning.

Many things relative to the battle are still to learn. They (the English Admiral) have sent a flag of truce to Alexandria demanding they should receive and take care of the wounded, which amount to 1500. They will send us all our prisoners. As yet I am ignorant what has been determined on. You will receive in France the official account of us and of the English. I know not what they will say, but you may rely on what I have written, because it is what I have seen.

Communicate my letter to Citizen Corana; his son, who ought to have given him this account is by me, otherwise occupied; he has written six letters.

I have, since my arrival here my portrait in profile taken by an able artist, Citizen Berry, it is said to be very like; but we have so many English about us, that for fear of its falling into their hands or going to the bottom of the sea, I dare not send it. I would wish to be the bearer of it myself. Be assured that as soon as I can obtain that permission, which I shall not cease to solicit, I shall take my departure. I here is no fortune shall detain me—I shall be contented with you, naked as my hand.

As to what remains to be said, I am in good health. To-morrow I take my departure for Cairo, in a handsome boat, with the money and paymaster general, under escort of two armed boats with 250 men, and more than 40 passengers. I take with me a fine Arab an horse, which a Chief made me

a present of here. We go by the Nile. Adieu my dear girl, love me always, and recall me often to the memory of all our friends. I embrace you and all my children.

E. POUSSIELYUE.

NEW BERN, DECEMBER 22.

PEACE AT RASTADT.

FROM THE AURORA.

Extract of a letter from a merchant in Nantz to a merchant of New-York dated 25th of Sept. received by the American Hero, Captain Brown.

"P. S. We this moment receive from this intelligence, that the peace is at last signed at Rastadt."

Letters from Naples, of the 3d September, say, "our situation here is truly alarming. All the troops of the Republics in Italy are on their march against us and we expect to be attacked on all sides. The court is in the greatest agitation, and is redoubling every effort to place the interior part of the country in a state of defence which may resist invasion. A great number of troops have passed into Sicily. The militia of the two kingdoms is completely organized, and it is presumed that the plan of the government is, in case of an attack, to make as vigorous a defence as possible, assured of the fidelity and courage of the regulars and militia, and in the event of their being overpowered to retreat into Sicily, and there make a final stand protected by the English fleet."

The Emperor of Russia has prohibited in his dominions, all foreign gazettes, unless first read by his Censor. Russian Youths are forbid to study in foreign Universities, altho' there is but one very indifferent University, that at Moscow, in the whole empire. In Lavinia and Courland, there are a few good schools, but not for the higher sciences. All emigration from Russia is restrained, and even Swedish Merchants, on their commercial travels at Peterburg, are not permitted to return.

A letter from Hamburgh of the 25th Sept. contains the following passage:—"I learn this moment that Gen. Koziusko has been arrested here, at the request of a foreign court."

The Honorable Jesse Franklin, Esq. is elected a Senator of the United States, in the room of the honorable Alexander Martin, Esquire, whose time of service expires on the fourth of March next.

It is supposed the General Assembly of this state will adjourn without a day, to-morrow.

MARINE LIST.

PORT OF NEW BERN.

ENTERED.

Sloop Sally, Brown, New-York;
Sch'r. Betty, Savano, Vienna, Maryland;
Friendship, West, Philadelphia;
Patsy, Fisher, do.
Sloop Mary Dear, Padelford, N. York.
CLEARED.
Sch'r. New State, Porter, Plymouth;
Brig Hope Terry, Jamaica;
Minerva, Hunt, do.
Schooner Betsy, Wilson, do.

PORT OF WASHINGTON.

ENTERED.

Brig Harmony Hall, Hudgins, Jamaica;
Sch'r. Laura, Chase, Newport;
Fallow Deer, Brunafey, New-York.
CLEARED.
Sch'r. Hazard, Skiddy, St. Thomas;
Beauty, Joice, Boston;
Sloop Maryann, Amy, Providence, (R.I.)

METEOROLOGICAL DIARY.

DECEMBER, 1798.

| D | M | Mercury. | W | inds. | Weather. | |
|----|----|----------|----|-------|----------|---------|
| M | m. | at. ev. | A. | M. | P. M. | |
| 16 | 38 | 42 | 40 | N. | N. | Clear. |
| 17 | 40 | 45 | 45 | N. | N. | do. |
| 18 | 41 | 45 | 42 | N. | N. | Cloudy. |
| 19 | 41 | 44 | 42 | N. | N. | do. |
| 20 | 43 | 47 | 44 | N. | N. | do. |
| 21 | 38 | 43 | 40 | N. | N. | Clear. |
| 22 | 40 | 45 | 44 | N. | N. | Cloudy. |

ON the 6th Instant, was committed to Jail in Jones County, a negro fellow named MARCUS, said to be the property of William Dew of Edgcombe County.—The owner is requested to prove his property, pay charges, and take him away.

JOHN BROWN, Jailer.
Jones county, December 22.