

The following very interesting and authentic narrative affords a striking example of what may be done in the Mediterranean, by a small naval force, under a spirited, active and intelligent commander.

Copy of a letter from STEEN BILLE, Esq. commander of his Majesty's frigate the Naiade, to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty at Copenhagen.

I have the honor to acquaint your lordships that Capt. Fisker of his Majesty's brig Sarpen, with a hired armed Zebeck, joined me on the afternoon of the 14th instant, and having communicated to me the information which he had collected respecting the Tripolitan forces, we parted company with the Phœnix, standing on to the northward, and I with the ships under my command to the southward, with a fair wind for Tripolis.

After having very distinctly counted all the ships (as per enclosed list) we hauled our wind. The forts fired at us without effect, though we were so close in that we could distinguish the particular place in the Fort, where the Bassow resides, as Mr. LUYEN, the Danish consul, told us.

On the 16th, we had a light breeze from the shore; standing in towards the town, we saw several ships getting under way and making sail out of the harbour: it falling calm, they soon came to anchor. Towards noon, we got a fresh easterly breeze, with which we could stand in towards the land, or off again at pleasure. I made a signal for my small vessels not to attend to my manoeuvres, and immediately stood in for the enemy, partly with a view to reconnoitre, and also with the hope of finding an opportunity to give them a broadside.

But after I had got into nine and a half fathoms of water, my pilot refused to carry me further. After taking a full survey of the ships, I stood off towards the brig and Zebeck, with a press of sail; and finding on board the latter a clever fellow, who undertook to pilot me in—knowing also the qualities of my frigate, I did not hesitate a single moment, but stood in and passed to windward of some breakers which lie in the entrance of the harbor.

Here I received the fire of the six ships which was really heavier than I had reason to expect. I tacked when I had got abreast of them, gave them my broadside, and stood off again, making at the same time the best use of my stern chafes. We observed an immense crowd of people on board of all the vessels. I had no sooner got clear of the breakers, than I observed the whole squadron get up their anchors and follow me. I laid to and waited for them with tranquillity. They very soon got out all six, and immediately attacked me with great impetuosity.

For I have the honor to command, perform his duty with the greatest zeal and ability. The good example set them by their officers was most gallantly seconded by every man on board. I therefore flatter myself that nothing has been neglected which could promote his Majesty's service, or render the Danish flag respected.

I feel it my duty to recommend to your lordships, in the strongest manner, Captain HOLLER, commander of his Majesty's brig, the Sarpen. He manoeuvred his ship in an extremely skillful manner, and kept up with his stern chafes a constant and unremitting fire, to the great credit of those who managed them. He really defended his brig like a brave man. Your lordships will find by his letter that he had one man wounded only.

Lieut. MUNK, commander of the Zebeck, manoeuvred also very well: he obeyed my orders and signals with great exactness, and made the best fire he could, mostly of musketry.

(Signed) STEEN BILLE. Note of ammunition expended on board his Majesty's ship the Naiade in the action of the 16th instant.

Table with 2 columns: Ammunition type and quantity. Twelve pound shot 346, Four pound do. 116, Eighteen pound caronades 24.

Extract of a letter from Capt. BILLE, commander of his Majesty's frigate the Naiade, to Commodore VRIERULFF, Commissioner of his Majesty's dock-yard at Copenhagen.

On board his Majesty's frigate the Naiade, in the harbor of Malta, June 6, 1797.

Since my letter giving you an account of the engagement of the 16th ult. affairs have very much changed. On the 17th I presented myself before Tripolis having sent the brig and Zebeck to Malta. I saw all the ships which we had engaged hauled close in under the guns of the Fort, and hard at work to repair their damages.

I repeated this visit every day until the 22d, when a boat came out to me, carrying English colours. It proved to be the English Consul, who had been prevailed on by the Bashaw to come on board the Naiade, to know if I would enter into a negotiation for peace.

