

K o p i.

His Majesty's ship Stately
off Zeelands Odde 25th March 1808.

Sir/

It is with much satisfaction I have to acquaint you with the Capture & destruction of the Danish ship of the Line Prince Christian Frederick of 74 guns.

Proceeding towards the Great Belt in Company with His Majesty's ship Nassau at 2 P.M. of the 22d inst. we observed a strange Sail, and the Signal being made to chase, at 4 P.M., Greenaw on the Coast of Jutland bearing N.W. by N. distant 10 Miles we discovered that it was an Enemy, and at 5 P.M. we ascertained the chase to be a Danish Ship of the Line.. I now saw that it was evidently the intention of the Enemy to run His Ship on shore, and as the Night was approaching he might hope, that in our pursuit of him in the dark, we would have the same fate.- This I have since been assured was his design.- At 45 Minutes past 7 P.M. Cap^t Campbell in the Nassau got up with the Enemy and commenced the action; and in a few Minutes after the Stately closed.- A running Fight was now maintained for a considerable Time, the Enemy fighting with great obstinacy, until we succeeded in getting very near, and g(ive) some close Broad sides, on which he struck about half past 9 P.M.-

At this moment the ships were within 2 Cables length of the sho(re) Zealand, and before my 1st Lieuten(ant) who took possession of the Danish s(hip) could cut away her Anchor, she grou(nded). Fortunately this ship & the Nassau brought up near to her.- During the remaining part of the Night we w(ere) employed in taking out the Prisoners, a(nd) at day light of the 23^d it was found impossible to get the Captured ship afloat, the Wind blowing strong on t(he) Shore, and that therefore the only cou(rse .) I could follow was to destroy her. The necessity for doing this, and for plac(ing) our own ships out of danger soon bec(ame) apparent, as the Danes were preparing their artillery on the Coast, and as our ships were at Anchor only 2 Cables length from the Beach they would have done us great injury.- After removing the Priso(ners & Wounded, in doing which we experienced much difficulty from the

Wind blowing strong, and a good deal of Sea running, the Enemy's ship was set fire to in the Evening of the 23^d and in short Time blew up.-

I am happy to say our loss has been small.-It is trifling indeed when compared with that of the Enemy, where the slaughter was great, he having 55 Killed & 88 Wounded.- We have however received considerable damage in our Masts & Rigging.-

The Prince Christian Frederick was a very fine ship, Copper Bolted, Commanded by Cap^t Ieyson, with a Complement of 620 Men, and had 576 on Board.-

I feel much indebted to Captain Campbell for his Zeal & ability in the commencement and during the action, and to the officers, ships Company & Royal Marines of his ship.- My warmest gratitude and praise is due to the officers & Seamen and to the officers & Privates of Royal Marines of this ship for their brave and gallant conduct during the Action, displaying throughout the cool intrepidity of British Seamen.-The same spirit animated both ships.-

I beg leave to recommend in the strongest manner to the Patronage of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty Mr. David Sloan my first Lieutenant to whom I am greatly indebted, not only for his Brave and spirited Conduct in the Action, but also for his unwearied exertions in removing the Prisoners and Wounded from the Danish ship and setting her on fire.- He possesses in an eminent degree every quality requisite to form the Officer and the Seaman.

Herewith you will receive a Return of the Killed & Wounded.

I have the Honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient

humble Servant

Geo. Parker.

To

Vice Admiral Russel.

& & &

List of the Killed & Wounded

Stately

2 Seamen killed

2 Mariners do 4.

26 Seamen Wounded

2 Mariners do 28

Total 32

Nassau

1 Seaman Killed

11 do Wounded

5 Mariners do

1 Seaman missing.

Total 18.

Officers Wounded

Stately

Lieutenant Cole - Slightly

Mr.Lemon Boatswain- Severely

Mr.Davis Masters Mate- Slightly

Nassau

Mr.Ed.I.Iohnson Vol.1st class
Slightly.

Geo.Parker.