I sent an officer on shore immediately, accompanied by Mr. LUYEN, our Consul, to hear his proposals. The preliminaries were agreed upon a few days afterwards, and on the 26th, I came to anchor at Tripolis, and was immediately saluted with 21 guns.

The following day, I had a public audience of the Bashaw, who treated me with the greatest distinction, and delivered me 21 of our countrymen, who had been made prisoners and slaves on the breaking out of hostilities. They had been on board the Tripolitan ships in the action; but none of them got hurt.

men whose characters will not exempt them from the suspicion of having effected the death of his enemy unfairly.

The death of such a man as Hoche is an event that must give satisfaction to every friend of humanity. To him is to be imputed all the dreadful butchery that took place in La Vendee, where every possible trefpass against justice and feeling were perpetrated without remorse.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE. MILAN, September 9.

Alava has lately been published here against the enemies of order. The substance is as follows: Every plot, tending to excite civil war, or impede the exercise of the lawful authorities, shall be punished with death.

When the armed force shall be ordered to disperse any seditious assemblies, all those who refuse to obey, and are taken in the act of resistance shall also be punished with death.

As the members of the Cisalpine Directory had no opportunity, before their election, to acquire a minute knowledge of all the forms and details of government affairs, general Buonaparte before he left this for Udine, recommended them, as an assistant, the citizen Briche, Consul General of the French Republic, who was in 1793 a member of the national assembly of France.

By the territory of that Republic is at present to be understood: all the country situated between the rivers Tessino and Oglio, and the provinces of Modena, Bologna and Ferrara.

Whenever the Cisalpine troops are marching out of their own country to join the French army, they shall be supplied out of the magazines of the French Republic.

MADRID, Sept. 8. It has been every where reported, and also published in the Gazette, that a new Bull is soon to be issued by the Pope, relative to the monks.

VENICE, September 3. A detachment of 3000 French troops were embarked here on the 5th inst. and set sail for Dalmatia where they are to garrison our islands, and the chief towns in the littoral districts, in order to prevent the further progress of the Austrians, who have hitherto only taken possession of Zara and its dependencies.

Report says that this fleet is destined to cover a descent upon the coast of Istria and Croatia, in case the negotiations at Passeriano should be broke off. It is indeed possible that the fleet has been ordered to return from Corfu, and draw nearer to the Austrian coast, in order to intimidate the Emperor, and hasten the conclusion of a definitive peace.

Sept. 21. General Reynier, chief of the etat-major of the army of Rhine and Moselle, arrived yesterday, with the remaining part of the letters and memorials found among the emigrant Klenghin's baggage.

Sept. 22. Yesterday another transport of royalists was sent off under a strong escort. Transportation is unquestionably the best method to punish the apostles of royalty and force them in a manner to become useful to the Republic.

Sept. 23. CAMILLE JORDAN, deputy of the department of the Rhone, to all the citizens of his department.

22 Fructidor, Sept. 7, 5th year. MY fellow-citizens, a horrible crime has just been committed. Three Directors

have erected the standard of rebellion against the National representation; they have caused the place in which our fittings are held to be invaded by armed men; and have driven us forcibly from thence. Several Deputies are apprehended; a great number have betaken themselves to flight; they have no possible mode of communicating with each other; and the National Representation no longer exists.

HANAU, Sept. 18. The central administration of the Cisrhinians, has issued a proclamation directing that all the administrations and municipalities of the German provinces west of the Rhine, should be put on the same footing as the French.

PARIS, Sept. 18, 1797. Before general Moreau left Strasbourg, he ordered several persons to be arrested whom he knew to keep a correspondence with the emigrants. All the members of the administration, but one, were displaced, and no body was suffered to pass off the bridge of Kehl, or to form the right bank of Rhine.

General Buonaparte gave the following instructions to the chief commissary of war: As the Cisalpine Republic pays into the treasury of the French army, one million of livres per month, every portion of her territory ought in future to be exempted from requisitions.

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